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Mathematics

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# **Prior Modeling and Posterior Sampling in Conductivity Imaging**

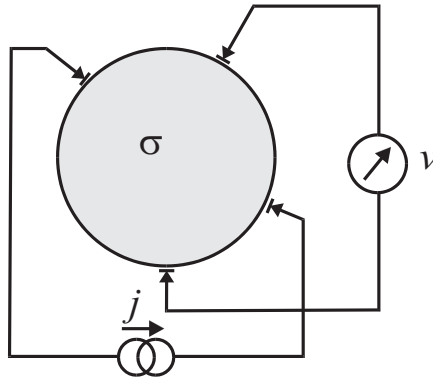
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# Overview

- Conductivity Imaging
- Statistical model for inverse problems
- Markov chain Monte Carlo
- Conductivity Imaging using various prior models
- Mid- and high-level models

# Conductivity Imaging Measurements



- Electrodes at  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_E$
- Assert currents at electrodes  $j = (j(x_1), j(x_2), \dots, j(x_E))^T$
- Measure voltages  $v = (\phi(x_1), \phi(x_2), \dots, \phi(x_E))^T$ .

Unknown  $\sigma(x)$  related to measurements via Neumann BVP

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot \sigma(x) \nabla \phi(x) &= 0 & x \in \Omega \\ \sigma(x) \frac{\partial \phi(x)}{\partial n(x)} &= j(x) & x \in \partial\Omega \end{aligned}$$

- Set of measurements is current-voltage pairs

$$\{j^n, v^n\}_{n=1}^N$$

Inverse problem is to find  $\sigma$  from these measurements (non linear)

# Green's Functions

Unknown image  $\sigma(x)$  related to measurements via Neuman BVP:

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \cdot \sigma(x) \nabla \phi(x) &= s(x) & x \in \Omega \\ \sigma(x) \frac{\partial \phi(x)}{\partial n(x)} &= j(x) & x \in \partial\Omega\end{aligned}$$

plus potential reference

If  $\sigma$  is compiled into a certain matrix, measurements correspond to certain elements of the inverse.

Neuman Green's function  $g(x|\xi)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \cdot \sigma(x) \nabla g(x|\xi) &= \delta(x - \xi) & \forall x \in \Omega \\ \sigma(x) \frac{\partial g(x|\xi)}{\partial n(x)} &= \frac{1}{|\partial\Omega|} & \forall x \in \partial\Omega \\ \int_{\partial\Omega} g(x|\xi) dl(x) &= 0 \\ g(x|\xi) &= g(\xi|x).\end{aligned}$$

Solutions to BVP:

$$\phi(x) = \int_{\Omega} g(x|\xi) s(\xi) d\xi + \int_{\partial\Omega} g(x|\xi) j(\xi) dl(\xi)$$

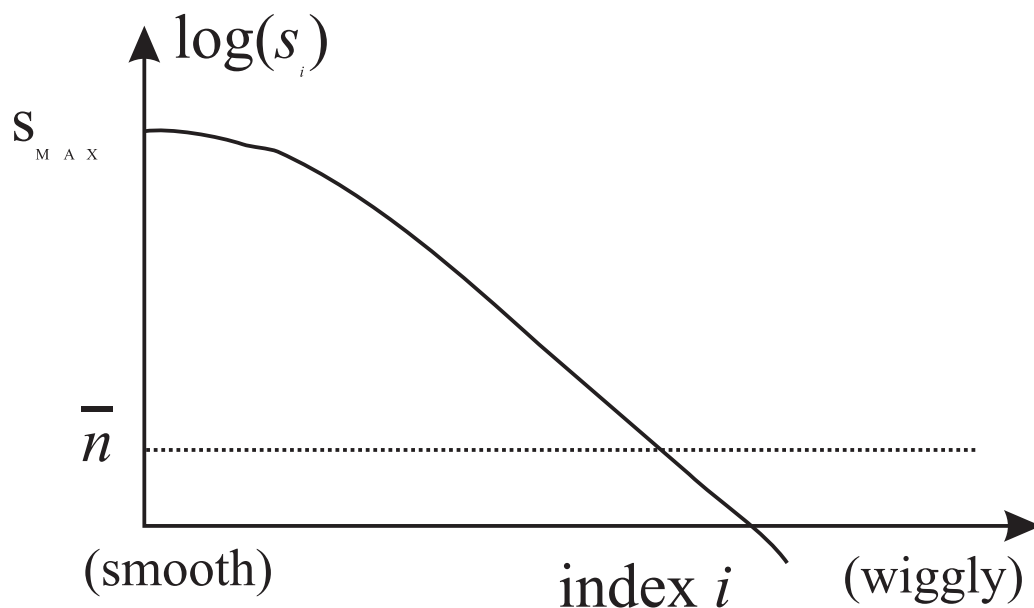
- $\Gamma_{\sigma} : j \rightarrow \phi$  (Neumann to Dirichlet map) is linear.
- $\sigma \rightarrow \Gamma_{\sigma}$  is not linear.
- Inverse problem: Measure  $\Gamma_{\sigma}$ , want  $\sigma$ .

