

# The biharmonic double layer potential on Lipschitz domains

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# Outline

- 1 **What is the Biharmonic Double Layer Potential?**
  - Smooth domains
  - Lipschitz domains
- 2 Properties of the Biharmonic Double Layer Potential
  - The Poincaré fundamental lemma
  - Positivity, Neumann series
- 3 References

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## Green formulas

$\Omega = \Omega^-$ : **Smooth** bounded domain in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ; boundary  $\Gamma$ ; exterior domain  $\Omega^+$

$$\int_{\Omega} \Delta^2 u v = \int_{\Omega} \Delta u \Delta v + \int_{\Gamma} (\partial_n \Delta u v - \Delta u \partial_n v) ds$$

$$\int_{\Omega} \Delta^2 u v = \int_{\Omega} \sum_{|\alpha|=2} \partial^\alpha u \partial^\alpha v + \int_{\Gamma} (\partial_n \Delta u v - \partial_\tau \partial_n u \partial_\tau v - \partial_n^2 u \partial_n v) ds$$

$$= \int_{\Omega} \sum_{|\alpha|=2} \partial^\alpha u \partial^\alpha v + \int_{\Gamma} (\partial_n \Delta u v + \partial_s \partial_\tau \partial_n u v - \partial_n^2 u \partial_n v) ds$$

$$0 \leq \sigma \leq 1: \int_{\Omega} \Delta^2 u v = a_\sigma(u, v) + \int_{\Gamma} (N_\sigma u v - M_\sigma u \partial_n v) ds$$

$$a_\sigma(u, v) = \sigma \int_{\Omega} \Delta u \Delta v + (1 - \sigma) \int_{\Omega} \sum_{|\alpha|=2} \partial^\alpha u \partial^\alpha v$$

$$M_\sigma = \sigma \Delta u + (1 - \sigma) \partial_n^2 u \quad : \text{bending moment}$$

$$N_\sigma = \partial_n \Delta u + (1 - \sigma) \partial_s \partial_\tau \partial_n u \quad : \text{twisting moment}$$

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# Traces

$$\int_{\Omega} \Delta^2 u v = a(u, v) + \int_{\Gamma} (Nu v - Mu \partial_n v) ds$$

Cauchy data:  $(\gamma_0 u, \gamma_1 u) := (u, \partial_n u, -Nu, Mu)$  on  $\Gamma$

Traces:  $(\gamma_0, \gamma_1) : H^s(\Omega) \rightarrow H^{s-\frac{1}{2}}(\Gamma) \times H^{s-\frac{3}{2}}(\Gamma) \times H^{s-\frac{7}{2}}(\Gamma) \times H^{s-\frac{5}{2}}(\Gamma)$

Energy norm ( $s = 2$ ):  $X := H^{\frac{3}{2}}(\Gamma) \times H^{\frac{1}{2}}(\Gamma) = \gamma_0 H^2(\Omega)$

$$(\gamma_0, \gamma_1) : H^2(\Delta^2; \Omega) \rightarrow X \times X'$$

## First Green formula

$$a(u, v) = \int_{\Omega} \Delta^2 u v + \langle \gamma_1 u, \gamma_0 v \rangle$$

## Second Green formula

$$\int_{\Omega} (\Delta^2 u v - u \Delta^2 v) = -\langle \gamma_1 u, \gamma_0 v \rangle + \langle \gamma_0 u, \gamma_1 v \rangle$$

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# Representation Formula, Single and Double Layer

Fundamental solution:  $G(x) = \frac{1}{8\pi} |x|^2 \log |x|$  ( $\Rightarrow \Delta G = \frac{1}{2\pi} (\log |x| + 1)$ )

Representation in  $\Omega^-$

$$\begin{aligned}
 u(x) &= \int_{\Omega} \Delta^2 u(y) G(x-y) dy \\
 &\quad + \int_{\Gamma} (-Nu(y)G(x-y) + Mu(y)\partial_{n(y)}G(x-y)) ds(y) \\
 &\quad - \int_{\Gamma} (\partial_n u(y)M(y)G(x-y) - u(y)N(y)G(x-y)) ds(y) \\
 &= \mathcal{N}f(x) + \mathcal{S}\gamma_1 u(x) - \mathcal{D}\gamma_0 u(x)
 \end{aligned}$$

