

# Harmonic oscillators with Neumann condition on the half-line

Virginie Bonnaillie-Noël

# ▶ To cite this version:

Virginie Bonnaillie-Noël. Harmonic oscillators with Neumann condition on the half-line. 2008. hal- $00267803 \mathrm{v1}$ 

# HAL Id: hal-00267803 https://hal.science/hal-00267803v1

Preprint submitted on 28 Mar 2008 (v1), last revised 4 Nov 2010 (v2)

**HAL** is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers. L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.

# Numerical estimates of characteristic parameters $\Theta_0$ and $\Phi(0)$ for superconductivity

V. Bonnaillie-Noël\*

December 6, 2007

#### Abstract

This paper is devoted to the computation of the bottom  $\Theta_0$  of the spectrum for the Neumann realization of the Schrödinger operator with constant magnetic field in the half-plane. We propose an algorithm to determine  $\Theta_0$  and we estimate the accuracy of these computations.

## **1** Introduction

Before motivating our analysis, we first define the parameters  $\Theta_0$  and  $\Phi(0)$ . We consider the operator  $-d/dt^2 + (t-\zeta)^2$  on  $(0, +\infty)$ . Its Friedrichs extension from  $C_0^{\infty}([0, +\infty))$  is denoted by  $H(\zeta)$  and defined on

$$\mathcal{D} = \{ u \in H^2(0, +\infty) | \ t^2 u \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^+) \text{ and } u'(0) = 0 \}.$$

We denote by  $\mu_k(\zeta)$  the k-th eigenvalue of this operator arranged in the ascending order with the multiplicity taken into account. The behavior of the first eigenvalue is well known (see, for example, [10]):

**Proposition 1.1.** There exists  $\zeta_0 > 0$  such that  $\mu_1$  is strictly decreasing from  $(-\infty, \zeta_0)$  onto  $(+\infty, \Theta_0)$ and strictly increasing from  $[\zeta_0, +\infty)$  onto  $[\Theta_0, +\infty)$ . Furthermore, if  $\Phi$  denotes a normalized eigenvector associated with  $\mu_1(\zeta_0)$ , then

$$\int_0^\infty (|\Phi'(t)|^2 + (t - \zeta_0)^2 |\Phi(t)|^2) dt = \Theta_0, \qquad \int_0^\infty (t - \zeta_0) |\Phi(t)|^2 dt = 0,$$
$$|\Phi(0)|^2 = \frac{\mu_1''(\zeta_0)}{2\zeta_0}, \qquad \Theta_0 = \zeta_0^2.$$

These parameters  $\Theta_0$  and  $\Phi(0)$  appear naturally when we analyze the emergence of the superconductivity. We state in Section 2 some results concerning the localization of the superconductivity based. This analysis is based on those of the low-lying eigenmodes for the Schrödinger operator with magnetic field (see [7, 8] and Propositions 2.2, 2.3, 2.4). Motivated by the fact the  $\Theta_0$  and  $\Phi(0)$  appear repeatingly in the analysis of superconductivity (see Propositions 2.1, 2.5), we aim to construct quasi-mode to approximate the eigenfunction  $\Phi$ . Its energy would be an approximation of  $\Theta_0$ . Before dealing with this construction,

<sup>\*</sup>IRMAR, ENS Cachan Bretagne, Univ. Rennes 1, CNRS, UEB, av Robert Schuman, F-35170 Bruz, France, virginie.bonnaillie@bretagne.ens-cachan.fr

Section 3 is devoted to error estimates on eigenmodes: Theorem 3.1 quantifies the gap between the eigenvalue  $\Theta_0$  and the energy associated with a quasi-mode for the operator  $H(\zeta)$ . In Theorem 3.2, we prove  $H^1$ -estimate between the normalized eigenfunction  $\Phi$  associated with  $\Theta_0$  for the operator  $H(\zeta_0)$  and a normalized quasi-mode for  $H(\zeta)$ . We deduce in Theorem 3.4 a local estimate of  $\Phi(0)$ . In Section 4, we construct an adequate quasi-mode combining the finite difference method and analysis of the ODE theory for the differential equations depending on parameters. We implement this method in Subsection 4.5 and obtain an accurate approximation of  $\Theta_0$  and  $\Phi(0)$ :

#### Theorem 1.2.

 $|\Theta_0 - 0.590106122| \le 2 \times 10^{-9}$  and  $|\Phi(0) - 0.8730| \le 10^{-4}$ .

From a numerical point of view, we also mention papers [4, 3] which deal with the numerical computations for the bottom of the spectrum of  $d^2/dt^2 + (t - \zeta)^2$  on a symmetric interval using a finite difference method.

## 2 Motivation

To highlight how is important to compute accurately these parameters  $\Theta_0$  and  $\Phi(0)$ , we recall some results about superconductivity modelled by Ginzburg-Landau theory. It is well-known that superconductors of type II lose their superconducting property when submitted to a sufficiently strong external magnetic field. This transition takes place for a value  $H_{C_3}^{-1}$  of the field which appears as a function of a material-dependent parameter  $\kappa$ . We recall here results about the calculation of this critical field for large values of  $\kappa$  in two situations: smooth domains and domains with corners.

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  be a bounded simply-connected domain with Lipschitz boundary. The Ginzburg-Landau functional reads

$$\mathcal{E}_{\kappa,H}[\psi,\mathcal{A}] = \int_{\Omega} \left\{ |(-i\nabla - \kappa H\mathcal{A})\psi|^2 - \kappa^2 |\psi|^2 + \frac{\kappa^2}{2} |\psi|^4 \right\} dx + \kappa^2 H^2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} |\operatorname{curl} \mathcal{A} - 1|^2 dx ,$$

with  $(\psi, \mathcal{A}) \in W^{1,2}(\Omega; \mathbb{C}) \times \{\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}_0 + \tilde{\mathcal{A}} \text{ with } \tilde{\mathcal{A}} \in \dot{H}^1(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R}^2), \text{div } \tilde{\mathcal{A}} = 0\}, \mathcal{A}_0(x) = 1/2(-x_2, x_1).$ We use the notation  $\dot{H}^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$  for the homogeneous Sobolev spaces. We define the critical field  $H_{C_3}$  as the value of H where the transition between the normal and superconducting state takes place:

$$H_{C_3}(\kappa) = \inf\{H > 0 : (0, \mathcal{A}_0) \text{ is a minimizer of } \mathcal{E}_{\kappa, H}\}$$

The calculation of this critical field  $H_{C_3}$  for large values of  $\kappa$  has been the focus of much activity (see [18, 2, 21, 22, 23, 19, 11, 12, 13]). In the recent works [11, 12, 13], the definition of  $H_{C_3}$  in the case of samples with smooth section has been clarified and the asymptotic is given by:

**Proposition 2.1.** [see [13]] Suppose  $\Omega$  is a bounded simply-connected domain in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with smooth boundary. Let  $\kappa_{max}$  be the maximal curvature of  $\partial\Omega$ . Then

$$H_{C_3}(\kappa) = \frac{\kappa}{\Theta_0} + \frac{C_1}{\Theta_0^{3/2}} \kappa_{max} + \mathcal{O}(\kappa^{-1/2}) \qquad \text{with} \qquad C_1 = \frac{\Phi^2(0)}{3}$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The first rigorous definition of the critical field  $H_{C_3}$  appeared in [22].

