

p -robust global–local equivalence,
 p -stable local (commuting) projectors,
and optimal elementwise hp approximation estimates
in $H^1(\Omega)$ and $\mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega)$

Théophile Chaumont-Frelet, Leszek Demkowicz, and **Martin Vohralík**

Inria Paris & Ecole des Ponts

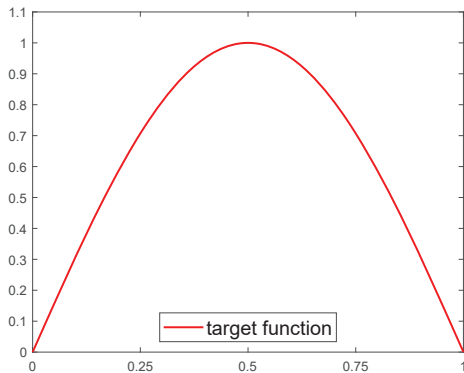
Vienna, February 25, 2025



Outline

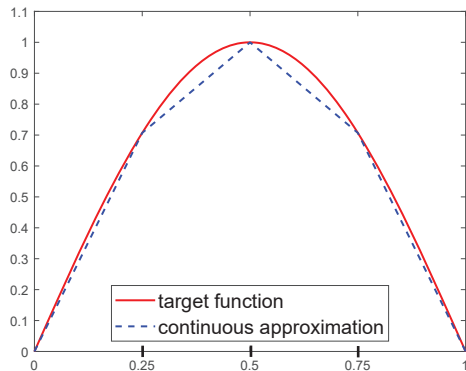
- 1 Introduction
- 2 *p*-stable local (commuting) projectors
 - *p*-stable local commuting projector in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega)$
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- 5 Tools
 - Equilibration in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div})$
 - *p*-stable (broken) polynomial extensions
 - *p*-stable decompositions
- 6 Conclusions

Equivalence of **global-** and **local-best** approximations in $H_0^1(\Omega)$: 1D



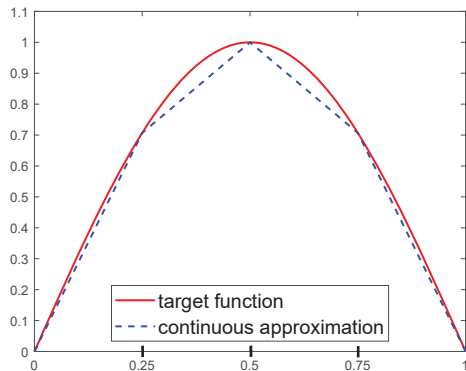
Target function in $H_0^1(\Omega)$

Equivalence of **global**- and **local-best** approximations in $H_0^1(\Omega)$: 1D

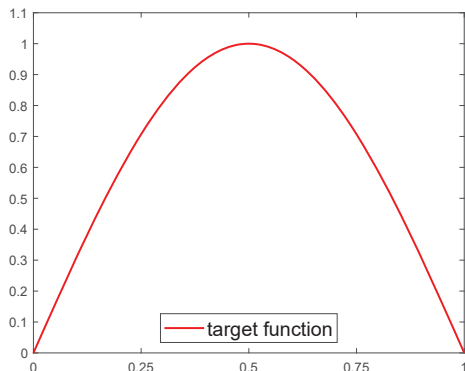


Best approximation by **continuous**
piecewise polynomials in
 $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)$, **global** problem

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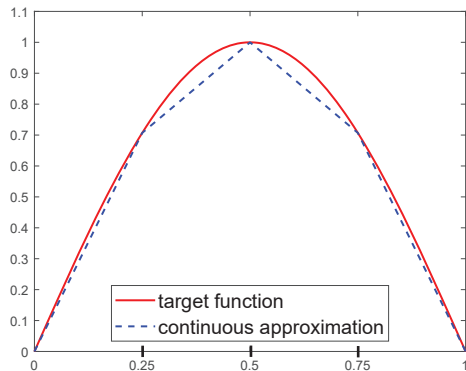


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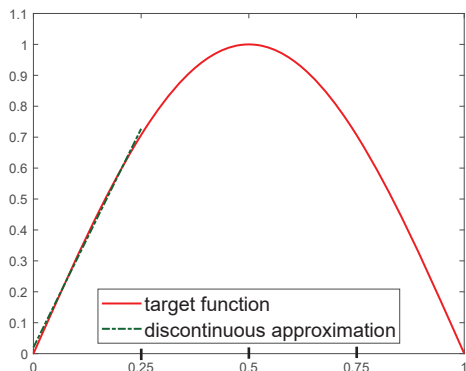


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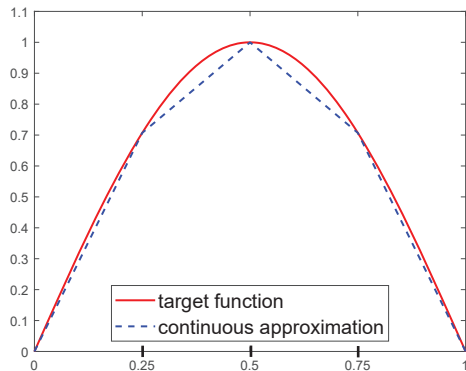


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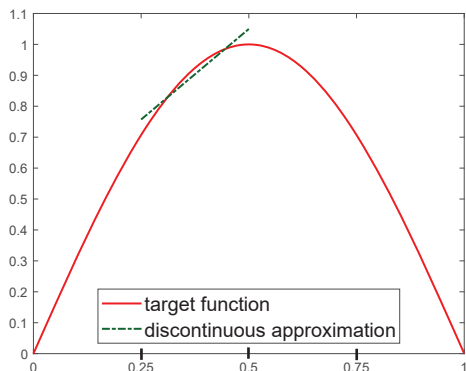


Best approximation by **discontinuous** piecewise polynomials in $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathcal{T}_h)$, **local** problems

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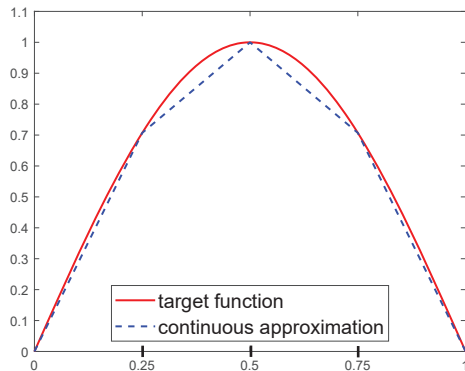


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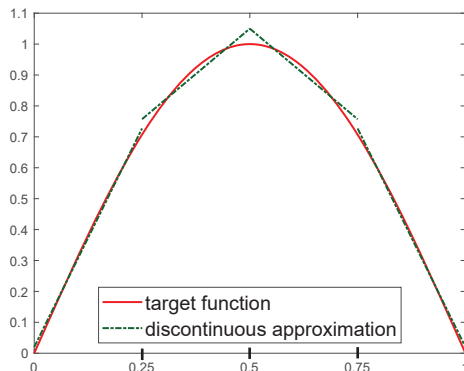


Best approximation by **discontinuous** piecewise polynomials in $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathcal{T}_h)$, **local** problems

Equivalence of **global**- and **local**-best approximations in $H_0^1(\Omega)$: 1D

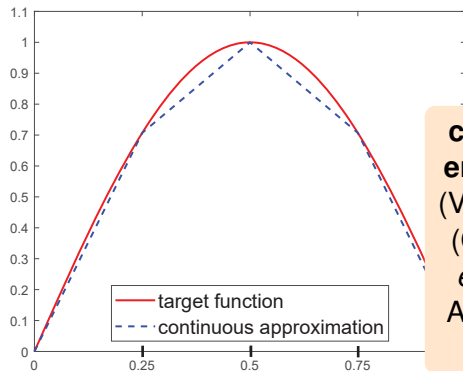


Best approximation by **continuous** piecewise polynomials in $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)$, **global** problem

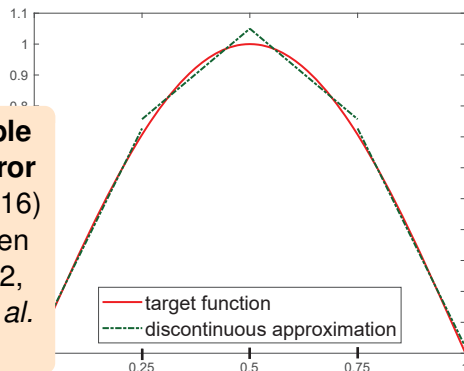


Best approximation by **discontinuous** piecewise polynomials in $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathcal{T}_h)$, **local** problems

Equivalence of **global-** and **local-best** approximations in $H_0^1(\Omega)$: 1D



**comparable
energy error**
(Veeser 2016)
(Carstensen
et al. 2012,
Aurada *et al.*
2013)



Best approximation by **continuous**
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Two key Sobolev spaces

$H^1(\Omega)$

scalar-valued $L^2(\Omega)$ functions with weak gradients in $L^2(\Omega)$,
 $H^1(\Omega) := \{v \in L^2(\Omega); \nabla v \in L^2(\Omega)\}$

$H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega)$

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Two key Sobolev spaces with BCs

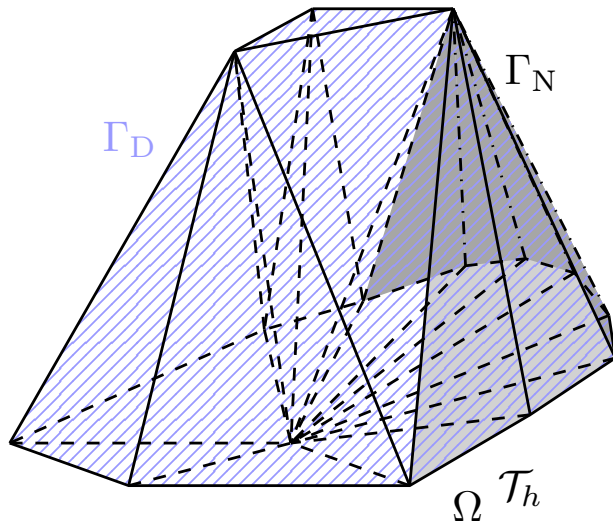
$$H_{0,D}^1(\Omega)$$

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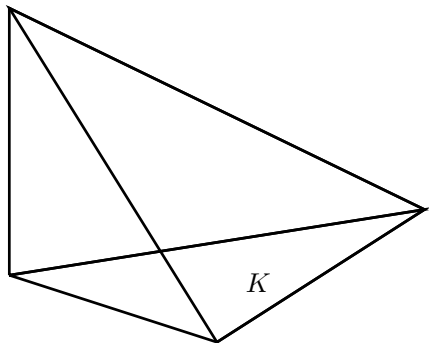
$$\mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega)$$

$$\mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega) := \{\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega); \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}_\Omega = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_N \text{ in appropriate sense}\}$$

