# SUPER-GEOMETRIC CONVERGENCE OF A SPECTRAL ELEMENT METHOD FOR EIGENVALUE PROBLEMS WITH JUMP COEFFICIENTS* 

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#### Abstract

We propose and analyze a $C^{0}$ spectral element method for a model eigenvalue problem with discontinuous coefficients in the one dimensional setting. A super-geometric rate of convergence is proved for the piecewise constant coefficients case and verified by numerical tests. Furthermore, the asymptotical equivalence between a Gauss-Lobatto collocation method and a spectral Galerkin method is established for a simplified model.


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## 1. Introduction

We often encounter eigenvalue problems with discontinuous coefficients in practice. Examples of such applications may be found in [11]. In this paper, we consider the following one dimensional model problem: Find $(\lambda, u) \in \mathbb{R}^{+} \times H^{2}(-\pi, \pi)$ such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
-u^{\prime \prime}(x)=\lambda c(x) u(x), \quad u(-\pi)=u(\pi), \quad u^{\prime}(-\pi)=u^{\prime}(\pi) \tag{1.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

Here $c(x) \geq c_{0}>0$ is a piecewise constant, or piecewise analytic function. The physics background of this model problem comes from the source-free Maxwell equations describing the transverse-magnetic mode in the one-dimensional periodic media, where the function $u$ represents the electric field pattern, and the dielectric function $c(x)$ describes a unit cell from a multilayer structure with $2 \pi$-periodicity. This model problem was discussed by Min and

[^0]Gottlieb in [11] where $C^{1}$ conforming spectral collocation methods were constructed on two elements over

$$
H_{p e r}^{2}(-\pi, \pi)=\left\{v \in H^{2}(-\pi, \pi): \quad v(-\pi)=v(\pi), v^{\prime}(-\pi)=v^{\prime}(\pi)\right\},
$$

and error bounds of type $\mathcal{O}\left(p^{-m}\right)$ were established. Note that the solution of (1.1) belongs to $C^{1}$.

It would be interesting to discuss $C^{0}$ spectral element methods over

$$
H_{p e r}^{1}(-\pi, \pi)=\left\{v \in H^{1}(-\pi, \pi): \quad v(-\pi)=v(\pi)\right\}
$$

since the construction of a $C^{0}$ spectral element method is much simpler than that of the global $C^{1}$ spectral collocation method proposed in [11]. The idea of the spectral element can be found, e.g., in an early work [12]. Note that the spectral element method is equivalent to the so-called $p$-version finite element method, see e.g., [3]. Under the finite element variational framework, we are able to prove a super-geometric error bound of type $\mathcal{O}\left(e^{-2 p(\log p-\gamma)}\right)$. In some earlier works of the third author, the super-geometric error bound of type $\mathcal{O}\left(e^{-p(\log p-\gamma)}\right)$ has been established for some spectral/collocation approximations of the two-point boundary problem [17,18]. Our error bound for the eigenvalue approximation "doubles" the error bound for the associated eigenfunction approximation, the fact we have known for the $h$-version finite element method. It is worthy to point out that in the literature of the spectral method, it is a common practice to consider error bounds of type $\mathcal{O}\left(p^{-m}\right)$, see, e.g., [5-7,10, 15, 16], and reference therein. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time that a super-geometric convergence rate is established for the eigenvalue approximation by the spectral method.

