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Research Article

On Pointlike Interaction between Three Particles: Two Fermions and Another Particle

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The problem of construction of self-adjoint Hamiltonian for quantum system consisting of three pointlike interacting particles (two fermions with mass 1 plus a particle of another nature with mass m>0) was studied in many works. In most of these works, a family of one-parametric symmetrical operators $\{H_{\varepsilon}, \varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}^1\}$ is considered as such Hamiltonians. In addition, the question about the self-adjointness of H_{ε} is equivalent to the one concerning the self-adjointness of some auxiliary operators $\{\mathcal{T}_l, l=0,1,\ldots\}$ acting in the space $L_2(\mathbb{R}^1_+, r^2dr)$. In this work, we establish a simple general criterion of self-adjointness for operators \mathcal{T}_l and apply it to the cases l=0 and l=1. It turns out that the operator $\mathcal{T}_{l=0}$ is self-adjoint for any m, while the operator $\mathcal{T}_{l=1}$ is self-adjoint for $m>m_0$, where the value of m_0 is given explicitly in the paper.

1. Introduction and Statement of the Problem

This paper is continuation of works [1-4] studying the problem of construction of Hamiltonian for a quantum system which consists of two fermions with mass 1 interacting pointwise with a particle of another nature having mass m.

Originally, the construction of such Hamiltonian begins with introduction of the symmetric operator:

$$H_0 = -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{m} \Delta_y + \Delta_{x_1} + \Delta_{x_2} \right) \tag{1.1}$$

acting in a Hilbert space $\mathcal{H} = L_2(\mathbb{R}^3) \otimes L_2^{\operatorname{asym}}(\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3)$. Here, $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}^3$ are the positions of fermions, y is the position of a separate particle, and Δ_y , Δ_{x_1} , and Δ_{x_2} are Laplacians with respect to y, x_1 , and x_2 , respectively. The domain of definition of H_0 , $D(H_0) \subset \mathcal{H}$ consists

of smooth rapidly decreasing functions $\psi(y, x_1, x_2) \in \mathcal{H}$ on infinity, antisymmetrical with respect to x_1, x_2 and satisfying the following conditions:

$$\psi(y, x_1, x_2)|_{x_i=y} = 0, \quad i = 1, 2.$$
 (1.2)

Usually, some family $\{H_{\varepsilon}, \varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}^1\}$ of symmetric extensions of the operator H_0 is proposed as a possible "true" Hamiltonian of the system (the so-called Ter-Martirosian-Skornyakov extensions, see [5]). These extensions were constructed in [1–4]. For some values of mass m, the extensions of Ter-Martirosian-Skornyakov are self-adjoint (for all values of the parameter ε); however, for the other values of m they are only symmetric with nonzero deficiency indexes (equal for all ε). It turns out (see [3]) that the self-adjointness of all operators $\{H_{\varepsilon}\}$ is equivalent to the one for some auxiliary symmetric operator T acting in the space $L_2(\mathbb{R}^3)$ (see below). This operator commutes with the operators $\{U_g, g \in O_3\}$ of the representation of the rotation group O_3 that acts in $L_2(\mathbb{R}^3)$ by the usual formula:

$$(U_g f)(k) = f(g^{-1}k), \quad g \in O_3, \ f \in L_2(\mathbb{R}^3).$$
 (1.3)

Let us denote by $\mathcal{L}_l \subset L_2(\mathbb{R}^3)$ the maximal subspace, where the representation (1.3) is multiplied by the irreducible representation of O_3 with weight l, l = 0, 1, 2, ... (see [6]). Evidently, the space \mathcal{L}_l is invariant with respect to the operator \mathcal{T}_l , and the restriction $\mathcal{T}_l = \mathcal{T}|_{\mathcal{L}_l}$ of this operator to the space \mathcal{L}_l is symmetric operator. The operator \mathcal{T}_l is self-adjoint if all the operators $\{\mathcal{T}_l, l = 0, 1, ...\}$ are self-adjoint. In this paper, we find general simple conditions of self-adjointness of \mathcal{T}_l and the form of the defect subspaces (with small exclusions) when these conditions are broken. Then, we apply these conditions to the cases l = 0 and l = 1 and get that the operator $\mathcal{T}_{l=0}$ is self-adjoint for all values of m > 0, while the operator $\mathcal{T}_{l=1}$ is self-adjoint for $m > m_0$ and has nonzero deficiency indexes for $m \leq m_0$, the constant $m_0 > 0$ is indicated below (see (5.4)).

By the way, we note that the value of m_0 obtained in this paper differs from that one given by mistake in [2].

2. A Short Explanation of the Constructions from Papers [1-3]

(1) After Fourier transformation:

$$\psi(y, x_1, x_2) \longrightarrow \widetilde{\psi}(q, k_1, k_2)
= \frac{1}{2\pi^{9/2}} \int_{(\mathbb{R}^3)^3} \psi(y, x_1 x_2) \exp\{-i(q, y) - i(k_1, x_1) - i(k_2, x_2)\} dy \, dx_1 dx_2
\equiv (\mathcal{F}\psi)(q, k_1, k_2),$$
(2.1)

and change of variables:

$$P = q + k_1 + k_2,$$
 $p_j = \frac{P}{m+2} - k_j,$ $j = 1, 2,$ (2.2)

the operator

$$\widetilde{H}_0 = \mathcal{F} H_0 \mathcal{F}^{-1},\tag{2.3}$$

can be represented as a tensor sum:

$$\widetilde{H}_0 = \widetilde{H}_0^{(1)} + \frac{m}{m+1} \widetilde{H}_0^{(2)},$$
 (2.4)

where $H_0^{(1)}$ is a self-adjoint operator in $L_2(\mathbb{R}^3)$:

$$\left(\widetilde{H}_0^{(1)}f\right)(P) = \frac{P^2}{m+2}f(P), \quad P \in \mathbb{R}^3, \ f \in L_2\left(\mathbb{R}^3\right),\tag{2.5}$$

and $\widetilde{H}_0^{(2)}$ acts in L_2^{asym} ($\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3$) by formula

$$(\widetilde{H}_0^{(2)}g)(p_1,p_2) = G(p_1,p_2)g(p_1,p_2), \quad g \in L_2^{\text{asym}}(\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3),$$
 (2.6)

with

$$G(p_1, p_2) = p_1^2 + p_2^2 + \frac{2}{m+1}(p_1, p_2) > 0.$$
 (2.7)

