

An optimal adaptive finite element method

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Optimal adaptive finite element methods

Model problem: Poisson, 2D, newest vertex bisection.

[Generalizations: $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} \nabla$ with \mathbf{A} symm. pos. def. piecewise constant, any space dimension n , red-refinements.]

Given $f \in H^{-1}(\Omega)$, find $u \in H_0^1(\Omega)$,

$$\boxed{a(u, v)} := \int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v = \int_{\Omega} f v =: \boxed{f(v)} \quad (v \in H_0^1(\Omega)).$$

$$\|\cdot\| := a(\cdot, \cdot)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \quad \blacksquare$$

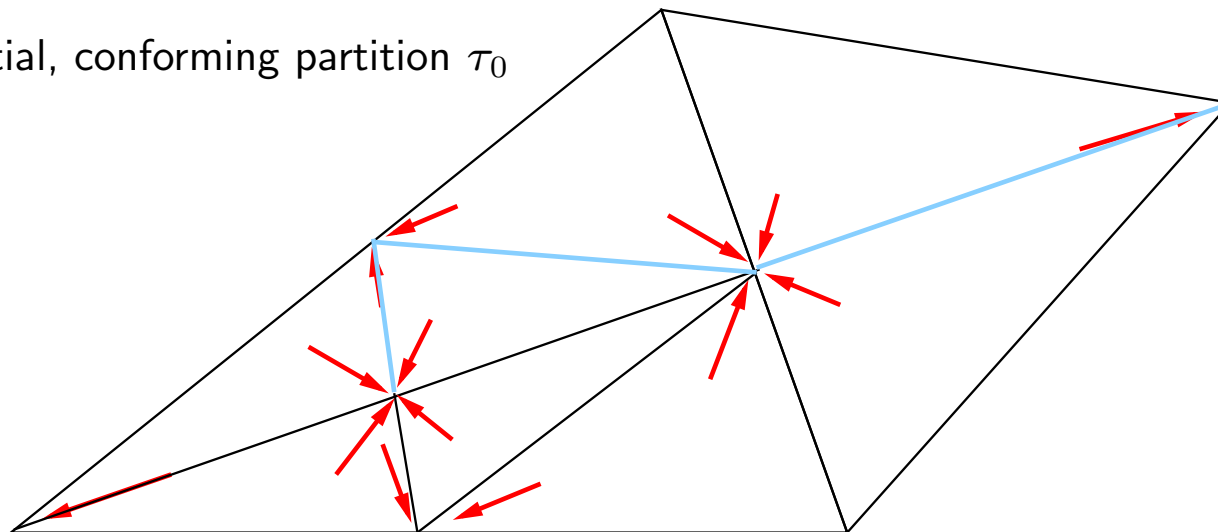
τ conforming part. of Ω into triangles, $V_{\tau} = H_0^1(\Omega) \cap \prod_{T \in \tau} P_{d-1}(T)$. Find $u_{\tau} \in V_{\tau}$,

$$a(u_{\tau}, v_{\tau}) = f(v_{\tau}) \quad (v_{\tau} \in V_{\tau}).$$

AFEM: **GALSOLVE**, compute a post. error est, **MARK, REFINE**.

Newest vertex bisection

Initial, conforming partition τ_0



$\tau := \mathbf{REFINE}[\tau, M]$: Bisect all $T \in M \subset \tau$ a few times. Complete. ■

Th 1 (Binev, Dahmen, DeVore '04). *With suitable assignment of newest vertices in initial mesh,*

$$\#\tau_K - \#\tau_0 \lesssim \sum_{i=0}^{K-1} \#M_i \quad (\text{unif. in } K).$$

(can be generalized to any space dimension [St.'08])

Perspective: Approximation classes

$$\mathcal{A}_\infty^s := \{u \in H_0^1(\Omega) : |u|_{\mathcal{A}_\infty^s} := \sup_N N^s \inf_{\{\tau \in \mathcal{P} : \#\tau - \#\tau_0 \leq N\}} \|u - u_\tau\|_{H^1} < \infty\},$$

[i.e. $\|u - u_\tau\|_{H^1} \leq \varepsilon$ generally requires $\#\tau - \#\tau_0 \leq \varepsilon^{-1/s} |u|_{\mathcal{A}_\infty^s}^{1/s}$.] ■

