

Lower Bounds of Dirichlet Eigenvalues for General Grushin Type Bi-Subelliptic Operators

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Abstract. Let Ω be a bounded open domain in \mathbb{R}^n with smooth boundary $\partial\Omega$. Let $X = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_m)$ be a system of general Grushin type vector fields defined on Ω and the boundary $\partial\Omega$ is non-characteristic for X . For $\Delta_X = \sum_{j=1}^m X_j^2$, we denote λ_k as the k -th eigenvalue for the bi-subelliptic operator Δ_X^2 on Ω . In this paper, by using the sharp sub-elliptic estimates and maximally hypoelliptic estimates, we give the optimal lower bound estimates of λ_k for the operator Δ_X^2 .

Key Words: Eigenvalues, degenerate elliptic operators, sub-elliptic estimate, maximally hypoelliptic estimate, bi-subelliptic operator.

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1 Introduction and main results

Let $X = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_m)$ be the system of general Grushin type vector fields, which is defined on an open domain W in \mathbb{R}^n ($n \geq 2$).

Let $J = (j_1, \dots, j_k)$, $1 \leq j_i \leq m$ be a multi-index, $X^J = X_{j_1} X_{j_2} \cdots X_{j_k}$, we denote $|J| = k$ be the length of J , if $|J| = 0$, then $X^J = id$. We introduce following function space (cf. [18, 21, 23]):

$$H_X^2(W) = \{u \in L^2(W) \mid X^J u \in L^2(W), |J| \leq 2\}.$$

It is well known that $H_X^2(W)$ is a Hilbert space with norm $\|u\|_{H_X^2(W)}^2 = \sum_{|J| \leq 2} \|X^J u\|_{L^2(W)}^2$.

Assume the vector fields $X = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_m)$ satisfy Hörmander's condition :

Definition 1.1 (cf. [2, 12]). We say that $X = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_m)$ satisfies the Hörmander's condition in W if there exists a positive integer Q , such that for any $|J| = k \leq Q$, X together with all k -th repeated commutators

$$X_J = [X_{j_1}, [X_{j_2}, [X_{j_3}, \dots, [X_{j_{k-1}}, X_{j_k}] \cdots]]]$$

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span the tangent space at each point of W . Here Q is called the Hörmander index of X in W , which is defined as the smallest positive integer for the Hörmander's condition to be satisfied.

For any bounded open subset $\Omega \subset\subset W$, we define the subspace $H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$ to be the closure of $C_0^\infty(\Omega)$ in $H_X^2(W)$. Since $\partial\Omega$ is smooth and non characteristic for X , we know that $H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$ is well defined and also a Hilbert space. In this case, we also say that X satisfies the Hörmander's condition on Ω with Hörmander index $1 \leq Q < +\infty$. Thus X is a finitely degenerate system of vector fields on Ω and the finitely degenerate elliptic operator $\Delta_X = \sum_{i=1}^m X_i^2$ is a sub-elliptic operator.

The degenerate elliptic operator Δ_X has been studied by many authors, e.g., Hörmander [11], Jerison and Sánchez-Calle [13], Métivier [17], Xu [23]. More results for degenerate elliptic operators can be found in [2–6] and [9, 10, 12, 14].

In this paper, we study the following eigenvalues problem for bi-subelliptic operators in $H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$:

$$\begin{cases} \Delta_X^2 u = \lambda u & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = 0, Xu = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases} \tag{1.1}$$

where X will be the following general Grushin type vector fields (see (1.5) and (1.7) below). In this case we know that for each j , X_j is formally skew-adjoint, i.e., $X_j^* = -X_j$. Then there exists a sequence of discrete eigenvalues $\{\lambda_j\}_{j \geq 1}$ for the problem (1.1), which satisfying $0 < \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \lambda_3 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_k \dots$ and $\lambda_k \rightarrow +\infty$ as $k \rightarrow +\infty$ (see Proposition 2.5 below).

In the classical case, if $X = (\partial_{x_1}, \dots, \partial_{x_n})$, then $\Delta_X^2 = \Delta^2$ is the standard bi-harmonic operator. In this case our problem is motivated from the following classical clamped plate problem, namely

$$\begin{cases} \Delta^2 u = \lambda u & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu} = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases} \tag{1.2}$$

where $\Delta = \partial_{x_1}^2 + \partial_{x_2}^2 + \dots + \partial_{x_n}^2$, $\frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu}$ denotes the derivative of u with respect to the outer unit normal vector ν on $\partial\Omega$.

For the eigenvalues of the clamped plate problem (1.2), Agmon [1] and Pleijel [20] showed the following asymptotic formula

$$\lambda_k \sim \frac{16\pi^4}{(B_n \text{vol}(\Omega))^{\frac{4}{n}}} k^{\frac{4}{n}} \quad \text{as } k \rightarrow +\infty, \tag{1.3}$$

where B_n denotes the volume of the unit ball in R^n . In 1985, Levine and Protter [15] proved that

$$\frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i \geq \frac{n}{n+4} \frac{16\pi^4}{(B_n \text{vol}(\Omega))^{\frac{4}{n}}} k^{\frac{4}{n}}. \tag{1.4}$$

Later in 2012, Cheng and Wei [7] showed that the eigenvalues of the bi-harmonic operator satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i &\geq \frac{n}{n+4} \frac{16\pi^4}{(B_n \text{vol}(\Omega))^{\frac{4}{n}}} k^{\frac{4}{n}} \\ &+ \left(\frac{n+2}{12(n+4)} - \frac{1}{1152n^2(n+4)} \right) \frac{\text{vol}(\Omega)}{I(\Omega)} \frac{n}{n+2} \frac{4\pi^4}{(B_n \text{vol}(\Omega))^{\frac{2}{n}}} k^{\frac{2}{n}} \\ &+ \left(\frac{1}{576n(n+4)} - \frac{1}{27648n^2(n+2)(n+4)} \right) \left(\frac{\text{vol}(\Omega)}{I(\Omega)} \right)^2, \end{aligned}$$

where $I(\Omega)$ is the moment of inertia of Ω .

