

Spectral-element methods

F. Auteri

Dipartimento di Scienze e Tecnologie Aerospaziali
Politecnico di Milano

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Objectives

Main objective of the lecture is to give an introduction to the spectral-element method, i.e.

- introduce the basis adopted
- introduce the main operations on the basis
- give an idea of advantages and drawbacks

Outline

1 Spectral element methods

2 Bases

3 Examples

4 References

Introduction

Hypothesis: for unstable phenomena (strong dependence on initial and boundary data) high accuracy methods are needed to compute reliable results

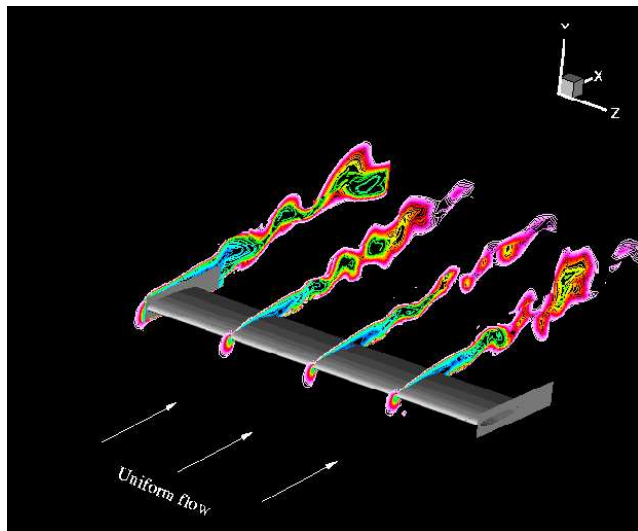
Fact: real world phenomena take place in complex geometries

- Spectral methods provide the accuracy required
- Finite elements provide the geometrical flexibility

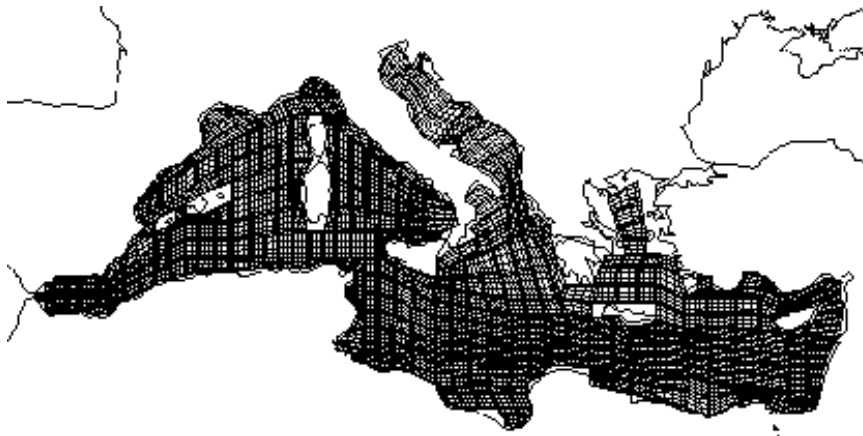
Spectral elements = spectral accuracy + geometrical flexibility

Spectral elements = finite elements with high-order, numerically stable bases

Examples: Wing flow



Examples: Geophysical flow



Outline

- 1 Spectral element methods
- 2 Bases**
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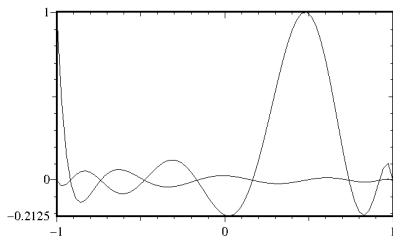
Two families of spectral elements

- Lagrangian-basis spectral elements: the basis is built by means of Lagrangian polynomials through Gauss(-Lobatto) points
- Hierarchical-basis spectral elements: the basis is built by means of Jacobi polynomials

This lecture is essentially devoted to hierarchical spectral elements

Lagrangian versus hierarchical bases

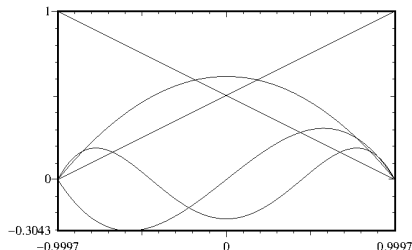
LAGRANGIAN



$$\mathcal{P}_N u = \sum_{i=0}^N \Phi_i^L u_i$$

$$\Phi_i^L = \prod_{k=0, k \neq i}^N \frac{(x - x_k)}{(x_i - x_k)}$$

HIERARCHICAL



$$\mathcal{P}_N u = \sum_{i=0}^N \Phi_i^H \hat{u}_i$$

$$\Phi_0^H = (1 - x)/2$$

$$\Phi_1^H = (1 + x)/2$$

$$\Phi_i^H = (1 - x)^2/4 P_i^{1,1}(x)$$

Lagrangian versus hierarchical bases (2)

