



## Differential Operator Equations with Interface Conditions in Modified Direct Sum Spaces

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**Abstract.** We investigate a new type boundary value problem consisting of a differential-operator equation, eigenparameter-dependent boundary conditions, and two supplementary conditions so-called interface conditions. We give a characterisation of some spectral properties of the considered problem. Particularly, it is established such properties as isomorphism and coerciveness, discreteness of the spectrum and found asymptotic formulas for eigenvalues.

### 1. Introduction

The classical boundary value problems (BVP's) arise as a mathematical modeling of many systems and processes in the fields of physics, chemistry, aerodynamics, fluid dynamics, diffusion etc. But some mechanical and physical systems lead to various non-classical forms of BVP's. For example, Sturm-Liouville problems with eigenparameter appearing in the boundary conditions, and with supplementary interface conditions at some interior singular points arise in non-classical problems of physics, namely in vibrating string problems when the string loaded additionally with point masses, in problems involving heat conduction through a liquid-interface, in diffraction problems of water vapour through a porous membrane (for other examples see [14, 22–24]).

In this study, we consider new type of non-classical boundary value problems consisting of a "Sturm-Liouville equation" involving an abstract linear operator  $\mathcal{A}$  given by

$$\ell f := -f'' + q(x)f + \mathcal{A}f|_x = \lambda f, \quad x \in [-\pi, 0) \cup (0, \pi] \quad (1)$$

together with eigenparameter-dependent boundary conditions given by

$$\ell_1 f := \delta_{10}f(-\pi) - \delta_{11}f'(-\pi) = 0, \quad (2)$$

$$\ell_2(\lambda)f := \delta_{20}f(\pi) - \delta_{21}f'(\pi) + \lambda(\delta'_{20}f(\pi) - \delta'_{21}f'(\pi)) = 0, \quad (3)$$

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and two supplementary interface conditions at one interior singular point  $x = 0$ , given by

$$\ell_3 f := \gamma_{11}^- f'(0-) + \gamma_{10}^+ f(0+) = 0, \tag{4}$$

$$\ell_4 f := \gamma_{21}^- f'(0-) + \gamma_{20}^- f(0-) + \gamma_{21}^+ f'(0+) + \gamma_{20}^+ f(0+) = 0, \tag{5}$$

where the function  $q(x)$  is continuous in the intervals  $[-\pi, 0)$  and  $(0, \pi]$  for which there are finite left and right limits  $q(0\pm)$  at the singular point  $x = 0$ ,  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  is a eigenvalue parameter,  $\delta_{ij}, \delta'_{ij}, \gamma_{ij}^\pm$ , ( $i = 1, 2$  and  $j = 0, 1$ ) are real numbers,  $\mathcal{A}$  is an abstract linear operator which is non-self-adjoint and unbounded in general in the Lebesgue space  $L_2[-\pi, \pi]$ . Naturally we shall assume that  $|\delta_{10}| + |\delta_{11}| \neq 0$ ,  $|\delta_{20}| + |\delta_{21}| + |\delta'_{20}| + |\delta'_{21}| \neq 0$ ,  $|\gamma_{11}^-| + |\gamma_{10}^+| \neq 0$  and  $|\gamma_{21}^-| + |\gamma_{20}^-| + |\gamma_{21}^+| + |\gamma_{20}^+| \neq 0$ . Note that the considered boundary-value problem covered a wide class of non-standard Sturm-Liouville type problems. For example, the results of this study is applicable to the problem consisting of the equation

$$-f''(x) + q(x)f(x) + \sum_{k=1}^n u_k(x)f(c_k) + \sum_{k=1}^m v_k(x)f'(d_k) + \sum_{k=0}^1 \left( \int_{-\pi}^0 R_k(x,t)f^{(k)}(t)dt + \int_0^\pi T_k(x,t)f^{(k)}(t)dt \right) = \lambda f(x), \quad x \in [-\pi, 0) \cup (0, \pi],$$

and the same boundary and interface conditions (2) – (5), where  $u_k(x)$  and  $v_k(x)$  are piecewise continuous functions on  $[-\pi, \pi]$  having discontinuities only at the point  $x = 0$  and only of the first kind, the kernels  $R_k(x, t)$  and  $T_k(x, t)$  are defined and continuous in  $[-\pi, \pi] \times [-\pi, 0]$  and  $[-\pi, \pi] \times [0, \pi]$ , respectively. Note that some non-classical Sturm-Liouville differential operators have been investigate extensively in the recent years [1–5, 7–11, 13, 15–21, 25].

