

Arbitrary-order fully discrete complexes on polyhedral meshes

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The magnetostatics problem

- Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ be an open connected polyhedron and $f \in \mathbf{curl}\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega)$
- We consider the problem: Find $(\sigma, u) \in \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega) \times \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{div}; \Omega)$ s.t.

$$\int_{\Omega} \sigma \cdot \tau - \int_{\Omega} u \cdot \mathbf{curl} \tau = 0 \quad \forall \tau \in \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega),$$

$$\int_{\Omega} \mathbf{curl} \sigma \cdot v + \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{div} u \mathbf{div} v = \int_{\Omega} f \cdot v \quad \forall v \in \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{div}; \Omega)$$

- Well-posedness hinges on properties of the **de Rham complex**

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{i_{\Omega}} H^1(\Omega) \xrightarrow{\mathbf{grad}} \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega) \xrightarrow{\mathbf{curl}} \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{div}; \Omega) \xrightarrow{\mathbf{div}} L^2(\Omega) \xrightarrow{0} \{0\}$$

- Specifically, we need the following **exactness properties**:

$$\text{Im curl} = \text{Ker div if } b_2 = 0, \quad \text{Im div} = L^2(\Omega)$$

Some approximations of the de Rham complex

- Classical **Finite Element** methods on standard meshes
 - Mixed Finite Elements [Raviart and Thomas, 1977, Nédélec, 1980]
 - Whitney forms [Bossavit, 1988]
 - Finite Element Exterior Calculus [Arnold, 2018]
 - ...
- **Low-order** polyhedral methods:
 - Mimetic Finite Differences [Brezzi, Lipnikov, Shashkov, 2005]
 - Discrete Geometric Approach [Codecasa, Specogna, Trevisan, 2009]
 - Compatible Discrete Operators [Bonelle and Ern, 2014]
- **Arbitrary-order** polyhedral methods:
 - VEM [Beirão da Veiga, Brezzi, Dassi, Marini, Russo, 2016–2018]
 - **Discrete de Rham (DDR) methods**
- References for this presentation:
 - Precursor works on DDR [DP et al., 2020, DP and Droniou, 2021b]
 - **DDR complexes with Koszul complements** [DP and Droniou, 2021]
 - Bridges DDR-VEM [Beirão da Veiga, Dassi, DP, Droniou, 2021]

The discrete de Rham (DDR) approach I

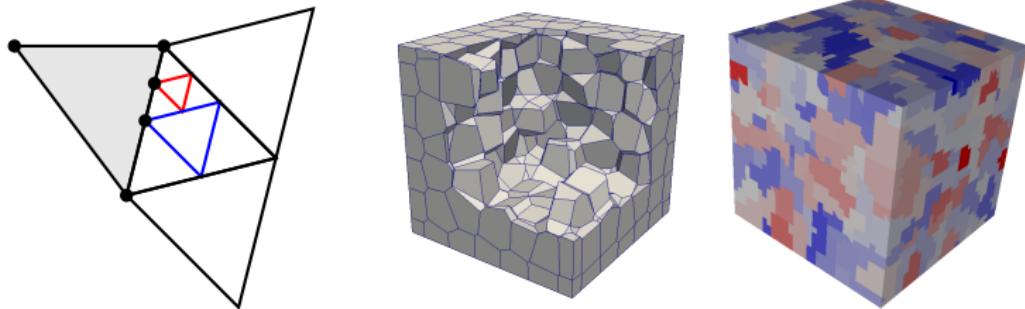


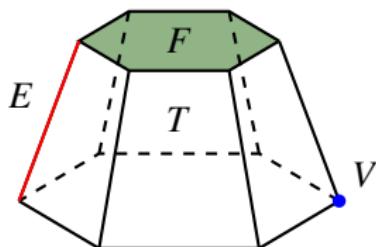
Figure: Examples of polytopal meshes supported by the DDR approach

