The Asymptotic Geometry of Nodal Domains

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Abstract

Given a closed manifold M with an associated Laplace operator and its eigenfunctions φ_{λ} , we ask about the characteristics of nodal domains (i.e. connected components of $\{\varphi_{\lambda} > 0\}$ or $\{\varphi_{\lambda} < 0\}$) as the corresponding eigenvalue tends to infinity. Relying on local analysis of eigenfunctions and classical elliptic estimates, seen in the works of Dan Mangoubi and Donnelly-Fefferman, we discuss several results concerning the asymptotic behaviour of the inner radius, local volume and thickness. We also present an approach, initiated by Steinerberger, that investigates a heat process associated to a nodal domain.