

# VIRTUAL ELEMENTS FOR MAGNETO-STATIC PROBLEMS

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# OUTLINE

- 1 THE PROBLEM AND THE VARIATIONAL FORMULATION
- 2 LOWEST-ORDER ELEMENT (NÉDÉLEC-FIRST KIND)
- 3 VEM SPACES AND DEGREES OF FREEDOM
- 4 THE DISCRETE PROBLEM AND ERROR ESTIMATES
- 5 NUMERICAL RESULTS
- 6 HINTS ON A FAMILY OF NÉDÉLEC-SECOND KIND

# THE CONTINUOUS PROBLEM

$\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  (simply connected) computational domain

given  $\mathbf{j} \in (L^2(\Omega))^3$  (with  $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{j} = 0$ ), and  $\mu = \mu(x) \geq \mu_0 > 0$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{find } \mathbf{H} \in H(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega) \text{ and } \mathbf{B} \in H(\operatorname{div}; \Omega) \text{ such that:} \\ \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{j} \text{ and } \operatorname{div} \mathbf{B} = 0, \text{ with } \mathbf{B} = \mu \mathbf{H}, \text{ in } \Omega \\ \text{with the boundary conditions } \mathbf{H} \wedge \mathbf{n} = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega \end{array} \right.$$

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Among the various formulations we chose (see [Kikuchi 89](#))

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{find } \mathbf{H} \in H_0(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega) \text{ and } p \in H_0^1(\Omega) \text{ such that:} \\ \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v} \, d\Omega + \int_{\Omega} \nabla p \cdot \mu \mathbf{v} \, d\Omega = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v} \, d\Omega \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in H_0(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega) \\ \int_{\Omega} \nabla q \cdot \mu \mathbf{H} \, d\Omega = 0 \quad \forall q \in H_0^1(\Omega). \end{array} \right.$$

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For existence and uniqueness we need:

$$\text{Inf-Sup} \quad \forall q \in H_0^1(\Omega) \exists \mathbf{v} \in H_0(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega) : \frac{\int_{\Omega} \nabla q \cdot \mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|_{H_0(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega)}} \geq \beta \|\nabla q\|_{L^2(\Omega)}$$

$$\text{Ell-Ker} \quad \int_{\Omega} |\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v}|^2 \geq \alpha \|\mathbf{v}\|_{H_0(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega)}^2 \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \text{ with } \text{div} \mathbf{v} = 0$$

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They both hold true since the following sequence is **exact**:

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

Unique solution  $(\mathbf{H}, p)$  with  $p \equiv 0$ ,  $\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{j}$ ,  $\text{div} \mu \mathbf{H} \equiv 0$ .

# TOWARDS THE DISCRETE PROBLEM

Given a decomposition  $\mathcal{T}_h$  of  $\Omega$  into polyhedra  $P$ , we need to define spaces

$$V^{\text{node}} \subset H_0^1(\Omega), \quad V^{\text{edge}} \subset H_0(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega), \quad V^{\text{face}} \subset H(\text{div}; \Omega), \quad \text{and} \quad V^{\text{vol}} \subset L^2(\Omega)$$

such that:

- they form an exact sequence

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{i} V^{\text{node}}(\Omega) \xrightarrow{\text{grad}} V^{\text{edge}}(\Omega) \xrightarrow{\text{curl}} V^{\text{face}}(\Omega) \xrightarrow{\text{div}} V^{\text{vol}}(\Omega) \xrightarrow{o} 0$$

- They have good approximation properties



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- They have good approximation properties

1) the discrete spaces will be **defined element-wise** on each polyhedron  $P$ , and then glued as in the standard Finite Element procedure.

2) we will start by defining the traces of these spaces on the faces of each polyhedron, that is, on a **generic polygon**.

A 2D SPACE  $\tilde{V}^{\text{node}}(F) \subset H^1(F)$

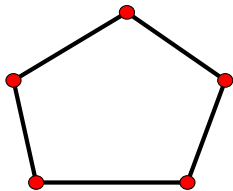
Let  $F$  be a polygon. We define the nodal space as:

$$\tilde{V}^{\text{node}}(F) := \left\{ q \in C^0(\bar{F}) : q|_e \in \mathbb{P}_1(e) \forall e \in \partial F, \Delta q = 0 \right\}.$$

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## Degrees of freedom

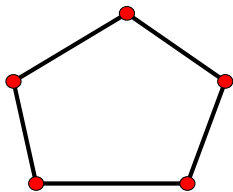
- : values at the vertices  
(imply **global continuity**  
when gluing spaces  
on adjacent polygons)

(easy to check unisovence of the d.o.f.s)

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- the functions in  $\tilde{V}^{\text{node}}(F)$  are known on  $\partial F$  but not inside
- $\mathbb{P}_1(F) \subset \tilde{V}^{\text{node}}(F)$  (good for approximation)

## WHAT CAN WE COMPUTE IN $\tilde{V}^{\text{node}}(F)$ ?

The functions in  $\tilde{V}^{\text{node}}(F)$  are not known inside  $F$ . How can we compute **relevant quantities** needed in the approximation?

We can compute **the average of  $\nabla q$** :

$$\int_F \nabla q dF = \int_{\partial F} q \mathbf{n} ds \quad \forall q \in \tilde{V}^{\text{node}}(F)$$

What about the average of  $q$ ?

$$\int_F q dx = ??$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_F q \operatorname{div} \mathbf{x}_F dF = \frac{1}{2} \left( - \int_F \nabla q \cdot \mathbf{x}_F dF + \int_{\partial F} q \mathbf{x}_F \cdot \mathbf{n} ds \right)$$

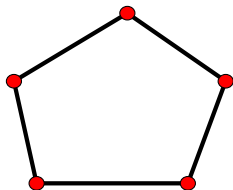
where  $\mathbf{x}_F = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}_F$ , with  $\mathbf{b}_F =$  barycenter of  $F$ .

