



# Asymptotic Behavior of Eigenvalues and Fundamental Solutions of One Discontinuous Fourth-Order Boundary Value Problem

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## Abstract

*In this work, we study a fourth-order boundary value problem with eigenparameter dependent boundary conditions and transmission conditions at a interior point. A self-adjoint linear operator  $A$  is defined in a suitable Hilbert space  $H$  such that the eigenvalues of such a problem coincide with those of  $A$ . We obtain asymptotic formulae for its eigenvalues and fundamental solutions.*

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## Introduction

It is well-known that many topics in mathematical physics require the investigation of eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of Sturm-Liouville type boundary value problems. In recent years, more and more researches are interested in the discontinuous Sturm-Liouville problem<sup>1-7</sup>. Various physics applications of this kind problem are found in many literatures, including some boundary value problem with transmission conditions that arise in the theory of heat and mass transfer<sup>8,9</sup>. The literature on such results is voluminous<sup>1-11</sup>.

Fourth-order discontinuous boundary value problems with eigen-dependent boundary conditions and with two supplementary transmission conditions at the point of discontinuity have been investigated<sup>12-13</sup>. Note that discontinuous Sturm-Liouville problems with eigen-dependent boundary conditions and with four supplementary transmission conditions at the points of discontinuity have been investigated<sup>4</sup>.

In this study, we shall consider a fourth-order differential equation

$$Lu := (a(x)u''(x))' + q(x)u(x) = \lambda u(x) \quad (1.1)$$

on  $I = [-1, 0) \cup (0, 1]$ , with boundary conditions at  $x = -1$

$$L_1 u := \alpha_1 u(-1) + \alpha_2 u'''(-1) = 0, \quad (1.2)$$

$$L_2 u := u''(-1) = 0, \quad (1.3)$$

with the four transmission conditions at the points of discontinuity  $x = 0$ ,

$$L_3 u := u(0+) - u(0-) = 0, \quad (1.4)$$

$$L_4 u := u'(0+) - u'(0-) = 0, \quad (1.5)$$

$$L_5 u := u''(0+) - u''(0-) + \lambda \delta_1 u'(0-) = 0, \quad (1.6)$$

$$L_6 u := u'''(0+) - u'''(0-) + \lambda \delta_2 u(0-) = 0, \quad (1.7)$$

and the eigen-dependent boundary conditions at  $x = 1$

$$L_7 u := \lambda u(1) + u'''(1) = 0, \quad (1.8)$$

$$L_8 u := \lambda u'(1) + u''(1) = 0, \quad (1.9)$$

where  $a(x) = a_1^4$ , for  $x \in [-1, 0)$ ,  $a(x) = a_2^4$ , for  $x \in (0, 1]$ ,  $a_1 > 0$  and  $a_2 > 0$  are given real numbers,  $q(x)$  is a given real-valued function continuous in  $[-1, 0) \cup (0, 1]$  and has a finite limit  $q(0\pm) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pm 0} q(x)$ ;  $\lambda$  is a complex eigenvalue parameter;  $\alpha_i, \delta_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) are real numbers and  $|\alpha_1| + |\alpha_2| \neq 0$ ,  $|\delta_1| + |\delta_2| \neq 0$ .

## Preliminaries

Firstly we define the inner product in  $L^2$  for every  $f, g \in L^2(I)$  as,  $\langle f, g \rangle_1 = \frac{1}{a_1^4} \int_{-1}^0 f_1 \overline{g_1} dx + \frac{1}{a_2^4} \int_0^1 f_2 \overline{g_2} dx$ ,

where  $f_1(x) = f(x)|_{[-1, 0)}$ ,  $f_2(x) = f(x)|_{(0, 1]}$ . It is easy to see that  $(L^2(I), [\cdot, \cdot])$  is a Hilbert space. Now we define the inner product in the direct sum of spaces  $L^2(I) \oplus C \oplus C \oplus C_{\delta_1} \oplus C_{\delta_2}$  by,

$$[F, G] := \langle f, g \rangle_1 + \langle h_1, k_1 \rangle + \langle h_2, k_2 \rangle + \langle h_3, k_3 \rangle + \langle h_4, k_4 \rangle$$

for,  $F := (f, h_1, h_2, h_3, h_4), G := (g, k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4) \in L^2(I) \oplus C \oplus C \oplus C_{\delta_1} \oplus C_{\delta_2}$ .

Then  $Z := (L^2(I) \oplus C \oplus C \oplus C_{\delta_1} \oplus C_{\delta_2}, [\cdot, \cdot])$  is the direct sum of modified Krein spaces. A fundamental symmetry on the Krein space is given by

$$J := \begin{bmatrix} J_0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \text{sgn } \delta_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \text{sgn } \delta_2 \end{bmatrix},$$

where,  $J_0 : L^2(I) \rightarrow L^2(I)$

is defined by  $(J_0 f)(x) = f(x)$ . We define a linear operator  $A$  in  $Z$  by the domain of definition

$$D(A) := \{(f, h_1, h_2, h_3, h_4) \in Z \mid f_1^{(i)} \in AC_{loc}((-1, 0)), f_2^{(i)} \in AC_{loc}((0, 1)), i = \overline{0, 3}, \\ Lf \in L^2(I), L_k f = 0, k = \overline{1, 4}, h_1 = f(1), h_2 = f'(1), h_3 = -\delta_1 f'(0), h_4 = -\delta_2 f(0)\}$$

$$AF = (Lf, -f'''(1), -f''(1), f''(0+) - f''(0-), f'''(0+) - f'''(0-)),$$

$$F = (f, f(1), f'(1), -\delta_1 f'(0), -\delta_2 f(0)) \in D(A).$$

Consequently, the considered problem (1.1)-(1.9) can be rewritten in operator form as

$$AF = \lambda F,$$

i.e., the problem (1.1)-(1.9) can be considered as the eigenvalue problem for the operator  $A$ . Then, we can write the following conclusions:

**Theorem 2.1.** The eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the problem (1.1)-(1.9) are defined as the eigenvalues and the first components of the corresponding eigenelements of the operator  $A$  respectively.

