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**To cite this article:** Jason Murphy (2023): Recovery of a spatially-dependent coefficient from the NLS scattering map, *Communications in Partial Differential Equations*, DOI: [10.1080/03605302.2023.2241546](https://doi.org/10.1080/03605302.2023.2241546)

**To link to this article:** <https://doi.org/10.1080/03605302.2023.2241546>



Published online: 06 Aug 2023.



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# Recovery of a spatially-dependent coefficient from the NLS scattering map

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## ABSTRACT

We follow up on work of Strauss, Weder, and Watanabe concerning scattering and inverse scattering for nonlinear Schrödinger equations with nonlinearities of the form  $\alpha(x)|u|^p u$ .

## ARTICLE HISTORY

Received 4 October 2022

Accepted 24 July 2023

## KEYWORDS

NLS; scattering; inverse problem

## 1. Introduction

This note is intended to follow up on some previous works [1–4] concerning nonlinear Schrödinger equations of the form

$$(i\partial_t + \Delta)u = \alpha(x)|u|^p u, \quad (t, x) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d \quad (1.1)$$

in dimensions  $d \geq 1$ . These works considered the problems of (i) scattering for a suitable class of data and (ii) the determination of the nonlinearity from knowledge of the scattering map.

In [1], Strauss established a small-data scattering theory for (1.1) in  $H^s$ , with  $p$  an integer in the mass-supercritical regime (i.e.  $p > \frac{4}{d}$ ),  $s$  sufficiently large, and  $\alpha \in W^{s,\infty}$ . The need for high regularity was essentially a consequence of estimating solutions using the  $L^\infty$ -norm, with the nonlinear term in the Duhamel formula being estimated directly via the dispersive estimate. After establishing the small-data scattering theory, Strauss further demonstrated that knowledge of the scattering map suffices to determine integrals of the form

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \langle \alpha |e^{it\Delta} \varphi|^p e^{it\Delta} \varphi, e^{it\Delta} \psi \rangle dt$$

for test functions  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$ , which may be used to recover the coefficient  $\alpha$  pointwise. The result of [1] was extended in works of Weder [2, 3], who considered equations of the form

$$(i\partial_t + \Delta)u = V_0(x)u + \sum_{k=k_0}^{\infty} V_k(x)|u|^{2k}u$$

and used the small-data scattering map to determine the functions  $V_k$ , including the potential  $V_0$ . The constant  $k_0$  was chosen so that the lowest power in the nonlinearity exceeded the so-called *Strauss exponent* (allowing for some mass-subcritical nonlinearities); scattering was obtained in  $H^s$  for some integer  $s > \frac{d}{2} - 1$  ( $s = 1$  in  $d = 1$ ); and the coefficients were

assumed to satisfy  $V_k \in W^{s,\infty}$ . Weder also relied primarily on dispersive estimates (of the type obtained in [5]) to estimate the nonlinear terms.

In [4], Watanabe established a large-data  $H^1$  scattering theory for (1.1) in the  $3d$  intercritical regime ( $\frac{4}{d} < p < \frac{4}{d-2}$ ) for (1.1) with decaying coefficients  $\alpha$  satisfying a repulsivity condition. He then adapted techniques from [6] to the setting of (1.1), evaluating the scattering map on data of the form  $e^{i\rho\theta \cdot x} \varphi$  with  $\rho \gg 1$  to determine integrals of the form

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \langle \alpha(\cdot + 2t\theta) |\varphi|^p \varphi, \psi \rangle dt$$

for test functions  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$ , which then determine the X-ray transform of  $\alpha$ .

Our first contribution is to revisit the approach of [1–3] and to lower the regularity assumptions by utilizing Strichartz estimates instead of directly using the dispersive estimate. This is similar to the approach taken in the related work [7], although in this latter work the authors were primarily concerned with the analyticity of the scattering operator, and correspondingly the results concerning NLS were restricted to the case  $p \in 2\mathbb{N}$  and  $\alpha$  constant. We further extend the work of [1, 2, 5] by establishing analogous results in the full mass-subcritical regime.

Our second contribution is to extend the results of [4] to the mass-critical and mass-subcritical regime in dimensions  $d \geq 3$ . We follow essentially the same strategy to recover  $\alpha$  from the scattering map. In contrast to [4], however, we formulate the original scattering problem as a small-data problem in a suitable weighted space. This construction directly provides us with the key estimate needed to control the nonlinear error term in the reconstruction argument. The formulation as a small-data problem also removes the need for any sign or repulsivity conditions on the coefficient. After presenting our approach, we will also discuss some challenges associated to this problem in the mass-supercritical regime.

Our main results appear below as follows:

- **Theorem 3.1** – small-data scattering in  $H^1$  in the intercritical case;
- **Theorem 3.2** – small-data scattering in  $L^2$  in the mass-critical and mass-subcritical case;
- **Theorem 3.3** – scattering in  $L^2$  in the mass-critical and mass-subcritical case with boosted data;
- **Theorem 4.1** and **Corollary 4.2** – recovery of the nonlinearity from the scattering map in the setting of **Theorems 3.1 and 3.2**;
- **Theorem 4.3** and **Corollary 4.4** – recovery of the nonlinearity from the scattering map in the setting of **Theorem 3.3**.

Our results fit in the broader context of the recovery of the nonlinear terms from scattering data for nonlinear dispersive equations. For some further results of this type (primarily in the NLS setting), we refer the reader to [2, 3, 5, 7–16]. We also mention the related works [17, 18], which considered the recovery of spatially-dependent coefficients in the nonlinearity using particular solutions rather than the scattering map.

## 2. Preliminaries

We write  $A \lesssim B$  to denote the inequality  $A \leq CB$  for some  $C > 0$ . We denote dependence on parameters by subscripts, e.g.  $A \lesssim_{\ell} B$  means  $A \leq CB$  for some  $C = C(\ell) > 0$ . We utilize the

standard space-time Lebesgue spaces, i.e.

$$\|u\|_{L_t^q L_x^r(I \times \mathbb{R}^d)} = \left\| \|u(t, \cdot)\|_{L_x^r(\mathbb{R}^d)} \right\|_{L_t^q(I)},$$

where  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$  is some time interval. We use  $W_x^{1,r}$  for the Sobolev space with norm

$$\|u\|_{W^{1,r}} = \|u\|_{L^r} + \|\nabla u\|_{L^r}.$$

We write  $q'$  for the Hölder dual of  $q$ . The Fourier multiplier operator with symbol  $m$  is denoted by  $m(i\nabla)$ . Finally, we write  $\langle x \rangle = \sqrt{1 + |x|^2}$ .

The free Schrödinger group is denoted  $e^{it\Delta}$ . We have the following identity for boosted initial data: for  $v \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,

$$[e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi](x) = e^{-i|v|^2 t} e^{iv \cdot x} [e^{it\Delta} \varphi](x - 2tv). \quad (2.1)$$

The Schrödinger group also obeys the following dispersive estimates

$$\|e^{it\Delta} \varphi\|_{L^\infty} \lesssim |t|^{-\frac{d}{2}} \|\varphi\|_{L^1}, \quad \|e^{it\Delta} \varphi\|_{L^2} = \|\varphi\|_{L^2},$$

which (by interpolation) yield the following (Lorentz-improved) estimates

$$\|e^{it\Delta} \varphi\|_{L^{r,2}} \lesssim |t|^{-\left(\frac{d}{2} - \frac{d}{r}\right)} \|\varphi\|_{L^{r,2}}, \quad 2 \leq r < \infty. \quad (2.2)$$

We will also make use of the standard Strichartz estimates for  $e^{it\Delta}$ . We call a pair  $(q, r)$  *admissible* if  $2 \leq q, r \leq \infty$ ,  $\frac{2}{q} + \frac{d}{r} = \frac{d}{2}$ , and  $(q, r, d) \neq (2, \infty, 2)$ .

