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The Helmholtz equation in random media: well-posedness and a priori bounds*

O. R. Pemberty[†] and E. A. Spence[‡]

Abstract. We prove well-posedness results and a priori bounds on the solution of the Helmholtz equation $\nabla \cdot (A \nabla u) + k^2 n u = -f$, posed either in \mathbb{R}^d or in the exterior of a star-shaped Lipschitz obstacle, for a class of random A and n , random data f , and for all $k > 0$. The particular class of A and n and the conditions on the obstacle ensure that the problem is nontrapping almost surely. These are the first well-posedness results and a priori bounds for the stochastic Helmholtz equation for arbitrarily large k and for A and n varying independently of k . These results are obtained by combining recent bounds on the Helmholtz equation for deterministic A and n and general arguments (i.e. not specific to the Helmholtz equation) presented in this paper for proving a priori bounds and well-posedness of variational formulations of linear elliptic stochastic PDEs. We emphasise that these general results do not rely on either the Lax-Milgram theorem or Fredholm theory, since neither are applicable to the stochastic variational formulation of the Helmholtz equation.

Key words. Helmholtz equation, random media, well-posedness, a priori bounds, high frequency, nontrapping

AMS subject classifications. 35J05, 35R60, 60H15

1. Introduction. The goals of this paper are to prove results on the well-posedness of variational formulations of the stochastic Helmholtz equation

$$(1.1) \quad \nabla \cdot (A(\omega) \nabla u(\omega)) + k^2 n(\omega) u(\omega) = -f(\omega),$$

as well as a priori bounds on its solution that are explicit in the wavenumber k and the material coefficients A and n .

We consider (1.1) with physical domain either \mathbb{R}^d , $d = 2, 3$, or $\mathbb{R}^d \setminus \overline{D_-}$, where D_- (referred to as the *obstacle*) is a bounded, Lipschitz, open set such that $\mathbb{R}^d \setminus \overline{D_-}$ is connected, and

- ω is an element of the underlying probability space,
- A is a symmetric-positive-definite matrix-valued random field such that $\text{ess sup}(I - A)$ is compact,
- n is a positive real-valued random field such that $\text{ess sup}(1 - n)$ is compact,
- f is a real-valued random field such that $\text{ess sup } f$ is compact, and
- $k > 0$ is the wavenumber,

and we are particularly interested in the case where the wavenumber k is large.

Motivation. The motivation for establishing well-posedness and proving a priori bounds on the solution of (1.1) is the growing interest in Uncertainty Quantification (UQ) for the Helmholtz equation; see e.g. [55, 51, 8, 22, 18, 19, 36, 30, 4]. (In this PDE context, by ‘UQ’ we mean theory and algorithms for computing statistics of quantities of interest involving

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35 PDEs *either* posed on a random domain *or* having random coefficients.) There is a large
 36 literature on UQ for the stationary diffusion equation

$$37 \quad (1.2) \quad -\nabla \cdot (\kappa(\omega)\nabla u(\omega)) = f(\omega),$$

38 due in part to its large number of applications (e.g. in modelling groundwater flow), and
 39 a priori bounds on the solution are vital for the rigorous analysis of UQ algorithms; see
 40 e.g. [3, 2, 24, 41, 15]. In contrast, whilst (1.1) has many applications (e.g. in geophysics and
 41 electromagnetics), there is much less rigorous theory of UQ for the Helmholtz equation. The
 42 main reason for this is that the (deterministic) PDE theory of (1.1) when k is large is much
 43 more complicated than the analogous theory for (1.2).

44 *Related previous work.* To our knowledge, the only work that considers (1.1) with large k
 45 and attempts to establish either (i) well-posedness of variational formulations or (ii) a priori
 46 bounds is [18], which considers both (i) and (ii) for (1.1) posed in a bounded domain with an
 47 impedance boundary condition. We discuss the results of [18] further in subsection 1.3, but we
 48 highlight here that (a) [18] considers $A = I$ and $n = 1 + \eta$, with η random and the magnitude of
 49 η decreasing with k , whereas we consider classes of A and n that allow k -independent random
 50 perturbations, and (b) in its well-posedness result, [18] invokes Fredholm theory to conclude
 51 existence of a solution, but this relies on an incorrect assumption about compact inclusion
 52 of Bochner spaces—see Appendix A below. In subsection 1.3 we also discuss the papers
 53 [8, 31, 32, 30] on the theory of UQ for either (1.1) or the related time-harmonic Maxwell's
 54 equations; in these papers either the k -explicit well-posedness is not a primary concern or k
 55 is assumed to be small. Our hope is that the results in the present paper can be used in the
 56 rigorous theory of UQ for Helmholtz problems with large k .

57 *The contributions of this paper.* The main results in this paper, Theorems 1.4 and 1.8
 58 below, concern well-posedness and a priori bounds for the solutions of various formulations of
 59 the stochastic Helmholtz equation; these formulations include those used in sampling-based
 60 UQ algorithms (Problems 1 and 2 below) and in the stochastic Galerkin method (Problem 3
 61 below). These are the first such results for arbitrarily large k and for A and n varying
 62 independently of k . These results are proved by combining:

- 63 1. bounds for the Helmholtz equation in [25] with A and n deterministic but spatially-
 64 varying, with
- 65 2. general arguments (i.e. not specific to Helmholtz) presented here for proving a priori
 66 bounds and well-posedness of variational formulations of linear elliptic SPDEs.

67 Regarding 1: the k -dependence of the bounds on u in terms of f depends crucially on whether
 68 or not A , n , and D_- are such that there exist trapped rays. In the trapping case, the solution
 69 operator can grow exponentially in k (see [46, 9, 45, 11, 5] and [6, Section 2.5], and the reviews
 70 in [40, Section 6], [13, Section 1.1], and [25, Section 1]); in contrast, in the nontrapping case,
 71 the solution operator is bounded uniformly in k (see [52, 10] and the references therein). The
 72 bounds in [25] are under conditions on A , n , and D_- that ensure nontrapping of rays; the
 73 significance of these bounds is that they are the first (deterministic) bounds for the Helmholtz
 74 scattering problem in which both A and n vary and the bounds are explicit in A and n (as
 75 well as in k). This feature of being explicit in A and n is crucial in allowing us to prove the
 76 results in this paper when A and n are random fields.

77 Regarding 2: the main reason these general arguments are needed is the fact that the variational formulations of both the deterministic and the stochastic Helmholtz equation are not
78 coercive, and so one cannot use the Lax–Milgram theorem to conclude well-posedness and an a
79 priori bound. In the deterministic case, the remedy for the lack of coercivity of the Helmholtz
80 equation is to use Fredholm theory, but this is *not* applicable to the stochastic variational
81 formulation of the Helmholtz equation because the necessary compactness results do not hold
82 in Bochner spaces (see [Appendix A](#) below). Our solution to this lack of coercivity and failure
83 of Fredholm theory is to use well-posedness results and bounds from the deterministic case
84 to prove results for the stochastic case. We work ‘pathwise’ by integrating the deterministic
85 results over probability space and identifying conditions under which the necessary quantities
86 are indeed integrable. Our approach is given in a general framework that, given (i) determin-
87 istic well-posedness results and a priori bounds that are explicit in all the coefficients, and (ii)
88 measurability and integrability conditions on the stochastic quantities, returns corresponding
89 well-posedness results, a priori bounds, and equivalence results for different formulations of
90 the stochastic problem. One reason we state our well-posedness results in general (i.e. not only
91 in the specific case of the Helmholtz equation) is that we expect that they can be used in the
92 future to prove well-posedness results for the time-harmonic Maxwell’s equations in random
93 media. A nontechnical summary of the ideas behind our well-posedness results is given in [Re-](#)
94 [mark 2.12](#) below. Some of these results are similar in spirit to the results about the PDE (1.2)
95 in [24, 41] (which deal with the failure of Lax–Milgram for the stochastic variational problem
96 for (1.2) in the case when the coefficient κ is not uniformly bounded above and below), and
97 our arguments use some of the ideas and technical tools from these two papers.

99 1.1. Statement of main results.

100 *Notation and basic definitions.* Let either (i) $D_- \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, $d = 2, 3$, be a bounded Lipschitz
101 open set such that $\mathbf{0} \in D_-$ and the open complement $D_+ := \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \overline{D_-}$ is connected, or (ii)
102 $D_- = \emptyset$. Let $\Gamma_D = \partial D_-$. Fix $R > 0$ and let B_R be the ball of radius R centred at the origin.
103 Define $\Gamma_R := \partial B_R$ and $D_R := D_+ \cap B_R$ (see [Figure 1.1](#)). Let γ denote the trace operator from
104 D_R to $\partial D_R = \Gamma_D \cup \Gamma_R$ and define $H_{0,D}^1(D_R) := \{v \in H^1(D_R) : \gamma v = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_D\}$.

105 Let $T_R : H^{1/2}(\Gamma_R) \rightarrow H^{-1/2}(\Gamma_R)$ be the Dirichlet-to-Neumann map for the deterministic
106 equation $\Delta u + k^2 u = 0$ posed in the exterior of B_R with the Sommerfeld radiation condition

$$107 \quad (1.3) \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial r}(\mathbf{x}) - iku(\mathbf{x}) = o\left(\frac{1}{r^{(d-1)/2}}\right) \text{ as } r := |\mathbf{x}| \rightarrow \infty, \text{ uniformly in } \frac{\mathbf{x}}{|\mathbf{x}|};$$

108 see [42, Section 2.6.3] and [12, Equations 3.5 and 3.6] for an explicit expression for T_R in terms
109 of Hankel functions and Fourier series ($d = 2$)/spherical harmonics ($d = 3$). Let $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\Gamma_R}$ be the
110 duality pairing on Γ_R between $H^{-1/2}(\Gamma_R)$ and $H^{1/2}(\Gamma_R)$ and write $d\lambda$ for Lebesgue measure.

111 Let $L^\infty(D_+; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$ be the set of all matrix-valued functions $A : D_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ such that
112 $A_{i,j} \in L^\infty(D_+; \mathbb{R})$ for all $i, j = 1, \dots, d$. Where the range of functions is \mathbb{C} we suppress
113 the second argument in a function space, e.g. we write $L^\infty(D_+)$ for $L^\infty(D_+; \mathbb{C})$. We write
114 $D_1 \subset\subset D_2$ if D_1 is a compact subset of the open set D_2 . Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ be a complete probability
115 space. Throughout this paper, unless stated otherwise we equip a topological space with its
116 Borel σ -algebra. See [Appendix B](#) for a summary of the measure-theoretic concepts used in
117 this paper. Let

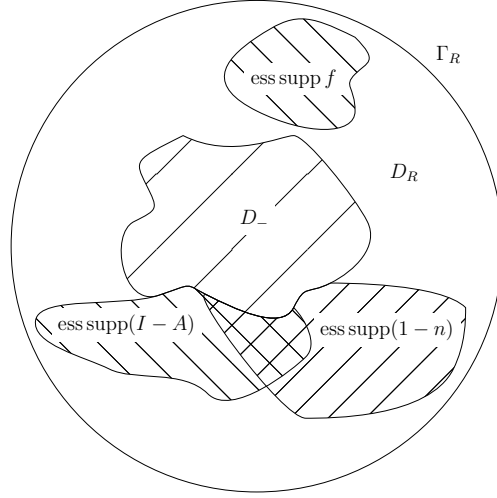


Figure 1.1. Examples of the domains D_- and D_R , the set Γ_R , and essential supports of $I - A$, $1 - n$ and f in the definition of the Helmholtz stochastic EDP.

- 118 • $f : \Omega \rightarrow L^2(D_+)$ be such that $\text{ess supp } f \subset\subset B_R$ almost surely
 119 • $n : \Omega \rightarrow L^\infty(D_+; \mathbb{R})$ be such that $\text{ess supp}(1 - n) \subset\subset B_R$ almost surely and there exist
 120 $n_{\min}, n_{\max} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $0 < n_{\min}(\omega) \leq n(\omega)(\mathbf{x}) \leq n_{\max}(\omega)$ for almost every
 121 $\mathbf{x} \in D_+$ almost surely, and
 122 • $A : \Omega \rightarrow L^\infty(D_+; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$ be such that $\text{ess supp}(I - A) \subset\subset B_R$, $A_{ij} = A_{ji}$ almost surely,
 123 and there exist $A_{\min}, A_{\max} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $0 < A_{\min}(\omega) < A_{\max}(\omega)$ almost surely
 124 and $A_{\min}(\omega)|\boldsymbol{\xi}|^2 \leq (A(\omega)(\mathbf{x})\boldsymbol{\xi}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\xi} \leq A_{\max}(\omega)|\boldsymbol{\xi}|^2$ for almost every $\mathbf{x} \in D_+$ and for all
 125 $\boldsymbol{\xi} \in \mathbb{C}^d$ almost surely.

126 If $v : \Omega \rightarrow Z$ for some function space Z of functions on \mathbb{R}^d , we abuse notation slightly and
 127 write $v(\omega, \mathbf{x})$ instead of $v(\omega)(\mathbf{x})$.

128 **Variational Formulations.** We consider three different formulations of the *Helmholtz stochastic exterior Dirichlet problem* (stochastic EDP); **Problems 1–3** below.

130 Define the sesquilinear form $a(\omega)$ on $H_{0,D}^1(D_R) \times H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$ by

$$131 \quad (1.4) \quad [a(\omega)](v_1, v_2) := \int_{D_R} \left((A(\omega)\nabla v_1) \cdot \nabla \bar{v}_2 - k^2 n(\omega) v_1 \bar{v}_2 \right) d\lambda - \langle T_R \gamma v_1, \gamma v_2 \rangle_{\Gamma_R},$$

132 and the antilinear functional $L(\omega)$ on $H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$ by

$$133 \quad (1.5) \quad [L(\omega)](v_2) := \int_{D_R} f(\omega) \bar{v}_2 d\lambda.$$

134 Define the sesquilinear form \mathbf{a} on $L^2(\Omega; H_{0,D}^1(D_R)) \times L^2(\Omega; H_{0,D}^1(D_R))$ and the antilinear
 135 functional $\boldsymbol{\mathfrak{L}}$ on $L^2(\Omega; H_{0,D}^1(D_R))$ by

$$136 \quad (1.6) \quad \mathbf{a}(v_1, v_2) := \int_{\Omega} [a(\omega)](v_1(\omega), v_2(\omega)) d\mathbb{P}(\omega) \quad \text{and} \quad \boldsymbol{\mathfrak{L}}(v_2) := \int_{\Omega} [L(\omega)](v_2(\omega)) d\mathbb{P}(\omega).$$

137 We consider the following three problems:

138 **Problem 1 (Measurable EDP almost surely).** Find a measurable $u : \Omega \rightarrow H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$ such
 139 that

$$140 \quad [a(\omega)](u(\omega), v) = [L(\omega)](v) \text{ for all } v \in H_{0,D}^1(D_R) \text{ almost surely.}$$

141 **Problem 2 (Second-order EDP almost surely).** Find $u \in L^2(\Omega; H_{0,D}^1(D_R))$ such that

$$142 \quad [a(\omega)](u(\omega), v) = [L(\omega)](v) \text{ for all } v \in H_{0,D}^1(D_R) \text{ almost surely.}$$

143 **Problem 3 (Stochastic variational EDP).** Find $u \in L^2(\Omega; H_{0,D}^1(D_R))$ such that

$$144 \quad \mathbf{a}(u, v) = \mathfrak{L}(v) \text{ for all } v \in L^2(\Omega; H_{0,D}^1(D_R)).$$

145 **Problem 2** is the foundation of sampling-based UQ methods, such as Monte-Carlo and
 146 Stochastic-Collocation methods; its analogue for the stationary diffusion equation is well-
 147 studied in, e.g., [54, 2, 43, 14, 15, 50, 35, 29]. Similarly **Problem 3** is the foundation of the
 148 Stochastic Galerkin method (a finite element method in $\Omega \times D$, where D is the spatial domain),
 149 and is studied for the Helmholtz Interior Impedance Problem in [18], and its analogue for the
 150 stationary diffusion equation is considered in, e.g., [3, 34, 27].

