

# SCHRÖDINGER OPERATORS WITH SINGULAR BOUNDARY CONDITIONS

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Plan of the talk:

1. One-dimensional Schrödinger operators  $-\partial_x^2 + V(x)$ .

J.D., V.Georgescu, also many classic authors.

2. Bessel operators  $-\partial_x^2 + \left(m^2 - \frac{1}{4}\right)\frac{1}{x^2}$ .

L.Bruneau, J.D., V.Georgescu, S.Richard

3. Whittaker operators  $-\partial_x^2 + \left(m^2 - \frac{1}{4}\right)\frac{1}{x^2} - \frac{\beta}{x}$ . J.D., J.Faupin, S.Richard,

Q.N.Nguyen

4. Perturbed Bessel operators  $-\partial_x^2 + \left(m^2 - \frac{1}{4}\right)\frac{1}{x^2} + Q(x)$ . J.D., J.Faupin

# ONE-DIMENSIONAL SCHRÖDINGER OPERATORS

Suppose that  $\mathbb{R}_+ \ni x \mapsto V(x)$  is a function in  $L^1_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}_+)$  bounded near infinity, possibly complex valued. Consider the **one-dimensional Schrödinger operator**

$$L := -\partial_x^2 + V(x).$$

We would like to describe **closed** (if possible **self-adjoint**) realizations of  $L$  on  $L^2(\mathbb{R}_+)$ . There are two obvious closed realizations: the **minimal**  $L^{\min}$  and the **maximal**  $L^{\max}$  with domains given by

$$\mathcal{D}(L^{\max}) := \{f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}_+) \mid Lf \in L^2(\mathbb{R}_+)\},$$

$$\mathcal{D}(L^{\min}) := \text{the closure of } \{f \in \mathcal{D}(L^{\max}) \mid f = 0 \text{ near } 0\},$$

the closure taken with respect to the graph norm of  $L^{\max}$ .

One can show that  $\dim \mathcal{D}(L^{\max})/\mathcal{D}(L^{\min})$  is either 0 or 2.

In the latter case there exists a one-parameter family of operators  $L^\bullet$  that satisfy  $L^{\min} \subset L^\bullet \subset L^{\max}$  defined by boundary conditions (b.c.) near zero.

If  $V \in L^1$  near zero, these b.c are easy to describe:

$$\mathcal{D}(L_\kappa) := \{f \in \mathcal{D}(L^{\max}) \mid f(0) = \kappa f'(0)\}.$$

$\kappa = 0$  is called the Dirichlet b.c.,  $\kappa = \infty$  the Neumann b.c., the remaining are mixed or Robin b.c.. If  $V \notin L^1$  near zero, the situation is more complicated.

In most of the literature it is assumed that  $V$  is real. Then the operator  $L$  with the domain  $C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+)$  is **Hermitian (symmetric)**, but not necessarily self-adjoint. The closure of  $L$  with this domain coincides with  $L^{\min}$ , its adjoint  $L^*$  coincides with  $L^{\max}$ . If  $L^{\min} \neq L^{\max}$ , then **self-adjoint extensions** of  $L$  are in between  $L^{\min}$  and  $L^{\max}$ .

One can apply **von Neumann's method** of defining self-adjoint extensions. One looks for eigenvectors in  $L^2(\mathbb{R}_+)$  of

$$L^* f_{\pm} = \pm i f_{\pm}.$$

If  $\dim \mathcal{D}(L^{\max})/\mathcal{D}(L^{\min}) = 2$ , Then

$$\mathcal{D}(L_{\alpha}) = \mathcal{D}(L^{\min}) + \mathbb{C}(e^{i\alpha} f_+ + e^{-i\alpha} f_-)$$

gives all self-adjoint extensions of  $L$ . Not an optimal approach—it requires solving an unnecessarily difficult eigenvalue problem.

Let us go back to a possibly complex  $V$ .

Let  $\mathcal{N}(L - \lambda)$  denote the **space of eigenfunctions** of  $L$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  (not necessarily square integrable). One can show the alternative

$$\begin{aligned} \dim \mathcal{D}(L^{\max}) / \mathcal{D}(L^{\min}) &= 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow \dim \{ f \in \mathcal{N}(L - \lambda) \mid f \in L^2 \text{ near } 0 \} &\leq 1, \quad \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{C}; \\ \dim \mathcal{D}(L^{\max}) / \mathcal{D}(L^{\min}) &= 2 \\ \Leftrightarrow \dim \{ f \in \mathcal{N}(L - \lambda) \mid f \in L^2 \text{ near } 0 \} &= 2, \quad \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{C}. \end{aligned}$$

Usually, the following approach to define closed extensions of  $L^{\min}$  is much more convenient than von Neumann's:

Fix  $\lambda$  (e.g.  $\lambda = 0$ ). Choose a cutoff function  $\xi \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+)$  equal 1 near 0 and 0 near  $\infty$ . For  $h \in \mathcal{N}(L - \lambda)$  set

$$\mathcal{D}(L_\bullet) := \mathcal{D}(L^{\min}) + \mathbb{C}\xi h.$$

Note that  $L_\bullet$  does not depend on the cutoff  $\xi$ .

Introduce the **Wronskian** of two functions  $h_1$  and  $h_2$ :

$$\mathcal{W}(h_1, h_2, x) = h_1(x)h_2'(x) - h_1'(x)h_2(x)$$

Note that for  $h_1, h_2 \in \mathcal{N}(L - \lambda)$ , the Wronskian  $\mathcal{W}(h_1, h_2, x)$  does not depend on  $x$ . Thus it defines a **symplectic form** on  $\mathcal{N}(L - \lambda)$ .

