

# An introduction to Hybrid High-Order (HHO) methods

Nonlinear elasticity and poroelasticity

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from joint works with D. Boffi, M. Botti, P. Sochala

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# References for this presentation



Botti, M., Di Pietro, D. A., and Sochala, P. (2017).  
A Hybrid High-Order method for nonlinear elasticity.  
*SIAM J. Numer. Anal.*, 55(6):2687–2717.



Boffi, D., Botti, M., and Di Pietro, D. A. (2016).  
A nonconforming high-order method for the Biot problem on general meshes.  
*SIAM J. Sci. Comput.*, 38(3):A1508–A1537.

# Features of HHO methods

- Support of **general polytopal meshes** in **any space dimension**
- **Arbitrary approximation order**
- Local principle of virtual work with **equilibrated tractions**
- **Compact stencil** only involving neighbors through faces
- **Reduced cost** after hybridisation for linear(ised) problems

$$N_{\text{dof}}^{\text{hho}} \approx \frac{1}{2} k^2 \text{card}(\mathcal{F}_h) \quad N_{\text{dof}}^{\text{dg}} \approx \frac{1}{6} k^3 \text{card}(\mathcal{T}_h)$$

# Polytopal meshes I

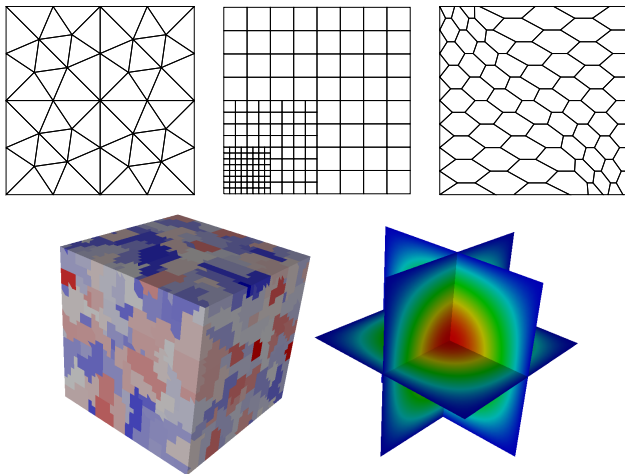
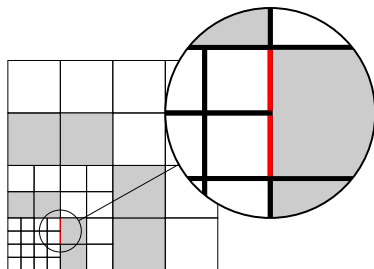


Figure: Admissible meshes. The agglomerated mesh is taken from [DP and Specogna, 2016]

## Polytopal meshes II



**Figure:** Treatment of a nonconforming junction (red) as multiple coplanar faces. Gray elements are pentagons, white elements are squares

## Definition (Regular mesh sequence)

Let  $(\mathcal{M}_h)_{h \in \mathcal{H}} := (\mathcal{T}_h, \mathcal{F}_h)_{h \in \mathcal{H}}$  be a sequence of  $h$ -refined polytopal meshes with  $\mathcal{T}_h$  set of elements and  $\mathcal{F}_h$  set of faces. The sequence is regular if there exists a sequence of simplicial submeshes  $(\mathcal{T}_h)_{h \in \mathcal{H}}$

- shape-regular in the sense of Ciarlet;
- contact-regular, i.e., every simplex  $S \subset T$  is s.t.  $h_S \approx h_T$ .

Main consequences:

- Trace and inverse inequalities
- Optimal approximation properties for broken polynomial spaces

**1** Nonlinear elasticity

**2** Poroelasticity

# Nonlinear elasticity I

- Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $d \in \{2, 3\}$ , be a bounded connected polyhedral domain
- For  $\mathbf{f} \in L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d)$  we seek the **displacement field**  $\mathbf{u} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  s.t.

$$\begin{aligned} -\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\cdot, \nabla_s \mathbf{u}) &= \mathbf{f} && \text{in } \Omega, \\ \mathbf{u} &= \mathbf{0} && \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{aligned}$$

with  $\boldsymbol{\sigma} : \Omega \times \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d}$  **stress-strain law**

- **Weak formulation:** Find  $\mathbf{u} \in H_0^1(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d)$  such that

$$a(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) := \int_{\Omega} \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\cdot, \nabla_s \mathbf{u}) : \nabla_s \mathbf{v} = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{v} \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in H_0^1(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d)$$

with  $\nabla_s$  denoting the **symmetric (part of) the gradient**



# Minimal bibliography

- Error estimates under (relatively) strong assumptions on  $\sigma$  and  $u$ 
  - Conforming FE, standard meshes  
[Gatica and Stephan, 2002, Gatica et al., 2013]
  - Discontinuous Galerkin (DG), standard meshes  
[Ortner and Süli, 2007]
  - Virtual Elements, polyhedral meshes in 2D, low-order  
[Beirão da Veiga et al., 2013]
- Convergence to minimal regularity solutions
  - Gradient Discretisations [Droniou and Lamichhane, 2015]
  - DG, stronger assumptions on  $\sigma$ , [Bi and Lin, 2012]
- Convergence to minimal regularity solutions and error estimates for HHO [Botti, DP, Sochala, 2017]

# Stress-strain law I

## Assumption (Stress-strain law I)

The Carathéodory function  $\sigma$  is s.t.  $\sigma(\cdot, \mathbf{0}) = \mathbf{0}$ . Moreover, there exist two real numbers  $\bar{\sigma}, \underline{\sigma} \in (0, +\infty)$  s.t. for a.e.  $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$  and all  $\boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\eta} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d}$ ,

$$\|\sigma(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\tau})\|_{d \times d} \leq \bar{\sigma} \|\boldsymbol{\tau}\|_{d \times d}, \quad (\text{growth})$$

$$\sigma(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\tau}) : \boldsymbol{\tau} \geq \underline{\sigma} \|\boldsymbol{\tau}\|_{d \times d}^2, \quad (\text{coercivity})$$

$$(\sigma(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\tau}) - \sigma(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\eta})) : (\boldsymbol{\tau} - \boldsymbol{\eta}) \geq 0, \quad (\text{monotonicity})$$

where  $\|\boldsymbol{\tau}\|_{d \times d}^2 := \boldsymbol{\tau} : \boldsymbol{\tau}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\tau} : \boldsymbol{\eta} := \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq d} \tau_{ij} \eta_{ij}$ .

