

# Lieb–Thirring inequalities for an effective Hamiltonian of bilayer graphene

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**Abstract.** Combining the methods of Cuenin [7] and Borichev, Golinskii, and Kupin [4] and [5], we obtain the so-called Lieb–Thirring inequalities for non-selfadjoint perturbations of an effective Hamiltonian for bilayer graphene.

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## Introduction and main results

Since the early 2000s, a certain amount of attention of the mathematical community has been attracted by the spectral properties of complex (non-selfadjoint) perturbations of model operators from mathematical physics. Among relatively recent papers in this direction, we quote articles by Demuth, Hansmann, and Katriel [13], Frank [19] and [20], Frank and Simon [22], Frank and Sabin [21], Frank,

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Laptev, and Safronov [23], Fanelli, Krejčířík, and Vega [15] and [16], Mizutani [40], Fanelli and Krejčířík [17], Cuenin and Kenig [10], and Lee and Seo [38], dealing with spectral properties of complex Schrödinger operators. Similar problems for Dirac, fractional Schrödinger and other types of operators were treated in Cuenin, Laptev, and Tretter [8], Cuenin and Seigl [9], Dubuisson [14], Cuenin [6] and [11], Cossetti [12], Ibrogimov, Krejčířík, and Laptev [34], and Hulko [30] and [31]. A series of results on spectral analysis of Jacobi matrices can be found in Borichev, Golinskii, and Kupin [4] and [5] and Golinskii and Kupin [26]–[29].

In the present article, we are interested in the study of perturbations of bilayer graphene Hamiltonian given by

$$D_{\text{bg},m} := \begin{bmatrix} m & 4\partial_z^2 \\ 4\partial_{\bar{z}}^2 & -m \end{bmatrix}, \quad (1)$$

where  $m \geq 0$  and

$$\partial_z := \frac{1}{2}(\partial_{x_1} + i\partial_{x_2}), \quad \partial_{\bar{z}} := \frac{1}{2}(\partial_{x_1} - i\partial_{x_2}).$$

As usual, we let

$$L^2(\mathbb{R}^2; \mathbb{C}^2) := \left\{ f = \begin{bmatrix} f_1 \\ f_2 \end{bmatrix} : \|f\|_2^2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} |f(x)|^2 dx < \infty \right\}$$

to be the standard space of measurable vector-valued functions; here

$$|f(x)| = (|f_1(x)|^2 + |f_2(x)|^2)^{1/2}.$$

Furthermore, let

$$H^2(\mathbb{R}^2; \mathbb{C}^2) := \left\{ f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^2; \mathbb{C}^2) : \|f\|_{H^2}^2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} (1 + |\xi|^2)^2 |\hat{f}(\xi)|^2 d\xi < \infty \right\}$$

be the corresponding second order Sobolev space, where  $\hat{f}$  denotes the Fourier transform of a function  $f$ , see Section 1.1 for more notation. It is not difficult to see that

$$D_{\text{bg},m} : H^2(\mathbb{R}^2; \mathbb{C}^2) \longrightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R}^2; \mathbb{C}^2)$$

is a selfadjoint operator. Since

$$D_{\text{bg},m}^2 = (\Delta^2 + m^2)I_2,$$

the spectral mapping theorem yields  $\sigma(D_{\text{bg},m}) := (-\infty, -m] \cup [m, +\infty)$ . The resolvent set of  $D_{\text{bg},m}$  is denoted by  $\rho(D_{\text{bg},m}) := \mathbb{C} \setminus \sigma(D_{\text{bg},m})$ .

Detailed discussion of this and other similar operators from the physical point of view can be found in the book of Katznelson [36].

We consider the perturbed operator

$$D_{\text{bg}} := D_{\text{bg},m} + V \tag{2}$$

with  $V \in L^q(\mathbb{R}^2; \text{Mat}_{2,2}(\mathbb{C}))$ ,  $q \geq 1$ . Since the perturbation  $V$  is not assumed to be selfadjoint, the operator  $D_{\text{bg}}$  may be non-selfadjoint as well. For the formal definition of  $D_{\text{bg},m} + V$  for the class of potentials considered here we allude to the “factorization method” of Kato [35]; see also Gesztesy, Latushkin, et al. [24]. A version of Weyl’s theorem [24, Theorem 4.5] asserts that

$$\sigma_{\text{ess}}(D_{\text{bg}}) = \sigma_{\text{ess}}(D_{\text{bg},m}) = (-\infty, -m] \cup [m, +\infty), \tag{3}$$

where we adopt the convention that  $\sigma_{\text{ess}}(D_{\text{bg}}) := \sigma(D_{\text{bg}}) \setminus \sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}})$  and the discrete spectrum  $\sigma_d(D)$  is the set of isolated eigenvalues of  $D$  of finite multiplicity.

We shall be interested in distribution properties of the discrete spectrum  $\sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}})$  of the perturbed operator  $D_{\text{bg}}$ . Note that  $\sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}})$  can only accumulate to  $\sigma_{\text{ess}}(D_{\text{bg}})$ , and we want to find some quantitative characteristics of the rate of accumulation.

The first step in this direction is to understand better the localization of the discrete spectrum  $\sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}})$ . The well-established Birman–Schwinger operator

$$\text{BS}_z := |V|^{1/2}(D_{\text{bg},m} - z)^{-1}V^{1/2}, \quad z \in \rho(D_{\text{bg},m}), \tag{4}$$

plays a key role in this problem, see original references by Birman [3] and Schwinger [43]. Here,  $V(x) = |V(x)|U(x)$  is the polar decomposition of the matrix  $V(x)$ ,  $|V(x)| := (V(x)^*V(x))^{1/2}$  and  $U(x)$  is the corresponding partial isometry. So,  $V^{1/2}(x) := |V(x)|^{1/2}U(x)$  for a. e.  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . The Birman–Schwinger principle [24, Theorem 3.2] says that  $z \in \rho(D_{\text{bg},m})$  is an eigenvalue of  $D_{\text{bg}}$  if and only if  $-1$  is an eigenvalue of the operator  $\text{BS}_z$ . In particular, we have the inclusion

$$\sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}}) \subset \{z \in \rho(D_{\text{bg},m}) : \|\text{BS}_z\| \geq 1\}.$$

Laptev, Ferrulli, and Safronov [18, Theorem 1.1] obtain the following interesting result.

**Theorem 0.1** ([18]). *Let  $D_{\text{bg},m}, D_{\text{bg}}$  be as above and  $V \in L^q(\mathbb{R}^2; \text{Mat}_{2,2}(\mathbb{C}))$ ,  $1 < q < 4/3$ . Then,*

(1) *for  $z \in \rho(D_{\text{bg},m})$ ,*

$$\|\text{BS}_z\|^q = \||V|^{1/2}(D_{\text{bg},m} - z)^{-1}V^{1/2}\|^q \leq C_q \|V\|_q^q \frac{(|z - m| + |z + m|)^q}{|z^2 - m^2|^{q-1/2}}; \tag{5}$$

(2) *in particular,*

$$\sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}}) \subset \left\{ z: C_q \|V\|_q^q \frac{(|z - m| + |z + m|)^q}{|z^2 - m^2|^{q-1/2}} \geq 1 \right\}.$$

Slightly later, the Cuenin [7, Theorem 1.1 and Proposition 2.4] improved the resolvent bound in several respects. First, he showed that the norm of the Birman–Schwinger operator  $BS_z$  in the left hand side of (5) can be taken in an appropriate Schatten–von Neumann class  $\mathcal{S}_p$ ,  $p = p(q)$ ; second, the range of parameter  $q$  is extended to  $1 \leq q \leq 3/2$ . It was observed that these results were optimal in a certain sense. We mention also that [7, Proposition A.5] addresses more general situations as compared to [18, Theorem 1.1]; in particular, the former is valid for more general differential operators than the bilayer graphene Hamiltonian.

The key to the Lieb–Thirring type inequalities obtained in this article is a claim similar to [7, Proposition 2.4]. We feel that it is appropriate to give a detailed and a self-contained proof of this result, see Theorem 0.2 below. As compared to [7, Proposition 2.4], we extend the range of parameter  $q$  to  $1 \leq q < \infty$ .

**Theorem 0.2.** *Let  $D_{\text{bg},m}, D_{\text{bg}}$  be defined in (1), (2), and  $m > 0$ . For  $q \geq 1$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , set*

$$p = p(q, \varepsilon) := \begin{cases} \frac{q}{2 - q} + \varepsilon, & 1 \leq q < 4/3, \\ \frac{q}{2 - q}, & 4/3 \leq q \leq 3/2, \\ 2q, & q > 3/2. \end{cases} \tag{6}$$

(I) *Let  $1 \leq q \leq 3/2$ . There exists a  $C_3 > 0$  such that, for any  $A, B \in L^{2q}(\mathbb{R}^2; \text{Mat}_{2,2}(\mathbb{C}))$ , one has*

$$\|A(D_{\text{bg},m} - z)^{-1}B\|_{\mathcal{S}_p} \leq C_3 \Phi(z) \|A\|_{2q} \|B\|_{2q}, \tag{7}$$

where

$$\Phi(z) = \Phi_q(z) := \frac{|z + m| + |z - m|}{|z^2 - m^2|^{q_1}},$$

$z \in \rho(D_{\text{bg},m})$  and  $q_1 := 1 - 1/(2q)$ .

(II) *Let  $q > 3/2$ . There exists a  $C_4 > 0$  such that, for any  $A, B \in L^{2q}(\mathbb{R}^2; \text{Mat}_{2,2}(\mathbb{C}))$ , one has*

$$\|A(D_{\text{bg},m} - z)^{-1}B\|_{\mathcal{S}_p} \leq C_4 \Psi(z) \|A\|_{2q} \|B\|_{2q}, \tag{8}$$

where

$$\Psi(z) = \Psi_q(z) := \frac{(|z + m| + |z - m|)^{q_2}}{|z^2 - m^2|^{1/q}} \frac{1}{d^{1-q_2}(z, \sigma(D_{\text{bg},m}))},$$

$z \in \rho(D_{\text{bg},m})$  and  $q_2 := 3/(2q) < 1$ . Here,  $d(z, \sigma(D_{\text{bg},m}))$  is the distance from  $z$  to  $\sigma(D_{\text{bg},m})$ . The constants  $C_3, C_4$  depend on  $m, q, \varepsilon$ , but not on  $A, B \in L^{2q}(\mathbb{R}^2; \text{Mat}_{2,2}(\mathbb{C}))$ .

The above result along with discussion on Birman–Schwinger operators preceding Theorem 0.1 provides the following corollary.

**Corollary 0.3.** (1) For  $1 \leq q \leq 3/2$  and  $V \in L^q(\mathbb{R}^2; \text{Mat}_{2,2}(\mathbb{C}))$ ,

$$\sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}}) \subset \{z: C_3 \Phi(z) \|V\|_q \geq 1\}.$$

In particular, the discrete spectrum  $\sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}})$  is bounded.

