

THE RECTANGULAR DRUM VS. THE STRING ("1Ddrum")



- 1) How do their temporal/^{ircular} frequencies differ? What are the implications of this regarding the musical quality of these instruments?
- 2) What do the individual modes look like?
- 3) What is the main complication in the solution process for these two systems?

THE RECTANGULAR DRUM VS. THE STRING ("1Ddrum")

(1) Circular frequency and period

Each component $u_n(x,t)$ is a PERIODIC function

of period $T = \frac{2\pi}{c\omega_n}$ where $c\omega_n$ is the circular frequency

$$\text{DRUM: } c\omega_{mn} = c \sqrt{\left(\frac{m\pi}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n\pi}{b}\right)^2}$$

$$\text{STRING: } c\omega_n = \frac{n\pi c}{L}$$

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{\text{tension}}{\text{density}}}$$

*In contrast with the drum, the string
vibrates at frequencies that are integer
multiples of the FUNDAMENTAL*

$$\text{frequency } \omega_1 = \frac{\pi c}{L}$$

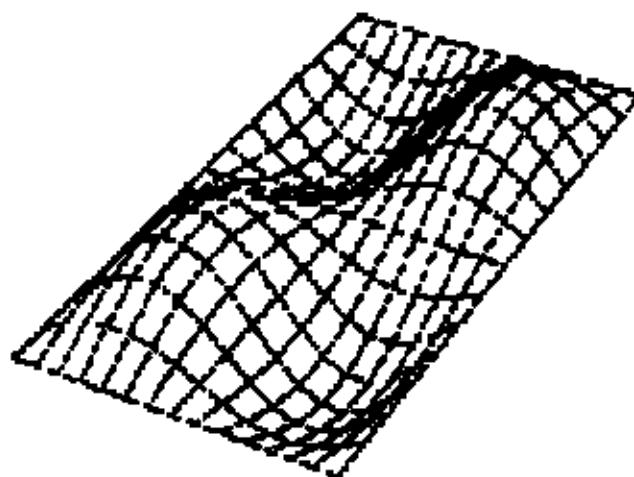
(2) Shape of Standing Waves

1D standing waves for string; 2D standing waves for drum

The shape of the "m,n MODE" is given by

$$\sin \frac{m\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{n\pi y}{b}.$$

This is modulated periodically in time. If, say, the initial velocity is zero (i.e. $B_{mn} = 0$), then the "m,n MODE" is modulated by the $\cos \omega_{mn} ct$ factor.



(3) Where are the nodes?

Nodes can be found where the deflections $u = 0$ for all time!

$$\sin \frac{m\pi x}{a} = 0 \quad \mapsto \quad \frac{m\pi x}{a} = \pi, 2\pi, 3\pi, \dots$$

$$\sin \frac{n\pi y}{b} = 0 \quad \mapsto \quad \frac{n\pi y}{b} = \pi, 2\pi, 3\pi, \dots$$

