

# ANALYSIS OF THE DPG METHOD FOR THE POISSON EQUATION

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# Outline of Presentation

- ▶ Abstract  $B^3$  framework.

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- ▶ Proof of well-posedness for the DPG formulation in multidimensions.

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- ▶ Proof of well-posedness for the DPG formulation in multidimensions.
- ▶ Numerical experiments.

**Petrov–Galerkin Method  
with Optimal Test Functions  
Abstract  $B^3$  Framework  
(Repetitio Mater Studiorum Est)**

# Abstract Variational Problem

$$\begin{cases} u \in U \\ b(u, v) = l(v) \quad \forall v \in V \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} Bu = l & B : U \rightarrow V' \\ \langle Bu, v \rangle = b(u, v) \quad \forall v \in V \end{cases}$$

where

- ▶  $U, V$  are Hilbert spaces,
- ▶  $b(u, v)$  is a continuous bilinear form on  $U \times V$ ,

$$|b(u, v)| \leq M \|u\|_U \|v\|_V$$

that satisfies the inf-sup condition ( $\Leftrightarrow B$  is bounded below),

$$\inf_{\|u\|_U=1} \sup_{\|v\|_V=1} |b(u, v)| =: \gamma > 0$$

- ▶  $l \in V'$  represents the load and satisfies the compatibility condition  $l(v) = 0, \forall v \in V_0$  where

$$V_0 := \{v \in V : b(u, v) = 0 \quad \forall u \in U\}$$

# Energy Norm

Banach Closed Range Theorem implies that there exists a unique solution  $u$  that depends continuously upon the data,  $\|u\| \leq \frac{1}{\gamma} \|l\|_{V'}$ . The supremum in the inf-sup condition defines an equivalent, problem-dependent *energy (residual) norm*,

$$\|u\|_E := \sup_{\|v\|=1} |b(u, v)| = \|Bu\|_{V'}$$

For the energy norm,  $M = \gamma = 1$ . Recalling that the Riesz operator is an isometry from  $V$  into  $V'$ , we may characterize the energy norm in an equivalent way as

$$\|u\|_E = \|v_u\|_V$$

where  $v_u$  is the solution of the variational problem,

$$\begin{cases} v_u \in V \\ (v_u, \delta v)_V = b(u, \delta v) \quad \forall \delta v \in V \end{cases}$$



# Optimal Test Functions

Select your favorite trial basis functions:  $e_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, N$ . For each function  $e_j$ , introduce a corresponding *optimal test (basis) function*  $\bar{e}_j \in V$  that realizes the supremum,

$$|b(e_j, \bar{e}_j)| = \sup_{\|v\|_V=1} |b(e_j, v)|$$

i.e. it solves the variational problem,

$$\begin{cases} \bar{e}_j \in V \\ (\bar{e}_j, \delta v)_V = b(e_j, \delta v) \quad \forall \delta v \in V \end{cases}$$

Define the discrete test space as

$\bar{V}_{hp} := \text{span}\{\bar{e}_j, j = 1, \dots, N\} \subset V$ . It follows from the construction of the optimal test functions that the *discrete* inf-sup constant

$$\inf_{\|u_{hp}\|_E=1} \sup_{\|v_{hp}\|=1} |b(u_{hp}, v_{hp})| = 1$$

# The Best Approximation

Consequently, Babuška's Theorem

$$\|u - u_{hp}\|_E \leq \frac{M}{\gamma_{hp}} \inf_{w_{hp} \in U_{hp}} \|u - w_{hp}\|_E$$

implies that

$$\|u - u_{hp}\|_E \leq \inf_{w_{hp} \in U_{hp}} \|u - w_{hp}\|_E$$

i.e., the method delivers the *best approximation error* in the energy norm.