## 2. Theoretical Setting

The variational formulation of (1.1) is to find $(\lambda, u) \in \mathbb{R}^{+} \times H_{p e r}^{1}(-\pi, \pi)$ such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(u^{\prime}, v^{\prime}\right)=\lambda(c u, v), \quad \forall v \in H_{p e r}^{1}(-\pi, \pi) \tag{2.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

In this paper, we also consider the Dirichlet problem

$$
-u^{\prime \prime}(x)=\lambda c(x) u(x), \quad u(0)=0=u(1)
$$

Its variational formulation is to find $(\lambda, u) \in \mathbb{R}^{+} \times H_{0}^{1}(0,1)$ such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(u^{\prime}, v^{\prime}\right)=\lambda(c u, v), \quad \forall v \in H_{0}^{1}(0,1) \tag{2.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

By the general theory $[2,8]$, both problems (2.1) and (2.2) have countable infinite sequence of eigen-pairs $\left(\lambda_{j}, u_{j}\right)$ satisfying

$$
0<\lambda_{1} \leq \lambda_{2} \leq \lambda_{3} \leq \cdots \rightarrow \infty, \quad\left(u_{i}^{\prime}, u_{j}^{\prime}\right)=\lambda_{j}\left(c u_{i}, u_{j}\right)=\lambda_{j} \delta_{i j}
$$

Furthermore, eigenvalues can be characterized as extrema of the Rayleigh quotient $R(u)=$ $\left(u^{\prime}, u^{\prime}\right) /(c u, u)$ as follows

$$
\begin{gathered}
\lambda_{1}=\inf _{u \in S}=R\left(u_{1}\right) \\
\lambda_{k}=\inf _{u \in S,\left(u^{\prime}, u_{j}^{\prime}\right)=0, j=1, \ldots, k-1} R(u)=R\left(u_{k}\right), \quad k=2,3, \ldots
\end{gathered}
$$

where $S=H_{p e r}^{1}(-\pi, \pi)$ or $H_{0}^{1}(0,1)$.
Next, we describe the framework of our numerical approximation. We partition the solution interval into $m$ sub-intervals (element) such that $c(x)$ is analytic on each interval. Let $h$ be the maximum length of all elements, we then define a finite dimensional subspace $S_{p}^{h} \subset S$, as a piecewise polynomial of degree $p$ on each element. Our spectral element method is to find an eigen-pair $\left(\lambda(p), w_{p}\right) \in R^{+} \times S_{p}^{h}$ such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(w_{p}^{\prime}, v^{\prime}\right)=\lambda(p)\left(c w_{p}, v\right), \quad \forall v \in S_{p}^{h} \tag{2.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Note that the partition parameter $h$ is fixed and convergence is achieved by increasing polynomial degree $p$. Therefore, we may suppress the index $h$ later.

By the general theory $[2,8]$, the problem (2.3) has a finite sequence of eigen-pairs $\left(\lambda_{j, p}, w_{j, p}\right)$ satisfying

$$
\begin{align*}
& 0<\lambda_{1, p} \leq \lambda_{2, p} \leq \cdots \leq \lambda_{N, p}, \quad N= \begin{cases}m p-1 & H_{0}^{1}(0,1) \\
m p & H_{p e r}^{1}(-\pi, \pi)\end{cases} \\
& \left(w_{i, p}^{\prime} w_{j, p}^{\prime}\right)=\lambda_{j, p}\left(c w_{i, p}, w_{j, p}\right)=\lambda_{j, p} \delta_{i j} ; \\
& \lambda_{1, p}=\min _{w \in S_{p}}=R\left(w_{1, p}\right),  \tag{2.4}\\
& \lambda_{k, p}=\min _{w \in S_{p},\left(w^{\prime}, w_{j, p}^{\prime}\right)=0, j=1, \ldots, k-1} R(w)=R\left(w_{k, p}\right), \quad k=2,3, \ldots \tag{2.5}
\end{align*}
$$

One important observation from the above Minimum-Maximum principle is that the specific eigenvalue approximation is from above in the sense

$$
\lambda_{k} \leq \cdots \leq \lambda_{k, p+1} \leq \lambda_{k, p} \leq \lambda_{k, p-1} \cdots \leq \lambda_{k, 1}
$$

## 3. A Galerkin Spectral (p-Version) Method

Without loss of generality, we consider piecewise constant $c(x)$ as in [11] with jump at the center of the solution domain. In particular, we take

$$
c(x)= \begin{cases}1 & x \in(-\pi, 0) \\ \omega^{2} & x \in(0, \pi)\end{cases}
$$

