Computational light scattering (PAP315)

Lecture 1

Karri Muinonen^{1,2}

Professor of Astronomy

¹Department of Physics, University of Helsinki, Finland

²Finnish Geospatial Research Institute (FGI), Masala, Finland

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Introduction

- Physical characterization of the surfaces of airless planetary objects
- Direct problem of light scattering by discrete random media of particles with varying particle size, shape, refractive index, and volume density
- Inverse problem based on astronomical observations and/or experimental measurements
- Plane of scattering, scattering angle, solar phase angle, degree of linear polarization







Figure 2.1: Stokes parameters explained visually by drawing the plane of propagation. While Q and U propagate in a plane, the plane of V rotates and thus has a circular pattern. The sign controls the orientation of the plane, whereas intensity I defines the amplitude of the oscillation. For a visual aid, U=-1 propagates in the same direction as U=+1, but the x-axis is shifted to make the pattern more distinctive.

Väisänen, Ph.D. thesis, 2020



Figure 2.2: Illustration of the incident wave and the scattering plane. (Bohren and Huffman, 1983)

Väisänen, Ph.D. thesis, 2020

$$I \propto E_{\parallel}E_{\parallel}^{*} + E_{\perp}E_{\perp}^{*}$$
$$Q \propto E_{\parallel}E_{\parallel}^{*} - E_{\perp}E_{\perp}^{*}$$
$$U \propto E_{\parallel}E_{\perp}^{*} + E_{\perp}E_{\parallel}^{*}$$
$$V \propto i(E_{\parallel}E_{\perp}^{*} - E_{\perp}E_{\parallel}^{*})$$

I = intensity Q and U = the degree anddirection of linear polarization V = the degree andhandedness of the circular polarization.

 $\sqrt{Q^2 + U^2 + V^2} / I =$ degree of polarization $\sqrt{Q^2 + U^2} / I =$ degree of linear polarization V / I = degree of circular polarization

Nousiainen and Zubko, Lecture Notes, 2011

With Stokes parameters, we obtain the 4×4 Mueller matrix form for the scattering equation:

$$\begin{pmatrix} I_{s} \\ Q_{s} \\ U_{s} \\ V_{s} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{C_{sca}}{4\pi d^{2}} \begin{pmatrix} P_{11} & P_{12} & P_{13} & P_{14} \\ P_{21} & P_{22} & P_{23} & P_{24} \\ P_{31} & P_{32} & P_{33} & P_{34} \\ P_{41} & P_{42} & P_{43} & P_{44} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I_{i} \\ Q_{i} \\ U_{i} \\ V_{i} \end{pmatrix}$$

 C_{sca} = scattering cross section d = distance from the scatterer **P** = phase matrix

Nousiainen and Zubko, Lecture Notes, 2011

Polarimetric & photometric observations



Rougier (1933), Lyot (1929)