# A NEW 2D SPACE $V^{\text{node}}(F) \subset H^1(F)$

$$V^{\text{node}}(F) := \left\{ q \in C^0(\bar{F}) : q|_e \in \mathbb{P}_1(e) \forall e \in \partial F, \Delta q \in \mathbb{P}_0, \right. \\ \left. \text{and } \int_F \nabla q \cdot \mathbf{x}_F dF = 0 \right\}.$$

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Degrees of freedom

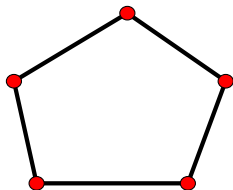
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Note that still  $\mathbb{P}_1(F) \subset V^{\text{node}}(F)$ !

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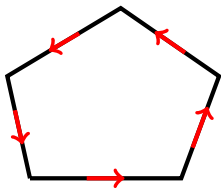
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$$\frac{1}{2} \int_F q \operatorname{div} \mathbf{x}_F dF = \frac{1}{2} \left( \int_F \nabla q \cdot \mathbf{x}_F dF + \int_{\partial F} q \mathbf{x}_F \cdot \mathbf{n} ds \right)$$



A 2D SPACE  $\tilde{V}^{\text{edge}}(F) \subset H(\text{rot}, F)$

$$\tilde{V}^{\text{edge}}(F) := \left\{ \mathbf{v} \mid \text{div} \mathbf{v} = 0, \text{rot} \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{P}_0(F), \mathbf{v}|_e \cdot \mathbf{t}_e \in \mathbb{P}_0(e) \forall e \in \partial F \right\}.$$



Degrees of freedom

→ : value of the tangential component  
(imply global continuity of the  
tangential component when gluing  
spaces on adjacent polygons)

(easy to check unisolvence)

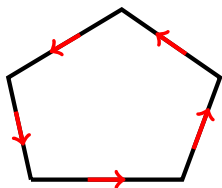
- the tangential components are known
- $[\mathbb{P}_0(F)]^2 \subseteq \tilde{V}^{\text{edge}}(F)$  and also  $N_0^{1\text{st}}(F) \subseteq \tilde{V}^{\text{edge}}(F)$

Recall:  $N_0^{1\text{st}}(F) = \text{span}\{(1, 0), (0, 1), (y, -x)\}$

NOTE: for  $\mathbf{v} \in N_0^{1\text{st}}(F)$  we have  $\int_F \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x}_F dF = 0$

# A NEW 2D SPACE $V^{\text{edge}}(F) \subset H(\text{rot}, F)$

$$V^{\text{edge}}(F) := \left\{ \mathbf{v} \mid \text{div} \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{P}_0(F), \text{rot} \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{P}_0(F), \mathbf{v}|_e \cdot \mathbf{t}_e \in \mathbb{P}_0(e) \forall e \in \partial F, \int_F \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x}_F dF = 0 \right\}.$$



Degrees of freedom

$\rightarrow$  : value of the tangential component

still  $N_0^{1st}(F) \subset V^{\text{edge}}(F)$

# INTEGRALS AGAINST LINEAR POLYNOMIALS

$$V^{\text{edge}}(F) := \left\{ \mathbf{v} \mid \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{P}_0(F), \operatorname{rot} \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{P}_0(F), \mathbf{v}|_e \cdot \mathbf{t}_e \in \mathbb{P}_0(e) \forall e \in \partial F, \int_F \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x}_F dF = 0 \right\}$$

Observe that any  $\mathbf{p}_1 \in [\mathbb{P}_1(F)]^2$  can be written as

$$\mathbf{p}_1 = \operatorname{rot} p_2 + p_0 \mathbf{x}_F$$

Hence,  $\forall \mathbf{v} \in V^{\text{edge}}(F)$  we can compute

$$\begin{aligned} \int_F \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{p}_1 &= \int_F \mathbf{v} \cdot (\operatorname{rot} p_2 + p_0 \mathbf{x}_F) \\ &= \underbrace{\int_F \operatorname{rot} \mathbf{v} p_2}_{\text{computable}} + \underbrace{\int_{\partial F} (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{t}) p_2}_{\text{computable}} + p_0 \underbrace{\int_F \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x}_F}_0 \end{aligned}$$

# THE 2D EXACT SEQUENCE

Exact sequence  $\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{i} V^{\text{node}}(F) \xrightarrow{\text{grad}} V^{\text{edge}}(F) \xrightarrow{\text{rot}} \mathbb{P}_0(F) \xrightarrow{o} 0$

---

$$V^{\text{node}}(F) := \left\{ q \in C^0(\bar{F}) : q|_e \in \mathbb{P}_1(e) \forall e \in \partial F, \Delta q \in \mathbb{P}_0, \right. \\ \left. \text{and } \int_F \nabla q \cdot \mathbf{x}_F dF = 0 \right\}.$$

**D.O.F:** Vertex values (uniquely identify  $q$  on  $\partial F$ )

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**D.O.F:** Midpoint tangent values (uniquely identify  $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{t}$  on  $\partial F$ )

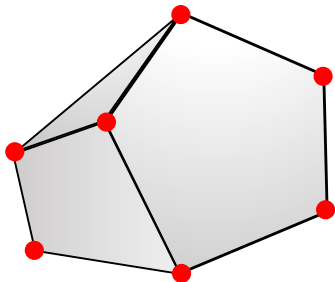
# THE 3D SPACE $V^{\text{node}}(\mathbb{P}) \subset H^1(\mathbb{P})$

Let  $\mathbb{P}$  be a **generic polyhedron** of the decomposition of  $\Omega$ .