Moreover, for  $f, g \in \mathcal{D}(L^{\max})$  the **Wronskian at 0** is well-defined:

$$\lim_{x \searrow 0} \mathcal{W}(f, g; x) =: \mathcal{W}(f, g; 0)$$

exists and defines a continuous bilinear form on  $\mathcal{D}(L^{\max})$ .

Here is an even better approach to defining close realizations of  $L$ :

$$\mathcal{D}(L_{\bullet}) = \{f \in \mathcal{D}(L^{\max}) \mid \mathcal{W}(h_0, f; 0) = 0\},$$

where  $h_0$  is an **approximate eigenfunction** of  $L$ .

Later we will need a few **integral kernels** naturally associated with the operator  $L$ . Let  $h_1, h_2 \in \mathcal{N}(L - \lambda)$  be linearly independent. The **canonical bisolution** of  $L - \lambda$  defined by the integral kernel

$$G_{\leftrightarrow}(\lambda; x, y) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{W}(h_1, h_2)} (h_1(x)h_2(y) - h_2(x)h_1(y)),$$

does not depend on the choice of  $h_1, h_2$ .  $G_{\leftrightarrow}(\lambda)$  is usually unbounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R}_+)$ . It satisfies

$$(-\partial_x^2 + V(x) - \lambda)G_{\leftrightarrow}(\lambda; x, y) = 0.$$

We will use the term **Green's operator** as a synonym for a **right inverse** of  $L - \lambda$  (not necessarily bounded). In other words, the integral kernel  $G_{\bullet}(\lambda; x, y)$  of Green's operator  $G_{\bullet}(\lambda)$  satisfies

$$(-\partial_x^2 + V(x) - \lambda)G_{\bullet}(\lambda; x, y) = \delta(x - y).$$

We have various types of Green's operators:

1. the forward Green's operator

$$G_{\rightarrow}(\lambda; x, y) := \theta(x - y)G_{\leftrightarrow}(\lambda; x, y),$$

2. the backward Green's operator

$$G_{\leftarrow}(\lambda; x, y) := -\theta(y - x)G_{\leftrightarrow}(\lambda; x, y).$$

3. Choose  $h_1, h_2 \in \mathcal{N}(L - \lambda)$ . The two-sided Green's operator corresponding to b.c. near 0 given by  $h_1$ , resp. near  $\infty$  given by  $h_2$ :

$$G_{\bullet}(\lambda; x, y) := \frac{h_1(x)h_2(y)\theta(x - y) + h_2(x)h_1(y)\theta(y - x)}{\mathcal{W}(h_1, h_2)}$$

Suppose we have two Schrödinger operators

$$\begin{aligned}L^0 &= -\partial_x^2 + V^0(x), \\L &= -\partial_x^2 + V(x) = L^0 + Q(x).\end{aligned}$$

Suppose we know an eigenfunction of the unperturbed operator  $u^0 \in \mathcal{N}(L^0 - \lambda)$ . Then one can try to construct an eigenfunction of the perturbed operator  $u \in \mathcal{N}(L - \lambda)$  by applying

$$u = (\mathbb{1} + G_{\bullet}^0(\lambda)Q)^{-1}u^0,$$

where  $G_{\bullet}^0(\lambda)$  is one of the Green's operators of  $L^0 - \lambda$ . This is a generalization of the **Lippmann-Schwinger equation** well-known from Quantum Mechanics.

# BESSEL OPERATORS

One of the most important families of exactly solvable 1-dimensional Schrödinger operators is the family of **Bessel operators**

$$-\partial_x^2 + \frac{c}{x^2}.$$

We will allow  $c$  to be complex.

As is well-known, it is convenient to set  $c = m^2 - \frac{1}{4}$ , so that the Bessel operator is rewritten as

$$L_{m^2}^0 := -\partial_x^2 + \left(m^2 - \frac{1}{4}\right) \frac{1}{x^2}.$$

We will often assume that  $\operatorname{Re}(m) \geq 0$ , because  $L_{m^2}^0$  depends only on  $m^2$ .

Many operators in mathematics and physics can be reduced to Bessel operators:

1. the usual Laplacian on the halfline, Dirichlet  $m = \frac{1}{2}$ , Neumann  $m = -\frac{1}{2}$ ;
2. the usual Laplacian in dimension  $d \geq 3$ ,  $m = \frac{d}{2} - 1 + \ell$ ,  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ;
3. the 2d Aharonov-Bohm Hamiltonian with flux  $\theta$ ,  $m = \frac{\theta}{2\pi} + n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,
4. the Laplacian on a conical surface of angle  $\alpha$ ,  $m = \frac{2\pi n}{\alpha}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ;
5. the Laplacian on a wedge of angle  $\alpha$  with Dirichlet or Neumann b.c.,  
 $m = \frac{\pi n}{\alpha}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ;
6. perturbed Bessel operators with  $m$  complex define Regge poles,
7. three-body systems with contact interactions.
8. generators of  $sl(2, \mathbb{R})$ .

The zero energy eigenvalue problem  $L_{m^2}^0 f = 0$  is easy:

$$x^{\frac{1}{2}+m}, \quad x^{\frac{1}{2}-m}, \quad m \neq 0; \quad x^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad x^{\frac{1}{2}} \ln(x), \quad m = 0.$$

One can distinguish 3 regimes with a different behavior of eigensolutions:

1.  $\operatorname{Re}(m) > 0$ . Eigensolutions of  $L_{m^2}^0$  can be divided into **principal**, and **non-principal**, all the others. Principal solutions behave as  $x^{\frac{1}{2}+m}$  and are more regular than non-principal ones, which behave as  $x^{\frac{1}{2}-m}$ .
2.  $\operatorname{Re}(m) = 0, m \neq 0$ . Eigensolutions of  $L_{m^2}^0$  are spanned by eigensolutions with a **comparable oscillating** behavior  $x^{\frac{1}{2}+m}$  and  $x^{\frac{1}{2}-m}$  near zero.
3.  $m = 0$ . Eigensolutions of  $L_{m^2}^0$  are spanned by a **principal** solution behaving like  $x^0$ . All others are **non-principal**, behave like  $x^0 \ln(x)$ , and are less regular.

