

BIG PICTURE

DIFF. OPERATOR: \mathcal{O} eg $\mathcal{O} = \left(\frac{d}{dt}\right)^2 + \omega^2$

→ for given B.C., \exists Green's function

$G(t, t')$

↑
OBS. TIME

↑
SOURCE TIME

can prove:

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

argument: time translation invariance

such that:

↙ source (eg. DRIVING FORCE)

if $\mathcal{O} \underline{f}(t) = \underline{s}(t)$

thing whose dynamics you want ("response")

then

$$\underline{f}(t) = \int dt' G(t - t') \underline{s}(t')$$

↑ dynamics given by overlap integral of Green's function w/ source

ANALOG OF $\underline{f} = \mathcal{O}^{-1} \underline{s}$

$$\underline{f}_i = \sum_j (\mathcal{O}^{-1})_{ij} \underline{s}_j$$

$G(t - t')$ IS DEFINED BY

$$\mathcal{O}_t G(t - t') = \delta(t - t')$$

↑ G is the response to a "unit" source $\rightarrow \delta$ -function source

↘ not really physical

(OFTEN A GOOD APPROX... BUT REALLY MUST BE INTEGRATED OVER)

so we are about solving for $G(t-t')$

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

definition of Fourier transform

$$\text{then } \mathcal{O}_+ G(t-t') = \int dk e^{-ik(t-t')} \underbrace{P(k)}_{\text{polynomial}} \tilde{G}(k)$$

$$\delta(t-t') = \int dk e^{-ik(t-t')} 1$$

$$\leadsto \boxed{P(k) \tilde{G}(k) = 1}$$

TRUE, BUT "CANCELING THE INTEGRAL ON BOTH SIDES" IS NOT A RIGOROUS STEP!!

$$\tilde{G}(k) = P(k)^{-1}$$

$$\text{eg. for } \mathcal{O} = \left(\frac{d}{dt}\right)^2 + \omega^2$$

$$P(k) = -k^2 + \omega^2$$

$$\boxed{\tilde{G}(k) = \frac{-1}{k^2 - \omega^2}}$$

then we just plug in to Fourier transform:

$$G(t-t') = \int dk e^{-ik(t-t')} P(k)^{-1}$$

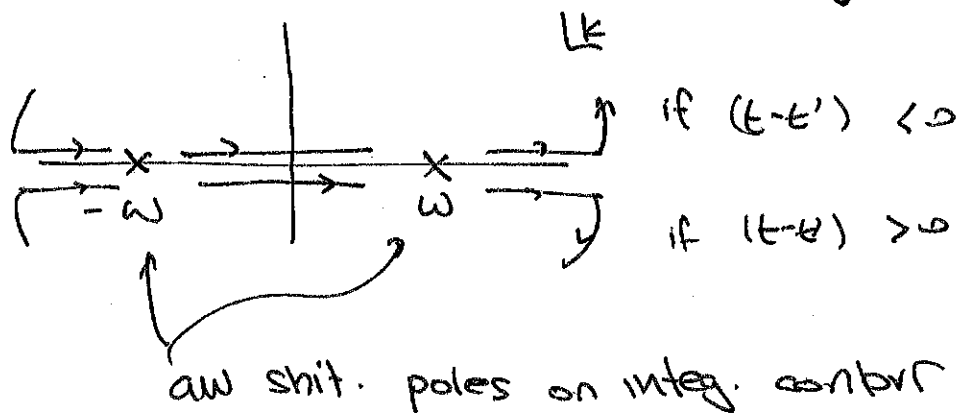
$$\text{eg. } = \int dk e^{-ik(t-t')} \frac{-1}{k^2 - \omega^2}$$

trick: \mathbb{C} contour integral

$$k = \text{Re } k + i(\text{Im } k)$$

DETERMINES
CONVERGENCE

$$G(t-t') = \int dk \frac{-1}{2\pi} \frac{e^{-ik(t-t')}}{(k+i\omega)(k-i\omega)}$$



I HAVE ALTERED THE CONTOUR.
PRAY THAT I DON'T ALTER IT
ANY FURTHER.

