

# Fully discrete polynomial de Rham complexes on polyhedral meshes with application to magnetostatics

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# The magnetostatics problem

- Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  be an open connected polyhedron and  $\mathbf{f} \in \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega)$
- We consider the problem: Find  $(\boldsymbol{\sigma}, \mathbf{u}) \in \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega) \times \mathbf{H}(\text{div}; \Omega)$  s.t.

$$\int_{\Omega} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} - \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{curl} \boldsymbol{\tau} = 0 \quad \forall \boldsymbol{\tau} \in \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega),$$
$$\int_{\Omega} \mathbf{curl} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \int_{\Omega} \text{div} \mathbf{u} \text{div} \mathbf{v} = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{v} \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}(\text{div}; \Omega)$$

- Well-posedness hinges on properties of the **de Rham complex**

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{i_{\Omega}} H^1(\Omega) \xrightarrow{\text{grad}} \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega) \xrightarrow{\mathbf{curl}} \mathbf{H}(\text{div}; \Omega) \xrightarrow{\text{div}} L^2(\Omega) \xrightarrow{0} \{0\}$$

- Specifically, we need the following **exactness properties**:

$$\text{Im } \mathbf{curl} = \text{Ker } \text{div} \text{ if } b_2 = 0, \quad \text{Im } \text{div} = L^2(\Omega)$$

# The discrete de Rham (DDR) approach I

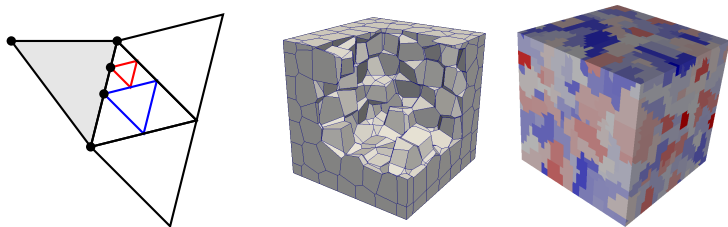


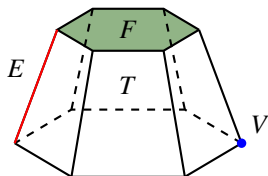
Figure: Examples of polytopal meshes supported by the DDR approach

- **Key idea:** replace spaces **and operators** by discrete counterparts:

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{I_{\text{grad},h}^k} \underline{X}_{\text{grad},h}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{G}_h^k} \underline{X}_{\text{curl},h}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{C}_h^k} \underline{X}_{\text{div},h}^k \xrightarrow{D_h^k} \mathcal{P}^k(\mathcal{T}_h) \xrightarrow{0} \{0\}$$

- Support of **general polyhedral meshes** and **high-order**
- Exactness proved **at the discrete level** (directly usable for stability)

# The discrete de Rham (DDR) approach II



- The fully discrete spaces are spanned by **vectors of polynomials**
- Polynomial components **attached to geometric objects**
  - emulate the **continuity properties** of the corresponding space
  - enable the reconstruction of **vector calculus operators** and **potentials**
- The key ingredient is the **Stokes formula**

# The two-dimensional case

## Continuous exact complex

- Let  $F$  be a **mesh face** and set, for smooth  $q : F \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbf{v} : F \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ ,

$$\mathbf{rot}_F q := \varrho_{-\pi/2}(\mathbf{grad}_F q) \quad \mathbf{rot}_F \mathbf{v} := \operatorname{div}_F(\varrho_{-\pi/2}\mathbf{v})$$

- We derive a discrete counterpart of the **two-dimensional local complex**:

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{i_F} H^1(F) \xrightarrow{\mathbf{grad}_F} \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{rot}; F) \xrightarrow{\mathbf{rot}_F} L^2(F) \xrightarrow{0} \{0\}$$

- We will need the following decompositions of  $\mathcal{P}^k(F)^2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}^k(F)^2 &= \underbrace{\mathbf{rot}_F \mathcal{P}^{k+1}(F)}_{\mathcal{R}^k(F)} \oplus \underbrace{(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_F)\mathcal{P}^{k-1}(F)}_{\mathcal{R}^{c,k}(F)} \\ &= \underbrace{\mathbf{grad}_F \mathcal{P}^{k+1}(F)}_{\mathcal{G}^k(F)} \oplus \underbrace{(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_F)^\perp \mathcal{P}^{k-1}(F)}_{\mathcal{G}^{c,k}(F)} \end{aligned}$$