Let us now sketch the theory of closed realizations of  $L_{m^2}^0$  on  $L^2(\mathbb{R}_+)$ . First of all, the minimal and maximal realization of  $L_{m^2}^0$  denoted by  $L_{m^2}^{0,\min}$  resp.  $L_{m^2}^{0,\max}$ , satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} |\operatorname{Re}(m)| \geq 1 \text{ implies } L_{m^2}^{0,\min} &= L_{m^2}^{0,\max}, \\ |\operatorname{Re}(m)| < 1 \text{ implies } \dim \mathcal{D}(L_{m^2}^{0,\max}) / \mathcal{D}(L_{m^2}^{0,\min}) &= 2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus for  $|\operatorname{Re}(m)| < 1$  there exists a 1-parameter family of closed realisations of  $L_{m^2}^0$  between  $L_{m^2}^{0,\min}$  and  $L_{m^2}^{0,\max}$  defined by b.c. at zero. To describe all closed realizations of Bessel operators one can introduce the following three holomorphic families of operators:

$$\begin{aligned} \{-1 < \operatorname{Re}(m)\} \ni m &\mapsto H_m^0, \\ \{-1 < \operatorname{Re}(m) < 1\} \times (\mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}) \ni (m, \kappa) &\mapsto H_{m,\kappa}^0, \\ (\mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}) \ni \nu &\mapsto H_0^{0,\nu}. \end{aligned}$$

The family  $H_m^0$  is the most basic one. It is called **homogeneous**. For  $1 \leq \operatorname{Re}(m)$  it is the unique closed realization of  $L_{m^2}^0$ . Then it is extended to the strip  $-1 < \operatorname{Re}(m) < 1$  by analytic continuation. Its domain is defined by the boundary condition  $\sim x^{\frac{1}{2}+m}$  at zero.

The operator  $H_{m,\kappa}^0$  is defined by

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{D}(H_{m,\kappa}^0) &= \mathcal{D}(L_{m^2}^{\min}) + \mathbb{C}(x^{\frac{1}{2}+m} + \kappa x^{\frac{1}{2}-m})\xi \\ &= \{f \in \mathcal{D}(L_{m^2}^{\max}) \mid \mathcal{W}(f, x^{\frac{1}{2}+m} + \kappa x^{\frac{1}{2}-m}; 0) = 0\}.\end{aligned}$$

It is holomorphic except for a singularity at  $(m, \kappa) = (0, -1)$ .

Finally, for the special case  $m = 0$ ,  $H_0^{0,\nu}$  is defined by

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{D}(H_m^{0,\nu}) &= \mathcal{D}(L_{m^2}^{\min}) + \mathbb{C}(x^{\frac{1}{2}} \ln(x) + \nu x^{\frac{1}{2}})\xi \\ &= \{f \in \mathcal{D}(L_{m^2}^{\max}) \mid \mathcal{W}(f, x^{\frac{1}{2}} \ln(x) + \nu x^{\frac{1}{2}}; 0) = 0\}.\end{aligned}$$

Let  $U_\tau$  be the **group of dilations**:

$$(U_\tau f)(x) = e^{\tau/2} f(e^\tau x).$$

For any  $m$  with  $|\operatorname{Re}(m)| < 1$  and any  $\kappa, \nu \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$ , we have

$$U_\tau H_{m,\kappa} U_{-\tau} = e^{-2\tau} H_{m, e^{-2\tau} \kappa},$$

$$U_\tau H_0^\nu U_{-\tau} = e^{-2\tau} H_0^{\nu+\tau}.$$

In particular, only

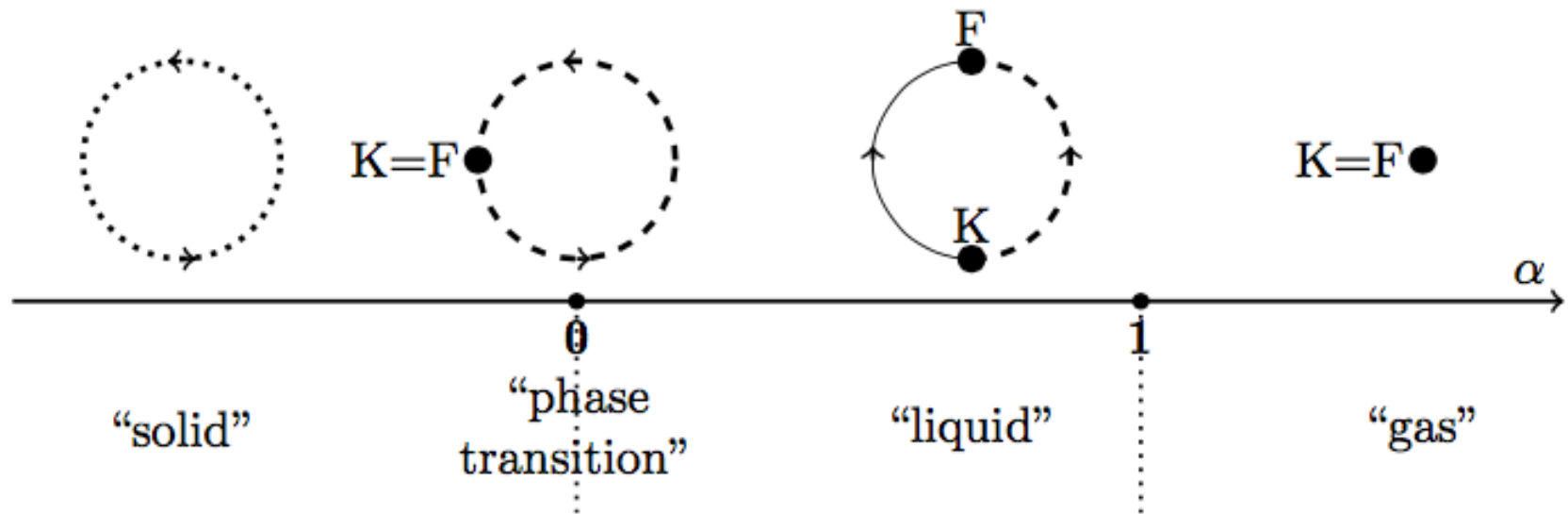
$$H_{m,0} = H_m, \quad H_{m,\infty} = H_{-m}, \quad H_0^\infty = H_0 \quad \text{are homogeneous (of degree 2).}$$

