

Reduced Schrödinger-Coulomb Green's function for excited states

Gregory S. Adkins

Department of Physics and Astronomy, Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17604

Jeffrey D. Cammerata

Department of Physics and Astronomy, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland 21218

(Received 9 August 1991)

The momentum-space representation of the reduced Schrödinger-Coulomb Green's function is obtained in closed form for all states n . Explicit forms are given for $n = 1$ and 2 .

PACS number(s): 03.65.Ge

I. INTRODUCTION

The Green's function for the Schrödinger equation is an extremely useful object in quantum mechanics. The Green's function can be written as a sum over states

$$G_E = \sum_m \frac{|m\rangle\langle m|}{(E - E_m)} \quad (1)$$

in Dirac notation. It satisfies the inhomogeneous time-independent Schrödinger equation

$$(E - H)G_E = 1. \quad (2)$$

The Green's function contains complete information about the energy levels and wave functions for the Hamiltonian H .

The reduced Green's function \hat{G}_n is obtained from G_E by subtracting out the E_n pole term and taking the limit $E \rightarrow E_n$. The reduced Green's function can be written as

$$\hat{G}_n = \sum_{m, m \neq n} \frac{|m\rangle\langle m|}{(E_n - E_m)}. \quad (3)$$

The formulas of bound-state perturbation theory can be expressed in terms of \hat{G}_n . For example, the energy-level shift in the presence of a perturbing Hamiltonian H' is [1]

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta E_n &= \langle n|H'|n\rangle + \sum_{m, m \neq n} \frac{\langle n|H'|m\rangle\langle m|H'|n\rangle}{(E_n - E_m)} + O(H'^3) \\ &= \langle n|H'|n\rangle + \langle n|H'\hat{G}_n H'|n\rangle + O(H'^3). \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Of particular interest are the Green's function and reduced Green's function for a particle in the Coulomb potential [2] $V(r) = -Z\alpha/r$. The Schrödinger-Coulomb Green's function was worked out by Hostler [3-5], Schwinger [6], and others [7,8] in various forms. The reduced Schrödinger-Coulomb Green's function in the coordinate representation has been considered by several authors [9-13]. In the momentum representation, Hostler [14] has given forms for the excited-state reduced Green's functions in one-dimensional space along with a prescription for obtaining the three-dimensional results, and Douglas [15] has given forms containing one-parameter integrals for the $n = 1$ and 2 reduced Green's

functions.

One important use for the reduced Schrödinger-Coulomb Green's function is in bound-state QED [15-19]. Modern bound-state formalisms for QED are built around a soluble reference problem that describes the Coulombic binding. The solution to the reference problem is based on the known nonrelativistic solution with the four-dimensional structure of relativity added on. As an example, in positronium the $n = 2$ energy splittings have been measured [20] with an accuracy of a few megahertz. A theoretical calculation to that level of accuracy will require corrections of order $m\alpha^6$. These corrections involve the reduced Green's function, which will be needed for $n = 2$. The bound-state perturbation scheme is usually set up in the momentum representation, so we will be interested in the momentum-space representation of the reduced Green's function $\hat{G}_n(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}') = \langle \mathbf{p}|\hat{G}_n|\mathbf{p}'\rangle$.

In this paper we develop a closed-form expression for the reduced Schrödinger-Coulomb Green's function $\hat{G}_n(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}')$ in three dimensions for all states n . We start with Schwinger's one-parameter integral representation of the full Green's function and perform the subtraction and limit in a straightforward way. The form obtained still contains a one-parameter integral that we evaluate in terms of Gegenbauer and Chebyshev polynomials. The reduced Green's functions for the most useful cases $n = 1$ and 2 are written explicitly. In Appendix A we show how the momentum-space Coulomb bound-state wave functions can be obtained from the Green's function. In Appendix B we show that the three-dimensional reduced Green's function derived from Hostler's one-dimensional form [14] is equivalent to our result.

