

Lecture 13

3/19

- Quasi-optimality
- Error estimation
- Lax-Milgram theory

Refs

- Johnson
- Brenner + Scott

Last time we introduced the Galerkin discretization of the Poisson problem

$$\textcircled{G} \quad (\nabla u, \nabla v) = (f, v) \quad \text{for all } u \in V_h$$

We will now consider this as an example for a general bilinear form a

$$a(u, v) = (f, v)$$

$$a(\alpha u_1 + \beta u_2, \gamma v_1 + \delta v_2) = \alpha a(u_1, v_1) \gamma + \alpha a(u_1, v_2) \delta + \beta a(u_2, v_1) \gamma + \beta a(u_2, v_2) \delta$$

For bilinear forms, we're interested in those that

Generate an energy norm + C-S

$$\|v\|_E = \sqrt{a(v, v)}, \quad a(v, w) \leq \|v\|_E \|w\|_E$$

Recall from last class that this is precisely the connection between \textcircled{G} and Rayleigh-Ritz

$$\text{Solving } \textcircled{G} \iff \min_{v \in V_h} \|v\|_E^2$$

Last class we showed from Galerkin orthogonality

$$\|u - u_h\|_E \leq \|u - v\|_E \quad \forall v \in V_h$$

or taking the inf over v

$$\|u - u_h\|_E \leq \inf_{v \in V_h} \|u - v\|_E$$

Energy norm vs L^2 norm

We know that \textcircled{G} thus naturally minimizes error in the energy norm. What about in the L^2 norm?

$$\|u - u_h\|^2 = \int_{\Omega} (u - u_h)^2 dx$$

We'll show L^2 error is smaller than energy error, following a duality argument

Define a new problem

$$-w'' = u - u_h, \quad w(0) = w(1) = 0$$

Then

$$\|u - u_h\|^2 = (u - u_h, u - u_h)$$

$$= (u - u_h, -w'')$$

$$= (\cancel{u - u_h}, w') + [w'(0)(u - u_h)(0) - w'(1)(u - u_h)(1)]$$

$\xrightarrow{\text{By BC}}$

$$= a(u - u_h, w)$$

$$= a(u - u_h, w - v) \quad \text{for any } v \in V_h \text{ by Galerkin orthogonality}$$

$$\leq \|u - u_h\|_E \|w - v\|_E \quad \text{by Cauchy-Schwarz}$$

$$\|u - u_h\| \leq \frac{\|u - u_h\|_E \|w - v\|_E}{\|u - u_h\|}$$

$$= \frac{\|u - u_h\|_E \|w - v\|_E}{\|w''\|}$$

$$\leq \|u - u_h\|_E \inf_{v \in V_h} \frac{\|w - v\|_E}{\|w''\|}$$

If we can find a ~~an~~ $v \in V_h$ such that

$$\|w - v\|_E \leq \varepsilon \|w''\| \quad (\star)$$

Then

$$\|u - u_h\| \leq \varepsilon \|u - u_h\|_E$$

Applying (\star) again, $\|u - u_h\| \leq \varepsilon^2 \|u''\| = \varepsilon^2 \|f\|$

So everything comes down to showing that V_h can approximate things like (\star)

For the piecewise linear choice of V_h
we'll show what ε is.

Define $0 = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n = 1$ a nodes,

V_h satisfying

① $v \in C^0[0,1]$

$h = \max |x_{i+1} - x_i|$

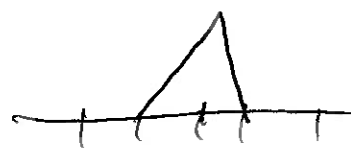
② $v|_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]}$ linear polynomial

③ $v(0) = 0$

Define functions $\phi_i(x)$, $i=1, \dots, n$ as nodal basis

satisfying $\phi_i(x_j) = \delta_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & i=j \\ 0 & i \neq j \end{cases}$

Kronecker- δ property



Define the interpolant $\Pi u \in V_h$

satisfying $\Pi u(x_i) = u(x_i) \quad \forall \text{ nodes } x_i$

This can be computed directly

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi u(x_i) &= \sum_j \widehat{\Pi u_j} \phi_j(x_i) = u(x_i) \\ &= \sum_j \widehat{\Pi u_j} \delta_{ij} \\ &= \widehat{\Pi u_i} \end{aligned}$$

So $\Pi u(x_i) = \sum_j u(x_j) \phi_j(x)$

Finally, we'll show that Πu is the v we needed in (\star)

Thm $\|u - \Pi u\| \leq C h \|u''\|$
 $\forall u \in V$, where C is indep. of h, u

Pf Work on 1 element, then sum up
show $\int_{x_{j-1}}^{x_j} (u - \Pi u)'{}^2 dx \leq C (x_j - x_{j-1})^2 \int_{x_{j-1}}^{x_j} u''{}^2 dx$

