

# Lecture 5

## The interpolant (Definition 3.3.1)

Given a finite element  $(K, P, N)$

Let  $\{d_i; 1 \leq i \leq k\} \subset P$  be the dual

basis of  $N$ . Let  $v$  be a function

for which  $N_i(v), N_i \in N$  are defined,

we define the local interpolant by

$$\mathcal{I}_K v := \sum_{i=1}^k N_i(v) d_i$$

Proposition 3.3.4 - 3.3.7

\*  $\mathcal{I}_K$  is a linear operator

\*  $N_i(\mathcal{I}_K v) = N_i(v)$

\*  $\mathcal{I}_K(v) = v$  if  $v \in P$

\*  $\mathcal{I}_K = \mathcal{I}_K^2$  proof left out

(ref: S.S. 8)

A subdivision of  $\Omega$  is  $\mathcal{T}$

a finite collection of element

domains  $\{K_i\}$  such that

i)  $\text{int } K_i \cap \text{int } K_j = \emptyset$  if  $i \neq j$

ii)  $\cup K_i = \bar{\Omega}$

## Definition 3.3.9

Let  $\Omega$  be a domain with a

subdivision  $\mathcal{T} = \{K_i\}$ . Let each

element  $K$  be associated with

shape functions  $P$  and nodal

variables  $N$  such that  $(K, P, N)$

forms a finite element. With

$m$  as the highest derivative in the

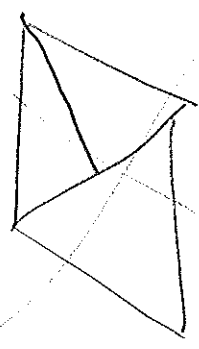
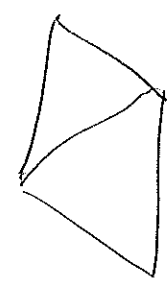
nodal variables  $N_i$  for  $f \in C^m(\bar{\Omega})$

the global interpolant  $\mathcal{I}_\mathcal{T} f|_K = \mathcal{I}_K f$

for all  $K \in \mathcal{T}$ .

Continuity of  $\mathcal{I}_T f$  is not given without further assumptions on the subdivision.

Definition 3.3.11  
 A triangulation of a polygonal domain  $\Omega$  is a subdivision consisting of triangles with no vertex lying in the interior of an edge of another triangle.



Definition 3.3.15 2/5

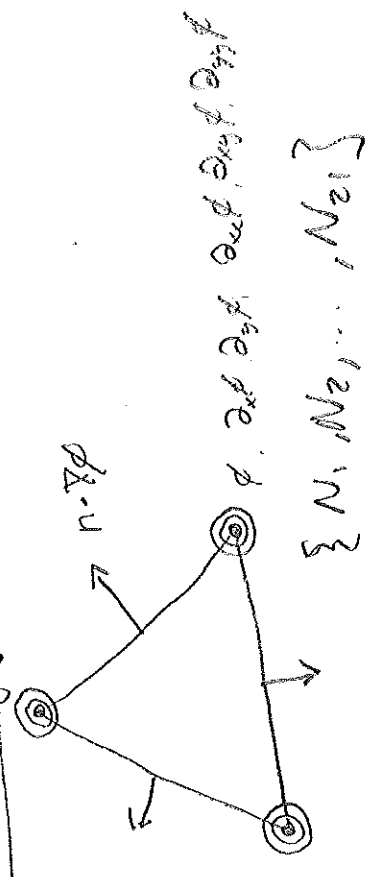
If  $\mathcal{I}_T f \in C^r \forall f \in C^m(\bar{\Omega})$  then  $\mathcal{I}_T$  has continuity order  $r$ .

The finite element space

$V_T = \{ \mathcal{I}_T f : f \in C^m(\bar{\Omega}) \}$  is a  $C^r$  finite element space.

An element  $(K, P, N)$  that can produce a  $C^r$  FE space is a  $C^r$  element.

The Argyris element ( $C^2$ )



Proposition 3.3.17

The Lagrange and Hermite elements are  $C^0$  elements and Argyris is  $C^1$ .

More precisely given a triangulation

$T$  of  $\Omega$  it is possible to

choose edge nodes for the elements

$(K, P_K \mathcal{U}), K \in T$  such that  $\exists f \in C^r$

(Lagrange & Hermite  $r=0$ , Argyris  $r=1$ )

for  $f \in C^m$  (Lagrange  $m=0$ ,

Hermite  $m=1$ , Argyris  $m=2$ ).

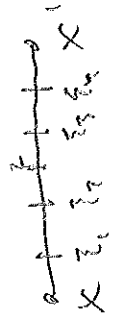
In particular it is sufficient

for each edge  $\overline{XX'}$  to have

nodes  $\xi_i: (x \frac{1}{2} - x) + x$  with

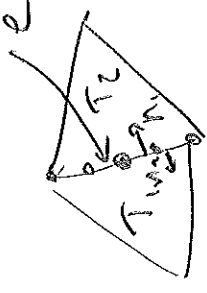
$\{\xi_i: i=1, \dots, k+1-2m\}$  symmetric

around  $\xi = \frac{1}{2}$ .



Moreover  $\exists f \in W_{\infty}^{r+1}(\Omega)$ .

