# DUNE PDELab Tutorial 01 Conforming Finite Element Method for a Nonlinear Poisson Equation

# DUNE/PDELab Team

# August 31, 2021

# Contents

1	Introduction	2
2	Problem Formulation	2
3	Finite Element Method  3.1 Algebraic Problem	4 6
4		9 10 11 13 16
5	4.6 Running the Example	

#### Introduction 1

In this tutorial we extend tutorial 00 in the following ways:

- 1) Solve a nonlinear stationary partial differential equation (PDE).
- 2) Use conforming finite element spaces of arbitrary order.
- 3) Use different types of (conforming) meshes (simplicial, cubed and mixed).
- 4) Use multiple types of boundary conditions.

Combined with the fact that the implementation works in any dimension (note: it is not claimed to be efficient in high dimension d > 3) this comprises already a relatively large space of different methods, so the example illustrates the flexibility of PDELab. Moreover, the finite element method developed in this tutorial will serve as a building block for instationary problems, adaptive mesh refinement and parallel solution in subsequent tutorials.

## Depends On

This tutorial depends on tutorial 00 which discusses piecewise linear elements on simplicial elements. It is assumed that you have worked through tutorial 00 before.

#### 2 Problem Formulation

Here we consider the following nonlinear Poisson equation with Dirichlet and Neumann boundary conditions:

$$-\Delta u + q(u) = f \qquad \text{in } \Omega, \qquad (1a)$$

$$u = g \qquad \text{on } \Gamma_D \subseteq \partial \Omega, \qquad (1b)$$

$$-\nabla u \cdot \nu = j \qquad \text{on } \Gamma_N = \partial \Omega \setminus \Gamma_D. \qquad (1c)$$

$$u = g$$
 on  $\Gamma_D \subseteq \partial \Omega$ , (1b)

$$-\nabla u \cdot \nu = j \qquad \text{on } \Gamma_N = \partial \Omega \setminus \Gamma_D. \tag{1c}$$

 $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  is a domain,  $q: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  is a given, possibly nonlinear function and  $f: \Omega \to \mathbb{R}$ is the source term and  $\nu$  denotes the unit outer normal to the domain.

The weak formulation of this problem is derived by multiplication with an appropriate test function and integrating by parts. This results in the abstract problem:

Find 
$$u \in U$$
 s.t.:  $r^{\text{NLP}}(u, v) = 0 \quad \forall v \in V,$  (2)

with the continuous residual form

$$r^{\text{NLP}}(u,v) = \int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v + (q(u) - f)v \, dx + \int_{\Gamma_N} jv \, ds$$

and the function spaces  $U = \{v \in H^1(\Omega) : "v = g" \text{ on } \Gamma_D\}$  and  $V = \{v \in H^1(\Omega) : u \in \Pi^1(\Omega) : u \in \Pi^1(\Omega)\}$ "v = 0" on  $\Gamma_D$ . We assume that q is such that this problem has a unique solution.

## 3 Finite Element Method

The finite element method [7, 2, 5, 3, 1, 6, 4] replaces the function spaces U and V by finite dimensional approximations defined on a finite element mesh. Before describing exactly how these spaces are constructed let us explore the consequences of this.

## 3.1 Algebraic Problem

Any finite-dimensional function space is spanned by a basis. So, assume that

$$U_h = \operatorname{span}\{\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n\}, \quad V_h = \operatorname{span}\{\psi_1, \dots, \psi_m\}$$

are corresponding sets of basis functions for  $U_h$  and  $V_h$ . Expanding the solution  $u_h = \sum_{j=1}^n (z)_j \phi_j$  in the basis and hereby introducing the coefficient vector  $z \in \mathbb{R}^n$  we can reformulate the problem as

Find 
$$u_h \in U_h$$
 s.t.: 
$$r(u_h, v) = 0 \qquad \forall v \in V_h$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \qquad r\left(\sum_{j=1}^n (z)_j \phi_j, \psi_i\right) = 0 \qquad \forall i = 1, \dots, m$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \qquad R(z) = 0,$$

where  $R: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$  given by  $R_i(z) = r_h\left(\sum_{j=1}^n (z)_j \phi_j, \psi_i\right)$  is a nonlinear, vector-valued function.

The solution of the nonlinear algebraic equation R(z) = 0 is typically computed in an iterative fashion using e.g. a fixed-point iteration of the form

$$z^{(k+1)} = z^{(k)} - \lambda^k W(z^{(k)}) R(z^{(k)}).$$
(3)

Here  $\lambda^k$  is a damping factor and  $W(z^{(k)})$  is a preconditioner matrix, e.g. in Newton's method (see e.g. [1]) one has

$$W(z^{(k)}) = (J(z^{(k)}))^{-1}$$
 where  $(J(z^{(k)}))_{i,j} = \frac{\partial R_i}{\partial z_i}(z^{(k)})$ 

(we now assumed that n = m and that the Jacobian  $J(z^{(k)})$  is invertible). Newton's method requires the solution of the linear system  $J(z^{(k)})w = R(z^{(k)})$  in each step which could be done using either direct or iterative methods. The implementation of Newton's method requires the following algorithmic building blocks:

- i) residual evaluation R(z),
- ii) Jacobian evaluation J(z) (or an approximation of it),
- iii) matrix-free Jacobian application J(z)w (or an approximation).

Only one of the methods ii) and iii) is required depending on the chosen solution procedure.

#### A Note on Matrix-free Evaluation

The matrix-free multiplication of the Jacobian J(z) with a vector w is with the definitions above:

$$(J(z)w)_i = \sum_{j=1}^n (J(z))_{i,j}(w)_j = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial z_j} r_h \left(\sum_{l=1}^n (z)_l \phi_l, \psi_l\right) (w)_j.$$

At this point one may exploit the local support of basis functions in order to compute only the partial derivatives that are nonzero.

