On the Selection of Finite Element Test Norms for Hyperbolic PDEs based on their Stabilization and Convergence Properties

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Motivation and Goals

The success of Bubnov-Galerkin finite element methods for the solution of elliptic partial differential equations (PDEs) arises from the relation between the variational formulations and the minimization of an energy functional.

In the case of convection-dominated or purely hyperbolic PDEs, additional stabilization is required in regions of high local Péclet number and is most commonly introduced either through the introduction of a suitably chosen numerical flux or through the modification of the test space (resulting in a Petrov-Galerkin method).

Taking the linear advection equation as a model problem, our goal is to present our initial investigation into determining the *optimal* form of stabilization.

Outline

- Presentation of methods and related theory:
  - Discontinuous Galerkin method with upwind numerical flux;
  - Discontinuous Petrov-Galerkin method with various test norms [**?**];
  - Optimal Trial Petrov-Galerkin method [**?**].
- Convergence analysis in relation to discrete inf-sup stability.
- Numerical results in one and two dimensions.
- Discussion of limitations and future directions.

Abstract Functional Setting - Continuous

Consider the *linear* abstract variational problem

$$\text{Find } u \in U \text{ such that } b(v,u) = l(v)\ \forall v \in V.$$

We have the standard requirements:

$$|b(v,u)| \leq M||v||_V||u||_U,$$

$$\exists \gamma > 0 : \inf_{u \in U} \sup_{v \in V} \frac{b(v,u)}{||v||_V||u||_U} \geq \gamma,$$

and

$$l(v) = 0\ \forall v \in V_0, \text{ where } V_0 := \{v \in V : b(v,u) = 0\ \forall u \in U\}.$$

Then by the Banach-Nečas-Babuška theorem,

$$||u||_U \leq \frac{M}{\gamma}||l||_{V'}.$$

Add elaboration of optimal convergence from Bathe based on inf-sup (more time)

Abstract Functional Setting - Discrete

Choosing finite dimensional subsets we have the discrete variational problem,

$$\text{Find } u_h \in U_h \text{ such that } b(v_h, u_h) = l(v_h) \ \forall v_h \in V_h.$$

If a discrete version of the inf-sup condition holds,

$$||u - u_h||_U \leq \frac{M}{\gamma_h} \inf_{w_h \in U_h} ||u - w_h||_U.$$

Abstract Functional Setting - Quick Proof

Beginning with the discrete inf-sup condition we have, for all $w_h \in U_h$,

$$\begin{aligned}
\gamma_h ||w_h - u_h||_U &\leq \sup_{v_h \in V_h} \frac{b(v_h, w_h - u_h)}{||v_h||_V} \\
&= \sup_{v_h \in V_h} \frac{b(v_h, w_h - u) + b(v_h, u - u_h)}{||v_h||_V} \\
&= \sup_{v_h \in V_h} \frac{b(v_h, w_h - u)}{||v_h||_V} \\
&\leq \sup_{v_h \in V_h} \frac{M||v_h||_V ||w_h - u||_U}{||v_h||_V} \\
&= M||w_h - u||_U.
\end{aligned}$$

Abstract Functional Setting - Quick Proof

Using the triangle inequality and that above we thus find

$$
\begin{aligned}
||u_h - u||_U &\leq ||u_h - w_h||_U + ||w_h - u||_U & \forall w_h \in U_h \\
&\leq \frac{M}{\gamma_h}||w_h - u||_U + ||w_h - u||_U & \forall w_h \in U_h \\
&= \left(1 + \frac{M}{\gamma_h}\right) ||w_h - u||_U & \forall w_h \in U_h
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\rightarrow ||u_h - u||_U \leq \left(1 + \frac{M}{\gamma_h}\right) \inf_{w_h \in U_h} ||w_h - u||_U .
$$

Abstract Functional Setting - Selection of Norms

A case of particular interest:

$$M = \gamma_h.$$

- Error incurred by the discrete approximation is smallest.

Bui-Thanh et al. [**?**, Theorem 2.6] have proven that

$$M = \gamma_h = 1 \iff \exists v_u \in V \setminus \{0\} : b(v_u, u) = ||v_u||_V ||u||_U \; \forall u \in U,$$

where v_u is termed an optimal test function for the trial function u.

Abstract Functional Setting - Selection of Norms

One choice of strategy is to select the norm which is naturally induced by the problem. Defining the map from trial to test space, $T : U \ni u \to Tu := v_{Tu} \in V$, by

$$(v_{Tu}, Tu)_V = b(v, u),$$

then

$$V_{\text{opt}} = \{v_{Tu} \in V : u \in U\}.$$

In the discrete trial space optimal test functions are determined according to

$$\text{Find } v_{Tu_h} \in V \text{ such that } (w, v_{Tu_h})_V = b(w, u_h),\ \forall w \in V.$$

The Discontinuous Petrov-Galerkin (DPG) Method

Motivated by optimal solution convergence in the L^2 norm, we would like to move gradients in the bilinear form to the test space.

From the formal L^2-adjoint and a bilinear form representing the boundary terms

$$b(v,u) = b^*(v,u) + c(\mathrm{tr}_A^* v, \mathrm{tr}_A u)$$

we obtrain the graph space for the adjoint

$$H_b^*(\Omega) := \{v \in (L^2(\Omega)) : b^*(v,u) \in (L^2(\Omega))\ \forall u \in U\}.$$

When setting $V = H_b^*(\Omega)$, we say that the test space is H_b-conforming.

The Discontinuous Petrov-Galerkin Method

No assumptions yet made regarding conformity of trial and test spaces.

The goal of the methodology is to solve for the solution over a tessellation, $\mathcal{T}_h$, of the discretized domain, Ω_h, consisting of elements (referred to as volumes), $\mathcal{V}$.

To make the method practical, the DPG method uses broken test spaces such that test functions can be computed elementwise,

Find $v_{Tu_h} \in V(\mathcal{V})$ such that $(w, v_{Tu_h})_{V(\mathcal{V})} = b(w, u_h), \ \forall w \in V(\mathcal{V})$

where

$$V(\Omega_h) := \{v \in L^2(\Omega) : v|_{\mathcal{V}} \in H_b^*(\mathcal{V}) \ \forall \mathcal{V} \in \mathcal{T}_h\},$$
$$(w, v)_{V(\Omega_h)} := \sum_{\mathcal{V}} (w|_{\mathcal{V}}, v|_{\mathcal{V}})_{V(\mathcal{V})}.$$

The Discontinuous Petrov-Galerkin Method

Characteristics:

- General Petrov-Galerkin methodology outlined in the abstract setting is a subset of the practical DPG methodology. When both formulations are uniquely solvable, their solutions coincide.
- The required selection of a suitable numerical flux has been replaced with the required selection of a suitable test norm.
- When also using a discontinuous trial space, additional trace unknowns are introduced allowing for static condensation of volume unknowns in the global solve.

The Optimal Trial Petrov-Galerkin Method

Follow the presentation of Di Pietro.

Discontinuous Galerkin Method

Follow the presentation of Di Pietro.

To do

- Compute inf-sup constants for the OPG method and ensure that it is 1; compare with inf-sup for DPG if possible.