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**W Desmond Evans\*** ([EvansWD@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:EvansWD@cardiff.ac.uk)), School of Mathematics, Cardiff University, Senghennydd Road, Cardiff, Wales. *On the approximation numbers of Sobolev embeddings and their distribution.*

The aim of the lecture will be to describe techniques for obtaining upper and lower bounds and asymptotic formulae for functions which count the approximation numbers of Sobolev embeddings. A survey of results on Hardy-type operators on intervals and trees which are relevant to the main theme of the talk will also be given. (Received January 24, 2006)