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# Optimal convergence rates for adaptive FEM for compactly perturbed elliptic problems

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joint work with

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FWF

Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

# Introduction

# Impetus

- adaptivity is well-understood for (BEM for) Poisson problem!
- **question:** what can be said about (BEM for) Helmholtz problem?
- **particular interest:** boundary element method for scattering problems
- **rumor:** adaptivity works for arbitrarily coarse initial mesh?!
- **but:** Gårding inequality requires meshes to be sufficiently small!
- **easier start:** consider FEM for interior Helmholtz problem

## Model problem

- $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  bounded Lipschitz domain,  $d = 2, 3$

### Helmholtz equation

$$\begin{aligned} -\Delta u - \kappa^2 u &= f && \text{in } \Omega \\ u &= 0 && \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{aligned}$$

- $\kappa^2$  is not an eigenvalue of  $-\Delta u \rightsquigarrow$  **well-posedness**
- $\mathcal{S}^p(\mathcal{T}_\star)$  piecewise polynomials on mesh  $\mathcal{T}_\star$

### Discrete formulation

- find  $U_\star \in \mathcal{X}_\star := \mathcal{S}^p(\mathcal{T}_\star) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)$  s.t.

$$(\nabla U_\star, \nabla V_\star)_{L^2} - (\kappa^2 U_\star, V_\star)_{L^2} = (f, V_\star)_{L^2} \quad \text{for all } V_\star \in \mathcal{X}_\star$$

- **well-posedness of discrete problem has to be considered!**

## Residual error estimator

- $\mathcal{T}_\star$  conforming triangulation of  $\Omega$

$$\bullet \eta_\star(T)^2 := h_T^2 \|f + \Delta U_\star + \kappa^2 U_\star\|_{L^2(T)}^2 + h_T \|[\partial_n U_\star]\|_{L^2(\partial T \cap \Omega)}^2$$

- where  $h_T := |T|^{1/d} \simeq \text{diam}(T)$

$$\bullet \eta_\star ::= \left( \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\star} \eta_\star(T)^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\implies \text{reliable} \quad \|u - U_\star\|_{H^1} \lesssim \eta_\star$$

$$\implies \text{efficient} \quad \eta_\star \lesssim \|u - U_\star\|_{H^1} + \text{osc}_\star$$

Solve  $\longrightarrow$  Estimate  $\longrightarrow$  Mark  $\longrightarrow$  Refine

- **Input:** initial mesh  $\mathcal{T}_0$ , adaptivity parameter  $0 < \theta \leq 1$

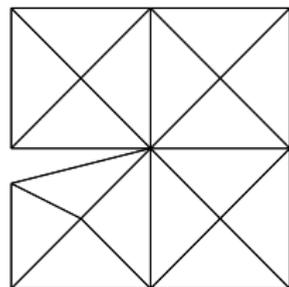
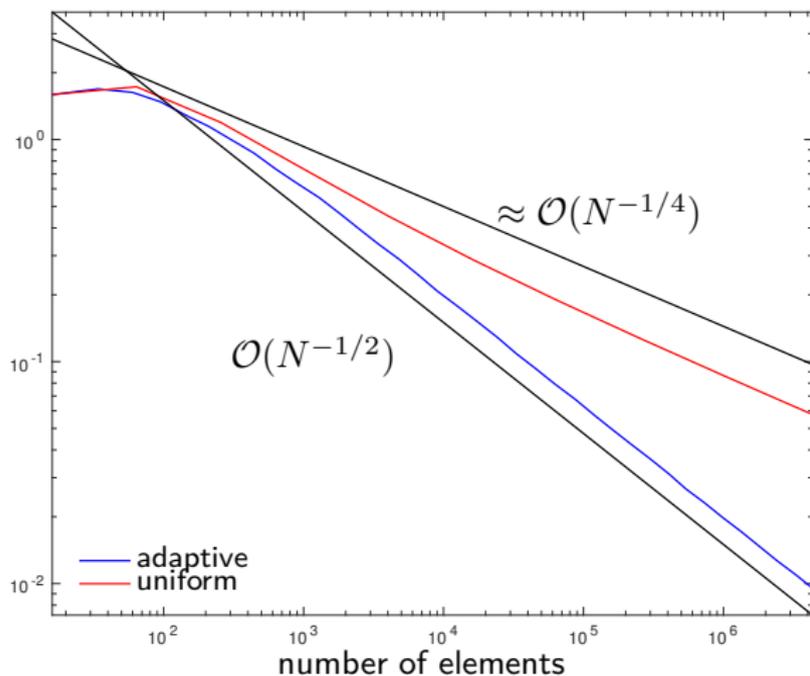
For all  $\ell = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$  iterate

- 1 if  $\nexists U_\ell$ , refine  $\mathcal{T}_\ell$  uniformly and continue with **step 1**
- 2 compute discrete solution  $U_\ell \in \mathcal{X}_\ell$
- 3 compute error estimators  $\eta_\ell(T)$  for all  $T \in \mathcal{T}_\ell$
- 4 find (almost) minimal set  $\mathcal{M}_\ell \subseteq \mathcal{T}_\ell$  s.t.