(2) For  $q > 3/2$  and  $V \in L^q(\mathbb{R}^2; \text{Mat}_{2,2}(\mathbb{C}))$ ,

$$\sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}}) \subset \{z: C_4 \Psi(z) \|V\|_q \geq 1\}.$$

Theorem 0.2 combined with techniques developed in Borichev, Golinskii, and Kupin [4] and [5] implies the following result.

**Theorem 0.4.** Let  $D_{\text{bg},m}, D_{\text{bg}}$  be defined in (1), (2), and  $m > 0$ . For  $q > 1$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , set

$$\beta = \beta(q, \varepsilon) := \begin{cases} \frac{4q-5}{2(2-q)} + \frac{2q-1}{2q} \varepsilon, & 1 < q < \frac{4}{3}, \\ \frac{4q-5}{2(2-q)}, & \frac{4}{3} \leq q \leq \frac{3}{2}. \end{cases} \tag{9}$$

Assume that  $\|V\|_q \leq 1$ . Then the Lieb–Thirring inequalities for the discrete spectrum  $\sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}})$  hold:

(I) for  $1 \leq q \leq 3/2$ ,

$$\sum_{\zeta \in \sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}})} d^{1+\varepsilon}(\zeta, \sigma(D_{\text{bg},m})) |\zeta^2 - m^2|^\beta \leq C_5 \|V\|_q; \tag{10}$$

(II) for  $q > 3/2$ ,

$$\sum_{\zeta \in \sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}})} \frac{|\zeta|^{2q+1+\varepsilon} d^{2q-2+\varepsilon}(\zeta, \sigma(D_{\text{bg},m})) |\zeta^2 - m^2|}{(1 + |\zeta|)^{2q+1+\varepsilon}} \leq C_6 \|V\|_q. \tag{11}$$

The constants  $C_5$  and  $C_6$  depend on  $m, q, \varepsilon$ , but not on  $V \in L^q(\mathbb{R}^2; \text{Mat}_{2,2}(\mathbb{C}))$ .

The counterparts of the above theorems for the case  $m = 0$  are given below. Their proofs are similar to Theorems 0.2, 0.4, and therefore they are omitted.

**Theorem 0.5.** Let  $D_{\text{bg},0}, D_{\text{bg}}$  be given by (1), (2), and  $z \in \rho(D_{\text{bg},0}) := \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}$ . Take an  $\varepsilon > 0$  and put  $p = p(q, \varepsilon)$  as in (6).

(I) Let  $1 \leq q \leq 3/2$ . There exists a  $C'_3 > 0$  such that, for any  $A, B \in L^{2q}(\mathbb{R}^2; \text{Mat}_{2,2}(\mathbb{C}))$ , one has

$$\|A(D_{\text{bg},0} - z)^{-1}B\|_{\mathcal{S}_p} \leq C'_3 |z|^{-(1-\frac{1}{q})} \|A\|_{2q} \|B\|_{2q}. \quad (12)$$

(II) Let  $q > 3/2$ . There exists a  $C'_4 > 0$  such that, for any  $A, B \in L^{2q}(\mathbb{R}^2; \text{Mat}_{2,2}(\mathbb{C}))$ , one has

$$\|A(D_{\text{bg},0} - z)^{-1}B\|_{\mathcal{S}_p} \leq C'_4 |z|^{-\frac{1}{2q}} |\text{Im } z|^{-(1-\frac{3}{2q})} \|A\|_{2q} \|B\|_{2q}, \quad (13)$$

Above,  $|\text{Im } z| = d(z, \mathbb{R})$  is the distance from  $z$  to the real line  $\mathbb{R}$ . The constants  $C'_3$  and  $C'_4$  depend on  $q, \varepsilon$ , but not on  $A, B \in L^{2q}(\mathbb{R}^2; \text{Mat}_{2,2}(\mathbb{C}))$ .

Similarly to Corollary 0.3, we can describe the regions containing the discrete spectrum  $\sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}})$  for  $m = 0$ . In particular, the set is bounded for  $1 \leq q \leq 3/2$  and  $V \in L^q(\mathbb{R}^2; \text{Mat}_{2,2}(\mathbb{C}))$ .

**Theorem 0.6.** Let  $D_{\text{bg},0}, D_{\text{bg}}$  be defined as above. Let  $q > 1$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  be small enough. Assume that  $\|V\|_q \leq 1$ . Then the Lieb–Thirring inequalities for the discrete spectrum  $\sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}})$  hold:

(I) for  $1 \leq q \leq 3/2$ ,

$$\sum_{\zeta \in \sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}})} |\text{Im } \zeta|^{1+\varepsilon} \leq C'_5 \|V\|_q; \quad (14)$$

(II) for  $q > 3/2$ ,

$$\sum_{\zeta \in \sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}})} \frac{|\text{Im } \zeta|^{2-\frac{3}{2q}+\varepsilon}}{(1+|\zeta|)^{1-\frac{3}{2q}+2\varepsilon}} \leq C'_6 \|V\|_q. \quad (15)$$

The constants  $C'_5$  and  $C'_6$  depend on  $q, \varepsilon$ , but not on  $V \in L^q(\mathbb{R}^2; \text{Mat}_{2,2}(\mathbb{C}))$ .

**Remark 0.7.** (1) In order to prove the above theorems we need the  $\mathcal{S}_p$ -norm of the Birman–Schwinger operator  $\|V_2(D_{\text{bg},m} - z(iy))^{-1}V_1\|_{\mathcal{S}_p}$  to go to zero when  $y \rightarrow +\infty$ , see (45). For this reason inequality (10) is obtained for  $1 < q \leq 3/2$ , even though the case  $q = 1$  is treated in Theorem 0.2.

(2) The assumption  $\|V\|_q \leq 1$  does not mean that the perturbation is small. Theorem 0.4 holds uniformly over any bounded in  $L^q$  set of potentials  $V$ , i.e., 1 can be replaced with a constant  $C(q, m, \varepsilon)$ .

The paper is organized in the following manner. We start Section 1 recalling some basic facts and notation on differential operators. The second part of Section 1 is devoted to the proof of Theorem 0.2. The proof of Theorem 0.4 is in Section 2. Section 3 is an appendix containing results on interpolation between  $\mathcal{S}_p$ -spaces and the Kato–Selier–Simon lemma.

The space of infinitely differentiable functions on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is denoted by  $C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2)$ ;  $C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2)$  are infinitely differentiable functions with compact support. The notation  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^2)$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ , stays for the familiar space of  $p$ -summable measurable functions.  $L_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2)$  refers also to functions from  $L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2)$  with compact support. Meaningful constants are written as  $C_j, C'_j$ ,  $j = 0, 1, \dots$ ; technical constants are denoted by  $c, C$ , and they change from one relation to another.

## 1. Resolvent bounds for the bilayer graphene Hamiltonian

**1.1. Fourier transforms.** The purpose of this subsection is to fix some notation and recall some basic properties of the Fourier transformation. For this purpose we temporarily consider the case of arbitrary dimension  $n$ . At the end of the subsection we will compute Fourier transforms of some tempered distributions (homogeneous distributions and surface-carried measures) that will play an important role in the next subsection. We refer to Hörmander [32] and Sogge [45] for more details on the subject.

The Fourier transform of a function  $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is defined as

$$(\mathcal{F}f)(\xi) := \hat{f}(\xi) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x)e^{-ix \cdot \xi} dx.$$

Let  $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  denote the Schwartz space, *i.e.*, the space of rapidly decreasing smooth functions on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The Fourier transformation is an isomorphism  $\mathcal{F}: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$ , and its inverse is furnished by the Fourier inversion formula,

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \hat{f}(\xi)e^{ix \cdot \xi} dx.$$

We use the standard notation  $\check{f} := \mathcal{F}^{-1}f$ . Hence,  $\mathcal{F}$  may be extended to the dual space  $\mathcal{S}'$ , the space of tempered distributions, by setting  $\hat{u}(\phi) = u(\check{\phi})$  for  $u \in \mathcal{S}'$ ,  $\phi \in \mathcal{S}$ . Moreover, Plancherel's formula,

$$\|\hat{f}\|_2 = (2\pi)^{n/2} \|f\|_2, \quad f \in \mathcal{S}, \quad (16)$$

gives rise to a continuous extension  $\mathcal{F}: L^2(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ .

Let  $D = \nabla$  be a formal differential operator. The Fourier multiplier

$$m(D): \mathcal{S} \longrightarrow \mathcal{S}'$$

associated to a tempered distribution  $m \in \mathcal{S}'$  is the operator

$$m(D)f := \mathcal{F}^{-1}(m\hat{f}), \quad f \in \mathcal{S},$$

and (16) shows that  $m$  is bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  if and only if  $m \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , and  $\|m(D)\| = \|m\|_\infty$ . We also have

$$(m(D)\varphi)(x) = \check{m} * \varphi = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \check{m}(x - y)\varphi(y) dy, \quad \varphi \in \mathcal{S}, \tag{17}$$

with the understanding that  $*$ :  $\mathcal{S}' \times \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}'$  is the convolution between a Schwartz function and a tempered distribution. The second identity in (17) is in general only formal, but it is rigorous if  $\check{m}$  is a regular tempered distribution. To simplify notation, the expression  $(m(D))(x)$ , refers to the convolution kernel  $\check{m}(x)$  of the integral operator in (17).

Consider now a smooth real-valued function  $\rho$  which we think of as (a normalized power of) a Hamiltonian. Then, for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , we define the level sets of  $\rho$  (*i.e.*, the sets of constant energy) as

$$S_\lambda := \rho^{-1}(\lambda) = \{\xi \in \mathbb{R}^n: \rho(\xi) = \lambda\}. \tag{18}$$

These sets play a crucial role in scattering theory, see e.g. Hörmander [33, Chapter XIV]. In the present paper the main feature of  $S_\lambda$  is its nowhere vanishing Gaussian curvature. To ensure that  $S_\lambda$  is in fact a manifold (a curve) we make the assumption that  $\rho$  is normalized such that  $|\nabla\rho| = 1$  on  $S_\lambda$ . In the following we will only deal with<sup>1</sup>  $\rho(\xi) = |\xi|$ , in which case  $S_\lambda$  is just the sphere of radius  $\lambda$ . Let  $d\sigma_{S_\lambda}$  be the canonical surface measure on  $S_\lambda$ . As usual,  $L^2(d\sigma_{S_\lambda})$  is the space of measurable square-summable functions on  $S_\lambda$ . The Fourier restriction operator for  $S_\lambda$  is defined by

$$R(\lambda)\varphi := \hat{\varphi}|_{S_\lambda}, \quad \varphi \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

Its formal adjoint (the Fourier extension operator) is given by

$$R(\lambda)^*\varphi = \widehat{\varphi d\sigma_{S_\lambda}}, \quad \varphi \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n).$$

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<sup>1</sup> The fact that  $\xi \mapsto |\xi|$  is not smooth at  $\xi = 0$  is irrelevant for our purposes since (by homogeneity) we will only need smoothness in a neighborhood of the unit sphere  $S_1 = \{\xi: |\xi| = 1\}$ .



