

# Green's functions

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# Outline

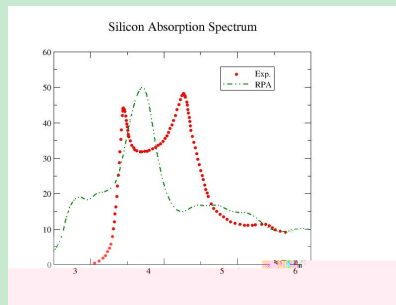
- 1 Motivation
- 2 Encouragement
- 3 Mathematics
- 4 Physics: the harmonic oscillator
- 5 Green's functions in quantum mechanics
- 6 The one-particle Green's function in detail
- 7 Conclusions

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# Why do we have to study more than DFT?

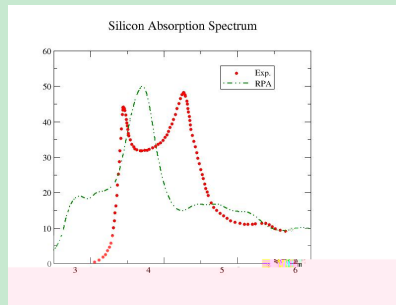
We have detected two problems with DFT:



- 1) Kohn-Sham bandgaps are much too small
  - 2) Fermi's golden rule in the independent particle picture is not reliable to calculate absorption spectra
- How can we understand this?

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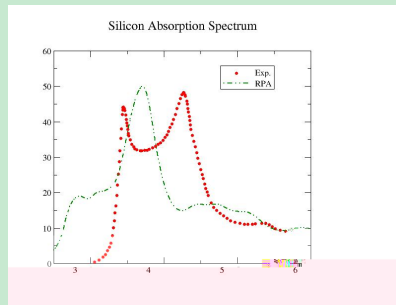
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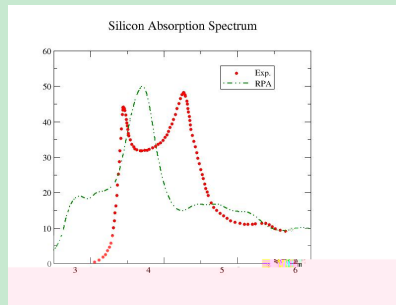


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# Beyond the ground state

Ground state calculations:

$${}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}) \rightarrow {}^{(2)}(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\implies \Delta E^{tot} = E_N^{tot,(2)} - E_N^{tot,(1)}$$

These differences are described in ground state DFT.

Spectroscopy?



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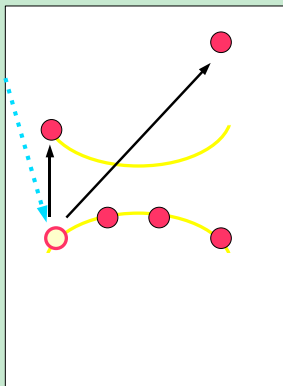
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# Spectroscopy



Spectroscopy is exciting!!!

# Spectroscopy

Excitation:  $E_N^{tot} \Rightarrow (E_N^{tot})$

or  $E_N^{tot} \Rightarrow (E_{N-1}^{tot})$ .

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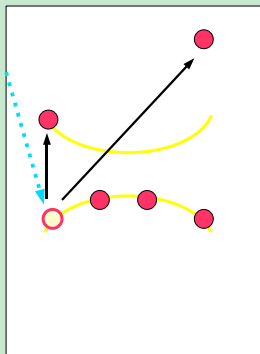
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# Back to particles?

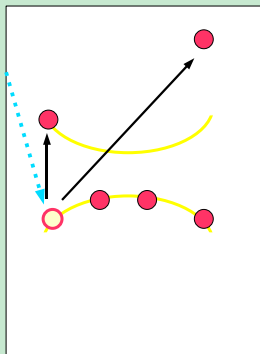


$V_{xc}(\mathbf{r}) \longrightarrow$

Non-locality  $\Sigma(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$  for exchange

Time  $\Sigma(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}', t - t')$  for response  
*between*  $(\mathbf{r})$  and the full many-body  
 wavefunction:  $(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}', t - t')$

# Back to particles?



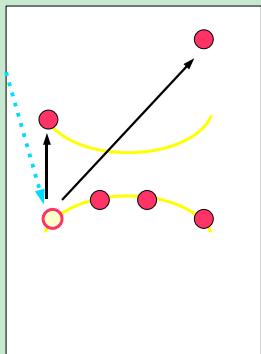
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# You can make it!

## Who invented Green's functions?



George Green, "An Essay on the Application of Mathematical Analysis to the Theory of Electricity and Magnetism"

Printed for the author by T. Wheelhouse, London. Sold by Hamilton, Adams & Co., Nottingham (1828)

## The basis.....

....after 1 year of school (from age 8 to 9) and 26 years of hard work!