In the linear case, for comparison, one has  $r_h(u,v) = a_h(u,v) - l_h(v)$  where  $a_h$  is a bilinear form and  $l_h$  is a linear form. Then, the application of the Jacobian can be simplified as

$$(J(z)w)_{i} = \sum_{j=1}^{n} \frac{\partial}{\partial z_{j}} r_{h} \left( \sum_{l=1}^{n} (z)_{l} \phi_{l}, \psi_{i} \right) (w)_{j}$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{n} \frac{\partial}{\partial z_{j}} \left( a_{h} \left( \sum_{l=1}^{n} (z)_{l} \phi_{l}, \psi_{i} \right) - l_{h}(\psi_{i}) \right) (w)_{j}$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{n} \frac{\partial}{\partial z_{j}} \left( \sum_{l=1}^{n} (z)_{l} a_{h}(\phi_{l}, \psi_{i}) \right) (w)_{j}$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{h}(\phi_{j}, \psi_{i})(w)_{j} = a_{h} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n} (w)_{j} \phi_{j}, \psi_{i} \right) = (Aw)_{i}$$

where  $(A)_{i,j} = a_h(\phi_j, \psi_i)$  is the stiffness matrix which is independent of z. For this reason there exist two different functions for matrix-free operator application, one for the linear case providing only the argument w and one for the nonlinear case providing two arguments z and w.

Note also that it is advantageous to separate in the implementation of the residual form the part that depends on trial and test functions, and which consequently contributes to the Jacobian, and the part that only depends on the test functions and which does not contribute to the Jacobian.

## 3.2 Finite Element Space

The detailed construction of the basis functions  $\phi_j$  involves the finite element mesh. Wrapping up the notation from tutorial 00, a finite element mesh consists of

- i) A set of vertices  $\mathcal{X}_h = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$  and elements  $\mathcal{T}_h = \{T_1, \dots, T_M\}$ . Elements are closed and connected sets of points with non-intersecting interior partitioning the domain  $\Omega$ .
- ii) A partitioning of the vertex index set  $\mathcal{I}_h = \{1, \dots, N\}$  into indices of interior and boundary vertices

$$\mathcal{I}_h = \mathcal{I}_h^{int} \cup \mathcal{I}_h^{\partial \Omega}, \quad \mathcal{I}_h^{int} = \{i \in \mathcal{I}_h : x_i \in \Omega\}, \quad \mathcal{I}_h^{\partial \Omega} = \{i \in \mathcal{I}_h : x_i \in \partial \Omega\}.$$

iii) For every element  $T \in \mathcal{T}_h$  a local-to-global map

$$g_T: \{0,\ldots,n_T-1\} \to \mathcal{I}_h$$

associating a local number of a corner of element T with a global vertex number.  $n_T$  is the number of corners of element T.

iv) For every element  $T \in \mathcal{T}_h$  an element transformation map

$$\mu_T: \hat{T} \to T$$

mapping the corresponding reference element to T. The element transformation map need not be affine but is assumed to be sufficiently differentiable with invertible Jacobian as well as consistent in the sense  $\forall i \in \{0, \ldots, n_T - 1\}$ :  $\mu_T(\hat{x}_i) = x_{g_T(i)}$ .

The conforming finite element space of degree k in dimension d on the mesh  $\mathcal{T}_h$  is given by

$$V_h^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_h) = \left\{ v \in C^0(\overline{\Omega}) : \forall T \in \mathcal{T}_h : v|_T = \mu_T \circ p_T \land p_T \in \mathbb{P}_T^{k,d} \right\}$$
(4)

with the appropriate space of multivariate polynomials of degree k in dimension d depending on the type of element T:

$$\mathbb{P}_{T}^{k,d} = \begin{cases}
\begin{cases}
p : p(x_1, \dots, x_d) = \sum_{0 \le \|\alpha\|_1 \le k} c_{\alpha} x_1^{\alpha_1} \cdot \dots \cdot x_d^{\alpha_d} \\
p : p(x_1, \dots, x_d) = \sum_{0 \le \|\alpha\|_{\infty} \le k} c_{\alpha} x_1^{\alpha_1} \cdot \dots \cdot x_d^{\alpha_d} \\
\end{cases} & \hat{T} = \hat{S} \text{ (simplex)}, 
\end{cases} (5)$$

Note that in dimension 1 there is no difference between cube and simplex. In dimension 2 triangular and quadrilateral elements may be mixed. In dimension 3, however, tetrahedral and hexahedral elements may not be mixed without introducing additional elements such as prisms. The dimension of  $\mathbb{P}_T^{k,d}$  is

$$n_{\hat{C}}^{k,d} = (k+1)^d$$

in the case of a cube reference element and

$$n_{\hat{S}}^{k,d} = \begin{cases} 1 & k = 0 \lor d = 0\\ \sum_{i=0}^{k} n_{\hat{S}}^{i,d-1} & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

in the case of a simplex reference element.

#### Local Lagrange Basis

(4) defines the finite element space without reference to a basis. For the implementation in the computer a basis is needed. We now generalize the construction of the Lagrange basis functions to the general space  $V_h^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_h)$ . To that end, the reference element  $\hat{T}$  is equipped with Lagrange points

$$L_{\hat{T}} = \left\{ \hat{x}_0^{\hat{T}}, \dots, \hat{x}_{n_{\hat{T}}^{k,d}-1}^{\hat{T}} \right\}$$

and Lagrange polynomials

$$P_{\hat{T}} = \left\{ p_0^{\hat{T}}, \dots, p_{n_{\hat{T}}^{k,d}-1}^{\hat{T}} \right\}$$

such that

$$p_i^{\hat{T}}(\hat{x}_j^{\hat{T}}) = \delta_{i,j}.$$

Global continuity is then ensured by carefully placing  $n_{\hat{T}}^{k,d-c}$  of these points on each subentity of codimension c in the reference element.