Let $e = u - \Pi u$ be the error, note $u'' = e''$ since

By change of variables

Πu is linear

$$x = x_{j-1} + \tilde{x} (x_j - x_{j-1})$$

We rewrite

$$\int_{x_{j-1}}^{x_j} e'{}^2 dx \leq C (x_j - x_{j-1})^2 \int_{x_{j-1}}^{x_j} e''{}^2 dx$$

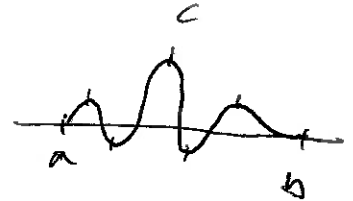
$$\text{as } \int_0^1 e'{}^2 d\tilde{x} \leq \int_0^1 e''{}^2 d\tilde{x}$$

↗ these are equivalent

To prove this is a little bit of calculus

We'll use Rolle's theorem, which is the mean value theorem in the special case where the endpoints are equal

Then if e is continuous on $[a, b]$ and $f(a) = f(b)$, then there is at least one pt $c \in [a, b]$ s.t. $f'(c) = 0$



So $e'(\xi) = 0$ for some $\xi \in [0, 1]$

$$e'(y) - \cancel{e'(\xi)} = \int_{\xi}^y e'' dx$$

Fund Thm of Calc.

$$\begin{aligned} |e'(y)|^2 &= \left| \int_{\xi}^y e'' dx \right|^2 \\ &= \left| \int_{\xi}^y 1 \cdot e'' dx \right|^2 \\ &\leq \left| \int_{\xi}^y dx \right|^{\frac{1}{2}} \left| \int_{\xi}^y e'' dx \right|^{\frac{1}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

$$= |y - \xi| \left| \int_{\xi}^y e'' dx \right|$$

$$|e'(y)| \leq |y - \xi|^{\frac{1}{2}} \left| \int_{\xi}^y e'' dx \right|^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\int_0^1 e'(\eta)^2 dy \leq \int_0^1 |\eta - \xi| dy \int_0^1 e'' dx$$

taking max over ξ gives worst case scenario
when $\xi = 1/2$

$$\max \int_0^1 |\eta - \xi| dy = \frac{1}{2}$$

And we're done

We just showed $\textcircled{\star}$ holds w/ $\varepsilon = h^2$

So:
$$\|u - u_h\| \leq Ch^2 \|\xi\|$$

Summarize

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \|u - u_h\|_E \leq \|u - v\|_E \quad \forall v \in V_h$$

Picking $v = \pi u \in V_h \stackrel{= \xi}{\Rightarrow}$

$$\|u - u_h\|_E \leq C_1 h \|u''\| \stackrel{= \xi}{\leq} C_1 h \|\xi\|$$

$$\|u - u_h\| \leq C_2 h^2 \|u''\| \stackrel{= \xi}{\leq} C_2 h^2 \|\xi\|$$

What's up next:

- Machine learning V_h
- Machine learning $a(u, v)$

First, an abstraction of what we learned today, so that it's clear this isn't just something special about Poisson

Lax-Milgram theory

There isn't anything special about poisson - the same process holds for any elliptic bilinear forms

Let V be a Hilbert space w/ norm $\|\cdot\|_V$

Suppose $a(u, v)$ satisfies

① Symmetric
 $a(u, v) = a(v, u)$

② Continuous

$\exists \gamma > 0$ s.t

$$|a(v, w)| \leq \gamma \|v\|_V \|w\|_V$$

Have a Cauchy-Schwarz

$\forall v, w \in V$

③ Elliptic (aka V -elliptic, coercive)

$$a(v, v) \geq \alpha \|v\|_V^2 \quad \forall v \in V$$

Then

$$F(u) = \min_v F(v) \quad \& \quad a(u, v) = L(v)$$

$$F(v) = \frac{1}{2} a(v, v) - L(v)$$

for

$$|L(v)| \leq \Lambda \|v\|_V$$

have the same unique solution satisfying $\|u\|_V \leq \frac{\Lambda}{\alpha}$

Pf $\min F(v) \Rightarrow a(u, v) = L(v)$ immediate from $\delta_v F(v) = 0$

To obtain estimate take $v = u$

$$a(u, u) = L(u)$$

$$\alpha \|u\|_V^2 \leq \leq \|u\|_V$$

$$\|u\|_V \leq \frac{1}{\alpha} \text{ RHS}$$

For uniqueness, assume 2 solns u_1, u_2

$$a(u_1 - u_2, v) = 0$$

From stability result

$$\|u_1 - u_2\|_V \leq \frac{1}{\alpha} \text{ RHS} = 0$$

For any elliptic operators, we have the playbook

- Get quasi-optimality for best fit in $\|\cdot\|_V$
- Get interpolant as upper bound
- Relate $\|\cdot\|_V$ to $\|\cdot\|$ to understand how quickly error converges