

## AN ADAPTIVE $hp$ -DISCONTINUOUS GALERKIN APPROACH FOR NONLINEAR CONVECTION-DIFFUSION PROBLEMS

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### Abstract

We deal with a numerical solution of nonlinear convection-diffusion equations with the aid of the discontinuous Galerkin method (DGM). We propose a new  $hp$ -adaptation technique, which is based on a combination of a residuum estimator and a regularity indicator. The residuum estimator as well as the regularity indicator are easily evaluated quantities without the necessity to solve any local problem and/or any reconstruction of the approximate solution. The performance of the proposed  $hp$ -DGM is demonstrated

### 1. Introduction

Our aim is to develop a sufficiently robust, efficient and accurate numerical scheme for the simulation of viscous compressible flows. The *discontinuous Galerkin* (DG) methods have become very popular numerical techniques for the solution of the compressible Navier-Stokes equations. Recent progress of the use of the DG method for compressible flow simulations can be found in [8].

In this paper, we solve a scalar nonlinear convection-diffusion equation (which represents a model problem for the system of the compressible Navier-Stokes equations) with the aid of the DG method. We propose a  $hp$ -adaptive method which allows the refinement in the element size  $h$  as well as in the polynomial degree  $p$ . Similarly as the  $h$  version of the finite element methods, a posteriori error estimates can be used to determine which elements should be refined. However a single error estimate cannot simultaneously determine whether it is better to do  $h$  or  $p$  refinement. Several strategies for making this determination have been proposed over the years, see, e.g., [7] for a survey or [12]. Based on many theoretical works, e.g., monographs [10, 11] or survey paper [2], we expect that an error converges at an exponential rate in the number of degree of freedom.

There exist many theoretical works deriving a posteriori error estimates based on various approaches for linear or quasi-linear problems, e.g., [9]. On the other hand, the amount of papers dealing with a posteriori error estimates for strongly non-linear problems is significantly smaller. Some overview of a posteriori error estimates can be found in [13].

We propose a new *hp*-adaptation strategy which is based on a combination of a residuum estimator and a regularity indicator. The *residuum estimator* gives a lower estimate of the error measured in a dual norm. It is locally defined for each mesh element, it is easily evaluated and its implementation is very simple. The *regularity indicator* is based on the integration of interelement jumps of the approximate solution over the element boundary. Taking into account results from a priori error analysis (e.g., [4]), we define the regularity indicator. If this value is smaller than one then we apply a *p*-refinement otherwise we use a *h*-refinement. However, a rigorous theoretical justification of this approach is completely open. On the other hand, advantage of the proposed strategy is its simple applicability to general problems without any modification.

## 2. Problem description

### 2.1. Governing equations

We consider a stationary convection-diffusion equation

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{f}(u) = \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{K}(u)\nabla u) + g, \quad (1)$$

where  $u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is the unknown scalar function defined in a bounded domain  $\Omega \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $d = 2, 3$ . Moreover,  $g : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathbf{f}(u) = (f_1(u), \dots, f_d(u)) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $\mathbf{K}(u) = \{K_{ij}(u)\}_{i,j=1}^d : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  are nonlinear functions of their arguments. For simplicity, we consider a homogeneous Dirichlet boundary condition over the whole boundary of  $\Omega$ . However, an extension to a possible combination of nonhomogeneous Dirichlet and Neumann boundary conditions is straightforward.

### 2.2. Discretization of the problem

Let  $\mathcal{T}_h$  ( $h > 0$ ) be a partition of the closure  $\bar{\Omega}$  of the domain  $\Omega$  into a finite number of closed  $d$ -dimensional simplices  $K$  with mutually disjoint interiors. We call  $\mathcal{T}_h = \{K\}_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h}$  a *triangulation* of  $\Omega$  and do not require the conforming properties from the finite element method.

