

Convergence of the Adaptive Finite Element Method

Carsten Carstensen

Department of Mathematics, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
<http://www.math.hu-berlin.de/~cc/>
MATHEON, DFG Research Center

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Outline

- Introduction: UFEM&AFEM, References
- AFEM: Algorithm for Energy Minimization
- Short History of Arguments to Prove Error Reduction
- Convergence Theory for Convex Minimisation
- Applications and Examples

Thanks to sponsors DFG, FWF, EPSRC and to collaborators S. Bartels, R. Hoppe, A. Orlando, J. Valdman

Introduction

UFEM

- 1 Universal algorithm (uniform for all data: RHSs etc.)
- 2 $\mathcal{T}_{\ell+1} := \text{red}(\mathcal{T}_\ell)$
- 3 Convergence from $\lim_{\ell \rightarrow \infty} \|h_\ell\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} = 0$, but convergence can be arbitrarily bad (There is always some disaster RHS)

AFEM

- 1 Specialised "adapted" feedback algorithm (for ONE set of data)
- 2 $\mathcal{T}_{\ell+1}$ generated from \mathcal{T}_ℓ , u_ℓ , all data, plus extra computations
- 3 Convergence is open since $\|h_\ell\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} \not\rightarrow 0$ is not guaranteed a priori!
Aims at error reduction or some other kind of convergence control

Books on a posteriori FE error control

- Eriksson-Estep-Hansbo-Johnson (1995)
- Verfürth (1996)
- Ainsworth-Oden (2000)
- Babuska-Strouboulis (2001)
- Bangerth-Rannacher (2003)
- Neittaanmäki-Repin (2004)

... and inside no theorem on AFEM convergence!
(Except early results by Babuska et al. in 1D.)

Papers on Convergence of AFEM in 2D

- **W. Dörfler**: A convergent adaptive algorithm for Poisson's equation. *SIAM Journal on Numerical Analysis* **33** (1996) 1106–1124.
- **P. Morin, R.H. Nochetto, and K.G. Siebert**: Local problems on stars: a posteriori error estimation, convergence, and performance. *Mathematics of Computation* **72** (2003) 1067–1097 AND Convergence of adaptive finite element methods. *SIAM Review* **44** (2003) 631–658.
- **A. Veiser (2002)**: *Convergent adaptive finite elements for the nonlinear Laplacian*. *Numer. Math.*, **92**, 4, 743–770.
- **P. Binev, W. Dahmen, and R. DeVore**: *Adaptive Finite Element methods with Convergence Rates*. *Num. Math.*, **97**(2) 219–268, (2004).
- **R. Stevenson**: Optimality of AFEM, preprint 2005.
- **C, C-Hoppe, Braess-C-Hoppe**

(AFEM)

Input: coarse mesh \mathcal{T}_0

For $\ell = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

SOLVE
ESTIMATE
MARK
REFINE

Output: Sequence of nested discrete spaces

$$V_0 \subseteq V_1 \subseteq V_2 \subseteq \dots \subseteq \bigcup_{\ell=0}^{\infty} V_\ell \subseteq V = W_0^{1,p}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^m)$$

with associated stress approximations $(\sigma_\ell)_{\ell \in \mathbb{N}_0}$.

Task: Design an (AFEM) with $\lim_{\ell \rightarrow \infty} \|\sigma - \sigma_\ell\|_{L^q} = 0$.

SOLVE

Given shape regular triangulation \mathcal{T}_ℓ , define $V_\ell := \mathcal{P}_1(\mathcal{T}_\ell; \mathbb{R}^m) \cap V$, compute some minimizer with Newton-Raphson scheme for

$$E(v_\ell) := \int_{\Omega} W(Dv_\ell) dx - \int_{\Omega} f \cdot v_\ell dx \quad \text{for all } v_\ell \in V_\ell.$$

Compute discrete stress $\sigma_\ell := DW(Du_\ell) \in P_0(\mathcal{T}_\ell; \mathbb{R}^{m \times n})$.

$W : \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with p th order growth causes $V = W_0^{1,p}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^m)$, i.e., gradients in L^p and stresses in dual $L^{p'}$, $1/p + 1/p' = 1$.

