

# Coherent backscattering by airless Solar System objects using Mueller matrix decomposition

Karri Muinonen<sup>1,2</sup>

Professor of Astronomy

<sup>1</sup>Department of Physics, University of Helsinki, Finland

<sup>2</sup>Finnish Geospatial Research Institute (FGI), Masala, Finland



**Acknowledgments:** Academy of Finland  
European Research Council,

# Contents

- Introduction
- Multiple scattering
  - Numerical methods
  - Radiative transfer and coherent backscattering (RT-CB)
  - Radiative transfer with reciprocal transactions ( $R^2T^2$ )
  - Validation of numerical methods
- Mueller matrix decomposition
- Granada-Amsterdam Light Scattering Database
  - Cosmic Dust Laboratory (CoDuLab) experimental measurements
  - Basalt scattering matrix
- Lunar scattering model
  - Lunar phase curve: first results
  - Lunar polarization ratios: first results
- Conclusions with future prospects

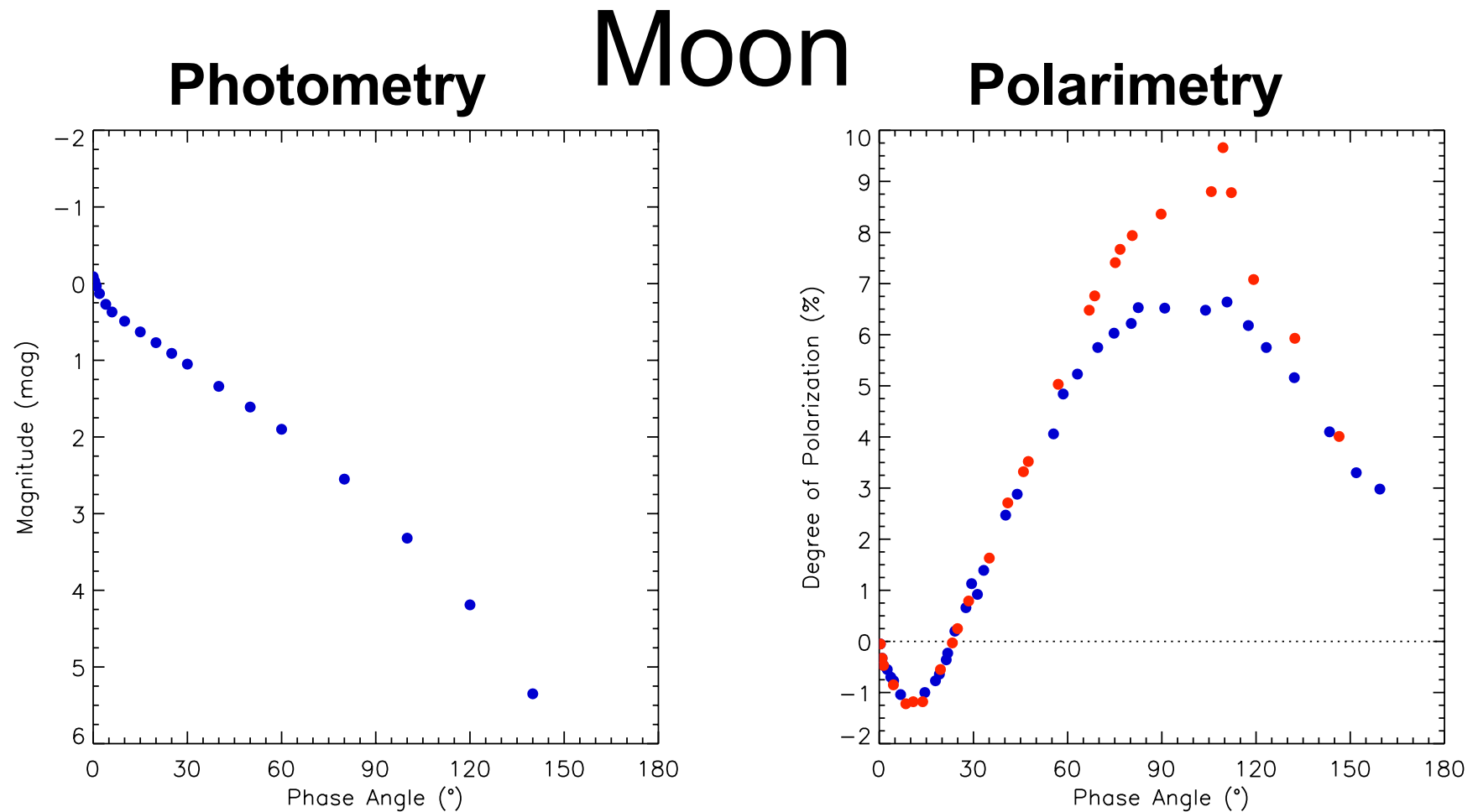
# Introduction

- 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**

**By Gregory H. Revera**



# Polarimetric & photometric observations

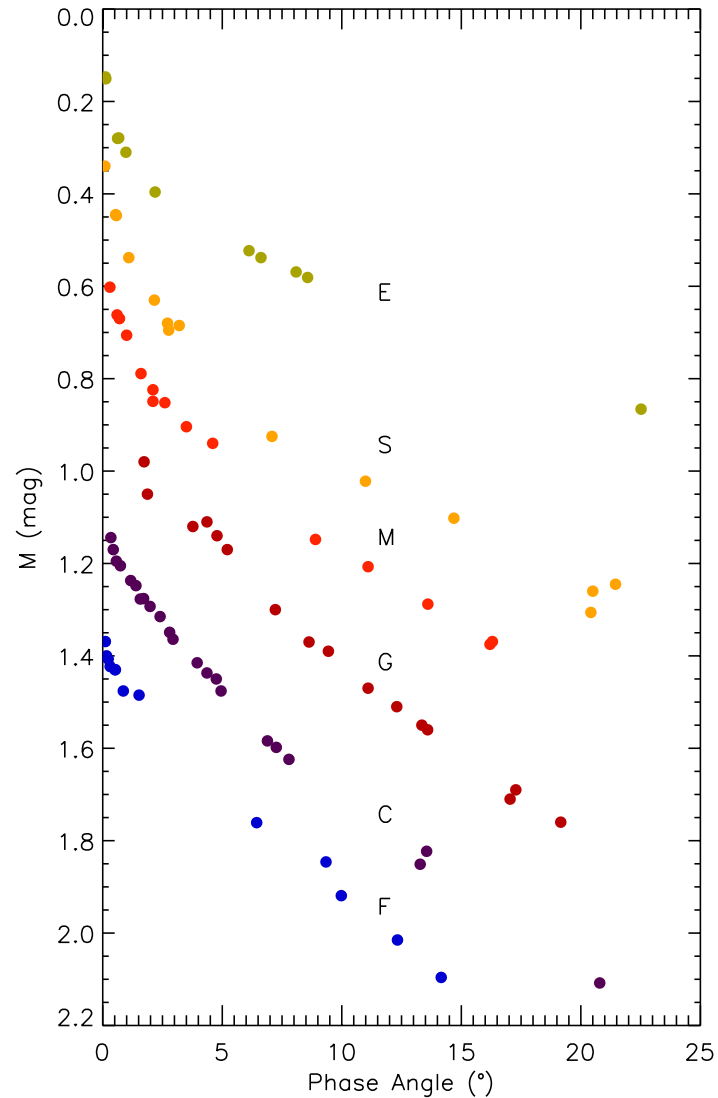


Rougier (1933), Lyot (1929)

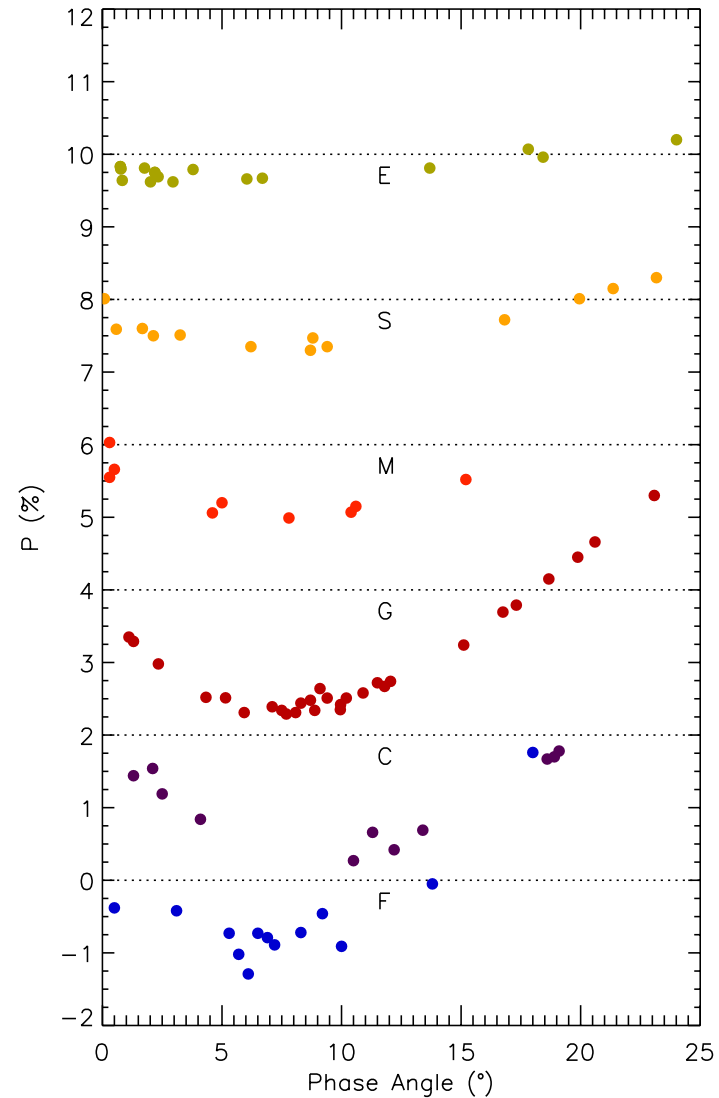


# Asteroids

## Photometry

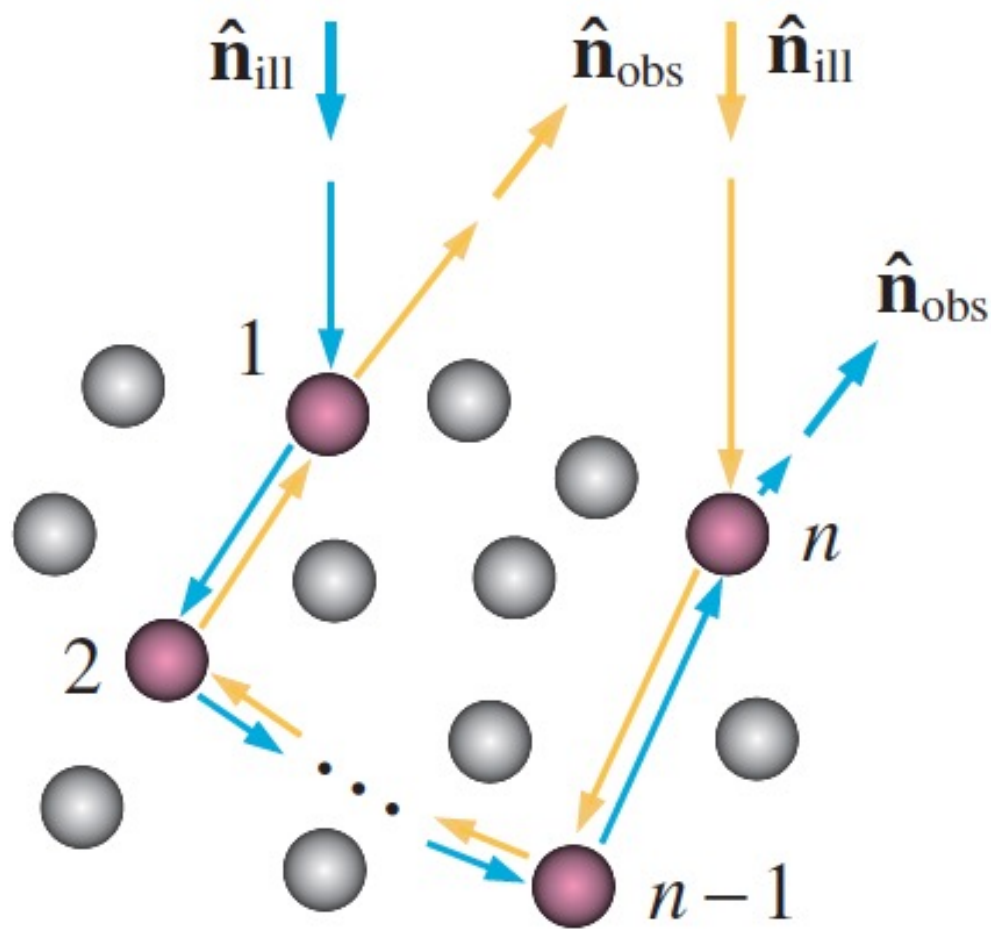


## Polarimetry



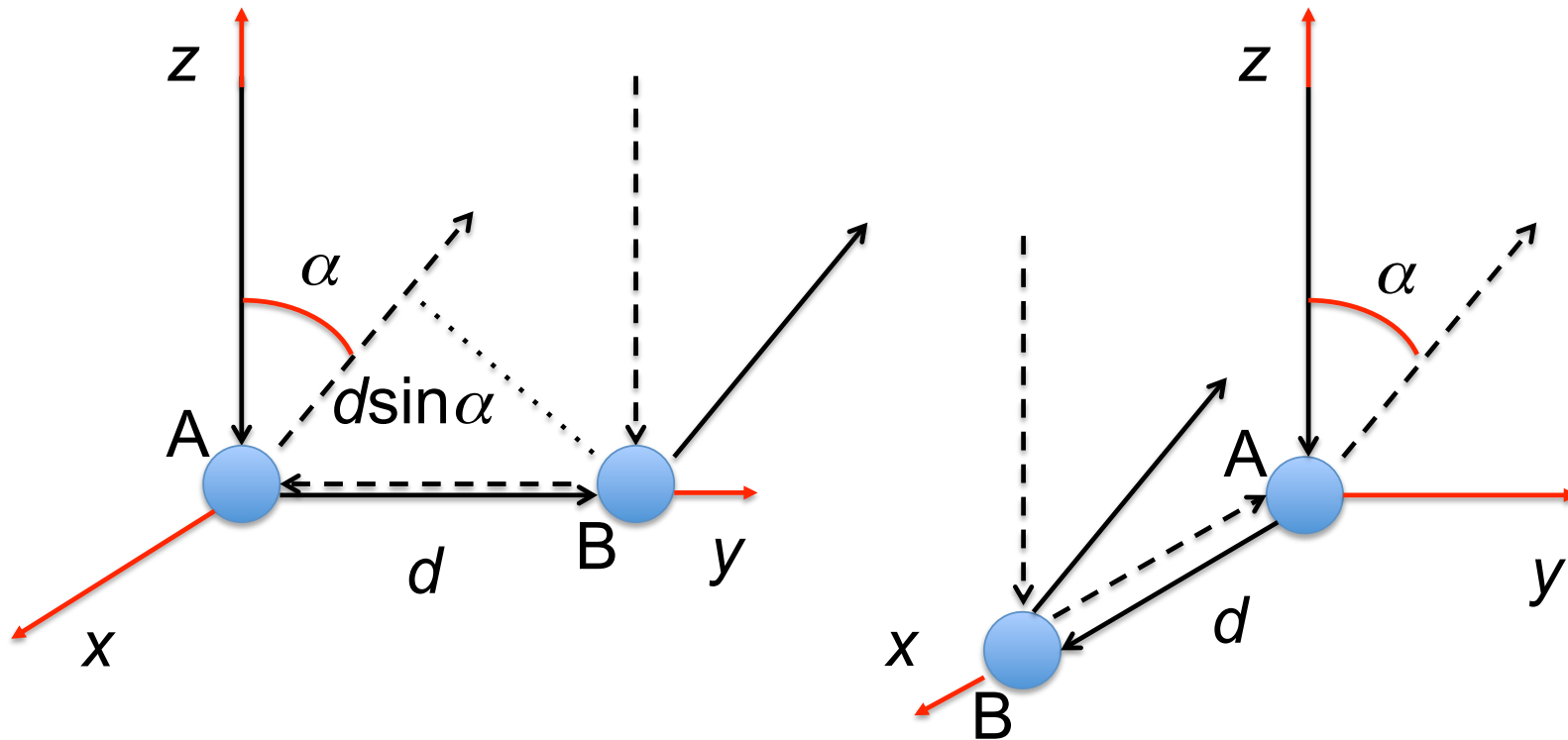
Muinonen et al., in *Polarimetry of Stars and Planetary Systems*,  
2016 (obs. ref. therein)