Next, we consider the situation for the bi-subelliptic operators Δ_X^2 . Before we state our results, we need the following concepts:

Definition 1.2. If X satisfies the Hörmander’s condition in W with the Hörmander index $Q \geq 1$. Then for each $1 \leq j \leq Q$ and $x \in W$, we denote $V_j(x)$ as the subspace of the tangent space $T_x(W)$ spanned by the vector fields X_J with $|J| \leq j$. We say the system of the vector fields X satisfies Métivier’s condition on Ω if the dimension of $V_j(x)$ is constant v_j in a neighborhood of each $x \in \bar{\Omega}$, and in this case the Métivier index is defined as

$$v = \sum_{j=1}^Q j(v_j - v_{j-1}), \quad \text{here } v_0 = 0.$$

As it well-known that under the Métivier’s condition, we can get the asymptotic estimate for the eigenvalues of sub-elliptic operator $-\Delta_X$ (cf. [17]). However, for most degenerate vector fields X , the Métivier’s condition will be not satisfied. Thus we need to introduce the following generalized Métivier index.

Definition 1.3. If X satisfies the Hörmander’s condition in W with the Hörmander index $Q \geq 1$. Then for each $1 \leq j \leq Q$ and $x \in W$, we denote $V_j(x)$ as the subspace of the tangent space $T_x(W)$ spanned by the vector fields X_J with $|J| \leq j$. We denote that

$$v(x) = \sum_{j=1}^Q j(v_j(x) - v_{j-1}(x)), \quad \text{with } v_0(x) = 0,$$

where $v_j(x)$ is the dimension of $V_j(x)$. Then we define

$$\tilde{v} = \max_{x \in \bar{\Omega}} v(x),$$

as the generalized Métivier index. It is obvious that $\tilde{v} = v$ if X satisfies the Métivier’s condition on Ω .

Recently, in case of X to be some special Grushin vector fields Chen and Zhou [8] obtained lower bound estimates of eigenvalues for the bi-subelliptic operator Δ_X^2 . In this paper, we shall study the similar problem for more general Grushin type vector fields X . In the first part of this paper, we shall study the bi-subelliptic operators Δ_X^2 in case of

$$X = (\partial_{x_1}, \dots, \partial_{x_{n-1}}, f(\bar{x})\partial_{x_n}), \tag{1.5}$$

where $f(\bar{x}) = \sum_{|\alpha| \leq s} a_\alpha \bar{x}^\alpha$ is a multivariate polynomial of \bar{x} with order s , $\bar{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$, $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{n-1}$, $|\alpha| = \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_{n-1}$, a_α are constants. We suppose that

(H_1): If $f(\bar{x})$ has a unique zero point at origin $\bar{x} = 0$ in Ω only, and there exists a unique multi-index α_0 with $|\alpha_0| = s_0 \leq s$, satisfying $\partial_{\bar{x}}^{\alpha_0} f(\bar{x})|_{\bar{x}=0} \neq 0$ and $\partial_{\bar{x}}^\alpha f(\bar{x})|_{\bar{x}=0} = 0$ for any $|\alpha| < |\alpha_0|$.

Thus we have the following result.

Theorem 1.1. Let $X = (\partial_{x_1}, \dots, \partial_{x_{n-1}}, f(\bar{x})\partial_{x_n})$, $\bar{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1})$. Under the condition (H_1) above, X satisfies the Hörmander's condition with its Hörmander index $Q = s_0 + 1$, and the generalized Métivier index of X is $\bar{\nu} = Q + n - 1$. Suppose λ_j is the j -th eigenvalue of the problem (1.1), then for all $k \geq 1$,

$$\sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j \geq \bar{C}(Q)k^{1+\frac{4}{\bar{\nu}}} - \frac{C_2(Q)}{C_1(Q)}k, \tag{1.6}$$

where

$$\bar{C}(Q) = \frac{A_Q}{C_1(Q)n^2(n+Q+3)} \left(\frac{(2\pi)^n}{Q\omega_{n-1}|\Omega|_n} \right)^{\frac{4}{n+Q-1}} (n+Q-1)^{\frac{n+Q+3}{n+Q-1}},$$

and

$$A_Q = \begin{cases} \min\{1, n^{\frac{3-Q}{2}}\}, & Q \geq 2, \\ n, & Q = 1. \end{cases}$$

Here $C_1(Q), C_2(Q)$ are the constants in Proposition 2.3 below, ω_{n-1} is the area of the unit sphere in \mathbb{R}^n , and $|\Omega|_n$ is the volume of Ω .

Remark 1.1. (1) Since $k\lambda_k \geq \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j$, then Theorem 1.1 shows that the eigenvalues λ_k satisfy

$$\lambda_k \geq \bar{C}(Q)k^{\frac{4}{\bar{\nu}}} - \frac{C_2(Q)}{C_1(Q)}, \quad \text{for all } k \geq 1.$$

(2) If $Q \geq 1$, we can deduce from Definition 1.3 that $n+Q-1 \leq \bar{\nu} \leq nQ$. Thus in our case in Theorem 1.1 $\bar{\nu} = n+Q-1$ is the smallest. That means the lower bound estimates (1.6) will be optimal.

(3) If $f(\bar{x}) = 1$ in Theorem 1.1, then $Q = 1$, $\Delta_X^2 = \Delta^2$ is the standard bi-harmonic operator. Then $C_1(Q) = 1$, $C_2(Q) = 0$ and $\bar{C}(Q) = \frac{16\pi^4 n}{n+4} \left(\frac{\omega_{n-1}|\Omega|_n}{n} \right)^{-4/n}$. Thus the result of Theorem 1.1 will be the same to the result of (1.4) in Levine and Protter [15].