Remark: For class of degenerate convex minimization problems with p, p', q, r, s, t , u and u_ℓ are non-unique, σ and σ_ℓ are unique s.t.

$$\|\sigma - \sigma_\ell\|_{L^{r/t}} \lesssim \min_{v_\ell \in V_\ell} \|u - v_\ell\|_{W^{1,p}}.$$

ESTIMATE

Given interior edge $E = \partial T_+ \cap \partial T_- \in \mathcal{E}_\ell$, compute $[\sigma_\ell] := \sigma_\ell|_{T_+} - \sigma_\ell|_{T_-}$,

$$\eta_E^{(\ell)} := \text{diam}(E)^{1/p'} \| [\sigma_\ell] \cdot \nu_E \|_{L^{p'}(E)}$$

and set

$$\eta_\ell := \left(\sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_\ell} \eta_E^{(\ell)p'} \right)^{1/p'}$$

Theorem (C 2006). There holds

$$\|\sigma - \sigma_\ell\|_{L^{r/t}(\Omega)}^r \lesssim \eta_\ell + \text{osc}_\ell$$

for oscillation

$$\text{osc}_\ell^{p'} := \sum_{z \in \mathcal{K}_\ell} \text{osc}(f, \omega_z)^{p'}$$

For each inner node z with nodal basis function $\varphi_z \in V_\ell$, the patch reads $\omega_z := \{x \in \Omega : 0 < \varphi_z(x)\}$ and $\text{osc}(f, \omega_z) := \text{diam}(\omega_z) \|f - f_{\omega_z}\|_{L^{p'}(\omega_z)}$.

MARK

Bulk criterion with greedy algorithm.

Sort $\mathcal{E}_\ell = \{E_1, \dots, E_N\}$ in list (E_1, \dots, E_N) s.t. $\eta_{E_1}^{(\ell)} \leq \eta_{E_2}^{(\ell)} \leq \dots \leq \eta_{E_N}^{(\ell)}$
and set k maximal with

$$\Theta \eta_\ell^{p'} \leq \eta_{E_k}^{(\ell)p'} + \dots + \eta_{E_N}^{(\ell)p'}.$$

Then, for fixed $0 < \Theta \leq 1$,

$$\mathcal{M}_\ell := \{E_k, E_{k+1}, \dots, E_N\}$$

satisfies

$$\eta_\ell^{p'} \lesssim \sum_{E \in \mathcal{M}_\ell} \eta_E^{(\ell)p'}.$$

Monitor $\text{osc}_{\ell+1}$ to achieve at least $\lim_{\ell \rightarrow \infty} \text{osc}_\ell = 0$.

REFINE

Use concept of reference edge (i.e. opposite side of newest local vertex)
 $E(T)$ for $T = \text{conv}\{E, F, G\}$ and $E, F, G \in \mathcal{E}_\ell$.

Closure algorithm: Given shape-regular triangulation $\mathcal{T} := \mathcal{T}_\ell$ and subset $\mathcal{M} := \mathcal{M}_\ell$ of edges \mathcal{E}_ℓ in \mathcal{T}_ℓ , repeat (a)-(b) until $\mathcal{T} = \emptyset$:

(a) Choose $T \in \mathcal{T}$ with $(\mathcal{E}(T) \cap \mathcal{M} \neq \emptyset \text{ AND } E(T) \notin \mathcal{M})$
and stop if there is no such T .

(b) While $(T \neq \emptyset \text{ AND } E(T) \notin \mathcal{M})$ do
 $(\mathcal{M} := \mathcal{M} \cup \{E(T)\}, \mathcal{T} := \mathcal{T} \setminus \{T\}, T := N(T))$.

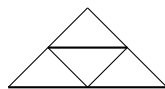
Then $\mathcal{M} := \text{closure}(\mathcal{T}_\ell, \mathcal{M}_\ell)$.