**Theorem 2.1** (Strichartz estimates, [19–21]). *For any admissible  $(q, r)$  and any  $\varphi \in L^2$ , we have*

$$\|e^{it\Delta} \varphi\|_{L_t^q L_x^r(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d)} \lesssim \|\varphi\|_{L^2}.$$

For any admissible  $(q, r)$  and  $(\tilde{q}, \tilde{r})$  and  $F \in L_t^{\tilde{q}'} L_x^{\tilde{r}'}(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d)$ , we have

$$\left\| \int_{-\infty}^t e^{i(t-s)\Delta} F(s) ds \right\|_{L_t^q L_x^r(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d)} \lesssim \|F\|_{L_t^{\tilde{q}'} L_x^{\tilde{r}'}(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d)}.$$

## 2.1. Weighted estimate for boosted data

The following estimate concerning boosted solutions to the linear Schrödinger equation will play a key role in [Theorems 3.3](#) and [4.3](#). The estimate is modeled closely after estimates appearing in [\[4, 6, 22\]](#).

Given  $s \in [0, \frac{d}{2})$ , we introduce the space  $X^s(\mathbb{R}^d)$  via the norm

$$\|\varphi\|_{X^s} = \|\langle x \rangle^s \varphi\|_{L^2} + \||\nabla|^s \varphi\|_{L^{\frac{2d}{d+2s}}} \quad (2.3)$$

**Proposition 2.2.** *Let  $q : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  satisfy  $|q(x)| \lesssim \langle x \rangle^{-s}$  for some  $s \in (0, \frac{d}{2})$ . Then*

$$\|q e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi\|_{L^2} \lesssim \langle tv \rangle^{-s} \|\varphi\|_{X^s} \quad \text{uniformly in } t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

We begin with a mismatch-type estimate (also found in [\[6, 22\]](#)).

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $g \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$  satisfy  $\text{supp } g \subset \{|\xi| \leq N\}$  for some  $N \geq 1$ . Let  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and suppose  $S, S' \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  are measurable sets satisfying*

$$\text{dist}(S, S') = R \geq 4N|t|. \quad (2.4)$$

Then for any  $\ell \geq 0$ ,

$$\|\chi_S e^{it\Delta} g(i\nabla) \chi_S\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^2} \lesssim_{\ell, g} (1+R)^{-\ell}.$$

The estimate is uniform in  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

*Proof* We begin by observing that for a bounded continuous function  $m$ , we have

$$\|\chi_S m(i\nabla) \chi_S\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^2} \lesssim \min\{\|m\|_{L^\infty}, \|\check{m}\|_{L^1(|x|>R)}\}.$$

The  $L^\infty$  bound follows from the Plancherel identity. For the remaining estimate, one may proceed by expanding the definition of

$$\|\chi_S m(i\nabla) \chi_S f\|_{L^2}^2, \quad f \in L^2,$$

and using Young's inequality

$$|f(y)| |f(z)| \leq \frac{1}{2} [ |f(y)|^2 + |f(z)|^2 ].$$

The presence of the cutoffs and the assumption (2.4) allow for the restriction to  $|x| > R$  in the  $L^1$ -norm of  $\check{m}$ . We refer the reader to [22, Lemma 2.1] for further details.

In the present setting, we take  $m(\xi) = e^{-it|\xi|^2} g(\xi)$  and seek to estimate

$$\check{m}(x) = \int e^{ix\xi - it|\xi|^2} g(\xi) d\xi, \quad |x| > R.$$

According to our assumptions, the phase has no stationary points, and hence repeated integration by parts leads to bounds of the form  $C_\ell |x - 2t\xi|^{-\ell}$  for arbitrary  $\ell$ . In the present setting, we have

$$|x - 2t\xi| \geq |x| - 2t|\xi| \geq \frac{1}{2}|x| \geq \frac{1}{2}R,$$

and hence we obtain

$$\|\check{m}\|_{L^1(|x|>R)} \lesssim_{\ell} R^{-\ell}$$

for any  $\ell \geq 0$ . □

*Proof of Proposition 2.2* We let  $v \in \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \{0\}$  and  $s \in (0, \frac{d}{2})$ . By (2.1), it is enough to show that

$$\|q(\cdot + 2tv) e^{it\Delta} \varphi\|_{L^2} \lesssim_s \langle tv \rangle^{-s} \|\varphi\|_{X^s}. \quad (2.5)$$

We use the standard Littlewood–Paley projections to split  $\varphi$  into low and high frequencies. In particular, we write

$$\varphi = P_{\leq N} \varphi + P_{> N} \varphi, \quad N := \frac{1}{4}|v|.$$

We first estimate the low frequencies. We set

$$S = \{|x| \leq \frac{1}{10}|tv|\}$$

and use the triangle inequality to obtain

$$\|q(\cdot + 2tv) e^{it\Delta} P_{\leq N} \varphi\|_{L^2} \leq \|q(\cdot + 2tv) e^{it\Delta} P_{\leq N} [1 - \chi_S] \varphi\|_{L^2} \quad (2.6)$$

$$+ \| [1 - \chi_S(\cdot + 2tv)] q(\cdot + 2tv) e^{it\Delta} P_{\leq N} \chi_S \varphi \|_{L^2} \quad (2.7)$$

$$+ \| \chi_S(\cdot + 2tv) q(\cdot + 2tv) e^{it\Delta} P_{\leq N} \chi_S \varphi \|_{L^2}. \quad (2.8)$$

For (2.6), we estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \|q(\cdot + 2tv)e^{it\Delta} P_{\leq N}[1 - \chi_S]\varphi\|_{L^2} &\lesssim \|q\|_{L^\infty} \|\varphi\|_{L^2(|x| > \frac{1}{10}|tv|)} \\ &\lesssim \langle tv \rangle^{-s} \|\langle x \rangle^s \varphi\|_{L^2}, \end{aligned}$$

which is acceptable.

For (2.7), we use the decay assumption on  $q$  to obtain

$$\|[1 - \chi_S(\cdot + 2tv)]q(\cdot + 2tv)e^{it\Delta} P_{\leq N}\chi_S\varphi\|_{L^2} \lesssim \langle tv \rangle^{-s} \|\varphi\|_{L^2},$$

which is acceptable.

For (2.8) we introduce

$$S' = \{|x + 2tv| \leq \frac{1}{10}|tv|\}$$

and observe that

$$\text{dist}(S, S') \geq |v|t = 4N|t|.$$

Thus, Lemma 2.3 implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\chi_S(\cdot + 2tv)q(\cdot + 2tv)e^{it\Delta} P_{\leq N}\chi_S\varphi\|_{L^2} &\lesssim \|q\|_{L^\infty} \|\chi_{S'}e^{it\Delta} P_{\leq N}\chi_S\varphi\|_{L^2} \\ &\lesssim \langle tv \rangle^{-s} \|\varphi\|_{L^2}, \end{aligned}$$

which is acceptable.

