

# *How integral equations help you solve PDEs*

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# Overview: what is numerical analysis?

Theory, Experiment, Computation: third branch of science

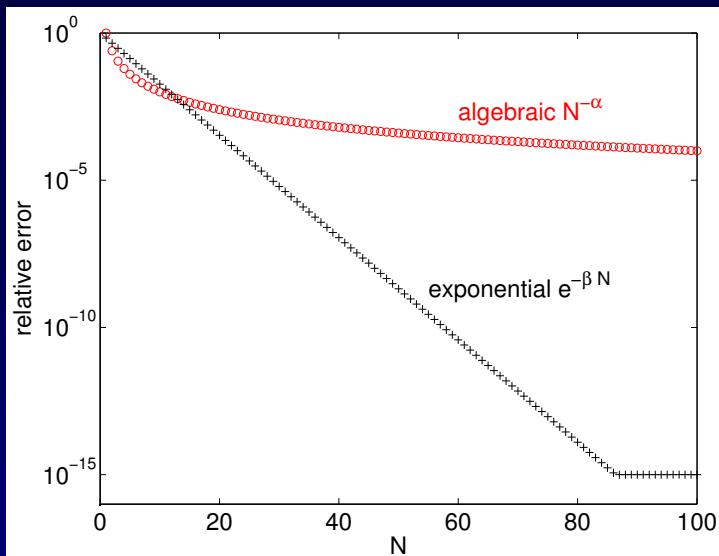
- E.g. in computer, real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$  approximated by a finite set  $F$   
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e.g. solving PDEs: how does error scale with  $N = \text{effort}$  ?

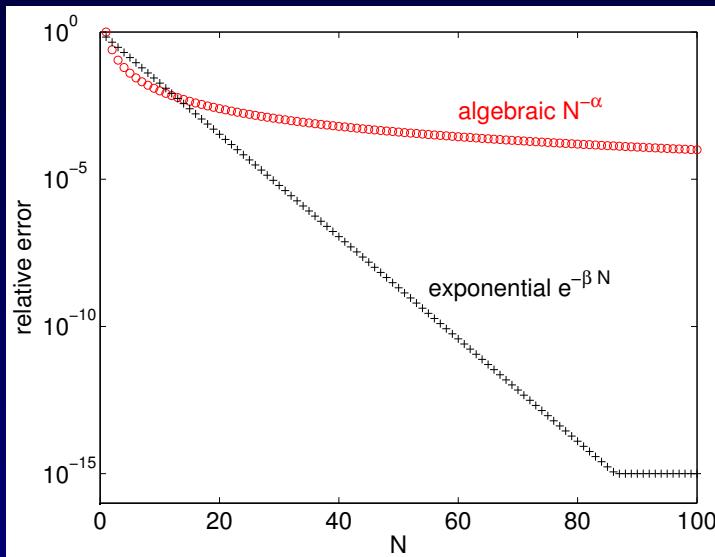
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- Engineering & technology relies on good computational algorithms:  
insensitive to rounding error, rapid convergence, robust, runs fast

Analysis: *proving* useful upper bounds on the error

# What is an integral equation?

1D case:  $\tau = \tau(x)$  function defined on interval  $a \leq x \leq b$

Integral operator  $K$  takes function  $\tau$  to  $(K\tau)(x) := \int_a^b k(x, y)\tau(y)dy$   
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There are also Volterra equations where  $(K\tau)(x) := \int_a^x k(x, y)\tau(y)dy$

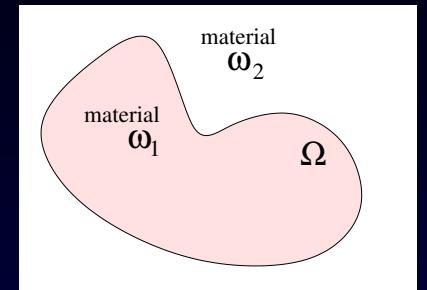
- Apps: age-structured population models, IVPs. Well-behaved!

# Piecewise-constant coefficient PDEs

$\Omega$  bounded domain in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $d = 2$  or 3 in most apps

Interior BVP:  $\Delta u = 0$  in  $\Omega$ ,  $u = f$  on bdry  $\partial\Omega$

Laplace operator  $\Delta = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2}$ , const coeff



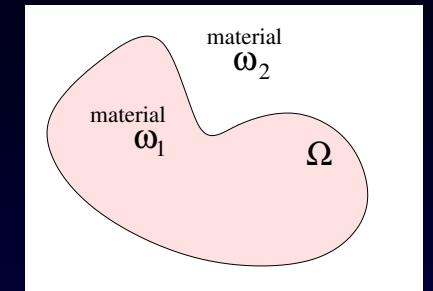
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Piecewise-constant case, composite of 2 or more materials, eg:

$$(\Delta + \omega_1^2)u = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

Helmholtz eqn

$$(\Delta + \omega_2^2)u = 0 \quad \text{outside}$$

... also matching/jumps on interfaces

- waves hitting optical devices (glass / air)
- diffuse optical imaging (muscle tissue / fat / tumor)  
modified Helmholtz  $(\Delta - \omega^2)u = 0$
- protein configuration energy (molecule interior / water, Laplace)
- elastic modulus of composites (4th-order linear PDE)

# Waves at constant frequency, in $\mathbb{R}^2$

waves at constant frequency (wavenumber)  $\omega$  described by ...

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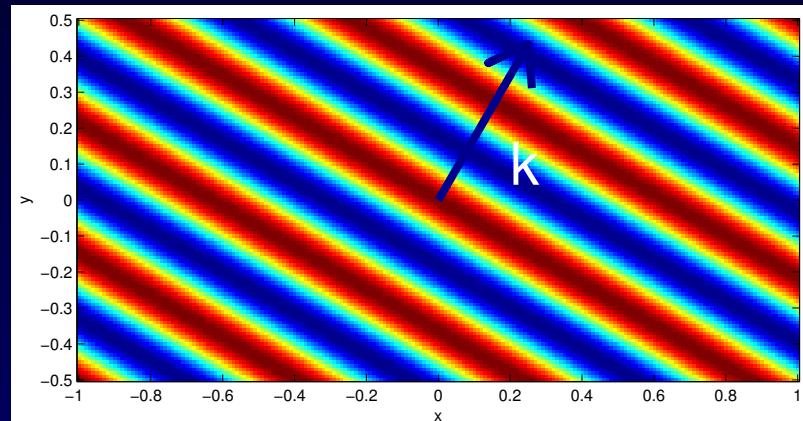
$u$  satisfies the Helmholtz PDE  $(\Delta + \omega^2)u = 0$

