

# Neumann resonances in linear elasticity for an arbitrary body

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## Abstract

We study resonances (scattering poles) associated to the elasticity operator in the exterior of an arbitrary obstacle in  $\mathbf{R}^3$  with Neumann boundary conditions. We prove that there exists a sequence of resonances tending rapidly to the real axis.

## 1 Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{O} \subset \mathbf{R}^3$  be a compact set with  $C^\infty$ -smooth boundary  $\Gamma$  and connected complement  $\Omega = \mathbf{R}^3 \setminus \mathcal{O}$ . Denote by  $\Delta_e$  the elasticity operator

$$\Delta_e v = \mu_0 \Delta v + (\lambda_0 + \mu_0) \nabla(\nabla \cdot v),$$

$v = {}^t(v_1, v_2, v_3)$ . Here  $\lambda_0, \mu_0$  are the Lamé constants and we assume that

$$\mu_0 > 0, \quad 3\lambda_0 + 2\mu_0 > 0. \tag{1}$$

Consider  $\Delta_e$  in  $\Omega$  with Neumann boundary conditions on  $\Gamma$

$$\sum_{j=1}^3 \sigma_{ij}(v) \nu_j |_{\Gamma} = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, 3, \tag{2}$$

where  $\sigma_{ij}(v) = \lambda_0 \nabla \cdot v \delta_{ij} + \mu_0 \left( \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial x_i} \right)$  is the stress tensor,  $\nu$  is the outer normal to  $\Gamma$ . Denote by  $L$  the self-adjoint realization of  $-\Delta_e$  in  $\Omega$  with Neumann boundary conditions on  $\Gamma$ . As usual we define *resonances* as the poles of the meromorphic continuation of the cut-off

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resolvent  $R_\chi(\lambda) = \chi(L - \lambda^2)^{-1}\chi$  from  $\text{Im } \lambda < 0$  to the whole complex plane  $\mathbf{C}$ ,  $\chi \in C_0^\infty$  being a cut-off function equal to 1 near  $\Gamma$ . So we accept the convention that the resonances lie in the upper half-plane.

If one considers the Laplacian with Dirichlet or Neumann boundary conditions, then it is well known that for convex or more generally for non-trapping obstacles the resonances lie above logarithmic curves of the type  $\text{Im } \lambda = C_1 \ln \text{Re } \lambda - C_2$ ,  $C_1 > 0$ . There are several special examples of trapping obstacles [I1], [I2], [I3], [G] with resonances tending to the real axis or with a strip of the kind  $0 < \text{Im } \lambda < C_0$  containing infinitely many resonances. An important open problem in this direction is to prove or reject the Modified Lax and Phillips Conjecture — for any trapping obstacle there is a strip  $0 < \text{Im } \lambda < C_0$  containing infinitely many resonances.

In [SV2] the authors proved that for the elasticity operator  $L$  with Neumann boundary conditions there exists a sequence of resonances tending rapidly to the real axis provided that the obstacle  $\mathcal{O}$  is strictly convex. Moreover, below any logarithmic curve  $\text{Im } \lambda = C_1 \ln |\lambda| - C_2$  there are no other resonances except possibly a finite number. The reason for the existence of almost real resonances are the Rayleigh waves which is a typical phenomenon for the elasticity operator with Neumann boundary conditions. As proven by Taylor [T] (see also [Y]) there are three types of rays for  $L$  that carry singularities. The first two types are classical rays reflecting at the boundary according to the laws of geometrical optics and the singularities propagate along them with speeds  $c_1 = \sqrt{\mu_0}$ ,  $c_2 = \sqrt{\lambda_0 + 2\mu_0}$ . The third type of trajectories lie on the boundary and singularities propagate along them with a slower propagation speed  $c_R > 0$  (the Rayleigh speed). Thus any obstacle is trapping for  $L$  from the point of view of propagation of singularities and one might expect resonances close to the real axis. The proof in [SV2] is based on a construction of a microlocal parametrix of the corresponding Neumann operator in all of the 5 zones (hyperbolic, mixed, elliptic and two glancing ones) using the calculus of  $\Psi$ DO-s and FIO-s with large parameter (see e.g. [G]). It turns out that the parametrix is elliptic in the first two zones, can be represented microlocally as a hypoelliptic operator in  $L_{2/3,0}^{0,1}$  conjugated with an elliptic FIO in the glancing zone while in the elliptic zone has a characteristic variety of the form  $\Sigma = \{\zeta \in T^*\Gamma; c_R \|\zeta\| = 1\}$ . Therefore, the parametrix is microlocally invertible outside  $\Sigma$ , which is essential for the proof of the pole-free domain, while the proof of the existence of almost real resonances is based on an application of the Phragmén-Lindelöf principle.

In this paper we show the existence of a sequence of resonances of  $L$  tending to the real axis for an arbitrary obstacle  $\mathcal{O}$ . Of course, one can no longer expect a pole-free logarithmic zone as in the case of a strictly convex obstacle [SV2] because there might be resonances near the real axis or more generally in any logarithmic region generated by classical trapped rays. Our main result is the following theorem.

**Theorem 1** *There exist two infinite sequences  $\{\lambda_j\}$ ,  $\{-\bar{\lambda}_j\}$  of distinct resonances of the elasticity operator  $L$ , such that*

$$0 < \text{Im } \lambda_j \leq C_N |\lambda_j|^{-N} \quad \text{for any } N > 0.$$

The proof of Theorem 1 suggests that the reason for the existence of these resonances are the Rayleigh waves. In particular, it provides another proof of Kawashita's result [K]

that the elastic wave equation with Neumann boundary conditions does not possess the exponential local energy decay property.

To prove Theorem 1 it suffices to show that for any integer  $N \geq 1$  there are infinitely many resonances in  $\{\lambda \in \mathbf{C} : \text{Im } \lambda \leq |\lambda|^{-N}, |\text{Re } \lambda| \geq 1\}$ . Then, the assumption that there are finitely many resonances in this region would lead to polynomial a priori estimates on  $\mathcal{N}^{-1}(\lambda)$ ,  $\mathcal{N}(\lambda)$  being the Neumann operator on  $\Gamma$ , in a smaller region near the real axis. The final step is to show that these a priori estimates cannot hold because the parametrix of the Neumann operator fails to be elliptic at  $\Sigma$ . To do so, we use the calculus of  $\Psi$ DO-s and FIO-s with large parameter as presented in [G] to construct a parametrix of the Neumann operator in the elliptic zone. Note that this is possible despite the fact that  $\mathcal{O}$  is not necessarily convex. In fact, it is sufficient to construct the parametrix in a neighborhood of the characteristic variety  $\Sigma$ . We take a finite number  $2m + 1$  of terms in the asymptotic expansion of the corresponding amplitude in order to get a parametrix  $N_{2m-1}(\lambda)$ , such that  $\lambda^{2m-1}N_{2m-1}(\lambda)$  is analytic in  $\lambda$ . Then we extend  $\lambda^{2m-1}N_{2m-1}(\lambda)$  as an elliptic  $\Psi$ DO with large parameter  $\lambda_1 = \text{Re } \lambda$  globally, thus obtaining a  $\Psi$ DO  $P(\lambda)$  which is an entire function of  $\lambda$ . Applying the Phragmén-Lindelöf principle, we show that  $P(\lambda)$  has “zeros”, i.e. we have  $P(\lambda_j)f_j = 0$  with some  $\lambda_j$  in a logarithmic domain and  $\|f_j\| = 1$ . Next we show that  $\lambda_j$  are asymptotic zeros of  $N_{2m-1}(\lambda)$ , i.e.  $N_{2m-1}(\lambda_j)f_j = O(|\lambda_j|^{-\infty})$ , as well as  $\text{Im } \lambda_j = O(|\lambda_j|^{-2m+2})$ . Since  $N_{2m-1}$  is a parametrix of the Neumann operator  $\mathcal{N}$ , for  $m$  sufficiently large this turns out to be enough to get the desired contradiction.

