

Screening in the reduced Hartree–Fock model

Jack Thomas

Joint work with Antoine Levitt (Universite Paris–Saclay)
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Slides are online: jack.thomaslabs.co.uk/L'Aquila

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- 2 reduced Hartree–Fock (rHF)
- 3 Screening in rHF (finite temperature & insulators)
- 4 (if time) Metals at $T = 0$

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Electrostatic Screening: $V_{\text{def}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{Q}{|\mathbf{x}|}$

- Point charge in vacuum \implies long-range Coulomb potential
- In a material \implies material reorganises itself, total potential (Coulomb + response) is screened,
- Behaviour depends on whether charge carriers are mobile,
- Empirical models:

$$V_{\text{tot}} \approx \epsilon^{-1} V_{\text{def}}$$

Vacuum

$$V_{\text{tot}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{Q}{|\mathbf{x}|},$$

Coulomb potential

Total screening

$$V_{\text{tot}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{Q}{|\mathbf{x}|} e^{-k|\mathbf{x}|}$$

Yukawa potential with screening length k^{-1}

Partial screening

$$V_{\text{tot}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{Q}{\epsilon_r |\mathbf{x}|}$$

Dielectric constant of the material $\epsilon_r > 1$

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Finite Systems

Total potential V_{tot} satisfies:

$$V_{\text{tot}} = V_{\text{ext}} + v_C F_{\varepsilon_F}(V_{\text{tot}})$$

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^3} F_{\varepsilon_F}(V_{\text{tot}}) = N_{\text{el}}$$

where: N_{el} – number of electrons,

V_{ext} – external potential

- Hartree
- RPA
- Schrödinger–Poisson
- KSDFT w/o XC
- Hartree–Fock w/o exchange

Coulomb operator:

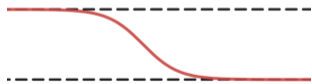
$$v_C \rho = |\cdot|^{-1} \star \rho$$

Potential-to-density:

$$F_{\varepsilon_F}(V) = \text{den } f_{\varepsilon_F}(-\Delta + V)$$

$$f_{\varepsilon_F}(x) = \left(1 + e^{\frac{x - \varepsilon_F}{k_B T}}\right)^{-1}$$

Fermi–Dirac distribution:



k_B - Boltzmann const.

T - temperature

ε_F - Fermi level



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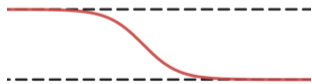
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reduced Hartree–Fock (rHF) - periodic problem

$$\mathcal{E}(\gamma) = \text{Tr} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \Delta \gamma \right) + \int V_{\text{ext}} \rho_\gamma + \frac{1}{2} \int \rho_\gamma v_c \rho_\gamma$$

Convex variational problem

- existence γ and uniqueness ρ_γ
(neutral or positively charged systems)

[J-P Solovej, 1991]

- thermodynamic limit / periodic problem

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reduced Hartree–Fock (rHF) – defect problem

$\implies W_{\text{per}} = W_{\text{nucl}} + v_{\text{per}} F_{\varepsilon_F}(W_{\text{per}})$
unique solution of the periodic rHF problem

Defect Problem

Change in total potential V due to defect potential V_{def} :

$$V = V_{\text{def}} + v_c(\rho_V - \rho_0)$$
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Linearise:

$$V = V_{\text{def}} + v_c \chi_0 V + \mathcal{O}(\|V_{\text{def}}\|^2)$$
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$$V \approx \epsilon^{-1} V_{\text{def}}$$

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Screening in rHF: finite temperature & insulators