Here, the Fourier transform of the measure  $\varphi d\sigma_{S_\lambda}$  is defined as

$$\widehat{\varphi d\sigma_{S_\lambda}}(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-ix \cdot \xi} \varphi(\xi) d\sigma_{S_\lambda}(\xi).$$

The multiplier corresponding to the function  $\xi \mapsto |\xi|$  is denoted by  $\sqrt{-\Delta}$ . Denote by  $E_{\sqrt{-\Delta}}(\lambda)$  the (operator-valued) spectral measure associated to this operator, viewed as an unbounded selfadjoint operator on  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Since its spectrum is absolutely continuous we may write

$$dE_{\sqrt{-\Delta}}(\lambda) = \frac{dE_{\sqrt{-\Delta}}(\lambda)}{d\lambda} d\lambda,$$

where the convolution kernel of the density is given by

$$\frac{dE_{\sqrt{-\Delta}}(\lambda)}{d\lambda}(x - y) = (2\pi)^{-n} \int_{|\xi|=\lambda} e^{i(x-y) \cdot \xi} d\sigma_{S_\lambda}(\xi).$$

By a change of variables  $\xi = \lambda\xi'$ ,  $|\xi'| = 1$ , we see that

$$\frac{dE_{\sqrt{-\Delta}}(\lambda)}{d\lambda} = \frac{\lambda^{n-1}}{(2\pi)^n} R(\lambda) * R(\lambda), \tag{19}$$

where  $R(\lambda)$  is the restriction operator discussed above. It is also plain that

$$R(\lambda)f = \lambda^{-n} R(1)(f(\lambda^{-1}\cdot)).$$

Define

$$\chi_+^w(\tau) := \mathbf{1}_{[0,\infty)}(\tau)\tau^w / \Gamma(w + 1), \quad w \in \mathbb{C},$$

where  $\Gamma$  is the usual Gamma function.

**Lemma 1.1.** *Let  $z, \zeta \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\text{Im } z > 0$ . The one-dimensional inverse Fourier transform of the function*

$$\eta_{z,\zeta}(x) := (x - z)^{-\zeta}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R},$$

is given by

$$\check{\eta}_{z,\zeta}(\tau) = e^{i(\pi\zeta/2+z\tau)} \chi_+^{\zeta-1}(\tau). \tag{20}$$

*Proof.* After a change of variables, this follows immediately by applying the inverse Fourier transformation to the following identity (see [32], specifically the explanation after Example 7.1.17)

$$\mathcal{F}(x \mapsto e^{-\epsilon x} \chi_+^z(x))(\xi) = e^{-i\pi(z+1)/2} (\xi - i\epsilon)^{-z-1}, \quad \epsilon > 0, z \in \mathbb{C}. \quad \square$$

**Lemma 1.2.** *Let  $\beta \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and let  $S_1$  be the unit sphere in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then the inverse Fourier transform of the surface measure  $d\mu := \beta d\sigma_{S_1}$  admits the representation*

$$\check{d}\mu(x) = \sum_{\pm} e^{\pm i|x|} a_{\pm}(|x|) := e^{i|x|} a_+(|x|) - e^{-i|x|} a_-(|x|),$$

where  $a_{\pm} \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+)$  satisfy the symbol bounds

$$|\partial^k a_{\pm}(s)| \leq C_{k\pm} (1 + |s|)^{-\frac{n-1}{2}-k}. \tag{21}$$

*Proof.* This is a special case of [45, Theorem 1.2.1]. □

**Lemma 1.3.** *Let  $\chi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$  be supported in the annulus  $\{1/2 \leq |\xi| \leq 3/2\}$ , and  $S = \{\zeta: a \leq \text{Re } \zeta \leq b\}$  be a vertical strip in  $\mathbb{C}$ . Then*

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-ix \cdot \xi} \frac{\chi(\xi)}{(|\xi| - z)^\zeta} d\xi \right| \leq C e^{\pi^2 |\text{Im } \zeta|^2} (1 + |x|)^{-\frac{n+1}{2} + \text{Re } \zeta}, \quad \zeta \in S, |z| = 1,$$

where the constant depends on  $a, b$  and finitely many derivatives of  $\chi$ , but is independent of  $\zeta, z$ .

*Proof.* It suffices to prove this for  $|x| > 1$  since the case  $|x| \leq 1$  is trivial. Writing the integral in polar coordinates and using Lemma 1.2 we find that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-ix \cdot \xi} \frac{\chi(\xi)}{(|\xi| - z)^\zeta} d\xi = \sum_{\pm} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{\pm ir|x|} \frac{r^{n-1} a_{\pm}(r|x|)}{(r - z)^\zeta} dr,$$

where the function  $r \mapsto r^{n-1} a_{\pm}(r|x|)$  is supported in a neighborhood of  $r = 1$  and it satisfies

$$|r^{n-1} a_{\pm}(r|x|)| \leq C(1 + |x|)^{-\frac{n-1}{2}}$$

for any fixed Schwartz norm  $|\cdot|$ . Hence, by Lemma 1.2 again, its inverse Fourier transform is bounded by

$$|\mathcal{F}^{-1}(r \mapsto r^{n-1} a_{\pm}(r|x|))(\tau)| \leq C_N (1 + |\tau|)^{-N} (1 + |x|)^{-\frac{n-1}{2}}$$

for any  $N > 0$ . The convolution theorem and Lemma 1.1 yield

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{\pm ir|x|} \frac{r^{n-1} a_{\pm}(r|x|)}{(r - z)^\zeta} dr \right| \\ & \leq C_N e^{\pi |\text{Im } \zeta|} (1 + |x|)^{-\frac{n-1}{2}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (1 + |\tau - |x||)^{-N} \chi_+^{\text{Re } \zeta - 1}(\tau) d\tau \\ & \leq C e^{\pi |\text{Im } \zeta|} |\Gamma(\zeta)^{-1}| (1 + |x|)^{-\frac{n+1}{2} + \text{Re } \zeta}. \end{aligned}$$

The claim now follows from the estimate  $|\Gamma(\xi)^{-1}| \leq Ce^{\pi^2|\xi|^2}$ ; see e.g. formula (11.21) in Muscalu and Schlag [41]. □

**1.2. Resolvent bounds in  $\mathcal{S}_p$ -norm for bilayer graphene.** We now return to the case  $n = 2$  and the bilayer Hamiltonian. The coming bound is a special case of [7, Lemma A.6]. It is crucial for coming resolvent estimates.

In the following, we fix a function  $\chi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2)$  supported in the annulus  $\{1/2 \leq |\xi| \leq 3/2\}$  such that, in addition,  $\chi(\xi) = 1$  for  $3/4 \leq |\xi| \leq 5/4$ .

**Proposition 1.4.** *Let  $1 \leq a \leq 3/2, t \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $z \notin \mathbb{R}_+$ . There exists a constant  $C'_1 > 0$  (depending on  $\chi$  only) such that*

$$|\chi(D)(\Delta^2 - z)^{-(a+it)}(x)| \leq \frac{C'_1 e^{\pi^2 t^2}}{(1 + |x|)^{3/2-a}}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^2, |z| = 1. \tag{22}$$

*Proof.* Set  $z^{1/4} = |z|^{1/4} e^{i(\text{Arg } z)/4}$ . Clearly the 4-th power complex roots of  $z$  are given by  $\{i^m z^{1/4}\}$ ,  $m = 0, 1, 2, 3$ . Without loss of generality, we suppose that  $m = 0$  and  $|\text{Arg } z| \leq \pi$ , or  $|\text{Arg } z^{1/4}| \leq \pi/4$ , the other cases being analogous. Writing

$$(|\xi|^4 - z) = (|\xi| - z^{1/4}) \left( \prod_{k=1}^3 (|\xi| - i^k z^{1/4}) \right)$$

and absorbing the second factor into  $\chi$ , we see that it suffices to prove

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{ix \cdot \xi} \frac{\tilde{\chi}(\xi; a; t)}{(|\xi| - z^{1/4})^{a+it}} d\xi \leq \frac{C e^{\pi^2 t^2}}{(1 + |x|)^{3/2-a}},$$

whenever  $\tilde{\chi}(\xi; a, t)$  satisfies the bounds

$$\sum_{|\alpha| \leq N} \|\partial_\xi^\alpha \tilde{\chi}(\cdot; a, t)\|_\infty \leq C_N e^{2\pi|t|}$$

for a fixed, sufficiently large  $N > 0$ . This follows directly from Lemma 1.3. □

**Remark 1.5.** In view of the identity

$$\frac{1}{|\xi|^2 - z^{1/2}} - \frac{1}{|\xi|^2 + z^{1/2}} = \frac{2z^{1/2}}{|\xi|^4 - z},$$

inequality (22) also follows from a two-dimensional version of estimates (2.23) and (2.25) in Kenig, Ruiz, and Sogge [37]; see also (44) in Frank and Sabin [21]. To keep the article self-contained, we provided the above proof which rests only on the stationary phase method (Lemma 1.2) and formula (20).

**Proposition 1.6.** Fix an  $\varepsilon > 0$  and set the function  $\chi$  as above. For  $q \geq 1$ , let

$$p = p(q, \varepsilon) := \begin{cases} \frac{q}{2-q} + \varepsilon, & 1 \leq q < 4/3, \\ \frac{q}{2-q}, & 4/3 \leq q \leq 3/2, \\ 2q, & q > 3/2. \end{cases} \tag{23}$$

For  $A, B \in L^{2q}(\mathbb{R}^2)$ , the following bounds hold true:

(I) for  $1 \leq q \leq 3/2$ ,

$$\|A\chi(D)(\Delta^2 - z)^{-1}B\|_{\mathcal{S}_p} \leq C_7 \|A\|_{2q}\|B\|_{2q}, \quad |z| = 1; \tag{24}$$

(II) for  $q > 3/2$

$$\|A\chi(D)(\Delta^2 - z)^{-1}B\|_{\mathcal{S}_p} \leq \frac{C_8}{d(z, \mathbb{R}_+)^{1-3/(2q)}} \|A\|_{2q}\|B\|_{2q}, \quad |z| = 1. \tag{25}$$

Here,  $C_j = C_j(q, \varepsilon)$ ,  $j = 7, 8$ , are independent of  $A, B$ , and  $z$ .

*Proof.* The proof relies heavily on interpolation between Schatten–von Neumann classes  $\mathcal{S}_p$ ,  $p \geq 1$ , presented in Section 3. It is convenient to separate part (I) of the proposition in two cases: Case I.1 for  $1 \leq q < 4/3$  and Case I.2 for  $4/3 \leq q \leq 3/2$ . We begin with the proof of Case I.2.