**Theorem 2.2.** The operator  $A$  is self-adjoint in Krein space  $Z$ .

## Fundamental Solutions

**Lemma 3.1.** Let the real-valued function  $q(x)$  be continuous in  $[-1, 1]$  and  $f_i(\lambda)$  ( $i = 1, 4$ ) are given entire functions.

Then for any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  the equation,  $(a(x)u''(x))'' + q(x)u(x) = \lambda u(x)$ ,  $x \in I$

has a unique solution  $u = u(x, \lambda)$  such that

$$u(-1) = f_1(\lambda), u'(-1) = f_2(\lambda), u''(-1) = f_3(\lambda), u'''(-1) = f_4(\lambda) \\ \text{(or } u(1) = f_1(\lambda), u'(1) = f_2(\lambda), u''(1) = f_3(\lambda), u'''(1) = f_4(\lambda)\text{)}.$$

and for each  $x \in [-1, 1]$ ,  $u(x, \lambda)$  is an entire function of  $\lambda$ .

Let  $\phi_{11}(x, \lambda)$  be the solution of Eq. (1.1) on  $[-1, 0]$  which satisfies the initial conditions

$$\phi_{11}(-1) = \alpha_2, \phi'_{11}(-1) = \phi''_{11}(-1) = 0, \phi'''_{11}(-1) = -\alpha_1.$$

By virtue of Lemma 3.1, after defining this solution, we may define the solution  $\phi_{12}(x, \lambda)$  of Eq. (1.1) on  $(0, 1]$  by means of the solution  $\phi_{11}(x, \lambda)$  by the initial conditions

$$\phi_{12}(0) = \phi_{11}(0), \phi'_{12}(0) = \phi'_{11}(0), \phi''_{12}(0) = \phi''_{11}(0) - \lambda \delta_1 \phi'_{11}(0), \phi'''_{12}(0) = \phi'''_{11}(0) - \lambda \delta_2 \phi_{11}(0). \quad (3.1)$$

After defining this solution, we may define the solution  $\phi_{21}(x, \lambda)$  of equation (1.1) on  $[-1, 0]$  which satisfies the initial conditions

$$\phi_{21}(-1) = 0, \phi'_{21}(-1) = \beta_2, \phi''_{21}(-1) = -\beta_1, \phi'''_{21}(-1) = 0. \quad (3.2)$$

After defining this solution, we may define the solution  $\phi_{22}(x, \lambda)$  of Eq. (1.1) on  $(0, 1]$  by means of the solution  $\phi_{21}(x, \lambda)$  by the initial conditions

$$\phi_{22}(0) = \phi_{21}(0), \phi'_{22}(0) = \phi'_{21}(0), \phi''_{22}(0) = \phi''_{21}(0) - \lambda \delta_1 \phi'_{21}(0), \phi'''_{22}(0) = \phi'''_{21}(0) - \lambda \delta_2 \phi_{21}(0). \quad (3.3)$$

Analogously we shall define the solutions  $\chi_{11}(x, \lambda)$  and  $\chi_{12}(x, \lambda)$  by the initial conditions

$$\chi_{12}(1) = -1, \chi'_{12}(1) = \chi''_{12}(1) = 0, \chi'''_{12}(1) = \lambda, \chi_{11}(0) = \chi_{12}(0), \chi'_{11}(0) = \chi'_{12}(0), \\ \chi''_{11}(0) = \chi''_{12}(0) + \lambda \delta_1 \chi'_{12}(0), \chi'''_{11}(0) = \chi'''_{12}(0) + \lambda \delta_2 \chi_{12}(0). \quad (3.4)$$

Moreover, we shall define the solutions  $\chi_{21}(x, \lambda)$  and  $\chi_{22}(x, \lambda)$  by the initial conditions

$$\chi_{22}(1) = 0, \chi'_{22}(1) = -1, \chi''_{22}(1) = \lambda, \chi'''_{22}(1) = 0, \chi_{21}(0) = \chi_{22}(0), \chi'_{21}(0) = \chi'_{22}(0), \\ \chi''_{21}(0) = \chi''_{22}(0) + \lambda \delta_1 \chi'_{22}(0), \chi'''_{21}(0) = \chi'''_{22}(0) + \lambda \delta_2 \chi_{22}(0). \quad (3.5)$$

