

Raviart-Thomas finite elements of Petrov-Galerkin type

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Motivation (1/4)

- We consider the Poisson problem

$$-\Delta u = f, \quad u = 0 \quad \text{on} \quad \partial\Omega.$$

- discretized with **mixed finite elements**:

find $(u, p) \in \mathbb{P}^0 \times \text{RT}^0$ so that for all $(v, q) \in \mathbb{P}^0 \times \text{RT}^0$

$$-(\text{div } p, v)_0 = (f, v)_0, \quad (p, q)_0 = -(u, \text{div } q)_0$$

- The second equations says: $p = -\text{div}^* u$

$$\text{div}^* : \mathbb{P}^0 \longrightarrow \text{RT}^0$$

- Non-local expression of the flux**

with respect to the scalar u .

Motivation (2/4)

- We want a **local expression of the flux**
- We skip to a **Petrov-Galerkin mixed formulation**:

$$\text{find } (u, p) \in \mathbb{P}^0 \times \text{RT}^0 \text{ so that for all } (v, q) \in \mathbb{P}^0 \times X^* \\ - (\text{div } p, v)_0 = (f, v)_0, \quad (p, q)_0 = -(u, \text{div } q)_0 \quad (1)$$

- Shape functions: scalar \mathbb{P}^0 || vector RT^0

$$\text{RT}^0 = \text{span}(\varphi_a, a \in \mathcal{F}) \quad \text{classical basis}$$

- Test functions: scalar \mathbb{P}^0 || vector $X^* \subset H_{\text{div}}$

$$X^* = \text{span}(\varphi_a^*, a \in \mathcal{F}) \quad \text{dual basis}$$

Motivation (3/4)

- **Constraint 1.** Orthogonality:

$$(\varphi_a^*, \varphi_b)_0 = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad a \neq b \quad (\text{C1})$$

- **Constraint 2.** Positivity:

$$\forall a \in \mathcal{F}, \quad (\varphi_a^*, \varphi_a)_0 > 0 \quad (\text{C2})$$

We can define: $\text{div}^* : \mathbb{P}^0 \longrightarrow X^*$

$$\forall (u, p) \in \mathbb{P}^0 \times X, \quad (\text{div } p, u)_0 = (p, \text{div}^* u)_0.$$

- **Definition 1.** $\Pi : \text{RT}^0 \longrightarrow X^*, \quad \Pi \varphi_a = \varphi_a^*$
- **Definition 2.** Discrete gradient $\nabla_{\mathcal{T}} : \mathbb{P}^0 \longrightarrow \text{RT}^0$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{RT}^0 & \xrightarrow{\text{div}} & \mathbb{P}^0 \\
 \Pi \downarrow & \swarrow \text{div}^* & \\
 X^* & &
 \end{array}
 \quad \nabla_{\mathcal{T}} := -\Pi^{-1} \text{div}^*$$

Motivation (4/4)

- **Constraint 3.** Flux equality:

$$\forall a, b \in \mathcal{F}, \quad \int_b \varphi_a \cdot n_b \, ds = \int_b \varphi_a^* \cdot n_b \, ds \quad (\text{C3})$$

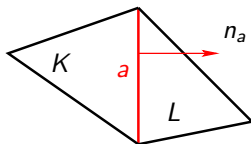
Proposition. Assume (C1), (C2) and (C3).

- The **Petrov-Galerkin mixed formulation** (1) is well-posed.
- The solution (u, p) satisfies

$$p = \nabla_{\mathcal{T}} u$$

- We have a **local expression of the flux**:

$$p = \nabla_{\mathcal{T}} u = \sum_{a \in \mathcal{F}} p_a \varphi_a \Rightarrow p_a = \frac{1}{(\varphi_a, \varphi_a^*)_0} (u_L - u_K).$$



First results

[1] F. Dubois, 2000.

One dimensional case

- Stability condition $\Rightarrow (\varphi_a, \varphi_a^*)_0$ has a prescribed value.
- Discrete problem \Leftrightarrow finite volumes.

[2] F. Dubois, I. Greff and C. Pierre, 2017.

Two dimensional case

- Introduction of a class of dual functions φ_a^*
- $(\varphi_a, \varphi_a^*)_0$ has a prescribed value
- Discrete problem \Leftrightarrow 4 point finite volume scheme (R. Herbin, 1995).
- Stability is satisfied (+ error estimates).