### Global Lagrange Basis

The local-to-global map  $g_T$  is extended to map indices of local basis functions to indices of global basis functions of the finite element space. Let

$$g_T: \{0,\ldots,n_{\hat{T}}^{k,d}-1\} \to \mathcal{I}\left(V_h^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_h)\right) = \left\{0,\ldots,\dim V_h^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_h)-1\right\}$$

be this extension and

$$C(i) = \{(T, m) \in \mathcal{T}_h \times \mathbb{N} : q_T(m) = i\}$$

its inversion. Then

- i) C(i) is nonempty for all  $i \in \mathcal{I}\left(V_h^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_h)\right)$  and
- ii) for all  $(T,m),(T',m')\in C(i)$  it holds  $\mu_T(x_m^{\hat{T}})=\mu_{T'}(x_{m'}^{\hat{T}'})$ .

The global Lagrange basis functions spanning  $V_h^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_h)$  are then defined by

$$\phi_i(x) = \begin{cases} p_m^{\hat{T}}(\mu_T^{-1}(x)) & x \in T \land (T, m) \in C(i) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}, \quad i \in \mathcal{I}\left(V_h^{k, d}(\mathcal{T}_h)\right).$$

Each global basis function  $\phi_i$  corresponds to a Lagrange point  $x_i$  from the ordered set

$$\mathcal{X}_h^{k,d} = \left\{ x_i \in \overline{\Omega} : x_i = \mu_T(\hat{x}_m^{\hat{T}}) \land (T, m) \in C(i) \right\}.$$

Note that for degree k=1 one has  $\mathcal{I}\left(V_h^{1,d}(\mathcal{T}_h)\right)=\mathcal{I}_h$ , i.e. one basis function is associated with each vertex of the mesh.

# 3.3 Incorporation of Dirichlet Boundary Conditions

The standard way to handle Dirichlet boundary conditions in the conforming finite element method is to incorporate them directly into the function space. To do that define the indices of Lagrange points on the Dirichlet boundary

$$\mathcal{I}^{D}\left(V_{h}^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_{h})\right) = \left\{i \in \mathcal{I}\left(V_{h}^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_{h})\right) : x_{i} \in \mathcal{X}_{h}^{k,d} \land x_{i} \in \Gamma_{D}\right\}.$$

For the test space one defines the space of finite element functions that are zero on the Dirichlet boundary:

$$V_{h,0}^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_h) = \left\{ v \in V_h^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_h) : v(x_i) = 0 \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{I}^D\left(V_h^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_h)\right) \right\}$$

For the trial space set

$$u_{h,g} = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}^D(V_h^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_h))} g(x_i)\phi_i$$

with the Dirichlet boundary condition function g. In fact one may want to use

$$u_{h,g} = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}(V_h^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_h))} u_g(x_i)\phi_i \quad \text{with } u_g(x_i) = g(x_i) \text{ for all } i \in \mathcal{I}^D\left(V_h^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_h)\right)$$

which incorporates the Dirichlet boundary conditions on  $\Gamma_D$  and provides an initial guess for the nonlinear iterative solver in the interior of the domain. Then the trial space is

$$U_h^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_h) = \left\{ u \in V_h^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_h) : u = u_{h,g} + w \land w \in V_{h,0}^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_h) \right\}.$$

Finally, the finite element problem in its precise form reads

Find 
$$u \in U_h^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_h)$$
 s.t.:  $r^{\text{NLP}}(u,v) = 0 \quad \forall v \in V_{h,0}^{k,d}(\mathcal{T}_h).$  (6)

#### General Constraints

PDELab provides a more general approach to construct subspaces of finite element spaces. Given a finite-dimensional space  $U_h = \text{span}\{\phi_j : j \in J_h = \{1, \dots, n\}\}$  a subspace  $\tilde{U}_h$  is constructed by

- i) selecting a subset of indices  $\tilde{J}_h \subset J_h$
- ii) and setting  $\tilde{U}_h = \operatorname{span}\left\{\tilde{\phi}_j: j \in \tilde{J}_h\right\}$ , where the new basis functions have the form

$$\tilde{\phi}_j = \phi_j + \sum_{l \in J_h \setminus \tilde{J}_h} (B)_{j,l} \phi_l \quad \forall j \in \tilde{J}_h.$$

Thus, any subspace of  $U_h$  is characterized by  $C = (\tilde{J}_h, B)$ . This abstractions allows to represent Dirichlet conditions  $(J_h \setminus \tilde{J}_h)$  are the indices of the Dirichlet nodes and B = 0, hanging nodes  $(J_h \setminus \tilde{J}_h)$  are the indices of hanging nodes and B represents the interpolation conditions) or even rigid body modes.

## 3.4 Element-wise Computations

We now turn to how the residual can be evaluated in practice. The residual form (2) can be readily decomposed into elementwise contributions:

$$r^{\text{NLP}}(u, v) = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h} \alpha_T^V(u, v) + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h} \lambda_T^V(v) + \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_h^{\partial \Omega}} \lambda_F^B(v)$$

with

$$\alpha_T^V(u,v) = \int_T \nabla u \cdot \nabla v + q(u)v \, dx, \quad \lambda_T^V(v) = -\int_T fv \, dx, \quad \lambda_F^B(v) = \int_{F \cap \Gamma_N} jv \, ds.$$

Here  $\mathcal{F}_h^{\partial\Omega}$  is the set of intersections of elements with the domain boundary  $\partial\Omega$ . The element-wise computations can be classified on the one hand as volume integrals (superscript V), boundary integrals (superscript B) and skeleton integrals (superscript S, to be shown later) and on the other hand as integrals depending on trial and test functions ( $\alpha$ -terms) and integrals depending only on test functions ( $\lambda$ -terms). Here we need three of these six possible combinations.

