

1. Prove the following interpolation error estimate

$$\|f - \pi_1 f\|_{L^\infty(a,b)} \leq C_i(b-a)^2 \|f''\|_{L^\infty(a,b)}.$$

2. Prove an a priori and an a posteriori error estimate for the cG(1) finite element method for

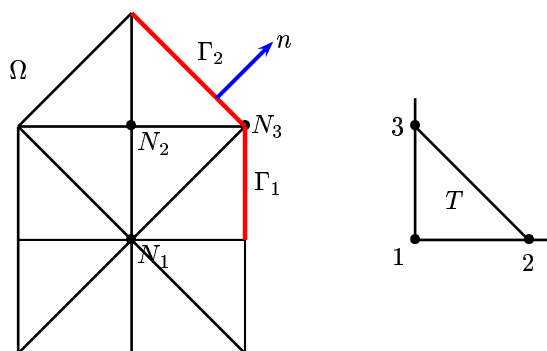
$$-u''(x) + u'(x) = f, \quad 0 < x < 1; \quad u(0) = u(1) = 0.$$

3. Formulate the cG(1) piecewise continuous Galerkin method for the boundary value problem

$$-\Delta u + u = f, \quad x \in \Omega; \quad u = 0, \quad x \in \partial\Omega \setminus (\Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma_2), \quad \nabla u \cdot n = 0, \quad x \in \Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma_2,$$

on the domain  $\Omega$ , with outward unit normal  $n$  at the boundary (see fig.). Write the matrices for the resulting equation system using the following mesh with nodes at  $N_1$ ,  $N_2$  and  $N_3$ .

Hint: You may first compute the matrices for a standard triangle-element  $T$ .



4. Consider the initial value problem ( $u = u(x, t)$ )

$$\dot{u} + Au = f, \quad t > 0; \quad u(t=0) = u_0.$$

Show that if there is a constant  $\alpha > 0$  such that

$$(Av, v) \geq \alpha \|v\|^2, \quad \forall v,$$

then the solution  $u$  of the initial value problem satisfies the stability estimate

$$\|u(t)\|^2 + \alpha \int_0^t \|u(s)\|^2 ds \leq \|u_0\|^2 + \frac{1}{\alpha} \int_0^t \|f(s)\|^2 ds.$$

5. Consider the boundary value problem

$$\Delta u = 0, \quad \text{in } \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} + u = g, \quad \text{on } \Gamma = \partial\Omega, \quad n \text{ is outward unit normal to } \Gamma.$$

a) Show the stability estimate

$$\|\nabla u\|_{L_2(\Omega)}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|u\|_{L_2(\Gamma)}^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} \|g\|_{L_2(\Gamma)}^2.$$

b) Discuss, concisely, the conditions for applying the Lax-Milgram theorem to this problem.

2

void!

1. See the book or Lecture Notes; Chapter 5.

2. We multiply the differential equation by a test function  $v \in H_0^1(I)$ ,  $I = (0, 1)$  and integrate over  $I$ . Using partial integration and the boundary conditions we get the following *variational problem*: Find  $u \in H_0^1(I)$  such that

$$(1) \quad \int_I (u'v' + u'v) = \int_I fv, \quad \forall v \in H_0^1(I).$$

A *Finite Element Method* with  $cG(1)$  reads as follows: Find  $U \in V_h^0$  such that

$$(2) \quad \int_I (U'v' + U'v) = \int_I fv, \quad \forall v \in V_h^0 \subset H_0^1(I),$$

where

$$V_h^0 = \{v : v \text{ is piecewise linear and continuous in a partition of } I, v(0) = v(1) = 0\}.$$

Now let  $e = u - U$ , then (1)-(2) gives that

$$(3) \quad \int_I (e'v' + e'v) = 0, \quad \forall v \in V_h^0.$$

We note that using  $e(0) = e(1) = 0$ , we get

$$(4) \quad \int_I e'e = \int_I \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dx} (e^2) = \frac{1}{2} (e^2)|_0^1 = 0.$$

Further, using Poincare inequality we have

$$\|e\|^2 \leq \|e'\|^2.$$

*A priori error estimate*: We use Poincare inequality and (4) to get

$$\begin{aligned} \|e\|_{H^1}^2 &= \int_I (e'e' + ee) \leq 2 \int_I e'e' = 2 \int_I (e'e' + e'e) = 2 \int_I (e'(u - U)' + e'(u - U)) \\ &= 2 \int_I (e'(u - \pi_h u)' + e'(u - \pi_h u)) + 2 \int_I (e'(\pi_h u - U)' + e'(\pi_h u - U)) \\ &= \{v = U - \pi_h u \text{ in (6)}\} = 2 \int_I (e'(u - \pi_h u)' + e'(u - \pi_h u)) \\ &\leq 2\|(u - \pi_h u)'\| \|e'\| + 2\|u - \pi_h u\| \|e'\| \\ &\leq 2C_i \{\|hu''\| + \|h^2u''\|\} \|e\|_{H^1}, \end{aligned}$$

this gives that

$$\|e\|_{H^1} \leq C_i \{\|hu''\| + \|h^2u''\|\},$$

which is the a priori error estimate.

