

Fluctuation-dissipation theorem [nl39]

Three dynamical quantities in time domain:¹

- ▷ $\tilde{\chi}''_{AA}(t) \doteq \frac{1}{2\hbar} \langle [A(t), A]_- \rangle$ response function (dissipative part),
- ▷ $\tilde{\Phi}_{AA}(t) \doteq \frac{1}{2} \langle [A(t), A]_+ \rangle - \langle A \rangle^2$ fluctuation function,
- ▷ $\tilde{S}_{AA}(t) \doteq \langle A(t)A \rangle - \langle A \rangle^2$ correlation function.

Relations:

$$\tilde{\chi}''_{AA}(t) = \frac{1}{2\hbar} [\tilde{S}_{AA}(t) - \tilde{S}_{AA}(-t)], \quad \tilde{\Phi}_{AA}(t) = \frac{1}{2} [\tilde{S}_{AA}(t) + \tilde{S}_{AA}(-t)].$$

Transformation properties under time reversal (for real t):

- $\tilde{\chi}''_{AA}(-t) = -\tilde{\chi}''_{AA}(t) = [\tilde{\chi}''_{AA}(t)]^*$ imaginary and antisymmetric,
- $\tilde{\Phi}_{AA}(-t) = \tilde{\Phi}_{AA}(t) = [\tilde{\Phi}_{AA}(t)]^*$ real and symmetric,
- $\tilde{S}_{AA}(-t) = \tilde{S}_{AA}(t - i\hbar\beta) = [\tilde{S}_{AA}(t)]^*$ complex.²

To make the last symmetry relation more transparent we write

$$\begin{aligned} \langle A(-t)A \rangle &= \text{Tr} [e^{-\beta\mathcal{H}_0} e^{-i\mathcal{H}_0 t/\hbar} A e^{i\mathcal{H}_0 t/\hbar} A] \\ &= \text{Tr} [e^{-\beta\mathcal{H}_0} e^{i\mathcal{H}_0(t-i\hbar\beta)/\hbar} A e^{-i\mathcal{H}_0(t-i\hbar\beta)/\hbar} A] = \langle A(t - i\beta\hbar)A \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

The imaginary part of the correlation function vanishes if

- if $\beta = 0$ i.e. at infinite temperature,
- if $\hbar = 0$ i.e. for classical systems.

¹using $[\cdot]_-$ for commutators and $[\cdot]_+$ for anti-commutators.

²with symmetric real part and antisymmetric imaginary part.

Three dynamical quantities in frequency domain:

$$\begin{aligned}
\triangleright \quad \chi''_{AA}(\omega) &\doteq \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dt e^{i\omega t} \tilde{\chi}''_{AA}(t) && \text{dissipation function,} \\
\triangleright \quad \Phi_{AA}(\omega) &\doteq \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dt e^{i\omega t} \tilde{\Phi}_{AA}(t) && \text{spectral density,} \\
\triangleright \quad S_{AA}(\omega) &\doteq \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dt e^{i\omega t} \tilde{S}_{AA}(t) && \text{structure function.}
\end{aligned}$$

Symmetry properties:

- $\chi''_{AA}(-\omega) = -\chi''_{AA}(\omega)$ real and antisymmetric,
- $\Phi_{AA}(-\omega) = \Phi_{AA}(\omega)$ real and symmetric,
- $S_{AA}(-\omega) = e^{-\beta\hbar\omega} S_{AA}(\omega)$ real and satisfying detailed balance.

Relations:

$$\chi''_{AA}(\omega) = \frac{1}{2\hbar} (1 - e^{-\beta\hbar\omega}) S_{AA}(\omega), \quad \Phi_{AA}(\omega) = \frac{1}{2} (1 + e^{-\beta\hbar\omega}) S_{AA}(\omega).$$

Fluctuation-dissipation relation (general quantum version):

$$\Phi_{AA}(\omega) = \hbar \coth\left(\frac{1}{2}\beta\hbar\omega\right) \chi''_{AA}(\omega).$$

Dissipation effects from an interaction with a weak external force as encoded in $\chi''_{AA}(\omega)$ are determined by natural fluctuations existing in thermal equilibrium as encoded in $\Phi_{AA}(\omega)$.

Classical limit (no zero-point fluctuations):

$$\Phi_{AA}(\omega)_{cl} \xrightarrow{\hbar \rightarrow 0} \frac{2k_B T}{\omega} \chi''_{AA}(\omega).$$

Classical fluctuations of any frequency related to static susceptibility:

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle (A - \langle A \rangle)^2 \rangle &= \tilde{\phi}_{AA}(t=0) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} e^{-i\omega t} \Phi_{AA}(\omega) \\
&= k_B T \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{d\omega}{\pi} \omega^{-1} \chi''_{AA}(\omega) = k_B T \lim_{\omega' \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} d\omega \frac{\chi''_{AA}(\omega)}{\omega - \omega'} \\
&= k_B T \chi'_{AA}(\omega' = 0) = k_B T \chi_{AA}(\omega' = 0) \doteq k_B T \chi_{AA}.
\end{aligned}$$