

# Contents

<i>Preface</i>	vii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xi
<i>List of Figures</i>	xvii
1. Essentials of Fractional Calculus	1
1.1 The fractional integral with support in $\mathbb{R}^+$ . . . . .	2
1.2 The fractional derivative with support in $\mathbb{R}^+$ . . . . .	5
1.3 Fractional relaxation equations in $\mathbb{R}^+$ . . . . .	11
1.4 Fractional integrals and derivatives with support in $\mathbb{R}$ . . . . .	15
1.5 Notes . . . . .	17
2. Essentials of Linear Viscoelasticity	23
2.1 Introduction . . . . .	23
2.2 History in $\mathbb{R}^+$ : the Laplace transform approach . . . . .	26
2.3 The four types of viscoelasticity . . . . .	28
2.4 The classical mechanical models . . . . .	30
2.5 The time - and frequency - spectral functions . . . . .	41
2.6 History in $\mathbb{R}$ : the Fourier transform approach and the dynamic functions . . . . .	45
2.7 Storage and dissipation of energy: the loss tangent . . . . .	46
2.8 The dynamic functions for the mechanical models . . . . .	51
2.9 Notes . . . . .	54

- 3. Fractional Viscoelastic Models 57
  - 3.1 The fractional calculus in the mechanical models . . . 57
    - 3.1.1 Power-Law creep and the Scott-Blair model 57
    - 3.1.2 The correspondence principle . . . . . 59
    - 3.1.3 The fractional mechanical models . . . . . 61
  - 3.2 Analysis of the fractional Zener model . . . . . 63
    - 3.2.1 The material and the spectral functions . . . 63
    - 3.2.2 Dissipation: theoretical considerations . . . . 66
    - 3.2.3 Dissipation: experimental checks . . . . . 69
  - 3.3 The physical interpretation of the fractional Zener model via fractional diffusion . . . . . 71
  - 3.4 Which type of fractional derivative? Caputo or Riemann-Liouville? . . . . . 73
  - 3.5 Notes . . . . . 74
  
- 4. Waves in Linear Viscoelastic Media: Dispersion and Dissipation 77
  - 4.1 Introduction . . . . . 77
  - 4.2 Impact waves in linear viscoelasticity . . . . . 78
    - 4.2.1 Statement of the problem by Laplace transforms . . . . . 78
    - 4.2.2 The structure of wave equations in the space-time domain . . . . . 82
    - 4.2.3 Evolution equations for the mechanical models . . . . . 83
  - 4.3 Dispersion relation and complex refraction index . . 85
    - 4.3.1 Generalities . . . . . 85
    - 4.3.2 Dispersion: phase velocity and group velocity 88
    - 4.3.3 Dissipation: the attenuation coefficient and the specific dissipation function . . . . . 90
    - 4.3.4 Dispersion and attenuation for the Zener and the Maxwell models . . . . . 91
    - 4.3.5 Dispersion and attenuation for the fractional Zener model . . . . . 92
    - 4.3.6 The Klein-Gordon equation with dissipation 94

4.4	The Brillouin signal velocity . . . . .	98
4.4.1	Generalities . . . . .	98
4.4.2	Signal velocity via steepest-descent path . .	100
4.5	Notes . . . . .	107
5.	Waves in Linear Viscoelastic Media: Asymptotic Representations	109
5.1	The regular wave-front expansion . . . . .	109
5.2	The singular wave-front expansion . . . . .	116
5.3	The saddle-point approximation . . . . .	126
5.3.1	Generalities . . . . .	126
5.3.2	The Lee-Kanter problem for the Maxwell model . . . . .	127
5.3.3	The Jeffreys problem for the Zener model . .	131
5.4	The matching between the wave-front and the saddle-point approximations . . . . .	133
6.	Diffusion and Wave-Propagation via Fractional Calculus	137
6.1	Introduction . . . . .	137
6.2	Derivation of the fundamental solutions . . . . .	140
6.3	Basic properties and plots of the Green functions . .	145
6.4	The Signalling problem in a viscoelastic solid with a power-law creep . . . . .	151
6.5	Notes . . . . .	153
Appendix A	The Eulerian Functions	155
A.1	The Gamma function: $\Gamma(z)$ . . . . .	155
A.2	The Beta function: $B(p, q)$ . . . . .	165
A.3	Logarithmic derivative of the Gamma function . . .	169
A.4	The incomplete Gamma functions . . . . .	171
Appendix B	The Bessel Functions	173
B.1	The standard Bessel functions . . . . .	173
B.2	The modified Bessel functions . . . . .	180
B.3	Integral representations and Laplace transforms . . .	184
B.4	The Airy functions . . . . .	187

Appendix C The Error Functions 191

- C.1 The two standard Error functions . . . . . 191
- C.2 Laplace transform pairs . . . . . 193
- C.3 Repeated integrals of the Error functions . . . . . 195
- C.4 The Erfi function and the Dawson integral . . . . . 197
- C.5 The Fresnel integrals . . . . . 198

Appendix D The Exponential Integral Functions 203

- D.1 The classical Exponential integrals  $Ei(z)$ ,  $\mathcal{E}_1(z)$  . . . 203
- D.2 The modified Exponential integral  $Ein(z)$  . . . . . 204
- D.3 Asymptotics for the Exponential integrals . . . . . 206
- D.4 Laplace transform pairs for Exponential integrals . . 207

Appendix E The Mittag-Leffler Functions 211

- E.1 The classical Mittag-Leffler function  $E_\alpha(z)$  . . . . . 211
- E.2 The Mittag-Leffler function with two parameters . . 216
- E.3 Other functions of the Mittag-Leffler type . . . . . 220
- E.4 The Laplace transform pairs . . . . . 222
- E.5 Derivatives of the Mittag-Leffler functions . . . . . 227
- E.6 Summation and integration of Mittag-Leffler functions . . . . . 228
- E.7 Applications of the Mittag-Leffler functions to the Abel integral equations . . . . . 230
- E.8 Notes . . . . . 232

Appendix F The Wright Functions 237

- F.1 The Wright function  $W_{\lambda,\mu}(z)$  . . . . . 237
- F.2 The auxiliary functions  $F_\nu(z)$  and  $M_\nu(z)$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  . . . . 240
- F.3 The auxiliary functions  $F_\nu(x)$  and  $M_\nu(x)$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  . . . . 242
- F.4 The Laplace transform pairs . . . . . 245
- F.5 The Wright  $M$ -functions in probability . . . . . 250
- F.6 Notes . . . . . 258

*Bibliography* 261

*Index* 343