$$\theta \eta_\ell^2 \leq \sum_{T \in \mathcal{M}_\ell} \eta_\ell(T)^2$$

- 5 refine (at least) marked elements  $T \in \mathcal{M}_\ell$  to obtain  $\mathcal{T}_{\ell+1}$
- **Output:** approximations  $U_\ell$  and estimators  $\eta_\ell$  for all  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$

# What is all about?



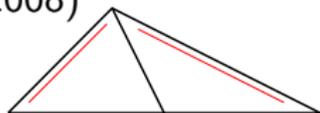
## Main results

- 1 linear convergence  $\eta_{\ell+k}^2 \leq C q^k \eta_\ell^2$ 
  - $\forall 0 < \theta \leq 1 \quad \exists C > 0 \quad \exists 0 < q = q(\theta) < 1 \dots$
- 2 quasi-optimal convergence behavior  $\eta_\ell = \mathcal{O}(N^{-s})$ 
  - $\exists 0 < \theta_\star = \theta_\star(C_{\text{rel}}) < 1 \quad \forall 0 < \theta < \theta_\star \dots$
  - for each possible  $s > 0$
- 3 further remarks
  - algorithm works for **every** conforming initial **mesh**  $\mathcal{T}_0$
  - does not need any a priori information on  $\|h_0\|_\infty \leq H$
  - analysis covers AFEM for **general 2nd order linear elliptic PDEs**
    - $\mathcal{L}u := -\text{div}(\mathbf{A}\nabla u) + \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla u + cu$
    - $\mathbf{A} \in W^{1,\infty}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d}), \quad \mathbf{b} \in L^\infty(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d), \quad c \in L^\infty(\Omega)$

## Related work

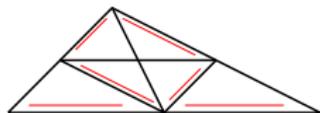
 Cascon, Kreuzer, Nochetto, Siebert: SINUM 46 (2008)

- linear, **symmetric**, **Lax–Milgram**



 Cascon, Nochetto '12: IMA J. Numer. Anal. 32 (2012)

- linear, non-symmetric, **Lax–Milgram**
- **$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{b} = 0$ ,  $c \geq 0$**
- **initial mesh  $\mathcal{T}_0$  sufficiently small**



 Feischl, Führer, Praetorius '14: SINUM 52 (2014)

- linear, non-symmetric, **Lax–Milgram**
- no restrictions on  $\mathcal{T}_0$



 Besselov, Haberl, Praetorius '17: CMAME 317 (2017)

- **now**: avoid Lax–Milgram, but **only Gårding inequality**

# Convergence

## Abstract setting

- $\mathcal{H} := H_0^1(\Omega)$  separable Hilbert space with dual space  $\mathcal{H}^*$

### Variational formulation

$$a(u, v) + \langle \mathcal{K}u, v \rangle = \langle f, v \rangle \quad \text{for all } v \in \mathcal{H}$$

- $a(\cdot, \cdot)$  symm., elliptic, cont., bilinear, i.e.,  $\|v\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 \simeq a(v, v) =: \|v\|^2$
- $\mathcal{K} : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^*$  compact linear operator
- **suppose well-posedness of continuous problem**

### Discrete formulation

- find  $U_\star \in \mathcal{X}_\star \subset \mathcal{H}$  s.t.

$$a(U_\star, V_\star) + \langle \mathcal{K}U_\star, V_\star \rangle = \langle f, V_\star \rangle \quad \text{for all } V_\star \in \mathcal{X}_\star$$

- **discrete formulation is possibly not well-posed**

# Céa lemma (based on dual regularity)

## Proposition

- suppose  $H^{1+s}$  regularity of dual problem,  $s > 0$

$\implies \exists H > 0 \quad \exists C > 0 \quad \forall \mathcal{T}_\star$  with  $\|h_\star\|_{L^\infty} \leq H :$

- unique solution  $U_\star \in \mathcal{X}_\star$
- $\|u - U_\star\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq C \min_{V_\star \in \mathcal{X}_\star} \|u - V_\star\|_{\mathcal{H}}$



# Céa lemma (based on compactness argument)

## Proposition

• suppose that  $\mathcal{H} = \overline{\bigcup_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{X}_{\ell}}$

$\implies \exists \ell_{\star} \in \mathbb{N}_0 \quad \exists C > 0 \quad \forall \mathcal{X}_{\star} \subset \mathcal{H}$  closed with  $\mathcal{X}_{\star} \supseteq \mathcal{X}_{\ell_{\star}}$ :

• unique solution  $U_{\star} \in \mathcal{X}_{\star}$

•  $\|u - U_{\star}\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq C \min_{V_{\star} \in \mathcal{X}_{\star}} \|u - V_{\star}\|_{\mathcal{H}}$

• uniform refinement  $\implies \mathcal{H} = \overline{\bigcup_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{X}_{\ell}}$

