

# Divergence-free virtual element method for Stokes and Navier-Stokes problems

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**a joint work with**

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# Divergence-free condition

- standard Finite Element do not have it!
- pressure-robust method *only* in a weak sense,  
for instance N. Ahmed *et al.* (2018).

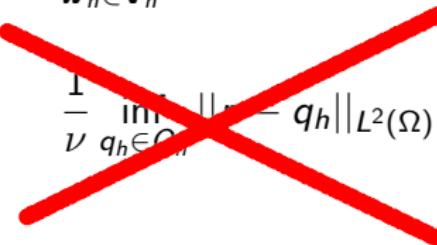
$$\|\nabla(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_h)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \lesssim \inf_{\mathbf{w}_h \in \mathbf{V}_h} \|\nabla(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{w}_h)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} +$$

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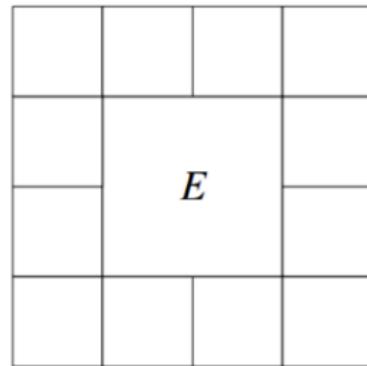
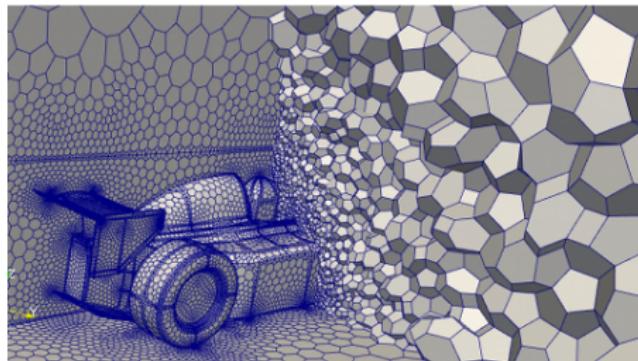
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Divergence-free **virtual element method**  
for Stokes and Navier-Stokes problems

# What is the Virtual Element Method (VEM)?

A generalization of the Finite Element Method introduced in 2013



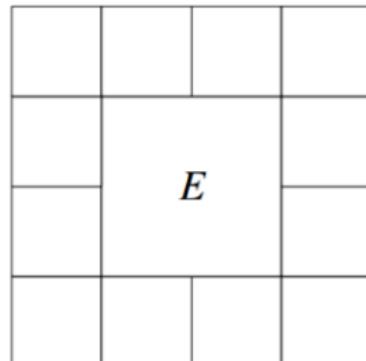
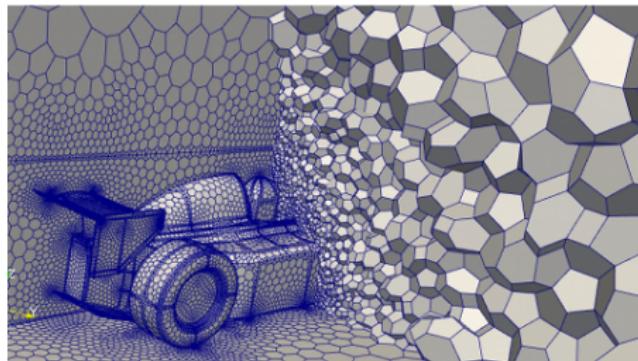
- general **polygonal** and **polyhedral** meshes (also non convex)
- additional interesting **features** and **properties**

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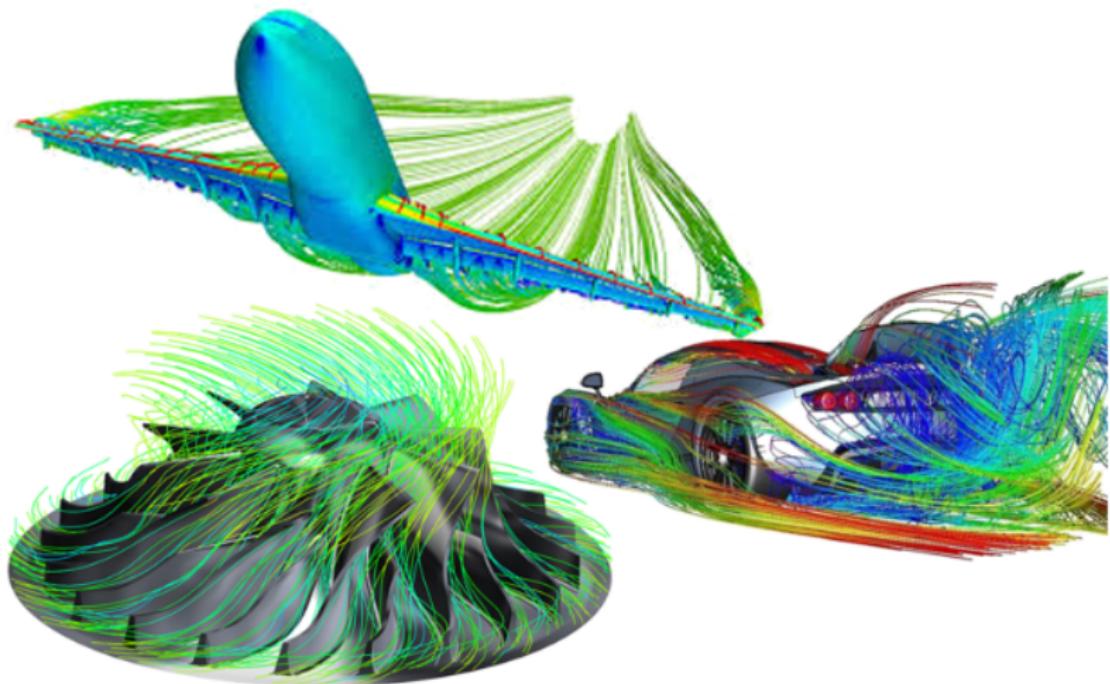
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# Stokes and Navier-Stokes problems