# Stiffness Matrix Is Symmetric and Positive Definite

$$b(e_i, \bar{e}_j) = (\bar{e}_i, \bar{e}_j)_V = (\bar{e}_j, \bar{e}_i)_V = b(e_j, \bar{e}_i)$$

# Energy Norm of FE Error $e_{hp} = u - u_{hp}$

can be computed *without* knowing the exact solution.

$$\begin{cases} v_{e_{hp}} \in V \\ (v_{e_{hp}}, \delta v)_V = b(u - u_{hp}, \delta v) = l(\delta v) - b(u_{hp}, \delta v) \quad \forall \delta v \in V \end{cases}$$

We have then

$$\|e_{hp}\|_E = \|v_{e_{hp}}\|_V$$

We shall call  $v_{e_{hp}}$  *the error representation function*

**Note:** No need for an a-posteriori error estimation.

# Relation with Least Squares

Rewrite the variational problem in the operator form:

$$Bu = l, \quad B : U \rightarrow V', \quad \langle Bu, v \rangle = b(u, v)$$

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$$\|R_V^{-1}Bu_{hp} - R_V^{-1}l\|_V \rightarrow \min$$

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This is exactly our DPG method



**Q:** Can we select the norm in the test space in such a way that the corresponding energy norm coincides with the original norm (of choice) in  $U$  ?

**A:** Yes! Choose:

$$\|v\|_V = \sup_{u \in U} \frac{|b(u, v)|}{\|u\|_U}$$

(under assumption that

$$V_0 = \{v \in V : b(u, v) = 0 \quad \forall u \in U\}$$

is trivial)

# Convergence Analysis in Multidimensions

# Poisson Problem

$$\begin{cases} u = u_0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \\ -\nabla \cdot (\alpha \nabla u) + \beta \cdot \nabla u = f & \text{in } \Omega \end{cases}$$

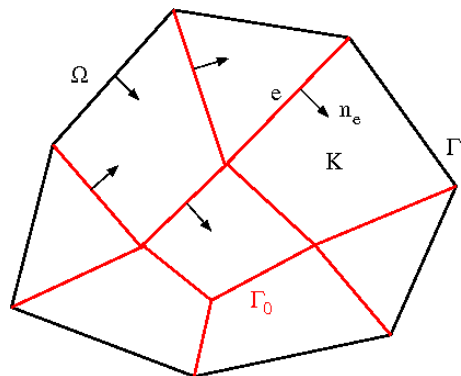
For a moment  $\beta = \mathbf{0}$ .

# Poisson Problem

First order system:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \alpha^{-1} \boldsymbol{\sigma} - \nabla u = \mathbf{0} & \text{in } \Omega \\ \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} = f & \text{in } \Omega \\ u = u_0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{array} \right.$$

# DPG Method



Elements:  $K$

Edges:  $e$

Skeleton:  $\Gamma_h = \bigcup_K \partial K$

Internal skeleton:  $\Gamma_h^0 = \Gamma_h - \partial\Omega$

Take an element  $K$ . Multiply the equations with test functions  $\boldsymbol{\tau} \in \mathbf{H}(\text{div}, K), v \in H^1(K)$ :

$$\begin{cases} (\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} - (\nabla u) \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} = 0 \\ (\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma})v = fv \end{cases}$$

Integrate over the element  $K$ :

$$\begin{cases} \int_K (\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\sigma}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} - \int_K (\nabla u) \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} = 0 \\ \int_K (\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}) v = \int_K f v \end{cases}$$



Integrate by parts (relax) *both* equations:

$$\begin{cases} \int_K (\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\sigma}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} + \int_K u \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\tau} - \int_{\partial K} u \tau_n = 0 \\ - \int_K \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \nabla v + \int_{\partial K} q \operatorname{sgn}(\mathbf{n}) v = \int_K f v \end{cases}$$

where  $q = \boldsymbol{\sigma} \mathbf{n}_e$  and

$$\operatorname{sgn}(\mathbf{n}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{n}_e \\ -1 & \text{if } \mathbf{n} = -\mathbf{n}_e \end{cases}$$

