

RECONSTRUCTING NON-POINT SOURCES OF  
DIFFUSION FIELDS FROM SENSOR MEASUREMENTS

John Murray-Bruce and Pier Luigi Dragotti

Communications and Signal Processing Group,  
Electrical and Electronic Engineering,  
Imperial College London.

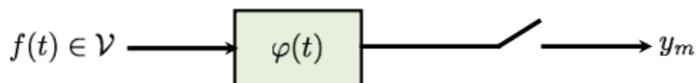
March 18, 2016

- 1 Introduction
  - PDE-driven Inverse Problems
- 2 Source Reconstruction Framework
  - Point Sources
  - Line and Polygonal Sources
- 3 Simulation Results
- 4 Conclusions

# INVERSE PROBLEMS

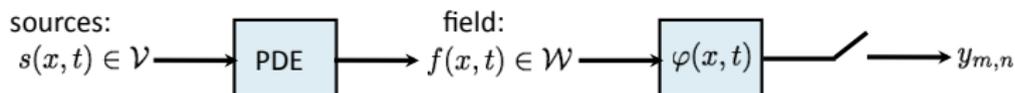
We consider *physics-driven* Inverse Problems

Traditional Sampling Set-up:



- The signal  $f(t)$  lies in a subspace, is sparse (e.g., CS), is parametric (e.g., FRI)
- The acquisition device given by the set-up or by design (e.g., random matrix)

Sampling physical fields:



- No assumption on the field but on the sources,
- The acquisition device performs only temporal filtering, **no spatial filtering**

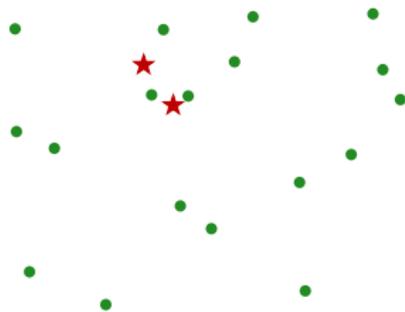
# INVERSE PROBLEMS IN PHYSICS: DIFFUSION

## DIFFUSION

Stochastic movement of a collection of particles from regions of high concentration to regions of lower concentration (until an equilibrium is established).

Sensor networks measure:

- Leakages in/from factories,
- Temperature in server rooms,
- Nuclear fallouts (Fukushima).



The field  $u(\mathbf{x}, t)$  induced by a source distribution  $f(\mathbf{x}, t)$  satisfies:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u(\mathbf{x}, t) - \mu \nabla^2 u(\mathbf{x}, t) = f(\mathbf{x}, t). \quad (1)$$

# INVERSE PROBLEMS IN PHYSICS: DIFFUSION

## DIFFUSION

Stochastic movement of a collection of particles from regions of high concentration to regions of lower concentration (until an equilibrium is established).

Sensor networks measure:

- Leakages in/from factories,
- Temperature in server rooms,
- Nuclear fallouts (Fukushima).



The field  $u(\mathbf{x}, t)$  induced by a source distribution  $f(\mathbf{x}, t)$  satisfies:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u(\mathbf{x}, t) - \mu \nabla^2 u(\mathbf{x}, t) = f(\mathbf{x}, t). \quad (1)$$

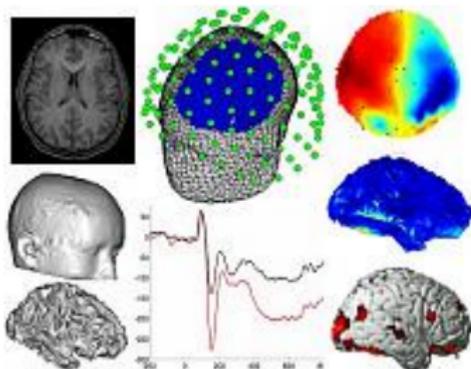
# INVERSE PROBLEMS IN PHYSICS: WAVE

## WAVE

A disturbance that travels through a medium from one location to another (transferring energy).