- E.g. plane wave solution

$$u(x, y) = e^{i(k_x x + k_y y)} = e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}}$$

$$\text{with } |\mathbf{k}| = \omega$$

traveling waves from distant source

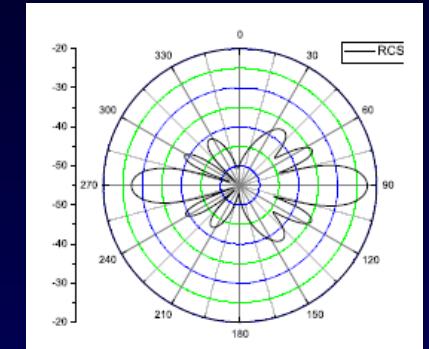
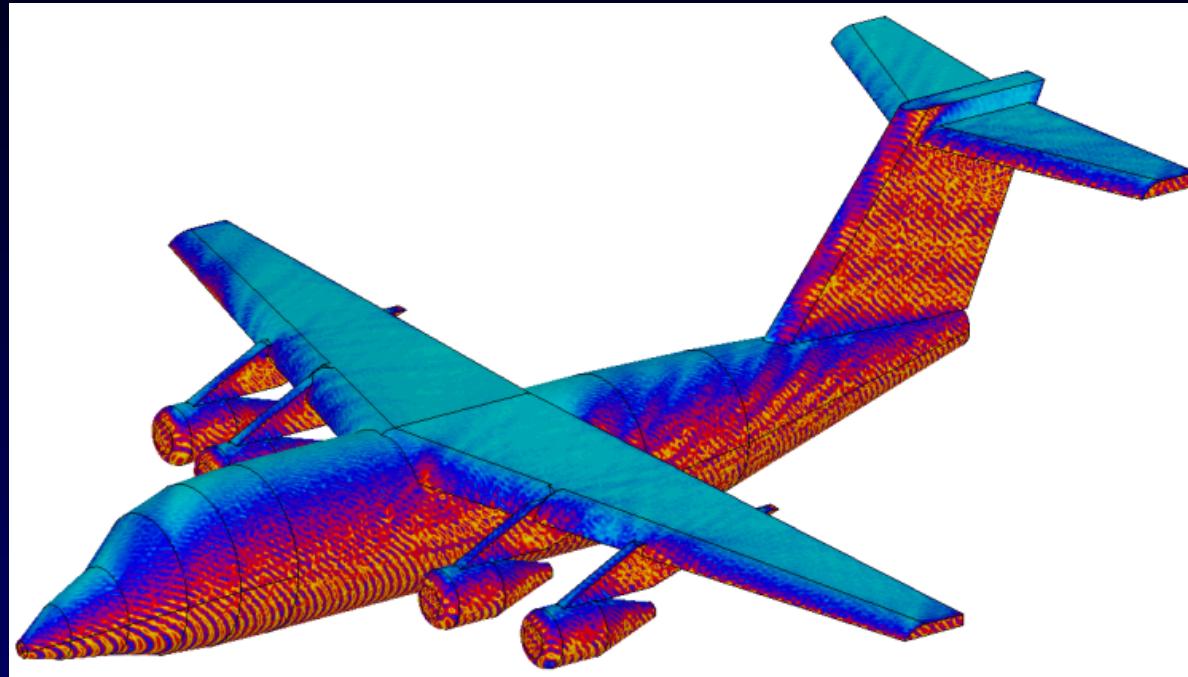


What happens when these waves hit an obstacle? Applications:

- electromagnetics: radar, cellphones, communications
- optics: microscopic devices e.g. internet backbone switches
- acoustics: ultrasound imaging, architectural, musical

# Challenges of wave scattering

$\omega \approx$  size of body in wavelengths.  $\omega \gg 10^2$  can't be solved via FEM



- backscattered intensity: radar cross section

$N$  unknowns scales as *volume* in wavelengths  $O(\omega^3)$  for FEM

$N$  scales only as *surface area*  $O(\omega^2)$  for boundary integral eqns (BIE)

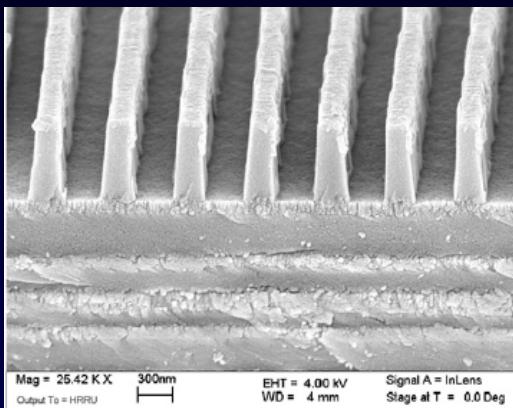
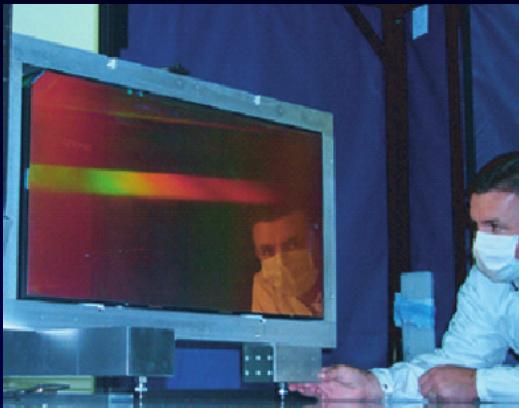
- FEM for Helmholtz also has ‘pollution error’ (BIE doesn’t):  
for FEM, number of elements per wavelength must grow to keep accurate

# Applications of periodic scattering problems

Diffraction gratings, filters, antennae, meta-materials, solar energy...

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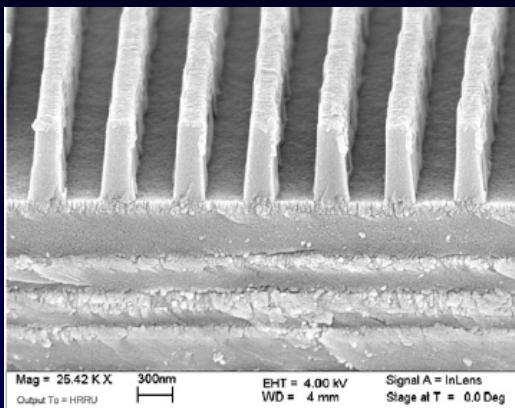
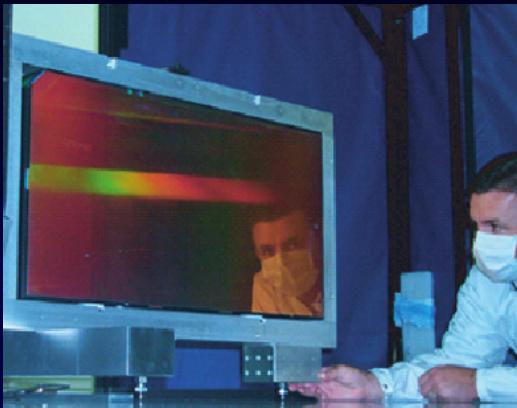
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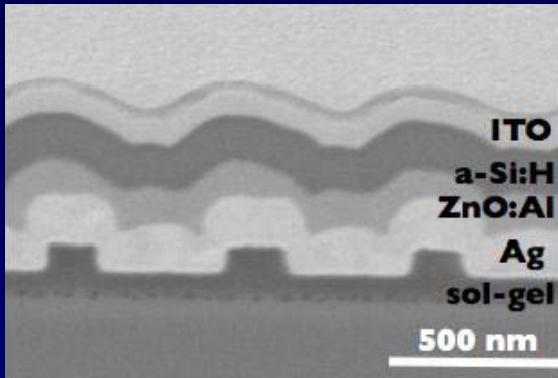
multi-layer dielectric diffraction  
grating, NIF lasers (LLNL)  
 $2 \times 10^6$  periods! (Barty '04)