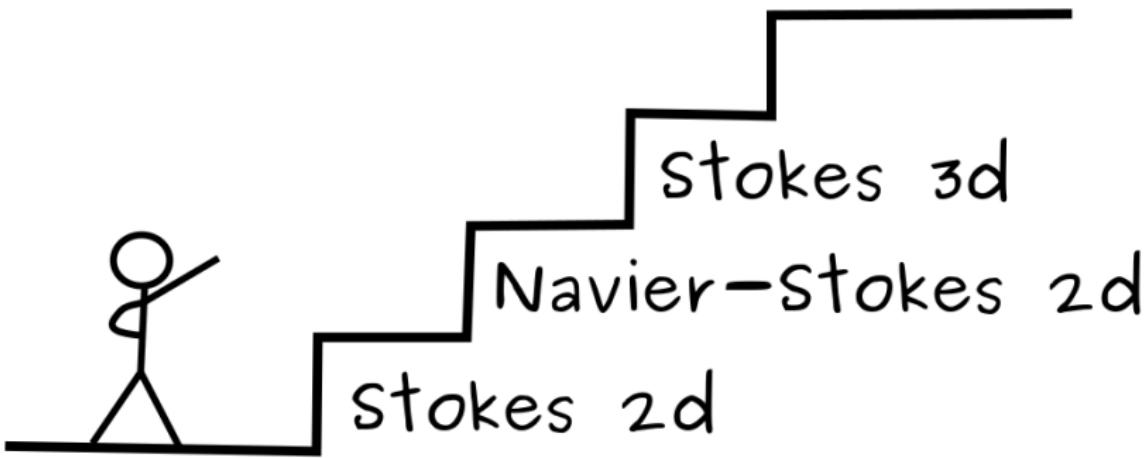
Navier-Stokes 3d

Stokes 3d

Navier-Stokes 2d

Stokes 2d

start



# Talk outline

1 Problem definition

2 VEM spaces

- Velocity field virtual space
- Pressure virtual space

3 Problem discretization

4 Numerical examples

5 Conclusions

# Problem definition

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{\binom{n}{k} (\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{k})^{-2\sqrt{n+1}} \cdot \sqrt{n+1}}{\binom{n}{k} \cdot k!} \left( \frac{\sqrt{n+1}}{\sqrt{n+2}} \right)^k = \frac{(\lambda_1, m_1) \cdot (\lambda_2, m_2)}{(\lambda_1, m_1) \cdot (\lambda_2, m_2)} = \frac{(\lambda_1, m_1) \cdot (\lambda_2, m_2)}{(\lambda_1, m_1) \cdot (\lambda_2, m_2)} \\ & P(M \geq \frac{N}{2}) \leq \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{\binom{n}{k} (\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{k})^{-2\sqrt{n+1}} \cdot \sqrt{n+1}}{\binom{n}{k} \cdot k!} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+2}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mu)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2}} dx \\ & \boxed{\begin{array}{l} 2x^2 + 7 = 0 \\ 3x^2 + 4 = 0 \\ 5x^2 - 4 = 0 \\ x^2 \cdot 4x \cdot 1 = 0 \end{array}} \quad \boxed{\begin{array}{l} (1+i)x = (y - \sqrt{1+i}) \\ (1+i)x = y - \sqrt{1+i} \end{array}} \quad \boxed{\begin{array}{l} \frac{x+1}{x+2} = y \\ \sin(x) = x \end{array}} \\ & \boxed{\begin{array}{l} 1 - w_n \\ \sin(\ln(2n+2)) \\ \frac{1-w_n}{\ln(2n+2)} - \text{circle} \end{array}} \quad \boxed{\begin{array}{l} 7. \quad (x^2 + y^2) dy - 3x^2 y dx \\ 3. \quad 2x^2 + 7 = x^2 \ln x \\ 4. \quad 77 + 27^2 \cdot 5 \sin x \\ 5. \quad (x^2 + x^2 + x^2 + 1) + (x^2 - 27^2 x^2 - x^2 + 7^2) \end{array}} \quad \boxed{\begin{array}{l} 1 \\ \frac{1-w_n}{\ln(2n+2)} - \text{circle} \\ 6. \quad 3x^2 + y^2 = x - 1 \\ 7. \quad \int_{[0,1]} x - (1-y) \cdot y^2 \cdot dy = Q \end{array}} \quad \boxed{\begin{array}{l} \frac{1-w_n}{\ln(2n+2)} - \text{circle} \\ 8. \quad \int_{[0,1]} x - (1-y) \cdot y^2 \cdot dy = Q \end{array}} \end{aligned}$$

# Stokes problem - continuous formulation

We search for a velocity field  $\mathbf{u}$  and pressure  $p$ , such that

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -\nu \Delta \mathbf{u} - \nabla p = \mathbf{f} \quad \text{in } \Omega \\ \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{u}) = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega \\ \mathbf{u} = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{array} \right.$$

where

- $\Omega$  be a simply connected domain in  $\mathbb{R}^2$
- $\mathbf{f} \in [L^2(\Omega)]^2$

# Stokes problem - variational formulation

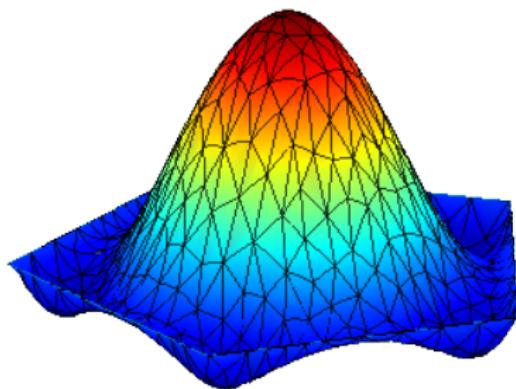
find  $(\mathbf{u}, p) \in \mathbf{V}_0(\Omega) \times Q(\Omega)$  such that:

$$\begin{cases} \int_{\Omega} \nu \nabla \mathbf{u} : \nabla \mathbf{v} d\Omega + \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{v}) p d\Omega = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{v} d\Omega & \forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{V}_0(\Omega) \\ \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{u}) q d\Omega = 0 & \forall q \in Q(\Omega) \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{V}_0(\Omega) := \left\{ \mathbf{v} \in [H^1(\Omega)]^2 : \mathbf{v} = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega \right\}$$

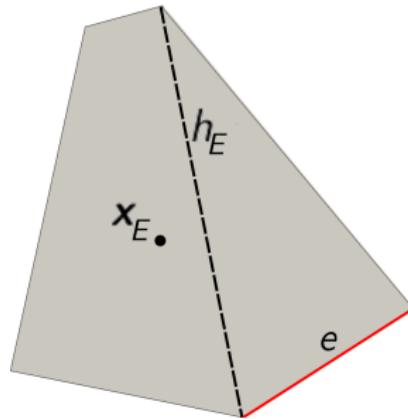
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# VEM spaces



# Notation for polygons

polygon  $E$



$$|E| = \text{area}$$

# Notation for 2d monomials

Let  $E \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$  and  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2)$  be a multi-index, we define the **scaled monomials**

$$m_\alpha := \left( \frac{x - x_E}{h_E} \right)^{\alpha_1} \left( \frac{y - y_E}{h_E} \right)^{\alpha_2}$$

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and the **vectorial scaled monomials**

$$\boldsymbol{m}_\alpha^1 = \begin{bmatrix} m_\alpha \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{m}_\alpha^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ m_\alpha \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \boldsymbol{m}^\perp = \begin{bmatrix} m_{(0,1)} \\ -m_{(1,0)} \end{bmatrix}$$

