

# Discretized model of the ionosphere potential

Sebastien Psarianos

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## 1 Equation Simplification

The initial equation given by the goodman paper is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} j_R = \frac{1}{R_e^2} & \left[ \left( \Sigma_{\theta\theta} - \frac{\Sigma_{\theta R} \tan \theta}{2} \right) \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \theta^2} \right. \\ & + \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \left( \Sigma_{\theta\phi} + \Sigma_{\phi\theta} - \frac{\Sigma_{\phi R} \tan \theta}{2} \right) \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi \partial \theta} \\ & + \frac{\Sigma_{\phi\phi}}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi^2} + \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \Sigma_{\theta\theta} - \frac{\Sigma_{\theta R} \tan \theta}{2} \right) \right. \\ & + \cot \theta \left( \Sigma_{\theta\theta} - \frac{\Sigma_{\theta R} \tan \theta}{2} \right) \\ & + \left. \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \left( \Sigma_{\phi\theta} - \frac{\Sigma_{\phi R} \tan \theta}{2} \right) \right\} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} \\ & + \left. \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \frac{\Sigma_{\theta\phi}}{\sin \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial \Sigma_{\phi\phi}}{\partial \phi} + \frac{\Sigma_{\theta\phi} \cot \theta}{\sin \theta} \right\} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} \right]_{R=R_e} \end{aligned}$$

By moving the  $R_E^2$  term to the left side and then multiplying both sides by  $\sin^2 \theta$ , we arrive at:

$$\begin{aligned} \sin^2 \theta \cdot R_e^2 j_R = & \left[ \sin^2 \theta \cdot \left( \Sigma_{\theta\theta} - \frac{\Sigma_{\theta R} \tan \theta}{2} \right) \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \theta^2} \right. \\ & + \sin \theta \left( \Sigma_{\theta\phi} + \Sigma_{\phi\theta} - \frac{\Sigma_{\phi R} \tan \theta}{2} \right) \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi \partial \theta} \\ & + \Sigma_{\phi\phi} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi^2} + \left\{ \sin^2 \theta \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \Sigma_{\theta\theta} - \frac{\Sigma_{\theta R} \tan \theta}{2} \right) \right. \\ & + \sin \theta \cos \theta \left( \Sigma_{\theta\theta} - \frac{\Sigma_{\theta R} \tan \theta}{2} \right) \\ & + \sin \theta \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \left( \Sigma_{\phi\theta} - \frac{\Sigma_{\phi R} \tan \theta}{2} \right) \left. \right\} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} \\ & + \left. \left\{ \sin^2 \theta \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \frac{\Sigma_{\theta\phi}}{\sin \theta} \right) + \frac{\partial \Sigma_{\phi\phi}}{\partial \phi} + \Sigma_{\theta\phi} \cdot \cos \theta \right\} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} \right]_{R=R_e} \end{aligned}$$

As given by the comment on the paper by O.Amm, the conductance tensor is:

$$\Sigma_{(R,\theta,\phi)} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\Sigma_0 \Sigma_P}{C} & \frac{\Sigma_0 \Sigma_H (-\cos \varepsilon)}{C} \\ 0 & \frac{\Sigma_0 \Sigma_H \cos \varepsilon}{C} & \Sigma_P + \frac{\Sigma_H^2 \sin^2 \varepsilon}{C} \end{pmatrix}$$

From this, it is clear that  $\Sigma_{\theta\phi} = -\Sigma_{\phi\theta}$  and  $\Sigma_{\theta R} = \Sigma_{\phi R} = 0$ . We can therefore, make substitutions  $\Sigma_{\psi\theta} = -\Sigma_{\theta\psi}$  on lines 2 and 6:

