



Constrained quantum dynamics

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With thanks to all my collaborators

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- The graph has a *compact ‘core’* and to some its vertices *semiinfinite ‘leads’* are attached. This is a natural framework to investigated *scattering*, and of a particular interest are *resonances in such systems*.

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- A periodic graphs may be *locally perturbed* which typically gives rise to *localized states*.

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- In both cases the singularity is situated on the ‘*unphysical sheet*’ of energy, that, in an *analytical continuation* of the resolvent/S-matrix.
- In QM, resonances most often come from *perturbations of embedded eigenvalues*; the nontrivial topology of quantum graphs means that they exhibit resonances frequently.

Resonances in quantum graphs

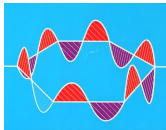
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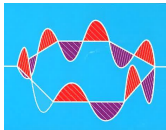
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Let us consider a graph Γ consisting of vertices $\mathcal{V} = \{\mathcal{X}_j : j \in I\}$, finite edges $\mathcal{L} = \{\mathcal{L}_{jn} : (\mathcal{X}_j, \mathcal{X}_n) \in I_{\mathcal{L}} \subset I \times I\}$, and semiinfinite edges (leads) $\mathcal{L}_{\infty} = \{\mathcal{L}_{j\infty} : \mathcal{X}_j \in I_{\mathcal{L}}\}$. The corresponding state Hilbert space is

$$\mathcal{H} = \bigoplus_{\mathcal{L}_j \in \mathcal{L}} L^2([0, l_j]) \oplus \bigoplus_{\mathcal{L}_{j\infty} \in \mathcal{L}_{\infty}} L^2([0, \infty));$$

its elements we write as columns $\psi = (f_j : \mathcal{L}_j \in \mathcal{L}, g_j : \mathcal{L}_{j\infty} \in \mathcal{L}_{\infty})^T$.

A useful trick



In the absence of external fields, the Hamiltonian acts as $-\frac{d^2}{dx^2}$ on each link on $\mathcal{H}_{\text{loc}}^2$ functions satisfying the boundary conditions

$$(U_j - I)\Psi_j + i(U_j + I)\Psi_j' = 0$$

characterized by unitary matrices U_j at the vertices \mathcal{X}_j

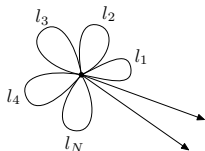
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Its degree is, of course, $2N + M$, where $N := \text{card } \mathcal{L}$ and $M := \text{card } \mathcal{L}_\infty$.

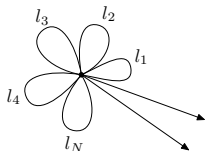
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The coupling in the 'master vertex' is then described by the condition

$$(U - I)\Psi + i(U + I)\Psi' = 0,$$

where the unitary $(2N + M) \times (2N + M)$ matrix U is block-diagonal with the blocks U_j reflecting *the true topology of Γ* .

Different resonance definitions



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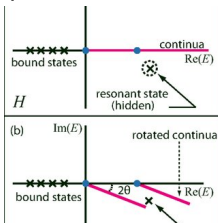
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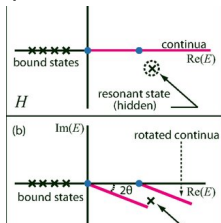
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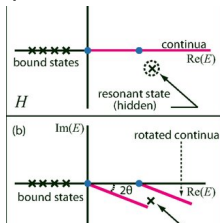
Quantum graphs we consider are all suited for application of an *exterior* complex scaling. Looking for complex eigenvalues of the scaled operator we preserve the compact part of the graph using the wave function Ansatz $f_j(x) = a_j \sin kx + b_j \cos kx$ on the j -th internal edge.

