

A REGISTRATION METHOD FOR MODEL ORDER REDUCTION: DATA COMPRESSION AND GEOMETRY REDUCTION*

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Abstract. We propose a general—i.e., independent of the underlying equation—registration method for parameterized model order reduction. Given the spatial domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ and the manifold $\mathcal{M}_u = \{u_\mu : \mu \in \mathcal{P}\}$ associated with the parameter domain $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathbb{R}^P$ and the parametric field $\mu \mapsto u_\mu \in L^2(\Omega)$, the algorithm takes as input a set of snapshots $\{u^k\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}} \subset \mathcal{M}_u$ and returns a parameter-dependent bijective mapping $\Phi : \Omega \times \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$: the mapping is designed to make the mapped manifold $\{u_\mu \circ \Phi_\mu : \mu \in \mathcal{P}\}$ more suited for linear compression methods. We apply the registration procedure, in combination with a linear compression method, to devise low-dimensional representations of solution manifolds with slowly decaying Kolmogorov N -widths; we also consider the application to problems in parameterized geometries. We present a theoretical result to show the mathematical rigor of the registration procedure. We further present numerical results for several two-dimensional problems, to empirically demonstrate the effectivity of our proposal.

Key words. parameterized partial differential equations, model order reduction, data compression, geometry registration

AMS subject classifications. 65N30, 41A45, 35L02, 35J15, 90C26

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1. Introduction.

1.1. Background. Numerical simulations based on mathematical models represent a valuable tool to study complex phenomena of scientific interest and/or industrial value. For several applications—including design and optimization, uncertainty quantification, and active control—it is important to approximate the solution (and associated quantities of interest) to the model over a range of parameters: parameters might correspond to material properties, geometric features, or operating conditions. To alleviate the computational burden associated with the evaluation of the model for many values of the parameters, parameterized model order reduction (pMOR) techniques aim to generate a reduced-order model (ROM) that approximates the original system over a prescribed parameter range. In this work, we shall develop a *general*—i.e., independent of the underlying equation—registration procedure for pMOR applications; we shall here focus on systems modeled by stationary partial differential equations (PDEs). In computer vision and pattern recognition, registration refers to the process of finding a spatial transformation that aligns two datasets; in this paper, registration refers to the process of finding a parametric transformation that improves the linear compressibility of a given parametric manifold.

We denote by μ the set of parameters associated with the model in the prescribed parameter domain $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathbb{R}^P$; we denote by $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ ($d = 2, 3$) the spatial domain, which is assumed to be Lipschitz; we also introduce the Hilbert space \mathcal{X} defined over Ω , endowed with the inner product (\cdot, \cdot) and the induced norm $\|\cdot\| := \sqrt{(\cdot, \cdot)}$. Then, we introduce the following problem:

$$(1.1) \quad \text{find } \mathbf{y}_\mu := \mathbf{s}_\mu(z_\mu) \text{ s.t. } \mathcal{G}_\mu(z_\mu, v) = 0 \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{X},$$

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where \mathbf{y}_μ is a vector of D quantities of interest, $\mathfrak{s}_\mu : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^D$ is a continuous functional, and $\mathcal{G}_\mu(z_\mu, \cdot) = 0$ admits a unique solution for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$. We denote by $\mathcal{M} := \{z_\mu : \mu \in \mathcal{P}\} \subset \mathcal{X}$ the solution manifold associated with the parametric problem, and we denote by \hat{z}_μ the approximation to z_μ provided by a given ROM, for $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$.

A pMOR technique for (1.1) relies on three building blocks: (i) a data compression strategy for the construction of a low-dimensional approximation space of the solution manifold \mathcal{M} ; (ii) a reduced-order statement for the rapid and reliable prediction of the solution and associated quantities of interest for any value of the parameter; and (iii) an a posteriori error estimation procedure for certification. pMOR strategies rely on an *offline/online* computational decomposition: during the offline stage, which is computationally expensive and performed once, a ROM for (1.1) is generated by exploiting several high-fidelity (finite element, finite volume, etc.) solutions to the mathematical model for (properly chosen) parameter values; during the online stage, which is inexpensive and performed for any new parameter value μ , the solution to the ROM is computed to rapidly obtain predictions of z_μ and associated quantities of interest. In the past few decades, many authors have developed pMOR strategies for a broad class of problems: we refer the reader to the surveys [5, 20, 39] for thorough introductions to pMOR.

In (1.1), we assume that the domain Ω is fixed (parameter-independent); however, for several applications, the problem of interest is of the form

$$(1.2) \quad \text{find } \mathbf{y}_\mu := \mathfrak{s}_\mu(z_\mu) \text{ s.t. } \mathcal{G}_\mu(z_\mu, v) = 0 \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{X}_\mu,$$

where \mathcal{X}_μ is a suitable Hilbert space defined over the parameter-dependent domain $\Omega_\mu \subset \mathbb{R}^d$. Given $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$, we remark that the solution field z_μ is defined over the parameter-dependent domain Ω_μ : since pMOR procedures rely on the definition of a low-dimensional approximation defined over a parameter-independent domain, they cannot be directly applied to (1.2). We should thus recast the problem in a fixed domain.

Parametric mappings are used in pMOR to recast problem (1.1) or (1.2) as

$$(1.3) \quad \text{find } \mathbf{y}_\mu = \mathfrak{s}_{\mu, \Phi}(\tilde{z}_\mu) \text{ s.t. } \mathcal{G}_{\mu, \Phi}(\tilde{z}_\mu, v) = 0 \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{X},$$

where $\mathfrak{s}_{\mu, \Phi}(w) := \mathfrak{s}_\mu(w \circ \Phi_\mu^{-1})$, and $\mathcal{G}_{\mu, \Phi}(w, v) := \mathcal{G}_\mu(w \circ \Phi_\mu^{-1}, v \circ \Phi_\mu^{-1})$ for all $w, v \in \mathcal{X}$. We denote by $\tilde{\mathcal{M}} := \{\tilde{z}_\mu = z_\mu \circ \Phi_\mu : \mu \in \mathcal{P}\}$ the mapped solution manifold. For (1.1), we require that Φ_μ is a bijection from Ω into itself for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$; furthermore, we require that $v \circ \Phi_\mu^{-1} \in \mathcal{X}$ for all $v \in \mathcal{X}$ —if \mathcal{X} is either $L^2(\Omega)$ or $H^1(\Omega)$, it suffices to require that Φ and its inverse are Lipschitz continuous for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$. For (1.2), we require that Φ_μ is a bijection from a reference domain Ω into Ω_μ and that $\mathcal{G}_{\mu, \Phi}$ is well-posed in $\mathcal{X} := \{v \circ \Phi_\mu : v \in \mathcal{X}_\mu\}$. As discussed in section 1.2, the use of parameterized mappings for problems of the form (1.1) is motivated by approximation considerations and is not strictly necessary; on the other hand, the use of mappings for problems of the form (1.2) serves to restate the mathematical problem in a parameter-independent spatial domain and is thus essential for the application of pMOR procedures.

Problem-dependent mappings are broadly used in applied mathematics to compress information and ultimately simplify the solution to PDEs. r -adaptivity [54] is used in combination with discontinuous Galerkin (DG) discretization methods to approximate discontinuous solutions to hyperbolic PDEs; similarly, problem-dependent scaling factors—in effect, mappings—are used to determine self-similar (approximate)

solutions to PDEs, including the boundary layer equations (see, e.g., [34, Chapter 16.4]). Furthermore, problem-dependent mappings are employed to devise high-fidelity solvers for problems in deforming domains [15, 36]. We describe below the two classes of pMOR tasks considered in this work.

1.2. Data compression of problems with slowly decaying Kolmogorov widths. Most approaches to data compression for (1.1) rely on linear approximation spaces $\mathcal{Z}_N = \text{span}\{\zeta_n\}_{n=1}^N \subset \mathcal{X}$ to approximate the manifold \mathcal{M} : we refer to this class of methods as *linear approximation (or compression) methods*; given \mathcal{Z}_N , we denote by $Z_N : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_N$ the linear parameter-independent operator such that $Z_N \alpha := \sum_{n=1}^N \alpha_n \zeta_n$ for all $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^N$. Two well-known linear approximation methods are the proper orthogonal decomposition (POD) [7, 46, 50] and the weak-greedy algorithm [45, section 7.2.2]. The success of linear methods relies on the availability of low-dimensional accurate approximation spaces for the solution manifold \mathcal{M} . The Kolmogorov N -width [37] provides a rigorous measure of the linear reducibility of \mathcal{M} : given $N > 0$, the Kolmogorov N -width $d_N(\mathcal{M})$ is given by

$$(1.4) \quad d_N(\mathcal{M}) := \inf_{\mathcal{Z}_N \subset \mathcal{X}, \dim(\mathcal{Z}_N)=N} \sup_{w \in \mathcal{M}} \|w - \Pi_{\mathcal{Z}_N} w\|,$$

where the infimum is taken over all N -dimensional spaces, and $\Pi_{\mathcal{Z}_N} : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_N$ denotes the orthogonal projection operator onto $\mathcal{Z}_N \subset \mathcal{X}$. In certain engineering-relevant cases, it is possible to demonstrate that the decay of $d_N(\mathcal{M})$ with N is extremely rapid: we refer the reader to [45, section 8.1], [2, Theorem 3.3], and [12, 13] for further details. Recalling the (quasi-)optimality properties of POD and greedy algorithms (see [50, 12], respectively), rapid-decaying Kolmogorov widths justify the use of linear methods.

However, linear approximation methods are fundamentally ill-suited for several classes of relevant engineering problems. As observed in [19, Example 3.5] and [48, Example 2.5], solution fields with parameter-dependent jump discontinuities—or, alternatively, boundary/internal layers—cannot be adequately approximated through a low-dimensional linear expansion; similarly, linear methods are inappropriate for dealing with problems with discontinuous parameter-dependent coefficients. Motivated by these considerations, several authors have proposed *nonlinear approximation/compression methods* to deal with these problems: we here distinguish between *Eulerian* and *Lagrangian* approaches.

Eulerian approaches consider approximations of the form $\hat{z}_\mu := Z_{N,\mu}(\hat{\alpha}_\mu)$, where $Z_{N,\mu} : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ is a suitably chosen operator which might depend on the parameter μ and might also be nonlinear in α . Eulerian techniques might rely on Grassmannian learning [1, 55], convolutional autoencoders [23, 24], transported/transformed snapshot methods [10, 31, 40, 51], or displacement interpolation [41], to determine the operator $Z_{N,\mu}$. Alternatively, they might exploit adaptive local-in-parameter and/or local-in-space enrichment strategies [3, 6, 11, 16, 17, 18, 33, 35]. Note that, since $Z_{N,\mu}$ is nonlinear and/or parameter-dependent, it might be difficult to develop rapid and reliable procedures for the online computations of the coefficients $\hat{\alpha}_\mu$.

Lagrangian approaches propose to exploit a linear method $\tilde{Z}_N : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{Z}}_N \subset \mathcal{X}$ to approximate the mapped solution $\tilde{z}_\mu := z_\mu \circ \Phi_\mu$, where $\Phi_\mu : \Omega \rightarrow \Omega$ is a suitably chosen bijection from Ω into itself: the mapping Φ_μ should be chosen to make the mapped solution manifold $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}$ more amenable for linear approximations.

Examples of Lagrangian approaches have been proposed in [22, 29, 32, 48]:¹ in [32, 48], the construction of the map is performed separately from the construction of the solution coefficients, while in [29] the authors propose to build the mapping Φ_μ and the solution coefficients $\hat{\alpha}_\mu$ simultaneously. Simultaneous learning of mapping and solution coefficients leads to a nonlinear and nonconvex optimization problem, even for linear PDEs. Note that any Lagrangian method is equivalent to an Eulerian method with $Z_{N,\mu}(\alpha) := \sum_{n=1}^N \alpha_n \zeta_n \circ \Phi_\mu^{-1}$, while the converse is not true. On the other hand, the application of pMOR techniques to the mapped problem (1.3) is completely standard: this is in contrast with Eulerian approaches, which might require more involved strategies for the computation of the solution coefficients $\hat{\alpha}_\mu$ (see [24]).

1.3. Reduction of problems in parameterized domains. Given the family of parameterized domains $\{\Omega_\mu : \mu \in \mathcal{P}\}$, we shall here identify a reference domain Ω and a bijective mapping Φ such that $\Omega_\mu = \Phi_\mu(\Omega)$ for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$; the mapping should be computable for new values of $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$, with limited computational and memory resources. Several authors have developed geometry reduction techniques based on automatic piecewise-affine maps [45], radial basis functions (RBFs) [27], transfinite maps [25, 21], and solid extension [26]. While the approach in [45] is restricted to a specific class of parametric deformations, the other approaches—which exploit ideas originally developed in the framework of mesh deformation and surface interpolation/approximation—are broadly applicable. Despite the many recent contributions to the field, development of rapid and reliable geometry reduction techniques for large deformations is still a challenging task.

For applications to biological systems, parametric descriptions of the boundary $\partial\Omega_\mu$ for all μ are unavailable. For this reason, in order to find the mapping Φ , it is important to implement strategies to systematically determine parametric descriptions of $\partial\Omega_\mu$. This problem, which is shared by many of the geometry reduction approaches mentioned above, is not addressed in the present paper.

1.4. Contributions and outline of the paper. We propose a registration procedure that takes as input a set of snapshots $\{u^k = u_{\mu^k}\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}} \subset L^2(\Omega)$ with $\mu^1, \dots, \mu^{n_{\text{train}}} \in \mathcal{P}$ and returns the parametric mapping $\Phi : \Omega \times \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$. The key features of the approach are (i) a nonlinear nonconvex optimization statement that aims at reducing the difference (in a suitable metric) between a properly chosen reference field $\bar{u} = u_{\bar{\mu}}$ and the mapped field $\tilde{u}_{\mu^k} = u_{\mu^k} \circ \Phi_{\mu^k}$ for $\mu^1, \dots, \mu^{n_{\text{train}}}$, and (ii) a generalization procedure based on kernel regression that aims at determining a mapping for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$ based on the available data for $\{\mu^k\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$.

For nonlinear data compression, we apply the registration procedure to the solution itself ($u_\mu = z_\mu$); for geometry reduction, we apply the registration procedure to determine a mapping from Ω to Ω_μ for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$. To demonstrate the generality of the approach for data compression, we consider the application to a boundary layer problem and to an advection-reaction problem with a parameter-dependent sharp gradient region; on the other hand, we consider the application to two diffusion problems to demonstrate the effectivity of our proposal to geometry reduction.

We observe that the present paper is related to a number of prior works. First, as the Eulerian approach in [24], our registration algorithm is independent of the

¹The method of freezing proposed in [32] aims at decomposing the solution into a group component and a shape component. The approach reduces to a Lagrangian approach if the group action is induced by a mapping of the underlying spatial domain.

underlying equation: for this reason, we believe that the approach can be applied to a broad class of problems in science and engineering. Second, our optimization statement for the construction of Φ is related to the recent proposal by Zahr and Persson for r -adaptivity in the DG framework [54]. Third, the optimization statement is tightly linked to optimal transport [49], which has been employed in [22] to devise a nonlinear approximation method: in section 3.1.3, we discuss similarities and differences between the mappings obtained using our method and optimal transport maps. Fourth, the optimization statement shares also similarities with the method of slices considered in [44, 30]. In particular, the reference field \bar{u} plays the role of the *template* in the above-mentioned papers. The key difference is that the method of slices—similarly to [32]—is associated with problems with symmetries (and more in general with problems that are invariant under a given group action) and exploits specific features of the physical system; on the other hand, our approach is exclusively driven by approximation considerations and does not require any particular structure to the elements of the parametric manifold.

