

Radiation and initial-value problems

Radiation from $g(\eta, t) \in \mathbb{R}$ in homogeneous, isotropic, non-dispersive and non-attenuating media (e.g., free space)

The real-valued radiated fields satisfy

$$\left(\nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right) U(\eta, t) = g(\eta, t) \quad (1)$$

where c = velocity of wave propagation in the host medium

$$\text{Supp } g = S_0 = \{ \eta \in \mathbb{R}^3, t \in [0, T_0] \} \quad , \quad \mathbb{R}^3 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$$

$$\int_0^{T_0} dt \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} d\eta |g(\eta, t)|^2 < +\infty.$$

• Results will be valid for point-delta sources, and for $T_0 \rightarrow \infty$.

• Any element in the kernel of $\left(\nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right)$ is also a solution of (1)

- Unique solution through initial conditions.

$$U(r, t) \Big|_{t=0} = U_0(r) \quad , \quad \frac{\partial U(r, t)}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=0} = U_1(r).$$

Cauchy conditions

U_0, U_1 arbitrary real valued functions.

- Causality

Solution U_+ to vanish prior to the turn-on time of the source ($t=0$).

So the causal solution satisfies.

$$U_+(r, t) \Big|_{t=0} = 0 \quad , \quad \frac{\partial U_+(r, t)}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=0} = 0. \quad (2)$$

I. Problem (1) with conditions (2) is called the radiation problem

II. Problem (1) with $g=0$ but arbitrary initial conditions is called initial-value problem

Fourier representation.

Assume $f(\bar{r}, t)$ has a temporal Fourier transform

$$F(\bar{r}, \omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\bar{r}, t) e^{i\omega t} dt$$

and that F has a spatial Fourier transform

$$\tilde{F}(\bar{s}, \omega) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} F(\bar{r}, \omega) e^{-i\bar{s} \cdot \bar{r}} d^3 \bar{r}$$

Inversion:

$$f(\bar{r}, t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(\bar{r}, \omega) e^{-i\omega t} d\omega$$

$$F(\bar{r}, \omega) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \tilde{F}(\bar{s}, \omega) e^{i\bar{s} \cdot \bar{r}} d^3 \bar{s}$$

Combination of temporal and spatial transforms

$$f(\bar{r}, t) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \tilde{F}(\bar{s}, \omega) e^{i(\bar{s} \cdot \bar{r} - \omega t)}$$

$$\tilde{F}(\bar{s}, \omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} f(\bar{r}, t) e^{-i(\bar{s} \cdot \bar{r} - \omega t)} d^3 \bar{r}$$

We have (in the sense of distributions)

$$\frac{\partial^n}{\partial t^n} f(\bar{r}, t) \iff (-i\omega)^n F(\bar{r}, \omega)$$

$$\frac{\partial^n}{\partial x^n} F(\bar{r}, \omega) \iff (iS_x)^n \tilde{F}(\bar{S}, \omega)$$

where x is any of the Cartesian components of \bar{r} .

Dirac delta functions

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t) \phi(t) dt = \phi(0)$$

\bar{r} is smooth test

$$\int \delta(\bar{r}) \chi(\bar{r}) d^3\bar{r} = \chi(0) \quad \text{functions } \phi(t), \chi(\bar{r})$$

Fourier transforms of delta functions

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t) e^{i\omega t} dt = 1, \quad \int \delta(\bar{r}) e^{-i\bar{S}\cdot\bar{r}} d^3\bar{r} = 1.$$

Inverse transform imply

$$\delta(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-i\omega t} d\omega$$

$$\delta(\bar{r}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int e^{i\bar{S}\cdot\bar{r}} d^3\bar{S}$$

(*)

1D initial value problem

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right) U(z,t) = 0. \\ U(z,t) \Big|_{t=0} = U_0(z), \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} U(z,t) \Big|_{t=0} = U_1(z) \end{array} \right.$$

