# Approximation of the Laplace-Beltrami operator by its symbol

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<sup>1</sup>Department of Mathematics and Systems Analysis, Aalto University <sup>2</sup>School of Science, Harbin Institute of Technology, Shenzhen, China <sup>3</sup>Department of Mathematics, University of Rome Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy Let us consider the following constant-coefficient 1d wave equation

$$\begin{cases} \partial_{tt} u - \Delta u = 0, & (t, x) \in (0, T) \times (0, 1), \\ u(t, 0) = u(t, 1) = 0, & t \in (0, T), \\ u(0, x) = u^{0}(x), \ \partial_{t} u(0, x) = u^{1}(x), & x \in (0, 1). \end{cases}$$

As a consequence of the Fourier explicit representation formulas, the solutions of this model satisfy the *observability inequality* 

$$||(u^0, u^1)||^2_{H^1_0(0,1) \times L^2(0,1)} \le C_{obs} \int_0^T |\partial_x u(t,1)|^2 dt, \qquad (1)$$

for a suitable constant  $C_{obs} = C_{obs}(T) > 0$  provided  $T \ge 2$ . Inequality (1) ensures that all waves propagating in space-time to reach the extreme x = 1 in time T = 2. Consider the associated 1d (spacial) operator

$$\begin{aligned} &-\Delta: \mathsf{W}^{1,2}_0((0,1)) \to \mathsf{L}^2((0,1)) \,, \\ &-\Delta[u](x) := -\partial_{xx} u(x). \end{aligned}$$

The spectrum  $\lambda_k = k^2 \pi^2$  satisfies the following gap condition:

$$\sqrt{\lambda_{k+1}} - \sqrt{\lambda_k} = \pi = \gamma > 0,$$
 for every  $k \ge 1,$  (2)

The gap condition (2) ensures the boundary observability of the solutions of the associated wave equation in time  $T > 2\pi/\gamma$ .

The classical  $2\eta + 1$  points FD approximation  $\Delta_{\text{dir},n}^{(\eta)}$  with eigenvalues  $\lambda_k^{(n)}$  is such that

$$\min_{k=1,\dots,n-1}\sqrt{\lambda_{k+1}^{(n)}} - \sqrt{\lambda_k^{(n)}} \to 0$$



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This is fixed equivalently by

- $\Delta_{\mathrm{dir},n}^{(\infty)} = \lim_{\eta \to \infty} \Delta_{\mathrm{dir},n}^{(\eta)}$
- Sinc Collocation

• 
$$T_n(\theta^2) = \left[\widehat{\theta^2}_{i-j}\right]_{i,j=1,\dots,n}$$



# Variable Coefficient

If  $\mathcal{L} = -(a(x)u'(x))'$  on [0,1] with Dirichlet BC, we have

• No analytic expression of eigenvalues or eigenvectors

• If 
$$a(x)>0$$
, then  $\lambda_n/n^2 o \pi^2/B^2$ ,  $B=\int_0^1 a(x)^{-1/2}$ 

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# Spectral Symbol

#### **Spectral Symbol**

The function  $\omega : D \subset \mathbb{R}^M \to \mathbb{C}$  is a spectral symbol for  $\{A_n\}_n$  if  $\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n F(\lambda_k(A_n)) = \frac{1}{m(D)} \int_D F(\omega(\mathbf{y})) d\mathbf{y}, \quad \forall F \in C_c(\mathbb{C}).$ 

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If 
$$\{A_n\}_n \sim_{\lambda} a(x)\theta^2$$
 on  $[0,1] \times [0,\pi]$ , then  

$$\Lambda(A_n) \cong \{a(ih)(jh\pi)^2 : i, j = 1, \dots, \sqrt{n}\}$$

$$\frac{|\{\lambda \in \Lambda(A_n) \cap (-\infty, t)\}|}{n} \rightarrow \frac{m\{a(x)\theta^2 < t\}}{\pi}$$

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#### Theorem - See GLT Theory

 $\Delta^{(\infty)}_{{
m dir},n}$  and the  $\infty-$ degree Iga approximations have symbol  $a(x) heta^2$ .







In a sense,  $\Lambda(\mathcal{L})$  agrees with  $a(x)\theta^2$  on  $[0,1] \times [0,\infty)$ 

# Solution 1: Non-Uniform Grids

#### Theorem - See GLT Theory

Given a diffeomorphism  $\phi : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$ , then a method with symbol  $a(x)f(\theta)$  applied to the grid  $\{\phi(i/n)\}_{i=1,...,n}$  has symbol

$$\frac{a(\phi(x))}{\phi'(x)^{\alpha}}f(\theta)$$

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Pros:

- The spectral distribution can be controlled through  $\phi$
- $\mathcal{L}^{(n)}$  is an approximation of  $\mathcal{L}$ .

Cons:

Not always possible to find the right φ

 (It has been done for Euler-Cauchy PDEs)

### Solution 2: Rearrangement



Find a monotone  $\psi:\mathbb{R}^+\to\mathbb{R}^+$  such that

- $\kappa(x,\theta) = \psi(a(x)\theta^2)$  has the right spectral distribution
- $\psi(t) = t$  for any  $t \leq \pi^2 \min_x a(x)$

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$$\psi(t) = t$$
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$$b(w) := m\{x \in [0,1] : a(x) \le w\} \qquad d(w) := \int_{a(x) \le w} \sqrt{\frac{1}{a(x)}} dx$$
$$\psi(t) = \frac{1}{B^2} \left[ B\sqrt{t} - \sqrt{t}d\left(\frac{t}{\pi^2}\right) + \pi b\left(\frac{t}{\pi^2}\right) \right]^2$$

#### Teorem - GLT

Given the Fourier series for the real continuous function  $\kappa(x,\theta)$  $\kappa(x,\theta) = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} c_p(x) \cos(p\theta)$ then  $\kappa(x,\theta)$  is the symbol of the matrix sequence  $T_n(\kappa(x,\theta)) := \left[\frac{c_{|i-j|}(ih) + c_{|i-j|}(jh)}{2}\right]_{i,j=1,\dots,n}$ 

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Pros:

•  $\kappa(x,\theta)$  is always computable

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• Empirically,  $\mathcal{T}_n$  is an approximation of  $\mathcal{L}$  but it's not proved yet

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Pros:

•  $\kappa(x, \theta)$  is always computable

Cons:

• Empirically,  $T_n$  is an approximation of  $\mathcal L$  but it's not proved yet

## **Open Questions**

- $T_n$  is not the only sequence with symbol  $\kappa(x, \theta)$ .
- Most approximation methods produces T<sub>n</sub>(f(x, θ)). For what class of functions, T<sub>n</sub>(f) is an approximation of L?

# If there's time...

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$$\mathcal{L}(u) = -\partial_{xx}u(x,y) - \partial_{yy}u(x,y) \quad \rightarrow \quad \lambda_{k_1,k_2} = (k_1^2 + k_2^2)\pi^2$$

Classical approximations give us the symbol  $\theta_1^2 + \theta_2^2$  on  $[0, \pi]^2$ , but again the spectral distributions do not coincide



We can find  $\psi : \mathbb{R}^+ \to \mathbb{R}^+$  and  $\kappa(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \psi(\theta_1^2 + \theta_2^2)$  that matched the continuous distribution, and  $T_n(\kappa(\theta_1, \theta_2)) := [c_{i,j}]_{i,j=1,...,n} \qquad \kappa(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \sum_{i,j} c_{i,j} \cos(i\theta_1 + j\theta_2)$ 

# Thank You!

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