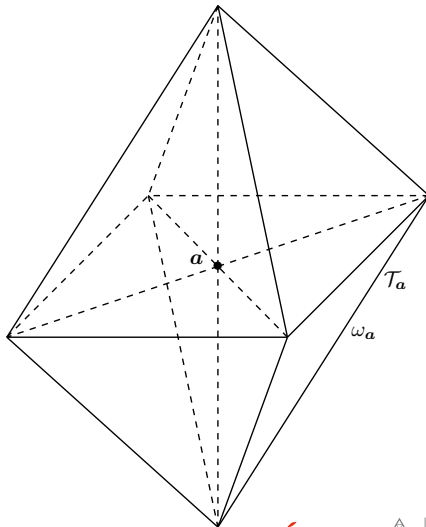
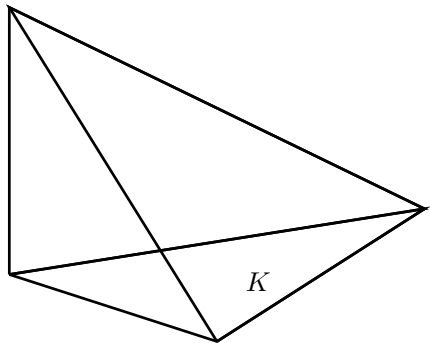
Meshes, elements, and patches



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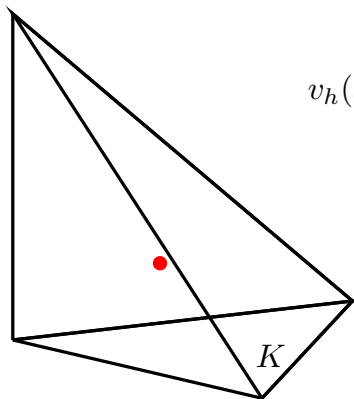


Meshes, elements, and patches



Polynomial space $\mathcal{P}_p(K)$, $p \geq 0$

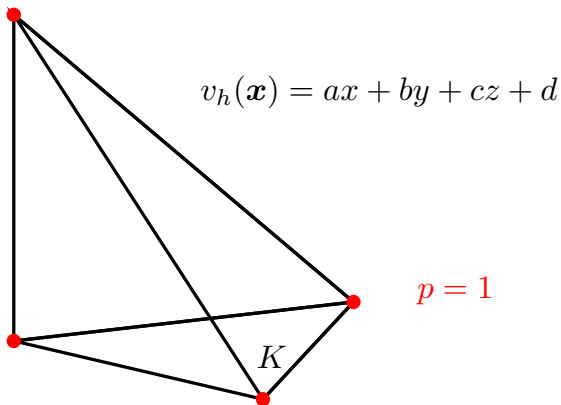
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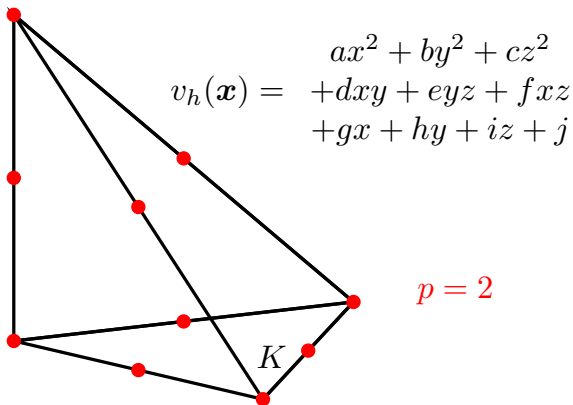
$$v_h(\mathbf{x}) = a$$

$$p = 0$$

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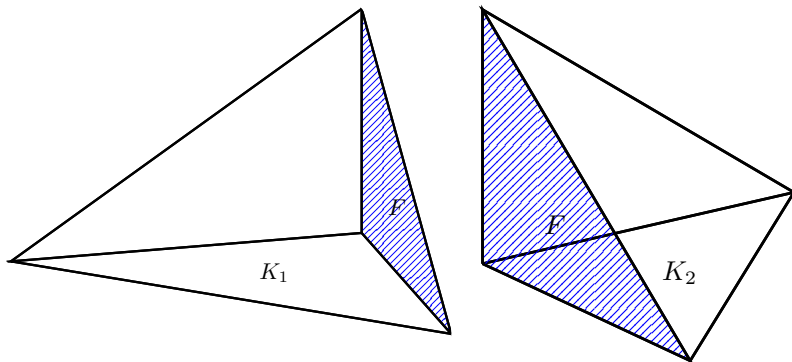


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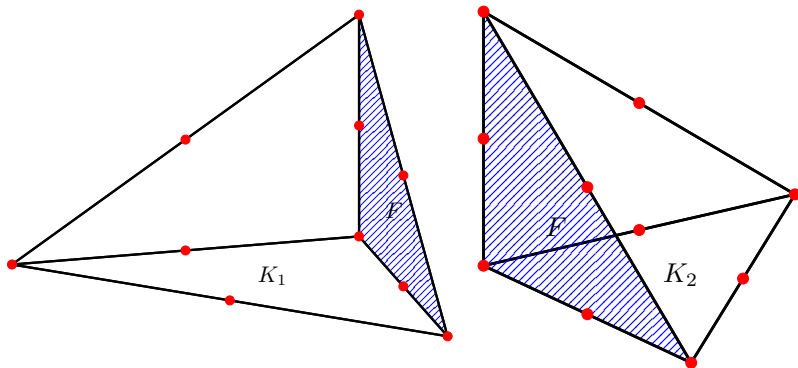
Lagrange piecewise polynomial space $\mathcal{P}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H^1(\Omega)$, $p \geq 1$

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- $v \in H^1(K_1 \cup K_2)$ iff $v \in H^1(K_1)$, $v \in H^1(K_2)$, and $(v|_{K_1})|_F = (v|_{K_2})|_F$
- $\Rightarrow$ ensure this by putting sufficient DoFs at the face F

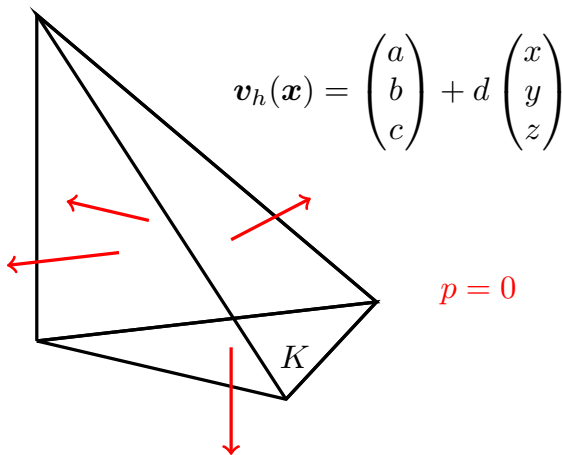
Lagrange piecewise polynomial space $\mathcal{P}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H^1(\Omega)$, $p \geq 1$



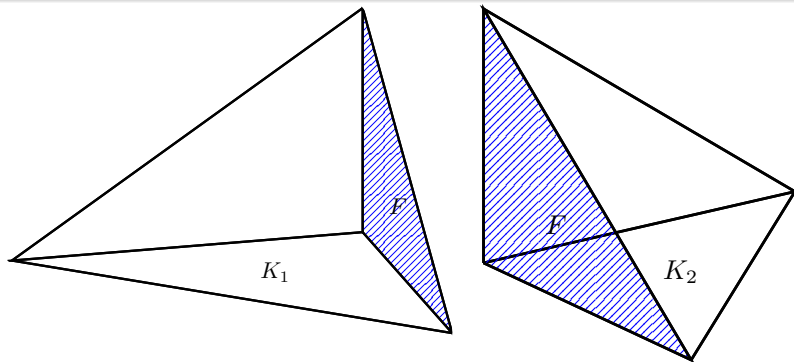
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Raviart–Thomas space $\mathcal{RT}_p(K) := [\mathcal{P}_p(K)]^3 + \mathcal{P}_p(K)\mathbf{x}$, $p \geq 0$

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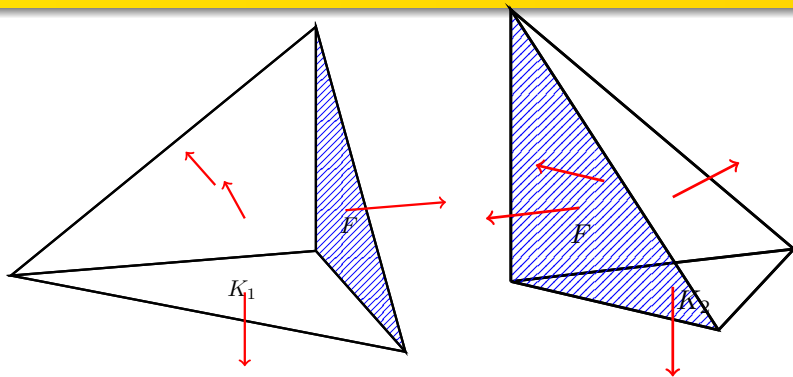


Raviart–Thomas piecewise polynomial space $\mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H(\text{div}, \Omega)$, $p \geq 0$



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Commuting de Rham diagram

Commuting de Rham diagram

$$H_{0,N}^1(\Omega) \xrightarrow{\nabla} \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{curl}, \Omega) \xrightarrow{\nabla \times} \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega) \xrightarrow{\nabla \cdot} L_*^2(\Omega)$$

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$$\mathcal{P}_{p+1}(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_{0,N}^1(\Omega) \xrightarrow{\nabla} \mathcal{N}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{curl}, \Omega) \xrightarrow{\nabla \times} \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega) \xrightarrow{\nabla \cdot} \mathcal{P}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap L_*^2(\Omega)$$

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 \downarrow \mathbf{P}_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}} & & \downarrow \mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{curl}} & & \downarrow \mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}} & & \downarrow \Pi_h^p \\
 \mathcal{P}_{p+1}(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_{0,N}^1(\Omega) & \xrightarrow{\nabla} & \mathcal{N}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{curl}, \Omega) & \xrightarrow{\nabla \times} & \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega) & \xrightarrow{\nabla \cdot} & \mathcal{P}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap L_*^2(\Omega)
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Commuting de Rham diagram: operator $\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}$

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Properties of $\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}$

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- 7 is **projector**, i.e., leaves intact piecewise polynomials

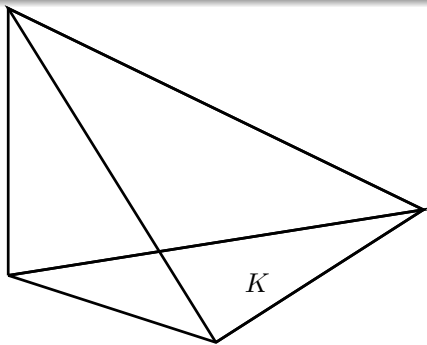
Stable local commuting projectors defined on $\mathbf{H}(\text{div})/\mathbf{H}(\text{curl})$

