
Abstract

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Keywords:

1. Introduction

The Hybrid High Order method (HHO) is a discontinuous discretization method, that takes root in the Discontinuous Galerkin method (DG). From the physical standpoint, DG methods ensure the continuity of the flux across interfaces, by seeking the solution element-wise, hence allowing jumps of the potential across elements. They can be seen as a generalization of Finite Volume methods, and are able to capture physically relevant discontinuities without producing spurious oscillations.

The origin of DG methods dates back to the pioneering work of [1], where an hyperbolic formulation is used to solve the neutron transport equation. The first application of the method to elliptic problems originates in [2] where Nitsche's method [3] is used to weakly impose continuity of the flux across interfaces. [In 2002, Hansbo and Larson \[4\] were the first to consider the Nitsche's classical DG method for nearly incompressible elasticity. They showed, theoretically and numerically, that this method is free from volumetric locking.](#) However, the bilinear form arising from this formulation is not symmetric. A so called interior penalty term has been introduced in [5], leading to the Symmetric Interior Penalty (SIP) DG method. A first study of the method to linear elasticity has been devised by [6], where optimal error estimate has been proved. [\[7\] generalized the Symmetric Interior Penalty method to linear elasticity.](#) period of time, DG methods were proposed for other linear problems in solid mechanics, such as Timoshenko beams [8], Bernoulli-Euler beam and the Poisson-Kirchhoff plate [9, 10] and Reissner-Mindlin plates [11]. In the mid 2000's, the first applications of DG methods to nonlinear elasticity problems was undertaken by [12, 13], and in 2007, Ortner and Süli [14] carried out the a priori error analysis of DG methods for nonlinear elasticity.

DG methods then solicited a vigorous interest, mostly in fluid dynamics [15, 16] due to their local conservative property and stability in convection dominated problems. However, except some applications for instance in fracture mechanics using XFEM methods [17, 18], or gradient plasticity [19, 20] DG methods did not break through in computational solid mechanics because of their numerical cost, since nodal unknowns need be duplicated to define local basis functions in each element.

To address this problem, in the early 2010's, [21, 22] introduced additional faces unknowns on element interfaces for linear elastic problem, hence leading to the hybridization of DG methods, or Hybridizable Discontinuous Galerkin method (HDG). By adding supplementary boundary unknowns, the authors actually allowed to eliminate original cell unknowns by a static condensation process, in order to express the global problem on faces ones only. Extension of HDG methods to non-linear elasticity were first undertaken in [23] and have then fueled intense research works for

various applications such as linear and non-linear convection-diffusion problems [24, 25, 26], incompressible stokes flows [26, 27] and non-linear mechanics [28].

In [29, 30], the authors introduced a higher order potential reconstruction operator in the classical HDG formulation for elliptic problems, providing a $h^{k+1}H^1$ -norm convergence rate as compared to the usual h^k -rate. This higher order term coined the name for the so called HHO method. Recent developments of HHO methods in computational mechanics include the incompressible Stokes equations (with possibly large irrotational forces) [31], the incompressible Navier–Stokes equations [32], Biot’s consolidation problem [33], and nonlinear elasticity with small deformations [34].

The difference between HHO and HDG methods is twofold: (1) the HHO reconstruction operator replaces the discrete HDG flux (a similar rewriting of an HDG method for nonlinear elasticity can be found in [29]), and, more importantly, (2) both HHO and HDG penalize in a least-squares sense the difference between the discrete trace unknown and the trace of the discrete primal unknown (with a possibly mesh-dependent weight), but HHO uses a non-local operator over each mesh cell boundary that delivers one-order higher approximation than just penalizing pointwise the difference as in HDG. Discretization methods for linear and nonlinear elasticity have undergone a vigorous development over the last decade. For discontinuous Galerkin (dG) methods, we mention in particular [14,26,32] for linear elasticity, and [35,41] for nonlinear elasticity. HDG methods for linear elasticity have been coined in [38] (see also [13] for incompressible Stokes flows), and extensions to nonlinear elasticity can be found in [29,34,37]. Other recent developments in the last few years include, among others, Gradient Schemes for nonlinear elasticity with small deformations [22], the Virtual Element Method (VEM) for linear and nonlinear elasticity with small [3] and finite deformations [8,43], the (low-order) hybrid dG method with conforming traces for nonlinear elasticity [44], the hybridizable weakly conforming Galerkin method with nonconforming traces for linear elasticity [30], the Weak Galerkin method for linear elasticity [42], and the discontinuous Petrov–Galerkin method for linear elasticity [7].

Contrary to the standard (*i.e.* the Lagrange) Finite Element method, non-conformal methods (among which the Hybrid High Order one) postulate the discontinuity of the displacement field across elements. Hence, each element is *a priori* free to move independently from others; in order to restore a weak form of continuity on the mesh, a *stabilization* term is computed, to penalize in a least square sense the displacement jump between two neighbouring cells. The displacement jump between elements is exploited to define discrete operators in each element, that provide conservation of physical properties. Moreover, the Hybrid High Order method is hybrid, hence introducing faces unknowns in addition to the regular cells ones. Moreover, cell unknowns are expressed in terms of coefficients in a polynomial basis, that have no physical meaning, as opposed to the usual nodal unknowns of Lagrange finite elements. This feature allows to equivalently express shape functions on any generic polygonal element, as opposed to the Lagrange Finite Element method that needs particular shape function for each element geometry.

All these differences with the wide spread Lagrange Finite Element method make the Hybrid High Order one more **ununderstandable** to a computational mechanics public. Discontinuous methods were developed by the mathematical community, such that they are put forward in the literature through a possibly arid way for the computational mechanics reader. Therefore, in the present document, we propose an introduction to these methods, based on mechanical arguments, by considering the usual continuous framework proper to the standard Finite Element method, and using a limit case to meet the discontinuous setting in which lies the HHO method.