**Case I.2:  $4/3 \leq q \leq 3/2$ .** Without loss of generality we may assume that  $A > 0$  and  $B > 0$ . At the moment, we suppose also that  $A, B \in L^{2q}(\mathbb{R}^2) \cap L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . We wish to apply Corollary 3.4 to the analytic family of operators given by

$$T_\zeta := A^\zeta \chi(D)(\Delta^2 - z)^{-\zeta} B^\zeta$$

on the strip

$$S = S_{0,a_0} := \{\zeta : 0 \leq \operatorname{Re} z \leq a_0\}, \quad \text{with } 1 \leq a_0 \leq 3/2.$$

Here,  $\zeta = a + it$ ,  $0 \leq a \leq a_0$ , and  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

We start by checking assumptions of Corollary 3.4, see also Theorem 3.3. For arbitrary  $f, g \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^2)$  we have, by Plancherel’s identity,

$$(T_\zeta f, g) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \chi(\xi)(|\xi|^4 - z)^{-\zeta} \widehat{B^\zeta f}(\xi) \overline{\widehat{A^\zeta g}(\xi)} d\xi,$$

which shows that  $\zeta \mapsto (T_\zeta f, g)$  is analytic in  $S$ . By the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality,

$$|(T_\zeta f, g)| \leq \|\chi\|_\infty \|(|\cdot|^4 - z)^{-\zeta}\|_\infty \|B^\zeta f\|_2 \|A^\zeta g\|_2.$$

Since  $|\arg(|\xi|^4 - z)| \leq 2\pi$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} |(|\xi|^4 - z)^{-\zeta}| &= |\exp(-(a + it)(\log |\xi|^4 - z) + i \arg(|\xi|^4 - z))| \\ &\leq |(|\xi|^4 - z)|^{-a} \exp(2\pi|t|). \end{aligned}$$

Observe that  $a$  varies over a compact interval and  $z$  is fixed. Putting all this together, we obtain that

$$|(T_\zeta f, g)| \leq C e^{2\pi|t|} \|\chi\|_\infty \|A\|_\infty^a \|B\|_\infty^a \|f\|_2 \|g\|_2, \quad \zeta = a + it,$$

showing that (61) is satisfied. It also yields that

$$\|T_\zeta\|_{S_\infty} \leq C e^{2\pi|\operatorname{Im} \zeta|} \tag{26}$$

for  $\operatorname{Re} \zeta = 0$ . Note that  $T_\zeta$  is compact since we have the Hilbert-Schmidt bound

$$\begin{aligned} \|T_\zeta\|_{S_2}^2 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}_x^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}_y^2} |A^\zeta(x)|^2 |\mathcal{F}(\chi(|\cdot|^4 - z)^{-\zeta})(x - y)|^2 |A^\zeta(x)|^2 dx dy \\ &\leq e^{4\pi|\operatorname{Im} \zeta|} \|\chi(|\cdot|^4 - z)^{-\operatorname{Re} \zeta}\|_1^2 \|A\|_2^{2\operatorname{Re} \zeta} \|B\|_2^{2\operatorname{Re} \zeta}, \end{aligned}$$

and the right hand side is finite by the assumption that  $A, B \in L_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2)$ .

On the vertical line  $\{\zeta: \operatorname{Re} \zeta = a_0\}$ , Proposition 1.4 and Hardy–Littlewood–Sobolev inequality (see Lieb and Loss [39, Section 4.3]) yield that

$$\begin{aligned} \|T_{a_0+it}\|_{S_2}^2 &\leq \int_{\mathbb{R}_x^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}_y^2} |\chi(D)(\Delta^2 - z)^{-(a_0+it)}(x - y)|^2 |A(x)|^{2a_0} |B(y)|^{2a_0} dx dy \\ &\leq C e^{2\pi^2 t^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}_x^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}_y^2} \frac{1}{|x - y|^{3-2a_0}} |A(x)|^{2a_0} |B(y)|^{2a_0} dx dy \\ &\leq C e^{2\pi^2 t^2} \| |A|^{2a_0} \|_s \| |B|^{2a_0} \|_s, \end{aligned}$$

where  $2/s + (3 - 2a_0)/2 = 2$ , or  $s = 4/(1 + 2a_0)$ . In particular,

$$\| |A|^{2a_0} \|_s = \|A\|_{8a_0/(1+2a_0)}^{2a_0},$$

the same equality holding for  $\| |B|^{2a_0} \|_s$ . Hence, gathering the above computations, we arrive at the bound

$$\|T_\zeta\|_{S_2} \leq C e^{\pi^2|\operatorname{Im} \zeta|^2} \|A\|_{8a_0/(1+2a_0)}^{a_0} \|B\|_{8a_0/(1+2a_0)}^{a_0} \quad \text{for } \operatorname{Re} \zeta = a_0. \tag{27}$$

We recall now Corollary 3.4 (see also Theorem 3.3) with parameters chosen as

$$\xi := 1, \quad 1 = \gamma \cdot a_0 + (1 - \gamma) \cdot 0, \quad \frac{1}{s_\gamma} = \frac{\gamma}{2} + \frac{(1 - \gamma)}{\infty} = \frac{\gamma}{2},$$

to interpolate between (26) and (27). Solving first for  $\gamma$  and then for  $s_\gamma$  yields  $\gamma = 1/a_0$  and  $s_\gamma = 2a_0$ . Corollary 3.4 then implies that

$$\|A\chi(D)(\Delta^2 - z)^{-1}B\|_{s_{2a_0}} \leq C_7 \|A\|_{8a_0/(1+2a_0)} \|B\|_{8a_0/(1+2a_0)},$$

which is exactly (24) with  $4/3 \leq q \leq 3/2$  if one puts  $2q = 8a_0/(1 + 2a_0)$ .

To sum up, we proved (24) for  $4/3 \leq q \leq 3/2$  and  $A, B \in L^{2q}(\mathbb{R}^2) \cap L^\infty_0(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . It remains to get rid of the assumption that  $A, B \in L^\infty_0(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . The proof relies essentially on the fact that the constant  $C_7$  from (24) *does not depend* on  $A, B$ . We proceed by a limiting argument. Let  $A, B \in L^{2q}(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , define

$$E_n = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2: |x| + |A(x)| + |B(x)| \leq n\}$$

and set the ‘‘truncations’’ of  $A, B$  to be

$$A_n = A\mathbf{1}_{E_n}, \quad B_n = B\mathbf{1}_{E_n}.$$

Let  $P_n: L^2(\mathbb{R}^2) \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R}^2)$  be the corresponding orthogonal projection

$$P_n f = \mathbf{1}_{E_n} f, \quad f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^2).$$

The elementary properties of  $L^{2q}$ -integrable functions yield that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \|P_n f - f\|_2 = 0 \quad \text{for any } f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^2).$$

Recalling [25, Theorem 5.2] and inequality (24) for functions from  $L^{2q}(\mathbb{R}^2) \cap L^\infty_0(\mathbb{R}^2)$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|A\chi(D)(\Delta^2 - z)^{-1}B\|_{s_p} &= \sup_n \|P_n(A\chi(D)(\Delta^2 - z)^{-1}B)P_n\|_{s_p} \\ &= \sup_n \|A_n\chi(D)(\Delta^2 - z)^{-1}B_n\|_{s_p} \\ &\leq C_7 \|A_n\|_{2q} \|B_n\|_{2q} \\ &\leq C_7 \|A\|_{2q} \|B\|_{2q}. \end{aligned}$$

Case I.2 follows.

**Case II:  $q > 3/2$ .** As before, we may assume without loss of generality that  $A, B \in L^{2q}(\mathbb{R}^2) \cap L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2)$ , and that  $A, B > 0$ .

Let  $S := S_{0,a_0} := \{a + it : 0 \leq a \leq a_0 = 2q/3, t \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . Notice that  $q > 3/2$  implies that  $a_0 = 2q/3 > 1$ . Consider the analytic family of operators

$$T_\zeta = A^\zeta \chi(D)(\Delta^2 - z)^{-1} B^\zeta,$$

defined on  $S$ . For  $\text{Re } \zeta = a_0$ , inequality (24) applied with  $p_0 = 3, q_0 = 3/2$  instead of  $p, q$  yields

$$\|T_\zeta\|_{\mathfrak{S}_3} \leq C_3 \|A^{2q/3}\|_3 \|B^{2q/3}\|_3 = C_3 \|A\|_{2q}^{2q/3} \|B\|_{2q}^{2q/3} \tag{28}$$

for  $\text{Re } \zeta = a_0$ . On the other hand, since for  $\text{Re } \zeta = 0$  we have  $|A^\zeta| = |B^\zeta| = 1$  a.e. on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , we also see that

$$\|T_\zeta\|_{\mathfrak{S}_\infty} \leq \frac{\|\chi\|_\infty}{d(z, \mathbb{R}_+)}. \tag{29}$$

by the spectral theorem for  $\Delta^2$ . Compactness of  $T_\zeta$  follows by the same argument as in Case I.1. Interpolating in between (28) and (29), with

$$\zeta := 1, \quad 1 = \frac{2q}{3} \cdot \gamma + 0 \cdot (1 - \gamma) = \frac{2q}{3} \gamma,$$

we get  $\gamma = 3/(2q) \in (0, 1)$  and consequently

$$\frac{1}{p_{0\gamma}} = \frac{\gamma}{3} + \frac{(1 - \gamma)}{\infty} = \frac{\gamma}{3},$$

which means that  $p_{0\gamma} = 2q$ . That is,

$$\|A\chi(D)(\Delta^2 - z)^{-1} B\|_{\mathfrak{S}_{2q}} \leq \frac{C_8}{d(z, \mathbb{R}_+)^{1-\gamma}} \|A\|_{2q} \|B\|_{2q}.$$

By the same limiting argument as before, we get relation (25).

**Case I.1:  $1 \leq q \leq 4/3$ .** Let  $\tilde{\chi}$  be a cutoff function with the same support properties as  $\chi$  and such that  $\tilde{\chi} = 1$  on the support of  $\chi$ ; in particular,  $\tilde{\chi}\chi = \chi$ .

Let  $A, B \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . We start by proving that

$$\|A\chi(D) \frac{dE_{\sqrt{-\Delta}}(\lambda)}{d\lambda} \tilde{\chi}(D) B\|_{\mathfrak{S}_1} \leq C \|A\|_2 \|B\|_2. \tag{30}$$

Indeed, using (19), we re-write the operator on the left hand side of (30) as

$$A\chi(D) \frac{dE_{\sqrt{-\Delta}}(\lambda)}{d\lambda} \tilde{\chi}(D) B = \frac{\lambda^{n-1}}{(2\pi)^n} (R(\lambda)\chi(D)A)^*(R(\lambda)\tilde{\chi}(D)B). \tag{31}$$

The kernel of the operator  $R(\lambda)\chi(D)A: L^2(\mathbb{R}^2) \rightarrow L^2(S_\lambda)$  is given by

$$(R(\lambda)\chi(D)A)(\xi, x) = \chi(\xi)e^{ix\xi}A(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^2, \xi \in S_\lambda,$$

and thus

$$\|R(\lambda)\chi(D)A\|_{S_2}^2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}_x^2} \int_{S_{\lambda, \xi}} |\chi(\xi)A(x)|^2 dx d\sigma_{S_\lambda}(\xi) = \|\chi\|_{L^2(S_\lambda)}^2 \|A\|_2^2 \leq C \|A\|_2^2.$$

Since the same bound holds for  $R(\lambda)\tilde{\chi}(D)B$ , Hölder’s inequality for  $S_p$ -classes yields (30).

