

# Recent Advancements in a Posteriori Error Estimation for Algebraic Stabilizations

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A Posteriori Error Analysis, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025



IIT Gandhinagar  
MATHEMATICS

# Outline

**1** Algebraic Stabilization Schemes

**2** A Posteriori Error Analysis

**3** Numerical Studies

**4** Conclusions



# Algebraic Stabilization Schemes

- Steady-state convection-diffusion-reaction equation

$$\begin{aligned}-\varepsilon \Delta u + \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla u + cu &= f \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ u &= u_D \quad \text{on } \Gamma_D, \\ -\varepsilon \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n} &= u_N \quad \text{on } \Gamma_N\end{aligned}$$

- $\Omega$  – bounded polyhedral Lipschitz domain in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $d \in \{2, 3\}$
- $\mathbf{n}$  – outward pointing unit normal
- Assume

$$\left( c(x) - \frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{b}(x) \right) \geq \sigma \geq 0$$

- Interested in convection-dominated regime,  $\varepsilon \ll \|\mathbf{b}\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} L$ 
  - $L$  – Characteristic length of the problem



- Ideal discretization
  - 1. Accurate and sharp layers <sup>1</sup>

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- Alternate approach: Adaptive grids
- Idea: Combine both the approaches

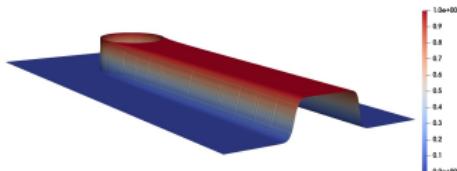
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# Algebraic Stabilization Schemes

- Hemker Problem <sup>1</sup>:  $\epsilon = 10^{-4}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = (1, 0)^\top$ , #dof = 33496



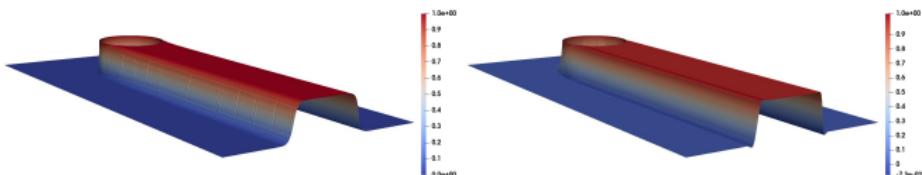
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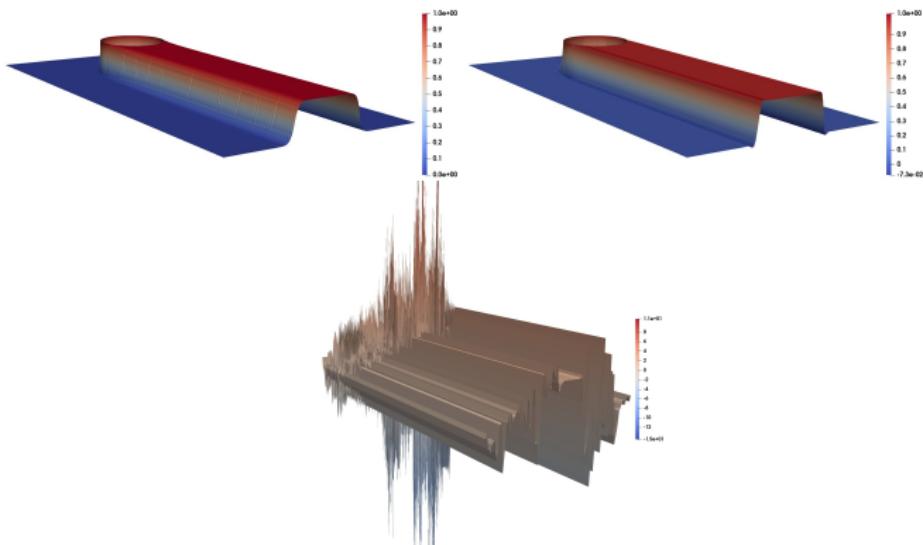
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# A Posteriori Analysis

- Fully Computable Error Bound
  - Implicit Residual Based Estimator<sup>1</sup>
  - Local Efficiency **depends** on Linearity Preserving

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<sup>3</sup> J., John, Knobloch: *SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing*, 45 (4), B564-B589, 2023



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- Residual Based Error Estimator<sup>2</sup>
  - Explicit Residual Based Estimator
  - **Formal** Local Lower Bound
  - Hanging Nodes Theory<sup>3</sup>

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- **Variational problem** for AS scheme

