

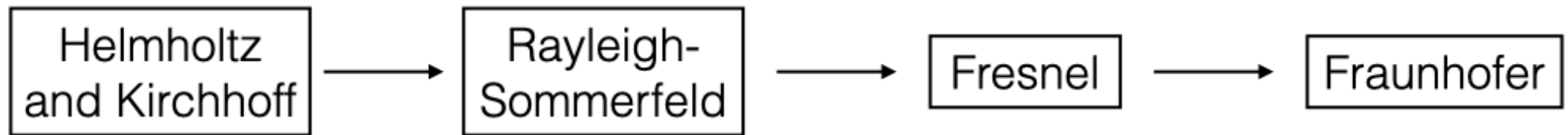
Theoretical Optics

# **Diffraction Theory: Helmholtz and Kirchhoff - intro**

Prof. Carsten Rockstuhl



# Integral Theorem of Helmholtz and Kirchhoff



## Strategy

- express the field components in their values at  $z = 0$  by means of only one surface integral
- using the integral theorem of Helmholtz and Kirchhoff
- expresses the field at an arbitrary point in space in terms of an integral across a surface surrounding the space of interest
- specific choice of the Green's function this reduces to the Rayleigh-Sommerfeld diffraction
- approximating the Green's function leads to Fresnel and even further to Fraunhofer diffraction

- $u(\mathbf{r})$  and  $G(\mathbf{r})$  complex functions with single-valued and continuous first and second derivatives.
- $V$  denotes a volume that is bounded by the closed surface  $S$ .
- Green's second identity says

$$\begin{aligned} \iiint_V (u(\mathbf{r}')\Delta G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') - G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')\Delta u(\mathbf{r}')) d^3r' \\ = \iint_S \left( u(\mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \right) d^2r' \end{aligned}$$

- derivative is done with respect to the outward normal direction.
- Require  $u(\mathbf{r})$  solution to Helmholtz Eqn. for homogenous isotropic medium

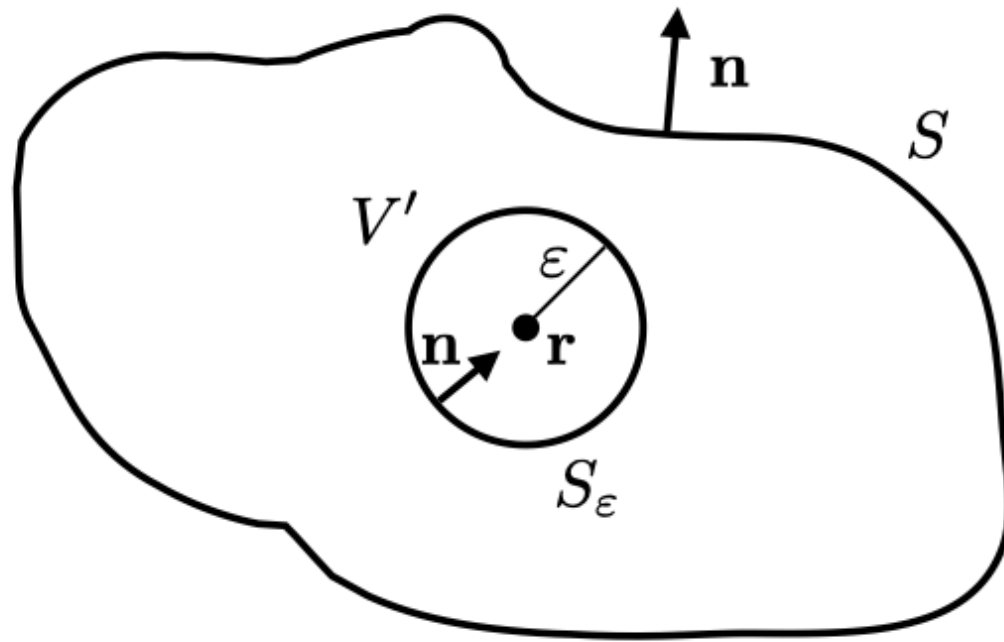
$$(\Delta + k_0^2 n^2)u(\mathbf{r}) = 0$$

- Green's function that solves the problem

$$(\Delta + k_0^2 n^2)G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = \delta(\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r})$$

$$G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = \frac{e^{ik_0 n |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}}{|\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}$$

Specific situation



- excludes a small sphere of radius  $\epsilon$  around the point  $\mathbf{r}$  that is the point of our observation to avoid the singularity of the Greens function
- consider limit of this vanishing volume going to zero
- This allows to write  $(\Delta + k_0^2 n^2)G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = 0$
- lhs of Green's second identity vanishes

final  
result:

$$\iint_S \left( u(\mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \right) d^2 r' = 0$$

