

**PRECONDITIONING C^1 -QUADRATIC SPLINE
COLLOCATION METHOD OF ELLIPTIC
EQUATIONS BY FINITE DIFFERENCE METHOD**

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ABSTRACT. We discuss a finite difference preconditioner for the C^1 Lagrange quadratic spline collocation method for a uniformly elliptic operator with homogeneous Dirichlet boundary conditions. Using the generalized field of values argument, we analyzed eigenvalues of the matrix preconditioned by the matrix corresponding to a finite difference operator with zero boundary condition.

1. Introduction

Let A be a uniformly elliptic invertible operator defined on the unit square $\Omega := I \times I$, where $I = [0, 1]$, of the form

$$(1.1) \quad Au := -\Delta u + a_0(x, y)u,$$

with homogeneous Dirichlet boundary condition, where the coefficient $a_0(x, y)$ is a nonnegative bounded continuous function. The orthogonal collocation method for differential equations was investigated by many authors (for example, see [1], [3], [11], and [12]) for a problem

$$(1.2) \quad Au = f$$

with various boundary conditions. The iterative line spline collocation method was reported in [5] where spectral radius of the Jacobi iteration matrix are studied and a spectrum for Hermite cubic spline collocation

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method is analyzed in [15]. For the orthogonal spline collocation method, fast direct solvers were developed in [1]. Also fast algorithms were reported for high-order spline collocation systems in [14]. By contrast with recent developments of fast direct solver, a preconditioning technique related to the usual finite difference method for a quadratic spline collocation method is considered here. The spline collocation method has a property such that the condition number of the matrix \hat{A}_{N^2} increases as a power of $1/h$ ($h = 1/N$). Thus it is necessary to bound for such condition numbers which are independent of the size of a preconditioned matrix, for the successful applications of the well known iterative methods such as damped Jacobi iterative method, GMRES(see [13]), Conjugate Gradient method and etc. In this sense, one can consider a preconditioning technique using finite difference method for C^1 -Lagrange quadratic polynomial spline collocation method, which is to find such a spline solution $u(x, y)$ which satisfies

$$Au(\xi_i, \xi_j) = f(\xi_i, \xi_j)$$

and boundary conditions, where the collocation points $\{(\xi_i, \xi_j)\}_{i,j=1}^N$ are chosen as the Legendre-Gauss[=:LG] points (see [3]). One may use Matlab(see [2]) for the construction of C^1 -quadratic spline to solve (1.2) easily. Let $\{A_{N^2}\}$ be the collocation discretization operator of A based on the C^1 -Lagrange quadratic polynomial spline space and the local LG points and \hat{A}_{N^2} be its matrix representation. For the C^1 -cubic spline collocation method, the uniform bounds of the condition numbers was investigated in [8] or [9], respectively. The multigrid and multilevel methods are studied for quadratic spline collocation method in [4]. We note that the exponential decay of C^1 -polynomial spline is important for the preconditioning theory by finite difference or element method(see [7]).

In the paper, we choose a preconditioning operator L of the form

$$(1.3) \quad Lv := -\Delta v \quad \text{in } \Omega, \quad v = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega.$$

Let L_{N^2} be the finite difference discretization of L using the local LG points to define the local rectangles and \hat{L}_{N^2} be its matrix representation of L_{N^2} .

The main result is to get a uniform bound for the eigenvalues of the preconditioned matrix $\hat{L}_{N^2}^{-1}\hat{A}_{N^2}$ for the Helmholtz operator A such that $Au = -\Delta u$. Such an estimate is important for the successful application of the damped Jacobi iteration. In Section 2, we collect some preliminary ideas, notations, etc. In Section 3, the $2D$ preconditioning problems are analyzed.

