

Numerical Methods for Elliptic and Parabolic Partial Differential Equations

Exercise Sheet 5

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Exercise 1. Let $\mathcal{G} := \{\tau_i : 0 \leq i \leq n\}$ be a partition of $\Omega = [a, b]$, i.e. $\tau_i := [x_i, x_{i+1}]$ for some $a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_{n+1} = b$. Let $S_{\mathcal{G},0}^{1,0} = \text{span}\{b_i(x), 1 \leq i \leq n\}$, where $b_i(x)$ are the piecewise linear "hat functions" on \mathcal{G} .¹

- (a) Implement a program (Matlab or Python), which, for a given partition \mathcal{G} and a given function $f \in C^0(\Omega)$, computes the solution of the linear system $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{r}$, where

$$\mathbf{A} = (a_{ij})_{i,j=1}^n, \quad a_{ij} := \int_0^1 b'_i \cdot b'_j + \int_0^1 b_i \cdot b_j \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{r} = (r_i)_{i=1}^n, \quad r_i := \int_0^1 f \cdot b_i$$

Find an explicit formula for the entries of \mathbf{A} . You can use pre-built routines to compute the vector \mathbf{r} (e.g. the Matlab function `integral`).

- (b) Use your program to determine approximated solutions of the boundary value problem

$$-u''(x) + u(x) = 1 \quad \text{in } \Omega = (0, 1), \quad u(0) = u(1) = 0$$

Plot the exact solution of the problem (BVP) and the approximated solutions for different partitions \mathcal{G} .

Exercise 2. Let $\Omega := (0, 1)$, define

$$\chi(x) := \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}, & \text{if } x \in (0, \frac{1}{2}), \\ -\frac{1}{2}, & \text{if } x \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1). \end{cases}$$

- (a) Show that $l : H^1(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, l(v) := \int_{\Omega} \chi v'$ is continuous but has no representation of the form:

$$l(v) = \int_{\Omega} f v, \quad \text{for some } f \in L^2(\Omega), \forall v \in H^1(\Omega)$$

- (b) Show that $u(x) := -\frac{1}{2}|x - \frac{1}{2}| + \frac{1}{2}$ is the solution of the variational problem $\int_{\Omega} \langle \nabla u, \nabla v \rangle = l(v), \forall v \in H_0^1(\Omega)$.

- (c) Show that $u \notin H^2(\Omega)$.

¹In case, you used these functions to solve the exercise of last week, use the function spaces $Y_n = \text{span}(Y_{n-1}, x \mapsto x^n(x-1))$ for $n \geq 2$ and $Y_1 = \text{span}(x \mapsto x(x-1))$ instead.