The operator $\widetilde{H}_0^{(2)}$ is symmetric, and its domain is

$$D(\widetilde{H}_0^{(2)}) = \left\{ g \in L_2^{\text{asym}} \left(\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3 \right) : \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} g(p_1, p_2) dp_j = 0, j = 1, 2 \right\}, \tag{2.8}$$

(2) the deficiency subspace $\mathcal{R}_{-1} \subset L_2^{\operatorname{asym}} (\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3)$ of the operator $\widetilde{H}_0^{(2)}$ consists of the functions of the form:

$$U_{\wp}(p_1, p_2) = \frac{\wp(p_1) - \wp(p_2)}{G(p_1, p_2) + 1},$$
(2.9)

where the function $\wp(p)$ belongs to Hilbert space

$$\mathcal{L} = \left\{ \wp : \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{\left|\wp(p)\right|^2}{\sqrt{p^2 + 1}} dp < \infty \right\},\tag{2.10}$$

with inner product

$$\langle \wp_1, \wp_2 \rangle = (U_{\wp_1}, U_{\wp_2})_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3)} \equiv (W\wp_1, \wp_2)_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^3)}.$$
 (2.11)

Here W is some positive operator acting in $L_2(\mathbb{R}^3)$ (see [3]). The domain of the operator $(\widetilde{H}_0^{(2)})^*$, that is, a conjugate to $\widetilde{H}_0^{(2)}$, is

$$D((\widetilde{H}_0^{(2)})^*) = \left\{ g \in L_2^{\text{asym}} \left(\mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3 \right) : g(p_1, p_2) = f(p_1, p_2) + U_{\wp}(p_1, p_2) + \frac{U_{\psi}(p_1, p_2)}{G(p_1, p_2) + 1} \right\}, \tag{2.12}$$

where $f \in D(\widetilde{H}_0^{(2)})$, $\wp, \psi \in \mathcal{L}$. In addition, the operator $(\widetilde{H}_0^{(2)})^*$ acts by the formula:

$$\left(\left(\widetilde{H}_{0}^{(2)}\right)^{*}g\right)(p_{1},p_{2}) = G(p_{1},p_{2})g(p_{1},p_{2}) - (\wp(p_{1}) - \wp(p_{2})), \tag{2.13}$$

where \wp is defined by (2.12).

The following asymptotics holds for vectors $g \in D((\widetilde{H}_0^{(2)})^*)N \to \infty$:

$$\int_{|p_1| < N} g(p_1, p_2) dp_1 = 4\pi N_{\varrho}(p_2) + b(p_2) + o(1).$$
 (2.14)

Here

$$b(p) = -(T\wp)(p) + (W\psi)(p), \tag{2.15}$$

where the operator W is defined in (2.11), and $(T\wp)(p)$ is given by the following expression $(\mu = 2/(m+1))$

$$(T\wp)(p) = 2\pi^2 \sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{\mu^2}{4}\right)p^2 + 1}\wp(p) + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{\wp(t)}{G(t,p) + 1} dt, \tag{2.16}$$

defined on the set:

$$D(T) = \left\{ \hat{\varrho} \in L_2(\mathbb{R}^3) : |p|\hat{\varrho}(p) \in L_2(\mathbb{R}^3) \right\}. \tag{2.17}$$

The above-mentioned Ter-Martirosian-Skornyakov's extension $\widetilde{H}_{\varepsilon}^{(2)}$ of the operator $\widetilde{H}_{0}^{(2)}$ is obtained by requiring

$$b(p) = \varepsilon \hat{\wp}(p), \tag{2.18}$$

where $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}^1$ is an arbitrary parameter.

Lemma 2.1. The operator T defined in the space $L_2(\mathbb{R}^3)$ by (2.16) is symmetric, and the self-adjointness of the operators H_{ε} (for all ε) is equivalent to the self-adjointness of the operator T (see [2, 3, 5]).

The operator *T* can be represented as a sum of two operators:

$$T = \mathcal{T} + T', \tag{2.19}$$

where the symmetric operator \mathcal{T} (with the domain $D(\mathcal{T}) = D(T)$) acts as follows:

$$(\nabla \wp)(p) = 2\pi^2 \sqrt{1 - \frac{\mu^2}{4}} |p|\wp(p) + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{\wp(t)dt}{G(t,p)}$$
(2.20)

and T' is a bounded self-adjoint operator. Since the deficiency indexes of T coincide with the ones of T (see [7]), we shall study the conditions of self-adjointness for the operator T;

(3) as we said, the space $\mathcal{A}_l \subset L_2(\mathbb{R}^3)$ is invariant with respect to \mathcal{T} ; it has the form:

$$\mathcal{H}_l = L_2\left(\mathbb{R}^1_+, r^2 dr\right) \otimes L_2^l(S), \tag{2.21}$$

where $L_2^l(S) \subset L_2(S)$ is the space of spherical functions of weight l (see [6]) on the unit sphere $S \subset \mathbb{R}^3$. In addition, the operator $\mathcal{T}_l = \mathcal{T}|_{\mathscr{L}_l}$ has the form

$$\mathcal{T}_l = M_l \otimes E_l, \tag{2.22}$$

where E_l is the unit operator in $L_2^l(s)$, and M_l acts in $L_2(\mathbb{R}^1_+, r^2 dr)$ by the formula:

$$(M_l f)(r) = 2\pi^2 \sqrt{1 - \frac{\mu^2}{4}} r f(r) + 2\pi \int_{-1}^{1} dx P_l(x) \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{(r')^2 f(r') dr'}{r^2 + (r')^2 + \mu r r' x'},$$
 (2.23)

on the domain

$$D(M_l) \equiv V = \left\{ u \in L_2(\mathbb{R}^1_+, r^2 dr) : ru(r) \in L_2(\mathbb{R}^1_+, r^2 dr) \right\}. \tag{2.24}$$

Here $P_l(x)$, $l = 0, 1, 2, ..., x \in [-1, 1]$, are orthogonal polynomials (Legendre polynomials) satisfying $P_l(1) = 1$:

$$P_l(x) = \frac{1}{2^l l!} \frac{d^l}{dx^l} \left(x^2 - 1\right)^l, \quad x \in (-1, 1).$$
 (2.25)

The operators $\{M_l, l = 0, 1, ...\}$ are symmetric in $L_2(\mathbb{R}^1_+, r^2 dr)$, and the self-adjointness of M_l is equivalent to the self-adjointness of \mathcal{T}_l . Later on, we shall study the operators M_l and derive a condition of self-adjointness.

