# Ray series for electromagnetic waves in static heterogeneous bianisotropic dielectric media

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#### Notation

Einstein summation. Indices  $i, j, \ldots = 1, 2, 3; \ \alpha, \beta, \ldots = 1, 2, 3, 4.$ 

## Maxwell equations

System of 8 first-order partial differential equations for 12 quantities:  $E_i$  ... electric field

- $B^i$  ... magnetic induction
- $D^i$  ... electric displacement
- $H_i$  ... magnetic field

# System of 6 constitutive equations

Tellegen representation:

 $D^{i} = D^{i}(E_{m}, H_{n})$  $B^{i} = B^{i}(E_{m}, H_{n})$ 

Boys-Post representation:

$$D^{i} = D^{i}(E_{m}, B^{n})$$
$$H_{i} = H_{i}(E_{m}, B^{n})$$

# Special cases of the constitutive equations in the Boys-Post representation

Linear isotropic medium:

$$D^{i} = \varepsilon E_{i}$$
$$H_{i} = \mu^{-1} B^{i}$$

Linear isotropic chiral medium:

$$D^{i} = \varepsilon E_{i} + \alpha B^{i}$$
$$H_{i} = \alpha E_{i} + \mu^{-1} B^{i}$$

Linear biisotropic medium:

$$D^{i} = \varepsilon E_{i} + \alpha B^{i}$$
$$H_{i} = \beta E_{i} + \mu^{-1} B^{i}$$

Linear anisotropic medium:

$$D^{i} = \varepsilon^{ij} E_{j}$$
$$H_{i} = \mu^{-1} B^{i}$$

Linear bianisotropic medium

$$D^{i} = \varepsilon^{ij} E_{j} + \alpha^{i}{}_{j} B^{j}$$
$$H_{i} = \beta_{i}{}^{j} E_{j} + \mu_{ij}^{-1} B^{j}$$

 $\varepsilon$  ... permitivity  $\mu^{-1}$  ... inverse permeability

$$\alpha$$
 ... chirality parameter

 $\alpha,\,\beta$  ... magnetoelectric parameters

Counterpart of elastic anisotropy:  $D^{i} = \varepsilon E_{i}$  $H_{i} = \mu_{ij}^{-1} B^{j}$ 

 $\alpha^{i}{}_{j},\beta_{i}{}^{j}...$  magnetoelectric matrices

#### Vector potential

We may express 6 components  $E_i$  and  $B^i$  in terms of 6 skew combinations  $A_{\alpha,\beta} - A_{\beta,\alpha}$  of the derivatives of the components of covariant 4-vector potential  $A_{\alpha}$ .

Then 4 Maxwell equations for  $E_i$  and  $B^i$  are identically satisfied.

Remaining 4 Maxwell equations: for  $D^i = D^i(A_{\alpha,\beta} - A_{\beta,\alpha})$  and  $H_i = H^i(A_{\alpha,\beta} - A_{\beta,\alpha})$ .

In this case, the Boys-Post representation is superior to the Tellegen representation.

#### Aharonov-Bohm experiment

Electrons propagate around a solenoid through a region where  $E_i = 0$ and  $B^i = 0$ , but  $A_{\alpha} \neq 0$ .

Interference of electrons depends on  $A_{\alpha}$ .

The electromagnetic field cannot be completely described by  $E_i$  and  $B^i$ . The electromagnetic field is better described by  $A_{\alpha}$ .

#### Electromagnetic wave equation

Maxwell equations for a linear bianisotropic medium in the Boys-Post representation:

$$[\chi^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}(x^{\mu})A_{\delta,\gamma}(x^{\nu})]_{,\beta} = J^{\alpha}(x^{\mu}) \quad .$$
(23)

Electromagnetic vector potential  $A_{\alpha}$  is a covariant 4-vector. Constitutive tensor  $\chi^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}$  is a contravariant tensor density of weight -1. Current density  $J^{\alpha}$  is a contravariant 4-vector density of weight -1.

The constitutive tensor is skew with respect to its first and second indices, and with respect to its third and fourth indices:

$$\chi^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} = -\chi^{\beta\alpha\gamma\delta} \quad , \tag{20}$$

$$\chi^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} = -\chi^{\alpha\beta\delta\gamma} \quad . \tag{21}$$

The equation numbers correspond to Klimes (2016).