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On the other hand, functions on the semi-infinite edges are scaled by $g_{j\theta}(x) = e^{\theta/2} g_j(xe^\theta)$ with an imaginary θ ; the poles of the resolvent on the second sheet become 'uncovered' for θ large enough. The 'exterior' boundary values of $g_j(x) = g_j e^{ikx}$ referring to energy k^2 thus equal to

$$g_j(0) = e^{-\theta/2} g_j, \quad g_j'(0) = i k e^{-\theta/2} g_j.$$

Resolvent and scattering resonances



Substituting these boundary values to the matching condition we get

$$[(U - I)C_1(k) + ik(U + I)C_2(k)]\psi = 0,$$

where $\psi = (a_1, b_1, a_2, \dots, b_N, e^{-\theta/2}g_1, \dots, e^{-\theta/2}g_M)^T$ and $C_j(k)$ are block-diagonal, $C_j := \text{diag}(C_j^{(1)}(k), C_j^{(2)}(k), \dots, C_j^{(N)}(k), i^{j-1}I_{M \times M})$ with

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Passing to *scattering resonances*, we choose a combination of two planar waves, $g_j = c_j e^{-ikx} + d_j e^{ikx}$, as an Ansatz on the external edges; we ask about poles of the matrix $S = S(k)$ which maps the amplitudes of the incoming waves, $c = \{c_n\}$, into the amplitudes of their outgoing counterparts, $d = \{d_n\}$, through the linear relation $d = Sc$.

Resolvent and scattering resonances



Matching the functions at the vertices where the leads are attached, we get

$$(U - I)C_1(k) \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_N \\ c_1 + d_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_M + d_M \end{pmatrix} + ik(U + I)C_2(k) \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_N \\ d_1 - c_1 \\ \vdots \\ d_M - c_M \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

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Proposition

The two above resonance notions, the resolvent and scattering one, are equivalent for quantum graphs.



P.E., J. Lipovský: Resonances from perturbations of quantum graphs with rationally related edges, *J. Phys. A: Math. Theor.* **43** (2010), 105301.

Effective coupling on the compact subgraph



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To this aim, we write U in the block form, $U = \begin{pmatrix} U_1 & U_2 \\ U_3 & U_4 \end{pmatrix}$, where U_1 is the $2N \times 2N$ matrix referring to the compact subgraph, U_4 is the $M \times M$ matrix related to the exterior part, and the off-diagonal U_2 and U_3 are rectangular matrices connecting the two.

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Eliminating the external part leads to an effective coupling on the compact subgraph expressed by the condition

$$(\tilde{U}(k) - I)(f_1, \dots, f_{2N})^T + i(\tilde{U}(k) + I)(f'_1, \dots, f'_{2N})^T = 0,$$

where the corresponding coupling matrix

$$\tilde{U}(k) := U_1 - (1 - k)U_2[(1 - k)U_4 - (k + 1)I]^{-1}U_3$$

is obviously *energy-dependent* and, in general, *non-unitary*.

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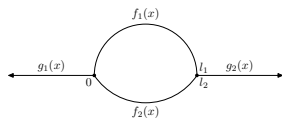
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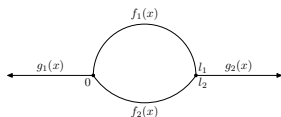
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This is another nice illustration of a simple formula known already to *Schur*, often attributed to *Feshbach*, or *Grushin*, or other people.

Example: a loop with two leads



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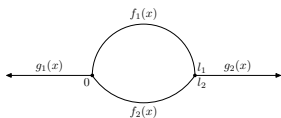


In each vertex we use a four-parameter family of boundary conditions assuming *continuity on the loop*, $f_1(0) = f_2(0)$, together with

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and similarly in the other vertex with $\alpha_j \in \mathbb{R}$, $\tilde{\alpha}_j \in \mathbb{R}$, and $\gamma_j \in \mathbb{C}$.

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Writing the loop edge lengths as $l_1 = l(1 - \lambda)$ and $l_2 = l(1 + \lambda)$ with $\lambda \in [0, 1]$, which effectively means shifting one of the connections points around the loop as λ is changing, one arrives at the resonance condition

$$\sin kl(1 - \lambda) \sin kl(1 + \lambda) - 4k^2 \beta_1^{-1}(k) \beta_2^{-1}(k) \sin^2 kl + k[\beta_1^{-1}(k) + \beta_2^{-1}(k)] \sin 2kl = 0,$$

where $\beta_i^{-1}(k) := \alpha_i^{-1} + \frac{ik|\gamma_i|^2}{1 - ik\tilde{\alpha}_i^{-1}}$.