YOU CHECK that this occurs at

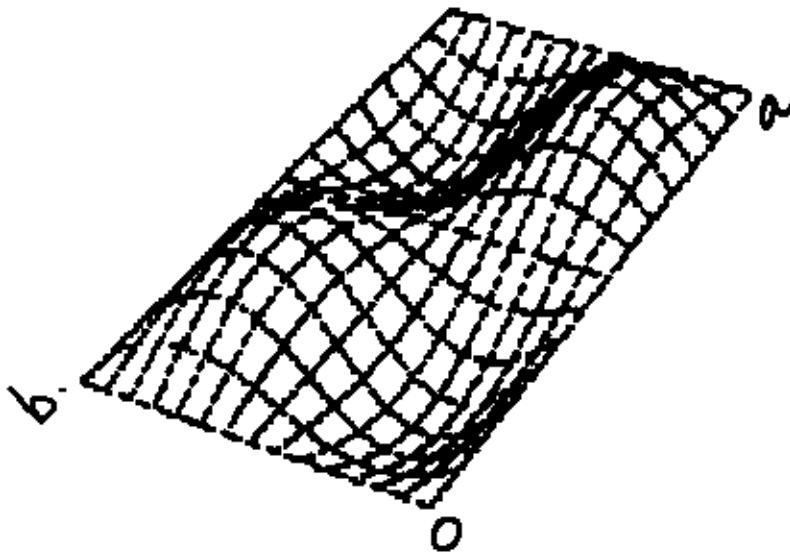
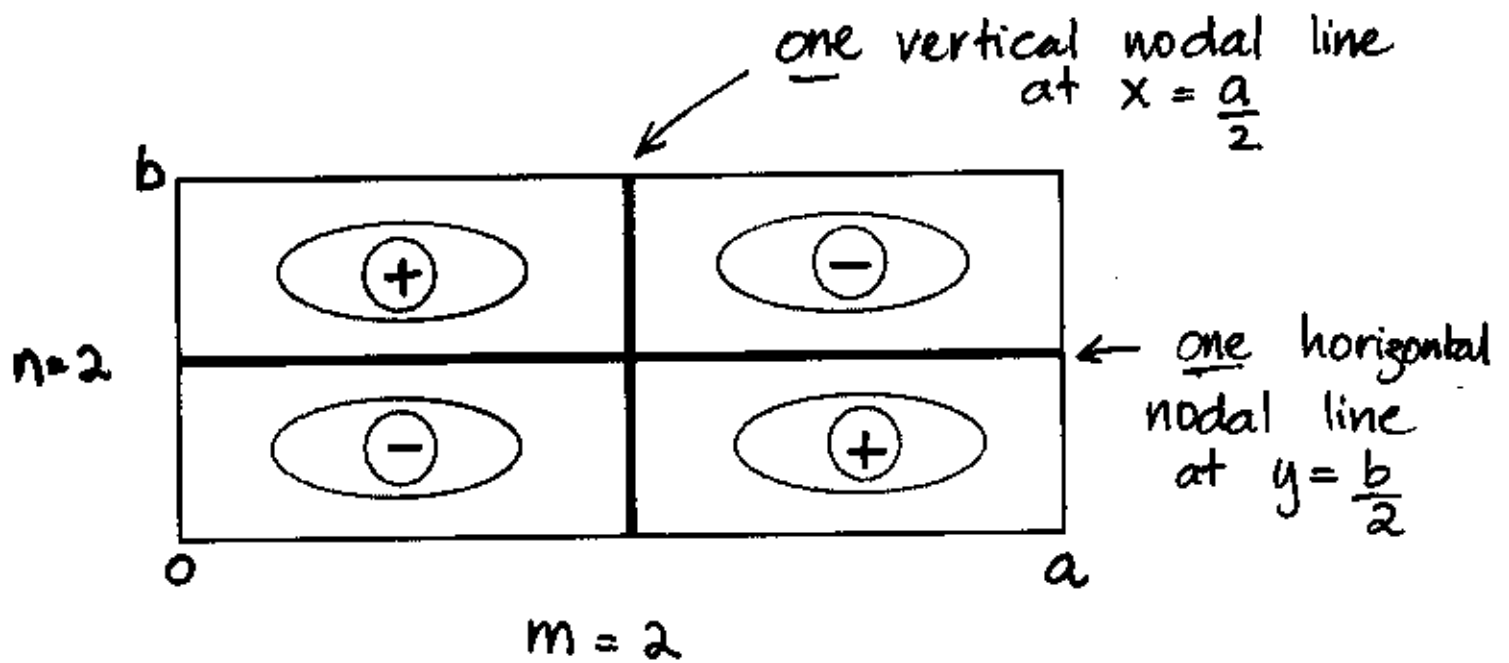
$$x = \frac{a}{m}, \frac{2a}{m}, \dots, \frac{(m-1)a}{m}$$