Find  $u_h \in V_h$  such that

$$a_h(u_h, v_h) + b_h(u_h; u_h, v_h) = \langle f, v_h \rangle \quad \forall v_h \in V_h$$

- $V_h$  – finite element space with homogeneous Dirichlet boundary conditions ( $V_h \subset V$ )

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- Another representation of stabilization for  $w, v, z \in V_h$ ,<sup>1</sup>

$$b_h(w; z, v) = \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_h} |b_E(w)| h_E (\nabla z \cdot \mathbf{t}_E, \nabla v \cdot \mathbf{t}_E)$$

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# Residual Based Approach

- AS norm

$$\|u_h\|_{AS}^2 = \|u_h\|_a^2 + b_h(u_h, u_h, u_h) \quad \forall u_h \in V_h$$

- where  $\|u_h\|_a^2 = \varepsilon |u_h|_1^2 + \sigma \|u_h\|_0^2$

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- Let  $\mathcal{I}_h u$  denote the Scott-Zhang interpolation operator. Galerkin orthogonality arguments

$$\begin{aligned}\|u - u_h\|_{AS}^2 &= \langle f, u - \mathcal{I}_h u \rangle + \langle u_N, u - \mathcal{I}_h u \rangle_{\Gamma_N} - a_h(u_h, u - \mathcal{I}_h u) \\ &\quad + b_h(u_h; u, \mathcal{I}_h u - u_h)\end{aligned}$$

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- Standard residual a posteriori error bound <sup>1</sup>

$$\begin{aligned}&\langle f, u - \mathcal{I}_h u \rangle + \langle u_N, u - \mathcal{I}_h u \rangle_{\Gamma_N} - a_h(u_h, u - \mathcal{I}_h u) \\ &= \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} (R_K(u_h), u - \mathcal{I}_h u)_K + \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_h} \langle R_F(u_h), u - \mathcal{I}_h u \rangle_F\end{aligned}$$

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# Residual Based Approach

with

$$R_K(u_h) := f + \varepsilon \Delta u_h - \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla u_h - cu_h|_K,$$
$$R_F(u_h) := \begin{cases} -\varepsilon [\![\nabla u_h \cdot \mathbf{n}_F]\!]_F & \text{if } F \in \mathcal{F}_{h,\Omega}, \\ u_N - \varepsilon (\nabla u_h \cdot \mathbf{n}_F) & \text{if } F \in \mathcal{F}_{h,N}, \\ 0 & \text{if } F \in \mathcal{F}_{h,D} \end{cases}$$



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- Using interpolation estimates, Cauchy-Schwarz, and Young's inequality

$$\begin{aligned} & \|u - u_h\|_a^2 + \frac{C_Y}{C_Y - 1} b_h(u_h; u - u_h, u - u_h) \\ & \leq \frac{C_Y^2}{2(C_Y - 1)} \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \min \left\{ \frac{C_I^2}{\sigma}, \frac{C_I^2 h_K^2}{\varepsilon} \right\} \|R_K(u_h)\|_{L^2(K)}^2 \\ & \quad + \frac{C_Y^2}{2(C_Y - 1)} \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_h} \min \left\{ \frac{C_F^2 h_F}{\varepsilon}, \frac{C_F^2}{\sigma^{1/2} \varepsilon^{1/2}} \right\} \|R_F(u_h)\|_{L^2(F)}^2 \\ & \quad + \frac{C_Y}{C_Y - 1} b_h(u_h; u, I_h u - u_h) \end{aligned}$$



# Residual Based Approach

- Linearity of  $b_h(\cdot; \cdot, \cdot)$ ,

$$b_h(u_h; u, \mathcal{I}_h u - u_h) = b_h(u_h; u - u_h, \mathcal{I}_h u - u_h) + b_h(u_h; u_h, \mathcal{I}_h u - u_h)$$



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- Using interpolation estimates, Cauchy-Schwarz, trace inequality, inverse estimate, and Young's inequality

$$\begin{aligned} b_h(u_h; u_h, \mathcal{I}_h u - u_h) &\leq \frac{C_Y}{2} \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_h} \min \left\{ \frac{\kappa_1 h_E^2}{\varepsilon}, \frac{\kappa_2}{\sigma} \right\} |b_E|^2 h_E^{1-d} \\ &\quad \times \|\nabla u_h \cdot \mathbf{t}_E\|_{L^2(E)}^2 + \frac{1}{C_Y} \|u - u_h\|_a^2, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa_1 &= C_{\text{edge,max}} (1 + (1 + C_{\mathcal{I}})^2), \\ \kappa_2 &= C_{\text{inv}}^2 C_{\text{edge,max}} (1 + (1 + C_{\mathcal{I}})^2). \end{aligned}$$