# Coherent backscattering mechanism: intensity



e.g., Muinonen 1989, 1990; Shkuratov 1985, 1988, 1989

# Coherent backscattering mechanism: polarization

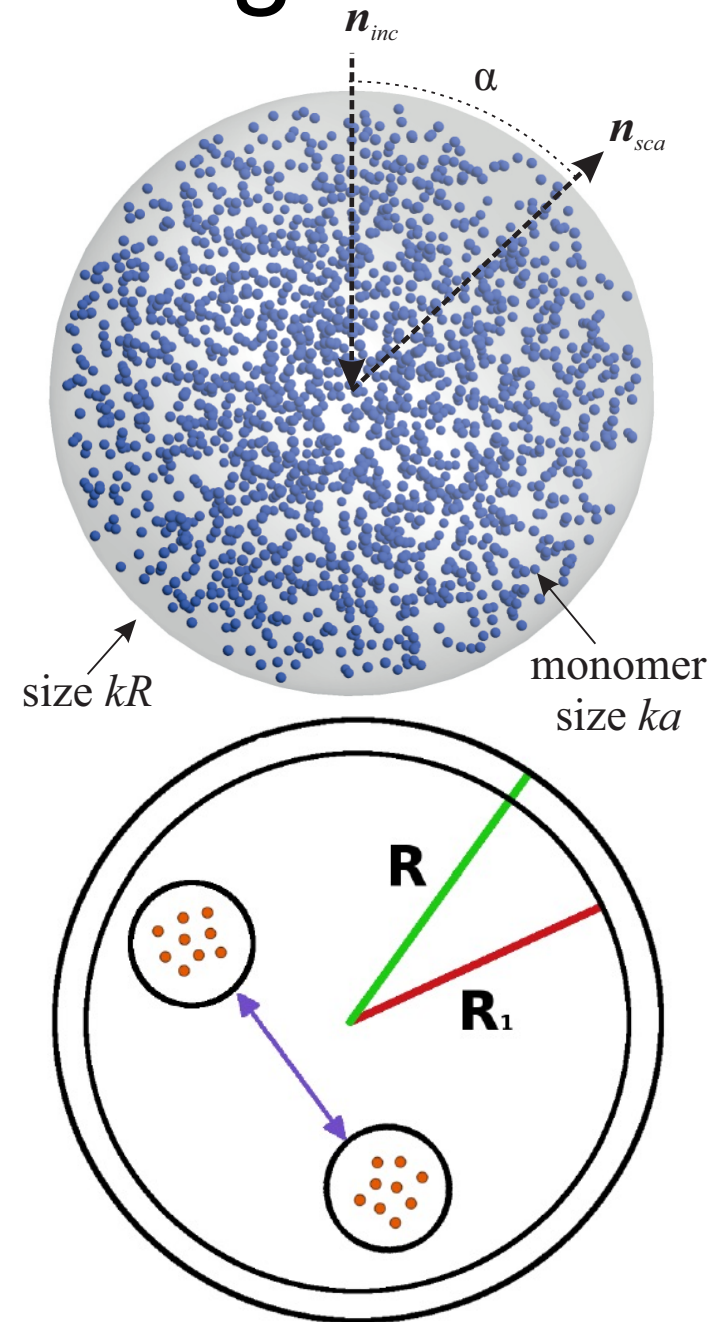


Muinonen 1989, 1990; Shkuratov 1985, 1988, 1989



# Multiple scattering

- Radiative transfer and coherent backscattering (RT-CB; Muinonen et al., ApJ 2012; Muinonen, WRM 2004 and URSI EMTS 1989)
- Superposition T-Matrix Method (STMM or MSTM; Mackowski & Mishchenko, JQSRT 2011; FaSTMM, Markkanen & Yuffa JQSRT 2017)
- Electric Current Volume Integral Equation Method (JVIE; Markkanen & Yuffa, JQSRT 2017, Markkanen et al., IEEE-TAP 2012)
- Radiative transfer with reciprocal transactions ( $R^2T^2$ ; Muinonen et al., URSI EMTS 2016ab, RS 2017, OL 2018, JoVE 2019; Markkanen et al., OL 2018, ApJL 2018; Väisänen et al., PLoS ONE 2019)



$$\mathbf{I}_i = (I_i, Q_i, U_i, V_i)^T$$

$$\mathbf{I}_s = (I_s, Q_s, U_s, V_s)^T$$

$$\mathbf{I}_s = \frac{1}{k^2 R^2} \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{I}_i$$

(Here  $R$  is the distance between observer and scatterer.)

$$\mu_L = \frac{P_{11} - P_{22}}{P_{11} + 2P_{21} + P_{22}}.$$

$$\mu_C = \frac{P_{11} + P_{44}}{P_{11} - P_{44}}.$$

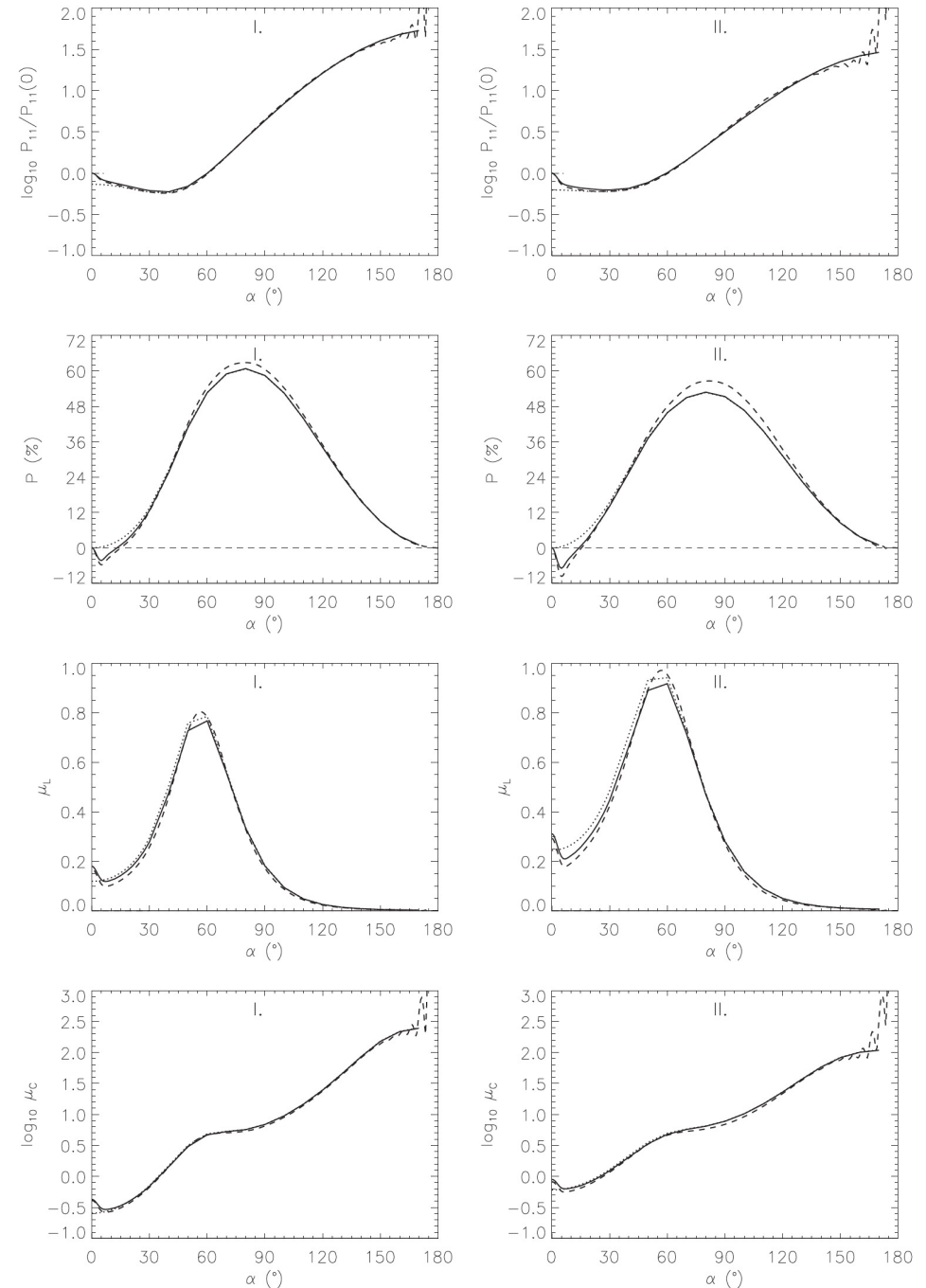
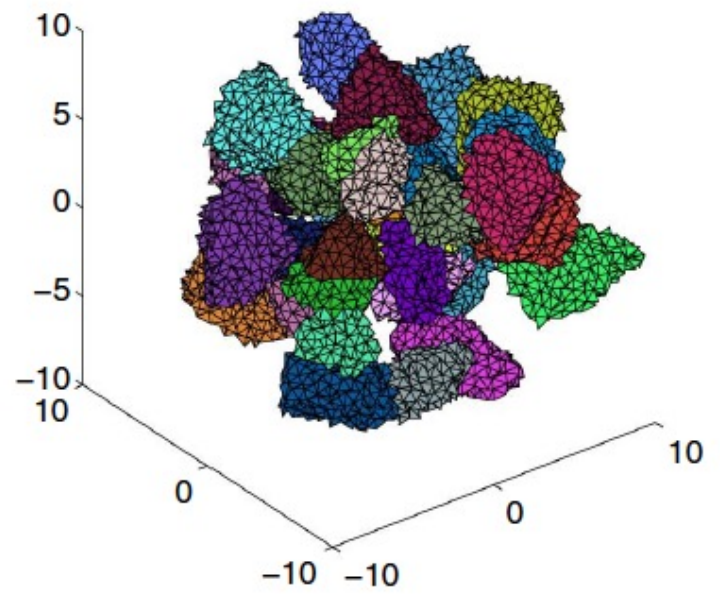
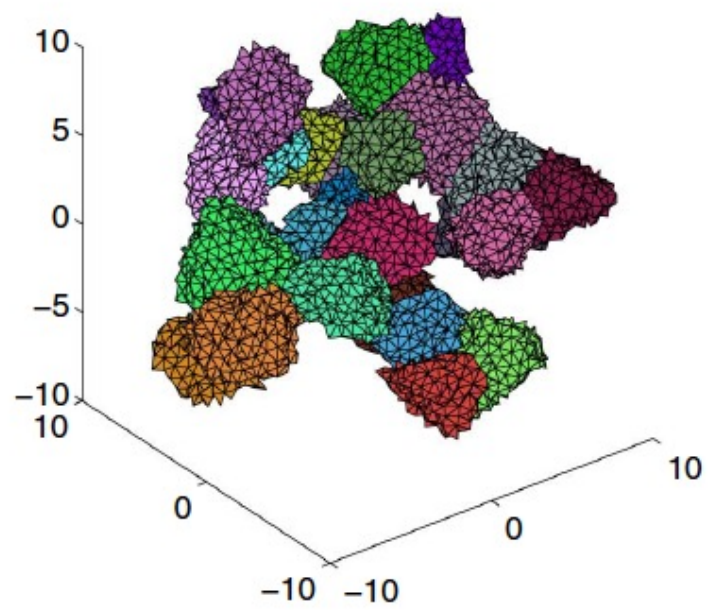
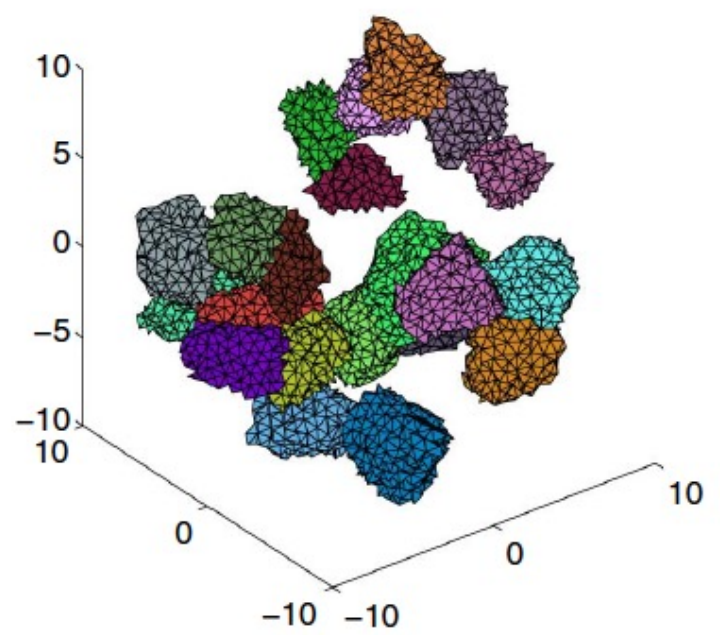
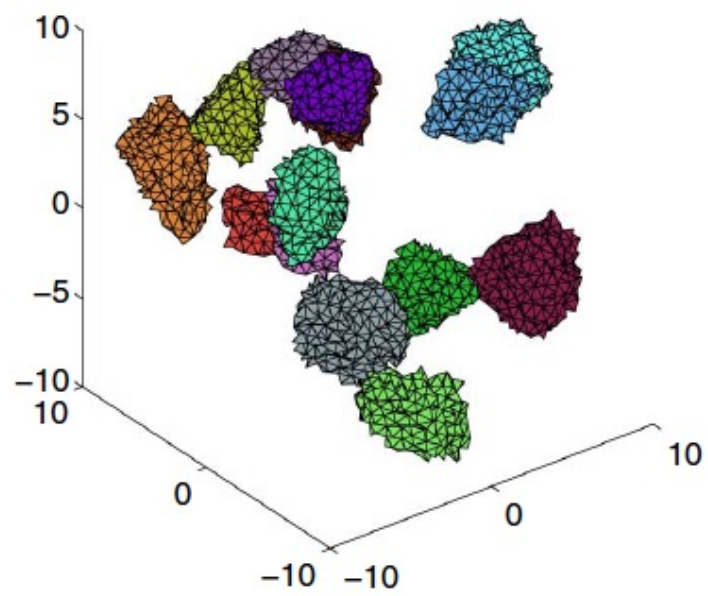