It remains to estimate the high frequencies. As it is straightforward to obtain the bound

$$\|q(\cdot + 2tv)e^{it\Delta} P_{>N}\varphi\|_{L^2} \lesssim \|q\|_{L^\infty} \|\varphi\|_{L^2} \lesssim \|\varphi\|_{L^2},$$

it suffices to obtain the  $|tv|^{-s}$  bound. To this end, we use Hölder's inequality (in Lorentz spaces), the dispersive estimate (2.2), the embedding  $L^r \hookrightarrow L^{r,2}$  for  $r \leq 2$ , and Bernstein's inequality (recalling  $|v| = 4N$ ) to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|q(\cdot + 2tv)e^{it\Delta} P_{>N}\varphi\|_{L^2} &\lesssim \|\langle x \rangle^{-s}\|_{L^{\frac{d}{s}, \infty}} \|e^{it\Delta} P_{>N}\varphi\|_{L^{\frac{2d}{d-2s}, 2}} \\ &\lesssim |t|^{-s} \|P_{>N}\varphi\|_{L^{\frac{2d}{d+2s}, 2}} \\ &\lesssim |tv|^{-s} \||\nabla|^s \varphi\|_{L^{\frac{2d}{d+2s}}}, \end{aligned}$$

which is acceptable.  $\square$

### 3. The direct problem

In this section we prove several scattering results for (1.1). We first establish scattering for small data in Sobolev spaces. We utilize standard contraction mapping arguments based on Strichartz estimates (see e.g. [23]). In the intercritical regime ( $\frac{4}{d} \leq p \leq \frac{4}{d-2}$ ), the coefficient  $\alpha$  and its gradient are estimated in  $L^\infty$ . In the mass-subcritical regime ( $p < \frac{4}{d}$ ) we impose a decay assumption on  $\alpha$ .

Throughout the rest of the paper, we will regularly make use of the admissible pair

$$(q, r) = (p + 2, \frac{2d(p+2)}{d(p+2)-4}) \tag{3.1}$$

(note that we will restrict to  $p \geq 2$  in dimension  $d = 1$ ).

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $d \geq 1$  and suppose  $p$  satisfies

$$\begin{cases} \frac{4}{d} \leq p \leq \frac{4}{d-2} & d \geq 3, \\ \frac{4}{d} \leq p < \infty & d \in \{1, 2\}. \end{cases}$$

Let  $\alpha$  be a continuous function with  $\alpha, \nabla \alpha \in L^\infty$ . There exists  $\eta = \eta(p, \|\alpha\|_{W^{1,\infty}}) > 0$  sufficiently small that for any  $u_- \in H^1$  with  $\|u_-\|_{H^1} < \eta$ , there exists a unique global solution  $u$  to (1.1) and final state  $u_+ \in H^1$  satisfying

$$\|u\|_{L_t^q W_x^{1,r}(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d)} \lesssim \|u_-\|_{H^1} \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \pm\infty} \|u(t) - e^{it\Delta} u_\pm\|_{H^1} = 0, \quad (3.2)$$

where  $(q, r)$  is as in (3.1).

*Proof* Let  $u_- \in H^1$ . We will prove that if  $\|u_-\|_{H^1}$  is sufficiently small, the map

$$u \mapsto \Phi(u) = e^{it\Delta} u_- - i \int_{-\infty}^t e^{i(t-s)\Delta} \alpha |u(s)|^p u(s) ds \quad (3.3)$$

is a contraction on a suitable metric space. To this end, we define

$$X = \{u : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid \|u\|_{L_t^q W_x^{1,r}(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d)} \leq 2C\|u_-\|_{H^1}\},$$

which we equip with the metric

$$d(u, v) = \|u - v\|_{L_t^q L_x^r(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d)}.$$

The constant  $C$  encodes implicit constants appearing in estimates such as Strichartz estimates and Sobolev embedding. Throughout the proof, all space-time norms will be taken over  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d$  unless indicated otherwise.

We define  $r_c = \frac{dp(p+2)}{4}$  and observe that by Sobolev embedding

$$\|u\|_{L_x^{r_c}} \lesssim \||\nabla|^{s_c} u\|_{L_x^r} \lesssim \|u\|_{W_x^{1,r}}, \quad \text{where } s_c = \frac{d}{2} - \frac{2}{p} \in [0, 1].$$

Now let  $u \in X$ . By Strichartz estimates, Hölder's inequality, the chain and product rules, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\Phi(u)\|_{L_t^q W_x^{1,r}} &\lesssim \|u_-\|_{H^1} + \|[\alpha |u|^p u]\|_{L_t^{q'} W_x^{1,r'}} \\ &\lesssim \|u_-\|_{H^1} + (\|\alpha\|_{L^\infty} + \|\nabla \alpha\|_{L^\infty}) \|u\|_{L_t^q L_x^{r_c}}^p \|u\|_{L_t^q W_x^{1,r}} \\ &\lesssim \|u_-\|_{H^1} + \|u\|_{L_t^q W_x^{1,r}}^{p+1} \lesssim \|u_-\|_{H^1} + \|u_-\|_{H^1}^{p+1}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that for  $\|u_-\|_{H^1}$  sufficiently small,  $\Phi : X \rightarrow X$ .

Given  $u, v \in X$ , we similarly estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \|u - v\|_{L_t^q L_x^r} &\lesssim \|\alpha[|u|^p u - |v|^p v]\|_{L_t^{q'} L_x^{r'}} \\ &\lesssim \|\alpha\|_{L^\infty} \{ \|u\|_{L_t^q L_x^{r_c}}^p + \|v\|_{L_t^q L_x^{r_c}}^p \} \|u - v\|_{L_t^q L_x^r} \\ &\lesssim \|u_-\|_{H^1}^p \|u - v\|_{L_t^q L_x^r}, \end{aligned}$$

which shows that  $\Phi$  is a contraction provided  $\|u_-\|_{H^1}$  is sufficiently small.

We conclude that  $\Phi$  has a unique fixed point  $u \in X$ , yielding the desired solution to (1.1). The convergence  $e^{-it\Delta} u(t) \rightarrow u_-$  in  $H^1$  as  $t \rightarrow -\infty$  follows by construction and the estimates above. To prove the existence of a scattering state as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , we estimate as

above to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|e^{-it\Delta}u(t) - e^{-is\Delta}u(s)\|_{H^1} &\lesssim (\|\alpha\|_{L^\infty} + \|\nabla\alpha\|_{L^\infty}) \|u\|_{L_t^q W_x^{1,r}((s,t) \times \mathbb{R}^d)}^{p+1} \\ &\rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } s, t \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\{e^{-it\Delta}u(t)\}$  is Cauchy and so converges to a unique  $u_+ \in H^1$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .  $\square$

We next consider the mass-subcritical regime. Assuming that  $\alpha$  belongs to a suitable Lebesgue space, we can first establish scattering for small  $L^2$  data. In fact, this result (as well as [Theorem 3.3](#)) allows for  $p$  to go below the usual long-range exponent  $p = \frac{2d}{d}$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $d \geq 1$  and suppose  $p$  satisfies*

$$\begin{cases} 0 < p \leq \frac{4}{d} & d \geq 2, \\ 2 \leq p \leq 4 & d = 1. \end{cases}$$

*Let  $\alpha$  be a continuous function with  $\alpha \in L^\infty \cap L^{\frac{2d}{4-dp}}$ . Then there exists  $\eta = \eta(p, \|\alpha\|_{L^{\frac{2d}{4-dp}}}) > 0$  sufficiently small that for any  $u_- \in L^2$  with  $\|u_-\|_{L^2} < \eta$ , there exists a unique global solution  $u$  to (1.1) and final state  $u_+ \in L^2$  satisfying*

$$\|u\|_{L_t^q L_x^r(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d)} \lesssim \|u_-\|_{L^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \pm\infty} \|u(t) - e^{it\Delta}u_\pm\|_{L^2} = 0, \quad (3.4)$$

where  $(q, r)$  is as in (3.1).