### 2. Construction of the Adequate Hilbert Spaces

Let us consider boundary value problems (1) – (5). For operator-treatment of this problem we shall introduce a new inner-products in the classical Sobolev spaces. To this we shall assume everywhere in below that

$$\theta := \begin{vmatrix} \delta_{21} & \delta'_{21} \\ \delta_{20} & \delta'_{20} \end{vmatrix} > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta := \begin{vmatrix} \gamma_{21}^- & \gamma_{21}^+ \\ \gamma_{20}^- & \gamma_{20}^+ \end{vmatrix} > 0.$$

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}$  be any closed bounded interval. Recall that the Sobolev space  $W_2^k(\Omega)$  ( $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ) is the Hilbert space consisting of all functions  $f \in L_2(\Omega)$  that have generalized derivatives  $f', f'', \dots, f^{(k)} \in L_2(\Omega)$  with the inner product

$$\langle f, g \rangle_{W_2^k(\Omega)} = \sum_{n=0}^k \langle f^{(n)}, g^{(n)} \rangle_{L_2(\Omega)},$$

where  $L_2(\Omega)$  is the usual Lebesgue space, i.e. the Hilbert space of measurable and square-integrable complex valued functions on the interval  $\Omega$  with the inner product

$$\langle f, g \rangle_{L_2(\Omega)} := \int_{\Omega} f(x)\overline{g(x)}dx.$$

Of course, here by  $f^{(0)}, g^{(0)}$ , and  $W_2^0(\Omega)$ , we mean  $f, g$ , and  $L_2(\Omega)$ , respectively.

The standard inner product in direct sum space  $\mathcal{H}_0 = (L_2(-\pi, 0) \oplus L_2(0, \pi)) \oplus \mathbb{C}$  which is given by

$$\langle U, V \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0} := \langle u(\cdot), v(\cdot) \rangle_{L_2} + u_1 \overline{v_1}$$

for  $U = (u(\cdot), u_1), V = (v(\cdot), v_1) \in \mathcal{H}_0$ , we shall replace by the "weight" inner product on the direct sum space  $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_1 \oplus \mathbb{C}$  by

$$\langle F, G \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} := \langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_1} + \frac{\Delta}{\theta} f_1 \overline{g_1} \tag{6}$$

for  $F = (f(x), f_1)$  and  $G = (g(x), g_1) \in \mathcal{H}$ , where by  $\mathcal{H}_1$  we mean the linear space  $L_2[-\pi, 0) \oplus L_2(0, \pi]$  equipped with modified the inner product

$$\langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_1} := \Delta \int_{-\pi}^{0-} f(x) \overline{g(x)} dx + \int_{0+}^{\pi} f(x) \overline{g(x)} dx$$

and apply operator theory in the Hilbert space

$$\mathcal{H} := (L_2(-\pi, 0) \oplus L_2(0, \pi)) \oplus \mathbb{C}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}.$$

**Remark 2.1.** It is readily seen that modified inner product (6) is equivalent to standard inner product of  $(L_2(-\pi, 0) \oplus L_2(0, \pi)) \oplus \mathbb{C}$ , so  $\mathcal{H}$  is also Hilbert space and can be seen as different realization of the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}_0$ .

### 3. Operator-Theoretical Interpretation of the Problem

Denoting

$$B_{\pi}[f] := \delta_{20}f(\pi) - \delta_{21}f'(\pi),$$

$$B'_{\pi}[f] := \delta'_{20}f(\pi) - \delta'_{21}f'(\pi),$$

and

$$\Phi u := -u'' + q(x)u,$$

we shall define the linear operator  $\mathcal{L} : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  with action low

$$\mathcal{L}(f(x), -B'_{\pi}[f]) := (\ell f, B_{\pi}[f])$$

and domain of definition

$$\text{dom}(\mathcal{L}) := \left\{ \begin{aligned} &F = (f(x), f_1) : f(x), f'(x) \in AC_{loc}(-\pi, 0) \cap AC_{loc}(0, \pi), \ell F \in L_2(-\pi, 0) \oplus L_2(0, \pi), \\ &\text{there are finite limits } f(0\mp) \text{ and } f'(0\mp), \ell_1(f) = \ell_3(f) = \ell_4(f) = 0, f_1 = -B'_{\pi}[f] \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Then problems (1) – (5) is acquired to the operator equation form

$$\mathcal{L}F = \lambda F, \quad F = (f(x), -B'_{\pi}[f]) \in \text{dom}(\mathcal{L})$$

in the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ . Consequently the eigenvalues of the operator  $\mathcal{L}$  and those of considered problems (1) – (5) are coincide.