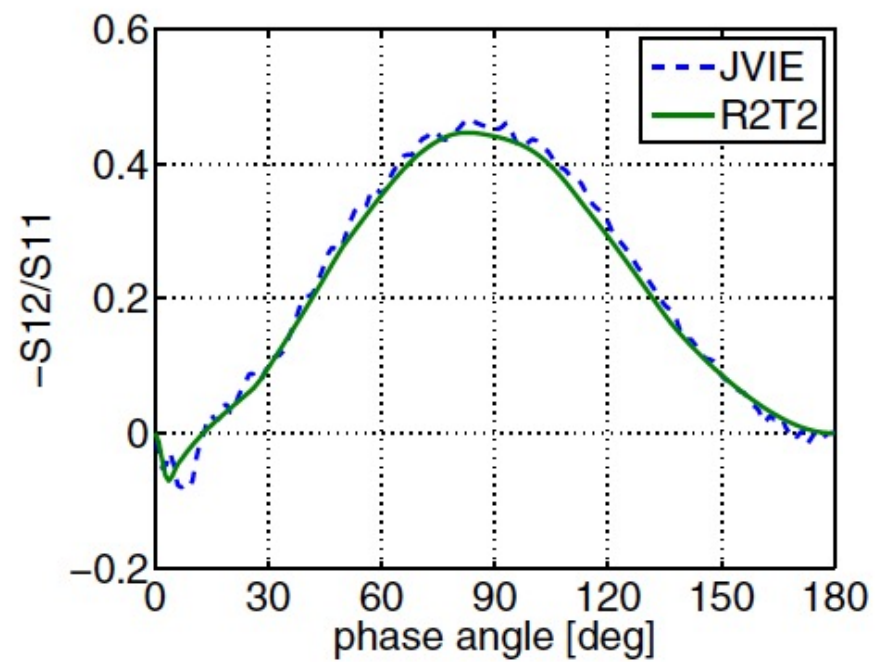
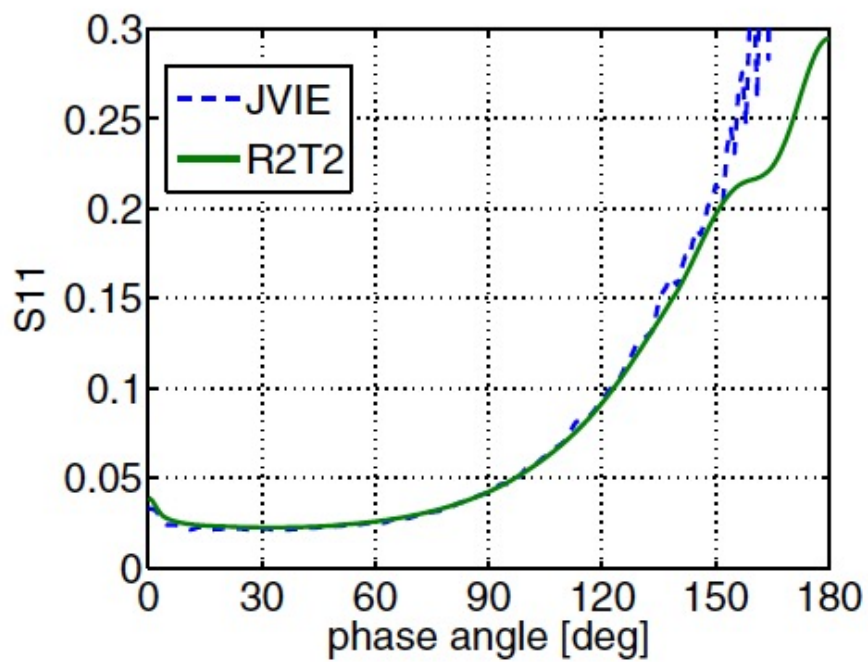
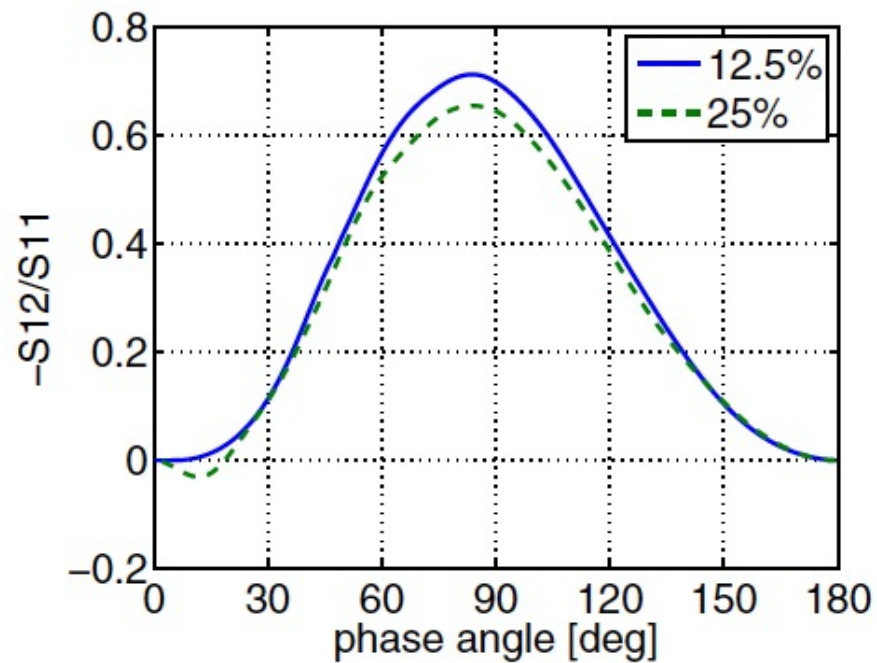
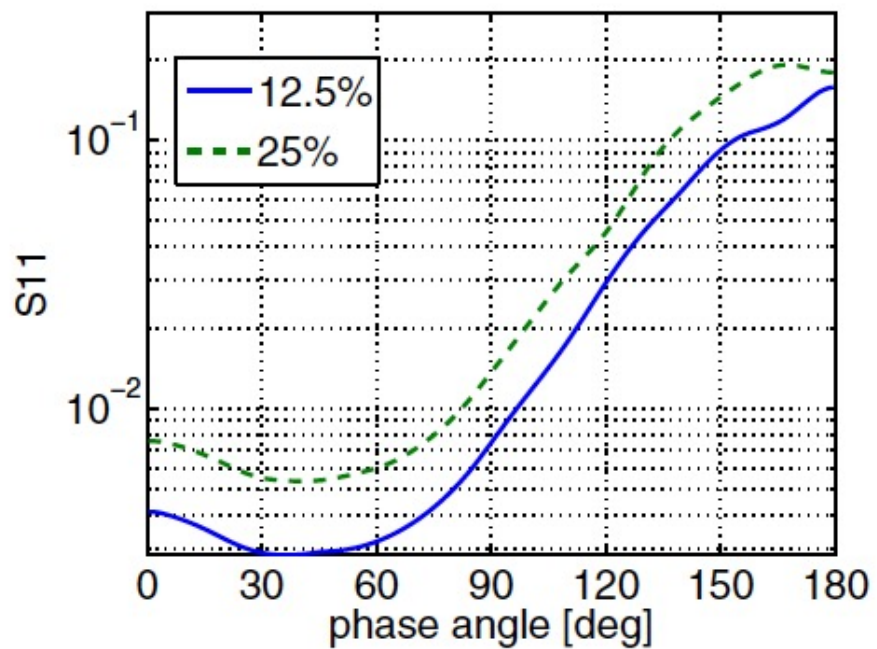
Figure 3. Same as in Figure 2, but for the full range of phase angles.

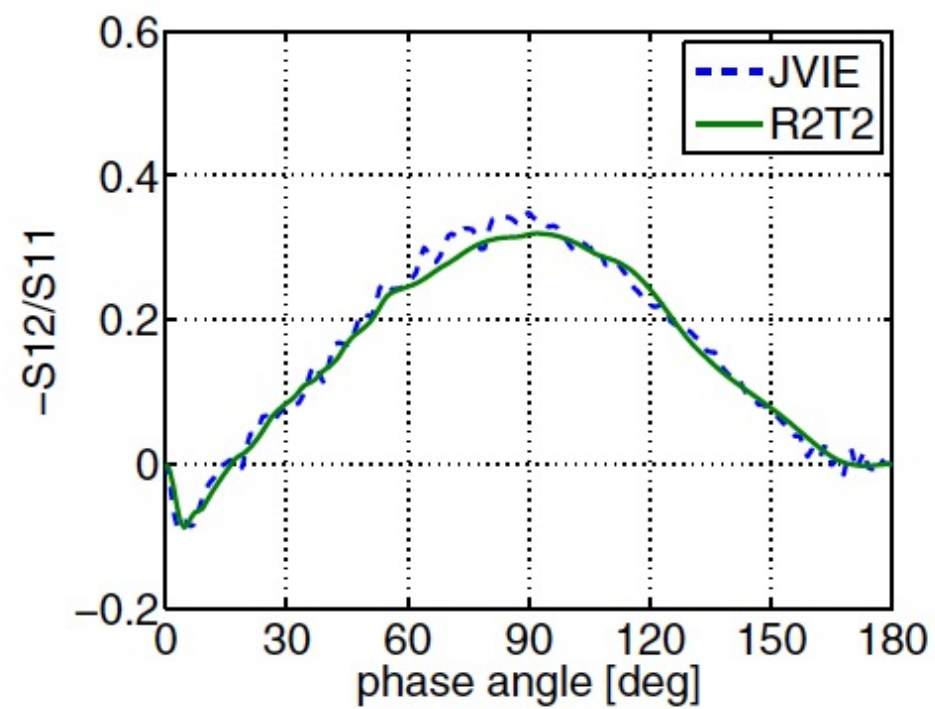
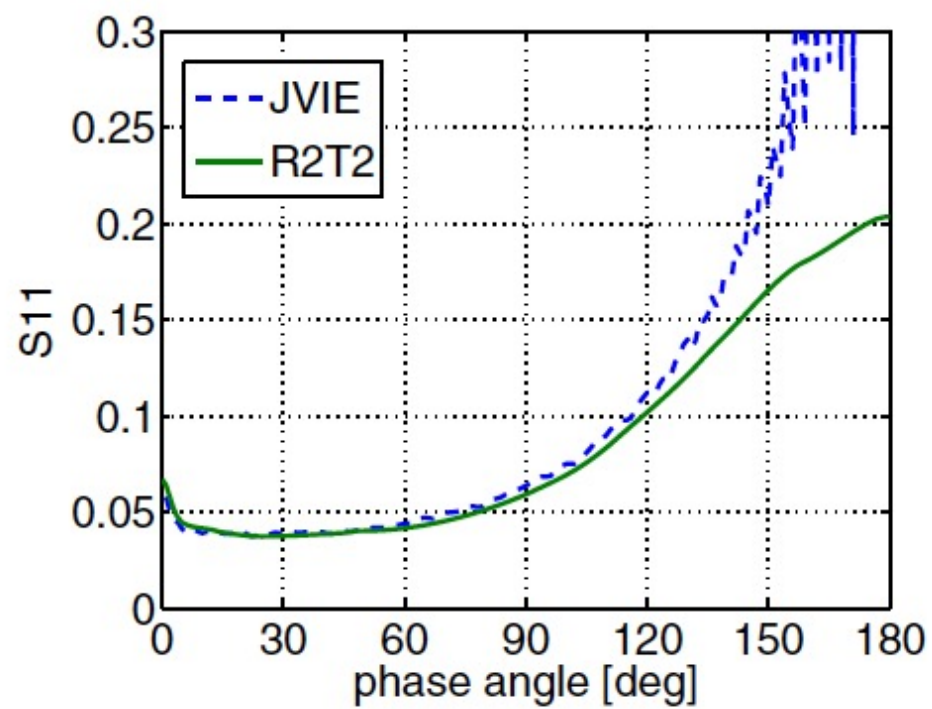
# Comparison with JVIE

- $R^2T^2$ , exact incoherent interactions using  $T$ -matrices from JVIE (Markkanen et al., Optics Letters 2018)
- Spherical media, radius  $kR = 60$ , Voronoi media:
  - Case I, Ice:
    - radius  $kr = 2.0$ , refractive index  $m = 1.31$
    - volume densities  $v = 0.125, 0.25$
- Spherical media, radius  $kR = 1.2 \times 10^{13}$  (!):
  - Case II, Silicate:
    - radius  $kr = 1.5$ , refractive index  $m = 1.8 + i0.000188$
    - volume densities  $v = 0.15, 0.30$











