

# Numerical solution of PDEs - NSPDE

## Advanced Numerical Analysis - ANA (first 40h)

### LECTURE 1

House keeping:

- 32 45mins lectures + 8 45mins practicals (2 OR 3 per session)
- Where: all in room A-133 @SISSA  
Online ? ...
- Website:  
<https://www.math.sissa.it/course/phd-course-master-course/numerical-solution-pdes-0>
- Course material:  
<https://github.com/andreacangiani/NSPDE-ANA2023>

#### IDEA OF COURSE:

- mainly FEM but present the fundamental ideas/methods and the interlink between different approaches.
- explore different problems/methods to see that fundamental ideas are ubiquitous
- understand that appropriate numerical methods depend on the problem
- practicals in python using google colab

This course is conceived to be linked to the other numerical analysis courses:

- Heltai+Rozza Applied Mathematics: an Introduction to Scientific Computing by Numerical Analysis (1st semester)
- Heltai's Advanced topics on the analysis of Finite Element Methods (starting March) -> saddle point problems (first 8h complete ANA)
- Cangiani's Advanced FEM Techniques (starting May)

ASSESSMENT: oral exam

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- Quarteroni Numerical Models for Differential Problems. Springer, 2017.
- Larsson & Thomee Partial Differential Equations with Numerical Methods. Springer, 2009.
- Morton & Mayers Numerical Solution of Partial Differential Equations. Cambridge, 1994.
- Quarteroni & Valli Numerical Approximation of Partial Differential Equations. Springer, 1994.

## Introduction (Q. 3.2)

Super-simple problem (ODE): find  $u \in C^2([0, 1])$ :

$$\begin{cases} -u''(x) = f(x) & \text{in } (0, 1) \\ u(0) = 0 = u(1) \end{cases}$$

1D Poisson  
b.v.p.  
(strong)

Discretise by introducing

grid  $0 = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_N = 1$

e.g.  $x_i = x_0 + h i$   $h = 1/N$   $n = \text{disc. parameter}$

Finite Difference (FD) approach:

look for values  $U = \{U_i\}_{i=0}^N \approx u(x_i)$

approximate  $u'(x) \approx \frac{u(x+h/2) - u(x-h/2)}{h}$

$$= S_h(x) \quad \text{central difference}$$

$$= u'(x) + O(h^2)$$

$$u''(x) \approx S_h^2(x) = S_h(S_h(x))$$

$$= S_h \left( \frac{u(x+h/2) - u(x-h/2)}{h} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{1}{h} \left[ \frac{u(x+h) - u(x)}{h} - \frac{u(x) - u(x-h)}{h} \right] \\
 &= \frac{u(x+h) - 2u(x) + u(x-h)}{h^2} \\
 &= u''(x) + O(h^2)
 \end{aligned}$$

FD method: find  $U = \{U_i\}_{i=0}^N$ :

$$\begin{cases} U_0 = 0 \\ -\frac{U_{i+1} - 2U_i + U_{i-1}}{h^2} = f_i = f(x_i) \\ i = 1, \dots, N-1 \\ U_N = 0 \end{cases}$$

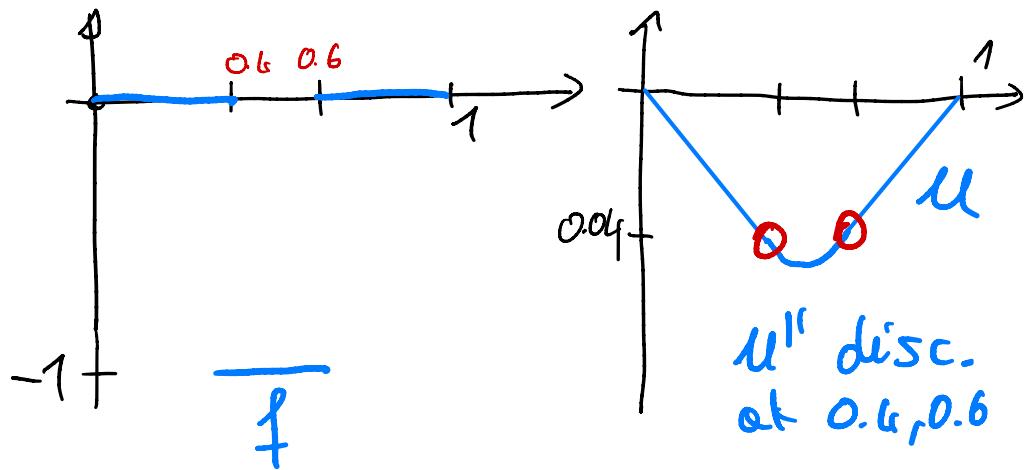
Note: ① rather than finding an approx solution (function), we are approximating values of  $u$  at given points (analysis?)