2. Gauss points, Spaces and Basis

Let $h = \frac{1}{N}$, where N is a nonzero positive integer. The knots are given by the points $x_i := ih (i = 0, 1, \dots, N)$ and the i^{th} -subinterval is denoted by $I_i := [x_{i-1}, x_i] (i = 1, 2, \dots, N)$. Let $\{\xi_i\}_{i=1}^N$ be the set of local LG points such that $\xi_i = x_{i-1} + \frac{h}{2}$. With $\xi_0 = 0$ and $\xi_{N+1} = 1$, define $S_{h,1}$ as the space of continuous piecewise linear functions on the unit interval whose restriction on each subinterval $[\xi_i, \xi_{i+1}] (i = 0, 1, \dots, N)$ is linear satisfying the zero boundary conditions. The basis functions for $S_{h,1}$ are given by the usual hat functions $\{\phi_k\}_{k=1}^N$ satisfying $\phi_k(\xi_l) = \delta_{k,l}$, $l = 0, 1, \dots, N+1$. The two dimensional space $S_{h^2,1}$ is defined by the tensor product of two one-dimensional spaces $S_{h,1}$. The basis functions $\{\Phi_\mu(x, y), \mu = 1, 2, \dots, N^2\}$ of $S_{h^2,1}$ are given by $\Phi_\mu(x, y) := \phi_k(x)\phi_l(y)$, $\mu = k + N(l - 1)$. Let $S_{h,2}$ be the space of C^1 functions whose restriction on each I_i is quadratic polynomial satisfying zero boundary conditions. In this paper, we use the C^1 Lagrange quadratic spline basis of $S_{h,2}$ which consists of the functions $\psi_i \in S_{h,2}$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$, satisfying $\psi_i(\xi_k) = \delta_{k,i}$, $0 \leq k \leq N+1$.

The two dimensional spaces $S_{h^2,2}$ is given as the tensor product of the appropriate one dimensional spaces, which has the basis functions $\{\Psi_\mu\}_{\mu=1}^{N^2}$, $\Psi_\mu(x, y) := \psi_i(x)\psi_j(y)$, $\mu = i + (j - 1)N$.

We define the $1D$ quadratic spline interpolant $I_N u$ of u as

$$I_N u(t) = \sum_{i=1}^N u_i \psi_i(t) \in S_{h,2} \text{ if } u(t) = \sum_{i=1}^N u_i \phi_i(t) \in S_{h,1}.$$

In a similar way, we can define a $2D$ quadratic spline interpolant I_{N^2} .

Define, for continuous functions u and v ,

$$\langle u, v \rangle_{N^2} = h^2 \sum_{\mu=1}^{N^2} u(\xi_i, \xi_j) v(\xi_i, \xi_j).$$

Note that A_{N^2} is the quadratic collocation operators mapping $S_{h^2,2}$ to itself corresponding to (1.1) with zero boundary condition. The quadratic spline collocation discretization A_{N^2} in the space $S_{h^2,2}$ with the basis $\{\Psi_\mu\}_{\mu=1}^{N^2}$ is determined by the following bilinear form

$$a_{N^2}(u, v) := \langle A_{N^2}u, v \rangle_{N^2}.$$

For any $u, v \in S_{h^2,2}$, we may have

$$u(x, y) = \sum_{\mu=1}^{N^2} u_\mu \Psi_\mu(x, y) \quad \text{and} \quad v(x, y) = \sum_{\mu=1}^{N^2} v_\mu \Psi_\mu(x, y).$$

Let $U = (u_1, \dots, u_{N^2})^\dagger$ and $V = (v_1, \dots, v_{N^2})^\dagger$. Then one can easily check that $a_{N^2}(u, v) = h^2 V^* \hat{A}_{N^2} U$, where \hat{A}_{N^2} is the corresponding matrix representation of A_{N^2} . We will denote $a_N \sim b_N$ if there are two positive constants α and β , independent of N , such that for all N , $0 < \alpha a_N < b_N < \beta a_N$. Let $\{u_i\}_{i=1}^N$ be such that $u_i := u(\xi_i)$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$, where ξ_i is the local LG points in I . Then the one dimensional second order central finite difference operator corresponding to $-u''$ is given by

$$[L_N u]_k := \frac{2}{h_k + h_{k-1}} \left\{ -\frac{u_{k+1}}{h_k} + \left(\frac{1}{h_k} + \frac{1}{h_{k-1}} \right) u_k - \frac{u_{k-1}}{h_{k-1}} \right\},$$

where $h_k := \xi_{k+1} - \xi_k$, ($k = 0, 1, \dots, N$).