Declare fluxes to be independent unknowns:

$$\begin{cases} \int_K (\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\sigma}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} + \int_K u \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\tau} - \int_{\partial K} \hat{u} \tau_n = 0 \\ - \int_K \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \nabla v + \int_{\partial K} \hat{q} \operatorname{sgn}(\mathbf{n}) v = \int_K f v \end{cases}$$

where  $q = \boldsymbol{\sigma} \mathbf{n}_e$  and

$$\operatorname{sgn}(\mathbf{n}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{n}_e \\ -1 & \text{if } \mathbf{n} = -\mathbf{n}_e \end{cases}$$

Use BCs to eliminate known fluxes

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \int_K (\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\sigma}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} + \int_K u \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\tau} - \int_{\partial K - \partial \Omega} \hat{u} \tau_n = + \int_{\partial K \cap \partial \Omega} u_0 \tau_n \\ - \int_K \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \nabla v + \int_{\partial K} \hat{q} \operatorname{sgn}(\mathbf{n}) v = \int_K f v \end{array} \right.$$

# Trace and Flux Spaces

$$\Gamma_h := \bigcup_K \partial K \quad (\text{skeleton})$$

$$\Gamma_h^0 := \Gamma_h - \partial\Omega \quad (\text{internal skeleton})$$

$$\tilde{H}^{1/2}(\Gamma_h^0) := \{V|_{\Gamma_h^0} : V \in H_0^1(\Omega)\}$$

with the minimum extension norm:

$$\|v\|_{\tilde{H}^{1/2}(\Gamma_h^0)} := \inf\{\|V\|_{H^1} : V|_{\Gamma_h^0} = v\}$$

$$H^{-1/2}(\Gamma_h) := \{\sigma_n|_{\Gamma_h} : \boldsymbol{\sigma} \in \mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega)\}$$

with the minimum extension norm:

$$\|\sigma_n\|_{H^{-1/2}(\Gamma_h)} := \inf\{\|\boldsymbol{\sigma}\|_{\mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega)} : \boldsymbol{\sigma}\mathbf{n}|_{\Gamma_h} = \sigma_n\}$$

# Functional Setting

Group variables:

Solution  $\mathbf{U} = (u, \boldsymbol{\sigma}, \hat{u}, \hat{q})$ :

$$u, \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \in L^2(\Omega_h)$$

$$\hat{u} \in \tilde{H}^{1/2}(\Gamma_h^0)$$

$$\hat{q} \in H^{-1/2}(\Gamma_h)$$

Test function  $\mathbf{V} = (\boldsymbol{\tau}, v)$ :

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} \in \mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega_h)$$

$$v \in H^1(\Omega_h)$$

Variational problem:

$$b(\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V}) = l(\mathbf{V}), \quad \forall \mathbf{V}$$

# Simple facts

- ▶ Form  $b$  is continuous
- ▶  $b(U, V) = 0, \forall V$  implies  $U = 0$ .

In operator terms,

$$b(U, V) = \langle BU, V \rangle = \langle U, B^*V \rangle$$

$B$  is injective,  $B, B^*$  are well-defined and continuous.

## Theorem 1

The DPG variational formulation is well-posed with a mesh-independent inf-sup constant.

## Theorem 2

There exists a mesh-independent  $C > 0$  :

$$\begin{aligned} & \|u - u_{hp}\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \|\boldsymbol{\sigma} - \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{hp}\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \\ & + \|\hat{u} - \hat{u}_{hp}\|_{\tilde{H}^{1/2}(\Gamma_h^0)} + \|\hat{q} - \hat{q}_{hp}\|_{H^{-1/2}(\Gamma_h)} \\ & \leq C \inf_{\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{hp}, u_{hp}, \hat{q}_{hp}, \hat{u}_{hp}} [\dots] \end{aligned}$$

where  $u_{hp}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{hp}, \hat{u}_{hp}, \hat{q}_{hp}$  is the DPG FE solution.