*Proof* We show that  $\Phi$  defined in (3.3) is a contraction on the complete metric space

$$X = \{u : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid \|u\|_{L_t^q L_x^r(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d)} \leq 2C\|u_-\|_{L^2}\},$$

with metric given by

$$d(u, v) = \|u - v\|_{L_t^q L_x^r(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d)}.$$

Once again  $C$  encodes implicit constants appearing in the estimates below.

The essential step is the following nonlinear estimate: by Strichartz estimates and Hölder's inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \int_{-\infty}^t e^{i(t-s)\Delta} \alpha(x) |u(s)|^p u(s) ds \right\|_{L_t^q L_x^r} &\lesssim \|\alpha|u|^p u\|_{L_t^{q'} L_x^{r'}} \\ &\lesssim \|\alpha\|_{L^{\frac{2d}{4-dp}}} \|u\|_{L_t^q L_x^r}^{p+1}. \end{aligned}$$

With this estimate in hand, the proof exactly parallels that of [Theorem 3.1](#). The constraint  $p \geq 2$  in  $d = 1$  is necessary to use the space  $L_t^q L_x^r$  for  $u$  (see (3.1)) as well as the space  $L^{\frac{2d}{4-dp}}$  for  $\alpha$ .  $\square$

We next establish a mass-critical and mass-subcritical scattering theory for a class of data adapted to the setting of [4], namely, data of the form  $u_- = e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi$  with  $|v| \gg 1$ . By working with a suitably weighted space (and imposing further decay assumptions on  $\alpha$ ), we can recast the scattering problem for such data as a small-data problem.

Given  $a \geq 0$  and  $s \in [0, \frac{d}{2})$  we introduce the space  $X^{a,s}$  via the norm

$$\|\varphi\|_{X^{a,s}} = \||\nabla|^a \varphi\|_{L^2} + \|\varphi\|_{X^s}, \quad (3.5)$$

where  $X^s$  is as in (2.3). To simplify the formulas below, we also introduce the parameter

$$c = c(p, d) = \frac{4-p(d-2)}{2(p+2)}. \quad (3.6)$$

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $d \geq 3$  and  $0 < p \leq \frac{4}{d}$ . Let  $\sigma$  satisfy*

$$\max\left\{\frac{2}{4-p(d-2)}, \frac{4-dp}{4-p(d-2)}\right\} < \sigma < \frac{d}{2} \quad (3.7)$$

and suppose that  $\alpha$  is a continuous function satisfying

$$\langle x \rangle^{(p+1)c\sigma} \alpha \in L^{\frac{2d(p+2)}{4-dp}}. \quad (3.8)$$

Let  $\varphi \in X^{1,\sigma}$ . For  $|\nu|$  sufficiently large, there exists a unique global solution to (1.1) and final state  $u_+ \in L^2$  satisfying

$$\|\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} u\|_{L_{t,x}^{p+2}(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d)} \lesssim |\nu|^{-\frac{1}{p+2}} \|\varphi\|_{X^{1,\sigma}} \quad (3.9)$$

and

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \pm\infty} \|u(t) - e^{it\Delta} u_{\pm}\|_{L^2} = 0, \quad \text{where } u_- = e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi.$$

*Proof* We wish to close a contraction mapping argument for the map  $\Phi$  in (3.3) in the space

$$Y = \{u : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid \|\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} u\|_{L_{t,x}^{p+2}} \leq 2C|\nu|^{-\frac{1}{p+2}} \|\varphi\|_{X^{1,\sigma}}\}$$

with metric

$$d(u, v) = \|\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} [u - v]\|_{L_{t,x}^{p+2}}.$$

The constant  $C$  encodes implicit constants appearing in several inequalities, including the Strichartz estimates and the inequality in Proposition 2.2.

We begin with the linear term in the definition of  $\Phi$  (see (3.3)). By Hölder's inequality, we have

$$\|\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi\|_{L_x^{p+2}} \lesssim \|\langle x \rangle^{-\sigma} e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi\|_{L_x^2}^c \|e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi\|_{L_x^{\frac{2d}{d-2}}}^{1-c}.$$

Using (2.1) and Sobolev embedding, we obtain

$$\|e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi\|_{L_x^{\frac{2d}{d-2}}} \lesssim \|e^{it\Delta} \varphi\|_{L_x^{\frac{2d}{d-2}}} \lesssim \|\varphi\|_{\dot{H}^1},$$

while Proposition 2.2 implies

$$\|\langle x \rangle^{-\sigma} e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi\|_{L^2} \lesssim \langle \nu t \rangle^{-\sigma} \|\varphi\|_{X^\sigma}.$$

Thus, by (3.7) and a change of variables, we obtain

$$\|\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi\|_{L_{t,x}^{p+2}} \lesssim \|\langle \nu t \rangle^{-c\sigma}\|_{L_t^{p+2}} \|\varphi\|_{X^{1,\sigma}} \lesssim |\nu|^{-\frac{1}{p+2}} \|\varphi\|_{X^{1,\sigma}}.$$

We turn to the nonlinear estimate. We will use the same Strichartz pair  $(q, r)$  as in the proofs of [Theorems 3.1](#) and [3.2](#); see [\(3.1\)](#). We also observe that [\(3.7\)](#) guarantees

$$\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} \in L^{\frac{2d(p+2)}{4-dp}}.$$

Thus, given  $u \in Y$ , we use Hölder's inequality, Strichartz estimates, and [\(3.8\)](#) to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| \langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} \int_{-\infty}^t e^{i(t-s)\Delta} \alpha |u|^p u(s) ds \right\|_{L_{t,x}^{p+2}} \\ & \lesssim \|\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma}\|_{L^{\frac{2d(p+2)}{4-dp}}} \left\| \int_{-\infty}^t e^{i(t-s)\Delta} \alpha(x) |u|^p u(s) ds \right\|_{L_t^q L_x^r} \\ & \lesssim \|\alpha|u|^p u\|_{L_t^{q'} L_x^{r'}} \\ & \lesssim \|\langle x \rangle^{(p+1)c\sigma} \alpha\|_{L^{\frac{2d(p+2)}{4-dp}}} \|\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} u\|_{L_{t,x}^{p+2}}^{p+1} \lesssim |\nu|^{-\frac{p+1}{p+2}} \|\varphi\|_{X^{1,\sigma}}^{p+1}. \end{aligned}$$

Choosing  $|\nu|$  sufficiently large we obtain  $\Phi : Y \rightarrow Y$ .

