

Math 574  
 class # 08  
 09/11/2025

## 1D Finite Elements (Cont.)

In the special case that

$$h_i = h > 0, \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, M+1\},$$

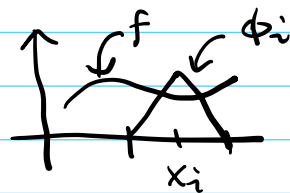
$$a(\phi_j, \phi_i) = a_{i,j} = [A]_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 2/h, & i=j \\ -1/h, & i=j-1 \neq M \\ -1/h, & i=j+1 \neq 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2/h & -1/h & & & 0 \\ -1/h & 2/h & & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ 0 & & & \ddots & \\ & & & -1/h & 2/h \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{M \times M}$$

## The Forcing Vector

For  $1 \leq i \leq M$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} f_i = [\vec{f}]_i &= (f, \phi_i)_{L^2} \\ &= \int_0^1 f(x) \phi_i(x) dx \\ &= \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} f(x) \frac{x - x_{i-1}}{h_i} dx \\ &\quad + \int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} f(x) \frac{(x_{i+1} - x)}{h_{i+1}} dx \end{aligned}$$

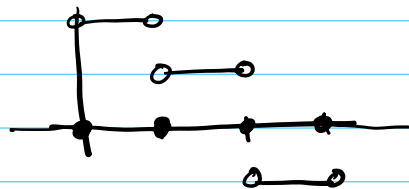


If  $h_i = h$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq M+1$  (uniform mesh), then

$$f_i = \frac{1}{h} \left\{ \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} f(x)(x - x_{i-1}) dx + \int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} f(x)(x_{i+1} - x) dx \right\}$$

Suppose that  $f$  is constant on each triangle  $K_i$

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{M+1} \chi_i \tilde{f}_i$$



where

$$\chi_i = \chi_{K_i} \quad 1 \leq i \leq M+1$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} f_i &= \frac{1}{h} \left\{ \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} \tilde{f}_i (x - x_{i-1}) dx + \int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} \tilde{f}_{i+1} (x_{i+1} - x) dx \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{h} \left\{ \tilde{f}_i \frac{h^2}{2} + \tilde{f}_{i+1} \frac{h^2}{2} \right\} \\ &= \frac{h}{2} (\tilde{f}_i + \tilde{f}_{i+1}), \quad 1 \leq i \leq M. \end{aligned}$$

Recall that, the Galerkin approx  $u_h \in M_{0,1}$  satisfies

$$a(u_h, \phi_i) = f(\phi_i), \quad i=1, \dots, M.$$

Since  $B_{0,1}$  is a basis for  $M_{0,1}$ , we know that

$$u_h = \sum_{i=1}^M u_i \phi_i$$

and

$$A \vec{u} = \vec{f}$$

where

$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ \vdots \\ u_n \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

is the displacement vector.

We showed previously that  $A$  is SPD.

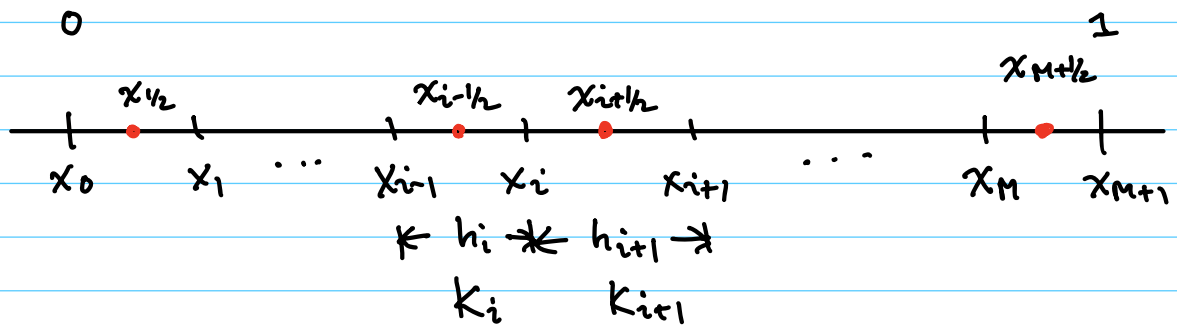
In this case,  $A$  is also sparse (mostly zeros) and tridiagonal.

