

## ON THE LOWER SPECTRUM OF THE TWO-PARTICLE DISCRETE SCHRÖDINGER OPERATOR

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### ABSTRACT

In this paper, it is established that if the lower edge of the spectrum is an isolated point of the Schrödinger operator of a system of two particles on a lattice, then it is a simple eigenvalue and a strictly positive eigenvector corresponds to it, under certain conditions with respect to the dispersion functions and potential.

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### Introduction

Discrete Schrödinger operators corresponding to the Hamiltonians of systems of one and two quantum particles on an integer lattice are studied in [1, 2, 3, 6-10]. The earliest results relating positivity and non-degeneracy of an eigenvalue are found in the fundamental theorem of Perron and Frobenius: A finite matrix with strictly positive elements has its spectral radius as an eigenvalue of unit multiplicity, and the corresponding eigenvector is strictly positive. Note that in the Perron-Frobenius theorem, the matrix does not have to be self-adjoint. This theorem first appeared in [2] and then in [3]. The generalisation of the Perron-Frobenius theorem to quantum systems is obtained in the work of Glimm-Jaffe [4]. An application to non-relativistic systems was defined in the work of Simon and Hoegh Krohn [5].

In this scientific work, it is shown that the resolvent of the unperturbed energy operator of a two-particle system on a  $d$ -dimensional lattice is positivity-enhancing for all values of the total quasi-momentum of the system  $k \in (-\pi; \pi)^d$ ,  $z < e_m(k)$  and positivity-preserving for  $k \in T^d \setminus (-\pi; \pi)^d$ ,  $z < e_m(k)$ .

In addition, it has been established that if the lower edge is an isolated point of the spectrum of the Schrödinger operator of a system of two particles on a  $d - d$ -dimensional lattice, then for  $k \in (-\pi; \pi)^d$  it is a simple eigenvalue and a strictly positive eigenvector corresponds to it, and for  $k \in T^d \setminus (-\pi; \pi)^d$ , it is a multiple eigenvalue and a positive eigenvectors corresponds to it.

**Energy Operator of Two Particles in Coordinate and Momentum Representations**

Let  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  be the set of integers. We denote the  $d$ -dimensional lattice by  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ , and  $\ell_2(\mathbb{Z}^d)$  is the Hilbert space of quadratically summable functions defined on  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ . Let  $\mathbb{T}^d = (R/2\pi\mathbb{Z})^d = (-\pi; \pi]^d$  be a  $d$ -dimensional torus. In this torus, the operations of addition and multiplication by the real number of elements of the set  $(-\pi; \pi]^d \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  are understood everywhere as operations on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  modulo  $(2\pi\mathbb{Z})^d$  also  $L_2(\mathbb{T}^d)$  is the Hilbert space of quadratically integrable functions defined on  $\mathbb{T}^d$ .

The unperturbed energy operator  $\hat{H}_0^{(2)}$  of a system of two quantum particles on a  $d$ -dimensional lattice  $\mathbb{Z}$  is usually associated with the following operator in the Hilbert space  $\ell_2((\mathbb{Z}^d)^2)$ :

$$\hat{H}_0^{(2)} = -\frac{1}{2m_1} \hat{\Delta}_1 - \frac{1}{2m_2} \hat{\Delta}_2,$$

where  $m_1, m_2 > 0$  are the masses of the particles and

$$\hat{\Delta}_1 = \hat{\Delta} \otimes I, \hat{\Delta}_2 = I \otimes \hat{\Delta}.$$

Here,  $I$  is the identity operator in  $\ell_2(\mathbb{Z}^d)$ , and  $\hat{\Delta}$  is the standard lattice Laplacian:

$$\hat{\Delta} = \sum_{j=1}^d (\hat{T}(e_j) + \hat{T}(-e_j) - \hat{T}(0)).$$

Here,  $e_j, j = 1, \dots, d$  are unit vectors along the  $j$ -th direction of  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ , also  $\hat{T}(s)$  is the shift operator by  $s$ , defined by the following formula:

$$(\hat{T}f)(s) = f(x + s), f \in \ell_2(\mathbb{Z}^d), s \in \mathbb{Z}^d. \tag{1}$$

More precisely,

$$(\hat{\Delta}f)(x) = \sum_{j=1}^d (f(x + e_j) + f(x - e_j) - 2f(x)), f \in \ell_2(\mathbb{Z}^d).$$

Note that the operator  $\hat{H}_0^{(2)}$  is a bounded self-adjoint operator.