# Properties of the Inverse Problem

- $\sigma \mapsto \Gamma_\sigma$  is invertible for  $\sigma \in C^\infty (\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2)$

$$0 < \sigma_{\min} \leq \sigma \leq \sigma_{\max} < \infty$$

- Fréchet derivative  $\frac{\partial \Gamma_\sigma}{\partial \sigma}$  has singular-values that decrease  $\sim$  geometrically

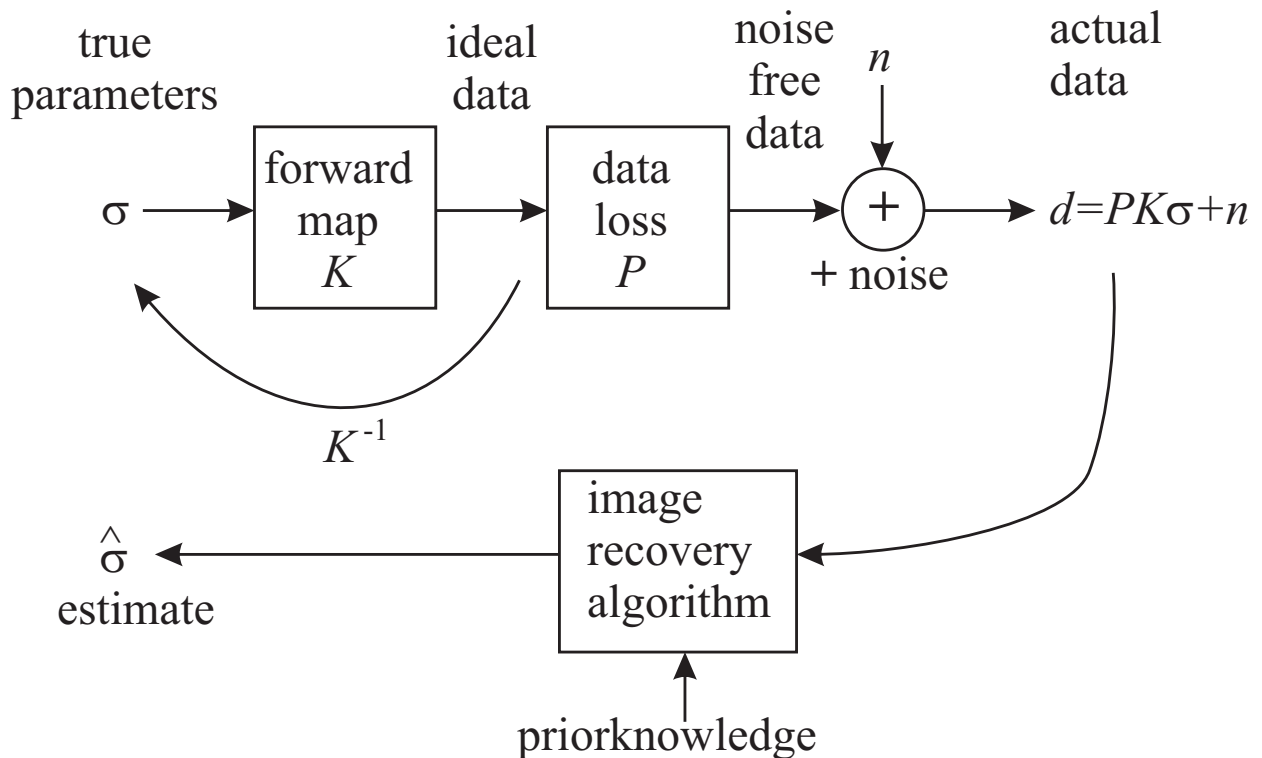


$$\hat{\sigma}_i = \frac{\sigma_i s_i + n_i}{s_i} = \sigma_i + \frac{n_i}{s_i}$$

roughly, data measured when  $\frac{s_{\max}}{s_i} \leq \text{SNR}$

- Inverse discontinuous
- Measurements cannot define image uniquely

# Statistical Model for Imaging



If  $n \sim f_N(n)$  then  $d \sim f_{D|\Sigma}(d|\sigma) = f_N(d - PK\sigma)$

Given measurements  $v$ , the likelihood for  $\sigma$  is

$$L_d(\sigma) \equiv \Pr(d|\sigma) = f_N(d - PK\sigma)$$

Posterior distribution for  $\sigma$  conditional on  $v$

$$\Pr(\sigma|d) = \frac{f_{D|\Sigma}(d|\sigma) \Pr(\sigma)}{\sum_{\sigma \in \Sigma_\Omega} f_{D|\Sigma}(d|\sigma)} \quad (\text{Bayes rule})$$

In **subjectivist** formulation, prior and posterior distributions for  $\sigma$  are quantified representations of our state of knowledge

