Absence of Eigenvalues in the Continuous Spectrum for Klein-Gordon Operators

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Abstract

We construct the one-dimensional analogous of von-Neumann Wigner potential to the relativistic Klein-Gordon operator, in which is defined taking asymptotic mathematical rules in order to obtain existence conditions of eigenvalues embedded in the continuous spectrum. Using our constructed potential, we provide an explicit and analytical example of the Klein-Gordon operator with positive eigenvalues embedded in the so called relativistic “continuum region”. This result is analogous to the found in non-relativistic case for Schrodinger’s operator. Even so, in this not standard example, we present the region of the “continuum” where those eigenvalues cannot occur. Besides, the absence of eigenvalues in the continuous spectrum for Klein-Gordon operators is proven to a broad general potential classes, including the minimally coupled electric Coulomb potential. Considering known techniques available in literature for Schrodinger operators, we demonstrate an expression for Klein-Gordon operator written in Schrodinger’s form, whereby is determined the mathematical spectrum region of absence of eigenvalues.

Keywords

Schrodinger operator, Klein-Gordon operator, continuous spectrum, eigenvalues, von Neumann-Wigner potential

1. Introduction

Theories involving general spectral problems are well-developed of a mathematical point of view for operators from non-relativistic quantum mechanics. In fact, this is a widely investigated area in recent papers of mathematical physics. However, the known relativistic operators that arising in the relativistic quantum mechanics still require certain mathematical rigours in terms of indispensable properties that need to be demonstrated in spectral theory. As example, since of von Neumann-Wigner work [1], we have known that there is a potential whereby eigenvalues equations for Schrodinger operator provide an unitary positive energy [2]. Great efforts of scientific community are aimed to investigate potential classes in which eigenvalues equations provide only negative eigenvalues. In particular, in the non-relativistic case of Schrodinger there are general theorems that prove the mathematical and physical question of non-existence of positive eigenvalues in the continuum or essential spectrum [3-8]. For Schrodinger’s operator, the positive spectrum is known as continuum spectrum, and a relevant problem of a mathematical point of view it is localize the essential spectrum that for Schrodinger’s operator is exactly the same continuum spectrum. A non-trivial question in mathematical physics is localized the essential spectrum of the relativistic Klein-Gordon (K-G) operator coupled to some interaction potentials. There is a consistent demonstration for some potential classes that proven that positive relativistic region of the continuum (also namely in literature of positive continuum region [9]), it is the essential spectrum, that is, the region [m, ∞) [10, 11].
negative continuum region occurs in $(-\infty, -m]$, being known as Dirac’s sea. Conditions of absence of eigenvalues for Schrödinger’s operator are well addressed problems in literature, as discussed above (more details can be seen in Refs. [3–8]). However, such conditions for relativistic operators still need of general theorems, i.e., theorems capable to define with mathematical rigour the absence of eigenvalues in the located essential spectrum. In particular, in physical problems the continuum spectrum is traditionally taken (without lost of generality), and locating the essential spectrum is commonly treated as an essentially mathematical problem. In fact, by use of the relativistic Virial theorem, using the version demonstrated by Kalf [12], it is possible proving the theorem of absence of eigenvalues in systems with Coulomb interaction potential to Dirac’s operator. An alternative explanation can be found in Ref. [13].

