

Discretizing the Advection of Differential Forms: Semi-Lagrangian Techniques

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Computational and Numerical Analysis
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► \mathbf{H} -based formulation:

$$\partial_t(\mu \mathbf{H}) - \mathbf{\operatorname{curl}}(\mathbf{v} \times (\mu \mathbf{H})) + \mathbf{\operatorname{curl}}(\sigma^{-1} \mathbf{\operatorname{curl}} \mathbf{H}) = \mathbf{\operatorname{curl}}(\sigma^{-1} \mathbf{j}_s).$$

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► **A**-based formulation (vector potential, $\mathbf{\operatorname{curl}} \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{B}$)

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Focus: $\epsilon^{-1} := R_m := \|\mathbf{v}\| \mu \sigma \operatorname{diam}(\Omega) \gg 1 \rightarrow$ transport dominates

What Next ?

- 1 Generalized Advection-Diffusion Problems
- 2 Semi-Lagrangian Timestepping
- 3 Semi-Lagrangian Scheme: Pure Advection
- 4 SL for Advection-Diffusion: Convergence

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Differential forms = the language of electrodynamics!

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Recall: general 2nd-order “diffusion” boundary value problem

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$$\begin{aligned} \ell = 0 & : -\operatorname{div}(\alpha \operatorname{grad} u) = f & \rightarrow \text{diffusion}, \\ \ell = 1 & : \operatorname{curl}(\alpha \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{f} & \rightarrow \text{magnetostatics} \end{aligned}$$

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In 3D: equivalent **vector proxy formulation**

- | | | |
|------------|--|---|
| $\ell = 0$ | $\vdash -\operatorname{div}(\alpha \operatorname{grad} u) = f$ | $\rightarrow \text{diffusion, [tons of results]}$ |
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Boundary Value Problems in Exterior Calculus

The **guiding principle**:

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The **guiding principle**:

A (numerical) method works well for BVPs for 0-forms

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► Try it/adapt it to BVPs for ℓ -forms

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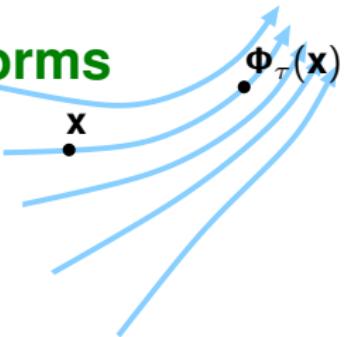
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|------------|---|--------------------------------|
| $\ell = 0$ | : $-\operatorname{div}(\alpha \operatorname{grad} u) = f$ | → diffusion, [tons of results] |
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Transport of Differential Forms

$\{\Phi_t : \Omega \mapsto \Omega\}_t \triangleq$ flow map induced
by velocity $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x})$ ($\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$)

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ℓ -form $\omega \in \mathcal{F}^\ell(\Omega) \triangleq$ mapping $\omega : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Oriented } \ell\text{-dimensional} \\ \text{sub-manifolds } \subset \Omega \end{array} \right\} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$

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$\omega(t) \in \Lambda^\ell(\Omega)$ transported
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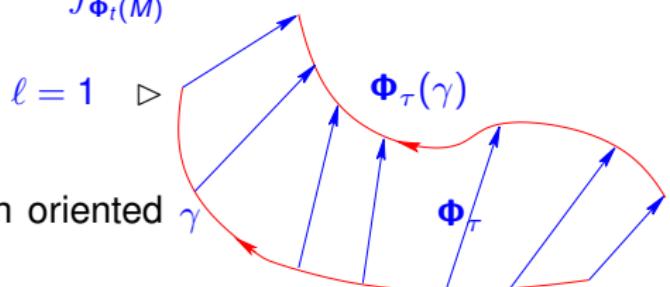
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(1-form ω assigns a number to each oriented
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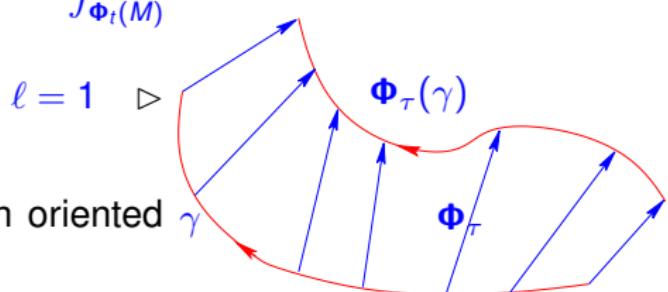
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Rate of change during transport:

Material derivative

$$\int_M (D_t \omega)(t) := \frac{d}{d\tau} \int_{\Phi_\tau(M)} \omega \Big|_{\tau=t} =$$

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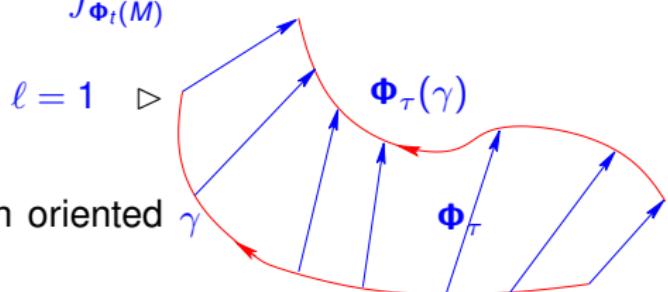
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$$\int_M (D_t \omega)(t) := \frac{d}{d\tau} \int_{\Phi_\tau(M)} \omega \Big|_{\tau=t} = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\tau} \left[\int_M \omega(t) - \int_{\Phi_{-\tau}(M)} \omega(t - \tau) \right].$$

Transport Operators

Transport Operators

Material derivative:

$$\int_M (\textcolor{red}{D}_t \omega)(t) := \frac{d}{d\tau} \int_{\Phi_\tau(M)} \omega \Big|_{\tau=t}$$

Transport Operators

Material derivative:

