# About optimal domains for Laplace eigenvalues

a numerical approach

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- 1) geometric problem;
- 2) optimization problem;
- 3) discretization for the numerical processing.

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$$(\mathcal{P}) \left\{ \begin{array}{rrr} -\Delta u &=& \lambda u & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u &=& 0 & \text{on } \partial \Omega \end{array} \right.$$

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Theoretical Question : Existence of a solution  $(\lambda, u)$ ?

Answer: Yes!

#### Theorem (Spectral Theorem)

Let  $(H, (\cdot | \cdot))$  be a separable Hilbert space of infinite dimension and T a positive (that is  $(Tx|x) \ge 0$  for all  $x \in H$ ), self-adjoint and compact operator on H. Then, there exist a sequence of real positive eigenvalues  $(\mu_n)_{n\ge 1}$ , converging to 0 and a sequence of eigenvectors  $(x_n)_{n\ge 1}$ , defining a Hilbert basis of H such that  $Tx_n = \mu_n x_n$  for all  $n \ge 1$ .

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Example computed numerically



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$$\min_{\substack{\text{vol}(\Omega)=1,\\\Omega\text{ bounded}}} \lambda_{k,\Omega} \Leftrightarrow \min_{\substack{\Omega \text{ bounded}}} \operatorname{vol}(\Omega) \lambda_{k,\Omega}$$

Known results:

Theorem (Faber-Krahn, 1923) Let B be the ball of volume 1. Then,

$$\lambda_{1,B} = \min\left\{\lambda_{1,\Omega} \left| \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2, \mathsf{vol}(\Omega) = 1\right.
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Theorem (Krahn-Szegö, 1926)  
Let 
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 be the union of two identical balls,  $vol(B_2) = 1$ . Then,  
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• These theorems also hold in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $n \geq 3$ ;

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Theorem (Bucur 2012 & Mazzoleni, Pratelli 2013)

There exists a minimizer for  $\lambda_{k,\Omega}$ ,  $k \ge 3$ , among all quasi-open sets  $\Omega$  of given volume. Moreover, it is bounded and has finite perimeter.

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However, it does not provide the shape of the minimizing domain!

#### Open problem

For  $k \geq 3$ , what is the bounded domain of volume 1 in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  which minimizes  $\lambda_{k,\Omega}$ ?

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 $\rightsquigarrow$  numerics !

Weak formulation of problem ( $\mathcal{P}$ ):

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m such that} \ \int \limits_\Omega (\nabla u | \nabla v) = \int \limits_\Omega uv, \quad \forall v \in H^1_0(\Omega). \end{array} 
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#### **Galerkin approximation**

Discretization of  $\Omega$  into triangles K of type  $\mathcal{P}_1 \rightsquigarrow$  we get a mesh  $\mathcal{M}_h$  with N nodes inside  $\Omega$ ;



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Instead of  $H_0^1(\Omega)$  in ( $\mathcal{WP}$ ), consider the finite dimensional space

$$V_h := \left\{ \varphi \in \mathcal{C}^0(\overline{\Omega}) \, | \, \varphi_{1\partial\Omega} = 0, \, \varphi_{1K} \text{ linear } \forall K \in \mathcal{M} \right\} \; ;$$

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A basis  $\{\varphi_{h,i}\}_{i=1}^N$  of  $V_h$  is given by

$$\varphi_{h,i} \in V_h, \varphi_{h,i}(P_j) = \delta_{ij}, \quad i, j = 1, \dots, N.$$



Figure: A basis function  $\varphi_{h,i}$ .