Instead of constructing $C^{1}$ shape functions for eigenvalue problem (2.1), we seek for a $C^{0}$ approximation $w_{p} \in H^{1}(0,1)$ with traditional expansion

$$
\begin{equation*}
w_{p}(x)=w^{0}\left(N_{-}+N_{+}\right)+\sum_{j=1}^{p-1} w^{j} \phi_{p-j+1}(x)+w^{p} N(x)+\sum_{j=p+1}^{2 p-1} w^{j} \psi_{j-p+1}(x) \tag{3.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $N_{-}(x), N(x)$, and $N_{+}(x)$ are linear nodal shape functions at the left end, middle point, and right end of the solution interval, respectively; $\phi_{j}$ and $\psi_{j}$ are bubble functions on the left and right intervals, respectively. The counterpart of $\phi_{k+1}$ in $[-1,1]$ is defined as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\hat{\phi}_{k+1}(\xi)=\sqrt{\frac{2 k+1}{2}} \int_{-1}^{\xi} L_{k}(t) d t=\frac{1}{\sqrt{2(2 k+1)}}\left(L_{k+1}(\xi)-L_{k-1}(\xi)\right) . \tag{3.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

and the counterpart of $\psi_{k+1}$ in $[-1,1]$ is defined similarly. Note that $w^{0}=0$ for the eigenvalue problem (2.2). With this setting, the resulting stiffness matrix is diagonal and the mass matrix is 5 -diagonal, see Appendix.

## 4. Super-Geometric Convergence Rate

Let $\left(\lambda_{k}, u_{k}\right)$ be the $k$ th eigen-pair and $\left(\lambda_{k, h}, u_{k, h}\right) \in R \times S^{h}$ be its $h$-version finite element approximation. According to [2, p.700],

$$
C_{1} \epsilon_{h}^{2} \leq \lambda_{k, h}-\lambda_{k} \leq C_{2} \epsilon_{h}^{2}
$$

with

$$
\epsilon_{h}=\inf _{\chi \in S^{h}}\left\|u_{k}-\chi\right\|_{1}
$$

for simple eigenvalue $\lambda_{k}$ (see [2, p. 695 (8.21)]. Transferring this theory to our spectral element method language, we have, for any simple eigen-pair $(\lambda, u)$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
C_{1} \epsilon_{p}^{2} \leq \lambda_{p}-\lambda \leq C_{2} \epsilon_{p}^{2} \tag{4.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

with

$$
\epsilon_{p}=\inf _{\chi \in S_{p}}\|u-\chi\|_{1} \approx \inf _{\chi \in S_{p}}\left\|u^{\prime}-\chi^{\prime}\right\| \approx\left\|u^{\prime}-u_{p}^{\prime}\right\|
$$

where $u_{p} \in S_{p}$ such that $u_{p}^{\prime}$ is the piecewise Legendre expansion of $u^{\prime}$ (not solution of (2.1) or $(2.2))$. Note that the first " $\approx$ " comes from the Poicaré inequality and the last " $\approx$ " is based on the fact that the Legendre expansion minimizes the $L^{2}$-norm.
Lemma 4.1. Let $u$ satisfy the regularity assumption

$$
\max _{x \in[-1,1]}\left|u^{(k)}(x)\right| \leq c M^{k}
$$

for fixed constants $c$ and $M$, and let $\tilde{u}_{p}^{\prime}$ be the Legendre expansion of $u^{\prime}$ on $[-1,1]$. Then under the assumption $(2 p+1)(2 p+3)>2 M^{2}$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|u^{\prime}-\tilde{u}_{p}^{\prime}\right\|_{L_{2}[-1,1]} \leq C \sqrt{p}\left(\frac{e M}{2 p}\right)^{p+1} \tag{4.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $C$ is independent of $p$ and $M$.
Proof. The error of ( $p-1$ )-term Legendre expansion is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|u^{\prime}-\tilde{u}_{p}^{\prime}\right\|_{L_{2}[-1,1]}^{2}=\sum_{k=p}^{\infty} \frac{2}{2 k+1} b_{k}^{2} \tag{4.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Using the result [13, p.58, Theorem 2.1.6], we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
b_{k}=\frac{2^{k} k!}{(2 k)!} u^{(k+1)}\left(\eta_{k}\right), \quad \eta_{k} \in(-1,1) \tag{4.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