In a second part, we propose and devise a Hybrid High Order method for axisymmetrical configurations.

2. The Hybrid High Order method

2.1. Description of the model problem

Let $d \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ the euclidean dimension of the cartesian space \mathbb{R}^d . Let $\Omega_t \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ a solid body with boundary $\partial\Omega_t \subset \mathbb{R}^{d-1}$, that deforms in the current configuration at some time $t > 0$ under the body forces \mathbf{f}_v . It is subjected to a prescribed displacement \mathbf{u}_d on the Dirichlet boundary $\partial_d\Omega_t$, and to a contact load \mathbf{t}_n on the Neumann boundary $\partial_n\Omega_t$, such that $\partial\Omega_t = \partial_d\Omega_t \cup \partial_n\Omega_t$ and $\partial_d\Omega_t \cap \partial_n\Omega_t = \emptyset$.

The initial configuration of the body at time $t = 0$ (see Figure 1) is denoted $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ with respective Dirichlet and Neumann boundaries $\partial_D\Omega$ and $\partial_N\Omega$. It is subjected to body forces \mathbf{f}_v , an imposed displacement \mathbf{u}_D on $\partial_D\Omega$ and contact force \mathbf{t}_N on $\partial_N\Omega$. The transformation mapping Φ takes a point $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$ from the initial configuration to $\mathbf{x}_t \in \Omega_t$ in the current configuration.

Let $T \subset \Omega$ an arbitrary open subset of the solid body, with boundary $\partial T \subset \mathbb{R}^{d-1}$ which is split into an eventual Dirichlet boundary $\partial_D T \subset \partial_D \Omega$ subjected to an imposed displacement \mathbf{u}_D if T shares a boundary with $\partial_D \Omega$ and into the Neumann Boundary $\partial_N T \subset \partial_N \Omega \cup \Omega$ with contact load $\mathbf{t}_{\partial_N T}$ such that :

$$\mathbf{t}_{\partial_N T} = \begin{cases} \mathbf{t}_{\Omega \setminus T \rightarrow T} & \text{on } \partial_N T \cap \Omega \setminus T \\ \mathbf{t}_N & \text{on } \partial_N T \cap \partial_N \Omega \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

with $\mathbf{t}_{\Omega \setminus T \rightarrow T}$ the contact force applied by the surrounding part of the body Ω onto the subset T , and $\partial_D T \cap \partial_N T = \emptyset$.

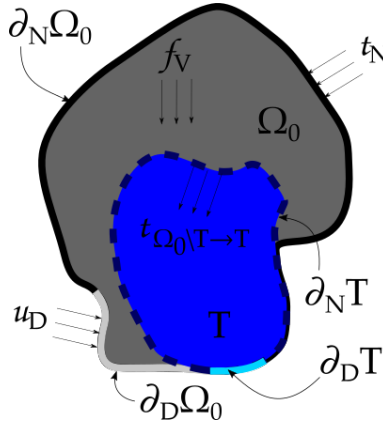


Figure 1. schematic representation of the model problem

Let Φ_T the restriction of Φ to T , and $\mathbf{u}_T \in DIS(T)$ the displacement field in T such that $\Phi_T = \mathbf{I}_d + \mathbf{u}_T$ with \mathbf{I}_d the identity function, where the notation $DIS(T)$ denotes the space of all kinematically admissible displacement fields in T . Let $\mathbf{G}_T \in GRA(T)$ the displacement gradient field in T , with $GRA(T)$ the space of all statically admissible displacement gradient fields in T , and $\mathbf{F}_T = \nabla \Phi_T = \mathbf{1} + \mathbf{G}_T$ the transformation gradient, where ∇ denotes the Lagrangian nabla operator. Let $\psi_T(\mathbf{F}_T, v_{int})$ the mechanical energy potential in T that depends on the transformation gradient \mathbf{F}_T and possibly on a set of internal state variables v_{int} , where ∇ denotes the Lagrangian nabla operator. Let $\mathbf{P}_T \in STR(T)$ the first Piola-Kirchoff stress tensor deriving from the expression of the mechanical energy potential, with $STR(T)$ the space of all statically admissible stress fields in T . The model problem to solve the equilibrium of the subset T reads, find \mathbf{u}_T such that:

$$\mathbf{G}_T - \nabla \mathbf{u}_T = 0 \quad \text{in } T \quad (2a)$$

$$\mathbf{P}_T - \frac{\partial \psi_T}{\partial \mathbf{G}_T} = 0 \quad \text{in } T \quad (2b)$$

$$\nabla_X \cdot \mathbf{P}_T - \mathbf{f}_V = 0 \quad \text{in } T \quad (2c)$$

$$\mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial_D T} = \mathbf{u}_D \quad \text{on } \partial_D T \quad (2d)$$

$$\mathbf{P}_T \cdot \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{t}_{\partial_N T} \quad \text{on } \partial_N T \quad (2e)$$

where \mathbf{n} denotes the unit outward normal vector on ∂T , and $\cdot|_{\partial T}$ is the trace operator on ∂T . The equilibrium of the body T corresponding to problem (2) where equations (2a) and (2b) are enforced strongly is reached for the displacement field $\mathbf{u}_T \in DIS(T)$ verifying $\mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial_D T} = \mathbf{u}_D$ on $\partial_D T$ and minimizing the energy functional J_T :

$$J_T = \int_T \psi_T - \int_T \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \mathbf{u}_T - \int_{\partial_N T} \mathbf{t}_{\partial_N T} \cdot \mathbf{u}_T \quad (3)$$