(2) What is the right "functional"  
setting

Strong form (in  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ ) not  
adequate in general

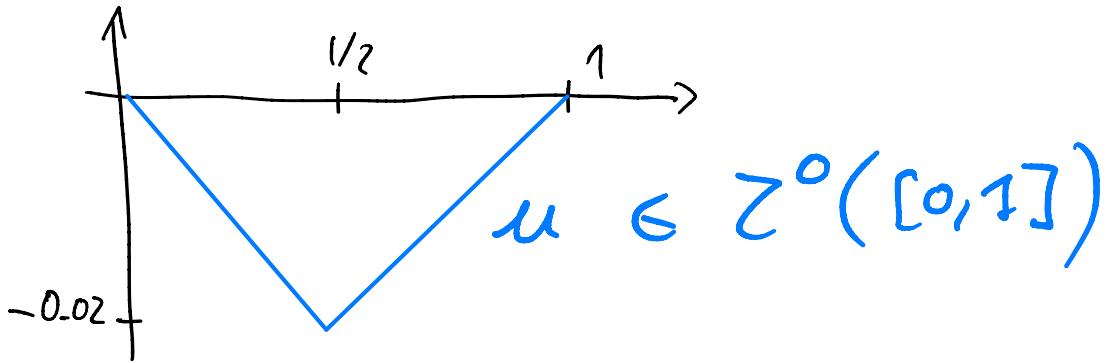
example:

\* take  $f(x) = -\chi_{[0.4, 0.6]}$  ↖ characteristic function



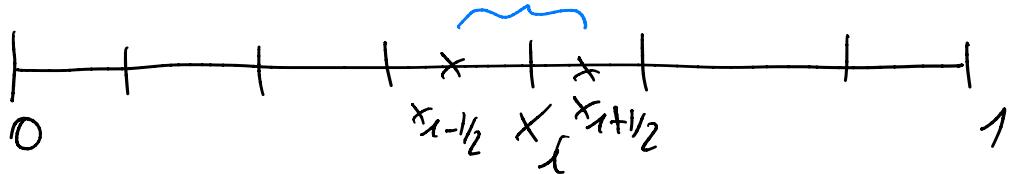
$$u \in \mathcal{C}^1([0, 1])$$

\*  $f(x) = -\delta_{1/2}(x)$  ↖ Dirac Delta if  $x=1/2$   
 $= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x=1/2 \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$



Finite Volume approach:

control volume  $I_i$



FV: integrate the eq.  $-u'' = f$  in  $I_i$

$$= \int_{x_{i-1/2}}^{x_{i+1/2}} u'' = \int_{x_{i-1/2}}^{x_{i+1/2}} f$$

$$= u'(x_{i+1/2}) - u'(x_{i-1/2})$$

FD

$$\begin{aligned} & \approx \frac{u(x_{i+1}) - u(x_i)}{h} - \frac{u(x_i) - u(x_{i-1})}{h} \\ & = \frac{u(x_{i+1}) - 2u(x_i) + u(x_{i-1})}{h} \end{aligned}$$

$\int_{x_{i-1/2}}^{x_{i+1/2}} f(x) dx \approx h f(x_i)$

(by rectangle rule)

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{u_{i+1} - 2u_i + u_{i-1}}{h} = h f_i$$


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Dirichlet Principle: the string minimises  
a potential energy

$$J(v) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 (v')^2 dx - \int_0^1 f v$$

among all functions  $v$  such that  $v(0) = 0 = v(1)$ .