3. Preparatory Constructions

For every function $u \in V \subset L_2(\mathbb{R}^1_+, r^2 dr)$, we consider the family of functions

$$\mathfrak{h}(u) = \{ u_{\alpha} = r^{\alpha} u, \alpha \in [0, 1], \ u_0 = u \}, \tag{3.1}$$

which we call a chain (with initial element $u = u_0$ and the final one u_1). All functions $u_\alpha \in \mathfrak{h}(u)$ belong to $L_2(\mathbb{R}^1_+, r^2 dr)$ and have a uniformly bounded norm:

$$||u_{\alpha}||^2 \le ||u_0||^2 + ||u_1||^2, \quad \alpha \in [0, 1].$$
 (3.2)

Consider the unitary map (Mellin's transformation [8]):

$$\omega: L_2\left(\mathbb{R}^1_+, r^2 dr\right) \longrightarrow L_2\left(\mathbb{R}^1, ds\right): f(r) \longrightarrow \widetilde{f}(s) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^\infty r^{-is+1/2} f(r) dr, \quad s \in \mathbb{R}^1 \quad (3.3)$$

and its inverse:

$$\left(\omega^{-1}\widetilde{f}\right)(r) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} r^{is-3/2} \widetilde{f}(s) ds. \tag{3.4}$$

For every set of functions $B \subset L_2(\mathbb{R}^1_+, r^2 dr)$, we denote by $\widetilde{B} \subset L_2(\mathbb{R}^1, ds)$ the set of their Mellin's transformations:

$$\widetilde{B} = \omega B. \tag{3.5}$$

For every chain $\mathfrak{h}(u)$, we denote by Γ_u the family of functions:

$$\Gamma_{u} = \widetilde{\mathfrak{h}(u)} = \{ \gamma_{\alpha}(s), \alpha \in [0, 1] \}, \tag{3.6}$$

where $\gamma_{\alpha}(s) = (\omega u_{\alpha})(s)$, $u_{\alpha} \in \mathfrak{h}(u)$. The family Γ_u can be represented as a function $\Gamma_u(z)$ of a complex variable $z = s + i\alpha$ in the strip:

$$I = \left\{ z \in \mathbb{C}^1 : \Im z \in [0, 1] \right\},$$

$$\Gamma_u(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^\infty r^{-is-1/2 + \alpha} u(r) dr = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^\infty r^{-iz} u(r) dr.$$
(3.7)

The function Γ_u is said to be *associated* with the chain $\mathfrak{h}(u)$, and its values $\{\gamma_\alpha(s)\}$ on the lines $\xi_\alpha = \{z = s + i\alpha, s \in \mathbb{R}^1, 0 \le \alpha \le 1\} \subset I$ are called *the sections* of Γ_u .

Proposition 3.1. For every chain $\mathfrak{h}(u)$, $u \in V$, the associated function $\{\Gamma_u(z), z \in I\}$ is continuous in a closed strip I and analytic inside this strip. Moreover, its sections $\{\gamma_\alpha\}$ satisfy the following inequality:

$$\sup_{0 \le \alpha \le 1} \| \gamma_{\alpha}(\cdot) \|_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^1)} < \infty. \tag{3.8}$$

Inversely, any function $\{\Gamma(z), z \in I\}$ which possesses these properties is associated with some (unique) chain $\mathfrak{h}(v) : \Gamma = \Gamma_v, v \in V$. Let call this chain generated by Γ . In addition, the functions $\{v_\alpha, \alpha \in [0,1]\}$ of the chain $\mathfrak{h}(v)$ are obtained by the inverse Mellin's transformation from the sections of $\Gamma = \{\gamma_\alpha\}$:

$$v_{\alpha} = \omega^{-1} \gamma_{\alpha}. \tag{3.9}$$

The proof of this proposition can be obtained by using the arguments given in the book by Paley and Wiener (see [9], Chapter I), which are related to the Fourier transformation of functions analytical in a strip in a complex plane. It is not difficult to reformulate these arguments in terms of Mellin's transformation.

Note that the estimate (3.8) for $\{\gamma_{\alpha}\}$ follows from the estimate (3.2) and the unitary Mellin's transformation. Denote by G a linear space of functions Γ satisfying conditions of Proposition 3.1. Let us introduce two maps:

$$\Omega: \mathfrak{h}(u) \longrightarrow \Gamma_u \in \mathcal{G}, \qquad \Omega^{-1}: \Gamma_u \longrightarrow \mathfrak{h}(u).$$
 (3.10)

Let N(z), $z \in I$, be a bounded, continuous function in the strip I, which is analytic inside I. This function generates the family $\widetilde{\kappa}_{\alpha}^{N}$, $\alpha \in [0,1]$ of bounded operators in $L_{2}(\mathbb{R}^{1})$ which act as multiplication on the functions $n_{\alpha}^{N}(s) = N(z)|_{z=s+i\alpha}$, $s \in \mathbb{R}^{1}$, $0 \le \alpha \le 1$:

$$\left(\widetilde{\kappa}_{\alpha}^{N}\psi\right)(s) = n_{\alpha}^{N}(s)\psi(s), \quad \psi \in L_{2}\left(\mathbb{R}^{1}\right).$$
 (3.11)

Evidently, for any $\Gamma \in \mathcal{G}$, the function $N(z)\Gamma(z)$ belongs to \mathcal{G} . If the chain $\mathfrak{h}(u)$ is generated by $\Gamma = \Gamma_u$ and the chain $\mathfrak{h}(v)$ is generated by $N(z)\Gamma(z) = \Gamma_v(z)$, then

$$v_{\alpha} = \kappa_{\alpha}^{N} u_{\alpha}, \quad \alpha \in [0, 1], \quad u_{\alpha} \in \mathfrak{h}(u),$$
 (3.12)

where

$$\kappa_{\alpha}^{N} = \omega^{-1} \widetilde{\kappa}_{\alpha}^{N} \omega. \tag{3.13}$$

Denote by Π the following self-adjoint operator in $L_2(\mathbb{R}^1_+, r^2 dr)$:

$$(\Pi f)(r) = rf(r), \tag{3.14}$$

with the domain $D(\Pi) = V$.