- $H_0 := -\Delta + W_{\text{per}}$, $H_{0,q} = \sum_n \varepsilon_{nq} |u_{nq}\rangle \langle u_{nq}|$
- Look at $\chi_0 = F'_{\varepsilon_F}(W_{\text{per}})$: Use

$$F_{\varepsilon_F}(W_{\text{per}} + V) = \oint_{\mathcal{C}} f_{\varepsilon_F}(z) (z - H_0 - V)^{-1} \frac{dz}{2\pi i}$$

to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \langle W_1, \chi_{0,q} W_2 \rangle &= \sum_{nm} \int_{\mathcal{B}} \frac{f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{n,k+q}) - f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{mk})}{\varepsilon_{n,k+q} - \varepsilon_{mk}} \langle W_1 u_{mk}, u_{n,k+q} \rangle \langle u_{n,k+q}, W_2 u_{mk} \rangle dk \\ &\approx \sum_n \int_{\mathcal{B}} f'_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{nk}) |u_{nk}|^2 dk + \sum_{n \neq m} \int_{\mathcal{B}} \frac{f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{nk}) - f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{mk})}{(\varepsilon_{n,k} - \varepsilon_{mk})^3} |\langle q \cdot \nabla u_{mk}, u_{nk} \rangle|^2 dk \\ &= -\text{DOS} - q^T L q \end{aligned}$$

where $\text{DOS} \geq 0$ and $0 \leq L \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^3$.

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Notation:

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$$\langle W_1, \chi_{0,q} W_2 \rangle = \sum_{nm} \int_{\mathcal{B}} \frac{f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{n,k+q}) - f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{mk})}{\varepsilon_{n,k+q} - \varepsilon_{mk}} \langle W_1 u_{mk}, u_{n,k+q} \rangle \langle u_{n,k+q}, W_2 u_{mk} \rangle dk \\ \approx \sum_n \int_{\mathcal{B}} f'_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{nk}) |u_{nk}|^2 dk + \sum_{n \neq m} \int_{\mathcal{B}} \frac{f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{nk}) - f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{mk})}{(\varepsilon_{n,k} - \varepsilon_{mk})^3} |\langle q \cdot \nabla u_{mk}, u_{nk} \rangle|^2 dk \\ = -\text{DOS} - q^T L q$$

where $\text{DOS} \geq 0$ and $0 \leq L \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^3$.

Screening in rHF: finite temperature & insulators

- $H_0 := -\Delta + W_{\text{per}}$, $H_{0,q} = \sum_n \varepsilon_{nq} |u_{nq}\rangle \langle u_{nq}|$
- Look at $\chi_0 = F'_{\varepsilon_F}(W_{\text{per}})$: Use

$$F_{\varepsilon_F}(W_{\text{per}} + V) = \oint_{\mathcal{C}} f_{\varepsilon_F}(z) (z - H_0 - V)^{-1} \frac{dz}{2\pi i}$$

to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \langle W_1, \chi_{0,q} W_2 \rangle &= \sum_{nm} \int_{\mathcal{B}} \frac{f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{n,k+q}) - f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{mk})}{\varepsilon_{n,k+q} - \varepsilon_{mk}} \langle W_1 u_{mk}, u_{n,k+q} \rangle \langle u_{n,k+q}, W_2 u_{mk} \rangle dk \\ &\approx \sum_n \int_{\mathcal{B}} f'_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{nk}) |u_{nk}|^2 dk + \sum_{n \neq m} \int_{\mathcal{B}} \frac{f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{nk}) - f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{mk})}{(\varepsilon_{n,k} - \varepsilon_{mk})^3} |\langle q \cdot \nabla u_{mk}, u_{nk} \rangle|^2 dk \\ &= -\text{DOS} - q^T L q \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} V &= V_{\text{def}} + v_c (\rho_V - \rho_0) \\ &\approx (1 - v_c \chi_0)^{-1} V_{\text{def}} \end{aligned}$$

Notation:

$$\begin{aligned} V &= \int_{\mathcal{B}} V_q(x) e^{iq \cdot x} dq \\ AV &= \int_{\mathcal{B}} (A_q V_q)(x) e^{iq \cdot x} dq \end{aligned}$$

$$V(V_{\text{def}}) \approx \varepsilon^{-1} V_{\text{def}} = (\mathbf{1} - v_c \chi_0)^{-1} V_{\text{def}}$$

- Finite temperature: $\chi_0(q) \approx -\text{DOS}$ and $V_{\text{def}} = \frac{Q}{|x|}$, then

$$\widehat{V}(q) = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{\text{DOS}}{|q|^2}} \frac{Q}{|q|^2} = \frac{Q}{|q|^2 + \text{DOS}} \quad \text{i.e.} \quad V = Q \frac{e^{-\sqrt{\text{DOS}}|x|}}{|x|}$$

small defects are totally screened

[A. Levitt, 2020]