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Approximation of 
$$u \in H^1_0(\Omega)$$
 by  $u_h = \sum_{j=1}^N u_j \varphi_{h,j} \in V_h$ .

$$(\mathcal{WP}_h) \begin{cases} \text{find } u_h \in V_h, u_h \neq 0, \text{ and } \lambda > 0 \text{ such that} \\ \int_{\Omega} (\nabla u_h | \nabla \varphi_{h,i}) = \lambda \int_{\Omega} u_h \varphi_{h,i}, \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, N. \end{cases}$$

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$$\sum_{j=1}^{N} \underbrace{\int_{\Omega} (\nabla \varphi_{h,j} | \nabla \varphi_{h,i})}_{S_{i,j}} u_{j} = \lambda \sum_{j=1}^{N} \underbrace{\int_{\Omega} \varphi_{h,j} \varphi_{h,i}}_{M_{i,j}} u_{j}, \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, N.$$

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 $\rightsquigarrow (\mathcal{WP}_h)$ : find  $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{R}^N \setminus \{0\}$ , and  $\lambda > 0$  such that  $S\vec{u} = \lambda M\vec{u}$ .  $\rightsquigarrow$  Lanczos algorithm to solve  $(\mathcal{WP}_h)$ .

#### Shape optimization

The idea is to use a descent algorithm to minimize the *cost* functional  $J(\Omega) = \lambda_k(\Omega) \operatorname{vol}(\Omega)$ .

The first problem is to determine the domain of the functional J, that is the admissible shapes  $\Omega$ .

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The first problem is to determine the domain of the functional J, that is the admissible shapes  $\Omega$ .

Given an initial domain  $\Omega_0$ , we allow deformations of the form

$$\Omega_{\theta} = (\mathrm{id} + \theta)(\Omega_0), \ \theta \in W^{1,\infty}(\Omega).$$



Now, we can compute the derivative with respect to the domain of *J*, that is the Fréchet derivative of  $\theta \mapsto J(\Omega_{\theta})$ .

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$$J'(\Omega_0)(\theta) = \int_{\partial \Omega_0} \left( \lambda_k(\Omega_0) - \operatorname{vol}(\Omega_0) \left( \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial \vec{n}} \right)^2 \right) (\theta | \vec{n}) \, \mathrm{d}\sigma.$$

And for every node  $P_i \in \partial \Omega$ , we choose  $\theta_i$ , and move  $P_i$  to

$$P'_i := P_i - d_i \vec{n}$$
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Then, we obtain a new domain, we can mesh it, compute the associated eigenvalues and eigenfunctions, move the new boundary, and so on...

15 first candidates to be minimizing domains of volume 1 in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .



Previously found by Oudet ('04, partly) and Antunes-Freitas ('12)

Let (M, g) be a Riemannian manifold of dimension 2



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Mesh  $\alpha(U)$  in order to consider manifold non embeddable in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .  $\rightsquigarrow$  use the expression of the Laplacian in local coordinates:

$$\Delta f = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(G)}} \sum_{j,k=1}^{2} \partial x_j \left( G^{jk} \sqrt{\det(G)} \partial x_k f \right).$$

It implies several modifications. For instance,

for the computation:

$$(\mathcal{WP}_h) \begin{cases} \text{find } u_h \in V_h, u_h \neq 0, \text{ and } \lambda > 0 \text{ such that} \\ \int \nabla u_h^t G^{-1} \nabla \varphi_{h,i} \sqrt{\det G} = \lambda \int_{\Omega} u_h \varphi_{h,i} \sqrt{\det G}, \\ \int_{\Omega} \inf \text{for all } i = 1, \dots, N. \end{cases}$$

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for the optimization: There is no homothety any more! The volume constraint has to be taken into consideration. ~> Lagrange multiplier.

We look for a saddle point of the functional

$$J(\mu, \Omega) = \lambda_k(\Omega) + \mu(\operatorname{vol}(\Omega) - V_0),$$

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 $\rightsquigarrow$  We get a similar formula for the shape optimization.

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- in the sphere  $\mathbb{S}^2$  (curvature = + 1);
- In the Poincaré disc D<sup>2</sup> (curvature = -1);
- ► in a hyperboloid H (curvature between 0 and 1);

Plot of the optimizers for  $\lambda_{10}(\Omega^*_{10,\mathbb{S}^2})$  and  $vol(\Omega^*_{10,\mathbb{S}^2}) = 0.1, 0.2, \dots, 0.9, 1$  and 2.



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# End