## Theorem (Global a Posteriori Error Estimate)

A global a posteriori error estimate for the energy norm is given by<sup>1,2</sup>

$$\|u - u_h\|_a^2 \leq \eta_1^2 + \eta_2^2 + \eta_3^2,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\eta_1^2 &= \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \min \left\{ \frac{4C_I^2}{\sigma}, \frac{4C_I^2 h_K^2}{\varepsilon} \right\} \|R_K(u_h)\|_{L^2(K)}^2, \\ \eta_2^2 &= \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_h} \min \left\{ \frac{4C_F^2 h_F}{\varepsilon}, \frac{4C_F^2}{\sigma^{1/2} \varepsilon^{1/2}} \right\} \|R_F(u_h)\|_{L^2(F)}^2, \\ \eta_3^2 &= \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_h} \min \left\{ \frac{4\kappa_1 h_E^2}{\varepsilon}, \frac{4\kappa_2}{\sigma} \right\} |b_E|^2 h_E^{1-d} \|\nabla u_h \cdot t_E\|_{L^2(E)}^2\end{aligned}$$

<sup>1</sup>J.: Computers & Mathematics with Applications, 97 (1), 86–99, 2021

<sup>2</sup>J.: Applied Mathematics Letters, 157 (1), 109192, 2024



- Algebraic Flux Correction Schemes
  - Stabilization Term

$$b_h(u; v, w) = \sum_{i,j=1}^N (1 - \alpha_{ij}(u)) d_{ij} (v(x_j) - v(x_i)) w(x_i)$$

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<sup>1</sup>Kuzmin: CIMNE, 2007

<sup>2</sup>Barrenechea, John, Knobloch: *Mathematical Models and Methods in Applied Sciences*, 27 (3), 525–548, 2017

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- $d_{ij} = \begin{cases} -\max\{a_{ij}, 0, a_{ji}\}, & i \neq j \\ -\sum_{i \neq j} d_{ij} & i = j \end{cases}$
- Limiters (Symmetric)
  - Kuzmin<sup>1</sup>
  - BJK<sup>2</sup>
  - Monolithic Convex<sup>3</sup>

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# Numerical Studies

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<sup>3</sup> John, Knobloch: *Numerische Mathematik*, 152 (3), 553–585, 2022

<sup>4</sup> Knobloch: *Numerical Algorithms*, 94 (2), 547–580, 2023



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- Limiters

- BBK<sup>1</sup> ( $b_{ij} = -\gamma_0 h_{ij} \max\{\eta_i(u), \eta_j(u)\}^p$ )

- Modified-BBK (MBBK)<sup>2</sup> ( $b_{ij} = -d_{ij} \max\{\eta_i(u), \eta_j(u)\}^p$ )

- MUAS<sup>3</sup>

- SMUAS<sup>4</sup>

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- Comparison of results:
  - Effectivity Index in  $\|\cdot\|_a (\gamma_{\text{eff}})$



- Comparison of results:
  - Effectivity Index in  $\|\cdot\|_a$  ( $\gamma_{\text{eff}}$ )
  - Accuracy of solution
    - $\|\cdot\|_{L^2(\Omega)}$
    - $\|\nabla(\cdot)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}$



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  - Efficiency of the scheme



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  - Efficiency of the scheme
  - Adaptive grids
    - Conforming Closure



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    - $\|\nabla(\cdot)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}$
  - Efficiency of the scheme
  - Adaptive grids
    - Conforming Closure
  - Nonlinear Equations



- Iterative solver

- Matrix formulation of the algebraic stabilised schemes<sup>1,2</sup>

$$(\mathbb{A} + \mathbb{D}) \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{F} + (\mathbb{D} - \mathbb{B}(\mathbf{U})) \mathbf{U}$$

- Fixed point right-hand side

$$\begin{aligned}(\mathbb{A} + \mathbb{D}) \tilde{\mathbf{U}}^\mu &= \mathbf{F} + (\mathbb{D} - \mathbb{B}(\mathbf{U}^\mu)) \mathbf{U}^\mu, \\ \mathbf{U}^{\mu+1} &= \omega \tilde{\mathbf{U}}^\mu + (1 - \omega) \mathbf{U}^\mu,\end{aligned}$$

where  $1 \geq \omega > 0$  is a dynamic damping parameter<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>J., John: *BAIL 2018*, 135 (1), 113–128, 2020

