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► **To cite this version:**

Nicolae Anghel, Robert Minlos, Jean Ruiz, Valentin Zagrebnov. Lower Spectral Branches of a Spin-Boson Model. 2007. hal-00143558v1

HAL Id: hal-00143558

<https://hal.science/hal-00143558v1>

Preprint submitted on 25 Apr 2007 (v1), last revised 28 Oct 2008 (v2)

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Lower Spectral Branches of a Spin-Boson Model

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Abstract We study the structure of the spectrum of a two-level quantum system weakly coupled to a boson field (spin-boson model). Our analysis allows to avoid the cutoff in the number of bosons, if their spectrum is bounded below by a positive constant.

We show that, for small coupling constant, the lower part of the spectrum of the spin-boson Hamiltonian contains (one or two) isolated eigenvalues and (respectively, one or two) manifolds of atom + 1-boson states indexed by the boson momentum q . The dispersion laws and generalized eigenfunctions of the latter are calculated.

Keywords: Spin-boson model, two-level system, spectral branch

Mathematical Subject Classification: 81Q10, 47A40, 47A10, 47A55

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1 Introduction and the main result

The paper is devoted to the study of the low-lying spectrum of the Hamiltonian of the so-called "spin-boson" model. The Hilbert space of the model is

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathcal{F}_s,$$

where \mathcal{F}_s is the symmetric (boson) Fock space (see [3]):

$$\mathcal{F}_s = \mathcal{F}_s(L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)) = \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{F}^{(n)},$$

with $\mathcal{F}^{(0)} = \mathbb{C}$, $\mathcal{F}^{(n)} = (L^2(\mathbb{R}^d))_{\text{sym}}^{\otimes n}$ ($n \geq 1$) the symmetric tensor power, endowed with the scalar product

$$(f, g)_{\mathcal{F}^{(n)}} = \begin{cases} f\bar{g}, & \text{if } n = 0, \\ (n!)^{-1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{dn}} f(k_1, \dots, k_n) \overline{g(k_1, \dots, k_n)} dk_1 \dots dk_n, & \text{if } n \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

The Hamiltonian has the form

$$\begin{aligned} H &= H_0 + H_{int}, \\ H_0 &= \varepsilon \sigma_3 \otimes \mathbb{I} + \mathbb{I} \otimes \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \omega(q) a^*(q) a(q) dq, \\ H_{int} &= \alpha \sigma_1 \otimes \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (\lambda(q) a^*(q) + \overline{\lambda(q)} a(q)) dq. \end{aligned} \tag{1.1}$$

Here,

- σ_3, σ_1 , are the Pauli matrices

$$\sigma_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix};$$

- $a^*(k), a(k)$ are the creation and annihilation operators [3]: for $\phi \in L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$, $a(\phi) = \int a(q)\phi(q)dq$, $a^*(\phi) = \int a(q)\overline{\phi(q)}dq$ act on $F = (f_0, f_1(k_1), \dots, f_n(k_1, \dots, k_n), \dots) \in \mathcal{F}_s$ according to the following equations

$$(a(\phi)F)_n(k_1, \dots, k_n) = \int f_{n+1}(k_1, \dots, k_n, k)\phi(k)dk,$$

$$(a^*(\phi)F)_n(k_1, \dots, k_n) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n = 0, \\ \sum_{i=1}^n f_{n-1}(k_1, \dots, \check{k}_i, \dots, k_n)\overline{\phi(k_i)}; & \text{if } n \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

- $\omega(k) > 0$ (the boson dispersion law) and $\lambda(k)$ (the form-factor) are functions whose properties will be discussed below;
- $\varepsilon > 0$ and $\alpha \geq 0$ are real parameters, whereby we suppose $\alpha \ll 1$.

The *properties* we require for $\omega(k), \lambda(k)$ are the following:

1. $\omega(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ is a continuously differentiable function, having a unique non-degenerate minimum at the origin $\omega(0) = \kappa$, and with $\partial\omega(q) \neq 0$ for $q \neq 0$. Moreover, $\lim_{q \rightarrow \infty} |\partial\omega(q)|/\omega(q) = 0$;
2. $\lambda(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a continuously differentiable function, dominated by a bounded positive square integrable function $h : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow (0, 1]$, i.e.

$$|\lambda(q)| \leq h(q), \quad |\partial\lambda(q)| \leq Ch(q),$$

for some $C > 0$;

3. on every level set $\Sigma_x = \omega^{-1}(x)$ of the function ω , the function λ is not identically equal to zero. i.e. for all $\kappa \leq x < \infty$, $\lambda|_{\Sigma_x} \neq 0$.

The Hamiltonian H_0 of the "free" (non-interacting) system has two simple eigenvalues $e_0^0 = -\varepsilon$, $e_1^0 = \varepsilon$; the corresponding one-dimensional eigenspaces will be denoted $\mathcal{H}_{0,0}^{(i)} \subset \mathcal{H}$. Besides, there exist two sequences $\mathcal{H}_{0,n}^{(i)}$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ($i = 0, 1$) of H_0 -invariant subspaces, and (under assumption 1), in each $\mathcal{H}_{0,n}^{(i)}$, the spectrum of H_0 is continuous and fills the half-infinite interval $[\lambda_{i,n}^0, \infty)$, where $\lambda_{i,n}^0 = e_i^0 + n\kappa$ ($i = 0, 1$; $n = 1, 2, \dots$).

The paper is concerned with the description of the structure of the lower part of the spectrum of the weakly interacting ($0 < \alpha \ll 1$) system. Namely, our *main result* (see Theorem 5.1) can be formulated as follows:

- (i) Below the continuous spectrum, there exist either one, $e_0 < -\varepsilon$, or two, $e_0 < -\varepsilon < e_1 < \varepsilon$, simple eigenvalues of H ; the corresponding one-dimensional eigenspaces will be denoted $\mathcal{H}_0^{(i)} = \{\mathbb{C}F_0^{(i)}\}$, $i = 0, 1$.

- (ii) In the orthogonal complement $[\mathcal{H}_0^{(0)} \oplus \mathcal{H}_0^{(1)\perp}]$, there exist, depending on the number of eigenvalues, either one, or two mutually orthogonal, invariant subspaces $\mathcal{H}_1^{(i)}$, such that the restriction $H|_{\mathcal{H}_1^{(i)}}$ are unitarily equivalent to the operators of multiplication by the functions

$$e_i + \omega(q)$$

acting in the Hilbert spaces $L_2(G_\eta^{(i)})$, respectively, where the domains $G_\eta^{(i)} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ are defined by

$$G_\eta^{(i)} = \{q \in \mathbb{R}^d : e_i + \omega(q) < \lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta\};$$

here, $0 < \eta = \eta(\alpha)$, where $\eta = \eta(\alpha)$ is small for small α . Thereby, the unitaries establishing the equivalence are explicitly constructed.

Remark 1.1 *In fact, the two points above exhaust (though this is not explicitly shown in the paper) the spectrum of H in the interval $(-\infty, \lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta)$, meaning that the spectrum of H in the orthogonal complement $\{\mathcal{H}_0^{(0)} \oplus \mathcal{H}_0^{(1)} \oplus \mathcal{H}_1^{(0)} \oplus \mathcal{H}_1^{(1)}\}^\perp$ has no point below $\lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta$.*

The method, by which the subspaces $\mathcal{H}_n^{(i)}$, $n = 0, 1$, $i = 0, 1$ and the spectrum of H within them are constructed, consists in the following: consider the equation

$$(H - z\mathbb{I})F = 0, \quad F \in \mathcal{H}, \quad z \in \mathbb{R}, \quad (1.2)$$

which determines the eigenvectors F and eigenvalues z . This equation can be written as an infinite system of equations for the components of the vector F ,

$$F = \{f_0(\sigma), f_1(\sigma, k), \dots, f_n(\sigma, k_1, \dots, k_n), \dots\}, \quad \sigma = \pm 1, k_i \in \mathbb{R}^d, \quad (1.3)$$

where f_n are symmetric functions of the variables k_1, \dots, k_n . After eliminating in a special effective way all higher components f_n , $n = 2, 3, \dots$ from Eq. (1.2), we are left with an equation for the vector $F_{\leq 1} = (f_0, f_1)$ of the form:

$$A(z)F_{\leq 1} - zF_{\leq 1} = 0, \quad (1.4)$$

where $\{A(\xi), \xi \in (-\infty, \lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta)\}$ is a family of generalized Friedrichs operators (see, e.g. [1]). For each given ξ , the operator $A(\xi)$ has (one or) two eigenvalues $e_i(\xi)$, $i = 0, 1$, which can be calculated, e.g. as the zeros of the corresponding Fredholm determinant, while its continuous spectrum is found using scattering theory and coincides with the spectrum of the operators of multiplication by certain functions $e_i(q; \xi)$ in the space $L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$. Finally, the solutions e_i of the equations $e_i(\xi) = \xi$ define the discrete spectrum of H , and the solutions $\xi^{(i)}(q)$ of the equations $e_i(q; \xi) = \xi$, which are shown to be equal to $e_i + \omega(q)$, give its continuous spectrum.

The method sketched above has been applied in authors' papers [10], [1], where a model of a quantum particle interacting with a massive scalar Bose field was considered and the lower branch of the spectrum of its Hamiltonian (*polaron*) has been studied, and also in [11], for the analogous problem in a model of a quantum particle interacting with a massive vector Bose field (similar to the *Pauli-Fierz* model in electrodynamics).

Remark 1.2 *It should be noted that our results concerning the continuous branches of the spectrum of the Hamiltonian 1.1 are already contained in the paper [5], but there all invariant subspaces of H are constructed using the scattering theory, under condition that its eigenvalues and eigenvectors are known. Besides, analogous results are contained in the papers [7], [2], [9], [12], and also in [8], [17] (where, however, the Hamiltonian H with a "cutoff in the number of bosons" was considered).*

Remark 1.3 *Beside the definition (adopted here and in the papers cited above) of the ground state as a certain vector $\Psi \in \mathcal{H}$, there exist another ways of approaching this notion. For instance, one may consider the KMS state (on a suitable algebra \mathcal{A} of quasilocal observables) associated to H and to a certain temperature $T > 0$, and take its limit $T \rightarrow 0$. This is the approach adopted in [16]. Finally, one may directly define the ground state as a state ω over \mathcal{A} satisfying $\omega(A^*[H, A]) \geq 0$ for all $A \in \mathcal{A}$ such that the commutator $[H, A]$ is defined (the so-called algebraic approach, see [4]).*

The paper consists of three sections, beside this introduction. In Section 2, the procedure of elimination of the higher components of the vector F from Eq. (1.2) and its reduction to Eq. (1.4) is presented in detail. Thereby we consider directly the general case, where the components f_n , $n > n_0$ with an arbitrary $n_0 \geq 0$ are eliminated. In Sections 3, 4, Eq. (1.4) is analyzed for $n_0 = 0$ and $n_0 = 1$ and the invariant subspaces of the operator H indicated above, along with its (discrete and continuous) spectra in them, are constructed.

2 Reduction to a finite number of bosons

We shall show here how the spectral problem for H can be reduced, at sufficiently small coupling, to an equivalent problem within the subspace with at most n bosons.

It will be convenient to represent \mathcal{H} as a space of \mathbb{C}^2 -valued functions:

$$\mathcal{H} = L^2(\mathcal{C}, \mathbb{C}^2; d\mu), \quad (2.1)$$

where $\mathcal{C} = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{C}_n$ is the set of all finite subsets of \mathbb{R}^d , thereby $Q \in \mathcal{C}_n$ if $|Q| = n$, and $d\mu$ is the so-called Lebesgue-Poisson measure:

$$d\mu(Q) = (1/|Q|!) \prod_{q \in Q} dq. \quad (2.2)$$

Also, for $Q \in \mathcal{C}$, let $\omega(Q) = \sum_{q \in Q} \omega(q)$. To simplify notation, we shall write $Q \setminus q := Q \setminus \{q\}$ and $Q \cup q := Q \cup \{q\}$.

