

Observer–Structure Coupling

On the Visibility of Solutions Under Finite Observation

Ivan Pereira da Silva (Ivan Silva)

Carlonosopen, LLC

ORCID: 0009-0005-2284-8891

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Abstract

We present a framework describing how solutions become visible to finite observers interacting with structured systems. Instead of treating answers as purely computational outputs, we model visibility as arising from the interaction between observer and structure through propagation, resolution, and representation.

We show that:

- Observability depends on alignment between observer and structure
- Apparent absence of information may result from observational constraints
- Large-scale and small-scale limitations can be treated uniformly
- Nonlinear transitions explain sudden emergence of observable solutions

1. Introduction

In many domains, solutions do not emerge gradually but appear abruptly after extended accumulation.

This occurs in:

- physical systems (e.g., electrical discharge, lasing)
- scientific observation (e.g., visibility limits)
- human reasoning

This suggests:

Visibility is not solely a property of the structure, but of the interaction between observer and structure.

2. Observer and Structure

We define a structure:

$$S \subseteq \mathcal{Z} \tag{2}$$

where \mathcal{Z} is a representation space.

The observer is defined as:

$$O = (x, t, \rho, E, M) \tag{3}$$

where:

- x : spatial or reference coordinate
- t : temporal or phase coordinate
- ρ : effective resolution
- E : environment or medium
- M : representation or model

3. Observation Model

The observer does not access S directly, but receives:

$$W_S(O) = \mathcal{P}(S; x, t) + N(E) \quad (4)$$

where:

- \mathcal{P} : propagation operator
- $N(E)$: environmental noise

4. Reconstruction

The observer reconstructs an estimate:

$$\hat{S} = \arg \min_{\tilde{S}} d(\tilde{S}, W_S(O)) \quad (5)$$

where d is a discrepancy metric.

The observed answer is:

$$A = \Pi_O(\hat{S}) \quad (6)$$

5. Projection Operator

The projection:

$$\Pi_O : \mathcal{Z} \rightarrow \mathcal{A} \quad (7)$$

has the following properties:

- lossy
- non-invertible
- many-to-one

Thus:

$$\Pi_O(S_1) = \Pi_O(S_2) \quad (8)$$

does not imply:

$$S_1 = S_2 \quad (9)$$

6. Visibility Condition

We define reconstruction error:

$$\mathcal{E}(O, S) = d(\hat{S}, S) \quad (10)$$

A solution is visible if:

$$\mathcal{E}(O, S) \leq \epsilon \quad (11)$$

and sufficient information is available:

$$I(W_S; S) \geq I_{\min} \quad (12)$$

7. Solution Set

Because projection is non-invertible, define:

$$\mathcal{S}_{\text{sol}} = \{S_i \mid \mathcal{E}(O, S_i) \leq \epsilon\} \quad (13)$$

The observed answer is:

$$A = \Pi_O(\mathcal{S}_{\text{sol}}) \quad (14)$$

8. Observer Transformation

When visibility fails, define:

$$O' = \mathcal{T}(O) \quad (15)$$

where transformations include:

- spatial shift
- temporal shift
- scale adjustment
- environmental filtering
- representation change

Problems may be solved by transforming the observer rather than modifying the structure.

9. Scale and Observability

Large-scale limitations

- weak signal
- obstruction

Small-scale limitations

- insufficient resolution
- incorrect representation

Both are addressed via transformation.

10. Coupled Structures

For coupled systems:

$$S \subseteq \mathcal{Z}_1 \otimes \mathcal{Z}_2 \quad (16)$$

Local observation may be insufficient:

$$I(W_i; S_i) < I(W_S; S) \quad (17)$$

Thus:

The structure may only be observable through joint relationships.

11. Nonlinear Threshold Dynamics

Many systems exhibit threshold behavior.

Let accumulated quantity:

$$K(t) \quad (18)$$

Then:

$$K(t) < K_{\text{crit}} \Rightarrow \text{no visible solution} \quad (19)$$

The output can be modeled as:

$$A(t) = H(K - K_{\text{crit}}) \cdot e^{\alpha t} \quad (20)$$

where H is the Heaviside function.

12. Timescale Separation

Two timescales exist:

$$\tau_{\text{accumulation}} \gg \tau_{\text{release}} \quad (21)$$

Thus:

The observable solution appears rapidly compared to the time required to prepare it.

13. Projection and Perception

Observation is a projection.

A structure:

$$S(x, y, z) \quad (22)$$

may appear as:

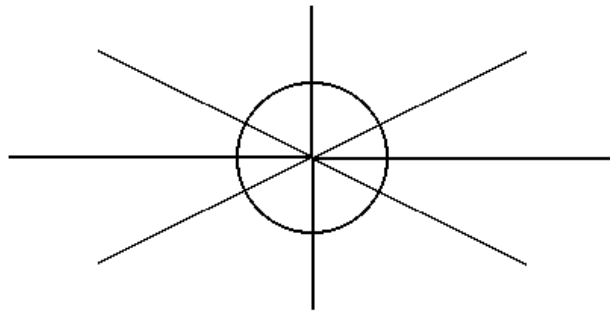
$$\Pi(S) = S'(x, y) \quad (23)$$

Loss of dimension may create apparent ambiguity or incompleteness.

14. Figures

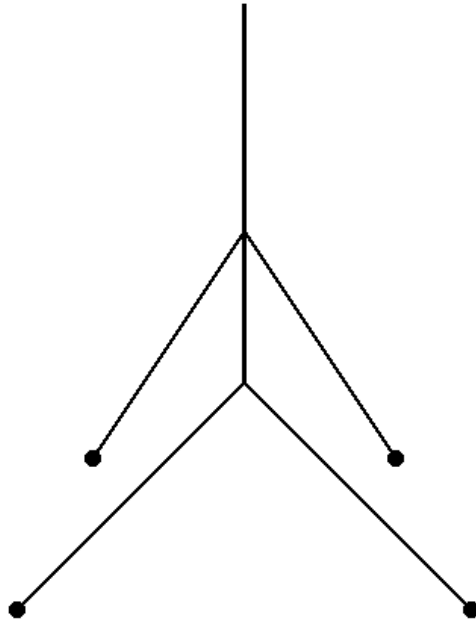
Figure 1 — Projection Concept

3D Structure (Full)



Projection Collapse (Head-on View)

Figure 2 — Branching / Multiple Paths



Each branch may terminate in a valid ground under different observer projection

15. Applications

- scientific observation
- signal processing
- machine learning
- reasoning systems
- cognitive processes

16. Conclusion

We conclude:

Solutions are not solely computed; they become visible under appropriate observer–structure coupling. (24)

References

- Laser-induced breakdown — RP Photonics
- Lightning physics — NOAA / NWS
- Laser rate equations — standard optics literature
- Gravitational lensing — ESA / Webb