# Summary Statistics

All information contained in posterior distribution  $\Pr(\sigma|v)$

“Answers” are expectations over the posterior

$$E[f(\sigma)] = \int \Pr(\sigma|v) f(\sigma) d\sigma$$

**Decision based on utility function**

		$\sigma$	
		F	T
$\hat{\sigma}$	F	$c_{TT}$	$c_{TF}$
	T	$c_{FT}$	$c_{FF}$

Image is an intermediate step

**Nuisance parameters**

Data depends on image  $\sigma$  and parameters  $\theta$

$$\Pr(\sigma|v) = \int_{\Theta} \Pr(\sigma, \theta|v) d\theta$$

e.g. true currents or voltages

# Monte Carlo Integration

$$I = \mathbb{E}[f(\sigma)] = \int_{\Sigma} \pi(\sigma) f(\sigma) d\sigma$$

## Simple case

Draw  $\sigma^{(1)}, \dots, \sigma^{(m)}$  uniformly on  $\Sigma$

$$\hat{I} = \frac{1}{m} \left\{ f(\sigma^{(1)}) + \dots + f(\sigma^{(m)}) \right\}$$

$$\hat{I} = I + O(m^{-1/2})$$

c.f.  $\{\sigma^{(i)}\}$  regular grid on  $\Sigma$ ,  $\hat{I} = I + O(m^{-1})$

## Importance sampling

- $\sigma^{(1)}, \dots, \sigma^{(m)}$  drawn from  $g(\cdot)$
- Importance weight  $w^{(i)} = \pi(\sigma^{(i)}) / g(\sigma^{(i)})$

- 

$$\hat{I} = \frac{\{w^{(1)} f(\sigma^{(1)}) + \dots + w^{(m)} f(\sigma^{(m)})\}}{\{w^{(1)} + \dots + w^{(m)}\}}$$

c.f. unbiased estimate  $\hat{I} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_i w^{(i)} f(\sigma^{(i)})$

Only need  $\pi(\cdot)/g(\cdot)$  up to multiplicative constant

Choose  $g(\cdot)$  close to shape of  $\pi(\cdot)/f(\cdot)$

# Bayesian Formulation for Conductivity Imaging

	current in $\Omega$	potential in $\Omega$	voltage electrode	current electrode	conductivity
r.v.	$R$	$\Phi$	$V$	$J$	$\Sigma$
value	$\rho$	$\phi$	$v$	$j$	$\sigma$

Joint Posterior

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr \left\{ \sigma, \phi^n, \rho^n \mid \{j^n, v^n\} \right\} \\ = \Pr \left\{ \{j^n, v^n\} \mid \sigma, \phi^n, \rho^n \right\} \times \Pr \left\{ \sigma, \phi^n, \rho^n \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\phi = \Gamma_{\sigma}(\rho|_{\partial\Omega}) \text{ and } \rho = -\sigma \nabla \phi$$

$$\Pr \left\{ \sigma, \phi^n, \rho^n \right\} = \Pr \left\{ \sigma, \rho^n \right\}$$

Stipulate  $\Pr \left\{ \sigma \right\}$  only in examples – usually a MRF

$$\begin{aligned} L(\sigma, \phi^n, \rho^n) &= \Pr \left\{ \{j^n, v^n\} \mid \sigma, \phi^n, \rho^n \right\} \\ &= \Pr \left\{ \{v^n\} \mid \phi^n(\sigma, \rho^n) \right\} \times \Pr \left\{ \{j^n\} \mid \rho^n \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Errors i.i.d.

$$L(\sigma, \phi^n, \rho^n) = \prod_{n=1}^N \Pr \left\{ v^n \mid \Gamma_{\sigma}(\rho^n|_{\partial\Omega}) \right\} \times \Pr \left\{ j^n \mid \rho^n \right\}.$$

# Markov chain Monte Carlo

- Monte Carlo integration

If  $\{X_t, t = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$  are sampled from  $\Pr(\sigma|v)$

$$\mathbb{E}[f(\sigma)] \approx \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n f(X_t)$$

- Markov chain

Generate  $\{X_t\}_{t=0}^{\infty}$  as a Markov chain of random variables  $X_t \in \Sigma_{\Omega}$ , with a  $t$ -step distribution  $\Pr(X_t = \sigma | X_0 = \sigma^{(0)})$  that tends to  $\Pr(\sigma|v)$ , as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

## Metropolis-Hastings algorithm

1. given state  $\sigma_t$  at time  $t$  generate candidate state  $\sigma'$  from a proposal distribution  $q(\cdot|\sigma_t)$
2. Accept candidate with probability

$$\alpha(X|Y) = \min \left( 1, \frac{\Pr(Y|v)q(X|Y)}{\Pr(X|v)q(Y|X)} \right)$$

3. If accepted,  $X_{t+1} = \sigma'$  otherwise  $X_{t+1} = \sigma_t$
4. Repeat

$q(\cdot|\sigma_t)$  can be any distribution that ensures the chain is:

- irreducible
- aperiodic

# Three-Move Metropolis Hastings

Choose one of 3 moves with probability  $\zeta_p$ ,  $p = 1, 2, 3$

Transition probabilities  $\Pr^{(p)}$  reversible w.r.t.  $\Pr(\sigma|v)$

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(X_{t+1} = \sigma_{t+1} | X_t = \sigma_t) \\ = \sum_{p=1}^3 \zeta_p \Pr^{(p)}(X_{t+1} = \sigma_{t+1} | X_t = \sigma_t).\end{aligned}$$

If at least one of the moves is irreducible on  $\Sigma_\Omega$ , then the equilibrium distribution is  $\Pr(\sigma|v)$ .

A pixel  $n$  is a *near-neighbour* of pixel  $m$  if their lattice distance is less than  $\sqrt{8}$ .