Theorem (Bolte-C 2005⁺). \mathcal{M} is minimal with

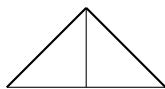
$$\mathcal{M}_\ell \subseteq \mathcal{M} \quad \text{and} \quad \forall E \in \mathcal{M} \forall T \in \mathcal{T}_\ell(E) \quad E(T) \in \mathcal{M}.$$

Red-Green-Blue Refinement with Reference Edge

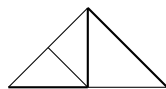
Reference edge $E(T)$ is bottom line and all $\mathcal{M}(T)$ are bisected via



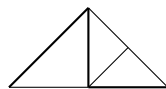
red(T)



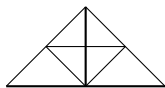
green(T)



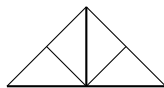
blue_{left}



blue_{right}



bisect5(T)



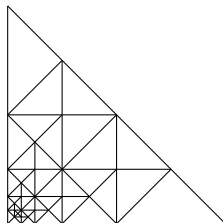
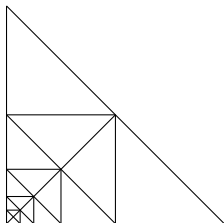
bisec3(T)

Inner Node Property achieved via bisect5(T) for at least on neighbouring triangle of each edge in \mathcal{M}_ℓ .

Mesh-Refinement

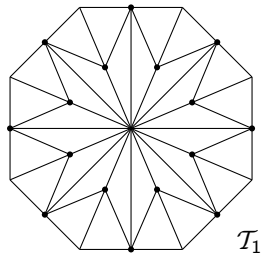
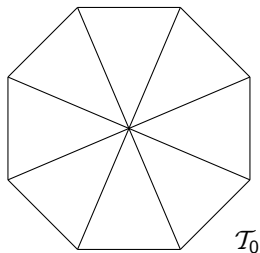
- Maintain shape regularity.
- On coarse $K \in \mathcal{T}_0$, $\mathcal{T}_\ell|_K$ is affine picture of reference triangle with solely right isosceles triangles.
- \mathcal{T}_ℓ allows for ℓ -independent H^1 -stable L^2 -projections (C 2004).
- Binev-Dahmen-DeVore 2004, Bolte-C 2005⁺ show

$$\text{card}(\mathcal{T}_\ell \setminus \mathcal{T}_0) \lesssim \sum_{j=1}^{\ell} \text{card}(\mathcal{M}_j).$$



Error Reduction Without Inner Node Property?

A counterexample to error reduction for $W = \psi(| \cdot |)$ and nearest-vertex-bisection on regular polygon:



Theorem (Bartels-C 2006⁺). Suppose $\bar{\Omega} = \bigcup \mathcal{T}_0 = \bigcup \mathcal{T}_1$ is regular polygon, decomposed in regular triangulations \mathcal{T}_0 and \mathcal{T}_1 . Then, $\sigma_0 = \sigma_1$.

History of Arguments to Prove Error Reduction

Linear elliptic PDE with energy norm $\| \cdot \|$ and solution $u \in W_0^{1,2}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^m)$ (and stress field σ) respective discrete solution u_ℓ (and σ_ℓ):

(a) Reliability of error estimator [Rodriguez 94, C-Verfürth SINUM 99]

$$\|u - u_\ell\|^2 \lesssim \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_\ell} h_E \int_E |[Du_\ell]|^2 ds + \text{osc}(f; \mathcal{T}_\ell)^2$$

(b) Bulk criterion [Dörfler SINUM 96]

$$\|u - u_\ell\|^2 \lesssim \sum_{E \in \mathcal{M}_\ell} h_E \int_E |[Du_\ell]|^2 ds + \text{osc}(f; \mathcal{T}_\ell)^2$$

(c1) Discrete local efficiency [Dörfler SINUM 96] for $E \in \mathcal{M}_\ell$

$$h_E \int_E |[Du_\ell]|^2 ds \lesssim \|u_{\ell+1} - u_\ell\|(\omega_E)^2 + h_E^2 \|f\|_{L^2(\omega_E)}^2$$

Cont. Arguments to Prove Error Reduction

(c2) Refined discrete local efficiency [Nochetto et al., Veerer]

$$h_E \int_E |[Du_\ell]|^2 ds \lesssim \|u_{\ell+1} - u_\ell\|(\omega_E)^2 + h_E^2 \|f - f_E\|_{L^2(\omega_E)}^2$$