## 2 Some a priori estimates on the resolvent

The purpose of this section is to prove the following a priori estimate of the cut-off resolvent which is crucial for our proof of Theorem 1.

**Proposition 1** *Assume that  $R_\chi(\lambda)$  is analytic in  $\{\lambda \in \mathbf{C}; \text{Im } \lambda \leq |\lambda|^{-N}, |\text{Re } \lambda| \geq C\}$  with some  $C > 0$  and integer  $N > 0$ . Then*

$$\|R_\chi(\lambda)\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^2; H^2)} \leq C_1 |\lambda|^{N+7} \quad \text{for} \quad |\text{Im } \lambda| \leq |\lambda|^{-N-6}, |\text{Re } \lambda| \geq C_2,$$

with some constants  $C_1, C_2 > 0$ .

**Remark 1.** It is easy to see from the proof that a similar statement holds in any odd-dimensional space as well and for compactly supported perturbations of the Laplacian. The proof however does not work if the space dimension is even.

**Remark 2.** As an immediate consequence of Proposition 1 we get that the existence of real quasimodes implies the existence of resonances  $\{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  with  $\text{Im } \lambda_j = O(|\lambda_j|^{-\infty})$ . The advantage of this conclusion is that, as shown in [P] (see also [CP], [L]), if there exists an elliptic broken periodic ray (with Poincaré map satisfying some technical conditions), one can construct real quasimodes  $k_j \rightarrow +\infty$  of the Dirichlet Laplacian in an exterior domain

$\Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^n, n \geq 3$  odd, with  $C^\infty$  boundary  $\Gamma$ , i.e. there exist uniformly compactly supported functions  $u_j, \|u_j\|_{L^2} = 1$ , such that

$$\begin{cases} (\Delta + k_j^2)u_j &= O(k_j^{-\infty}) \text{ in } \Omega, \\ u_j &= O(k_j^{-\infty}) \text{ on } \Gamma. \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

The proof of Proposition 1 is based on the next two lemmatae.

**Lemma 1** *Assume that  $f(z)$  is analytic in  $\{z \in \mathbf{C}; \operatorname{Im} z < C_1|z|^{-N}, |\operatorname{Re} z| > C_2\}$  and  $|f(z)| \leq C_3 e^{C_3|z|^n}$  with some positive constants  $C_1, C_2, C_3$ , and integers  $n, N$ . Assume moreover that  $|f(z)| \leq C_4|z|^m/|\operatorname{Im} z|$  for  $-1 < \operatorname{Im} z < 0, |z| > 1$  with some  $C_4$ , and integer  $m \geq 0$ . Then*

$$|f(z)| \leq C_5|z|^{m+n+N+2} \quad \text{for } |\operatorname{Im} z| \leq |z|^{-n-N-2}, |\operatorname{Re} z| \geq C_5,$$

with some constant  $C_5 > 0$ .

**Proof.** Without loss of generality we can assume that  $\operatorname{Re} z \geq C_2$ . Set

$$u(z) = \exp\{iz^s\} = \exp\{i(\operatorname{Re} z)^s - s(\operatorname{Re} z)^{s-1}\operatorname{Im} z + \dots\},$$

$s$  being an integer to be chosen latter on. On  $\gamma_+ := \{z \in \mathbf{C}; \operatorname{Im} z = C_1|z|^{-N}, \operatorname{Re} z \geq C_2\}$  we have for  $g := fu$

$$\begin{aligned} |g(z)| &\leq C_3 e^{C_3|z|^n} \exp\left\{-s(\operatorname{Re} z)^{s-1}\operatorname{Im} z + C_s(\operatorname{Re} z)^{s-3}(\operatorname{Im} z)^3 - \dots\right\} \\ &= C_3 e^{C_3|z|^n} \exp\left\{-C_1 s \frac{(\operatorname{Re} z)^{s-1}}{|z|^N} + C'_s \frac{(\operatorname{Re} z)^{s-3}}{|z|^{3N}} - \dots\right\} \\ &\leq C_3 e^{C_3|z|^n} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}C_1 s \frac{(\operatorname{Re} z)^{s-1}}{|z|^N}\right\} \end{aligned}$$

for  $|z|$  sufficiently large. Therefore, if  $s > n + N + 1$ , we have

$$|g(z)| \leq C \quad \text{for } z \in \gamma_+. \quad (4)$$

Set  $\gamma_- = \{z \in \mathbf{C}; -\operatorname{Im} z = |z|^{-s}, \operatorname{Re} z \geq C_2\}$ . On  $\gamma_-$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} |g(z)| &\leq \frac{C_4|z|^m}{|\operatorname{Im} z|} \exp\left\{s(\operatorname{Re} z)^{s-1}|\operatorname{Im} z| - C_s(\operatorname{Re} z)^{s-3}|\operatorname{Im} z|^3 + \dots\right\} \\ &\leq C|z|^{m+s}. \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

We get from (4), (5) that  $z^{-m-s}g(z)$  is uniformly bounded on the boundary of the domain between the curves  $\gamma_+, \gamma_-$  and  $\operatorname{Re} z = C'_2$  with  $C'_2 > C_2$  sufficiently large. Moreover  $z^{-m-s}g(z)$  satisfies an a priori exponential estimate in the interior. An application of the Phragmén-Lindelöf principle implies that  $z^{-m-s}g(z)$  is uniformly bounded in the interior of that domain as well and therefore

$$\begin{aligned} |f(z)| &\leq C|z|^{m+s} \exp\left\{s(\operatorname{Re} z)^{s-1}\operatorname{Im} z - C_s(\operatorname{Re} z)^{s-3}(\operatorname{Im} z)^3 + \dots\right\} \\ &\leq C_5|z|^{m+s}, \end{aligned}$$

provided that  $|\operatorname{Im} z| \leq 1/(\operatorname{Re} z)^s$ . Now it suffices to pick  $s = N + n + 2$  in order to complete the proof of the lemma.  $\square$

We would like to apply this lemma to the operator-valued function  $R_\chi(\lambda)$ . To this end we need the following a priori estimate (compare with [SV2, Proposition 5.2]).

**Lemma 2** *Assume that  $R_\chi(\lambda)$  is analytic in  $D_{C_1, C_2} = \{\lambda \in \mathbf{C}; |\operatorname{Im} \lambda| < C_1 |\lambda|^{-N}, |\operatorname{Re} \lambda| > C_2\}$  with some  $C_1 > 0, C_2 > 0, N > 0$ . Then for any  $C'_1 < C_1, C'_2 > C_2$  we have*

$$\|R_\chi(\lambda)\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^2; H^2)} \leq C e^{C|\lambda|^4} \quad (6)$$

with some  $C > 0$  in  $D_{C'_1, C'_2} = \{\lambda \in \mathbf{C}; |\operatorname{Im} \lambda| < C'_1 |\lambda|^{-N}, |\operatorname{Re} \lambda| > C'_2\}$ .

