

# SOLUTION FOR A NON-STATIONARY RADIATIVE TRANSFER EQUATION

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## Abstract

The operators radiative transfer equation constructed by Chandrasekhar has been extended to the non-stationary case by Bellman and Wang. The local existence of solution of such non-stationary equation is established based on the construction of scattering matrices from a co-propagation group with unbounded generator. In case the system is dissipative, the local existence is extended to the global existence.

## 1. Introduction

Based on the "Principle of Invariance," Chandrasekhar [1] established differential-integral equations which govern radiative transfer of diffuse reflection and transmission by plane-parallel atmospheres of arbitrary optical thickness and stationary. Bellman [2] and Wang [3,4] have extended Chandrasekhar's result to the non-stationary case. The non-stationary scattering matrix is

$$S = S(x, y; \Omega, \Omega_0; t, t_0) = \begin{pmatrix} t & \rho \\ r & \tau \end{pmatrix}, \quad (1.1)$$

where  $x, y$  are the spatial point,  $\Omega$  and  $\Omega_0$  are input and output direction cosines,  $t$  and  $t_0$  are input and output times. The left-hand reflection operator  $\rho$  satisfies a differential-integro non-linear equation of the form

$$-\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} + \beta(x) \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} - \delta(x) \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t_0} = a(x) + d(x)\rho + \rho b(x) + \rho c(x)\rho, \quad (1.2)$$

where  $\beta$  and  $\delta$  are propagation coefficients, and  $a, b, c, d$  are bounded compact integral operators. For more details and other operators differential-integro equations



for  $t, \tau$ , and  $r$ , see Wang [4]. It should be pointed out that once  $\rho$  is solved, other operators  $t, \tau$  and  $r$  can be solved by a system of linear equations. Therefore equation (1.2) is the most important and interesting one. The purpose of this paper is to find local and global solutions for  $\rho$  in equation (1.2), and more generally for  $S$ . Operators  $t, \tau, \rho$  and  $r$  are nonpredictive.

## 2. Propagation Operator $\vec{S}$

Using the propagation operator [5],

$$\vec{S} = \vec{S}(x, y) = \vec{S}(x, y; \Omega, \Omega_0; t, t_0) = \begin{pmatrix} \vec{t} & \vec{\rho} \\ \vec{r} & \vec{r} \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.1)$$

with stable generator

$$M(x) = \begin{pmatrix} B(x) & A(x) \\ -C(x) & -D(x) \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.2)$$

satisfying: (i) There is a Banach space  $Y$ , continuously and densely embedded in  $H$  with  $Y \subset \text{Domain } B(x)$  and  $Y \subset \text{Domain } D(x)$ . Each  $B(x)$  and  $D(x)$  generate  $C_0$ -groups of operators on  $H$ , and the families  $\{B(x)\}$  and  $\{-D(x)\}$  generate propagation operators on  $H, G_1(x, y), G_2(x, y)$  respectively with  $G_1(Y) \subset Y$  and  $G_2(Y) \subset Y$ . (2.3)

(ii) For each  $x, M(x)$  is closed densely defined, with  $Y \oplus Y \subset \text{Domain } (M(x))$ , and generates a  $C_0$ -group on  $H \oplus H$ , and the family  $\{M(x)\}$  is stable and generates propagation operators  $\{\vec{S}(x, y)\}$  on  $H \oplus H$  such that,

(a)  $\vec{S}(x, y)$  is strongly continuous in  $x$  and  $y$  jointly.

(b)  $\vec{S}(x, y)(H \oplus H) \subset H \oplus H$ .

(c) for  $\begin{pmatrix} f \\ k \end{pmatrix} \in H \oplus H, x \leq y,$

$$\frac{d}{dy} \vec{S}(x, y) \begin{pmatrix} f \\ k \end{pmatrix} = M(y) \vec{S}(x, y) \begin{pmatrix} f \\ k \end{pmatrix}.$$

To show dependencies of  $S$  and  $\vec{S}$  on  $(x, y)$  we have used  $S = S(x, y)$  and  $\vec{S} = \vec{S}(x, y)$ . If  $\vec{S}(x, y)$  is a propagation group, we denote

$$\vec{S}^{-1} = \overleftarrow{S} = \begin{pmatrix} \overleftarrow{t} & \overleftarrow{\rho} \\ \overleftarrow{r} & \overleftarrow{r} \end{pmatrix}.$$



The following Lemmas are stated. Details of proofs are not presented here.