- Insulators: $\chi_0(q) \approx -q^T L q$ and

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partial screening

[É. Cancès, M. Lewin, 2010]

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Application: Interatomic Force Constants, smeared nuclei

C_{IJ} := derivative of the force on atom I with respect to the position of atom J :

$$\nu_{\text{nucl}} = \sum_I Z_I m(\cdot - R_I), \quad C_{IJ} = \frac{\partial F_I}{\partial R_J} = Z_I Z_J \langle \nabla m(\cdot - R_I), \epsilon^{-1} v_c \nabla m(\cdot - R_J) \rangle$$

Theorem (E. Cancès, A. Levitt, JT, '25)

At finite temperature $T > 0$:

$$|C_{IJ}| \leq C e^{-\eta |R_I - R_J|}$$

with $\eta \geq c \min\{1, T\}$.

Theorem (E. Cancès, A. Levitt, JT, '25)

For insulators with $T = 0$,

$$C_{IJ} = (Z_I^*)^T \nabla^2 \Phi_{M-1}(R_I - R_J) Z_J^* + \mathcal{O}(|R_I - R_J|^{-4})$$

where $Z^* \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$ are *Born effective charges*,

$\Phi_{M-1}(x) := \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det M}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^T M^{-1} x}}$ is the *screened Coulomb operator*, and $M \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{3 \times 3}$ is the *macroscopic dielectric permittivity*, $M \geq 1$.

On arXiv “soon”

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- 1 Screening
- 2 reduced Hartree–Fock (rHF)
- 3 Screening in rHF (finite temperature & insulators)
- 4 (if time) Metals at $T = 0$

Metals at $T = 0$: Free electron gas

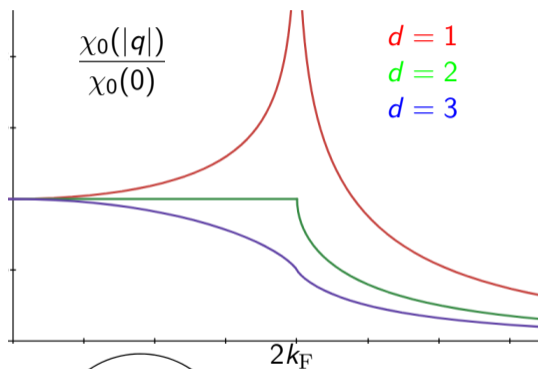
$$\chi_0(\mathbf{q}) = \int_B \frac{f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}) - f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}})}{\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}} |\langle u_{\mathbf{k}}, u_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} \rangle|^2 d\mathbf{k}$$

Free electron gas, $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} = |\mathbf{k}|^2$

$$V(V_{\text{def}}) \approx \varepsilon^{-1} V_{\text{def}} = (1 - v_c \chi_0)^{-1} \frac{Q}{|x|}$$

$$\sim Q \frac{\sin(2k_F|x| + (d-2)\frac{\pi}{2})}{|x|^d}$$

as $|x| \rightarrow \infty$.



Friedel oscillations

$$\{k: \varepsilon_k = \varepsilon_F =: (k_F)^2\}$$

skip to end

Scattering Theory: Eigenfunction Expansions

- Want: $\rho_V - \rho_0$,

$$\rho_0(x) = f_{\varepsilon_F}(H_0)(x, x) = \int_B f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_k) |\Psi_k(x)|^2 dk$$
$$\rho_V(x) \stackrel{?}{=} \sum_{j: \lambda_j \leq \varepsilon_F} |\varphi_j(x)|^2 + \int_B f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_k) |\Psi_k^+(x)|^2 dk$$

- Idea: $\Psi_k^+ = \Omega^+ \Psi_k$ that “looks like” Ψ_k in the distant past:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \left(e^{-iHt} \Psi_k^+ - e^{-iH_0 t} \Psi_k \right) = 0$$

- “ $\Omega^+ = \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} e^{iHt} e^{-iH_0 t}$ ”, $\Omega^+ H = H_0 \Omega^+$

