



COLOQUIO MATEMATICO

DEPARTAMENTO DE MATEMATICA
UNIVERSIDAD DE CONCEPCION

“Upper bounds for Wentzell eigenvalues and stability”

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Abstract:

We consider the question of giving an upper bound for the first nontrivial eigenvalue of the Wentzell-Laplace operator of a domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \\ -\beta \Delta_T u + \partial_{\eta} u = \lambda u & \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{cases}$$

where Δ_T is the Laplace-Beltrami operator on $\partial\Omega$. This upper bound involves only geometrical informations. We provide such an upper bound, by generalizing Brock's inequality concerning Steklov eigenvalues, and we conjecture that balls maximize the Wentzell eigenvalue, in a suitable class of domains, which would improve our bound. To support this conjecture, we prove that balls are critical domains for the Wentzell eigenvalue, in any dimension, and that they are local maximizers in dimension 2 and 3, using an order two sensitivity analysis.

To that end, we will address the question of stability in the field of shape optimization. More precisely, given $J: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined on $A \subset \{\Omega \text{ smooth enough open sets in } \mathbb{R}^d\}$, we consider the optimization problem

$$\min\{J(\Omega), \Omega \in A\} \quad (1)$$

and we ask the following questions:

if Ω^* is a critical domain satisfying a stability condition (that is to say a strict second order optimality condition), can we conclude that

$$J(\Omega) - J(\Omega^*) \geq cd_1(\Omega, \Omega^*)^2, \text{ for every } \Omega \in V(\Omega^*) \quad (2)$$

is a strict local minimum for (1) in the sense that

where $c \in (0, \infty)$, is a distance among sets, and $V(\Omega^*) = \{\Omega, d_2(\Omega, \Omega^*) < \eta\}$ is a neighborhood of Ω^* , relying on a (possibly different) distance d_2 ?

Viernes 01 de Julio de 2016,

12:00 horas

Auditorio Prof. Alamiro Robledo H.
Facultad de Ciencias Físicas y Matemáticas
UNIVERSIDAD DE CONCEPCION



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