The outline of the paper is as follows. In section 2, we present some necessary mathematical background that will guide us in the definition of the methodology. Then, in sections 3 and 4, we discuss the development of the registration procedure for data compression and geometry reduction; for each task, we investigate performance through the vehicle of two model problems. Finally, in section 5, we provide a short summary and we discuss several potential next steps.

1.5. Notation. By way of preliminaries, we introduce notation used throughout the paper. Given the parametric mapping Φ , we denote by \mathbf{X} (resp., \mathbf{x}) a generic point in the reference (resp., physical) configuration; we use notation $\widehat{\nabla} = [\widehat{\partial}_1, \dots, \widehat{\partial}_d]^T$ and $\nabla = [\partial_1, \dots, \partial_d]^T$ to refer to reference and physical gradients, and we recall that $\nabla = (\widehat{\nabla} \Phi_\mu)^{-T} \widehat{\nabla}$; we denote by $\mathfrak{J}_\mu = \det(\widehat{\nabla} \Phi_\mu)$ the Jacobian determinant; finally, given the field $g \in L^2$, we define the corresponding mapped field $\tilde{g}_\mu := g \circ \Phi_\mu$.

We denote by $\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_N$ the canonical basis in \mathbb{R}^N and by $\|\cdot\|_2$ the Euclidean norm. Given the open set $A \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, we define the corresponding indicator function $\mathbb{1}_A : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$, the distance function $\text{dist}(\mathbf{x}, A) = \inf_{\mathbf{y} \in A} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_2$, and the closure $\bar{A} := A \cup \partial A$, and given the function $w : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^q$, $q \geq 1$, and $A \subset \Omega$, we define the image of w in A as $w(A) = \{w(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbf{x} \in A\} \subset \mathbb{R}^q$. Given $\delta > 0$, we denote by A_δ the δ -neighborhood of A , $A_\delta := \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \text{dist}(\mathbf{x}, A) < \delta\}$. Furthermore, we say that the differentiable function $\mathbf{H} : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ is a diffeomorphism if it is a bijection and its inverse is differentiable; given the open set $B \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, we say that A is diffeomorphic to B (and we use notation $A \simeq B$) if there exists a diffeomorphism \mathbf{H} such that $\mathbf{H}(A) = B$, and we say that A is compactly embedded in B (and we use notation $A \Subset B$) if \bar{A} is contained in B . Finally, we introduce the Hausdorff distance $\text{dist}_H(A, B) := \max\{\sup_{\mathbf{x} \in A} \text{dist}(\mathbf{x}, B), \sup_{\mathbf{y} \in B} \text{dist}(\mathbf{y}, A)\}$.

Numerical results rely on a high-fidelity continuous or discontinuous Galerkin finite element (FE) discretization. We denote by $\{\mathbf{D}^k\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{el}}}$ the elements of the mesh; we denote by N_{hf} the number of degrees of freedom; and we denote by $\{\mathbf{x}_q^{\text{qd}}\}_{q=1}^{N_q}$ the quadrature points.

In this work, we resort to POD to generate low-dimensional linear approximation spaces; we use the method of snapshots [46] to compute POD eigenvalues and eigenvectors. Given the snapshot set $\{u^k\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}} \subset \mathcal{M}_u$ and the inner product (\cdot, \cdot) , we define the Gramian matrix $\mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{\text{train}}, n_{\text{train}}}$, $\mathbf{C}_{k,k'} = (u^k, u^{k'})$, and we define the

POD eigenpairs $\{(\lambda_n, \zeta_n)\}_{n=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$ as

$$\mathbf{C}\zeta_n = \lambda_n \zeta_n, \quad \zeta_n := \sum_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}} (\zeta_n)_k u^k, \quad n = 1, \dots, n_{\text{train}},$$

with $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_{n_{\text{train}}} = 0$. In our implementation, we orthonormalize the modes, that is, $\|\zeta_n\| = 1$ for $n = 1, \dots, n_{\text{train}}$. To stress dependence of the POD space on the choice of the inner product, we use notation L^2 -POD if $(\cdot, \cdot) = (\cdot, \cdot)_{L^2(\Omega)}$, H^1 -POD if $(\cdot, \cdot) = (\cdot, \cdot)_{H^1(\Omega)}$, and $\|\cdot\|_2$ -POD if (\cdot, \cdot) is the Euclidean inner product. Finally, we shall choose the size N of the POD space based on the criterion

$$(1.5) \quad N := \min \left\{ N' : \sum_{n=1}^{N'} \lambda_n \geq (1 - \text{tol}_{\text{pod}}) \sum_{i=1}^{n_{\text{train}}} \lambda_i \right\},$$

where $\text{tol}_{\text{pod}} > 0$ is a given tolerance.

2. Affine mappings: Theoretical preliminaries. Given the diffeomorphic open sets U and V in \mathbb{R}^d , and the target tolerance $\text{tol} \geq 0$, we are interested in determining $\Phi : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ such that

$$(2.1) \quad \text{dist}_{\mathbb{H}}(\Phi(U), V) \leq \text{tol}, \quad \Phi : U \rightarrow \Phi(U) \text{ is bijective.}$$

In data compression (cf. section 3), we have $U = V = \Omega$, while in geometry reduction (cf. section 4), we have $U = \Omega$ and $V = \Omega_\mu$. In this paper, we shall seek mappings of the form

$$(2.2) \quad \Psi_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X}) := \mathbf{X} + \sum_{m=1}^{M_{\text{hf}}} a_m \varphi_m^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X}),$$

where $\{\varphi_m^{\text{hf}}\}_{m=1}^{M_{\text{hf}}} \subset \text{Lip}(U, \mathbb{R}^d)$. In view of the discussion, we further define the Jacobian $\mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}} := \det(\widehat{\nabla} \Psi_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}})$.

In order to devise an effective computational methodology to determine problem-dependent parameterized mappings, we shall discuss two issues: (i) the choice of the search space $\text{span}\{\varphi_m^{\text{hf}}\}_{m=1}^{M_{\text{hf}}}$, and (ii) the derivation of an actionable condition for the coefficients $\mathbf{a} = [a_1, \dots, a_{M_{\text{hf}}}]^T$ to enforce (2.1).

2.1. Main result. In Proposition 2.1, we state the main result of the paper. The proof of Proposition 2.1 is provided in section SM1 of the supplementary materials, linked from the main article webpage.

PROPOSITION 2.1. *Let $U, V \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ satisfy*

$$(2.3) \quad U = \Upsilon(\widehat{\Omega}), \quad V = \Lambda(\widehat{\Omega}), \quad \widehat{\Omega} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : f(\mathbf{x}) < 0\}, \quad \text{where } f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ is convex,}$$

and let Υ (resp., Λ) be a diffeomorphism from $\widehat{\Omega}$ to U (resp., V) that has a C^1 extension to \mathbb{R}^d . Given $\delta > 0$, let $\Phi : U_\delta \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ be a vector-valued function that satisfies the following:

- (i) $\Phi \in C^1(U_\delta; \mathbb{R}^d)$;
- (ii) $\mathfrak{J}(\mathbf{X}) = \det(\widehat{\nabla} \Phi(\mathbf{X})) \geq \epsilon > 0$ for all $\mathbf{X} \in U$ and a given $\epsilon > 0$;
- (iii) $\text{dist}(\Phi(\mathbf{X}), \partial V) = 0$ for all $\mathbf{X} \in \partial U$ (i.e., $\Phi(\partial U) \subseteq \partial V$).

Then, Φ is a bijection that maps U into V .

We observe that the (unit) ball and the (unit) hypercube satisfy (2.3): we have indeed that $\mathcal{B}_1(\mathbf{0}) = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : f(\mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 - 1 < 0\}$, and $(0, 1)^d = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : f(\mathbf{x}) = 2\|\mathbf{x} - [1/2, 1/2]\|_\infty - 1 < 0\}$. We further remark that $\partial\widehat{\Omega} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : f(\mathbf{x}) = 0\}$: this implies that any U satisfying (2.3) is simply connected with connected boundary. Note that, recalling standard extension theorems in analysis, any simply connected two-dimensional smooth domain satisfies (2.3); the latter result is in general false for $d = 3$.

Corollary 2.2 illustrates an extension of Proposition 2.1 to a broader class of domains. The result is stated for $U = V = \Omega$. The extension to the more general case $U \neq V$ is here omitted.

COROLLARY 2.2. *Let $\Omega = \Omega^{\text{out}} \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^Q \Omega_i^{\text{in}}$, and let $\Omega^{\text{out}}, \Omega_1^{\text{in}}, \dots, \Omega_Q^{\text{in}} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ satisfy the following assumptions:*

- (i) $\Omega_1^{\text{in}}, \dots, \Omega_Q^{\text{in}}, \Omega^{\text{out}}$ satisfy (2.3).
- (ii) $\Omega_1^{\text{in}}, \dots, \Omega_Q^{\text{in}}$ are pairwise disjoint, and $\Omega_1^{\text{in}}, \dots, \Omega_Q^{\text{in}} \Subset \Omega^{\text{out}}$.

Let $\Phi : \Omega_\delta^{\text{out}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ be a function such that the following hold:

- (i) $\Phi \in C^1(\Omega_\delta^{\text{out}}; \mathbb{R}^d)$;
- (ii) $\mathfrak{J}(\mathbf{X}) \geq \epsilon > 0$ for all $\mathbf{X} \in \Omega^{\text{out}}$ and a given $\epsilon > 0$;
- (iii) $\Phi(\partial\Omega^{\text{out}}) \subseteq \partial\Omega^{\text{out}}$, $\Phi(\partial\Omega_i^{\text{in}}) \subseteq \partial\Omega_i^{\text{in}}$ for $i = 1, \dots, Q$.

Then, Φ is a bijection that maps Ω into itself.

Proof. We first observe that, by construction, we have $\partial\Omega = \partial\Omega^{\text{out}} \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^Q \partial\Omega_i^{\text{in}}$. Exploiting Proposition 2.1, we find that Φ is a bijection that maps $\Omega^{\text{out}}, \Omega_1^{\text{in}}, \dots, \Omega_Q^{\text{in}}$ into themselves. Then, we observe that

$$\Phi(\Omega) = \Phi\left(\Omega^{\text{out}} \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^Q \Omega_i^{\text{in}}\right) = \Phi(\Omega^{\text{out}}) \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^Q \Phi(\Omega_i^{\text{in}}) = \Omega^{\text{out}} \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^Q \Omega_i^{\text{in}} = \Omega,$$

where the second identity follows from the fact that Φ is a bijection from Ω^{out} into itself and $\Phi(\Omega_i^{\text{in}}) = \Omega_i^{\text{in}}$ for $i = 1, \dots, Q$. The thesis follows. \square

2.2. Implications for $U = V = (0, 1)^d$. The next result, which is a straightforward consequence of Proposition 2.1, provides indications for the choice of $\varphi_1^{\text{hf}}, \dots, \varphi_{M_{\text{hf}}}^{\text{hf}}$ and of the coefficients \mathbf{a} for $U = V = (0, 1)^d$.

PROPOSITION 2.3. *Let $d = 2$ or $d = 3$, and let $\varphi_1^{\text{hf}}, \dots, \varphi_{M_{\text{hf}}}^{\text{hf}}$ in (2.2) be of class $C^1(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^d)$ and satisfy*

$$(2.4) \quad \varphi_m^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X}) \cdot \mathbf{e}_i = 0 \quad \text{on } \{\mathbf{X} : X_i = 0, \text{ or } X_i = 1\}, \quad \begin{cases} m = 1, \dots, M_{\text{hf}}; \\ i = 1, \dots, d. \end{cases}$$

Then, for any $\bar{\mathbf{a}} \in \mathbb{R}^{M_{\text{hf}}}$, $\Phi = \Psi_{\bar{\mathbf{a}}}^{\text{hf}}$ is bijective from the unit square (or cube) $\Omega = (0, 1)^d$ into itself if

$$(2.5) \quad \min_{\mathbf{X} \in \bar{\Omega}} \det(\widehat{\nabla} \Phi(\mathbf{X})) > 0.$$

Furthermore, for any $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$, there exists a ball $B = \mathcal{B}_{r_\epsilon}(\mathbf{0})$ of radius $r_\epsilon > 0$ centered in $\mathbf{0}$ such that $\inf_{\mathbf{X} \in \Omega, \mathbf{a} \in B} \mathfrak{J}_{\bar{\mathbf{a}}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X}) \geq \epsilon$.

Proof. We first consider the case $d = 2$. Recalling Proposition 2.1, we only need to verify that $\Phi(\partial\Omega) \subset \partial\Omega$. We here verify that $\Phi(\mathcal{E}_{\text{top}}) \subset \mathcal{E}_{\text{top}}$, where $\mathcal{E}_{\text{top}} := \{\mathbf{X} = (t, 1) : t \in (0, 1)\}$ is the top edge of $(0, 1)^2$: proofs for the other edges are analogous.

Exploiting (2.4), we have that

$$\Phi(\mathbf{X} = (t, 1)) = \begin{bmatrix} \varphi(t) \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{where } \varphi(t) := \mathbf{e}_1 \cdot \Phi(\mathbf{X} = (t, 1)).$$

By contradiction, we assume that $\varphi([0, 1])$ is not contained in $[0, 1]$. Since $\varphi(0) = 0$ and $\varphi(1) = 1$, φ has a local minimum or maximum in $(0, 1)$; this implies that there exists $\bar{t} \in (0, 1)$ such that $\varphi'(\bar{t}) = 0$. As a result, we find

$$\mathbf{e}_1^T \widehat{\nabla} \Phi|_{\mathbf{X}=(\bar{t}, 1)} = [\varphi'(\bar{t}), 0] = 0,$$

which implies that $\mathfrak{J}(\mathbf{X} = (\bar{t}, 1)) = 0$, a contradiction.

To extend the result to $d = 3$, we show that $\Phi(\mathcal{E}_{\text{top}}) \subset \mathcal{E}_{\text{top}}$, where $\mathcal{E}_{\text{top}} := \{\mathbf{X} = (t, s, 1) : t, s \in (0, 1)\}$ is the top face of $(0, 1)^3$. Towards this end, we define $\tilde{\Phi}(t, s) = [\Phi_1(t, s, 1), \Phi_2(t, s, 1)]^T$: clearly, $\tilde{\Phi}$ satisfies the hypotheses of Proposition 2.3 for $d = 2$; as a result, $\tilde{\Phi}((0, 1)^2) = (0, 1)^2$ and thus $\Phi(\mathcal{E}_{\text{top}}) = \mathcal{E}_{\text{top}}$. The thesis follows.

The proof of the latter statement is a direct consequence of the fact that the determinant of a matrix-valued function is continuous and that $\mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}} \equiv 1$ for $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{0}$. We omit the details. \square

Condition (2.4) imposes that each edge of the square should be mapped in itself and that each corner is mapped in itself: Figure 1 provides the geometric interpretation. In our implementation, for $d = 2$, we define $\varphi_1^{\text{hf}}, \dots, \varphi_{M_{\text{hf}}}^{\text{hf}}$ as

$$(2.6) \quad \begin{cases} \varphi_{m=i+(i'-1)\bar{M}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X}) = \ell_i(X_1) \ell_{i'}(X_2) X_1(1 - X_1) \mathbf{e}_1, \\ \varphi_{m=\bar{M}^2+i+(i'-1)\bar{M}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X}) = \ell_i(X_1) \ell_{i'}(X_2) X_2(1 - X_2) \mathbf{e}_2, \end{cases} \quad i, i' = 1, \dots, \bar{M},$$

where $\{\ell_i\}_{i=1}^{\bar{M}}$ are the first \bar{M} Legendre polynomials and $M_{\text{hf}} = 2\bar{M}^2$; note, however, that other choices satisfying (2.4) (e.g., Fourier expansions) might also be considered.