Note that $\left(2^{k} k!\right) /(2 k)!=1 /(2 k-1)!!$. Applying the regularity assumption $\left|u^{(k)}(x)\right| \leq c M^{k}$, we derive

$$
\begin{align*}
& \left\|u^{\prime}-\tilde{u}_{p}^{\prime}\right\|_{L_{2}[-1,1]}^{2} \\
< & 2\left(c M^{p+1}\right)^{2}\left(\frac{1}{(2 p-1)!!(2 p+1)!!}+\frac{M^{2}}{(2 p+1)!!(2 p+3)!!}+\frac{M^{4}}{(2 p+3)!!(2 p+5)!!}+\cdots\right) \\
= & \frac{2\left(c M^{p+1}\right)^{2}}{(2 p-1)!!(2 p+1)!!}\left(1+\frac{M^{2}}{(2 p+1)(2 p+3)}+\frac{M^{4}}{(2 p+1)(2 p+3)^{2}(2 p+5)}+\cdots\right) \\
< & \frac{4\left(c M^{p+1}\right)^{2}}{(2 p-1)!!(2 p+1)!!}, \tag{4.5}
\end{align*}
$$

when $(2 p+1)(2 p+3)>2 M^{2}$. This last term can be readily estimated by Stirling type formula [1, (4.48)]

$$
\begin{equation*}
n!\approx\left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^{n} \sqrt{2 \pi\left(n+\frac{1}{6}\right)} \tag{4.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

and [4]

$$
\begin{equation*}
(2 n-1)!!\approx \frac{\sqrt{(2 n)!}}{\sqrt[4]{\pi\left(n+\frac{1}{4}\right)}} \tag{4.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore,

$$
\begin{aligned}
(2 p-1)!!(2 p+1)!! & \approx \frac{\sqrt{(2 p)!}}{\sqrt[4]{\pi(p+0.25)}} \frac{\sqrt{(2 p+2)!}}{\sqrt[4]{\pi(p+1.25)}} \\
& \approx \frac{(2 p)!2 p}{\sqrt{\pi p}} \approx\left(\frac{2 p}{e}\right)^{2 p} 2 \sqrt{2} p
\end{aligned}
$$

which, combined with (4.5), leads to (4.2) with $C=\sqrt[4]{2} c$.
Now we are ready to prove our main theorem.
Theorem 4.2. Let $(\lambda, u) \in R^{+} \times S$ be an eigen-pair of problem (2.2), where $\lambda$ is a simple eigenvalue. Let $\lambda(p)$ be its approximation in the sense of (2.4) or (2.5). Then

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lambda(p)-\lambda \leq C p\left(\frac{e \sqrt{\lambda}}{4 p}\right)^{2 p+2} \tag{4.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $C$ is independent of $p$ and $M$.
Proof. Recall that $c(x)$ is constants on $(0,1 / 2)$ and $(1 / 2,1)$, we separate

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|u^{\prime}-u_{p}^{\prime}\right\|^{2}=\left\|u^{\prime}-u_{p}^{\prime}\right\|_{L_{2}(0,1 / 2)}^{2}+\left\|u^{\prime}-u_{p}^{\prime}\right\|_{L_{2}(1 / 2,1)}^{2} \tag{4.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