**Lemma 3.1.** *The set  $\text{dom}(\mathcal{L})$  is dense in the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ .*

*Proof.* Let,  $Y_0 = (y_0(\cdot), y_1) \in \mathcal{H}$  be any element satisfying the orthogonality relation

$$\langle X, Y_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} := \Delta \int_{-\pi}^{0-} x(s) \overline{y_0(s)} ds + \int_{0+}^{\pi} x(s) \overline{y_0(s)} ds - \frac{\Delta}{\theta} B'_{\pi}[x] \overline{y_1} = 0 \tag{7}$$

for all  $X = (x(\cdot), -B'_\pi[x]) \in D(\mathcal{L})$ . Let  $f_1 \in C_0^\infty[-\pi, 0]$  and  $f_2 \in C_0^\infty[0, \pi]$  be arbitrary functions and let

$$f = \begin{cases} f_1(x) & \text{for } x \in [-\pi, 0] \\ f_2(x) & \text{for } x \in (0, \pi] \end{cases}.$$

Obviously  $F := (f(\cdot), 0) \in D(\mathcal{L})$ . Putting in (7), we get

$$\Delta \int_{-\pi}^{0-} f_1(s) \overline{y_0(s)} ds + \int_{0+}^{\pi} f_2(s) \overline{y_0(s)} ds - \frac{\Delta}{\theta} B'_\pi[f] \overline{y_1} = 0.$$

By taking  $f_2 = 0$ , we see from the last equality that

$$\Delta \int_{-\pi}^{0-} f_1(s) \overline{y_0(s)} ds = 0$$

for all  $f_1 \in C_0^\infty[-\pi, 0]$ . Since  $C_0^\infty[-\pi, 0]$  is dense in  $L_2(-\pi, 0)$ , this leads to  $y_0(s) = 0$  on  $[-\pi, 0)$ . Similarly, by taking  $f_1 = 0$ , we have that

$$\int_{0+}^{\pi} f_2(s) \overline{y_0(s)} ds = 0$$

for all  $f_2 \in C_0^\infty[0, \pi]$ , from which it follows that  $y_0(s) = 0$  on  $(0, \pi]$ .

We can choose an element  $\tilde{X}_0 := (\tilde{x}_0(\cdot), -B'_\pi(\tilde{x}_0)) \in D(\tilde{\mathcal{L}})$  such that  $-B'_\pi(\tilde{x}_0) = -y_1$ . Putting in (7) we get

$$\langle \tilde{X}_0, Y_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = -\frac{\Delta}{\theta} |y_1|^2 = 0$$

and so  $y_1 = 0$ . Consequently,  $Y_0 = 0$  which proves that the orthogonal complement of  $D(\mathcal{L})$  is null element of the space  $\mathcal{H}$ . Hence  $D(\mathcal{L})$  is dense in  $\mathcal{H}$ . The proof is complete.  $\square$

#### 4. Topological Isomorphism and Coerciveness

To establish the topological isomorphism and coerciveness we shall define a new inner product space  $\mathcal{H}_2$  as the linear space

$$\{U = (u(\cdot), u_1) : u(\cdot) \in W_2^2(-\pi, 0) \oplus W_2^2(0, \pi), \ell_1(u) = \ell_3(u) = \ell_4(u) = 0, u_1 = -B'_\pi(u)\}$$

equipped with inner product

$$\langle (u(\cdot), u_1), (v(\cdot), v_1) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_2} = \langle u(\cdot), v(\cdot) \rangle_{W_2^2} \tag{8}$$

and corresponding norm

$$\|(u(\cdot), u_1)\|_{\mathcal{H}_2} = \|u(\cdot)\|_{W_2^2}.$$

**Lemma 4.1.**  $\mathcal{H}_2$  is a Hilbert space.

*Proof.* Let  $U_n = (u_n(\cdot), -B'_\pi[u_n]), n = 1, 2, \dots$  be any Cauchy sequence in the inner-product space  $\mathcal{H}_2$ . Since

$$\|u_n - u_m\|_{W_2^2} = \|U_n - U_m\|_{\mathcal{H}_2}$$

by (8) we see that the first components  $(u_n(\cdot))$  of the sequence  $(U_n)$  forms a Cauchy sequence of the Hilbert space  $W_2^2(-\pi, 0) \oplus W_2^2(0, \pi)$ , therefore is convergent. Let  $u = u(x)$  be the limit of this sequence. By virtue of the well-known properties of the Sobolev spaces, the embeddings  $W_2^2(-\pi, 0) \subset C[-\pi, 0]$  and  $W_2^2(0, \pi) \subset C[0, \pi]$  are compact and therefore the reel sequences  $\ell_1(u_n), \ell_2(u_n)$ , and  $\ell_4(u_n)$  converge to  $\ell_1(u), \ell_2(u)$  and  $\ell_4(u)$  respectively. By the definition of the space  $\mathcal{H}_2$  we know that  $\ell_1(u_n) = \ell_2(u_n) = \ell_4(u_n) = 0$  for all  $n$ . Consequently,  $\ell_1(u) = \ell_2(u) = \ell_4(u) = 0$ . Hence  $U := (u(\cdot), -B'_\pi[u]) \in \mathcal{H}_2$  and

$$\|U_n - U\|_{\mathcal{H}_2} = \|u_n - u\|_{W_2^2} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

so  $(U_n)$  is convergent. Since the sequence  $(U_n)$  is an arbitrary Cauchy sequence,  $\mathcal{H}_2$  is complete. Thus this inner product space is a Hilbert Space.  $\square$

