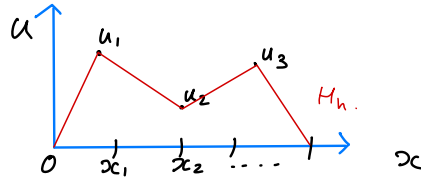


\*  $\begin{cases} -\partial_{xx}^2 u = f & \text{in } \Omega = (0,1) \\ u(0) = u(1) = 0 \end{cases}$



$x_j = jh$

Basic strategy in any disc method: It tries to convert the PDE to algebra, i.e.  
 $-\partial_{xx}^2 \rightarrow \underline{A} \quad * \underline{A}u = \underline{F}$

Last week we saw FD and FEM.

• FD:  $-\partial_{xx}^2 u(x_i) = \frac{2u(x_i) - u(x_{i-1}) - u(x_{i+1}))}{h^2}$

$= \frac{2u_j - u^{j-1} - u^{j+1}}{h^2}$ . Then  $\underline{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & \\ & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$

• FEM: leads to the 'same' linear Algebra problem but from a different point of view

Basic Idea

$u$  is a sol<sup>n</sup> to \* iff  $u$  is a minimiser of  $E(v) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 (\partial_x v)^2 dx - \int_0^1 f v dx$  over  $H = \{ v : (0,1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : \int_0^1 v^2 < \infty, \int_0^1 (\partial_x v)^2 < \infty, v(0) = v(1) = 0 \} = H_0^1(\Omega)$  (Sobolev space with 0 BC).

Then the above Th<sup>m</sup> leads to a numerical method for \*: We solve \* not by evaluating the second order PDE but rather we minimise  $E$  over finite dimensional Subspace  $H_h \subseteq H$ .

Note:  $H_h = \{ v_h : (0,1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ linear and continuous in } [x_j, x_{j+1}] \forall j, v_h(0) = v_h(1) = 0 \}$   
 $= \text{Span} \{ \chi_j : j=1, \dots, N \}$ ,  $\chi_j = \text{p.w. linear}$ .

$\chi_j(x_i) = \begin{cases} 1 & i=j \\ 0 & i \neq j \end{cases}$

Inserting this into  $E$  gives,  $H_h \ni v_h = \sum_{j=1}^N c_j \chi_j \Rightarrow E(v_h) = E(\sum_{j=1}^N c_j \chi_j) = \frac{1}{2} \underline{c}^T \underline{A} \underline{c} - \underline{F} \underline{c}$   
 where  $\underline{A}_{ij} = \int_0^1 \partial_x \chi_i \partial_x \chi_j dx$ .

$\therefore$  We have converted \* into a quadratic minimisation problem:

Minimise  $\frac{1}{2} \underline{c}^T \underline{A} \underline{c} - \underline{F} \underline{c}$

over  $\underline{c} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ . Then applying the Gaussian test

$\frac{\partial}{\partial c_j} (\dots) \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \quad \forall j \Leftrightarrow \underline{A} \underline{c} = \underline{F}$ , from LA.

Note: There is no reason to expect this to work if  $f^A$  is  $C^2$ .

# Thm 1

Assume  $u$  is sufficiently smooth. Then  $u$  is a sol<sup>n</sup> to  $*$  iff  $u$  minimizes the 'energy functional'

$$E(u) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 (\partial_x v)^2 dx - \int_0^1 f v dx$$

among all  $v$  with  $\int v^2, \int (\partial_x v)^2 < \infty, v(0) = v(1) = 0$ . - Sufficiently Smooth.

Using Hölder or C-S inequality gives the above.

## Proof of Thm from LL

The basic computation  $E(u+h) - E(u) \quad \forall h \in H$ .

Then,

$$E(u+h) - E(u) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 (\partial_x(u+h))^2 dx - \int_0^1 f(u+h) dx - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 (\partial_x u)^2 dx + \int_0^1 f u dx$$

$$= \int_0^1 \partial_x u \partial_x h dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 (\partial_x h)^2 dx - \int_0^1 f h dx$$

$$= - \int_0^1 (\partial_x^2 u - f) h dx + \int_0^1 (\partial_x u) h dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 (\partial_x h)^2 dx$$

noting  $h \in H \Rightarrow h(0) = h(1) = 0$ .

" $\Rightarrow$ "

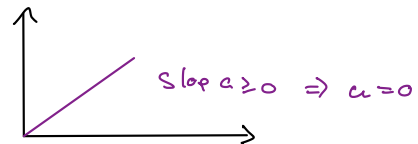
Assume that  $u$  solves  $*$ . This implies  $E(u+h) - E(u) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 (\partial_x h)^2 dx \geq 0 \quad \forall h \in H$

which yields that  $u$  minimizes  $E$  over  $H$ , so we also see that this is a unique minimum.