# Optimal Test Norm

Define:

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{V}\|_o &= \|B^*V\| = \sup_{\mathbf{U}} \frac{|b(\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V})|}{\|\mathbf{U}\|_U} \\ &= \sup_{u, \sigma, \hat{u}, \hat{q}} \frac{(u, -\operatorname{div}\boldsymbol{\tau})_\Omega + (\boldsymbol{\sigma}, \boldsymbol{\alpha}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\tau} - \nabla v)_\Omega + \langle \hat{u}, \tau_n \rangle_{\Gamma_h^0} + \langle v, \hat{q} \rangle_{\Gamma_h}}{(\|u\|^2 + \|\boldsymbol{\sigma}\|^2 + \|\hat{u}\|^2 + \|\hat{q}\|^2)^{1/2}} \\ &= \left( \|\operatorname{div}\boldsymbol{\tau}\|^2 + \|\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\tau} - \nabla v\|^2 + \|[v]\|_{\Gamma_h^0}^2 + \|\tau_n\|_{\Gamma_h}^2 \right)^{1/2}\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\|[v]\|_{\Gamma_h^0} &= \sup_{w \in H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega)} \frac{\langle v, w_n \rangle_{\Gamma_h}}{\|w\|_{H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega)}} \\ \|\tau_n\|_{\Gamma_h} &= \sup_{w \in H_0^1(\Omega)} \frac{\langle w, \tau_n \rangle_{\Gamma_h^0}}{\|w\|_{H^1(\Omega)}}\end{aligned}$$



# Equivalence of Norms

We will show that the standard and optimal norms are equivalent, i.e.

$$\|\mathbf{V}\| \leq C\|\mathbf{V}\|_o \quad \text{and} \quad \|\mathbf{V}\|_o \leq C\|\mathbf{V}\|$$

The second inequality is straightforward, we will focus on the first one.  
Conclusions:

- ▶  $B^*$  is injective,
- ▶  $b$  satisfies the inf-sup condition ( $B$  is bounded below).

Consequently, Nečas - Babuška (Generalized Lax-Milgram, Lions, Banach Closed Range) Theorem implies that the variational problem is well-posed. Theorem 2 follows.

Take  $\boldsymbol{\tau} \in \mathbf{H}(\operatorname{div}, \Omega_h), v \in H^1(\Omega_h)$ . Denote

$$\begin{aligned}\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\tau} - \nabla v &=: \mathbf{f} \\ \operatorname{div}\boldsymbol{\tau} &=: g\end{aligned}$$

Need to show the bounds:

$$\|\boldsymbol{\tau}\|_{\mathbf{H}(\operatorname{div}, \Omega_h)}, \|v\|_{H^1(\Omega_h)} \leq C(\|\mathbf{f}\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \|g\|_{L^2(\Omega)} + \|[v]\|_{\Gamma_h^0} + \|[\boldsymbol{\tau}_n]\|_{\Gamma_h})$$

**Step 1:**  $\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{0}, g = 0$ .

Consider the weighted Helmholtz decomposition:

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \boldsymbol{\alpha}\nabla\psi + \nabla \times \mathbf{z}, \quad \psi \in H_0^1(\Omega), \mathbf{z} \in \mathbf{H}(\operatorname{curl}, \Omega)$$

Potentials  $\psi, \boldsymbol{\tau}$  are unique, orthogonal in the weighted  $(\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{-1}\cdot, \cdot)$   $L^2$ -product, and depend continuously upon  $\boldsymbol{\tau}$ .

