#### Finite element exterior calculus

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Computational examples

### Standard $P_1$ finite elements for 1D Laplacian



# Mixed finite elements for Laplacian





## Vector Laplacian, L-shaped domain

curl curl u - grad div u = f in  $\Omega$  $u \cdot n = 0$ , curl  $u \times n = 0$  on  $\partial \Omega$ 

$$\int_{\Omega} (\operatorname{curl} u \cdot \operatorname{curl} v + \operatorname{div} u \operatorname{div} v) = \int_{\Omega} f \cdot v \quad orall v$$

Lagrange finite elements converge nicely but not to the solution! (same problem with any conforming FE)





#### Vector Poisson equation

curl curl u - grad div u = f in  $\Omega$   $u \cdot n = 0$ , curl  $u \times n = 0$  on  $\partial \Omega$   $f \equiv 0$  does not imply  $u \equiv 0$ : dim  $\mathfrak{H} = b_1$ harmonic forms (solutions for f = 0) 1st Betti number (number of holes)



curl curl u – grad div  $u = f \pmod{\mathfrak{H}}, \ u \perp \mathfrak{H}, \ b.c.$ 



# Maxwell eigenvalue problem

Find 
$$0 \neq u \in H(\text{curl})$$
 s.t  

$$\int_{\Omega} \text{curl } u \cdot \text{curl } v = \lambda \int_{\Omega} u \cdot v \quad \forall v \in H(\text{curl})$$

$$\lambda = m^2 + n^2 = 0, 1, 1, 2, 4, 4, 5, 5, 8, \dots$$











# Maxwell eigenvalue problem, crisscross mesh

 $\lambda = m^2 + n^2 = 1, 1, 2, 4, 4, 5, 5, 8, \dots$ 





254	574	1022	1598	
1.0043	1.0019	1.0011	1.0007	
1.0043	1.0019	1.0011	1.0007	
2.0171	2.0076	2.0043	2.0027	
4.0680	4.0304	4.0171	4.0110	
4.0680	4.0304	4.0171	4.0110	
5.1063	5.0475	5.0267	5.0171	
5.1063	5.0475	5.0267	5.0171	
5.9229	5.9658	5.9807	5.9877	
8.2713	8.1215	8.0685	8.0438	

Boffi-Brezzi-Gastaldi '99

## EM calculations based on the generalized RT elements



#### Schöberl, Zaglmayr 2006, NGSolve

Homology 101

## Chain complexes

• A *chain complex*  $(V, \partial)$  is a seq. of vector spaces and linear maps  $\dots \rightarrow V_{k+1} \xrightarrow{\partial_{k+1}} V_k \xrightarrow{\partial_k} V_{k-1} \rightarrow \dots$  with  $\partial^k \circ \partial^{k+1} = 0$ . typically, non-negative and finite:  $V^k = 0$  for k < 0 for k large

- In other words,  $V = \bigoplus_k V_k$  is a *graded vector space* and  $\partial : V \to V$  is a *graded linear operator* of degree -1 such that  $\partial \circ \partial = 0$   $(\partial_k = \partial|_{V_k} : V_k \to V_k)$
- $V_k$ : *k*-chains  $\exists_k = \mathcal{N}(\partial_k)$ : *k*-cycles  $\mathfrak{B}_k = \mathcal{R}(\partial_{k+1})$ : *k*-boundaries  $\mathcal{H}_k = \exists_k / \mathfrak{B}_k$ : *k*-th homology space

Thus the elements of  $\mathcal{H}_k$  are equivalence classes of *k*-cycles

### Simplices and simplicial complexes

- A *k*-simplex in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is the convex hull  $f = [x_0, \ldots, x_k]$  of k + 1 vertices in general position.
- A subset determines a face of  $f: [x_{i_0}, \ldots, x_{i_d}]$ .
- Simplicial complex: A finite set S of simplices in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , such that
  - 1. Faces of simplices in  $\mathcal{S}$  are in  $\mathcal{S}$ .
  - 2. If  $f \cap g \neq \emptyset$  for  $f, g \in S$ , then it is a face of f and of g.
- If we order all vertices of *S*, then an ordering of the vertices of the simplex determines an *orientation*.



### The boundary operator on chains

 $\Delta_{k}(S):$  the set of *k*-simplices in S  $C_{k} \text{ ($ *k* $-chains):}$  formal linear combinations  $c = \sum_{f \in \Delta_{k}(S)} c_{f} f$   $\partial_{k}: \Delta_{k} \to C_{k-1}: \quad \partial[x_{0}, x_{1}, \dots, x_{k}] = \sum_{i=0}^{k} (-1)^{i} [\dots, \hat{x}_{i}, \dots]$  $\partial_{k}: C_{k} \to C_{k-1}: \quad \partial c = \sum c_{f} \partial f$ 



# The simplicial chain complex

$$0 \to C_n \xrightarrow{\partial} C_{n-1} \xrightarrow{\partial} \cdots \xrightarrow{\partial} C_0 \xrightarrow{\partial} 0$$

 $\beta_k := \dim \mathcal{H}_k(\mathcal{C})$  is the *k*th Betti number





$$\cdots \to V_{k+1} \xrightarrow{\partial_{k+1}} V_k \xrightarrow{\partial_k} V_{k-1} \to \cdots$$

$$f_{k+1} \downarrow \qquad f_k \downarrow \qquad f_{k-1} \downarrow$$

$$\cdots \to V'_{k+1} \xrightarrow{\partial'_{k+1}} V'_k \xrightarrow{\partial'_k} V'_{k-1} \to \cdots$$

•  $f(\mathfrak{Z}) \subset \mathfrak{Z}', f(\mathfrak{B}) \subset \mathfrak{B}'$ , so f induces  $\overline{f} : \mathcal{H}(V) \to \mathcal{H}(V')$ .

■ If *V'* is a subcomplex ( $V'_k \subset V_k$  and  $\partial' = \partial|_V$ ), and fv = v for  $v \in V'$ , we call *f* a *chain projection*.

#### Proposition

A chain projection induces a surjection on homology.

A cochain complex is like a chain complex but with *increasing* indices.

$$\cdots \to V^{k-1} \xrightarrow{d^{k-1}} V^k \xrightarrow{d^k} V^{k+1} \to \cdots$$

• cocycles  $\mathfrak{Z}^k$ , coboundaries  $\mathfrak{B}^k$ , cohomology  $\mathcal{H}^k$ , ...

The dual of a chain complex is a cochain complex:

$$\partial_{k+1}: V_{k+1} \to V_k \implies \partial^*_{k+1}: V^*_k \to V^*_{k+1}$$

$$d^k \bigvee V^k$$

## The de Rham complex for a domain in $\mathbb{R}^n$

1-D: 
$$0 \to C^{\infty}(\Omega) \xrightarrow{d/dx} C^{\infty}(\Omega) \to 0$$

$$\text{2-D:} \quad 0 \to C^{\infty}(\Omega) \xrightarrow{\text{grad}} C^{\infty}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) \xrightarrow{\text{rot}} C^{\infty}(\Omega) \to 0$$

$$\text{3-D:} \quad 0 \to {\mathcal C}^\infty(\Omega) \xrightarrow{\text{grad}} {\mathcal C}^\infty(\Omega, {\mathbb R}^3) \xrightarrow{\text{curl}} {\mathcal C}^\infty(\Omega, {\mathbb R}^3) \xrightarrow{\text{div}} {\mathcal C}^\infty(\Omega) \to 0$$

*n*-D: 
$$0 \to \Lambda^0(\Omega) \xrightarrow{d} \Lambda^1(\Omega) \xrightarrow{d} \Lambda^2(\Omega) \xrightarrow{d} \cdots \xrightarrow{d} \Lambda^n(\Omega) \to 0$$

The space  $\Lambda^k(\Omega) = C^{\infty}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^{n \times \dots \times n}_{skw})$ , the space of smooth *differential k-forms* on  $\Omega$ .

- Exterior derivative:  $d^k : \Lambda^k(\Omega) \to \Lambda^{k+1}(\Omega)$
- Integral of a k-form over an oriented k-simplex:  $\int_{f} v \in \mathbb{R}$
- Stokes theorem:  $\int_{c} du = \int_{\partial c} u$ ,  $u \in \Lambda^{k}$ ,  $c \in C_{k}$
- All this works on any smooth manifold

# De Rham's Theorem

De Rham map:	$\Lambda^{\kappa}(\Omega)$	$\longrightarrow$	$C^{\kappa}(\mathcal{S}) := C$	$_{k}(\mathcal{S})^{*}$
	U	$\longmapsto$	$(c\mapsto\int_{c}$	<i>u</i> )
Stokes theorem says it's a cochain	$\cdots \xrightarrow{d}$	$\Lambda^k(\Omega)$	$\stackrel{d}{\rightarrow} \Lambda^{k+1}(\Omega)$	$\xrightarrow{d}$
map, so induces a map from de Rham		$\downarrow$		
to simplicial cohomology.	$\cdots \xrightarrow{\partial^*}$	$C_k^*$	$\xrightarrow{\partial^*} C_{k+1}^*$	$\xrightarrow{\partial^*} \cdots$

#### Theorem (De Rham's theorem)

The induced map is an isomorphism on cohomology.

### Nonzero cohomology classes





 $u = \operatorname{grad} \theta$ ,  $0 \neq \overline{u} \in \mathcal{H}^1$ on cylindrical shell

$$u = \operatorname{grad} rac{1}{r}, 0 
eq ar{u} \in \mathcal{H}^2$$
 on spherical shell

Unbounded operators on Hilbert space

#### Unbounded operators

- X,Y H-spaces (extensions to Banach spaces, TVSs,...)
- $T : D(T) \to Y$  linear,  $D(T) \subseteq X$  subspace (not necessarily closed), *T* not necessarily bounded
- Not-necessarily-everywhere-defined-and-not-necessarily-bounded linear operators
- Densely defined: D(T) = X
- Ex:  $X = L^2(\Omega)$ ,  $Y = L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $D(T) = H^1(\Omega)$ , Tv = grad v(changing D(T) to  $\mathring{H}^1(\Omega)$  gives a *different* example)
- $\blacksquare S, T \text{ unbdd ops } X \to Y \implies D(S+T) = D(S) \cap D(T)$

(may not be d.d.)

- $X \xrightarrow{S} Y, Y \xrightarrow{T} Z$  unbdd ops  $\implies D(T \circ S) = \{v \in D(S) \mid Sv \in D(T)\}$
- Graph norm (and inner product):  $\|v\|_{D(T)}^2 := \|v\|_X^2 + \|Tv\|_Y^2$ ,  $v \in D(T)$
- **Null space, range, graph:**  $\mathcal{N}(T)$ ,  $\mathcal{R}(T)$ ,  $\Gamma(T)$

T is *closed* if  $\Gamma(T)$  is closed in  $X \times Y$ .

Equivalent definitions:

1. If  $v_1, v_2, \ldots \in D(T)$  satisfy  $v_n \xrightarrow{X} x$  and  $Tv_n \xrightarrow{Y} y$  for some  $x \in X$  and  $y \in Y$ , then  $x \in D(T)$  and Tx = y.

2. D(T) endowed with the graph norm is complete.

If D(T) = X, then T is closed  $\iff T$  is bdd (Closed Graph Thm)

Many properties of bounded operators extend to closed operators. E.g.,

#### Proposition

Let T be a closed operator X to Y.

