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Uniqueness theorem for an inverse scattering problem with non-overdetermined data**A G Ramm**

Department of Mathematics, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506-2602, USA

E-mail: ramm@math.ksu.edu

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Online at stacks.iop.org/JPhysA/43/112001**Abstract**

Let $q(x)$ be a real-valued compactly supported sufficiently smooth function. It is proved that the scattering data $A(-\beta, \beta, k) \forall \beta \in S^2, \forall k > 0$ determine q uniquely.

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1. Introduction

Since the forties of the last century, the physicists were interested in the uniqueness of the determination of a physical system by its S -matrix. If the physical system is described by a Hamiltonian of the type $H = -\nabla^2 + q(x)$, then the S -matrix is in one-to-one correspondence with the scattering amplitude A , $S = I + \frac{ik}{2\pi} A$, where I is the identity operator and A is an operator in $L^2(S^2)$ with the kernel $A(\beta, \alpha, k)$, S^2 is the unit sphere in \mathbb{R}^3 and k^2 is the energy, $k > 0$. The scattering amplitude is defined as follows. If the incident plane wave $u_0 = e^{ik\alpha \cdot x}$, $\alpha \in S^2$, is scattered by the potential q , then the scattering solution $u(x, \alpha, k)$ solves the scattering problem:

$$[\nabla^2 + k^2 - q(x)]u = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^3 \quad (1)$$

$$u = e^{ik\alpha \cdot x} + A(\beta, \alpha, k) \frac{e^{ikr}}{r} + o\left(\frac{1}{r}\right), \quad r := |x| \rightarrow \infty, \quad \beta := \frac{x}{r}. \quad (2)$$

The coefficient $A(\beta, \alpha, k)$ is called the scattering amplitude. The problem of interest is to determine $q(x)$ given the scattering data. This problem is called the inverse scattering problem. The function $A(\beta, \alpha, k)$ depends on two unit vectors β, α , and on the scalar k , i.e. on five variables.

Assumption (A). We assume that q is compactly supported, i.e. $q(x) = 0$ for $|x| > a$, where $a > 0$ is an arbitrary large fixed number, $q(x)$ is real valued, i.e. $q = \bar{q}$, and $q(x) \in H_0^\ell(B_a)$, $\ell > 2$.

Here B_a is the ball centered at the origin and of radius a , and $H_0^\ell(B_a)$ is the closure of $C_0^\infty(B_a)$ in the norm of the Sobolev space $H^\ell(B_a)$ of functions whose derivatives up to the order ℓ belong to $L^2(B_a)$. It was proved in [4] (see also [5] and [6], chapter 6) that if $q = \bar{q}$ and $q \in L^2(B_a)$ is compactly supported, then the resolvent kernel $G(x, y, k)$ of the Schrödinger operator $-\nabla^2 + q(x) - k^2$ is a meromorphic function of k on the whole complex plane k , analytic in $\text{Im}k \geq 0$ except, possibly, of a finitely many simple poles at the points ik_j , $k_j > 0$, $1 \leq j \leq n$, where $-k_j^2$ are negative eigenvalues of the self-adjoint operator $-\nabla^2 + q(x)$ in $L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)$. Consequently, the scattering amplitude $A(\beta, \alpha, k)$, corresponding to the above q , is a restriction to the positive semi-axis $k \in [0, \infty)$ of a meromorphic on the whole complex k -plane function.

It was known long ago that the scattering data $A(\beta, \alpha, k) \forall \alpha, \beta \in S^2, \forall k > 0$, determine $q(x)$ uniquely. For even larger class of potentials, this result was proved in [12].

The above scattering data depend on five variables (two unit vectors α and β , and one scalar k). The potential $q(x)$ depends on three variables (x_1, x_2, x_3) . Therefore, the inverse scattering problem, which consists of finding q from the above scattering data, is overdetermined.

It was proved by the author [7] that the *fixed-energy scattering data* $A(\beta, \alpha) := A(\beta, \alpha, k_0)$, $k_0 = \text{const} > 0$, $\forall \beta \in S_1^2, \forall \alpha \in S_2^2$, determine real-valued compactly supported $q \in L^2(B_a)$ uniquely. Here S_j^2 , $j = 1, 2$, are arbitrary small open subsets of S^2 (solid angles).

