

1 Variational formulation of the magnetostatic in 2D

In 2D we have the Hilbert complex

$$H^1(\Omega) \hookrightarrow H(\operatorname{curl}) \hookrightarrow H(\operatorname{div}) \hookrightarrow L^2(\Omega)$$

where we have the curl which is the scalar curl and curl which is the vector valued curl defined as.

It is easily derived that we have the integration by parts formula if $\mathbf{v} \in C_b^1(\overline{\Omega})$. Here Ω is from now on assumed bounded and Lipschitz.

The 2D magnetostatic problem is then Let $J \in B_0^*$ be given. Then

Problem 1.0.1 (2D magnetostatic problem). Find $\mathbf{B} \in H_0(\operatorname{div}) \cap H(\operatorname{curl})$ s.t.

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{B} &= J, \\ \operatorname{div} \mathbf{B} &= 0, + \text{ additional constraints} \end{aligned}$$

The additional constraints are necessary to give a unique solution. We will focus, just as in the first part, on a curve integral as additional constraint. Another option would be an orthogonality constraint as in ??.

1.1 Mixed formulation

In order to solve this problem numerically using finite elements we have to choose a suitable variational formulation of the problem. We will use the following For any $J \in \operatorname{curl} H(\operatorname{curl})$ find $\sigma \in H_0^1$, $B \in H_0(\operatorname{div})$ and $p \in \mathfrak{H}^1$ s.t.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \sigma, \tau \rangle - \langle u, \operatorname{curl} \tau \rangle &= -\langle J, \tau \rangle \quad \forall \tau \in H_0^1, & (1.1.1) \quad \{\text{eq:first_eq_mix}\} \\ \langle \operatorname{curl} \sigma, \mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle \operatorname{div} \mathbf{B}, \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{v} \rangle &= 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in V^k \text{ and } + \text{ additional constraints} & (1.1.2) \quad \{\text{eq:second_eq_mi}\} \end{aligned}$$

This formulation is of course much more complicated than the first one ??, but this formulation will turns out to be well-suited for finite element approximations. But it begs the question if the two formulations are equivalent. We will answer it in two propositions. We will treat the harmonic constraint separately.

Proposition 1.1.1. *For any $J \in L^2$, (1.1.1) and (1.1.2) hold i.i.f. $\sigma = 0$, $\mathbf{p} = 0$ and $\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{B} = J$ and $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{B} = 0$ i.e. the magnetostatic ?? is fulfilled without the additional constraint.*

Proof. Assume $(\sigma, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{p})$ is a solution of (1.1.1) and (1.1.2). Then the first equation is

$$\langle \sigma + J, \tau \rangle = \langle \mathbf{B}, \text{curl} \tau \rangle \quad \forall \tau \in H_0^1$$

which is equivalent to $\mathbf{B} \in H(\text{curl})$ and $J + \sigma = \text{curl} \mathbf{B}$.

Now assume additionally, that (1.1.2) holds. Then by choosing $\mathbf{v}\mathbf{p} \in \mathfrak{H}^1$ we get from the definition of the harmonic forms and $\mathfrak{H}^1 \perp \text{curl} H_0^1$ from the Hodge decomposition and thus

$$\langle \text{curl} \sigma, \mathbf{p} \rangle + \langle du, d\mathbf{p} \rangle + \langle p, \mathbf{p} \rangle = \langle p, \mathbf{p} \rangle = 0$$

and so $\mathbf{p} = 0$. Then we can choose $\mathbf{v} = \text{curl} \sigma$ to get

$$\langle \text{curl} \sigma, \text{curl} \sigma \rangle + \langle \text{div} \mathbf{B}, \text{div} \text{curl} \sigma \rangle + \langle \mathbf{p}, \text{curl} \sigma \rangle = \|\text{curl} \sigma\|^2.$$

Because $\sigma \in H_0^1$ this gives us $\sigma = 0$. Also we have then $J = \text{curl} \mathbf{B}$. At last we choose $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{B}$ which gives us $\text{div} \mathbf{B} = 0$ and thus we proved the first direction.

