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# Reconstruction of potential function for Sturm-Liouville operator with Coulomb potential

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## Abstract

In this paper, we are concerned with an inverse problem for the Sturm-Liouville operator with Coulomb potential using a new kind of spectral data that is known as nodal points. We give a reconstruction of  $q$  as a limit of a sequence of functions whose  $n$ th term is dependent only on eigenvalue and its associated nodal data. It is mentioned that this method is based on the works of Law and Yang, but we have applied the method to the singular Sturm-Liouville problem.

**MSC:** 34L05; 45C05

**Keywords:** Coulomb potential; nodal point; reconstruction formula

## 1 Introduction

Inverse problems of spectral analysis imply the reconstruction of a linear operator from some or other of its spectral characteristics. Such characteristics are spectra (for different boundary conditions), normalizing constants, spectral functions, scattering data, *etc.* An early important result in this direction, which gave vital impetus for further development of inverse problem theory, was obtained in [1]. At present, inverse problems are studied for certain special classes of ordinary differential operators. Inverse problems from two spectra are the most simple in their formulation and well studied in [2, 3]. An effective method of constructing a regular and singular Sturm-Liouville operator from a spectral function or from two spectra is given in [4–7].

We note that the details of the inverse problem for singular equations are given in the monographs [8–11] and references therein.

In some recent interesting works [12, 13], Hald and McLaughlin and Browne and Sleeman have taken a new approach to inverse spectral theory for the Sturm-Liouville problem. The novelty of these works lies in the use of nodal points as the given spectral data. In recent years, inverse nodal problems have been studied by several authors [14–21] *etc.*

In this paper, we deal with an inverse nodal problem for the Sturm-Liouville operator with Coulomb potential. We have reconstructed the potential function  $q$  from the nodal points of eigenfunctions, provided  $q$  is smooth enough. The method is based on a series of works by Law and Yang [14, 17].

Before giving the main results, we mention some physical properties of the Sturm-Liouville operator with Coulomb potential. Learning about the motion of electrons moving under the Coulomb potential is of significance in quantum theory. Solving these types

of problems allows us to find energy levels not only for a hydrogen atom but also for single valence electron atoms such as sodium. For hydrogen atom, the Coulomb potential is given by  $U = -\frac{e^2}{r}$ , where  $r$  is the radius of the nucleus,  $e$  is electronic charge. According to this, we use the time-dependent Schrödinger equation

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial t} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial x^2} + U(x, y, z)\Psi, \quad \int_{R^3} |\Psi|^2 dx dy dz = 1,$$

where  $\Psi$  is the wave function,  $\hbar$  is Planck's constant and  $m$  is the mass of electron. In this equation, if the Fourier transform is applied

$$\tilde{\Psi} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-i\lambda t} \Psi dt,$$

it will convert to energy equation dependent on the situation as follows:

$$\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \tilde{\Psi} + \tilde{U}\tilde{\Psi} = E\tilde{\Psi}.$$

Therefore, energy equation in the field with the Coulomb potential becomes

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \tilde{\Psi} + \left( E + \frac{e^2}{r} \right) \tilde{\Psi} = 0.$$

If this hydrogen atom is substituted to other potential area, then the energy equation becomes

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \tilde{\Psi} + \left( E + \frac{e^2}{r} + q(x, y, z) \right) \tilde{\Psi} = 0.$$

If we make the necessary transformation, then we can get a Sturm-Liouville equation with Coulomb potential

$$-y'' + \left[ \frac{A}{x} + q(x) \right] y = \lambda y,$$

where  $\lambda$  is a parameter which corresponds to the energy [22].