General framework (1/3)

Relatively to a mesh \mathcal{T} of the domain Ω :

- Shape functions =
$$\begin{cases} \text{scalar} & : M \subset L^2(\Omega) \\ \text{vector} & : X \subset H_{\text{div}}(\Omega) \end{cases}$$

and $\text{div} : X \longrightarrow M, \quad \text{div}(X) = M.$

- Test functions =
$$\begin{cases} \text{scalar} & : M \\ \text{vector} & : X^* \subset H_{\text{div}}(\Omega) \end{cases}$$

- Scalar basis functions: $M = \text{span}(\chi_i, i \in \mathcal{C})$

Orthogonality : $(\chi_i, \chi_{i'})_0 = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad i \neq i'$

- Vector basis functions:
$$\begin{cases} X = \text{span}(\varphi_j, j \in \mathcal{F}) \\ X^* = \text{span}(\varphi_j^*, j \in \mathcal{F}) \end{cases}$$

General framework (2/4)

- **Constraint 1.** Orthogonality:

$$(\varphi_j^*, \varphi_{j'})_0 = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad j \neq j' \quad (\text{C1})$$

- **Constraint 2.** Positivity:

$$\forall j \in \mathcal{F}, \quad (\varphi_j^*, \varphi_j)_0 > 0 \quad (\text{C2})$$

We can define: $\text{div}^* : M \longrightarrow X^*$

$$\forall (u, p) \in M \times X, \quad (\text{div} p, u)_0 = (p, \text{div}^* u)_0.$$

- **Definition 1.** $\Pi : X \longrightarrow X^*, \quad \Pi \varphi_a = \varphi_a^*$
- **Definition 2.** discrete gradient $\nabla_{\mathcal{T}} : M \longrightarrow X$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X & \xrightarrow{\text{div}} & M \\
 \Pi \downarrow & \swarrow \text{div}^* & \\
 X^* & &
 \end{array}
 \quad \nabla_{\mathcal{T}} := -\Pi^{-1} \text{div}^*$$

General framework (3/4)

- **Constraint 3.**

$$\forall \varphi \in X, \quad \operatorname{div}(\Pi\varphi - \varphi) \in M^\perp \quad (\text{C3})$$

- (C3) generalizes the **flux equality constraint**
- (C3) is a necessary condition for the algebraic relation

$$\forall (u, q) \in M \times X^*, \quad (\operatorname{div} q, u)_0 = -(q, \nabla_{\mathcal{T}} u)_0$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} -(q, \nabla_{\mathcal{T}} u)_0 &= (q, \Pi^{-1} \operatorname{div}^* u)_0 && \leftarrow \text{def. } \nabla_{\mathcal{T}} \\ &= (\Pi^{-1} q, \operatorname{div}^* u)_0 && \leftarrow \text{conseq. (C1)} \\ &= (\operatorname{div} \Pi^{-1} q, u)_0 && \leftarrow \text{def. } \operatorname{div}^* \\ &= (\operatorname{div} q, u)_0 && \leftarrow (\text{C3}) \end{aligned}$$

General framework (4/4)

Proposition. Assume (C1), (C2) and (C3).

- The Petrov-Galerkin mixed formulation (1) is well-posed.
- The solution (u, p) satisfies

$$-\operatorname{div} \nabla_{\mathcal{T}} u = f_{\mathcal{T}}, \quad p = \nabla_{\mathcal{T}} u$$

where $f_{\mathcal{T}}$ is the orthogonal projection of f on M .

- **Local expression of the flux.** Let $u \in M$, $u = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{C}} u_i \chi_i$

and $p := \nabla_{\mathcal{T}} u \in X$, $p = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{F}} p_j \varphi_j$

Then
$$p_j = -\frac{1}{(\varphi_j, \varphi_j^*)_0} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{C}} u_i (\chi_i, \operatorname{div} \varphi_j)_0$$

Implementation

- **Notations:** $f_i = (\chi_i, f)_0$, $F = (f_i)_{i \in \mathcal{C}}$
 $u = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{C}} u_i \chi_i$, $U = (u_i)_{i \in \mathcal{C}}$

- **The discrete problem:** find $u \in M$ such that

$$\operatorname{div} \nabla_{\mathcal{T}} u = f_{\mathcal{T}},$$

yields in matrix form: $S U = F$.

- The matrix $S = [s_{ik}]_{i, k \in \mathcal{C}}$ is the matrix of the product

$$(u, v) \longrightarrow (\Pi \nabla_{\mathcal{T}} u, \nabla_{\mathcal{T}} v)_0,$$

and is **symmetric, positive definite**.