The energy functional (3) of the equilibrium of T depends on the single displacement unknown, and is the one at the foundation of the notorious principle of virtual works; indeed, deriving (3) with respect to \mathbf{u}_T and using both (2a) and (2b) yields :

$$dJ_T = \frac{\partial J_T}{\partial \mathbf{u}_T} \delta \mathbf{u}_T = \int_T \mathbf{P}_T : \nabla \delta \mathbf{u}_T - \int_T \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_T - \int_{\partial_N T} \mathbf{t}_{\partial_N T} \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial T} \quad (4)$$

with $DIS(T) = H^1(T, \mathbb{R}^d)$. If \mathbf{G}_T and \mathbf{P}_T are unknowns of the problem, one obtains the three-field Hu–Washizu functional J_T , for the displacement field $\mathbf{u}_T \in DIS(T)$ verifying $\mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial_D T} = \mathbf{u}_D$ on $\partial_D T$ such that :

$$J_T = \int_T \psi_T + (\nabla \mathbf{u}_T - \mathbf{G}_T) : \mathbf{P}_T - \int_T \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \mathbf{u}_T - \int_{\partial_N T} \mathbf{t}_{\partial_N T} \cdot \mathbf{u}_T \quad (5)$$

Deriving (5) with respect to all variables of the problem expresses problem (2) in a weak sense :

$$\frac{\partial J_T}{\partial \mathbf{u}_T} \delta \mathbf{u}_T = \int_T (\mathbf{P}_T : \nabla \delta \mathbf{u}_T - \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_T) - \int_{\partial T} \mathbf{t}_{\partial_N T} \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial T} \quad \forall \delta \mathbf{u}_T \in DIS(T) \quad (6a)$$

$$\frac{\partial J_T}{\partial \mathbf{G}_T} \delta \mathbf{G}_T = \int_T \left(\frac{\partial \psi_T}{\partial \mathbf{G}_T} - \mathbf{P}_T \right) : \delta \mathbf{G}_T \quad \forall \delta \mathbf{G}_T \in GRA(T) \quad (6b)$$

$$\frac{\partial J_T}{\partial \mathbf{P}_T} \delta \mathbf{P}_T = \int_T (\nabla \mathbf{u}_T - \mathbf{G}_T) : \delta \mathbf{P}_T \quad \forall \delta \mathbf{P}_T \in STR(T) \quad (6c)$$

where the two supplementary equations (6b) and (6c) account for the weak formulation of (2a) and (2b), and $DIS(T) = H^1(T, \mathbb{R}^d)$ and $GRA(T) = STR(T) = L^2(T, \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$.

In particular, assuming $T = \Omega$, one obtains the mechanical problem to solve for the whole body Ω . Furthermore, assuming that T is made out of a partition of $N > 0$ distinct media $T_i \subset T$ with respective energy potentials ψ_{T_i} , the problem writes : for each medium T_i , find $\mathbf{u}_{T_i} \in DIS(T_i)$ verifying $\mathbf{u}_{T_i}|_{\partial_D T_i} = \mathbf{u}_D$ on $\partial_D T_i$, the displacement gradient field $\mathbf{G}_{T_i} \in GRA(T_i)$ and the first Piola-Kirchoff stress field $\mathbf{P}_{T_i} \in STR(T_i)$, that minimize the functional

$$J_T = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq N} \int_{T_i} \psi_{T_i} + (\nabla \mathbf{u}_{T_i} - \mathbf{G}_{T_i}) : \mathbf{P}_{T_i} - \int_{T_i} \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \mathbf{u}_{T_i} - \int_{\partial_N T_i \cap \partial_N T} \mathbf{t}_{\partial_N T} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{T_i} \quad (7)$$

where for all $1 \leq i \neq j \leq N$, the external forces corresponding to the traction applied by T_i onto $\partial T_j \cap \partial T_i$ and to that of T_j onto $\partial T_i \cap \partial T_j$ are directly eliminated by continuity of the traction force across $\partial T_j \cap \partial T_i$. Assuming the fields to be continuous in T , one has : $\mathbf{u}_{T_i} = \mathbf{u}_T|_{T_i}$, $\mathbf{G}_{T_i} = \mathbf{G}_T|_{T_i}$, $\mathbf{P}_{T_i} = \mathbf{P}_T|_{T_i}$, and the problem simplifies in : find $\mathbf{u}_T \in DIS(T)$ verifying $\mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial_D T} = \mathbf{u}_D$ on $\partial_D T$, the displacement gradient field $\mathbf{G}_T \in GRA(T)$ and the first Piola-Kirchoff stress field $\mathbf{P}_T \in STR(T)$ that minimize

$$J_T = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq N} \int_{T_i} \psi_{T_i} + (\nabla \mathbf{u}_T - \mathbf{G}_T) : \mathbf{P}_T - \int_{T_i} \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \mathbf{u}_T - \int_{\partial_N T} \mathbf{t}_{\partial_N T} \cdot \mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial T} \quad (8)$$

2.2. Composite setting

In order to introduce the discontinuous setting in which lies the Hybrid High Order method, let consider the body Ω to be made out of some material defined by a mechanical potential ψ_Ω . The aim of this section consists in devising the expression of the mechanical energy deriving from the HHO formulation of the mechanical model problem described in Section 2.1. Following the idea of a composite medium as introduced in 2.1, let T an arbitrary open subset in Ω , split into two distinct media; an open bulk medium $K \subset T$ with boundary $\partial K \subset \mathbb{R}^{d-1}$, and an open interface medium $I \subset T$ between the bulk K and the boundary ∂T , with boundary $\partial I = \partial K \cup \partial T$ and of some width $\ell > 0$ that is supposed to be small compared to $h_T = \max_{(\mathbf{x}_a, \mathbf{x}_b) \in T} \|\mathbf{x}_a - \mathbf{x}_b\|$ the diameter of T .