The Hamiltonian of the spin-boson model (1.1) writes in this representation

$$\begin{aligned} (H_0 F)(Q) &= [\varepsilon \sigma_3 + \omega(Q)] F(Q) \\ (H_{int} F)(Q) &= \alpha \sigma_1 [\sum_{q \in Q} \lambda(q) F(Q \setminus q) + \int \overline{\lambda(k)} F(Q \cup k) dk]. \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

Let us consider the orthogonal sum decomposition:

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_{\leq n} \oplus \mathcal{H}_{> n}, \quad (2.4)$$

where $\mathcal{H}_{\leq n} = \{F \in \mathcal{H}; F(Q) = 0, \forall Q, |Q| > n\} \sim L^2(\bigcup_{k \leq n} \mathcal{C}_k, \mathbb{C}^2; d\mu)$. Accordingly, the Hamiltonian (2.3) has a matrix representation

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} A_n & C_n \\ C_n^* & B_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2.5)$$

where $A_n = P_{\mathcal{H}_{\leq n}} H P_{\mathcal{H}_{\leq n}}$, $B_n = P_{\mathcal{H}_{> n}} H P_{\mathcal{H}_{> n}}$ (here, $P_{\mathcal{H}_{> n}}$, $P_{\mathcal{H}_{\leq n}}$ denote the orthogonal projections on the corresponding subspaces), and $C_n : \mathcal{H}_{> n} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\leq n}$ is given by

$$(C_n F)(Q) = \delta_{|Q|, n} \alpha \sigma_1 \int \overline{\lambda(k)} F(Q \cup k) dk, \quad (2.6)$$

while $C_n^* : \mathcal{H}_{\leq n} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{> n}$ equals

$$(C_n^* F)(Q) = \delta_{|Q|, n+1} \alpha \sigma_1 \sum_{k \in Q} F(Q \setminus k) \lambda(k). \quad (2.7)$$

As $\text{Ran}(C_n) \subset \mathcal{H}_n$, C_n^* can be viewed as an operator $:\mathcal{H}_n \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{> n}$.

The restriction to $\mathcal{H}_{\leq n}$ of the resolvent of the Hamiltonian is obtained by solving for $F_n \in \mathcal{H}_{\leq n}$, $\tilde{F}_n \in \mathcal{H}_{> n}$ the system of two equations, where $G \in \mathcal{H}_{\leq n}$:

$$\begin{cases} (A_n - z\mathbb{I}_{\leq n})F_n + C_n \tilde{F}_n = G \\ C_n^* F_n + (B_n - z\mathbb{I}_{> n})\tilde{F}_n = 0, \end{cases} \quad (2.8)$$

where $\mathbb{I}_{\leq n}, \mathbb{I}_{> n}$ are the unit operators in $\mathcal{H}_{\leq n}, \mathcal{H}_{> n}$, respectively.

For $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \text{spec}(B_n)$, the second Eq.(2.8) can be solved for \tilde{F}_n . Upon insertion of the solution into the first Eq.(2.8), one obtains a reduced problem in $\mathcal{H}_{\leq n}$:

$$(A_n - C_n(B_n - z\mathbb{I}_{> n})^{-1}C_n^* - z)F_n = G. \quad (2.9)$$

If the operator in the l.h.s. is invertible and $F_n(z)$ is the solution of Eq.(2.9), then $(F_n(z), \tilde{F}_n(z))$, where

$$\tilde{F}_n(z) = -(B_n - z\mathbb{I}_{> n})^{-1}C_n^* F_n(z), \quad (2.10)$$

is the unique solution of Eq.(2.8)

Our next task is to obtain a good characterization of the operator

$$M_n(z) := (B_n - z\mathbb{I}_{> n})^{-1}C_n^* : \mathcal{H}_n \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{> n}. \quad (2.11)$$

Let $\eta > 0$, and define

$$D_{n, \eta} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \Re z < \lambda_{0, n+1}^0 - \eta\}. \quad (2.12)$$

(We remind that $\lambda_{0, n}^0 := -\varepsilon + n\kappa$ is the first threshold of the n -boson branch of H_0 .)

Lemma 2.1 *There exists $\alpha_0 = \alpha_0(n, \eta)$, such that, for any $\alpha < \alpha_0$ and $z \in D_{n, \eta}$, the operator $M_n(z)$, Eq. (2.11), is bounded.*

Proof. We represent B_n in the form

$$B_n = B_n^0 + V_n,$$

where

$$(B_n^0 F)(Q) = (\varepsilon \sigma_3 + \omega(Q)) F(Q),$$

$$(V_n F)(Q) = \alpha \sigma_1 \left[\sum_{k \in Q} \lambda(k) F(Q \setminus k) + \int \overline{\lambda(k)} F(Q \cup k) dk \right], \quad F \in \mathcal{H}_{>n}.$$

Hence, $M_n(z)$ is (formally) represented as

$$M_n(z) = (\mathbb{I}_{>n} + (B_n^0 - z\mathbb{I}_{>n})^{-1} V_n)^{-1} (B_n^0 - z\mathbb{I}_{>n})^{-1} C_n^*. \quad (2.13)$$

The assertion of Lemma 2.1 follows from the representation (2.13), if we prove that:

1. $\|(B_n^0 - z\mathbb{I}_{>n})^{-1} V_n\|_{\mathcal{H}_{>n}} < 1$ for $z \in D_{n, \eta}$ and α sufficiently small;
2. $\|(B_n^0 - z\mathbb{I}_{>n})^{-1} C_n^*\|_{\mathcal{H}_{>n}} < \infty$.

To prove 1 we split $(B_n^0 - z\mathbb{I}_{>n})^{-1} V_n$ into the sum of two terms:

$$(S_1(z)F)(Q) = \begin{cases} (\varepsilon \sigma_3 + \omega(Q) - z)^{-1} \alpha \sigma_1 \sum_{q \in Q} F(Q \setminus q) \lambda(q), & \text{if } |Q| > n + 1 \\ 0, & \text{if } |Q| = n + 1 \end{cases}$$

$$(S_2(z)F)(Q) = (\varepsilon \sigma_3 + \omega(Q) - z)^{-1} \alpha \sigma_1 \int \overline{\lambda(k)} F(Q \cup k) dk$$

and estimate separately their norms.

Let $F_l \in L_2(\mathbb{R}^{dl})$ be the components of F . We have, for $l \geq n + 2$,

$$\|(S_1(z)F)_l\|_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^{dl})} < \frac{l\alpha \|\lambda\|_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)}}{(l - n - 1)\kappa + \eta} \|F_{l-1}\|_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^{d(l-1)})}.$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \|S_1(z)F\|_{\mathcal{H}_{>n}}^2 &= \sum_{l \geq n+1} \frac{1}{l!} \|(S_1(z)F)_l\|_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^{dl})}^2 \\ &\leq \alpha^2 \|\lambda\|_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)}^2 \sum_{l \geq n+2} \frac{l}{((l-n-1)\kappa + \eta)^2} \frac{\|F_{l-1}\|_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^{d(l-1)})}^2}{(l-1)!} \\ &\leq \alpha^2 \|\lambda\|_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)}^2 \max_{l \geq n+2} \frac{l}{((l-n-1)\kappa + \eta)^2} \|F\|_{\mathcal{H}_{>n}}^2 = \alpha^2 \frac{(n+2)\|\lambda\|_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)}^2}{(\kappa + \eta)^2} \|F\|_{\mathcal{H}_{>n}}^2. \end{aligned}$$

A similar calculation gives the following estimate of the second term:

$$\|S_2(z)F\|_{\mathcal{H}_{>n}}^2 \leq \alpha^2 \frac{(n+1)\|\lambda\|_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)}^2}{\eta^2} \|F\|_{\mathcal{H}_{>n}}^2.$$

As a consequence, the inequality in 1 holds for $z \in D_{n,\eta}$, if

$$\alpha < \frac{1}{2\|\lambda\|_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)}} \min\left\{\frac{\kappa + \eta}{\sqrt{n+2}}, \frac{\eta}{\sqrt{n+1}}\right\}$$

Point 2 is proved similarly. \square

We shall show that, for $z \in D_{n,\eta}$ and for α sufficiently small, $M_n(z)$, Eq.(2.11) has a particular representation, which we now define. Let \mathcal{M}_2 be the space of square 2×2 complex matrices with some norm $|\cdot|$ (e.g. $|n| = \frac{1}{2} \max_{i,j} |n_{i,j}|$), and $h : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow (0, 1]$ be the continuous square-integrable function appearing in assumption 2.

Definition 2.2 *An operator $M_n : \mathcal{H}_n \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{>n}$ is said to have a h -regular representation in terms of coefficient functions, if there exist continuously differentiable \mathcal{M}_2 -valued functions*

$$\mu_n^{(m)}(\cdot; \cdot; \cdot) : \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C}_{n-m} \times (\mathbb{R}^d)^m \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_2, \quad m = 0, 1, \dots, n,$$

where $\mu_n^{(m)}(Q_1; \cdot; \cdot) = 0$ for $|Q_1| \leq m$, and $\mu_n^{(m)}(Q_1; Q_2; \cdot) = 0$ for $Q_1 \cap Q_2 \neq \emptyset$, satisfying, for some $M > 0$, the estimation

$$\sup_{Q_2 \in \mathcal{C}_{n-m}} \max_{|\alpha| \leq 1} |\partial^\alpha \mu_n^{(m)}(Q_1; Q_2; k_1, \dots, k_m)| < M \prod_{q \in Q_1} h(q) \prod_{i=1}^m h(k_i), \quad (2.14)$$

such that, for $f \in \mathcal{H}_n$ and $|Q| > n$,

$$\begin{aligned} [M_n f](Q) &= \sum_{m=0}^n \sum_{\hat{Q} \subset Q, |\hat{Q}|=n-m} \int \mu_n^{(m)}(Q \setminus \hat{Q}; \hat{Q}; k_1, \dots, k_m) \\ &\quad \times f(\hat{Q} \cup \{k_1, \dots, k_m\}) dk_1 \dots dk_m. \end{aligned} \quad (2.15)$$

Here and below, we use the notation: for a multiindex $\alpha = \{\alpha_k^i; k = 1, \dots, n, i = 1, \dots, d\}$ and $Q = \{q_1, \dots, q_n\} \in \mathcal{C}_n$,

$$(\partial^\alpha f)(Q) = \prod_{i,k} \frac{\partial^{\alpha_k^i}}{\partial (q_k^i)^{\alpha_k^i}} f(Q),$$

$$|\alpha| = \sum_{i,k} \alpha_k^i.$$

In Eq. (2.15), the sum over \hat{Q} is a symmetrization, so that the l.h.s. depends only on the set Q . As f is permutation symmetric, it is not necessary to impose the symmetry of $\mu_n^{(m)}$ with respect to the k 's. The estimation (2.14) means that the function $\mu_n^{(m)}$ and

its gradient are bounded uniformly, in particular M is independent of $|Q_1|$. The set of all coefficient functions for a given h and n is a Banach space \mathcal{B}_n with the norm $\|\mu_n\| = \inf M$, where the infimum is over all M for which Eq.(2.14) holds.