## Example (Stress-strain laws)

- **Linear elasticity.** For Lamé's parameters  $\mu > 0$  and  $\lambda \geq 0$ ,

$$\sigma(\cdot, \boldsymbol{\tau}) = 2\mu\boldsymbol{\tau} + \lambda \operatorname{tr}(\boldsymbol{\tau})\mathbf{I}_d$$

- **Hencky–Mises model.** For given Lamé's functions  $\tilde{\mu}$  and  $\tilde{\lambda}$ , setting  $\operatorname{dev}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) := \operatorname{tr}(\boldsymbol{\tau}^2) - \frac{1}{d} \operatorname{tr}(\boldsymbol{\tau})^2$ ,

$$\sigma(\cdot, \boldsymbol{\tau}) = 2\tilde{\mu}(\operatorname{dev}(\boldsymbol{\tau}))\boldsymbol{\tau} + \tilde{\lambda}(\operatorname{dev}(\boldsymbol{\tau})) \operatorname{tr}(\boldsymbol{\tau})\mathbf{I}_d$$

- **Isotropic damage model.** For a scalar damage function  $D : \mathbb{R}_{\operatorname{sym}}^{d \times d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and a fourth-order tensor  $\mathbf{C} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d^4}$ ,

$$\sigma(\cdot, \boldsymbol{\tau}) = (1 - D(\boldsymbol{\tau})) \mathbf{C}(\cdot)\boldsymbol{\tau}$$

# $L^2$ -orthogonal projector I

- Let  $X$  denote an element in  $\mathcal{T}_h$  or a face in  $\mathcal{T}_h$  and  $l \geq 0$  an integer
- The  $L^2$ -orthogonal projector  $\pi_X^l : L^1(X; \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^l(X; \mathbb{R})$  is s.t.

$$\forall v \in L^1(\Omega; \mathbb{R}), \quad \int_X \left( \pi_X^l v - v \right) w = 0 \quad \forall w \in \mathbb{P}^l(X; \mathbb{R})$$

- $\pi_X^l v$  is well-defined and it holds that

$$\pi_X^l v = \operatorname{argmin}_{w \in \mathbb{P}^l(X; \mathbb{R})} \|v - w\|_{L^2(X; \mathbb{R})}^2$$

- The vector- and matrix-versions  $\pi_X^l$  act component-wise

# $L^2$ -orthogonal projector II

## Lemma ( $W^{s,p}$ -approximation properties of $\pi_T^l$ )

Let  $(\mathcal{M}_h)_{h \in \mathcal{H}}$  be a **regular mesh sequence**. For an integer  $l \geq 0$ , let an integer  $s \in \{0, \dots, l+1\}$  and a real number  $p \in [1, +\infty]$  be given. Then, for all  $T \in \mathcal{T}_h$ , all  $v \in W^{s,p}(T)$ , and all  $m \in \{0, \dots, s\}$ ,

$$|v - \pi_T^l v|_{W^{m,p}(T)} \lesssim h_T^{s-m} |v|_{W^{s,p}(T)}$$

and, if  $s \geq 1$  and  $m \in \{0, \dots, s-1\}$ ,

$$h_T^{\frac{1}{p}} |v - \pi_T^l v|_{W^{m,p}(\mathcal{F}_T)} \lesssim h_T^{s-m} |v|_{W^{s,p}(T)}.$$

Above,  $\lesssim$  hides multiplicative constants independent of  $h$ .

See [DP and Droniou, 2017a], based on [Dupont and Scott, 1980]

# Elastic projector

- Let  $T \in \mathcal{T}_h$ ,  $\mathbb{RM}_d(T)$  spanned by **rigid-body motions** restricted to  $T$
- For a given integer  $l \geq 1$ , we define the **elastic projector**

$$\pi_{\text{el},T}^l : W^{1,1}(T; \mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^l(T; \mathbb{R}^d)$$

s.t., for all  $\mathbf{v} \in W^{1,1}(T; \mathbb{R}^d)$ ,

$$\int_T \nabla_{\mathbf{s}}(\pi_{\text{el},T}^l \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}) : \nabla_{\mathbf{s}} \mathbf{w} = 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{P}^l(T; \mathbb{R}^d),$$
$$\int_T \pi_{\text{el},T}^l \mathbf{v} = \int_T \mathbf{v}, \quad \int_T \nabla_{\text{ss}} \pi_{\text{el},T}^l \mathbf{v} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_T} \left( \mathbf{n}_{TF} \wedge \pi_F^k \mathbf{v} - \pi_F^k \mathbf{v} \wedge \mathbf{n}_{TF} \right)$$

- Using the abstract results of [DP and Droniou, 2017b], it can be proved that  $\pi_{\text{el},T}^l$  has **optimal approximation properties**