General solution

$$U(z,t) = f(z-ct) + g(z+ct), \quad f, g \in C^2 \quad (3)$$

where f, g need to be determined from the initial conditions by.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} f(z) + g(z) = U_0(z) \\ -\frac{\partial}{\partial z} f + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} g = \frac{1}{c} U_1(z) \end{array} \right. \iff \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \tilde{f}(s) + \tilde{g}(s) = \tilde{U}_0(s) \\ -is\tilde{f}(s) + is\tilde{g}(s) = \frac{1}{c}\tilde{U}_1(s) \end{array} \right.$$

where in this case

$$\tilde{f}(s) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(z) e^{-isz} dz -$$

1D Spatial Fourier transform

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \tilde{f}(s) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\tilde{U}_0(s) + \frac{i}{cs} \tilde{U}_1(s) \right] \\ \tilde{g}(s) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\tilde{U}_0(s) - \frac{i}{cs} \tilde{U}_1(s) \right] \end{array} \right\} \quad (4)$$

From (3) & (4) we get the solution is given by

$$U(z, t) = f(z - ct) + g(z + ct)$$

with

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\tilde{U}_0(s) + \frac{i}{cs} \tilde{U}_1(s) \right) e^{isz} dz$$

$$g(z) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\tilde{U}_0(s) - \frac{i}{cs} \tilde{U}_1(s) \right) e^{isz} dz$$

Green functions

A Green function of the wave equation is defined to be any solution of (1) for $\mathcal{I}(\bar{r}, t)$ given by $\mathcal{I}(\bar{r}, t) = \delta(\bar{r} - \bar{r}') \delta(t - t')$, where \bar{r}', t' are free parameters that can assume any value in space-time.

$g(\bar{r}, \bar{r}', t, t')$ - Green function if

$$\left(\nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right) g(\bar{r}, \bar{r}', t, t') = \delta(\bar{r} - \bar{r}') \delta(t - t') \quad (5)$$

g - Field radiated by an impulsive source located at \bar{r}', t'

Homogeneity of space-time imply that

$$g(\bar{r}, \bar{r}', t, t') = g(\underbrace{\bar{r} - \bar{r}'}_{\bar{R}}, \underbrace{t - t'}_{\tau})$$

(5) becomes

$$\left(\nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right) g(\bar{R}, \tau) = \delta(\bar{R}) \delta(\tau) \quad (6)$$

Green functions are not unique.

(Any function in the kernel of $\left(\nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right)$ is a solution)

$g(\bar{R}, \tau)$ uniquely determined by Cauchy conditions

Fourier transform of (6)

$$\left(\nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right) g(\bar{R}, \tau) \iff \left(-s^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \right) \tilde{G}(\bar{s}, \omega)$$

where $s^2 = \bar{s} \cdot \bar{s}$.

Thus (6) implies

$$(-s^2 + k^2) \tilde{G}(\bar{s}, \omega) = 1 \quad , \quad k = \frac{\omega}{c} \quad (\text{wave number})$$

Thus we obtain

$$g(R, z) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^4} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \int \frac{e^{i(\vec{s} \cdot \vec{R} - \omega z)} d^3s}{-\omega^2 + k^2} \quad (7)$$

Retarded and advanced Green functions

The Fourier integral representation (7) does not

Uniquely define a fundamental solution !!

Improper integral - Poles at $k = \pm \omega$.

- Necessary to deform the ω -contour to avoid the poles \rightarrow each contour will give a different Green function

Causal Green function (Retarded Green function)

Vanishes for $z < 0 \Rightarrow$ homogeneous Cauchy conditions at $z=0$.