In order to show that $M_n(z)$ has a regular representation for all $z \in D_{n,\eta}$ and determine the corresponding functions $\mu_n^{(m)}(z)$, we shall use the identity

$$[1 + (B_n^{(0)} - z\mathbb{I}_{>n})^{-1}V_n]M_n(z) = (B_n^{(0)} - z\mathbb{I}_{>n})^{-1}C_n^*. \quad (2.16)$$

Suppose an operator $M_n : \mathcal{H}_n \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{>n}$ is defined as in Eq.(2.15) by the coefficient functions $\mu_n = \{\mu_n^{(m)}(Q_1; Q_2; k_1, \dots, k_m)\}$, where $|Q_2| = n - m$. Then, one can easily see that $(B_n^{(0)} - z\mathbb{I}_{>n})^{-1}V_n M_n$ is likewise defined by a sequence of coefficient functions, $\{[\Gamma(z)\mu_n]^{(m)}, m = 0, \dots, n\}$, with

$$\begin{aligned} [\Gamma(z)\mu_n]^{(m)}(Q_1; Q_2; k_1, \dots, k_m) &= \alpha(\varepsilon\sigma_3 + \omega(Q_1 \cup Q_2) - z)^{-1}\sigma_1 \\ &\times \left\{ \sum_{q \in Q_1} \lambda(q)\mu_n^{(m)}(Q_1 \setminus q; Q_2; k_1, \dots, k_m) \right. \\ &+ \int \bar{\lambda}(q')\mu_n^{(m)}(Q_1 \cup q'; Q_2; k_1, \dots, k_m)dq' \\ &\left. + \bar{\lambda}(k_m)\mu_n^{(m-1)}(Q_1; Q_2 \cup k_m; k_1, \dots, k_{m-1}) \right\}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.17)$$

where the last term does not appear if $m = 0$. Let us also note that the r.h.s. of Eq.(2.16) allows the representation Eq.(2.15) with the coefficient functions $\hat{\mu}_n(z)$:

$$[\hat{\mu}_n(z)]^{(m)}(Q_1, Q_2; k_1, \dots, k_m) = \delta_{m,0}\delta_{|Q_1|,1}\alpha[\varepsilon\sigma_3 + \omega(Q_2 \cup q_1) - z]^{-1}\sigma_1\lambda(q_1), \quad (2.18)$$

where we put $Q_1 = \{q_1\}$. Therefore, Eq.(2.16) can be written as a fixed-point equation for the coefficients $\mu_n = \mu_n(z)$:

$$\mu_n + \Gamma(z)\mu_n = \hat{\mu}_n(z). \quad (2.19)$$

Proposition 2.3 *For any $\eta > 0$ and $n \geq 0$, there exists $\alpha_0(\eta, n) > 0$, such that for any $\alpha < \alpha_0(\eta, n)$, and for all $z \in D_{n,\eta}$, Eq. (2.19) has a unique solution $\mu_n(z) \in \mathcal{B}_n$, which is \mathcal{B}_n -valued analytic in $D_{n,\eta}$ and $\|\mu_n(z)\| \leq K\alpha/\eta$ for some constant K . Moreover,*

$$\mu_n^{(m)}(z; Q_1; Q_2; k_1, \dots, k_m) = \mu_m^{(m)}(z - \omega(Q_2); Q_1; \emptyset; k_1, \dots, k_m) \quad (2.20)$$

Proof. As both sides of Eq. (2.17) defining $\Gamma(z)$ contain the same Q_2 and the same m -tuple (k_1, \dots, k_m) , it will be convenient to treat these variables as parameters, define (for $|Q_2| = n - m$) the functions of Q_1 :

$$\nu_{Q_2, (k_1, \dots, k_m)}^{(m)}(Q_1) := \mu_n^{(m)}(Q_1; Q_2; k_1, \dots, k_m), \quad (2.21)$$

and remark that

$$\begin{aligned} [\Gamma(z)\mu_n]^{(m)}(Q_1; Q_2; k_1, \dots, k_m) &= [\Delta_m(z - \omega(Q_2))\nu_{Q_2, (k_1, \dots, k_m)}^{(m)}](Q_1) \\ &+ \alpha[\varepsilon\sigma_3 + \omega(Q_1) - (z - \omega(Q_2))]^{-1} \cdot \sigma_1\lambda(k_m)\nu_{Q_2 \cup k_m, (k_1, \dots, k_{m-1})}^{(m-1)}(Q_1), \end{aligned} \quad (2.22)$$

where we used that $\omega(Q_1 \cup Q_2) = \omega(Q_1) + \omega(Q_2)$ for $Q_1 \cap Q_2 = \emptyset$. The operator $\Delta_m(z)$, $z \in D_{m,\eta}$ acts on the functions $\nu(Q)$ (such that $\nu(Q) = 0$ for $|Q| \leq m$) according to the formula

$$\begin{aligned} (\Delta_m(z)\nu)(Q) &= \chi_{>m}(Q)\alpha(\varepsilon\sigma_3 + \omega(Q) - z)^{-1} \\ &\quad \times \sigma_1 \left\{ \sum_{q \in Q} \lambda(q)\nu(Q \setminus q) + \int \overline{\lambda(k)}\nu(Q \cup k)dk \right\}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.23)$$

where $\chi_{>m}(Q)$ is the indicator of the set $\mathcal{C}_{>m}$.

Let us consider the Banach space $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}$ of all continuously differentiable functions $\{\nu : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_2\}$, for which

$$\|\nu\| = \sup_{Q \in \mathcal{C}} \frac{\max_{|\alpha| \leq 1} |\partial^\alpha \nu(Q)|}{\prod_{q \in Q} h(q)} < \infty, \quad (2.24)$$

where $|\cdot|$ denotes the norm in \mathcal{M}_2 . Also, let $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}_{>m} \subset \tilde{\mathcal{B}}$ be the subspace of functions ν which vanish on $\mathcal{C}_{\leq m}$, i.e. $\nu(Q) = 0, \forall Q, |Q| \leq m$.

Lemma 2.4 *For every $\eta > 0$ and $m \geq 0$, there exists $\hat{\alpha}_0(\eta, m) > 0$, such that for any $\alpha < \hat{\alpha}_0(\eta, m)$, $\Delta_m(z)$ is a bounded operator in $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}_{>m}$, norm-analytic of z in $D_{m,\eta}$, and*

$$\sup_{z \in D_{m,\eta}} \|\Delta_m(z)\| \leq 1/2. \quad (2.25)$$

Also, the function

$$\hat{\nu}(z - \omega(Q_2); \cdot) := \hat{\mu}_n^{(0)}(z; \cdot; Q_2; \emptyset) = \hat{\mu}_0^{(0)}(z - \omega(Q_2); \cdot; \emptyset; \emptyset)$$

is a $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}_{>0}$ -valued analytic function of $z \in D_{n,\eta}$ ($n = |Q_2|$) and $\|\hat{\nu}(z - \omega(Q_2))\| \leq C\alpha/\eta$ in $D_{n,\eta}$ for a certain constant C .

The proof of this lemma is similar to that of Lemma 2.1. □

Remark 2.5 *We shall consider also the Banach space $\tilde{\tilde{\mathcal{B}}}$ consisting of continuously differentiable functions $\nu : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2$ with the norm $\|\nu\|$ given by Eq. (2.24), in which now $|\cdot|$ means the usual norm on \mathbb{C}^2 . Its subspaces $\tilde{\tilde{\mathcal{B}}}_n, \tilde{\tilde{\mathcal{B}}}_{\leq n}, \tilde{\tilde{\mathcal{B}}}_{>n}$ are introduced as above. It follows from Proposition 2.3 and the representation (2.15) that, for all $z \in D_{n,\eta}$, $M_n(z)$ applies the space $\tilde{\tilde{\mathcal{B}}}'_n$, the dual space of $\tilde{\tilde{\mathcal{B}}}_n$, into $\tilde{\tilde{\mathcal{B}}}'_{>n} \subset \mathcal{H}_{>n}$ and is bounded with respect to the norm of $\tilde{\tilde{\mathcal{B}}}'$. Besides, assumptions 1 and 2 imply that the operator H can be extended to an unbounded operator acting in $\tilde{\tilde{\mathcal{B}}}'$ (denoted also H) on a domain including all finite (with respect to the spatial variables, as well as to the number of variables) elements of $\tilde{\tilde{\mathcal{B}}}'$:*

$$\{\phi \in \tilde{\tilde{\mathcal{B}}}' : \phi(Q) = 0, \text{ if } \exists R, \exists N, \text{ dist}(0, Q) > R \text{ or } |Q| > N\}$$

In this way, as follows from Eq. (2.22), $\nu_{Q_2, \emptyset}^{(0)}(\cdot)$ satisfies the equation (2.19) for $m = 0$, which writes as

$$\nu(\cdot) + \Delta_0(z - \omega(Q_2))\nu(\cdot) = \hat{\nu}(z - \omega(Q_2); \cdot). \quad (2.26)$$

If $z \in D_{n, \eta}$, the difference $z - \omega(Q_2)$ belongs to $D_{0, \eta}$, therefore, according to Lemma 2.4, for $\alpha < \alpha_0(\eta, 0)$, the equation has one solution

$$\nu_{Q_2, \emptyset}^{(0)}(z; \cdot) = \nu_{\emptyset, \emptyset}^{(0)}(z - \omega(Q_2); \cdot) \in \tilde{\mathcal{B}}_{>0}, \quad (2.27)$$

where the equality comes from the fact that both sides obey the same equation (2.26), therefore both equal its unique solution, $(\mathbb{I} + \Delta_0(z - \omega(Q_2)))^{-1} \hat{\nu}(z - \omega(Q_2))$. Obviously, the solution is analytic of $z \in D_{n, \eta}$ and (by the smoothness of ω) continuously differentiable of $Q_2 = \{q_1, \dots, q_n\}$. For its norm we have, by Lemma 2.4, the estimate:

$$\sup_{z \in D_{n, \eta}, Q_2 \in \mathcal{C}_n} \|\nu_{Q_2, \emptyset}^{(0)}(z)\| \leq \sup_{z \in D_{0, \eta}} \|(\mathbb{I} + \Delta_0(z))^{-1}\| \|\hat{\nu}(z)\| < 2C\alpha/\eta. \quad (2.28)$$

We consider next the case $m > 0$, $m \leq n$. Eq. (2.19) satisfied by $\nu_{Q_2, (k_1, \dots, k_m)}^{(m)}(\cdot)$ writes

$$\begin{aligned} & \nu(\cdot) + \Delta_m(z - \omega(Q_2))\nu(\cdot) \\ &= -\alpha[\varepsilon\sigma_3 + \omega(\cdot) - (z - \omega(Q_2))]^{-1} \sigma_1 \lambda(k_m) \nu_{Q_2 \cup k_m, (k_1, \dots, k_{m-1})}^{(m-1)}(z; \cdot), \end{aligned} \quad (2.29)$$

and, for $\alpha < \alpha_0(\eta, m)$, allows to determine inductively $\nu_{Q_2, (k_1, \dots, k_m)}^{(m)}(z; \cdot)$ in terms of the solution $\nu_{Q_2 \cup k_m, (k_1, \dots, k_{m-1})}^{(m-1)}(z; \cdot)$ of the $(m-1)$ th equation. Suppose that $\nu_{Q'_2, (k_1, \dots, k_{m-1})}^{(m-1)}(z)(\cdot)$ has been shown to fulfill:

1. For $z \in D_{|Q'_2|+m-1, \eta}$,

$$\nu_{Q'_2, (k_1, \dots, k_{m-1})}^{(m-1)}(z) = \nu_{\emptyset, (k_1, \dots, k_{m-1})}^{(m-1)}(z - \omega(Q'_2)) \in \mathcal{B}_{>m-1}, \quad (2.30)$$

and

$$\|\nu_{\emptyset, (k_1, \dots, k_{m-1})}^{(m-1)}(z)\|_{\tilde{\mathcal{B}}_{>m-1}} < C2^m(\alpha/\eta)^m \prod_{i=1}^{m-1} h(k_i); \quad (2.31)$$

2. $\nu_{\emptyset, (k_1, \dots, k_{m-1})}^{(m-1)}(z)$ is a $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}_{>m-1}$ -analytic function of $z \in D_{m-1, \eta}$, differentiable of k_1, \dots, k_{m-1} and

$$\sup_{z \in D_{m-1, \eta}} \max_{1 \leq i \leq m-1} |\partial_{k_i} \nu_{\emptyset, (k_1, \dots, k_{m-1})}^{(m-1)}(z; Q)| \leq C'2^m(\alpha/\eta)^m \prod_{i=1}^{m-1} h(k_i) \prod_{q \in Q} h(q), \quad (2.32)$$

where the constants C, C' do not depend on $m, k_1, \dots, k_{m-1}, Q$.

Remark that, by Eqs. (2.27) and (2.28), $\nu_{Q_2, \emptyset}^{(0)}(z)$ fulfills both conditions.

Using Lemma 2.4 we find that Eq. (2.29) has, for $\alpha < \alpha_0(\eta, m)$ and $z \in D_{|Q_2|+m}$, one solution

$$\begin{aligned} & \nu_{Q_2, (k_1, \dots, k_m)}^{(m)}(z; \cdot) \\ &= (\mathbb{I} + \Delta_m(z - \omega(Q_2)))^{-1} \alpha [\varepsilon \sigma_3 + \omega(\cdot) - (z - \omega(Q_2))]^{-1} \sigma_1 \lambda(k_m) \nu_{Q_2 \cup k_m, (k_1, \dots, k_{m-1})}^{(m-1)}(z; \cdot) \end{aligned} \quad (2.33)$$

which has the analogous properties. This proves the existence of the coefficient functions $\mu_n^{(m)}(z; Q_1; Q_2; k_1, \dots, k_m)$ and their estimates (2.14).

