

1 Elliptic Equation

The linearised elliptic equation is

$$G = Hu - \frac{H^3}{3}u_{xx}$$

Want to find out the FEM approximation to this G' such that

$$G' = \mathcal{G}_{FE_1} u$$

for P^1 FEM

$$G' = \mathcal{G}_{FE_2} u$$

for P^2 FEM.

To do so we begin by first multiplying by an arbitrary test function v so that

$$Gv = Huv - \frac{H^3}{3}u_{xx}v$$

and then we integrate over the entire domain to get

$$\int_{\Omega} Gv dx = \int_{\Omega} Huv dx - \int_{\Omega} \frac{H^3}{3}u_{xx}v dx$$

for all v

We then make use of integration by parts, with Dirichlet boundaries to get

$$\int_{\Omega} Gv dx = \int_{\Omega} Huv dx + \int_{\Omega} \frac{H^3}{3}u_x v_x dx$$

Our FVM discretisation already has a natural structure with intervals of like $[x_{j-1/2}, x_{j+1/2}]$

So we can reformulate this as

$$\sum_j \int_{x_{j-1/2}}^{x_{j+1/2}} Gv dx = \sum_j \int_{x_{j-1/2}}^{x_{j+1/2}} Huv dx + \sum_j \int_{x_{j-1/2}}^{x_{j+1/2}} \frac{H^3}{3}u_x v_x dx$$

or more aptly

$$\sum_j \int_{x_{j-1/2}}^{x_{j+1/2}} Gv dx - \int_{x_{j-1/2}}^{x_{j+1/2}} Huv dx - \int_{x_{j-1/2}}^{x_{j+1/2}} \frac{H^3}{3} u_{xx} v dx = 0$$

for all v

$$\sum_j \int_{x_{j-1/2}}^{x_{j+1/2}} Gv dx - H \int_{x_{j-1/2}}^{x_{j+1/2}} uv dx - \frac{H^3}{3} \int_{x_{j-1/2}}^{x_{j+1/2}} u_{xx} v dx = 0$$