

## DOCTORAL THESIS

### Theoretical advances on scattering theory, fractional operators and their inverse problems

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# Abstract

Inverse problems arise in numerous fields of science and engineering where one tries to find out the desired information of an unknown object or the cause of an observed effect. They are of fundamental importance in many areas including radar and sonar applications, nondestructive testing, image processing, medical imaging, remote sensing, geophysics and astronomy among others. This study is concerned with three issues in scattering theory, fractional operators, as well as some of their inverse problems.

The first topic is scattering problems for electromagnetic waves governed by Maxwell equations. It will be proved in the current study that an inhomogeneous EM medium with a corner on its support always scatters by assuming certain regularity and admissible conditions. This result implies that one cannot achieve invisibility for such materials. In order to verify the result, an integral of solutions to certain interior transmission problem is to be analyzed, and complex geometry optics solutions to corresponding Maxwell equations with higher order estimate for the residual will be constructed.

The second problem involves the linearized elastic or seismic wave scattering described by the Lamé system. We will consider the elastic or seismic body wave which is composed of two different type of sub-waves, that is, the compressional or primary (P-) and the shear or secondary (S-) waves. We shall prove that the P- and the S-components of the total wave can be completely decoupled under certain geometric and boundary conditions. This is a surprising finding since it is known that the P- and the S-components of the elastic or seismic body wave are coupled in general. Results for decoupling around local boundary pieces, for boundary value problems, and for scattering problems are to be established. This decoupling property will be further applied to derive uniqueness and stability for the associated inverse problem of identifying polyhedral elastic obstacles by an optimal number of scattering measurements.

Lastly, we consider a type of fractional (and nonlocal) elliptic operators and the associated Calderón problem. The well-posedness for a kind of for-

ward problems concerning the fractional operator will be established. As a consequence, the corresponding Dirichlet to Neumann map with certain mapping property is to be defined. As for the inverse problem, it will be shown that a potential can be uniquely identified by local Cauchy data of the associated nonlocal operator, in dimensions larger than or equal to two.

# Table of Contents

Declaration	i
Abstract	ii
Acknowledgements	iv
Table of Contents	v
Chapter 1 Introduction	1
1.1 Inverse Problems . . . . .	1
1.2 Three Topics to be Explored . . . . .	3
1.2.1 Corner Scattering for Electromagnetic Fields . . . . .	3
1.2.2 Decoupling of Elastic Fields and its Applications in Scattering and Inverse Scattering . . . . .	6
1.2.3 A Fractional Operator and an Associated Calderón Prob- lem . . . . .	8
Chapter 2 Corner Scattering for Electromagnetic Fields	13
2.1 Introduction . . . . .	13
2.2 Electromagnetic Scattering from a Penetrable Corner . . . . .	16
2.2.1 EM Forward Scattering . . . . .	16
2.2.2 The Main Results . . . . .	17
2.2.3 The Class of Incident Fields . . . . .	20
2.3 Proof of Theorem 2.2 . . . . .	22
2.3.1 Auxiliary Results . . . . .	22
2.3.2 Proof of Theorem 2.2 . . . . .	24
2.4 CGO Solutions for Maxwell Equations . . . . .	27

2.4.1	From Maxwell Equations to Schrödinger Equations . . .	28
2.4.2	CGO Solutions for the Schrödinger System . . . . .	30
2.4.3	Proof of Theorem 2.6 . . . . .	33
2.5	Future Work . . . . .	35
Chapter 3	Decoupling of Elastic Fields and its Applications	37
3.1	Introduction . . . . .	37
3.2	Decoupling of Elastic Fields . . . . .	40
3.2.1	Boundaries Pieces of the Fourth Kind . . . . .	40
3.2.2	Boundaries Pieces of the Third Kind . . . . .	43
3.2.3	Elastic Decoupling in Boundary Value Problems . . . .	45
3.3	Scattering for Linearized Elasticity . . . . .	46
3.3.1	Backgrounds . . . . .	46
3.3.2	Elastic Decoupling in Forward Scattering . . . . .	49
3.4	Inverse Obstacle Scattering in Elasticity . . . . .	51
3.4.1	The Uniqueness . . . . .	52
3.4.2	The Stability . . . . .	54
Chapter 4	A Fractional Operator and its Calderón Problem	57
4.1	Introduction . . . . .	57
4.2	Definition of the Fractional Operator . . . . .	60
4.2.1	Sobolev Spaces . . . . .	61
4.2.2	The Heat Kernel . . . . .	62
4.2.3	Definition of the Operator $\mathcal{L}^s$ . . . . .	63
4.3	The Dirichlet Problem . . . . .	65
4.3.1	Well-Posedness of the Dirichlet Problem . . . . .	65
4.3.2	The DtN Map . . . . .	71
4.4	An Important Property of $\mathcal{L}^s$ . . . . .	73
4.4.1	The Extension Problem . . . . .	73
4.4.2	Proof of Theorem 4.2 . . . . .	84
4.5	The Calderón Problem for $\mathcal{L}^s + q$ . . . . .	84
4.5.1	Density of Solutions . . . . .	85

4.5.2 Uniqueness in the Anisotropic Calderón Problem with Partial Data . . . . .	86
4.6 Future Work . . . . .	87
Bibliography	104
Curriculum Vitae	105