Now, consider nonhomogeneous boundary value transmission problem

$$\Phi u - \lambda u = f(x), x \in [-\pi, 0) \cup (0, \pi] , \ell_1(\lambda)u = f_1, \ell_2 u = \ell_3 u = \ell_4 u = 0, \tag{9}$$

for  $f \in L_2(-\pi, 0) \oplus L_2(0, \pi), f_1 \in \mathbb{C}$ . Denote  $U(x) := (u(x), -B'_\pi(u)) \in D(\mathcal{L})$  and  $F := (f(x), f_1) \in \mathcal{H}$ . Then problem (9) reduces to operator equation

$$(\lambda I - \mathcal{L})U = F, F \in \mathcal{H} \tag{10}$$

in the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ . For convenience, in below we use the notations

$$G_\epsilon = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \mid \epsilon < \arg \mu < 2\pi - \epsilon\}, 0 < \epsilon < 2\pi,$$

and

$$U_\infty(r) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : |\lambda| > r\}, r > 0.$$

**Theorem 4.2.** *Suppose that the operator  $\mathcal{A}$  acted compactly from  $W_2^2(-\pi, 0) \oplus W_2^2(0, \pi)$  into  $L_2(-\pi, 0) \oplus L_2(0, \pi)$ . Then, for any  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists sufficiently large  $r_\epsilon > 0$  such that for all  $\lambda \in G_\epsilon \cap U_\infty(r_\epsilon)$  the operator  $\mathcal{L} - \lambda I$  is an isomorphism from  $\mathcal{H}_2$  onto  $\mathcal{H}$  and following coercive estimate*

$$\|U(\lambda, F)\|_{\mathcal{H}_2} + |\lambda| \|U(\lambda, F)\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq C(\epsilon) \|F\|_{\mathcal{H}} \tag{11}$$

holds for the solution  $U = U(\lambda, F)$  of operator equation (10) where  $C(\epsilon)$  is a constant, which depend only of  $\epsilon$ .

*Proof.* It is obvious that the operator  $\mathcal{L} - \lambda I$  is bounded from  $\mathcal{H}_2$  into  $\mathcal{H}$  for all complex number  $\lambda$ . Applying the same argument from [19], we have that for arbitrary  $\epsilon > 0$ , small enough, there are positive numbers  $r_\epsilon$  and  $C_\epsilon$  such that for all  $\lambda \in G_\epsilon \cap U_\infty(r_\epsilon)$  the linear operator  $T(\lambda)$  defined by

$$T(\lambda)u = (\lambda u - \Phi(\lambda)u, \ell_1 u)$$

is an isomorphism between the Hilbert spaces  $W_2^2(-\pi, 0) \oplus W_2^2(0, \pi)$  and  $(L_2(-\pi, 0) \oplus L_2(0, \pi)) \oplus \mathbb{C}$  and for these  $\lambda$ , coercive estimate

$$\|u\|_{W_2^2} + |\lambda| (\|u\|_{L_2} + |B'_\pi(u)|) \leq C_\epsilon (\|f\|_{L_2} + |f_1|) \tag{12}$$

holds for the solution of the nonhomogeneous boundary-value-transmission problem (9). This proves that the linear operator  $\mathcal{L} - \lambda I$  is an isomorphism between the Hilbert spaces  $\mathcal{H}_2$  and  $\mathcal{H}$ . The claimed inequality (11) follows immediately from estimate (12). The proof is complete.  $\square$

**Remark 4.3.** From coercive estimate (11), in particular follows the maximal decreasing of the resolvent operator  $R(\lambda, \mathcal{L}) = (\lambda I - \mathcal{L})^{-1}$ , namely the estimate

$$\|R(\lambda, \mathcal{L})\|_{\mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}} \leq C(\epsilon) |\lambda|^{-1}$$

holds for all complex numbers  $\lambda$  as in the formulation of the last Theorem.

**Theorem 4.4.** *If the operator  $\mathcal{A}$  acts compactly from  $W_2^2(-\pi, 0) \oplus W_2^2(0, \pi)$  into  $L_2(-\pi, 0) \oplus L_2(0, \pi)$  then the spectrum of problems (1) – (5) consists of isolated eigenvalues.*