**Proof.** This is a refinement of Proposition 5.2 in [SV2] (see also Lemma 3 in the present paper) and we refer to [SV2] for more details. As in the above cited paper we can find an entire function  $h(\lambda)$  of order 3, such that in

$$V = \mathbf{C} \setminus \bigcup_j \{\lambda; |\lambda - z_j| < |z_j|^{-5-N}\}$$

we have

$$\|R_\chi(\lambda)\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^2; H^2)} \leq C e^{C|\lambda|^4} \quad \text{for } \lambda \in V, \quad (7)$$

where  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  are the zeros of  $h(\lambda)$ . Let us observe that  $\mathbf{C} \setminus V = \bigcup_{k=1}^\infty U_k$ , where  $U_k$  are disjoint connected sets and each  $U_k$  is a union of a finite number of disks, because the series  $\sum_{j=1}^\infty |z_j|^{-4}$  converges and hence so does  $\sum_{j=1}^\infty |z_j|^{-5-N}$ . Clearly, for each  $k$ ,  $\operatorname{diam} U_k < 2M$ , where  $M := \sum |z_j|^{-4}$ , which implies

$$\sum_{|z_j| > A} |z_j|^{-N-5} \leq M A^{-N-1}.$$

Therefore,

$$\operatorname{diam} U_k < 2M [\min\{|\lambda|; \lambda \in U_k\}]^{-N-1} \leq 2M (|\lambda| - 2M)^{-N-1} \quad (8)$$

for each  $\lambda \in U_k$ , and  $k$  sufficiently large. Fix  $C'_1 < C_1, C'_2 > C_2$  and set  $K = \{k \in \mathbf{N}; D_{C'_1, C'_2} \cap U_k \neq \emptyset\}$ . For large  $k \in K$  we have  $U_k \subset D_{C_1, C_2}$  because of (8). Since (7) holds on  $\partial U_k$  we can apply the maximum principle to conclude that (7) holds in  $U_k$  as well with some other constant  $C > 0$  for large  $k$ . Thus (7) holds in the entire  $D_{C'_1, C'_2}$  except perhaps in a bounded set.  $\square$

**Proof of Proposition 1.** We have by the above lemma that the operator-valued function  $R_\chi(\lambda) : L^2 \rightarrow H^2$  satisfies the first assumption of Lemma 1 with  $n = 4$ . On the other hand, it is clear that in the lower half-plane  $R_\chi$  satisfies the estimate

$$\|R_\chi(\lambda)\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^2)} \leq \frac{C}{|\operatorname{Im} \lambda| |\lambda|},$$

which easily yields

$$\|R_\chi(\lambda)\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^2; H^2)} \leq \frac{C' |\lambda|}{|\operatorname{Im} \lambda|} \quad \text{for } \operatorname{Im} \lambda < 0.$$

Thus  $R_\chi(\lambda) : L^2 \rightarrow H^2$  satisfies the second assumption of Lemma 1 as well with  $m = 1$ . Now Proposition 1 follows from Lemma 1 at once.  $\square$

Let us define the Neumann operator  $\mathcal{N}(\lambda)$  by the formula

$$\mathcal{N}(\lambda) : H^s(\Gamma) \ni f \mapsto \sum_{j=1}^3 \boldsymbol{\sigma}_j(v) \nu_j|_\Gamma \in H^{s-1}(\Gamma), \quad s \geq \frac{3}{2},$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}_j = {}^t(\sigma_{1j}, \sigma_{2j}, \sigma_{3j})$ ,  $\sigma_{ij}$  is the stress tensor (see (2)) and  $v$  solves the following problem

$$\begin{cases} (\Delta_e + \lambda^2)v = 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ v = f & \text{on } \Gamma, \\ v - \text{outgoing.} \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

As  $\mathcal{N}^{-1}(\lambda)$  can be easily expressed in terms of  $R_\chi(\lambda)$  (see [SV1]), the assumption that  $R_\chi(\lambda)$  is holomorphic in  $\{\lambda \in \mathbf{C} : \text{Im } \lambda \leq |\lambda|^{-N}, |\text{Re } \lambda| \geq C\}$  implies that so is  $\mathcal{N}^{-1}(\lambda)$  and moreover, by Proposition 1,

$$\|\mathcal{N}^{-1}(\lambda)\|_{\mathcal{L}(H^{1/2}; H^{3/2})} \leq C|\lambda|^{N+9} \quad \text{for } |\text{Im } \lambda| \leq |\lambda|^{-N-6}, |\text{Re } \lambda| \geq C'. \quad (10)$$

In the rest of the paper we will find a contradiction to (10).

### 3 Parametrix for the Neumann operator

We will recall briefly the construction of the parametrix of (9) in the elliptic zone (see [SV2], [CP]). We will use the calculus of  $\Psi$ DO-s and FIO-s with large parameter as developed in [G]. We choose  $\lambda$  to be the large parameter and we suppose that

$$\lambda \in \Lambda_{C_1, C_2} := \{\lambda \in \mathbf{C}; |\lambda_2| < C_1 \ln \lambda_1, \lambda_1 > C_2\}, \quad (11)$$

where  $\lambda_1 = \text{Re } \lambda$ ,  $\lambda_2 = \text{Im } \lambda$ ,  $C_1 > 0$ ,  $C_2 > 0$ .

Given an open set  $X$  in  $\mathbf{R}^n$  denote by  $\tilde{C}^\infty(X)$  the space of all functions  $u(x, \lambda)$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  such that  $u(\cdot, \lambda) \in C^\infty(X)$  and  $p(u(\cdot, \lambda)) = O(|\lambda|^{-\infty})$  for all seminorms  $p$  in  $C^\infty(X)$ . In a similar way we define  $\tilde{C}^\infty(K)$ ,  $K$  being a compact,  $\tilde{C}_0^\infty(X)$  and  $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}'(X)$ .

Given two open sets  $X, Y$  in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ , for  $m, k \in \mathbf{R}$ ,  $\rho, \delta \in [0, 1)$  we define (see [G, Def. A.I.2]) the class  $S_{\rho, \delta}^{m, k}(X \times Y)$  to be the set of all  $a(x, y, \eta, \lambda) \in C^\infty(X \times Y \times \mathbf{R}^n)$ , such that for any compact  $K \subset\subset X \times Y$ , all  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbf{Z}^n$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  we have

$$|\partial_x^\alpha \partial_y^\beta \partial_\eta^\gamma a| \leq C_{\alpha, \beta, \gamma, K} |\lambda|^{k + \rho|\gamma| + \delta|\alpha + \beta|} (1 + |\eta|)^{m - |\gamma|}. \quad (12)$$

If  $X = Y$ , we set  $S_{\rho, \delta}^{m, k}(X) = S_{\rho, \delta}^{m, k}(X \times X)$ . Given  $a \in S_{\rho, \delta}^{m, k}(X \times Y)$ , denote by  $\text{Op}(a)$  (or  $\text{Op}_\lambda(a)$ ) the operator

$$(\text{Op}(a)u)(x, \lambda) = \left(\frac{\lambda}{2\pi}\right)^n \iint e^{i\lambda(x-y)\cdot\eta} a(x, y, \eta, \lambda) u(y, \lambda) dy d\eta. \quad (13)$$

We have well-defined operators in the case where  $a$  has bounded support in  $\eta$  and  $\lambda \in \Lambda$  or if  $\eta$  is unbounded on  $\text{supp } a$ , but  $\lambda$  is real. We refer to [G] (see also [SV2]) for more details, as well as for a definition and properties of elliptic  $\Psi$ DO-s with large parameter, wave front set  $\widetilde{\text{WF}}(f)$ , etc.

