



### Optical Imaging Chapter 5 – Light Scattering

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# Light Scattering from Homogeneous Media

- "Scattering" is a generic term for the interaction of radiation by potentials.
- Neutron scattering on mass (nuclei)
- X-ray scattering on charge (ē)
- Scattering of an electromagnetic field on "scattering potentials" i.e. dielectric homogeneous





- Direct Problem: given  $n[\overline{r}]$ , what is  $E[\overline{s}]$ ?
- Inverse Problem: given  $E[\overline{s}]$ , what is  $n[\overline{r}]$ ?
- This problem is more difficult but it provides a diagnostics tool  $\overline{E}_{j}[r] = \overline{E}_{0} \cdot e^{i \cdot \overline{k} \cdot \overline{n}} = \text{plane move incident}; \quad \left|\overline{k}\right| = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \quad (5.1)$



- Particles can be characterized by a complex dielectric constant  $\varepsilon[\overline{r}] = \operatorname{Re}[\varepsilon[\overline{r}]] + i \operatorname{Im}[\varepsilon[\overline{r}]]$ (5.2) $\overline{\varepsilon}[\overline{r}] = n^2[\overline{r}]$ (5.3)**Recall:**
- $Re[n] \rightarrow Refraction$
- $Im[n] \rightarrow Absorption$
- The scattered "far" field ( $R > \frac{d^2}{2}$ )

$$\overline{E}_{S}[\overline{r}] = \overline{E}_{0} \cdot \frac{e^{i \cdot k \cdot R}}{R} \cdot f[\overline{s}, \overline{i}]$$
(5.4)

 $f[\overline{s},\overline{i}] =$  scattering amplitude

= defines amplitude, phase, and polarization of the scattered field.



- Differential Cross section  $\sigma_{d}[\overline{s},\overline{i}] = \lim_{R \to \infty} [R^{2} \left| \frac{\overline{S}_{s}}{\overline{S}_{i}} \right|] = \left| f[\overline{s},\overline{i}] \right|^{2}$ (5.5)
- Only defined in far-field
- $\overline{S}_i$  and  $\overline{S}_s$  are the Pointing vectors (incident and scattered.)

$$S_{i,s} = \frac{1}{2\eta} \left| \overline{E}_{i,s} \right|^{2}$$

$$\eta = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\varepsilon}} = \operatorname{im} \operatorname{pedance} \left( \eta_{vacuum} = 377\Omega \right)$$
(5.6)

• From (eq. 5.5) differential cross-section:

$$\sigma_b = \sigma_d[-\overline{i}, \overline{i}]$$
= back scattering section (5.7)



Scattering Cross section

$$\sigma_{s} = \int_{4\pi} \sigma_{d}[\overline{s}, \overline{i}] d\Omega$$
<sup>(5.8)</sup>

 $[\sigma_s] = m^2$  = area = meaning of probability of scattering

Phase Function

$$p[\overline{s},\overline{i}] = 4\pi \frac{\sigma_d[\overline{s},\overline{i}]}{\sigma} = 4\pi \frac{|f[\overline{s},\overline{i}]|^2}{\sigma}$$
(5.9)  
$$\int p[\overline{s},\overline{i}] d\Omega = 4\pi = \text{normailzation}$$



In the presence of absorption

 $\sigma = \sigma_a + \sigma_s =$  Total Cross Section Area (5.10)

- Most of the time we use "spherical" particles approximation.
- Various regimes, depending on  $\frac{a}{\lambda}$  and (n-1): Rayleigh Scattering, Rayleigh-Gans, Mie
- Collection of particles: density is important
- Again regimes: single scattering, multiple scattering, and diffusion.



