



Consider equations of the type

$$a_n \psi_{k+n} + a_{n-1} \psi_{k+n-1} + \dots + a_2 \psi_{k+2} + a_1 \psi_{k+1} + a_0 \psi_k = 0 \quad (*)$$

for all  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . This equation couples  $n+1$  points, it is an analog of  $n^{\text{th}}$  order ODE. It is translation invariant, and we can look for exponential solutions:  $\psi_k \propto \lambda^k$ . The function  $\psi: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\psi: k \mapsto \lambda^k$  is the solution of (\*) if

$$a_n \lambda^n + a_{n-1} \lambda^{n-1} + \dots + a_2 \lambda^2 + a_1 \lambda + a_0 = 0$$

the characteristic equation of (\*)

The equation for  $\lambda$  has  $n$  roots:  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ ; and the general solution of (\*) looks like

(if all  $\lambda_m$ 's are distinct) 
$$\psi_k = \sum_{m=1}^n A_m \lambda_m^k$$
  
arbitrary constants

In the case of repeated roots of the characteristic equation the situation is similar to ODEs — an exponential solution is deformed by a polynomial. For example, consider

analog of  $\psi''=0$  — 
$$\psi_{k+2} - 2\psi_{k+1} + \psi_k = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 1 = (\lambda - 1)^2 = 0,$$

the solutions are

$$\psi_k = \underbrace{(Ak + B) \cdot 1^k}_{\text{all linear functions}}$$

## Homework 7

1. Consider the space  $X$  of two-sided sequences  $u_n, -\infty < n < \infty$  (or mappings  $u : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ) such that  $\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |u_n|^2 < \infty$ . The inner product is defined as  $\langle u, v \rangle = h \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} u_n^* v_n$  ( $h$  is the grid step size). Consider the operator  $\hat{L}$  defined by  $(\hat{L}u)_n = -\frac{1}{2}(u_{n+1} - 2u_n + u_{n-1})/h^2$ .

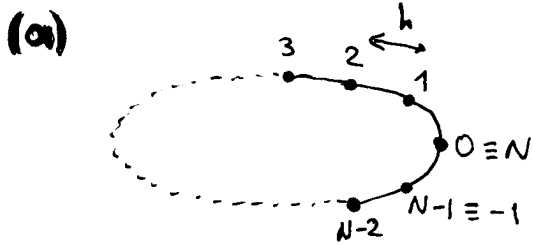
- (a) By wrapping integers into a ring,  $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$ , consider the operator  $\hat{L}_N$  (acting on the mappings  $\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ) with the same formula. Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $\hat{L}_N$ . Find the resolvent  $\hat{R}_E = (E - \hat{L}_N)^{-1}$ . (It is going to be a Toeplitz  $N \times N$  matrix. You can represent it by a function on  $\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$  – in the case of translation invariance we have  $A(x | y) = A(x - y | 0)$  for the integral kernel of some operator  $\hat{A}$ .)
- (b) Find  $\hat{L}^*$ .
- (c) Find the resolvent  $\hat{R}_E = (E - \hat{L})^{-1}$  (it is going to be an infinite size matrix, which you can represent by a function on  $\mathbb{Z}$ ). Find point, continuous, and residual spectra.
- (d) Find  $\|\hat{L}\|$ .
- (e) Find the resolvent of  $\hat{L}$  in the limit  $h \rightarrow 0$ , where  $R_E(n) \rightarrow R_E(x = hn)$  – a function on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

This is going to be relevant for the part (e): If we think about the matrix with elements  $A_{ij}$  as the "integral kernel" of operator  $\hat{A}$ , then it is reasonable to define the action by  $\hat{A}$  as  $(\hat{A}\psi)_i = \underbrace{h \sum_j A_{ij} \psi_j}_{\text{integration, one grid site has the weight } h - \text{grid step size}}$

Then the identity operator  $\hat{I}$  has the "integral kernel"  $I_{ij} = \frac{1}{h} \delta_{ij}$ , which is the discretization of  $I(x|y) = \delta(x-y)$ .

