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 ρ 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 [\(Sa\)](#page-1-0)– [\(Sc\)](#page-1-1): Find $(u, p) \in [H_0^1(\Omega)]^d \times L_0^2(\Omega)$, s.t.

$$
\int_{\Omega} \nu \nabla u : \nabla v \, dx - \int_{\Omega} \text{div } v \, \rho \, dx = \int_{\Omega} f \cdot v \, dx \quad \forall v \in [H_0^1(\Omega)]^d,
$$
\n
$$
- \int_{\Omega} \text{div } u \, q \, dx = \int_{\Omega} g \, q \, dx \qquad \forall q \in L_0^2(\Omega),
$$
\n
$$
(W)
$$

Standard DG for Stokes

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

with the bilinear forms

$$
a_h(u_h, v_h) := (\nu \nabla u_h, \nabla v_h)_{\mathcal{T}_h} - (\{\!\!\{\nu \partial_n u_h\}\!\!\}, [\![v_h]\!])_{\mathcal{F}_h} - (\{\!\!\{\nu \partial_n v_h\}\!\!\}, [\![u_h]\!])_{\mathcal{F}_h}
$$

$$
+ \frac{\alpha \nu}{h} ([\![u_h]\!], [\![v_h]\!])_{\mathcal{F}_h},
$$

$$
b_h(v_h, p_h) := -(\text{div } v_h, p_h)_{\mathcal{T}_h} + ([\![v_h \cdot n]\!], \{\!\!\{p_h\}\!\!\})_{\mathcal{F}_h},
$$

where the interior penalty parameter $\alpha = \mathcal{O}(k^2)$ 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)

$$
\mathbb{T}^k_{f,g}(\mathcal{T}_h) := \{ (u_h, p_h) \in \mathbb{X}^k_h \mid -\Delta u_h + \nabla p_h = \Pi^{k-2} f, -\text{div } u_h = \Pi^{k-1} g \},\tag{T}
$$

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Only affine linear. Decompose into

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

 $K_h((u_h, p_h), (v_h, q_h)) := a_h(u_h, v_h) + b_h(v_h, p_h) + b_h(u_h, q_h) = (f, v_h)_{\mathcal{T}_h} + (g, q_h)_{\mathcal{T}_h}.$ *.* (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 $\mathbb{X}_{h}^{k} = [\mathbb{P}^{k}]^{d} \times \mathbb{P}^{k-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{T}^{k}$?

Example basis functions ($k = 2$ **)**

Lemma

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

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

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:

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

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)

 $\frac{\text{Particular solution:}}{\text{For } \mathsf{F}_i} = (f, \tilde{\phi}_i)_{\mathcal{T}_h} + (g, \tilde{\psi}_i)_{\mathcal{T}_h}$ we can compute $(u_{h,p}, p_{h,p})$:

$$
\mathbf{W} \cdot \mathbf{u}_p = \mathbf{F} \qquad (\text{e.g. } \mathbf{u}_p = \mathbf{W}^\dagger \mathbf{F}), \qquad (u_{h,p}, p_{h,p}) = \sum_i \mathbf{u}_{p,i}(\phi_i, \psi_i).
$$

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- 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.

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

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

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

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

for constant $c_{\mathbb{F}}$ independent of *h*, *k* and ν and hence the Trefftz-DG problems [\(T-DG\)](#page-4-0) 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 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 [\(W\)](#page-1-2) and $(u_h, p_h) \in \mathbb{T}_{f,g}$ be the discrete solution to [\(T-DG\)](#page-4-0). 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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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

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\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)}.
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\rightarrow We recover the usual DG convergence rates.

Numerical example (2D)

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, ...)