$\implies$  uniform refinement in step ④ **at most finitely many times**

$\implies \exists \ell_0 \in \mathbb{N} \quad \forall \ell \geq \ell_0 : \mathcal{T}_{\ell}$  provides unique solution  $U_{\ell} \in \mathcal{X}_{\ell}$



Sauter, Schwab: Springer (2011)

# Convergence

## Proposition (Bespalov, Haberl, P. '17)

• suppose that  $\sup_{\ell \geq \ell_0} \|U_\ell\|_{\mathcal{H}} < \infty$

$\implies \|u - U_\ell\|_{\mathcal{H}} \lesssim \eta_\ell \rightarrow 0$  as  $\ell \rightarrow \infty$

$\implies$  in particular,  $u \in \mathcal{X}_\infty := \overline{\bigcup_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{X}_\ell}$

• for each subsequence  $(\eta_{\ell_i})$  of  $(\eta_\ell)$

① boundedness  $\implies$  w.l.o.g weak convergence  $U_{\ell_i} \rightharpoonup w$  in  $\mathcal{H}$

② weak formulation  $\implies$  strong convergence  $U_{\ell_i} \rightarrow w$  in  $\mathcal{H}$

③ estimator reduction for  $\eta_{\ell_{i+1}}^2 \leq \kappa \eta_{\ell_i}^2 + C \|U_{\ell_{i+1}} - U_{\ell_i}\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$

④ implies  $\eta_{\ell_i} \rightarrow 0$

• overall  $\eta_\ell \rightarrow 0$

# Linear Convergence

## Ingredients of symmetric case

- $\mathcal{T}_{\ell+1} \in \text{refine}(\mathcal{T}_\ell) \implies \mathcal{S}_0^p(\mathcal{T}_\ell) \subseteq \mathcal{S}_0^p(\mathcal{T}_{\ell+1})$

### Estimator reduction

$$\text{Dörfler marking} \implies \eta_{\ell+1}^2 \leq \kappa \eta_\ell^2 + C \|U_{\ell+1} - U_\ell\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$$

- $\|v\|^2 := a(v, v) \simeq \|v\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$  energy norm of symmetric part

### Pythagoras theorem (symmetric case)

$$\|u - U_{\ell+1}\|^2 + \|U_{\ell+1} - U_\ell\|^2 = \|u - U_\ell\|^2$$



## Quasi-Pythagoras theorem

- $\|u - U_{\ell+1}\|^2 + \|U_{\ell+1} - U_\ell\|^2 = \|u - U_\ell\|^2$  for symmetric PDE

Proposition (Feischl, Führer, P. '14; Bespalov, Haberl, P. '17)

- suppose that  $U_\ell \rightarrow u \in \mathcal{X}_\infty := \overline{\bigcup_{\ell=0}^\infty \mathcal{X}_\ell}$  and well-posedness on  $\mathcal{X}_\infty$

$\implies \forall \varepsilon > 0 \quad \exists l_1 \geq l_0 \quad \forall l \geq l_1:$

$$\|u - U_{\ell+1}\|^2 + \|U_{\ell+1} - U_\ell\|^2 \leq \frac{1}{1 - \varepsilon} \|u - U_\ell\|^2$$

- **mathematical heart of proof:**

- $e_\ell := u - U_\ell \implies \frac{e_\ell}{\|e_\ell\|} \rightharpoonup 0$  in  $\mathcal{H}$

- $E_\ell := U_{\ell+1} - U_\ell \implies \frac{E_\ell}{\|E_\ell\|} \rightharpoonup 0$  in  $\mathcal{H}$



Feischl, Führer, Praetorius: SINUM 52 (2014)

# Quasi-Pythagoras theorem (remainder of proof)

## Split differential operator

- $\mathcal{L} := \mathcal{A} + \mathcal{K} \in L(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H}^*)$
- $\langle \mathcal{A}u, v \rangle = (\mathbf{A}\nabla u, \nabla v)_\Omega$  **symmetric, elliptic**, linear, continuous
- $\langle \mathcal{K}u, v \rangle = (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla u + cu, v)_\Omega$  non-symm., linear, cont., **compact**

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|e_{\ell+1}\|^2 + \|E_\ell\|^2 &= \|e_\ell\|^2 + \langle \mathcal{K}E_\ell, e_{\ell+1} \rangle - \langle \mathcal{K}e_{\ell+1}, E_\ell \rangle + \dots \\
 &\leq \|e_\ell\|^2 + \|\mathcal{K}E_\ell\|_* \|e_{\ell+1}\| + \|\mathcal{K}e_{\ell+1}\|_* \|E_\ell\| + \dots \\
 &\leq \|e_\ell\|^2 + \underbrace{\left( \|\mathcal{K} \frac{E_\ell}{\|E_\ell\|}\|_* + \|\mathcal{K} \frac{e_{\ell+1}}{\|e_{\ell+1}\|}\|_* \right)}_{\rightarrow 0} \|e_{\ell+1}\| \|E_\ell\| + \dots \\
 &\leq \|e_\ell\|^2 + 2\varepsilon \|e_{\ell+1}\| \|E_\ell\| + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\implies \|e_{\ell+1}\|^2 + \|E_\ell\|^2 \leq \frac{1}{1-\varepsilon} \|e_\ell\|^2 \quad \forall \ell \geq \ell_1(\varepsilon)$$