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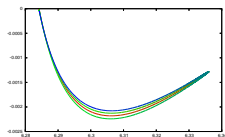
For larger changes of λ one can still solve the condition *numerically* to determine the *pole trajectories*. In order to make the dependence on λ visible, we color code them, moving from **red** ($\lambda = 0$) to **blue** ($\lambda = 1$).

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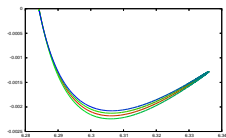
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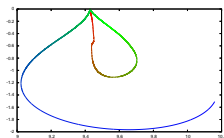


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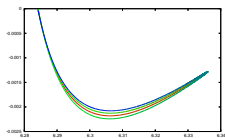
$$n = 3 \text{ and all the} \\ \alpha_j^{-1} = \tilde{\alpha}_j^{-1} = |\gamma_j|^2 = 1$$

Example: a loop with two leads

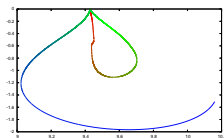


It is easy to see that there are embedded eigenvalues if the parameter λ characterizing the shift is *rational*, and also that the singularities become complex if we move away from such a point; we can then solve the resonance condition perturbatively.

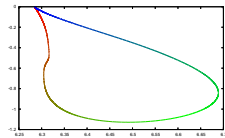
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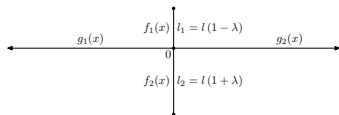


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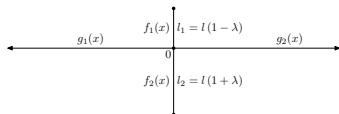


$$n = 2 \text{ and the same parameter values}$$

Another example: a cross-shaped graph



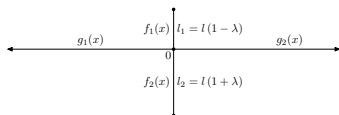
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$$2k \sin 2kl + (\alpha - 2ik)(\cos 2kl\lambda - \cos 2kl) = 0$$

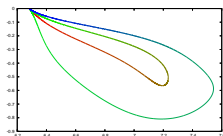
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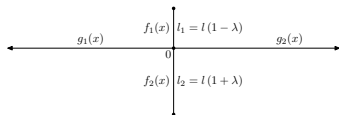
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The examples correspond to resonances associated with the embedded eigenvalue for $n = 2$ and $\alpha = 10, 1, 2.596$, respectively.



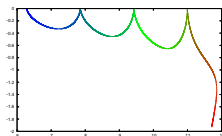
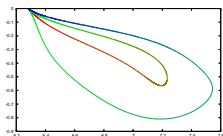
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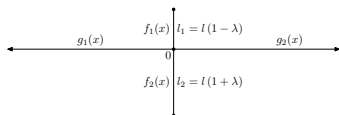
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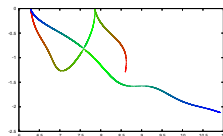
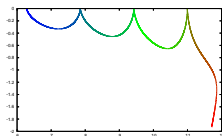
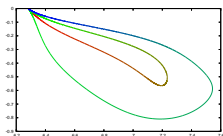
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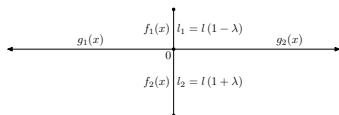
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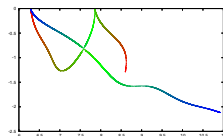
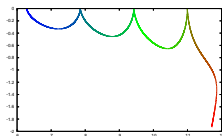
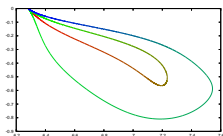
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The last one shows an *avoided crossing* of resonance trajectories, the last two also illustrate an effect called *quantum holonomy*.



T. Cheon, A. Tanaka: New anatomy of quantum holonomy, *EPL* **85** (2009), 20001.

High-energy asymptotics

Now something more general. We know that at high energies the *number of bound states* is given semiclassically by the *Weyl formula*



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E.B. Davies, A. Pushnitski: Non-Weyl resonance asymptotics for quantum graphs, *Anal. PDE* 4(5) (2011), 729–756.