Let us recall [SV2] that operators of the form  $\text{Op}_\lambda(a)$  can be represented as  $\Psi$ DO-s with large parameter  $\lambda_1 = \text{Re } \lambda$ , provided that  $|\eta|$  is bounded on  $\text{supp } a$ . In other words,  $\text{Op}_\lambda(a) = \text{Op}_{\lambda_1}(\tilde{a})$ , where

$$\tilde{a}(x, y, \eta, \lambda) = (1 + i\lambda_2/\lambda_1)^n e^{-\lambda_2(x-y)\cdot\eta} a(x, y, \eta, \lambda).$$

One can regard here  $\lambda_2/\ln \lambda_1 \in [-C_1, C_1]$  as an additional parameter. Assuming  $\lambda \in \Lambda_{C_1, C_2}$ , we get that  $a \in S_{\rho, \delta}^{0, k}$  implies  $\tilde{a} \in S_{\rho+\varepsilon, \delta+\varepsilon}^{0, k+N}$  for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ . This follows from the fact that  $|e^{-\lambda_2(x-y)\cdot\eta}| \leq |\lambda|^N$  with a fixed  $N > 0$  and  $|\lambda_2| \leq C_\varepsilon |\lambda|^\varepsilon$  for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Therefore,  $\tilde{a}$  is an amplitude. Using [G, Pr. A.I.4, Pr. A.I.5], we can calculate the symbol of  $\tilde{a}$  (depending only on  $x, \eta, \lambda$ ) and we find that actually  $\tilde{a} \in S_{\rho, \delta}^{0, k}$  and the principal symbol is  $a|_{y=x} - i(\lambda_2/\lambda_1)\eta \cdot \nabla_\eta a|_{y=x}$ . Thus if  $a \in S_{0,0}^{0, k}$ , we have  $\text{Op}_\lambda(a) = \text{Op}_{\lambda_1}(\tilde{a})$  with

$$\tilde{a} = a - i \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} \eta \cdot \nabla_\eta a \quad \text{mod } S_{0,0}^{0, k-1}. \quad (14)$$

Let us now recall the construction of the parametrix in the elliptic zone. Recall (see e.g. [SV2]) that the operator  $-\Delta_e$  has two sound speeds  $c_1, c_2$  and the variety  $\Sigma = \{\zeta \in T^*\Gamma; c_R \|\zeta\| = 1\}$  lies in the elliptic zone  $\{\zeta \in T^*\Gamma; \|\zeta\| > c_1^{-1}\}$ ,  $\|\cdot\|$  being the norm in  $T^*\Gamma$ . Let  $\zeta^0 \in T^*\Gamma$  with  $\|\zeta^0\| > c_1^{-1}$  and from now on we assume that the space dimension is  $n = 3$ . Let us pick local coordinates such that  $\zeta^0 = (0, \eta^0)$ , the boundary is given locally by  $x_1 = 0$  and the normal derivative at  $x = 0$  is given by  $\partial/\partial x_1$ . Then  $x' = (x_2, x_3)$  are local coordinates on  $\Gamma$ . Let  $\chi_{\zeta^0}(x', \eta) \in C_0^\infty(T^*\Gamma)$  be a cut-off function equal to 1 near  $\zeta^0$ . If  $\text{supp } \chi_{\zeta^0}$  is sufficiently small, one can construct a local FIO  $H^{\zeta^0}$  with large parameter  $\lambda \in \Lambda_{C_1, C_2}$  such that

$$\begin{cases} (\Delta_e + \lambda^2)H^{\zeta^0}f &= Kf, \\ H^{\zeta^0}f|_\Gamma &= \text{Op}_\lambda(\chi_{\zeta^0})f, \end{cases} \quad (15)$$

where  $K$  has kernel in  $\tilde{C}^\infty$ . The operator  $H^{\zeta^0}$  is of the form

$$H^{\zeta^0}f = \left(\frac{\lambda_1}{2\pi}\right)^2 \iint e^{i\lambda(\varphi(x, \eta) - y \cdot \eta)} h(x, \eta, \lambda) f(y, \lambda) dy d\eta. \quad (16)$$

The phase function  $\varphi$  solves the eikonal equation  $(\nabla\varphi)^2 = 1$ ,  $\varphi|_\Gamma = x \cdot \eta$  to infinite order at  $\Gamma$  and  $\text{Im } \varphi \geq cx_1$  on  $\text{supp } \chi_{\zeta^0}$  with some  $c > 0$ . This implies that  $H^{\zeta^0}f = O(e^{-c\lambda_1 x_1})$ . The matrix-valued amplitude  $h$  is a solution of the corresponding transport equations and has the form  $h = \sum_{j=0}^\infty h_j(x, \eta)\lambda^{-j}$ , with  $h_j$  formal series in  $x_1$ . Set

$$h^{(m)} = \sum_{j=-1}^m \lambda^{-j} h_{-j}(x, \eta)$$

and consider the operator  $H_m^{\zeta^0}$  associated with  $h^{(m)}$ . Then  $H_m^{\zeta^0}$  solves a problem similar to (14) with  $K$  replaced by  $K$  plus a FIO of order  $-m$ . Denote  $N_m^{\zeta^0} f = \sum_{j=1}^3 \boldsymbol{\sigma}_j(H_m^{\zeta^0} f) \nu_j|_{\Gamma}$ , where  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}_j = {}^t(\sigma_{1j}, \sigma_{2j}, \sigma_{3j})$ ,  $\sigma_{ij}$  is the stress tensor. Then  $N_m^{\zeta^0}$  is a  $\Psi$ DO with large parameter  $\lambda$  and symbol

$$\sigma(N_m^{\zeta^0}) = \sum_{j=-1}^m \lambda^{-j} n_{-j}(x, \eta).$$

The principal symbol is  $\lambda n_1(x, \eta) = \lambda \chi_{\zeta^0}(x, \eta) \tilde{n}_1(x, \eta)$ ,  $\tilde{n}_1(x, \eta)$  being a Hermitian matrix with three distinct eigenvalues near  $\Sigma$ . One of the eigenvalues has simple zero at  $\Sigma$ , the other two are elliptic. Moreover,  $\tilde{n}_1$  is elliptic everywhere in the elliptic zone outside  $\Sigma$  (see also [CP], [K]).

Thus for any  $\zeta$  in a neighborhood of  $\Sigma$  in the elliptic zone we constructed an operator  $H_m^{\zeta}$  solving (15) provided that  $\text{supp } \chi_{\zeta}$  is contained in a small neighborhood  $U_{\zeta}$  of  $\zeta$ . Let  $W_1$  be a bounded neighborhood of  $\Sigma$  in the elliptic zone and let us pick a partition of unity  $\{\chi_{\zeta^j}\}$  associated with  $\{U_{\zeta^j}\}$  covering  $W_1$  and supported in a slightly larger domain. Using this partition of unity, we construct a solution operator

$$H_m(\lambda) = \sum_j H_m^{\zeta^j} \phi_j, \quad (17)$$

where  $\phi_j(x)$  have small supports and  $\phi_j(x) = 1$  in a neighborhood of  $\pi_x(\text{supp } \chi_{\zeta^j})$ . This operator solves

$$\begin{cases} (\Delta_e + \lambda^2) H_m f &= K_m f, \\ H_m f|_{\Gamma} &= f + Qf, \end{cases} \quad (18)$$

provided that  $\widetilde{\text{WF}}(f) \subset W_1$ , where  $K_m(\lambda)$  is a FIO with amplitude of order  $-m$  and

$$\|Qf\|_{H^s} = O(|\lambda|^{-\infty}) \quad \text{for any } s. \quad (19)$$

Set

$$N_m f = \sum_{j=1}^3 \boldsymbol{\sigma}_j(H_m f) \nu_j|_{\Gamma}.$$

Then  $N_m \in L_{0,0}^{0,1}(\Gamma)$  and  $\lambda^m N_m$  is holomorphic in  $\lambda$ .

Now we are going to find a relationship between  $N_m$  and the Neumann operator  $\mathcal{N}$ . Following [G], we set

$$\tilde{H}_m(\lambda) = \chi H_m(\lambda) - S_0(\lambda)(\chi K_m(\lambda) + [\Delta_e, \chi] H_m(\lambda)), \quad (20)$$

where  $S_0(\lambda)$  is the free outgoing resolvent. Thus  $\tilde{H}_m(\lambda) f$  solves the problem

$$\begin{cases} (\Delta_e + \lambda^2) \tilde{H}_m f &= 0, \\ \tilde{H}_m f|_{\Gamma} &= f + Qf + R_m f, \end{cases} \quad (21)$$

with

$$\|R_m(\lambda)\|_{\mathcal{L}(H^{3/2}(\Gamma))} \leq C |\lambda|^{-m+1} \quad (22)$$



provided that  $\lambda \in \Lambda_{C_1, C_2}$  with  $C_1$  small enough. If we denote the exact solution to (9) by  $\mathcal{H}(\lambda)f$ , we see that

$$\mathcal{H}(f + Qf + R_m f) = \tilde{H}_m f.$$

By differentiating this at the boundary, we get

$$\mathcal{N}(f + Qf + R_m f) = N_m f + \tilde{R}_m f, \quad \widetilde{\text{WF}}(f) \subset W_1, \quad (23)$$

where  $\|\tilde{R}_m\|_{\mathcal{L}(H^{3/2}, H^{1/2})} = O(|\lambda|^{-m+2})$  and  $Qf, R_m$  satisfy (19) and (22), respectively.