<sup>2</sup>J., John: *Computers & Mathematics with Applications*, 78 (9), 3117–3138, 2019

<sup>3</sup>John, Knobloch: *Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering*, 196 (17-20), 2197–2215, 2007



- Corner Boundary Layer<sup>1</sup>

- $\Omega = (0, 1)^2$ ,  $\varepsilon = 10^{-2}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = (2, 3)^\top$ ,  $c = 1$ ,  $u_D = 0$ ,  $u_N = 0$ ,  $\Gamma = \Gamma_D$ , and  $f$  such that
  -

$$u(x, y) = xy^2 - y^2 e^{\left(\frac{2(x-1)}{\varepsilon}\right)} - xe^{\left(\frac{3(y-1)}{\varepsilon}\right)} + e^{\left(\frac{2(x-1)+3(y-1)}{\varepsilon}\right)}$$



<sup>1</sup> John, Knobloch, Savaescu: *Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering*, 200 (41-44), 2916–2929, 2011

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- stop of the non linear iteration<sup>2</sup>

- 10000 iterations
- $\|\text{residual}\|_{\ell^2} \leq \sqrt{\#\text{dof}} 10^{-8}$

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- stop of the non linear iteration<sup>2</sup>

- 10000 iterations
  - $\|\text{residual}\|_{\ell^2} \leq \sqrt{\#\text{dof}} 10^{-8}$

- stop of the adaptive algorithm

- $\eta \leq 10^{-3}$
  - $\#\text{dof} \approx 2.5 \times 10^6$

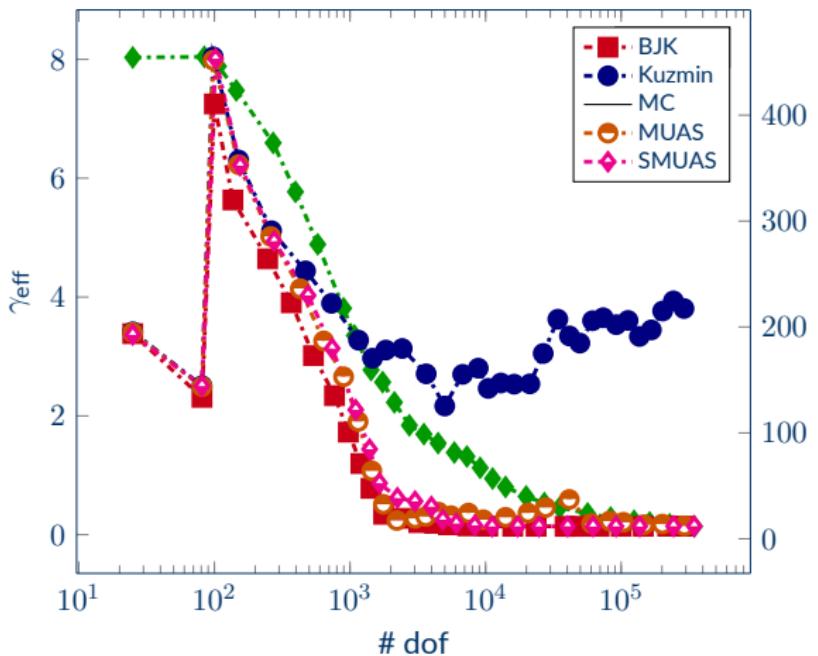
<sup>1</sup> John, Knobloch, Savaescu: *Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering*, 200 (41-44), 2916–2929, 2011

<sup>2</sup> J.,John: *Computers & Mathematics with Applications*, 78 (1), 3117–3138, 2019

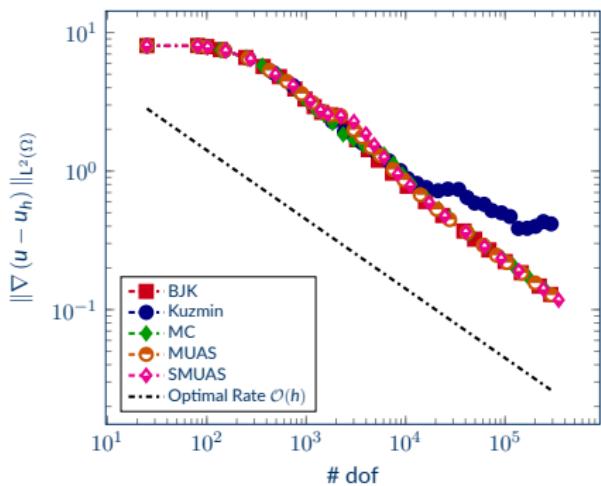
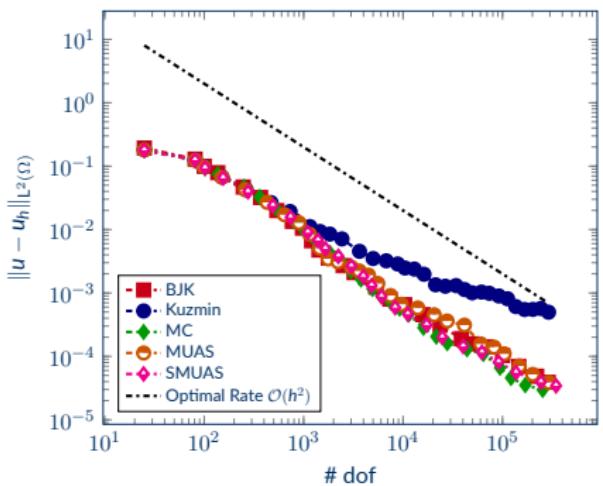