A posteriori error estimate:

$$\begin{aligned}
\|e\|_{H^1}^2 &= \int_I (e' e' + ee) \leq 2 \int_I e' e' = 2 \int_I (e' e' + e' e) \\
&= 2 \int_I ((u - U)' e' + (u - U)' e) = \{v = e \text{ in (4)}\} \\
(5) \quad &= 2 \int_I f e - \int_I (U' e' + U' e) = \{v = \pi_h e \text{ in (5)}\} \\
&= \int_I f(e - \pi_h e) - \int_I (U'(e - \pi_h e)' + U'(e - \pi_h e)) \\
&= \{P.I. \text{ on each subinterval}\} = \int_I \mathcal{R}(U)(e - \pi_h e),
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathcal{R}(U) := f + U'' - U' = f - U'$ , (for approximation with piecewise linears,  $U \equiv 0$ , on each subinterval). Thus (5) implies that

$$\begin{aligned}
\|e\|_{H^1}^2 &\leq \|h\mathcal{R}(U)\| \|h^{-1}(e - \pi_h e)\| \\
&\leq C_i \|h\mathcal{R}(U)\| \|e'\| \leq C_i \|h\mathcal{R}(U)\| \|e\|_{H^1},
\end{aligned}$$

where  $C_i$  is an interpolation constant, and hence we have with  $\|\cdot\| = \|\cdot\|_{L_2(I)}$  that

$$\|e\|_{H^1} \leq C_i \|h\mathcal{R}(U)\|.$$

**3.** Let  $V$  be the linear function space defined by

$$V_h := \{v : v \text{ is continuous in } \Omega, v = 0, \text{ on } \partial\Omega \setminus (\Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma_2)\}.$$

Multiplying the differential equation by  $v \in V$  and integrating over  $\Omega$  we get that

$$-(\Delta u, v) + (u, v) = (f, v), \quad \forall v \in V.$$

Now using Green's formula we have that

$$\begin{aligned}
-(\Delta u, \nabla v) &= (\nabla u, \nabla v) - \int_{\partial\Omega} (n \cdot \nabla u) v \, ds \\
&= (\nabla u, \nabla v) - \int_{\partial\Omega \setminus (\Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma_2)} (n \cdot \nabla u) v \, ds - \int_{\Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma_2} (n \cdot \nabla u) v \, ds \\
&= (\nabla u, \nabla v), \quad \forall v \in V.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus the variational formulation is:

$$(\nabla u, \nabla v) + (u, v) = (f, v), \quad \forall v \in V.$$

Let  $V_h$  be the usual finite element space consisting of continuous piecewise linear functions satisfying the boundary condition  $v = 0$  on  $\partial\Omega \setminus (\Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma_2)$ : The  $cG(1)$  method is: Find  $U \in V_h$  such that

$$(\nabla U, \nabla v) + (U, v) = (f, v) \quad \forall v \in V_h$$

Making the ‘‘Ansatz’’  $U(x) = \sum_{i=1}^3 \xi_i \varphi_i(x)$ , where  $\varphi_i$  are the standard basis functions, we obtain the system of equations

$$\sum_{i=1}^3 \xi_i \left( \int_{\Omega} \nabla \varphi_i \cdot \nabla \varphi_j \, dx + \int_{\Omega} \varphi_i \varphi_j \, dx \right) = \int_{\Omega} f \varphi_j \, dx, \quad j = 1, 2, 3,$$

or, in matrix form,

$$(S + M)\xi = F,$$

where  $S_{ij} = (\nabla \varphi_i, \nabla \varphi_j)$  is the stiffness matrix,  $M_{ij} = (\varphi_i, \varphi_j)$  is the mass matrix, and  $F_j = (f, \varphi_j)$  is the load vector.

We first compute the mass and stiffness matrix for the reference triangle  $T$ . The local basis functions are

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi_1(x_1, x_2) &= 1 - \frac{x_1}{h} - \frac{x_2}{h}, & \nabla \phi_1(x_1, x_2) &= -\frac{1}{h} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \\
\phi_2(x_1, x_2) &= \frac{x_1}{h}, & \nabla \phi_2(x_1, x_2) &= \frac{1}{h} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \\
\phi_3(x_1, x_2) &= \frac{x_2}{h}, & \nabla \phi_3(x_1, x_2) &= \frac{1}{h} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, with  $|T| = \int_T dz = h^2/2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
m_{11} &= (\phi_1, \phi_1) = \int_T \phi_1^2 dx = h^2 \int_0^1 \int_0^{1-x_2} (1-x_1-x_2)^2 dx_1 dx_2 = \frac{h^2}{12}, \\
s_{11} &= (\nabla \phi_1, \nabla \phi_1) = \int_T |\nabla \phi_1|^2 dx = \frac{2}{h^2} |T| = 1.
\end{aligned}$$