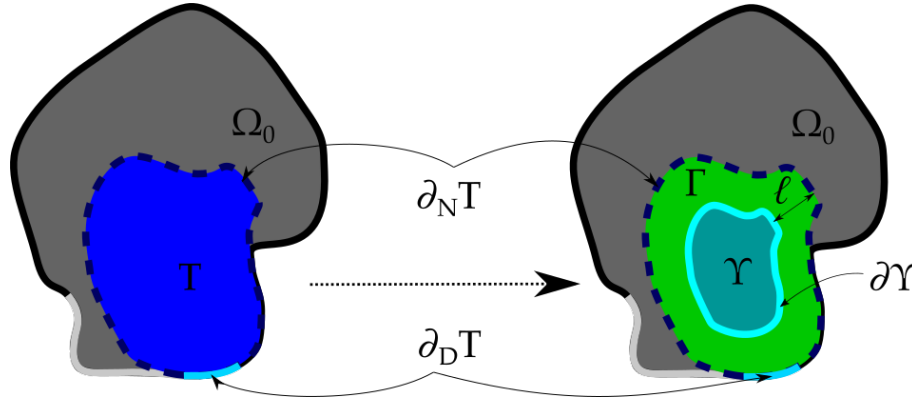


Figure 2. schematic representation of the model problem

Let the boundary ∂T move with a boundary displacement field $\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} \in \partial U(\partial T)$, where $\partial U(\partial T)$ denotes the space of kinematically admissible boundary displacements. The displacement at the boundary ∂T results from the interactions of ∂T with neighbouring media, *i.e.* from the action of $\Omega \setminus T$ onto ∂T or from some boundary condition, but let assume that the bulk K is *a priori* not influenced by the movements of ∂T ; that is, it supposedly only morphs through the action of the body load \mathbf{f}_V , producing a displacement gradient $\mathbf{G}_K \in \text{GRA}(K)$ and a stress $\mathbf{P}_K \in \text{STR}(K)$ under the mechanical potential ψ_Ω , that are free from the influence of ∂T onto K . Hence, the bulk K is free to move away from the rest of the body Ω at no energetical cost, which completely violates the conservation laws. Therefore, in order to ensure continuity of the displacement between K and ∂T , let I act as a patch, such that $\mathbf{u}_I \in \text{DIS}(I)$ the displacement in I links that of K to that of ∂T :

$$\mathbf{u}_I|_{\partial K} = \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K} \quad (9a)$$

$$\mathbf{u}_I|_{\partial T} = \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} \quad (9b)$$

In order to bind the behaviour of K to that of its neighbourhood through ∂T , let endow the interface I with a mechanical potential ψ_I such that it behaves like a linear elastic material of Young modulus $\beta(\ell/h_T)$ and a zero Poisson ratio :

$$\psi_I = \frac{1}{2} \beta \frac{\ell}{h_T} \nabla \mathbf{u}_I : \nabla \mathbf{u}_I \quad (10)$$

where the dimensionless ratio ℓ/h_T balances the accumulated energy with the size of the domain T . Let then $\mathbf{G}_I \in \text{GRA}(I)$ and $\mathbf{P}_I \in \text{STR}(I)$ the displacement gradient and stress in I . Under such assumptions and using (7), the Hu–Washizu functional over T writes as :

$$J_T = \int_K \psi_\Omega + (\nabla_X \mathbf{u}_K - \mathbf{G}_K) : \mathbf{P}_K + \int_I \psi_I + (\nabla_X \mathbf{u}_I - \mathbf{G}_I) : \mathbf{P}_I - \int_K \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \mathbf{u}_K - \int_I \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \mathbf{u}_I - \int_{\partial_N T} \mathbf{t}_{\partial_N T} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} \quad (11)$$

2.3. Interface description

Let Ξ_T the homothety of ratio $(1 + \alpha\ell)$ and center \mathbf{x}_T the centroid of T , with $-1/\ell < \alpha < 0$ such that K (respectively ∂K) is the image of T (respectively ∂T) by Ξ_T . Since ∂K is an homothety of ∂T , any point $\mathbf{x}_{\partial T} \in \partial T$ and $\mathbf{x}_{\partial K} = \Xi_T(\mathbf{x}_{\partial T}) \in \partial K$ share the same unit outward normal \mathbf{n} . Assuming the interface I to be thin compared to the cell volume T , let linearize the displacement in I with respect to \mathbf{n} , such that :

$$\mathbf{u}_I(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\mathbf{u}_{\partial T}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}(\mathbf{x})}{\ell} \otimes \mathbf{n} \cdot (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m}_{\partial K}) + \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K} \quad (12)$$

where $\mathbf{m}_{\partial K} = \min_{\mathbf{x}_{\partial K}} \|\mathbf{x}_{\partial K} - \mathbf{x}\|$. Furthermore, let assume that the interface is thin enough such that \mathbf{P}_I is constant along the \mathbf{n} direction in I . By continuity of the traction force across ∂K , the following equality holds true :

$$(\mathbf{P}_I - \mathbf{P}_K|_{\partial K}) \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0 \quad \text{in } I \quad (13)$$

Using (13) and (12), one can write the interne contribution in I as a term depending on the bulk and boundary displacement :

$$\begin{aligned} J_I^{\text{int}} &:= \int_I \psi_I + (\nabla \mathbf{u}_I - \mathbf{G}_I) : \mathbf{P}_I \\ &= (1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\ell) \int_{\partial K} \frac{\beta}{2h_T} \|\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}\|^2 + (1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\ell) \int_{\partial K} (\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}) \otimes \mathbf{n} : \mathbf{P}_K|_{\partial K} - \int_I \mathbf{G}_I : \mathbf{P}_I \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Development 2.1. Let $C_I = \{v \in L^2(I) \mid v \cdot \mathbf{n} = \text{cste}\}$ the set of L^2 -functions which are constant along the normal axis in I . For any function in C_I , the following equality holds true:

$$\int_I v \, dV = \int_{\partial K} \int_{\epsilon=0}^{\ell} v(1 - \alpha\epsilon) \, dS \, d\epsilon = \ell(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\ell) \int_{\partial K} v \, dS \quad (15)$$

