

### 3.6.2. The Residual Error Estimator

(Babuška & Rheinboldt, 1978)

■ We now define,

- for all elements  $\delta_r \in \mathcal{T}_h$ , the residual of the PDE ( $\Delta u + f = 0$ , or more general,  $-Lu + f = 0$ ):

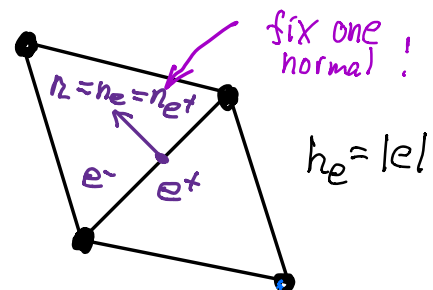
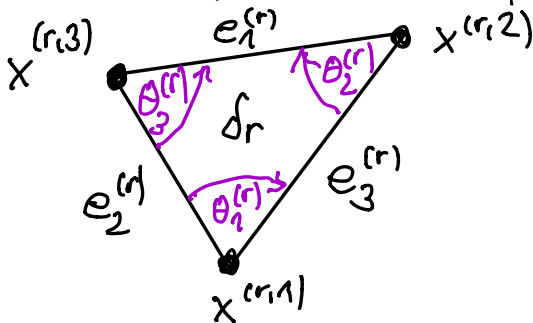
$$R_r = R_r(u_h) := \underbrace{\Delta u_h + f}_{=0 \text{ since } u_h \text{ is linear on } \delta_r!} = -Lu_h + f \quad \text{on } \delta_r, r \in \mathbb{R}_h$$

- for all edges  $e \in E_h := \bigcup_{r \in \mathbb{R}_h} \{e_1^{(r)}, e_2^{(r)}, e_3^{(r)}\} \setminus E(\Gamma_b)$   
 $=$  set of all edges which do not belong to  $\Gamma_b = \Gamma$  for our example,

the jumps of the fluxes ( $-\frac{\partial u}{\partial n}$ ) across the edges

$$\begin{aligned} R_e = R_e(u_h) &= \left[ \frac{\partial u_h}{\partial n} \right]_e = [\nabla u_h]_e \cdot n_e \\ &:= (\nabla u_h|_{e^+} - \nabla u_h|_{e^-}) \cdot n_e \\ &= \nabla u_h|_{e^+} \cdot n_{e^+} + \nabla u_h|_{e^-} \cdot n_{e^-} \end{aligned}$$

where  $E_h(\Gamma_b) :=$  set of all edges on  $\Gamma_b = \Gamma_j = \Gamma$ .



**Theorem 3.19:**

Ass.: Let  $\mathcal{T}_h = \{\delta_r : r \in \mathbb{R}_h\}$  be a shape regular triangulation of  $\Omega$ , and let  $u \in V_0$  and  $u_h \in V_{0h}$  be the solution of (45) and (45)<sub>h</sub>, respectively.

St.: Then the following a posteriori error estimates hold:

$$a) \|u - u_h\|_{1,\Omega} \leq (1+c_F^2)^{1/2} |u - u_h|_{1,\Omega} \leq \bar{c} \left\{ \sum_{r \in \mathbb{R}_h} \eta_r^2(u_h) \right\}^{1/2}$$

$$= \bar{c} \eta(u_h),$$

$$\leq h_r^2 \|f - f_h\|_{0,U(\delta_r)}^2$$

$$b) \eta_r(u_h) \leq c \left\{ \|u - u_h\|_{1,U(\delta_r)}^2 + \sum_{\delta_{r_i} \subset U(\delta_r)} h_{r_i}^2 \|f - f_h\|_{0,\delta_{r_i}}^2 \right\}^{1/2}$$

if  $f|_{\delta_{r_i}} \in H^2(\delta_{r_i})$ , then  $= O(h_{r_i}^4)$

where

$$\eta_r^2(u_h) = \eta_{\delta_r}^2(u_h) := h_r^2 \|R_r(u_h)\|_{0,\delta_r}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{e \in \partial\delta_r \cap \Gamma_0} h_e^1 \|R_e(u_h)\|_{0,e}^2$$

$$= \Delta u_h + f \qquad = \left[ \frac{\partial u_h}{\partial n} \right]_e = [\nabla u_h]_e \cdot n_e$$