An *update-edge* is a pair of near-neighbouring pixels of unequal conductivity.  $(\mathcal{N}^*(\sigma), \mathcal{N}_m^*(\sigma))$

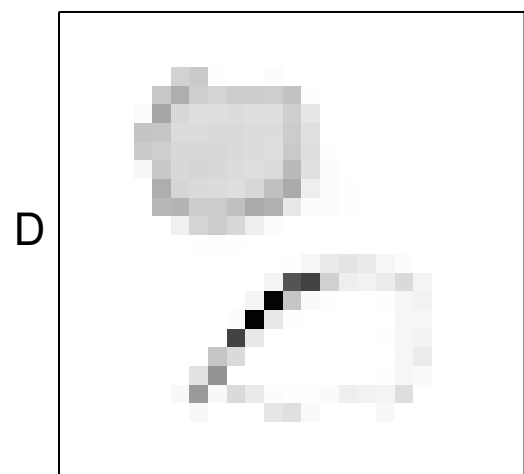
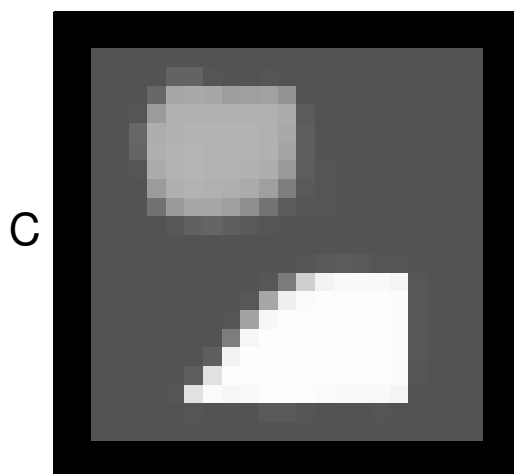
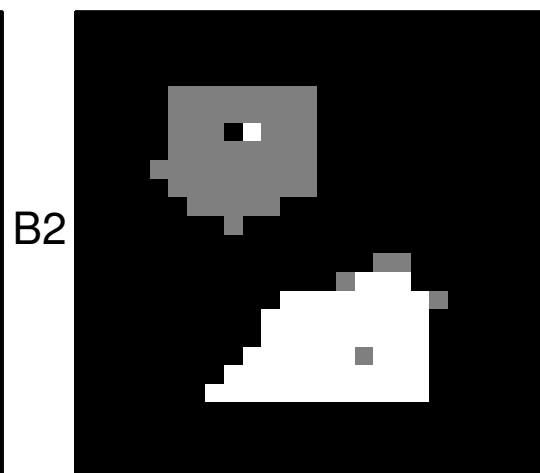
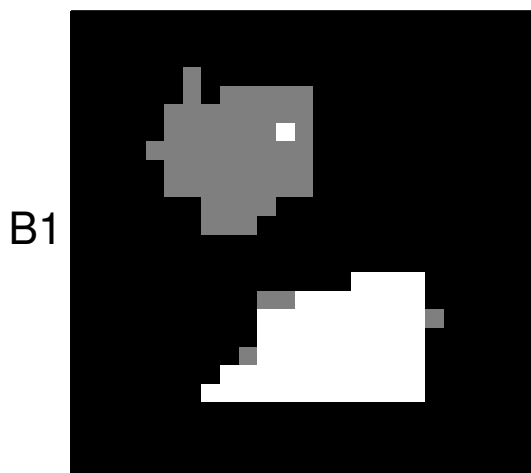
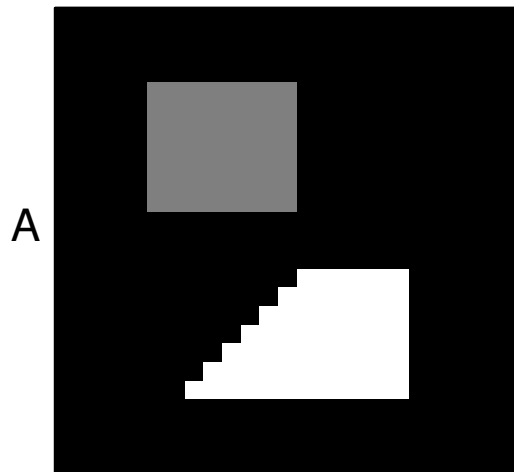
**Move 1** *Flip a pixel.* Select a pixel  $m$  at random and assign  $\sigma_m$  a new conductivity  $\sigma'_m$  chosen uniformly at random from the other  $\mathcal{C} - 1$  conductivity values.

**Move 2** *Flip a pixel near a conductivity boundary.* Pick an update-edge at random from  $\mathcal{N}^*(\sigma)$ . Pick one of the two pixels in that edge at random, pixel  $m$  say. Proceed as in Move 1.

**Move 3** *Swap conductivities at a pair of pixels.* Pick an update-edge at random from  $\mathcal{N}^*(\sigma)$ . Set  $\sigma'_m = \sigma_n$  and  $\sigma'_n = \sigma_m$ .