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### Quadratic Elements in 1D

Suppose  $\Omega = (0, 1)$  and  $P = \{x_i\}_{i=0}^{M+1}$  is a partition. Define

$$x_{i+1/2} := \frac{x_{i+1} + x_i}{2}, \quad 0 \leq i \leq M.$$



$$h_i := x_i - x_{i-1}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq M+1$$

$$K_i := (x_{i-1}, x_i), \quad 1 \leq i \leq M+1$$

Defn: The quadratic nodal set is the set

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{N}_2 &:= \{x_0, x_{1/2}, x_1, x_{3/2}, \dots, x_M, x_{M+1/2}, x_{M+1}\} \\ &= \{x_i\}_{i=0}^{M+1} \cup \{x_{i+1/2}\}_{i=0}^M \\ &= P \cup \{x_{i+1/2}\}_{i=0}^M \quad \swarrow \text{Midpoint Nodes} \end{aligned}$$

Define  $\mathcal{N}_{0,2} := \{x_i\}_{i=1}^M \cup \{x_{i+1/2}\}_{i=0}^M = \mathcal{N}_2 \setminus \{x_0, x_{M+1}\}.$

The set  $\mathcal{N}_{0,2}$  does not contain the endpoint.

We will usually write

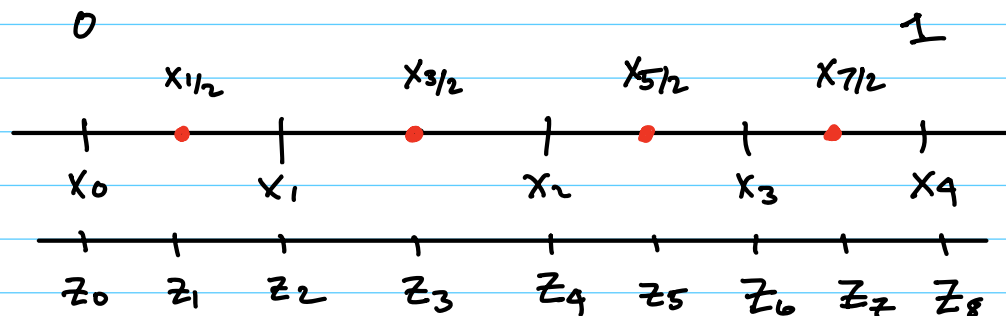
where  $\mathcal{N}_2 = \{z_i\}_{i=0}^{N+1}, \quad 0 = z_0 < z_1 < \dots < z_{N+1} = 1,$

and

$$\mathcal{N}_{0,2} = \{z_i\}_{i=1}^N.$$

Example:  $M=3$ . Then  $N=7$ .

$$\#(\mathcal{N}_2) = 9 \quad \#(\mathcal{N}_{0,2}) = 7$$



Defn: let  $\phi_i \in \mathcal{M}_2$  be defined via the rule

$$(8.1) \quad \phi_i(z_j) = \delta_{i,j} \quad 0 \leq i \leq N$$

where

$$\mathcal{N}_2 = \{z_j\}_{j=0}^{N+1}, \quad 0 = z_0 < z_1 < \dots < z_{N+1} = 1$$

is the quadratic nodal set.

Proposition: The functions  $\phi_i$  above are uniquely defined by (8.1). Furthermore, the sets

$$\mathcal{B}_2 = \{\phi_i\}_{i=0}^{N+1=2M+2}$$

and

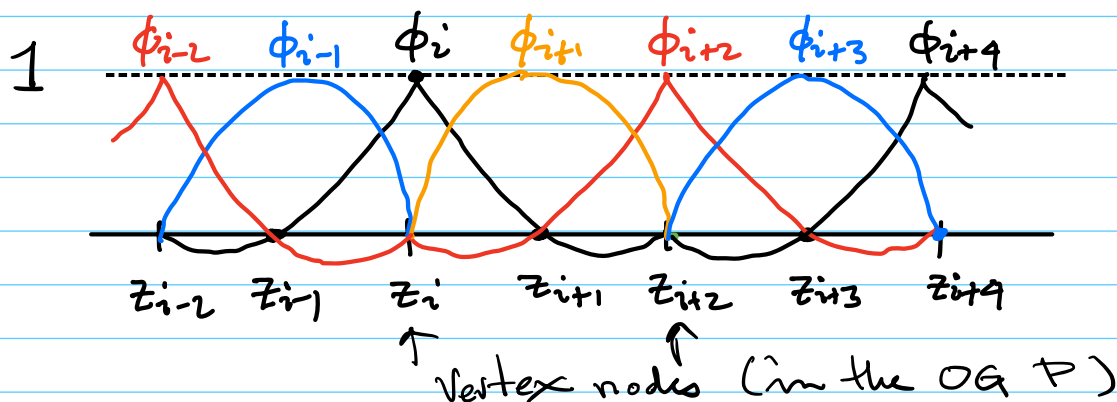
$$\mathcal{B}_{0,2} = \{\phi_i\}_{i=1}^{N=2M+1}$$

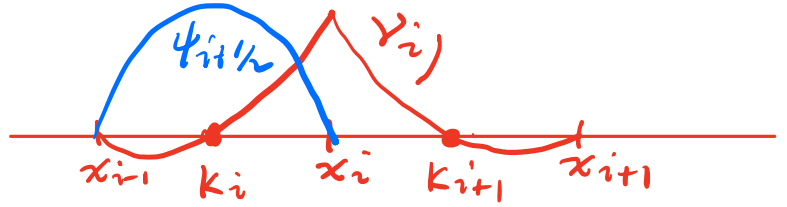
are bases for the spaces  $\mathcal{M}_2 \stackrel{\text{ss}}{=} H^1(0,1)$  and  $\mathcal{M}_{0,2} \stackrel{\text{ss}}{=} H_0^1(0,1)$ , respectively. Thus,

$$\dim(\mathcal{M}_2) = 2M+3 = N+2, \quad \dim(\mathcal{M}_{0,2}) = 2M+1 = N$$

Proof: Exercise. ///

What do these basis look like?