151 *Remark 1.1 (Why consider Problem 1?).*

152 The difference between **Problems 1** and **2** is that **Problem 1** requires no integrability of u
 153 over Ω , whereas **Problem 2** requires $u \in L^2(\Omega, H_{0,D}^1(D_R))$. Since all the theory for sampling-
 154 based UQ methods assume some integrability of the solution, the natural question is: why
 155 consider **Problem 1** at all? The main reason we consider **Problem 1** is that, given the existing
 156 PDE theory for the Helmholtz equation, we can prove existence of a solution to **Problem 1**
 157 under general conditions on A and n , but there is no current prospect of proving existence
 158 of a solution to **Problem 2** under general conditions on A and n . The explanation for this
 159 consists of the following three points:

- 160 1. The only two known ways to obtain a solution to **Problem 2** are: (i) obtain a de-
 161 terministic a priori bound, explicit in all parameters, and integrate (followed, e.g., in
 162 [15] for (1.2) with lognormal coefficients) and (ii) obtain a solution to **Problem 3** and
 163 show this is a solution to **Problem 2**. In the Helmholtz case, doing (ii) is difficult as
 164 neither the Lax–Milgram theorem nor Fredholm theory is applicable (as explained in
 165 the introduction), and so we follow the approach in (i).
- 166 2. The only known bounds on the solution of the Helmholtz equation explicit in all
 167 parameters are those recently obtained for nontrapping scenarios in [25, 21].
- 168 3. Obtaining a bound explicit in all parameters for a general class of A and n , e.g.,
 169 $A \in W^{1,\infty}(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$ and $n \in L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R})$ is well beyond current techniques. Indeed,
 170 a general class of A and n will include both trapping and nontrapping scenarios, and
 171 such a bound would need to capture the exponential blow-up in k for trapping A and
 172 n , the uniform boundedness in k for nontrapping A and n , and be explicit in A and n .

173 Given this fact that there is no current prospect of proving existence of a solution to **Problem 2**
 174 under general conditions on A and n we keep **Problem 1** so that we prove an (albeit weaker)
 175 existence result for the Helmholtz equation with general coefficients.

176 *Remark 1.2 (Measurability of u in Problem 1).* It is natural to construct the solution of
 177 **Problem 1** pathwise; that is, one defines $u(\omega)$ to be the solution of the deterministic problem
 178 with coefficients $A(\omega)$ and $n(\omega)$. However, is it then not obvious that u is measurable. In the
 179 proof of **Theorem 1.4** below, we show that the measurability of u follows from (i) a natural
 180 condition on the measurability of the coefficients and data (**Condition C1** below), and (ii) the
 181 continuity of the map taking the coefficients of the deterministic PDE to the solution of the
 182 deterministic PDE (see **Lemma 4.12** below).

183 In **Theorems 1.4** and **1.8** we prove results on the well-posedness of **Problems 1–3** under
 184 conditions on A , n , f , and D_- . Although A , n , and f are defined on D_+ , since $\text{ess sup}(I - A)$,
 185 $\text{ess sup}(1 - n)$, and $\text{ess sup} f$ are compactly contained in D_R we can consider A , n , and f as
 186 functions on D_R .

187 **Condition 1.3 (Regularity and stochastic regularity of f , A , and n).** The random fields f , A ,
 188 and n satisfy $f \in L^2(\Omega; L^2(D_R))$, $A : \Omega \rightarrow W^{1,\infty}(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$ with $A \in L^\infty(\Omega; L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}))$,
 189 and $n \in L^\infty(\Omega; L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}))$.

190 **Theorem 1.4 (Equivalence of variational problems).** Under **Condition 1.3**:

- 191 • The maps \mathfrak{a} and \mathfrak{L} (defined by (1.6)) are well-defined.
- 192 • $u \in L^2(\Omega; H_{0,D}^1(D_R))$ solves **Problem 2** if and only if u solves **Problem 3**.
- 193 • If $u \in L^2(\Omega; H_{0,D}^1(D_R))$ solves **Problem 2**, then any member of the equivalence class
 194 of u solves **Problem 1**.
- 195 • The solution of **Problem 1** exists and is unique up to modification on a set of measure
 196 zero in Ω .
- 197 • The solution of **Problems 2** and **3** is unique in $L^2(\Omega; H_{0,D}^1(D_R))$.

198 Observe that the only relationship between formulations not proved in **Theorem 1.4** is:
 199 if $u : \Omega \rightarrow H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$ solves **Problem 1** then $u \in L^2(\Omega; H_{0,D}^1(D_R))$ and u solves **Problem 2**.
 200 **Theorem 1.8** below includes this relationship, under additional assumptions on A , n , and D_- .

201 **Definition 1.5 (A particular class of (deterministic) nontrapping coefficients).** Let $\mu_1, \mu_2 > 0$,
 202 $A_0 \in W^{1,\infty}(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$ with $\text{ess sup}(I - A_0) \subset\subset B_R$, and $n_0 \in W^{1,\infty}(D_R; \mathbb{R})$ with $\text{ess sup}(1 -$
 203 $n_0) \subset\subset B_R$. We write $A_0 \in \text{NT}_A(\mu_1)$ and $n_0 \in \text{NT}_n(\mu_2)$ if

$$204 \quad (1.7) \quad A_0(\mathbf{x}) - (\mathbf{x} \cdot \nabla)A_0(\mathbf{x}) \geq \mu_1 \quad \text{and} \quad n_0(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{x} \cdot \nabla n_0(\mathbf{x}) \geq \mu_2$$

205 for almost every $\mathbf{x} \in D_R$, where the first inequality holds in the sense of quadratic forms.

206 **Condition 1.6 (k -independent nontrapping conditions on (random) A and n).** The random
 207 fields A and n satisfy $A : \Omega \rightarrow W^{1,\infty}(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$ and $n : \Omega \rightarrow W^{1,\infty}(D_R; \mathbb{R})$. Furthermore,
 208 there exist $\mu_1, \mu_2 : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, independent of f , with $\mu_1(\omega), \mu_2(\omega) > 0$ almost surely and
 209 $1/\mu_1, 1/\mu_2 \in L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R})$ such that $A(\omega) \in \text{NT}_A(\mu_1(\omega))$ almost surely and $n(\omega) \in \text{NT}_n(\mu_2(\omega))$
 210 almost surely.

211 **Definition 1.7 (Star-shaped).** The set $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ is star-shaped with respect to the point \mathbf{x}_0
 212 if for any $\mathbf{x} \in D$ the line segment $[\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}] \subseteq D$.

213 **Theorem 1.8 (Equivalence of variational problems in a nontrapping case).** Let D_- be star-
 214 shaped with respect to the origin. Under **Conditions 1.3** and **1.6**:

- 215 • The maps \mathfrak{a} and \mathfrak{L} (defined by (1.6)) are well-defined.

- 216 • *Problems 1–3 are all equivalent.*
 217 • *The solution $u \in L^2(\Omega; H_{0,D}^1(D_R))$ of these problems exists, is unique, and, given*
 218 *$k_0 > 0$, satisfies the bound*

$$219 \quad (1.8) \quad \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega; L^2(D_R))}^2 + k^2 \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega; L^2(D_R))}^2 \leq \|C_1\|_{L^1(\Omega)} \|f\|_{L^2(\Omega; L^2(D_R))}^2$$

220 *for all $k \geq k_0$, where $C_1 : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is given by*

$$221 \quad (1.9) \quad C_1 = \max \left\{ \frac{1}{\mu_1}, \frac{1}{\mu_2} \right\} \left(\frac{R^2}{\mu_1} + \frac{2}{\mu_2} \left(R + \frac{d-1}{2k_0} \right)^2 \right).$$

222 As highlighted above, [Theorem 1.8](#) is obtained from combining deterministic a priori
 223 bounds from [\[25\]](#) with the general arguments in [section 2](#) about well-posedness of variational
 224 formulations of stochastic PDEs. [Theorem 1.8](#) uses the most basic a priori bound proved in
 225 [\[25\]](#) (from [\[25, Theorem 2.5\]](#)), but [\[25\]](#) contains several extensions of this bound. [Remarks 1.9,](#)
 226 [1.10,](#) and [1.12–1.14](#) outline the implications that these (deterministic) extensions have for the
 227 stochastic Helmholtz equation.

228 *Remark 1.9 (Dirichlet boundary conditions on Γ_D and plane-wave incidence).* The formu-
 229 lations of the stochastic EDP above assume that $u = 0$ on the boundary Γ_D . An important
 230 scattering problem for which $u \neq 0$ on Γ_D is when u is the field scattered by an incident plane
 231 wave; in this case $\gamma u = -\gamma u_I$, where u_I is the incident plane wave. The results in this paper
 232 can be easily extended to the case when $u \neq 0$ on Γ_D using [\[25, Theorem 2.19\(ii\)\]](#) which
 233 proves a priori (deterministic) bounds in this case. One subtlety, however, is that f is then
 234 not necessarily independent of μ_1 and μ_2 , indeed in this case $f = -\nabla \cdot (A \nabla u_I) - k^2 n u_I$. One
 235 can produce an analogue of [Theorem 1.8](#) in the case where f, μ_1 , and μ_2 are dependent, but
 236 one requires $1/\mu_1, 1/\mu_2 \in L^4(\Omega)$ and $f \in L^4(\Omega; L^2(D))$; see [Remark 4.17](#) below.

237 *Remark 1.10 (The case when either $n = 1$ or $A = I$).* When either $n = 1$ or $A = I$, [\[25,](#)
 238 [Theorem 2.19\]](#) gives deterministic bounds under weaker conditions on A and n respectively;
 239 the corresponding results for the stochastic case are that: When $n = 1$ almost surely, the con-
 240 dition $A(\omega) \in \text{NT}_A(\mu_1(\omega))$ in [Condition 1.6](#) can be improved to $2A(\omega) - (\mathbf{x} \cdot \nabla)A(\omega) \geq$
 241 $\mu_1(\omega)$ for almost every $\mathbf{x} \in D_+$, almost surely. When $A = I$ almost surely, the con-
 242 dition $n(\omega) \in \text{NT}_n(\mu_2(\omega))$ in [Condition 1.6](#) can be improved to: $2n(\omega) + \mathbf{x} \cdot \nabla n(\omega) \geq$
 243 $\mu_2(\omega)$ for almost every $\mathbf{x} \in D_+$, almost surely.

244 *Remark 1.11 (Geometric interpretation of the conditions on A and n in [Definition 1.5](#)).*
 245 Recall that the $k \rightarrow \infty$ asymptotics of solutions of the Helmholtz equation are governed by
 246 the behaviour of rays (see, e.g., [\[1\]](#)). The Helmholtz EDP is *nontrapping* if all rays starting
 247 in D_R escape from D_R after some uniform time (see, e.g., [\[10, Definition 1.1\]](#)); the EDP is
 248 *trapping* otherwise. The k -dependence of the solution operator depends strongly on whether
 249 the problem is trapping, and the type of trapping present; see, e.g., the overview discussions
 250 in [\[25, Section 1\]](#), [\[13, Section 1.1\]](#). The conditions on A and n in [Condition 1.6](#) and the
 251 star-shapedness restriction on D_- are sufficient for the Helmholtz stochastic EDP to be non-
 252 trapping almost surely. For more details on how these conditions are related to trapping, see
 253 [\[25, Theorem 7.7\]](#).

254 *Remark 1.12 (The Helmholtz stochastic truncated exterior Dirichlet problem).* It is common
 255 to approximate the Dirichlet-to-Neumann map on Γ_R , i.e. T_R , by an ‘absorbing boundary
 256 condition’, the simplest of which is the so-called impedance boundary condition. We call the
 257 Helmholtz stochastic EDP posed in D_R with an impedance boundary condition on Γ_R the
 258 stochastic *truncated exterior Dirichlet problem* (stochastic TEDP). The results in this paper
 259 also hold for the stochastic TEDP (with arbitrary Lipschitz truncation boundary) under an
 260 analogue of [Condition 1.6](#) based on the deterministic bounds in [[25](#), Theorem A.6(i)] instead
 261 of [[25](#), Theorem 2.5].

262 *Remark 1.13 (Discontinuous A and n).* The requirements on A and n in [Definition 1.5](#)
 263 require A and n to be continuous. In addition to proving deterministic a priori bounds for
 264 the class of A and n in [Definition 1.5](#), the paper [[25](#)] also proves deterministic bounds for
 265 discontinuous A and n satisfying (1.7) in a distributional sense; see [[25](#), Theorem 2.7]. The
 266 well-posedness results and a priori bounds in this paper can therefore be adapted to prove
 267 results about the stochastic Helmholtz equation for a class of random A and n that allows
 268 nontrapping jumps on randomly-placed star-shaped interfaces.

269 *Remark 1.14 (k -dependent A and n).* In this paper we focus on random fields A and n
 270 varying independently of k ; this corresponds to a fixed physical medium, characterised by A
 271 and n , with waves of frequency k passing through. In [subsection 1.2](#) below we construct A and
 272 n as (k -independent) $W^{1,\infty}$ perturbations of random fields A_0 and n_0 satisfying [Condition 1.6](#).
 273 We note, however, that results for A and n being k -dependent L^∞ perturbations (i.e. rougher,
 274 but k -dependent perturbations) of A_0 and n_0 satisfying [Condition 1.6](#) can easily be obtained.

