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Basque Foundation for Science

Neure ibilbidea eta lana // My trajectory and work

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Ikerbasque Research Professor & Director of the BCAM

Jakiunde, Azaroak 20, 2009



1. My trajectory

- 1. Born in Eibar: September 28, 1961
- 2. Education: Ikastola La Salle Universidad Laboral UPV-EHU Université Pierre et Marie Curie - Collège de France
- 3. PhD: February 1988
- Assistant Professor UPV-EHU (87-88), Associate Professor UAM (88-90), Professor of Applied Mathematics UCM (1990-2000), UAM (2001-2008), Ikerbasque and BCAM (2008—)
- 5. Highly Cited Researcher, ISI Thomson, 2004
- 6. Euskadi Prize 2006
- 7. Julio Rey Pastor National Prize (Spain), 2007
- 8. Jakiunde 2007
- 9. Awarded the European Research Council Advanced Grant NUMERIWAVES: 2010-2014
- 10. Cofrade del Bacalao, Eibar, San Andrés 2009

2. BCAM

- The Basque Center for Applied Matematics, BCAM, is a research center on applied mathematics promoted by the Basque Government through Ikerbasque, with the support of other basque R+D institutions such as the University of the Basque Country and Innobasque, and other cooperating third Institutions as Bizkaia Xede.
- BCAM is one of the members of the BERC network: Basque Excellence Research Centers.
- BCAM aims to strengthen the Basque science and technology system, by performing research in the frontiers of mathematics, training and attracting talented scientists.
- BCAM aims to become a relevant node in the international mathematics research network.



Research Lines

- PDE Partial Differential Equations, Numerics and Control Theory
- MIP Multiphysics, Inversion and Petroleum
- NET Network Analysis, Design and Optimization
- CVE Calculus of Variations and Elasticity
- MB Mathematical Biology
- HMC Hybrid Monte Carlo Simulations



Scientific Council

- Juan José MANFREDI U. Pittsburgh (USA) [President]
- Sir John BALL U. Oxford (UK)
- Sem BORST Bell Labs (USA) / Technische U. Eindhoven (Netherlands)
- Jean-Michel CORON U. Pierre et Marie Curie & Institut Universitaire de France (France)
- Leszek F. DEMKOWICZ U. Texas at Austin (USA)
- Pierre-Louis LIONS Collège de France (France)

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3. My research

Goals:

To develop analytical and numerical methods allowing to mimic and reproduce fine qualitative properties of solutions to Partial Differential Equations (PDE), oriented, in particular, towards design and control applications: aeronautics, networks (irrigation, gas, rivers,...), complex structures,...

Tools:

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 Fine combination of several fields of Applied Mathematics: Analysis, Partial Differential Equations, Numerical Analysis and Control Theory.

A challenge:

Overcome the fact that humans, through mathematical analysis, and computers do not "see" the same reality. Spurious numerical solutions become an obstacle to develop efficient control strategies in real applications.

Nature versus computer reality:



A few snapshots

Pb1 A simple decomposition in a complex basis

Pb2 Control systems and vibrations

Pb3 Shapes in aeronautics

A simple decomposition in a complex basis

Complex structures often obey a simple pattern. It suffices to look at them in the appropriate perspective and frame, to see better.



A mathematical version: Joint work with J. Duoandikoetxea, 1992.

Theorem: If $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^N, |x|^{k+1})$, then

$$f(x) = \sum_{|\alpha| \le k} \frac{(-1)^{|\alpha|}}{\alpha!} \int f(x) x^{\alpha} dx \, D^{\alpha} \delta + \sum_{|\alpha| = k+1} D^{\alpha} F^{\alpha}$$

According the solutions of the heat equation obey the asymptotic expansion as $t \to \infty$:

$$u(t) \sim \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} \frac{(-1)^{|\alpha|}}{\alpha!} \int u_0(x) x^{\alpha} dx D^{\alpha} G(x,t)$$

where G = G(x, t) is the gaussian heat kernel:

$$G(x,t) = (4\pi t)^{-N/2} \exp(-|x|^2/4t).$$



Control systems and vibrations

Control and optimization develop the mathematical theory required to respond to the need, in many applications, of **actuating on systems to perform better**: Noise reduction, scheduling, trajectories of vehicles, irrigation networks, ...

The problem of controllability: Drive the trajectories of an evolution process to a desired final state configuartion.

To find $u \in {}^m$ such that the solution of

$$\begin{cases} x'(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t) \\ x(0) = x_0 \end{cases}$$

reaches the final target

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$$x(T) = x_T.$$

The function $x(t) : [0, T] \rightarrow^n$ is the state and $u(t) : [0, T] \rightarrow^m$ - the control.

Theorem: [Sukaldariaren Teorema; Kalman rank condition] The system is controllable if and only if

$$\operatorname{rank}[B, AB, \cdots, A^{n-1}B] = n.$$
(2)

(1)



A well known example: Parking and unparking the car.

Cybernetics, Norbert Wiener (1894–1964): the science of communication and control in machines and humans.

Duality: Comunication and control - Sensors and actuators.

When putting together PDE, Numerics and Control, algorithms may diverge and **mathematical analysis** is needed to bring light.



As the dimension of the discretization increases, the computed controls become more and more chaotic and eventually diverge.

E. Zuazua, SIAM Review, 2005: PDE, Numerical and Control tools have to be tunned finely to guarantee the efficiency of the overall algorithms.

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Shapes in aeronautics

Applied Mathematicians address the **inner questions of Mathematics** such as the uniqueness and regularity of solutions of the Navier-Stokes equations in 3 space dimensions (air, water, blood,...) that was identified by the Clay Foundation as one of the Millenium Problems.

http://www.claymath.org/millennium/Navier-Stokes_Equations/



Incompressible N-S equations:

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$$u_t - \mu \Delta u + u \cdot \nabla u = \nabla p$$

 $\operatorname{div} u = 0.$

But it also addresses other most practical but still challenging issues, such as the development of efficient numerical methods for aeronautics design.

Searching for the optimum: Gradient methods





NASA: Visible shocks at the nose in the windtunnel test

Joint work with C. Castro (UPM) and F. Palacios (AIRBUS-E), E. Zuazua, M3AS, 2008.

The alternating descent method: Takes advantage of the possible singularities on solutions. Descent is computed distinguishing smooth and singular components.





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