It is clear that for any $u \in V$, the power Π^{β} , $0 \le \beta \le 1$ of the operator Π is applicable to an element $u_{\alpha} \in \mathfrak{h}(u)$ if $\beta + \alpha \le 1$ and

$$\Pi^{\beta} u_{\alpha} = u_{\alpha+\beta}. \tag{3.15}$$

For the function Γ_u that is associated with $\mathfrak{h}(u)$, the action of the operator $\widetilde{\Pi}^{\beta} = \omega \Pi^{\beta} \omega^{-1}$ on the sections $\{\gamma_{\alpha}\}$ of Γ_u has the form:

$$\tilde{\Pi}^{\beta} \gamma_{\alpha} = \gamma_{\alpha+\beta}. \tag{3.16}$$

(again if $\alpha + \beta \le 1$).

4. The Operator M_l

The operator M_l (see (2.23)) can be represented as

$$M_l = \Pi^{1/2} \kappa^l \Pi^{1/2}, \tag{4.1}$$

where $\kappa^l = \kappa^l_{1/2}$ is an operator in $L_2(\mathbb{R}^1_+, r^2 dr)$ acting by the formula:

$$\left(\kappa_{1/2}^{l}f\right)(r) = 2\pi^{2}\sqrt{1 - \frac{\mu^{2}}{4}}f(r) + 2\pi\int_{-1}^{1}dx P_{l}^{0}(x)\int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{(r')^{2}f(r')dr'}{(rr')^{1/2}(r^{2} + (r')^{2} + \mu xrr')}.$$
 (4.2)

Lemma 4.1. Operator $\kappa_{1/2}^l$ is bounded and self-adjoint in $L_2(\mathbb{R}^1_+, r^2 dr)$.

Proof. Pass to the operator:

$$\widetilde{\kappa}_{1/2}^l = \omega \kappa_{1/2}^l \omega^{-1},\tag{4.3}$$

acting in $L_2(\mathbb{R}^1)$. It follows from calculations in [2, 3] that $\tilde{\kappa}_{1/2}^l$ is the operator of multiplication on the function:

$$n_{1/2}^{l}(s) = 2\pi^{2} \left(\sqrt{1 - \frac{\mu^{2}}{4}} + \lambda_{1/2}^{l}(s) \right),$$
 (4.4)

where

$$\lambda_{1/2}^{l}(s) = \begin{cases} \int_{0}^{1} P_{l}(x) \frac{\operatorname{ch}(sv(x))dx}{\operatorname{ch}(s\pi/2)\cos(v(x))} & \text{for even } l, \\ -\int_{0}^{1} P_{l}(x) \frac{\operatorname{sh}(sv(x))dx}{\operatorname{sh}(s\pi/2)\cos(v(x))} & \text{for odd } l, \end{cases}$$
(4.5)

and $v(x) = \arcsin \mu x/2$, $0 \le x \le 1$. As we see the function $n_{1/2}^l(s)$, $s \in \mathbb{R}^1$, is bounded and real. The lemma is proved.

We see from (4.4) and (4.5) that the functions $n_{1/2}^l(s)$ and $\lambda_{1/2}^l$ are continued up to bounded, analytical functions $N^l(z)$ and $\Lambda^l(z)$ correspondingly, defined in the strip $\widetilde{I}=\{z\in\mathbb{C}^1:-1/2\leq\Im z\leq 1/2\}$. Let us define the functions $\widehat{N}^l(z)=\overline{N}^l(z-i/2)$ which we shall consider in the strip $I=\{z\in\mathbb{C}:0\leq\Im z\leq 1\}$. The operator $\widetilde{\kappa}_{1/2}^l$ coincides with the operator $\widetilde{\kappa}_{1/2}^{\widehat{N}^l}$ from the family $\{\widetilde{\kappa}_{\alpha}^{\widehat{N}^l}\}$ generated by the function \widehat{N}^l (see (3.11)). Any other operator of this family acts as multiplication on the function:

$$\widehat{n}_{\alpha}^{l}(s) = \widehat{N}^{l}(z) \Big|_{z=s+j\alpha}. \tag{4.6}$$

Denote by κ_{α}^{l} the operators

$$\kappa_{\alpha}^{l} = \omega^{-1} \tilde{\kappa}_{\alpha}^{N^{l}} \omega, \tag{4.7}$$

acting in $L_2(\mathbb{R}^1_+, r^2 dr)$. Note that

$$\left(\kappa_{\alpha}^{l}\right)^{*} = \kappa_{i-\alpha}^{l}.\tag{4.8}$$

It is convenient to represent the operator M_l in form of three sequential maps

$$M_{l}: u_{0} \in \mathfrak{h}(u_{0}) \longrightarrow \Pi^{1/2}u_{0} = u_{1/2} \longrightarrow \kappa_{1/2}^{l}u_{1/2} = v_{1/2}$$

$$\longrightarrow \Pi^{1/2}v_{1/2} = v_{1} \in \mathfrak{h}(v), \tag{4.9}$$

where $v = v_0, v_{1/2}, v_1$ are elements of the chain $\mathfrak{h}(v)$ generated by the function $\Gamma_v = \widehat{N}^l \Gamma_u \in \mathcal{G}$. Note that the chain (4.9) can be rewritten in the following way:

$$u_0 \in \mathfrak{h}(u_0) \xrightarrow{\Omega} \Gamma_{u_0} \longrightarrow \Gamma_v = \widehat{N}^l \Gamma_{u_0} \xrightarrow{\Omega^{-1}} \mathfrak{h}(v) \longrightarrow v_1 \in \mathfrak{h}(v).$$
 (4.10)

From (4.1) and self-adjointness of $\kappa_{1/2}^l$ it follows that the operator M_l with the domain $D(M_l) = V$ is symmetric. For any $\alpha \in [0,1]$, a representation of M_l similar to (4.1) is valid:

$$M_l = \Pi^{1-\alpha} \kappa_{\alpha}^l \Pi^{\alpha} \tag{4.11}$$

as well as decomposition like (4.9).