LAGRANGIAN

Advantages

- + mass matrix is easily lumped
- + unknowns are nodal values
- + well established method

Drawbacks

- hard to extend to n -simplex ($n > 1$)
- make difficult p -adaptivity
- full stiffness local operator

HIERARCHICAL

Advantages

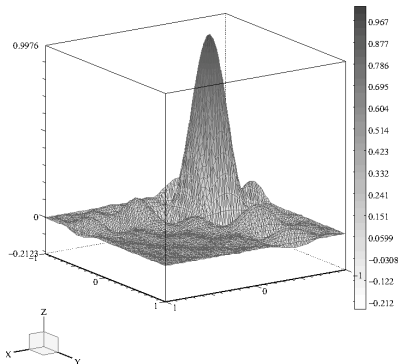
- + extend easily up to 3-D simplexes
- + allow different bases
- + well suited for p -adaptivity
- + sparse stiffness local operator

Drawbacks

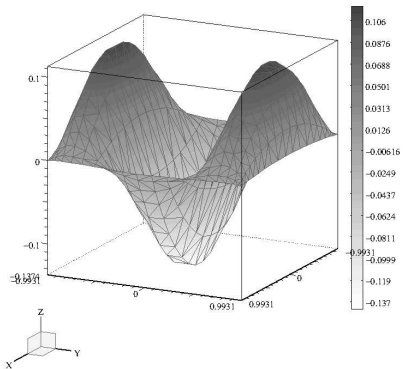
- need to transform to obtain nodal values
- mass lumping?
- loose sparsity in curved elements

Lagrangian versus hierarchical bases: 2-D examples

LAGRANGIAN



HIERARCHICAL



Fundamentals on Jacobi orthogonal polynomials

Orthogonal polynomials of degree n $p_0(x), p_1(x), \dots, p_n(x)$ on (a, b) :

- ❶ $p_n(x)$ is a polynomial of precise degree n in which the coefficient of x^n is positive;
- ❷ the system $\{p_n(x)\}$ is orthonormal, $\int_a^b p_n(x)p_m(x)w(x)dx = \delta_{nm}$

Jacobi polynomials $P_n^{(\alpha, \beta)}(x)$ are the polynomial eigenfunctions of the following singular Sturm–Liouville problem ($\alpha, \beta > -1$):

$$-(1 - x^2) u'' + ((\alpha + \beta + 2)x + \alpha - \beta) u' = \lambda u$$

whose eigenvalues are: $\lambda = n(n + \alpha + \beta + 1)$

A few properties of Jacobi polynomials

- 1 Orthogonality with respect to $w(x) = (1-x)^\alpha(1+x)^\beta$:

$$\int_{-1}^1 P_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x) P_m^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x) (1-x)^\alpha (1+x)^\beta dx = \delta_{nm}$$

- 2 Eigenfunctions of the (singular) differential equation:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \{ (1-x)^{\alpha+1} (1+x)^{\beta+1} u' \} + n(n+\alpha+\beta+1) (1-x)^\alpha (1+x)^\beta u = 0$$

- 3 Recurrence formula: $P_0^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x) = 1$,

$$P_1^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x) = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha + \beta + 2)x + \frac{1}{2}(\alpha - \beta),$$

$$P_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x) = (\rho_n x + \sigma_n) P_{n-1}^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x) + \tau_n P_{n-2}^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x)$$

- 4 $\frac{d}{dx} P_n^{(\alpha,\beta)}(x) = \frac{1}{2}(n + \alpha + \beta + 1) P_{n-1}^{(\alpha+1,\beta+1)}(x)$

Quadrilateral spectral elements: the basis

In quadrilateral spectral elements the basis is defined on the standard $[-1, 1]^2$ as tensor product of 1D bases:

$$\mathcal{P}_N u(x, y) = \sum_{i=0}^N \sum_{j=0}^M \Phi_i(x) \Phi_j(y) \hat{u}_{i,j}$$

A nice basis for problems in Cartesian coordinates:

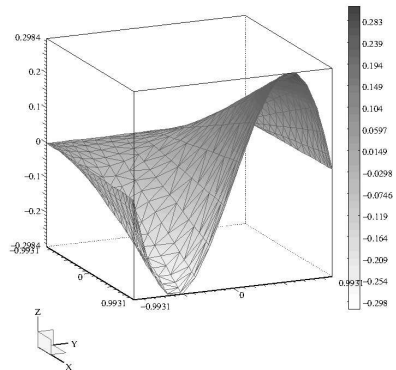
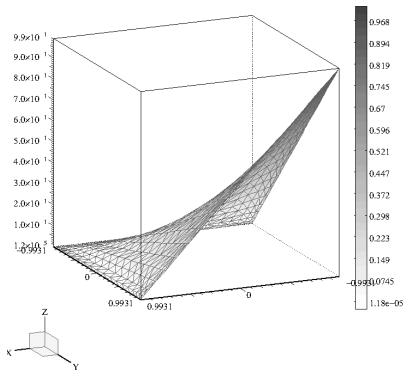
$$\Phi_0(\xi) = (1 - \xi)/2$$