- Effectivity Index

conforming closure

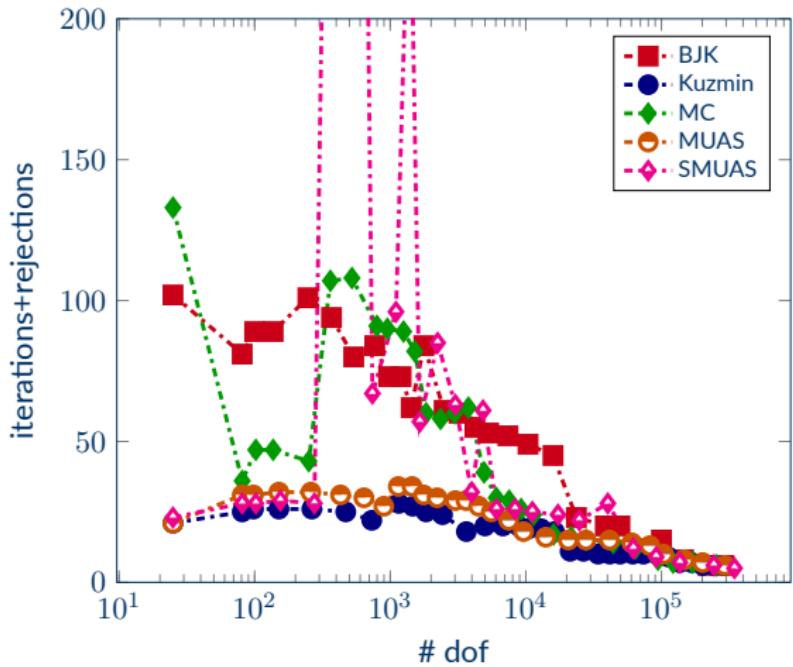


- $L^2(\Omega)$  Error and  $L^2(\Omega)$  Error of the gradient<sup>1</sup>



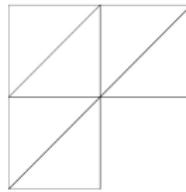
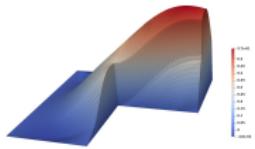
<sup>1</sup> Barrenechea, John, Knobloch: *SIAM Journal on Numerical Analysis*, 54 (4), 2427–2451, 2016

- Efficiency



- L-Shaped Domain<sup>1</sup>

- $\Omega = (0, 1)^2 \setminus (0.5, 1) \times (0, 0.5)$ ,  $\epsilon = 10^{-6}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = (3, 1)^\top$ ,  $c = 1$ , and  $\Gamma = \Gamma_D$
- $f = 100r(r - 0.5)(r - 1/\sqrt{2})$ ,  $u_D$
- $u \notin H^2(\Omega)$

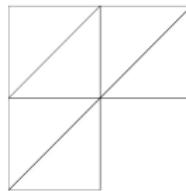
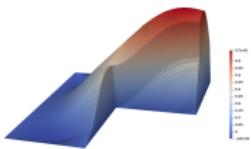


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<sup>1</sup> John: *Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering*, 190 (5-7), 757–781, 2000

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- stop of the non linear iteration

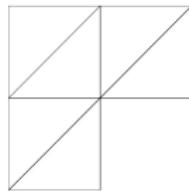
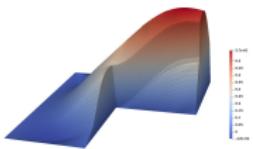
- 10000 iterations
- $\|\text{residual}\|_{\ell^2} \leq \sqrt{\#\text{dof}} 10^{-8}$