## 4 Proof of the main result

Let  $\{\chi_{\zeta^j}\}$  be the partition of unity used to construct  $H_m$  (see (17)). Choose an open set  $W_2 \subset T^*\Gamma$ , such that  $\Sigma \subset W_2 \subset\subset W_1$  and pick  $\chi_0 \in C_0^\infty(T^*\Gamma)$ , such that  $\chi_0 = 1$  on  $W_2$  and  $\text{supp } \chi_0 \subset W_1$ . For each  $\zeta^j$  let us define a local  $\Psi$ DO using the special coordinates related to  $\zeta^j$  by  $A^{\zeta^j} = \text{Op}_\lambda(\chi_0 \chi_{\zeta^j})$  and set  $A = \sum_j A^{\zeta^j} \phi_j$  (see (17)). Then  $A \in L_{0,0}^{0,1}(\Gamma)$ ,  $A$  is an entire function of  $\lambda$  and  $\sigma_p(A) = 1$  on  $W_2$ ,  $\sigma_p(A) = 0$  outside  $W_1$ . Moreover, the symbol of  $A$  in any local coordinates is supported in  $W_1$ . Since the symbol of  $N_m$  has also compact support, we will extend  $N_m$  as an operator elliptic outside  $W_1$  with characteristic variety  $\Sigma$ . To this end fix an integer  $m > 0$  and set

$$P(\lambda) = \lambda^{2m-1} N_{2m-1} A + i(\lambda^2 - \Delta_\Gamma)^m (I - A), \quad (24)$$

$\Delta_\Gamma$  being the Laplacian on  $\Gamma$ . Note first that  $P$  is analytic function of  $\lambda$  with values in  $\mathcal{L}(H^{s+2m}, H^s)$ . Secondly, let us mention that in any logarithmic region  $\Lambda_{C_1, C_2}$ ,  $P$  can be considered as a  $\Psi$ DO with large parameter  $\lambda_1 = \text{Re } \lambda$  and  $P \in L_{0,0}^{2m, 2m}(\Gamma)$ . We claim that  $P$  is elliptic outside  $\Sigma$ . Indeed, for the principal symbol of  $P$  we have

$$\sigma_p(P) = \lambda^{2m-1} \sigma_p(A) \sigma_p(N_{2m-1}) + i \lambda_1^{2m} (1 - \sigma_p(A)) \left( (1 + i \lambda_2 / \lambda_1)^2 + |\eta|_x^2 \right)^m,$$

where  $\sigma_p(A)$  is a function supported in  $W_1$  and  $|\eta|_x$  denotes the norm of the covector  $(x, \eta)$ . Note that here we consider  $N_{2m-1}, A$  as  $\Psi$ DO-s with large parameter  $\lambda_1$ , not  $\lambda$ , and respectively  $\sigma_p(N_{2m-1}), \sigma_p(A)$  are the principal symbols of these operators obtained by using (14). In  $W_2 \setminus \Sigma$  the principal symbol  $\sigma_p(P)$  is elliptic, because  $\sigma_p(A)|_{W_2} = 1$  is elliptic. Outside  $W_1$ ,  $\sigma_p(P) = \lambda_1^{2m} ((1 + i \lambda_2 / \lambda_1)^2 + |\eta|_x^2)^m$  is elliptic as well, including at the infinite points of  $\hat{T}^*\Gamma$ . Finally, on  $W_1 \setminus W_2$  our claim follows from the fact that for any Hermitian elliptic matrix  $B$  we have  $|\alpha Bx + i\beta x|^2 = \alpha^2 |Bx|^2 + \beta^2 |x|^2 \geq c|x|^2$  provided that  $\alpha + \beta = 1$ .

Next proposition establishes existence of ‘‘resonances’’ of  $P$ .

**Proposition 2** *There exist  $\lambda_j$  and  $f_j \in C^\infty(\Gamma)$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots$ , such that*

- a)  $P(\lambda_j) f_j = 0$ ,
- b)  $|\text{Im } \lambda_j| \leq C \ln |\lambda_j|$  and  $|\lambda_j| \rightarrow \infty$ , as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ ,
- c)  $\|f_j\|_{H^{3/2}(\Gamma)} = 1$ ,  $\widetilde{\text{WF}}(f) \subset \Sigma$ , where  $f(x, \lambda) := f_j(x)$ ,  $\lambda = \lambda_j$ .

To prove Proposition 2 we are going to apply the Phragmén-Lindelöf principle to  $P^{-1}(\lambda)$ . To this end we need the following two lemmata. First we prove an a priori exponential estimate of  $P^{-1}(\lambda)$  similar to that in Lemma 2 (see also [SV2], Proposition 5.2).

**Lemma 3** *Assume that  $P^{-1}(\lambda)$  has no poles in  $\Lambda_{C_1, C_2}$  with some  $C_1 > 0$ ,  $C_2 > 0$ . Then*

$$\|P^{-1}(\lambda)\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^2(\Gamma))} \leq Ce^{C|\lambda|^4}, \quad \lambda \in \Lambda_{C_1/2, 2C_2}.$$

**Proof.** Let us rewrite  $P(\lambda)$  in the form

$$P(\lambda) = i(I - \Delta_\Gamma)^m (I + K(\lambda)), \quad (25)$$

where  $K(\lambda) = K_1(\lambda) + K_2(\lambda)$  with

$$\begin{aligned} K_1(\lambda) &= - \left[ I + (\lambda^2 - 1)(I - \Delta_\Gamma)^{-1} \right]^m A - i(I - \Delta_\Gamma)^{-m} \lambda^{2m-1} N_{2m-1} A, \\ K_2(\lambda) &= \left[ I + (\lambda^2 - 1)(I - \Delta_\Gamma)^{-1} \right]^m - I. \end{aligned}$$

Clearly,  $K(\lambda)$  is an entire family of compact operators on  $L^2(\Gamma)$ . Moreover, the operator  $K^2(\lambda)$  is of trace class and we can consider the entire function  $h(\lambda) = \det(I - K^2(\lambda))$ . As in the proof of Proposition 5.2 in [SV2] first we will prove the following a priori estimate

$$\|P^{-1}(\lambda)\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^2(\Gamma))} \leq Ce^{C|\lambda|^4}, \quad \lambda \in V, \quad (26)$$

where  $V = \mathbf{C} \setminus \cup\{\lambda \in \mathbf{C}; |\lambda - z_j| \leq |z_j|^{-4}\}$ ,  $z_j$  being the zeros of  $h$ . To this end we will prove first that  $h(\lambda)$  is of order 3. We have

$$\begin{aligned} |h(\lambda)| &= \left| \det(I - K^2(\lambda)) \right| \leq \prod_{j=1}^{\infty} (1 + \mu_j(K^2(\lambda))) \\ &\leq \prod_{j=1}^{\infty} (1 + \mu_j(\tilde{K}_1(\lambda)))^2 \prod_{j=1}^{\infty} (1 + \mu_j(K_2^2(\lambda)))^2, \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

where  $\mu_j(K)$  denote the characteristic values of  $K$  and  $\tilde{K}_1 = K_1^2 + K_1 K_2 + K_2 K_1$ . Let us first estimate  $\mu_j(\tilde{K}_1(\lambda))$ . Clearly,

$$\mu_j(\tilde{K}_1(\lambda)) \leq \|\tilde{K}_1(\lambda)\| \leq Ce^{C|\lambda|} \quad \forall \lambda \in \mathbf{C}, \forall j. \quad (28)$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_j(\tilde{K}_1(\lambda)) &\leq \mu_{[\frac{j}{2}]}(K_1^2 + K_1 K_2) + \mu_{[\frac{j}{2}]}(K_1 K_2) \\ &\leq \|K_1 + K_2\| \mu_{[\frac{j}{2}]}(K_1) + \|K_2\| \mu_{[\frac{j}{2}]}(K_1) \\ &\leq Ce^{C|\lambda|} \mu_{[\frac{j}{2}]}(A). \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