The three terms can now be evaluated using the techniques introduced in tutorial 00 with the small extension that for general maps  $\mu_T$  we have

$$\nabla w(\mu_T(\hat{x})) = J_{\mu_T}^{-1}(\hat{x})\hat{\nabla}\hat{w}(\hat{x})$$

with  $J_{\mu_T}(\hat{x})$  the Jacobian of  $\mu_T$  at point  $\hat{x}$ .

#### $\lambda$ Volume Term

For any  $(T, m) \in C(i)$  we obtain

$$\lambda_T^V(\phi_i) = -\int_T f\phi_i \, dx = -\int_{\hat{T}} f(\mu_T(\hat{x})) p_m^{\hat{T}}(\hat{x}) |\det J_{\mu_T}(\hat{x})| \, d\hat{x}.$$

This integral on the reference element is then computed by employing numerical integration of appropriate order. The evaluation for all test functions with support on element T may be collected in a vector

$$(\mathcal{L}_{T}^{V})_{m} = -\int_{\hat{T}} f(\mu_{T}(\hat{x})) p_{m}^{\hat{T}}(\hat{x}) |\det J_{\mu_{T}}(\hat{x})| d\hat{x}.$$

#### $\lambda$ Boundary Term

For  $F \in \mathcal{F}_h^{\partial\Omega}$  with  $F \cap \Gamma_N \neq \emptyset$  and  $(T_F^-, m) \in C(i)$  we obtain

$$\lambda_T^B(\phi_i) = \int_F jv \, ds = \int_{\hat{F}} j(\mu_F(s)) p_m^{\hat{T}}(\eta_F(s)) \sqrt{|\det(J_{\mu_F}^T(s)J_{\mu_F}(s))|} \, ds$$

Because integration is over a face of codimension 1 now, two mappings are involved. The map  $\mu_F$  maps the reference element  $\hat{F}$  of F into global coordinates while the map  $\eta_F$  maps  $\hat{F}$  into the reference element  $\hat{T}$  of T. Also the integration element has to be redefined accordingly. Again, all contributions of the face F can be collected in a vector:

$$(\mathcal{L}_{T}^{B})_{m} = \int_{\hat{F}} j(\mu_{F}(s)) p_{m}^{\hat{T}}(\eta_{F}(s)) \sqrt{|\det J_{\mu_{T}}^{T}(s) J_{\mu_{T}}(s)|} ds.$$

#### $\alpha$ Volume Term

For any  $(T, m) \in C(i)$  we get

$$\alpha_{T}^{V}(u_{h},\phi_{i}) = \int_{T} \nabla u \cdot \nabla \phi_{i} + q(u)\phi_{i} \, dx, = \int_{T} \sum_{j} (z)_{j} \left( \nabla \phi_{j} \cdot \nabla \phi_{i} \right) + q \left( \sum_{j} (z)_{j} \phi_{j} \right) \phi_{i} \, dx,$$

$$= \int_{\hat{T}} \sum_{n} (z)_{g_{T}(n)} (J_{\mu_{T}}^{-1}(\hat{x}) \hat{\nabla} p_{n}^{\hat{T}}(\hat{x})) \cdot (J_{\mu_{T}}^{-1}(\hat{x}) \hat{\nabla} p_{m}^{\hat{T}}(\hat{x}))$$

$$+ q \left( \sum_{n} (z)_{g_{T}(n)} p_{n}^{\hat{T}}(\hat{x}) \right) p_{m}^{\hat{T}}(\hat{x}) |\det J_{\mu_{T}}(\hat{x})| \, d\hat{x}$$

Again contributions for all test functions can be collected in a vector

$$(\mathcal{R}_{T}^{V}(R_{T}z))_{m} = \sum_{n} (z)_{g_{T}(n)} \int_{\hat{T}} (J_{\mu_{T}}^{-1}(\hat{x})\hat{\nabla}p_{n}^{\hat{T}}(\hat{x})) \cdot (J_{\mu_{T}}^{-1}(\hat{x})\hat{\nabla}p_{m}^{\hat{T}}(\hat{x})) |\det J_{\mu_{T}}(\hat{x})| d\hat{x}$$
$$+ \int_{\hat{T}} q \left( \sum_{n} (z)_{g_{T}(n)} p_{n}^{\hat{T}}(\hat{x}) \right) p_{m}^{\hat{T}}(\hat{x}) |\det J_{\mu_{T}}(\hat{x})| d\hat{x}$$

#### Putting it all together

Now with these definitions in place the evaluation of the algebraic residual is

$$R(z) = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h} R_T^T \mathcal{R}_T^V (R_T z) + \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h} R_T^T \mathcal{L}_T^V + \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_h^{\partial \Omega} \cap \Gamma_N} R_T^T \mathcal{L}_F^B$$
 (7)

The Jacobian of the residual is

$$(J(z))_{i,j} = \frac{\partial R_i}{\partial z_j}(z) = \sum_{\substack{(T,m,n): (T,m) \in C(i) \land (T,n) \in C(j)}} \frac{\partial (\mathcal{R}_T^V)_m}{\partial z_n} (R_T z)$$

Note that:

- a) Entries of the Jacobian can be computed element by element.
- b) The derivative is independent of the  $\lambda$ -terms as they only depend on the test functions.
- c) In the implementation below the Jacobian is computed numerically by finite differences. This can be achieved automatically by deriving from an additional base class.

## 4 Realization in PDELab

The structure of the code is very similar to that of tutorial 00. It consists of the following files:

- 1) The ini-file tutorial01.ini holds parameters read by various parts of the code which control the execution.
- 2) The main file tutorialO1.cc includes the necessary C++, DUNE and PDELab header files and contains the main function where the execution starts. The purpose of the main function is to instantiate DUNE grid objects and call the driver function.
- 3) File driver.hh instantiates the necessary PDELab classes for solving a nonlinear stationary problem and finally solves the problem.
- 4) File nonlinearpoissonfem.hh contains the class NonlinearPoissonFEM realizing a PDELab local operator implementing the conforming finite element method for arbitrary order and on arbitrary meshes.