- Schöberl (2001, 2005): not local
- Christiansen and Winther (2008): not local
- Bespalov and Heuer (2011): low regularity but still not $\mathbf{H}(\text{div})/\mathbf{H}(\text{curl})$
- Falk and Winther (2014): local and $\mathbf{H}(\text{div})/\mathbf{H}(\text{curl})$ -stable but not L^2 -stable
- Ern and Guermond (2016): not local
- Ern and Guermond (2017): $\mathbf{H}(\text{div})/\mathbf{H}(\text{curl})$ regularity but not commuting
- Licht (2019): essential boundary conditions on a part of $\partial\Omega$
- Arnold and Guzmán (2021): L^2 -stable
- Ern, Gudi, Smears, and Vohralík (2022) & Chaumont-Frelet and Vohralík (2024): all the above properties
- none is p -robust

Stable local commuting projectors defined on $\mathbf{H}(\text{div})/\mathbf{H}(\text{curl})$

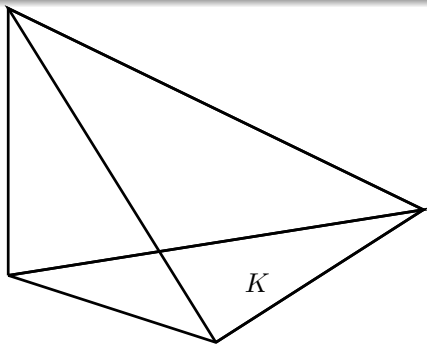
- Schöberl (2001, 2005): not local
- Christiansen and Winther (2008): not local
- Bespalov and Heuer (2011): low regularity but still not $\mathbf{H}(\text{div})/\mathbf{H}(\text{curl})$
- Falk and Winther (2014): local and $\mathbf{H}(\text{div})/\mathbf{H}(\text{curl})$ -stable but not L^2 -stable
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Classical elementwise interpolation



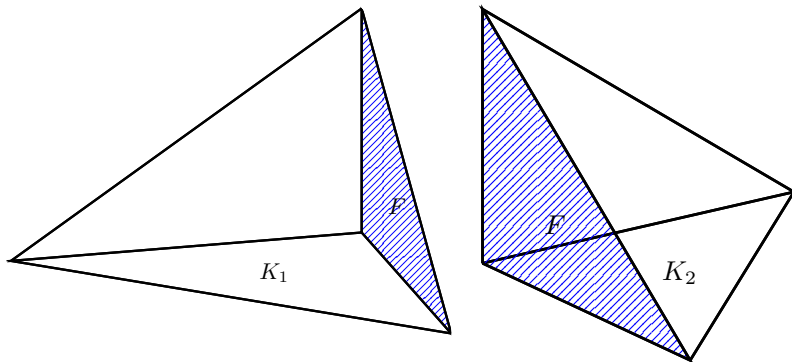
- $\|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_h\|^2 = \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_h\|_K^2$
- $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega) \Rightarrow \mathbf{v}|_K \in \mathbf{H}(\text{div}, K) \Rightarrow$ so interpolate $\mathbf{v}|_K$, **elementwise interpolation**

Classical elementwise interpolation



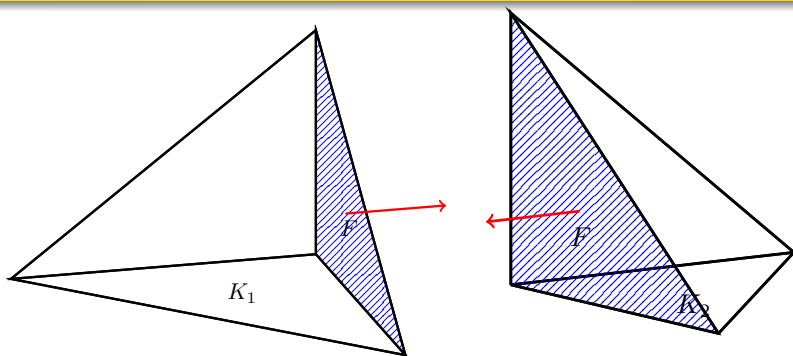
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Classical elementwise interpolation: conformity enforcement



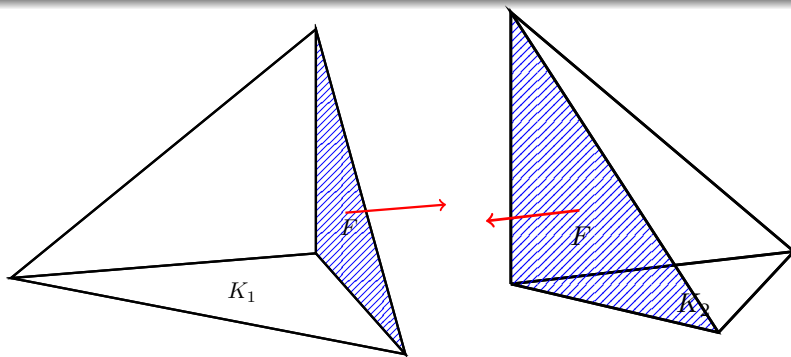
- $\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(K_1, K_2) \cap \mathbf{H}(\text{div}, K_1 \cup K_2)$ iff $\mathbf{v}_h|_{K_1} \in \mathcal{RT}_p(K_1)$, $\mathbf{v}_h|_{K_2} \in \mathcal{RT}_p(K_2)$, and $(\mathbf{v}_h|_{K_1} \cdot \mathbf{n}_F)|_F = (\mathbf{v}_h|_{K_2} \cdot \mathbf{n}_F)|_F$

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Classical elementwise interpolation: conformity enforcement

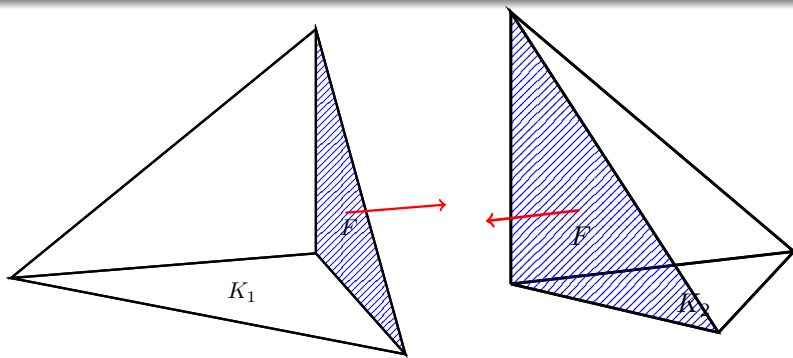


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Clash

Face normal trace integrals $\langle \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}_F, 1 \rangle_F / |F|$ not available in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div})$.

Classical elementwise interpolation: conformity enforcement

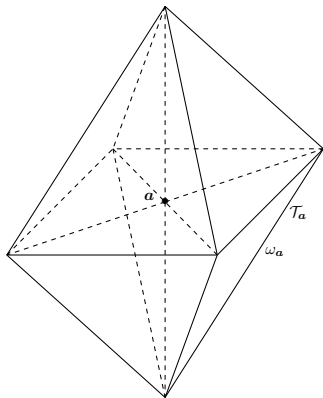


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Conclusion

Not a single tetrahedron $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$ if the minimal regularity $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega)$ requested.

Classical patchwise interpolation (Clément)

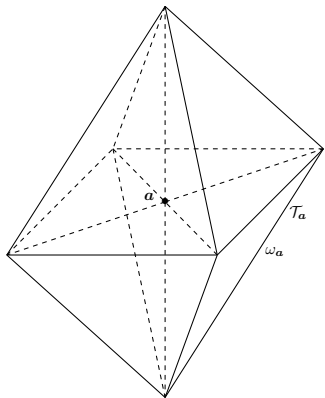


- some local-best polynomial approximation on ω_a
- values on ω_a as coefficients for basis functions supported on ω_a

Conclusion

Allows the **minimal regularity** but breaks the **projection property**, the **elementwise structure**, and the **commuting diagram**.

Classical patchwise interpolation (Clément)



- some local-best polynomial approximation on ω_a
- values on ω_a as coefficients for basis functions supported on ω_a

Conclusion

Allows the **minimal regularity** but breaks the **projection property**, the **elementwise structure**, and the **commuting diagram**.

A p -stable local commuting projector $\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\operatorname{div}}$

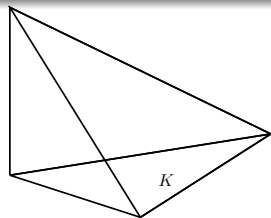
Let $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\operatorname{div}, \Omega)$ be given.

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Let $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\operatorname{div}, \Omega)$ be given.

- 1 For each $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$, define the **elementwise L^2 -orthogonal projection**

$$\tau_h|_K := \arg \min_{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathbf{RT}_p(K)} \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_h\|_K$$



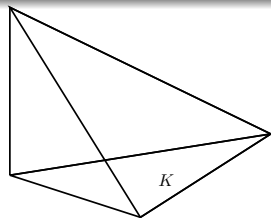
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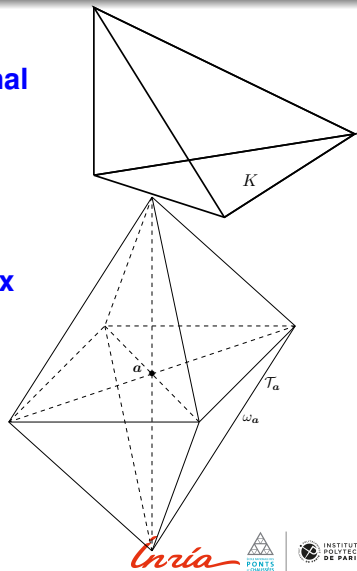
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to τ_h ; in particular, $\sigma_h := \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{V}_h} \sigma_h^{\mathbf{a}}$, where $\sigma_h^{\mathbf{a}}$ are obtained by local energy minimizations on the vertex patch subdomains $\omega_{\mathbf{a}}$.