- **Key idea:** replace both spaces **and operators** by discrete counterparts

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{I_{\text{grad},h}^k} X_{\text{grad},h}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{G}_h^k} X_{\text{curl},h}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{C}_h^k} X_{\text{div},h}^k \xrightarrow{D_h^k} \mathcal{P}^k(\mathcal{T}_h) \xrightarrow{0} \{0\}$$

- Support of **general polyhedral meshes** and **high-order**
- Exactness proved **at the discrete level** (directly usable for stability)

The discrete de Rham (DDR) approach II



- The fully discrete spaces are spanned by **vectors of polynomials**
- Polynomial components **attached to geometric objects**
 - emulate the **continuity properties** of the corresponding space
 - enable the reconstruction of **vector calculus operators** and **potentials**
- The key ingredient is the **Stokes formula**

The two-dimensional case

Continuous exact complex

- Let F be a **mesh face** and set, for smooth $q : F \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $\mathbf{v} : F \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$,

$$\mathbf{rot}_F q := \varrho_{-\pi/2}(\mathbf{grad}_F q) \quad \mathbf{rot}_F \mathbf{v} := \operatorname{div}_F(\varrho_{-\pi/2} \mathbf{v})$$

- We derive a discrete counterpart of the **two-dimensional local complex**:

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{i_F} H^1(F) \xrightarrow{\mathbf{grad}_F} \mathbf{H}(\operatorname{rot}; F) \xrightarrow{\mathbf{rot}_F} L^2(F) \xrightarrow{0} \{0\}$$

- We will need the following decomposition of $\mathcal{P}^k(F)^2$:

$$\mathcal{P}^k(F)^2 = \underbrace{\mathbf{rot}_F \mathcal{P}^{k+1}(F)}_{\mathcal{R}^k(F)} \oplus \underbrace{(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_F) \mathcal{P}^{k-1}(F)}_{\mathcal{R}^{c,k}(F)}$$

The two-dimensional case

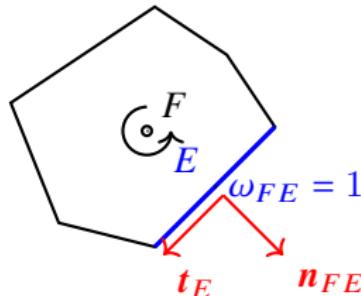
A key remark

- Let $q \in \mathcal{P}^{k+1}(F)$. For any $\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{P}^k(F)^2$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\int_F \operatorname{grad}_F q \cdot \mathbf{v} &= - \int_F q \underbrace{\operatorname{div}_F \mathbf{v}}_{\in \mathcal{P}^{k-1}(F)} + \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_F} \omega_{FE} \int_E q|_{\partial F} (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{FE}) \\ &= - \int_F \pi_{\mathcal{P},F}^{k-1} q \operatorname{div}_F \mathbf{v} + \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_F} \omega_{FE} \int_E q|_{\partial F} (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{FE})\end{aligned}$$

with $\pi_{\mathcal{P},F}^{k-1}$ L^2 -orthogonal projector on $\mathcal{P}^{k-1}(F)$

- Hence, $\operatorname{grad}_F q$ can be computed given $\pi_{\mathcal{P},F}^{k-1} q$ and $q|_{\partial F}$



The two-dimensional case

Discrete $H^1(F)$ space

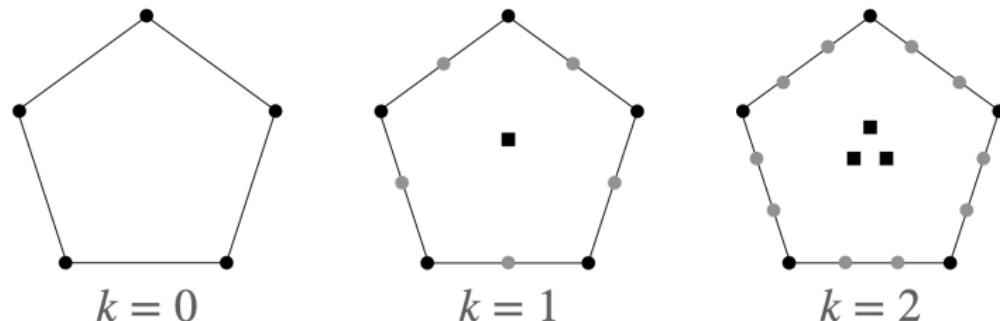


Figure: Number of degrees of freedom for $\underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k$ for $k \in \{0, 1, 2\}$