Set  $0 < a_0 < 1$ . Using the formula

$$(\Delta^2 - z)^{-(a_0+it)} = \int_{\mathbb{R}} (\lambda^4 - z)^{-(a_0+it)} dE_{\sqrt{-\Delta}}(\lambda).$$

inequality (30) and the fact that the functions  $\|\chi_j\|_{S_\lambda}$  are supported on the set where  $1/2 \leq \lambda \leq 3/2$ , we get the bound

$$\|A\chi(D)(\Delta^2 - z)^{-(a_0+it)}\chi(D)B\|_{S_1} \leq C \frac{e^{2\pi|t|}}{(1 - a_0)} \|A\|_2 \|B\|_2. \tag{32}$$

On the other hand, from (22), we see that

$$|\chi(D)(\Delta^2 - z)^{-3/2+it}(x)| \leq C_1 e^{\pi^2 t^2},$$

that is, the kernel of  $\chi(D)(\Delta^2 - z)^{-3/2+it}(x)$  is uniformly bounded with respect to the “space variable”  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . The Hilbert-Schmidt bound for integral operators implies immediately

$$\|A\chi(D)(\Delta^2 - z)^{-3/2+it}B\|_{S_2} \leq C \|A\|_2 \|B\|_2. \tag{33}$$

Let  $0 < \varepsilon < 1/2$  be fixed. Suppose, as in Cases I.2 and II, that one has  $A, B \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d) \cap L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . Furthermore, set

$$T_\zeta := A\chi(D)^2(\Delta^2 - z)^{-\zeta}B$$

and  $S = S_{a_0, b_0} := \{\zeta: a_0 \leq \text{Re } \zeta \leq b_0\}$  to be the vertical strip with

$$a_0 = \frac{(1 - 2\varepsilon)}{(1 - \varepsilon)} < 1, \quad b_0 = 3/2 > 1.$$

As previously, the family  $(T_\zeta)$  on  $S_{a_0, b_0}$  satisfies the assumptions of Theorem 3.3 and we can interpolate between (32) and (33). More precisely, for the parameters of the corollary we take  $\zeta := 1$  and

$$1 = \frac{1 - 2\varepsilon}{1 - \varepsilon} \gamma + \frac{3}{2}(1 - \gamma),$$



*i.e.*,  $\gamma = (1 - \varepsilon)/(1 + \varepsilon)$ . Hence the relation

$$\frac{1}{s_\gamma} = \frac{\gamma}{1} + \frac{(1 - \gamma)}{2}$$

gives  $s_\gamma = 1 + \varepsilon$ . To sum up, we arrive at

$$\|A\chi(D)(\Delta^2 - z)^{-1}B\|_{S_{1+\varepsilon}} \leq C\varepsilon^{-(1-\varepsilon)/(1+\varepsilon)}\|A\|_2\|B\|_2. \tag{34}$$

We interpolate once again in between (34) and (24) for  $q = 4/3$  to obtain (24) for  $1 \leq q < 4/3$ . Passing from  $A, B \in L^{2q}(\mathbb{R}^2) \cap L^\infty_0(\mathbb{R}^2)$  to general  $A, B \in L^{2q}(\mathbb{R}^2)$  is carried out as in the previous cases.  $\square$

We introduce some notation before going to the proof of Theorem 0.2. Let

$$k(u)^4 := (u^2 - m^2),$$

where we use the principal branch of 4-th complex root, so that one has  $k(u) = (u^2 - m^2)^{1/4} \in \mathbb{R}_+$  for  $u = x \in \mathbb{R}, x > m$ . Furthermore,

$$\zeta(u) := \frac{u + m}{k(u)^2} = \left(\frac{u + m}{u - m}\right)^{1/2}, \quad u \neq \pm m$$

with the standard choice of the branch of the square complex root.

**1.3. Proof of Theorem 0.2.** In order to distinguish the variable referred to in operators  $\partial_z, \partial_{\bar{z}}$  and the spectral parameter of the operator  $D_{\text{bg},m}$ , the latter will be denoted by  $u \in \rho(D_{\text{bg},m})$  in this subsection.

We consider first Case I of the theorem, *i.e.*,  $1 \leq q \leq 3/2$ . Let  $A, B \in L^{2q}(\mathbb{R}^2; \text{Mat}_{2,2}(\mathbb{C}))$ , that is

$$A(x) = [A_{jl}(x)]_{j,l=1,2}, \quad x = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2,$$

and  $A_{jl}(x) \in L^{2q}(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . Recalling the identities

$$4\partial_z\partial_{\bar{z}} = 4\partial_{\bar{z}}\partial_z = (\partial_{x_1}^2 + \partial_{x_2}^2)^2 = \Delta^2,$$

we readily see

$$\begin{aligned} D_{\text{bg},m}^2 - u^2 &= \begin{bmatrix} m & 4\partial_{\bar{z}}^2 \\ 4\partial_z^2 & -m \end{bmatrix}^2 - u^2 \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \Delta^2 + (m^2 - u^2) & 0 \\ 0 & \Delta^2 + (m^2 - u^2) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= (\Delta^2 - k(u)^4)I_2. \end{aligned}$$

For  $k(u)^4 \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}_+$ , we have

$$(D_{\text{bg},m} - u)^{-1} = (\Delta^2 - k(u)^4)^{-1}(D_{\text{bg},m} + u).$$

We are interested in Schatten–von Neumann properties of Birman–Schwinger operator of the bilayer Hamiltonian, *i.e.*,

$$\text{BS}_u := [\text{BS}_{u,jl}]_{j,l=1,2} = A(D_{\text{bg},m} - u)^{-1}B = A(\Delta^2 - k(u)^4)^{-1}(D_{\text{bg},m} + u)B.$$

Of course, a bound of the form

$$\|\text{BS}_u\|_{s,p} \leq C(u)\|A\|_{2q}\|B\|_{2q},$$

see (7) and (8), will follow if we prove it “entry-by-entry”, that is

$$\|\text{BS}_{u,jl}\|_{s,p} \leq C(u)\|A\|_{2q}\|B\|_{2q}, \quad j, l = 1, 2.$$

We shall do the computation for the entry  $\text{BS}_{u,11}$ ; the bounds for other entries of the operator  $\text{BS}_u$  are obtained in a similar way. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{BS}_{u,11} &= (m + u)A_{11}(\Delta^2 - k(u)^4)^{-1}B_{11} \\ &\quad + 4A_{11}(\Delta^2 - k(u)^4)^{-1}\partial_z^2 B_{21} \\ &\quad + 4A_{12}(\Delta^2 - k(u)^4)^{-1}\partial_z^2 B_{11} \\ &\quad + (m - u)A_{12}(\Delta^2 - k(u)^4)^{-1}B_{21}. \end{aligned} \tag{35}$$

To simplify the following computations, we use the following homogeneity argument. Let  $f \in L^s(\mathbb{R}^2)$ ,  $s > 0$ ,  $f = f(x)$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . Set  $x = ay$ ,  $a > 0$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . We write  $g(y) = f(ay)$ ; to make the writing of differential operators more precise, we write  $x$ - or  $y$ -subindex to indicate the variable the differential operator is computed with. For instance  $\Delta_x$  and  $\Delta_y$  are the Laplacians computed with respect to  $x$  and  $y$ , respectively.

It is plain that for  $j = 1, 2$

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_{y_j} g(y) &= a\partial_{x_j} f(ay) = a\partial_{x_j} f(x), \\ \partial_{y_j}^2 g(y) &= a^2\partial_{x_j}^2 f(ay) = a^2\partial_{x_j}^2 f(x). \end{aligned}$$

In particular,  $\partial_{z,y} g = a\partial_{z,x} f$ ,  $\partial_{z,y}^2 g = a^2\partial_{z,x}^2 f$ ,  $\Delta_y^2 g = a^4\Delta_x^2 f$ , etc.

Furthermore, one has

$$\|g\|_s^s = \int_{\mathbb{R}_y^2} |g(y)|^s dy = \int_{\mathbb{R}_x^2} |f(ay)|^s dy = a^{-2} \int_{\mathbb{R}_x^2} |f(x)|^s dx = a^{-2}\|f\|_s^s, \tag{36}$$

or  $\|g\|_s = a^{-2/s}\|f\|_s$ .

Suppose that  $k(u) \neq 0$  and write  $k(u)^4$  as  $k(u)^4 = |k(u)|^4 e^{i\varphi}$ . We assume also that  $e^{i\varphi} \neq 1$ ; the case  $e^{i\varphi} = 1$  can be obtained by a standard argument passing to the limit in relations (24), (25). So, putting  $a = 1/|k(u)|$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (\Delta_x^2 - k(u)^4)f(x) &= |k(u)|^4(|k(u)|^{-4}\Delta_x^2 - e^{i\varphi})f(x) \\ &= |k(u)|^4(\Delta_y^2 - e^{i\varphi})g(y), \end{aligned}$$

where  $g(y) = f(ay)$ ,  $x = ay$ . In the same way,

$$\partial_{z,x}^2 f(x) = |k(u)|^2 \partial_{z,y}^2 g(y), \quad \partial_{\bar{z},x}^2 f(x) = |k(u)|^2 \partial_{\bar{z},y}^2 g(y).$$

Set  $\tilde{A}_{jl}(y) = A_{jl}(ay)$  and  $\tilde{B}_{jl}(y) = B_{jl}(ay)$  for  $j, l = 1, 2$ . Turning back to (35), we rewrite it as

$$\begin{aligned} \text{BS}_{u,11} &= \frac{1}{|k(u)|^2} \left( \frac{(m+u)}{|k(u)|^2} \tilde{A}_{11}(y) (\Delta_y^2 - e^{i\varphi})^{-1} \tilde{B}_{11}(y) \right. \\ &\quad + 4\tilde{A}_{11}(y) (\Delta_y^2 - e^{i\varphi})^{-1} \partial_{\bar{z},y}^2 \tilde{B}_{21}(y) \\ &\quad + 4\tilde{A}_{12}(y) (\Delta_y^2 - e^{i\varphi})^{-1} \partial_{z,y}^2 \tilde{B}_{11}(y) \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{(m-u)}{|k(u)|^2} \tilde{A}_{12}(y) (\Delta_y^2 - e^{i\varphi})^{-1} \tilde{B}_{21}(y) \right). \end{aligned} \tag{37}$$

