

RANDOM MESH FEM

ASSYR ABDULLE* AND GIACOMO GAREGNANI†

1. Idea. Consider Ω a convex polygon in \mathbb{R}^d , with $d = 1, 2, 3$ and the elliptic PDE with Dirichlet boundary conditions

$$(1) \quad \begin{aligned} -\mathcal{L}u &= f, & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u &= g, & \text{on } \partial\Omega. \end{aligned}$$

Given a Hilbert space V weak formulation (assume $a(u, u) = \|u\|_a^2$)

$$(2) \quad \text{Find } u \in V \text{ such that } a(u, v) = F(v) \text{ for all } v \in V.$$

Galerkin formulation. Consider discretization parameter $h > 0$ and a mesh T_h (usual hypotheses). Consider the space $V_h \subset V$ defined as

$$(3) \quad V_h = \{v \in \mathcal{C}^0(\Omega) : v|_K \in \mathcal{P}_1, \forall K \in T_h\} \cap V.$$

Given internal vertices $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^N$, then

$$(4) \quad V_h = \text{span}\{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^N,$$

where $\varphi_i \in V_h$ and $\varphi_i(x_k) = \delta_{ik}$ for $i, k = 1, \dots, N$. Galerkin formulation then reads

$$(5) \quad \text{Find } u_h \in V_h \text{ such that } a(u_h, v_h) = F(v_h) \text{ for all } v_h \in V_h.$$

Consider now a new set of random internal vertices $\{X_i\}_{i=1}^N$ such that

- (i) $\mathbb{E} X_i = x_i$,
- (ii) $\text{Var } X_i = Ch^{2p}$, for a constant $C > 0$.

for all $i = 1, \dots, N$. Random mesh \mathcal{T}_h is built using the nodes $\{X_i\}_{i=1}^N$ from T_h maintaining connections between vertices with same indices (in 1D it is easy, in 2D/3D is it possible to maintain hypotheses of mesh quality?). Then consider

$$(6) \quad \mathcal{V}_h = \{v \in \mathcal{C}^0(\Omega) : v|_K \in \mathcal{P}_1, \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h\} \cap V.$$

i.e., $\mathcal{V}_h = \text{span}\{\Phi_i\}_{i=1}^N$, where $\Phi_i \in \mathcal{V}_h$ and $\Phi_i(X_k) = \delta_{ik}$. We then have the random-mesh Galerkin formulation

$$(7) \quad \text{Find } U_h \in \mathcal{V}_h \text{ such that } a(U_h, V_h) = F(V_h) \text{ for all } V_h \in \mathcal{V}_h.$$

Goal. What is

$$(8) \quad \mathbb{E}\|U_h - u\|_V,$$

$$(9) \quad |\mathbb{E} G(U_h) - G(u)|.$$

2. One-dimensional case. Consider deterministic uniform mesh (spacing h) and perturbation r.v.s such that

$$(10) \quad X_i = x_i + hP_i, \quad P_i \sim \mathcal{U}(-h^{p-1}/2, h^{p-1}/2).$$

(1/2 so that the ordering does not change). Consider basis functions deterministic case

$$(11) \quad \varphi_i(x) = \underbrace{\frac{x - x_{i-1}}{h} \mathbb{1}_{(x_{i-1}, x_i)}(x)}_{\varphi_{i,1}(x)} + \underbrace{\frac{x_{i+1} - x}{h} \mathbb{1}_{(x_i, x_{i+1})}(x)}_{\varphi_{i,2}(x)}.$$

*Mathematics Section, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (assyр.abdulle@epfl.ch)

†Mathematics Section, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (giacomo.garegnani@epfl.ch)

The random basis functions are given analogously by

$$(12) \quad \Phi_i(x) = \frac{x - X_{i-1}}{X_i - X_{i-1}} \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, X_i)}(x) + \frac{X_{i+1} - x}{X_{i+1} - X_i} \mathbb{1}_{(X_i, X_{i+1})}(x).$$