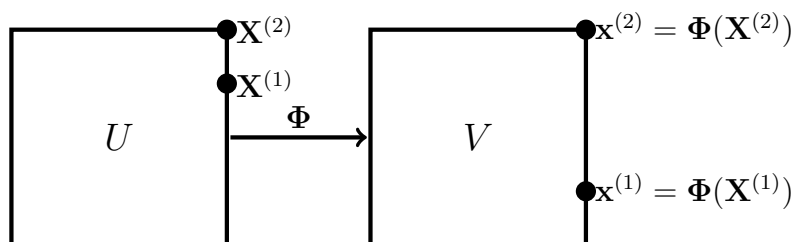


FIG. 1. Geometric interpretation of condition (2.4) in Proposition 2.3.

Condition (2.5) for the coefficients $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^{M_{\text{hf}}}$ is difficult to impose computationally; however, we might replace (2.5) with the approximation

$$(2.7) \quad \int_{\Omega} \exp\left(\frac{\epsilon - \mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X})}{C_{\text{exp}}}\right) + \exp\left(\frac{\mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X}) - 1/\epsilon}{C_{\text{exp}}}\right) dX \leq \delta,$$

where $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$. Provided that $\exp(\frac{\epsilon}{C_{\text{exp}}}) \gg 1$ and that $\|\widehat{\nabla} \mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)}$ is moderate, this constraint enforces that the mapping is invertible for all $\mathbf{X} \in \Omega$: more formally, for all $\epsilon > 0$, there exist $C_{\text{exp}}, \delta, C > 0$ such that if \mathbf{a} satisfies (2.7) and $\|\widehat{\nabla} \mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} < C$,

then $\Psi_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}$ is globally invertible. To show this statement for $d = 2$, suppose that $\mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X}^*) = 0$ for some $\mathbf{X}^* \in \Omega$; then, there exists a ball $B = \mathcal{B}_r(\mathbf{X}^*)$ of radius $r \geq (\|\widehat{\nabla} \mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)})^{-1} \epsilon/2$ such that $\mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X}) \leq \epsilon/2$ for all $\mathbf{X} \in B$. As a result, we find² that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} \exp\left(\frac{\epsilon - \mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X})}{C_{\text{exp}}}\right) + \exp\left(\frac{\mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X}) - 1/\epsilon}{C_{\text{exp}}}\right) d\mathbf{X} &\geq \frac{\pi r^2}{4} \exp\left(\frac{\epsilon}{2C_{\text{exp}}}\right) \\ &\geq \frac{\pi}{16} \left(\|\widehat{\nabla} \mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)}\right)^{-2} \epsilon^2 \exp\left(\frac{\epsilon}{2C_{\text{exp}}}\right) =: \delta_0, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that \mathbf{a} does not satisfy (2.7) for $\delta < \delta_0$.

We can interpret $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$ as the maximum allowed pointwise contraction induced by the mapping Ψ^{hf} and by its inverse. We further remark that the constant δ should satisfy

$$(2.8) \quad \delta \geq |\Omega| \left(\exp\left(\frac{\epsilon - 1}{C_{\text{exp}}}\right) + \exp\left(\frac{1 - 1/\epsilon}{C_{\text{exp}}}\right) \right),$$

so that $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{0}$ is admissible. In all our numerical examples, we choose

$$(2.9) \quad \epsilon = 0.1, \quad C_{\text{exp}} = 0.025\epsilon, \quad \delta = |\Omega|.$$

2.3. Extension to a more general class of domains. We can exploit the results proved in sections 2.1 and 2.2 to obtain the following result. The proof is straightforward and is omitted.

PROPOSITION 2.4. *Let $\varphi_1^{\text{hf}}, \dots, \varphi_{M_{\text{hf}}}^{\text{hf}}$ in (2.2) be of class $C^1(\mathbb{R}^d; \mathbb{R}^d)$ and satisfy (2.4). Let $U, V \subset \Omega_{\text{box}} = (0, 1)^d$ satisfy (2.3).*

Then, for any $\bar{\mathbf{a}} \in \mathbb{R}^{M_{\text{hf}}}$, $\Phi = \Psi_{\bar{\mathbf{a}}}^{\text{hf}}$ is bijective from U into V if

$$(2.10) \quad \begin{cases} \min_{\mathbf{X} \in \Omega_{\text{box}}} \det(\widehat{\nabla} \Phi(\mathbf{X})) > 0, \\ \text{dist}(\Phi(\mathbf{X}), \partial V) = 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{X} \in \partial U. \end{cases}$$

We remark that condition (2.10)₂ is not practical and should in practice be replaced by

$$\text{dist}(\Phi(\mathbf{X}), \partial V) \leq \text{tol} \quad \forall \mathbf{X} \in \partial U$$

for some tolerance $\text{tol} > 0$. We are currently working on the extension of Proposition 2.4 to this more general case: as discussed in section 4, this extension would rigorously justify the approach for geometry reduction proposed in this paper.

3. Data compression. In section 3.1, we present the registration procedure for $U = V = \Omega$ for data compression. We shall here assume that $\Phi_\mu(\Omega) = \Omega$ for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$ and $\Omega = (0, 1)^2$: in section 2, we provide an actionable way to enforce this condition for this choice of Ω . In section 3.2, we introduce the notion of Kolmogorov N - M width, which is a generalization of (1.4). Then, in section 3.3, we discuss the integration of the proposed compression method within the standard pMOR offline/online paradigm. Finally, in section 3.4, we present numerical investigations for two two-dimensional model problems.

²The factor $\frac{1}{4}$ follows from the identity $|\mathcal{B}_r(\mathbf{X}) \cap \Omega| \geq \frac{\pi r^2}{4}$ for all $r \leq \frac{1}{2}$ and $\mathbf{X} \in \Omega$.

3.1. Registration procedure. Given the snapshot $\{u^k\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}} \subset \mathcal{M}_u$, we first introduce the parameterized function Ψ^{hf} in (2.2)–(2.6) and a reference field $\bar{u} \in \mathcal{M}_u$ associated with the parameter $\bar{\mu} \in \mathcal{P}$. Then, (i) for $k = 1, \dots, n_{\text{train}}$, we choose \mathbf{a}_{hf}^k associated with u^k and \bar{u} by solving an optimization problem (cf. section 3.1.1); (ii) given the dataset $\{(\mu^k, \mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}^k)\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$, we use a multitarget regression procedure to generate the mapping Φ of the form

$$(3.1) \quad \Phi_\mu(\mathbf{X}) := \mathbf{X} + \sum_{m=1}^M (\hat{\mathbf{a}}_\mu)_m \varphi_m(\mathbf{X}), \quad \text{where } \begin{cases} \hat{\mathbf{a}} : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^M, \\ \varphi_m \in \text{span}\{\varphi_m^{\text{hf}}\}_{m=1}^{M_{\text{hf}}}, \quad M \leq M_{\text{hf}}, \end{cases}$$

for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$ (cf. section 3.1.4).

3.1.1. Optimization statement. We propose to choose $\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}^k = \mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}(\mu^k)$ as a solution to

$$(3.2a) \quad \begin{aligned} & \min_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^{M_{\text{hf}}}} \mathfrak{f}^k(\mathbf{a}) + \xi |\Psi_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}|_{H^2(\Omega)}^2 \\ & \text{s.t. } \int_{\Omega} \exp\left(\frac{\epsilon - \mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X})}{C_{\text{exp}}}\right) + \exp\left(\frac{\mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X}) - 1/\epsilon}{C_{\text{exp}}}\right) dX \leq \delta, \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{f}^k(\mathbf{a}) = \mathfrak{f}(\mathbf{a}, \mu^k, \bar{\mu})$ —which is here referred to as *proximity measure*—is given by

$$(3.2b) \quad \mathfrak{f}(\mathbf{a}, \mu, \bar{\mu}) := \int_{\Omega} \|u_\mu \circ \Psi_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}} - u_{\bar{\mu}}\|_2^2 dX,$$

while the H^2 seminorm is given by $|\mathbf{v}|_{H^2(\Omega)}^2 := \sum_{i,j,k=1}^d \int_{\Omega} (\hat{\partial}_{i,j}^2 v_k)^2 dX$ for all $\mathbf{v} \in H^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d)$. The constraint in (3.2a), which was introduced in (2.7), weakly enforces that $\mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}} \in [\epsilon, 1/\epsilon]$ and thus that $\Psi_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}$ is a bijection from Ω into itself for all admissible solutions to (3.2a).

Since $|v|_{H^2(\Omega)} = 0$ for all linear polynomials, the penalty term measures deviations from linear maps: due to the condition $\Psi_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}(\Omega) = \Omega$, we might further interpret the penalty as a measure of the deviations from the identity map. The penalty in (3.2a) can be further interpreted as a Tikhonov regularization and has the effect of controlling the gradient of the Jacobian $\mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}$ —recalling the discussion in section 2, the latter is important to enforce bijectivity. In addition, we observe that $\mathfrak{f}^k(\mathbf{a}) = 0$ if and only if u^k and \bar{u} coincide in the mapped configuration; in particular, we have $\mathfrak{f}^k(\mathbf{0}) = 0$ if $\mu^k = \bar{\mu}$. The latter implies that $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{0}$ is a solution to (3.2a) for $\mu^k = \bar{\mu}$, provided that δ satisfies (2.9).

The hyperparameter ξ balances accuracy—measured by \mathfrak{f} —and smoothness of the mapping. We refer to the results of section 3.4 for a numerical investigation of the sensitivity of the solution to the choice of ξ : in our experience, the choice of ξ is problem-dependent; however, the same value of ξ can be considered for all training points. Furthermore, since in our code Ψ^{hf} is a polynomial, computation of the penalty function is straightforward: we precompute and store the matrix $\mathbf{A}^{\text{reg}} \in \mathbb{R}^{M_{\text{hf}}, M_{\text{hf}}}$ such that $A_{m,m'}^{\text{reg}} = ((\varphi_{m'}^{\text{hf}}, \varphi_m^{\text{hf}}))_{H^2(\Omega)}$ for $m, m' = 1, \dots, M_{\text{hf}}$ —($(\cdot, \cdot)_{H^2(\Omega)}$ is the bilinear form associated with $|\cdot|_{H^2(\Omega)}$)—and then we compute $|\Psi_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}|_{H^2(\Omega)}^2$ as $\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{A}^{\text{reg}} \mathbf{a}$.

3.1.2. Implementation. We resort to the MATLAB routine `fmincon` [28] to solve (3.2): the routine relies on an interior point method [9] to find local minima of

(3.2). In our implementation, we first reorder the snapshots such that

$$(3.3a) \quad \mu^{(k+1)} := \arg \min_{\mu \in \Xi_{\text{train}} \setminus \{\mu^{(i)}\}_{i=1}^k} \|\mu^{(k)} - \mu\|_2, \quad \mu^{(1)} = \arg \min_{\mu \in \Xi_{\text{train}}} \|\mu - \bar{\mu}\|_2,$$

where $\Xi_{\text{train}} = \{\mu^k\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$. Then, we choose the initial conditions $\mathbf{a}_0^{(k)}$ for the k th optimization problem as

$$(3.3b) \quad \mathbf{a}_0^{(1)} = \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbf{a}_0^{(k)} = \mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}^{(\text{ne}_k)}, \quad \text{ne}_k := \arg \min_{i \in \{1, \dots, k-1\}} \|\mu^{(k)} - \mu^{(i)}\|_2$$

for $k = 2, \dots, n_{\text{train}}$. Since the problem is nonconvex and thus the solution is not guaranteed to be unique and to depend continuously on μ , $\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}^{(k)}$ might be far from $\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}^{(\text{ne}_k)}$ even if $\|\mu^{(k)} - \mu^{(\text{ne}_k)}\|_2$ is small: this makes the generalization step (cf. section 3.1.4) extremely challenging. For this reason, we propose to add the box constraints

$$(3.3c) \quad -C_\infty \|\mu^{(k)} - \mu^{(\text{ne}_k)}\|_2 \leq (\mathbf{a})_m - \left(\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}^{(\text{ne}_k)}\right)_m \leq C_\infty \|\mu^{(k)} - \mu^{(\text{ne}_k)}\|_2$$

for $m = 1, \dots, M_{\text{hf}}$. In all our experiments, we set $C_\infty = 10$: for this choice of C_∞ , we have empirically found that this set of box constraints is not active at the local minima, for none of the cases considered. Nevertheless, we envision that for more challenging problems, constraint (3.3c) might be useful to improve the robustness of the approach.

In our numerical experiments, `fmincon` converges to local minima in $10^2 - 10^3$ iterations; the computational cost on a commodity laptop is $\mathcal{O}(1-5[\text{s}])$ for all tests run. Given the snapshot set $\{u^k\}_k$, the cost per iteration is dominated by the computation of u^k and ∇u^k in the mapped quadrature points $\{\Psi_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{x}_q^{\text{qd}})\}_{q=1}^{N_q}$ and by subsequent computation of the derivative of $\partial_{a_m} \mathbf{f}^k$ for $m = 1, \dots, M_{\text{hf}}$: for structured grids, this cost scales with $\mathcal{O}(N_q (\log(N_{\text{hf}}) + M_{\text{hf}}))$.

3.1.3. Connection with optimal transport. Let us assume that u, \bar{u} are probability densities over Ω , that is, $u, \bar{u} \geq 0$ and $\int_\Omega u \, dx = \int_\Omega \bar{u} \, dx = 1$. Then, Φ^{opt} is an optimal transport map if it is a global minimizer of

$$(3.4) \quad \min_{\Phi: \Omega \rightarrow \Omega} \int_\Omega \bar{u}(\mathbf{X}) \|\mathbf{X} - \Phi(\mathbf{X})\|_2^2 \, dX \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \bar{u}(\mathbf{X}) = u(\Phi(\mathbf{X})) \mathfrak{J}(\mathbf{X}) \quad \forall \mathbf{X} \in \Omega,$$

where $\mathfrak{J} = \det(\widehat{\nabla} \Phi)$. A barrier method to solve (3.4) reads as

$$(3.5) \quad \min_{\Phi: \Omega \rightarrow \Omega} \int_\Omega (\bar{u}(\mathbf{X}) - u(\Phi(\mathbf{X})) \mathfrak{J}(\mathbf{X}))^2 \, dX + \frac{1}{\lambda} \int_\Omega \bar{u}(\mathbf{X}) \|\mathbf{X} - \Phi(\mathbf{X})\|_2^2 \, dX,$$

where $\lambda \gg 1$.

The first addend in (3.5) is closely linked to \mathbf{f} in (3.2b), while the second term can be interpreted as a measure of the deviation of Φ from the identity map, exactly as $|\Phi|_{H^2(\Omega)}$. Note, however, that there are important differences between (3.2) and (3.5). First, in (3.5), the functions u, \bar{u} should be probability densities, while in (3.2), u, \bar{u} are arbitrary real-valued functions in a Hilbert spaces \mathcal{U} contained in $L^2(\Omega)$. Second, if $u, \bar{u} \geq 0$, solutions to (3.2) do not in general conserve mass. Third, if u, \bar{u} are compactly supported in Ω , solutions to (3.4) are not guaranteed to be locally invertible in Ω .