- The matrix coefficients are

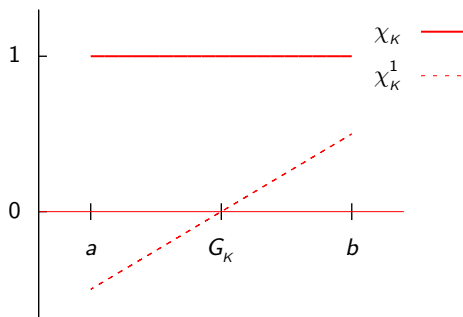
$$s_{ik} = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{1}{(\varphi_j, \varphi_j^*)_0} (\chi_i, \operatorname{div} \varphi_j)_0 (\chi_k, \operatorname{div} \varphi_j)_0.$$

1D example (1)

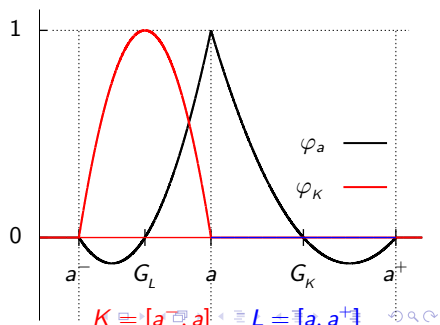
$$M = \mathbb{P}_d^1(\mathcal{T}) \quad \text{and} \quad X = \text{RT}^1(\mathcal{T}) = \mathbb{P}^2(\mathcal{T})$$

- \mathcal{T} is a mesh of an interval $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}$.
- $\mathbb{P}_d^1(\mathcal{T}) =$ piecewise affine (no continuity at the mesh vertices)
- $\mathbb{P}^2(\mathcal{T}) =$ continuous + piecewise polynomial with degree ≤ 2

Scalar basis functions



Vector basis functions



1D example (2)

- **Constraint.** Support of the dual functions

$$\text{supp } \varphi_j^* \subset \text{supp } \varphi_j. \quad (\text{C4})$$

Proposition. Assume that (C1), (C3) and (C4) are satisfied:

- Then the scheme coefficients are

$$(\varphi_K^*, \varphi_K)_0 = \frac{3}{2} |K|, \quad (\varphi_a^*, \varphi_a)_0 = \frac{1}{6} |\partial^c a|$$

with $\partial^c a$ the coboundary of the vertex a .

- The scheme is determined !

Computation of $(\varphi_K, \varphi_K^*)_0$

$K = [a, b]$ is a mesh interval.

- Let $u \in M$ satisfying $u' = 1$. With (C3):

$$0 = \int_{\Omega} u \operatorname{div}(\varphi_K - \varphi_K^*) dx = \int_K u \operatorname{div}(\varphi_K - \varphi_K^*) dx - \int_K u' (\varphi_K - \varphi_K^*) dx + [u (\varphi_K - \varphi_K^*)]_a^b = \int_K (\varphi_K^* - \varphi_K) dx = 0$$

- On K : $\varphi_K + \varphi_a + \varphi_b = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} \varphi_K^* \varphi_K dx &= \int_K \varphi_K^* \varphi_K dx = \int_K \varphi_K^* (1 - \varphi_a - \varphi_b) \\ &= \int_K \varphi_K^* dx - (\varphi_K^*, \varphi_a)_0 - (\varphi_K^*, \varphi_b)_0 = \int_K \varphi_K^* dx \end{aligned}$$

- Then $(\varphi_K, \varphi_K^*)_0 = \int_K \varphi_K dx$

Important remarks

- The dual functions φ_j^* never need to be computed in practice
- Choice of the basis for $M = \mathbb{P}_d^1(\mathcal{T})$:
another basis \Rightarrow equivalent scheme.
- Choice of the basis for $X = \text{RT}^1(\mathcal{T})$:
another basis \Rightarrow **different scheme**.

Example:

if we impose $\int_K \varphi_K \, dx = 1$ instead of $\varphi_K(G_K) = 1$

then $(\varphi_K^*, \varphi_K)_0 = 0$

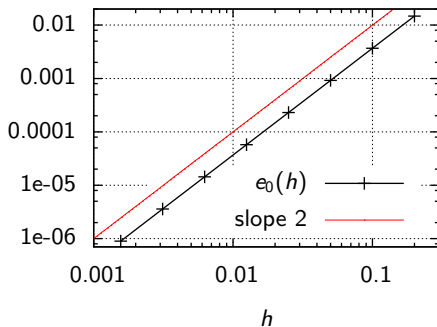
The positivity constraint (C2) is violated.

