Trefftz-DG for Stokes problems

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The Stokes problem

 $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ with d = 2, 3. Find velocity u and pressure p s.t.

$$-\nu\Delta u + \nabla p = f \quad \text{in } \Omega, \tag{Sa}$$

$$-\operatorname{div} u = g \quad \text{in } \Omega, \tag{Sb}$$

$$u = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega,$$
 (Sc)

where *f*, *g* are ext. forces/sources and $\nu > 0$ is the dynamic viscosity. Weak formulation of (Sa)–(Sc): Find $(u, p) \in [H_0^1(\Omega)]^d \times L_0^2(\Omega)$, s.t.

$$\int_{\Omega} \nu \nabla u : \nabla v \, dx - \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} v \, p \, dx = \int_{\Omega} f \cdot v \, dx \quad \forall v \in [H_0^1(\Omega)]^d,$$

$$- \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} u \, q \, dx = \int_{\Omega} g \, q \, dx \quad \forall q \in L_0^2(\Omega),$$
(W)



Standard DG for Stokes

Find $(u_h, p_h) \in \underline{\mathbb{X}_h^k} := [\mathbb{P}^k]^d \times \mathbb{P}^{k-1}/\mathbb{R}$, s.t. $a_h(u_h, v_h) + b_h(v_h, p_h) = (f, v_h)_{\mathcal{T}_h} \qquad \forall v_h \in [\mathbb{P}^k]^d$, (DGa) $b_h(u_h, q_h) = (g, q_h)_{\mathcal{T}_h} \qquad \forall q_h \in \mathbb{P}^{k-1}/\mathbb{R}$, (DGb)

with the bilinear forms

$$\begin{aligned} a_h(u_h, v_h) &:= (\nu \nabla u_h, \nabla v_h)_{\mathcal{T}_h} - (\{\!\!\{\nu \partial_n u_h\}\!\!\}, [\![v_h]\!])_{\mathcal{F}_h} - (\{\!\!\{\nu \partial_n v_h\}\!\!\}, [\![u_h]\!])_{\mathcal{F}_h} \\ &+ \frac{\alpha \nu}{h} ([\![u_h]\!], [\![v_h]\!])_{\mathcal{F}_h}, \\ b_h(v_h, p_h) &:= -(\operatorname{div} v_h, p_h)_{\mathcal{T}_h} + ([\![v_h \cdot n]\!], \{\!\!\{p_h\}\!\!\})_{\mathcal{F}_h}, \end{aligned}$$

where the interior penalty parameter $\alpha = O(k^2)$ is chosen sufficiently large and we used the notation $\partial_n w := \nabla w \cdot n$ (and std. notation for avg. and jumps).



Idea Trefftz (in a nutshell):

- Take your DG formulation and replace the polynomial spaces by Trefftz spaces.
- Trefftz spaces are spaces of functions that satisfy the PDE in the interior exactly (not considering boundary / element interface conditions), i.e.
 - harmonic polynomials for the Laplace equation,
 - plane waves for the Helmholtz equation,
 - etc.
- Exact solutions are in general hard to find,

but approximate solutions can be constructed (Quasi-Trefftz / Weak Trefftz)



$$\mathbb{T}_{f,g}^k(\mathcal{T}_h) := \{ (u_h, p_h) \in \mathbb{X}_h^k \mid -\Delta u_h + \nabla p_h = \Pi^{k-2} f, -\operatorname{div} u_h = \Pi^{k-1} g \},$$
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Only affine linear. Decompose into

 $\mathbb{T}^k = \mathbb{T}^k(\mathcal{T}_h) = \mathbb{T}^k_{0,0}(\mathcal{T}_h)$ and a particular solution $(u_{h,p}, p_{h,p}) \in \mathbb{T}^k_{f,g}(\mathcal{T}_h).$



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Find $(u_h, p_h) \in \mathbb{T}_{f,g} = \mathbb{T} + (u_{h,p}, p_{h,p})$ such that $\forall (v_h, q_h) \in \mathbb{T}$

 $K_h((u_h, p_h), (v_h, q_h)) \coloneqq a_h(u_h, v_h) + b_h(v_h, p_h) + b_h(u_h, q_h) = (f, v_h)_{\mathcal{T}_h} + (g, q_h)_{\mathcal{T}_h}.$ (T-DG)



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 (T-DG)

A few questions:

- Does a particular solution always exist?
- How to compute it?
- How much do we gain from $\mathbb{X}_h^k = [\mathbb{P}^k]^d \times \mathbb{P}^{k-1} \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{T}^k$?

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Example basis functions (k = 2)





Lemma

The pointwise Stokes operator $\mathcal{L} : [\mathcal{P}^{k}(T)]^{d} \times \mathcal{P}^{k-1}(T) \to [\mathcal{P}^{k-2}(T)]^{d} \times \mathcal{P}^{k-1}(T)$, $(v, q) \mapsto (-\Delta v + \nabla p, -\operatorname{div} v)$ is surjective and the local Trefftz space on an element $T \in \mathcal{T}_{h}$ has

$$\dim(\mathbb{T}(\mathcal{T})) = \dim(\mathbb{X}_h(\mathcal{T})) - \dim([\mathcal{P}^{k-2}]^d) - \dim(\mathcal{P}^{k-1}) = d\left(\binom{k+d}{d} - \binom{k-2+d}{d}\right).$$

	<i>d</i> = 2	d = 3
$\frac{\dim \mathbb{X}_h(T)}{\dim \mathbb{T}(T)}$	$\frac{\frac{3}{2}k^2 + \frac{7}{2}k + 2}{4k+2}$	$\frac{\frac{2}{3}k^3 + \frac{7}{2}k^2 + \frac{35}{6}k + 3}{3k^2 + 6k + 3}$

Dimensions of the local finite element spaces $\mathbb{X}_h(T)$ and $\mathbb{T}(T)$.