It is easy to verify that for each  $s \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  the operator  $\hat{T}(s)$ , defined by formula (1) is unitarily equivalent to the operator  $T(s)$  in the space  $L_2(\mathbb{T}^d)$ , i.e.:

$$(T(s)f)(p) = e^{-i(s,p)} f(p).$$

The energy operator  $H_0^{(2)}$  (in the coordinate representation) of a system of two quantum particles moving on a  $d$ -dimensional lattice  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  with pair interaction  $\check{V}_{12}$  is a bounded self-adjoint operator in the Hilbert space  $\ell_2((\mathbb{Z}^d)^2)$  of the form

$$\check{H}^{(2)} = \hat{H}_0^{(2)} - \check{V}_{12}.$$

Here

$$(\check{V}_{12}f)(x, y) = \check{v}(x - y) f(x, y), f \in \ell_2((\mathbb{Z}^d)^2),$$

where  $\check{v}: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a bounded function.

In addition, assume that the function  $\check{v}$  satisfies the following assumption:

**Assumption 1.** Assume that  $\check{v}(\cdot) \neq 0$  is non-negative and  $\check{v} \in \ell_1(\mathbb{Z}^d)$ .

**Lemma 1.** Let Assumption 1 be satisfied. Then, the operator  $\hat{V}_{12}$  is bounded, self-adjoint and positive, and  $\hat{H}^{(2)}$  is a bounded self-adjoint operator.

The transition to the impulse representation is carried out using the Fourier transform. The standard Fourier transform  $F: L_2((\mathbb{T}^d)^2) \rightarrow \ell_2((\mathbb{Z}^d)^2)$  is determined by the following formula:

$$(Ff)(x, y) = (2\pi)^{-d} \int_{(\mathbb{T}^d)^2} f(t, s) e^{-i(x,t)-i(y,s)} dt ds$$

and inverse mapping  $F^{-1}: \ell_2((\mathbb{Z}^d)^2) \rightarrow L_2((\mathbb{T}^d)^2)$ ,

$$(F^{-1}\hat{f})(p, q) = (2\pi)^{-d} \sum_{x,y \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \hat{f}(x, y) e^{i(x,p)+i(y,q)}.$$

Note that the values of the function  $\hat{f}(x, y) = (Ff)(x, y)$  are called the Fourier coefficients of the function  $f \in L_2((\mathbb{T}^d)^2)$  in the orthonormal basis  $\{\psi_x(p)\psi_y(q)\}_{x,y \in \mathbb{Z}^d}$ . In addition,  $F = \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{F}$ . In this case, the momentum representation of the energy operator of the two-particle system acts in the Hilbert space  $L_2((\mathbb{T}^d)^2)$  and has the form:

$$H^{(2)}: L_2((\mathbb{T}^d)^2) \rightarrow L_2((\mathbb{T}^d)^2), H^{(2)} = H_0^{(2)} - V_{12},$$

where

$$H^{(2)} = F^{-1}\hat{H}^{(2)}F, H_0^{(2)} = F^{-1}\hat{H}_0^{(2)}F, V_{12} = F^{-1}\hat{V}_{12}F,$$

$$(H_0^{(2)}f)(p, q) = E(p, q)f(p, q), (V_{12}f)(p, q) = (2\pi)^{-\frac{d}{2}} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v(s - q)f(p + q - s, s) ds.$$

Here

$$E(p, q) = \frac{1}{m_1} \varepsilon(p) + \frac{1}{m_2} \varepsilon(q), \varepsilon(p) = \sum_{j=1}^d (1 - \cos p_j),$$

$$v(p) = (2\pi)^{-\frac{d}{2}} \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \hat{v}(n) e^{i(n,p)}, p = (p_1, \dots, p_d) \in \mathbb{T}^d.$$

**Lemma 2.** The spectrum of the operator  $\hat{H}_0^{(2)}$  is absolutely continuous and the following equalities hold [7]:

$$\sigma(\hat{H}_0^{(2)}) = \sigma_{ac}(\hat{H}_0^{(2)}) = \sigma(H_0^{(2)}) = [0; 2d(m_1^{-1} + m_2^{-1})].$$