The integral kernels of  $\hat{L}$  and  $\hat{L}_N$  become  $L_{ij} = \frac{2\delta_{ij} - \delta_{i,j+h} - \delta_{i,j-h}}{2h^3}$ .  
 We have  $(E\hat{I} - \hat{L})\hat{R}_E = \hat{I}$ , or  

$$h \sum_k (E\hat{I} - \hat{L})_{ik} (R_E)_{kj} = I_{ij} = \frac{1}{h} \delta_{ij}.$$
| discretization of  $-\frac{1}{2}\delta''(x-y)$



As the matrix of  $\hat{L}_N$  is a circulant one, the normalized eigenvectors of  $\hat{L}_N$  are

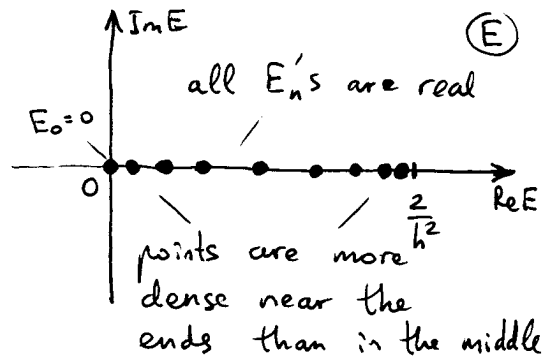
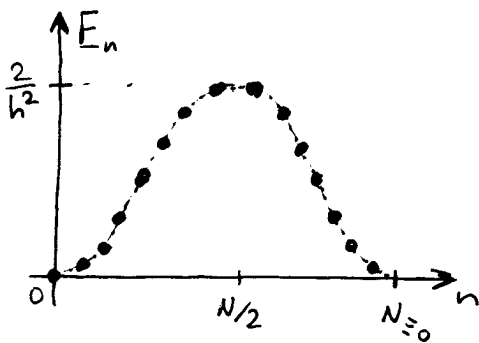
$$\vec{w}_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{hN}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \xi^n \\ \xi^{2n} \\ \vdots \\ \xi^{(N-1)n} \\ \xi^{-n} \end{bmatrix}$$

because of  $h$  in the inner product

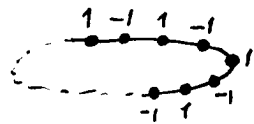
Once the eigenvectors are known, it is easy to find the eigenvalues  $E_n$  ( $\hat{L}_N \vec{w}_n = E_n \vec{w}_n$ ):

$$E_n = -\frac{1}{2} (\xi^n - 2 + \xi^{-n}) / h^2 = \frac{1 - \frac{\xi^n + \xi^{-n}}{2}}{h^2} = \frac{1 - \cos\left(\frac{2\pi n}{N}\right)}{h^2}$$

$hN =: L$  is the length of the ring



If  $N$  is even, then  $E_{N/2} = \frac{2}{h^2}$  is realized on



The resolvent  $\hat{R}_E$  can be expressed as

$$\hat{R}_E = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \underbrace{\vec{w}_n \frac{1}{E - E_n} \vec{w}_n^\dagger}_{\text{outer product}}, \quad \text{and } ((E - \hat{L}_N) \hat{R}_E)_{ij} = \frac{1}{h} \delta_{ij}.$$

because of  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{h}}$  in both  $\vec{w}_n$  and  $\vec{w}_n^\dagger$

This expression for  $\hat{K}_E$  can be viewed as diagonalization of  $\hat{K}_E$ , that has same with  $\hat{L}_N$  eigenvectors, or the statement that  $\hat{L}_N$  and  $\hat{K}_E$ , being translation invariant, are diagonalized by the discrete Fourier transform.