$h_e = |e|$  = length of the edge  $e$ ,

**HOT**  
 $L_2$  - projection

$f_h = P_h f \in V_{0h} : (f_h, v_h)_{0,\Omega} = (f, v_h)_{0,\Omega} \quad \forall v_h \in V_{0h}$ ,

$c = c(\Omega, c_T) = c(\Omega, c_1, c_2, c_3) = \text{const} > 0$  - generic positive constant.

Proof: b) Efficiency: see Remark 3.21.1

a) We here only prove reliability ?

From our general estimate (44) for Example (45), we have

Ex. (45):  $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = 1$

$$\|u - u_h\|_{V_0} := |u - u_h|_{1,\Omega} \leq \frac{1}{\mu_1} \|F - Au_h\|_{V_0^*} = H^{-1}(\Omega) =$$

$$= \sup_{v \in H^1(\Omega) \setminus \{0\}} \frac{1}{|v|_{1,\Omega}} \sum_r \left[ \int_{\delta_r} (f + \Delta u_h)(v - u_h) dx - \int_{\partial\delta_r} \frac{\partial u_h}{\partial n_r} (v - u_h) ds \right],$$

i.e. we have to estimate the numerator;

$$\sum_r \left[ \int_{\delta_r} (f + \Delta u_h)(v - u_h) dx - \int_{\partial\delta_r} \frac{\partial u_h}{\partial n_r} (v - u_h) ds \right] \leq \bar{c} \eta_r(u_h) |v|_{1,\Omega} \quad \forall v \in \hat{H}^1(\Omega)$$

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Let  $v \in \bar{V}_0 = \dot{H}^1(\Omega)$ , and  $v_h = I_h v \in \bar{V}_{0h}$  its CLÉMENT - or SCOOT-ZHANG - quasiinterpolation (see Remark 3.20 and Ex. 3.14 for the necessary modification in  $\bar{V}_0 = \dot{H}^1(\Omega)!$ ):

$$\left| \sum_{r \in \mathbb{R}_h} \int_{\delta_r} R_r(u_h)(v-v_h) dx - \sum_{e \in \mathbb{E}_h} \int_e \left[ \frac{\partial u_h}{\partial n_e} \right] (v-v_h) ds \right|$$

= 0 on  $\Gamma_0 = \Gamma = \partial\Omega$

$$= \left| \sum_{r \in \mathbb{R}_h} \int_{\delta_r} R_r(u_h)(v-v_h) dx - \sum_{e \in \mathbb{E}_h} \int_e \left[ \frac{\partial u_h}{\partial n_e} \right]_e (v-v_h) ds \right|$$

$\triangle_{\delta_r, \delta_{r'}}^e (\nabla u_h|_e - \nabla u_h|_{e'}) \cdot \eta_e$

$\Delta$ -ineq.  
S-Cauchy

$$\leq \sum_{r \in \mathbb{R}_h} \|R_r(u_h)\|_{0, \delta_r} \|v-v_h\|_{0, \delta_r} + \sum_{e \in \mathbb{E}_h} \|R_e(u_h)\|_{0, e} \|v-v_h\|_{0, e}$$

