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Method of spectral mappings in the inverse problem theory

**Sturm-Liouville operators on a finite interval**. Consider the BVP *L*:

$$\ell y := -y'' + q(x)y = \lambda y, \ 0 < x < \pi, \quad q(x) \in L(0, \pi), \tag{1}$$

$$U(y) := y'(0) - hy(0) = 0, \quad V(y) := y'(\pi) + Hy(\pi) = 0.$$

Let  $\varphi(x,\lambda)$ ,  $S(x,\lambda)$  be the solutions of Eq. (1) with the conditions  $\varphi(0,\lambda)=1,\ \varphi'(0,\lambda)=h,\ S(0,\lambda)=0,\ S'(0,\lambda)=1.$  Denote

$$\Delta(\lambda) := V(\varphi), \quad \{\lambda_n\}_{n\geq 0}, \quad \alpha_n = \int_0^\pi \varphi^2(x,\lambda_n) dx.$$

IP 1. (V. Marchenko, 1950). Given  $\{\lambda_n, \alpha_n\}$ , construct q, h, H. Consider the BVP  $L_1$  for (1) with the conditions y(0) = V(y) = 0.

$$\delta(\lambda) := V(S), \quad \{\nu_n\}_{n \geq 0}.$$

**IP 2.** (G. Borg, 1946). Given  $\{\lambda_n, \nu_n\}$ , construct q, h, H.

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3) The Weyl function. Let  $\Phi(x,\lambda)$  be the solution of Eq.(1) with the conditions  $U(\Phi)=1,\ V(\Phi)=0$ . We set  $M(\lambda):=\Phi(0,\lambda)$ .

**IP 3.** Given  $M(\lambda)$ , construct q, h, H.

$$M(\lambda) = -\frac{\delta(\lambda)}{\Delta(\lambda)}, \ M(\lambda) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\alpha_n(\lambda - \lambda_n)}, \tag{2}$$

$$\Delta(\lambda) = \pi(\lambda_0 - \lambda) \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda_n - \lambda}{n^2}, \quad \delta(\lambda) = \prod_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\nu_n - \lambda}{(n+1/2)^2}.$$
 (3)

IP 3 is equivalent to IP 1 and IP 2.

**Sturm-Liouville operators on the half-line.** Consider the BVP *L*:

$$\ell y := -y'' + q(x)y = \lambda y, \ x > 0, \quad q(x) \in L(0, \infty),$$

$$U(y) := y'(0) - hy(0) = 0.$$
(4)

Let  $\Phi(x, \lambda)$  be the solution of (4) under the conditions

$$U(\Phi) = 1, \quad \Phi(x, \lambda) = O(\exp(i\rho x)), \ x \to \infty,$$

where  $\lambda = \rho^2$ ,  $\operatorname{Im} \rho \geq 0$ . Denote  $M(\lambda) := \Phi(0, \lambda)$ .

**IP 4.** Given  $M(\lambda)$ , construct q(x) and h.

$$M(\lambda) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\sigma(\mu)}{\lambda - \mu}.$$
 (5)



Transformation operator method: V.Marchenko, B.Levitan, 1950-51.

Let  $\lambda = \rho^2$ . The following representation is valid

$$\varphi(x,\lambda) = \cos \rho x + \int_0^x G(x,t) \cos \rho t \, dt, \tag{6}$$

$$q(x) = \frac{d}{dx} G(x, x), \quad h = G(0, 0).$$
 (7)

Case 1: finite interval. Take a model BVP  $\tilde{L}$  with  $\tilde{q}=0, \ \tilde{h}=\tilde{H}=0$ . Then  $\tilde{\lambda}_n=n^2, \ n\geq 0$ . Consider the function

$$F(x,t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\cos \rho_n x \cos \rho_n t}{\alpha_n} - \frac{\cos nx \cos nt}{\tilde{\alpha}_n} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \cos \rho x \cos \rho t \hat{M}(\lambda) d\lambda, \quad \hat{M} := M - \tilde{M}, \tag{8}$$

 $\tilde{\alpha}_n = \pi/2 \ (n>0); \tilde{\alpha}_0 = \pi; \ \gamma \ \text{is a contour encircling the spectra of } L \ \text{and} \ \tilde{L}.$ 

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**Theorem 2.** For each fixed x, the kernel G(x, t) from representation (6) satisfies the linear integral equation

$$G(x,t) + F(x,t) + \int_0^x G(x,s)F(s,t) ds = 0, 0 < t < x.$$
 (9)

Case 2: the half-line. Take a model BVP  $\tilde{L}$  with  $\tilde{q}(x)=0,\ \tilde{h}=0.$  Consider the function

$$F(x,t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \cos \rho x \cos \rho t \hat{M}(\lambda) d\lambda, \tag{10}$$

where  $\gamma$  is a contour encircling the spectra of L and  $\tilde{L}$ . Theorem 2 remains true with (10) instead of (8).

In both cases q(x) and h can be constructed by (7).

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#### Method of Spectral Mappings: V. Yurko, 1985-1986

- [1] Yurko V.A. Recovery of nonselfadjoint differential operators on the half-line from the Weyl matrix. Matem. Sbornik, vol.182, no.3 (1991), 431-456 (Math. USSR Sbornik, vol.72, no.2 (1992), 413-438).
- [2] Yurko V.A., Inverse Spectral Problems for Differential Operators and their Applications, Gordon and Breach, New York, 1998.
- [3] Freiling G. and Yurko V.A., Inverse Sturm-Liouville Problems and their Applications, NOVA Science Publishers, New York, 2001.
- [4] Yurko V.A., Method of Spectral Mappings in the Inverse Problem Theory, Inverse and III-posed Problems Series. VSP, Utrecht, 2002.
- [5] Yurko V.A., Introduction to the theory of inverse spectral problems. Moscow, Fizmatlit, 2007, 384pp.

#### Higher-order differential equations:

$$\ell y := y^{(n)} + \sum_{k=0}^{n-2} p_k(x) y^{(k)} = \lambda y, \ n > 2.$$
 (11)

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#### Method of Spectral Mappings for Sturm-Liouville operators

Let the Weyl function  $M(\lambda)$  be given. Choose a model BVP  $\tilde{L}$  with  $\tilde{q}$  and  $\tilde{h}$  (for example, one can take  $\tilde{q}(x)=0,\ \tilde{h}=0 \ \to \ \tilde{\varphi}(x,\lambda)=\cos\rho x$ ). Denote

$$\tilde{r}(x,\lambda,\mu) = \frac{\langle \tilde{\varphi}(x,\lambda), \tilde{\varphi}(x,\mu) \rangle}{\lambda - \mu} \hat{M}(\mu) = \int_0^x \tilde{\varphi}(t,\lambda) \tilde{\varphi}(t,\mu) dt \hat{M}(\mu),$$

where  $\hat{M} := M - \tilde{M}, \ \langle y, z \rangle := yz' - y'z.$ 

**Theorem 3**. The following relation holds

$$\tilde{\varphi}(x,\lambda) = \varphi(x,\lambda) + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \tilde{r}(x,\lambda,\mu) \varphi(x,\mu) \, d\mu. \tag{12}$$

Here  $\gamma$  is a contour encircling the spectra.