- Obtained from deforming the ω integration contour in (7) to lie above the poles.
If $z < 0$, the contour can be closed in the upper half plane and from Cauchy's integral theorem we have

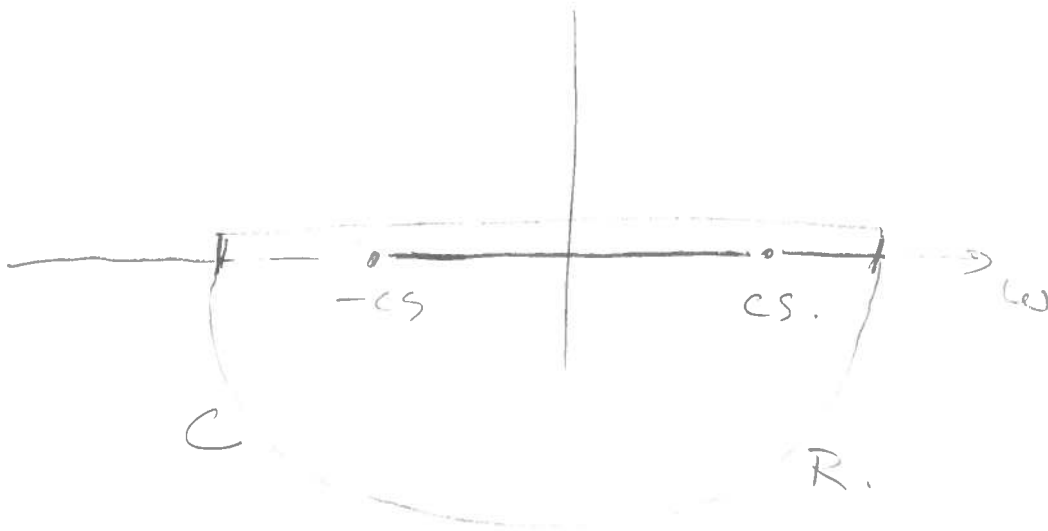
that the integral vanishes and thus

$$g(\bar{R}, z) = 0 \quad \text{for } z < 0 \quad (\text{Causality})$$

For $z > 0$, we close the ω integration contour in the lower half plane and obtain.

$$g_+(\bar{R}, z) = \frac{c^2}{(2\pi)^4} \int d^3s e^{i\vec{s} \cdot \bar{R}} \int_C \frac{e^{-i\omega z}}{\omega^2 - c^2 s^2} d\omega \quad (8)$$

where C is the causal contour.



Evaluate (8) by using residues + theorem

$$g_+(\bar{R}, z) = -\frac{c}{(2\pi)^3} \int e^{i\vec{s} \cdot \bar{R}} \frac{\sin(cs z)}{s} d^3s$$

Change of variable in the integral

Coterminal - Spherical (Polar axis along \bar{R})

$$d^3s = s^2 \sin\theta \cdot ds d\phi d\theta$$

$$\vec{s} \cdot \vec{R} = s \cdot R \cdot \cos\theta \quad (\theta - \text{polar angle of } \vec{s})$$

$$g_+(\vec{R}, z) = -\frac{c}{(2\pi)^2} \int_0^\infty s \sin(cs z) \int_0^\pi e^{i s R \cos\theta} \sin\theta d\theta ds$$

$$= -\frac{c}{(2\pi)^2 R} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \sin(cs z) \sin(sR) ds$$

$$= -\frac{1}{(2\pi)^2 R} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \sin(s z) \sin\left(s \frac{R}{c}\right) ds$$

Euler identity

$$\sin(sz) = \frac{e^{isz} - e^{-isz}}{2i}$$

$$\sin\left(s \frac{R}{c}\right) = \frac{e^{isR/c} - e^{-isR/c}}{2i}$$

$$\sin(sz) \sin\left(s \frac{R}{c}\right) = \frac{e^{is(z-R/c)} + e^{-is(z-R/c)}}{2i} \cdot \frac{e^{is(z+R/c)} - e^{-is(z+R/c)}}{2i}$$

From (*) we get, by using $z \gg R$,

$$g_+(\vec{R}, z) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\delta(z - R/c)}{R} \quad (9)$$

Retarded Green function

$$(1b) \quad \begin{cases} g_+(R, z) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\delta(z - R/c)}{R}, & z > 0 \\ g_+(R, z) = 0 & \text{for } z < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$g_+(R, z) = g_+(\bar{r}, \bar{r}', t - t') \quad \text{— field radiated}$$

from an impulsive source located at space-time point \bar{r}', t' . This field is observed at the space point \bar{r} at $z = \frac{R}{c} \Rightarrow t = t' + \frac{R}{c}$

$t = t' + \frac{|\bar{r} - \bar{r}'|}{c}$, i.e. the observation is retarded

by the distance between the two field points/divide by the velocity c of the host medium.