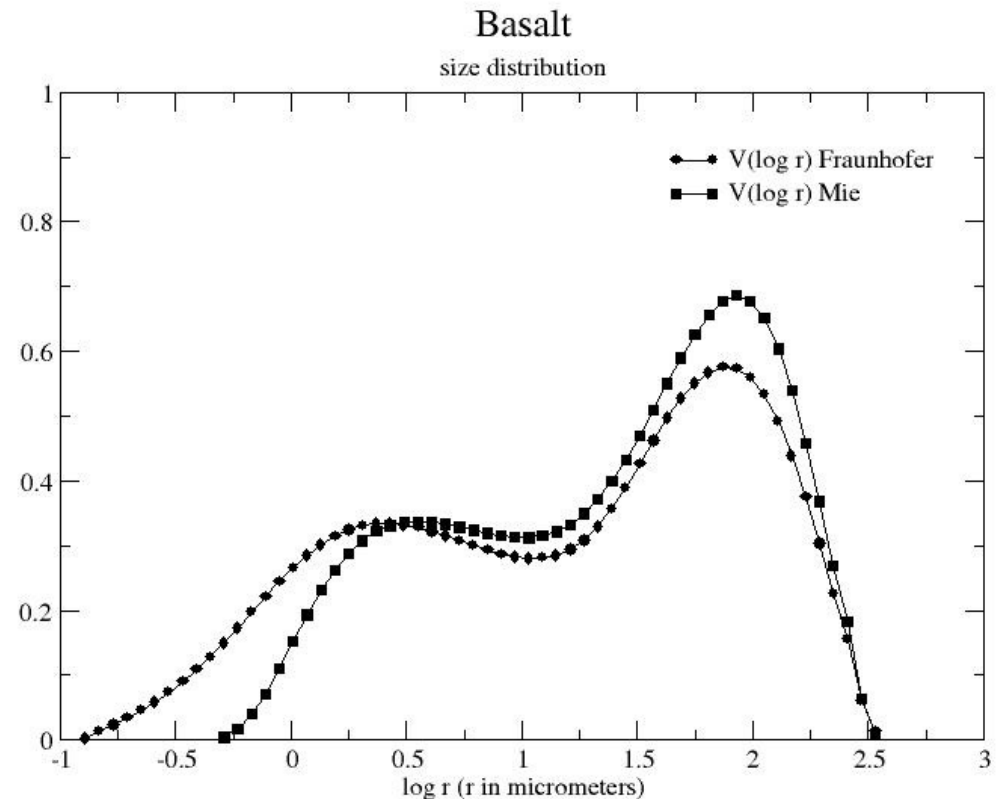
# Mueller matrix decomposition

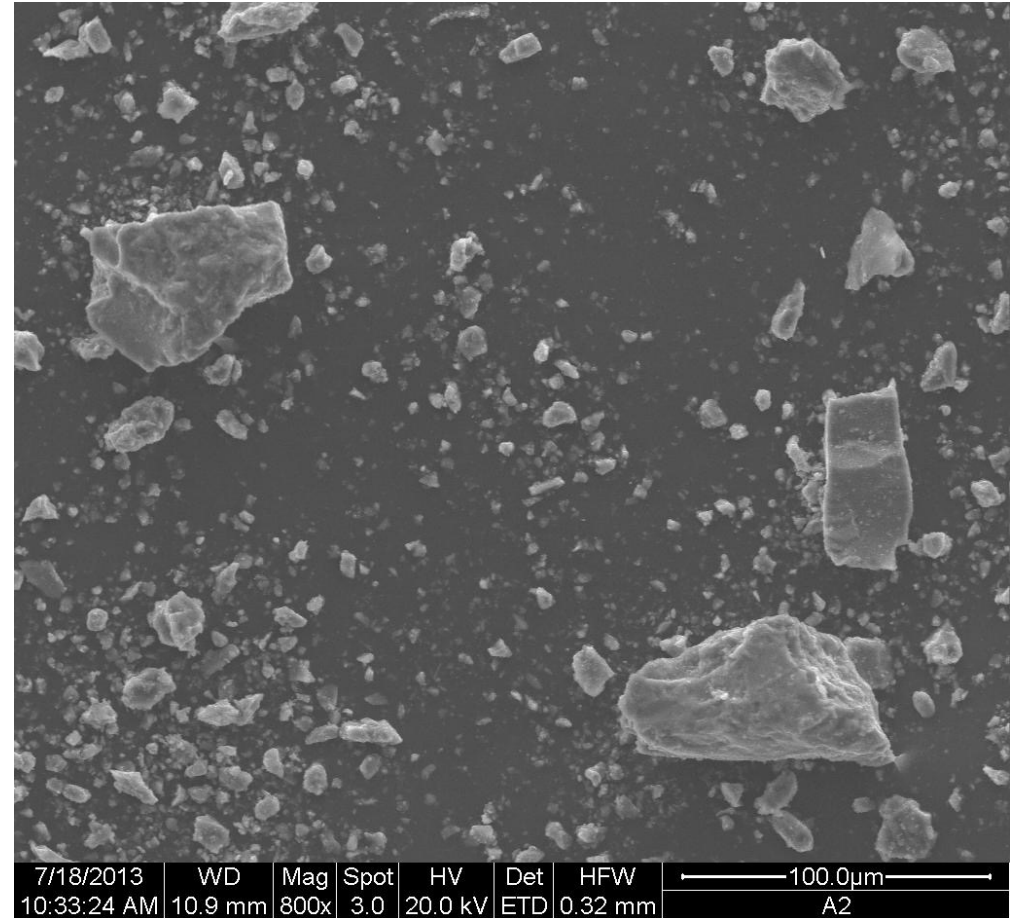
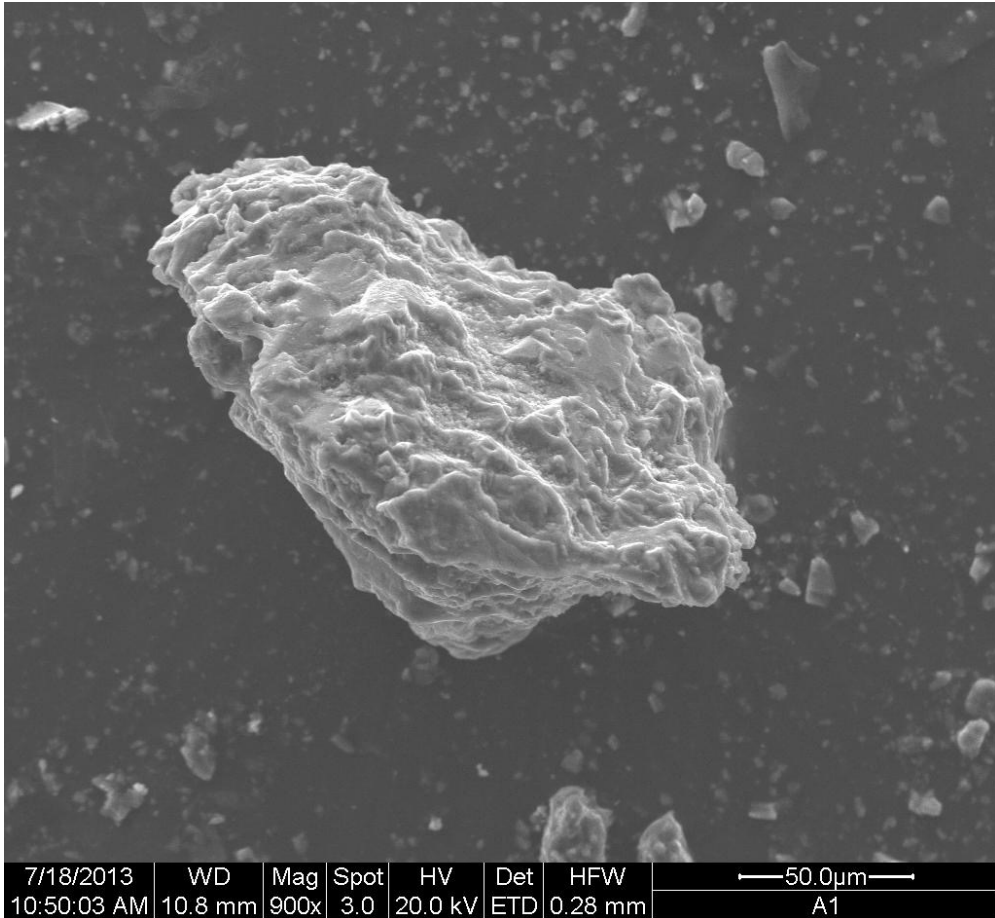
- RT-CB requires amplitude scattering matrices
- amplitude scattering matrices give rise to pure Mueller matrices
- from pure Mueller matrices, amplitude matrices derived for each scattering angle without absolute electromagnetic phase
- Cloude (1986, 1990) superpositional decomposition into **four pure 4 x 4 Mueller matrices**
- Presently, superpositional decomposition into **six pure Mueller matrices**

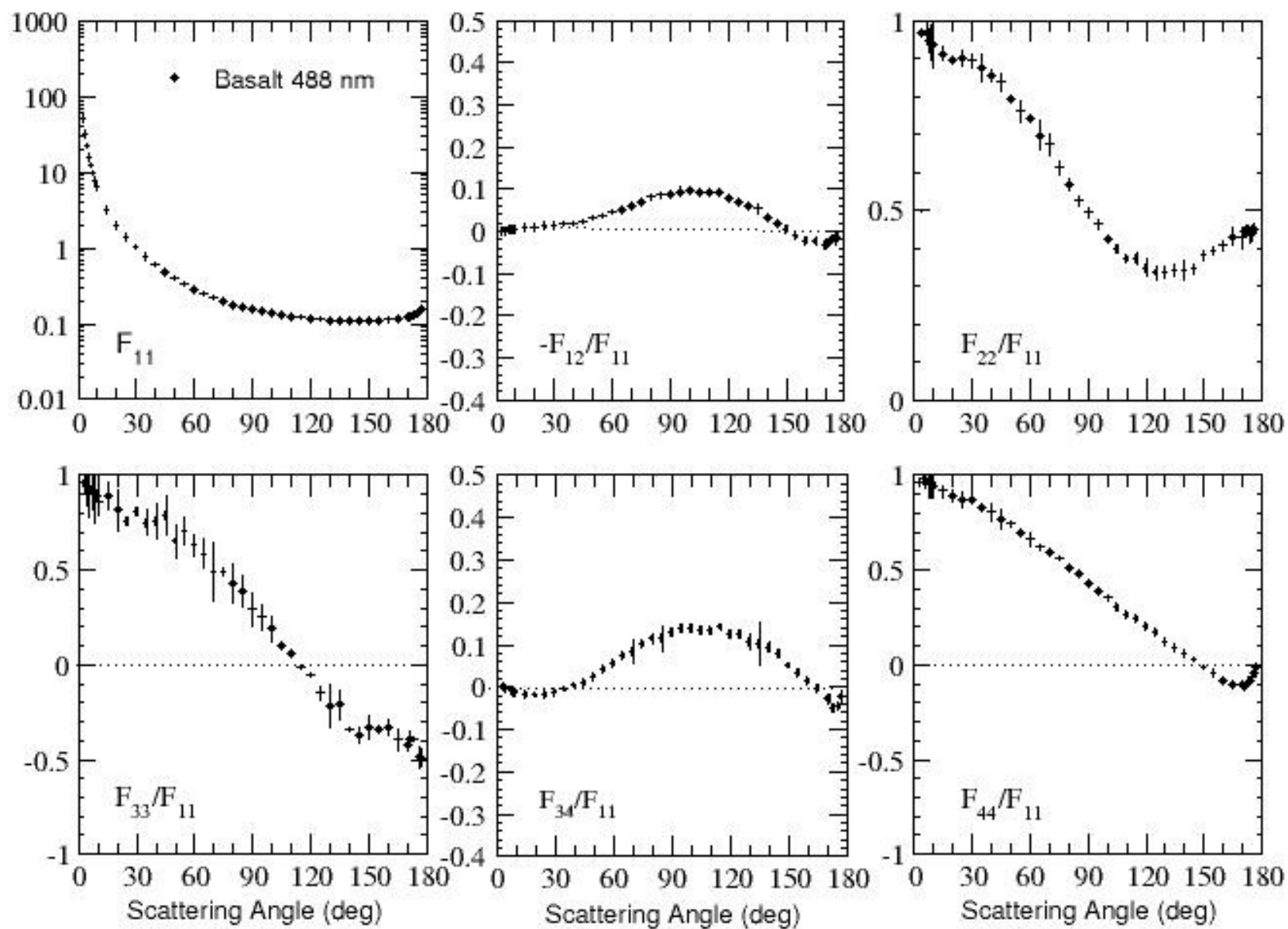
# Granada-Amsterdam Light Scattering Database

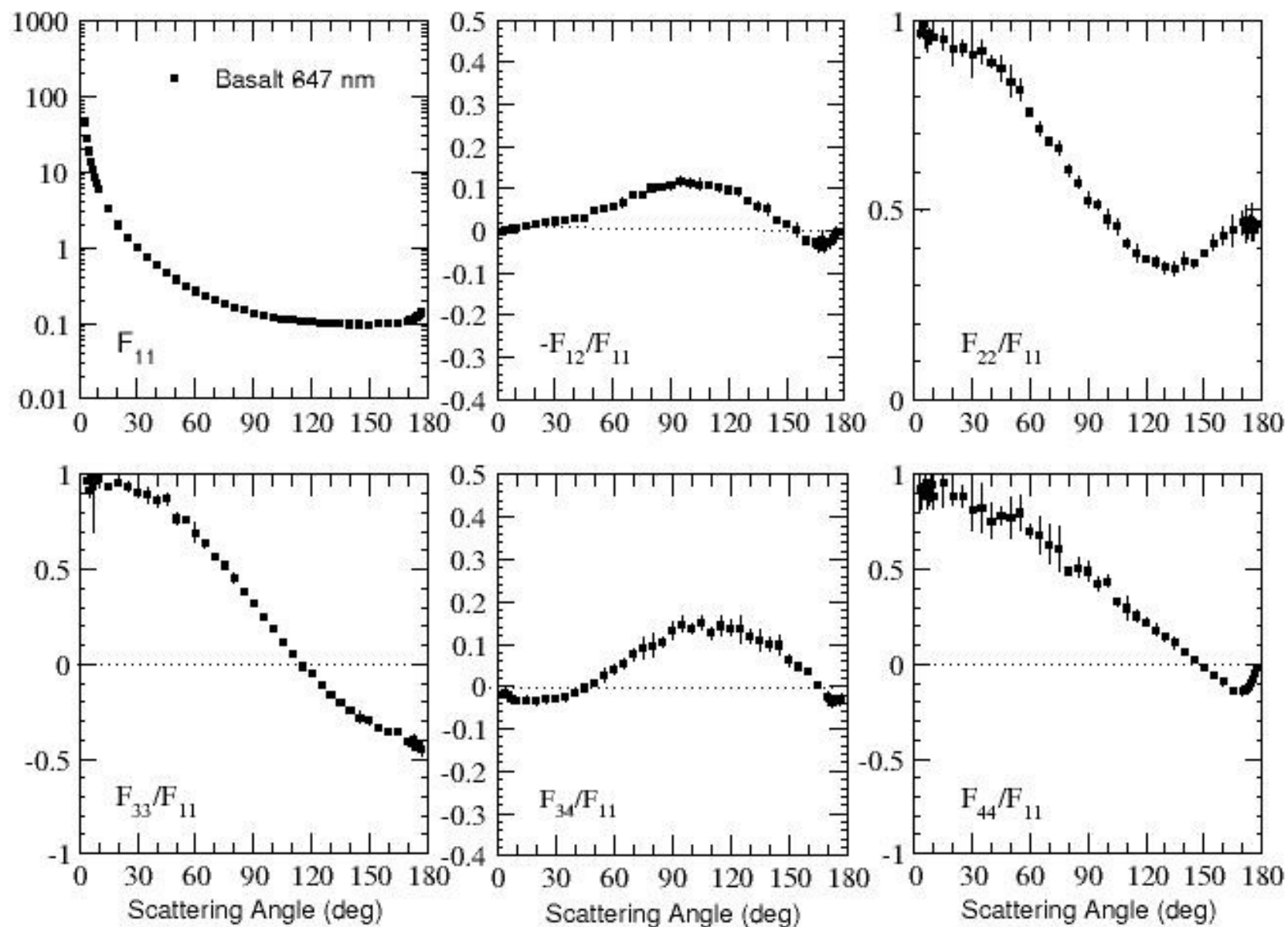
## CoDuLab experimental measurements

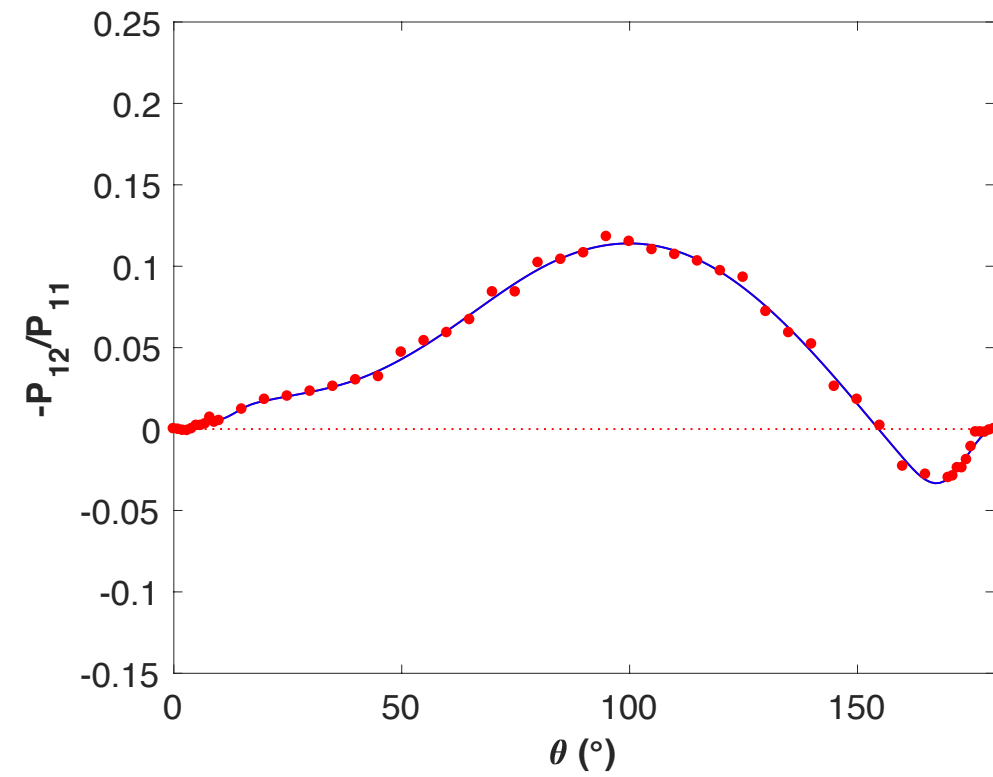
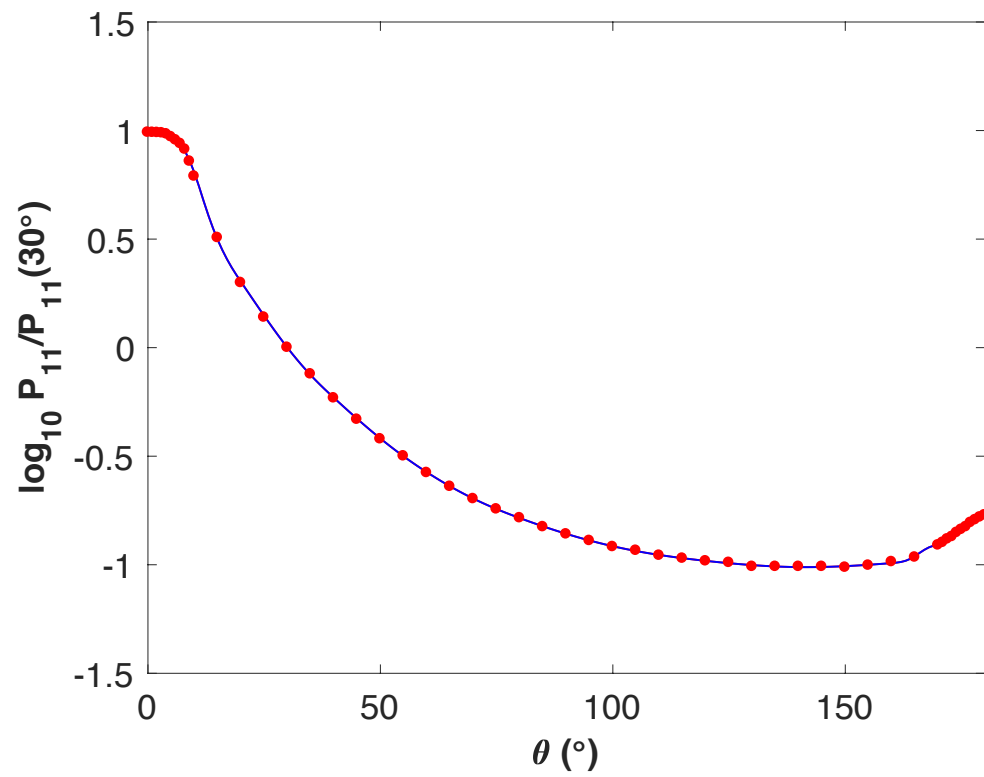
- Basalt sample
  - Tenerife, volcanic eruption
- pyroxene (augite), plagioclase, olivine
- particle effective sizes 3-7  $\mu\text{m}$
- Particle refractive index
  - $1.52 + i0.00092$  at 488 nm
  - $1.52 + i0.001$  at 647 nm
- Appearance as powder
  - dark grey
- References
  - Muñoz et al. 2012
  - Dabrowska et al. 2015
  - Pollack et al. 1973



