
AFEM for fractional PDEs

Adaptive Algorithm

- initial mesh \mathcal{T}_0

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

- 1 SOLVE:** compute discrete solution u_ℓ for mesh \mathcal{T}_ℓ
- 2 ESTIMATE:** compute some indicators $\eta_\ell(T)$ for all $T \in \mathcal{T}_\ell$
- 3 MARK:** mark a percentage of the largest indicators (Dörfler marking)
- 4 REFINE:** refine (at least) all marked elements to obtain $\mathcal{T}_{\ell+1}$ (NVB)

question: which error estimator for $(-\Delta)^s$?

weighted residual error estimator

$$\eta_\ell(T) := h_\ell^s(T) \|(-\Delta)^s u_\ell - f\|_{L^2(T)}$$

- reliable: $\|u - u_\ell\|_{\tilde{H}^s(\Omega)} \lesssim \eta_\ell := \left(\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\ell} \eta_\ell(T)^2\right)^{1/2}$
- however: not well defined for all $s \in (0, 1)$!
 - ▶ in general: $(-\Delta)^s u_\ell \notin L^2(\Omega)$ for $s \geq 3/4$

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Modified Error Estimator

- **blow-up** at skeleton **can be measured** by powers of distance function
- $\omega_\ell \in L^\infty(\Omega)$... local distance function, $\omega_\ell|_T(x) := \text{dist}(x, \partial T)$



Lemma

For any $\beta > 2s - 3/2$:

$$\omega_\ell^\beta (-\Delta)^s u_\ell \in L^2(\Omega)$$

- case: $1/2 < s < 1$, choose $\beta = s - 1/2$, modified error estimator with $\tilde{h}_\ell^s := h_\ell^{s-\beta} \omega_\ell^\beta$

$$\eta_\ell(T) := \left\| \tilde{h}_\ell^s ((-\Delta)^s u_\ell - f) \right\|_{L^2(T)}$$

- well-defined, reliable $\|u - u_\ell\|_{\tilde{H}^s(\Omega)}^2 \lesssim \eta_\ell^2 := \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h} \eta_\ell(T)^2$

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Main Theorem on h -Adaptive Algorithms

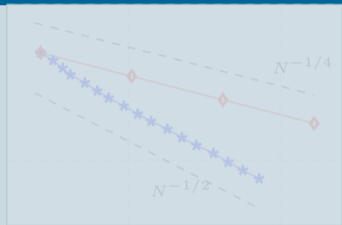
Theorem

$$\Rightarrow \exists q \in (0, 1) C > 0 : \forall \ell, n \geq 0 \quad \eta_{\ell+n} \leq C q^n \eta_\ell$$

$$\blacksquare \mathcal{T}_N := \{\mathcal{T} \in \text{refine}(\mathcal{T}_0) : \#\mathcal{T} \leq N\} \cup \{\mathcal{T}_0\}$$

$\blacksquare r > 0$ arbitrary, marking parameter suff. small

$$\Rightarrow \sup_{\ell \in \mathbb{N}_0} (\#\mathcal{T}_\ell)^r \eta_\ell \simeq \sup_{N > 0} \left(N^r \min_{\mathcal{T}_{\text{opt}} \in \mathcal{T}_N} \eta_{\text{opt}} \right)$$



\Rightarrow if problem allows rate N^{-r} , AFEM reproduces rate

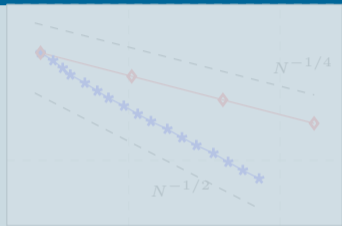
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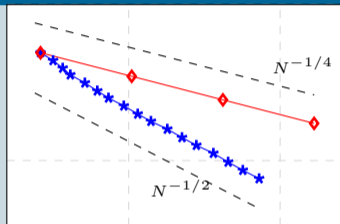
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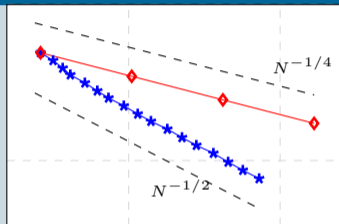
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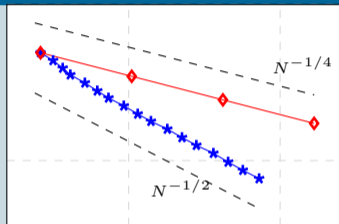
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How to Show Optimality?

- abstract framework - *axioms of adaptivity*
- 4 properties (A1)–(A4) of estimator η_ℓ guarantee
 - ▶ (linear) convergence
 - ▶ optimal algebraic convergence behavior
- (A1): Stability, (A2): Reduction
- (A3): Discrete Reliability, (A4): Quasi-orthogonality
- model problem, discretization enter only through proof of axioms

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(A1) Stability

- $\forall \mathcal{T}_\ell \in \text{refine}(\mathcal{T}_0), \mathcal{U}_\ell \subset \mathcal{T}_\ell$

- $v_\ell, w_\ell \in \mathcal{P}_0^1(\mathcal{T}_\ell)$

$$\left| \left(\sum_{T \in \mathcal{U}_\ell} \eta_\ell(T, v_\ell)^2 \right)^{1/2} - \left(\sum_{T \in \mathcal{U}_\ell} \eta_\ell(T, w_\ell)^2 \right)^{1/2} \right| \leq C \|v_\ell - w_\ell\|_{\tilde{H}^s(\Omega)}$$

