

## Introduction

In this project I focused on implementation of mixed Poisson problem with  $\mathcal{RT}_0$ - $\mathcal{P}_0$  elements. My work is based on the paper "Three MATLAB implementations of the lowest-order Raviart-Thomas MFEM with a posteriori error control" by C. Bahriawati and C. Carstensen ([http://www2.mathematik.hu-berlin.de/~cc/cc\\_homepage/download/2005-BC\\_CC-Three\\_MATLAB\\_Implementations\\_Lowest-Order\\_Raviart-Thomas\\_MFEM.pdf](http://www2.mathematik.hu-berlin.de/~cc/cc_homepage/download/2005-BC_CC-Three_MATLAB_Implementations_Lowest-Order_Raviart-Thomas_MFEM.pdf)).

Since my goal was to understand the way one can build  $\mathcal{RT}_0$  elements, I tried to make the code as simple to read as possible, ignoring performance issues (e.g., there are a lot of computations in loops and all matrices are fully stored). Also, I don't think that such code can be used in real world, since a lot of computations are performed by hand (similar to 50 lines Matlab implementation of regular Poisson problem), but still it was really useful in understanding of how  $H_{div}$  elements work.

## Mixed Poisson problem with $\mathcal{RT}_0$ - $\mathcal{P}_0$ elements

### 1. Description of problem

Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded domain in the plane with polygonal boundary  $\Gamma = \Gamma_D \cup \Gamma_N$  split into two regions: Dirichlet and Neumann boundary respectively. Given  $f \in L^2(\Omega)$ ,  $g \in L^2(\Gamma_N)$  and  $U_D \in H^1(\Omega \cap C(\bar{\Omega}))$  such that

$$-\Delta u = f \quad \text{in } \Omega \quad (1)$$

$$u = u_D \quad \text{on } \Gamma_D \quad (2)$$

$$\nabla u \cdot \nu = g \quad \text{on } \Gamma_N \quad (3)$$

Split equation (1) into two parts by:

$$-\operatorname{div} p = f \text{ and } p = \nabla u, \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

for unknown  $u \in H_1(\Omega)$  and  $p \in L^2(\Omega)$  with  $\operatorname{div} p \in L^2(\Omega)$ .

Now the weak formulation reads:

$$\int_{\Omega} p \cdot q dx + \int_{\Omega} u \operatorname{div} q dx = \int_{\Gamma_D} u_D q \cdot \nu \quad \forall q \in H_{0,N}(\operatorname{div}, \Omega) \quad (4)$$

$$\int_{\Omega} v \operatorname{div} p dx = - \int_{\Omega} v f dx \quad \forall v \in L^2(\Omega) \quad (5)$$

where

$$H_{0,N}(\operatorname{div}, \Omega) := \{q \in H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega) : q \cdot \nu = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_N\}$$

$$H_{g,N}(\operatorname{div}, \Omega) := \{q \in H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega) : q \cdot \nu = g \text{ on } \Gamma_N\}$$

For the discretization we choose  $\mathcal{RT}_0$  and  $\mathcal{P}_0$  spaces for flux and displacement respectively:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{RT}_0(\mathcal{T}) &:= \{q \in L^2(T) : \forall T \in \mathcal{T} \exists a \in \mathbb{R}^2 \exists b \in \mathbb{R} \forall x \in T, q(x) = a + bx \\ &\quad \text{and } \forall E \in \Sigma_{\Omega}, [q]_E \cdot \nu_E = 0\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{P}_0(\mathcal{T}) := \{v \in L^2(\Omega) : \forall T \in \mathcal{T} v|_T \in \mathcal{P}_0(T)\}$$

where  $\mathcal{T}$  is a regular triangulation,  $\Sigma$  is the set of all interior edges and  $[q]_E$  denotes the jump of  $q$  across the edge  $E$  shared by the two neighboring elements.

With the  $\Sigma_N$ -piecewise constant approximation  $g_h$  of  $g$ ,  $g_h|_E = \int_E g ds / |E|$  for each  $E \in \Sigma_N$  of length  $|E|$ , the discrete spaces read

$$M_{h,g} := \{q_h \in \mathcal{RT}_0(\mathcal{T}) : q_h \cdot \nu = g_h \text{ on } \Gamma_N\}$$

$$M_{h,0} := \mathcal{RT}_0(\mathcal{T}) \cap H_{0,N}(\operatorname{div}, \Omega)$$

$$L_h := \mathcal{P}_0(\mathcal{T})$$

The discrete problem reads: seek  $(u_h, p_h) \in L_h \times M_{h,g}$  with

$$\int_{\Omega} p_h \cdot q_h dx + \int_{\Omega} u_h \operatorname{div} q_h dx = \int_{\Gamma_D} u_D q_h \cdot \nu \quad \forall q_h \in M_{h,0} \quad (6)$$

$$\int_{\Omega} v_h \operatorname{div} p_h dx = - \int_{\Omega} v_h f dx \quad \forall v_h \in L_h \quad (7)$$