# Computing $L^2$ -projections of $\nabla_s \mathbf{v}$ from $L^2$ -projections of $\mathbf{v}$

- For all  $\mathbf{v} \in W^{1,1}(T; \mathbb{R}^d)$  and all  $\boldsymbol{\tau} \in C^\infty(\bar{T}; \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d})$ , it holds that

$$\boxed{\int_T \nabla_s \mathbf{v} : \boldsymbol{\tau} = - \int_T \mathbf{v} \cdot (\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}) + \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_T} \int_F \mathbf{v} \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} \mathbf{n}_{TF}} \quad (\text{IBP})$$

- Specialising (IBP) to  $\boldsymbol{\tau} \in \mathbb{P}^l(T; \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d})$ , we can write

$$\int_T \boldsymbol{\pi}_T^l \nabla_s \mathbf{v} : \boldsymbol{\tau} = - \int_T \boldsymbol{\pi}_T^{l-1} \mathbf{v} \cdot (\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}) + \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_T} \int_F \boldsymbol{\pi}_F^l \mathbf{v} \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} \mathbf{n}_{TF}$$

- Hence, computing  $\boldsymbol{\pi}_T^l \nabla_s \mathbf{v}$  does not require a full knowledge of  $\mathbf{v}$ !
- All that is required is  $\boldsymbol{\pi}_T^{l-1} \mathbf{v}$  and for all  $F \in \mathcal{F}_T$ ,  $\boldsymbol{\pi}_F^l \mathbf{v}$

# Computing $\pi_{\text{el},T}^{l+1}\mathbf{v}$ from $L^2$ -projections of $\mathbf{v}$

- Specialise now (IBP) to  $\boldsymbol{\tau} = \nabla_s \mathbf{w}$  with  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{P}^{l+1}(T; \mathbb{R}^d)$ , to obtain

$$\int_T \nabla_s \pi_{\text{el},T}^{l+1} \mathbf{v} : \nabla_s \mathbf{w} = - \int_T \pi_T^{l-1} \mathbf{v} \cdot (\nabla \cdot \nabla_s \mathbf{w}) + \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_T} \int_F \pi_F^l \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla_s \mathbf{w} \mathbf{n}_{TF}$$

- Observe, moreover, that if  $l \geq 1$  then for all  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{RM}_d(T)$ ,

$$\int_T (\pi_{\text{el},T}^{l+1} \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}) \cdot \mathbf{w} = \int_T (\pi_{\text{el},T}^{l+1} \mathbf{v} - \pi_T^l \mathbf{v}) \cdot \mathbf{w}$$

since  $\mathbb{RM}_d(T) \subset \mathbb{P}^1(T; \mathbb{R}^d) \subseteq \mathbb{P}^l(T; \mathbb{R}^d)$

- Hence,  $\pi_{\text{el},T}^{l+1} \mathbf{v}$  is computable from  $\pi_T^l \mathbf{v}$  and for all  $F \in \mathcal{F}_T$ ,  $\pi_F^l \mathbf{v}$



# Local space of discrete unknowns and reconstructions I

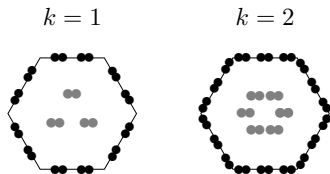


Figure: Local discrete unknowns for  $k = 1, 2$ . Internal unknowns can be eliminated by static condensation for linearised versions of the problem

- Let  $k \geq 1$  and  $T \in \mathcal{T}_h$  be fixed. The **space of local unknowns** is s.t.

$$\underline{U}_T^k := \mathbb{P}^k(T; \mathbb{R}^d) \times \left( \bigotimes_{F \in \mathcal{F}_T} \mathbb{P}^k(F; \mathbb{R}^d) \right)$$

- We denote by  $\underline{\mathbf{v}}_T = (\mathbf{v}_T, (\mathbf{v}_F)_{F \in \mathcal{F}_T})$  a generic element of  $\underline{U}_T^k$
- The **local interpolator**  $\underline{\mathbf{I}}_T^k : W^{1,1}(T; \mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \underline{U}_T^k$  is s.t.

$$\forall \mathbf{v} \in W^{1,1}(T; \mathbb{R}^d), \quad \underline{\mathbf{I}}_T^k \mathbf{v} := (\boldsymbol{\pi}_T^k \mathbf{v}, (\boldsymbol{\pi}_F^k \mathbf{v})_{F \in \mathcal{F}_T})$$

# Local space of discrete unknowns and reconstructions II

- The **symmetric gradient reconstruction**  $\mathbf{G}_{s,T}^k : \underline{\mathbf{U}}_T^k \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^k(T; \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d})$  is s.t

$$\int_T \mathbf{G}_{s,T}^k \underline{\mathbf{v}}_T : \boldsymbol{\tau} = - \int_T \mathbf{v}_T \cdot (\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}) + \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_T} \int_F \mathbf{v}_F \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} \mathbf{n}_{TF} \quad \forall \boldsymbol{\tau} \in \mathbb{P}^k(T; \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d})$$

- The **displacement reconstruction**  $\mathbf{r}_T^{k+1} : \underline{\mathbf{U}}_T^k \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{k+1}(T; \mathbb{R}^{k+1})$  is s.t.

$$\int_T (\nabla_s \mathbf{r}_T^{k+1} - \mathbf{G}_{s,T}^k) \underline{\mathbf{v}}_T : \nabla_s \mathbf{w} = 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{P}^{k+1}(T; \mathbb{R}^d)$$

$$\int_T (\mathbf{r}_T^{k+1} \underline{\mathbf{v}}_T - \mathbf{v}_T) \cdot \mathbf{w} = 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{w} \in \text{RM}_d(T)$$