The other implication is clear i.e. if $\mathbf{B} \in H(\text{curl}) \cap H_0(\text{div})$ with $\text{curl} \mathbf{B} = J$ and $\text{div} \mathbf{B} = 0$ then the variational formulation clearly holds. \square

If we now add the same additional constraints to both formulations of the problem then they will remain equivalent.

1.2 Curve integral constraint

We want to add now a curve integral constraint. We first want to rewrite the curve integral in variational form.

Let Γ be a closed curve with parametrization $\gamma : [0, |\Gamma|]$ s.t. $|\gamma'(t)| = 1$ and assume that γ is bijective i.e. the curve does not intersect itself. Since Γ is a closed curve it encompasses a set K Add drawing Let \mathbf{n} be the unit normal of K . Then we know that $\mathbf{n} \perp \gamma'$.

If we now take \mathbf{B} that

$$n \times \mathbf{B} = -\mathbf{B} \times n = -\mathbf{B} \cdot R_{\pi/2} \mathbf{n}$$

then $R_{\pi/2} \mathbf{n}$ is either γ' or $-\gamma'$. Assume w.l.o.g. that $R_{\pi/2} \mathbf{n} = \gamma'$ and thus

$$-\mathbf{B} \cdot R_{\pi/2} \mathbf{n} = -\mathbf{B} \cdot \gamma'.$$

So we see that we can write

$$n \times \mathbf{B} = -\mathbf{B} \cdot \gamma'$$

and so the curve integral becomes

$$\int_{\Gamma} \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \int_0^{|\Gamma|} \mathbf{B}(\gamma(t)) \cdot \gamma'(t) dt = - \int_0^{|\Gamma|} n(\gamma(t)) \times \mathbf{B}(\gamma(t)) dt = - \int_{\Gamma} n \times \mathbf{B}.$$

Define ψ s.t. $\psi = 0$ on $\partial\Omega_{in}$ and $\psi = 1$ on Γ and constant one outside. Then we observe

$$\int_{\Omega} \operatorname{curl} \psi \cdot \mathbf{B} dx = \int_{\Omega} \psi J dx - \int_{\partial} \Omega n \times \mathbf{B} d\mathbf{l} = \int_{\Omega} \psi J dx - \int_{\Gamma} \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{l}$$

Note that even though right hand side requires some regularity for \mathbf{B} the left hand side makes sense even if \mathbf{B} is only in L^2 ! So if we are in a situation where we have curve integral given then we can add this constraint like this.

Let us assume we are given that the curve integral

$$\int_{\Gamma} \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = C_0$$

assuming this makes sense. Then we choose ψ and then get the constraint

$$\langle \operatorname{curl} \psi, \mathbf{B} \rangle = \langle J, \psi \rangle + -?C_0.$$

Note that there are not test functions involved since ψ is fixed. We define $C_1 := \langle J, \psi \rangle + -?C_0$. Then to get a variational formulation we multiply ?? with an arbitrary $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$. Then we reformulate the mixed variational form slightly.

Let $J \in L^2$, $\mathbf{p} \in \mathfrak{H}^1$. Find $\sigma \in H_0^1$, $\mathbf{B} \in H_0(\operatorname{div})$, $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ s.t.

$$\langle \sigma, \tau \rangle - \langle u, \operatorname{curl} \tau \rangle = -\langle J, \tau \rangle \quad \forall \tau \in H_0^1, \quad (1.2.1) \quad \{\text{eq:first_eq_mix}\}$$

$$\langle \operatorname{curl} \sigma, \mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle \operatorname{div} \mathbf{B}, \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle \lambda \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in V^k, \quad (1.2.2) \quad \{\text{eq:second_eq_mi}\}$$

$$\mu \langle \operatorname{curl} \psi, \mathbf{B} \rangle = \mu C_1 \quad \forall \mu \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (1.2.3)$$

which gives us the variational formulation of the magnetostatic problem with curve integral constraint. We will study the well-posedness of this formulation next. Using the analogous reasoning as in ?? we see that the first two equations are still equivalent to the magnetostatic problem without additional constraint even though we use now **Need assumption that $\dim \mathfrak{H}^1 = 1$.**