## Step 1: $f, g = 0$

$$\|\boldsymbol{\tau}\|_{\alpha^{-1}}^2 = (\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\tau}) = (\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\alpha}\nabla\psi + \nabla \times \boldsymbol{z})_{\Omega_h}$$

## Step 1: $f, g = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}\|\boldsymbol{\tau}\|_{\alpha^{-1}}^2 &= (\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\tau}) = (\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\alpha}\nabla\psi + \nabla \times \boldsymbol{z})_{\Omega_h} \\ &= (\boldsymbol{\tau}, \nabla\psi)_{\Omega_h} + (\nabla v, \nabla \times \boldsymbol{z})_{\Omega_h}\end{aligned}$$

## Step 1: $f, g = 0$

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# Step 1: $f, g = 0$

Consequently,

$$\|\nabla v\|_{L^2(\Omega_h)} \leq C \left( \|[v]\|_{\Gamma_h^0} + \|[\tau_n]\|_{\Gamma_h} \right)$$

as well.

**Discrete Poincaré Inequality:**

$$\|v\|_{\Omega_h} \leq C \left( \|\nabla v\|_{\Omega_h} + \|[v]\|_{\Gamma_h^0} \right)$$

gives

$$\|v\|_{H^1(\Omega_h)} \leq C \left( \|[v]\|_{\Gamma_h^0} + \|[\tau_n]\|_{\Gamma_h} \right)$$

## Step 2: $\mathbf{f}, g \neq 0$

Let  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_1 \in \mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega), v_1 \in H_0^1(\Omega)$  such that

$$\begin{cases} \boldsymbol{\alpha}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 - \nabla v_1 &= \mathbf{f} \\ \text{div} \boldsymbol{\tau}_1 &= g \end{cases}$$

Brezzi's Theory implies

$$\|\boldsymbol{\tau}_1\|_{\mathbf{H}(\text{div}, \Omega)}, \|v_1\|_{H^1(\Omega)} \leq C(\|\mathbf{f}\| + \|g\|)$$

Final step: replace  $\boldsymbol{\tau}, v$  with  $\boldsymbol{\tau} - \boldsymbol{\tau}_1, v - v_1$  and use Step 1 result. Note that jump terms for  $\boldsymbol{\tau} - \boldsymbol{\tau}_1, v - v_1$  are controlled by the original jump terms and norms of  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_1, v_1$ .

# Generalization to Convection-Dominated Diffusion

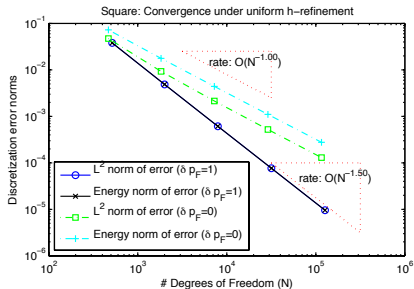
In Step 1, use the decomposition:

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = (\boldsymbol{\alpha} \nabla \psi + \boldsymbol{\beta} \psi) + \nabla \times \boldsymbol{z}, \quad \psi \in H_0^1(\Omega), \boldsymbol{z} \in \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{curl}, \Omega)$$

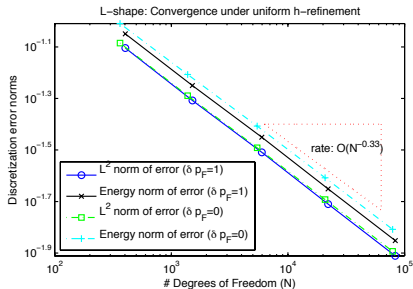
Test problems:

- ▶ Square domain with  $u(x, y) = \sin(\pi x) \sin(\pi y)$ ,
- ▶ L-shape domain with  $u(r, \theta) = r^{2/3} \sin\left(\frac{2}{3}\left(\theta + \frac{\pi}{2}\right)\right)$