Let  $M_{h,0} = \text{span}\{\psi_1, \dots, \psi_M\}$ , with respect to this basis (possibly in a different order of the indices), we have the components  $x_\psi = (x_1, \dots, x_N)$  of  $p_h = \sum_{k=1}^M x_k \psi_k \in M_{h,g}$  and the components  $x_u = (x_{M+1}, \dots, x_{M+L})$  of  $fu_h|_{T_l} = x_{M+l}$  for  $l = 1, \dots, L$  and for an enumeration  $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_L$  of the  $L = \text{card}(\mathcal{T})$  elements. Then the problem transforms into a linear system for the unknown  $(x_1, \dots, x_M$  and  $(x_{M+1}, \dots, x_{M+L})$ :

$$\sum_{k=1}^M \int_{\Omega} \psi_j \cdot \psi_k dx + \sum_{l=1}^L x_{N+l} \int_{\Omega} \text{div} \psi_j dx = \int_{\Gamma_D} u_D \psi_j \cdot \nu - \sum_{m=M+1}^N g_h|_{E_m} \int_{\Omega} \psi_j \cdot \psi_m dx \quad (8)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^M x_k \int_{\Omega} \text{div} \psi_k dx = - \int_{\Omega} f dx - \sum_{m=M+1}^N g_h|_{E_m} \int_{T_l} \text{div} \psi_k dx \quad (9)$$

or, equivalently,

$$\begin{pmatrix} B & C \\ C^T & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_\psi \\ x_u \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_D \\ b_f \end{pmatrix}$$

## 2. Domain and mesh

We consider polygon domain, covered by regular triangulation  $\mathcal{T}$ , i.e. set of closed triangles  $T = \text{conv}(a, b, c)$ , with vertices  $a, b, c$ . Each edge in the set  $\Sigma$  is  $E = \text{conv}(a, b)$ . The boundary of the domain is given by  $\Sigma = \Sigma_N \cup \Sigma_D$ . In the code we use nodes  $z_1, \dots, z_n$  with coordinates in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , that are stored in `coordinate.dat`. The element  $T_m = \text{conv}(z_i, z_j, z_k)$  (with counterclockwise enumeration) is described by the global labels  $i, j, k$ , stored in row  $m$  of `element.dat`.

## 3. Additional information about edges

The degrees of freedom of flux variable are edge-oriented, therefore we need to perform edge enumeration and connect all edges with geometric information of the triangulation.

In order to do this we will need three additional matrices:

- **matrix nodes2element** is a quadratic matrix of dimension  $n$  (=number of nodes), s.t.:

$$\text{node2element}(k, l) = \begin{cases} j, & \text{if } (k, l) \text{ describe an edge of element number } j \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Here the orientation of an edge is important. Suppose  $E = \text{conv}(x_k, x_l) \in T_i$  and  $E = \text{conv}(x_l, x_k) \in T_j$ , then `nodes2element(k, l)=i` and `nodes2element(l, k)=j`.

Matlab implementation:

```
nodes2element=zeros(length(coordinates),length(coordinates));
% nodes2element is a matrix that describes elements in terms of edges
% node2element(i,j)=number of element, if (i,j)-edge belongs to this
% element
% node2element(i,j)=0 otherwise
```

```
% each row in 'element' consists of its vertices,
% thus for each i-th element, its edges are :
% {element(i,1), element(i,2)}
% {element(i,2), element(i,3)}
% {element(i,3), element(i,1)}
% note that {i,j} and {j,i} describe the same edge up to orientation
% and therefore these edges belong to adjacent triangles
```

```
for k=1:length(element)
    nodes2element(element(k,1), element(k,2))=k;
    nodes2element(element(k,2), element(k,3))=k;
    nodes2element(element(k,3), element(k,1))=k;
end
```

- **matrix nodes2edge** is a quadratic matrix of dimension  $n$  (=number of nodes), s.t.:

$$\text{node2edge}(k, l) = \begin{cases} j, & \text{if nodes } x_k, x_l \text{ describe an edge number } j \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

In this case, we ignore orientation of edges, thus this matrix is symmetric. Also here we introduce variable `noedges`, which returns total number of edges.