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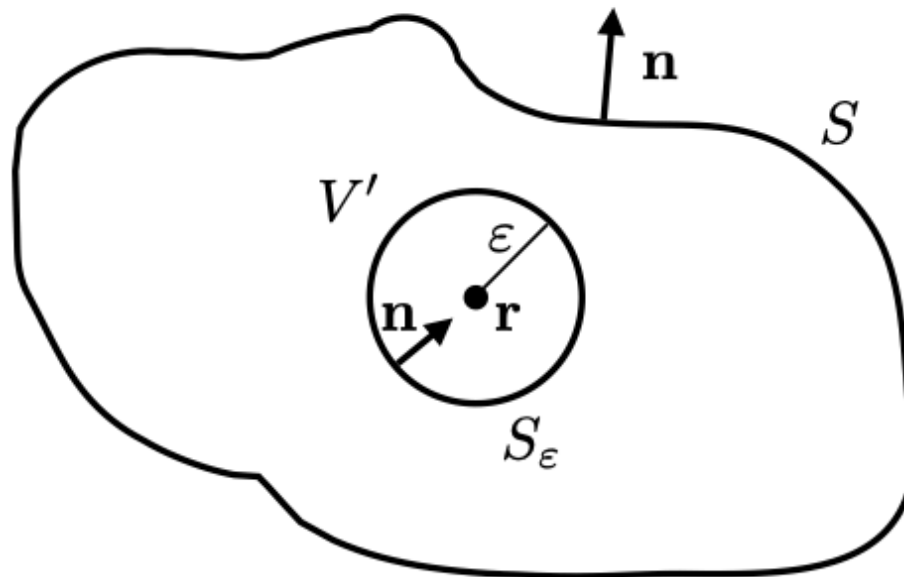
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# Integral Theorem of Helmholtz and Kirchhoff

Considered geometry:



Known Green's function:

$$G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = \frac{e^{ik_0 n |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}}{|\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}$$

Left over from Green's second identity:

$$\iint_S \left( u(\mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \right) d^2 r' = 0$$

Separating integral in 2 surfaces for inner and outer boundary:

$$-\iint_{S_\epsilon} \left( u(\mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \right) d^2 r' = \iint_S \left( u(\mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \right) d^2 r'$$

Evaluating the left and the right hand side individually

## Outer surface (right hand side):

not much simplification except analytical solution to derivative of Green's function

$$\frac{\partial G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} = \cos(\angle(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r})) \left( ik_0 n - \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|} \right) \frac{e^{ik_0 n |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}}{|\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}$$

angle between the outward normal and the vector  $\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}$

## Inner surface (left hand side):

spherical shape for the surface  $S_\epsilon$  and a constant radius  $\epsilon = |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|$

specifies Green's function to:  $G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = \frac{e^{ik_0 n \epsilon}}{\epsilon}$

angle between surface normal and  
radial coordinate:

$$\cos(\angle(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r})) = -1$$

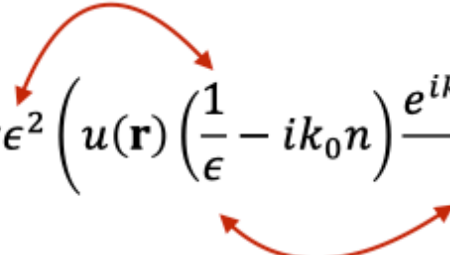
two vectors are anti-parallel as the  
surface norm point outwards



combining all these ingredients:

$$\iint_{S_\epsilon} \left( u(\mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \right) d^2 r' = \iint_{S_\epsilon} \left( u(\mathbf{r}') \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} - ik_0 n \right) \frac{e^{ik_0 n \epsilon}}{\epsilon} - \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \frac{e^{ik_0 n \epsilon}}{\epsilon} \right) d^2 r'$$

- choosing  $\epsilon$  increasingly small
- applying mean value theorem for integration
- the integrals become the area of a sphere  $\times u(\mathbf{r})$  and  $\times \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r})}{\partial \mathbf{n}}$

$$\iint_{S_\epsilon} \left( u(\mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \right) d^2 r' \simeq 4\pi\epsilon^2 \left( u(\mathbf{r}) \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} - ik_0 n \right) \frac{e^{ik_0 n \epsilon}}{\epsilon} - \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r})}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \frac{e^{ik_0 n \epsilon}}{\epsilon} \right)$$


only the first term survives in the limiting case of  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$

final result for inner surface (left hand side)

$$\boxed{\iint_{S_\epsilon} \left( u(\mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \right) d^2 r' = 4\pi u(\mathbf{r})}$$

final  
result:

$$\boxed{u(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \iint_S \left( \frac{e^{ik_0 n |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}}{|\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|} \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - u(\mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \frac{e^{ik_0 n |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}}{|\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|} \right) d^2 r'}$$

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# **Diffraction Theory: Kirchhoff formulation**

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Helmholtz and  
Kirchhoff  
formulation

$$u(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \iint_S \left( \frac{e^{ik_0 n |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}}{|\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|} \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - u(\mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \frac{e^{ik_0 n |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}}{|\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|} \right) d^2 r'$$

