

# Green's Function for the 2D SH Wave Equation with a Line Source

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May 28, 2025

## 1 Derivation of the 2D Green's Function for the Wave Equation

The 2D SH wave equation in stress-displacement formulation is given as:

1. Equation of motion:

$$\rho \frac{\partial^2 u_y}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial \sigma_{yx}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{yz}}{\partial z} + f_y$$

2. Constitutive relations:

$$\sigma_{xy} = \mu \frac{\partial u_y}{\partial x}$$

$$\sigma_{yz} = \mu \frac{\partial u_y}{\partial z}$$

Where:

- $u_y$  is the displacement in the  $y$  direction
- $\rho$  is the density
- $\mu$  is the shear modulus
- $f_y = A\delta(x)\delta(z)\delta(t)$  is the source term (a line source along y-axis)
- $f_y = (0, A\delta(x)\delta(z)\delta(t), 0)$

$A$  is a constant having the dimensions of impulse per unit length. Only the  $y$  component of displacement is excited by this source.

## **2 Substitute Constitutive Relations into Equation of Motion**

First, let's substitute the stress components into the equation of motion:

$$\rho \frac{\partial^2 u_y}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \mu \frac{\partial u_y}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \mu \frac{\partial u_y}{\partial z} \right) + A \delta(x) \delta(z) \delta(t)$$

Assuming  $\mu$  is constant, this simplifies to:

$$\rho \frac{\partial^2 u_y}{\partial t^2} = \mu \left( \frac{\partial^2 u_y}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_y}{\partial z^2} \right) + A \delta(x) \delta(z) \delta(t)$$

Divide both sides by  $\rho$ :

$$\frac{\partial^2 u_y}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\mu}{\rho} \left( \frac{\partial^2 u_y}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_y}{\partial z^2} \right) + \frac{A}{\rho} \delta(x) \delta(z) \delta(t)$$

Let  $\beta = \sqrt{\mu/\rho}$  (shear wave velocity), and  $\tilde{A} = A/\rho$ :

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial^2 u_y}{\partial t^2} = \beta^2 \nabla^2 u_y + \tilde{A} \delta(x) \delta(z) \delta(t)}$$

We seek to find the causal Green's function  $u_y(x, z, t)$  for this equation, i.e. the response to  $A \delta(x) \delta(z) \delta(t)$ .

We define the Green's function  $G(\mathbf{x}, z, t)$  as:

$$u_y(x, z, t) = G(x, z, t)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 G}{\partial t^2} - \beta^2 \nabla^2 G = \tilde{A} \delta(x) \delta(z) \delta(t)$$

### 3 Spatial Fourier Transform

Apply the 2D spatial Fourier transform in  $x, z$ . Let

$$\tilde{G}(k_x, k_z, t) = \iint_{-\infty}^{\infty} G(x, z, t) e^{-i(k_x x + k_z z)} dx dz,$$

with inverse

$$G(x, z, t) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \iint_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{G}(k_x, k_z, t) e^{i(k_x x + k_z z)} dk_x dk_z$$

Under this transform,  $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} = -k^2$  with  $k^2 = k_x^2 + k_z^2$ , and  $\delta(x)\delta(z) = 1$ .

The wave equation in  $\mathbf{k}$ -space becomes

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial^2 \tilde{G}}{\partial t^2} + \beta^2 k^2 \tilde{G} = \frac{A}{\rho} \delta(t).}$$

### 4 Solution to the ODE in Time

The given equation is a second-order partial differential equation (PDE) for  $\tilde{G}(t)$  with respect to time  $t$ , and it can be treated as an ordinary differential equation (ODE) in  $t$  since there are no other independent variables present. The equation is:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \tilde{G}}{\partial t^2} + \beta^2 k^2 \tilde{G} = \frac{A}{\rho} \delta(t).$$

This is an inhomogeneous ODE due to the Dirac delta function  $\delta(t)$ . To solve it, we proceed as follows:

#### 1. Solve the Homogeneous Equation

First, consider the homogeneous version (without the delta function):

$$\frac{d^2 \tilde{G}}{dt^2} + \beta^2 k^2 \tilde{G} = 0.$$

The characteristic equation is:

$$r^2 + \beta^2 k^2 = 0 \implies r = \pm i\beta k.$$

Thus, the general solution to the homogeneous equation is:

$$\tilde{G}_h(t) = C_1 \cos(\beta kt) + C_2 \sin(\beta kt),$$

where  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are constants.