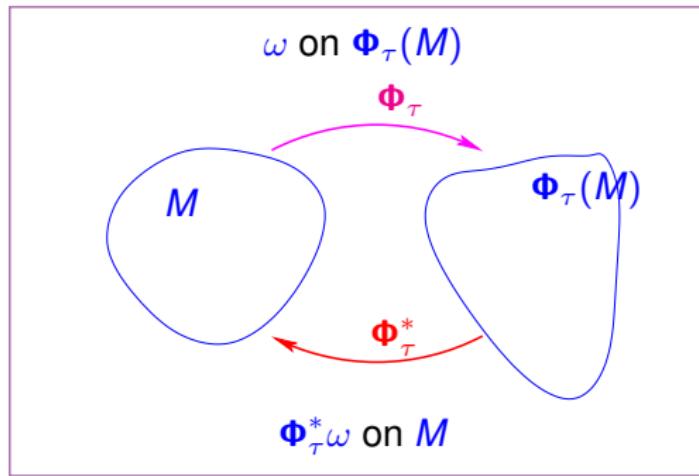
$$\int_M (\textcolor{red}{D}_t \omega)(t) := \frac{d}{d\tau} \int_{\Phi_\tau(M)} \omega \Big|_{\tau=t} = \frac{d}{d\tau} \int_M \Phi_\tau^* \omega \Big|_{\tau=t}.$$

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pullback operator



Transport Operators

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pullback operator

Local material derivative

For time-dependent differential form $\omega = \omega(t)$:

$$\mathbf{D}_t \omega(t) =$$

Transport Operators

Material derivative: $\int_M (\mathbf{D}_t \omega)(t) := \frac{d}{d\tau} \int_{\Phi_\tau(M)} \omega \Big|_{\tau=t} = \frac{d}{d\tau} \int_M \Phi_\tau^* \omega \Big|_{\tau=t}$.

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pullback operator

Local material derivative

For time-dependent differential form $\omega = \omega(t)$: “transport theorem”

$$\mathbf{D}_t \omega(t) = \frac{d}{d\tau} \Phi_\tau^* \omega(t) \Big|_{\tau=t} = \partial_t \omega + \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{v}} \omega.$$

pullback operator Lie derivative

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pullback operator Lie derivative

Case $\ell = 0$, $d = 3$ (“function proxy” u : $(\Phi_\tau^*)u(\mathbf{x}, t) = u(\Phi_\tau(\mathbf{x}), t)$)

Transport Operators

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Transport Operators

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For time-dependent differential form $\omega = \omega(t)$:

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Transport Operators

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pullback operator Lie derivative

Case $\ell = 0$, $d = 3$ (“function proxy” \mathbf{u} : $(\Phi_\tau^*)\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \mathbf{u}(\Phi_\tau(\mathbf{x}), t)$)

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Material Derivatives

$$D_t \omega(t) = \frac{d}{d\tau} \Phi_\tau^* \omega(\tau) \Big|_{\tau=t} = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0} \frac{\omega(t) - \Phi_{-\tau}^* \omega(t - \tau)}{\tau} = \partial_t \omega + \mathcal{L}_v \omega .$$

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Special case $d = 3$, material derivatives for **vector proxies**,

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$$D_t \omega(t) = \frac{d}{d\tau} \Phi_\tau^* \omega(\tau) \Big|_{\tau=t} = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0} \frac{\omega(t) - \Phi_{-\tau}^* \omega(t-\tau)}{\tau} = \partial_t \omega + \mathcal{L}_v \omega .$$

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Cartan's "magic formula":

$$\mathcal{L}_v \omega = d(\iota_v \omega) + \iota_v (d\omega) .$$

Material Derivatives

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$$\mathcal{L}_v \omega = d(\mathbf{i}_v \omega) + \mathbf{i}_v (d\omega) .$$

contraction with vector field \mathbf{v}

Material Derivatives

$$D_t \omega(t) = \frac{d}{d\tau} \Phi_\tau^* \omega(\tau) \Big|_{\tau=t} = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0} \frac{\omega(t) - \Phi_{-\tau}^* \omega(t-\tau)}{\tau} = \partial_t \omega + \mathcal{L}_v \omega .$$

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$$\ell = 3: \quad \frac{d}{dt} (\det(D\Phi_t) u(\Phi_t)) = \partial_t u + \operatorname{div}(v u) ,$$

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contraction with vector field v

Material Derivatives

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contraction with vector field v

Material Derivatives

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contraction with vector field \mathbf{v}

Generalized Advection-Diffusion Problems

Generalized ADP for ℓ -forms:

$$\begin{aligned} \star_\sigma(\partial_t \omega + \mathcal{L}_v \omega) + (-1)^{\ell-1} d \star_\alpha d \omega &= \varphi, \\ t_\partial \omega &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega. \end{aligned}$$

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$$\ell = 1: \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t u + \mathbf{grad}(u \cdot v) + \mathbf{curl} u \times v + \mathbf{curl}(\alpha \mathbf{curl} u) &= f \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ u(t) \times n &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases}$$

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Generalized Advection-Diffusion Problems

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$$\mathcal{L}_v \omega = d(i_v \omega) + i_v(d\omega).$$

$$*_\sigma(\partial_t \omega + \mathcal{L}_v \omega) + (-1)^{\ell-1} d *_\alpha d\omega = \varphi,$$

Generalized ADP for ℓ -forms:

$$t_\partial \omega = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega.$$

Vector proxy incarnation in 3D ($\sigma \equiv 1$):

$$\ell = 0: \begin{cases} \partial_t u + v \cdot \mathbf{grad} u - \operatorname{div}(\alpha \mathbf{grad} u) &= f \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ u(t) &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases}$$

$$\ell = 1: \begin{cases} \partial_t u + \mathbf{grad}(u \cdot v) + \mathbf{curl} u \times v + \mathbf{curl}(\alpha \mathbf{curl} u) &= f \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ u(t) \times n &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases}$$

$$\ell = 2: \begin{cases} \partial_t u + \mathbf{curl}(u \times v) + \operatorname{div} u \cdot v - \mathbf{grad}(\alpha \operatorname{div} u) &= f \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ u(t) \cdot n &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases}$$

$$\ell = 3: \begin{cases} \partial_t u + \operatorname{div}(u \cdot v) &= f \quad \text{in } \Omega. \end{cases}$$

Generalized Advection-Diffusion Problems

Cartan's "magic formula":

$$curl \circ div = div \circ curl + grad$$

Recall: eddy currents in moving conductors

$$\sigma \partial_t \mathbf{A} + \sigma \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{v} + \operatorname{curl}(\mu^{-1} \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{j}_s .$$