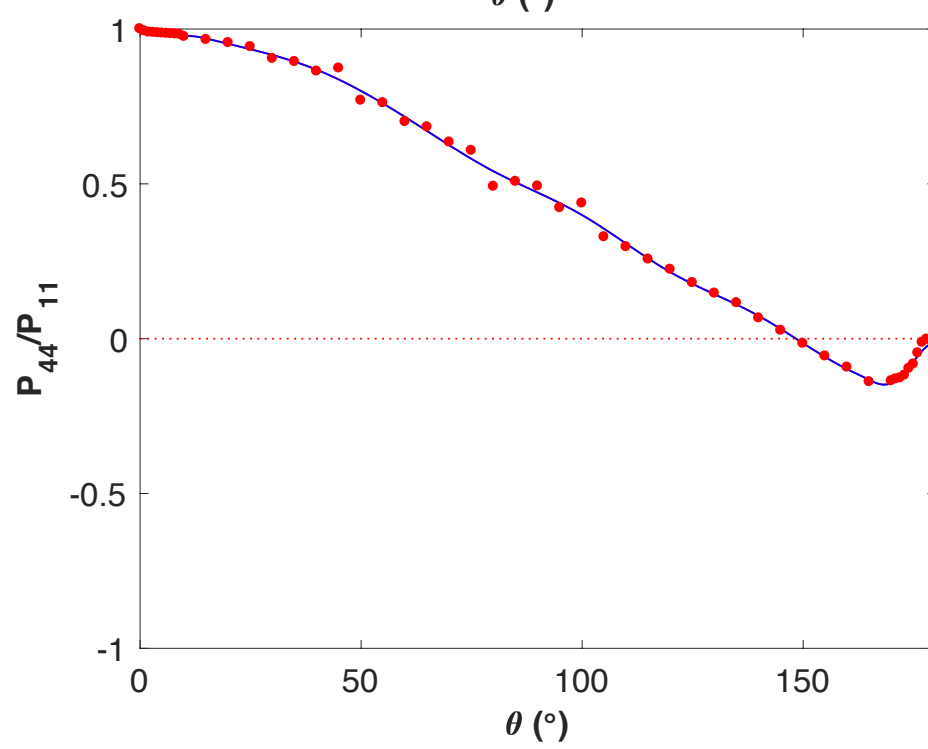
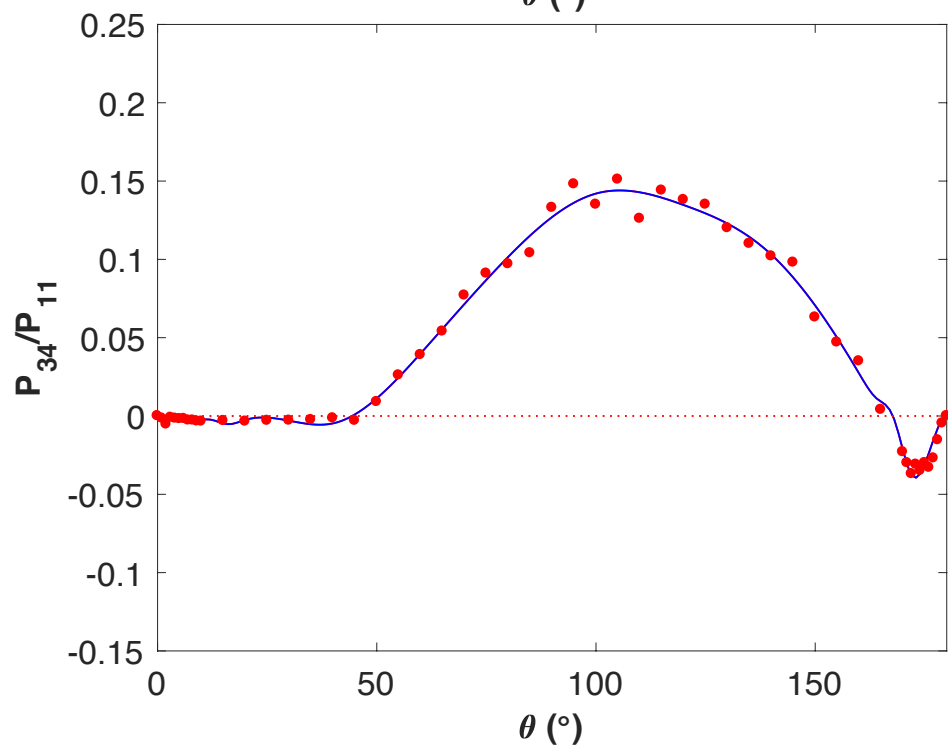
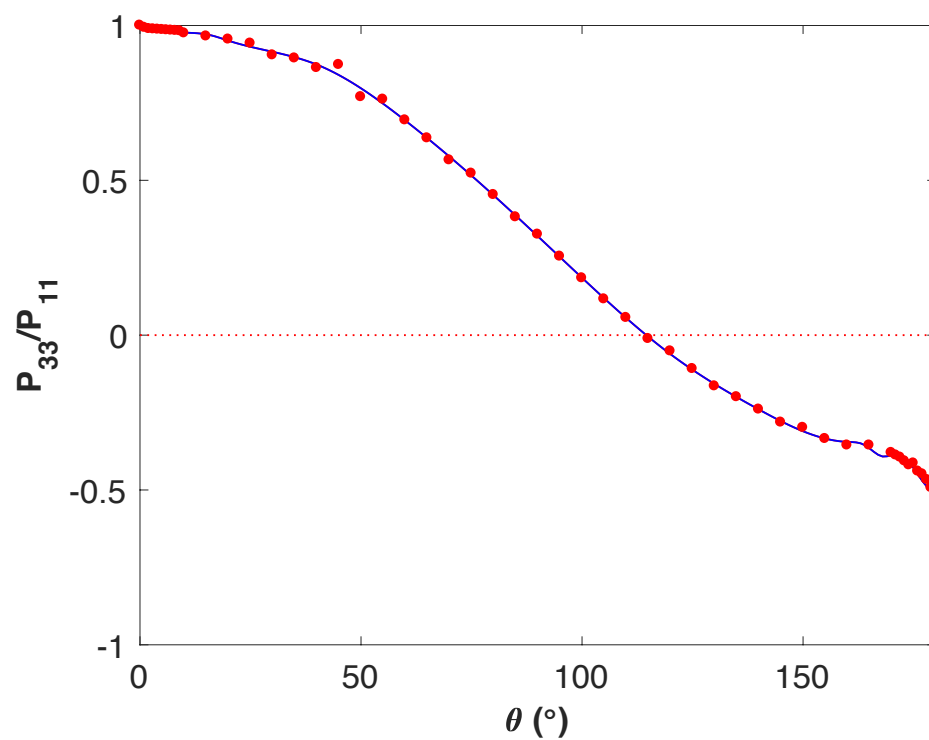
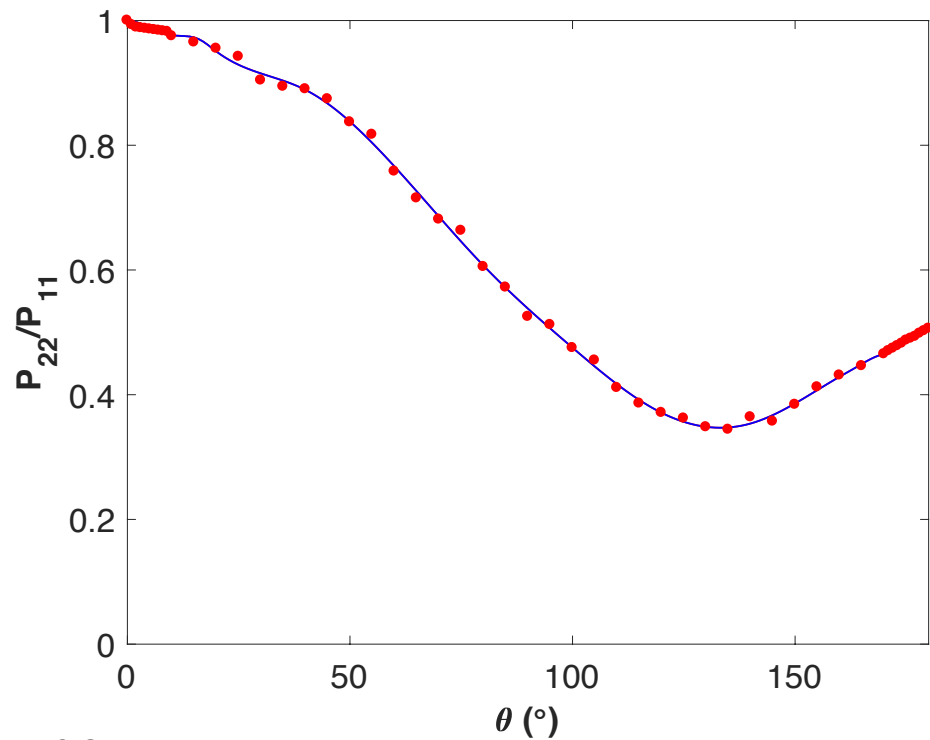