In [8] (and in [9], chapter 5) an analytical formula is derived for the reconstruction of q from the exact fixed-energy scattering data, and from noisy fixed-energy scattering data, and stability estimates for the reconstruction method are obtained.

The scattering data $A(\beta, \alpha)$ depend on four variables (two unit vectors), while the unknown $q(x)$ depends on three variables. In this sense the inverse scattering problem, which consists of finding q from the fixed-energy scattering data $A(\beta, \alpha)$, is still overdetermined.

For many decades there were no uniqueness theorems for 3D inverse scattering problems with non-overdetermined data. The goal of this communication is to prove such a theorem.

Theorem 1.1. *If $\bar{q} = q \in H_0^\ell(B_a)$, $\ell > 2$, then the data $A(-\beta, \beta, k) \forall \beta \in S^2, \forall k > 0$, determine q uniquely.*

Remark 1. The conclusion of theorem 1.1 remains valid if the data $A(-\beta, \beta, k)$ are known $\forall \beta \in S_1^2$ and $k \in (k_0, k_1)$ where $(k_0, k_1) \subset [0, \infty)$ is an arbitrary small interval, $k_1 > k_0$, and S_1^2 is an arbitrary small open subset of S^2 .

In some physical problems, the potential may depend on k , $q = q(x, k)$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^3$, $k \in [0, \infty)$. In this case the inverse scattering problem with the back-scattering data $A(-\beta, \beta, k)$ is underdetermined: the data is a function of three variables while $q(x, k)$ depends on four variables. In general, one cannot expect that this inverse scattering problem has a unique solution.

In section 2 we formulate some known auxiliary results. In section 3 proof of theorem 1.1 is given. In the appendix a technical estimate is proved. A brief announcement of the result, stated in theorem 1.1, is given in [3].

2. Auxiliary results

Let

$$F(g) := \tilde{g}(\xi) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} g(x) e^{i\xi \cdot x} dx, \quad g(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} e^{-i\xi \cdot x} \tilde{g}(\xi) d\xi. \quad (3)$$

If $f * g := \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} f(x - y)g(y) dy$, then

$$F(f * g) = \tilde{f}(\xi)\tilde{g}(\xi), \quad F(f(x)g(x)) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \tilde{f} * \tilde{g}. \quad (4)$$

If

$$G(x - y, k) := \frac{e^{ik[|x-y| - \beta \cdot (x-y)]}}{4\pi|x - y|}, \quad (5)$$

then

$$F(G(x, k)) = \frac{1}{\xi^2 - 2k\beta \cdot \xi}, \quad \xi^2 := \xi \cdot \xi. \quad (6)$$

The scattering solution $u = u(x, \alpha, k)$ solves (uniquely) the integral equation

$$u(x, \alpha, k) = e^{ik\alpha \cdot x} - \int_{B_a} g(x, y, k)q(y)u(y, \alpha, k) dy, \quad (7)$$

where

$$g(x, y, k) := \frac{e^{ik|x-y|}}{4\pi|x - y|}. \quad (8)$$

If

$$v = e^{-ik\alpha \cdot x}u(x, \alpha, k), \quad (9)$$

then

$$v = 1 - \int_{B_a} G(x - y, k)q(y)v(y, \alpha, k) dy, \quad (10)$$

where G is defined in (5).

Define ϵ by the formula

$$v = 1 + \epsilon. \quad (11)$$

Then (10) can be rewritten as

$$\epsilon(x, \alpha, k) = - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} G(x - y, k)q(y)dy - T\epsilon, \quad (12)$$

where

$$T\epsilon := \int_{B_a} G(x - y, k)q(y)\epsilon(y, \alpha, k) dy.$$

The Fourier transform of (12) yields (see (4), (6))

$$\tilde{\epsilon}(\xi, \alpha, k) = - \frac{\tilde{q}(\xi)}{\xi^2 - 2k\alpha \cdot \xi} - \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{\xi^2 - 2k\alpha \cdot \xi} \tilde{q} * \tilde{\epsilon}. \quad (13)$$

An essential ingredient of our proof in section 3 is the following lemma, proved by the author (see its proof in [9], p 262, or in [8]):

Lemma 2.1. *If $A_j(\beta, \alpha, k)$ is the scattering amplitude corresponding to the potential q_j , then*

$$-4\pi[A_1(\beta, \alpha, k) - A_2(\beta, \alpha, k)] = \int_{B_1} [q_1(x) - q_2(x)]u_1(x, \alpha, k)u_2(x, -\beta, k) dx, \quad (14)$$

where u_j is the scattering solution corresponding to q_j .

