147. On the Point Spectrum of the Schrödinger Operator

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1. Introduction. Let us consider the Schrödinger operator defined in \mathbb{R}^3

(1.1)
$$L = \sum_{j=1}^{3} \left(\frac{1}{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} - b_j(x) \right)^2 + q(x)$$
$$\equiv -\Delta + 2i \sum b_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} + i \sum \frac{\partial b_j}{\partial x_j} + c(x),$$

where $b_j(x)$ and q(x) are real-valued. Our purpose is to show that, under certain conditions on b_j and q, the point spectrum of the operator L is finite.

Let us assume¹⁾

$$(\mathbf{C}_1) \quad b_j(x) \in \mathscr{B}^1(R^3), \quad c(x) \in \mathscr{E}^0(\mathbf{C}o), \quad |c(x)| \leq \frac{\mathrm{const}}{|x|^{1.5-\epsilon}} + \mathrm{const}, \quad \varepsilon > 0.$$

Under this assumption, it is easy to see

Lemma 1.1. The operator L has a unique self-adjoint extension A, and $\mathcal{D}(A) = \mathcal{D}_{L^2}^2$, moreover we have

(1.2) $|| u(x) ||_{\mathcal{B}^{2}_{L^{2}}} \le C(\Lambda) || u ||_{L^{2}}$

for any eigenfunction $(\lambda - A)u = 0$ for $\lambda \leq \Lambda$, Λ being arbitrary positive number.

In section 2, we require more stringent condition:

$$\begin{aligned} &(\mathbf{C}_2) \quad b_j(x) \in \mathcal{C}^2(R^s); \quad b_j(x), \quad |x| \frac{\partial b_j}{\partial x_i}(x) \quad \text{are bounded; } c(x) \in \mathcal{C}^1(Co); \\ & |x| \cdot \left| \frac{\partial c}{\partial x_i}(x) \right| \leq \frac{\text{const}}{|x|^{1.5-\varepsilon}} + \text{const}, \quad \varepsilon > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Then, under the assumptions (C_1) and (C_2) , we have

Lemma 1.2. Let $u(x) \in \mathcal{D}_{L^2}^2$ be a solution of $Au = \lambda u$, λ real. We have $u(x) \in \mathcal{E}_{L^2(\text{loc})}^3(Co)$. Moreover, in a neighbourhood of the origin, we have

$$|u(x)| \leq \text{const}, |u_{x_i}(x)| \leq \frac{\text{const}}{|x|^{0.5-\epsilon}}, |u_{x_ix_j}(x)| \leq \frac{\text{const}}{|x|^2}.$$

2. Upper boundedness of the eigenvalues. Theorem 1. Under the assumptions (C₁), (C₂), there exists a $\lambda_0 > 0$

¹⁾ In this note, we used the notations of L. Schwartz in his treatise (Théorie des Distributions). Let us explain these briefly: $f(x) \in \mathcal{B}^m$, if f(x) has continuous bounded derivatives up to order m. $f(x) \in \mathcal{C}^m(\Omega)$, if f is merely continuously differentiable in Ω up to order m. $\mathcal{D}_{L^2}^m$ is the space of all functions such that $D^\nu f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$, $|\nu| \leq m$, $||f||_{\mathcal{D}_{L^2}^m}^{2m} = \sum_{|\nu| \leq m} ||D^\nu f||_{L^2}^2$. $\mathcal{C}_{L^2}^m(\Omega)$ is the space of all functions such that $D^\nu f(x) \in L^2(\Omega)$, $|\nu| \leq m$, with the norm: $(\sum_{|\nu| \leq m} ||D^\nu f||_{L^2(\Omega)}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$. $f \in \mathcal{C}_{L^2(\log)}^m(\Omega)$, if $\alpha f \in \mathcal{C}_{L^2}^m(\Omega)$, for all $\alpha(x) \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega)$.