The **nodal** space is:

$$V^{\text{node}}(\mathbb{P}) := \{q \in C^0(\bar{\mathbb{P}}) : q|_F \in V^{\text{node}}(F) \forall F \in \partial\mathbb{P}, \Delta q = 0\}$$

- clearly  $\mathbb{P}_1(\mathbb{P}) \subseteq V^{\text{node}}(\mathbb{P})$



Degrees of freedom

- : value at the vertices



global space  $V_h^{\text{node}}(\Omega) \subset H^1(\Omega)$

# THE 3D SPACE $V^{\text{edge}}(\mathbb{P}) \subset H(\mathbf{curl}; \mathbb{P})$

The *edge* space is:

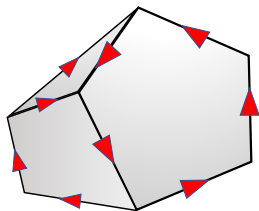
$$V^{\text{edge}}(\mathbb{P}) := \{\mathbf{v} \in H(\mathbf{curl}; \mathbb{P}) : (\mathbf{v}|_F)_{\text{tang}} \in V^{\text{edge}}(F) \forall F \in \partial\mathbb{P},$$

$\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{t}$  continuous on each edge  $e \in \partial\mathbb{P}$

$$\text{div} \mathbf{v} = 0, \mathbf{curl}(\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v}) \in [\mathbb{P}_0(\mathbb{P})]^3,$$

$$\int_{\mathbb{P}} (\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v}) \cdot (\mathbf{x}_{\mathbb{P}} \wedge \mathbf{p}_0) = 0 \forall \mathbf{p}_0 \in [\mathbb{P}_0(\mathbb{P})]^3\}$$

- clearly  $[\mathbb{P}_0(\mathbb{P})]^3 \subseteq V^{\text{edge}}(\mathbb{P})$ , and  $N_0^{1\text{st}}(\mathbb{P}) \equiv \mathbf{p}_0 + \mathbf{x}_{\mathbb{P}} \wedge \mathbf{q}_0 \subset V^{\text{edge}}(\mathbb{P})$



Degrees of freedom

value of the tangential component  
(constant) on each edge



global space  $V_h^{\text{edge}}(\Omega) \subset H(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega)$

# A LOCAL PROJECTION ON CONSTANT VECTOR FIELDS

Out of the above d.o.f. we can compute the  $(L^2(P))^3$ -orthogonal projection  $\Pi_0$  from  $V^{\text{edge}}(P)$  to  $(\mathbb{P}_0(P))^3$ .

# A LOCAL PROJECTION ON CONSTANT VECTOR FIELDS

Out of the above d.o.f. we can compute the  $(L^2(P))^3$ -orthogonal projection  $\Pi_0$  from  $V^{\text{edge}}(P)$  to  $(\mathbb{P}_0(P))^3$ .

Indeed, since  $\mathbf{p}_0 = \mathbf{curl}(\mathbf{x}_P \wedge \mathbf{q}_0)$  with  $\mathbf{q}_0 = -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{p}_0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_P \Pi_0 \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{p}_0 dP &:= \int_P \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{p}_0 dP = \int_P \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{curl}(\mathbf{x}_P \wedge \mathbf{q}_0) dP \\ &= \int_P \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v} \cdot (\mathbf{x}_P \wedge \mathbf{q}_0) dP + \int_{\partial P} (\mathbf{v} \wedge \mathbf{n}) \cdot (\mathbf{x}_P \wedge \mathbf{q}_0) dS \\ &= 0 + \int_{\partial P} \left( \mathbf{n} \wedge (\mathbf{x}_P \wedge \mathbf{q}_0) \right) \cdot \mathbf{v} dS \\ &= \sum_F \int_F \left( \mathbf{n} \wedge (\mathbf{x}_P \wedge \mathbf{q}_0) \right)^\tau \cdot \mathbf{v}^\tau dF \end{aligned}$$

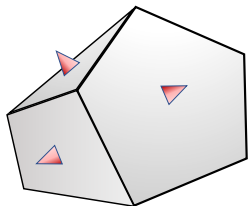


# THE 3D SPACE $V^{\text{face}}(\mathbb{P}) \subset H(\text{div}; \mathbb{P})$

The *face* space is:

$$V^{\text{face}}(\mathbb{P}) := \{ \mathbf{w} \in H(\text{div}; \mathbb{P}) : (\mathbf{w}_F \cdot \mathbf{n}_F) \in \mathbb{P}_0(F) \forall F \in \partial \mathbb{P}, \\ \text{div} \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{P}_0(\mathbb{P}), \text{curl} \mathbf{w} \in [\mathbb{P}_0(\mathbb{P})]^3, \\ \int_{\mathbb{P}} \mathbf{w} \cdot (\mathbf{x}_{\mathbb{P}} \wedge \mathbf{p}_0) = 0 \forall \mathbf{p}_0 \in [\mathbb{P}_0(\mathbb{P})]^3 \}$$

- clearly  $[\mathbb{P}_0(\mathbb{P})]^3 \subseteq V^{\text{face}}(\mathbb{P})$ , and  $RT_0(\mathbb{P}) \equiv \mathbf{p}_0 + \mathbf{x}_{\mathbb{P}} q_0 \subseteq V^{\text{face}}(\mathbb{P})$