II. DERIVATION OF THE REDUCED GREEN'S FUNCTION

The Schrödinger-Coulomb Green's function has the form [4,6,7]

$$\begin{aligned} G_E(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}') &= (-2m) \left\{ \frac{(2\pi)^3 \delta(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}')}{D} + \frac{8\pi\gamma}{DRD'} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{32\pi\gamma^2 p_0}{DD'} \int_0^1 dx x^{-\xi} \frac{1}{H(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}')} \right\}, \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma &= mZ\alpha, \quad p_0 = \sqrt{-2mE}, \quad \xi = \gamma/p_0, \\ D &= \mathbf{p}^2 + p_0^2, \quad D' = \mathbf{p}'^2 + p_0^2, \quad R = (\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}')^2, \\ H &= 4xp_0^2R + (1-x)^2DD'. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

It is the sum of a zero-potential (or free) term that is of order α^0 , a one-potential term that is of order α^1 , and a many-potential term that, because of the $\gamma^2 x^{-\gamma/p_0}$, is a sum of terms having order α^2 and higher. The Green's function has poles at the bound-state energies

$$E_n = -\frac{\gamma_n^2}{2m}, \quad \gamma_n = \frac{\gamma}{n}, \quad (7)$$

with the form

$$G_E(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}') \rightarrow \sum_{l,m} \frac{\psi_{nlm}(\mathbf{p})\psi_{nlm}^*(\mathbf{p}')}{(E - E_n)} \quad \text{as } E \rightarrow E_n. \quad (8)$$

The reduced Green's function is

$$\hat{G}_n(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}') = \lim_{E \rightarrow E_n} \left[G_E(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}') - \sum_{l,m} \frac{\psi_{nlm}(\mathbf{p})\psi_{nlm}^*(\mathbf{p}')}{(E - E_n)} \right], \quad (9)$$

where all states of energy E_n are subtracted out. The bound-state poles are found in the x integral in the many-potential term of $G_E(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}')$. The pole at energy $E = E_n$ (which corresponds to $\xi = n$) can be isolated by making subtractions on $1/H$ [21]

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 dx x^{-\xi} \frac{1}{H} &= \int_0^1 dx x^{-\xi} \left[\frac{1}{H} - \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} \frac{x^m}{m!} \left(\frac{1}{H} \right)^{(m)} \right] + \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} \frac{1}{m!} \left(\frac{1}{H} \right)^{(m)} \int_0^1 dx x^{-\xi+m} \\ &= \int_0^1 dx x^{-\xi} \left[\frac{1}{H} - \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} \frac{x^m}{m!} \left(\frac{1}{H} \right)^{(m)} \right] + \sum_{m=0}^{n-2} \frac{1}{m!} \left(\frac{1}{H} \right)^{(m)} \frac{1}{-\xi+m+1} + \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \left(\frac{1}{H} \right)^{(n-1)} \frac{1}{-\xi+n}, \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

where we use the notation

$$f^{(m)} = \left. \left(\frac{d}{dx} \right)^m f \right|_{x=0}. \quad (11)$$

The integrals are evaluated using the assumption that $E > 0$ (so ξ is imaginary). Negative values of E (positive values of ξ) can be obtained by analytic continuation. It is clear that the pole at $\xi = n$ resides only in the last term, which can be written as

$$\frac{1}{(n-1)!} \left(\frac{1}{H} \right)^{(n-1)} \frac{1}{-\xi+n} = \frac{-1}{n!} \left(\frac{1}{H} \right)^{(n-1)} \frac{p_0(p_0 + \gamma_n)}{2m} \frac{1}{(E - E_n)}. \quad (12)$$

The pole can be isolated using

$$\frac{A(E)}{(E - E_n)} + B(E) = \frac{A(E_n)}{(E - E_n)} + A'(E_n) + B(E_n) + O(E - E_n). \quad (13)$$