- 1.  $\mathcal{N}(T)$  is closed in X.
- 2.  $\exists \gamma > 0 \text{ s.t. } \|Tx\|_{Y} \ge \gamma \|x\|_{X} \iff \mathcal{N}(T) = 0, \mathcal{R}(T) \text{ closed}$
- 3. If dim  $Y/\mathcal{R}(T) < \infty$ , then  $\mathcal{R}(T)$  is closed

## Adjoint of a d.d.unbdd operator

Let *T* be a d.d.unbdd operator  $X \to Y$ . Define  $D(T^*) = \{w \in Y \mid \text{the map } v \in D(T) \mapsto \langle w, Tv \rangle_Y \in \mathbb{R} \text{ is bdd in } X\text{-norm } \}$ For  $w \in D(T^*) \quad \exists ! T^*w \in X \text{ s.t.}$ 

$$\langle T^*w,v\rangle_X=\langle w,Tv\rangle_Y, \quad v\in D(T),\ w\in D(T^*).$$

 $T^*$  is a closed operator (even if T is not). Define the rotated graph

$$\widetilde{\Gamma}(T^*) = \{ (-T^*w, w) \mid w \in D(T^*) \} \subset X \times Y,$$

Then 
$$\Gamma(T)^{\perp} = \tilde{\Gamma}(T^*), \overline{\Gamma(T)} = \tilde{\Gamma}(T^*)^{\perp}.$$

Proposition

Let T be a closed d.d. operator  $X \rightarrow Y$ . Then

1. T\* is closed d.d.

2. 
$$T^{**} = T$$

3. 
$$\mathcal{R}(T)^{\perp} = \mathcal{N}(T^*), \quad \mathcal{N}(T)^{\perp} = \overline{\mathcal{R}(T^*)}, \\ \mathcal{R}(T^*)^{\perp} = \mathcal{N}(T), \quad \mathcal{N}(T^*)^{\perp} = \overline{\mathcal{R}(T)}.$$

#### Theorem

Let T be a closed d.d.operator  $X \to Y$ . If  $\mathcal{R}(T)$  is closed in Y, then  $\mathcal{R}(T^*)$  is closed in X.

#### Proof.

- 1. Reduce to case *T* is surjective.
- 2. Restrict to orthog comp of  $\mathcal{N}(T)$  in D(T) (w/ graph norm). Get bounded linear isomorphism.  $\exists$  bounded inverse:

$$\forall y \in Y \; \exists x \in X \text{ s.t. } Tx = y, \quad \|x\|_X \le c \|y\|_Y$$

3. This implies  $||y||_Y \le c ||T^*y||_X, y \in D(T^*).$ 

Assume  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  with Lipschitz boundary (so trace theorem holds).

- 1. Start with  $-\operatorname{div}: C_c^{\infty} \subset L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^3) \to L^2(\Omega)$
- 2. Its adjoint is grad with domain  $H^1$  (this proves  $H^1$  is complete).
- 3. The adjoint of  $(\text{grad}, H^1)$  is -div with domain

 $\mathring{H}(\mathsf{div}) = \{ w \in H(\mathsf{div}) \, | \, \gamma_n w := w \cdot n |_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \, \}$ 

4. div  $\mathring{H}(div)$  is finite-codimensional so closed. So grad  $H^1$  is closed.

- 1. Start with curl :  $\mathcal{C}^{\infty}_{c} \subset L^{2}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^{3}) \rightarrow L^{2}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^{3})$
- 2. Its adjoint is curl with domain *H*(curl) (complete).
- 3. Adjoint of (curl, H(curl)) with domain

 $\mathring{H}(\operatorname{curl}) = \{ w \in H(\operatorname{curl}) \, | \, \gamma_t w := w \times n |_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \, \}$ 

4. We shall see that  $\operatorname{curl} H(\operatorname{curl})$  is closed.

Hilbert complexes

### Hilbert complexes

#### Definition

A *Hilbert complex* is a sequence of Hilbert spaces  $W^k$  and a sequence of closed d.d.linear operators  $d^k$  from  $W^k$  to  $W^{k+1}$  such that  $\mathcal{R}(d^k) \subset \mathcal{N}(d^{k+1})$ .

*V<sub>k</sub>* = *D*(*d<sup>k</sup>*) H-space with graph norm: ||*v*||<sup>2</sup><sub>V<sup>k</sup></sub> = ||*v*||<sup>2</sup><sub>W<sup>k</sup></sub> + ||*d<sup>k</sup>v*||<sup>2</sup><sub>W<sup>k+1</sup></sub>
 The *domain complex*

$$0 \to V^0 \xrightarrow{d} V^1 \xrightarrow{d} \cdots \xrightarrow{d} V^n \to 0$$

is a *bounded* Hilbert complex (with less information).

- It is a cochain complex, so it has (co)cycles, boundaries, and homology.
- An H-complex is *closed* if  $\mathfrak{B}^k$  is closed in  $W^k$  (or  $V^k$ ).
- An H-complex is *Fredholm* if dim  $\mathcal{H}^k < \infty$ .

Fredholm 
$$\implies$$
 closed

Define  $d_k^* : V_k^* \subset W^k \to W^{k-1}$  as the adjoint of  $d^{k-1} : V^k \subset W^{k-1} \to W^k$ . It is closed d.d.and, since  $\mathcal{R}(d^{k-1}) \subset \mathcal{N}(d^k)$ ,

$$\mathcal{R}(d^*_{k+1}) \subset \overline{\mathcal{R}(d^*_{k+1})} = \mathcal{N}(d^k)^\perp \subset \mathcal{R}(d^{k-1})^\perp = \mathcal{N}(d^k_*),$$

so we get a Hilbert chain complex with domain complex

$$0 \to V_n^* \xrightarrow{d_n^*} V_{n-1}^* \xrightarrow{d_{n-1}^*} \cdots \xrightarrow{d_1^*} V_0^* \to 0.$$

If (W, d) is closed, then  $(W, d^*)$  is as well, by the Closed Range Theorem.

From now on we mainly deal with closed H-complexes...

#### Harmonic forms

The Hilbert structure of a *closed* H-complex allows us to identify the homology space  $\mathcal{H}^k = \mathcal{J}^k / \mathfrak{B}^k$  with a subspace  $\mathfrak{H}^k$  of  $W^k$ :

 $\mathfrak{H}^k := \mathfrak{Z}^k \cap \mathfrak{B}^{k\perp} = \mathfrak{Z}^k \cap \mathfrak{Z}^*_k = \{ u \in V^k \cap V^*_k \mid du = 0, \ d^*u = 0 \}.$ 



An *H*-complex has the *compactness property* if  $V^k \cap V_k^*$  is dense and *compact* in  $W^k$ . This implies dim  $\mathfrak{H}^k < \infty$ .

compactness property  $\implies$  Fredholm  $\implies$  closed

#### Two key properties of closed H-complexes

#### Theorem (Hodge decomposition)

For any closed Hilbert complex:

$$W^{k} = \underbrace{\mathfrak{B}^{k} \oplus \mathfrak{H}^{k}}_{\mathfrak{Z}^{k}} \oplus \underbrace{\mathfrak{B}^{*}_{k}}_{\mathfrak{Z}^{k\perp}}$$
$$V^{k} = \underbrace{\mathfrak{B}^{k} \oplus \mathfrak{H}^{k}}_{\mathfrak{B}^{k}} \oplus \mathfrak{Z}^{k\perp_{V}}$$

Theorem (Poincaré inequality)

For any closed Hilbert complex,  $\exists$  a constant  $c^{P}$  s.t.

$$||z||_{V} \leq c^{P} ||dz||, \quad z \in \mathfrak{Z}^{k \perp_{V}}.$$

# $\mathit{L}^2$ de Rham complex on $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$

k	<b>W</b> <sup>k</sup>	d <sup>k</sup>	V <sup>k</sup>	$d_k^*$	$V_k^*$	dim $\mathfrak{H}^k$
0	$L^2(\Omega)$	grad	H <sup>1</sup>	0	L <sup>2</sup>	$\beta_0$
1	$L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^3)$	curl	H(curl)	— div	<i>ᢥ</i> (div)	$\beta_1$
2	$L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^3)$	div	H(div)	curl	₿(curl)	$\beta_2$
3	$L^2(\Omega)$	0	L <sup>2</sup>	- grad	Å <sup>1</sup>	0

 $0 \to H^1 \xrightarrow{\text{grad}} H(\text{curl}) \xrightarrow{\text{curl}} H(\text{div}) \xrightarrow{\text{div}} L^2 \to 0$ 

 $0 \leftarrow L^2 \ \xleftarrow{-\textit{div}} \ \mathring{H}(\textit{div}) \ \xleftarrow{\textit{curl}} \ \mathring{H}(\textit{curl}) \ \xleftarrow{-\textit{grad}} \ \mathring{H}^1 \leftarrow 0$ 

#### The abstract Hodge Laplacian

$$\blacksquare W^{k-1} \underset{d^*}{\overset{d}{\underset{d^*}{\leftrightarrow}}} W^k \underset{d^*}{\overset{d}{\underset{d^*}{\leftrightarrow}}} W^{k+1} \qquad L := d^*d + dd^* \qquad W^k \xrightarrow{L} W^k$$

$$D(L^k) = \{ u \in V^k \cap V_k^* \mid du \in V_{k+1}^*, \ d^*u \in V^{k-1} \}$$

$$\bullet \ \mathcal{N}(L^k) = \mathfrak{H}^k, \quad \mathfrak{H}^k \perp \mathcal{R}(L^k)$$

- Strong formulation: Find  $u \in D(L^k)$  s.t.  $Lu = f P_{\mathfrak{H}}f$ ,  $u \perp \mathfrak{H}$ .
- Primal weak formulation: Find  $u \in V^k \cap V_k^* \cap \mathfrak{H}^{k\perp}$  s.t.

$$\langle du, dv \rangle + \langle d^*u, d^*v \rangle = \langle f - P_{\mathfrak{H}}f, v \rangle, \ v \in V^k \cap V_k^* \cap \mathfrak{H}^{k\perp}.$$

■ *Mixed weak formulation.* Find  $\sigma \in V^{k-1}$ ,  $u \in V^k$ , and  $p \in \mathfrak{H}^k$  s.t.

$$egin{aligned} &\langle \sigma, au 
angle - \langle u, d au 
angle = 0, & au \in V^{k-1}, \ &\langle d\sigma, v 
angle + \langle du, dv 
angle + \langle p, v 
angle = \langle f, v 
angle, & v \in V^k, \ &\langle u, q 
angle = 0, & q \in \mathfrak{H}^k. \end{aligned}$$

#### Theorem

Let  $f \in W^k$ . Then  $u \in W^k$  solves the strong formulation  $\iff$  it solves the primal weak formulation. Moreover, in this case, if we set  $\sigma = d^*u$  and  $p = P_{\mathfrak{H}}u$ , then the triple  $(\sigma, u, p)$  solves the mixed weak formulation. Finally, if some  $(\sigma, u, p)$  solves the mixed weak formulation, then  $\sigma = d^*u$ ,  $p = \mathcal{P}_{\mathfrak{H}}u$ , and u solves the strong and primal formulations of the problem.

#### Theorem

For each  $f \in W^k$  there exists a unique solution. Moreover

 $||u|| + ||du|| + ||d^*u|| + ||dd^*u|| + ||d^*du|| \le c||f - P_{5}f||.$ 

The constant depends only on the Poincaré inequality constant  $c^{P}$ .

We used the mixed formulation. Set

$$\textit{B}(\sigma,\textit{u},\textit{p};\tau,\textit{v},\textit{q}) = \langle \sigma,\tau\rangle - \langle \textit{u},\textit{d}\tau\rangle - \langle \textit{d}\sigma,\textit{v}\rangle - \langle \textit{d}u,\textit{d}v\rangle - \langle \textit{p},\textit{v}\rangle - \langle \textit{u},\textit{q}\rangle$$

We must prove the inf-sup condition:  $\forall (\sigma, u, p) \exists (\tau, v, q)$  s.t.