(d) Finite overlap in (b)&(c2) yields

$$\|u - u_\ell\|^2 \leq C_1 \|u_{\ell+1} - u_\ell\|^2 + C_2 \text{osc}(f; \mathcal{T}_\ell)^2$$

(e) Galerkin orthogonality

$$\|u_{\ell+1} - u_\ell\|^2 = \|u - u_\ell\|^2 - \|u - u_{\ell+1}\|^2$$

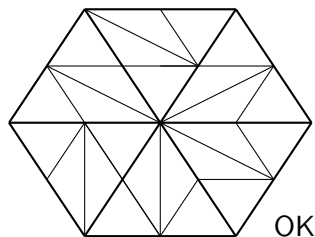
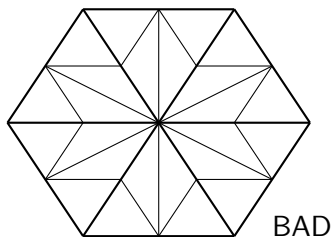
(f) Finish by rearranging

$$C_1 \|u - u_{\ell+1}\|^2 \leq (C_1 - 1) \|u - u_\ell\|^2 + C_2 \text{osc}(f; \mathcal{T}_\ell)^2$$

and division by C_1

$$\|u - u_{\ell+1}\|^2 \leq (1 - C_1^{-1}) \|u - u_\ell\|^2 + C_1^{-1} C_2 \text{osc}(f; \mathcal{T}_\ell)^2$$

Substitute of Inner Node Property



Suppose free node z in \mathcal{T}_ℓ with patch ω_z and edges $\mathcal{E}(z)$ in $\mathcal{T}_\ell|_{\omega_z}$. Assume all edges in $\mathcal{E}(z)$ are bisected but NOT all triangles in $\mathcal{T}_\ell(\omega_z)$ with bisec3 and reference edge on $\partial\omega_z$. Then

$$\sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}(z)} \eta_E^2 \lesssim \|u_{\ell+1} - u_\ell\|^2(\Omega_z) + \sum_{y \in \bar{\omega}_z \cap \mathcal{K}} \text{osc}(f, \omega_y)^2$$

Adaptive Nonstandard FEM

Difficulty: Galerkin orthogonality fails for MFEM, but generalised Galerkin orthogonality holds for fluxes p and p_ℓ

$$\|p_{\ell+1} - p_\ell\|^2 \lesssim \|p - p_\ell\|^2 - \|p - p_{\ell+1}\|^2 + \text{osc}(f; \mathcal{T}_\ell)^2$$

and eventually allows for error reduction property [C-Hoppe (2006)]

$$\|p - p_{\ell+1}\|^2 \leq \varrho \|p - p_\ell\|^2 + C \text{osc}(f; \mathcal{T}_\ell)^2.$$

Extra difficulty with nonconforming FEM: Balance 2 discrete equations!

C-Hoppe: Convergence analysis of an adaptive edge finite element method for the 2D eddy current equations, 2005, *J. Num. Math.*

C-Hoppe: Error reduction and convergence for an adaptive mixed finite element method, 2005, *to appear in Math. Comp.*

C-Hoppe: Convergence analysis of an adaptive nonconforming finite element method, 2006, *Numer. Math.* 103: 251-266

Convergence Rates by Rob Stevenson

- ① Given $0 < \lambda < 1$ and $\delta := \lambda \|u - u_\ell\|$ there exists mesh \mathcal{T}_0^δ with FE solution u_0^δ and $\|u - u_0^\delta\| \leq \delta$ plus

$$\text{card}(\mathcal{T}_0^\delta) \leq \delta^{-1/s} |u|_{\mathcal{A}^s}^{1/s}$$