In the second part, we shall study the bi-subelliptic operators Δ_X^2 for more general cases, namely

$$X = (\partial_{x_1}, \dots, \partial_{x_{n-p}}, f_1(\bar{x}_{(p)}) \partial_{x_{n-p+1}}, \dots, f_p(\bar{x}_{(p)}) \partial_{x_n}), \quad (1.7)$$

where $\bar{x}_{(p)} = (x_1, \dots, x_{n-p})$,

$$f_j(\bar{x}_{(p)}) = \sum_{|\alpha| \leq s_j} a_{j\alpha} \bar{x}_{(p)}^\alpha, \quad (1 \leq j \leq p < n),$$

are multivariate polynomials of $\bar{x}_{(p)}$ with order s_j . Thus X is more general Grushin type degenerate vector fields with p degenerate directions. We suppose that

(H_2): For each $j, 1 \leq j \leq p < n$, if $f_j(\bar{x}_{(p)})$ has a unique zero point at origin $\bar{x}_{(p)} = 0$ in Ω only, and there exists a unique multi-index α_{0j} with $|\alpha_{0j}| = s_{0j} \leq s_j$, satisfying $\partial_{\bar{x}_{(p)}}^{\alpha_{0j}} f_j(\bar{x}_{(p)})|_{\bar{x}_{(p)}=0} \neq 0$ and $\partial_{\bar{x}_{(p)}}^\alpha f_j(\bar{x}_{(p)})|_{\bar{x}_{(p)}=0} = 0$ for any $|\alpha| < |\alpha_{0j}|$.

Thus we have

Theorem 1.2. Under the condition (H_2) above, the vector fields X satisfies the Hörmander's condition with its Hörmander index $Q = \max\{s_{01}, s_{02}, \dots, s_{0p}\} + 1$, and the generalized Métivier index $\tilde{\nu} = n + \sum_{j=1}^p s_{0j}$. Suppose λ_j is the j -th eigenvalue of the problem (1.1), then for all $k \geq 1$,

$$\sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j \geq \widehat{C}(Q) k^{1+\frac{4}{\tilde{\nu}}} - \frac{C_4(Q)}{C_3(Q)} k, \quad (1.8)$$

where

$$\widehat{C}(Q) = \frac{2^n}{5C_3(Q)n^{\frac{6+\tilde{\nu}}{2}}} \left(\frac{\tilde{\nu}}{\omega_{n-1} \prod_{j=1}^p (s_{0j} + 1)} \right)^{\frac{4+\tilde{\nu}}{\tilde{\nu}}} \left(\frac{(2\pi)^n}{|\Omega|_n} \right)^{\frac{4}{\tilde{\nu}}},$$

where $\tilde{\nu} = n + \sum_{j=1}^p s_{0j}$, $C_3(Q)$ and $C_4(Q)$ are the corresponding sub-elliptic estimate constants in Proposition 2.4, ω_{n-1} is the area of the unit sphere in \mathbb{R}^n , $|\Omega|_n$ is the volume of Ω .

Remark 1.2. Since $k\lambda_k \geq \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j$, then Theorem 1.2 shows that the eigenvalues λ_k satisfy

$$\lambda_k \geq \widehat{C}(Q) k^{\frac{4}{\tilde{\nu}}} - \frac{C_4(Q)}{C_3(Q)}, \quad \text{for all } k \geq 1.$$

Our paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we introduce some preliminaries about subelliptic estimates and discreteness of the Dirichlet eigenvalues for the operator $-\Delta_X^2$. In Section 3, we prove Theorem 1.1. Finally, we prove Theorem 1.2 in Section 4.

2 Preliminaries

Proposition 2.1. Let the system of vector fields $X=(X_1, \dots, X_m)$ satisfies the Hörmander’s condition on Ω with its Hörmander index $Q \geq 1$, then the following estimate

$$\left\| |\nabla|^{\frac{2}{Q}} u \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq C(Q) \|\Delta_X u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \tilde{C}(Q) \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \tag{2.1}$$

holds for all $u \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$, where $\nabla = (\partial_{x_1}, \dots, \partial_{x_m})$, $|\nabla|^{\frac{2}{Q}}$ is a pseudo-differential operator with the symbol $|\xi|^{\frac{2}{Q}}$, the constants $C(Q) > 0, \tilde{C}(Q) \geq 0$ depending on Q .

Proof. Refer to [12] and [21], the subelliptic operator $\Delta_X = \sum_{i=1}^m X_i^2$ satisfies the following sub-elliptic estimate for any $u \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$,

$$\|u\|_{(2\epsilon)} \leq C_1 \|\Delta_X u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + C_2 \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)},$$

with $\epsilon = \frac{1}{Q}$, where $\|u\|_{(2\epsilon)}$ is the Sobolev norm of order 2ϵ . On the other hand, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|u\|_{(\frac{2}{Q})} &= \left(\int_n (1 + |\xi|^2)^{\frac{2}{Q}} |\hat{u}(\xi)|^2 d\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\geq \left(\int_n |\xi|^{\frac{4}{Q}} |\hat{u}(\xi)|^2 d\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \left\| |\nabla|^{\frac{2}{Q}} u \right\|_{L^2(n)} = \left\| |\nabla|^{\frac{2}{Q}} u \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}. \end{aligned}$$

By using the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality we get the following estimate

$$\left\| |\nabla|^{\frac{2}{Q}} u \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq C(Q) \|\Delta_X u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \tilde{C}(Q) \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2.$$

Thus, we complete the proof. □

Proposition 2.2. (cf. [19, 21] and [22]) Let the system of vector fields $X = (X_1, \dots, X_m)$ satisfies the Hörmander’s condition on Ω , then the operator $\Delta_X = \sum_{i=1}^m X_i^2$ is maximally hypo-elliptic, i.e., there exists a constant $C > 0$, such that for any $u \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$ we have the following maximally hypo-elliptic estimate

$$\sum_{|\alpha| \leq 2} \|X^\alpha u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq C(\|\Delta_X u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2),$$

where $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m)$ is a multi-index with $|\alpha| = \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_m$ and $X^\alpha = X_1^{\alpha_1} \dots X_m^{\alpha_m}$.