3. Eigenvalue results

In this section we will compare the finite difference scheme defined in the space $S_{h^2,1}$ corresponding to

$$Lu := -(u_{xx} + u_{yy}) \quad \text{in } \Omega, \quad u = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega$$

with the usual Sobolev H^1 norm of u .

Let $\{u_\mu\}_{\mu=1}^{N^2}$ be such that

$$u_{k,l} = u_\mu := u(P_\mu), \quad P_\mu = (\xi_k, \xi_l), \quad \mu = k + (l-1)N,$$

where P_μ is the local LG points in Ω .

The finite difference operator L_{N^2} corresponding to L on $S_{h^2,1}$ can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} [L_{N^2}u]_{k,l} := & \frac{2}{h_k + h_{k-1}} \left\{ -\frac{u_{k+1,l}}{h_k} + \left(\frac{1}{h_k} + \frac{1}{h_{k-1}} \right) u_{k,l} - \frac{u_{k-1,l}}{h_{k-1}} \right\} \\ & + \frac{2}{h_l + h_{l-1}} \left\{ -\frac{u_{k,l+1}}{h_l} + \left(\frac{1}{h_l} + \frac{1}{h_{l-1}} \right) u_{k,l} - \frac{u_{k,l-1}}{h_{l-1}} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Define the bilinear form on $S_{h^2,1} \times S_{h^2,1}$ as

$$(3.1) \quad l_{N^2}(u, v) := h^2 \sum_{i,j=1}^N [L_{N^2}u]_{i,j} \bar{v}_{i,j},$$

where \bar{v} denotes the complex conjugate of v .

Let, for u_1 and u_2 in \mathbf{C} , define

$$\begin{aligned} f(u_1, u_2) &:= \frac{1}{h_0} u_1 \bar{v}_1 + \frac{1}{h_1} (u_2 - u_1) (\bar{v}_2 - \bar{v}_1) \\ g(u_1, u_2) &:= \frac{4}{3h_0} u_1 \bar{v}_1 + \frac{1}{h_1} (u_2 - u_1) (\bar{v}_2 - \frac{4}{3} \bar{v}_1). \end{aligned}$$

One can verify easily that

$$(3.2) \quad \begin{aligned} \operatorname{Re}(g(u_1, u_2)) &\sim f(u_1, u_2) \\ |\operatorname{Im}(g(u_1, u_2))| &\leq C f(u_1, u_2), \end{aligned}$$

where C is a positive constant.

Note that the bilinear form $l_{N^2}(u, v)$ defined in (3.1) can be written as, using the changes of indices and boundary conditions,

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{aligned} & \ell_{N^2}(u, v) \\ &= h \sum_{j=1}^N [g(u_{1,j}, u_{2,j}) + \sum_{i=2}^{N-2} \frac{(u_{i+1,j} - u_{i,j})(\bar{v}_{i+1,j} - \bar{v}_{i,j})}{h_i} \\ & \quad + g(-u_{N,j}, -u_{N-1,j})] \\ & \quad + h \sum_{i=1}^N [g(u_{i,1}, u_{i,2}) + \sum_{j=2}^{N-2} \frac{(u_{i,j+1} - u_{i,j})(\bar{v}_{i,j+1} - \bar{v}_{i,j})}{h_j} \\ & \quad + g(-u_{i,N}, -u_{i,N-1})]. \end{aligned}$$

For the continuity, we need a simple lemma.

LEMMA 3.1. *If f is a linear function on $[a, b]$, then there are positive numbers $C_i, i = 1, 2$, such that*

$$C_1 \int_a^b f(x)^2 dx \leq \frac{b-a}{2} \{f(a)^2 + f(b)^2\} \leq C_2 \int_a^b f(x)^2 dx.$$

Proof. Without loss of generality, we may assume $a = 0, b = h > 0, f(x) = \xi x + \eta$. It suffices to show that there are $C_i, i = 1, 2$ such that $C_1 B \leq A \leq C_2 B$, where

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \frac{h}{2} \{\eta^2 + (\xi h + \eta)^2\} = \frac{\xi^2}{2} h^3 + \xi \eta h^2 + \eta^2 h \\ B &= \frac{\xi^2}{3} h^3 + \xi \eta h^2 + \eta^2 h. \end{aligned}$$