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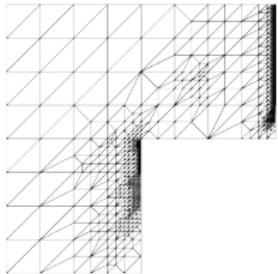
- stop of the non linear iteration
  - 10000 iterations
  - $\|\text{residual}\|_{\ell^2} \leq \sqrt{\#\text{dof}} 10^{-8}$
- stop of the adaptive algorithm
  - $\eta \leq 10^{-3}$
  - $\#\text{dof} \approx 5 \times 10^5$

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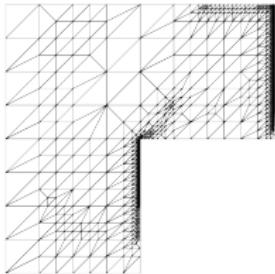
<sup>1</sup> John: *Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering*, 190 (5-7), 757–781, 2000

# Numerical Studies

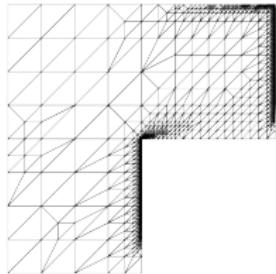
- Adaptive Grids (#dof = 50000)



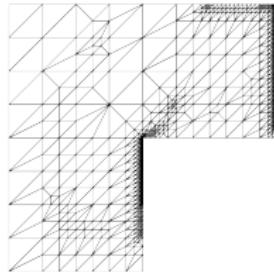
(a) BJK



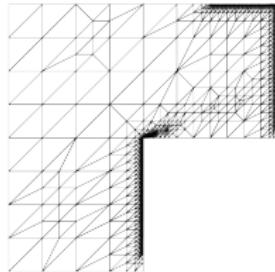
(b) Kuzmin



(c) Monolithic



(d) MUAS



(e) SMUAS

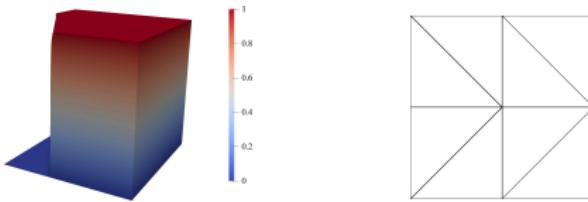


# Numerical Studies

- Interior and Boundary Layer<sup>1</sup>

- $\Omega = (0, 1)^2$ ,  $\varepsilon = 10^{-6}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = ((\cos(-\pi/3), \sin(-\pi/3))^\top$ ,  $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{f} = 0$ , and  $\Gamma = \Gamma_D$ 
  -

$$u_D = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (y = 1 \wedge x > 0) \text{ or } (x = 0 \wedge y > 0.7) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$



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<sup>1</sup>Hughes, Mallet, Akira: *Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering*, 54 (3), 341–355, 1986

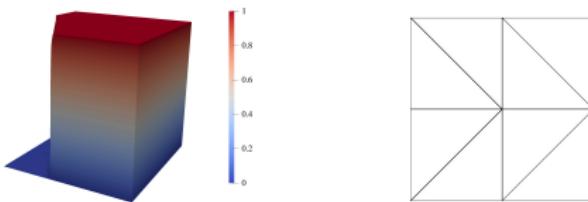


# Numerical Studies

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- stop of the non linear iteration

- 10000 iterations
- $\|\text{residual}\|_{\ell^2} \leq \sqrt{\#\text{dof}} 10^{-8}$

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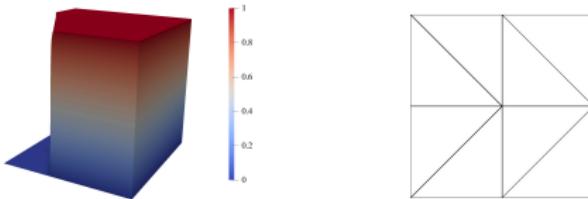
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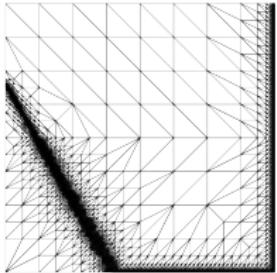
- $\eta \leq 10^{-3}$
- $\#\text{dof} \approx 5 \times 10^5$

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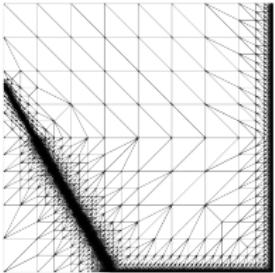
<sup>1</sup>Hughes, Mallet, Akira: *Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering*, 54 (3), 341–355, 1986