Suppose momentarily that we could prove the following estimates,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{A}_{11}(\Delta_y^2 - e^{i\varphi})^{-1} \tilde{B}_{11}\|_{s_p} &\leq C \|\tilde{A}_{11}\|_{2q} \|\tilde{B}_{11}\|_{2q}, \\ \|\tilde{A}_{11}(\Delta_y^2 - e^{i\varphi})^{-1} \partial_{\bar{z},y}^2 \tilde{B}_{21}\|_{s_p} &\leq C \|\tilde{A}_{11}\|_{2q} \|\tilde{B}_{21}\|_{2q}, \\ \|\tilde{A}_{12}(\Delta_y^2 - e^{i\varphi})^{-1} \partial_{z,y}^2 \tilde{B}_{11}\|_{s_p} &\leq C \|\tilde{A}_{12}\|_{2q} \|\tilde{B}_{11}\|_{2q}, \\ \|\tilde{A}_{12}(\Delta_y^2 - e^{i\varphi})^{-1} \tilde{B}_{21}\|_{s_p} &\leq C \|\tilde{A}_{12}\|_{2q} \|\tilde{B}_{21}\|_{2q}, \end{aligned} \tag{38}$$

Recall that  $|(m+u)/|k(u)|^2| = |\zeta(u)|$  and  $|(m-u)/|k(u)|^2| = |\zeta(u)|^{-1}$ , while

$$1 \leq C(|\zeta(u)| + |\zeta(u)|^{-1}), \quad u \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Plugging these bounds in (37) implies

$$\begin{aligned} \|\text{BS}_{u,11}\|_{s_p} &\leq \frac{C}{|k(u)|^2} (1 + |\zeta(u)| + |\zeta(u)|^{-1}) \|\tilde{A}\|_{2q} \|\tilde{B}\|_{2q} \\ &\leq \frac{C}{|k(u)|^2} (|\zeta(u)| + |\zeta(u)|^{-1}) \|\tilde{A}\|_{2q} \|\tilde{B}\|_{2q} \\ &= C(|\zeta(u)| + |\zeta(u)|^{-1}) |k(u)|^{2/q-2} \|A\|_{2q} \|B\|_{2q}, \end{aligned} \tag{39}$$

where we used the rescaling (36) in the last line. We notice that

$$(|\zeta(u)| + |\zeta(u)|^{-1}) |k(u)|^{2/q-2} \leq C \Phi_q(u), \quad u \in \rho(D_{\text{bg},m}).$$

Hence (39) is exactly the formula claimed in (7).

Consequently, it remains to prove (38). Set

$$m_1(\xi) := \frac{1}{(|\xi|^4 - e^{i\varphi})}, \quad m_2(\xi) := \frac{(\xi_1 \pm i\xi_2)^2}{(|\xi|^4 - e^{i\varphi})}.$$

Furthermore, take  $\chi_1 \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2)$  with the properties:  $0 \leq \chi_1(x) \leq 1$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $\chi_1$  is supported in  $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^2: 1/2 \leq |x| \leq 3/2\}$  and  $\chi_1(x) = 1$  for  $x \in \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2: 3/4 \leq |x| \leq 5/4\}$ . Let  $\chi_2 := 1 - \chi_1$ ; by definition  $\chi_1 + \chi_2 = 1$  is a smooth partition of unity. Rewriting (38) in terms of symbols of differential operators, we shall show that

$$\|\tilde{A}\chi_l(D)m_j(D)\tilde{B}\|_{s_p} \leq C \|\tilde{A}\|_{2q} \|\tilde{B}\|_{2q}, \quad l, j = 1, 2.$$

For  $1 \leq q \leq 3/2$ , the bound for  $l = 1$  is exactly Case I of Proposition 1.6.

Consider the case  $l = 2$  now. Notice that for the range of  $q$ 's we are interested in, one can always choose  $\varepsilon > 0$  small enough so that  $p = p(q, \varepsilon) \geq q$ . Thus we shall prove the bound

$$\|\tilde{A}\chi_2(D)m_j(D)\tilde{B}\|_{s_q} \leq C \|\tilde{A}\|_{2q} \|\tilde{B}\|_{2q}, \quad j = 1, 2,$$

which is stronger than (38). Notice that

$$|\chi_2(\xi)m_1(\chi)| = \left| \frac{\chi_2(\xi)}{|\xi|^4 - e^{i\varphi}} \right| \leq \frac{C}{(1 + |\xi|^2)},$$

$$|\chi_2(\xi)m_2(\chi)| = \left| \frac{\chi_2(\xi)(\xi_1 \pm i\xi_2)^2}{|\xi|^4 - e^{i\varphi}} \right| \leq \frac{C}{(1 + |\xi|^2)}.$$

Lemma 3.1 applied to the operator  $\tilde{A}\chi_2(D)m_j(D)\tilde{B}$  gives

$$\|\tilde{A}\chi_2(D)m_j(D)\tilde{B}\|_{s_q} \leq \|(1 + |\xi|^2)^{-1}\|_q \|\tilde{A}\|_{2q} \|\tilde{B}\|_{2q}, \quad j = 1, 2,$$

as needed.

Let us turn to Case II,  $q > 3/2$ . The proof closely follows the proof of Proposition 1.6, Case II. It consists in interpolation in between bounds for parameters  $q = 3/2$  (i.e., Case I), and  $q = \infty$ .

Assume that  $A > 0$  and  $B > 0$ . Fix  $q > 3/2$  and let  $p = p(q) := 2q$ . This choice implies in particular that  $2q/3 > 1$ . Set  $a_0 = 0, b_0 = 2q/3$  and consider the strip

$$S := \{\zeta = a + it: a_0 \leq a \leq b_0, t \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

The family of operators

$$T_\zeta = A^\zeta (D_{\text{bg},m} - u)^{-1} B^\zeta,$$

is analytic on  $S$ . Apply (7) with  $q_0 = 3/2$  in place of  $q$  to the family  $T_\zeta$  on  $\text{Re } \zeta = b_0 = 2q/3$ ; that is

$$\|A^{2q/3+it}(D_{\text{bg},m} - u)^{-1}B^{2q/3+it}\|_{\mathfrak{S}_3} \leq C\Phi(u)\|A\|_{2q}^{2q/3}\|B\|_{2q}^{2q/3}, \tag{40}$$

where we used that  $\|A^{2q/3+it}\|_3 = \|A\|_{2q}^{2q/3}$ , and the same relation holds for  $B$ . Notice that  $q_{01} = 1 - 1/(2q_0) = 2/3$ . For  $\text{Re } \zeta = a_0 = 0$ , we have the trivial bound

$$\|A^{it}(D_{\text{bg},m} - u)^{-1}B^{it}\|_{\mathfrak{S}_\infty} \leq \frac{1}{d(u, \sigma(D_{\text{bg},m}))}. \tag{41}$$

As in Proposition 1.6, we interpolate between (40) and (41) using Theorem 3.3 with parameters  $\zeta := 1$  and

$$1 = \frac{2q}{3}\gamma + (1 - \gamma)0, \quad \frac{1}{p_\gamma} = \frac{3}{\gamma} + \frac{(1 - \gamma)}{\infty} = \frac{1}{2q}.$$

Hence,  $\gamma = 3/(2q)$  and  $p_\gamma = 2q$ . Claim (8) follows, and this finishes the proof of the theorem. □

## 2. Lieb–Thirring inequalities for bilayer graphene

In what follows we always assume that  $m > 0$ . We begin with the standard Zhukovsky transform

$$z = z(w) = \frac{m}{2}\left(w + \frac{1}{w}\right), \tag{42}$$

which maps the upper half-plane  $\mathbb{C}_+$  onto the domain  $\rho(D_{\text{bg},m})$ . Since

$$|z(w) \pm m| = \frac{m}{2|w|}|w \pm 1|^2,$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} |z + m| + |z - m| &= \frac{m}{2|w|}(|w + 1|^2 + |w - 1|^2) = \frac{m}{|w|}(1 + |w|^2), \\ |z^2 - m^2|^{\frac{1}{2}} &= \frac{m}{2|w|}|w^2 - 1|. \end{aligned} \tag{43}$$

The distortion [42, Corollary 1.4] for the Zhukovsky transform reads as

$$\frac{d(z, \sigma(D_{\text{bg},m}))}{\text{Im } w} \asymp |z'(w)| = \frac{m|w^2 - 1|}{2|w|^2} = \frac{|z^2 - m^2|^{1/2}}{|w|}, \quad w \in \mathbb{C}_+. \tag{44}$$

**2.1. Proof of Theorem 0.4, Case I:  $1 < q \leq 3/2$ .** We have, by (43),

$$\Phi(z(w)) = C(1 + |w|^2) \frac{|w|^{p_1}}{|w^2 - 1|^{2q_1}}, \quad p_1 := 2q_1 - 1 = 1 - \frac{1}{q} > 0.$$

The bound (7) in the variable  $w$  reads

$$\|V_2(D_{\text{bg},m} - z(w))^{-1}V_1\|_{s_p} \leq C_9(1 + |w|^2) \frac{|w|^{p_1}}{|w^2 - 1|^{2q_1}} \|V\|_q, \quad w \in \mathbb{C}_+, \quad (45)$$

where  $V_2 = A := |V|^{1/2}$  and  $V_1 = B := V^{1/2}$ , see the discussion preceding (4). For  $w = iy, y > 0$ ,

$$\|V_2(D_{\text{bg},m} - z(iy))^{-1}V_1\|_{s_p} \leq C_9 \left(\frac{y}{1 + y^2}\right)^{p_1} \|V\|_q < \frac{C_9}{y^{p_1}} \|V\|_q. \quad (46)$$

We proceed with the *regularized perturbation determinant*

$$H(w) := \det_p(I + V_2(D_{\text{bg},m} - z(w))^{-1}V_1), \quad w \in \mathbb{C}_+,$$

which admits the bounds, see [44, Theorem 9.2]

$$\log |H(w)| \leq \Gamma_p \|V_2(D_{\text{bg},m} - z(w))^{-1}V_1\|_{s_p}^p \quad (47)$$

and

$$|H(w) - 1| \leq \varphi(\|V_2(D_{\text{bg},m} - z(w))^{-1}V_1\|_{s_p}), \quad (48)$$

where

$$\varphi(x) := x \exp\{\Gamma_p(x + 1)^p\}, \quad x \geq 0.$$

Denote

$$h(w) = h_y(w) := \frac{H(yw)}{H(iy)}, \quad h(i) = 1, \quad (49)$$

$y \geq 1$  is chosen later on.