275 The basis for these bounds is observing that *deterministic* a priori bounds hold when
 276 (a) $A \in \text{NT}_A(\mu_1)$, $n = n_0 + \eta$, where $n_0 \in \text{NT}_n(\mu_2)$ and $k\|\eta\|_{L^\infty(D_R;\mathbb{R})}$ is sufficiently small,
 277 and (b) $A = A_0 + B$, $n = n_0 + \eta$, where $A_0 \in \text{NT}_A(\mu_1)$, $n_0 \in \text{NT}_n(\mu_2)$, $k\|\eta\|_{L^\infty(D_R;\mathbb{R})}$ and
 278 $k\|B\|_{W^{1,\infty}(D_R;\mathbb{R}^{d \times d})}$ are both sufficiently small, and A, n , and D_- are such that $u \in H^2(D_R)$
 279 (see, e.g., [[39](#), Theorem 4.18(i)] for these latter requirements). Given these deterministic
 280 bounds, the general arguments in this paper can then be used to prove well-posedness of the
 281 analogous stochastic problems.

282 To understand why bounds hold in the case (a), observe that one can write the PDE as

$$283 \quad (1.10) \quad \nabla \cdot (A \nabla u) + k^2 n_0 u = -f - k^2 \eta u;$$

284 if $k\|\eta\|_{L^\infty(D_R;\mathbb{R})}$ is sufficiently small then the contribution from the $k^2 \eta u$ term on the right-
 285 hand side of (1.10) can be absorbed into the $k^2 \|u\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2$ term appearing on the left-hand
 286 side of the bound (the deterministic analogue of (1.8)). In the case $n_0 = 1$, this is essentially
 287 the argument used to prove the a priori bound in [[18](#), Theorem 2.4] (see [[25](#), Remark 2.15]).
 288 The reason bounds hold in the case (b) is similar, except now we need the H^2 norm of u on
 289 the left-hand side of the bound (as well as the H^1 norm) to absorb the contribution from the
 290 $\nabla \cdot (B \nabla u)$ term on the right-hand side.

291 **1.2. Random fields satisfying [Condition 1.6](#).** The main focus of this paper is proving
 292 well-posedness of the variational formulations of the stochastic Helmholtz equation, and a
 293 priori bounds on the solution, for the most-general class of A and n allowed by the deterministic
 294 bounds in [[25](#)]. However, in this section, motivated by the Karhunen-Loève expansion (see

295 e.g. [38, p. 201ff.]) and similar expansions of material coefficients for the stationary diffusion
 296 equation [35, Section 2.1], we consider A and n as series expansions around known non-random
 297 fields A_0 and n_0 satisfying [Condition 1.6](#) (i.e., [Condition 1.6](#) is satisfied for n_0, A_0 independent
 298 of $\omega \in \Omega$, and therefore μ_1, μ_2 independent of ω). Define

$$299 \quad (1.11) \quad A(\omega, \mathbf{x}) = A_0(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} Y_j(\omega) \Psi_j(\mathbf{x}) \quad \text{and} \quad n(\omega, \mathbf{x}) = n_0(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} Z_j(\omega) \psi_j(\mathbf{x}),$$

300 where:

- 301 • $\text{ess sup}(1 - A_0), \text{ess sup}(I - n_0) \subset\subset B_R$,
- 302 • A_0 and n_0 satisfy [Condition 1.6](#) with μ_1 and μ_2 independent of $\omega \in \Omega$
- 303 • $Y_j, Z_j \sim \text{Unif}(-1/2, 1/2)$ i.i.d.,
- 304 • $\Psi_j \in W^{1,\infty}(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$ with $\text{ess sup } \Psi_j \subset\subset B_R$ for all $j = 1, \dots, m$,

$$305 \quad (1.12) \quad \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \text{ess sup}_{\mathbf{x} \in D_R} \|\Psi_j\|_2 < 2A_{0,\min} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \|\Psi_j\|_{W^{1,\infty}(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})} < \infty,$$

306 where $A_{0,\min} > 0$ is such that $A_{0,\min} |\boldsymbol{\xi}|^2 \leq (A(\mathbf{x}) \boldsymbol{\xi}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\xi}$ for almost every $\mathbf{x} \in D_+$ and
 307 for all $\boldsymbol{\xi} \in \mathbb{C}^d$, and where $\|\cdot\|_2$ is the operator norm induced by the Euclidean vector
 308 norm on \mathbb{C}^d (i.e., $\|\cdot\|_2$ is the spectral norm).

- 309 • $\psi_j \in W^{1,\infty}(D_R; \mathbb{R})$ with $\text{ess sup } \psi_j \subset\subset B_R$ for all $j = 1, \dots, m$,

$$310 \quad (1.13) \quad \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \|\psi_j\|_{L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R})} < 2n_{0,\min} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \|\psi_j\|_{W^{1,\infty}(D_R; \mathbb{R})} < \infty,$$

311 where $n_{0,\min} := \text{ess inf}_{\mathbf{x} \in D_R} n_0(\mathbf{x})$, and

312 The first assumptions in (1.12) and (1.13) ensure that $A > 0$ (in the sense of quadratic
 313 forms) and $n > 0$ almost surely, respectively. The second assumptions in (1.12) and (1.13)
 314 are used to prove A and n are measurable, respectively; see [44, Appendix C]. The following
 315 lemmas give sufficient conditions for the series in (1.11) to satisfy [Condition 1.6](#).

316 [Lemma 1.15 \(Series expansion of \$A\$ satisfies \[Condition 1.6\]\(#\)\)](#). *Let $\mu > 0, \delta \in (0, 1)$. If*
 317 *$A_0 \in \text{NT}_A(\mu)$, and*

$$318 \quad (1.14) \quad \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \text{ess sup}_{\mathbf{x} \in D_R} \|\Psi_j(\mathbf{x}) - (\mathbf{x} \cdot \nabla) \Psi_j(\mathbf{x})\|_2 \leq 2\delta\mu,$$

319 *then $A \in \text{NT}_A((1 - \delta)\mu)$ almost surely.*

320 *Proof of [Lemma 1.15](#).* Since $A_0 \in \text{NT}_A(\mu)$, we have

$$321 \quad (1.15) \quad \left((A(\omega, \mathbf{x}) - (\mathbf{x} \cdot \nabla) A(\omega, \mathbf{x})) \boldsymbol{\xi} \right) \cdot \bar{\boldsymbol{\xi}} \geq \mu |\boldsymbol{\xi}|^2 + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \left(Y_j(\omega) (\Psi_j(\mathbf{x}) - (\mathbf{x} \cdot \nabla) \Psi_j(\mathbf{x})) \boldsymbol{\xi} \right) \cdot \bar{\boldsymbol{\xi}}$$

322 for all $\boldsymbol{\xi} \in \mathbb{C}^d$, for almost every $\mathbf{x} \in D_R$, almost surely. As $Y_j \sim \text{Unif}(-1/2, 1/2)$ for all j and
 323 the bound (1.14) holds, the right-hand side of (1.15) is bounded below by $(1 - \delta)\mu |\boldsymbol{\xi}|^2$ almost
 324 surely. Since $\boldsymbol{\xi} \in \mathbb{C}^d$ was arbitrary, it follows that $A(\omega) \in \text{NT}_A((1 - \delta)\mu)$ almost surely, as
 325 required. ■

326 **Lemma 1.16** (Series expansion of n satisfies **Condition 1.6**). *Let $\mu > 0$ and $\delta \in (0, 1)$. If*
 327 *$n_0 \in \text{NT}_n(\mu)$ and $\sum_{j=1}^m \|\psi_j(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{x} \cdot \nabla \psi_j(\mathbf{x})\|_{L^\infty(D_{R;\mathbb{R}})} \leq 2\delta\mu$, then $n \in \text{NT}_n((1 - \delta)\mu)$.*

328 The proof of **Lemma 1.16** is omitted, since it is similar to the proof of **Lemma 1.15**; in fact
 329 it is simpler, because it involves scalars rather than matrices.

330 **1.3. Discussion of the main results in the context of other work on UQ for time-**
 331 **harmonic wave equations.** In this section we discuss existing results on well-posedness of
 332 (1.1), as well as analogous results for the elastic wave equation and the time-harmonic Maxwell's
 333 equations. The most closely-related work to the current paper is [18] (and its analogue for
 334 elastic waves [20]), in that a large component of [18] consists of attempting to prove well-
 335 posedness and a priori bounds for the stochastic variational formulation (i.e. **Problem 3**) of
 336 the Helmholtz Interior Impedance Problem; i.e., (1.1) with $A = I$ and stochastic n posed in a
 337 bounded domain with an impedance boundary condition $\partial u / \partial \nu - iku = g$ (see the discussion
 338 of such boundary-value problems in **Remark 1.12**). Under the assumption of existence, [18]
 339 shows that for any $k > 0$ the solution is unique and satisfies an a priori bound of the form (1.8)
 340 (with different constant C_1), provided $n = 1 + \eta$ where the random field η satisfies (almost
 341 surely) $\|\eta\|_{L^\infty} \leq C/k$ for some $C > 0$ independent of k . [18] then invokes Fredholm theory
 342 to conclude existence, but this relies on an incorrect assumption about compact inclusion of
 343 Bochner spaces—see **Appendix A** below. However, combining **Theorem 1.4** and **Remarks 1.12**
 344 and **1.14** with $A = I$ and $n_0 = 1 + \eta$ (with η as above) produces an analogous result to
 345 **Theorem 1.8**, and gives a correct proof of [18, Theorem 2.5]. Therefore the analysis of the
 346 Monte Carlo interior penalty discontinuous Galerkin method in [18] can proceed under the
 347 assumptions of **Theorem 1.4** and **Remarks 1.12** and **1.14**.

348 The paper [30] considers the Helmholtz transmission problem with a stochastic interface,
 349 i.e. (1.1) posed in \mathbb{R}^d with both A and n piecewise constant and jumping on a common,
 350 randomly-located interface. A component of this work is establishing well-posedness of **Prob-**
 351 **lem 1** for this setup. To do this, the authors make the assumption that k is small (to avoid
 352 problems with trapping mentioned above—see the comments after [30, Theorem 4.3]); the
 353 sesquilinear form a is then coercive and an a priori bound (in principle explicit in A and n)
 354 follows [30, Lemma 4.5]. By **Remark 1.13**, the results of this paper can be used to obtain the
 355 analogous well-posedness result for large k in the case of nontrapping jumps.

356 The paper [8] studies the *Bayesian inverse problem* associated to (1.1) with $A = I$ and
 357 $n = 1$ posed in the exterior of a Dirichlet obstacle with random boundary. A component of
 358 the analysis in [8] is the well-posedness of the forward problem for an obstacle with a variable
 359 boundary [8, Proposition 3.5]. Instead of mapping the problem to one with a fixed domain
 360 and variable A and n , [8] instead works with the variability of the obstacle directly, using
 361 boundary-integral equations. The k -dependence of the solution operator is not considered,
 362 but would enter in [8, Lemma 3.1].

363 The papers [32] and [31] consider the time-harmonic Maxwell's equations with (i) the
 364 material coefficients ε, μ constant in the exterior of a perfectly-conducting random obstacle
 365 and (ii) ε, μ piecewise constant and jumping on a common randomly located interface; in both
 366 cases these problems are mapped to problems where the domain/interface is fixed and ε and
 367 μ are random and heterogeneous. The papers [32] and [31] essentially consider the analogue
 368 of **Problem 1** for the time-harmonic Maxwell's equations, obtaining well-posedness from the

369 corresponding results for the related deterministic problems.

370 **1.4. Outline of the paper.** In subsection 1.3 we discuss our results in the context of
 371 related literature. In section 2 we state general results on a priori bounds and well-posedness
 372 for stochastic variational formulations. In section 3 we prove the results in section 2. In
 373 section 4 we prove Theorems 1.4 and 1.8. In Appendix A we discuss the failure of Fredholm
 374 theory for the stochastic variational formulation of Helmholtz problems. In Appendix B we
 375 recap results from measure theory and the theory of Bochner spaces.

376 **2. General results on proving a priori bounds and well-posedness of stochastic varia-**
 377 **tional formulations.** In this section we state general results for proving a priori bounds and
 378 well-posedness results for variational formulations of linear elliptic SPDEs.

379 **2.1. Notation and definitions of the variational formulations.** Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ be a com-
 380 plete probability space. Let X and Y be separable Banach spaces over a field \mathbb{F} , (where $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{R}$
 381 or \mathbb{C}). Let $B(X, Y^*)$ denote the space of bounded linear maps $X \rightarrow Y^*$. Let \mathcal{C} be a topological
 382 space with topology $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{C}}$. Given maps

$$383 \quad c : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{C}, \quad \mathcal{A} : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow B(X, Y^*), \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{L} : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow Y^*,$$

384 let $\mathfrak{A} : L^2(\Omega; X) \rightarrow L^2(\Omega; Y)^*$ and $\mathfrak{L} \in L^2(\Omega; Y)^*$ be defined by

$$385 \quad (2.1) \quad [\mathfrak{A}(u)](v) := \int_{\Omega} [\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}u(\omega)](v(\omega)) \, d\mathbb{P}(\omega) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathfrak{L}(v) := \int_{\Omega} \mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)}(v(\omega)) \, d\mathbb{P}(\omega)$$

386 for $v \in L^2(\Omega; Y)$. Recall that a bounded linear map $X \rightarrow Y^*$ is equivalent to a sesquilinear
 387 (or bilinear) form on $X \times Y$; see e.g. [48, Lemma 2.1.38]. To keep notation compact, we write
 388 $\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)} = (\mathcal{A} \circ c)(\omega)$ and $\mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)} = (\mathcal{L} \circ c)(\omega)$.

389 *Remark 2.1 (Interpretation of the space \mathcal{C}).* The space \mathcal{C} is the ‘space of inputs’. For the
 390 stochastic Helmholtz EDP in subsection 1.1 the space \mathcal{C} is defined in Definition 4.5 below, but
 391 the upshot of this definition is that for any $\omega \in \Omega$ the triple $(A(\omega), n(\omega), f(\omega))$ is an element
 392 of \mathcal{C} . The maps c , \mathcal{A} , and \mathcal{L} are given by $c = (A, n, f)$, $\mathcal{A} = a$, and $\mathcal{L} = L$, where a and L
 393 are given by (1.4) and (1.5) respectively and the equality $\mathcal{A} = a$ is meant in the sense of the
 394 one-to-one correspondence between $B(X, Y^*)$ and sesquilinear forms on $X \times Y$.

