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A natural finite element for axisymmetric problem

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- 1) **Axi-symmetric model problem**
 - 2) **Axi-Sobolev spaces**
 - 3) **Discrete formulation**
 - 4) **Numerical results for an analytic test case**
 - 5) **About Clément's interpolation**
 - 6) **Numerical analysis**
 - 7) **Conclusion**

Motivation : solve the Laplace equation in a axisymmetric domain

Find a solution of the form $u(r, z) \exp(i\theta)$

Change the notation : $x \equiv z, y \equiv r$

Consider the meridian plane Ω of the axisymmetric domain

$$\partial\Omega = \overline{\Gamma_0} \cup \overline{\Gamma_D} \cup \overline{\Gamma_N}, \Gamma_0 \cap \Gamma_D = \emptyset, \Gamma_0 \cap \Gamma_N = \emptyset, \Gamma_D \cap \Gamma_N = \emptyset,$$

Γ_0 is the intersection of $\overline{\Omega}$ with the “axis” $y = 0$

Then the function u is solution of

$$-\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - \frac{1}{y} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right) + \frac{u}{y^2} = f \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

$$\text{Boundary conditions : } u = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma_D, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} = g \quad \text{on } \Gamma_N$$

Test function v null on the portion Γ_D of the boundary
 Integrate by parts relatively to the measure $y \, dx \, dy$.

$$\text{Bilinear form} \quad a(u, v) = \int_{\Omega} y \nabla u \bullet \nabla v \, dx \, dy + \int_{\Omega} \frac{u v}{y} \, dx \, dy$$

$$\text{Linear form} \quad \langle b, v \rangle = \int_{\Omega} f v y \, dx \, dy + \int_{\Gamma_N} g v y \, d\gamma.$$

Two notations:

$$u_{\surd}(x, y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{y}} u(x, y), \quad u^{\surd}(x, y) = \sqrt{y} u(x, y), \quad (x, y) \in \Omega.$$

Sobolev spaces:

$$L_a^2(\Omega) = \{v : \Omega \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}, v^{\surd} \in L^2(\Omega)\}$$

$$H_a^1(\Omega) = \{v \in L_a^2(\Omega), v_{\surd} \in L^2(\Omega), (\nabla v)^{\surd} \in (L^2(\Omega))^2\}$$

$$H_a^2(\Omega) = \left\{ v \in H_a^1(\Omega), v_{\surd \surd \surd} \in L^2(\Omega), (\nabla v)_{\surd} \in (L^2(\Omega))^2, \right. \\ \left. (d^2 v)^{\surd} \in (L^2(\Omega))^4 \right\}.$$

Norms and semi-norms:

$$\|v\|_{0,a}^2 = \int_{\Omega} y |v|^2 \, dx \, dy$$

$$|v|_{1,a}^2 = \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{1}{y} |v|^2 + y |\nabla v|^2 \right) \, dx \, dy, \quad \|v\|_{1,a}^2 = \|v\|_{0,a}^2 + |v|_{1,a}^2$$

$$|v|_{2,a}^2 = \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{1}{y^3} |v|^2 + \frac{1}{y} |\nabla v|^2 + y |d^2 v|^2 \right) \, dx \, dy, \quad \|v\|_{2,a}^2 = \|v\|_{1,a}^2 + |v|_{2,a}^2$$

The condition $u = 0$ on Γ_0 is incorporated inside the choice of the axi-space $H_a^1(\Omega)$.

Sobolev space that takes into account the Dirichlet boundary condition

$$V = \{v \in H_a^1(\Omega), \gamma v = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_D\}.$$

Variational formulation:
$$\begin{cases} u \in V \\ a(u, v) = \langle b, v \rangle, \quad \forall v \in V. \end{cases}$$

We observe that
$$a(v, v) = |v|_{1,a}^2, \quad \forall v \in H_a^1(\Omega),$$

The existence and uniqueness of the solution of problem is (relatively !) easy according to the so-called Lax-Milgram-Vishik's lemma.

See the article of B. Mercier and G. Raugel !

Very simple, but fundamental remark

Consider $v(x, y) = \sqrt{y}(ax + by + c)$, $(x, y) \in K \in \mathcal{T}^2$,

Then we have $\sqrt{y} \nabla v(x, y) = (ay, \frac{1}{2}(ax + 3by + c))$.