Such fields arise in acoustics, electromagnetics, fluid dynamics and so on. Sensor networks measure:

- Bioelectric neural currents in neurons of cerebral cortex (EEG/MEG),
- Pressure waves from a speaker/acoustic source.



$$\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} u(\mathbf{x}, t) - \nabla^2 u(\mathbf{x}, t) = f(\mathbf{x}, t).$$

# SENSOR NETWORKS AND INVERSE PROBLEMS

**Other PDEs:** Laplace's Equation, Advection-/Convection-Diffusion Equation, Helmholtz and many more.

Given these (spatiotemporal) measurements we may wish to find:

- source of factory leakage, detect plume sources
- find hot/cold spots in server clusters
- predict nuclear fallout concentration elsewhere
- center of mass of active regions
- acoustic source localization

Sources can be **localized** or **non-localized** → Parameterize sources  $f$ .

# PROBLEM FORMULATION: FIELD SOURCES

	Instantaneous	Non-Instantaneous
Point	$f(\mathbf{x}, t) = \sum_{m=1}^M c_m \delta(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\xi}_m, t - \tau_m)$	$f(\mathbf{x}, t) = \sum_{m=1}^M c_m e^{\alpha_m(t - \tau_m)} \delta(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\xi}_m) H(t - \tau_m)$
Line	$f(\mathbf{x}, t) = cL(\mathbf{x})\delta(t - \tau)$	$f(\mathbf{x}, t) = cL(\mathbf{x})e^{\alpha(t - \tau)}H(t - \tau)$
Polygonal	$f(\mathbf{x}, t) = cF(\mathbf{x})\delta(t - \tau)$	$f(\mathbf{x}, t) = cF(\mathbf{x})e^{\alpha(t - \tau)}H(t - \tau)$

Where,

- $L(\mathbf{x}) \in \Omega$  describes a line with endpoints  $\{\boldsymbol{\xi}_1, \boldsymbol{\xi}_2\}$ .
- $F(\mathbf{x}) \in \Omega$  describes a convex polygon with vertices  $\{\boldsymbol{\xi}_1, \boldsymbol{\xi}_2, \dots, \boldsymbol{\xi}_M\}$ .
- $\alpha_m, c_m, \boldsymbol{\xi}_m$  and  $\tau_m$  is the release rate, intensity, location and activation time of  $m$ -th source.

# PROBLEM FORMULATION: FIELD PDE MODEL

Let  $u(\mathbf{x}, t)$  denote the field induced by a source distribution  $f(\mathbf{x}, t)$  then a physics-driven system, in general, has the Green's function solution:

$$u(\mathbf{x}, t) = (f * g)(\mathbf{x}, t) = \int_{\mathbf{x}' \in \mathbb{R}^2} \int_{t' \in \mathbb{R}} g(\mathbf{x}', t') f(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}', t - t') dt' d\mathbf{x}' \quad (2)$$

where  $g(\mathbf{x}, t)$  is the Green function of the field.