Let us now describe the domain $D(M_l^*) \supseteq V$ of the operator M_l^* conjugated to M_l . Let $g \in D(M_l^*)$ be a function from $D(M_l^*)$ and $h = M_l^*g \in L_2(\mathbb{R}^1_+, r^2dr)$. Then for every $u \in V = D(M_l)$, we can write

$$(M_l u, g) = \left(\kappa_1^l \Pi u, g\right) = \left(\Pi u, \left(\kappa_1^l\right)^* g\right) = \left(u, \Pi \kappa_0^l g\right) = (u, h). \tag{4.12}$$

Here we use the representation (4.11) for $\alpha = 1$ and the equality (4.8). Denote $f(r) = h(r) - (\Pi \kappa_0^l g)(r)$ and apply the following evident assertion.

Lemma 4.2. Let a measurable function f(r) satisfies condition

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} f(r)u(r)r^{2}dr = 0,$$
(4.13)

for any $u \in V$. Then f = 0.

From this and (4.12), it follows that

$$\Pi \kappa_0^l g = h. \tag{4.14}$$

Hence

$$w_0 \equiv \kappa_0^l g \in V, \tag{4.15}$$

and $h = w_1 \in \mathfrak{h}(w_0)$ is the final element of the chain $\mathfrak{h}(w_0)$. Thus the domain $D(M_l^*)$ of the operator M_l^* is

$$D(M_l^*) = \left\{ g \in L_2(\mathbb{R}^1_+, r^2 dr) : \kappa_0^l g \in V \right\}. \tag{4.16}$$

In the case when the operator κ_0^l has the inverse one, $(\kappa_0^l)^{-1}$, which is equivalent to the condition:

$$\widehat{n}_0^l(s) \neq 0$$
, for any $s \in \mathbb{R}^1$, (4.17)

the following equality is true:

$$D(M_l^*) = \left(\kappa_0^l\right)^{-1} V. \tag{4.18}$$

Let $\widetilde{M}_l^* = \omega M_l^* \omega^{-1}$ be an operator in $L_2(\mathbb{R}^1)$ with domain $D(\widetilde{M}_l^*) = \omega D(M_l^*)$. Then for $\widetilde{g} \in D(\widetilde{M}_l^*)$, the following representation holds true:

$$\widetilde{g}(s) = \left(\widehat{n}_0^l(s)\right)^{-1} \widetilde{w}_0(s) = \left(\widehat{N}^l(z)\right)^{-1} \Gamma_{w_0}(z) \Big|_{z=s},$$
(4.19)

if condition (4.17) is fulfilled. Here $\tilde{w}_0(s) = (\omega w_0)(s)$ where w_0 is defined in (4.15).

Remarks. (1) Note that the function $\widehat{N}^l(z)$ is invariant with respect to reflection of the complex plane around the point z = i/2:

$$z \longrightarrow z^* = -z + i. \tag{4.20}$$

Under this reflection, the strip I is mapped onto itself; hence, for every zero $\overline{z} \in I(\overline{z} \neq i/2)$ of the function \widehat{N}^l , there exists another zero, $\overline{z}^* \in I$, of \widehat{N}^l with the same multiplicity. The multiplicity of $\overline{z} = i/2 = \overline{z}^*$ is even;

(2) Since $\widehat{N}^l(z) \to 2\pi^2 \sqrt{1 - \mu^2/4} > 0$ as $z \to \infty$ inside I, the function $\widehat{N}^l(z)$ has finite number of zeros inside I.

We can now formulate the main criterion of self-adjointness of the operator M_l .

Theorem 4.3. The operator M_l is self-adjoint if and only if the function $\widehat{N}^l(z)$ has no zeros in the closed strip I.

Proof. (1) Assume $\widehat{N}^l(z) \neq 0$ in the strip I. Then $(\widehat{N}^l)^{-1}(z)$ is bounded and continuous on I and analytical inside I. Let $\widetilde{g} \in \widetilde{D}(\widetilde{M}_l^*)$. Since $\widehat{n}^l(s) \neq 0$ for $s \in \mathbb{R}^1$, the representation (4.19) holds true. Since

$$\left(\widehat{N}^{l}(z)\right)^{-1}\Gamma_{w_0}(z) = \Gamma_v \in \mathcal{G}, \quad v \in V, \tag{4.21}$$

the element $g = \omega^{-1}\tilde{g} \in D(M_l^*)$ coincides with $v \in V$, that is, $D(M_l^*) = V = D(M_l)$; it means the self-adjointness of M_l ;

(2) assume now the function $N^l(z)$ has zeros $\overline{z}_1,\ldots,\overline{z}_k\in I$. Consider first the case when all zeros are lying inside I and their multiplicities are equal to p_1,\ldots,p_k , respectively. Again, let $\widetilde{g}\in \widetilde{D}(\widetilde{M}_l^*)$. Since $\widehat{n}^l(s)\neq 0$, the representation (4.19) holds true. The function $(\widehat{N}^l(z))^{-1}\Gamma_{w_0}(z)$ is meromorphic in I with poles $\overline{z}_1,\ldots,\overline{z}_k$ having the order p_1,\ldots,p_k respectively. For this function the usual canonical representation [10] is true:

$$\left(\widehat{N}^{l}(z)\right)^{-1}\Gamma_{w_0}(z) = L^{w_0}(z) + \sum_{n=1}^{k} \sum_{m=1}^{p_n} \frac{b_m^{(n)}(w_0)}{(z - z_n)^m},\tag{4.22}$$

where $L^{w_0}(z)$ is bounded, continuous function on I, and analytical inside I, and the coefficients $b_m^{(n)} = b_m^{(n)}(w_0)$ depend on w_0 .

Lemma 4.4. The function $L^{w_0}(z)$ in (4.22) belongs to the space G.

The proof of this lemma is given in The appendix.

