Computational Photonics

Scattering theory: quasi-static sphere

Nanosphere



(courtesy of T. Bürgi, University Geneva)

 in the quasi-static regime phase variations of the field across the surface can be neglected => electrostatics, no magnetic field

 $old \circ$ temporarily the fields still oscillate according to $\ e^{-i\omega t}$

introducing a scalar potential:

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) = -\nabla \Phi(\mathbf{r})$$

has to be a solution to Laplace equation: (absence of charges)

$$\Delta \Phi = 0$$

e.g. spherical coordinates:

$$\frac{1}{r^2}\frac{\partial}{\partial r}\left(r^2\frac{\partial\Phi}{\partial r}\right) + \frac{1}{r^2\sin\theta}\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta}\left(\sin\theta\frac{\partial\Phi}{\partial\theta}\right) + \frac{1}{r^2\sin^2\theta}\frac{\partial^2\Phi}{\partial\phi^2} = 0$$

• general solution of this equation is given by: (solved by separation of variables the same way as before)

$$\Phi = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{n} \left(a_{nm} r^n + \frac{b_{nm}}{r^{n+1}} \right) P_n^m(\cos\theta) e^{im\phi}$$

$$P_n^m(x)$$
 associated Legendre polynom

• introducing three potentials:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_2 & \Phi_0 \\ \Phi_S \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{illumination}} \Phi_2 = \Phi_S + \Phi_0$$
scattered
$$\hline \epsilon_1 & \Phi_1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ inside} 4$$

• z-polarised incident wave is assumed to be constant in the vicinity of the coordinate center (*quasi-static*)

$$\Phi_0 = -E_0 z = -E_0 r P_1^0 \left(\cos\theta\right)$$

• two boundary conditions have to be used to determine a_{nm} and b_{nm}

continuity of tangential
electric field
$$\frac{\partial \Phi_1}{\partial \theta}\Big|_{r=R} = \frac{\partial \Phi_2}{\partial \theta}\Big|_{r=R}$$

continuity of normal dielectric displacement

$$\epsilon_1 \left. \frac{\partial \Phi_1}{\partial r} \right|_{r=R} = \epsilon_2 \left. \frac{\partial \Phi_2}{\partial r} \right|_{r=R}$$



$$\Phi_0 = -E_0 z = -E_0 r P_1^0(\cos\theta)$$

- in the inner domain all b_{nm} coefficients are zero as the potential has to remain finite
- in the outer domain all a_{nm} coefficients are zero as the potential has to remain finite

• illuminating field has only a nonzero component for n=1 and m=0

 \circ other components remain zero, hence 2 equations with 2 unknowns ₆

$$\Phi_{1} = -\frac{3\epsilon_{2}}{\epsilon_{1} + 2\epsilon_{2}}E_{0}r\cos\theta$$

$$\Phi_{2} = -E_{2}r\cos\theta + \frac{\epsilon_{1} - \epsilon_{2}}{\epsilon_{1} - \epsilon_{2}}B^{3}E_{2}\frac{\cos\theta}{\epsilon_{1} - \epsilon_{2$$

$$\Phi_2 = -E_0 r \cos \theta + \frac{\epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2}{\epsilon_1 + 2\epsilon_2} R^3 E_0 \frac{\epsilon_0 \sigma}{r^2}$$

$$\mathbf{E}_{1} = \frac{3\epsilon_{2}}{\epsilon_{1} + 2\epsilon_{2}} E_{0}\mathbf{e}_{z}$$
$$\mathbf{E}_{2} = E_{0}\mathbf{e}_{z} + \frac{\epsilon_{1} - \epsilon_{2}}{\epsilon_{1} + 2\epsilon_{2}} \frac{R^{3}}{r^{3}} E_{0}(2\cos\theta\mathbf{e}_{r} + \sin\theta\mathbf{e}_{\theta})$$

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ullet scattered field corresponds to the field of a dipole with a moment ${f P}$

$$\mathbf{p} = \epsilon_2 \alpha E_0 \mathbf{e}_z$$

Polarisability:
$$\alpha = 4\pi R^3 \frac{\epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2}{\epsilon_1 + 2\epsilon_2}$$