Recall that $u_{p}^{\prime}$ is the piecewise Legendre expansion of $u^{\prime}$. The estimate for the first term is as follows,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|u^{\prime}-u_{p}^{\prime}\right\|_{L_{2}(0,1 / 2)}^{2}=4\left\|\hat{u}-\hat{u}_{p}^{\prime}\right\|_{L^{2}(-1,1)}^{2}, \tag{4.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\hat{u}(\xi)=u((1+\xi) / 4)$. Now we apply Lemma 4.1 to have

$$
\left\|\hat{u}-\hat{u}_{p}^{\prime}\right\|_{L^{2}(-1,1)} \leq C \sqrt{p}\left(\frac{e \hat{M}}{2 p}\right)^{p+1}=C \sqrt{p}\left(\frac{e \sqrt{\lambda}}{4 p}\right)^{p+1}
$$

Note that

$$
\hat{M}=\frac{M}{4}=\frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{2}
$$

where $M$ comes from the condition

$$
\max _{x \in[0,1]}\left|u^{k}(x)\right| \leq c M^{k}
$$

In our situation, $u$ contains terms like $\sin 2 \sqrt{\lambda} x, \cos 2 \sqrt{\lambda} x, \ldots M=2 \sqrt{\lambda}$, and $M=4 \hat{M}$ from

$$
\frac{d u}{d x}(x)=4 \frac{d \hat{u}}{d \xi}(\xi) .
$$

The second term in (4.9) can be estimated similarly, and therefore, we have

$$
\left\|u^{\prime}-u_{p}^{\prime}\right\| \leq C \sqrt{p}\left(\frac{e \sqrt{\lambda}}{4 p}\right)^{p+1}
$$

The error bound (4.8) follows from (4.1).
Theorem 4.3. Let $(\lambda, u) \in R^{+} \times S$ be an eigen-pair of problem (2.1), where $\lambda$ is a simple eigenvalue. Let $\lambda(p)$ be its approximation in the sense of (2.4) or (2.5). Then

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lambda(p)-\lambda \leq C p\left(\frac{e \pi \sqrt{\lambda}}{2 p}\right)^{2 p+2} \tag{4.11}
\end{equation*}
$$

Proof. The proof is the same by the scaling between $(0,1)$ and $(-\pi, \pi)$.
Remark. The error bounds in Theorems 4.2 and Theorem 4.3 are super-geometric type $\mathcal{O}\left(e^{-(2 p+1)(\log p-\gamma)}\right)$ with $\gamma=\ln (e \sqrt{\lambda} / 4)$ and $\gamma=\ln (e \pi \sqrt{\lambda} / 2)$, respectively. We shall demonstrate in the next section, by numerical tests, that our error bounds are sharp.

Our estimates also indicate that we need higher $p$ for larger $\lambda$ to realize the convergence. This is consistent with our numerical experiences.

## 5. Numerical Tests

In this section, we implement the numerical scheme described in Section 3 to solve (1.1) with $\omega=2$ for the first 14 eigenvalues. We observe convergence for reasonably smaller $p$. Actually, the error goes to the machine $\epsilon$ for $p \leq 10$ for the first few eigenvalues. To verify our error bounds, we plot the ratio

$$
\begin{equation*}
(\lambda(p)-\lambda) /\left(p(0.5 e \pi \sqrt{\lambda} / p)^{2 p+2}\right. \tag{5.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

with some different $\lambda \mathrm{s}$. Here is a list of the square roots of eigenvalues $(\sqrt{\lambda}$ by increasing order $)$ :

$$
\begin{array}{lllll}
\frac{1}{\pi} \arccos \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right), & \frac{1}{\pi} \arccos \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right), & \frac{1}{\pi} \arccos \frac{2}{3}+1, & \frac{1}{\pi} \arccos \frac{1}{3}+1, & 2 \\
\frac{1}{\pi} \arccos \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)+2, & \frac{1}{\pi} \arccos \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)+2, & \frac{1}{\pi} \arccos \frac{2}{3}+3, & \frac{1}{\pi} \arccos \frac{1}{3}+3, & 4, \\
\frac{1}{\pi} \arccos \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)+4, & \frac{1}{\pi} \arccos \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)+4, & \frac{1}{\pi} \arccos \frac{2}{3}+5, & \frac{1}{\pi} \arccos \frac{1}{3}+5, & 6, \cdots
\end{array}
$$