**Lemma 2.1.** *If  $M(x)$  satisfies (2.3) and  $A$  and  $C$  are compact valued continuous function of  $x$ , then the operators  $\rho(x, y)$  and  $r(x, y)$  are compact operators on  $H$ .*

**Lemma 2.2.** *Under the conditions of Lemma 2.1,  $\overrightarrow{\tau}$ ,  $\overleftarrow{\tau}$ ,  $\overrightarrow{t}$  and  $\overleftarrow{t}$  are Fredholm.*

**Lemma 2.3.** *Under the condition of Lemma 2.1, for each  $x$  there exist  $\epsilon > 0$ , such that if  $x \leq y \leq x + \epsilon$ , then  $\overrightarrow{\tau}(x, y)$  has a bounded inverse.*

It is well known [4] that if  $\overrightarrow{\tau}$  is invertible, then  $S$  is single valued. And  $S$  is related to  $\overrightarrow{S}$  by the relation

$$t = \overrightarrow{t} - \overrightarrow{\rho} \overrightarrow{\tau}^{-1} \overrightarrow{r}, \quad \tau = \overrightarrow{\tau}^{-1}, \quad \rho = \overrightarrow{\rho} \overrightarrow{\tau}^{-1} \quad \text{and} \quad r = -\overrightarrow{\tau}^{-1} \overrightarrow{r}. \quad (2.5)$$

In addition,

$$\frac{d}{dy} S = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & A(y) \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} B(y) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} S + S \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & D(y) \end{pmatrix} + S \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ C(y) & 0 \end{pmatrix} S, \quad (2.6)$$

with

$$S(x, x) = \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix}.$$

Summarize Lemma 1-3, and relations between  $\overrightarrow{S}$  and  $S$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** *Under the condition of (2.3) with  $C$  and  $A$  continuous (in norm) and compact, for each  $x$  there exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $x \leq y \leq x + \epsilon$  we can construct a bounded single valued transport matrix  $S(x, y)$  and  $S(x, x) = I$ . In particular we have*

$$\frac{d}{dy} \rho = A(y) + B(y)\rho + \rho D(y) + \rho C(y)\rho, \quad \rho(x, x) = 0,$$

where  $\rho = \rho(x, y)$ .

In case the initial value of reflection operator is  $K$  instead of 0, then the solution is given by [7],

$$P(K; x, y) = \rho(x, y) + t(x, y)K(I - r(x, y)K)^{-1}r(x, y).$$

That the map  $P$  from  $B(H)$  to  $B(H)$  is weak operator topology continuous if  $r(x, y)$  is compact was shown by Krein [8]. The converse is proved by Shew [5].

Assuming such stability for  $x \geq 0$  we may partially extend the construction of  $S$ , in the non-dissipative case [see section 4] past the point

$$z = \text{glb}\{x | \overrightarrow{\tau}(0, x) \text{ is not invertible}\}.$$



Let  $z < x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n < \dots$  be a sequence of points such that  $\{M(x)\}$  satisfies the above conditions on  $[0, x_n]$  for each  $n$ . Define  $H_n$  by

$$H_n^\perp = \bigoplus_{i=0}^n (\ker \overrightarrow{\tau}(0, x_n)).$$

Since  $\overrightarrow{\tau}(0, x_n)$  is Fredholm  $H_n^\perp$  is finite dimensional and restriction

$$\overrightarrow{\tau}(0, x_n) : H_n \rightarrow \overrightarrow{\tau}(0, x_n)H_n$$

has a bounded inverse. Thus,  $S(0, x_n)$  can be constructed on all but a finite number of dimensions, and  $S$  is partially extended beyond the conjugate point,  $z$ .