Defining $X := H_0^1 \times H_0(\operatorname{div}) \times \mathbb{R}$ and the bilinear form $a : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$a(\sigma, \mathbf{B}, \lambda; \tau, \mathbf{v}, \mu) = \langle \sigma, \tau \rangle - \langle u, \operatorname{curl} \tau \rangle + \langle \operatorname{curl} \sigma, \mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle \operatorname{div} \mathbf{B}, \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle \lambda \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{v} \rangle - \mu \langle \operatorname{curl} \psi, \mathbf{B} \rangle.$$

This allows us to rewrite ?? in the standard form

$$a(\sigma, \mathbf{B}, \lambda; \tau, \mathbf{v}, \mu) = -\langle J, \tau \rangle - \mu C_1 \quad \forall (\tau, \mathbf{v}, \mu) \in X.$$

Note that the bilinear form a is not symmetric.

Lemma 1.2.1. *Define $T : X \rightarrow X$ as*

$$T(\sigma, \mathbf{B}, \lambda) = (\sigma - \frac{1}{c_P^2} \rho, \mathbf{curl} \sigma + \mathbf{B} + \beta \mathbf{p}, -\alpha \langle \mathbf{p}, \alpha \langle \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{B} \rangle + \frac{\lambda}{c_\psi} \rangle).$$

Assume c_ψ is positive. Then T is surjective.

Proof. Take $(\tau, \mathbf{v}, \mu) \in X$ arbitrary. Then Now we choose $\sigma = (1+1/c_P)^{-1}(\tau + (1/c_P^2) \mathbf{curl}^{-1} \mathbf{v})$ and $\mathbf{B}_{\mathfrak{B}} = \mathbf{v}_{\mathfrak{B}} - \mathbf{curl} \sigma$. So

$$\sigma - 1/c_P^2 \mathbf{curl}^{-1} \mathbf{B}_{\mathfrak{B}} = \sigma - 1/c_P^2 (\mathbf{curl}^{-1} \mathbf{v} - \sigma) = (1 + 1/c_P^2) \sigma - 1/c_P^2 \mathbf{curl}^{-1} \mathbf{v} = \tau.$$

We simply choose $\mathbf{B}_{\mathfrak{B}^*} = \mathbf{v}_{\mathfrak{B}^*}$. For the harmonic part we observe for $\mathbf{v}_{\mathfrak{H}} = c_v p$
Let us look at the system

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \beta \\ \alpha & 1/c_\psi \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \kappa_u \\ \lambda \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c_v \\ \mu \end{pmatrix}$$

Now since $c_\psi > 0$ and $\alpha < 0$, $\beta > 0$ we get $1/c_\psi - \alpha\beta \neq 0$ and the system has a solution. Then we see

$$\mathbf{v}_{\mathfrak{H}} = c_v p = p(\kappa_u + \beta\lambda) = \mathbf{B}_{\mathfrak{H}} + \beta\lambda p$$

and

$$\mu = \alpha\kappa_u + 1/c_\psi \lambda = \alpha\kappa_u \|p\|^2 + 1/c_\psi \lambda = \alpha \langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{p} \rangle + 1/c_\psi \lambda.$$

And so in coming all that we arrive at $T(\sigma, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{p}) = (\tau, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{p})$. \square

Theorem 1.2.2. *a satisfies a inf-sup condition with γ depending on the Poincaré constant as well as ψ .*

Proof. We will use T-coercivity to prove it.