Matlab implementation:

```

nodes2edge=zeros(length(coordinates),length(coordinates));
% nodes2edge is a matrix that describes edges in terms of nodes
% node2eledge(i,j)=number of edge, if conv(i,j) = edge
% node2eledge(i,j)=0 otherwise

```

```

% we don't consider orientation of the edges, thus
% nodes2edge is symmetric matrix
% node2element(i,j)=k and node2element(j,i)=l for adjacent
% triangles number k and l, so we need only upper triangular
% or lower triangular part of this matrix

```

```

B=nodes2element+nodes2element';
[I,J]=find(triu(B));

for k=1:length(I)
    nodes2edge(I(k,1),J(k,1))=k;
end
nodes2edge=nodes2edge+nodes2edge';
noedges=size(I,1);

```

- **matrix nodes2element** is a matrix of size noedges×4, s.t.its  $j$ th row consists of  $k, l, m, n$ , where  $k$  and  $l$  are initial and end nodes of edge  $j$  and  $m, n$  are labels of triangles that share this edge (with positive and negative orientations respectively), so

$$edge2element(j, [3, 4]) = \begin{cases} (p, q), & \text{if elements } p \text{ and } q \text{ share edge } j \\ (p, 0), & \text{if edge } j \text{ is a boundary edge of element } p \end{cases}$$

Matlab implementation:

```

edge2element=zeros(noedges,4);
% nodes2element is a matrix that describes edges in terms of nodes and
% triangles
% each row of the matrix corresponds to one edge and
% first entry of this row is the initial node of edge
% second entry is the end node of the edge
% third entry is number the triangle that has this edge wrt positive
% orientation
% fourth entry is number the triangle that has this edge wrt negative
% orientation

```

```

for m=1:size(element)
    for k=1:3
        initial_node=element(m,k);
        if k<3
            end_node=element(m,k+1);
        else
            end_node=element(m,1);
        end
        p=nodes2edge(element(m,k),element(m,rem(k,3)+1));
        if edge2element(p,1)==0
            edge2element(p,:)=[initial_node end_node ...
                                nodes2element(initial_node,end_node) ...
                                nodes2element(end_node,initial_node)];
        end
    end
end
end

```

These three matrices are gathered by function `edge.m`:

```

function [nodes2element,nodes2edge,noedges,edge2element]=...
edge(element,coordinate);

```

#### 4. Stiffness matrix

In order to assemble the matrix, we need to know the basis functions of Raviart-Thomas space. Given an edge  $E \in \Sigma$ , there are either two elements  $T_+$  and  $T_-$  in  $\mathcal{T}$  with the joint edge  $E = \partial T_+ \cap \partial T_-$  or there is exactly one element  $T_+$  with  $E \in \partial T_+$ . Then if  $T_{\pm} = \text{conv}(E \cup \{P_{\pm}\})$  for the vertex  $P_{\pm}$  opposite to  $E$  of  $T_{\pm}$  define the **edge basis function**

$$\psi_E(x) = \begin{cases} \pm \frac{|E|}{2|T_{\pm}|}(x - P_{\pm}), & \text{for } x \in T_{\pm} \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

here  $|T| = \frac{1}{2} \det(P_2 - P_1, P_3 - P_1)$  for  $T = \text{conv}(P_1, P_2, P_3)$  and  $|E|$  is length of  $E$ .

With such construction, one can prove the Lemma below.

**Lemma.** There hold

(a)

$$\psi_E \cdot \nu_E = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{along } (\cup \Sigma) \setminus E \\ 1, & \text{along } E \end{cases}$$

(b)  $\psi_E \in H(\text{div}, \Omega)$

(c)  $\{\psi_E\}_{E \in \Sigma}$  is a basis of  $\mathcal{RT}_0(\mathcal{T})$

(d)

$$\text{div } \psi_E = \begin{cases} \pm \frac{|E|}{|T_{\pm}|}, & \text{on } T_{\pm} \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

Also, local definition of the basis function is: given  $E_1, E_2, E_3$  - the edges of a triangle  $T$  opposite to its vertices  $P_1, P_2, P_3$ , respectively, let  $\nu_{E_j}$  denote the unit normal vector of  $E_j$  chosen with a global fixed orientation while  $\nu_j$  denotes the outer unit normal of  $T$  along  $E_j$ . Define

$$\psi_{E_j}(x) = \sigma_j \frac{|E_j|}{2|T|}(x - P_j), \text{ for } j = 1, 2, 3 \text{ and } x \in T$$

where  $\sigma_j = \nu_j \cdot \nu_{E_j}$  is +1 if  $\nu_{E_j}$  points outward and otherwise -1.

