

Math 574
class #13
10/02/2025

A Quotient Space Estimate

We will need the following estimate for our error analysis of Lagrange nodal interpolation.

Theorem (13.1): Let Ω be an open, bounded, Lipschitz domain in \mathbb{R}^d . There is a constant $C = C(\Omega, k) > 0$, such that

$$(13.1) \quad \inf_{p \in \mathcal{P}_k(\Omega)} \|v + p\|_{H^{k+1}(\Omega)} \leq C |v|_{H^{k+1}(\Omega)}$$

for all $v \in H^{k+1}(\Omega)$.

Recall that

$$\|\vec{v}\|_{H^{k+1}(\Omega)} = \sqrt{\sum_{|\alpha| \leq k+1} (\partial^\alpha v, \partial^\alpha v)_{L^2}}$$

$$|\vec{v}|_{H^{k+1}(\Omega)} = \sqrt{\sum_{|\alpha| = k+1} (\partial^\alpha v, \partial^\alpha v)_{L^2}}$$

Proposition: Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be an open, bounded, Lipschitz domain the object

$$\inf_{p \in \mathcal{P}_k(\Omega)} \|v + p\|_{H^{k+1}(\Omega)},$$

the so called quotient norm, is a bona fide

norm on the space

$$V = H^{k+1}(\Omega) / P_k(\Omega)$$

$$= \{ [v] \mid [v] = \{ v + q \mid q \in P_k(\Omega) \}, v \in H^{k+1}(\Omega) \}$$

which is called the quotient space.

Proof: See the book by Atkinson and Han. //

Theorem (3.2): let $r, m \in \mathbb{N}_0 := \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$, with

$$r \geq 1, \quad r+1 \geq m.$$

Suppose that $\hat{\Pi}: C(\bar{K}) \rightarrow P_r(\bar{K})$ is the nodal interpolant on the reference triangle. Then, there is a constant $C > 0$ such that

$$(3.2) \quad |\hat{v} - \hat{\Pi}\hat{v}|_{H^m(\bar{K})} \leq C |\hat{v}|_{H^{r+1}(\bar{K})}$$

for all $\hat{v} \in H^{r+1}(\bar{K})$.

Proof: If $r \geq 1$, $H^{r+1}(\bar{K}) \hookrightarrow C(\bar{K})$. Thus, if $\hat{v} \in H^{r+1}(\bar{K})$, $\hat{v} \in C(\bar{K})$, and $\hat{\Pi}\hat{v}$ is well-defined. Now,

$$\|\hat{\Pi}\hat{v}\|_{H^m(\bar{K})} = \left\| \sum_{i=1}^d \hat{v}(\hat{a}_i) \hat{\psi}_i(\cdot) \right\|_{H^m(\bar{K})}$$

$$\stackrel{\Delta\text{-ineq}}{\leq} \sum_{i=1}^d |\hat{v}(\hat{a}_i)| \cdot \|\hat{\psi}_i\|_{H^m(\bar{K})}$$

$$\|\hat{v}\|_{C^0(\bar{K})} = \max_{\hat{x} \in \bar{K}} |\hat{v}(\hat{x})|$$

$$\leq C \|\hat{v}\|_{C(\bar{K})} \quad (C \text{ depends upon } m \text{ and } r)$$

$$\stackrel{\text{Sobolev}}{\leq} C \|\hat{v}\|_{H^{r+1}(\Omega)}$$

Thus

$$\hat{\Pi} : H^{r+1}(\hat{K}) \longrightarrow H^m(\hat{K})$$

$$\mathcal{L} : V \rightarrow W$$

$$\|\mathcal{L}v\|_W \leq C\|v\|_V$$

bounded op!

is a bounded linear operator.

Recall that

$$\hat{\Pi} \hat{v} = \hat{v} \quad \forall \hat{v} \in \mathbb{P}_r(\hat{K})$$

This is called polynomial invariance.

Now, for any $\hat{p} \in \mathbb{P}_r(\hat{K})$ (arbitrary)

$$\begin{aligned} \|\hat{v} - \hat{\Pi} \hat{v}\|_{H^m(\hat{K})} &\leq \|\hat{v} - \hat{\Pi} \hat{v}\|_{H^m(\hat{K})} \\ &= \|\hat{v} - \hat{\Pi} \hat{v} + \hat{p} - \hat{\Pi} \hat{p}\|_{H^m(\hat{K})} \\ &\stackrel{\Delta\text{-ineq}}{\leq} \|\hat{v} + \hat{p}\|_{H^m(\hat{K})} + \|\hat{\Pi}(\hat{v} + \hat{p})\|_{H^m(\hat{K})} \\ &\stackrel{\text{bounded op.}}{\leq} \|\hat{v} + \hat{p}\|_{H^{r+1}(\hat{K})} + C \|\hat{v} + \hat{p}\|_{H^{r+1}(\hat{K})} \\ &= (1+C) \|\hat{v} + \hat{p}\|_{H^{r+1}(\hat{K})} \end{aligned}$$