- We have the key **commuting properties**: For all  $\mathbf{v} \in W^{1,1}(T; \mathbb{R}^d)$ ,

$$\boxed{\mathbf{G}_{s,T}^k \mathbf{I}_T^k \mathbf{v} = \boldsymbol{\pi}_T^k \nabla_s \mathbf{v}, \quad \mathbf{r}_T^{k+1} \mathbf{I}_T^k \mathbf{v} = \boldsymbol{\pi}_{\text{el},T}^{k+1} \mathbf{v}}$$

# Local contribution and stabilisation I

- Let  $T \in \mathcal{T}_h$ . We approximate  $a|_T$  with  $a_T : \underline{U}_T^k \times \underline{U}_T^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  s.t.

$$a_T(\underline{u}_T, \underline{v}_T) := \int_T \sigma(\cdot, \mathbf{G}_{s,T}^k \underline{u}_T) : \mathbf{G}_{s,T}^k \underline{v}_T + s_T(\underline{u}_T, \underline{v}_T)$$

- Here,  $s_T$  is the **stabilisation bilinear form** s.t.

$$s_T(\underline{u}_T, \underline{v}_T) := \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_T} \frac{\gamma}{h_F} \int_F (\delta_{TF}^k - \delta_T^k) \underline{u}_T \cdot (\delta_{TF}^k - \delta_T^k) \underline{v}_T,$$

with  $\gamma$  user-defined parameter and **difference operators** s.t.

$$(\delta_T^k \underline{v}_T, (\delta_{TF}^k \underline{v}_T)_{F \in \mathcal{F}_T}) := \underline{\mathbf{I}}_T^k(\mathbf{r}_T^{k+1} \underline{v}_T) - \underline{v}_T \in \underline{U}_T^k$$

## Proposition (Properties of $s_T$ )

- **Stability.** For all  $\underline{\mathbf{v}}_T \in \underline{\mathbf{U}}_T^k$ , it holds that

$$\|\mathbf{G}_{s,T}^k \underline{\mathbf{v}}_T\|_{L^2(T; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})}^2 + s_T(\underline{\mathbf{v}}_T, \underline{\mathbf{v}}_T) \simeq \|\underline{\mathbf{v}}_T\|_{\epsilon, T}^2$$

with hidden constant independent of  $h$  and  $T$  and

$$\|\underline{\mathbf{v}}_T\|_{\epsilon, T}^2 := \|\nabla_s \mathbf{v}_T\|_{L^2(T; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})}^2 + \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_T} \frac{1}{h_F} \|\mathbf{v}_F - \mathbf{v}_T\|_{L^2(F; \mathbb{R}^d)}^2.$$

- **Polynomial consistency.** For all  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{P}^{k+1}(T; \mathbb{R}^d)$ , it holds that

$$s_T(\underline{\mathbf{I}}_T^k \mathbf{w}, \underline{\mathbf{v}}_T) = 0 \quad \forall \underline{\mathbf{v}}_T \in \underline{\mathbf{U}}_T^k.$$

## Remark (Naïve stabilisation and polynomial consistency)

*Stability* can be achieved using the following naïve stabilisation:

$$s_T^{\text{hdg}}(\underline{\mathbf{u}}_T, \underline{\mathbf{v}}_T) = \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_T} \frac{\gamma}{h_F} \int_F (\mathbf{u}_F - \mathbf{u}_T) \cdot (\mathbf{v}_F - \mathbf{v}_T).$$

In this case, however, we only have polynomial consistency for  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{P}^k(T; \mathbb{R}^d)$ . As a result, *up to one order of convergence is lost*.

# Discrete problem I

- We define the **global space** with single-valued interface unknowns

$$\underline{\mathbf{U}}_h^k := \left( \bigtimes_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h} \mathbb{P}^k(T; \mathbb{R}^d) \right) \times \left( \bigtimes_{F \in \mathcal{F}_h} \mathbb{P}^k(F; \mathbb{R}^d) \right)$$

as well as its subspace with **strongly enforced b.c.**

$$\underline{\mathbf{U}}_{h,0}^k := \{ \underline{\mathbf{v}}_h = ((\mathbf{v}_T)_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h}, (\mathbf{v}_F)_{F \in \mathcal{F}_h}) \in \underline{\mathbf{U}}_h^k : \mathbf{v}_F = \mathbf{0} \quad \forall F \in \mathcal{F}_h^b \}$$

- The **global interpolator**  $\underline{\mathbf{I}}_h^k : W^{1,1}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \underline{\mathbf{U}}_h^k$  is s.t.

$$(\underline{\mathbf{I}}_h^k \mathbf{v})|_T := \underline{\mathbf{I}}_T^k \mathbf{v}|_T \quad \forall T \in \mathcal{T}_h$$

## Discrete problem II

- Define the function  $a_h : \underline{U}_h^k \times \underline{U}_h^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  **assembled element-wise**:

$$a_h(\underline{u}_h, \underline{v}_h) := \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h} a_T(\underline{u}_T, \underline{v}_T)$$

- Discrete problem:** Find  $\underline{u}_h \in \underline{U}_{h,0}^k$  such that

$$a_h(\underline{u}_h, \underline{v}_h) = \int_{\Omega} f \cdot v_h \quad \forall \underline{v}_h \in \underline{U}_{h,0}^k$$

with  $v_h$  obtained patching element unknowns

### Lemma (Existence and uniqueness)

Let  $(\mathcal{M}_h)_{h \in \mathcal{H}}$  be a regular mesh sequence. Then, for all  $h \in \mathcal{H}$  there exists **at least one solution**  $\underline{u}_h \in \underline{U}_{h,0}^k$ . Additionally, if  $\sigma$  is strictly monotone, the solution is **unique**.