# The two-dimensional case

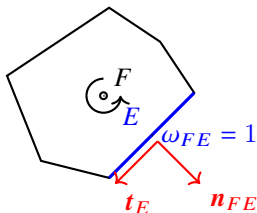
A key remark

- Let  $q \in \mathcal{P}^{k+1}(F)$ . For any  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{P}^k(F)^2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}\int_F \mathbf{grad}_F q \cdot \mathbf{v} &= - \int_F q \underbrace{\operatorname{div}_F \mathbf{v}}_{\in \mathcal{P}^{k-1}(F)} + \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_F} \omega_{FE} \int_E q|_{\partial F} (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{FE}) \\ &= - \int_F \pi_{\mathcal{P},F}^{k-1} q \operatorname{div}_F \mathbf{v} + \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_F} \omega_{FE} \int_E q|_{\partial F} (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{FE})\end{aligned}$$

with  $\pi_{\mathcal{P},F}^{k-1}$   $L^2$ -orthogonal projector on  $\mathcal{P}^{k-1}(F)$

- Hence,  $\mathbf{grad}_F q$  can be computed given  $\pi_{\mathcal{P},F}^{k-1} q$  and  $q|_{\partial F}$



# The two-dimensional case

Discrete  $H^1(F)$  space

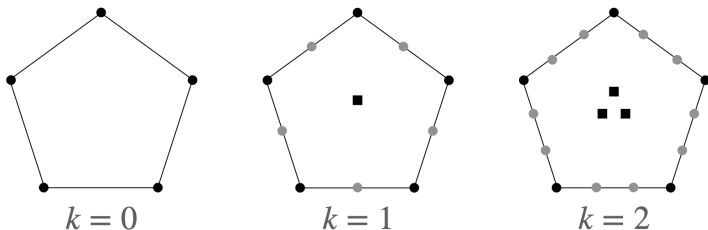


Figure: Number of degrees of freedom for  $\underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k$  for  $k \in \{0, 1, 2\}$

- Based on this remark, we take as discrete counterpart of  $H^1(F)$

$$\underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k := \left\{ \underline{q}_F = (q_F, q_{\partial F}) : q_F \in \mathcal{P}^{k-1}(F) \text{ and } q_{\partial F} \in \mathcal{P}_c^{k+1}(\mathcal{E}_F) \right\}$$

- The interpolator  $\underline{I}_{\text{grad},F}^k : C^0(\overline{F}) \rightarrow \underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k$  is s.t.,  $\forall q \in C^0(\overline{F})$ ,

$$\underline{I}_{\text{grad},F}^k q := (\pi_{\mathcal{P},F}^{k-1} q, q_{\partial F}) \text{ with}$$

$$\pi_{\mathcal{P},E}^{k-1}(q_{\partial F})|_E = \pi_{\mathcal{P},E}^{k-1} q|_E \quad \forall E \in \mathcal{E}_F \text{ and } q_{\partial F}(\mathbf{x}_V) = q(\mathbf{x}_V) \quad \forall V \in \mathcal{V}_F$$

# The two-dimensional case

Reconstructions in  $\underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k$

- For all  $E \in \mathcal{E}_F$ , the **edge gradient**  $G_E^k : \underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{P}^k(E)$  is s.t.

$$G_E^k q_F := (q \partial F)'|_E$$

- The **full face gradient**  $G_F^k : \underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{P}^k(F)^2$  is s.t.,  $\forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{P}^k(F)^2$ ,

$$\int_F G_F^k q_F \cdot \mathbf{v} = - \int_F q_F \operatorname{div}_F \mathbf{v} + \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_F} \omega_{FE} \int_E q \partial F (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{FE})$$

- By construction, we have **polynomial consistency**:

$$G_F^k (\underline{I}_{\text{grad},F}^k q) = \mathbf{grad}_F q \quad \forall q \in \mathcal{P}^{k+1}(F)$$

- We reconstruct similarly a **face potential (scalar trace)** in  $\mathcal{P}^{k+1}(F)$



# The two-dimensional case

Discrete  $\mathbf{H}(\text{rot}; F)$  space

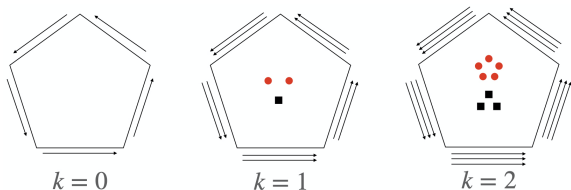


Figure: Number of degrees of freedom for  $\underline{\mathbf{X}}_{\text{curl}, F}^k$  for  $k \in \{0, 1, 2\}$