### 3. Non-stationary Radiative Transfer

To investigate the non-stationary radiative transfer of diffuse reflection and transmission, we shall consider, Wang [4], the decomposition of

$$M(x) = E(x) + e(x), \quad (3.1)$$

$$\text{where } E(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \beta(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} & 0 \\ 0 & -\delta(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad e(x) = \begin{pmatrix} b(x) & a(x) \\ -c(x) & -d(x) \end{pmatrix}.$$

The operators  $a(x), b(x), c(x)$  and  $d(x)$  are compact operators (on  $H$ ) valued. And  $\beta(x), \delta(x)$  are bounded and continuous. It is well-known [9] that each  $E(x)$ , and thus  $M(x)$ , is closable (identify  $E$  and  $M$  with their closure) densely defined, and generates a group on  $H \oplus H$ . The operator  $e(x)$  is continuous in  $x$  in the uniform operator topology on  $B(H \oplus H)$ , the family  $\{M(x)\}_{x \geq 0}$  is stable.

One takes the space  $Y$  to be

$$Y = H'((-\infty, \infty), R^n) = \{f \in H : \frac{\partial}{\partial t} f \in H \text{ and } \|f\|_Y^2 < \infty\},$$

where

$$\|f\|_Y^2 = \int_R (1 + |z|^2) \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_R e^{izs} f(s) ds \right]^2 dz.$$

Noting that  $Y$  is continuously embedded in  $\text{Domain}(\frac{\partial}{\partial t})$  [cf. 10] and that  $Y$  is dense in  $H$  and that  $B, D$  and  $M$  are identified with their closures we may take  $Y$  to be  $\text{Domain}(B)$  and  $\text{Domain}(D)$  and  $Y \oplus Y$  to be  $\text{Domain}(M)$ . Since  $\{M(x)\}_{x \geq 0}$  is stable, conditions (2.3 (ii) a and b) of Section 2 are satisfied [cf. 11]. It remains to show that the forward and backward propagation operators  $\overrightarrow{S}(x, y)$  and  $\overleftarrow{S}(x, y)$  so generated by  $M(x)$  satisfy the regularity condition of (2.3 (ii) c) of Section 2, i.e.,



invariance of  $Y$  under  $\overrightarrow{S}$  and  $\overleftarrow{S}$  and the differentiability with respect to the second argument.

To this end, note that  $k = \left(I - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  is an isometry from  $Y$  to  $H$ , [10]. Let

$$K = \begin{pmatrix} k & 0 \\ 0 & k \end{pmatrix},$$

then  $K$  is an isometry from  $Y \oplus Y$  to  $H \oplus H$ . Let  $\mathcal{L}$  denote the Schwartz class of rapidly decreasing functions at infinity. Then for  $\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{L} \oplus \mathcal{L}$ , and each  $x$ , it can be shown that

$$KM(x)K^{-1}\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = M(x)\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} + (KE(x) - E(x)K)K^{-1}\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} + (Ke(x) - e(x)K)K^{-1}\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix}. \quad (3.2)$$

Since  $\beta(x), \delta(x), a(x), b(x), c(x)$ , and  $d(x)$  are independent of  $t$ , and since  $K$  commutes with  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}$ , the operator actions on  $\mathcal{L} \oplus \mathcal{L}$  determined by the commutators  $(KE - EK)$  and  $(Ke - eK)$  can be extended to bounded operators from  $H \oplus H$  to  $H \oplus H$ , [12]. Since  $\left\|\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\left(I - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\right\|_H \leq 1$ , and  $\beta$  and  $\delta$  are bounded continuous in  $x$ , and  $a, b, c, d$  bounded continuous in  $x$  in the uniform operator topology of  $B(H)$  we have by (3.2), for  $\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{L} \oplus \mathcal{L}$  that

$$KM(x)K^{-1}\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = M(x)\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} + P(x)\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $P(x) \in B(H \oplus H)$  is continuous in the uniform operator topology. We can extend (3.3) to  $Y \oplus Y$ . Details are not presented here. And

$$\text{Domain}(M(x) + P(x)) = \text{Domain} KM(x)K^{-1}.$$

Hence

$$KM(x)K^{-1} = M(x) + P(x).$$

where  $P(\cdot) \in B(H \oplus H)$  is strongly continuous (indeed, norm continuous).

Under this condition, the work of Kato [13, 14] and (see theorem 6.3.7 [11]), assures that the propagation group  $\overrightarrow{S}(x, y)$  associated with (3.1) satisfies the regularity condition (2.3 (ii) c), and the construction of the scattering operator  $S(x, y)$  follows the development in Section 2.



