

Nodal Sets of Solutions to Some Fourth Order Elliptic Equations

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Contents

- 1 Introduction and main difficulties
- 2 The equation in pure principal part
- 3 Two eigenvalue equations
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Nodal sets for solutions of second order elliptic equations

- Nodal set of a function $u(x)$ is $N(u) = \{x | u(x) = 0\}$.
- Yau's conjecture: If $\Delta u + \lambda u = 0$ on an n dimensional C^∞ compact manifold M without boundary, then

$$c \sqrt{\lambda} \leq \mathcal{H}^{n-1}(N(u)) \leq C \sqrt{\lambda}.$$

- J. Brüning and S. T. Yau: two dimensional analytic case, independently.
- H. Donnelly and C. Fefferman: upper bound for the compact higher dimensional analytic manifold without boundary (1988, Invent. Math.).
- F. H. Lin: upper bound for the compact analytic manifold without boundary (1991, Comm. Pure Appl. Math.).
- R. Hardt and L. Simon: upper bound for the n dimensional compact C^∞ manifold without boundary is $C\lambda^{C\sqrt{\lambda}}$ (1989, J. Diff. Geom.).

- H. Donnelly and C. Fefferman: upper bound for 2 dimensional C^∞ compact manifold without boundary is $C\lambda^{3/4}$ (1990, J. Amer. Math. Soc.).
- R. T. Dong: upper bound for 2 dimensional C^∞ compact manifold without boundary is $C\lambda^{3/4}$. By using a very different method (1992, J. Diff. Geom.).
- A. Logunov: upper bound for the 2 dimensional C^∞ compact manifold without boundary is $C\lambda^{3/4-\epsilon}$ (2016, arXiv: 1605. 02595).
- A. Logunov: upper bound for the n dimensional C^∞ compact manifold without boundary is $C\lambda^\beta$ (2018 Annals of Math., 2016, arXiv: 1605. 02587v1).

- T. H. Colding and W. P. Minicozzi: lower bound for the C^∞ compact manifold without boundary is $C\lambda^{(3-n)/4}$ (2011, Comm. Math. Phys.).
- C. D. Sogge and S. Zelditch: lower bound for the C^∞ compact manifold without boundary is $C\lambda^{(7-3n)/8}$ (2011, Math. Res. Lett.).
- A. Logunov: lower bound for Yau's conjecture. (2018 Annals of Math.).
- ...

Nodal sets for solutions of high order elliptic equations

- I. Kukavica: upper bound for eigenfunctions of high order linear analytic uniformly elliptic operator (1995, J. d'Analyse. Math.).
- L. Tian and X. P. Yang: upper bound for bi-harmonic and polyharmonic functions (2014, J. Diff. Equ.; 2018, Chinese Ann. Math.).
- L. Tian and X. P. Yang: upper bound for eigenfunctions of bi-harmonic operator on some connected bounded domain $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ whose boundary is non-analytic (2017, arXiv: 1709.00153).
- ...

Difficulties

- If u is a solution of the second order uniformly elliptic equation $\mathcal{L}u = (a_{ij}u_i)_j = 0$, then

$$\dim(\{u = 0, |\nabla u| = 0\}) \leq n - 2; \quad \text{singular.}$$

- If u is a solution of the fourth order uniformly elliptic equation $\mathcal{L}^2 u = 0$, then

$$\dim(\{u = 0, \nabla u = 0\}) \leq n - 1, \quad \text{not singular.}$$

$$\dim(\{u = 0, \nabla u = 0, \nabla^2 u = 0, \nabla^3 u = 0\}) \leq n - 2, \quad \text{singular.}$$

- If u satisfies the equation $\mathcal{L}u = 0$, then

$$\|u\|_{L^2(B_r(x_0))} \leq 2^{CN(x_0, r) + C} \|u\|_{L^2(B_{r/2}(x_0))},$$

where $N(x_0, r)$ is the frequency function of u centered at x_0 with radius r ;

- If u is a solution of the fourth order uniformly elliptic equation $\mathcal{L}^2 u = 0$, then it is hard to find a suitable quantity to describe the above doubling condition.