- If  $a << \lambda$  , the dipole approximation works well
- Scattering Amplitude

 $\overline{p}$ 

$$f[\overline{s},\overline{i}] = \frac{k^2}{4\pi} \left[ \frac{3(\varepsilon_r - 1)}{\varepsilon_r + 2} \right] \cdot V \cdot \left[ -\overline{s} \times (\overline{s} \times \overline{i}) \right]$$
(5.11)

It describes the "doughnut" shape



 $\overline{p}$  = induced dipole moment (think Lorentz)



 $\mathcal{E} = n^2$ 





#### **5.2 Rayleigh Scattering**

Question: is the sky polarized?

$$\sigma_{s} = \pi a^{2} \frac{8(ka)^{4}}{3} \cdot \left| \frac{(\varepsilon_{r} - 1)}{\varepsilon_{r} + 2} \right|^{2}$$
(5.12)

• Note:  $\sigma \sim k^4 = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda^4} \implies \text{small } \lambda \text{ scatter more } \Rightarrow \text{ blue}$ 

$$\sigma_s \sim a^6 = V^2$$



Recall the Helmholtz equation (Chapter 2, eq. 2.50)

$$\nabla^{2}U[\overline{r}, \omega] + k^{2}n^{2}[\overline{r}, \omega]U[\overline{r}, \omega] = 0$$

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}; \qquad \varepsilon = n^{2}$$
(5.13)

- Scalar eq. is good enough for our purpose
- The Scattering Potential

$$F[\overline{r},\omega] = \frac{1}{4\pi} k^2 \cdot (n^2[\overline{r},\omega] - 1)$$
(5.14)

=> Equation 5.13 can be rewritten:

$$\nabla^2 U[\overline{r}, \omega] + k^2 U[\overline{r}, \omega] = -4\pi F[\overline{r}, \omega] \cdot U[\overline{r}, \omega]$$
<sup>(5.15)</sup>



- Let's use the Fourier method for linear differential equations. Instead of  $(t, \omega)$  domain, use space – spatial frequency domain,  $(\overline{r}, \overline{q})$ . (5.12)
- Let's find the Green's function, i.e. impulse response in space domain. Space-Pulse =  $\delta^{(3)}[\overline{r}]$
- The elementary equation becomes:  $\nabla^{2}H[\overline{r},\omega] + k^{2}H[\overline{r},\omega] = -\delta^{(3)}[\overline{r}] \qquad (5.16)$
- Take the Fourier Transform w.r.t.  $\overline{r}$

$$\Rightarrow -q^2 \cdot H[\overline{q}, \omega] + k^2 \cdot H[\overline{q}, \omega] = -1 \tag{5.17}$$



• (Eq. 5.17 from last slide)  

$$\Rightarrow -q^{2} \cdot H[\overline{q}, \omega] + k^{2} \cdot H[\overline{q}, \omega] = -1 \qquad (5.17)$$

$$\Rightarrow H[\overline{q}, \omega] = \frac{1}{q^{2} - k^{2}} \qquad (5.18)$$
• H = transfer function => impulse response.  

$$\begin{cases} h[\overline{r}, \omega] = F\{H[\overline{q}, \omega]\} \\ \Rightarrow h[\overline{r}, \omega] = A \cdot \frac{e^{ik \cdot |\overline{r}|}}{|\overline{r}|} \end{cases} \qquad (5.19)$$

 This is the <u>Spherical Wavelet</u> we used in diffraction (section 3.11)



- <u>Scattering and diffraction</u> are essentially the same thing : the interaction of light with a (usually small) object.
- So the solution of (eq. 5.15) is a convolution of the impulse response with  $F[\overline{r}, \omega] \cdot U[\overline{r}, \omega]$ :

$$U^{(S)}[\overline{r},\omega] = \int_{(V)} F[\overline{r}',\omega] \cdot U[\overline{r}',\omega] \cdot \frac{e^{i\kappa \cdot |r-r'|}}{|\overline{r}-\overline{r}'|} d^3r' \qquad (5.20)$$

$$= \text{superposition of wavelets}$$

• Assuming the plane wave incident  $U^{(i)} = e^{ik \cdot \overline{s}_0 \cdot \overline{r}}$  the total field in the for zone:  $U^{(s)}$ 

$$U[\overline{r},\omega] = e^{ik \cdot \overline{s}_0 \cdot \overline{r}} + \int_{(V)} F[\overline{r}',\omega] \cdot U[\overline{r}',\omega] \cdot \frac{e^{ik \cdot |\overline{r}-\overline{r}'|}}{|\overline{r}-\overline{r}'|} d^3r' \quad (5.21)$$