When $\mathcal{P} \sim$ **unif. refs**, then

$$u \in \mathcal{A}_\infty^{(d-1)/n} \iff u \in H^d(\Omega), \text{ i.e., } \partial^\alpha u \in L_2(\Omega), \forall |\alpha| \leq d \blacksquare$$

With $\mathcal{P} \sim$ **all partitions created by newest vertex bisection**:

$$u \in \mathcal{A}_\infty^{(d-1)/n} \iff u \in B_q^d(L_p(\Omega)), \text{ any } p > \left(\frac{d-1}{n} + \frac{1}{2}\right)^{-1} \text{ i.e., } \partial^\alpha u \in L_p(\Omega) \quad \forall |\alpha| \leq d$$

([Binev, Dahmen, DeVore, Petrushev '02]) ■

Regul. th: For suff sm f , $n = 2$, u in such a Besov space for any d ([Dahlke, DeVore '97]).

A posteriori error estimator

$$\eta_T(f, u_\tau) := \text{diam}(T)^2 \|f + \Delta u_\tau\|_{L_2(T)}^2 + \text{diam}(T) \|[\nabla u_\tau \cdot \mathbf{n}]\|_{L_2(\partial T)}^2,$$

Th 2 (Babuška, Rheinboldt '78; Verfürth '96).

$$\| \|u - u_\tau\| \| \leq C_1 \mathcal{E}(\tau, f, u_\tau) := C_1 \left[\sum_{T \in \tau} \eta_T(f, u_\tau) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}. \blacksquare$$

Proof. $\| \|u - u_\tau\| \| = \sup_{v \in H_0^1(\Omega)} \frac{a(u - u_\tau, v)}{\| \|v\| \|}.$

$$\begin{aligned} a(u - u_\tau, v) &= a(u - u_\tau, v - v_\tau) = \int_{\Omega} f(v - v_\tau) - a(u_\tau, v - v_\tau) \\ &= \sum_{T \in \tau} \int_T (f + \Delta u_\tau)(v - v_\tau) - \int_{\partial T} \nabla u_\tau \cdot \mathbf{n}(v - v_\tau). \blacksquare \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

Th 3 (St. '06, Cascon, Kreuzer, Nochetto, Siebert '07).

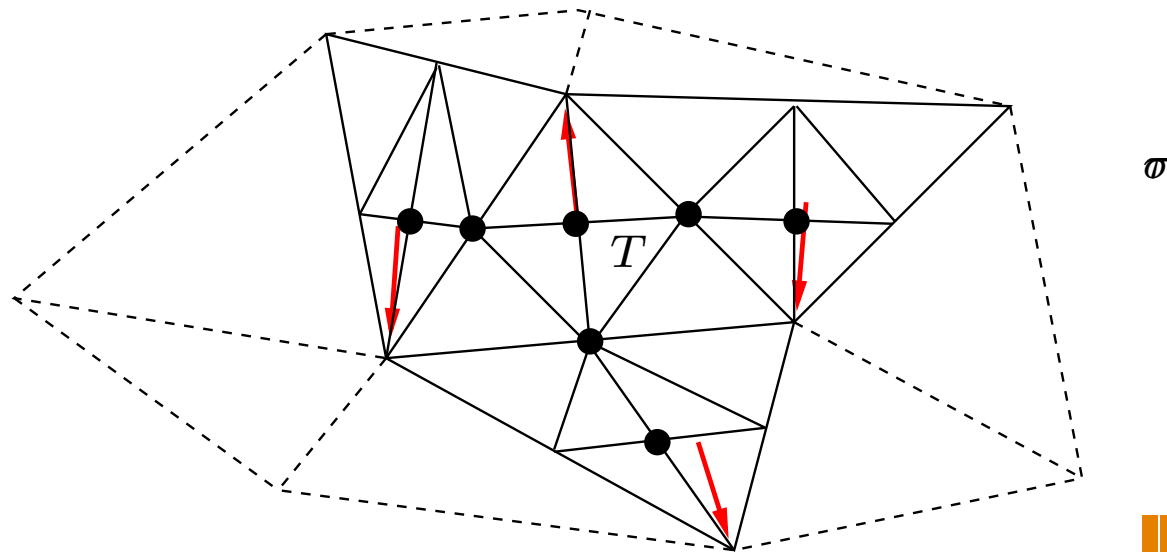
$$\sigma \supset \tau, R_{\tau \rightarrow \sigma} := \{T \in \tau : T \notin \sigma\},$$

$$\| \|u_\sigma - u_\tau\| \| \leq C_1 \left[\sum_{T \in R_{\tau \rightarrow \sigma}} \eta_T(f, u_\tau) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Note $\#R_{\tau \rightarrow \sigma} \lesssim \#\sigma - \#\tau.$

We call $\sigma \supset \tau$ a **full refinement with respect to $T \in \tau$** , when

T and all its neighbours in τ , as well as all faces of T contain a vertex of σ in their interiors.