## Theorem (Convergence)

Let  $(\mathcal{M}_h)_{h \in \mathcal{H}}$  be a regular mesh sequence. Then, for all  $q$  s.t.  $1 \leq q < +\infty$  if  $d = 2$ ,  $1 \leq q < 6$  if  $d = 3$ , as  $h \rightarrow 0$ , up to a subsequence,

- $\mathbf{u}_h \rightarrow \mathbf{u}$  *strongly in  $L^q(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d)$* ;
- $\mathbf{G}_{s,T}^k \underline{\mathbf{u}}_h \rightarrow \nabla_s \mathbf{u}$  *weakly in  $L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$* .

Moreover, if we assume strict monotonicity for  $\sigma$ ,

- $\mathbf{G}_{s,T}^k \underline{\mathbf{u}}_h \rightarrow \nabla_s \mathbf{u}$  *strongly in  $L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$* .

If the continuous solution is unique, the whole sequence converges.



# Convergence II

## Assumption (Stress-strain law II)

There exist reals  $\sigma^*, \sigma_* \in (0, +\infty)$  s.t., for a.e.  $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$  and all  $\boldsymbol{\tau}, \boldsymbol{\eta} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d}$ ,

$$\|\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\tau}) - \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\eta})\|_{d \times d} \leq \sigma^* \|\boldsymbol{\tau} - \boldsymbol{\eta}\|_{d \times d}, \quad (\text{Lipschitz continuity})$$

$$(\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\tau}) - \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\eta})) : (\boldsymbol{\tau} - \boldsymbol{\eta}) \geq \sigma_* \|\boldsymbol{\tau} - \boldsymbol{\eta}\|_{d \times d}^2. \quad (\text{strong monotonicity})$$

## Theorem (Error estimate)

Under the above assumption and the regularity  $\mathbf{u} \in H^{k+2}(\mathcal{T}_h; \mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\cdot, \nabla_s \mathbf{u}) \in H^{k+1}(\mathcal{T}_h; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})$ , it holds that

$$\|\nabla_s \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{G}_{s,T}^k \underline{\mathbf{u}}_h\|_{L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})} + |\underline{\mathbf{u}}_h|_{s,h} \lesssim h^{k+1} \mathcal{N}_u,$$

with hidden constant independent of  $h$ ,  $|\underline{\mathbf{u}}_h|_{s,h}^2 := \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h} s_T(\underline{\mathbf{u}}_h, \underline{\mathbf{u}}_h)$ , and  $\mathcal{N}_u := \|\mathbf{u}\|_{H^{k+2}(\mathcal{T}_h; \mathbb{R}^d)} + \|\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\cdot, \nabla_s \mathbf{u})\|_{H^{k+1}(\mathcal{T}_h; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})}$ .

## Theorem (Robust estimate for quasi-incompressible materials)

Let  $\sigma$  be such that, for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$  and all  $\boldsymbol{\tau} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d}$  with  $\mu > 0$  and  $\lambda \geq 0$ ,

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\tau}) = 2\mu\boldsymbol{\tau} + \lambda \operatorname{tr}(\boldsymbol{\tau})\mathbf{I}_d.$$

Then, the following *locking-free error estimate* holds:

$$(2\mu)^{\frac{1}{2}} \|\nabla_s \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{G}_{s,T}^k \underline{\mathbf{u}}_h\|_{L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})} \lesssim h^{k+1} \left( 2\mu \|\mathbf{u}\|_{H^{k+2}(\mathcal{T}_h; \mathbb{R}^d)} + \lambda \|\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}\|_{H^{k+1}(\mathcal{T}_h, \mathbb{R})} \right)$$

with hidden constant independent of  $h$ ,  $\mu$ , and  $\lambda$ .

# Numerical examples I

## Convergence

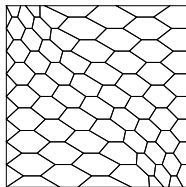
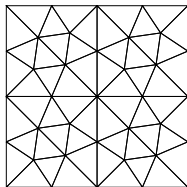
- We consider the **Hencky–Mises model** with  $\mu = 2$  and  $\lambda = 1$  and

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) = ((\lambda - \mu) + \mu \exp(-\text{dev}(\boldsymbol{\tau}))) \text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) \mathbf{I}_d + \mu (2 - \exp(-\text{dev}(\boldsymbol{\tau}))) \boldsymbol{\tau}$$

- We solve the homogeneous Dirichlet problem with

$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) := \begin{pmatrix} \sin(\pi x_1) \sin(\pi x_2) \\ \sin(\pi x_1) \sin(\pi x_2) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{f} = -\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\nabla_s \mathbf{u})$$

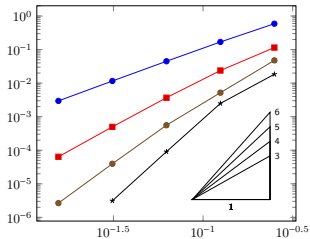
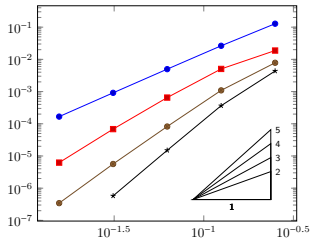
- Refinements of the following meshes are used:



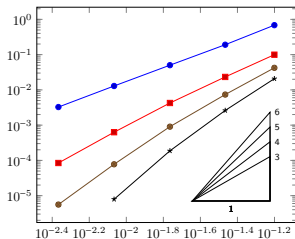
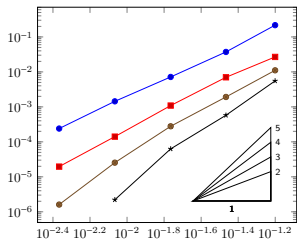
# Numerical examples II

## Convergence

Triangular



Hexagonal



$$\|\nabla_s \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{G}_{s,h}^k \mathbf{u}_h\|_{L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^{d \times d})}$$

$$\|\boldsymbol{\pi}_h^k \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_h\|_{L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d)}$$