- **local matrices**

On each triangle local matrices are  $B_T(3 \times 3)$  and  $C_T(3 \times 3)$  with

$$(B_T)_{j,k} := \int_T \psi_{E_j} \cdot \psi_{E_k}, \text{ for } j, k = 1, 2, 3$$

$$C_T = \text{diag} \left\{ \int_T \text{div } \psi_{E_1} dx, \int_T \text{div } \psi_{E_2} dx, \int_T \text{div } \psi_{E_3} dx \right\}$$

Then, calculating all elements and using the Lemma, we get that on each triangle (without orientation of the edges)

$$B_T := \frac{1}{48|T|} C_T^T N^T M N C_T$$

$$C_T^T = C_T = \text{diag}\{|E_1|, |E_2|, |E_3|\}$$

where

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times 6}, \text{ and } N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & P_1 - P_2 & P_1 - P_3 \\ P_2 - P_1 & 0 & P_2 - P_3 \\ P_3 - P_1 & P_3 - P_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{6 \times 3}$$

Matlab implementation:

```
function [stB, stC]=stimaB_my(coord);
% local stiffness matrix on one triangle
```

```
N=coord(:)*ones(1,3)-ones(3,1)*coord(:)';
```

```

stC=diag([norm(N([5,6],2)),norm(N([1,2],3)),norm(N([1,2],2))]);
M=diag(ones(6,1));
for k=1:4
    M(k,k+2)=1;
end
for k=1:2
    M(k,k+4)=1;
end
M=M+M';
absT=0.5*det([1,1,1;coord]);
stB=stC*N'*M*N*C/(48*absT);

```

- **global matrix**

Global stiffness matrix  $A$  consists of matrices  $B, C, C^T$ , that can be constructed using local  $B(T), C(T)$  with correct global signs of edges.

So we need to take all entries  $(B(T))_{j,k}, (C(T))_{l,m}$ , multiply them by signs of involved basis functions (= sign of edges) and put into correct place in  $B$ . Consider  $T_k \in \mathcal{T}$  with edges  $E_{k_1}, E_{k_2}, E_{k_3}$  and let  $\sigma_{k_1}, \sigma_{k_2}, \sigma_{k_3}$  be the corresponding global signs. Then we can define a part of global matrix  $B$  as:

$$B_{gl}(T_k) = \text{diag}\{\sigma_{k_1}, \sigma_{k_2}, \sigma_{k_3}\} B_{loc}(T_k) \text{diag}\{\sigma_{k_1}, \sigma_{k_2}, \sigma_{k_3}\}$$

And similar formula holds for matrix  $C$ .

For each triangle, we can get the global numbers of edges using `nodes2edge`, then for each edge we can get labels of elements sharing this edge using `edge2element`. Suppose we consider element  $T_k$ , then the label of its first edge  $E_{K_1}$  is  $j=\text{nodes2edge}(\text{element}(k,1), \text{element}(k,2))$ , and it has negative sign if  $k=\text{edge2element}(j,4)$  and positive if  $k=\text{edge2element}(j,4)$ .

The following code performs assembling of global stiffness matrix:

```
% Assemble matrices B and C from local matrices stB and stC
```

```

B=zeros(noedges,noedges);
C=zeros(noedges,size(element,1));
for j=1:size(element,1)
    coord=coordinate(element(j,:),:);
    % edges of each element:
    I(1,1)=nodes2edge(element(j,2),element(j,3));
    I(2,1)=nodes2edge(element(j,3),element(j,1));
    I(3,1)=nodes2edge(element(j,1),element(j,2));
    % signs of edges:
    signum=ones(1,3);
    signum(find(j==edge2element(I,4)))=-1;
    % assembling global matrices:
    [stB,stC]=stimaB(coord);
    B(I,I)=B(I,I)+diag(signum)*stB*diag(signum);
    C(I,j)=diag(signum)*diag(stC);
end

% Global stiffness matrix A
A=zeros(noedges+size(element,1),noedges+size(element,1));
A=[B,C;C',zeros(size(C,2),size(C,2))];

```

## 5. Right-hand side vector

For simplicity, assume that we have only homogeneous Dirichlet boundary conditions, then the RHS vector is:

$$b = \begin{pmatrix} b_D \\ b_f \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $b_D$  and  $b_f$  correspond to the Dirichlet BCs and external force respectively.