Figures 1-4 demonstrate the ratio (5.1) associated with $\lambda_{1}, \lambda_{2}, \lambda_{3}, \lambda_{4}, \lambda_{5}, \lambda_{7}, \lambda_{9}, \lambda_{14}$, respectively. We plot the ratio with different range of $p$. Since for a larger eigenvalue, we need relatively higher $p$ to get into the asymptotic range. On the other hand, when $p$ getting bigger and the error approaching the machine $\epsilon$, the round-off error kicks in. So we can only observe the ratio in a small range of $p$. Nevertheless, it is sufficient to make our point clear. We see that the ratio (5.1) maintains in a reasonable range for different eigenvalues.

## 6. A Collocation Method for the Smooth Case

As a special case when $c(x)$ is sufficiently smooth, say a constant, we may use only one element. Without loss of generality, let us consider

$$
\begin{equation*}
-u^{\prime \prime}=\lambda u \quad \text { in } \quad(-1,1) \quad u(-1)=0=u(1) \tag{6.1}
\end{equation*}
$$



Fig. 5.1. Ratio of the computed errors over the estimated errors for $\lambda_{1}$ and $\lambda_{2}$

In this case, we are seeking an eigen-pair $\left(\lambda(p), w_{p}\right)$ with

$$
w_{p}(\xi)=\sum_{j=2}^{p} w^{j} \hat{\phi}_{j}(\xi)
$$

to satisfy

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(w_{p}^{\prime}, \hat{\phi}_{k}^{\prime}\right)=\lambda(p)\left(w_{p}, \hat{\phi}_{k}\right), \quad k=2, \ldots, p \tag{6.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

Again, this result in an identity matrix on the left and a 5 -diagonal matrix on the right. Based on the analysis in Section 4, we have in this case

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lambda(p)-\lambda \leq C p\left(\frac{e \sqrt{\lambda}}{2 p}\right)^{2 p+2} \tag{6.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Let us consider a spectral collocation method

$$
\begin{equation*}
-w_{p}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{j}\right)=\lambda(p) w_{p}\left(x_{j}\right), \quad j=1,2, \ldots, p-1 \tag{6.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $x_{j} \mathrm{~s}$ are zeros of $L_{p}^{\prime}$ and $L_{p}$ is the Legendre polynomial of degree $p$ on $[-1,1]$.
Theorem 6.1. For the model problem (6.1), the spectral collocation method (6.4) is equivalent to replacing all integrations in (6.2) by the p+1-point Gauss-Lobatto quadrature. Furthermore, all numerical integrations are exact except the last term with

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\hat{\phi}_{p}, \hat{\phi}_{p}\right)_{*}=\sum_{j=0}^{p} \hat{\phi}_{p}^{2}\left(x_{j}\right) w_{j}=\left(\hat{\phi}_{p}, \hat{\phi}_{p}\right) \frac{3\left(2 p^{2}-p-1\right)}{2\left(2 p^{2}-p\right)} \tag{6.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $w_{j} s$ are weights of the Gauss-Lobatto quadrature.
Proof. We multiply both sides of (6.4) by $\hat{\phi}_{k}\left(x_{j}\right) w_{j}$ and sum up