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- $\{\boldsymbol{m}_\alpha^i\}$  is a basis of  $[\mathbb{P}_k(E)]^2$

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**3d case is analogous**

# Polynomial decomposition

It is **essential** the following property

$$[\mathbb{P}_k(E)]^2 = \nabla \mathbb{P}_{k+1}(E) \oplus \mathbf{x}^\perp \mathbb{P}_{k-1}(E)$$

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$$\forall \mathbf{q}_k \in [\mathbb{P}_k(E)]^2 \quad \exists! q_{k+1} \in \mathbb{P}_{k+1}(E) \setminus \mathbb{R}, \quad p_{k-1} \in \mathbb{P}_{k-1}(E)$$

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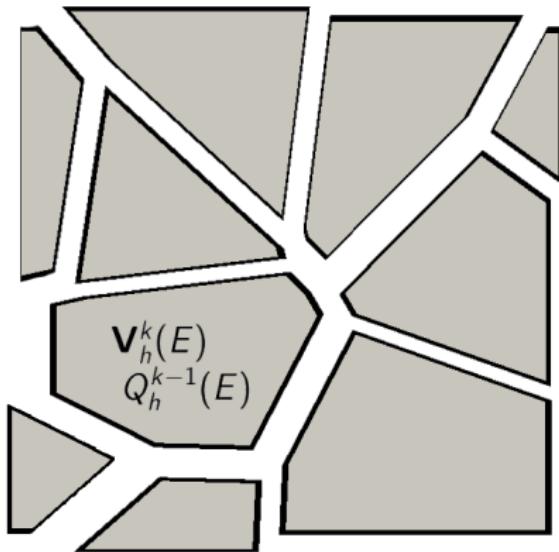
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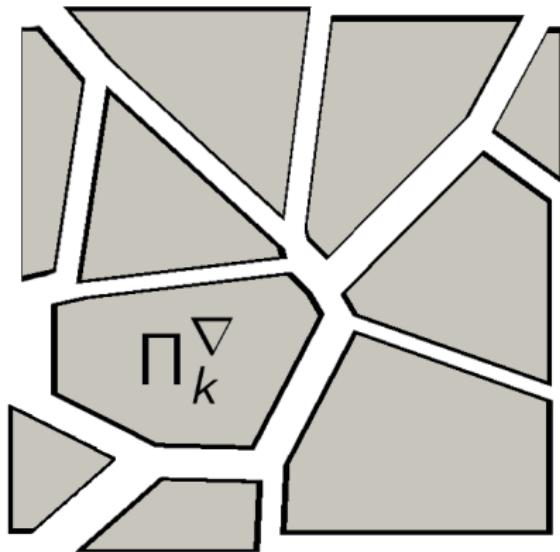
# VEM space definition - the plan

- VEM local spaces



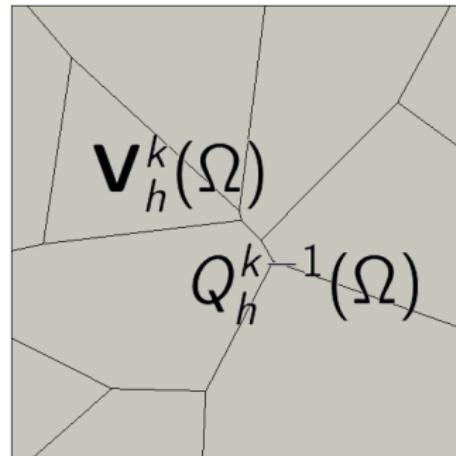
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# VEM space definition - the plan

- VEM local spaces
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- glue spaces



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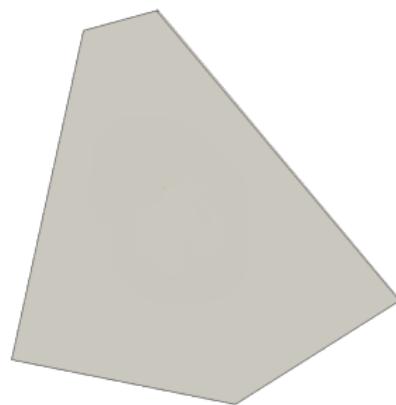
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# Velocity field virtual space - d.o.f.

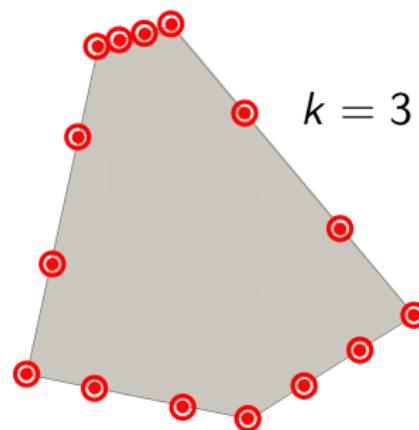
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- vectorial values at the vertices and  $k - 1$  internal nodes

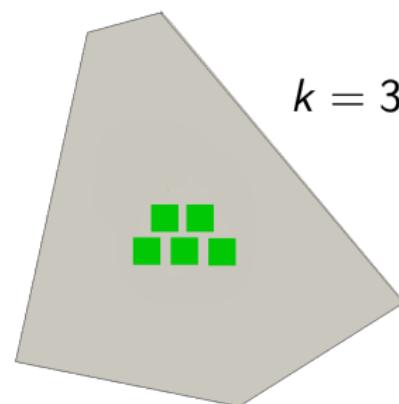


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- vectorial values at the vertices and  $k - 1$  internal nodes
- $k(k + 1)/2 - 1$  divergence moments

$$\int_E \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{v}_h) m_\alpha \mathrm{d}E$$



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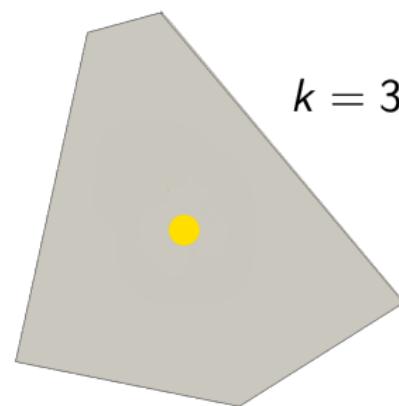
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$$\int_E \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{v}_h) m_\alpha \mathrm{d}E$$