# Numerical Studies

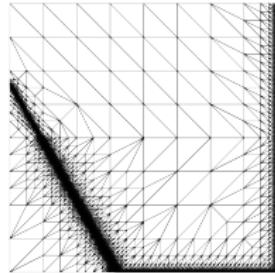
- Adaptive Grids (#dof = 250000)



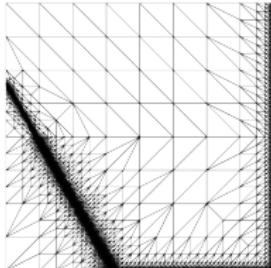
(a) BJK



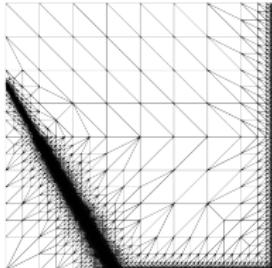
(b) Kuzmin



(c) Monolithic



(d) MUAS



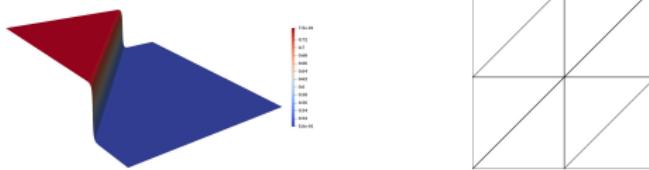
(e) SMUAS



- Nonlinear Convection<sup>1</sup>

- $\Omega = (0, 1)$ ,  $\varepsilon = 10^{-3}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = (u, u)^\top$ ,  $c = 0$ , and  $\Gamma = \Gamma_D$
- $f$  and  $u_D$  are chosen such that
- 

$$u(x, y) = \frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{4 \left[ 1 + \exp \left( \frac{-4x+4y-1}{32\varepsilon} \right) \right]}$$



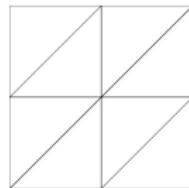
<sup>1</sup> Zhao, Li, Gao: *Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications*, 550 (2), 129617, 2025



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- stop of the non linear iteration
  - 10000 iterations
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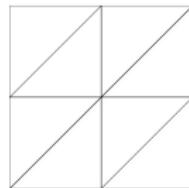
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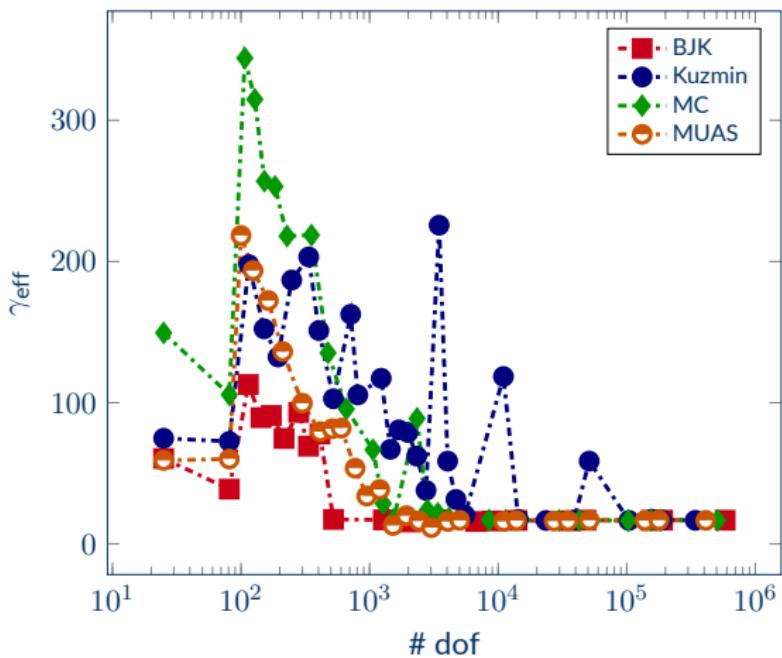
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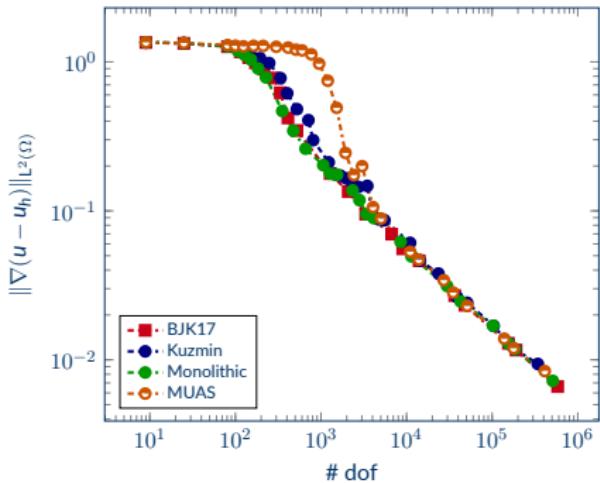
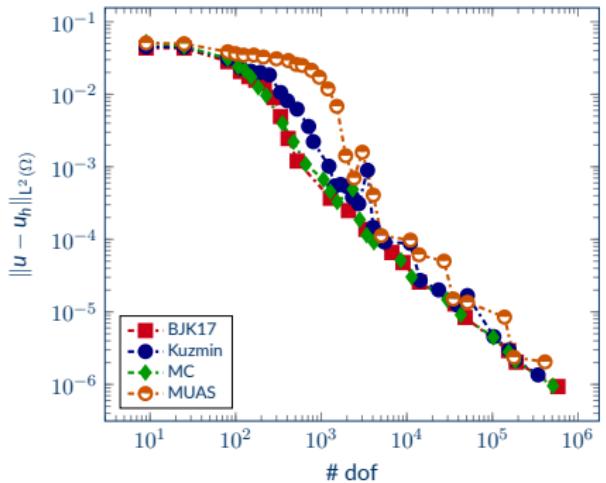
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<sup>1</sup>Zhao, Li, Gao: *Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications*, 550 (2), 129617, 2025