## Linear convergence

### Theorem (Bespalov, Haberl, P. 17)

• suppose that  $U_\ell \rightarrow u \in \mathcal{X}_\infty := \overline{\bigcup_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{X}_\ell}$  and well-posedness on  $\mathcal{X}_\infty$

$\implies \forall 0 < \theta \leq 1 \quad \exists 0 < q < 1 \quad \exists C > 0 \quad \forall \ell \geq 0 \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N} :$

$$\eta_{\ell+k}^2 \leq Cq^k \eta_\ell^2$$

• estimator reduction & quasi-Pythagoras theorem & reliability

$\implies \exists \gamma \forall \ell \geq \ell_1 \forall k : \quad (\|u - U_{\ell+k}\|^2 + \gamma \eta_{\ell+k}^2) \leq q^k (\|u - U_\ell\|^2 + \gamma \eta_\ell^2)$



# Optimal Céa lemma (in energy norm)

## Theorem (Bespalov, Haberl, P. '17)

- suppose that  $U_\ell \rightarrow u \in \mathcal{X}_\infty := \overline{\bigcup_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{X}_\ell}$  and well-posedness on  $\mathcal{X}_\infty$
- $\exists C_\ell \geq 1$  with  $C_\ell \rightarrow 1 \quad \forall \ell \geq \ell_0$ :

$$\|u - U_\ell\| \leq C_\ell \min_{V_\ell \in \mathcal{X}_\ell} \|u - V_\ell\|$$

- Galerkin orth.  $\implies \|u - U_\ell\| \leq \underbrace{\frac{1 + C \|\mathcal{K} \frac{e_\ell}{\|e_\ell\|}\|_*}{1 - C \|\mathcal{K} \frac{e_\ell}{\|e_\ell\|}\|_*}}_{\rightarrow 1} \min_{V_\ell \in \mathcal{X}_\ell} \|u - V_\ell\|$

## How to ensure well-posedness on $\mathcal{X}_\infty$ ?

- **required:**  $\gamma_\ell := \inf_{V_\ell \in \mathcal{X}_\ell \setminus \{0\}} \sup_{W_\ell \in \mathcal{X}_\ell \setminus \{0\}} \frac{|a(W_\ell, V_\ell) + \langle \mathcal{K}W_\ell, V_\ell \rangle|}{\|V_\ell\|_{\mathcal{H}} \|W_\ell\|_{\mathcal{H}}} > 0!$
- **question:**  $\gamma_\ell > 0$  for all  $\ell \geq \ell_0$ , **but**  $\gamma_\infty = 0$  for  $\mathcal{X}_\infty = \overline{\bigcup_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{X}_\ell}$ ?

**Remedy:** Ensure  $\mathcal{X}_\infty = \mathcal{H}$  by marking strategy

- add **one** largest element  $T \in \mathcal{T}_\ell$  to  $\mathcal{M}_\ell$
- $\mathcal{M}_\ell$  remains (almost) minimal

$\implies \mathcal{X}_\infty = \mathcal{H}$  **and**  $\gamma_\infty > 0$

$\implies \sup_{\ell \geq \ell_0} \|U_\ell\|_{\mathcal{H}} < \infty$

$\implies$  linear convergence **and** optimal Céa lemma

# Optimal Convergence Rates

## Approximation class

- $\mathbb{T}$  set of possible meshes obtained from NVB
- $\mathbb{T}_N = \{\mathcal{T}_\star \in \mathbb{T} : \#\mathcal{T}_\star - \#\mathcal{T}_0 \leq N \text{ and discrete well-posedness}\}$
- $\tilde{\mathbb{T}}_N = \{\mathcal{T}_\star \in \mathbb{T} : \#\mathcal{T}_\star - \#\mathcal{T}_0 \leq N\}$

- $\|u\|_{\mathbb{A}_s} := \sup_{N \in \mathbb{N}_0} \left( (N+1)^s \min_{\mathcal{T}_\star \in \mathbb{T}_N} \eta_\star \right) < \infty$



- $\sup_{N \in \mathbb{N}_0} \left( (N+1)^s \min_{\mathcal{T}_\star \in \tilde{\mathbb{T}}_N} \min_{V_\star \in \mathcal{X}_\star} (\|u - V_\star\|_{H^1} + \text{osc}_\star(V_\star)) \right) < \infty$



Cascon, Kreuzer, Nochetto, Siebert: SINUM 46 (2008)



Carstensen, Feischl, Page, Praetorius: Comput. Math. Appl. 67 (2014)

## Optimal convergence rates

### Theorem (Bespalov, Haberl, P. '17)

$$\bullet \exists \ell_* \in \mathbb{N}_0 \quad \exists 0 < \theta_* < 1 \quad \forall 0 < \theta < \theta_* \quad \forall s > 0$$

$$\|u\|_{\mathbb{A}_s} < \infty \iff \forall \ell \geq \ell_* : \eta_\ell \lesssim (\#\mathcal{T}_\ell - \#\mathcal{T}_0 + 1)^{-s}$$