- $(k - 1)(k - 2)/2$  perp moments

$$\int_E (\mathbf{v}_h \cdot \mathbf{m}^\perp) m_\beta \mathrm{d}E$$



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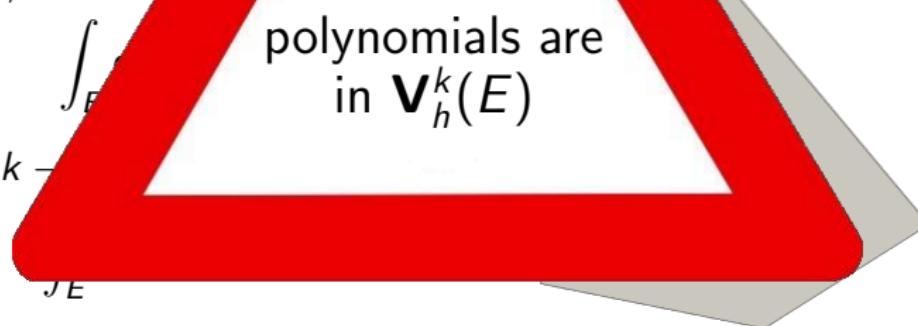
$$+ \nabla s \in \mathbf{x}^\perp \mathbb{P}_{k-3}(E), s \in L_0^2(E),$$

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- vectorial values at the vertices and  $k - 1$  internal nodes
- $k(k + 1)/2 - 1$  dimensions

Not *only*  
polynomials are  
in  $\mathbf{V}_h^k(E)$

- $(k - 1)(k - 2)/2$  degrees of freedom



# Projection operator $\Pi_k^\nabla$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \int_E \nabla(\boldsymbol{v}_h - \Pi_k^\nabla \boldsymbol{v}_h) : \nabla \boldsymbol{p}_k \, dE = 0 \quad \forall \boldsymbol{p}_k \in [\mathbb{P}_k(E)]^2 \\ \int_{\partial E} (\boldsymbol{v}_h - \Pi_k^\nabla \boldsymbol{v}_h) \cdot \boldsymbol{p}_0 \, de = 0 \quad \forall \boldsymbol{p}_0 \in [\mathbb{P}_0(E)]^2 \end{array} \right.$$

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$$\int_E \nabla \mathbf{v}_h : \nabla \mathbf{m}_i \, dE = - \int_E \mathbf{v}_h \cdot \Delta \mathbf{m}_i \, dE + \int_{\partial E} \mathbf{v}_h \cdot (\nabla \mathbf{m}_i \mathbf{n}) \, de$$

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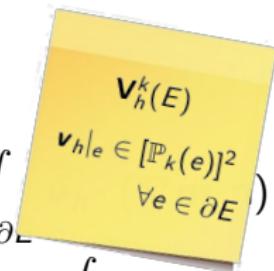
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$$\mathbf{m}_\alpha = c_\zeta^\alpha \nabla m_\zeta + c_\eta^\alpha \mathbf{m}^\perp m_\eta$$

$$m_\zeta \in \mathbb{P}_{k-1}(E) \text{ and } m_\eta \in \mathbb{P}_{k-3}(E)$$

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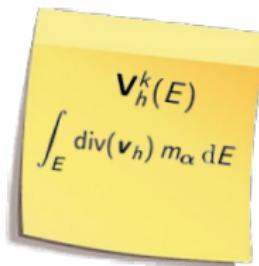
$$\begin{aligned} \int_E \mathbf{v}_h \cdot \mathbf{m}_\alpha \, dE &= \int_E \mathbf{v}_h \cdot (c_\zeta \underbrace{\int_E (\mathbf{v}_h \cdot \mathbf{m}^\perp) m_\beta \, dE}_{\mathbf{v}_h^k(E)} + m_\eta) \, dE \\ &= c_\zeta^\alpha \int_E \mathbf{v}_h \cdot \mathbf{m}^\perp \, dE + \eta^\alpha \int_E (\mathbf{v}_h \cdot \mathbf{m}^\perp) m_\eta \, dE \end{aligned}$$

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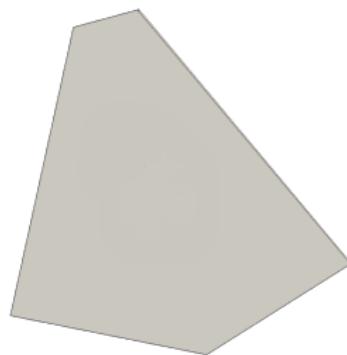
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$\mathbf{V}_h^k(E)$   
 $\mathbf{v}_h|_e \in [\mathbb{P}_k(e)]^2$   
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# Pressure virtual space and d.o.f.

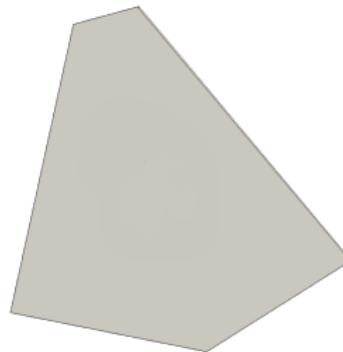
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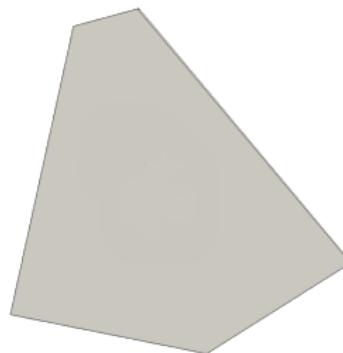
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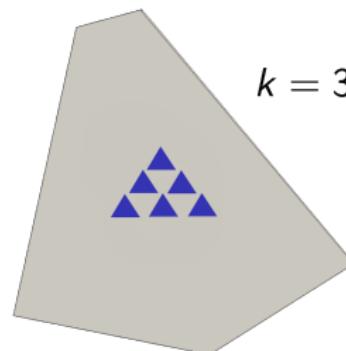


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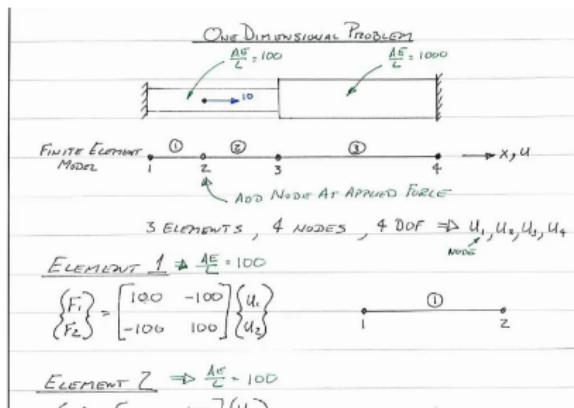
$$Q_h^{k-1}(E) := \{q_h : q_h \in \mathbb{P}_{k-1}(E)\}$$