### Direct Integral Expansion of the Energy Operator

In the momentum representation, the family  $\{\hat{T}(n), n \in \mathbb{Z}^d\}$  (1) is unitarily equivalent to the family  $\{T(n), n \in \mathbb{Z}^d\}$ , where

$$(T(n)f)(p, q) = e^{-i(n,p+q)} f(p, q), f \in L_2((\mathbb{T}^d)^2).$$

The commutation relation  $\hat{H}^{(2)}\hat{T}(n) = \hat{T}(n)\hat{H}^{(2)}$  generates the commutation (relation)  $H^{(2)}T(n) = T(n)H^{(2)}, n \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ . Consequently, the Abelian group of unitary operators  $\{T(n), n \in \mathbb{Z}^d\}$  commutes with the operator  $H^{(2)} = H_0^{(2)} - V_{12}$ . Therefore, the space  $L_2((\mathbb{T}^d)^2)$  and the operator  $H^{(2)}$  are expanded into direct Neumann integrals:

$$L_2((\mathbb{T}^d)^2) = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \oplus L_2(\mathbb{F}_k) dk, \quad H^{(2)} = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \oplus \hat{h}(k) dk,$$

where

$$\mathbb{F}_k = \{(p, q) \in (\mathbb{T}^d)^2, p + q = k\}, \quad k \in \mathbb{T}^d.$$

Here

$$\hat{h}(k): L_2(\mathbb{F}_k) \rightarrow L_2(\mathbb{F}_k), \quad \hat{h}(k) = \hat{h}_0(k) - \hat{V}.$$

Now we give the actions of the operators  $\hat{h}_0(k)$  and  $\hat{V}$  on the element  $f \in L_2(\mathbb{F}_k)$ :

$$(\hat{h}_0 k f)(p, k - p) = \hat{E}_k(p) f(p, k - p), \quad (\hat{V} f)(p, k - p) = (2\pi)^{-\frac{d}{2}} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v(p - s) f(s, k - s) ds,$$

where

$$\hat{E}_k(p) = \frac{1}{m_1} \varepsilon(p) + \frac{1}{m_2} \varepsilon(k - p).$$

We will find another analytical representation for the function  $\hat{E}_k(p)$ , which we will need later:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{E}_k(p) &= \sum_{j=1}^d \left[ \frac{1}{m_1} (1 - \cos p_j) + \frac{1}{m_2} (1 - \cos(p_j - k_j)) \right] \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^d \left[ \mu(0) - |\mu(k_j)| \cos(p_j - \varphi(k_j)) \right], \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\mu(k_j) = \frac{1}{m_1} + \frac{1}{m_2} e^{-ik_j}, \quad \varphi(k_j) = \arg \mu(k_j), \quad k_j \in \mathbb{T}. \tag{2}$$

The function  $\hat{E}_k(p)$  can be represented in the following form:

$$\hat{E}_k(p) = d\mu(0) - \sum_{j=1}^d |\mu(k_j)| \cos(p_j - \varphi(k_j)), \tag{3}$$

where the coefficients  $|\mu(k_j)|$  are defined by the following equalities:

$$|\mu(k_j)| = \left| \frac{1}{m_1} + \frac{1}{m_2} e^{-ik_j} \right| = \sqrt{\frac{1}{m_1^2} + \frac{1}{m_2^2} + \frac{2 \cos k_j}{m_1 m_2}}.$$

Equation (3) gives the following representation for  $\hat{E}_k(\cdot)$ :

$$\hat{E}_k(p + \varphi(k)) = E_k(p) = d\mu(0) - \sum_{j=1}^d |\mu(k_j)| \cos p_j. \tag{4}$$

Now, we introduce the following unitary mapping:

$$U_k: L_2(\mathbb{F}_k) \rightarrow L_2(\mathbb{T}^d),$$

which is determined by the following formula

$$(U_k f)(p) = f(p, k - p).$$

In this case, the operator

$$h(k) = U_k \hat{h}(k) U_k^{-1}$$

is unitarily equivalent to the operator  $\hat{h}(k)$ , where

$$U_k: L_2(\mathbb{F}_k) \rightarrow L_2(\mathbb{T}^d), \quad (U_k^{-1} f)(p, q) = f\left(\frac{p - q + k}{2}\right).$$