Over the triangulation  $\mathcal{T}_h$  we define the so-called *broken Sobolev space*

$$H^s(\Omega, \mathcal{T}_h) := \{v; v|_K \in H^s(K) \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h\}, \quad s \geq 0, \quad (2)$$

where  $H^s(D)$  denotes the Sobolev space over domain  $D$ . Moreover, to each  $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$ , we assign a positive integer  $p_K$  (=local polynomial degree). Furthermore, over the triangulation  $\mathcal{T}_h$  we define the finite dimensional subspace of  $H^1(\Omega, \mathcal{T}_h)$

which consists of in general discontinuous piecewise polynomial functions associated with the set  $\{p_K, K \in \mathcal{T}_h\}$  by

$$S_{hp} = \{v; v \in L^2(\Omega), v|_K \in P_{p_K}(K) \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h\}, \quad (3)$$

where  $P_{p_K}(K)$  denotes the space of all polynomials on  $K$  of degree  $\leq p_K$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$ .

Let the form  $c_h : S_{hp} \times S_{hp} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  denote a discretization of (1) with the aid of interior penalty discontinuous Galerkin method, for its determination, see, e.g., [4, 6], particularly,

$$\begin{aligned} c_h(u, v) &:= \sum_{\Gamma \in \mathcal{F}_h} \int_{\Gamma} H(u|_{\Gamma}^{(+)}, u|_{\Gamma}^{(-)}, \mathbf{n}) [[v]] \, dS - \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \int_K \mathbf{f}(u) \cdot \nabla v \, dx, \\ &+ \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \int_K \mathbf{K}(u) \nabla u \cdot \nabla v \, dx - \int_{\Omega} g v \, dx \\ &- \sum_{\Gamma \in \mathcal{F}_h^I} \int_{\Gamma} \left( \{\mathbf{K}(u) \nabla u\} \cdot \mathbf{n} [[v]] - g \{\mathbf{K}(u) \nabla v\} \cdot \mathbf{n} [[u]] \right) \, dS \\ &- \sum_{\Gamma \in \mathcal{F}_h^D} \int_{\Gamma} \left( \mathbf{K}(u) \nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n} v - g \mathbf{K}(u) \nabla v \cdot \mathbf{n} (u - u_D) \right) \, dS \\ &+ \sum_{\Gamma \in \mathcal{F}_h^I} \int_{\Gamma} \sigma [[u]] [[v]] \, dS + \sum_{\Gamma \in \mathcal{F}_h^D} \int_{\Gamma} \sigma (u - u_D) v \, dS, \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where  $H$  is the numerical flux known from finite volume method,  $\Gamma \in \mathcal{F}_h^I$  and  $\Gamma \in \mathcal{F}_h^D$  are the sets of all interior and boundary faces, respectively,  $\mathcal{F}_h = \mathcal{F}_h^I \cup \mathcal{F}_h^D$ ,  $u|_{\Gamma}^{(+)}$  and  $u|_{\Gamma}^{(-)}$  are the traces of  $u \in H^s(\Omega, \mathcal{T}_h)$  on  $\Gamma \in \mathcal{F}_h$ , and  $\{u\} = (u|_{\Gamma}^{(+)} + u|_{\Gamma}^{(-)})/2$  and  $[[u]] = u|_{\Gamma}^{(+)} - u|_{\Gamma}^{(-)}$  are the mean value and the jump on  $\Gamma$ , respectively. Moreover,  $u_D$  is the given Dirichlet boundary condition,  $\sigma$  is the penalty parameter and  $g = -1, 0, 1$  for SIPG, IIPG and NIPG variants of DGFEM method, respectively.

We say that a function  $u_h \in S_{hp}$  is an *approximate solution* of (1), if

$$c_h(u_h, v_h) = 0 \quad \forall v_h \in S_{hp}. \quad (5)$$

Let us note that if  $u \in H^2(\Omega)$  is the exact solution of (1) then the consistency of  $c_h$  gives

$$c_h(u, v) = 0 \quad \forall v \in H^2(\Omega, \mathcal{T}_h). \quad (6)$$

### 3. Residuum estimates

In this section we investigate the discretization error  $u - u_h$  and define estimators giving some information about this error. Based on them we propose the *hp*-adaptation strategy.

### 3.1. Residuum definition

In order to introduce our adaptation strategy, we proceed to a functional representation of the DG method. Let  $X$  be a linear function space such that  $u \in X$  and  $u_h \in X$ . It is equipped with a norm  $\|\cdot\|_X$ . (The space  $X$  does not need to be complete with respect to  $\|\cdot\|_X$ .) In our case,  $X := H^2(\Omega, \mathcal{T}_h)$ , the norm  $\|\cdot\|_X$  will be specified later. Let  $X'$  denote the dual space to  $X$ .