Let us recall that  $A$  is a finite sum of operators  $A^\zeta \phi$  with kernels of the kind

$$\left( \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} \right)^2 \chi(x, \eta) e^{i\lambda(x-y)\cdot\eta} \phi(y),$$

where  $\chi$  is a cut-off function supported near  $\zeta$  in the elliptic zone,  $\phi \in C_0^\infty$  and  $\phi(y) = 1$  in a neighborhood of  $\pi_x(\text{supp } \chi)$ . Set  $M := \pi_\eta(\text{supp } \chi)$ . We have  $A^\zeta = A_1 A_2$ , where

$A_1 : L^2(M) \rightarrow L^2(\Gamma)$ ,  $A_2 : L^2(\Gamma) \rightarrow L^2(M)$  have kernels  $(\lambda/2\pi)^2 \chi(x, \eta) e^{i\lambda x \cdot \eta}$  and  $e^{-i\lambda y \cdot \eta} \phi(y)$ , respectively. For the kernel of  $A_2$  we have

$$\sup_{y \in \text{supp}\phi, \eta \in M} \left| (I - \Delta_\eta)^k e^{-i\lambda y \cdot \eta} \phi(y) \right| \leq C e^{C|\lambda|} \left( (C|\lambda|)^{2k} + (2k)^{2k} \right).$$

Therefore, we get for any  $k \geq 0$  and for any  $j > 0$ ,

$$\mu_j(A_2) \leq \mu_j \left( (I - \Delta_\eta)^{-k} \right) \|(I - \Delta_\eta)^k A_2\| \leq C j^{-k} e^{C|\lambda|} \left( (C|\lambda|)^{2k} + (2k)^{2k} \right).$$

Taking  $k = \lceil |\lambda|/2 \rceil$ ,  $j \geq C(q)|\lambda|^2$  gives

$$\mu_j(A_2) \leq j^{-2} e^{-q|\lambda|} \quad \text{for any } q > 0 \text{ and } j \geq C(q)|\lambda|^2. \quad (30)$$

By (30) and the estimate  $\|A_1\| \leq C e^{C|\lambda|}$  we get the same type of estimate for  $A^\zeta$ , and hence for  $A$ . Thus, choosing  $q$  properly, in view of (26) we obtain

$$\mu_j(\tilde{K}_1(\lambda)) \leq C j^{-2} \quad \text{for } j \geq C'|\lambda|^2. \quad (31)$$

Combining (28) and (31) yields

$$\prod_{j=1}^{\infty} \left( 1 + \mu_j(\tilde{K}_1(\lambda)) \right)^2 \leq \prod_{j \leq C'|\lambda|^2} \left( C e^{C|\lambda|} \right)^2 \prod_{j > C'|\lambda|^2} \left( 1 + C' j^{-2} \right)^2 \leq e^{C|\lambda|^3}. \quad (32)$$

It remains to estimate  $\mu_j(K_2^2)$ . We have

$$\mu_j(K_2^2) \leq \mu_{\lfloor \frac{j}{2} \rfloor}^2(K_2). \quad (33)$$

On the other hand,

$$K_2 = \sum_{p=1}^m \binom{m}{p} (\lambda^2 - 1)^p (I - \Delta_\Gamma)^{-p},$$

thus, setting  $\langle \lambda \rangle := (1 + |\lambda|^2)^{1/2}$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_j(K_2) &\leq \sum_{p=1}^m \binom{m}{p} \langle \lambda \rangle^{2p} \mu_{\lfloor \frac{j}{m} \rfloor} \left( (I - \Delta_\Gamma)^{-p} \right) \\ &\leq \sum_{p=1}^m \binom{m}{p} \langle \lambda \rangle^{2p} \left( \frac{cj}{m} \right)^{-p} \\ &\leq C \langle \lambda \rangle^2 j^{-1} \quad \text{for } j \geq \langle \lambda \rangle^2 / 2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we get from (33) and the estimate above

$$\mu_j(K_2^2) \leq C \langle \lambda \rangle^4 j^{-2} \quad \text{for } j \geq \langle \lambda \rangle^2. \quad (34)$$

Using (34) we deduce

$$\begin{aligned}
\prod_{j=1}^{\infty} (1 + \mu_j(K_2^2(\lambda))) &\leq \prod_{j \leq \langle \lambda \rangle^2} [C \langle \lambda \rangle^{2m}] \prod_{j > \langle \lambda \rangle^2} (1 + C \langle \lambda \rangle^4 j^{-2}) \\
&\leq \exp [C \langle \lambda \rangle^2 \ln \langle \lambda \rangle] \exp \left[ C \langle \lambda \rangle^4 \sum_{j > \langle \lambda \rangle^2} j^{-2} \right] \\
&\leq \exp [C \langle \lambda \rangle^2 \ln \langle \lambda \rangle] \exp [C \langle \lambda \rangle^2] \\
&\leq C e^{C |\lambda|^3}.
\end{aligned} \tag{35}$$

Now (32) and (35) together imply

$$|h(\lambda)| \leq \prod_{j=1}^{\infty} (1 + \mu_j(K^2(\lambda))) \leq C e^{C |\lambda|^3}, \quad \lambda \in \mathbf{C}. \tag{36}$$

We will complete the proof of the lemma as in [SV2]. By [Ti, Ch. VIII] we conclude from (36) that

$$|h^{-1}(\lambda)| \leq C e^{C |\lambda|^4}, \quad \lambda \in V. \tag{37}$$

On the other hand, we have (see e.g. [GK, Thm. 5.1])

$$\left| \det (I - K^2(\lambda)) \right| \cdot \left\| (I - K^2(\lambda))^{-1} \right\| \leq \prod_{j=1}^{\infty} (1 + \mu_j(K^2(\lambda))) \leq C e^{C |\lambda|^3}. \tag{38}$$

By (36) and (37) we obtain

$$\left\| (I - K^2(\lambda))^{-1} \right\| \leq C e^{C |\lambda|^4}, \quad \lambda \in V,$$

which implies immediately (26). As in the proof of Lemma 2 if we assume that  $P^{-1}$  is free of poles in some logarithmic domain, we will get that (26) holds in a slightly shrunken domain.  $\square$

Denote  $l_{\pm} = \{\lambda \in \mathbf{C}; \operatorname{Re} \lambda \geq C_2, \operatorname{Im} \lambda = \pm C_1 \ln(\operatorname{Re} \lambda)\}$ . Let us assume that  $C_2 > 1$ , so that  $\ln(\operatorname{Re} \lambda) > 0$ .