(m - 1) nodal lines

$$y = \frac{b}{n}, \frac{2b}{n}, \dots, \frac{(n-1)b}{n}$$

(n - 1) nodal lines

For example, let's look at the (2,2) mode



LR

2.3. SEPARATION OF VARIABLES - TWO SPATIAL DIMENSIONS

tbh

63 Notes

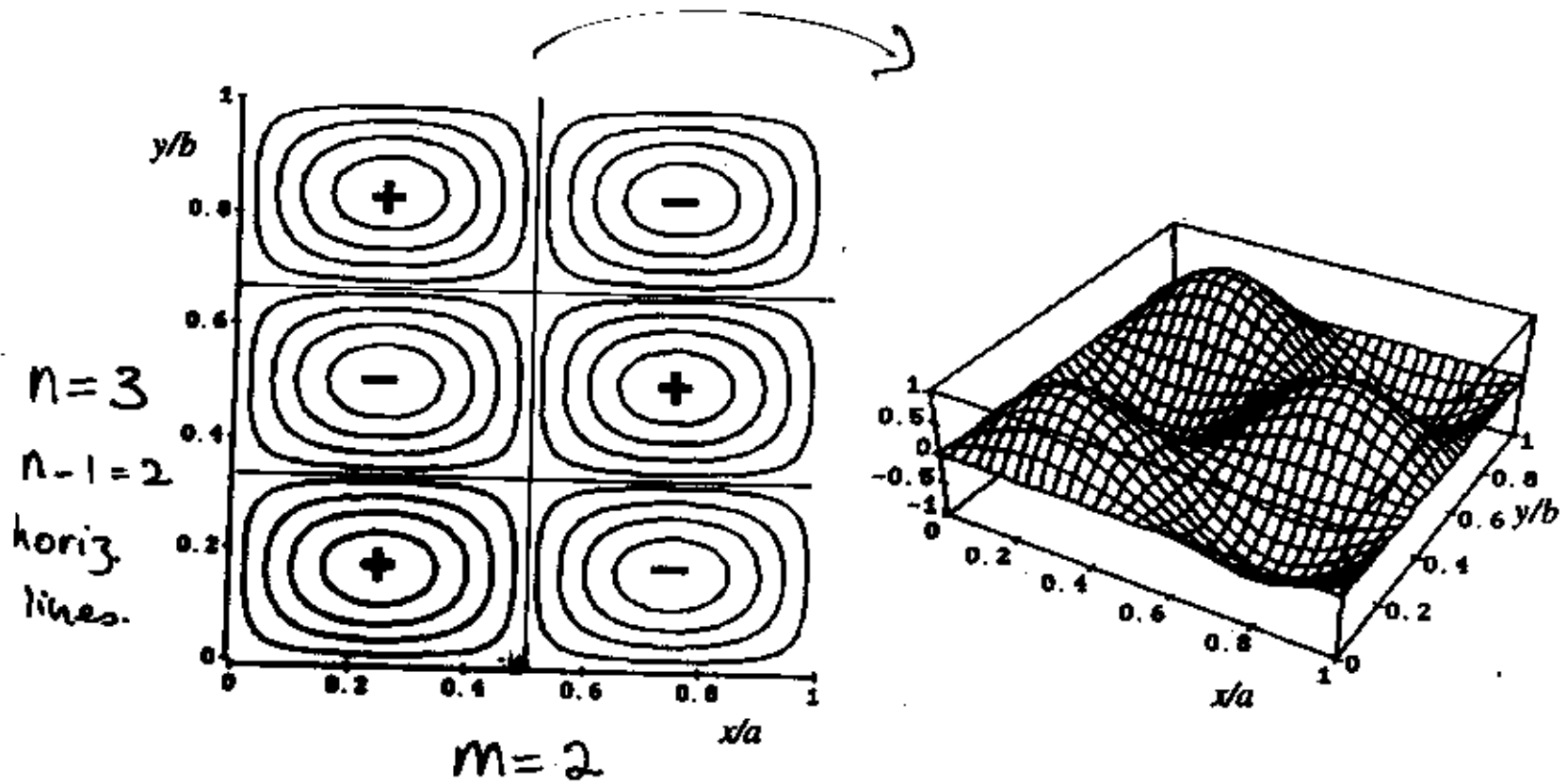


Figure 2.5: A contour plot and a perspective view of the standing wave $\sin(2\pi x/a)\sin(3\pi y/b)$.