Consider the Banach space  $C(\gamma)$  of continuous bounded functions  $z(\lambda), \ \lambda \in \gamma$ , with the norm  $||z|| = \sup |z(\lambda)|$ .

**Theorem 4.** For each x, Eq. (12) has a unique solution  $\varphi(x,\lambda) \in C(\gamma)$ .

**Theorem 5**. The following relations hold

$$q(x) = \tilde{q}(x) - 2\varepsilon_0'(x), \ h = \tilde{h} - \varepsilon_0(0),$$

$$\varepsilon_0(x) := \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Omega} \tilde{\varphi}(x,\mu) \varphi(x,\mu) \hat{M}(\mu) \, d\mu.$$
(13)

**Algorithm 1**. Let the function  $M(\lambda)$  be given.

- (1) Choose L and construct  $\tilde{\varphi}$  and  $\tilde{r}$ .
- (2) Find  $\varphi(x,\lambda)$  by solving equation (12).
- (3) Construct q(x) and h via (13).

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Proof of Theorem 3. Consider the functions

$$P_{11} = \varphi \tilde{\Phi}' - \Phi \tilde{\varphi}', \quad P_{12} = \Phi \tilde{\varphi} - \varphi \tilde{\Phi}. \tag{14}$$

Since  $\varphi \Phi' - \Phi \varphi' = 1$ , it follows from (14) that

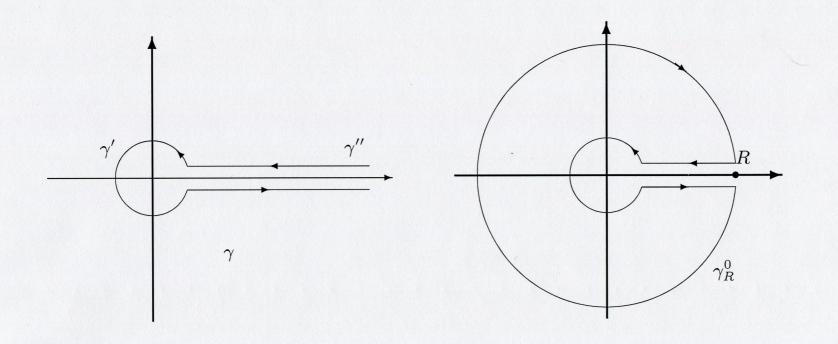
$$\varphi(x,\lambda) = P_{11}(x,\lambda)\tilde{\varphi}(x,\lambda) + P_{12}(x,\lambda)\tilde{\varphi}'(x,\lambda).$$

One has

$$P_{1k}(x,\lambda) - \delta_{1k} = O(\rho^{-1}), \ |\lambda| \to \infty, \ \lambda = \rho^2, \tag{15}$$

where  $\delta_{jk}$  is the Kronecker symbol. For definiteness we consider the case of the half-line. For a finite interval the arguments are similar.

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Denote by  $\Lambda$  the discrete spectrum; it is a bounded set. In the  $\lambda$  - plane we consider the contour  $\gamma=\gamma'\cup\gamma''$  (with counterclockwise circuit), where  $\gamma'$  is a bounded closed contour encircling the set  $\Lambda\cup\tilde{\Lambda}\cup\{0\}$ , and  $\gamma''$  is the two-sided cut along the arc  $\{\lambda:\ \lambda>0,\ \lambda\notin\inf\gamma'\}$ . Denote  $J_{\gamma}=\{\lambda:\ \lambda\notin\gamma\cup\inf\gamma'\}$ . Consider the contour  $\gamma_R=\gamma\cap\{\lambda:\ |\lambda|\le R\}$  with counterclockwise circuit, and also consider the contour  $\gamma_R^0=\gamma_R\cup\{\lambda:\ |\lambda|=R\}$  with clockwise circuit. By Cauchy's integral formula,

$$P_{1k}(x,\lambda) - \delta_{1k} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma_R^0} \frac{P_{1k}(x,\mu) - \delta_{1k}}{\lambda - \mu} d\mu,$$

where  $\lambda \in \operatorname{int} \gamma_R^0$ . Using (15) we get

$$\lim_{R\to\infty}\int_{|\mu|=R}\frac{P_{1k}(x,\mu)-\delta_{1k}}{\lambda-\mu}\,d\mu=0\quad\rightarrow\quad$$

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$$P_{1k}(x,\lambda) = \delta_{1k} + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{P_{1k}(x,\mu)}{\lambda - \mu} d\mu, \ \lambda \in J_{\gamma}.$$

Since  $\varphi = P_{11}\tilde{\varphi} + P_{12}\tilde{\varphi}'$ , one has

$$\varphi(x,\lambda) = \tilde{\varphi}(x,\lambda) + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{\tilde{\varphi}(x,\lambda)P_{11}(x,\mu) + \tilde{\varphi}'(x,\lambda)P_{12}(x,\mu)}{\lambda - \mu} d\mu.$$

Taking (14) into account we get

$$\varphi(x,\lambda) = \tilde{\varphi}(x,\lambda) + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} (\tilde{\varphi}(x,\lambda)(\varphi(x,\mu)\tilde{\Phi}'(x,\mu) - \Phi(x,\mu)\tilde{\varphi}'(x,\mu)) +$$

$$\tilde{\varphi}'(x,\lambda)(\Phi(x,\mu)\tilde{\varphi}(x,\mu)-\varphi(x,\mu)\tilde{\Phi}(x,\mu))\frac{d\mu}{\lambda-\mu}.$$

Using the relations  $\Phi = S + M\varphi$ ,  $\tilde{\Phi} = \tilde{S} + \tilde{M}\tilde{\varphi}$ , we arrive at (12), since the terms with  $S(x, \mu)$  vanish by Cauchy's theorem.

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Higher-order operators, 1985-1986. Consider the equation

$$\ell y := y^{(n)} + \sum_{k=0}^{n-2} p_k(x) y^{(k)} = \lambda y, \ n > 2.$$
 (1)

Let  $\lambda=\rho^n$ . The  $\rho$ - plane can be partitioned into sectors  $S_{\nu}$  of angle  $\frac{\pi}{n}$   $\left(S_{\nu}:=\{\rho: \arg \rho\in \left(\frac{\nu\pi}{n},\frac{(\nu+1)\pi}{n}\right)\},\ \nu=\overline{0,2n-1}\right)$  in each of which the roots  $R_1,R_2,\ldots,R_n$  of the equation  $R^n-1=0$  can be numbered in such a way that

$$Re(\rho R_1) < \ldots < Re(\rho R_n), \quad \rho \in S_{\nu}.$$

Let  $\Phi_m(x,\lambda)$ ,  $m=\overline{1,n}$ , be the solutions of Eq. (1) with the conditions

$$\Phi_m^{(n-\xi)}(0,\lambda)=\delta_{\xi m}, \quad \xi=\overline{1,m},$$

$$\Phi_m(x,\lambda) = O(\exp(\rho R_m x)), \quad x \to \infty, \quad \rho \in S_{\nu}.$$

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Denote  $M(\lambda) = [M_{mk}(\lambda)]_{m,k=\overline{1,n}}, \ M_{mk}(\lambda) = \Phi_m^{(n-k)}(0,\lambda)$ . The matrix  $M(\lambda)$  is called the Weyl matrix for  $\ell$ .