$$
\begin{equation*}
-\sum_{j=0}^{p} w_{p}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{j}\right) \hat{\phi}_{k}\left(x_{j}\right) w_{j}=\lambda(p) \sum_{j=0}^{p} w_{p}\left(x_{j}\right) \hat{\phi}_{k}\left(x_{j}\right) w_{j} \tag{6.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since the $p+1$-point Gauss-Lobatto quadrature rule is exact for polynomials of degree up to $2 p-1$, then we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
& -\sum_{j=0}^{p} w_{p}^{\prime \prime}\left(x_{j}\right) \hat{\phi}_{k}\left(x_{j}\right) w_{j}=-\left(w_{p}^{\prime \prime}, \hat{\phi}_{k}\right)=\left(w_{p}^{\prime}, \hat{\phi}_{k}^{\prime}\right), \quad k=2, \ldots, p \\
& \sum_{j=0}^{p} w_{p}\left(x_{j}\right) \hat{\phi}_{k}\left(x_{j}\right) w_{j}=\left(w_{p}, \hat{\phi}_{k}\right), \quad k=2, \ldots, p-1
\end{aligned}
$$



Fig. 5.2. Ratio of the computed errors over the estimated errors for $\lambda_{3}$ and $\lambda_{4}$


Fig. 5.3. Ratio of the computed errors over the estimated errors for $\lambda_{5}$ and $\lambda_{7}$


Fig. 5.4. Ratio of the computed errors over the estimated errors for $\lambda_{9}$ and $\lambda_{14}$

We see that the collocation method (6.4) is almost identical to the spectral method (6.2) except one term

$$
\left(w_{p}, \hat{\phi}_{p}\right) \neq \sum_{j=0}^{p} w_{p}\left(x_{j}\right) \hat{\phi}_{p}\left(x_{j}\right) w_{j}=\left(w_{p}, \hat{\phi}_{p}\right)_{*}
$$

and their difference is

$$
\left.\left(w_{p}, \hat{\phi}_{p}\right)-\left(w_{p}, \hat{\phi}_{p}\right)_{*}=w^{p}\left[\left(\hat{\phi}_{p}, \hat{\phi}_{p}\right)-\hat{\phi}_{p}, \hat{\phi}_{p}\right)_{*}\right] .
$$

Using the fact $\left(L_{p}, L_{p}\right)_{*}=2 / p$, a direct calculation yields,

$$
\begin{align*}
& \left(\hat{\phi}_{p}, \hat{\phi}_{p}\right)=\frac{1}{2(2 p-1)}\left(L_{p}-L_{p-2}, L_{p}-L_{p-2}\right) \\
= & \frac{1}{2(2 p-1)}\left(\left(L_{p}, L_{p}\right)+\left(L_{p-2}, L_{p-2}\right)\right) \\
= & \frac{1}{2(2 p-1)}\left(\frac{2}{2 p+1}+\frac{2}{2 p-3}\right), \tag{6.7}
\end{align*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{align*}
& \left(\hat{\phi}_{p}, \hat{\phi}_{p}\right)_{*}=\frac{1}{2(2 p-1)}\left(\left(L_{p}, L_{p}\right)_{*}+\left(L_{p-2}, L_{p-2}\right)\right) \\
= & \frac{1}{2(2 p-1)}\left(\frac{2}{p}+\frac{2}{2 p-3}\right) . \tag{6.8}
\end{align*}
$$

Therefore,

$$
\frac{\left(\hat{\phi}_{p}, \hat{\phi}_{p}\right)_{*}}{\left(\hat{\phi}_{p}, \hat{\phi}_{p}\right)}=\frac{3(2 p+1)(p-1)}{2 p(2 p-1)}
$$

and (6.5) follows.
We see that the $p+1$-points Gauss-Lobatto quadrature has a $50 \%$ over-shoot asymptotically in calculating $\left(\hat{\phi}_{p}, \hat{\phi}_{p}\right)$. Nevertheless, the last coefficient $w^{p}$ decays fast in general and the collocation method (6.4) is asymptotically equivalent to the spectral method (6.2). As a consequence, the spectral collocation method (6.4) also enjoys the super-geometric convergence rate (6.3).