#### Components of the constitutive tensor

Constitutive tensor  $\chi^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}$  has 36 independent components represented by 36 constitutive parameters  $\varepsilon^{ij}$ ,  $\alpha^{i}_{\ j}$ ,  $\beta^{\ j}_{i}$ ,  $\mu^{-1}_{ij}$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} \chi^{1414} & \chi^{1424} & \chi^{1434} \\ \chi^{2414} & \chi^{2424} & \chi^{2434} \\ \chi^{3414} & \chi^{3424} & \chi^{3434} \end{pmatrix} = - \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon^{11} & \varepsilon^{12} & \varepsilon^{13} \\ \varepsilon^{21} & \varepsilon^{22} & \varepsilon^{23} \\ \varepsilon^{31} & \varepsilon^{32} & \varepsilon^{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \chi^{1423} & \chi^{1431} & \chi^{1412} \\ \chi^{2423} & \chi^{2431} & \chi^{2412} \\ \chi^{3423} & \chi^{3431} & \chi^{3412} \end{pmatrix} = - \begin{pmatrix} \alpha^{1}_{1} & \alpha^{1}_{2} & \alpha^{1}_{3} \\ \alpha^{2}_{1} & \alpha^{2}_{2} & \alpha^{2}_{3} \\ \alpha^{3}_{1} & \alpha^{3}_{2} & \alpha^{3}_{3} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \chi^{2314} & \chi^{2324} & \chi^{2334} \\ \chi^{1214} & \chi^{1224} & \chi^{1234} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_{1}^{1} & \beta_{1}^{2} & \beta_{1}^{3} \\ \beta_{2}^{1} & \beta_{2}^{2} & \beta_{2}^{3} \\ \beta_{3}^{1} & \beta_{3}^{2} & \beta_{3}^{3} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \chi^{2323} & \chi^{2331} & \chi^{2312} \\ \chi^{1223} & \chi^{1231} & \chi^{1212} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_{11}^{-1} & \mu_{12}^{-1} & \mu_{13}^{-1} \\ \mu_{21}^{-1} & \mu_{22}^{-1} & \mu_{23}^{-1} \\ \mu_{31}^{-1} & \mu_{32}^{-1} & \mu_{33}^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

Differentiating the above Maxwell equations, we obtain the continuity equation

$$J^{\alpha}_{,\alpha} = 0 \quad . \tag{24}$$

We can thus replace the fourth Maxwell equation by its initial conditions and by the continuity equation for the source terms. For the electromagnetic wave propagation, we then need just the first three of four Maxwell equations

$$(\chi^{i\beta\gamma\delta}A_{\delta,\gamma})_{,\beta} = J^i \quad . \tag{25}$$

In our coordinate system, we choose the Weyl gauge condition

$$A_4 = 0 \quad . \tag{26}$$

Maxwell equations (25) then simplify to

$$(\chi^{i\beta\gamma l}A_{l,\gamma})_{,\beta} = J^i \quad . \tag{27}$$

We assume that the structure is time-independent (static) in our coordinate system,

$$\chi^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} = \chi^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}(x^m) \quad . \tag{30}$$

We can thus apply the ray-theory approximation in the frequency domain.

In frequency domain, the Maxwell equations for  $A_i = A_i(x^m, \omega)$  with linear constitutive relations in the Boys-Post representation read

$$(\chi^{ijkl}A_{l,k})_{,j} - i\omega(\chi^{ij4l}A_{l})_{,j} - i\omega\chi^{i4kl}A_{l,k} - \omega^2\chi^{i44l}A_{l} = J^i \quad , \quad (32)$$

where  $\omega$  is the circular frequency. Electric current density  $J^i$  represents the source term and vanish outside the source.