From (4.19) and (4.22), for $g = \omega^{-1} \tilde{g} \in D(M_I^*)$, we have

$$g(r) = v(r) + \sum_{m,n} b_m^{(n)} \left(\omega^{-1} \left(\left(\frac{1}{\cdot - z_n} \right)^m \right) \right) (r), \tag{4.23}$$

where the function $v \in V$ is defined from relation

$$L^{w_0}(z) = \Gamma_v(z) \in \mathcal{G},$$

$$d_{m,n}(r) := \omega^{-1} \left(\left(\frac{1}{(\cdot - z_n)} \right)^m \right) (r) = A_m^{(n)} r^{-3/2 - t_n + is_n} (\ln r)^{m-1} \chi(r),$$
(4.24)

where $A_m^{(n)}$ is an absolute constant, $z_n = s_n + it_n$, $0 < t_n < 1$ and

$$\chi(r) = \begin{cases} 1, & r > 1, \\ 0, & r \le 1. \end{cases}$$
 (4.25)

Since linearly independent functions $d_{m,n} \in D(M_l^*)$ do not belong to V, due to (4.23), they form the basis in the defect subspace \mathfrak{V} of the operator M_l (see [7]). Since the dimension of the subspace \mathfrak{V} is equal to $\sum_{l=1}^{k} p_n$ and the operator M_l is real, its deficiency indexes n_{\pm} are equal and have the form:

$$n_{+} = n_{-} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{1}^{k} p_{n}. \tag{4.26}$$

(It follows from Remarks that the sum $\sum_{1}^{k} p_n$ is even). Consider now the case when one of the zeros of $N^l(z)$, say, $\overline{z}_0 = s_0 \in \mathbb{R}^1$, lies on the boundary of I and has multiplicity p (in addition, there is a zero $\overline{z}_0^* = s_0 + i$). In this case, in a neighborhood of \overline{z}_0 , the function $\widehat{N}^l(z)$ has the form:

$$\widehat{N}^{l}(z) = (z - \overline{z}_0)^p Q(z), \tag{4.27}$$

where Q(z) is analytic in this neighborhood. Consider the function,

$$G(z) = \frac{1}{(-i(z - \overline{z}_0))^{1/3}} \frac{1}{(z + 2i)^2},$$
(4.28)

whereby $(-iw)^{1/3}$ for $\Im w > 0$, we mean the branch of a many-valued function $(-iw)^{1/3}$ that takes positive values on the positive part of the imaginary axis. Evidently, the function G(z) is analytic in the strip I and satisfies condition (3.8). However, this function is discontinuous at \overline{z}_0 and does not belong to G. In addition, the function $\widehat{N}_{(z)}^I G(z)$ now belongs to G as follows from (4.27) and (4.28). Thus

$$\widetilde{g}(s) = G(z)|_{z=s} \widetilde{\in} \widetilde{V} = \omega V,$$
 (4.29)

but

$$\widehat{n}^{l}(s)\widetilde{g}(s) = \widehat{N}^{l}(z)G(z)\Big|_{z=s} \in \widetilde{V}. \tag{4.30}$$

Consequently, $g = \omega \widetilde{g} \in V$ but $\kappa_0^l g \in V$, that is, $g \in D(M_l^*)$. Thus $D(M_l^*) \neq V$, and the operator M_l has nonzero deficiency indexes. Theorem 4.3 is proved.

5. The Operators M_l in the Cases l=0 and l=1

Here, we apply Theorem 4.3 to the cases l = 0 and l = 1.

Theorem 5.1. (1) For l = 0, the operator $M_{l=0}$ is self-adjoint for any m > 0;

(2) the operator $M_{l=1}$ is self-adjoint for $m > m_0$ and has nonzero deficiency indexes for $m \le m_0$. In addition, for $m < m_0$ these indexes are equal to (1,1). The constant m_0 is a unique zero of (5.4).

Proof. We need the following properties of the functions $\widehat{\Lambda}^{l=0}(z)$ and $\widehat{\Lambda}^{l=1}(z)$, $z \in I$. **Lemma 5.2.** (1) For any l = 0, 1, 2, ... the function $\widehat{\Lambda}^{l}(z)$ is invariant with respect to reflection (4.20);

- (2) The point $z = i/2 \in I$ is a nondegenerate critical point for both functions $\widehat{\Lambda}^{l=0}$ and $\widehat{\Lambda}^{l=1}$;
- (3) These functions take real values on the line:

$$\hat{\xi}_{1/2} = \left\{ z = s + \frac{i}{2}, s \in \mathbb{R}^1 \right\},$$
 (5.1)

and on the segment:

$$\hat{\tau} = \{ z = it, 0 \le t \le 1 \}.$$
 (5.2)

Outside the set $B = \hat{\xi}_{1/2} \cup \hat{\tau}$, both functions take nonreal values;

- (4) the real values of $\hat{\Lambda}^l$, $\hat{l}=0,1$, are between 0 and $\hat{\Lambda}^l(0)=\hat{\Lambda}^l(i)$. Every value of $\hat{\Lambda}^l|_B$ —except $\hat{\Lambda}^l(i/2)$ —is taken exactly at two points;
 - (5) the extreme values of $\widehat{\Lambda}^l$, l = 0, 1, $\widehat{\Lambda}^l(0) = \widehat{\Lambda}^l(i)$ are given by

$$\widehat{\Lambda}^{l=0}(0) = 8\sqrt{2}\pi^{2}\mu^{-1}\sin\left(\frac{1}{2}\arcsin\frac{\mu}{2}\right) > 0,$$

$$\widehat{\Lambda}^{l=1}(0) = -\frac{32}{3}\sqrt{2}\pi^{2}\mu^{-2}\sin^{3}\left(\frac{1}{2}\arcsin\frac{\mu}{2}\right) \equiv -q(\mu) < 0,$$
(5.3)

(6) the function $q(\mu)$ increases monotonically on the interval $0 < \mu < 2$.

The proof of this lemma is given in The appendix.

Corollary 5.3. (1) The zeros of $\widehat{N}^l(z)$, l = 0, 1 can only lie in the set B;

- (2) $\widehat{N}^{l=0}(z)|_{B} > 0$ for any value of μ , and therefore the operator $M_{l=0}$ is self-adjoint for all $m \in (0,2)$;
- (3) The function $\widehat{N}^{l=1}(z)|_B$ is positive if $2\pi^2\sqrt{1-\mu^2/4}>q(\mu)$ and vanishes at some point $z\in B$ (and also at $z^*\in B$) if $2\pi^2\sqrt{1-\mu^2/4}\leq q(\mu)$.