Lemma 3.18

$$\leq c \sum_{r \in \mathbb{R}_h} \|R_r(u_h)\|_{0, \delta_r} h_r |v|_{1,1, \cup \delta_r} + c \sum_{e \in \mathbb{E}_h} \|R_e(u_h)\|_{0, e} h_e^{1/2} |v|_{1,1, \cup e}$$

$$\leq c \left\{ \sum_{r \in \mathbb{R}_h} h_r^2 \|R_r\|_{0, \delta_r}^2 \right\}^{1/2} \left\{ \sum_{r \in \mathbb{R}_h} |v|_{1,1, \cup \delta_r}^2 \right\}^{1/2} + c \left\{ \sum_{e \in \mathbb{E}_h} h_e \|R_e\|_{0, e}^2 \right\}^{1/2} \left\{ \sum_{e \in \mathbb{E}_h} |v|_{1,1, \cup e}^2 \right\}^{1/2}$$

$\mathcal{T}_h$ -shape regular:  $\leq c |v|_{1, \Omega}$

$$\leq c \left[ \left\{ \sum_{r \in \mathbb{R}_h} h_r^2 \|R_r\|_{0, \delta_r}^2 \right\}^{1/2} + \left\{ \sum_{e \in \mathbb{E}_h} h_e \|R_e\|_{0, e}^2 \right\}^{1/2} \right] |v|_{1, \Omega}$$

$a+b = 1 \cdot a + 1 \cdot b \leq \sqrt{2} \sqrt{a^2+b^2}$

$$\leq c \left[ \sum_{r \in \mathbb{R}_h} h_r^2 \|R_r\|_{0, \delta_r}^2 + \sum_{e \in \mathbb{E}_h} h_e \|R_e\|_{0, e}^2 \right]^{1/2} |v|_{1, \Omega}$$

$$= c \left[ \sum_{r \in \mathbb{R}_h} \left\{ h_r^2 \|R_r\|_{0, \delta_r}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{e \in \partial \delta_r \cap \Gamma_0} h_e \|R_e\|_{0, e}^2 \right\} \right]^{1/2} |v|_{1, \Omega}$$

$=: \eta_r^2(u_h)$

$$= c \left[ \sum_{r \in \mathbb{R}_h} \eta_r^2(u_h) \right]^{1/2} |v|_{1, \Omega} = c \eta(u_h) |v|_{1, \Omega}$$

Therefore, we have proved the estimate

$$\|u - u_h\|_{1,\Omega} \stackrel{\substack{\leq \\ \uparrow \\ \mu_1 = \mu_2 = 1}}{\leq} \frac{1}{\mu_1} \|F - Au_h\|_{H^{-1}(\Omega)} \leq \frac{c}{\mu_1} \eta(u_h).$$

Due to Friedrichs' inequality, we also have

$$\|u - u_h\|_{1,\Omega} \leq \bar{c} \eta(u_h).$$

*q.e.d.*

### ■ Remark 3.20:

The standard CLÉMENT-interpolant of a function  $v \in \overset{\circ}{H}^1(\Omega)$  is *not* contained in  $V_{0h}$ , i.e.

$$I_h v = \sum_{i \in \bar{\omega}_h} (p_j v) p^{(j)}(x) \notin V_{0h},$$

but  $(\bar{\omega}_h \mapsto \omega_h)$

$$\sum_{i \in \omega_h} (p_j v) p^{(j)}(x) \in \bar{V}_{0h} \quad !$$

Instead of the CLÉMENT-interpolant, one can also use the SCOTT-ZHANG-interpolant [Mathematics of Computation, 54 (1990), 483-493, 1990]

■ **Ex. 3.14\*** Let  $v \in \bar{V}_0 \approx \overset{\circ}{H}^1(\Omega)$  and  $v_h = \sum_{i \in \omega_h} (p_j v) p^{(j)} \in \bar{V}_{0h}$ .

Show the interpolation error estimates

a)  $\|v - v_h\|_{0,\delta r} \leq c h_r |v|_{1,u(\delta r)} \quad \forall r \in \mathbb{R}_h$

b)  $\|v - v_h\|_{0,e} \leq c h_e^{1/2} |v|_{1,u(e)} \quad \forall e \in E_h$

with some generic constant  $c$  !