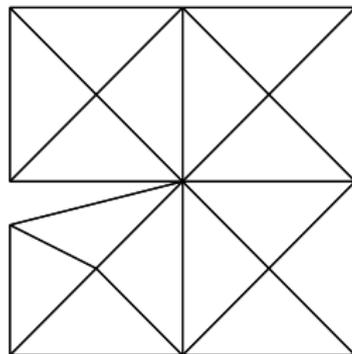
- proof follows well-known ideas of standard AFEM
- **but:** take care with discrete solvability for overlay

- 
-  Stevenson: Found. Comput. Math. 7 (2007)
  -  Cascon, Kreuzer, Nochetto, Siebert: SINUM 46 (2008)
  -  Carstensen, Feischl, Page, Praetorius: Comput. Math. Appl. 67 (2014)

# Numerical Experiments

## 2D Helmholtz equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 -\Delta u - \kappa^2 u &= f && \text{in } \Omega \\
 u &= 0 && \text{on } \Gamma_D \\
 u &= g && \text{on } \Gamma_N
 \end{aligned}$$

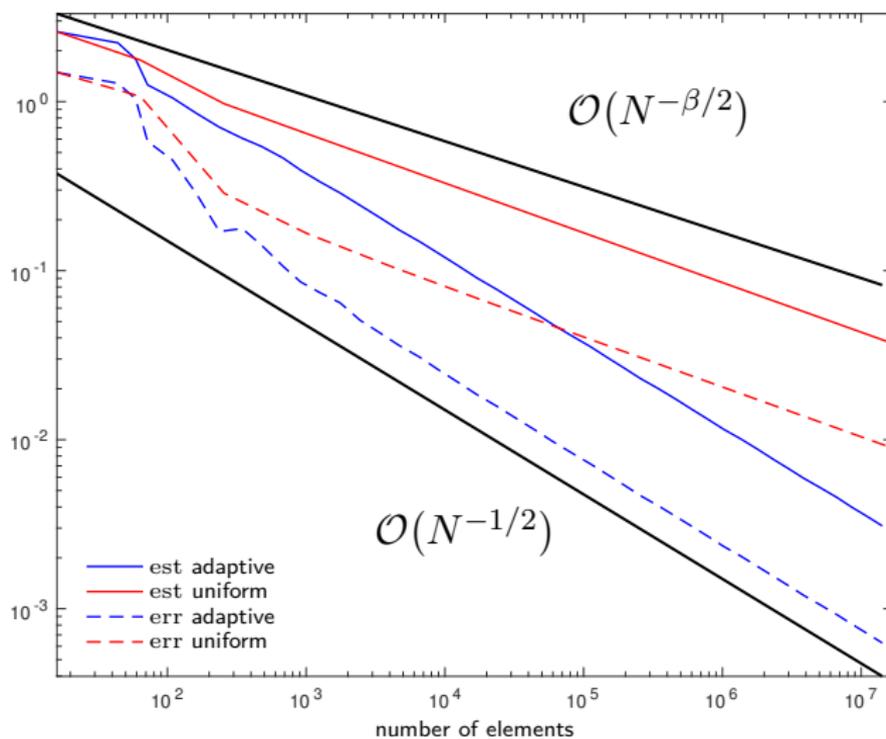


- exact PDE solution  $u(x, y)$  in polar coordinates

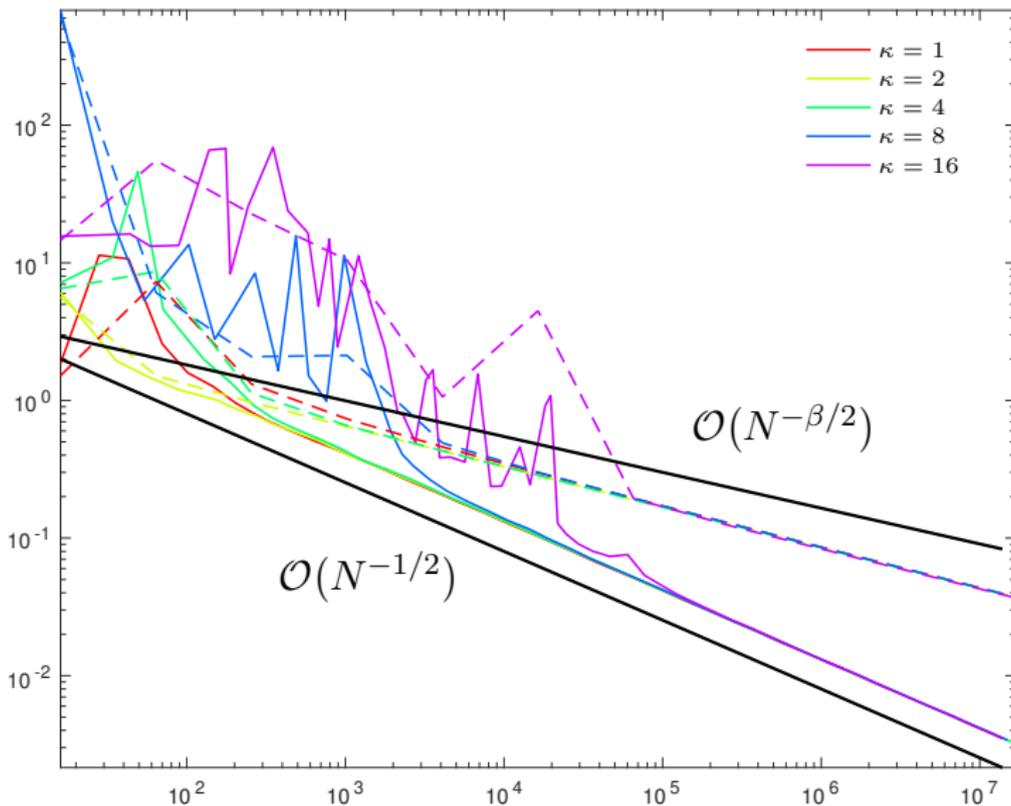
$$u(x, y) = r^{\pi/\alpha} \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{\alpha}\varphi\right)$$