3.1.4. Generalization. Given the dataset of pairs $\{(\mu^k, \mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}^k)\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$, we resort to a multivariate multitarget regression procedure to compute the mapping Φ of the form (3.1). First, we resort to $\|\cdot\|_2$ -POD to determine a low-dimensional approximation of $\{\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}^k\}_k$:

$$(3.6a) \quad \mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}^k \approx \mathbf{U}_{\Phi} \mathbf{a}^k, \quad \mathbf{U}_{\Phi} \in \mathbb{R}^{M_{\text{hf}}, M}, \quad \mathbf{U}_{\Phi}^T \mathbf{U}_{\Phi} = \mathbb{1}_M, \quad M < M_{\text{hf}}.$$

Then, we build the regressors $\hat{a}_m : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ based on the dataset $\{(\mu^k, a_{\text{hf}}^{m,k})\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$, $a_{\text{hf}}^{m,k} := (\mathbf{U}_{\Phi}^T \mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}^k)_m$, for $m = 1, \dots, M$; finally, we return the mapping

$$(3.6b) \quad \Phi_{\mu}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{X} + \sum_{m=1}^M (\hat{a}_m)_m \varphi_m(\mathbf{X}), \quad \begin{cases} \hat{\mathbf{a}} := [\hat{a}_1, \dots, \hat{a}_M]^T, \\ \varphi_m(\mathbf{X}) = \sum_{m'=1}^{M_{\text{hf}}} (\mathbf{U}_{\Phi})_{m',m} \varphi_{m'}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X}). \end{cases}$$

Some comments are in order. First, application of POD in (3.6a) leads to a (potentially substantial) reduction of the size of the mapping expansion and thus ultimately to a reduction of online costs; application of POD also reduces the importance of the choice of M_{hf} in (2.4) since it provides an automatic way of choosing the size of the expansion at the end of the offline stage. Note that, since POD is linear, the resulting expansion satisfies boundary conditions in (2.4): applying Proposition 2.3, we conclude that there exists a ball $B = \mathcal{B}_{r_e}(\mathbf{0})$ in \mathbb{R}^M for which Φ_{μ} is bijective from Ω into itself if $\hat{\mathbf{a}}_{\mu} \in B$. Second, any linear or nonlinear strategy for multivariate regression can be employed to construct $\hat{\mathbf{a}}$ based on $\{(\mu^k, \mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}^k)\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$: in this work, we resort to a kernel-based ridge regression procedure based on inverse multiquadric RBFs [53]. Third, we remark that the mapping Φ_{μ} is not guaranteed to be bijective for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$, particularly for small-to-moderate values of n_{train} : this represents a major issue of the methodology that will be addressed in a subsequent work. We remark, nevertheless, that our approach is able to provide accurate and stable results for $n_{\text{train}} = \mathcal{O}(10^2)$ for all test cases considered in this paper. Finally, given the eigenvalues $\{\lambda_i\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$ of the POD kernel matrix $\mathbf{C}_{k,k'} := \mathbf{a}^k \cdot \mathbf{a}^{k'}$, we choose M in (3.6a) based on the criterion (1.5) for some problem-dependent tolerance $\text{tol}_{\text{POD}} > 0$ that will be specified in the numerical sections.

3.1.5. Review of the computational procedure. Algorithm 3.1 summarizes the pieces of the general approach proposed in this paper.

Algorithm 3.1. Registration algorithm.

Inputs: $\{(\mu^k, u^k = u_{\mu^k})\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}} \subset \mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{M}_{\text{u}}$ snapshot set, $\bar{u} \in \mathcal{M}_{\text{u}}$ reference field.

Output: parametric mapping $\Phi : \Omega \times \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$.

- 1: Definition of the parametric function Ψ^{hf} (cf. (2.2)–(2.6)).
 - 2: Computation of \mathbf{a}_{hf}^k based on the pair of fields (u^k, \bar{u}) (cf. section 3.1.1).
 $\rightarrow \{(\mu^k, \mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}^k)\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$
 - 3: Generalization: $\{(\mu^k, \mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}^k)\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}} \rightarrow \hat{\mathbf{a}} : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^M$, $\{\varphi_m\}_{m=1}^M$ (cf. section 3.1.4).
 - 4: Return Φ (cf. (3.6)).
-

3.2. Two-level approximations and N - M Kolmogorov widths. We can interpret Lagrangian approximations as two-level approximations of parametric fields,

$u_\mu \approx \hat{u}_\mu \circ \Phi_\mu^{-1}$: the inner layer corresponds to the mapping process, while the outer layer is associated with the linear approximation. This observation highlights the connection between Lagrangian approaches and deep networks. As for deep versus shallow networks [38], the use of Lagrangian-based pMOR methods for a given class of problems should be supported by evidence of their superior approximation power compared to linear approaches. While performance of linear methods can be theoretically measured through the Kolmogorov N -width $d_N(\mathcal{M}_u)$ in (1.4), we here introduce the notion of Kolmogorov N - M width (see also [42]) to assess the performance of Lagrangian approximations.

In view of the definition of the N - M width, given the M -dimensional space $\mathcal{Y}_M := \text{span}\{\varphi_m\}_{m=1}^M \subset \text{Lip}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d)$ and the tolerance $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$, we define $\mathcal{Y}_M^{\text{bis}, \epsilon}$ such that

$$(3.7a) \quad \mathcal{Y}_M^{\text{bis}, \epsilon} := \left\{ \Phi = \mathbf{X} + \varphi(\mathbf{X}) : \Phi(\Omega) = \Omega, \quad \det(\widehat{\nabla} \Phi) \geq \epsilon \text{ a.e.} \right\}.$$

Then, given the manifold \mathcal{M}_u in the Banach space \mathcal{U} , we define the N - M width as

$$(3.7b) \quad d_{N,M,\epsilon}(\mathcal{M}_u; \mathcal{U}) = \inf_{\substack{\mathcal{Y}_M \subset \text{Lip}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d), \dim(\mathcal{Y}_M)=M \\ \mathcal{Z}_N \subset \mathcal{U}, \dim(\mathcal{Z}_N)=N}} \sup_{w \in \mathcal{M}_u} \inf_{\substack{\varphi \in \mathcal{Y}_M^{\text{bis}, \epsilon} \\ z \in \mathcal{Z}_N}} \|w \circ \varphi - z\|_{\mathcal{U}},$$

where the second argument stresses the dependence on the norm of the space \mathcal{U} . Note that, for any $N, M \geq 1$, $d_{N,M,\epsilon}(\mathcal{M}_u; \mathcal{U}) \leq d_N(\mathcal{M}_u; \mathcal{U})$, $d_{N,0,\epsilon}(\mathcal{M}_u) = d_N(\mathcal{M}_u; \mathcal{U})$, and $d_{N,M,\epsilon=1}(\mathcal{M}_u; \mathcal{U}) = d_N(\mathcal{M}_u; \mathcal{U})$.

We can provide estimates of the N - M width for representative solution manifolds: we refer the reader to section SM2 of the supplementary materials for the proofs. First, we consider the solution u_μ to the one-dimensional problem

$$(3.8a) \quad -\partial_{xx} u_\mu + \mu^2 u_\mu = 0 \text{ in } \Omega_{1D} = (0, 1), \quad u_\mu(0) = 1, \quad \partial_x u_\mu(1) = 0,$$

where $\mathcal{P} = [\mu_{\min}, \mu_{\max} = \epsilon^{-2}\mu_{\min}]$ and $e^{\mu_{\min}} \gg 1$; for this problem, we find

$$(3.8b) \quad d_{N=1,M=1,\epsilon}(\mathcal{M}_u, L^2(\Omega_{1D})) \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+\epsilon}} \exp\left(-\frac{\mu_{\min}}{1+\epsilon}\right) + \frac{e^{-\mu_{\min}}}{1+e^{-2\mu_{\min}}}.$$

Second, we consider $u_\mu = \text{sign}(x - \mu)$, $x \in \Omega_{1D}$, $\mu \in \mathcal{P} = [1/3, 2/3]$: in this case, we find

$$(3.9) \quad \begin{aligned} d_N(\mathcal{M}_u, L^2(\Omega_{1D})) &= \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}\right), \\ d_{N,M,\epsilon}(\mathcal{M}_u, L^2(\Omega_{1D})) &= 0 \quad \forall N, M \geq 1, \epsilon \leq \frac{2}{3}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that the manifold in (3.8) presents a boundary layer at $x = 0$, while the manifold in (3.9) is associated with an advection-reaction problem with time interpreted as parameter: therefore, these estimates suggest that Lagrangian methods might be effective for problems with boundary layers and/or traveling waves. As the third and last example, we consider the parametric field

$$(3.10a) \quad u : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow L^2((0, 1)^2), \quad u_\mu(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x_2 < f_\mu(x_1), \\ 1 & \text{if } x_2 > f_\mu(x_1), \end{cases}$$

where $f_\mu \in \text{Lip}([0, 1])$ and $f_\mu([0, 1]) \subset [\delta, 1 - \delta]$ for some $\delta \in (0, 1/2)$ and for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$. In this case, given $0 < \epsilon < 2\delta$, we find

$$(3.10b) \quad d_{N,M,\epsilon}(\mathcal{M}_u, L^1(\Omega)) \leq C_\delta \frac{d_M(\mathcal{M}_f, \text{Lip}([0, 1]))}{\sqrt{N}},$$

where $\mathcal{M}_f := \{f_\mu : \mu \in \mathcal{P}\}$, $\|v\|_{\text{Lip}([0,1])} := \|v\|_{L^\infty([0,1])} + \|v'\|_{L^\infty([0,1])}$, and the multiplicative constant C_δ depends on δ . The latter estimate suggests a multiplicative effect between N - and M -convergence: we further investigate this aspect in the numerical results.

3.3. Integration within the offline/online paradigm. Algorithm 3.2 summarizes the key steps of pMOR procedures for (1.1) based on Lagrangian nonlinear data compression. First, we generate a set of snapshots $u^1, \dots, u^{n_{\text{train}}} \in \mathcal{M}_u$ associated with the parameters $\mu^1, \dots, \mu^{n_{\text{train}}} \in \mathcal{P}$: the field u might be the solution to the PDE or a set of model coefficients. Then, we use the snapshot set $\{u^k\}_k$ to generate the problem-dependent mapping Φ , and we recast the problem in the form (1.3). Then, we use standard pMOR techniques to generate a ROM for (1.3). During the online stage, given a new parameter value $\mu^* \in \mathcal{P}$, we query the ROM to estimate the output of interest and the associated prediction error.

Algorithm 3.2. pMOR with Lagrangian nonlinear data compression. Offline/online decomposition.

Offline stage

- 1: Build the dataset $\{(\mu^k, u^k = u_{\mu^k})\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$.
- 2: Compute the mapping $\{\Phi_\mu : \mu \in \mathcal{P}\}$ based on $\{(\mu^k, u^k)\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$ (cf. section 3.1).
- 3: Generate the ROM for (1.3).

Online stage

- 1: Given μ^* , query the ROM to estimate $\hat{\mathbf{y}}_{\mu^*}$ and the error $\|\hat{\mathbf{y}}_{\mu^*} - \mathbf{y}_{\mu^*}\|_2$.
-

3.3.1. A POD-Galerkin ROM for advection-diffusion-reaction problems. We discuss the application of our approach to the advection-diffusion-reaction problem:

$$(3.11) \quad \begin{cases} -\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{K}_\mu \nabla z_\mu - \mathbf{c}_\mu z_\mu) + \sigma_\mu z_\mu = f_\mu & \text{in } \Omega, \\ z_\mu = z_{D,\mu} & \text{on } \Gamma_D \subset \partial\Omega, \\ (\mathbf{K}_\mu \nabla z_\mu - \mathbf{c}_\mu z_\mu) \cdot \mathbf{n} = g_\mu & \text{on } \Gamma_N = \partial\Omega \setminus \Gamma_D. \end{cases}$$

The FE discretization of (3.11) (we omit the superscript $(\cdot)^{\text{hf}}$ to shorten notation) reads as follows: find $z_\mu \in \mathcal{X}$ such that

$$(3.12) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}_\mu(z_\mu, v) &= \sum_{k=1}^{n_{\text{el}}} \int_{\mathbb{D}^k} \mathbf{\Upsilon}_\mu^{\text{el}} \cdot A^{\text{el}}(z_\mu, v) - f_\mu v \, dx \\ &+ \int_{\partial\mathbb{D}^k} \mathbf{\Upsilon}_\mu^{\text{ed}} \cdot A^{\text{ed}}(z_\mu, v) - f_\mu^{\text{ed}} v \, dx = 0 \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{X}^{\text{hf}}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{\Upsilon}_\mu^{\text{el}}, \mathbf{\Upsilon}_\mu^{\text{ed}}, f_\mu, f_\mu^{\text{ed}}$ are parameter-dependent coefficients and $A^{\text{el}}, A^{\text{ed}}$ are parameter-independent local bilinear operators.

Given the parametric mapping $\Phi : \Omega \times \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \Omega$, provided that the data and the mapping are sufficiently smooth, we can prove that the mapped field $\tilde{z}_\mu = z_\mu \circ \Phi_\mu$ solves a problem of the form (3.11) with coefficients

$$(3.13) \quad \begin{cases} \mathbf{K}_\mu^* := \mathfrak{J}_\mu \widehat{\nabla} \Phi_\mu^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{K}}_\mu \widehat{\nabla} \Phi_\mu^{-T}, & \mathbf{c}_\mu^* := \mathfrak{J}_\mu \widehat{\nabla} \Phi_\mu^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{c}}_\mu, & \sigma_\mu^* := \mathfrak{J}_\mu \tilde{\sigma}_\mu, \\ f_\mu^* := \mathfrak{J}_\mu \tilde{f}_\mu, & g_\mu^* := \mathfrak{J}_\mu \|\widehat{\nabla} \Phi_\mu^{-T} \hat{\mathbf{n}}\|_2 \tilde{g}_\mu, & z_{\mathbf{D},\mu}^* = \tilde{z}_{\mathbf{D},\mu}, \end{cases}$$

where the symbol $\widehat{(\cdot)}$ indicates the composition with Φ_μ , and $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$ denotes the normal in the reference configuration—which coincides with \mathbf{n} on $\partial\Omega$, provided that $\Phi_\mu(\Omega) = \Omega$. Exploiting (3.12), we find that the mapping process will simply lead to different expressions for $\Upsilon_\mu^{\text{el}}, \Upsilon_\mu^{\text{ed}}, f_\mu, f_\mu^{\text{ed}}$, which can be efficiently computed.