It was realized that the asymptotics of the critical field is completely determined by the linear eigenvalue problem. Indeed, if we denote by  $\mu^{(n)}(h)$  the *n*-th eigenvalue of the magnetic Neumann operator  $P_h = (-ih\nabla - A_0)^2$  defined on  $\mathcal{D}(P_h) = \{u \in H^2(\Omega) | \nu \cdot (-ih\nabla - A_0)u_{|\partial\Omega} = 0\}$ , then the asymptotics of  $\mu^{(n)}(h)$  was established by Fournais-Helffer in [12]:

**Proposition 2.2** (see [12]). Suppose that  $\Omega$  is a smooth bounded and simply connected domain of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , that the curvature  $\partial \Omega \ni s \mapsto \kappa(s)$  at the boundary has a unique maximum  $\kappa_{max}$  reached at  $s = s_0$  and that the maximum is non-degenerate, i. e.  $k_2 := -\kappa''(s_0) \neq 0$ . Then for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists a sequence  $\{\xi_i^{(n)}\}_{i=1}^{\infty} \subset \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\mu^{(n)}(h)$  admits the following asymptotic expansion (for  $h \to 0$ ):

$$\mu^{(n)}(h) \sim \Theta_0 h - \kappa_{max} C_1 h^{3/2} + C_1 \Theta_0^{1/4} \sqrt{\frac{3k_2}{2}} (2n-1)h^{7/4} + h^{15/8} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} h^{j/8} \xi_j^{(n)}.$$

To carry through an analysis of the critical field  $H_{C_3}$  in the case of domains with corners, a linear spectral problem, studied in depth in [5, 6, 7, 8], is usefull. Let us first give estimates for the Schrödinger operator in a model geometry: the infinite sector.

**Proposition 2.3** (see [6]). Let  $G^{\alpha}$  be the sector in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with opening  $\alpha$  and  $Q^{\alpha}$  be the Neumann realization of the Schrödinger operator  $-(\nabla - i\mathcal{A}_0)^2$  on  $G^{\alpha}$ . We denote by  $\mu_k(\alpha)$  the k-th smallest element of the spectrum given by the max-min principle. Then:

- 1. The infimum of the essential spectrum of  $Q^{\alpha}$  is equal to  $\Theta_0$ .
- 2. For all  $\alpha \in (0, \pi/2]$ ,  $\mu_1(\alpha) < \Theta_0$  and  $\mu_1(\pi) = \Theta_0$ .
- 3. Let  $\alpha \in (0, 2\pi)$ ,  $k \ge 1$  be such that  $\mu_k(\alpha) < \Theta_0$  and  $\Psi_k^{\alpha}$  an associated normalized eigenfunction. Then  $\Psi_k^{\alpha}$  satisfies the following exponential decay estimate:

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists C_{\varepsilon,\alpha} > 0, \ \| e^{(\sqrt{\Theta_0 - \mu_k(\alpha)} - \varepsilon)|x|} \Psi_k^{\alpha} \|_{L^2(G^{\alpha})} \le C_{\varepsilon,\alpha}.$$

Thanks to the model situation given by the analysis of the angular sector, we are able to determine the asymptotic expansion of the low-lying eigenmodes of the Schrödinger operator on curvilinear polygons:

**Proposition 2.4** (see [7]). Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded curvilinear polygon,  $\Sigma$  be the set of its vertices,  $\alpha_s$  be the angle at the vortex s. We denote by  $\Lambda_n$  the *n*-th eigenvalue of the model operator  $\bigoplus_{s \in \Sigma} Q^{\alpha_s}$ , and  $\mu^{(n)}(h)$  the *n*-th smallest eigenvalue of  $P_h$ . Let *n* be such that  $\Lambda_n < \Theta_0$ . There exists  $h_0 > 0$  and  $(m_j)_{j \ge 1}$  such that for any N > 0 and  $h \le h_0$ ,

$$\mu^{(n)}(h) = h\Lambda_n + h\sum_{j=1}^N m_j h^{j/2} + \mathcal{O}(h^{\frac{N+1}{2}}).$$

If  $\Omega$  is a bounded convex polygon, there exists  $r_n > 0$  and for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $C_{\varepsilon} > 0$  such that

$$\left|\mu^{(n)}(h) - h\Lambda_n\right| \leq C_{\varepsilon} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{h}}(r_n\sqrt{\Theta_0 - \Lambda_n - \varepsilon})\right).$$

For non constant magnetic field, the low-lying eigenvalues admit an asymptotic expansion in power of  $\sqrt{h}$ . These results highlight the importance of the localization of  $\mu_k(\alpha)$  according to  $\Theta_0$  and then of an accurate estimate of  $\Theta_0$ . It is also natural to wonder for each angle  $\alpha$  we have  $\mu_k(\alpha) < \Theta_0$ . It was conjectured

in [1, 8] that  $\mu_1$  is strictly increasing from  $(0, \pi)$  onto  $(0, \Theta_0)$  and is equal to  $\Theta_0$  on  $[\pi, 2\pi)$ . This conjecture is based on numerical computations and could be improved with an accurate estimate of  $\Theta_0$ .

As in the case of smooth domains, spectral informations produce results about the minimizers of the Ginzburg-Landau functional for domains with corners. We obtain in particular a complete asymptotics of  $H_{C_3}$  for large values of  $\kappa$  in terms of linear spectral data and precise estimates on the location of nucleation of superconductivity for magnetic field strengths just below the critical field:

**Proposition 2.5** (see [9]). Let  $\Omega$  be a curvilinear polygon and  $\Lambda_1 = \min_{s \in \Sigma} \mu_1(\alpha_s)$ . There exists a realvalued sequence  $\{\eta_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  such that

$$H_{C_3}(\kappa) = \frac{\kappa}{\Lambda_1} \left( 1 + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \eta_j \kappa^{-j} \right), \quad \text{for } \kappa \to +\infty.$$

Let  $\mu \in (\Lambda_1, \Theta_0)$  and define  $\Sigma' = \{ s \in \Sigma | \mu_1(\alpha) \leq \mu \}$ . There exist constants  $\kappa_0$ , M, C,  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that if  $\kappa \geq \kappa_0$ ,  $H/\kappa \geq \mu^{-1}$ , and  $(\psi, \mathcal{A})$  is a minimizer of  $\mathcal{E}_{\kappa,H}$ , then

$$\int_{\Omega} e^{\epsilon \sqrt{\kappa H} \operatorname{dist}(x,\Sigma')} \left( |\psi(x)|^2 + \frac{1}{\kappa H} |(\nabla - i\kappa H\mathcal{A})\psi(x)|^2 \right) dx \le C \int_{\{x:\sqrt{\kappa H} \operatorname{dist}(x,\Sigma') \le M\}} |\psi(x)|^2 \, dx.$$

This Agmon type estimate describes how superconductivity can nucleate successively in the corners, ordered according to their spectral parameter  $\mu_1(\alpha_s)$  seeing that  $\mu_1(\alpha_s) < \Theta_0$ . This reinforces the interest to compare precisely  $\mu_1(\alpha)$  and  $\Theta_0$ .