Let us find the explicit expression for  $\hat{K}_E$ . As the matrix of  $\hat{K}_E$  is a circulant one, we can find just the 1<sup>st</sup> column of  $\hat{K}_E$  —  $(\hat{K}_E)_{m0} =: R_m$ , and let  $(\hat{K}_E)_{mn} = R_{m-n \pmod{N}}$ . The equations for  $R_m$  look like

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} (E - \frac{1}{h^2}) R_0 + \frac{R_1 + R_{-1} \equiv R_{N-1}}{2h^2} &= \frac{1}{h} \end{aligned} \right. \quad (1)$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} (E - \frac{1}{h^2}) R_m + \frac{R_{m+1} + R_{m-1}}{2h^2} &= 0, \quad 0 < m < N \end{aligned} \right. \quad (2)$$

The characteristic equation of eq. (2)

$$\lambda^2 - 2(1 - Eh^2)\lambda + 1 = 0$$

has 2 roots;  $\lambda_{1,2} = 1 - Eh^2 \pm ih \sqrt{E(2 - Eh^2)}$ .

Notice that  $\lambda_2 = \frac{1}{\lambda_1}$ , so we will use just  $\lambda := \lambda_1$ .

The general solution of (2) looks like

$R_m = A \lambda^m + B \lambda^{-m}$ , the expression that should be arbitrary constants used for  $0 \leq m \leq N$ .

The constants A and B are found from

$R_0 \equiv R_N$  and eq. (1):

$$\begin{cases} A + B = A \lambda^N + B \lambda^{-N} \implies B = \lambda^N A \\ 2(Eh^2 - 1) R_0 + R_1 + R_{N-1} = 2h \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

We have  $2(1-Eh^2) = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = \lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda}$ , so we rewrite eq. (3) as

$$-\left(\lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda}\right) \underbrace{(A+B)}_{R_0} + \underbrace{A\lambda + \frac{B}{\lambda}}_{R_1} + \underbrace{A\lambda^{N-1} + B\lambda^{1-N}}_{R_{N-1}} = 2h$$

which, using  $B = \lambda^N A$ , simplifies to

$$\left(\lambda + \lambda^{N-1} - \frac{1}{\lambda} - \lambda^{N+1}\right) A = 2h \quad \text{or} \quad A = \frac{2h}{\left(\lambda - \frac{1}{\lambda}\right)(1 - \lambda^N)}$$

The resolvent operator  $\hat{R}_E$  is equal to

$$R_m = \frac{2h(\lambda^m + \lambda^{N-m})}{\left(\lambda - \frac{1}{\lambda}\right)(1 - \lambda^N)}$$

In this expression  $\lambda$  could be both  $\lambda_1$  or  $\lambda_2$ , as changing  $\lambda$  to  $1/\lambda$  doesn't change  $R_m$ .

As a function of the spectral parameter  $E$  the resolvent  $\hat{R}_E$  has singularities whenever the denominator

$$\left(\lambda - \frac{1}{\lambda}\right)(1 - \lambda^N) = 0, \quad \text{which happens when } \lambda = \pm 1$$

or  $\lambda^N = 1$ .  
 happens when  $E = E_n$  for some  $n$

singularity at  $\lambda = -1$  in the case of odd  $N$  is cancelled by  $\lambda^m + \lambda^{N-m} = (-1)^m - (-1)^{-m} = 0$  in the numerator

$$\text{We have } \lambda - \frac{1}{\lambda} = 2ih\sqrt{E(2-Eh^2)}$$

Notice that in the limit  $h \rightarrow 0$  with fixed  $L = hN$  and continuous variable  $x = mh$  we get

$$R_E(x) = R \frac{x}{h} = \frac{e^{i\sqrt{2E}x} + e^{i\sqrt{2E}(L-x)}}{i\sqrt{2E}(1 - e^{i\sqrt{2E}L})} \quad \text{the resolvent of } \hat{L} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2}{dx^2}$$

on the circle of length  $L$  ( $\lambda = 1 + ih\sqrt{2E} + O(h^2)$ ).