Problem (3.12) with coefficients in (3.13) is not expected to be parametrically affine (see, e.g., [39]); To devise an online-efficient ROM to approximate \tilde{z}_μ , we should thus introduce the parametrically affine approximations $\Upsilon_\mu^{\text{el,eim}}, f_\mu^{\text{eim}}, \Upsilon_\mu^{\text{ed,eim}}, f_\mu^{\text{ed,eim}}$ of $\Upsilon_\mu^{\text{el}}, f_\mu, \Upsilon_\mu^{\text{ed}}, f_\mu^{\text{ed}}$:

$$(3.14) \quad \begin{aligned} \Upsilon_\mu^{\text{el,eim}}(\mathbf{x}) &:= \sum_{q=1}^{Q_{\text{a,el}}} \Theta_{\mu,q}^{\text{el,a}} \Upsilon_q^{\text{el}}(\mathbf{x}), & \Upsilon_\mu^{\text{ed,eim}}(\mathbf{x}) &:= \sum_{q=1}^{Q_{\text{a,ed}}} \Theta_{\mu,q}^{\text{ed,a}} \Upsilon_q^{\text{ed}}(\mathbf{x}), \\ f_\mu^{\text{eim}}(\mathbf{x}) &:= \sum_{q=1}^{Q_{\text{f,el}}} \Theta_{\mu,q}^{\text{el,f}} f_q^{\text{el}}(\mathbf{x}), & f_\mu^{\text{ed,eim}}(\mathbf{x}) &:= \sum_{q=1}^{Q_{\text{f,ed}}} \Theta_{\mu,q}^{\text{ed,f}} f_q^{\text{ed}}(\mathbf{x}). \end{aligned}$$

We here resort to the empirical interpolation method (EIM) [4] and to one of its extensions to vector-valued fields (cf. [47, Appendix B]): we refer the reader to section SM4 of the supplementary materials for further details concerning the implementation of the EIM. Then we substitute these approximations in (3.12) to obtain a parametrically affine surrogate of \mathcal{G}_μ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}_\mu^{\text{eim}}(z_\mu^{\text{eim}}, v) &= \sum_{k=1}^{n_{\text{el}}} \int_{\mathbf{D}^k} \Upsilon_\mu^{\text{el,eim}} \cdot A^{\text{el}}(z_\mu^{\text{eim}}, v) - f_\mu^{\text{eim}} v \, dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\partial \mathbf{D}^k} \Upsilon_\mu^{\text{ed,eim}} \cdot A^{\text{ed}}(z_\mu^{\text{eim}}, v) - f_\mu^{\text{ed,eim}} v \, dx = 0 \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{X}. \end{aligned}$$

Then, given the reduced space $\mathcal{Z}_N := \text{span}\{\zeta_n\}_{n=1}^N \subset \mathcal{X}$, we define the online-efficient Galerkin ROM:

$$(3.15) \quad \text{find } \hat{z}_\mu \in \mathcal{Z}_N : \mathcal{G}_\mu^{\text{eim}}(\hat{z}_\mu, v) = 0 \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{Z}_N.$$

We resort to POD to build the reduced space \mathcal{Z}_N . Note that the weak or strong greedy algorithms could also be used to build the space \mathcal{Z}_N ; similarly, we might also rely on Petrov–Galerkin (minimum residual) projection to estimate the solution, and we might also consider several other hyperreduction techniques to achieve online efficiency. Since the focus of this paper is to assess the performance of the mapping procedure, we do not further discuss these aspects in the remainder.

We conclude this section with three remarks.

Remark 3.1 (error estimation). As discussed in the introduction, in pMOR it is key to estimate the prediction error. For second-order elliptic problems, if we consider

the norm³ $\|\cdot\| := \sqrt{\int_{\Omega} \|\nabla \cdot\|_2^2 dx}$, it is straightforward to verify that

$$\mathfrak{c}_{\mu} \|\tilde{z}_{\mu} - \hat{z}_{\mu}\| \leq \|z_{\mu} - \hat{z}_{\mu} \circ \Phi_{\mu}^{-1}\| \leq \mathfrak{C}_{\mu} \|\tilde{z}_{\mu} - \hat{z}_{\mu}\|,$$

where \hat{z}_{μ} denotes a generic approximate solution to (1.3), $\mathfrak{c}_{\mu} = \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \bar{\Omega}} \lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{K}_{\mu})$, $\mathfrak{C}_{\mu} = \max_{\mathbf{x} \in \bar{\Omega}} \lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{K}_{\mu})$, and $\mathbf{K}_{\mu} = \mathfrak{J}_{\mu} \hat{\nabla} \Phi_{\mu}^{-1} \hat{\nabla} \Phi_{\mu}^{-T}$. Provided that $\mathfrak{c}_{\mu}, \mathfrak{C}_{\mu} = \mathcal{O}(1)$, traditional residual-based error estimates (see, e.g., [39, Chapter 3]) in the mapped configuration can be used to sharply bound the prediction error $\|z_{\mu} - \hat{z}_{\mu} \circ \Phi_{\mu}^{-1}\|$.

Remark 3.2 (online computation of \tilde{z}_{μ}). The online solution to the mapped problem involves (i) the evaluation of the mapping Φ_{μ} and of its gradient in the $(Q_{a,el} + Q_{a,ed} + Q_{f,el} + Q_{f,ed})$ interpolation points, and (ii) the assembling of the reduced system and its solution. The second step scales with $\mathcal{O}((Q_{a,el} + Q_{a,ed})N^2 + N^3)$, while the first step depends on the supervised learning algorithm used to estimate the M mapping coefficients $\hat{\mathbf{a}}_{\mu}$: for RBF approximations, plain implementations require $\mathcal{O}(n_{\text{train}}M)$ floating point operations, but several acceleration techniques are now available to dramatically reduce the costs (see [43, 52]). It is difficult to establish a connection between the size of the EIM expansions in the physical and reference configuration: if some of the coefficients are nonaffine, the mapping might have the effect of simplifying hyperreduction (cf. section 4.2.1); if most or all coefficients are affine in parameter, the mapping process likely leads to much longer expansions (see, e.g., the example in section 3.4.2).

Remark 3.3 (pointwise estimation of z_{μ}). Computation of $\hat{z}_{\mu} \circ \Phi_{\mu}^{-1}(\mathbf{x})$ for a given $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$ involves the evaluation of $\Phi_{\mu}^{-1}(\mathbf{x})$, which requires the solution to the nonlinear problem

$$\min_{\mathbf{X} \in \bar{\Omega}} \|\Phi_{\mu}(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbf{x}\|_2.$$

In this work, we do not address the issue of how to efficiently evaluate $\hat{z}_{\mu} \circ \Phi_{\mu}^{-1}$.

3.4. Numerical results.

3.4.1. Approximation of boundary layers.

Problem statement. We consider the diffusion-reaction problem:

$$(3.16) \quad \begin{cases} -\Delta z_{\mu} + \mu^2 z_{\mu} = 0 & \text{in } \Omega = (0, 1)^2, \\ z_{\mu} = 1 & \text{on } \Gamma_D := \{\mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega : x_1 = 0 \text{ or } x_2 = 0\}, \\ \partial_n z_{\mu} = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma_N := \partial\Omega \setminus \Gamma_D, \end{cases}$$

where $\mu \in \mathcal{P} = [\mu_{\min}, \mu_{\max}]$, $\mu_{\min} = 20$, $\mu_{\max} = 200$. For large values of μ , the solution exhibits a boundary layer at Γ_D . By exploiting a standard argument, we can derive the variational formulation for the lifted field $\tilde{z}_{\mu} := z_{\mu} - 1 \in \mathcal{X} := H_{0,\Gamma_D}^1(\Omega)$:

$$(3.17) \quad \mathcal{G}_{\mu}(\tilde{z}_{\mu}, v) := \int_{\Omega} \nabla \tilde{z}_{\mu} \cdot \nabla v \, dx + \mu^2 \int_{\Omega} (\tilde{z}_{\mu} + 1) v \, dx = 0 \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{X}.$$

Given the parametric mapping $\Phi_{\mu} : \Omega \rightarrow \Omega$ such that $\Phi_{\mu}(\Gamma_D) = \Gamma_D$, we find that $\tilde{\tilde{z}}_{\mu} = \tilde{z}_{\mu} \circ \Phi_{\mu} \in \mathcal{X}$ satisfies

$$(3.18) \quad \mathcal{G}_{\mu, \Phi}(\tilde{\tilde{z}}_{\mu}, v) := \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{K}_{\mu}^* \hat{\nabla} \tilde{\tilde{z}}_{\mu} \cdot \hat{\nabla} v \, dX + \int_{\Omega} \sigma_{\mu}^* (\tilde{\tilde{z}}_{\mu} + 1) v \, dX = 0 \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{X},$$

³Similar estimates can be obtained for other norms.

where $\mathbf{K}_\mu^* = \mathfrak{J}_\mu \widehat{\nabla} \Phi_\mu^{-1} \widehat{\nabla} \Phi_\mu^{-T}$ and $\sigma_\mu^* = \mu^2 \mathfrak{J}_\mu$. We here resort to a continuous P3 FE discretization with $N_{\text{hf}} = 11236$ degrees of freedom on a structured triangular mesh. The grid is refined close to the boundary Γ_D , to accurately capture the boundary layer.

Construction of the mapping. We apply the registration procedure presented in section 3.1 to the solution itself ($u_\mu = z_\mu$). We set $\bar{\mu} = \sqrt{\mu_{\min} \mu_{\max}}$, $\xi = 10^{-10}$, and we consider a polynomial expansion with $\bar{M} = 8$ in (2.6) ($M_{\text{hf}} = 128$). We refer the reader to section SM2 in the supplementary materials for an heuristic motivation of the choice of $\bar{\mu}$. To build the regressor $\widehat{\mathbf{a}} : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^M$, we consider $n_{\text{train}} = 70$ log-equispaced parameters in \mathcal{P} , and we set $\text{tol}_{\text{pod}} = 10^{-4}$ in (1.5): for this choice of parameters, the procedure returns an affine expansion with $M = 5$ terms.

Figure 2 shows the behavior of $\|\cdot\|_2$ -POD eigenvalues associated with $\{\mathbf{a}_{\mu^i}^{\text{hf}}\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$ and the L^2 -POD eigenvalues associated with $\{\mathbf{K}_{\mu^i}^*\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$. We remark that the decay of the POD eigenvalues cannot be directly related to the behavior of the Kolmogorov N -width; nevertheless, POD eigenvalues provide an heuristic measure of the linear complexity of parametric manifolds and are thus shown in this paper to investigate the performance of the registration algorithm.

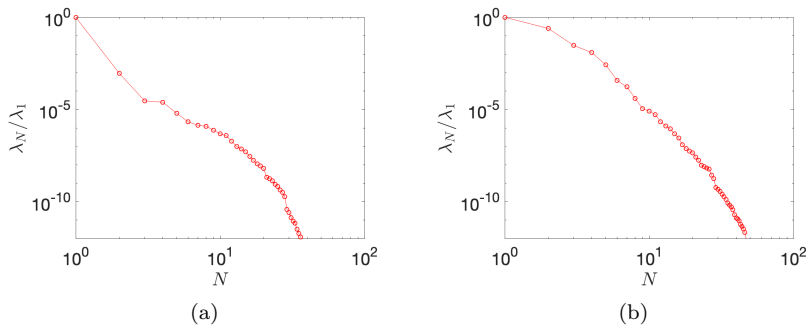


FIG. 2. Reaction-diffusion problem with boundary layer. Behavior of POD eigenvalues. (a) $\|\cdot\|_2$ -POD for $\{\mathbf{a}_{\mu^i}^{\text{hf}}\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$. (b) L^2 -POD for $\{\mathbf{K}_{\mu^i}^*\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$.

Results. Figure 3(a) shows the behavior of the solution field z_μ for $\mu = 20$; as anticipated above, the solution exhibits a boundary layer close to Γ_D . In Figures 3(b) and (c), we show slices of the solution field $t \mapsto z_\mu(t, t)$, $t \mapsto z_\mu(t, 0.5)$ for three parameter values along the straight lines depicted in Figure 3(a): as expected, the size of the boundary layer strongly depends on the value of μ . In Figure 4, we reproduce the results of Figure 3 for the mapped field: we observe that the mapping procedure significantly reduces the sensitivity of the solution to the value of μ .

Figure 5(a) shows the behavior of the relative H^1 projection error associated with the POD space in the physical (unregistered) and mapped (registered) configurations, (3.19)

$$E_{\text{proj}} = \max_{\mu \in \{\mu^j\}_{j=1}^{n_{\text{test}}}} \frac{\|z_\mu - \Pi_{\mathcal{Z}_N} z_\mu\|_{H^1(\Omega)}}{\|z_\mu\|_{H^1(\Omega)}}, \quad \widetilde{E}_{\text{proj}} = \max_{\mu \in \{\mu^i\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{test}}}} \frac{\|\widetilde{z}_\mu - \Pi_{\widetilde{\mathcal{Z}}_N} \widetilde{z}_\mu\|_{H^1(\Omega)}}{\|\widetilde{z}_\mu\|_{H^1(\Omega)}},$$

where $\mu^1, \dots, \mu^{n_{\text{test}}} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Uniform}(\mathcal{P})$ ($n_{\text{test}} = 200$) and the space $\{\mathcal{Z}_N\}_N$ (resp., $\{\widetilde{\mathcal{Z}}_N\}_N$) is built applying H^1 -POD to the snapshot sets $\{z_{\mu^i}\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{test}}}$ (resp., $\{\widetilde{z}_{\mu^i}\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{test}}}$). On the other hand, Figure 2(b) shows the H^1 -POD eigenvalues associated with $\{z_{\mu^i}\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{test}}}$

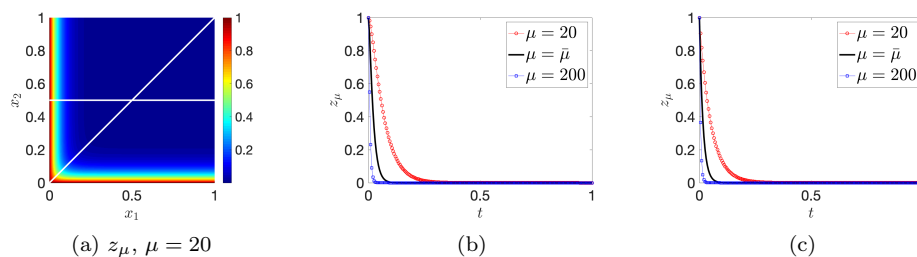


FIG. 3. Reaction-diffusion problem with boundary layer. (a) Behavior of $z_{\mu=20}$. (b) and (c) Behavior of $z_\mu(\mathbf{x} = (t, t))$ and $z_\mu(\mathbf{x} = (t, 0.5))$ for three values of $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$, $t \in [0, 1]$.

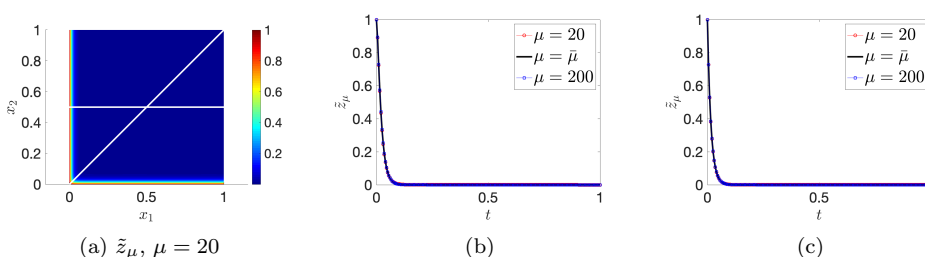


FIG. 4. Reaction-diffusion problem with boundary layer. (a) Behavior of $\tilde{z}_{\mu=20}$. (b) and (c) Behavior of $\tilde{z}_\mu(\mathbf{X} = (t, t))$ and $\tilde{z}_\mu(\mathbf{X} = (t, 0.5))$ for three values of $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$, $t \in [0, 1]$.

(unregistered) and $\{\tilde{z}_{\mu^i}\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{test}}}$ (registered). Note that $\tilde{E}_{\text{proj}} \leq E_{\text{proj}}$ for $N \leq 6$, while $\tilde{E}_{\text{proj}} > E_{\text{proj}}$ for $N > 6$; similar behavior can be observed for the POD eigenvalues: to reduce the sensitivity of the solution to the value of μ , the mapping process introduces some small-amplitude smaller spatial scale distortions, which then ultimately control the convergence. Nevertheless, we do emphasize that for $N = 1$ the relative error satisfies $\tilde{E}_{\text{proj}} \lesssim 10^{-4}$ and is thus comparable with the accuracy of the underlying truth discretization: as a result, the “complexity overhead” due to mapping-induced distortions has little practical importance for this model problem.