# 3 Error estimates on eigenmodes

This section concerns the analysis of the operator  $H(\zeta)$  and error estimates between  $\Theta_0$  and the energy associated with a quasi-mode for  $H(\zeta)$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $\zeta \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\varphi_{\zeta}$  be a normalized function of  $\mathcal{D}$ . We assume that

$$H(\zeta)\varphi_{\zeta} = \Theta_{\zeta}\varphi_{\zeta} + r_{\zeta} \quad \text{with} \quad \langle r_{\zeta},\varphi_{\zeta}\rangle = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad (\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}} + |\zeta - \zeta_0|)^2 \le \mu_2(\zeta_0).$$

*Then we can compare*  $\Theta_0$  *and*  $\Theta_{\zeta}$ *:* 

$$(\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}} - |\zeta - \zeta_0|)^2 - \frac{\left(\|r_{\zeta}\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^+)} + 2\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}}|\zeta - \zeta_0|\right)^2 + 12\Theta_{\zeta}(\zeta - \zeta_0)^2}{\mu_2(\zeta_0) - (\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}} + |\zeta - \zeta_0|)^2} \le \Theta_0 \le \Theta_{\zeta} .$$

*Proof.* The upper-bound is trivial: by assumptions, we have  $\Theta_{\zeta} = \langle H(\zeta)\varphi_{\zeta}, \varphi_{\zeta} \rangle$ . Since  $\mu_1(\zeta)$  is the bottom of the spectrum of  $H(\zeta)$  and is bounded from below by  $\Theta_0 = \mu_1(\zeta_0)$ , we deduce:

$$\Theta_{\zeta} \ge \mu_1(\zeta) \ge \mu_1(\zeta_0) = \Theta_0.$$

To prove the lower-bound, we bring to mind the Temple inequality (see [20], [15, Theorem 1.15]): Let A be self-adjoint and  $\Psi \in \mathcal{D}(A)$ ,  $\|\Psi\| = 1$ . Suppose that  $\lambda$  is the only eigenvalue of A in an interval  $(\alpha, \beta)$ . Let  $\eta = \langle \Psi, A\Psi \rangle$  and  $\varepsilon^2 = \|[A - \eta]\Psi\|^2$ . If  $\varepsilon^2 < (\beta - \eta)(\eta - \alpha)$ , then

$$\eta - \frac{\varepsilon^2}{\beta - \eta} \le \lambda \le \eta + \frac{\varepsilon^2}{\eta - \alpha}.$$
(1)

We apply this inequality with  $A = H(\zeta_0)$ ,  $\Psi = \varphi_{\zeta}$ . Since  $\Theta_0$  is the first eigenvalue for  $H(\zeta_0)$ , we can choose  $\alpha = -\infty$ ,  $\beta = \mu_2(\zeta_0)$ . We formulate  $H(\zeta_0)$  with  $H(\zeta)$ :

$$H(\zeta_0) = H(\zeta) + 2(\zeta - \zeta_0)(t - \zeta) + (\zeta - \zeta_0)^2.$$

Since  $\varphi_{\zeta}$  is normalized and  $\langle r_{\zeta}, \varphi_{\zeta} \rangle = 0$ , we obtain

$$\eta = \Theta_{\zeta} + 2(\zeta - \zeta_0) \int_{\mathbb{R}^+} (t - \zeta) |\varphi_{\zeta}(t)|^2 dt + (\zeta - \zeta_0)^2.$$

Cauchy-Schwarz inequality leads to

$$(\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}} - |\zeta - \zeta_0|)^2 \le \eta \le (\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}} + |\zeta - \zeta_0|)^2 .$$
<sup>(2)</sup>

The assumption  $\varepsilon^2 < (\beta - \eta)(\eta - \alpha)$  is then obviously fulfilled. Consider now  $\varepsilon^2$ . Using (2) and orthogonality relation  $\langle r_{\zeta}, \varphi_{\zeta} \rangle = 0$ , we get

$$\varepsilon^{2} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^{+}} \left| r_{\zeta}(t) + 2(\zeta - \zeta_{0})(t - \zeta)\varphi_{\zeta}(t) + \left[ (\zeta - \zeta_{0})^{2} + (\Theta_{\zeta} - \eta) \right] \varphi_{\zeta}(t) \right|^{2} dt$$

$$\leq \left( \| r_{\zeta} \|_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})} + 2\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}} |\zeta - \zeta_{0}| \right)^{2} + 12\Theta_{\zeta} |\zeta - \zeta_{0}|^{2}.$$
(3)

Temple inequality (1) gives

$$\eta - \frac{\varepsilon^2}{\mu_2(\zeta_0) - \eta} \le \mu_1(\zeta_0) \le \eta \; .$$

Combining this last lower-bound of  $\Theta_0 = \mu_1(\zeta_0)$  with the upper-bound (3) of  $\varepsilon^2$  and the lower-bound (2) of  $\eta$  achieves the proof.

Let us now prove an estimate on the eigenfunction.

**Theorem 3.2.** Let  $\zeta \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\varphi_{\zeta}$  be normalized in  $\mathcal{D}$ . We assume that

 $H(\zeta)\varphi_{\zeta} = \Theta_{\zeta}\varphi_{\zeta} + r_{\zeta} \quad \text{with} \quad \langle r_{\zeta},\varphi_{\zeta}\rangle = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad (\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}} + |\zeta - \zeta_0|)^2 \le \mu_2(\zeta_0).$ 

Then

$$\|\varphi_{\zeta} - \Phi\|_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})} \leq 2\sqrt{2} \frac{\left[\left(\|r_{\zeta}\|_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})} + 2\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}}|\zeta - \zeta_{0}|\right)^{2} + |\zeta - \zeta_{0}|^{3}\left(|\zeta - \zeta_{0}| + 4\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}}\right)\right]^{1/2}}{\mu_{2}(\zeta_{0}) - \Theta_{\zeta}},$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \|\varphi_{\zeta}' - \Phi'\|_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})} &\leq (\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}} + |\zeta - \zeta_{0}|)^{2} - \Theta_{0} + 2\Theta_{0} \|\Phi - \varphi_{\zeta}\|_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})} \\ &\leq 4\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}}|\zeta - \zeta_{0}| + \frac{\left(\|r_{\zeta}\|_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})} + 2\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}}|\zeta - \zeta_{0}|\right)^{2} + 12\Theta_{\zeta}(\zeta - \zeta_{0})^{2}}{\mu_{2}(\zeta_{0}) - \Theta_{\zeta}} + 2\Theta_{\zeta} \|\Phi - \varphi_{\zeta}\|_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})}. \end{aligned}$$

To prove this result, we use an estimate of quasi-modes established in [17, Proposition 4.1.1, p. 30] :

**Proposition 3.3.** Let A be a self-adjoint operator in a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ . Let  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$  be a compact interval,  $\Psi_1, \ldots, \Psi_N \in \mathcal{H}$  linearly independent in  $\mathcal{D}(A)$  and  $\mu_1, \ldots, \mu_N \in I$  such that  $A\Psi_j = \mu_j \Psi_j + r_j$  with  $\|r_j\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq \varepsilon$ . Let a > 0 and assume that  $\operatorname{Sp}(A) \cap (I + \mathcal{B}(0, 2a) \setminus I) = \emptyset$ . Then if E is the space spanned by  $\Psi_1, \ldots, \Psi_N$  and if F is the space associated to  $\sigma(A) \cap I$ , we have

$$d(E,F) \le \frac{\varepsilon\sqrt{N}}{a\sqrt{\lambda_S^{\min}}},$$

where  $\lambda_S^{\min}$  is the smallest eigenvalues of  $S = (\langle \Psi_j, \Psi_k \rangle_{\mathcal{H}})$  and d the non-symmetric distance defined by  $d(E, F) = \|\Pi_E - \Pi_F \Pi_E\|_{\mathcal{H}}$ , with  $\Pi_E$ ,  $\Pi_F$  the orthogonal projections on E and F.

*Proof. Theorem 3.2.* We apply Proposition 3.3 with N = 1,  $A = H(\zeta_0)$ ,  $\Psi_1 = \varphi_{\zeta}$ , E the space spanned by  $\varphi_{\zeta}$  and F the space spanned by  $\Phi$ .