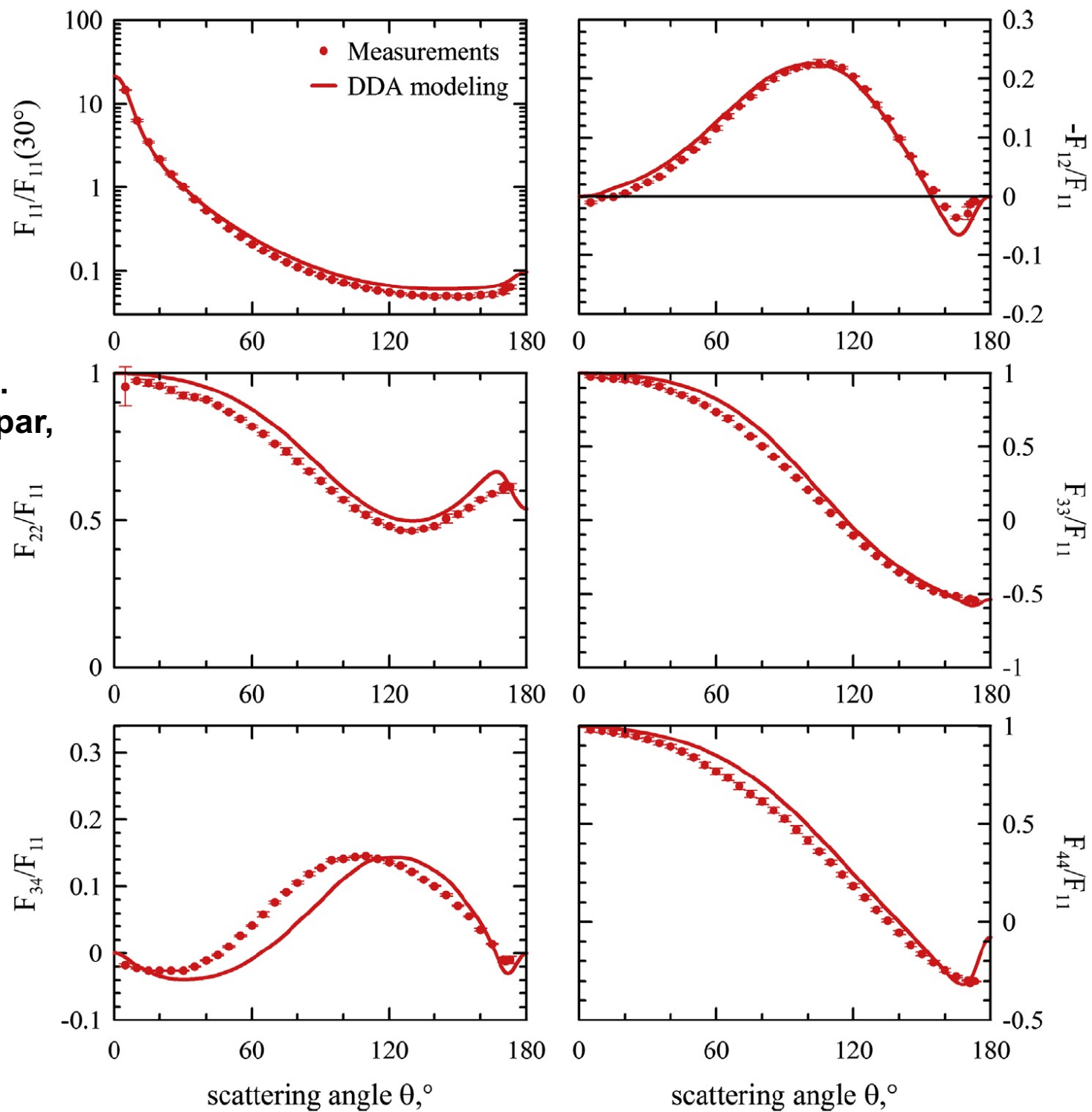








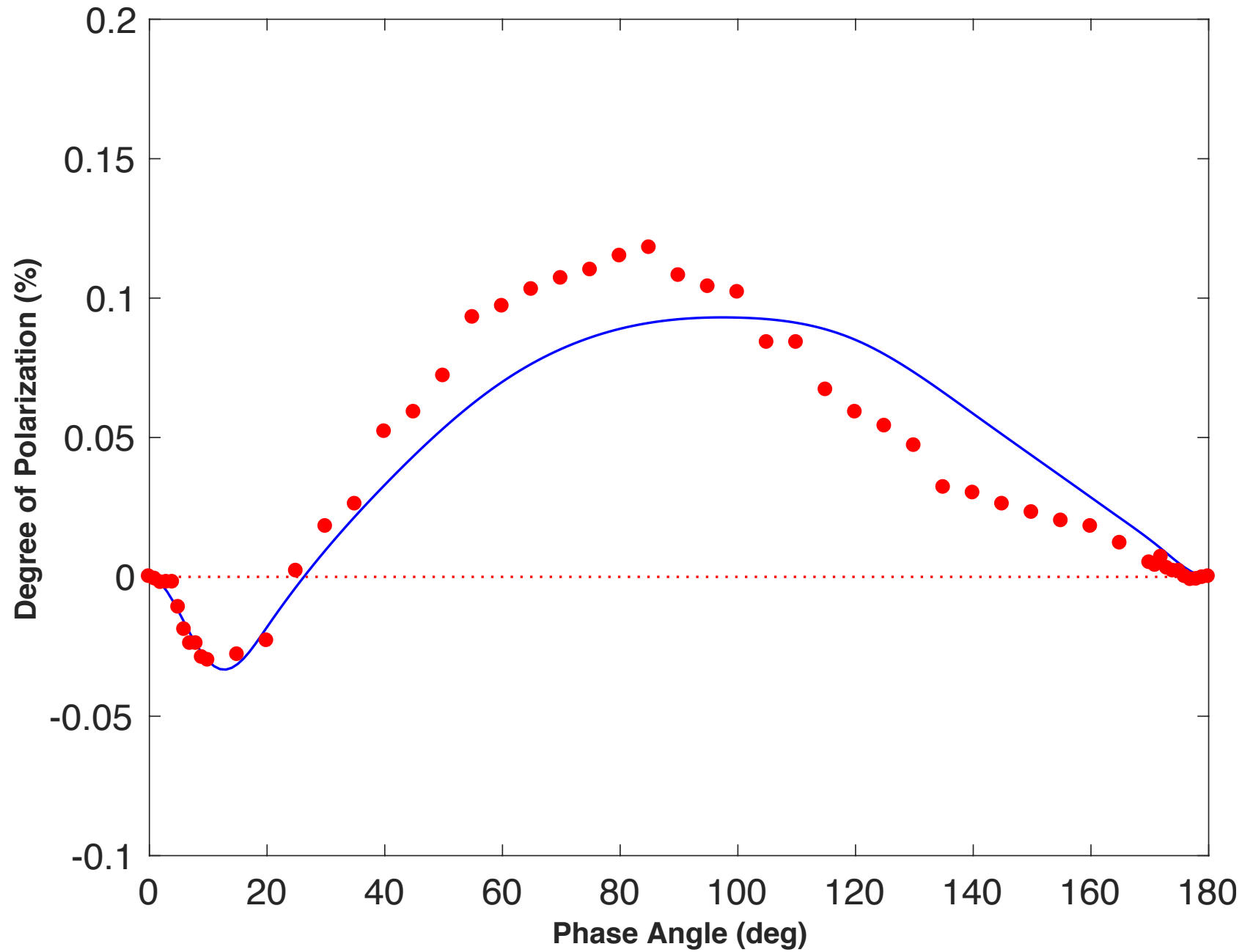
Zubko et al.  
2013, feldspar,  
632 nm

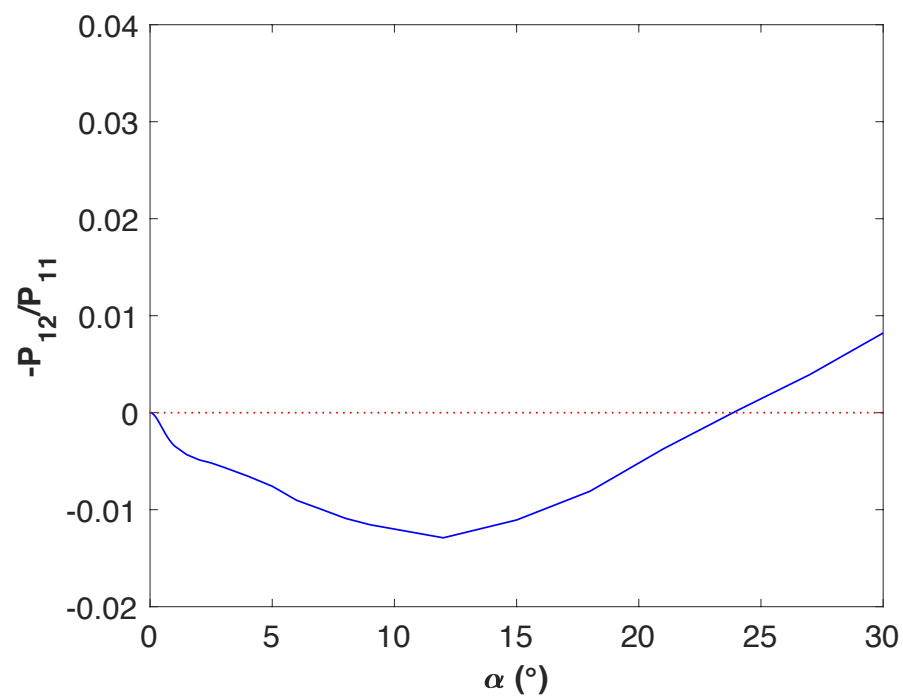
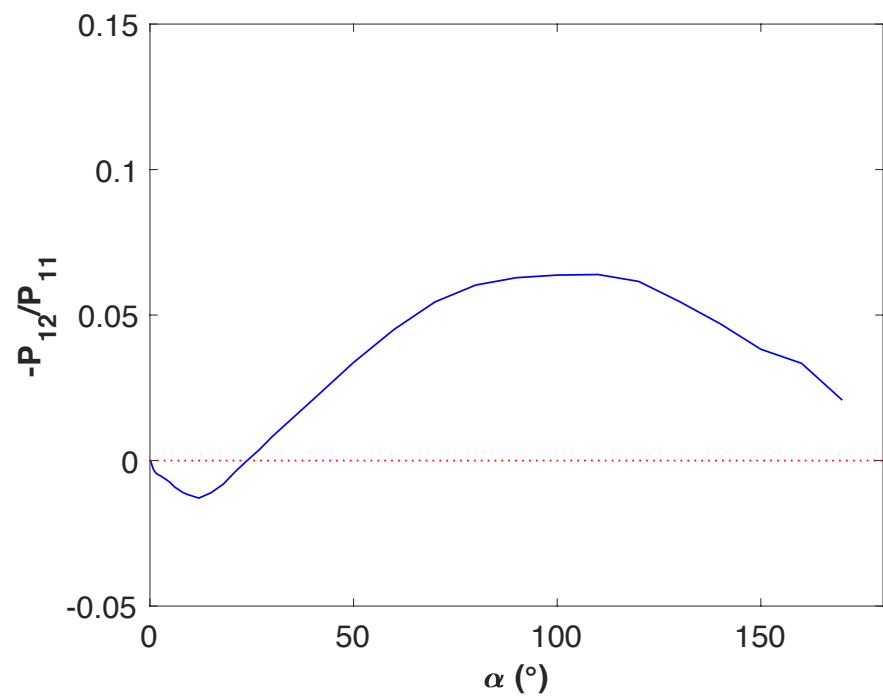
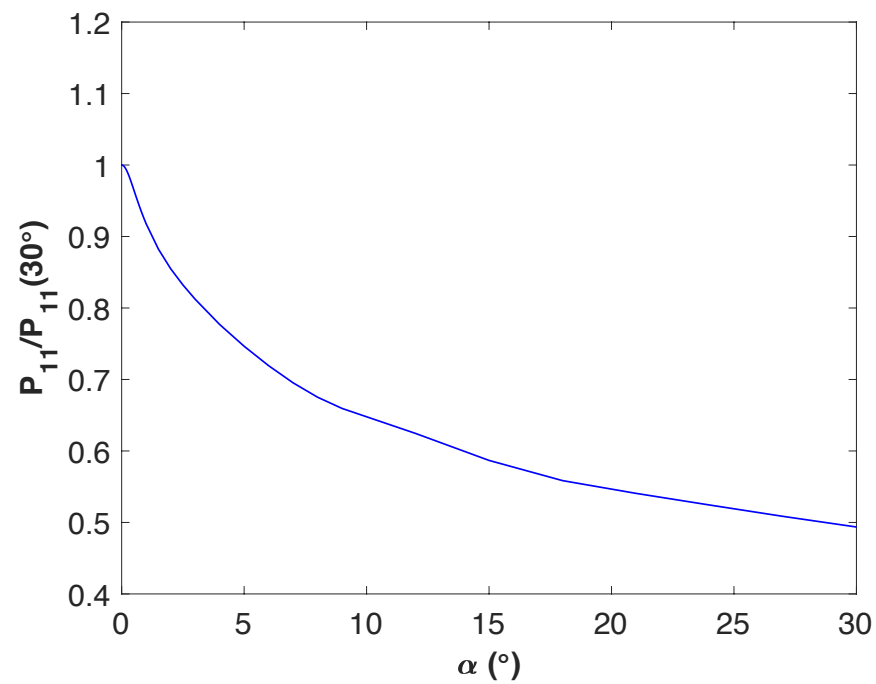
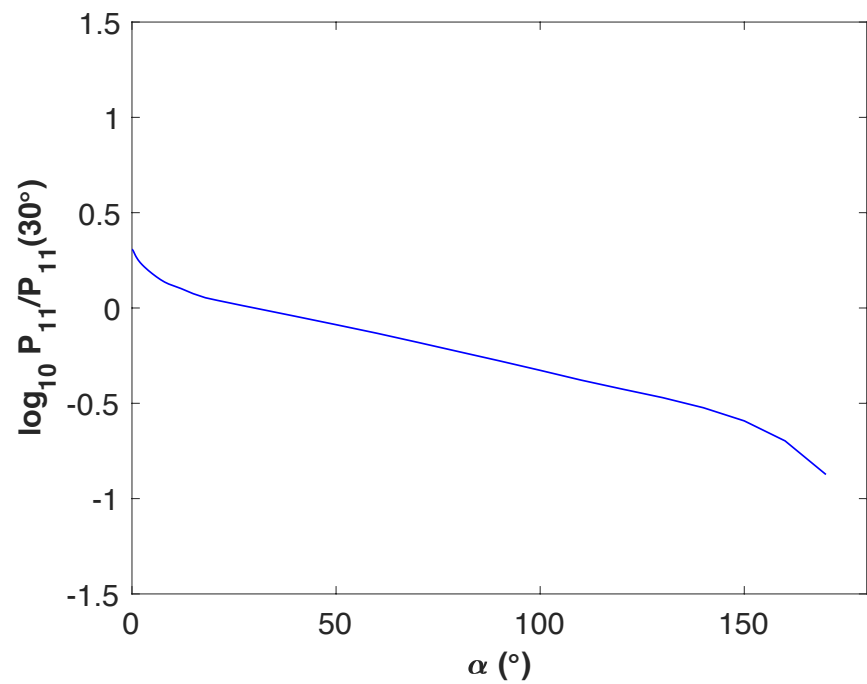


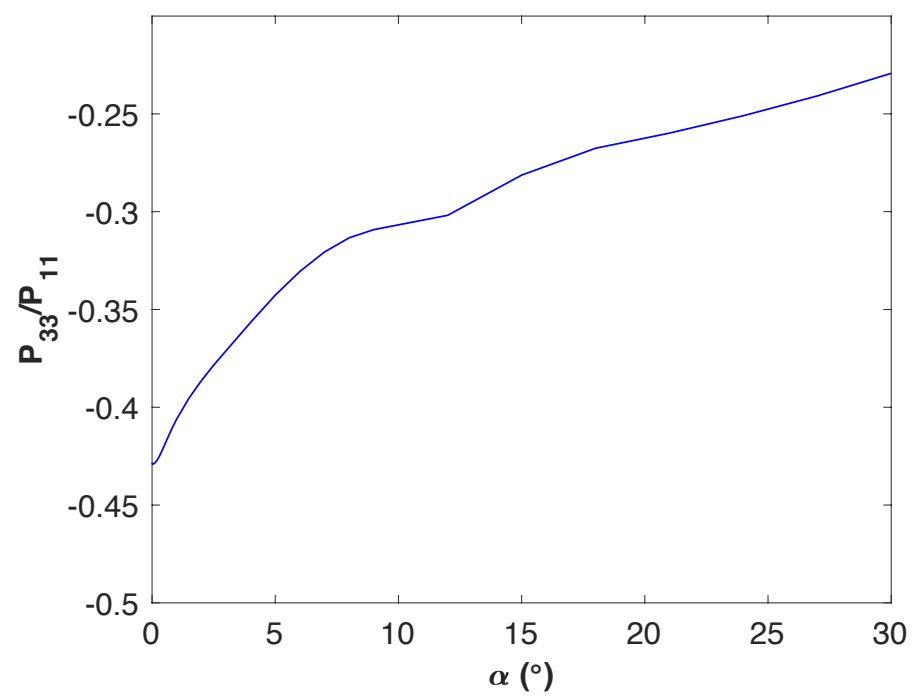
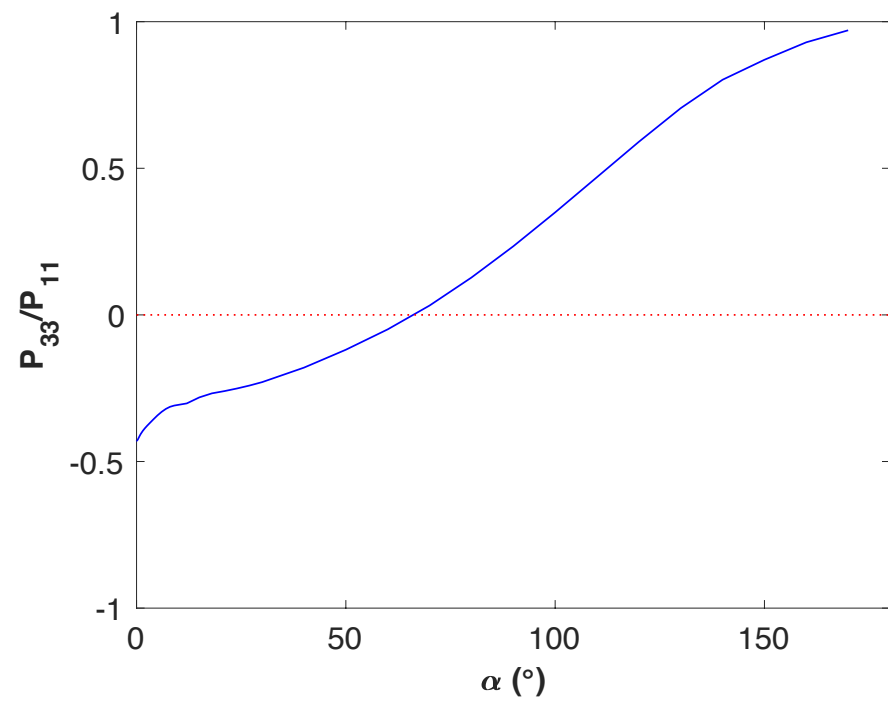
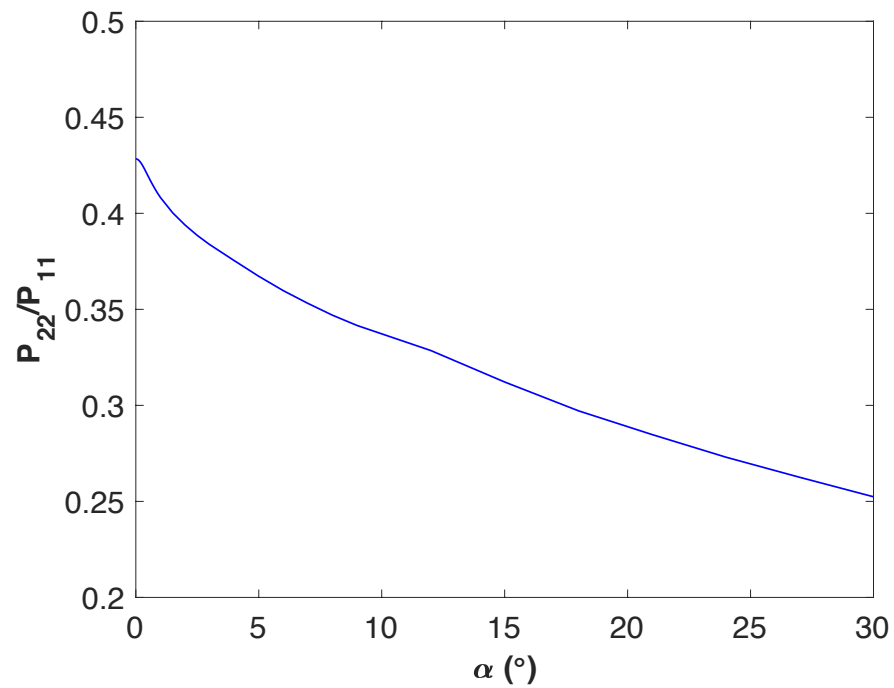
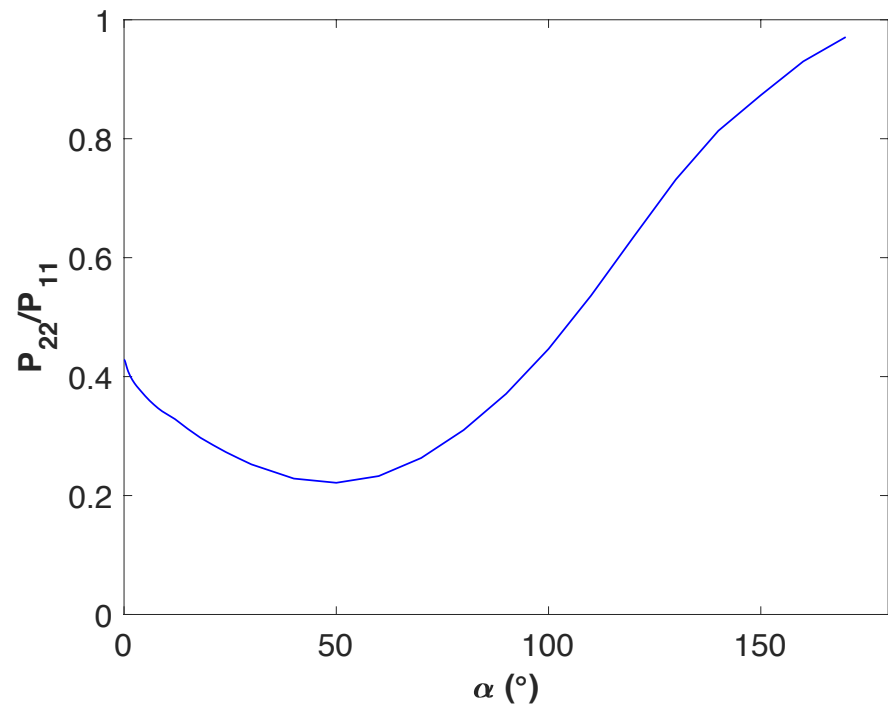
# Lunar scattering model