Remark. It is feasible that a parallel result may be developed for the Chebysheve spectral/collocation methods. It is also feasible that the error bounds in [11] may be improved to the similar super-geometric rate as in this paper.

## 7. Appendix. The property of stiffiness matrix

Since $\left(\hat{\phi}_{i}^{\prime}, \hat{\phi}_{j}^{\prime}\right)=\delta_{i j}$, it is straightforward to verify that

$$
\left(\phi_{i}^{\prime}, \phi_{j}^{\prime}\right)=4 \delta_{i j}=\left(\psi_{i}^{\prime}, \psi_{j}^{\prime}\right), \quad\left(N^{\prime}, \phi_{j}^{\prime}\right)=0=\left(N^{\prime}, \psi_{j}^{\prime}\right), \quad\left(N^{\prime}, N^{\prime}\right)=4
$$

Furthermore, observe that

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 4\left(\phi_{i}, \phi_{j}\right)=\left(\hat{\phi}_{i}, \hat{\phi}_{j}\right)=4\left(\psi_{i}, \psi_{j}\right) \\
& \left(\phi_{k+1}, N\right)=0=\left(\psi_{k+1}, N\right) \quad k>2, \\
& (N, N)=\frac{1}{4} \int_{-1}^{1}\left(\frac{1+\xi}{2}\right)^{2}+\left(\frac{1-\xi}{2}\right)^{2}=\frac{1}{16}\left(4+\frac{4}{3}\right)=\frac{1}{3}, \\
& \left(\phi_{2}, N\right)=\frac{1}{4}\left(\hat{\phi}_{2}, \hat{N}_{2}\right)=\frac{1}{4 \sqrt{6}}\left(L_{2}-L_{0}, \hat{N}_{2}\right)=\frac{-1}{4 \sqrt{6}} \int_{-1}^{1} \frac{1+\xi}{2}=\frac{-1}{4 \sqrt{6}}, \\
& \left(\phi_{3}, N\right)=\frac{1}{4}\left(\hat{\phi}_{3}, \hat{N}_{2}\right)=\frac{1}{4 \sqrt{10}}\left(L_{3}-L_{1}, \hat{N}_{2}\right)=\frac{-1}{4 \sqrt{10}} \int_{-1}^{1} \frac{\xi \frac{1+\xi}{2}=\frac{-1}{12 \sqrt{10}}}{\left(\psi_{2}, N\right)=\frac{1}{4}\left(\hat{\phi}_{2}, \hat{N}_{1}\right)=\frac{1}{4 \sqrt{6}}\left(L_{2}-L_{0}, \hat{N}_{1}\right)=\frac{-1}{4 \sqrt{6}} \int_{-1}^{1} \frac{1-\xi}{2} \frac{-1}{4 \sqrt{6}},} \\
& \left(\psi_{3}, N\right)=\frac{1}{4}\left(\hat{\phi}_{3}, \hat{N}_{1}\right)=\frac{1}{4 \sqrt{10}}\left(L_{3}-L_{1}, \hat{N}_{1}\right)=\frac{-1}{4 \sqrt{10}} \int_{-1}^{1} \xi \frac{1-\xi}{2}=\frac{1}{12 \sqrt{10}} .
\end{aligned}
$$

The special arrangement of ordering has advantage of symmetric structure in the resulting matrix. It is straightforward to verify that the weak formulation

$$
\left(u_{p}^{\prime}, v^{\prime}\right)=\lambda\left(c u_{p}, v\right), \quad \forall v \in S_{p}
$$

yields a diagonal stiffness matrix $4 I$ and a 5 -diagonal mass matrix $\frac{\lambda}{4} A$, where the upper half of $A$ is of the form
and the lower half of $A$ is obtained by taking the above expression up-side-down and multiplied by $\omega^{2}$. The bottom right entry $2 / 3$ of the upper part and the top left entry $2 \omega^{2} / 3$ of the lower part is the only overlap of the two parts.

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