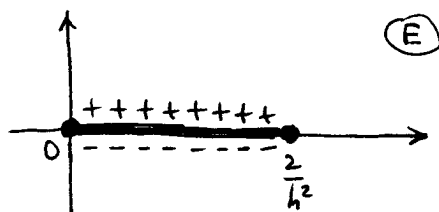
(b) (i) We have  $L_{ij} = \frac{2\delta_{ij} - \delta_{i,j+1} - \delta_{i,j-1}}{2h^3}$ , so  $L_{ij} = L_{ji}$  - the matrix of  $\hat{L}$  is real symmetric, so  $\hat{L}^* = \hat{L}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 (ii) \langle \vec{u}, L\vec{v} \rangle &= h \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} u_n^* \frac{v_{n+1} - 2v_n + v_{n-1}}{-2h^2} = \\
 &= \frac{1}{2h} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \left( 2u_n^* v_n - \underset{\substack{\text{shift} \\ \downarrow \\ -1}}{u_n^*} v_{n+1} - \underset{\substack{\text{shift} \\ \uparrow \\ +1}}{u_n^*} v_{n-1} \right) = \\
 &= \frac{1}{2h} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \left( 2u_n^* v_n - u_{n-1}^* v_n - u_{n+1}^* v_n \right) = \\
 &= h \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{u_{n+1}^* - 2u_n^* + u_{n-1}^*}{-2h^2} v_n = \\
 &= \langle \hat{L}\vec{u}, \vec{v} \rangle, \text{ so } \hat{L}^* = \hat{L}.
 \end{aligned}$$

(c) We have  $\lambda_{1,2} = 1 - Eh^2 \pm ih \sqrt{E(2 - Eh^2)}$ . Let us use the branch of  $\sqrt{E(2 - Eh^2)}$  that is analytic in the exterior of  $[0, \frac{2}{h^2}]$  and has the following sign:

As  $\lambda_1 \lambda_2 = 1$ , we have  $|\lambda_1| = 1$  only when

$\lambda_1 = \lambda_2^*$ , or when  $1 - Eh^2 = \operatorname{Re} \lambda_{1,2}$  and  $h \sqrt{E(2 - Eh^2)} = \pm \operatorname{Im} \lambda_{1,2}$ .



This happens only when  $E$  is real and  $E(2-Eh^2) \geq 0$ , or when  $E \in [0, \frac{2}{h^2}]$ . Everywhere in the exterior we have either  $|\lambda_1| < 1$  or  $|\lambda_1| > 1$ :  $|\lambda_1|$  is a [non-analytic but] continuous function of  $E$ , so any two points with  $|\lambda_1| < 1$  and  $|\lambda_1| > 1$  would contain a point with  $|\lambda_1| = 1$  somewhere on any path connecting them, and it is always possible to choose a path that avoids  $[0, \frac{2}{h^2}]$ . (check Zhukovsky's function, construct its inverse, compare with  $\lambda_{1,2}$ .)

With our branch of  $\sqrt{E(2-Eh^2)}$  we have

$$\lambda_{1,2}(\frac{1}{h^2} + iy) = \underbrace{-iyh^2}_{\text{positive}} \pm i \underbrace{\sqrt{1+y^2h^4}}_{\text{positive}}, \text{ so it}$$

is  $|\lambda_1| < 1$  there (and thus everywhere outside of  $[0, \frac{2}{h^2}]$ ), while  $|\lambda_2| > 1$ . We will use  $\lambda := \lambda_1 = \frac{1}{\lambda_2}$ .

(i) The equations for  $R_m$  are the same as in part (a), and their solution looks like

As  $R_0 = R_0$ , we have  $A = D$ . The eq. (2) is now

$$\frac{(E - \frac{1}{h^2})A + \frac{2A\lambda}{2h^2}}{-(\lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda})/2h^2} = \frac{1}{h} \implies A = \frac{2h}{\lambda - \frac{1}{\lambda}} = \frac{1}{i\sqrt{E(2-Eh^2)}}.$$



The resolvent operator has the form

$$R_m = A \lambda^{|m|} = \frac{(1 - E h^2 + i h \sqrt{E(2 - E h^2)})^{|m|}}{i \sqrt{E(2 - E h^2)}}.$$

(ii) We have  $R_m = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2h(\lambda^m + \lambda^{N-m})}{(\lambda - \frac{1}{\lambda})(1 - \lambda^N)}$  - expression valid for  $0 \leq m \leq N$

For  $m \geq 0$  we get ( $\lambda^N \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} 0$ )  $R_m = \frac{2h \lambda^m}{\lambda - \frac{1}{\lambda}}$ .