# Numerical examples I

## Traction and shear test cases

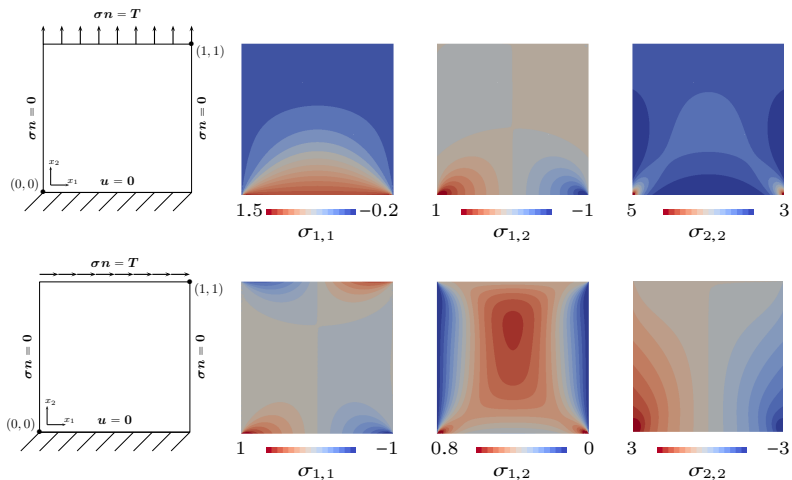
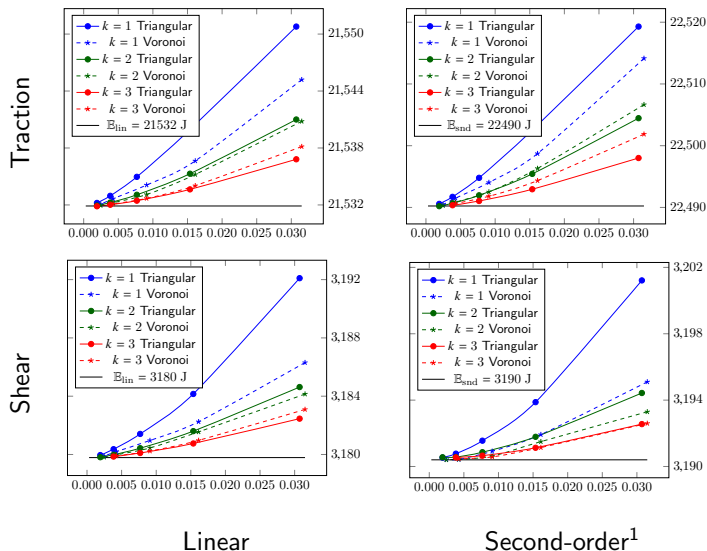


Figure: Traction and shear tests and corresponding stress components for the linear case ( $10^5 \text{ Pa}$ )

# Numerical examples II

## Traction and shear test cases



<sup>1</sup>Obtained adding third-order terms to the energy density function

1 Nonlinear elasticity

2 Poroelasticity

# The Biot model

- Let  $\Omega$  as before,  $t_F > 0$  and  $\kappa : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be s.t.  $0 < \underline{\kappa} \leq \kappa \leq \bar{\kappa}$  in  $\Omega$
- Let  $\mathbf{f}$  and  $g$  be given volumetric load and source terms
- **Biot problem**: Find the displacement  $\mathbf{u}$  and the pressure  $p$  s.t.

$$\begin{array}{ll} -\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{u}) + \nabla p = \mathbf{f} & \text{in } \Omega \times (0, t_F), \\ c_0 d_t p + \nabla \cdot (d_t \mathbf{u}) - \nabla \cdot (\kappa \nabla p) = g & \text{in } \Omega \times (0, t_F), \end{array}$$

completed with initial and boundary conditions (impermeable fixed walls)

- In the **incompressible case**  $c_0 = 0$ , we further assume for any  $t$

$$\int_{\Omega} p(\cdot, t) = 0 \text{ and } \int_{\Omega} g(\cdot, t) = 0$$

- **Perspective**: extension to the nonlinear, multiphase case



# Minimal bibliography

- Origin of the model [Terzaghi, 1943] and [Biot, 1941, Biot, 1955]
- Finite Volumes, 3D, discontinuous coefficients [Naumovich, 2006]
- Continuous FE  $\mathbf{u}$  + DG  $p$  [Phillips and Wheeler, 2007]
- DG  $\mathbf{u}$  + MPFA  $p$  [Wheeler et al., 2014]
- Justification of spurious oscillations [Rodrigo et al., 2016]
- HHO  $\mathbf{u}$  + DG  $p$  [Boffi, Botti, DP, 2016]

- **High-order** method on general **polyhedral meshes**
- **Inf-sup**-stable hydro-mechanical coupling
- **Robustness** with respect to heterogeneous-anisotropic permeabilities
- Seamless treatment of the **incompressible case**  $c_0 = 0$
- Locally equilibrated tractions and fluxes
- Numerically robust w.r. to **spurious oscillations** for small  $\kappa$  and  $\tau$

# Discrete spaces

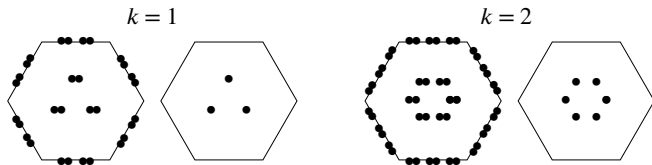


Figure: Displacement and pressure discrete unknowns for  $k \in \{1, 2\}$

- Let  $k \geq 1$ . We approximate the displacements in the **HHO space**

$$\underline{U}_{h,0}^k := \{ \underline{v}_h = ((\mathbf{v}_T)_{T \in \mathcal{T}_h}, (\mathbf{v}_F)_{F \in \mathcal{F}_h}) \in \underline{U}_h^k : \mathbf{v}_F = \mathbf{0} \quad \forall F \in \mathcal{F}_h^b \}$$