$$\Phi_1(\xi) = (1 + \xi)/2$$

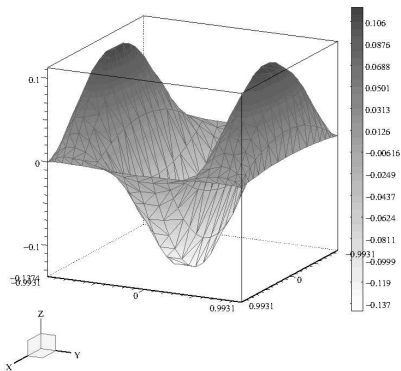
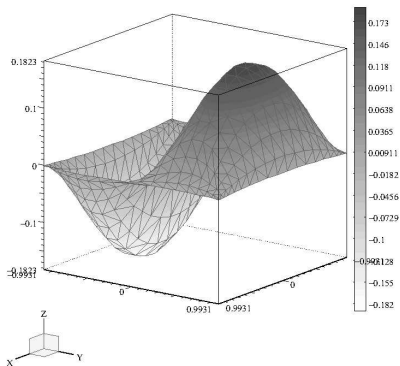
$$\Phi_i(\xi) = (1 - \xi)^2/4 P_i^{1,1}(\xi)$$

N.B.: spectral-element bases can be built in several ways according to the properties of the problem we want to solve.

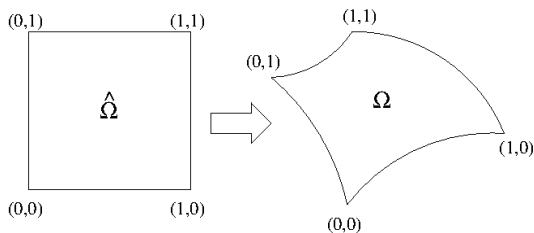
Quadrilateral spectral elements: vertex and side modes



Quadrilateral spectral elements: internal modes



Operations: mapping from standard square to real element



Accuracy + generality \Rightarrow isoparametric mapping

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} = & \Phi_0 \Phi_0 \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{0,0} + \Phi_1 \Phi_0 \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{1,0} + \Phi_0 \Phi_1 \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{0,1} + \Phi_1 \Phi_1 \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{1,1} \\ & + \sum_i (\Phi_i \Phi_0 \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{i,0} + \Phi_i \Phi_1 \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{i,1}) + \sum_j (\Phi_0 \Phi_j \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{0,j} + \Phi_1 \Phi_j \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{1,j}) \end{aligned}$$

where the $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{i,j}$ are the coefficients of the expansion of the boundaries.

Operations: quadrature

- Quadratures are performed numerically on standard square
- Use Gauss-type quadrature formulas
- Use (Legendre)-Gauss-(Lobatto) points and weights

Write:

$$\int_{\Omega} f(x, y) d\Omega = \int_{\hat{\Omega}} f(x(\xi, \eta), y(\xi, \eta)) \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(\xi, \eta)} \right| d\hat{\Omega}$$

$$= \sum_{h=1}^{h_G} \sum_{k=1}^{k_G} f(x(\xi_h, \eta_k), y(\xi_h, \eta_k)) \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(\xi, \eta)} \right|_{(\xi_h, \eta_k)} w_h w_k$$

Operations: forward transform

Unknowns, in HSE, are *not* the nodal values but the coefficients of the basis functions \Rightarrow need to transform from the coefficients space to the physical space (forward) and viceversa (backward):

- Forward: multiply coefficients by basis functions computed at the selected point:

$$\mathcal{P}_N u(x, y) = \sum_{i=0}^N \sum_{j=0}^M \Phi_i(x) \Phi_j(y) \hat{u}_{i,j}$$

- Use sum-factorization technique to save computational cost when the function is needed at quadrature points:

$$\mathcal{P}_N u(x_m, y_n) = \sum_{i=0}^N \sum_{j=0}^M \Phi_i(x_m) \Phi_j(y_n) \hat{u}_{i,j} = \sum_{i=0}^N \Phi_i(x_m) \sum_{j=0}^M \Phi_j(y_n) \hat{u}_{i,j}$$

- Cost: naïf implementation: $O(N^2 M^2)$; sum factorization technique: $O(N^2 M + N M^2)$.