- ② Consider mesh $\mathcal{T}_\ell^\delta := \mathcal{T}_0^\delta \cup \mathcal{T}_\ell$ coarsest refinement of \mathcal{T}_0^δ and \mathcal{T}_ℓ with set of edges \mathcal{E}_ℓ^δ with FE solution u_ℓ^δ
- ③ Lemma A: $\text{card}(\mathcal{E}_\ell \setminus \mathcal{E}_\ell^\delta) \lesssim \text{card}(\mathcal{T}_0^\delta)$
- ④ Lemma B: $\|u_\ell^\delta - u_\ell\| \lesssim \eta_\ell(\mathcal{E}_\ell \setminus \mathcal{E}_\ell^\delta) + \text{osc}(f, \mathcal{T}_\ell)$
- ⑤ Lemma C: For $\mu_\ell := \text{osc}(f, \mathcal{T}_\ell) / \|u - u_\ell\|$ bdd and Θ sufficiently small, $\mathcal{E}_\ell \setminus \mathcal{E}_\ell^\delta$ satisfies bulk criterion with Θ , whence

$$\text{card}(\mathcal{M}_\ell) \leq \text{card}(\mathcal{E}_\ell \setminus \mathcal{E}_\ell^\delta)$$

- ⑥ Refinement with $\text{card}(\mathcal{T}_L) \lesssim \sum_{\ell=0}^L \text{card}(\mathcal{M}_\ell)$

Convergence Theory for Convex Minimisation

Given strongly convex $W : \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with quadratic growth and DW Lipschitz and RHS $f \in L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^m)$, minimise

$$E(v) := \int_{\Omega} W(Dv(x)) dx - \int_{\Omega} f \cdot v dx \quad \text{for } v \in V := W_0^{1,2}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^m).$$

Theorem (C 2006⁺). (a)-(c) are equivalent:

(a) energy-reduction property

$$\delta_{\ell+1} \leq \rho \delta_{\ell} + \text{h.o.t.} \quad \text{for some } \rho < 1;$$

(b) discrete residual control

$$\kappa \|R_{\ell}\|_{V^*} \leq \|R_{\ell}\|_{V_{\ell+1}^*} + \text{h.o.t.} \quad \text{for some } \kappa > 0;$$

(c) reliability of an hierarchical error estimator

$$\|R_{\ell}\|_{V^*} \leq C \eta_H + \text{h.o.t.} \quad \text{for some } C > 0.$$

Notation

There exist unique exact $u \in V$ resp. $u_\ell \in V_\ell$ discrete minimizer with error

$$\|u - u_\ell\|_V^2 \approx \delta_\ell := E(u_\ell) - E(u) \quad \text{and} \quad R_\ell := -DE(u_\ell).$$

Let $(\varphi_m : m \in \mathcal{M})$ be basis of complement $W_{\ell+1}$ of V_ℓ in

$$V_{\ell+1} = V_\ell \oplus W_{\ell+1}, \quad W_{\ell+1} := \text{span}(\varphi_m : m \in \mathcal{M}).$$

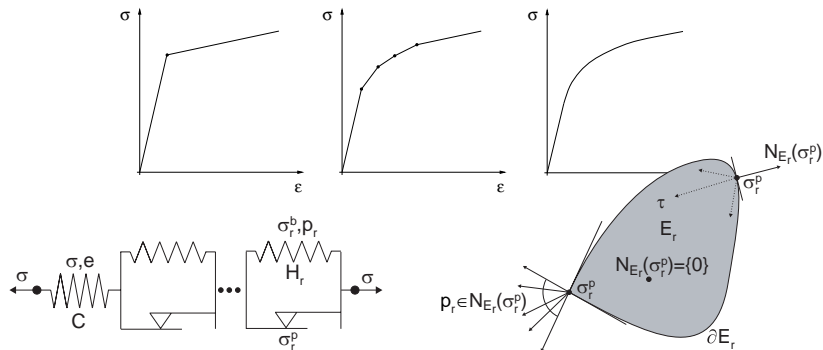
Define hierarchical estimator

$$\begin{aligned} \eta_H &= \left(\sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}} \eta_m^2 \right)^{1/2} && \text{with} \\ \eta_m &= R_\ell(\varphi_m) / \|\varphi_m\|_V && \text{for each } m \in \mathcal{M}. \end{aligned}$$

\mathcal{M} are marked edges and φ_m is (modified) nodal basis function of new node mid(E).