## 2. Find a Particular Solution for the Inhomogeneous Equation

The inhomogeneous term is  $\frac{A}{\rho}\delta(t)$ . To handle the delta function, integrate the original equation over a small interval around  $t = 0$  (from  $t = -\epsilon$  to  $t = +\epsilon$ ):

$$\int_{-\epsilon}^{\epsilon} \frac{d^2 \tilde{G}}{dt^2} dt + \beta^2 k^2 \int_{-\epsilon}^{\epsilon} \tilde{G} dt = \frac{A}{\rho} \int_{-\epsilon}^{\epsilon} \delta(t) dt.$$

The first integral gives the jump in the first derivative:

$$\left. \frac{d\tilde{G}}{dt} \right|_{-\epsilon}^{+\epsilon} + \beta^2 k^2 \cdot 0 = \frac{A}{\rho},$$

since  $\tilde{G}$  is continuous at  $t = 0$  (so its integral over an infinitesimal interval vanishes), and  $\int \delta(t) dt = 1$ . Thus:

$$\left. \frac{d\tilde{G}}{dt} \right|_{0+} - \left. \frac{d\tilde{G}}{dt} \right|_{0-} = \frac{A}{\rho}.$$

Assuming  $\tilde{G}$  is initially at rest for  $t < 0$  (i.e.,  $\tilde{G}(t) = 0$  and  $\frac{d\tilde{G}}{dt} = 0$  for  $t < 0$ ), we have:

$$\left. \frac{d\tilde{G}}{dt} \right|_{0+} = \frac{A}{\rho}.$$

## 3. Apply Initial Conditions

For  $t > 0$ , the solution is the homogeneous solution:

$$\tilde{G}(t) = C_1 \cos(\beta kt) + C_2 \sin(\beta kt).$$

Apply the initial conditions at  $t = 0^+$ :

- Continuity of  $\tilde{G}$  at  $t = 0$  implies  $\tilde{G}(0^+) = 0$ , so:

$$C_1 = 0.$$

- The jump condition for the derivative gives:

$$\left. \frac{d\tilde{G}}{dt} \right|_{0^+} = \beta k C_2 = \frac{A}{\rho} \implies C_2 = \frac{A}{\rho \beta k}.$$

Thus, the solution for  $t > 0$  is:

$$\tilde{G}(t) = \frac{A}{\rho \beta k} \sin(\beta k t).$$

For  $t < 0$ ,  $\tilde{G}(t) = 0$ .

## 4. Final Solution

The solution can be written compactly using the Heaviside step function  $H(t)$ :

$$\tilde{G}(t) = \frac{A}{\rho \beta k} \sin(\beta k t) H(t).$$

## Verification

Differentiate  $\tilde{G}(t)$ :

$$\frac{d\tilde{G}}{dt} = \frac{A}{\rho} \cos(\beta k t) H(t) + \frac{A}{\rho \beta k} \sin(\beta k t) \delta(t) = \frac{A}{\rho} \cos(\beta k t) H(t),$$

since  $\sin(\beta k t) \delta(t) = 0$ . Differentiate again:

$$\frac{d^2 \tilde{G}}{dt^2} = -\frac{A \beta k}{\rho} \sin(\beta k t) H(t) + \frac{A}{\rho} \cos(\beta k t) \delta(t).$$

Substitute into the original equation:

$$-\frac{A \beta k}{\rho} \sin(\beta k t) H(t) + \frac{A}{\rho} \delta(t) + \beta^2 k^2 \left( \frac{A}{\rho \beta k} \sin(\beta k t) H(t) \right) = \frac{A}{\rho} \delta(t).$$

The terms involving  $\sin(\beta kt)$  cancel, leaving:

$$\frac{A}{\rho}\delta(t) = \frac{A}{\rho}\delta(t),$$

which confirms the solution is correct.