We consider the singular Sturm-Liouville problem

$$-y'' + \left[ \frac{A}{x} + q(x) \right] y = \lambda y \quad (0 < x \leq \pi), \lambda = s^2, \tag{1.1}$$

$$y(0) = 0, \tag{1.2}$$

$$y'(\pi) - Hy(\pi) = 0, \tag{1.3}$$

in which the function  $q(x) \in L^1[0, \pi]$ ,  $A, H$  are finite numbers and  $\frac{y(x)}{x} \in C[0, \pi]$ . Next, we denote by  $\varphi(x, s)$  the solution of (1.1) satisfying the initial condition

$$\varphi(0, s) = 0, \quad \varphi'(0, s) = s. \tag{1.4}$$

Let  $\lambda_n$  be the  $n$ th eigenvalue and  $0 < x_1^n < x_2^n < \dots < x_i^n < \pi, i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$  be nodal points of the  $n$ th eigenfunction. Also, let  $I_i^n = [x_i^n, x_{i+1}^n]$  be the  $i$ th nodal domain of the  $n$ th eigen-

function and let  $l_i^n = |l_i^n| = x_{i+1}^n - x_i^n$  be the associated nodal length. We also define the function  $j_n(x)$  by  $j_n(x) = \max\{i : x_i^n < x\}$ .

## 2 Main results

In this section, we try to obtain some asymptotic results and a reconstruction formula for the potential  $q$ , which has been obtained as a solution of an inverse nodal problem.

**Lemma 2.1** *The solution of problem (1.1)-(1.3) has the following form:*

$$\varphi(x, s) = \sin sx + \int_0^x \frac{\sin s(x-t)}{s} \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} \varphi(t, s) dt, \tag{2.1}$$

where  $\frac{\varphi(t,s)}{t} \in C[0, \pi]$ .

*Proof* Because  $\varphi(x, s)$  satisfies equation (1.1), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^x \sin s(x-t) \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} \varphi(t, s) dt \\ &= \int_0^x \sin s(x-t) \varphi''(t, s) dt + s^2 \int_0^x \sin s(x-t) \varphi(t, s) dt. \end{aligned}$$

By integrating the first term twice on the right-hand side by parts and taking the conditions into account (1.2), we find that

$$\varphi(x, s) = \sin sx + \int_0^x \frac{\sin s(x-t)}{s} \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} \varphi(t, s) dt,$$

where  $\frac{\varphi(t,s)}{t} \in C[0, \pi]$ . □

**Lemma 2.2** *The eigenvalues of problem (1.1)-1.3) are the roots of (1.3). This spectral characteristic satisfies the following asymptotic expression [23]:*

$$s_n = \sqrt{\lambda_n} = n + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{A}{2\pi} \frac{\ln(n + \frac{1}{2})}{(n + \frac{1}{2})} + \frac{c_0}{(n + \frac{1}{2})} + O\left(\frac{\ln n}{n^2}\right), \tag{2.2}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} c_0 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left( AM_1 - H + \frac{A \ln \pi}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\pi q(t) dt \right), & \beta(x) &= AM_1 + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^x q(t) dt, \\ M_1 &= M + \frac{\sin 2}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad M = \int_0^1 \frac{\sin^2 \xi}{\xi} d\xi. \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 2.3** *Assume that  $q \in L^1(0, \pi)$ . Then, as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,*

$$x_i^n = \frac{\pi i}{s_n} + \frac{1}{2s_n^2} \int_0^{x_i^n} (1 - \cos 2s_n t) \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} dt + o\left(\frac{1}{s_n^3}\right), \tag{2.3}$$

$$l_i^n = \frac{\pi}{s_n} + \frac{1}{2s_n^2} \int_{x_i^n}^{x_{i+1}^n} (1 - \cos 2s_n t) \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} dt + o\left(\frac{1}{s_n^3}\right). \tag{2.4}$$

*Proof* By using some iterations and trigonometric calculations in (2.1), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(x, s) &= \sin sx + \frac{\sin sx}{2s} \int_0^x \sin 2st \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} dt \\ &\quad - \frac{\cos sx}{2s} \int_0^x (1 - \cos 2st) \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} dt + o\left(\frac{1}{s^2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

If  $\varphi(x, s)$  is equal to zero and  $\cos \lambda x$  is not close to zero, then

$$\begin{aligned} \tan sx &= \frac{1}{2s} \int_0^x (1 - \cos 2st) \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} dt - \frac{\tan sx}{2s} \int_0^x \sin 2st \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} dt + o\left(\frac{1}{s^2}\right), \\ \tan sx &= \frac{1}{2s} \int_0^x (1 - \cos 2st) \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} dt + o\left(\frac{1}{s^2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