P_1 : the space of polynomials of total degree less or equal to 1

We have $v_{\sqrt{\cdot}} \in P_1 \implies (\nabla v)_{\sqrt{\cdot}} \in (P_1)^2$.

A two-dimensional conforming mesh \mathcal{T}

\mathcal{T}^0 set of vertices

\mathcal{T}^1 set of edges

\mathcal{T}^2 set of triangular elements.

Linear space $P_1^\vee = \{v, v_\vee \in P_1\}$.

Degrees of freedom $\langle \tilde{\delta}_S, v \rangle$ for v regular, $S \in \mathcal{T}^0 : \langle \tilde{\delta}_S, v \rangle = v_\vee(S)$

Proposition 1. Unisolvance property.

$K \in \mathcal{T}^2$ be a triangle of the mesh \mathcal{T} ,

Σ the set of linear forms $\langle \tilde{\delta}_S, \bullet \rangle$, $S \in \mathcal{T}^0 \cap \partial K$

P_1^\vee defined above.

Then the triple (K, Σ, P_1^\vee) is unisolvant.

Proposition 2. Conformity of the axi-finite element

The finite element (K, Σ, P_1^\vee) is conforming in space $\mathcal{C}^0(\overline{\Omega})$.

Proposition 3. Conformity in the axi-space $H_a^1(\Omega)$.

The discrete space $H_{\mathcal{T}}^\vee$ is included in the axi-space $H_a^1(\Omega)$:

$$H_{\mathcal{T}}^\vee \subset H_a^1(\Omega).$$

$$\Omega =]0, 1[^2, \quad \Gamma_D = \emptyset$$

Parameters $\alpha > 0, \beta > 0,$

$$\text{Right hand side: } f(y, x) \equiv y^\alpha \left[(\alpha^2 - 1) \frac{x^\beta}{y^2} + \beta(\beta - 1)x^{\beta-2} \right]$$

Neumann datum:

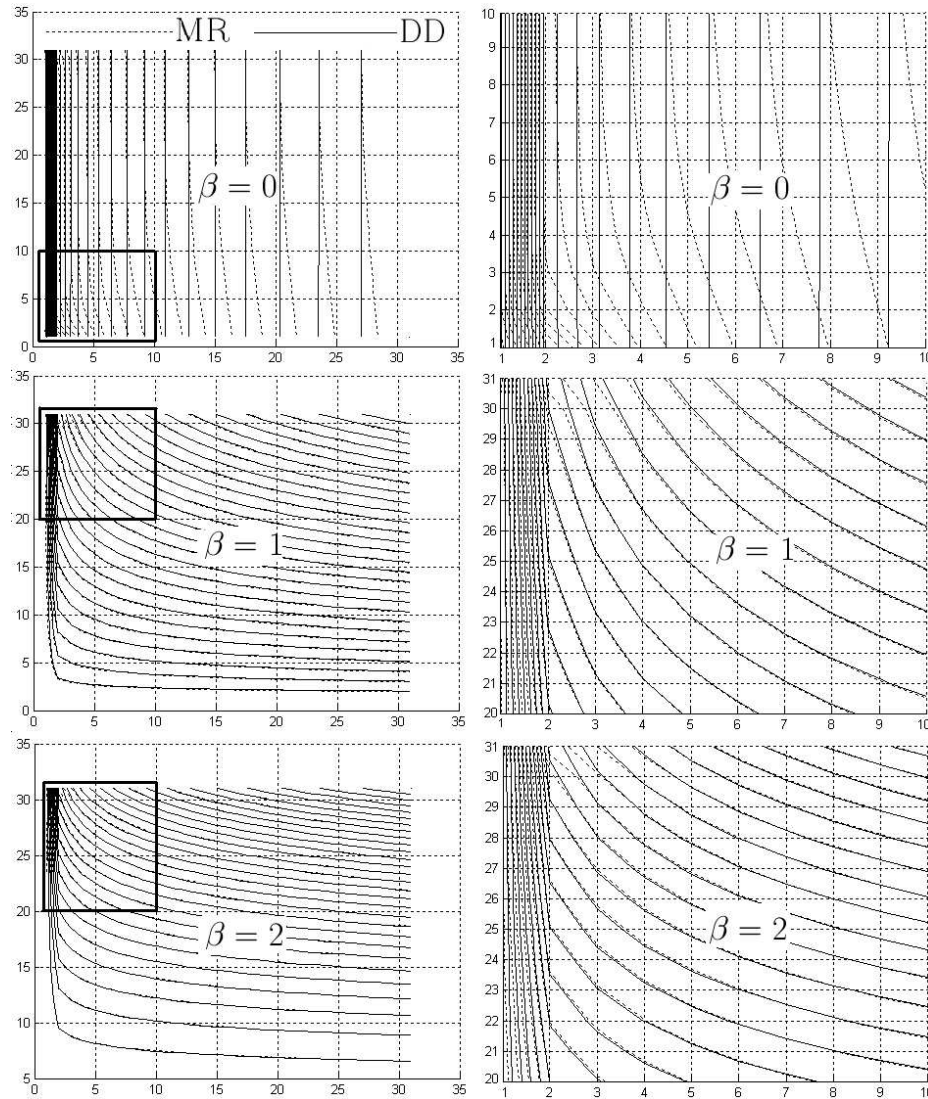
$$g(x, y) = \alpha \text{ if } y = 1, -\beta y^\alpha x^{\beta-1} \text{ if } x = 0, \beta y^\alpha \text{ if } x = 1.$$