We will mainly study the operator  $h(k)$  and its coordinate representation. The operator  $h(k)$  has the form:

$$h(k) = h_0(k) - V.$$

The actions of the operators  $h_0(k)$  and  $V$  on the element  $f \in L_2(\mathbb{T}^d)$  have the following form:

$$(h_0(k)f)(p) = E_k(p)f(p), \quad (Vf)(p) = \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} v(p - t)f(t)dt,$$

where

$$v(p) = (2\pi)^{-\frac{d}{2}} \sum_{s \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \hat{v}(s) e^{i(s,p)}.$$

It is known that the spectrum of the operator  $V$  coincides with the set  $\{0, \hat{v}(n), n \in \mathbb{Z}^d\}$ , and the numbers  $\hat{v}(n)$  are the eigenvalues of the operator  $V$ . Since  $\hat{v} \in \ell_1(\mathbb{Z}^d)$ , then  $V$  is an operator with a trace (nuclear), in particular, a compact operator. Since the perturbation  $V = h(k) - h_0(k)$  is compact, then according to the Weil theorem, we obtain that  $\sigma_{\text{ess}}(h(k)) = \sigma_{\text{ess}}(h_0(k))$ . For convenience, we take the following designations:

$$e_m(k) = \min_{q \in \mathbb{T}^d} E_k(q), \quad e_M(k) = \max_{q \in \mathbb{T}^d} E_k(q)$$

From (4) it follows

$$e_m(k) = d\mu(0) - \sum_{j=1}^d |\mu(k_j)|, \quad e_M(k) = d\mu(0) + \sum_{j=1}^d |\mu(k_j)|.$$

**Lemma 3.** The spectrum of the operator  $h_0(k)$  coincides with the segment  $[e_m(k); e_M(k)]$ . In addition [7],

$$\sigma_{\text{ess}}(h_0(k)) = \sigma(h_0(k)) = [e_m(k); e_M(k)].$$

**Two-Particle Discrete Schrödinger Operator**

Let us denote by  $\hat{h}(k), k \in \mathbb{T}^d$  the coordinate representation of the operator  $h(k), k \in \mathbb{T}^d$ , i.e.

$$\hat{h}(k) = \mathcal{F}h(k)\mathcal{F}^{-1}. \tag{5}$$

The standard Fourier transform  $\mathcal{F}: L_2(\mathbb{T}^d) \rightarrow \ell_2(\mathbb{Z}^d)$ , which is defined by the formula

$$(\mathcal{F}f)(x) = (2\pi)^{-\frac{d}{2}} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} e^{-i(x,t)} f(t) dt$$

and the inverse Fourier transform  $\mathcal{F}^{-1}: \ell_2(\mathbb{Z}^d) \rightarrow L_2(\mathbb{T}^d)$ :

$$(\mathcal{F}^{-1}\hat{f})(p) = (2\pi)^{-\frac{d}{2}} \sum_{s \in \mathbb{Z}^d} e^{i(s,p)} \hat{f}(s).$$

In the physical literature, the parameter  $k \in \mathbb{T}^d$  is called the total quasi-momentum of a system of two particles and the corresponding operators  $\hat{h}(k), k \in \mathbb{T}^d$  are called layers of the operator  $\hat{H}^{(2)}$ . The layer operators  $\hat{h}(k), k \in \mathbb{T}^d$  in equality (5) are defined by the following formula:

$$\hat{h}(k) = \hat{h}_0(k) - \hat{V}.$$

Now, we find analytical representations for the unperturbed operator  $\hat{h}_0(k)$  and the perturbation operator  $\hat{V}$ . The following statement holds.

**Lemma 4.** The action of the operator  $\hat{h}_0(k)$  on the element  $f \in \ell_2(\mathbb{Z}^d)$  has the form

$$(\hat{h}_0(k)\hat{f})(x) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^d \left( 2\mu(0)I\hat{f}(x) - |\mu(k_j)| \left( \hat{f}(x + e_j) - \hat{f}(x - e_j) \right) \right),$$

where  $\mu(\cdot)$  is determined by formula (2).