- Based on this remark, we take as discrete counterpart of $H^1(F)$

$$\underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k := \left\{ \underline{q}_F = (q_F, q_{\partial F}) : q_F \in \mathcal{P}^{k-1}(F) \text{ and } q_{\partial F} \in \mathcal{P}_c^{k+1}(\mathcal{E}_F) \right\}$$

- The interpolator $I_{\text{grad},F}^k : C^0(\overline{F}) \rightarrow \underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k$ is s.t., $\forall q \in C^0(\overline{F})$,

$$I_{\text{grad},F}^k q := (\pi_{\mathcal{P},F}^{k-1} q, q_{\partial F}) \text{ with}$$

$$\pi_{\mathcal{P},E}^{k-1} (q_{\partial F})|_E = \pi_{\mathcal{P},E}^{k-1} q|_E \quad \forall E \in \mathcal{E}_F \text{ and } q_{\partial F}(\mathbf{x}_V) = q(\mathbf{x}_V) \quad \forall V \in \mathcal{V}_F$$

The two-dimensional case

Reconstructions in $\underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k$

- For all $E \in \mathcal{E}_F$, the **edge gradient** $G_E^k : \underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{P}^k(E)$ is s.t.

$$G_E^k \underline{q}_F := (\underline{q}_{\partial F})'_{|E}$$

- The **full face gradient** $G_F^k : \underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{P}^k(F)^2$ is s.t., $\forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{P}^k(F)^2$,

$$\int_F G_F^k \underline{q}_F \cdot \mathbf{v} = - \int_F \underline{q}_F \operatorname{div}_F \mathbf{v} + \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_F} \omega_{FE} \int_E \underline{q}_{\partial F} (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{FE})$$

- By construction, we have **polynomial consistency**:

$$G_F^k (\underline{I}_{\text{grad},F}^k q) = \underline{\operatorname{grad}}_F q \quad \forall q \in \mathcal{P}^{k+1}(F)$$

- We reconstruct similarly a **face potential (scalar trace)** in $\mathcal{P}^{k+1}(F)$

The two-dimensional case

Discrete $\mathbf{H}(\text{rot}; F)$ space

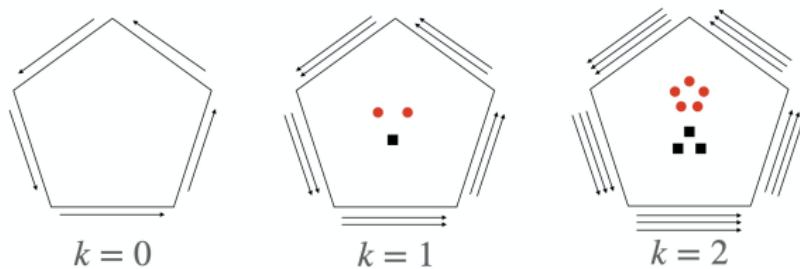


Figure: Number of degrees of freedom for $\underline{\mathcal{X}}_{\text{curl}, F}^k$ for $k \in \{0, 1, 2\}$

- We reason starting from: $\forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{N}^{k+1}(F)$

$$\int_F \text{rot}_F \mathbf{v} \cdot q = \int_F \mathbf{v} \cdot \underbrace{\text{rot}_F q}_{\in \mathcal{R}^{k-1}(F)} - \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_F} \omega_{FE} \int_E (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{t}_E) \underbrace{q|_E}_{\in \mathcal{P}^k(E)} \quad \forall q \in \mathcal{P}^k(F)$$