One has :

$$\begin{aligned} \int_I \psi_I &= \int_I \frac{1}{2} \beta \frac{\ell}{h_T} \nabla \mathbf{u}_I : \nabla \mathbf{u}_I \, dV \\ &= \int_I \frac{1}{2} \beta \frac{\ell}{h_T} \frac{\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}}{\ell} \otimes \mathbf{n} : \frac{\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}}{\ell} \otimes \mathbf{n} \, dV \\ &= \int_I \frac{\beta}{2\ell h_T} \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K} \otimes \mathbf{n} : \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K} \otimes \mathbf{n} \, dV \\ &= \int_I \frac{\beta}{2\ell h_T} \sum_{i,j} ((u_{\partial T i} - u_{K i}|_{\partial K}) n_j)^2 \, dV \\ &= \int_I \frac{\beta}{2\ell h_T} \sum_j n_j^2 \sum_i (u_{\partial T i} - u_{K i}|_{\partial K})^2 \, dV \\ &= \int_I \frac{\beta}{2\ell h_T} \sum_i (u_{\partial T i} - u_{K i}|_{\partial K})^2 \, dV \\ &= \int_I \frac{\beta}{2\ell h_T} \|\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}\|^2 \, dV \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

Noticing that $\|\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}\|^2 \in C_I$, one has :

$$\begin{aligned} \int_I \psi_I &= \ell(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\ell) \int_{\partial K} \frac{\beta}{2\ell h_T} \|\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}\|^2 \\ &= (1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\ell) \int_{\partial K} \frac{\beta}{2h_T} \|\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}\|^2 \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

Moreover :

$$\begin{aligned} \int_I \nabla \mathbf{u}_I : \mathbf{P}_I &= \int_I \frac{\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}}{\ell} \otimes \mathbf{n} : \mathbf{P}_I \\ &= \int_I \sum_{i,j} \frac{u_{\partial T i} - u_{K i}|_{\partial K}}{\ell} n_j P_{I ij} \\ &= \int_I \frac{\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}}{\ell} \cdot \mathbf{P}_I \cdot \mathbf{n} \\ &= \int_I \frac{\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}}{\ell} \cdot \mathbf{P}_K|_{\partial K} \cdot \mathbf{n} \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

Where $\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}$ and $\mathbf{P}_K|_{\partial K}$ both belong to C_I :

$$\begin{aligned} \int_I \nabla \mathbf{u}_I : \mathbf{P}_I &= \ell \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\ell\right) \int_{\partial K} \frac{\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}}{\ell} \otimes \mathbf{n} : \mathbf{P}_K|_{\partial K} \\ &= \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\ell\right) \int_{\partial K} \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K} \otimes \mathbf{n} : \mathbf{P}_K|_{\partial K} \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

And Finally :

$$J_I = \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\ell\right) \int_{\partial K} \frac{\beta}{2h_T} \|\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}\|^2 + \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\ell\right) \int_{\partial K} (\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}) \otimes \mathbf{n} : \mathbf{P}_K|_{\partial K} - \int_I \mathbf{G}_I : \mathbf{P}_I \quad (20)$$

Injecting (14) in (11) :

$$\begin{aligned} J_T &= \int_K \psi_\Omega + (\nabla \mathbf{u}_K - \mathbf{G}_K) : \mathbf{P}_K + \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\ell\right) \int_{\partial K} (\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}) \otimes \mathbf{n} : \mathbf{P}_K|_{\partial K} \\ &\quad + \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\ell\right) \int_{\partial K} \frac{\beta}{2h_T} \|\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_K|_{\partial K}\|^2 - \int_I \mathbf{G}_I : \mathbf{P}_I - \int_K \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \mathbf{u}_K - \int_I \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \mathbf{u}_I - \int_{\partial_N T} \mathbf{t}_{\partial_N T} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

Since ℓ is arbitrary, let $\ell \rightarrow 0$, the interface region vanishes such that $I = \emptyset$, $K = T$ and $\partial K = \partial T$, and the expression of the Hu–Washizu functional over the region T writes:

$$\begin{aligned} J_T &= \int_T \psi_\Omega + (\nabla \mathbf{u}_T - \mathbf{G}_T) : \mathbf{P}_T + \int_{\partial T} (\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial T}) \otimes \mathbf{n} : \mathbf{P}_T|_{\partial T} + \int_{\partial T} \frac{\beta}{2h_T} \|\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial T}\|^2 \\ &\quad - \int_T \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \mathbf{u}_T - \int_{\partial_N T} \mathbf{t}_{\partial_N T} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