We first connect the distance d with the norm  $\|\varphi_{\zeta} - \Phi\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^+)}$  by noticing that

$$d(E,F) = ||\varphi_{\zeta} - \langle \varphi_{\zeta}, \Phi \rangle \Phi||_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})} = \sqrt{1 - |\langle \varphi_{\zeta}, \Phi \rangle|^{2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} ||\varphi_{\zeta} - \Phi||_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})}.$$
(4)

Writing

$$H(\zeta_0)\varphi_{\zeta} = \Theta_{\zeta}\varphi_{\zeta} + \tilde{r}_{\zeta} \quad \text{with} \quad \tilde{r}_{\zeta} = (H(\zeta_0) - H(\zeta))\varphi_{\zeta} + r_{\zeta}$$

we estimate  $\|\tilde{r}_{\zeta}\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^+)}$  using the orthogonality relation  $\langle r_{\zeta}, \varphi_{\zeta} \rangle = 0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{r}_{\zeta}\|_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})}^{2} &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^{+}} \left| 2(\zeta - \zeta_{0})(t - \zeta)\varphi_{\zeta}(t) + (\zeta - \zeta_{0})^{2}\varphi_{\zeta}(t) + r_{\zeta}(t) \right|^{2} dt \\ &\leq \left( \|r_{\zeta}\|_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})} + 2\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}} |\zeta - \zeta_{0}| \right)^{2} + |\zeta - \zeta_{0}|^{3} \left( |\zeta - \zeta_{0}| + 4\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}} \right). \end{aligned}$$
(5)

Relations (4), (5) and Proposition 3.3 with  $a = (\mu_2(\zeta_0) - \Theta_{\zeta})/2$  give the  $L^2$ -estimate on  $(\varphi_{\zeta} - \Phi)$ . This estimate makes appear  $\Theta_0$  which can be bounded thanks to Theorem 3.1.

Let us now estimate the  $L^2$ -norm of  $(\varphi'_{\zeta} - \Phi')$ . An integration by parts gives:

$$\langle H(\zeta_0)(\Phi - \varphi_{\zeta}), \Phi - \varphi_{\zeta} \rangle_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^+)} = \|\Phi' - \varphi_{\zeta}'\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^+)}^2 + \int_0^\infty (t - \zeta_0)^2 |\Phi - \varphi_{\zeta}|^2(t) \, dt \ge \|\Phi' - \varphi_{\zeta}'\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^+)}^2 \,. \tag{6}$$

On the other hand,

$$\langle H(\zeta_0)(\varphi_{\zeta} - \Phi), \varphi_{\zeta} - \Phi \rangle_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^+)} = \langle H(\zeta_0)\varphi_{\zeta}, \varphi_{\zeta} \rangle_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^+)} - \Theta_0 + 2\Theta_0 \langle \varphi_{\zeta}, \varphi_{\zeta} - \Phi \rangle_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^+)} \leq \langle H(\zeta_0)\varphi_{\zeta}, \varphi_{\zeta} \rangle_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^+)} - \Theta_0 + 2\Theta_0 \|\varphi_{\zeta} - \Phi\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^+)}.$$
(7)

With the notation  $\eta = \langle H(\zeta_0)\varphi_{\zeta}, \varphi_{\zeta}\rangle_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^+)}$ , we deduce from (6), (7), (2) and Theorem 3.1 a upper-bound for the  $L^2$ -norm of  $\Phi' - \varphi'_{\zeta}$ :

$$\begin{split} \|\Phi' - \varphi_{\zeta}'\|_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})}^{2} &\leq \eta - \Theta_{0} + 2\Theta_{0} \|\Phi - \varphi_{\zeta}\|_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})} \\ &\leq 4\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}}|\zeta - \zeta_{0}| + \frac{\left(\|r_{\zeta}\|_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})} + 2\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}}|\zeta - \zeta_{0}|\right)^{2} + 12\Theta_{\zeta}(\zeta - \zeta_{0})^{2}}{\mu_{2}(\zeta_{0}) - (\sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}} + |\zeta - \zeta_{0}|)^{2}} + 2\Theta_{\zeta} \|\Phi - \varphi_{\zeta}\|_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})}. \end{split}$$

We deduce now an estimate for  $\varphi_{\zeta} - \Phi$  at point t = 0.

**Theorem 3.4.** Using the same notation and assumptions as Theorem 3.2, we have

$$|\Phi(0) - \varphi_{\zeta}(0)|^{2} \le 2 ||\Phi - \varphi_{\zeta}||_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})} ||\Phi' - \varphi_{\zeta}'||_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})}.$$
(8)

*Proof.* As  $\Phi - \varphi \in H^1(\mathbb{R}^+)$ , it suffices to write

$$|\Phi(0) - \varphi_{\zeta}(0)|^2 = 2 \int_0^\infty (\Phi - \varphi_{\zeta})(t) \ (\Phi - \varphi_{\zeta})'(t) \ dt$$

We conclude with the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality.

#### 4 Construction of a quasi-mode by a finite difference method

Theorem 3.1 gives bounds for  $\Theta_0$  as soon as we get quasi-modes for the operator  $H(\zeta)$ . Of course, the closer  $\zeta$  is from  $\zeta_0$ , the better the bounds. A heuristic approach based on finite difference method and the ODE theory gives a sequence of approximated values for  $\varphi_{\zeta}$ . Then we use this sequence to construct a test-function with energy as small as possible and thus try and give a good approximation of  $\Theta_0$ . We organize this approximation in several steps:

- 1. Reduce the problem to a finite interval,
- 2. Write a finite difference scheme,
- 3. Study the dependence of the discrete solution on the parameter  $\zeta$ ,
- 4. Construct a regular function on  $\mathbb{R}^+$  from the discrete solution,
- 5. Deduce an algorithm to approximate  $\Theta_0$ ,
- 6. Estimate the accuracy of the computations.

#### 4.1 Reduction to a finite interval

In a first step, we reduce the domain  $\mathbb{R}^+$  to an intervall [0, L]: We know that the eigenvector is exponentially decreasing so, if L is large enough, the error due to cut-off is exponentially small. Let  $\varphi_{\zeta}$  be a normalized eigenvector associated with  $\mu_1(\zeta)$  for the operator  $H(\zeta)$ . This function  $\varphi_{\zeta}$  is decreasing like  $t \mapsto \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2}\right)$  as  $t \to +\infty$ . Therefore there exists a positive constant C such that, for L > 0,

$$\int_{a}^{\infty} |\varphi_{\zeta}(t)|^{2} dt \leq 2 \frac{C}{L} \int_{L}^{\infty} t e^{-t^{2}} dt = \frac{C e^{-L^{2}}}{L}.$$
(9)

Consequently, to approximate  $\|\varphi_{\zeta}\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^+)}$  by  $\int_0^L |\varphi_{\zeta}(t)|^2 dt$  with a better accuracy than  $10^{-N}$ , it is enough that L satisfies

$$\frac{e^{-L^2}}{a} \le \frac{10^{-N}}{C}.$$

It is equivalent to find L such that  $L^2 + \ln L \ge N \ln 10 + \ln C$ . We conclude this section with a comparaison between the fundamental energy on a finite interval and  $\Theta_0$ .