- Lippmann-Schwinger: $\Psi_k^+ = \Psi_k + G_0(\varepsilon_k) V \Psi_k^+$

Proof

Notation:

$$H_0 = -\Delta + W_{\text{per}},$$

$$\Psi_k = u_k(x) e^{ik \cdot x} \text{ with}$$

$$H_0 \Psi_k = \varepsilon_k \Psi_k,$$

$$G_0(E) := (E + i0^+ - H_0)^{-1}$$

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Scattering Theory: Eigenfunction Expansions

- For $V \in L^p \cap L^{\frac{d}{d-1}}$, $\exists! \Psi_k^+$ with $|V|^{\frac{p}{2}} \Psi_k^+ \in L^2$ ($1 \leq p < \frac{d}{d-1}$)

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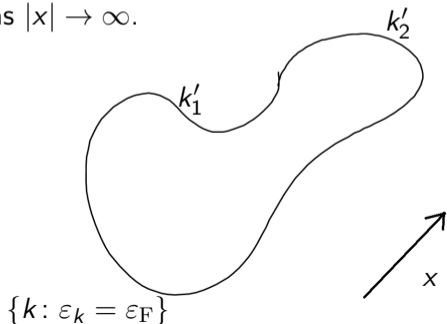
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- Asymptotics Green's function \implies

$$\Psi_k^+(x) \approx \Psi_k(x) + \sum_{k'} c_{k'} \frac{e^{ik' \cdot x}}{|x|^{\frac{d-1}{2}}} \underbrace{\langle \Psi_{k'} | V | \Psi_k^+ \rangle}_{=: T(k', k)}$$

as $|x| \rightarrow \infty$.



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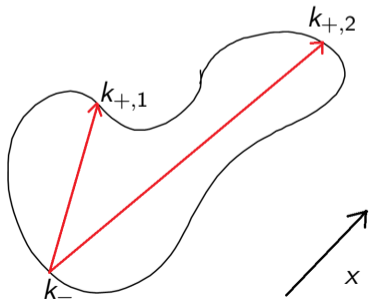
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Scattering Theory: Eigenfunction Expansions

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_V(x) - \rho_0(x) &= \int_B f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_k) \left[|\Psi_k^+|^2 - |\Psi_k^-|^2 \right] dk = \dots = \\ &= C \frac{\text{Re}}{|x|^d} \sum_{k_-, k_+} c_{k_-} c_{k_+} \Psi_{k_+}(x) T(k_+, k_-) \overline{\Psi_{k_-}(x)} \end{aligned}$$

as $|x| \rightarrow \infty$.



more details

Notation:

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Summary

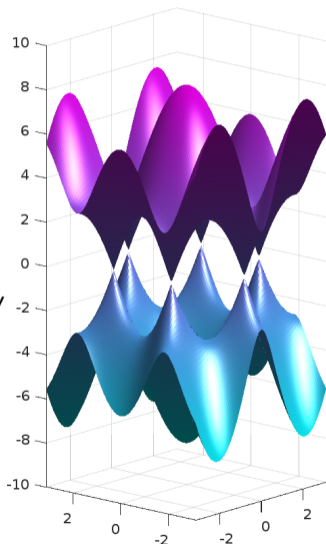
- Finite temperature, insulators, metals at zero temperature exhibit different screening behaviour
- Scattering theory \implies decay of $\rho_V - \rho_0$