- 5) File problem.hh contains a so-called parameter class which encapsulates the user-definable part of the PDE problem such as right hand side and boundary conditions.
- 6) Finally, the tutorial provides some mesh files.

#### 4.1 Ini-File

The ini-file allows the user to set various parameters for the execution of the program. Here we skim briefly through the sections.

```
[grid]
dim=2  # set to 1 | 2 | 3
manager=yasp # set to ug | alu | yasp
refinement=5 # be careful
```

The grid section allows to set the space dimension to 1, 2 or 3. In one dimension the grid manager OneDGrid is used. In dimension 2 or 3 UGGrid or ALUGrid using simplex grids or YaspGrid using cube grids can be selected. The refinement parameter can be used to refine the initial coarse mesh the specified number of times.

```
[grid.oned]
a=0.0
b=1.0
elements=2
```

The grid.oned subsection is active when the dimension of the grid is set to one. Then the domain is the interval from a to b and elements gives the number of elements used to subdivide the interval.

```
[grid.structured]
LX=1.0
LY=1.0
LZ=1.0
NX=2
NY=2
NZ=2
```

The grid.structured subsection is active when yasp is selected as a grid manager and allows to set the length of the domain in every direction (always starting at zero) and the number of elements to be used per direction.

```
[grid.twod]
filename=unitsquare.msh
```

The grid.twod subsection is active when ug or alu are selected as grid managers in two space dimensions. The gmsh-file with the given name is read as coarse grid.

```
[grid.threed]
filename=unitcube.msh
```

The grid.threed subsection is active when ug or alu are selected as grid managers in three space dimensions. The gmsh-file with the given name is read as coarse grid.

```
[fem]
degree=1 # oned: 1..4, ug|alu: 1..3, yasp: 1..2
```

The fem section provides the parameters for the finite element method. The only parameter in this tutorial is the polynomial degree for the finite element space. Note that different degrees are possible depending on the grid manager used.

```
[problem] eta=2.0
```

The problem section provides parameters for the specific problem to be solved. The tutorial solves problem (1) with

$$q(u) = \eta u^2$$
,  $f(x) = -2d$ ,  $\Gamma_D = \partial \Omega$ ,  $g(x) = ||x||^2$ .

The parameter  $\eta$  in the nonlinear term is read from the ini-file.

The behavior of the newton solver is also controlled by the ini-file.

```
[newton]
reassemble_treshhold = 0.0 # always reassemble J
verbosity = 3 # be verbose
reduction = 1e-10 # total reduction
min_linear_reduction = 1e-4 # min. red. in linear solve

[newton.terminate]
max_iterations = 25 # limit number of iterations

[newton.line_search]
line_search_max_iterations = 10 # limit linea search iterations
```

The output section controls the output of the solution to a vtk-file using DUNE's SubsamplingVTKWriter. The user can give the name of the output file and specify the number of subsampling intervals.

```
[output]
filename=eta2
subsampling=1
```

#### 4.2 Function main

The main function in tutorial01.cc is very similar to the one in tutorial00.cc. It starts by getting a reference to the Dune::MPIHelper singleton and opens and reads in the ini-file. This is not repeated here.

Then there are several sections where Dune::Grid objects are instantiated and the driver function is called. Since the grid manager, the space dimension and the polynomial degree are template parameters of various classes but the user should be able to select these during run-time in the ini-file all the different cases are selected with if-statements within which the appropriate classes are instantiated. As an example we just present the section for dimension 1 using OneDGrid here.

In one space dimension we start with reading the grid parameters from the inifile:

```
if (dim==1)
{
    // read grid parameters from input file
    typedef Dune::OneDGrid::ctype DF;
    DF a = ptree.get<DF>("grid.oned.a");
    DF b = ptree.get<DF>("grid.oned.b");
    unsigned int N = ptree.get<int>("grid.oned.elements");
```

Then we create a std::vector with an equidistant subdivision of the given interval. Note that OneDGrid could handle arbitrary subdivisions.

```
// create equidistant intervals
std::vector<DF> intervals(N+1);
for(unsigned int i=0; i<N+1; ++i)
  intervals[i] = a + DF(i)*(b-a)/DF(N);</pre>
```

Now an instance of OneDGrid can be created and refined uniformly:

```
// Construct grid
typedef Dune::OneDGrid Grid;
Grid grid(intervals);
grid.globalRefine(refinement);
```

Finally, for polynomial degrees one through four a finite element map of the appropriate order is created and the driver function is called. The driver function gets a grid view, the finite element map and the parameter tree as parameters and is covered in the next section:

```
// call generic driver function
typedef Dune::OneDGrid::LeafGridView GV;
GV gv=grid.leafGridView();
if (degree==1) {
  typedef Dune::PDELab::
    PkLocalFiniteElementMap < GV , DF , double , 1 > FEM;
  FEM fem(gv);
  driver(gv,fem,ptree);
if (degree==2) {
  typedef Dune::PDELab::
    PkLocalFiniteElementMap < GV , DF , double , 2> FEM;
  FEM fem(gv);
  driver(gv,fem,ptree);
if (degree==3) {
  typedef Dune::PDELab::
    PkLocalFiniteElementMap < GV , DF , double , 3 > FEM;
  FEM fem(gv);
  driver(gv,fem,ptree);
if (degree==4) {
  typedef Dune::PDELab::
```

```
PkLocalFiniteElementMap < GV , DF , double , 4 > FEM;
FEM fem (gv);
driver (gv , fem , ptree);
}
```

### 4.3 Function driver

The function **driver** solves the problem on a given mesh with a particular finite element method given by its local basis functions on the reference element. It has the following interface:

```
template < typename GV, typename FEM > void driver (const GV& gv, const FEM& fem,
Dune::ParameterTree& ptree)
```

The driver function is very similar to the one in tutorial 00. Therefore we mainly focus on the differences. It starts by extracting the dimension of the grid and some important types:

```
// dimension and important types
const int dim = GV::dimension;
typedef double RF;  // type for computations
```

An important difference to tutorial 00 is that all parameters of the PDE to be solved are encapsulated in a separate class with a prescribed interface. This class is then given to the local operator as a template parameter. This makes sense here because problem (1) has five parameters: the functions q, f, g and j as well as the partitioning of the domain boundary in Dirichlet and Neumann part. This is a general pattern followed by many PDELab local operators.