Vector proxy incarnation in \$\Omega\$ (\$\sigma = 1\$).

$$\ell = 0: \begin{cases} \partial_t u + \mathbf{v} \cdot \operatorname{grad} u - \operatorname{div}(\alpha \operatorname{grad} u) &= f \quad \text{in } \Omega , \\ u(t) &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega , \end{cases}$$

$$\ell = 1: \begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} + \operatorname{grad}(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}) + \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v} + \operatorname{curl}(\alpha \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{u}) &= \mathbf{f} \quad \text{in } \Omega , \\ ? & \\ \mathbf{u}(t) \times \mathbf{n} &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega , \end{cases}$$

$$\ell = 2: \begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} + \operatorname{curl}(\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v}) + \operatorname{div} \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} - \operatorname{grad}(\alpha \operatorname{div} \mathbf{u}) &= \mathbf{f} \quad \text{in } \Omega , \\ \mathbf{u}(t) \cdot \mathbf{n} &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega , \end{cases}$$

$$\ell = 3: \begin{cases} \partial_t u + \operatorname{div}(u \cdot \mathbf{v}) &= f \quad \text{in } \Omega . \end{cases}$$

Magnetic Advection-Diffusion

Magneto-quasistatic model, conducting fluid moving with velocity \mathbf{v} :

$$\begin{aligned}\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{E} &= -\partial_t \mathbf{B}, & \mathbf{j} &= \sigma(\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}), \\ \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{H} &= \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{j}_s, & \mathbf{B} &= \mu \mathbf{H}.\end{aligned}$$

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In the language of differential forms:

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\mathbf{E}} &\leftrightarrow 1\text{-form } \mathbf{e} \\ \mathbf{B} &\leftrightarrow 2\text{-form } \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{H} &\leftrightarrow 1\text{-form } \mathbf{h} \\ \mathbf{j} &\leftrightarrow 2\text{-form } \mathbf{j}\end{aligned}$$

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$$d\mathbf{e} = -\partial_t \mathbf{b} - d(\imath_{\mathbf{v}} \mathbf{b})$$

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Magnetic Advection-Diffusion IVP

$$\begin{aligned} d\mathbf{e} &= -D_t \mathbf{b} , \quad d\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{j}_0 , \quad \text{in } \Omega , \\ \mathbf{j} &= \star_\sigma \mathbf{e} , \quad \mathbf{b} = \star_\mu \mathbf{h} , \\ \mathbf{t}_\partial \mathbf{e} &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega . \end{aligned}$$

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Magnetic vector potential:

$$\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{F}^1 : \quad d\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{b} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{e} = -D_t \mathbf{a} \quad (\text{advected temporal gauge}) .$$

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\Updownarrow

$$\sigma(\partial_t \mathbf{A} + \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{v} + \operatorname{grad}(\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{v})) + \operatorname{curl}(\mu^{-1} \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{j}_0 \quad \text{in } \Omega ,$$

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What Next ?

- 1 Generalized Advection-Diffusion Problems
- 2 Semi-Lagrangian Timestepping
- 3 Semi-Lagrangian Scheme: Pure Advection
- 4 SL for Advection-Diffusion: Convergence

Weak Advection-Diffusion BVP

Singularly perturbed ($\epsilon \ll 1$) BVP for ℓ -form $\omega = \omega(t) \in \Lambda^\ell(\Omega)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \star D_t \omega + \epsilon (-1)^{\ell-1} d(\star d \omega) &= \varphi(t) \quad \text{in } \Omega , \\ t_\partial \omega &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \quad , \quad \omega(0) = \omega_0 . \end{aligned}$$

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$D_t \hat{=} \text{material derivative for velocity } \mathbf{v} : \Omega \mapsto \mathbb{R}^d$

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Variational formulation: seek $\omega = \omega(t) \in \Lambda_0^\ell(\Omega)$

$$(D_t \omega, \omega')_\Omega + \epsilon (d \omega, d \omega')_\Omega = (\varphi(t), \omega')_\Omega \quad \forall \omega' \in \Lambda_0^\ell(\Omega) .$$

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$D_t \hat{=} \text{material derivative for velocity } \mathbf{v} : \Omega \mapsto \mathbb{R}^d, \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$ on $\partial\Omega$

Variational formulation: seek $\omega = \omega(t) \in \Lambda_0^\ell(\Omega)$

$$(D_t \omega, \omega')_\Omega + \epsilon (d\omega, d\omega')_\Omega = (\varphi(t), \omega')_\Omega \quad \forall \omega' \in \Lambda_0^\ell(\Omega) .$$

Weak Advection-Diffusion BVP

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Magnetic advection-diffusion: seek $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}(t) \in \mathbf{H}_0(\mathbf{curl}, \Omega)$

$$\int_{\Omega} D_t \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{A}' dx + \epsilon \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{A}' dx = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{j}_0(t) \cdot \mathbf{A}' dx \quad \forall \mathbf{A}' \in \mathbf{H}_0(\mathbf{curl}, \Omega) .$$

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- unconditional stability !
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Finite element *Galerkin discretization* on spatial mesh \mathcal{T} :

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Limit case: $\epsilon = 0 \hat{=} \text{pure advection}$

$$\omega_h^n = \mathbf{P}_h \Phi_{-\tau}^* \omega_h^{n-1} + \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} \mathbf{P}_h \varphi(\xi) \, \mathrm{d}\xi,$$

$\mathbf{P}_h : L^2 \Lambda^\ell(\Omega) \rightarrow \Lambda_h^\ell(\mathcal{T}) \hat{=} \text{"L}^2\text{-type" projection: } (\mathbf{P}_h \omega, \omega'_h)_\Omega = (\omega, \omega'_h)_\Omega \quad \forall \omega'_h$

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Realization of $\mathsf{P}_h \Phi_{-\tau}^*$ is the pivotal issue in SL schemes.

Semi-Lagrangian (SL) Discretization

First, consider the scalar advection-diffusion equation:

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v} \phi) - \nabla^2 \phi = 0$$

where \mathbf{v} is the velocity field and ϕ is the scalar function.