**Lemma 4** *For any  $C_1 > 0$  there exists  $C_2 > 1$ , such that the operator  $P(\lambda)$  is invertible on  $l_{\pm}$  and*

$$\|P^{-1}(\lambda)\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^2(\Gamma))} \leq \frac{C}{\ln |\lambda|} |\lambda|^{-2m+1}, \quad \lambda \in l_{\pm}.$$

**Proof.** Let  $\zeta \notin W_2$  and  $\chi \in C_0^{\infty}(T^*\Gamma)$  be a cut-off function with sufficiently small support in  $T^*\Gamma \setminus W_2$ . Since  $P$  is a  $\Psi$ DO with large parameter  $\lambda_1$  elliptic outside  $W_2$ , we get

$$\|\operatorname{Op}_{\lambda_1}(\chi)f\| \leq \frac{C}{|\lambda|^{2m}} \|Pf\| + C_N |\lambda|^{-N} \|f\| \tag{39}$$

for any  $N > 0$  and  $\lambda \in l_{\pm}$ , where  $\text{Op}_{\lambda_1}(\chi)$  is the  $\Psi$ DO with symbol  $\chi$  written in the special coordinates related to  $\zeta$ . The same estimate holds if  $\chi$  is supported near the infinite points in  $\hat{T}^*\Gamma$ , i.e. for  $\chi = \chi'(x)\chi''(\eta)$ , where  $\text{supp } \chi'$  is close to a point  $x^0 \in \Gamma$ , while  $\text{supp } \chi_2 \subset \{\eta; c_R|\eta| > 2\}$ .

Let us now choose  $\zeta \in W_1$  and pick  $\chi \in C_0^\infty(T^*\Gamma)$  supported in  $W_1$ , such that  $\chi = 1$  in a neighborhood of  $\zeta$ . The principal symbol of  $P$  considered as a  $\Psi$ DO with large parameter  $\lambda \in l_{\pm}$  is  $\lambda^{2m}\tilde{n}_1(x, \eta)$  (see section 3). In a neighborhood  $U_\zeta$  of  $\text{supp } \chi$  we have

$$T^*\tilde{n}_1T = \text{diag}(c_R^2|\eta|_x^2 - 1, 1, 1)S, \quad (40)$$

where  $S = \text{diag}(a'_1, a_2, a_3)$  is elliptic and  $a_1 = (c_R^2|\eta|_x^2 - 1)a'_1$ ,  $a_2, a_3$  are the eigenvalues of  $\tilde{n}_1$ . Here  $T$  is a unitary matrix. Let us now consider  $\text{Op}_\lambda(c_R^2|\eta|_x^2 - 1)$  as a  $\Psi$ DO with large parameter  $\lambda_1$ . From (14) we deduce that the principal symbol of the latter reads

$$\frac{1}{\lambda^2} (\lambda_1^2 c_R^2 |\eta|_x^2 - \lambda_1^2 - 2i\lambda_1\lambda_2).$$

Therefore, modulo  $S_{0,0}^{0,-1}$  this operator coincides with

$$\frac{1}{\lambda^2} (-\Delta_\Gamma - \lambda_1^2 - 2i\lambda_1\lambda_2).$$

Observe that for any  $g$  and  $C_2$  sufficiently large

$$\left\| \frac{1}{\lambda^2} (-\Delta_\Gamma - \lambda_1^2 - 2i\lambda_1\lambda_2) g \right\| \geq \frac{|\lambda_2|}{|\lambda|} \|g\| = C_1 \frac{\ln \lambda_1}{|\lambda|} \|g\|.$$

This inequality together with (40) shows that for any  $N > 0$  we have

$$\|\text{Op}_\lambda(\chi)f\| \leq \frac{C}{|\lambda|^{2m-1} \ln |\lambda|} \|Pf\| + C_N |\lambda|^{-N} \|f\|.$$

Choose  $\chi_1 \in C_0^\infty(T^*\Gamma)$ , such that  $\text{supp } \chi_1 \subset \{\zeta; \chi(\zeta) = 1\}$ . Then one easily gets

$$\|\text{Op}_{\lambda_1}(\chi_1)f\| \leq \frac{C}{|\lambda|^{2m-1} \ln |\lambda|} \|Pf\| + C_N |\lambda|^{-N} \|f\|. \quad (41)$$

By (39), (41),

$$\|f\| \leq \frac{C}{|\lambda|^{2m-1} \ln |\lambda|} \|Pf\|$$

for any  $f$  and  $|\lambda|$  sufficiently large. Since we can prove the same type of estimate for  $P^*$ , we get that  $P^{-1}(\lambda)$  exists for  $\lambda \in l_{\pm}$  sufficiently large and satisfies the desired estimate.  $\square$

**Proof of Proposition 2.** Assume now that there is a finite number of poles of  $P^{-1}$  in some logarithmic domain  $\Lambda_{C_1, C_2}$ . Taking  $C_2$  sufficiently large we can assume that  $\Lambda_{C_1, C_2}$  is free of poles and Lemma 4 holds. Let us apply the Phragmén-Lindelöf principle to the function  $\lambda^{2m-1}(\log \lambda)P^{-1}(\lambda)$  in  $\Lambda_{C_1/2, 2C_2}$ . By Lemma 3 it satisfies the a priori exponential estimate

in  $\Lambda_{C_1/2, 2C_2}$ , while by Lemma 4 it is uniformly bounded on the boundary. Therefore, it is uniformly bounded in  $\Lambda_{C_1/2, 2C_2}$  as well, i.e.

$$\|P^{-1}(\lambda)\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^2(\Gamma))} \leq \frac{C}{|\lambda|^{2m-1} \ln |\lambda|}, \quad \lambda \in \Lambda_{C_1/2, 2C_2}. \quad (42)$$

The final step of the proof of Proposition 2 is to show that (42) leads to contradiction for real  $\lambda$ . We will do this in exactly the same way as in [SV2]. Let  $\{\mu_j^2\}$  be the eigenvalues of  $-c_R^2 \Delta_\Gamma$  and denote by  $\varphi_j$ ,  $\|\varphi_j\| = 1$  the corresponding eigenfunctions. Fix  $\zeta^0 \in \Sigma$  and let  $\chi$  be supported in a small neighborhood  $U$  of  $\zeta^0$  in the elliptic region. Let  $\Pi(x, \eta)$ ,  $(x, \eta) \in U$  be the projection onto the eigenspace corresponding to the first eigenvalue  $a_1 = (c_R^2 |\eta|_x^2 - 1) a'_1$ . Set

$$f_k(\cdot, \mu_j) = \text{Op}_{\mu_j}(\chi \Pi) e_k \varphi_j, \quad (43)$$

$\{e_k\}_{k=1}^3$  being the standard base in  $\mathbf{R}^3$ . Denote  $\Theta = \{\mu_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  and  $f_k(x, \lambda) = f_k(x, \mu_j)$ ,  $\varphi(x, \lambda) = \varphi_j(x)$  for  $\lambda \in \Theta$ . Consider all  $\Psi$ DO-s bellow as  $\Psi$ DO-s with large parameter  $\lambda \in \Theta$ . Then

$$P f_k = G e_k \varphi, \quad (44)$$

where  $G \in L_{0,0}^{0,2m}(\Gamma)$ ,  $\sigma_p(G) = \lambda^{2m} (c_R^2 |\eta|_x^2 - 1) a'_1 \chi \Pi$ . Since the principal symbol of  $-c_R^2 \Delta_\Gamma - \lambda^2$  is  $\lambda^2 (c_R^2 |\eta|_x^2 - 1)$ , we have

$$P f_k = \lambda^{2m-2} \text{Op}(\chi a'_1 \Pi) (-c_R^2 \Delta_\Gamma - \lambda^2) e_k \varphi + B e_k \varphi = B e_k \varphi, \quad (45)$$

where  $B \in L_{0,0}^{0,2m-1}(\Gamma)$ . Thus

$$\|P f_k\| \leq C \lambda^{2m-1} \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, 3; \lambda \in \Theta. \quad (46)$$

According to (42), (43),

$$\|\text{Op}(\chi \Pi) e_k \varphi\| \leq \frac{C}{\ln \lambda} \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, 3; \lambda \in \Theta. \quad (47)$$