For Klein-Gordon (K-G) operators, general theorems of absence of eigenvalues keep non-demonstrated up to now. A standard reduction procedure can be applied to Schrödinger and Dirac operators, where there is an inner product that allows reductions to partial wave subspace problems [13-15]. This does not occur to K-G operators that have a non-trivial structure of “energy norm”, and probably being one of the reasons for the lack of such standard results. Weyl’s criterion or the asymmetry form method [14] for self-adjointness in the half-line cannot be used for K-G operators due to the reduction procedures at each quantum number channel represent a non-trivial problem, as already mentioned. As discussed methodologies (Weyl’s criterion or the asymmetry form method) are not applied in this case, the self-adjointness property cannot be extend to whole operator in $\mathbb{R}^3$. In particular, even in the level of self-adjointness theorems, only a few number of works (especially taking Coulomb singularities) are available in literature to K-G operators, as discussed by Gitman et al [14]. Although, Coulomb’s potentials have been suitable to apply Weyl’s criterion. We have known that for Schrödinger’s operators, there are physically reasonable examples of potentials providing bound states with positive energy. The first potential presented in literature is proposed by Wigner and von Neumann [1], with its experimental evidence demonstrated in Ref. [16]. In the ordinary framework of the relativistic quantum mechanics, there are no potentials providing eigenvalues embedded in the continuum spectral region of relativistic operators. We provide an interaction potential in which the K-G operator has eigenvalues embedded in the continuum region, i.e., in $(-\infty, -m] \cup [m, \infty)$. General results on the absence of eigenvalues in the essential spectrum to some self-adjoint K-G operators obtained by Weder [10, 11] are presented taking electric Coulomb interactions, the core of this work. In fact, this is a widely investigated area of mathematical physics [20], [21], [23] e [24]. We have used the same notation introduced by Schechter [17], and the same formalism extensively taken in Weder’s works, Refs. [10, 11] in K-G operators treatment. Besides, some of Weder’s theorems are useful to achieve the purposes of this paper, being presented always that necessary. This work is organized as follows. In Section 2, it is presented a brief review on Klein-Gordon operator written in Schrödinger’s form, as well as is constructed the one-dimensional analogous to the von Neumann-Wigner potential. This potential is still used to demonstrate the existence of eigenvalues in the continuum spectrum to K-G operator. In Section 3, the same methodology of previous section is extended to Coulomb interactions. In addition, the absence of eigenvalues in the continuum spectrum is demonstrated for some potentials. As it turns, we summarize our main findings and draw some perspectives in Section 4. Throughout this work, we use units of $\hbar = c = 1$.

2. Eigenvalues embedded in the continuum spectrum of Klein-Gordon operator

We begin this section with a brief review on K-G operators and Weder’s conditions that prove the self-adjointness of K-G operator. Remembering that general expression to K-G equation is given by

$$\left(i\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - b_0(x)\right)^2 \psi(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\sum_{j=1}^m \left(D_j - b_j\right)^2 + m^2 + q_n\right) \psi(x,t)$$

(1)

where $x \in \mathbb{R}^n, t \in \mathbb{R}, D_j = -i\partial/\partial x_j, b_0(x)$ is the electric potential, $b_i(x)(1 \leq i \leq n)$ is the magnetic potential, and $q_n(x)$ is the scalar potential. By implementing the ansatz transformations of Eq. 2 in Eq. 1

$$f_i = \psi(x,t), \quad f_z = i\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t}(x,t)$$

(2)

It is possible written k-G equation given by expression 1 in its hamiltonian form with electromagnetic and scalar potentials

$$i\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = hf,$$

(3)

$$h = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

(4)
\[ l = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (D_i - b_i)^2 + m^2 + q(x), \quad (5) \]
\[ q(x) = q_0 - q_0^2, \quad Q(x) = 2h_0, \quad (6) \]
\[ D(h) = \left\{ f \in C^0_w \left( R^n \right)^2, \text{if } f_1 \in L^2 \left( R^n \right), Qf_z \in L^2 \left( R^n \right) \right\}. \quad (7) \]

In this case, the energy sesquilinear form associated can be written as
\[ (f, g)_E = \sum_{i=1}^{n} ((D_i - b_i) f_i, (D_i - b_i) g_i) \]
\[ + \left( (m^2 + q) f_i, g_i \right) + (f_2, g_2), \quad (8) \]
\[ f, g \in C^0_w \left( R^n \right) \quad (10) \]

It is possible to verify that \( h \) is symmetric in relation that sesquilinear form. In general, the value of sesquilinear form is not positive. To ensure its positivity, Weder \([10, 11]\) introduced the following assumption:

I) There is a constant \( \epsilon \geq 0 \) such that
\[ \int q^- |f|^2 \, dx \leq \sum_{i=1}^{n} \|D_i f\|^2 + (m^2 - \epsilon) \|f\|^2, \quad (11) \]
\[ f \in C^0_w \left( R^n \right) \quad (12) \]

where \( q^\pm \) are the positive and negative parts of the measurable function \( q(x) \).

Notice that if I) holds sesquilinear form, \( (\cdot, \cdot)_E \), starts to define a norm \( \tilde{\mathcal{H}}_E \) as defined as the completion \( C^0_w \left( R^n \right)^2 \) with this norm, as can be seen in Ref. \([11]\) (Lemma 2.1). It is relevant to emphasize that for a pure electric potential interaction in the K-G equation \( q_s = b_i = 0 \) and \( b_0 = \frac{\epsilon}{|x|} \) holds if \( |\epsilon| \leq (n - 2) \).