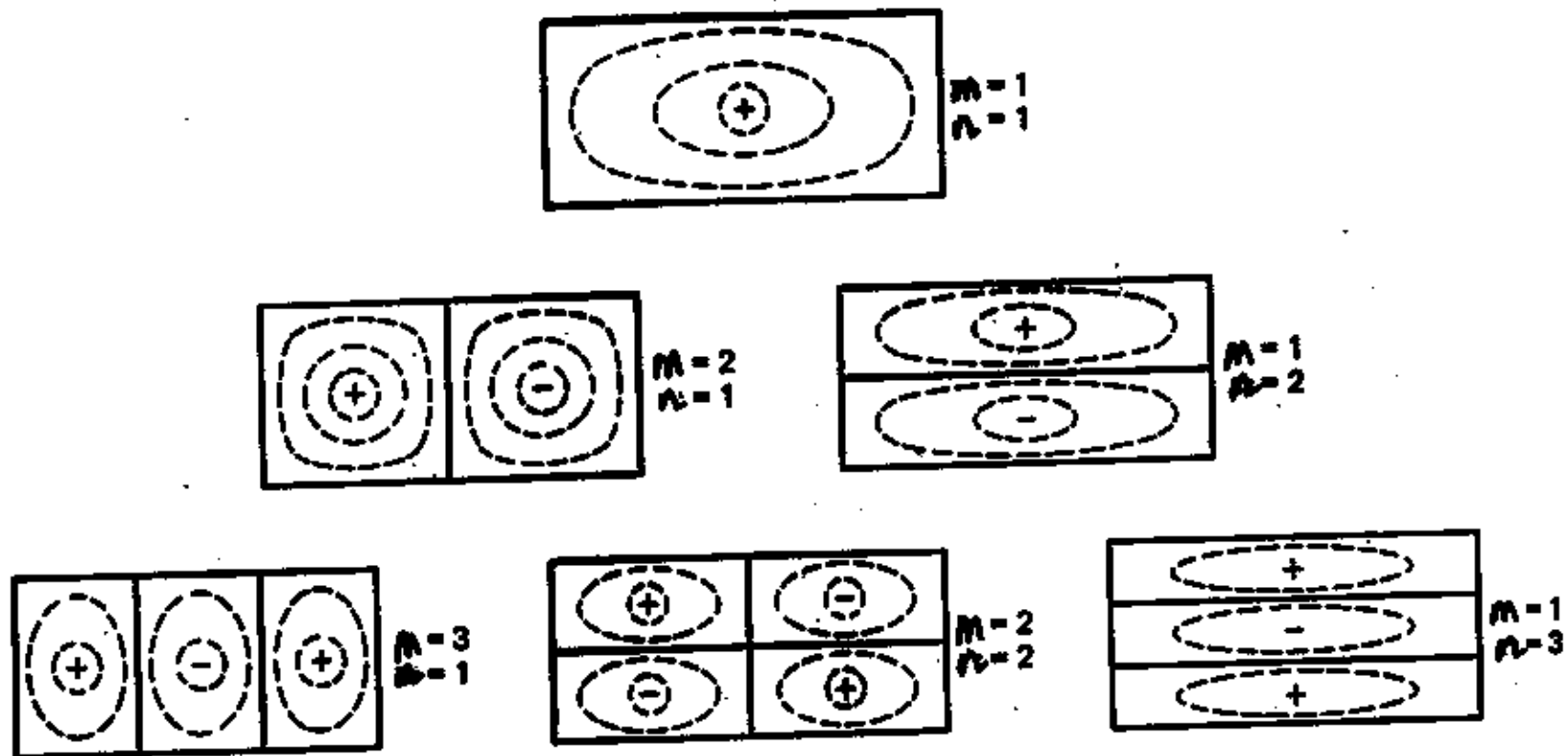
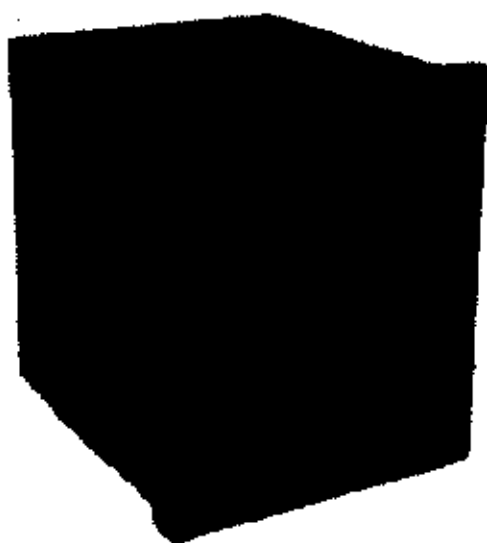


Figure 6.3.2 Nodal curves for modes of a vibrating rectangular membrane.

(4) What can our solution tell us about the musical quality of a string instrument (1D drum) vs a drum?