 $B(\sigma, u, p; \tau, v, q) \ge \gamma(\|\sigma\|_{V} + \|u\|_{V} + \|p\|)(\|\tau\|_{V} + \|v\|_{V} + \|q\|),$ 

with  $\gamma = \gamma(c^{P}) > 0$ . Via the Hodge decomposition,

$$u = u_{\mathfrak{B}} + u_{\mathfrak{H}} + u_{\mathfrak{B}^*} = d\rho + u_{\mathfrak{H}} + u_{\mathfrak{B}^*}$$

with  $\rho \in \mathfrak{Z}^{\perp_{V}}$ . Then take

$$au = \sigma - rac{1}{(c^P)^2} 
ho, \quad v = -u - d\sigma - p, \quad q = p - u_{\mathfrak{H}}.$$

### Hodge Laplacian and Hodge decomposition

- $f = dd^*u + P_{5}f + d^*du$  is the Hodge decomposition of f
- Define  $K : W^k \to D(L^k)$  by Kf = u (bdd lin op).
- $P_{\mathfrak{B}} = dd^*K, \quad P_{\mathfrak{B}^*} = d^*dK$
- If  $f \in V$ , then Kdf = dKf.
- If  $f \in \mathfrak{B}$ , then dKf = 0. Since  $Kf \perp \mathfrak{H}$ ,  $Kf \in \mathfrak{B}$ .
- **B** *problem:* If  $f \in \mathfrak{B}$ , then u = Kf solves

$$dd^*u = f$$
,  $du = 0$ ,  $u \perp \mathfrak{H}$ 

•  $\mathfrak{B}^*$  problem: If  $f \in \mathfrak{B}^*$ , then u = Kf solves

$$d^*du = f$$
,  $d^*u = 0$ ,  $u \perp \mathfrak{H}$ .
### The Hodge Laplacian on a domain in 3D

$$0 \to H^{1} \xrightarrow{\text{grad}} H(\text{curl}) \xrightarrow{\text{curl}} H(\text{div}) \xrightarrow{\text{div}} L^{2} \to 0$$
$$0 \leftarrow L^{2} \xleftarrow{-\text{div}} \mathring{H}(\text{div}) \xleftarrow{\text{curl}} \mathring{H}(\text{curl}) \xleftarrow{-\text{grad}} \mathring{H}^{1} \leftarrow 0$$

k	$L^k = d^*d + dd^*$	BCs im	posed on	$V^{k-1} \times V^k$
0	$-\Delta$		∂u/∂n	H <sup>1</sup>
1	curl curl — grad div	u · n	curl $u \times n$	$H^1  imes H( ext{curl})$
2	- grad div $+$ curl curl	u × n	div u	$H(\operatorname{curl})  imes H(\operatorname{\mathit{div}})$
3	$-\Delta$	и		$H({ m div}) imes L^2$

essential BC for primal form.  $\checkmark$ 

- natural BC for primal form.

Approximation of Hilbert complexes Naively, we might try to discretize the primal formulation with finite elements. This works in some circumstances, but we have seen two ways in which it can fail. It is not easy to construct a dense family of subspaces of the primal energy space  $V^k \cap V_k^* \cap \mathfrak{H}^k$ .

We therefore consider finite element discretizations of the mixed formulation:

Given 
$$f \in W^k$$
, find  $\sigma \in V^{k-1}$ ,  $u \in V^k$ , and  $p \in \mathfrak{H}^k$  s.t.

$$egin{aligned} &\langle \sigma, au 
angle - \langle u, d au 
angle = 0, & au \in V^{k-1}, \ &\langle d\sigma, v 
angle + \langle du, dv 
angle + \langle p, v 
angle = \langle f, v 
angle, & v \in V^k, \ &\langle u, q 
angle = 0, & q \in \mathfrak{H}^k. \end{aligned}$$

#### Galerkin method

• Choose f.d. subspaces  $V_h^j \subset V^j$ 

$$\mathbf{\mathfrak{Z}}_{h}^{j} = \{ \mathbf{v} \in V_{h}^{j} | d\mathbf{v} = 0 \} \subset \mathfrak{Z}^{j} \qquad \mathfrak{\mathfrak{B}}_{h}^{j} = \{ d\mathbf{v} | \mathbf{v} \in V_{h}^{j-1} \} \subset \mathfrak{B}^{j} \\ \mathfrak{H}_{h}^{j} = \{ \mathbf{v} \in \mathfrak{Z}_{h}^{j} | \mathbf{v} \perp \mathfrak{B}_{h}^{j} \}$$

Given  $f \in W^k$ , find  $\sigma_h \in V_h^{k-1}$ ,  $u_h \in V_h^k$ , and  $p_h \in \mathfrak{H}_h^k$  s.t.

$$egin{aligned} &\langle \sigma_h, au 
angle - \langle u_h, d au 
angle = 0, & au \in V_h^{k-1}, \ &\langle d\sigma_h, extbf{v} 
angle + \langle du_h, d extbf{v} 
angle + \langle p_h, extbf{v} 
angle = \langle f, extbf{v} 
angle, & extbf{v} \in V_h^k, \ &\langle u_h, q 
angle = 0, & extbf{q} \in \mathfrak{H}_h^k. \end{aligned}$$

If  $\mathfrak{H}_{h}^{k} \not\subseteq \mathfrak{H}^{k}$  this is a nonconforming method.

For any choice of the  $V_h^j$  there exists a unique solution. However, the consistency, stability, and accuracy of the discrete solution depends vitally on the choice of subspaces.

### Key assumptions

We need the spaces  $V_h^j \subset V^j$  (at least for j = k - 1, k, k + 1) to satisfy three properties:

 Approximation property: Of course V<sup>*l*</sup><sub>*h*</sub> must afford good approximation of elements of V<sup>*j*</sup>. This can be formalized with respect to a family of subspaces parametrized by *h* by requiring

$$\lim_{h\to 0}\inf_{v\in V_h^j}\|w-v\|_V=0, \quad w\in V^j$$

(or =  $O(h^r)$  for *w* in some dense subspace, or ...)

2. Subcomplex property:  $dV_h^{k-1} \subset V_h^k$  and  $dV_h^k \subset V_h^{k+1}$ , so

$$\cdots \to V_h^{k-1} \xrightarrow{d} V_h^k \xrightarrow{d} V_h^{k+1} \to \cdots$$

is a subcomplex.

#### Bounded cochain projection

3. Bounded cochain projection: Most important, we assume that there exists a *cochain map* from the H-complex to the subcomplex which is a *projection* and is *bounded*.

$$V^{k-1} \xrightarrow{d} V^{k} \xrightarrow{d} V^{k+1}$$
$$\pi_{h}^{k-1} \downarrow \qquad \pi_{h}^{k} \downarrow \qquad \pi_{h}^{k+1} \downarrow$$
$$V_{h}^{k-1} \xrightarrow{d} V_{h}^{k} \xrightarrow{d} V_{h}^{k+1}$$

- For now, boundedness is in *V*-norm:  $||\pi_h v||_V \le c ||v||_V$ . But later we will need *W*-boundedness, which is a stronger requirement.
- A bounded projection is *quasioptimal*:

$$\|\boldsymbol{v}-\pi_h\boldsymbol{v}\|_V \leq c \inf_{\boldsymbol{w}\in V_h^j} \|\boldsymbol{v}-\boldsymbol{w}\|_V, \quad \boldsymbol{v}\in V^j$$

#### First consequences from the assumptions

From the subcomplex property

$$\cdots \rightarrow V_h^{k-1} \xrightarrow{d} V_h^k \xrightarrow{d} V_h^{k+1} \cdots \rightarrow$$

is itself a closed H-complex. (We take  $W_h^k = V_h^k$  but with the W-norm.)

Therefore there is a discrete adjoint operator  $d_h^*$  (its domain is all of  $W_h^k$ ), a discrete Hodge decomposition

$$V_h^k = \mathfrak{B}_h^k \oplus \mathfrak{H}_h^k \oplus \mathfrak{B}_{kh}^k.$$

and a discrete Poincaré inequality

$$||z||_V \leq c_h^P ||dz||, \quad z \in \mathfrak{Z}_h^{k \perp_V}.$$

#### Theorem

Given: a closed H-complex, and a choice of f.d. subspaces satisfying the subcomplex property and admitting a V-bdd cochain projection  $\pi_h$ . Assume also the (very weak) approximation property

 $\|\boldsymbol{q}-\pi_h \boldsymbol{q}\|<\|\boldsymbol{q}\|, \quad \mathbf{0}
eq \boldsymbol{q}\in\mathfrak{H}^k.$ 

Then  $\pi_h$  induces an isomorphism from  $\mathfrak{H}^k$  onto  $\mathfrak{H}^k_h$ . Moreover,

$$\operatorname{gap}(\mathfrak{H},\mathfrak{H}_h) \leq \sup_{\substack{q \in \mathfrak{H} \\ \|q\|=1}} \|q - \pi_h q\|_V.$$

$$gap(\mathfrak{H},\mathfrak{H}_h) := \max\left(\sup_{\substack{u \in \mathfrak{H} \\ \|u\|=1}} \inf_{v \in \mathfrak{H}_h} \|u - v\|_V, \sup_{\substack{v \in \mathfrak{H}_h \\ \|v\|=1}} \inf_{u \in \mathfrak{H}} \|u - v\|_V\right).$$

# Uniform Poincaré inequality and stability

#### Theorem

W

Given: a closed H-complex, and a choice of f.d. subspaces satisfying the subcomplex property and admitting a V-bdd cochain projection  $\pi_h$ . Then

$$\|oldsymbol{v}\|_V\leq c^P\|\pi_h\|\|doldsymbol{v}\|_V,\quad oldsymbol{v}\in\mathfrak{Z}_h^{k\perp}\cap V_h^k.$$

Corollary (Stability and quasioptimality of the mixed method)

The mixed method is stable (uniform inf-sup condition) and satisfies

$$\begin{split} \|\sigma - \sigma_{h}\|_{V} + \|u - u_{h}\|_{V} + \|p - p_{h}\| \\ &\leq C(\inf_{\tau \in V_{h}^{k-1}} \|\sigma - \tau\|_{V} + \inf_{v \in V_{h}^{k}} \|u - v\|_{V} + \inf_{q \in V_{h}^{k}} \|p - q\|_{V} \\ &+ \mu \inf_{v \in V_{h}^{k}} \|P_{\mathfrak{B}}u - v\|_{V}), \end{split}$$
where  $\mu = \mu_{h} = \sup_{r \in \mathfrak{H}^{k}, \|r\| = 1} \|(I - \pi_{h})r\|.$ 

#### Improved error estimates

In addition to 
$$\mu = \|(I - \pi_h)P_{\mathfrak{H}}\|$$
, define  $\delta, \eta = o(1)$  by  
 $\delta = \|(I - \pi_h)K\|_{\operatorname{Lin}(W,W)}, \quad \eta = \|(I - \pi_h)d^{[*]}K\|_{\operatorname{Lin}(W,W)}.$   
When  $V_h^k \supset \mathcal{P}_r, \quad \mu = O(h^{r+1}), \quad \eta = O(h), \quad \delta = \begin{cases} O(h^2), \quad r > 0, \\ O(h), \quad r = 0, \end{cases}$ 

#### Theorem

Given: an H-complex satisfying the compactness property, and a choice of f.d. subspaces satisfying the subcomplex property and admitting a W-bdd cochain projection  $\pi_h$ . Then

$$\begin{split} \|d(\sigma - \sigma_h)\| &\leq c E(d\sigma), \qquad \|\sigma - \sigma_h\| \leq c [E(\sigma) + \eta E(d\sigma)], \\ \|d(u - u_h)\| &\leq c \{E(du) + \eta [E(d\sigma) + E(p)]\}, \\ \|u - u_h\| &\leq c \{E(u) + \eta [E(du) + E(\sigma)] \\ &+ (\eta^2 + \delta) [E(d\sigma) + E(p)] + \mu E(P_{\mathfrak{B}}u)\}. \end{split}$$

- grad div u + curl rot u = f in  $\Omega$  (unit square),  $u \cdot n = \text{rot } u = 0$  on  $\partial \Omega$  (magnetic BC)

$$0 \rightarrow H^{1} \xrightarrow{\text{grad}} H(\text{rot}) \xrightarrow{\text{rot}} L^{2} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\sigma_{h} \in V_{h}^{0} \subset H^{1}, \quad u_{h} \in V_{h}^{1} \subset H(\text{rot})$$

$$\langle \sigma_{h}, \tau \rangle - \langle u_{h}, \text{grad} \tau \rangle = 0, \quad \tau \in V_{h}^{k-1},$$

$$\langle \text{grad} \sigma_{h}, v \rangle + \langle \text{rot} u_{h}, \text{rot} v \rangle + \langle p_{h}, v \rangle = \langle f, v \rangle, \quad v \in V_{h}^{k},$$

$$\langle u_{h}, q \rangle = 0, \quad q \in \mathfrak{H}_{h}^{k}.$$

$$\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$$

$$V_{h}^{0} \text{ Lagrange} \quad V_{h}^{1} \text{ R-T} \quad V_{h}^{2} \text{ DG}$$

All hypotheses are met...

