

GREEN'S FUNCTIONS

THE STORY SO FAR: \int some time: PATH INTEGRALS \rightarrow EOM

WANT TO SOLVE: $\mathcal{O} f(x) = S(x)$

\mathcal{O} DIFF. OPERATOR $f(x)$ STATE $S(x)$ SOURCE

PLAN
 W: GREEN'S IN MD.
 F: OTHER SYS
 M: ACTION PRINC.
 S: STATS.

Want to know how source (known) affects state.

STRATEGY: $G(x, x')$ s.t. $\mathcal{O} G(x, x') = \delta(x - x')$

\uparrow
 FUNCTION OF x & DIFFERENTIAL
 OPERATORS OF x

I CAN CONSTRUCT $S(x)$ USING BUILDING BLOCKS OF $\delta(x - x')$

$$S(x) = \int dx' S(x') \delta(x - x')$$

\uparrow
 APPLY THIS TO BOTH SIDES OF
 GREEN'S FUNCTION EQUATION

$$\int dx' S(x') \mathcal{O}_x G(x, x') = \int dx' S(x') \delta(x - x')$$

$$\mathcal{O}_x \left[\int dx' S(x') G(x, x') \right] = S(x)$$

\uparrow
 $\equiv f(x)$, what we wanted to find!
 \hookrightarrow DYNAMICS

in other words, given "PHYSICS" (\mathcal{O})
 & some physical scenario $S(x)$ \leftarrow SOURCE

then $\mathcal{O} \rightarrow G(x, x')$ \hookrightarrow trick: fourier transform
 TURNS \mathcal{O} INTO ALGEBRAIC
 OPERATOR. THEN TRANSFORM
 BACK

\uparrow so:

$$f(x) = \int dx' S(x') G(x, x')$$

\hookrightarrow let CAUSALITY DEAL
 w/ POLES.

EXAMPLE SO FAR: HARMONIC OSCILLATOR, $\Theta = (\frac{1}{2}\dot{x})^2 + \omega^2 x^2$

WE SET THE SOURCE AT $t' = 0$

DIRICHLET BC, RET. POT

$$\Theta_t G(t, t=0) = \delta(t-t') \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\omega} \sin(\omega t)$$

$$= \delta(t)$$

WHAT IF WE RESTORE t' ? $\rightarrow \boxed{\frac{1}{\omega} \sin[\omega(t-t')]}$

WHY? TRANSLATION INVARIANCE if we shifted the origin of our coordinate system ("zero" of our clock), the SOURCE AND RESPONSE SHOULDN'T CHANGE

IF following is from: courses.physics.ucsd.edu/2009/Fall/physics130b/green-functions.pdf

in general: $G(x, x')$ these should match if translation inv.

shift in coordinate system: $G(x+a, x'+a)$

thus: $\frac{\partial G(x+a, x'+a)}{\partial a} = 0$

$$= \frac{\partial G(x, x')}{\partial x} \frac{\partial(x+a)}{\partial a} + \frac{\partial G}{\partial x'} \frac{\partial(x'+a)}{\partial a}$$

(*) $\rightarrow \boxed{\frac{\partial G}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial G}{\partial x'} = 0}$

expect: G is INDEP OF THIS

CHANGE VARS AGAIN: $y_+ = x+x'$ ← DEP ON THIS

$y_- = x-x'$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial y_+}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_+} + \frac{\partial y_-}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_-}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x'} = \frac{\partial y_+}{\partial x'} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_+} + \frac{\partial y_-}{\partial x'} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_-}$$

(*) $\frac{\partial G}{\partial y_+} \frac{\partial y_+}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial G}{\partial y_-} \frac{\partial y_-}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial G}{\partial y_+} \frac{\partial y_+}{\partial x'} + \frac{\partial G}{\partial y_-} \frac{\partial y_-}{\partial x'} = 0$

$$\left[\frac{\partial G}{\partial y_+} \frac{\partial y_+}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial G}{\partial y_-} \frac{\partial y_-}{\partial x} \right] + \left[\frac{\partial G}{\partial y_+} \frac{\partial y_+}{\partial x'} + \frac{\partial G}{\partial y_-} \frac{\partial y_-}{\partial x'} \right] = 0$$

↑ CANCEL

$\boxed{2 \frac{\partial G}{\partial y_+} = 0} \Rightarrow G(x, x') \text{ is INDEP. OF } (x+x')$