- This leads to the following discrete counterpart of $\mathbf{H}(\text{rot}; F)$:

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} \underline{\mathcal{X}}_{\text{curl}, F}^k &:= \left\{ \underline{\mathbf{v}}_F = (\mathbf{v}_{\mathcal{R}, F}, \mathbf{v}_{\mathcal{R}, F}^c, (v_E)_{E \in \mathcal{E}_F}) : \right. \\ &\quad \left. \mathbf{v}_{\mathcal{R}, F} \in \mathcal{R}^{k-1}(F), \mathbf{v}_{\mathcal{R}, F}^c \in \mathcal{R}^{c,k}(F), v_E \in \mathcal{P}^k(E) \quad \forall E \in \mathcal{E}_F \right\} \end{aligned}}$$

The two-dimensional case

Reconstructions in $\underline{X}_{\text{curl},F}^k$

- The **face curl operator** $C_F^k : \underline{X}_{\text{curl},F}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{P}^k(F)$ is s.t.,

$$\int_F C_F^k \underline{\mathbf{v}}_F \cdot q = \int_F \mathbf{v}_{\mathcal{R},F} \cdot \text{rot}_F q - \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_F} \omega_{FE} \int_E \mathbf{v}_E \cdot q \quad \forall q \in \mathcal{P}^k(F)$$

- Define the interpolator $\underline{I}_{\text{curl},F}^k : H^1(F)^2 \rightarrow \underline{X}_{\text{curl},F}^k$ s.t., $\forall \mathbf{v} \in H^1(F)^2$,

$$\underline{I}_{\text{curl},F}^k \mathbf{v} := (\pi_{\mathcal{R},F}^{k-1} \mathbf{v}, \boldsymbol{\pi}_{\mathcal{R},F}^{\text{c},k} \mathbf{v}, (\pi_{\mathcal{P},E}^k (\mathbf{v}|_E \cdot \mathbf{t}_E))_{E \in \mathcal{E}_F}).$$

- C_F^k is **polynomially consistent** by construction:

$$C_F^k (\underline{I}_{\text{curl},F}^k \mathbf{v}) = \text{rot}_F \mathbf{v} \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{N}^{k+1}(F)^2$$

- We reconstruct similarly a **vector potential (tangent trace)** in $\mathcal{P}^k(F)^2$

The two-dimensional case

Exact local complex

Theorem (Exactness of the two-dimensional local DDR complex)

If F is simply connected, the following local complex is **exact**:

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{I_{\text{grad},F}^k} \underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{G}_F^k} \underline{X}_{\text{curl},F}^k \xrightarrow{C_F^k} \mathcal{P}^k(F) \xrightarrow{0} \{0\},$$

where $\underline{G}_F^k : \underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k \rightarrow \underline{X}_{\text{curl},F}^k$ is the **discrete gradient** s.t., $\forall \underline{q}_F \in \underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k$,

$$\underline{G}_F^k \underline{q}_F := \left(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{\mathcal{R},F}^{k-1}(G_F^k \underline{q}_F), \boldsymbol{\pi}_{\mathcal{R},F}^{c,k}(G_F^k \underline{q}_F), (G_E^k \underline{q}_F)_{E \in \mathcal{E}_F} \right)$$

The two-dimensional case

Summary

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{I_{\text{grad},F}^k} \underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{G}_F^k} \underline{X}_{\text{curl},F}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{C}_F^k} \mathcal{P}^k(F) \xrightarrow{0} \{0\}$$

Space	V (vertex)	E (edge)	F (face)
$\underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k$	$\mathbb{R} = \mathcal{P}^k(V)$	$\mathcal{P}^{k-1}(E)$	$\mathcal{P}^{k-1}(F)$
$\underline{X}_{\text{curl},F}^k$		$\mathcal{P}^k(E)$	$\mathcal{R}^{k-1}(F) \times \mathcal{R}^{c,k}(F)$
$\mathcal{P}^k(F)$			$\mathcal{P}^k(F)$