Proposition 2.3. Let $X = (\partial_{x_1}, \dots, \partial_{x_{n-1}}, f(\bar{x})\partial_{x_n})$, $\bar{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1})$. Here $f(\bar{x})$ is a multivariate polynomial and satisfies the condition (H_1) above. Then X satisfies the Hörmander's condition with its Hörmander index $Q \geq 1$, and we can deduce the following sub-elliptic estimate

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \|\partial_{x_j}^2 u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \left\| |\partial_{x_n}|^{\frac{2}{Q}} u \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq C_1(Q) \|\Delta_X u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + C_2(Q) \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2, \quad (2.2)$$

for all $u \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$, where $|\partial_{x_n}|^{\frac{2}{Q}}$ is a pseudo-differential operator with the symbol $|\xi_n|^{\frac{2}{Q}}$, $C_1(Q) > 0$, $C_2(Q) \geq 0$ are constants depending on Q .

Proof. From the Plancherel's formula, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| |\partial_{x_n}|^{\frac{2}{Q}} u \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 &= \left\| |\xi_n|^{\frac{2}{Q}} \hat{u} \right\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)}^2 \leq \left\| |\xi|^{\frac{2}{Q}} \hat{u} \right\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)}^2 \\ &= \left\| |\nabla|^{\frac{2}{Q}} u \right\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)}^2 = \left\| |\nabla|^{\frac{2}{Q}} u \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2. \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

Also, from the maximally hypo-elliptic estimate of Proposition 2.2 we can deduce that

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \|\partial_{x_j}^2 u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq \sum_{|\alpha| \leq 2} \|X^\alpha u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq C(\|\Delta_X u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2). \quad (2.4)$$

Combining (2.1), (2.3) and (2.4) we can deduce that

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \|\partial_{x_j}^2 u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \left\| |\partial_{x_n}|^{\frac{2}{Q}} u \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq C_1(Q) \|\Delta_X u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + C_2(Q) \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2.$$

Thus, we complete the proof. \square

Proposition 2.4. Let $X = (\partial_{x_1}, \dots, \partial_{x_{n-p}}, f_1(\bar{x}_{(p)})\partial_{x_{n-p+1}}, \dots, f_p(\bar{x}_{(p)})\partial_{x_n})$, $\bar{x}_{(p)} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-p})$. Here $f_j(\bar{x}_{(p)})$ (for $1 \leq j \leq p < n$) are multivariate polynomials which satisfying the condition (H_2) above. Then X satisfies the Hörmander's condition with its Hörmander index $Q \geq 1$, and we get the following sub-elliptic estimate

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n-p} \|\partial_{x_i}^2 u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p \left\| |\partial_{x_{n-p+j}}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} u \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq C_3(Q) \|\Delta_X u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + C_4(Q) \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2, \quad (2.5)$$

for all $u \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$, where $|\partial_{x_j}|^{\frac{2}{r}}$ is a pseudo-differential operator with the symbol $|\xi_j|^{\frac{2}{r}}$, and the constants $C_3(Q) > 0$, $C_4(Q) \geq 0$ depending on Q .

Proof. We consider the system of vector fields $\tilde{X} = (\partial_{x_1}, \dots, \partial_{x_{n-p}}, f_j(\bar{x}_{(p)})\partial_{x_{n-p+j}})$ (for $1 \leq j \leq p < n$) defined on the projection $\Omega_{x'_j}$ of Ω on the direction $x'_j = (x_1, \dots, x_{n-p}, x_{n-p+j})$. Similar to Proposition 2.3, for all j ($1 \leq j \leq p$), we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n-p} \|\partial_{x_i}^2 u\|_{L^2(\Omega_{x'_j})}^2 + \left\| |\partial_{x_{n-p+j}}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} u \right\|_{L^2(\Omega_{x'_j})}^2 \leq \widehat{C}_1(Q) \|\Delta_{\tilde{X}} u\|_{L^2(\Omega_{x'_j})}^2 + \widehat{C}_2(Q) \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega_{x'_j})}^2.$$

Then for all j ($1 \leq j \leq p$), we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n-p} \|\partial_{x_i}^2 u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \left\| |\partial_{x_{n-p+j}}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} u \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq \widehat{C}_1(Q) \|\Delta_{\tilde{X}} u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \widehat{C}_2(Q) \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2. \tag{2.6}$$

By using the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and Proposition 2.2, there exists a constant $C_3 > 0$ such that

$$\|\Delta_{\tilde{X}} u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq C_3 \sum_{|\alpha| \leq 2} \|X^\alpha u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq C_3 C (\|\Delta_X u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2),$$

where C is given in Proposition 2.2. Finally, we get the following sub-elliptic estimate from (2.6)

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n-p} \|\partial_{x_i}^2 u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p \left\| |\partial_{x_{n-p+j}}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} u \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq C_3(Q) \|\Delta_X u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + C_4(Q) \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2.$$

Thus, we complete the proof. □

Next, for the Dirichlet eigenvalues problem (1.1), we have

Proposition 2.5. The Dirichlet eigenvalues problem (1.1) has a sequence of discrete eigenvalues $\{\lambda_j\}_{j \geq 1}$, which satisfying $0 < \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \lambda_3 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_k \dots$ and $\lambda_k \rightarrow +\infty$ as $k \rightarrow +\infty$. Also, the corresponding eigenfunctions $\{\phi_k(x)\}_{k \geq 1}$ constitute an orthonormal basis of $L^2(\Omega)$ and an orthogonal basis of $H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$.

The proof of Proposition 2.5 depends the following lemma:

Lemma 2.1. If $u \in H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$, then for $1 \leq j \leq m$, $X_j u \in H_{X,0}^1(\Omega)$.

