

THE EIGENVALUE DISTRIBUTION OF ELLIPTIC OPERATORS WITH HÖLDER CONTINUOUS COEFFICIENTS II

YŌICHI MIYAZAKI

(Received January 10, 1992)

1. Introduction

This is the continuation of the previous paper [11], in which we attempted the improvement of the remainder estimate for the eigenvalue distribution of the elliptic operator of order $2m$ with Hölder continuous coefficients of top order. We use the same notation as in [11] if not specified.

Let us recall the situation. Let Ω be a bounded domain in \mathbf{R}^n . We consider a symmetric integro-differential sesquilinear form

$$B[u, v] = \int_{\Omega} \sum_{|\alpha|, |\beta| \leq m} a_{\alpha\beta}(x) D^{\alpha} u(x) \overline{D^{\beta} v(x)} dx$$

and a closed subspace V of the Sobolev space $H^m(\Omega)$, and assume the following.

(H1) $H_0^m(\Omega) \subset V \subset H^m(\Omega)$.

(H2) There exist $C_0 \geq 0$ and $\delta_0 > 0$ such that

$$B[u, u] \geq \delta_0 \|u\|_m^2 - C_0 \|u\|_0^2 \quad \text{for any } u \in V.$$

(H3) The coefficients $a_{\alpha\beta}(x)$ ($|\alpha| + |\beta| \leq 2m$) are bounded on Ω , and for some $\tau > 0$ the coefficients of top order satisfy

$$a_{\alpha\beta} \in \mathcal{B}^{\tau}(\Omega) \quad (|\alpha| = |\beta| = m).$$

REMARK 1.1. Since an element of $\mathcal{B}^{\tau}(\Omega)$ can be extended to an element of $\mathcal{B}^{\tau}(\mathbf{R}^n)$ (see [10], [20]), we may assume that

$$(1.1) \quad \sum_{|\alpha| = |\beta| = m} a_{\alpha\beta}(x) \xi^{\alpha+\beta} \geq \delta_0 |\xi|^{2m} \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbf{R}^n, \xi \in \mathbf{R}^n$$

by modifying the values of $a_{\alpha\beta}$ outside Ω and replacing δ_0 with another constant if necessary.

Let \mathcal{A} be the self-adjoint operator associated with the variational triple $\{B, V, L_2(\Omega)\}$, and let $N(t)$ ($=N(t, B, V, L_2(\Omega))$) denote the number of the eigen-