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To understand what is happening it is useful to look at graphs with a general vertex coupling. Denoting $e_j^\pm := e^{\pm ikl_j}$ and $e^\pm := \prod_{j=1}^N e_j^\pm$, we can write the secular equation determining the singularities is

$$0 = \det \left\{ \frac{1}{2} [(U-I) + k(U+I)] E_1(k) + \frac{1}{2} [(U-I) + k(U+I)] E_2 + k(U+I) E_3 \right. \\ \left. + (U-I) E_4 + [(U-I) - k(U+I)] \text{diag} (0, \dots, 0, I_{M \times M}) \right\},$$

High-energy asymptotics



where $E_i(k) = \text{diag} \left(E_i^{(1)}, E_i^{(2)}, \dots, E_i^{(N)}, 0, \dots, 0 \right)$, $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$, consists of a trivial $M \times M$ part and N nontrivial 2×2 blocks

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Fortunately, mathematics is eternal; we have an almost century old result:

Theorem

Let $F(k) = \sum_{r=0}^n a_r(k) e^{ik\sigma_r}$, where $a_r(k)$ are rational functions of the complex variable k with complex coefficients, and the numbers $\sigma_r \in \mathbb{R}$ satisfy $\sigma_0 < \sigma_1 < \dots < \sigma_n$. Let us assume that $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_0(k) \neq 0$ and $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_n(k) \neq 0$. Then there are a compact $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$, real numbers m_r and positive K_r , $r = 1, \dots, n$, such that the **zeros of $F(k)$** outside Ω lie in the **logarithmic strips** bounded by the curves $-\text{Im } k + m_r \log |k| = \pm K_r$ and the counting function of the zeros behaves in the limit $R \rightarrow \infty$ as

$$N(R, F) = \frac{\sigma_n - \sigma_0}{\pi} R + \mathcal{O}(1).$$



R.E. Langer: On the zeros of exponential sums and integrals, *Bull. Amer. Math. Soc.* **37** (1931), 213–239.

Application of Langer theorem



Rewriting the secular equation as $F(k) = 0$, we need to find the senior and junior coefficients; by a straightforward computation one can find that $e^\pm = e^{\pm ikV}$, where $V := \sum_{j=1}^N l_j$ is the size of the graph core.

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$e^\pm = \left(\frac{i}{2}\right)^N \det [(\tilde{U}(k) - I) \pm k(\tilde{U}(k) + I)]$ with $\tilde{U}(k)$ defined above.

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$$N(R, F) = \frac{2W}{\pi} R + \mathcal{O}(1) \quad \text{for } R \rightarrow \infty,$$

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where W is the *effective size* of Γ satisfying $0 \leq W \leq V := \sum_{j=1}^N l_j$. Moreover, $W < V$ (graph is *non-Weyl*) if and only there is a vertex such that the matrix $\tilde{U}_j(k)$ has an eigenvalue $(1 - k)/(1 + k)$ or $(1 + k)/(1 - k)$.



E.B. Davies, P.E., J. Lipovský: Non-Weyl asymptotics for quantum graphs with general coupling conditions, *J. Phys. A: Math. Theor.* **43** (2010), 474013.

Permutation-invariant couplings



Vertex couplings *invariant w.r.t. edge permutations* are described by matrices $U_j = a_j J + b_j I$, where number $a_j, b_j \in \mathbb{C}$ such that $|b_j| = 1$ and $|b_j + a_j \deg v_j| = 1$; matrix J has all the entries equal to one. Note that both the δ and δ'_s are particular cases of such a coupling.

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For a vertex with p internal and q external edges and such a coupling U_j , the effective matrix matrix $\tilde{U}_j(k)$ is easily calculated; this allows us to make the following conclusion:

Corollary

If (Γ, H_U) has a vertex with a permutation-invariant coupling which is *balanced*, $p = q$, the graph is *non-Weyl* if and only if the coupling at this vertex is either of *Kirchhoff* or *anti-Kirchhoff* type,

$$f_j = f_n, \quad \forall j, n \leq 2p, \quad \sum_{j=1}^{2p} f'_j = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad f'_j = f'_n, \quad \forall j, n \leq 2p, \quad \sum_{j=1}^{2p} f_j = 0$$

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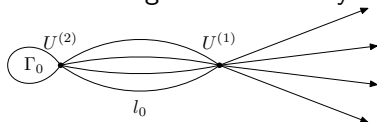
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If one drops the requirement of permutation symmetry, it is possible to construct *examples of non-Weyl graphs* in which *no vertex is balanced*.