Proof. Since $u \in H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$, we have $X_i(X_j u) \in L^2(\Omega)$ for any $1 \leq i, j \leq m$, and $(X_j u) \in L^2(\Omega)$. That implies $X_j u \in H_X^1(\Omega)$. Now, $u \in H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$, then there exists a sequence $\varphi_i \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$ which converges to u in $H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$. That means $X_j \varphi_i \rightarrow X_j u$ in $H_X^1(\Omega)$. Observe that $X_j \varphi_i \in H_{X,0}^1(\Omega)$ and $H_{X,0}^1(\Omega)$ is a Hilbert space, thus we have $X_j u \in H_{X,0}^1(\Omega)$. □

Proof of Proposition 2.5. We know that the definition domain of Δ_X^2 is

$$\text{dom}(\Delta_X^2) = \{u \in H_{X,0}^2(\Omega) \mid \Delta_X^2 u \in L^2(\Omega)\}.$$

Thus, for X_j to be formally skew-adjoint, then for any function $u \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$ and $v \in \text{dom}(\Delta_X^2)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} u \Delta_X^2 v dx &= \int_{\Omega} v \Delta_X^2 u dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} v \Delta_X (\Delta_X u) dx = \sum_{j=1}^m \int_{\Omega} v \cdot X_j^2 (\Delta_X u) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Since $v \in H_{X,0}^2 \subset H_{X,0}^1(\Omega)$, and from the result of Lemma 2.1, $X_j v \in H_{X,0}^1(\Omega)$. Then the equation above gives

$$\int_{\Omega} u \Delta_X^2 v dx = - \sum_{j=1}^m \int_{\Omega} X_j v \cdot X_j (\Delta_X u) dx = \sum_{j=1}^m \int_{\Omega} X_j^2 v \cdot (\Delta_X u) dx,$$

that gives the following Green formula:

$$\int_{\Omega} u \Delta_X^2 v dx = \int_{\Omega} \Delta_X u \cdot \Delta_X v dx, \quad \text{for } u \in H_{X,0}^2(\Omega), \quad v \in \text{dom}(\Delta_X^2). \quad (2.7)$$

On the other hand, for $u \in H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$,

$$\|u\|_{H_X^2}^2 = \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \sum_{i=1}^m \|X_i u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \sum_{i,j=1}^m \|X_i X_j u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2.$$

Thus we have

$$\|u\|_{H_X^2} \geq \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \sum_{j=1}^m \|X_j^2 u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \geq \|\Delta_X u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}. \quad (2.8)$$

By maximally hypoellipticity of Δ_X (also see Proposition 2.2 above), we have following estimate for any $u \in H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$,

$$\|u\|_{H_X^2}^2 = \sum_{|\alpha| \leq 2} \|X^\alpha u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq C(\|\Delta_X u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2). \quad (2.9)$$

Furthermore, the Poincaré inequality gives

$$\|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq C_1 \|Xu\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq C_1 |(\Delta_X u, u)| \leq C_1 \|\Delta_X u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \cdot \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}.$$

Thus for any $0 < \epsilon < 1$ there is $C_\epsilon > 0$, such that

$$\|\Delta_X u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \cdot \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq C_\epsilon \|\Delta_X u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \epsilon \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2.$$

That means from (2.9) that there exists $C_2 > 0$, such that

$$\|u\|_{H_X^2}^2 \leq C_2 \|\Delta_X u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2. \tag{2.10}$$

Hence from (2.8) and (2.10) one has for any $u \in H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$,

$$\|\Delta_X u\| \leq \|u\|_{H_X^2} \leq C_3 \|\Delta_X u\|. \tag{2.11}$$

Thus we define that

$$[u, \varphi] = (\Delta_X u, \Delta_X \varphi), \tag{2.12}$$

then $[\cdot, \cdot]$ is another inner product, and $H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$ with this inner product is complete.

Now, we choose $u, v \in \text{dom}(\Delta_X^2)$, then

$$(\Delta_X^2 u, v) = (\Delta_X u, \Delta_X v) = (\Delta_X^2 v, u).$$

Hence, Δ_X^2 is symmetric operator in $\text{dom}(\Delta_X^2)$. Also

$$(\Delta_X^2 u, u) = (\Delta_X u, \Delta_X u) \geq 0,$$

which implies that Δ_X^2 is positive in $\text{dom}(\Delta_X^2)$.

Next, for any given $f \in L^2(\Omega)$ and any $\varphi \in H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$, we define a functional $f(\varphi) = (f, \varphi)$. Since

$$|(f, \varphi)| \leq \|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \cdot \|\varphi\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq \|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \cdot \|\varphi\|_{H_X^2(\Omega)},$$

then the functional (f, φ) is a continuous linear functional on Hilbert space $H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$. By Riesz representation theorem, there exists a unique $u \in H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$ such that

$$(f, \varphi) = [u, \varphi] = (\Delta_X u, \Delta_X \varphi).$$

Thus the Green formula (2.7) gives that

$$(\Delta_X^2 u, \varphi) = (\Delta_X u, \Delta_X \varphi) = (f, \varphi) \tag{2.13}$$

holds for any $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$. That implies $\Delta_X^2 u = f$, i.e., $u \in \text{dom}(\Delta_X^2)$. This proves the existence of the resolvent operator $R := (\Delta_X^2)^{-1}$, and $Rf = u$.

On the other hand, if we choose $\varphi = u$ in (2.13), then $(Rf, f) = (u, f) = \|\Delta_X u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \geq 0$. R is positive in $L^2(\Omega)$. Meanwhile we have

$$\|Rf\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 = \|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq C \|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \|Rf\|_{L^2(\Omega)},$$

this implies that R is bounded in $L^2(\Omega)$. In order to prove the operator R is self-adjoint, it suffices to prove that R is symmetric, i.e.,

$$(Rf, g) = (f, Rg) \quad \text{for all } f, g \in L^2(\Omega).$$

Let $Rf = u$, $Rg = v$, and choosing $\varphi = v$ in (2.13), we obtain

$$(\Delta_X u, \Delta_X v) = (f, Rg).$$

Since the left hand side is symmetric in u and v , we conclude that the right side is symmetric in f and g . That implies that R is symmetric. Also, we know that the operator $R^{-1} := \Delta_X^2$ is a self-adjoint on $\text{dom}(\Delta_X^2)$.