- triangle inequality

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \left\| \tilde{h}_\ell^s((-\Delta)^s v_\ell - f) \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)} - \left\| \tilde{h}_\ell^s((-\Delta)^s(w_\ell) - f) \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \right| \\ & \leq \left\| \tilde{h}_\ell^s(-\Delta)^s(v_\ell - w_\ell) \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \end{aligned}$$

- inverse estimate

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Crucial Step - Inverse Estimate

- **local inverse estimate** for non-local operator on locally refined mesh
- bound stronger norm by weaker norm (finite dimensional)

Lemma

- $v_\ell \in \mathcal{P}_0^1(\mathcal{T}_\ell)$

Then:

$$\left\| \tilde{h}_\ell^s (-\Delta)^s v_\ell \right\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq C \|v_\ell\|_{\tilde{H}^s(\Omega)}$$

Other Properties of Estimator - (A2),(A3),(A4)

follow essentially with standard techniques

- (A2) **Reduction**: properties of bisection

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_{\ell+1} \setminus \mathcal{T}_\ell} \eta_{\ell+1}(T, v_\ell)^2 \leq q_{\text{red}} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\ell \setminus \mathcal{T}_{\ell+1}} \eta_{\ell+1}(T, v_\ell)^2$$

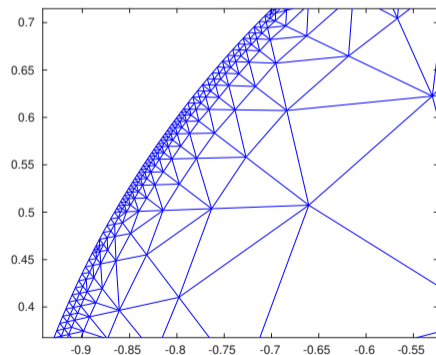
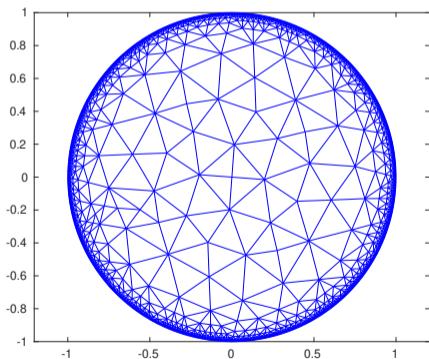
- (A3) **Disc. reliability**: Galerkin orthogonality, Scott-Zhang projection, scaling arg.

$$\|v_{\ell+1} - v_\ell\|_{\tilde{H}^s(\Omega)}^2 \leq C_{\text{rel}} \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_\ell \cap \mathcal{T}_{\ell+1}} \eta_\ell(T, v_\ell)^2$$

- (A4) **Quasi-ortho**. from ellipticity, symmetry of bilinear form

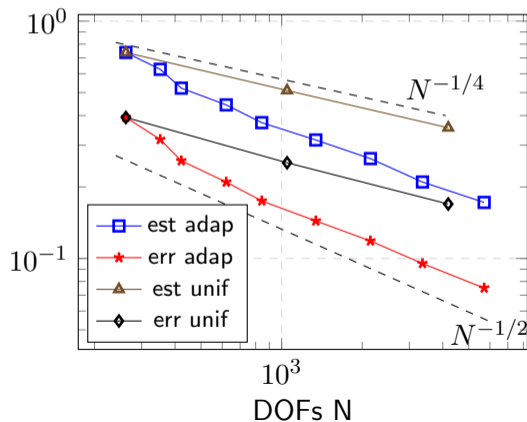
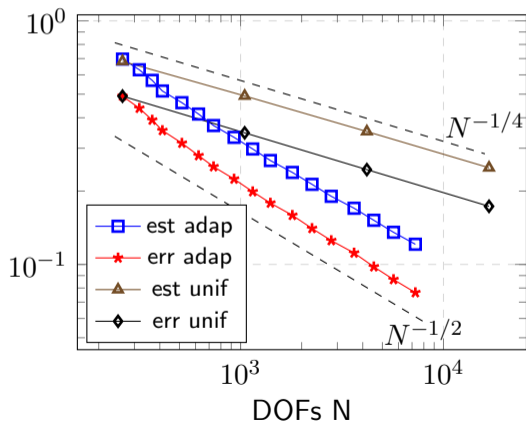
Unit Circle, f Constant

- unit circle $B_1(0) \subset \mathbb{R}^2$, f constant
- exact solution known $u(x) = (1 - |x|^2)_+^s$



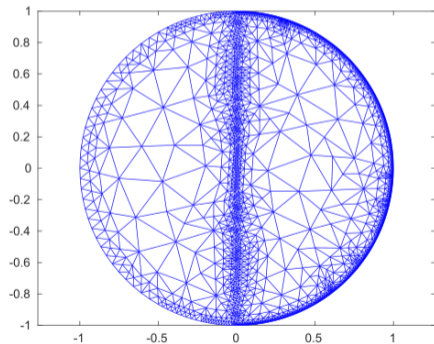
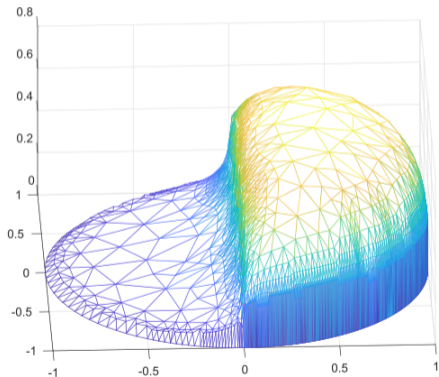
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- left: $s = 0.25$; right: $s = 0.75$



Unit Circle, f Discontinuous

- unit circle $B_1(0) \subset \mathbb{R}^2$, $f = \chi_{|\varphi| < \pi/2}$ (polar coordinates)
- exact solution known, energy computable



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