



**NTNU – Trondheim**  
Norwegian University of  
Science and Technology

Department of Mathematical Sciences

Examination paper for  
**TMA4220 Numerical solution of partial differential equations  
using element methods**

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**Examination date:** 16. December 2014

**Examination time (from–to):** 09:00–13:00

**Permitted examination support material: C:**

Calculator HP30S, CITIZEN SR-270X, CITIZEN SR-270X College, Casio fx-82ES PLUS.

K. Rottman: Matematisk formelsamling.

One yellow, stamped A4 sheet with own handwritten formulas and notes

**Language:** English

**Number of pages:** 4

**Number pages enclosed:** 0

**Checked by:**

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Date

Signature



**NB!** Justify your answers!

**Problem 1** Consider the two-dimensional Poisson problem

$$\begin{aligned} -\Delta u &= f \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ u + \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} &= g \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{aligned}$$

and  $f$  is a given function, and  $\Omega$  is a bounded open set with a regular boundary.

a) The weak formulation for this problem is

$$\text{find } u \in V \text{ such that } a(u, v) = F(v), \quad \forall v \in V, \quad (1)$$

with  $V = H^1(\Omega)$ .

Find the expressions for  $a$  and  $F$ .

Show that  $a$  is positive, that is  $a(v, v) > 0$  for all  $v \neq 0$ .

b) We now want to solve problem (1) using the Galerkin method on a finite dimensional subspace  $V_h = \text{span}\{\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_N\} \subset V$ , that is

$$\text{Find } u_h \in V_h \text{ such that } a(u_h, v_h) = F(v_h), \quad \forall v_h \in V_h.$$

Show that this problem can be formulated as a linear equation system

$$A_h \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{b}_h$$

where  $u_h = \sum_{i=1}^N u_i \varphi_i$  and  $\mathbf{u} = [u_1, \dots, u_N]^T$ .

Find expressions for  $A_h$  and  $\mathbf{b}_h$ .

Prove that the stiffness matrix  $A_h$  is symmetric positive definite.

c) Let  $\Omega = (0, 1) \times (0, 1)$  be the unit square. Let  $V_h = X_h^1$ , the linear finite element space, defined on the grid given in Figure 1. Assume the gridsizes in both the vertical and horizontal directions to be  $h$ .

Find the stiffness element matrices  $A^K$  of the the two elements  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  depicted in the figure.

d) Set up a set of sufficient conditions for the existence of a unique solution of a *general* problem of the form (1) (Lax-Milgram).

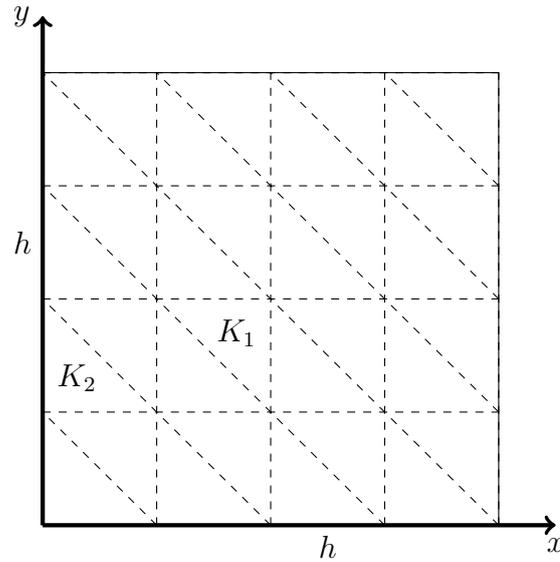


Figure 1: Triangulation of the unit square.