*Proof.* By virtue of Theorem 4.2 for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , small enough, there are a positive numbers  $r_\epsilon$  and  $C_\epsilon$  such that for all  $F \in \mathcal{H}_2$  and for all  $\lambda \in G_\epsilon$  with  $|\lambda| > r_\epsilon$  the estimate

$$\|U(\lambda, F)\|_{\mathcal{H}_2} \leq C_\epsilon \|F\|_{\mathcal{H}}$$

holds. Consequently, the resolvent operator  $R(\lambda, \mathcal{L}) = (\lambda I - \mathcal{L})^{-1}$  acted continuously from  $\mathcal{H}$  onto  $\mathcal{H}_2$ . Since the embedding operator  $\mathcal{H}_2 \subset \mathcal{H}$  is compact, this resolvent operator acted compactly from  $\mathcal{H}$  into  $\mathcal{H}$ . Then by virtue of the well-known theorems about linear operators with compact resolvent in the Hilbert space (see, [12], Chapter III, Section 6) the spectrum of  $\mathcal{L}$  consist of isolated eigenvalues. The proof is complete.  $\square$

### 5. Asymptotics of the Eigenvalues

Consider the pure differential part (i.e. without operator  $\mathcal{A}$ ) of the considered problem (1) – (5). Let  $\mathcal{L}_0$  be linear differential operator in the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  with domain  $D(\mathcal{L}_0) = D(\mathcal{L})$  given by

$$\mathcal{L}_0(u(x), -B'_\pi[u]) = (\Phi u, B_\pi[u]).$$

**Theorem 5.1.**  $\mathcal{L}_0$  is a self-adjoint linear operator.

*Proof.* Since the operator  $\mathcal{L}_0$  is symmetric, we must show that  $D(\mathcal{L}_0^*) = D(\mathcal{L}_0)$ . Let  $X \in D(\mathcal{L}_0^*)$  be any element and  $\lambda_0$  be any non-real regular value of  $\mathcal{L}_0$ . Then we get

$$\langle (\lambda_0 I - \mathcal{L}_0)Y, X \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \langle Y, (\overline{\lambda_0} I - \mathcal{L}_0^*)X \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}, \quad \text{for all } Y \in D(\mathcal{L}_0).$$

Denoting

$$X_0 := (\overline{\lambda_0} I - \mathcal{L}_0)^{-1}(\overline{\lambda_0} X - \mathcal{L}_0^* X)$$

we have that  $X_0 \in D(\mathcal{L}_0)$  and

$$(\overline{\lambda_0} I - \mathcal{L}_0)X_0 = \overline{\lambda_0} X - \mathcal{L}_0^* X.$$

Taking in view these equalities and then applying the Theorem 4.4 we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle (\lambda_0 I - \mathcal{L}_0)Y, X \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} &= \langle Y, (\overline{\lambda_0} I - \mathcal{L}_0^*)X \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= \langle Y, \overline{\lambda_0} X_0 - \mathcal{L}_0 X_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= \lambda_0 \langle Y, X_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} - \langle Y, \mathcal{L}_0 X_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= \langle \lambda_0 Y, X_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} - \langle \mathcal{L}_0 Y, X_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= \langle (\lambda_0 I - \mathcal{L}_0)Y, X_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \end{aligned}$$

for all  $Y \in D(\mathcal{L}_0)$ . This shows that the equality

$$\langle (\lambda_0 I - \mathcal{L}_0)Y, X - X_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = 0$$

holds for arbitrary  $Y \in D(\mathcal{L}_0)$ . Choosing  $Y = (\lambda_0 I - \mathcal{L}_0)^{-1}(X - X_0)$  and putting in the last equality yields  $\|X - X_0\|_{\mathcal{H}} = 0$ . Thus  $X = X_0 \in D(\mathcal{L}_0)$  which proves that  $D(\mathcal{L}_0^*) = D(\mathcal{L}_0)$  as desired. The proof is complete.  $\square$

**Corollary 5.2.** All eigenvalues of the differential operator  $\mathcal{L}_0$  are real.

**Lemma 5.3.** The pure differential operator  $\mathcal{L}_0$  has precisely denumerable many eigenvalues  $\lambda_n(\mathcal{L}_0)$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , which are real and satisfy the asymptotic formula

$$\lambda_n(\mathcal{L}_0) = \frac{n^2}{4} + O(n).$$

*Proof.* Let  $\varphi_1(x, \lambda)$  be the solution of the differential equation

$$\tau f := -f'' + q(x)f = \lambda f, \quad x \in [-\pi, 0) \cup (0, \pi] \tag{13}$$

satisfying the initial conditions

$$f(-\pi) = \delta_{11}, \quad f'(-\pi) = \delta_{10}.$$

Now we proceed from  $\varphi_1(x, \lambda)$  to define the solution  $\varphi_2(x, \lambda)$  of the same equation (13). Namely, we shall define by  $\varphi_2(x, \lambda)$  the solution of equation (13) satisfying the initial conditions

$$f(0+) = -\frac{\gamma_{11}^-}{\gamma_{10}^+} \varphi_1(0-, \lambda),$$

$$f'(0+) = -\frac{\gamma_{20}^+ \gamma_{11}^- - \gamma_{10}^+ \gamma_{20}^-}{\gamma_{10}^+} \varphi_1(0-, \lambda) - \gamma_{21}^- \varphi_1'(0-, \lambda).$$