What is the cause of a non-Weyl asymptotics?



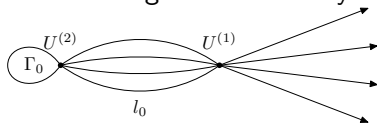
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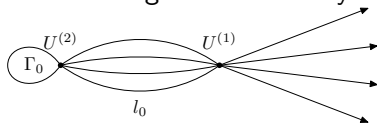


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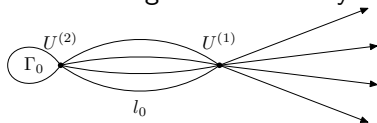
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The idea is to use a *unitary equivalence*. Given a unitary $p \times p$ matrix V we define $V^{(1)} := \text{diag}(V, V)$ and $V^{(2)} := \text{diag}(I_{(q-p) \times (q-p)}, V)$, then it is straightforward to check that the original graph Hamiltonian is *unitarily equivalent* to the one in which matrices $U^{(1)}$ and $U^{(2)}$ are replaced by $[V^{(1)}]^{-1} U^{(1)} V^{(1)}$ and $[V^{(2)}]^{-1} U^{(2)} V^{(2)}$, respectively.

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If the columns of V are *orthonormal eigenvectors* of $U^{(1)}$, beginning with $\frac{1}{\sqrt{p}}(1, 1, \dots, 1)^T$, then $[V^{(1)}]^{-1} U^{(1)} V^{(1)}$ decouples then into $2 \times$ blocks.

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The first one of those corresponds to the *symmetrization* of all the external u_j 's and internal f_j 's, thus leading to the 2×2 coupling matrix $U_{2 \times 2} = apJ_{2 \times 2} + bl_{2 \times 2}$; in the complement the internal and external edges are *separated* satisfying Robin conditions, $(b - 1)v_j(0) + i(b + 1)v_j'(0) = 0$ and $(b - 1)g_j(0) + i(b + 1)g_j'(0) = 0$ for $j = 2, \dots, p$.

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The 'overall' Kirchhoff/anti-Kirchhoff condition at v_1 is transformed into the '*line*' Kirchhoff/anti-Kirchhoff condition in the subspace of permutation-symmetric functions, and since this is *no coupling at all* (recall that anti-Kirchhoff and Kirchhoff on line are unitarily equivalent), this causes non-Weyl behavior by effectively *reducing the graph size by l_0* .

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Note that similar trick can be used in analysis of *tree graphs* rephrasing the task as an investigation of a family of problems of the line.



A.V. Sobolev, M.Z. Solomyak: Schrödinger operator on homogeneous metric trees: spectrum in gaps, *Rev. Math. Phys.* **14** (2002), 421–467.

Effective size is a global property

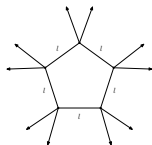


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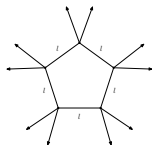


The symmetry allows to decompose the system w.r.t. the cyclic rotation group \mathbb{Z}_n into segments characterized by numbers ω satisfying $\omega^n = 1$; the resonance condition then reads $-2(\omega^2 + 1) + 4\omega e^{-ik\ell} = 0$

Effective size is a global property



One may ask whether considering the effect of each balanced vertex *separately* allows to determine the effective size. It is *not* the case, as the following simple example of Kirchhoff graph Γ_n shows:



The symmetry allows to decompose the system w.r.t. the cyclic rotation group \mathbb{Z}_n into segments characterized by numbers ω satisfying $\omega^n = 1$; the resonance condition then reads $-2(\omega^2 + 1) + 4\omega e^{-ik\ell} = 0$. Using is, we easily find that the effective size of Γ_n is

$$W_n = \begin{cases} n\ell/2 & \text{if } n \neq 0 \pmod{4}, \\ (n-2)\ell/2 & \text{if } n = 0 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

Note also that one can demonstrate non-Weyl behavior of graph resonances *experimentally* in a model using *microwave networks*:



M. Ławniczak, J. Lipovský, L. Sirko: Non-Weyl microwave graphs, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **122** (2019), 140503.