The equality (2.30) in the case $m > 0$ follows again by induction with respect to m : Taking $Q_2 = \emptyset$ in Eq. (2.33), we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & \nu_{\emptyset, (k_1, \dots, k_m)}^{(m)}(z) \\ &= (\mathbb{I} + \Delta_m(z))^{-1} \alpha [\varepsilon \sigma_3 + \omega(\cdot) - z]^{-1} \sigma_1 \lambda(k_m) \nu_{\{k_m\}, (k_1, \dots, k_{m-1})}^{(m-1)}(z; \cdot) \end{aligned} \quad (2.34)$$

Suppose that (2.30) holds true; then,

$$\nu_{Q_2 \cup k_m, (k_1, \dots, k_{m-1})}^{(m-1)}(z; \cdot) = \nu_{\{k_m\}, (k_1, \dots, k_{m-1})}^{(m-1)}(z - \omega(Q_2); \cdot) = \nu_{\emptyset, (k_1, \dots, k_{m-1})}^{(m-1)}(z - \omega(Q_2) - \omega(k_m); \cdot),$$

wherefrom it follows that the r.h.s. of Eq. (2.34) written for $z \mapsto z - \omega(Q_2)$ coincides with the r.h.s. of Eq. (2.33). This proves (2.30) for m , hence the equality (2.20).

The proposition 2.3 is proved. \square

The following corollary collects the information on the structure of the operator $C_n(B_n - z\mathbb{I}_{>n})^{-1} C_n^*$ acting in \mathcal{H}_n implied by the regular representation of $M_n(z)$.

Corollary 2.6 *The following representation holds: for $\alpha < \alpha_0(\eta, n)$, and $f \in \mathcal{H}_n$, $Q \in \mathcal{C}_n$,*

$$\begin{aligned} & [C_n(B_n - z\mathbb{I}_{>n})^{-1} C_n^* f](Q) = m_n(z; Q) f(Q) + \\ & \sum_{m=1}^n \sum_{Q_1 \subset Q; |Q_1|=m} \int \hat{D}_{n,m}(z; Q_1; Q \setminus Q_1; k_1, \dots, k_m) f((Q \setminus Q_1) \cup \{k_1, \dots, k_m\}) dk_1 \dots dk_m, \end{aligned} \quad (2.35)$$

where

1. $m_n(z; Q) = m_0(z - \omega(Q); \emptyset)$ is analytic of $z \in D_{n,\eta}$, and

$$|m_n(z; Q)| \leq 2C'(\alpha^2/\eta) \|\lambda\|_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)}^2;$$

Hence, $m_n(z; Q)$ is continuously differentiable of $Q \in \mathcal{C}_n$, as well.

2. $\hat{D}_{n,m}(z; Q_1; Q_2; k_1, \dots, k_m) = \hat{D}_{m,m}(z - \omega(Q_2); Q_1; \emptyset; k_1, \dots, k_m)$ is analytic of $z \in D_{n,\eta}$, continuously differentiable of $\{Q_1; Q_2; k_1, \dots, k_m\} \in \mathcal{C}_m \times \mathcal{C}_{n-m} \times (\mathbb{R}^d)^m$, and

$$\max_{|\alpha| \leq 1} |\partial^\alpha \hat{D}_{n,m}(z; Q_1; Q_2; k_1, \dots, k_m)| \leq C'(2\alpha/\eta)^{m+1} \prod_{q \in Q_1} h(q) \prod_{i=0}^m h(k_i), \quad (2.36)$$

where C' is a constant.

Proof. The assertions follow by applying the representation (2.15), the identity Eq.(2.20) and the estimates (2.31), (2.32) in the formulae:

$$m_n(z; Q) = \alpha \sigma_1 \int \overline{\lambda(q')} \mu_n^{(0)}(z; q'; Q; \emptyset) dq', \quad (2.37)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{D}_{n,m}(z; Q_1; Q_2; k_1, \dots, k_m) &= \alpha \sigma_1 \int \overline{\lambda(q')} \mu_n^{(m)}(z; Q_1 \cup q'; Q_2; k_1, \dots, k_m) dq' \\ &+ \alpha \sigma_1 \overline{\lambda(k_m)} \mu_n^{(m-1)}(z; Q_1; Q_2 \cup k_m; k_1, \dots, k_{m-1}). \end{aligned} \quad (2.38)$$

□

The \mathcal{M}_2 -valued kernels $\hat{D}(Q_1; Q_2; k_1, \dots, k_m)$, which are continuously differentiable on $\mathcal{C}_m \times (\mathbb{R}^d)^m$ and dominated by h as in Eq.(2.36), form a Banach space \mathcal{K}_m with the norm

$$\|\hat{D}\| = \sup_{Q_1, Q_2, k_1, \dots, k_m} \max_{|\alpha| \leq 1} |\partial^\alpha \hat{D}(Q_1; Q_2; k_1, \dots, k_m)| / \prod_{q \in Q_1} h(q) \prod_{i=0}^m h(k_i),$$

where $|\cdot|$ is the norm in \mathcal{M}_2 .

3 Discrete spectrum

We consider here, as an example of the general analysis, the cases $n = 0, 1$. This allows the construction of the eigenvectors and of part of the one-boson branch. In this section we consider the *discrete part* of the spectrum.

I. For $n = 0$, the equation (2.9) becomes an equation in \mathbb{C}^2 :

$$(\varepsilon \sigma_3 - m_0(z; \emptyset) - z)f = g, \quad (3.1)$$

where the matrix $m_0(z; \emptyset)$ is analytic in $D_{0,\eta}$ and $|m_0(z; \emptyset)| \leq 2C' \|\lambda\|^2 \alpha^2 / \eta$. Eq.(3.1) has a unique solution unless z is a (real) zero of the determinant of the matrix in the l.h.s., i.e., denoting $m(z) := m_0(z; \emptyset)$,

$$\det(\varepsilon \sigma_3 - m(z) - z) = 0. \quad (3.2)$$

This equation can be brought to the form

$$1 + \frac{m(z)_{11} + (1/2\varepsilon)\det(m(z))}{z - \varepsilon} + \frac{m(z)_{22} - (1/2\varepsilon)\det(m(z))}{z + \varepsilon} = 0. \quad (3.3)$$

Now, $m(z) = C_0(B_0 - z)^{-1}C_0^*$ is positive and increasing for $z \in (-\infty, \lambda_{0,1}^0 - \eta)$. As $0 < m(z)_{ii} = 0(\alpha^2)$, while $0 < \det(m(z)) = 0(\alpha^4)$, both numerators are positive at $z = \mp \varepsilon$. The graph of the function in the l.h.s. is schematically depicted in Fig.1 (for the case $\varepsilon < \lambda_{0,1}^0 - \eta$).

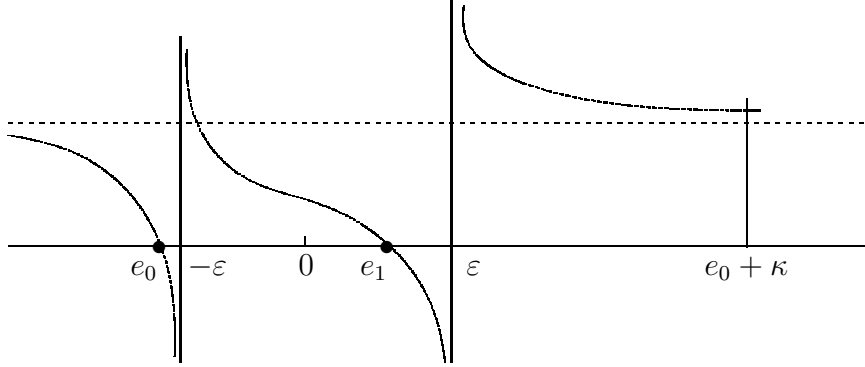


Figure 1a: The graph of the l.h.s. of (3.3) : case of two roots

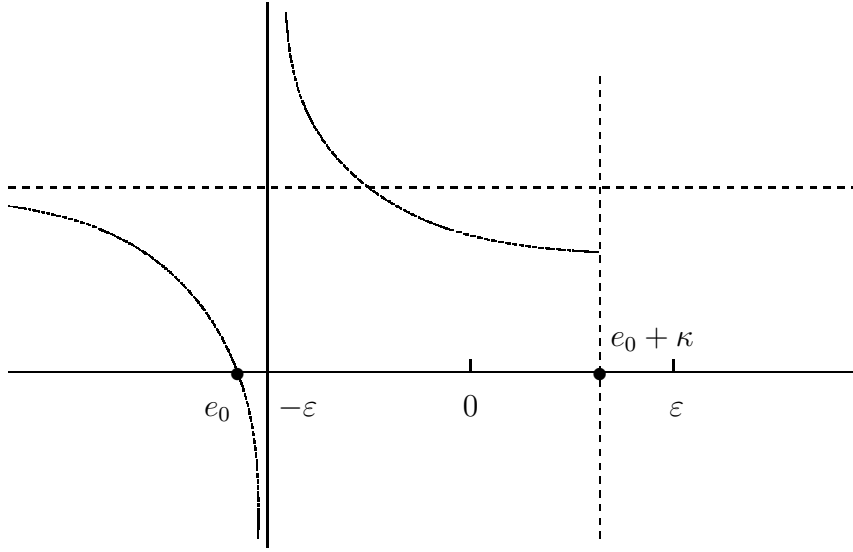


Figure 1b: The graph of the l.h.s. of (3.3) : case of one root

One concludes that there exists always a zero $e_0 < -\epsilon$. Also, whenever $\epsilon < \lambda_{0,1}^0 - \eta = -\epsilon + \kappa - \eta$, there exists a second zero $-\epsilon < e_1 < \epsilon$. For $z = e_i$, $i = 0, 1$, Eq.(3.1) with $g = 0$ has nontrivial normalized solutions f_i , which can be completed with the higher components $-M_0(e_i)f_i$ to eigenvectors of H :

$$F_0^{(i)}(Q) = \begin{cases} f_i & , Q = \emptyset \\ (-M_0(e_i)f_i)(Q) & , Q \neq \emptyset. \end{cases} \quad (3.4)$$

Eq.(3.2) has no other real solution $z < \lambda_{0,1}^0 - \eta$. Also, there are no complex solutions $\tilde{z}, \Im \tilde{z} \neq 0$: otherwise, considering an eigenvector \tilde{f} of the matrix $\varepsilon\sigma_3 - m(\tilde{z})$ corresponding to the eigenvalue \tilde{z} and completing it with the vector $-M_0(\tilde{z})\tilde{f} \in \mathcal{H}_{>0}$, one would obtain an eigenvector of H with a non-real eigenvalue.

From now on, we consider for definiteness the case in which Eq. (3.3) has two solutions $e_0, e_1 < \lambda_{0,1}^0 - \eta$. The case with one solution is treated similarly.

II. For $n = 1$, the equation (2.9) is a system of two equations, valid for $z \in D_{1,\eta}$:

$$\begin{cases} (\varepsilon\sigma_3 - z)f_0 + \alpha\sigma_1 \int \bar{\lambda}(k)f_1(k)dk & = g_0 \\ \alpha\sigma_1\lambda(q)f_0 + [\varepsilon\sigma_3 - (z - \omega(q)) - m(z - \omega(q))]f_1(q) & \\ - \int \hat{D}_{1,1}(z; q; \emptyset; k)f_1(k)dk & = g_1(q) \end{cases} \quad (3.5)$$

The operator

$$[B(z)f_1](q) = [\varepsilon\sigma_3 - z + \omega(q) - m(z - \omega(q))]f_1(q) - \int \hat{D}_{1,1}(z; q; \emptyset; k)f_1(k)dk \quad (3.6)$$

has an analytic inverse whenever the matrices $\varepsilon\sigma_3 - (z - \omega(q)) - m(z - \omega(q))$, $\forall q \in \mathbb{R}^d$ are invertible, what happens for $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus I$, where we denoted $I = [e_0 + \kappa, \infty)$. As we shall see below, $\lambda_{0,1} = e_0 + \kappa$ is the left boundary of the spectrum of H . Let $\bar{D}_0 = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \Re z < \lambda_{0,1}\}$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$. The following proposition holds:

Proposition 3.1 *For $\eta > 0$ sufficiently small, $\alpha < \alpha_0(\eta, 1)$ and $z \in D_{1,\eta} \setminus I$ the inverse $B(z)^{-1}$ exists and has the representation*

$$\begin{aligned} [B(z)^{-1}f](q) &= [\varepsilon\sigma_3 - (z - \omega(q)) - m(z - \omega(q))]^{-1} \\ &\times \left\{ f(q) + \int K(z; q, k)[\varepsilon\sigma_3 - (z - \omega(k)) - m(z - \omega(k))]^{-1} f(k)dk \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

where the kernel $K(z; \cdot, \cdot) \in \mathcal{K}_1$ and its \mathcal{K}_1 -norm is uniformly bounded for $z \in \bar{D}_0$. Besides, $K(z; \cdot, \cdot)$ is a \mathcal{K}_1 -valued analytic function of z in $D_{1,\eta} \setminus I$, which has boundary values at the cut I , i.e. for all $x \in [e_0 + \kappa, \lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta)$ the following limits exist in \mathcal{K}_1 :

$$K^\pm(x; \cdot, \cdot) = \lim_{\epsilon \searrow 0} K(x \pm i\epsilon; \cdot, \cdot). \quad (3.8)$$

The kernels $K^\pm(x; \cdot, \cdot)$ are Hölder-continuous \mathcal{K}_1 -valued functions of $x \in [e_0 + \kappa, \lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta)$.