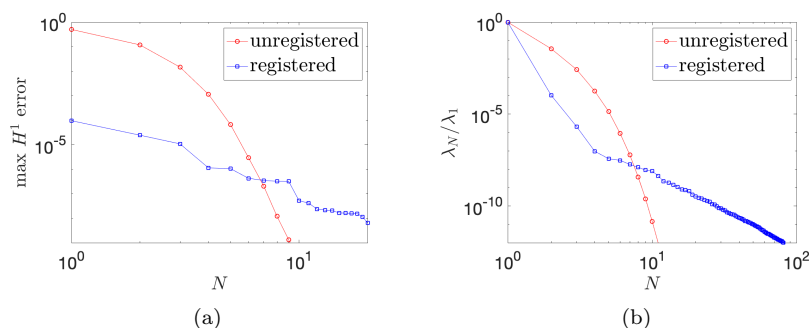


FIG. 5. Reaction-diffusion problem with boundary layer. (a) Behavior of $E_{\text{proj}}, \tilde{E}_{\text{proj}}$ (3.19) with N . (b) Behavior of the H^1 -POD eigenvalues associated with $\{z_{\mu^i}\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{test}}}$ (unregistered) and $\{\tilde{z}_{\mu^i}\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{test}}}$ (registered).

In Figure 6, we investigate the impact on performance of the choice of ξ in (3.2). In more detail, we show the behavior of the proximity measure $\mathfrak{f}(\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}(\mu), \mu, \bar{\mu})$ and of the mapping seminorm $|\Psi_{\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}(\mu)}^{\text{hf}}|_{H^2(\Omega)}$ with respect to ξ for three values of μ in \mathcal{P} , where $\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}(\mu)$ denotes the solution to (3.2) for a given $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$. Interestingly, the performance is nearly independent of ξ for $\xi \lesssim 10^{-8}$ for all three choices of μ .

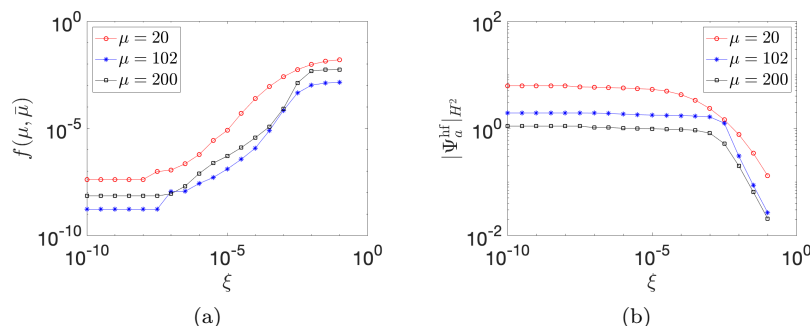


FIG. 6. Reaction-diffusion problem with boundary layer. Sensitivity analysis with respect to ξ in (3.2) for three values of $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$. (a) Behavior of the optimal proximity measure $\mathfrak{f}(\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}(\mu), \mu, \bar{\mu})$ with ξ . (b) Behavior of the mapping H^2 seminorm with ξ .

In Figure 7, we show the behavior of the proximity measure $\mathfrak{f}(\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}(\mu), \mu, \bar{\mu})$ and of the mapping seminorm $|\Psi_{\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}(\mu)}^{\text{hf}}|_{H^2(\Omega)}$ with respect to μ for two choices of the reference parameter, $\bar{\mu} = \sqrt{\mu_{\min}\mu_{\max}}$ and $\bar{\mu} = \frac{\mu_{\min} + \mu_{\max}}{2}$. For the second choice, we chose $\epsilon = 0.05$. We observe that the first choice leads to superior performance in terms of accuracy and also reduces the maximum (over \mathcal{P}) magnitude of the mapping seminorm: similarly to [30], we empirically observe that the choice of the reference field (*template*) \bar{u} has a significant impact on performance.

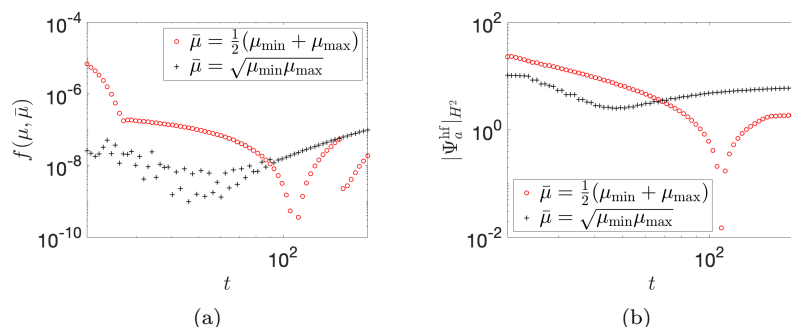


FIG. 7. Reaction-diffusion problem with boundary layer. Sensitivity analysis with respect to the reference field $\bar{u} = u_{\bar{\mu}}$. (a) Behavior of the optimal proximity measure $\mathfrak{f}(\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}(\mu), \mu, \bar{\mu})$ with μ for two choices of $\bar{\mu}$. (b) Behavior of the mapping H^2 seminorm with μ for two choices of $\bar{\mu}$.

3.4.2. Approximation of advection-dominated problems.

Problem statement. We consider the advection-reaction problem

$$(3.20a) \quad \begin{cases} \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{c}_{\mu} z_{\mu}) + \sigma_{\mu} z_{\mu} = f_{\mu} & \text{in } \Omega = (0, 1)^2, \\ z_{\mu} = z_{D, \mu} & \text{on } \Gamma_{\text{in}, \mu} := \{\mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega : \mathbf{c}_{\mu} \cdot \mathbf{n} < 0\}, \end{cases}$$

where \mathbf{n} denotes the outward normal to $\partial\Omega$, and

$$(3.20b) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathbf{c}_\mu &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\mu_1) \\ \sin(\mu_1) \end{bmatrix}, \quad \sigma_\mu = 1 + \mu_2 e^{x_1+x_2}, \quad f_\mu = 1 + x_1 x_2, \\ z_{D,\mu} &= 4 \arctan \left(\mu_3 \left(x_2 - \frac{1}{2} \right) \right) (x_2 - x_2^2), \\ \mu &= [\mu_1, \mu_2, \mu_3] \in \mathcal{P} := \left[-\frac{\pi}{10}, \frac{\pi}{10} \right] \times [0.3, 0.7] \times [60, 100]. \end{aligned}$$

Problem (3.20) is a parametric hyperbolic advection-reaction problem; since $\sigma_\mu + \frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{c}_\mu \geq 1 > 0$ for all $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$, $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$, there exists a unique solution z_μ to (3.20) for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$. We refer the reader to [8, 14] for a mathematical analysis of the problem and for the derivation of the infinite-dimensional variational form. We here resort to a DG P3 discretization on a structured triangular mesh with $N_{\text{hf}} = 23120$ degrees of freedom to approximate (3.20); we denote by \mathcal{X} the broken DG space equipped with the inner product $(w, v) := \sum_{k=1}^{n_{\text{el}}} \int_{D^k} w v dx$ and the induced norm $\|\cdot\| = \sqrt{(\cdot, \cdot)}$. Note that changes in μ_1 lead to changes in the large-gradient region associated with the solution z_μ (cf. Figures 8(a) and (b)) and are thus critical for linear approximation methods.

Exploiting the reasoning in section 3.3, we can derive the variational formulation for the mapped field \tilde{z}_μ . We provide the explicit expressions of the terms in (3.12) in section SM3 of the supplementary materials. Here, we remark that the size of the expansions in (3.14) is chosen based on the criterion in (1.5), with tolerance $\text{tol}_{\text{eim}} = 5 \cdot 10^{-7}$.

Construction of the mapping. We set $\bar{\mu}$ equal to the centroid of \mathcal{P} , and we consider the proximity measure \mathfrak{f} in (3.2b) with $u_\mu = z_\mu$. We further consider $\xi = 10^{-3}$, and we consider a polynomial expansion with $\bar{M} = 6$ in (2.6) ($M_{\text{hf}} = 72$). To build the regressor $\hat{\mathbf{a}} : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^M$, we consider $n_{\text{train}} = 250$ uniformly sampled parameters in \mathcal{P} , and we set $\text{tol}_{\text{pod}} = 10^{-4}$ in (1.5): for this choice of parameters, the registration procedure returns an affine expansion with $M = 12$ terms.

As opposed to the previous problem, we do not expect that the mapping procedure will lead to a nearly one-dimensional mapped manifold; nevertheless, we do expect that the mapping procedure will reduce the sensitivity of the solution to parametric changes, particularly in μ_1 —which regulates the position of the high-gradient region in Ω . For this reason, we here consider a larger value of the regularization parameter ξ compared to the previous two examples: larger values of ξ lead to smoother mappings and thus reduce the risk of overfitting and facilitate hyperreduction. We further consider a lower value of M_{hf} ($M_{\text{hf}} = 72$ as opposed to $M_{\text{hf}} = 128$) compared to the previous example: in our numerical experience, the algorithm is insensitive to the choice of M_{hf} for $M_{\text{hf}} \geq 72$.

Results. Figure 8 shows the solution to (3.20) for three values of the parameters $\mu^1 = [-\pi/10, 0.3, 60]$, $\mu^2 = [\pi/10, 0.7, 100]$ and the centroid $\bar{\mu} = [0, 0.55, 80]$; on the other hand, Figure 9 shows the solution to the mapped problem $\tilde{z}_\mu = z_\mu \circ \Phi_\mu$ for the same three values of the parameter. As stated above, changes in μ_1 lead to changes in the large-gradient region which corresponds to the propagation of the inflow boundary condition in the interior of Ω : the mapping Φ_μ significantly reduces the sensitivity of the solution to changes in the angle μ_1 .

Figure 10(a) shows the behavior of the average relative L^2 error

$$E_{\text{avg}} := \frac{1}{n_{\text{test}}} \sum_{i=1}^{n_{\text{test}}} \frac{\|z_{\mu^i} - \hat{z}_{\mu^i}\|_{L^2(\Omega)}}{\|z_{\mu^i}\|_{L^2(\Omega)}}$$

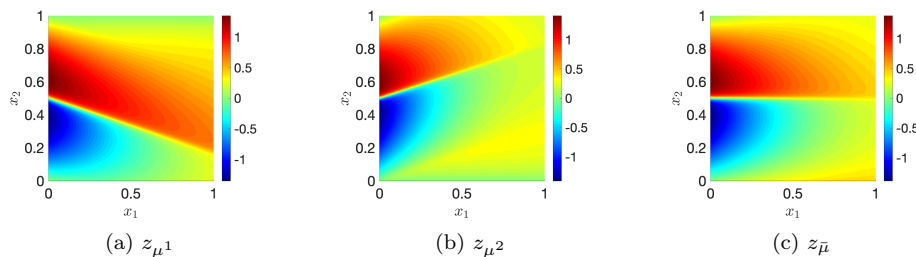


FIG. 8. Advection-reaction problem. Solution to (3.20) for three parameter values.

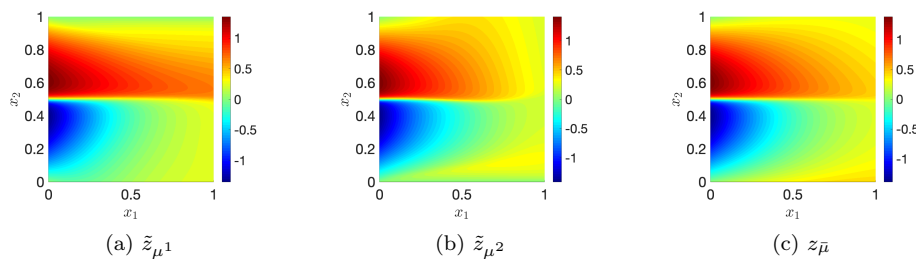


FIG. 9. Advection-reaction problem. Solution to (3.20) for three parameter values in the mapped configuration.

for the L^2 -POD-Galerkin ROM associated with the unregistered configuration and for the L^2 -POD-Galerkin ROM associated with the registered configuration. Here, $\mu^1, \dots, \mu^{n_{\text{test}}} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Uniform}(\mathcal{P})$, $n_{\text{test}} = 20$. In order to use the same metric for both the registered and the unregistered ROMs, for the registered case we compute the error as

$$\|z_\mu - \hat{z}_\mu \circ \Phi_\mu^{-1}\|_{L^2(\Omega)} = \sqrt{\int_{\Omega} \mathfrak{I}_\mu (\tilde{z}_\mu - \hat{z}_\mu)^2 dX}.$$

Figure 10(b) shows the $L^2(\Omega)$ -POD eigenvalues associated with $\{z_{\mu^i}\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$ (unregistered) and $\{\tilde{z}_{\mu^i}\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$ (registered).

We observe that the decay rates of E_{avg} and of the POD eigenvalues are nearly the same for both registered and unregistered configurations; however, the multiplicative constant is significantly different: $E_{\text{avg}}^{\text{reg.}} \approx \frac{1}{4} E_{\text{avg}}^{\text{unreg.}}$ for all values of N considered, while $(\frac{\lambda_N}{\lambda_1})^{\text{reg.}} \approx \frac{1}{100} (\frac{\lambda_N}{\lambda_1})^{\text{unreg.}}$ for $N \geq 2$. As a result, for any given N , the nonlinear mapping procedure leads to a significant improvement. This empirical observation suggests a multiplicative effect between N and M approximations and is thus in good agreement with the estimate of the Kolmogorov N - M width in (3.10). On the other hand, we remark that the mapping procedure leads to a significant increase in the number of EIM modes in (3.14). In more detail, for the registered case, we have

$$Q_{\text{a,el}} = 19, \quad Q_{\text{a,ed}} = 26, \quad Q_{\text{f,el}} = 15, \quad Q_{\text{f,ed}} = 6;$$

for the unregistered case, we have

$$Q_{\text{a,el}} = 4, \quad Q_{\text{a,ed}} = 3, \quad Q_{\text{f,el}} = 1, \quad Q_{\text{f,ed}} = 2.$$

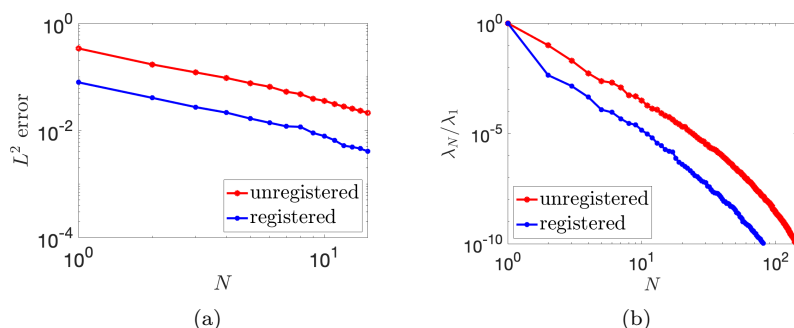


FIG. 10. Advection-reaction problem. (a) Behavior of E_{avg} with N for the registered and unregistered POD-Galerkin ROMs. (b) Behavior of $L^2(\Omega)$ -POD eigenvalues associated with $\{z_{\mu^i}\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$ (unregistered) and $\{\tilde{z}_{\mu^i}\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$ (registered).

Therefore, for any given N , the registered ROM is more expensive in terms of memory than the unregistered ROM. This behavior of the EIM can be explained by observing that most coefficients in (3.20) are parametrically affine in the unregistered configuration.

In Figure 11, we investigate the effect of the choice of ξ in (3.2). Figures 11(a) and (b) show the behavior of the proximity measure $\mathfrak{f}(\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}(\mu), \mu, \bar{\mu})$ and of the mapping seminorm $|\Psi_{\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}(\mu)}^{\text{hf}}|_{H^2(\Omega)}$ with respect to ξ for three values of μ in \mathcal{P} , where $\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}(\mu)$ denotes the solution to (3.2) for a given $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$. Figure 11(c) shows the decay of the mapping $\|\cdot\|_2$ -POD eigenvalues associated with $\{\mathbf{a}_{\mu^i}^{\text{hf}}\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$ for two choices of ξ . Similarly to the previous test case, both addends of the objective function converge to finite values for $\xi \rightarrow 0^+$; however, their numerical values and the threshold below which curves exhibit a plateau that differs significantly between the two test cases. Furthermore, we observe that reducing ξ leads to an increase of the complexity of the mapping manifold and ultimately increases the complexity of the generalization (cf. section 3.1.4) step.

