

1. This question is about the equation

$$c\phi + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla\phi - \epsilon\nabla^2\phi = f \text{ on } \Omega, \quad \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial n} = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega, \quad (1)$$

where:

- Ω is a d -dimensional polygonal domain with boundary $\partial\Omega$,
- $c > 0$,
- f is a known function,
- $\mathbf{u} \in C^{1,\infty}(\Omega)^d$ is a known vector-valued function satisfying $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$, and $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$ on $\partial\Omega$.
- $|\mathbf{u}|_\infty = \max_{\mathbf{x} \in \Omega} |\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})| = C_0 < \infty$.

(a) Derive a weak formulation of this equation for a solution $\phi \in H^1(\Omega)$ of the form

$$a(q, \phi) = F(\phi), \quad \forall \phi \in H^1(\Omega). \quad (2)$$

[5 marks]

(b) Obtain estimates for the continuity and coercivity constants of $a(\cdot, \cdot)$.

[10 marks]

(c) What happens to the H^1 norm of the error in the P^1 finite element approximation of this problem as $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$? Justify your answer.

[5 marks]

2. (a) For a ball B in a triangle K , the averaged Taylor polynomial of a function $u \in H^k(K)$ of degree k is defined by

$$Q_{k,B}u(x) = \frac{1}{|B|} \int_B \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} D^\alpha u(y) \frac{(x-y)^\alpha}{\alpha!} dy. \quad (3)$$

For $|\beta| \leq k$ show that

$$D^\beta Q_{k,B}u(\mathbf{x}) = Q_{k-|\beta|,B}D^\beta u(\mathbf{x}). \quad (4)$$

[8 marks]

- (b) For the rest of the question we assume that K has radius 1. Let $u \in H^{k+1}(K)$. Assuming that, for $i \leq k$,

$$\|Q_{i,B}u - u\|_{L^2(K)} \leq C|u|_{H^{k+1}(K)}, \quad (5)$$

show that

$$\|D^\beta(Q_{i,B}u - u)\|_{L^2(K)} \leq C|u|_{H^{k+1}(K)}, \quad (6)$$

for $|\beta| \leq i \leq k$.

[8 marks]

- (c) Using the property

$$\|I_K u\|_{H^k(K)} \leq C_1 \|u\|_{H^k(K)}, \quad (7)$$

for the nodal interpolation operator I_K corresponding to a finite element $(K, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{N})$, show that

$$\|I_K u - u\|_{H^k(K)} \leq C_2 |u|_{H^{k+1}(K)}, \quad (8)$$

for some positive constant C_2 , stating any assumptions you make about $(K, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{N})$.

[4 marks]

3. Consider the following triple $(K, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{N})$.

– K is a triangle with vertices z_1, z_2, z_3 .

– \mathcal{P} are the polynomials of degree ≤ 3 .

– \mathcal{N} are dual variables given by evaluations at $z_1 + (z_2 - z_1)i/3 + (z_3 - z_1)j/3$ for $0 \leq i \leq j \leq 3$.

(a) Show that \mathcal{N} determines \mathcal{P} .

[10 marks]

(b) Describe the geometric decomposition for this finite element, and explain why it is a C^0 decomposition.

[10 marks]

4. Consider the heat equation,

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \kappa \nabla^2 T, \quad (9)$$

solved for a time-dependent function T on a closed simply-connected domain Ω , with boundary conditions $\frac{\partial T}{\partial n} = 0$ on the boundary $\partial\Omega$.

(a) Given a C^0 finite element space, formulate a finite element discretisation of the heat equation (9).

[5 marks]

(b) Show that the discretisation can be written in the form

$$M\dot{\mathbf{T}} = K\mathbf{T}, \quad (10)$$

where \mathbf{T} is the vector of basis coefficients for T in the finite element space V_h .

[5 marks]

(c) Quoting results from lectures, show that

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} T^2 dx \leq -C \int_{\Omega} T^2 dx, \quad (11)$$

providing an upper bound for the decay rate C .

[5 marks]

(d) Explain why this means that the decay rate for the finite element discretisation is larger than or equal to the decay rate for the unapproximated equation.

[5 marks]

5. This question is based upon the Mastery material “From Functional Analysis to Iterative Methods” by RC Kirby.

Consider the partial differential equation

$$-\nabla \cdot (\gamma(x)\nabla u) = f, \quad (12)$$

on Ω , with boundary conditions $u = 0$ on $\partial\Omega$, where f is a known function with $\|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)} < \infty$, and γ is a known function with $c_1 \leq \gamma \leq c_2$ for $c_1 > 0$, $c_2 < \infty$.

- (a) Briefly formulate a finite element discretisation for this problem using linear continuous finite elements, and explain how the coercivity and continuity constants of the variational problem depend on c_1 and c_2 . Give details on the function spaces involved and norms involved.

[6 marks]

- (b) A bilinear form a on a finite element space V_h defines an operator $A_h : V_h \rightarrow V'_h$ into the dual space given by

$$(A_h f)[u] = a(f, u), \quad \forall f, u \in V_h. \quad (13)$$

In the notation of the paper, the operator $\mathcal{I}_h : \mathbb{R}^{\dim V_h} \rightarrow V_h$ maps a vector to the function in V_h with the vector entries as basis coefficients in the nodal basis expansion. The operator $\mathcal{I}'_h : \mathbb{R}^{\dim V_h} \rightarrow V'_h$ maps vectors to linear functionals $F \in V'_h$ given by

$$(\mathcal{I}'_h \mathbf{f})[u] = \mathbf{f}^T (\mathcal{I}_h^{-1} u), \quad \forall u \in V_h. \quad (14)$$

- (i) Show that

$$A_h u = \mathcal{I}'_h (A \mathbf{u}), \quad \forall u \in V_h. \quad (15)$$

where A is the matrix corresponding to A_h and \mathbf{u} is the vector of basis coefficients of u .

[4 marks]

- (ii) Hence show that

$$A = (\mathcal{I}'_h)^{-1} A_h \mathcal{I}_h. \quad (16)$$

[3 marks]

- (c) Now consider a second bilinear form

$$b_h(u, v) = \int_{\Omega} uv + \nabla u \cdot \nabla v \, dx, \quad (17)$$

with corresponding matrix B , and operator $B_h : V_h \rightarrow V'_h$.

- (i) Show that

$$B^{-1} A = \mathcal{I}_h^{-1} B_h^{-1} A_h \mathcal{I}_h. \quad (18)$$

[4 marks]

- (ii) Explain why $B_h^{-1} A_h$ has the same eigenvalues as $B^{-1} A$.

[3 marks]