Moreover, let  $A_h : X \rightarrow X'$  be the nonlinear operator corresponding to  $c_h$  by

$$\langle A_h u, v \rangle := c_h(u, v), \quad u, v \in X, \quad (7)$$

where  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  denotes the duality between  $X'$  and  $X$ . We define the dual norm by

$$\|A_h u\|_{X'} := \sup_{0 \neq v \in X} \frac{\langle A_h u, v \rangle}{\|v\|_X}. \quad (8)$$

Let  $u \in H^2(\Omega) \subset X$  be the solution of (1). In virtue of (6) and (7), we have  $A_h u = 0$ . Therefore, the value

$$\mathcal{R}(u_h) := \|A_h u_h - A_h u\|_{X'} = \|A_h u_h\|_{X'} = \sup_{0 \neq v \in X} \frac{\langle A_h u_h, v \rangle}{\|v\|_X} = \sup_{0 \neq v \in X} \frac{c_h(u_h, v)}{\|v\|_X} \quad (9)$$

defines the *residuum error in the dual norm* of the approximate solution  $u_h \in S_{hp} \subset X$ . The right-hand side of (9) depends only on  $u_h$  and not on  $u$ . However, it is impossible to evaluate  $\mathcal{R}(u_h)$ , since the supremum is taken over an infinite-dimensional space. Therefore, in our approach, we seek the maximum over some sufficiently large but finite dimension subspace of  $X$ .

### 3.2. Global and element residuum estimators

For each  $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$  and each integer  $p \geq 0$ , we define the space

$$S_K^p := \{\phi_h \in X, \phi_h|_K \in P^p(K), \phi_h|_{\Omega \setminus K} = 0\}. \quad (10)$$

Obviously,  $S_K^p \subset S_K^{p+1} \subset S_K^{p+2} \subset \dots$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$ . Moreover, we put

$$S_{hp}^+ := \{\phi \in X; \phi = \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} c_K \phi_K, c_K \in \mathbb{R}, \phi_K \in S_K^{pK+1}, K \in \mathcal{T}_h\}. \quad (11)$$

Finally, we observe that  $S_{hp} \subset S_{hp}^+$ .

Now, we define the *element residuum estimator*

$$\eta_K(u_h) := \sup_{0 \neq \psi_h \in S_K^{pK+1}} \frac{c_h(u_h, \psi_h)}{\|\psi_h\|_X} = \sup_{\psi_h \in S_K^{pK+1}, \|\psi_h\|_X=1} c_h(u_h, \psi_h), \quad u_h \in X, \quad (12)$$

for each  $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$  and the *global residuum estimator*

$$\eta(u_h) := \sup_{0 \neq \psi_h \in S_{hp}^+} \frac{c_h(u_h, \psi_h)}{\|\psi_h\|_X} = \sup_{\psi_h \in S_{hp}^+, \|\psi_h\|_X=1} c_h(u_h, \psi_h) \quad u_h \in X, \quad (13)$$

which are easily computable quantities if  $\|\cdot\|_X$  is suitably chosen, see [5].

Obviously, if  $u \in X$  is the exact solution of (1) then consistency (6) implies  $0 = \eta(u) = \eta_K(u)$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$ . Moreover, we have immediately a lower bound

$$\eta(u_h) \leq \mathcal{R}(u_h) = \|Au_h - Au\|_{X'}. \quad (14)$$

However, it is open if there exists an upper bound, i.e.,  $\mathcal{R}(u_h) \leq C\eta(u_h)$ , where  $C > 0$ . This will be the subject of a further research.

Finally, we specify the choice of the norm  $\|\cdot\|_X$ . This norm is generated by the scalar product  $(u, v)_X := (u, v)_{L^2(\Omega)} + \varepsilon \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} (\nabla u, \nabla v)_{L^2(K)}$ ,  $u, v \in X$ , where  $\varepsilon$  is a constant reflecting a ratio between “diffusion” and “convection”. For the case of the scalar equation (1) we put  $\varepsilon \approx |\mathbf{K}(\cdot)|/|\mathbf{f}(\cdot)|$ .