Second, we can write the semi-Lagrangian scheme as:

$$\phi_h(\mathbf{x}, t) = \phi_h(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{v}_h \tau, t - \tau)$$

where \mathbf{x} is the spatial coordinate, t is time, τ is the time step, and \mathbf{v}_h is the numerical velocity field.

Third, we can express the initial condition as:

$$\phi_h(\mathbf{x}, t - \tau) = \Phi_{-\tau}^* \phi_h(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

where $\Phi_{-\tau}^*$ is the adjoint operator of the semi-Lagrangian map.

Fourth, we can write the final form of the semi-Lagrangian scheme as:

$$\phi_h(\mathbf{x}, t) = \Phi_{-\tau}^* \phi_h(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{v}_h \tau, t - \tau)$$

Realization of $\Phi_{-\tau}^*$ is the pivotal issue in SL schemes.

Semi-Lagrangian (SL) Discretization

Fir

Plenty of algorithmic/theoretical work on **scalar** advection-diffusion:

- ▶ Non-uniform (in ϵ) estimates:

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P_h

Realization of $P_h \Phi_{-\tau}^*$ is **the** pivotal issue in SL schemes.

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- ▶ ϵ -Robust estimates for advection-diffusion:

Bause & Knabner (2002), Wang & Wang (2010), Bermejo &
Saavedra (2012), all $O(\tau + h^2 + h^2/\tau)$

Realization of $P_h \Phi_{-\tau}^*$ is **the** pivotal issue in SL schemes.

What Next ?

- 1 Generalized Advection-Diffusion Problems
- 2 Semi-Lagrangian Timestepping
- 3 Semi-Lagrangian Scheme: Pure Advection
- 4 SL for Advection-Diffusion: Convergence

Pure Advection: Convergence

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Pure Advection: Convergence

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$$\text{SL: } \begin{aligned} D_t \omega = \varphi &\quad \Rightarrow \quad \omega(t^n) = \Phi_{-\tau}^* \omega(t^{n-1}) + \int_{t^{n-1}}^{t^n} \Phi_{\tau-t^n}^* \varphi(\tau) d\tau \\ (\omega_h^n \in \Lambda_h^k(\mathcal{T})) &\quad \Rightarrow \quad \omega_h^n = P_h \Phi_{-\tau}^* \omega_h^{n-1} + P_h \int_{t^{n-1}}^{t^n} \Phi_{\tau-t^n}^* \varphi(\tau) d\tau \end{aligned}$$

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Theorem Idea: P_h is L^2 -projection \Rightarrow use Pythagoras:

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Needed: $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} P_h \Phi_{-\tau}^* \omega_h \text{ can be computed exactly,} \end{array} \right.$

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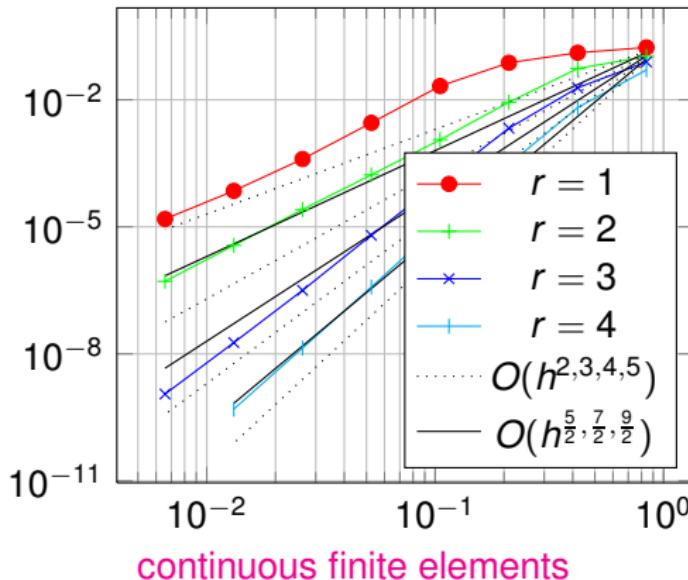
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Pure Advection: Empiric Convergence

Numerical Experiment: $\ell = 0$, scalar advection, monitor L^2 -error
rotating bump on unit-circle, $\mathbf{v} = (-y, x)$, smooth initial data, $\tau = \frac{0.8}{\sqrt{2}} h$

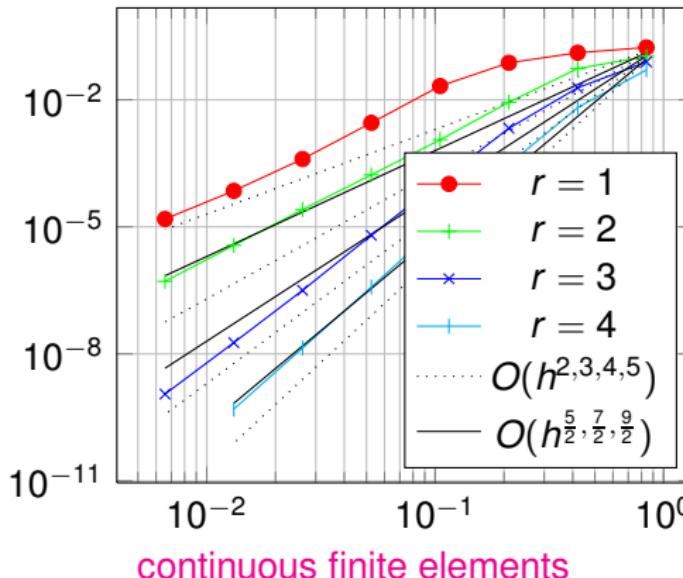
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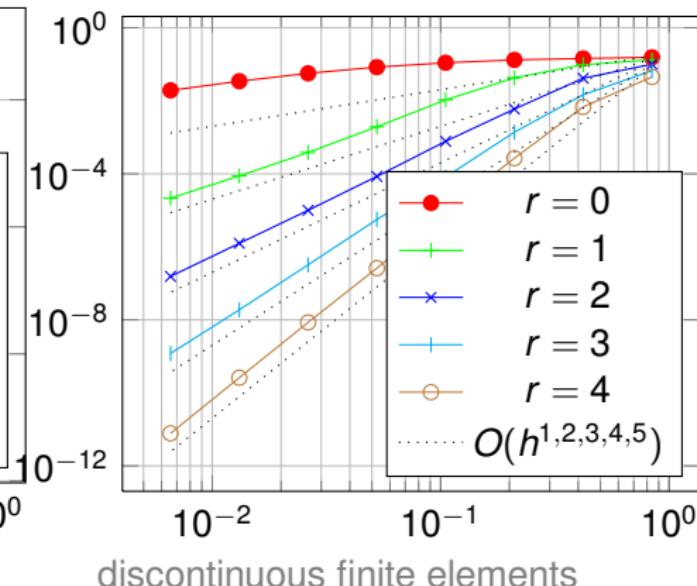