Similarly, we can prove that the inverse operator $(\Delta_X^2 + \alpha \cdot \text{id})^{-1}$ exists and is bounded for any $\alpha \geq 0$. We see that $-\alpha$ is a regular value of Δ_X^2 , hence $\text{spec}(\Delta_X^2) \subset (0, +\infty)$. Moreover, we can deduce that $R: L^2(\Omega) \rightarrow H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$ is continuous, this is because that

$$\|Rf\|_{H_X^2}^2 \leq C(\|\Delta_X(Rf)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2) \leq C(f, Rf) \leq C\|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)}\|Rf\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq C\|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)}\|Rf\|_{H_X^2(\Omega)}.$$

By using the subelliptic estimate, we know that $H_{X,0}^2$ can be continuously embedded into the standard Sobolev space $H^{\frac{2}{\varrho}}(\Omega)$, and $H^{\frac{2}{\varrho}}(\Omega)$ can be compactly embedded into $L^2(\Omega)$. Hence R is a compact operator from $L^2(\Omega)$ to $L^2(\Omega)$. By spectral theory we know that R has positive discrete eigenvalues μ_i , $\mu_1 \geq \mu_2 \geq \dots \geq \mu_k \geq \dots$ and $\mu_k \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow +\infty$; and the corresponding eigenfunctions ϕ_i of R form an orthonormal basis of $L^2(\Omega)$, namely

$$R\phi_i = \mu_i\phi_i.$$

That means the eigenfunctions $\{\phi_i\}_{i \geq 1}$ will be the orthogonal basis of $H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$. Finally we let $\lambda_i = \mu_i^{-1}$, then λ_i are the Dirichlet eigenvalues of Δ_X^2 which will be discrete and satisfying $0 < \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_k \leq \dots$, and $\lambda_k \rightarrow +\infty$ as $k \rightarrow +\infty$. The proof of Proposition 2.5 is completed. \square

3 Proof of Theorem 1.1

Lemma 3.1 (cf. [3, 16]). *For the system of vector fields $X = (X_1, \dots, X_m)$, if $\{\phi_j\}_{j=1}^k$ are the set of orthonormal eigenfunctions corresponding to the eigenvalues $\{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^k$. Define*

$$\Phi(x, y) = \sum_{j=1}^k \phi_j(x)\phi_j(y).$$

Then for $\widehat{\Phi}(z, y) = (2\pi)^{-n/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi(x, y) e^{-ix \cdot z} dx$ to be the partial Fourier transformation of $\Phi(x, y)$ with respect to the x -variable, we have

$$\int_{\Omega} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |\widehat{\Phi}(z, y)|^2 dz dy = k \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{\Omega} |\widehat{\Phi}(z, y)|^2 dy \leq (2\pi)^{-n} |\Omega|_n.$$

Lemma 3.2 (cf. [8]). *Let f be a real-valued function defined on \mathbb{R}^n with $0 \leq f \leq M_1$, and for $Q \in \mathbb{N}^+$,*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} z_j^2 + |z_n|^{\frac{2}{Q}} \right)^2 f(z) dz \leq M_2.$$

Then

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(z) dz \leq \frac{(QM_1\omega_{n-1})^{\frac{4}{n+Q+3}}}{n+Q-1} \left(\frac{n(n+Q+3)}{A_Q} \right)^{\frac{n+Q-1}{n+Q+3}} M_2^{\frac{n+Q-1}{n+Q+3}},$$

where ω_{n-1} is the area of the unit sphere in \mathbb{R}^n , and

$$A_Q = \begin{cases} \min\{1, n^{\frac{3-Q}{2}}\}, & Q \geq 2, \\ n, & Q = 1. \end{cases}$$

Proof of Theorem 1.1. From the results of Proposition 2.5, let $\{\lambda_k\}_{k \geq 1}$ be a sequence of the eigenvalues for the problem (1.1), and $\{\phi_k(x)\}_{k \geq 1}$ be the corresponding eigenfunctions, then $\{\phi_k(x)\}_{k \geq 1}$ constitute an orthogonal basis of $H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$.

Let

$$\Phi(x, y) = \sum_{j=1}^k \phi_j(x) \phi_j(y),$$

by Cauchy-Schwarz inequality we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} z_j^2 + |z_n|^{\frac{2}{Q}} \right)^2 |\widehat{\Phi}(z, y)|^2 dy dz \\ & \leq n \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} z_j^4 + |z_n|^{\frac{4}{Q}} \right) |\widehat{\Phi}(z, y)|^2 dy dz. \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

Next, by using integration-by-parts, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j &= \sum_{j=1}^k \int_{\Omega} \lambda_j \phi_j(x) \cdot \phi_j(x) dx = \sum_{j=1}^k \int_{\Omega} \Delta_X^2 \phi_j(x) \cdot \phi_j(x) dx \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^k \int_{\Omega} X(\Delta_X \phi_j(x)) \cdot X \phi_j(x) dx = \sum_{j=1}^k \int_{\Omega} \Delta_X \phi_j(x) \cdot \Delta_X \phi_j(x) dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} \sum_{j=1}^k |\Delta_X \phi_j(x) \phi_j(y)|^2 dx dy = \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} |\Delta_X \Phi(x, y)|^2 dx dy. \end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

Then by using Plancherel's formula and Proposition 2.3, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} z_j^2 + |z_n|^{\frac{2}{Q}} \right)^2 |\widehat{\Phi}(z, y)|^2 dy dz \\
 & \leq n \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} z_j^4 + |z_n|^{\frac{4}{Q}} \right) |\widehat{\Phi}(z, y)|^2 dy dz \\
 & = n \int_n \int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} |\partial_{x_j}^2 \Phi(x, y)|^2 + \left| |\partial_{x_n}|^{\frac{2}{Q}} \Phi(x, y) \right|^2 \right) dy dx \\
 & = n \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} |\partial_{x_j}^2 \Phi(x, y)|^2 + \left| |\partial_{x_n}|^{\frac{2}{Q}} \Phi(x, y) \right|^2 \right) dy dx \\
 & \leq n \left[C_1(Q) \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} |\Delta_X \Phi(x, y)|^2 dx dy + C_2(Q) \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} |\Phi(x, y)|^2 dx dy \right]. \quad (3.3)
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus from (3.2) and Lemma 3.1 above, we can deduce that

$$\int_n \int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} z_j^2 + |z_n|^{\frac{2}{Q}} \right)^2 |\widehat{\Phi}(z, y)|^2 dy dz \leq n \left(C_1(Q) \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j + C_2(Q) k \right).$$

