

FEM09 - lecture 2

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Piecewise linear polynomials

Global polynomials on the whole domain (a, b) led to vector space V^q (monomial basis: $\{1, x, \dots, x^q\}$). Only way of refining approximate solution U is by increasing q .

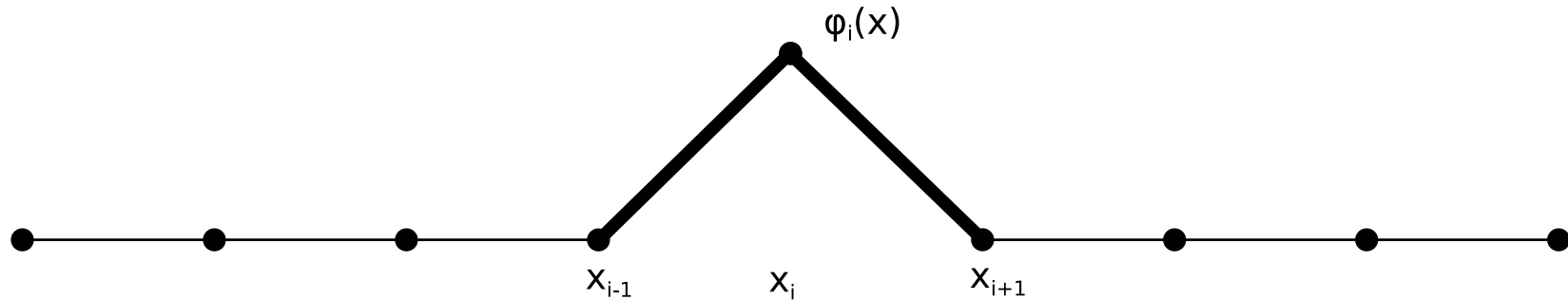
We instead look at *piecewise* polynomials.

Partition domain $I = (a, b)$ into mesh:

$a = x_0 < x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_{m+1} = b$ by placing *nodes* x_i .

Define polynomial function on each subinterval $I_i = (x_{i-1}, x_i)$ with length $h_i = x_i - x_{i-1}$.

Piecewise linear polynomials



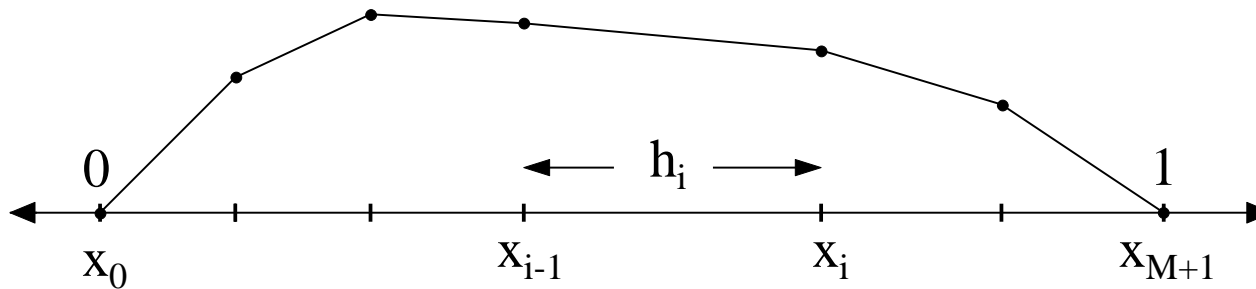
Nodal basis: $\phi_i(x_i) = 1$, $\phi_i(x_j) = 0$, $i \neq j$

Basis function $\phi_i(x)$:

$$\phi_i(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \notin [x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}], \\ \frac{x-x_{i-1}}{x_i-x_{i-1}}, & x \in [x_{i-1}, x_i], \\ \frac{x-x_{i+1}}{x_i-x_{i+1}}, & x \in [x_i, x_{i+1}]. \end{cases}$$

Vector space of continuous piecewise linear polynomials: V_h
with basis $\{\phi_i\}_1^M$, M number of nodes in mesh.

Piecewise linear polynomials



Piecewise linear function
$$U(x) = \sum_{j=1}^M \xi_j \phi_j(x)$$

Poisson's equation

Boundary value problem:

$$R(u(x)) = -(a(x)u(x)')' - f(x) = 0, \quad x \in [0, 1], \quad u(0) = u(1) = 0$$

Exercise (section 6.2.1): explain a derivation of Poisson's equation (heating a wire) with boundary conditions (Dirichlet and Neumann).