$$T(\sigma, \mathbf{B}, \lambda) = (\sigma - \frac{1}{c_P^2} \rho, \mathbf{curl} \sigma + \mathbf{B} + \beta \mathbf{p}, -\alpha \langle \mathbf{p}, \alpha \langle \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{B} \rangle + \frac{\lambda}{c_\psi} \rangle)$$

with $\beta = \frac{3c_1^2 c_P^2}{c_\psi^2}$ and $\alpha = -\frac{c_\psi}{4c_1^2 c_P^2}$. Then T is bijective ???. We split up $d\psi = d\psi_0 + c_\psi \mathbf{p}$ to get

$$\begin{aligned}
& a(\sigma, \mathbf{B}, \lambda; T(\sigma, \mathbf{B}, \lambda)) \\
&= \langle \sigma, \sigma - \frac{1}{c_P^2} \rho \rangle - \langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{curl} \sigma - \frac{1}{c_P^2} \mathbf{curl} \rho \rangle + \langle \operatorname{div} \mathbf{B}, \operatorname{div} \mathbf{curl} \\
&\quad + \sigma \operatorname{div} \mathbf{B} + \beta \lambda \mathbf{p} \rangle + \langle \lambda \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{curl} \sigma + \mathbf{B} + \beta \lambda \mathbf{p} \rangle - (\alpha \langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{p} \rangle + \frac{\lambda}{c_\psi}) \langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{curl} \psi \rangle \\
&= \|\sigma\|^2 - \frac{1}{c_P^2} \langle \sigma, \rho \rangle + \frac{1}{c_P^2} \|B_{\mathfrak{B}}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{curl} \sigma\|^2 + \|\operatorname{div} \mathbf{B}\|^2 + \lambda^2 \beta - \alpha c_\psi \|\mathbf{B}_{\mathfrak{H}}\|^2 \\
&\quad - \alpha \langle \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{B} \rangle \langle \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{curl} \psi_0 \rangle - \frac{\lambda}{c_\psi} \langle B_{\mathfrak{B}}, \mathbf{curl} \psi_0 \rangle \\
&\dots \geq \|\sigma\|^2 - \left(\frac{1}{2} \|\sigma\|^2 + \frac{\|B_{\mathfrak{B}}\|^2}{2c_P^2} \right) + \frac{1}{c_P^2} \|B_{\mathfrak{B}}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{curl} \sigma\|^2 + \|\operatorname{div} \mathbf{B}\|^2 \\
&\quad + \lambda^2 \beta - \alpha c_\psi \|\mathbf{B}_{\mathfrak{H}}\|^2 - \left(\frac{\epsilon_1 \alpha^2 \|\mathbf{B}_{\mathfrak{H}}\|^2}{2} + \frac{\|\mathbf{B}_{\mathfrak{B}}\|^2 \|\mathbf{curl} \psi_0\|^2}{2\epsilon_1} \right) - \left(\frac{\lambda^2}{2\epsilon_2 c_\psi^2} + \frac{\epsilon_2 \|\mathbf{B}_{\mathfrak{B}}\|^2 \|\mathbf{curl} \psi_0\|^2}{2} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

Choose $\epsilon_1 = 4c_1^2 c_P^2$ to get

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{1}{2} \|\sigma\|^2 + \frac{1}{2c_P^2} \|B_{\mathfrak{B}}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{curl} \sigma\|^2 + \|\operatorname{div} \mathbf{B}\|^2 + \lambda^2 \left(\beta - \frac{1}{2\epsilon_2 c_\psi^2} \right) \\
& \quad + \|\mathbf{B}_{\mathfrak{H}}\|^2 \left(-\alpha c_\psi - \frac{4c_1^2 c_P^2 \alpha^2}{2} \right) - \|B_{\mathfrak{B}}\|^2 \frac{\|\mathbf{curl} \psi_0\|^2}{8c_1^2 c_P^2} - \|B_{\mathfrak{B}}\|^2 \frac{\epsilon_2 \|\mathbf{curl} \psi_0\|^2}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

Now choose $\epsilon_2 = \frac{1}{4c_1^2 c_P^2}$ and plug in the definition of α to get bound it from below with