## Final Answer

The solution to the ODE is:

$$\tilde{G}(t) = \frac{A}{\rho\beta k} \sin(\beta kt) H(t).$$

$\omega = \beta k$ , so

$$\tilde{G}(t) = \frac{A}{\rho\omega} \sin(\omega t) H(t).$$

## 5 Inverse Transform and Bessel Integral

We now invert to real space.

Using polar coordinates in  $\mathbf{k}$ :

$$k_x = k \cos \phi,$$

$$k_z = k \sin \phi,$$

$$d^2k = dk_x dk_z = k dk d\phi, \text{ and}$$

$$\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} = kr \cos(\phi - \theta) \text{ where } r = \sqrt{x^2 + z^2}.$$

$$\mathbf{x} = (r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta)$$

$$\mathbf{k} = (k \cos \phi, k \sin \phi)$$

$$dk_x dk_z = k dk d\phi$$

The inverse transform gives

$$G(x, z, t) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \iint_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{G}(k_x, k_z, t) e^{i(k_x x + k_z z)} dk_x dk_z = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \iint_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{G}(k_x, k_z, t) e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}} dk_x dk_z$$

$$G(x, z, t) = \frac{A}{(2\pi)^2 \rho} H(t) \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\sin(\omega t)}{\omega} e^{ikr \cos(\phi - \theta)} k dk d\phi.$$

$$G(x, z, t) = \frac{A}{(2\pi)^2 \rho} H(t) \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{\sin(\beta k t)}{\beta k} e^{i k r \cos(\phi - \theta)} k \, dk \, d\phi.$$

### Evaluate the Angular Integral

Simplify the angular integral using the identity:

$$\int_0^{2\pi} e^{i k r \cos \phi} d\phi = 2\pi J_0(kr)$$

This yields

$$G(x, z, t) = \frac{A}{2\pi \rho \beta} H(t) \int_0^\infty J_0(kr) \sin(\beta k t) \, dk.$$

where  $J_0$  is the Bessel function of the first kind.

### Evaluate the Radial Integral

The remaining radial integral is a standard Bessel–sine integral. This integral can be evaluated using tables of Hankel transforms or contour integration. The radial integral evaluate to:

$$\int_0^\infty \sin(\beta k t) J_0(kr) \, dk = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\beta^2 t^2 - r^2}} & \text{for } \beta t > r \\ 0 & \text{otherwise } (\beta t < r) \end{cases}$$

Thus the integral vanishes unless  $\beta t > r$ ; for  $\beta t > r$  it equals  $1/\sqrt{(\beta t)^2 - r^2}$ . Including the Heaviside step for causality, one obtains:

$$\int_0^\infty J_0(kr) \sin(\beta k t) \, dk = \frac{H(\beta t - r)}{\sqrt{(\beta t)^2 - r^2}}.$$

Substituting back gives the space-time Green's function.

## 6 Final Green's Function (Time Domain)

Combining all results:

$$G(x, z, t) = \frac{H(t)}{2\pi\beta} \frac{H(\beta t - r)}{\sqrt{\beta^2 t^2 - r^2}} = \frac{1}{2\pi\beta^2} \frac{H(t - r/\beta)}{\sqrt{t^2 - r^2/\beta^2}}$$

That is, the impulse response is nonzero only for  $\beta t > r$  (the wavefront), and decays as  $1/\sqrt{(\beta t)^2 - r^2}$ .

This result agrees with the well-known 2D wave Green's function (for  $\beta = 1$ )

$$G(x, z, t) = \frac{H(t - r)}{2\pi\sqrt{t^2 - r^2}}$$

Replacing the factor  $A/\rho$ . The factor  $1/(2\pi\rho\beta)$  ensures the correct amplitude for the given source strength  $A$ .

Thus in summary, the time-domain Green's function is:

$$u_y(x, z, t) = G(x, z, t) = \frac{A}{2\pi\rho\beta} \frac{H(\beta t - r)}{\sqrt{(\beta t)^2 - r^2}}$$

which is valid for  $r = \sqrt{x^2 + z^2}$ . This is the **retarded (causal) solution of the 2D SH wave equation for an impulse line source**.