# Numerical solution of vector Laplacian, magnetic BC

$\ \sigma - \sigma_h\ $	rate	$\  abla(\sigma-\sigma_h)\ $	rate	$\ u-u_h\ $	rate	$\ \operatorname{rot}(u-u_h)\ $	rate
2.16e-04	3.03	2.63e-02	1.98	2.14e-03	1.99	1.17e-02	1.99
2.70e-05	3.00	6.60e-03	1.99	5.37e-04	1.99	2.93e-03	2.00
3.37e-06	3.00	1.65e-03	2.00	1.34e-04	2.00	7.33e-04	2.00
4.16e-07	3.02	4.14e-04	2.00	3.36e-05	2.00	1.83e-04	2.00
	3		2		2		2





#### Numerical solution of vector Laplacian, Dirichlet BC

For Dirichlet boundary conditions,  $\sigma = -\operatorname{div} u$  is sought in  $H^1$ , u is sought in  $\mathring{H}(\operatorname{rot})$  (the BC  $u \cdot t = 0$  is essential,  $u \cdot n = 0$  is natural).

There is no complex, so our theory does not apply.

$\ \sigma - \sigma_h\ $	rate	$\  abla(\sigma-\sigma_h)\ $	rate	$\ u-u_h\ $	rate	$\ \operatorname{rot}(u-u_h)\ $	rate
1.90e-02	1.62	2.53e+00	0.63	1.22e-03	2.01	1.55e-02	1.58
6.36e-03	1.58	1.68e+00	0.60	3.05e-04	2.00	5.33e-03	1.54
2.18e-03	1.54	1.14e+00	0.56	7.63e-05	2.00	1.85e-03	1.52
7.58e-04	1.52	7.89e-01	0.53	1.91e-05	2.00	6.49e-04	1.51
	1.5		0.5		2		1.5

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Find 
$$\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$
,  $0 \neq u \in D(L)$  s.t.  $Lu = \lambda u$ ,  $u \perp \mathfrak{H}$ 

 $\lambda \|u\|^2 = \|du\|^2 + \|d^*u\|^2 > 0 \quad \text{ so } \quad \lambda > 0 \text{ and } Ku = \lambda^{-1}u.$ 

By the compactness property,  $K : W^k \to W^k$  is compact and self-adjoint, so  $0 < \lambda_1 \le \lambda_2 \le \cdots \to \infty$ . Denote by  $v_i$  corresponding orthonormal eigenvalues,  $E_i = \mathbb{R}v_i$ .

Mixed discretization:

Find 
$$\lambda_h \in \mathbb{R}$$
,  $0 \neq (\sigma_h, u_h, p_h) \in V_h^{k-1} imes V_h^k imes \mathfrak{H}_h^k$  s.t.

$$egin{aligned} &\langle \sigma_h, au 
angle - \langle u_h, d au 
angle = 0, & au \in V_h^{k-1}, \ &\langle d\sigma_h, v 
angle + \langle du_h, dv 
angle + \langle p_h, v 
angle = \lambda_h \langle u_h, v 
angle, & v \in V_h^k, \ &\langle u_h, q 
angle = 0, & q \in \mathfrak{H}_h^k. \end{aligned}$$

 $0 < \lambda_{1h} \leq \lambda_{2h} \leq \ldots \leq \lambda_{N_hh}, \quad v_{ih} \text{ orthonormal}, \quad E_{ih} = \mathbb{R}v_{ih}$ 

#### Convergence of eigenvalue problems

Let  $\sum_{i=1}^{m(j)} E_i$  be the span of the eigenspaces of the first *j* distinct eigenvalues. The method *converges* if  $\forall j, \epsilon > 0, \exists h_0 > 0$  s.t.

$$\max_{1 \le i \le m(j)} |\lambda_i - \lambda_{ih}| \le \epsilon \quad \text{and} \quad \operatorname{gap}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{m(j)} E_i, \sum_{i=1}^{m(j)} E_{i,h}\right) \le \epsilon \qquad \text{if } h \le h_0.$$

A sufficient (and necessary) condition for eigenvalue convergence is operator norm convergence of the discrete solution operator  $K_h P_h$  to K (Kato, Babuska–Osborn, Boffi–Brezzi–Gastaldi):

 $W \rightarrow W_h$  orthog.

The mixed discretization of the eigenvalue problem converges if

$$\lim_{h\to 0} \|K_h P_h - K\|_{\mathcal{L}(W,W)} = 0.$$

$$\|u - u_{h}\| \leq c\{E(u) + \eta[E(du) + E(\sigma)] + (\eta^{2} + \delta)[E(d\sigma) + E(p)] + \mu E(P_{\mathfrak{B}}u)\}$$

$$E(d\sigma) + E(p) + E(P_{\mathfrak{B}}u) \leq \|d\sigma\| + \|p\| + \|u\| \leq \|f\|$$

$$E(u) \leq \delta\|f\|, \qquad E(du) + E(\sigma) \leq \eta\|f\|$$

Therefore

$$\|(K - K_h P_h)f\| \le \delta + \eta^2 + \mu \to 0$$

Rates of convergence also follow, included doubled convergence rates for eigenvalues...

# **Exterior calculus**

#### The de Rham complex for a domain in $\mathbb{R}^n$

1-D: 
$$0 \to C^{\infty}(\Omega) \xrightarrow{d/dx} C^{\infty}(\Omega) \to 0$$

$$\text{2-D:} \quad 0 \to C^{\infty}(\Omega) \xrightarrow{\text{grad}} C^{\infty}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^2) \xrightarrow{\text{rot}} C^{\infty}(\Omega) \to 0$$

$$\text{3-D:} \quad 0 \to \textit{C}^{\infty}(\Omega) \xrightarrow{\text{grad}} \textit{C}^{\infty}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^3) \xrightarrow{\text{curl}} \textit{C}^{\infty}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^3) \xrightarrow{\text{div}} \textit{C}^{\infty}(\Omega) \to 0$$

*n*-D: 
$$0 \to \Lambda^0(\Omega) \xrightarrow{d} \Lambda^1(\Omega) \xrightarrow{d} \Lambda^2(\Omega) \xrightarrow{d} \cdots \xrightarrow{d} \Lambda^n(\Omega) \to 0$$

The space  $\Lambda^k(\Omega) = C^{\infty}(\Omega, \mathbb{R}^{n \times \dots \times n}_{skw})$ , the space of smooth *differential k-forms* on  $\Omega$ .

- Exterior derivative:  $d^k : \Lambda^k(\Omega) \to \Lambda^{k+1}(\Omega)$
- Integral of a k-form over an oriented k-simplex:  $\int_{f} v \in \mathbb{R}$
- Stokes theorem:  $\int_{c} du = \int_{\partial c} u$ ,  $u \in \Lambda^{k}$ ,  $c \in C_{k}$
- All this works on any smooth manifold

#### Exterior algebra

#### Multilinear forms on an *n*-dimensional vector space V

- Lin<sup>*k*</sup> *V*: *k*-linear maps  $\omega$  :  $V \times \cdots \times V \to \mathbb{R}$  Lin<sup>0</sup>  $V := \mathbb{R}$ Lin<sup>1</sup>  $V = V^*$  covectors. 1-forms
- tensor product:  $(\omega \otimes \mu)(v_1, \ldots, v_{j+k}) = \omega(v_1, \ldots, v_j)\mu(v_{j+1}, \ldots, v_{j+k})$
- dim  $\operatorname{Lin}^k V = n^k$
- dual basis for Lin<sup>1</sup>  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $dx^1, \ldots, dx^n$  with  $dx^i(e_j) = \delta_{ij}$
- basis for Lin<sup>*k*</sup>  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $dx^{\sigma_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes dx^{\sigma_k}$ ,  $1 \le \sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_k \le n$

Alternating multilinear forms (algebraic k-forms)

- $\omega \in \operatorname{Alt}^k V$  if  $\omega(\ldots, v_i, \ldots, v_j, \ldots) = -\omega(\ldots, v_j, \ldots, v_i, \ldots)$
- dim Alt<sup>k</sup>  $V = \binom{n}{k}$
- skew part:  $(\operatorname{skw} \omega)(v_1, \ldots, v_k) = \frac{1}{k!} \sum_{\sigma \in \Sigma_k} \operatorname{sign}(\sigma) \omega(v_{\sigma_1}, \ldots, v_{\sigma_k})$

• exterior product:  $\omega \wedge \mu = \binom{j+k}{j} \operatorname{skw}(\omega \otimes \mu)$ 

■ basis for Alt<sup>*k*</sup>  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $dx^{\sigma_1} \land \cdots \land dx^{\sigma_k}$ ,  $1 \le \sigma_1 < \ldots < \sigma_k \le n$ 

#### Exterior algebra continued

If  $\omega \in \operatorname{Alt}^k V$ ,  $v \in V$ , the *interior product*  $\omega \lrcorner v \in \operatorname{Alt}^{k-1} V$  is

$$\omega \lrcorner v(v_1, \ldots, v_{k-1}) = \omega(v, v_1, \ldots, v_{k-1}) \quad (\omega \land \eta) \lrcorner v = (\omega \lrcorner v) \land \eta \pm \omega \land (\eta \lrcorner v)$$

If V has an *inner product*, pick any orthonormal basis  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$  and define

$$\langle \omega, \eta \rangle = \sum_{\sigma} \omega(\mathbf{v}_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{\sigma(k)}) \eta(\mathbf{v}_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{v}_{\sigma(k)}), \quad \omega, \eta \in \mathsf{Alt}^k \mathsf{V}$$
(sum over  $\sigma : \{1, \dots, k\} \to \{1, \dots, n\}$  increasing).

dim Alt<sup>*n*</sup> V = 1. Fix the *volume form* by vol $(v_1, \ldots, v_n) = \pm 1$ . An orientation for V fixes the sign.

