

Effective density of states of a quantum oscillator coupled to a radiation field

Volker Betz

Mathematics Institute
University of Warwick
Coventry, UK

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Joint work with **D. P. L. Castrigiano**, TU München

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Quantum particle in a potential

- ▶ Hamiltonian: acting in $L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)$, given by

$$H_p = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\Delta + V$$

- ▶ Assumption: $V : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ continuous, $\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} V(x) = +\infty$.
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- ▶ Dynamics: $i\hbar\partial_t\psi(x, t) = H_p\psi(x, t)$. Therefore: The eigenstates ($H_p\psi = \lambda\psi$) are stationary.
- ▶ H_p could be used to model e.g. an electron in the electric field of a nucleus. The eigenvalues of H_p are the the quantized energy levels.

Quantum particle in a potential

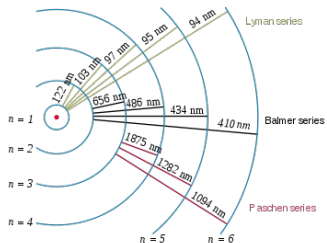
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- ▶ Dynamics: $i\hbar\partial_t\psi(x, t) = H_p\psi(x, t)$. Therefore: The eigenstates ($H_p\psi = \lambda\psi$) are stationary.
- ▶ H_p could be used to model e.g. an electron in the electric field of a nucleus. The eigenvalues of H_p are the the quantized energy levels.
- ▶ **Problem:** The model cannot describe spontaneous decay to the ground state: an excited state remains excited forever. (No line spectrum!).
- ▶ **Solution:** Coupling to the electro-magnetic field (QED).

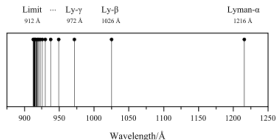
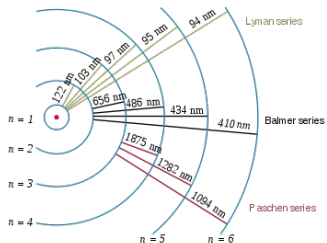
Particle in the radiation field: Spectral lines

- ▶ Evidence for energy quantisation in the hydrogen atom has been found already before the invention of Quantum Mechanics (Balmer 1885, Lyman 1906).
- ▶ A photon is absorbed and lifts an electron to its excited state, which later decays and re-emits the photon.
- ▶ The frequency corresponds to the energy difference to the energy levels.



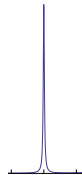
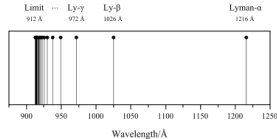
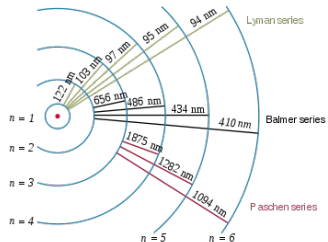
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- ▶ Line broadening:



Particle and radiation field: Pauli-Fierz model

Hilbert space: $L^2(\mathbb{R}^3) \otimes \mathcal{F}^{\otimes 2}$, \mathcal{F} is the bosonic Fock space.

$$\mathcal{F} = \bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{F}^{(n)}, \quad \mathcal{F}^{(n)} = L^2_{\text{symm}}(\mathbb{R}^{3n}).$$

Hamiltonian: $H = \frac{1}{2m}(p - eA_{\varphi}(q))^2 + V + H_f$ with

- ▶ $p = -i\hbar\nabla_q$ particle momentum, $V(q)$ particle potential
- ▶ Energy of the free field ($\omega(k) = |k|$ dispersion relation):

$$H_f = \sum_{\lambda=1,2} \int d^3k \hbar\omega(k) a^*(k, \lambda) a(k, \lambda)$$

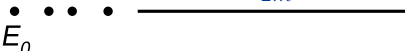
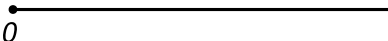
- ▶ Coupling operator:

$$A_{\varphi}(q) = \sum_{\lambda=1,2} \int d^3k \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2\omega(k)}} e_{\lambda}(k) \left(e^{iq \cdot k} \hat{\varphi}(k) a(k, \lambda) + e^{-iq \cdot k} \hat{\varphi}^*(k) a^*(k, \lambda) \right)$$

e_{λ} transversal vector field, φ form factor with UV cutoff.

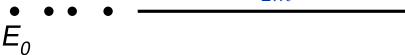
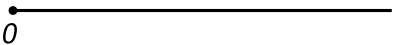
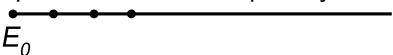
Pauli-Fierz Hamiltonian: spectrum

$$H = \frac{1}{2m}(p - eA_\varphi(q))^2 + V + H_f$$

- ▶ Spectrum of $H_p = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\Delta + V$:
A horizontal line representing the spectrum of H_p is shown. Above the line, there are four black dots representing discrete energy levels. The lowest dot is labeled E_0 .
- ▶ Spectrum of the free field H_f
A horizontal line representing the spectrum of H_f is shown, starting from a black dot at the origin labeled 0 .

Pauli-Fierz Hamiltonian: spectrum

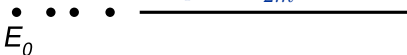
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- ▶ Spectrum of $H_p = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\Delta + V$:
A horizontal black line representing the energy spectrum. Four black dots are placed above the line, starting from the left and moving right, with increasing spacing between them. The label E_0 is positioned below the first dot.
- ▶ Spectrum of the free field H_f
A horizontal black line representing the energy spectrum. A single black dot is placed at the left end of the line. The label 0 is positioned below this dot.
- ▶ Spectrum of the coupled system:
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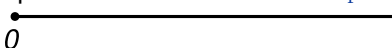
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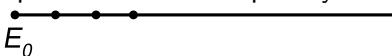
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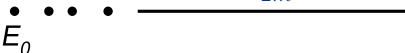
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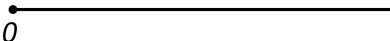


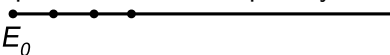
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- ▶ In the coupled system, the higher eigenvalues disappear and become **resonances**.
- ▶ [Hunziker 1990]: Connection between resonances and metastability.
- ▶ [Bach, Fröhlich, Sigal 1998]: Found resonances in the PF model.

Resonances: Definitions

$$H = H_0 + eH_I$$

Traditional definition: (e.g. Reed-Simon)

$$R^{(u)}(z) = \langle u, (H - z)^{-1}u \rangle, \quad R_0^{(u)}(z) = \langle u, (H_0 - z)^{-1}u \rangle$$

Assumption: For a dense subset of vectors u , $R^{(u)}$ and $R_0^{(u)}$ can be continued analytically into the lower half plane, up to the point $p \in \mathbb{C}$, $\text{Im}(p) < 0$.

p is a **resonance** of H if $R^{(u)}$ is singular and $R_0^{(u)}$ is regular at p for at least one u .

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Equivalent definition: [BC 11]

$$\mu^{(u)}(\Delta) = \langle u, E(\Delta)u \rangle \quad \text{scalar spectral measure of } H$$

Assumption: For a dense subset of vectors u , the Lebesgue-density $\phi^{(u)}$ of $\mu^{(u)}$, and of $\phi_0^{(u)}$, can be analytically continued up to the point $p \in \mathbb{C}$.

p is a **resonance** if $\phi_0^{(u)}$ is regular and $\phi^{(u)}$ is singular at p .

Resonances and Lorenz profiles

$\phi^{(u)}$ scalar spectrale density, $p \in \mathbb{C}$ resonance

- ▶ Simplest case: $\phi^{(u)}$ has a **simple pole** at p .
- ▶ Since $\phi^{(u)}$ is real analytic (on an interval), we also know $\phi^{(u)}(\bar{z}) = \overline{\phi^{(u)}(z)}$.
- ▶ If no other poles are nearby, we have

$$\phi^{(u)}(z) = \frac{\varphi^{(u)}(z)}{(z-p)(z-\bar{p})} \quad \text{mit } \varphi^{(u)} \text{ holomorph.}$$

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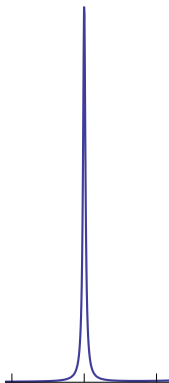
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- ▶ Sei $p = \hat{\omega} - i\gamma/2$. On the real axis, this produces a Lorenz profile:

$$\phi^{(u)}(\omega) \simeq C \frac{\gamma/2}{(\omega - \hat{\omega})^2 + \gamma^2/4}.$$



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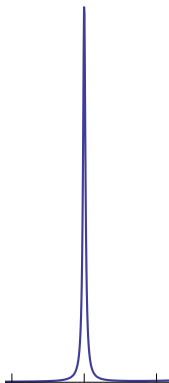
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- ▶ In the full Pauli-Fierz model, the precise complex structure of the resolvent is unknown.



Open quantum systems: basics

- ▶ We want an effective description for the particle in the radiation field, treating the field as an environment.
- ▶ Method of choice: open quantum systems.
- ▶ Simplest case: Hamiltonian H is such that $e^{-\beta H}$ is trace class.
- ▶ The state at inverse temperature β is given by the density matrix $\frac{1}{Z(\beta)} e^{-\beta H}$.
- ▶ Partition function: $Z(\beta) = \text{Tr} e^{-\beta H}$.

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- ▶ Partition function: $Z(\beta) = \text{Tr} e^{-\beta H}$.
- ▶ The inverse Laplace transform of $Z(\beta)$ is a positive measure, namely $\mu = \sum_j N_j \delta_{\lambda_j}$. **Measure of states**
- ▶ $\mu^{(\beta)} := \frac{1}{Z(\beta)} e^{-\beta(\cdot)} \mu$, then

$$\mu^{(\beta)}(\Delta) = \frac{1}{Z(\beta)} \text{Tr} (e^{-\beta H} E(\Delta))$$

is the probability of measuring a value for the energy that lies within Δ .

Spectral discretisation

In many interesting cases (e.g. in the Pauli Fierz model), $e^{-\beta H}$ is not trace class, and even has absolutely continuous spectrum. We use a slight generalization of a standard technique from random Schrödinger operators.

Definition

Let H be a self-adjoint operator in the Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , and let (P_n) be a family of orthogonal projections on \mathcal{H} . Put $H_n = P_n H P_n$.

We call H_n a **spectral discretization** of H (wrt. P_n) if:

- (i) $P_n D(H) \subset D(H)$
- (ii) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P_n = 1$ strongly.
- (iii) The spectrum of H_n (defined on $P_n \mathcal{H}$) consists of eigenvalues of finite multiplicity, and $e^{-\beta H_n}$ is trace class for all n .

Effective description of a subsystem

$$H = H_1 \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes H_2 + H_I, \quad \text{auf } \mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2$$

- ▶ \mathcal{H}_1 Hilbert space of the small system, \mathcal{H}_2 HS of the large one.
- ▶ Assume: $\text{Tr} e^{-\beta H}$ exists, and so do those of H_1 , H_2 .
- ▶ Assume: The large system is in thermal equilibrium and is not influenced by the small one (heat bath).

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- ▶ The effective (un-normed) density matrix for the small system is then given by

$$W(\beta) := (\text{Tr} e^{-\beta H_2})^{-1} \text{Tr}_2 e^{-\beta H}$$

- ▶ In the uncoupled system: $W(\beta) = e^{-\beta H_1}$.
- ▶ Effective partition function: $Z(\beta) = \text{Tr} W(\beta) = \frac{\text{Tr} e^{-\beta H}}{\text{Tr} e^{-\beta H_2}}$.

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- ▶ Idea: the inverse Laplace transform of $Z(\beta)$ is the effective measure of states of the open small system.
- ▶ But for this, it has to be a positive measure on \mathbb{R} .

The limit of an infinitely large system

$$H = H_1 \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes H_2 + H_I, \quad \text{in } \mathcal{H}_1 \otimes \mathcal{H}_2$$

- ▶ In our case, $e^{-\beta H_2}$ is not trace class.
- ▶ Spectral discretizations: $H_{2,n}, H_n$.
- ▶ Define

$$Z_n(\beta) = \frac{\text{Tr } e^{-\beta H_n}}{\text{Tr } e^{-\beta H_{2,n}}}.$$

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- ▶ We will show that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Z_n$ exists, and that the inverse Laplace transform is a positive Borel measure μ .
- ▶ Interpretation: μ is the **effective measure of states**:

$$\mu^{(\beta)} = \frac{1}{Z(\beta)} e^{-\beta(\cdot)} \mu$$

determines the probability for energy measurements at temperature $1/\beta$.

- ▶ The Lebesgue-density of μ is the **effective density of states**.

Pauli-Fierz model: dipole approximation

$$H = (H_p + H_r) \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes H_f + H_I \text{ in } L^2(\mathbb{R}^3) \otimes \mathcal{F}^{\otimes 2}$$

with

$$H_p = -\hbar^2 \frac{m}{2} \eta^2 \Delta_q + \frac{1}{2m} q^2, \quad \text{particle Hamiltonian in } L^2(\mathbb{R}^3),$$

$$H_f = H_{f,1} \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes H_{f,2} \quad \text{and} \quad H_{f,\sigma} = \hbar \int \omega(k) a^*(k, \sigma) a(k, \sigma) dk.$$

Furthermore, $H_I = H_{I,1} \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes H_{I,2}$ with

$$H_{I,\sigma} = \frac{e}{m} \int \chi_c(k) \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{4\pi^2 \omega(k)}} (q \cdot u_\sigma(k)) \left(a^*(k, \sigma) + a(k, \sigma) \right) dk,$$

and UV-cutoff $\chi_c = 1_{\{|k| < c\}}$, $\omega(k) = c|k|$, c speed of light.

H_r in $L^2(\mathbb{R}^3)$ contains mass and energy renormalisation.

Pauli-Fierz model: Spectral discretization

- ▶ For $N \in \mathbb{N}$ let $\Lambda_j, j \in \mathbb{N}$ be the half-open cube with volume $V = N^{-3}$ and corners in $(\frac{1}{N}\mathbb{Z})^3 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$.
- ▶ Orthogonal projections:

$$P_N(j) : L^2(\mathbb{R}^3) \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R}^3), \quad f \mapsto \langle h_j, f \rangle h_j \text{ mit } h_j := \frac{1}{\sqrt{V}} 1_{\Lambda_j}.$$

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- ▶ Put $J_N = \{j \in \mathbb{N} : \Lambda_j \cap B(0, N) \neq \emptyset\}$.
- ▶ $P_N = \sum_{j \in J_N} P_N(j)$ is also an orthogonal projection.
- ▶ Let \mathbf{P}_N be the second quantisation of P_N . \mathbf{P}_N ist also OP.

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- ▶ Put

$$\begin{aligned} H_{f,N} &:= (\mathbf{P}_N \otimes \mathbf{P}_N) H_f (\mathbf{P}_N \otimes \mathbf{P}_N), \\ H_N &:= (1 \otimes \mathbf{P}_N \otimes \mathbf{P}_N) H (1 \otimes \mathbf{P}_N \otimes \mathbf{P}_N). \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ **Thm:** $H_{f,N}$ and H_N are spectral discretizations of H_f und H .

Effective partition function: finite UV cutoff

Theorem:

$\text{Tr} e^{-\frac{\beta}{\hbar} H_N}$ and $\text{Tr} e^{-\frac{\beta}{\hbar} H_{f,N}}$ exist for all $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and all $\beta > 0$.

$Z(\beta; \gamma) := \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} (\text{Tr} e^{-\frac{\beta}{\hbar} H_N}) / (\text{Tr} e^{-\frac{\beta}{\hbar} H_{f,N}})$ exists for all $\beta > 0$, and

$$Z(\beta; \gamma) = \left[2\pi\rho e^{-2\rho \ln(1+\gamma) \sin\varphi} \prod_{l=1}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{\rho^2}{l^2} + \frac{4\rho}{\pi l} \sin(\varphi) \arctan\left(\gamma \frac{\rho}{l}\right) \right) \right]^{-3}.$$

Above, $\sin\phi \sim e$, $\rho \sim \beta$, $\gamma \sim C$.

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$$Z(\beta; \gamma) = \left[2\pi\rho e^{-2\rho \ln(1+\gamma) \sin\phi} \prod_{l=1}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{\rho^2}{l^2} + \frac{4\rho}{\pi l} \sin(\phi) \arctan\left(\gamma \frac{\rho}{l}\right) \right) \right]^{-3}.$$

Above, $\sin\phi \sim e$, $\rho \sim \beta$, $\gamma \sim C$.

Sketch of proof: Write H_N as a system of $n = 2|J_N| + 3$ coupled quantum oscillators; potential $\sum_{i,j} A_{ij} X_i X_j$; $A > 0$ matrix with entries λ_j . Use

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr} e^{-\beta H} &= \prod_{i=1}^n \left(2 \sinh\left(\frac{\beta}{2} \sqrt{\lambda_i}\right) \right)^{-1} = \det \left(2 \sinh\left(\frac{\beta}{2} A^{\frac{1}{2}}\right) \right)^{-1} = \\ &= \beta^{-n} \det(A)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \prod_{l=1}^{\infty} \det \left(I_n + \left(\frac{\beta}{2\pi l}\right)^2 A \right)^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Effective density of states without UV cutoff

Theorem:

For all $\beta > 0$, $Z(\beta) := \lim_{\gamma \rightarrow \infty} Z(\beta; \gamma)$ exists, and

$$Z(\beta) = \left[\frac{\rho}{2\pi} e^{-2\rho \ln(\rho) \sin \varphi} |\Gamma(i\rho e^{-i\varphi})|^2 \right]^3.$$

Also, $\beta \mapsto Z(\beta)$ is the Laplace transform of a positive measure.

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Sketch of proof: Convergence and computation of the limit with hard analysis. For the inverse Laplace transform: Using Binet's formula,

$$\ln \Gamma(z) = \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-tz}}{t} \left(\frac{1}{1-e^{-t}} - \frac{1}{t} - \frac{1}{2} \right) dt + \frac{\ln(2\pi)}{2} + (z - \frac{1}{2}) \ln(z) - z$$

we find, with $\tau = i e^{-i\varphi} t$ and $t_\varphi := 6(\sin \varphi + (\frac{\pi}{2} - \varphi) \cos \varphi)$,

$$\ln Z(\beta) = \int_0^\infty e^{-t\rho} g(t) dt - t_\varphi \rho, \quad g(t) := \frac{6}{t} \operatorname{Re} \left(\frac{1}{1-e^{-\tau}} - \frac{1}{\tau} - \frac{1}{2} \right).$$

We show $g(t) \geq 0$ for $t \geq 0$. Thus $\ln Z(\beta)$ is completely monotone, and so is $Z(\beta)$.

Effective density of states: inverse Laplace transform

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- Crucial observation: $Z(\beta) = Y(\rho) e^{-t_\varphi \rho}$, and

$$Y(\rho) = \exp \mathfrak{L}g(\rho) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \mathfrak{L}g^{*n}(\rho).$$

- Above, $h * k(x) = \int_0^x h(t)k(x-t) dt$.

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- Thus

$$\mathfrak{L}^{-1}Y = \delta_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} g^{*n}$$

- Up to translation and scaling, this is the effective density of states!

Effective density of states: complex structure

$$\varrho = \mathfrak{L}^{-1}Y = \delta_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} g^{*n}$$

Lemma: g is meromorphic with simple poles at

$$q_j = 2\pi j e^{-i\varphi} \quad \text{und} \quad \bar{q}_j = 2\pi j e^{i\varphi}, \quad j \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}.$$

The residues are $\text{Res}(g; q_j) = \frac{3i}{2\pi j}$, $\text{Res}(g; \bar{q}_j) = \frac{-3i}{2\pi j}$.

A first analysis of the singularities of the convolution products leads to

Theorem: The effective density of states ϕ is continuous and positive for $\omega \geq \omega_\varphi$. ϕ is real analytic, and can be continued to an analytic function up to singularities at the points

$$p_j = \omega_\varphi + j\eta e^{-i\varphi} \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{p}_j = \omega_\varphi + j\eta e^{i\varphi}, \quad j \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\},$$

and branch cuts along $z = \omega_\varphi + s e^{\pm i\varphi}$ for $s \in \mathbb{R}$, $|s| \geq \eta$.

Effective density of states: Lorenz profiles

Define the normed Lorenz profile $\ell_j(z) := \frac{-1}{2\pi i(z-p_j)} + \frac{1}{2\pi i(z-\bar{p}_j)}$.

Theorem: Let $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and $z = \omega_\varphi + s e^{i\chi}$ for $0 < s < N\eta$ and $|\chi| < \frac{\pi}{2}$. Then

$$\phi(z) = \begin{cases} \sum_{j=1}^N \binom{j+2}{2} \ell_j(z) + h_N(z) & \text{for } |\chi| < \varphi, \\ -\sum_{j=1}^3 (-1)^j \binom{3}{j} \ell_j(z) + \tilde{h}_N(z) & \text{for } |\chi| > \varphi. \end{cases}$$

h_N and \tilde{h}_N are analytic up to singularities at p_j, \bar{p}_j and cuts along $z = \omega_\varphi + s e^{\pm i\varphi}$, $s \geq \eta$. Moreover, there exists a constant $C = C(N)$, so that h_N (and also \tilde{h}_N) satisfies the inequality $|h_N(z)| \leq C(1 + |\ln(\varphi - |\chi|)|^{\eta N})$ for $|\chi| < \varphi$.

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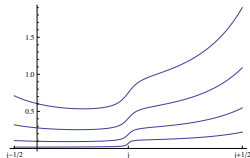
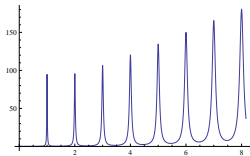
Compare with $\mu_0 = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \binom{j+2}{2} \delta_{(j+3/2)\eta}$ (uncoupled oscillator).

Summary and open problems

- ▶ The effective density of states close to \mathbb{R} is

$$\phi(z) \approx \sum_j \binom{j+2}{2} \ell_j(z).$$

- ▶ The mass in each Lorenz profile corresponds to the multiplicity of the eigenvalues of the uncoupled oscillator.
- ▶ Complex singularities are first order poles plus a small perturbation.
- ▶ **Definition:** resonances of the effective system are the complex singularities of the effective density of states.
- ▶ Metastability: $Z(\beta)^{-1} e^{-\beta \cdot \mu}$ gives the probability for energy measurements at temperature $1/\beta$.

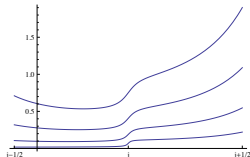
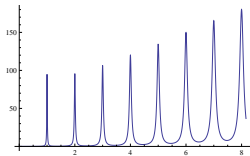


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Open questions:

- ▶ how about other systems: spin-boson, hydrogen atom, ...
- ▶ Connection with Hunzikers theory of resonances (Bach/Fröhlich/Sigal).
- ▶ Connection with works about return to equilibrium (Merkli/Sigal).