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{1}{2} \|\sigma\|^2 + \|B_{\mathfrak{B}}\|^2 \left(\frac{1}{2c_P^2} - \frac{1}{8c_P^2} - \frac{\|\mathbf{curl} \psi_0\|^2}{8c_1^2 c_P^2} \right) + \|\mathbf{curl} \sigma\|^2 + \|\operatorname{div} \mathbf{B}\|^2 + \lambda^2 \left(\beta - \frac{4c_1^2 c_P^2}{2c_\psi^2} \right) \\
& \quad + \|\mathbf{B}_{\mathfrak{H}}\|^2 \left(\frac{c_\psi^2}{4c_1^2 c_P^2} - \frac{c_1^2 c_P^2 c_\psi^2}{8c_1^4 c_P^4} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

and finally by using and $\beta = \frac{3c_1^2 c_P^2}{c_\psi^2}$

$$\frac{1}{2} \|\sigma\|^2 + \frac{1}{4c_P^2} \|B_{\mathfrak{B}}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{curl} \sigma\|^2 + \frac{1}{2c_P^2 B_{\mathfrak{B}}^*} + \frac{c_\psi}{8c_1^2 c_P^2} + \frac{1}{2} \|\operatorname{div} \mathbf{B}\|^2 + \frac{c_1^2 c_P^2}{c_\psi^2} \lambda^2 + \frac{c_\psi^2}{8c_1^2 c_P^2} \|\mathbf{B}_{\mathfrak{H}}\|^2$$

□

Theorem 1.2.3 (Stability). *The system is stable. For solution $(\sigma, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{p}) \in X$ we get*

$$\|\sigma\|_V + \|\mathbf{B}\|_V + |\lambda| \leq \frac{\|J\| + |C_1|}{\gamma}.$$

Proof. The statement follows immediately from ?? and the fact that

$$|l(\tau, \mathbf{v}, \mu)| = |-\langle J, \tau \rangle - C_1 \mu| \leq (\|J\| + C_1) \|\tau, \mathbf{v}, \mu\|_X$$

and thus $\|l\|_{X'} \leq \|J\| + |C_1|$. \square

2 Discrete Hilbert complex

In order to approximate the Hodge Laplacian problem we want to use finite elements. We want to use them in a way that we can rebuild the structure of the Hilbert complex in our discretization. This section follows Sec. 5.2 in Arnold's book [1].

Let us assume that we have finite dimensional subspaces $V_h^k \subseteq V^k$. Then we define completely analogous to the continuous case,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{Z}_h^k &:= \{v \in V_h^k \mid dv = 0\} = \ker d \cap V_h^k \\ \mathfrak{B}_h^k &:= \{dv \mid v \in V_h^{k-1}\}. \end{aligned}$$

We can now also define the discrete harmonic forms. Now the situation is slightly different however. We will not use the continuous adjoint d_k^* to define it. Instead,

$$\mathfrak{H}_h^k := \{v \in \mathfrak{Z}_h^k \mid v \perp \mathfrak{B}_h^k\} = \mathfrak{Z}_h^k \cap \mathfrak{B}_h^{k,\perp}.$$

Notice that we have $\mathfrak{Z}_h^k \subseteq \mathfrak{Z}^k$ and $\mathfrak{B}_h^k \subseteq \mathfrak{B}^k$, but due to $\mathfrak{B}_h^{k,\perp} \supseteq \mathfrak{B}^{k,\perp}$ we have in general

$$\mathfrak{H}^k = \mathfrak{Z}^k \cap \mathfrak{B}^{k,\perp} \not\subseteq \mathfrak{Z}_h^k \cap \mathfrak{B}_h^{k,\perp} = \mathfrak{H}_h^k.$$

This is now already enough to define apply the mixed formulation to the discrete setting: For a given $f \in W^k$, find $\sigma_h \in V_h^{k-1}$, $u_h \in V_h^k$ and $p_h \in \mathfrak{H}^k$ s.t.

$$\langle \sigma_h, \tau_h \rangle - \langle u_h, d\tau_h \rangle = 0 \quad \tau_h \in V_h^{k-1}, \quad (2.0.1)$$

$$\langle d\sigma_h, v_h \rangle + \langle du_h, dv_h \rangle + \langle p_h, v_h \rangle = \langle f, v_h \rangle \quad v_h \in V_h^k, \quad (2.0.2)$$

$$\langle u_h, q_h \rangle = 0, \quad \forall q_h \in \mathfrak{H}_h^k. \quad (2.0.3) \quad \{\text{eq:third_eq_dis}\}$$

When $\mathfrak{H}_h^k \not\subseteq \mathfrak{H}_h^k$ this is a nonconforming method. The harmonic constraint (2.0.3) can be replaced with a different one.