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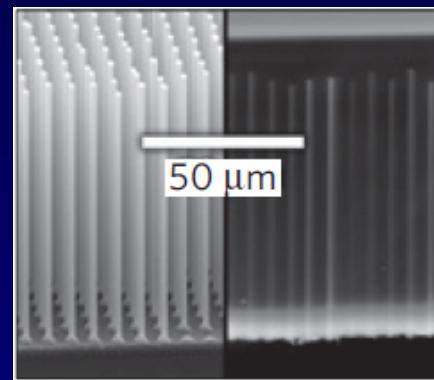
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plasmonic solar cell (Atwater '10)



Si microwires absorber (Kelzenberg '10)

↑ high  
aspect  
ratio

- Design optimization
- Simulation at  $>10^3$  inc. angles, frequencies
- Related: photonic crystals which *trap* light inside periodic structures

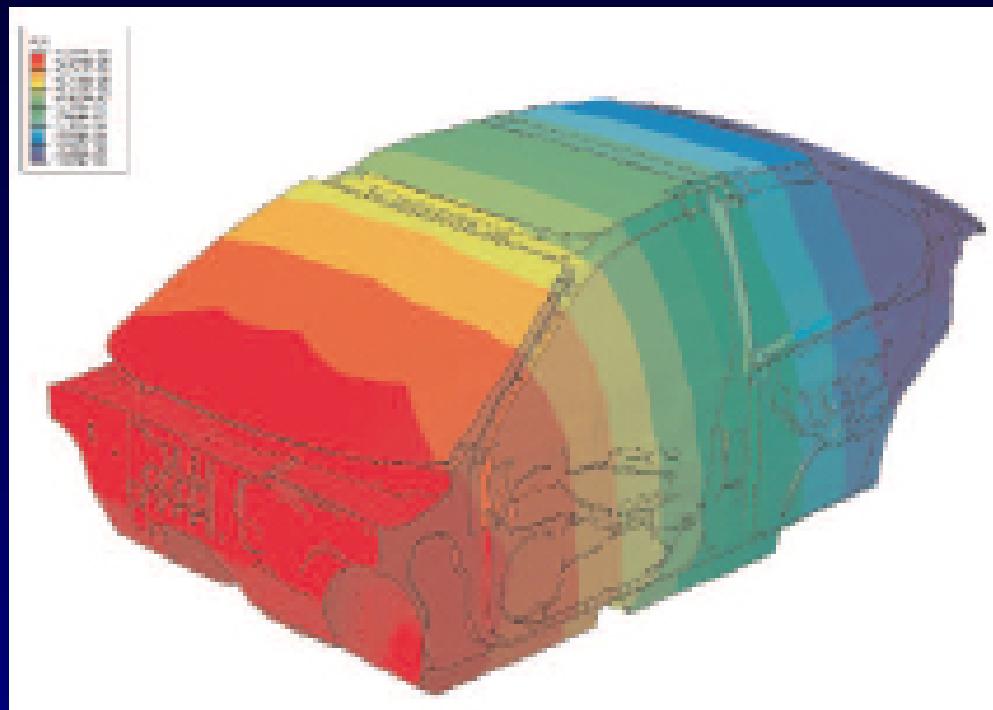
# Eigenmodes and applications

$$-\Delta u = \omega^2 u \quad \text{in } \Omega, \quad u = 0 \text{ on boundary}$$

homogeneous problem ( $u = 0$  is always a solution).

For what discrete frequencies  $\omega_0 < \omega_1 \leq \omega_2 \dots$  is non-trivial  $u$  possible?

- resonances of cavities (optical, microwave, acoustic, quantum)



automobile interior  
acoustic resonance

- mathematical interest: spectrum of drums, quantum chaos

# Numerical study

- High-freq. asymptotic study of  $\Omega$  with chaotic ray dynamics (B '06)  
shown: mode numbers  $j = 1, 10, 10^2, 10^3, 10^4, 10^5$
- 30000 modes
- new methods: impossible with FEM

# Notices

of the American Mathematical Society

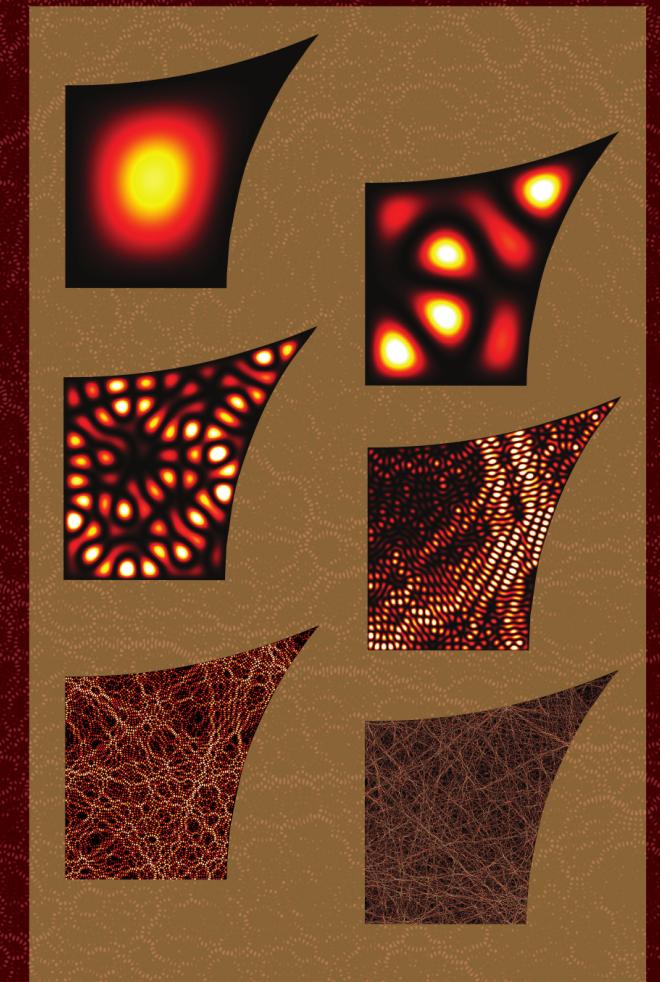
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Your Hit Parade:  
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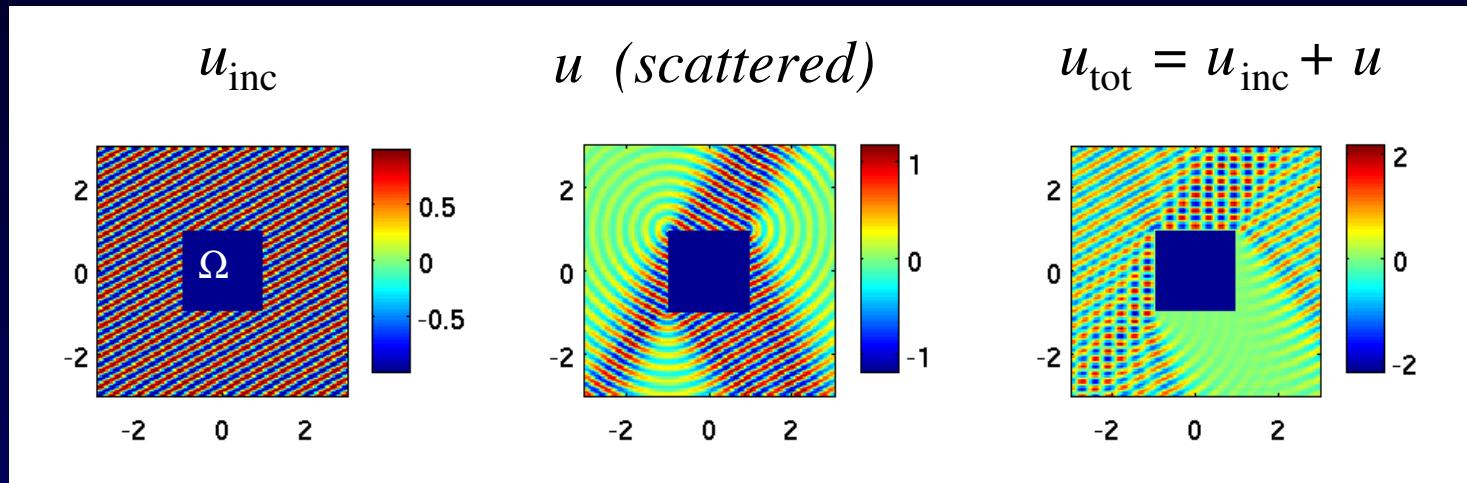


