

h-P discontinuous Galerkin finite element method for electronic structure calculations

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h-P discontinuous finite elements for electronic structure calculations

We combine results from

- Numerical approximation of elliptic problems in non smooth domains
- Approximation of non linear eigenvalue problems

and apply them to the models used in quantum chemistry.

Outline of the presentation:

1. Motivation: models for electronic structure calculations
2. Analysis on a model problem: convergence, regularity
3. Asymptotics of the solution and design of an optimal h-P space from a priori estimates.

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Motivation: the Schrödinger equation

Ground, stationary state of the Schrödinger equation

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \Psi + V\Psi$$

Ψ is a function of $1 + 3(N + M)$ variables (N electrons, M nuclei).

Born-Oppenheimer approximation: $3(N + M)$ to $3N$

Full-electron: the potential V has a singularity at the nuclear positions

Non linear models for electron exchange and correlation: from $3N$ to 3. For example,

- Hartree-Fock (and post Hartree-Fock) methods,
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Motivation: the Hartree-Fock approximation

Hartree-Fock: \mathcal{F} the self adjoint operator

$$\mathcal{F}\psi = -\frac{1}{2}\Delta\psi + V\psi + \left(\rho_{\Phi} \star \frac{1}{|x|}\right)\psi - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{\tau_{\Phi}(x, y)}{|x - y|} \psi(y) dy.$$

of the eigenvalue problem

$$\mathcal{F}\varphi_i = \varepsilon_i\varphi_i \quad i = 1, \dots, N$$

[Flad et al., 2008] showed that around the nuclei the solutions belong to (a subset of) the **countably normed spaces**

$$\mathcal{K}_{\gamma}^{\infty}(\Omega) = \left\{ u \in \mathcal{D}'(\Omega) : r_c^{|\alpha|-\gamma} \partial^{\alpha} u \in L^2(\Omega), |\alpha| = s, \forall s \in \mathbb{N} \right\}.$$

with r_c giving the distance to the nearest nucleus.

Classical finite element and spectral approximations

The eigenfunctions are thus **not regular** in the Sobolev spaces $H^k(\Omega) = W^{k,2}(\Omega)$.

The convergence rate of “classical” finite element and spectral methods is **bounded by the regularity** of the solution in Sobolev spaces.

Classical finite element and spectral methods

If $u \in H^{s+1}(\Omega)$, the following approximation results hold:

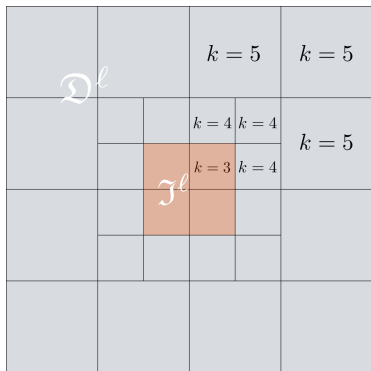
- for finite element methods of degree r and element size h :

$$\|u - u_h\|_{H^1(\Omega)} \lesssim h^{\min(r,s)} |u|_{H^{r+1}(\Omega)};$$

- for spectral methods of degree p :

$$\|u - u_\delta\|_{H^1(\Omega)} \lesssim p^{-s} \|u\|_{H^{s+1}(\Omega)};$$

The discontinuous h-P finite elements method



Finite element space:

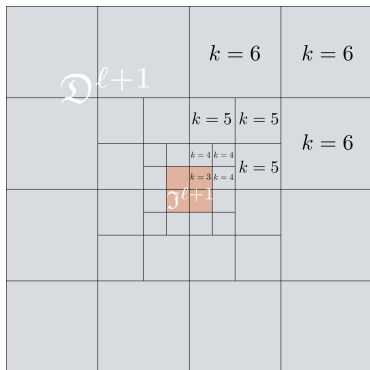
$$X_\delta = \{v \in L^2(\Omega) : v|_S \in \mathbb{Q}_{k_S}(S), \forall S \in \mathcal{T}\}.$$

The mesh is geometrically refined by a factor σ towards the center (where the singularity lies), while the polynomial degree usually decreases with a slope s .