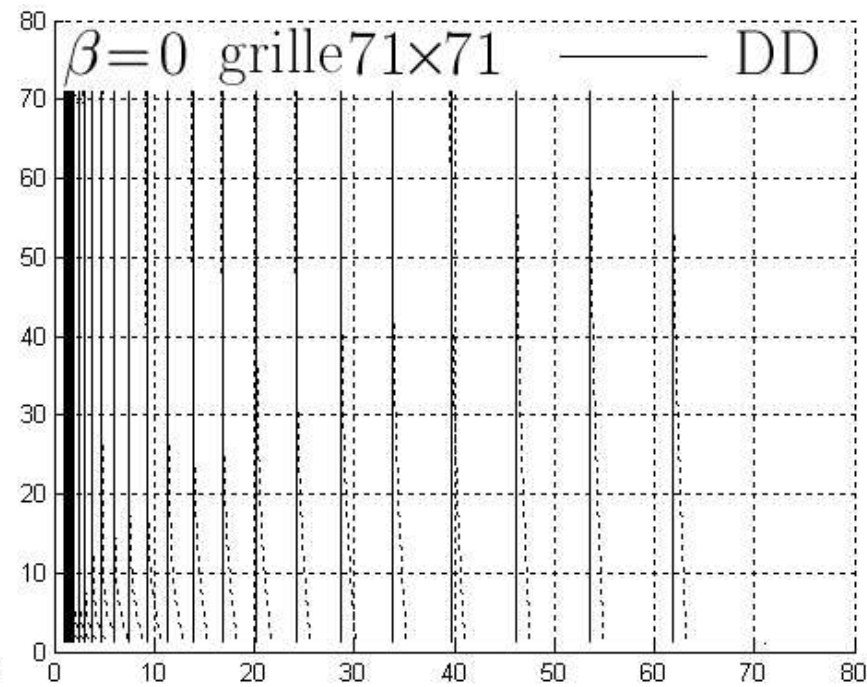
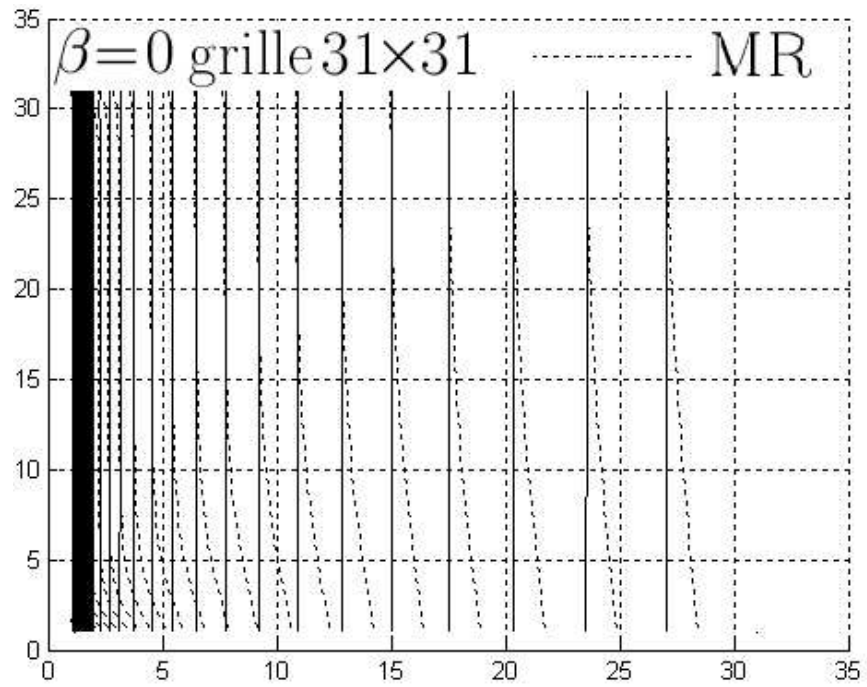
$$\text{Solution: } u(x, y) \equiv y^\alpha x^\beta.$$

