

Green's Function Theory

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November 13, 2025

1 Defination of one-body Green's Function

$$G_{s,s'}(r, t; r', t') = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \langle \Psi_0^N | T[\hat{\psi}_s(r, t) \hat{\psi}_{s'}^\dagger(r', t')] | \Psi_0^N \rangle \quad (1)$$

where s, r, t are spin, spatila and time coordinates. Ψ_0^N is the ground state wave function of N electrons system. $\hat{\psi}_s(r, t)$ and $\hat{\psi}_{s'}^\dagger(r', t')$ are the field operators in Heisenberg picture.

$$\hat{\psi}_s(r, t) = e^{i\hat{H}t/\hbar} \hat{\psi}_s(r) e^{-i\hat{H}t/\hbar} \quad (2)$$

$$\hat{\psi}_{s'}^\dagger(r', t') = e^{i\hat{H}t'/\hbar} \hat{\psi}_{s'}^\dagger(r') e^{-i\hat{H}t'/\hbar} \quad (3)$$

\hat{H} is total time-independent hamimltonian of system. T is time-ordering operator defined as:

$$T[\hat{A}(t) \hat{B}(t')] = \begin{cases} \hat{A}(t) \hat{B}(t') & t > t' \\ \pm \hat{B}(t') \hat{A}(t) & t \leq t' \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

the time lines goes from right to left. The + sign is for bosons and - sign is for fermions. Change time-order operator to step function:

$$T[\hat{A}(t) \hat{B}(t')] = \theta(t - t') \hat{A}(t) \hat{B}(t') \pm \theta(t' - t) \hat{B}(t') \hat{A}(t) \quad (5)$$

where

$$\theta(t - t') = \begin{cases} 1 & t > t' \\ 0 & t \leq t' \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

$$G_{s,s'}(r, t; r', t') = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \left[\theta(t - t') \langle \Psi_0^N | \hat{\psi}_s(r, t) \hat{\psi}_{s'}^\dagger(r', t') | \Psi_0^N \rangle \pm \theta(t' - t) \langle \Psi_0^N | \hat{\psi}_{s'}^\dagger(r', t') \hat{\psi}_s(r, t) | \Psi_0^N \rangle \right] \quad (7)$$

Now operate the hamiltonian on the ground state wavefunction :

$$\hat{H} | \Psi_0^N \rangle = E_0^N | \Psi_0^N \rangle \quad (8)$$

$$\begin{aligned} G_{s,s'}(r, t; r', t') &= -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\theta(t - t') \langle \Psi_0^N | e^{i\hat{H}t/\hbar} \hat{\psi}_s(r) e^{-i\hat{H}(t-t')/\hbar} \hat{\psi}_{s'}^\dagger(r') e^{-i\hat{H}t'/\hbar} | \Psi_0^N \rangle \\ &\quad \pm \theta(t' - t) \langle \Psi_0^N | e^{i\hat{H}t'/\hbar} \hat{\psi}_{s'}^\dagger(r') e^{-i\hat{H}(t'-t)/\hbar} \hat{\psi}_s(r) e^{-i\hat{H}t/\hbar} | \Psi_0^N \rangle] \\ &= -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\theta(t - t') \langle \Psi_0^N | e^{iE_0^N t/\hbar} \hat{\psi}_s(r) e^{-i\hat{H}(t-t')/\hbar} \hat{\psi}_{s'}^\dagger(r') e^{-iE_0^N t'/\hbar} | \Psi_0^N \rangle \\ &\quad \pm \theta(t' - t) \langle \Psi_0^N | e^{iE_0^N t'/\hbar} \hat{\psi}_{s'}^\dagger(r') e^{-i\hat{H}(t'-t)/\hbar} \hat{\psi}_s(r) e^{-iE_0^N t/\hbar} | \Psi_0^N \rangle] \\ &= -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\theta(t - t') e^{iE_0^N(t-t')/\hbar} \langle \Psi_0^N | \hat{\psi}_s(r) e^{-i\hat{H}(t-t')/\hbar} \hat{\psi}_{s'}^\dagger(r') | \Psi_0^N \rangle \\ &\quad \pm \theta(t' - t) e^{iE_0^N(t'-t)/\hbar} \langle \Psi_0^N | \hat{\psi}_{s'}^\dagger(r') e^{-i\hat{H}(t'-t)/\hbar} \hat{\psi}_s(r) | \Psi_0^N \rangle] \end{aligned}$$