It is easy to see that the function  $\varphi(x, \lambda)$  defined by

$$\varphi(x, \lambda) = \begin{cases} \varphi_1(x, \lambda) & \text{for } x \in [-\pi, 0) \\ \varphi_2(x, \lambda) & \text{for } x \in (0, \pi] \end{cases}$$

satisfies equation (13), first boundary condition (2) and both interface conditions (4) and (5). Therefore, by substituting  $\varphi(x, \lambda)$  in condition (3) we find the eigenvalues, i.e. the eigenvalues consist of the solutions of equation

$$\omega(\lambda) := \ell_2(\varphi_2(\cdot, \lambda)) = 0. \tag{14}$$

Let  $\lambda = \mu^2$ . It is easy to verify that the solution  $\varphi_i(x, \lambda)$  satisfies the next integral equations:

$$\varphi_i(x, \lambda) = \varphi_i(a_i, \lambda) \cos [\mu(x - a_i)] + \frac{1}{\mu} \varphi_i'(a_i, \lambda) \sin [\mu(x - a_i)] + \frac{1}{\mu} \int_{a_i}^x \sin [\mu(x - t)] q(t) \varphi_i(t, \lambda) dt$$

and

$$\varphi_i'(x, \lambda) = -\mu \varphi_i(a_i, \lambda) \sin [\mu(x - a_i)] + \varphi_i'(a_i, \lambda) \cos [\mu(x - a_i)] + \int_{a_i}^x \cos [\mu(x - t)] q(t) \varphi_i(t, \lambda) dt$$

for  $i = 1, 2$ ;  $a_1 = -\pi$ ,  $a_2 = 0 +$ . Then, by using the approach in [17] we can find

$$\varphi_2(x, \lambda) = -\frac{\gamma_{11}^+ \gamma_{21}^+}{\gamma_{21}^-} \delta_{10} \mu \sin[\pi\mu] \cos[\mu x] + O(e^{|\operatorname{Re}\mu|(x+\pi)}) \tag{15}$$

and

$$\varphi_2'(x, \lambda) = \frac{\gamma_{11}^+ \gamma_{21}^+}{\gamma_{21}^-} \delta_{10} \mu^2 \sin[\pi\mu] \sin[\mu x] + O(|\mu| e^{|\operatorname{Re}\mu|(x+\pi)}) \tag{16}$$

as  $|\lambda| \rightarrow \infty$ . Substituting (15) and (16) in the equation (14) we arrive at the asymptotic equation

$$\mu^4 \sin^2[\pi\mu] + O(|\mu|^3 e^{2\pi|\operatorname{Re}\mu|}) = 0$$

Take a circle  $\Gamma_n := \{\mu \in \mathbb{C} \mid |\mu| = n + \frac{1}{2}\}$  of radius  $n + \frac{1}{2}$  in the  $\mu$ - plane, where  $n$  is a natural number. By applying the well-known Rouché theorem, we have that there are as many zeros of  $\Delta(\mu) := \omega(\mu^2)$  inside  $\Gamma_n$  as the function  $\Delta_0(\mu) := \mu^4 \sin^2[\pi\mu]$  for sufficiently large  $n$ , provided that each zero is counted according to its multiplicity, i.e.,  $4n + 6$ . Since the function  $\Delta_0(\mu)$  is even, we only need consider its positive zeros. Consequently there are  $2n + 3$  positive roots  $\mu_k$  of function  $\Delta(\mu)$  less than  $n + \frac{1}{2}$  for sufficiently large  $n$ . Then we have  $\mu_n = \frac{n}{2} + O(1)$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , from which it follows immediately the needed asymptotic formula (13). The proof is complete.  $\square$

Let us define a new operator  $\mathcal{A}_0 : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  by

$$\mathcal{A}_0(F) = \left( (\mathcal{A}F)(x), 0 \right) \tag{17}$$

and domain of definition  $D(\mathcal{A}_0) = D(\mathcal{L}_0)$ . Then, the main problem is acquired to the operator-equation form

$$(\mathcal{L}_0 + \mathcal{A}_0)U = \lambda U, \quad U \in D(\mathcal{L}_0) \tag{18}$$

in the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ .

**Remark 5.4.** The eigenvalues of problems (1)-(5) and (18) are coincide, and the corresponding eigenfunctions of (1)-(5) are the first components of the eigenelements of the operator  $\mathcal{L}$  given by  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_0 + \mathcal{A}_0$ .