Consider an algebraic variety \mathcal{M} in \mathbb{C}^3 defined by the equation

$$\theta \cdot \theta = 1, \quad \theta \cdot \theta := \theta_1^2 + \theta_2^2 + \theta_3^2, \quad \theta_j \in \mathbb{C}. \tag{15}$$

This is a non-compact variety, intersecting \mathbb{R}^3 over the unit sphere S^2 .

Let $R_+ = [0, \infty)$. The following result is proved in [10], p 62.

Lemma 2.2. *If assumption (A) holds, then the scattering amplitude $A(\beta, \alpha, k)$ is a restriction to $S^2 \times S^2 \times R_+$ of a function $A(\theta', \theta, k)$ on $\mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M} \times \mathbb{C}$, analytic on $\mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M}$ and meromorphic on \mathbb{C} , $\theta', \theta \in \mathcal{M}$, $k \in \mathbb{C}$.*

The scattering solution $u(x, \alpha, k)$ is a meromorphic function of k in \mathbb{C} , analytic in $\text{Im}k \geq 0$, except, possibly, at the points $k = ik_j$, $1 \leq j \leq n$.

We need the notion of the Radon transform (see, e.g., [11]):

$$\hat{f}(\beta, \lambda) := \int_{\beta \cdot x = \lambda} f(x) d\sigma, \tag{16}$$

where $d\sigma$ is the element of the area of the plane $\beta \cdot x = \lambda$, $\beta \in S^2$, $\lambda = \text{const}$. One has (see [11], pp 12, 15)

$$\int_{B_a} f(x) dx = \int_{-a}^a \hat{f}(\beta, \lambda) d\lambda, \tag{17}$$

$$\int_{B_a} e^{ik\beta \cdot x} f(x) dx = \int_{-a}^a e^{ik\lambda} \hat{f}(\beta, \lambda) d\lambda, \tag{18}$$

$$\hat{f}(\beta, \lambda) = \hat{f}(-\beta, -\lambda). \tag{19}$$

Finally, we need a Phragmen–Lindelöf lemma, which is proved in [1], p 69, and in [2].

Lemma 2.3. *Let $f(z)$ be holomorphic inside an angle \mathcal{A} of opening $< \pi$; $|f(z)| \leq c_1 e^{c_2|z|}$, $z \in \mathcal{A}$; $|f(z)| \leq M$ on the boundary of \mathcal{A} ; and f is continuous up to the boundary of \mathcal{A} . Then $|f(z)| \leq M$, $\forall z \in \mathcal{A}$.*

3. Proof of theorem 1.1

We start with the observation that the scattering data in remark 1 determine uniquely the scattering data in theorem 1.1 by lemma 2.2.

Let us outline the ideas of the proof of theorem 1.1.

Assume that q_j , $j = 1, 2$, generate the same scattering data:

$$A_1(-\beta, \beta, k) = A_2(-\beta, \beta, k) \quad \forall \beta \in S^2, \quad \forall k > 0,$$

and let

$$p(x) := q_1(x) - q_2(x).$$

Then by lemma 2.1, see equation (14), one gets

$$0 = \int_{B_a} p(x) u_1(x, \beta, k) u_2(x, \beta, k) dx, \quad \forall \beta \in S^2, \quad \forall k > 0. \tag{20}$$

By (9) and (11) one can rewrite (20) as

$$\int_{B_a} e^{2ik\beta \cdot x} [1 + \epsilon(x, k)] p(x) dx = 0, \quad \forall \beta \in S^2, \quad \forall k > 0, \tag{21}$$

where

$$\epsilon(x, k) := \epsilon := \epsilon_1(x, k) + \epsilon_2(x, k) + \epsilon_1(x, k)\epsilon_2(x, k).$$

By lemma 2.2, relations (20) and (21) hold for complex k ,

$$k = \frac{\kappa + i\eta}{2}, \quad \kappa + i\eta \neq 2ik_j, \quad \eta \geq 0, \tag{22}$$

in particular, for $\eta > k_n$, $\kappa \in \mathbb{R}$. Using formulas (3)–(4), one derives from (21) the relation

$$\tilde{p}((\kappa + i\eta)\beta) + \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} (\tilde{\epsilon} * \tilde{p})((\kappa + i\eta)\beta) = 0 \quad \forall \beta \in S^2, \quad \forall \kappa \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \eta > k_n, \tag{23}$$

where the notation $(f * g)(z)$ means that the convolution $f * g$ is calculated at the argument $(\kappa + i\eta)\beta$.