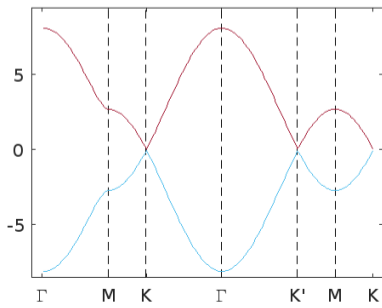
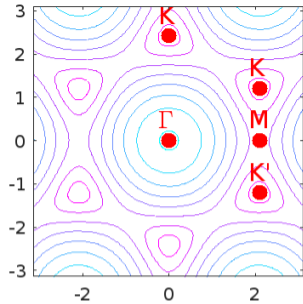
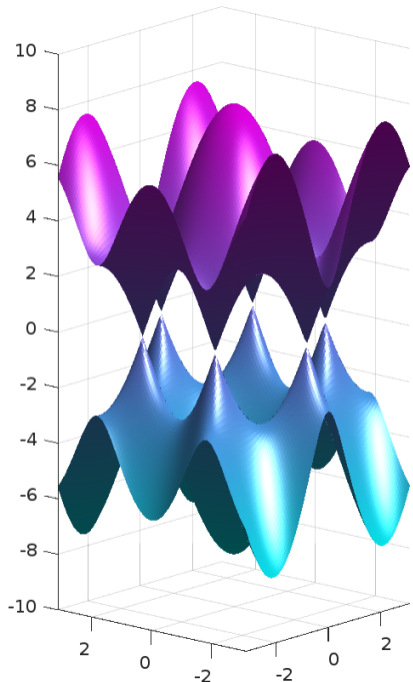
Next:

- fixed point arguments to solve $V = V_{\text{def}} + v_c(\rho_V - \rho_0)$,
- More general Fermi surfaces,
<https://www.phys.ufl.edu/fermisurface/>
- e.g. Graphene,

Thank you for your attention!

Slides are online: jack.thomaslabs.co.uk/L'Aquila





Ideas in the proof

$$\begin{aligned}
 \chi_0 V &= \oint_{\mathcal{C}} f_{\varepsilon_F}(z) R_z V R_z(x, x) \frac{dz}{2\pi i} \\
 &= \oint_{\mathcal{C}} f_{\varepsilon_F}(z) \int_B R_z e^{iq \cdot x} V_q R_z(x, x) dq \frac{dz}{2\pi i} \\
 &= \oint_{\mathcal{C}} f_{\varepsilon_F}(z) \int_B e^{iq \cdot x} [e^{-iq \cdot x} R_z e^{iq \cdot x}] V_q R_z(x, x) dq \frac{dz}{2\pi i} \\
 &= \int_B e^{iq \cdot x} \left[\oint_{\mathcal{C}} f_{\varepsilon_F}(z) \int_B R_{z, k+q} V_q R_{z, k}(x, x) dk \frac{dz}{2\pi i} \right] dq
 \end{aligned}$$

$$V = V_{\text{def}} + v_c(\rho_V - \rho_0)$$

Notation:

$$V = \int_B V_q(x) e^{iq \cdot x} dq$$

$$AV = \int_B (A_q V_q)(x) e^{iq \cdot x} dq$$

$$H_0 := -\Delta + W_{\text{per}}$$

$$H_{0,q} = \sum_n \varepsilon_{nq} |u_{nq}\rangle \langle u_{nq}|$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \chi_{0,q} V &= \sum_{nm} \oint_{\mathcal{C}} \int_B \frac{f_{\varepsilon_F}(z)}{(z - \varepsilon_{n, k+q})(z - \varepsilon_{mk})} |u_{n, k+q}\rangle \langle u_{n, k+q}| V |u_{mk}\rangle \langle u_{mk}|(x, x) dk \frac{dz}{2\pi i} \\
 &= \sum_{nm} \int_B \frac{f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{n, k+q}) - f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_{mk})}{\varepsilon_{n, k+q} - \varepsilon_{mk}} |u_{n, k+q}\rangle \langle u_{n, k+q}| V |u_{mk}\rangle \langle u_{mk}|(x, x) dk
 \end{aligned}$$

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Scattering Theory: Eigenfunction Expansions

- Want: $\rho_V - \rho_0$,

$$\rho_0(x) = f_{\varepsilon_F}(H_0)(x, x) = \int_B f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_k) |\Psi_k(x)|^2 dk$$

$$\rho_V(x) \stackrel{?}{=} \sum_{j: \lambda_j \leq \varepsilon_F} |\varphi_j(x)|^2 + \int_B f_{\varepsilon_F}(\varepsilon_k) |\Psi_k^+(x)|^2 dk$$

- Idea: $\Psi_k^+ = \Omega^+ \Psi_k$ that “looks like” Ψ_k in the distant past:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \left(e^{-iHt} \Psi_k^+ - e^{-iH_0 t} \Psi_k \right) = 0$$