Since $\hat{p} \in \mathbb{P}_r(\hat{K})$ is arbitrary

$$\|\hat{v} - \hat{\Pi} \hat{v}\|_{H^m(\hat{K})} \leq C \inf_{\hat{p} \in \mathbb{P}_r(\hat{K})} \|\hat{v} + \hat{p}\|_{H^{r+1}(\hat{K})}$$

$$\stackrel{(13.1)}{\leq} C |\hat{v}|_{H^{r+1}(\hat{K})}.$$

Theorem (13.3): Assume that $\vec{F}_K: \hat{K} \rightarrow K$ is the canonical affine mapping:

$$\vec{x} = \vec{F}(\hat{x}) = B_K \hat{x} + \vec{a}_{K,1}$$

For any function $v: K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$,

$$\hat{v}(\hat{x}) := v(\vec{F}_K(\hat{x})) \quad \forall \hat{x} \in \hat{K}$$

Then $v \in H^m(K)$ iff $\hat{v} \in H^m(\hat{K})$. There exists a constant $C > 0$, independent of \hat{K} and K , such that

$$(13.3) \quad |\hat{v}|_{H^m(\hat{K})} \leq C \|B_K\|_2^m |\det B_K|^{-1/2} |v|_{H^m(K)}$$

and

$$(13.4) \quad |v|_{H^m(K)} \leq C \|B_K^{-1}\|_2^m |\det B_K|^{1/2} |\hat{v}|_{H^m(\hat{K})}$$

Proof: Homework exercise. ///

Theorem (13.4): Let $r, m \in \mathbb{N}_0$, $r \geq 1$, $r+1 \geq m$. Suppose

$$\Pi_K: C(\bar{K}) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}_r(K)$$

is the Lagrange nodal interpolant on K . There exists a $C > 0$, which is independent of the shape and size of K , such that

$$(13.5) \quad |v - \Pi_K v|_{H^m(K)} \leq C \frac{h_K^{r+1}}{\rho_K^m} |v|_{H^{r+1}(K)},$$

for all $v \in H^{r+1}(K)$.

Proof: First observe that, for all $\hat{x} \in \hat{K}$,

$$(\hat{v} - \hat{\Pi} \hat{v})(\hat{x}) = (v - \Pi_K v)(\hat{F}_K(\hat{x}))$$

By Theorem 13.3,

$$|v - \Pi_K v|_{H^m(K)} \stackrel{(13.4)}{\leq} C \|B_K^{-1}\|_2^m |\det B_K|^{1/2}$$

$$\times |\hat{v} - \hat{\Pi} \hat{v}|_{H^m(\hat{K})} \stackrel{(13.2)}{\leq} C \|B_K^{-1}\|_2^m |\det B_K|^{1/2}$$

$$\times |\hat{v}|_{H^{r+1}(\hat{K})} \stackrel{(13.3)}{\leq} C \|B_K^{-1}\|_2^m |\det B_K|^{1/2}$$

$$\times C \|B_K\|_2^{r+1} |\det B_K|^{-1/2} \times |v|_{H^{r+1}(K)}.$$

Thus,

$$|v - \Pi_K v|_{H^m(K)} \leq C \|B_K^{-1}\|_2^m \|B_K\|_2^{r+1} |v|_{H^{r+1}(K)}$$

$$\leq C \left(\frac{\hat{h}}{\hat{\rho}_K} \right)^m \left(\frac{h_K}{\hat{\rho}} \right)^{r+1} |v|_{H^{r+1}(K)}$$

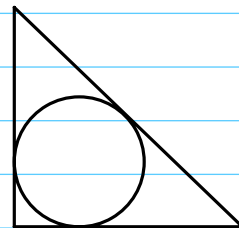
where we have used a lemma from lecture 12:

$$\|B_K\|_2 \leq \frac{h_K}{\hat{\rho}} \quad \|B_K^{-1}\|_2 \leq \frac{\hat{h}}{\hat{\rho}_K}.$$

Note that

$$\hat{h} = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\hat{\rho} \approx \frac{1}{2}$$