The pole term contains the Coulomb wave functions as discussed in Appendix A. The remainder, after subtracting the pole term and taking the $E \rightarrow E_n$ limit, is

$$\hat{G}_n(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}') = (-2m) \left[\frac{(2\pi)^3 \delta(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p}')}{D_n} + \frac{8\pi\gamma}{D_n R D_n'} + \hat{I}_n(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}') \right], \quad (14)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{I}_n(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}') &= \frac{32\pi n^2 \gamma_n^3}{(D_n D_n')^2} \left\{ \left(\frac{\xi}{2} - 4B_n \right) \frac{1}{n!} \left(\frac{1}{h} \right)^{(n-1)} - \frac{2(1-B_n)}{A_n} \frac{1}{n!} \left(\frac{x}{h^2} \right)^{(n-1)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{m=0}^{n-2} \frac{1}{(m-n+1)m!} \left(\frac{1}{h} \right)^{(m)} + \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x^n} \left[\frac{1}{h} - \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} \frac{x^m}{m!} \left(\frac{1}{h} \right)^{(m)} \right] \right\}, \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} D_n &= \mathbf{p}^2 + \gamma_n^2, \quad D_n' = \mathbf{p}'^2 + \gamma_n^2, \\ A_n &= \frac{D_n D_n'}{4\gamma_n^2 R}, \quad B_n = \frac{\gamma_n^2 (D_n + D_n')}{D_n D_n'}, \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

and

$$h = \frac{H|_{E=E_n}}{D_n D_n'} = 1 - 2\beta x + x^2, \quad \beta = 1 - \frac{1}{2A_n}. \quad (17)$$

The reduced Green's function can be expressed in

closed form in terms of Gegenbauer and Chebyshev polynomials. The polynomials are defined by the generating functions

$$\frac{1}{(1-2\beta x+x^2)^\lambda} = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} x^m C_m^\lambda(\beta), \tag{18a}$$

$$-\frac{1}{2} \ln(1-2\beta x+x^2) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^m}{m} T_m(\beta). \tag{18b}$$

It follows that [22]

$$\frac{1}{(n-1)!} \left[\frac{1}{h} \right]^{(n-1)} = C_{n-1}^1(\beta), \tag{19}$$

$$\frac{1}{(n-1)!} \left[\frac{x}{h^2} \right]^{(n-1)} = C_{n-2}^2(\beta).$$

The integral in \hat{I}_n has integrand $N_n(x)/h$ where the numerator

$$\begin{aligned} N_n(x) &= \frac{h}{x^n} \left[\frac{1}{h} - \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} \frac{x^m}{m!} \left[\frac{1}{h} \right]^{(m)} \right] \\ &= \frac{h}{x^n} \left[\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} x^m C_m^1(\beta) - \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} x^m C_m^1(\beta) \right] \\ &= \frac{h}{x^n} \sum_{m=n}^{\infty} x^m C_m^1(\beta) \end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

is a power series with no negative powers of x . Written as

$$N_n(x) = \frac{1}{x^n} \left[1 - h \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} x^m C_m^1(\beta) \right], \tag{21}$$

it is clear that $N_n(x)$ has maximum power x^1 . Taking the x^0 term from (20) and the x^1 term from (21), one has

$$N_n(x) = C_n^1(\beta) - C_{n-1}^1(\beta)x. \tag{22}$$

It follows that the integral in \hat{I}_n is

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x^n} \left[\frac{1}{h} - \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} \frac{x^m}{m!} \left[\frac{1}{h} \right]^{(m)} \right] \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{h} [C_n^1(\beta) - C_{n-1}^1(\beta)x] \\ &= \frac{1}{(1-\beta^2)^{1/2}} T_n(\beta) \arctan \left[\frac{1+\beta}{1-\beta} \right]^{1/2} \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} C_{n-1}^1(\beta) \ln[2(1-\beta)], \end{aligned} \tag{23}$$

since

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 dx \frac{a+bx}{h} &= \frac{(a+\beta b)}{(1-\beta^2)^{1/2}} \arctan \left[\frac{1+\beta}{1-\beta} \right]^{1/2} \\ &\quad + \frac{b}{2} \ln[2(1-\beta)] \end{aligned} \tag{24}$$

(where $1-\beta^2 \geq 0$) and [23]

$$C_n^1(\beta) - \beta C_{n-1}^1(\beta) = T_n(\beta). \tag{25}$$

One can replace β in the result for the integral with A_n according to

$$\begin{aligned} (1-\beta^2)^{1/2} &= \frac{(4A_n-1)^{1/2}}{2A_n}, \\ \left[\frac{1+\beta}{1-\beta} \right]^{1/2} &= (4A_n-1)^{1/2}, \\ 2(1-\beta) &= \frac{1}{A_n}. \end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