Since the spaces  $S_K^p$  and  $S_{K'}^{p'}$ ,  $K, K' \in \mathcal{T}_h$ ,  $K \neq K'$  are orthogonal with respect to  $(\cdot, \cdot)_X$ , we can show ([5]) that

$$\eta(u_h)^2 = \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \eta_K(u_h)^2. \quad (15)$$

Therefore, it is sufficient to evaluate the element residuum estimators  $\eta_K$  for each  $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$ . This is a standard task of seeking a constrained extrema over  $S_K^{p_K+1}$  with the constrain  $\|\psi_h\|_X = 1$ . This can be done directly very fast since the dimension of  $S_K^{p_K+1}$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$  is small, namely  $\dim(S_K^{p_K+1}) = (p_k + 2)(p_K + 3)/2$  for  $d = 2$ .

Our interest is to find adaptively a mesh  $\mathcal{T}_h$ , a set  $\{p_K, K \in \mathcal{T}_h\}$  and the corresponding solution  $u_h \in S_{hp}$  such that the number of degree of freedom  $N_h$  ( $= \dim(S_{hp})$ ) is small and

$$\eta(u_h) \leq \omega, \quad (16)$$

where  $\omega > 0$  is a given tolerance.

In order to define an adaptive algorithm, we require that

$$\eta_K(u_h) \leq \omega (\#\mathcal{T}_h)^{-1/2} \quad \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h, \quad (17)$$

where  $\#\mathcal{T}_h$  denotes the number of elements of  $\mathcal{T}_h$ . Obviously, if (17) is satisfied then, due to (15), condition (16) is valid and the adaptation process stops. Otherwise, we mark for refinement all  $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$  violating (17).

Furthermore, all marked elements will be refined either by  $h$ - or by  $p$ -adaptation, namely, either we split a given mother element  $K$  into four daughter elements or we increase the degree of polynomial approximation for a given element. Thus new mesh  $\mathcal{T}_h$  and new set  $\{\hat{p}_K, K \in \mathcal{T}_h\}$  are created. We interpolate the old solution on a new mesh and perform the next adaptation step till (16) is valid.

### 3.3. Regularity indicator

The estimation of the regularity of the solution is an essential key of any  $hp$ -adaptation strategy. Our approach is based on a measure of inter-element jumps. Numerical analysis [4] carried out for scalar convection-diffusion equation gives

$$\sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \int_{\partial K} \llbracket u_h - u \rrbracket^2 dS = \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \int_{\partial K} \llbracket u_h \rrbracket^2 dS \leq C \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} h_K^{2\mu_K-1} |u|_{H^{s_K}(\Omega)}^2, \quad (18)$$

where  $u$  and  $u_h$  are the exact and the approximate solutions, respectively,  $C > 0$  is a constant independent of  $h$  and  $\mu_K = \min(p_K + 1, s_K)$ . Moreover,  $p_K$  is the degree of the polynomial approximation and  $s_K$  is the integer degree of local regularity of  $u$ , i.e.,  $u|_K \in H^{s_K}(K)$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$ . The a priori error estimates (18) imply that if the exact solution is sufficiently regular then the  $p$ -adaptation (increasing of the degree of approximation) yields to a higher decrease of the error. Otherwise,  $h$ -adaptation (element splitting) is more efficient.

Furthermore, the numerical experiments indicates that

$$\int_{\partial K} \llbracket u_h - u \rrbracket^2 dS = \int_{\partial K} \llbracket u_h \rrbracket^2 dS \approx Ch_K^{2\mu_K-1} |u|_{H^{s_K}(\Omega)}^2, \quad K \in \mathcal{T}_h. \quad (19)$$

Based on relation (19), we propose the *regularity indicator*

$$g_K(u_h) := \frac{\int_{\partial K \cap \Omega} \llbracket u_h \rrbracket^2 dS}{|K| h_K^{2p_K-2}}, \quad K \in \mathcal{T}_h, \quad (20)$$

where  $|K|$  is the area of  $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$ . If the exact solution is sufficiently regular, i.e.,  $s_K \geq p_K + 1$ , then  $g_K(u_h) \approx O(h_K^{2p_K+1}/(h_K^2 h_K^{2p_K-2})) = O(h_K)$ . On the other hand, if the exact solution is not sufficiently regular, i.e.,  $s_K < p_K + 1$  ( $\Leftrightarrow s_K \leq p_K$ ), then  $g_K(u_h) \approx O(h_K^{2s_K-1}/(h_K^2 h_K^{2p_K-2})) = O(h_K^{2\delta-1})$ , where  $\delta = s_K - p_K \leq 0$ . Then we use the following strategy

$$\begin{aligned} g_K(u_h) \leq 1 &\Rightarrow \text{solution is regular} &\Rightarrow \text{p-refinement}, \\ g_K(u_h) > 1 &\Rightarrow \text{solution is irregular} &\Rightarrow \text{h-refinement}, \end{aligned} \quad K \in \mathcal{T}_h. \quad (21)$$