395 The following three problems are the analogues in this general setting of Problems 1–3 in
 396 section 1.

397 **Problem MAS (Measurable variational formulation almost surely).** *Find a measurable func-*
 398 *tion $u : \Omega \rightarrow X$ such that*

$$399 \quad (2.2) \quad \mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}u(\omega) = \mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)} \text{ in } Y^*$$

400 *almost surely.*

401 **Problem SOAS (Second-order moment variational formulation almost surely).** *Find $u \in$*
 402 *$L^2(\Omega; X)$ such that (2.2) holds almost surely.*

403 **Problem SV (Stochastic variational formulation).** *Find $u \in L^2(\Omega; X)$ such that*

$$404 \quad (2.3) \quad \mathfrak{A}u = \mathfrak{L} \text{ in } L^2(\Omega; Y)^*.$$

405 *Remark 2.2 (Immediate relationships between formulations).* Since $L^2(\Omega; X) \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\Omega, X)$
 406 (the space of all measurable functions $\Omega \rightarrow X$) it is immediate that if u solves **Problem SOAS**
 407 then every member of the equivalence class of u solves **Problem MAS**.

408 **2.2. Conditions on \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{L} , and c .** We now state the conditions under which we prove
 409 results about the equivalence of **Problems MAS–SV**.

410 **Condition A1 (\mathcal{A} is continuous).** *The function $\mathcal{A} : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(X, Y^*)$ is continuous, where we*
 411 *place the norm topology on X , the dual norm topology on Y^* , and the operator norm topology*
 412 *on $\mathcal{B}(X, Y^*)$.*

413 **Condition A2 (Regularity of $\mathcal{A} \circ c$).** *The map $\mathcal{A} \circ c \in L^\infty(\Omega; \mathcal{B}(X, Y^*))$.*

414 We note that **Condition A2** is violated in the well-studied case of a log-normal coefficient
 415 κ for the stationary diffusion equation (1.2); in order to ensure the stochastic variational
 416 formulation is well-defined in this case, one must change the space of test functions as in
 417 [24, 41]

418 **Condition L1 (\mathcal{L} is continuous).** *The function $\mathcal{L} : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow Y^*$ is continuous, where we place*
 419 *the dual norm topology on Y^* .*

420 **Condition L2 (Regularity of $\mathcal{L} \circ c$).** *The map $\mathcal{L} \circ c \in L^2(\Omega; Y^*)$.*

421 **Condition C1 (c is measurable).** *The function $c : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ is measurable.*

422 To state the next condition, we need to recall the following definition.

423 **Definition 2.3 (\mathbb{P} -essentially separably valued [47, p26]).** *Let (S, \mathcal{T}_S) be a topological space.*
 424 *A function $h : \Omega \rightarrow S$ is \mathbb{P} -essentially separably valued if there exists $E \in \mathcal{F}$ such that*
 425 *$\mathbb{P}(E) = 1$ and $h(E)$ is contained in a separable subset of S .*

426 **Condition C2 (c is \mathbb{P} -essentially separably valued).** *The map $c : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ is \mathbb{P} -essentially*
 427 *separably valued.*

428 *Remark 2.4 (Why do we need Condition C2?).* The theory of Bochner spaces requires
 429 strong measurability of functions (see **Definitions B.9** and **B.14** below). However, the proof
 430 techniques used in this paper rely heavily on the measurability of functions (see **Definition B.1**
 431 below). In separable spaces these two notions are equivalent (see **Corollary B.19**). However,
 432 some of the spaces we encounter (such as $L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R})$) are not separable. Therefore, in our
 433 arguments we use **Condition C2** along with the Pettis Measurability Theorem (**Theorem B.18**
 434 below) to conclude that measurable functions are strongly measurable.

435 **Condition B (A priori bound almost surely).** *There exist $C_j, f_j : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $j = 1, \dots, m$ such*
 436 *that $C_j f_j \in L^1(\Omega)$ for all $j = 1, \dots, m$ and the bound*

$$437 \quad (2.4) \quad \|u(\omega)\|_X^2 \leq \sum_{j=1}^m C_j(\omega) f_j(\omega)$$

438 *holds almost surely.*

439 *Remark 2.5 (Notation in the a priori bound).* We use the notation f_j in the right-hand
 440 side of (2.4) to emphasise the fact that typically these terms relate to the right-hand sides of

441 the PDE in question. For the stochastic Helmholtz EDP, $m = 1$, $f_1 = \|f\|_{L^2(D)}^2$, and C_1 is
 442 given by (1.9).

443 **Condition U (Uniqueness almost surely).** $\ker(\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}) = \{0\}$ \mathbb{P} -almost surely.

444 The condition $\ker(\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}) = \{0\}$ \mathbb{P} -almost surely can be stated as: given $\mathcal{G} \in L^2(\Omega; Y)^*$,
 445 for \mathbb{P} -almost every $\omega \in \Omega$ the deterministic problem $\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}u_0 = \mathcal{G}$ has a unique solution,

446 **2.3. Results on the equivalence of Problems MAS, SOAS, and SV.**

447 **Theorem 2.6 (Measurable solution implies second-order solution).** Under *Condition B*, if u
 448 solves *Problem MAS* then u solves *Problem SOAS* and satisfies the stochastic a priori bound

449 (2.5)
$$\|u\|_{L^2(\Omega; X)}^2 \leq \sum_{j=1}^m \|C_j f_j\|_{L^1(\Omega)}.$$

450 Note that the right-hand side of the stochastic a priori bound (2.5) is the expectation of
 451 the right-hand side of the bound (2.4).

452 **Lemma 2.7 (Stochastic variational formulation well-defined).** Under *Conditions A1, A2,*
 453 *L1, L2, C1, and C2*, the maps \mathfrak{A} and \mathfrak{L} defined by (2.1) are well-defined in the sense that

454 (2.6)
$$[\mathfrak{A}(v_1)](v_2), \mathfrak{L}(v_2) < \infty \text{ for all } v_1 \in L^2(\Omega; X), \text{ for all } v_2 \in L^2(\Omega; Y).$$

455 **Theorem 2.8 (Second-order solution implies stochastic variational solution).** Under *Condi-*
 456 *tions L1, L2, C1, and C2*, if u solves *Problem SOAS* then u solves *Problem SV*.

457 **Theorem 2.9 (Stochastic variational solution implies second-order solution).** If *Problem SV*
 458 is well-defined and u solves *Problem SV*, then u solves *Problem SOAS*.

459 **Theorems 2.6, 2.8, and 2.9 and Lemma 2.7** are summarised in **Figure 2.1**.

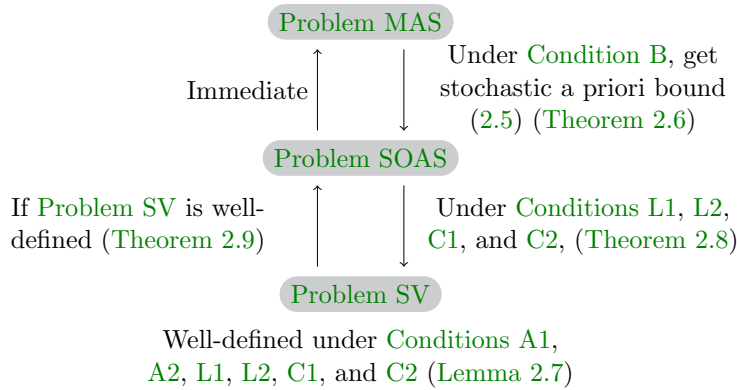


Figure 2.1. The relationship between the variational formulations. An arrow from Problem P to Problem Q with Conditions R indicates ‘under Conditions R , the solution of Problem P is a solution of Problem Q ’

460 **Remark 2.10 (Condition L2 in Theorem 2.8).** In **Theorem 2.8** we could replace **Condi-**
 461 **tion L2** with **Condition A2**, and the result would still hold—see the proof for further details.
 462 However, **Condition L2** is less restrictive than **Condition A2**, as it only requires L^2 integrability
 463 of $\mathcal{L} \circ c$ as opposed to essential boundedness of $\mathcal{A} \circ c$.

464 **Lemma 2.11** (Showing uniqueness of the solution to Problems MAS–SV). *If Condition U*
 465 *holds, then*

- 466 1. *the solution to Problem MAS (if it exists) is unique up to modification on a set of*
 467 *\mathbb{P} -measure 0 in Ω ,*
- 468 2. *the solution to Problem SOAS (if it exists) is unique in $L^2(\Omega; X)$, and*
- 469 3. *if Problem SV is well-defined, the solution to Problem SV (if it exists) is unique in*
 470 *$L^2(\Omega; X)$.*

471 **Remark 2.12** (Informal discussion on the ideas behind the equivalence results). The diagram
 472 in Figure 2.1 summarises the relationships between the variational formulations, and the
 473 conditions under which they hold. Moving ‘up’ the left-hand side of the diagram, we prove a
 474 solution of Problem SV is a solution of Problem SOAS in Theorem 2.9; the key idea in this
 475 theorem is to use a particular set of test functions and the general measure-theory result of
 476 Lemma B.22 below; this approach was used for the stationary diffusion equation (1.2) with
 477 log-normal coefficients in [24], and for a wider class of coefficients in [41].

478 Moving ‘down’ the right-hand side, we prove a solution of Problem MAS is a solution
 479 of Problem SOAS in Theorem 2.6; the key part of this proof is that the bound in Condi-
 480 tion B gives information on the integrability of the solution u . (In the case of (1.2) with
 481 uniformly coercive and bounded coefficient κ , the analogous integrability result follows from
 482 the Lax–Milgram theorem; [14, Proposition 2.4] proves an equivalent result for (1.2) with
 483 lognormal coefficient κ with an isotropic Lipschitz covariance function.) Proving a solution
 484 of Problem SOAS is a solution of Problem SV in Theorem 2.8 essentially amounts to posing
 485 conditions such that the quantities $[\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}(u(\omega))](v(\omega))$ and $\mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)}(v(\omega))$ are Bochner inte-
 486 grable for any $v \in L^2(\Omega; Y)$, so that (2.3) makes sense. Lemma 2.7 shows that the stronger
 487 property (2.6) holds, and requires stronger assumptions than Theorem 2.8, since the proof of
 488 Theorem 2.8 uses the additional information that u solves Problem SOAS.

489 **Remark 2.13** (Changing the condition $u \in L^2(\Omega; X)$). Here we seek the solution $u \in$
 490 $L^2(\Omega; X)$ but we could instead require $u \in L^p(\Omega; X)$, for some $p > 0$ and require $\mathfrak{A}u = \mathfrak{L}$
 491 in $L^q(\Omega; Y)^*$, for some $q > 0$ (i.e. use test functions in $L^q(\Omega; Y)$). In this case, the proof
 492 of Theorem 2.9 would be nearly identical, as the space \mathcal{D} of test functions used there is a
 493 subset of $L^q(\Omega; Y)$ for all $q > 0$. One could also develop analogues of Theorems 2.6 and 2.8
 494 and Lemma 2.7 in this setting—see e.g. [24, Theorem 3.20] for an example of this approach
 495 for the stationary diffusion equation with lognormal diffusion coefficient.

496 **Remark 2.14** (Non-reliance on the Lax–Milgram theorem). The above results hold for
 497 an arbitrary sesquilinear form and hence are applicable to a wide variety of PDEs; their
 498 main advantage is that they apply to PDEs whose stochastic variational formulations are not
 499 coercive.

500 **Remark 2.15** (Overview of how these results are applied to the Helmholtz equation in sec-
 501 tion 4). We obtain the results for the Helmholtz equation via the following steps (which could
 502 also be applied to other SPDEs fitting into this framework):

- 503 1. Define the map c (via A, n , and f) such that for almost every $\omega \in \Omega$ there exists a
 504 solution of the deterministic Helmholtz EDP corresponding to $c(\omega)$.
- 505 2. Define $u : \Omega \rightarrow X$ to map ω to the solution of the deterministic problem corresponding

506 to $c(\omega)$.

507 3. Prove that **Conditions A1, A2, L1, L2, C1, C2, B, and U** hold, so that one can apply
508 **Theorems 2.6, 2.8, and 2.9** along with **Lemmas 2.7 and 2.11** to show **Problem 3** is
509 well-defined and u is unique and satisfies **Problems 1–3**.

510 **Steps 1 and 2** can be thought of as constructing a solution pathwise.

511 3. Proof of the results in section 2.

512 **3.1. Preliminary lemmas.** To simplify notation, we introduce the following definition.

513 **Definition 3.1 (Pairing map).** For fixed $c : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$, $\mathcal{A} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbf{B}(X, Y^*)$, given $v : \Omega \rightarrow X$ we
514 define the map $\pi_v : \Omega \rightarrow Y^*$ by

$$515 \quad (3.1) \quad \pi_v(\omega) := [(\mathcal{A} \circ c)(\omega)](v(\omega)).$$

516 A key ingredient in proving that the stochastic variational formulation is well-defined
517 (**Lemma 2.7**) is showing that the maps π_u and $\mathcal{L} \circ c$ are measurable. Showing that $\mathcal{L} \circ c$ is
518 measurable is straightforward (see **Lemma 3.2** below), but showing that π_u is measurable is
519 not. This is because $\mathcal{L} \circ c$ depends on ω only through its dependence on c , but π_u depends on
520 ω through both the dependence of $\mathcal{A} \circ c$ on ω and the dependence of u on ω ; it is this dual
521 dependence that causes the extra complication.

522 **Lemma 3.2 ($\mathcal{L} \circ c$ is measurable).** Under **Conditions L1 and C1** the function $\mathcal{L} \circ c$ is
523 measurable.

524 *Proof of Lemma 3.2.* The map c is measurable (by **Condition C1**) and \mathcal{L} is continuous (by
525 **Condition L1**), therefore **Lemma B.4** implies that $\mathcal{L} \circ c$ is measurable. ■

526 **Definition 3.3 (Product map).** For $v : \Omega \rightarrow X$, let $P_v : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbf{B}(X, Y^*) \times X$ be defined by
527 $P_v(\omega) = ((\mathcal{A} \circ c)(\omega), v(\omega))$.

528 **Lemma 3.4 (Product map is measurable).** When $\mathbf{B}(X, Y^*) \times X$ is equipped with the product
529 topology, if **Conditions A1 and C1** hold, and if $v : \Omega \rightarrow X$ is measurable, then $P_v : \Omega \rightarrow$
530 $\mathbf{B}(X, Y^*) \times X$ is measurable.