Operations: backward transform

- Transform from physical space to coefficient space: use Galerkin projection, i.e. $\forall h, k$:

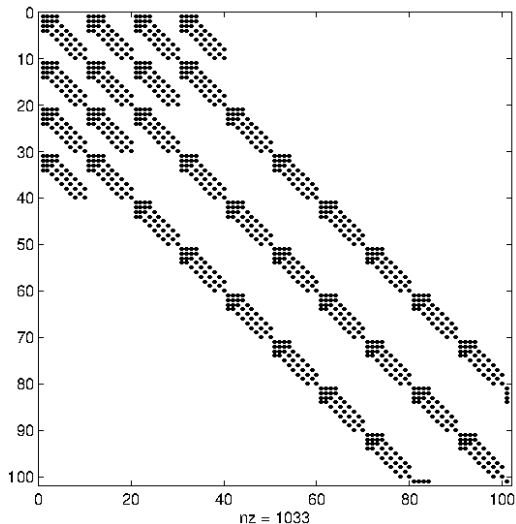
$$(\Phi_h(x) \Phi_k(y), \sum_{i=0}^N \sum_{j=0}^M \Phi_i(x) \Phi_j(y) \hat{u}_{i,j}) = (\Phi_h(x) \Phi_k(y), u(x, y))$$

- Solve a mass problem:

$$\mathbf{M}\hat{\mathbf{u}} = \mathbf{u}$$

where $\mathbf{M}_{m,n} = (\Phi_h(x) \Phi_k(y), \Phi_i(x) \Phi_j(y))$, $\hat{\mathbf{u}}_n = \hat{u}_{i,j}$,
 $\mathbf{u}_m = (\Phi_h(x) \Phi_k(y), u(x, y))$, $m = M * i + j$ and $n = M * h + k$

Mass operator pattern (rectangle)



Operations: derivative

Use the Jacobian matrix to compute real element derivatives from standard square ones:

$$\begin{Bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial(r, s)}{\partial(x, y)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(r, s)} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{Bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \end{Bmatrix} =$$

Two strategies to compute $\partial/\partial r$ and $\partial/\partial s$:

- 1 In the physical space by Lagrange interpolation:

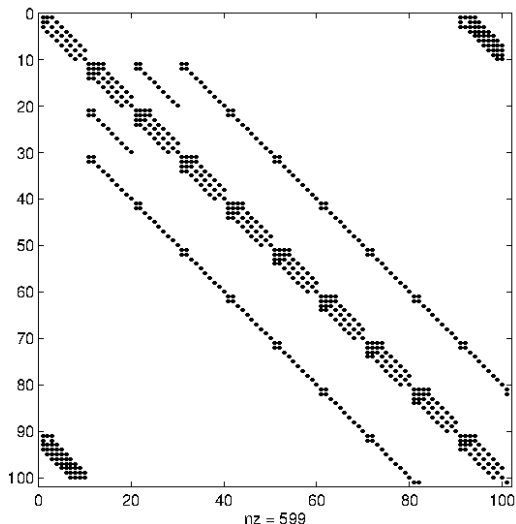
$$\partial u / \partial r|_{r_k, s_l} = \sum_i u_{i,l} h'_i(r)|_{r_k}; \quad \partial u / \partial s|_{r_k, s_l} = \sum_i u_{i,l} h'_l(s)|_{s_l}$$

- 2 In the transformed space by deriving the basis functions:

$$\partial u / \partial r = \sum_m \sum_n \hat{u}_{mn} \Phi'_m(r) \Phi_n(s); \quad \partial u / \partial s = \sum_m \sum_n \hat{u}_{mn} \Phi_m(r) \Phi'_n(s)$$

use sum-factorization for the latter.

Stiffness-operator pattern (rectangle)



Triangular spectral elements: Dubiner basis

To allow a straightforward enforcement of continuity among different elements, the basis is built with three kind of modes:

1 Vertex modes:

$$g^{v-a} = \left(\frac{1-\zeta}{2}\right) \left(\frac{1-s}{2}\right); \quad g^{v-b} = \left(\frac{1+\zeta}{2}\right) \left(\frac{1-s}{2}\right); \quad g^{v-c} = \left(\frac{1+s}{2}\right)$$

2 Side modes:

$$g_{m0}^{s-1} = \left(\frac{1+\zeta}{2}\right) \left(\frac{1-\zeta}{2}\right) P_{m-2}^{1,1}(\zeta) \left(\frac{1-s}{2}\right)^m, \quad 2 \leq m < M$$

