

Méthodes d'éléments finis pour la résolution d'EDP et estimateurs d'erreur a posteriori

Sarah DHONDT

Laboratoire LAMAV , Université de Valenciennes
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- 1 Introduction
- 2 Example: Diffusion equation
 - Variational approximation
 - Error estimations
 - Examples of a posteriori error estimators
- 3 Adaptive refinement meshes
- 4 Conclusion

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"Calcul Scientifique"

- Modelling physical phenomena with PDE
- Analysis of the solution of the PDE
- Solving numerically this PDE: build an approximated solution
 - ★ Choice of a numerical method
 - ★ Solve an linear system
- Analysis of the numerical solution
- Comparison of this solution with experiments results

Applying domains: aeronautic, car industry, atmosphere pollution,.. . .

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Initial problem

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, $d = 2, 3$ bounded domain with Lipschitz boundary.
Find u such that:

$$\begin{cases} -\operatorname{div}(a \nabla u) = f & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = g_D \text{ on } \Gamma_D, \quad a \nabla u \cdot n = g_N \text{ on } \Gamma_N. \end{cases}$$

Variational problem

Given f a function, find $u \in V = H_0^1(\Omega)$ solution of

$$\underbrace{\int_{\Omega} a \nabla u \nabla v dx}_{B(u, v)} = \underbrace{\int_{\Omega} f v dx}_{(f, v)}, \quad \forall v \in V,$$

where B is a continuous bilinear coercive form.

⇒ Existence and uniqueness of the solution can be proved.

The finite element method

Appeared in the 50s.

Main ideas

Find an approximation u_h of the solution u

- Choice of an approximated space V_h :
 - Conforming approximation $V_h \subset V$,
 - Galerkin discontinuous type approximation $V_h \not\subset V$,
- Numerical approximation of the solution u by u_h in V_h ,
- Estimation of the error between the exact and the approximated solution in a given norm $\|\cdot\|$ on V .

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The discrete problem

- Given a set of triangulations $(\mathcal{T}_h)_h$ made of elements T : *triangles, rectangles, ... in 2D, tetrahedra, ... in 3D,*
- $h > 0$ is the mesh-size of \mathcal{T}_h ,
- V_h is build on the triangulation \mathcal{T}_h ,
 - ★ **Conforming approximation:**

$$V_h = \{v \in H_0^1(\Omega) \mid v|_T \in \mathcal{P}_1(T), \forall T \in \mathcal{T}_h\},$$
 - ★ **DG approximation:**

$$V_h = \{v \in L^2(\Omega) \mid v|_T \in \mathcal{P}_k(T), \forall T \in \mathcal{T}_h, k \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$
- Find $u_h \in V_h$ satisfying $B_h(u_h, v_h) = (f, v_h), \forall v_h \in V_h$.

- Conforming approximation : $B_h(u_h, v_h) = \int_{\Omega} a \nabla u_h \nabla v_h dx$
- DG approximation :

$$\begin{aligned}
 B_h(u_h, v_h) &= \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h} \int_T a \nabla u_h \cdot \nabla v_h + \gamma \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}_{ID}} h_e^{-1} \int_e [[u_h]]_e \cdot [[v_h]]_e \\
 &\quad - \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}_{ID}} \int_e (\{ \{ a \nabla_h v_h \} \} \cdot [[u_h]]_e + \{ \{ a \nabla_h u_h \} \} \cdot [[v_h]]_e).
 \end{aligned}$$

Error estimations

A priori error estimations

$$\|u - u_h\| \leq F(h, u),$$

F is a function depending on the regularity of the exact solution u .

A posteriori error estimations

- Introduced in 1978 by Babuška and Rheinboldt

- $\|u - u_h\| \leq \eta = \left(\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h} \eta_T^2 \right)^{1/2}$ only depending on h , u_h and f .

- **Advantage:** the estimator η does not depend on the exact solution u generally unknown.

Properties of a posteriori estimators

- **Reliability:** $\|u - u_h\| \leq C\eta + osc, C > 0,$
- **Efficiency:** $\eta \leq C\|u - u_h\| + osc, C > 0,$
- **Locality:** Composed of local quantities η_T, T element of \mathcal{T}_h
- **Effectivity index:** $\frac{\|u - u_h\|}{\eta}$ must be bounded.
Optimal when equal to 1.

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Residual estimators

Let T be a triangle and denote by e any of its edge

- Verfürth, 1996
- Estimator directly deduced from the equation

$$\eta_T^2 = a_T^{-1} h_T^2 \|f_T + \operatorname{div}(a \nabla u_h)\|_T^2 + \sum_{e \in \partial T} a_T^{-1/2} h_e \| [[a \nabla u_h \cdot \mathbf{n}_e]]_e \|_e^2.$$

where f_T is the projection of f on the element T

Based on equilibrated fluxes

Ainsworth and Oden, 2000

Idea

Saddle point problem:

Find $(j = a\nabla u, u)$ solution in $(H_N(\text{div}, \Omega), L^2(\Omega))$ of

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} a^{-1} j_{\tau} + \int_{\Omega} \text{div } \tau u &= \int_{\Gamma_D} g_{D\tau} \cdot n, \quad \forall \tau \in H_N(\text{div}, \Omega), \\ \int_{\Omega} \text{div } j w &= - \int_{\Omega} f w, \quad \forall w \in L^2(\Omega). \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow j_h$ approximation of j in a conforming FE space by solving local problems on the triangulation \mathcal{T}_h .

$$\eta_{\mathcal{T}}^2 = \|a^{-1/2}(a\nabla u_h - j_h)\|^2.$$

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Strategy

GOAL: Make the error decrease locating areas where the error is high and cutting the involved elements

- Take an **initial triangulation** \mathcal{T}_h
- **Numerically solve the equation** finding u_h
- $\|u - u_h\| \leq C\eta + \text{osc}$, so (**estimator decreases** \Rightarrow **error decreases**)
- **Iterative algorithm** with marking procedure

We look for elements of \mathcal{T}_h where the local indicator η_T is too large:

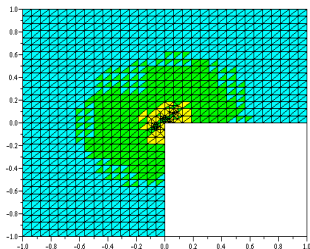
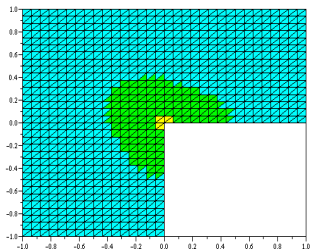
$$\text{if } \eta_T > \theta \max_{T'} \eta_{T'}, 0 < \theta \leq 1, \text{ mark it.}$$

- **Construction of a finer triangulation** to find a better approximation u_h of u : *Each element marked is cut in 4 , in 3 or in 2.*

Example of a solution with singularity corner: the L -shape domain

- Exact solution: $u = \nabla S$ with S Laplacian singularity.
- Parameter : $a = 1$.

Meshes obtained after 6 iterations with a residual estimator.



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My work

- Study of different types of a posteriori error estimators:
 - ★ for **Maxwell's system**: residual, based on equilibrated fluxes,
 - ★ for **the reaction-diffusion equation**: with fluxes.
- **Dependance on the coefficients of the constants** in the upper and lower bounds when the coefficients are piecewise constant
⇒ **robust estimators**.
- Extension of estimators based on equilibrated fluxes to the **discontinuous Galerkin method** for the diffusion equation.