$$\begin{aligned} \sin^2 \theta \cdot R_e^2 j_R = & \left[ \sin^2 \theta \cdot \left( \Sigma_{\theta\theta} - \frac{\Sigma_{\theta R} \tan \theta}{2} \right) \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \theta^2} \right. \\ & + \sin \theta \left( \frac{\Sigma_{\phi R} \tan \theta}{2} \right) \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi \partial \theta} \\ & + \Sigma_{\phi\phi} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi^2} + \left\{ \sin^2 \theta \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \Sigma_{\theta\theta} - \frac{\Sigma_{\theta R} \tan \theta}{2} \right) \right. \\ & + \sin \theta \cos \theta \left( \Sigma_{\theta\theta} - \frac{\Sigma_{\theta R} \tan \theta}{2} \right) \\ & + \sin \theta \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \left( -\Sigma_{\theta\phi} - \frac{\Sigma_{\phi R} \tan \theta}{2} \right) \left. \right\} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} \\ & + \left\{ \sin^2 \theta \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \frac{\Sigma_{\theta\phi}}{\sin \theta} \right) + \frac{\partial \Sigma_{\phi\phi}}{\partial \phi} + \Sigma_{\theta\phi} \cdot \cos \theta \right\} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} \left. \right]_{R=R_e} \end{aligned}$$

Additionally, we can remove all terms with a  $\Sigma_{\psi R}$  or  $\Sigma_{\theta R}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \sin^2 \theta \cdot R_e^2 j_R = & \left[ \sin^2 \theta \cdot \Sigma_{\theta\theta} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \theta^2} \right. \\ & + \Sigma_{\phi\phi} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \phi^2} \\ & + \left\{ \sin^2 \theta \cdot \frac{\partial \Sigma_{\theta\theta}}{\partial \theta} + \sin \theta \cos \theta \cdot \Sigma_{\theta\theta} - \sin \theta \cdot \frac{\partial \Sigma_{\theta\phi}}{\partial \phi} \right\} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} \\ & + \left\{ \sin^2 \theta \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \frac{\Sigma_{\theta\phi}}{\sin \theta} \right) + \frac{\partial \Sigma_{\phi\phi}}{\partial \phi} + \Sigma_{\theta\phi} \cdot \cos \theta \right\} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} \left. \right]_{R=R_e} \end{aligned}$$

The  $\sin^2 \theta \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \frac{\Sigma_{\theta\phi}}{\sin \theta} \right)$  term in the first  $\phi$  derivative coefficient can be expanded

with the quotient rule, giving:

$$\begin{aligned}\sin^2 \theta \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \frac{\Sigma_{\theta\phi}}{\sin \theta} \right) &= \sin^2 \theta \cdot \frac{\sin \theta \partial_\theta \Sigma_{\theta\phi} - \Sigma_{\theta\phi} \cos \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} \\ &= \sin \theta \cdot \frac{\partial \Sigma_{\theta\phi}}{\partial \theta} - \Sigma_{\theta\phi} \cdot \cos \theta\end{aligned}$$

This cancels out the other term of  $\Sigma_{\theta\phi} \cdot \cos \theta$  in the same coefficient. Separating out the coefficients, we arrive at the following expression for the original equation:

$$\sin^2 \theta R_E^2 j_r = \kappa_{\theta\theta} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \theta^2} + \kappa_{\psi\psi} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \psi^2} + \kappa_\theta \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} + \kappa_\phi \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \phi} \quad (1a)$$

$$\kappa_{\theta\theta} = \sin^2 \theta \cdot \Sigma_{\theta\theta} \quad (1b)$$

$$\kappa_{\psi\psi} = \Sigma_{\phi\phi} \quad (1c)$$

$$\kappa_\theta = \sin^2 \theta \cdot \frac{\partial \Sigma_{\theta\theta}}{\partial \theta} + \sin \theta \cos \theta \cdot \Sigma_{\theta\theta} - \sin \theta \cdot \frac{\partial \Sigma_{\theta\phi}}{\partial \phi} \quad (1d)$$

$$\kappa_\phi = \sin \theta \cdot \frac{\partial \Sigma_{\theta\phi}}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial \Sigma_{\phi\phi}}{\partial \phi} \quad (1e)$$

At this point, there are no longer any cross terms remaining in the equation, only first and second order derivatives of  $\psi$ .

## 2 Discretization