The scheme is **ill-posed**

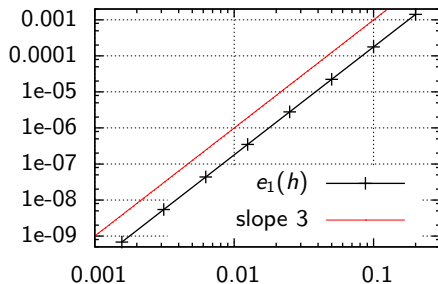
Numerical test

- $-\Delta u = f$ with $u = \sin(\pi x)$ on $\Omega = (0, 1)$
- Regular mesh \mathcal{T} with size h
- Numerical solution: u_h
- Convergence in L^2 norm

$$e_0(h) = \|u - u_h\|_0$$



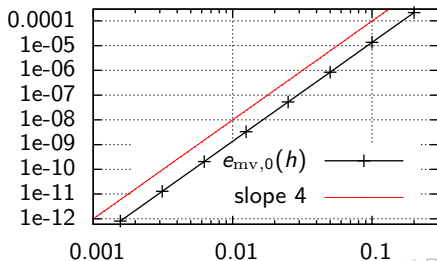
$$e_1(h) = \|\nabla u - \nabla_{\mathcal{T}} u_h\|_0$$



Numerical test

- $-\Delta u = f$ with $u = \sin(\pi x)$ on $\Omega = (0, 1)$
- Regular mesh \mathcal{T} with size h
- Numerical solution: u_h
- Convergence of the mean values for u_h

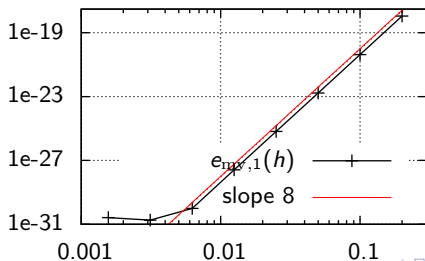
$$e_{\text{mv},0}(h)^2 = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{C}} \left(\frac{1}{|K_i|} \int_{K_i} (u(x) - u_h(x)) dx \right)^2 |K_i|$$



Numerical test

- $-\Delta u = f$ with $u = \sin(\pi x)$ on $\Omega = (0, 1)$
- Regular mesh \mathcal{T} with size h
- Numerical solution: u_h
- Convergence of the mean values for $\nabla_{\mathcal{T}} u_h$

$$e_{\text{mv},1}(h)^2 = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{C}} \left(\frac{1}{|K_i|} \int_{K_i} (\nabla u(x) - \nabla_{\mathcal{T}} u_h(x)) dx \right)^2 |K_i|$$



Conclusion: work in progress in 2D

$$M = \mathbb{P}_d^1(\mathcal{T}) \quad \text{and} \quad X = \text{RT}^1(\mathcal{T})$$

- \mathcal{T} is a triangular mesh of the domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$.
- The classical basis of $\text{RT}^1(\mathcal{T})$ cannot be considered
- We construct an alternative basis for $\text{RT}^1(\mathcal{T})$:

$$\text{RT}^1(\mathcal{T}) = \text{span} (\varphi_a^j, \varphi_K^j)$$

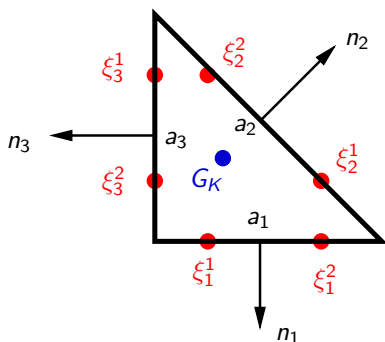
for $j=1, 2$,

for all edge a

for all triangle K

Conclusion: work in progress in 2D

For $\varphi \in \text{RT}^1(K)$ on the reference triangle:



- G_K = centre of mass
- a_i = triangle edges
- n_i = unit normal to a_i
- ξ_i^1 and ξ_i^2 = Gaussian quadrature nodes on a_i

Degrees of freedom (6+2):

- Nodal values of the flux at the Gaussian nodes:

$$\frac{1}{|a_i|} \varphi(\xi_i^j) \cdot n_i$$

- Components of φ at the center of mass:

$$\varphi(G_K) \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\varphi(G_K) \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

Conclusion: work in progress in 2D

- **Constraint.** Support of the dual functions

$$\text{supp } \varphi_j^* \subset \text{supp } \varphi_j. \quad (\text{C4})$$

Proposition. Assume that (C1), (C3) and (C4) are satisfied:

- Then the scheme coefficients are:
for a triangle K

$$(\varphi_K^1, \varphi_K^{1*})_0 = \frac{3}{16} \frac{AB^2}{|K|}, \quad (\varphi_K^2, \varphi_K^{2*})_0 = \frac{3}{16} \frac{AC^2}{|K|},$$

for an edge a :

$$(\varphi_a^j, \varphi_a^{j*})_0 = \frac{1}{12} \frac{|\partial^c a|}{|a|^2},$$

- The scheme is determined !
- The computations are essentially similar to the 1D case.