Now, we take  $s = s_n$  and  $x = x_i^n$ . Because Taylor's expansion for the arctangent function is given by

$$\arctan x = \pi i - \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1} x^{2k+1}}{2k+1}$$

for some integer  $i$ , then

$$s_n x_i^n = \pi i + \frac{1}{2s_n} \int_0^{x_i^n} (1 - \cos 2st) \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} dt + o\left(\frac{1}{s_n^2}\right).$$

Therefore

$$x_i^n = \frac{\pi i}{s_n} + \frac{1}{2s_n^2} \int_0^{x_i^n} (1 - \cos 2st) \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} dt + o\left(\frac{1}{s_n^3}\right).$$

The nodal length is

$$l_i^n = x_{i+1}^n - x_i^n, \quad l_i^n = \frac{\pi}{s_n} + \frac{1}{2s_n^2} \int_{x_i^n}^{x_{i+1}^n} (1 - \cos 2st) \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} dt + o\left(\frac{1}{s_n^3}\right).$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 2.3. □

**Lemma 2.4** Suppose  $f \in L^1(0, \pi)$ . Then, for almost every  $x \in (0, \pi)$  with  $j = j_n(x)$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{s_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} f(t) dt = f(x).$$

*Proof* Since  $f \in L^1(0, \pi)$ ,  $\frac{d}{dx} \int_a^x f(t) dt = f(x)$  almost everywhere. Thus, given any  $\zeta > 0$ , when  $n$  is sufficiently large and for almost every  $x \in (0, \pi)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} &\left| \frac{s_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} f(t) dt - f(x) \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{s_n(x - x_j^n)}{\pi} \left[ \frac{1}{x - x_j^n} \int_{x_j^n}^x f(t) dt - f(x) \right] \right| \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \frac{s_n(x_{j+1}^n - x)}{\pi} \left[ \frac{1}{x_{j+1}^n - x} \int_x^{x_{j+1}^n} f(t) dt - f(x) \right] + f(x) \left( \frac{s_n l_j^n}{\pi} - 1 \right) \Big| \\
 & \leq \frac{2s_n l_j^n \zeta}{\pi} + \zeta |f(x)| = (|f(x)| + 2 + 2\zeta)\zeta.
 \end{aligned}$$

This proves Lemma 2.4. □

**Theorem 2.1** *The potential function  $q(x) \in L^1(0, \pi)$  satisfies*

$$q(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ 2s_n^2 \left( \frac{s_n l_j^n}{\pi} - 1 \right) - s_n A \ln \left( \frac{x_{j+1}^n}{x_j^n} \right) + \frac{s_n A}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \frac{\cos 2s_n t}{t} dt \right]$$

for almost every  $x \in (0, \pi)$  with  $j = j_n(x)$ . We note that the asymptotic expression for  $s_n$  in Theorem 2.1 implies that  $q(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_n(x)$ .

*Proof* When we consider (2.4) in the form

$$l_j^n = \frac{\pi}{s_n} + \frac{1}{2s_n^2} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} (1 - \cos 2st) \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} dt + o\left(\frac{1}{s_n^3}\right)$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 2s_n^2 \left( \frac{s_n l_j^n}{\pi} - 1 \right) \\
 & = \frac{s_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} q(t) dt + \frac{s_n A}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \frac{dt}{t} - \frac{s_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \cos 2s_n t \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} dt + o(1), \\
 & 2s_n^2 \left( \frac{s_n l_j^n}{\pi} - 1 \right) - s_n A \ln \left( \frac{x_{j+1}^n}{x_j^n} \right) + \frac{s_n A}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \frac{\cos 2s_n t}{t} dt \\
 & = \frac{s_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} q(t) dt - \frac{s_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \cos 2s_n t q(t) dt + o(1).
 \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 2.4

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{s_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} q(t) dt = q(x)$$

for almost every  $x \in (0, \pi)$ .