The interface of the parameter class is defined by the implementor of the local operator and is not part of PDELab. As shown in tutorial 00 it is perfectly possible to have a local operator without a parameter class. The following code segment instantiates the problem class which is called **Problem** here (it is explained in detail below):

```
// make PDE parameter class
RF eta = ptree.get("problem.eta",(RF)1.0);
Problem < RF > problem (eta);
```

Now there are two places where information from the PDE is used in PDELab. First of all we need to have an object that can be used to as an argument to Dune::PDELab::interpolate to initialize a vector which represents the initial guess and the Dirichlet boundary conditions. The class Problem defines a method which we need to use to define a class with the interface of Dune::PDELab::GridFunction. This is accomplished by the following code using C++-14 generic lambdas:

```
auto glambda = [&](const auto& e, const auto& x)
   {return problem.g(e,x);};
auto g = Dune::PDELab::
   makeGridFunctionFromCallable(gv,glambda);
```

Similarly, we need an object that can be passed to Dune::PDELab::constraints to fill a constraints container which is used to build a subspace of a function space. Again, the class Problem defines such a method which is extracted with a lambda function:

```
auto blambda = [&](const auto& i, const auto& x)
   {return problem.b(i,x);};
auto b = Dune::PDELab::
   makeBoundaryConditionFromCallable(gv,blambda);
```

The next step is to define the grid function space. This is exactly the same code as in tutorial 00 except that the finite element map is passed as an argument to the driver function from outside:

```
// Make grid function space
typedef Dune::PDELab::ConformingDirichletConstraints CON;
typedef Dune::PDELab::ISTL::VectorBackend<> VBE;
typedef Dune::PDELab::GridFunctionSpace<GV,FEM,CON,VBE> GFS;
GFS gfs(gv,fem);
gfs.name("Vh");
```

Now comes unchanged code to assemble the constraints, instantiate a coefficient vector, making a discrete grid function that can be used for visualization and interpolating the initial guess and Dirichlet boundary conditions:

The next step is to instantiate a local operator, called NonlinearPoissonFEM, containing the implementation of the element-wise computations of the finite element method. As explained above the local operator is parametrized by the class Problem. In addition, also the finite element map is passed as a template parameter for reasons that will become clear below:

```
// Make a local operator
typedef NonlinearPoissonFEM < Problem < RF > , FEM > LOP;
```

```
LOP lop(problem);
```

Now the grid function space, local operator, matrix backend and constraints container are used to set up a grid operator facilitating the global residual assembly, Jacobian assembly and matrix-free Jacobian application. The matrix backend is initialized with a guess of the approximate number of nonzero matrix entries per row.

```
// Make a global operator
typedef Dune::PDELab::ISTL::BCRSMatrixBackend <> MBE;
int degree = ptree.get("fem.degree",(int)1);
MBE mbe((int)pow(1+2*degree,dim));
typedef Dune::PDELab::GridOperator <
   GFS,GFS, /* ansatz and test space */
  LOP, /* local operator */
  MBE, /* matrix backend */
  RF,RF,RF, /* domain, range, jacobian field type*/
  CC,CC /* constraints for ansatz and test space */
  > GO;
GO go(gfs,cc,gfs,cc,lop,mbe);
```

In order to prepare for the solution process an appropriate linear solver needs to be selected:

```
// Select a linear solver backend
typedef Dune::PDELab::ISTLBackend_SEQ_CG_AMG_SSOR < GO > LS;
LS ls(100,2);
```

Since the problem is nonlinear we use the implementation of Newton's method in PDELab. It provides the inexact Newton method in the sense that the iterative solution of the linear subproblems is stopped early and uses line search as globalization strategy:

```
// set up nonlinear solver
Dune::PDELab::NewtonMethod < GO, LS > newton(go, ls);
newton.setParameters(ptree.sub("newton"));
```

Now, finally do all the work and solve the problem:

```
// solve nonlinear problem
newton.apply(z);
```

At the end we can write the VTK file with subsampling:

#### 4.4 The Problem Class

The class Problem contained in the file problem.hh provides all parameter functions for the PDE problem. It is parameterized with the floating point type to be used:

```
template < typename Number > class Problem
```

Its constructor takes a parameter  $\eta$  as argument:

```
//! Constructor takes eta parameter
Problem (const Number& eta_) : eta(eta_) {}
```

Now come the parameter functions defining the PDE problem. First is the nonlinearity q(u):

```
//! nonlinearity
Number q (Number u) const
{
   return eta*u*u;
}
```

We also provide the derivative of the function q as a separate method:

```
//! derivative of nonlinearity
Number qprime (Number u) const
{
   return 2*eta*u;
}
```

This allows the implementation of an exact Jacobian later (illustrated in tutorial 02) and is actually not needed here as we will use a numerical Jacobian.

Next is the right hand side function f which gets an element  $\mathbf{e}$  and a local coordinate  $\mathbf{x}$  within the corresponding reference element as a parameter:

```
//! right hand side
template < typename E, typename X>
Number f (const E& e, const X& x) const
{
   return -2.0*x.size();
}
```

The argument x can be expected to be an instance of Dune::FieldVector which has a method size giving the number of components of the vector, i.e. the space dimension.