Finally, let us note, that on the basis of numerical experiments we use a small modification of (20), namely

$$\tilde{g}_K(u_h) := \frac{\int_{\partial K \cap \Omega} \llbracket u_h \rrbracket^2 dS}{|K| h_K^{2p_K-4}}, \quad K \in \mathcal{T}_h, \quad (22)$$

which is more efficient than (21).

## 4. Numerical experiments

We present several numerical examples which demonstrate a performance of the presented  $hp$ -DGFE method. The DGFE discretization (5) leads to a nonlinear algebraic system which is solved iteratively with the aid of a Newton-like method.

#### 4.1. Linear equation with boundary layers

We consider the scalar linear convection-diffusion equation (similarly as in [3])

$$-\varepsilon\Delta u - \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_2} = g \quad \text{in } \Omega := (0, 1)^2, \quad (23)$$

where  $\varepsilon > 0$  is a constant diffusion coefficient. We prescribe a Dirichlet boundary condition on the whole  $\partial\Omega$ . The source term  $g$  and the boundary condition are chosen so that the exact solution has the form

$$u(x_1, x_2) = (c_1 + c_2(1 - x_1) + \exp(-x_1/\varepsilon))(c_1 + c_2(1 - x_2) + \exp(-x_2/\varepsilon)) \quad (24)$$

with  $c_1 = -\exp(-1/\varepsilon)$ ,  $c_2 = -1 - c_1$ . The solution contains two boundary layers along  $x_1 = 0$  and  $x_2 = 0$ , whose width is proportional to  $\varepsilon$ . Here we consider  $\varepsilon = 10^{-2}$  and  $\varepsilon = 10^{-3}$ .

The computation started on a uniform triangular grid with mesh spacing  $h = 1/8$  and with piecewise linear approximation. The  $hp$ -DGFE method was applied with  $\omega = 10^{-4}$  till the algorithm was finished. Tables 1 and 2 show the computational errors  $\|e_h\|_{L^2(\Omega)}$  and  $\|e_h\|_X$  for each level of the  $hp$ -adaptation. Moreover, the tables present the *experimental order of convergence* (EOC) with defined for each pair of successive adaptation levels  $l$  and  $l + 1$  by

$$\text{EOC} = \frac{\log \|e_{h_{l+1}}\| - \log \|e_{h_l}\|}{\log(1/\sqrt{N_{h_{l+1}}}) - \log(1/\sqrt{N_{h_l}})}, \quad l = 1, 2, \dots, \quad (25)$$

where  $h_l$  and  $h_{l+1}$  denotes the corresponding  $hp$ -meshes and  $N_h = \dim(S_{hp})$ . Finally, these tables contain the value of the global residuum estimator  $\eta(u_h)$  given by (13) and the “*effectivity index*”  $i_{\text{eff}} := \eta(u_h)/\|e_h\|_X$ . Let us not that  $i_{\text{eff}}$  is not the standard effectivity index since  $\eta$  is an estimation of the error in the dual norm whereas  $\|e_h\|_X$  is the error in the primal norm.

lev	$\#\mathcal{T}_h$	$N_h$	$\ e_h\ _{L^2(\Omega)}$	EOC	$\ e_h\ _X$	EOC	$\eta(u_h)$	$i_{\text{eff}}$
0	128	384	6.19E-02	–	3.93E-01	–	1.04E+00	2.65
1	128	768	3.46E-02	1.68	3.91E-01	0.01	6.09E-01	1.56
2	128	1240	1.92E-02	2.46	2.52E-01	1.84	3.41E-01	1.35
3	158	1950	7.03E-03	4.44	1.21E-01	3.25	1.63E-01	1.35
4	236	3432	1.56E-03	5.33	3.72E-02	4.16	4.83E-02	1.30
5	380	6304	1.88E-04	6.95	6.93E-03	5.53	7.41E-03	1.07
6	554	10418	1.44E-05	10.24	7.86E-04	8.67	8.40E-04	1.07
7	776	17116	7.15E-07	12.09	5.76E-05	10.53	5.67E-05	0.98