Th 4 (Morin, Nochetto, Siebert '00). Let $f \in \prod_{T \in \tau} P_{d-2}(T)$, $\sigma \supset \tau$ full ref w.r.t. $T \in \tau$. Then

$$\eta_T(f, u_\tau) \lesssim \sum_{\tilde{T} \in \{T\} \cup \{\text{neighbours}\}} |u_\sigma - u_\tau|_{H^1(\tilde{T})}^2$$

Corol 5. $\sigma \supset \tau$ full ref w.r.t. $T \in M \subset \tau$. Then

$$c_2 \left[\sum_{T \in M} \eta_T(f, u_\tau) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \| \| u_\sigma - u_\tau \| \| \quad (\text{not true for any } f \in L_2(\Omega))$$

In part, $c_2 \mathcal{E}(\tau, f, u_\tau) \leq \| \| u - u_\tau \| \|$. ■

AFEM converges (Dörfler '96, Morin, Nochetto, Siebert '00)

MARK $[\tau, f, u_\tau] \rightarrow M$: Let $\theta \in (0, 1]$. Select **smallest** $M \subset \tau$ s.t.

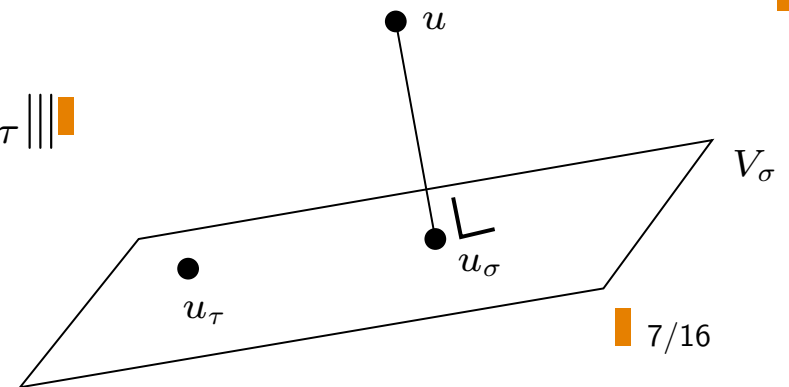
$$\left[\sum_{T \in M} \eta_T(\tau, f, u_\tau) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \geq \theta \mathcal{E}(\tau, f, u_\tau). \blacksquare$$

REFINE $[\tau, M] \rightarrow \sigma$: Construct smallest (conforming) $\sigma \supset \tau$ that is a full refinement w.r.t. all $T \in M$. ■

$$\| \| u - u_\tau \| \|^2 = \| \| u - u_\sigma \| \|^2 + \| \| u_\sigma - u_\tau \| \|^2$$

$$\| \| u_\sigma - u_\tau \| \| \geq c_2 \theta \mathcal{E}(\tau, f, u_\tau) \geq \frac{c_2 \theta}{C_1} \| \| u - u_\tau \| \| \blacksquare$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \| \| u - u_\sigma \| \| \leq \left(1 - \frac{c_2^2 \theta^2}{C_1^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \| \| u - u_\tau \| \|$$



AFEM converges with optimal rate

[St '06] ([Binev, Dahmen, DeVore '04] using coarsening)

AFEM $[f, \varepsilon] \rightarrow [\tau_m, u_{\tau_m}]$ % let $f \in \prod_{T \in \tau_0} P_{d-2}(T)$

compute Gal sol $u_{\tau_0} \in V_{\tau_0}$; $k := 0$

while $C_1 \mathcal{E}(\tau_k, f, u_{\tau_k}) > \varepsilon$ do

$M_k := \mathbf{MARK}[\tau_k, f, u_{\tau_k}]$

$\tau_{k+1} := \mathbf{REFINE}[\tau_k, M_k]$

compute Gal sol $u_{\tau_{k+1}} \in V_{\tau_{k+1}}$

$k := k + 1$

end do

$m := k$ ■

$$\leadsto \|||u - u_{\tau_m}\||| \leq \varepsilon, \quad \#\tau_m - \#\tau_0 \lesssim \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \#M_k \blacksquare$$