For e.g.,

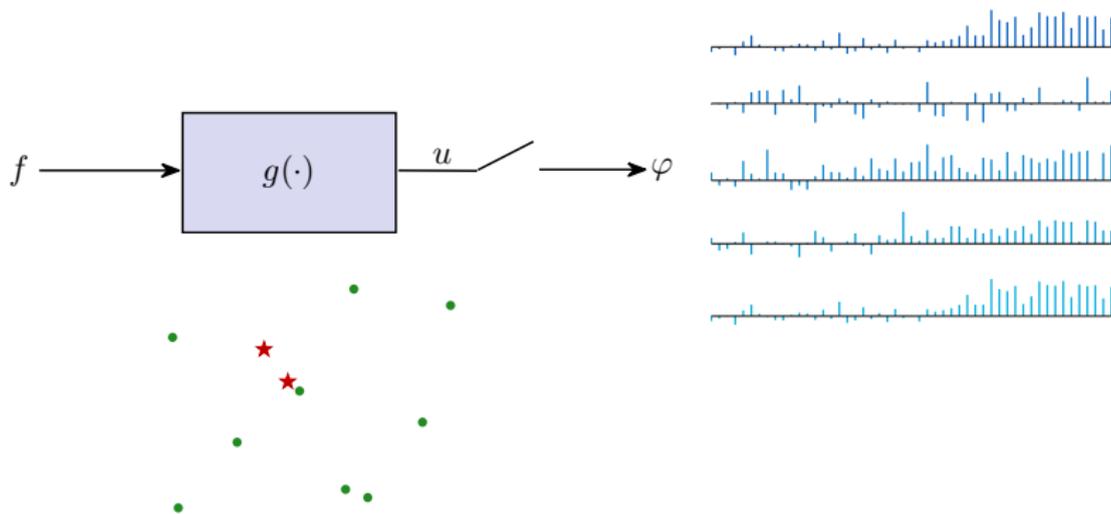
- **2D diffusion field:**  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u(\mathbf{x}, t) - \mu \nabla^2 u(\mathbf{x}, t) = f(\mathbf{x}, t)$ , has

$$g(\mathbf{x}, t) = \frac{1}{(4\pi t)^{d/2}} e^{-\frac{\|\mathbf{x}\|^2}{4\mu t}} H(t), \text{ where } H(t) \text{ is the step function.}$$

# PROBLEM FORMULATION: FIELD MEASUREMENTS

## AIM

Estimate  $f(\mathbf{x}, t)$  from spatiotemporal samples  $\{\varphi_{n,l} = u(\mathbf{x}_n, t_l)\}_{n,l}$  for  $n = 1, \dots, N$  and  $l = 0, \dots, L$ , of the measured field.



# SOURCE RECONSTRUCTION FRAMEWORK

Recall that

$$\begin{aligned} u(\mathbf{x}, t) &= \int_{\mathbf{x}' \in \mathbb{R}^2} \int_{t' \in \mathbb{R}} g(\mathbf{x}', t') f(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}', t - t') dt' d\mathbf{x}' \\ &= \langle f(\mathbf{x}', t'), g(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}', t - t') \rangle_{\mathbf{x}', t'}. \end{aligned}$$

Mathematically the spatiotemporal sample  $\varphi_{n,l}$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_{n,l} &= u(\mathbf{x}_n, t_l) \\ &= \langle f(\mathbf{x}, t), g(\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}, t_l - t) \rangle_{\mathbf{x}, t} \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

Consider a weighted-sum of the samples  $\{\varphi_{n,l}\}_{n,l}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{l=0}^L w_{n,l} \varphi_{n,l} &= \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{l=0}^L w_{n,l} \langle f(\mathbf{x}, t), g(\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}, t_l - t) \rangle_{\mathbf{x}, t} \\ &= \left\langle f(\mathbf{x}, t), \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{l=0}^L w_{n,l} g(\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}, t_l - t)}_{=\Psi_k(\mathbf{x})\Gamma(t)} \right\rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where  $w_{n,l} \in \mathbb{C}$  are some arbitrary weights (to be determined).

We wish to find  $f(\mathbf{x}, t)$ :

- For our source types, can we choose functions  $\Psi_k(\mathbf{x})$  and  $\Gamma(t)$  that makes this problem tractable? — YES!

Let these (new) *generalized measurements* be

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{R}(k) &= \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{l=0}^L w_{n,l} \varphi_{n,l} = \langle f(\mathbf{x}, t), \Psi_k(\mathbf{x}) \Gamma(t) \rangle \\ &= \int_{\Omega} \int_{t \in [0, T]} \Psi_k(\mathbf{x}) \Gamma(t) f(\mathbf{x}, t) dt dV,\end{aligned}$$

where  $\Psi_k(\mathbf{x})$  for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ ,  $d = \{1, 2\}$ , and  $\Gamma(t)$  a family of properly chosen *spatial* and *temporal sensing functions*, respectively.