Distributional definitions

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{N}f &= G * f \\
 \mathcal{S}\phi &= G * \gamma_0^* \phi \\
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# The double layer potential

$$\mathcal{D} \begin{pmatrix} g_0 \\ g_1 \end{pmatrix} (x) = \int_{\Gamma} (-N(y)G(x-y)g_0(y) + M(y)G(x-y)g_1(y)) ds(y)$$

$$\text{Jump relations: } [\gamma_0 \mathcal{D}g] = g; \quad [\gamma_1 \mathcal{D}g] = 0$$

$$\text{One-sided traces: } \gamma_0^{\pm} \mathcal{D}g = \pm \frac{1}{2}v + Kg; \quad \gamma_1^{\pm} \mathcal{D}g = -Wg$$

$$Kg(x) = \int_{\Gamma} \begin{pmatrix} -N(y)G(x-y) & M(y)G(x-y) \\ -\partial_{n(x)}N(y)G(x-y) & \partial_{n(x)}M(y)G(x-y) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} g_0 \\ g_1 \end{pmatrix} (y) ds(y)$$

Integral equation for the interior Dirichlet problem

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}I - K\right)g = f$$

Orders:  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ +1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ : **Not a classical Fredholm second kind integral equation!**

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# Lipschitz boundaries: Spaces, traces and potentials

Dirichlet trace:

$$X = H^2(\Omega^-)/H_0^2(\Omega^-) = H^2(\Omega^+)/H_0^2(\Omega^+) = H^2(\mathbb{R}^2)/H_0^2(\mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \Gamma)$$

$\gamma_0 : H^2(\Omega) \rightarrow X$ : Canonical projection

Neumann trace:  $\gamma_1 = \gamma_{1,\sigma} : H^2(\Delta^2; \Omega) \rightarrow X' \subset H_{\Gamma}^{-2}(\mathbb{R}^2)$

defined by the first Green formula:  $\langle \gamma_1 u, \gamma_0 v \rangle := \int_{\Omega} \Delta^2 u v - a(u, v)$

Definition

Single layer potential:  $\mathcal{S}\phi = G * \gamma_0^* \phi$  Double layer potential:  $\mathcal{D}g = G * \gamma_1^* g$

With these definitions, many things work and look the same as for the Laplace operator or other **second** order operators:

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## Continuity

$$\mathcal{S} : X' \rightarrow H_{\text{loc}}^2(\mathbb{R}^2) \quad ; \quad \mathcal{D} : X \rightarrow H^2(\Delta^2; \Omega)$$

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## Representation formula in $\Omega$

$$\forall u \in H^2(\Delta^2; \Omega) : \quad u = G * \Delta^2 u + \mathcal{S}\gamma_1 u - \mathcal{D}\gamma_0 u$$

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## Jump relations

$$[\gamma_0 \mathcal{S}\phi] = 0; [\gamma_1 \mathcal{S}\phi] = -\phi; [\gamma_0 \mathcal{D}g] = g; [\gamma_1 \mathcal{D}] = 0$$



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## Definition of boundary integral operators

$$\begin{aligned} V\phi &= \{\gamma_0 \mathcal{S}\phi\} & , & & K'\phi &= \{\gamma_1 \mathcal{S}\phi\} & & \text{on } X' \\ Kg &= \{\gamma_0 \mathcal{D}g\} & , & & Wg &= -\{\gamma_1 \mathcal{D}g\} & & \text{on } X \end{aligned}$$

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Etc...

$$K' = K^*, KV = VK', K'W = WK, VW = \frac{1}{4}I - K^2 \dots$$

Calderón projector, Poincaré-Steklov operator, Boundary integral equations...