- no VEM approximation
- no projection
- $k(k+1)/2$  moments

$$\int_E q_h m_\alpha \, dE$$



# Problem discretization



# Problem discretization

Consider a polyhedral decomposition  $\Omega_h$  of  $\Omega$ , then we solve:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{find } (\mathbf{u}_h, p_h) \in \mathbf{V}_h^k \times Q_h^{k-1} \text{ such that} \\ a_h(\mathbf{u}_h, \mathbf{v}_h) + \int_{\Omega_h} \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{v}_h) p_h \, d\Omega_h = \int_{\Omega_h} \mathbf{f}_h \cdot \mathbf{v}_h \, d\Omega_h \quad \forall \mathbf{v}_h \in \mathbf{V}_{h,0}^k \\ \int_{\Omega_h} \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{u}_h) q_h \, d\Omega_h = 0 \quad \forall q_h \in Q_h^{k-1} \end{array} \right.$$

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$$a_h(\cdot, \cdot) \approx \int_{\Omega} \nu \nabla \mathbf{u} : \nabla \mathbf{v} \, d\Omega$$

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- $\mathbf{f}_h$  is a proper  $L^2$  projection of  $\mathbf{f}$

# Defintion of $a_h(\cdot, \cdot)$

Follow a standard VEM approach

$$a_h(\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{w}_h) = \sum_{E \in \Omega_h} a_{h,E}(\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{w}_h)$$

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**consistency**

where

$$\begin{aligned} a_{h,E}(\mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{w}_h) := & \int_E \nabla(\Pi_k^\nabla \mathbf{v}_h) : \nabla(\Pi_k^\nabla \mathbf{w}_h) dE \\ & + s_E(\mathbf{v}_h - \Pi_k^\nabla \mathbf{v}_h, \mathbf{w}_h - \Pi_k^\nabla \mathbf{w}_h) \end{aligned}$$

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**stability**

# Mixed term

$$\int_{\Omega_h} \operatorname{div}(\boldsymbol{v}_h) p_h \, d\Omega_h$$

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there is no  
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if  $p_h \in \mathbb{R}$

**there is no approximation**

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**there is no approximation**

$$\int_E \operatorname{div}(\boldsymbol{v}_h) p_h \, dE = \sum_{s=1}^n c_s^{p_h} \int_E \operatorname{div}(\boldsymbol{v}_h) m_s \, dE$$

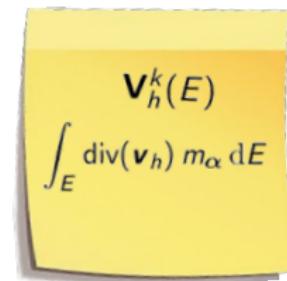
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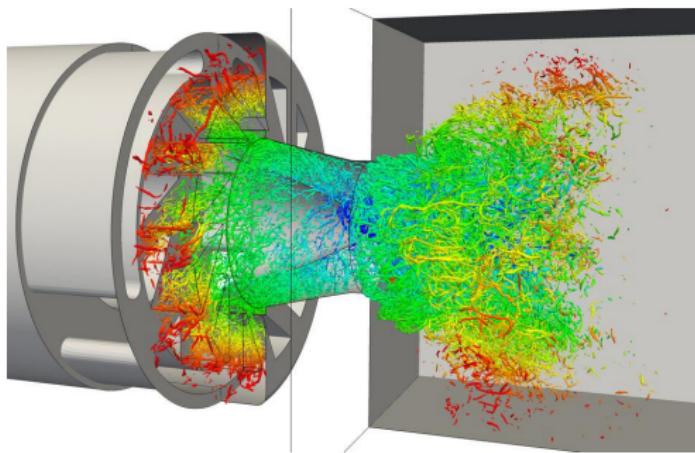
**if**  $p_h \in \mathbb{P}_{k-1}(E) \setminus \mathbb{R}$

**there is no approximation**

$$\int_E \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{v}_h) p_h \, dE = \sum_{s=1}^n c_s^{p_h} \int_E \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{v}_h) m_s \, dE$$

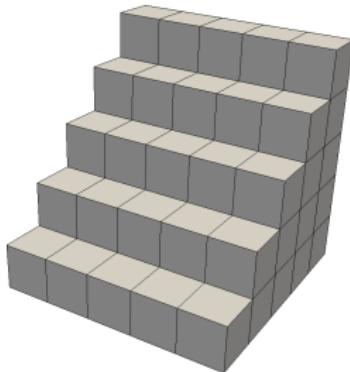


# Numerical examples

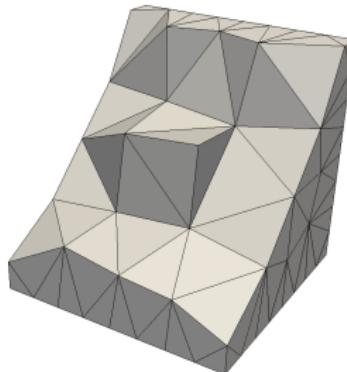


# Mesh types

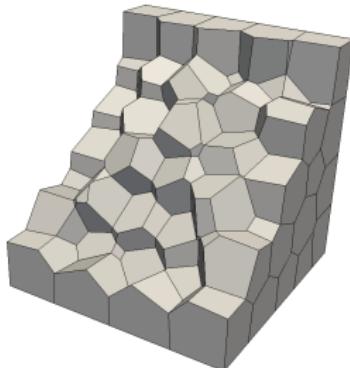
Cube



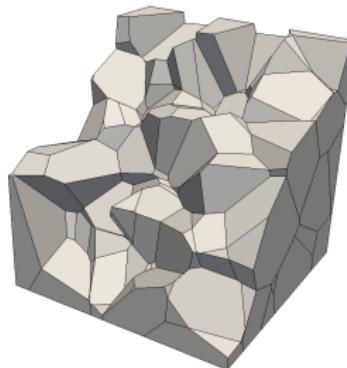
Tetra



CVT



Random



# Error norms

- **$H^1$ -velocity error:**

$$e_{H^1}^{\boldsymbol{u}} := \sqrt{\sum_{E \in \Omega_h} \|\nabla \boldsymbol{u} - \Pi_{k-1}^0 \nabla \boldsymbol{u}_h\|_{L^2(E)}^2} \sim h^k$$

- **$L^2$ -pressure error:**

$$e_{L^2}^p := \sqrt{\sum_{E \in \Omega_h} \|p - p_h\|_{L^2(E)}^2} \sim h^k$$

"Divergence free Virtual Elements for the Stokes problem on polygonal meshes"  
*L. Beirão da Veiga, C. Lovadina, and G. Vacca (2017)*

# Example 1: Convergence analysis for Stokes

Let us consider a Stokes problem

$$\begin{cases} -\nu \Delta \mathbf{u} - \nabla p &= \mathbf{f} \quad \text{in } \Omega \\ \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{u}) &= 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega \\ \mathbf{u} &= \mathbf{r} \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{cases}$$