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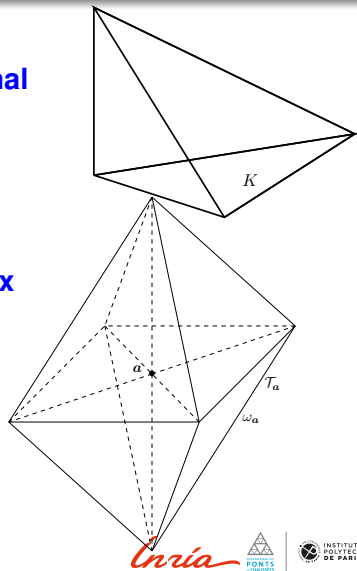
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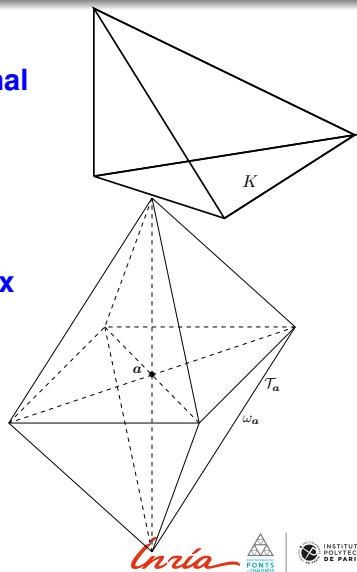
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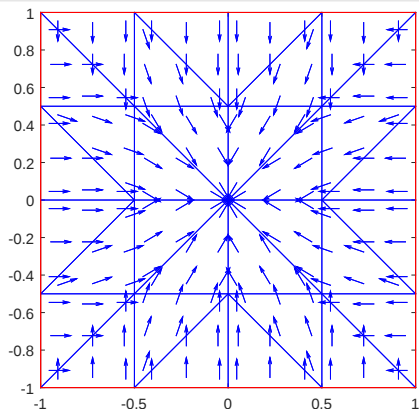
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- 3 Apply a **p -stable decomposition** on extended vertex patch subdomains $\tilde{\omega}_{\mathbf{a}}$ to conforming projections of the reminder $\tau_h - \sigma_h \Rightarrow$ correction ζ_h ; $\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}(\mathbf{v}) := \sigma_h + \zeta_h$.



Equilibration in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div})$

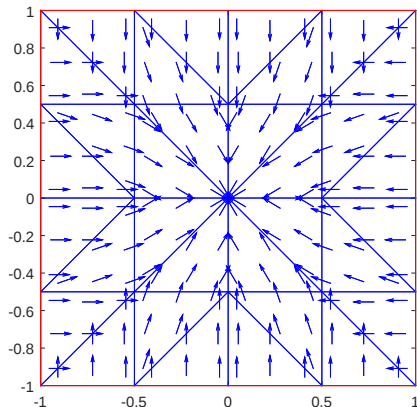
Bossavit (1998), Destuynder & Métivet (1998), Braess & Schöberl (2008), Ern & V. (2013)



Flux $\tau_h \notin \mathbf{H}(\text{div}), \nabla \cdot \tau_h \neq f$

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Bossavit (1998), Destuynder & Métivet (1998), Braess & Schöberl (2008), Ern & V. (2013)



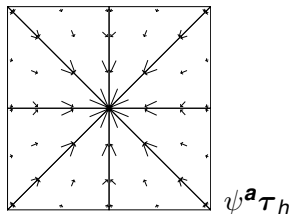
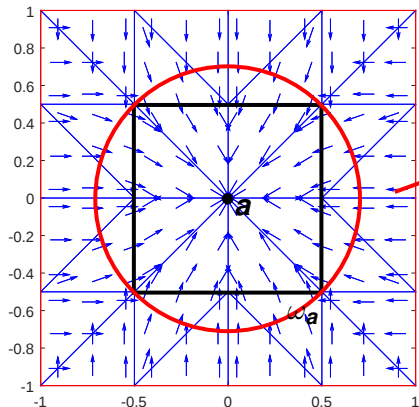
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$$\tau_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h), f \in \mathcal{P}_p(\mathcal{T}_h)$$

$$(f, \psi^a)_{\omega_a} + (\tau_h, \nabla \psi^a)_{\omega_a} = 0 \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{V}_h^{\text{int}}$$

Equilibration in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div})$

Bossavit (1998), Destuynder & Métivet (1998), Braess & Schöberl (2008), Ern & V. (2013)

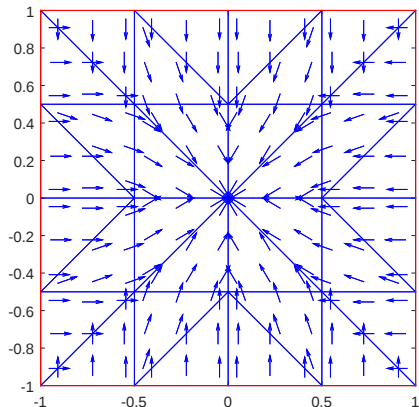


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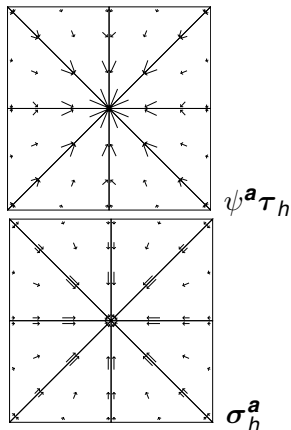
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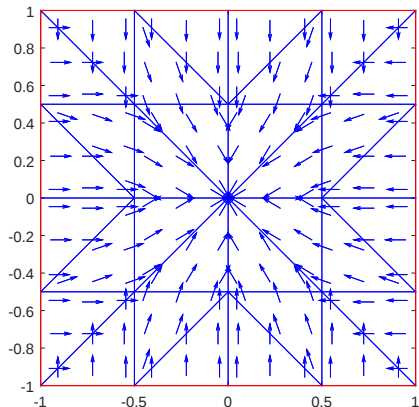
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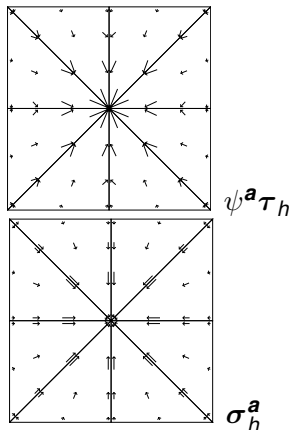
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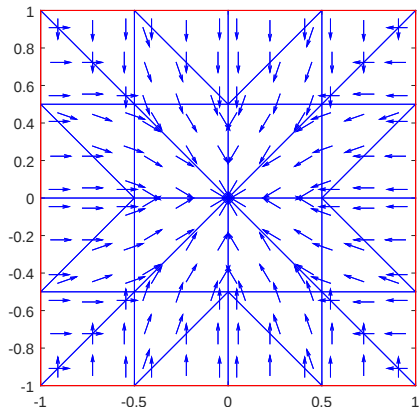
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$$\sigma_h^a := \arg \min_{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RT}_{p+1}(\mathcal{T}_a) \cap \mathbf{H}_0(\text{div}, \omega_a)} \|\psi^a \tau_h - \mathbf{v}_h\|_{\omega_a}^2$$

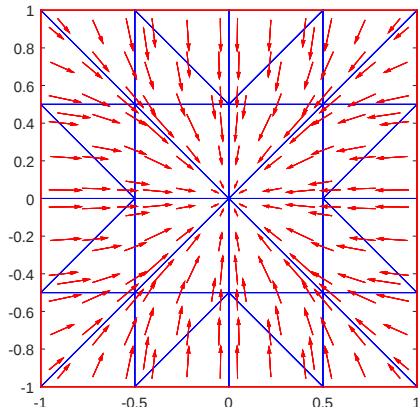
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_h = f \psi^a + \tau_h \cdot \nabla \psi^a$$

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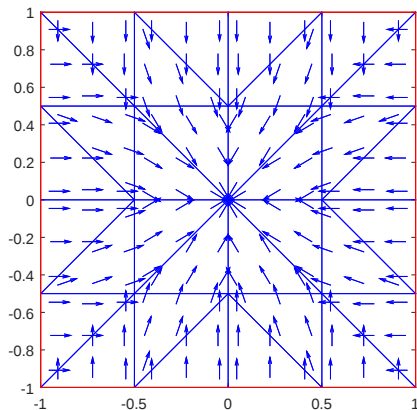


Equilibrated flux rec. σ_h

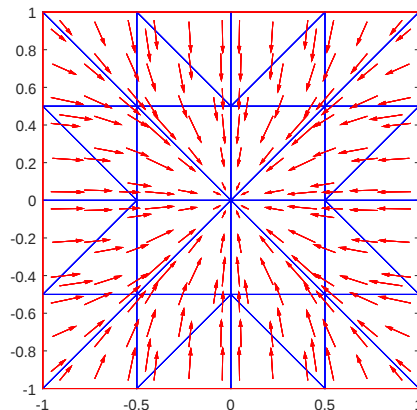
$$\underbrace{\tau_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h), f \in \mathcal{P}_p(\mathcal{T}_h)}_{(f, \psi^a)_{\omega_a} + (\tau_h, \nabla \psi^a)_{\omega_a} = 0 \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{V}_h^{\text{int}}} \rightarrow \sigma_h := \sum_{a \in \mathcal{V}_h} \sigma_h^a \in \mathcal{RT}_{p+1}(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap \mathbf{H}(\text{div}), \nabla \cdot \sigma_h = f$$

Equilibration in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div})$

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Equilibrated flux rec. $\sigma_h \in \mathbf{H}(\text{div}), \nabla \cdot \sigma_h = f$

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(elementwise L^2 -orthogonal projection)

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$$\textcircled{2} \quad \sigma_h^{\mathbf{a}} := \arg \min_{\substack{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RT}(\mathcal{T}_{\mathbf{a}}) \cap \mathbf{H}_0(\operatorname{div}, \omega_{\mathbf{a}}) \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_h = \psi^{\mathbf{a}} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} + \nabla \psi^{\mathbf{a}} \cdot \mathbf{v}}} \|\psi^{\mathbf{a}} \tau_h - \mathbf{v}_h\|_{\omega_{\mathbf{a}}}$$

(patchwise **flux equilibration**)

$$\sigma_h := \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{V}_h} \sigma_h^{\mathbf{a}} \quad (\text{gluing patchwise contributions})$$

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$$(\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{r}_h)_K = (\mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{RT}}^{h,p}(\psi^{\mathbf{a}} \tau_h), \mathbf{r}_h)_K \quad \forall \mathbf{r}_h \in [\mathcal{P}_0(K)]^d, \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_a \quad \text{if } p \geq 1$$

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$\sigma_h := \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{V}_h} \sigma_h^{\mathbf{a}}$ (gluing patchwise contributions)

3 $\zeta_h^{\mathbf{a}} := \arg \min_{\substack{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_a) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\operatorname{div}, \tilde{\omega}_a) \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_h = 0}} \|\tau_h - \sigma_h - \mathbf{v}_h\|_{\tilde{\omega}_a}$
 $(\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{r}_h)_K = (\tau_h - \sigma_h, \mathbf{r}_h)_K = 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{r}_h \in [\mathcal{P}_0(K)]^d, \forall K \in \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_a$

(patchwise divergence-free remainder equilibration with an additional constraint)

A p -stable local commuting projector $\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}$

1 $\tau_h|_K := \arg \min_{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(K)} \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_h\|_K$ (elementwise L^2 -orthogonal projection)