#### Example: n=4.

$$\begin{split} &\Phi_{1}'''(0,\lambda)=1,\ \Phi_{1}(x,\lambda)=O(\exp(\rho R_{1}x)),\\ &\Phi_{2}'''(0,\lambda)=0,\ \Phi_{2}''(0,\lambda)=1,\ \Phi_{2}(x,\lambda)=O(\exp(\rho R_{2}x)),\\ &\Phi_{3}'''(0,\lambda)=\Phi_{3}''(0,\lambda)=0,\ \Phi_{3}'(0,\lambda)=1,\ \Phi_{3}(x,\lambda)=O(\exp(\rho R_{3}x)),\\ &\Phi_{4}'''(0,\lambda)=\Phi_{4}''(0,\lambda)=\Phi_{4}'(0,\lambda)=0,\ \Phi_{4}(0,\lambda)=1, \end{split}$$

$$M(\lambda) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & M_{12}(\lambda) & M_{13}(\lambda) & M_{14}(\lambda) \\ 0 & 1 & M_{23}(\lambda) & M_{24}(\lambda) \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & M_{34}(\lambda) \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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**Inverse problem.** Given the Weyl matrix  $M(\lambda)$ , construct  $\ell$ .

Let  $\Gamma_{\pm}:=\{\lambda:\ \pm\lambda\geq 0\},$  and  $\Pi_{\pm}$  be the  $\lambda$ - plane with a cut along  $\Gamma_{\pm}.$ 

**Theorem 1**. The Weyl matrix  $M(\lambda)$  has the following properties:

- 1)  $M_{mk}(\lambda) = \delta_{mk}, m \geq k$ .
- 2) The functions  $M_{mk}(\lambda)$  are analytic in  $\Pi_{(-1)^{n-m}}$  with the exception of at most countable bounded sets  $\Lambda'_{mk}$  of poles and are continuous in  $\bar{\Pi}_{(-1)^{n-m}}$  with the exception of bounded sets  $\Lambda_{mk}$ .
- 3)  $M_{mk}(\lambda) = O(\rho^{m-k})$  as  $|\lambda| \to \infty$ .
- 4) The functions  $(M_{mk} M_{m,m+1}M_{m+1,k})(\lambda)$  are analytic for  $\lambda \in \Gamma_{(-1)^{n-m}} \setminus \Lambda$ , where  $\Lambda = \bigcup_{m,k} \Lambda_{mk}$ .



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Let  $M(\lambda)$  be the Weyl matrix for  $\ell$ . Take a model operator  $\tilde{\ell}$ . In the  $\lambda$ -plane we consider the contour  $\gamma = \gamma_{-1} \cup \gamma_0 \cup \gamma_1$  (with a counterclockwise circuit), where  $\gamma_0$  is a bounded closed contour encircling the set  $\Lambda \cup \tilde{\Lambda} \cup \{0\}$  (i.e.  $\Lambda \cup \tilde{\Lambda} \cup \{0\} \subset \text{int} \gamma_0$ ), and  $\gamma_{\pm 1}$  is a two-sided cut along the ray  $\{\lambda: \ \pm \lambda > 0, \ \lambda \notin \text{int} \gamma_0\}$ . Denote

$$\varphi(x,\lambda) = [\chi((-1)^{n-k+1}\lambda)\Phi_k(x,\lambda)]_{k=\overline{2,n}},$$

where  $\chi_{\pm 1}(\lambda) = 1$  for  $\lambda \in \gamma_0 \cup \gamma_{\pm 1}, \ \chi_{\pm 1}(\lambda) = 0$  for  $\lambda \in \gamma_{\mp 1}$ .

**Theorem 2.** For each fixed  $x \ge 0$ , the vector  $\varphi(x, \lambda)$  is a solution of the linear singular integral equation

$$\tilde{\varphi}(x,\lambda) = Q(\lambda)\varphi(x,\lambda) + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{H(x,\lambda,\mu)}{\mu - \lambda} \varphi(x,\mu) \, d\mu, \ \lambda \in \gamma,$$
 (2)

where  $Q(\lambda)$  and  $H(x, \lambda, \mu)$  are constructed from  $\tilde{\ell}$  and  $M(\lambda)$ .

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Denote  $\Omega(x,\lambda)=\operatorname{diag}\left[\rho^{n-k}\exp(-\rho R_k x)\right]_{k=\overline{2,n}},$   $\gamma''=\{\lambda:\ \lambda\in\gamma_1\cup\gamma_{-1},\ d(\lambda,\gamma_0)\geq\alpha_0>0\},\ \gamma'=\gamma\setminus\gamma'',\ \text{where}\ d(\lambda,\gamma_0):=\inf|\lambda-\mu|,\ \mu\in\gamma_0.$  We introduce the Banach space  $B=L_2^{n-1}(\gamma')\oplus L_\infty^{n-1}(\gamma'')$  of vector-valued functions  $z(\lambda)=[z_j(\lambda)]_{j=\overline{1,n-1}},$   $\lambda\in\gamma$  with the norm

$$||z||_B = \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (||z_j||_{L_2(\gamma')} + ||z_j||_{L_\infty(\gamma'')}).$$

**Theorem 3.** For each  $x \geq 0$ , equation (2) has a unique solution in the class  $\Omega(x,\lambda)\varphi(x,\lambda) \in B$ , and  $\sup_{x} \|\Omega(x,\lambda)\varphi(x,\lambda)\|_{B} < \infty$ .

**Algorithm**. 1) Choose a model operator  $\tilde{\ell}$ .

- 2) Construct the matrices  $H(x, \lambda, \mu)$ ,  $Q(\lambda)$ ,  $\tilde{\varphi}(x, \lambda)$ ,  $x \geq 0$ ,  $\lambda, \mu \in \gamma$ .
- 3) Find  $\varphi(x,\lambda), x \ge 0, \lambda \in \gamma$  by solving the main equation (2).
- 4) Construct  $\ell$ .

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#### Inverse problems for systems: V. Yurko, 2004-2005.