Multiyield Plasticity

Generalisation of standard infinite elastoplasticity with different hardening mechanisms from C-Orlando-Valdmann (2005)

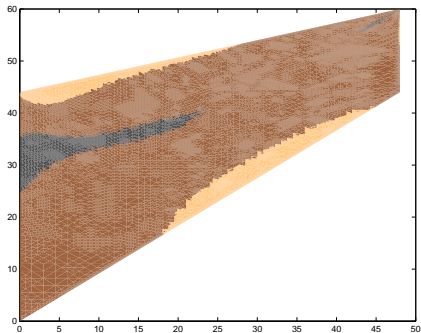
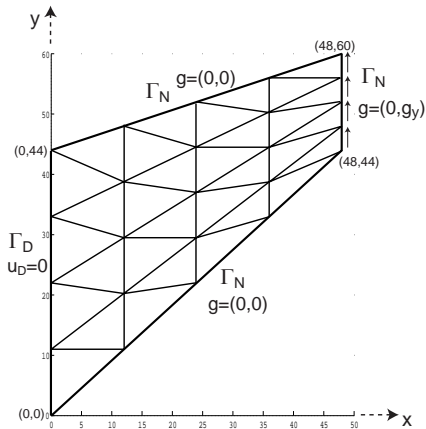


Rheological model for multisurface plasticity with hardening.

Normal cones in evolution law on set of admissible stresses.

- AFEM with linear convergence of energy and stress errors

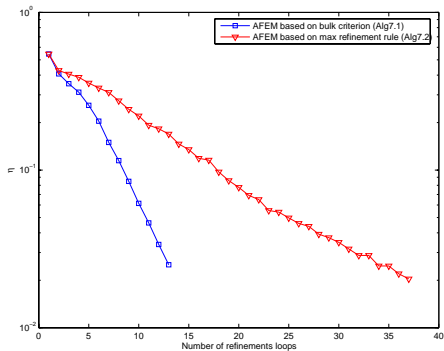
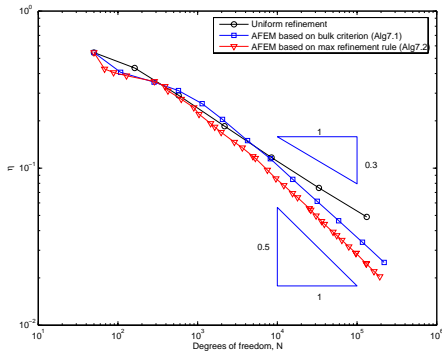
Multield Plasticity



Cook's membrane with \mathcal{T}_0 .

\mathcal{T}_9 with 3 different phases.

Convergence History for Multiyield Plasticity



Convergence for (degenerate) Convex Minimization

Given $W : \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $f \in L^p(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^m)$, minimize

$$E(v) := \int_{\Omega} W(Dv(x)) dx - \int_{\Omega} f \cdot v dx \quad \text{for } v \in V := W_0^{1,p}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^m).$$

Class of degenerate convex energy densities with p, r, s, t for growth conditions

$$|F|^p - 1 \lesssim W(F) \lesssim |F|^p + 1 \quad \text{for all } F \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$$

and for convexity control

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 + |A|^s + |B|^s)^{-1} |DW(A) - DW(B)|^r \\ & \lesssim W(B) - W(A) - DW(A; B - A) \quad \text{for all } A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}. \end{aligned}$$

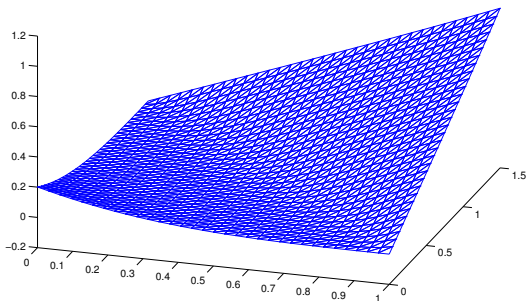
Theorem (C-2006): $\left(\|\sigma - \sigma_\ell\|_{L^{r/t}} \right)_{\ell=0,1,2,\dots} \in \ell^r$