2 $\sigma_h^{\mathbf{a}} := \arg \min_{\substack{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_a) \cap \mathbf{H}_0(\text{div}, \omega_a) \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_h = \Pi_h^p(\psi^{\mathbf{a}} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} + \nabla \psi^{\mathbf{a}} \cdot \mathbf{v})}} \|\mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{RT}}^{h,p}(\psi^{\mathbf{a}} \tau_h) - \mathbf{v}_h\|_{\omega_a}$
 $(\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{r}_h)_K = (\mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{RT}}^{h,p}(\psi^{\mathbf{a}} \tau_h), \mathbf{r}_h)_K \quad \forall \mathbf{r}_h \in [\mathcal{P}_0(K)]^d, \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_a \quad \text{if } p \geq 1$

(patchwise **flux equilibration** with an **additional orthogonality constraint**)

$\sigma_h := \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{V}_h} \sigma_h^{\mathbf{a}}$ (gluing patchwise contributions)

3 $\zeta_h^{\mathbf{a}} := \arg \min_{\substack{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_a) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \tilde{\omega}_a) \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_h = 0}} \|\tau_h - \sigma_h - \mathbf{v}_h\|_{\tilde{\omega}_a}$
 $(\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{r}_h)_K = (\tau_h - \sigma_h, \mathbf{r}_h)_K = 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{r}_h \in [\mathcal{P}_0(K)]^d, \forall K \in \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_a$

(patchwise divergence-free remainder equilibration with an additional constraint)

$\zeta_h^{\mathbf{a}} = \sum_{\mathbf{b} \in \tilde{\mathcal{V}}_a} \zeta_h^{\mathbf{a},\mathbf{b}}$ with in particular $\zeta_h^{\mathbf{a},\mathbf{a}} \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_a) \cap \mathbf{H}_0(\text{div}, \omega_a)$, $\nabla \cdot \zeta_h^{\mathbf{a},\mathbf{a}} = 0$
 (patchwise p -stable remainder **decomposition**)

A p -stable local commuting projector $\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\operatorname{div}}$

1 $\tau_h|_K := \arg \min_{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(K)} \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_h\|_K$ (elementwise L^2 -orthogonal projection)

2 $\sigma_h^{\mathbf{a}} := \arg \min_{\substack{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_a) \cap \mathbf{H}_0(\operatorname{div}, \omega_a) \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_h = \Pi_h^p(\psi^{\mathbf{a}} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} + \nabla \psi^{\mathbf{a}} \cdot \mathbf{v})}} \|\mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{RT}}^{h,p}(\psi^{\mathbf{a}} \tau_h) - \mathbf{v}_h\|_{\omega_a}$
 $(\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{r}_h)_K = (\mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{RT}}^{h,p}(\psi^{\mathbf{a}} \tau_h), \mathbf{r}_h)_K \quad \forall \mathbf{r}_h \in [\mathcal{P}_0(K)]^d, \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_a \quad \text{if } p \geq 1$

(patchwise **flux equilibration** with an **additional orthogonality constraint**)

$\sigma_h := \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{V}_h} \sigma_h^{\mathbf{a}}$ (gluing patchwise contributions)

3 $\zeta_h^{\mathbf{a}} := \arg \min_{\substack{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_a) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\operatorname{div}, \tilde{\omega}_a) \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_h = 0}} \|\tau_h - \sigma_h - \mathbf{v}_h\|_{\tilde{\omega}_a}$
 $(\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{r}_h)_K = (\tau_h - \sigma_h, \mathbf{r}_h)_K = 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{r}_h \in [\mathcal{P}_0(K)]^d, \forall K \in \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_a$

(patchwise divergence-free remainder equilibration with an additional constraint)

$\zeta_h^{\mathbf{a}} = \sum_{\mathbf{b} \in \tilde{\mathcal{V}}_a} \zeta_h^{\mathbf{a},\mathbf{b}}$ with in particular $\zeta_h^{\mathbf{a},\mathbf{a}} \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_a) \cap \mathbf{H}_0(\operatorname{div}, \omega_a), \nabla \cdot \zeta_h^{\mathbf{a},\mathbf{a}} = 0$

(patchwise p -stable remainder **decomposition**)

$\zeta_h := \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{V}_h} \zeta_h^{\mathbf{a},\mathbf{a}}$ (gluing patchwise correction contributions)

A p -stable local commuting projector $\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\operatorname{div}} := \sigma_h + \zeta_h$

1 $\tau_h|_K := \arg \min_{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(K)} \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_h\|_K$ (elementwise L^2 -orthogonal projection)

2 $\sigma_h^a := \arg \min_{\substack{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_a) \cap \mathbf{H}_0(\operatorname{div}, \omega_a) \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_h = \Pi_h^{h,p}(\psi^a \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} + \nabla \psi^a \cdot \mathbf{v})}} \|\mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{RT}}^{h,p}(\psi^a \tau_h) - \mathbf{v}_h\|_{\omega_a}$
 $(\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{r}_h)_K = (\mathbf{I}_{\mathcal{RT}}^{h,p}(\psi^a \tau_h), \mathbf{r}_h)_K \quad \forall \mathbf{r}_h \in [\mathcal{P}_0(K)]^d, \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_a \quad \text{if } p \geq 1$

(patchwise **flux equilibration** with an **additional orthogonality constraint**)

$\sigma_h := \sum_{a \in \mathcal{V}_h} \sigma_h^a$ (gluing patchwise contributions)

3 $\zeta_h^a := \arg \min_{\substack{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_a) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\operatorname{div}, \tilde{\omega}_a) \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_h = 0}} \|\tau_h - \sigma_h - \mathbf{v}_h\|_{\tilde{\omega}_a}$
 $(\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{r}_h)_K = (\tau_h - \sigma_h, \mathbf{r}_h)_K = 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{r}_h \in [\mathcal{P}_0(K)]^d, \forall K \in \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_a$

(patchwise divergence-free remainder equilibration with an additional constraint)

$\zeta_h^a = \sum_{b \in \tilde{\mathcal{V}}_a} \zeta_h^{a,b}$ with in particular $\zeta_h^{a,a} \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_a) \cap \mathbf{H}_0(\operatorname{div}, \omega_a)$, $\nabla \cdot \zeta_h^{a,a} = 0$
 (patchwise p -stable remainder **decomposition**)

$\zeta_h := \sum_{a \in \mathcal{V}_h} \zeta_h^{a,a}$ (gluing patchwise correction contributions)

A p -stable local commuting projector $\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}$

Theorem ($\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}} : \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega)$)

$\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}$ is **commuting** since

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}(\mathbf{v}) = \Pi_h^p(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega),$$

A p -stable local commuting projector $\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}$

Theorem ($\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}} : \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega)$)

$\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}$ is **commuting** and **projector** since

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}(\mathbf{v}) = \Pi_h^p(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v})$$

$$\forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega),$$

$$\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{v}$$

$$\forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega).$$

A p -stable local commuting projector $\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}$

Theorem ($\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}} : \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega)$)

$\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}$ is **commuting** and **projector** since

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}(\mathbf{v}) &= \Pi_h^p(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) & \forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega), \\ \mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}(\mathbf{v}) &= \mathbf{v} & \forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega). \end{aligned}$$

It has **p -robust local-best approximation property**

since, for all $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega)$ and $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}(\mathbf{v})\|_K^2 + \left(\frac{h_K}{p+1} \|\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}(\mathbf{v}))\|_K \right)^2 \\ & \lesssim \sum_{L \in \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_K} \left\{ \min_{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(L)} \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_h\|_L^2 + \left(\frac{h_L}{p+1} \|\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} - \Pi_h^p(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v})\|_L \right)^2 \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

A p -stable local commuting projector $\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}$

Theorem ($\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}} : \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega)$)

$\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}$ is **commuting** and **projector** since

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}(\mathbf{v}) &= \Pi_h^p(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) & \forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega), \\ \mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}(\mathbf{v}) &= \mathbf{v} & \forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega). \end{aligned}$$

It has **p -robust local-best approximation property** and is **p -robustly L^2 stable** up to data oscillation, since, for all $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega)$ and $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}(\mathbf{v})\|_K^2 + \left(\frac{h_K}{p+1} \|\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}(\mathbf{v}))\|_K \right)^2 \\ & \lesssim \sum_{L \in \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_K} \left\{ \min_{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(L)} \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_h\|_L^2 + \left(\frac{h_L}{p+1} \|\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} - \Pi_h^p(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v})\|_L \right)^2 \right\}, \\ & \|\mathbf{P}_{hp}^{\text{div}}(\mathbf{v})\|_K^2 \lesssim \sum_{L \in \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_K} \left\{ \|\mathbf{v}\|_L^2 + \left(\frac{h_L}{p+1} \|\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} - \Pi_h^p(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v})\|_L \right)^2 \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

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 - p -stable local commuting projector in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega)$
 - p -stable local projector in $H^1(\Omega)$
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A p -stable local projector $P_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}}$

Theorem ($P_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}} : H_{0,N}^1(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_{p+1}(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_{0,N}^1(\Omega)$)

$P_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}}$ is a **projector** since

$$P_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}}(v) = v \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{P}_{p+1}(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_{0,N}^1(\Omega).$$

A p -stable local projector $P_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}}$

Theorem ($P_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}} : H_{0,N}^1(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_{p+1}(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_{0,N}^1(\Omega)$)

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It has **p -robust local-best approximation property**

since, for all $v \in H_{0,N}^1(\Omega)$ and $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$,

$$\|\nabla(v - P_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}}(v))\|_K^2 \lesssim \sum_{L \in \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_K} \min_{v_h \in \mathcal{P}_{p+1}(L)} \|\nabla(v - v_h)\|_L^2,$$

A p -stable local projector $P_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}}$

Theorem ($P_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}} : H_{0,N}^1(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_{p+1}(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_{0,N}^1(\Omega)$)

$P_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}}$ is a **projector** since

$$P_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}}(v) = v \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{P}_{p+1}(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_{0,N}^1(\Omega).$$

It has **p -robust local-best approximation property** and is **p -robustly H^1 stable** since, for all $v \in H_{0,N}^1(\Omega)$ and $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\nabla(v - P_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}}(v))\|_K^2 &\lesssim \sum_{L \in \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_K} \min_{v_h \in \mathcal{P}_{p+1}(L)} \|\nabla(v - v_h)\|_L^2, \\ \|\nabla P_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}}(v)\|_K^2 &\lesssim \sum_{L \in \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_K} \|\nabla v\|_L^2. \end{aligned}$$

A p -stable local projector $P_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}}$

Theorem ($P_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}} : H_{0,N}^1(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_{p+1}(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_{0,N}^1(\Omega)$)