• Hodge star: 
$$\star$$
: Alt<sup>k</sup>  $V \xrightarrow{\cong}$  Alt<sup>n-k</sup>  $V$  defined by

$$\omega \wedge \mu = \langle \star \omega, \mu \rangle \operatorname{vol}, \quad \omega \in \operatorname{Alt}^k V, \ \mu \in \operatorname{Alt}^{n-k} V \qquad \qquad \star \star \omega = \pm \omega$$

• On  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , vol =  $dx^1 \wedge \cdots \wedge dx^n$  = det,  $\star dx^{\sigma_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx^{\sigma_k} = \pm dx^{\sigma_1^*} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx^{\sigma_{n-k}^*}$ 

**Pullback:** If  $L: V \to W$  linear,  $L^*: Alt^k W \to Alt^k V$  is defined

$$L^*\omega(w_1,\ldots,w_k)=\omega(Lw_1,\ldots,Lw_n)$$

# Exterior algebra in $\mathbb{R}^3$

vector proxy	$\begin{array}{l} Alt^0 \mathbb{R}^3 = \mathbb{R} \\ Alt^1 \mathbb{R}^3 \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathbb{R}^3 \\ Alt^2 \mathbb{R}^3 \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathbb{R}^3 \\ Alt^3 \mathbb{R}^3 \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathbb{R} \end{array}$	$c \leftrightarrow c$ $u_1 dx_1 + u_2 dx_2 + u_3 dx_3 \leftrightarrow u$ $u_1 dx_2 \wedge dx_3 - u_2 dx_1 \wedge dx_3 + u_3 dx_1 \wedge dx_2 \leftrightarrow u$ $c \leftrightarrow c dx_1 \wedge dx_2 \wedge dx_3$
exterior prod.	$\begin{array}{l} \wedge: Alt^1\mathbb{R}^3 \times Alt^1\mathbb{R}^3 \to Alt^2\mathbb{R}^3 \\ \wedge: Alt^1\mathbb{R}^3 \times Alt^2\mathbb{R}^3 \to Alt^3\mathbb{R}^3 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} \times : \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^3 \\ \cdot : \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R} \end{array}$
pullback	$L^* : \operatorname{Alt}^{0} \mathbb{R}^3 \to \operatorname{Alt}^{0} \mathbb{R}^3$ $L^* : \operatorname{Alt}^{1} \mathbb{R}^3 \to \operatorname{Alt}^{1} \mathbb{R}^3$ $L^* : \operatorname{Alt}^{2} \mathbb{R}^3 \to \operatorname{Alt}^{2} \mathbb{R}^3$ $L^* : \operatorname{Alt}^{3} \mathbb{R}^3 \to \operatorname{Alt}^{3} \mathbb{R}^3$	$ \begin{aligned} & id : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R} \\ L^T : \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^3 \\ & adj \ L : \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^3 \\ & (det \ L) : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}  (c \mapsto c  det \ L) \end{aligned} $
interior prod.		$ \begin{array}{l} \boldsymbol{v} \cdot : \mathbb{R}^{3} \to \mathbb{R} \\ \boldsymbol{v} \times : \mathbb{R}^{3} \to \mathbb{R}^{3} \\ \boldsymbol{v} : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^{3}  (\boldsymbol{c} \mapsto \boldsymbol{c} \boldsymbol{v}) \end{array} $
inner prod.	inner product on $Alt^k \mathbb{R}^3$	dot product on ${\mathbb R}$ and ${\mathbb R}^3$
Hodge star	$\begin{array}{l} \star:Alt^0\mathbb{R}^3\toAlt^3\mathbb{R}^3\\ \star:Alt^1\mathbb{R}^3\toAlt^2\mathbb{R}^3\end{array}$	

#### Exterior calculus

- A differential k-form on a manifold M is a map  $x \in M \mapsto \omega_x \in Alt^k T_x M$ .  $\omega$  takes a point  $x \in M$  and k-tangent vectors and returns a number. 0-forms are functions, 1-forms are covector fields. We write  $\omega \in \Lambda^k(M)$  or  $C\Lambda^k(M)$  if its continuous,  $C^{\infty}\Lambda^k(M)$  if its smooth, etc.
- If  $M = \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\omega : \Omega \to \operatorname{Alt}^k \mathbb{R}^n$ . The general element of  $\Lambda^k(\Omega)$  is  $\omega = \sum_{\sigma} a_{\sigma} dx^{\sigma_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx^{\sigma_k}$  with  $a_{\sigma} : \Omega \to \mathbb{R}$ .
- A smooth map  $\phi: M \to M'$ , induces a linear maps  $\phi'_x: T_x M \to T_x M'$  and so a *pullback*  $\phi^*: \Lambda^k(M') \to \Lambda^k(M)$  on differential forms:

 $\begin{aligned} (\phi^*\omega)_x &= {\phi'_x}^*\omega_{\phi(x)} \quad \text{or} \quad (\phi^*\omega)_x(v_1,\ldots,v_k) = \omega_{\phi(x)}(\phi'_xv_1,\ldots,\phi'_xv_k) \\ \phi^*(\omega\wedge\mu) &= (\phi^*\omega)\wedge(\phi^*\mu) \quad \text{ pullback of inclusion defines trace} \end{aligned}$ 

For  $\omega = a \, dx^{\sigma_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx^{\sigma_k} \in \Lambda^k(\Omega)$ , the exterior derivative

$$d\omega = \sum_{\sigma} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{\partial a_{\sigma}}{\partial x^{k}} dx^{k} \wedge dx^{\sigma_{1}} \wedge \dots \wedge dx^{\sigma_{k}} \in \Lambda^{k+1}(\Omega).$$
 It satisfies  
$$d \circ d = 0, \quad d(\omega \wedge \mu) = (d\omega) \wedge \mu \pm \omega \wedge d\mu, \quad \phi^{*}(d\omega) = d(\phi^{*}\omega)$$
We may use any coordinate chart to define  $d : \Lambda^{k}(M) \to \Lambda^{k+1}(M).$ 

#### Exterior calculus continued

■ A differential *n*-form on an oriented *n*-dim'l manifold *M* may be *integrated* very geometrically (w/o requiring a metric or measure):  $\int_{M} \omega \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\omega \in \Lambda^{n}(M)$ 

 $\int_M \phi^* \omega = \int_{M'} \omega, \, \omega \in \Lambda^n(M')$  if  $\phi$  preserves orientation.

For  $\omega = f(x)$  vol on  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  we get what notation suggests.

• Stokes theorem:  $\int_{\Omega} d\omega = \int_{\partial \Omega} \operatorname{tr} \omega, \quad \omega \in \Lambda^{k-1}(\Omega)$ 

Combining with Leibniz, we get the integration by parts formula

$$\int_{\Omega} \boldsymbol{d}\omega \wedge \eta = \pm \int_{\Omega} \omega \wedge \boldsymbol{d}\eta + \int_{\partial \Omega} \operatorname{tr} \omega \wedge \operatorname{tr} \eta, \quad \omega \in \Lambda^{k}(\Omega), \ \eta \in \Lambda^{n-k-1}(\Omega)$$

- For *M* an oriented Riemannian manifold we have inner prod and  $\star$  on Alt<sup>k</sup>  $T_x M$  and can define:  $\langle \omega, \eta \rangle_{L^2 \Lambda^k} = \int_{\Omega} \langle \omega_x, \eta_x \rangle \operatorname{vol} = \int \omega \wedge \star \eta$
- This allows us to rewrite the integration by parts formula

$$\langle d\omega, \mu \rangle = \langle \omega, \delta \mu \rangle + \int_{\partial \Omega} \operatorname{tr} \omega \wedge \operatorname{tr} \star \mu, \quad \omega \in \Lambda^{k-1}, \ \mu \in \Lambda^k,$$

where  $\delta \mu := \pm \star d \star \mu$  is the *coderivative* operator.

# Vector proxies in $\mathbb{R}^n$

k	0	1	<i>n</i> – 1	п	
$\Lambda^{\kappa}(\Omega)$	functions	vector fields	vector fields	functions	
$\Lambda^k(\partial\Omega)$	functions	tang vctr flds functions		0	
${\rm tr}:\Lambda^k(\Omega)\to\Lambda^k(\partial\Omega)$	$u _{\partial\Omega}$	$\pi_t u _{\partial\Omega}$	$u _{\partial\Omega}\cdot n$	0	
$d: \Lambda^k(\Omega)  o \Lambda^{k+1}(\Omega)$	grad	curl	div	0	
$\delta: \Lambda^k(\Omega)  o \Lambda^{k-1}(\Omega)$	0	— div	curl	- grad	
$\int_f: \Lambda^k(\Omega)  o \mathbb{R}$	<i>u</i> ( <i>f</i> )	$\int_f u \cdot t  d\mathcal{H}_1$	$\int_{f} u \cdot n  d\mathcal{H}_{n-1}$	$\int_f u  d\mathcal{H}_n$	
$\phi^*: \Lambda^k(\Omega')  o \Lambda^k(\Omega)$	<b>и</b> 0ф	$(\phi'_x)^T(u \circ \phi)$	$(\operatorname{adj} \phi'_x)(u \circ \phi)$	$(\det \phi'_x)(u \circ \phi)$	
$\dim f = k$ $\phi: \Omega \to \Omega'$ Piola transform					

# $L^2$ differential forms on a domain in $\mathbb{R}^n$

 $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  Lipschitz boundary

$$H\Lambda^{k} := \{ u \in L^{2}\Lambda^{k} \mid du \in L^{2}\Lambda^{k+1} \}$$

$$H^{*}\Lambda^{k} = \{ u \in L^{2}\Lambda^{k} \mid \delta u \in L^{2}\Lambda^{k-1} \} = \star H\Lambda^{n-k}$$

$$u \in H\Lambda^{k}(\Omega) \implies \text{tr } u \in H^{-1/2}\Lambda^{k}(\partial\Omega)$$

$$u \in H^* \Lambda^k(\Omega) \implies \operatorname{tr} \star u \in H^{-1/2} \Lambda^{n-k}(\partial \Omega)$$

$$\quad \overset{\bullet}{H}\Lambda^{k} = \{ u \in H\Lambda^{k} | \operatorname{tr} u = 0 \}, \quad \overset{\bullet}{H}^{*}\Lambda^{k} = \{ u \in H^{*}\Lambda^{k} | \operatorname{tr} \star u = 0 \}$$

#### Theorem

If we view d as an unbdd operator  $L^2 \Lambda^k \to L^2 \Lambda^{k+1}$  with domain  $H \Lambda^k$ , then  $d^* = \delta$  with domain  $\mathring{H}^* \Lambda^k$ . Consequently  $\mathfrak{H}^k = \{ \omega \in L^2 \Lambda^k \mid d\omega = 0, \ \delta \omega = 0, \ \text{tr} \star \omega = 0 \}.$ 

# $L^2$ de Rham complex on a domain in $\mathbb{R}^n$

 $L^2$  de Rham complex:

$$0 \to H\Lambda^0 \xrightarrow{d} H\Lambda^1 \xrightarrow{d} \cdots \xrightarrow{d} H\Lambda^n \to 0$$

Dual complex:

$$0 \leftarrow \mathring{H}^* \Lambda^0 \xleftarrow{\delta} \mathring{H}^* \Lambda^1 \xleftarrow{\delta} \cdots \xleftarrow{\delta} \mathring{H}^* \Lambda^n \leftarrow 0$$

#### Theorem (R. Picard '84)

For a domain (or Riemannian manifold) w/ Lipschitz boundary the compactness property holds:  $H\Lambda^k \cap \mathring{H}^*\Lambda^k$  is compact in  $L^2\Lambda^k$ .

compactness property  $\implies$  Fredholm  $\implies$  closed

# Finite element spaces of differential forms

Goal: define *finite element spaces*  $\Lambda_h^k \subset H\Lambda^k(\Omega)$  satisfying the hypotheses of approximation, subcomplexes, and bounded cochain projections. A FE space is constructed by assembling three ingredients: Ciarlet '78

- A *triangulation* T consisting of polyhedral elements T
- For each T, a space of *shape functions* V(T), typically polynomial

For each T, a set of DOFs: a set of functionals on V(T), each associated to a face of T. These must be unisolvent, i.e., form a basis for V(T)\*.