Th 6. If $\theta < \frac{c_2}{C_1}$, then

$$\#M_k \leq \inf \left\{ \#\rho - \#\tau_0 : \|||u - u_\rho\||| \leq \left[1 - \frac{C_1^2 \theta^2}{c_2^2}\right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \|||u - u_{\tau_k}\||| \right\} \blacksquare$$

$$\leq \left[\left[1 - \frac{C_1^2 \theta^2}{c_2^2}\right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \|||u - u_{\tau_k}\||| \right]^{-1/s} |u|_{\mathcal{A}_\infty^s}^{1/s} \quad \text{when } u \in \mathcal{A}_\infty^s. \blacksquare$$

$$\leadsto \#\tau_m - \#\tau_0 \lesssim \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \|||u - u_{\tau_k}\|||^{-1/s} |u|_{\mathcal{A}_\infty^s}^{1/s} \lesssim \|||u - u_{\tau_{m-1}}\|||^{-1/s} |u|_{\mathcal{A}_\infty^s}^{1/s} \lesssim \varepsilon^{-1/s} |u|_{\mathcal{A}_\infty^s}^{1/s}.$$

Pr. Th. 6. Let $\sigma \supset \tau_k$ s.t. $\|u - u_\sigma\| \leq [1 - \frac{C_1^2 \theta^2}{c_2^2}]^{\frac{1}{2}} \|u - u_{\tau_k}\|$. Th.3 shows

$$\begin{aligned} C_1^2 \sum_{T \in \mathcal{R}_{\tau_k \rightarrow \sigma}} \eta_T(f, u_{\tau_k}) &\geq \|u_\sigma - u_{\tau_k}\|^2 = \|u - u_{\tau_k}\|^2 - \|u - u_\sigma\|^2 \\ &\geq \frac{C_1^2 \theta^2}{c_2^2} \|u - u_{\tau_k}\|^2 \geq C_1^2 \theta^2 \mathcal{E}(\tau_k, f, u_{\tau_k})^2, \end{aligned}$$

i.e., $[\sum_{T \in \mathcal{R}_{\tau_k \rightarrow \sigma}} \eta_T(f, u_{\tau_k})]^{\frac{1}{2}} \geq \theta \mathcal{E}(\tau_k, f, u_{\tau_k})$. ■

$M := \mathbf{MARK}[\tau_k, f, u_{\tau_k}]$ is **smallest** set with this prop, so

$$\#M \leq \#\mathcal{R}_{\tau_k \rightarrow \sigma} \leq \#\sigma - \#\tau_k. \blacksquare$$

For arb. ρ with $\|u - u_\rho\| \leq [1 - \frac{C_1^2 \theta^2}{c_2^2}]^{\frac{1}{2}} \|u - u_{\tau_k}\|$, take $\sigma := \tau_k \cup \rho$. Then

$$\#M \leq \#\sigma - \#\tau_k \leq \#\rho - \#\tau_0.$$

□

General right hand sides and inexact solves

RHS $[\tau, f, \delta] \rightarrow [\sigma, f_\sigma]$

% In: τ a partition, $f \in H^{-1}(\Omega)$ and $\delta > 0$.

% Out: $f_\sigma \in \prod_{T \in \tau} P_{d-2}(T)$, where $\sigma = \tau$, or, if necessary, $\sigma \supsetneq \tau$,

% such that $\|f - f_\sigma\|_{H^{-1}(\Omega)} \leq \delta$.

If $u \in \mathcal{A}_\infty^s$, cost of **RHS** will not dominate if $\exists c_f$ s.t. $\#\sigma - \#\tau \leq c_f^{1/s} \delta^{-1/s}$, and cost $\lesssim \#\sigma$. Such a pair (f, \mathbf{RHS}) is called **s-optimal**.

For suff. smooth f , s -optimality with $s = \frac{d}{n}$ ($> \frac{d-1}{n}$) can be realized. ■

GALSOLVE $[\tau, f_\tau, u_\tau^{(0)}, \delta] \rightarrow w_\tau$

% In: $\tau, f_\tau \in (\mathcal{S}_\tau)'$, and $u_\tau^{(0)} \in \mathcal{S}_\tau$.

% Out: $w_\tau \in \mathcal{S}_\tau$ with $\|u_\tau - w_\tau\|_{H^1(\Omega)} \leq \delta$.