Using similar estimates, we find that for  $u, v \in Y$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} [\Phi(u) - \Phi(v)]\|_{L_{t,x}^{p+2}} \\ & \lesssim \|\langle x \rangle^{(p+1)c\sigma} \alpha\|_{L^{\frac{2d(p+2)}{4-dp}}} \{ \|\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} u\|_{L_{t,x}^{p+2}}^p + \|\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} v\|_{L_{t,x}^{p+2}}^p \} \\ & \quad \times \|\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} [u - v]\|_{L_{t,x}^{p+2}} \\ & \lesssim |\nu|^{-\frac{p}{p+1}} \|\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} [u - v]\|_{L_{t,x}^{p+2}}, \end{aligned}$$

so that  $\Phi$  is a contraction provided  $|\nu|$  is sufficiently large. We therefore obtain the global solution  $u$  to [\(1.1\)](#) satisfying [\(3.9\)](#).

The  $L^2$  convergence  $e^{-it\Delta} u(t) \rightarrow u_-$  as  $t \rightarrow -\infty$  follows from the estimates above. It remains to prove the existence of the  $L^2$  scattering state  $u_+$ . In fact, by the estimates above, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|e^{-it\Delta} u(t) - e^{-is\Delta} u(s)\|_{L^2} & \lesssim \|\alpha|u|^p u\|_{L_t^{q'} L_x^{r'}((s,t) \times \mathbb{R}^d)} \\ & \lesssim \|\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} u\|_{L_{t,x}^{p+2}((s,t) \times \mathbb{R}^d)}^{p+1} \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

as  $s, t \rightarrow \infty$ , which yields the result.  $\square$

#### 4. The inverse problem

[Theorems 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3](#) show that under suitable assumptions on  $(p, \alpha)$  we can define final states  $u_+$  corresponding to data  $u_-$  via the solution to [\(1.1\)](#). We denote the scattering map sending  $u_-$  to  $u_+$  by

$$S = S_{p,\alpha} : A \rightarrow \begin{cases} H^1 & \text{in } \text{Theorem 3.1}, \\ L^2 & \text{in Theorems 3.2 and 3.3}. \end{cases}$$

The proof of [Theorem 3.1](#) shows that we may take

$$A = \{\varphi \in H^1 : \|\varphi\|_{H^1} < \eta\} \quad \text{in Theorem 3.1},$$

with  $\eta = \eta(p, \alpha)$  sufficiently small. Similarly, we may take

$$A = \{\varphi \in L^2 : \|\varphi\|_{L^2} < \eta\} \quad \text{in Theorem 3.2,}$$

with  $\eta = \eta(p, \alpha)$  sufficiently small. Finally, choosing  $\sigma > 0$  satisfying (3.7), the proof of Theorem 3.3 shows that we may take

$$A = \bigcup_{M>0} \{e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi : \|\varphi\|_{X^{1,\sigma}} \leq M, |v| > CM^{p+2}\} \quad \text{in Theorem 3.3,}$$

where  $C = C(p, \alpha)$  is sufficiently large.

In all cases, we have the following implicit formula for  $S$ :

$$Su_- = u_- - i \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{-it\Delta} \alpha |u|^p u(t) dt,$$

where  $u$  is the solution to (1.1) that scatters backward in time to  $u_-$ . We wish to show that knowledge of  $S$  on  $A$  is sufficient to determine the nonlinearity in (1.1).

We first consider the case of Theorems 3.1 and 3.2 and prove a result similar to the one appearing in [1]. Essentially, we will show that the scattering map admits an expansion at zero and identify the leading term.

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $(d, p, \alpha)$  satisfy the assumptions of Theorems 3.1 or 3.2. Let  $S$  denote the corresponding scattering map. Let*

$$\varphi \in \begin{cases} H^1 & \text{in the case of Theorem 3.1,} \\ L^2 & \text{in the case of Theorem 3.2,} \end{cases}$$

and let  $\psi \in L^2$ . Then

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} i\varepsilon^{-(p+1)} \langle (S - I)(\varepsilon\varphi), \psi \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \langle \alpha |e^{it\Delta} \varphi|^p e^{it\Delta} \varphi, e^{it\Delta} \psi \rangle dt.$$

*Proof* Given  $\varepsilon > 0$  sufficiently small, we set  $u_- = \varepsilon\varphi \in A$  and let  $u$  be the corresponding solution to (1.1) constructed in Theorems 3.1 or 3.2. We write

$$\begin{aligned} i\langle (S - I)(\varepsilon\varphi), \psi \rangle &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} \langle \alpha |u|^p u, e^{it\Delta} \psi \rangle dt \\ &= \varepsilon^{p+1} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \langle \alpha |e^{it\Delta} \varphi|^p e^{it\Delta} \varphi, e^{it\Delta} \psi \rangle dt \\ &\quad + \int \langle \alpha [|u|^p u - |e^{it\Delta} \varepsilon\varphi|^p e^{it\Delta} \varepsilon\varphi], e^{it\Delta} \psi \rangle dt. \end{aligned} \quad (4.1)$$

To complete the proof, we will show that the final term satisfies  $| (4.1) | = o(\varepsilon^{p+1})$ .

We begin by using the Duhamel formula (cf. (3.3)) to obtain the estimate

$$\begin{aligned} | (4.1) | &\lesssim \| \alpha e^{it\Delta} \psi [ |u|^p + |e^{it\Delta} \varepsilon\varphi|^p ] [ u - e^{it\Delta} \varepsilon\varphi ] \|_{L^1_{t,x}} \\ &\lesssim \left\| \alpha e^{it\Delta} \varepsilon\psi [ |u|^p + |e^{it\Delta} \varepsilon\varphi|^p ] \left[ \int_{-\infty}^t e^{i(t-s)\Delta} \alpha |u|^p u(s) ds \right] \right\|_{L^1_{t,x}} \end{aligned}$$

We first consider the setting of [Theorem 3.1](#). Using the estimates appearing in the proof of that theorem, we apply Hölder's inequality, Strichartz estimates, and [\(3.2\)](#) to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |(4.1)| &\lesssim \|\alpha\|_{L^\infty} \|e^{it\Delta} \psi [ |u|^p + |e^{it\Delta} \varepsilon \varphi|^p ] \|_{L_t^{q'} L_x^{r'}} \left\| \int_0^t e^{i(t-s)\Delta} \alpha |u|^p u(s) ds \right\|_{L_t^q L_x^r} \\ &\lesssim \|e^{it\Delta} \psi\|_{L_t^q L_x^r} \left[ \|u\|_{L_t^q L_x^{r_c}}^p + \|e^{it\Delta} \varepsilon \varphi\|_{L_t^q L_x^{r_c}}^p \right] \|\alpha |u|^p u\|_{L_t^{q'} L_x^{r'}} \\ &\lesssim \|\psi\|_{L^2} \|\varepsilon \varphi\|_{H^1}^{2p+1} \lesssim \varepsilon^{2p+1}, \end{aligned}$$

which is acceptable.

