

Linear response - Kubo formula

system with small external perturbation

$$\tilde{\mathcal{H}} = \mathcal{H} + \mathcal{H}'(t) = \mathcal{H} + \int d^3r \hat{A}(\vec{r}) h(\vec{r}, t) e^{\eta t}$$

unperturbed system
coupling to field operators
perturbation
adiabatic switching on
 $\eta = 0_+$

measure: $\langle \hat{B}(\vec{r}, t) \rangle = \text{tr}(\hat{\rho}(t) \hat{B}(\vec{r}))$ density matrix $\hat{\rho}(t)$

linear response \longrightarrow $\langle \hat{B}(\vec{r}, t) \rangle = \int dt' \int d^3r' \chi_{BA}(\vec{r} - \vec{r}', t - t') h(\vec{r}', t')$

Kubo formula

$$\chi_{BA}(\vec{r} - \vec{r}', t - t') = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \Theta(t - t') \langle [\hat{B}_H(\vec{r}, t), \hat{A}_H(\vec{r}', t')] \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$$

$$\hat{A}_H(\vec{r}, t) = e^{i\mathcal{H}t/\hbar} \hat{A}(\vec{r}) e^{-i\mathcal{H}t/\hbar} \quad \text{Heisenberg representation}$$

Linear response - Kubo formula

determine density matrix $\hat{\rho}(t)$

equation of motion: $i\hbar \frac{\partial \hat{\rho}}{\partial t} = -[\hat{\rho}, \tilde{\mathcal{H}}] = -[\hat{\rho}, \mathcal{H} + \mathcal{H}']$ time-dependent
perturbation theory

$\hat{\rho} = \hat{\rho}_0 + \delta\hat{\rho}(t)$ with unperturbed
(equilibrium) $\hat{\rho}_0 = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-\beta \mathcal{H}}$ $Z = \text{tr} e^{-\beta \mathcal{H}}$

interaction representation

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \delta\hat{\rho} = -[\delta\hat{\rho}, \mathcal{H}] - [\hat{\rho}_0, \mathcal{H}'] + \dots$$

$$\delta\hat{\rho}(t) = e^{-i\mathcal{H}t/\hbar} \hat{y}(t) e^{i\mathcal{H}t/\hbar}$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \delta\hat{\rho} = -[\delta\hat{\rho}, \mathcal{H}] + e^{-i\mathcal{H}t/\hbar} \left\{ i\hbar \frac{\partial \hat{y}(t)}{\partial t} \right\} e^{i\mathcal{H}t/\hbar}$$

→ $i\hbar \frac{\partial \hat{y}(t)}{\partial t} = -[\hat{\rho}_0, \mathcal{H}'_{int}(t)]$ with $\mathcal{H}'_{int}(t) = e^{i\mathcal{H}t/\hbar} \mathcal{H}' e^{-i\mathcal{H}t/\hbar}$

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formal solution: $\hat{y}(t) = \frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^t dt' [\hat{\rho}_0, \mathcal{H}'_{int}(t')]$

$$\langle \hat{B}(\vec{r}, t) \rangle = \underbrace{tr \left\{ \hat{\rho}_0 \hat{B}(\vec{r}) \right\}}_0 + \underbrace{tr \left\{ \delta \hat{\rho}(\vec{r}, t) \hat{B}(\vec{r}) \right\}}_{\substack{0 \\ \text{assumption}}} \quad \downarrow \quad tr \left\{ \frac{i}{\hbar} e^{-i\mathcal{H}t/\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^t dt' [\hat{\rho}_0, \mathcal{H}'_{int}(t')] e^{i\mathcal{H}t/\hbar} \hat{B}(\vec{r}) \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \hat{B}(\vec{r}, t) \rangle &= -\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^t dt' \int d^3r' tr \left\{ \hat{\rho}_0 [\hat{B}_H(\vec{r}, t), \hat{A}_H(\vec{r}', t')] \right\} h(\vec{r}', t') e^{\eta t'} \\ &= \int dt' \int d^3r' \chi_{BA}(\vec{r} - \vec{r}', t - t') h(\vec{r}', t') \end{aligned}$$

Kubo
formula



$$\chi_{BA}(\vec{r} - \vec{r}', t - t') = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \Theta(t - t') \langle [\hat{B}_H(\vec{r}, t), \hat{A}_H(\vec{r}', t')] \rangle$$

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examples

magnetic susceptibility

perturbation $\mathcal{H}' = - \int d^3r \mu_B \hat{S}^z(\vec{r}) h(\vec{r}, t)$

spin \hat{S}^z magnetic field h

measure magnetization $\hat{M}(\vec{r}) = \mu_B \hat{S}^z(\vec{r})$

$$\chi_{zz}(\vec{r} - \vec{r}', t - t') = \frac{i}{\hbar} \Theta(t - t') \mu_B^2 \langle [\hat{S}_H^z(\vec{r}, t), \hat{S}_H^z(\vec{r}', t')] \rangle$$

dielectric susceptibility

perturbation $\mathcal{H}' = \int d^3r e \hat{n}(\vec{r}) \phi(\vec{r}, t)$

charge density \hat{n} scalar potential ϕ

measure charge density $e \hat{n}(\vec{r})$

$$\chi_e(\vec{r} - \vec{r}', t - t') = -\frac{i}{\hbar} \Theta(t - t') e^2 \langle [\hat{n}_H(\vec{r}, t), \hat{n}_H(\vec{r}', t')] \rangle$$