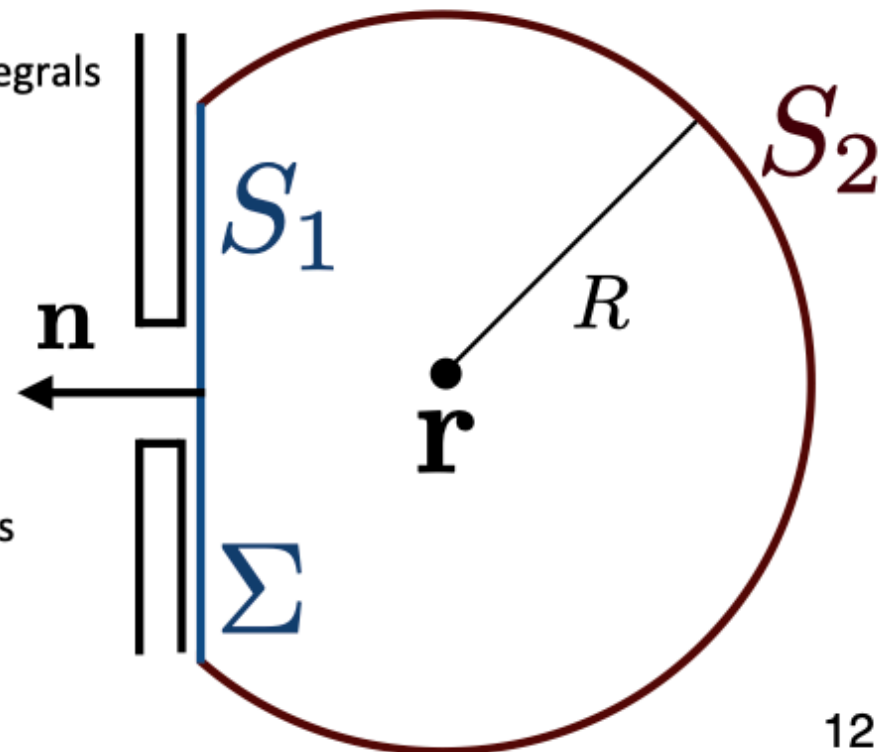
## Kirchhoff formulation

connection between angular spectrum and Helmholtz and Kirchhoff formulation

requires information on  
the field in an initial plane

requires information on the field and its derivative  
on a surface enclosing the point of interest

- Separating the solution above to a sum of two integrals
- First is integration across the screen
- Second is integration across a half sphere
- consider the limit of  $R \rightarrow \infty$
- Surface area of sphere is in the order of  $R^2$ 
  - in the integrand we can neglect contributions that decay faster than  $R^{-2}$



modulus of the Green's function

$$|G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')| = \left| \frac{e^{ik_0 n |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}}{|\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|} \right| = \left| \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|} \right| = \frac{1}{R}$$

decays as  $1/R$

assume that the field  $u(\mathbf{r})$  equally decays comparable to a spherical wave

Taylor expansion of the outward normal derivative of the Green's function and only retain the term that decays as  $R^{-1}$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \frac{e^{ik_0 n |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}}{|\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|} = \left( ik_0 n - \frac{1}{R} \right) \frac{e^{ik_0 n R}}{R} = ik_0 n G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') + \mathcal{O}(R^{-2}) \stackrel{R \rightarrow \infty}{\approx} ik_0 n G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$$

integral for only the semi-spherical surface

$$u(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \iint_{S_2} \left( G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - u(\mathbf{r}') ik_0 n G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \right) d^2 r'$$

expressing the integral in terms of solid angles

$$u(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \iint_{S_2} d\Omega G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \left( \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - ik_0 n u(\mathbf{r}') \right) R^2$$

take the limit for  $R \rightarrow \infty$

$$\xrightarrow{R \rightarrow \infty} u(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \iint_{S_2} d\Omega R \left( \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - ik_0 n u(\mathbf{r}') \right)$$

the integral vanishes if we require that

$$\lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} R \left( \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - ik_0 n u(\mathbf{r}') \right) = 0$$

**Sommerfeld radiation  
condition**

"The sources must be sources, not sinks of energy. The energy which is radiated from the sources must scatter to infinity; no energy may be radiated from infinity into ... the field."

- this condition is not satisfied by every field but we would like to enforce it

the integral collapses to the integral across the aperture plane

$$u(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \iint_{S_1} \left( \frac{e^{ik_0 n |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}}{|\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|} \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - u(\mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \frac{e^{ik_0 n |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}}{|\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|} \right) d^2 r'$$

## Kirchhoff assumptions:

- restricting to an integral across an aperture instead of an infinite plane
- field behind the aperture is the incident field in the absence of the screen
- outside the aperture the field and its derivative are zero

## Thin element approximation:

$$u(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \iint_{\Sigma} \left( \frac{e^{ik_0 n |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}}{|\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|} \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - u(\mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \frac{e^{ik_0 n |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|}}{|\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}|} \right) d^2 r'$$

Or in a more general term leaving the choice of the Green's function open

final  
result:

$$u(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \iint_{\Sigma} \left( G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - u(\mathbf{r}') \frac{\partial G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')}{\partial \mathbf{n}} \right) d^2 r'$$

## Remember the requirements:

- scalar theory
- $u(\mathbf{r})$  and  $G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$  satisfy the homogeneous wave scalar wave equation
- the satisfaction of the Sommerfeld radiation condition

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