

Finite Elements for Poisson's Equation in 1D

Here are my model answers for today's little exercise.

[1D linear FE.pdf \(https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/2337/files/698637/download?wrap=1\)](https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/2337/files/698637/download?wrap=1) 
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To go from a weak formulation of a linear elliptic PDE to a linear system of equations, finite element methods apply the following steps:

- start with the weak form of the exact problem

$$\text{find } u \in V \text{ such that for all test functions } v \in V \quad B(u, v) = \langle f, v \rangle$$

- replace the infinite-dimensional function space V (here: $H_0^1([0, 1])$) with a finite-dimensional subspace V^h (here: the space of continuous functions which are linear on each subinterval of the grid)

$$\text{find } u^h \in V^h \text{ such that for all test functions } v^h \in V^h \quad B(u^h, v^h) = \langle f, v^h \rangle$$

- choose a basis for the subspace V^h (here: the hat functions $\phi_i^h, i = 1, \dots, N - 1$)

$$\text{find coefficients } u_1^h, \dots, u_{N-1}^h \in \mathbb{R} \text{ such that for all hat functions } \phi_i^h, i = 1, \dots, N -$$

$$B\left(\sum_{j=1}^{N-1} u_j^h \phi_j^h, \phi_i^h\right) = \langle f, \phi_i^h \rangle$$

- these are $N - 1$ linear equations for the $N - 1$ unknown nodal values u_1^h, \dots, u_{N-1}^h

$$\sum_{j=1}^{N-1} B(\phi_j^h, \phi_i^h) u_j^h = \langle f, \phi_i^h \rangle$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{N-1} k_{ij}^h u_j^h = f_i^h \quad (\text{where } k_{ij}^h = B(\phi_j^h, \phi_i^h) \text{ and } f_i^h = \langle f, \phi_i^h \rangle)$$

$$K^h \vec{u}^h = \vec{f}^h$$

(and this is the big linear system with a matrix K^h and right hand side \vec{f}^h)

To compute the L^2 -norm of the numerical solution u^h , we need another big matrix:

[1D mass matrix.pdf \(https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/2337/files/709463/download?wrap=1\)](https://canvas.ubc.ca/courses/2337/files/709463/download?wrap=1) 
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