If  $A$  is an operator, then the transformation  $R_\tau(A) := e^{2\tau} U_\tau A U_{-\tau}$  will be called the **renormalization group action**. Operator is homogeneous iff it is its **fixed point**.

## Self-adjoint extensions of the Hermitian operator

$$L_\alpha = -\partial_x^2 + \left(-\frac{1}{4} + \alpha\right)\frac{1}{x^2}.$$

K—Krein, F—Friedrichs, dashed line—single bound state, dotted line—infinite sequence of bound states.



For  $k \neq 0$  the eigenvalue problem  $L_{m^2}^0 f = k^2 f$  reduces to the **Bessel equation**.  $\mathcal{N}(L_{m^2}^0 + k^2)$  is spanned by

$$u_m^0(x, k) := \left(\frac{2}{k}\right)^m \sqrt{x} I_m(kx), \quad u_m^0(x) \simeq \frac{x^{\frac{1}{2}+m}}{\Gamma(m+1)} \quad \text{near } 0;$$

$$v_m^0(x, k) := \left(\frac{k}{2}\right)^m \sqrt{x} K_m(kx), \quad \text{decaying exponentially}$$

where  $I_m$  is the **modified Bessel function** and  $K_m$  the **Macdonald function**.

$u_m^0$  is principal for  $\operatorname{Re}(m) > 0$  and for  $m = 0$ .

$v_m^0$  is always non-principal.

$u_m^0$  for  $\operatorname{Re}(m) < 0$  and  $m \neq -1, -2, \dots$  is a distinguished non-principal eigenfunction. (For  $m = -1, -2, \dots$  it is proportional to  $u_{-m}^0$ ).

We have

$$u_m^0(x, 0) = \frac{x^{\frac{1}{2}+m}}{\Gamma(m+1)},$$
$$v_m^0(x, 0) = \frac{\Gamma(m)x^{\frac{1}{2}-m}}{2}, \quad \text{Re}(m) \geq 0, \quad m \neq 0.$$

It is convenient to introduce another eigensolution

$$w_m^0(x, k) = w_{-m}^0(x, k) \sim e^{-kx} \quad x \rightarrow \infty,$$

which differs from  $v_m^0(x, k)$  only by a different normalization:

$$w_m^0(x, k) = \sqrt{\frac{2k}{\pi}} \left(\frac{2}{k}\right)^m v_m^0(x, k) = \sqrt{\frac{2xk}{\pi}} K_m(kx).$$

The Bessel operator for  $m = 0$  often needs a separate treatment. This case is actually very important – it corresponds to the **2-dimensional Laplacian in the s-wave sector**.

For instance,  $v_0^0(\cdot, k)$  does not have a limit at  $k = 0$ . To treat the case  $m = 0$  in a satisfactory way it is useful to introduce a family of non-principal eigenfunctions of  $L_0^0$ :

$$p_0^0(x, k) := -v_0^0(x, k) - \left( \ln\left(\frac{k}{2}\right) + \gamma \right) u_0^0(x, k),$$

where  $\gamma$  denotes Euler's constant. At  $k = 0$  it coincides with the logarithmic solution:

$$p_0^0(x, 0) = x^{\frac{1}{2}} \ln(x).$$

As explained in the previous subsection, with  $L_{m^2}^0 + k^2$  one can associate various Green's operators: The most important are

1. the **forward Green's operator**  $G_{m^2, \rightarrow}^0(-k^2)$ ;
2. the **backward Green's operator**  $G_{m^2, \leftarrow}^0(-k^2)$ ;
3. the **two-sided Green's operator with homogeneous boundary conditions**,  $G_{m^2, \bowtie}^0(-k^2)$ , using  $u_m^0$  and  $v_m^0$ , for brevity often called **two-sided**;
4. for  $m = 0$ , additionally, the **two-sided Green's operator logarithmic near zero**  $G_{0, \diamond}^0(-k^2)$ , using  $u_0^0$ ,  $p_0^0$ , for brevity called **logarithmic**.

For  $\operatorname{Re}(m) > -1$ ,  $\operatorname{Re}(k) > 0$  the **two-sided Green's operator** with homogeneous b.c. is bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R}_+)$  and is with the **resolvent** of  $H_m^0$ :

$$G_{m^2, \bowtie}^0(-k^2) = (H_m^0 + k^2)^{-1}.$$

However, the integral kernel  $G_{m^2, \bowtie}^0(-k^2; x, y)$  is well defined and useful also for other values of  $k$  and  $m$ , when it does not define a bounded operator.

# THE WHITTAKER OPERATOR

The radial Schrödinger operator with the **Coulomb potential**

$$L_{\beta, m^2} := -\partial_x^2 + \left(m^2 - \frac{1}{4}\right) \frac{1}{x^2} - \frac{\beta}{x}$$

will be called the **Whittaker operator**. It is an example of an perturbed Bessel operator.