The Green's function only depends on time difference:

$$G_{s,s'}(r, t; r', t') = G_{s,s'}(r, r'; t - t') \quad (9)$$

$$G_{s,s'}(r, r'; t - t') = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \quad (10)$$

Now we insert a complete set of eigenstates of N+1 and N-1 electrons system:

$$\hat{H} | \Psi_n^{N+1} \rangle = E_n^{N+1} | \Psi_n^{N+1} \rangle \quad (11)$$

$$\hat{H}|\Psi_n^{N-1}\rangle = E_n^{N-1}|\Psi_n^{N-1}\rangle \quad (12)$$

$$\begin{aligned} G_{s,s'}(r, r'; t - t') = & -\frac{i}{\hbar}[\theta(t - t')e^{iE_0^N(t-t')/\hbar} \sum_n \langle \Psi_0^N | \hat{\psi}_s(r) | \Psi_n^{N+1} \rangle e^{-iE_n^{N+1}(t-t')/\hbar} \langle \Psi_n^{N+1} | \hat{\psi}_{s'}^\dagger(r') | \Psi_0^N \rangle \\ & \pm \theta(t' - t)e^{iE_0^N(t'-t)/\hbar} \sum_n \langle \Psi_0^N | \hat{\psi}_{s'}^\dagger(r') | \Psi_n^{N-1} \rangle e^{-iE_n^{N-1}(t'-t)/\hbar} \langle \Psi_n^{N-1} | \hat{\psi}_s(r) | \Psi_0^N \rangle] \end{aligned}$$

Now define the following quantities:

$$A_{n,s}(r) = \langle \Psi_0^N | \hat{\psi}_s(r) | \Psi_n^{N+1} \rangle \quad (13)$$

$$A_{n,s}^*(r') = \langle \Psi_n^{N+1} | \hat{\psi}_s^\dagger(r') | \Psi_0^N \rangle \quad (14)$$

$$B_{n,s'}(r') = \langle \Psi_0^N | \hat{\psi}_{s'}^\dagger(r') | \Psi_n^{N-1} \rangle \quad (15)$$

$$B_{n,s'}^*(r) = \langle \Psi_n^{N-1} | \hat{\psi}_{s'}(r) | \Psi_0^N \rangle \quad (16)$$

and are commonly referred to as the Lehmann amplitudes or Dyson orbital. Now we have:

$$\begin{aligned} G_{s,s'}(r, r'; t - t') = & -\frac{i}{\hbar}[\theta(t - t') \sum_n A_{n,s}(r) A_{n,s}^*(r') e^{-i(E_n^{N+1} - E_0^N)(t-t')/\hbar} \\ & \pm \theta(t' - t) \sum_n B_{n,s'}^*(r) B_{n,s'}(r') e^{-i(E_n^{N-1} - E_0^N)(t'-t)/\hbar}] \end{aligned}$$

Doing Fourier transform to energy domain:

$$G_{s,s'}(r, r'; \omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dt e^{i\omega(t-t')} G_{s,s'}(r, r'; t - t') \quad (17)$$

$$G_{s,s'}(r, r'; \omega) = \sum_n \left[\frac{A_{n,s}(r) A_{n,s}^*(r')}{\omega - (E_n^{N+1} - E_0^N)/\hbar + i\eta} \pm \frac{B_{n,s'}^*(r) B_{n,s'}(r')}{\omega - (E_n^{N-1} - E_0^N)/\hbar - i\eta} \right]$$

where η is an infinitesimal positive number.

The exact expression for G as given can be approximated within the framework of the quasiparticle picture,

$$G_{s,s'}(r, r'; \omega) = \sum_n \frac{\phi_{n,s}(r) \phi_{n,s'}^*(r')}{\omega - \epsilon_n/\hbar + i\eta \operatorname{sgn}(\epsilon_n - \mu/\hbar)} \quad (18)$$

where $\phi_{n,s}(r)$ are the quasiparticle wavefunctions, ϵ_n are the quasiparticle energies, and μ is the chemical potential.