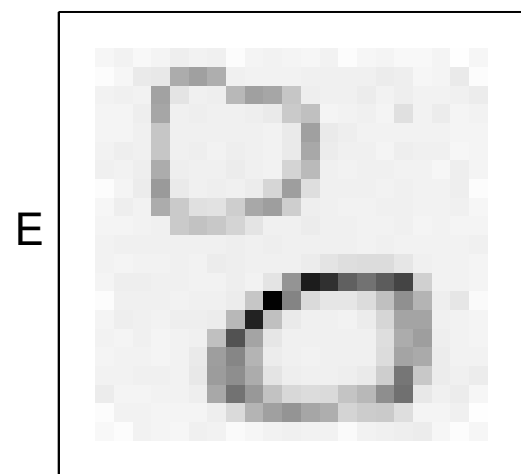
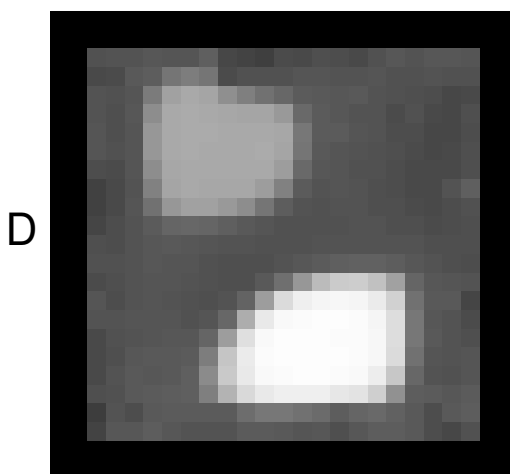
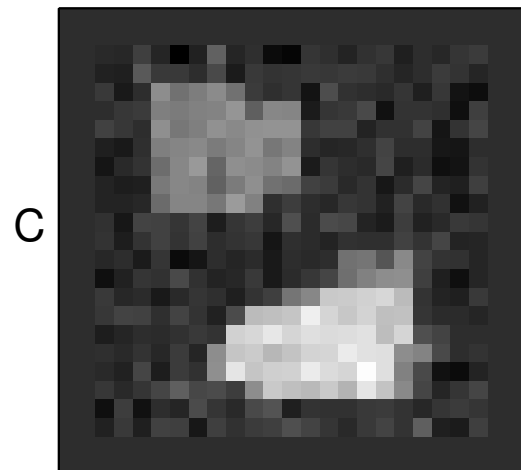
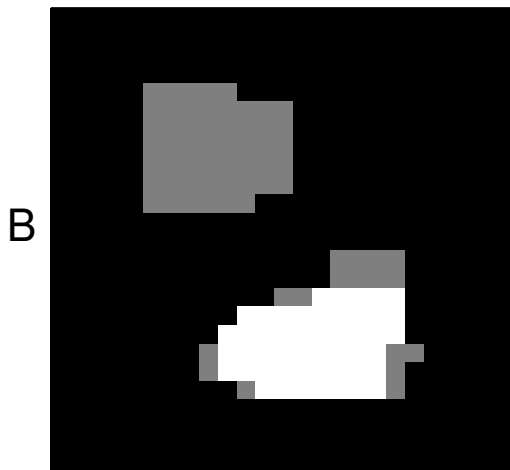
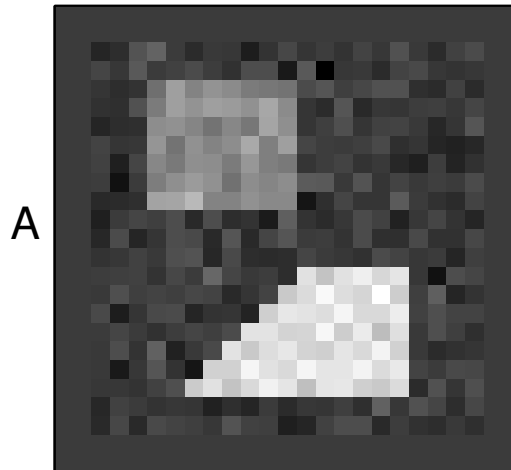
# Experiment 1

(discrete variables – three conductivity levels)



