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**Julie Marie Miker\*** ([Julie.Miker@arbor.edu](mailto:Julie.Miker@arbor.edu)), 3310 Trillium Lane Apt 22, Jackson, MI 49201.  
*Eigenvalue Inequalities for a Family of Spherically Symmetric Riemannian Manifolds.* Preliminary report.

We will consider two isoperimetric inequalities for the eigenvalues of the Laplacian on a family of spherically symmetric Riemannian manifolds. The Payne-Pólya-Weinberger Conjecture (PPW) states that for a bounded domain  $\Omega$  in Euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the ratio  $\lambda_1(\Omega)/\lambda_0(\Omega)$  of the first two eigenvalues of the Dirichlet Laplacian is bounded by the corresponding eigenvalue ratio for the Dirichlet Laplacian on the ball  $B_\Omega$  of equal volume. The Szegő-Weinberger inequality states that for a bounded domain  $\Omega$  in Euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the first nonzero eigenvalue of the Neumann Laplacian  $\mu_1(\Omega)$  is maximized on the ball  $B_\Omega$  of the same volume. In this talk, we will look at a family a spherically symmetric manifolds given by  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with a spherically symmetric metric determined by a radially symmetric function  $f$ . We will then give a PPW-type upper bound for the eigenvalue gap,  $\lambda_1(\Omega) - \lambda_0(\Omega)$ , and also the Szegő-Weinberger inequality for this family of manifolds on a restricted class of domains in this space. This is joint work with Peter Hislop. (Received January 23, 2010)