- e) Let  $\Pi_h^1 : C^{(0)}(\bar{\Omega}) \rightarrow X_h^1$  be the linear interpolation operator, defined on each element  $K$  by  $\Pi_h^1 v|_K = \Pi_K^1 v$ , where

$$\Pi_K^1 v = v_1 \varphi_1|_K + v_2 \varphi_2|_K + v_3 \varphi_3|_K$$

where  $v_i$  is the value of  $v$  in each of the three vertices of the triangle  $K$ , and  $\varphi_i|_K$  is the corresponding linear basis function restricted to  $K$ .

In the lectures, it was proved that

$$|v - \Pi_K^1 v|_{H^m(K)} \leq C_{K,m} \frac{h_K^2}{\rho_K^m} |v|_{H^2(K)}, \quad m = 0, 1, \quad \forall v \in H^2(\Omega)$$

where  $h_K$  is the diameter and  $\rho_K$  the sphericity of  $K$ . You can assume that  $h_K/\rho_K \leq \delta$  for all  $K$ .

What are  $\rho_K$ ,  $h_K$  and  $\delta$  for the grid of Figure 1? (If you do not remember how to calculate the sphericity, just indicate what it is by a figure).

Use the interpolation error bound above to prove an error bound of the form

$$\|u - u_h\|_{H^1(\Omega)} \leq C \bar{h} |u|_{H^2(\Omega)}$$

where  $u_h \in X_h^1$  is the finite element solution,  $\bar{h} = \max_K h_K$  and  $C$  is a constant.

*Hint:* Use Céa lemma.

**Problem 2** According to the abstract definition, a finite element is characterized by three ingredients. Which ones?

**Problem 3** Integrals of a function  $f$  over a triangular domain  $K \in \mathbb{R}^2$  can be approximated by

$$\int_K f(\mathbf{z}) d\Omega \approx |K| \sum_{q=1}^{N_q} \rho_q g(\mathbf{z}_q)$$

where  $\rho_q$  are the weights and  $\mathbf{z}_q$  are the vector quadrature points, and  $|K|$  is the area of  $K$ .

A 3-point quadrature formula is given by

$N_q$	$\mathbf{z}_q$	$\rho_q$
3	$(1/2, 1/2, 0)$	$1/3$
	$(1/2, 0, 1/2)$	$1/3$
	$(0, 1/2, 1/2)$	$1/3$

where the quadrature points  $\mathbf{z}_q$  are given in barycentric coordinates.

Where on  $K$  are the quadrature points located?

Use this quadrature formula to find an approximation to the integral

$$\int_K x \cdot \sin(\pi y/2) dx dy$$

where  $K$  is the triangle with vertices  $(0, 0)$ ,  $(1, 0)$  and  $(1/2, 1)$ .

**Problem 4** Given the one-dimensional eigenvalue problem:

$$-u_{xx} = \lambda u \quad \text{in } \Omega = (0, 1), \quad u(0) = u(1) = 0.$$

- a) Set up the weak formulation of the problem, and use this to justify that all the eigenvalues are positive.

Verify that the values and corresponding functions

$$\lambda_j = \pi^2 j^2, \quad u_j(x) = \sin(j\pi x), \quad j = 1, 2, \dots$$

satisfies the strong form of the eigenvalue problem.

- b)** Let the eigenvalue problem be solved by the linear finite element method, using  $V_h = X_h^1$  with constant stepsize  $h = 1/(N + 1)$ . This can be written as a generalized eigenvalue problem

$$M_h \mathbf{u} = \lambda_h A_h \mathbf{u}.$$

Find  $M_h$  and  $A_h$  in this case.

- c)** Find an expression for the eigenvalues  $\lambda_{h,j}$  of the discrete problem. Discuss how well the approximations  $\lambda_{h,j}$  correspond to the exact values  $\lambda_j$ .

*Hints:*

- The matrices  $M_h$  and  $A_h$  have the same eigenvectors.
- The eigenvalues of a symmetric, tridiagonal matrix of the form  $C = \text{tridiag}\{b, a, b\} \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$  are given by

$$\lambda_j(C) = a + 2b \cos \frac{j\pi}{n+1}, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$