Table 1: Problem (23) – (24) with  $\varepsilon = 10^{-2}$ : computational errors, estimator  $\eta(u_h)$  and index  $i_{\text{eff}}$ .

lev	$\#\mathcal{T}_h$	$N_h$	$\ e_h\ _{L^2(\Omega)}$	EOC	$\ e_h\ _X$	EOC	$\eta(u_h)$	$i_{\text{eff}}$
0	128	384	1.89E-02	–	2.63E-02	–	6.47E-01	24.64
1	128	768	1.76E-02	0.20	5.15E-01	-8.59	5.28E-01	1.02
2	146	1172	1.82E-02	-0.17	5.27E-01	-0.11	6.20E-01	1.18
3	206	2040	1.58E-02	0.53	4.53E-01	0.55	6.61E-01	1.46
4	368	4414	1.24E-02	0.63	3.89E-01	0.39	5.46E-01	1.41
5	920	11412	7.98E-03	0.92	3.04E-01	0.52	4.19E-01	1.38
6	1982	25050	2.93E-03	2.54	1.54E-01	1.72	2.06E-01	1.34
7	4016	50528	5.78E-04	4.63	4.80E-02	3.33	6.06E-02	1.26
8	7217	91242	6.56E-05	7.36	9.32E-03	5.55	1.14E-02	1.22
9	12050	176863	6.32E-06	7.07	1.32E-03	5.92	1.69E-03	1.28
10	23684	368615	3.99E-07	7.53	8.48E-05	7.47	9.46E-05	1.11

Table 2: Problem (23) – (24) with  $\varepsilon = 10^{-3}$ : computational errors, estimator  $\eta(u_h)$  and index  $i_{\text{eff}}$ .

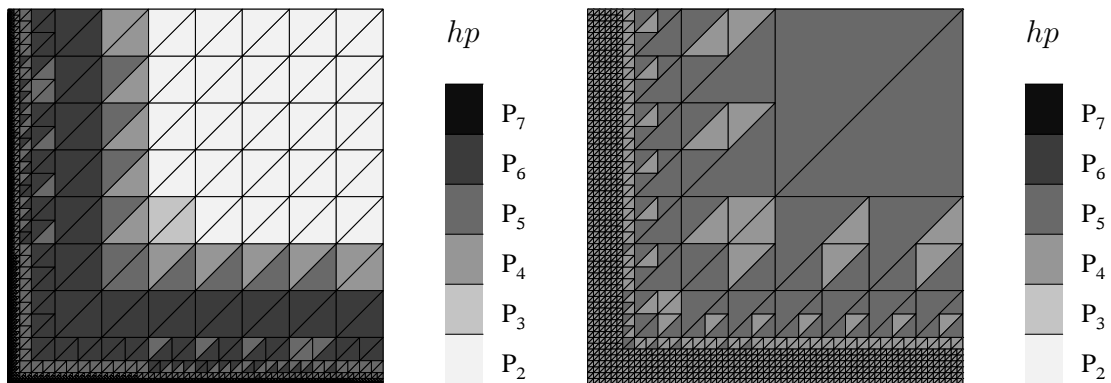


Figure 1: The final grid with the corresponding degrees of polynomial approximation, the whole domain (left) and its detail  $(0, 1/16) \times (0, 1/16)$  (right) for  $\varepsilon = 10^{-3}$ .

We observe that the computational error  $e_h$  converge exponentially in both presented norms. Moreover, we found that the effectivity index  $i_{\text{eff}}$  is very close to one for increasing  $N_h$ . However, a theoretical justification of this favorable property is quite open and it will be a subject of the further research.

Furthermore, Figure 1 shows the final  $hp$ -grid obtained with the aid of the  $hp$ -DGFE algorithm for  $\varepsilon = 10^{-3}$ . We observe that the  $h$ -adaptation was carried out in regions with the boundary layers are presented. On the other hand, the  $p$ -adaptation appears in regions where the solution is regular.