531 *Proof of Lemma 3.4.* By the result on the measurability of the Cartesian product of mea-
532 sureable functions (**Lemma B.6**), P_v is measurable with respect to $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{B}(\mathbf{B}(X, Y^*)) \otimes \mathcal{B}(X))$
533 (where \mathcal{B} denotes the Borel σ -algebra—see **Definition B.2**), as both of the coordinate func-
534 tions $\mathcal{A} \circ c$ and v are measurable. Since $\mathbf{B}(X, Y^*)$ and X are both metric spaces, they
535 are both Hausdorff. As X is separable, **Lemma B.7** on the product of Borel σ -algebras
536 implies $\mathcal{B}(\mathbf{B}(X, Y^*)) \otimes \mathcal{B}(X) = \mathcal{B}(\mathbf{B}(X, Y^*) \times X)$. Hence P_v is measurable with respect to
537 $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{B}(\mathbf{B}(X, Y^*) \times X))$. ■

538 **Definition 3.5 (Evaluation map).** Let Z be a separable Banach space. The function $\eta_{Z^*} :$
539 $\mathbf{B}(X, Z^*) \times X \rightarrow Z^*$ is defined by

$$540 \quad (3.2) \quad \eta_{Z^*}((\mathcal{H}, v)) := \mathcal{H}(v) \quad \text{for } \mathcal{H} \in \mathbf{B}(X, Z^*) \text{ and } v \in X.$$

541 Observe that the pairing, product, and evaluation maps (π_v, P_v , and, η_{Y^*} respectively)
542 are related by $\pi_v = \eta_{Y^*} \circ P_v$.

543 **Lemma 3.6 (Evaluation map is continuous).** *Let Z be a separable Banach space. The map*
 544 *η_{Z^*} is continuous with respect to the product topology on $B(X, Z^*) \times X$ and the dual norm*
 545 *topology on Z^* .*

546 The proof of **Lemma 3.6** is straightforward and omitted.

547 **Lemma 3.7 (π_v is measurable).** *If **Conditions A1** and **C1** hold and v is measurable, then*
 548 *the function π_v as defined by (3.1) is measurable.*

549 *Proof of Lemma 3.7.* By **Lemma 3.4** P_v is measurable and by **Lemma 3.6** η_{Y^*} is continu-
 550 ous. Therefore **Lemma B.4** implies that $\pi_v = \eta_{Y^*} \circ P_v$ is measurable. ■

551 **3.2. Proofs of Theorems 2.6, 2.8, and 2.9 and Lemmas 2.7 and 2.11.**

552 *Proof of Theorem 2.6.* We need to show $u : \Omega \rightarrow X$ is strongly measurable, satisfies the
 553 bound (2.5), and therefore is Bochner integrable and is in the space $L^2(\Omega; X)$. Our plan is to
 554 use **Corollary B.12** to show u is Bochner integrable, and establish (2.5) as a by-product. Since
 555 u solves **Problem MAS**, u is measurable. As X is separable, it follows from **Corollary B.19**
 556 that u is strongly measurable. Define $N : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $N(v) := \|v\|_X^2$. Since N is continuous,
 557 **Lemma B.4** implies $N \circ u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is measurable. Therefore, since both the left- and right-
 558 hand sides of (2.4) are measurable and (2.4) holds for almost every $\omega \in \Omega$ we can integrate
 559 (2.4) over Ω with respect to \mathbb{P} and obtain

$$560 \quad (3.3) \quad \int_{\Omega} \|u(\omega)\|_X^2 d\mathbb{P}(\omega) \leq \sum_{j=1}^m \|C_j f_j\|_{L^1(\Omega)},$$

561 the right-hand side of which is finite since **Condition B** includes that $C_j f_j \in L^1(\Omega)$ for all $j =$
 562 $1, \dots, m$. Since u is strongly measurable, the bound (3.3) and **Corollary B.12** with $p = 2$ imply
 563 that u is Bochner integrable. The norm $\|u\|_{L^2(\Omega; X)}$ is thus well-defined by **Definition B.13** and
 564 (3.3) shows that (2.5) holds, and so in particular $\|u\|_{L^2(\Omega; X)} < \infty$. ■

565 *Proof of Lemma 2.7.* We must show that for any $v_1 \in L^2(\Omega; X)$ and any $v_2 \in L^2(\Omega; Y)$:
 566 • The quantities $[\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)} v_1(\omega)](v_2(\omega))$ and $\mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)}(v_2(\omega))$ are Bochner integrable, so that
 567 the definitions of \mathfrak{A} and \mathfrak{L} as integrals over Ω make sense.
 568 • The maps $\mathfrak{A}(v_1)$ and \mathfrak{L} are linear and bounded on $L^2(\Omega; Y)$, that is, $\mathfrak{A} : L^2(\Omega; X) \rightarrow$
 569 $L^2(\Omega; Y)^*$ and $\mathfrak{L} \in L^2(\Omega; Y)^*$.

570 It follows from these two points that \mathfrak{A} and \mathfrak{L} are well-defined. Thanks to the groundwork
 571 laid in **subsection 3.1**, the measurability of $[\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)} v_1(\omega)](v_2(\omega))$ and $\mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)}(v_2(\omega))$ follows from
 572 **Lemmas 3.2** and **3.7** (which need **Conditions A1–C2**). Their \mathbb{P} -essential separability follows
 573 from **Conditions A1–C2** and **Lemma B.20** and thus their strong measurability follows from
 574 **Corollary B.19** on the equivalence of measurability and strong measurability when the image
 575 is separable. Their Bochner integrability then follows from the Bochner integrability condition
 576 in **Theorem B.11** (with $V = \mathbb{F}$) and the Cauchy–Schwartz inequality since

$$577 \quad (3.4) \quad \int_{\Omega} |\mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)}(v_2(\omega))| d\mathbb{P}(\omega) \leq \|\mathcal{L} \circ c\|_{L^2(\Omega; Y^*)} \|v_2\|_{L^2(\Omega; Y)},$$

578 which is finite by **Condition L2**, and

$$579 \quad (3.5) \quad \int_{\Omega} \left| [\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)} v_1(\omega)](v_2(\omega)) \right| d\mathbb{P}(\omega) \leq \|\mathcal{A} \circ c\|_{L^\infty(\Omega; B(X, Y^*))} \|v_1\|_{L^2(\Omega; X)} \|v_2\|_{L^2(\Omega; Y)},$$

580 which is finite by **Condition A2**. We now show $\mathfrak{L} \in L^2(\Omega; Y)^*$ and $\mathfrak{A} : L^2(\Omega; X) \rightarrow L^2(\Omega; Y)^*$.
 581 Observe that $|\mathfrak{L}(v_2)| \leq \int_{\Omega} |\mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)}(v_2(\omega))| d\mathbb{P}(\omega)$ and $|\mathfrak{A}(v_1)(v_2)| \leq \int_{\Omega} |\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}(v_1(\omega))(v_2(\omega))| d\mathbb{P}(\omega)$ ■
 582 and thus by (3.4) and (3.5) \mathfrak{L} and $\mathfrak{A}(v_1)$ are bounded. They are clearly linear, and so it follows
 583 that $\mathfrak{L} \in L^2(\Omega; Y)^*$ and $\mathfrak{A}(v_1) \in L^2(\Omega; Y)^*$, i.e., $\mathfrak{A} : L^2(\Omega; X) \rightarrow L^2(\Omega; Y)^*$. ■

584 *Proof of Theorem 2.8.* In order to show that u solves **Problem SV**, we must show:

- 585 1. either the functional $\mathfrak{L} \in L^2(\Omega; Y)^*$ or the functional $\mathfrak{A}(u) \in L^2(\Omega; Y)^*$, and
- 586 2. the equality (2.3) holds.

587 For **Point 1** we show that $\mathfrak{L} \in L^2(\Omega; Y)^*$, (since this is easier than showing $\mathfrak{A}(u) \in$
 588 $L^2(\Omega; Y)^*$); in fact the proof of this is contained in the proof of **Lemma 2.7**.

589 For **Point 2**, since u solves **Problem SOAS**, for \mathbb{P} -almost every $\omega \in \Omega$ we have $\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}u(\omega) =$
 590 $\mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)}$ in Y^* . Hence, for any $v \in L^2(\Omega; Y)$ we have

$$591 \quad (3.6) \quad [\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}u(\omega)](v(\omega)) = \mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)}(v(\omega))$$

592 for \mathbb{P} -almost every $\omega \in \Omega$. Since $\mathfrak{L} \in L^2(\Omega; Y)^*$, the right-hand side of (3.6) is a strongly
 593 measurable function with finite integral. Hence the left-hand side of (3.6) is as well, and we
 594 integrate over Ω to conclude $[\mathfrak{A}u](v) = \mathfrak{L}(v)$ for all $v \in L^2(\Omega; Y)$, i.e., $\mathfrak{A}u = \mathfrak{L}$ in $L^2(\Omega; Y)^*$. ■

595 The following lemma is needed for the proof of **Theorem 2.9**.

596 **Lemma 3.8.** *Let $\delta : \Omega \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$. For $y \in Y$, define $\Omega_y := \{\omega \in \Omega : \delta(\omega, y) = 0\}$ and define*
 597 $\tilde{\Omega} := \{\omega \in \Omega : \delta(\omega, y) = 0 \text{ for all } y \in Y\}$. *If*

- 598 • for all $\omega \in \Omega$, $\delta(\omega, \cdot)$ is a continuous functional on Y and
- 599 • for all $y \in Y$, the map $\delta(\cdot, y) : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$ is measurable and $\mathbb{P}(\Omega_y) = 1$,

600 then $\mathbb{P}(\tilde{\Omega}) = 1$.

601 *Proof of Lemma 3.8.* We must show that the set $\tilde{\Omega} \in \mathcal{F}$, and $\mathbb{P}(\tilde{\Omega}) = 1$. Observe that,
 602 for any $y \in Y$, the set $\Omega_y \in \mathcal{F}$, since $\Omega_y = \delta(\cdot, y)^{-1}(\{0\})$, which is the preimage under a
 603 measurable map of a measurable set.

604 Since Y is a Hilbert space, it is separable, and therefore it has a countable dense subset
 605 $(y_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$. We will show that $\mathbb{P}(\cap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Omega_{y_n}) = 1$ and $\tilde{\Omega} = \cap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Omega_{y_n}$. The set $\cap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Omega_{y_n} \in \mathcal{F}$, as \mathcal{F} is
 606 a σ -algebra and $\mathbb{P}(\cup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Omega_{y_n}^c) \leq \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbb{P}(\Omega_{y_n}^c) = 0$, and hence $\mathbb{P}(\cap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Omega_{y_n}) = 1$. To next show
 607 $\tilde{\Omega} = \cap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Omega_{y_n}$ we observe that $\tilde{\Omega} = \cap_{y \in Y} \Omega_y$ and $\cap_{y \in Y} \Omega_y \subseteq \cap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Omega_{y_n}$. It therefore suffices to
 608 show $\cap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Omega_{y_n} \subseteq \cap_{y \in Y} \Omega_y$ to conclude $\tilde{\Omega} = \cap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Omega_{y_n}$.

609 Fix $y \in Y$. By density of $(y_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$, there exists a subsequence $(y_{n_m})_{m \in \mathbb{N}}$ such that $y_{n_m} \rightarrow y$
 610 as $m \rightarrow \infty$. Fix $\omega \in \cap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Omega_{y_n}$. Note that $\omega \in \cap_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \Omega_{y_{n_m}}$; that is, for all $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $\delta(\omega, y_{n_m}) = 0$.
 611 As $\delta(\omega, \cdot)$ is a continuous function on Y , $\delta(\omega, y_{n_m}) \rightarrow \delta(\omega, y)$ as $m \rightarrow \infty$. But as previously
 612 noted, $\delta(\omega, y_{n_m}) = 0$ for all $m \in \mathbb{N}$. Hence we must have $\delta(\omega, y) = 0$, and thus $\omega \in \Omega_y$. Since
 613 $\omega \in \cap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Omega_{y_n}$ was arbitrary, it follows that $\cap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Omega_{y_n} \subseteq \Omega_y$, and since $y \in Y$ was arbitrary, it
 614 follows that $\cap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Omega_{y_n} \subseteq \cap_{y \in Y} \Omega_y$ as required. ■

615 *Proof of Theorem 2.9.* Let $u \in L^2(\Omega; X)$ solve **Problem SV**. We need to show that u solves
 616 **Problem SOAS**. Observe that u solving **Problem SOAS** means $\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}(u(\omega)) = (\mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)})(\omega)$ in Y^*
 617 for almost every $\omega \in \Omega$. We now use an idea from [24, Theorem 3.3]. Our plan is to use test

618 functions of the form $y\mathbb{1}_E$, where $y \in Y$ and $E \in \mathcal{F}$ to reduce [Problem SV](#) to the statement

$$619 \quad \int_E [\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}(u(\omega))] (y(\omega)) \, d\mathbb{P}(\omega) = \int_E [(\mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)})(\omega)] (y(\omega)) \, d\mathbb{P}(\omega) \quad \text{for all } E \in \mathcal{F}$$

620 and then show this implies u satisfies [Problem SOAS](#) via [Lemma B.22](#).

621 First let $\mathcal{D} := \{y\mathbb{1}_E : y \in Y, E \in \mathcal{F}\}$ and observe that the elements of \mathcal{D} are maps from Ω
622 to Y . The fact that $\mathcal{D} \subseteq L^2(\Omega; Y)$ follows via the following three steps:

- 623 1. The elements of \mathcal{D} are measurable, indeed the indicator function of a measurable set
624 is a measurable function $\Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and multiplication by $y \in Y$ is a continuous function
625 $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow Y$. Hence elements of \mathcal{D} are measurable by [Lemma B.4](#).
- 626 2. As Y is a separable Hilbert space, it follows from [Corollary B.19](#) that the elements of
627 \mathcal{D} are strongly measurable.
- 628 3. $\|y\mathbb{1}_E\|_{L^2(\Omega; Y)} = \sqrt{\mathbb{P}(E)}\|y\|_Y < \infty$ for all $y \in Y, E \in \mathcal{F}$.

629 Since [Problem SV](#) is well-defined, and u solves [Problem SV](#), and $\mathcal{D} \subseteq L^2(\Omega; Y)$, we have
630 that $[\mathfrak{A}u](v) = \mathfrak{L}(v)$ for all $v \in \mathcal{D}$. Therefore, we have

$$631 \quad (3.7) \quad \int_{\Omega} [\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}(u(\omega))] (y\mathbb{1}_E(\omega)) \, d\mathbb{P}(\omega) = \int_{\Omega} [(\mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)})] (y\mathbb{1}_E(\omega)) \, d\mathbb{P}(\omega)$$

632 for all $y \in Y$ and $E \in \mathcal{F}$. If we define $\delta : \Omega \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$ by $\delta(\omega, y) := [\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}(u(\omega)) - \mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)}](y)$
633 then, by the definition of $\mathbb{1}_E$, (3.7) becomes

$$634 \quad (3.8) \quad \int_E \delta(\omega, y) \, d\mathbb{P}(\omega) = 0 \quad \text{for all } E \in \mathcal{F}.$$

635 To conclude u solves [Problem SOAS](#) we must show $\delta(\omega, y) = 0$ for all $y \in Y$, almost surely.
636 We will use [Lemma B.22](#), so the first step is to show that for all $y \in Y$ $\delta(\cdot, y)$ is Bochner
637 integrable. This follows from the fact that [Problem SV](#) is well-defined, and thus the quantities
638 $[\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}v_1(\omega)](v_2(\omega))$ and $\mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)}(v_2(\omega))$ are Bochner integrable for any $v_1 \in L^2(\Omega; X), v_2 \in$
639 $L^2(\Omega; Y)$. In particular, they are Bochner integrable when $v_1 = u$, and $v_2 = y\mathbb{1}_E$ and thus
640 their difference δ is Bochner integrable. Secondly, $\delta(\omega, \cdot)$ is a continuous function on Y since
641 $\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}(u(\omega))$ and $(\mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)})(\omega) \in Y^*$, for all $\omega \in \Omega$.