- “ $\Omega^+ = \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} e^{iHt} e^{-iH_0 t}$ ”, $\Omega^+ H = H_0 \Omega^+$

- Lippmann-Schwinger: $\Psi_k^+ = \Psi_k + G_0(\varepsilon_k) V \Psi_k^+$

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Notation:

$$H_0 = -\Delta + W_{\text{per}},$$

$$\Psi_k = u_k(x) e^{ik \cdot x} \text{ with}$$

$$H_0 \Psi_k = \varepsilon_k \Psi_k,$$

$$G_0(E) := (E + i0^+ - H_0)^{-1}$$

$$H = H_0 + V,$$

$$G(E) := (E + i0^+ - H)^{-1}$$

$$H \varphi_i = \lambda_i \varphi_i$$

Scattering Theory: Eigenfunction Expansions

$$\Omega^+ := \lim_{\eta \downarrow 0} \int_{-\infty}^0 \eta e^{\eta t} e^{iHt} e^{-iH_0 t} dt$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Psi_k^+ &= \lim_{\eta \downarrow 0} \int_{-\infty}^0 \eta e^{\eta t} e^{iHt} e^{-iH_0 t} \Psi_k dt \\ &= \lim_{\eta \downarrow 0} \eta \int_{-\infty}^0 e^{-i(\varepsilon_k + i\eta - H)t} \Psi_k dt \\ &= \lim_{\eta \downarrow 0} \frac{i\eta}{\varepsilon_k + i\eta - H} \Psi_k =: \lim_{\eta \downarrow 0} i\eta G(\varepsilon_k + i\eta) \Psi_k \\ &= \lim_{\eta \downarrow 0} i\eta \left[G_0(\varepsilon_k + i\eta) + G_0(\varepsilon_k + i\eta) V G_0(\varepsilon_k + i\eta) \right] \Psi_k \\ &= \Psi_k + G_0(\varepsilon_k + i0^+) V \Psi_k^+\end{aligned}$$

back

Notation:

$$H_0 = -\Delta + W_{\text{per}},$$

$$\Psi_k = u_k(x) e^{ik \cdot x} \text{ with}$$

$$H_0 \Psi_k = \varepsilon_k \Psi_k,$$

$$G_0(E) := (E + i0^+ - H_0)^{-1}$$

$$H = H_0 + V,$$

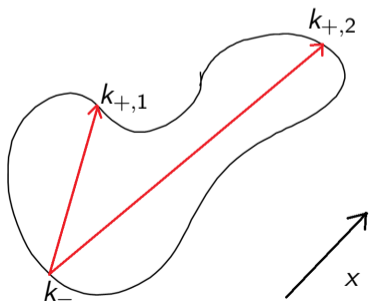
$$G(E) := (E + i0^+ - H)^{-1}$$

$$H\varphi_i = \lambda_i \varphi_i$$

Scattering Theory: Eigenfunction Expansions

Unitarity of T : if $\varepsilon_k = \varepsilon_{k'} = \varepsilon$, then

$$T(k, k') - \overline{T(k', k)} = \frac{2\pi i}{|\mathcal{B}|} \int_{\varepsilon_{k''}=\varepsilon} T(k, k'') T(k'', k') \frac{dk''}{|\nabla \varepsilon_{k''}|}$$



back

Notation:

$$H_0 = -\Delta + W_{\text{per}},$$

$$\Psi_k = u_k(x) e^{ik \cdot x} \text{ with}$$

$$H_0 \Psi_k = \varepsilon_k \Psi_k,$$

$$G_0(E) := (E + i0^+ - H_0)^{-1}$$

$$H = H_0 + V,$$

$$G(E) := (E + i0^+ - H)^{-1}$$

$$H\varphi_i = \lambda_i \varphi_i$$

$$\Psi_k^+ := \Omega^+ \Psi_k$$

$$\Psi_k^+ = \Psi_k + G_0(\varepsilon_k) V \Psi_k^+$$

$$T(k', k) := \langle \Psi_{k'}^+ | V | \Psi_k^+ \rangle$$