Quantities of interest scattering cross section

time average of energy flow is expressed by the real part of the Poynting vector

$$\bar{\mathbf{S}} = \frac{1}{2} \Re \left(\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{H}^* \right) = \frac{1}{2} \Re \left(E_{\theta} H_{\phi}^* \mathbf{e}_r - E_r H_{\phi}^* \mathbf{e}_{\theta} \right)$$

total radiation power

$$W = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} |\bar{\mathbf{S}}| r^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi = \frac{\omega k^3 |\mathbf{p}|^2}{12\pi\epsilon_2} = \frac{\omega k^3\epsilon_2}{12\pi} |\alpha|^2 E_0^2$$

intensity of the incident field

$$\bar{S}_0 = \frac{\omega \epsilon_2}{2k} E_0^2$$

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$$C_{\rm sca} = \frac{W}{\bar{S}_0} = \frac{k^4}{6\pi^2} | \alpha |^2$$

absorption cross section

extinction cross section

 $C_{\rm abs} = k\Im(\alpha)$

$$C_{\rm ext} = C_{\rm sca} + C_{\rm abs}$$

0

• scattered field corresponds to the field of a dipole with a moment

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Polarisability:
$$\alpha = 4\pi R^3 \frac{\epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2}{\epsilon_1 + 2\epsilon_2}$$



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• scattered field corresponds to the field of a dipole with a moment

$$\mathbf{p} = \epsilon_2 \alpha E_0 \mathbf{e}_z$$

Polarisability:
$$lpha = 4\pi R^3 rac{\epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2}{\epsilon_1 + 2\epsilon_2}$$



taken from 2020science.org

Strangeness



Behaves in unexpected ways

Field induced by oscillating dipole

• have ignored time dependence of the external field

$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_2} \left(-\frac{\mathbf{p}(t_0)}{r^3} + \frac{3\mathbf{r} \left[\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p}(t_0)\right]}{r^5} + \frac{ik\mathbf{p}(t_0)}{r^2} - \frac{3ik\mathbf{r} \left[\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p}(t_0)\right]}{r^4} - \frac{k^2}{r^3}\mathbf{r} \times \left[\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{p}(t_0)\right] \right)$$
$$t_0 = t - kr/\omega$$

- ullet first two terms in are the static field and the scattering field $\left[\propto 1/r^3
 ight]$
- next two terms, called the induction field, are the field induced by the current due to the dipole oscillation
 - last term is called the radiation field

$$\mathbf{H} = -\frac{i\omega}{4\pi} \left(\frac{1}{r^2} - \frac{ik}{r}\right) \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{p}(t_0)$$

 $\left| \propto 1/r^2 \right|$

 $|\propto 1/r|$

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Scattering theory: quasi-static sphere

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Scattering theory: fully dynamic sphere

Mie theory for spheres

$$\nabla^{2}\mathbf{E} + k^{2}\mathbf{E} = 0 \qquad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = 0$$
$$\nabla^{2}\mathbf{H} + k^{2}\mathbf{H} = 0 \qquad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{H} = 0$$

 \Rightarrow reducing the full vectorial to a scalar problem

from algebra we know that a vector can be construct from a scalar function and an arbitrary constant vector via

 $\mathbf{M} = \nabla \times (\mathbf{c}\psi)$

divergence of a curl of any vector function vanishes

 $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{M} = 0$

using vector identities it can be shown that

$$\nabla^2 \mathbf{M} + k^2 \mathbf{M} = \nabla \times \left[\mathbf{c} \left(\nabla^2 \psi + k^2 \psi \right) \right]$$

Mie theory for spheres

 $\implies \text{ can construct a second vector function} \qquad \mathbf{N} = \frac{\nabla \times \mathbf{M}}{k}$ $\implies \nabla \cdot \mathbf{N} = 0 \qquad \nabla^2 \mathbf{N} + k^2 \mathbf{N} = 0 \qquad \nabla \times \mathbf{N} = k \mathbf{M}$