Let us consider the Wronskians

$$W_1(\lambda) := \begin{vmatrix} \phi_{11}(x, \lambda) & \phi_{21}(x, \lambda) & \chi_{11}(x, \lambda) & \chi_{21}(x, \lambda) \\ \phi'_{11}(x, \lambda) & \phi'_{21}(x, \lambda) & \chi'_{11}(x, \lambda) & \chi'_{21}(x, \lambda) \\ \phi''_{11}(x, \lambda) & \phi''_{21}(x, \lambda) & \chi''_{11}(x, \lambda) & \chi''_{21}(x, \lambda) \\ \phi'''_{11}(x, \lambda) & \phi'''_{21}(x, \lambda) & \chi'''_{11}(x, \lambda) & \chi'''_{21}(x, \lambda) \end{vmatrix}$$

and

$$W_2(\lambda) := \begin{vmatrix} \phi_{12}(x, \lambda) & \phi_{22}(x, \lambda) & \chi_{12}(x, \lambda) & \chi_{22}(x, \lambda) \\ \phi'_{12}(x, \lambda) & \phi'_{22}(x, \lambda) & \chi'_{12}(x, \lambda) & \chi'_{22}(x, \lambda) \\ \phi''_{12}(x, \lambda) & \phi''_{22}(x, \lambda) & \chi''_{12}(x, \lambda) & \chi''_{22}(x, \lambda) \\ \phi'''_{12}(x, \lambda) & \phi'''_{22}(x, \lambda) & \chi'''_{12}(x, \lambda) & \chi'''_{22}(x, \lambda) \end{vmatrix},$$

which are independent of  $x$  and entire functions. This sort of calculation gives  $W_1(\lambda) = W_2(\lambda)$ . Now we may introduce in consideration the characteristic function  $W(\lambda)$  as  $W(\lambda) = W_1(\lambda)$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** The eigenvalues of the problem (1.1)-(1.9) are the zeros of the function  $W(\lambda)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $W(\lambda) = 0$ . Then the functions  $\phi_{11}(x, \lambda)$ ,  $\phi_{21}(x, \lambda)$  and  $\chi_{11}(x, \lambda)$ ,  $\chi_{21}(x, \lambda)$  are linearly dependent, i.e.,

$$k_1\phi_{11}(x, \lambda) + k_2\phi_{21}(x, \lambda) + k_3\chi_{11}(x, \lambda) + k_4\chi_{21}(x, \lambda) = 0$$

for some  $k_1 \neq 0$  or  $k_2 \neq 0$  or  $k_3 \neq 0$  or  $k_4 \neq 0$ . From this, it follows that  $k_3\chi_{11}(x, \lambda) + k_4\chi_{21}(x, \lambda)$  satisfies the boundary conditions (1.2)-(1.3). Therefore

$$\begin{cases} k_3\chi_{11}(x, \lambda) + k_4\chi_{21}(x, \lambda), & x \in [-1, 0) \\ k_3\chi_{12}(x, \lambda) + k_4\chi_{22}(x, \lambda), & x \in (0, 1] \end{cases}$$

is an eigenfunction of the problem (1.1)-(1.9) corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .

Now we let  $u(x)$  be any eigenfunction corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , but  $W(\lambda) \neq 0$ . Then the functions  $\phi_{11}$ ,  $\phi_{21}$ ,  $\chi_{11}$ ,  $\chi_{21}$  would be linearly independent on  $(0, 1]$ . Therefore  $u(x)$  may be represented as

$$u(x) = \begin{cases} c_1\phi_{11}(x, \lambda) + c_2\phi_{21}(x, \lambda) + c_3\chi_{11}(x, \lambda) + c_4\chi_{21}(x, \lambda), & x \in [-1, 0) \\ c_5\phi_{12}(x, \lambda) + c_6\phi_{22}(x, \lambda) + c_7\chi_{12}(x, \lambda) + c_8\chi_{22}(x, \lambda), & x \in (0, 1] \end{cases}$$

where at least one of the constants  $c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4, c_5, c_6, c_7$  and  $c_8$  is not zero. Considering the equations

$$L_v(u(x)) = 0, \quad v = \overline{1, 8} \quad (3.6)$$

as a system of linear equations of the variables  $c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4, c_5, c_6, c_7, c_8$  and taking (3.1)-(3.5) into account, it follows that the determinant of this system is

$$\begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & L_1\chi_{11} & L_1\chi_{21} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & L_2\chi_{11} & L_2\chi_{21} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & L_3\phi_{12} & L_3\phi_{22} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & L_4\phi_{12} & L_4\phi_{22} & 0 & 0 \\ -\phi_{12}(0) & -\phi_{22}(0) & -\chi_{12}(0) & -\chi_{22}(0) & \phi_{12}(0) & \phi_{22}(0) & \chi_{12}(0) & \chi_{22}(0) \\ -\phi'_{12}(0) & -\phi'_{22}(0) & -\chi'_{12}(0) & -\chi'_{22}(0) & \phi'_{12}(0) & \phi'_{22}(0) & \chi'_{12}(0) & \chi'_{22}(0) \\ -\phi''_{12}(0) & -\phi''_{22}(0) & -\chi''_{12}(0) & -\chi''_{22}(0) & \phi''_{12}(0) & \phi''_{22}(0) & \chi''_{12}(0) & \chi''_{22}(0) \\ -\phi'''_{12}(0) & -\phi'''_{22}(0) & -\chi'''_{12}(0) & -\chi'''_{22}(0) & \phi'''_{12}(0) & \phi'''_{22}(0) & \chi'''_{12}(0) & \chi'''_{22}(0) \end{vmatrix} = -W(\lambda)^3 \neq 0.$$

Therefore, the system (3.6) has only the trivial solution  $c_i = 0 \quad (i = \overline{1, 8})$ . Thus we get a contradiction, which completes the proof.