### ■ Remark 3.21:

1. We refer to the literature, e.g. Braess (2013), p. 172f, for the proof of the efficiency estimate b)!
2. Other a posteriori error estimators:

1) Estimators based on the solution of local Dirichlet problems:  
 → Babuška-Rheinboldt (1978)

2) Estimators based on the solution of local Neumann problems:  
 → Bank-Weiser (1985)

3) Estimators based on averaging  $\nabla u_h$ :  
 → Zienkiewicz-Zhou (ZZ) indicator (1987)

4) Hierarchical estimators:  
 → Deufhard-Leinen-Yserentant (1990)

5) Functional type a posteriori error estimators:  
 → Repin (1997)

$$\|u-v\|_{1,\Omega} \leq \bar{M}(v, \sigma) := \|\sigma - \nabla v\|_{0,\Omega} + c_F(\Omega) \|f + \operatorname{div} \sigma\|_{0,\Omega}$$

↓ Friedrichs

$$\forall v \in \bar{V}_0 \text{ and } \forall \sigma \in H(\operatorname{div}, \Omega)$$

e.g.  $u_h \in \bar{V}_{0h} \subset \bar{V}_0$   $\mathbb{R}_h(\nabla u_h)$  ?

6) Equilibrated error estimators  
 → Braess-Schöberl (2008)

3. Standard literature on a priori error estimators:
  - [1] Verfürth R.: A review of a posteriori error estimation and adaptive mesh refinement techniques. Wiley-Teubner, 1996
  - [2] Repin S.: A priori error estimates for PDEs. RSCAM, de Gruyter, Berlin, 2008.
  - [...] ...

L22-06

■ Repin's functional a posteriori error estimates:

Consider again the Dirichlet problem for the Poisson equation as model problem:

(45) Find  $u \in V_0 = \overset{\circ}{H}^1(\Omega)$ :  $\int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla w \, dx = \int_{\Omega} f w \, dx \quad \forall w \in V_0$ .

Let  $v \in V_0 = \bar{V}_0$  be an arbitrary "approximation" to  $u$ ,  
e.g. the f.e. approximation  $u_h$ :

$\int_{\Omega} \nabla(u-v) \cdot \nabla w \, dx = \int_{\Omega} (f w - \nabla v \cdot \nabla w) \, dx \quad \forall w \in \bar{V}_0$

Let  $\sigma \in H(\text{div}, \sigma)$  be an arbitrary  $H(\text{div})$  function, i.e.

$\int_{\Omega} (\text{div} \sigma \cdot w + \sigma \cdot \nabla w) \, dx = 0 \quad \forall w \in \bar{V}_0$

Note:  $\nabla u_h \notin H(\text{div}, \Omega)$  !!!

$\int_{\Omega} \nabla(u-v) \cdot \nabla w = \int_{\Omega} [(\text{div} \sigma + f) w + (\sigma - \nabla v) \cdot \nabla w] \, dx$

Set  $w = u - v$ :  $(\|\cdot\| = \|\cdot\|_{0,\Omega} = \|\cdot\|_{L_2(\Omega)})$

$\|u-v\|_{1,\Omega}^2 = \|\nabla u - \nabla v\|_{L_2(\Omega)}^2 \stackrel{\text{Cauchy}}{\leq} \|\text{div} \sigma + f\| \|u-v\| + \|\sigma - \nabla v\| \|\nabla(u-v)\|$

$\stackrel{\text{Friedrichs}}{\leq} \|\sigma - \nabla v\| \|\nabla(u-v)\| + c_F(\Omega) \|\text{div} \sigma + f\| \|\nabla(u-v)\|$

$\Rightarrow \|\nabla(u-v)\| \leq \|\sigma - \nabla v\| + c_F(\Omega) \|\text{div} \sigma + f\|$