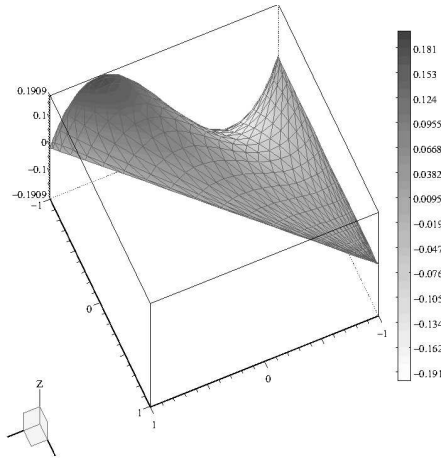
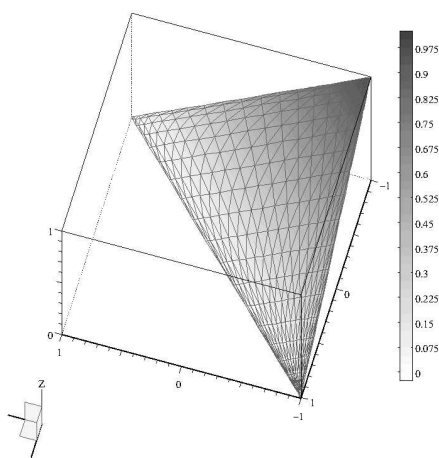
$$g_{1n}^{s-2} = \left(\frac{1+\zeta}{2}\right) \left(\frac{1-s}{2}\right) \left(\frac{1+s}{2}\right) P_{n-1}^{1,1}(s), \quad 1 \leq n < M-1$$

$$g_{1n}^{s-3} = \left(\frac{1-\zeta}{2}\right) \left(\frac{1-s}{2}\right) \left(\frac{1+s}{2}\right) P_{n-1}^{1,1}(s), \quad 1 \leq n < M-1$$

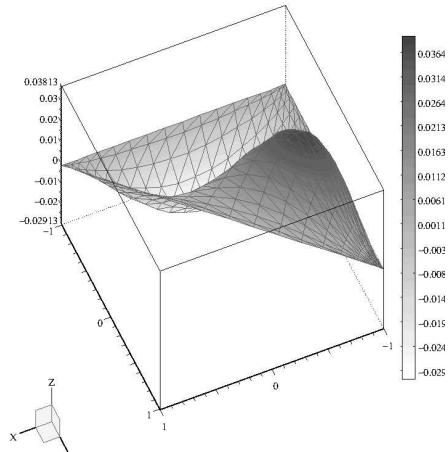
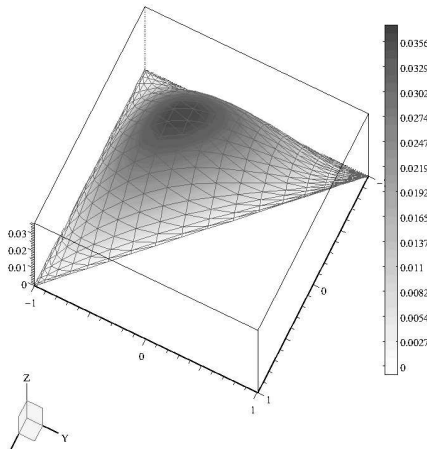
3 Internal modes: $2 \leq m < M$; $1 \leq n < M$; $m+n < M$

$$g_{mn}^i = \left(\frac{1-\zeta^2}{4}\right) P_{m-2}^{1,1}(\zeta) \left(\frac{1-s}{2}\right)^m \left(\frac{1+s}{2}\right) P_{n-1}^{2m-1,1}(s)$$

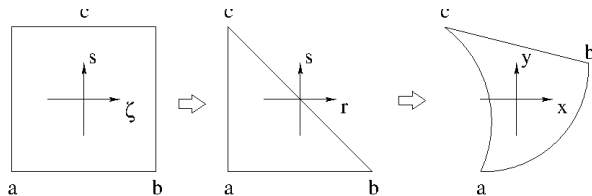
Triangular spectral elements: vertex and side modes



Triangular spectral elements: internal modes



Operations: coordinate transformation



- 1 Transformation from the square to the standard triangle:

$$r = \frac{(1 + \zeta)(1 - s)}{2} - 1; \quad s = s$$

- 2 Transformation from the standard triangle to the physical one: using an isoparametric mapping

$$\mathbf{x}(\zeta, s) = \sum_{i=1}^3 \left(\mathbf{x}_{v-i} g^{v-i} + \sum_{j=1}^{M-1} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_j^{s-i} g_j^{s-i} \right)$$

Operations: quadrature

- Quadratures are performed numerically on standard square
- Use Gauss-type quadrature formulas
- Use Legendre/Jacobi-Gauss-(Lobatto/Radau) points and weights

⇒ L-G-(L) in ζ ($w^{0,0}$)

⇒ J-G-(L/R) with $\alpha = 1$ and $\beta = 0$ in s and halve weights ($\hat{w}^{1,0} = w^{1,0}/2$) to include the Jacobian $(1 - s)/2$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} f(x, y) d\Omega &= \int_{\hat{\Omega}} f(x(\zeta, s), y(\zeta, s)) (1 - s)/2 \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(r, s)} \right| d\hat{\Omega} \\ &= \sum_{h=1}^{h_G} \sum_{k=1}^{k_G} f(x(\zeta_h, s_k), y(\zeta_h, s_k)) \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(r, s)} \right|_{(\zeta_h, s_k)} w_h^{0,0} \hat{w}_k^{1,0} \end{aligned}$$

