# 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.

## Geometric problem

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Consider the problem: find a non-zero map $u: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and a scalar $\lambda$ (both depending on $\Omega$ ) such that

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(\mathcal{P})\left\{\begin{aligned}
-\Delta u & =\lambda u & & \text { in } \Omega, \\
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Theoretical Question : Existence of a solution $(\lambda, u)$ ?

## Geometric problem

Answer: Yes!

## Theorem (Spectral Theorem)

Let $(H,(\cdot \mid \cdot))$ be a separable Hilbert space of infinite dimension and $T$ a positive (that is $\left(T_{x} \mid x\right) \geq 0$ for all $x \in H$ ), self-adjoint and compact operator on $H$.
Then, there exist a sequence of real positive eigenvalues $\left(\mu_{n}\right)_{n>1}$, converging to 0 and a sequence of eigenvectors $\left(x_{n}\right)_{n \geq 1}$, defining a Hilbert basis of $H$ such that $T x_{n}=\mu_{n} x_{n}$ for all $n \geq 1$.

## Geometric problem

Theoretically known examples:


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\lambda_{1, \text { Disc }_{1}} \simeq 18.168 \quad \lambda_{1, \text { Square }_{1}} \simeq 19.739
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\lambda_{1, h}(\Omega) \simeq 21.026
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\lambda_{1, \text { Disc }_{1}} \simeq 18.168 \quad \lambda_{1, \text { Square }_{1}} \simeq 19.739
$$

Example computed numerically


$$
\lambda_{1, h}(\sqrt{2} \Omega) \simeq 10.513
$$

## Optimization problem

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1) If $I$ is an isometry in $\mathbb{R}^{2}$, then $\lambda_{k, l(\Omega)}=\lambda_{k, \Omega}$.

$$
u_{k, l(\Omega)}(x)=u_{k, \Omega}\left(I^{-1}(x)\right)
$$

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

## Optimization problem

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

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\lambda_{1, B}=\min \left\{\lambda_{1, \Omega} \mid \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{2}, \operatorname{vol}(\Omega)=1\right\}
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Theorem (Krahn-Szegö, 1926)
Let $B_{2}$ be the union of two identical balls, $\operatorname{vol}\left(B_{2}\right)=1$. 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 $\lambda_{k, \Omega}, k \geq 3$, among all quasi-open sets $\Omega$ of given volume. Moreover, it is bounded and has finite perimeter.

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

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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Generally, for a given bounded domain $\Omega$, it is quite impossible to find analytically the eigenvalues $\lambda_{k, \Omega}$.

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$\rightsquigarrow$ numerics !

## Discretization for the numerical processing

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

$$
(\mathcal{W P})\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\text { find } u \in H_{0}^{1}(\Omega) \text { such that } \\
\int_{\Omega}(\nabla u \mid \nabla v)=\int_{\Omega} u v, \quad \forall v \in H_{0}^{1}(\Omega) .
\end{array}\right.
$$

## Discretization for the numerical processing

## 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 $(\mathcal{W P})$, consider the finite dimensional space

$$
V_{h}:=\left\{\varphi \in \mathcal{C}^{0}(\bar{\Omega}) \mid \varphi_{\mid \partial \Omega}=0, \varphi_{\mid K} \text { linear } \forall K \in \mathcal{M}\right\} ;
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$$

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

$$
\varphi_{h, i} \in V_{h}, \varphi_{h, i}\left(P_{j}\right)=\delta_{i j}, \quad i, j=1, \ldots, N .
$$

## Discretization for the numerical processing



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

## Discretization for the numerical processing



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

Approximation of $u \in H_{0}^{1}(\Omega)$ by $u_{h}=\sum_{j=1}^{N} u_{j} \varphi_{h, j} \in V_{h}$.

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$\rightsquigarrow$ Lanczos algorithm to solve $\left(\mathcal{W P}_{h}\right)$.

## Discretization for the numerical processing

## Shape optimization

The idea is to use a descent algorithm to minimize the cost functional $J(\Omega)=\lambda_{k}(\Omega)$ 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
$\Omega_{\theta}=(\mathrm{id}+\theta)\left(\Omega_{0}\right), \theta \in W^{1, \infty}(\Omega)$.


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$$

And for every node $P_{i} \in \partial \Omega$, we choose $\theta_{i}$, and move $P_{i}$ to

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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...

## Discretization for the numerical processing

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

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

## Generalization to surfaces

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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:

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

## Generalization to surfaces

It implies several modifications. For instance,

- for the computation:

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\end{array}\right.
$$

- for the optimization:

There is no homothety any more! The volume constraint has to be taken into consideration. $\rightsquigarrow$ Lagrange multiplier.

## Generalization to surfaces

We look for a saddle point of the functional

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J(\mu, \Omega)=\lambda_{k}(\Omega)+\mu\left(\operatorname{vol}(\Omega)-V_{0}\right)
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where $V_{0}$ is the volume of the initial domain $\Omega_{0}$.

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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 $\mathbb{D}^{2}$ (curvature $=-1$ );
- in a hyperboloid $H$ (curvature between 0 and 1);


## Generalization to surfaces

Plot of the optimizers for $\lambda_{10}\left(\Omega_{10, \mathbb{S}^{2}}^{*}\right)$ and $\operatorname{vol}\left(\Omega_{10, \mathbb{S}^{2}}^{*}\right)=0.1,0.2$,
..., 0.9, 1 and 2.


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## End