Graded mesh, uniform slope:

At the refinement step ℓ , the elements in \mathcal{I}^ℓ will have edges of length σ^ℓ , while in the outermost element the polynomial degree will be $k_0 + \lfloor s\ell \rfloor$

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The discontinuous approach

The bilinear form associated with the Laplace operator

$$d(u, v) = (\nabla u, \nabla v)_{\Omega},$$

is replaced by

$$d_{\delta}(u_{\delta}, v_{\delta}) = \sum_{S \in \mathcal{T}} (\nabla u_{\delta}, \nabla v_{\delta})_S - \underbrace{\sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} (\{\!\{ \nabla u_{\delta} \}\!\}, \llbracket v_{\delta} \rrbracket)_e}_{\text{consistency}} - \underbrace{\sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} (\{\!\{ \nabla v_{\delta} \}\!\}, \llbracket u_{\delta} \rrbracket)_e}_{\text{adjoint consistency}} + \underbrace{\sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \alpha \frac{k_e^2}{h_e} (\llbracket u_{\delta} \rrbracket, \llbracket v_{\delta} \rrbracket)_e}_{\text{stability}}.$$

- The set \mathcal{E} is the set of all $d - 1$ dimensional inter-element boundaries
- $\{\!\{ \cdot \}\!\}$ and $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$ are **average** and **jump** operators respectively.

Approximation results in the discontinuous h-P space

Mesh dependent norms:

$$\|u\|_{\text{DG}}^2 = \sum_{S \in \mathcal{T}} \|u\|_{H^1(S)}^2 + \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \frac{k_e^2}{h_e} \|\llbracket u \rrbracket\|_e^2$$

$$\|u\|_{\text{DG}}^2 = \|u\|_{\text{DG}}^2 + \sum_{K \in \mathcal{D}^\ell} \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}_K} \frac{h_e}{k_e^2} \|\nabla u\|_e^2 + \sum_{K \in \mathcal{J}^\ell} \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}_K} k_e^2 |e|^{-1} h_e \|\nabla u\|_{L^1(e)}^2$$

“Weighted analytic” space

$$\mathcal{A}_\gamma = \left\{ v \in X, |v|_{\mathcal{K}_\gamma^k} \leq C A^k k! \right\}$$

with $|v|_{\mathcal{K}_\gamma^k} = \sum_{|\alpha|=k} \|r_c^{k-\gamma} \partial^\alpha v\|^2$, r_c distance from the nearest singularity in \mathcal{C} .

Exponentially convergent approximation

[Schötzau et al., 2013] showed that for a function $u \in \mathcal{A}_\gamma$ and a space X_δ with N degrees of freedom,

$$\inf_{v_\delta \in X_\delta} \|u - v_\delta\|_{\text{DG}} \lesssim \exp(-bN^{1/(d+1)}).$$

The Gross-Pitaevskii (aka nonlinear Schrödinger) equation

In a periodic domain $\Omega = (\mathbb{R}/L)^d$ we consider the problem of minimizing the energy

$$E(v) = \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\int_{\Omega} |\nabla v|^2}_{d(v,v)} + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} V v^2 + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} F(v^2)$$

under the constraint $\|v\| = 1$. The unique minimizer u satisfies for $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

$$X' \langle A^u u - \lambda u, v \rangle_X = 0 \quad \forall v \in X$$

where

$$X' \langle A^u v, w \rangle_X = d(u, v) + \int_{\Omega} V u v + \int_{\Omega} F'(u^2) v w.$$

The discrete counterparts are

$$\langle A_{\delta}^{u_{\delta}} u_{\delta} - \lambda_{\delta} u_{\delta}, v_{\delta} \rangle = 0 \quad \forall v_{\delta} \in X_{\delta}$$

$$\langle A_{\delta}^{u_{\delta}} v_{\delta}, w_{\delta} \rangle = d_{\delta}(v_{\delta}, w_{\delta}) + \int_{\Omega} V v_{\delta} w_{\delta} + \int_{\Omega} F'(u_{\delta}^2) v_{\delta} w_{\delta}.$$

