

# The mass shell in the semi-relativistic Pauli-Fierz model

**Oliver Matte (LMU Munich)**

Joint work with

**Martin Könenberg (U Vienna)**

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# Model

# The semi-relativistic Pauli-Fierz Hamiltonian

for an **electron** (with spin) moving in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and interacting with the **quantized radiation field** is [Miyao-Spohn 2009]

$$\mathbb{H} := \sqrt{(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (-i\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \otimes \mathbb{1} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \mathbb{A}))^2 + \mathbb{1}} + \mathbb{1} \otimes H_f.$$

It is acting in the Hilbert space  $L^2(\mathbb{R}_{\mathbf{x}}^3, \mathbb{C}^2) \otimes \mathcal{F}$ , where  $\mathcal{F}$  is the **bosonic Fock space**,

$$\mathcal{F} := \mathbb{C} \oplus \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} L_{\text{sym}}^2((\mathbb{R}_{\mathbf{k}}^3 \times \mathbb{Z}_2)^n).$$

- $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ : vector of Pauli matrices.
- $\mathbb{A}$ : quantized, UV cutoff vector potential;  $\boldsymbol{\epsilon} > 0$ .
- $H_f = \sum_{\lambda=0,1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\mathbf{k}| a_{\lambda}^*(\mathbf{k}) a_{\lambda}(\mathbf{k}) d^3\mathbf{k}$  : radiation field energy.

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# Previous results in exterior potential

**Thm (M.-Stockmeyer '10, Könenberg-M.-S. '11, K.-M. '1X)**

For all  $\epsilon, \kappa > 0$  and  $\gamma \in [0, 2/\pi]$ , there is a distinguished self-adjoint realization of

$$\mathbb{H}_\gamma := \mathbb{H} - \gamma/|\mathbf{x}|.$$

If  $\gamma \in (0, 2/\pi]$ , then  $\inf \sigma(\mathbb{H}_\gamma)$  is a (degenerate) eigenvalue.

If  $\Phi$  is a corresponding eigenvector, and  $a > 0$  satisfies

$$1 - (1 - a^2)^{1/2} < \inf \sigma(\mathbb{H}) - \inf \sigma(\mathbb{H}_\gamma), \quad \text{then } e^{a|\mathbf{x}|} \Phi \in L^2 \otimes \mathcal{F}.$$

For  $\gamma > 2/\pi$ , the quadratic form of  $\mathbb{H}_\gamma$  is unbounded below.

- NR case: Bach-Fröhlich-Sigal 1999, Griesemer-Lieb-Loss 2001.

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## Theorem (Köenberg-M.)

Let  $\epsilon, \kappa > 0$ , let  $V : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a small form perturbation of  $\sqrt{1 - \Delta}$ , and assume  $\sqrt{1 - \Delta} - 1 - V$  has negative eigenvalues  $e_0 < e_1 < \dots < 0$ . Then **the binding energy is increased** in presence of the quantized radiation field, i.e.

$$\inf \sigma(\mathbb{H}) - \inf \sigma(\mathbb{H} - V) > |e_0|. \quad (\clubsuit)$$

### Remarks.

- For non-zero  $0 \leq V \in L^{3/2}(\mathbb{R}^3) \cap L^3(\mathbb{R}^3)$  one observes **enhanced binding** in the quantized radiation field at arbitrary  $\epsilon, \kappa > 0$ .
- NR case: Catto, Chen, Exner, Hainzl, Hiroshima, Linde, Spohn, Vougalter, Wugalter.
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### *Intuitive picture:*

A **moving electron** is surrounded by a cloud of **soft photons**, i.e. photons of low energy. The electron together with its photon cloud behaves like a particle having a **larger mass** than the electron alone. Heavier particles yield higher binding energies.

### Aim

Study the electron and its photon cloud more precisely using **Pizzo's iterative analytic perturbation theory** [Pizzo 2003].

We shall establish results recently obtained in the *non-relativistic* case by [Chen-Fröhlich, 2007], [Chen-Fröhlich-Pizzo, 2009], [Fröhlich-Pizzo, 2010].