Next, we choose

$$f(z) = \int_{\Omega} |\widehat{\Phi}(z, y)|^2 dy, \quad M_1 = (2\pi)^{-n} |\Omega|_n, \quad M_2 = n \left(C_1(Q) \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j + C_2(Q) k \right).$$

Then from the result of Lemma 3.2, we know that for any $k \geq 1$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & k \\
 & \leq \frac{Q\omega_{n-1}(2\pi)^{-n} |\Omega|_n}{n+Q-1} \left(\frac{n(n+Q+3)}{(2\pi)^{-n} |\Omega|_n Q A_Q \omega_{n-1}} \right)^{\frac{n+Q-1}{n+Q+3}} \left(n \left(C_1(Q) \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j + C_2(Q) k \right) \right)^{\frac{n+Q-1}{n+Q+3}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

This means, for any $k \geq 1$,

$$\sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j \geq \tilde{C}(Q) k^{1+\frac{4}{Q}} - \frac{C_2(Q)}{C_1(Q)} k,$$

with

$$\tilde{C}(Q) = \frac{A_Q}{C_1(Q) n^2 (n+Q+3)} \left(\frac{(2\pi)^n}{Q\omega_{n-1} |\Omega|_n} \right)^{\frac{4}{n+Q-1}} (n+Q-1)^{\frac{n+Q+3}{n+Q-1}}.$$

The proof of Theorem 1.1 is completed. \square

4 Proof of Theorem 1.2

Lemma 4.1. Let f be a real-valued function defined on \mathbb{R}^n with $0 \leq f \leq M_1$, and for $p, q \in \mathbb{N}^+$,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-p} z_i^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} \right)^2 f(z) dz \leq M_2.$$

Then

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(z) dz \leq \frac{\omega_{n-1} \prod_{j=1}^p (s_{0j} + 1)}{\bar{\sigma}} \left(\frac{5n^{\frac{4+\bar{\sigma}}{2}}}{2^n} \right)^{\frac{\bar{\sigma}}{4+\bar{\sigma}}} M_1^{\frac{4}{4+\bar{\sigma}}} M_2^{\frac{\bar{\sigma}}{4+\bar{\sigma}}},$$

where $\bar{\sigma} = n + \sum_{j=1}^p s_{0j}$, ω_{n-1} is the area of the unit sphere in \mathbb{R}^n .

Proof. First, we choose R such that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-p} z_i^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} \right)^2 g(z) dz = M_2,$$

where

$$g(z) = \begin{cases} M_1, & \sum_{i=1}^{n-p} z_i^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} \leq R^2, \\ 0, & \sum_{i=1}^{n-p} z_i^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} > R^2. \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-p} z_i^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} \right)^2 - R^4 \right] (f(z) - g(z)) \geq 0.$$

Hence we have

$$R^4 \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (f(z) - g(z)) dz \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-p} z_i^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} \right)^2 (f(z) - g(z)) dz \leq 0.$$

That means

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(z) dz \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} g(z) dz. \tag{4.1}$$

Now we have

$$M_2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-p} z_i^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} \right)^2 g(z) dz = M_1 \int_{\tilde{B}_R} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-p} z_i^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} \right)^2 dz,$$

where

$$\tilde{B}_R = \left\{ z \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad \sum_{i=1}^{n-p} z_i^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} \leq R^2 \right\}.$$

Next, we change the variables as follows,

$$z_i = z'_i \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n-p), \quad z_{n-p+j} = \operatorname{sgn}(z'_{n-p+j}) |z'_{n-p+j}|^{s_{0j}+1}, \quad (j = 1, 2, \dots, p).$$

Then we have the following determinant of Jacobian,

$$\left| \det \left(\frac{\partial(z_1, \dots, z_n)}{\partial(z'_1, \dots, z'_n)} \right) \right| = \prod_{j=1}^p (s_{0j} + 1) |z'_{n-p+j}|^{s_{0j}}.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} M_2 &= M_1 \int_{\tilde{B}_R} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-p} z_i^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} \right)^2 dz \\ &= M_1 \prod_{j=1}^p (s_{0j} + 1) \int_{B_R} |z|^4 \prod_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{s_{0j}} dz \\ &\geq M_1 \prod_{j=1}^p (s_{0j} + 1) \int_{A_R} |z|^4 \prod_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{s_{0j}} dz, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$B_R = \{z \in \mathbb{R}^n, |z| \leq R\}, \quad A_R = \left\{ z \in \mathbb{R}^n, |z_j| \leq \frac{R}{\sqrt{n}}, j = 1, \dots, n \right\}.$$

By a direct calculation, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{A_R} |z|^4 \prod_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{s_{0j}} dz \\ &\geq \int_{A_R} |z_1|^4 \prod_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{s_{0j}} dz \\ &= 2 \int_0^{\frac{R}{\sqrt{n}}} |z_1|^4 dz_1 \times \prod_{j=1}^p \left(2 \int_0^{\frac{R}{\sqrt{n}}} |z_{n-p+j}|^{s_{0j}} dz_{n-p+j} \right) \times \left(2 \int_0^{\frac{R}{\sqrt{n}}} 1 dz \right)^{n-p-1} \\ &= \frac{2^n}{5} \frac{1}{\prod_{j=1}^p (s_{0j} + 1)} n^{-\frac{n+4+\sum_{j=1}^p s_{0j}}{2}} R^{n+4+\sum_{j=1}^p s_{0j}} = \frac{2^n}{5} \frac{1}{\prod_{j=1}^p (s_{0j} + 1)} n^{-\frac{4+\bar{\nu}}{2}} R^{4+\bar{\nu}}. \end{aligned}$$

