

Conservation and DG

4 April 2024

- Poisson strong form again:

$$-\nabla^2 u \stackrel{\otimes}{=} f \quad \text{on } \Omega$$

- recall $\nabla^2 u = \nabla \cdot \nabla u$

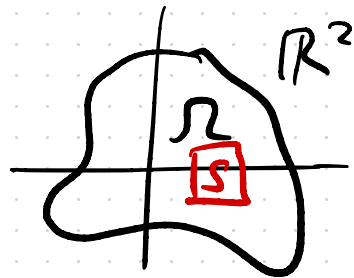
"discontinuous Galerkin"

integrate \otimes over any $S \subset \Omega$:

$$\int_S -\nabla \cdot \nabla u = \int_S f$$

div. thm ↓

$$-\int_{\partial S} \nabla u \cdot \hat{n} = \int_S f \quad (1)$$



multiply \otimes by any v and integrate over Ω :

$$\int_{\Omega} -(\nabla^2 u) v = \int_{\Omega} f v$$

div. thm

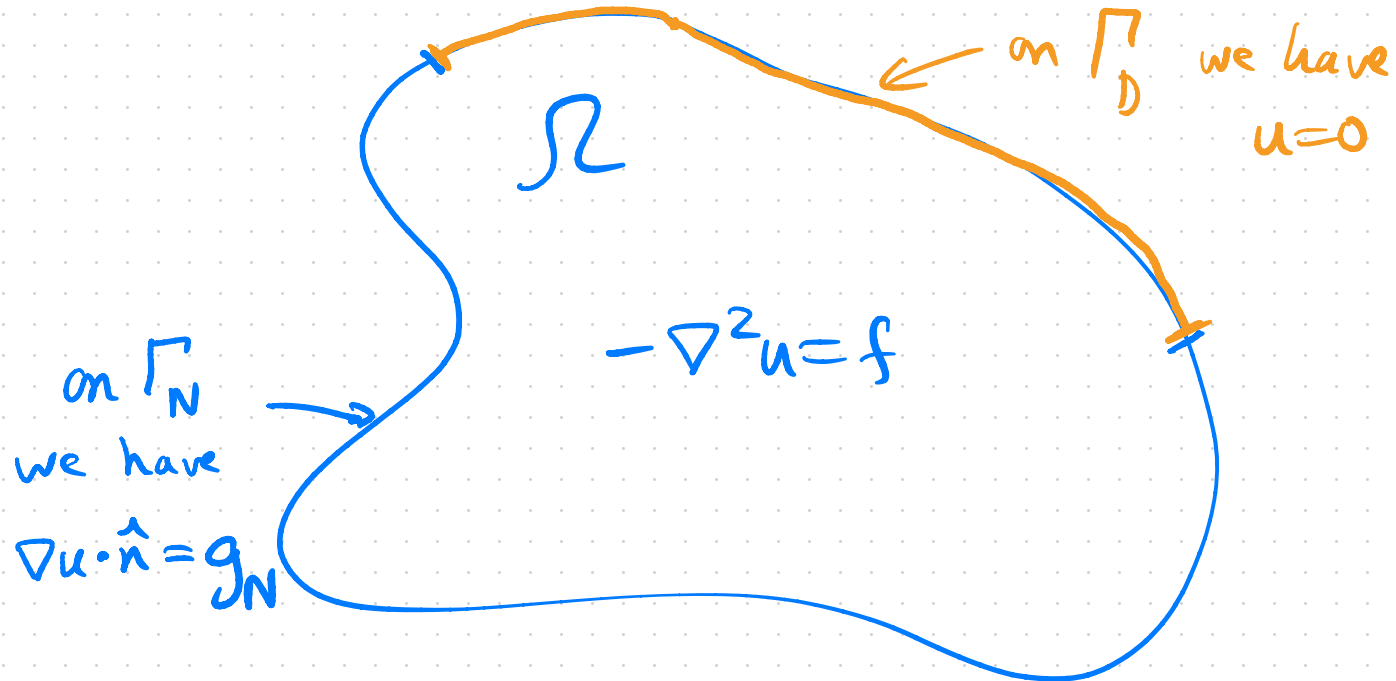
$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v - \int_{\partial \Omega} v \nabla u \cdot \hat{n} = \int_{\Omega} f v \quad (2)$$

will assume $u=0$ on Γ_0
and $\nabla u \cdot \hat{n} = g_N$ on Γ_N

idea: exact solution satisfies both ① (for all S)
and ② (for all v)