**Lemma 4.1.** Let L > 0. We denote by  $\mu^{N,N}(\zeta, L)$  and  $\mu^{N,D}(\zeta, L)$  the smallest eigenvalue of  $-d^2/dt^2 + (t-\zeta)^2$  with Neumann condition at t = 0 and respectively Neumann and Dirichlet condition at t = L. Then  $\mu^{N,D}(\zeta, L)$  is decreasing with respect to L and for any L > 0,

$$\mu^{N,D}(\zeta,L) \ge \mu_1(\zeta) \ge \Theta_0. \tag{10}$$

For L large enough, the function  $\mu^{N,N}(\zeta,\cdot)$  is increasing on  $(L,+\infty)$  and

$$\mu^{N,N}(\zeta,L) \le \mu_1(\zeta). \tag{11}$$

*Proof.* The monotonicity of  $L \mapsto \mu^{N,D}(\zeta, L)$  is obvious: For  $L' \ge L$ , we extend the functions of  $\{u \in H^1(0,L) | u(L) = 0\}$  by 0 on (L, L') and use the min-max principle.

To deal with  $\mu^{N,N}(\zeta, L)$ , we compute the derivative of  $\mu^{N,N}(\zeta, L)$  with respect to L:

$$\partial_L \mu^{N,N}(\zeta,L) = ((L-\zeta)^2 - \mu^{N,N}(\zeta,L))|u_{\zeta,L}(L)|^2,$$
(12)

with  $u_{\zeta,L}$  a normalized eigenvector associated with  $\mu^{N,N}(\zeta,L)$ . The positivity of the first derivative is directly deduced for L large enough.

#### 4.2 Finite difference scheme

Instead of looking for a normalized eigenfunction, we impose the value of  $\Phi$  at t = 0. Therefore, we try to determine  $(\zeta_0, \Phi) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathcal{D}$  such that:

$$\begin{cases}
H(\zeta_0)\Phi(t) = \zeta_0^2 \Phi(t), \quad \forall t > 0, \\
\Phi(0) = 1, \\
\Phi'(0) = 0.
\end{cases}$$
(13)

Varying parameter  $\zeta_0$  and working on a finite interval, it is natural to look for a function  $\varphi_{\zeta}$  defined on (0, L) and satisfying:

$$\begin{cases}
H(\zeta)\varphi_{\zeta}(t) = \zeta^{2}\varphi_{\zeta}(t), \quad \forall t \in (0, L), \\
\varphi_{\zeta}(0) = 1, \\
\varphi_{\zeta}'(0) = 0.
\end{cases}$$
(14)

The system (14) is numerically solved by a finite difference scheme. Let *n* be the number of discretization points in (0, L) and h = L/n. We determine recursively an approximation  $\tilde{\varphi}_{j}^{\zeta}$  of  $\varphi_{\zeta}(jh)$  for any integer  $j \in \{0, \ldots, n\}$ . For this,  $\varphi_{\zeta}''(jh)$  and  $\varphi_{\zeta}'(0)$  are classically approximated respectively by  $(\tilde{\varphi}_{j+1}^{\zeta} - 2\tilde{\varphi}_{j}^{\zeta} + \tilde{\varphi}_{j-1}^{\zeta})/h^{2}$  and  $(\tilde{\varphi}_{1}^{\zeta} - \tilde{\varphi}_{0}^{\zeta})/h$ . The boundary condition at t = 0 determines completely the sequence  $(\tilde{\varphi}_{j}^{\zeta})_{j=0,\ldots,n}$ :

$$\begin{cases} \tilde{\varphi}_{0}^{\zeta} = 1, \\ \tilde{\varphi}_{1}^{\zeta} = 1, \\ \tilde{\varphi}_{j+1}^{\zeta} = (2+jh^{3}(jh-2\zeta))\tilde{\varphi}_{j}^{\zeta} - \tilde{\varphi}_{j-1}^{\zeta}, \ \forall j = 1, \dots, n-1. \end{cases}$$
(15)

**4.3** Dependence on  $\zeta$  of the sequence  $(\tilde{\varphi}_j^{\zeta})_{j=0,\dots,n}$ 

The change of variables  $x = t - \zeta$  in the eigenmonde equation leads to the second order differential equation:

$$u''(x) - x^2 u(x) - \zeta^2 u(x) = 0.$$
(16)

The Sturm-Liouville equation (cf [14, 16, 25, 10]) admits a basis of fundamental solutions  $u_{\zeta}^{\pm}$  with  $u_{\zeta}^{-} = \mathcal{O}(\exp(-x^2/2))$  and  $u_{\zeta}^{+} = \mathcal{O}(x^{-(1+\zeta^2)/2}\exp(x^2/2))$  at infinity. By a change of variable, we deduce that the solution  $\varphi_{\zeta}$  of problem (14) is a linear combination of an exponentially increasing function denoting by  $f_{\zeta}^{+}$  and an exponentially decreasing function  $f_{\zeta}^{-}$ . Moreover  $f_{\zeta}^{+} \to +\infty$  and  $f_{\zeta}^{-} \to 0$  as  $t \to +\infty$ . Thus, there exist constants  $a_{\zeta}$  and  $b_{\zeta}$  which depend continously on  $\zeta$  such that:

$$\varphi_{\zeta} = a_{\zeta} f_{\zeta}^{-} + b_{\zeta} f_{\zeta}^{+}. \tag{17}$$

We now use this dependence on  $\zeta$  to determine  $\Theta_0$ . Indeed, for  $\zeta = \zeta_0$ ,  $\varphi_{\zeta_0} = \Phi$  is integrable and then  $b_{\zeta_0} = 0$ . To determine  $\Theta_0$ , it is then enough to find the smallest  $\zeta$  such that the solution  $\varphi_{\zeta}$  "does not explode". Furthermore, we know that the eigenvector  $\Phi$  associated with the first eigenvalue  $\Theta_0$  and normalized with  $\Phi(0) = 1$ , holds strictly positive. The positivity of  $\Phi$  gives a criterion to select functions which constitute a good quasi-modes. Indeed, if for some  $\zeta$ , the sequence  $(\tilde{\varphi}_j^{\zeta})$  has positive and strictly negative coefficients, then the coefficient  $b_{\zeta}$  in the decomposition (17) of the associated interpolated function  $\tilde{\varphi}_{\zeta}$  is negative and consequently  $\zeta > \zeta_0$ .

#### 4.4 Construction of quasi-modes

Discretization (15) gives two behaviors for  $(\tilde{\varphi}_j^{\zeta})_j$  (see Figures 1 and 2) and we modify coefficients of  $(\tilde{\varphi}_j^{\zeta})_j$  consequently:



The sequence (φ<sup>ζ</sup><sub>j</sub>)<sub>j</sub> remains positive (see Figure 1). We determine j<sub>0</sub> the smallest integer where the sequence (φ<sup>ζ</sup><sub>j</sub>)<sub>j</sub> reaches its minimum and we denote L' = j<sub>0</sub>h. The restriction of φ<sub>ζ</sub> on (0, L') makes a better quasi-mode than the function defined enterely on (0, L) and we have μ<sup>N,N</sup>(ζ, L') ≤ Θ<sub>ζ</sub> with Θ<sub>ζ</sub> the energy of φ<sup>ζ</sup><sub>j</sub> computed on [0, L']. Nevertheless, as we can not compare μ<sup>N,N</sup>(ζ, L') and Θ<sub>0</sub> for any L', we modify the sequence by translation so that the minimum equals to 0 and dilation to keep the normalization φ<sup>ζ</sup><sub>1</sub> = 1. We then define the new sequence:

$$\varphi_j^{\zeta} = \begin{cases} \frac{\tilde{\varphi}_j^{\zeta} - \tilde{\varphi}_{j_0}^{\zeta}}{\tilde{\varphi}_1^{\zeta} - \tilde{\varphi}_{j_0}^{\zeta}} & \text{for } j = 1, \dots, j_0 - 1, \\ 0 & \text{for } j = j_0, \dots, n. \end{cases}$$
(18)

The energy associated with a regular interpolation of  $(\varphi_j^{\zeta})_j$  gives a upper-bound of  $\Theta_0$  according to Lemma 4.1. Figure 3 plots the new sequence constructed with (15) for  $\zeta = 0.76818$ . The initial sequence (see Figure 1) corresponds to  $b_{\zeta} > 0$  in the decomposition (17).