The detailed proof of a similar statement given in [1] applies almost literally to our case. Essentially it consists in the following:

Denoting by $\hat{D}_{1,1}$ the integral operator of kernel $\hat{D}_{1,1}(z; q; \emptyset; k) \in \mathcal{K}_1$, one has:

$$\begin{aligned} B(z)^{-1} &= (\varepsilon\sigma_3 - (z - \omega(\cdot)) - m(z - \omega(\cdot)))^{-1} \\ &+ \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [(\varepsilon\sigma_3 - (z - \omega(\cdot)) - m(z - \omega(\cdot)))^{-1} \hat{D}_{1,1}]^k \right\} \\ &\times (\varepsilon\sigma_3 - (z - \omega(\cdot)) - m(z - \omega(\cdot)))^{-1}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.9)$$

where every term of the sum is an integral operator with kernel in \mathcal{K}_1 and the sum converges in \mathcal{K}_1 for α sufficiently small, uniformly for $z \in D_{1,\eta}$. Hence we arrive at the representation (3.7), where the kernel $K(z; \cdot, \cdot) \in \mathcal{K}_1$ depends analytically on $z \in D_{1,\eta} \setminus I$. The existence of the limits (3.8) and the properties of the boundary value kernels $K^\pm(x; \cdot, \cdot)$ are proved for every term of the series (3.9) using induction over k . Thereby, we use that, if two z -dependent kernels $K_1(z), K_2(z) \in \mathcal{K}_1$ possess boundary values like in Eq. (3.8), then the kernel

$$K(z; q, k) = \int K_1(z; q, q')(\varepsilon\sigma_3 - (z - \omega(q')) - m(z - \omega(q')))^{-1}K_2(z; q', k)dq'$$

has the same property, in view of the Sokhotski formula $1/(x + i0) = \mathcal{P}(1/x) + i\pi\delta(x)$. Indeed, the inverse matrix $(\varepsilon\sigma_3 - (z - \omega(q')) - m(z - \omega(q')))^{-1}$ has the structure: either

$$\frac{A_0}{e_0 - (z - \omega(q'))} + \phi(z - \omega(q')),$$

if Eq. (3.2) has one solution e_0 ; or

$$\frac{A_0}{e_0 - (z - \omega(q'))} + \frac{A_1}{e_1 - (z - \omega(q'))} + \phi(z - \omega(q')),$$

if a second solution e_1 exists, too. Here, A_0, A_1 are 2×2 -matrices and $\phi(z)$ is a \mathcal{M}_2 -valued analytic function in $D_{0,\eta}$. Therefore, denoting by $d\nu_x(q)$ the Gelfand-Leray measure on the surface $\mathcal{C}_{1,y} = \{q' : \omega(q') = y\}$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} K_\pm(x; q, k) &= \int_\kappa^\infty dy \left[\left(\sum_{j=0,1} A_j/[e_j + y - x \pm i0] + \phi(x - y) \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times \int_{\mathcal{C}_{1,y}} K_{1,\pm}(x; q; q')K_{2,\pm}(x; q'; k)d\nu_y(q') \right] dx. \end{aligned}$$

As the internal integral over the surface $\mathcal{C}_{1,y}$ is a smooth function of y , the integral with respect to y can be done and gives Hölder continuous functions of x , $K_{i,\pm}(x; \cdot, \cdot)$, $i = 1, 2$ (as follows from the Plemelj-Privalov theorem [13]).

Next, we consider Eq.(3.5) for $g_1 = 0$, i.e. again the resolvent of H restricted to \mathcal{H}_0 . We have

$$f_1(\cdot) = -\alpha(B(z))^{-1}\sigma_1\lambda(\cdot)f_0.$$

Plugging f_1 into the first equation (3.5) we obtain that

$$\left(\varepsilon\sigma_3 - z - \alpha^2\sigma_1 \int \bar{\lambda}(q)[B(z)^{-1}\sigma_1\lambda(\cdot)](q)dq \right) f_0 = g_0.$$

Comparing this with Eq. (3.1) we obtain:

$$m_0(z; \emptyset) = \alpha^2\sigma_1 \int \bar{\lambda}(q)[B(z)^{-1}\sigma_1\lambda(\cdot)](q)dq, \quad (3.10)$$

what provides the analytic continuation of $m(z)$ to $D_{1,\eta} \setminus I$. We have thus shown that Eq. (3.3) determines completely the discrete spectrum of the operator H below its continuous spectrum.

Let us remark that $\lim_{\xi \nearrow e_0 + \kappa} m(\xi)$ is finite in dimension $d \geq 3$, because the $1/q^2$ -singularity of the integrand in Eq.(3.7) is integrable. Therefore, in the case $\varepsilon > e_0 + \kappa$, the second solution e_1 of Eq.(3.3) exists if, and only if, the l.h.s. of that equation is negative for $\xi = e_0 + \kappa$. This exhausts the discrete spectrum of H below its continuous spectrum.

4 One-boson branches

We proceed now to the construction of the one-particle branches of the (*continuous*) spectrum of the operator H . Consider the family $\{A(\xi), \xi \in [e_0 + \kappa, \lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta]\}$ of selfadjoint operators, acting in $\mathcal{H}_{\leq 1}$ according to: for $F = (f_0, f_1) \in \mathcal{H}_{\leq 1}$,

$$\begin{aligned} (A(\xi)F)_0 &= \varepsilon\sigma_3 f_0 + \alpha\sigma_1 \int \bar{\lambda}(k) f_1(k) dk \\ (A(\xi)F)_1(q) &= \alpha\sigma_1 \lambda(q) f_0 + (\varepsilon\sigma_3 + \omega(q) - m(\xi - \omega(q))) f_1(q) \\ &\quad - \int \hat{D}_{1,1}(\xi; q, \emptyset, k) f_1(k) dk. \end{aligned} \quad (4.1)$$

Along with this, consider the family $\{A_0(\xi), \xi \in [e_0 + \kappa, \lambda_2^0 - \eta]\}$ acting in \mathcal{H}_1 :

$$(A_0(\xi)f)(q) = (\varepsilon\sigma_3 + \omega(q) - m(\xi - \omega(q)))f(q), \quad f \in \mathcal{H}_1. \quad (4.2)$$

Concerning the latter, let us denote by $e_0(\xi, q), e_1(\xi, q)$ the eigenvalues of the matrix $\varepsilon\sigma_3 + \omega(q) - m(\xi - \omega(q))$. One can easily see that these eigenvalues are the solutions of the equation

$$1 + \frac{m_{11}(\xi - \omega(q)) + \frac{1}{2\varepsilon} \det m(\xi - \omega(q))}{-\varepsilon + \omega(q) - e} + \frac{m_{22}(\xi - \omega(q)) - \frac{1}{2\varepsilon} \det m(\xi - \omega(q))}{\varepsilon + \omega(q) - e} = 0 \quad (4.3)$$

which is similar to Eq. (3.3). The graph of the l.h.s. as a function of e looks like the graph of Fig. 1.

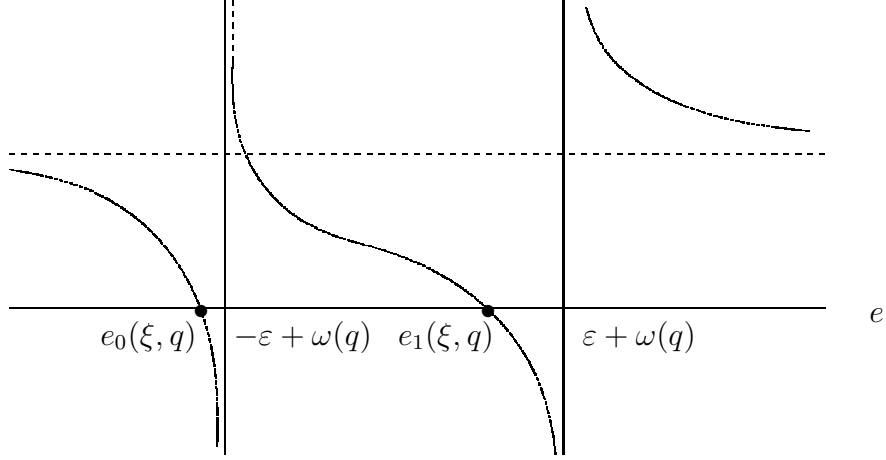


Figure 2: The graph of the l.h.s. of (4.3)

Hence one can see that its roots are simple and placed in the order $e_0(\xi, q) < \omega(q) - \varepsilon < e_1(\xi, q) < \omega(q) + \varepsilon$. As, for fixed q , the matrix $m(\xi - \omega(q))$ is positive and increasing of $\xi < \lambda_2^0 - \eta$, both roots $e_0(\xi, q), e_1(\xi, q)$ are monotonously decreasing functions of ξ in the interval $(-\infty, \lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta)$. Their graphs are sketched in Fig. 2. Moreover, as a consequence of Eq. (4.3), the two roots belong respectively to $O(\alpha^2)$ -neighbourhoods of $\omega(q) \mp \varepsilon$, therefore the distance between them is larger than ε for small α :

$$e_1(\xi, q) - e_0(\xi, q) > \varepsilon. \quad (4.4)$$

For every $\xi \in [e_0 + \kappa, \lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta)$, let

$$E(\xi) = \inf_q e_0(\xi, q) = -\varepsilon + \kappa - O(\alpha^2).$$

Obviously, the spectrum of $A_0(\xi)$ is absolutely continuous and covers the half-axis $[E(\xi), \infty)$.

Let us now calculate the resolvent $(A(\xi) - z)^{-1}$ of $A(\xi)$. As a preliminary to this, we consider the resolvent of the operator $\tilde{B}(\xi)$ acting in \mathcal{H}_1 as

$$(\tilde{B}(\xi))(q) = [\varepsilon\sigma_3 + \omega(q) - m(\xi - \omega(q))]f_1(q) - \int \hat{D}_{1,1}(\xi; q; \emptyset; k)f_1(k)dk; \quad f \in \mathcal{H}_1. \quad (4.5)$$

In the same way as for Eq. (3.7), we find for $R_{\tilde{B}(\xi)}(z) = (\tilde{B}(\xi) - z)^{-1}$

$$\begin{aligned} (R_{\tilde{B}(\xi)}(z)g)(q) &= [\varepsilon\sigma_3 - z + \omega(q) - m(\xi - \omega(q))]^{-1} \\ &\times \{g(q) + \int K_\xi(z; q, k)[\varepsilon\sigma_3 - z + \omega(k) - m(\xi - \omega(k))]^{-1}g(k)dk\}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.6)$$

where the kernel $K_\xi(z; \cdot, \cdot) \in \mathcal{K}_1$ is a \mathcal{K}_1 -analytic function of z in $\mathbb{C} \setminus [E(\xi), \infty)$. Thereby, the limits

$$K_\xi^\pm(x; \cdot, \cdot) = \lim_{\varepsilon \searrow 0} K_\xi(x + i\varepsilon; \cdot, \cdot)$$

exist in \mathcal{K}_1 and the functions $K_\xi^\pm(x; \cdot, \cdot)$ are \mathcal{K}_1 -valued Hölder continuous functions of $x \in [E(\xi), \infty)$.