# 5.3 The Born Approximation $\overline{r} - \overline{r}$ r ZUseful Approximation (for zone) $\left|\overline{r} - \overline{r}'\right| = \sqrt{r^2 + r'^2 - 2rr'\cos\theta} = r\sqrt{1 + 2\frac{r'}{r}\cos\theta + \left(\frac{r'}{r}\right)^2}$ • Since $r' \ll r$ and $\sqrt{1 - 2x} \approx 1 - x$ $\simeq 0$ $\left|\overline{r} - \overline{r}'\right| \simeq r - r' \cos \theta$ (5.22a)• Equivalently $\left|\overline{r} - \overline{r}'\right| \simeq r - \overline{s} \cdot \overline{r}'$ (5.22b)



Equation 5.22b implies that

$$\frac{e^{ik \cdot |\overline{r} - \overline{r}'|}}{|\overline{r} - \overline{r}'|} \simeq \frac{e^{ik \cdot r}}{r} e^{ik \cdot \overline{s} \cdot \overline{r}}$$
(5.23)

- The scattered field  $U^{(S)}$  in equation 5.21 becomes  $U^{(S)}[r\overline{s},\omega] = \frac{e^{ik \cdot r}}{r} \int F[\overline{r}',\omega] \cdot U[\overline{r}',\omega] \cdot e^{-ik \cdot \overline{s} \cdot \overline{r}'} d^3 r' \quad (5.24)$
- Equation 5.24 is generally difficult to solve but a meaningful approximation can be made: the medium is <u>weakly scattering</u> = 1<sup>st</sup> Born Approximation.
- i.e. the field in the medium  $\simeq$  incident field  $\Rightarrow U[r', \omega] = e^{ik \cdot \overline{s} \cdot \overline{r}'}$



• With  $U[r', \omega] = e^{ik \cdot \overline{s} \cdot \overline{r}'}$ , equation 5.24 becomes the Born Approximation:

$$U^{(S)}[\overline{s},\overline{s}_0] = A \int F[r'] \cdot e^{-ik \cdot (\overline{s}-\overline{s}_0) \cdot \overline{r}'} d^3 r'$$
(5.25)

 Scattering vector:  $\overline{q} = k(\overline{s} - \overline{s}_0)$  → momentum transfer
 Note:  $|\overline{p}| = |\overline{p}_0|$  → elastic scattering



Equation 5.25 becomes:

$$U^{(S)}[g] = A \int F[r'] \cdot e^{-i \cdot \overline{q} \cdot \overline{r}'} d^3 r'$$
(5.26)



• Fourier Relationship:

$$U^{(S)}[g] = \Im[F[\overline{r}']]$$
$$F[\overline{r}'] = \frac{1}{4\pi} k^2 \cdot (n^2[r'] - 1)$$

F.T. is nice because it is easy to compute and <u>bi-directional</u>





- So measuring I[ $\theta$ ] we can get info about n[r] because  $F[\overline{r}'] = \Im[U[\overline{q}]] \tag{5.27}$
- Historically the Born approximation was first used in neutron scattering and then in x-rays
- Recall dispersion relationship n[ω]



 $\lim_{\omega \to \infty} n[\omega] = 1 \rightarrow \text{ for x rays, most materials are within Born Approx}$ 

Spectroscopy Lab uses light scattering to detect early cancer!!