- For the pressure, we consider the **broken polynomial space**

$$P_h^k := \begin{cases} \mathbb{P}^k(\mathcal{T}_h; \mathbb{R}) & \text{if } c_0 > 0 \\ \mathbb{P}^k(\mathcal{T}_h; \mathbb{R}) \cap L_0^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}) & \text{if } c_0 = 0 \end{cases}$$

# Discrete problem

- We consider for the sake of simplicity a **uniform time mesh** of size  $\tau$
- **Discrete problem:** For  $1 \leq n \leq N$ ,  $(\underline{\mathbf{u}}_h^n, p_h^n) \in \underline{\mathbf{U}}_{h,0}^k \times P_h^k$  is s.t.

$$\begin{aligned} a_h(\underline{\mathbf{u}}_h^n, \underline{\mathbf{v}}_h) + b_h(\underline{\mathbf{v}}_h, p_h^n) &= \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{f}^n \cdot \mathbf{v}_h & \forall \underline{\mathbf{v}}_h \in \underline{\mathbf{U}}_{h,0}^k, \\ (c_0 \delta_t p_h^n, q_h) - b_h(\delta_t \underline{\mathbf{u}}_h^n, q_h) + c_h(p_h^n, q_h) &= \int_{\Omega} g^n q_h & \forall q_h \in \mathbb{P}^k(\mathcal{T}_h; \mathbb{R}) \end{aligned}$$

- For the **mechanical term** we use  $a_h$  defined as before

# Hydro-mechanical coupling

- The **hydro-mechanical coupling** hinges on the bilinear form

$$b_h(\underline{\mathbf{v}}_h, q_h) := - \int_{\Omega} D_h^k \underline{\mathbf{v}}_h q_h, \quad (D_h^k)_{|T} := \text{tr}(\mathbf{G}_{s,T}^k) \quad \forall T \in \mathcal{T}_h$$

- $\underline{\mathbf{I}}_T^k$  is a **Fortin interpolator**: For all  $\mathbf{v} \in H^1(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d)$ ,

$$D_h^k \underline{\mathbf{I}}_h^k \mathbf{v} = \pi_h^k(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}), \quad \|\underline{\mathbf{I}}_h \mathbf{v}\|_{\epsilon, h} \lesssim \|\mathbf{v}\|_{H^1(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d)}$$

- Hence, for all  $q_h \in P_h^k$ , with hidden constant independent of  $h$ ,

$$\|q_h\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \lesssim \sup_{\underline{\mathbf{v}}_h \in \underline{\mathbf{U}}_{h,0}^k, \|\underline{\mathbf{v}}_h\|_{\epsilon, h} = 1} b_h(\underline{\mathbf{v}}_h, q_h)$$

- This is a key point for robust  $L^2$ -norm bounds for  $p$  when  $c_0 = 0$

# Darcy operator I

- For the **Darcy operator** we use a Discontinuous Galerkin method
- For robustness in  $\kappa$ , we follow [DP et al., 2008]
- Key ingredients are the **jump** and **weighted average** operators

$$[\varphi]_F := \varphi_{T_1} - \varphi_{T_2}, \quad \{\varphi\}_F := \omega_{T_1} \varphi_{T_1} + \omega_{T_2} \varphi_{T_2},$$

where  $F \in \mathcal{F}_h^i$  is s.t.  $F \subset \partial T_1 \cap \partial T_2$  and

$$\omega_{T_1} := \frac{\kappa_{T_2}}{\kappa_{T_1} + \kappa_{T_2}}, \quad \omega_{T_2} := \frac{\kappa_{T_1}}{\kappa_{T_1} + \kappa_{T_2}}$$

# Darcy operator II

- The Darcy operator is discretised using the **SWIP bilinear form**

$$c_h(r_h, q_h) := \int_{\Omega} \kappa \nabla_h r_h \cdot \nabla_h q_h + \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_h^i} \frac{\varsigma \lambda_{\kappa, F}}{h_F} \int_F [r_h]_F [q_h]_F - \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_h^i} \int_F (\{\kappa \nabla_h r_h\}_F \cdot \mathbf{n}_F, [q_h]_F + [r_h]_F, \{\kappa \nabla_h q_h\}_F \cdot \mathbf{n}_F)$$

- Here,  $\varsigma > 0$  is a large enough user-defined **penalty parameter** and

$$\lambda_{\kappa, F} := \frac{2\kappa_{T_1} \kappa_{T_2}}{\kappa_{T_1} + \kappa_{T_2}}$$

## Lemma (A priori bounds and well-posedness)

Let  $\sigma$  be such that, for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$  and all  $\tau \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d}$  with  $\mu > 0$  and  $\lambda \geq 0$ ,

$$\sigma(\mathbf{x}, \tau) = 2\mu\tau + \lambda \operatorname{tr}(\tau)\mathbf{I}_d.$$

Assume  $\mathbf{f} \in C^1([0, t_F]; L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d))$  and  $g \in C^0([0, t_F]; L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}))$ . Then, the discrete problem is well-posed with a priori bound

$$\|\underline{\mathbf{u}}_h^N\|_{\mathbf{a},h}^2 + \|c_0^{\frac{1}{2}} p_h^N\|_{L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R})}^2 + \|p_h^N - \bar{p}_h^N\|_{L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R})}^2 + \sum_{n=1}^N \tau \|p_h^n\|_{\mathbf{c},h}^2 \lesssim 1$$

where the hidden constant depends on bounded norms of  $p^0$ ,  $\mathbf{f}$ , and  $g$  and we have set  $\bar{p}_h^N := \int_{\Omega} p_h^N$ .