" $\Leftarrow$ "

Assume  $u$  is a minimizer of  $E$  over  $H$ :  $0 \leq E(u+h) - E(u) \quad \forall h \in H$

$$0 \leq E(u+h) - E(u) = \lambda \int_0^1 (-\partial_x^2 u - f) h dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 (\partial_x h)^2 dx = a \lambda + b \lambda^2 \geq 0$$



$$\Rightarrow a = 0 = \int_0^1 (-\partial_x^2 u - f) h dx \quad \forall h \in H$$

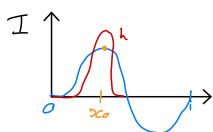
Now there are many ways to argue the above. The Fundamental Th<sup>m</sup> of the Calculus of Variations gives:

$$\int F_h = 0 \quad \forall h \in H \rightarrow F = 0$$

## Two proofs

1) Functional Analysis: Hahn-Banach Th<sup>m</sup>:  $\int F_h = 0 \quad \forall h \in H \Rightarrow F = 0$

2) Assume that  $I = -\partial_x^2 u - f$  is continuous, sufficiently smooth, and non-zero:



We see that  $0 = \int h (-\partial_x^2 u - f) \geq 0$ , which yields a contradiction



It's useful to know how the methods are built and not just considered as a LA problem.

## Showing that FEM Works

### Fact 1

The matrix  $\underline{A}$  must be invertible and positive definite. This means that there exists a unique sol<sup>n</sup> to the discretised problem.

### Proof

Note that  $\underline{A}$  is a square matrix so we want to show  $\ker \underline{A} = \{0\}$ .

This follows if we show that  $0 = \underline{c}^T \underline{A} \underline{c} \Rightarrow \underline{c} = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{c}^T \underline{A} \underline{c} &= \sum_{ij} c_j^T \underline{A}_{ij} c_j \quad (c_j^T = c_j) \\ &= \sum_{ij} c_i c_j \int \partial_x \Lambda_i \partial_x \Lambda_j = \sum_{ij} \int (c_i \partial_x \Lambda_i) (c_j \partial_x \Lambda_j) \\ &= \int \left( \sum_j c_j \partial_x \Lambda_j \right) \left( \sum_i c_i \partial_x \Lambda_i \right) \\ &= \int (\partial_x \sum_j c_j \Lambda_j)^2 = \int (\partial_x v_h)^2 > 0 \quad \text{Unless } v_h = 0 \Leftrightarrow \underline{c} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

where  $v_h = \sum c_j \Lambda_j \in H$



### 'Fun' Fact

This also shows that the FD problem has a unique sol<sup>n</sup>.

### Fact 2

The sol<sup>n</sup>  $u_h \in H_h$  of the discretised minimisation problem for  $E$  (i.e. the FEM sol<sup>n</sup>  $u_h$ ) is quasi-optimal in the following sense:

$$\text{Consider the } L^2 \text{ norm of } e = \overset{\text{Exact}}{\|u - u_h\|_{L^2(\Omega_1)}}^2 + \overset{\text{FEM}}{\|\partial_x u - \partial_x u_h\|_{L^2(\Omega_1)}}^2 \leq G (\overset{\text{Geometry: Length of interval + Laplace operator}}{\|u - v_h\|_{L^2(\Omega_1)}}^2 + \|\partial_x u - \partial_x v_h\|_{L^2(\Omega_1)}^2)$$

$$\forall v_h \in H_h$$

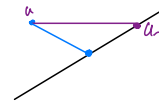
$$\Rightarrow e = \|u - u_h\|_{H^1(\Omega_1)}$$

Where the Super-Script 1 corresponds to a first

order derivative in the above summation.

### Leo's Lemma

$$\text{i.e. } \|u - u_h\|_{H^1} \leq G \|u - v_h\|_{H^1(\Omega_1)} \quad \forall v_h \in H_h.$$



best possible approximation

$\Rightarrow$  How well we can approximate  $u$  by  $f^0$ s in  $H_h$ .

Note: If  $G=1$  then this is optimal otherwise it is quasi-optimal

### Lemma (Poincaré-Fredricks inequality)

$$\int_0^1 \omega^2 dx \leq \int_0^1 (\partial_x \omega)^2 dx \quad \forall \omega \in H_0^1(\Omega_1)$$

### Proof

Suffices to show this for  $\omega \in C_0^\infty(\Omega_1) \subseteq H_0^1(\Omega_1)$  a dense subspace.

Now using the FTC:

$$\int_0^1 \omega^2 dx = \int_0^1 \left( \omega(x) + \int_0^x \partial_x \omega = \int_0^x \partial_x \omega \right)^2 dx \Rightarrow \int_0^1 \omega^2 dx = \int_0^1 \left( \int_0^x \partial_x \omega \right)^2 dx \leq \int_0^1 \left( \int_0^x 1^2 \right)^2 \left( \int_0^x (\partial_x \omega)^2 \right) dx \leq \int_0^1 x \left( \int_0^x \partial_x \omega \right)^2 dx$$



Using P-F we can prove Cea's Lemma:

Proof (Cea's Lemma)

1) Apply P-F to  $w = u - u_h$

$$\int (\partial_x(u - u_h))^2 + \int (u - u_h)^2 \leq 2 \int (\partial_x(u - u_h))^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \|u - u_h\|_{H^1}^2 \leq 2 \int (\partial_x(u - u_h))^2$$

2) FEM problem revisited

Minimize  $E(u_h) = \frac{1}{2} \int (\partial_x u_h)^2 - \int f u_h$  over  $u_h \in H_h$  where  $u_h$  is the minimizer.