**Lemma 5.** The action of the operator  $\hat{V}$  on the element  $f \in \ell_2(\mathbb{Z}^d)$  has the form

$$(\hat{V}\hat{f})(x) = \hat{v}(x)\hat{f}(x).$$

Under Assumption 1, the perturbation  $\hat{V}$  of the operator  $\hat{h}_0(k), k \in \mathbb{T}^d$  is compact and, therefore, according to Weil theorem on the essential spectrum, the essential spectrum of the operator  $h(k)$  consists of the following segment on the real axis:

$$\sigma_{\text{ess}}(h(k)) = [e_m(k); e_M(k)].$$

Now, we find the explicit form of the resolvent of the operator  $\hat{h}_0(k)$ . The resolvent of the operator  $\hat{h}_0(k)$

$$\hat{R}_0(k, z) = (\hat{h}_0(k) - zI)^{-1}, \quad z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus [e_m(k); e_M(k)]$$

is determined by the following formula (formula 2.7 in [9]):

$$(\hat{R}_0(k, z)\hat{f}(x)) = \sum_{s \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \hat{r}_0(x - s, k; z)\hat{f}(s), \hat{f} \in \ell_2(\mathbb{Z}^d),$$

where

$$\hat{r}_0(x, k; z) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^d} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \frac{e^{-i(x,t)}}{E_k(t) - z} dt, x \in \mathbb{Z}^d, z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus [e_m(k); e_M(k)].$$

We will assume that the masses of the particles are equal, i.e.  $m_1 = m_2 = m$ . The following lemma plays an important role in proving the main results of this section.

**Lemma 6.** Let  $z < e_m(k)$ . Then the following statements hold:

- (a) if  $k \in (-\pi; \pi)^d$ , then the function  $\hat{r}_0(\cdot, k; z)$  is strictly positive in  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ ;
- (b) if  $k \in \mathbb{T}^d \setminus (-\pi; \pi)^d$ , then the function  $\hat{r}_0(\cdot, k; z)$  is positive in  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ .

*Proof.* (a) We consider the following function:

$$r_0(p, k; z) := \frac{1}{E_k(p) - z} = \frac{1}{\frac{2}{m} \sum_{j=1}^d \left(1 - \cos p_j \cos \frac{k_j}{2}\right) - z}, p = (p_1, \dots, p_d) \in \mathbb{T}^d, z < e_m(k),$$

for  $k \in (-\pi; \pi)^d$ . Note that for each  $k_j \in (-\pi; \pi)$  we have  $\cos \frac{k_j}{2} > 0$ . Because,  $\frac{2d}{m} - z > \frac{2}{m} \sum_{j=1}^d \cos p_j \cos \frac{k_j}{2}$ , that  $\left| \frac{\frac{2}{m} \sum_{j=1}^d \cos p_j \cos \frac{k_j}{2}}{\frac{2d}{m} - z} \right| < 1$ , therefore the function  $r_0(\cdot, k; z)$  can be expanded into a series, i.e.:

$$\begin{aligned} r_0(p, k; z) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\left(\frac{2d}{m} - z\right)^{n+1}} \left(\frac{2}{m} \sum_{j=1}^d \cos p_j \cos \frac{k_j}{2}\right)^n \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{2}{m}\right)^n}{\left(\frac{2d}{m} - z\right)^{n+1}} \sum_{0 \leq l_1, \dots, l_d \leq n} C_n^{l_1, \dots, l_d} \prod_{j=1}^d \left(\cos p_j \cos \frac{k_j}{2}\right)^{l_j}, \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

where

$$C_n^{l_1, \dots, l_d} = \frac{n!}{l_1! \dots l_d!}.$$

Using Euler’s formula, we obtain

$$(\cos p)^k = \left(\frac{e^{ip} + e^{-ip}}{2}\right)^k = \frac{1}{2^k} \sum_{m=0}^k C_k^m e^{ip(2m-k)}. \tag{7}$$

We will prove that all Fourier coefficients  $\hat{r}_0(x, k; \cdot)$  of the function  $\hat{r}_0(p, k, \cdot)$  are non-negative. Substituting (7) into (6), we obtain the following representation for  $r_0(p; k, \cdot)$ :

$$r_0(p; k, z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{2}{m}\right)^n}{\left(\frac{2d}{m} - z\right)^{n+1}} \sum_{\substack{0 \leq l_1, \dots, l_d \leq n, \\ l_1 + \dots + l_d = n}} C_n^{l_1, \dots, l_d} \prod_{j=1}^d \left(\frac{1}{2} \cos \frac{k_j}{2}\right)^{l_j} \sum_{m_j=0}^{l_j} C_{l_j}^{m_j} e^{ip_j(2m_j - l_j)}. \quad (8)$$