Operations: forward transform

- Forward: multiply coefficients by basis functions computed at the selected point:

$$\mathcal{P}u(x, y) = \sum_{mn} {}^1\bar{g}_{mn}(\zeta(x, y), s(x, y)) \hat{u}_{mn}$$

- Use sum-factorization technique to save computational cost when the function is needed at quadrature points:

$$\sum_{mn} {}^1\bar{g}_{mn}(\zeta, s) \hat{u}_{mn} = \sum_m {}^1\bar{g}_m(\zeta) \sum_{mn} {}^2\bar{g}_{mn}(s) \hat{u}_{mn}$$

- Cost: naïf implementation: $O(M^4)$; sum factorization technique: $O(M^3)$.

Operations: backward transform

- Transform from physical space to coefficients space: use Galerkin projection, i.e. $\forall h, k$:

$$\left(\overset{1-2}{g}_{hk}(\zeta, s), \sum_{mn} \overset{1-2}{g}_{mn}(\zeta, s) \hat{u}_{mn} \right) = \left(\overset{1-2}{g}_{hk}(\zeta, s), u(\zeta, s) \right)$$

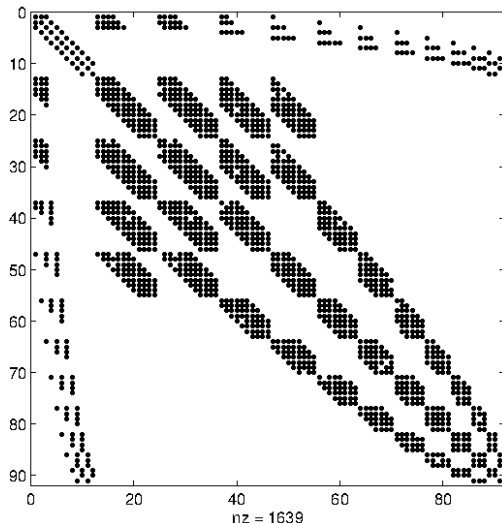
- Solve for a consistent mass problem:

$$\mathbf{M}\hat{\mathbf{u}} = \mathbf{u}$$

where $\mathbf{M}_{m,n} = \left(\overset{1-2}{g}_{hk}(\zeta, s), \overset{1-2}{g}_{ij}(\zeta, s) \right)$, $\hat{\mathbf{u}}_n = \hat{u}_{i,j}$,

$$\mathbf{u}_m = \left(\overset{1-2}{g}_{hk}, u(x, y) \right), m = M * i + j \text{ and } n = M * h + k$$

Mass-operator pattern (straight-sided triangle)



Operations: derivative computation

Use the Jacobian matrix to compute real-element derivatives from standard-triangle ones (as for quadrilateral elements):

Two strategies to compute $\partial/\partial r$ and $\partial/\partial s$:

- 1 In the physical space by Lagrange interpolation:

$$\left. \frac{\partial u(r_k, s_l)}{\partial r} \right|_s = \sum_i \frac{2}{1-s_l} u_{il} \left. \frac{\partial h_i^{0,0}(\zeta)}{\partial \zeta} \right|_{\zeta_k}$$

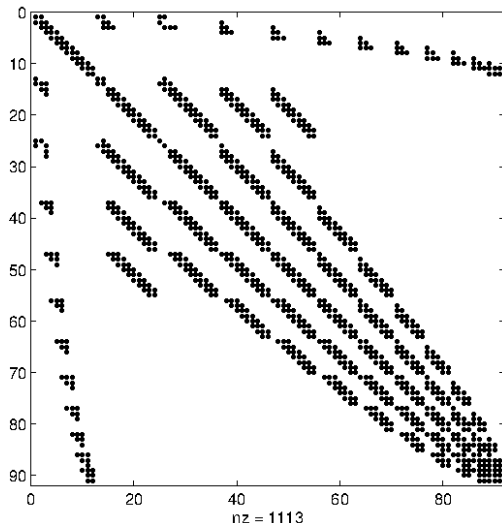
and:

$$\left. \frac{\partial u(r_k, s_l)}{\partial s} \right|_r = \sum_i \frac{1+\zeta_k}{1-s_l} u_{il} \left. \frac{\partial h_i^{0,0}(\zeta)}{\partial \zeta} \right|_{\zeta_k} + \sum_j u_{kj} \left. \frac{\partial h_j^{1,0}(s)}{\partial s} \right|_{s_l}$$