It is often easier to break these into two separate function categories.

$$\begin{aligned} K_0 &:= \emptyset \\ K_{M+2} &:= \emptyset \end{aligned}$$

$$\psi_i(x) = \begin{cases} 2(x-x_{i-1})(x-x_{i+1/2}) \frac{1}{h_i^2}, & x \in \bar{K}_i \\ 2(x_{i+1}-x)(x_{i+1/2}-x) \frac{1}{h_i^2}, & x \in \bar{K}_{i+1} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, M+1$ , and

@ midpoints

$$\psi_{i+1/2}(x) = \begin{cases} 4(x_i-x)(x-x_{i-1}) \frac{1}{h_i^2} & x \in K_i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, M$ .

Then, we have the correspondence

$$\psi_i = \phi_{2i} \quad i = 0, \dots, M+1$$

and

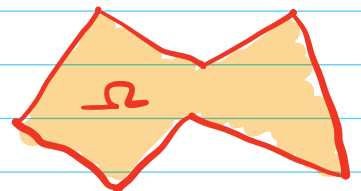
$$\psi_{i+1/2} = \phi_{2i+1} \quad i = 0, \dots, M$$

These functions  $\psi_{i+1/2}$  are called bubble functions.

## FEM in 2D

Defn: let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  be an open, bounded, polygonal domain.  $\mathcal{T}_h = \{K\}$  is a triangulation of  $\Omega$  iff

$$1) \bar{\Omega} = \bigcup_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \bar{K}$$



2) Each  $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$  is an open, non-degenerate triangle

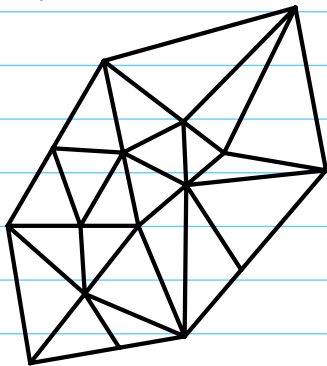
3) For distinct triangles  $K_i, K_j \in \mathcal{T}_h$ ,

$$K_i \cap K_j = \emptyset \quad (\text{disjoint})$$

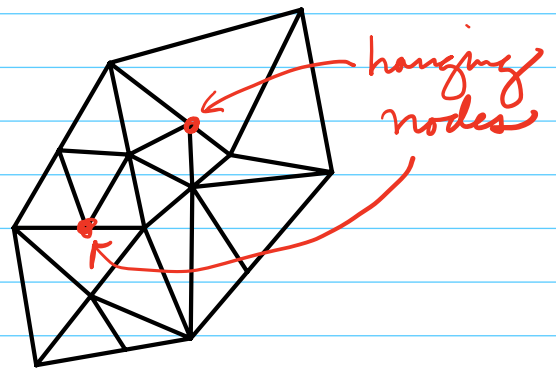
and

$$\bar{K}_i \cap \bar{K}_j = \begin{cases} \emptyset \\ \text{or} \\ \text{a common vertex (a point)} \\ \text{or} \\ \text{a common full edge of } \bar{K}_i \text{ and } \bar{K}_j \end{cases}$$

Example:



yes!



no!

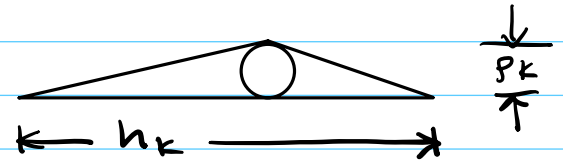
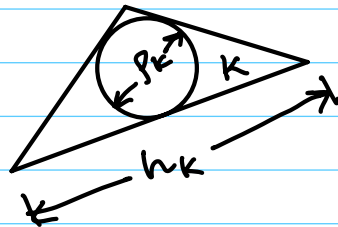
Def: Let  $\mathcal{T}_h = \{K\}$  be a triangulation of a polygonal domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ . Define

$$h_K := \max \{ \|\vec{x} - \vec{y}\|_2 \mid \vec{x}, \vec{y} \in \bar{K} \}$$

and

$$h := \max_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} h_K$$

The number  $p_k > 0$  is the diameter of the largest inscribed circle in  $K$



The ratio  $\frac{h_k}{p_k} > 1$  is called the chunkiness parameter and will be important for our analysis later.