The FE space  $V_h$  is *defined* as functions piecewise in V(T) with DOFs single-valued on faces. The DOFs determine (1) the interelement continuity, and (2) a projection operator into  $V_h$ .

# Example: $H\Lambda^0 = H^1$ : the Lagrange finite element family

Elements  $T \in \mathcal{T}_h$  are simplices in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Shape fns:  $V(T) = \mathcal{P}_r(T)$ , some  $r \ge 1$ .

DOFs:  $u \mapsto \int_{f} (\operatorname{tr}_{f} u) q, \ q \in \mathcal{P}_{r-d-1}(f), \ f \in \Delta(T), \quad d = \dim f$ 



#### Theorem

The number of  $DOFs = \dim \mathcal{P}_r(T)$  and they are unisolvent. The imposed continuity exactly forces inclusion in  $H^1$ .

### Unisolvence for Lagrange elements in n dimensions

Shape fns:  $V(T) = \mathcal{P}_r(T)$ , DOFs:  $u \mapsto \int_f (\operatorname{tr}_f u)q$ ,  $q \in \mathcal{P}_{r-d-1}(f)$ ,  $d = \dim f$ 

DF count:  

$$\frac{\#\Delta_d(T) \quad \dim \mathcal{P}_{r-d-1}(f_d) \quad \dim \mathcal{P}_r(T)}{\sqrt{q}}$$

$$\#DOF = \sum_{d=0}^n \binom{n+1}{d+1} \binom{r-1}{d} = \binom{r+n}{n} = \dim \mathcal{P}_r(T).$$

Unisolvence proved by induction on dimension (n = 1 is obvious). Suppose  $u \in \mathcal{P}_r(T)$  and all DOFs vanish. Let f be a facet of T. Note

•  $\operatorname{tr}_f u \in \mathcal{P}_r(f)$ 

D

■ the DOFs associated to *f* and its subfaces applied to *u* coincide with the Lagrange DOFs in P<sub>r</sub>(*f*) applied to tr<sub>f</sub> *u* 

Therefore tr<sub>f</sub> u vanishes by the inductive hypothesis. Thus  $u = (\prod_{i=0}^{n} \lambda_i)p$ ,  $p \in \mathcal{P}_{r-n-1}(T)$ . Choose q = p in the interior DOFs to see that p = 0.

#### Polynomial differential forms

Polynomial diff. forms:  $\mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^k(\Omega) \sum_{\sigma} a_{\sigma} dx^{\sigma_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx^{\sigma_k}, a_{\sigma} \in \mathcal{P}_r(\Omega)$ Homogeneous polynomial diff. forms:  $\mathcal{H}_r \Lambda^k(\Omega)$ 

$$\dim \mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^k = \binom{r+n}{r} \binom{n}{k} = \binom{r+n}{r+k} \binom{r+k}{k}$$
$$\dim \mathcal{H}_r \Lambda^k = \binom{r+n-1}{r} \binom{n}{k} = \frac{n}{n+r} \binom{r+n}{r+k} \binom{r+k}{k}$$

(Homogeneous) polynomial de Rham subcomplex:

$$0 \to \mathcal{P}_{r}\Lambda^{0} \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{P}_{r-1}\Lambda^{1} \xrightarrow{d} \cdots \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{P}_{r-n}\Lambda^{n} \to 0$$
$$0 \to \mathcal{H}_{r}\Lambda^{0} \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{H}_{r-1}\Lambda^{1} \xrightarrow{d} \cdots \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{H}_{r-n}\Lambda^{n} \to 0$$

#### The Koszul complex

For  $x \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $T_x \Omega$  may be identified with  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , so the identity map can be viewed as a vector field.

The Koszul differential κ : Λ<sup>k</sup> → Λ<sup>k-1</sup> is the contraction with the identity: κω = ω<sub>⊥</sub> id. Applied to polynomials it increases degree.
 κ ∘ κ = 0 giving the *Koszul complex:*

$$0 \to \mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^n \xrightarrow{\kappa} \mathcal{P}_{r+1} \Lambda^{n-1} \xrightarrow{\kappa} \cdots \mathcal{P}_{r+n} \Lambda^0 \to 0$$

- $\kappa dx^i = x^i$ ,  $\kappa(\omega \wedge \mu) = (\kappa\omega) \wedge \mu \pm \omega \wedge (\kappa\mu)$ •  $\kappa(f dx^{\sigma_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx^{\sigma^k}) = f \sum_{i=1}^k (-)^i dx^{\sigma_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx^{\sigma^k}$ • **3D Koszul complex:** 
  - $0 \to \mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^3 \xrightarrow{x} \mathcal{P}_{r+1} \Lambda^2 \xrightarrow{\times x} \mathcal{P}_{r+2} \Lambda^1 \xrightarrow{\cdot x} \mathcal{P}_{r+3} \Lambda^0 \to 0$

Theorem (Homotopy formula)

$$(d\kappa + \kappa d)\omega = (r + k)\omega, \quad \omega \in \mathcal{H}_r\Lambda^k.$$

$$(d\kappa + \kappa d)\omega = (r + k)\omega, \quad \omega \in \mathcal{H}_r \Lambda^k, \quad \omega \in \mathcal{H}_r \Lambda^k$$

Proof by induction on *k*. k = 0 is Euler's identity. Assume true for  $\omega \in \mathcal{H}_r \Lambda^{k-1}$ , and verify it for  $\omega \wedge dx^i$ .

$$egin{aligned} d\kappa(\omega\wedge dx^i) &= d(\kappa\omega\wedge dx^i+(-1)^{k-1}\omega\wedge x^i)\ &= d(\kappa\omega)\wedge dx^i+(-1)^{k-1}(d\omega)\wedge x^i+\omega\wedge dx^i. \end{aligned}$$

 $\kappa d(\omega \wedge dx^i) = \kappa (d\omega \wedge dx^i) = \kappa (d\omega) \wedge dx^i + (-1)^k d\omega \wedge x^i.$ 

 $(d\kappa + \kappa d)(\omega \wedge dx^i) = [(d\kappa + \kappa d)\omega] \wedge dx^i + \omega \wedge dx^i = (r + k)(\omega \wedge dx^i).$ 

#### Consequences of the homotopy formula

The polynomial de Rham complex is exact (except for constant 0-forms in the kernel). The Koszul complex is exact (except for constant 0-forms in the coimage).

• 
$$\kappa d\omega = 0 \implies d\omega = 0, \quad d\kappa\omega = 0 \implies \kappa\omega = 0$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{r}\Lambda^{k} = \kappa \mathcal{H}_{r-1}\Lambda^{k+1} \oplus \mathcal{H}_{r+1}\Lambda^{k-1}$$

$$\text{Define } \mathcal{P}_{r}^{-}\Lambda^{k} = \mathcal{P}_{r-1}\Lambda^{k} + \kappa \mathcal{H}_{r-1}\Lambda^{k+1}$$

$$\mathcal{P}_{r}^{-}\Lambda^{0} = \mathcal{P}_{r}\Lambda^{0}, \quad \mathcal{P}_{r}^{-}\Lambda^{n} = \mathcal{P}_{r-1}\Lambda^{n}, \quad \text{else } \mathcal{P}_{r-1}\Lambda^{k} \subsetneq \mathcal{P}_{r}^{-}\Lambda^{k} \subsetneq \mathcal{P}_{r}\Lambda$$

$$\text{dim } \mathcal{P}_{r}^{-}\Lambda^{k} = \binom{r+n}{r+k}\binom{r+k-1}{k} = \frac{r}{r+k}\dim \mathcal{P}_{r}\Lambda^{k}$$

 $\blacksquare \ \mathcal{R}(d|\mathcal{P}_r^-\Lambda^k) = \mathcal{R}(d|\mathcal{P}_r\Lambda^k), \quad \mathcal{N}(d|\mathcal{P}_r^-\Lambda^k) = \mathcal{N}(d|\mathcal{P}_{r-1}\Lambda^k)$ 

■ The complex (with constant *r*)

$$0 \to \mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^0 \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^1 \xrightarrow{d} \cdots \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^n \to 0$$

is exact (except for constant 0-forms).

#### Complexes mixing $\mathcal{P}_r$ and $\mathcal{P}_r^-$

On an *n*-D domain there are  $2^{n-1}$  complexes beginning with  $\mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^0$  (or ending with  $\mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^n$ ). At each step we have two choices:

$$\mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^{k-1} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k} \mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^{k-1} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k} \mathcal{P}_{r-1}^- \Lambda^k$$
 or  $\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^{k-1} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k} \mathcal{P}_{r-1}^- \Lambda^k$ 

#### In 3-D:

$$\begin{split} 0 &\to \mathcal{P}_{r}\Lambda^{0} \stackrel{d}{\to} \mathcal{P}_{r}^{-}\Lambda^{1} \stackrel{d}{\to} \mathcal{P}_{r}^{-}\Lambda^{2} \stackrel{d}{\to} \mathcal{P}_{r-1}\Lambda^{3} \to 0, \\ 0 &\to \mathcal{P}_{r}\Lambda^{0} \stackrel{d}{\to} \mathcal{P}_{r}^{-}\Lambda^{1} \stackrel{d}{\to} \mathcal{P}_{r-1}\Lambda^{2} \stackrel{d}{\to} \mathcal{P}_{r-2}\Lambda^{3} \to 0, \\ 0 &\to \mathcal{P}_{r}\Lambda^{0} \stackrel{d}{\to} \mathcal{P}_{r-1}\Lambda^{1} \stackrel{d}{\to} \mathcal{P}_{r-1}^{-}\Lambda^{2} \stackrel{d}{\to} \mathcal{P}_{r-2}\Lambda^{3} \to 0, \\ 0 &\to \mathcal{P}_{r}\Lambda^{0} \stackrel{d}{\to} \mathcal{P}_{r-1}\Lambda^{1} \stackrel{d}{\to} \mathcal{P}_{r-2}\Lambda^{2} \stackrel{d}{\to} \mathcal{P}_{r-3}\Lambda^{3} \to 0, \end{split}$$

# The $P_r^- \Lambda^k$ family of simplicial FE differential forms

Given: a mesh  $\mathcal{T}_h$  of simplices  $T, r \ge 1, 0 \le k \le n$ , we define  $\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k(\mathcal{T}_h)$  via:

Shape fns:  $\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k(T)$ 

DOFs:  

$$u \mapsto \int_{f} (\operatorname{tr}_{f} u) \wedge q, \quad q \in \mathcal{P}_{r+k-d-1} \Lambda^{d-k}(f), \ f \in \Delta(T), \quad d = \dim f \geq k$$

#### Theorem

The number of  $DOFs = \dim \mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k(T)$  and they are unisolvent. The imposed continuity exactly enforces inclusion in  $H\Lambda^k$ .
$$#DOFs = \sum_{d \ge k} \#\Delta_d(T) \dim \mathcal{P}_{r+k-d-1}\Lambda^k(\mathbb{R}^d)$$
$$= \sum_{d \ge k} \binom{n+1}{d+1} \binom{r+k-1}{d} \binom{d}{k}$$
$$= \sum_{j \ge 0} \binom{n+1}{j+k+1} \binom{r+k-1}{j+k} \binom{j+k}{j}$$

Simplify using the identities

$$\binom{a}{b}\binom{b}{c} = \binom{a}{c}\binom{a-c}{a-b} \qquad \sum_{j\geq 0}\binom{a}{b+j}\binom{c}{j} = \binom{a+c}{a-b}$$

to get

$$\# DOFs = \binom{r+n}{r+k} \binom{r+k-1}{k} = \dim \mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k$$

#### Lemma

If 
$$u \in \mathring{\mathcal{P}}_{r-1}\Lambda^k(T)$$
 and  $\int_T u \wedge q = 0 \ \forall q \in \mathcal{P}_{r+k-n-1}\Lambda^{n-k}(T)$ , then  $u = 0$ .