Comparison between

the present method (DD)

the use of classical P_1 finite elements (MR)





Numerical study of the convergence properties

Test cases :

$$\alpha = 1/4, \alpha = 1/3, \alpha = 2/3$$

$$\beta = 0, \beta = 1, \beta = 2$$

Three norms: $\|v\|_{0,a}$ $|v|_{1,a}$ $\|v\|_{\ell^\infty}$

Order of convergence easy (?) to see.

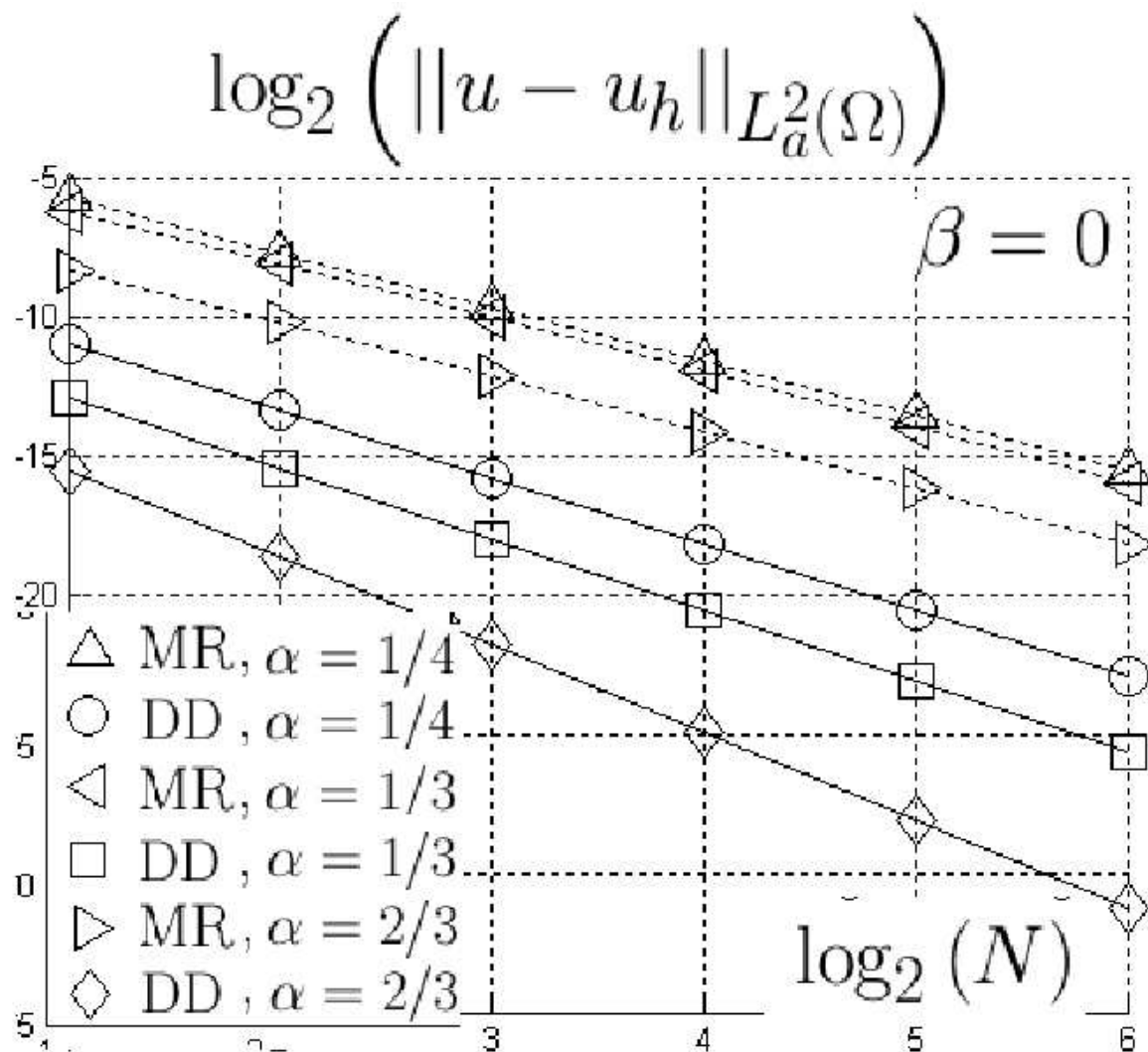
Example : $\beta = 0$ and $\alpha = 2/3$:

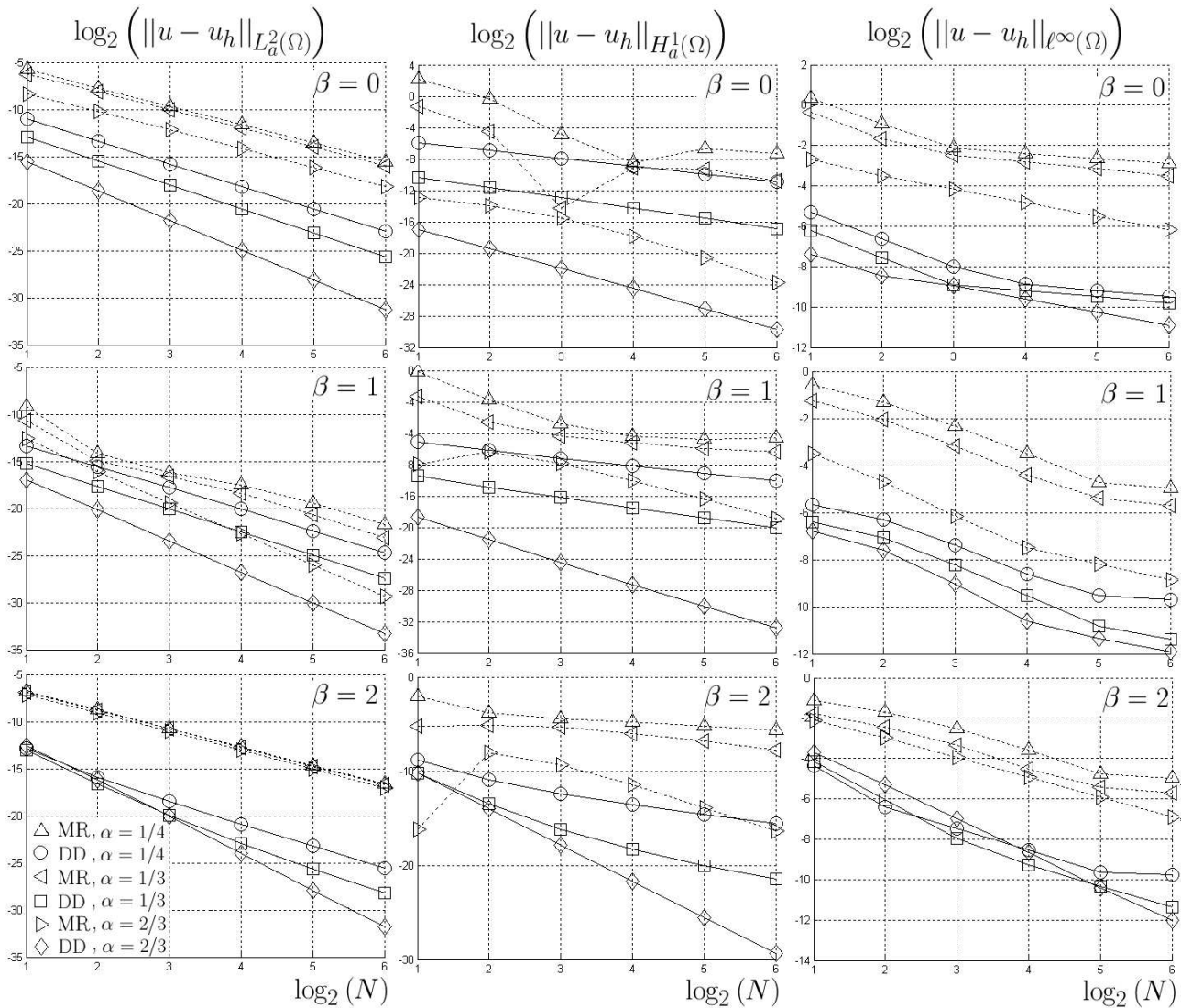
our axi-finite element has a rate of convergence $\simeq 3$ for the $\|\bullet\|_{0,a}$ norm.