It has a distinguished family of closed realizations

$$\mathbb{C} \times \{m \in \mathbb{C} \mid \operatorname{Re}(m) > -1\} \ni (\beta, m) \mapsto H_{\beta, m},$$

holomorphic except for a singularity at  $(0, -\frac{1}{2})$ . We will call them **pure**.

They are generalizations of the **homogeneous** family  $H_m$  to the Whittaker case. In particular, for  $\beta = 0$  they coincide with Bessel operators:

$$H_{0, m} = H_m.$$

If  $\operatorname{Re}(m) \geq 1$  the boundary condition is not needed. For  $\operatorname{Re}(m) > -1$   $H_{\beta,m}$  can be defined by analytic continuation.

Alternatively, if  $\operatorname{Re}(m) \geq -\frac{1}{2}$ , we can use a simplified boundary condition:

$$\mathcal{D}(H_{\beta,m}) = \{f \in \mathcal{D}(L_{\beta,m^2}^{\max}) \mid \mathcal{W}(f, x^{\frac{1}{2}+m}; 0) = 0\}.$$

For all  $\operatorname{Re}(m) > -1$  pure boundary conditions are defined by

$$\mathcal{D}(H_{\beta,m}) = \left\{ f \in \mathcal{D}(L_{\beta,m^2}^{\max}) \mid \mathcal{W}\left(f, x^{\frac{1}{2}+m}\left(1 - \frac{\beta}{1+2m}x\right); 0\right) = 0 \right\}.$$

The singularity at  $(\beta, m) = (0, -\frac{1}{2})$  is quite curious: it is invisible when we consider just the variable  $m$ . In fact, the Bessel operator

$$\{\operatorname{Re}(m) > -1\} \ni m \mapsto H_m = H_{0,m}$$

is holomorphic.

$H_{-\frac{1}{2}}$  is the Laplacian with the **Neumann boundary condition**;

$H_{\frac{1}{2}}$  is the Laplacian with the **Dirichlet boundary condition**.

Thus one has

$$H_{0,-\frac{1}{2}} \neq H_{0,\frac{1}{2}}.$$

If we introduce the Coulomb potential, then

$$\text{whenever } \beta \neq 0, \quad H_{\beta, -\frac{1}{2}} = H_{\beta, \frac{1}{2}}.$$

The function

$$(\beta, m) \mapsto H_{\beta, m} \quad \text{is holomorphic around } (0, \tfrac{1}{2}).$$

In particular, in the sense of the **strong resolvent limit**

$$\lim_{\beta \rightarrow 0} H_{\beta, \frac{1}{2}} = H_{0, \frac{1}{2}}.$$

But

$$\lim_{\beta \rightarrow 0} H_{\beta, -\frac{1}{2}} = H_{0, \frac{1}{2}} \neq H_{0, -\frac{1}{2}}$$

Thus  $(\beta, m) \mapsto H_{\beta, m}$  is not even continuous near  $(0, -\frac{1}{2})$ .

# PERTURBED BESSEL OPERATORS

Consider now  $m \in \mathbb{C}$  and complex  $Q \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}_+)$

$$L_{m^2} := -\partial_x^2 + \left(m^2 - \frac{1}{4}\right)\frac{1}{x^2} + Q(x).$$

**Proposition 1.** *Let  $\text{Re}(m) \geq 0$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{C}$  and suppose that*

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 x|Q(x)|dx &< \infty, \quad \text{if } m \neq 0; \\ \int_0^1 x(1 + |\ln(x)|)|Q(x)|dx &< \infty, \quad \text{if } m = 0. \end{aligned}$$

*Suppose that  $g^0 \in \mathcal{N}(L_{m^2}^0 + k^2)$  such that  $g^0(x) = \mathcal{O}(x^{\frac{1}{2}+\text{Re}(m)})$  near 0.*

*Then, there exists a unique  $g \in \mathcal{N}(L_{m^2} + k^2)$  such that,*

$$\begin{aligned} g(x) - g^0(x) &= o(x^{\frac{1}{2}+\text{Re}(m)}), \\ \partial_x g(x) - \partial_x g^0(x) &= o(x^{-\frac{1}{2}+\text{Re}(m)}), \quad x \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

If we want to well approximate all unperturbed solutions, including the more singular ones, we need to strengthen the assumption on the perturbation.

**Proposition 2.** *Let  $\operatorname{Re}(m) \geq 0$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{C}$  and suppose that*

$$\int_0^1 x^{1-2\operatorname{Re}(m)} |Q(x)| dx < \infty, \quad \text{if } m \neq 0;$$

$$\int_0^1 x(1 + (\ln(x))^2) |Q(x)| dx < \infty, \quad \text{if } m = 0.$$

*Suppose that  $g^0 \in \mathcal{N}(L_{m^2}^0 + k^2)$ . Then, there exists a unique  $g \in \mathcal{N}(L_{m^2} + k^2)$  such that*

$$g(x) - g^0(x) = o(x^{\frac{1}{2} + \operatorname{Re}(m)}),$$

$$\partial_x g(x) - \partial_x g^0(x) = o(x^{-\frac{1}{2} + \operatorname{Re}(m)}), \quad x \rightarrow 0.$$

Here are consequences of Propositions 1 and 2:

**Corollary 3.** *Let  $m \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{C}$  and suppose that*

$$\int_0^1 x^{1-\varepsilon} |Q(x)| dx < \infty, \quad \varepsilon \geq 0, \quad \operatorname{Re}(m) \geq -\frac{\varepsilon}{2}, \quad m \neq 0;$$

$$\int_0^1 x(1 + |\ln(x)|) |Q(x)| dx < \infty, \quad m = 0.$$

*Then there exists a unique  $u_m(\cdot, k) \in \mathcal{N}(L_{m^2} + k^2)$  that satisfies*

$$u_m(x, k) - u_m^0(x, k) = o(x^{\frac{1}{2} + |\operatorname{Re}(m)|}),$$

$$\partial_x u_m(x, k) - \partial_x u_m^0(x, k) = o(x^{-\frac{1}{2} + |\operatorname{Re}(m)|}), \quad x \rightarrow 0.$$

Note that if  $|Q(x)| \lesssim |x|^\alpha$  near 0, then the above condition is satisfied for  $\alpha > -2 + \varepsilon$ .