Let u satisfy the equation

$$\mathcal{L}^2 u = 0, \quad (1)$$

where

$$\mathcal{L}w = (a_{ij}w_i)_j$$

is a linear elliptic operator of second order in principal part. Also assume that

$$\begin{cases} \Lambda^{-1}|\xi|^2 \leq a_{ij}\xi_i\xi_j \leq \Lambda|\xi|^2, \quad \forall \xi \in \mathbb{R}^n, \\ \|a_{ij}\|_{C^4} \leq K. \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

Theorem (T - X. P. Yang)

Let u be a solution of (1) in $B_1(0)$ and satisfy (2). Assume that

$$\|u\|_{L^2(B_r(x_0))} \leq 2^N \|u\|_{L^2(B_r(x_0))}, \quad (3)$$

for any $B_r(x_0) \subseteq B_1(0)$. If $N > 0$ large enough, then

$$\mathcal{H}^{n-1} \{x \in B_{1/2}(0) : u(x) = 0\} \leq (CN)^{CN}, \quad (4)$$

where C is a positive constant depending on n , Λ and K .

Nodal sets comparison lemmas

Lemma (R. Hardt, L. Simon, 1989)

There exists a positive constant $\eta_0 < 1/2$ such that for any $\eta \in (0, \eta_0)$ and $w_1, w_2 \in C^{1,1/2}(B_2(0))$, if $\|w_1\|_{C^{1,1/2}}, \|w_2\|_{C^{1,1/2}} \leq 1$ and $\|w_1 - w_2\|_{C^1} \leq \eta^5/8$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathcal{H}^{n-1} \left(B_{2-\eta}(0) \cap \{w_1 = 0, |\nabla w_1| \geq \eta\} \right) \\ & \leq (1 + c \sqrt{\eta}) \mathcal{H}^{n-1} \left(B_2(0) \cap \{w_2 = 0, |\nabla w_2| \geq \eta/2\} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Here c is a positive constant depending only on n .

Lemma

There exists a positive constant $\eta_0 < 1/2$ such that for any $\eta \in (0, \eta_0)$ and $w_1 \in C^{2,1/2}(B_2(0))$, if

$$\begin{cases} \|w_1\|_{C^{2,1/2}}, \|w_2\|_{C^{2,1/2}} \leq 1, \\ \|w_1 - w_2\|_{C^2} \leq \eta^5/8, \end{cases}$$

where w_2 is a polynomial of degree d , then

$$\mathcal{H}^{n-1}(B_{2-\eta}(0) \cap \{w_1 = 0, |\nabla w_1| \leq \kappa\eta^5, |\nabla^2 w_1| \geq \eta\}) \leq Cd,$$

where η_0 , C and κ are positive constants depending only on n .

Sketch of the proof:

- Step 1. Let $S = \{w_1 = 0, |\nabla w_1| \leq \kappa\eta^5, |\nabla^2 w_1| \geq \eta\}$. Let ν_j be the direct such that

$$|\nabla_{\nu_j \nu_j} w_j(y)| = \max_{\nu \in \partial B_1} |\nabla_{\nu \nu} w_j(y)|, \quad j = 1, 2,$$

such that $\nu_1 \cdot \nu_2 \geq 0$. For $x^* \in S$, there are at most two nodal surfaces of w_1 between the two hyperplanes $\{x_n = x_n^* \pm \eta^4\}$ in the ball $B_{\eta^3}(x^*)$. We use $\Psi_{x^*}^k(y)$ to denote them.

- Step 2. We also find that in $B_{\eta^3}(x^*)$, there exists a nodal surface $\nabla_{\nu_1} w_2$.

- Step 3. Let C be the collection of orthonormal bases of \mathbb{R}^n such that for any unit director ν of \mathbb{R}^n , there exists an orthonormal basis $\{\tau_1, \dots, \tau_n\}$, such that $|\nu - \tau_j| \leq c$ for some $j = 1, \dots, n$, where c is a positive constant depending only on n to be chosen.
- Step 4. Through some calculation, there exists $\Phi_x \in C^1(T_x \cap B_{\eta^3}(x))$, such that

$$B_{\eta^3}(x) \cap \text{graph}_{T_x} \Phi_x \subseteq \left\{ \nabla_{\tau_{j_0}} w_2 = 0 \right\} \cap B_{\eta^3}(x),$$

where τ_{j_0} is a direct of one of the basis contained in C .
 Moreover,

$$|\nabla \Phi_x(y) - \nabla \Psi_x^k(y)| \leq C, \quad y \in B_{\eta^3}(x), \quad k = 1, 2.$$