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# Fiber Hamiltonians

The semi-relativistic Pauli-Fierz Hamiltonian is unitarily equivalent to a **direct integral**,

$$\mathbb{H} \cong_U \int_{\mathbb{R}^3}^{\oplus} H(\mathbf{P}) d^3\mathbf{P},$$

of **fiber Hamiltonians**,

$$H(\mathbf{P}) = \sqrt{(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{p}_f + \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \mathbf{A}))^2 + \mathbb{1}} + H_f, \quad \mathbf{P} \in \mathbb{R}^3, \boldsymbol{\epsilon} > 0,$$

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# Main Result

Define the **mass shell / ground state energies**,

$$E(\mathbf{P}) := \inf \sigma(H(\mathbf{P})), \quad \mathbf{P} \in \mathbb{R}^3.$$

### Theorem (Köenberg-M.)

*For all  $\kappa, \mathfrak{p} > 0$ , there exists  $\epsilon_0 > 0$  such that, for all  $\epsilon \in (0, \epsilon_0]$ , the ground state energy  $E$  is twice continuously differentiable and strictly convex on  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathfrak{p}} := \{\mathbf{P} \in \mathbb{R}^3 : |\mathbf{P}| < \mathfrak{p}\}$ .  
Moreover,  $E(\mathbf{0}) = \min E$ .*

- NR case: Fröhlich-Pizzo 2010.
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# Strategy

## Obstacle

$E(\mathbf{P})$  is not an isolated eigenvalue of  $H(\mathbf{P})$ ;  
analytic perturbation theory is not applicable.

↪ Introduce IR cutoff fiber Hilbert spaces,  $\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathcal{F}_j, j \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ,

$$\mathcal{F}_j := \mathbb{C} \oplus \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} L^2_{\text{sym}}((\mathcal{A}_j \times \mathbb{Z}_2)^n), \quad \mathcal{A}_j := \{|\mathbf{k}| \geq \kappa (1/2)^j\};$$

define  $H_j(\mathbf{P})$  in the same way as  $H(\mathbf{P})$  on the IR cutoff space,

$$H_j(\mathbf{P}) := \sqrt{(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{p}_f^{(j)} + \epsilon \mathbf{A}^{(j)})^2 + \mathbb{1} + H_f^{(j)}}.$$

- $H_f^{(j)} = \sum_{\lambda=0,1} \int_{\mathcal{A}_j} |\mathbf{k}| a_\lambda^*(\mathbf{k}) a_\lambda(\mathbf{k}) d^3\mathbf{k}$
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$$H_j(\mathbf{P}) := \sqrt{(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{p}_f^{(j)} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \mathbf{A}^{(j)})^2 + \mathbb{1} + H_f^{(j)}}.$$

⇒  $H_f^{(j)} \geq \kappa (1/2)^j$  on  $L_{\text{sym}}^2((\mathcal{A}_j \times \mathbb{Z}_2)^n)$ .

⇒ If  $\boldsymbol{\epsilon} > 0$  is small, depending on  $|\mathbf{P}|$  and  $\kappa$ , then

- $E_j(\mathbf{P}) := \inf \sigma(H_j(\mathbf{P}))$  is an isolated, two-fold degenerate eigenvalue.
- $\text{gap}_j := \inf \{ \sigma(H_j(\mathbf{P}) - E_j(\mathbf{P})) \setminus \{0\} \} \geq (1/2)^j / c$ .

## Strategy

↪ Introduce IR cutoff fiber Hilbert spaces,  $\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathcal{F}_j, j \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ,

$$\mathcal{F}_j := \mathbb{C} \oplus \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} L_{\text{sym}}^2((\mathcal{A}_j \times \mathbb{Z}_2)^n), \quad \mathcal{A}_j := \{|\mathbf{k}| \geq \kappa (1/2)^j\},$$

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# How to treat the square root?

The two-fold direct sum of

$$\mathcal{T} := \sqrt{(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{p}_f + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}\mathbf{A}))^2 + \mathbb{1}}$$

can be written as

$$\mathcal{T} \oplus \mathcal{T} \psi = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-\tau}^{\tau} (\mathbb{1} + iy(D - iy)^{-1}) \psi \frac{dy}{\pi},$$

for  $\psi \in \mathcal{D}(D)$ , where

$$D := \boldsymbol{\alpha} \cdot (\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{p}_f + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}\mathbf{A}) + \beta.$$

$\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$ , and  $\beta$  are the Dirac matrices.

# Strategy

So,  $E_j(\mathbf{P})$  is an eigenvalue of  $H_j(\mathbf{P})$ . Let

$$\Pi_j \equiv \Pi_j(\mathbf{P}) := \mathbb{1}_{\{E_j(\mathbf{P})\}}(H_j(\mathbf{P}))$$

be the corresponding spectral projection.