For  $m < 0$  we can notice that (a) by symmetry  $R_{-m} = R_m$ , or (b)  $m < 0$  corresponds to  $m \rightarrow m + N$  being very large, close to  $N$ , so  $\lambda^m \rightarrow 0$ , while  $\lambda^{N-m} \rightarrow \lambda^{|m|}$ , so we get  $R_{m < 0} \rightarrow \frac{2h \lambda^{|m|}}{\lambda - \frac{1}{\lambda}}$ .

(iii) Consider eqs. (1) and (2) and do the "inverse Fourier series" transform (I'll write it in the form of z-transform):

$$R(z) := \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} R_m z^m, \quad R_m = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|z|=1} dz \frac{R(z)}{z^{m+1}}.$$

From

$$2(Eh^2 - 1)R_m + R_{m+1} + R_{m-1} = 2h \delta_{m0}$$

we get

$$2(Eh^2 - 1)R(z) + \frac{R(z)}{z} + zR(z) = 2h.$$

$R(z) = -\frac{\hbar}{1 - Eh^2 - \frac{z + \frac{1}{z}}{2}}$ . By going back from  $z$  to  $m$  variable, we get

$$R_m = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} z = e^{i\theta} \\ dz = iz d\theta \end{array} \right\} = -\frac{\hbar}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta \frac{e^{-im\theta}}{1 - Eh^2 - \cos\theta}.$$

This is the analog of  $\hat{R}_E = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\vec{w}_n \vec{w}_n^\dagger}{E - \frac{1 - \cos(\frac{2\pi n}{N})}{\hbar^2}}$  expression.

It defines an analytic function of  $E$  whenever  $1 - Eh^2$  is not a possible value of  $\cos\theta$  (which sits in  $[-1, 1]$ ), i.e.,  $E \notin [0, \frac{2}{\hbar^2}]$ .

Use MATH 583A Fall 2016 Final Exam, problem 5 to show that the answer coincides with the one from (i) and (ii).

Spectrum: The "eigenfunctions" of  $\hat{L}$  would look like  $A\lambda^m + B\lambda^{-m}$ , which either exponentially grow at  $+\infty$  or  $-\infty$ , or don't decay (if  $E \in [0, \frac{2}{\hbar^2}]$ ). They are out of  $l^2$ , so the point spectrum is empty.  $\hat{L}^* = \hat{L}$ , so the residual spectrum is empty too. Whenever  $E \notin [0, \frac{2}{\hbar^2}]$   $R_m$  exponentially decays, so  $\hat{R}_E$  is bounded — we are in the resolvent set.  $[0, \frac{2}{\hbar^2}]$  is the continuous spectrum of  $\hat{L}$ .

Let us show that the resolvent operator  $\hat{R}_0 = -\hat{L}^{-1}$ , corresponding to  $E=0$ , is indeed defined on the dense subspace. We can set  $R_m = h|m|$ , or

$$((-\hat{L})^{-1} \vec{\psi})_m = h \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} h|m-n| \psi_n \quad \text{- discretization of}$$

$(\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2}{dx^2})^{-1} \psi(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dy |x-y| \psi(y)$ . One will not be able to act by  $\hat{L}^{-1}$  on any  $\vec{\psi}$  from  $l^2$ , as the sum could diverge, or the result could be out of  $l^2$ .