### Asymptotic formulae for eigenvalues and fundamental solutions

We start by proving some lemmas.

**Lemma 4.1.** Let  $\phi(x, \lambda)$  be the solution of Eq. (1.1) defined in Section 3, and let  $\lambda = s^4$ ,  $s = \sigma + it$ . Then the following integral equations hold for  $k = \overline{0, 3}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \phi_{11}(x, \lambda) &= \frac{\alpha_2}{2} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \cos \frac{s(x+1)}{a_1} + \frac{\alpha_1 a_1^3}{2s^3} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \sin \frac{s(x+1)}{a_1} + \left( \frac{\alpha_2}{4} - \frac{\alpha_1 a_1^3}{4s^3} \right) \frac{d^k}{dx^k} e^{\frac{s(x+1)}{a_1}} \\ &+ \left( \frac{\alpha_2}{4} + \frac{\alpha_1 a_1^3}{4s^3} \right) \frac{d^k}{dx^k} e^{-\frac{s(x+1)}{a_1}} + \frac{a_1^3}{2s^3} \int_{-1}^x \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left( \sin \frac{s(x-y)}{a_1} - e^{\frac{s(x-y)}{a_1}} + e^{-\frac{s(x-y)}{a_1}} \right) q(y) \phi_{11}(y, \lambda) dy. \end{aligned} \quad (4.1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \phi_{12}(x, \lambda) &= \left( \frac{\phi_{12}(0)}{2} - \frac{a_2^2 \phi_{12}''(0)}{2s^2} \right) \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \cos \frac{sx}{a_2} + \left( \frac{a_2 \phi_{12}'(0)}{2s} - \frac{a_2^3 \phi_{12}'''(0)}{2s^3} \right) \times \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \sin \frac{sx}{a_2} \\ &+ \left( \frac{\phi_{12}(0)}{4} + \frac{a_2 \phi_{12}'(0)}{4s} + \frac{a_2^2 \phi_{12}''(0)}{4s^2} + \frac{a_2^3 \phi_{12}'''(0)}{4s^3} \right) \times \frac{d^k}{dx^k} e^{\frac{sx}{a_2}} + \left( \frac{\phi_{12}(0)}{4} - \frac{a_2 \phi_{12}'(0)}{4s} + \frac{a_2^2 \phi_{12}''(0)}{4s^2} - \frac{a_2^3 \phi_{12}'''(0)}{4s^3} \right) \frac{d^k}{dx^k} e^{-\frac{sx}{a_2}} \\ &+ \frac{a_2^3}{2s^3} \int_0^x \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left( \sin \frac{s(x-y)}{a_2} - e^{\frac{s(x-y)}{a_2}} + e^{-\frac{s(x-y)}{a_2}} \right) q(y) \phi_{12}(y, \lambda) dy. \end{aligned} \quad (4.2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \phi_{21}(x, \lambda) &= \frac{a_1}{2s} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \sin \frac{s(x+1)}{a_1} + \frac{a_1}{4s} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} e^{\frac{s(x+1)}{a_1}} - \frac{a_1}{4s} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} e^{-\frac{s(x+1)}{a_1}} \\ &+ \frac{a_1^3}{2s^3} \int_{-1}^x \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left( \sin \frac{s(x-y)}{a_1} - e^{\frac{s(x-y)}{a_1}} + e^{-\frac{s(x-y)}{a_1}} \right) q(y) \phi_{21}(y, \lambda) dy. \end{aligned} \quad (4.3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \phi_{22}(x, \lambda) &= \left( \frac{\phi_{22}(0)}{2} - \frac{a_2^2 \phi_{22}''(0)}{2s^2} \right) \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \cos \frac{sx}{a_2} + \left( \frac{a_2 \phi_{22}'(0)}{2s} - \frac{a_2^3 \phi_{22}'''(0)}{2s^3} \right) \times \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \sin \frac{sx}{a_2} \\ &+ \left( \frac{\phi_{22}(0)}{4} + \frac{a_2 \phi_{22}'(0)}{4s} + \frac{a_2^2 \phi_{22}''(0)}{4s^2} + \frac{a_2^3 \phi_{22}'''(0)}{4s^3} \right) \times \frac{d^k}{dx^k} e^{\frac{sx}{a_2}} + \left( \frac{\phi_{22}(0)}{4} - \frac{a_2 \phi_{22}'(0)}{4s} + \frac{a_2^2 \phi_{22}''(0)}{4s^2} - \frac{a_2^3 \phi_{22}'''(0)}{4s^3} \right) \frac{d^k}{dx^k} e^{-\frac{sx}{a_2}} \\ &+ \frac{a_2^3}{2s^3} \int_0^x \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left( \sin \frac{s(x-y)}{a_2} - e^{\frac{s(x-y)}{a_2}} + e^{-\frac{s(x-y)}{a_2}} \right) q(y) \phi_{22}(y, \lambda) dy. \end{aligned} \quad (4.4)$$

**Proof.** Regard  $\phi_{11}(x, \lambda)$  as the solution of the following non-homogeneous Cauchy problem:

$$\begin{cases} -(a(x)\phi_{11}''(x))'' + s^4 \phi_{11}(x) = q(x)\phi_{11}(x, \lambda), \\ \phi_{11}(-1, \lambda) = 1, \phi_{11}'(-1, \lambda) = 0, \\ \phi_{11}''(-1, \lambda) = 0, \phi_{11}'''(-1, \lambda) = 0. \end{cases}$$