Synthesis of these experiments:

same order of convergence than with the classical approach

errors much more smaller!





Discrete space for the approximation of the variational problem:

$$V_{\mathcal{T}} = H_{\mathcal{T}}^{\sqrt{\cdot}} \cap V.$$

Discrete variational formulation:
$$\begin{cases} u_{\mathcal{T}} \in V_{\mathcal{T}} \\ a(u_{\mathcal{T}}, v) = \langle b, v \rangle, \forall v \in V_{\mathcal{T}}. \end{cases}$$

Estimate the error $\|u - u_{\mathcal{T}}\|_{1,a}$

Study the interpolation error $\|u - \Pi_{\mathcal{T}}u\|_{1,a}$

What is the interpolate $\Pi_{\mathcal{T}}u$??

Proposition 4. Lack of regularity.

Hypothesis: $u \in H_a^2(\Omega)$.

Then $u_{\sqrt{\cdot}}$ belongs to the space $H^1(\Omega)$ and $\|u_{\sqrt{\cdot}}\|_{1,\Omega} \leq C \|u\|_{2,a}$

Introduce $v \equiv u_{\sqrt{\cdot}}$. Small calculus: $\nabla v = -\frac{1}{2y\sqrt{y}} u \nabla y + \frac{1}{\sqrt{y}} \nabla u$.

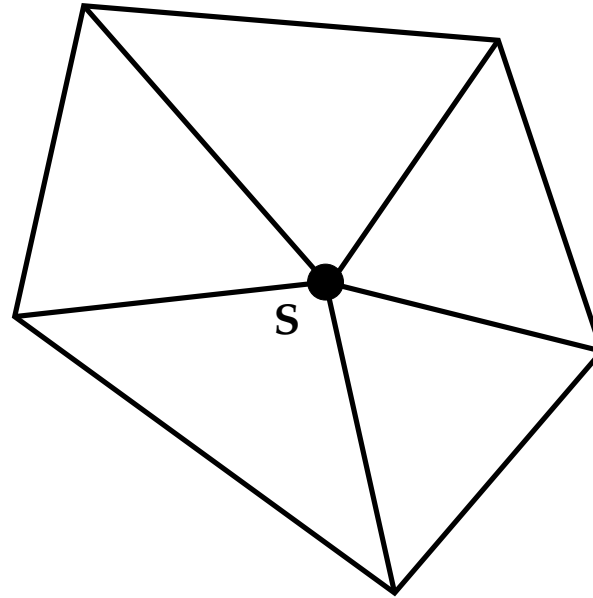
Then $\int_{\Omega} |v|^2 dx dy \leq \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{y} |u|^2 dx dy \leq C \|u\|_{2,a}^2$

$\int_{\Omega} |\nabla v|^2 dx dy \leq 2 \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{1}{4y^3} |u|^2 + \frac{1}{y} |\nabla u|^2 \right) dx dy \leq C \|u\|_{2,a}^2$. \square