Proper choice  $\implies$  solvability & stability of new problem.

- As an example, take the **instantaneous** source distribution

$$f(\mathbf{x}, t) = \sum_{m=1}^M c_m \delta(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\xi}_m, t - \tau_m), \text{ then:}$$

$$\mathcal{R}(k) = \sum_{m=1}^M c_m \Psi_k(\boldsymbol{\xi}_m) \Gamma(\tau_m).$$

# CHOICE OF SENSING FUNCTIONS: 2D CASE

For  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , we may choose

- $\Gamma(t) = e^{-jt/T}$ , and
- $\Psi_k(\mathbf{x}) = e^{-k(x_1 + jx_2)}$ , for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, K$ .

Then,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{R}(k) &= \sum_{m=1}^M c_m e^{-j\tau_m/T} e^{-k(\xi_{1,m} + j\xi_{2,m})} \\ &= \sum_{m=1}^M c'_m v_m^k.\end{aligned}$$

Can be solved to jointly recover  $c'_m = c_m e^{-j\tau_m/T}$  and  $v_m = e^{-(\xi_{1,m} + j\xi_{2,m})}$  using Prony's method for  $m = 1, \dots, M$  providing  $K \geq 2M - 1$ .

**Instantaneous** case:  $f(\mathbf{x}, t) = cL(\mathbf{x})\delta(t - \tau)$ , thus  $\mathcal{R}(k)$  reduces to:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{R}(k) &= \int_{\Omega} \int_t \Psi_k(\mathbf{x}) \Gamma(t) f(\mathbf{x}, t) dt dV \\ &= c\Gamma(\tau) \int_{\Omega} \Psi_k(\mathbf{x}) L(\mathbf{x}) dV \\ &= c\Gamma(\tau) \int_{L(\mathbf{x})} \Psi_k(\mathbf{x}) dS \\ &= \frac{1}{k} c\ell(\xi_1, \xi_2) \Gamma(\tau) \sum_{m=1}^2 (-1)^m \Psi_k(\xi_m)\end{aligned}$$

# LINE SOURCE

From  $\mathcal{R}(k) = \frac{1}{k} cl(\boldsymbol{\xi}_1, \boldsymbol{\xi}_2) \Gamma(\tau) \sum_{m=1}^2 (-1)^m \Psi_k(\boldsymbol{\xi}_m)$  and the usual choice for sensing functions  $\Gamma(t) = e^{-jt/T}$  and  $\Psi_k(\mathbf{x}) = e^{-k(x_1 + jx_2)}$ , then:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}'(k) &\triangleq k\mathcal{R}(k) = cl(\boldsymbol{\xi}_1, \boldsymbol{\xi}_2) \Gamma(\tau) \sum_{m=1}^2 (-1)^m \Psi_k(\boldsymbol{\xi}_m) \\ &= cl(\boldsymbol{\xi}_1, \boldsymbol{\xi}_2) e^{-j\tau/T} \sum_{m=1}^2 (-1)^m e^{-k(\xi_{1,m} + j\xi_{2,m})} \end{aligned}$$

Can again recover  $c$ ,  $\tau$  and the endpoints  $\boldsymbol{\xi}_1$  and  $\boldsymbol{\xi}_2$  of the line source using Prony's method (providing  $K \geq 3$ ).

- For polygonal sources:  
**surface integral**  $\rightarrow$  **line integral**  $\rightarrow$   $\Psi_k$  **evaluated at vertices**

# COMPUTING $\mathcal{R}(k)$ RELIABLY FROM SENSOR MEASUREMENTS?

Recall that,

$$\mathcal{R}(k) = \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{l=0}^L w_{n,l} \varphi_{n,l}$$

Thus computing  $\mathcal{R}(k)$  is equivalent to finding the weights  $w_{n,l}$ . These weights may be found:

- 1 Using Green's second identity
  - For 2D diffusion field.
- 2 Formulating and solving a linear system (**explicitly**)
  - Inversion of large matrices.
  - Conditioning and stability considerations.
- 3 Results from non-uniform/universal sampling theory?
  - Stable iterative/non-iterative algorithms.