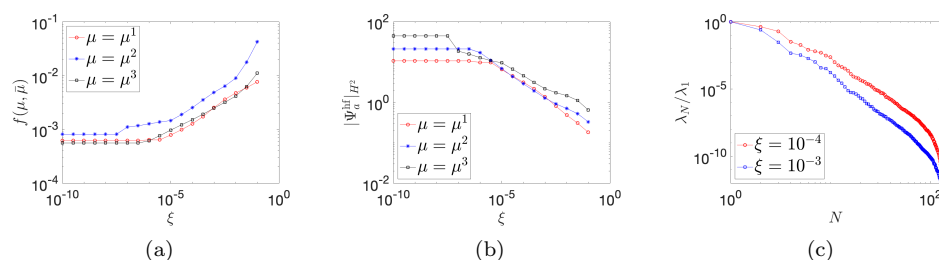


FIG. 11. Advection-reaction problem. Sensitivity analysis with respect to ξ in (3.2) for three values of $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$. (a) Behavior of the optimal proximity measure $\mathfrak{f}(\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}(\mu), \mu, \bar{\mu})$ with ξ . (b) Behavior of the mapping H^2 seminorm with ξ . (c) Decay of the $\|\cdot\|_2$ -POD eigenvalues associated with $\{\mathbf{a}_{\mu^i}^{\text{hf}}\}_{i=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$ for two choices of ξ .

4. Geometry reduction. In this section, we discuss how to adapt the registration procedure introduced in section 3 to geometry reduction. In this paper, we shall assume that the reference domain Ω and the parameterized displacement field

$\mathbf{d}_\mu : \partial\Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ are given for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$: given $\mathbf{X} \in \partial\Omega$, we can thus compute the corresponding material point in the physical configuration as $\mathbf{x}^\mu = \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{d}_\mu(\mathbf{X})$. As discussed in the introduction, we remark that the boundary displacement—or, equivalently, a parameterization of the boundary $\partial\Omega_\mu$ —might not be available for various classes of problems, including biological systems.

In view of the discussion, we further introduce the rectangle $\Omega_{\text{box}} = (a, b) \times (c, d)$ such that $\Omega, \Omega_\mu \subset \Omega_{\text{box}}$ for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$. Then, we introduce the parameterized function Ψ^{hf} in (2.2), and we define the bases $\{\varphi_m^{\text{hf}}\}_{m=1}^{M_{\text{hf}}}$ as in (2.6)—after having applied a suitable change of variables.

4.1. Registration procedure. We introduce (i) the reference points $\{\mathbf{X}_i\}_{i=1}^{N_{\text{bnd}}} \subset \partial\Omega$, (ii) the corresponding displaced points $\{\mathbf{x}_i^k = \mathbf{X}_i + \mathbf{d}_{\mu^k}(\mathbf{X}_i)\}_{i,k}$ for some parameters $\mu^1, \dots, \mu^{n_{\text{train}}} \in \mathcal{P}$, and (iii) the parameterized function Ψ^{hf} (2.2)–(2.6). Then, for $k = 1, \dots, n_{\text{train}}$, we choose $\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}^k = \mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}(\mu^k)$ as a solution to

$$(4.1a) \quad \begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^{M_{\text{hf}}}} \quad & \mathbf{f}^k(\mathbf{a}) + \xi \|\Psi_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}\|_{H^2(\Omega_{\text{box}})}^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \int_{\Omega_{\text{box}}} \exp\left(\frac{\epsilon - \mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X})}{C_{\text{exp}}}\right) + \exp\left(\frac{\mathfrak{J}_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X}) - 1/\epsilon}{C_{\text{exp}}}\right) dX \leq \delta, \end{aligned}$$

where the proximity measure $\mathbf{f}^k(\mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{a}, \mu^k)$ is given by

$$(4.1b) \quad \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{a}, \mu) := \frac{1}{N_{\text{bnd}}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{bnd}}} \|\Psi_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X}_i) - \mathbf{x}_i^\mu\|_2^2.$$

Given the dataset $\{(\mu^k, \mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}^k)\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$, we proceed as in section 3.1.4 to generate the mapping $\Phi : \Omega \times \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$.

We observe that (4.1) differs from (3.2) due to the choice of the proximity measure. Here, \mathbf{f} is an approximation of the $L^2(\partial\Omega)$ error over the boundary

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{a}, \mu) \approx \mathbf{f}^\infty(\mathbf{a}, \mu) := \int_{\partial\Omega} \|\Psi_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{d}_\mu(\mathbf{X})\|_2^2 dX.$$

If $\mathbf{f}^\infty(\mathbf{a}^{\text{hf}}, \mu) = 0$ for some admissible $\mathbf{a}^{\text{hf}} \in \mathbb{R}^M$ and Ω satisfies the hypotheses of Proposition 2.1, recalling Proposition 2.4, we find that $\Psi_{\mathbf{a}^{\text{hf}}}^{\text{hf}}$ is a bijection from Ω to Ω_μ . We further remark that if $\Psi_{\mathbf{a}^{\text{hf}}}^{\text{hf}}$ is a bijection from Ω_{box} into itself, it is injective in Ω .

Remark 4.1 (implicit surfaces). If $\partial\Omega_\mu$ is represented implicitly as $\partial\Omega_\mu = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : G_\mu(\mathbf{x}) = 0\}$ for $G_\mu : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, then we might consider the proximity measure

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{a}, \mu, \bar{\mu}) = \frac{1}{N_{\text{bnd}}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{bnd}}} |G_\mu(\Psi_{\mathbf{a}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X}_i))|^2,$$

where $\{\mathbf{X}_i\}_i$ is the set of control points on $\partial\Omega$. We do not consider this choice in the numerical experiments.

4.2. Model problems. We present below the two model problems considered in the numerical experiments.

4.2.1. Diffusion problem with discontinuous coefficients. We consider the diffusion problem

$$(4.2a) \quad -\nabla \cdot (\kappa_\mu \nabla z_\mu) = 1 \text{ in } \Omega_{\text{box}}, \quad z_\mu|_{\partial\Omega_{\text{box}}} = 0,$$

where $\Omega_{\text{box}} = (0, 1)^2$, $\mu = [\mu_1, \mu_2] \in \mathcal{P} = [-0.05, 0.05]^2$, and the conductivity coefficient is given by

$$(4.2b) \quad \kappa_\mu(\mathbf{x}) := 0.1 + 0.9 \mathbb{1}_{\Omega_\mu}(\mathbf{x}), \quad \Omega_\mu := \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \Omega : \|\mathbf{x} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_\mu\|_\infty \leq \frac{1}{4} \right\},$$

with $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_\mu := [1/2 + \mu_1, 1/2 + \mu_2]$. The problem is a variant of the thermal block problem, which has been extensively considered in the reduced basis literature (see, e.g., [45, section 6.1.1]). We here approximate the solution to (4.2) through a continuous Galerkin P3 FE discretization with $N_{\text{hf}} = 21025$ degrees of freedom.

Since κ_μ is piecewise constant with parameter-dependent jump discontinuities, pMOR techniques are not well suited to directly tackle (4.2). It is thus necessary to introduce a mapping $\Phi : \Omega_{\text{box}} \times \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \Omega_{\text{box}}$ such that $\kappa_\mu \circ \Phi_\mu : \Omega_{\text{box}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is parameter-independent. From the geometry reduction viewpoint, given $\Omega := \Omega_{\mu=0}$, we seek Φ such that (i) $\Phi_\mu(\Omega_{\text{box}}) = \Omega_{\text{box}}$ and (ii) $\Phi_\mu(\Omega) = \Omega_\mu$ for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$. In view of the discussion, we introduce the mapped problem for a generic map $\Phi_\mu : \Omega_{\text{box}} \rightarrow \Omega_{\text{box}}$: find $\tilde{z}_\mu = z_\mu \circ \Phi_\mu \in \mathcal{X} := H_0^1(\Omega_{\text{box}})$ such that

$$(4.3a) \quad \int_{\Omega_{\text{box}}} \mathbf{K}_\mu^* \widehat{\nabla} \tilde{z}_\mu \cdot \widehat{\nabla} v \, dX = \int_{\Omega_{\text{box}}} \mathfrak{J}_\mu v \, dX \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{X},$$

with

$$(4.3b) \quad \mathbf{K}_\mu^* := \mathfrak{J}_\mu (\kappa_\mu \circ \Phi_\mu) \left(\widehat{\nabla} \Phi_\mu \right)^{-1} \left(\widehat{\nabla} \Phi_\mu \right)^{-T}, \quad \mathfrak{J}_\mu := \det \left(\widehat{\nabla} \Phi_\mu \right).$$

Note that (4.2) is a special case of the general advection-diffusion-reaction problem considered in section 3.3.

Automatic piecewise-affine maps. Since the deformation of Ω_μ is rigid, we might explicitly build a piecewise linear map Φ . First, we identify a set of *control points*—the black dots in Figure 12(a)—and we use them to build a coarse partition of Ω_{box} —shown in Figure 12(a) as well. Then, we define a mapping $\Phi = \Phi^{\text{aff}}$ such that (i) $\Phi_\mu^{\text{aff}}(\Omega) = \Omega_\mu$ for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$, and (ii) Φ_μ^{aff} is piecewise linear in \mathbf{X} in all elements of the partition. Then, we define the mapped problem (4.3) with $\Phi_\mu = \Phi_\mu^{\text{aff}}$.

Note that, for this choice of the mapping, \mathbf{K}_μ^* and \mathfrak{J}_μ in (4.3b) are piecewise-constant in each element of the partition: this implies that (4.3) is *parametrically affine*—that is, \mathbf{K}_μ^* and \mathfrak{J}_μ are linear combinations of parameter-dependent coefficients and parameter-independent spatial fields. Therefore, the solution \tilde{z}_μ can be efficiently approximated using standard pMOR (e.g., reduced basis) techniques.

Given the user-defined control points, Rozza, Huynh, and Patera have developed in [45] an automatic procedure to generate the partition of Ω_{box} and to determine an economic piecewise-constant approximation of the form in (4.3). The latter relies on symbolic manipulation techniques to identify redundant terms in the affine expansions. Furthermore, for the approach to be effective, we should consider FE triangulations that are conforming to the coarse-grained partition in Figure 12(a). Finally, the choice of the control points, which is trivial in this case, might not be straightforward for more challenging problems. In conclusion, even if the approach works remarkably well in many situations, practical implementation of the procedure in [45] is rather involved and highly problem-dependent.

4.2.2. Laplace's equation in parameterized domains. Given the parameter domain $\mathcal{P} = [0.1, 0.4]^2 \times [0, \pi/4]$, we first introduce the parametric closed curve $t \in [0, 2\pi) \mapsto \gamma_{\text{in},\mu}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ such that

$$(4.4a) \quad \gamma_{\text{in},\mu}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(t) \left(1 + \mu_1 (\cos(t + \mu_3))^2 + 2 \cdot 10^{-3} ((2\pi - t)t)^2 \right) \\ \sin(t) \left(1 + \mu_2 (\sin(t + \mu_3))^2 + 2 \cdot 10^{-3} ((2\pi - t)t)^2 \right) \end{bmatrix}$$

and we denote by $\Omega_{\text{in},\mu}$ the bounded domain such that $\partial\Omega_{\text{in},\mu} = \gamma_{\mu}([0, 2\pi])$ for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$. We further define $\Omega_{\text{box}} = (-2, 2)^2$: note that $\Omega_{\text{in},\mu} \Subset \Omega_{\text{box}}$ for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$. Then, we introduce the Laplace problem:

$$(4.4b) \quad -\Delta z_{\mu} = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega_{\mu}, \quad z_{\mu}|_{\partial\Omega_{\text{in},\mu}} = 1, \quad z_{\mu}|_{\partial\Omega_{\text{box}}} = 0,$$

where $\Omega_{\mu} := \Omega_{\text{box}} \setminus \Omega_{\text{in},\mu}$ is depicted in Figures 12(c) and (d) for two values of $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$.

We introduce the reference domain $\Omega = \Omega_{\text{box}} \setminus \Omega_{\text{in}}$, with $\Omega_{\text{in}} = \mathcal{B}_1(\mathbf{0})$: note that Ω is diffeomorphic to Ω_{μ} for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$. Then, given the bijection $\Phi_{\mu} : \Omega \rightarrow \Omega_{\mu}$, and the lift R_{D} such that

$$(4.5a) \quad -\Delta R_{\text{D}} = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega, \quad R_{\text{D}}|_{\partial\Omega_{\text{in}}} = 1, \quad R_{\text{D}}|_{\partial\Omega_{\text{box}}} = 0,$$

we define the mapped problem for the lifted solution: find $\tilde{z}_{\mu} \in \mathcal{X} := H_0^1(\Omega)$ such that

$$(4.5b) \quad \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{K}_{\mu}^* \widehat{\nabla}(\tilde{z}_{\mu} + R_{\text{D}}) \cdot \widehat{\nabla} v \, dX = 0 \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{X},$$

with $\mathbf{K}_{\mu}^* := \mathfrak{J}_{\mu} (\widehat{\nabla} \Phi_{\mu})^{-1} (\widehat{\nabla} \Phi_{\mu})^{-T}$.

4.2.3. Application of the registration procedure. We consider the parametric function Ψ^{hf} (2.2)–(2.6): thanks to this choice, control points on $\partial\Omega_{\text{box}}$ are not necessary. Since, as in the examples of section 3, the conductivity matrix \mathbf{K}_{μ}^* and the Jacobian determinant \mathfrak{J}_{μ} are not expected to be affine, we resort to the EIM

$$(4.6) \quad \mathbf{K}_{\mu}^* \approx \mathbf{K}_{\mu}^{\text{eim}} := \sum_{q=1}^{Q_{\text{a}}} \Theta_{\mu}^{q,\kappa} \mathbf{K}_q, \quad \mathfrak{J}_{\mu}^* \approx \mathfrak{J}_{\mu}^{\text{eim}} := \sum_{q=1}^{Q_{\text{f}}} \Theta_{\mu}^{q,\mathfrak{j}} \mathfrak{J}_q,$$

to obtain a parametrically affine surrogate model. As explained in section SM4 of the supplementary materials, the basis functions are built using POD: the size of the expansions $Q_{\text{a}}, Q_{\text{f}}$ is chosen based on the criterion in (1.5).

Some comments are in order. Our approach leads to a nonaffine formulation—and thus requires hyperreduction to achieve online efficiency—for both problems; on the other hand, we observe that the approach exclusively relies on the parameterization of the boundary $\partial\Omega_{\text{in},\mu}$ and can be applied for virtually any choice of the conductivity.

4.3. Numerical results. We present below results for the two model problems introduced in section 4.2. Since the focus of this section is geometry reduction, we do not discuss the construction of the ROM for the mapped problems (4.3) and (4.5).