Suppose we tune the string (by adjusting the tension) so its fundamental frequency $\pi c/L$ corresponds to lowest A on the piano (A₀): i.e. 27.5 cycles/sec. This means adjust tension so that $T=(55L)^2\lambda$.

$$\frac{\pi c}{L} \frac{\text{rad}}{\text{sec}} = \frac{\pi}{L} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{T}{\lambda}} = 27.5 (2\pi) \frac{\text{rad}}{\text{cycle}}$$

The first 5 notes in our general solution

n	Frequency $n \frac{\pi c}{L}$ (cycles/sec)	Relative Amplitude $\frac{1}{n^2} \left \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} \right $	Musical Note
1	27.5	1	A_0
2	55.0	0	A_1
3	82.5	$\frac{1}{9}$	$\approx E_2$
4	110.0	0	A_2
5	137.5	$\frac{1}{25}$	$\approx C_3^\#$

The sound is not a pristine A_0 with octave overtones, but is "fairly clean" due to the relatively small amplitudes of the E_2 + $C_3^\#$ contributions. The mix of frequencies and amplitudes is different for different instruments — an A_0 played on a violin sounds different from an A_0 on a tuba.

Relative
amplitude
for a rec.
drum

$$\frac{64 h}{\pi^6 m^3 n^3}$$

mn	ω_{mn}	Note
11	<u>27.5</u>	A ₀
12,21	43.5	= F ₁
22	<u>55.0</u>	A ₁
13,31	61.5	= B ₁
23,32	70.1	= C ₂ [#]
14,41	80.2	= E ₂
33	82.5	= E ₂
24,42	87.0	= F ₂
34,43	97.2	= G ₂
15,51	99.2	= G ₂
25,52	104.7	= G ₂ [#]
44	<u>110.0</u>	A ₂
35,53	113.4	= A ₂ [#]
16,61	118.3	= A ₂ [#]
26,62	123.0	= B ₂
45,54	124.5	= B ₂
36,63	130.4	= C ₃
17,71,55	137.5	= C ₃ [#]
46,64	140.2	= C ₃ [#]

$$W_{mn} = \pi C \sqrt{\frac{m^2}{a^2} + \frac{n^2}{b^2}}$$

Frequency
profile for
a drum (square)
tuned so that
its fundamental
frequency is
27.5 cycles/sec.
(i.e. A₀ on a piano)

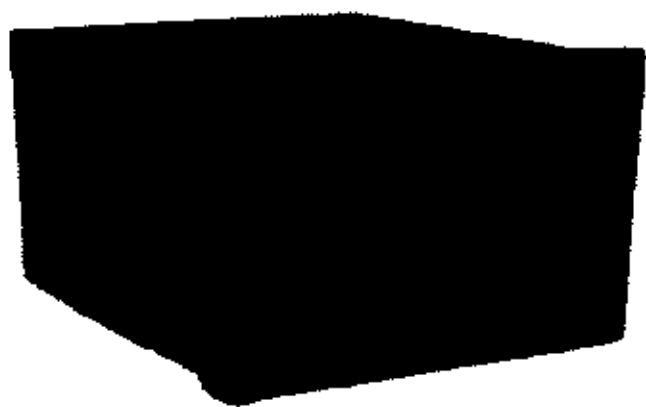
Figure 4. Square drum, octave overtones underlined.

Note that every note is present!
Compare this with the frequency
profile for a string in a violin/guitar
FREQUENCY depends on the geometry

Why aren't rectangular drums prized instruments?

Virtually every note is present:

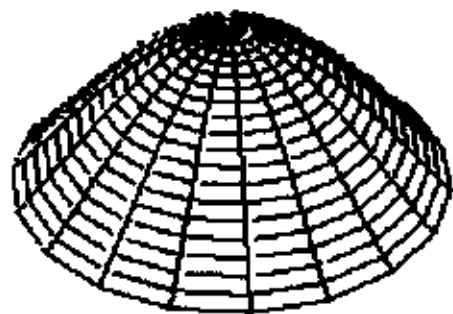
profusion of notes are due to the dense values of $\sqrt{m^2 + n^2}$



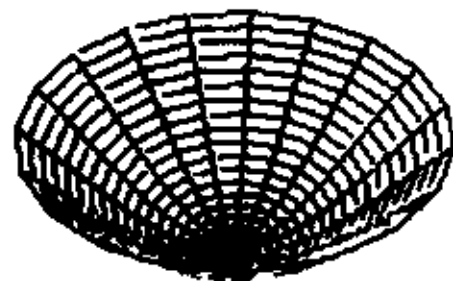
Playing it is like playing the piano with your forearms - rather than your fingers!!!!

Circular drums are better!