One has

$$\sup_{\beta \in S^2} |\tilde{\epsilon} * \tilde{p}| := \sup_{\beta \in S^2} \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \tilde{\epsilon}((\kappa + i\eta)\beta - s) \tilde{p}(s) ds \right| \leq v(\kappa, \eta) \sup_{s \in \mathbb{R}^3} |\tilde{p}(s)|, \tag{24}$$

where

$$v(\kappa, \eta) := \sup_{\beta \in S^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\tilde{\epsilon}((\kappa + i\eta)\beta - s)| ds.$$

We will prove that if $\eta = \eta(\kappa) = O(\ln \kappa)$, then the following inequality holds:

$$0 < v(\kappa, \eta(\kappa)) < 1, \quad \kappa \rightarrow \infty. \tag{25}$$

If one proves that

$$\sup_{\beta \in S^2} |\tilde{p}((\kappa + i\eta(\kappa))\beta)| \geq \sup_{s \in \mathbb{R}^3} |\tilde{p}(s)|, \quad \kappa \rightarrow \infty, \tag{26}$$

then it follows from (23)–(26) that $\tilde{p}(s) = 0$, so $p(x) = 0$, and theorem 1.1 is proved. Indeed, it follows from (23) and (26) that

$$\sup_{s \in \mathbb{R}^3} |\tilde{p}(s)| \leq \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} v(\kappa, \eta) \sup_{s \in \mathbb{R}^3} |\tilde{p}(s)|.$$

If (25) holds, then the above equation implies that $\tilde{p} = 0$. This and the injectivity of the Fourier transform imply that $p = 0$.

This completes the outline of the proof of theorem 1.1.

Let us now establish estimates (25) and (26).

We assume that $p(x) \neq 0$, because otherwise there is nothing to prove. If $p(x) \neq 0$, then

$$\max_{s \in \mathbb{R}^3} |\tilde{p}(s)| := \mathcal{P} \neq 0.$$

Lemma 3.1. *If assumption (A) holds and $\mathcal{P} \neq 0$, then*

$$\limsup_{\eta \rightarrow \infty} \max_{\beta \in S^2} |\tilde{p}((\kappa + i\eta)\beta)| = \infty, \tag{27}$$

where $\kappa > 0$ is arbitrary but fixed. For any $\kappa > 0$ there is a $\eta = \eta(\kappa)$, such that

$$\max_{\beta \in S^2} |\tilde{p}((\kappa + i\eta(\kappa))\beta)| = \mathcal{P}, \tag{28}$$

where the number $\mathcal{P} := \max_{s \in \mathbb{R}^3} |\tilde{p}(s)|$, and

$$\eta(\kappa) = O(\ln \kappa) \quad \text{as} \quad \kappa \rightarrow +\infty. \tag{29}$$

Proof of lemma 3.1. By formula (18) one gets

$$\tilde{p}((\kappa + i\eta)\beta) = \int_{B_a} p(x) e^{i(\kappa+i\eta)\beta \cdot x} dx = \int_{-a}^a e^{i\kappa\lambda - \eta\lambda} \hat{p}(\beta, \lambda) d\lambda. \tag{30}$$

The function $\hat{p}(\beta, \lambda)$ satisfies (19). Therefore,

$$\max_{\beta \in S^2} |\tilde{p}((\kappa + i\eta(\kappa))\beta)| = \max_{\beta \in S^2} |\tilde{p}((\kappa - i\eta(\kappa))\beta)|. \tag{31}$$

Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\beta \in S^2} |\tilde{p}((\kappa + i\eta(\kappa))\beta)| &= \max_{\beta \in S^2} \left| \int_{-a}^a e^{i\kappa\lambda - \eta\lambda} \hat{p}(\beta, \lambda) d\lambda \right| \\ &= \max_{\beta \in S^2} \left| \int_{-a}^a e^{-i\kappa\mu + \eta\mu} \hat{p}(\beta, -\mu) d\mu \right| \\ &= \max_{\beta' \in S^2} \left| \int_{-a}^a e^{-i\kappa\mu + \eta\mu} \hat{p}(-\beta', -\mu) d\mu \right| \\ &= \max_{\beta' \in S^2} \left| \int_{-a}^a e^{-i\kappa\mu + \eta\mu} \hat{p}(\beta', \mu) d\mu \right| \\ &= \max_{\beta \in S^2} |\tilde{p}((\kappa - i\eta)\beta)|. \end{aligned} \tag{32}$$