- 2 In the transformed space by deriving the basis functions:

$$\left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} \right|_s = \sum_m \sum_n \frac{2}{1-s} \hat{u}_{mn} \frac{\partial \overset{1}{g}_m(\zeta)}{\partial \zeta} \overset{2}{g}_{mn}(s)$$

Stiffness-operator pattern (straight-sided triangle)



Connection between elements and adaptivity

- These are conformal elements, i.e. the basis on a multi-element domain is continuous, provided that degrees of side modes on the coincident sides are the same
- Full adaptivity is allowed *without* loosing conformity
- Polymorphic tessellations (of triangles and quadrilaterals) are possible again *without* loosing conformity

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Applications: advection-diffusion equation

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \vec{U} \cdot \nabla \phi - \nabla \cdot (\nu \nabla \phi) = f$$

supplemented with initial: $\phi(x, y, 0) = \phi_0(x, y)$ and boundary conditions:

$$\phi|_{\Gamma_D} = a, \quad (\nabla \phi \cdot \vec{n})|_{\Gamma_N} = b$$

Variational formulation: *Given $f \in L^2\{(0, T) \times \Omega\}$ and $\phi_0 \in L^2(\Omega)$, find $u \in L^2\{(0, T); H_D^1(\Omega)\} \cap C^0([0, T]; L^2(\Omega))$ such that:*

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\phi(t), v) + a(\phi(t), v) = f((t), v) \quad \forall v \in H_D^1(\Omega); \quad \phi(0) = \phi_0$$

Discretized form

⇒ Using an Euler-implicit scheme for diffusion and an Euler explicit scheme for advection:

$$(\phi_h^{i+1}, v_h) + a_d(\phi_h^{i+1}, v_h) = (f^{i+1}, v_h) - a_c(\phi_h^i, v_h); \quad \phi_h^0 = \phi_{0,h}$$

Introducing spectral element basis obtain:

$$([M] + [K])\{\phi^{i+1}\} = \{f^{i+1}\} - [C^i]\{\phi^i\}$$

Discretization in space

To obtain the global system first build local operators:

- Mass: $\mathbf{M}_{loc} = \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{J} \mathbf{G}$;
- Stiffness: $\mathbf{K}_{loc} = \mathbf{G}_{/x}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{J} \mathbf{G}_{/x} + \mathbf{G}_{/y}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{J} \mathbf{G}_{/y}$;

Then build local contribution to the rhs:

$$\mathbf{F}_{loc} = \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{J} \mathbf{f}^{i+1} - \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{J} (\mathbf{U}_x \mathbf{G}_{/x} + \mathbf{U}_y \mathbf{G}_{/y}) \{\phi^i\}$$

Use sum-factorization for efficiency.

Coefficient matrix assembling

Assembling the global matrix: add the coefficients of the local operators in the global matrix at the right place.

A simple algebraic interpretation:

$$\mathbf{A}_G = \mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{A}_I \mathbf{Z}$$

where: \mathbf{Z} is a rectangular matrix with as many rows as the total number of local degrees of freedom (dof) and as many columns as the number of unknowns. Each line contains a 1 in the row associated with the dof and column corresponding to the unknown associated with that dof. \mathbf{A}_I is a block diagonal matrix containing local operators on the diagonal. Global operators are stored in compressed form!

Boundary conditions

⇒ Dirichlet boundary conditions: essential boundary conditions are treated according the standard variational formulation:

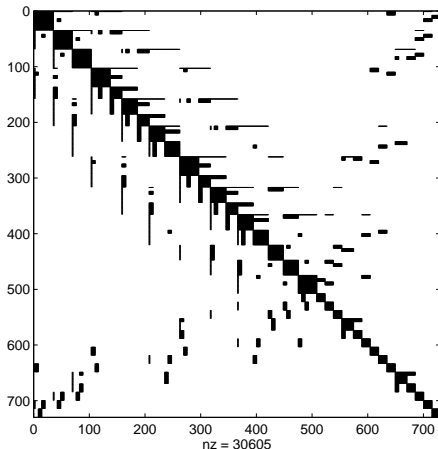
- Eliminate the unknowns related to Dirichlet boundaries
- Compute a discrete trace lifting of the Dirichlet datum (this allows us to determine the aforementioned unknowns)
- Perturb the right hand side of the system by this lifting

The lifting is determined by a mixed approach: vertex modes are computed by collocation, side modes by a Galerkin orthogonal projection.

⇒ Neumann boundary conditions: simply add to the rhs the contribution due to boundary integrals:

$$\int_{\partial\Omega} v \partial\phi/\partial n \, d(\partial\Omega)$$

Linear system solution



Coefficient matrix does *not* depend on time:

- ⇒ Factor it once and for all
- ⇒ Backward substitution at every time step

Factorization performed by a multifrontal method.

Other kind of iterative techniques have been employed.