Degrees of freedom

value of the normal component  
(constant) on each face



global space  $V_h^{\text{face}}(\Omega) \subset H(\text{div}; \Omega)$

# THE GLOBAL SPACES

- $\mathcal{T}_h =$  decomposition of  $\Omega$  into polyhedra  $P$ ,  $\mu$  constant on each  $P$
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The global spaces are defined as in FEM:

$$V_h^{\text{node}} := \{q \in H_0^1(\Omega) : q|_P \in V^{\text{node}}(P) \forall P \in \mathcal{T}_h\}$$

$$V_h^{\text{edge}} := \{\mathbf{v} \in H_0(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega) : \mathbf{v}|_P \in V^{\text{edge}}(P) \forall P \in \mathcal{T}_h\}$$

$$V_h^{\text{face}} := \{\mathbf{w} \in H(\text{div}; \Omega) : \mathbf{w}|_P \in V^{\text{face}}(P) \forall P \in \mathcal{T}_h\}$$

$$V_h^{\text{vol}} := \{\varphi \in L^2(\Omega) : \varphi|_P \in \mathbb{P}_0(P) \forall P \in \mathcal{T}_h\}$$

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One can prove [Beirão da Veiga, Brezzi, Dassi, M, Russo, CMAME 2018]

## EXACT SEQUENCE

*The sequence*

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{i} V_h^{\text{node}} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{grad}} V_h^{\text{edge}} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{curl}} V_h^{\text{face}} \xrightarrow{\text{div}} V_h^{\text{vol}} \xrightarrow{o} 0$$

*is exact*

## DISCRETE PROBLEM. WE WOULD LIKE TO WRITE:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{given } \mathbf{j} \in H(\text{div}; \Omega) \quad (\text{with } \text{div} \mathbf{j} = 0 \text{ in } \Omega), \quad \text{and } \mu = \mu(\mathbf{x}) \geq \mu_0 > 0, \\ \text{find } \mathbf{H}_h \in V_h^{\text{edge}} \text{ and } p_h \in V_h^{\text{node}} \text{ such that:} \\ \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{H}_h \cdot \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v} \, d\Omega + \int_{\Omega} \nabla p_h \cdot \mu \mathbf{v} \, d\Omega = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v} \, d\Omega \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in V_h^{\text{edge}} \\ \int_{\Omega} \nabla q \cdot \mu \mathbf{H}_h \, d\Omega = 0 \quad \forall q \in V_h^{\text{node}}. \end{array} \right.$$

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Instead we will write

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{find } \mathbf{H}_h \in V_h^{\text{edge}} \text{ and } p_h \in V_h^{\text{node}} \text{ such that:} \\ [\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{H}_h, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v}]_{\text{face}} + [\nabla p_h, \mu \mathbf{v}]_{\text{edge}} = [\mathbf{j}_I, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v}]_{\text{face}} \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in V_h^{\text{edge}} \\ [\nabla q, \mu \mathbf{H}_h]_{\text{edge}} = 0 \quad \forall q \in V_h^{\text{node}}. \end{array} \right.$$

after defining a suitable  $\mathbf{j}_I \in V_h^{\text{face}}$  and approximate  $L^2$ -scalar products.

## SCALAR PRODUCT IN $V_h^{\text{edge}}$

We saw that in each element  $P$  we can project onto constants.

Then we can define an **edge scalar product**  $[\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}]_P^{\text{edge}} \simeq \int_P \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w} dP$ :

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where  $s_P(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w})$  is a symmetric and positive definite bilinear form.  
For instance:

$$s_P(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}) = |P| \sum_{i=1}^{\#\text{edges}} \text{DOF}_i(\mathbf{v}) \text{DOF}_i(\mathbf{w})$$

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(**Note:** the face scalar product is handled analogously)

# CONSISTENCY AND STABILITY

**CONSISTENCY:** For all  $P$ , and for all  $\mathbf{v} \in V^{\text{edge}}(P)$  and  $\mathbf{p}_0 \in [\mathbb{P}_0(P)]^3$

$$\begin{aligned} [\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{p}_0]_P^{\text{edge}} &= \int_P \Pi^0 \mathbf{v} \Pi^0 \mathbf{p}_0 dP + s_P(\mathbf{v} - \Pi^0 \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{p}_0 - \Pi^0 \mathbf{p}_0) \\ &= \int_P \Pi^0 \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{p}_0 dP = (\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{p}_0)_{0,P} \end{aligned}$$

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**STABILITY:** under suitable mesh assumptions

$$c_* \|\mathbf{v}\|_{0,P}^2 \leq s_P(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v}) \leq c^* \|\mathbf{v}\|_{0,P}^2 \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in V^{\text{edge}}(P)$$

for some constants  $c^* \geq c_* > 0$  independent of  $h_P$ . Thus,

$$c_* \|\mathbf{v}\|_{0,P}^2 \leq [\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v}]_P^{\text{edge}} \leq c^* \|\mathbf{v}\|_{0,P}^2 \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in V^{\text{edge}}(P)$$

# THE DISCRETE PROBLEM

Given a decomposition  $\mathcal{T}_h$  of  $\Omega$  into polyhedra, the final discrete problem is

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{find } \mathbf{H}_h \in V_h^{\text{edge}} \text{ and } p_h \in V_h^{\text{node}} \text{ such that:} \\ [\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{H}_h, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v}]_{\text{face}} + [\nabla p_h, \mu \mathbf{v}]_{\text{edge}} = [\mathbf{j}_I, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v}]_{\text{face}} \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in V_h^{\text{edge}} \\ [\nabla q, \mu \mathbf{H}_h]_{\text{edge}} = 0 \quad \forall q \in V_h^{\text{node}}. \end{array} \right.$$

where

- the **face and edge scalar products** are built as shown above
- $\mathbf{j}_I$  is the standard DOF-interpolant of  $\mathbf{j}$  in  $V_h^{\text{face}}$

The **exact sequence** property guarantees existence-uniqueness of the solution  $(\mathbf{H}_h, p_h)$  with  $p_h = 0$ .