- Effectivity Index

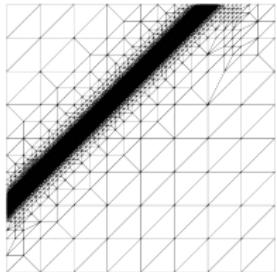


- $L^2(\Omega)$  Error and  $L^2(\Omega)$  Error of the gradient

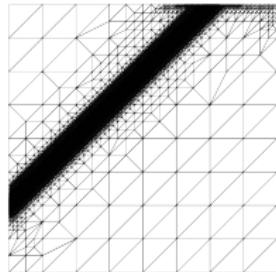


# Numerical Studies

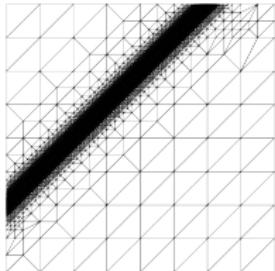
- Adaptive Grids (#dof = 500000)



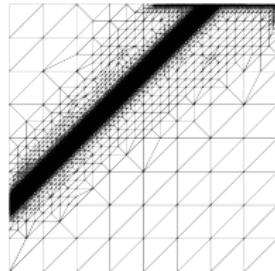
(a) BJK



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# Conclusions

- Conclusions
  - Linear Example

	BJK	Kuzmin	MC	MUAS	SMUAS
$\gamma_{\text{eff}}$	o	-	++	o	o
Error	++	-	++	++	++
Efficiency	-	++	+	++	o
Adaptive Grids	o	++	++	++	+



# Conclusions

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  - Linear Example

	BJK	Kuzmin	MC	MUAS	SMUAS
$\gamma_{\text{eff}}$	o	-	++	o	o
Error	++	-	++	++	++
Efficiency	-	++	+	++	o
Adaptive Grids	o	++	++	++	+

- Nonlinear Example

	BJK	Kuzmin	MC	MUAS
$\gamma_{\text{eff}}$	++	-	-	+
Error	++	-	++	-
Adaptive Grids	++	-	o	+



- Summary
  - AFC+**Monolithic** well suited for **Linear** example
  - AFC+**BJK** well suited for **Nonlinear** example



- **Summary**

- AFC+**Monolithic** well suited for **Linear** example
- AFC+**BJK** well suited for **Nonlinear** example
- AS+**MUAS** good alternative



- **Summary**
  - AFC+**Monolithic** well suited for **Linear** example
  - AFC+**BJK** well suited for **Nonlinear** example
  - AS+**MUAS** good alternative
- **Outlook**
  - More examples required to better understand AFC+Adaptive Grids
  - Incorporate BBK and MBBK
  - Efficient implementation for **SMUAS**



Thank You!

# Thank You!

Webpage: [tinyurl.com/abhi0207](https://tinyurl.com/abhi0207)



Abhinav Jha

A Posteriori Error Analysis, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025



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MATHEMATICS