Q. Which do we want to use as the basis
of a numerical scheme?

a convenient Poisson problem:



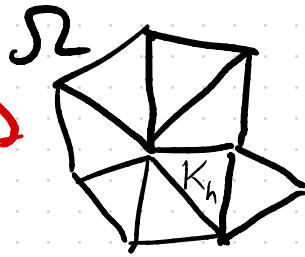
$$\partial\Omega = \Gamma_D \cup \Gamma_N$$

Finite volumes

$$-\int_{\partial S} \nabla u \cdot \hat{n} = \int_S f$$

$u = \text{exact soln}$
 $u_h = \text{num. soln}$

$$\forall S \subset \Omega$$



→
approx

$$-\int_{\partial K_h} \nabla u_h \cdot \hat{n} = \int_{K_h} f \quad \forall \text{cells } K_h$$

Finite elements

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v - \int_{\Gamma_N} u g_N = \int_{\Omega} f v \quad \forall v \in H_0^1(\Omega)$$

→
approx

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla u_h \cdot \nabla v_h - \int_{\Gamma_N} u_h g_N = \int_{\Omega} f v_h \quad \forall v_h \in \mathcal{V}_h$$

Summary:

strong form

$$-\nabla^2 u = f$$

integrate
over K

multiply by v
and integrate over Ω

conservation over cells

$$-\int_{\partial K} \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n} = \int_K f$$

weak form over Ω

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v - \int_{\Gamma_N} v g_N = \int_{\Omega} f v$$

Element-wise

weak form:

strong form

$$-\nabla^2 u = f$$

↓ mult. by v and integrate over one element K

element-wise weak form

$$\int_K \nabla u \cdot \nabla v - \int_{\partial K} v \nabla u \cdot \hat{n} = \int_K f v$$

take $v=1$ on K

Sum over elements and cancel along interior edges ("facets")

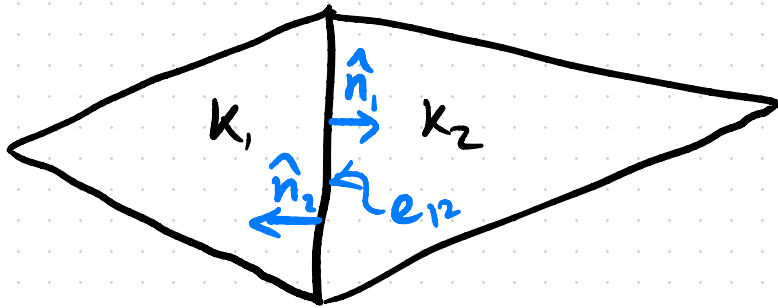
conservation over cells

$$-\int_{\partial K} \nabla u \cdot \hat{n} = \int_K f$$

weak form over Ω

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v - \int_{\Gamma_N} v g_N = \int_{\Omega} f v$$

re cancelling in adjacent cells: let $S = K_1 \cup K_2$



exact u

continuity of ∇u

$$\int_{K_1} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v - \int_{\partial K_1} v \nabla u \cdot \hat{n} = \int_{K_1} f v$$

$$\int_{K_2} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v - \int_{\partial K_2} v \nabla u \cdot \hat{n} = \int_{K_2} f v$$

add and use along e_{12} , and $\hat{n}_1 = -\hat{n}_2$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_S \nabla u \cdot \nabla v - \int_{\partial S} v \nabla u \cdot \hat{n} \\ &= \int_S f v \end{aligned}$$

def: a numerical scheme for Poisson equation is conservative if there is an approximation

$$\sigma_h \approx -\nabla u_h$$

for numerical solution u_h , with σ_h single-valued over all edges in \mathcal{T}_h , so that

$$\int_{\partial K} \sigma_h \cdot \hat{n} = \int_K f$$

over every element (cell) K in \mathcal{T}_h

lemma: (a) a convergent FE scheme based on the element-wise weak form

$$\int_K \nabla u_h \cdot \nabla v_h + \int_{\partial K} v_h \sigma_h \cdot \hat{n} = \int_K f v_h$$

is conservative if $v_h = \underbrace{\chi_K}_{\text{characteristic function on } K}$ is an allowed test function