Assuming that the displacement is continuous at the boundary ∂T such that $\mathbf{u}_{\partial T}$ is the trace of the cell displacement \mathbf{u}_T on ∂T and $\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial T} = 0$, one recovers the usual expression of the Hu–Washizu integral over the element for the three variables $(\mathbf{u}_T, \mathbf{G}_T, \mathbf{P}_T)$. However, if one considers that $\mathbf{u}_{\partial T}$ and \mathbf{u}_T are distinct variables, *i.e.* that the boundary ∂T is able to move from the cell T such that the displacement across ∂T is discontinuous, J_T writes as a function of the four variables $(\mathbf{u}_T, \mathbf{u}_{\partial T}, \mathbf{G}_T, \mathbf{P}_T)$. Differentiating J_T over each of these variables, and introducing the **explicit traction force** $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\partial T} = \mathbf{P}_T|_{\partial T} \cdot \mathbf{n} + (\beta/h_T)(\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial T})$ one obtains the system:

$$\frac{\partial J_T}{\partial \mathbf{u}_T} \delta \mathbf{u}_T = \int_T (\mathbf{P}_T : \nabla \delta \mathbf{u}_T - \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_T) - \int_{\partial T} \boldsymbol{\theta}_{\partial T} \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial T} \quad \forall \delta \mathbf{u}_T \in DIS(T) \quad (23a)$$

$$\frac{\partial J_T}{\partial \mathbf{u}_{\partial T}} \delta \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} = \int_{\partial T} (\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{t}_{\partial_N T}) \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} \quad \forall \delta \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} \in \partial DIS(T) \quad (23b)$$

$$\frac{\partial J_T}{\partial \mathbf{G}_T} \delta \mathbf{G}_T = \int_T \left(\frac{\partial \psi_\Omega}{\partial \mathbf{G}_T} - \mathbf{P}_T \right) : \delta \mathbf{G}_T \quad \forall \delta \mathbf{G}_T \in GRA(T) \quad (23c)$$

$$\frac{\partial J_T}{\partial \mathbf{P}_T} \delta \mathbf{P}_T = \int_T (\nabla \mathbf{u}_T - \mathbf{G}_T) : \delta \mathbf{P}_T + \int_{\partial T} (\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial T}) \otimes \mathbf{n} : \delta \mathbf{P}_T|_{\partial T} \quad \forall \delta \mathbf{P}_T \in STR(T) \quad (23d)$$

In particular, (23a) is the expression of the principle of virtual works in T , where the explicit traction force $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\partial T}$ replaces the usual expression $\mathbf{P}_T \cdot \mathbf{n}$ in the external contribution, and (23b) denotes a supplementary equation to the usual continuous problem as seen in (5), to account for the continuity of $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\partial T}$ across the cell boundary. (23c) defines the stress-behaviour law relation, and (23d) defines a gradient field reconstruction based on a linear problem, whose second term depends on both a body and a boundary term. In particular, let $B_T : (\mathbf{v}_{\partial T}, \mathbf{v}_T) \in DIS(T) \times \partial DIS(\partial T) \rightarrow \mathbf{G}_T \in GRA(T)$ the application that gives the displacement gradient $\mathbf{G}_T(\mathbf{v}_T, \mathbf{v}_{\partial T})$ as a function of a displacement pair $(\mathbf{v}_T, \mathbf{v}_{\partial T})$. **Est-ce qu'on peut dire qu'il existe une application en continu ?** (23c) and (23b) are at the foundation of discontinuous Galerkin like methods; indeed, by defining a traction force that does not only depend on the stress, but also on the displacement jump, one allows for the latter to act as a Lagrange multiplier to fulfil the traction force continuity requirement on ∂T . The tradeoff for the latter condition to hold true, consists in loosening the displacement continuity condition through the displacement jump at the boundary, though stability is recovered through the interface mechanical energy potential that penalizes displacement jumps in a weak sense.

Development 2.2 (Gradient reconstruction). (23d) defines a linear problem for the bilinear form A on $GRA(T) \times STR(T)$ and the linear form L_u on $STR(T)$ such that :

$$A(\underline{\mathbf{G}}_T, \delta \underline{\mathbf{P}}_T) = \int_T \underline{\mathbf{G}}_T : \delta \underline{\mathbf{P}}_T \quad \forall \delta \underline{\mathbf{P}}_T \in STR(T) \quad (24a)$$

$$L_u(\delta \underline{\mathbf{P}}_T) = \int_T \nabla \mathbf{u}_T : \delta \underline{\mathbf{P}}_T + \int_{\partial T} (\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial T}) \otimes \mathbf{n} : \delta \underline{\mathbf{P}}_T|_{\partial T} \quad \forall \delta \underline{\mathbf{P}}_T \in STR(T) \quad (24b)$$

Since A is the natural linear map on $GRA(T) \times STR(T)$, by a straightforward application of the Banach Necas Babuska theorem, there is a unique $\underline{\mathbf{G}}_T \in GRA(T)$ such that :

$$A(\underline{\mathbf{G}}_T, \delta \underline{\mathbf{P}}_T) = L_u(\delta \underline{\mathbf{P}}_T) \quad \forall \delta \underline{\mathbf{P}}_T \in STR(T) \quad (25)$$

Furthermore, assuming $GRA(T)$ and $STR(T)$ to be finite dimensional spaces, let $B_T : (\mathbf{u}_{\partial T}, \mathbf{u}_T) \rightarrow \underline{\mathbf{G}}_T$ the linear operator solving (25).

By explicitly enforcing (23c) and (23d) in the minimization of (23), one obtains the problem in primal form: find the displacement pair $(\mathbf{u}_T, \mathbf{u}_{\partial T}) \in DIS(T) \times \partial DIS(\partial T)$, such that for all kinematically admissible displacements pairs $(\delta \mathbf{u}_T, \delta \mathbf{u}_{\partial T}) \in DIS(T) \times \partial DIS(\partial T)$

$$dJ_T = \frac{\partial J_T}{\partial \mathbf{u}_T} \delta \mathbf{u}_T + \frac{\partial J_T}{\partial \mathbf{u}_{\partial T}} \delta \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} = 0 \quad (26)$$