The sequence (φ ζ j) has positive and negative terms (see Figure 2). Let j<sub>0</sub> be the smallest integer such that φ ζ log < 0. We set</li>

$$\varphi_j^{\zeta} = \begin{cases} \tilde{\varphi}_j^{\zeta} & \text{for } j = 1, \dots, j_0 - 1, \\ 0 & \text{for } j = j_0, \dots, n. \end{cases}$$
(19)

Lemma 4.1 bounds from above  $\Theta_0$  by the energy of the function constructed from  $(\varphi_j^{\zeta})_j$ . Figure 4 draws the sequence deduced with (19) for  $\zeta = 0.76819$  (see Figure 2). For the initial sequence,  $b_{\zeta} < 0$  in the decomposition (17).



Figure 3: Sequence  $(\varphi_j^{\zeta})_j$  constructed with (18) for Figure 4: Sequence  $(\varphi_j^{\zeta})_j$  constructed with (19) for  $\zeta = 0.76818$ .  $\zeta = 0.76819$ .

Let us now be more explicit about the interpolation of the sequence  $(\varphi_j^{\zeta})_j$  to construct the quasi-mode  $\varphi_{\zeta}$ . If we make an interpolation of  $(\varphi_j^{\zeta})_j$  by a piecewise linear function, this function does not belong to  $H^2(\mathbb{R}^+)$  and is necessarily not in the operator domain  $\mathcal{D}$ . So we interpolate  $(\varphi_j^{\zeta})_j$  on [0, L] by a piecewise polynomial function  $\varphi_{\zeta}$  of degree 2 defined by:

$$\forall j = 0, \dots, n-1, \ \forall t \in [jh, (j+1)h], \quad \varphi_{\zeta}(t) = \alpha_j(t-jh)^2 + \tau_j(t-jh) + \varphi_j^{\zeta}, \tag{20}$$

with  $\tau_0 = 0$  and

$$\begin{cases} \tau_{j+1} = 2\frac{\varphi_{j+1}^{\zeta} - \varphi_{j}^{\zeta}}{h} - \tau_{j}, \\ \alpha_{j} = \frac{\varphi_{j+1}^{\zeta} - \varphi_{j}^{\zeta}}{h^{2}} - \frac{\tau_{j}}{h}. \end{cases}$$
(21)

We notice that  $\tau_j = \varphi'_{\zeta}(jh)$ . We extend  $\varphi_{\zeta}$  by 0 on  $(L, +\infty)$ . With such a construction,  $\varphi_{\zeta}$  is continuous, its derivative is continuous, piecewise linear and the second derivative is constant on [jh, (j+1)h] for

j = 0, ..., n - 1. Furthermore, any computations (norm, energy, ...) are explicit. With the change of variables x = t - jh, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} ||\varphi_{\zeta}||_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})}^{2} &= \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \int_{0}^{h} |\alpha_{j}x^{2} + \tau_{j}x + \varphi_{j}^{\zeta}|^{2} dx \\ &= h \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \left( \frac{h^{4}}{5} \alpha_{j}^{2} + \frac{h^{3}}{2} \alpha_{j} \tau_{j} + \frac{h^{2}}{3} (\tau_{j}^{2} + 2\alpha_{j} \varphi_{j}^{\zeta}) + h \tau_{j} \varphi_{j}^{\zeta} + (\varphi_{j}^{\zeta})^{2} \right). \end{aligned}$$
(22)

Let us compute the energy of  $\varphi_{\zeta}$ :

$$||\varphi_{\zeta}'||_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})}^{2} = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \int_{0}^{h} |2\alpha_{j}x + \tau_{j}|^{2} dx = h \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \left(\frac{4}{3}h^{2}\alpha_{j}^{2} + 2h\alpha_{j}\tau_{j} + \tau_{j}^{2}\right).$$
(23)

To compute the contribution of  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^+} (t-\zeta)^2 |\varphi_{\zeta}(t)|^2 dt$ , we define  $\delta_j = jh - \zeta$ . Put x = t - jh gives:

$$\begin{aligned} ||(t-\zeta)\varphi_{\zeta}||_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})}^{2} &= \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \int_{0}^{h} |(x+\delta_{j})(\alpha_{j}x^{2}+\tau_{j}x+\varphi_{j}^{\zeta}|^{2} dx \\ &= h \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \left( \frac{h^{6}}{7} \alpha_{j}^{2} + \frac{h^{5}}{3} \alpha_{j}(\tau_{j}+\alpha_{j}\delta_{j}) + \frac{h^{4}}{5} ((\tau_{j}+\alpha_{j}\delta_{j})^{2} + 2\alpha_{j}(\varphi_{j}^{\zeta}+\tau_{j}\delta_{j})) \right. \\ &+ \frac{h^{3}}{2} (\alpha_{j}\varphi_{j}^{\zeta}\delta_{j} + (\tau_{j}+\alpha_{j}\delta_{j})(\varphi_{j}^{\zeta}+\tau_{j}\delta_{j})) \\ &+ \frac{h^{2}}{3} ((\varphi_{j}^{\zeta}+\tau_{j}\delta_{j})^{2} + 2\varphi_{j}^{\zeta}\delta_{j}(\tau_{j}+\alpha_{j}\delta_{j})) + h\varphi_{j}^{\zeta}\delta_{j}(\varphi_{j}^{\zeta}+\tau_{j}\delta_{j}) + (\varphi_{j}^{\zeta})^{2}\delta_{j}^{2} \right).$$
(24)

Expressions (22), (23) and (24) present the main advantage to be exact. If we choose  $\zeta$  to be a rational number, then the computation of these three expressions still gives a rational number. Let  $\Theta_{\zeta}$  be the Rayleigh quotient of  $\varphi_{\zeta}$ :

$$\Theta_{\zeta} = \frac{||\varphi_{\zeta}'||^{2}_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})} + ||(t-\zeta)\varphi_{\zeta}||^{2}_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})}}{||\varphi_{\zeta}||^{2}_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})}}.$$
(25)

To apply Theorem 3.1, we have to estimate the residus  $||r_{\zeta}||^2_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^+)}$  with  $r_{\zeta}$ : =  $(H(\zeta) - \Theta_{\zeta})\varphi_{\zeta}$ . As we extend  $\varphi_{\zeta}$  by 0 on  $(L, +\infty)$ , we have just to compute the norms on (0, L). We notice that for any  $j = 0, \ldots, n-1$  and  $t \in [jh, (j+1)h]$ , we get:

$$r_{\zeta}(t) = -2\alpha_j + ((t-\zeta)^2 - \Theta_{\zeta})(\alpha_j(t-jh)^2 + \tau_j(t-jh) + \varphi_j^{\zeta}).$$
 (26)

As in (22), (23) and (24), the computation of  $||r_{\zeta}||_{L^2(0,a)}$  is explicit. For  $j = 0, \ldots, n-1$ , we define:

$$\begin{aligned} r_{0,j} &= \varphi_j^{\zeta} (\delta_j^2 - \Theta_{\zeta}) - 2\alpha_j, & r_{1,j} &= 2\varphi_j^{\zeta} \delta_j + \tau_j (\delta_j^2 - \Theta_{\zeta}), \\ r_{2,j} &= \varphi_j^{\zeta} + 2\tau_j \delta_j + \alpha_j (\delta_j^2 - \Theta_{\zeta}), & r_{3,j} &= \tau_j + 2\alpha_j \delta_j. \end{aligned}$$