The resolvent $R_{A(\xi)}(z) = (A(\xi) - z\mathbb{I}_{\leq 1})^{-1}$ can now be written as: for $G = (g_0, g_1)$,

$$\begin{aligned} (R_{A(\xi)}(z)G)_0 &= f_0 = \Delta_\xi^{-1}(z)(g_0 - \alpha\sigma_1 \int (R_{\tilde{B}(\xi)}(z)g_1)(k)\bar{\lambda}(k)dk) \\ (R_{A(\xi)}(z)G)_1(q) &= f_1(q) = (R_{\tilde{B}(\xi)}(z)[g_1(\cdot) - \alpha\sigma_1\lambda(\cdot)f_0])(q) \end{aligned} \quad (4.7)$$

where $\Delta_\xi(z)$ denotes the \mathcal{M}_2 -valued analytic function of $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus [E(\xi), \infty)$

$$\Delta_\xi(z) = \varepsilon\sigma_3 - z - \alpha^2\sigma_1 \int [R_{\tilde{B}(\xi)}(z)\lambda(\cdot)](k)\bar{\lambda}(k)dk \quad (4.8)$$

The inverse matrix $\Delta_\xi^{-1}(z)$ has either one, or two simple poles $\tau_0(\xi) < \tau_1(\xi) < E(\xi)$ lying on the real axis at the left of $-\varepsilon$ and ε , respectively. These poles are the eigenvalues of the operator $A(\xi)$ with corresponding eigenvectors $\psi_\xi^{(0)}, \psi_\xi^{(1)}$:

$$\psi_\xi^{(i)} = \left(f_{\xi,0}^{(i)}, f_{\xi,1}^{(i)}(q) = -\alpha(R_{\tilde{B}(\xi)}(\tau_i(\xi))\sigma_1\lambda(\cdot))(q)f_{\xi,0}^{(i)} \right), \quad i = 0, 1, \quad (4.9)$$

where $f_{\xi,0}^{(i)}$ are the null vectors of the matrix $\Delta_\xi(\tau_i(\xi))$. As agreed before, we consider the case of two roots $\tau_0(\xi), \tau_1(\xi)$. Also, the limits

$$[\Delta_\xi^{-1}(x)]^\pm = \lim_{\varepsilon \searrow 0} \Delta_\xi^{-1}(x \pm i\varepsilon), \quad x \in [E(\xi), \infty)$$

exist, whereby, for α small,

$$\pm \Im[\Delta_\xi^\pm(x)] = \alpha^2\pi\sigma_1 \begin{pmatrix} \int_{\omega(k)-\varepsilon=x} |\lambda(k)|^2 dk & 0 \\ 0 & \int_{\omega(k)+\varepsilon=x} |\lambda(k)|^2 dk \end{pmatrix} + O(\alpha^4).$$

Hence, as a consequence of assumption 3, the matrices $\Delta_\xi^\pm(x)^{-1}$ are non-singular on $[E(\xi), \infty)$, in other words, the operator $A(\xi)$ has no eigenvalues embedded in the continuous spectrum.

Remark that, in view of Eq. (3.10), for $z = \xi$, the matrix $\Delta_\xi(z)$ equals the matrix $\varepsilon\sigma_3 - \xi - m(\xi)$ in the l.h.s. of Eq. (3.1) and the zeros $\tau_i(\xi)$ of $\det \Delta_\xi(z)$ satisfy

$$\tau_i(\xi) = \xi, \quad i = 0, 1, \quad (4.10)$$

i.e. the condition under which they equal, respectively, the solutions e_i , $i = 0, 1$ of Eq. (3.3).

Let us construct, for every $\xi \in (e_0 + \kappa, \lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta)$, the vectors

$$F_\xi^{(i)} = (\psi_\xi^{(i)}, \bar{\psi}_\xi^{(i)}) = M_1(\xi)f_{\xi,1}^{(i)} \in \mathcal{H},$$

which, obviously, fulfill the equation

$$HF_\xi^{(i)} = \xi F_\xi^{(i)} + (\tau_i(\xi) - \xi)\psi_\xi^{(i)},$$

therefore, if $\xi = e_i$ they are the eigenvectors of H with eigenvalues e_i , $i = 0, 1$. In this way, we reobtain the already constructed eigenvectors of H , Eq. (3.4).

Using general criteria of absence of the *singular continuous* spectrum of a self-adjoint operator [15] and the explicit form of the resolvent $R_{A(\xi)}(z)$, one can show that $A(\xi)$ has no singular spectrum. Hence, the space $\mathcal{H}_{\leq 1}$ splits into the orthogonal sum of two invariant subspaces of $A(\xi)$:

$$\mathcal{H}_{\leq 1} = \mathcal{H}^{\text{ac}} + \mathcal{H}^{\text{d}}, \quad (4.11)$$

where $\mathcal{H}^{\text{ac}} = \mathcal{H}^{\text{ac}}(\xi)$ is the subspace of absolute continuity of $A(\xi)$ and $\mathcal{H}^{\text{d}} = \mathcal{H}^{\text{d}}(\xi)$ is the subspace corresponding to the discrete spectrum, generated by the vectors $\psi_\xi^{(0)}, \psi_\xi^{(1)}$ (or by $\psi_\xi^{(0)}$ alone in the case of one root).

Consider the embedding

$$\mathcal{I} : \mathcal{H}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\leq 1} : \mathcal{I}f = (0, f) \in \mathcal{H}_{\leq 1} \text{ for } f \in \mathcal{H}_1,$$

and construct the wave operator

$$s - \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \exp[itA(\xi)]\mathcal{I} \exp[-itA_0(\xi)] = \Omega^+ = \Omega^+(\xi). \quad (4.12)$$

The limit exists and $\Omega^+ : \mathcal{H}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\leq 1}$ is unitary and

$$\Omega^+ A_0(\xi)(\Omega^+)^{-1} = A(\xi)|_{\mathcal{H}^{\text{ac}}} \quad (4.13)$$

i.e. the restriction of $A(\xi)$ to \mathcal{H}^{ac} is unitarily equivalent to $A_0(\xi)$ (for details, see [1] or [11]).

The *generalized* eigenfunctions of the operator $A_0(\xi)$ have the form

$$\delta_{\bar{q}, \xi}^{(i)} = \delta(q - \bar{q})\phi_i(\xi, \bar{q}),$$

where $\phi_i(\xi, \bar{q})$ are the eigenvectors of the matrix $\varepsilon\sigma_3 + \omega(\bar{q}) - m(\xi - \omega(\bar{q}))$ corresponding to the eigenvalues $e_i(\xi, \bar{q})$, $i = 0, 1$ - the solutions of the equation

$$\det[\varepsilon\sigma_3 - z + \omega(\bar{q}) - m(\xi - \omega(\bar{q}))] = 0. \quad (4.14)$$

Known formulas of scattering theory ([14]) allow to write the generalized eigenfunctions of the continuous spectrum of $A(\xi)$ as

$$\psi_{\bar{q}, \xi}^{(i)} = \Omega^+ \delta_{\bar{q}, \xi}^{(i)} = \lim_{\epsilon \searrow 0} i\epsilon R_{A(\xi)}(e_i(\xi, \bar{q}) - i\epsilon)\mathcal{I}\delta_{\bar{q}, \xi}^{(i)}.$$

Using the explicit form (4.7) of the resolvent $R_{A(\xi)}(z)$, we find

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_{\bar{q},\xi,0}^{(i)} &= -\alpha\Delta_{\xi}^{-1}(e_i(\xi, \bar{q}))\sigma_1 \left[\bar{\lambda}(\bar{q}) + \int (\varepsilon\sigma_3 - e_i(\xi, \bar{q}) + \omega(k) - m(\xi - \omega(k)) + i0)^{-1} \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times K^-(e_i(\xi, \bar{q}); k, \bar{q}) \bar{\lambda}(k) dk \right] \phi_i(\xi, \bar{q}) \\ \psi_{\bar{q},\xi,1}^{(i)}(q) &= \delta(q - \bar{q})\phi_i(\xi, \bar{q}) + (\varepsilon\sigma_3 - e_i(\xi, \bar{q}) + \omega(q) - m(\xi - \omega(q) + i0))^{-1} \\ &\quad \times K^-(e_i(\xi, \bar{q}); q, \bar{q})\phi_i(\xi, \bar{q})\end{aligned}\tag{4.15}$$

The somewhat formal derivation of the form of the generalized functions $\psi_{\bar{q},\xi}^{(i)}$ is bolstered by the following lemma:

Lemma 4.1

(a) For every fixed $\bar{q} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $\xi < \lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta$ and $i = 0, 1$:

- i. the vector $\psi_{\bar{q},\xi,0}^{(i)} \in \mathbb{C}^2$ is a \mathbb{C}^2 -valued bounded function of \bar{q} ;
- (ii.) the function $\psi_{\bar{q},\xi,1}^{(i)}(q)$ is a \mathbb{C}^2 -valued generalized function of q in $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}'_1$ and, for every fixed $q \in \mathbb{R}^d$, it is a \mathbb{C}^2 -valued generalized function of \bar{q} in $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}'_1$.

(b) For any $\varphi \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$, define

$$C_{\varphi,\xi,0}^{(i)} = \int \varphi(\bar{q})\psi_{\bar{q},\xi,0}^{(i)} d\bar{q}, \quad C_{\varphi,\xi,1}^{(i)}(q) = \int \varphi(\bar{q})\psi_{\bar{q},\xi,1}^{(i)}(q) d\bar{q};$$

then,

$$\Psi_{\varphi,\xi}^{(i)} = (C_{\varphi,\xi,0}^{(i)}, C_{\varphi,\xi,1}^{(i)}(\cdot)) \in \mathcal{H}_{\leq 1}.\tag{4.16}$$

Thereby, for two functions $\varphi_1, \varphi_2 \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$,

$$\begin{aligned}(\Psi_{\varphi_1,\xi}^{(i)}, \Psi_{\varphi_2,\xi}^{(i')}) &= (C_{\varphi_1,\xi,0}^{(i)}, C_{\varphi_2,\xi,0}^{(i')})_{\mathbb{C}^2} + \int (C_{\varphi_1,\xi,1}^{(i)}(q), C_{\varphi_2,\xi,1}^{(i')}(q))_{\mathbb{C}^2} dq \\ &= (\varphi_1, \varphi_2)_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)} \delta_{i,i'}.\end{aligned}\tag{4.17}$$

A similar lemma appears in [1] and the proof there applies in our case. The meaning of relation (4.17) can be better seen by writing it more formally:

$$(\Psi_{\bar{q},\xi}^{(i)}, \Psi_{\bar{q}',\xi}^{(i')}) = \delta(\bar{q} - \bar{q}') \delta_{i,i'}.\tag{4.18}$$

In this way, for every $\xi < \lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta$ and $\bar{q} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, we constructed two generalized eigenvectors $\Psi_{\bar{q},\xi}^{(i)} \in \tilde{\mathcal{B}}'_{\leq 1}$, $i = 0, 1$ of the operator $A(\xi)$ with the eigenvalues $e_i(\bar{q}, \xi)$, $i = 0, 1$, respectively. By acting on them with the operator $M_1(\xi)$ (see Remark 2.5) we obtain the generalized functions

$$\bar{\Psi}_{\bar{q},\xi}^{(i)} = M_1(\xi)\Psi_{\bar{q},\xi}^{(i)} \in \tilde{\mathcal{B}}'_{> 1}.\tag{4.19}$$

Obviously, the entire vector $F_{\bar{q},\xi}^{(i)} = \{\Psi_{\bar{q},\xi}^{(i)}, \bar{\Psi}_{\bar{q},\xi}^{(i)} \in \tilde{\mathcal{B}}'\}$ satisfies the equation

$$HF_{\bar{q},\xi}^{(i)} = \xi F_{\bar{q},\xi}^{(i)} + (e_i(\bar{q}, \xi) - \xi)\Psi_{\bar{q},\xi}^{(i)}$$