% The call should require $\lesssim \max\{1, \log(\delta^{-1} \|u_\tau - u_\tau^{(0)}\|_{H^1(\Omega)})\} \#\tau$ ops.

AFEM has opt compl

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AFEM[ $f, \varepsilon$ ]  $\rightarrow$  [ $\tau_m, w_{\tau_m}$ ]  
%  $\omega, \beta > 0$  suff small constants.  
 $w_{\tau_0} := 0; k := 0; \delta_0 \approx \|f\|_{H^{-1}(\Omega)}$   
do  
  do  $\delta_k := \delta_k/2$   
    [ $\tau_k, f_{\tau_k}$ ] := RHS[ $\tau_k, f, \delta_k/2$ ]  
     $w_{\tau_k} :=$  GALSOLVE[ $\tau_k, f_{\tau_k}, w_{\tau_k}, \delta_k/2$ ]  
    if  $\eta_k := (2 + C_1 c_2^{-1})\delta_k/2 + C_1 \mathcal{E}(\tau_k, f_{\tau_k}, w_{\tau_k}) \leq \varepsilon$  then stop  
    endif  
  until  $\delta_k \leq \omega \mathcal{E}(\tau_k, f_{\tau_k}, w_{\tau_k})$ .  
   $M_k :=$  MARK[ $\tau_k, f_{\tau_k}, w_{\tau_k}$ ]  
   $\tau_{k+1} :=$  REFINE[ $\tau_k, M_k$ ]  
   $w_{\tau_{k+1}} := w_{\tau_k}, \delta_{k+1} := 2\beta\eta_k, k := k + 1$   
enddo  
 $m := k$ 
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Th 7. $\|u - w_{\tau_m}\|_{H^1(\Omega)} \leq \varepsilon$. If $u \in \mathcal{A}_\infty^s$, and (f, \mathbf{RHS}) is s -optimal, then both $\#\tau_m$ and work $\lesssim \varepsilon^{-1/s} (|u|_{\mathcal{A}_\infty^s}^{1/s} + c_f^{1/s})$.

Realizations of RHS

ex. $f \in L_2(\Omega)$. Q_σ being L_2 -orth.proj. onto $\prod_{T \in \sigma} P_{d-2}(T)$.

$$\|f - Q_\sigma f\|_{H^{-1}(\Omega)} \lesssim \sqrt{\sum_{T \in \sigma} \text{vol}(T)^{\frac{2}{n}} \|f - Q_T f\|_{L_2(T)}^2} =: \text{osc}(f, \sigma) \blacksquare$$

Given $\bar{\theta} \in (0, 1)$, run **MARK** and **REFINE** algorithm on osc until $\leq \delta$. Is quasi-optimal in the sense that whenever

$$f \in \bar{\mathcal{A}}^s := \left\{ f \in L_2(\Omega) : \sup_N N^s \inf_{\{\tau: \#\tau - \#\tau_0 \leq N\}} \text{osc}(f, \tau) < \infty \right\},$$

then (f, \mathbf{RHS}) is s -optimal (assuming $\int_T f P_{d-2}$ exact in $\mathcal{O}(1)$ operations)

So greedy works (thanks to factor $\text{vol}(T)^{\frac{2}{n}}$). \blacksquare

ex. General $d, n > 1$. $(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{n})^{-1} < q \leq 2$, $f \in L_q(\Omega)$ ($\hookrightarrow H^{-1}(\Omega)$).

Generalization of previous case with

$$\text{osc}(f, \sigma) := \sqrt{\sum_{T \in \sigma} \text{vol}(T)^{1 - \frac{2}{q} + \frac{2}{n}} \inf_{p \in P_{d-2}(T)} \|f - p\|_{L_q(T)}^2}. \blacksquare$$

ex. $n = 2, d = 2$, $f(v) = \int_K v$, K a smooth curve. **RHS** $[\tau, f, \delta] \rightarrow [\sigma, f_\sigma]$:
 Refine those T that intersect K until their diameters $\lesssim \delta^2$. $(f_\sigma)|_T := \frac{\text{length}(K \cap T)}{\text{vol}(T)}$. s -optimal for $s = \frac{1}{2}$ ($= \frac{d-1}{n}$).

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Extensions

- [Cascon, Kreuzer, Nochetto, Siebert '07]: One bisection of marked cells suffices (no interior node). Marking for reducing osc can be omitted, assuming $f \in L_2(\Omega)$, exact integration, and with exact solving of Gal systems.
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