Note: energy principle does not require 2nd derivative of sol.

## Variational problem

If  $-u'' = f$  then find appropriate "test function" from some space  $V$  with  $v(0) = 0 = v(1)$

"variations"

$$-u''v = fv$$

$$-\int_0^1 u''v = \int_0^1 fv$$

$(uv)_1$        $\downarrow$  by parts

$$\cancel{\int_0^1} \cancel{u'} \cancel{v'} = \int_0^1 fv \quad (*)$$

It remains to fix  $V$

① We could take

$$V = \{v \in C^1([0,1]) : v(0) = 0 = v(1)\}$$

then  $(*)$  would make sense

However

① with  $f = S_{1/2} \Rightarrow u \notin C^1([0,1])$

② even if  $f \in C^0([0,1])$

$\exists!$  of solutions in  $V$  in  
not guaranteed !

Indeed, defining scalar product

$$(u, v)_1 := \int_0^1 u' v'$$

$$(\Rightarrow \|v\|_1 := (\nabla v, v))$$

$V$  with  $(\cdot, \cdot)_1$  is not  
complete !

Def:  $L^2(0,1) = \left\{ v : (0,1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : \left( \int_0^1 |v|^2 dx \right)^{1/2} =: \|v\|_2 < \infty \right\}$



$H^1(0,1) = \left\{ v \in L^2(0,1) : v' \in L^2(0,1) \right\}$

$H_0^1(0,1) = \left\{ v \in H^1(0,1) : v(0) = v(1) \right\}$

Th:  $(H_0^1, (\cdot, \cdot)_1)$  is a Hilbert space  
(Inner product space complete)

- $H^1(0,1) \not\subset C^1(0,1)$  (only  $C^0$ )



- It is the closure of  $C^1$

- Right ambient space for Poisson:

Theorem: Let  $(V, (\cdot, \cdot)_V)$  Hilbert  
 $\|v\|_V = [v, v]_V^{1/2}$

$A : V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$\forall u, v \in V$

- Continuous  $\exists \gamma > 0 : A(u, v) \leq \gamma \|u\|_V \|v\|_V$

• coercive:  $\exists d_0 > 0 : \mathcal{F}(u, v) \geq d_0 \|v\|^2$

ex:

$$A(u, v) = \int_0^1 u' v'$$

$\forall v \in V$

• symmetric  $\mathcal{F}(-u, v) = \mathcal{F}(u, -v)$

• bilinear

$$F : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

continuous linear form

$$F(v) = \int_0^1 f(r)v$$

Then,

$$\exists! u \in V : \mathcal{F}(u, v) = F(v)$$

$\forall v \in V$

Weak problem (WP)

$$\exists! u \in H_0^1(0,1) : (u, v)_1 = \int_0^1 f(r)v$$

$\forall v \in V$

Theorem:  $u$  solves the WP  
if and only if  $u$  is  
the solution of the  
potential energy minimiz.  
problem :

$$\text{Find } u \in V : J(u) \leq J(v) \quad \forall v \in V$$

Where  $J(v) := \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{A}(v, v) - F(v)$

Proof: " $\Rightarrow$ "  $u$  sol. of (WP)

$$\forall w \in V \quad J(u+w)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{A}(u+w, u+w) - F(u+w)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} R(u, u) + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} R(u, w) + \frac{1}{2} R(w, u)}_{= R(u, w)} = R(u, w)$$

linear

$$+ \frac{1}{2} R(w, w) - F(u) - F(w)$$

!! (imp)

$$= J(u) + \frac{1}{2} R(w, w) \geq J(u)$$

$\forall v$  (coercivity)

$$\Rightarrow J(u) \leq J(u+v)$$

" $\leq$ " if  $u$  minimiser

$$\text{take } t \in \mathbb{R} \quad \left. \frac{d}{dt} J(u+t v) \right|_{t=0} = 0$$

$$J(u+v) = \frac{1}{2} R(u, u) + \frac{t^2}{2} R(v, v) + t R(u, v) - t F(v) - F(u)$$

$$0 = \frac{d}{dt} J(u + tv) = F(u, v) - F(v)$$

$\forall v \in V$

FEM approach: restrict the

weak (minimization) problem to an appropriate finite dim subspace!