*Quantum chaos (see page 41)*

# Setup: scattering of waves

$$u_{\text{inc}}(x) = e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}} \quad \text{hitting obstacle } \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2 ?$$

Decompose total field into sum of incident and scattered...

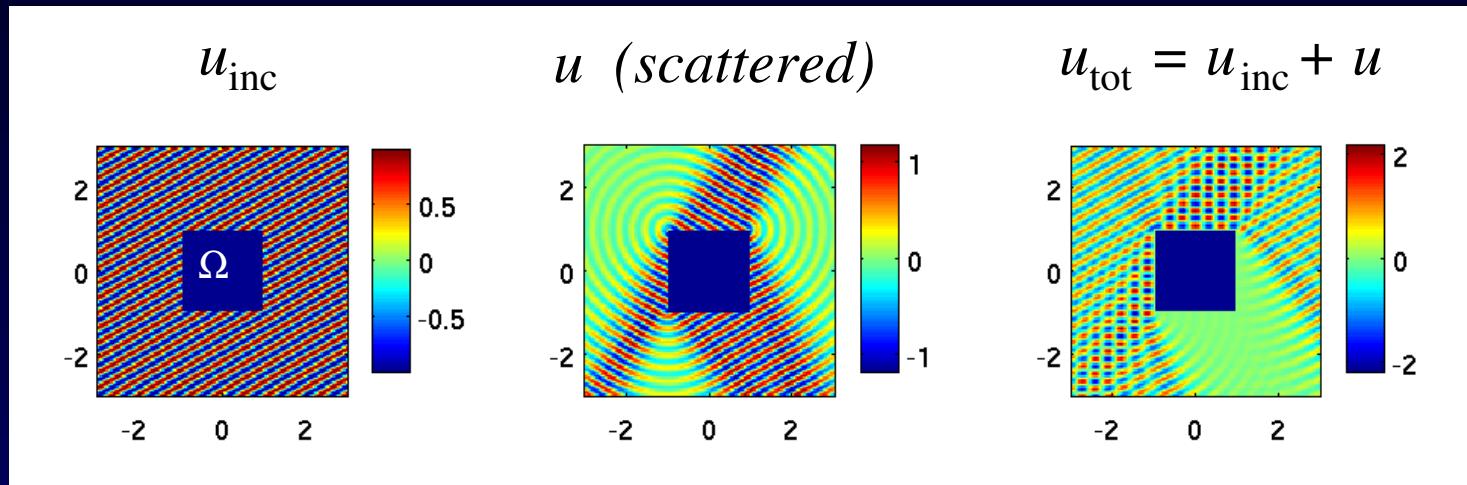


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$$(\Delta + \omega^2)u = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \overline{\Omega}$$

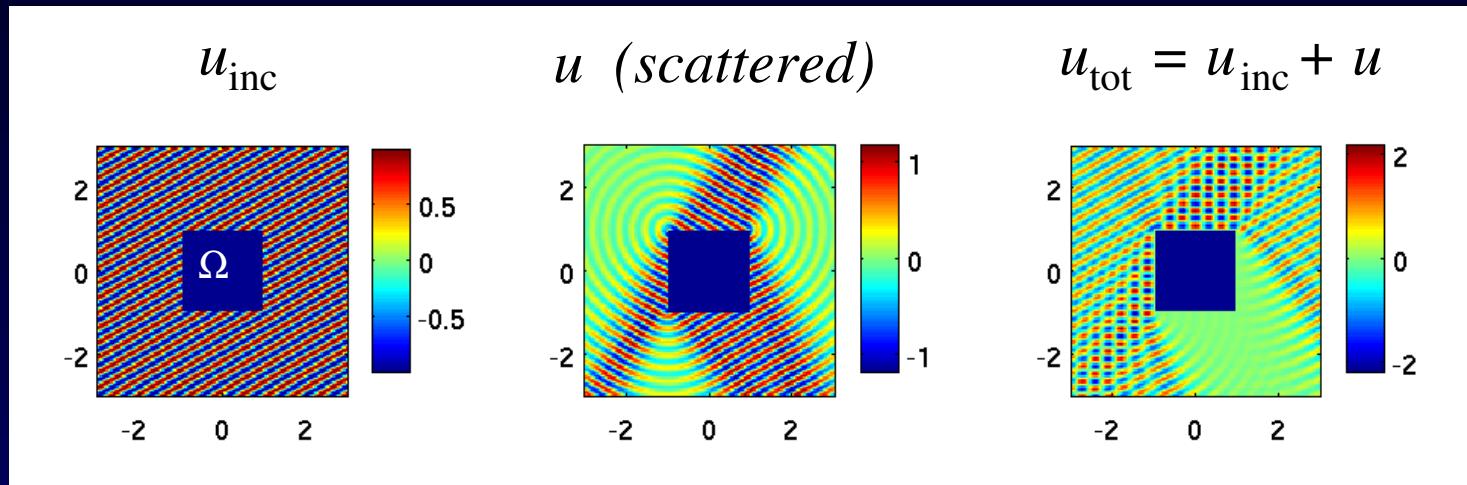
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Note:  $\Omega = \text{square}$ , is quite hard due to singularities at *corners* (Barnett-Betcke)

# Tool: potential theory

‘charge’ (source of waves) distributed along curve  $\Gamma$  w/ density func.