Here we took into account that $\hat{p}(\beta, \lambda)$ is a real-valued function because $q_j(x)$ are real valued. Therefore,

$$\left| \int_{-a}^a e^{-i\kappa\mu + \eta\mu} \hat{p}(\tilde{\beta}, \mu) d\mu \right| = \left| \int_{-a}^a e^{i\kappa\mu + \eta\mu} \hat{p}(\tilde{\beta}, \mu) d\mu \right| = \max_{\beta \in S^2} |\tilde{p}((\kappa - i\eta)\beta)|.$$

If $p(x) \not\equiv 0$, then (30) and (31) imply (27), as follows from lemma 2.3. Let us give a detailed argument.

Consider the function h of the complex variable $z := \kappa + i\eta$:

$$h := h(z, \beta) := \int_{-a}^a e^{iz\lambda} \hat{p}(\beta, \lambda) d\lambda. \tag{33}$$

If (27) is false, then

$$|h(z, \beta)| \leq c \quad \forall z = \kappa + i\eta, \quad \eta \geq 0, \quad \forall \beta \in S^2, \tag{34}$$

where $\kappa \geq 0$ is an arbitrary fixed number, and the constant $c > 0$ does not depend on β and η .

Thus, $|h|$ is bounded on the ray $\{\kappa = 0, \eta \geq 0\}$, which is part of the boundary of the right angle \mathcal{A} , and the other part of its boundary is the ray $\{\kappa \geq 0, \eta = 0\}$. Let us check that $|h|$ is bounded on this ray also.

One has

$$|h(\kappa, \beta)| \leq \left| \int_{-a}^a e^{i\kappa\lambda} \hat{p}(\beta, \lambda) d\lambda \right| \leq \int_{-a}^a |\hat{p}(\beta, \lambda)| d\lambda \leq c, \tag{35}$$

where c stands for various constants. From (34)–(35) it follows that on the boundary of the right angle \mathcal{A} , namely, on the two rays $\{\kappa \geq 0, \eta = 0\}$ and $\{\kappa = 0, \eta \geq 0\}$, the entire function $h(z, \beta)$ is bounded, $|h(z, \beta)| \leq c$, and inside \mathcal{A} this function satisfies the estimate

$$|h(z, \beta)| \leq e^{|\eta|a} \int_{-a}^a |\hat{p}(\beta, \lambda)| d\lambda \leq c e^{|\eta|a}. \tag{36}$$

Therefore, by lemma 2.3, $|h(z, \beta)| \leq c$ in the whole angle \mathcal{A} .

By (31) the same argument is applicable to the remaining three right angles, the union of which is the whole complex z -plane \mathbb{C} . Therefore,

$$\sup_{z \in \mathbb{C}, \beta \in S^2} |h(z, \beta)| \leq c. \tag{37}$$

This implies that $h(z, \beta) = c$.

Since $\hat{p}(\beta, \lambda) \in L^1(-a, a)$, the relation

$$\int_{-a}^a e^{iz\lambda} \hat{p}(\beta, \lambda) d\lambda = c \quad \forall z \in \mathbb{C}, \tag{38}$$

implies that $c = 0$, so $\hat{p}(\beta, \lambda) = 0$. Therefore $p(x) = 0$, contrary to our assumption. Consequently, relation (27) is proved.

Relation (28) follows from (27) because for large η the left-hand side of (28) is larger than \mathcal{P} due to (27), while for $\eta = 0$ the left-hand side of (28) is not larger than \mathcal{P} by the definition of the Fourier transform. \square

Let us derive estimate (29).

From the assumption $p(x) \in H_0^\ell(B_a)$ it follows that

$$|\tilde{p}((\kappa + i\eta)\beta)| \leq c \frac{e^{a|\eta|}}{(1 + \kappa^2 + \eta^2)^{\ell/2}}. \tag{39}$$

This inequality is established in Lemma 3.2, below.