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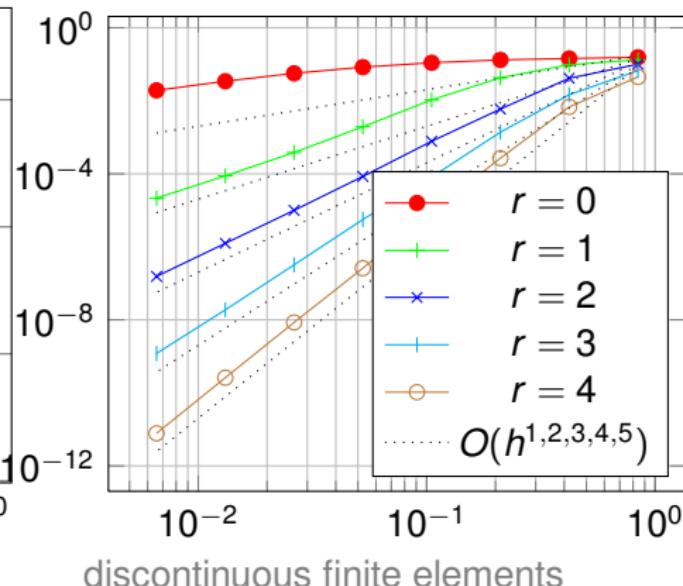
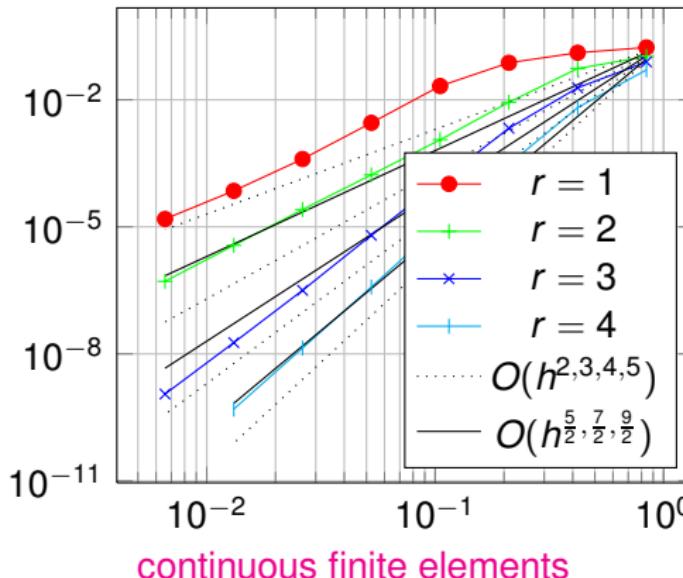
continuous finite elements



discontinuous finite elements

Pure Advection: Empiric Convergence

Numerical Experiment: $\ell = 0$, scalar advection, monitor L^2 -error
rotating bump on unit-circle, $\mathbf{v} = (-y, x)$, smooth initial data, $\tau = \frac{0.8}{\sqrt{2}} h$



Super-convergence $O(h^{r+1})$ (vs. $O(h^{-\frac{1}{2}} h^{r+1})$) except for cont. elements, r even.

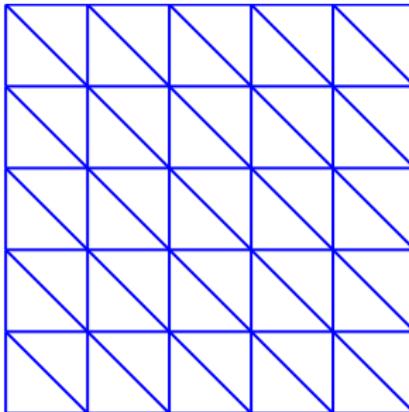
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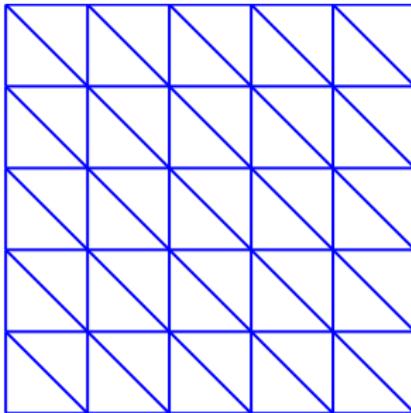
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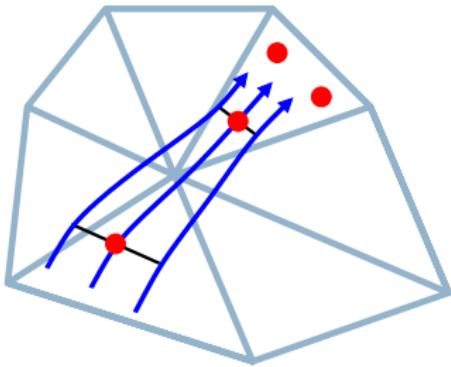


► FEM-Quadrature:

Dangerous Quadrature

Numerical Experiment: Pure advection ($\ell = 1, d = 2$) and quadrature

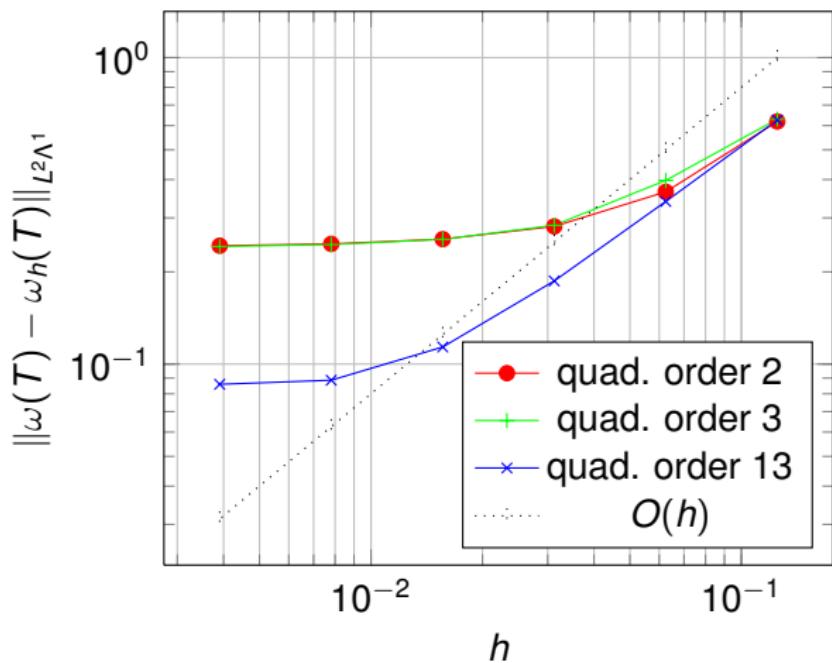
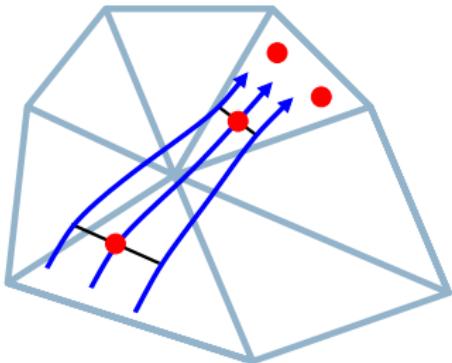
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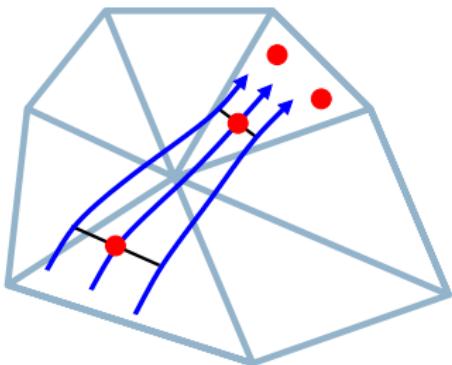
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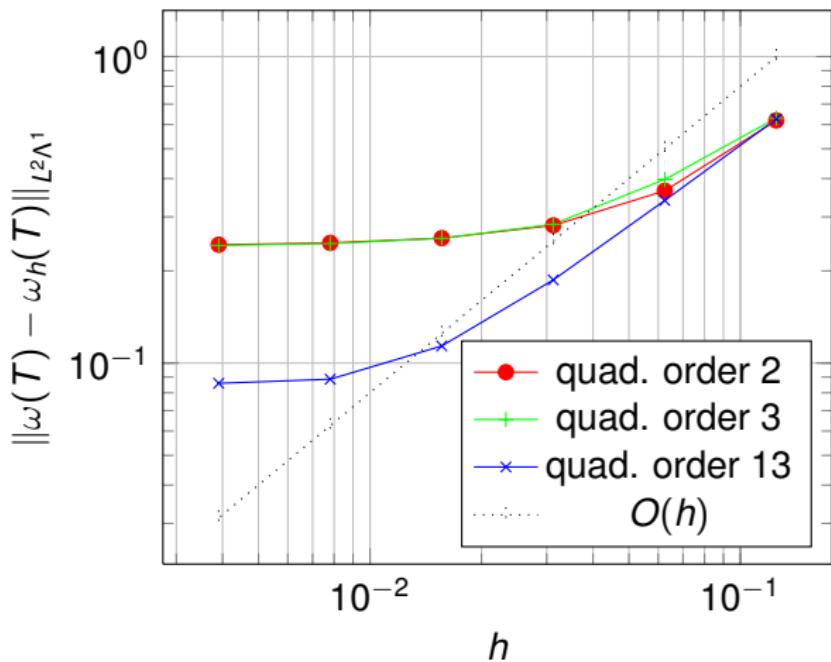
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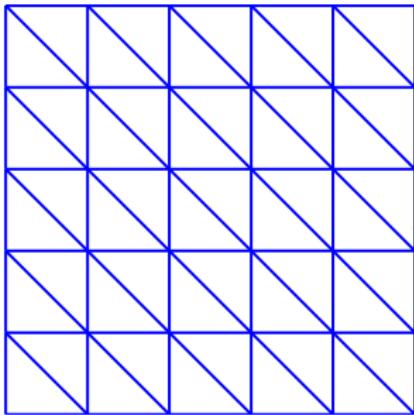
No convergence, why?



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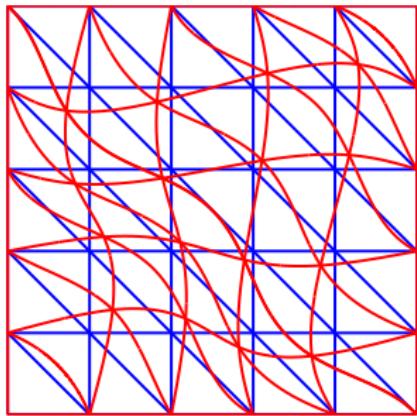


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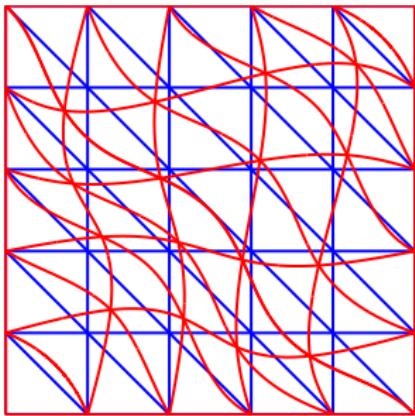