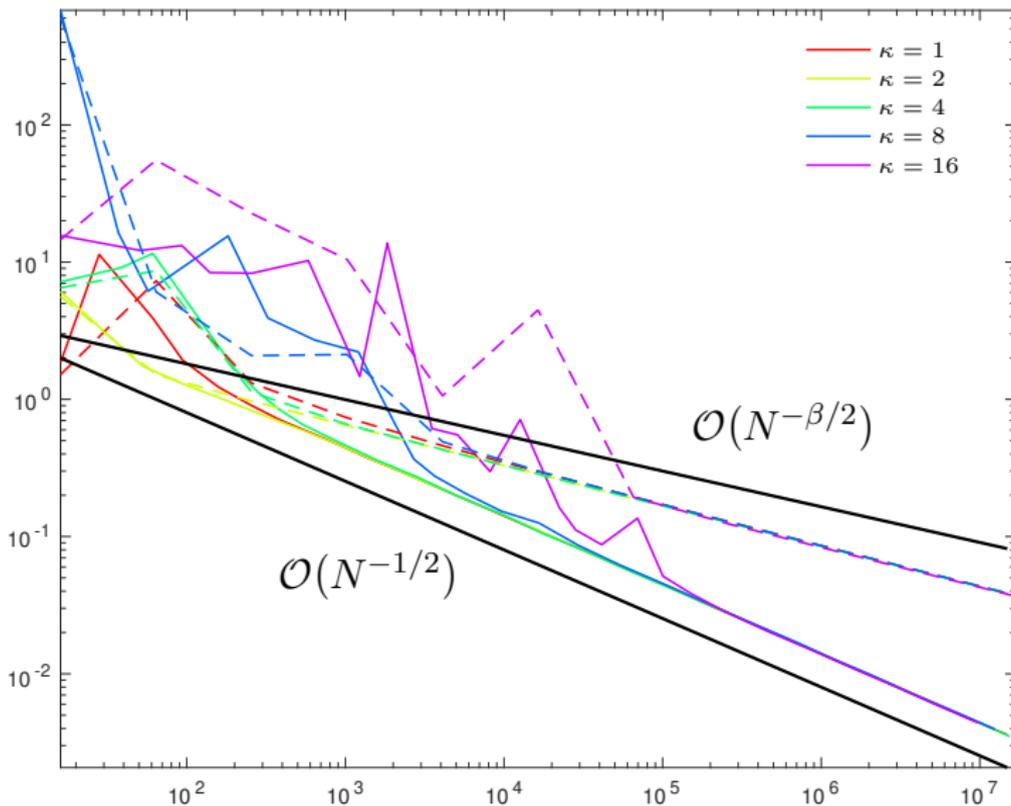
- $P^1$ -FEM  $\mathcal{X}_\star := \mathcal{S}^1(\mathcal{T}_\star) \cap H_D^1(\Omega)$
- goal:** aim for convergence rate  $\|u - U_\ell\|_{H^1} \lesssim \eta_\ell \lesssim N^{-1/2}$

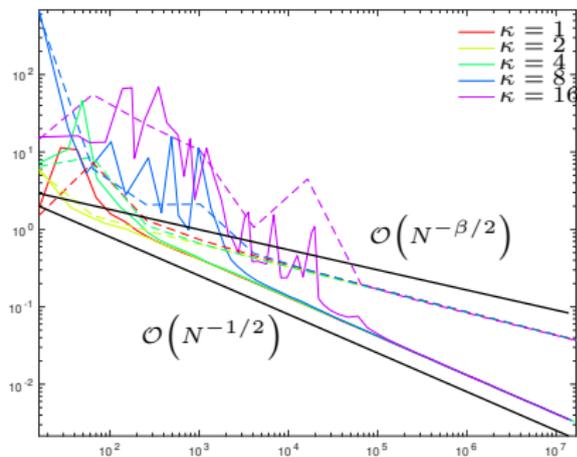
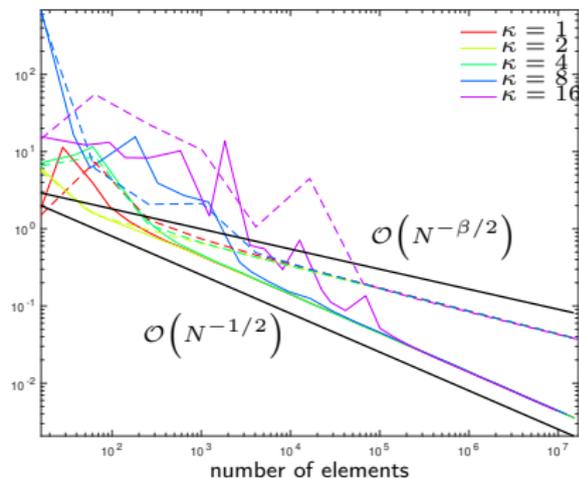
## Error vs. estimator