- Step 5. Let S be the nodal set of w_1 . Let $\{\phi_j\}_{j=1}^D$ be a partition of unity for $S_1 \cap B_{2-\eta}(0)$, such that

$$\text{supp}\phi_j \subseteq B_{\eta^3}(x_j), \quad \phi_j \geq c^{-1} \quad \text{on} \quad B_{\eta^3/2}(x_j), \quad |\nabla\phi_j| \leq c/\eta^3,$$

where the balls $\{B_{\eta^3/2}(x_j)\}$ cover $S \cap B_{2-\eta}(0)$, and $\{B_{\eta^3/4}(0)\}$ are pairwise-disjoint. Also define

$$\begin{cases} F_j^k(y) = \phi_j(y + \Psi_{x_j}^k(y)\nu_1(x_j)) \sqrt{1 + |\nabla\Psi_{x_j}^k(y)|^2}, \\ G_j(y) = \phi_j(y + \Phi_{x_j}(y)\nu_1(x_j)) \sqrt{1 + |\nabla\Phi_{x_j}(y)|^2}, \end{cases}$$

for $j = 1, \dots, D$ and $k = 1, 2$.

• Step 6. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{H}^{n-1}(S \cap B_{2-\eta}(0)) &\leq \sum_{j=1}^D \sum_{k=1}^2 \int_{T_{x_j} \cap B_{\eta^3}(x_j)} F_j^k(y) dy \\
 &\leq 2 \sum_{j=1}^D \int_{T_{x_j} \cap B_{\eta^3}(x_j)} G_j(y) dy + \sum_{j=1}^D \sum_{k=1}^2 \int_{T_{x_j} \cap B_{\eta^3}(x_j)} (F_j^k - G_j)(y) dy \\
 &\leq C \sum_{\{\tau_j\} \in \mathcal{C}} \sum_{j=1}^n \mathcal{H}^{n-1}(B_2 \cap \{\nabla_{\tau_j} w_2 = 0\}) \\
 &+ \sum_{j=1}^D \sum_{k=1}^2 \int_{T_{x_j} \cap B_{\eta^3}(x_j)} (F_j^k - G_j)(y) dy \leq Cd.
 \end{aligned}$$

Lemma

There exists a positive constant $\eta_0 < 1/2$ depending only on n such that for any $\eta \in (0, \eta_0)$, any $w_1 \in C^{3,1/2}$ and any polynomial w_2 of degree d , with

$$\begin{cases} \|w_1\|_{C^{3,1/2}}, \|w_2\|_{C^{3,1/2}} \leq 1, \\ \|w_1 - w_2\|_{C^3} \leq \eta^5/8. \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\mathcal{H}^{n-1} \left(B_{2-\eta}(0) \cap \{w_1 = 0, |\nabla w_1| \leq \kappa \eta^9, |\nabla^2 w_1| \leq \kappa \eta^5, |\nabla^3 w_1| \geq \eta\} \right) \leq Cd.$$

Here η_0 , C and κ are positive constants depending only on n .

Two other preparations

- Approximate u by a bi-harmonic function.

Lemma

Let $a_{ij}(0) = \delta_{ij}$, $|a_{ij}(x) - a_{ij}(0)| \leq \epsilon^{2N}$ for $\rho < 1$, $y \in B_1(0)$ such that $B_\rho(y) \subseteq B_1(0)$, and $\mathcal{L}^2 u = 0$ on $B_1(0)$ satisfies the assumption (3). Then there exist $\epsilon_0 > 0$ depending only on n and bi-harmonic polynomial ϕ_B of degree $2N + 3$ such that

$$|u_B - \phi_B|_{C^3(B_2(0))} \leq (c\epsilon)^N,$$

where $u_B(x) = (\|u\|_{L^2(B)})^{-1} u(y + \rho x)$, $B = B_\rho(y) \subseteq B_1(0)$, and c is a positive constant depending only on n .

- Quantitative estimate for the volume of the neighborhood to the singular set of u .