In Figure 1, the curves corresponding to the functions $2\pi^2\sqrt{1-\mu^2/4}$ and $q(\mu)$ are depicted. We see that they intersect at a unique point with abscissa $\mu_0 \in (0,2)$ which satisfies the following equation:

$$2\pi^2 \sqrt{1 - \frac{\mu_0^2}{4}} = q(\mu_0). \tag{5.4}$$

Thus, for $m > m_0 = 2/\mu_0 - 1$ the operator $M_{l=1}$ is self-adjoint, and for $m < m_0$ it has deficiency indexes (1,1). For $m = m_0$, the operator $M_{l=1}$ is not self-adjoint as well. Theorem 5.1 is proved.

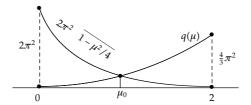


Figure 1

Appendix

Proof of Lemma 4.4. The function $(\widehat{N}^{l}(z))^{-1}$, $z \in I$ admits the canonical representation (see [10])

$$\left(\widehat{N}^{l}(z)\right)^{-1} = Q_{l}(z) + \sum_{n=1}^{k} \sum_{m=1}^{p_{n}} \frac{a_{m}^{(n)}}{\left(z - \overline{z}_{n}\right)^{m}},\tag{A.1}$$

where $\overline{z}_1,\ldots,\overline{z}_k\in I$ are zeros of $\widehat{N}^l(z)$ (with multiplicities p_1,\ldots,p_k), $a_m^{(n)}$ are constants, $a_{p_n}^{(n)}\neq 0$, and $Q_l(z)$ is a bounded, continuous analytic function in I. From this, it follows that for any $v\in V$, $Q_l(z)\Gamma_v(z)\in \mathcal{G}$. Consider some term of the sum (A.1) and write

$$\frac{a_m^{(n)}}{(z - \overline{z}_n)^m} \Gamma_v(z) = \left(P_{m,v}^{(n)}(z) + \sum_{d=1}^m \frac{c_{m-d}^{(n)}}{(z - \overline{z}_n)^d} \right) a_m^{(n)}, \tag{A.2}$$

where

$$P_{m,v}^{(n)}(z) = \frac{1}{(z - \overline{z}_n)^m} \left(\Gamma_v(z) - \sum_{d=1}^m c_{m-d}^{(n)} (z - \overline{z}_n)^{m-d} \right),$$

$$c_t^{(n)} = c_t^{(n)}(v) = \frac{1}{t!} \Gamma_v^{(t)}(\overline{z}_n), \quad t = 0, 1, \dots$$
(A.3)

It is clear that $P_{m,v}^{(n)}(z)$ is bounded, continuous analytic function in I. We are going to show that this function belongs to G. Let $O \in I$ be a small neighborhood of \overline{z}_n and $\chi_O(z)$ the characteristic function of O. Obviously, the bounded function $\chi_O P_{m,v}^{(n)}$ satisfies condition (3.8). Every term of the sum

$$(1 - \chi_O) P_{m,v}^{(n)}(z) = \frac{\Gamma_v(z)}{(z - \overline{z}_n)^m} (1 - \chi_O) - \sum_{d=1}^m \frac{c_{m-d}^{(n)}(v)}{(z - \overline{z}_n)^d} (1 - \chi_O)$$
(A.4)

satisfies this condition as well.

Thus for fixed \overline{z}_n and $v \in V$,

$$\sum_{m=1}^{p_n} \frac{a_m^{(n)} \Gamma_v(z)}{(z - \overline{z}_n)^m} = K_v^{(n)}(z) + \sum_{d=1}^{p_n} \frac{b_d^{(n)}(v)}{(z - \overline{z}_n)^d},$$
(A.5)

where

$$K_v^{(n)}(z) = \sum_{m=1}^{p_n} a_m^{(n)} P_{m,v}^{(n)}(z), \tag{A.6}$$

$$b_d^{(n)}(v) = \sum_{m=1}^{p_n} a_m^{(n)} c_{m-d}^{(n)}(v), \quad d = 1, \dots, p_n.$$
(A.7)

Thus, we get the representation (4.22) where

$$L^{(w_0)}(z) = Q_I(z)\Gamma_{w_0}(z) + \sum_{n=1}^k K_{w_0}^{(n)}(z) \in \mathcal{G},$$
(A.8)

and the coefficients $b_m^{(n)}(w_0)$ are given by formula (A.7). Lemma 4.4 is proved.

Proof of Lemma 5.2. (1) It is more convenient to consider the functions $N^l(z)$ and $\Lambda^l(z)$ in the strip $\widetilde{I}=\{z:|\Im z|<1/2\}$ instead of the functions $\widehat{N}^l(z)$ and $\widehat{\Lambda}^l(z)$ in the strip I. Similarly, instead of the reflection $z\to z^*$ we consider the reflection $z\to -z$ around the point $z_0=0$. It is clear that the functions $\Lambda^l(z)$, $l=0,1,2,\ldots$ are invariant with respect to the change $z\to -z$, and it means the invariance of $\widehat{\Lambda}^l$ with respect to reflection (4.20);

(2) it follows from (4.5) that z=0 is a nondegenerated critical point of $\Lambda^{l=0}$ and $\Lambda^{l=1}$, if we note that $0 < v(x) \le \pi/2$. Correspondingly, z=i/2 is a nondegenerated critical point for $\widehat{\Lambda}^l(z)$, l=0,1. The real axis $\xi_0=\{z=s;s\in\mathbb{R}^1\}$ coincides with the saddle-point line at z=0 (see [10]) for $\Lambda^{l=0}$ and $-\Lambda^{l=1}$. More precisely, these functions take real values on ξ_0 and decrease monotonically to zero as |s| increases from zero to infinity. On the contrary, $\Lambda^{l=0}$ and $-\Lambda^{l=1}$ increase monotonically along imaginary axis as |t| increases from zero to 1/2. The monotonicity of $\Lambda^{l=0}$ along real axis follows from (4.5), equality $P_0(x)\equiv 1$, and inequality

$$\left(\frac{\operatorname{ch}(v(x)s)}{\operatorname{ch}((\pi/2)s)}\right)_{s}' < -\frac{\pi}{2} \frac{\operatorname{sh}(\pi/2 - v(x))s}{\left(\operatorname{ch}((\pi/2)s)\right)^{2}} < 0,\tag{A.9}$$

for s>0 and a similar inequality for s<0. The proof of monotonicity of $\Lambda^{l=1}$ along real axis, and also monotonicity of both functions along imaginary axis is analogous if we note that $P_{l=1}(x)\equiv x$ on (0,1). Thus the functions Λ^l , l=0,1, take all values between 0 and $\Lambda^l(i/2)=\Lambda^l(-i/2)$ and every value except $\Lambda^l(0)$ which is taken exactly twice;

(3) we will show now that the values of functions $\Lambda^l(z)$, l=0,1, on the set $\tilde{I}\setminus B$ are nonreal. Let us represent this set as a union of four sets, \tilde{I}_i , i=1,2,3,4 as shown in Figure 2.