So far we have discuss details of K-G operators as well as some requirement mathematical conditions related to density of probability in order to unaltered keep its positivity. Let us now start reviewing the problem of absence of positive eigenvalues for Schrödinger operators.

We have know that there is an interesting potential in which the eigenvalues equation for Schrödinger’s operators has a positive eigenvalue embedded in the continuous spectrum with an unitary and positive value. This potential is namely von Neumann-Wigner potential, and can be written as \([1, 8]\)
\[ V_{NW}(r) = \frac{-32 \sin^2 r \left( \zeta(r)^3 - 3 \zeta(r)^2 \sin^3 (r) + \zeta(r) r + \sin^3 r \right)}{\left( 1 + \zeta(r)^2 \right)^2}, \quad (13) \]

where \( \zeta(r) = 2r - \sin(2r), \quad |x| = r \) is the distance from the origin in \( R^3 \), and \( V_{NW}(r) \) is a physical example in which there is a square integrable \( \psi \) with \( (\Delta + V) \psi = \psi \) that provides an unitary eigenvalue. The mathematical computations to obtaining that potential can be extend to the one-dimensional case using \( (\Delta + V) \psi = \psi \) A slightly different square integrable eigenfunction in \( R \) when compared to \( R^3 \) case can be obtained by construction of the potential on the real line. In this situation, it is possible to obtain a similar expression to that given by Eq. 13, with the eigenfunction
\[ \psi(x) = \left( \sin(x) \right) \left( 1 + \zeta(x)^2 \right)^{-1}. \quad (14) \]

Notice that the contracted one-dimensional potential is differ to given by Eq. 13 only by argument \( x \in R \). In addition, this allows constructing a potential in which there is a self-adjoint \( K - G \) operator with positive eigenvalue in \((-\infty, -m]) \cup [m, \infty)\).

In order to demonstrate the existence of a positive eigenvalue let us introduce some concepts and assumptions used by Weder \([11]\):
\[ N_{\omega, a} = \sup_{x} \int_{[-1]^n \omega} |g(y)|^2 w_{\omega}(x - y) \, dy, \quad (15) \]
where

\[ w_a(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{|x|^\alpha}{\alpha}, & \alpha < n \\ 1 - \log|x|, & \alpha = n \\ 1, & \alpha > n, \end{cases} \]

\( N_a(g) = N_{a1}(g) \) and \( N_a \) the set of all \( g \) such that \( N_a(g) \) is bounded.

II') for \( 1 \leq i \leq n, b_i(x) \in N_2 \), and if \( n \geq 2, N_{2s}(b_i) \to 0 \) as \( s \to 0 \).

III') \( |q(x)|^2 \in L^1 \), and if \( n \geq 2, N_{2s}(q) \to 0 \) as \( s \to 0 \).

IV') \( C(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} b_i(x) \right) \in N_4 \), and if \( n \geq 4, N_{4s}(C) \to 0 \) as \( s \to 0 \).

V') \( q(x) \in N_4 \), and if \( n \geq 4, N_{4s}(q) \to 0 \) as \( s \to 0 \), \( b_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{n} b_i(x)^2 \in N_4 \), and if \( n \geq 4, N_{4s}(b_i^2) \to 0 \) as \( s \to 0 \).

VI') \( b_i(x) \in N_2 \), and if \( n \geq 2, N_{2s}(b_i^0) \to 0 \) as \( s \to 0 \).

These set of conditions is relevant to correctly understand the follow theorems, as well as to achieve the central goal of this section, i.e., demonstrate the existence of positive eigenvalue in the continuous spectrum.

Let us to write the theorem 2 from Weder’s [11] article as Theorem 1.

Theorem 1. If I) and II') are satisfied, \( h \) has a self-adjoint extension, \( H \), on \( HE \) with domain \( D(H) = H_2 \otimes H_1 \).

Here \( H_k(k = 1, 2) \) are standard Sobolev spaces \( W^{k,2} \). We note that in some cases, a bounded \( g \) implies \( N_a(g) < \infty \).