(here H denotes the extension of H to $\tilde{\mathcal{B}}'$, cf. Remark 2.5). Let $\xi^{(i)}(\bar{q})$, $i = 0, 1$ denote the unique (as seen on Fig. 3) solutions less than $\pm\varepsilon$ respectively, of the equations

$$e_i(\bar{q}, \xi) = \xi, \quad i = 0, 1. \quad (4.20)$$

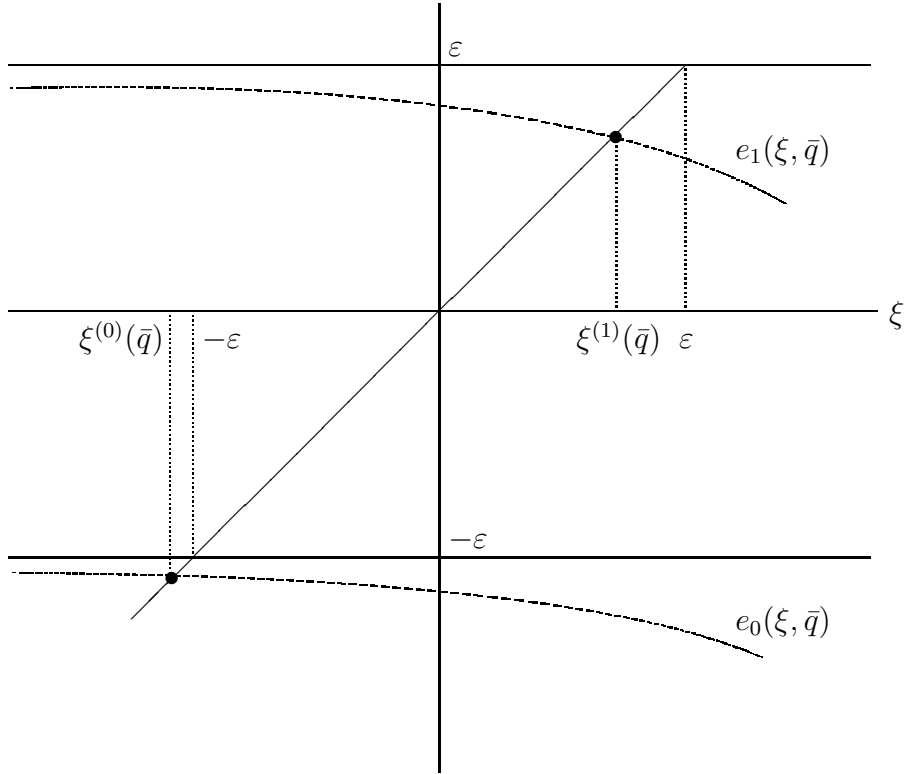


Figure 3: Solving Eq. (4.20)

Now, it is clear that $F_{\bar{q},\xi=\xi^{(i)}(\bar{q})}^{(i)} = F_{\bar{q}}^{(i)}$ is a generalized eigenvector of H with eigenvalue $\xi^{(i)}(\bar{q})$. We remind that $e_i(\bar{q}, \xi)$ satisfies Eq.(4.14), which, for $z = \xi$, becomes

$$\det [\varepsilon\sigma_3 - (\xi - \omega(q)) - m(\xi - \omega(q))] = 0. \quad (4.21)$$

Comparing this equation with Eq. (3.2), we see that Eq. (4.21) has two solutions:

$$\xi^{(i)}(\bar{q}) = e_i + \omega(q), \quad (4.22)$$

where e_i , $i = 0, 1$ are the two solutions of Eq.(3.2). Thereby, as the matrix $\varepsilon\sigma_3 + \omega(\bar{q}) - m(\xi - \omega(\bar{q}))$ approaches, when $\xi \rightarrow \xi^{(i)}(\bar{q})$ the matrix $\varepsilon\sigma_3 + \omega(q) - m(e_i)$, one of its eigenvectors $\phi_i(\xi, \bar{q})$ approaches the eigenvector of the latter for the eigenvalue $\xi^{(i)}(\bar{q})$, i.e. for all \bar{q} and $i = 0, 1$, $\varphi_i(\xi, \bar{q})|_{\xi=\xi^{(i)}(\bar{q})} = f_i$.

The conditions

$$\xi^{(i)}(\bar{q}) < \lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta, \quad \xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}) < \xi^{(1)}(\bar{q})$$

define two bounded domains $G_\eta^{(i)} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ of allowed values of \bar{q} :

$$\begin{aligned} G_\eta^{(0)} &= \{\bar{q} : \xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}) < \lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta\} \\ G_\eta^{(1)} &= \{\bar{q} : \xi^{(1)}(\bar{q}) < \lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta\} \subset G_\eta^{(0)}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.23)$$

For $\bar{q} \in G_\eta^{(1)}$, there are two generalized eigenvectors of H , $F_{\bar{q}}^{(i)} = F_{\bar{q}, \xi^{(i)}(\bar{q})}^{(i)}$, $i = 0, 1$, with eigenvalues $\xi^{(i)}(\bar{q})$, $i = 0, 1$, respectively, while, for $\bar{q} \in G_\eta^{(0)} \setminus G_\eta^{(1)}$, there is only one eigenvector left. The functions $\xi^{(i)}(\bar{q})$ are smooth functions of $\bar{q} \in G_\eta^{(i)}$ and $\min_{\bar{q}} \xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}) = e_0 + \kappa$ coincides with the lowest end of the continuous spectrum of H .

Let $\mathcal{C}_\infty^0(G_\eta^{(i)}) =: \mathcal{C}^{(i)}$, $i = 0, 1$ be the space of infinitely smooth functions with support in the domains $G_\eta^{(i)}$, $i = 0, 1$, respectively.

Lemma 4.2 *For any $\varphi \in \mathcal{C}^{(i)}$, the vector*

$$F_\varphi^{(i)} = \int_{G_\eta^{(i)}} F_{\bar{q}}^{(i)} \varphi(\bar{q}) d\bar{q} \in \mathcal{H}. \quad (4.24)$$

A similar statement is contained in [1] and the proof there applies to the case at hand through verbatim.

We introduce now two subspaces of \mathcal{H} as the closures of the linear span of the vectors (4.24):

$$\mathcal{H}^{(i)} = \overline{\{F_\varphi^{(i)}, \varphi \in \mathcal{C}^{(i)}\}}, \quad i = 0, 1.$$

As explained in [1], the calculation of the scalar product of two vectors (4.24) reduces to the calculation of the generalized function

$$Q^{i,i'}(\bar{q}, \bar{q}') = (F_{\bar{q}}^{(i)}, F_{\bar{q}'}^{(i')})_{\mathcal{H}}, \quad \bar{q} \in G_\eta^{(i)}, \quad \bar{q}' \in G_\eta^{(i')}. \quad (4.25)$$

As $F_{\bar{q}}^{(i)}, F_{\bar{q}'}^{(i')}$ are generalized eigenvectors of H with eigenvalues $\xi^{(i)}(\bar{q}), \xi^{(i')}(\bar{q}')$ respectively, $Q^{i,i'}(\bar{q}, \bar{q}')$ is concentrated on the surface $\{\xi^{(i)}(\bar{q}) = \xi^{(i')}(\bar{q}')\}$, hence it is a sum of generalized functions of the form $A(\bar{q})\delta(\bar{q} - \bar{q}')$ and $B(\bar{q}, \bar{q}')\delta(\xi^{(i)}(\bar{q}) - \xi^{(i')}(\bar{q}'))$ (this is rigorously proved in [1]). Therefore, in calculating $Q^{i,i'}(\bar{q}, \bar{q}')$, one can discard all terms not containing such singularities. So,

$$\begin{aligned} Q^{i,i'}(\bar{q}, \bar{q}') &= \left(\psi_{\bar{q},0}^{(i)}, \psi_{\bar{q}',0}^{(i')} \right)_{\mathbb{C}^2} + \int \left(\psi_{\bar{q},1}^{(i)}(q), \psi_{\bar{q}',1}^{(i')} (q) \right)_{\mathbb{C}^2} dq \\ &+ \int_{\mathcal{C}_{>1}} \left([M_1(\xi^{(i)}(\bar{q}))\psi_{\bar{q},1}^{(i)}(\cdot)](Q), [M_1(\xi^{(i')}(\bar{q}'))\psi_{\bar{q}',1}^{(i')}(\cdot)](Q) \right)_{\mathbb{C}^2} dQ \end{aligned} \quad (4.26)$$

(we remind that $\mathcal{C}_{>1}$ denotes the set of all finite subsets with more than one point endowed with the measure (2.2)). It will be convenient to calculate separately the scalar products for each pair $(i, i') = (0, 0), (0, 1), (1, 1)$:

- $i = i' = 0$. The first term in (4.26) is a continuous function of \bar{q}, \bar{q}' and will be discarded, as agreed. To calculate the second term in (4.26), we represent $\psi_{\bar{q},1}^{(0)}$ as (see (4.15))

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{\bar{q},1}^{(0)}(q) = & \delta(q - \bar{q})f_0 + [A_0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}), q, \bar{q})f_0] / [\xi^{(0)}(q) - \xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}) + i0] \\ & + [A_1(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}), q, \bar{q})\varphi_1^0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}), q)] / [e_1(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}), q) - \xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}) + i0] \end{aligned} \quad (4.27)$$

and similarly $\psi_{\bar{q}',1}^{(0)}$; here, f_0 is the null vector of the matrix (3.1) corresponding to the solution e_0 of Eq. (3.3), $e_1(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}), q)$ is the second eigenvalue of the matrix $\varepsilon\sigma_3 + \omega(q) - m(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}) - \omega(q))$ and $\varphi_1^0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}), q)$ the eigenvector corresponding to it, and

$$\begin{aligned} A_0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}), q, \bar{q}) &= (K^-(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}), q, \bar{q})f_0, f_0)_{\mathbb{C}^2} \\ A_1(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}), q, \bar{q}) &= (K^-(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}), q, \bar{q})\varphi_1(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}), q), \varphi_1(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}), q))_{\mathbb{C}^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.28)$$

By virtue of Eq. (4.4), the third term in (4.27) is a regular function of q and \bar{q} and we discard it. For the second term we use Sokhotski's formula $1/[x + i0] = i\pi\delta(x) + P(1/x)$ and obtain

$$\psi_{\bar{q},1}^{(0)}(q) = \delta(q - \bar{q})f_0 + i\pi A_0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}), q, \bar{q})\delta(\xi^{(0)}(q) - \xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}))f_0 + \text{regular terms.}$$

In this way, the second term in Eq. (4.26) equals, modulo regular terms:

$$\begin{aligned} & \int \left(\psi_{\bar{q},1}^{(0)}(q), \psi_{\bar{q}',1}^{(0)}(q) \right)_{\mathbb{C}^2} dq = \delta(\bar{q} - \bar{q}') \\ & + \delta(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}') - \xi^{(0)}(\bar{q})) \left\{ i\pi [A_0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}), \bar{q}', \bar{q}) - \overline{A_0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}'), \bar{q}, \bar{q}')}] \right. \\ & \left. + \pi^2 \int_{\xi^{(0)}(q)=\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q})} A_0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}), q, \bar{q}) \overline{A_0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}'), q, \bar{q}')} dq \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (4.29)$$

For the calculation of the third term of Eq. (4.26) we represent $(M_1(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}))\psi_{\bar{q},1}^{(0)}(\cdot))(Q)$ as (see Eq. (2.15)):

$$\begin{aligned} (M_1(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}))\psi_{\bar{q},1}^{(0)}(\cdot))(Q) &= \sum_{q \in Q} \mu_1^{(0)}(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}); Q \setminus q; q; \emptyset) \psi_{\bar{q},1}^{(0)}(q) \\ &+ \int \mu_1^{(1)}(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}); Q; \emptyset; k) \psi_{\bar{q},1}^{(0)}(k) dk. \end{aligned} \quad (4.30)$$

Now, it is easy to see that the only contribution of this expression to the third term of (4.26) comes from the sum over q and equals