642 We now show $\delta(\omega, y) = 0$ for all $y \in Y$, almost surely. For $y \in Y$ define the set $\Omega_y :=$
643 $\{\omega \in \Omega : \delta(\omega, y) = 0\}$; by (3.8) and [Lemma B.22](#) we have that $\mathbb{P}(\Omega_y) = 1$ for all $y \in Y$. By
644 [Lemma 3.8](#), $\delta(\omega, y) = 0$ for all $y \in Y$, almost surely, that is, $\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}u(\omega) = \mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)}$ almost surely;
645 it follows that u solves [Problem SOAS](#). ■

646 *Remark 3.9 (Connection with the argument in [41, Remark 2.2]).* The argument in
647 [Lemma 3.8](#) and the final part of [Theorem 2.9](#) closely mirrors the result in [41, Remark 2.2].
648 Indeed, we prove in general that $\mathbb{P}(\delta(\omega, y) = 0) = 1$ for all $y \in Y$ implies $\mathbb{P}(\delta(\omega, y) = 1$ for
649 all $y \in Y) = 1$, and [41, Remark 2.2] shows an analogous result for the stationary diffusion
650 equation (1.2) with non-uniformly coercive and unbounded coefficient κ .

651 *Proof of Lemma 2.11. Proof of Part 1.* Suppose $u_1, u_2 : \Omega \rightarrow X$ solve [Problem MAS](#). Let
652 $E = \{\omega \in \Omega : u_1(\omega) \neq u_2(\omega)\}$. Denote by E_1 and E_2 the sets (of measure zero) where the
653 variational problems for u_1 and u_2 fail to hold, i.e. $E_1, E_2 \in \mathcal{F}$ with $\mathbb{P}(E_1) = \mathbb{P}(E_2) = 0$ and

654 $\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}(u_1(\omega)) \neq \mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)}$ iff $\omega \in E_1$, and $\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}(u_2(\omega)) \neq \mathcal{L}_{c(\omega)}$ iff $\omega \in E_2$. As $\ker(\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}) = \{0\}$
 655 \mathbb{P} -almost surely, there exists $E_3 \in \mathcal{F}$ such that $\mathbb{P}(E_3) = 0$ and $\ker(\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}) \neq \{0\}$ iff $\omega \in E_3$.
 656 We claim $E \subseteq E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3$. Indeed, if $u_1(\omega) \neq u_2(\omega)$ then either: (i) at least one of u_1 and
 657 u_2 does not solve **Problem MAS** at ω or (ii) u_1 and u_2 both solve **Problem MAS** at ω , but
 658 $\ker(\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}) \neq \{0\}$. Since $\mathbb{P}(E_j) = 0, j = 1, 2, 3$, we have $\mathbb{P}(E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3) = 0$. Therefore $E \in \mathcal{F}$
 659 and $\mathbb{P}(E) = 0$ since $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ is a complete probability space; hence $u_1 = u_2$ almost surely.

660 *Proof of Part 2.* By **Remark 2.2**, if $u_1, u_2 \in L^2(\Omega; X)$ solve **Problem SOAS**, then all the
 661 representatives of the equivalence classes of u_1 and u_2 solve **Problem MAS**. Hence, by **Part 1**,
 662 any representatives of u_1 and u_2 differ only on some set (depending on the representatives) of
 663 \mathbb{P} -measure zero in Ω . Therefore $u_1 = u_2$ in $L^2(\Omega; X)$, by definition of $L^2(\Omega; X)$.

664 *Proof of Part 3.* As **Problem SV** is well-defined, by **Remark 2.2** and **Theorem 2.9**, if u_1 and
 665 u_2 solve **Problem SV**, then u_1 and u_2 also solve **Problem MAS**. We then repeat the reasoning
 666 in the proof of **Part 2** to show $u_1 = u_2$ in $L^2(\Omega; X)$. ■

667 **4. Proofs of Theorems 1.4 and 1.8.** In subsection 4.1 we place the Helmholtz stochastic
 668 EDP into the framework developed in section 2. In subsection 4.2 we give sufficient conditions
 669 for the Helmholtz stochastic EDP to satisfy **Conditions A1, L1, and C1**, etc.. In subsection 4.3
 670 we apply the general theory developed in section 2 to prove **Theorems 1.4 and 1.8**.

671 **4.1. Placing the Helmholtz stochastic EDP into the framework of section 2.** Recall
 672 $R > 0$ is fixed. We let $X = Y = H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$ and define the norm $\|v\|_{1,k}^2 := \|\nabla v\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2 +$
 673 $k^2\|v\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2$ on $H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$. Throughout this section, A_0, n_0 , and f_0 will be deterministic func-
 674 tions. Recall that since the supports of $1 - n, I - A$, and f are compactly contained in B_R ,
 675 we can consider A, n , and f as functions on D_R rather than on D_+ . In order to define the
 676 space \mathcal{C} and the maps c, \mathcal{A} , and \mathcal{L} we define the following function spaces on D_R .

677 **Definition 4.1 (Compact-support spaces).** *Let*

$$\begin{aligned}
 678 \quad L_R^2(D_R) &:= \{f_0 \in L^2(D_R) : \text{ess sup}(f_0) \subset\subset B_R\}, \\
 679 \quad L_{R,\min}^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}) &:= \{n_0 \in L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}) : \text{ess sup}(1 - n_0) \subset\subset B_R, \\
 680 \quad &\quad \text{there exists } \alpha_{n_0} > 0 \text{ such that } n_0(\mathbf{x}) \geq \alpha_{n_0} \text{ almost everywhere}\}, \\
 681 \quad L_{R,\min}^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}) &:= \{A_0 \in L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}) : A_0(\mathbf{x}) \text{ is symmetric almost everywhere,} \\
 682 \quad &\quad \text{ess sup}(I - A_0) \subset\subset B_R, \text{ there exists } \alpha_{A_0} > 0 \text{ s. t. } \alpha_{A_0} \leq A_0(\mathbf{x}) \\
 683 \quad &\quad \text{almost everywhere, in the sense of quadratic forms}\}, \text{ and} \\
 684 \quad W_{R,\min}^{1,\infty}(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}) &:= \{A_0 \in L_{R,\min}^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}) : A_0 \in W^{1,\infty}(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})\}. \\
 685
 \end{aligned}$$

686 Observe that the norm on $L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R})$ induces a metric on $L_{R,\min}^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R})$, and similarly for
 687 $L_R^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$, $W_{R,\min}^{1,\infty}(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$, and $L_R^2(D_R)$. These spaces are not vector spaces, and are
 688 not complete, but completeness and being a vector space is not required in what follows—
 689 only need them to be metric spaces.

690 **Definition 4.2 (Deterministic form and functional).**

691 *For $(A_0, n_0, f_0) \in L_R^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}) \times L_{R,\min}^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}) \times L_R^2(D_R)$ let the sesquilinear form a_{A_0, n_0}*

692 on $H_{0,D}^1(D_R) \times H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$ and the antilinear functional L_{f_0} on $H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$ be given by

$$693 \quad a_{A_0, n_0}(v_1, v_2) := \int_{D_R} \left((A_0 \nabla v_1) \cdot \nabla \overline{v_2} \right) - k^2 n_0 v_1 \overline{v_2} \, d\lambda - \langle T_R \gamma v_1, \gamma v_2 \rangle_{\Gamma_R}, \quad \text{and}$$

$$694 \quad L_{f_0}(v_2) := \int_{D_R} f_0 \overline{v_2} \, d\lambda, \quad \text{for } v_1, v_2 \in H_{0,D}^1(D_R).$$

696 **Problem 4.3 (Helmholtz EDP).** For $(A_0, n_0, f_0) \in L_R^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}) \times L_R^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}) \times L_R^2(D_R)$
 697 find $u_0 \in H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$ such that $a_{A_0, n_0}(u_0, v) = L_{f_0}(v)$ for all $v \in H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$.

698 **Definition 4.4 (d_∞ metric).** Let $(X_1, d_1), \dots, (X_m, d_m)$ be metric spaces. The d_∞ metric
 699 on the Cartesian product $X_1 \times \dots \times X_m$ is defined by

$$700 \quad d_\infty((x_1, \dots, x_m), (y_1, \dots, y_m)) := \max_{j=1, \dots, m} d_j(x_j, y_j).$$

701 **Definition 4.5 (The input space \mathcal{C}).** We let $\mathcal{C} := W_{R, \min}^{1, \infty}(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}) \times L_{R, \min}^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}) \times$
 702 $L_R^2(D_R)$ with topology given by the d_∞ metric.

703 **Definition 4.6 (The input map c).** Define $c : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ by $c(\omega) = (A(\omega), n(\omega), f(\omega))$.

704 **Definition 4.7 (The maps \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{L} for the Helmholtz stochastic EDP).** Let

$$705 \quad (4.1) \quad \mathcal{A}((A_0, n_0, f_0)) := a_{A_0, n_0} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{L}((A_0, n_0, f_0)) := L_{f_0},$$

706 where the definition of \mathcal{A} is understood in terms of the equivalence between $B(X, Y^*)$ and
 707 sesquilinear forms on $X \times Y$.

708 4.2. Verifying the Helmholtz stochastic EDP satisfies the conditions in section 2.

709 **Lemma 4.8 (Conditions C1 and C2 for Helmholtz stochastic EDP).** If A, n , and f are strongly
 710 measurable, then c defined by Definition 4.6 satisfies Conditions C1 and C2.

711 *Proof.* Since A, n , and f are strongly measurable, by Theorem B.18 they are measurable
 712 and \mathbb{P} -essentially separably valued. By Lemma B.6, it follows that c is measurable, so c
 713 satisfies Condition C1. By Lemma B.23, it follows that c is \mathbb{P} -essentially separably valued, so
 714 c satisfies Condition C2. \blacksquare

715 **Lemma 4.9 (Conditions A1 and L1 for Helmholtz stochastic EDP).** The maps \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{L} given
 716 by (4.1) satisfy Conditions A1 and L1.

717 *Proof of Lemma 4.9.* We need to show that if $(A_m, n_m, f_m) \rightarrow (A_0, n_0, f_0)$ in \mathcal{C} then
 718 $\mathcal{A}((A_m, n_m, f_m)) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}((A_0, n_0, f_0))$ in $B(X, Y^*)$, and similarly for \mathcal{L} . By the Cauchy–Schwarz
 719 inequality we have, for $v_1 \in X, v_2 \in Y$,

$$720 \quad \left| \left[\mathcal{A}(A_m, n_m, f_m) - \mathcal{A}(A_0, n_0, f_0) \right] (v_1) \right] (v_2) \Big|$$

$$721 \quad \leq \|A_m - A_0\|_{L^\infty(D_R)} \|\nabla v_1\|_{L^2(D_R)} \|\nabla v_2\|_{L^2(D_R)}$$

$$722 \quad \quad + k^2 \|n_m - n_0\|_{L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R})} \|v_1\|_{L^2(D_R)} \|v_2\|_{L^2(D_R)}$$

$$723 \quad \leq 2d_\infty((A_m, n_m, f_m), (A_0, n_0, f_0)) \|v_1\|_{1,k} \|v_2\|_{1,k},$$

725 Hence if $(A_m, n_m, f_m) \rightarrow (A_0, n_0, f_0)$ in \mathcal{C} , then $\mathcal{A}((A_m, n_m, f_m)) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}((A_0, n_0, f_0))$ in
 726 $\mathcal{B}(X, Y^*)$. We also have

$$727 \left| [\mathcal{L}((A_m, n_m, f_m), \cdot) - \mathcal{L}((A_0, n_0, f_0))](v_2) \right| = \left| \int_{D_R} (f_m - f_0) \overline{v_2} \, d\lambda \right| \leq \|f_m - f_0\|_{L^2(D_R)} \frac{\|v_2\|_{1,k}}{k}.$$

728 Hence if $(A_m, n_m, f_m) \rightarrow (A_0, n_0, f_0)$ in \mathcal{C} , then $\mathcal{L}((A_m, n_m, f_m)) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}((A_0, n_0, f_0))$ in Y^* . ■

729 **Definition 4.10 (The solution operator \mathcal{S}).** Define $\mathcal{S} : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$ by letting
 730 $\mathcal{S}(A_0, n_0, f_0) \in H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$ be the solution of the Helmholtz EDP ([Problem 4.3](#)).

731 **Theorem 4.11 (\mathcal{S} is well defined).** For $(A_0, n_0, f_0) \in \mathcal{C}$ the solution $\mathcal{S}((A_0, n_0, f_0))$ of the
 732 Helmholtz EDP ([Problem 4.3](#)) exists, is unique, and depends continuously on f_0 .

733 *Proof of Theorem 4.11.* Since $\Re(-T_R \gamma v, \gamma v)_{\Gamma_R} \geq 0$ for all $v \in H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$ (see, e.g. [[42](#),
 734 Theorem 2.6.4]), a_{A_0, n_0} satisfies a Gårding inequality. Since the inclusion $H_{0,D}^1(D_R) \hookrightarrow$
 735 $L^2(D_R)$ is compact, Fredholm theory shows that uniqueness implies well-posedness (see,
 736 e.g. [[39](#), Theorem 2.34]). Since A is Lipschitz and n is L^∞ , uniqueness follows from the
 737 unique continuation results in [[33](#), [23](#)]; see [[26](#), Section 2] for these results specifically applied
 738 to Helmholtz problems. ■

739 **Lemma 4.12 (Continuity of solution operator for Helmholtz stochastic EDP).** For the
 740 Helmholtz stochastic EDP, the solution operator $\mathcal{S} : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$ is continuous.