Non homogeneous weighted Sobolev spaces

Non homogeneous weighted Sobolev space $\mathcal{J}_\gamma^s(\Omega)$

Normed by

$$\|u\|_{\mathcal{J}_\gamma^s(\Omega)}^2 = \sum_{|\alpha| \leq s} \|r^{s-\gamma} \partial^\alpha u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2$$

equivalent to the “step-weighted” norm: $\rho \in (-d/2, s - \gamma]$, $s > \gamma - d/2$

$$\|u\|_{\mathcal{J}_\gamma^s(\Omega)}^2 = \sum_{|\alpha| \leq s} \|r^{\max(|\alpha|-\gamma, \rho)} \partial^\alpha u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2$$

In our case,

$$\|u\|_{\mathcal{J}_\gamma^s(\Omega)}^2 = \|u\|_{H^1(\Omega)}^2 + \sum_{2 \leq |\alpha| \leq s} \|r^{\max(|\alpha|-\gamma, \rho)} \partial^\alpha u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2$$

such that $J_\gamma^{m+1}(\Omega) \subset J_\gamma^m(\Omega)$ and

$$\mathcal{B}_\gamma(\Omega, \mathcal{C}) = \left\{ v \in H^1(\Omega), |u|_{\mathcal{K}_\gamma^k} \leq CA^k k! \text{ for } k \geq 2 \right\}.$$

Regularity

For the nonlinear Schrödinger equation:

Regularity of the solution

If $u \in X$ is the solution to the eigenvalue problem for a potential $V \in \mathcal{A}_{-2+\varepsilon}^\infty(\Omega, \mathcal{C})$ and under some hypotheses on the nonlinear term,

$$u \in \mathcal{B}_\gamma(\Omega, \mathcal{C}),$$

with $\gamma = 3/2 + \varepsilon$.

Note that singular potentials are allowed, and those give rise to solutions with cusp-like singularities.

Sketch of the proof:

- $\|r^{|\alpha|+2} \partial^{\alpha+\beta} u\| \leq \|r^{|\alpha|+2} \partial^\alpha \Delta u\| + \|[r^{|\alpha|+2}, \Delta] \partial^\alpha u\| + \|\partial^\beta [r^{|\alpha|+2}]\| \|\partial^\alpha u\|$, with $|\beta| = 2$.
- Equation on the first term, then bounds on the three terms.
- Decomposition in singular part and regular part for the nonlinear term. □

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Convergence

Convergence of the approximation

Let (u, λ) be the solution to the eigenvalue problem and let $(u_\delta, \lambda_\delta)$ be the h-P discontinuous approximations. Then, under proper hypotheses on F ,

$$\|u - u_\delta\|_{\text{DG}} \leq C \inf_{v_\delta \in X_\delta} \|u - v_\delta\|_{\text{DG}}$$

and

$$|\lambda_\delta - \lambda| \leq C (\|u - u_\delta\|_{\text{DG}}^2 + \|u - u_\delta\|_{L^2}).$$

Similar results in [Cancès et al., 2010] in the simpler case of a continuous approximation.

In this case the approximation is not conforming, i.e., $X_\delta \not\subset X$, thus $\lambda_\delta \not\geq \lambda$.