# CONVERGENCE RESULTS

Let:

$$\|\mathbf{v}\|_{0,\Omega}^2 := \int_{\Omega} \mu |\mathbf{v}|^2 \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in [L^2(\Omega)]^2$$

and assume that

- all the elements are (uniformly) star-shaped with respect to a ball of radius  $\geq \gamma h_P$ , for some positive  $\gamma$
- every face is star-shaped with respect to a ball of radius  $\geq \gamma h_P$ , and every edge has length  $\geq \gamma h_P$

## THEOREM

*The following estimate holds:*

$$\|\mathbf{H} - \mathbf{H}_h\|_{0,\Omega} + \|\mathbf{curl}(\mathbf{H} - \mathbf{H}_h)\|_{0,\Omega} \leq C h \left( \sum_P |\mathbf{H}|_{1,P}^2 + |\mathbf{j}|_{1,P}^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

## NUMERICAL RESULTS ( $\mu = 1$ )

**PROBLEM 1** The domain is a **truncated octahedron**, and the exact solution is

$$\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) := \frac{\mathbf{1}}{\pi} \begin{pmatrix} \sin(\pi y) - \sin(\pi z) \\ \sin(\pi z) - \sin(\pi x) \\ \sin(\pi x) - \sin(\pi y) \end{pmatrix}$$

The data  $\mathbf{j}$  and  $\mathbf{H} \wedge \mathbf{n}$  are set accordingly.

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The data  $\mathbf{j}$  and  $\mathbf{H} \wedge \mathbf{n}$  are set accordingly.

**PROBLEM 2**  $\Omega = [0, 1]^3$ , and the solution is

$$\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) := \mathbf{curl} (\zeta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}), \zeta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}), \zeta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}))$$

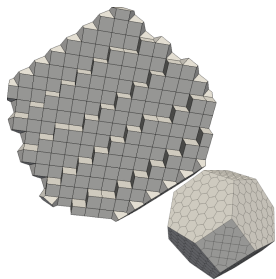
where

$$\zeta(x, y, z) := (x^2 - x)(y^2 - y)(z^2 - z)$$

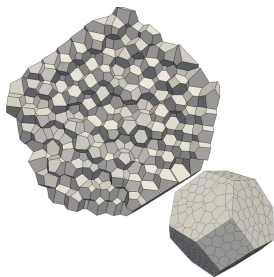
The data  $\mathbf{j}$  is set in accordance to the solution. The boundary conditions are “of Neumann type”  $\mu \mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$ .



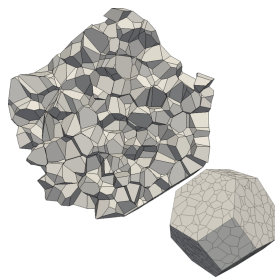
# VORONOI MESH FAMILIES



**Structured:** structured seed distribution



**Centroidal:** each element seed corresponds to the element barycenter



**Random:** random seed distribution

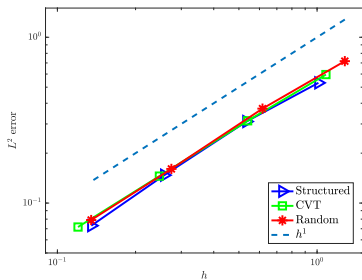
# CONVERGENCE GRAPHS

We compute the  $L^2$ -relative error on  $\mathbf{H}$  as

$$\frac{\|\mathbf{H} - \Pi_0 \mathbf{H}_h\|_{0,\Omega}}{\|\mathbf{H}\|_{0,\Omega}}$$

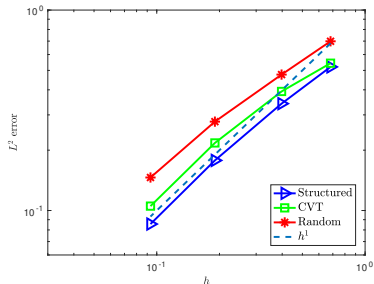
## PROBLEM 1

$L^2$  error



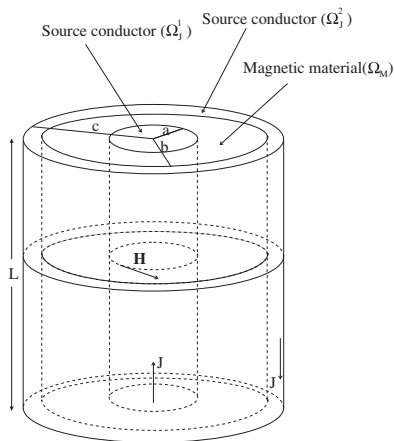
## PROBLEM 2

$L^2$  error



The multiplier  $p_h$  vanishes up to machine precision

# A SIMPLE BENCHMARK (WITH KNOWN SOLUTION)



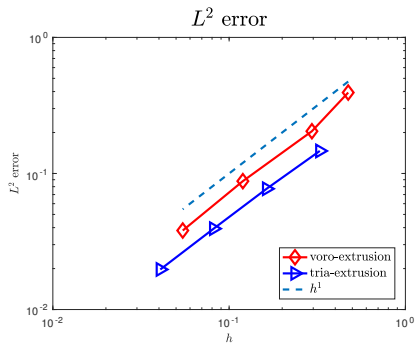
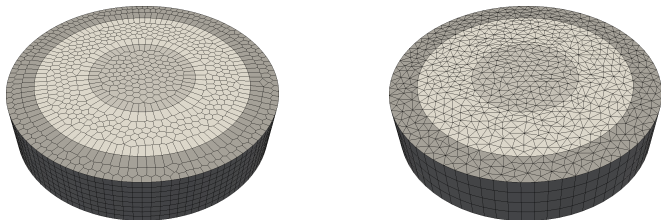
- constant electric current (of same intensity) in the two conductors
- permeability:

$$\mu = \begin{cases} \mu_0 & \text{in } \Omega_J^1 \cup \Omega_J^2 \\ 10^4 \mu_0 & \text{in } \Omega_M \end{cases}$$