⊙ Another time-domain Green function

$$g_-(R, z) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\delta(z + R/c)}{R}, \quad z < 0$$

$$g_-(R, z) = 0 \quad \text{for } z > 0$$

Important
for inverse
problems!

Green-function in the frequency domain

$$G(\bar{R}, \omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(\bar{R}, z) e^{i\omega z} dz$$

$$g(\bar{R}, z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G(\bar{R}, \omega) e^{-i\omega z} d\omega$$

$G(\bar{R}, \omega)$ satisfies the Helmholtz equation

$$\left[\nabla^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right] g(\bar{R}, z) \longleftrightarrow \left[\nabla^2 + \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} \right] G(\bar{R}, \omega)$$

Thus:

$$\left[\nabla^2 + k^2 \right] G(\bar{R}, \omega) = \delta(\bar{R}) \quad (1)$$



Inhomogeneous Helmholtz equation!

Causality in the time domain implies the

Sommerfeld radiation condition (SRC) in the frequency domain.

$G_+(\bar{R}, \omega)$ - Solution of (1) + (SRC)

↳ outgoing-wave.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \eta \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial r} - i k U \right) \rightarrow 0 \quad 3D \\ \sqrt{\eta} \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial r} - i k U \right) \rightarrow 0 \quad 2D \end{array} \right\}$$

By applying the Fourier transform we obtain

$$G_+(\bar{R}, \omega) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{e^{ikR}}{R}, \quad k = \frac{\omega}{c}$$

Observe that the retarded Green function g_+

satisfies

$$g_+(\bar{R}, z) = \frac{1}{8\pi^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-i\omega(z-R/c)}}{z} d\omega$$

↳ Superposition of spherical time-harmonic

waves $-\frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{e^{ik(R-z)}}{R}$ which propagate

outward from $\bar{R}=0$ with increasing time

Similarly

$$G_-(\bar{R}, \omega) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{e^{-ikR}}{R} = G_+^*(\bar{R}, \omega), \quad k \in \mathbb{R}$$

↳ incoming-wave Green function

1D Example

$$\left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right] g(z, t) = \delta(z) \delta(t) \quad (12)$$

Fourier ^{time} Transform applied to (12)

$$\left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} + k^2 \right] G(z, \omega) = \delta(z) \quad (13)$$

Fourier spatial transform on (13)

$$\tilde{G}(s, \omega) = \frac{1}{-s^2 + k^2}$$

Thus.

$$G(z, \omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{is z}}{-s^2 + k^2} ds \quad (14)$$

↳ Improper integral with poles $s = \pm k$

Further

$$g_+(z, z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_C G_+(z, \omega) e^{-i\omega z} d\omega \quad (15)$$

where C is in the upper half plane ($\text{Im} \omega > 0$) for a causal Green function ($g_+(z, z) = 0, z < 0$)

Poles of (14) are at $s = \pm k$. One lies in the upper half plane and lower half plane respectively.

The integrand goes to zero exponentially fast in the upper half plane if $z > 0$ and in the lower half plane if $z < 0$ the integral gives by using residues

$$G_+(z, \omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} 2\pi i \cdot \frac{e^{ikz}}{-2k}$$

$$= -\frac{i}{2k} e^{ikz}, \quad z > 0$$

$$G_+(z, \omega) = -\frac{1}{2\pi} 2\pi i \frac{e^{-ikz}}{2k}, \quad z < 0$$

$$= -\frac{i}{2k} e^{-ikz} \quad (\text{Index} = -1 \text{ in this case})$$

$$G_+(\infty, \omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^2 - s^2} ds = \frac{1}{2\pi} 2\pi i - \frac{1}{2k} = -\frac{i}{2k}$$