Implemenation (element-by-element; embedded Trefftz DG)

Let $(\phi_i, \psi_i) \in \mathbb{X}_h(\mathcal{T}_h)$ be basis functions of $\mathbb{X}_h(\mathcal{T}_h)$. Matrix **W** (block-diag.) to Stokes operator:

$$(\mathbf{W})_{ij} = (-\Delta \phi_j + \nabla \psi_j, \tilde{\phi}_i)_{\mathcal{T}_h} + (\operatorname{div} \phi_j, \tilde{\psi}_i)_{\mathcal{T}_h},$$

for basis functions $(\tilde{\phi}_i, \tilde{\psi}_i) \in [\mathbb{P}^{k-2}(\mathcal{T}_h)]^d \times \mathbb{P}^{k-1}(\mathcal{T}_h).$



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Implemenation (embedded Trefftz DG; particular solutions)

<u>Particular solution</u>: For $\mathbf{F}_i = (f, \tilde{\phi}_i)_{\mathcal{T}_h} + (g, \tilde{\psi}_i)_{\mathcal{T}_h}$ we can compute $(u_{h,\rho}, p_{h,\rho})$:

$$\mathbf{W} \cdot \mathbf{u}_{p} = \mathbf{F}$$
 (e.g. $\mathbf{u}_{p} = \mathbf{W}^{\dagger} \mathbf{F}$), $(u_{h,p}, p_{h,p}) = \sum_{i} \mathbf{u}_{p,i}(\phi_{i}, \psi_{i})$.



The role of the pressure in the (homogeneous) Trefftz space

On T we have ∇p = νΔu, i.e. the pressure is determined by the velocity up to a constant (per element). Higher order pressure is determined by velocity.

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- On T we have ∇p = νΔu, i.e. the pressure is determined by the velocity up to a constant (per element). Higher order pressure is determined by velocity.
- On T we have div *u* = 0 so that we don't need the pressure as Lagrange multiplier for the divergence constraint within each element.
- However, we need the (piecewise constant) pressure as Lagrange multiplier for the mass balance / divergence constraint across the element interfaces.

$$b_h(v_h, p_h) := \underbrace{-(\operatorname{div} v_h, p_h)_{\mathcal{T}_h}}_{=0} + (\llbracket v_h \cdot n \rrbracket, \llbracket p_h \rrbracket)_{\mathcal{F}_h}, \quad \text{for } (v_h, q_h) \in \mathbb{T}.$$



Theorem (Inf-Sup stability of $K_h(\cdot, \cdot)$)

For $(v_h, q_h) \in \mathbb{T}$ there holds

$$\sup_{(u_h, p_h) \in \mathbb{T}} \frac{K_h((u_h, p_h), (v_h, q_h))}{\|(u_h, p_h)\|_{\mathbb{T}}} \ge c_{\mathbb{T}} \|(v_h, q_h)\|_{\mathbb{T}}$$
(IS)

for constant $c_{\mathbb{T}}$ independent of h, k and ν and hence the Trefftz-DG problems (T-DG) admits a unique solution that depends continuously on the data.²

Proof (sketch):

- Saddle point problem with piecew. constant pressures \mathbb{P}^0 the Lag. multipliers.
- Inf-sup stability follows from $\mathbb{BDM}^1\times\mathbb{P}^0\subset\mathbb{T}$
- (Kernel-)coercivity as usual.

²The \mathbb{T} -norms are usual DG-type norms.



Lemma (Céa)

Let $(u, p) \in [H^2(\mathcal{T}_h)]^d \times H^1(\mathcal{T}_h)/\mathbb{R}$ be the solution of the Stokes problem (W) and $(u_h, p_h) \in \mathbb{T}_{f,g}$ be the discrete solution to (T-DG). Then, there holds

$$\|(u_h - u, p_h - p)\|_{\mathbb{T}} \lesssim \inf_{(v_h, q_h) \in \mathbb{T}_{f,g}} \|(u - v_h, p - q_h)\|_{\mathbb{T}}$$
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Lemma (Approximation)

Let $(u, p) \in [H^{k+1}(\mathcal{T}_h)]^d \cap [H^1(\Omega)]^d \times H^k(\mathcal{T}_h)/\mathbb{R}$ be the solution of the Stokes problem. There holds

$$\inf_{(v_h,q_h)\in\mathbb{T}_{f,g}} \|(u-v_h,p-q_h)\|_{\mathbb{T}} \lesssim \nu^{\frac{1}{2}} h^k |u|_{H^{k+1}(\mathcal{T}_h)} + \nu^{-\frac{1}{2}} h^k |p|_{H^k(\mathcal{T}_h)}.$$
 (A)

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\rightsquigarrow We recover the usual DG convergence rates.

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Numerical example (2D)



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Numerical example (3D)





Thank you for your attention!

Further details:

Philip L. Lederer, Christoph Lehrenfeld, and Paul Stocker. Trefftz discontinuous Galerkin discretization for the Stokes problem. arXiv preprint arxiv:2306.14600, 2023, accepted for publication in Numerische Mathematik, 2024.

Ongoing work:

- Pressure robust variants
- Variants with (partial) continuity of the velocity
- Extension to Navier-Stokes (non-linear, time-dependent, ...)

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