Using the method of constant changing,  $\phi_{11}(x, \lambda)$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{11}(x, \lambda) &= \frac{\alpha_2}{2} \cos \frac{s(x+1)}{a_1} + \frac{\alpha_1 a_1^3}{2s^3} \sin \frac{s(x+1)}{a_1} + \left( \frac{\alpha_2}{4} - \frac{\alpha_1 a_1^3}{4s^3} \right) e^{\frac{s(x+1)}{a_1}} \\ &+ \left( \frac{\alpha_2}{4} + \frac{\alpha_1 a_1^3}{4s^3} \right) e^{-\frac{s(x+1)}{a_1}} + \frac{a_1^3}{2s^3} \int_{-1}^x \left( \sin \frac{s(x-y)}{a_1} - e^{\frac{s(x-y)}{a_1}} + e^{-\frac{s(x-y)}{a_1}} \right) q(y) \phi_{11}(y, \lambda) dy. \end{aligned}$$

Then differentiating it with respect to  $x$ , we have (4.1). The proof for (4.2), (4.3) and (4.4) is similar.

**Lemma 4.2.** Let  $\lambda = s^4$ ,  $s = \sigma + it$ . Then the following asymptotic formulae hold for  $k = \overline{0, 3}$ :

$$\frac{d^k}{dx^k} \phi_{11}(x, \lambda) = \frac{\alpha_2}{2} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \cos \frac{s(x+1)}{a_1} + \frac{\alpha_2}{4} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left( e^{\frac{s(x+1)}{a_1}} + e^{-\frac{s(x+1)}{a_1}} \right) + O\left(|s|^{k-1} e^{|s|\frac{(x+1)}{a_1}}\right). \quad (4.5)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \phi_{12}(x, \lambda) &= \frac{a_2^2 s^2 \delta_1 \phi_{11}'(0)}{2} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \cos \frac{sx}{a_2} + \frac{a_2^3 s \delta_2 \phi_{11}(0)}{2} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \sin \frac{sx}{a_2} - \frac{a_2^2 s^2 \delta_1 \phi_{11}'(0)}{4} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left( e^{\frac{sx}{a_2}} + e^{-\frac{sx}{a_2}} \right) \\ &- \frac{a_2^3 s \delta_2 \phi_{11}(0)}{4} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left( e^{\frac{sx}{a_2}} - e^{-\frac{sx}{a_2}} \right) + O\left(e^{|s|^k \left( \frac{a_1 x + a_2}{a_1 a_2} \right)}\right). \end{aligned} \quad (4.6)$$

$$\frac{d^k}{dx^k} \phi_{21}(x, \lambda) = \frac{a_1}{2s} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \sin \frac{s(x+1)}{a_1} + \frac{a_1}{4s} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left( e^{\frac{s(x+1)}{a_1}} - e^{-\frac{s(x+1)}{a_1}} \right) + O\left(|s|^{k-2} e^{|s|\frac{(x+1)}{a_1}}\right).$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \phi_{22}(x, \lambda) = & \frac{a_2^2 s^2 \delta_1 \phi'_{21}(0)}{2} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \cos \frac{sx}{a_2} + \frac{a_2^3 s \delta_2 \phi_{21}(0)}{2} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \sin \frac{sx}{a_2} - \frac{a_2^2 s^2 \delta_1 \phi'_{21}(0)}{4} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left( e^{\frac{sx}{a_2}} + e^{-\frac{sx}{a_2}} \right) \\ & - \frac{a_2^3 s \delta_2 \phi_{21}(0)}{4} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left( e^{\frac{sx}{a_2}} - e^{-\frac{sx}{a_2}} \right) + O \left( e^{|s|^{k-1} \left( \frac{a_1 x + a_2}{a_1 a_2} \right)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Each of these asymptotic formulae holds uniformly for  $x$  as  $|\lambda| \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Proof.** Let  $F_{11}(x, \lambda) = e^{-|s| \frac{x+1}{a_1}} \phi_{11}(x, \lambda)$ . It is easy to see that  $F_{11}(x, \lambda)$  is bounded. Therefore  $\phi_{11}(x, \lambda) = O(e)$ . Substituting it into (4.1) and differentiating it with respect to  $x$  for  $k = \overline{0, 3}$ , we obtain (4.5). According to transmission conditions (1.4)-(1.7) as  $|\lambda| \rightarrow \infty$ , we get

$$\phi_{12}(0) = \phi_{11}(0), \phi'_{12}(0) = \phi'_{11}(0), \phi''_{12}(0) = -s^4 \delta_1 \phi'_{11}(0), \phi'''_{12}(0) = -s^4 \delta_2 \phi_{11}(0).$$

Substituting these asymptotic formulae into (4.2) for  $k = 0$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{12}(x, \lambda) = & \frac{a_2^2 s^2 \delta_1 \phi'_{11}(0)}{2} \cos \frac{sx}{a_2} + \frac{a_2^3 s \delta_2 \phi_{11}(0)}{2} \sin \frac{sx}{a_2} - \frac{a_2^2 s^2 \delta_1 \phi'_{11}(0)}{4} \left( e^{\frac{sx}{a_2}} + e^{-\frac{sx}{a_2}} \right) - \frac{a_2^3 s \delta_2 \phi_{11}(0)}{4} \left( e^{\frac{sx}{a_2}} - e^{-\frac{sx}{a_2}} \right) \\ & + \frac{a_2^3}{2s^3} \int_0^x \left( \sin \frac{s(x-y)}{a_2} - e^{\frac{s(x-y)}{a_2}} + e^{-\frac{s(x-y)}{a_2}} \right) q(y) \phi_{12}(y, \lambda) dy + O \left( e^{|s| \left( \frac{a_1 x + a_2}{a_1 a_2} \right)} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (4.7)$$