Table: Polynomial components for the two-dimensional spaces

- **Interpolators** = component-wise L^2 -projections
- **Discrete operators** = L^2 -projections of full operator reconstructions

The three-dimensional case

Exact local complex

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{\underline{I}_{\text{grad},T}^k} \underline{X}_{\text{grad},T}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{G}_T^k} \underline{X}_{\text{curl},T}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{C}_T^k} \underline{X}_{\text{div},T}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{D}_T^k} \mathcal{P}^k(T) \xrightarrow{0} \{0\}$$

Space	V	E	F	T (element)
$\underline{X}_{\text{grad},T}^k$	\mathbb{R}	$\mathcal{P}^{k-1}(E)$	$\mathcal{P}^{k-1}(F)$	$\mathcal{P}^{k-1}(T)$
$\underline{X}_{\text{curl},T}^k$		$\mathcal{P}^k(E)$	$\mathcal{R}^{k-1}(F) \times \mathcal{R}^{c,k}(F)$	$\mathcal{R}^{k-1}(T) \times \mathcal{R}^{c,k}(T)$
$\underline{X}_{\text{div},T}^k$			$\mathcal{P}^k(F)$	$\mathcal{G}^{k-1}(T) \times \mathcal{G}^{c,k}(T)$
$\mathcal{P}^k(T)$				$\mathcal{P}^k(T)$

Table: Polynomial components for the three-dimensional spaces. We have set $\mathcal{G}^{k-1}(T) := \text{grad } \mathcal{P}^k(T)$ and $\mathcal{G}^{c,k}(T) := (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_T) \times \mathcal{P}^{k-1}(T)^3$

Theorem (Exactness of the three-dimensional local DDR complex)

If the mesh element T has a trivial topology, this complex is exact.

Commutation properties

Lemma (Local commutation properties)

It holds, for all $T \in \mathcal{T}_h$,

$$\underline{\mathbf{G}}_T^k(\underline{I}_{\text{grad},T}^k q) = \underline{\mathbf{I}}_{\text{curl},T}^k(\text{grad } q) \quad \forall q \in C^1(\bar{T}),$$

$$\underline{\mathbf{C}}_T^k(\underline{I}_{\text{curl},T}^k \mathbf{v}) = \underline{\mathbf{I}}_{\text{div},T}^k(\text{curl } \mathbf{v}) \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in H^2(T)^3,$$

$$\underline{D}_T^k(\underline{\mathbf{I}}_{\text{div},T}^k \mathbf{w}) = \pi_{\mathcal{P},T}^k(\text{div } \mathbf{w}) \quad \forall \mathbf{w} \in H^1(T)^3.$$

The above properties imply the following **commutative diagram**:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} C^\infty(\bar{T}) & \xrightarrow{\text{grad}} & C^\infty(\bar{T})^3 & \xrightarrow{\text{curl}} & C^\infty(\bar{T})^3 & \xrightarrow{\text{div}} & C^\infty(\bar{T}) \\ \downarrow \underline{I}_{\text{grad},T}^k & & \downarrow \underline{\mathbf{I}}_{\text{curl},T}^k & & \downarrow \underline{\mathbf{I}}_{\text{div},T}^k & & \downarrow i_T \\ X_{\text{grad},T}^k & \xrightarrow{\underline{\mathbf{G}}_T^k} & X_{\text{curl},T}^k & \xrightarrow{\underline{\mathbf{C}}_T^k} & X_{\text{div},T}^k & \xrightarrow{\underline{D}_T^k} & \mathcal{P}^k(T) \end{array}$$

The three-dimensional case

Local discrete L^2 -products

- Emulating integration by part formulas, define the **local potentials**

$$\underline{P}_{\text{grad},T}^{k+1} : \underline{X}_{\text{grad},T}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{P}^{k+1}(T),$$

$$\underline{P}_{\text{curl},T}^k : \underline{X}_{\text{curl},T}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{P}^k(T)^3,$$

$$\underline{P}_{\text{div},T}^k : \underline{X}_{\text{div},T}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{P}^k(T)^3$$