## RT-CB computations with modified basalt input

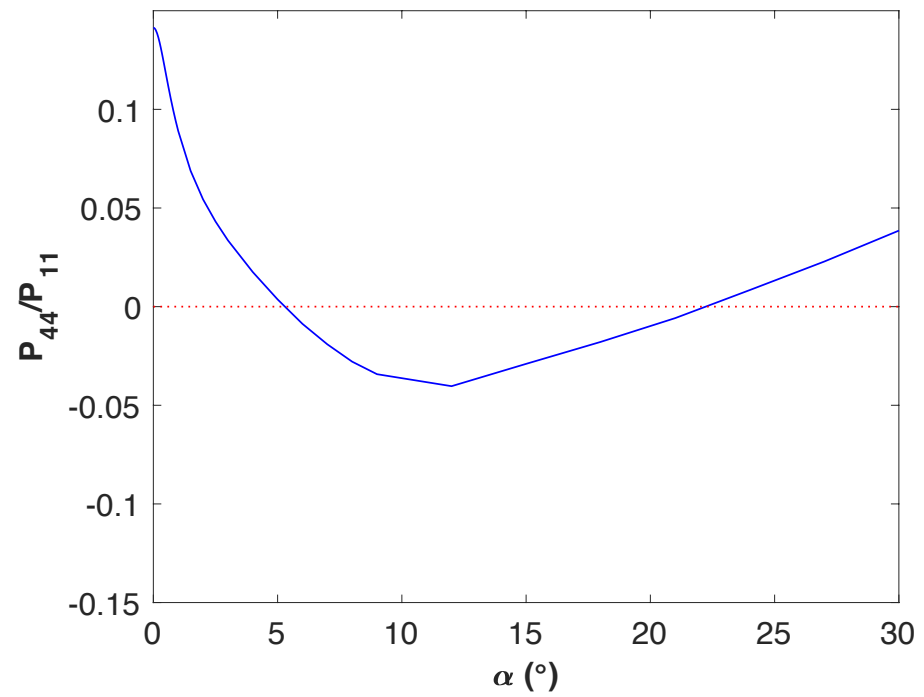
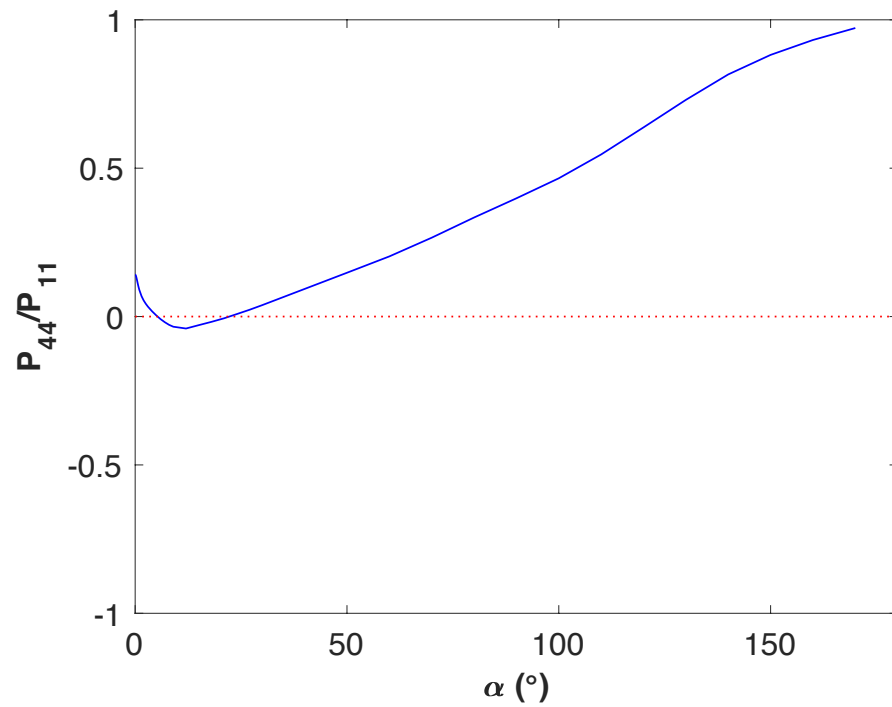
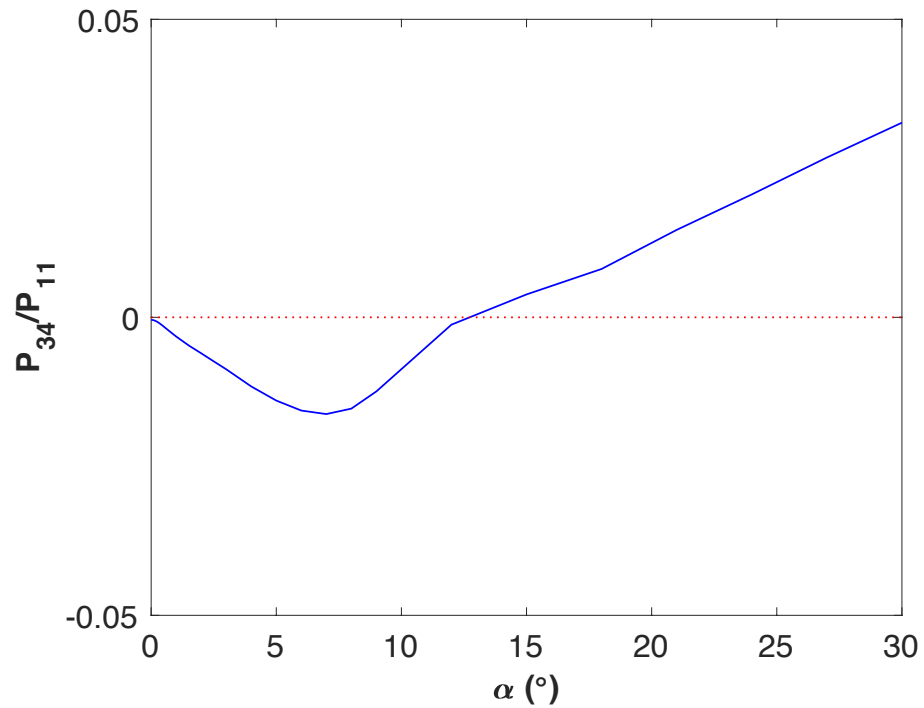
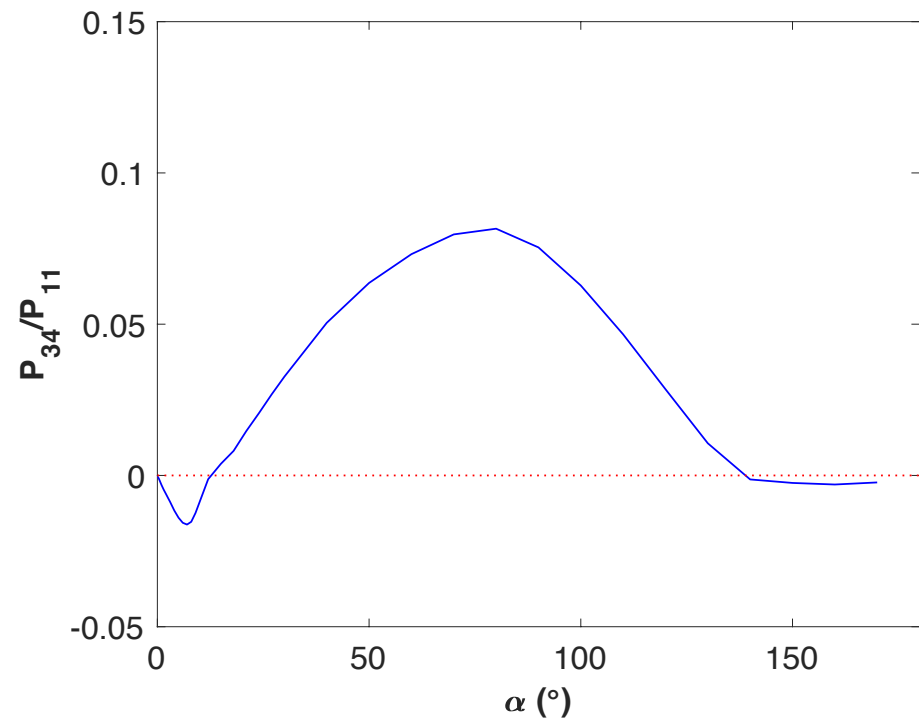
- “Infinite” spherical medium of modified basalt scatterers
- Incoherent input, forward diffraction excluded
- Modified scattering phase matrix accurately decomposed into pure Mueller matrices
- Lunar geometric albedo **0.136** obtained with input single-scattering albedo of **0.723**
- Lunar opposition effect angular width matched with mean free path of **4  $\mu\text{m}$**
- $-P_{12}/P_{11}$  in single scattering iterated for best fit with the lunar polarization



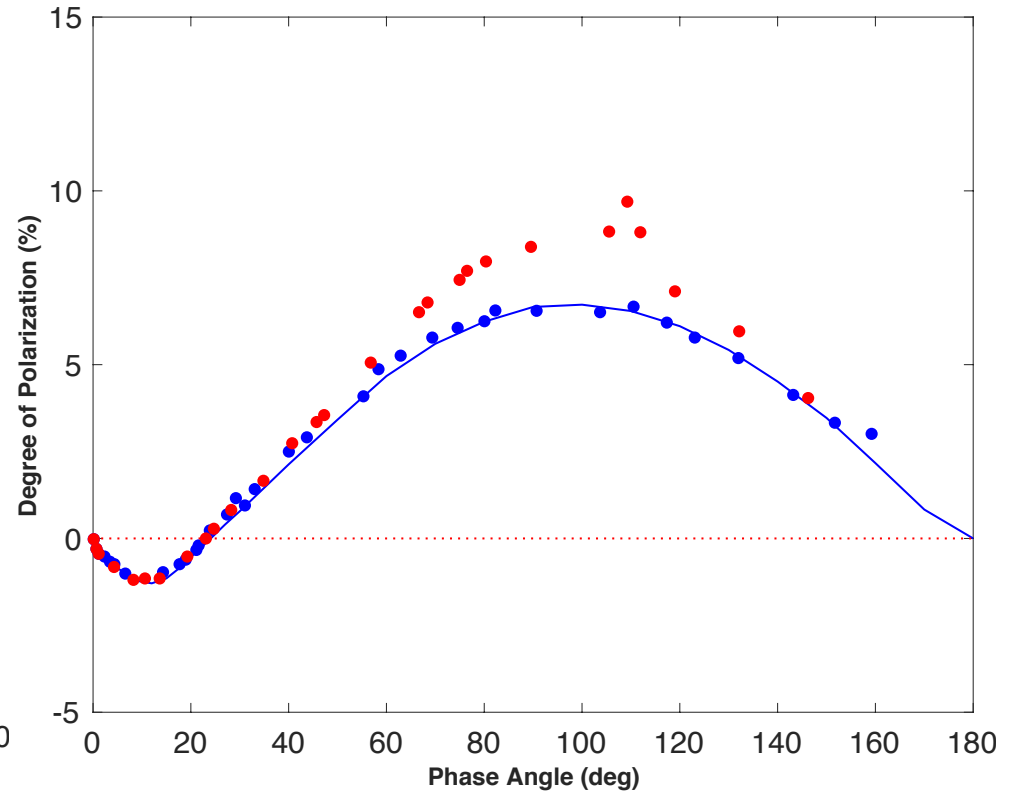
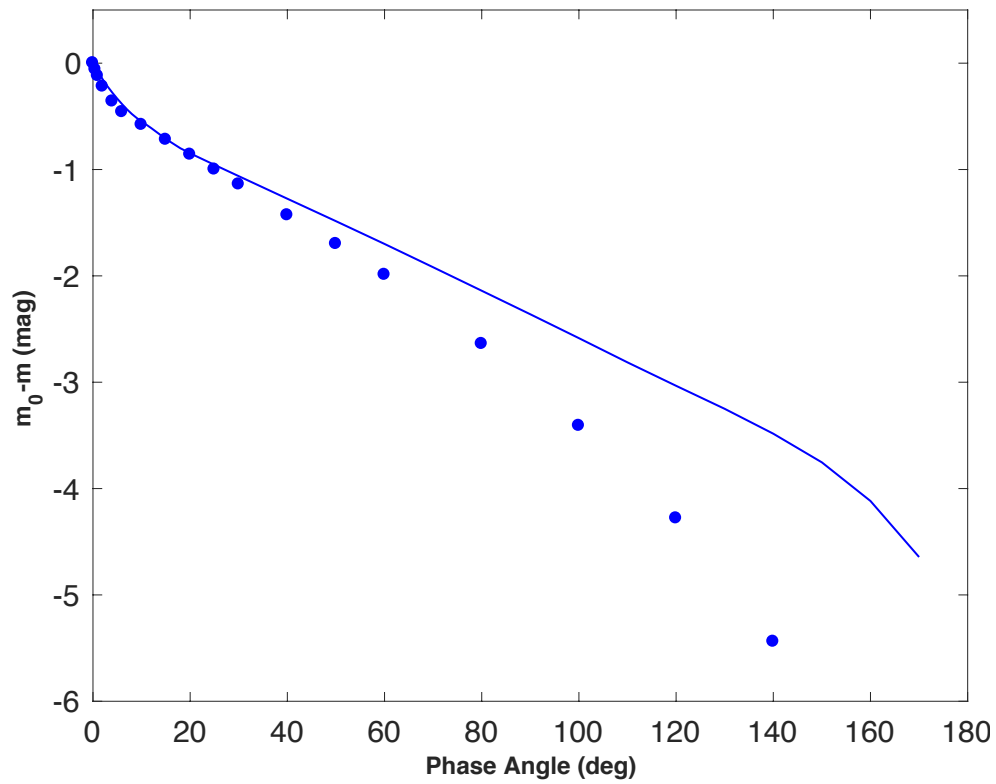