There are three crucial properties that are necessary for stability and convergence of the method. The first one is the common and reasonable assumption that – as usual in finite element theory – we want that the discrete spaces V_h^k approximate the continuous ones V^j . This can be generally summarized that

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \inf_{v_h \in V_h^j} \|w - v_h\| = 0, \quad \forall w \in V^j.$$

This is usually satisfied if we use established finite elements for a given space e.g. if we take Lagrangian FE if $V = H^1$ or Raviart-Thomas if $V = H(\text{div})$ [**<empty citation>**].

The next property is more restrictive. We require that $dV_h^{k-1} \subseteq V_h^k$ and $dV_h^j \subseteq V_h^{j+1}$. This shows that the we cannot simply use arbitrary discrete subspaces independent from one another. This property has a very nice consequence. It shows that

$$V_h^{k-1} \xrightarrow{d^{k-1}} V_h^k \xrightarrow{d^k} V_h^{k+1}$$

is itself a Hilbert complex and we can apply the general theory from Sec. ?? directly to it. Let us do that.

Denote the restriction of d^j to V_h^j as d_h^j . Then as a linear map between finite spaces the adjoint – denoted as $d_{j,h}^* : V_h^j \rightarrow V_h^{j-1}$ – is everywhere defined. It is important to notice that in contrast to d_h the adjoint $d_{j,h}^*$ is not the restriction of the adjoint the continuous adjoint d_j^* . In general, $V_h \not\subseteq V^*$ and so the continuous adjoint might not be well-defined for a given $v_h \in V_h$.

So we obtain the Hilbert complex

$$V_h^{k-1} \xrightarrow{d^{k-1}} V_h^k \xrightarrow{d^k} V_h^{k+1}$$

and its dual complex

$$V_h^{k-1} \xleftarrow{d_k^*} V_h^k \xleftarrow{d_{k+1}^*} V_h^{k+1}$$

From the general Hilbert complex theory (Thm. ??) we thus obtain the *discrete Hodge decomposition*

$$V_h^j = \mathfrak{B}_h^j \oplus^\perp \mathfrak{H}_h^j \oplus^\perp \mathfrak{B}_{jh}^*.$$

So we achieved our goal of getting a structure like in the continuous case for our discrete approximation. Especially the question how well the discrete harmonic forms approximate the continuous one will be looked at more closely.

The third crucial assumption is the existence of *bounded cochain projections* π_h . This is a projection that is a cochain map in the sense of cochain complexes ?? i.e. the following diagram commutes: π_h are either bounded in the V or in the W -norm where W -boundedness implies V boundedness. The cochain projection will play an important role in the stability of the discrete system.

Let us now answer the question about the difference between discrete and continuous harmonic forms. In order to do that we need some way to measure the "difference" between two subspaces.

Definition 2.0.1 (Gap between subspaces). For a Banach space W with subspaces Z_1 and Z_2 . Let S_1 and S_2 be the unit spheres in Z_1 and Z_2 respectively i.e. $S_1 = \{z \in Z_1 \mid \|z\|_W = 1\}$. Then we define the gap between these subspaces as

$$\text{gap}(Z_1, Z_2) = \max\left\{\sup_{z_1 \in S_1} \text{dist } z_1, Z_2, \sup_{z_2 \in S_2} \text{dist } z_2, Z_1\right\}$$

This definition is from [kato perturbation theory] and defines a metric on the set of closed subspaces of W (see ??Remark p.198]) If W is a Hilbert space – as it is throughout this section – and Z_1 and Z_2 are closed then the $\text{gap}(Z_1, Z_2) = \|P_{Z_1} - P_{Z_2}\|$ i.e. the difference in operator norm of the orthogonal projections onto Z_1 and Z_2 . This gives us a measure of distance between spaces which we can now apply to the question of the difference of the difference between discrete and continuous harmonic forms.