- Based on these potentials, we construct **local discrete L^2 -products**

$$(\underline{x}_T, \underline{y}_T)_{\bullet,T} = \underbrace{\int_T P_{\bullet,T} \underline{x}_T \cdot P_{\bullet,T} \underline{y}_T}_{\text{consistency}} + \underbrace{s_{\bullet,T}(\underline{x}_T, \underline{y}_T)}_{\text{stability}} \quad \forall \bullet \in \{\text{grad, curl, div}\}$$

- The L^2 -products are **polynomially exact**

The three-dimensional case

Global complex

- Let \mathcal{T}_h be a **polyhedral mesh** with elements and faces of trivial topology
- Global DDR spaces** are defined gluing boundary components:

$$\underline{X}_{\text{grad},h}^k, \quad \underline{X}_{\text{curl},h}^k, \quad \underline{X}_{\text{div},h}^k$$

- Global operators** are obtained collecting local components:

$$\underline{\mathbf{G}}_h^k : \underline{X}_{\text{grad},h}^k \rightarrow \underline{X}_{\text{curl},h}^k, \quad \underline{\mathbf{C}}_h^k : \underline{X}_{\text{curl},h}^k \rightarrow \underline{X}_{\text{div},h}^k, \quad D_h^k : \underline{X}_{\text{div},h}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{P}^k(\mathcal{T}_h)$$

leading to the complex

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{I_{\text{grad},h}^k} \underline{X}_{\text{grad},h}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{\mathbf{G}}_h^k} \underline{X}_{\text{curl},h}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{\mathbf{C}}_h^k} \underline{X}_{\text{div},h}^k \xrightarrow{D_h^k} \mathcal{P}^k(\mathcal{T}_h) \xrightarrow{0} \{0\}$$

- Global L^2 -products** $(\cdot, \cdot)_{\bullet,h}$ are obtained assembling element-wise

Discrete problem

- Continuous problem: Find $(\sigma, \mathbf{u}) \in \mathbf{H}(\text{curl}; \Omega) \times \mathbf{H}(\text{div}; \Omega)$ s.t.

$$\int_{\Omega} \sigma \cdot \tau - \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{u} \cdot \text{curl } \tau = 0 \quad \forall \tau \in \mathbf{H}(\text{curl}; \Omega),$$

$$\int_{\Omega} \text{curl } \sigma \cdot v + \int_{\Omega} \text{div } \mathbf{u} \text{ div } v = \int_{\Omega} f \cdot v \quad \forall v \in \mathbf{H}(\text{div}; \Omega)$$

- The **DDR problem** reads: Find $(\underline{\sigma}_h, \underline{\mathbf{u}}_h) \in \underline{X}_{\text{curl},h}^k \times \underline{X}_{\text{div},h}^k$ s.t.

$$(\underline{\sigma}_h, \underline{\tau}_h)_{\text{curl},h} - (\underline{\mathbf{u}}_h, \underline{\mathbf{C}}_h^k \underline{\tau}_h)_{\text{div},h} = 0 \quad \forall \underline{\tau}_h \in \underline{X}_{\text{curl},h}^k,$$

$$(\underline{\mathbf{C}}_h^k \underline{\sigma}_h, \underline{v}_h)_{\text{div},h} + \int_{\Omega} D_h^k \underline{\mathbf{u}}_h D_h^k \underline{v}_h = l_h(\underline{v}_h) \quad \forall \underline{v}_h \in \underline{X}_{\text{div},h}^k$$

- **Stability** follows as in the continuous case using exactness properties of

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{I_{\text{grad},h}^k} \underline{X}_{\text{grad},h}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{\mathbf{G}}_h^k} \underline{X}_{\text{curl},h}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{\mathbf{C}}_h^k} \underline{X}_{\text{div},h}^k \xrightarrow{D_h^k} \mathcal{P}^k(\mathcal{T}_h) \xrightarrow{0} \{0\}$$

Convergence

Theorem (Error estimate)