- boundary conditions  $\mu \mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$

[C. T. A. Jhonk, 88]

# A SIMPLE BENCHMARK PROBLEM (KNOWN SOLUTION)



# A FAMILY OF NÉDÉLEC SECOND KIND VEM

## Local spaces on the faces of polyhedra

Let  $k \geq 1$ . For each face  $f$  of  $\mathbb{P}$ , the *edge* space on  $f$  is defined as

$$V_k^{\text{edge}}(f) := \left\{ \mathbf{v} \in [L^2(f)]^2 : \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{P}_k(f), \operatorname{rot} \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{P}_{k-1}(f), \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{t}_e \in \mathbb{P}_k(e) \forall e \subset \partial f \right\}$$

with the degrees of freedom

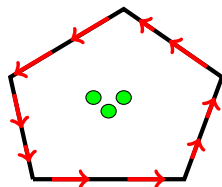
- on each  $e \subset \partial f$ , the moments  $\int_e (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{t}_e) p_k \, ds \quad \forall p_k \in \mathbb{P}_k(e)$ ,
- the moments  $\int_f \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x}_f p_k \, df \quad \forall p_k \in \mathbb{P}_k(f)$ ,
- $\int_f \operatorname{rot} \mathbf{v} p_{k-1}^0 \, df \quad \forall p_{k-1}^0 \in \mathbb{P}_{k-1}^0(f) \quad (\text{only for } k > 1)$ ,

where  $\mathbf{x}_f = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}_f$ , with  $\mathbf{b}_f$  = barycenter of  $f$ .

- Note: with the serendipity version the d.o.f.  $\int_f \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x}_f p_k \, df$  can be reduced
- Note:  $N_k^{2nd}(f) \subset V_k^{\text{edge}}(f)$

# EXAMPLE OF D.O.F. FOR $k = 1$

## Original VEM



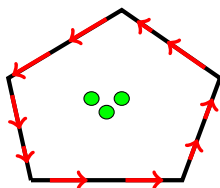
Degrees of freedom

$\rightarrow$  : value of the tangential component

$$\bullet = \int_f \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x}_f p_1 df$$

# EXAMPLE OF D.O.F. FOR $k = 1$

## Original VEM

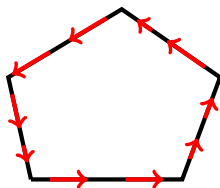


Degrees of freedom

→ : value of the tangential component

$$\bullet = \int_f \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x}_f p_1 df$$

## Serendipity VEM



Degrees of freedom

→ : value of the tangential component

$$N_1^{2nd}(f) \subset V_1^{edge}(f)$$

# A FAMILY OF NÉDÉLEC SECOND KIND VEM

For each face  $f$  of  $P$ , the *nodal* space of order  $k + 1$  is defined as

$$V_{k+1}^{\text{node}}(f) := \left\{ q \in H^1(f) : q|_e \in \mathbb{P}_{k+1}(e) \forall e \subset \partial f, \Delta q \in \mathbb{P}_k(f) \right\},$$

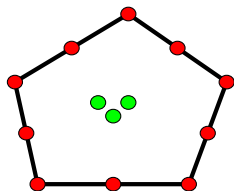
with the degrees of freedom

- for each vertex  $\nu$  the value  $q(\nu)$ ,
  - for each edge  $e$  the moments  $\int_e q p_{k-1} ds \quad \forall p_{k-1} \in \mathbb{P}_{k-1}(e)$ ,
  - $\int_f (\nabla q \cdot \mathbf{x}_f) p_k df \quad \forall p_k \in \mathbb{P}_k(f)$ .
- 
- Note: with the serendipity version the d.o.f.  $\int_f (\nabla q \cdot \mathbf{x}_f) p_k df$  can be reduced
  - Note:  $\mathbb{P}_{k+1}(f) \subset V_{k+1}^{\text{node}}(f)$



# EXAMPLE OF D.O.F. FOR $k = 1$

## Original VEM

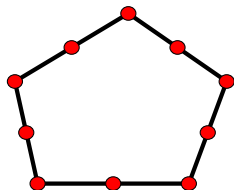


### Degrees of freedom

● : values at vertices and midpoints

$$\bullet = \int_f (\nabla q \cdot \mathbf{x}_f) p_1$$

## Serendipity VEM



### Degrees of freedom

● : values at vertices and midpoints

$$\mathbb{P}_2(f) \subset V_2^{\text{node}}(f)$$

# LOCAL SPACES ON POLYHEDRA

Let  $P$  be a polyhedron, simply connected with all its faces simply connected and convex.

$$V_k^{\text{edge}}(P) := \left\{ \mathbf{v} \in [L^2(P)]^3 : \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{P}_{k-1}(P), \operatorname{curl}(\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{v}) \in [\mathbb{P}_k(P)]^3, \right. \\ \left. \mathbf{v}|_f \in V_k^{\text{edge}}(f) \quad \forall \text{ face } f \subset \partial P, \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{t}_e \text{ continuous on each edge } e \subset \partial P \right\},$$

$$V_{k+1}^{\text{node}}(P) := \left\{ q \in C^0(P) : q|_f \in V_{k+1}^{\text{node}}(f) \quad \forall \text{ face } f \subset \partial P, \Delta q \in \mathbb{P}_{k-1}(P) \right\},$$

$$V_{k-1}^{\text{face}}(P) := \left\{ \mathbf{w} \in [L^2(P)]^3 : \operatorname{div} \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{P}_{k-1}, \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{w} \in [\mathbb{P}_k]^3, \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{n}_f \in \mathbb{P}_{k-1}(f) \quad \forall f \right\}.$$