Single-, double-layer potentials,  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^2$

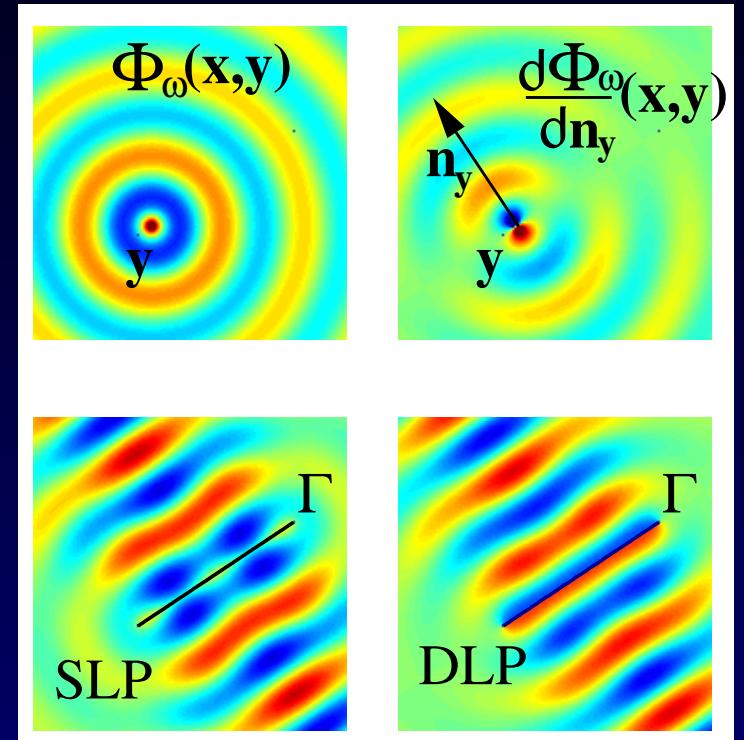
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$$\Phi_{\omega}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) := \Phi_{\omega}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) = \frac{i}{4} H_0^{(1)}(\omega |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|)$$

kernel is *fundamental solution* to PDE:

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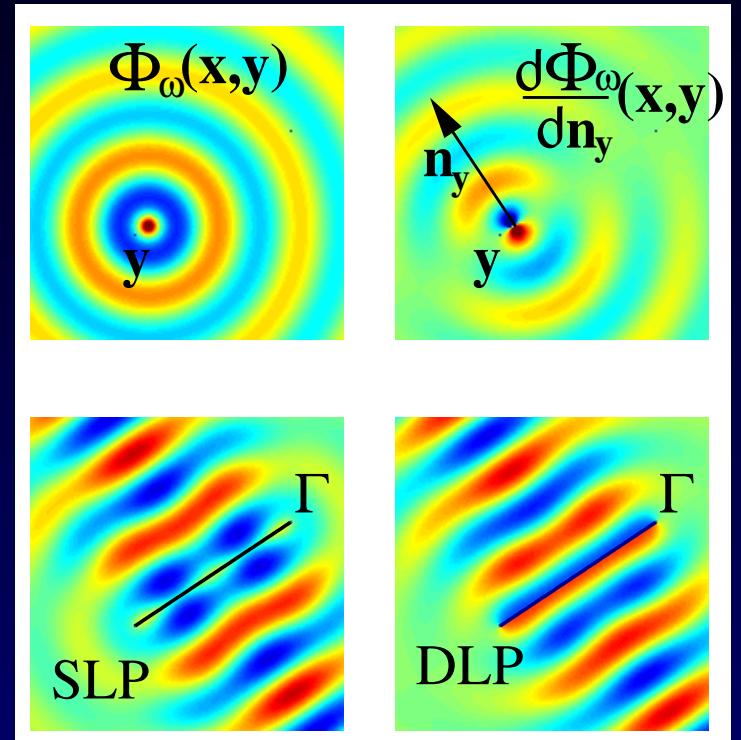
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Jump relation: field limit as  $\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \Gamma$  can depend on which side ( $\pm$ ):

$$u^{\pm} = D\tau \pm \frac{1}{2}\tau$$

$D$  is Fredholm integral operator, mapping continuous functions  $\tau$  on  $\Gamma$  to continuous functions on  $\Gamma$

# Solve BVP via boundary integral equations

Say represent scattered field by  $u = \mathcal{D}\tau$       double-layer on  $\partial\Omega$  ( $= \Gamma$ )

Jump relation ( $u^+$ ) gives:       $(D + \frac{1}{2})\tau = -u_{\text{inc}}|_{\partial\Omega}$

2nd-kind Fredholm int. eqn.      Parametrize  $\partial\Omega$  via  $\mathbf{y}(t)$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$ :

$$(\mathcal{D}\tau)(s) = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\partial \Phi_\omega}{\partial n_{\mathbf{y}(t)}}(\mathbf{y}(s), \mathbf{y}(t)) \tau(t) |\mathbf{y}'(t)| dt , \quad 0 \leq s \leq 2\pi$$

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- insert a quadrature rule       $\int_0^{2\pi} f(t)dt \approx \sum_{j=1}^N w_j f(t_j)$

Get  $N$ -by- $N$  linear system, Nyström method,

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How well does this discretized solution approx true solution?

- Thm (Anselone): Nyström converges just like quad. rule for integrand

# Periodic numerical quadrature

The simplest rule to approximate  $\int_0^{2\pi} f(t)dt$  is **sometimes** the best:  
sum  $N$  equally spaced samples of  $f$  !

MATLAB demo

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**Theorem** (Davis '59): Let  $f$  be  $2\pi$ -periodic, and *real analytic*, meaning  $f(z)$  is bounded and analytic in some strip  $|\operatorname{Im} z| \leq a$  of half-width  $a > 0$ . Then there is a const  $C > 0$  (indep. of  $N$ ) such that the error is

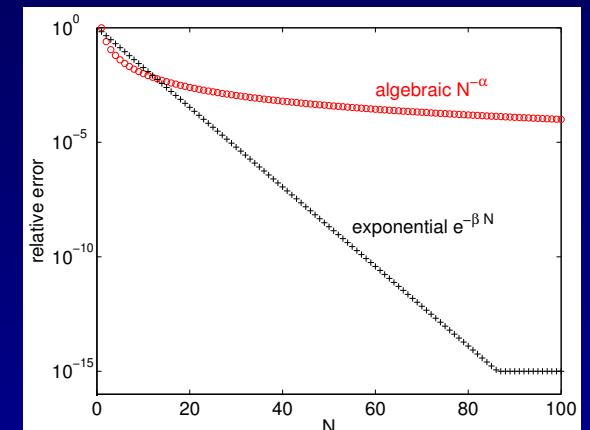
$$\left| \frac{2\pi}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N f\left(\frac{2\pi}{N}j\right) - \int_0^{2\pi} f(t)dt \right| \leq Ce^{-aN}$$

- If kernel  $k$  analytic (eg  $\partial\Omega$  analytic,  $\omega = 0$ ) exponential convergence in  $N$ :

very desirable: can get accuracies of  $10^{-14}$

w/ small  $N < 10^2$ , little effort. (3D analogous)

