Multiple Scattering in the Surfaces of Small Solar System Bodies

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Topics: Numerical verification of coherent backscattering, Physical scattering model

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Introduction

- Direct problem of light scattering from planetarysystem regoliths
 - particle size, shape, and composition
 - volume density in particulate medium
 - rough interface between particulate medium and free space
- Inverse problem based on photometric and polarimetric observations
- Opposition effect, negative polarization



Muinonen et al., MAPS 44, 1937, 2009, obs. ref. therein











Numerical verification of coherent backscattering

- Intensity and polarization of light backscattered by a finite volume of spherical particles
- Superposition *T*-matrix method (STMM, exact)
 - Mackowski and Mishchenko, JQSRT 2011
 - Mishchenko et al., ApJ 2009
- Coherent-backscattering radiative-transfer method (RT-CB, ladder & cyclical interaction diagrams in multiple scattering)
 - Muinonen, Waves in Random Media 2004
 - Muinonen and Zubko, ELS XII 2010
 - Muinonen et al., ApJ 2012, submitted



Stokes vectors
$$\boldsymbol{I}_{i} = (I_{i}, Q_{i}, U_{i}, V_{i})^{T}$$

 $\boldsymbol{I}_{s} = (I_{s}, Q_{s}, U_{s}, V_{s})^{T}$

scattering matrix \boldsymbol{S}

$$\boldsymbol{I}_{\mathrm{s}} = \frac{1}{k^2 R^2} \, \boldsymbol{S} \cdot \boldsymbol{I}_{\mathrm{i}}$$

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

- Finite volume of 500 spheres with volume density of 6.25%
- Volume size parameter

$$-X = kR = 40$$
 (STMM & RT-CB)

 $-X = 10^{7} (RT-CB)$

- Properties of constituent spheres
 - size parameter x = kr = 2
 - refractive index 1.31 for X = 40
 - refractive index 1.31+i0.01 for $X = 10^7$



 $P = -P_{21}/P_{11}$



Physical scattering model

- Model based on coherent backscattering and radiative transfer
- Particulate medium modeled using spheres and fBm roughness
- Semiempirical single scatterers
- References:
 - Muinonen & Videen, JQSRT, in preparation
 - Wilkman et al., A & A, in preparation
 - Muinonen et al., A & A 531, A150, 2011
 - Parviainen & Muinonen, JQSRT 2007 & 2009
 - Muinonen, Waves in Random Media 14, 365, 2004



Densely-packed random media of spheres, fractional-Brownian-motion boundary surface (fBm) Wilkman et al., in preparation • Single-scattering albedo, three asymmetries, maximum polarization:

 $\tilde{\omega}, g, g_1, g_2, \text{ and } P_{\max}$

• Extinction mean free path length:

$$\tau_s = \int_0^s ds \ k_e = k_e s = \frac{s}{\ell}, \qquad \ell = \frac{1}{k_e}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{P}(\theta) \propto \frac{f(\theta)}{\frac{3}{4}(1+\cos^2\theta)} \left[w_+ \boldsymbol{P}_+(\theta) + (1-w_+) \boldsymbol{P}_-(\theta) \right] \\ w_+ &= \frac{1}{2} (\boldsymbol{P}_{\max} + 1) \\ \boldsymbol{P}_{\pm} &= \frac{3}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2}(1+\cos^2\theta) & \mp \frac{1}{2}\sin^2\theta & 0 & 0 \\ & \mp \frac{1}{2}\sin^2\theta & \frac{1}{2}(1+\cos^2\theta) & 0 & 0 \\ & 0 & 0 & \cos\theta & 0 \\ & 0 & 0 & \cos\theta \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{split} f(\theta) &= w \frac{1 - g_1^2}{(1 + g_1^2 - 2g_1 \cos \theta)^{\frac{3}{2}}} + (1 - w) \frac{1 - g_2^2}{(1 + g_2^2 - 2g_2 \cos \theta)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \\ g &= w g_1 + (1 - w) g_2, \\ w &= \frac{g - g_2}{g_1 - g_2}, \end{split}$$

















Application to lunar imaging data



SMART-1/AMIE Muinonen et al., A&A 531, A150, 2011



Conclusions

- Coherent backscattering numerically verified
 for a finite volume of spherical scatterers
- Scattering by Solar System regoliths modeled on the basis of first principles
- Practical strategies for space-based imaging of Solar System objects
- Application to lunar photometry (Wilkman et al.), lapetus polarimetry (Ejeta et al.), and transneptunian objects