A change of variables gives:

$$||r_{\zeta}||_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{+})}^{2} = h \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \left( \frac{h^{8}}{9} \alpha_{j}^{2} + \frac{h^{7}}{4} \alpha_{j} r_{3,j} + \frac{h^{6}}{7} (2\alpha_{j} r_{2,j} + r_{3,j}^{2}) + \frac{h^{5}}{3} (\alpha_{j} r_{1,j} + r_{3,j} r_{2,j}) + \frac{h^{4}}{5} (2\alpha_{j} r_{0,j} + 2r_{3,j} r_{1,j} + r_{2,j}^{2}) + \frac{h^{3}}{2} (r_{3,j} r_{0,j} + r_{2,j} r_{1,j}) + \frac{h^{2}}{3} (2r_{2,j} r_{0,j} + r_{1,j}^{2}) + hr_{1,j} r_{0,j} + r_{0,j}^{2} \right).$$

$$(27)$$

#### 4.5 Algorithm and results

We described how interpolate the sequence  $(\varphi_j^{\zeta})$  to construct an appropriate quasi-mode and proposed criteria to estimate  $\Theta_0$ . Let us now explain the algorithm to determine  $\Theta_0$  accurately.

#### Algorithme 4.2.

- 1. We choose a length L for the finite interval and a step h for the discretization for finite difference method.
- 2. We initialize a value for  $\zeta$  with *n* decimals.
- 3. We construct the sequence  $(\varphi_i^{\zeta})$  by (15).
- 4. If  $(\varphi_j^{\zeta})_j$  has negative coefficients, we return to the first step with a smaller value for  $\zeta$ . Otherwise, we modify  $(\varphi_j^{\zeta})_j$  according to (18).
- 5. While  $(\varphi_i^{\zeta})_j$  has only positive coefficients,
  - (a) we define the function  $\varphi_{\zeta}$  by relations (20) and (21),
  - (b) we compute the  $L^2$ -norm of  $\varphi_{\zeta}$  thanks to (22) and deduce the value of  $\varphi_{\zeta}(0)$  after normalization,
  - (c) we compute the energy  $\Theta_{\zeta}$  associated with  $\varphi_{\zeta}$  thanks to relations (22), (23), (24) and (25),
  - (d) we estimate the residus  $||r_{\zeta}||_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^+)} = ||(H(\zeta) \Theta_{\zeta})\varphi_{\zeta}||_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^+)}$  with relation (27),
  - (e) we raise  $\zeta$  of  $10^{-(n+1)}$ .
- 6. We go back to the first step with the last value of  $\zeta$  with the n + 1 decimals for which the sequence  $(\varphi_i^{\zeta})$  has only positive termes.

Table 1 sums up the results obtained by application of the algorithm: we choose h = 1/22700 and L = 7. In each part, results given at the last line correspond to a function  $\varphi_{\zeta}$  constructed from sequence with negative coefficients.

#### 4.6 Estimates of the second eigenvalue

To apply Theorem 3.1, we need an estimate of the second eigenvalue  $\mu_2(\zeta_0)$  of  $H(\zeta_0)$ . For this point, we do not need to be very accurate and so we consider the matrix  $A^{\zeta}$  defined by the discretization of  $H(\zeta)$  for

ζ	$\Theta_{\zeta}$	$\ r_{\zeta}\ _{L^2(\mathbb{R}^+)}$	$\min_j \tilde{\varphi}_j^{\zeta}$	$\varphi_j^{\zeta}(0)$	$L^2$ bound	$H^1$ bound
0.76811	0.590609794	1.24e-01	9.96e-03	0.875688761	4.04e-01	1.29e-01
0.76812	0.590550468	7.09e-02	9.22e-03	0.875497052	2.29e-01	7.37e-02
0.76813	0.590489644	6.38e-02	8.42e-03	0.875290012	2.06e-01	6.63e-02
0.76814	0.590427030	1.14e-01	7.55e-03	0.875063169	3.69e-01	1.18e-01
0.76815	0.590362191	1.15e-01	6.59e-03	0.874809295	3.75e-01	1.20e-01
0.76816	0.590294421	4.68e-02	5.47e-03	0.874515214	1.51e-01	4.86e-02
0.76817	0.590222360	3.69e-02	4.10e-03	0.874151234	1.18e-01	3.83e-02
0.76818	0.590142138	2.97e-02	2.06e-03	0.873603539	9.51e-02	3.08e-02
0.76819	0.590142240	4.62e+02	-5.34e+02	0.873050163	1.74e+04	4.80e+02
0.768181	0.590133151	1.91e-02	1.74e-03	0.873518103	6.10e-02	1.98e-02
0.768182	0.590123772	1.48e-02	1.36e-03	0.873415060	4.74e-02	1.54e-02
0.768183	0.590113724	1.15e-02	8.41e-04	0.873273295	3.69e-02	1.20e-02
0.768184	0.590108700	1.29e+02	-2.92e+01	0.873043549	2.58e+03	1.34e+02
0.7681831	0.590112653	1.01e-02	7.72e-04	0.873254315	3.23e-02	1.05e-02
0.7681832	0.590111566	1.38e-02	6.96e-04	0.873233646	4.42e-02	1.43e-02
0.7681833	0.590110455	8.01e-03	6.11e-04	0.873210604	2.56e-02	8.31e-03
0.7681834	0.590109318	8.42e-03	5.15e-04	0.873184197	2.69e-02	8.74e-03
0.7681835	0.590108136	5.45e-03	3.97e-04	0.873151984	1.74e-02	5.65e-03
0.7681836	0.590106880	5.47e-03	2.30e-04	0.873106156	1.75e-02	5.68e-03
0.7681837	0.590106199	3.63e+00	-3.95e+00	0.873043196	1.67e+01	3.77e+00
0.76818361	0.590106747	3.08e-03	2.06e-04	0.873099730	9.85e-03	3.20e-03
0.76818362	0.590106610	2.87e-03	1.80e-04	0.873092435	9.16e-03	2.98e-03
0.76818363	0.590106472	3.73e-03	1.49e-04	0.873084081	1.19e-02	3.87e-03
0.76818364	0.590106327	3.07e-03	1.11e-04	0.873073561	9.82e-03	3.19e-03
0.76818365	0.590106176	1.62e-03	5.24e-05	0.873057522	5.17e-03	1.68e-03
0.76818366	0.590106138	3.59e+00	-6.03e-01	0.873043148	1.65e+01	3.72e+00
0.768183651	0.590106159	8.42e-04	4.21e-05	0.873054696	2.70e-03	8.77e-04
0.768183652	0.590106143	8.63e-04	2.98e-05	0.873051330	2.77e-03	8.99e-04
0.768183653	0.590106126	1.79e-04	6.65e-06	0.873044968	5.86e-04	1.88e-04
0.768183654	0.590106128	4.14e+00	-7.38e-02	0.873043140	1.97e+01	4.29e+00

Table 1: Results obtained by Algorithm 4.2.