We next consider the setting of [Theorem 3.2](#). Applying the estimates used to prove that theorem and [\(3.4\)](#), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |(4.1)| &\lesssim \|\alpha e^{it\Delta} \psi [ |u|^p + |e^{it\Delta} \varepsilon \varphi|^p ] \|_{L_t^{q'} L_x^{r'}} \left\| \int_0^t e^{i(t-s)\Delta} \alpha |u|^p u(s) ds \right\|_{L_t^q L_x^r} \\ &\lesssim \|\alpha\|_{L^{\frac{2d}{4-dp}}} \|e^{it\Delta} \psi\|_{L_t^q L_x^r} \left[ \|u\|_{L_t^q L_x^{r_c}}^p + \|e^{it\Delta} \varphi\|_{L_t^q L_x^{r_c}}^p \right] \|\alpha |u|^p u\|_{L_t^{q'} L_x^{r'}} \\ &\lesssim \|\psi\|_{L^2} \|\varepsilon \varphi\|_{L^2}^{2p+1} \lesssim \varepsilon^{2p+1}, \end{aligned}$$

which is acceptable.  $\square$

In the next result, we consider [\(1.1\)](#) with nonlinearities  $\alpha |u|^p u$  and  $\tilde{\alpha} |u|^{\tilde{p}} u$ . We define the corresponding scattering maps  $S : A \rightarrow L^2$  and  $\tilde{S} : \tilde{A} \rightarrow L^2$ , with  $A, \tilde{A}$  defined as in the beginning of this section. We note that  $A \cap \tilde{A} \neq \emptyset$  (for example, this intersection contains a small ball centered at 0 in  $H^1$ ). We prove that if  $S$  and  $\tilde{S}$  agree on their common domain, then  $p = \tilde{p}$  and  $\alpha = \tilde{\alpha}$ .

**Corollary 4.2.** *Let  $d \geq 1$  and suppose  $(p, \alpha)$  and  $(\tilde{p}, \tilde{\alpha})$  satisfy the assumptions of [Theorems 3.1](#) or [3.2](#). Suppose further that  $\alpha, \tilde{\alpha}$  are not identically zero. Let  $S : A \rightarrow L^2$  and  $\tilde{S} : \tilde{A} \rightarrow L^2$  denote the corresponding scattering maps.*

*If  $S(f) = \tilde{S}(f)$  for all  $f \in A \cap \tilde{A}$ , then  $p = \tilde{p}$  and  $\alpha = \tilde{\alpha}$ .*

*Proof* Given  $\varphi \in \mathcal{S} \setminus \{0\}$ , we define

$$C(\alpha, p, \varphi) := \iint \alpha(x) |e^{it\Delta} \varphi|^{p+2} dx dt.$$

The proof of [Theorem 4.1](#) implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle (S - I)(2\varepsilon\varphi), \varphi \rangle &= 2^{p+1} \varepsilon^{p+1} C(\alpha, p, \varphi) + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{2p+1}), \\ \langle (S - I)(\varepsilon\varphi), \varphi \rangle &= \varepsilon^{p+1} C(\alpha, p, \varphi) + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{2p+1}), \end{aligned}$$

with analogous formulas holding for  $\tilde{S}$ . Thus if  $S \equiv \tilde{S}$ , we can send  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  to obtain

$$C(\alpha, p, \varphi) = C(\tilde{\alpha}, \tilde{p}, \varphi) \quad \text{and} \quad 2^p C(\alpha, p, \varphi) = 2^{\tilde{p}} C(\tilde{\alpha}, \tilde{p}, \varphi). \quad (4.2)$$

We will prove below that since  $\alpha \not\equiv 0$ , there exists  $\varphi \in \mathcal{S}$  such that  $C(\alpha, p, \varphi) \neq 0$ . Fixing such  $\varphi \in \mathcal{S}$ , it follows from [\(4.2\)](#) that  $p = \tilde{p}$ .

Having established that  $p = \tilde{p}$ , we now observe that  $S \equiv \tilde{S}$  implies

$$\iint \alpha(x) |e^{it\Delta} \varphi|^{p+2} dx dt = \iint \tilde{\alpha}(x) |e^{it\Delta} \varphi|^{p+2} dx dt \quad \text{for all } \varphi \in \mathcal{S}. \quad (4.3)$$

It therefore suffices to prove that if

$$\iint \alpha(x) |e^{it\Delta} \varphi(x)|^{p+2} dx dt = 0 \quad \text{for all } \varphi \in \mathcal{S}, \quad (4.4)$$

then  $\alpha \equiv 0$ . To prove this, we utilize an argument appearing in [9] (see also [15]).

First, given  $\varphi \in \mathcal{S}$ , we define

$$K_\varphi(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} |e^{it\Delta} \varphi(x)|^{p+2} dt$$

and claim that  $K_\varphi \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ . To prove this, we use Minkowski's integral inequality, Sobolev embedding, and the dispersive estimate to obtain the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\|e^{it\Delta} \varphi\|_{L_t^{p+2}}^{p+2}\|_{L_x^2} &\lesssim \|e^{it\Delta} \varphi\|_{L_x^{2(p+2)} L_t^{p+2}}^{p+2} \\ &\lesssim \|e^{it\Delta} \varphi\|_{L_t^{p+2} L_x^{2(p+2)}}^{p+2} \\ &\lesssim_{\varphi} \|\langle t \rangle^{-[\frac{d}{2} - \frac{d}{2(p+2)}]}\|_{L_t^{p+2}}^{p+2} \lesssim_{\varphi} 1 \end{aligned}$$

provided  $p > \max\{\frac{2}{d} - 1, 0\}$ .

We now specialize to the case

$$\varphi(x) = \exp\{-\frac{|x|^2}{4}\}, \quad \text{so that} \quad e^{it\Delta} \varphi(x) = (1+it)^{-\frac{d}{2}} \exp\{-\frac{|x|^2}{4(1+it)}\}$$

(see [24]). In particular, we have

$$K_\varphi(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} (1+t^2)^{-\frac{d(p+2)}{4}} \exp\{-\frac{(p+2)|x|^2}{4(1+t^2)}\} dt,$$

and so by translation invariance for the linear Schrödinger equation, (4.4) implies

$$\int \alpha(x) K_\varphi(x - x_0) dx = 0 \quad \text{for all } x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

To see that this implies  $\alpha \equiv 0$ , it therefore suffices to verify that  $\hat{K}_\varphi \neq 0$  almost everywhere. In fact, for any  $\xi \neq 0$ , we can compute  $\hat{K}_\varphi(\xi)$  as a Gaussian integral:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{K}_\varphi(\xi) &= (2\pi)^{-\frac{d}{2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} (1+t^2)^{-\frac{d(p+2)}{4}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \exp\{-ix \cdot \xi - \frac{p+2}{4(1+t^2)}|x|^2\} dx dt \\ &= c_{d,p} \int_{\mathbb{R}} (1+t^2)^{-\frac{dp}{4}} \exp\{-\frac{(1+t^2)|\xi|^2}{p+2}\} dt. \end{aligned}$$

As  $\hat{K}_\varphi(\xi)$  is the integral of a positive function, we conclude that  $\hat{K}_\varphi(\xi) > 0$  for all  $\xi \neq 0$ .  $\square$

We next consider the case of Theorem 3.3 and prove a result similar to the one appearing in [4]. We extract the leading order term in the scattering map in the regime of highly boosted data. We recall the spaces  $X^{a,s}$  defined in (3.5), (2.3).