Rexaled 2-Well Benchmark Example

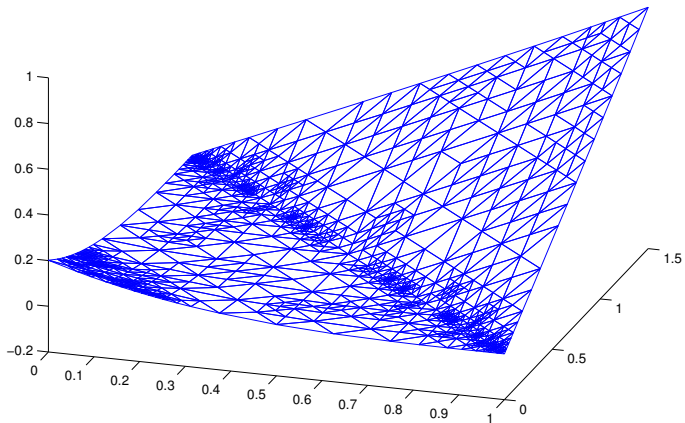
With lower convex envelope to model macroscopic well-posed variables
(e.g. stress and deformation)

$$W(F) := \max\{0, |F|^2 - 1\}^2 + 4(|F|^2 - [F_2 \cdot F]^2)$$

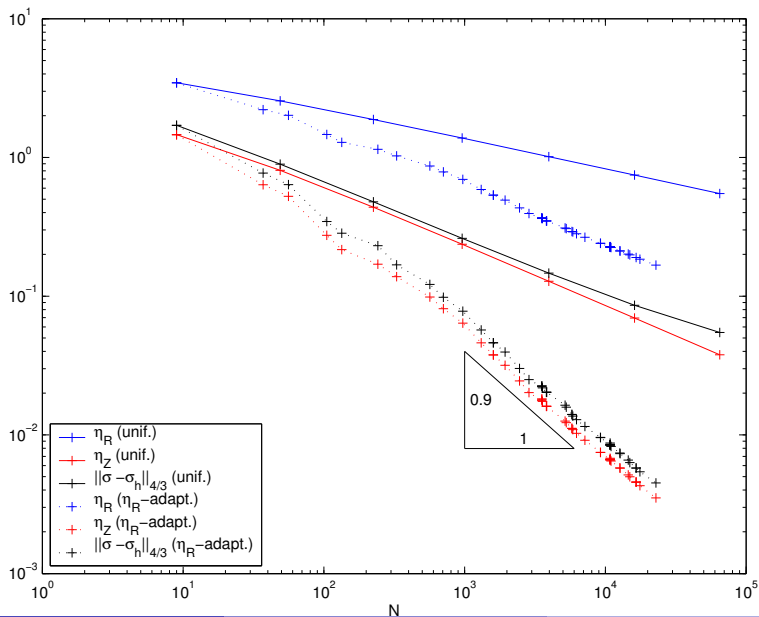
C-Plechac (1997), C-Jochimsen (2003)



Rexaled 2-Well Benchmark Example



AFEM with Reliability-Efficiency-Gap



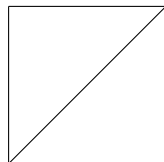
Optimal Design Task

Topology optimisation leads to

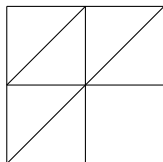
$$\min_{v \in H_0^1(\Omega)} \int_{\Omega} \psi(|Dv|) dx - \int_{\Omega} v dx$$

for $\mu_1 = 1$, $\mu_2 = 2$, $2t_1 = t_2$, and

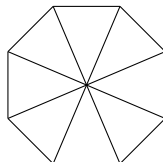
$$\psi'(t) := \begin{cases} \mu_2 t & \text{for } 0 \leq t \leq t_1, \\ t_1 \mu_2 = t_2 \mu_1 & \text{for } t_1 \leq t \leq t_2, \\ \mu_1 t & \text{for } t_2 \leq t. \end{cases}$$