Proof: This can be proved by an explicit choice of test function. **Proof of unisolvence:** Suppose  $u \in \mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k(T)$  and all the DOFS vanish:  $\int_f (\operatorname{tr}_f u) \wedge q = 0$ ,  $q \in \mathcal{P}_{r+k-d-1} \Lambda^{d-k}(f)$ ,  $f \in \Delta(T)$ . Then  $\operatorname{tr}_f u \in \mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k(f)$  and all its DOFs vanish. By induction on dimension, tr u vanishes on the boundary. So we need to show:  $u \in \mathring{\mathcal{P}}_r^- \Lambda^k(T)$ ,  $\int_T u \wedge q = 0 \forall q \in \mathcal{P}_{r+k-n-1} \Lambda^{n-k}(T) \implies u = 0$ 

In view of lemma, we just need to show  $u \in \mathcal{P}_{r-1}\Lambda^k(T)$ .

- By the homotopy formula,  $u \in \mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k$ ,  $du = 0 \implies u \in \mathcal{P}_{r-1} \Lambda^k$ . So it remains to show that du = 0.
- $du \in \mathring{\mathcal{P}}_{r-1}\Lambda^{k+1}(T)$ ,  $\int_T du \wedge p = \pm \int_T u \wedge dp = 0 \ \forall p \in \mathcal{P}_{r+k-n}\Lambda^{n-k-1}(T)$ . Therefore du = 0 by the lemma (with  $k \to k+1$ ).

## The $P_r \Lambda^k$ family of simplicial FE differential forms

Given: a mesh  $\mathcal{T}_h$  of simplices  $T, r \ge 1, 0 \le k \le n$ , we define  $\mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^k(\mathcal{T}_h)$  via:

Shape fns:  $\mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^k(T)$ 

DOFs:  

$$u \mapsto \int_{f} (\operatorname{tr}_{f} u) \wedge q, \quad q \in \mathcal{P}_{r+k-d}^{-} \wedge^{d-k}(f), \ f \in \Delta(T), \quad d = \dim f \geq k$$

#### Theorem

The number of  $DOFs = \dim \mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^k(T)$  and they are unisolvent. The imposed continuity exactly enforces inclusion in  $H\Lambda^k$ .

# The $\mathcal{P}_r^-$ family in 2D



# The $\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k$ family in 3D



# The $\mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^k$ family in 2D



# The $\mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^k$ family in 3D



## Application of the $\mathcal{P}_r$ and $\mathcal{P}_r^-$ families to the Hodge Laplacian

- The shape function spaces  $\mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^k(T)$  and  $\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k(T)$  combine into de Rham subcomplexes.
- The DOFs connect these spaces across elements to create subspaces of HΛ<sup>k</sup>(Ω).

Therefore the assembled finite element spaces  $\mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^k(\mathcal{T}_h)$  and  $\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k(\mathcal{T}_h)$  combine into de Rham subcomplexes (in  $2^{n-1}$  ways).

The DOFs of freedom determine projections from  $\Lambda^k(\Omega)$  into the finite element spaces. From Stokes thm, these commute with *d*. Suitably modified, we obtain *bounded* cochain projections. Thus the abstract theory applies. We may use any two adjacent spaces in any of the complexes.

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^{k-1}(\mathcal{T}) \\ \text{or} \\ \mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^{k-1}(\mathcal{T}) \end{cases} \xrightarrow{d} \begin{cases} \mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k(\mathcal{T}) \\ \text{or} \\ \mathcal{P}_{r-1} \Lambda^k(\mathcal{T}) \end{cases}$$

Rates of convergence are determined by the improved error estimates from the abstract theory. They depend on

- The smoothness of the data *f*.
- The amount of elliptic regularity.
- The degree of of complete polynomials contained in the finite element spaces.

The theory delivers the best possible results: with sufficiently smooth data and elliptic regularity, the rate of convergence for each of the quantities u, du,  $\sigma$ ,  $d\sigma$ , and p in the  $L^2$  norm is the best possible given the degree of polynomials used for that quantity.

Eigenvalues converge as  $O(h^{2r})$ .

- The  $\mathcal{P}_1^- \Lambda^k$  complex is in Whitney '57 (Bossavit '88).
- In '76, Dodziuk and Patodi defined a finite difference approximation based on the Whitney forms to compute the eigenvalues of the Hodge Laplacian, and proved convergence. In retrospect, that method can be better viewed as a mixed finite element method. This was a step on the way to proving the Ray-Singer conjecture, completed in '78 by W. Miller.
- The  $\mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^k$  complex is in Sullivan '78.
- Hiptmair gave a uniform treatment of the  $\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k$  spaces in '99.
- The unified treatment and use of the Koszul complex is in DNA-Falk-Winther '06.

#### Bounded cochain projections

The DOFs defining  $\mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^k(\mathcal{T}_h)$  and  $\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k(\mathcal{T}_h)$  determine canonical projection operators  $\Pi_h$  from piecewise smooth forms in  $H\Lambda^k$  onto  $\Lambda_h^k$ . However,  $\Pi_h$  is *not bounded* on  $H\Lambda^k$  (much less uniformly bounded wrt *h*).  $\Pi_h$  *is* bounded on  $C\Lambda^k$ .

If we have a smoothing operator  $R_{\epsilon,h} \in \text{Lin}(L^2\Lambda^k, C\Lambda^k)$  such that  $R_{\epsilon,h}$  commutes with *d*, we can define  $Q_{\epsilon,h} = \prod_h R_{\epsilon,h}$  and obtain a bounded operator  $L^2\Lambda^k \to \Lambda_h^k$  which commutes with *d* (as suggested by Christiansen).

However  $Q_h$  will not be a projection. We correct this by using Schöberl's trick: if the finite dimensional operator

$$Q_{\epsilon,h}|_{\Lambda_h^k}:\Lambda_h^k\to\Lambda_h^k$$

is invertible, then

$$\pi_h := (Q_{\epsilon,h}|_{\Lambda_h^k})^{-1} Q_{\epsilon,h},$$

is a bounded commuting projection. It remains to get uniform bds on  $\pi_h$ .

#### The two key estimates

For this we need two key estimates for  $Q_{\epsilon,h} := \prod_h R_{\epsilon,h}$ :

■ For fixed  $\epsilon$ ,  $Q_{\epsilon,h}$  is uniformly bounded:  $\forall \epsilon > 0$  suff. small  $\exists c(\epsilon) > 0$  s.t.

$$\sup_{h} \|Q_{\epsilon,h}\|_{\operatorname{Lin}(L^2,L^2)} \leq c(\epsilon)$$

$$= \lim_{\epsilon \to 0} \|I - Q_{\epsilon,h}\|_{\operatorname{Lin}(L^2,L^2)} = 0 \quad \text{uniformly in } h$$

#### Theorem

Suppose that these two estimates hold and define  $\pi_h := (Q_{\epsilon,h}|_{\Lambda_h^k})^{-1} Q_{\epsilon,h}$ , where  $\Lambda_h^k$  is either  $\mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^k(\mathcal{T}_h)$  or  $\mathcal{P}_{r+1}^- \Lambda^k(\mathcal{T}_h)$ . Then, for h sufficiently small,  $\pi_h$  is a cochain projection onto  $\Lambda_h^k$  and

 $\|\omega - \pi_h \omega\| \le ch^s \|\omega\|_{H^s \Lambda^k}, \quad \omega \in H^s \Lambda^k, \quad 0 \le s \le r+1.$ 

The simplest definition is to take  $R_{\epsilon,h}u$  to be an average over  $y \in B_1$  of  $(\mathcal{F}_{\epsilon,h}^y)^*u$  where  $\mathcal{F}_{\epsilon,h}^y(x) = x + \epsilon hy$ :

$$R_{\epsilon,h}u(x) = \int_{B_1} 
ho(y)[(F_{eh}^y)^*u](x)\,dy$$

Needs modification near the boundary and for non-quasiuniform meshes.

The key estimates can be proven using macroelements and scaling.

Bases for the spaces

#### Bases

Since the DOFs determine a basis for the dual space of a FE space, there is a corresponding basis for the FE space. An alternative is to use the Bernstein basis fns which are given explicitly in terms of the barycentric coordinates  $\lambda_i$ :



Basis of  $\mathcal{P}_3$  dual to the nodal DOFs.



Bernstein basis functions  $\lambda_0^i \lambda_1^j$ .

For the  $\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k$  and  $\mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^k$  families in *n*-dimensions, there is of course again the basis determined by the DOFs. In addition, there is an explicit basis analogous to the Bernstein basis (DNA-Falk-Winter 2009).

#### Some computations with barycentric coordinates

The barycentric coordinates  $\lambda_0, \ldots, \lambda_n$  form the dual basis for  $\mathcal{P}_1(T) = \mathcal{P}_1^- \Lambda^0(T)$ 

• 
$$d\lambda^1 \wedge \cdots \wedge d\lambda^n = c \operatorname{vol} \in \operatorname{Alt}^n T$$
 with  
 $c = \frac{(d\lambda^1 \wedge \cdots \wedge d\lambda^n)(x_1 - x_0, \dots, x_n - x_0)}{\operatorname{vol}(x_1 - x_0, \dots, x_n - x_0)} = \frac{1}{n!|T|}$ 

• More generally, 
$$d\lambda_0 \wedge \ldots \wedge \widehat{d\lambda_i} \wedge \ldots \wedge d\lambda_n = \frac{(-1)^i}{n!|T|}$$
vol.

• 
$$\kappa d\lambda_i = \lambda_i - \lambda_i(0)$$
, so  
 $\kappa (d\lambda_{\sigma_0} \wedge \cdots \wedge d\lambda_{\sigma_k}) = \sum_{i=0}^k (-1)^i \lambda_{\sigma_i} d\lambda_{\sigma_0} \wedge \cdots \wedge d\lambda_{\sigma_i} \wedge \cdots \wedge d\lambda_{\sigma_k} + \psi,$   
 $\psi \in \mathcal{P}_0 \Lambda^k.$ 

## The Whitney forms

Define the *Whitney form* associated to the *k*-face *f* with vertices  $x_{\sigma_0}, \ldots, x_{\sigma_k}$  by

$$\phi_f = \sum_{i=0}^k (-1)^i \lambda_{\sigma_i} \, d\lambda_{\sigma_0} \wedge \ldots \wedge \widehat{d\lambda_{\sigma_i}} \wedge \ldots \wedge d\lambda_{\sigma_k} \in \mathcal{P}_1^- \Lambda^k$$

vertices: $\lambda_i$ edges: $\lambda_i d\lambda_j - \lambda_j d\lambda_i$ triangles: $\lambda_i d\lambda_j \wedge d\lambda_k - \lambda_j d\lambda_i \wedge d\lambda_k + \lambda_k d\lambda_i \wedge d\lambda_j$ etc.

If 
$$f, g \in \Delta_k(T)$$
 then  $\int_g \operatorname{tr}_g \phi_f = \begin{cases} 0, & g \neq f, \\ 1/k!, & g = f \end{cases}$ 

• ... after normalization, the Whitney forms are a basis for  $\mathcal{P}_1^- \Lambda^k$  dual to the DOFs.