Weak formulation

Variational/Weak formulation: multiply by test function and integrate:

$$\int_0^1 R(u)v dx = \int_0^1 (-(au')' - f)v dx = 0, \quad \forall v \in V$$

$$V = \left\{ v : \int_0^1 v^2 dx < C, \int_0^1 (v')^2 dx < C, v(0) = v(1) = 0 \right\},$$

Exercise (section 8.1.2): explain why

$$\int_0^1 R(u)v dx = 0 \Rightarrow R(u) = 0 \text{ for continuous } a \text{ and } u.$$

Galerkin's method

$$(R(U), v)_{L_2} = 0, \quad x \in [a, b], \quad \forall v \in V_h$$

But we have:

$$(R(u), v) = \int_0^1 (-(au')' - f)v dx = 0$$

U is not compatible (only has one derivative).

Technical step:

Integrate by parts (move derivative to test function)

- Piecewise linear approximation only has one derivative
- Simplifies enforcement of boundary conditions

Galerkin's method

Recall integration by parts (fundamental theorem):

$$\int_0^1 w' v dx = - \int_0^1 w v' dx + w(1)v(1) - w(0)v(0)$$

$$R(u) = -(au')' - f$$

$$(R(u), v) = \int_0^1 -(au')' v - f v dx = [w = au'] = \int_0^1 (au') v' - f v dx + au'(1)v(1) - au'(0)v(0)$$

For homogenous Dirichlet BC we can use $v(a) = v(b) = 0$

For homogenous Neumann BC we have $-au' = 0$

Galerkin's method

Insert piecewise linear approximation:

$$U(x) = \sum_{j=1}^M \xi_j \phi_j(x)$$

We are left to solve:

$$\int_a^b (aU')v' - fvd x = 0, \quad x \in [a, b], \quad \forall v \in V_h$$

Or equivalently:

$$\int_a^b (aU')\phi_i' - f\phi_i dx = 0, \\ x \in [a, b], \quad i = 1, \dots, M$$

Discrete system

Substituting U:

$$\int_a^b (a(\sum_{j=1}^M \xi_j \phi_j)') \phi_i' - f \phi_i dx = 0,$$
$$x \in [a, b], i = 1, \dots, M$$

Clean up:

$$\sum_{j=1}^M \int_a^b a \xi_j \phi_j' \phi_i' - f \phi_i dx = 0,$$
$$x \in [a, b], i = 1, \dots, M$$

Discrete system

Left with algebraic system in $\xi = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_M)^\top$:

$$F(\xi) = 0$$

In this case F is a linear system $F(\xi) = A\xi - b = 0$ with:

$$A_{ij} = \sum_{j=1}^M \int_a^b a \phi'_j \phi'_i dx,$$

$$b_i = \int_a^b -f \phi_i dx$$

Solve $A\xi = b$, construct solution function $U(x) = \sum_{j=1}^M \xi_j \phi_j(x)$

If F is not linear, can use Newton's method.

Discrete system

Exercise: 6.9 and 6.10 (explain computation of matrix and vector entries)

Piecewise polynomials in 2D

Construct triangulation T of domain Ω

Define size of triangle $K \in T$ is h_K as diameter of triangle

Define N as node (in this case vertex of triangle)

Want to define basis functions for vector space V_h : space of piecewise linear functions on T

Requirement for nodal basis:

$$\phi_j(N_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & i = j, \\ 0, & i \neq j, \end{cases} \quad i, j = 1, \dots, M \quad (1)$$

Piecewise polynomials in 2D

Define local basis functions v^i on triangle K with vertices $a^i = (a_1^i, a_2^i)$, $i = 1, 2, 3$

v is linear $\Rightarrow v(x) = c_0 + c_1x_1 + c_2x_2$

Values of v in vertices: $v_i = v(a^i)$ (1 or 0)