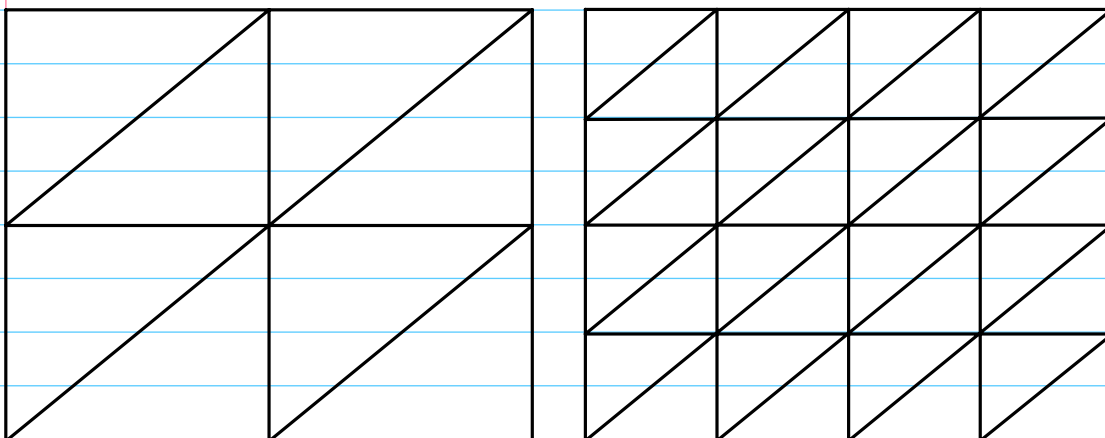
Thus,

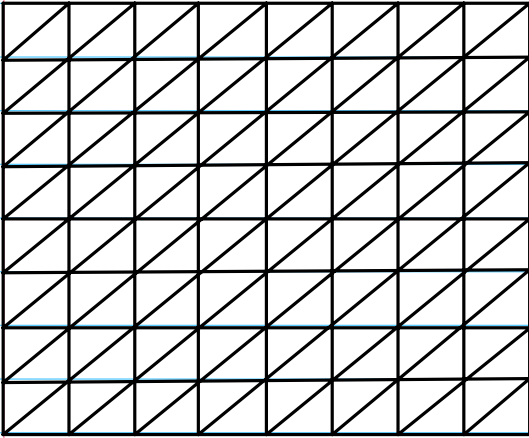
$$\begin{aligned} |v - \Pi_K v|_{H^m(K)} &\leq C \left(\frac{\hat{h}}{\rho_K} \right)^m \left(\frac{h_K}{\hat{\rho}} \right)^{r+1} |v|_{H^{r+1}(K)} \\ &= C \frac{h_K^{r+1}}{\rho_K^m} |v|_{H^{r+1}(K)} \quad // \end{aligned}$$

Defn (13.5): A family of triangulations, $\{\mathcal{T}_n\}_n$, of the polygonal domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ is said to be shape regular iff, $\exists \sigma \geq 1$, independent of h , such that

$$1 \leq \frac{h_K}{\rho_K} \leq \sigma \quad \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_n \quad \forall n$$

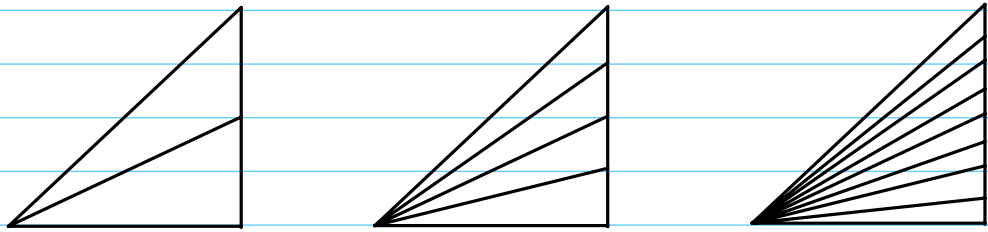
Example:





This family of triangulations is shape regular

Example:



$\frac{h_K}{\rho_K} \rightarrow \infty$

This family is not shape regular

Corollary (13.6): If $\{\mathcal{T}_n\}_n$ is a shape regular family, $\exists C > 0$, independent of the shape and size of K , such that

$$\|v - \Pi_K v\|_{H^m(K)} \leq C h_K^{r+1-m} |v|_{H^{r+1}(K)}$$

for all $v \in H^{r+1}(K)$, $\forall K \in \mathcal{T}_n$.

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} |v - \Pi_K v|_{H^m(K)} &\leq C \frac{h_K^{r+1}}{\rho_K^m} |v|_{H^{r+1}(K)} \\ &= C \left(\frac{h_K}{\rho_K}\right)^m h_K^{r+1-m} |v|_{H^{r+1}(K)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq c \sigma^m h_K^{r+1-m} |v|_{H^{r+1}(K)}.$$

To finish the proof, write

$$\|v - \Pi_K v\|_{H^m(K)}^2 = \sum_{t=0}^m |v - \Pi_K v|_{H^t(K)}^2. //$$