# Energy

Removal of zero-energy fields in  $\Omega^-$

$$X'_0 = \{g \in X' \mid \forall p \in \mathbb{P}_1 : \langle g, \gamma_0 p \rangle = 0\}; \quad X_0 = X / \gamma_0 \mathbb{P}_1; \quad X'_0 = (X_0)'$$

The Neumann problem  $u \in H^2(\Omega) : \Delta^2 u = 0, \gamma_1 u = g$   
is solvable  $\Leftrightarrow g \in X'_0$

Finiteness of energy in  $\Omega^+$

For  $u = \mathcal{S}\phi, \phi \in X'$  :  $a^+(u, u) < \infty \Leftrightarrow \phi \in X'_0$  and  $a^+(u, u) = 0 \Rightarrow \phi = 0$   
For  $u = \mathcal{D}g, g \in X$  :  $a^+(u, u) < \infty$  and  $a^+(u, u) = 0 \Leftrightarrow g \in \gamma_0 \mathbb{P}_1$

*Lemma*

*The total energy  $a^-(u, u) + a^+(u, u)$  defines positive quadratic forms  
on  $X'_0$  via single layer potentials  $u = \mathcal{S}\phi$   
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# Energy

Removal of zero-energy fields in  $\Omega^-$

$$X'_0 = \{g \in X' \mid \forall p \in \mathbb{P}_1 : \langle g, \gamma_0 p \rangle = 0\}; \quad X_0 = X / \gamma_0 \mathbb{P}_1; \quad X'_0 = (X_0)'$$

The Neumann problem  $u \in H^2(\Omega) : \Delta^2 u = 0, \gamma_1 u = g$   
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# The Poincaré Fundamental Lemma

## Lemma

There exists  $\mu = \mu(\Gamma) \geq 1$  such that  
if  $u = \mathcal{S}\phi$ ,  $\phi \in X'_0$ , or  $u = \mathcal{D}g$ ,  $g \in X$  then

$$\frac{1}{\mu} a^-(u, u) \leq a^+(u, u) \leq \mu a^-(u, u)$$

Proof: Continuity of traces in one direction and estimates for the variational solution of the Dirichlet and Neumann problems in the other direction allow to compare both quadratic forms to the natural norms on the trace spaces  $X'$  and  $X$ . Proof of the Corollary:

$$a(u, u) \leq (\mu + 1)a^-(u, u)$$

$$a(u, u) \leq (1 + \mu)a^+(u, u)$$

$$a^+(u, u) = a(u, u) - a^-(u, u) \leq \frac{\mu}{\mu+1} a(u, u)$$

$$a^-(u, u) = a(u, u) - a^+(u, u) \leq \frac{\mu}{\mu+1} a(u, u)$$

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## Corollary

On the Hilbert space  $X_0$  with the norm of the total energy

$$\|g\|_a^2 = a(u, u) = a^-(u, u) + a^+(u, u); \quad (u = \mathcal{D}g)$$

the operators  $A^+$  and  $A^-$  defined by the bilinear forms  $a^+$  and  $a^-$  are  
**positive definite, selfadjoint** bounded operators satisfying  $A^+ + A^- = I$ .  
The 3 operators  $A^+$ ,  $A^-$  and  $A^+ - A^-$  are contractions:

$$\|A^+\|_a \leq \frac{\mu}{\mu+1}; \quad \|A^-\|_a \leq \frac{\mu}{\mu+1}; \quad \|A^+ - A^-\|_a \leq \frac{\mu-1}{\mu+1}$$

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# The biharmonic double layer potential operator

From the jump relations, one has the expressions for the total and partial energies

$$\forall u = \mathcal{D}g, g \in X_0 : \quad a^\pm(u, u) = \langle Wg, (\frac{1}{2}I \pm K)g \rangle ; \quad a(u, u) = \langle Wg, g \rangle$$

Hence we can identify

$$\|g\|_a^2 = \langle Wg, g \rangle ; \quad A^\pm = \frac{1}{2}I \pm K ; \quad A^+ - A^- = 2K$$

## Theorem

The operators  $\frac{1}{2}I \pm K$  are positive definite selfadjoint operators on  $X_0$  with the energy norm.