Consider the system

$$\ell Y(x) := Q_0 Y'(x) + Q(x)Y(x) = \rho Y(x), \quad x > 0, \tag{1}$$

 $Q_0=\operatorname{diag}[q_k]_{k=\overline{1,n}},\ Q(x)=[q_{kj}(x)]_{k,j=\overline{1,n}},\ q_{kk}(x)\equiv 0.$  Let  $\beta_k=1/q_k.$  The  $\rho$ - plane can be partitioned into sectors  $S_j=\{\rho:\arg\rho\in(\theta_j,\theta_{j+1})\},\ j=\overline{0,2r-1},\ 0\leq\theta_0<\theta_1<\ldots<\theta_{2r-1}<2\pi,$  in each of which there exists a permutation  $i_k=i_k(S_j)$  of the numbers  $1,\ldots,n,$  such that for the numbers  $R_k=R_k(S_j)$  of the form  $R_k=\beta_{i_k}$  one has

$$\operatorname{Re}(\rho R_1) < \ldots < \operatorname{Re}(\rho R_n), \quad \rho \in S_j.$$
 (2)

Let the matrix  $h = [h_{\xi\nu}]_{\xi,\nu=\overline{1,n}}$ , det  $h \neq 0$  be given. We introduce the linear forms  $U(Y) = [U_{\xi}(Y)]_{\xi=\overline{1,n}}^T$  by U(Y) = hY(0).

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Denote  $\Omega^0_{mk}(j_1,\ldots,j_m)=\det[h_{\xi,j_\nu}]_{\xi=\overline{1,m-1},k:\nu=\overline{1,m}}$ . Let

$$\Omega_{mm}^{0}(i_1,\ldots,i_m)\neq 0, \ m=\overline{1,n-1}, \ j=\overline{0,2r-1}.$$

This condition is called the information condition for  $L = (\ell, U)$ .

Let  $\Phi_m(x,\rho) = [\Phi_{km}(x,\rho)]_{k=\overline{1,n}}^T$ ,  $m=\overline{1,n}$ , be solutions of system (1) under the conditions

$$U_{\xi}(\Phi_m) = \delta_{\xi m}, \ \xi = \overline{1, m},$$

$$\Phi_m(x,\rho) = O(\exp(\rho R_m x)), \ x \to \infty, \ \rho \in S_j.$$

Let 
$$M_{m\xi}(\rho) = U_{\xi}(\Phi_m)$$
,  $M(\rho) = [M_{m\xi}(\rho)]_{m,\xi=\overline{1,n}}$ .

**Inverse problem.** Given  $M(\rho)$ , construct Q and h.

**Theorem 1**. The specification of the Weyl matrix  $M(\rho)$  uniquely determines the potential Q(x) and the matrix h.

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Denote 
$$\Gamma_j = \{\rho : \text{arg } \rho = \theta_j\}, \ j = \overline{0, 2r - 1}, \ \Gamma_{2r} := \Gamma_0, \ \Sigma = \bigcup_{j=0}^{2r-1} S_j$$
 - the  $\rho$ -plane without the cuts along the rays  $\Gamma_j$ . Let  $\Gamma_i^{\pm} = \{\rho : \text{arg } \rho = \theta_j \pm 0\}$  be the sides of the cuts.

Fix  $j = \overline{0, 2r - 1}$ . For  $\rho \in \Gamma_j$ , strict inequalities from (2) in some places become equalities. Let  $m_i = m_i(j)$ ,  $p_i = p_i(j)$ ,  $i = \overline{1,s}$  be such that for  $\rho \in \Gamma_j$ :  $\text{Re}(\rho R_{m_i-1}) < \text{Re}(\rho R_{m_i}) = \ldots = \text{Re}(\rho R_{m_i+p_i}) < \text{Re}(\rho R_{m_i+p_i+1})$ ,  $R_k = R_k(S_j)$ . Let  $N_j := \{m : m = \overline{m_1, m_1 + p_1 - 1}, \ldots, \overline{m_s, m_s + p_s - 1}\}$ ,  $J_m := \{j : m \in N_j\}$ ,  $\gamma_m = \bigcup_{j \in J_m} \Gamma_j$ , and let  $\Sigma_m = \mathbf{C} \setminus \gamma_m$  be the  $\rho$ - plane

without the cuts along the rays from  $\gamma_m$ . Clearly, the domain  $\Sigma_m = \bigcup_{\nu} S_{m\nu}$  consists of the sectors  $S_{m\nu}$ , each of which is a union of several sectors  $S_j$  with the same set  $\{R_{\xi}\}_{\xi=\overline{1,m}}$ .

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We introduce the functions  $B^{\xi}_{mk}(\rho)$  by

$$B_{mk}^{0}(\rho) = M_{mk}(\rho), \ B_{mk}^{\xi}(\rho) = B_{mk}^{\xi-1}(\rho) - B_{m,m+\xi}^{\xi-1}(\rho)B_{m+\xi,k}^{0}(\rho), \xi = \overline{0, n-2}, \ m = \overline{1, n-\xi-1}, \ k = \overline{m+\xi+1, n}.$$

Denote by  $\mathcal{M}$  the set of functions  $M(\rho) = [M_{mk}(\rho)]_{m,k=\overline{1,n}}$  such that:

- 1)  $M_{mk}(\rho) \equiv \delta_{mk}$  for  $m \geq k$ ;
- 2) The function  $M_{mk}(\rho)$ , k>m, is analytic in  $\Sigma_m$  with the exception of an at most countable bounded set  $\Lambda_m'$  of poles, and are continuous in  $\overline{\Sigma}_m$  with the exception of a bounded set  $\Lambda_m$ ;
- 3) The function  $B_{\nu k}^{m-\nu}(\rho)$  is analytic on

$$\Gamma_j \setminus \Lambda'_m, j \notin J_m, 1 \leq \nu \leq m \leq n-1, m+1 \leq k \leq n;$$

4) 
$$M_{mk}(\rho) = \mu_{mk}^{0}(S_{j}) + O(\rho^{-1}), \ \mu_{mk}^{0}(S_{j}) = \frac{\Omega_{mk}^{0}(i_{1}, \ldots, i_{m})}{\Omega_{mm}^{0}(i_{1}, \ldots, i_{m})}, \ \rho \in \overline{S}_{j}.$$

**Theorem 2.** If  $M(\rho)$  is the Weyl matrix for a pair  $L = (\ell, U)$ , then  $M(\rho) \in \mathcal{M}$ .

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Denote  $\Lambda:=\Lambda_1\cup\ldots\cup\Lambda_{n-1}$ . Let  $M(\rho)$  be the Weyl matrix for  $L=(\ell,U)$ . We choose a pair  $\tilde{L}=(\tilde{\ell},\tilde{U})$  such that  $M(\rho)-\tilde{M}(\rho)=O(\rho^{-1}),\ |\rho|\to\infty$ . In the  $\rho$ - plane we consider the contour  $\omega^*:=\omega^0\cup\omega^1$ , where  $\omega^0$  is a bounded closed contour encircling the set  $\Lambda\cup\tilde{\Lambda}\cup\{0\}$  (i.e.