Derive (formally !) two times:

$$d^2 v = \frac{3}{4y^2\sqrt{y}} u \nabla y \bullet \nabla y - \frac{1}{y\sqrt{y}} \nabla u \bullet \nabla y + \frac{1}{\sqrt{y}} d^2 u$$

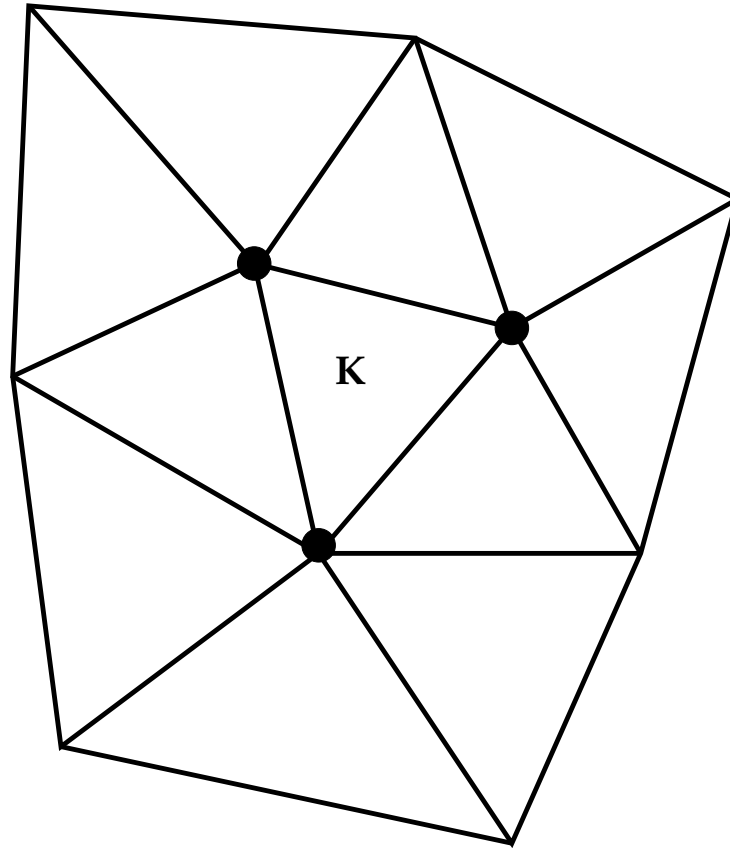
Even if u is regular, v has no reason to be continuous.



Vicinity Ξ_S of the vertex $S \in \mathcal{T}^0$.

Degree of freedom $\langle \delta_S^{\mathcal{C}}, v \rangle = \frac{1}{|\Xi_S|} \int_{\Xi_S} v(x) \, dx \, dy, \quad S \in \mathcal{T}^0$

Clément's interpolation: $\Pi^{\mathcal{C}} v = \sum_{S \in \mathcal{T}^0} \langle \delta_S^{\mathcal{C}}, v \rangle \varphi_S.$



Vicinity Z_K for a given triangle $K \in \mathcal{T}^2$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 |v - \Pi^c v|_{0,K} &\leq C h_{\mathcal{T}} |v|_{1,Z_K}, & |v - \Pi^c v|_{1,K} &\leq C |v|_{1,Z_K}, \\
 & & |v - \Pi^c v|_{1,K} &\leq C h_{\mathcal{T}} |v|_{2,Z_K}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Interpolate Πu by conjugation: $\Pi u = (\Pi^c u_{\sqrt{\cdot}})^{\vee}$
id est $\Pi u(x, y) = \sqrt{y} (\Pi^c v)(x, y), \quad (x, y) \in K \in \mathcal{T}^2$

Theorem 1. An interpolation result.

Relatively strong hypotheses concerning the mesh \mathcal{T}

Let $u \in H_a^2(\Omega)$ and Πu defined above.