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# Green's functions in mathematics

Where we met  $G$  for the first time...

Suppose we want to solve

$$\hat{D}_x f(x) = F(x).$$

$\hat{D}_x$  is a differential operator (for example,  $\hat{D}_x = d^2/dx^2 + c$ ).  $F(x)$  is a function, for example, a force. The solution of

$$\hat{D}_x G(x, y) = \delta(x - y)$$

allows us to calculate

$$f(x) = \int dy G(x, y) F(y).$$



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# Harmonic oscillator in viscous medium

One oscillator.....

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \omega_0^2 x = F(t)$$

Green's function

$$\frac{d^2 G_0(t-t_0)}{dt^2} + \omega_0^2 G_0(t-t_0) = \delta(t-t_0)$$

and solution

$$G_0(t-t_0) = \frac{\sin \omega_0(t-t_0)}{\omega_0} \Theta(t-t_0)$$

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# Harmonic oscillator in viscous medium

## Fourier Transform

use

$$\Theta(t) = \frac{i}{2} \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \frac{e^{-i\omega t}}{\omega + i\eta}.$$

and obtain

$$G_0^+(\omega) = \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0^+} \left[ \frac{1}{\omega - i\eta} + \frac{1}{\omega + i\eta} \right] \frac{1}{2\eta}$$

“Spectral Function”  $A(\omega) = -\lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{2\pi i} [G^-(\omega) - G^+(\omega)]$ :

$$A(\omega) = \frac{1}{2\eta} [(\omega - i\eta) - (\omega + i\eta)]$$

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## One oscillator...in medium

The problem:

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 2 \frac{dx}{dt} + \omega_0^2 x = F(t).$$

Fourier Transform of Green's function equation:

$$[-\omega^2 - 2i\omega + \omega_0^2] G(\omega) = 1$$

Poles at

# Harmonic oscillator in viscous medium

## One oscillator...in medium

The problem:

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 2\gamma \frac{dx}{dt} + \omega_0^2 x = F(t).$$

Fourier Transform of Green's function equation:

$$[-\omega^2 - 2i\gamma\omega + \omega_0^2] G(\omega) = 1$$

Poles at  $\omega = -i\gamma \pm \sqrt{-\gamma^2 + \omega_0^2}$ . Spectral function:

$$A(\omega) = -\frac{1}{2i\gamma} [G(\omega - i\gamma + \sqrt{\gamma^2 - \omega_0^2}) - G(\omega - i\gamma - \sqrt{\gamma^2 - \omega_0^2})] = \frac{1}{(\omega^2 - \omega_0^2)^2 + \Gamma^2(\omega)}$$

with  $\Gamma(\omega) = 2\gamma$ .

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# Harmonic oscillator in viscous medium

## Self-energy and Dyson equation

Unperturbed oscillator:

$$\left[ -\omega^2 + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right] G_0(\omega) = 1$$

...in medium:

$$\left[ -\omega^2 - 2i\gamma + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right] G(\omega) = 1$$

$$G^{-1}(\omega) = G_0^{-1}(\omega) - 2i\gamma$$

Dyson equation:

$$G(\omega) = G_0(\omega) + G_0(\omega)\Sigma(\omega)G(\omega)$$

with  $\Sigma(\omega) = 2i\gamma$  : "Self-energy".

# Harmonic oscillator in viscous medium

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# One-particle Green's function in Quantum mechanics

We want to arrive at the following problem:

$$\left[ i\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \hat{H} \right] G(t - t_0) = (t - t_0)\mathbb{1}.$$

or

$$\left[ -\hat{H}(\cdot) \right] G(\cdot) = \mathbb{1}.$$

hence

$$G(\cdot) = (-\hat{H}(\cdot))^{-1}.$$

and with  $\hat{H} = \int \sum_{\alpha} E_{\alpha} |\cdot\rangle\langle\cdot|$  (if hermitian)

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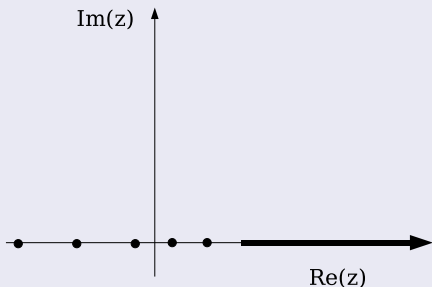
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# One-particle Green's function in Quantum mechanics

## Complex plane



Complex plane.  $G(z)$  has discrete poles and a branchcut on the real axis, and it is analytic elsewhere.