Eq<sup>a</sup> satisfied by the minimizer  $u_h$ : in the proof of the Th<sup>m</sup> "a =  $\int (\partial_x^2 u - f) h = 0$ "

We show the above again for  $u_h$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Minimized.} \\ 0 & \leq E(u_h + \lambda v_h) - E(u_h) \quad \forall v_h \in H_h \quad \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R} \\ & = \lambda \int_0^1 (\partial_x u_h)(\partial_x v_h) + \frac{\lambda^2}{2} \int (\partial_x v_h)^2 - \lambda \int f v_h \end{aligned}$$

As before this is greater than zero for all  $\lambda$  implies that the coefficient of  $\lambda$  needs to be 0

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 (\partial_x u_h)(\partial_x v_h) &= \int_0^1 f v_h & \forall v_h \in H_h & \text{FEM Eq}^a \\ \int_0^1 (\partial_x u)(\partial_x v) &= \int f v & \forall v \in H_0^1(\Omega) & \text{Eq}^a \text{ satisfied by } u. \end{aligned}$$

3) Galerkin Orthogonality

Use the second of these eq<sup>a</sup>s with  $v = v_h \in H_h$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad \int_0^1 (\partial_x u)(\partial_x v_h) &= \int_0^1 f v_h \\ \text{(ii)} \quad \int_0^1 (\partial_x u_h)(\partial_x v_h) &= \int_0^1 f v_h & \text{FEM Eq}^a \end{aligned}$$

(i)-(ii) yields:  $\int_0^1 [\partial_x(u - u_h)] \partial_x v_h = 0$

Showing that the error is orthogonal to  $V_h$  in this scalar product but not in the  $H^1$  scalar product  $\langle u, v \rangle_{H^1} = \int uv + \int \partial_x u \partial_x v$

4) Concluding the proof

Note addition of:  $v_h - v_h$ , from step 3.

$$\frac{1}{2} \|u - u_h\|_{H^1}^2 \leq \int \partial_x(u - u_h) \partial_x(u - v_h) + \int \underbrace{\partial_x(u - u_h) \partial_x(v_h - u_h)}_{=0}$$

$$\leq \left( \int (\partial_x(u - u_h))^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \int (\partial_x(u - v_h))^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\leq \|u - u_h\|_{H^1} \|u - v_h\|_{H^1}$$

$$\leq \|u - u_h\|_{H^1} \|u - v_h\|_{H^1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|u - u_h\| \leq 2 \|u - v_h\|_{H^1} \quad \forall v_h \in H_h \quad \text{Note we cancel the square.}$$



## To Do

1 General Framework: Elliptic PDEs in  $H_0^1(\Omega)$  where  $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  bounded domain. (Coercive bilinear forms on Hilbert spaces.)

2 Show that finite elements works:

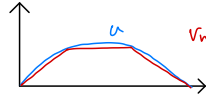
(i.e. Show Cea's lemma converges  $\|u - v_h\|_{H^1} \xrightarrow{h \rightarrow 0} 0$ . This is from approximation theory: How well can I approximate the unknown sol<sup>n</sup>  $u$  by functions  $v_h \in H_h$ ?

3 Advanced Algorithms

Adaptive Meshing; fast solvers; Spectral FEM.

## Recall

We are trying to approximate the unknown sol<sup>n</sup>  $u$  by piecewise linear f<sup>n</sup>s:



How good is this approximation as the mesh size  $h \rightarrow 0$ ? Does the RHS of Cea's lemma go to zero?

## Basic Observer

P-F inequality on the interval  $I_j = [x_j, x_{j+1}]$ :

If  $w \in H_0^1(I_j)$  then  $\int_{I_j} w^2 \leq C h^2 \int_{I_j} (\partial_x w)^2$ , i.e. the constant for P-F should behave like  $h$ .

## Exercise

Go through the proof of P-F with interval of length  $h$  instead of 1.

$\Rightarrow \int_0^1 (u - u_h)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{I_j} (u - v_h)^2 \stackrel{\text{P-F}}{\leq} C h^2 \sum_0^1 (\partial_x (u - v_h))^2$  by choosing  $v_h$  to be  $v_h(x_j) = u(x_j)$  and linear

linearly interpolated  $u$  between  $\forall j$ .

$$\int_0^1 (u - u_h)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{I_j} (u - v_h)^2 \stackrel{\text{P-F}}{\leq} C h^2 \sum_0^1 (\partial_x (u - v_h))^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \|u - v_h\|_{L^2}^2 \leq C h^2 \|u - v_h\|_{H^1}^2$$