Check

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} G_+(z, \omega) = \frac{1}{2} e^{ik|z|} \text{sgn}(z), \quad \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} G_+(z, \omega) = \frac{ik}{2} e^{ik|z|} \text{sgn}(z) + \frac{1}{2} e^{ik|z|} \text{sgn}(z)$$

$\text{sgn} z = 2H(z) - 1$. implies the test

Retarded causal time-domain Green function.

$$\begin{aligned} g_+(z, \tau) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty+i\epsilon}^{\infty+i\epsilon} -\frac{i}{2k} e^{ik|z|} e^{-i\omega\tau} d\omega = \\ &= -\frac{i\epsilon}{4\pi} \int_{-\infty+i\epsilon}^{\infty+i\epsilon} \frac{e^{i\frac{\omega}{c}|z|}}{\omega} \cdot e^{-i\omega\tau} d\omega \end{aligned}$$

Pole at $\omega=0$. Exponentially fast decay in upper half plane if $|z| > c\tau$ and in the lower half plane if $|z| < c\tau$. Residues imply

$$g_+(z, \tau) = -\frac{\epsilon}{c} H(c\tau - |z|).$$

where H is the Heaviside function

Green-function solution to the radiation problem.

$$\left[\nabla_{\bar{r}'} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t'^2} \right] U_+(\bar{r}', t') = Q(\bar{r}', t') \quad (1)$$

$$\left[\nabla_{\bar{r}'} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t'^2} \right] g(\bar{r} - \bar{r}', t - t') = \delta(\bar{r} - \bar{r}') \delta(t - t') \quad (2)$$

In fact I use $Q(\bar{r}, t) = \delta(\bar{r} - \bar{r}') \delta(t - t') \cdot Q(\bar{r}', t')$.

where g is an unspecified green function of the wave equation.

(\bar{r}', t') -- fixed parameter in $\mathcal{R} = \{ \bar{r} \in \tau, t \in (t_0, t_1) \}$

Look for a solution of the radiation problem in \mathcal{R} .

Multiply (1) by g and (2) by U_+ and subtract to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & U_+(\bar{r}', t') \nabla_{\bar{r}'}^2 g(\bar{r} - \bar{r}', t - t') - g(\bar{r} - \bar{r}', t - t') \nabla_{\bar{r}'}^2 U_+(\bar{r}', t') \\ & - \frac{1}{c^2} \left\{ U_+(\bar{r}', t') \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t'^2} g(\bar{r} - \bar{r}', t - t') - g(\bar{r} - \bar{r}', t - t') \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t'^2} U_+(\bar{r}', t') \right\} \\ & = U_+(\bar{r}', t') \delta(\bar{r} - \bar{r}') \delta(t - t') - g(\bar{r} - \bar{r}', t - t') Q(\bar{r}', t') \quad (3) \end{aligned}$$

Let the first, second and third terms in the above relation be denoted by

$$I_1(\bar{n}, \bar{n}', t, t'), I_2(\bar{n}, \bar{n}', t, t'), I_3(\bar{n}, \bar{n}', t, t')$$

Then (3) becomes, after integration over \mathcal{R}

$$\mathcal{R} = \{ n' \in \tau, t' \in (t_0, t_1) \}$$

$$\underbrace{\int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt' \int_{\tau} d^3 n' I_1}_{\mathcal{K}_1(\bar{n}, t)} + \underbrace{\int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt' \int_{\tau} d^3 n' I_2}_{\mathcal{K}_2(\bar{n}, t)} = \underbrace{\int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt' \int_{\tau} d^3 n' I_3}_{\mathcal{K}_3(\bar{n}, t)} \quad (4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{K}_1(\bar{n}, t) &= \int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt' \int_{\tau} d^3 n' \nabla \cdot [U_+ \nabla g - g \nabla U_+] = \\ &= \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \int_{\partial \tau} \left(U_+ \frac{\partial}{\partial n'} g - g \frac{\partial}{\partial n'} U_+ \right) dS' dt' \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