Then a closed form for \hat{I}_n is [21]

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{I}_n(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}') &= \frac{32\pi n^2 \gamma_n^3}{(D_n D_n')^2} \left\{ \left(\frac{5}{2} - 4B_n \right) \frac{1}{n} C_{n-1}^1(\beta) - \frac{2}{n} \frac{(1-B_n)}{A_n} C_{n-2}^2(\beta) + \sum_{m=0}^{n-2} \frac{1}{(m-n+1)} C_m^1(\beta) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{2A_n}{(4A_n-1)^{1/2}} T_n(\beta) \arctan[(4A_n-1)^{1/2}] + \frac{1}{2} C_{n-1}^1(\beta) \ln(A_n) \right\}. \end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

This, combined with (14), gives our closed form for the reduced Green's function \hat{G}_n .

III. EXPLICIT FORMS FOR $n = 1$ AND 2

Explicit forms for the reduced Green's function \hat{G}_n for any value of n can now be written. For the most useful cases $n = 1$ and 2 we will need

$$C_0^\lambda(\beta) = 1, \quad C_1^\lambda(\beta) = 2\lambda\beta, \quad T_1(\beta) = \beta, \quad T_2(\beta) = 2\beta^2 - 1. \tag{28}$$

Then the reduced Green's functions \hat{G}_1 and \hat{G}_2 are given by (14) with

$$\hat{I}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}') = \frac{32\pi\gamma^3}{(D_1 D_1')^2} \left[\frac{5}{2} - 4B_1 + \frac{2A_1 - 1}{\sqrt{4A_1 - 1}} \arctan(\sqrt{4A_1 - 1}) + \frac{1}{2} \ln(A_1) \right], \tag{29}$$

and

$$\hat{I}_2(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}') = \frac{128\pi\gamma_2^3}{(D_2 D_2')^2} \left[\frac{3}{2} - \frac{9}{4A_2} - 4B_2 + \frac{3B_2}{A_2} + \frac{2A_2 - 4 + \frac{1}{A_2}}{\sqrt{4A_2 - 1}} \arctan(\sqrt{4A_2 - 1}) + \left[1 - \frac{1}{2A_2} \right] \ln(A_2) \right]. \quad (30)$$

This form for \hat{I}_1 agrees with that obtained previously by Caswell and Lepage [16]. As a check of these results we verified that

$$\frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3 p' \hat{G}_n(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}') \psi_{rlm}(\mathbf{p}') = \frac{\delta_{n \neq r}}{(E_n - E_r)} \psi_{rlm}(\mathbf{p}) \quad (31)$$

(where the δ function is one for $n \neq r$ and zero for $n = r$) holds for $r = 1, 2$ and all l, m .

IV. CONCLUSION

We have obtained a closed-form result for the momentum-space representation of the reduced Coulomb Green's function $\hat{G}_n(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}')$ in three dimensions for all n . This expression should prove useful for calculations of properties of Coulombic systems in atomic physics and bound-state QED.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We gratefully acknowledge the support of the NSF through Grant No. PHY90-08449 and of the Franklin

and Marshall College through the Hackman Scholars Program.

APPENDIX A: DERIVATION OF THE COULOMB WAVE FUNCTIONS FROM THE GREEN'S FUNCTION

The Coulomb wave functions $\psi_{nlm}(\mathbf{p})$ can be obtained from the Green's function $G_E(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}')$ by factoring the residue of the pole at $E = E_n$ into a term dependent on \mathbf{p} and a term dependent on \mathbf{p}' . The pole of G_E is contained in the x integral in the many-potential part of G_E . From (10), (12), and (13) it is clear that the residue of the pole is

$$\begin{aligned} & (-2m) \left[\frac{32\pi\gamma^2\gamma_n}{D_n D_n'} \frac{-1}{n!} \left[\frac{1}{H} \right]^{(n-1)} \right]_{E=E_n} \left[\frac{\gamma_n(2\gamma_n)}{2m} \right] \\ &= \frac{64\pi n \gamma_n^5}{(D_n D_n')^2} C_{n-1}^1(\beta). \quad (A1) \end{aligned}$$