**Proposition 2.1.** *Assume that*

$$\|V\|_q \leq 1. \quad (50)$$

*Then there is a constant  $C_{10} = C_{10}(m, q, \varepsilon)$  so that for  $y = C_{10}$  the following holds*

$$\log |h(w)| \leq C_{11} \frac{(1 + |w|)^{4pq_1}}{|w^2 - y^{-2}|^{2pq_1}} \|V\|_q, \quad w \in \mathbb{C}_+.$$

*Proof.* Without loss of generality we assume that  $C_9 > 1$ . If  $y^{p_1} \geq C_9 \geq C_9 \|V\|_q$ , we have, by (46),

$$\|V_2(D_{\text{bg},m} - z(iy))^{-1}V_1\|_{s_p} \leq \frac{C_9}{y^{p_1}} \|V\|_q \leq \|V\|_q \leq 1. \quad (51)$$

An obvious bound  $\varphi(x) \leq \exp\{2^p \Gamma_p\} x$ ,  $0 \leq x \leq 1$ , implies, in view of (51),

$$\varphi(\|V_2(D_{\text{bg},m} - z(iy))^{-1} V_1\|_{s_p}) \leq e^{2^p \Gamma_p} \|V_2(D_{\text{bg},m} - z(iy))^{-1} V_1\|_{s_p},$$

and so, by (48),

$$1 - |H(iy)| \leq |H(iy) - 1| \leq \frac{C_9 e^{2^p \Gamma_p}}{y^{p_1}} \|V\|_q \leq \frac{1}{2},$$

as soon as  $y^{p_1} \geq 2C_9 \exp\{2^p \Gamma_p\} =: C_{12}$ . The case  $|H(iy)| > 1$  being trivial, we continue with the case  $\frac{1}{2} \leq |H(iy)| \leq 1$ . Hence,

$$|H(iy)| \geq \frac{1}{2}, \quad \log |H(iy)| \geq -(1 - |H(iy)|) \geq -C_{12} \frac{\|V\|_q}{y^{p_1}}. \tag{52}$$

A combination of (47), (45), and (52) leads to the bound

$$\begin{aligned} \log |h(w)| &= \log |H(yw)| - \log |H(iy)| \\ &\leq C(1 + y|w|)^{2p} \frac{(y|w|)^{pp_1}}{|y^2 w^2 - 1|^{2pq_1}} \|V\|_q^p + C_{12} \frac{\|V\|_q}{y^{p_1}} \\ &\leq C_{13} \left[ \frac{(1 + |w|)^{2p} |w|^{pp_1}}{|w^2 - y^{-2}|^{2pq_1}} \frac{\|V\|_q^p}{y^{pp_1}} + \frac{\|V\|_q}{y^{p_1}} \right] \\ &\leq C_{13} \frac{\|V\|_q}{y^{p_1}} \left[ \frac{(1 + |w|)^{2p} |w|^{pp_1}}{|w^2 - y^{-2}|^{2pq_1}} + 1 \right]. \end{aligned}$$

As  $2p + pp_1 - 4pq_1 = -pp_1 < 0$ , we have for  $y \geq 1$

$$(1 + |w|)^{2p} |w|^{pp_1} + |w^2 - y^{-2}|^{2pq_1} \leq (1 + |w|)^{2p + pp_1} + (1 + |w|)^{4pq_1} < 2(1 + |w|)^{4pq_1}.$$

The result follows with  $y = C_{10} = C_{12}^{1/p_1}$ ,  $C_{11} = 2C_{13}$ . □

It is well known that the Lieb–Thirring inequalities agree with the Blaschke type conditions for the zeros of the corresponding perturbation determinants. So, the next step is an application of [5, Theorem 4.4] to the above function  $h$ . The input parameters are

$$\begin{aligned} a &= 0, \quad b = 2pq_1, \quad c_j = 0; \quad x'_1 = y^{-1}, \quad x'_2 = -y^{-1}, \quad K = C\|V\|_q, \\ d_1 = d_2 = d = 2pq_1 &= \begin{cases} \frac{2q-1}{2-q} + \left(2 - \frac{1}{q}\right)\varepsilon, & 1 < q < \frac{4}{3}, \\ \frac{2q-1}{2-q}, & \frac{4}{3} \leq q \leq \frac{3}{2}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

The output parameters in [5, Theorem 4.4] are

$$l = \{l\}_{a,\varepsilon} = 0, \quad (d - 1 + \varepsilon)_+ = \frac{3q - 3}{2 - q} + \omega_q \varepsilon, \quad l_1 = \frac{4q - 2}{2 - q} + \tau_q \varepsilon,$$

with

$$\omega_q = \begin{cases} \frac{3q - 1}{q}, & 1 < q < \frac{4}{3}, \\ 1, & \frac{4}{3} \leq q \leq \frac{3}{2}; \end{cases} \quad \tau_q = \begin{cases} \frac{6q - 1}{q}, & 1 < q < \frac{4}{3}, \\ 1, & \frac{4}{3} \leq q \leq \frac{3}{2}. \end{cases}$$

So, the Blaschke type condition of [5, Theorem 4.4] takes the form

$$\sum_{\xi \in Z(h)} \frac{(\operatorname{Im} \xi)^{1+\varepsilon}}{(1 + |\xi|)^{l_1}} |\xi^2 - y^{-2}|^{(d-1+\varepsilon)_+} \leq C_{14} \|V\|_q, \tag{53}$$

and, since the ‘‘test point’’  $y$  in Proposition 2.1 does not depend on  $V$ , the constant  $C_{14}(m, q, \varepsilon)$  does not depend on  $V$  either.

In terms of the zeros of  $H$  we have

$$\xi \in Z(h) \iff y\xi = \lambda \in Z(H), \quad \xi = \frac{\lambda}{y},$$

and as  $y = C_{10}$  is a constant, condition (53) does not alter

$$\sum_{\lambda \in Z(H)} \frac{(\operatorname{Im} \lambda)^{1+\varepsilon}}{(1 + |\lambda|)^{l_1}} |\lambda^2 - 1|^{(d-1+\varepsilon)_+} \leq C_{15} \|V\|_q. \tag{54}$$

It remains to get back to the spectral variable  $z \in \rho(D_{\text{bg},m})$ , keeping in mind that for the discrete spectrum of  $D_{\text{bg}}$  the equivalence holds

$$\zeta \in \sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}}) \iff \lambda \in Z(H).$$

To make the final result transparent, we invoke the main result [7, Theorem 1.1], which claims, in particular, that the discrete spectrum  $\sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}})$  is bounded, that is,  $|\zeta| \leq C_{16}$ , for all  $\zeta \in \sigma_d(D_{\text{bg}})$ . In the Zhukovsky variable the latter means

$$0 < c \leq |\lambda| \leq C < \infty, \quad \text{for all } \lambda \in Z(H). \tag{55}$$

So we can neglect the term  $1 + |\lambda|$  in (53). Next, as in (43),

$$|\zeta^2 - m^2| = \frac{m^2}{4} \frac{|\lambda^2 - 1|^2}{|\lambda|^2} \implies c|\lambda^2 - 1| \leq |\zeta^2 - m^2|^{1/2} \leq C|\lambda^2 - 1|.$$

Finally, the distortions (44) and (55) imply

$$c \implies \lambda \leq \frac{d(\zeta, \sigma(D_{\text{bg},m}))}{|\zeta^2 - m^2|^{1/2}} \leq C \operatorname{Im} \lambda.$$

Case I of Theorem 0.4 is proved. □



**2.2. Proof of Theorem 0.4, Case II:  $q > 3/2$ .** We use the distortion (44) to obtain the bound similar to (45)

$$\|V_2(D_{\text{bg},m} - z(w))^{-1}V_1\|_{S_p} \leq C_9 \frac{(1 + |w|)^{2q_2}}{(\text{Im } w)^{p_2}} \frac{|w|^{p_3}}{|w^2 - 1|^{p_4}} \|V\|_q, \quad w \in \mathbb{C}_+, \tag{56}$$

where

$$p = 2q, \quad p_2 := 1 - q_2 = 1 - \frac{3}{2q} > 0, \quad p_3 := 2 - \frac{5}{2q}, \quad p_4 := 1 + \frac{1}{2q}.$$

Note that  $p_3 - p_2 = p_1$ . For  $w = iy, y > 0$ , the bound is exactly the same as (46)

$$\|V_2(D_{\text{bg},m} - z(iy))^{-1}V_1\|_{S_p} < \frac{C_9}{y^{p_1}} \|V\|_q. \tag{57}$$

We argue as in the proof of Proposition 2.1 to obtain the bound for  $h$  (49)

$$\log |h(w)| \leq C_{11} \frac{|w|^{pp_2}(1 + |w|)^{2pp_4}}{(\text{Im } w)^{pp_2}|w^2 - y^{-2}|^{pp_4}} \|V\|_q. \tag{58}$$

Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} \log |h(w)| &= \log |H(yw)| - \log |H(iy)| \\ &\leq C \frac{(1 + y|w|)^{2pq_2}(y|w|)^{pp_3}}{(\text{Im } yw)^{pp_2}|y^2w^2 - 1|^{pp_4}} \|V\|_q^p + C_{12} \frac{\|V\|_q}{y^{p_1}} \\ &\leq C_{13} \left[ \frac{(1 + |w|)^{2pq_2}|w|^{pp_3}}{(\text{Im } w)^{pp_2}|w^2 - y^{-2}|^{pp_4}} \frac{\|V\|_q^p}{y^{pp_1}} + \frac{\|V\|_q}{y^{p_1}} \right] \\ &\leq C_{13} \frac{\|V\|_q}{y^{p_1}} \left[ \frac{(1 + |w|)^{2pq_2}|w|^{pp_3}}{(\text{Im } w)^{pp_2}|w^2 - y^{-2}|^{pp_4}} + 1 \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Next,

$$\begin{aligned} &(1 + |w|)^{2pq_2}|w|^{pp_3} + (\text{Im } w)^{pp_2}|w^2 - y^{-2}|^{pp_4} \\ &\leq (1 + |w|)^{2pq_2}|w|^{pp_3} + |w|^{pp_2}(1 + |w|^2)^{pp_4} \\ &\leq |w|^{pp_2}((1 + |w|)^{2pq_2}|w|^{pp_1} + (1 + |w|)^{2pp_4}) \\ &\leq 2|w|^{pp_2}(1 + |w|)^{2pp_4}, \end{aligned}$$

and (58) follows.