741 *Sketch Proof of Lemma 4.12.* Let $(A_0, n_0, f_0), (A_1, n_1, f_1) \in \mathcal{C}$, with $\mathcal{S}((A_0, n_0, f_0)) = u_0$
 742 and $\mathcal{S}((A_1, n_1, f_1)) = u_1$. Then for any $v \in H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$ we have, for $j = 0, 1$,

$$743 [[\mathcal{A}((A_j, n_j, f_j))](u_j)](v) = [\mathcal{L}((A_j, n_j, f_j))](v).$$

744 Continuity of \mathcal{S} then follows from:

- 745 1. Deriving the Helmholtz equation with coefficients A_0 and n_0 satisfied by $u_d := u_0 - u_1$.
- 746 2. Recalling that the well-posedness result of [Theorem 4.11](#) holds when $f_0 \in L_R^2(D_R)$ is
 747 replaced by a right-hand side in $(H_{0,D}^1(D_R))^*$; see, e.g., [[39](#), Theorem 2.34].
- 748 3. Applying the result in [Point 2](#) to obtain a bound $\|u_d\|_{1,k} \leq C(A_0, n_0) \|F\|_{(H_{0,D}^1(D_R))^*}$.
- 749 4. Showing $\|F\|_{(H_{0,D}^1(D_R))^*}$ depends on $\|\nabla u_1\|_{L^2(D_R)}$, $\|u_1\|_{L^2(D_R)}$, $\|A_1 - A_0\|_{L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})}$,
 750 $\|n_1 - n_0\|_{L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R})}$, and $\|f_0 - f_1\|_{L^2(D)}$.
- 751 5. Eliminating the dependence on u_1 by writing $u_1 = u_0 - u_d$ and moving terms in u_d to
 752 the left-hand side, to obtain a bound on u_d of the form

$$753 \|\nabla u_d\|_{L^2(D_R)} + k \|u_d\|_{L^2(D_R)} \\
 754 \leq \tilde{C} \left(u_0, A_0, n_0, \|A_1 - A_0\|_{L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})}, \|n_1 - n_0\|_{L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R})}, \|f_0 - f_1\|_{L^2(D_R)} \right).$$

- 756 6. Concluding that $u_d \rightarrow 0$ in $H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$ as $(A_1, n_1, f_1) \rightarrow (A_0, n_0, f_0)$ in \mathcal{C} . ■

757 **Lemma 4.13 (Condition U for the Helmholtz stochastic EDP).** The Helmholtz stochastic
 758 EDP satisfies [Condition U](#).

759 *Proof of Lemma 4.13.* This condition holds immediately from [Theorem 4.11](#). ■

760 To prove that [Condition B](#) holds for the Helmholtz stochastic EDP, we first state the
 761 deterministic analogues of [Condition 1.6](#) and [Theorem 1.8](#).

762 *Condition 4.14* (Nontrapping condition for Helmholtz EDP [25, Condition 2.4]). $d = 2, 3$,
 763 D_- is star-shaped with respect to the origin, $A_0 \in W^{1,\infty}(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$, $n_0 \in W^{1,\infty}(D_R; \mathbb{R})$, and
 764 there exist $\tau_1, \tau_2 > 0$ such that, for almost every $\mathbf{x} \in D_+$, $A_0(\mathbf{x}) - (\mathbf{x} \cdot \nabla)A_0(\mathbf{x}) \geq \tau_1$ and
 765 $n_0(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{x} \cdot \nabla n_0(\mathbf{x}) \geq \tau_2$, where the first inequality holds in the sense of quadratic forms.

766 *Theorem 4.15* (Well-posedness of the Helmholtz EDP under *Condition 4.14* [25, Theorem
 767 2.5]). *Let $(A_0, n_0, f_0) \in \mathcal{C}$ and suppose A_0 and n_0 satisfy *Condition 4.14*. Then the solution
 768 of the Helmholtz EDP (*Problem 4.3*) exists and is unique. Furthermore, given $k_0 > 0$ for all
 769 $k \geq k_0$, the solution u_0 of the Helmholtz EDP satisfies the bound*
 (4.2)

$$770 \quad \tau_1 \|\nabla u_0\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2 + \tau_2 k^2 \|u_0\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2 \leq C_1 \|f_0\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2, \text{ where } C_1 := 4 \left[\frac{R^2}{\tau_1} + \frac{1}{\tau_2} \left(R + \frac{d-1}{2k_0} \right)^2 \right].$$

771 We can now prove *Condition B* holds for the Helmholtz stochastic EDP.

772 *Lemma 4.16* (*Condition B* for Helmholtz stochastic EDP). *If *Conditions 1.3* and *1.6* hold,*
 773 *then *Condition B* holds for the Helmholtz stochastic EDP.*

774 *Proof of Lemma 4.16.* As *Condition 1.6* holds, *Condition 4.14* holds for \mathbb{P} -almost every
 775 $\omega \in \Omega$ (with $A_0 = A(\omega)$, $n_0 = n(\omega)$, $\tau_1 = \mu_1(\omega)$, and $\tau_2 = \mu_2(\omega)$). Hence, by *Theorem 4.15*
 776 the bound (2.4) holds for all $k \geq k_0$, with $X = H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$, $m = 1$,

$$777 \quad C_1(\omega) = \frac{4}{\min\{\mu_1(\omega), \mu_2(\omega)\}} \left[\frac{R^2}{\mu_1(\omega)} + \frac{1}{\mu_2(\omega)} \left(R + \frac{d-1}{2k_0} \right)^2 \right],$$

778 and $f_1 = \|f(\omega)\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2$. It now remains to show that $C_1 \|f\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2 \in L^1(\Omega)$. We first show
 779 $C_1 \|f\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2$ is measurable and then show that it lies in $L^1(\Omega)$. To show measurability, we
 780 rewrite $C_1(\omega)$ as

$$781 \quad C_1(\omega) = \max \left\{ \frac{2R^2}{\mu_1^2(\omega)} + \frac{2}{\mu_1(\omega)\mu_2(\omega)} \left(R + \frac{d-1}{2k_0} \right)^2, \frac{2R^2}{\mu_1(\omega)\mu_2(\omega)} + \frac{2}{\mu_2^2(\omega)} \left(R + \frac{d-1}{2k_0} \right)^2 \right\}.$$

782 The functions μ_1^{-1} and μ_2^{-1} are measurable by assumption; to conclude C_1 is measurable we
 783 use the facts (see e.g. [28, Theorems 19.C, 20.A]): (i) the square of a measurable function
 784 is measurable, and (ii) the product, sum, and maximum of two measurable functions are
 785 measurable. Under *Condition 1.3*, the function f lies in the Bochner space $L^2(\Omega; L^2(D_R))$.
 786 Therefore, f is strongly measurable and hence f is measurable by *Theorem B.18*. The map
 787 $f \mapsto \|f\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2$ is clearly continuous, and therefore f_1 is measurable by *Lemma B.4*. As the
 788 product of two measurable functions is measurable, it follows that $C_1 \|f\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2$ is measurable.

789 We now show that $C_1 \|f\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2 \in L^1(\Omega)$. The assumptions $1/\mu_1, 1/\mu_2 \in L^2(\Omega)$ and the
 790 Cauchy–Schwarz inequality imply $1/(\mu_1\mu_2) \in L^1(\Omega)$. Therefore the maps,

$$791 \quad \omega \mapsto \frac{2R^2}{\mu_1^2(\omega)} + \frac{2}{\mu_1(\omega)\mu_2(\omega)} \left(R + \frac{d-1}{2k_0} \right)^2 \text{ and } \omega \mapsto \frac{2R^2}{\mu_1(\omega)\mu_2(\omega)} + \frac{2}{\mu_2^2(\omega)} \left(R + \frac{d-1}{2k_0} \right)^2$$

792 are in $L^1(\Omega)$. Since the maximum of two functions in $L^1(\Omega)$ is also in $L^1(\Omega)$, it follows that
 793 $C_1 \in L^1(\Omega)$. **Condition 1.3** implies that $\|f\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2 \in L^1(\Omega)$.

794 To conclude $C_1\|f\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2 \in L^1(\Omega)$, observe that the only dependence of C_1 on ω is through
 795 μ_1 and μ_2 . As μ_1 and μ_2 are assumed independent of f , and measurable functions of inde-
 796 pendent random variables are independent [37, p.236] it follows that C_1 and $\|f\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2$ are
 797 independent, and therefore

(4.3)

$$798 \quad \left\| C_1 \|f\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2 \right\|_{L^1(\Omega)} = \int_{\Omega} C_1(\omega) \|f(\omega)\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2 d\mathbb{P}(\omega) = \|C_1\|_{L^1(\Omega)} \left\| \|f\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2 \right\|_{L^1(\Omega)} < \infty.$$

799 Therefore $C_1\|f\|_{L^2(D)}^2 \in L^1(\Omega)$ as required. We take the expectation (equivalently, the L^1
 800 norm) of (4.2) (with $A_0 = A(\omega)$ etc.) and use (4.3) to obtain (1.8). ■

801 *Remark 4.17 (The case when f , μ_1 , and μ_2 are not independent).* **Remark 1.9** shows
 802 that for the physically relevant example of scattering by a plane wave, f , μ_1 , and μ_2 may
 803 not be independent. In this case, if we replace the requirements in **Condition 1.6** that $f \in$
 804 $L^2(\Omega; L^2(D))$ and $1/\mu_1, 1/\mu_2 \in L^2(\Omega)$ with the stronger requirements $f \in L^4(\Omega; L^2(D))$ and
 805 $1/\mu_1, 1/\mu_2 \in L^4(\Omega)$, then one can obtain the bound

$$806 \quad \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega; H_{0,D}^1(D_R))}^2 + k^2 \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega; H_{0,D}^1(D_R))}^2 \leq \|C_1\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \|f\|_{L^4(\Omega; L^2(D_R))}^2.$$

807 Indeed, instead of independence, we use the Cauchy–Schwartz inequality in (4.3) to conclude

$$808 \quad \left\| C_1 \|f\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2 \right\|_{L^1(\Omega)} \leq \|C_1\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \left\| \|f\|_{L^2(D_R)}^2 \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)} = \|C_1\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \|f\|_{L^4(\Omega; L^2(D_R))}^2.$$

809 **Lemma 4.18 (Condition L2 for Helmholtz stochastic EDP).** *If $f \in L^2(\Omega; L^2(D_R))$ and A
 810 and n are strongly measurable, then **Condition L2** holds for the Helmholtz stochastic EDP.*

811 *Proof of Lemma 4.18.* Since A, n , and f are strongly measurable, **Conditions C1** and **C2**
 812 hold by **Lemma 4.8**; i.e., c is both measurable and \mathbb{P} -essentially separably valued. Furthermore,
 813 by **Theorem B.18** c is strongly measurable. By **Lemma 4.9**, **Condition L1** holds, so the map
 814 \mathcal{L} is continuous. Hence, by **Lemma B.21**, $\mathcal{L} \circ c$ is strongly measurable. We also have that
 815 $\|(\mathcal{L} \circ c)(\omega)\|_{Y^*} = \|f(\omega)\|_{L^2(D_R)}/k$, and thus $\mathcal{L} \circ c \in L^2(\Omega; Y^*)$ since $f \in L^2(\Omega; L^2(D_R))$. ■

816 **Lemma 4.19 (Condition A2 for the Helmholtz stochastic EDP).**

817 *If $A \in L^\infty(\Omega; L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}))$, $n \in L^\infty(\Omega; L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}))$, and f is strongly measurable, then
 818 **Condition A2** holds for the Helmholtz stochastic EDP.*

819 *Proof of Lemma 4.19.* A near-identical argument to that at the beginning of the proof
 820 of **Lemma 4.18** shows $\mathcal{A} \circ c$ is strongly measurable. Recall that the Dirichlet-to-Neumann
 821 operator T_R is continuous from $H^{1/2}(\Gamma_R)$ to $H^{-1/2}(\Gamma_R)$, see e.g. [42, Theorem 2.6.4]. Let
 822 $v_1 \in X, v_2 \in Y$, and observe that the Cauchy–Schwartz inequality and these properties of T_R

823 imply that there exists $C(k) > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned}
 824 \quad \left| \left[[\mathcal{A}_{c(\omega)}](v_1) \right](v_2) \right| &\leq \|A(\omega)\|_{L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})} \|\nabla v_1\|_{L^2(D_R)} \|\nabla v_2\|_{L^2(D_R)} \\
 825 \quad &+ k^2 \|n(\omega)\|_{L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R})} \|v_1\|_{L^2(D_R)} \|v_2\|_{L^2(D_R)} \\
 826 \quad &+ C(k) \|\gamma v_1\|_{H^{1/2}(\Gamma_R)} \|\gamma v_2\|_{H^{1/2}(\Gamma_R)},
 \end{aligned}$$

828 where we have used the fact that the two norms

$$829 \quad (4.4) \quad \text{ess sup}_{\mathbf{x} \in D_R} \|A(\omega, \mathbf{x})\|_2 \quad \text{and} \quad \|A(\omega)\|_{L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})} := \max_{i,j \in \{1, \dots, d\}} \|A_{i,j}(\omega)\|_{L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R})}$$

830 are equivalent. Since the trace operator γ is continuous from $H^1(D_R)$ to $H^{1/2}(\Gamma_R)$ (see,
831 e.g. [39, Theorem 3.38]), there exists $\tilde{C} > 0$ such that

$$832 \quad \|(\mathcal{A} \circ c)(\omega)\|_{B(X, Y^*)} \leq \tilde{C} \max \left\{ \|A(\omega)\|_{L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})}, \|n(\omega)\|_{L^\infty(D_R; \mathbb{R})}, C(k) \right\} \|v_1\|_{1,k} \|v_2\|_{1,k}.$$

833 and hence $\mathcal{A} \circ c \in L^\infty(\Omega; B(X, Y^*))$. ■

834 4.3. Proofs of Theorems 1.4 and 1.8.

835 *Proof of Theorem 1.4.* We construct a solution of [Problem 1](#) by letting $u = \mathcal{S} \circ c$ (which
836 is well-defined by [Theorem 4.11](#)); by construction, $[a(\omega)](u(\omega), v) = [L(\omega)](v)$ for all $v \in$
837 $H_{0,D}^1(D_R)$ almost surely. It follows that u is measurable by [Condition 1.3](#) and [Lemmas 4.12](#),
838 [4.12](#), and [B.4](#), and so u solves [Problem 1](#). We therefore proceed to apply the general theory.