2 Interaction Picture

Many quantum system have Hamiltonian of the form

$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_0 + \hat{V} \quad (19)$$

where \hat{H}_0 is *free* Hamiltonian with known spectrum which is used to classify the states of the system, and \hat{V} is *perturbation* which cause transitions between eigenstates of the \hat{H}_0 .

To study the transition (scattering, making new particles, etc.) caused by \hat{V} we want to use a fixed basis of \hat{H}_0 eigenstates, but we want to keep the transitions separate from wave-packet spreading and other effects due to Schrödinger phases $e^{-i\hat{H}_0 t}$ of \hat{H}_0 itself.

2.1 Schrödinger Picture

In the Schrödinger picture, the operators are time-independent, while the state vectors evolve in time according to the Schrödinger equation:

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} |\Psi_S(t)\rangle = \hat{H} |\Psi_S(t)\rangle \quad (20)$$

$$|\Psi_S(t)\rangle = e^{-i\hat{H}t/\hbar} |\Psi_S(0)\rangle \quad (21)$$

2.2 Heisenberg Picture

In the Heisenberg picture, the state vectors are time-independent, while the operators evolve in time according to the Heisenberg equation of motion:

$$|\Psi_H\rangle = |\Psi_S(0)\rangle \quad (22)$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \hat{O}_H(t) = [\hat{O}_H(t), \hat{H}] \implies \hat{O}_H(t) = e^{i\hat{H}t/\hbar} \hat{O}_S e^{-i\hat{H}t/\hbar} \quad (23)$$

The relationship between Schrödinger and Heisenberg pictures is given by:

$$\langle \Psi_S(t) | \hat{O}_S | \Psi_S(t) \rangle = \langle \Psi_H | \hat{O}_H(t) | \Psi_H \rangle \quad (24)$$

$$|\Psi_H\rangle = e^{i\hat{H}t/\hbar} |\Psi_S(t)\rangle \quad (25)$$

$$\hat{O}_H(t) = e^{i\hat{H}t/\hbar} \hat{O}_S e^{-i\hat{H}t/\hbar} \quad (26)$$

2.3 Interaction Picture

In the interaction picture, the field operators depend on time as if they were free fields.

$$\hat{O}_I(t) = e^{i\hat{H}_0 t/\hbar} \hat{O}_S e^{-i\hat{H}_0 t/\hbar} \implies i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \hat{O}_I(t) = [\hat{O}_I(t), \hat{H}_0] \quad (27)$$

This is different from the Heisenberg picture where the operators evolve according to the full Hamiltonian \hat{H} , and are too complicated to solve. Then the state vectors in the interaction picture evolve according to the perturbation \hat{V} only:

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial |\Psi_I(t)\rangle}{\partial t} = i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} e^{i\hat{H}_0 t/\hbar} |\Psi_S(t)\rangle = -\hat{H}_0 |\Psi_I(t)\rangle + e^{i\hat{H}_0 t/\hbar} \hat{H} |\Psi_S(t)\rangle \quad (28)$$

$$= -\hat{H}_0 |\Psi_I(t)\rangle + e^{i\hat{H}_0 t/\hbar} (\hat{H}_0 + \hat{V}) e^{-i\hat{H}_0 t/\hbar} |\Psi_I(t)\rangle \quad (29)$$

$$= \hat{V}_I(t) |\Psi_I(t)\rangle \quad (30)$$

The evolution operator in the interaction picture is defined as:

$$|\Psi_I(t)\rangle = \hat{U}_I(t, t_0) |\Psi_I(t_0)\rangle \quad (31)$$

The evolution operator satisfies the equation:

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \hat{U}_I(t, t_0) = \hat{V}_I(t) \hat{U}_I(t, t_0) \quad (32)$$

with the initial condition:

$$\hat{U}_I(t_0, t_0) = 1 \quad (33)$$

The formal solution of this equation is given by the Dyson series: we integrate the differential equation from t_0 to t :

$$\hat{U}_I(t, t_0) = 1 - \frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{t_0}^t dt_1 \hat{V}_I(t_1) \hat{U}_I(t_1, t_0) \quad (34)$$

By iterating this equation, we obtain the Dyson series expansion:

$$\hat{U}_I(t, t_0) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar} \right)^n \int_{t_0}^t dt_1 \int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt_2 \cdots \int_{t_0}^{t_{n-1}} dt_n \quad (35)$$

$$\times \hat{V}_I(t_1) \hat{V}_I(t_2) \cdots \hat{V}_I(t_n) \quad (36)$$

Note the time-ordering of the integrals ensures that $t \geq t_1 \geq t_2 \geq \cdots \geq t_n$.

2.3.1 Hypercube and Simplex

The n -dimensional hypercube $[t_0, t]^n$ can be decomposed into $n!$ simplexes, each corresponding to a particular ordering of the time variables. For example, in two dimensions, the square $[t_0, t]^2$ can be divided into two triangles: one where $t_1 \geq t_2$ and another where $t_2 \geq t_1$. In three dimensions, the cube $[t_0, t]^3$ can be divided into six tetrahedra, each corresponding to a different ordering of t_1, t_2, t_3 . In general, the n -dimensional hypercube can be decomposed into $n!$ simplexes, each corresponding to a different permutation of the time variables. This decomposition is crucial for understanding the structure of time-ordered integrals in quantum field theory and many-body physics.

2.3.2 Time-Ordering Operator

The $V_I(t)$ operators in the integral should be arranged from left to right in the order of decreasing time variables. To achieve this, we define a timeordering operator T , which arranges operators in order of decreasing time arguments.

$$T[\hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)] \quad (37)$$

are symmetric with respect to permutations of the time variables.

We want to make the term more symmetric by permutations of integral variables. There are $n!$ permutations of the time variables t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n . Each permutation corresponds to a different ordering of the time variables, and thus to a different simplex in the n -dimensional hypercube. By summing over all $n!$ permutations, we can rewrite the Dyson series as:

$$\hat{U}_I(t, t_0) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar}\right)^n \int_{t_0}^t dt_1 \int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt_2 \cdots \int_{t_0}^{t_{n-1}} dt_n \quad (38)$$

$$\times T[\hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)] \quad (39)$$

To express the Dyson series in a more compact form, we introduce the time-ordering operator T , which arranges operators in order of decreasing time arguments. Using the time-ordering operator, we can rewrite the Dyson series as:

$$\hat{U}_I(t, t_0) = T \left[\exp \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{t_0}^t dt' \hat{V}_I(t') \right) \right] \quad (40)$$

2.4 Adiabatic Switching

In order to connect the ground state of the non-interacting system to the ground state of the interacting system, we introduce a time-dependent Hamiltonian that gradually turns on the interaction:

$$\hat{H}(t) = \hat{H}_0 + g e^{-\epsilon|t|} \hat{V} \quad (41)$$

where ϵ is a small positive parameter that controls the rate of switching. At $t = -\infty$, the Hamiltonian reduces to the non-interacting Hamiltonian \hat{H}_0 , and at $t = 0$, the interaction is fully turned on.

Applying the interaction picture and Dyson series to this time-dependent Hamiltonian, we can study the evolution of the system from the non-interacting ground state to the interacting ground state.

$$|\Psi_I(t)\rangle = \hat{U}_\epsilon(t, t_0) |\Psi_I(t_0)\rangle \quad (42)$$

with the evolution operator given by:

$$\hat{U}_\epsilon(t, t_0) = T \left[\exp \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{t_0}^t dt' g e^{-\epsilon|t'|} \hat{V}_I(t') \right) \right] \quad (43)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar} g\right)^n \int_{t_0}^t dt_1 \int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt_2 \cdots \int_{t_0}^{t_{n-1}} dt_n \quad (44)$$

$$\times T \left[e^{-\epsilon|t_1|} \hat{V}_I(t_1) e^{-\epsilon|t_2|} \hat{V}_I(t_2) \cdots e^{-\epsilon|t_n|} \hat{V}_I(t_n) \right] \quad (45)$$