# EXPLICIT COMPUTATION OF WEIGHTS $\{w_{n,l}\}_{n,l}$

We desire  $\{w_{n,l}\}_{n,l}$ , so that  $\sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{l=0}^L w_{n,l} g(\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}, t_l - t) = \Psi_k(\mathbf{x})\Gamma(t)$ , where  $g$ ,  $\Psi_k$  and  $\Gamma$  are known.

For e.g. the 2D heat problem  $g(\mathbf{x}, t) = \frac{1}{4\pi t} e^{-\frac{\|\mathbf{x}\|^2}{4\mu t}} H(t)$ , and we may choose,  $\Psi_k(\mathbf{x}) = e^{-k(x_1 + jx_2)}$  and  $\Gamma(t) = e^{-jt/T}$ .

Can formulate a linear system as follows:

$$\begin{bmatrix} g(\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}'_1, t_1 - t_j) & \cdots & g(\mathbf{x}_N - \mathbf{x}'_1, t_1 - t_j) \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ g(\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}'_j, t_1 - t_j) & \cdots & g(\mathbf{x}_N - \mathbf{x}'_j, t_1 - t_j) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w_{1,l} \\ \vdots \\ w_{N,l} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Psi_k(\mathbf{x}'_1)\Gamma(t_j) \\ \vdots \\ \Psi_k(\mathbf{x}'_j)\Gamma(t_j) \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{G}_{l,j} \mathbf{w}_l = \mathbf{p}_j$$
$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{G}_{0,1} & \cdots & \mathbf{G}_{0,J} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \mathbf{G}_{L,1} & \cdots & \mathbf{G}_{L,J} \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{p}_J \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Psi_k(\mathbf{x}'_1)\Gamma(t_1) \\ \vdots \\ \Psi_k(\mathbf{x}'_j)\Gamma(t_j) \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{G} \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{p}$$

Solve  $\mathbf{G} \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{p}$ , where  $\mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{N(L+1) \times IJ}$ ,  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^{N(L+1)}$  and  $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^{IJ}$ .

# IMPLICIT COMPUTATION OF WEIGHTS $\{w_{n,l}\}_{n,l}$

- 1 **Green's second identity:** Let  $u(\mathbf{x}, t)$  and  $\Psi_k(\mathbf{x})$  be scalar functions in  $\mathcal{C}^2$ , over  $\Omega \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , then:

$$\oint_{\partial\Omega} (\Psi_k \nabla u - u \nabla \Psi_k) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{\partial\Omega} dS = \int_{\Omega} (\Psi_k \nabla^2 u - u \nabla^2 \Psi_k) dV,$$

where  $\hat{\mathbf{n}}_{\partial\Omega}$  is the outward pointing unit normal to the boundary  $\partial\Omega$ .

- 2 Substitute (inhomogenous) PDE and choose  $\Psi_k$  to satisfy  $\frac{\partial \Psi_k}{\partial t} + \mu \nabla^2 \Psi_k = 0$ , thus:

$$\int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (u \Psi_k) dV - \mu \oint_{\partial\Omega} (\Psi_k \nabla u - u \nabla \Psi_k) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{\partial\Omega} dS = \int_{\Omega} \Psi_k f dV.$$

- 3 Multiply through by  $\Gamma(t)$  and integrate over  $t = [0, T]$ :

$$\underbrace{\int_0^T \Gamma \int_{\Omega} \Psi_k \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial \Psi_k}{\partial t} dV - \mu \oint_{\partial\Omega} (\Psi_k \nabla u - u \nabla \Psi_k) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{\partial\Omega} dS dt}_{=\mathcal{R}(k)} = \int_{\Omega} \int_0^T \Psi_k \Gamma f dt dV$$