Using formula (8), we write the coefficients  $\hat{r}_0(x, k; z)$  in the form:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{r}_0(x, k; z) &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^d} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \frac{e^{-i(x,t)}}{E_k(t) - z} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^d} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{2}{m}\right)^n}{\left(\frac{2d}{m} - z\right)^{n+1}} \sum_{0 \leq l_1, \dots, l_d \leq n} C_n^{l_1, \dots, l_d} \prod_{j=1}^d \left(\frac{1}{2} \cos \frac{k_j}{2}\right)^{l_j} \sum_{m_j=0}^{l_j} C_{l_j}^{m_j} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} e^{it_j(2m_j - l_j - x_j)} dt_j. \end{aligned}$$

According to the positivity of  $\frac{2d}{m} - z, \cos \frac{k_j}{2}$ , for  $k_j \in (-\pi; \pi)$  and using the following formula

$$(2\pi)^{-d} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} e^{i(m,t)} dt = \begin{cases} 1, & m = 0 \\ 0, & m \neq 0, m \in \mathbb{Z}^d \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

we have  $\hat{r}_0(x, k; z) \geq 0$ .

Now, we will prove that for any  $x \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ , the function  $\hat{r}_0(x, k; z)$  is strictly positive. For each  $x \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  there exist numbers  $l_j^0 \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}, m_j^0 \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, l_j^0\}$  such that  $2m_j^0 - l_j^0 - x_j = 0$ . Then we have

$$\hat{r}_0(x, k; z) \geq \frac{\left(\frac{2}{m}\right)^{l_j^0}}{\left(\frac{2d}{m} - z\right)^{l_j^0 + 1}} C_{l_j^0}^{m_j^0} > 0.$$

(b) First, let us assume that  $k = (\pi, \dots, \pi) \in \mathbb{T}^d$ . Then, we have

$$\hat{r}_0(x, \pi; z) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^d} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \frac{e^{-i(x,t)}}{E_\pi(t) - z} dt = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{\frac{2d}{m} - z} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} e^{-i(x,t)} dt \geq 0.$$

Moreover,  $\hat{r}_0(0, \pi; z) > 0$  and  $\hat{r}_0(x, \pi; z) \geq 0$ , for  $x \neq 0$ .

Now, let us assume that  $l$  coordinates of the vector  $k \in \mathbb{T}^d$  are equal to  $\pi$ , i.e.:

$$k = \hat{k} = (\pi, \dots, \pi, k_{l+1}, \dots, k_d), k_j \in (-\pi; \pi), j = l + 1, \dots, d.$$

In that case, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{r}_0(x, \hat{k}; z) &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^d} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \frac{e^{-i(x,t)}}{E_{\hat{k}}(t) - z} dt = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{\frac{2d}{m} - z} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} e^{-i(x',t)} dt \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\left(\frac{2}{m}\right)^n \left(\frac{2d}{m} - z\right)^n} \times \\ &\times \sum_{0 \leq s_{l+1}, \dots, s_d \leq n} C_n^{s_{l+1}, \dots, s_d} \prod_{j=l+1}^d \left(\frac{1}{2} \cos \frac{k_j}{2}\right)^{s_j} \sum_{m_j=0}^{s_j} C_{s_j}^{m_j} \int_{\mathbb{T}^{d-l}} e^{it_j(2m_j - s_j - x_j)} dt_j \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where  $x' \in \mathbb{T}^l$ . According to the formula (9), the function  $\hat{r}_0(x, \hat{k}; z)$  is positive. The lemma is proved.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $z < e_m(k)$ . Then, the following statements hold:

- (a) if  $k \in (-\pi; \pi)^d$ , then the operator  $\hat{R}_0(k, z)$  is positivity-enhancing in  $\ell_2(\mathbb{Z}^d)$ ;
- (b) if  $k \in \mathbb{T}^d \setminus (-\pi; \pi)^d$ , then the operator  $\hat{R}_0(k, z)$  is positivity-preserving in  $\ell_2(\mathbb{Z}^d)$ .