(b) if an FE scheme is conservative then

$$(c) \quad \int_{\Gamma_D} \sigma_h \cdot \hat{n} = \int_{\Gamma_N} g_N + \int_{\Omega} f \quad \left. \vphantom{\int_{\Gamma_D} \sigma_h \cdot \hat{n}} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{numerically} \\ \text{checkable} \\ \text{global} \\ \text{conservation} \end{array}$$

demo I will demo 3 Poisson solvers

poisson_pCG.py

our usual "primal" CG (piecewise-linear) FE scheme, with check on \odot at end

poisson_pDG.py

"primal" DGO FE scheme
... and I don't know how to check \odot

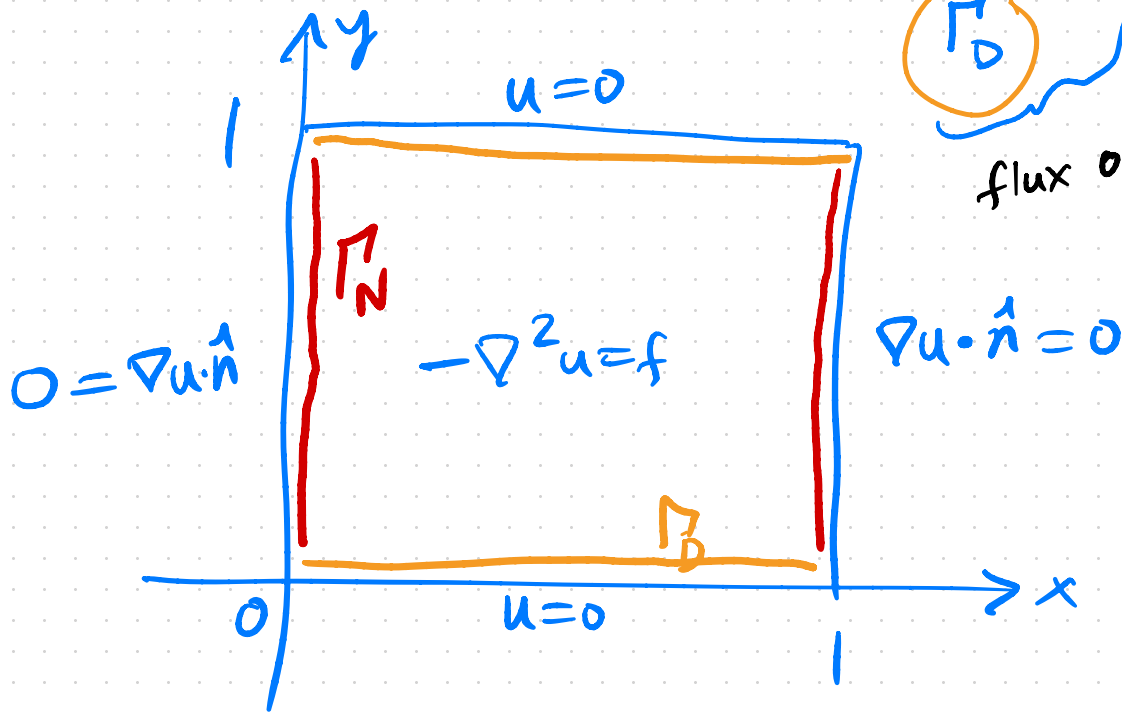
poisson_mDf.py

"mixed" DGO FE scheme, with check on \odot at end

• primal means we solve for u_h

• mixed means we solve for u_h
and a variable σ_h which
approximates $\sigma_h = -\nabla u_h$

test problem solved by all 3 codes:

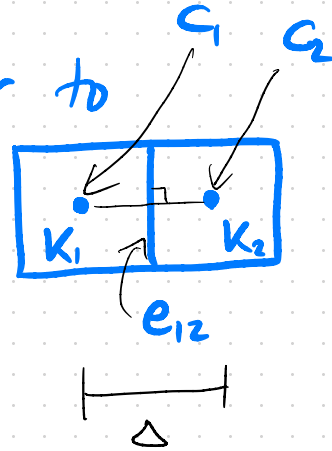


$$\int_{\Gamma_D} \sigma_n \cdot \hat{n} = \int_{\Gamma_N} g_N + \int_{\Omega} f$$

flux out
 in this case
 f int

primal DGO:

- if faces of cells are perpendicular to lines between cell centers then



$$\int_{e_{12} \cap \partial K_1} v_h \nabla u_h \cdot \hat{n} + \int_{e_{12} \cap \partial K_2} v_h \nabla u_h \cdot \hat{n}$$
$$\approx \int_{e_{12}} \frac{u_h(c_1) - u_h(c_2)}{\Delta} (v_h(c_1) - v_h(c_2))$$