**Corollary 4.** *Let  $k \in \mathbb{C}$  and suppose that*

$$\int_0^1 x(1 + (\ln(x))^2)|Q(x)|dx < \infty, \quad m = 0.$$

*Then there exists a unique  $p_0(\cdot, k) \in \mathcal{N}(L_{m^2} + k^2)$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned} p_0(x, k) - p_0^0(x, k) &= o(x^{\frac{1}{2}}), \\ \partial_x p_0(x, k) - \partial_x p_0^0(x, k) &= o(x^{-\frac{1}{2}}), \quad x \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

Conditions of Proposition 1 are the minimal assumptions near zero for our purposes. They guarantee the existence of **distinguished eigenfunctions**  $u_m$  with  $\operatorname{Re}(m) \geq 0$ , **principal** for  $\operatorname{Re}(m) > 0$  and  $m = 0$ . They also imply that the behavior near zero of **non-principal eigenfunctions** is roughly as in the unperturbed case:

**Proposition 5.** *Let  $\operatorname{Re}(m) \geq 0$ ,  $\operatorname{Re}(k) \geq 0$ . Under the assumptions of Proposition 1 for all  $g \in \mathcal{N}(L_{m^2} + k^2)$ , we have*

$$\begin{aligned} g(x) &= \mathcal{O}(x^{\frac{1}{2}-\operatorname{Re}(m)}), & \partial_x g(x) &= \mathcal{O}(x^{-\frac{1}{2}-\operatorname{Re}(m)}), \\ g(x) &= \mathcal{O}(x^{\frac{1}{2}}\ln(x)), & \partial_x g(x) &= \mathcal{O}(x^{-\frac{1}{2}}\ln(x)), & x \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

It seems that to have distinguished non-principal eigenfunctions one needs to impose stronger conditions on  $Q$ . In particular, under the conditions of Corollary 3  $u_m$  is constructed only in the region  $\operatorname{Re}(m) \geq -\frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ . This suggests the following question:

**Open Problem 6.** *Let  $Q$  satisfy the condition of Corollary 3. Does it imply that the function  $m \mapsto u_m(\cdot, k)$  extends holomorphically (or at least meromorphically) to the whole  $\mathbb{C}$ ? (This is true for the Coulomb potential, see [S.Richard, J.D.](#)).*

Let us now consider the behavior near infinity. To prove the existence of solutions well approximating exponentially decaying solutions, called **Jost solutions**, we need the so-called **short-range** condition on the potential.

**Proposition 7.** *Let  $m \in \mathbb{C}$ . Suppose that*

$$\int_1^\infty |Q(x)| dx < \infty.$$

*Let  $k \neq 0$  be such that  $\operatorname{Re}(k) \geq 0$ . Then there exists a unique  $w_m(\cdot, k) = w_{-m}(\cdot, k) \in \mathcal{N}(L_{m^2} + k^2)$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned} w_m(x, k) - w_m^0(x, k) &= o(e^{-x\operatorname{Re}(k)}), \\ \partial_x w_m(x, k) - \partial_x w_m^0(x, k) &= o(e^{-x\operatorname{Re}(k)}), \quad x \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 7 does not cover the zero energy, that is,  $k = 0$ .

**Proposition 8.** *Let  $m \in \mathbb{C}$ . Suppose that*

$$\int_1^\infty x^\delta |Q(x)| dx < \infty, \quad \text{if } m \neq 0, \quad \text{with } \delta = 1 + 2 \max(\operatorname{Re}(m), 0);$$

$$\int_1^\infty x(1 + \ln(x)) |Q(x)| dx < \infty, \quad \text{if } m = 0.$$

*Then there exists a unique  $q_m \in \mathcal{N}(L_{m2})$  such that*

$$q_m(x) - x^{\frac{1}{2}+m} = o(x^{\frac{1}{2}-\operatorname{Re}(m)}),$$

$$\partial_x q_m(x) - \partial_x x^{\frac{1}{2}+m} = o(x^{-\frac{1}{2}-\operatorname{Re}(m)}), \quad x \rightarrow \infty.$$

**Proposition 9.** *Let  $m = 0$ . Suppose that*

$$\int_1^\infty x(1 + (\ln(x))^2)|Q(x)|dx < \infty.$$

*Then there exists a unique  $q_{0,\ln} \in \mathcal{N}(L_0)$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned} q_{0,\ln}(x) - x^{\frac{1}{2}}\ln(x) &= o(x^{\frac{1}{2}}), \\ \partial_x q_{0,\ln}(x) - \partial_x x^{\frac{1}{2}}\ln(x) &= o(x^{-\frac{1}{2}}), \quad x \rightarrow \infty. \end{aligned}$$

The zero energy eigenequation **near infinity** is equivalent to the zero energy eigenequation **near zero**:

$$-\partial_x^2 + \left(m^2 - \frac{1}{4}\right) \frac{1}{x^2} + Q(x) = y^3 \left( -\partial_y^2 + \left(m^2 - \frac{1}{4}\right) \frac{1}{y^2} + \tilde{Q}(y) \right) y,$$

$$y = \frac{1}{x}, \quad \tilde{Q}(y) := y^{-4} Q(y^{-1}).$$

Note also a simple relationship between the integral conditions near zero on  $Q$  and near infinity on  $\tilde{Q}$ :

$$\int_0^1 x^{1-\varepsilon} |Q(x)| dx = \int_1^\infty y^{1+\varepsilon} |\tilde{Q}(y)| dy,$$

$$\int_0^1 x(1 + |\ln(x)|^\alpha) |Q(x)| dx = \int_1^\infty y(1 + |\ln(y)|^\alpha) |\tilde{Q}(y)| dy.$$

Thus one can derive Propositions 8 and 9 from the  $k = 0$  case of Corollaries 3 and 4.