#### **5.4 The Spatial Correlation Function**

- $U^{(s)}(q) = A \int F(r') e^{-i\overline{q}\cdot\overline{r}'} d^3r'$  provides the scattered field  $U^{(s)}$
- The measured quantity is  $|U^{(s)}|^2 = I^{(s)}$  $I^{(s)} = |U^{(s)}|^2 = \Im[F(r)]\Im[F(r')]^*$
- Recall correlation theorem:  $GG^* = \Im[g \otimes g]$
- Product of Fourier Transformation equals  $\mathfrak{I}$  of correlation.
- $F(r') = \Im[U(\overline{g})]$  becomes:

$$I^{(s)} = \Im[F(r) \otimes F(r)] \quad \text{where} \quad C(r) = \int f(r') f(r'-r) d^3 r'$$

$$I^{(s)}(q) = \int C(r) e^{-i\overline{q} \cdot \overline{r}} d^3 \overline{r} \qquad (4.28)$$



#### **5.4 The Spatial Correlation Function**

- $I^{(s)}(\overline{q}) = \int C(\overline{r}) e^{-i\overline{g}\cdot\overline{r}} d^3\overline{r}$  is another form of the Born approximation
- It connects measurable quantity  $I^{(s)}(g)$  with the spatial correlation function  $C(\overline{r})$ .
- $I^{(s)}(q) = \int C(\overline{r}) e^{-i\overline{g}\cdot\overline{r}} d^3\overline{r}$  applies to both continuous and discrete media.





(5.29)

#### **5.5 Single Particle Under Born Approximation**

• Spherical particle 
$$\begin{vmatrix} n(r) = n, & \text{if } |n| < R \\ 0, & \text{rest} \end{vmatrix}$$

• Correlation means the volume of overlaps between shifted "versions" of the function:  $C(r) = \int f(r') f(r'-r) d^3r'$ 



• The differential cross section of such particle is  $\sigma_d(q) = I_d(q)$ 



### **5.5 Single Particle Under Born Approximation**

• Using: 
$$I^{(s)}(q) = \int c(r) e^{-i\overline{q}\cdot\overline{r}} d^3\overline{r}$$

• 
$$\sigma_d(q) = A \frac{1}{q^4 v^6} [\sin(qa) - ga \cos(qa)]^2$$
 (5.31)

- $\sigma_d(q) = A \frac{1}{q^4 v^6} [\sin(qa) ga \cos(qa)]^2$  is the solution for Rayleigh-Gauss particles (Born approx. for spheres).
- Applies for  $kd(n-1) \ll 1$
- Greater applicability than Rayleigh(Rayleigh is a particular case of Rayleigh-Gaus, for a → 0)



# **5.6 Ensemble of particles** Example: n(x) $n(x) = f(x) \bigoplus [\sum_{i} \delta(x - x_{i})]$ $\rightarrow$ Convolution (5.32)

- Particles have refractive index given by f(x), but are distributed in space at positions  $\delta(x - x_i)$
- Consider volume distribution of identical particles:  $F(r) = F_0(r) \bigotimes \sum d(\overline{r} - \overline{r_i})$ (5.33)



#### **5.6 Ensemble of particles**

- Particles have refractive index given by f(x), but are distributed in space at positions
- Consider volume distribution of identical particles:  $F(r) = F_0(r) \bigotimes \sum d(\overline{r} - \overline{r_i})$ (5.33)
- $F_0(r)$  = scattering potential a single particle.
- (v) convolution
- The scattered field is (Eq. 5.26)

$$U^{(s)}(g) = \Im[F_0(\overline{r}) \bigotimes \sum_i d(\overline{r} - \overline{r_i})] \quad (5.34)$$
$$= \Im[F_0(\overline{r})]\Im[\sum_i d(\overline{r} - \overline{r_i})]$$
$$F(g) \quad S(g)$$