So: if $G(x, x')$ is indep of $(x+x')$,
then it is only a function of $(x-x')$

$$\rightarrow G(x, x') = G(x-x')$$

AS WE OBSERVED

WHERE DOES IT COME FROM?

$$\delta(x-x') = \int dk \, \tilde{e}^{ik(x-x')}$$

$$\partial_x \int dk \, \tilde{e}^{ikx} \tilde{G}(k) = \int dk \, e^{-ik(x-x')}$$

$$\int dk \, e^{-ikx} P(k) \tilde{G}(k) = \int dk \, e^{-ikx} \underbrace{e^{ikx'}}_{\text{polynomial}}$$

POLYNOMIAL

$$\tilde{G}(k) = \frac{e^{ikx'}}{P(k)}$$

$$\text{then: } G(x, x') = \int dk \, e^{-ikx} \frac{e^{ikx'}}{P(k)}$$

$$= \int dk \, e^{-ik(x-x')} \frac{1}{P(k)}$$

END UP W/ FUNCTION OF $(x-x')$

just have to do this integral
w/ some care for pole prescription
(important for causality.)

EXAMPLE: THE DAMPED SPRING

SAME AS USUAL HARMONIC OSCILLATOR, BUT W/
DAMPING COEFFICIENT γ

$$(\omega) \quad \ddot{x}(t) + 2\gamma \dot{x}(t) + \omega^2 x(t) = F(t)$$

↑
DRIVING FORCE

// EXPECTED BEHAVIOR:

γ DAMPS RESPONSE; GUTTER SPRING VIBRATIONS
GET SMALLER IN TIME.

TOTALLY NOT RIGOROUS DIAGNOSIS:

ASSUME PLANE WAVE $\hookrightarrow x(t) = e^{ikt}$

→ SEE WHAT IT WOULD LOOK LIKE FAR FROM
SUPPORT OF SOURCE

$$x(t) = e^{ikt} \quad (\text{ansatz})$$

$$(\omega): \underbrace{(-k^2 + 2i\gamma k + \omega^2)}_{=0} e^{ikt} \stackrel{?}{=} 0$$

$$\Rightarrow k = k_r + i k_i$$

$$\text{so } e^{ikt} = \underbrace{e^{ik_r t}}_{\text{PLANE WAVE}} \underbrace{e^{-k_i t}}_{\text{DAMPING.}} //$$

okay. so we can guess that something
happens to our poles.

$$\left[\left(\frac{d}{dt} \right)^2 + 2\gamma \frac{d}{dt} + \omega^2 \right] G(t, t') = \delta(t - t')$$

$\int dk e^{ikt} \tilde{G}(k)$ $\int dk e^{-ik(t-t')}$

$$(-k^2 - 2i\gamma k + \omega^2) \tilde{G}(k) = e^{ikt'}$$

$$\tilde{G}(k) = \frac{-e^{ikt'}}{k^2 + 2i\gamma k + \omega^2}$$

$\text{Poles @ } k = \frac{-2i\gamma \pm \sqrt{4\gamma^2 - 4\omega^2}}{2} = -i\gamma \pm \sqrt{\gamma^2 - \omega^2}$

IMAGINARY PART $\boxed{\pm \sqrt{\omega^2 - \gamma^2} - i\gamma}$

$\text{Re } \omega > \gamma$

RECALL:

$$G(t-t') = \int dk \frac{e^{-ik(t-t')}}{k^2 + \dots}$$

for $(t-t') > 0$, want $\text{Re}(-ik) < 0$

$+ \gamma \sin \theta$

LOWER HALF PLANE

FORBUNNATELY: POLES ARE ALREADY
 AUTOMATICALLY IN LOWER HALF PLANE
 FOR $\gamma > 0$! \rightarrow NO ϵ PRESCRIPTION
no choice to make