 $\Lambda \cup \tilde{\Lambda} \cup \{0\} \subset \operatorname{int} \omega^0$ ), and  $\omega^1 = \bigcup_{j=0}^{2r-1} \omega_j^1$ ,  $\omega_j^1 := \{\rho : \rho \in \Gamma_j \setminus \omega^0\}$ . Denote

$$\varphi(x,\rho) = \begin{cases} [\Phi^+(x,\rho), \Phi^-(x,\rho)], & \rho \in \omega^1, \\ \Phi(x,\rho), & \rho \in \omega^0, \end{cases}$$

where  $\Phi^{\pm} := \Phi_{|\omega^{\pm}}, \ \omega^{\pm} = \bigcup_{j=0}^{2r-1} \omega_j^{\pm}, \ \omega_j^{\pm} = \Gamma_j^{\pm} \setminus \operatorname{int} \omega^0.$ 

We consider the Banach space  $\mathcal{B}_p := \{f(\rho): f(\rho)\rho^{-1} \in L_p(\omega^*)\}, \ p > 1$  with the norm  $\|f\|_{\mathcal{B}_p} := \|f(\rho)\rho^{-1}\|_{L_p(\omega^*)}$ .

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**Theorem 3.** Let  $M(\rho)$  be the Weyl matrix for the pair  $L = (\ell, U)$ . The following relation is valid for  $\rho \in \omega^*$ :

$$\tilde{\varphi}(x,\rho) = \varphi(x,\rho)S(\rho) + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\omega^*} \varphi(x,\mu)r(x,\mu,\rho) \, d\mu, \tag{3}$$

where  $S(\rho)$  and  $r(x, \rho, \mu)$  are constructed from  $\tilde{\ell}$  and  $M(\rho)$ .

For each fixed  $x \ge 0$ , equation (3) has the unique solution  $\varphi(x,\rho)$  in the class  $\varphi(x,\rho)D(x,\rho) \in \mathcal{B}_p$  for each p>1; and  $\sup_{x>0} \|\varphi(x,\rho)D(x,\rho)\|_{\mathcal{B}_p} < \infty.$ 

**Algorithm**. 1) Choose a model pair  $\tilde{L} = (\tilde{\ell}, \tilde{U})$ .

- 2) Construct the matrices  $r(x, \rho, \mu), S(\rho), \tilde{\varphi}(x, \rho)$ .
- 3) Find  $\varphi(x, \rho)$  by solving the main equation (3).
- 4) Construct Q(x) and h.

**Theorem 4.** For a matrix  $M(\rho) \in \mathcal{M}$  to be the Weyl matrix for a pair  $L = (\ell, U)$ , it is necessary and sufficient that the following conditions are fulfilled:

- 1) (asymptotics) there exists a pair  $\tilde{L}=(\tilde{\ell},\tilde{U})$  such that  $M(\rho) - \tilde{M}(\rho) = O(\rho^{-1}), |\rho| \to \infty, holds$ :
- 2) (condition P) for each fixed  $x \ge 0$ , the main equation (3) has a unique solution  $\varphi(x,\rho)$  in the class  $\varphi(x,\rho)D(x,\rho)\in\mathcal{B}_p$ , p>1, and  $\sup \|\varphi(x,\rho)D(x,\rho)\|_{\mathcal{B}_n}<\infty;$
- 3)  $\varepsilon(x) \in W$ , where

$$\varepsilon(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\omega} \left( \Phi(x,\mu) A_0(\mu) \tilde{\Phi}^*(x,\mu) Q_0 - Q_0 \Phi(x,\mu) A_0(\mu) \tilde{\Phi}^*(x,\mu) \right) d\mu.$$

Under these conditions the pair  $L = (\ell, U)$  is constructed by the formulae

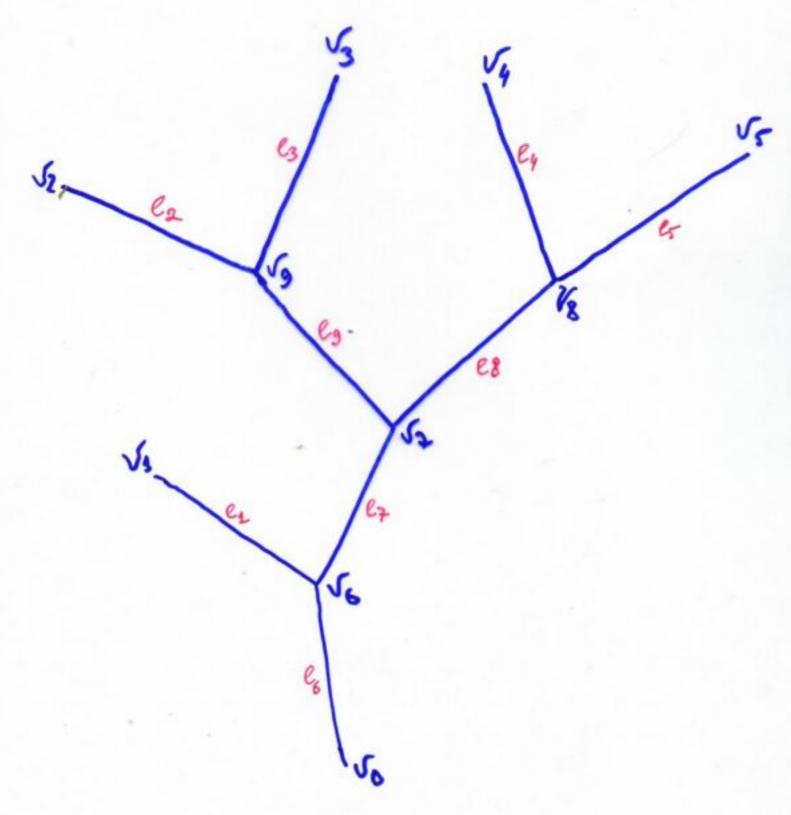
$$Q(x) = \tilde{Q}(x) + \varepsilon(x), \quad h = \tilde{h}.$$

### Inverse Spectral Problems for Sturm-Liouville Operators on Graphs

Yurko V.A. Inverse Problems, 21, no.3 (2005), 1075-1086.

Let T be a compact, simply connected rooted tree in  $\mathbf{R}^{\mathbf{m}}$  with the root  $v_0$ , the set of vertices  $V = \{v_0, \dots, v_r\}$  and the set of edges  $\mathcal{E} = \{e_1, \dots, e_r\}$ . We suppose that the length of each edge is equal to 1. For two points  $a, b \in T$  we will write  $a \leq b$  if a lies on a unique simple path connecting the root  $v_0$  with b; let |b| stand for the length of this path. We will write a < b if  $a \leq b$  and  $a \neq b$ . If a < b we denote  $[a, b] := \{z \in T : a \leq z \leq b\}$ . If e = [v, w] is an edge, we call v its initial point, v its end point and say that v emanates from v and terminates at v. We denote by v be the set of edges emanating from v.