#### **5.6 Ensemble of particles**

The scattered field is (Eq. 5.26)

$$U^{(s)}(g) = \Im[F_0(\overline{r}) \bigotimes \sum_i d(\overline{r} - \overline{r_i})]$$

$$= \Im[F_0(\overline{r})] \Im[\sum_i d(\overline{r} - \overline{r_i})]$$

$$F(g) \qquad S(g)$$
(5.34)

F(g) = Form factor

= Describe the scattering from one particle

S(g) = <u>Structure factor</u> – interference = Defines the arrangement of scattering



#### **5.6 Ensemble of particles**

- Similarly
  - a) Yang experiment



b) X-ray scattering on crystals

- each scattering is Rayleigh are isotropic in angle (atom)
- Structure factor provides info about lattice



#### 5.7 Mie Scattering

• Provides exact solution  $\sigma_s$  for spherical particles of arbitrary refractive index and size.

$$\sigma_{s} = \pi a^{2} \frac{2}{\alpha^{2}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (2n+1)(|a_{n}|^{2} + |b_{n}|^{2})$$
(5.35)

with  $a_n$ ,  $b_n$  = Mie coefficients = complicated functions of  $\alpha = ka$ 

- The above equation is an infinite series
- Converges slower for larger particles
- Computes routines easily available

 $\beta = k\omega a$ 

 $\omega = \frac{n}{m}$ 

 $n_0$ 



#### 5.7 Mie Scattering

Scattering Efficiency

$$Q = \frac{\sigma_s}{\pi a^2} \tag{5.36}$$

Scattering from large particles:



- Although Mie is restricted to spheres, is heavily used for tissue modeling
- Mie takes into account multiple bounces inside the particle.



#### **5.8 Multiple Light Scattering**

Attenuation through scattering medias is quantified by the <u>scattering mean free path</u>:  $\stackrel{\rightarrow}{\rightarrow} P_f \qquad l_s = \frac{1}{N\sigma_s}$ (5.37) N = Concentration of particles [m<sup>-3</sup>] • Scattering Coefficient:  $\mu = \frac{1}{l_s} = N\sigma_s$ The power left unscattered upon passing through the medium:  $=P_ie^{-\mu_s L}$ (5.38)



#### **5.8 Multiple Light Scattering**

Transport mean free path:

$$l_{t} = \frac{l_{s}}{1-g} \qquad g = \left\langle \cos(\theta) \right\rangle \qquad (5.39)$$
  
= average of scatter angle

- *l<sub>t</sub>* is renormalizing *l<sub>s</sub>*; takes into account the directional scattering of large particles.
- Note:

```
g \in (0.75; 0.95) for tissue!
\frac{l_t}{l_s} \in (10; 20)-important factor
```



#### **5.9 The Transport Equation**

- The multiple scattering regime is not tractable for the general case.
- For high concentration of particles some useful approximations can be made.
- Photon random walk model → borrowed from nuclear reaction theory-> Transport Equation = Balance of Energy.



- Even this simple equation is typically solved numerically.
- One more approximation → analytic solutions.



• Integrate both sides of the equation  $S(\overline{r}, \overline{\Omega}, t)$  with respect to solid angle  $\Omega$ 

• 
$$\frac{1}{v}\frac{d\phi}{dt} + \overline{\nabla}\overline{J}(\overline{r},t) + \mu\phi(\overline{r},t) = \mu_s\phi(\overline{r},t) + S(\overline{r},t)$$
 (5.41)

 $\phi = \text{photon flux} = \int_{4\pi} \varphi(\overline{r}, \overline{R}, t) d\overline{\Omega} \quad \overline{J} = \text{current} = \int_{4\pi} \overline{\Omega} \varphi(\overline{r}, \overline{R}, t) d\overline{\Omega}$ 