where we have used $\nabla \cdot (\phi \nabla v) = \nabla \phi \cdot \nabla v + \phi \nabla^2 v$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{K}_2(\bar{n}, t) &= -\frac{1}{c^2} \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \int_{\tau} \frac{\partial}{\partial t'} \left(U_+ \frac{\partial}{\partial t'} g - g \frac{\partial}{\partial t'} U_+ \right) d^3 n' dt' = \\ &= -\frac{1}{c^2} \int_{\tau} \left(U_+ \frac{\partial}{\partial t'} g - g \frac{\partial}{\partial t'} U_+ \right) \Big|_{t'=t_0}^{t_1} d^3 n' \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

$$\chi_2(\bar{\mathbf{r}}_1, t) = U_+(\bar{\mathbf{r}}_1, t) - \int_{t_0}^{\tau} \int_{\mathcal{V}} g(\bar{\mathbf{r}} - \bar{\mathbf{r}}', t - t') q(\bar{\mathbf{r}}', t') d^3\bar{\mathbf{r}}' dt'$$

if $(\bar{\mathbf{r}}_1, t) \in \mathcal{R}$. (7)

$$\chi_3(\bar{\mathbf{r}}_1, t) = - \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \int_{\mathcal{V}} g(\bar{\mathbf{r}} - \bar{\mathbf{r}}', t - t') q(\bar{\mathbf{r}}', t') d^3\bar{\mathbf{r}}' dt'$$

otherwise.

• Solution U_+ valid for all space-time.

Select $g = g_+$ in (4) above and study χ_1, χ_2, χ_3

when $\tau \rightarrow \infty, t_0 \rightarrow -\infty, t_1 \rightarrow \infty$.

$\chi_2(\bar{\mathbf{r}}_1, t) \rightarrow 0$ because causality of U_+ and g_+

$\lim_{t_1 \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{t_0 \rightarrow -\infty} \chi_1(\bar{\mathbf{r}}_1, t) = 0$ or would follow from causality

From (4) we have that $\lim_{t_1 \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{t_0 \rightarrow -\infty} \chi_3(\bar{\mathbf{r}}_1, t) = 0$

Thus, from (7) we get.

$$U_+(\bar{\mathbf{r}}_1, t) = \int_0^{T_0} \int_{\mathcal{V}_0} g_+(\bar{\mathbf{r}} - \bar{\mathbf{r}}', t - t') q(\bar{\mathbf{r}}', t') d^3\bar{\mathbf{r}}' dt'$$

or

$$U_+(\bar{\mathbf{r}}_1, t) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\mathcal{V}_0} \frac{q(\bar{\mathbf{r}}', t - \frac{|\bar{\mathbf{r}} - \bar{\mathbf{r}}'|}{c})}{|\bar{\mathbf{r}} - \bar{\mathbf{r}}'|} d^3\bar{\mathbf{r}}'$$

in $\bar{\mathbf{r}} \in \mathcal{R}^3, t \in \mathbb{R}$.

$U_+(r, t)$ is a superposition of expanding spherical waves $g_+(r-r', t-t')$ each weighted by the amplitude of the source $q(r', t')$.

Thus the contribution from any point source is a delta function over the surface.

$$|r-r'| = c(t-t')$$

↓
Light cone

and thus expands outward with velocity c from each source point r' centered in O .

If t_0 is a sphere of radius a then at any given time t the field is identically zero outside a sphere $V_+(t)$ centered at the O and radius $R_+(t) = a + ct$.

If $\dot{q} = 0$ for $t \geq t_0$ the field vanishes for all time, $t > t_0 + a/c$ inside a sphere $V_-(t)$ centered at O and with radius $R_-(t) = c(t-t_0) - a$.

Ball of energy in the outward direction !!

Exercise $\left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right] U_+(z, t) = I(z, t)$

Supp $I = [-a_0, a_0]$, $t \in [0, T_0]$ and we require
the field to be causal.

Show that

$$U_+(z, t) = -\frac{c}{2} \int_{-a_0}^{a_0} \int_0^{t - \frac{|z-z'|}{c}} I(z', t') dt' dz'$$