Defining the displacement jump $\mathbf{Z}_{\partial T}$ such that

$$\mathbf{Z}_{\partial T}(\mathbf{v}_T, \mathbf{v}_{\partial T}) := (\mathbf{v}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{v}_T|_{\partial T}) \quad \forall (\mathbf{v}_T, \mathbf{v}_{\partial T}) \in DIS(T) \times \partial DIS(\partial T) \quad (27)$$

and using both (23c) and (23d), (26) amounts to find the displacement pair $(\mathbf{u}_T, \mathbf{u}_{\partial T}) \in DIS(T) \times \partial DIS(\partial T)$, such that for all kinematically admissible displacements pairs $(\delta \mathbf{u}_T, \delta \mathbf{u}_{\partial T}) \in DIS(T) \times \partial DIS(\partial T)$:

$$\int_T \frac{\partial \psi_\Omega}{\partial \underline{\mathbf{G}}_T} : \delta \underline{\mathbf{G}}_T + \int_{\partial T} (\beta/h_T) \mathbf{Z}_{\partial T} \cdot \delta \mathbf{Z}_{\partial T} - \int_{\partial T} \mathbf{t}_N \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \int_T \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_T = 0 \quad (28)$$

where $\delta \underline{\mathbf{G}}_T$ (respectively $\underline{\mathbf{G}}_T$) solves (23d) for the unknowns pair $(\delta \mathbf{u}_T, \delta \mathbf{u}_{\partial T})$ (respectively $(\mathbf{u}_T, \mathbf{u}_{\partial T})$). In particular, one can readily see the resemblance of (28) with the usual formulation of the principle of virtual works, where the so called reconstructed displacement gradient $\underline{\mathbf{G}}_T$ plays the role of the usual displacement Lagrangian gradient $\nabla \mathbf{u}_T$, and where an additional term corresponding to a traction energy on the boundary through the action on $\mathbf{Z}_{\partial T}$ has been added to account for the penalization of the displacement jump on ∂T . The latter term is described in the literature as the stabilization term.

Development 2.3 (Weak form).

$$\begin{aligned} dJ_T &= \frac{\partial J_T}{\partial \mathbf{u}_T} \delta \mathbf{u}_T + \frac{\partial J_T}{\partial \mathbf{u}_{\partial T}} \delta \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} = 0 \\ &= \int_T \underline{\mathbf{P}}_T : \nabla_X \delta \mathbf{u}_T + \int_{\partial T} (\delta \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \delta \mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial T}) \otimes \mathbf{n} : \underline{\mathbf{P}}_T|_{\partial T} + \int_{\partial T} (\beta/h_T)(\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial T}) \cdot (\delta \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \delta \mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial T}) \\ &\quad - \int_{\partial T} \mathbf{t}_N \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \int_T \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_T \\ &= \int_T \underline{\mathbf{P}}_T : \underline{\mathbf{G}}_T + \int_{\partial T} (\beta/h_T)(\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial T}) \cdot (\delta \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \delta \mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial T}) - \int_{\partial T} \mathbf{t}_N \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \int_T \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_T \\ &= \int_T \frac{\partial \psi_\Omega}{\partial \underline{\mathbf{G}}_T} : \underline{\mathbf{G}}_T + \int_{\partial T} (\beta/h_T)(\mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial T}) \cdot (\delta \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \delta \mathbf{u}_T|_{\partial T}) - \int_{\partial T} \mathbf{t}_N \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_{\partial T} - \int_T \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \delta \mathbf{u}_T \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

The region T described

2.4. Hybrid mesh

Since the Hybrid High Order method relies on both cell and faces unknowns, a so called hybrid mesh is considered. It consists in a collection of cells, as is the case with the standard Finite Element method, and in the collection of the cell faces, forming the skeleton of the mesh. Hence, let $\mathcal{T}_h(\Omega_0)$ the cell collection be a triangulation of the domain Ω_0 into a set of disjoint open polyhedra with planar faces called elements (or cells) $T_i \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, $1 \leq i \leq N_T$, where N_T denotes the number of elements in the mesh, such that $\Omega_0 = \cup_{1 \leq i \leq N_T} T_i$. For each element T_i , let $\partial T_i \subset \mathbb{R}^{d-1}$ its boundary, composed of its faces (if $d = 3$) or edges (if $d = 2$).

Let $\mathcal{F}_h(\Omega_0)$ the skeleton of the mesh, collecting all element faces in the mesh. A face $F \subset \mathbb{R}^{d-1}$ is a closed subset of Ω_0 , and either there are two cells T_1 and T_2 such that $F = \partial T_1 \cap \partial T_2$ (F is then an interior face), or there is a single cell T such that $F = \partial T \cap \partial \Omega_0$ (F is then an exterior face).

Let $\mathcal{F}_h^i(\Omega_0)$ denote the set of interior faces, and $\mathcal{F}_h^e(\Omega_0)$ that of exterior ones. $\mathcal{F}_h^e(\Omega_0)$ is partitioned into $\mathcal{F}_{h,D}^e(\Omega_0) = \{F \in \mathcal{F}_h^e(\Omega_0) \mid F \subset \partial_D \Omega_0\}$ the set of exterior faces imposed to prescribed Dirichlet boundary conditions, and into $\mathcal{F}_{h,N}^e(\Omega_0) = \{F \in \mathcal{F}_h^e(\Omega_0) \mid F \subset \partial_N \Omega_0\}$ the set of exterior faces imposed to prescribed Neumann boundary conditions.

2.5. Discretization

Problem (28) describes a continuous problem, where $(\mathbf{u}_T, \mathbf{u}_{\partial T})$ are sought in the infinite dimensional spaces $DIS(T) \times \partial DIS(\partial T)$. The discretization of (28) on finite dimensional spaces is performed for the polynomial unknown \mathbf{u}_T^l in the polynomial spaces $U^k(T) = P^l(T)$. The discrete problem consists in seeking the unknown couple $(\mathbf{u}_T, \mathbf{u}_{\partial T})$ in a .