The next method simply called b is the boundary condition type function. It should return true if the position given by intersection i and a local coordinate x within the reference element of the intersection is on the Dirichlet boundary. In the particular instance here we set  $\Gamma_D = \partial \Omega$ :

```
//! boundary condition type function (true = Dirichlet)
template < typename I, typename X >
bool b (const I& i, const X& x) const
{
   return true;
}
```

The value of the Dirichlet boundary condition is now defined by the method g. As explained above in Section 3.3 it is more appropriate to provide a function  $u_g$  that can be evaluated on  $\overline{\Omega}$  and gives the value of g on the Dirichlet boundary and the initial guess for the nonlinear solver on all other points:

```
//! Dirichlet extension
template < typename E, typename X >
Number g (const E& e, const X& x) const
{
   auto global = e.geometry().global(x);
   Number s = 0.0;
   for (std::size_t i = 0; i < global.size(); i++) s+= global[i] * global[i];
   return s;
}</pre>
```

As with the function f above the arguments are an element and a local coordinate in its reference element. Here we evaluate it as  $u_g(e, x) = ||\mu_e(x)||^2$ .

Finally, there is a method defining the value of the Neumann boundary condition. Although there is no Neumann boundary here, the method has to be provided but is never called. The arguments of the method are the same as for the boundary condition type function b:

```
//! Neumann boundary condition
template < typename I, typename X >
Number j (const I& i, const X& x) const
{
   return 0.0;
}
```

## 4.5 Local Operator NonlinearPoissonFEM

The class NonlinearPoissonFEM implements the element-wise computations of the finite element method introduced in Section 3.4 above. Evaluation of the residual R(z) is accomplished by the three types of contributions shown in equation (7). In order to make things as simple as possible we chose to implement the evaluation of the Jacobian and the matrix-free Jacobian application with finite differences.

The definition of class NonlinearPoissonFEM starts as follows:

```
template < typename Param, typename FEM>
class NonlinearPoissonFEM :
   public Dune::PDELab::
     NumericalJacobianVolume < NonlinearPoissonFEM < Param, FEM> >,
   public Dune::PDELab::
```

```
NumericalJacobianApplyVolume < NonlinearPoissonFEM < Param , FEM > > ,
public Dune::PDELab::FullVolumePattern ,
public Dune::PDELab::LocalOperatorDefaultFlags
```

The class is parametrized by a parameter class and a finite element map. Implementation of element-wise contributions to the Jacobian and matrix-free Jacobian evaluation is achieved through inheriting from the classes NumericalJacobianVolume and NumericalJacobianApplyVolume. Using the curiously recurring template pattern these classes provide the corresponding methods without any additional coding effort based on the alpha\_volume method explained below. The other two base classes are the same as in tutorial 00.

The private data members are a cache for evaluation of the basis functions on the reference element:

```
typedef typename FEM::Traits::FiniteElementType::
    Traits::LocalBasisType LocalBasis;
Dune::PDELab::LocalBasisCache < LocalBasis > cache;
```

a reference to the parameter object:

```
Param& param; // parameter functions
```

and an integer value controlling the order of the formulas used for numerical quadrature:

```
int incrementorder; // increase of integration order
```

The public part of the class starts with the definition of the flags controlling the generic assembly process. The doPatternVolume flag specifies that the sparsity pattern of the Jacobian is determined by couplings between degrees of freedom associated with single elements. The corresponding default pattern assembly method is inherited from the class FullVolumePattern:

```
// pattern assembly flags
enum { doPatternVolume = true };
```

The residual assembly flags indicate that in this local operator we will provide the methods lambda\_volume, lambda\_boundary and alpha\_volume:

```
// residual assembly flags
enum { doLambdaVolume = true };
enum { doLambdaBoundary = true };
enum { doAlphaVolume = true };
```

Next comes the constructor taking as an argument a reference to a parameter object and the optional increment of the quadrature order:

```
//! constructor stores a copy of the parameter object
NonlinearPoissonFEM (Param& param_, int incrementorder_=0)
    : param(param_), incrementorder(incrementorder_)
{}
```

#### Method lambda\_volume

This method was also present in the local operator PoissonP1 in tutorial 00. It implements the term  $\mathcal{L}_T^V$  and has the interface:

The implementation here uses numerical quadrature of sufficiently high order which is selected at the beginning of the method:

```
// select quadrature rule
auto geo = eg.geometry();
const int order = incrementorder+
    2*lfsv.finiteElement().localBasis().order();
auto rule = Dune::PDELab::quadratureRule(geo,order);
```

The DUNE quadrature rules provide a container of quadrature points that can be iterated over:

At each quadrature point all basis functions are evaluated. The local function space argument lfsv provides all the basis functions on the reference element. Evaluations are cached for each point as the evaluation may be quite costly, especially for high order. In addition, copying of data is avoided as the cache returns only a reference to the data stored in the cache. The integration factor is the product of the weight of the quadrature point and the value of  $|\det J_{\mu_T}(\hat{x})|$ . The implementation works also for non-affine element transformation. The quadrature order should be increased by providing a value for incrementorder in the constructor. Then the parameter function can be evaluated and finally the residual contributions for each test function are stored in the result object r.

#### Method lambda\_boundary

The lambda\_boundary implements the residual contributions due to Neumann boundary conditions. It implements the term  $\mathcal{L}_T^B$  and has the following interface:

The difference to lambda\_volume is that now an intersection is provided as first argument.

The method begins by evaluating the type of the boundary condition at the midpoint of the edge:

```
// evaluate boundary condition type
auto localgeo = ig.geometryInInside();
auto facecenterlocal =
   referenceElement(localgeo).position(0,0);
bool isdirichlet=param.b(ig.intersection(),facecenterlocal)
```

To that end the center of the reference element of the intersection is computed in the variable facecenterlocal before the parameter function can be called.

If the boundary condition type evaluated at the face center is Dirichlet then the complete face is assumed to be part of the Dirichlet boundary:

```
// skip rest if we are on Dirichlet boundary
if (isdirichlet) return;
```

It is thus assumed that the mesh resolves all positions where the boundary type changes.

