

# On Titchmarsh-Weyl functions and eigenfunction expansions of first-order symmetric systems

V. Mogilevskii

Assume that  $H$  and  $\widehat{H}$  are finite dimensional Hilbert spaces,  $\mathbb{H} = H \oplus \widehat{H} \oplus H$ ,  $[\mathbb{H}]$  is the set of all bounded operators in  $\mathbb{H}$  and  $J \in [\mathbb{H}]$  is a signature operator of the form

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -I_H \\ 0 & iI_{\widehat{H}} & 0 \\ I_H & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} : H \oplus \widehat{H} \oplus H \rightarrow H \oplus \widehat{H} \oplus H.$$

We will discuss first-order symmetric systems

$$Jy'(t) - B(t)y(t) = \lambda\Delta(t)y + \Delta(t)f(t) \tag{1}$$

with the  $[\mathbb{H}]$ -valued coefficients  $B(t) = B^*(t)$  and  $\Delta(t) \geq 0$  defined on an interval  $\mathcal{I} = [a, b)$  with the regular endpoint  $a$ . In the case  $\widehat{H} = \{0\}$  system (1) turns into the Hamiltonian system. We assume the deficiency indices  $n_{\pm}$  of the corresponding minimal relation  $T_{min}$  to be arbitrary (possibly unequal).

Our approach is based on the concept of a decomposing boundary triplet for the maximal relation  $T_{max}(= T_{min}^*)$  introduced in [4] (another construction of a boundary triplet for  $T_{max}$  can be found in [1]). This enables us to describe self-adjoint and  $\lambda$ -depending Nevanlinna boundary conditions which are analogs of separated self-adjoint boundary conditions for Hamiltonian systems (1). With a boundary value problem involving such conditions we associate the  $m$ -function  $m(\cdot) : \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [H \oplus \widehat{H}]$ . In the case of the Hamiltonian system with equal deficiency indices  $n_+ = n_-$  of  $T_{min}$  the  $m$ -function  $m(\cdot)$  coincides with the Titchmarsh-Weyl coefficient. In the simplest case of minimal (unequal) deficiency indices  $n_{\pm}$  the main part of the  $m$ -function

$m(\cdot)$  coincides with the rectangular Titchmarsh-Weyl coefficient introduced by Hinton and Schneider in [3].

It turns out that  $m(\cdot)$  is a Nevanlinna function and its spectral function  $\Sigma(\cdot) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [H \oplus \widehat{H}]$  is a spectral function of the Fourier transform  $L^2_{\Delta}(\mathcal{I}) \ni f \rightarrow g_f \in L^2(\Sigma, H \oplus \widehat{H})$  with the minimally possible dimension  $d = \dim(H \oplus \widehat{H})$ . We parametrize all  $m$ -functions  $m(\lambda)$  (and, consequently, all spectral functions  $\Sigma(t)$ ) in terms of the Nevanlinna boundary parameter at the singular endpoint  $b$ . Such a parameterization is given by formula similar to the known Krein formula for resolvents.

Application of these results to differential expressions  $l[y]$  of an odd order enables us to complete the results by Everitt and Krishna Kumar [2] on the Titchmarsh-Weyl theory of  $l[y]$ .

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## References

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