

Notes 2: Symmetries in E-mag

Sunday, September 12, 2010

1:14 PM

the we care:

We're trying to solve Master Equation.
It has infinite # of answers, & usually
is not solvable analytically. To help us
Success in all potential answers next to
eliminate either impossible solutions or
redundant ones.

In general, symmetries in a system lead to
general understanding of behavior. If we
identify symmetries we can eliminate/reduce
the solution set for the Master Eq.

specifically
If we show that some system has symmetry
the eigenfunctions of the symmetry operator
are also eigenfunctions of the "system" operator

Symmetries of Interest

Translational : continuous & discrete

Rotational :

Mirror :

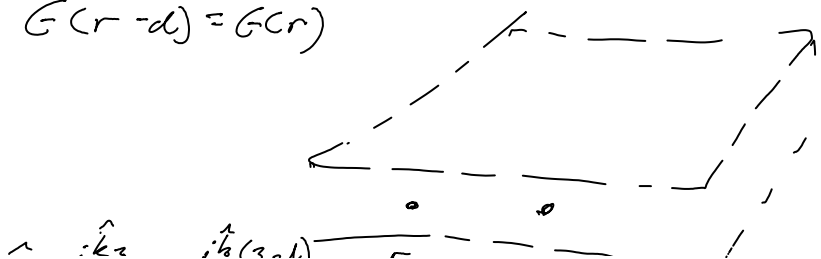
Inversion :

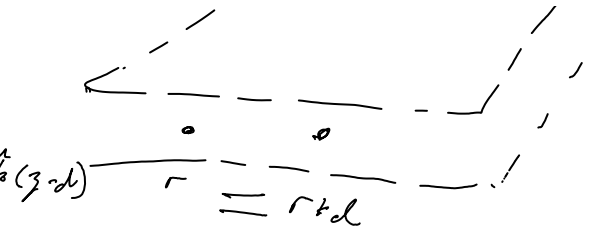
Time reversal :

Translational : continuous

definition : a system is unchanged through some
translation d

$$G(r-d) = G(r)$$






$$\frac{1}{\hbar^2} \hat{k}_z = e^{i\hat{k}_z(z-d)} = e^{-i\hat{k}_z d} e^{i\hat{k}_z z}$$

eigenvalue : constant

as wave through a medium that is constant
the mode stays the same only is changed in
phase be $e^{-i\hat{k}_z d}$

Discrete Translational Symmetry

symmetry under specific translations



$$E(r) = E(r + R)$$

$$R = la$$

$l = \text{integer}$ $a : \text{lattice constant}$

piece that is repeated over & over is
the 'unit cell'

eigenmodes again wave plane waves

$$T_R e^{i\hat{k}_x x} = e^{i\hat{k}_x (x-la)} = e^{-i\hat{k}_x la} e^{i\hat{k}_x x}$$

eigenvalues

but $l = \text{any integer}$

$$e^x = e^{2\pi i x} = e^{4\pi i x} \dots$$

$$e = e = e \dots$$

$$ka = 2\pi n$$

$$k = \frac{2\pi n}{a} \quad \text{for any } n \text{ are the same.}$$

$$\text{define } b = \frac{2\pi}{a} \text{ as reciprocal lattice vector}$$

since we can build any mode by a linear combination of modes we can find in general

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{H}_{k_x k_y}(\mathbf{r}) &= e^{ik_x x} \sum_n C_{k_y n}(z) e^{i(k_y + nb)y} \\ \text{for periodicity in } y &= e^{ik_x x} e^{ik_y y} \sum_n C_{k_y n}(z) e^{inby} \\ &= e^{ik_x x} e^{ik_y y} \tilde{u}_{k_y}(y, z) \end{aligned}$$

\tilde{u} is a periodic function that serves to modulate \hat{H} as you move in (x, y, z)

Bloch's Theorem

because of periodicity, wavevectors separated by a lattice constant $k = k + mb$ are the same.

only need to solve for \vec{k} that are unique. $-\frac{\pi}{a} \leq k \leq \frac{\pi}{a}$

Brillouin Zone

in 3-D

$$\hat{H}_{\vec{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}} u_{\vec{k}}(\mathbf{r}) \quad \text{when } \vec{k} \text{ lies inside the Brillouin zone}$$

if solve $u_{\vec{k}}(\cdot)$ for some \vec{k} one cell of \vec{r} , have defined $\hat{H}(\mathbf{r})$ for that \vec{k}

to solve for $U(r)$ plug into the master equation

$$\hat{D}^2 U_k = \left(\frac{\omega(k)}{c} \right)^2 U_k$$

$$\nabla^2 + \frac{1}{\epsilon(r)} \nabla \times e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} U_k(r) = \left(\frac{\omega(k)}{c} \right)^2 e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} U_k(r)$$

V.V. Problem

$$\nabla \times e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} U_k(r) = (i\vec{k} + \nabla) \times U_k(r) \quad \checkmark$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} U_{k_x}(r) & e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} U_{k_y}(r) & e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} U_{k_z}(r) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ i\vec{k}_x + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & i\vec{k}_y + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & i\vec{k}_z + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ U_{k_x}(r) & U_{k_y}(r) & U_{k_z}(r) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(i\vec{k} + \nabla) \times \frac{1}{\epsilon(r)} (i\vec{k} + \nabla) \times U_k(r) = \left(\frac{\omega(k)}{c} \right)^2 U_k(r)$$

now solving for $U_k(r)$ will give us the

mode profiles we are looking for

new transversality $(i\vec{k} + \nabla) \cdot U_k = 0$

$$\perp U_k(r) = U_k(r + R)$$

Rotation.