So far, we demonstrate that the \( h \) operator has a self-adjoint extension, used along of this section.

We have almost all tools to demonstrate the central theorem of this section, except the Lemmas 1 and 2 that are presented follow. Particularly, the Lemma 1 is interesting in the treatment of bounded potentials, and its proof is trivial.

Lemma 1. Let \( g(y) \) be bounded and \( \alpha \geq n \), then \( N_a(g) \) is bounded.

An alternative form to I is presented in Lemma 2, whereby the condition I is easily verified.

Lemma 2. Let

\[ S_\lambda(q) = \sup \int |q(y)| G_{2,\lambda}(x - y) dy, \]

where \( G_{2,\lambda}(q) \) is the inverse Fourier transform of

\[ (2\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}} \left( \lambda + |q|^2 \right)^{-1}, \quad \lambda \geq 0, \]

then I) holds if and only if \( S_\lambda(q^2) \leq 1 \), for some \( \lambda < m^2 \).

A proof of Lemma 2 can be found in Ref. [11].

As addressed in introduction of this paper, a traditional problem of spectral theory of Schrodinger operators is determine the existence, or no, of eigenvalues in the essential spectrum. However, when we take K-G operators such existence need to be better investigated. In order to analyse the eventual existence of eigenvalues in the essential spectrum to K-G operators, we present the follows theorem where a pure scalar interaction is taken into account. The Theorem 2 shows that if the scalar interaction is the von-Neumann-Wigner potential there are eigenvalues embedded in the essential spectrum of the k-G operator. It is relevant to emphasize that this our result can be interpreted as the relativistic version of the demonstrations already introduced by von-Neumann-Wigner to Schrodinger operators in Ref. [1]. This result does not occur to pure electric interaction, as can seen in section 3.

Theorem 2. \( h \) with a real valued pure scalar interaction

\[ q_s = V_{WN} \] (18)

where \( V_{WN} \) is von-Neumann Wigner potential, has a self-adjoint extension \( H_F \), with \( D(H_F) = H_2 \otimes H_1 \), and further \( H_F \) has eigenvalues embedded in \( (-\infty, -m) \cup [m, +\infty) \).

Proof. Keep \( n = 1 \) and the pure scalar interaction given by Eq. 18, then II') and IV') are directly satisfied. By the fact that in this particular case \( q = q_s \), and \( V_{WN}(x) \) is bounded, it is possible to see that \( |q|^{1/2} \in N_2 \) by applying
Lemma 1, and then we have III'). In an analogous way, V') and VI') hold as well. Let us suppose I) to be valid, and this will be really demonstrated in the end of this theorem, then, by Weder’s theorem, \( H_F \) is the necessary self-adjoint extension. By using of the eigenvalue equation \( H_F \psi = E \psi \), one get

\[
(\Delta_n + q + m^2) \psi_i = E^2 \psi_i, \quad \psi_i \in H_2(R)
\]

(19)

where \( \Delta_n \) denotes the Laplacian in \( n \) dimensions. Pick \( q = V_{WN} \), then we have \( E = \pm \sqrt{1 + m^2} \) due to the presence of von-Neumann Wigner potential in (19). It is important to stress that to the value \( E = -\sqrt{1 + m^2} \) the I) is not satisfied. Although this found negative value is in the known Dirac sea region, the presence of eigenvalues in this region should be better investigated. Now, let us consider I). For the choice above of \( q \), and by Lemma 2, we see that I) holds if \( S_{\delta}(V_{WN}) \leq 1 \). Indeed

\[
\sup_y \int_q (y) |G_{2, \delta}(x-y) dy = \left(1/2\sqrt{\lambda}\right) \sup_q \int_{\gamma_{WN}} |e^{-|\gamma_{WN}}|^{1/2},
\]

(20)

where the “suppression” of the integral ensures, the existence of an infinite number of particular values \( \sqrt{\lambda} < m \) or, such that I) holds true. QED

Notice that the leading term of \( V_{NW} \) for large \( x \) is given by

\[
-\frac{8\sin(2x)}{x},
\]

(21)

hence, \( \lim_{x \to \infty} \sup_x (x \partial V)/\partial x = 16 \), where \( V_2 \) is the infinitely differentiable function defined with more details in Theorem 3 of section 3. Therefore, it is possible to conclude that \( E_2 - m_2 < 16 \) in Theorem 2 (see the intitulated “main Theorem” in Ref. [8]). Thus, even in this “counter-example case”, one can concludes that there are no eigenvalues in \( (\sqrt{16 + m^2}, \infty) \).