Proposition 2.0.2 (Gap between harmonic forms). Assume that the discrete complex ?? admits a V -bounded cochain projection π_h . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|(I - P_{\mathfrak{H}_h^k})q\|_V &\leq \|(I - \pi_h^k)q\|_V, \forall q \in \mathfrak{H}^k \\ \|(I - P_{\mathfrak{H}^k})q_h\|_V &\leq \|(I - \pi_h^k)P_{\mathfrak{H}^k}q\|_V, \forall q \in \mathfrak{H}^k, \forall q_h \in \mathfrak{H}_h^k \end{aligned}$$

and then

$$\text{gap}(\mathfrak{H}, \mathfrak{H}_h) \leq \sup_{q \in \mathfrak{H}, \|q\|=1} \|(I - \pi_h^k)q\|_V$$

Proof. See [1, Thm. 5.2]. □

Do not forget the continuous poincare inequality

Proposition 2.0.3 (Discrete Poincare inequality). Assume that we have a V -bounded cochain projection π_h for the discrete Hilbert complex ??. Then

$$\|v\|_V \leq c_P \|\pi_h\|_V \|dv\|, \quad \forall v \in \mathfrak{Z}_h^{k\perp} \cap V_h$$

with c_P being the Poincare constant from ??.

Proof. This indeed is a direct consequence of the existence of bounded cochain projections. Take $v_h \in \mathfrak{Z}_h^{k,\perp} \cap V_h$ arbitrary. Since $d(\mathfrak{Z}_h^{k,\perp} \cap V_h) = \mathfrak{B} \supseteq \mathfrak{B}_h$ we find $z \in \mathfrak{Z}_h^{k,\perp} \cap V_h$ s.t. $dz = dv$. We can apply now the continuous Poincare inequality ?? to get $\|z\|_V \leq c_P \|dz\|_V = c_P \|dv_h\|_V$. Now we can combine the different assumptions about the discrete Hilbert complex to get $v_h - \pi_h z \in V_h^k$. Now we can use the fact that π_h is a cochain map and the fact that π_h is a projection:

$$d\pi_h^k z = \pi_h^{k+1} dz = \pi_h^{k+1} dv_h = dv_h$$

For the last equality we used also the fact that we have a discrete complex i.e. $d^k V_h^k \subseteq V_h^{k+1}$. That shows that $d(v_h - \pi_h z) = 0$ i.e. $(v_h - \pi_h z) \in \mathfrak{Z}_h^k$. Because $v_h \in \mathfrak{Z}_h^{k,\perp}$ by assumption we have

$$0 = \langle v, v_h - \pi_h z \rangle = \langle v, v_h - \pi_h z \rangle + \langle dv, d(v_h - \pi_h z) \rangle = \langle v, v_h - \pi_h z \rangle_V$$

so $v_h - \pi_h z$ is V orthogonal to v_h . So

$$\|v_h\|_V^2 = \langle v_h, \pi_h^k z \rangle_V + \langle v_h, v_h - \pi_h^k z \rangle_V = \langle v_h, \pi_h^k z \rangle_V \leq \|\pi_h\|_V \|dv\| \stackrel{\text{Poincareineq.}}{\leq} c_P \|\pi_h\|_V \|dv\|_V$$

□

So we get the inf sup condition with $c_{P,h} = c_P \|\pi_h\|_V$ instead of c_P and obtain well-posedness.

3 Magnetostatic problem in 2D

We are interested in solving the 2D version of the magnetostatic problem. Find $\mathbf{B} \in H(\text{curl}) \cap H_0(\text{div})$ s.t.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{div } \mathbf{B} &= 0 \\ \text{curl } \mathbf{B} &= J. \end{aligned}$$

This problem is generally not-well posed since we need to add a harmonic constraint. One option is to take the orthogonality constraint again. But now we want to use the analogous problem that we dealt with in the first part of the thesis and add the constraint