Lemma

Let ϕ be a d degree bi-harmonic polynomial with $d \geq 3$. Assume that $\sup_{B_1} |\phi(x) - \phi(0)| = 1$. Also assume that $|\nabla\phi(0)|$, $|\nabla^2\phi(0)|$, $|\nabla^3\phi(0)|$ are less than or equal to $(\theta\epsilon)^{d-1}$, $(\theta\epsilon)^{d-2}$, $(\theta\epsilon)^{d-3}$, respectively. Then there exist positive constants θ and ϵ_0 depending only on n , such that for any $\epsilon \in (0, \epsilon_0)$,

$$\mathcal{H}^n \left(\left\{ x \in B_1(0) \mid \text{dist}(x, \{ |\nabla^3\phi| \leq (\theta\epsilon)^{d-3} \}) < \epsilon \right\} \right) \leq Cd^{2n+2} \epsilon^2 \log \epsilon^{-1},$$

where C is also a positive constant depending only on n .

The sketch of the measure estimates of nodal sets

The idea of the proof of the measure estimates of nodal sets.

- Step 1. Assume that $|a_{ij}(x) - a_{ij}(0)| \leq \epsilon^{2N}$ in $B_1(0)$, and $a_{ij}(0) = \delta_{ij}$, where ϵ is a positive constant to be chosen. Let $\eta = \epsilon^{N/9}/2$.
- Step 2. From the above lemmas, we have

$$\mathcal{H}^{n-1} \left\{ u_B^{-1}(0) \cap B_1 \cap \{ |\nabla^3 u_B| \geq \eta/2 \} \right\} \leq c(2N + 3),$$

where $B = B_\rho(y)$ and $y \in u^{-1}(0) \cap B_1(0)$.

- Step 3. Let $Q_0 = \{B_1(0)\}$. Assume that $Q_j, j = 0, 1, \dots, l-1$ are already defined such that each ball in the collection Q_j is centered in $B_1 \cap u^{-1}(0)$ with radius ϵ^{j-1} , such that

$$B_1(0) \cap |\nabla^3 u|^{-1}(0) \cap u^{-1}(0) \subseteq \cup_{Q_i} B, \quad i = 0, \dots, l-1.$$

For each $B \in Q_{l-1}$, cover $u^{-1}(0) \cap B$ with a collection Q_l^B of balls with centers in $u^{-1}(0) \cap B_1(0)$ and radius ϵ^{l-1} such that the balls of the same centers and $1/2$ radius are pairwise disjoint. Let $Q_l = \cup_{B \in Q_{l-1}} Q_l^B$.

- Step 4. Then by the dilation and iteration,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{H}^{n-1}\{u^{-1}(0) \cap B_1\} &\leq c(2N+3) \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} (c(2N+3)^{2n+2} \epsilon \log \epsilon^{-1})^{l-1} \\ &\leq c(2N+3),\end{aligned}$$

if we choose $\epsilon > 0$ small enough such that

$$c(2N+3)^{2n+2} \epsilon \log \epsilon^{-1} < 1/2.$$

- Step 5. Choose $\epsilon = c(2N+3)^{-(4n+4)}$, $\rho_0 = c\epsilon^{2N}$, we have

$$\mathcal{H}^{n-1}\{x \in B_{\rho_0}(0) \mid u = 0\} \leq c(2N+3)\rho_0^{n-1},$$

and then

$$\mathcal{H}^{n-1}\{x \in B_{1/2}(0) \mid u = 0\} \leq c(2N+3)\rho_0^{n-1} \frac{C}{\rho_0^n} \leq (CN)^{CN},$$

provided that N is large enough.

Eigenvalue problem 1

$$(\mathcal{L} + \lambda)^2 u = 0 \quad \text{in } B_1(0), \quad (5)$$

where \mathcal{L} is the second order uniformly elliptic operator of divergence form as before.

Theorem (T - X. P. Yang)

Let u satisfy (5) in $B_1(0)$. Then for $\lambda > 0$ large enough,

$$\mathcal{H}^{n-1}(x \in B_{1/2}(0) : u(x) = 0) \leq (C\lambda)^{C\sqrt{\lambda}}, \quad (6)$$

where C is a positive constant depending on n , K and Λ .