By a simple comparison, the first inequality is obvious with $C_1 = 1$. For the second inequality, using the inequality $ab \leq \frac{1}{2\epsilon} a^2 + \frac{\epsilon}{2} b^2$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} C_2 B - A &= \left(\frac{C_2}{3} - \frac{1}{2}\right) \xi^2 h^3 + (C_2 - 1) \xi \eta h^2 + (C_2 - 1) \eta^2 h \\ &\geq \left(\frac{C_2}{3} - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{C_2 - 1}{2\epsilon}\right) \xi^2 h^3 + \left(C_2 - 1 - \frac{(C_2 - 1)\epsilon}{2}\right) \eta^2 h. \end{aligned}$$

We need to find $C_2 > 0$ with some positive $\epsilon > 0$ with

$$C_2 \left(\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{2\epsilon}\right) - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \geq 0 \text{ and } C_2 \left(1 - \frac{\epsilon}{2}\right) - 1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \geq 0.$$

Now it is easy to find $C_2 > 0$ with $\frac{3}{2} < \epsilon < 2$. □

PROPOSITION 3.2. *For $u, v \in S_{h^2, 1}$, there is a positive constant C_3 , independent of h , such that*

$$(3.4) \quad |\ell_{N^2}(u, v)| \leq C_3 \|u\|_1 \|v\|_1.$$

Proof. We have, from (3.3),

$$\begin{aligned}
& |\ell_{N^2}(u, v)| \\
& \leq h \sum_{j=1}^N [|g(u_{1,j}, u_{2,j})| + \sum_{i=2}^{N-2} \frac{|u_{i+1,j} - u_{i,j}| |\bar{v}_{i+1,j} - \bar{v}_{i,j}|}{h_i} \\
& \quad + |g(-u_{N,j}, -u_{N-1,j})|] \\
& + h \sum_{i=1}^N [|g(u_{i,1}, u_{i,2})| + \sum_{j=2}^{N-2} \frac{|u_{i,j+1} - u_{i,j}| |\bar{v}_{i,j+1} - \bar{v}_{i,j}|}{h_j} \\
& \quad + |g(-u_{i,N}, -u_{i,N-1})|].
\end{aligned}$$

By (3.2), we have $|g(u_1, u_2)| \leq Cf(u_1, u_2)$, where C is an absolute positive constant. Therefore, using the fact $u \in S_{h,1}$ and the boundary condition, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& |\ell_{N^2}(u, v)| \\
& \leq Ch \sum_{j=1}^N \left\{ \left(\sum_{i=0}^N \frac{1}{h_i} |u_{i+1,j} - u_{i,j}|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{i=0}^N \frac{1}{h_i} |\bar{v}_{i+1,j} - \bar{v}_{i,j}|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\} \\
& \quad + Ch \sum_{i=1}^N \left\{ \left(\sum_{j=0}^N \frac{1}{h_j} |u_{i,j+1} - u_{i,j}|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{j=0}^N \frac{1}{h_j} |\bar{v}_{i,j+1} - \bar{v}_{i,j}|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\} \\
& = Ch \sum_{j=1}^N \left(\sum_{i=0}^N \int_{\xi_i}^{\xi_{i+1}} |u_x(\cdot, \xi_j)|^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{i=0}^N \int_{\xi_i}^{\xi_{i+1}} |v_x(\cdot, \xi_j)|^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
& \quad + Ch \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\sum_{j=0}^N \int_{\xi_j}^{\xi_{j+1}} |u_y(\xi_i, \cdot)|^2 dy \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{j=0}^N \int_{\xi_j}^{\xi_{j+1}} |v_y(\xi_i, \cdot)|^2 dy \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
& = Ch \sum_{j=1}^N \left(\int_0^1 |u_x(\cdot, \xi_j)|^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_0^1 |v_x(\cdot, \xi_j)|^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
& \quad + Ch \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\int_0^1 |u_y(\xi_i, \cdot)|^2 dy \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_0^1 |v_y(\xi_i, \cdot)|^2 dy \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.
\end{aligned}$$