- We reason starting from:  $\forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{N}^{k+1}(F) := \mathcal{G}^k(F) \oplus \mathcal{G}^{c, k+1}(F)$ ,

$$\int_F \text{rot}_F \mathbf{v} \cdot q = \int_F \mathbf{v} \cdot \underbrace{\text{rot}_F q}_{\in \mathcal{R}^{k-1}(F)} - \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_F} \omega_{FE} \int_E \underbrace{(\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{t}_E)}_{\in \mathcal{P}^k(E)} q|_E \quad \forall q \in \mathcal{P}^k(F)$$

- This leads to the following discrete counterpart of  $\mathbf{H}(\text{rot}; F)$ :

$$\underline{\mathbf{X}}_{\text{curl}, F}^k := \left\{ \mathbf{v}_F = (\mathbf{v}_{\mathcal{R}, F}, \mathbf{v}_{\mathcal{R}, F}^c, (v_E)_{E \in \mathcal{E}_F}) : \right. \\ \left. \mathbf{v}_{\mathcal{R}, F} \in \mathcal{R}^{k-1}(F), \mathbf{v}_{\mathcal{R}, F}^c \in \mathcal{R}^{c, k}(F), v_E \in \mathcal{P}^k(E) \forall E \in \mathcal{E}_F \right\}$$

# The two-dimensional case

Reconstructions in  $\underline{\mathbf{X}}_{\text{curl},F}^k$

- The **face curl operator**  $C_F^k : \underline{\mathbf{X}}_{\text{curl},F}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{P}^k(F)$  is s.t.,

$$\int_F C_F^k \underline{\mathbf{v}}_F q = \int_F \mathbf{v}_{\mathcal{R},F} \cdot \text{rot}_F q - \sum_{E \in \mathcal{E}_F} \omega_{FE} \int_E \mathbf{v}_E q \quad \forall q \in \mathcal{P}^k(F)$$

- Define the interpolator  $\underline{\mathbf{I}}_{\text{curl},F}^k : H^1(F)^2 \rightarrow \underline{\mathbf{X}}_{\text{curl},F}^k$  s.t.,  $\forall \mathbf{v} \in H^1(F)^2$ ,

$$\underline{\mathbf{I}}_{\text{curl},F}^k \mathbf{v} := (\boldsymbol{\pi}_{\mathcal{R},F}^{k-1} \mathbf{v}, \boldsymbol{\pi}_{\mathcal{R},F}^{c,k} \mathbf{v}, (\boldsymbol{\pi}_{\mathcal{P},E}^k(\mathbf{v}|_E \cdot \mathbf{t}_E))_{E \in \mathcal{E}_F}).$$

- $C_F^k$  is **polynomially consistent** by construction:

$$C_F^k(\underline{\mathbf{I}}_{\text{curl},F}^k \mathbf{v}) = \text{rot}_F \mathbf{v} \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{N}^{k+1}(F)$$

- We reconstruct similarly a **vector potential (tangent trace)** in  $\mathcal{P}^k(F)^2$

# The two-dimensional case

## Exact local complex

Theorem (Exactness of the two-dimensional local DDR complex)

If  $F$  is simply connected, the following local complex is **exact**:

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{I_{\text{grad},F}^k} \underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{G}_F^k} \underline{X}_{\text{curl},F}^k \xrightarrow{C_F^k} \mathcal{P}^k(F) \xrightarrow{0} \{0\},$$

where  $\underline{G}_F^k : \underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k \rightarrow \underline{X}_{\text{curl},F}^k$  is the **discrete gradient** s.t.,  $\forall \underline{q}_F \in \underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k$ ,

$$\underline{G}_F^k \underline{q}_F := \left( \pi_{\mathcal{R},F}^{k-1} (G_F^k \underline{q}_F), \pi_{\mathcal{R},F}^{c,k} (G_F^k \underline{q}_F), (G_E^k \underline{q}_F)_{E \in \mathcal{E}_F} \right)$$

# The two-dimensional case

## Summary

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{I_{\text{grad},F}^k} \underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{G}_F^k} \underline{X}_{\text{curl},F}^k \xrightarrow{C_F^k} \mathcal{P}^k(F) \xrightarrow{0} \{0\}$$

Space	$V$ (vertex)	$E$ (edge)	$F$ (face)
$\underline{X}_{\text{grad},F}^k$	$\mathbb{R} = \mathcal{P}^k(V)$	$\mathcal{P}^{k-1}(E)$	$\mathcal{P}^{k-1}(F)$
$\underline{X}_{\text{curl},F}^k$		$\mathcal{P}^k(E)$	$\mathcal{R}^{k-1}(F) \times \mathcal{R}^{c,k}(F)$
$\mathcal{P}^k(F)$			$\mathcal{P}^k(F)$