We would be have problems when applying Weder’s theorem in the case \( n \geq 2 \) (see Theorem 2). For example, even for \( n = 2 \), we do not have III') completely satisfied since \( N_{(2,5)}(q) \to 0 \) as \( s \to 0 \) for \( q \) (in the case under consideration). The fact we have used the pure scalar interaction is quite technical. Suppose we would like to find eigenvalues in \( [m, +\infty) \), for \( h \) with a pure electric interaction given by

\[
-(h_0)^2 + 2Eh_0 = V_{WN}.
\]

(22)

Thus, even for the most suitable choice for \( b_0 \), we would find problems with the expressions involving the requirement I) with the map (see expression 22), the stronger inequality

\[
S(q_1 + V_{WN}) \leq 1,
\]

(23)

where \( q_1 = 1 + m^2 \) takes place. So, Theorem 2 to pure electric interactions remains open for plausible values of the mass.

So far, we have demonstrated the existence of a positive eigenvalue in the region of spectrum similar to the found results for continuous spectrum of non-relativistic Schorodinger operator. In next section, as already mentioned above, in contrast of Theorem 2, we prove that K-G operator with pure electric interactions does not have eigenvalues embedded in the essential spectrum.

3. Absence of eigenvalues in “continuous spectrum” region for Coulomb electric interaction

Now, we extend same methotodology of previous section in order to determine the absence of eigenvalues in the essential spectrum of K-G operators with Coulomb interactions. To do that, we list some important results about self-adjointness, and on the essential spectrum location, using a sequence of complementary assumptions introduced by Weder in Ref. [11]. In short, these assumptions are related to the self-adjointness; the essential spectrum location; and the absence of eigenvalues theorems concerning to the K-G operators. Weder’s hypothesis (see Ref. [11]) are listed in I)-V). In addition, we present here assumption VI). Note that hypothesis I) is already presented in section 2.

II) (1) \( h_i (x) \in N_2, 1 \leq i \leq n \), and if \( n \geq 2, N_{(2,5)}(h_i) \to 0 \),

(2) \( q(x) = q_i(x) + q_e(x), |q_i|^{1/2} \in N_2 \), and if \( n \geq 2, N_{(2,5)}(q_i) \to 0 \cdot q_e \equiv 0 \) if \( n \leq 2 \), and

\[
q_e(x) = -\frac{e^2}{|x|^2}, \quad \text{if} \quad n > 2.
\]
III) \( \left( N_{4,s}(b_1) + N_{4,s}\left( |b|^2 \right) \right)^{\delta_{\alpha}} \to 0 \),

IV) \( b_0 = b_1^2 + b_0^2 \in N_s \) and if \( n \geq 2 \)

\( N_{s, \omega}(b_0) \to 0 \), \( q(x) = 0 \) if \( n \leq 2 \).

If \( n \geq 3 \), \( b_0(x) = \frac{e}{x} \), where \( |e| < \frac{n-2}{2\sqrt{17}} \).

V) \( N_{s, \omega}(b_0) \to^H 0 \).

VI) \( b_0(x) \) is such that, for some real \( k \), \( -b_0(x)^2 + kb_0(x) \) is a real function in \( R^n \) so that:

1. Multiplication by \( V_1 + V_2 = -b_0(x)^2 + kb_0(x) \) is \( -\Delta \)-bounded with relative bound less than 1.

2. There is a closed set \( S \) of measure zero so that \( R^n \setminus S \) is connected and so that \( V_1 + V_2 \) is bounded on any compact subset of \( R^n \setminus S \).

3. \( -V_1 \) is bounded outside some ball \( \{ x | |x| < r_0 \} \), and \( |x|b_0^2(x) \to 0 \) as \( |x| \to \infty \).

4. \( V_2 \) is bounded outside some ball \( \{ x | |x| < r_0 \} \), and \( kb_0(x) \to 0 \) as \( |x| \to \infty \). (This assumption can be replaced by \( kb_0(x) < 0 \) for \( |x| > r_0 \).