**Internal** d.o.f. in  $V_k^{\text{edge}}(P)$ :

- $\int_P (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{x}_P) p_{k-1} dP \quad \forall p_{k-1} \in \mathbb{P}_{k-1}(P),$
- $\int_P (\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v}) \cdot (\mathbf{x}_P \wedge \mathbf{p}_k) dP \quad \forall \mathbf{p}_k \in [\mathbb{P}_k(P)]^3.$

We can compute the  $[L^2(P)]^3$ -projection  $\Pi_k^0$  from  $V_k^{\text{edge}}(P)$  to  $[\mathbb{P}_k(P)]^3$ . Hence we define a  $\mu$ -dependent scalar product

$$[\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}]_{\text{edge}} = (\mu \Pi_k^0 \mathbf{v}, \Pi_k^0 \mathbf{w})_{0,P} + h_P \mu_0 \sum_i (\text{dof}_i(I - \Pi_k^0) \mathbf{v}), \text{dof}_i(I - \Pi_k^0) \mathbf{w}),$$

Stability there exist two positive constants  $\alpha_*, \alpha^*$  independent of  $h_P$ :

$$\alpha_* \mu_0 \|\mathbf{v}\|_{0,P}^2 \leq \|\mathbf{v}\|_{\text{edge}}^2 \leq \alpha^* \mu_1 \|\mathbf{v}\|_{0,P} \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in V_k^e(P).$$

Consistency:

$$[\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{p}_k]_{\text{edge}} = \int_P \mu \Pi_k^0 \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{p}_k dF \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in V_k^{\text{edge}}(P), \forall \mathbf{p}_k \in [\mathbb{P}_k(P)]^3.$$

**Internal** d.o.f. in  $V_{k+1}^{\text{node}}(\mathbb{P})$ :

- the moments  $\int_{\mathbb{P}} \nabla q \cdot \mathbf{x}_{\mathbb{P}} \rho_{k-1} d\mathbb{P} \quad \forall \rho_{k-1} \in \mathbb{P}_{k-1}(\mathbb{P})$ .

These, together with the d.o.f. on the faces, allow to compute  $L^2(\mathbb{P})$ -projection from  $V_{k+1}^{\text{node}}(\mathbb{P})$  to  $\mathbb{P}_{k-1}(\mathbb{P})$ .

For  $V_{k-1}^{\text{face}}(\mathbb{P})$  we have the degrees of freedom

- $\forall \text{ face } f: \int_f (\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{n}_f) p_{k-1} df \quad \forall p_{k-1} \in \mathbb{P}_{k-1}(f),$
- $\int_{\mathbb{P}} \mathbf{w} \cdot (\mathbf{grad} p_{k-1}) d\mathbb{P} \quad \forall p_{k-1} \in \mathbb{P}_{k-1}(\mathbb{P}), \text{ for } k > 1$
- $\int_{\mathbb{P}} \mathbf{w} \cdot (\mathbf{x}_{\mathbb{P}} \wedge \mathbf{p}_k) d\mathbb{P} \quad \forall \mathbf{p}_k \in [\mathbb{P}_k(\mathbb{P})]^3.$

From the above d.o.f we can compute the  $[L^2(\mathbb{P})]^3$ -projection  $\Pi_s^0$  from  $V_{k-1}^{\text{face}}(\mathbb{P})$  to  $[\mathbb{P}_s(\mathbb{P})]^3$  with  $s \leq k + 1$ .

$$\|\mathbf{v}\|_{\text{face}}^2 := \|\Pi_{k-1}^0 \mathbf{v}\|_{0,\mathbb{P}}^2 + h_{\mathbb{P}} \sum_f \|(I - \Pi_{k-1}^0) \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}_f\|_{0,f}^2 \simeq \|\mathbf{v}\|_0^2$$

# THE GLOBAL SPACES

$$V_{k+1}^{\text{node}} \equiv V_{k+1}^{\text{node}}(\Omega) := \left\{ q \in H_0^1(\Omega) \text{ such that } q|_P \in V_{k+1}^{\text{node}}(P) \forall P \in \mathcal{T}_h \right\},$$

$$V_k^{\text{edge}} \equiv V_k^{\text{edge}}(\Omega) := \left\{ \mathbf{v} \in H_0(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega) \text{ such that } \mathbf{v}|_P \in V_k^{\text{edge}}(P) \forall P \in \mathcal{T}_h \right\},$$

$$V_{k-1}^{\text{face}} \equiv V_{k-1}^{\text{f}}(\Omega) := \left\{ \mathbf{w} \in H_0(\text{div}; \Omega) \text{ such that } \mathbf{w}|_P \in V_{k-1}^{\text{face}}(P) \forall P \in \mathcal{T}_h \right\},$$

## EXACT SEQUENCE

*The sequence*

$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{i} V_{k+1}^{\text{node}} \xrightarrow{\text{grad}} V_k^{\text{edge}} \xrightarrow{\text{curl}} V_{k-1}^{\text{face}} \xrightarrow{\text{div}} V_{k-1}^{\text{vol}} \xrightarrow{o} 0$$