Periodic graphs



Let us no pass to graphs which are truly infinite. There is a number of interesting cases here; we restrict our attention to *periodic graphs*, of a great importance if we think of using graphs to model *material structure*.

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The basic method to deal with them is the same as for other periodic system in QM, namely to apply to the Hamiltonian the *Bloch* or *Floquet decomposition* writing it as a direct integral

$$H = \int_{Q^*} H(\theta) d\theta$$

where the fiber operator $H(\theta)$ acts on $L^2(Q)$, where $Q \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ is *period cell* of the graph and the *quasimomentum* θ runs through the *dual cell* Q^* of the lattice usually called the *Brillouin zone*.

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M.Sh. Birman, T.A. Suslina: A periodic magnetic Hamiltonian with a variable metric. The problem of absolute continuity, *St. Petersburg Math. J.* **11** (2000), 203–232.

Periodic graphs



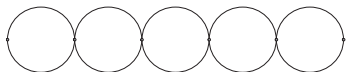
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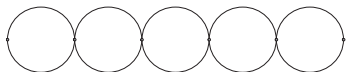
assuming that adjacent rings, supposed to be of perimeter 2π , are connected through a *δ coupling* of strength α

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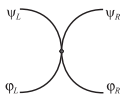
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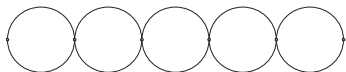


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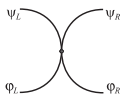
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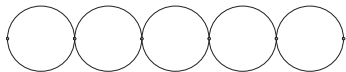
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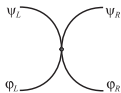
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The functions have to be matched through (a) *the δ -coupling* and (b) *Floquet conditions*. This yields equation for the phase factor $e^{i\theta}$,

$$\sin k\pi (e^{2i\theta} - \frac{1}{2}\eta(k)e^{i\theta} + 1) = 0,$$

Ring chain graphs



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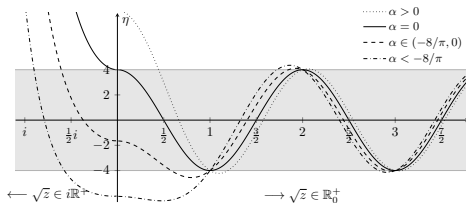
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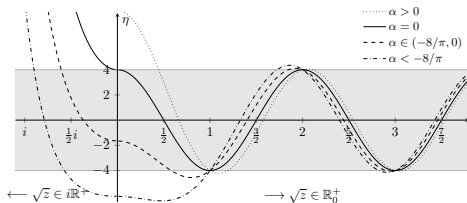
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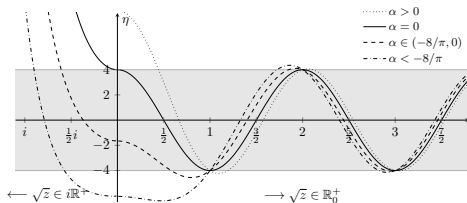
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Note that, up to a factor $\frac{1}{2}$, this is nothing but the spectrum of the *Kronig-Penney* model as it is clear from the mirror symmetry of the chain.

Local perturbations: a bent chain



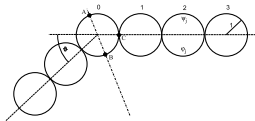
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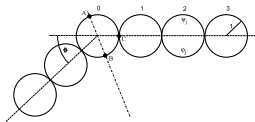
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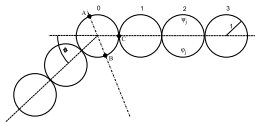
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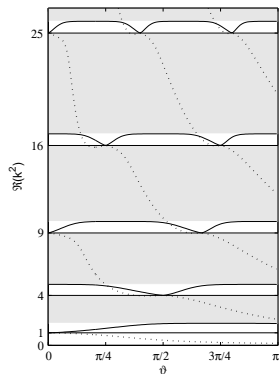
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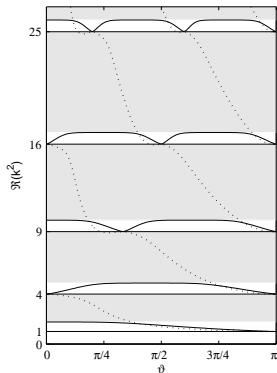
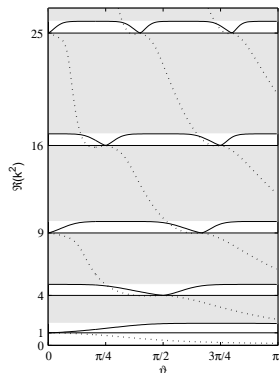
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From the general principles we have *at most to eigenvalues* in each gap, because H_{ϑ}^{\pm} and H_0^{\pm} have a common symmetric restriction with *deficiency indices* $(2, 2)$. Furthermore, the *mirror symmetry* allows us to treat the *even* and *odd* parts separately, that is, the halfchain with the Neumann and Dirichlet cut, respectively.