The Gegenbauer polynomial $C_{n-1}^1(\beta)$ can be expanded with the help of the addition theorem for Gegenbauer polynomials [24]

$$\begin{aligned} C_{n-1}^\lambda(\beta) &= \frac{\Gamma(2\lambda-1)}{[\Gamma(\lambda)]^2} \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} (-1)^l 4^l \Gamma(n-l) [\Gamma(l+\lambda)]^2 \frac{(2l+2\lambda-1)}{\Gamma(n+l+2\lambda-1)} \\ &\quad \times \left[\frac{2p\gamma_n}{D_n} \right]^l \left[\frac{2p'\gamma_n}{D_n'} \right]^l C_{n-l-1}^{l+\lambda} \left[\frac{\bar{D}_n}{D_n} \right] C_{n-l-1}^{l+\lambda} \left[\frac{\bar{D}_n'}{D_n'} \right] C_l^{\lambda-1/2}(-u), \quad (A2) \end{aligned}$$

where $\bar{D}_n = \mathbf{p}^2 - \gamma_n^2$, $\bar{D}_n' = \mathbf{p}'^2 - \gamma_n^2$, and $u = \hat{\mathbf{p}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}}'$. In our case $\lambda = 1$ and we use

$$C_l^{1/2}(-u) = P_l(-u) = (-1)^l P_l(u) \quad (A3)$$

and the addition theorem for spherical harmonics

$$P_l(u) = \frac{4\pi}{2l+1} \sum_{m=-l}^l Y_{lm}(\hat{\mathbf{p}}) Y_{lm}^*(\hat{\mathbf{p}}') \quad (A4)$$

to write the residue as

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{64\pi n \gamma_n^5}{(D_n D_n')^2} \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} \sum_{m=-l}^l 4^l \Gamma(n-l) [\Gamma(l+1)]^2 \frac{4\pi}{\Gamma(n+l+1)} \\ & \quad \times \left[\frac{2p\gamma_n}{D_n} \right]^l \left[\frac{2p'\gamma_n}{D_n'} \right]^l C_{n-l-1}^{l+1} \left[\frac{\bar{D}_n}{D_n} \right] \\ & \quad \times C_{n-l-1}^{l+1} \left[\frac{\bar{D}_n'}{D_n'} \right] Y_{lm}(\hat{\mathbf{p}}) Y_{lm}^*(\hat{\mathbf{p}}'). \quad (A5) \end{aligned}$$

This has the form

$$\sum_{l=0}^{n-1} \sum_{m=-l}^l \psi_{nlm}(\mathbf{p}) \psi_{nlm}^*(\mathbf{p}'), \quad (A6)$$

where the wave functions are

$$\psi_{nlm}(\mathbf{p}) = \phi_n N_{nl} \frac{p^l \gamma_n^{l+1}}{D_n^{l+2}} C_{n-l-1}^{l+1} \left[\frac{\bar{D}_n}{D_n} \right] Y_{lm}(\hat{\mathbf{p}}). \quad (A7)$$

The constants in (A7) are the coordinate-space wave functions at contact

$$\phi_n = \left[\frac{\gamma_n^3}{\pi} \right]^{1/2} = \psi_{n00}(\mathbf{x}=0) \quad (A8)$$

and

$$N_{nl} = 2^{2l+3} \pi l! \left[\frac{4\pi n(n-l-1)!}{(n+l)!} \right]^{1/2}. \quad (A9)$$

The normalization condition is [25]

$$\frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3p \psi_{nlm}^*(\mathbf{p}) \psi_{n'l'm'}(\mathbf{p}) = \delta_{n,n'} \delta_{l,l'} \delta_{m,m'}. \quad (\text{A10})$$

These momentum-space Coulomb wave functions were obtained previously by Podolsky and Pauling [25] through Fourier transformation of the coordinate-space results, by Fock [26], who solved the momentum-space Schrödinger equation directly, and by Schwinger from the momentum-space Green's function [6,8]. They are discussed more thoroughly in the book by Bethe and Salpeter [27].