But  $\omega > 0$  needs  $f(t) + \ln(4 \sin^2 \frac{t}{2})g(t)$



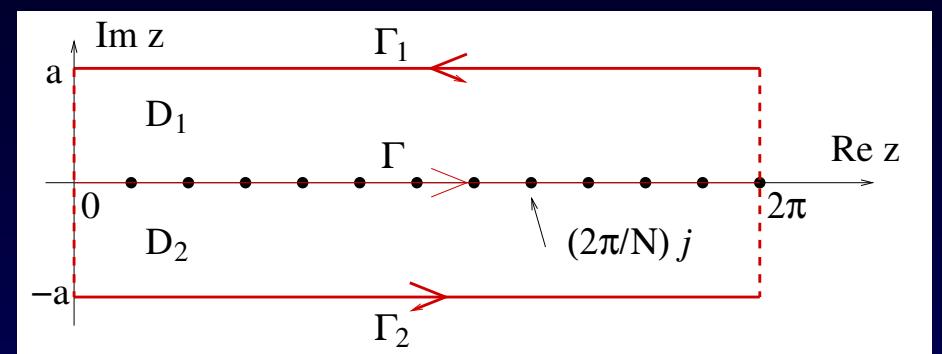
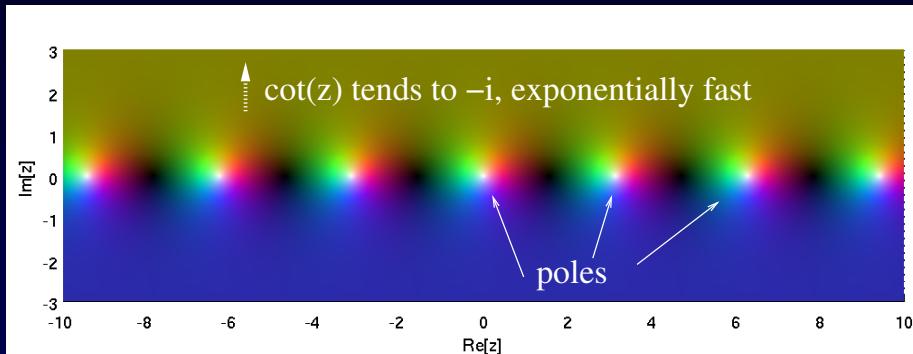
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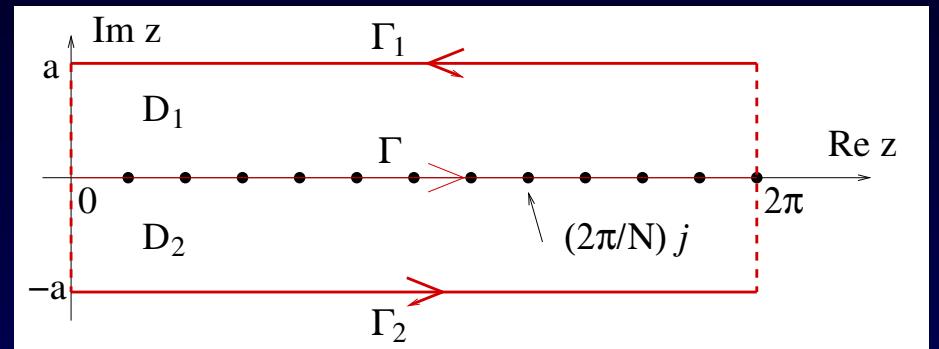
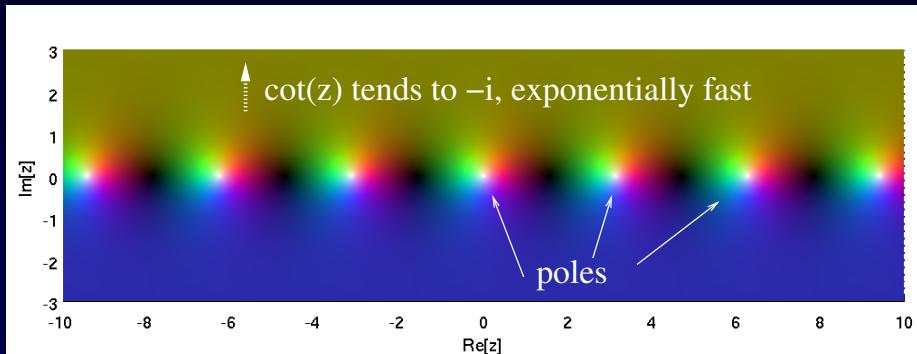
Beautiful cotangent function  $\cot(z)$ : poles at  $\pi j, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ , residues 1



# Proof

Residue Thm:  $2\pi i \sum \text{residues} = \text{closed contour integral in } \mathbb{C}$

Beautiful cotangent function  $\cot(z)$ : poles at  $\pi j, j \in \mathbb{Z}$ , residues 1



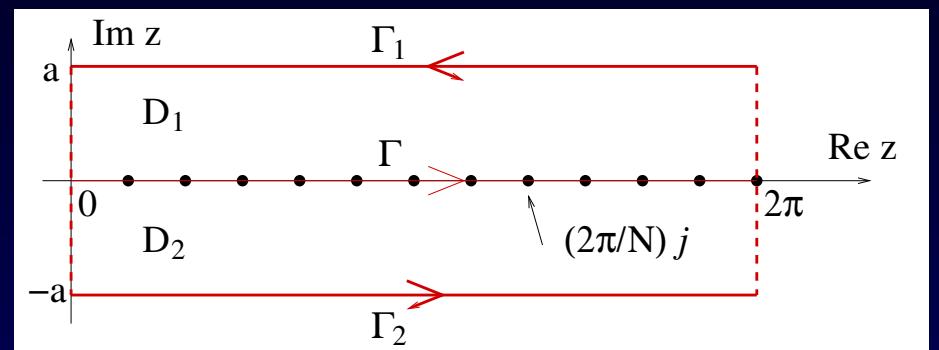
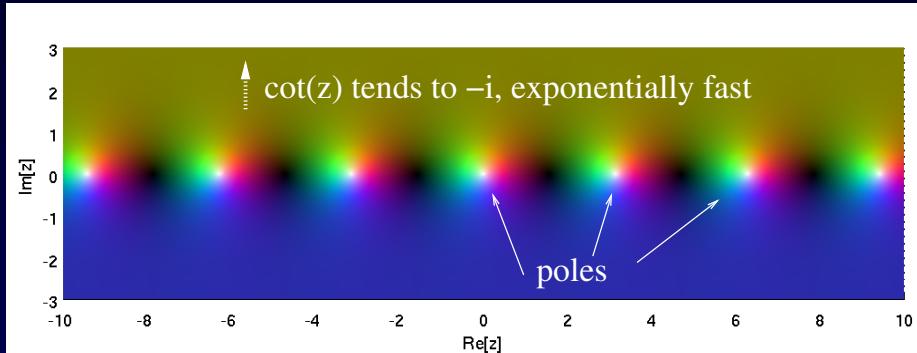
$f$  analytic

$\frac{1}{2i} f(z) \cot(\frac{N}{2}z)$ : poles at  $\frac{2\pi}{N}j$ , residues  $\frac{1}{iN} f(\frac{2\pi}{N}j)$