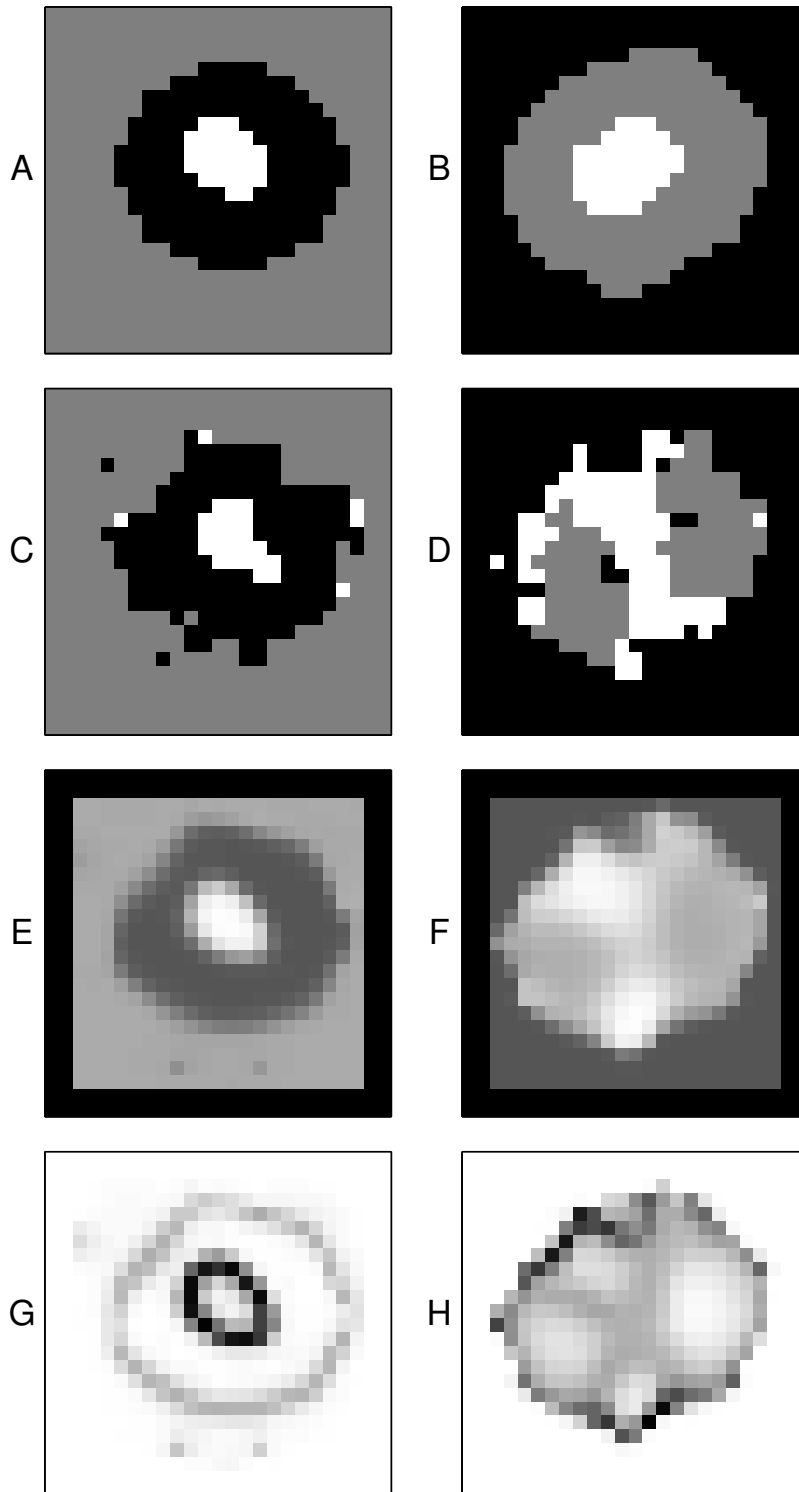
# Experiment 2

(continuous variables – three conductivity types)

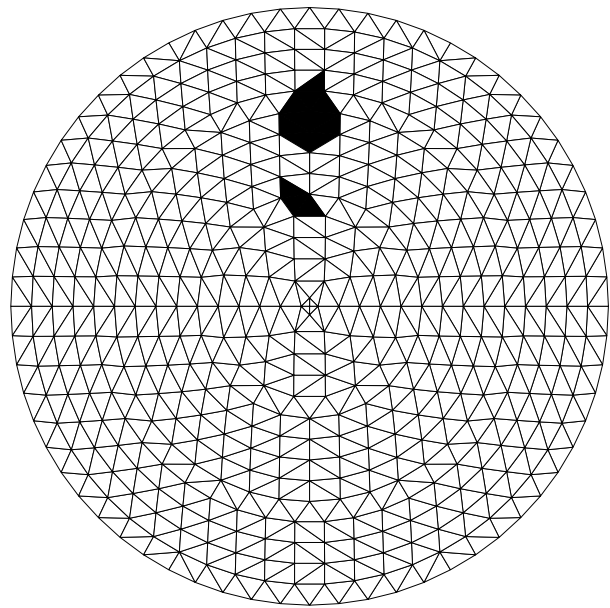
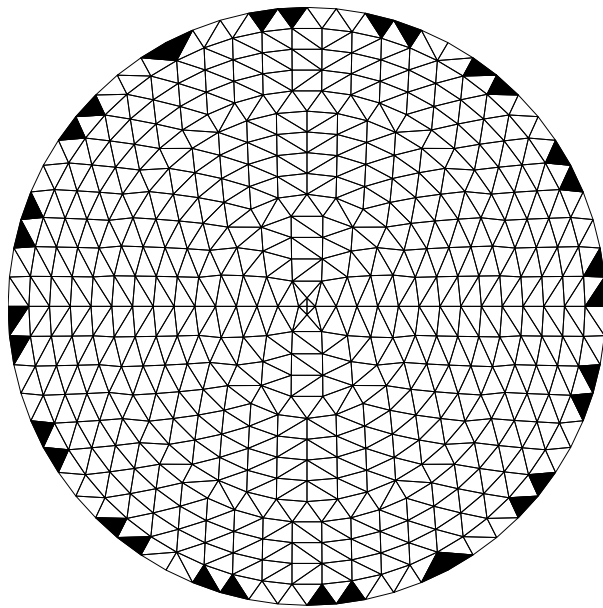