Finally, let us note that the presented strategy is not too efficient for problems with boundary layers since our  $h$ -adaptation is only isotropic. More efficient is the use of an anisotropic mesh adaptation.



lev	$\#\mathcal{T}_h$	$N_h$	$\ e_h\ _{L^2(\Omega)}$	EOC	$\ e_h\ _X$	EOC	$\eta(u_h)$	$i_{\text{eff}}$
0	128	384	8.28E-03	–	9.13E-03	–	8.24E-02	9.03
1	128	768	1.83E-03	4.35	2.71E-03	3.50	1.95E-02	7.20
2	128	1272	6.92E-04	3.86	1.64E-03	2.00	7.00E-03	4.27
3	128	1522	7.18E-04	-0.41	1.42E-03	1.58	3.29E-03	2.31
4	131	1693	3.10E-04	15.81	9.93E-04	6.75	1.62E-03	1.64
5	143	2095	1.53E-04	6.60	7.59E-04	2.52	6.37E-04	0.84
6	161	2540	6.86E-05	8.35	5.39E-04	3.56	4.98E-04	0.92
7	167	2661	2.67E-05	40.15	3.74E-04	15.57	3.45E-04	0.92
8	203	3383	1.02E-05	8.02	2.63E-04	2.92	2.32E-04	0.88
9	206	3449	4.68E-06	80.24	1.87E-04	35.53	1.61E-04	0.86
10	215	3632	3.35E-06	12.94	1.32E-04	13.36	1.14E-04	0.86
11	227	3854	3.14E-06	2.17	9.37E-05	11.65	8.06E-05	0.86

Table 3: Problem (26): computational errors, estimator  $\eta(u_h)$  and index  $i_{\text{eff}}$ .

#### 4.2. Nonlinear convection-diffusion equation

We consider the scalar nonlinear convection-diffusion equation

$$-\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{K}(u)\nabla u) - \frac{\partial u^2}{\partial x_1} - \frac{\partial u^2}{\partial x_2} = g \quad \text{in } \Omega := (0, 1)^2, \quad (26)$$

where  $\mathbf{K}(u)$  is the nonsymmetric matrix given by

$$\mathbf{K}(u) = \varepsilon \begin{pmatrix} 2 + \arctan(u) & (2 - \arctan(u))/4 \\ 0 & (4 + \arctan(u))/2 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (27)$$

We put  $\varepsilon = 10^{-4}$  and prescribe a Dirichlet boundary condition on the whole  $\partial\Omega$ . The source term  $g$  and the boundary condition are chosen so that the exact solution is  $u(x_1, x_2) = (x_1^2 + x_2^2)^{-3/4}x_1x_2(1 - x_1)(1 - x_2)$ . This function has a singularity at  $x_1 = x_2 = 0$  and it is possible to show (see [1]) that  $u \in H^\kappa(\Omega)$ ,  $\kappa \in (0, 3/2)$ , where  $H^\kappa(\Omega)$  denotes the Sobolev-Slobodetskii space of functions with "non-integer derivatives". Numerical examples presented in [6], carried out for a little different problem, show that this singularity avoids to achieve the orders of convergence better than  $O(h^{3/2})$  in the  $L^2$ -norm and  $O(h^{1/2})$  in the  $H^1$ -seminorm for any degree of polynomial approximation. Nevertheless, the exact solution is regular outside of the singularity.

The computation was started on a uniform triangular grid with mesh spacing  $h = 1/8$  and with piecewise linear approximation. Then the  $hp$ -DGFE method was applied with  $\omega = 10^{-4}$  till the algorithm was finished. Table 3 shows the computational errors  $\|e_h\|_{L^2(\Omega)}$  and  $\|e_h\|_X$  for each level of the  $hp$ -adaptation including EOC, the global residuum estimator  $\eta(u_h)$  and the effectivity index  $i_{\text{eff}}$ . We observe that the adaptive algorithm significantly reduces the computational error  $e_h$  with a small  $N_h$ . Moreover, the effectivity index  $i_{\text{eff}}$  converges to a constant value.

## 5. Conclusion and outlook

We presented a new  $hp$ -adaptive method for the solution of convection-diffusion problems. This approach is based on a combination of the residuum estimator and the regularity indicator. Numerical experiments indicate its efficiency and a reliability. The subject of the further research will be numerical analysis of the presented method, and an extension to unsteady problems.

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