For simplicity (the idea is same) let us deal with continuous case  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ . Let us truncate  $\psi(x)$ :

$$\psi_T(x) = \begin{cases} \psi(x), & |x| < T; \\ 0, & |x| \geq T. \end{cases} \quad \text{By increasing } T \text{ we can}$$

make  $\|\vec{\psi} - \vec{\psi}_T\|$  being arbitrarily small. Now

$$\text{consider truncated - shifted } \psi_{TS}(x) = \psi_T(x) - \begin{cases} A_+, & 0 \leq x < w; \\ A_-, & -w < x < 0; \\ 0, & |x| \geq w. \end{cases}$$

$$\text{We set } A_{\pm} := \frac{1}{2w} \int_{-T}^T dx \psi(x) \pm \frac{1}{w^2} \int_{-T}^T dx x \psi(x),$$

$$\text{in order to have } \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \psi_{TS}(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx x \psi_{TS}(x) = 0.$$

This ensures that  $(\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2}{dx^2})^{-1} \vec{\psi}_{TS}$  has compact support ( $\vec{\psi}_{TS}$  has compact support too). The norm

$$\|\vec{\psi}_T - \vec{\psi}_{TS}\|^2 = W(A_+^2 + A_-^2) \xrightarrow{W \rightarrow \infty} 0 \quad \text{can}$$

be made arbitrarily small by increasing  $W$ ,

so  $\|\vec{\psi} - \vec{\psi}_{TS}\| \leq \|\vec{\psi} - \vec{\psi}_T\| + \|\vec{\psi}_T - \vec{\psi}_{TS}\|$  can be made small too.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (d) \quad \|\hat{L}\vec{u}\|^2 &= \frac{1}{4h^4} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |u_{n+1} - 2u_n + u_{n-1}|^2 \leq \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{4h^4} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (|u_{n+1}| + 2|u_n| + |u_{n-1}|)^2 = \\
 &= \frac{1}{4h^4} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (|u_{n+1}|^2 + 4|u_n|^2 + |u_{n-1}|^2 + 4|u_{n+1}||u_n| + 4|u_n||u_{n-1}| + 2|u_{n+1}||u_{n-1}|) \leq \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{4h^4} \left( \|\vec{u}\|^2 + 4\|\vec{u}\|^2 + \|\vec{u}\|^2 + 4\|\vec{u}\|^2 + 4\|\vec{u}\|^2 + 2\|\vec{u}\|^2 \right) = \\
 &= \frac{4\|\vec{u}\|^2}{h^4} \implies \|\hat{L}\| \leq \sqrt{\frac{4}{h^4}} = \frac{2}{h^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

Consider  $u_n = \begin{cases} (-1)^n, & 0 \leq n < W; \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 \vec{u} &= \dots 0 \ 0 \ \overset{\longleftarrow W}{1 \ -1 \ 1 \ -1 \ \dots \ 1 \ -1} \ 0 \ \dots \\
 \hat{L}\vec{u} &= \dots 0 \ -\frac{1}{2h^2} \ \frac{3}{2h^2} \ -\frac{2}{h^2} \ \frac{2}{h^2} \ -\frac{2}{h^2} \ \dots \ \frac{2}{h^2} \ -\frac{3}{2h^2} \ \frac{1}{2h^2} \ 0 \ \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

with  $\frac{\|\hat{L}\vec{u}\|}{\|\vec{u}\|} \xrightarrow{1} \frac{2}{h^2}$  as  $W \rightarrow \infty$ .

$$\sup \frac{\|\hat{L}\vec{u}\|}{\|\vec{u}\|} \geq \frac{2}{h^2} \implies \|\hat{L}\| = \frac{2}{h^2}$$

(e) We have  $\lambda = 1 + ih\sqrt{2E} + O(h^2)$ ,

while  $A \xrightarrow{h \rightarrow 0} 1/i\sqrt{2E}$ .  $m = \frac{x}{h}$ , so

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_E(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} A \lambda^{|m|} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1 + ih\sqrt{2E})^{|x|/h}}{i\sqrt{2E}} = \\
 &= \frac{e^{i\sqrt{2E}|x|}}{i\sqrt{2E}} \quad \text{— the resolvent of } \hat{\mathcal{L}} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \\
 &\quad \text{on the real line}
 \end{aligned}$$