Let us denote by $\Phi_{i,1}(x)$ and $\Phi_{i,2}(x)$ the two components of the sum above so that $\Phi_i(x) = \Phi_{i,1}(x) + \Phi_{i,2}(x)$. Via the definition of the random variables we rewrite $\Phi_{i,1}(x)$ with elementary operations as

$$(13) \quad \begin{aligned} \Phi_{i,1}(x) &= \frac{x - x_{i-1} - hP_{i-1}}{x_i - x_{i-1} + h(P_i - P_{i-1})} \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, X_i)}(x) \\ &= \frac{x - x_{i-1} - hP_{i-1}}{h(1 + P_i - P_{i-1})} \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, X_i)}(x) \\ &= \underbrace{\frac{1}{1 + P_i - P_{i-1}}}_{C_{i,i-1}} \left(\frac{x - x_{i-1}}{h} - P_{i-1} \right) \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, X_i)}(x). \end{aligned}$$

Analogously,

$$(14) \quad \Phi_{i,2}(x) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{1 + P_{i+1} - P_i}}_{C_{i+1,i}} \left(\frac{x_{i+1} - x}{h} + P_{i+1} \right) \mathbb{1}_{(X_i, X_{i+1})}(x).$$

Consider the indicator function in $\Phi_{i,1}$. Let us denote by $A = (x_{i-1}, x_i)$. Then (dropping the dependence on x of the indicator functions)

$$(15) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, X_i)} &= \mathbb{1}_{A \cup (X_{i-1}, x_{i-1}) \cup (x_i, X_i)} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} < 0\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i > 0\}} \\ &\quad + \mathbb{1}_{(A \cup (X_{i-1}, x_{i-1})) \cap (X_i, x_i)^C} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} < 0\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i < 0\}} \\ &\quad + \mathbb{1}_{(A \cup (x_i, X_i)) \cap (x_{i-1}, X_{i-1})^C} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} > 0\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i > 0\}} \\ &\quad + \mathbb{1}_{A \cap (x_{i-1}, X_{i-1})^C \cap (X_i, x_i)^C} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} > 0\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i < 0\}}, \end{aligned}$$

applying the properties of the indicator function we thus have

$$(16) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, X_i)} &= \left(\mathbb{1}_A + \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, x_{i-1})} + \mathbb{1}_{(x_i, X_i)} \right) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} < 0\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i > 0\}} \\ &\quad + \left((\mathbb{1}_A + \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, x_{i-1})}) (1 - \mathbb{1}_{(X_i, x_i)}) \right) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} < 0\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i < 0\}} \\ &\quad + \left((\mathbb{1}_A + \mathbb{1}_{(x_i, X_i)}) (1 - \mathbb{1}_{(x_{i-1}, X_{i-1})}) \right) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} > 0\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i > 0\}} \\ &\quad + \left(\mathbb{1}_A (1 - \mathbb{1}_{(x_{i-1}, X_{i-1})}) (1 - \mathbb{1}_{(X_i, x_i)}) \right) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} > 0\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i < 0\}}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$(17) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, X_i)} &= \mathbb{1}_A + (\mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, x_{i-1})} + \mathbb{1}_{(x_i, X_i)}) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} < 0\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i > 0\}} \\ &\quad + (\mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, x_{i-1})} - \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, x_{i-1})} \mathbb{1}_{(X_i, x_i)} - \mathbb{1}_A \mathbb{1}_{(X_i, x_i)}) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} < 0\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i < 0\}} \\ &\quad + (\mathbb{1}_{(x_i, X_i)} - \mathbb{1}_{(x_i, X_i)} \mathbb{1}_{(x_{i-1}, X_{i-1})} - \mathbb{1}_A \mathbb{1}_{(x_{i-1}, X_{i-1})}) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} > 0\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i > 0\}} \\ &\quad + (\mathbb{1}_A \mathbb{1}_{(x_{i-1}, X_{i-1})} \mathbb{1}_{(X_i, x_i)} - \mathbb{1}_A \mathbb{1}_{(X_i, x_i)} - \mathbb{1}_A \mathbb{1}_{(x_{i-1}, X_{i-1})}) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} > 0\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i < 0\}}. \end{aligned}$$