4.3.1. Diffusion problem with discontinuous coefficients. We choose $\xi = 4 \cdot 10^{-4}$, $\text{tol}_{\text{POD}} = 10^{-5}$, $\bar{M} = 6$ ($M_{\text{hf}} = 72$); furthermore, we consider the proximity measure (4.1b), where $\{\mathbf{X}_i\}_{i=1}^{N_{\text{bnd}}}$ is a uniform grid of $\partial\Omega_{\text{in}}$ with $N_{\text{bnd}} = 400$ and

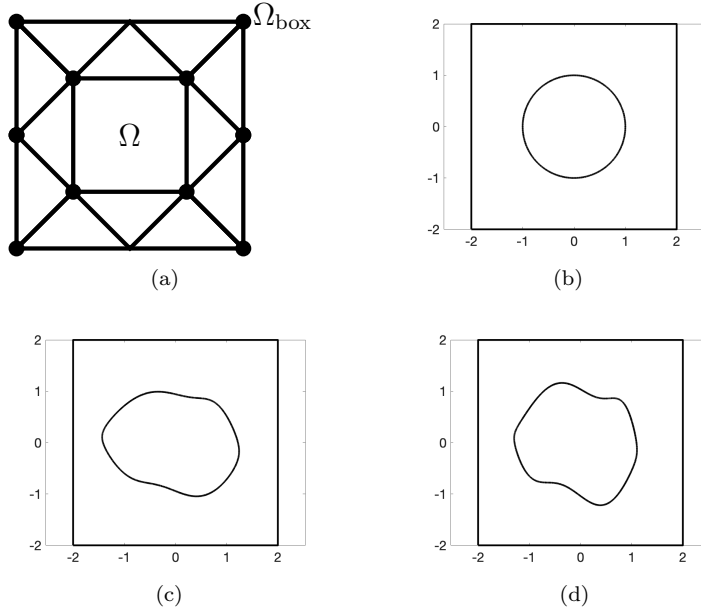


FIG. 12. *Geometry reduction.* (a) *Affine geometry* (section 4.2.1). Black dots denote the user-defined control points associated with the coarse triangulation. (b)–(d) *Nonaffine geometry* (section 4.2.2). (b) *Reference domain* Ω . (c)–(d) *Domain* Ω_μ for two values of $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$.

$\{\mathbf{x}_i^\mu = \mathbf{X}_i + \mu\}_i$; finally, we consider $n_{\text{train}} = 16^2$ equispaced parameters in \mathcal{P} . For this choice of parameters, our procedure returns an affine expansion with $M = 6$ terms.

In Figure 13, we investigate the (linear) complexity of the parametric manifolds associated with (4.2). In Figure 13(a), we compute the $L^2(\Omega_{\text{box}})$ -POD eigenvalues associated with $\{\kappa_{\mu^k}\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$ (unregistered) and $\{\tilde{\kappa}_{\mu^k} = \kappa_{\mu^k} \circ \Phi_{\mu^k}\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$ (registered). We observe that $\lambda_{N=2} \leq 10^{-15} \lambda_{N=1}$ for the registered case: the mapping Φ_μ is able to “fix” the position of the jump discontinuity in the reference configuration.⁴ In Figure 13(b), we show the $L^2(\Omega_{\text{box}})$ -POD eigenvalues of $\{\mathbf{K}_{\mu^k}^*\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$ and $\{\mathfrak{J}_{\mu^k}\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$. Finally, in Figure 13(c), we show the behavior of the $H^1(\Omega_{\text{box}})$ -POD eigenvalues of $\{z_{\mu^k}\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$ (unregistered) and $\{\tilde{z}_{\mu^k}\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$ (registered): even if the mapping is built based on the diffusivity coefficient, it is also effective in improving the linear reducibility of the solution manifold.

In Figure 14, we show the behavior of the mean relative error

$$(4.7) \quad E_{\text{avg}} := \frac{1}{n_{\text{test}}} \sum_{i=1}^{n_{\text{test}}} \frac{\|\tilde{z}_{\mu^i} - \tilde{z}_{\mu^i}^{\text{eim}}\|_\star}{\|\tilde{z}_{\mu^i}\|_\star}, \quad \mu^1, \dots, \mu^{n_{\text{test}}} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Uniform}(\mathcal{P})$$

with respect to the tolerance tol_{eim} associated with the choice of Q_a, Q_f in (4.6) for $n_{\text{test}} = 20$. Here, $\|\cdot\|_\star$ denotes either the $L^2(\Omega)$ norm or the $H^1(\Omega)$ norm:

$$\|w\|_{L^2(\Omega_{\text{box}})}^2 = \int_{\Omega_{\text{box}}} |w|^2 dx, \quad \|w\|_{H^1(\Omega_{\text{box}})}^2 = \int_{\Omega_{\text{box}}} |w|^2 + \|\nabla w\|_2^2 dx.$$

⁴More precisely, if we denote by $\{\mathbf{x}_q^{\text{in}}\}_q$ (resp., $\{\mathbf{x}_q^{\text{out}}\}_q$) the FE quadrature points in Ω (resp., $\Omega_{\text{box}} \setminus \Omega$), we have that $\Phi_\mu(\{\mathbf{x}_q^{\text{in}}\}_q) \subset \Omega_\mu$ (resp., $\Phi_\mu(\{\mathbf{x}_q^{\text{out}}\}_q) \subset \Omega_{\text{box}} \setminus \Omega_\mu$) for all $\mu \in \mathcal{P}$.

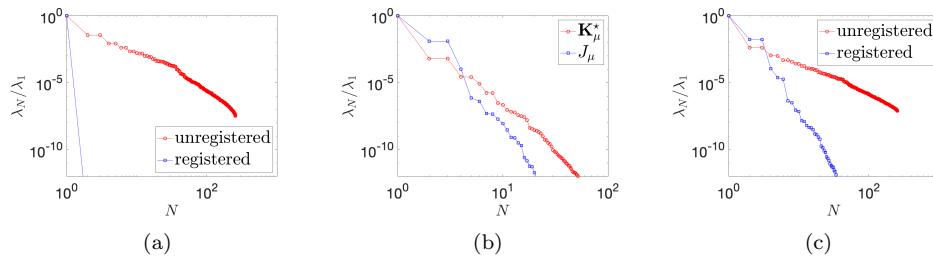


FIG. 13. Diffusion problem with discontinuous coefficients. Behavior of POD eigenvalues associated with $\{\kappa_{\mu^k}\}_k$ and $\{\tilde{\kappa}_{\mu^k}\}_k$ (Figure (a)); $\{\mathbf{K}_{\mu^k}^*\}_k$ and $\{J_{\mu^k}\}_k$ (Figure (b)); and $\{z_{\mu^k}\}_k$ and $\{\tilde{z}_{\mu^k}\}_k$ (Figure (c)).

In Figure 14(b), we show the behavior of Q_a, Q_f with respect to tol_{eim} : we observe that the relative H^1 and L^2 errors are less than 10^{-3} for $Q_a = 19, Q_f = 9$. We remark that using piecewise-affine mappings (cf. section 4.2.1), we might obtain an *exact* affine form with $Q_a = 13, Q_f = 3$. Once again, we remark that our approach is fully automatic.

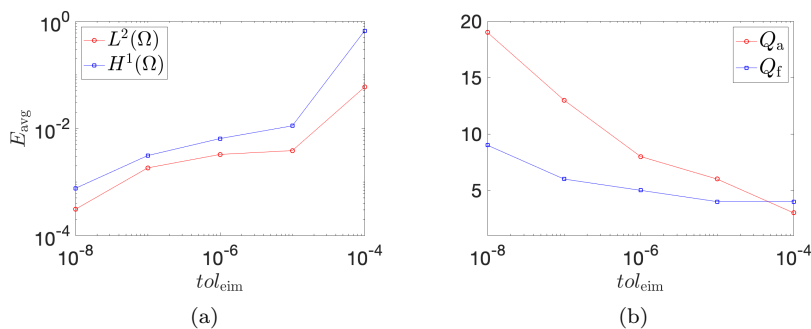


FIG. 14. Diffusion problem with discontinuous coefficients. (a) Behavior of E_{avg} (4.7) with tol_{eim} ($n_{\text{test}} = 20$). (b) Behavior of Q_a, Q_f in (4.6) with tol_{eim} .

4.3.2. Laplace's equation in parameterized domains. We choose $\xi = 10^{-2}$, $tol_{\text{POD}} = 10^{-5}$, and $M_{\text{hf}} = 288$, and we define the proximity measure \mathbf{f} (4.1b) based on $N_{\text{bnd}} = 10^3$ points $\{\mathbf{X}_i = \gamma^{\text{ref}}(2\pi i/N_{\text{bnd}})\}_{i=1}^{N_{\text{bnd}}}$, with $\gamma^{\text{ref}}(t) = [\cos(t), \sin(t)]$. To generate the mapping, we consider uniform grids of \mathcal{P} $\{\mu^k\}_{k=1}^{n_{\text{train}}}$, with $n_{\text{train}} = 4^3, 6^3, 8^3, 10^3$.

In Figure 15, we show boxplots of the “in-sample” and “out-of-sample” errors given by

$$(4.8) \quad \begin{cases} E_k^{\text{geo, in}} := \max_{i=1, \dots, N_{\text{bnd}}} \|\Psi_{\mathbf{a}_{\text{hf}}}^{\text{hf}}(\mathbf{X}_i) - \mathbf{x}_i^{\mu^k}\|_2, & k = 1, \dots, n_{\text{train}}, \\ E_j^{\text{geo, out}} := \max_{i=1, \dots, N_{\text{bnd}}} \text{dist}(\Phi_{\tilde{\mu}^j}(\mathbf{X}_i), \{\mathbf{x}_{i', j}^t\}_{i'=1}^{N_{\text{bnd}}^t}), & j = 1, \dots, n_{\text{test}}, \end{cases}$$

where $\{\mathbf{X}_i^t = \gamma^{\text{ref}}(t^i)\}_i$ and $\{\mathbf{x}_{i, j}^t = \gamma_{\tilde{\mu}^j}(t^i)\}_i$, with $t^i = \frac{2\pi i}{N_{\text{bnd}}^t}, \tilde{\mu}^1, \dots, \tilde{\mu}^{n_{\text{test}}} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Uniform}(\mathcal{P})$, $N_{\text{bnd}}^t = 10^4$, $n_{\text{test}} = 50$. The in-sample error depends on the choice

of the hyperparameters in (3.2) and on the choice of the discretization parameter M_{hf} ; on the other hand, the out-of-sample error depends on the choice of tol_{POD} and on the number of training points. Interestingly, the value of M is the same (and equal to 7) for all choices of n_{train} .

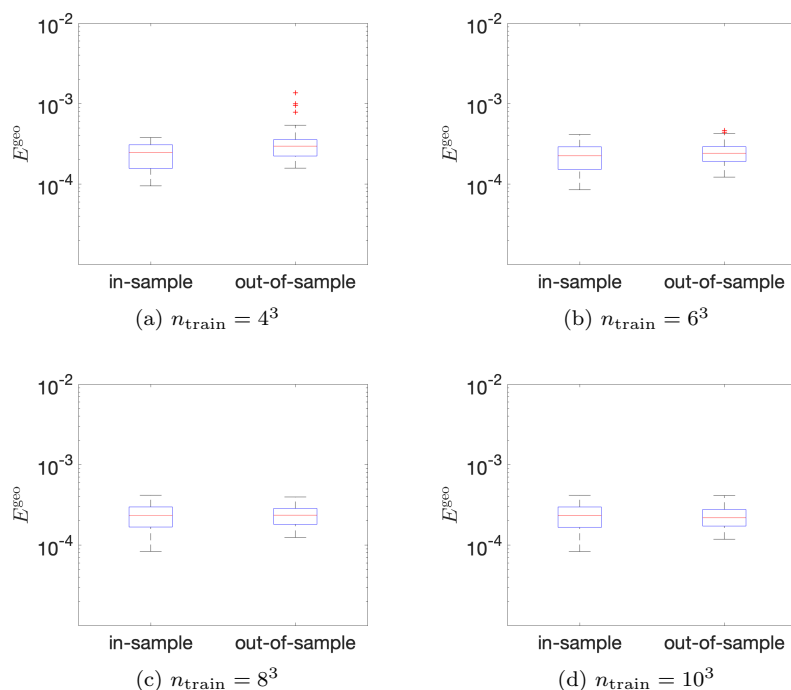


FIG. 15. Laplace's equation in parameterized domains; performance of the registration procedure. Boxplots of in-sample and out-of-sample errors E_{geo} for several training sizes.

Figure 16 replicates the results of Figure 14 for the second model problem. Here, we consider $n_{\text{train}} = 10^3$, $\xi = 10^{-2}$, $M_{\text{hf}} = 288$, and $\text{tol}_{\text{POD}} = 10^{-5}$, and we compute E_{avg} (4.7) based on $n_{\text{test}} = 50$ parameters. We find that the relative L^2 and H^1 errors are below 10^{-3} for Q_a equal to 17.

In the supplementary materials (cf. section SM5), we further provide a numerical comparison of our approach with a representative mapping procedure for a given value of μ .

5. Summary and discussion. In this work, we proposed a general (i.e., independent of the underlying PDE model) registration procedure, and we applied it to data compression and geometry reduction: in data compression, our registration procedure is used in combination with a linear compression method to devise a *Lagrangian nonlinear compression method*; in geometry reduction, our registration procedure is used to build a parametric mapping from a reference domain to a family of parameterized domains $\{\Omega_\mu\}_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}}$. Several numerical results empirically motivate our proposal. Although the examples considered are rather academic, we believe that our results demonstrate the applicability of our approach to a broad class of relevant problems in science and engineering.

In the future, we wish to extend the approach in several directions. First, in this work, we chose the reference field \bar{u} (cf. section 3) and the reference domain

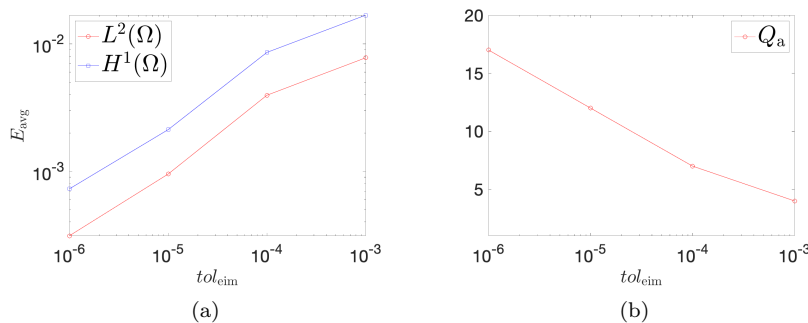


FIG. 16. Laplace's equation in parameterized domains; performance of the registration procedure. (a) Behavior of E_{avg} (4.7) with tol_{eim} ($n_{test} = 50$). (b) Behavior of Q_a in (4.6) with tol_{eim} .

Ω (cf. section 4) that enters in the optimization statement a priori; in the future, we wish to develop automatic procedures to adaptively choose \bar{u} and Ω . Second, in order to tackle problems with more complex parametric behaviors, we wish to develop partitioning techniques that leverage the use of multiple references, and we also wish to couple the approach with domain decomposition techniques. Third, as discussed in section 3.1, a major limitation of our approach is the need for several offline simulations to build the mapping Φ . To address this issue, we wish to exploit recent advances in multifidelity approaches to reduce the offline computational burden. Alternatively, we wish to assess the performance of projection methods to simultaneously learn mapping and solution coefficients during the online stage. Fourth, the registration procedure for data compression has been developed for $\Omega = (0, 1)^2$: we aim to combine the proximity measures (3.2b) and (4.1b) to deal with more complex domains. Furthermore, we aim to extend Proposition 2.4 to assess the sensitivity of the registration procedure to perturbations. Finally, we wish to study the approximation properties of Lagrangian methods based on problem-dependent mappings for a range of parametric problems. Examples in section SM2 of the supplementary materials illustrate the effectivity of Lagrangian mappings for elementary one- and two-dimensional problems; in the future, we aim to investigate whether it is possible to prove approximation results for a broader class of problems.

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