5. If \( b_0 \), maps \( r \) in \( b_0^2(r) \) from \( (0, \infty) \) to \( L^1(S^{n-1}) \) where \( S^{n-1} \) is the \( (n-1) \)-dimensional sphere, then for \( |x| = r > r_0 \), \( b_0(x) \) is differentiable as an \( L^1 \)-valued function and for some real \( k \), \( k\lim_{r \to 0} \frac{\partial b_0^r}{\partial r} \leq 0 \).

If I) and II) are satisfied, the norm of the completion \( \| \cdot \|_{E} \) is equivalent to the norm of \( H^1(R^n) \otimes L^2(R^n) \), and they coincide as sets (this is the Lemma 1.4 by Weder [11]). By this lemma and assumption II), I (remember Eq. (7) above) has a self-adjoint bounded below extension, denoted by \( L \) (this is the Lemma 1.5 in Ref. [11]).

Now, let

\[
H = H_c + V, D(H) = D(L) \otimes H^1
\]

(24)

**Theorem 3.** The self-adjoint extension \( H \) of the K-G operator, with a pure electric field \( b_0^c \) satisfying I) - VI) (we call this operator \( \bar{H} \)), has no eigenvalues embedded in its essential spectrum.

As an application of Theorem 3, we can prove the \( R^3 \) case, in which includes the non-central electric Coulomb interaction. Even though the following result is stated here as the Theorem 4, it is a corollary of Theorem 3. Notice that for the important case \( S = \{ 0 \} \) we don’t have the necessary connectedness present in assumption VI) - 2), and in this case we shall directly apply other Theorem (see details in Ref. [8]) with appropriate modifications, presented here as the Theorem 5 below.

**Theorem 4.** The self-adjoint extension, \( \bar{H} \), of the K-G operator with a pure \( b_0^c \) as a Coulomb interaction, \( \frac{e}{|x|} \), in \( R^3 \) (called here \( \bar{H}_c \)), has no eigenvalues embedded in its essential spectrum in the following sense: for the attractive case \( b_0^c < 0 \) this is valid for \( [m, \infty) \), and for the repulsive \( b_0^c > 0 \), it holds in \(( -\infty, -m) \).

**Proof of the Theorem 3:** We can use to K-G operator, and so demonstrate Theorem 3, the same technique already used to Schrödinger’s operator (as in Theorem 2), where is necessary to written K-G operator in Schrödinger’s form. On the other hand, it is relevant to observe some differences. In this case, see that we are using pure electric interactions, and additional cares must to be taken during the transition process from K-G to Schrödinger equation. In fact, the relation between Schrödinger and K-G operators is such that it is possible to construct a map between particular effective Schrödinger potentials, and pure electric potentials in the structure of the K-G operator. Although such map includes an explicit dependence on the spectral parameter, it is important to emphasize that all the computations can be perfectly done by keeping then fixed. More details about this approach can be found in Ref. [18].

We have that the self-adjoint extension, \( \bar{H} \), of the K-G operator without scalar potential, magnetic potential and
$b_0^1 = 0$, becomes

$$\hat{H} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\Delta + m^2 - (b_0^1)^2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$D(\hat{H}) = D(L) \otimes H^1$$

It is clear that the absence of magnetic and scalar potentials, and the choice $b_0^1 = 0$, are all in accordance with Wedder’s assumptions I) - V). Then, we write the eigenvalue equation $\hat{H}\tilde{\psi} = E\psi$,

$$\psi_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \end{bmatrix} \in D(\hat{H})$$

Hence, in terms of $\psi_1$, one can see the compatibility of the above K-G eigenvalue equation with the Schrödinger type one,

$$(-\Delta + V_{\text{eff}})\psi_1 = \tilde{E}\psi_1 \quad V_{\text{eff}} = -(b_0^1)^2 + 2EB_0^c, \quad \tilde{E} = E^2 - m^2.$$ 

Pick $V_1(x) = -(b_0^1)^2$ and $V_2(x) = 2EB_0^c$. See that by VI), $(L) = H^2$, which is the domain of the free Schrödinger operator, and this is enough to the use of known Kato’s theorem (see more details in Ref. [19]). Hence, $V_{\text{eff}}$ satisfies all the hypothesis of Kato-Agmon-Simon’s theorem [2]. Thus, the Theorem 3 is proven. QED

**Proof of the Theorem 4**: As mentioned, the proof of Theorem 4 is based in the use of a theorem demonstrated in Ref. [8], with conditions slightly modified without loss of generality, in order to adapt it to our case. Here, we enunciate it as Theorem 5.