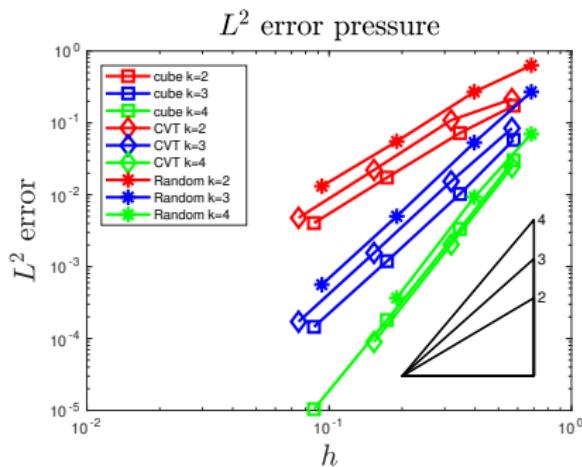
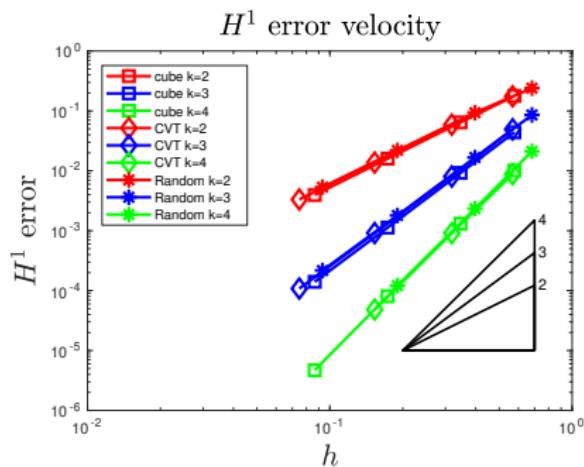
where the exact solution is

$$\mathbf{u}(x, y, z) := \begin{pmatrix} \sin(\pi x) \cos(\pi y) \cos(\pi z) \\ \cos(\pi x) \sin(\pi y) \cos(\pi z) \\ -2 \cos(\pi x) \cos(\pi y) \sin(\pi z) \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$p(x, y, z) := -\pi \cos(\pi x) \cos(\pi y) \cos(\pi z).$$

# Example 1: Convergence analysis for Stokes



"The Stokes complex for Virtual Elements in three dimensions"  
L. Beirão da Veiga, F. Dassi, and G. Vacca submitted

## Example 2: Convergence analysis for Navier-Stokes

Let us consider a Navier-Stokes problem

$$\begin{cases} -\nu \Delta \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u} \nabla \mathbf{u} - \nabla p = \mathbf{f} & \text{in } \Omega \\ \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{u}) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \\ \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{r} & \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{cases}$$

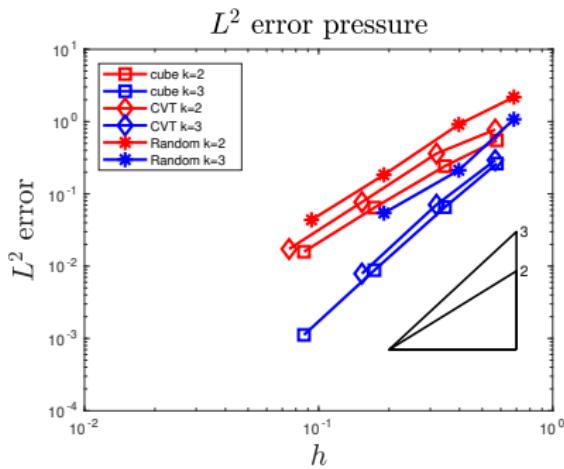
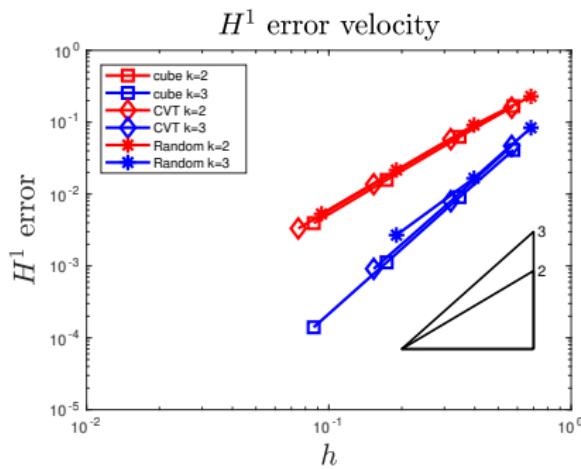
where the exact solution is

$$\mathbf{u}(x, y, z) := \begin{pmatrix} \sin(\pi x) \cos(\pi y) \cos(\pi z) \\ \cos(\pi x) \sin(\pi y) \cos(\pi z) \\ -2 \cos(\pi x) \cos(\pi y) \sin(\pi z) \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$p(x, y, z) := \sin(2\pi x) \sin(2\pi y) \sin(2\pi z).$$

# Example 2: Convergence analysis for Navier-Stokes



"The Stokes complex for Virtual Elements in three dimensions"  
L. Beirão da Veiga, F. Dassi, and G. Vacca submitted

## Example 3: Benchmark problems

Let us consider a Stokes problem, we have the following estimate

$$|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_h|_1 \lesssim h^s \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{u}; \nu, \gamma) + h^{s+2} \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{f}; \nu)$$

for suitable functions  $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{H}, \mathcal{K}$  independent of  $h$ .

## Example 3: Benchmark problems

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for suitable functions  $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{H}, \mathcal{K}$  independent of  $h$ .



## Example 3: Benchmark problems

We consider two problems

$$\boldsymbol{u}(x, y, z) := \begin{pmatrix} k x z^{k-1} \\ k y z^{k-1} \\ (2-k)x^k + (2-k)y^k - 2z^k \end{pmatrix},$$

and

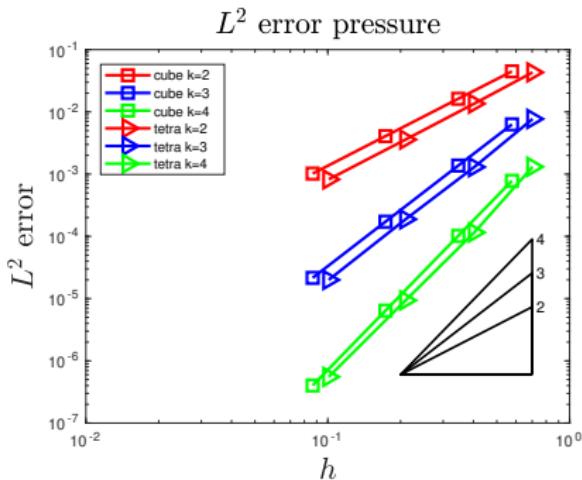
$$p_1(x, y, z) := x^k y + y^k z + z^k x - \frac{3}{2(k+1)},$$