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It has **p -robust local-best approximation property** and is **p -robustly H^1 stable** since, for all $v \in H_{0,N}^1(\Omega)$ and $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\nabla(v - P_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}}(v))\|_K^2 &\lesssim \sum_{L \in \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_K} \min_{v_h \in \mathcal{P}_{p+1}(L)} \|\nabla(v - v_h)\|_L^2, \\ \|\nabla P_{h(p+1)}^{\text{grad}}(v)\|_K^2 &\lesssim \sum_{L \in \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_K} \|\nabla v\|_L^2. \end{aligned}$$

- $\lesssim$: up to a generic constant that only depends on space dimension d and shape-regularity of the mesh $\mathcal{T}_h$

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Global-best approximation $\approx$ local-best approximation

Previous contributions

- Carstensen, Peterseim, and Schedensack (2012): H^1 (lowest-order case $p = 1$)
- Aurada, Feischl, Kemetmüller, Page, and Praetorius (2013): H^1 (boundary approximation context)
- Veerer (2016): H^1 (any p , p -dependent constant)
- Canuto, Nochetto, Stevenson, and Verani (2017): H^1 (improvement of the p dependence of the equivalence constant in 2D)
- Ern, Gudi, Smears, and Vohralík (2022): $H(\text{div})$ (any p , p -dependent constant)
- Chaumont-Frelet and Vohralík (2021, 2022): $H(\text{curl})$ (any p , p -dependent constant)
- Gawlik, Holst, and Licht (2021): finite element exterior calculus context (any p , p -dependent constant)

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Equivalence of global- and local-best approximations in $H_0^1(\Omega)$

Theorem (Global–local equivalence in H_0^1 , Carstensen, Peterseim, & Schedensack (2012), Aurada, Feischl, Kemetmüller, Page, & Praetorius (2013), Veerer (2016), Canuto, Nochetto, Stevenson, & Verani (2017))

bigger $\approx_p$ smaller

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$$\min_{\text{smaller space}} \approx_p \min_{\text{bigger space}}$$

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$$\min_{CG \text{ space}} \approx_p \min_{DG \text{ space}}$$

- $\approx_p$: up to a generic constant that only depends on space dimension d , shape-regularity of the mesh $\mathcal{T}_h$, and polynomial degree p

Equivalence of global- and local-best approximations in $H_0^1(\Omega)$

Theorem (p -robust global-local equivalence in $H_{0,D}^1(\Omega)$)

Let $v \in H_{0,D}^1(\Omega)$ and $p \geq 1$ be arbitrary. Then,

$$\underbrace{\min_{v_h \in \mathcal{P}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)} \|\nabla(v - v_h)\|^2}_{\substack{\text{global-best on } \Omega \\ \text{trace-continuity constraint} \\ \text{CG space (much smaller)}}} \approx \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \underbrace{\min_{v_h \in \mathcal{P}_p(K)} \|\nabla(v - v_h)\|_K^2}_{\substack{\text{local-best on each } K \in \mathcal{T}_h \\ \text{no trace-continuity constraint} \\ \text{DG space (much bigger)}}}.$$

- $\approx$: up to a generic constant that only depends on space dimension d and shape-regularity of the mesh $\mathcal{T}_h$
- also for varying polynomial degree

Equivalence of global- and local-best approximations in $H_0^1(\Omega)$

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- $\approx$: up to a generic constant that only depends on space dimension d and shape-regularity of the mesh $\mathcal{T}_h$
- also for varying polynomial degree

Equivalence of global- and local-best approximations in $H_0^1(\Omega)$

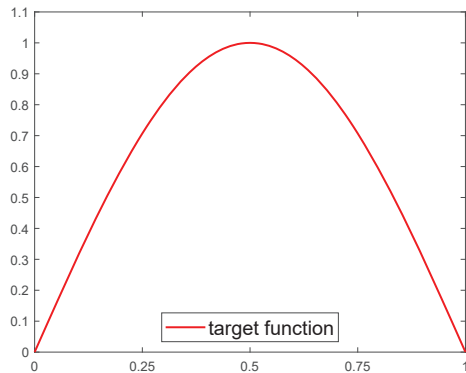
Theorem (p -robust global-local equivalence in $H_{0,D}^1(\Omega)$)

Let $\mathbf{v} \in H_{0,D}^1(\Omega)$ and $p \geq 1$ be arbitrary. Then,

$$\underbrace{\min_{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{P}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)} \|\nabla(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_h)\|^2}_{\substack{\text{global-best on } \Omega \\ \text{trace-continuity constraint} \\ \text{CG space (much smaller)}}} \approx \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \underbrace{\min_{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{P}_p(K)} \|\nabla(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_h)\|_K^2}_{\substack{\text{local-best on each } K \in \mathcal{T}_h \\ \text{no trace-continuity constraint} \\ \text{DG space (much bigger)}}}.$$

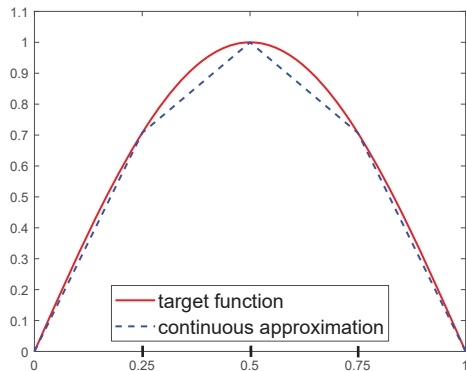
- $\approx$: up to a generic constant that only depends on space dimension d and shape-regularity of the mesh $\mathcal{T}_h$
- also for varying polynomial degree

Equivalence of global- and local-best approximations in $H_0^1(\Omega)$: 1D



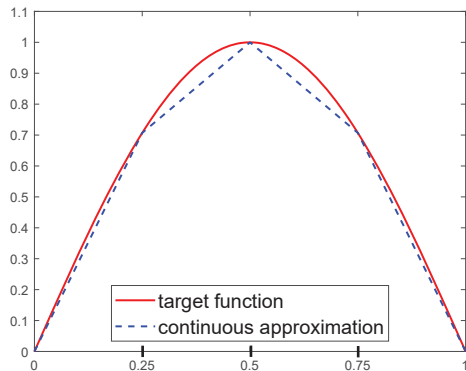
Target function in $H_0^1(\Omega)$

Equivalence of global- and local-best approximations in $H_0^1(\Omega)$: 1D

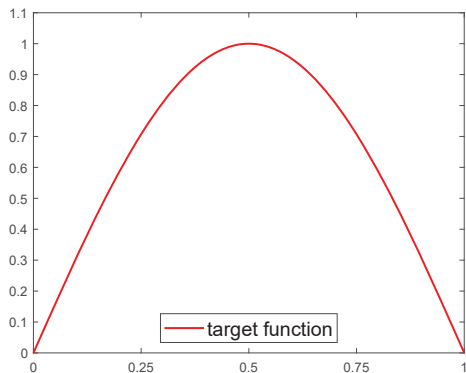


Best approximation by **continuous**
piecewise polynomials in
 $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)$, **global** problem

Equivalence of global- and local-best approximations in $H_0^1(\Omega)$: 1D

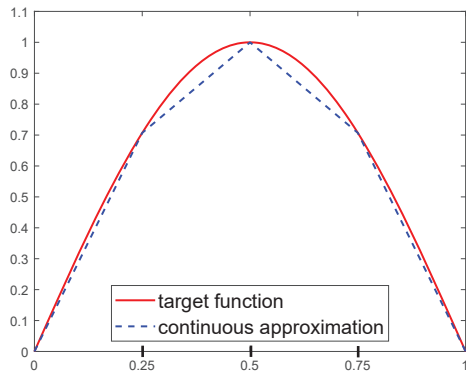


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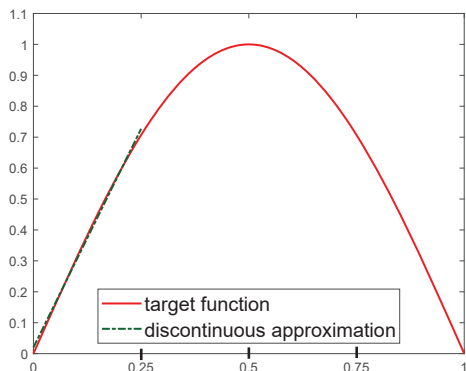


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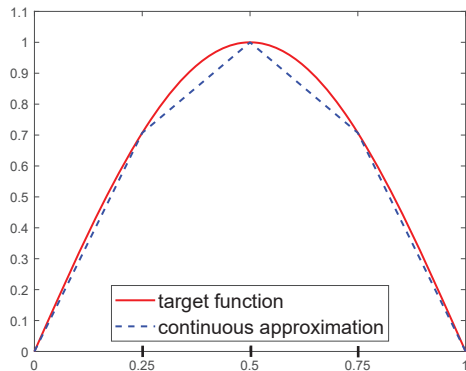


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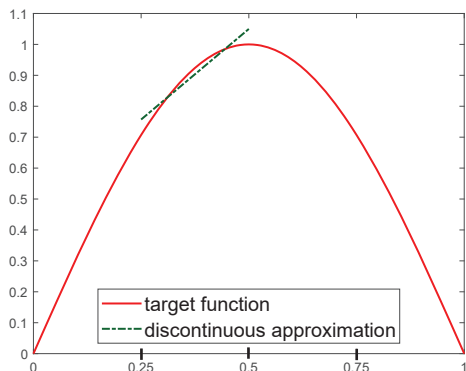


Best approximation by **discontinuous** piecewise polynomials in $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathcal{T}_h)$, **local** problems

Equivalence of global- and local-best approximations in $H_0^1(\Omega)$: 1D

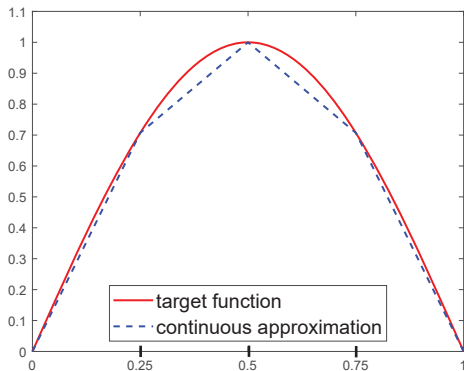


Best approximation by **continuous** piecewise polynomials in $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)$, **global** problem

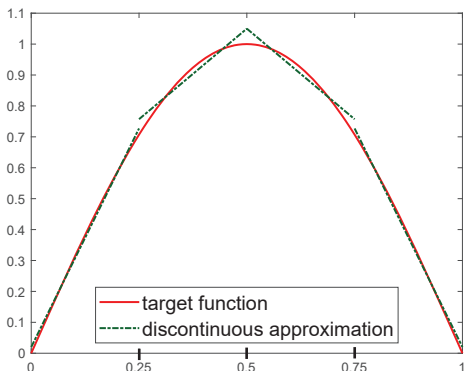


Best approximation by **discontinuous** piecewise polynomials in $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathcal{T}_h)$, **local** problems