Multiplying through by  $|s|^{-3} e^{-|s| \left( \frac{a_1 x + a_2}{a_1 a_2} \right)}$ , and denoting,  $F_{12}(x, \lambda) := O \left( |s|^{-3} e^{-|s| \left( \frac{a_1 x + a_2}{a_1 a_2} \right)} \right) \phi_{12}(x, \lambda)$ .

Denoting  $M := \max_{x \in [0, 1]} |F_{12}(x, \lambda)|$  from the last formula, it follows that

$$M(\lambda) \leq \frac{3|\alpha_2 \delta_1|}{4a_1} + \frac{|\alpha_2 \delta_2|}{4|s|^2} + \frac{M(\lambda)}{2|s|^3} \int_0^x q(y) dy + M_0$$

for some  $M_0 > 0$ . From this, it follows that  $M(\lambda) = O(1)$  as  $|\lambda| \rightarrow \infty$ , so

$$\phi_{12}(x, \lambda) = O \left( |s|^3 e^{|s| \left( \frac{a_1 x + a_2}{a_1 a_2} \right)} \right).$$

Substituting this back into the integral on the right side of (4.7) yields (4.6) for  $k = 0$ . The other cases may be considered analogically.

Similarly one can establish the following lemma. for  $\chi_{ij}(x, \lambda)$  ( $i = 1, 2, j = 1, 2$ ).

**Lemma 4.3.** Let  $\lambda = s^4$ ,  $s = \sigma + it$ . Then the following asymptotic formulae hold for  $k = \overline{0, 3}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \chi_{11}(x, \lambda) = & -\frac{a_1^2 s^2 \delta_1 \chi'_{12}(0)}{2} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \cos \frac{sx}{a_1} + \frac{a_1^3 s \delta_2 \chi_{12}(0)}{2} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \sin \frac{sx}{a_1} + \frac{a_1^2 s^2 \delta_1 \chi'_{12}(0)}{4} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left( e^{\frac{sx}{a_1}} + e^{-\frac{sx}{a_1}} \right) \\ & + \frac{a_1^3 s \delta_2 \chi_{12}(0)}{4} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left( e^{\frac{sx}{a_1}} - e^{-\frac{sx}{a_1}} \right) + O \left( |s|^{k+1} e^{|s| \left( \frac{a_1 - a_2 x}{a_1 a_2} \right)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d^k}{dx^k} \chi_{12}(x, \lambda) = -\frac{a_2^3 s}{2} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \sin \frac{s(x-1)}{a_2} + \frac{a_1^3 s \delta_2}{4} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left( e^{\frac{s(x-1)}{a_2}} - e^{-\frac{s(x-1)}{a_2}} \right) + O \left( |s|^{k+1} e^{|s| \left( \frac{1-x}{a_2} \right)} \right).$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \chi_{21}(x, \lambda) &= -\frac{a_1^2 s^2 \delta_1 \chi'_{22}(0)}{2} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \cos \frac{sx}{a_1} + \frac{a_1^3 s \delta_2 \chi_{22}(0)}{2} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \sin \frac{sx}{a_1} + \frac{a_1^2 s^2 \delta_1 \chi'_{22}(0)}{4} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left( e^{\frac{sx}{a_1}} + e^{-\frac{sx}{a_1}} \right) \\ &+ \frac{a_1^3 s \delta_2 \chi_{22}(0)}{4} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left( e^{\frac{sx}{a_1}} - e^{-\frac{sx}{a_1}} \right) + O \left( |s|^{k+2} e^{\left| s \right| \left( \frac{a_1 - a_2 x}{a_1 a_2} \right)} \right). \\ \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \chi_{22}(x, \lambda) &= -\frac{a_2^2 s^2}{2} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \sin \frac{s(x-1)}{a_2} + \frac{a_2^2 s^2}{4} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left( e^{\frac{s(x-1)}{a_2}} - e^{-\frac{s(x-1)}{a_2}} \right) + O \left( |s|^{k+1} e^{\left| s \right| \left( \frac{1-x}{a_2} \right)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

where  $k = \overline{0, 3}$ . Each of these asymptotic formulae holds uniformly for  $x$ .