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 $V = \{v_0,...,v_g\}$  are vertices, i.e. R = 9.  $\Gamma = \{v_0,...,v_s\}$  are boundary vertices, i.e.  $\beta = 5$ 6 = 4 is the Reight of the tree

For any  $v \in V$  the number |v| is called the order of v. For  $e \in \mathcal{E}$  its order is defined as the order of its end point. The number  $\sigma := \max_{i=1,r} |v_i|$  is called the height of the tree T. Let  $V^{(\mu)} := \{ v \in V : |v| = \mu \}, \ \mu = \overline{0, \sigma}$ be the set of vertices of order  $\mu$ , and let  $\mathcal{E}^{(\mu)} := \{ e \in \mathcal{E} : e = [v, w], v \in V^{(\mu-1)}, w \in V^{(\mu)} \}, \mu = \overline{1, \sigma} \text{ be the set }$ of edges of order  $\mu$ . Each edge  $e \in \mathcal{E}$  is viewed as a segment [0, 1] and is parameterized by the parameter  $x \in [0, 1]$ . We choose the following orientation on each edge  $e = [v, w] \in \mathcal{E}$ : if  $z = z(x) \in e$ , then z(0) = w, z(1) = v, i.e. x = 0 corresponds to the end point w. We enumerate the vertices  $v_i$  as follows:  $\Gamma := \{v_0, v_1, \dots, v_p\}$  are boundary vertices,  $v_{p+1} \in V^{(1)}$ , and  $v_i, j > p+1$  are enumerated in order of increasing  $|v_i|$ . We enumerate the edges similarly, namely:  $e_j = [v_{j_k}, v_j]$ ,  $j = \overline{1, r}, j_k < j$ . In particular,  $E := \{e_1, \dots, e_{p+1}\}$  is the set of boundary edges;  $e_{p+1} = [v_0, v_{p+1}]$  is called the rooted edge of T.

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An integrable function Y on T may be represented as a vector  $Y(x) = [y_j(x)]_{j \in J}, x \in [0,1]$ , where  $J := \{j : j = \overline{1,r}\}$ , and the function  $y_j(x)$  is defined on the edge  $e_j$ . Let  $q = [q_j]_{j \in J}$  is an integrable real-valued function on T which is called the potential. Consider the Sturm-Liouville equation on T:

$$-y_j''(x) + q_j(x)y_j(x) = \lambda y_j(x), \quad x \in [0, 1], \ j \in J, \tag{1}$$

 $y_j(x), y_j'(x) \in AC[0,1]$  and satisfy the following 2r - p - 1 matching conditions in each internal vertex  $v_k$ ,  $k = \overline{p+1,r}$ :

$$y_j(1) = y_k(0) \text{ for all } e_j \in R(v_k), \quad \sum_{e_j \in R(v_k)} y_j'(1) = y_k'(0).$$
 (2)

Let  $L_0$  be the boundary value problem (BVP) defined by (1)-(3), where

$$Y_{|v_i} = 0, \quad j = \overline{0, p}. \tag{3}$$

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Let  $L_k$ ,  $k = \overline{1, p}$ , be the BVP for (1) satisfying (2) and

$$y'_k(0) = 0, \quad Y_{|v_j|} = 0, \quad j = \overline{0, p} \setminus k.$$
 (4)

Let  $\{\lambda_{lk}\}_{l\geq 1}$ ,  $k=\overline{0,p}$ , be the eigenvalues of  $L_k$  of the form (1)-(3) for k=0, and (1), (2), (4) for  $k=\overline{1,p}$ , respectively.

Let  $\Psi_k(x,\lambda) = [\psi_{kj}(x,\lambda)]_{j\in J}$ ,  $k = \overline{0,p}$ , be solutions of equation (1) satisfying (2) and the boundary conditions

$$\Psi_{k\mid v_j} = \delta_{kj}, \quad j = \overline{0, \rho}. \tag{5}$$

Let  $M(\lambda) = [M_k(\lambda)]_{k=\overline{1,p}}, M_k(\lambda) := \psi'_{kk}(0,\lambda).$ 

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**Inverse Problem 1.** Given the Weyl vector M, construct q on T.

**Inverse Problem 2.** Given spectra  $\{\lambda_{lk}\}_{l>1}$ ,  $k=\overline{0,p}$ , construct q on T.

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The Weyl functions  $M_k(\lambda)$  are meromorphic in  $\lambda$ :

$$M_k(\lambda) = \frac{\Delta_k(\lambda)}{\Delta(\lambda)}, \quad k = \overline{1, p},$$

where  $\Delta(\lambda)$  and  $\Delta_k(\lambda)$  are the characteristic functions for  $L_0$  and  $L_k$ , respectively.

Let  $\alpha_{lk}$  be the residues of  $M_k(\lambda)$  at the poles  $\lambda_{l0}$ .

The data  $S := \{\lambda_{l0}, \alpha_{lk}\}_{l>1, k=\overline{1,p}}$  are called the spectral data for  $L_0$ .

**Inverse Problem 3.** Given S, construct the potential q on T.

**Local inverse problem.** Fix  $k = \overline{1, p}$ , and consider the following auxiliary inverse problem on the edge  $e_k$ :

**IP(k).** Given  $M_k(\lambda)$ , construct  $q_k(x)$ ,  $x \in [0,1]$ .

**Theorem 1.** If  $M_k(\lambda) = \tilde{M}_k(\lambda)$ , then  $q_k(x) = \tilde{q}_k(x)$  a.e. on [0,1]. Thus, the specification of the Weyl function  $M_k$  uniquely determines the potential  $q_k$  on the edge  $e_k$ .

Using the method of spectral mappings for the Sturm-Liouville operator on the edge  $e_k$  one can get a constructive procedure for the solution of the local inverse problem IP(k).

Pseudo-cutting procedure!