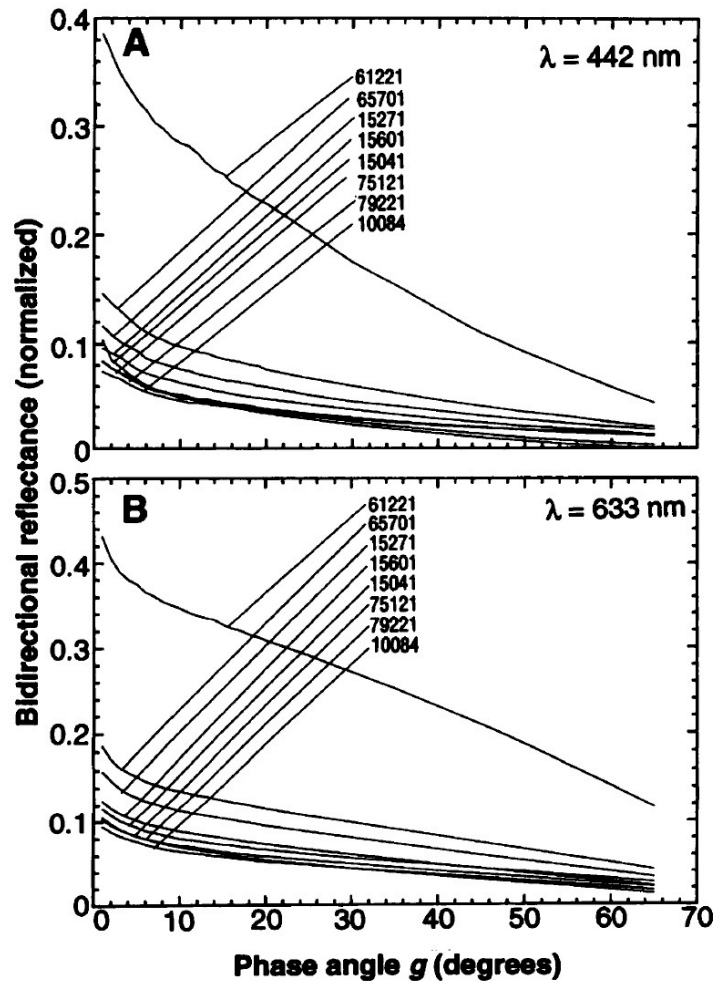




# Lunar phase curve: first results



# Lunar polarization ratios: first results

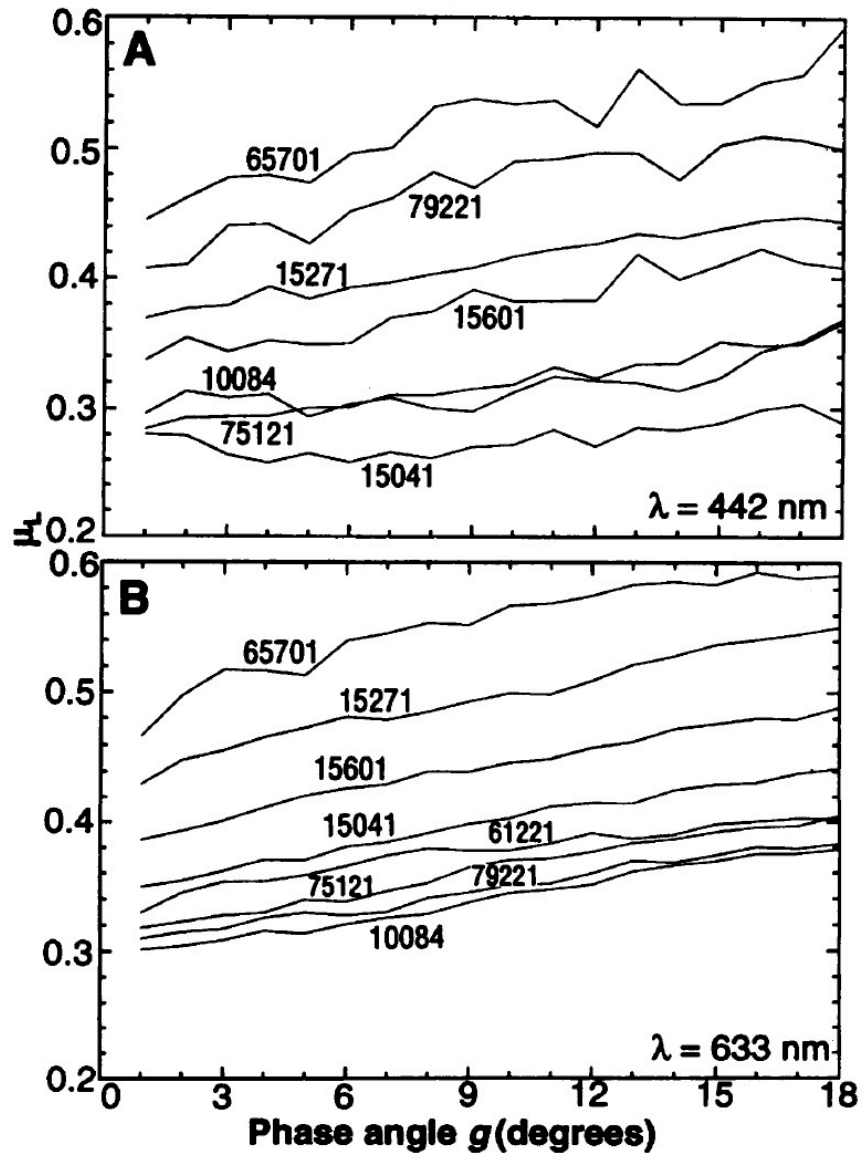


**Fig. 1.** Bidirectional reflectances of the lunar samples as a function of phase angle  $g$  in (A) blue light and (B) red light, normalized to their normal albedos, which are brightnesses relative to a halon standard at an incidence angle of  $5^\circ$ , viewing angle of  $10^\circ$ , and phase angle of  $5^\circ$  (Table 1).

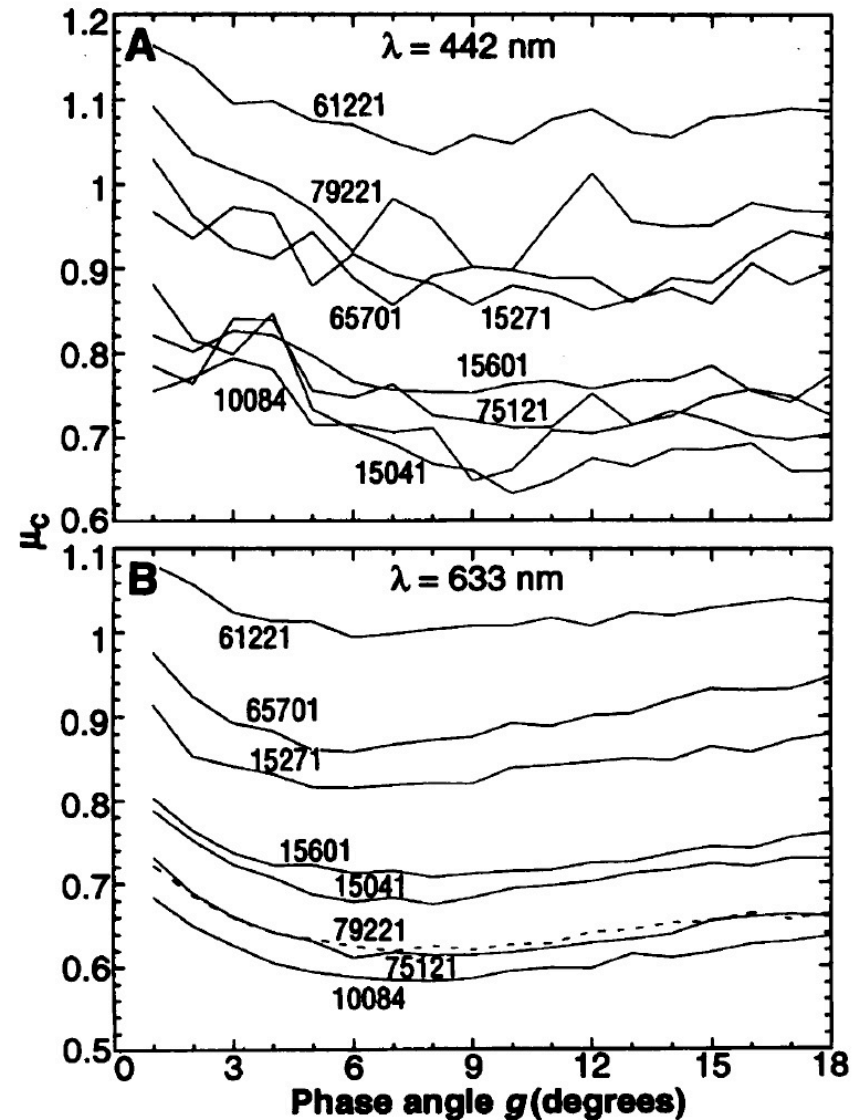
- Laboratory measurements for Apollo samples by Hapke et al. (1993)
- Opposition effect and linear and circular polarization ratios

$$\mu_L = \frac{P_{11} - P_{22}}{P_{11} + 2P_{21} + P_{22}}.$$

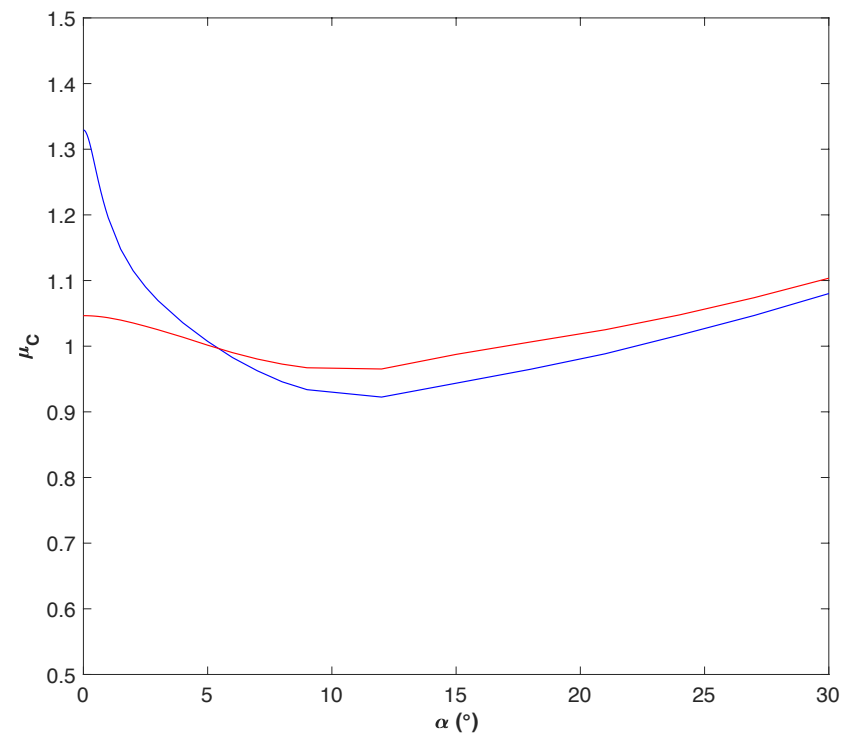
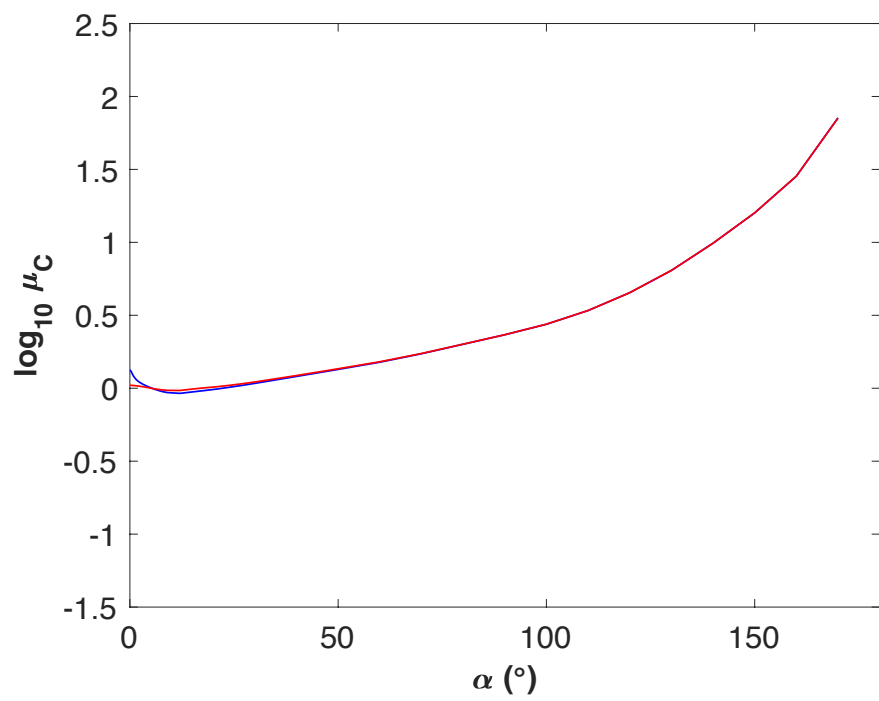
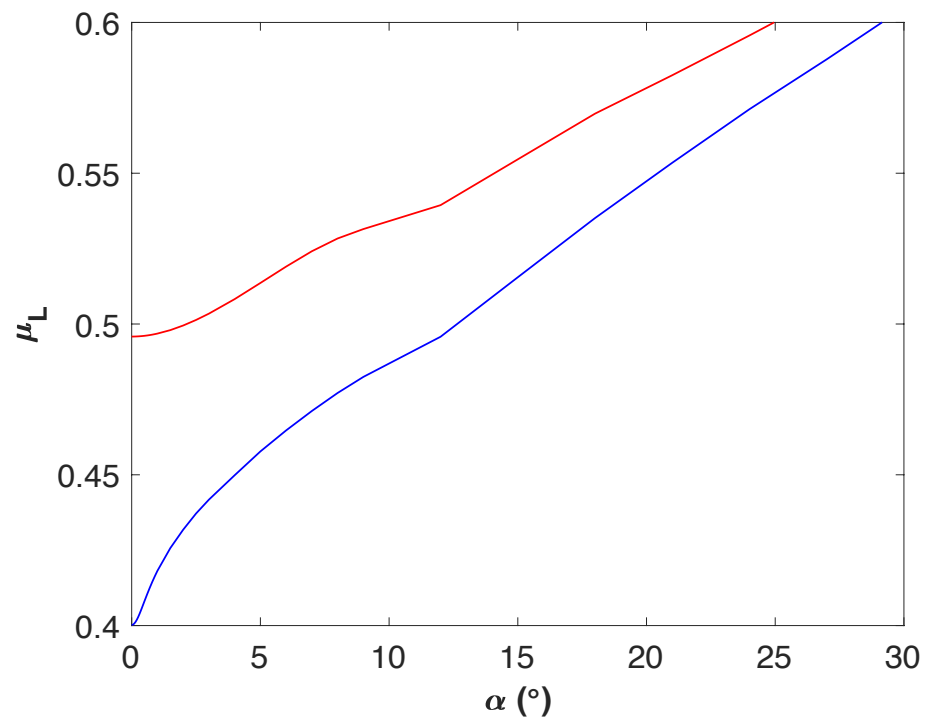
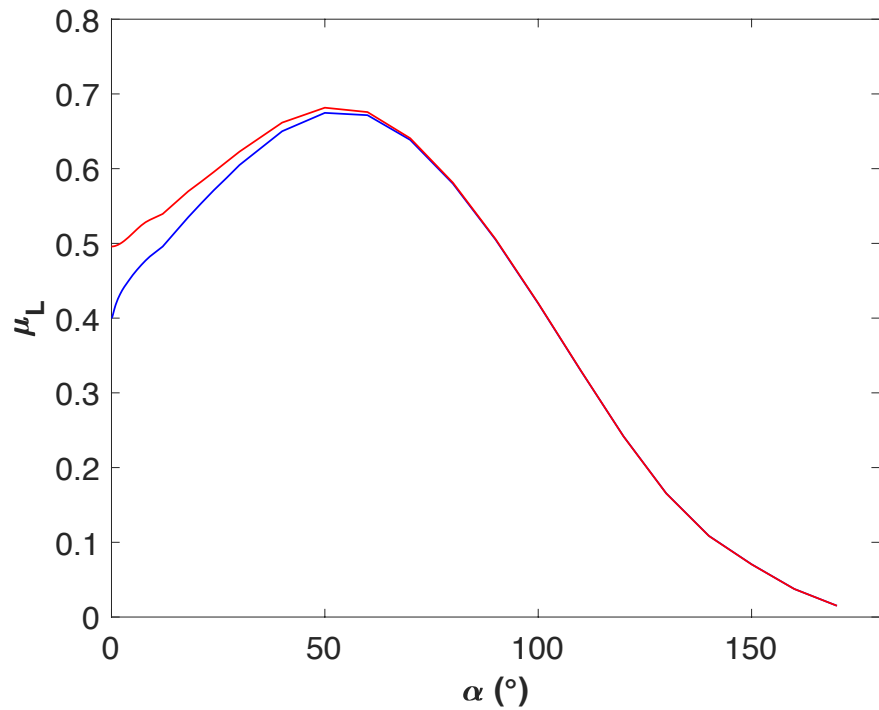
$$\mu_C = \frac{P_{11} + P_{44}}{P_{11} - P_{44}}.$$



**Fig. 2.** Linear polarization ratio  $\mu_L$  versus phase angle  $g$  in (A) blue light and (B) red light. The electric vector of the incident irradiance is perpendicular to the scattering plane (21).



**Fig. 3.** Circular polarization ratio  $\mu_C$  versus phase angle  $g$  in (A) blue light and (B) red light. The helicity of the incident irradiance is left-handed (21).



# Conclusions with future prospects

- Synoptic electromagnetic scattering modeling from first principles
- How do particle size, shape, structure, and composition affect the phase curves and spectra of airless solar system objects?
- What are the prospects for successful inversion?
- Experiments vs. numerical studies vs. observations
- Lunar scattering modeling indicates that
  - interactions among small and large particles key to polarization modeling
  - phase curves introduce constraints on particle size distribution
  - particle shapes constrained by polarization maxima, the value of maximum polarization and the angle of maximum polarization
  - refractive index constrained by geometric albedo and entire polarization curve
- Prospects for combining modeling and instrumentation