or

$$p_2(x, y, z) := \sin(2\pi x) \sin(2\pi y) \sin(2\pi z).$$

Example 3: Benchmark problem, case  $p_1$  $H^1$  error velocity

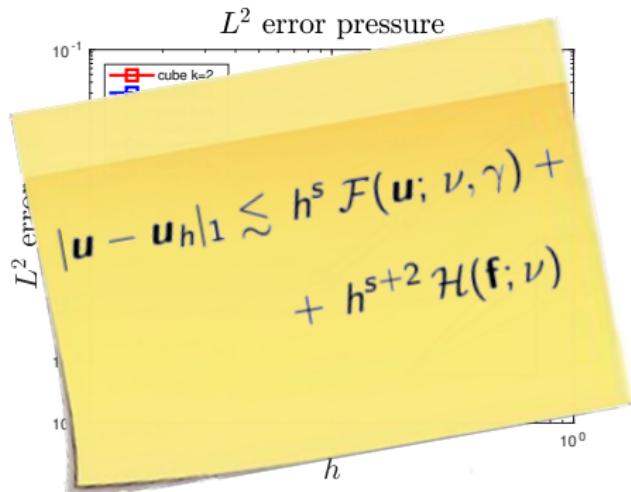
<b><math>k</math></b>	<b>Cube</b>	<b>Tetra</b>
2	1.0576e-13	7.2075e-13
3	2.7333e-13	1.1927e-12
4	1.5266e-12	2.2718e-10



"The Stokes complex for Virtual Elements in three dimensions"  
L. Beirão da Veiga, F. Dassi, and G. Vacca submitted

Example 3: Benchmark problem, case  $p_1$  $H^1$  error velocity

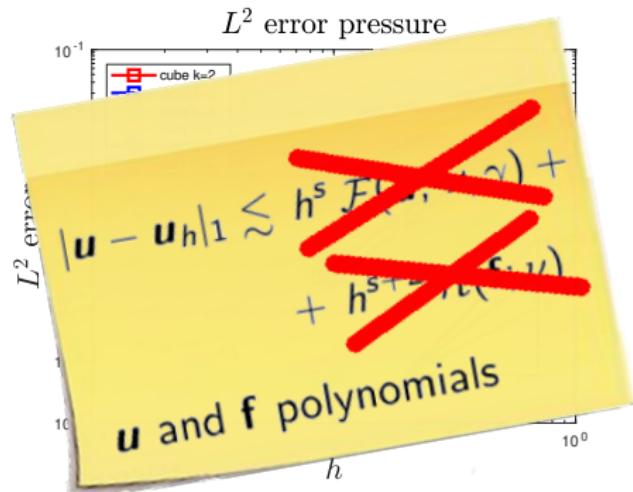
<b><math>k</math></b>	<b>Cube</b>	<b>Tetra</b>
2	1.0576e-13	7.2075e-13
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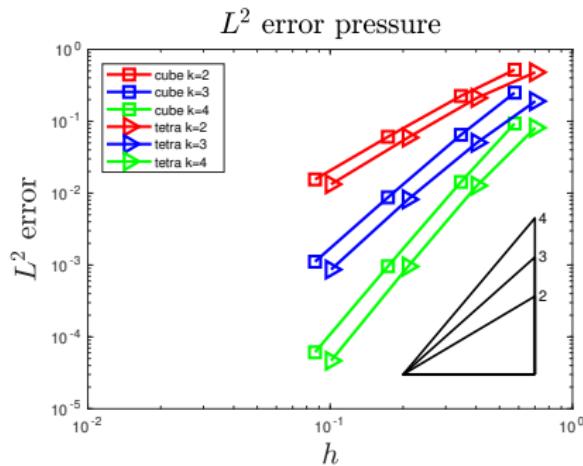
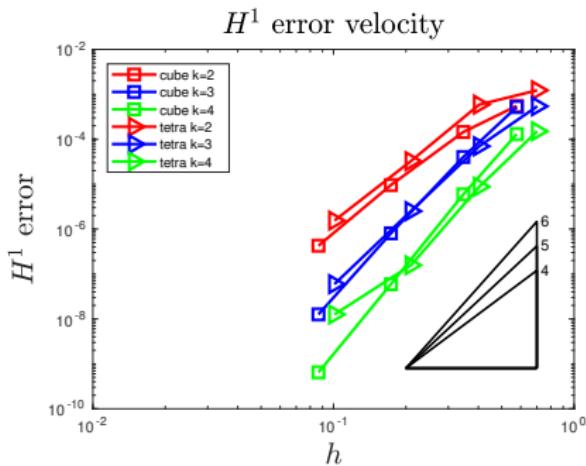
"The Stokes complex for Virtual Elements in three dimensions"  
 L. Beirão da Veiga, F. Dassi, and G. Vacca submitted