Then we have

$$M_2 \geq \frac{2^n M_1}{5} n^{-\frac{4+\bar{\nu}}{2}} R^{4+\bar{\nu}}. \quad (4.2)$$

From the definition of $g(z)$, we know that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} g(z) dz &= M_1 \int_{\tilde{B}_R} dz = M_1 \prod_{j=1}^p (s_{0j} + 1) \int_{B_R} \prod_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{s_{0j}} dz \\ &\leq M_1 \prod_{j=1}^p (s_{0j} + 1) \int_{B_R} |z|^{\sum_{j=1}^p s_{0j}} dz = M_1 \prod_{j=1}^p (s_{0j} + 1) \int_0^R \omega_{n-1} r^{n-1 + \sum_{j=1}^p s_{0j}} dr \\ &= \frac{M_1 \omega_{n-1} \prod_{j=1}^p (s_{0j} + 1)}{n + \sum_{j=1}^p s_{0j}} R^{n + \sum_{j=1}^p s_{0j}} = \frac{M_1 \omega_{n-1} \prod_{j=1}^p (s_{0j} + 1)}{\tilde{\nu}} R^{\tilde{\nu}}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.3}$$

From (4.1), (4.2) and (4.3), we obtain

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(z) dz \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} g(z) dz \leq \frac{\omega_{n-1} \prod_{j=1}^p (s_{0j} + 1)}{\tilde{\nu}} \left(\frac{5n^{\frac{4+\tilde{\nu}}{2}}}{2^n} \right)^{\frac{\tilde{\nu}}{4+\tilde{\nu}}} M_1^{\frac{4}{4+\tilde{\nu}}} M_2^{\frac{\tilde{\nu}}{4+\tilde{\nu}}},$$

where $\tilde{\nu} = n + \sum_{j=1}^p s_{0j}$. Lemma 4.1 is proved. □

Proof of Theorem 1.2. Let $\{\lambda_k\}_{k \geq 1}$ be a sequence of the eigenvalues for the problem (1.1), $\{\phi_k(x)\}_{k \geq 1}$ be the corresponding eigenfunctions. Then $\{\phi_k(x)\}_{k \geq 1}$ constitute an orthogonal basis of $H_{X,0}^2(\Omega)$.

Let $\Phi(x,y) = \sum_{j=1}^k \phi_j(x)\phi_j(y)$. Thus, by using the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-p} z_j^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} \right)^2 |\widehat{\Phi}(z,y)|^2 dy dz \\ &\leq n \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-p} z_j^4 + \sum_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{\frac{4}{s_{0j}+1}} \right) |\widehat{\Phi}(z,y)|^2 dy dz. \end{aligned} \tag{4.4}$$

Similar to the result of (3.2), we obtain that

$$\sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j = \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} |\Delta_X \Phi(x,y)|^2 dx dy. \tag{4.5}$$

Then by using Plancherel's formula and Proposition 2.4, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-p} z_j^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} \right)^2 |\widehat{\Phi}(z,y)|^2 dy dz \\ &\leq n \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-p} z_j^4 + \sum_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{\frac{4}{s_{0j}+1}} \right) |\widehat{\Phi}(z,y)|^2 dy dz \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= n \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-p} |\partial_{x_j}^2 \Phi(x, y)|^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p \left| |\partial_{x_{n-p+j}}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} \Phi(x, y) \right|^2 \right) dy dx \\
&= n \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-p} |\partial_{x_j}^2 \Phi(x, y)|^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p \left| |\partial_{x_{n-p+j}}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} \Phi(x, y) \right|^2 \right) dy dx \\
&\leq n \left[C_3(Q) \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} |\Delta_X \Phi(x, y)|^2 dx dy + C_4(Q) \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} |\Phi(x, y)|^2 dx dy \right].
\end{aligned}$$

Thus from (4.5) and Lemma 3.1 above, we can deduce that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-p} z_j^2 + \sum_{j=1}^p |z_{n-p+j}|^{\frac{2}{s_{0j}+1}} \right)^2 |\widehat{\Phi}(z, y)|^2 dy dz \leq n \left(C_3(Q) \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j + C_4(Q) k \right).$$

Finally, we choose

$$f(z) = \int_{\Omega} |\widehat{\Phi}(z, y)|^2 dy, \quad M_1 = (2\pi)^{-n} |\Omega|_n, \quad M_2 = n \left(C_3(Q) \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i + C_4(Q) k \right).$$

Then from the Lemma 4.1, we have for any $k \geq 1$,

$$k \leq \frac{\omega_{n-1} \prod_{j=1}^p (s_{0j} + 1)}{\tilde{\nu}} \left((2\pi)^{-n} |\Omega|_n \right)^{\frac{4}{4+\tilde{\nu}}} \left(\frac{5n}{2^n} \right)^{\frac{\tilde{\nu}}{4+\tilde{\nu}}} \left(n \left(C_3(Q) \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j + C_4(Q) k \right) \right)^{\frac{\tilde{\nu}}{4+\tilde{\nu}}}.$$

This means, for any $k \geq 1$,

$$\sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j \geq \widehat{C}(Q) k^{1+\frac{4}{\tilde{\nu}}} - \frac{C_4(Q)}{C_3(Q)} k,$$

where $\tilde{\nu} = n + \sum_{j=1}^p s_{0j}$, and

$$\widehat{C}(Q) = \frac{2^n}{5C_3(Q)n^{\frac{6+\tilde{\nu}}{2}}} \left(\frac{\tilde{\nu}}{\omega_{n-1} \prod_{j=1}^p (s_{0j} + 1)} \right)^{\frac{4+\tilde{\nu}}{\tilde{\nu}}} \left(\frac{(2\pi)^n}{|\Omega|_n} \right)^{\frac{4}{\tilde{\nu}}}.$$

The proof of Theorem 1.2 is completed. \square

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