## Theorem (Error estimate)

Let  $\sigma$  as above. Assume *elliptic regularity*,  $p \in C^1([0, t_F]; H^{k+1}(P_\Omega; \mathbb{R}))$ ,  $p \in C^2([0, t_F]; L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R}))$  if  $c_0 > 0$ , and  $\mathbf{u} \in C^2([0, t_F], H^1(P_\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d)) \cap C^1([0, t_F]; H^{k+2}(P_\Omega; \mathbb{R}^d))$ . Then, setting

$$\underline{\mathbf{e}}_h^n := \underline{\mathbf{u}}_h^n - \underline{\mathbf{I}}_h^k \mathbf{u}^n, \quad \rho_h^n := p_h^n - \pi_h^k p^n, \quad \bar{\rho}_h^n := (\rho_h^n, 1),$$

it holds

$$\|\underline{\mathbf{e}}_h^N\|_{\mathbf{a},h}^2 + \|c_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \rho_h^N\|_{L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R})}^2 + \|\rho_h^N - \bar{\rho}_h^N\|_{L^2(\Omega; \mathbb{R})}^2 + \sum_{n=1}^N \tau \|\rho_h^n\|_{\mathbf{c},h}^2 \lesssim \left( h^{k+1} + \tau \right)^2,$$

with hidden constant depending on bounded norms of  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $p$  and increasing linearly with  $\alpha^{\frac{1}{2}}$  where  $\alpha := \bar{\kappa}/\underline{\kappa}$  is the anisotropy ratio.

# Numerical examples I

## Convergence

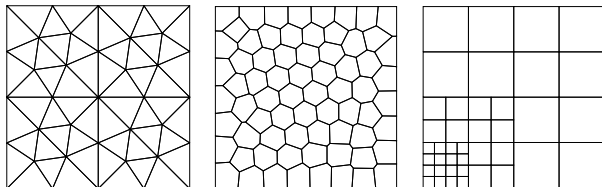


Figure: Meshes for the convergence test case

- We let  $\Omega = (0, 1)^2$ ,  $c_0 = 0$ ,  $\mu = 1$ ,  $\lambda = 1$ , and  $\kappa = \mathbf{I}_2$  on
- The right-hand side is inferred from the (non-physical) exact solution

$$u_1(\mathbf{x}, t) = -\sin(\pi t) \cos(\pi x_1) \cos(\pi x_2),$$

$$u_2(\mathbf{x}, t) = \sin(\pi t) \sin(\pi x_1) \sin(\pi x_2),$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}, t) = -\cos(\pi t) \sin(\pi x_1) \cos(\pi x_2)$$

# Numerical examples II

## Convergence

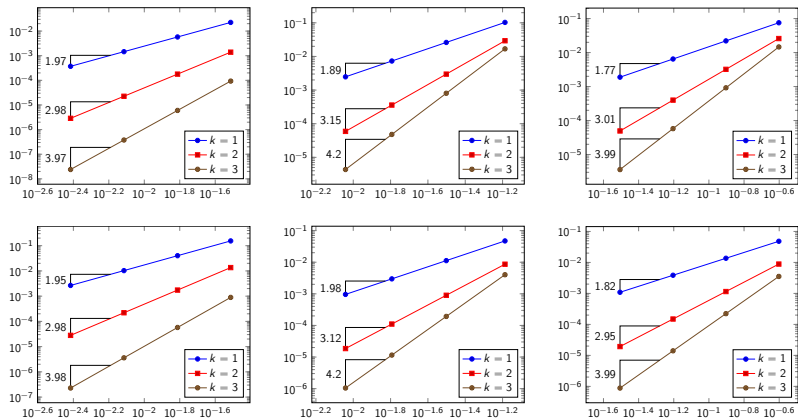


Figure:  $L^2$ -error on the pressure (top) and  $H^1$ -error on the displacement (bottom) vs.  $h$  for (from left to right) the triangular, Voronoi, and locally refined meshes

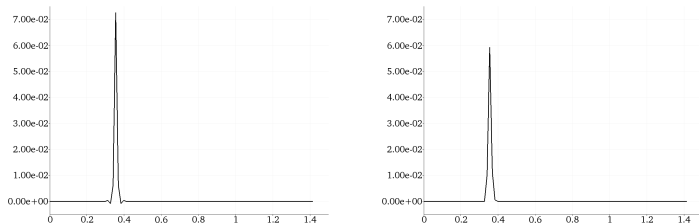
# Numerical examples I

Barry and Mercer's test case

Figure: Barry and Mercer's exact solution modelling fluid injection and production from a well

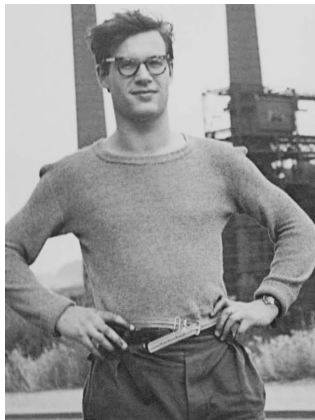
# Numerical examples II

## Barry and Mercer's test case



**Figure:** Pressure profiles along  $(0, 0)-(1, 1)$  for  $\kappa = 1 \cdot 10^{-6} \mathbf{I}_d$  and  $\tau = 1 \cdot 10^{-4}$ . Small oscillations visible on the Cartesian mesh (left, card  $\mathcal{T}_h = 4,028$ ), no oscillations are present on the Voronoi mesh (right, card  $\mathcal{T}_h = 4,192$ )

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