

# Shell interactions for Dirac operators

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# Free Dirac operator in $\mathbb{R}^3$

$H : \mathcal{C}_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^3)^4 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^3)^4$  free Dirac operator in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ,

$$H = -i\alpha \cdot \nabla + m\beta = \begin{pmatrix} m & 0 & \partial_3 & \partial_1 - i\partial_2 \\ 0 & m & \partial_1 + i\partial_2 & -\partial_3 \\ \partial_3 & \partial_1 - i\partial_2 & -m & 0 \\ \partial_1 + i\partial_2 & -\partial_3 & 0 & -m \end{pmatrix}.$$

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## REMARKS:

- 1st order symmetric differential operator.
- Local version of  $\sqrt{-\Delta + m^2}$  :  $H^2 = (-\Delta + m^2)I_4$ .
- Introduced by Dirac (1928) to study the electron (*Quantum Physics*).

## QUESTION:

$\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  bounded regular domain,  
 $\Sigma = \partial\Omega$ ,  $\sigma$  surface measure on  $\Sigma$ ,  
 $V$  potential  $L^2(\sigma)^4$ -valued.

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## MOTIVATION:

- *Quantum Physics* requires self-adjointness.
- Previous results on  $H + \lambda\delta_{|x|=1}$  (and other  $V$ 's on  $S^2$ ).
- $\delta_{|x|=1} \sim \frac{1}{|x|}$  under scaling &  $\frac{1}{|x|}$  critical for  $H$ .

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 $(H + V)(\varphi) \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)^4 \implies (H + V)(\varphi) = G$  for some  $G \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)^4$ .

$H(\varphi) = G + g$  in the sense of distributions.



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$H(\varphi) = G + g$  in the sense of distributions.

**Therefore  $\varphi = \phi * (G + g)$  and**

$$(H + V)(\varphi) = G, \quad V(\varphi) = -g,$$

**where  $\phi$  is the fundamental solution of  $H = -i\alpha \cdot \nabla + m\beta$ ,**

$$\phi(x) = \frac{e^{-m|x|}}{4\pi|x|} \left( m\beta + (1 + m|x|) i\alpha \cdot \frac{x}{|x|^2} \right) \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{0\}.$$

## Some properties of $\phi * (G + g)$

$\Omega_+ \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  bounded regular domain,  $\Omega_- = \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \overline{\Omega_+}$ ,  $\Sigma = \partial\Omega_{\pm}$ ,  
 $\sigma$  surface measure on  $\Sigma$ ,  $N$  normal vector on  $\Sigma$  w.r.t.  $\Omega_+$ .

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If  $G \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)^4$ , then  $\phi * G \in W^{1,2}(\mathbb{R}^3)^4$ . Therefore,

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If  $g \in L^2(\sigma)^4$ , then  $H(\phi * g) = 0$  in  $\Sigma^c$ .

For  $x \in \Sigma$ , set

$$C_{\pm}g(x) = \lim_{\Omega_{\pm} \ni y \xrightarrow{nt} x} (\phi * g)(y), \quad C_{\sigma}g(x) = p.v.(\phi * g)(x).$$

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Then,

- $C_{\pm} = \mp \frac{i}{2} (\alpha \cdot N) + C_{\sigma}$  (Plemelj-Sokhotski jump formulae),
- $(C_{\sigma}(\alpha \cdot N))^2 = -\frac{1}{4}$ .

## THEOREM:

Given  $\Lambda : L^2(\sigma)^4 \rightarrow L^2(\sigma)^4$  bounded, self-adjoint and with closed range, define

$$D = \{ \phi * (G + g) : (\phi * G)|_{\Sigma} = \Lambda(g) \}.$$

If  $V(\phi * (G + g)) = -g$ ,

**then  $H + V$  defined on  $D$  is essentially self-adjoint.**

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## REMARKS:

- Under more assumptions on  $\Lambda$ ,  $H + V$  is self-adjoint.
- Other symmetric differential operators.
- Other singular measures.
- Other relations between  $(\phi * G)|_{\Sigma}$  and  $g$ .

# Some applications

Electrostatic potentials & eigenfunctions with vanishing eigenvalue

## THEOREM:

Given  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , define

$$D = \{ \varphi = \phi * (G + g) : \lambda(\phi * G)|_{\Sigma} = -(1 + \lambda C_{\sigma})(g) \}.$$

If  $V_{\lambda}(\varphi) = \frac{\lambda}{2}(\varphi_{+} + \varphi_{-})$  ( $\varphi_{\pm}$  n.t. boundary values of  $\varphi$  on  $\Sigma$ ),  
then  $H + V_{\lambda}$  defined on  $D$  is self-adjoint for all  $\lambda \neq \pm 2$ .



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There exist  $\{\lambda_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}} \subset (0, \infty)$  accumulating at 2 such that

- if  $|\lambda| \neq \lambda_j$  for all  $j$ , then

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- and if  $|\lambda| = \lambda_j$  for some  $j$ , there exists  $0 \neq \varphi \in D$  so that

$$(H + V_{\lambda})(\varphi) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad (H + V_{-\lambda})(\varphi) = 0.$$

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## Confinement

$\Sigma$  is impenetrable for the particles if  $\chi_{\Omega_{\pm}}\varphi \in D$  for all  $\varphi \in D$ , where  $D$  is the domain of definition of  $H + V$ .

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If  $V(\phi * (G + g)) = -g$ ,

**then  $H + V$  defined on  $D$  is essentially self-adjoint.**

Moreover, if  $\{C_{\sigma}(\alpha \cdot N), \Lambda(\alpha \cdot N)\} = -(\Lambda(\alpha \cdot N))^2$ ,

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### APPLICATION:

$$V_{a,b}(\varphi) = \frac{a}{2}(\varphi_+ + \varphi_-) + \frac{b}{2}\beta(\varphi_+ + \varphi_-), \quad a, b \in \mathbb{R}.$$

**$H + V_{a,b}$  makes  $\Sigma$  impenetrable if  $a^2 - b^2 + 4 = 0$ .**

The end.