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} dq \int_{\mathcal{C}_{>1}} dQ (\mu_0^{(0)}(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}) - \omega(q); Q; \emptyset; \emptyset) f_0, \mu_0^{(0)}(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}') - \omega(q); Q; \emptyset; \emptyset) f_0)_{\mathbb{C}^2} \\
& \quad \times [\delta(q - \bar{q}) + i\pi A_0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}); q, \bar{q}) \delta(\xi^{(0)}(q) - \xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}))] \\
& \quad \times [\delta(q - \bar{q}') + i\pi A_0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}'); q, \bar{q}') \delta(\xi^{(0)}(q) - \xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}'))] \\
& = \int dQ \left(\mu_0^{(0)}(e_0; Q; \emptyset; \emptyset) f_0, \mu_0^{(0)}(e_0; Q; \emptyset; \emptyset) f_0 \right)_{\mathbb{C}^2} \\
& \times \left\{ \delta(\bar{q} - \bar{q}') + \left[i\pi (A_0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}); \bar{q}', \bar{q}) - \overline{A_0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}'); \bar{q}, \bar{q}')}) \right. \right. \\
& \quad \left. \left. + \pi^2 \int_{\{\xi^{(0)}(q) = \xi^{(0)}(\bar{q})\}} dq A_0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}); q, \bar{q}) A_0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}'); q, \bar{q}') \right] \delta(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}) - \xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}')) \right\} \tag{4.31}
\end{aligned}$$

In the equality above we used Eq. (2.20). Let us remark that the vector

$$F_0(Q) = \begin{cases} f_0, & Q = \emptyset \\ \mu_0^{(0)}(e_0, Q, \emptyset, \emptyset) f_0, & |Q| > 0 \end{cases}$$

is nothing but the eigenvector (found above) of H corresponding to e_0 . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int dQ \left(\mu_0^{(0)}(e_0; Q; \emptyset; \emptyset) f_0, \mu_0^{(0)}(e_0; Q; \emptyset; \emptyset) f_0 \right)_{\mathbb{C}^2} \\
& = \|F_0\|^2 - \|f_0\|^2 = \|F_0\|^2 - 1 = R = O(\alpha^2).
\end{aligned}$$

Collecting the expressions above, we obtain that $Q^{0,0}(\bar{q}, \bar{q}')$ equals

$$\begin{aligned}
Q^{0,0}(\bar{q}, \bar{q}') & = \|F_0\|^2 \left[\delta(\bar{q} - \bar{q}') \right. \\
& \quad + \left\{ i\pi (A_0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}); \bar{q}', \bar{q}) - \overline{A_0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}'); \bar{q}, \bar{q}')}) \right. \\
& \quad \left. \left. + \pi^2 \int_{\{\xi^{(0)}(q) = \xi^{(0)}(\bar{q})\}} dq A_0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}); q, \bar{q}) \overline{A_0(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}'); q, \bar{q}')}) \right\} \right. \\
& \quad \left. \times \delta(\xi^{(0)}(\bar{q}') - \xi^{(0)}(\bar{q})) \right]
\end{aligned}$$

- $i = i' = 1$. A similar calculation gives

$$\begin{aligned}
Q^{1,1}(\bar{q}, \bar{q}') & = \|F_1\|^2 \left[\delta(\bar{q} - \bar{q}') \right. \\
& \quad + \left\{ i\pi (A_1(\xi^{(1)}(\bar{q}); \bar{q}', \bar{q}) - \overline{A_1(\xi^{(1)}(\bar{q}'); \bar{q}, \bar{q}')}) \right. \\
& \quad \left. \left. + \pi^2 \int_{\{\xi^{(1)}(q) = \xi^{(1)}(\bar{q})\}} dq A_1(\xi^{(1)}(\bar{q}); q, \bar{q}) \overline{A_1(\xi^{(1)}(\bar{q}'); q, \bar{q}')}) \right\} \right. \\
& \quad \left. \times \delta(\xi^{(1)}(\bar{q}') - \xi^{(1)}(\bar{q})) \right],
\end{aligned}$$

where F_0 and F_1 are the eigenvectors of H constructed above, corresponding to the eigenvalues e_0 and e_1 , respectively.

• $i \neq i'$. Finally,

$$Q^{0,1}(\bar{q}, \bar{q}') = Q^{1,0}(\bar{q}', \bar{q}) = 0, \quad (4.32)$$

as these functions have as factors $(F_0, F_1)_{\mathcal{H}} = 0$.

We have thus proved:

Lemma 4.3 *The subspaces $\mathcal{H}^{(1)}$ and $\mathcal{H}^{(2)}$ are orthogonal. The scalar product in each of them has the form*

$$\begin{aligned} (F_{\varphi_1}^{(i)}, F_{\varphi_2}^{(i)})_{\mathcal{H}^{(i)}} &= \|F_i\|^2 \int_{\kappa+e_i}^{\lambda_{0,2}^0-\eta} dx \left[\int_{\chi_x^{(i)}} \varphi_1(q) \overline{\varphi_2(q)} d\nu_x^{(i)}(q) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_{\chi_x^{(i)}} \int_{\chi_x^{(i)}} M_x^{(i)}(q, q') \varphi_1(q) \overline{\varphi_2(q')} d\nu_x^{(i)}(q) d\nu_x^{(i)}(q') \right], \quad i = 0, 1. \end{aligned} \quad (4.33)$$

Here, $\chi_x^{(i)}$ is the level surface of the function $\xi^{(i)}(\cdot)$:

$$\chi_x^{(i)} = \{q : \xi^{(i)}(q) = x\}, \quad x \in [x + e_1, \lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta),$$

endowed with the Gelfand-Leray measure $d\nu_x^{(i)}$ generated by the function $\xi^{(i)}(\cdot)$, and $M_x^{(i)}(\bar{q}, \bar{q}')$ denotes the restriction to $\chi_x^{(i)} \times \chi_x^{(i)}$ of the function

$$\begin{aligned} M^{(i)}(\bar{q}, \bar{q}') &= i\pi (A_i(\xi^{(i)}(\bar{q}); \bar{q}', \bar{q}) - \overline{A_i(\xi^{(i)}(\bar{q}'); \bar{q}, \bar{q}')}) \\ &\quad + \pi^2 \int_{\{\xi^{(i)}(q) = \xi^{(i)}(\bar{q})\}} dq A_i(\xi^{(i)}(\bar{q}); q, \bar{q}) \overline{A_i(\xi^{(i)}(\bar{q}'); q, \bar{q}')}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.34)$$

Our estimates imply that the operators $M^{(i)}$, $i = 0, 1$ given by the kernels $M^{(i)}(\bar{q}, \bar{q}')$, $i = 0, 1$ are bounded in $\mathcal{H}^{(i)}$, $i = 0, 1$, respectively, and their norms are ≤ 1 for small α . This, and the formulas (4.32), (4.33), imply, in particular, that

$$C_0 \|\varphi\|_{L_2(G_\eta^{(i)})} < \|F_\varphi^{(i)}\|_{\mathcal{H}^{(i)}} < C_1 \|\varphi\|_{L_2(G_\eta^{(i)})}$$

for certain constants $0 < C_0 < C_1$, therefore the applications $\varphi \mapsto F_\varphi^{(i)} : \mathcal{C}^{(i)} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^{(i)}$ are continuous with respect to the $L_2(G_\eta^{(i)})$ -norm, and, as such, they extend to one-to-one applications $: L_2(G_\eta^{(i)}) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^{(i)}$, $\varphi \mapsto F_\varphi^{(i)}$, $\varphi \in L_2(G_\eta^{(i)})$. Thereby, the action of the operator H on a vector $F_\varphi^{(i)} \in \mathcal{H}^{(i)}$ is given by the formula

$$HF_\varphi^{(i)} = F_{\xi^{(i)}\varphi}^{(i)}, \quad (4.35)$$

where $(\xi^{(i)}\varphi)(q) = \xi^{(i)}(q)\varphi(q)$, $q \in G_\eta^{(i)}$.

As seen from Eq. (4.33), each of the spaces $\mathcal{H}^{(i)}$ can be represented as a direct integral of spaces

$$\mathcal{H}^{(i)} = \int_{[e_i+\kappa, \lambda_{0,2}^0-\eta]}^{\oplus} \mathcal{G}_x^{(i)} dx, \quad \text{where } \mathcal{G}_x^{(i)} = L_2(\chi_x^{(i)}, d\nu_x^{(i)}),$$

whereby the spaces $\mathcal{G}_x^{(i)}$ are "eigenspaces" of $H^{(i)} = H|_{\mathcal{H}^{(i)}}$, i.e.

$$H^{(i)} = \int_{[e_i + \kappa, \lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta]}^{\oplus} x I_x^{(i)} dx,$$

where $I_x^{(i)}$ is the unit operator in $\mathcal{G}_x^{(i)}$.

Lemma 4.4 *For each $i = 0, 1$ there exists a bounded operator $B^{(i)}$ acting in $\mathcal{H}^{(i)}$ and commuting with $H^{(i)}$, such that*

$$\left(F_{B^{(i)}\varphi_1}^{(i)}, F_{B^{(i)}\varphi_2}^{(i)} \right) = (\varphi_1, \varphi_2)_{L_2(G_\eta^{(i)})}, \quad \varphi_1, \varphi_2 \in L_2(G_\eta^{(i)}) \quad (4.36)$$

Proof. The scalar product (4.33) induces in $\mathcal{G}_x^{(i)}$ a sesquilinear form:

$$\langle \varphi_1, \varphi_2 \rangle_{\mathcal{G}_x^{(i)}} = \|F^{(i)}\|_2 ((I_x^{(i)} + M_x^{(i)})\varphi_1, \varphi_2)_{\mathcal{G}_x^{(i)}},$$

where $(\varphi_1, \varphi_2)_{\mathcal{G}_x^{(i)}}$ is the scalar product in $\mathcal{G}_x^{(i)}$ and $M_x^{(i)}$ is the selfadjoint operator in $\mathcal{G}_x^{(i)}$ defined by the kernel $M_x^{(i)}(\bar{q}, \bar{q}')$. Our estimates show that $\|M_x^{(i)}\| < 1$ for α small, hence that the bounded operator $B_x^{(i)} = (I_x^{(i)} + M_x^{(i)})^{-1/2}$ exists. Obviously,

$$\langle B_x^{(i)}\varphi_1, B_x^{(i)}\varphi_2 \rangle_{\mathcal{G}_x^{(i)}} = (\varphi_1, \varphi_2)_{\mathcal{G}_x^{(i)}}.$$

Therefore, the operator $B^{(i)} = \int_{[e_i + \kappa, \lambda_{0,2}^0 - \eta]}^{\oplus} B_x^{(i)} dx$, which commutes with $H^{(i)}$, satisfies the condition (4.36) as well. The lemma is proved. \square

The Lemma 4.4 shows that the application $\varphi \mapsto \hat{F}_\varphi : L_2(G_\eta^{(i)}) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^{(i)}$, where $\hat{F}_\varphi = F_{B^{(i)}\varphi}$, $\varphi \in L_2(G_\eta^{(i)})$, is unitary. Thereby, as $B^{(i)}$ commutes with $H^{(i)}$, the relation (4.35) still holds:

$$H \hat{F}_\varphi^{(i)} = \hat{F}_{\xi^{(i)}\varphi}^{(i)}.$$

5 Conclusion

In conclusion we would like to notice that observations made in Sections 3 and 4 can be resumed as the following statement:

Theorem 5.1 *Under the assumptions made concerning the parameters of the model (1.1), and for α sufficiently small, for the operator H one has:*

- (i) *One (or two) eigenvectors $F_0^{(i)}$ with the eigenvalues e_i , respectively, below its continuous spectrum ($i = 0$, or $i = 0, 1$).*
- (ii) *For any η , one, or two (depending on the number of eigenvectors $F_0^{(i)}$), invariant*

subspaces $\mathcal{H}^{(i)}$, and one, or two, bounded domains $G_\eta^{(i)} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, such that the restriction of H to $\mathcal{H}^{(i)}$ is unitarily equivalent to the operator of multiplication by the function

$$\xi^{(i)}(q) = e_i + \omega(q), \quad q \in G_\eta^{(i)}$$

acting in $L_2(G_\eta^{(i)})$.

This theorem summarizes our main result about the structure of the spectrum of a two-level quantum system weakly coupled to a boson field (spin-boson model) announced in the Section 1.

Acknowledgements. N. A. and R. A. M. thank Centre de Physique Théorique (UMR 6207) - Luminy, where this work was initiated, for financial support and the warm hospitality. N.A. acknowledges the financial support of the CERES and CEEEX programs (Grants No. 4-187/2004 and 05-D11-06). R. A. M. acknowledges the financial support from the funds RFFI and CRDF.

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