 $\zeta \in [0.76818, 076819]$ . If we denote by  $A_{i,j}^{\zeta}$  the coefficients of the matrix  $A^{\zeta}$ , we have:

$$\begin{cases} A_{1,1}^{\zeta} = \frac{1}{h^2} + \zeta^2, & A_{1,2}^{\zeta} = -\frac{1}{2}, \\ A_{j,j-1}^{\zeta} = -\frac{1}{h^2}, & A_{j,j}^{\zeta} = \frac{2}{h^2} + ((j-1)h - \zeta)^2, & A_{j,j+1}^{\zeta} = -\frac{1}{h^2}, & \text{for } j = 1, \dots, n-1, \\ A_{n,n-1}^{\zeta} = -\frac{1}{h^2}, & A_{n,n}^{\zeta} = \frac{1}{h^2} + ((n-1)h - \zeta)^2, \\ A_{i,j}^{\zeta} = 0 & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

We compute the second value and obtain  $\mu_2(\zeta) \ge 3.315$ . Figure 5 draws the second eigenvector.



Figure 5: Second eigenvetor of  $H(\zeta)$  for  $\zeta$  close to  $\zeta_0$ .

#### **4.7** Accurate estimate for $\Theta_0$ and $\Phi(0)$

We apply Algorithm 4.2 for h such that  $1/h \in \{100 \times k, k = 10, \dots, 30000\}$  and for L = 7, 8, 9, 10. For each value, we obtain characteritic values as in Table 1 and we complete this table by computing the lower-bound of  $\Theta_0$  given by Theorem 3.1, a lower-bound and a upper-bound for  $\Phi(0)$  given in Theorem 3.4. To make these computations, we need a lower-bound of  $|\zeta - \zeta_0|$ . The De Gennes [24] lower-bound of  $\Theta_0$  by 0.5901, our upper-bound by  $\Theta_{\zeta}$  and the monotonicity of the square-root function bound  $\zeta_0$  by

$$\sqrt{0.5901} < \zeta_0 < \sqrt{\Theta_{\zeta}}.$$

We can improve the upper-bound by choosing for  $\Theta_{\zeta}$  the lowest energy among all the computations and improve the lower-bound by the maximum between  $\sqrt{0.5901}$  and the square-root of the lower-bound of  $\Theta_0$ . We can iterate these computations and combine then to obtain the best result.

To extract the best computations, we collect the largest lower-bound of  $\Theta_0$  and  $\Phi(0)$ , the smallest energy  $\Theta_{\zeta}$ , the smallest upper-bound of  $\Phi(0)$ . We obtain:

#### **Proposition 4.3.**

 $\begin{array}{l} 0.590106122 \leq \Theta_0 \leq 0.590106125,\\ 0.872991 \leq \Phi(0) \leq 0.873095. \end{array}$ 

This proposition estimates  $\Theta_0 \simeq 0.590106123$  with an error less than  $2 \times 10^{-9}$  and of  $\Phi(0) \simeq 0.8730$  at  $10^{-4}$ .

# **5** Conclusion

The parameters  $\Theta_0$  and  $\Phi(0)$  intervene naturally in the determination of the nucleation of superconductivity. We establish in this paper a very accurate estimate for them. These computations are useful to quantify the location of superconductivity and generate improvement of the numerics in domains with corners.

### References

- ALOUGES, F., AND BONNAILLIE-NOËL, V. Numerical computations of fundamental eigenstates for the Schrödinger operator under constant magnetic field. *Numer. Methods Partial Differential Equations* 22, 5 (2006), 1090–1105.
- [2] BERNOFF, A., AND STERNBERG, P. Onset of superconductivity in decreasing fields for general domains. J. Math. Phys. 39, 3 (1998), 1272–1284.
- [3] BOLLEY, C. Modélisation du champ de retard à la condensation d'un supraconducteur par un problème de bifurcation. RAIRO Modél. Math. Anal. Numér. 26, 2 (1992), 235–287.
- [4] BOLLEY, C., AND HELFFER, B. An application of semi-classical analysis to the asymptotic study of the supercooling field of a superconducting material. *Ann. Inst. H. Poincaré Phys. Théor.* 58, 2 (1993), 189–233.
- [5] BONNAILLIE, V. Analyse mathématique de la supraconductivité dans un domaine à coins; méthodes semi-classiques et numériques. Thèse de doctorat, Université Paris XI Orsay, 2003.
- [6] BONNAILLIE, V. On the fundamental state energy for a Schrödinger operator with magnetic field in domains with corners. Asymptot. Anal. 41, 3-4 (2005), 215–258.
- [7] BONNAILLIE-NOËL, V., AND DAUGE, M. Asymptotics for the low-lying eigenstates of the Schrödinger operator with magnetic field near corners. *Ann. Henri Poincaré* 7, 5 (2006), 899–931.
- [8] BONNAILLIE-NOËL, V., DAUGE, M., MARTIN, D., AND VIAL, G. Computations of the first eigenpairs for the schrödinger operator with magnetic field. *Comput. Methods Appl. Mech. Engng. 196* (2007), 3841–3858.
- [9] BONNAILLIE-NOËL, V., AND FOURNAIS, S. Superconductivity in domains with corners. *Reviews in Mathematical Physics 19*, 6 (2007), 607–637.
- [10] DAUGE, M., AND HELFFER, B. Eigenvalues variation. I. Neumann problem for Sturm-Liouville operators. J. Differential Equations 104, 2 (1993), 243–262.
- [11] FOURNAIS, S., AND HELFFER, B. Energy asymptotics for type II superconductors. Calc. Var. 24, 3 (2005), 341–376.
- [12] FOURNAIS, S., AND HELFFER, B. Accurate eigenvalue estimates for the magnetic Neumann Laplacian. Annales Inst. Fourier 56, 1 (2006), 1–67.

- [13] FOURNAIS, S., AND HELFFER, B. On the third critical field in Ginzburg-Landau theory. Comm. Math. Phys. 266 (2006), 153–196.
- [14] GILBARG, D., AND TRUDINGER, N. S. Elliptic partial differential equations of second order. Springer-Verlag, 1999.
- [15] HARRELL, E. M. Double wells. Comm. Math. Phys. 75, 3 (1980), 239-261.
- [16] HARTMANN, P. Ordinary differential equations. Wiley, New-York, 1964.
- [17] HELFFER, B. Semi-classical analysis for the Schrödinger operator and applications, vol. 1336 of Lecture Notes in Mathematics. Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1988.
- [18] HELFFER, B., AND MOHAMED, A. Semiclassical analysis for the ground state energy of a Schrödinger operator with magnetic wells. J. Funct. Anal. 138, 1 (1996), 40–81.
- [19] HELFFER, B., AND PAN, X.-B. Upper critical field and location of surface nucleation of superconductivity. Ann. Inst. H. Poincaré Anal. Non Linéaire 20, 1 (2003), 145–181.
- [20] KATO, T. On the upper and lower bounds of eigenvalues. J. Phys. Soc. Japan 4 (1949), 334–339.
- [21] LU, K., AND PAN, X.-B. Eigenvalue problems of Ginzburg-Landau operator in bounded domains. J. Math. Phys. 40, 6 (1999), 2647–2670.
- [22] LU, K., AND PAN, X.-B. Estimates of the upper critical field for the Ginzburg-Landau equations of superconductivity. *Phys. D* 127, 1-2 (1999), 73–104.
- [23] LU, K., AND PAN, X.-B. Gauge invariant eigenvalue problems in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and in  $\mathbb{R}^2_+$ . *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.* 352, 3 (2000), 1247–1276.
- [24] SAINT-JAMES, D., AND DE GENNES, P. G. Onset of superconductivity in decreasing fields. *Phys. Let.* 7, 5 (1963), 306–308.
- [25] SIBUYA, Y. Global theory of a second order linear ordinary differential equation with a polynomial coefficient. Noth-Holland, 1975.