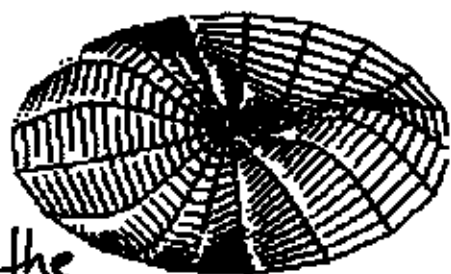
What do the individual modes look like? in a circular drum?



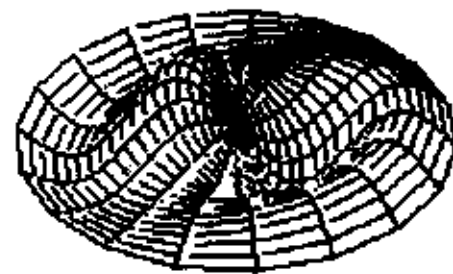
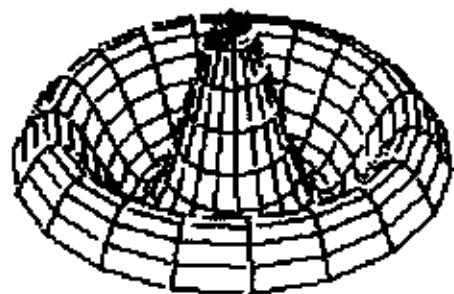
✓



✓



✓



What do the modes look like if there is no

θ -dependence?

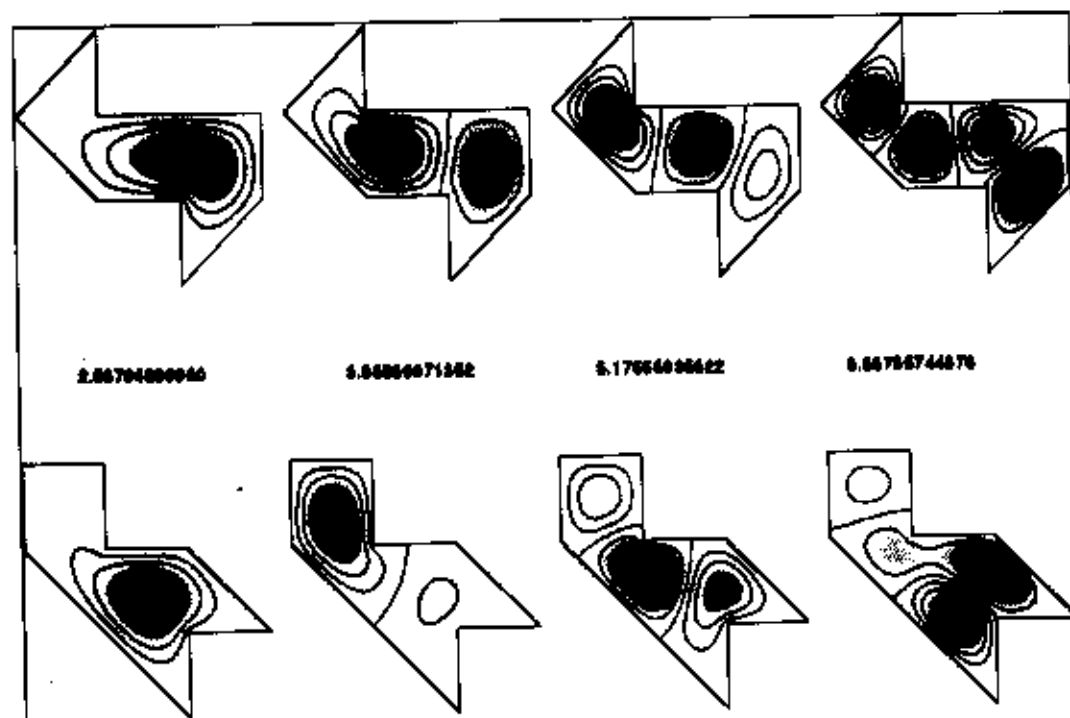
Can you ~~guess~~ guess!?

(with above modes θ -dependence)

In 1991, mathematicians Gordon, Webb, and Wolpert (Invent. Math. 110, pp 1--22) solved a famous problem posed by M. Kac

in 1966: **"Can you hear the**

shape of a drum?" That is, do the eigenvalues of a membrane determine the shape of the membrane? Their answer was "No!". They used a powerful mathematical technique to produce a counterexample, which in its simplest form is a pair of eight-sided nonconvex polygons.



2 different
shape
drums
with
identical
frequency
spectrum.