Assume $\mathbf{b}_1 = \mathbf{b}_2 = \mathbf{0}$, $\boldsymbol{\sigma} \in C^0(\overline{\Omega})^3 \cap H^{k+2}(\mathcal{T}_h)^3$, $\mathbf{u} \in C^0(\overline{\Omega})^3 \cap H^{k+2}(\mathcal{T}_h)^3$, and set

$$(\underline{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}_h, \underline{\mathbf{e}}_h) := (\underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}_h - \underline{\mathbf{I}}_{\text{curl},h}^k \boldsymbol{\sigma}, \underline{\mathbf{u}}_h - \underline{\mathbf{I}}_{\text{div},h}^k \mathbf{u}).$$

Then, we have the following *error estimate*:

$$\begin{aligned} \|(\underline{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}_h, \underline{\mathbf{e}}_h)\|_h &\leq Ch^{k+1} \left(|\operatorname{curl} \boldsymbol{\sigma}|_{H^{k+1}(\mathcal{T}_h)^3} + |\boldsymbol{\sigma}|_{H^{(k+1,2)}(\mathcal{T}_h)^3} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + |\mathbf{u}|_{H^{k+1}(\mathcal{T}_h)^3} + |\mathbf{u}|_{H^{k+2}(\mathcal{T}_h)^3} \right), \end{aligned}$$

with $\|\cdot\|_h$ discrete (graph) $\mathbf{H}(\operatorname{curl}; \Omega) \times \mathbf{H}(\operatorname{div}; \Omega)$ norm and C depending only on Ω , k , and mesh regularity.

Key intermediate result: *adjoint consistency* for the curl

Numerical examples

Convergence in the energy norm

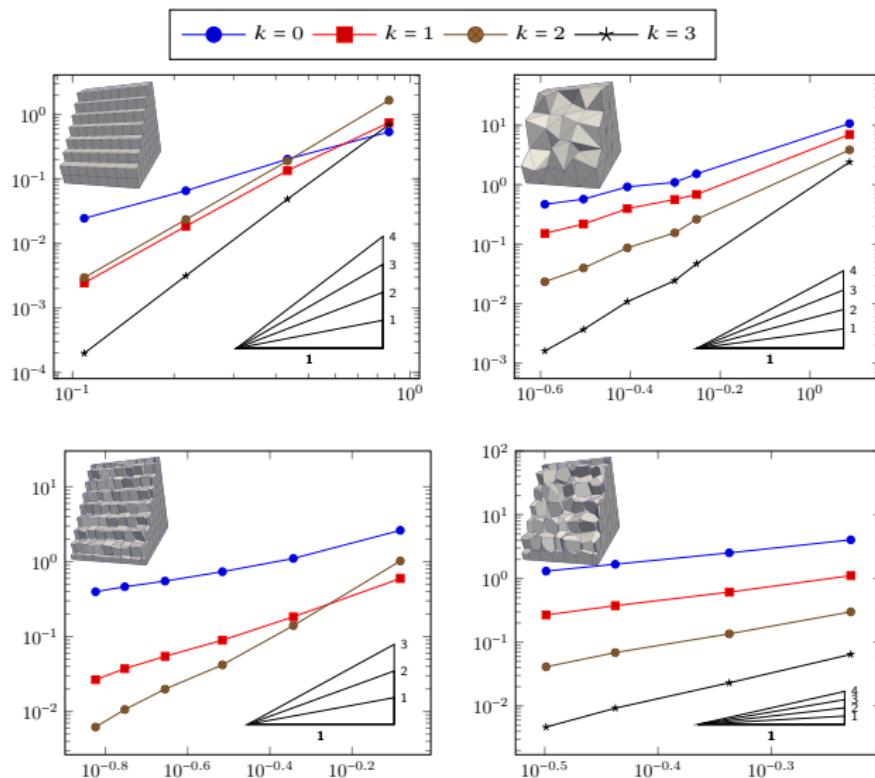


Figure: Energy error versus mesh size h

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