Cost and memory requirement

- cost of the algorithm resides mainly in the the solution of linear systems.
- cost of building the right hand side is undoubtedly greater than for low order methods, but it is under control thanks to the sum factorization technique.
- The memory requirement is also a major drawback of the present method since the factorization must be stored. It is almost unaffordable for 3-D cases \rightarrow multigrid.

Applications: Navier-Stokes I.B.V.P.

For a given body force \mathbf{f} (possibly dependent on time) and a prescribed divergence-free initial velocity field \mathbf{u}_0 , find a velocity field \mathbf{u} and a pressure field p (per unit density) so that at $t = 0$, $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}_0$, and at all subsequent times

$$\mathcal{P} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} - \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \nabla p = \mathbf{f}, \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, \end{array} \right.$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \mathbf{u}|_{\partial\Omega_1} = \mathbf{b}_1; & \\ \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n}|_{\partial\Omega_2} = \mathbf{b}_2 \cdot \mathbf{n}, & (\alpha \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{u} + \nabla \times \mathbf{u}) \times \mathbf{n}|_{\partial\Omega_2} = 0; \\ \mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{n}|_{\partial\Omega_3} = \mathbf{b}_3 \times \mathbf{n}, & p|_{\partial\Omega_3} = c_3; \end{array} \right.$$

Variational formulation

For $\mathbf{f} \in W^{2,\infty}(0, T; L^2(\Omega)^d)$ and $\mathbf{u}_0 \in V \cap \mathbf{H}^2(\Omega)^d$ find a pair (\mathbf{u}, p) , $\mathbf{u} \in L^\infty(0, T; \mathbf{H}) \cap L^2(0, T; \mathbf{U})$, $\mathbf{u}_t \in L^2(0, T; \mathbf{H}^{-1})$, $p \in L^2(0, T; M)$, $\forall t > 0$

$$\begin{cases} \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t}, \mathbf{v} \right) + a(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) + b(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) - (p, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) \\ \qquad \qquad \qquad = (\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{v}) - \int_{\partial\Omega_3} c_3 \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}, & \forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{X}_0, \\ (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}, q) = 0, & \forall q \in M. \end{cases}$$

with: $\mathbf{X} = \{\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}^1(\Omega) \mid \mathbf{v}|_{\partial\Omega_1} = 0, \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}|_{\partial\Omega_2} = 0, \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{n}|_{\partial\Omega_3} = 0\}$,
 $V = \{\mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{X}, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}\}$, $M = L^2(\Omega)$, $\mathbf{H} = \{\mathbf{v} \in L^2(\Omega)^d, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}\}$

Projection method in discretized form

Viscous step:

For $l \geq 1$, find $\mathbf{u}_h^{l+1} \in \mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{b}^{l+1},h}$ such that, $\forall \mathbf{v}_h \in \mathbf{X}_{0,h}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{\mathbf{u}_h^{l+1} - \mathbf{u}_h^l}{\delta t}, \mathbf{v}_h \right) + a(\mathbf{u}_h^{l+1}, \mathbf{v}_h) \\ = (\mathbf{f}^{l+1}, \mathbf{v}_h) - b(\mathbf{u}_h^l, \mathbf{u}_h^l, \mathbf{v}_h) - (\nabla(2p_h^l - p_h^{l-1}), \mathbf{v}_h). \end{aligned}$$

Projection step:

For $l \geq 0$, find $p_h^{l+1} \in N_{c_{3,h}^{l+1},h}$ such that, $\forall q_h \in N_{0,h}$,

$$(\nabla(p_h^{l+1} - p_h^l), \nabla q_h) = -\frac{(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}_h^{l+1}, q_h)}{\delta t}.$$

where $N_{0,h} \equiv M_h \subset L^2(\Omega)$ is an internal approximation to $H_{0,\partial\Omega_3}^1(\Omega)$ and similarly for $N_{c_{3,h}^{l+1},h}$.

Algebraic problem

At each time step one has to solve three linear systems, two for the velocity components and one for the pressure:

$$(\mathbf{M} + \mathbf{K})\mathbf{u}_x = \mathbf{f}_x$$

$$(\mathbf{M} + \mathbf{K})\mathbf{u}_y = \mathbf{f}_y$$

$$\mathbf{K}p = \mathbf{f}_p$$

Remark: since the convective term is advanced explicitly the method is only conditionally stable \Rightarrow CFL condition on the time step.

Solution strategy

- Also in this case the coefficient matrices do not depend on time step
- It is possible to factor them once and for all at the beginning
- Good efficiency but quite memory consuming

Outline

- 1 Spectral element methods
- 2 Bases
- 3 Examples
- 4 References**

Some references

- P. Fischer, *High-order methods for incompressible fluid flow*, Cambridge University Press, 2002.
- G. Karniadakis & S. Sherwin, *Spectral/hp Element Methods for CFD*, Oxford University Press, 1999.