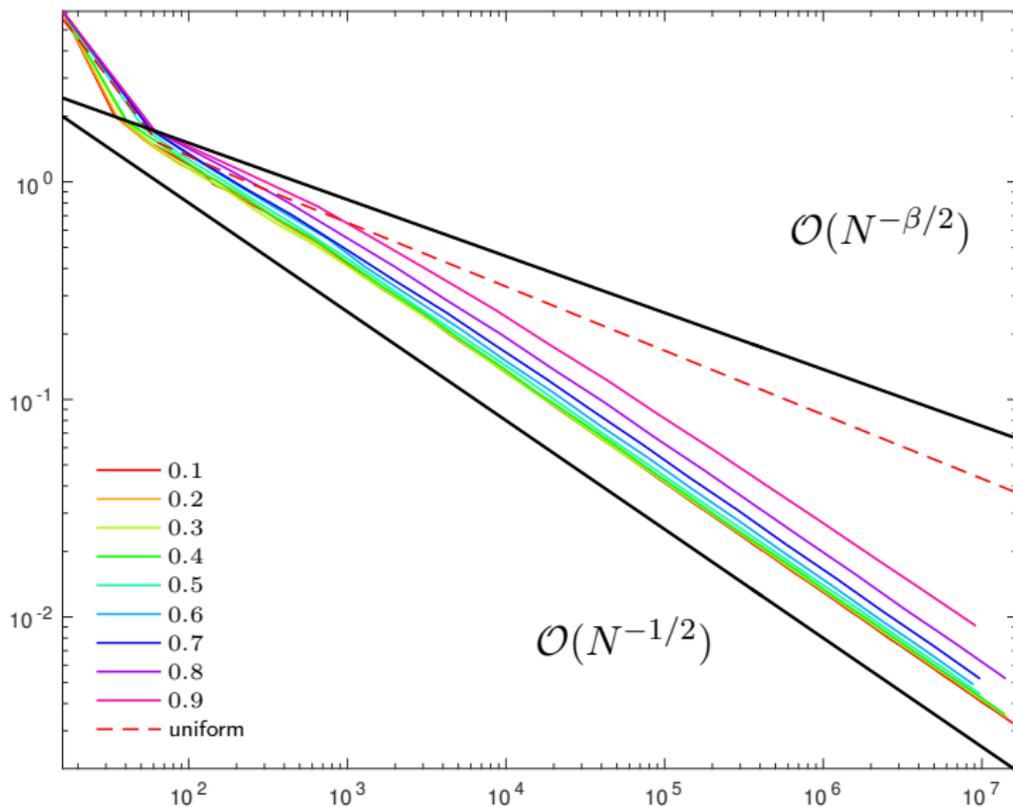
- reduced uniform rate of  $\beta/2 \approx 0.26$  with  $\beta = \pi/\alpha$