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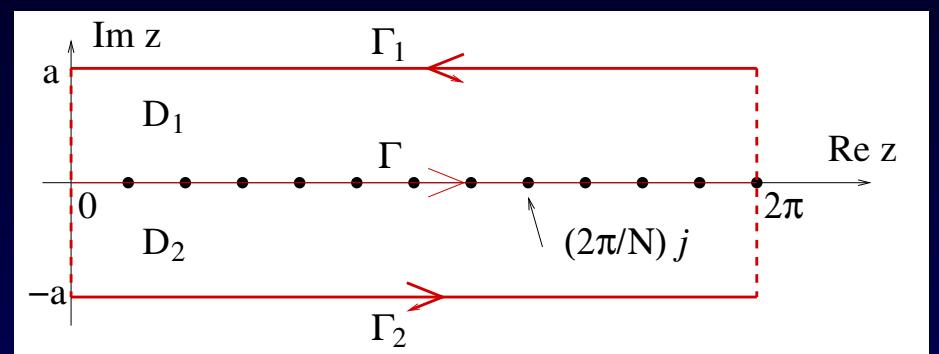
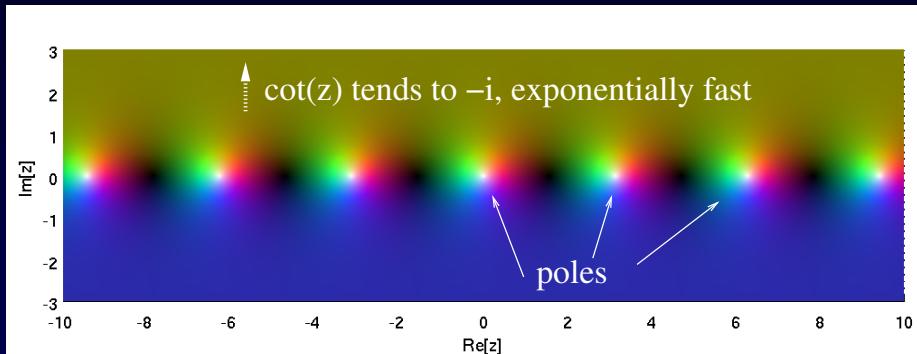
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integrand pure Im on  $\mathbb{R}$ , so

Re parts antisymmetric  $\uparrow$  add  
Im parts symmetric  $\uparrow$  cancel

$$= \operatorname{Re} \int_{\Gamma_1} (-i)f(z) \cot\left(\frac{N}{2}z\right) dz$$

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$\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   
 error of our quadrature      exp. small  $\leq 2/(e^{aN} - 1)$       bnded in  $D_1$

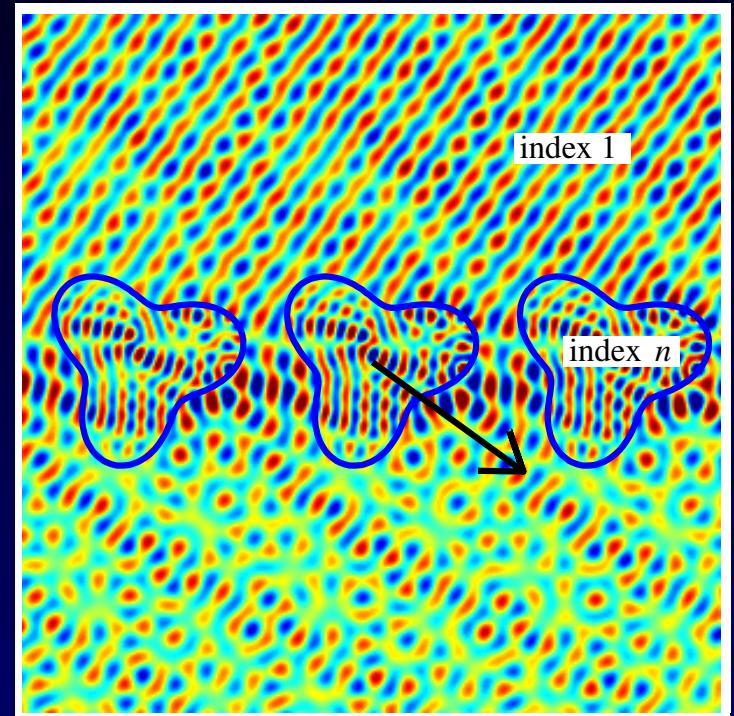
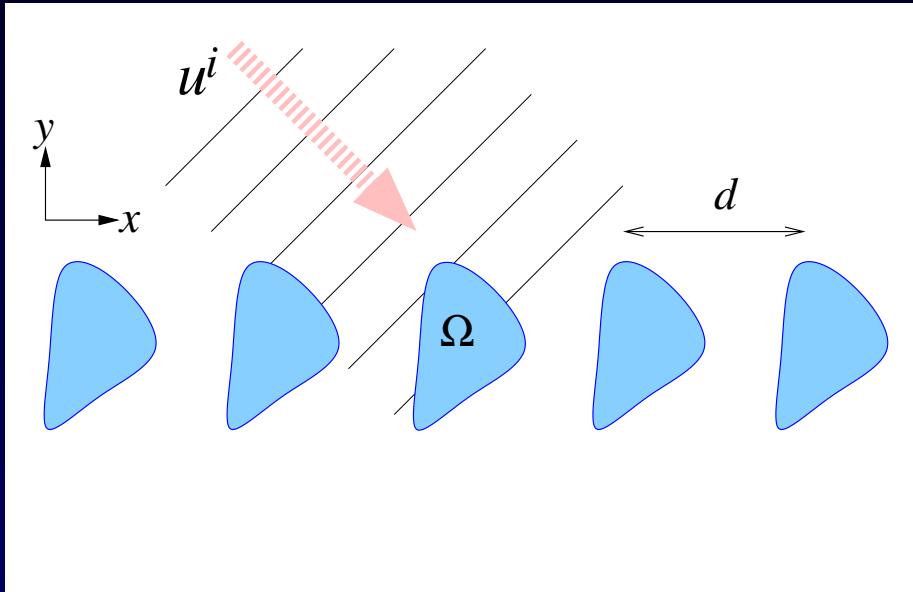
QED

- Research: good quadrature schemes for  $f$ 's with *singularities*

# Results: scattering from periodic grating

lattice of obstacles

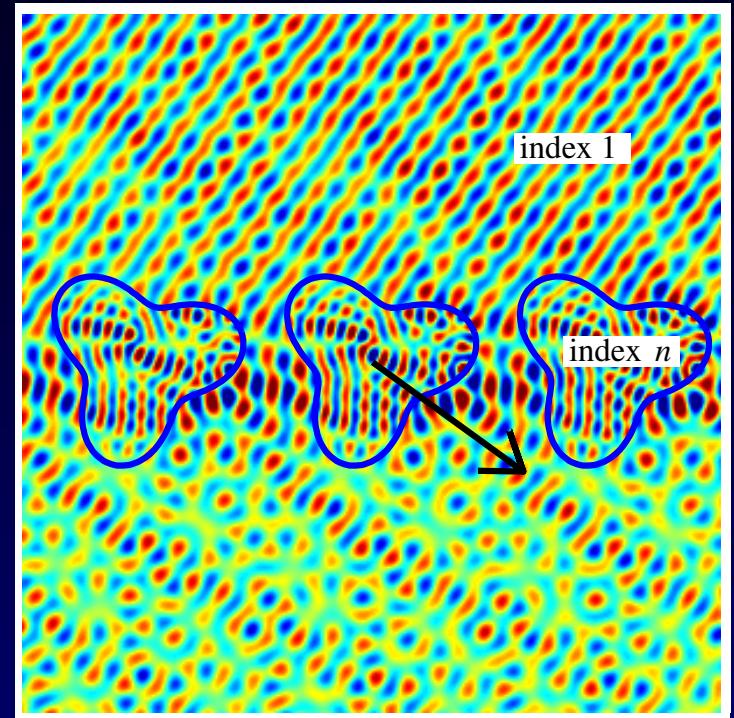
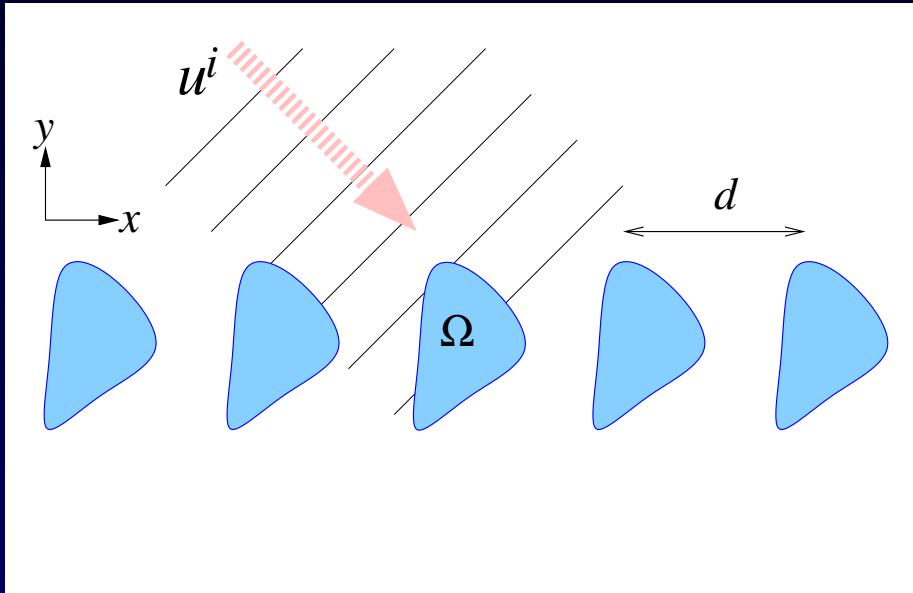
(hint: you don't want to discretize an  $\infty$  long boundary!)