Electric field strength:

$$E_k = \mathrm{i}\omega A_k \quad . \tag{34}$$

Magnetic induction:

$$B^k = \epsilon^{klm} A_{m,l} \quad . \tag{4}$$

#### Standard ray series

We express frequency-domain magnetic vector potential  $A_j = A_j(x^m, \omega)$ in terms of its vectorial amplitude  $a_i = a_i(x^m, \omega)$  and travel time  $\tau = \tau(x^m)$  as

$$A_i = a_i \exp(\mathrm{i}\omega\tau) \quad . \tag{35}$$

We express the vectorial amplitude in the form of asymptotic series

$$a_i = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (i\omega)^{-n} a_i^{[n]} \quad , \tag{36}$$

where  $a_i^{[n]} = a_i^{[n]}(x^m, \omega)$  is the *n*-th order vectorial amplitude.

We consider standard anisotropic ray theory assuming strictly decoupled waves, and proceed according to Červený (2001) using differential operators

$$N^{i}(a_{m},\tau_{n}) = \Gamma^{il}(x^{m},\tau_{n},-1) a_{l} \quad , \qquad (42)$$

$$M^{i}(a_{m},\tau_{n}) = \chi^{ijkl}\tau_{,j}a_{l,k} + (\chi^{ijkl}\tau_{,k}a_{l})_{,j} - \chi^{i4jl}a_{l,j} - (\chi^{ij4l}a_{l})_{,j} \quad , \quad (43)$$

$$L^{i}(a_{m}) = (\chi^{ijkl}a_{l,k})_{,j} \quad .$$
(44)

Kelvin-Christoffel matrix

$$\Gamma^{il}(x^m, p_n, p_4) = \chi^{i\beta\gamma l}(x^m)p_\beta p_\gamma \tag{41}$$

is a function of six phase-space coordinates  $x^m$ ,  $p_n$  formed by three spatial coordinates  $x^m$  and three slowness-vector components  $p_n$ . We shall insert  $p_4 = -1$ .

The Kelvin-Christoffel matrix is not symmetric. Its right-hand eigenvectors differ from its left-hand eigenvectors.

Right-hand eigenvector  $g_i = g_i(x^m, \tau_{,n})$ , corresponding to selected eigenvalue  $G = G(x^m, \tau_{,n})$  of the Kelvin-Christoffel matrix:

$$\Gamma^{il} g_l = G g_i$$

Corresponding left-hand eigenvector  $\vec{g}_i = \vec{g}_i(x^m, \tau_{,n})$ :

$$\vec{g}_i \, \Gamma^{il} = \vec{g}_l \, G$$

We denote by  $G^{\perp}$  the other two eigenvalues of the Kelvin-Christoffel matrix, by  $g_i^{\perp}$  the corresponding right-hand eigenvectors, and by  $\vec{g}_i^{\perp}$  the corresponding left-hand eigenvectors. Superscript  $^{\perp}$  takes two values. The three right-hand eigenvectors of the Kelvin-Christoffel matrix and the three left-hand eigenvectors of the Kelvin-Christoffel matrix are mutually biorthogonal, and we choose them mutually biorthonormal.

Eikonal equation

$$G(x^m, \tau_{,n}) = 0$$

can be solved by standard methods developed for solving the Hamilton-Jacobi equation (Hamilton, 1837; Červený, 1972; Klimeš, 2002; 2010).

Hamilton's equations of rays:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}x^i}{\mathrm{d}\gamma} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i}(x^m, p_n) \quad , \tag{77}$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}p_i}{\mathrm{d}\gamma} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x^i}(x^m, p_n) \quad . \tag{78}$$

Phase-space derivatives of the Hamiltonian function:

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial x^{i}} = -\frac{1}{2 \,\varrho} \, \vec{g}_{a} \chi^{a\beta\gamma d}_{,i} p_{\beta} p_{\gamma} g_{d} \quad , \tag{82}$$

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i} = -\frac{1}{2 \,\varrho} \, \vec{g}_a \left( \chi^{ai\gamma d} + \chi^{a\gamma id} \right) p_\gamma g_d \quad , \tag{83}$$

where  $p_4 = -1$  and

$$\varrho = -\frac{1}{2} \vec{g}_a \left( \chi^{a4\gamma d} + \chi^{a\gamma 4d} \right) p_\gamma g_d \quad . \tag{84}$$

Decomposition of a vectorial amplitude into principal amplitude component  $a^{[n]}$  and two additional amplitude components  $a^{\perp [n]}$ :

$$a_i^{[n]} = a^{[n]}g_i + \sum_{\perp} a^{\perp [n]} g_i^{\perp} \quad .$$
(85)