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Sketch of the proof: "coercivity", "stability" and convergence

To prove the convergence result, we introduce the solution $(u_\delta^*, \lambda_\delta^*)$ to the linear problem

$$\langle A_\delta^u u_\delta^* - \lambda_\delta^* u_\delta^*, v_\delta \rangle = 0 \quad \forall v_\delta \in X_\delta.$$

The convergence of these eigenvalue and eigenspace towards the exact one has been proven in [Antonietti et al., 2006]. It is then possible to prove the inequalities

$$\langle (A_\delta^u - \lambda_\delta^*) v_\delta, v_\delta \rangle \geq 0 \quad \forall v_\delta \in X_\delta$$

$$|\langle (A_\delta^u - \lambda_\delta^*) v, v_\delta \rangle| \lesssim \|v\|_{\text{DG}} \|v_\delta\|_{\text{DG}} \quad \forall v \in X(\delta), v_\delta \in X_\delta$$

$$\langle (A_\delta^u - \lambda_\delta^*) (u_\delta - u_\delta^*), (u_\delta - u_\delta^*) \rangle \gtrsim \|u_\delta - u_\delta^*\|_{\text{DG}}^2$$

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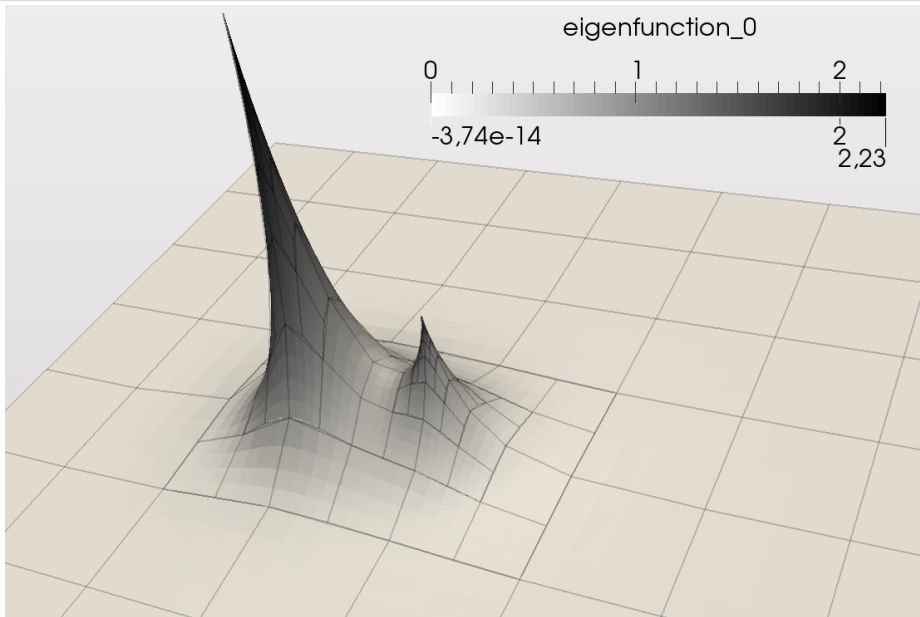
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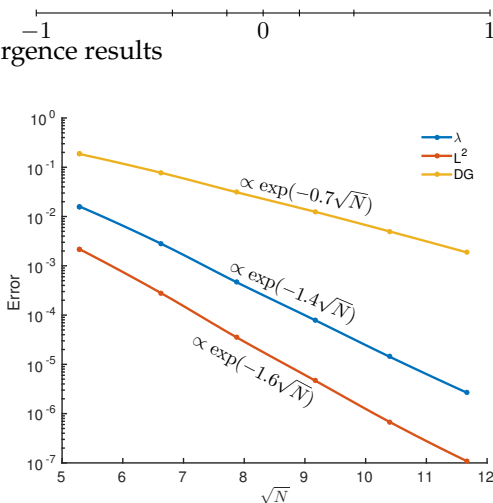
Results visualized



Numerical experiments

In the one dimensional case, with periodic domain $\Omega = [-1, 1]/2\mathbb{Z}$ and the singularity at the center, with potential $V(x) = -|x|^{-3/4}$,

we get the convergence results



Asymptotics of the solution: iterative scheme

Iterative scheme:

$$-\Delta u_{n+1} - \frac{1}{|x|^{2-\varepsilon}} u_{n+1} + u_n^2 u_{n+1} - b P_{u_n} u_{n+1} = \lambda_{n+1} u_{n+1}$$

where

- $\varepsilon > 0$,
- P_{u_n} is the projector on u_n ,
- $b > 0$ is a shift parameter that enforces convergence.