 $\longrightarrow \mathbf{M}$ and \mathbf{N} have all the required properties of an electromagnetic field

free of divergence the curl of \mathbf{M} is proportional to \mathbf{N}

 \implies the curl of ${f N}$ is proportional to ${f M}$

finding a solution to the scalar wave equation for ψ instead of a field equation

 $\mathbf{M} = \nabla \times (\mathbf{r}\psi)$

wave equation in spherical polar coordinates

Scalar solutions to wave equation

$$\frac{1}{r^2}\frac{\partial}{\partial r}\left(r^2\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial r}\right) + \frac{1}{r^2\sin\theta}\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta}\left(\sin\theta\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial\theta}\right) + \frac{1}{r^2\sin\theta^2}\frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial\phi^2} + k_m^2\psi = 0$$

seek a particular solution of the form $\psi(r,\theta,\phi) = R(r)\Theta(\theta)\Phi(\phi)$

and performing a separation of variables procedure

$$\psi_{nm} \propto Z_n^{(J)}(k_m r) P_n^m(\cos\theta) e^{im\phi}$$

different Bessel functions radial dependency

$$Z_n^{(1)}(z) = j_n(z) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2z}} J_{n+0.5}(z)$$
$$Z_n^{(2)}(z) = y_n(z) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2z}} Y_{n+0.5}(z)$$
$$Z_n^{(3)}(z) = h_n^1(z) = j_n(z) + iy_n(z)$$
$$Z_n^{(4)}(z) = h_n^2(z) = j_n(z) - iy_n(z)$$

angular dependency by associated Legendre function of the first kind and of degree n and order m

$$P_n^m(\cos\theta) = \frac{\left(1 - \cos^2\theta\right)^{\frac{m}{2}}}{2^n n!} \frac{d^{n+m} \left(\cos^2\theta - 1\right)^n}{d \left(\cos\theta\right)^{n+m}}$$
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Vector solutions to wave equation

vector harmonics can be constructed via

 $\mathbf{M}_{nm} = \nabla \times (\mathbf{r}\psi_{nm}) \qquad \qquad \mathbf{N}_{nm} = \frac{\nabla \times \mathbf{M}_{nm}}{k}$

plugging this solution into the vector solution provide

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{M}_{nm}^{(J)}(r,\theta,\varphi) &= \left[i\pi_{nm}(\cos\theta)\mathbf{\hat{e}}_{\theta} - \tau_{nm}(\cos\theta)\mathbf{\hat{e}}_{\varphi}\right]\Psi_{n}^{(J)}(kr)e^{im\varphi}\\ \mathbf{N}_{nm}^{(J)}(r,\theta,\varphi) &= n(n+1)P_{n}^{m}(\cos\theta)\frac{\Psi_{n}^{(J)}(kr)}{kr}e^{im\varphi}\mathbf{\hat{e}}_{r}\\ &+ \left[\tau_{nm}(\cos\theta)\mathbf{\hat{e}}_{\theta} + i\pi_{nm}(\cos\theta)\mathbf{\hat{e}}_{\varphi}\right]\frac{1}{kr}\frac{d}{dr}\left[r\Psi_{n}^{(J)}(kr)\right]e^{im\varphi} \end{split}$$

$$\tau_{nm}(\cos\theta) = \frac{d}{d\theta} P_n^m(\cos\theta)$$

$$\pi_{nm}(\cos\theta) = \frac{m}{\sin\theta} P_n^m(\cos\theta)$$

Field expansion for scattered and internal field

$$\mathbf{E}_{\text{inc}}(\mathbf{r},\omega) = -\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} i E_{nm} \left[p_{nm}(\omega) \mathbf{N}_{nm}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r},\omega) + q_{nm}(\omega) \mathbf{M}_{nm}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r},\omega) \right]$$

$$\mathbf{H}_{\rm inc}(\mathbf{r},\omega) = -\frac{1}{Z} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} E_{nm} \left[q_{nm}(\omega) \mathbf{N}_{nm}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r},\omega) + p_{nm}(\omega) \mathbf{M}_{nm}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r},\omega) \right]$$

$$\mathbf{E}_{\mathrm{sca}}(\mathbf{r},\omega) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} i E_{nm} \left[a_{nm}(\omega) \mathbf{N}_{nm}^{(3)}(\mathbf{r},\omega) + b_{nm}(\omega) \mathbf{M}_{nm}^{(3)}(\mathbf{r},\omega) \right]$$

$$\mathbf{H}_{\rm sca}(\mathbf{r},\omega) = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} E_{nm} \left[b_{nm}(\omega) \mathbf{N}_{nm}^{(3)}(\mathbf{r},\omega) + a_{nm}(\omega) \mathbf{M}_{nm}^{(3)}(\mathbf{r},\omega) \right]$$