## 7 Key Points

The solution satisfies:

- $G = 0$  for  $t < r/\beta$  (causality). This means the solution is zero before the wave arrives.
- Integrable singularity at the wavefront  $t = r/\beta$
- Wavefront propagates at speed  $\beta$
- Amplitude decays as  $1/\sqrt{t}$  for large  $t$
- The solution is cylindrically symmetric (depends only on  $r$ )



## 8 Frequency-Domain (Hankel) Form

Equivalently, one can work in the frequency domain by taking the Fourier transform in time. Writing

$$u_y(x, z, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{u}_y(x, z, \omega) e^{-i\omega t} d\omega,$$

the equation becomes the 2D Helmholtz equation

$$\nabla^2 \tilde{u}_y + \frac{\omega^2}{\beta^2} \tilde{u}_y = -\frac{A}{\rho\beta^2} \delta(x) \delta(z).$$

The fundamental solution of  $(\nabla^2 + k^2)\tilde{G} = -\delta$  in two dimensions is well known to be proportional to the Hankel function  $H_0^{(1)}$ . In fact one finds

$$\tilde{u}_y(r, \omega) = \frac{A}{\rho\beta^2} \tilde{G}(r, \omega), \quad \tilde{G}(r, \omega) = \frac{i}{4} H_0^{(1)}\left(\frac{\omega r}{\beta}\right).$$

Hence

$$\boxed{\tilde{u}_y(r, \omega) = \frac{iA}{4\rho\beta^2} H_0^{(1)}\left(\frac{\omega r}{\beta}\right),}$$

which represents an outgoing cylindrical wave. This matches the known 2D Helmholtz Green's function

$$G(k; r) = \frac{i}{4} H_0^{(1)}(kr)$$

(with  $k = \omega/\beta$  and including the  $A/(\rho\beta^2)$  prefactor).

Where:

- $H_0^{(1)}$  is the **Hankel function of the first kind**, order zero
- $k = \omega/\beta$  is the wavenumber
- $r = \sqrt{x^2 + z^2}$  is the radial distance from the source

This Hankel function describes **outgoing cylindrical waves**—perfect for 2D problems.

One may verify that the inverse Fourier transform of this  $\tilde{u}_2$  in  $\omega$  recovers the time-domain result above.

# Asymptotic Forms of $H_0^{(1)}(kr)$ . $k = \frac{\omega}{\beta}$

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## 1. Near-field (Small argument: $kr \ll 1$ )

As  $kr \rightarrow 0$ , the Hankel function has the asymptotic expansion:

$$H_0^{(1)}(kr) \approx \frac{2i}{\pi} \left( \ln \left( \frac{kr}{2} \right) + \gamma - i\frac{\pi}{2} \right), \quad \gamma \text{ is Euler-Mascheroni constant}$$

Thus:

$$\tilde{u}_y^{\text{near}}(r, \omega) \approx \frac{iA}{4\rho\beta^2} \cdot \frac{2i}{\pi} \left( \ln \left( \frac{kr}{2} \right) + \gamma - i\frac{\pi}{2} \right)$$

Simplifying:

$$\tilde{u}_y^{\text{near}}(r, \omega) \approx -\frac{A}{2\pi\rho\beta^2} \left( \ln \left( \frac{kr}{2} \right) + \gamma - i\frac{\pi}{2} \right)$$

- **Interpretation:**

- Logarithmic divergence as  $r \rightarrow 0$
- This is a complex-valued, non-radiating field (reactive field)
- Dominated by evanescent energy and stored energy near the source

## 2. Far-field (Large argument: $kr \gg 1$ )

As  $kr \rightarrow \infty$ , the Hankel function behaves like:

$$H_0^{(1)}(kr) \approx \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi kr}} e^{i(kr - \pi/4)}$$

So:

$$\tilde{u}_y^{\text{far}}(r, \omega) \approx \frac{iA}{4\rho\beta^2} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi kr}} e^{i(kr - \pi/4)}$$

- **Interpretation:**

- Describes an outgoing cylindrical wave
- Amplitude decays as  $r^{-1/2}$ , slower than 3D  $r^{-1}$

- The phase varies linearly with  $kr$ , indicating radiating energy