SIAM J. MATH. ANAL.
Vol. 31, No. 4, pp. 940–940
© 2000 Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics

THE SHAPE OF THE TALLEST COLUMN: CORRECTED*

STEVEN J. COX† AND C. MAEVE MCCARTHY‡

Abstract. Our summary of the work of Keller and Niordson (*J. Math. Mech.* 16, pp. 433–446, 1966) was inaccurate. We offer a correction.

Key words. isolated eigenvalue, continuous spectrum

AMS subject classifications. 35L15, 49J99, 73H05

PII. S0036141099354958

Our criticism [1] of the work of Keller and Niordson [2] was not accurate. Following Proposition 2.1 on page 549 of [1] we stated that "Keller and Niordson's calculation of $c = \lambda_1/24$ suggests that their design gives rise to an isolated eigenvalue, $\lambda_1 = 24c$, just below the continuous spectrum." We followed this statement with the misrepresentation "Their result, however, was predicated on the false assumption that (2.4) possessed a purely discrete spectrum." We wish to replace this statement with "Their result, however, assumed the existence, that cannot be taken for granted, of such an isolated eigenvalue for a in a neighborhood of the optimal design." We regret the misrepresentation.

REFERENCES

[1] S.J. COX AND C.M. MCCARTHY, *The shape of the tallest column*, SIAM J. Math. Anal., 29 (1998), pp. 547–554.
[2] J.B. KELLER AND F.I. NIORDSON, *The tallest column*, J. Math. Mech., 16 (1966), pp. 433–446.

*Received by the editors April 26, 1999; accepted for publication June 11, 1999; published electronically April 4, 2000.
http://www.siam.org/journals/sima/31-4/35495.html
†Department of Computational and Applied Mathematics, Rice University, 6100 Main St., Houston, TX 77005 (cox@rice.edu).
‡Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Murray State University, Murray, KY 42071 (maeve.mccarthy@murraystate.edu).

Copyright of SIAM Journal on Mathematical Analysis is the property of Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.

Copyright of SIAM Journal on Mathematical Analysis is the property of Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.