The doubling condition

Lemma

Let u be a solution of (5). Then for any $r < r_0 / \sqrt{\lambda}$ with $B_r(x_0) \subseteq B_1(0)$ and $\lambda > 0$ large enough,

$$\|u\|_{L^2(B_r(x_0))} \leq 2^C \sqrt{\lambda} \|u\|_{L^2(B_{r/2}(x_0))},$$

where C and r_0 are positive constant depending on n , K and Λ .

Sketch of the proof.

- Step 1.

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{L}u + \lambda u = v, \\ \mathcal{L}v + \lambda v = 0. \end{cases}$$

Since v is an eigenfunction of \mathcal{L} ,

$$\|v\|_{L^2(B_r)(x_0)} \leq 2^{C\sqrt{\lambda}} \|v\|_{L^2(B_{r/2}(x_0))},$$

provided that $r \leq r_0$ and $B_r(x_0) \subseteq B_1(0)$.

- Step 2.

Through some interior estimates, for any $r \leq r_0/\sqrt{\lambda}$,

$$\|v\|_{L^2(B_{r/2}(x_0))} \leq \frac{C}{r^2} \|u\|_{L^2(B_r(x_0))}.$$

- Step 3.

For a given $B_r(x_0)$, let u_1 and u_2 satisfy the following two equations respectively.

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{L}u_1 + \lambda u_1 = 0 & \text{in } B_r(x_0), & u_1 = u & \text{on } \partial B_r(x_0), \\ \mathcal{L}u_2 + \lambda u_2 = v & \text{in } B_r(x_0), & u_2 = 0 & \text{on } \partial B_r(x_0). \end{cases}$$

Since u_2 satisfies the homogeneous Dirichlet boundary condition,

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_2\|_{L^2(B_r(x_0))} &\leq Cr^2 \|v\|_{L^2(B_r(x_0))} \leq Cr^2 2^{C\sqrt{\lambda}} \|v\|_{L^2(B_{r/4}(x_0))} \\ &\leq Cr^2 2^{C\sqrt{\lambda}} \frac{C}{r^2} \|u\|_{L^2(B_{r/2}(x_0))} \\ &\leq 2^{C\sqrt{\lambda}} \|u\|_{L^2(B_{r/2}(x_0))}. \end{aligned}$$

- Step 4.

Since u_1 is an eigenfunction of \mathcal{L} ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|u_1\|_{L^2(B_r(x_0))} &\leq 2^C \sqrt{\lambda} \|u_1\|_{L^2(B_{r/2}(x_0))} \\
 &\leq C 2^C \sqrt{\lambda} \left(\|u\|_{L^2(B_{r/2}(x_0))} + \|u_2\|_{L^2(B_r(x_0))} \right) \\
 &\leq C 2^C \sqrt{\lambda} \left(\|u\|_{L^2(B_{r/2}(x_0))} + 2^C \sqrt{\lambda} \|u\|_{L^2(B_{r/2}(x_0))} \right) \\
 &\leq 2^C \sqrt{\lambda} \|u\|_{L^2(B_{r/2}(x_0))}.
 \end{aligned}$$

- Step 5.

Then from the above calculation,

$$\|u\|_{L^2(B_r(x_0))} \leq C \left(\|u_1\|_{L^2(B_r(x_0))} + \|u_2\|_{L^2(B_r(x_0))} \right) \leq 2^C \sqrt{\lambda} \|u\|_{L^2(B_{r/2}(x_0))}.$$

Some extensions

- Measure estimates of nodal sets of solutions to the equation

$$(\Delta + \lambda)^2 u = 0,$$

on a C^∞ bounded compact manifold without boundary.

- For the following equations, the same method can also be used.

$$1. \quad (\mathcal{L} + \lambda_1)(\mathcal{L} + \lambda_2)u = 0;$$

$$2. \quad (\mathcal{L}_1 + \lambda_1)(\mathcal{L}_2 + \lambda_2)u = 0;$$

$$3. \quad \mathcal{L}w = (a_{ij}w_i)_j + b_iw_i + cw.$$

Eigenvalue problem 2

$$\mathcal{L}^2 u = \lambda^2 u \text{ in } \Omega, \quad (7)$$

where $\Omega \in C^2$. Also assume that one of the boundary condition is

$$a(\mathcal{L}u + \lambda u) + (\mathcal{L}u + \lambda u)_\nu = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega. \quad (8)$$