The operators  $\frac{1}{2}I \pm K$  and  $2K$  are contractions.

The Dirichlet problem in  $\Omega$ :  $\Delta^2 u = 0, \gamma_0 u = f \in X$  can be solved by a double layer potential  $u = \mathcal{D}g$ , where  $g$  is given by the convergent Neumann series

$$g = (\frac{1}{2}I - K)^{-1} f = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} (\frac{1}{2}I + K)^\ell f$$

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$$g = (\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{I} - K)^{-1} f = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} (\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{I} + K)^{\ell} f$$

On the quotient space  $X_0$ , the following Neumann series is also convergent:

$$g = (\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{I} - 2K))^{-1} f = 2 \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} (2K)^{\ell} f$$

# The contraction constant (Poincaré estimate)

For the norm  $\|\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{I} - 2K)\|_W$  we have seen

$$\begin{aligned} \|\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{I} - K\|_W &= \sup_{g \in X_0} \frac{\langle Wg, (\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{I} - K)g \rangle}{\langle Wg, g \rangle} \\ &= \sup \left\{ \frac{a^-(u, u)}{a^+(u, u) + a^-(u, u)} \mid u \text{ is a double layer potential} \right\} \\ &= 1 - \inf \left\{ \frac{a^+(u, u)}{a^+(u, u) + a^-(u, u)} \mid u \text{ is a double layer potential} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

In a similar way, we get, by representing single layer potentials by their Dirichlet data

$$\begin{aligned} \|\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{I} + K\|_{V^{-1}} &= \sup_{g \in X} \frac{\langle V^{-1}g, (\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{I} + K)g \rangle}{\langle V^{-1}g, g \rangle} \\ &= \sup \left\{ \frac{a^-(u, u)}{a^+(u, u) + a^-(u, u)} \mid u \text{ is a single layer potential} \right\} \\ &= 1 - \inf \left\{ \frac{a^+(u, u)}{a^+(u, u) + a^-(u, u)} \mid u \text{ is a single layer potential} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

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# The contraction constant (Steinbach-Wendland estimate)

**Recall:** The Poincaré-Steklov operator in  $\Omega^-$ :  $S: \gamma u \mapsto \gamma_1 u (Lu = 0)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 S &= \left(\frac{1}{2}I + K'\right)V^{-1} \quad (\text{S.L.: } u = \mathcal{S}\varphi; \gamma u = V\varphi; \gamma_1 u = \left(\frac{1}{2}I + K'\right)\varphi) \\
 &= W\left(\frac{1}{2}I - K\right)^{-1} \quad (\text{D.L.: } u = \mathcal{D}v; \gamma u = \left(-\frac{1}{2}I + K\right)v; \gamma_1 u = -Wv) \\
 &= W + S\left(\frac{1}{2}I + K\right) \quad (S(I - \left(\frac{1}{2}I + K\right)) = W) \\
 &= W + \left(\frac{1}{2}I + K'\right)V^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}I + K\right) \quad \text{symmetric form}
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# The contraction constant (Steinbach-Wendland estimate)

- If  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $b \geq b^2 + a$  and  $a > 0$ , then

$$\frac{1}{2} - \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} - a} \leq b \leq \frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} - a} < 1$$

- If  $A, B$  are bounded selfadjoint operators and  $B = B^2 + A$  and  $A \geq aI > 0$ , then

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- Let  $B = \frac{1}{2}I + K$  in  $X_{V^{-1}}$ . The symmetric representation of  $S$

$$V^{-1}(\frac{1}{2}I + K) = S = (\frac{1}{2}I + K')V^{-1}(\frac{1}{2}I + K) + W$$

shows that  $B = B^2 + A$ ,  $A \geq c_0I > 0$  with

$$c_0 = \inf_{v \in X_0} \frac{(v, Wv)}{(v, V^{-1}v)}$$

Hence  $\|B\|_{V^{-1}} \leq \frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} - c_0} < 1$

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