Le problème (??) discrétisé consiste à chercher l'inconnue $(\mathbf{u}_T^l, \mathbf{u}_{\partial T}^k)$ dans l'espace des polynômes $P^l(T, \mathbb{R}^d) \times P^k(\partial T, \mathbb{R}^d)$ d'ordre respectivement l et k tels que $k > 0$ avec $k-1 \leq l \leq k+1$, et les champs de gradients de déplacement \mathbf{G}_T^k et de contraintes \mathbf{P}_T^k dans $P^k(T, \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$. On définit la force de traction discrète $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\partial T}^{HHO} = \mathbf{P}_T^k \cdot \mathbf{n} + (\beta_{mec}/h_T) \mathbf{S}_{\partial T}^{k*}$ telle que $\mathbf{S}_{\partial T}^{k*}$ est l'opérateur adjoint de l'opérateur de stabilisation $\mathbf{S}_{\partial T}^k$ défini par:

$$\mathbf{S}_{\partial T}^k(\mathbf{v}_T^l, \mathbf{v}_{\partial T}^k) = \Pi_{\partial T}^k(\mathbf{v}_{\partial T}^k - \mathbf{v}_T^l - (\mathbf{1} - \Pi_T^k) \mathbf{D}_T^{k+1}) \quad (30)$$

où $\Pi_{\partial T}^k$ et Π_T^k sont les projecteurs orthogonaux au sens L^2 sur $P^k(\partial T, \mathbb{R}^d)$ et $P^k(T, \mathbb{R}^d)$ respectivement, et le champ de déplacement $\mathbf{D}_T^{k+1} \in P^{k+1}(T, \mathbb{R}^d)$ est solution du problème (31):

$$\begin{aligned} \int_T (\nabla_X \mathbf{D}_T^{k+1} - \nabla_X \mathbf{u}_T^l) : \nabla_X \mathbf{w}^{k+1} &= \int_{\partial T} (\mathbf{u}_{\partial T}^k - \mathbf{u}_T^l) \cdot \nabla_X \mathbf{w}^{k+1} \mathbf{n} \quad \forall \mathbf{w}^{k+1} \in P^{k+1}(T, \mathbb{R}^d) \\ \int_T \mathbf{D}_T^{k+1} &= \int_T \mathbf{u}_T^l \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

D'un point de vue numérique, on calcule dans une étape de pré-traitement l'opérateur de stabilisation $[S] : (\mathbf{v}_T^l, \mathbf{v}_{\partial T}^k) \rightarrow \mathbf{S}_{\partial T}^k$ défini par (30) et l'opérateur de dérivation $[B] : (\mathbf{v}_T^l, \mathbf{v}_{\partial T}^k) \rightarrow \mathbf{G}_T^k$ défini par la formulation discrète de (??), de sorte que le problème discrétisé local (??) ne dépend plus que de l'inconnue primale $(\mathbf{u}_T^l, \mathbf{u}_{\partial T}^k)$ vérifiant $\forall (\mathbf{v}_T^l, \mathbf{v}_{\partial T}^k) \in P^l(T, \mathbb{R}^d) \times P^k(\partial T, \mathbb{R}^d)$:

$$\int_T \mathbf{P}_T^k : \mathbf{G}_T^k + \int_{\partial T} \frac{\beta_{mec}}{h_T} \mathbf{S}_{\partial T}^k(\mathbf{u}_T^l, \mathbf{u}_{\partial T}^k) \cdot \mathbf{S}_{\partial T}^k(\mathbf{v}_T^l, \mathbf{v}_{\partial T}^k) = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \mathbf{v}_T^l + \int_{\partial T} \mathbf{t}_N \cdot \mathbf{v}_{\partial T}^k \quad (32)$$

où les contraintes \mathbf{P}_T^k sont calculées aux points de quadrature par intégration de la loi de comportement. Le principe des travaux virtuels discret à l'échelle de la structure vérifie donc $\forall (\mathbf{v}_T^l, \mathbf{v}_{\mathcal{F}}^k) \in P^l(\mathcal{T}, \mathbb{R}^d) \times P^k(\mathcal{F}, \mathbb{R}^d)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}(\Omega_0)} \int_T \mathbf{P}_T^k : \mathbf{G}_T^k + \int_{\partial T} \frac{\beta_{mec}}{h_T} \mathbf{S}_{\partial T}^k(\mathbf{u}_T^l, \mathbf{u}_{\partial T}^k) \cdot \mathbf{S}_{\partial T}^k(\mathbf{v}_T^l, \mathbf{v}_{\partial T}^k) &= \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}(\Omega_0)} \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{f}_V \cdot \mathbf{v}_T^l \\ &+ \sum_{\partial T \in \mathcal{F}_N(\Omega_0)} \int_{\partial T} \mathbf{t}_N \cdot \mathbf{v}_{\partial T}^k \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

2.6. Introducing

Since the cell displacement field is discontinuous on the mesh, it is sought in the so called broken Sobolev space $H^1(\mathcal{T}_h(\Omega_0), \mathbb{R}^d) = \{\mathbf{v} \in L^2(\Omega_0, \mathbb{R}^d) \mid \mathbf{v}_T \in H^1(T, \mathbb{R}^d), \forall T \in \mathcal{T}_h(\Omega_0)\}$. In addition, the face displacement field over the mesh is sought in $L^2(\mathcal{F}_h(\Omega_0), \mathbb{R}^d) = \{\mathbf{v} \in L^2(\partial T, \mathbb{R}^d), \forall T \in \mathcal{T}_h(\Omega_0)\}$, such that the global displacement field is in $U = H^1(\mathcal{T}_h(\Omega_0), \mathbb{R}^d) \times L^2(\mathcal{F}_h(\Omega_0), \mathbb{R}^d)$

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