#### 4. A Dissipative Case

If the output energy is always less than or equal to the input energy, the system is called dissipative. It is equivalent to the condition  $\|S(x, y)\|^2 = S^*(x, y)S(x, y) \leq 1$ .  $S$  is called locally dissipative (at  $x$ ) if there exists a  $\Delta(x) > 0$  such that  $S(x, y)$  is dissipative for  $x \leq y \leq x + \Delta(x)$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** *Under the assumption of Theorem 2.1 and  $S$  locally dissipative for all  $x \leq y$  the result of Theorem (2.1) can be extended to all finite  $y \geq x$ , i.e. the solution for (2.6) exists for all finite  $y \geq x$ .*

*Proof.* The finite interval  $(x, y)$  is partitioned into  $x = x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n = y$  such that for all  $i$ ,

$$x_{i+1} - x_i \leq \text{Min}[\Delta(x_i), \varepsilon(x_i)]$$

where  $\varepsilon(x_i)$  is as given in Lemma 2.3 and  $\Delta(x_i)$  is as in the above definition of locally dissipative. For convenience, let  $\vec{r}_i, \vec{S}_i$  and  $S_i$  and etc., denote  $\vec{r}(x_i, x_i + \Delta x_i)$ ,  $\vec{S}(x_i, x_i + \Delta x_i)$  and  $S(x_i, x_i + \Delta x_i)$  and etc. It follows from Lemma 2.3,  $\vec{r}_i \in B(Y, Y)$  is nonsingular for all  $i$  and  $\tau_i = \vec{r}_i^{-1} \in B(Y, Y)$  is also nonsingular, and,

$$\|\tau_i\|^2 = \tau_i^* \tau_i > 0. \quad (4.1)$$

Since each  $S_i$  exists and is locally dissipative, it follows that

$$\|\tau_i\| \leq 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \|\rho_i\| \leq 1, \quad \text{for all } i.$$

Furthermore,

$$1 \geq S_i^* S_i \quad \text{and} \quad 1 \geq \tau_i^* \tau_i + \tau_i^* \tau_i. \quad (4.2)$$

Therefore,  $\|\tau_i\| < 1$  and  $(E - \tau_{i+1} \rho_i)^{-1} \in B[Y, Y]$ . Hence, by the star product, [cf. 7],

$$\tau(x_i, x_{i+2}) = \tau_i (E - \tau_{i+1} \rho_i)^{-1} \tau_{i+1} \quad (4.3)$$

is well defined as an element of  $B(H, H)$  and has bounded inverse  $\vec{r}_i(x_i, x_{i+2})$ . Therefore  $\vec{S}(x_i, x_{i+2}) \in B[H \oplus H, H \oplus H]$ .  $S(x_i, x_{i+2}) \in B[H \oplus H, H \oplus H]$  and is a solution of (2.6) related to (3.1) on the interval  $(x_i, x_{i+2})$ . By repeating, we have  $\vec{r}(x, y)$  has a bounded inverse and result followed.

The remaining section will apply the above theorems to the time-dependent radiative transfer equation. We shall establish the existence of a scattering solution based on a local dissipative condition obtained by the following analysis.

Let us consider the generator for  $S$ ,  $\hat{M} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} M$ , with  $M$  given in

(3.1). Then local regularity for  $S$ , i.e.,

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h} (S(x+h, x) - E) = \hat{M}(x). \quad (4.4)$$



If  $S = S(z, z + \Delta z)$  is locally dissipative, then for  $\Phi \in Y \oplus Y$ , then

$$0 \geq \Phi^* [\hat{M}^*(z) + \hat{M}(z)] \Phi, \quad (4.5)$$

where the notation  $\psi^* A \psi$ , means inner product  $\langle A\psi, \psi \rangle$  in  $H$ . We assume strict locally dissipative, i.e.  $\geq$  in (4.5) is replaced by  $>$ . Then (4.5) reduces to

$$0 > \Phi^* [e^*(z) + e(z)] \Phi \quad (4.6)$$

for  $\beta$  and  $\delta$  are independent of  $t$ .

**Lemma 4.1.** *If the condition of theorem (2.1) and (4.6) are satisfied then equation (1.2) has a solution for all finite  $y \geq x$ , i.e. the strict locally dissipative condition implies the global existence of solution.*

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