WANT: when $t > t'$, ~~contour~~ ~~is not~~

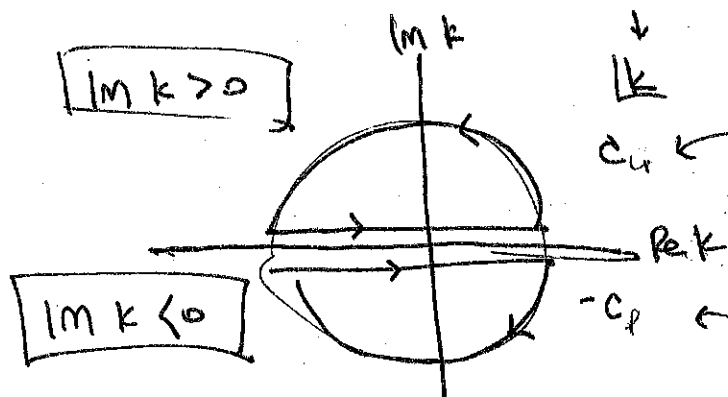
$$G(t-t') \neq 0$$

↑ contour encloses
a pole

$$\text{when } t < t', G(t-t') = 0$$

$$\text{Re } k + i \text{Im } k$$

↑ satisfied if
contour encloses
no poles.



$$e^{-ik(t-t')} \propto e^{-B\Gamma\delta}$$

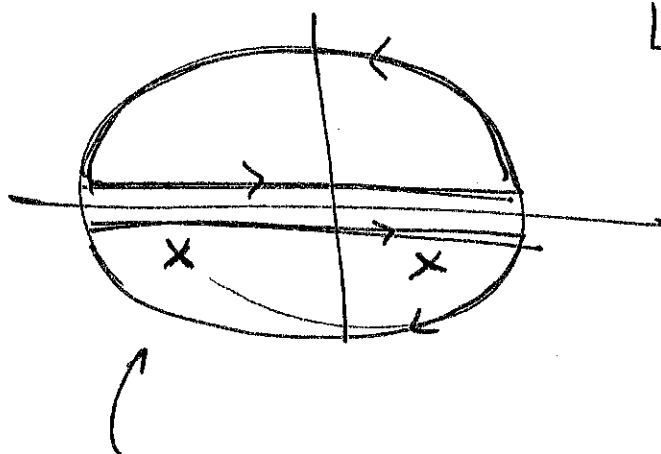
if $t-t' < 0$

↑ CAUSAL.

$$e^{-ik(t-t')} \propto e^{-B\Gamma\delta}$$

if $(t-t') > 0$ ← CAUSAL

80:

 k

$$\boxed{t - t' < 0}$$

ADVANCED X

$$\boxed{t - t' > 0}$$

RETARDED ✓

$$G_R(t-t') = \int dk \frac{-1}{2\pi} \frac{e^{-ik(t-t')}}{(k+\omega+i\epsilon)(k-\omega+i\epsilon)}$$

now you are fully equipped to do yours.

~~EXAMPLE~~

REMARK: REVERSE ENGINEERING!

$$G_R(t-t') = \int dk e^{-ik(t-t')} \frac{-1}{k^2 - \omega^2 - 2ik\epsilon + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2)}$$

$$P_R(k) = -k^2 + 2ik\epsilon + \omega^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}_R = \left(\frac{d}{dt}\right)^2 + 2\epsilon \frac{d}{dt} + \omega^2$$

this is a different
operator than the
one we started with.

REDUCES IN the case
 $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+ \leftarrow$ from positive
Dir. only!

LOOKS FAMILIAR?!!

(analogous to dispersion
relation — the
absorptive part &
dissipated part are
related!)

✓ CAUSALITY

LET'S SOLVE FOR $G_R(t-t')$ FOR HARMONIC OSCILLATOR.

$$G_R(t-t') = \oint dk \dots - \int_{\text{ARC}} dk \dots$$

↑
which arc? DEPENDS
ON SIGN OF $t-t'$...
BUT WE CHOOSE THE
ARC S.T. THIS INTEGRAL
IS ALWAYS ZERO.