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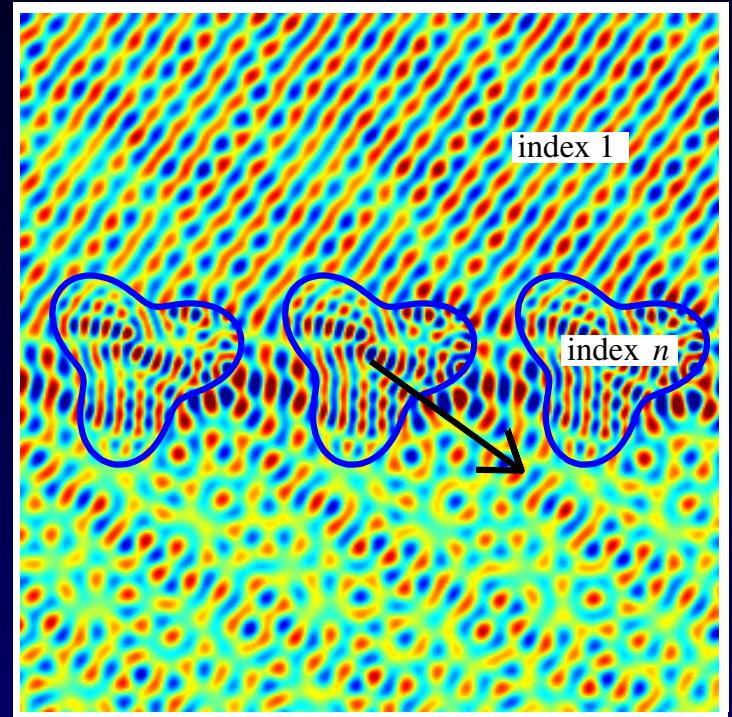
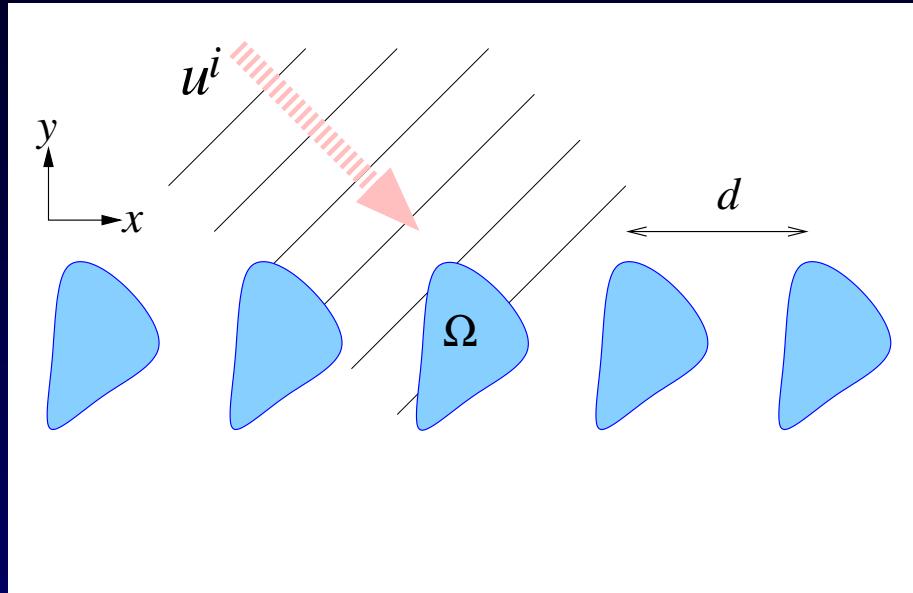
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$$u(x + d, y) = \alpha u(x, y) \quad \text{Bloch phase } \alpha$$

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Results to 12 digits accuracy with  $N \sim 100$  (Barnett-Greengard) [MOVIE 1](#)

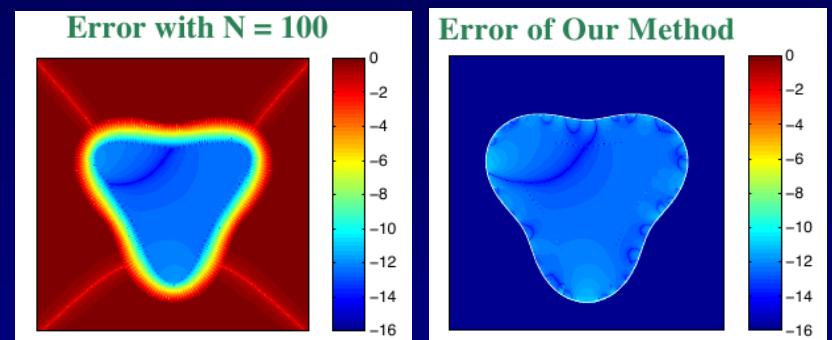
- Research: *robust* way to ‘periodize’ integral equations in 3D?

# Advanced topics, issues

- fast multipole methods (FMM (Greengard-Rokhlin)): Nyström matrix  $A$  can be applied to vector  $\tau$  in  $O(N \log N)$  time (naive is  $N^2$ )  
Huge speedup! (like FFT) enables much larger problems, *if* can use iterative solve.
- 3D is hard to get accurate (BEM is done with low-order finite elements on boundary).  
high-order singular quadrature near diagonal for Nyström messy
- Handling *corners* to high accuracy: v. hard (Bremer, Helsing)  
can add  $10^3$  to  $N$  for each corner in 2D, more in 3D. How compress & use less?
- Accurate evaluation of  $u$  from layer potential up to the boundary:

Hanh Nguyen '14 poster

Thursday at Wetterhahn Symposium:



- Fundamental soln  $\Phi$ , hence BIE, for graded-index media (Mahoney)