**Theorem 4.4.** Let  $\lambda = s^4$ ,  $s = \sigma + it$ . Then the characteristic functions  $W_i(\lambda)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) have the following asymptotic formulae:

$$\begin{aligned} W_1(\lambda) &= -\frac{a_2^4 \delta_1 \delta_2 \alpha_2 s^{12}}{16} \left( 2 + \cos \frac{s \left( e^{-\frac{s}{a_2}} + e^{\frac{s}{a_2}} \right)}{a_2} \right) \left( e^{-\frac{s}{a_1}} + e^{\frac{s}{a_1}} \right) \cos \frac{s}{a_1} + O \left( |s|^{11} e^{2|s| \left( \frac{a_1 + a_2}{a_1 a_2} \right)} \right). \\ W_2(\lambda) &= -\frac{a_2^4 \delta_1 \delta_2 \alpha_2 s^{12}}{16} \left( 2 + \cos \frac{s \left( e^{-\frac{s}{a_1}} + e^{\frac{s}{a_1}} \right)}{a_1} \right) \left( e^{-\frac{s}{a_2}} + e^{\frac{s}{a_2}} \right) \cos \frac{s}{a_2} + O \left( |s|^{11} e^{2|s| \left( \frac{a_1 + a_2}{a_1 a_2} \right)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** Substituting the asymptotic equalities  $\frac{d^k}{dx^k} \chi_{11}(-1, \lambda)$  and  $\frac{d^k}{dx^k} \chi_{21}(-1, \lambda)$  into the representation of  $W_1(\lambda)$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} W_1(\lambda) &= \begin{vmatrix} \alpha_2 & 0 & \chi_{11}(-1, \lambda) & \chi_{21}(-1, \lambda) \\ 0 & 1 & \chi'_{11}(-1, \lambda) & \chi'_{21}(-1, \lambda) \\ 0 & 0 & \chi''_{11}(-1, \lambda) & \chi''_{21}(-1, \lambda) \\ -\alpha_1 & 0 & \chi'''_{11}(-1, \lambda) & \chi'''_{21}(-1, \lambda) \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \frac{a_1^5 \delta_1 \delta_2 s^3}{8} (\chi'_{12}(0) \chi_{22}(0) - \chi_{12}(0) \chi'_{22}(0)) \times \begin{vmatrix} \alpha_2 & 0 & \cos \frac{s}{a_1} & e^{-\frac{s}{a_1}} - e^{\frac{s}{a_1}} \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{s}{a_1} \sin \frac{s}{a_1} & \frac{s}{a_1} \left( -e^{-\frac{s}{a_1}} - e^{\frac{s}{a_1}} \right) \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{s^2}{a_1^2} \cos \frac{s}{a_1} & \frac{s^2}{a_1^2} \left( e^{\frac{s}{a_1}} - e^{-\frac{s}{a_1}} \right) \\ -\alpha_1 & 0 & -\frac{s^3}{a_1^3} \sin \frac{s}{a_1} & \frac{s^3}{a_1^3} \left( -e^{-\frac{s}{a_1}} - e^{\frac{s}{a_1}} \right) \end{vmatrix} \\ &+ \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & \sin \frac{s}{a_1} & e^{-\frac{s}{a_1}} + e^{\frac{s}{a_1}} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{s}{a_1} \cos \frac{s}{a_1} & s \left( -e^{-\frac{s}{a_1}} + e^{\frac{s}{a_1}} \right) \\ 0 & -1 & -\frac{s^2}{a_1^2} \sin \frac{s}{a_1} & s^2 \left( e^{\frac{s}{a_1}} + e^{-\frac{s}{a_1}} \right) \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{s^3}{a_1^3} \sin \frac{s}{a_1} & s^3 \left( -e^{-\frac{s}{a_1}} + e^{\frac{s}{a_1}} \right) \end{vmatrix} + O \left( |s|^{15} e^{2|s| \left( \frac{a_1 + a_2}{a_1 a_2} \right)} \right) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Analogically, we can obtain the asymptotic formulae of  $W_2(\lambda)$ .

**Corollary 4.5.** The real eigenvalues of the problem (1.1)-(1.9) are bounded below.

**Proof.** Putting  $s^2 = it^2$  ( $t > 0$ ) in the above formulas, it follows that,  $W(-t^2) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

Therefore,  $W(\lambda) \neq 0$  for  $\lambda$  negative and sufficiently large in modulus.

Now we can obtain the asymptotic approximation formulae for the eigenvalues of the considered problem (1.1)-(1.9).

Since the eigenvalues coincide with the zeros of the entire function  $W(\lambda)$ , it follows that they have no finite limit. Moreover, we know from Corollary 4.5 that all real eigenvalues are bounded below. Hence, we may renumber them as  $\lambda_0 \leq \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots$ , listed according to their multiplicity.

**Theorem 4.7.** The eigenvalues  $\lambda_n = s_n^4$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  of the problem (1.1)-(1.9) have the following asymptotic formulae for  $n \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$\sqrt[4]{\lambda'_n} = \frac{a_1 \pi (2n-1)}{2} + O\left(\frac{1}{n}\right), \quad \sqrt[4]{\lambda''_n} = \frac{a_2 \pi (2n+1)}{2} + O\left(\frac{1}{n}\right).$$

**Proof.** By applying the well-known Rouché's theorem, which asserts that if  $f(s)$  and  $g(s)$  are analytic inside and on a closed contour  $C$ , and  $|g(s)| < |f(s)|$  on  $C$ , then  $f(s)$  and  $f(s) + g(s)$  have the same number zeros inside  $C$  provided that each zero is counted according to their multiplicity, we can obtain these conclusions.

**Theorem 4.8.** The residual spectrum of the operator  $A$  is empty, i.e.,  $\sigma_r(A) = \emptyset$ .

**Proof.** It suffices to prove that if  $\gamma$  is not an eigenvalue of  $A$ , then  $(A - \gamma)^{-1}$  is dense in  $Z$ . Therefore we examine the equation  $(A - \gamma)Y = F \in Z$ , where  $F = (f, f_1, f_2, f_3, f_4)$ .