# Uniform $h$ -convergence rates



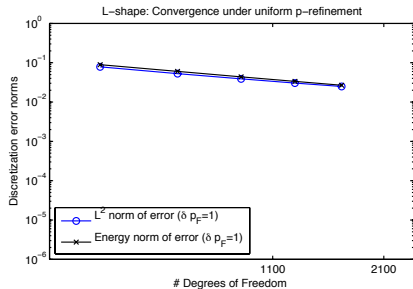
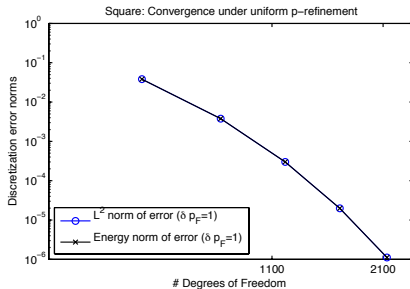
(a) The square case



(b) The case of the L-shaped domain

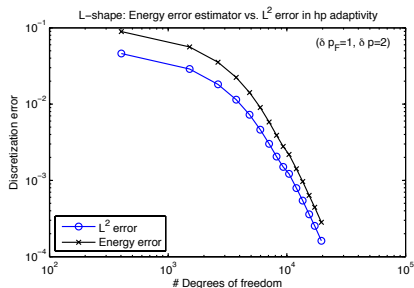
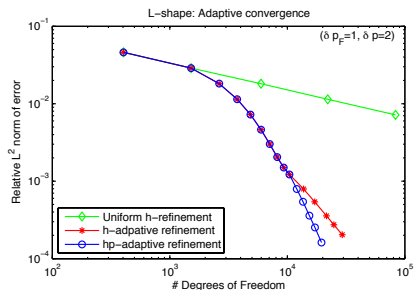
Figure:  $h$ -convergence rates for the two examples

# Uniform $p$ -convergence rates



(a) Results from the square domain    (b) Results from the L-shaped domain

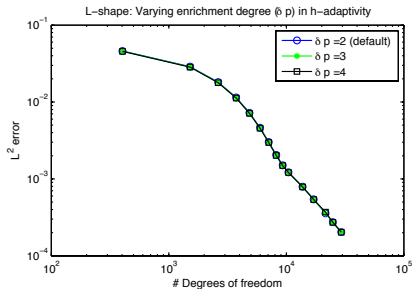
Figure:  $p$ -convergence rates for the two examples



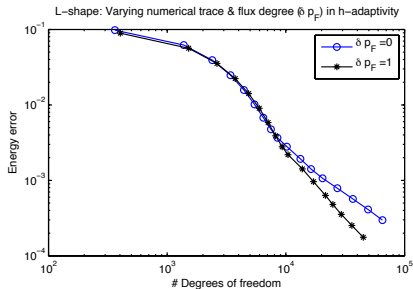
(a) Comparison of convergence of adaptive schemes (b) Energy error estimator vs.  $L^2$ -error

Figure: Convergence curves from adaptive schemes

# Adaptivity - cont.



(a) Effect of varying  $\delta p$

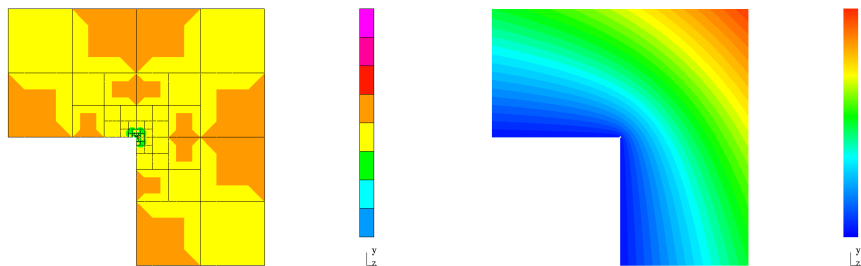


(b) Effect of varying  $\delta p_F$

Figure: Convergence curves from adaptive schemes



# Some Color to Finish



**Figure:** Left: The  $hp$  mesh found by the  $hp$ -adaptive algorithm after 15 refinements. (Color scale represents polynomial degrees.) Right: The corresponding solution  $u$ . (Color scale represent solution values.)

**Thank You !**

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Happy Birthday Lars, Rick and Joe !!