Example: bent-chain spectrum for $\alpha = 3$

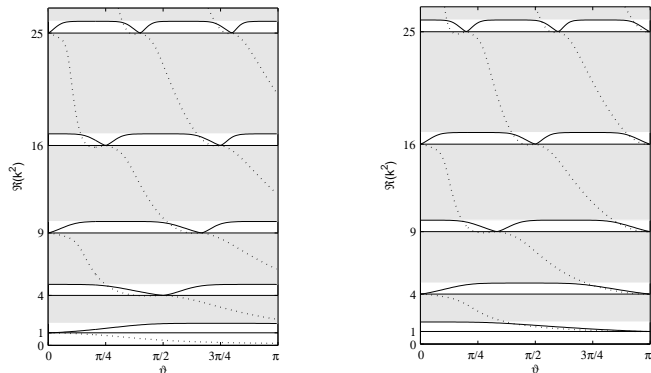


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We see that the eigenvalues in gaps may be absent but only at rational values of ϑ and never simultaneously. Similar pictures we get for other values of α , the dotted lines mark (real values) of *resonance* positions.



P. Duclos, P.E., O. Turek: On the spectrum of a bent chain graph, *J. Phys. A: Math. Theor.* **41** (2008), 415206.

Periodic graphs: the number of gaps



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The literature says that – while the situation is similar – the finiteness of the gap number *is not a strict law*, and topology is the reason.

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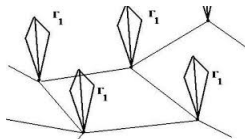


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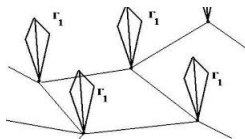


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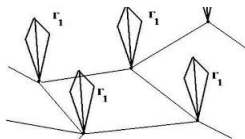


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Thus, instead of ‘not a strict law’, the question rather is whether *it is a ‘law’ at all*: do infinite periodic graphs having a *finite nonzero* number of open gaps exist? From obvious reasons we would call them *Bethe-Sommerfeld graphs*.

The answer depends on the vertex coupling



Recall that self-adjointness requires the matching conditions

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Worse than that, it was shown that in a 'typical' periodic graph the *probability* of being in a *band* or *gap* is $\neq 0, 1$.



R. Band, G. Berkolaiko: Universality of the momentum band density of periodic networks, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **113** (2013), 130404.

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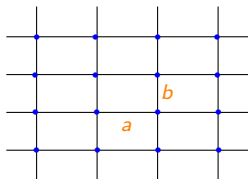
It is sufficient, of course, to demonstrate an example. With this aim we are going to revisit the model of a *rectangular lattice graph* with a δ *coupling* in the vertices introduced in



P.E.: Contact interactions on graph superlattices, *J. Phys. A: Math. Gen.* **29** (1996), 87–102.



P.E., R. Gawlista: Band spectra of rectangular graph superlattices, *Phys. Rev.* **B53** (1996), 7275–7286.



Spectral condition



The Bloch analysis is not difficult in this case. In particular, we find that a number $k^2 > 0$ belongs to a gap if and only if $k > 0$ satisfies the *gap condition* which reads

$$2k \left[\tan \left(\frac{ka}{2} - \frac{\pi}{2} \left\lfloor \frac{ka}{\pi} \right\rfloor \right) + \tan \left(\frac{kb}{2} - \frac{\pi}{2} \left\lfloor \frac{kb}{\pi} \right\rfloor \right) \right] < \alpha \quad \text{for } \alpha > 0$$

and

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we neglect the Kirchhoff case, $\alpha = 0$, which is trivial from the present point of view, $\sigma(H) = [0, \infty)$.