Equivalence of global- and local-best approximations in $H_0^1(\Omega)$: 1D

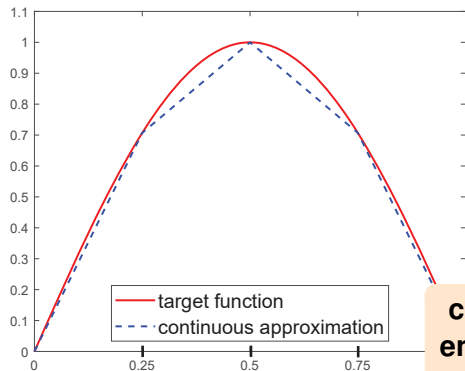


Best approximation by **continuous** piecewise polynomials in $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)$, **global** problem



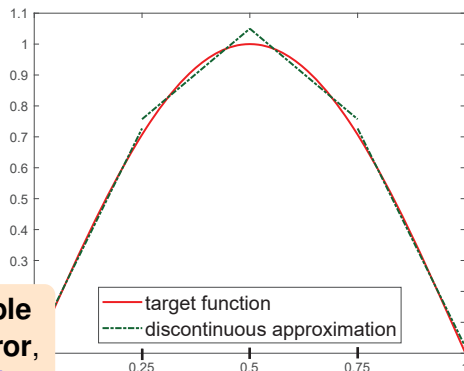
Best approximation by **discontinuous** piecewise polynomials in $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathcal{T}_h)$, **local** problems

Equivalence of global- and local-best approximations in $H_0^1(\Omega)$: 1D



comparable
energy error,
 p -robustly

Best approximation by **continuous**
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 $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)$, **global** problem



Best approximation by **discontinuous**
piecewise polynomials in $\mathcal{P}_1(\mathcal{T}_h)$, **local**
problems

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 - p -stable local commuting projector in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega)$
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Equivalence of global- and local-best approximations in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega)$

Theorem (Global–local equivalence in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div})$, Ern, Gudi, Smears, & V. (2022))

bigger $\approx_p$ smaller

Equivalence of global- and local-best approximations in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega)$

Theorem (Global-local equivalence in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div})$, Ern, Gudi, Smears, & V. (2022))

$$\min_{\text{smaller space with constraints}} \approx_p \min_{\text{bigger space without constraints}}$$

Equivalence of global- and local-best approximations in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega)$

Theorem (Global–local equivalence in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div})$, Ern, Gudi, Smears, & V. (2022))

$$\min_{\text{MFE space with constraints}} \approx_p \min_{\text{broken MFE space without constraints}}$$

- $\approx_p$: only depends on space dimension d , shape-regularity of $\mathcal{T}_h$, and polynomial degree p

Equivalence of global- and local-best approximations in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega)$

Theorem (p -robust global-local equivalence in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div})$)

Let $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega)$ and $p \geq 0$ be arbitrary. Then,

$$\underbrace{\min_{\substack{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RTN}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega) \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_h = \Pi_h^p(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v})}} \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_h\|^2 + \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \frac{h_K^2}{(p+1)^2} \|\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} - \Pi_h^p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}\|_K^2}_{\substack{\text{global-best on } \Omega \\ \text{normal trace-continuity constraint} \\ \text{divergence constraint} \\ \text{MFE space (much smaller)}}} \\ \approx \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \underbrace{\left[\min_{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RTN}_p(K)} \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_h\|_K^2 + \frac{h_K^2}{(p+1)^2} \|\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} - \Pi_h^p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}\|_K^2 \right]}_{\substack{\text{local-best on each } K \\ \text{no normal trace-continuity constraint} \\ \text{no divergence constraint} \\ \text{broken MFE space (much bigger)}}}.$$

• $\approx$: only depends on d and shape-regularity of $\mathcal{T}_h$

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global-best on Ω
normal trace-continuity constraint
divergence constraint
MFE space (much smaller)

$$\approx \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \left[\min_{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RTN}_p(K)} \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_h\|_K^2 + \frac{h_K^2}{(p+1)^2} \|\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} - \Pi_h^p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}\|_K^2 \right].$$

local-best on each K
no normal trace-continuity constraint
no divergence constraint
broken MFE space (much bigger)

• $\approx$: only depends on d and shape-regularity of $\mathcal{T}_h$

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The Laplace equation (source term $f \in L^2(\Omega)$)

The Laplace equation

Find $u : \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} -\Delta u &= f && \text{in } \Omega, \\ u &= 0 && \text{on } \Gamma_D, \\ -\nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_\Omega &= 0 && \text{on } \Gamma_N. \end{aligned}$$

The Laplace equation (source term $f \in L^2(\Omega)$)

Primal weak formulation

$u \in H_{0,D}^1(\Omega)$ such that

$$(\nabla u, \nabla v) = (f, v) \quad \forall v \in H_{0,D}^1(\Omega).$$

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Primal weak formulation

$u \in H_{0,D}^1(\Omega)$ such that

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Primal finite element approximation

$u_h \in \mathcal{P}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_{0,D}^1(\Omega)$, $p \geq 1$, s.t.

$$(\nabla u_h, \nabla v_h) = (f, v_h) \quad \forall v_h \in \mathcal{P}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_{0,D}^1(\Omega).$$

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Error characterisation

$$\|\nabla(u - u_h)\| = \min_{v_h \in \mathcal{P}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_{0,D}^1(\Omega)} \|\nabla(u - v_h)\|$$

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Dual weak formulation

$\sigma \in \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega)$ with $\nabla \cdot \sigma = f$ such that

$$(\sigma, \mathbf{v}) = 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega) \text{ with } \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0.$$

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$$\|\sigma - \sigma_h\| = \min_{\substack{v_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega) \\ \nabla \cdot v_h = \Pi_h^p f}} \|\sigma - v_h\|$$

The Laplace equation (source term $f \in L^2(\Omega)$): **global-best approximations**

Error characterisation

$$\|\nabla(u - u_h)\| = \min_{v_h \in \mathcal{P}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_{0,D}^1(\Omega)} \|\nabla(u - v_h)\|$$

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The Laplace equation (source term $f \in L^2(\Omega)$): **global-best approximations (constrained)**

Error characterisation

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Approximation error estimates in the $H^1(\Omega)$ context

h approximation estimate

Let $v \in H^s(\Omega)$, $s > d/2$. Then

$$\min_{v_h \in \mathcal{P}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H^1(\Omega)} \|\nabla(u - v_h)\| \leq C(\kappa_{\mathcal{T}_h}, d, s, p) h^{\min\{p, s-1\}} |v|_{H^s(\Omega)}.$$

- Ciarlet (1978), Ern and Guermond (2021)
- Babuška and Suri (1987, $d = 2$)
- Demkowicz and Buffa (2005) ($d = 3$, *commutes*, under a conjecture on polynomial extension operators proved in 2009–2012)
- Melenk (2005), Karkulik and Melenk (2015), *varying polynomial degree, local patchwise regularity*

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Main result

Theorem (**Local** *hp*-optimal approximation under **minimal Sobolev regularity**)

Let $v \in H^1_{0,D}(\Omega)$ with

$$v|_K \in H^{s_K}(K) \quad \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h$$

for $s_K \geq 1$.

- varying polynomial degree: $\underline{p}_K := \min_{L \in \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_K} \{p_L\}$ is the smallest polynomial degree over the extended element patch $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_K$

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- 2 p -stable local (commuting) projectors
 - p -stable local commuting projector in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega)$
 - p -stable local projector in $H^1(\Omega)$
- 3 p -robust global-best-local-best equivalence
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- 4 Optimal elementwise *hp* approximation error estimates
 - Optimal elementwise *hp* approximation error estimates in $H^1(\Omega)$
 - Optimal elementwise *hp* approximation error estimates in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega)$
- 5 Tools
 - Equilibration in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div})$
 - p -stable (broken) polynomial extensions
 - p -stable decompositions
- 6 Conclusions

Approximation error estimates in the $\mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega)$ context

h approximation estimate

Let $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega) \cap \mathbf{H}^s(\Omega)$, $s > 1/2$. Then

$$\min_{\substack{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap \mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega) \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_h = \Pi_h^p(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v})}} \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_h\| \leq C(\kappa_{\mathcal{T}_h}, d, s, p) h^{\min\{p+1, s\}} \|\mathbf{v}\|_{\mathbf{H}^s(\Omega)}.$$

- Raviart and Thomas (1977), Nédélec (1980), Boffi, Brezzi, and Fortin (2013)
- Monk (1994), *rectangular meshes*
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Main result

Theorem (**Local** *hp*-optimal approximation under **minimal Sobolev regularity**)

Let $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega)$ with

$$\mathbf{v}|_K \in \mathbf{H}^{s_K}(K), \quad (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v})|_K \in [\mathcal{P}_p(K)]^3 \quad \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h$$

for $s_K \geq 0$.

- varying polynomial degree can be added

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Outline

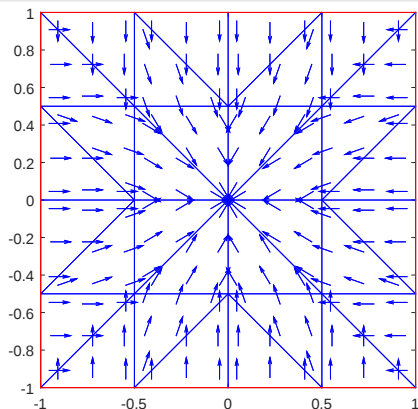
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Equilibration in $H(\text{div})$

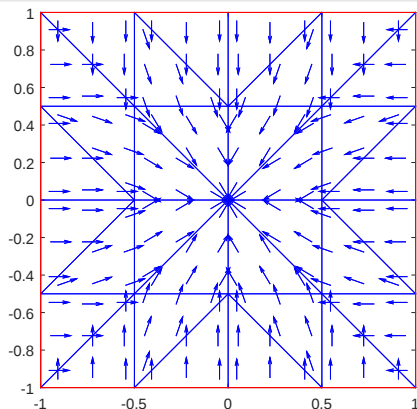
Bossavit (1998), Destuynder & Métivet (1998), Braess & Schöberl (2008), Ern & V. (2013)



Flux $\tau_h \notin H(\text{div}), \nabla \cdot \tau_h \neq f$

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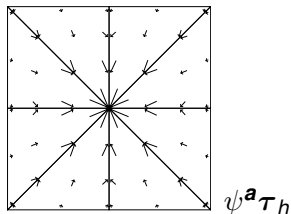
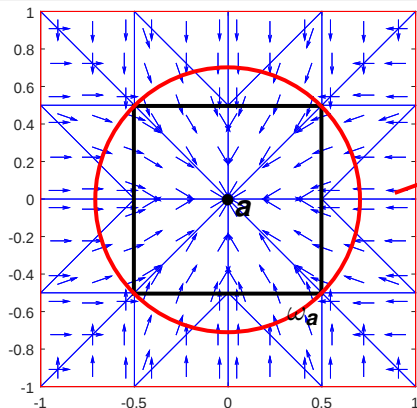
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$$\tau_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h), f \in \mathcal{P}_p(\mathcal{T}_h)$$

$$(f, \psi^a)_{\omega_a} + (\tau_h, \nabla \psi^a)_{\omega_a} = 0 \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{V}_h^{\text{int}}$$