APPENDIX B: DERIVATION OF THE THREE-DIMENSIONAL REDUCED GREEN'S FUNCTION FROM HOSTLER'S ONE-DIMENSIONAL RESULT

In this Appendix we show that the three-dimensional reduced Green's function derived from Hostler's one-dimensional form is identical to our result. Hostler's normalization differs from ours by a factor of $2m$: he defines the Green's function by $-2m(H-E)G_E=1$ [see Ref. [14], Eq. (2)] while we use $(E-H)G_E=1$. Hostler's one-dimensional reduced Green's function [Ref. [14], Eq. (71)], times -1 , written in our notation ($k_1 \rightarrow p$, $k_2 \rightarrow p'$, $na_1 \rightarrow 1/\gamma_n$, $r \rightarrow \beta$, and with $q = p' - p$) is

$$\begin{aligned} -K_1(E_n) = & \frac{2\pi\delta(q)}{D_n} - \frac{2\gamma_n}{D_n D'_n} + \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} \frac{4\gamma_n}{D_n D'_n} \frac{nT_l(\beta)}{(l-n)} + \frac{2(3-4B_n)\gamma_n}{D_n D'_n} T_n(\beta) - \frac{16n(1-B_n)\gamma_n^3 q^2}{(D_n D'_n)^2} C_{n-1}^1(\beta) \\ & - \frac{4(1-\beta^2)^{1/2}\gamma_n}{D_n D'_n} n C_{n-1}^1(\beta) \arctan \left[\left[\frac{1+\beta}{1-\beta} \right]^{1/2} \right] - \frac{4\gamma_n}{D_n D'_n} \frac{n}{2} T_n(\beta) \ln[2(1-\beta)]. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B1})$$

Hostler showed that the operator

$$\mathcal{H} = -2\pi \frac{1}{q} \frac{\partial}{\partial q} \quad (\text{B2})$$

acts to increase by 2 the dimensionality d of Green's functions and reduced Green's functions:

$$\mathcal{H}\{-K_d(E_n)\} = -K_{d+2}(E_n). \quad (\text{B3})$$

We will write Hostler's operator as

$$\mathcal{H} = -4\pi \frac{\partial\beta}{\partial q^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial\beta} = \frac{8\pi\gamma_n^2}{D_n D'_n} \frac{\partial}{\partial\beta} \quad (\text{B4})$$

and apply it to $-K_1(E_n)$. Some useful derivative formulas are

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial\beta} T_l(\beta) = l C_{l-1}^1(\beta), \quad (\text{B5a})$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial\beta} C_{n-1}^1(\beta) = 2C_{n-2}^2(\beta), \quad (\text{B5b})$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial\beta} q^2 = -\frac{D_n D'_n}{2\gamma_n^2}, \quad (\text{B5c})$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial}{\partial\beta} \left\{ (1-\beta^2)^{1/2} C_{n-1}^1(\beta) \arctan \left[\left[\frac{1+\beta}{1-\beta} \right]^{1/2} \right] \right\} \\ & = \frac{1}{2} C_{n-1}^1(\beta) \\ & - \frac{n}{(1-\beta^2)^{1/2}} T_n(\beta) \arctan \left[\left[\frac{1+\beta}{1-\beta} \right]^{1/2} \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B5d})$$

The identity

$$-C_{n-1}^1(\beta) + \frac{T_n(\beta)}{(1-\beta)} = \frac{1}{(1-\beta)} - 2 \sum_{l=1}^n C_{l-1}^1(\beta), \quad (\text{B6})$$

which can be proved by induction, will help in the reduction. We will identify

$$\frac{16\pi n \gamma_n^3}{(D_n D'_n)^2} \frac{1}{(1-\beta)} = \frac{8\pi\gamma}{D_n R D'_n} \quad (\text{B7})$$

as the one-potential term in (14). Also necessary is the curious formula

$$\mathcal{H}\{(2\pi)^d \delta^d(\mathbf{q})\} = (2\pi)^{d+2} \delta^{d+2}(\mathbf{q}) \quad (\text{B8})$$

relating the d - and $(d+2)$ -dimensional Dirac δ functions. It is now an easy exercise to show that the three-dimensional expression $-K_3(E_n)$ obtained from Hostler's one-dimensional result $-K_1(E_n)$ by action of \mathcal{H} agrees with our result [(14) and (27)] for the reduced Green's function in three dimensions:

$$-K_3(E_n) = \mathcal{H}\{-K_1(E_n)\} = \frac{1}{(-2m)} \hat{G}_n(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}'). \quad (\text{B9})$$

[1] For an application of this, see G. S. Adkins and R. F. Hood, Eur. J. Phys. **10**, 61 (1989).