**Theorem 4.3.** *Let  $d \geq 3$ . Suppose  $(p, \alpha)$  satisfy the assumptions of Theorem 3.3 and choose  $\sigma$  satisfying (3.7). Assume additionally that*

$$|\alpha(x)| \lesssim \langle x \rangle^{-s} \quad \text{for some } s \in (1, \frac{d}{2}). \quad (4.5)$$

*Let  $S : A \rightarrow L^2$  denote the corresponding scattering map, and let  $\varphi, \psi \in X^{\frac{d}{2}+\sigma}$ .*

For any  $\theta \in \mathbb{S}^{d-1}$ ,

$$\lim_{\rho \rightarrow \infty} i\rho \langle (S - I)(e^{i\rho\theta \cdot x} \varphi), e^{i\rho\theta \cdot x} \psi \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \langle \alpha(\cdot + 2t\theta) |\varphi|^p \varphi, \psi \rangle dt.$$

*Proof* We fix  $\theta \in \mathbb{S}^{d-1}$ , let  $\rho \gg 1$ , and set  $v = \rho\theta$ . Let  $u_- = e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi \in A$ , and let  $u$  be the corresponding solution to (1.1) constructed in Theorem 3.3. We begin by writing

$$\begin{aligned} i \langle (S - I)(e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi), e^{iv \cdot x} \psi \rangle \\ = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \langle \alpha |u|^p u, e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \psi \rangle dt \\ = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \langle \alpha |e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi|^p e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi, e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \psi \rangle dt \end{aligned} \quad (4.6)$$

$$+ \int_{\mathbb{R}} \langle \alpha [|u|^p u - |e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi|^p e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi], e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \psi \rangle dt. \quad (4.7)$$

We will extract the main term from (4.6) and estimate (4.7) as an error term.

Using (2.1) and a change of variables, we first obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (4.6) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} \langle \alpha(\cdot) |e^{it\Delta} \varphi(\cdot - 2\rho\theta t)|^p e^{it\Delta} \varphi(\cdot - 2\rho\theta t), e^{it\Delta} \psi(\cdot - 2\rho\theta t) \rangle dt \\ &= \frac{1}{\rho} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \langle \alpha(\cdot + 2\theta t) |e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} \varphi|^p e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} \varphi, e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} \psi \rangle dt. \end{aligned}$$

We now define

$$\begin{aligned} h_{\rho}(t) &= \langle \alpha(\cdot + 2\theta t) |e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} \varphi|^p e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} \varphi, e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} \psi \rangle, \\ \ell(t) &= \langle \alpha(\cdot + 2\theta t) |\varphi|^p \varphi, \psi \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

We will prove that for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have

$$\lim_{\rho \rightarrow \infty} h_{\rho}(t) = \ell(t), \quad \text{and} \quad (4.8)$$

$$|h_{\rho}(t)| \lesssim \langle t \rangle^{-s} \in L_t^1. \quad (4.9)$$

To this end, first observe that

$$|h_{\rho}(t) - \ell(t)| \leq |\langle \alpha(\cdot + 2\theta t) |e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} \varphi|^p e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} \varphi - |\varphi|^p \varphi, e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} \psi \rangle| \quad (4.10)$$

$$+ |\langle \alpha(\cdot + 2\theta t) |\varphi|^p \varphi, e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} \psi - \psi \rangle|. \quad (4.11)$$

To estimate these terms, we use the pointwise bound

$$|e^{-i\tau|\xi|^2} - 1| \leq |\tau|^{\frac{1}{2}} |\xi|.$$

In particular, using  $H^{\frac{d}{2}+} \hookrightarrow L^{2(p+1)}$ ,

$$(4.11) \leq \left(\frac{|t|}{\rho}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\alpha\|_{L^\infty} \|\varphi\|_{L^{2(p+1)}}^{p+1} \|\nabla \psi\|_{L^2} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \rho \rightarrow \infty.$$

Similarly, using Sobolev embedding to control the free evolution in  $L^\infty$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (4.10) &\leq \|\alpha\|_{L^\infty} \{ \|e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} \varphi\|_{L^\infty}^p + \|\varphi\|_{L^\infty}^p \} \|e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} \varphi - \varphi\|_{L^2} \|e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} \psi\|_{L^2} \\ &\lesssim \left(\frac{|t|}{\rho}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\alpha\|_{L^\infty} \|\varphi\|_{H^{\frac{d}{2}+}}^p \|\nabla \varphi\|_{L^2} \|\psi\|_{L^2} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \rho \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

This proves (4.8).

Next, we use (2.1), Hölder's inequality, Sobolev embedding, and [Proposition 2.2](#) (in the form (2.5)), to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |h_\rho(t)| &= |\langle \alpha |e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} e^{i\theta \cdot x} \varphi|^p e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} e^{i\theta \cdot x} \varphi, e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} e^{i\theta \cdot x} \psi \rangle| \\ &\lesssim \|e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} \varphi\|_{L^{2(p+1)}}^{p+1} \|\alpha e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} e^{i\theta \cdot x} \psi\|_{L^2} \\ &\lesssim \|\varphi\|_{H^{\frac{d}{2}+}}^{p+1} \|\alpha(\cdot + 2\frac{t}{\rho}v) e^{i\frac{t}{\rho}\Delta} \psi\|_{L^2} \lesssim \langle t \rangle^{-s}, \end{aligned}$$

which proves (4.9).

By the dominated convergence theorem, we therefore obtain

$$\lim_{\rho \rightarrow \infty} \rho \cdot (4.6) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \langle \alpha(\cdot + 2\theta t) |\varphi|^p \varphi, \psi \rangle dt,$$

which yields the main term.

To complete the proof, it remains to prove that

$$|(4.7)| = o(\rho^{-1}) \quad \text{as } \rho \rightarrow \infty.$$

We begin with the estimate

$$\begin{aligned} |(4.7)| &\lesssim \|\alpha [e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \psi] [|u|^p + |e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi|^p] [u - e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi]\|_{L^1_{t,x}} \\ &\lesssim \left\| \alpha [e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \psi] [|u|^p + |e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi|^p] \left[ \int_{-\infty}^t e^{i(t-s)\Delta} \alpha |u|^p u(s) ds \right] \right\|_{L^1_{t,x}}. \end{aligned}$$