The right-hand side of this inequality is of the order $O(1)$ as $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$ if and only if $|\eta| = O(\ln \kappa)$, which is relation (29).

Lemma 3.2. *If $p \in H_0^\ell(B_a)$ then estimate (39) holds.*

Proof. Consider $\partial_j p := \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_j}$. One has

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_{B_a} \partial_j p e^{i(\kappa+i\eta)\beta \cdot x} dx \right| &= \left| -i(\kappa + i\eta)\beta_j \int_{B_a} p(x) e^{i(\kappa+i\eta)\beta \cdot x} dx \right| \\ &= (\kappa^2 + \eta^2)^{1/2} |\tilde{p}((\kappa + i\eta)\beta)|. \end{aligned} \tag{40}$$

The left-hand side of the above formula admits the following estimate:

$$\left| \int_{B_a} \partial_j p e^{i(\kappa+i\eta)\beta \cdot x} dx \right| \leq c e^{|\eta|a},$$

where the constant $c > 0$ is proportional to $\|\partial_j p\|_{L^2(B_a)}$. Therefore,

$$|\tilde{p}((\kappa + i\eta)\beta)| \leq c[1 + (\kappa^2 + \eta^2)]^{-1/2} e^{|\eta|a}. \tag{41}$$

Repeating this argument one gets estimate (39).

Estimate (41) implies that if estimate (29) holds and $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$, then the quantity $\sup_{\beta \in S^2} |\tilde{p}((\kappa + i\eta)\beta)|$ remains bounded as $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$.

If η is fixed and $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$, then $\sup_{\beta \in S^2} |\tilde{p}((\kappa + i\eta)\beta)| \rightarrow 0$ by the Riemann–Lebesgue lemma. This and (27) imply the existence of $\eta = \eta(\kappa)$, such that (28) holds, and, consequently, (26) holds. This $\eta(\kappa)$ satisfies (29) because \mathcal{P} is bounded. \square

To complete the proof of theorem 1.1 one has to establish estimate (25). This estimate will be established if one proves the following:

$$\lim_{\kappa \rightarrow \infty} \nu(\kappa) := \lim_{\kappa \rightarrow \infty} \nu(\kappa, \eta(\kappa)) = 0, \tag{42}$$

where $\eta(\kappa) = O(\ln \kappa)$ and

$$\nu(\kappa, \eta) = \sup_{\beta \in S^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\tilde{\epsilon}((\kappa + i\eta)\beta - s)| ds. \tag{43}$$

Our argument is valid for ϵ_1, ϵ_2 and $\epsilon_1 \epsilon_2$, so we will use the letter ϵ and equation (13) for $\tilde{\epsilon}$.

We prove that (13) can be solved by iterations if $|k + i\eta|$ is sufficiently large and $\eta = \eta(k)$, because for such k the operator in this equation has small norm. Therefore, the estimate of the solution $\tilde{\epsilon}$ to this equation is similar to the estimate of the free term of this equation. Thus, it is sufficient to check estimates (42)–(43) for the function $\tilde{q}(\xi)(\xi^2 - 2k\beta \cdot \xi)^{-1}$, with $2k$ replaced by $\kappa + i\eta$, because equation (12) has an operator

$$T\epsilon = \int_{B_a} G(x - y, k)q(y)\epsilon(y, k) dy,$$

and the norm $\|T^2\|$ (in the space $C(B_a)$ of functions with the sup norm) tends to zero as $\kappa = 2 \operatorname{Re} k \rightarrow \infty$. Consequently, equation (12) can be solved by iterations and the main term in its solution, as $|\kappa + i\eta| \rightarrow \infty, \eta \geq 0$, is the free term in this equation. The same is true for the Fourier transform of equation (12), i.e. for equation (13).

Let us estimate the integral

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \sup_{\beta \in S^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{|\tilde{q}((\kappa + i\eta)\beta - s)| ds}{|[(\kappa + i\eta)\beta - s]^2 - (\kappa + i\eta)\beta \cdot ((\kappa + i\eta)\beta - s)|} \\ &\leq c \sup_{\beta \in S^2} e^{|\eta|a} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{ds}{|s^2 - (\kappa + i\eta)\beta \cdot s| [1 + (\kappa\beta - s)^2 + \eta^2]^{\ell/2}} \\ &:= c e^{|\eta|a} J. \end{aligned} \tag{44}$$

Here estimate (39) was used.

