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Abstract. We examine the cut-off resolvent  $R_{\chi}(\lambda) = \chi(-\Delta_D - \lambda^2)^{-1}\chi$ , where  $\Delta_D$  is the Laplacian with Dirichlet boundary condition and  $\chi \in C_0^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  equal to 1 in a neighborhood of the obstacle K. We show that if  $R_{\chi}(\lambda)$  has no poles for  $\text{Im } \lambda \geq -\delta, \ \delta > 0$ , then  $\|R_{\chi}(\lambda)\|_{L^2 \to L^2} \leq C|\lambda|^{n-2}, \ \lambda \in \mathbb{R}, \ |\lambda| \geq C_0$ . This estimate implies a local energy decay. We study the spectrum of the Lax-Phillips semigroup Z(t) for trapping obstacles having at least one trapped ray.

## 1. Introduction

Let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $n \geq 2$ , be a bounded domain with  $C^{\infty}$  boundary  $\partial K$ and connected complement  $\Omega = \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \overline{K}$ . Such K is called an *obstacle* in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . We consider the Dirichlet problem for the wave equation

$$\begin{cases} (\partial_t^2 - \Delta_x)u = 0 \text{ in } \mathbb{R} \times \Omega, \\ u = 0 \text{ on } \mathbb{R} \times \partial K, \\ u(0, x) = f_0(x), \ \partial_t u(0, x) = f_1(x). \end{cases}$$
(1)

Let  $K \subset B_a = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : |x| \le a\}$  and for  $m \ge 0$  set

$$p_m(t) = \sup \left[ \frac{\|\nabla_x u\|_{L^2(B_a \cap \Omega)} + \|\partial_t u\|_{L^2(B_a \cap \Omega)}}{\|\nabla_x f_0\|_{H^m(B_a \cap \Omega)} + \|f_1\|_{H^m(B_1 \cap \Omega)}}, \right]$$

$$(0,0) \neq (f_0, f_1) \in C_0^{\infty}(\Omega) \times C_0^{\infty}(\Omega), \text{ supp } f_i \subset B_a \}$$

For Im  $\lambda > 0$  consider the cut-off resolvent  $R_{\chi}(\lambda) = \chi R(\lambda)\chi : L^2(\Omega) \longrightarrow L^2(\Omega)$ , where  $R(\lambda) = (-\Delta_D - \lambda^2)^{-1}$ ,  $\chi \in C_0^{\infty}(B_{a+1})$ ,  $\chi = 1$  on  $B_a$  and  $\Delta_D$  is the Dirichlet Laplacian with domain  $D(\Delta_D) = H_0^2(\Omega)$ .

The following result of Vodev generalized the classical one of Morawetz for  $n \ge 3$  odd.

**Theorem 1 ([20]).** The following conditions are equivalents: (a)  $\lim_{t\to+\infty} p_0(t) = 0$ ,

(b) There exist  $C_0 > 0$ ,  $C_1 > 0$  so that

$$\|\lambda R_{\chi}(\lambda)\| \le C_1, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}, \ |\lambda| \ge C_0,$$

(c) There exist constants C > 0,  $\gamma > 0$  so that

$$p_0(t) \leq \begin{cases} Ce^{-\gamma t}, n \text{ odd}, \\ Ct^{-n}, n \text{ even.} \end{cases}$$

It is known that (b) holds if the obstacle K is non-trapping, that is the singularities of the solution of the Dirichlet problem with initial data with compact support leave any compact  $\omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  for  $t \ge t(\omega)$ (see for instance [4] for more details). For trapping obstacles without any condition on the geometry of K we have the following

**Theorem 2** ([3]). We have the estimate

$$||R_{\chi}(\lambda)|| \leq Ce^{C|\lambda|}, \ \lambda \in \mathbb{R}, \ |\lambda| \geq C_0$$

and for every integer m > 1 we have

$$p_m(t) \le \frac{C_m}{(\log t)^m}, \ t > 1.$$
 (2)

The cut-off resolvent  $R_{\chi}(\lambda)$  has a meromorphic continuation in  $\mathbb{C}$  for n odd and in  $\mathbb{C}' = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : z \neq -i\mu, \mu \in \mathbb{R}\}$  for n even ([10], [19]). There are many examples when we have a domain

$$\{z \in \mathbb{C} : -\delta \le \operatorname{Im} z \le 0\}, \ \delta > 0$$

without poles (resonances) of  $R_{\chi}(\lambda)$  (cf. for example [7]). In this talk we some results showing that in this case we have a polynomial bound of the cut-off resolvent  $R_{\chi}(\lambda)$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  and a better local energy decay than (2). Our main result is the following

**Theorem 3.** Assume that the cut-off resolvent  $R_{\chi}(\lambda)$  has no poles for Im  $\lambda \geq -\delta$ ,  $\delta > 0$ . Then

$$\|R_{\chi}(\lambda)\|_{L^{2}(\Omega)\to L^{2}(\Omega)} \leq C|\lambda|^{n-2}, \ \lambda \in \mathbb{R}, \ |\lambda| \geq C_{0}.$$
 (3)

**Remark 1.** Notice that if for some  $M \ge 0$  we have the estimate

$$\|R_{\chi}(\lambda)\|_{L^{2}(\Omega)\to L^{2}(\Omega)} \leq C_{1}|\lambda|^{M}, \text{ Im } \lambda \geq -\delta, |\operatorname{Re} \lambda| \geq C_{0},$$

then a result of N. Burq [5] says that

$$\|R_{\chi}(\lambda)\|_{L^{2}(\Omega) \to L^{2}(\Omega)} \leq C_{2} \frac{\log(2+|\lambda|^{2})}{1+|\lambda|}, \ \lambda \in \mathbb{R}, \ |\lambda| \geq C_{0}$$

In particular, a such estimate holds for two strictly convex disjoint obstacles and under some conditions for several strictly convex disjoint obstacles ([7]).

**Remark 2.** For the semiclassical Schrödinger operators  $-h^2 \Delta + V(x)$  in the case of dimension 1 a polynomial bound  $\mathcal{O}(h^{-M})$  of the cut-off resolvent in

$$W = \{ z \in \mathbb{C} : 0 < a_0 \le \text{Re} \, z \le a_1, \, \text{Im} \, z \ge -a_2 h, a_i > 0, i = 0, 1, 2 \}$$

has been obtained in [2], provided that we have no resonances in W. It is natural to conjecture that under the condition of Theorem 3, the cut-off resolvent  $R_{\chi}(\lambda)$  is bounded uniformly on  $\mathbb{R}$  for any dimension  $n \geq 3$ .

## 2. Estimates of $R_{\chi}(\lambda)$

It is useful to transform the problem to a semi-classical one. Setting  $\lambda = \frac{\sqrt{z}}{h}$ ,  $0 < h \leq 1$ , we have

$$(-\Delta_D - \lambda^2)^{-1} = h^2 (-h^2 \Delta_D - z)^{-1}$$

and we will study the operator  $\chi(P(h)-z)^{-1}\chi$  with  $P(h)=-h^2\Delta_D, h>0$ , in the domain

$$\mathcal{D}_{c_1} = \{ z \in \mathbb{C} : 0 < a_0 \le |\operatorname{Re} z| \le a_1, -c_1 h \le \operatorname{Im} z \le c_2, a_i > 0, c_i, i = 0, 1 \}.$$

We will work in the "black box" setup ([15], [17]). For this purpose define  $\mathcal{H}_a = L^2(\Omega \cap B_a)$  and set

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{H}_a \oplus L^2(\mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_a).$$

We consider P(h) as an operator  $P(h) : \mathcal{L} \longrightarrow \mathcal{L}$  with domain  $\mathcal{D}(P) \subset \mathcal{L}$  and the hypothesis in [15], [17] for a "black box" framework are satisfied. In particular, setting

$$\mathcal{H}^{\sharp} = \mathcal{H}_a \oplus L^2(\mathbb{T}_a^n \setminus B_1), \ \mathbb{T}_a^n = \mathbb{R}^n / (a\mathbb{Z}^n),$$

we introduce  $P^{\sharp}(h)$  by replacing  $-h^2 \Delta_D$  by  $-h^2 \Delta_{\mathbb{T}^n_a}$ . The operator  $P^{\sharp}(h)$  has a discrete spectrum and we denote by  $N(P^{\sharp}(h), \lambda)$  the number of eigenvalues of  $P^{\sharp}(h)$  in  $[-\lambda, \lambda]$ . Then we we have

$$N(P^{\sharp}(h), \lambda) = \mathcal{O}\left(\left(\frac{\lambda}{h^2}\right)^{n/2}\right), \text{ for } \lambda \ge 1.$$

This follows from the Weyl asymptotic for the counting function for eigenvalues of  $P^{\sharp}(h)$ .

In the following for simplicity we will write P instead of P(h). We will examine the resolvent of the complex dilated operator  $P_{\theta}(h)$  defined as follows. Introduce a function  $f_{\theta}(t) : \mathbb{R}^+ \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  having the properties:  $f_{\theta}(t) = t$  for  $t \leq a + 1$ 

$$f_{\theta}(t) = t \text{ for } t \leq d + 1,$$
  

$$f_{\theta}(t) = e^{i\theta}t, \ t \gg 1,$$
  

$$0 \leq \arg f_{\theta}(t) \leq \theta, \ \partial_t f_{\theta}(t) \neq 0,$$
  

$$\arg f_{\theta}(t) \leq \arg \partial_t f_{\theta}(t) \leq \arg f_{\theta}(t) + \epsilon$$

with small  $\epsilon > 0$ . Let  $\mu_{\theta}(t\omega) = f_{\theta}(t)\omega$ ,  $t = |x| \in \mathbb{R}^+$ ,  $\omega \in S^{n-1}$  and set  $\Gamma_{\theta} = \mu_{\theta}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Let  $\Psi \in C_0^{\infty}(B_{a+1})$  be equal to 1 near  $B_a$ . As in [15], [16], we introduce the dilated operator  $P_{\theta}$ 

$$P_{\theta}u = P(\Psi u) - \Delta_{\Gamma_{\theta}}(1 - \Psi)u$$

with domain

$$D_{\theta} = \{ u \in L^2(\Gamma_{\theta}) : \Psi u \in D(P), \ (1 - \Psi)u \in H^2(\Gamma_{\theta}) \},\$$

D(P) being the domain of P. Here  $-\Delta_{\Gamma_{\theta}}$  is the dilated Laplacian corresponding to the change  $\mathbb{R}^n \ni x \longrightarrow f_{\theta}(t)\omega \in \mathbb{C}^n$  and we refer to [15], [16], [17] for more details. Next set  $\theta = c_1 h$  so that in the domain

$$\Omega_{\theta} = \{ z \in \mathbb{C} : |z - \omega| \le \theta, \ -\theta \le \operatorname{Im} z \le a_2 \theta \} \subset \mathcal{D}_{c_1}, \ a_2 \gg 1$$

there are no eigenvalues of  $P_{\theta}$ . Note that the eigenvalues of  $P_{\theta}$  coincide with their multiplicities with the resonances of P ([15], [16], [17]). From [8], [11] the counting function of the eigenvalues of  $P^{\#}(h)$ satisfies

$$N(P^{\#}, [\lambda - h, \lambda + h]) = \mathcal{O}(h^{1-n}),$$

for  $\lambda \in [a_0, a_1]$ . Then, following a construction, given by one of the authors [1], we may find a finite rank operator L so that

$$(P_{\theta} + \theta L - z)^{-1} = \mathcal{O}(\theta^{-1}), \, \forall z \in \Omega_{\theta}, \tag{4}$$

$$(P_{\theta} - z)^{-1} = \mathcal{O}(\theta^{-1}), \ z \in \Omega_{\theta}^{+} = \Omega_{\theta} \cap \{ \operatorname{Im} z \ge \epsilon \theta \}, \ 0 < \epsilon < a_{2}, \ (5)$$
$$\|L\|_{D(P_{\theta}) \to L^{2}(\Gamma_{\theta})} = \mathcal{O}(1), \ \operatorname{rank} L = \kappa \le C_{0} h^{-n+1}$$

with a constant  $C_0 > 0$  independent on h. This construction generalises that of Sjöstrand [16] with a finite rank operator  $K_0$ , rank  $K_0 =$  $Ch^{-n}$ . Now consider the Grushin problem

$$\begin{cases} (P_{\theta} - z)u + R_{-}(z)u_{-} = v, \\ R_{+}(z)u = v_{+}, \end{cases}$$
(6)

where  $u \in D(P_{\theta}), v \in L^2(\Gamma_{\theta})$ , while  $u_-, v_+ \in \mathbb{C}^k$ . Given an orthonormal basis  $(e_1, ..., e_{\kappa})$  in Image  $L^*$ , the operators  $R_{\pm}$  have the form

$$R_{+}u = (u, e_{j})_{j=1,...,\kappa},$$
$$R_{-}u_{-} = \sum_{j=1}^{\kappa} u_{-,j}(P_{\theta} + \theta L - z)e_{j}, \ u_{-} = (u_{-,1}, ..., u_{-,\kappa}),$$

where (, ) is the scalar product in  $L^2(\Gamma_{\theta})$ .

Following the results in Section 6, [16], the problem (6) is invertible and the inverse operator is given by

$$\Big(\begin{array}{cc} E(z) & E_+(z) \\ E_-(z) & E_{-,+}(z) \end{array}\Big).$$

To estimate the operators E(z),  $E_{-}(z)$ ,  $E_{+}(z)$ ,  $E_{-,+}(z)$ , consider an orthonormal basis (

$$e_{\kappa+1}, ..., e_m, ...)$$

in  $\left(\operatorname{Image} L^*\right)^{\perp} = \operatorname{Ker} L.$  Let

$$u = \sum_{j=1}^{\kappa} u_j e_j + \sum_{j=\kappa+1}^{\infty} u_j e_j = u' + u''.$$

From (6) we get

$$(P_{\theta} - z)(u' + u'') + (P_{\theta} + \theta L - z)(\sum_{j=1}^{\kappa} u_{-,j}e_j) = v_{+,j}$$
$$(u, e_j) = u_j = v_{+,j}, \ j = 1, ..., \kappa.$$

This implies

$$(P_{\theta} + \theta L - z)(u'' + \sum_{j=1}^{\kappa} u_{-,j}e_j) = v - (P_{\theta} - z)u'$$

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$$= v - (P_{\theta} - z) \sum_{j=1}^{\kappa} u_j e_j,$$

hence

$$\left(u'' + \sum_{j=1}^{\kappa} u_{-,j} e_j\right) = \left(P_\theta + \theta L - z\right)^{-1} v$$

$$-(P_{\theta} + \theta L - z)^{-1}(P_{\theta} - z)\sum_{j=1}^{\kappa} v_{+,j}e_j = A + B.$$

The estimate (4) leads to  $A = \mathcal{O}(\theta^{-1}) ||v||$ . Using once more (4), we get

$$B = \left(-I + (P_{\theta} + \theta L - z)^{-1} \theta L\right) \sum_{j=1}^{\kappa} v_{+,j} e_j = \mathcal{O}(1) \|v_+\|_{\mathbb{C}^{\kappa}}.$$

Thus

$$||u''|| + ||u_-||_{\mathbb{C}^{\kappa}} = \mathcal{O}(\theta^{-1})||v|| + \mathcal{O}(1)||v_+||_{\mathbb{C}^{\kappa}}$$

and  $||u'||_{\mathbb{C}^{\kappa}} = \mathcal{O}(1)||v_+||_{\mathbb{C}^{\kappa}}$ . Consequently,

$$||u|| + ||u||_{\mathbb{C}^{\kappa}} = \mathcal{O}(\theta^{-1})||v|| + \mathcal{O}(1)||v_{+}||_{\mathbb{C}^{\kappa}}$$

and we get the estimates

$$||E(z)|| = \mathcal{O}(\theta^{-1}), ||E_{-}(z)|| = \mathcal{O}(\theta^{-1}),$$
$$||E_{+}(z)|| = \mathcal{O}(1), ||E_{-,+}(z)|| = \mathcal{O}(1),$$

where  $E_{-,+}(z) : \mathbb{C}^{\kappa} \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}^{\kappa}$ . Moreover, the resolvent  $(P_{\theta} - z)^{-1}$  and  $(E_{-,+}(z))^{-1}$  are related by the equality (see for instance, [16])

$$(P_{\theta} - z)^{-1} = E(z) - E_{+}(z)((E_{-,+}(z))^{-1}E_{-}(z))$$

and the above estimates yield

$$||(P_{\theta} - z)^{-1}|| \le ||E(z)|| + ||E_{+}(z)|| ||(E_{-,+}(z))^{-1}|| ||E_{-}(z)||$$
  
= $\mathcal{O}(\theta^{-1})(1 + ||(E_{-,+}(z))^{-1}||).$ 

Obviously,

$$(E_{-,+})^{-1} = \frac{{}^{t} \text{comatrix}(E_{-,+})}{\det(E_{-,+})} = \frac{\mathcal{O}(e^{C\kappa})}{\det(E_{-,+})}$$

and the problem is reduced to obtain a lower bound of  $D(z) = det(E_{-,+})$ .

Since  $||E_{-,+}(z)||_{\mathbb{C}^{\kappa}\to\mathbb{C}^{\kappa}} = \mathcal{O}(1)$ , we have  $|D(z)| \leq e^{C\kappa}$ ,  $z \in \Omega_{\theta}$ . On the other hand, in  $\Omega_{\theta}^+$  we get

$$(E_{-,+}(z))^{-1}u_{+} = -R_{+}(z)(P_{\theta} - z)^{-1}R_{-}(z)u_{+}$$
$$= -R_{+}(z)\Big(I + (P_{\theta} - z)^{-1}\theta L\Big)\sum_{j=1}^{\kappa}u_{-,j}e_{j} = \mathcal{O}(1)$$

and the estimate (5) for  $z \in \Omega_{\theta}^+$  yields

$$|D(z)| = |\det(E_{-,+}(z))| = \left|\frac{1}{\det((E_{-,+}(z))^{-1})}\right| \ge e^{-C_1\kappa}, \ z \in \Omega_{\theta}^+.$$

Recall that  $P_{\theta}$  has no eigenvalues in  $\Omega_{\theta}$ , hence D(z) has no zeros in  $\Omega_{\theta}$ . This makes possible to introduce the positive harmonic function  $G(z) = C\kappa - \log |D(z)| \ge 0, \ z \in \Omega_{\theta}$ . We have in  $\Omega_{\theta}^+$  the estimate  $\log |D(z)| \ge -C_1\kappa$ , so we can apply the Harnack inequality for positive harmonic functions. In fact, for every  $M \subset \Omega_{\theta}$  we have

$$\sup_{z \in M} G(z) \le C_M \inf_{z \in M} G(z) \le C_M \inf_{z \in M \cap \Omega_{\theta}^+} G(z).$$

Making a small decrease of  $\Omega_{\theta}$ , which means to replace  $c_1$  by a constant  $0 < c_3 < c_1$ , we deduce

$$G(z) \le C_2 \kappa, \log |D(z)| \ge -C_3 \kappa, \ z \in \Omega_{\theta}, \ \theta = c_2 h.$$

Next suppose that  $\Omega_{\theta}$  is defined by  $c_3$  instead of  $c_1$ . Combining the above estimates with the fact that  $\kappa = C_0 h^{-n+1}$ , we conclude that

$$||(P_{\theta} - z)^{-1}|| \le C_5 e^{C_4 h^{-n+1}}, \ z \in \Omega_{\theta}$$

Moreover, the same estimate is uniform with respect to choice of  $\omega$ in  $\Omega_{\theta}$ , provided  $\omega$  runs over a compact interval in  $\mathbb{R}^+$  so that  $P_{\theta}$  has no eigenvalues in  $\Omega_{\theta}$ . Thus we obtain

$$||(P_{\theta} - z)^{-1}|| \le C_5 e^{C_5 h^{-n+1}}, \ z \in \mathcal{D}_{c_2}.$$

The complex scaling was chosen so that  $f_{\theta}(t) = 1$  for  $t \leq a+1$ . Since  $\operatorname{supp} \chi \subset B_{a+1}$ , it is easy to see that

$$\chi (P-z)^{-1} \chi = \chi (P_{\theta} - z)^{-1} \chi,$$

hence

$$\|\chi(-h^2\Delta - z)^{-1}\chi\|_{L^2(\Omega)\longrightarrow L^2(\Omega)} \le C_6 e^{C_6 h^{-n+1}}, \ z \in \mathcal{D}_{c_2}.$$

Taking into account the scaling  $\lambda = \frac{\sqrt{z}}{h}$ , for  $z \in \mathcal{D}_{c_2}$  we get

$$\operatorname{Re} z = h^2(\operatorname{Re}^2 \lambda - \operatorname{Im}^2 \lambda) \ge a_0, \ \operatorname{Im} z = 2h^2 \operatorname{Re} \lambda \operatorname{Im} \lambda \ge -c_2 h$$

which imply

$$\operatorname{Re} \lambda \ge \frac{a_0}{h} \ge a_0 > 0, \ \operatorname{Im} \lambda \ge -\frac{c_2}{2\sqrt{a_0}} = -a_2$$

Consequently, we obtain

$$||R_{\chi}(\lambda)|| \le C_7 e^{C_7 |\lambda|^{n-1}}, \operatorname{Re} \lambda \ge a_0, \operatorname{Im} \lambda \ge -a_2.$$
(7)

In the same way we treat the domain  $\operatorname{Re} \lambda \leq -a_0$ ,  $\operatorname{Im} \lambda \geq -a_2$  and we get (7) for  $|\operatorname{Re} \lambda| \geq a_0 > 0$ .

## 3. Estimates on the real axis and decay of local energy

**Proposition 1.** Let f(z) be a holomorphic function in

$$U_{\alpha} = \{ z \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{Im} z \ge -\alpha \}, \ \alpha > 0,$$

such that

$$|f(z)| \le C_0 e^{C|z|^m}, \ z \in U_\alpha, \ m \ge 1,$$
  
 $|f(z)| \le \frac{C_1}{|z| \operatorname{Im} z}, \ \operatorname{Im} z > 0.$ 

Then we have  $|f(z)| \le C_2(1+|z|)^{m-1}, \ z \in \mathbb{R}.$ 

**Proof.** Introduce the function  $g(z) = e^{iAz^{m+1}}f(z)$ , where A > 0 is sufficiently large. Consider the domain bounded by the curves:

$$\gamma_{+} = \{ z \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{Im} z = \frac{1}{|z|^{m}}, \operatorname{Re} z \ge 1 \},$$
$$\gamma_{-} = \{ z \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{Im} z = -\alpha, \operatorname{Re} z \ge 1 \},$$
$$\gamma_{0} = \{ z \in \mathbb{C} : -\alpha \le \operatorname{Im} z \le \frac{1}{|z|^{m}}, \operatorname{Re} z = 1 \}$$

For  $z \in \gamma_{-}$  and  $\operatorname{Re} z \gg 1$  we have

$$|g(z)| \le C_0 e^{C'(\operatorname{Re} z)^m} \exp\left(-A\frac{(m+1)}{2}(\operatorname{Re} z)^m \operatorname{Im} z\right) \le C_3$$

taking  $2C' - A(m+1)\alpha < 0$ . On the curve  $\gamma_+$  we obtain

$$|g(z)| \le C_4 |z|^{m-1} \exp\left((m+1)A(\operatorname{Re} z)^m \operatorname{Im} z\left[1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{|\operatorname{Re} z|}\right)\right]\right)$$

$$\leq C_4 |z|^{m-1} \exp\left(\frac{B(\operatorname{Re} z)^m}{|z|^m}(m+1)\right) \leq C_5 |z|^{m-1}$$

To obtain the estimate, we apply the Pragmen-Lindelöf theorem for the function g(z) and deduce

$$|g(z) \le C_6 |z|^{m-1}$$

for

$$\operatorname{Re} z \ge 1, \ -\alpha \le \operatorname{Im} z \le \frac{1}{|z|^m}$$

In particular, for  $z \ge 1$  we get

$$|f(z)| \le C_6 |z|^{m-1}.$$

In a similar way we treat the case  $z \leq -1$ .

To apply Proposition 1, notice that the operator  $-\Delta_D$  with Dirichlet boundary condition on  $\partial \Omega$  is a self-adjoint positive operator and it is easy to see that

$$\|R(\lambda)\|_{L^2(\Omega)\to L^2(\Omega)} \le \frac{C}{|z|\operatorname{Im} z}, \ \operatorname{Im} z > 0.$$

Combining the estimate (7) and Proposition 1 with m = n - 1, we obtain (3) and the proof of Theorem 3 is complete.

Theorem 3 makes possible to apply a result of G.Popov and G. Vodev (see Proposition 1.4 in [13]) in order to obtain the following

**Theorem 4.** Under the hypothesis of Theorem 3 for every m > 0and t > 1 we have for n odd the estimate

$$p_m(t) \le C(t^{-1}\log t)^{m/(n-1)},$$

while for n even and t > 1 we have

$$p_m(t) \le \begin{cases} C(t^{-1}\log t)^{m/(n-1)}, \text{ for } 0 < m \le n(n-1), \\ Ct^{-n} \text{ for } m > n(n-1). \end{cases}$$

The factor m/(n-1) comes from the estimate of the resolvent of the generator G of the unitary group  $U(t) = e^{itG}$  related to the problem (1). More precisely, we have

$$G = -i \begin{pmatrix} 0 & Id \\ \Delta_D & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

with domain

$$D(G) = \{(u, v) : u \in H^2_0(\Omega), v \in H_D(\Omega)\} \subset \mathcal{H}_2$$

where  $\mathcal{H} = \{(u, v) : u \in H_D(\Omega), v \in L^2(\Omega)\}$  and  $H_D(\Omega)$  is the closure of  $C_0^{\infty}(\Omega)$  with respect to the norm

$$\|\varphi\|_D^2 = \int_\Omega |\nabla\varphi|^2 dx.$$

For the resolvent  $(G - \lambda)^{-1}$  we have the representation

$$(G-\lambda)^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda R(\lambda) & -iR(\lambda) \\ -i\Delta_D R(\lambda) & \lambda R(\lambda) \end{pmatrix}.$$
 (8)

Therefore (3) implies the estimates (see [20], [5])

$$\begin{aligned} \|\lambda R_{\chi}(\lambda)\|_{H_D \to H_D} &\leq C |\lambda|^{n-1}, \ \|\chi \Delta_D R(\lambda)\chi\|_{H_D \to L^2} \leq C |\lambda|^{n-1}, \\ \|R_{\chi}(\lambda)\|_{L^2 \to H_D} &\leq C |\lambda|^{n-1}, \ \lambda \in \mathbb{R}, |\lambda| \geq C_0 \end{aligned}$$

and we obtain

$$\|\chi(G-\lambda)^{-1}\chi\|_{\mathcal{H}\to\mathcal{H}} \le C|\lambda|^{n-1}, \ \lambda \in \mathbb{R}, \ |\lambda| \ge C_0.$$

## 4. Spectre of the Lax-Phillips semigroup Z(t)

In this section we assume  $n \geq 3$ , n, odd and we examine the spectrum of the Lax-Phillips semigroup  $Z^b(t) = P^b_+ U(t)P^b_-$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , where U(t) is the unitary group introduced in Section 3 and  $P^a_{\pm}$  are the orthogonal projections on the orthogonal complements of the spaces

$$D^b_{\pm} = \{ f \in \mathcal{H} : U_0(t)f = 0, \ |x| < \pm t + b \}, \ b > a.$$

Here  $U_0(t)$  is the unitary group related to the Cauchy problem for the wave equation in  $\mathbb{R}_t \times \mathbb{R}^n$  (see [10]). We choose  $\chi \in C_0^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  so that  $\chi = 1$  for  $|x| \leq a, \ \chi = 0$  for  $|x| \geq b$ . We fix b > a with this property and note that  $P_{\pm}^b \chi = \chi = \chi P_{\pm}^b$  and for simplicity we will write Z(t)instead of  $Z^b(t)$ . Let B be the generator of Z(t). Therefore,

$$\sigma(B) \subset \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{Re} z < 0\}$$

and the eigenvalues  $z_j$  of iB coincide with their multiplicities with the poles of  $R_{\chi}(\lambda)$  (see [10]). The condition

$$\sup_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}} \|\lambda R_{\chi}(\lambda)\|_{L^{2}(\Omega) \to L^{2}(\Omega)} = +\infty$$
(9)

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implies

$$\sup_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}} \|(B+i\lambda)^{-1}\|_{\mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{H}} = +\infty.$$
(10)

In fact, for  $\operatorname{Re} \lambda > 0$  we have

$$\chi(iG - \lambda)^{-1}\chi = -\int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} \chi e^{itG} \chi dt$$
$$= -\int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} \chi Z(t) \chi dt = \chi (B - \lambda)^{-1}$$

and by analytic continuation for  $\operatorname{Re} \lambda \geq 0$  we obtain

$$\chi(iG+i\lambda)^{-1}\chi, = \chi(B+i\lambda)^{-1}\chi, \,\forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$

and we may exploit the representation (8). On the other hand, (9) means that the condition (b) of Theorem 1 is not satisfied, so we have not an uniform decay of the local energy. This holds for obstacles having at least one generalized non-degenerate trapping ray (see [14] and [12] for more details).

In the following we assume the condition (9) satisfied. Suppose that there are only finite number of resonances in the domain

$$\{z \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{Im} z \geq -\delta\}, \ \delta > 0$$

Choose  $0 \leq \alpha \leq \delta$  so that we have no resonances on the line  $\{z \in \mathbb{C} : \text{Im } z = -\alpha\}$ , hence the resolvent  $(B + \alpha + i\lambda)^{-1}$  exists for every  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ . It is easy to see that

$$\sup_{\lambda \in \mathbb{R}} \| (B + \alpha + i\lambda)^{-1} \|_{\mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{H}} = +\infty.$$
(11)

Indeed, if the resolvent  $(B + \alpha + i\lambda)^{-1}$  is uniformly bounded with respect to  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , the cut-off resolvent  $\|\lambda R_{\chi}(-i\alpha + \lambda)\|_{L^2 \to L^2}$  will be also bounded uniformly with respect to  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ . Consider the domain

$$\{z \in \mathbb{C} : -\alpha \leq \text{Im} \ z \leq c_0, \ | \operatorname{Re} z| \geq c_1, \ c_i > 0, \ i = 0, 1\}$$

with sufficiently large  $c_1$ . For all z in this domain we have an estimate (see for example [18])

$$||zR_{\chi}(z)||_{L^2 \to L^2} \le Ce^{C|z|^n}$$

and an application of the Pragmen-Lindelöf theorem leads to a contradiction with (9). Next, assume that

$$e^{-\alpha - i\beta} \notin \sigma(e^B), \,\forall \beta \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Then  $\|(e^{-\alpha-i\beta}-e^B)^{-1}\| \leq C_{\alpha}, \, \forall \beta \in \mathbb{R}$  and from the equality

$$I - e^{B + \alpha + i\beta} = -(B + \alpha + i\beta) \int_0^1 e^{t(B + \alpha + i\beta)} dt$$

we deduce

$$(B + \alpha + i\beta)^{-1} = -\int_0^1 e^{t(B + \alpha + i\beta)} dt (I - e^{B + \alpha + i\beta})^{-1}.$$

Consequently, the resolvent  $(B + \alpha + i\beta)^{-1}$  is uniformly bounded with respect to  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$  and we obtain a contradiction with (11). This shows that there exists  $\beta_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  so that

$$e^{-\alpha - i\beta_0} \in \sigma(e^B) \setminus e^{\sigma(B)}.$$

Now we are in position to apply the result in [9] saying that there exists a set  $\mathcal{M}_{\alpha} \subset \mathbb{R}^+$  with Lebesgue measure zero so that for all  $t \in ]0, \infty[\backslash \mathcal{M}_{\alpha}$  we have

$$e^{t(-\alpha-i\beta_0)}e^{i\omega} \in \sigma(Z(t)) : \forall \omega \in \mathbb{R},$$

hence

$$e^{-\alpha t + i\omega} \in \sigma(Z(t)), \ \forall \omega \in \mathbb{R}$$

Assume that for  $\frac{p_n}{q_n} \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $0 < \frac{p_n}{q_n} \le \delta$  we have no resonances on the line  $p_n$ .

$$\{z \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{Im} z = -\frac{p_n}{q_n}\}.$$

The above argument implies the existence of a set  $\mathcal{M}_n \subset \mathbb{R}^+$  with Lebesgue measure zero such that for  $t \in ]0, \infty[\backslash \mathcal{M}_n$  we have

$$e^{-t\frac{p_n}{q_n}+i\omega} \in \sigma(Z(t)).$$

The rationals are dense in  $]0, \delta[$  and the spectrum  $\sigma(Z(t))$  is closed. Thus for  $t \in ]0, \infty[\setminus (\cup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{M}_n)]$  we get the relation

$$\{z = e^{-ty + i\omega} \in \sigma(Z(t)): \ 0 \le y \le \delta, \ \omega \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

Finally, we have the following

**Theorem 5.** Suppose that we have a finite number of resonances z with  $\text{Im } z \geq -\delta$ ,  $\delta > 0$ . If the condition (9) holds, there exists a set  $\mathcal{R} \subset \mathbb{R}^+$  with Lebesgue measure zero so that for all  $t \in ]0, \infty[\backslash \mathcal{R}$  we have

$$\{z \in \mathbb{C} : e^{-t\delta} \le |z| \le 1\} \subset \sigma(Z(t)).$$

Next we will examine the singularities of the cut-off resolvent  $\chi(U(t) - z)^{-1}\chi$  for  $z \to z_0 \in \mathbb{S}^1$ , |z| > 1. Let  $\psi \in C_0^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  be a function such that  $\psi(x) = 1$  for  $|x| \leq a + 1$ ,  $\psi(x) = 0$  for  $|x| \geq a + 2$ . Introduce the operator

$$L_{\psi}(g,h) = \left(0, \langle \nabla_x \psi, \nabla_x g \rangle + (\Delta \psi)g\right).$$

In particular, we define  $L_{\psi}(U(t)f)$  and  $L_{\psi}(U_0(t)f)$  and will write simply  $L_{\psi}U(t)$  and  $L_{\psi}U_0(t)$ . It is easy to see that we have the following equalities:

$$(1-\psi)U(t) = U_0(t)(1-\psi) + \int_0^t U_0(t)L_{\psi}U(t-s)ds,$$
$$U(t)(1-\psi) = (1-\psi)U_0(t) + \int_0^t U(t-s)L_{\psi}U_0(s)ds.$$

Applying these equalities, we get

$$\begin{split} U(t) &= U(t)\psi + (1-\psi)U_0(t) + \int_0^t \psi U(t-s)L_{\psi}U_0(s)ds \\ &+ \int_0^t U_0(t-s)(1-\psi)L_{\psi}U_0(s)ds + \int_0^t \int_0^{t-s} U_0(\tau)L_{\psi}U(t-s-\tau)L_{\psi}U_0(s)dsd\tau \\ &= \psi U(t)\psi + U_0(t)\psi(1-\psi) + (1-\psi)U_0(t) + \int_0^t \psi U(t-s)L_{\psi}U_0(s)ds \\ &+ \int_0^t U_0(s)L_{\psi}U(t-s)\psi ds + \int_0^t U_0(t-s)(1-\psi)L_{\psi}U_0(s)ds \\ &+ \int_0^t \int_0^{t-s} U_0(\tau)L_{\psi}U(t-s-\tau)L_{\psi}U_0(s)dsd\tau. \end{split}$$

Now let  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  be such that |z| > 1. Let  $g \in C_0^{\infty}(B_{a+2})$  be a cut-off function equal to 1 on  $B_{a+1}$ . We choose the projectors  $P_{\pm}^b = P_{\pm}$  so that

$$P_{\pm}\psi = \psi = \psi P_{\pm}, \ P_{\pm}g = g = gP_{\pm},$$

Next we fix b > 0 and the projectors  $P_{\pm}$  with these properties and note that  $gL_{\psi} = L_{\psi} = L_{\psi}g$ . Let  $T_0 > 0$  be chosen so that  $P_{\pm}U_0(t)P_{\pm} = 0$  for  $t \ge T_0$ . Given a t > 0, we have

$$(Z(t) - z)^{-1} = -\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} z^{-j-1} P_+ U(jt) P_-$$
$$= P_+ \psi(U(t) - z)^{-1} \psi P_- - \sum_{jt \le T_0} z^{-j-1} P_+ U_0(jt) \psi(1 - \psi) P_-$$

$$-\sum_{jt \le T_0} z^{-j-1} P_+ (1-\psi) U_0(jt) P_-$$

$$-\int_0^{T_0} P_+ U_0(s) L_{\psi}(U(t)-z)^{-1} \Phi U(-s) \psi P_- ds$$

$$-\int_0^{T_0} P_+ \psi(U(t)-z)^{-1} \Phi U(-s) L_{\psi} U_0(s) P_- ds$$

$$-\sum_{jt \le T_1} \int_0^{\min(jt,T_0)} z^{-j-1} P_+ U_0(jt) \Phi U_0(-s) (1-\psi) L_{\psi} U_0(s) P_- ds$$

$$-\int_0^{T_0} \int_0^{T_0} P_+ U_0(\tau) L_{\psi}(U(t)-z)^{-1} \Phi_1 U(-s-\tau) L_{\psi} U_0(s) P_- ds d\tau + G(z)$$

with a function G(z) holomorphic for  $z \neq 0$ . Here  $\Phi$  and  $\Phi_1$  are cutoff functions with compact support determined by the finite speed of propagation so that

$$(1-\Phi)U_0(-s)g = 0$$
 for  $0 \le s \le T_0$ ,  
 $(1-\Phi_1)U(-t)g = 0$  for  $0 \le t \le 2T_0$ .

Finally,  $T_1 > 0$  is chosen so that  $P_+U(t)\Phi = 0$  for  $t \ge T_1$ . The terms in the above presentation of  $(Z(t) - z)^{-1}$  given by finite sums are holomorphic functions with respect to z. Consequently, if

$$\lim_{z \to z_0, |z| > 1} \|\Psi(U(t) - z)^{-1}\Psi\| < \infty$$

for  $\Psi \in C_0^{\infty}(x \in \mathbb{R}^n : |x| \le c+1)$  and equal to 1 for  $|x| \le c$  for some suitably large and fixed constant c > 0, we conclude that  $(Z(t) - z)^{-1}$ is not singular at  $z_0 \in \mathbb{S}^1$ . Combining this argument with the fact under the condition (9) we have  $\mathbb{S}^1 \subset \sigma(Z(t))$  for almost t > 0, we obtain the following

**Theorem 6.** Assume the condition (9) fulfilled. Then for almost all  $t \in ]0, \infty[$  and all  $z_0 \in \mathbb{S}^1$  we have

$$\lim_{z \to z_0, |z| > 1} \|\Psi(U(t) - z)^{-1}\Psi\| = +\infty.$$

This result is important for the analysis of the analytic continuation of the cut-off resolvent  $U_{\chi}(z) = \chi(U(T,0)-z)^{-1}\chi$  of the monodromy operator U(T,0) related to the propagator U(t,s) for time-periodic perturbations of the wave equation. In particular, we conclude that for trapping periodically moving obstacles we have not a meromorphic continuation of  $U_{\chi}(z)$  from  $\{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| \ge A \gg 1\}$  across the unit circle S.

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