The main tools used in the construction of eigenfunctions are various Green's operators for the unperturbed Bessel operator. The **forward Green's operator** is used in Propositions 1, 2 and their corollaries. For instance,

$$\begin{aligned} u_m(\cdot, k) &= (\mathbb{1} + G_{m^2, \rightarrow}^0(-k^2)Q)^{-1} u_m^0(\cdot, k), \\ p_0(\cdot, k) &= (\mathbb{1} + G_{0, \rightarrow}^0(-k^2)Q)^{-1} p_0^0(\cdot, k). \end{aligned}$$

The **backward Green's operator** is used in Propositions 7, 8 and 9:

$$\begin{aligned} w_m(\cdot, k) &= (\mathbb{1} + G_{m^2, \leftarrow}^0(-k^2)Q)^{-1} w_m^0(\cdot, k), \\ q_m &= (\mathbb{1} + G_{m^2, \leftarrow}^0(0)Q)^{-1} u_m^0(\cdot, 0), \\ q_{0, \ln} &= (\mathbb{1} + G_{0, \leftarrow}^0(0)Q)^{-1} p_0^0(\cdot, 0). \end{aligned}$$

In quantum physics the equation for the Jost solution  $w(\cdot, k)$  is called the **Lippmann–Schwinger Equation**.

If assumptions of Proposition 1 holds and  $\frac{\varepsilon}{2} < \operatorname{Re}(m)$ , then Corollary 3 guarantees the existence only of  $u_m(\cdot, k)$ , but not of  $u_{-m}(\cdot, k)$ . Therefore, in this case it is more complicated to describe non-principal solutions. One way to do this is to use **compressed two-sided Green's operators**:

**Proposition 10.** *Suppose the assumptions of Proposition 1 hold. If  $a$  is small enough, the following functions are well defined and belong to  $\mathcal{N}(L_{m^2} + k^2)$  on  $]0, a[$ :*

$$\begin{aligned} u_{-m}^{\bowtie(a)}(\cdot, k) &:= \left( \mathbb{1} + G_{m, \bowtie}^{0(a)}(-k^2)Q \right)^{-1} u_{-m}^0(\cdot, k), \\ p_0^{\diamond(a)}(\cdot, k) &:= \left( \mathbb{1} + G_{0, \diamond}^{0(a)}(-k^2)Q \right)^{-1} p_0^0(\cdot, k). \end{aligned}$$

Here,

$$G_{\bullet}^{(a)}(x, y) = \mathbb{1}_{[0, a]}(x) G_{\bullet}(x, y) \mathbb{1}_{[0, a]}(y).$$

Unfortunately, the construction of Proposition 10 involves inverting a complicated integral operator. Alternatively, choose a non-negative integer  $n$ , expand the denominator into a power series retaining  $n$  first terms, fix  $a = 1$  (quite arbitrarily) and set

$$u_{-m}^{0[n]}(x, k) = \sum_{j=0}^n (-G_{\boxtimes}^{0(1)}(0)Q)^j u_{-m}^0(x, k).$$

**Proposition 11.** *Let  $\operatorname{Re}(k) \geq 0$ . Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that*

$$\int_0^1 x^{1-\varepsilon} |Q(x)| dx < \infty, \quad \varepsilon \geq 0,$$

*is satisfied for  $-\frac{\varepsilon}{2}(n+1) \leq \operatorname{Re}(-m) \leq 0$ . Then there exists a unique  $u_{-m}^{[n]}(\cdot, k) \in \mathcal{N}(L_{m^2} + k^2)$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned} u_{-m}^{[n]}(x, k) - u_{-m}^{0[n]}(x, k) &= o(x^{\frac{1}{2} + \operatorname{Re}(m)}), \\ \partial_x u_{-m}^{[n]}(x, k) - \partial_x u_{-m}^{0[n]}(x, k) &= o(x^{-\frac{1}{2} + \operatorname{Re}(m)}), \quad x \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

Boundary conditions determined by  $u_{-m}^{0[n]}(\cdot, k)$  still have an unpleasant feature – they depend on  $k$ . If we want to have boundary conditions independent of  $k$  we need to assume that  $|\operatorname{Re}(m)| < 1$ . Then it is reasonable to choose  $k = 0$ , which we do setting

$$u_{-m}^{0[n]}(x) := u_{-m}^{0[n]}(x, 0). \quad (1)$$

In particular, under the condition  $|\operatorname{Re}(m)| < 1$  in Proposition 11 we can replace  $u_{-m}^{0[n]}(\cdot, k)$  with  $u_{-m}^{0[n]}(\cdot)$ .

We have seen the condition  $|\operatorname{Re}(m)| < 1$  already in the  $L^2$  theory of Bessel operators.

An important object of our analysis is the **Jost function**  $\mathcal{W}_m(k)$ , that is the Wronskian of the two main solutions  $u_m(\cdot, k)$  and  $v_m(\cdot, k)$ .

**Proposition 12.** *Assume  $\operatorname{Re}(m) > -1$ , as well as assumptions of Corollary 3. Then*

$$\lim_{|k| \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{W}_m(k) = 1, \quad \operatorname{Re}(k) \geq 0. \quad (2)$$

Note the assumption  $\operatorname{Re}(m) > -1$  that appears in the above proposition—again anticipating the basic condition needed in the  $L^2$  analysis.