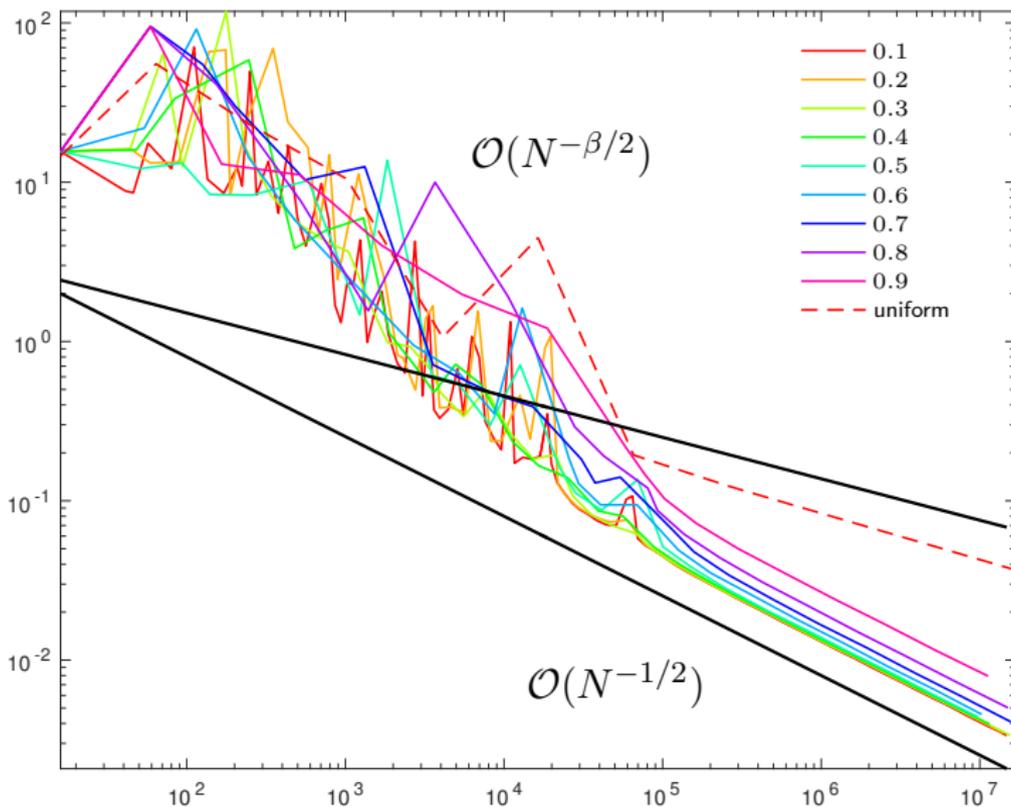
Influence of  $\kappa$  for  $\theta = 0.2$ 

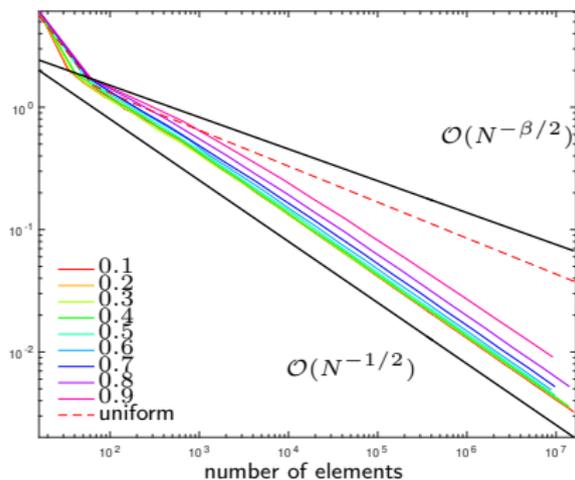
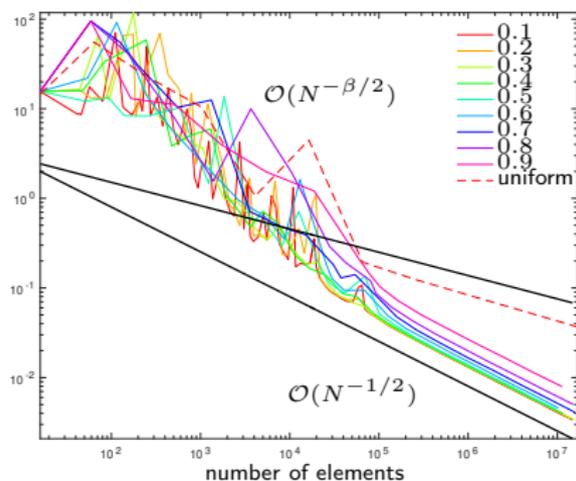
Influence of  $\kappa$  for  $\theta = 0.5$ 

Influence of  $\kappa$  $\theta = 0.2$  $\theta = 0.5$ 

- increase of  $\kappa$  just effects the pre-asymptotic phase
- convergence rate independent of  $\kappa$

Influence of  $\theta$  for  $\kappa = 2$ 

Influence of  $\theta$  for  $\kappa = 16$ 

Adaptivity parameter  $0 < \theta \leq 1$  $\kappa = 2$  $\kappa = 16$ 

- rate stable in  $\theta$ , while  $0 < \theta \ll 1$  in analysis
- $\kappa$  affects the pre-asymptotics

# Conclusion

## Conclusion

- optimal convergence of AFEM
  - for general  $\mathcal{L}u := -\operatorname{div}(\mathbf{A}\nabla u) + \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla u + cu$
  - with coarse initial mesh  $\mathcal{T}_0$
  - covers, e.g., Helmholtz
- minimal modification (solve, mark) of adaptive algorithm
  - uniform refinement, if discrete system admits no solution
  - enlarge marked elements by *one* largest element
- analysis is done in abstract framework for the estimator
  - stability on non-refined elements
  - reduction on refined elements
  - discrete reliability
  - applicable to FEM, BEM, IGAFEM
- can also prove estimator properties for Helmholtz BEM

# Thanks for listening!

 Alex Bespalov, Alexander Haberl, Dirk Praetorius:  
[Adaptive FEM with coarse initial mesh guarantees optimal convergence rates for compactly perturbed elliptic problems](#)  
CMAME 317 (2017), 31–340

 Alex Bespalov, Timo Betcke, Alexander Haberl, Dirk Praetorius:  
[Adaptive BEM for accoustic scattering](#)  
in progress (2017)

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