Proof: Let  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  have a common edge  $e$ .



the nodes coincide

(Let  $w = \mathcal{I}_{T_1} f - \mathcal{I}_{T_2} f$  polynomial of degree  $k$  (C.R.  $\frac{k}{r+1}$ )

$w|_e = 0$  in the nodes  $\Rightarrow w|_e = 0$  (Lagrange)

This means that  $\mathcal{I}_T$  is continuous.

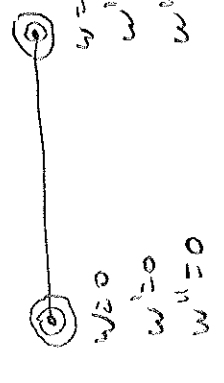
For Hermite (cubic  $k=3$ ) we have

$w|_e = 0$  since polynomial of degree 3



For Argyris ( $k=5$ )

$w|_e = 0$  since



For Argyris we also have to show

$$Dw|_e = 0 \text{ i.e. } \frac{\partial w}{\partial e}|_e = 0 \text{ (since } w|_e = 0)$$

and  $\frac{\partial w}{\partial n}|_e = 0$ .  $\frac{\partial w}{\partial n}$  is of order 4

$$\text{and } \begin{matrix} \textcircled{1} & \xrightarrow{\textcircled{2}} & \textcircled{3} \\ \frac{\partial w}{\partial x}|_e = 0 & \frac{\partial w}{\partial y}|_e = 0 & \frac{\partial w}{\partial z}|_e = 0 \end{matrix} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial w}{\partial n}|_e = 0$$

Therefor for any  $v \in S_h$  we have

$$v = \begin{cases} \in C^0 & \text{Lagrange, Hermite} \\ \in C^1 & \text{Argyris} \end{cases}$$

We leave  $\int_{\Omega} f \in W_{loc}^{r+1}(\Omega)$  as an exercise.

### Equivalence of elements

Consider two finite elements

$$(K, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{N}) \text{ and } (\hat{K}, \hat{\mathcal{P}}, \hat{\mathcal{N}})$$



and let  $F = Ax + b$  be an affine map  $x \mapsto \hat{x} = F(x)$  non-singular

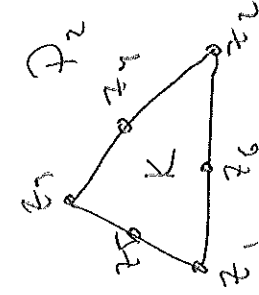
The elements are affine-equivalent if

$$(i) F(K) = \hat{K}$$

$$(ii) \hat{\mathcal{P}} \circ F = \mathcal{P}$$

$$(iii) \forall \hat{f} \in \hat{\mathcal{P}}, \mathcal{N}(F \circ \hat{f}) = \hat{\mathcal{N}}(\hat{f})$$

Example, Lagrange  $k=2$



$$\hat{x} = Ax + b := F(x)$$

$$x = A^{-1}a - A^{-1}b$$

Let  $\vec{z}_1 = F(z_1)$ ,  $\vec{z}_2 = F(z_2)$ ,  $\vec{z}_3 = F(z_3)$

which is possible with the

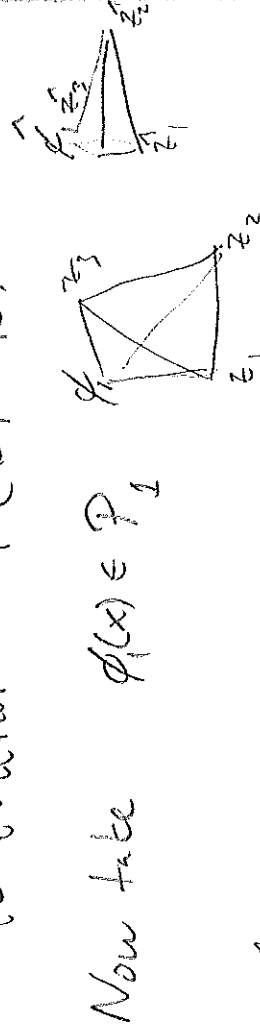
six degrees of freedom in  $A, b$ .  
(1111)

We get  $z_5 = \frac{1}{2}(z_1 + z_3)$  but also

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{z}_5 &= F(z_5) = F\left(\frac{1}{2}z_1 + \frac{1}{2}z_3\right) = \frac{1}{2}F(z_1) + \frac{1}{2}F(z_3) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\vec{z}_1 + \frac{1}{2}\vec{z}_3. \end{aligned}$$

edges map to edges and interior

to interior  $F(K) = K'$ .



$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\phi}_1(\hat{x}) &= \hat{\phi}_1(F(x)) = \left\{ \text{linear and correct} \right\} \\ &= \phi_1(x) \end{aligned}$$

in  $z_1, z_2, z_3$

Linear combination gives

$$\hat{P}_1 \circ F = P_1. \text{ For } k=2, 3, \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_1 &= 2\phi_1^2 - \phi_1, \dots \\ \psi_1(x) &= \psi_1(F(x)) = 2\hat{\phi}_1(F(x))^2 - \hat{\phi}_1(F(x)) = \\ &\dots = \psi_1(x). \Rightarrow \hat{P}_2 \circ F = P_2. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\hat{f} \in \hat{P}$ ,  $N_i \in \mathcal{N}$

$$N_i(\hat{f} \circ F) = (\hat{f} \circ F)(z_i) = \hat{f}(\hat{z}_i) = N_i(\hat{f}) \quad \forall i, \hat{f}$$