# IMPLICIT COMPUTATION OF WEIGHTS $\{w_{n,l}\}_{n,l}$

From:

$$\underbrace{\int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \Gamma \left( \Psi_k \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial \Psi_k}{\partial t} \right) dV - \mu \oint_{\partial\Omega} (\Psi_k \nabla u - u \nabla \Psi_k) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{\partial\Omega} dS dt}_{=\mathcal{R}(k)} = \int_{\Omega} \int_0^T \Psi_k \Gamma f dt dV$$
$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{R}(k) = \langle f(\mathbf{x}, t), \Psi_k(\mathbf{x}) \Gamma(t) \rangle$$

As such we can obtain  $\{\mathcal{R}(k)\}$  by **approximating the integrals** from the spatiotemporal samples using standard quadrature schemes.

- Mesh required.
- Integral simply a linear combination of field samples.
- Distributed computation (consensus-based estimation).

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- Motivation
- Problem Formulation

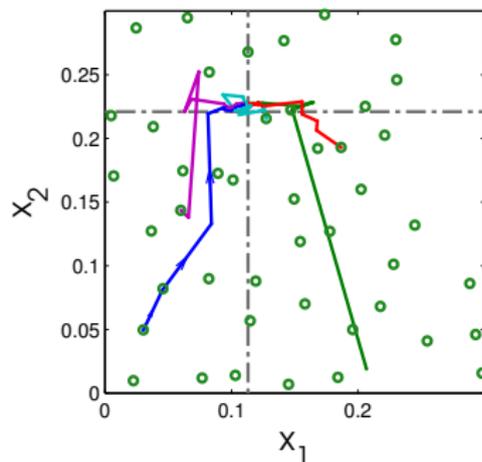
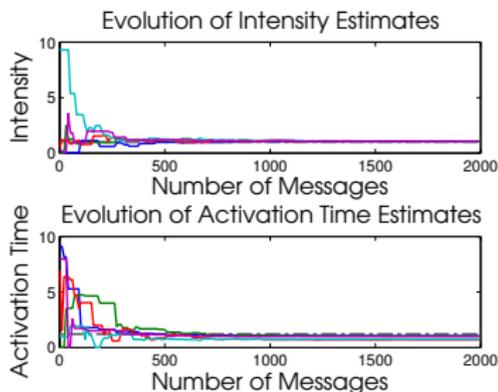
## 2 SOURCE RECONSTRUCTION FRAMEWORK

- Point Sources
- Line Source
- Computing  $\mathcal{R}(k)$

## 3 SIMULATION RESULTS

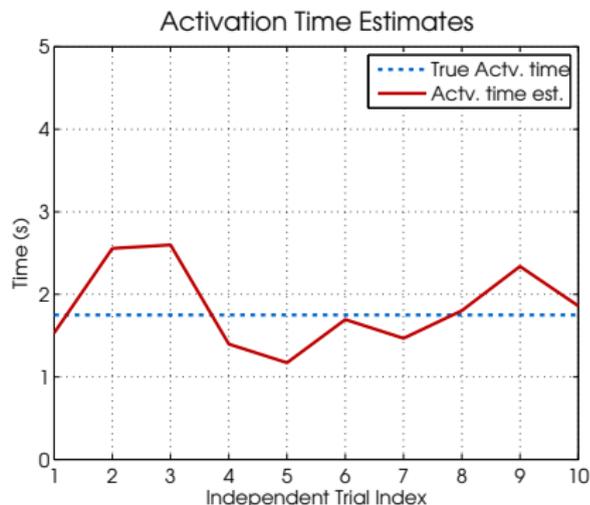
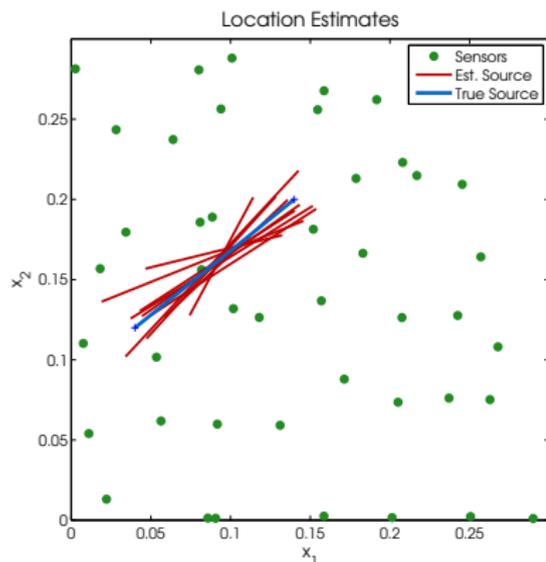
## 4 CONCLUSION