Example 3: Benchmark problem, case  $p_1$  $H^1$  error velocity

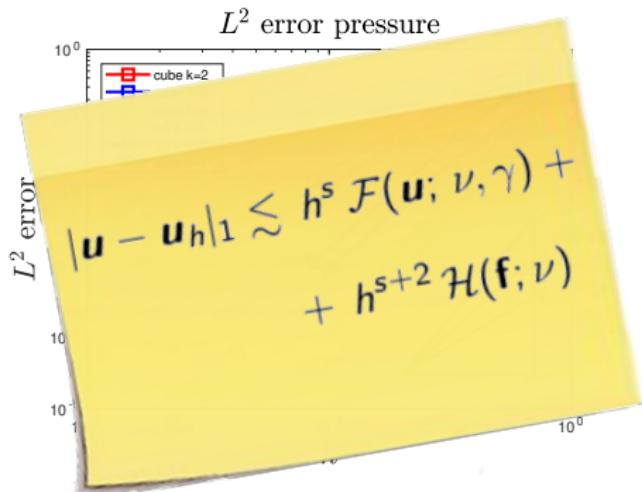
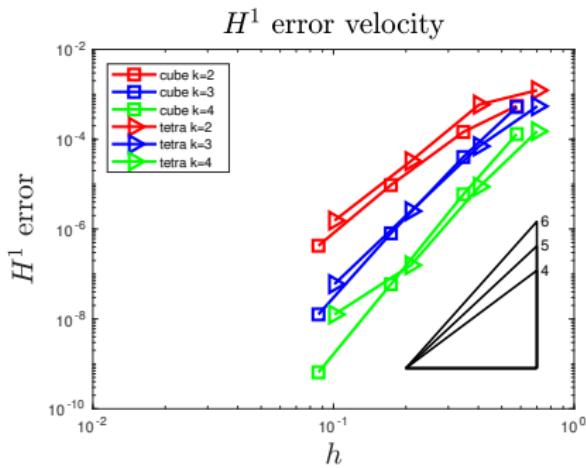
<b><math>k</math></b>	<b>Cube</b>	<b>Tetra</b>
2	1.0576e-13	7.2075e-13
3	2.7333e-13	1.1927e-12
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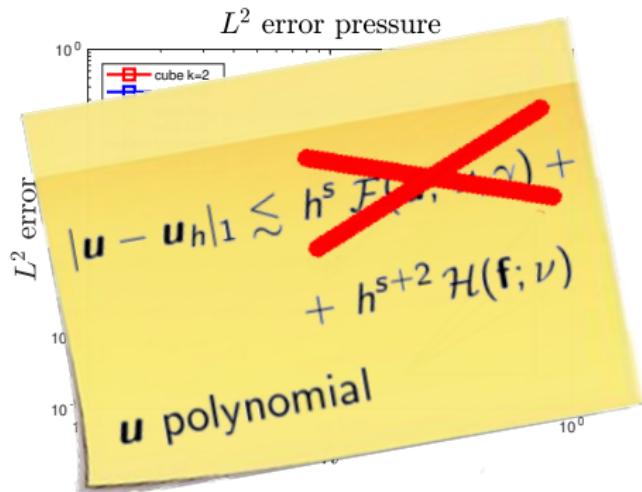
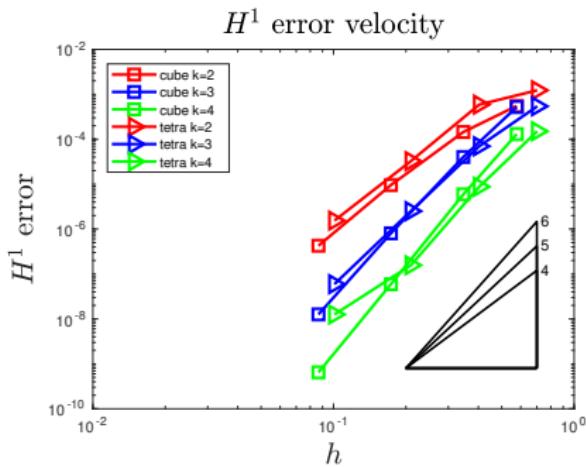
"The Stokes complex for Virtual Elements in three dimensions"  
 L. Beirão da Veiga, F. Dassi, and G. Vacca submitted

Example 3: Benchmark problem, case  $p_2$ 

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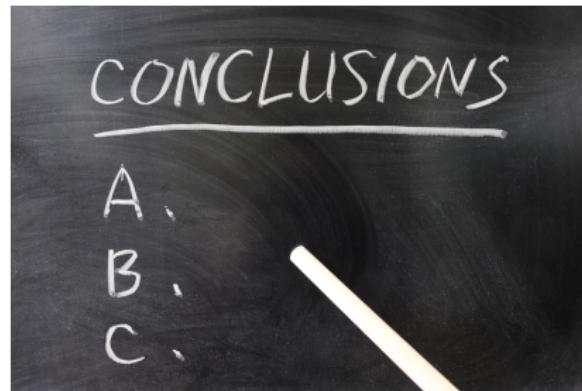
Example 3: Benchmark problem, case  $p_2$ 

"The Stokes complex for Virtual Elements in three dimensions"  
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Example 3: Benchmark problem, case  $p_2$ 

"The Stokes complex for Virtual Elements in three dimensions"  
L. Beirão da Veiga, F. Dassi, and G. Vacca submitted

# Conclusions



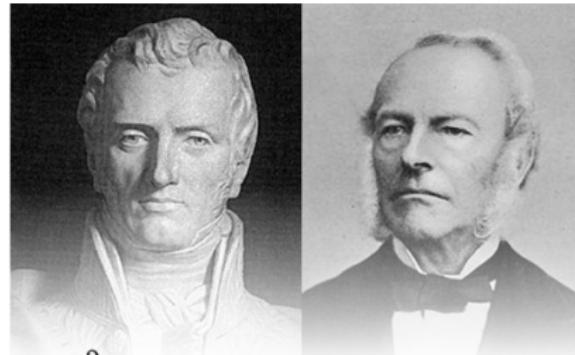
# Conclusions

We presented Virtual Element approach

# Conclusions

We presented Virtual Element approach

- for Stokes and Navier-Stokes problems 2d/3d



$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} - \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p + \mathbf{g}.$$

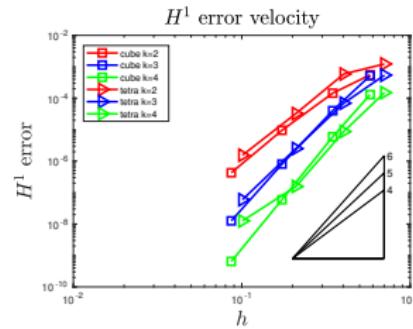
# Conclusions

We presented Virtual Element approach

- for Stokes and Navier-Stokes problems 2d/3d
- div-free property

$$|\boldsymbol{u} - \boldsymbol{u}_h|_1 \lesssim h^s \mathcal{F}(\boldsymbol{u}; \nu, \gamma) + h^{s+2} \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{f}; \nu)$$

$k$	$H^1$ error velocity	
	Cube	Tetra
2	1.0576e-13	7.2075e-13
3	2.7333e-13	1.1927e-12
4	1.5266e-12	2.2718e-10



# Related Pressure Robust and/or Div-free works

-  L. Beirão da Veiga, C. Lovadina and G. Vacca, Virtual Elements for the Navier-Stokes problem on polygonal meshes, SIAM J. Numer. Anal., 2018;
-  L. Beirão da Veiga, F. Dassi and G. Vacca, The Stokes complex for Virtual Elements in three dimensions, Math. Models Methods Appl. Sci., 2020;
-  G. Wang, L. Mu, Y. Wang and Y. He, A pressure-robust virtual element method for the Stokes problem, Comput. Methods Appl. Mech. Eng., 2021;
-  L. Beirão da Veiga, F. Dassi, D. A. Di Pietro and J. Droniou, Arbitrary-order pressure-robust DDR and VEM methods for the Stokes problem on polyhedral meshes, Comput. Methods Appl. Mech. Eng., 2022;
-  D. Frerichs and C. Merdon, Divergence-preserving reconstruction on polygons and a really pressure robust virtual element method for the Stokes problem, IMA J. Numer. Anal., 2022;
-  ...

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**TASHAKKUR ATU** MURUN  
YAQHANYELAY CHALTU  
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MEHRBANI PALDIES  
BOLZİN MERCI

**GRAZIE** SPASSIRO  
MAKEE NURIA  
KOMAPSUNNIDA GALUTRO  
EFCHARISTO MAYUK  
FACIAKE LAM  
**THANK YOU** SPASSIRO  
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