Now we can study the evolution of the system as the interaction is gradually turned on from the non-interacting ground state at $t_0 = -\infty$.

$$|\Psi_S(t_0)\rangle = e^{-iE_0 t_0/\hbar} |\Phi_0\rangle \quad (46)$$

where $\hat{H}_0 |\Phi_0\rangle = E_0 |\Phi_0\rangle$, and the corresponding state in interaction picture is:

$$|\Psi_I(t_0)\rangle = e^{i\hat{H}_0 t_0/\hbar} |\Psi_S(t_0)\rangle = |\Phi_0\rangle \quad (47)$$

Thus $|\Psi_I(t_0)\rangle$ becomes time independent as $t_0 \rightarrow -\infty$. The same conclusion follows from

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial |\Psi_I(t)\rangle}{\partial t} = g e^{-\epsilon|t|} \hat{V}_I(t) |\Psi_I(t)\rangle \quad (48)$$

From definition we know

$$|\Psi_H\rangle = |\Psi_S(0)\rangle = |\Psi_I(0)\rangle = \hat{U}_\epsilon(0, -\infty) |\Phi_0\rangle \quad (49)$$

which expresses an exact eigenstate of the interacting system in terms of the non-interacting ground state $|\Phi_0\rangle$ and the evolution operator $\hat{U}_I(0, -\infty)$.

2.5 Gell-Mann and Low Theorem

Consider the expression

$$(\hat{H}_0 - E_0)|\Psi_H\rangle = (\hat{H}_0 - E_0)\hat{U}_\epsilon(0, -\infty)|\Phi_0\rangle = [\hat{H}_0, \hat{U}_\epsilon(0, -\infty)]|\Phi_0\rangle \quad (50)$$

We shall explicitly evaluate the commutator on the right-hand side. Using the Dyson series for $\hat{U}_\epsilon(0, -\infty)$

$$[\hat{H}_0, \hat{U}_\epsilon(0, -\infty)] = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar}g\right)^n \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_1 \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_2 \cdots \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_n e^{-\epsilon(|t_1|+|t_2|+\cdots+|t_n|)} [\hat{H}_0, T[\hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)]] \quad (51)$$

take an arbitrary time ordering of the n time indices.

$$[\hat{H}_0, \hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)] = [\hat{H}_0, \hat{V}_I(t_1)]\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n) \quad (52)$$

$$+ \hat{V}_I(t_1)[\hat{H}_0, \hat{V}_I(t_2)]\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n) \quad (53)$$

$$+ \cdots \quad (54)$$

$$+ \hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots[\hat{H}_0, \hat{V}_I(t_n)] \quad (55)$$

The evolution of $\hat{V}_I(t)$ is given by

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \hat{V}_I(t) = [\hat{V}_I(t), \hat{H}_0] \implies [\hat{H}_0, \hat{V}_I(t)] = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \hat{V}_I(t) \quad (56)$$

Substitute into the commutator expression:

$$[\hat{H}_0, \hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)] = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t_1} \hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n) \quad (57)$$

$$- i\hbar \hat{V}_I(t_1) \frac{\partial}{\partial t_2} \hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n) \quad (58)$$

$$+ \cdots \quad (59)$$

$$- i\hbar \hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots \frac{\partial}{\partial t_n} \hat{V}_I(t_n) \quad (60)$$

$$= (-i\hbar) \left(\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial t_j} \right) \hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n) \quad (61)$$

Another important property of time-ordering operator T is that the time derivatives can be taken outside the time-ordering operator:

$$T \left[\left(\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial t_j} \right) \hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n) \right] = \left(\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial t_j} \right) T \left[\hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n) \right] \quad (62)$$

This can be shown by explicitly using properties of the step functions that define the time-ordering operator.