839 [Conditions A1](#) and [L1](#) hold by [Lemma 4.9](#); [Condition A2](#) holds by [Lemma 4.19](#); [Condi-](#)
840 [tion L2](#) holds by [Lemma 4.18](#); [Conditions C1](#) and [C2](#) hold by [Lemma 4.8](#) and [Condi-](#)
841 [tion 1.3](#); and [Condition U](#) holds by [Lemma 4.13](#). Therefore we can apply [Theorems 2.8](#)
842 and [2.9](#) and [Lemmas 2.7](#) and [2.11](#) to conclude the results. ■

843 *Proof of Theorem 1.8.* All the conclusions of [Theorem 1.4](#) hold, and we only need to show
844 that if u solves [Problem 1](#) then it also solves [Problem 2](#). [Condition B](#) holds by [Conditions 1.3](#)
845 and [1.6](#) and [Lemma 4.16](#). The result then follows from [Theorem 2.6](#). ■

846 Appendix A. Failure of Fredholm theory for the stochastic variational formulation of 847 Helmholtz problems.

848 The standard approach to proving existence and uniqueness of a
849 (deterministic) Helmholtz BVP is to show that the associated sesquilinear form satisfies a
850 Gårding inequality, and then apply Fredholm theory to deduce that existence and uniqueness
851 are equivalent; see, e.g., [39, Theorem 4.10]. This procedure relies on the fact that the inclusion
852 $H_{0,D}^1(D_R) \hookrightarrow L^2(D_R)$ is compact; see, e.g., [39, Theorem 3.27].

853 As noted in [subsection 1.3](#), the analysis in [18] of [Problem 3](#) for the Helmholtz Interior
854 Impedance Problem mimics this approach and assumes that $L^2(\Omega; H^1(D))$ is compactly con-
855 tained in $L^2(\Omega; L^2(D))$, where D is the spatial domain. Here we briefly show $L^2(\Omega; H^1(D))$
856 is *not* compactly contained in $L^2(\Omega; L^2(D))$ by giving an explicit example of a bounded se-
857 quence in $L^2(\Omega; H^1(D))$ that has no convergent subsequence in $L^2(\Omega; L^2(D))$. Necessary and
858 sufficient conditions for a subset of $L^p([0, T]; B)$, for B a Banach space, to be compact, can be
859 found in [49]. In particular, [49] shows that a space C being compactly contained in a space
859 B does not by itself imply $L^2([0, T]; C)$ is compactly contained in $L^2([0, T]; B)$.

860 **Example A.1.** Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}) = ([0, 1], \mathcal{B}([0, 1]), \lambda)$. Let D be a compact subset of \mathbb{R}^d . Since
 861 $L^2(\Omega)$ is separable, it has an orthonormal basis, which we denote by $(f_m)_{m \in \mathbb{N}}$. Let $u_m \in$
 862 $L^2(\Omega; H^1(D))$ be defined by $u_m(\omega)(x) := f_m(\omega)$, for all $x \in D$, i.e., for each value of ω ,
 863 $u_m(\omega)$ is a constant function on D and so $\|u_m(\omega)\|_{H^1(D)} = \|u_m(\omega)\|_{L^2(D)}$. Then

$$864 \quad \|u_m\|_{L^2(\Omega; H^1(D))}^2 = \int_{\Omega} \|u_m(\omega)\|_{H^1(D)}^2 d\mathbb{P}(\omega) = \lambda(D)^2 \int_{\Omega} |f_m(\omega)|^2 d\mathbb{P}(\omega) = \|f_m\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \lambda(D)^2,$$

865 and so u_m is a bounded sequence in $L^2(\Omega; H^1(D))$. However, for $n \neq m$, we have

$$866 \quad \|u_m - u_n\|_{L^2(\Omega; L^2(D))}^2 = \lambda(D)^2 \int_{\Omega} |u_m(\omega) - u_n(\omega)|^2 d\mathbb{P}(\omega) = \lambda(D)^2 \|f_m - f_n\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 = 2\lambda(D)^2$$

867 if $n \neq m$, since the f_m form an orthonormal basis for $L^2(D)$. Therefore $(u_m)_{m \in \mathbb{N}}$ is bounded
 868 in $L^2(\Omega; H^1(D))$ but does not have a convergent subsequence in $L^2(\Omega; L^2(D))$, and thus the
 869 inclusion of $L^2(\Omega; H^1(D))$ into $L^2(\Omega; L^2(D))$ cannot be compact.

870 **Appendix B. Recap of basic material on measure theory and Bochner spaces.** We
 871 include this section, not only for completeness, but also to aid readers of this paper who are
 872 more familiar with deterministic, as opposed to stochastic, Helmholtz problems. Recall that
 873 here, and in the rest of the paper, $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ is a complete probability space.

874 **B.1. Recap of measure theory results.** We first recall some results from measure theory,
 875 with our main reference [7]. Even though [7] mainly considers maps with image \mathbb{R} , the results
 876 we quote for more general images are straightforward generalisations of the results in [7].

877 **Definition B.1 (Measurable map).** If (M, \mathcal{M}) and (N, \mathcal{N}) are measurable spaces, we say
 878 that $f : M \rightarrow N$ is measurable (with respect to $(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$) if $f^{-1}(E) \in \mathcal{M}$ for all $E \in \mathcal{N}$.

879 **Definition B.2 (Borel σ -algebra).** If (S, \mathcal{T}_S) is a topological space, the Borel σ -algebra $\mathcal{B}(S)$
 880 on S is the σ -algebra generated by \mathcal{T}_S .

881 If V is any topological space (including a Hilbert, Banach, metric, or normed vector space)
 882 then we will take always the Borel σ -algebra on V unless stated otherwise.

883 **Lemma B.3 (Continuous maps are measurable [7, Theorem 2.1.2]).** Any continuous func-
 884 tion between two topological spaces is measurable.

885 **Lemma B.4 (The composition of a measurable and a continuous map is measurable [7, p.
 886 146]).** Let (M, \mathcal{M}) be a measurable space and let (S, \mathcal{T}_S) and (T, \mathcal{T}_T) be topological spaces.
 887 Let $f : M \rightarrow S$ be measurable and let $h : S \rightarrow T$ be continuous. Then $h \circ f$ is measurable.

888 **Definition B.5 (Product σ -algebra [17, Section IV.11]).** Let $(M_1, \mathcal{M}_1), \dots, (M_m, \mathcal{M}_m)$ be
 889 measurable spaces. The product σ -algebra $\mathcal{M}_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{M}_m$ is defined as the σ -algebra generated
 890 by the set of measurable rectangles $\{R_1 \times \dots \times R_m : R_1 \in \mathcal{M}_1, \dots, R_m \in \mathcal{M}_m\}$.

891 **Lemma B.6 (Measurability of the Cartesian product of measurable functions).**

892 Let $(M_1, \mathcal{M}_1), \dots, (M_m, \mathcal{M}_m)$ be measurable spaces and $h_j : \Omega \rightarrow M_j$, $j = 1, \dots, m$ be
 893 measurable functions. Then the product map $P : \Omega \rightarrow M_1 \times \dots \times M_m$ given by $P(\omega) :=$
 894 $(h_1(\omega), \dots, h_m(\omega))$ is measurable with respect to $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{M}_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{M}_m)$.

895 *Sketch proof of Lemma B.6.* Let $\text{Rect}(\mathcal{M}_1, \dots, \mathcal{M}_m)$ denote the set of measurable rect-
 896 angles, as in Definition B.5. Let $\mathcal{P} := \{C \subseteq M_1 \times \dots \times M_m : P^{-1}(C) \in \mathcal{F}\}$. The proof of the
 897 lemma consists of the following straightforward steps, whose proofs are omitted: (i) Show
 898 $\text{Rect}(\mathcal{M}_1, \dots, \mathcal{M}_m) \subseteq \mathcal{P}$. (ii) Show \mathcal{P} is a σ -algebra. (iii) Deduce $\mathcal{M}_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{M}_m \subseteq \mathcal{P}$ (since
 899 $\mathcal{M}_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{M}_m$ is generated by measurable rectangles). (iv) Conclude P is measurable with
 900 respect to $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{M}_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{M}_m)$. ■

901 **Lemma B.7 (Product of Borel σ -algebras is Borel σ -algebra of the product [7, Lemma 6.2.1**
 902 **(i)]).** *Let H_1, H_2 be Hausdorff spaces and let H_2 have a countable base (e.g. H_2 could be a*
 903 *separable metric space). Then $\mathcal{B}(H_1 \times H_2) = \mathcal{B}(H_1) \otimes \mathcal{B}(H_2)$, where $\mathcal{B}(H_1 \times H_2)$ is the Borel*
 904 *σ -algebra of the product topology on $H_1 \times H_2$.*

905 **B.2. Recap of results on Bochner spaces.** We now recap the theory of Bochner spaces,
 906 using [16] as our main reference. In what follows the space V is always a Banach space.

907 **Definition B.8 (Simple function).** *A function $v : \Omega \rightarrow V$ is simple if there exist $v_1, \dots, v_m \in$*
 908 *V and $E_1, \dots, E_m \in \mathcal{F}$ such that $v = \sum_{i=1}^m v_i \chi_{E_i}$, where χ_{E_i} is the indicator function on E_i .*

909 **Definition B.9 (Strongly measurable).** *A function $v : \Omega \rightarrow V$ is strongly measurable¹ if*
 910 *there exists a sequence of simple functions $(v_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|v_n - v\|_V = 0$, \mathbb{P} -almost*
 911 *everywhere.*

912 **Definition B.10 (Bochner integrable [16, p. 49]).** *A strongly measurable function $v : \Omega \rightarrow V$*
 913 *is called Bochner integrable if there exists a sequence of simple functions $(v_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ such that*
 914 *$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Omega} \|v_n(\omega) - v(\omega)\|_V d\mathbb{P}(\omega) = 0$.*

915 **Theorem B.11 (Condition for Bochner integrability [16, Theorem II.2.2]).** *A strongly mea-*
 916 *surable function $v : \Omega \rightarrow V$ is Bochner integrable if and only if $\int_{\Omega} \|v\|_V d\mathbb{P} < \infty$.*

917 **Corollary B.12 (Sufficient condition for Bochner integrability).** *Let $p \geq 1$. If a strongly*
 918 *measurable function $v : \Omega \rightarrow V$ has $\int_{\Omega} \|v\|_V^p d\mathbb{P} < \infty$, then v is Bochner integrable.*

919 **Definition B.13 (Bochner norm).** *For a Bochner integrable function $v : \Omega \rightarrow V$, let*

$$920 \quad \|v\|_{L^p(\Omega; V)} := \left(\int_{\Omega} \|v(\omega)\|_V^p d\mathbb{P}(\omega) \right)^{1/p}, \quad 1 \leq p < \infty, \quad \text{and} \quad \|v\|_{L^\infty(\Omega; V)} := \text{ess sup}_{\omega \in \Omega} \|v(\omega)\|_V.$$

921 **Definition B.14 (Bochner space).** *Let $1 \leq p \leq \infty$. Then*

$$922 \quad L^p(\Omega; V) := \left\{ v : \Omega \rightarrow V : v \text{ is Bochner integrable, } \|v\|_{L^p(\Omega; V)} < \infty \right\}.$$

923 **Definition B.15 (Complete probability space).** *A probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ is complete if for*
 924 *every $E_1 \in \mathcal{F}$ with $\mathbb{P}(E_1) = 0$, the inclusion $E_2 \subseteq E_1$ implies that $E_2 \in \mathcal{F}$.*

925 **Definition B.16 (Separable space).** *A topological space is separable if it contains a count-*
 926 *able, dense subset.*

927 **Definition B.17 (σ -finite).** *A probability space $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ is σ -finite if there exist $E_1, E_2, \dots \in$*
 928 *\mathcal{F} with $\mathbb{P}(E_m) < \infty$ for all $m \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\Omega = \cup_{m=1}^{\infty} E_m$.*

¹In [16] the authors use the term μ -measurable instead of strongly measurable (where μ is the measure on the domain of the functions under consideration).

929 **Theorem B.18** (Pettis measurability theorem [47, Proposition 2.15]). *Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ be a*
 930 *complete σ -finite measure space. The following are equivalent for a function $v : \Omega \rightarrow V$: (i) v*
 931 *is strongly measurable, (ii) v is measurable and \mathbb{P} -essentially separably valued.*

932 **Corollary B.19** (Equivalence of measurable and strongly measurable when the image is separable). *Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ be a σ -finite measure space. If V is a separable Banach space, then a*
 933 *function $v : \Omega \rightarrow V$ is strongly measurable if, and only if, it is measurable.*

935 **Lemma B.20** (The composition of a continuous map and a \mathbb{P} -essentially separably valued map). *Let (S, \mathcal{T}_S) and (T, \mathcal{T}_T) be topological spaces. If $f_1 : \Omega \rightarrow S$ and $f_2 : S \rightarrow T$ are*
 936 *such that f_1 is \mathbb{P} -essentially separably valued and f_2 is continuous, then $f_2 \circ f_1$ is \mathbb{P} -essentially*
 937 *separably valued.*

939 *Proof of Lemma B.20.* As f_1 is \mathbb{P} -essentially separably valued, there exists $E \in \mathcal{F}$ such
 940 that $\mathbb{P}(E) = 1$ and $f_1(E) \subseteq G \subseteq S$, where G is separable. As f_2 is continuous, $f_2(G)$ is
 941 separable [53, Theorem 16.4(a)]. Therefore, since $(f_2 \circ f_1)(E) \subseteq f_2(G)$, it follows that $f_2 \circ f_1$
 942 is \mathbb{P} -essentially separably valued. ■

943 **Lemma B.21** (The composition of a continuous map and a strongly measurable map). *If B_1*
 944 *and B_2 are Banach spaces and there exist $f_1 : \Omega \rightarrow B_1$ and $f_2 : B_1 \rightarrow B_2$ such that f_1 is*
 945 *strongly measurable and f_2 is continuous, then $f_2 \circ f_1$ is strongly measurable.*

946 *Proof of Lemma B.21.* By Theorem B.18, f_1 is both measurable and \mathbb{P} -essentially separably
 947 valued. We then apply Lemmas B.4 and B.20 to conclude $f_2 \circ f_1$ is both measurable and
 948 \mathbb{P} -essentially separably valued. Hence by Theorem B.18 $f_2 \circ f_1$ is strongly measurable. ■

949 **Lemma B.22** (Zero in all integrals implies zero almost everywhere [16, Corollary II.2.5]). *If α*
 950 *is Bochner integrable and $\int_E \alpha(\omega) d\mathbb{P}(\omega) = 0$ for each $E \in \mathcal{F}$ then $\alpha = 0$ \mathbb{P} -almost everywhere.*

951 **Lemma B.23** (Cartesian product of \mathbb{P} -essentially separably valued maps). *Let*
 952 *$(\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{C}_1}), \dots, (\mathcal{C}_m, \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{C}_m})$ be topological spaces, and let $s_j : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_j$, $j = 1, \dots, m$ be \mathbb{P} -essentially*
 953 *separably valued. Define $\mathcal{C} := \mathcal{C}_1 \times \dots \times \mathcal{C}_m$ and equip \mathcal{C} with the product topology. Then the*
 954 *map $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ given by $s(\omega) := (s_1(\omega), \dots, s_m(\omega))$ is \mathbb{P} -essentially separably valued.*

955 The proof of Lemma B.23 is straightforward and omitted.

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