# Experiment 3

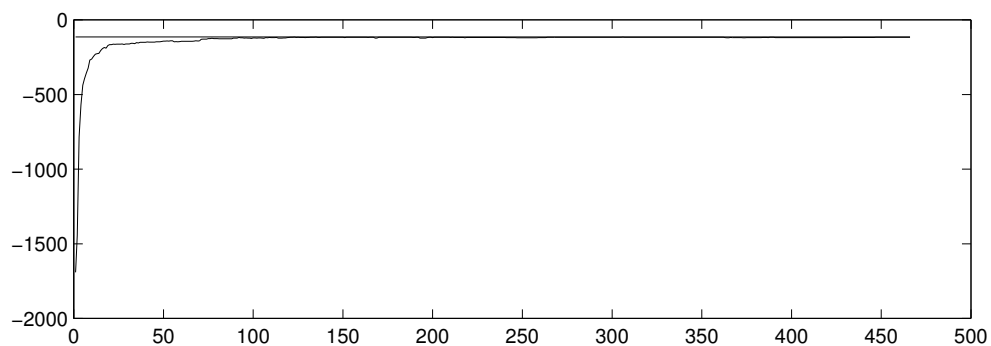
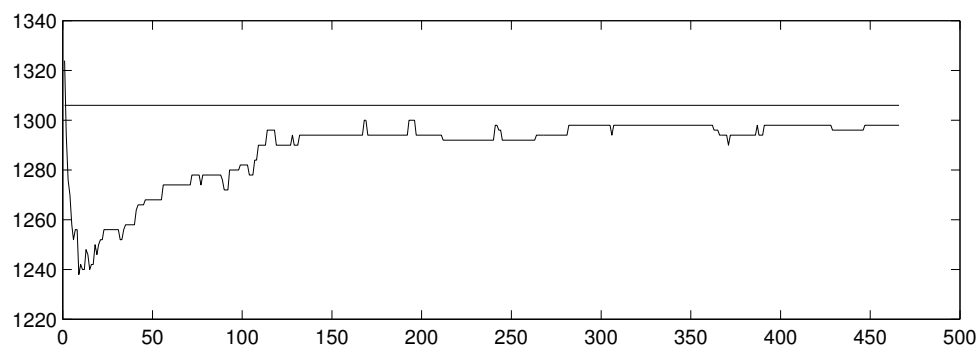
(shielding)