- **computing  $b_D$**

Our goal is to compute the entries of the form  $\int_{\Gamma_D} u_D \psi_j \cdot \nu ds$ . On each edge we have just one basis

function with normal component  $\psi \cdot \nu = 1$  (the rest are equal zero), thus

$$\int_{\Gamma_D} u_D \psi_j \cdot \nu ds = \int_E u_D ds \simeq u_D(x_M, y_M) |E| = (b_D)_i$$

where  $(x_M, y_M)$  is the midpoint of the edge  $E$

This part is implemented in the following way:

```
% Boundary conditions
% each row of matrix exterior contains initial and end nodes
% of boundary edges
exterior=edge2element(find (edge2element(:,4)==0),[1 2]);
for k = 1: size(exterior,1)
    for k = 1: size(exterior,1)
        b(nodes2edge(exterior(k,1),exterior(k,2)))=...
        norm(coordinate(exterior(k,1,:),:)-...
        coordinate(exterior(k,2,:),:))*u.D(sum(coordinate(exterior(k,:),:))
    end
end
```

- **computing  $b_f$**

Entries of  $b_f$  contain  $-\int_{T_i} f dx$ , which can be approximated by one point quadrature rule at center of gravity of each element  $z_{T_i}$ :

$$(b_f)_i = -|T|f(z_{T_i})$$

which is given in the code as:

```
% Volume force
b = zeros(noedges+size(element ,1),1);
for j = 1: size(element ,1)
    absT=0.5*det ([1,1,1; coordinate(element(j,:),:)]');
    b(noedges+j)=-absT*f(sum(coordinate(element(j,:),:))/3);
end
```

Finally, we solve the system by  $x=A/b$ ;

## 6. Results

Consider solving  $-\Delta u = f$  in  $\Omega$  with homogeneous boundary conditions  $u_D = 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$ , where  $\Omega$  is a unit square split into eight triangles:

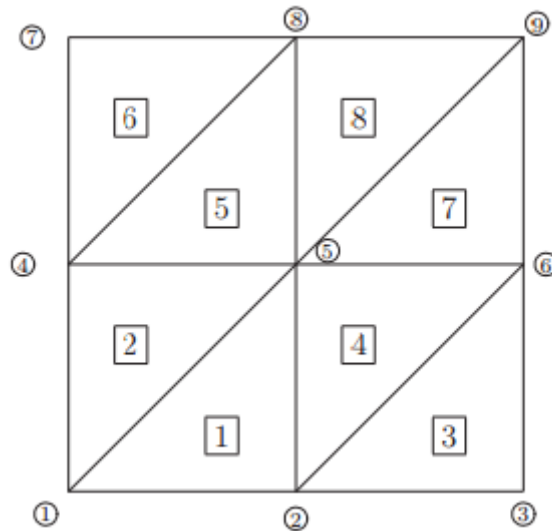


Figure 1: triangulation of the domain

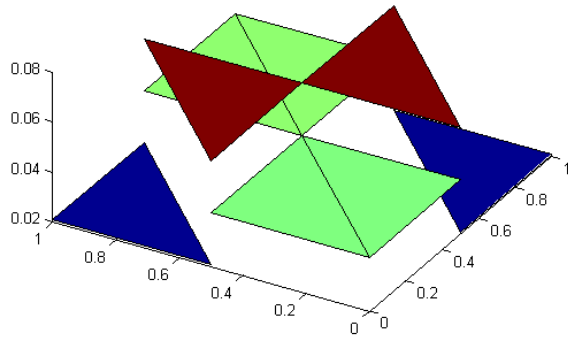
Implementation of functions  $f, u_D$ :

```

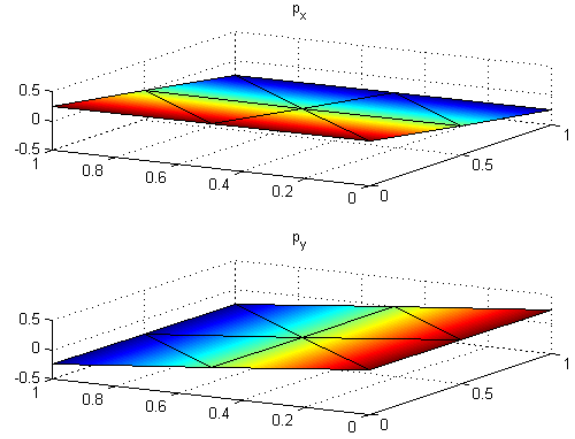
%f.m
function volumeforce=f(x);
volumeforce=ones(size(x,1),1);
%u.D.m
function dir=u.D(x);
dir=zeros(size(x,1),1);

```

The discrete solution is given below:



(a) discrete displacement



(b) x and y components of discrete flux