**Theorem 5.** Let $V$ be a real valued function in $R^n \setminus 0$ with the following properties:

(a) $V \in L^2 + L^\infty; V = V_1 + V_2$ with

(b) for some $R_0$, $V_1$ and $V_2$ are $C^3$ in $M = \{r | r > R_0\}$,

(c) $\lim_{r \to \infty} V_1(r) = 0$,

(d) for $r > R_0$, $V_2(r) < 0$,

(e) for $r > R_0$, $-\frac{\partial V_2}{\partial r} \leq -\frac{1}{r} V_2$.

Then $-\Delta + V$ has no eigenvalues in $(0, \infty)$

We have that the self-adjoint extension of the K-G operator $\hat{H}_c$, without scalar and magnetic potentials, $b_0^1 = 0$ and $q_c(x) = -\frac{e}{|x|^2} |e| \leq (n - 2)/2$ (if $n > 2$), and $b_0^1(x) = \frac{e}{|x|^2} |e| \leq (n - 2)/2 \sqrt{17}$ (if $n > 3$), becomes

$$\hat{H}_c = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\Delta + m^2 - \frac{e^2}{|x|^2} & \frac{2e}{|x|^4} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$D(\hat{H}_c) = D(L) \otimes H^1$$

It is easy to see that the lack of magnetic and scalar potentials, and the choice $b_0^1 = 0$, are turning I)-V) conditions satisfied. Hence, we get the eigenvalue equation for $\hat{H}_c \hat{H}_c\psi = E\psi$,

$$\psi_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \end{bmatrix} \in D(\hat{H}_c).$$

Then, in terms of the component $\psi_1 \in H^2$, one can see the compatibility of the above K-G eigenvalue equation with the following Schrödinger equation,

$$(-\Delta + V_{\text{eff}})\psi_1 = \tilde{E}\psi_1, \quad V_{\text{eff}} = \frac{e^2}{|x|^2} + 2E\frac{e}{x}, \quad \tilde{E} = E^2 - m^2.$$
In this case, pick $V_1(x) = -\frac{e^2}{|x|^4}$ and $V_2 = 2Ee^{|x|}$, hence $V_{eff}$ holds for all hypothesis of Simon’s theorem or its modification given by Theorem 5, which means that the components $\psi_1 \in H_2$ are ensuring the use of Kato’s theorem, and so it is possible directly to apply the Theorem 5, with exception that for the attractive case, (d) holds only if $E > m$, and that for the repulsive case it holds only if $E < m$. Thus, the Theorem 4 is proven. QED

4. Conclusion

We found a class of physical potentials in which there is no eigenvalues embedded in the continuous region of relativistic spectrum. It is possible to see that the fact associated to the non-existence of eigenvalues embedded in the essential spectrum can be interpreted as an expected result. We clearly show that with the correct location of continuous spectrum together with the result of theorem 3, we can rigour confirm if thresholds $\pm m$ belong, or no, to the point spectrum. Here, we emphasize that essential spectrum coincides with $(-\infty, -m] \cup [m, \infty)$, and so $\pm m$ dont belong to the point spectrum. Generally, these results are not so clear by use of the computational calculations of theoretical physics. It is worthy of emphasis that the present paper demonstrates a relativistic K-G operator contains eigenvalues in its essential spectrum, as occurs to Schrödinger’s operators. This is a new and interesting result, undemonstrated before in literature to relativistic operators, and introduced here. It is remarkable that the potential in which this occurs is von-Neumann Wigner potential, as expected. In particular, this potential provides similar results for Schrödinger’s operators, i.e., the existence of an unitary eigenvalue in the essential spectrum. We have expect to be possible extend the same methodology of theorem 2 in order to investigate the existence of eigenvalues in the essential spectrum for K-G operator to higher-dimensional order. However, in this case, the self-adjointness properties must be better investigated.

Acknowledgements

The authors gratefully acknowledge the support provided by Brazilian Agencies CAPES, CNPQ. We would like to thank the following for their kind support: IFPI and USP; for the great professors D. M. Gitman, C. R. Oliveira and R. Weder for our private communications.

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