Theorem (T - X. P. Yang)

Let u be a solution of (7) in a bounded connected domain $\Omega \in C^2$ with (8) as one of its boundary condition. Then for $\lambda > 0$ large enough,

$$\mathcal{H}^{n-1}(x \in \Omega' : u(x) = 0) \leq (C\lambda)^{C\sqrt{\lambda}}, \quad (9)$$

where $\Omega' = \{x \in \Omega : \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega) > c/\sqrt{\lambda}\}$, C and c are positive constants depending only on n, K, Λ, a and Ω .

The doubling condition

Lemma

Let u be a solution of (7) and (8) is one of its boundary condition. Then for any $r < r_0 / \sqrt{\lambda}$ with $B_r(x_0) \subseteq \Omega$ and $\lambda > 0$ large enough,

$$\|u\|_{L^2(B_r(x_0))} \leq 2^{C(\sqrt{\lambda} + M(x_0, r))} \|u\|_{L^2(B_{r/2}(x_0))},$$

where C and r_0 are positive constant depending on n , K and Λ . Here $M(x_0, r)$ is the frequency function of $v = \mathcal{L}u + \lambda u$ defined as follows.

$$M(x_0, r) = r \frac{D(x_0, r)}{H(x_0, r)} = r \frac{\int_{B_r(x_0)} (a_{ij} v_i v_j + \lambda v^2) dx}{\int_{\partial B_r(x_0)} \mu v^2 d\omega},$$

where $\mu(x) = a_{ij} x_i x_j / |x|^2$.

The upper bound for $M(x_0, r)$

Lemma

Let v be a solution of the equation $\mathcal{L}v - \lambda v = 0$ in Ω with the boundary condition $av + v_\nu = 0$. Also assume that $\partial\Omega \in C^2$. Then for $0 < r < r_0$ and $B_r(x_0) \subseteq \Omega$,

$$M(x_0, r) \leq C,$$

where C and r_0 are positive constants depending on n, K, Λ, a and Ω .

Sketch of the proof.

- Step 1. Monotonicity formula.

$$\frac{M'(x_0, r)}{M(x_0, r)} \geq -C,$$

for $0 < r < r_0$.

- Step 2. Doubling condition for v .

For $0 < r_1 \leq \frac{r_2}{r} \leq r_2 \leq r_0$,

$$\|v\|_{L^2(B_{r_2}(x_0))} \leq \left(\frac{r_2}{r_1}\right)^{CM(x_0, r_2)+C} \|v\|_{L^2(B_{r_1}(x_0))},$$

$$\|v\|_{L^2(B_{r_2}(x_0))} \geq \left(\frac{r_2}{r_1}\right)^{C'M(x_0, r_1)-C'} \|v\|_{L^2(B_{r_1}(x_0))}.$$

- Step 3.

By the global estimate of v , we have

$$\|v\|_{W^{1,2}(\Omega)} \leq C\|v\|_{L^2(\Omega)}.$$

- Step 4.

From the global propagation of smallness,

$$\|v\|_{L^2(B_{r_0/\Gamma}(x_0))} \geq C.$$

Then the upper bound of $M(x_0, r)$ comes from the doubling condition for v .

Propagation of smallness

Lemma (G. Alessandrini et al., 2009)

Let v satisfies the equation $\mathcal{L}v = 0$. Then for any $B_{r_0}(x_0) \subseteq \Omega$,

$$\|v\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq \|v\|_{W^{1,2}(\Omega)} \frac{C}{\left(\log \left(\frac{\|v\|_{W^{1,2}(\Omega)}}{\|v\|_{L^2(B_{r_0}/\Gamma(x_0))}} \right) \right)^\sigma},$$

where σ and C are positive constant depending on $n, K, \Lambda, \Omega, \Gamma$ and r_0 .

Further Works

- Use Logunov's method to improve our results.
- Find a suitable quantity to describe the index of doubling condition for solution of the first equation (1).
- Find a method to give a global estimate of nodal sets for solutions of eigenvalue problems of the fourth order elliptic operator as in Section 3.
- Consider the corresponding Steklov problems and other higher order equations.

Thank you!