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we neglect the Kirchhoff case, $\alpha = 0$, which is trivial from the present point of view, $\sigma(H) = [0, \infty)$.

Note that for $\alpha < 0$ the spectrum extends to the negative part of the real axis and may have a gap there – this happens if $\alpha < -4(a^{-1} + b^{-1})$ – which is not important here because there is not more than a single negative gap, and this gap *always extends to positive values*.

What is known about such a quantum graph

The spectrum depends on the ratio $\theta = \frac{a}{b}$. If θ is *rational*, $\sigma(H)$ has clearly *infinitely many gaps* unless $\alpha = 0$ in which case $\sigma(H) = [0, \infty)$



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On the other hand, $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ is *badly approximable* if there is a $c > 0$ such that

$$\left| \theta - \frac{p}{q} \right| > \frac{c}{q^2}$$

for all $p, q \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $q \neq 0$; in that case there are *no gaps* in the spectrum provided that $|\alpha|$ is *small enough*.

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Recall that for such numbers one introduces the *Markov constant* by

$$\mu(\theta) := \inf \left\{ c > 0 \mid (\exists_{\infty} (p, q) \in \mathbb{N}^2) \left(\left| \theta - \frac{p}{q} \right| < \frac{c}{q^2} \right) \right\}$$

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(we note that $\mu(\theta) = \mu(\theta^{-1})$) and its '*one-sided analogues*'.

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As an example, take the *golden mean*, $\theta = \frac{\sqrt{5}+1}{2} = [1; 1, 1, \dots]$, which can be regarded as the 'worst' irrational.



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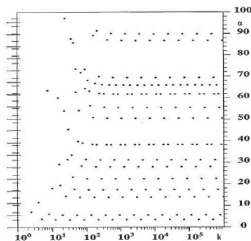
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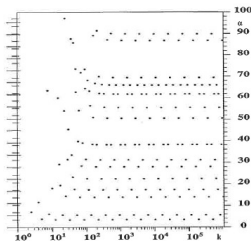


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where the points approach the limit values *from above*. Note also that 'higher' gap series open as the coupling strength α increases; the critical values at which that happens are $\frac{\pi^2}{\sqrt{5ab}} \theta^{\pm 1/2} |n^2 - m^2 - nm|$, $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$, cf. [E-Gawlista'96, loc.cit.].

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But a detailed analysis, cf. [E-Turek'17, loc.cit.], shows to a different and more subtle picture:

Theorem

Let $\frac{a}{b} = \theta = \frac{\sqrt{5}+1}{2}$, then the following claims are valid:

(i) If $\alpha > \frac{\pi^2}{\sqrt{5}a}$ or $\alpha \leq -\frac{\pi^2}{\sqrt{5}a}$, there are *infinitely many spectral gaps*.

(ii) If
$$-\frac{2\pi}{a} \tan\left(\frac{3-\sqrt{5}}{4}\pi\right) \leq \alpha \leq \frac{\pi^2}{\sqrt{5}a},$$

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Corollary

The above claim about the existence of BS graphs is valid.

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We are also able to control the number of gaps in the BS regime; a more refined Diophantine analysis yields the following result:

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For a given $N \in \mathbb{N}$, there are *exactly N gaps* in the positive spectrum if and only if α is chosen within the bounds

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Note that the numbers $A_j := \frac{2\pi(\theta^{2j} - \theta^{-2j})}{\sqrt{5}} \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\theta^{-2j}\right)$ form an increasing sequence the first element of which is $A_1 = 2\pi \tan\left(\frac{3-\sqrt{5}}{4}\pi\right)$ and

$$A_j < \frac{\pi^2}{\sqrt{5}} \quad \text{holds for all } j \in \mathbb{N}.$$

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Choosing, for instance, $\theta = [0; t, t, 1, 1, \dots]$ with $t \geq 3$, one can check that the BS property may also hold in lattices with *repulsive δ coupling*, $\alpha > 0$. Nevertheless, the BS behavior is exceptional and one wonders whether and how often it could be observed in other quantum graph situations.

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