# One-particle Green's function in Quantum mechanics

## Dyson equation

$$G(z) = (z - \hat{H}(z))^{-1}.$$

If we know

$$G_0(z) = (z - \hat{H}_0(z))^{-1}$$

with  $H(z) = H_0(z) + \Sigma(z)$ :

$$G(z) = G_0(z) + G_0(z)\Sigma(z)G(z).$$

This can be a good starting point:

$$G(z) = G_0(z) + G_0(z)\Sigma(z)G_0(z) + G_0(z)\Sigma(z)G_0(z)\Sigma(z)G_0(z) + \dots$$



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# The one-particle Green's function in detail

## What is $G$ and what is $\Sigma$ ?

Definition and meaning of  $G$  (at 0 K, ground state):

$$G(\mathbf{x}, t; \mathbf{x}', t') = -i \langle \Psi_0 | T [ \psi(\mathbf{x}, t) \psi^\dagger(\mathbf{x}', t') ] | \Psi_0 \rangle$$

Insert a complete set of  $N + 1$  or  $N - 1$ -particle states. This yields

$$G(\mathbf{x}, t; \mathbf{x}', t') = -i \sum_j f_j(\mathbf{x}) f_j(\mathbf{x}') e^{-i\varepsilon_j(t-t')} \times \\ \times [\Theta(t-t')\Theta(\mu - \varepsilon_j) - \Theta(t-t)\Theta(\mu - \varepsilon_j)];$$

$\varepsilon_j = E(N + 1, j) - E(N, 0)$  or  $E(N, 0) - E(N - 1, j)$  for  $j > \mu$  ( $< \mu$ ), and

$$f_j(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} \langle N, 0 | \psi(\mathbf{x}) | N + 1, j \rangle, & j > \mu \\ \langle N - 1, j | \psi(\mathbf{x}) | N, 0 \rangle, & j < \mu \end{cases}$$

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$$f_j(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} \langle N, 0 | \psi(\mathbf{x}) | N + 1, j \rangle, & j > \mu \\ \langle N - 1, j | \psi(\mathbf{x}) | N, 0 \rangle, & j < \mu \end{cases}$$

# The one-particle Green's function in detail

## What is $G$ and what is $\Sigma$ ?

Definition and meaning of  $G$  (at 0 K, ground state):

$$G(\mathbf{x}, t; \mathbf{x}', t') = -i \langle \Psi_0 | T [ \psi(\mathbf{x}, t) \psi^\dagger(\mathbf{x}', t') ] | \Psi_0 \rangle$$

Insert a complete set of  $N + 1$  or  $N - 1$ -particle states. This yields

$$G(\mathbf{x}, t; \mathbf{x}', t') = -i \sum_j f_j(\mathbf{x}) f_j(\mathbf{x}') e^{-i\varepsilon_j(t-t')} \times \\ \times [\Theta(t-t')\Theta(\mu - \varepsilon_j) - \Theta(t-t)\Theta(\mu - \varepsilon_j)];$$

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# The one-particle Green's function in detail

## What is G? - Fourier transform

Fourier Transform as before:

$$G(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'; \mu) = \sum_j \frac{f_j(\mathbf{x}) f_j(\mathbf{x}')}{-\epsilon_j + i \operatorname{sgn}(\epsilon_j - \mu)}$$

Spectral function:

$$A(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'; \mu) = \sum_j f_j(\mathbf{x}) f_j(\mathbf{x}') (\delta(\mu - \epsilon_j))$$

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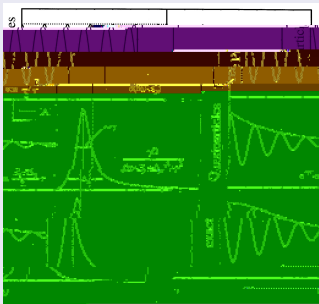
$$G(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}', t) = \sum_j \frac{f_j(\mathbf{x}) f_j(\mathbf{x}')}{-i\epsilon_j + i \operatorname{sgn}(\epsilon_j - \mu)}$$

Spectral function:

$$A(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'; \epsilon) = \sum_j f_j(\mathbf{x}) f_j(\mathbf{x}') \delta(\epsilon - \epsilon_j)$$

# The one-particle Green's function in detail

## The spectral function



Spectral function. Effects of interaction and the QP approximation. Picture copied from M. Bonitz, Quantum Kinetic Theory.

## Other quantities

Also: Charge density, density matrix, total energy,.....

# Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Encouragement
- 3 Mathematics
- 4 Physics: the harmonic oscillator
- 5 Green's functions in quantum mechanics
- 6 The one-particle Green's function in detail
- 7 **Conclusions**

# Only one things is missing.....

We know (in principle)  $G$ , but what is  $\Sigma$ ?

$G$  is all we want..... ...(although we might want  $G^{(2)}$  etc....)

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