Table: Polynomial components for the two-dimensional spaces

- **Interpolators** = component-wise  $L^2$ -projections
- **Discrete operators** =  $L^2$ -projections of full operator reconstructions

# The three-dimensional case I

Exact complex

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{I_{\text{grad},T}^k} \underline{X}_{\text{grad},T}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{G}_T^k} \underline{X}_{\text{curl},T}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{C}_T^k} \underline{X}_{\text{div},T}^k \xrightarrow{D_T^k} \mathcal{P}^k(T) \xrightarrow{0} \{0\}$$

Space	$V$	$E$	$F$	$T$ (element)
$\underline{X}_{\text{grad},T}^k$	$\mathbb{R}$	$\mathcal{P}^{k-1}(E)$	$\mathcal{P}^{k-1}(F)$	$\mathcal{P}^{k-1}(T)$
$\underline{X}_{\text{curl},T}^k$		$\mathcal{P}^k(E)$	$\mathcal{R}^{k-1}(F) \times \mathcal{R}^{c,k}(F)$	$\mathcal{R}^{k-1}(T) \times \mathcal{R}^{c,k}(T)$
$\underline{X}_{\text{div},T}^k$			$\mathcal{P}^k(F)$	$\mathcal{G}^{k-1}(T) \times \mathcal{G}^{c,k}(T)$
$\mathcal{P}^k(T)$				$\mathcal{P}^k(T)$

Table: Polynomial components for the three-dimensional spaces

Theorem (Exactness of the three-dimensional local DDR complex)

If the mesh element  $T$  has a trivial topology, this complex is *exact*.

# The three-dimensional case

## Local discrete $L^2$ -products

- Emulating integration by part formulas, define the **local potentials**

$$\mathbf{P}_{\text{grad},T}^{k+1} : \underline{X}_{\text{grad},T}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{P}^{k+1}(T),$$

$$\mathbf{P}_{\text{curl},T}^k : \underline{X}_{\text{curl},T}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{P}^k(T)^3,$$

$$\mathbf{P}_{\text{div},T}^k : \underline{X}_{\text{div},T}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{P}^k(T)^3$$

- Based on these potentials, we construct **local discrete  $L^2$ -products**

$$(\underline{x}_T, \underline{y}_T)_{\bullet,T} = \underbrace{\int_T P_{\bullet,T} \underline{x}_T \cdot P_{\bullet,T} \underline{y}_T}_{\text{consistency}} + \underbrace{s_{\bullet,T}(\underline{x}_T, \underline{y}_T)}_{\text{stability}} \quad \forall \bullet \in \{\text{grad, curl, div}\}$$

- The  $L^2$ -products are **polynomially exact**

# The three-dimensional case

## Global complex

- Let  $\mathcal{T}_h$  be a **polyhedral mesh** with elements and faces of trivial topology
- **Global DDR spaces** are defined gluing boundary components:

$$\underline{X}_{\text{grad},h}^k, \quad \underline{X}_{\text{curl},h}^k, \quad \underline{X}_{\text{div},h}^k$$

- **Global operators** are obtained collecting local components:

$$\underline{G}_h^k : \underline{X}_{\text{grad},h}^k \rightarrow \underline{X}_{\text{curl},h}^k, \quad \underline{C}_h^k : \underline{X}_{\text{curl},h}^k \rightarrow \underline{X}_{\text{div},h}^k, \quad D_h^k : \underline{X}_{\text{div},h}^k \rightarrow \mathcal{P}^k(\mathcal{T}_h)$$

- **Global  $L^2$ -products  $(\cdot, \cdot)_{\bullet,h}$**  are obtained assembling element-wise
- The **global DDR complex** is

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{I_{\text{grad},h}^k} \underline{X}_{\text{grad},h}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{G}_h^k} \underline{X}_{\text{curl},h}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{C}_h^k} \underline{X}_{\text{div},h}^k \xrightarrow{D_h^k} \mathcal{P}^k(\mathcal{T}_h) \xrightarrow{0} \{0\}$$

# Discrete problem

- Continuous problem: Find  $(\boldsymbol{\sigma}, \mathbf{u}) \in \mathbf{H}(\text{curl}; \Omega) \times \mathbf{H}(\text{div}; \Omega)$  s.t.

$$\int_{\Omega} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} - \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{u} \cdot \text{curl } \boldsymbol{\tau} = 0 \quad \forall \boldsymbol{\tau} \in \mathbf{H}(\text{curl}; \Omega),$$

$$\int_{\Omega} \text{curl } \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \int_{\Omega} \text{div } \mathbf{u} \text{ div } \mathbf{v} = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{v} \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{H}(\text{div}; \Omega)$$