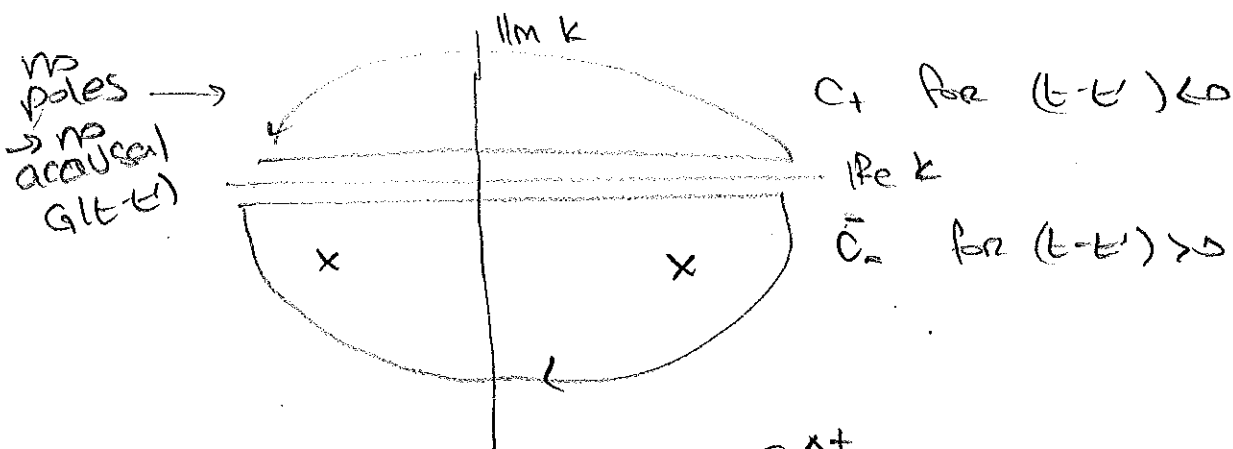
WHAT IF $\gamma < 0$? not physical.

\Rightarrow is every physical H.O. like this? then the ϵ choice is just ACADEMIC?

* HIGGS VS PHOTON.

RESIDUE THEOREM

$$G(t-t') = \int \frac{dk}{2\pi} \frac{-e^{-ik(t-t')}}{(k-k_+)(k-k_-)}$$



$$G(t-t') = 2\pi i \cdot \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[\frac{-e^{-ik_+(t-t')}}{k_+ - k_-} + \frac{-e^{-ik_-(t-t')}}{k_- - k_+} \right] \Delta t$$

$$k_+ - k_- = 2\sqrt{\omega^2 - \gamma^2}$$

$$e^{-ik_{\pm}\Delta t} = e^{-\gamma\Delta t} e^{\pm i\sqrt{\omega^2 - \gamma^2}\Delta t}$$

$$G(t-t') = \underbrace{e^{-\gamma\Delta t}}_{\times \Theta(t-t')} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\omega^2 - \gamma^2}} \frac{-i}{2} \left[e^{-i\sqrt{\omega^2 - \gamma^2}\Delta t} - e^{i\sqrt{\omega^2 - \gamma^2}\Delta t} \right]$$

$$= \sin(\sqrt{\omega^2 - \gamma^2} t)$$

compare to

$$G_{\text{SHO}}(t-t') = \Theta(t-t') \frac{\sin \omega t}{\omega} \quad \checkmark$$

"I took 6 weeks of P231 & all I have is this stupid Green's function."

HOW TO SOLVE FOR A GIVEN $F(t)$

$$x(t) = Ax_1(t) + Bx_2(t) + \int_{t_1}^{t_2} G(t, t') F(t') dt'$$

SOLUTIONS TO HOMOG. EQ. : $\Theta x_{1,2} = 0$

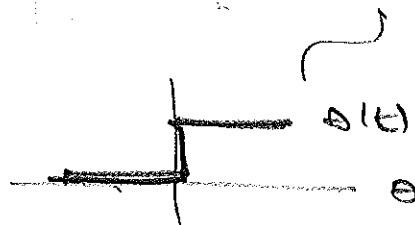
$$G(t, t') = G(t - t')$$

$t_{1,2} \neq \pm \infty$ BUT EFFECTIVELY :



t_1 : SOME TIME WHEN SOURCE STARTED

then $t_2 = t$, BECAUSE $G(t - t') \propto \Theta(t - t')$



HW: ACTUALLY SOLVE FOR SOME DRIVING FORCE.

ANALOGY: TIME EVOLUTION IN QM e^{iHt}
HIGGS BOSON HAS $H \rightarrow H + i\Gamma$

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? \rightarrow DECAYS!

gets back to P.S : MAYBE EVERY PHYSICAL
HARMONIC OSCILLATOR
IS DAMPED? eg. FRAMERS - KRONIG.
BUT: PHOTON? ELECTRON?