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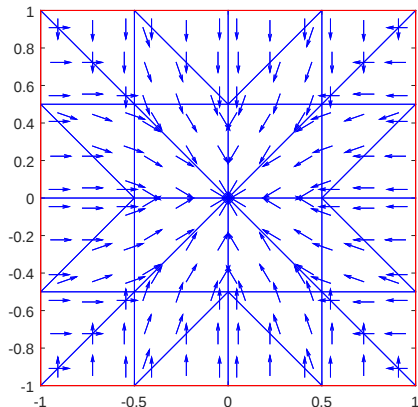
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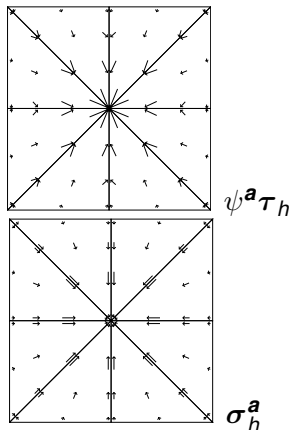
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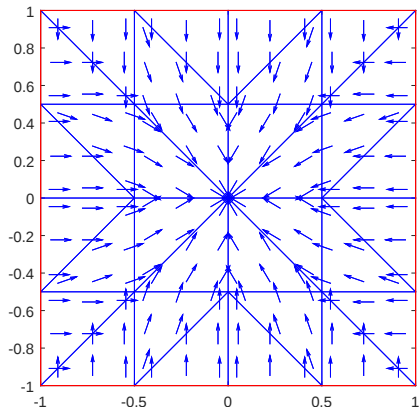
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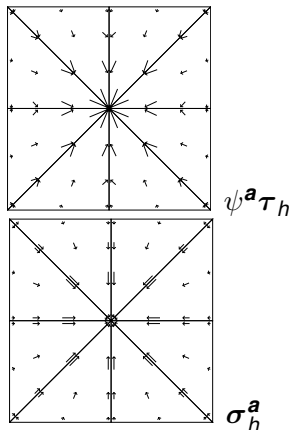
$$\underbrace{\tau_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h), f \in \mathcal{P}_p(\mathcal{T}_h)}_{(f, \psi^a)_{\omega_a} + (\tau_h, \nabla \psi^a)_{\omega_a} = 0 \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{V}_h^{\text{int}}}$$

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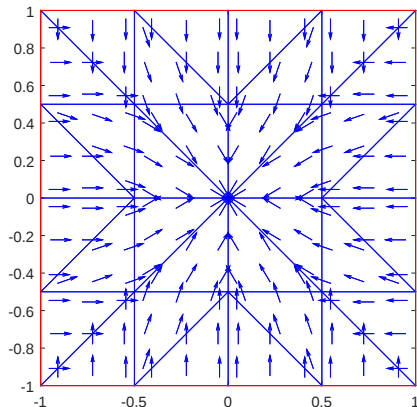
$$(f, \psi^a)_{\omega_a} + (\tau_h, \nabla \psi^a)_{\omega_a} = 0 \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{V}_h^{\text{int}}$$

$$\sigma_h^a := \arg \min_{\mathbf{v}_h \in \mathcal{RT}_{p+1}(\mathcal{T}_a) \cap H_0(\text{div}, \omega_a)} \|\psi^a \tau_h - \mathbf{v}_h\|_{\omega_a}^2$$

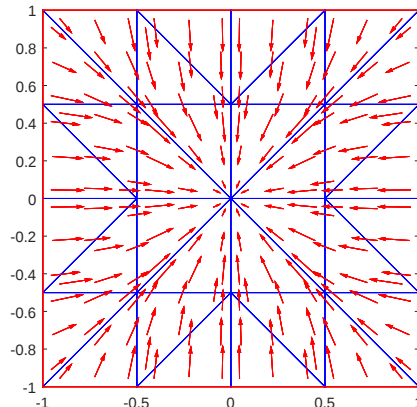
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_h = f \psi^a + \tau_h \cdot \nabla \psi^a$$

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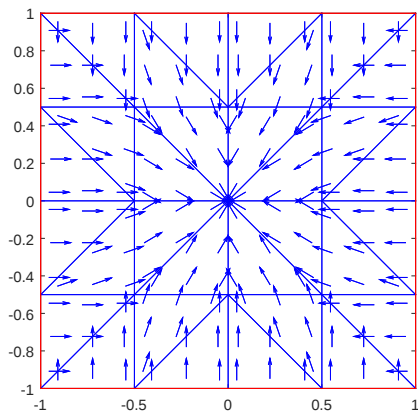


Equilibrated flux rec. σ_h

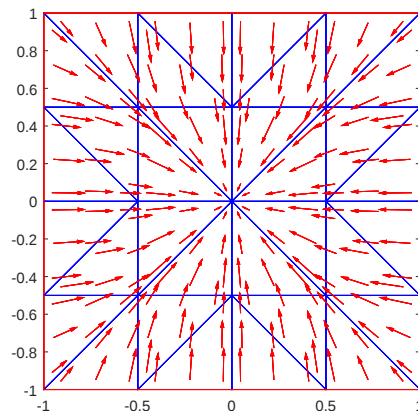
$$\underbrace{\tau_h \in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h), f \in \mathcal{P}_p(\mathcal{T}_h)}_{(f, \psi^a)_{\omega_a} + (\tau_h, \nabla \psi^a)_{\omega_a} = 0 \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{V}_h^{\text{int}}} \rightarrow \sigma_h := \sum_{a \in \mathcal{V}_h} \sigma_h^a \in \mathcal{RT}_{p+1}(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H(\text{div}), \nabla \cdot \sigma_h = f$$

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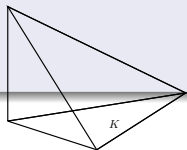
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$H(\text{div})$ polynomial extensions on a tetrahedron

Theorem ($H(\text{div})$ polynomial extension on a single tetrahedron Costabel & Mc-Intosh (2010);

Demkowicz, Gopalakrishnan, & Schöberl (2012); Braess, Pillwein, & Schöberl (2009); Ern & V. (2020))

Let $\emptyset \subseteq \mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{F}_K$ be a (sub)set of faces of a tetrahedron K . Then, for every polynomial degree $p \geq 0$, for all $r_K \in \mathcal{P}_p(K)$, and for all $r_{\mathcal{F}} \in \mathcal{P}_p(\Gamma_{\mathcal{F}})$, there holds



$$\min_{\substack{\mathbf{v}_p \in \mathcal{RT}_p(K) \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_p = r_K \\ \mathbf{v}_p \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\mathcal{F}} = r_{\mathcal{F}}}} \|\mathbf{v}_p\|_K \leq C_{\text{st}} \min_{\substack{\mathbf{v} \in H(\text{div}, K) \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = r_K \\ \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\mathcal{F}} = r_{\mathcal{F}}}} \|\mathbf{v}\|_K.$$

Comments

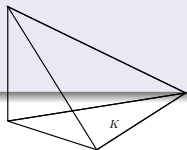
- C_{st} only depends on the shape-regularity of K
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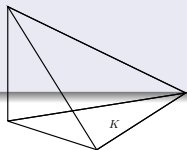
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$$\min_{\substack{\mathbf{v}_p \in \mathcal{RT}_p(K) \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_p = r_K \\ \mathbf{v}_p \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\mathcal{F}} = r_{\mathcal{F}}}} \|\mathbf{v}_p\|_K \leq C_{\text{st}} \min_{\substack{\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}(\text{div}, K) \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = r_K \\ \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\mathcal{F}} = r_{\mathcal{F}}}} \|\mathbf{v}\|_K.$$

Comments

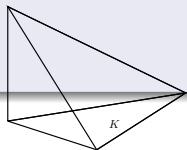
- C_{st} only depends on the **shape-regularity** of K
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- extension to a **vertex patch**: Braess, Pillwein, & Schöberl (2009); Ern & Vohralík (2020)

$H(\text{div})$ polynomial extensions on a tetrahedron and on patches

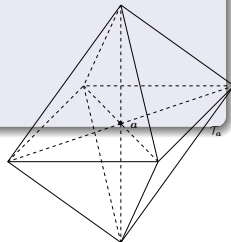
Theorem ($H(\text{div})$ polynomial extension on a single tetrahedron Costabel & Mc-Intosh (2010);

Demkowicz, Gopalakrishnan, & Schöberl (2012); Braess, Pillwein, & Schöberl (2009); Ern & V. (2020))

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- 2 *p*-stable local (commuting) projectors
 - *p*-stable local commuting projector in $\mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega)$
 - *p*-stable local projector in $H^1(\Omega)$
- 3 *p*-robust global-best-local-best equivalence
 - *p*-robust global-best-local-best equivalence in $H^1(\Omega)$
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- 4 Optimal elementwise *hp* approximation error estimates
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$H(\text{div})$ stable decomposition

Theorem ($H(\text{div})$ stable decomposition in 2D; in extension of Schöberl, Melenk, Pechstein, & Zaglmayr (2008))

Let $d = 2$ and let $\bar{\Omega}$ be contractible. Let

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_p &\in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap \mathbf{H}_{0,N}(\text{div}, \Omega) \quad \text{with} \quad \nabla \cdot \delta_p = 0, && \text{div-free} \\ (\delta_p, \mathbf{r}_h)_K &= 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{r}_h \in [\mathcal{P}_0(K)]^d, \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h. && \text{vanishing means} \end{aligned}$$

Then there exists a decomposition of δ_p as

$$\delta_p = \sum_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{V}_h} \delta_p^{\mathbf{a}}, \quad \text{decomposition}$$

where

$\delta_p^{\mathbf{a}}$ are supported on the vertex patch subdomains $\omega_{\mathbf{a}}$, linearly
depend on δ_p on the extended vertex patch subdomains $\tilde{\omega}_{\mathbf{a}}$,

and satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_p^{\mathbf{a}} &\in \mathcal{RT}_p(\mathcal{T}_{\mathbf{a}}) \cap \mathbf{H}_0(\text{div}, \omega_{\mathbf{a}}) \quad \text{with} \quad \nabla \cdot \delta_p^{\mathbf{a}} = 0, && \text{local div-free} \\ \|\delta_p^{\mathbf{a}}\|_{\omega_{\mathbf{a}}} &\lesssim \|\delta_p\|_{\tilde{\omega}_{\mathbf{a}}} \quad \forall \mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{V}_h. && p\text{-stable} \end{aligned}$$

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Thank you for your attention!