*Proof.* By the condition of the theorem,  $z < e_m(k)$ . It is sufficient to prove that if  $k \in (-\pi; \pi)^d$ , then  $\hat{R}_0(k, z)\hat{\psi}_y$  is strictly positive and if  $k \in \mathbb{T}^d \setminus (-\pi; \pi)^d$ , then  $\hat{R}_0(k, z)\hat{\psi}_y$  is positive for elements of the following canonical basis:

$$\hat{\psi}_y(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x = y \\ 0, & x \neq y \end{cases} \tag{10}$$

Then, according to (10), we have

$$(\hat{R}_0(k, z)\hat{\psi}_y)(x) = \sum_{s \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \hat{r}_0(x - s; k, z)\psi_y(s) = \hat{r}_0(x - y; k, z), \quad z < e_m(k).$$

By Lemma 6, if  $k \in (-\pi; \pi)^d$ , then the function  $\hat{r}_0(\cdot; k, z)$  is strictly positive and if  $k \in \mathbb{T}^d \setminus (-\pi; \pi)^d$ , then the function  $\hat{r}_0(\cdot; k, z)$  is positive. The theorem is proved.

**Theorem 2.** Let  $z_0(k) = \inf \sigma(\hat{h}(k)) < e_m(k)$  and  $m_1 = m_2$ . Then, the following statements hold:

- (a) if  $k \in (-\pi; \pi)^d$ , then  $z_0(k)$  is a non-degenerate eigenvalue of  $\hat{h}(k)$  and the corresponding eigenvector can be chosen strictly positive.
- (b) if  $k \in \mathbb{T}^d \setminus (-\pi; \pi)^d$ , then for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists a potential  $\hat{v}(x)$ , such that  $z_0(k)$  is an multiple eigenvalue of  $\hat{h}(k)$  and the corresponding linearly independent eigenvectors can be chosen positive.

*Proof.* If the conditions of the theorem are valid ( $m_1 = m_2 = m$ ), then the function  $E_k(p)$  can be represented in the following form:

$$E_k(p) = \frac{2}{m} \sum_{j=1}^d \left( 1 - \cos \frac{k_j}{2} \cos p_j \right).$$

In this case, the corresponding dispersion function  $\check{E}_k(s)$  of the operator  $\check{h}(k)$  has the form:

$$\check{E}_k(s) = \begin{cases} \frac{2d}{m}, & s = 0 \\ -\frac{1}{m} \cos \frac{k_j}{2}, & |s| = 1 \\ 0, & |s| > 1 \end{cases}$$

If condition (a) of Theorem 2 is valid, then the dispersion function  $\check{E}_k(s)$  satisfies the condition of Assumption 2.2 [9]. Then, the proof of part (a) of Theorem 2 follows from Theorem 4.1 [9]. Now, let us assume that condition (b) of the theorem is valid. First, we prove in the case  $d = 1$ . In this case,  $k = \pi$ , and the operator  $\check{h}(\pi)$  acts according to the formula:

$$(\check{h}(\pi)\check{f})(x) = \left(\frac{2}{m} - \check{v}(x)\right)\check{f}(x).$$

Suppose that  $\check{v}(1) = \check{v}(2) = \dots = \check{v}(n) > 0$  and  $\check{v}(x) = 0$ , for  $x \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Then, the number  $z_0 = \inf \sigma(\check{h}(\pi)) = \frac{2}{m} - \check{v}(1)$  is an  $n$ -multiple eigenvalue of the operator  $\check{h}(\pi)$ . In this case, the elements of the canonical basis  $\check{\psi}_1(x), \dots, \check{\psi}_n(x)$  can be chosen as positive linearly independent eigenfunctions.

Let us provide proof of part (b) of Theorem 2 in the case  $d = 2$ . In this case, three cases are possible:

- (b1)  $k_1 = \pi, k_2 = \pi$ , i.e.  $k = (\pi; \pi)$ ;
- (b2)  $k_1 = \pi, k_2 \in (-\pi; \pi)$ , i.e.  $k = (\pi; k_2)$ ;
- (b3)  $k_1 \in (-\pi; \pi), k_2 = \pi$ , i.e.  $k = (k_1; \pi)$ .

The proof of case (b1) is similar to the proof of the theorem in the case  $d = 1$ .