- **Diffusion Approximation:**
- Assume the angular flux is only linearly anisotropic.
  \$\varphi(\bar{r}, \bar{\Omega}, t) \approx \frac{1}{4\pi} \varphi(\bar{r}, t) + \frac{3}{4\pi} \bar{J}(\bar{r}, t) \cdot \bar{\Omega}\$ (5.42)
  If  $\frac{1}{|\bar{J}|} \frac{\partial \bar{J}}{\partial t} << v \mu_t$ = slow variation of J, an equation that relates</li>$
- $\overline{J}$  and  $\phi$  can be derived:

$$\overline{J}(\overline{r},t) = -\frac{1}{3\mu_t} \nabla \phi(\overline{r},t) = -D(\overline{r}) \overline{\nabla} \phi(\overline{r},t)$$
(5.43)

$$\mu t = \frac{1}{l_t}; l_t = \frac{l_s}{1-g}; g = \langle \Omega \cdot \Omega' \rangle = \text{average cosine.}$$

D = Photon diffusion Coefficient

Eq 5.43 is Flick's Law



- The diffusion equation can be derived:  $\frac{1}{v}\frac{d\phi}{dt} - \nabla[D(r)\nabla\phi(\overline{r},t)] + \mu_a(r)\phi(\overline{r},t) = S(\overline{r},t) \qquad (5.44)$
- Equation in only one variable:  $\phi = vr(\overline{r}, t) =$  photon flux v = photon velocity

$$n =$$
 photon density [m<sup>-3</sup>]

- $\mu_a$  = absorption coefficient
- For homogeneous medium and no absorption:  $\frac{d\phi(\overline{r},t)}{dt} - vD\nabla^2\phi(\overline{r},t) = vS(r,t) \qquad (5.45)$ Time resolved equation



- Diffusion equation often used for light-tissue introduction
- Applicability:  $L >> l_s \Leftrightarrow$  many scattering events  $\mu_a << \mu_s \rightarrow$  absorption not too high
- $\phi$  = measurable quantity
- Diffusion model gives insight into the medium/tissue
- Measurable parameters:  $\mu_s$  ,  $\mu_a$  , g , etc



#### **5.11 Solutions of the Diffusion Equation**

- Slab of thickness d:  $P_{R} \left( \begin{array}{c} r & Diffusion \\ medium \\ medium \\ P_{T} \end{array} \right) P_{T}$   $P_{R} \left( \begin{array}{c} r & P_{R} \end{array} \right) P_{T} \\ P_{R}(r,s,d) = A \cdot s^{-\frac{5}{2}} e^{-\mu_{a}s} e^{-\frac{r^{2}}{4Ds}} f_{R}(d,z_{e}) \\ P_{T}(r,s,d) = A \cdot s^{-\frac{5}{2}} e^{-\mu_{a}s} e^{-\frac{r^{2}}{4Ds}} f_{T}(d,z_{e}) \end{array} \right) (5.46)$
- With: s = path-length = v<sub>t</sub>

 $z_e$  = extrapolated length  $\rightarrow$  boundary condition

- $f_R, f_T$  reflection and transmission functions
- Laser pulse investigation has been used for tissue
- Stationary investigation also used  $\rightarrow$  <u>spatially resolved</u>



# **5.12 Diffusion of Light in Tissue**

- Tissue is a highly scattering medium; direction & polarization are randomized.
- Typical values:  $l_s = 100 \mu m, g \simeq 0.9$
- Measurable quantities:
  - $\mu_a$  = absorption factor
  - g = anysotropy factor
  - $\mu_s$  = scattering coefficient
- Reflection and geometry is suitable for in vivo diagnostics

a) Time resolved:

$$P(s) = \text{ path-legth distribution}$$



# **5.12 Diffusion of Light in Tissue**

- a) Time resolved:
  - Used with femtosecond laser and LCI
  - P(s) is a measurable tissue characterization

b) Spatially resolved:



- Note:
  - Semi-infinite medium model is heavily used.
  - If there is refractive index at boundary, not quite continuous angular distribution.