We consider the case l=0; the case l=1 is similar. Figure 3 shows the disposition of lines of levels for function $K_0(z)=\Re\Lambda^{l=0}(z)$ which pass through the points i and -i between lines β and β^* , $\beta=\{z:K_0(z)=0,\Im z>0\}$, $\beta^*=\{z:K_0(z)=0,\Im z<0\}$.

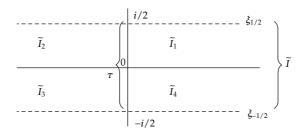


Figure 2

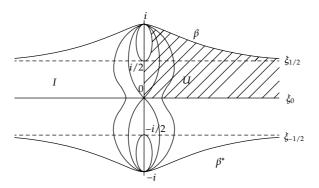


Figure 3

All these lines have common tangents at points i and -i, and the line β (resp. β^*) lies above (resp., below) the strip \tilde{I} . The picture represented in Figure 3 is obtained by detailed study of the explicit formula for $\Lambda^{l=0}$:

$$\Lambda^{l=0}(z) = \frac{4\pi^2}{\mu} \frac{\operatorname{sh}(z \arcsin(\mu/2))}{z \operatorname{ch}(z \cdot \pi/2)},$$
(A.10)

together with the proof that the lines β and β^* do not intersect the strip \tilde{I} . This proof is given below.

From Figure 3, we see that the set I_1 lies inside the shaded domain U that is bounded by the real semiaxis $\xi_0^+ = \{z: z=s, s>0\}$, the segment (0,i/2) on the imaginary axis and the part of line β which lies in the right half-plane. From (A.10), it is easy to see that the function $w = \Lambda^{l=0}(z)$ maps the boundary ∂U of the domain U into the boundary of the right lower quadrant $M = \{w: \Re w > 0, \Im w < 0\}$ of the plain w. Hence, the domain U is mapped inside this quadrant, that is, all values of the function $\Lambda^{l=0}$ in U are nonreal. It means the absence of real values of $\Lambda^{l=0}$ in \widetilde{I}_1 . For the domains \widetilde{I}_2 , \widetilde{I}_3 , and \widetilde{I}_4 , the proof is similar. Let us now prove that β and β^* do not intersect the line $\xi_{1/2}$. It is sufficient to prove that $\Re \Lambda^{l=0} > 0$ on the line $\xi_{1/2} = \{z: z=s+i/2, s\in \mathbb{R}^1\}$ or, which is the same, that

$$\left. \Re \frac{\operatorname{ch}(zv(x))}{\operatorname{ch}(z\pi/2)} \right|_{z=s+i/2} > 0, \tag{A.11}$$

for any $s \in \mathbb{R}^1$ and $x \in (0,1)$. Write

$$\frac{\text{ch}[(s+i/2)v(x)]}{\text{ch}[(s+i/2)\pi/2]} = \frac{\text{ch}(sv(x))\cos(v(x)/2) + i\text{sh}(sv(x))\sin(v(x)/2)}{\text{ch}(s\pi/2)\cos(\pi/4) + i\text{sh}(s\pi/2)\sin(\pi/4)} = D(s,x). \tag{A.12}$$

Let s>0. Then the values of numerator and denominator of D(s,x) lie in the right upper quadrant of a complex plain, and hence $-\pi/2 < \arg D(s,x) < \pi/2$, that is, $\Re D(s,x) > 0$. Similarly (A.11) can be proved in the case s<0 and for $\Lambda^{l=0}|_{z=s-i/2}$;

- (4) let us find the values $\Lambda^l(i/2)$, l = 0, 1:
- (I) the case l = 0:

$$\Lambda^{l=0}(i/2) = 2\pi^2 \int_0^1 \frac{\cos(v(x)/2)}{\cos v(x)\cos(\pi/4)} dx. \tag{A.13}$$

After the change $v(x) = \xi$, the integral (A.13) becomes

$$\frac{4\sqrt{2}\pi^2}{\mu} \int_0^{\arcsin\mu/2} \cos\left(\frac{\xi}{2}\right) d\xi = \frac{8\sqrt{2}}{\mu} \pi^2 \sin\left(\frac{1}{2}\arcsin\frac{\mu}{2}\right); \tag{A.14}$$

(II) The case l = 1:

$$\Lambda^{l=1}\left(\frac{i}{2}\right) = -2\pi^2 \int_0^1 x \frac{\sin(v(x)/2)dx}{\cos v(x)\sin(\pi/4)}.$$
 (A.15)

The same change $v(x) = \xi$ reduces to the integral

$$-\frac{8\sqrt{2}\pi^2}{\mu^2} \int_0^{\arcsin\mu/2} \sin\xi \sin\left(\frac{\xi}{2}\right) d\xi = -\frac{32\sqrt{2}}{3} \frac{\pi^2}{\mu^2} \sin^3\left(\frac{1}{2}\arcsin\frac{\mu}{2}\right); \tag{A.16}$$

(5) let us show that the function:

$$q(\mu) = 2\pi^2 \int_0^1 x \frac{\sin(v(x)/2)}{\cos v(x) \sin(\pi/4)} dx$$
 (A.17)

decreases monotonically as μ changes from 0 to 2. We have

$$\left(\frac{\sin(v(x)/2)}{\cos v(x)}\right)'_{\mu} \ge 0 \tag{A.18}$$

because the numerator of (A.18) increases, while the denominator decreases with the growth of μ . This implies that

$$q'(\mu) \ge 0,\tag{A.19}$$

that is, $q(\mu)$ increases monotonically. Lemma 5.2 is proved.

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