*Proof of case (b2).* Let  $k_1 = \pi, k_2 \in (-\pi; \pi)$ . Consider the operator  $\check{h}(\pi; k_2)$ . We introduce the subspaces  $L_y$  – one-dimensional subspaces spanned by the vector  $\check{\psi}_y$ , where  $\check{\psi}_y$  is an element of the canonical basis defined by formula (10). In this case, the space  $\ell_2(\mathbb{Z})$  is expanded into a direct sum

$$\ell_2(\mathbb{Z}) = \bigoplus_{y \in \mathbb{Z}} L_y. \tag{11}$$

The following expansion follows from (11):

$$\ell_2(\mathbb{Z}^2) = \bigoplus_{y \in \mathbb{Z}} L_y \otimes \ell_2(\mathbb{Z}).$$

**Lemma 6** [7]. The subspace  $L_y \otimes \ell_2(\mathbb{Z})$  for any  $y \in \mathbb{Z}$  is invariant with respect to the operator  $\check{h}(\pi; k_2)$ .

The restriction of the operator  $\check{h}(\pi; k_2)$  to the subspace  $L_y \otimes \ell_2(\mathbb{Z})$  has the form

$$\check{h}^{(y)}(\pi; k_2) = I \otimes \check{h}^{(y)}(k_2),$$

where  $I$  is the identity operator in  $L_y$  and the operator

$$\check{h}^{(y)}(k_2) = \check{h}_0(k_2) - \check{V}_y,$$

is a two-particle discrete operator in  $\ell_2(\mathbb{Z})$ . More precisely

$$(\hat{h}_0(k_2)\hat{f})(s) = \frac{4}{m}\hat{f}(s) - \frac{1}{m}\cos\frac{k_2}{2}[\hat{f}(s+1) + \hat{f}(s-1)],$$

$$(\hat{V}_y\hat{f})(s) = \hat{v}_y(s)\hat{f}(s), \quad \hat{v}_y(s) = \hat{v}(y, s).$$

The number  $z_0 = \inf\sigma(\hat{h}_0(k))$  is an  $n$ -multiple eigenvalue of the operator  $\hat{h}_0(k)$ . We choose the potential  $\hat{v}$  as follows

$$\hat{v}(y, s) = \begin{cases} 1, & s = x_i, i = 1, \dots, n \\ 0, & s \neq x_i \end{cases}.$$

If  $y \neq x_i, i = 1, \dots, n$ , then  $\hat{h}^{(y)}(\pi, k_2) = \hat{h}(\pi, k_2)$  and the operators  $\hat{h}^{(x_i)}(\pi, k_2), \hat{h}^{(x_j)}(\pi, k_2), i, j = 1, \dots, n$  are unitarily equivalent.

It is easy to verify that the operator  $\hat{h}^{(x_i)}(\pi, k_2)$  has a unique non-degenerate eigenvalue  $Z_0$ , lying to the left of the essential spectrum of the operator  $\hat{h}^{(x_i)}(\pi, k_2)$ . This eigenvalue corresponds to a positive eigenfunction

$$\hat{\psi}_{x_i}(y)\hat{f}(s) \in L_{x_i} \otimes \ell_2(\mathbb{Z}), i = 1, \dots, n.$$

According to the unitary equivalence of the operators  $\hat{h}^{(x_i)}(\pi, k_2), i = 1, \dots, n$ , the number  $z_0$  is an eigenvalue of these operators. Thus, the number  $z_0$  is an  $n$ -multiple eigenvalue of the operator  $\hat{h}(\pi, k_2)$ .

The proof of case (b3) is the same as the proof of case (b2).

The proof of the theorem in case  $d \geq 3$  is given similarly.

**Conclusions**

It is shown that the resolvent of the unperturbed energy operator of one-particle corresponding to the system on a  $d$ -dimensional lattice enhances positivity for all values of  $z$  –below the edge of the essential spectrum. It is proved that if the lower edge is an isolated point of the spectrum of the Schrödinger operator of a one-particle on a  $d$ -dimensional lattice, then it is a simple eigenvalue and it corresponds to a strictly positive eigenvector, that is an analogue of a theorem of Perron-Frobenius type was proved.

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**Authors' Contributions**

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### Conflict of Interest Statement

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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