### Explicit geometric bases

The *Bernstein basis* is an explicit alternative to the Lagrange basis for the Lagrange finite elts.

$$\mathcal{P}_r = \operatorname{span} \{ \lambda^{\alpha} := \lambda_0^{\alpha_0} \cdots \lambda_n^{\alpha_n} \mid |\alpha| = r \}$$
$$\mathcal{P}_r(T, f) := \operatorname{span} \{ \lambda^{\alpha} \mid \operatorname{supp} \alpha = \{ \sigma_0, \dots, \sigma_k \}, \, |\alpha| = r \}$$

$$\mathcal{P}_r(T) = \bigoplus_f \mathcal{P}_r(T, f)$$
$$\mathcal{P}_r(T, f) \xrightarrow{\cong}_{\text{tr}} \mathring{\mathcal{P}}_r(f) \cong \mathcal{P}_{r-\dim f-1}(f)$$

There are similar geometric bases for all *k*:

$$\mathcal{P}_{r}\Lambda^{k}(T) = \bigoplus_{\dim f \geq k} \mathcal{P}_{r}\Lambda^{k}(T, f), \ \mathcal{P}_{r}\Lambda^{k}(T, f) \xrightarrow{\cong}_{\mathrm{tr}} \mathring{\mathcal{P}}_{r}\Lambda^{k}(f) \cong \mathcal{P}_{r+k-\dim f}^{-}\Lambda^{\dim f-k}(f)$$

 $\mathcal{P}_{r}^{-}\Lambda^{k}(T) = \bigoplus_{\dim f \ge k} \mathcal{P}_{r}^{-}\Lambda^{k}(T,f), \mathcal{P}_{r}^{-}\Lambda^{k}(T,f) \xrightarrow{\cong}_{\mathrm{tr}} \mathring{\mathcal{P}}_{r}^{-}\Lambda^{k}(f) \cong \mathcal{P}_{r+k-\dim f-1}\Lambda^{\dim f-k}(f)$ 

To create a basis for  $\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k$  (the easier case), we consider all products

 $\lambda_0^{\alpha_0} \cdots \lambda_n^{\alpha_n} \phi_f$ ,  $f \in \Delta_k(T)$ ,  $\sum \alpha_i = r - 1$ This form is associated the the face whose vertices are in *f* or for which  $\alpha_i > 0$ . E.g.,  $\lambda_3^2 \phi_{[1,2]}$  is associated with the face [1, 2, 3]. These span  $\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k$ . However they are not linearly independent since

$$\sum_{i=0}^{k} (-1)^{i} \lambda_{\sigma_{i}} \phi_{[\sigma_{0} \cdots \widehat{\sigma_{i}} \cdots \sigma_{k}]} = 0.$$

To get a linearly independent spanning set, we impose the extra condition that if  $\alpha_i \neq 0$  then  $i \geq \sigma_0$  (the least vertex index of *f*). E.g.,  $\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \phi_{[1,2]}$  and  $\lambda_3^2 \phi_{[1,2]}$  are included in the basis for  $\mathcal{P}_3^- \Lambda^2$  but  $\lambda_0 \lambda_3 \phi_{[1,2]}$  is not.

# Example: explicit bases for $\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^1$ and $\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^2$ on a tet

 $\mathcal{P}_r^-\Lambda^1(T_3)$ 

r	Edge $[x_i, x_j]$	Face $[x_i, x_j, x_k]$	Tet $[x_i, x_j, x_k, x_l]$
1	$\phi_{ij}$		
2	$\lambda_i\phi_{ij},\lambda_j\phi_{ij}$	$\lambda_k \phi_{ij},\lambda_j \phi_{ik}$	
3	$\{\lambda_i^2,\lambda_j^2,\lambda_i\lambda_j\}\phi_{ij}$	$\{\lambda_i,\lambda_j,\lambda_k\}\lambda_k\phi_{ij},\{\lambda_i,\lambda_j,\lambda_k\}\lambda_j\phi_{ik}$	$\lambda_k \lambda_l \phi_{ij}, \lambda_j \lambda_l \phi_{ik}, \lambda_j \lambda_k \phi_{il}$

 $\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^2(T_3)$ 

r	Edge $[x_i, x_j]$	Face $[x_i, x_j, x_k]$	Tet $[x_i, x_j, x_k, x_l]$
1		$\phi_{ijk}$	
2		$\lambda_i\phi_{ijk},\lambda_j\phi_{ijk},\lambda_k\phi_{ijk}$	$\lambda_{l}\phi_{ijk},\;\lambda_{k}\phi_{ijl},\;\lambda_{j}\phi_{ikl}$
3		$\{\lambda_i^2,\lambda_j^2,\lambda_k^2\}\phi_{ijk}$	$\{\lambda_i,\lambda_j,\lambda_k,\lambda_l\}\lambda_l\phi_{ijk}$
		$\{\lambda_i\lambda_j,\lambda_i\lambda_k,\lambda_j\lambda_k\}\phi_{ijk}$	$\{\lambda_i,\lambda_j,\lambda_k,\lambda_l\}\lambda_k\phi_{ijl}$
			$\{\lambda_i,\lambda_j,\lambda_k,\lambda_l\}\lambda_j\phi_{ikl}$

# Finite element differential forms on cubical meshes

#### The tensor product construction

Again there are two families (only?). One results from a tensor product construction. (DNA–Boffi–Bonizzoni) Suppose we have a finite element de Rham subcomplex *V* on an element  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ :

$$\cdots 
ightarrow V^k \stackrel{d}{
ightarrow} V^{k+1} 
ightarrow \cdots \qquad V^k \subset \Lambda^k(S)$$

and another, *W*, on another element  $T \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ :

$$\cdots \rightarrow W^k \xrightarrow{d} W^{k+1} \rightarrow \cdots$$

The tensor-product construction produces a new complex  $V \wedge W$ , a subcomplex of the de Rham complex on  $S \times T$ .

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Shape fns: 
$$(V \land W)^k = \bigoplus_{i+j=k} \pi^*_S V^i \land \pi^*_T W^j \qquad (\pi_S : S \times T \to S)$$

DOFs:  $(\eta \land \rho)(\pi_S^* v \land \pi_T^* w) := \eta(v)\rho(w)$ 

#### Finite element differential forms on cubes: the $Q_r^- \Lambda^k$ family

Start with the simple 1-D degree r finite element de Rham complex,  $V_r$ :

Take tensor product *n* times:  $Q_r^- \Lambda^k (I^n) := (V_r \wedge \cdots \wedge V_r)^k$ 

 $\mathcal{Q}_r = \mathcal{P}_r \otimes \mathcal{P}_r, \quad \mathcal{P}_{r-1} \otimes \mathcal{P}_r \, dx_1 + \mathcal{P}_r \otimes \mathcal{P}_{r-1} \, dx_2, \quad \mathcal{P}_{r-1} \otimes \mathcal{P}_{r-1} \, dx_1 \wedge dx_2$ 



The  $S_r \Lambda^k(I^n)$  family of FEDFs: (DNA–Awanou '12)

Shape fns:

For a form monomial  $m = x_1^{\alpha_i} \cdots x_n^{\alpha_n} dx_{\sigma_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{\sigma_k}$ , define deg  $m = \sum \alpha_i$ , ldeg  $m = \#\{i \mid \alpha_i = 1, \alpha_i \neq \{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_k\}\}$ . Ex: If  $m = x_1 x_2 x_3^5 dx_1$ , deg m = 7, ldeg m = 1.

 $\mathcal{H}_{r,\ell}\Lambda^{k}(I^{n}) = \text{ span of monomials with deg} = r, \text{ ldeg} \geq \ell,$  $\mathcal{J}_{r}\Lambda^{k}(I^{n}) = \bigoplus_{\ell \geq 1} \kappa \mathcal{H}_{r+\ell-1,\ell}\Lambda^{k+1}(I^{n}),$  $\mathcal{S}_{r}\Lambda^{k}(I^{n}) = \mathcal{P}_{r}\Lambda^{k}(I^{n}) \oplus \mathcal{J}_{r}\Lambda^{k}(I^{n}) \oplus d\mathcal{J}_{r+1}\Lambda^{k-1}(I^{n}).$ DOFs:  $u \mapsto \int_{f} u \wedge q, \quad q \in \mathcal{P}_{r-2d}\Lambda^{d-k}(f), f \in \Delta(I^{n})$ 

### Key properties

For any  $n \ge 1$ ,  $r \ge 1$ ,  $0 \le k \le n$ :

Degree property:  $\mathcal{P}_r \Lambda^k(I^n) \subset \mathcal{S}_r \Lambda^k(I^n) \subset \mathcal{P}_{r+n-k} \Lambda^k(I^n)$ 

Inclusion property:  $S_r \Lambda^k(I^n) \subset S_{r+1} \Lambda^k(I^n)$ 

Trace property: For each face *f* of  $I^n$ ,  $\operatorname{tr}_f S_r \Lambda^k(I^n) = S_r \Lambda^k(f)$ .

Subcomplex property:  $dS_r \Lambda^k(I^n) \subset S_{r-1} \Lambda^{k+1}(I^n)$ 

Unisolvence: The indicated DOFs are correct in number and are unisolvent.

Commuting projections: The DOFs determine commuting projections from the de Rham complex to the subcomplex

$$S_r \Lambda^0(I^n) \xrightarrow{d} S_{r-1} \Lambda^1(I^n) \xrightarrow{d} \cdots \xrightarrow{d} S_{r-n} \Lambda^n(I^n).$$

Define sdeg *m* of a monomial *m* to be the degree ignoring variables that enter linearly: sdeg  $x^3yz^2 = 5$ . For a polynomial *p*, sdeg *p* is the maximum over its monomials.

$$\mathcal{S}_r(I^n) = \{ p \in \mathcal{P}(I^n) \mid \operatorname{sdeg} p \le r \}$$
 DNA-Awanou '10

1D:  $S_r(I) = \mathcal{P}_r(I)$ , 2D:  $S_r(I^2) = \mathcal{P}_r(I^2) + \operatorname{span}[x^r y, xy^r]$  serendipity



## Serendipity 0-forms in more dimensions



Dimensions																	
	$\mathcal{P}_r(I^n)$					$S_r(I^n)$					$Q_r(I^n)$						
n	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5	
1	2	3	4	5	6	2	3	4	5	6		2	3	4	5	6	
2	3	6	10	15	21	4	8	12	17	23		4	9	16	25	36	
3	4	10	20	35	56	8	20	32	50	74		8	27	64	125	216	
4	5	15	35	70	126	16	6 48	80	136	216		16	81	256	625	1296	

#### The 2nd cubic family in 2-D



	$S_r \Lambda^k(I^2)$									
k	1	2	3	4	5					
0	4	8	12	17	23					
1	8	14	22	32	44					
2	3	6	10	15	21					

## The 2nd cubic family in 3-D



#### Dimensions and low order cases





new element





## The 3D shape functions in traditional FE language

 $S_r \Lambda^0$ : polynomials *u* such that sdeg  $u \leq r$ 

 $S_r \Lambda^1$ :

 $(v_1, v_2, v_3) + (x_2 x_3 (w_2 - w_3), x_3 x_1 (w_3 - w_1), x_1 x_2 (w_1 - w_2)) + \text{grad } u,$  $v_i \in \mathcal{P}_r, \quad w_i \in \mathcal{P}_{r-1} \text{ independent of } x_i, \quad \text{sdeg } u \le r+1$ 

 $S_r \Lambda^2$ :

 $(v_1, v_2, v_3) + \operatorname{curl}(x_2 x_3 (w_2 - w_3), x_3 x_1 (w_3 - w_1), x_1 x_2 (w_1 - w_2)),$  $v_i, w_i \in \mathcal{P}_r(l^3)$  with  $w_i$  independent of  $x_i$ 

 $\mathcal{S}_r \Lambda^3$ :  $v \in \mathcal{P}_r$