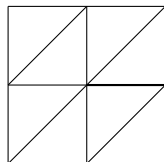
$\lambda = 0.0084$
Square



$\lambda = 0.0145$
L-Shape



$\lambda = 0.0284$
Stop Sign



$\lambda = 0.0163$
Slit

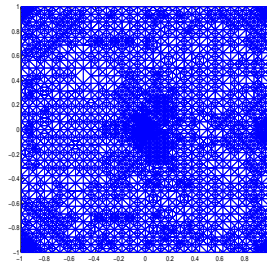
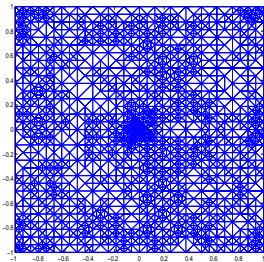
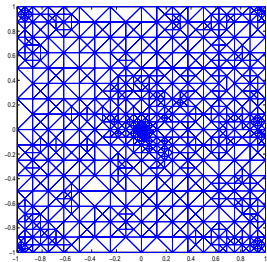
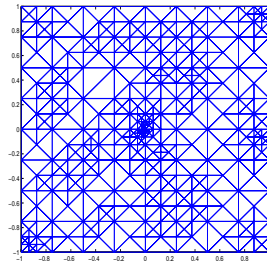
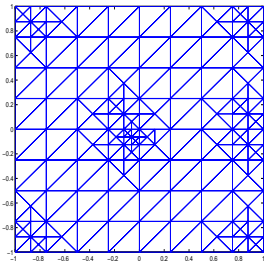
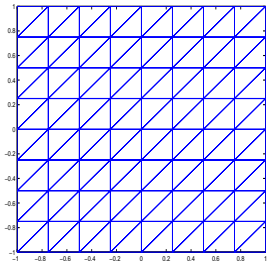
Results from Bartels-C 2006

- No oscillations
- $\delta_\ell := E(u_\ell) - E(u)$ satisfies

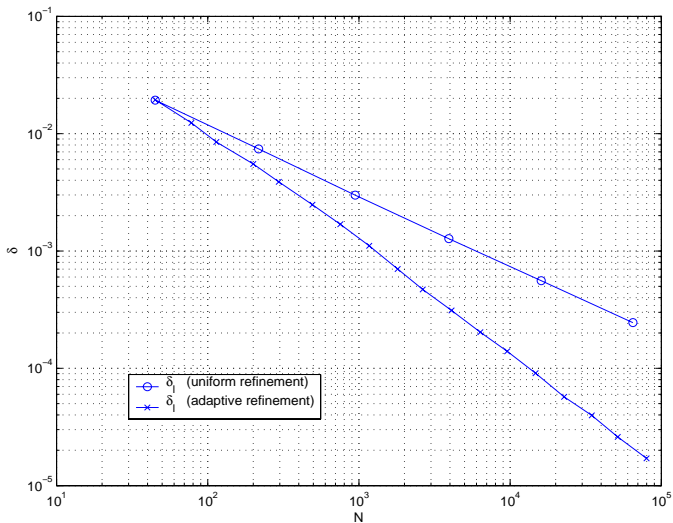
$$\kappa 2^{-4} \|\sigma - \sigma_\ell\|_{L^2}^4 + \delta_{\ell+1} \leq (1 - \kappa \delta_\ell) \delta_\ell$$

for $\ell = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ and fixed $0 < \kappa \leq 1$.

- R -linear convergence in pre-asymptotic rate
- $(\|\sigma - \sigma_\ell\|_{L^2})_{\ell=0,1,2,\dots} \in \ell^4$ and $(\delta_\ell)_{\ell=0,1,2,\dots} \in \ell^2$



Adaptively generated $\mathcal{T}_0, \mathcal{T}_2, \dots, \mathcal{T}_{10}$ of $\Omega_4 = (-1, 1)^2 \setminus [0, 1) \times \{0\}$.



Decay of energy difference δ_ℓ on the sequence of adaptively generated triangulations $\mathcal{T}_0, \mathcal{T}_1, \dots, \mathcal{T}_{17}$ of $\Omega_4 = (-1, 1)^2 \setminus [0, 1) \times \{0\}$.

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