Additional amplitude components:

$$a^{\perp[n]} = -\left[\vec{g}_i^{\perp} M^i(a_k^{[n-1]}, \tau_{,n}) + \vec{g}_i^{\perp} L^i(a_k^{[n-2]})\right] (G^{\perp})^{-1}$$
(87)  
with both  $a^{\perp[0]} = 0.$ 

Zero-order principal amplitude component:

$$a^{[0]} = a_0^{[0]} \left( \varrho_0 \, J_0 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \varrho \, J \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \exp\left( \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau} \mathrm{d}\gamma \, S \right) \quad . \tag{95}$$

Squared geometrical spreading

$$J = \det\left(\frac{\partial x^i}{\partial \gamma^a}\right) \tag{96}$$

represents the Jacobian of transformation from ray coordinates  $\gamma^1, \gamma^2, \gamma^3$  to spatial coordinates  $x^i$ . These ray coordinates are composed of ray parameters  $\gamma^1$  and  $\gamma^2$ , and of travel time  $\gamma^3 = \tau$  along rays.

Amplitude factor  $\exp\left(\int_{\tau_0}^{\tau} d\gamma S\right)$  accounts for the non-reciprocity of the tensor Green function caused by the difference between symmetric and non-symmetric constitutive tensors with respect to the exchange of the first pair of indices and the second pair of indices:

$$S = \frac{1}{4\varrho} \sum_{\perp} \left( \vec{g}_k \frac{\partial \Gamma^{kl}}{\partial x^j} g_l^{\perp} \vec{g}_r^{\perp} \frac{\partial \Gamma^{rs}}{\partial p_j} g_s - \vec{g}_k \frac{\partial \Gamma^{kl}}{\partial p_j} g_l^{\perp} \vec{g}_r^{\perp} \frac{\partial \Gamma^{rs}}{\partial x^j} g_s \right) (G^{\perp})^{-1} + \frac{1}{4\varrho} \vec{g}_i \left( \chi^{ijkl} - \chi^{ikjl} \right)_{,j} \tau_{,k} g_l - \frac{1}{4\varrho} \vec{g}_i \left( \chi^{ij4l} - \chi^{i4jl} \right)_{,j} g_l - \vec{g}_i \frac{\mathrm{d}g_i}{\mathrm{d}\gamma} .$$
(115)

Term  $\vec{g}_i \frac{\mathrm{d}g_i}{\mathrm{d}\gamma}$  represents just the correction of principal amplitude  $a^{[n]}$  due to the undefined length of right-hand eigenvector  $g_i$ , and may be put to zero.

Quantity S may be singular at slowness-surface singularities, but is regular at spatial caustics.

Quantity S vanishes for a constitutive tensor symmetric with respect to the exchange of the first pair of indices and the second pair of indices. For a non-symmetric constitutive tensor, quantity S vanishes in a homogeneous medium.

#### Example of S in a bigyrotropic medium

 $\nabla \eta, \nabla \nu$  $\epsilon^{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon & 0 & 0\\ 0 & \epsilon & -\mathrm{i}\eta\\ 0 & \mathrm{i}\eta & \epsilon \end{pmatrix}$  $\mu_{ij}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu^{-1} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & \mu^{-1} & -i\nu\\ 0 & i\nu & \mu^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$ 

Symmetry axis  $x_1$ 

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Higher-order principal amplitude components

$$a^{[n]} = a^{[0]} \left[ \frac{a_0^{[n]}}{a_0^{[0]}} + \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau} \mathrm{d}\gamma \, \frac{Z^{[n-1]}}{a^{[0]} \sqrt{\varrho}} \right] \quad , \tag{97}$$

where

$$Z^{[n-1]} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\varrho}} \left[ \sum_{\perp} \vec{g}_i M^i \left( a^{\perp [n]} g_k^{\perp}, \tau_{,n} \right) + \vec{g}_i L^i \left( a_k^{[n-1]} \right) \right] \quad . \tag{93}$$

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### Acknowledgements

The research has been supported:

by the Grant Agency of the Czech Republic under contract 16-01312S,

and by the consortium "Seismic Waves in Complex 3-D Structures"



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