Since  $\text{gap}_j > 0$ , the resolvent

$$\mathcal{R}_j^\perp \equiv \mathcal{R}_j^\perp(\mathbf{P}) := (H_j(\mathbf{P}) \Pi_j(\mathbf{P})^\perp - E_j(\mathbf{P}))^{-1} \Pi_j(\mathbf{P})^\perp$$

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For  $j \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , **Hellmann-Feynman** formulas are valid,

$$\partial_{\mathbf{h}} E_j = \text{Tr}[\Pi_j \partial_{\mathbf{h}} H_j \Pi_j] / 2,$$

$$\partial_{\mathbf{h}}^2 E_j = \text{Tr}[\Pi_j \partial_{\mathbf{h}}^2 H_j \Pi_j] / 2 - \|(\mathcal{R}_j^\perp)^{1/2} \partial_{\mathbf{h}} H_j \Pi_j\|_{\text{HS}}^2.$$

Use these formulas to show that

$$E = E_0 + \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (E_{j+1} - E_j) \quad \text{converges absolutely in } C_b^2(\mathcal{B}_p).$$

More precisely, show

$$\sup_{\mathcal{B}_p} |\partial_{\mathbf{h}}^\nu E_{j+1} - \partial_{\mathbf{h}}^\nu E_j| \leq c e (1 + c e)^j \begin{cases} (1/2)^j, & \nu = 0, 1, \\ (1/2)^{j/2}, & \nu = 2. \end{cases}$$

Since  $E_0(\mathbf{P}) = \sqrt{\mathbf{P}^2 + 1}$ , this implies  $E \in C_{\square}^2, E'' > 0$ , on  $\mathcal{B}_p$ .

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To compare operators acting in the **same Hilbert space**,  $\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathcal{F}_{j+1}$ , we introduce

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In order to find a good bound on  $|\partial_{\mathbf{h}}^{\nu} E_{j+1}(\mathbf{P}) - \partial_{\mathbf{h}}^{\nu} E_j(\mathbf{P})|$ , for  $\mathbf{P} \neq \mathbf{0}$ , we must not compare  $\Pi_{j+1}(\mathbf{P})$  directly with  $\Pi_j^{j+1}(\mathbf{P})$ , which is of the form

$$\Pi_j^{j+1}(\mathbf{P}) = \Pi_j(\mathbf{P}) \otimes P_{\Omega_j^{j+1}},$$

$P_{\Omega_j^{j+1}} :=$  projection onto the vacuum sector in

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(Recall  $\mathcal{F}_{j+1} = \mathcal{F}_j \otimes \mathcal{F}_j^{j+1}$ .)

In fact, if the total system is moving with total momentum  $\mathbf{P} \neq \mathbf{0}$ , then the **electron should be dressed into** a cloud of **soft photons**. Hence,  $\Pi_j^{j+1}(\mathbf{P})$  is not a good approximation of  $\Pi_{j+1}(\mathbf{P})$ , since it contains no photons with frequencies in  $\mathcal{A}_{j+1} \setminus \mathcal{A}_j$ .

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$$\varpi(f_j) := \frac{i}{2^{1/2}} \sum_{\lambda=0,1} \int_{\mathcal{A}_{j+1} \setminus \mathcal{A}_j} f_j(\mathbf{P}; \mathbf{k}, \lambda) (a^*(\mathbf{k}) - a(\mathbf{k})) d^3\mathbf{k},$$

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and seek for a bound on

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It turns out that

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*Guiding theme in Pizzo's iterative perturbation theory:*

(Note that  $\|\mathcal{R}_j^\perp\| \sim 2^j$ .)  $\rightsquigarrow$  Estimate expressions like

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# Related results

# Existence and multiplicity of ground states

Define operators on the *original* fiber Hilbert space,  $\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathcal{F}$ ,

$$H_j^\infty(\mathbf{P}) := \sqrt{(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{p}_f + \epsilon \mathbf{A}^{(j)}))^2 + \mathbb{1}} + H_f,$$

$$\tilde{H}_j^\infty(\mathbf{P}) := W_j(\mathbf{P}) H_j^\infty(\mathbf{P}) W_j(\mathbf{P})^*, \quad W_j(\mathbf{P}) := \prod_{\ell=0}^{j-1} U_j(\mathbf{P}),$$

$$\tilde{H}(\mathbf{P}) := \text{norm-res.-lim}_{j \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{H}_j^\infty(\mathbf{P}).$$

## Theorem (Köenberg-M.)

For all  $\mathfrak{p}, \kappa > 0$ , there exist  $\epsilon_0, \mathfrak{c} > 0$  such that, for all  $\mathbf{P} \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathfrak{p}}$  and  $\epsilon \in (0, \epsilon_0]$ , the ground state energy  $E(\mathbf{P})$  is an exactly two-fold degenerate eigenvalue of  $\tilde{H}(\mathbf{P})$ , and