Then

- $\|u_n\|_{H^1(\Omega)}$ is bounded, and
- $\sum_{n \in \mathbf{N}} \|u_{n+1} - u_n\|$ is bounded.

u_n converges towards a solution of the nonlinear Gross-Pitaevskii equation, with $f(u^2) = u^2$.

Asymptotics of the solution: Mellin transform

Iterative scheme:

$$-\Delta u_{n+1} - \frac{1}{|x|^{2-\varepsilon}} u_{n+1} + u_n^2 u_{n+1} - b P_{u_n} u_{n+1} = \lambda_{n+1} u_{n+1}.$$

Using the Mellin transform

$$\hat{u}(z) = (\mathcal{M}u)(z) = \int_0^\infty r^{z-1} u(r) dr \quad (\mathcal{M}^{-1}\hat{u})(r) = \int_{\Re z = \beta} r^{-z} \hat{u}(z) dz$$

and an hypothesis on u_n , we get

$$z(z+1)\hat{u}(z) \simeq \hat{u}(z+\varepsilon) + \lambda \hat{u}(z+2) + \sum_{j \in \mathbf{N}} \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor j/2 \rfloor} a_{jk} \hat{u}(z+2+j-k\gamma).$$

The opposites of the poles of the Mellin transform are the exponents of the asymptotic expansion: for $r \rightarrow 0$ and $\omega \in S_{n-1}$,

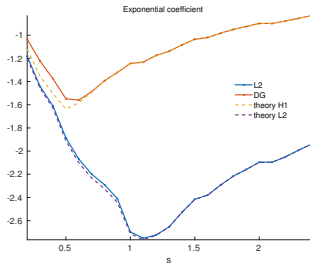
$$u(r, \omega) \sim (C + r^\varepsilon + \dots) Y_{\ell, m}(\omega)$$

One dimensional error analysis

[Gui and Babuška, 1986] showed that for $u \sim x^\alpha$ ($x \rightarrow 0$), with scaling factor σ and polynomial increase s

$$\|u - \Pi(u)\| \simeq C(\sigma) \left(\sum_{i=2}^m \frac{\sigma^{(2\alpha-1)(1-i)} r^{2(1+s(i-1))}}{(1+s(i-1))^{2\alpha}} \right)^{1/2},$$

where **one part is bigger in the element at the singularity** and **the other tends to be bigger in outer elements**.



$u'(x) \sim x^{\alpha-1}$: maximal rate of convergence for different spaces.

Slope optimization: different potentials

Behaviour for different values of γ in

$$-\Delta u - \frac{1}{|x|^\gamma} u + u^3 = \lambda u.$$

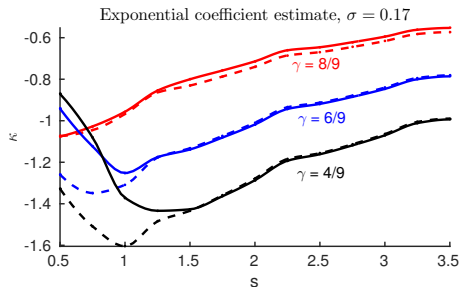


Figure: κ for the DG norm of the error. Dashed line: “theory”; continuous line: numerical results.

As long as the error is concentrated near the singularity, we have a good estimator for the rate of convergence.

Conclusions and perspectives

- The approximate eigenfunctions and eigenvalues converge with exponential rate to the exact solution.
- The analysis may be applied to the Gross-Pitaevskii and the Thomas-Fermi-von Weizsäcker models, but should be extended to more complex models.
- Given the asymptotics of the solution to the problem considered, the mesh and finite dimensional space can be optimized *a priori* and estimates for the convergence rate can be derived, mainly where the error near the singularity is bigger.

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Thank you for your attention

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