# SYNTHETIC DATA: POINT DIFFUSION SOURCE



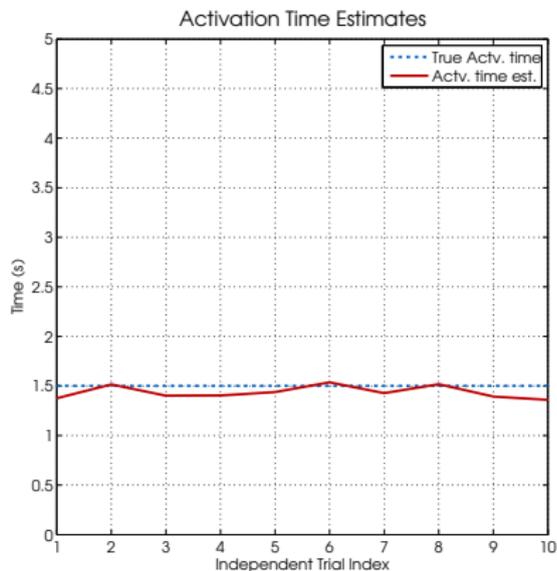
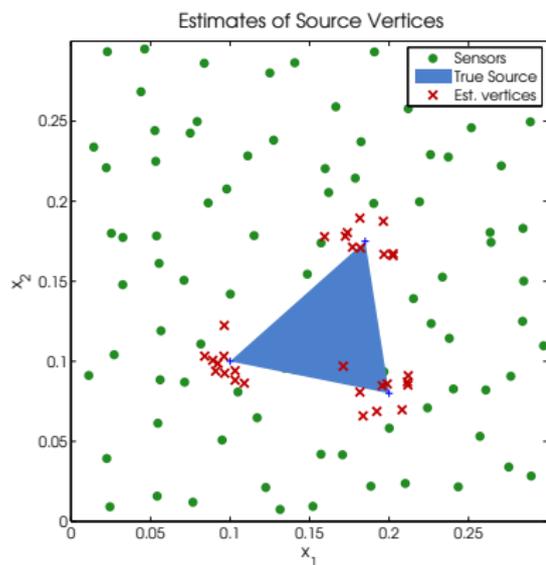
Distributed estimation for  $M = 1$  source using 45 sensors, field is sampled for  $T_{end} = 10s$  at  $\frac{1}{\Delta t} = 1Hz$ .  $K = 1$ .

# SYNTHETIC DATA: LINE DIFFUSION SOURCE



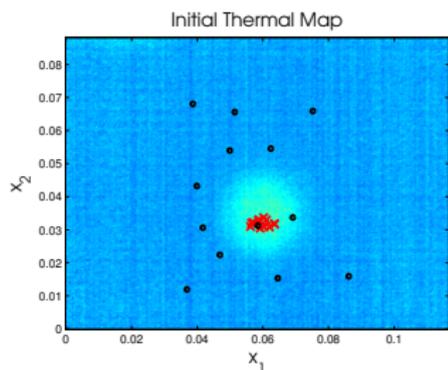
$N = 45$  arbitrarily placed sensors, field sampled at  $10\text{Hz}$  for  $T = 10\text{s}$  with measurement  $\text{SNR} = 20\text{dB}$ .  $K = 6$  and  $R = 5$ .