Let us now describe close realizations of perturbed Bessel operators. As usual, we can introduce the minimal and maximal Bessel perturbed Bessel operator  $L_{m^2}^{\min}$  and  $L_{m^2}^{\max}$ . Under the assumptions of Propositions 1 the basic picture is the same as in the unperturbed case:

$$\begin{aligned} |\operatorname{Re}(m)| \geq 1 & \text{ implies } L_{m^2}^{\min} = L_{m^2}^{\max}, \\ |\operatorname{Re}(m)| < 1 & \text{ implies } \dim \mathcal{D}(L_{m^2}^{\max}) / \mathcal{D}(L_{m^2}^{\min}) = 2. \end{aligned}$$

In particular, for  $|\operatorname{Re}(m)| < 1$ , beside the minimal and maximal realizations, there exists a 1-parameter family of closed realizations of  $L_{m^2}$  defined by b.c. at zero. They can be fixed by specifying continuous linear functionals on  $\mathcal{D}(L_{m^2}^{\max})$  vanishing on  $\mathcal{D}(L_{m^2}^{\min})$ , called **boundary functionals**, forming the **boundary space**

$$\mathcal{B}_{m^2} := (\mathcal{D}(L_{m^2}^{\max}) / \mathcal{D}(L_{m^2}^{\min}))', \quad \text{where the prime denotes the dual.}$$

As we discussed in the general theory, boundary functionals can be efficiently described by the **Wronskian at zero** with an eigenfunctions of  $L_{m^2}$ . Zero-energy eigenfunctions are the simplest. In practice we can use approximate ones.

One can ask about distinguished bases of the boundary space. Under the assumptions of Proposition 1 we have the **principal boundary functional**, which for  $0 \leq \operatorname{Re}(m) < 1$  can be defined as  $\mathcal{W}(x^{\frac{1}{2}+m}, \cdot; 0)$ . There are also **non-principal boundary functionals**, which lead to boundary conditions roughly of the type  $x^{\frac{1}{2}-m}$  for  $m \neq 0$ , or  $x^{\frac{1}{2}}\ln(x)$  for  $m = 0$ .

Let us now impose the assumption

$$\int_0^1 x^{1-\varepsilon} |Q(x)| dx < \infty.$$

If  $2 > \varepsilon > 0$ , then for  $0 \leq \operatorname{Re}(m) \leq \varepsilon/2$  we have a distinguished non-principal boundary functional given by  $\mathcal{W}(x^{\frac{1}{2}-m}, \cdot; 0)$  if  $m \neq 0$  and  $\mathcal{W}(x^{\frac{1}{2}} \ln(x), \cdot; 0)$  if  $m = 0$ . We obtain three families of perturbed Bessel operators

$$\begin{aligned} \left\{ -\frac{\varepsilon}{2} < \operatorname{Re}(m) \right\} &\ni m \mapsto H_m, \\ \left\{ |\operatorname{Re}(m)| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \right\} \times (\mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}) &\ni (m, \kappa) \mapsto H_{m,\kappa}, \\ \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\} &\ni \nu \mapsto H_0^\nu, \end{aligned}$$

analogous to the families of the unperturbed case. All three families are holomorphic except for a singularity at  $(m, \kappa) = (0, -1)$ .

They are defined as the restrictions of  $L_{m^2}$  to the domains:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{D}(H_m) &:= \left\{ f \in \mathcal{D}(L_{m^2}^{\max}) \mid \mathcal{W}(x^{\frac{1}{2}+m}, f; 0) = 0 \right\}, \\ \mathcal{D}(H_{m,\kappa}) &:= \left\{ f \in \mathcal{D}(L_{m^2}^{\max}) \mid \mathcal{W}(x^{\frac{1}{2}+m} + \kappa x^{\frac{1}{2}-m}, f; 0) = 0 \right\}, \quad \kappa \in \mathbb{C}, \\ \mathcal{D}(H_{m,\infty}) &:= \left\{ f \in \mathcal{D}(L_{m^2}^{\max}) \mid \mathcal{W}(x^{\frac{1}{2}-m}, f; 0) = 0 \right\}, \\ \mathcal{D}(H_0^\nu) &:= \left\{ f \in \mathcal{D}(L_0^{\max}) \mid \mathcal{W}(\nu x^{\frac{1}{2}} + x^{\frac{1}{2}} \ln(x), f; 0) = 0 \right\}, \quad \nu \in \mathbb{C}, \\ \mathcal{D}(H_0^\infty) &:= \mathcal{D}(H_0).\end{aligned}$$

**Open Problem 13.** *Under the conditions of Proposition 1, does the family  $m \mapsto H_m$  extend meromorphically from  $\{\operatorname{Re}(m) > 1\}$  to  $\{\operatorname{Re}(m) > -1\}$ ?*

Let us now consider a nonnegative integer  $n$ . Under the assumptions of Proposition 11 we can use the function  $u_{-m}^{0[n]}$ . Then every non-principal boundary functional can be written as

$$\mathcal{W}(\Gamma(1-m)u_{-m}^{0[n]} + \kappa x^{\frac{1}{2}+m}, \cdot; 0)$$

for some  $\kappa \in \mathbb{C}$ . Clearly, it is proportional to  $\mathcal{W}(x^{\frac{1}{2}-m} + \kappa x^{\frac{1}{2}+m}, \cdot; 0)$  for  $n = 0$ . For  $n \geq 1$  it is less canonical. The set of **non-principal boundary conditions** can be viewed as a **1-dimensional affine space**, where we can use  $\mathcal{W}(\Gamma(1-m)u_{-m}^{0[n]}, \cdot; 0)$  as a possible “reference point”.

Physicists often prefer to fix the operator not by a b.c. at zero, but by the behavior of the zero-energy eigenfunction near infinity. The behavior of zero energy eigenfunctions at large distances is responsible for large scale properties of quantum systems. It is described by a parameter called the **scattering length**, which at least in dimension 2 and 3 is popular in physics.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION