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#### Abstract

We study the small $\lambda$ behavior of the ground state energy, $E(\lambda)$, of the Hamiltonian $-\frac{d^{2}}{d x^{2}}+\lambda V(x)$. In particular, if $V(x) \sim-a^{-2}$ at infinity and if $\int V(x) d x<0$, we prove that $$
\sqrt{-E(\lambda)}=-\left[\frac{1}{2} \lambda+a \lambda^{2} \ln \lambda\right] \int d x V(x)+0\left(\lambda^{2}\right)
$$


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[^0]
## I. INTRODUCTION

It_is well known that a sufficiently shallow square well in three dimensions will not bind. By contrast, in one or two dimensions, there is a special situation, due essentially to an infrared divergence, in which an attractive short-range potential always produces a bound state no matter how small the coupling. For the case of the one-dimensional Hamiltonian

$$
H=-\frac{d^{2}}{d x^{2}}+\lambda V(x)
$$

Abarbanel, Callen, and Goldberger [1] derived a formal series for the ground state, $E(\lambda)$, for an attractive $V$ of short range of the form

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sqrt{-E(\lambda)}=-\frac{1}{2} \lambda \int d x V(x)-\frac{1}{4} \lambda^{2} \int d x d y V(x)|x-y| V(y)+0\left(\lambda^{2}\right) \tag{1.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

This situation was further studied by Simon [2] who proved that so long as $\int d x V(x) \leq 0$, and $\int d x\left(1+x^{2}\right)|V(x)|<\infty$, there is a unique bound state for small $\lambda$ and its energy is given by (1.1). It was also shown that if $\int d x e^{a|x|} V(x)<\infty$, then $\sqrt{-\mathrm{E}(\lambda)}$ is analytic at $\lambda=0$.

In this note we wish to consider the case where $V(x)$ is of sufficiently long range that

$$
\int d x\left(1+x^{2}\right)|V(x)|=\infty
$$

There are three cases to consider with

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{V}(\mathrm{x}) \simeq-a \mathrm{x}^{-\beta} \tag{1.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

as $\mathrm{x} \rightarrow \infty$.
(A) If $2<\beta<3$, then a simple modification of the argument in [2] allows one to prove that (1.1) is still valid.
(B) If $\beta=2$, there is still a unique bound state for small $\lambda$ so long as $\int \mathrm{dx} V(\mathrm{x}) \leq 0$. However, if this integral is nonzero, then (1.1) is not valid
because the $\lambda^{2}$ term is infinite; there is, in fact, a $\lambda^{2} \ln \lambda$ term which we explicitly isolate. The situation here is reminiscent of some recent work of Greenlee [3,4] and Harrel [5] who study perturbations of the operator $\left(-\mathrm{d}^{2} / \mathrm{dx}{ }^{2}\right)$ by potentials with $\mathrm{x}^{-\gamma}$ singularities at the origin on the interval $[0, \alpha]$ or $\left(-\frac{d^{2}}{d x^{2}}+x^{2}\right)$ on the interval $[0, \infty]$ with $\psi(0)=0$ boundary conditions. If $\gamma \geq 3$, then first order perturbation theory is infinite but there is an explicit $\lambda^{-8}$, $\mathrm{g}=(\gamma-2)^{-1}$ leading term if $\gamma>3$ and a $\lambda \ln \lambda$ leading term if $\gamma=3$. Harrel also considers situations in which the first order term is finite but the second order is infinite; for example, if $\gamma=2.5$, there is a $a \lambda+b \lambda^{2} \ln \lambda+0\left(\lambda^{2}\right)$ behavior analogous to what we find in the $\beta=2$ case.
(C) If $1<\beta<2$, then there are infinitely many bound states for any $\lambda>0$ in one and three dimensions. One may ask in this case if there is any difference between the one and three-dimensional case as there is for a short ranged potential $V(x)$. In fact, there is a difference; all the bound state energies in three dimensions and all but the ground state in one dimensions are of order $\lambda^{h}$, $\mathrm{h}=2(2-\beta)^{-1}$, as $\lambda$ approaches zero from above. The ground state energy in one dimension is special in that it is of order $\lambda^{2}$. One still finds that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sqrt{-E(\lambda)}=-\frac{1}{2} \lambda \int \mathrm{dxV}(x)+0(\lambda) \tag{1.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

We shall not consider the case $\beta=1$ or $0<\beta<1$ although on the basis of the work by Greenlee and Harrel and our case (C), there is a natural conjecture: at $\beta=1$, all states but the ground state are of order $\lambda^{2}$, while the ground state is of order $\lambda^{2}(\ln \lambda)^{2}$; for $0<\beta<1$, all states are of order $\lambda^{h}, h=2(2-\beta)^{-1}$ and the ground state is of order $\lambda^{\mathrm{g}}, \mathrm{g}=2(3-2 \beta)^{-1}$.

The outline of this note is as follows. In Section II, we consider, for motivation, the special case $V(x)=-\frac{1}{4}(|x|+d)^{-2}$, which is solvable in terms of Bessel
functions. In addition to verifying our general results for $\beta=2$ (see also formula (4.2)) and small $\lambda$, we check explicitly a curious behavior at $\lambda=1$; for $\lambda<1$, there is only one bound state, while for $\lambda>1$, there are as infinite number. Such a behavior was proven in general for $\beta=2$ potentials by Simon [6]. In Section III, we consider the cases (A), (C) and certain general features of (B) as defined above, and in Section IV the $\lambda^{2} \ln \lambda$ term in case (B) is explicitly isolated.

## II. AN EXAMPLE

In this section we shall discuss the potential

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lambda V(x)=-\frac{1}{4} \lambda(|x|+d)^{-2}, \tag{2.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

and the solution to the Schrödinger equation

$$
\psi^{\prime \prime}(x)+\left[\bar{k}^{2}-\lambda V(x)\right] \psi(x)=0 .
$$

The outgoing wave solution for positive x can be written in terms of Hankel functions:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\psi_{+}(\mathrm{x})=\mathrm{T}(\mathrm{k}(\mathrm{x}+\mathrm{d}))^{1 / 2} \mathrm{H}_{\nu}^{(1)}[\mathrm{k}(\mathrm{x}+\mathrm{d})], \tag{2.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where T is constant and $\nu=\frac{1}{2}(1-\lambda)^{1 / 2}$. The solution for negative x includes an incident plane wave and a reflected wave at infinity and is written

$$
\begin{equation*}
\psi_{-}(\mathrm{x})=(\mathrm{k}(\mathrm{~d}-\mathrm{x}))^{1 / 2}\left\{\mathrm{H}_{\nu}^{(2)}[\mathrm{k}(\mathrm{~d}-\mathrm{x})]+\mathrm{RH}_{\nu}^{(1)}[\mathrm{k}(\mathrm{~d}-\mathrm{x})]\right\} . \tag{2.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Matching boundary conditions at the origin yields a reflection coefficient, $r$, and a transmission coefficient, $t$, of the form

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{r}=\mathrm{R} \mathrm{e}^{2 \mathrm{iz}} \mathrm{e}^{-\mathrm{i} \pi(\nu+1 / 2)} \\
& \mathrm{t}=\mathrm{T} \mathrm{e}^{2 \mathrm{i} \mathrm{z}} \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i} \pi(\nu+1 / 2)}
\end{aligned}
$$

where $\mathrm{z}=\mathrm{kd}$ and

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{T}=4 \mathrm{i} / \pi \mathrm{D}(\mathrm{z}) \\
& \mathrm{R}=\mathrm{T}-\mathrm{H}_{\nu}^{(2)}(\mathrm{z}) / \mathrm{H}_{\nu}^{(1)}(\mathrm{z})
\end{aligned}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{D}(\mathrm{z})=\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{dz}}\left[\mathrm{z}\left(\mathrm{H}_{\nu}^{(1)}(\mathrm{z})\right)\right]^{2} \tag{2.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

The eigenvalue condition is equivalent to the vanishing of $\mathrm{D}(\mathrm{z})$ for z pure imaginary and in the upper half plane. Defining $z=i y$, it becomes

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{y} \frac{\mathrm{~d}}{\mathrm{dy}} \mathrm{~K}_{\nu}(\mathrm{y})=-\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~K}_{\nu}(\mathrm{y}) \tag{2.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathrm{y}=\mathrm{d} \sqrt{-\mathrm{E}(\lambda)}$ and recall that $\nu=\frac{1}{2}(1-\lambda)^{1 / 2}$ where $\mathrm{K}_{\nu}(\mathrm{y})$ is a modified Bessel function of the second kind related to $\mathrm{H}_{\nu}^{(1)}(\mathrm{z})$ by $\mathrm{K}_{\nu}(\mathrm{y})=\frac{\pi \mathrm{i}}{2} \exp (\mathrm{i} \pi \nu / 2) \mathrm{H}_{\nu}^{(1)}$ (iy).

For $0<\lambda<1$, there is always one solution to (2.5), as can easily be seen by considering the limiting behavior of both sides of this equation. For small $\lambda$. it is convenient to expand $K_{\nu}(y)$ as

$$
\mathrm{K}_{\nu}(\mathrm{y})=\frac{1}{2} \Gamma(\nu)\left(\frac{\mathrm{y}}{\nu}\right)^{-\nu}\left[1+\frac{\Gamma(-\nu)}{\Gamma(\nu)}\left(\frac{\mathrm{y}}{2}\right)^{2 \nu}\right]+0\left(\mathrm{y}^{2-\nu}\right)
$$

and the eigenvalue condition can be expanded as

$$
\begin{equation*}
2 \nu=\tanh \left[\nu \ln \left(\frac{2}{\mathrm{y}}\right)\right]+0(\mathrm{y}) \tag{2.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

or

$$
\mathrm{y}=\frac{1}{2}-\nu\left[1-\left(\frac{1}{2}-\nu\right) \ln 4 / \mathrm{y}^{2}\right]+0\left[\left(\frac{1}{2}-\nu\right)^{2}\right]
$$

This can be rewritten in the form

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sqrt{-E(\lambda)}=-\frac{1}{2}\left[\lambda+2 a \lambda^{2} \ln \lambda\right] \int \mathrm{dxV}(\mathrm{x})+0\left(\lambda^{2}\right) \tag{2.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $a=1 / 4$. We shall return in Section IV and derive this expansion for a more general class of potentials that behave as $-\mathrm{ax}^{-2}$ for large x .

If $\lambda$ is larger than one, then one sees that the index of the Bessel function becomes complex. This introduces an oscillatory behavior and profoundly affects the spectrum. If $\lambda$ is only slightly larger than unity, then a simple expansion is possible for small y . Defining $\nu=\mathrm{i} \delta$, then the eigenvalue condition (2.6) becomes

$$
\begin{equation*}
2 \delta=\tan \left[\delta \ln \left(\frac{2}{\mathrm{y}}\right)\right]+0(\mathrm{y}) \tag{2.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

There are therefore an infinite number of bound states for $\lambda>1$, and their energies are geometrically related for weak binding.

## III. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

Throughout this section we shall consider the family of operators H defined earlier with

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int \mathrm{dx}|\mathrm{~V}(\mathrm{x})|<\infty \tag{3.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

and will often add the condition

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int d x|x|^{\gamma}|V(x)|<\infty \tag{3.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

for some $\gamma>0$.
The discussion in reference [2] assumed eq. (3.2) with $\gamma=2$, and it is our purpose to extend the class of admissible potentials. We note that if $\mathrm{V}(\mathrm{x}) \sim-\mathrm{ax}^{-\beta}$ for large x , and (3.1) holds, then (3.2) will also hold for $\gamma=\beta-1-\epsilon$ for any $\epsilon>0$. Under condition (3.1) two results carry over from reference [2] (propositions 2.1 and 2.2); namely, $\mathrm{E}=-\alpha^{2}$ with $\alpha>0$ is an eigenvalue of H if and only if

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{det}\left[1+\lambda K_{\alpha}\right]=0 \tag{3.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathrm{K}_{\alpha}$ is the integral operator

$$
\begin{equation*}
K_{\alpha}(x, y)=\frac{1}{2 \alpha}|V(x)|^{1 / 2} \exp (-\alpha|x-y|) V^{1 / 2}(y) \tag{3.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

and $\mathrm{V}^{1 / 2}(\mathrm{y})=|\mathrm{V}(\mathrm{y})|^{1 / 2} \operatorname{sign}(\mathrm{~V}(\mathrm{y}))$. Moreover,

$$
H=-\frac{d^{2}}{d x^{2}}+\lambda V(x) \geq c \lambda
$$

for some c and all small $\lambda$. Thus one needs only look for solutions to (3.3) with $0<\alpha(\lambda)<(\mathrm{c} \lambda)^{1 / 2}$ for small $\lambda$.

It is convenient to decompose $\mathrm{K}_{\alpha}$ into two sets of integral operators:

$$
\mathrm{K}_{\alpha}=\mathrm{Q}_{\alpha}+\mathrm{P}_{\alpha}=\mathrm{L}_{\alpha}+\mathrm{M}_{\alpha}
$$

First,

$$
\begin{align*}
& \mathrm{Q}_{\alpha}(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y})=\frac{1}{2 \alpha} \mathrm{e}^{-\alpha|\mathrm{x}|}|\mathrm{V}(\mathrm{x})|^{1 / 2} \mathrm{e}^{-\alpha|\mathrm{y}|} \mathrm{V}^{1 / 2}(\mathrm{y}) \\
& \mathrm{P}_{\alpha}(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y})=\frac{1}{\alpha}|\mathrm{~V}(\mathrm{x})|^{1 / 2}\left[\mathrm{e}^{-\alpha|\mathrm{x}|_{>}} \sinh \alpha|\mathrm{x}|_{<}\right] \mathrm{V}^{1 / 2}(\mathrm{y}), \tag{3.5}
\end{align*}
$$

where $|x|_{<}=0$ if $x y<0$ and $|x|_{<}=\min |x|,|y|$ otherwise; $|x|_{>}=\max |x|,|y|$. Second,

$$
\begin{align*}
& \mathrm{L}_{\alpha}(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y})=\frac{1}{2 \alpha}|\mathrm{~V}(\mathrm{x})|^{1 / 2} \mathrm{~V}^{1 / 2}(\mathrm{y}) \\
& \mathrm{M}_{\alpha}(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y})=\frac{1}{2 \alpha}|\mathrm{~V}(\mathrm{x})|^{1 / 2}\left[\mathrm{e}^{-\alpha|\mathrm{x}-\mathrm{y}|}-1\right] \mathrm{V}^{1 / 2}(\mathrm{y}) . \tag{3.6}
\end{align*}
$$

In reference [2], the latter decomposition was used since it results in a simpler implicit equation for $\alpha$ as deduced from eq. (3.3) than does the former decomposition (compare our eq. (3.8) with (9) of ref. [2]).

The advantage of the $\mathrm{Q}_{\alpha}, \mathrm{P}_{\alpha}$ pair is that it is more convergent. As $\alpha \rightarrow 0$, the factor in brackets of eq. (3.5) approaches $|x|<$ rather than a factor of $\frac{1}{2}|x-y|$ as in Eq. (3.6). For fixed $y$, the latter approaches $\frac{1}{2}|x|$ for large $x$ whereas for the former $|x|<0$ or $|y|$ as $|x| \rightarrow \infty$. Therefore $P_{0}$ is less singular than $M_{0}$.

We emphasize that $\mathrm{P}_{\alpha}$ is very natural-it arises from replacing the Green's function in $K_{\alpha}$ by the Green's function in which a zero boundary condition is imposed at the origin. The fact that when eq. (3.2) holds with $\gamma=1$, then $\operatorname{det}\left(1+\lambda \mathrm{P}_{\alpha}\right)=0$ has no solutions for $\lambda$ small is intimately connected with Schwinger's proof [8] of Bargmann's bound [9].

In order to bound $\mathrm{P}_{\alpha}$ independently of $\alpha$, note that the elementary inequality for $x>0$

$$
x^{-1} \sinh x \leq \cosh x \leq e^{x}
$$

leads to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left|P_{\alpha}(x, y)\right| \leq\left.|V(x)|^{1 / 2}|x|\right|_{<}|V(y)|^{1 / 2} \leq|x V(x)|^{1 / 2}|y V(y)|^{1 / 2} \tag{3.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

so that by letting

$$
P_{0}(x, y) \equiv|V(x)|^{1 / 2}|x|_{<} V^{1 / 2}(y)
$$

we have by the dominated convergence theorem

$$
\int d x d y\left|P_{\alpha}-P_{0}\right|^{2} \rightarrow 0
$$

as $\alpha \rightarrow 0$ so long as (3.2) holds with $\gamma=1$. With this result, one can now mimic the proofs of Theorems (2.4) and (2.5) of ref. [2] and obtain

Theorem 3.1 Suppose that (3.1) holds and that (3.2) holds with $\gamma=1$. Then $H$ has at most one negative eigenvalue for $\lambda$ small and this occurs if and only if $\int d x V(x) \leq 0$. If this condition holds, then $\alpha=\sqrt{-E(\lambda)}$ is given by the implicit condition (expand the determinant using the fact that $\mathrm{Q}_{\alpha}$ is a separable integral operator)

$$
\begin{equation*}
\alpha=-\frac{1}{2} \lambda\left(\mathrm{e}^{-\alpha|\mathrm{x}|} \mathrm{V}^{1 / 2},\left(1+\lambda \mathrm{P}_{\alpha}\right)^{-1} \mathrm{e}^{-\alpha|\mathrm{y}|}|\mathrm{V}(\mathrm{y})|^{1 / 2}\right) \tag{3.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

and, in particular, eq. (1.1) holds. This immediately extends the results of ref. [2] from $x^{-3-\epsilon}$ potentials to $x^{-2-\epsilon}$ potentials.

To understand and to anticipate our next result, suppose that $\mathrm{V}(\mathrm{x})=\mathrm{V}(-\mathrm{x})$ and $V \sim-\mathrm{ax}^{-\beta}$ at infinity. If $\psi_{0}$ and $\psi_{1}$ are two bound states with energies $\mathrm{E}_{0}<\mathrm{E}_{1}$, then it is possible to find a linear combination $\phi(\mathrm{x})$ on $(0, \infty)$ that vanishes at the origin. Therefore,

$$
\mathrm{E}_{1} \int_{0}^{\infty} \mathrm{dx} \phi^{2}(\mathrm{x}) \geq \int_{0}^{\infty} \mathrm{dx}\left[\left(\phi^{\mathrm{r}}\right)^{2}+\lambda \mathrm{V}(\mathrm{x}) \phi^{2}(\mathrm{x})\right]
$$

As is well known, if $\phi(0)=0$, then [10]

$$
\int_{0}^{\infty} d x\left(\phi^{\prime}\right)^{2} \geq \frac{1}{4} \int_{0}^{\infty} d x \phi^{2}(x) x^{-2}
$$

so that

$$
E_{1}(\lambda) \geq \min \left(\frac{1}{4} x^{-2}+\lambda V(x)\right) \sim-\lambda^{g}
$$

where $\mathrm{g}=2(2-\beta)^{-1}$ if $\beta<2$. Thus one expects that all bound states except for the ground state will have energies that behave as $\lambda^{g}$ whereas the ground state energy will be $0\left(\lambda^{2}\right)$.

Theorem 3.2 Let V obey (3.1) and (3.2) for some $\gamma$, where $0<\gamma<1$; then there is a constant $C$ so that at most one bound state occurs with an energy smaller than $-\mathrm{C} \lambda^{\mathrm{h}}, \mathrm{h}=2(1-\gamma)^{-1}$, for small $\lambda$. Such a bound state will exist if $\int d x V(x)<0$, and in that case its energy, $E(\lambda)$, is given by eq. (3.8) with $\alpha=\sqrt{-E(\lambda)}$. In particular,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sqrt{-\mathrm{E}(\lambda)}=-\frac{1}{2} \lambda \int \mathrm{dxV}(\mathrm{x})+0\left(\lambda^{1+\gamma}\right) \tag{3.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

Proof: Since

$$
\mathrm{e}^{-\alpha|\mathrm{x}|}>\sinh \alpha|\mathrm{x}|_{<} \leq \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{e}^{-\alpha\left(|\mathrm{x}|_{>}-|\mathrm{x}|_{<}\right)} \leq \frac{1}{2},
$$

then

$$
\left|P_{\alpha}(x, y)\right| \leq \frac{1}{2 \alpha}|V(x)|^{1 / 2}|V(y)|^{1 / 2} .
$$

Recalling the bound on $\left|\mathrm{P}_{\alpha}\right|$ given by eq. (3.7), one has for $0<\theta<1$

$$
\left|\mathrm{P}_{\alpha}(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y})\right| \leq\left(\frac{1}{2 \alpha}\right)^{1-\theta}(\mathrm{xy})^{\theta / 2}|\mathrm{~V}(\mathrm{x})|^{1 / 2}|\mathrm{~V}(\mathrm{y})|^{1 / 2} .
$$

Therefore, the Hilbert-Schmidt norm for $P_{\alpha}$, choosing $\theta=\gamma$, is bounded by

$$
\left\|\mathrm{P}_{\alpha}(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y})\right\|_{\mathrm{HS}} \leq(2 \alpha)^{\gamma-1} \int \mathrm{dx}|\mathrm{x}|^{\gamma}|\mathrm{V}(\mathrm{x})|
$$

It now follows that if $\lambda\left\|P_{\alpha}\right\|^{\|}$HS 1 , or equivalently

$$
\begin{equation*}
E(\lambda)<-\frac{1}{4}\left[\lambda \int d x|x||V(x)|\right]^{h} \tag{3.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $h=2(1-\gamma)^{-1}$, then $\left(1+\lambda \mathrm{P}_{\alpha}\right)$ is invertible and thus for such $\alpha$ and $\lambda$, eq. (3.3) has a solution if and only if (3.8) has a solution with $\alpha>0$. Then $\mathrm{E}=-\alpha^{2}$ is the unique eigenvaluc and satisfies the inequality (3.10). The result now follows by mimicking the arguments given in ref. [2].

The $0\left(\lambda^{1+\gamma}\right)$ error comes from

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { Error }=-\frac{1}{2} \lambda\left(e^{-\alpha|x|} V^{1 / 2}(x),\left[\left(1+\lambda P_{\alpha}\right)^{-1}-1\right]|V|^{1 / 2} e^{-\alpha|y|}\right) \\
-\frac{1}{2} \lambda \int d x V(x)\left(e^{-\alpha|x|}-1\right) .
\end{gathered}
$$

The first term in the error is of order $\lambda^{2}\left\|P_{\alpha}\right\|_{H S}=0\left(\lambda^{2} \alpha^{\gamma-1}\right)=0\left(\lambda^{1+\gamma}\right)$ since $\alpha=0(\lambda)$. By using $\left(\mathrm{e}^{-\alpha|\mathrm{x}|}-1\right) \leq(\alpha|\mathrm{x}|)^{\gamma}$, the second term is also seen to be of order $0\left(\lambda \alpha^{\gamma}\right)=0\left(\lambda^{1+\gamma}\right)$.
IV. THE SECOND ORDER TERM FOR $\beta=2$ POTENTIALS

In this final section, we will consider potentials that behave as $\mathrm{V} \sim-\mathrm{ax}^{-2}$ at infinity. For later convenience we will decompose V as

$$
\begin{equation*}
V(x)=V_{1}(x)+V_{2}(x) \tag{4.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
V_{1}(x)=-a\left(1+x^{2}\right)^{-1}
$$

and demand that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int d x|x|^{1+\delta}\left|V_{2}(x)\right|<\infty \tag{4.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

for some $\delta>0$. It will be proved that if $\int \mathrm{dx} V(\mathrm{x})<0$, the ground state energy obeys

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sqrt{-\mathrm{E}(\lambda)}=-\left[\frac{1}{2} \lambda+a \lambda^{2} \ln \lambda\right] \int \mathrm{dx} V(\mathrm{x})+0\left(\lambda^{2}\right) \tag{4.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

To motivate this result, consider the direct expansion of the determinant, eq. $(3 * 3)$; after some slight manipulations one finds to second order in $\lambda$,

$$
\alpha=-\frac{1}{2} \lambda \int d x V(x)+\frac{\lambda^{2}}{8 \alpha} \int_{0}^{\infty} d z\left(1-e^{-2 \alpha z}\right) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d x V(x) V(x+z)
$$

The small $\alpha$ limit of the second term depends upon the large $z$ behavior of the convolution integral between two V's. One estimates that

$$
\int d x V(x) V(x+z) \simeq[V(z)+V(-z)] \int d x V(x)
$$

and for even potentials one finds

$$
\int_{0}^{\infty} \mathrm{dz}\left(1-\mathrm{e}^{-2 \alpha \mathrm{z}}\right) \mathrm{V}(\mathrm{z}) \simeq-2 \mathrm{a} \alpha \ln \alpha+0\left(\alpha^{2}\right)
$$

Now by noting that $\alpha=0(\lambda)$, the expansion (4.3) immediately follows.
In order to prove this result, let us return to the eigenvalue condition (3.8) and using Theorem (3.2), where $\gamma=1-\epsilon$ for $\beta=2$, one has

$$
\begin{align*}
\alpha & =-\frac{1}{2} \lambda \int d x V(x) e^{-2 \alpha|x|}+\frac{1}{2} \lambda^{2}\left(\mathrm{e}^{-\alpha|\mathrm{x}|} \mathrm{V}^{1 / 2}, \mathrm{P}_{\alpha}|\mathrm{V}|^{1 / 2} \mathrm{e}^{-\alpha|\mathrm{y}|}\right)+0\left(\lambda^{3-\epsilon}\right) \\
& =-\frac{1}{2} \lambda \int \mathrm{dxV}(\mathrm{x}) \mathrm{e}^{-2 \alpha|\mathrm{x}|}+\frac{1}{2} \lambda^{2}\left(\mathrm{~V}^{1 / 2}, \mathrm{P}_{\alpha}|\mathrm{V}|^{1 / 2}\right)+0\left(\lambda^{3-\epsilon}\right) \tag{4.4}
\end{align*}
$$

Now the second term is most easily estimated by using the relation $\mathrm{P}_{\alpha}=\mathrm{M}_{\alpha}+\left(\mathrm{L}_{\alpha}-\mathrm{Q}_{\alpha}\right)$, and one has

$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{2} \lambda^{2}\left(\mathrm{~V}^{1 / 2},\left(\mathrm{~L}_{\alpha}-Q_{\alpha}\right)|\mathrm{V}|^{1 / 2}\right) & =-\frac{1}{2} \lambda^{2} \int \operatorname{dxdy} \mathrm{~V}(\mathrm{x}) \mathrm{V}(\mathrm{y})\left(\mathrm{e}^{-\alpha|\mathrm{x}|}-1\right) / \alpha+0\left(\lambda^{3-\epsilon}\right) \\
& =\lambda \int \mathrm{dxV}(\mathrm{x})\left(\mathrm{e}^{-\alpha|\mathrm{x}|}-1\right)\left[\frac{1}{\alpha}\left(\alpha+0\left(\lambda^{2-}\right)\right]+0\left(\lambda^{3-\epsilon}\right)\right. \\
& =\lambda \int \mathrm{dxV}(\mathrm{x})\left(\mathrm{e}^{-\alpha|\mathrm{x}|}-1\right)+0\left(\lambda^{3-\epsilon}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

Thus eqs. (4.4) achieves the form

$$
\begin{align*}
\alpha=-\frac{1}{2} \lambda \int d x V(x) & +\frac{1}{2} \lambda^{2}\left(V^{1 / 2}, M_{\alpha}|V|^{1 / 2}\right) \\
& +\frac{1}{2} \lambda \int d x V(x)\left[2 e^{-\alpha|x|}-\mathrm{e}^{-2 \alpha|x|}-1\right]+0\left(\lambda^{3-\epsilon}\right) . \tag{4.5}
\end{align*}
$$

This result shows the advantage of using the $\mathrm{P}_{\alpha}, \mathrm{Q}_{\alpha}$ decomposition, because if one had instead used $M_{\alpha}$ and $L_{\alpha}$ directly, the third term in (4.5) might have been missed by assuming that $\lambda^{3}\left(\mathrm{~V}^{1 / 2}, \mathrm{M}_{\alpha}^{2},|\mathrm{~V}|^{1 / 2}\right)$ is of order $\lambda^{3-\epsilon}$. However, we shall see that this term contributes to order $\lambda^{2}$ only and does not contribute to the $\lambda^{2} \ln \lambda$ term that we wish to isolate.

Introducing the fourier transform by

$$
\hat{g}(\mathrm{k})=(2 \pi)^{-1 / 2} \int d x g(x) e^{-i k x}
$$

then we find that

$$
\hat{\mathrm{V}}_{1}(\mathrm{k})=-\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{a}(2 \pi)^{1 / 2} \mathrm{e}^{-|\mathrm{k}|}
$$

and $V_{2}$ is continuously differentiable with

$$
\left|\hat{\mathrm{V}}_{2}(\mathrm{k})-\hat{\mathrm{V}}_{2}\left(\mathrm{k}^{\prime}\right)\right| \leq \mathrm{c}\left|\mathrm{k}-\mathrm{k}^{\prime}\right|^{\delta}
$$

and hence by Taylor's theorem with remainder

$$
\begin{equation*}
\hat{\mathrm{V}}(\mathrm{k})=\hat{\mathrm{V}}(0)+\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{a}(2 \pi)^{1 / 2}|\mathrm{k}|+\mathrm{ck}+0\left(\mathrm{k}^{1+\delta}\right) . \tag{4.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

Now using the fact that the fourier transform of $\exp (-b|x|)$ is $(2 \pi)^{-1 / 2} 2 \mathrm{~b}\left(\mathrm{~b}^{2}+\mathrm{k}^{2}\right)^{-1}$, the third term in (4.5) becomes

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{1}{2} \lambda \int \mathrm{dk}[\hat{\mathrm{~V}}(\mathrm{k})-\hat{\mathrm{V}}(0)](2 \pi)^{-1 / 2} 4 \alpha\left[\left(\mathrm{k}^{2}+\alpha^{2}\right)^{-1}-\left(\mathrm{k}^{2}+4 \alpha^{2}\right)^{-1}\right] . \tag{4.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

The contribution to the integral in (4.7) outside the region ( $-1<\mathrm{k}<1$ ) is easily seen to be of order $\lambda \alpha^{3}=0\left(\lambda^{4}\right)$. From this region itself, one sees that the
ck term in (4.6) contributes zero and the $0\left(\mathrm{k}^{1+\delta}\right)$ term contributes of order $\lambda \alpha^{1+1 / 2 \delta}=0\left(\lambda^{2+1 / 2 \delta}\right)$. Finally the $|\mathrm{k}|$ term yields (neglecting $0\left(\lambda^{4}\right)$ terms) $\lambda a \alpha \ln 4=0\left(\lambda^{2}\right)$. As claimed, this contributes a term of order $\lambda^{2}$ to $\alpha$.

The second term in (4.5) is

$$
\frac{\lambda^{2}}{4 \alpha} \int d x d y V(x) V(y)\left(e^{-\alpha|x-y|}-1\right)
$$

which can be written as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{1}{2} \lambda^{2} \int \mathrm{dk}\left(\mathrm{k}^{2}+\alpha^{2}\right)^{-1}\left[\left.\hat{\mathrm{~V}}(\mathrm{k})\right|^{2}-|\hat{\mathrm{V}}(0)|^{2}\right] \tag{4.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

Using the expansion (4.6), we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
|\hat{\mathrm{V}}(\mathrm{k})|^{2}-|\hat{\mathrm{V}}(0)|^{2} & =2 \operatorname{Re}[\hat{\mathrm{~V}}(0)(\hat{\mathrm{V}}(\mathrm{k})-\hat{\mathrm{V}}(0))]+|\hat{\mathrm{V}}(\mathrm{k})-\hat{\mathrm{V}}(0)|^{2} \\
& =\mathrm{a}(2 \pi)^{1 / 2} \hat{\mathrm{~V}}(0)|\mathrm{k}|+\mathrm{c}^{\prime} \mathrm{k}+0\left(\mathrm{k}^{1+\delta}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

Thus eq. (4.8) is estimated to be

$$
\begin{aligned}
& =\lambda^{2} \mathrm{a}(2 \pi)^{1 / 2} \hat{\mathrm{~V}}(0) \int_{0}^{1} \mathrm{dkk}\left(\mathrm{k}^{2}+\alpha^{2}\right)^{-1}+0\left(\lambda^{2+\delta}\right) \\
& =-\mathrm{a} \lambda^{2} \ln \lambda \int \mathrm{dxV}(\mathrm{x})+0\left(\lambda^{2}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

This then proves eq. (4.3).

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