It remains to show that for almost every  $x \in (0, \pi)$ ,

$$T_n(x) := \frac{s_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \cos 2s_n t q(t) dt$$

tends to zero as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Take a sequence of continuous functions  $q_k$  which converges to  $q$  in  $L^1(0, \pi)$ . Then  $q_k$  has a subsequence converging to  $q$  almost everywhere in  $(0, \pi)$ . We call this subsequence  $q_k$ . Take any  $x$  such that  $q_k(x)$  converges to  $q(x)$ . Then for a given

$\varepsilon > 0$ , we can fix a large  $k$  such that  $|q_k(x) - q(x)| < \varepsilon$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} T_n(x) &= \frac{S_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \cos 2s_n t [q(t) - q_k(t)] dt + \frac{S_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \cos 2s_n t [q_k(t) - q_k(x)] dt \\ &\quad + \frac{S_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \cos 2s_n t q_k(x) dt \\ &= A_n + B_n + C_n. \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 2.3,

$$C_n = \frac{q_k(x)}{2\pi} [\sin(2s_n x_{j+1}^n) - \sin(2s_n x_j^n)] = q_k(x) O\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$$

and so it tends to zero as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . By Lemma 2.4, the first term  $A_n$  satisfies, when  $n$  is sufficiently large,

$$\begin{aligned} |A_n| &= \left| \frac{S_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \cos 2s_n t [q(t) - q_k(t)] dt \right| \\ &\leq \frac{S_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} |q(t) - q_k(t)| dt \\ &< |q(x) - q_k(x)| + \varepsilon \\ &< 2\varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$|B_n| = \left| \frac{S_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \cos 2s_n t [q_k(t) - q_k(x)] dt \right| \leq \frac{S_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} |q_k(t) - q_k(x)| dt.$$

Because  $q_k$  is continuous, this term is arbitrarily every  $x \in (0, \pi)$ . Hence we conclude that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_n(x) = 0$ . This proves Theorem 2.1.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.5** *We take a sequence  $f_k \in C[0, \pi]$  converges to  $f \in L^1$ , then, for any large enough  $n$ , with  $j = j_n(x)$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$*

$$\left\| \frac{S_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} [f_k(t) - f(t)] dt \right\|_1 \rightarrow 0.$$

*Proof* By (2.4) and observation that the integral  $\int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} [f_k(t) - f(t)] dt$  is constant on any nodal interval  $I_j^n$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_0^\pi \left| \frac{S_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} [f_k(t) - f(t)] dt \right| dx \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{S_n l_j^n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} [f_k(t) - f(t)] dt \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \left[ 1 + O\left(\frac{\ln n}{n}\right) \right] \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} [f_k(t) - f(t)] dt \\ &= \left[ 1 + O\left(\frac{\ln n}{n}\right) \right] \int_0^\pi |f_k(t) - f(t)| dt, \end{aligned}$$

and for  $k \rightarrow \infty$  this term converges to zero. □

**Lemma 2.6** *Suppose that  $q \in L^1(0, \pi)$ , then as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  with  $j = j_n(x)$ ,*

$$\left\| \frac{S_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} q(t) dt - q(x) \right\|_1 \rightarrow 0.$$

*Proof* Firstly, let us show that if  $q$  is continuous on  $[0, \pi]$ , the result is satisfied. Let  $M = \max_{x \in [0, \pi]} |q(x)|$ . By using the intermediate value theorem, there exists  $\xi \in (a, x)$  such that

$$\left| \frac{1}{x-a} \int_a^x q(t) dt - q(x) \right| = |q(\xi) - q(x)|.$$

If  $x$  is close enough to  $a$ , the difference can be arbitrarily small. Then, for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ , when  $n$  is large enough, with  $j = j_n(x)$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{S_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} q(t) dt - q(x) \right| &\leq \left| \frac{S_n(x - x_j^n)}{\pi} \left[ \frac{1}{x - x_j^n} \int_{x_j^n}^x q(t) dt - q(x) \right] \right| \\ &\quad + \left| \frac{S_n(x_{j+1}^n - x)}{\pi} \left[ \frac{1}{x_{j+1}^n - x} \int_x^{x_{j+1}^n} q(t) dt - q(x) \right] \right| \\ &\quad + |q(x)| \left| \left( \frac{S_n l_j^n}{\pi} - 1 \right) \right| \\ &\leq \frac{2S_n l_j^n \varepsilon}{\pi} + M\varepsilon \\ &\leq (M + 2 + 2\varepsilon)\varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