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# Absence of ground states at non-zero momenta

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This follows from the bound

$$\left\| a_\lambda(\mathbf{k}) \phi_j(\mathbf{P}) + \underbrace{\epsilon f_j(\mathbf{P}; \mathbf{k}, \lambda)}_{\sim |\mathbf{k}|^{-3/2}} \phi_j(\mathbf{P}) \right\| \leq c \frac{\mathbb{1}_{|\mathbf{k}| < \kappa}}{|\mathbf{k}|^{1/2}}, \quad \mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{A}_j,$$

for every normalized ground state eigenvector,  $\phi_j(\mathbf{P})$ , of  $H_j(\mathbf{P})$ .

- NR case: [Schroer, 1963], [Fröhlich 1973],  
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## Theorem (Köenberg-M.)

For all  $p, \kappa > 0$ , there exists  $\epsilon_0 > 0$  such that, for all  $\mathbf{P} \in \mathcal{B}_p \setminus \{\mathbf{0}\}$  and  $\epsilon \in (0, \epsilon_0]$ , the ground state energy  $E(\mathbf{P})$  is *not* an eigenvalue of  $H(\mathbf{P})$ .

This follows from the bound

$$\left\| a_\lambda(\mathbf{k}) \phi_j(\mathbf{P}) + \underbrace{\epsilon f_j(\mathbf{P}; \mathbf{k}, \lambda)}_{\sim |\mathbf{k}|^{-3/2}} \phi_j(\mathbf{P}) \right\| \leq c \epsilon \frac{\mathbb{1}_{|\mathbf{k}| < \kappa}}{|\mathbf{k}|^{1/2}}, \quad \mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{A}_j,$$

for every normalized ground state eigenvector,  $\phi_j(\mathbf{P})$ , of  $H_j(\mathbf{P})$ .

- NR case: [Schroer, 1963], [Fröhlich 1973],  
[Chen-Fröhlich, 2007], [Hasler-Herbst, 2008].

# Coherent state representation space

The unitaries  $W_j(\mathbf{P})$  do not have limit.

However, consider (as in [Fröhlich 1973]) the **incomplete direct product space** in the sense of von Neumann,

$$\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{P}}^{\text{ren}} := \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathcal{F}_0 \otimes \bigotimes_{j \in \mathbb{N}} \tilde{\Omega}_{\mathbf{P}} \mathcal{F}_j^{j+1},$$

containing the **coherent state**

$$\tilde{\Omega}_{\mathbf{P}} := v \otimes \Omega_0 \otimes U_0^*(\mathbf{P}) \Omega_0^1 \otimes U_1^*(\mathbf{P}) \Omega_1^2 \otimes \dots,$$

where  $v$  may be any vector in  $\mathbb{C}^2$ . One can construct a unitary map  $W(\mathbf{P})^* : \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{P}}^{\text{ren}}$ , so that

$$W(\mathbf{P})^* v \otimes \Omega = \tilde{\Omega}_{\mathbf{P}}, \quad W(\mathbf{P}) a(g_j) W(\mathbf{P})^* = a(g_j) - \epsilon \langle g_j | f_j \rangle,$$

where  $g_j \in L^2((\mathcal{A}_{j+1} \setminus \mathcal{A}_j) \times \mathbb{Z}_2)$ .

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# Coherent state representation space

Define

$$H^{\text{ren}}(\mathbf{P}) := W(\mathbf{P})^* \tilde{H}(\mathbf{P}) W(\mathbf{P}).$$

Then  $E(\mathbf{P})$  is an exactly two-fold degenerate eigenvalue of  $H^{\text{ren}}(\mathbf{P})$  and

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \text{Tr} \left[ \mathbb{1}_{E_j(\mathbf{P})} (H_j^\infty(\mathbf{P})) A \right] = \text{Tr} \left[ \mathbb{1}_{E(\mathbf{P})} (H^{\text{ren}}(\mathbf{P})) \pi_{\mathbf{P}}(A) \right],$$

for every

$$A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathcal{F}_j) \cong \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathcal{F}_j) \otimes \mathbb{1} \subset \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathcal{F}),$$

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# On the renormalized electron mass

## Theorem (Köenberg-M.)

*Let  $\kappa, \epsilon > 0$  be arbitrary. If  $E$  is twice continuously differentiable near  $\mathbf{0}$ , then the renormalized electron mass is strictly larger than its bare mass, i.e.*

$$1/\partial_{\mathbf{h}}^2 E(\mathbf{0}) > 1, \quad |\mathbf{h}| = 1.$$

Thank you for your attention!