We utilize Strichartz estimates and the estimates appearing in the proof of [Theorem 3.3](#) to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |(4.7)| &\lesssim \|\alpha [e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \psi] [|u|^p + |e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi|^p]\|_{L_t^{q'} L_x^{r'}} \|\alpha |u|^p u\|_{L_t^{q'} L_x^{r'}} \\ &\lesssim \|\langle x \rangle^{(p+1)c\sigma} \alpha\|_{L^{\frac{2d(p+2)}{4-dp}}}^2 \|\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \psi\|_{L_{t,x}^{p+2}} \\ &\quad \times \left[ \|\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} u\|_{L_{t,x}^{p+2}}^p + \|\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} e^{it\Delta} e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi\|_{L_{t,x}^{p+2}}^p \right] \|\langle x \rangle^{-c\sigma} u\|_{L_{t,x}^{p+2}}^{p+1} \\ &\lesssim \rho^{-2\frac{p+1}{p+2}} = o(\rho^{-1}) \quad \text{as } \rho \rightarrow \infty, \end{aligned}$$

as was needed to show. □

We can now show that in the setting of [Theorem 3.3](#), if the scattering maps  $S : A \rightarrow L^2$  and  $\tilde{S} : \tilde{A} \rightarrow L^2$  corresponding to nonlinearities  $\alpha|u|^p u$  and  $\tilde{\alpha}|u|^{\tilde{p}} u$  agree on their common domain, then  $p = \tilde{p}$  and  $\alpha \equiv \tilde{\alpha}$ . Here  $A, \tilde{A}$  are as described at the beginning of this section. We observe once again that  $A \cap \tilde{A} \neq \emptyset$ . For example, given any  $\varphi \in \mathcal{S}$ , we have  $e^{iv \cdot x} \varphi \in A \cap \tilde{A}$  provided  $|v|$  is sufficiently large. In the following result, we will make use of the injectivity of the X-ray transform; correspondingly, we impose that  $\alpha, \tilde{\alpha} \in L^1$  (which is not immediately guaranteed by the assumptions of [Theorems 3.3 or 4.3](#)).

**Corollary 4.4.** *Let  $d \geq 3$  and suppose  $(p, \alpha), (\tilde{p}, \tilde{\alpha})$  satisfy the assumptions of [Theorems 3.3 and 4.3](#). Suppose further that  $\alpha, \tilde{\alpha}$  belong to  $L^1$  and are not identically zero. Let  $S : A \rightarrow L^2$  and  $\tilde{S} : \tilde{A} \rightarrow L^2$  denote the corresponding scattering maps.*

*If  $S(f) = \tilde{S}(f)$  for all  $f \in A \cap \tilde{A}$ , then  $p = \tilde{p}$  and  $\alpha = \tilde{\alpha}$ .*

*Proof* Fix  $\varphi \in \mathcal{S}$  and  $\theta \in \mathbb{S}^{d-1}$ . Arguing as we did in [Corollary 4.2](#), we can first obtain that if  $S = \tilde{S}$ , then  $p = \tilde{p}$ .

Applying [Theorem 4.3](#) once again, we further obtain

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \alpha(x + 2\theta t) |\varphi(x)|^{p+2} dx dt = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \tilde{\alpha}(x + 2\theta t) |\varphi(x)|^{p+2} dx dt \quad (4.12)$$

for all  $\theta \in \mathbb{S}^{d-1}$  and  $\varphi \in X^{\frac{d}{2} + \sigma}$ .

We now fix  $\theta \in \mathbb{S}^{d-1}$  and  $y \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . We then choose a nonnegative, compactly supported  $\varphi \in L^1$  with  $\int \varphi = 1$  and set  $\varphi_n(x) = n^d \varphi(nx)$ . By (4.12), we have

$$\iint \alpha(x + 2\theta t) \varphi_n(x - y) dx dt = \iint \tilde{\alpha}(x + 2\theta t) \varphi_n(x - y) dx dt \quad \text{for all } n. \quad (4.13)$$

Now consider the functions

$$g_n(t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \alpha(x + 2\theta t) \varphi_n(x - y) dx.$$

By approximate identity arguments, we have that

$$g_n(t) \rightarrow \alpha(y + 2\theta t) \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{for all } t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Furthermore, recalling (4.5) and noting that  $|x - y| \lesssim 1$  on the support of  $\varphi_n(x - y)$ , we have

$$|g_n(t)| \lesssim \int \langle x + 2\theta t \rangle^{-s} \varphi_n(x - y) dx \lesssim \int h(t) \varphi_n(x - y) dx \lesssim h(t),$$

where  $h \in L_t^1$  is defined by

$$h(t) := \begin{cases} 1 & |t| \lesssim |y| \\ \langle t \rangle^{-s} & |t| \gg |y|. \end{cases}$$

Thus, by the dominated convergence theorem, we have

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \alpha(x + 2\theta t) \varphi_n(x - y) dx dt \rightarrow \int_{\mathbb{R}} \alpha(y + 2\theta t) dt \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Arguing similarly for  $\tilde{\alpha}$  and recalling (4.13), we deduce

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \alpha(y + \theta t) dt = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \tilde{\alpha}(y + \theta t) dt.$$

As  $\theta \in \mathbb{S}^{d-1}$  and  $y \in \mathbb{R}^d$  were arbitrary, the fact that  $\alpha = \tilde{\alpha}$  now follows from the injectivity of the X-ray transform (see e.g. [\[25, Chapter I\]](#) or [\[26\]](#)).  $\square$

#### 4.1. Challenges in the mass-supercritical regime

The approach taken in [Theorems 3.3](#) and [4.3](#) is to formulate the scattering problem as a small-data problem, capitalizing on the fact that highly boosted data become small in weighted spaces (a consequence of [Proposition 2.2](#)). This construction guarantees that the corresponding nonlinear solutions inherit the weighted estimates enjoyed by the boosted linear solutions. Such estimates then play an essential role in the proof of [Theorem 4.3](#), particularly in the estimation of the error term (4.7).

Extending this approach to the mass-supercritical regime seems to lead to some significant difficulties. Indeed, in this setting the small-data contraction mapping argument to construct

the scattering solutions requires some estimates on the derivatives of solutions; however, the derivatives of highly boosted data will become very large. Thus, while it seems possible to extend [Theorems 3.3](#) and [4.3](#) into the *slightly* mass-supercritical regime, the full intercritical and energy-critical regime appear to be out of reach for now.

In [\[4\]](#), Watanabe proceeded by imposing a positivity and repulsivity condition on the coefficient  $\alpha$ , which allowed for the use of Morawetz estimates to establish an intercritical scattering theory for [\(1.1\)](#) for arbitrarily large  $H^1$  data (including boosted data). As in the proof of [Theorem 4.3](#), the recovery problem subsequently required the estimation of an error term like [\(4.7\)](#). The approach of [\[4\]](#) was based on the intertwining property and an implicit formula for the wave operator  $\Omega_-$ ; however, it appears that the formula for  $\Omega_-$  in [\[4, Lemma 3.2\]](#) is missing a factor of  $\Omega_-$  in the nonlinear term. In the absence of this factor, one is ultimately faced with estimating only a *linear* term, for which an estimate such as [Proposition 2.2](#) is sufficient. Restoring the missing factor of  $\Omega_-$ , one is instead led to a term involving the full (nonlinear) solution. It then seems necessary to prove that even in this setting, the scattering solutions inherit the weighted estimates satisfied by the boosted linear solutions. At present, the author is not aware of a method to obtain such estimates in the intercritical setting. On the other hand, [Theorems 3.3](#) and [4.3](#) demonstrate that in the mass-critical and mass-subcritical regime, the scattering problem does admit a formulation as a small-data problem that is well-adapted to the approach found in [\[4\]](#).

## Acknowledgments

I am grateful to Rowan Killip, Monica Visan, Michiyuki Watanabe, and John Singler for helpful discussions related to this work. I would also like to thank the anonymous referees for their helpful comments and suggestions.

## Funding

The author was supported in part by NSF DMS-2137217.

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