The computation with [5, Theorem 4.4] is a bit more complicated now. The input parameters are

$$\begin{aligned} a &= pp_2 = 2q - 3 > 0, & b &= pp_4 = 2q + 1, \\ x'_1 &= y^{-1}, & x'_2 &= -y^{-1}, & x_1 &= 0, \\ c_1 &= pp_2 = a, & c_j &= 0, & j &\geq 2, \\ d_1 &= d_2 = d = pp_4 = b, \\ K &= C \|V\|_q. \end{aligned}$$

The output parameters in [5, Theorem 4.4] are

$$l = a, \quad \{l\}_{a,\varepsilon} = -a, \quad (d - 1 + \varepsilon)_+ = 2q + \varepsilon, \quad l_1 = 2 + 4q + 4\varepsilon,$$

so the Blaschke type condition takes the form

$$\sum_{\xi \in Z(h)} \frac{(\operatorname{Im} \xi)^{a+1+\varepsilon}}{(1 + |\xi|)^{2+4q+4\varepsilon}} \frac{|\xi^2 - y^{-2}|^{2q+\varepsilon}}{|\xi|^a} \leq C_{14} \|V\|_q.$$

After the change of variable  $\lambda = y \xi = C_{10} \xi$ , we come to

$$\sum_{\lambda \in Z(H)} \frac{(\operatorname{Im} \lambda)^{a+1+\varepsilon}}{(1 + |\lambda|)^{2+4q+4\varepsilon}} \frac{|\lambda^2 - 1|^{2q+\varepsilon}}{|\lambda|^a} \leq C_{15} \|V\|_q. \tag{59}$$

As before, the final step relies on the distortion relations for the Zhukovsky transform. Indeed, separate the upper-half plane  $\mathbb{C}_+$  in three regions

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_1 &:= \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C}_+ : c \leq |\lambda| \leq C\}, \\ \Omega_2 &:= \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C}_+ : |\lambda| \geq C\}, \\ \Omega_3 &:= \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C}_+ : |\lambda| \leq c\}, \end{aligned}$$

with constants  $c, C$  chosen as  $0 < c < 1 < C < +\infty$ . It is clear that

$$\sum_{\lambda \in Z(H) \cap \Omega_1} (\operatorname{Im} \lambda)^{a+1+\varepsilon} |\lambda^2 - 1|^{2q+\varepsilon} \leq C \sum_{\lambda \in Z(H) \cap \Omega_1} \frac{(\operatorname{Im} \lambda)^{a+1+\varepsilon}}{(1 + |\lambda|)^{2+4q+4\varepsilon}} \frac{|\lambda^2 - 1|^{2q+\varepsilon}}{|\lambda|^a}.$$

On the other hand, one has  $|\zeta(\lambda)| \asymp |\lambda|$  for  $\lambda \in \Omega_2$ , and  $|\zeta(\lambda)| \asymp |\lambda|^{-1}$  for  $\lambda \in \Omega_3$ . Using these relations along with inequalities given next to (55), we cut the sum (59) in parts corresponding to domains  $\Omega_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , and rewrite these partial sums in terms of  $\zeta$ -variable.

Case II of Theorem 0.4 is proved as well. □

**3. Some technical tools:  
interpolation theorems and Kato–Selier–Simon lemma**

**3.1. Kato–Selier–Simon lemma.** Recall the notation introduced in Section 1.1. We have the following proposition usually called *Kato–Selier–Simon lemma*.

**Proposition 3.1** ([44, Theorem 4.1]). (1) Let  $f, g \in L^q(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $d \geq 1$ . Then, for  $2 \leq q < \infty$ ,  $f(x)g(D) \in \mathcal{S}_q$ , and

$$\|f(x)g(D)\|_{\mathcal{S}_q} \leq (2\pi)^{-d} \|f\|_q \|g\|_q.$$

(2) Let  $f \in L^q(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $d \geq 1$ , and  $A, B \in L^{2q}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ . For  $2 \leq q < \infty$ ,

$$\|A(x)f(D)B(y)\|_{\mathcal{S}_q} \leq (2\pi)^{-d} \|f\|_q \|A\|_{2q} \|B\|_{2q}.$$

The first claim of the above proposition is in Simon [44, Theorem 4.1]; the second claim is a “symmetrized” version of the first one and it is proved similarly.

**3.2. Interpolation theorem for bounded analytic families.** In this subsection, we follow mainly the presentation of Zhu [47, Chapter 2].

Let  $X_0, X_1$  be two Banach spaces. We say that the pair  $X_0, X_1$  is compatible, if there is a topological Hausdorff space  $X$  containing both  $X_0$  and  $X_1$ . We have the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.2** ([47, Theorem 2.4]). Let  $X_0, X_1$  be a pair of compatible Banach spaces, idem for  $Y_0, Y_1$ . For a  $\gamma$ ,  $0 < \gamma < 1$ , there are Banach spaces  $X_\gamma, Y_\gamma$ ,

$$X_\gamma = [X_0, X_1]_\gamma, \quad Y_\gamma = [Y_0, Y_1]_\gamma,$$

interpolating in between  $X_0$  and  $X_1$  and  $Y_0$  and  $Y_1$ , respectively, in the following sense.

Let  $T : X_0 + X_1 \rightarrow Y_0 + Y_1$  be a **bounded** linear map such that

$$\|Tx\|_{Y_0} \leq C_0 \|x\|_{X_0}, \quad x \in X_0,$$

$$\|Tx\|_{Y_1} \leq C_1 \|x\|_{X_1}, \quad x \in X_1.$$

Then  $T$  induces a linear map  $T_\gamma : X_\gamma \rightarrow Y_\gamma$  with the property

$$\|T_\gamma\| \leq C_0^\gamma C_1^{1-\gamma}.$$

Saying “interpolation” we mean “complex interpolation” throughout the article. For instance, we have

$$[L^{p_0}(\mathbb{R}^d), L^{p_1}(\mathbb{R}^d)]_\gamma = L^{p_\gamma}(\mathbb{R}^d), \tag{60}$$

where  $1 \leq p_0, p_1 \leq \infty$ ,  $1/p_\gamma = \gamma/p_0 + (1 - \gamma)/p_1$ , and  $d \geq 1$ , see [47, Theorem 2.5].

It is important that a similar construction holds for “non-commutative”  $L^p$ -spaces as well. That is, denoting by  $\mathcal{S}_p$  the Schatten–von Neumann classes of compact operators, we have

$$[\mathcal{S}_{p_0}, \mathcal{S}_{p_1}]_\gamma = \mathcal{S}_{p_\gamma},$$

where  $1 \leq p_0, p_1 \leq \infty$  and  $1/p_\gamma = \gamma/p_0 + (1 - \gamma)/p_1$ . A proof of this result is in [47, Theorem 2.6]. Much more information and further references on the interpolation theory of Banach spaces are in the monographs by Bennett and Sharpley [1] and by Bergh and Löfström [2].

For  $1 \leq p_{01}, p_{02} \leq +\infty$ , it is plain to see that

$$L^{p_{01}}(\mathbb{R}_x^d) \times L^{p_{02}}(\mathbb{R}_y^d) \simeq L^{p_{01}}(\mathbb{R}_x^d) \dot{+} L^{p_{02}}(\mathbb{R}_y^d), \quad x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$

and so interpolation (60) holds for these spaces as well. This observation is often applied to an operator  $\mathcal{A}$  of the form

$$\mathcal{A}: L^{p_{01}}(\mathbb{R}^d) \times L^{p_{02}}(\mathbb{R}^d) \longrightarrow \mathcal{S}_{q_{01}}, \quad 1 \leq q_{01} \leq +\infty,$$

see Section 1.

**3.3. Interpolation theorem for general analytic families.** Following Gohberg and Krein [25, Chapter III.13], we present a generalized version of interpolation in between  $\mathcal{S}_p$ -spaces.

Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $a < b$ , and

$$S = \{\zeta: a \leq \operatorname{Re} \zeta \leq b\}$$

be a vertical strip in the complex plane. For a Hilbert space  $H$ , we say that a family of bounded operators  $(T_\zeta)_{\zeta \in S}$ ,  $T_\zeta: H \rightarrow H$  is analytic on  $S$ , if  $(T_\zeta f, g)$  is analytic on an open neighborhood of  $S$  for any fixed  $f, g \in H$ .

**Theorem 3.3** ([25, Theorem 13.1]). *Let  $(T_\zeta)_{\zeta \in S}$  be an analytic family of operators. Assume that for any  $f, g \in H$*

$$\log |(T_\zeta f, g)| \leq C_{1;f,g} e^{C_{2;f,g} |\operatorname{Im} \zeta|}, \quad \zeta \in S, \tag{61}$$

where the constants  $C_{j;f,g}$ ,  $j = 1, 2$  depend on  $f, g$ , but not on  $\zeta \in S$ , and

$$0 \leq C_{2;f,g} < \frac{\pi}{b - a}.$$

Furthermore, suppose that

(1) for  $\operatorname{Re} \zeta = a$ ,  $T_\zeta \in \mathcal{S}_{p_0}$ , with  $1 \leq p_0 < \infty$  and

$$\|T_\zeta\|_{\mathcal{S}_{p_0}} \leq C_0;$$

(2) for  $\operatorname{Re} \zeta = b$ ,  $T_\zeta \in \mathcal{S}_{p_1}$ , with  $p_0 < p_1 \leq \infty$  and

$$\|T_\zeta\|_{\mathcal{S}_{p_1}} \leq C_1.$$

Take an  $x \in (a, b)$  and write it as  $x = \gamma a + (1 - \gamma) b$ ,  $\gamma \in (0, 1)$ . For  $\zeta \in S$ ,  $\operatorname{Re} \zeta = x$  we have that  $T_\zeta \in \mathcal{S}_{p_\gamma}$ , and moreover

$$\|T_\zeta\|_{\mathcal{S}_{p_\gamma}} \leq C_0^\gamma C_1^{1-\gamma},$$

where  $1/p_\gamma = \gamma/p_0 + (1 - \gamma)/p_1$ .

We often use the following corollary of the above theorem.

**Corollary 3.4.** *Let  $(T_\zeta)_{\zeta \in S}$  be an analytic family of operators satisfying the assumption of Theorem 3.3 with conditions (1) and (2) replaced by the following assumptions:*

(1') for  $\operatorname{Re} \zeta = a$ ,  $T_\zeta \in \mathcal{S}_{p_0}$ , with  $1 \leq p_0 < \infty$  and

$$\|T_\zeta\|_{\mathcal{S}_{p_0}} \leq C_0 e^{A_0 |\operatorname{Im} \zeta|^2}.$$

(2') for  $\operatorname{Re} \zeta = b$ ,  $T_\zeta \in \mathcal{S}_{p_1}$ , with  $p_0 < p_1 \leq \infty$  and

$$\|T_\zeta\|_{\mathcal{S}_{p_1}} \leq C_1 e^{A_1 |\operatorname{Im} \zeta|^2},$$

for some constants  $A_0, A_1 \geq 0$ .

As above, for an  $x = \gamma a + (1 - \gamma) b \in (a, b)$ ,  $\gamma \in (0, 1)$  and  $\zeta \in S$ ,  $\operatorname{Re} \zeta = x$  we have that  $T_\zeta \in \mathcal{S}_{p_\gamma}$ , and moreover

$$\|T_x\|_{\mathcal{S}_{p_\gamma}} \leq C'' C_0^\gamma C_1^{1-\gamma},$$

where  $1/p_\gamma = \gamma/p_0 + (1 - \gamma)/p_1$ . The constant  $C''$  depends on  $a, b, C_0, C_1, A_0$  and  $A_1$ .

The corollary follows immediately by applying Theorem 3.3 to the analytic family of operators  $\tilde{T}_\zeta = e^{\max(A_0, A_1)\zeta^2} T_\zeta$ ,  $\zeta \in S$ .

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