# SYNTHETIC DATA: TRIANGULAR DIFFUSION SOURCE

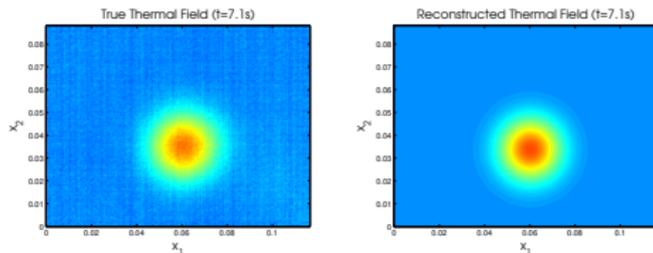


$N = 90$  arbitrarily placed sensors, field sampled at  $10\text{Hz}$  for  $T = 10\text{s}$  with measurement  $\text{SNR} = 35\text{dB}$ .  $K = 6$  and  $R = 5$ .

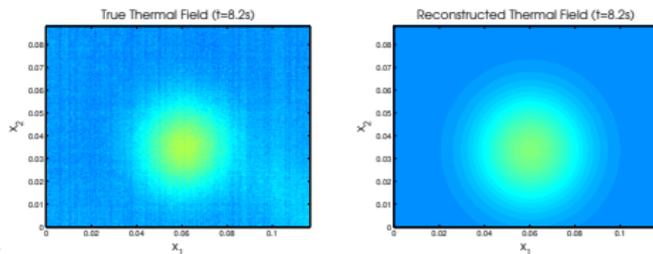
# SIMULATION RESULTS: REAL DIFFUSION DATA



(a) Thermal distribution (immediately after activation) and location estimates.

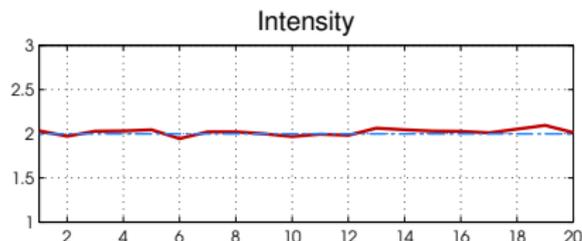


(b) Real field (left) and its reconstruction (right) at  $t = 7.1s$ .



(c) Real field (left) and its reconstruction (right) at  $t = 8.2s$ .

# SIMULATION RESULTS: LAPLACE - SYNTHETIC DATA



**FIGURE 1:** Single point source recovery in 3D using samples obtained by  $N = 57$  sensors with  $K_1 = K_2 = 1$  for spatial sensing function family. Results for 20 independent trials are given.

# FURTHER EXTENSIONS

- 1 Reconstructing non-localized sources: line and (convex) polygons.
  - Compute generalized measurements.
  - Use tools from complex analysis to modify  $\mathcal{R}(k)$ .
  - Recover endpoints (vertices) of line (polygonal) source.

# FURTHER EXTENSIONS

- 1 Reconstructing non-localized sources: line and (convex) polygons.
  - Compute generalized measurements.
  - Use tools from complex analysis to modify  $\mathcal{R}(k)$ .
  - Recover endpoints (vertices) of line (polygonal) source.
- 2 Further extensions
  - Reconstructing localized sources in bounded regions (rooms).
  - 3D source recovery.

# FURTHER EXTENSIONS

- 1 Reconstructing non-localized sources: line and (convex) polygons.
  - Compute generalized measurements.
  - Use tools from complex analysis to modify  $\mathcal{R}(k)$ .
  - Recover endpoints (vertices) of line (polygonal) source.
- 2 Further extensions
  - Reconstructing localized sources in bounded regions (rooms).
  - 3D source recovery.
- 3 **Generalisation Possible?**
  - Same principle can be generalized to PDE-driven fields: wave, Poisson etc.
  - How to compute the field analysis coefficients  $\{w_{n,l}\}$ ?
  - Turn to FRI theory: exponential reproduction.

Thank You.