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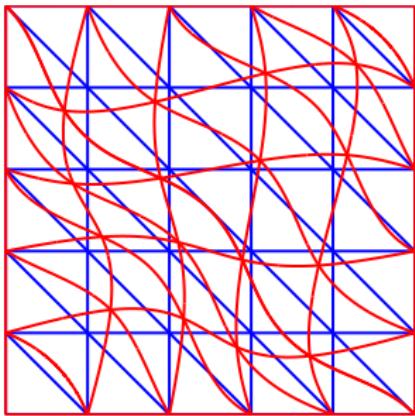


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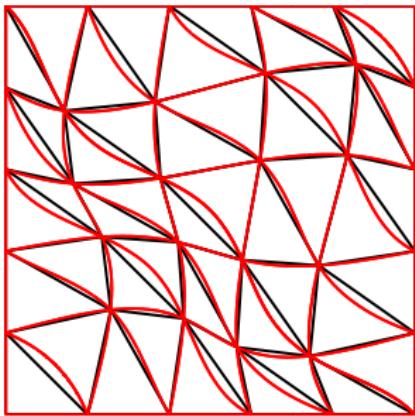
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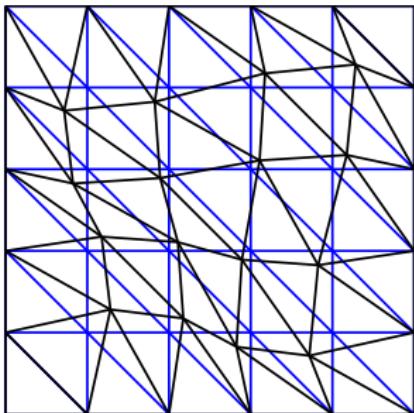
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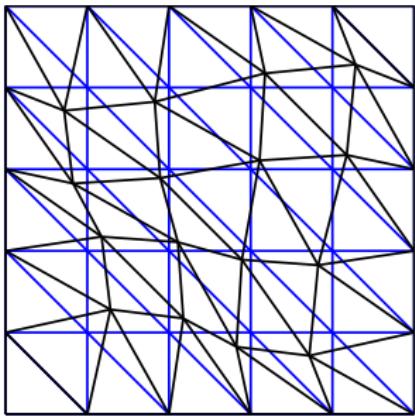
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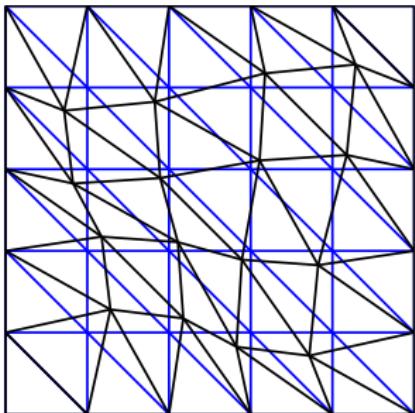
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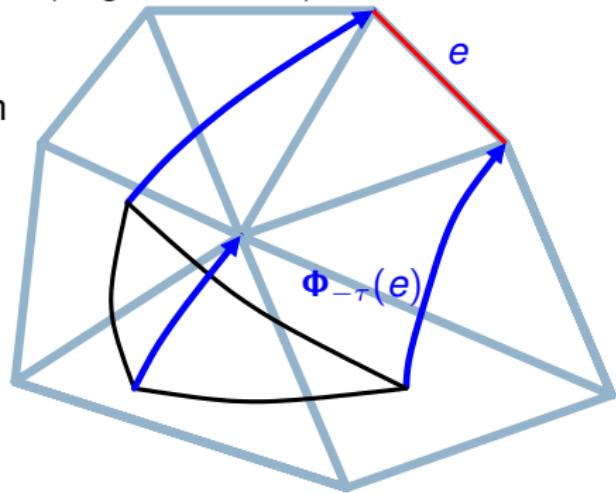
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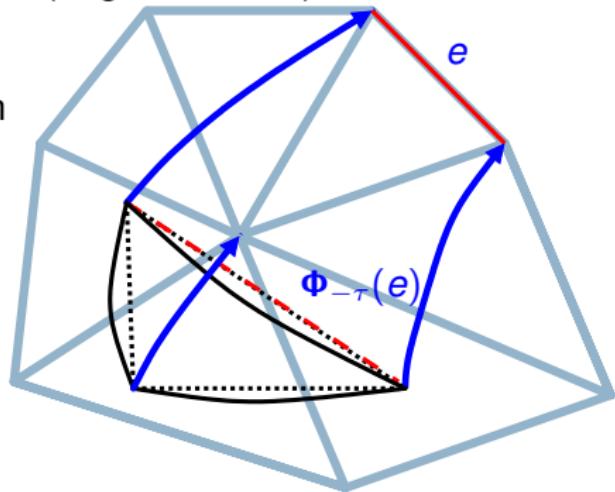
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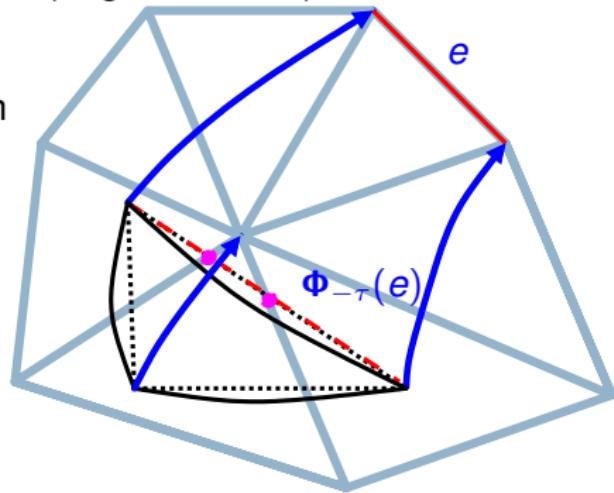
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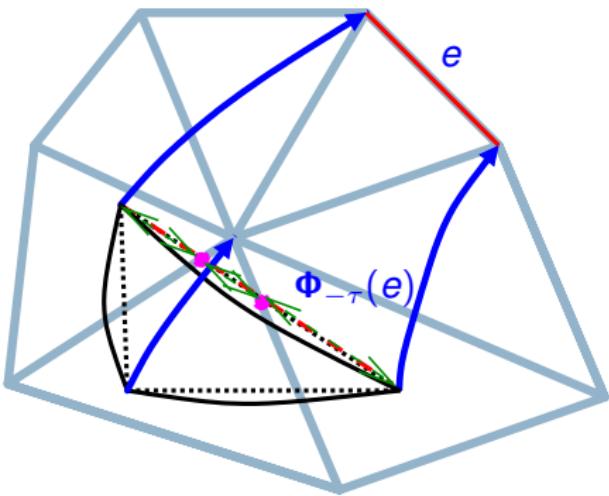
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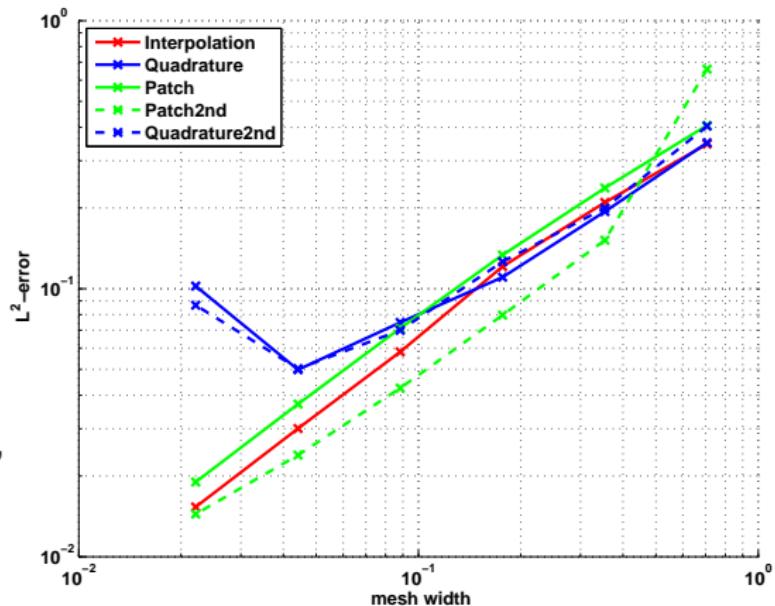
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Pure transport problem:

$$\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} + \mathcal{L}_v \omega = 0 \quad \text{in }]0, 1[^2,$$

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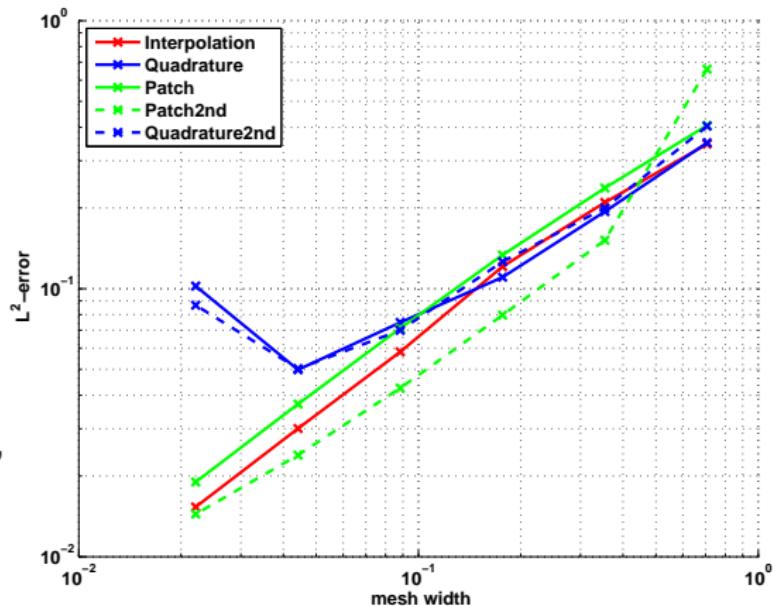
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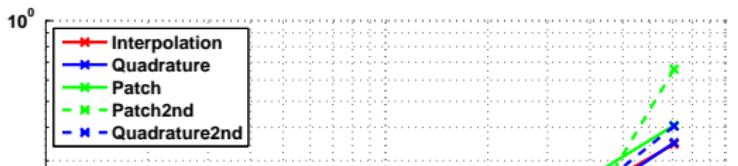
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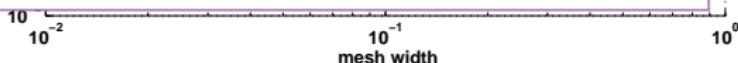


Open problem:

ϵ -robust convergence theory for SL interpolation schemes

For scalar advection (not ϵ -robust):

P. GALÁN DEL SASTRE AND R. BERMEJO, *Error analysis for hp-FEM semi-Lagrangian second order BDF method for convection-dominated diffusion problems*, J. Sci. Comput., 49 (2011), pp. 211–237.



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What Next ?

- 1 Generalized Advection-Diffusion Problems
- 2 Semi-Lagrangian Timestepping
- 3 Semi-Lagrangian Scheme: Pure Advection
- 4 SL for Advection-Diffusion: Convergence

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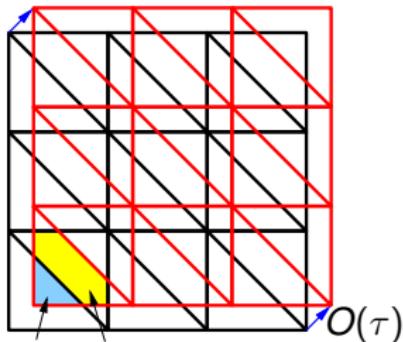
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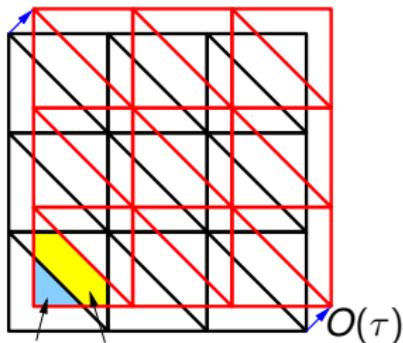
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Explicit Euler (with upwinding)
is a perturbation of
Semi-Lagrange Galerkin

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Main tool: analysis of characteristic methods for stationary advection:

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H. HEUMANN AND R. HIPTMAIR, *Convergence of lowest order semi-Lagrangian schemes*, Foundations of Computational Mathematics, 13 (2013), pp. 187–220.

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