For further investigation, we need to use some definitions and facts. Let  $A$  be closed linear operator in a Hilbert space  $E$ . A regular value  $\lambda$  of  $A$  is a complex number such that the resolvent operator  $(A - \lambda I)^{-1}$  exists, is defined on a dense set and is bounded. The resolvent set  $\rho(A)$  of  $A$  consist of all regular values of  $A$ . The set  $\mathbb{C} - \rho(A)$  is called a spectrum of  $A$  and is denoted by  $\sigma(A)$ . If the resolvent operator  $(A - \lambda I)^{-1}$  does not exist then the value  $\lambda$  is called an eigenvalue of  $A$ . The algebraic multiplicity of the eigenvalue  $\lambda$  is the dimension of the linear subspace

$$K_{\lambda_0} := \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \{f \in D(A^n), (A - \lambda_0 I)^n f = 0\}.$$

Let  $G$  be any subset of complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $r > 0$  be any real number. By  $N(r, G, A)$  we shall denote the number of eigenvalues of  $A$  belonging to  $G$ , which are smaller than  $r$  and are counted according to their algebraic multiplicity, i.e.

$$N(r, G, A) := \sum_{n \in \{k: \lambda_k \in G, |\lambda| > r\}} 1.$$

**Definition 5.5.** Let  $A_1$  be any closed linear operator having at least one regular point. A linear (in general, unbounded) operator  $A_2$  is said to be  $A_1$ -compact if  $D(A_2) \supseteq D(A_1)$  and if for some regular point  $\lambda_0 \in \rho(A_1)$  the operator  $A_2 R(\lambda_0, A_1) = A_2(A_1 - \lambda_0 I)^{-1}$  is compact (see, for example [6]).

**Theorem 5.6.** Let  $S$  be self-adjoint operator in a Hilbert space the spectrum of which is discrete,  $\mathcal{A}$  be  $S$ -compact operator and  $\mathcal{E} = S + \mathcal{A}$ . Then if  $S$  has a precisely numerable many positive eigenvalues and

$$N(r(1 + \varepsilon), R^+, S) \sim N(r, R^+, S), \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty, \varepsilon \rightarrow 0$$

then for any  $\alpha$  ( $0 < \alpha < \frac{\pi}{2}$ )

$$N(r, G_\alpha, \mathcal{E}) \sim N(r, R^+, S), \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty$$

where  $R^+ = (0, \infty)$ ,  $G_\alpha$  is the angle as in the previous section and  $f(\lambda) \sim g(\lambda)$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$  is the abbreviation for

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(r)}{g(r)} = 1.$$

*Proof.* The proof of this theorem follows immediately from the results of [6].  $\square$

**Lemma 5.7.** Let the operator  $\mathcal{A}$  be  $\mathcal{L}_0$ -compact in the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ . Then the spectrum of  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_0 + \mathcal{A}_0$  is discrete and consist of precisely denumerable many eigenvalues. For any arbitrary small  $\alpha > 0$  all eigenvalues of  $\mathcal{L}$  with the possible exception of a finite number lie in the sector  $\psi_\alpha = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : |\arg \lambda| < \alpha\}$  of angular  $2\alpha$  and for the sequence of eigenvalues  $(\lambda_{n,\alpha}), n \geq 0$ , belonging to the sector  $\psi_\alpha$ , which, when listen according to nondecreasing modulus and repeated according to algebraic multiplicity, satisfies the following asymptotic formula:

$$|\lambda_{n,\alpha}| = \frac{n^2}{4} + o(n^2), \quad n \rightarrow \infty. \tag{19}$$

*Proof.* Let  $\lambda_1(\mathcal{L}_0) \leq \lambda_2(\mathcal{L}_0) \leq \dots$  be the sequence of eigenvalues of  $\mathcal{L}_0$  which counted with their algebraic multiplicity. By Lemma 5.3 there are real numbers  $m_1, m_2$ , such that

$$m_1 n + \frac{n^2}{4} \leq \lambda_n(\mathcal{L}_0) \leq m_2 n + \frac{n^2}{4}$$

for all  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . From this relation it follows that

$$N(r, R^+, \mathcal{L}_0) = 1 + \sqrt{r} + O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{r}}\right) \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty.$$



Since for arbitrary  $\varepsilon > 0$

$$\sqrt{r + \varepsilon} = \sqrt{r} + O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{r}}\right) \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty$$

and

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{r + \varepsilon}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{r}} + O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{r^{\frac{3}{2}}}}\right) \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty,$$

we have that

$$N(r(1 + \varepsilon), R^+, \mathcal{L}_0) - N(r, R^+, \mathcal{L}_0) = O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{r}}\right) \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty.$$

Consequently,

$$N(r(1 + \varepsilon), R^+, \mathcal{L}_0) \sim N(r, R^+, \mathcal{L}_0) \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty.$$

Then by virtue of the Theorem 5.6 we have

$$N(r, \alpha, \mathcal{L}_0 + A_0) \sim N(r, R^+, \mathcal{L}_0) \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty.$$