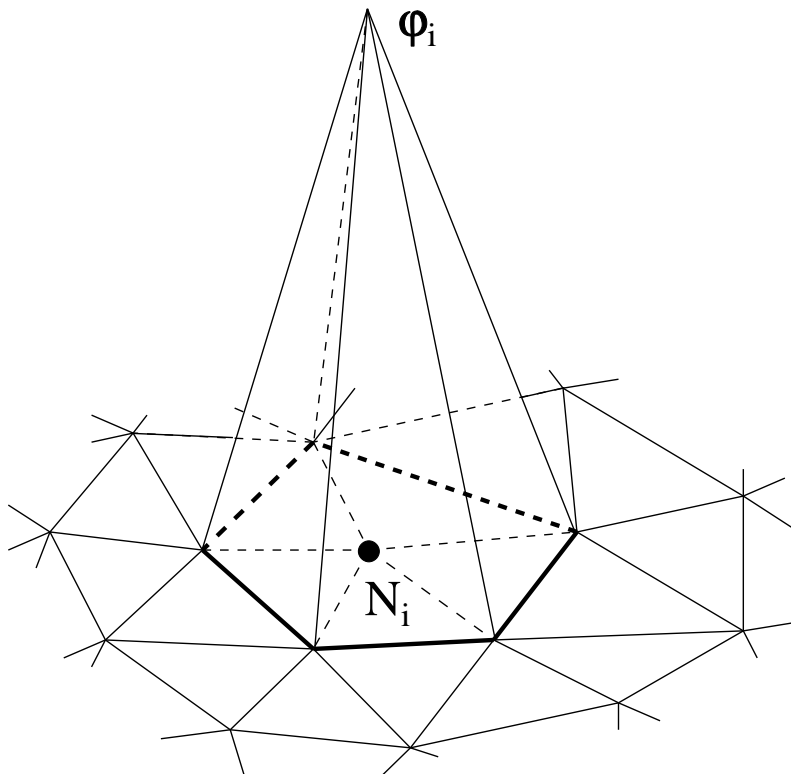
Linear system for coefficients c :

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & a_1^1 & a_2^1 \\ 1 & a_1^2 & a_2^2 \\ 1 & a_1^3 & a_2^3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{pmatrix} .$$

Piecewise polynomials in 2D

Sum local basis functions:

$$\phi_i = \sum_j v^j, \quad N_i = a_j \quad (2)$$



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Automated discretization in FEniCS

General bilinear form $a(\cdot, \cdot)$

In general the matrix A_h , representing a bilinear form

$$a(u, v) = (A(u), v),$$

is given by

$$(A_h)_{ij} = a(\varphi_j, \hat{\varphi}_i).$$

and the vector b_h representing a linear form

$$L(v) = (f, v),$$

is given by

$$(b_h)_i = L(\hat{\varphi}_i).$$



Assembling the matrices

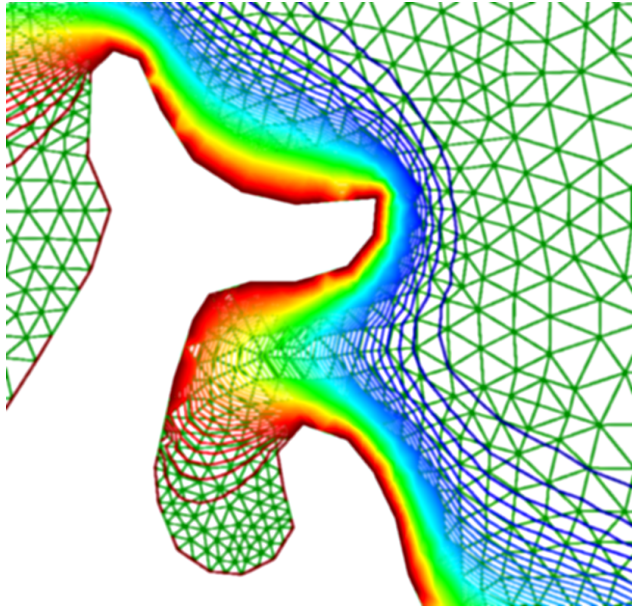
Computing $(A_h)_{ij}$

Note that

$$(A_h)_{ij} = a(\varphi_j, \hat{\varphi}_i) = \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}} a(\varphi_j, \hat{\varphi}_i)_K.$$

Iterate over all elements K and for each element K compute the contributions to all $(A_h)_{ij}$, for which φ_j and $\hat{\varphi}_i$ are supported within K .

Assembly of discrete system



Noting that $a(v, u) = \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}} a_K(v, u)$, the matrix A can be assembled by

$$A = 0$$

for all elements $K \in \mathcal{T}$

$$A += A^K$$

The *element matrix* A^K is defined by

$$A_{ij}^K = a_K(\hat{\phi}_i, \phi_j)$$

for all local basis functions $\hat{\phi}_i$ and ϕ_j on K

Assembling A_h

for all elements $K \in \mathcal{T}$

for all test functions $\hat{\varphi}_i$ on K

for all trial functions φ_j on K

1. Compute $I = a(\varphi_j, \hat{\varphi}_i)_K$

2. Add I to $(A_h)_{ij}$

end

end

end

Assembling b

for all elements $K \in \mathcal{T}$

for all test functions $\hat{\varphi}_i$ on K

1. Compute $I = L(\hat{\varphi}_i)_K$

2. Add I to b_i

end

end