If we use Cauchy Schwarz inequality, the boundary condition, and Lemma

3.1, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
|\ell_{N^2}(u, v)| &\leq dh \left(\sum_{j=1}^N \int_0^1 |u_x(\cdot, \xi_j)|^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{j=1}^N \int_0^1 |v_x(\cdot, \xi_j)|^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
&\quad + dh \left(\sum_{i=1}^N \int_0^1 |u_y(\xi_i, \cdot)|^2 dy \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^N \int_0^1 |v_y(\xi_i, \cdot)|^2 dy \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
&\leq d \left(\int_0^1 \sum_{j=0}^N \frac{h}{2} [|u_x(\cdot, \xi_j)|^2 + |u_x(\cdot, \xi_{j+1})|^2] dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
&\quad \cdot \left(\int_0^1 \sum_{j=0}^N \frac{h}{2} [|v_x(\cdot, \xi_j)|^2 + |v_x(\cdot, \xi_{j+1})|^2] dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
&\quad + d \left(\int_0^1 \sum_{i=0}^N \frac{h}{2} [|u_y(\xi_i, \cdot)|^2 + |u_y(\xi_{i+1}, \cdot)|^2] dy \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
&\quad \cdot \left(\int_0^1 \sum_{i=0}^N \frac{h}{2} [|v_y(\xi_i, \cdot)|^2 + |v_y(\xi_{i+1}, \cdot)|^2] dy \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
&\leq C \left(\int_{\Omega} u_x^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_{\Omega} v_x^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + C \left(\int_{\Omega} u_y^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_{\Omega} v_y^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
&\leq C \left\{ \|u_x\|^2 + \|u_y\|^2 \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} \left\{ \|v_x\|^2 + \|v_y\|^2 \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
&\leq C_3 \|u\|_1 \|v\|_1,
\end{aligned}$$

where C_3 is a constant. □

PROPOSITION 3.3. *For $u \in S_{h^2,1}$, there is a positive constant C_4 , independent of h , such that*

$$(3.5) \quad |\operatorname{Re}(\ell_{N^2}(u, u))| \geq C_4 \|u\|_1^2.$$

Proof. We have, from (3.3),

$$\begin{aligned}
&|\operatorname{Re}(\ell_{N^2}(u, u))| \\
&= h \sum_{j=1}^N \left[|g(u_{1,j}, u_{2,j})| + \sum_{i=2}^{N-2} \frac{|u_{i+1,j} - u_{i,j}|^2}{h_i} + |g(-u_{N,j}, -u_{N-1,j})| \right]
\end{aligned}$$

$$+h \sum_{i=1}^N \left[|g(u_{i,1}, u_{i,2})| + \sum_{j=2}^{N-2} \frac{|u_{i,j+1} - u_{i,j}|^2}{h_j} + |g(-u_{i,N}, -u_{i,N-1})| \right].$$

By (3.2), we have $\text{Reg}(u_1, u_2) \geq cf(u_1, u_2)$, where c is an absolute positive constant. Therefore, using the fact $u_x(\cdot, \xi_j)$ and $u_y(\xi_i, \cdot)$ are piecewise constants, and the boundary condition and Lemma 3.1, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |\text{Re}(\ell_{N^2}(u, u))| \\ & \geq ch \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{i=0}^N \frac{1}{h_i} |u_{i+1,j} - u_{i,j}|^2 + ch \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=0}^N \frac{1}{h_j} |u_{i,j+1} - u_{i,j}|^2 \\ & = ch \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{i=0}^N \int_{\xi_i}^{\xi_{i+1}} |u_x(\cdot, \xi_j)|^2 dx + ch \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=0}^N \int_{\xi_j}^{\xi_{j+1}} |u_y(\xi_i, \cdot)|^2 dy \\ & = ch \sum_{j=1}^N \int_0^1 |u_x(\cdot, \xi_j)|^2 dx + ch \sum_{i=1}^N \int_0^1 |u_y(\xi_i, \cdot)|^2 dy \\ & \geq c \int_0^1 \sum_{j=0}^N \frac{h_j}{2} \left[|u_x(\cdot, \xi_j)|^2 + |u_x(\cdot, \xi_{j+1})|^2 \right] dx \\ & \quad + c \int_0^1 \sum_{i=0}^N \frac{h_i}{2} \left[|u_y(\xi_i, \cdot)|^2 + |u_y(\xi_{i+1}, \cdot)|^2 \right] dy \\ & \geq c \int_{\Omega} u_x^2 + c \int_{\Omega} u_y^2 = C \left[\|u_x\|^2 + \|u_y\|^2 \right] = C \|\nabla u\|^2, \end{aligned}$$

where C is a constant. So, by Poincaré inequality, we have the Proposition. \square