$$\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(\mathbf{r},\omega) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} i E_{nm} \left[c_{nm}(\omega) \mathbf{N}_{nm}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r},\omega) + d_{nm}(\omega) \mathbf{M}_{nm}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r},\omega) \right]$$

$$\mathbf{H}_{\text{int}}(\mathbf{r},\omega) = \frac{1}{Z_2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} E_{nm} \left[d_{nm}(\omega) \mathbf{N}_{nm}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r},\omega) + c_{nm}(\omega) \mathbf{M}_{nm}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r},\omega) \right]$$

$$E_{nm} = |\mathbf{E}_0| \, i^n (2n+1) \frac{(n-m)!}{(n+m)!}$$

Boundary conditions

tangential electric and magnetic fields continuous at interface

 $E_{\mathrm{inc},\theta}(R) + E_{\mathrm{sca},\theta}(R) = E_{\mathrm{int},\theta}(R) \quad H_{\mathrm{inc},\theta}(R) + H_{\mathrm{sca},\theta}(R) = H_{\mathrm{int},\theta}(R)$ $E_{\mathrm{inc},\phi}(R) + E_{\mathrm{sca},\phi}(R) = E_{\mathrm{int},\phi}(R) \quad H_{\mathrm{inc},\phi}(R) + H_{\mathrm{sca},\phi}(R) = H_{\mathrm{int},\phi}(R)$

with the expansions and relying on the orthogonality (the prime indicates a differentiation with respect to the argument in parentheses) $a_{nm} = a_n p_{nm}$ $b_{nm} = b_n q_{nm}$ Mie coefficients for the scattered field

$$a_{n} = \frac{\mu \eta^{2} j_{n}(\eta x) [x j_{n}(x)]' - \mu_{\rm sph} j_{n}(x) [\eta x j_{n}(\eta x)]'}{\mu \eta^{2} j_{n}(\eta x) [x h_{n}^{(1)}(x)]' - \mu_{\rm sph} h_{n}^{(1)}(x) [\eta x j_{n}(\eta x)]'}$$

$$b_{n} = \frac{\mu_{\rm sph} j_{n}(\eta x) [x j_{n}(x)]' - \mu j_{n}(x) [\eta x j_{n}(\eta x)]'}{\mu_{\rm sph} j_{n}(\eta x) [x h_{n}^{(1)}(x)]' - \mu h_{n}^{(1)}(x) [\eta x j_{n}(\eta x)]'}$$

$$x = \frac{\omega}{c} \sqrt{\varepsilon(\omega) \mu(\omega)} a \qquad \eta = \sqrt{\frac{\varepsilon_{\rm sph}(\omega) \mu_{\rm sph}(\omega)}{\varepsilon(\omega) \mu(\omega)}}$$

(Some) derived quantities

scattering cross section

$$C_{\text{sca}} = \frac{4\pi}{k^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} n(n+1)(2n+1) \frac{(n-m)!}{(n+m)!} \left(|a_{nm}|^2 + |b_{nm}|^2 \right)$$

extinction cross section

$$C_{\text{ext}} = \frac{4\pi}{k^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^{n} n(n+1)(2n+1) \frac{(n-m)!}{(n+m)!} \Re(p_{nm}^* a_{nm} + q_{nm}^* b_{nm})$$

absorption cross section

$$C_{\rm abs} = C_{\rm ext} - C_{\rm sca}$$

suggested expansion order

$$N = x + 4x^{1/3} + 2$$

Metallic nanoparticles - size effects

silver sphere surrounded by air



- smaller spheres absorb stronger
- o larger spheres → resonance red-shift and higher order resonances

Metallic nanoparticles - the dipolar resonance



resonant oscillation of the charge density

Metallic nanoparticles - the quadruoplar resonance



sphere is a cavity \rightarrow higher order resonances

Impact of a dielectric surrounding





Mie theory for spheres

analysing metallic nano particles in 3D with or without covering layers



in the x-z-plane at λ =633nm, r_{Core} = 15 nm, n_{Shell} = 1.5, r_{Shell} = 30 nm

Computational Photonics

Scattering theory: fully dynamic sphere