[2] In Gaussian units, the fine-structure constant is $\alpha = e^2/\hbar c \approx (137)^{-1}$. The Coulomb potential for an electron in the field of a "nucleus" having charge Ze is thus

$V(r) = -Z\alpha/r$, where we use the convention that $\hbar = c = 1$.

[3] L. Hostler, J. Math. Phys. **5**, 591 (1964).

[4] L. Hostler, J. Math. Phys. **5**, 1235 (1964).

[5] L. Hostler, J. Math. Phys. **11**, 2966 (1970).

- [6] J. Schwinger, *J. Math. Phys.* **5**, 1606 (1964).
- [7] Further references are given in G. S. Adkins, *Nuovo Cimento B* **97**, 99 (1987).
- [8] For a recent discussion, see M. Lieber, in *Relativistic, Quantum Electrodynamical, and Weak Interaction Effects in Atoms*, edited by W. Johnson, P. Mohr, and J. Sucher (AIP, New York, 1989), pp. 445–459.
- [9] H. F. Hameka, *J. Chem. Phys.* **47**, 2728 (1967); **48**, 4810 (1968).
- [10] B. J. Laurenzi, *Chem. Phys. Lett.* **1**, 641 (1968).
- [11] L. C. Hostler, *Phys. Rev.* **178**, 126 (1969).
- [12] L. Hostler, *J. Math. Phys.* **16**, 1585 (1975).
- [13] Further references are contained in B. R. Johnson and J. O. Hirschfelder, *J. Math. Phys.* **20**, 2484 (1979).
- [14] L. Hostler, *J. Math. Phys.* **12**, 2311 (1971).
- [15] M. Douglas, *Phys. Rev. A* **11**, 1527 (1975).
- [16] W. E. Caswell and G. P. Lepage, *Phys. Rev. A* **18**, 810 (1978).
- [17] R. Barbieri and E. Remiddi, *Nucl. Phys. B* **141**, 413 (1978).
- [18] L. C. Hostler and W. W. Repko, *Phys. Rev. A* **23**, 2425 (1981).
- [19] For a later reference, see J. R. Sapirstein and D. R. Yennie, in *Quantum Electrodynamics*, edited by T. Kinoshita (World Scientific, Singapore, 1990), pp. 560–672.
- [20] S. Hatamian, R. S. Conti, and A. Rich, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **58**, 1833 (1987).
- [21] The sum over m from 0 to $(n-2)$ is not present for $n=1$.
- [22] We define $C_n^\lambda(\beta)=0$ for $n<0$.
- [23] This follows from the generating functions. One has $\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} x^m T_m(\beta) = x(d/dx)(-1/2)\ln h = (1-\beta x)/h - 1$. The identity follows when $1/h$ is expanded in Gegenbauer polynomials and like powers of x are compared.
- [24] This theorem, attributed to Gegenbauer, is found in A. Erdélyi, *Higher Transcendental Functions* (McGraw-Hill, New York, 1953), Vol. I, p. 177, with the substitutions $n \rightarrow n-1$, $z \rightarrow \bar{D}_n/D_n$, and $z' \rightarrow \bar{D}'_n/D'_n$.
- [25] B. Podolsky and L. Pauling, *Phys. Rev.* **34**, 109 (1929). This paper has a discussion of the normalization integral needed for a direct verification of (A10).
- [26] V. Fock, *Z. Phys.* **98**, 145 (1936).
- [27] H. A. Bethe and E. E. Salpeter, *Quantum Mechanics of One- and Two-Electron Atoms* (Plenum, New York, 1977), p. 36.