Alternatively, we can use the midpoint rule, which is exact for polynomials of degree 2 (precision 3):

$$m_{11} = (\phi_1, \phi_1) = \int_T \phi_1^2 dx = \frac{|T|}{3} \sum_{j=1}^3 \phi_1(\hat{x}_j)^2 = \frac{h^2}{6} \left(0 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}\right) = \frac{h^2}{12},$$

where  $\hat{x}_j$  are the midpoints of the edges. Similarly we can compute the other elements and obtain

$$m = \frac{h^2}{24} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad s = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We can now assemble the global matrices  $M$  and  $S$  from the local ones  $m$  and  $s$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
M_{11} &= 8m_{22} = \frac{8}{12}h^2, & S_{11} &= 8s_{22} = 4, \\
M_{12} &= 2m_{12} = \frac{1}{12}h^2, & S_{12} &= 2s_{12} = -1, \\
M_{13} &= 2m_{23} = \frac{1}{12}h^2, & S_{13} &= 2s_{23} = 0, \\
M_{22} &= 4m_{11} = \frac{4}{12}h^2, & S_{22} &= 4s_{11} = 4, \\
M_{23} &= 2m_{12} = \frac{1}{12}h^2, & S_{23} &= 2s_{12} = -1, \\
M_{33} &= 3m_{22} = \frac{3}{12}h^2, & S_{33} &= 3s_{22} = 3/2.
\end{aligned}$$

The remaining matrix elements are obtained by symmetry  $M_{ij} = M_{ji}$ ,  $S_{ij} = S_{ji}$ . Hence,

$$M = \frac{h^2}{12} \begin{bmatrix} 8 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad S = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 4 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 3/2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

4. Multiply the differential equation by  $u(t)$  and integrate over the space domain to get

$$(f, u) = (\dot{u}, u) + (Au, u) \geq \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|u\|^2 + \alpha \|u\|^2.$$

Now

$$\left| \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\varepsilon}} f, \sqrt{2\varepsilon} u \right) \right| \leq \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{2\varepsilon} \|f\|^2 + 2\varepsilon \|u\|^2 \right) = \frac{1}{4\varepsilon} \|f\|^2 + \varepsilon \|u\|^2.$$

With  $\varepsilon = \alpha/2$  we get

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} \|f\|^2 + \alpha \|u\|^2 \geq \frac{d}{dt} \|u\|^2 + 2\alpha \|u\|^2.$$

Integrating in time yields

$$\|u(t)\|^2 - \|u_0\|^2 + \alpha \int_0^t \|u(s)\|^2 ds \leq \frac{1}{\alpha} \int_0^t \|f(s)\|^2 ds.$$

5. a) Using Greens formula we have that

$$\int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^2 = \int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla u = - \int_{\Omega} (\Delta u)u + \int_{\partial\Omega} \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} u = \int_{\partial\Omega} (g - u)u.$$

In other words

$$\|\nabla u\|_{L_2(\Omega)}^2 + \|u\|_{L_2(\Gamma)}^2 = \int_{\partial\Omega} gu \leq \|g\|_{L_2(\Gamma)}^2 \|u\|_{L_2(\Gamma)}^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} \|g\|_{L_2(\Gamma)}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|u\|_{L_2(\Gamma)}^2,$$

which gives the desired estimate.

To show the Riesz/Lax-Milgram conditions we introduce the notation

$$a(u, v) = \int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v + \int_{\partial\Omega} uv, \quad \text{and} \quad L(v) = \int_{\partial\Omega} gv.$$

Then  $a(u, v)$  is a scalar product with the corresponding norm  $\|v\|_a = a(v, v)^{1/2}$ . For instance we have that  $\|v\|_a = 0$ , only if  $v = 0$ :

$$0 = \|v\|_a^2 = a(u, v) = \int_{\Omega} |\nabla v|^2 + \int_{\partial\Omega} v^2 \geq \alpha \int_{\Omega} v^2, \quad \text{for some } \alpha > 0 \Rightarrow v = 0.$$

Further  $L(v)$  is bounded in this norm, e.g. if  $\|g\|_{\partial\Omega} < \infty$ , then

$$|L(v)| \leq \|g\|_{\partial\Omega} \|v\|_{\partial\Omega} \leq \|g\|_{\partial\Omega} \|v\|_a.$$

We can also apply Riesz theorem in the sense that there exists  $u$  such that

$$a(u, v) = L(v), \quad \forall v,$$

and  $u$  is uniquely determined by

$$\|u\|_a = \|g\|_{\partial\Omega}.$$

Moreover since

$$a(u, v) = - \int_{\Omega} \Delta u v + \int_{\partial\Omega} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} + u \right) v,$$

we have that

$$\Delta u = 0, \quad \text{in } \Omega \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} + u = g \quad \text{on } \Gamma.$$

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