In the above process, we assume that  $x \neq x_j^n$ . The estimate also holds if  $x = x_j^n$ . Hence if  $q \in C[0, \pi]$ ,  $\frac{S_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} q(t) dt$  converges to  $q(x)$  uniformly on  $(0, \pi)$ . Thus  $\left\| \frac{S_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} q(t) dt - q(x) \right\|$  can be arbitrarily small. Because  $C[0, \pi]$  is dense in  $L^1(0, \pi)$ , for any  $q \in L^1(0, \pi)$ , there exists a sequence  $q_k \in C[0, \pi]$  convergent to  $q$  in  $L^1(0, \pi)$ . Hence, fix  $n$  sufficiently large,

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_0^\pi \left| \frac{S_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} q(t) dt - q(x) \right| dx \\ &\leq \int_0^\pi \left| \frac{S_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} [q(t) - q_k(t)] dt \right| dx + \int_0^\pi \left| \frac{S_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} q_k(t) - q_k(x) \right| dx \\ &\quad + \int_0^\pi |q_k(x) - q(x)| dx. \end{aligned}$$

From the above process and Lemma 2.5, when  $k$  is large enough, the first two terms are arbitrarily small. Hence, as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\left\| \frac{s_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} [f_k(t) - f(t)] dt \right\|_1 \rightarrow 0. \quad \square$$

**Theorem 2.2**  $F_n$  converges to  $q$  in  $L^1$ .

*Proof* When we consider the value of  $F_n$ , we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| F_n - 2s_n^2 \left( \frac{s_n l_j^n}{\pi} - 1 \right) + s_n A \ln \left( \frac{x_{j+1}^n}{x_j^n} \right) - \frac{s_n A}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \frac{\cos 2s_n t}{t} dt \right| \\ &= \left| F_n - s_n \left( \frac{2s_n^2 l_j^n}{\pi} - 2s_n - A \ln \left( \frac{x_{j+1}^n}{x_j^n} \right) + \frac{A}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \frac{\cos 2s_n t}{t} dt \right) \right|. \end{aligned}$$

It suffices to show that as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$\left\| s_n \left( \frac{2s_n^2 l_j^n}{\pi} - 2s_n - A \ln \left( \frac{x_{j+1}^n}{x_j^n} \right) + \frac{A}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \frac{\cos 2s_n t}{t} dt \right) - q \right\|_1 \rightarrow 0.$$

By using (2.4) we have

$$\begin{aligned} & s_n \left( \frac{2s_n^2 l_j^n}{\pi} - 2s_n - A \ln \left( \frac{x_{j+1}^n}{x_j^n} \right) + \frac{A}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \frac{\cos 2s_n t}{t} dt \right) \\ &= \frac{s_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} q(t) dt + \frac{s_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \cos 2s_n t \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} dt + o(1). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we only need to prove that for  $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$\left\| \frac{s_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} q(t) dt - q \right\|_1 \rightarrow 0$$

and

$$\left\| \frac{s_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \cos 2s_n t \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} dt \right\|_1 \rightarrow 0. \quad (2.5)$$

From Lemma 2.6, the first limit holds and the second limit also holds. On the other hand, the sequence of functions

$$c_n(x) = \frac{s_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \cos 2s_n t \left\{ \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right\} dt$$

converges to 0 for almost every  $x \in (0, \pi)$ . Furthermore,

$$|c_n(x)| \leq \frac{s_n}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \left| \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right| dt = g_n(x)$$

and

$$\int_0^\pi g_n(x) dx = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{s_n^{m_i}}{\pi} \int_{x_j^n}^{x_{j+1}^n} \left| \frac{A}{t} + q(t) \right| dt = \left[ 1 + O\left(\frac{\ln n}{n}\right) \right] \|q\|_1.$$

Then, we may apply the Lebesgue dominated convergence theorem to show that (2.5) is valid. The proof of Theorem 2.2 is completed.  $\square$

#### Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

#### Authors' contributions

MS wrote the first draft and ESP corrected and improved the final version. Both authors read and approved the final draft.

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#### Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank the editor and referees for their valuable comments and remarks which led to a great improvement of the article.

Received: 12 December 2012 Accepted: 21 February 2013 Published: 8 March 2013

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doi:10.1186/1687-2770-2013-49

Cite this article as: Panakhov and Sat: Reconstruction of potential function for Sturm-Liouville operator with Coulomb potential. *Boundary Value Problems* 2013 **2013**:49.