This expression can be simplified as

$$(18) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, X_i)} &= \mathbb{1}_A + (\mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, x_{i-1})} + \mathbb{1}_{(x_i, X_i)}) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} < 0\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i > 0\}} \\ &\quad + (\mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, x_{i-1})} - \mathbb{1}_{(X_i, x_i)}) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} < 0\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i < 0\}} \\ &\quad + (\mathbb{1}_{(x_i, X_i)} - \mathbb{1}_{(x_{i-1}, X_{i-1})}) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} > 0\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i > 0\}} \\ &\quad - (\mathbb{1}_{(X_i, x_i)} + \mathbb{1}_{(x_{i-1}, X_{i-1})}) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} > 0\}} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i < 0\}}. \end{aligned}$$

Regrouping the terms

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, X_i)} &= \mathbb{1}_A + \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, x_{i-1})} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} < 0\}} (\mathbb{1}_{\{P_i > 0\}} + \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i < 0\}}) \\
 &\quad - \mathbb{1}_{(x_{i-1}, X_{i-1})} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} > 0\}} (\mathbb{1}_{\{P_i > 0\}} + \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i < 0\}}) \\
 &\quad + \mathbb{1}_{(x_i, X_i)} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i > 0\}} (\mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} > 0\}} + \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} < 0\}}) \\
 &\quad - \mathbb{1}_{(X_i, x_i)} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i < 0\}} (\mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} > 0\}} + \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} < 0\}}).
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{19}$$

Hence, we get the final expression

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, X_i)} &= \mathbb{1}_A + \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, x_{i-1})} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} < 0\}} - \mathbb{1}_{(x_{i-1}, X_{i-1})} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} > 0\}} \\
 &\quad + \mathbb{1}_{(x_i, X_i)} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i > 0\}} - \mathbb{1}_{(X_i, x_i)} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i < 0\}}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{20}$$

Plugging the expression of $\mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, X_i)}$ into the randomized basis functions (13) and recalling that $A = (x_{i-1}, x_i)$ we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Phi_{i,1}(x) &= C_{i,i-1} \left(\frac{x - x_{i-1}}{h} - P_{i-1} \right) \mathbb{1}_{(x_{i-1}, x_i)}(x) \\
 &\quad + C_{i,i-1} \left(\frac{x - x_{i-1}}{h} - P_{i-1} \right) (\mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, x_{i-1})}(x) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} < 0\}} - \mathbb{1}_{(x_{i-1}, X_{i-1})}(x) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} > 0\}}) \\
 &\quad + C_{i,i-1} \left(\frac{x - x_{i-1}}{h} - P_{i-1} \right) (\mathbb{1}_{(x_i, X_i)}(x) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i > 0\}} - \mathbb{1}_{(X_i, x_i)}(x) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i < 0\}}).
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{21}$$

Replacing the definition of $\varphi_{i,1}$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Phi_{i,1}(x) &= C_{i,i-1} \varphi_{i,1}(x) - C_{i,i-1} P_{i-1} \mathbb{1}_{(x_{i-1}, x_i)}(x) \\
 &\quad + C_{i,i-1} \left(\frac{x - x_{i-1}}{h} - P_{i-1} \right) (\mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1}, x_{i-1})}(x) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} < 0\}} - \mathbb{1}_{(x_{i-1}, X_{i-1})}(x) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1} > 0\}}) \\
 &\quad + C_{i,i-1} \left(\frac{x - x_{i-1}}{h} - P_{i-1} \right) (\mathbb{1}_{(x_i, X_i)}(x) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i > 0\}} - \mathbb{1}_{(X_i, x_i)}(x) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i < 0\}}).
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{22}$$