From Proposition 3.2, there exists also a positive constant C_5 , independent of h , such that $|\ell_{N^2}(u, u)| \leq C_5 \|u\|_1^2$. We can show the following lemma by using the arguments of [10, Theorem 3.2]

LEMMA 3.4. *Let $u = p + iq$, where the real functions p and q are in $S_{h^2,1}$. Then there are positive constants c and C such that*

$$c \|u\|_1^2 \leq \langle -\Delta(I_{N^2}u), I_{N^2}u \rangle_{N^2} \leq C \|u\|_1^2,$$

$$\|I_{N^2}u\|_{N^2} \sim \|u\|_{L^2},$$

and

$$|\langle (I_{N^2}u)_t, (I_{N^2}v) \rangle_{N^2}| \leq \|u_t\|_{L^2} \|v\|_{L^2}.$$

Proof. It can be easily verified following the real case in [6]. \square

From now on, we will show the eigenvalue analysis for the preconditioned system $L_{N^2}^{-1}A_{N^2}$.

THEOREM 3.5. *Let $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_{N^2}$ be the eigenvalues of $\hat{L}_{N^2}^{-1}\hat{A}_{N^2}$, then*

$$\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_k) \geq C_6 > 0,$$

and

$$|\lambda_k| \leq C_7 < \infty$$

for all $k = 1, 2, \dots, N^2$.

Proof. For a nonzero complex vector $U = (u_1, \dots, u_{N^2})^t$, First note that $(\hat{L}_{N^2}U, U)$ is complex and $(\hat{A}_{N^2}U, U)$ is real. Furthermore we have two positive constants C'_6 and C'_7 , independent of N , such that

$$C'_6 \|u\|_1^2 \leq a_{N^2}(I_{N^2}U, I_{N^2}U) = h^2 U^* \hat{A}_{N^2} U \leq C'_7 \|u\|_1^2.$$

and

$$\frac{(\hat{A}_{N^2}U, U)}{(\hat{L}_{N^2}U, U)} = a_{N^2}(I_{N^2}u, I_{N^2}u) \frac{\operatorname{Re}(\ell_{N^2}(u, u)) - i\operatorname{Im}(\ell_{N^2}(u, u))}{|\ell_{N^2}(u, u)|^2}.$$

Thus

$$(3.6) \quad \operatorname{Re} \left(\frac{(\hat{A}_{N^2}U, U)}{(\hat{L}_{N^2}U, U)} \right) = a_{N^2}(I_{N^2}u, I_{N^2}u) \frac{\operatorname{Re}(\ell_{N^2}(u, u))}{|\ell_{N^2}(u, u)|^2} \geq \frac{C'_6 C_4}{C_5^2} := C_6$$

and

$$(3.7) \quad \left| \frac{(\hat{A}_{N^2}U, U)}{(\hat{L}_{N^2}U, U)} \right| \leq \frac{a_{N^2}(I_{N^2}u, I_{N^2}u)}{\operatorname{Re}(\ell_{N^2}(u, u))} \leq \frac{C'_7}{C_4} := C_7.$$

Let (λ_k, U_k) be an eigen-pair of $\hat{L}_{N^2}^{-1}\hat{A}_{N^2}$ so that

$$\hat{A}_{N^2}U_k = \lambda_k \hat{L}_{N^2}U_k$$

and

$$\lambda_k = \frac{(\hat{A}_{N^2}U_k, U_k)}{(\hat{L}_{N^2}U_k, U_k)}.$$

Then the conclusion follows from (3.6) and (3.7). \square

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