## Galerkin Method

example: linear (Lagrange) FE

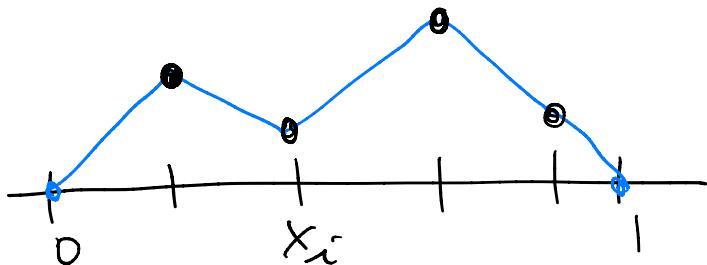
on some mesh or before

$$x_i = \begin{cases} x_0 + ih & i=1, \dots, N \\ 0 & \end{cases}$$

polynomials  
of degree  $\leq 1$

$$I_i = [x_{i-1}, x_i)$$

$$V_h = \{v \in H_0^1(0,1) : \begin{cases} v|_{I_i} \in P^1(I_i) \\ v(0) = 0 = v(1) \end{cases}\}$$



$\cap$   
 $C^0([0, 1])$

FEM: Find  $u_h \in V_h$ :  $\mathcal{A}(u_h, v_h) = F(v_h)$   
 $\forall v_h \in V_h$

Well posed for some reason or  
 before?

## Algebraic form of FEM

Note  $V_h = \text{Span} \left\{ \phi_i \right\}_{i=1}^{N-1}$ :

$$\phi_i = \begin{cases} \frac{x - x_{i-1}}{h} & x \in I_i \\ \frac{x_{i+1} - x}{h} & x \in I_{i+1} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

hat function

$$u(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} U_j \phi_j(x)$$

$$\rightarrow U = \{U_j\}_{j=1}^{N-1}$$

degrees of freedom

DOF

Weak

Problem is linear  $\Rightarrow$  sufficient to test  
with  $\phi_i$ ,  $i=1, \dots, N-1$ :

FEM: Find  $U \in \mathbb{R}^{N-1}$ :

$$\sum_{j=1}^{N-1} U_j \int_0^1 \phi_j^T \phi_i dx = \int_0^1 f \phi_i dx$$

↑

$\forall i=1, \dots, N-1$

$i$ -th equation :

$$\left( \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} \phi_{i-1}' \phi_i' \right) U_{i-1} + \left( \int_x^{x_{i-1}} \phi_i' \phi_i' \right) U_i + \left( \int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} \phi_i' \phi_{i+1}' \right)$$

$\parallel \quad \parallel \quad \parallel$

$(j=i-1) \quad (j=i) \quad (j=i+1)$

$-\frac{1}{h} \quad \frac{1}{h}$

$$= \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} f \phi_i + \int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} f \phi_i$$

$$-\frac{1}{h} U_{i-1} + \frac{2}{h} U_i - \frac{1}{h} U_{i+1}$$

trapezoidal rule

$$= h \frac{f(x_{i-1}) \phi_i(x_{i-1}) + f(x_i) \phi_i(x_i)}{2} + h \frac{f(x_i) \phi_i(x_i) + f(x_{i+1}) \phi_i(x_{i+1})}{2}$$

$$= h f(x_i)$$

$\equiv FD \equiv FV$

- FEM analysis is usually easier  
(based of functional analysis setting)
- Weak formulation allows for  
less smooth ( $H^1$  instead of  $C^2$ )  
solutions
- (FEM easier to generalize to  
more complex domains in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,  
 $d > 1$ )