Now that we are on a Neumann boundary an appropriate quadrature rule is selected for integration:

```
// select quadrature rule
auto globalgeo = ig.geometry();
const int order = incrementorder+
    2*lfsv.finiteElement().localBasis().order();
auto rule = Dune::PDELab::quadratureRule(globalgeo,order);
```

And here is the integral over the face:

```
r.accumulate(lfsv,i,j*phihat[i]*factor);
}
```

Every quadrature point on the face needs to be mapped to the reference of the volume element for evaluation of the basis functions. The evaluation uses the basis function cache. Then the integration factor is computed and the contributions for all the test functions are accumulated.

### Method alpha\_volume

This method was already present in tutorial 00. It implements the term  $\mathcal{R}_T^V(R_T z)$  and its interface is

The method starts by extracting the space dimension and the floating point type to be used for computations:

Then a quadrature rule is selected

```
// select quadrature rule
auto geo = eg.geometry();
const int order = incrementorder+
    2*lfsu.finiteElement().localBasis().order();
auto rule = Dune::PDELab::quadratureRule(geo,order);
```

and the quadrature loop is started

```
// loop over quadrature points
for (const auto& ip : rule)
{
```

Within the quadrature loop the basis functions are evaluated

and the value of  $u_h$  at the quadrature point is computed.

```
// evaluate u
RF u=0.0;
for (size_t i=0; i<lfsu.size(); i++)
    u += x(lfsu,i)*phihat[i];</pre>
```

Then the gradients of the basis functions on the reference element are evaluated via the evaluation cache:

Now the gradients need to be transformed from the reference element to the transformed element by multiplication with  $J_{\mu_T}^{-1}(\hat{x})$ :

```
// transform gradients of shape functions to real element
const auto S = geo.jacobianInverseTransposed(ip.position());
auto gradphi = makeJacobianContainer(lfsu);
for (size_t i=0; i<lfsu.size(); i++)
   S.mv(gradphihat[i][0],gradphi[i][0]);</pre>
```

Note that, as explained in tutorial 00, DUNE allows basis functions in general to be vector valued. Therefore gradphi[i][0] contains the gradient (with d components) of the component 0 of basis function number i.

Now  $\nabla u_h$  can be computed

```
// compute gradient of u
Dune::FieldVector < RF, dim > gradu(0.0);
for (size_t i=0; i < lfsu.size(); i++)
  gradu.axpy(x(lfsu,i), gradphi[i][0]);</pre>
```

and we are in the position to finally compute the residual contributions:

## 4.6 Running the Example

Running tutorial 01 by typing

```
./tutorial01
```

yields an output similar to the following:

```
Parallel code run on 1 process(es)
constrained dofs=128 of 1089
Initial defect: 5.2962e-02
Newton iteration 1. New defect: 1.2256e-04. Reduction (this): 2.3142e-03. Reduction (total): 2.3142e-03
Newton iteration 2. New defect: 2.2284e-09. Reduction (this): 1.8182e-05. Reduction (total): 4.2076e-08
Newton iteration 3. New defect: 5.4824e-15. Reduction (this): 2.4602e-06. Reduction (total): 1.0351e-13
```

The program reports the number of constrained degrees of freedom (i.e. Lagrange points on the Dirichlet boundary) as well as the total number of degrees of freedom. Then the initial nonlinear residual and the reduction within each Newton iteration is reported.

An illustration of the influence of the nonlinearity q on the solution is given in Figure 1.

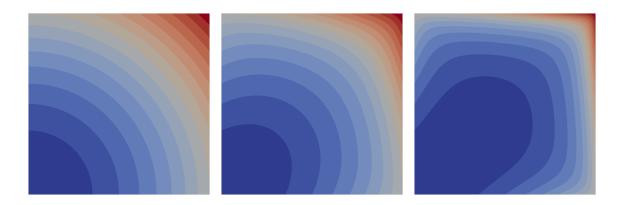


Figure 1: Illustration of the influence of the parameter  $\eta$  in nonlinearity on the solution.  $\eta = 0$  (left),  $\eta = 10$  (middle),  $\eta = 100$  (right).

## 5 Outlook

Here are some suggestions how to test and modify this example:

- Play with other nonlinearities, e.g.  $q(u) = \exp(\eta u)$ .
- Compare cost and accuracy of different polynomial degrees and simplicial meshes vs. cube meshes.
- Implement Nitsche's method to incorporate Dirichlet boundary conditions in a weak sense. This method is based on the following residual form:

$$r^{\text{Nitsche}}(u,v) = \int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v + (q(u) - f)v \, dx + \int_{\Gamma_N} jv \, ds$$
$$- \int_{\Gamma_R} \nabla u \cdot \nu v \, ds - \int_{\Gamma_R} (u - g) \nabla v \cdot \nu \, ds + \eta \int_{\Gamma_R} (u - g)v \, ds$$

and requires an additional method alpha\_boundary with the following interface:

• Implement the streamline diffusion method for a convection term, see [4] for details.

## References

- [1] D. Braess. Finite Elemente. Springer, 3rd edition, 2003.
- [2] S. C. Brenner and L. R. Scott. The mathematical theory of finite element methods. Springer, 1994.

- [3] P. G. Ciarlet. *The finite element method for elliptic problems*. Classics in Applied Mathematics. SIAM, 2002.
- [4] H. Elman, D. Silvester, and A. Wathen. Finite Elements and Fast Iterative Solvers. Oxford University Press, 2005.
- [5] K. Eriksson, D. Estep, P. Hansbo, and C. Johnson. *Computational Differential Equations*. Cambridge University Press, 1996. http://www.csc.kth.se/~jjan/private/cde.pdf.
- [6] A. Ern and J.-L. Guermond. Theory and practice of finite element methods. Springer, 2004.
- [7] W. Hackbusch. Theorie und Numerik elliptischer Differentialgleichungen. Teubner, 1986. http://www.mis.mpg.de/preprints/ln/lecturenote-2805.pdf.