Since the projection  $\Pi(\zeta)$  is well defined and does not vanish near  $\Sigma$ , we have that  $\sum |\Pi_{ij}|^2$  is elliptic in  $U$  provided that  $U$  is sufficiently close to  $\Sigma$ . Thus from (47) we deduce that

$$\|\text{Op}(\chi' \chi'') \varphi\| \leq \frac{C}{\ln \lambda}, \quad (48)$$

where  $\chi' = \chi'(x)$ ,  $\chi'' = \chi''(\eta)$  and  $\chi'(x) = 1$ ,  $\chi''(\eta) = 1$  for  $(x, \eta)$  close to  $\zeta^0$ ,  $\text{supp } \chi' \chi'' \subset \{\chi = 1\}$ . On the other hand,  $(-c_R^2 \Delta_\Gamma - \lambda^2) \varphi = 0$  and  $-c_R^2 \Delta_\Gamma - \lambda^2$  is a  $\Psi$ DO on  $\Gamma$  in  $L_{0,0}^{2,2}(\Gamma)$  with principal symbol  $\lambda^2 (c_R^2 |\eta|_x^2 - 1)$  elliptic outside  $\Sigma$ . Therefore,  $\widetilde{\text{WF}}(\varphi) \subset \Sigma$ . Hence,

$$\|\text{Op}(\chi'(1 - \chi'')) \varphi\| \leq C_N \lambda^{-N}, \quad \forall N > 0. \quad (49)$$

Combining (48) and (49) we get

$$\|\chi' \varphi\| \leq \frac{C}{\ln \lambda}, \quad \lambda \in \Theta,$$

for any cut-off function  $\chi'$ , such that  $\chi' = 1$  near  $x^0 = \pi_x(\zeta^0)$  and  $\text{supp } \chi'$  is sufficiently small. Since  $\zeta^0 \in \Sigma$  was arbitrary, we get  $\|\varphi\| \leq C/\ln \lambda$  which contradicts the fact that  $\|\varphi\| = 1$ .

Thus, there exists a sequence  $\{\lambda_j\}$  of poles of  $P^{-1}(\lambda)$  satisfying (b). Going back to the representation (25) we conclude by the Fredholm alternative that for any pole  $\lambda_j$  there is a function  $f_j \neq 0$  such that  $P(\lambda_j)f_j = 0$ . Since  $P$ , considered as a  $\Psi$ DO with large parameter  $\lambda_1$  (with  $\lambda$  satisfying (b)) is elliptic outside  $\Sigma$ , we get (c).  $\square$

Next we show that Proposition 2 implies existence of asymptotic zeros of  $N_{2m-1}$ .

**Proposition 3** *Let  $\lambda_j, f_j, j = 1, 2, \dots$  be as in Proposition 2. Then*

- (a)  $N_{2m-1}(\lambda_j)f_j = O(|\lambda_j|^{-\infty})$ ,
- (b)  $|\text{Im } \lambda_j| \leq C|\lambda_j|^{-2m+2}$  with some  $C > 0$ .

**Proof.** It follows from Proposition 2 (c) that  $(I - A)f_j = O(|\lambda_j|^{-\infty})$ , which in view of (24) yields (a). To prove (b), set  $f(x, \lambda) = f_j(x)$ ,  $\lambda \in \Theta := \{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  and recall that  $H_{2m-1}$  solves (18) with  $2m - 1$  instead of  $m$ . Arguing as in [SV2], we get that

$$(\Delta_e + \lambda^2)\phi H_{2m-1}f = [\Delta_e, \phi]H_{2m-1}f + \phi K_{2m-1}f, \quad (50)$$

where  $\phi \in C_0^\infty$ ,  $\phi = 1$  near  $\Gamma$ . Multiply (50) by  $\phi H_{2m-1}f$  and integrate by parts. Using (18), we get that

$$\text{Im } \lambda^2 \leq \frac{\|[\Delta_e, \phi]H_{2m-1}f\| + C|\lambda|^{-2m+1}}{\|\phi H_{2m-1}f\|}.$$

Now, we use the facts that  $[\Delta_e, \phi]$  is a first order differential operator with compactly supported coefficients vanishing near  $\Gamma$  and that the parametrix in the elliptic zone decays exponentially in  $|\lambda|x_1$ . This implies

$$\|[\Delta_e, \phi]H_{2m-1}f\| \leq Ce^{-\gamma|\lambda|}\|f\| \leq Ce^{-\gamma|\lambda|}$$

with some  $\gamma > 0$  (recall that  $\|f\|_{H^{3/2}} = 1$ ). On the other hand, by trace theorem, in view of (17) and using the fact that the operator  $\Delta_e$  with Dirichlet boundary conditions is coercive, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|f + Qf\|_{H^{3/2}} &\leq C\|\phi H_{2m-1}f\|_{H^2} \leq C'(\|\Delta_e \phi H_{2m-1}f\| + \|\phi H_{2m-1}f\|) \\ &\leq C''|\lambda|^2\|\phi H_{2m-1}f\| + C''|\lambda|^{-2m+1}, \end{aligned}$$

which gives for large  $\lambda \in \Theta$

$$1 \leq 2C''|\lambda|^2\|\phi H_{2m-1}f\|.$$

Combining the above estimates implies (b) at once.  $\square$

We are ready now to conclude the proof of Theorem 1. Let us see first that for any integer  $N \geq 1$  there are infinitely many resonances in  $\{\lambda \in \mathbf{C} : \text{Im } \lambda \leq |\lambda|^{-N}, |\text{Re } \lambda| \geq 1\}$ . Assume the contrary, i.e.  $R_\chi(\lambda)$  is holomorphic in  $\{\lambda \in \mathbf{C} : \text{Im } \lambda \leq |\lambda|^{-N}, |\text{Re } \lambda| \geq C_0\}$  for some constant  $C_0 > 0$ . Choose  $m$  so that  $2m - 3 > N + 9$ . Let  $f_j, \lambda_j$  be as in Propositions

2 and 3, and set  $f(x, \lambda) = f_j(x)$ ,  $\lambda \in \Theta := \{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ . In view of Proposition 2(c) we can use (23) to obtain

$$N_{2m-1}f + \tilde{R}_{2m-1}f = \mathcal{N}(f + Qf + R_{2m-1}f), \quad \lambda \in \Theta.$$

Since  $\Theta \cap \{\lambda; |\operatorname{Re} \lambda| \geq C_1\} \subset \{\lambda \in \mathbf{C} : |\operatorname{Im} \lambda| \leq |\lambda|^{-N-6}, |\operatorname{Re} \lambda| \geq C_1\}$  for  $C_1$  large enough, this estimate combined with (10) yields

$$\|f + Qf + R_{2m-1}f\|_{H^{3/2}} \leq C|\lambda|^{N+9} \|N_{2m-1}f + \tilde{R}_{2m-1}f\|_{H^{1/2}} \leq C'|\lambda|^{N+9-(2m-3)}.$$

On the other hand, in view of (19), (22),

$$1 = \|f\|_{H^{3/2}} \leq \|f + Qf + R_{2m-1}f\|_{H^{3/2}} + C|\lambda|^{-1},$$

therefore we get a contradiction for large  $\lambda = \lambda_j$ .

We will now choose our sequence of resonances by induction. Assume that we have already chosen  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{k-1}$ . It follows from the above analysis that there exists a resonance  $\lambda_k$  satisfying  $|\lambda_k| > |\lambda_{k-1}| + 1$  and

$$0 < \operatorname{Im} \lambda_k \leq |\lambda_k|^{-k}. \quad (51)$$

Thus we have an infinite sequence of different resonances  $\{\lambda_k\}$  satisfying (51) for each  $k \geq 1$ . It is easy to see now that

$$0 < \operatorname{Im} \lambda_k \leq C_N |\lambda_k|^{-N}, \quad \forall k, \quad (52)$$

for any integer  $N \geq 1$  with  $C_N = |\lambda_N|^N$ . Indeed, for  $k \geq N$  (52) follows from (51) at once, while for  $k \leq N$  we have

$$\operatorname{Im} \lambda_k \leq |\lambda_k|^{-k} \leq |\lambda_N|^N |\lambda_k|^{-N},$$

which completes the proof of (52), and hence of Theorem 1.

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