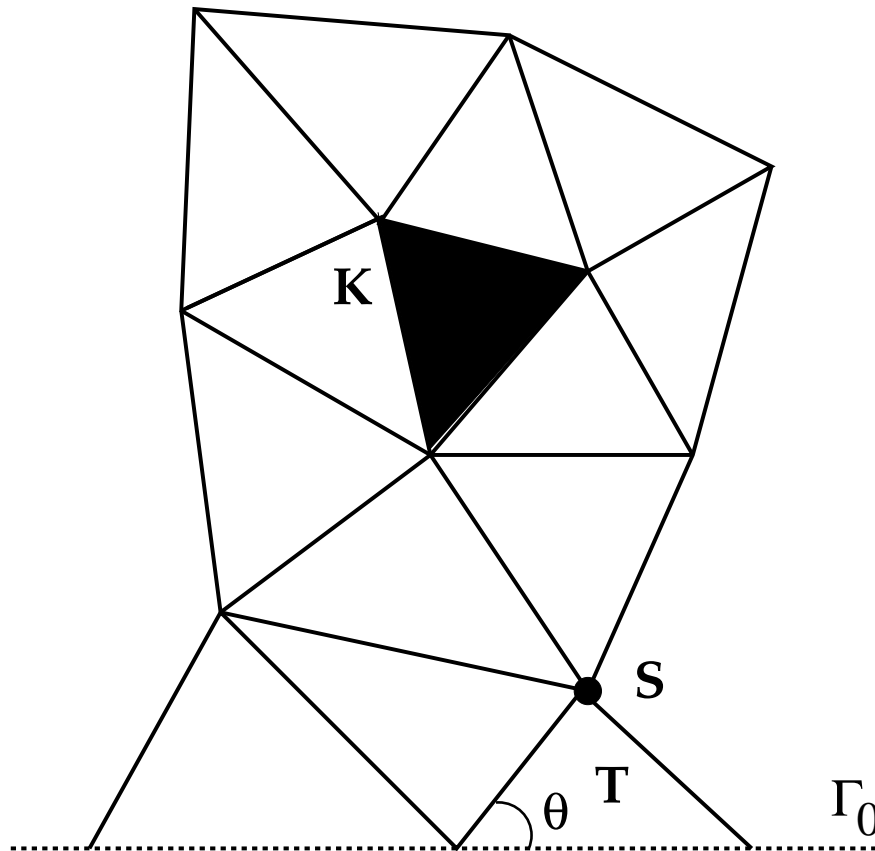
Then we have $\|u - \Pi u\|_{1,a} \leq C h_{\mathcal{T}} \|u\|_{2,a}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{y} |u - \Pi u|^2 \, dx \, dy &= \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{y} |u - \sqrt{y} \Pi^c v|^2 \, dx \, dy \\ &= \int_{\Omega} |v - \Pi^c v|^2 \, dx \, dy = \|v - \Pi^c v\|_{0,\Omega}^2 \\ &\leq C h_{\mathcal{T}}^2 |v|_{1,\Omega}^2 \\ &\leq C h_{\mathcal{T}}^2 \|u\|_{2,a}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla\left(\sqrt{y}(v - \Pi^c v)\right) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}}(v - \Pi^c v)\nabla y + \sqrt{y}\nabla(v - \Pi^c v).$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} y |\nabla(u - \Pi u)|^2 dx dy &\leq \\ &\leq \int_{\Omega} |v - \Pi^c v|^2 dx dy + 2 \int_{\Omega} y^2 |\nabla(v - \Pi^c v)|^2 dx dy \end{aligned}$$

$$\Omega_+ = \{K \in \mathcal{T}^2, \text{dist}(Z_K, \Gamma_0) > 0\} \quad \Omega_- = \Omega \setminus \Omega_+.$$



Triangle element K that belongs to the sub-domain Ω_+ .

Theorem 2. First order approximation
relatively strong hypotheses concerning the mesh \mathcal{T}
 u solution of the continuous problem: $u \in H_a^2(\Omega)$,
Then we have $\|u - u_{\mathcal{T}}\|_{1,a} \leq C h_{\mathcal{T}} \|u\|_{2,a}$.

Proof: classical with Cea's lemma!

“Axi-finite element”

Interpolation properties founded of the underlying axi-Sobolev space

First numerical tests: good convergence properties

Numerical analysis based on Mercier-Raugel contribution (1982)

See also Gmati (1992), Bernardi *et al.* (1999)

May be all the material presented here is well known ?!