

Verified lower eigenvalue bounds for self-adjoint differential operators

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By using finite element methods(FEM), we develop a theorem to give verified eigenvalue bounds for generally defined self-adjoint differential operators, which includes the Laplace operator, the Biharmonic operators and so on. The explicit a priori error estimations for conforming and non-conforming FEMs play import role in constructing explicit lower eigenvalue bounds. As a feature of proposed theorem, it can even give bounds for eigenvalues that the corresponding eigenfunctions may have a singularity. The verified eigenvalue bounds can be applied to give explicit bounds for various interpolation error constants and help to verify the solution existence for non-linear partial differential equations.

We consider the eigenvalue problem in an abstract form. Let V be a Hilbert function space and V^h be a finite dimensional space, $\text{Dim}(V^h) = n$. Here, V^h may not be a subspace of V . Suppose $M(\cdot, \cdot)$, $N(\cdot, \cdot)$ are semi-positive symmetric bilinear forms on both V and V^h . Moreover, for any $u \in V$ or V^h , $N(u, u) \geq 0$ implies $u = 0$. Define norm $|\cdot|_N$ and semi-norm $|\cdot|_M$ by, $|\cdot|_M := \sqrt{M(\cdot, \cdot)}$, $|\cdot|_N := \sqrt{N(\cdot, \cdot)}$. We consider an eigenvalue problem defined by the bilinear forms $M(\cdot, \cdot)$ and $N(\cdot, \cdot)$: Find $u \in V$ and $\lambda \in R$ such that,

$$M(u, v) = \lambda N(u, v) \quad \forall v \in V. \quad (1)$$

Further we take the following two basic assumptions for the eigen-pair of (1):

1. The eigenvalues can be ordered as an ascending sequence: $0 \leq \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \cdots$.
2. The eigenfunctions $\{u_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$ form a complete orthonormal basis of V , i.e.,

$$u = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (u, u_i) u_i, \text{ for any } u \in V; \quad N(u_i, u_j) = \delta_{ij} \quad (\delta_{ij} : \text{Kronecker's delta}).$$

Let $(\lambda_{h,k}, u_{h,k})$ ($1 \leq k \leq n$) be the eigen-pair of the eigenvalue problem over finite dimensional space V^h : Find $u_h \in V^h$ and $\lambda_h \in R$ such that,

$$M(u_h, v_h) = \lambda_h N(u_h, v_h) \quad \forall v_h \in V^h. \quad (2)$$

The main theorem to provide lower eigenvalue bounds is given as below.

Theorem 1. Let $P_h : V \rightarrow V^h$ be a projection such that,

$$M(u - P_h u, v_h) = 0 \quad \forall v_h \in V^h, \quad (3)$$

along with an error estimation as

$$|u - P_h u|_N \leq C_h |u - P_h u|_M. \quad (4)$$

Then we have lower bounds for λ_k 's,

$$\frac{\lambda_{h,k}}{1 + \lambda_{h,k} C_h^2} \leq \lambda_k \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots, n). \quad (5)$$

The concrete form of projection P_h and the value of constant C_h , which tends to 0 as mesh size $h \rightarrow 0$, are depending on the FEM spaces in use. In case of the eigenvalue problems of Laplacian, a new method based on hyper-circle equation for conforming FEM spaces is developed to give an explicit bound for the constant C_h ; see [1]. Generally, by using proper non-conforming FEMs, the projection P_h is just an interpolation operator and the constant C_h can be easily obtained by considering the interpolation error estimation on local elements. Such a new result will be reported in the workshop.

Usually, Theorem 1 along with finite element methods can only provide rough eigenvalue bounds for objective differential operators; see discussion in [4]. For purpose of high-precision eigenvalue evaluation, we combine rough lower eigenvalue bounds and Lehmann-Goerisch's theorem to give sharp bounds. Such method has been used to give high-precision bounds for several interpolation error constants; see [2]. Also, the explicit a priori error estimation for FEMs has been successfully applied to verify the solution existence for semi-linear elliptic partial differential equations [3].

References:

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