- The **DDR problem** reads: Find  $(\underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}_h, \underline{\mathbf{u}}_h) \in \underline{\mathbf{X}}_{\text{curl},h}^k \times \underline{\mathbf{X}}_{\text{div},h}^k$  s.t.

$$(\underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}_h, \underline{\boldsymbol{\tau}}_h)_{\text{curl},h} - (\underline{\mathbf{u}}_h, \underline{\mathbf{C}}_h^k \underline{\boldsymbol{\tau}}_h)_{\text{div},h} = 0 \quad \forall \underline{\boldsymbol{\tau}}_h \in \underline{\mathbf{X}}_{\text{curl},h}^k,$$

$$(\underline{\mathbf{C}}_h^k \underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}_h, \underline{\mathbf{v}}_h)_{\text{div},h} + \int_{\Omega} D_h^k \underline{\mathbf{u}}_h D_h^k \underline{\mathbf{v}}_h = l_h(\underline{\mathbf{v}}_h) \quad \forall \underline{\mathbf{v}}_h \in \underline{\mathbf{X}}_{\text{div},h}^k$$

- Stability** follows as in the continuous case using exactness properties of

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{I_{\text{grad},h}^k} \underline{\mathbf{X}}_{\text{grad},h}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{\mathbf{G}}_h} \underline{\mathbf{X}}_{\text{curl},h}^k \xrightarrow{\underline{\mathbf{C}}_h^k} \underline{\mathbf{X}}_{\text{div},h}^k \xrightarrow{D_h^k} \mathcal{P}^k(\mathcal{T}_h) \xrightarrow{0} \{0\}$$



# Convergence

## Theorem (Error estimate)

Assume  $b_1 = b_2 = 0$ ,  $\sigma \in C^0(\bar{\Omega})^3 \cap H^{k+2}(\mathcal{T}_h)^3$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \in C^0(\bar{\Omega})^3 \cap H^{k+2}(\mathcal{T}_h)^3$ , and set

$$(\underline{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}_h, \underline{\mathbf{e}}_h) := (\underline{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}_h - \underline{\mathbf{I}}_{\text{curl},h}^k \boldsymbol{\sigma}, \underline{\mathbf{u}}_h - \underline{\mathbf{I}}_{\text{div},h}^k \mathbf{u}).$$

Then, we have the following *error estimate*:

$$\begin{aligned} \|(\underline{\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}_h, \underline{\mathbf{e}}_h)\|_h \leq C h^{k+1} & \left( |\mathbf{curl} \boldsymbol{\sigma}|_{H^{k+1}(\mathcal{T}_h)^3} + |\boldsymbol{\sigma}|_{H^{(k+1,2)}(\mathcal{T}_h)^3} \right. \\ & \left. + |\mathbf{u}|_{H^{k+1}(\mathcal{T}_h)^3} + |\mathbf{u}|_{H^{k+2}(\mathcal{T}_h)^3} \right), \end{aligned}$$

with  $\|\cdot\|_h$  discrete (graph)  $\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega) \times \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{div}; \Omega)$  norm and  $C$  depending only on  $\Omega$ ,  $k$ , and mesh regularity.

# Numerical examples

Convergence in the energy norm

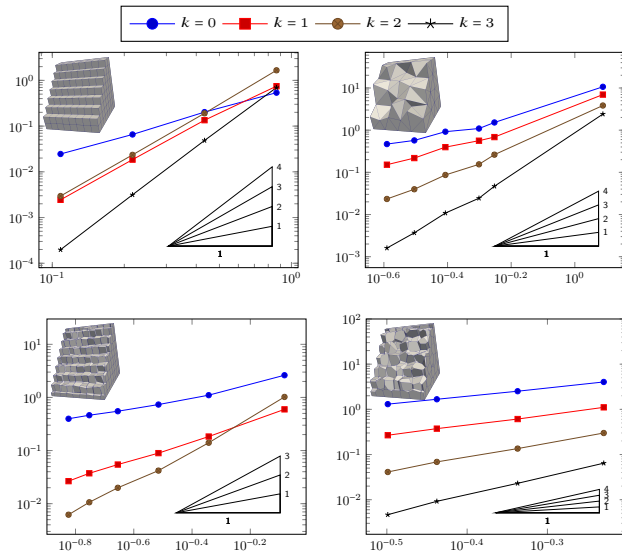


Figure: Energy error versus mesh size  $h$

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