We can apply the same reasoning to $\Phi_{i,2}(x)$. In particular ($A = (x_i, x_{i+1})$ in this case)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{1}_{(X_i, X_{i+1})} &= \mathbb{1}_A + \mathbb{1}_{(X_i, x_i)} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i < 0\}} - \mathbb{1}_{(x_i, X_i)} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i > 0\}} \\
 &\quad + \mathbb{1}_{(x_{i+1}, X_{i+1})} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i+1} > 0\}} - \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i+1}, x_{i+1})} \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i+1} < 0\}}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{23}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Phi_{i,2}(x) &= C_{i+1,i} \varphi_{i,1}(x) + C_{i+1,i} P_{i+1} \mathbb{1}_{(x_i, x_{i+1})}(x) \\
 &\quad + C_{i+1,i} \left(\frac{x_{i+1} - x}{h} + P_{i+1} \right) (\mathbb{1}_{(X_i, x_i)}(x) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i < 0\}} - \mathbb{1}_{(x_i, X_i)}(x) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_i > 0\}}) \\
 &\quad + C_{i+1,i} \left(\frac{x_{i+1} - x}{h} + P_{i+1} \right) (\mathbb{1}_{(x_{i+1}, X_{i+1})}(x) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i+1} > 0\}} - \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i+1}, x_{i+1})}(x) \mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i+1} < 0\}}).
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{24}$$

Let us remark that the random coefficient $C_{i,i-1}$ can be expanded (for any i) as

$$C_{i,i-1} = \frac{1}{1 - (P_{i-1} - P_i)} = 1 + \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (P_{i-1} - P_i)^n}_{\tilde{C}_{i,i-1}}.
 \tag{25}$$

In expectation (for $n = 1$ we have a zero)

$$\mathbb{E} \tilde{C}_{i,i-1} = \mathcal{O}(h^{2p-2}).
 \tag{26}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}
(27) \quad \Phi_i(x) &= \varphi_i(x) + \tilde{C}_{i,i-1}\varphi_{i,1}(x) + \tilde{C}_{i+1,i}\varphi_{i,2}(x) \\
&\quad - C_{i,i-1}P_{i-1}\mathbb{1}_{(x_{i-1},x_i)}(x) + C_{i+1,i}P_{i+1}\mathbb{1}_{(x_i,x_{i+1})}(x) \\
&\quad + C_{i,i-1}\left(\frac{x-x_{i-1}}{h} - P_{i-1}\right)\left(\mathbb{1}_{(X_{i-1},x_{i-1})}(x)\mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1}<0\}} - \mathbb{1}_{(x_{i-1},X_{i-1})}(x)\mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i-1}>0\}}\right) \\
&\quad + C_{i,i-1}\left(\frac{x-x_{i-1}}{h} - P_{i-1}\right)\left(\mathbb{1}_{(x_i,X_i)}(x)\mathbb{1}_{\{P_i>0\}} - \mathbb{1}_{(X_i,x_i)}(x)\mathbb{1}_{\{P_i<0\}}\right) \\
&\quad + C_{i+1,i}\left(\frac{x_{i+1}-x}{h} + P_{i+1}\right)\left(\mathbb{1}_{(X_i,x_i)}(x)\mathbb{1}_{\{P_i<0\}} - \mathbb{1}_{(x_i,X_i)}(x)\mathbb{1}_{\{P_i>0\}}\right) \\
&\quad + C_{i+1,i}\left(\frac{x_{i+1}-x}{h} + P_{i+1}\right)\left(\mathbb{1}_{(x_{i+1},X_{i+1})}(x)\mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i+1}>0\}} - \mathbb{1}_{(X_{i+1},x_{i+1})}(x)\mathbb{1}_{\{P_{i+1}<0\}}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

In expectation

$$(28) \quad \mathbb{E}\Phi_i(x) = \varphi_i(x) + (1 + \mathcal{O}(h^{2p-2}))(\varphi_{i,1}(x) + \varphi_{i,2}(x))$$