*is exact*

# THE DISCRETE PROBLEM

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{find } \mathbf{H}_h \in V_k^{\text{edge}} \text{ and } p_h \in V_{k+1}^{\text{node}} \text{ such that:} \\ [\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{H}_h, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v}]_{V_{k-1}^{\text{face}}} + [\nabla p_h, \mathbf{v}]_{e, \mu} = [\mathbf{j}_I, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{v}]_{V_{k-1}^{\text{face}}} \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \in V_k^{\text{edge}} \\ [\nabla q, \mathbf{H}_h]_{e, \mu} = 0 \quad \forall q \in V_{k+1}^{\text{node}}. \end{array} \right.$$

## THEOREM

*The discrete problem has a unique solution, and we have*

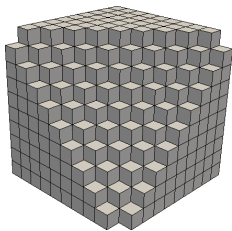
$$\|\mathbf{H} - \mathbf{H}_h\|_{0, \Omega} \leq C \left( \|\mathbf{H} - \mathbf{H}_I\|_{0, \Omega} + \|\Pi_k^0 \mathbf{H} - \mathbf{H}\|_{0, \Omega} + \|\mu \mathbf{H} - \Pi_k^0(\mu \mathbf{H})\|_{0, \Omega} \right),$$

*with  $C$  a constant depending on  $\mu$  but independent of the mesh size.*

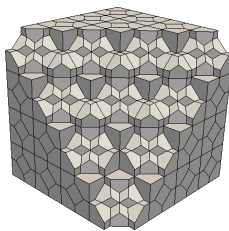
*Moreover,*

$$\|\mathbf{curl}(\mathbf{H} - \mathbf{H}_h)\|_{0, \Omega} = \|\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{j}_I\|_{0, \Omega}.$$

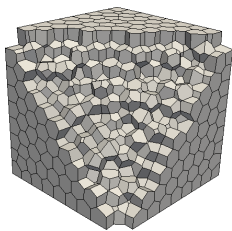
$\Omega = [0, 1]^3$ . EXAMPLE OF MESHES



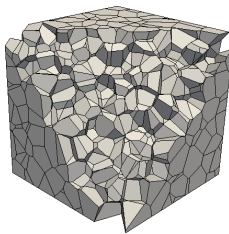
Cube



Nine



CVT



Random



# NUMERICAL RESULTS

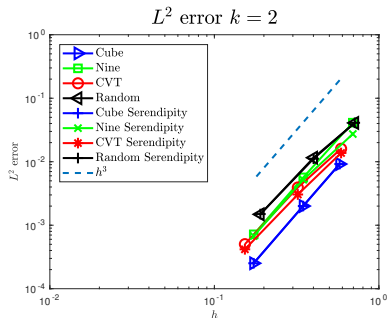
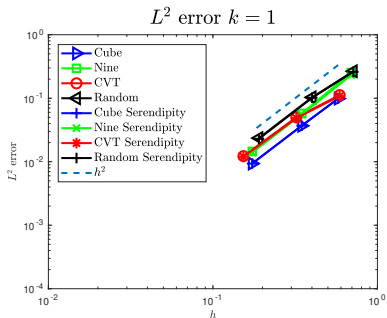
Problem 1:  $\Omega = [0, 1]^3$ ,  $\mu = 1$ . Exact solution

$$\mathbf{H}(x, y, z) := \frac{1}{\pi} \begin{pmatrix} \sin(\pi y) - \sin(\pi z) \\ \sin(\pi z) - \sin(\pi x) \\ \sin(\pi x) - \sin(\pi y) \end{pmatrix}$$

We compute the error

$$\frac{\|\mathbf{H} - \Pi_k^0 \mathbf{H}_h\|_{0,\Omega}}{\|\mathbf{H}\|_{0,\Omega}}.$$

# CONVERGENCE CURVES



$L^2$ -error for standard and serendipity approach: case  $k = 1$  and  $k = 2$ .

# NUMERICAL RESULTS

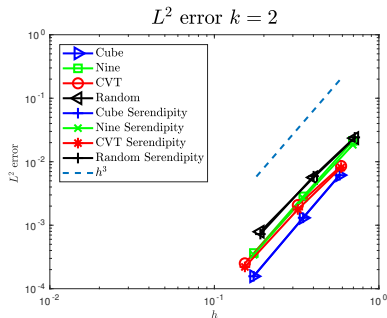
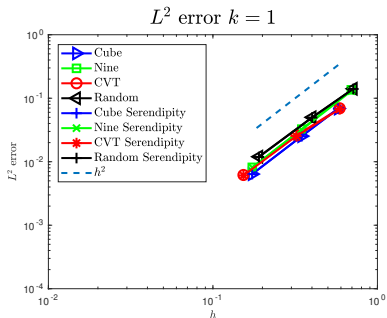
Problem 2:  $\Omega = [0, 1]^3$ ,  $\mu(x, y, z) := 1 + x + y + z$ . Exact solution

$$\mathbf{H}(x, y, z) := \frac{1}{(1 + x + y + z)} \begin{pmatrix} \sin(\pi y) \\ \sin(\pi z) \\ \sin(\pi x) \end{pmatrix}$$

We compute the error

$$\frac{\|\mathbf{H} - \Pi_k^0 \mathbf{H}_h\|_{0,\Omega}}{\|\mathbf{H}\|_{0,\Omega}}.$$

# CONVEGENCE CURVES



$L^2$ -error for standard and serendipity approach: case  $k = 1$  and  $k = 2$

# CONCLUSIONS

- We presented a lowest-order Virtual Element for magnetostatic problems which can be seen as the extension to polyhedral decompositions of the lowest-order Nédélec element of first type
- The element proved robust to element distortions
- A whole family of elements of the Nédélec second type has been constructed ([Beirão da Veiga, Brezzi, Dassi, M., Russo, SINUM 2018])