Thus, we get

$$N(r, \psi_\alpha, \mathcal{L}_0 + A_0) = N(r, R^+, \mathcal{L}_0) + o(N(r, R^+, \mathcal{L}_0)) \text{ as } r \rightarrow \infty. \tag{20}$$

Here, as usual, the expression  $f(r) = o(g(r))$ , as  $r \rightarrow \infty$  means that  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(r)}{g(r)} = 0$ . Now, writing (20) for  $r = |\lambda_{n,\alpha}|$  yields the desired formula (19). The proof is complete.  $\square$

**Theorem 5.8.** *Under condition of previous Lemma the spectrum  $\sigma(\mathcal{L})$  of the operator  $\mathcal{L}$  is discrete and consist of denumerable many eigenvalues  $(\lambda_n(\mathcal{L}))$  (is several non- real) which, when arranged in decreasing modulus and counted to their algebraic multiplicity, has the following asymptotic representations*

$$Re\lambda_n(\mathcal{L}) = \frac{\pi^2 n^2}{4} + o(n^2) \text{ and } Im\lambda_n(\mathcal{L}) = o(n^2) \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty. \tag{21}$$

*Proof.* We know that the number of eigenvalues of the operator  $\mathcal{L}$  for which  $|arg\lambda| > \alpha$  is finite. Taking in view this fact and using Lemma 5.7 yield

$$|\lambda_{n,\alpha}(\mathcal{L})| = \frac{n^2}{4} + o(n^2) \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty. \tag{22}$$

By virtue of Theorem 4.2, there is a natural number  $n_\alpha$  such that the inequalities

$$Re\lambda_n(\mathcal{L}) > |\lambda_n(\mathcal{L})| \cos \alpha$$

and

$$|Im\lambda_n(\mathcal{L})| < |\lambda_n(\mathcal{L})| \sin \alpha$$

are hold for all  $n \geq n_\alpha$ , from which it follows easily that

$$Re\lambda_n(\mathcal{L}) \sim |\lambda_n(\mathcal{L})|$$

and

$$|Im\lambda_n(\mathcal{L})| = o(|\lambda_n(\mathcal{L})|)$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Together with (22), this shows that the asymptotic formulas (21) are true. The proof is complete.  $\square$

The main result of this section is the the following theorem.

**Theorem 5.9.** Let the operator  $\mathcal{A}$  acted compactly from  $W_2^2(-\pi, 0) \oplus W_2^2(0, \pi)$  into  $L_2(-\pi, 0) \oplus L_2(0, \pi)$ . Then, the spectrum of BVTP (1)-(5) is discrete and consist of precisely denumerable many eigenvalues  $\lambda_n$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  (is several non-real) which, when listed according to decreasing real parts and repeated according to algebraic multiplicity has the following asymptotic representation:

$$\lambda_n = \frac{\pi^2 n^2}{4} + o(n^2) \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

i.e.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\lambda_n - \frac{\pi^2 n^2}{4}|}{n^2} = 0.$$

*Proof.* By virtue of the Theorem 4.4 the resolvent operator  $R(\lambda, \mathcal{L}) = (\lambda I - \mathcal{L})^{-1}$  maps the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  continuously into the  $\mathcal{H}_2$ . At the other hand, the operator  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , defined by (17) is compact from  $\mathcal{H}_2$  to  $\mathcal{H}_0$ , by assumption on  $\mathcal{L}_0$ . Consequently the operator  $\mathcal{A}_0(\lambda I - \mathcal{L})^{-1}$  is compact in the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ , and so  $\mathcal{A}_0$  is  $\mathcal{L}$ -compact operator. Now, to complete the proof it is enough to apply the Theorem 5.8.  $\square$

**Remark 5.10.** Note that the operator  $\mathcal{A}$  satisfying the conditions of this theorem may be non-self-adjoint and/or unbounded in the Hilbert space  $L_2[-\pi, 0] \oplus L_2(0, \pi] \equiv L_2[-\pi, \pi]$ .

## 6. Conclusion

In this paper we have discussed new type of discontinuous Sturm-Liouville problem (1)-(5) involving an abstract linear operator in equation (1). The pure differential part of this problem is not self-adjoint in the usual Hilbert space  $L_2[-\pi, \pi]$ . For operator treatment in appropriate Hilbert space we have defined an alternative inner product (6) in terms of transmission conditions (4)-(5). We want to emphasize that the spectral properties of our problem (1)-(5) is essentially different from the spectral properties of classical Sturm-Liouville problem. For instance, it is well-know that the eigenvalues of classical Sturm-Liouville problem are real and the second asymptotic term in asymptotic expansion of eigenvalues has the form  $O(n)$ . But the eigenvalues of our problem (1)-(5) may be also non-real complex numbers and the second asymptotic term appears in more weak form as  $o(n^2)$ . Moreover, we have proved such non-usual results as topological isomorphism and coercive solvability for corresponding non-homogeneous problem (9).

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