$$\left(\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial t_j} \right) \theta(t_{P_1} - t_{P_2})\theta(t_{P_2} - t_{P_3})\cdots\theta(t_{P_{n-1}} - t_{P_n}) = \delta(t_{P_1} - t_{P_2})\theta(t_{P_2} - t_{P_3})\cdots\theta(t_{P_{n-1}} - t_{P_n}) \quad (63)$$

$$+ \theta(t_{P_1} - t_{P_2})\delta(t_{P_2} - t_{P_3})\cdots\theta(t_{P_{n-1}} - t_{P_n}) + \cdots \quad (64)$$

$$+ \theta(t_{P_1} - t_{P_2})\theta(t_{P_2} - t_{P_3})\cdots\delta(t_{P_{n-1}} - t_{P_n}) \quad (65)$$

However, the delta functions only contribute when two time variables are equal, which is a set of measure zero in the time integrals. We assume time order that $t_{P_\mu} \neq t_{P_\nu}$. Thus we have:

$$[\hat{H}_0, T[\hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)]] = (-i\hbar) \left(\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial t_j} \right) T[\hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)] \quad (66)$$

All time derivatives make the same contributions under permutations ; we therefore retain just one, says $\frac{\partial}{\partial t_1}$ and multiply by n. Let's substitute this result back into the commutator expression:

$$[\hat{H}_0, \hat{U}_\epsilon(0, -\infty)] = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar}g\right)^n \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_1 \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_2 \cdots \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_n e^{-\epsilon(|t_1|+|t_2|+\cdots+|t_n|)} \quad (67)$$

$$\times (-i\hbar)n \frac{\partial}{\partial t_1} T[\hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)] \quad (68)$$

Now we can perform the integral over t_1 by parts:

$$[\hat{H}_0, \hat{U}_\epsilon(0, -\infty)] = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar}g\right)^{n-1} (-g) \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_2 \cdots \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_n \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_1 \quad (69)$$

$$\times \frac{\partial}{\partial t_1} \left[e^{-\epsilon(|t_1|+|t_2|+\cdots+|t_n|)} T[\hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)] \right] \quad (70)$$

$$- \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar}g\right)^{n-1} (-g) \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_2 \cdots \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_n \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_1 \quad (71)$$

$$\times \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial t_1} e^{-\epsilon(|t_1|+|t_2|+\cdots+|t_n|)} \right] T[\hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)] \quad (72)$$

The first term is simply the integrand evaluated at the end of points:

if $t_1 \rightarrow -\infty$

$$e^{-\epsilon(|t_1|+|t_2|+\cdots+|t_n|)} T[\hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)] = 0 \quad (73)$$

if $t_1 = 0$

$$e^{-\epsilon(|t_1|+|t_2|+\cdots+|t_n|)} T[\hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)] = e^{-\epsilon(|t_2|+\cdots+|t_n|)} \hat{V}_I(0) T[\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)] \quad (74)$$

And the first term becomes:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar}g\right)^{n-1} (-g) \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_2 \cdots \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_n \quad (75)$$

$$\times e^{-\epsilon(|t_2|+\cdots+|t_n|)} \hat{V}_I(0) T[\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)] \quad (76)$$

$$= g \hat{V}_I(0) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar}g\right)^{n-1} \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_2 \cdots \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_n \quad (77)$$

$$\times e^{-\epsilon(|t_2|+\cdots+|t_n|)} T[\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)] \quad (78)$$

$$= -g \hat{V}_I(0) \hat{U}_\epsilon(0, -\infty) \quad (79)$$

Now because $t_n \leq 0$, we have $e^{-\epsilon|t_n|} = e^{\epsilon t_n}$. The second term is

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar}g\right)^{n-1} (-g) \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_2 \cdots \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_n \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_1 \quad (80)$$

$$\times \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial t_1} e^{\epsilon(t_1+t_2+\cdots+t_n)} \right] T[\hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)] \quad (81)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar}g\right)^{n-1} (-g)(\epsilon) \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_2 \cdots \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_n \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_1 \quad (82)$$

$$\times e^{-\epsilon(|t_1|+|t_2|+\cdots+|t_n|)} T[\hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)] \quad (83)$$

$$= -g\epsilon \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \left(-\frac{i}{\hbar}g\right)^{n-1} \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_2 \cdots \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_n \int_{-\infty}^0 dt_1 \quad (84)$$

$$\times e^{-\epsilon(|t_1|+|t_2|+\cdots+|t_n|)} T[\hat{V}_I(t_1)\hat{V}_I(t_2)\cdots\hat{V}_I(t_n)] \quad (85)$$

$$= -g\epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial(-\frac{i}{\hbar}g)} \hat{U}_\epsilon(0, -\infty) \quad (86)$$

$$= -i\hbar g\epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial g} \hat{U}_\epsilon(0, -\infty) \quad (87)$$