↑ "two-point flux approximation"

- "DGO" means u_h and v_h are constant on each element
- for DGO, $\nabla u_h = 0$ and $\nabla v_h = 0$ in element, so element-wise weak form is just

$$-\int_{\partial K} v_h \nabla u_h \cdot \hat{n} = \int_K f v_h$$

- summing over all elements and using result on previous slide gives this expression:

$$F = (\text{jump}(u) / \Delta x) * \underbrace{\int_{\text{interior edges}} \text{jump}(v) * dS} - f * v * dx$$

means integral over interior edges

• this is essentially a finite volume method

irritating fact 1: Dirichlet conditions

in this method must be imposed weakly
(see code)

irritating fact 2:

I cannot figure out a good way to
do a global conservation check:

$$\textcircled{c} \quad \oint_{\Gamma_D} \sigma_n \cdot \hat{n} = \int_{\Gamma_N} g_N + \int_{\Omega} f$$

not clear
how to do
this integral

Mixed DG:

- quite different, and not as irritating
- again u_h and v_h are constant on each element
(at least in $k=1$ case below)
- start from strong form $-\nabla^2 u = f$
but write it as system:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \sigma = -\nabla u \\ \nabla \cdot \sigma = f \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} u \text{ scalar} \\ \sigma = (\sigma_1, \sigma_2) \text{ vector} \end{array}$$

- multiply first equation by vector test function w and second equation by scalar test function v , and integrate over Ω :

$$\int_{\Omega} \sigma \cdot \omega + \int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \omega = 0$$

$$\int_{\Omega} (\nabla \cdot \sigma) v = \int_{\Omega} f v$$

- integrate by parts to move ∇ off of u :

$$\int_{\Omega} \sigma \cdot \omega - \int_{\Omega} u (\nabla \cdot \omega) + \int_{\partial \Omega} u \omega \cdot \hat{n} = 0$$

$$\int_{\Omega} (\nabla \cdot \sigma) v = \int_{\Omega} f v$$

- since $u=0$ on Γ_0 , that part of } Dirichlet
boundary integral disappears } becomes
natural!

• to enforce $\nabla u \cdot n = -\sigma \cdot n = g_N$ on Γ_N requires

a Dirichlet condition on σ :

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \sigma \cdot n &= g_N \\ \omega \cdot n &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ on } \Gamma_N$$

} Neumann becomes essential!

• final mixed weak form:

$$\int_{\Omega} \sigma \cdot \omega - \int_{\Omega} u (\nabla \cdot \omega) = 0$$

$$\int_{\Omega} (\nabla \cdot \sigma) v$$

$$= \int_{\Omega} f v$$

(M)

$$F = \int_{\Omega} \text{dot}(\sigma, \omega) \, dx - \int_{\Omega} u \, \text{div}(\omega) \, dx + \int_{\Omega} \text{div}(\sigma) \, v \, dx - \int_{\Omega} f \, v \, dx$$

- solving (M) accurately / stably requires careful choice of elements:

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \underbrace{RT_k}_k \times \underbrace{DG_{k-1}}_{k-1} \\
 \uparrow \sigma, w \text{ here} \qquad \qquad \qquad \swarrow u, v \text{ here} \\
 \underbrace{BDM_k}_k \times \underbrace{DG_{k-1}}_{k-1}
 \end{array}
 \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} RT_k \times DG_{k-1} \\ BDM_k \times DG_{k-1} \end{array}} \right\} \text{for triangular elements}$$

- see literature and "Periodic Table of the Finite Elements"

results:

- poisson-pCG.py is as expected, but when we measure global conservation \textcircled{C} , it is off by much more than rounding error

try
varying
 m, k

- poisson-pDG.py seems to work, but no apparent way to check \textcircled{C}

- poisson-mDG.py works well and global conservation checks out:

\textcircled{C} holds to within rounding error

References

↙ "Mixed formulation of Poisson equation"

- firedrakeproject.org/demos/poisson-mixed.py

explains how poisson-mDG.py works

- github.com/tlroy/thermal-porous

explains how poisson-pDG.py works

see [intro/Intro.pdf](#)

Further reading:

- Hughes et al (2000). The continuous Galerkin method is locally conservative. J. Comput. Phys. 163(2), 467-488
- Periodic Table of the Finite Elements,
at z.umn.edu/femtable