$$= 2\pi i \sum_j \text{Res}(z_j)$$

↑
enclosed poles of integrand

POLES: $\omega - i\epsilon$

Res: $\frac{-1}{2\pi} \frac{e^{-i(\omega-i\epsilon)(t-t')}}{2\omega}$

$-\omega - i\epsilon$

Res: $\frac{-1}{2\pi} \frac{e^{-i(-\omega-i\epsilon)(t-t')}}{-2\omega}$

$$= -i \left(\frac{e^{-i\omega\Delta t}}{2\omega} - \frac{e^{i\omega\Delta t}}{2\omega} \right)$$

$$= -i \frac{1}{2\omega} \cdot (-2i \sin \omega \Delta t)$$

$$= \boxed{-\frac{\sin \omega \Delta t}{\omega}} \quad \text{if } \Delta t > 0$$

$$= \boxed{0} \quad \text{if } \Delta t < 0$$

PS: check overall phase. I may have made sign errors

$$\begin{aligned} e^{i\theta} \\ -e^{-i\theta} \\ = 2i \sin \theta \end{aligned}$$

DAMPED H.O. \checkmark DAMPING term

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

$$\odot x(t)$$

\uparrow

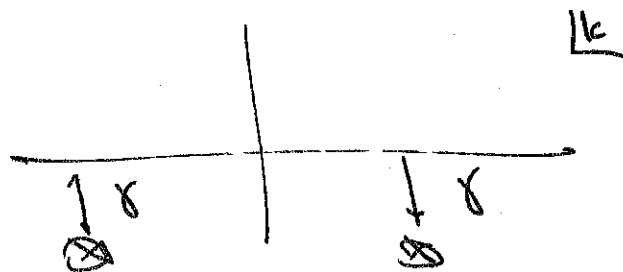
$$\odot = \left(\frac{d}{dt}\right)^2 + 2\gamma \frac{d}{dt} + \omega^2 \quad (\text{cf. P.4!!})$$

\uparrow

we now know that this
PUSHES POLES DOWN
when $\gamma > 0$

[$\gamma < 0$ is unphysical].]

γ finite: no choice of pole pushing



$$G(t-t') = \int dk e^{-ik(t-t')} \frac{-1}{k^2 + 2ik\gamma + \omega^2}$$

\nearrow
complete the square.

$$\text{Agi: } k_{\pm} = \frac{-2\gamma \pm \sqrt{-4\gamma^2 + 4\omega^2}}{2} = \pm \sqrt{\omega^2 - \gamma^2} - i\gamma$$

Real if $\omega^2 > \gamma^2$

but what if $\omega^2 < \gamma^2$?

... then it's a pretty shitty oscillator =

(DAMPING is more important than oscillations.)

↑ so it doesn't make sense to look for a characteristic oscillation frequency!

imaginary $k_{\pm} \leftrightarrow$ your system is ~~really~~ more of a decaying system than oscillating.

$$G(t-t') = \int dk \cdot \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{-e^{-ik\Delta t}}{(k - k_+)(k - k_-)}$$

$$= 2\pi i \sum_j \text{Res}(z_j) \quad \swarrow \text{SAME TRICK AS BEFORE}$$

$$= 2\pi i \cdot \left[\frac{1}{2\pi} \underbrace{\frac{-e^{-ik_+\Delta t}}{k_+ - k_-}}_{\uparrow \substack{= 2\sqrt{\omega^2 - \gamma^2}}} + \frac{1}{2\pi} \underbrace{\frac{-e^{-ik_-\Delta t}}{k_- - k_+}}_{\uparrow \substack{= -2\sqrt{\omega^2 - \gamma^2}}} \right]$$

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

$$Q(t-t') = e^{-\gamma \Delta t} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\omega^2 - \gamma^2}} \frac{-i}{2} (e^{-i\sqrt{\omega^2 - \gamma^2} \Delta t} - e^{i\sqrt{\omega^2 - \gamma^2} \Delta t})$$

γ
 ASSUMING
 $t-t' > 0$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{- \sin(\sqrt{\omega^2 - \gamma^2} \Delta t)}$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{REDUCES TO SHO WHEN } \gamma \rightarrow 0}$

DAMPING term
 AS Δt GETS BIGGER,
 $G(t-t')$ GETS SMALLER.

$$G(t-t') = e^{-\gamma \Delta t} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\omega^2 - \gamma^2}} \sin(\sqrt{\omega^2 - \gamma^2} \Delta t) \Theta(\Delta t)$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{1em}}_{= \Delta t}$

every GREEN'S FUNCTION IN
 physics is some variant of this.