The final result for the commutator is:

$$[\hat{H}_0, \hat{U}_\epsilon(0, -\infty)] = -g \hat{V}_I(0) \hat{U}_\epsilon(0, -\infty) + i\hbar g\epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial g} \hat{U}_\epsilon(0, -\infty) \quad (88)$$

Substituting this result back into the expression for $(\hat{H}_0 - E_0)|\Psi_H\rangle$, we obtain:

$$(\hat{H}_0 - E_0)|\Psi_H\rangle = \left[-g \hat{V}_I(0) + i\hbar g\epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial g} \right] \hat{U}_\epsilon(0, -\infty) |\Phi_0\rangle \quad (89)$$

$$\hat{H} - E_0|\Psi_H\rangle = i\hbar g \epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial g} |\Psi_H\rangle \quad (90)$$

If we Multiply both sides by $\langle\Phi_0|$ and divide by $\langle\Phi_0|\Psi_H\rangle$, and because of $\frac{\partial}{\partial g}|\Phi\rangle = 0$ we get:

$$\frac{\langle\Phi_0|\hat{H} - E_0|\Psi_H\rangle}{\langle\Phi_0|\Psi_H\rangle} = i\hbar g \epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial g} \ln(\langle\Phi_0|\Psi_H\rangle) = E - E_0 = \Delta E \quad (91)$$

If ϵ allowed to vanish at this point, it would be tempting to conclude that $\Delta E = 0$, which is clearly not true. In fact, the amplitude $\langle\Phi_0|\Psi_H\rangle$ must acquire an infinite phase proportional to $i\epsilon^{-1}$. So $\epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial g} \ln(\langle\Phi_0|\Psi_H\rangle)$ remains finite as $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$. We manipulate the expression to obtain the final form of the Gell-Mann and Low theorem:

$$\left(\hat{H} - E_0 - i\hbar g \epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial g} \right) \frac{|\Psi_H\rangle}{\langle\Phi_0|\Psi_H\rangle} = i\hbar g \epsilon \frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial g} |\Psi_H\rangle}{\langle\Phi_0|\Psi_H\rangle} - i\hbar g \epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial g} \frac{|\Psi_H\rangle}{\langle\Phi_0|\Psi_H\rangle} = \frac{|\Psi_H\rangle}{\langle\Phi_0|\Psi_H\rangle} [i\hbar g \epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial g} \ln(\langle\Phi_0|\Psi_H\rangle)] \quad (92)$$

$$\left(\hat{H} - E_0 - i\hbar g \epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial g} \right) \frac{|\Psi_H\rangle}{\langle\Phi_0|\Psi_H\rangle} = \frac{|\Psi_H\rangle}{\langle\Phi_0|\Psi_H\rangle} (E - E_0) \quad (93)$$

we finally have:

$$\left(\hat{H} - E \right) \frac{|\Psi_H\rangle}{\langle\Phi_0|\Psi_H\rangle} = i\hbar g \epsilon \frac{\partial}{\partial g} \frac{|\Psi_H\rangle}{\langle\Phi_0|\Psi_H\rangle} \quad (94)$$

This is the Gell-Mann and Low theorem, which states that if the limit $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ exists, then the state $\frac{|\Psi_H\rangle}{\langle\Phi_0|\Psi_H\rangle}$ is an exact eigenstate of the full Hamiltonian \hat{H} with eigenvalue E . The state from Adiabatic switching need not be ground state; it can be any eigenstate of the interacting system.

3 Wick's Theorem