Since  $\gamma$  is not an eigenvalue of (1.1)-(1.9), we have

$$\gamma u(1) + u'''(1) = f_1 \neq 0,$$

$$\text{or, } \gamma u'(1) + u''(1) = f_2 \neq 0,$$

$$\text{or, } u''(0+) - u''(0-) + \gamma \delta_1 u'(0-) = f_3 \neq 0, \quad (4.8)$$

$$\text{or, } u'''(0+) - u'''(0-) + \gamma \delta_2 u(0-) = f_4 \neq 0. \quad (4.9)$$

For convenience, we assume that the (4.8) or (4.9) be true.

Consider the initial-value problem

$$\begin{cases} Ly - \gamma y = f, x \in I, \\ \alpha_1 y(-1) + \alpha_2 y'''(-1) = 0, \\ y''(-1) = 0, \\ y(0+) - y(0-) = 0, \\ y'(0+) - y'(0-) = 0, \\ y''(0+) - y''(0-) + \gamma \delta_1 y'(0-) = f_3, \\ y'''(0+) - y'''(0-) + \gamma \delta_2 y(0-) = f_4. \end{cases} \quad (4.10)$$

Let  $u(x)$  be the solution of the equation



$Lu - \gamma u = 0$  satisfying

$$u(-1) = \alpha_2, u'(-1) = 1, u''(-1) = 0, u'''(-1) = -\alpha_1,$$

$$u(0+) - u(0-) = 0, u'(0+) - u'(0-) = 0, u''(0+) - u''(0-) + \gamma \delta_1 u'(0-) = f_3, u'''(0+) - u'''(0-) + \gamma \delta_2 u(0-) = f_4.$$

In fact

$$u(x) = \begin{cases} u_1(x), & x \in [-1, 0), \\ u_2(x), & x \in (0, 1], \end{cases}$$

where  $u_1(x)$  is the unique solution of the initial-value problem

$$\begin{cases} a_1^4 u_1^{(4)} + q(x)u_1 = \gamma u_1, & x \in [-1, 0), \\ u_1(-1) = \alpha_2, & u_1'(-1) = 1, \\ u_1''(-1) = 0, & u_1'''(-1) = -\alpha_1, \end{cases}$$

$u_2(x)$  is the unique solution of the problem

$$\begin{cases} -a_2^4 u_2^{(4)} + q(x)u_2 = \gamma u_2, & x \in (0, 1] \\ u_2(0+) - u_1(0-) = 0, \\ u_2'(0+) - u_1'(0-) = 0, \\ u_2''(0+) - u_1''(0-) + \gamma \delta_1 u_1'(0-) = f_3, \\ u_2'''(0+) - u_1'''(0-) + \gamma \delta_2 u_1(0-) = f_4. \end{cases}$$

Let

$$\omega(x) = \begin{cases} \omega_1(x), & x \in [-1, 0), \\ \omega_2(x), & x \in (0, 1] \end{cases}$$

be a solution of  $L\omega - \gamma\omega = f$  satisfying

$$\alpha_1 \omega(-1) + \alpha_2 \omega'''(-1) = 0, \omega''(-1) = 0,$$

$$\omega(0+) - \omega(0-) = 0, \omega'(0+) - \omega'(0-) = 0,$$

$$\omega''(0+) - \omega''(0-) + \gamma \delta_1 \omega'(0-) = f_3, \omega'''(0+) - \omega'''(0-) + \gamma \delta_2 \omega(0-) = f_4.$$

Then (4.10) has the general solution

$$y(x) = \begin{cases} du_1 + \omega_1, & x \in [-1, 0) \\ du_2 + \omega_2, & x \in (0, 1] \end{cases} \quad (4.11)$$

where  $d \in \mathbb{C}$ .

Since  $\gamma$  is not an eigenvalue of (1.1) - (1.9), we have

$$\gamma u_2(1) + u_2'''(1) \neq 0 \quad (4.12)$$

or

$$\gamma u_2'(1) + u_2''(1) \neq 0. \quad (4.13)$$

The second component of  $(A - \gamma)Y = F$  involves the equation

$$y'''(1) + \gamma y(1) = h. \quad (4.14)$$

Substituting (4.11) into (4.14), we get

$$d(u_2'''(1) + \gamma u_2(1)) = h - \omega_2'''(1) - \gamma \omega_2(1).$$

In view of (4.12), we know that  $d$  is a unique solution.

The third component of  $(A - \gamma)Y = F$  involves the equation

$$y''(1) + \gamma y'(1) = -k. \quad (4.15)$$

Substituting (4.11) into (4.15), we get,  $d(u_2''(1) + \gamma u_2'(1)) = -k - \omega_2''(1) - \gamma \omega_2'(1)$ . In view of (4.13), we know that  $d$  is a unique solution. Thus if  $\gamma$  is not an eigenvalue of (1.1) – (1.9),  $d$  is uniquely solvable. Hence  $y$  is uniquely determined.

The above arguments show that  $(A - \gamma)^{-1}$  is defined on all of  $Z$ . So  $\gamma \notin \sigma_r(A)$ , i.e.,  $\sigma_r(A) = \emptyset$ .

## Conclusion

In this work firstly we constructed operator formulation of the given boundary value problem with eigenparameter-dependent boundary conditions. And then we obtained asymptotic formulas for eigenvalues and fundamental solutions. Finally, we investigated the spectrum.

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