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Let  $C_j(x,\lambda)$ ,  $S_j(x,\lambda)$ ,  $j \in J$ ,  $x \in [0,1]$  be solutions of Eq. (1) on the edge  $e_j$  under the conditions  $C_j(0,\lambda) = S_j'(0,\lambda) = 1$ ,  $C_j'(0,\lambda) = S_j(0,\lambda) = 0$ . Denote

$$M_{kj}^0(\lambda) = \psi'_{kj}(0,\lambda), \ M_{kj}^1(\lambda) = \psi_{kj}(0,\lambda), \ k = \overline{0,p}, \ j \in J.$$

Then

$$\psi_{kj}(x,\lambda) = M_{kj}^1(\lambda)C_j(x,\lambda) + M_{kj}^0(\lambda)S_j(x,\lambda), \tag{6}$$

$$\psi_{kk}(x,\lambda) = C_k(x,\lambda) + M_k(\lambda)S_k(x,\lambda), \quad k = \overline{1,p}.$$
 (7)

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**Problem Z**(**T**,  $\mathbf{v_0}$ , **a**). Let  $\Psi = [\psi_j]_{j \in J}$  be the solution of equation (1) on  $\mathcal{T}$  satisfying (2) and the boundary conditions

$$\Psi_{|v_j|} = a\delta_{j0}, \quad v_j \in \Gamma, \ a \in \mathbf{C}.$$
 (8)

Denote  $m_j^0(\lambda) = \psi_j'(0,\lambda), \ m_j^1(\lambda) = \psi_j(0,\lambda), \ j \in J$ . Then

$$\psi_j(x,\lambda) = m_j^1(\lambda)C_j(x,\lambda) + m_j^0(\lambda)S_j(x,\lambda). \tag{9}$$

Substituting (9) into (2) and (8) we obtain a linear algebraic system for  $m_j^0(\lambda), m_j^1(\lambda), j \in J$ . The determinant of this system is  $\Delta(\lambda)$ . Solving this system by Kramer's rule we find the transition matrix  $[m_j^0(\lambda), m_j^1(\lambda)]_{j \in J}$  for T with respect to  $v_0$  and a.

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Fix  $v_k \in V$ . Denote  $T_k^0 := \{z \in T : v_k < z\}, T_k := T \setminus T_k^0$ . Let  $\Gamma_k$  be the set of boundary vertices of  $T_k$ . Denote  $J_k := \{j : e_i \in T_k\}$ . Fix  $v_k \notin \Gamma$ . Let  $\Psi_k(x,\lambda) = [\psi_{kj}(x,\lambda)]_{j\in J_k}$  be the solution of (1)-(2),  $\Psi_{k|v_i} = \delta_{kj}$  on  $T_k, v_i \in \Gamma_k$ ;  $M_k(\lambda) := \psi'_{kk}(0,\lambda), k = \overline{p+1,r}$  is the WF on  $T_k$  for  $v_k$ . **Lemma.** Fix  $v_m \notin \Gamma$ . Let  $e_k = [v_m, v_k] \in R(v_m)$ . Then

$$M_m(\lambda) = \frac{1}{\psi_{kk}(1,\lambda)} \sum_{e_j \in R(\nu_m)} \psi'_{kj}(1,\lambda). \tag{10}$$

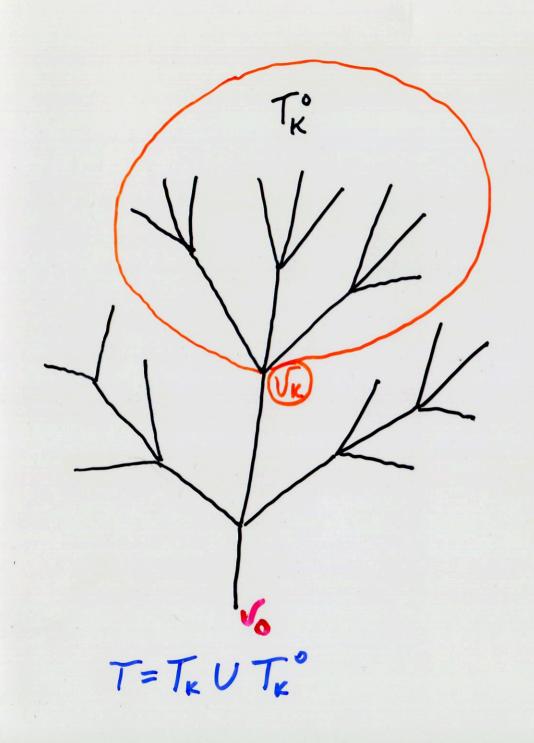
Denote  $M_{ki}^0(\lambda) = \psi'_{ki}(0,\lambda)$ ,  $M_{ki}^1(\lambda) = \psi_{kj}(0,\lambda)$ ,  $k = p+1, r, j \in J_k$ . Then (6) and (7) hold for  $k = \overline{1, r}$ ,  $j \in J_k$ , where  $J_k = J$  for  $k = \overline{1, p} \rightarrow$ 

$$\psi_{kj}^{(\nu)}(1,\lambda) = M_{kj}^{1}(\lambda)C_{j}^{(\nu)}(1,\lambda) + M_{kj}^{0}(\lambda)S_{j}^{(\nu)}(1,\lambda), \tag{11}$$

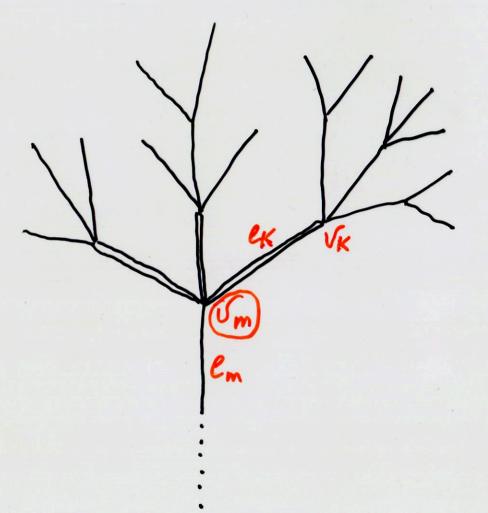
$$\psi_{kk}^{(\nu)}(1,\lambda) = C_k^{(\nu)}(1,\lambda) + M_k(\lambda) S_k^{(\nu)}(1,\lambda). \tag{12}$$

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$$M_{m}(\lambda) = \frac{1}{V_{KK}(l_{i}\lambda)} \sum_{e_{i} \in R(l_{i}m)} Y_{Ki}(l_{i}\lambda)$$



**Solution of Inverse Problems 1-3.** Let us formulate the uniqueness theorems for the solution of these inverse problems.

**Theorem 2.** The specification of the Weyl vector M uniquely determines the potential q on T.

**Theorem 3.** The specification of the spectra  $\{\lambda_{lk}\}_{l\geq 1}$  of the boundary value problems  $L_k$ ,  $k=\overline{0,p}$  uniquely determines the potential q on T.

**Theorem 4.** The specification of the spectral data S uniquely determines the potential q on T.

Let the Weyl vector  $M(\lambda) = [M_k(\lambda)]_{k=\overline{1,p}}$  for the tree T be given. The procedure for the solution of Inverse Problem 1 consists in the realization of the so-called  $A_{\mu}$ - procedures successively for  $\mu = \sigma, \sigma - 1, \ldots, 1$ , where  $\sigma$  is the height of the tree T.

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 $\mathbf{A}_{\sigma}$ - procedure. 1) For each edge  $e_k \in \mathcal{E}^{(\sigma)}$ , we solve the local inverse problem IP(k) and find  $q_k(x)$ ,  $x \in [0,1]$  on the edge  $e_k$ .

- 2) For each  $e_k \in \mathcal{E}^{(\sigma)}$ , we construct  $C_k(x,\lambda), S_k(x,\lambda)$ , and calculate  $\psi_{kk}^{(\nu)}(1,\lambda), \ \nu=0,1, \text{ by } (12): \psi_{kk}^{(\nu)}(1,\lambda)=C_k^{(\nu)}(1,\lambda)+M_k(\lambda)S_k^{(\nu)}(1,\lambda).$
- 3) Returning procedure. For each fixed  $v_m \in V^{(\sigma-1)} \setminus \Gamma$  and for all  $e_i, e_k \in R(v_m), j \neq k$ , we construct  $M_{ki}^s(\lambda), s = 0, 1$ , via

$$M_{kj}^{1}(\lambda) = 0, \ M_{kj}^{0}(\lambda) = \psi_{kk}(1,\lambda)/S_{j}(1,\lambda), \ e_{j}, e_{k} \in R(v_{m}), \ j \neq k.$$

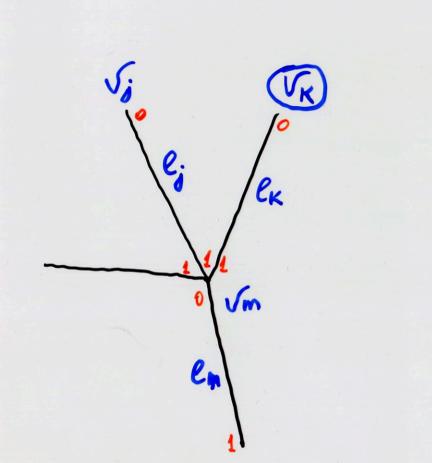
4) For each  $v_m \in V^{(\sigma-1)} \setminus \Gamma$  we find  $M_m(\lambda)$  by (10), where  $\psi'_{ki}(1,\lambda)$  are constructed via (11):  $\psi'_{ki}(1,\lambda) = M^1_{ki}(\lambda)C'_i(1,\lambda) + M^0_{ki}(\lambda)S'_i(1,\lambda)$ .

Now we carry out  $A_{\mu}$ - procedures for  $\mu = \overline{1, \sigma - 1}$  by induction. Fix  $\mu = \overline{1, \sigma - 1}$ , and suppose that  $A_{\sigma}, \dots, A_{\mu+1}$ - procedures have been already carried out. Let us carry out  $A_{\mu}$ - procedure.

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# Ac-procedure



Um 
$$\in$$
  $V$   $\downarrow$   $\Gamma$ .  $Fix$   $V_K$ .

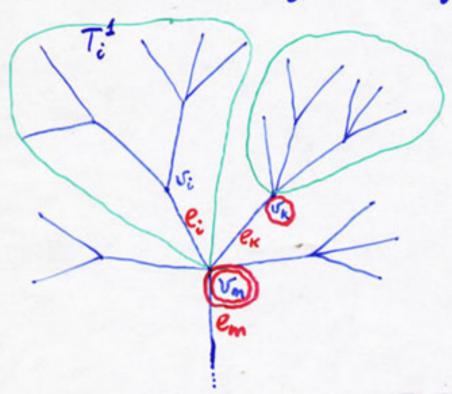
Consider  $\Psi_K$  on  $e_j$   $(j \neq K)$ .

 $\Psi_{Kj}(0,\lambda) = 0$ ,  $\Psi_{Kj}(1,\lambda) = \Psi_{KK}(1,\lambda)$ ,

 $\Psi_{Kj}(x,\lambda) = M_{Kj}^1(x)C_j(x,\lambda) + M_{Kj}^0(x)S_j(x,\lambda) \rightarrow$ 
 $M_{Kj}^1(\lambda) = 0$ ,  $j \neq K$ 
 $M_{Kj}^1(\lambda) = M_{Kj}^0(\lambda)S_j(1,\lambda) \rightarrow$ 
 $M_{Kj}^0(\lambda) = \frac{\Psi_{KK}(1,\lambda)}{S_i(1,\lambda)}$ ,  $j \neq K$ 

## Returning procedure

Let  $V_m \in V^{(r-1)} \setminus \Gamma$ . Fix  $e_k \in R(V_m)$  and consider  $Y_k = [Y_{kj}]_{j \in J_k}$ . (constructed for  $T_k$ ) on  $T_i^{-1}$ Solving the problem  $Z(T_i^{-1}, V_m, Y_{kk}(I, \lambda))$ we calculate  $[M_{kj}^{\circ}(\lambda), M_{kj}^{\circ}(\lambda)]$  for  $e_j \in T_i^{-1}$ . Thus, we get  $Y_{kj}(x,\lambda)$  for  $e_j \in T_i^{-1}$ 



 $\mathbf{A}_{\mu}$ - procedure. For each  $v_k \in V^{(\mu)}$ , the functions  $M_k(\lambda)$  are given. Indeed, if  $v_k \in V^{(\mu)} \cap \Gamma$ , then  $M_k(\lambda)$  are given a priori, and if  $v_k \in V^{(\mu)} \setminus \Gamma$ , then  $M_k(\lambda)$  were calculated on the previous steps.

- 1) For each edge  $e_k \in \mathcal{E}^{(\mu)}$ , we solve IP(k) and find  $q_k(x)$  on  $e_k$ . If  $\mu = 1$ , then Inverse Problem 1 is solved. If  $\mu > 1$ , we go on to the next step.
- 2) For each  $e_k \in \mathcal{E}^{(\mu)}$ , we construct  $C_k(x,\lambda)$ ,  $S_k(x,\lambda)$ , and calculate  $\psi_{kk}^{(\nu)}(1,\lambda)$ ,  $\nu=0,1$ , by (12):  $\psi_{kk}^{(\nu)}(1,\lambda)=C_k^{(\nu)}(1,\lambda)+M_k(\lambda)S_k^{(\nu)}(1,\lambda)$ .
- 3) Returning procedure. For each fixed  $v_m \in V^{(\mu-1)} \setminus \Gamma$  and for any fixed  $e_k, e_i \in R(v_m), i \neq k$ , we consider the tree  $T_i^1 := T_i^0 \cup \{e_i\}$  with the root  $v_m$ . Solving the problem  $Z(T_i^1, v_m, \psi_{kk}(1, \lambda))$ , we calculate the transition matrix  $[M_{kj}^0(\lambda), M_{kj}^1(\lambda)]$  for  $e_j \in T_i^1$ .
- 4) For each fixed  $v_m \in V^{(\mu-1)} \setminus \Gamma$  we calculate the Weyl function  $M_m(\lambda)$  by (10), where  $\psi'_{ki}(1,\lambda)$  are constructed via (11) for  $\nu=1$ .

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- 1) Sturm-Liouville operators on arbitrary compact graphs.
- 2) Sturm-Liouville operators on noncompact graphs.
- 3) Higher order differential operators on graphs.
- 4) Variable order differential operators on graphs.
- 5) Pencils of differential operators on graphs.
- 6) Differential operators with singularities on graphs.