Let us write the integral J in the spherical coordinates with the x_3 -axis directed along the vector $\beta, |s| = r, \beta \cdot s = r \cos \theta := rt, -1 \leq t \leq 1$. Let

$$\gamma := \kappa^2 + \eta^2. \tag{45}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} J &\leq 2\pi \int_0^\infty dr r \int_{-1}^1 \frac{dt}{[(r - \kappa t)^2 + \eta^2 t^2]^{1/2} (1 + \gamma + r^2 - 2r\kappa t)^{\ell/2}} \\ &:= 2\pi \int_0^\infty dr r B(r), \end{aligned} \tag{46}$$

where

$$B := B(r) = B(r, \kappa, \eta) := \int_{-1}^1 \frac{dt}{[(r - \kappa t)^2 + \eta^2 t^2]^{1/2} (1 + \gamma + r^2 - 2r\kappa t)^{\ell/2}}. \tag{47}$$

If $t \in [-1, 1]$, then

$$1 + \gamma + r^2 - 2r\kappa t \geq 1 + \gamma^2 + r^2 - 2r\kappa = 1 + \eta^2 + (r - \kappa)^2. \tag{48}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}
 B &\leq \frac{1}{[1 + \eta^2 + (r - \kappa)^2]^{\ell/2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\gamma}} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{dt}{\left[\left(t - \frac{r\kappa}{\gamma} \right)^2 + \frac{\eta^2 r^2}{\gamma^2} \right]^{1/2}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\gamma} [1 + \eta^2 + (r - \kappa)^2]^{\ell/2}} \left| \ln \left| \frac{1 - \frac{r\kappa}{\gamma} + \sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{r\kappa}{\gamma} \right)^2 + \frac{\eta^2 r^2}{\gamma^2}}}{\sqrt{\left(1 + \frac{r\kappa}{\gamma} \right)^2 + \frac{\eta^2 r^2}{\gamma^2}} - 1 - \frac{r\kappa}{\gamma}} \right| \right|. \quad (49)
 \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$J \leq \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{\gamma}} \int_0^\infty \frac{dr r}{[1 + \eta^2 + (r - \kappa)^2]^{\ell/2}} \left| \ln \left| \frac{1 - \frac{r\kappa}{\gamma} + \sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{r\kappa}{\gamma} \right)^2 + \frac{\eta^2 r^2}{\gamma^2}}}{\sqrt{\left(1 + \frac{r\kappa}{\gamma} \right)^2 + \frac{\eta^2 r^2}{\gamma^2}} - 1 - \frac{r\kappa}{\gamma}} \right| \right|. \quad (50)$$

The integral in (50) converges: as $r \rightarrow \infty$ the ratio under the logarithm sign tends to 1, and the factor in front of the logarithm is $O(r^{-(\ell-1)})$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$. Since $\ell > 2$, the integral in (50) converges.

The modulus of the logarithmic term in (50) behaves asymptotically, as $r \rightarrow 0$, like $\left| \ln \left(\frac{r^2 \kappa^2}{\gamma^2} \right) \right|$. Thus, $\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} r \left| \ln \left(\frac{r^2 \kappa^2}{\gamma^2} \right) \right| = 0$ for every fixed $\kappa > 0$, and this limit is uniform with respect to κ as $\kappa \rightarrow \infty$ if $\eta = O(\ln \kappa)$. Therefore, the integrand in (50) is defined for $r = 0$ to be zero by continuity.

As $\gamma = \eta^2 + \kappa^2 \rightarrow \infty$ and $\eta = O(\ln \kappa)$, the integrand in (50) tends to zero for every fixed $r \geq 0$, and (50) implies

$$J \leq o\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\gamma}}\right), \quad \gamma \rightarrow \infty. \quad (51)$$

Consequently, (44) implies

$$I \leq cr^{|\eta|a} o\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\kappa^2 + \eta^2}}\right), \quad \kappa \rightarrow \infty, \quad \eta = O(\ln \kappa). \quad (52)$$

Therefore,

$$\lim_{\kappa \rightarrow \infty, \eta = O(\ln \kappa)} I = 0. \quad (53)$$

This implies estimate (42). Theorem 1.1 is proved. \square

Remark 2. Similarly one can prove that the data $A(\beta, \alpha_0, k), \forall \beta \in S^2, \forall k > 0$, and a fixed $\alpha = \alpha_0 \in S^2$ determine q uniquely if assumption (A) holds.