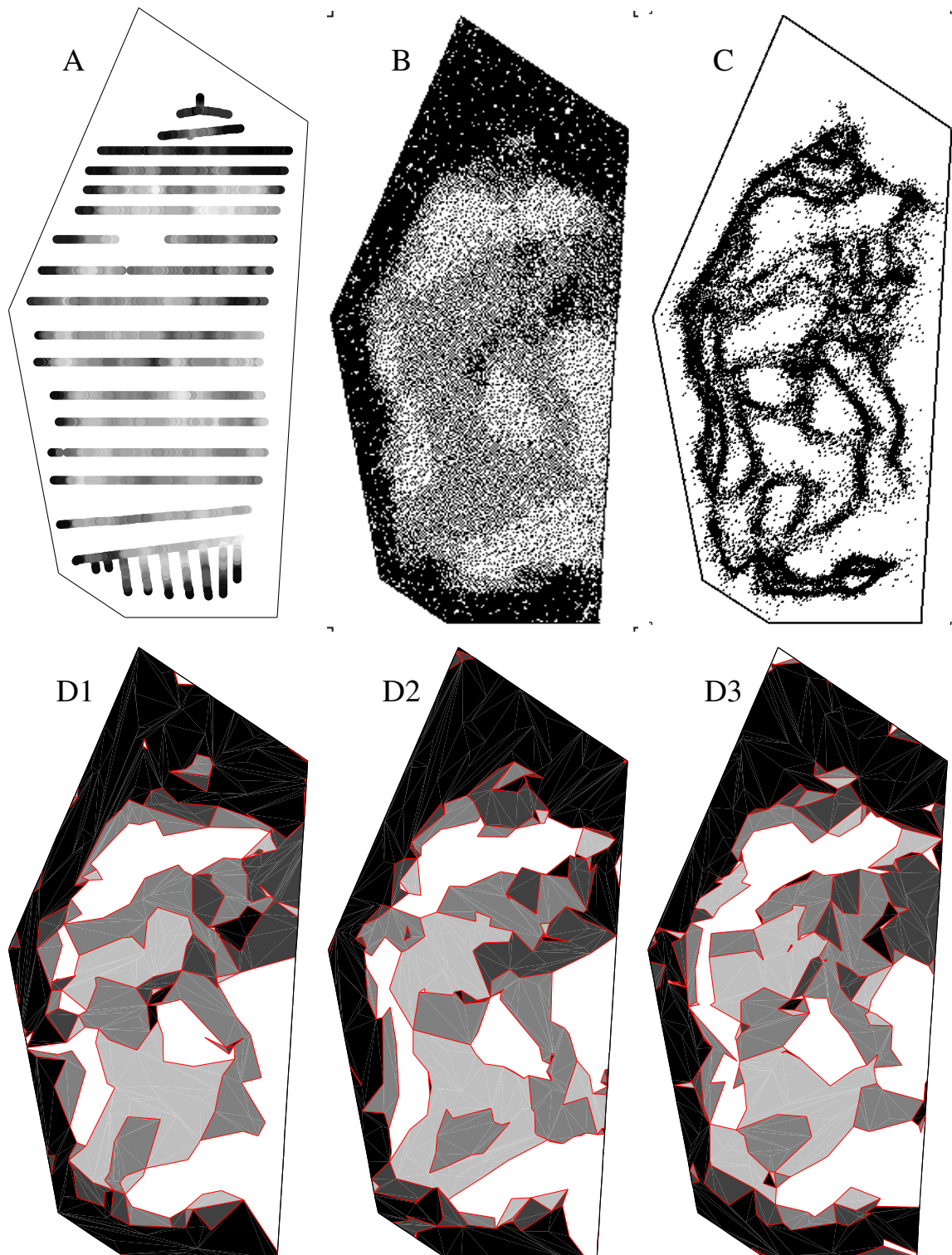
# Accurate FEM Model



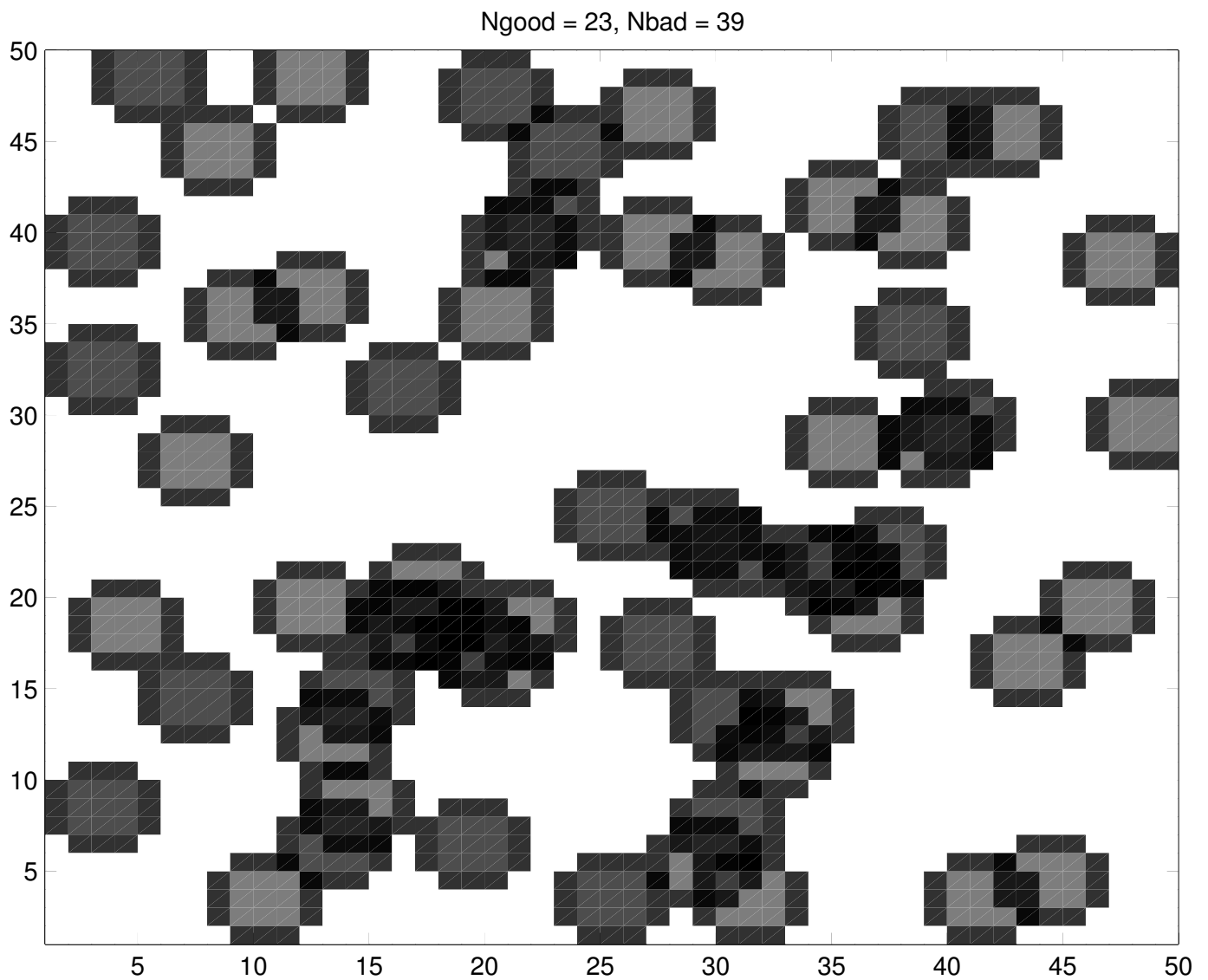
sample 4650



## Mid-level Model (triangles)



# High-level Model (templates)



# Summary

- If you can simulate the forward map then you can sample and calculate expectations over the posterior, i.e., ‘solve’ the inverse problem
- Statistical inference provides a unifying framework for inverse problems
- Image “analysis” can be part of the “reconstruction”

# References

- [1] Colin Fox and Geoff Nicholls *Statistical Estimation of the Parameters of a PDE*, Canadian Applied Mathematics Quarterly, 2002.
- [2] G. K. Nicholls, “Bayesian image analysis with Markov chain Monte Carlo and coloured continuum triangulation mosaics,” *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society B* **60**, pp. 643–659, 1998.
- [3] A.J. Baddeley and M.N.M van Lieshout. Stochastic geometry models in high level vision. In KV Mardia and GK Kanji, editors, *Statistics and Images, Vol 1*, volume 20 of *J. Applied Statistics*, pages 231–256. 1993.
- [4] G. K. Nicholls and C. Fox, “Prior Modelling and Posterior sampling in Impedance Imaging,” In A. Mohammad-Djafari editor, *Bayesian Inference for Inverse Problems*, SPIE conference proceedings volume 3459, pp 116-127, 1998.