Appendix. Estimate of the norm of the operator T^2

Let

$$Tf := \int_{B_a} G(x - y, \kappa + i\eta) q(y) f(y) dy. \quad (A.1)$$

Assume $q \in H_0^\ell(B_a), \ell > 2, f \in C(B_a)$. Our goal is to prove that equation (12) can be solved by iterations for all sufficiently large κ .

Consider T as an operator in $C(B_a)$. One has

$$\begin{aligned}
 T^2 f &= \int_{B_a} dz G(x - z, \kappa + i\eta) q(z) \int_{B_a} G(z - y, \kappa + i\eta) q(y) f(y) dy \\
 &= \int_{B_a} dy f(y) q(y) \int_{B_a} dz q(z) G(x - z, \kappa + i\eta) G(z - y, \kappa + i\eta). \quad (A.2)
 \end{aligned}$$

Let us estimate the integral

$$\begin{aligned}
 I(x, y) &:= \int_{B_a} G(x - z, \kappa + i\eta)G(z - y, \kappa + i\eta)q(z) dz \\
 &= \int_{B_a} \frac{e^{i(\kappa+i\eta)[|x-z|-\beta\cdot(x-z)+|z-y|-\beta\cdot(z-y)]}}{16\pi^2|x - z||z - y|} q(z) dz \\
 &= \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \int_{B_a} \frac{e^{i(\kappa+i\eta)[|x-z|+|z-y|-\beta\cdot(x-y)]}}{|x - z||z - y|} q(z) dz \\
 &:= \frac{e^{-i(\kappa+i\eta)\beta\cdot(x-y)}}{16\pi^2} I_1(x, y). \tag{A.3}
 \end{aligned}$$

Let us use the following coordinates (see [10], p 391):

$$z_1 = \ell s t + \frac{x_1 + y_1}{2}, \quad z_2 = \ell \sqrt{(s^2 - 1)(1 - t^2)} \cos \psi + \frac{x_2 + y_2}{2}, \tag{A.4}$$

$$z_3 = \ell \sqrt{(s^2 - 1)(1 - t^2)} \sin \psi + \frac{x_3 + y_3}{2}. \tag{A.5}$$

The Jacobian J of the transformation $(z_1, z_2, z_3) \rightarrow (\ell, t, \psi)$ is

$$J = \ell^3(s^2 - t^2), \tag{A.6}$$

where

$$\ell = \frac{|x - y|}{2}, \quad |x - z| + |z - y| = 2\ell s, \quad |x - z| - |z - y| = 2\ell t, \tag{A.7}$$

$$|x - z||z - y| = 4\ell^2(s^2 - t^2), \quad 0 \leq \psi < 2\pi, \quad t \in [-1, 1], \quad s \in [1, \infty). \tag{A.8}$$

One has

$$I_1 = \ell \int_a^\infty e^{2i(\kappa+i\eta)\ell s} Q(s) ds, \tag{A.9}$$

where

$$Q(s) := Q\left(s, \ell, \frac{x + y}{2}\right) = \int_0^{2\pi} d\psi \int_{-1}^1 dt q\left(z\left(s, t, \psi; \ell, \frac{x + y}{2}\right)\right), \tag{A.10}$$

and the function $Q(s) \in H_0^2(\mathbb{R}^3)$ for any fixed x, y . Therefore, an integration by parts in (A.9) yields the following estimate:

$$|I_1| = O\left(\frac{1}{|\kappa + i\eta|}\right), \quad |\kappa + i\eta| \rightarrow \infty. \tag{A.11}$$

From (A.2), (A.3) and (A.11) one gets

$$\|T^2\| = O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\gamma}}\right), \quad \gamma := \kappa^2 + \eta^2 \rightarrow \infty. \tag{A.12}$$

Therefore, integral equation (12), with k replaced by $\frac{\kappa+i\eta}{2}$, can be solved by iterations if γ is sufficiently large and $\eta \geq 0$. Consequently, integral equation (13) can be solved by iterations. Thus, estimate (42) holds if such an estimate holds for the free term in equation (13), that is, for the function $\frac{\tilde{q}}{\xi^2 - (\kappa+i\eta)\beta\cdot\xi}$, namely, if estimate (53) holds.

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