$=: M_1(v, \sigma) = 1st \text{ majorant}$

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$$0 \leq (\sqrt{\beta} a - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\beta}} b)^2 = \beta a^2 - 2ab + \frac{1}{\beta} b^2$$

$$(a+b)^2 \leq (1+\beta) a^2 + (1+\frac{1}{\beta}) b^2 \quad \forall a, b \geq 0, \beta > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \|\bar{\nabla}(u-v)\|^2 \leq (1+\beta) \|\sigma - \nabla u\|^2 + (1+\frac{1}{\beta}) c_F^2 \|\operatorname{div} \sigma + f\|^2$$

$$=: \bar{M}_2(v, \sigma; \beta) = \text{2nd majorant}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|u - v_{u_h}\|_{1,\Omega}^2 = \|\bar{\nabla}(u - u_h)\|_{L_2(\Omega)}^2 \leq \inf_{\substack{\sigma \in H(\operatorname{div}; \Omega) \\ \beta > 0}} \bar{M}_2(v_{u_h}, \sigma; \beta)$$

$$\leq \inf_{\substack{\sigma_h \in \text{RT}_h(\Omega) \subset H(\operatorname{div}; \Omega) \\ \beta > 0}} \bar{M}_2(u_h, \sigma_h; \beta)$$

altern. min  $\curvearrowright$   $\curvearrowright$  Raviart-Thomas-f.e. space

$$\text{OR } \sigma = \sigma_h = \text{RT}_h(\nabla u_h) \in H(\operatorname{div}; \Omega)$$

reconstruction



■ Goal-orientated a-posteriori error estimators:

In practice, instead of the solution  $u \in V_g$  (or  $u \in V_0$  after homogenization), we are often interested in the value  $l(u) \in \mathbb{R}$  of a linear functional  $l \in V_0^*$  on the solution  $u \in V_0$ , i.e. we need an a-posteriori error estimator of the error:

$$(46) \quad |l(u) - l(u_h)| \leq ?$$

Examples:

$$1) \quad l(v) := \frac{(u - u_h, v)_0}{\|u - u_h\|_0} : l(u) - l(u_h) = \|u - u_h\|_0$$

$$2) \quad l(v) := \int_{\Omega_0} v(x) dx : \text{average of } v \text{ over } \Omega_0 \subset \Omega$$

$$3) \quad l(v) := \int_{\Omega} \delta_{\varepsilon}(x-y) v(y) dx : l(u) - l(u_h) \approx u(y) - u_h(y)$$

$$4) \quad l(v) := \int_{\Gamma_0} \frac{\partial v}{\partial N} ds : \text{Flux of } v \text{ through } \Gamma_0 \subset \Gamma = \partial\Omega ?$$

etc.

To derive a-posteriori error estimates for (46), similar to the a-priori  $L_2$ -estimate, we use a duality argument, i.e. we consider the auxiliary adjoint variational problem:

$$(47) \quad \text{Find } w \in V_0 : a(v, w) = l(v) \quad \forall v \in V_0$$

Now, take  $v = u - u_h \in V_0$ :

$$l(u) - l(u_h) = l(u - u_h) = a(u - u_h, w)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\uparrow) \quad &= a(u - u_h, w - w_h) \quad \forall w_h \in \tilde{V}_{0h} \\ &= \langle F_1, w - w_h \rangle - a(u_h, w - w_h) \\ &\quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \quad \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \end{aligned}$$



$$|\ell(u) - \ell(u_h)| = |\langle F, w - w_h \rangle - a(u_h, w - w_h)|$$

$$(48) \stackrel{(1)}{\leq} \sum_{r \in \mathcal{R}_h} \|R_r(u_h)\|_{0, \delta_r} \|w - w_h\|_{0, \delta_r} + \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}_h} \|R_e(u_h)\|_{0, e} \|w - w_h\|_{0, e}$$

$$= \sum_{r \in \mathcal{R}_h} \left[ \|R_r(u_h)\|_{0, \delta_r} \|w - w_h\|_{0, \delta_r} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{e \in \partial \delta_r \cap \Gamma_D} \|R_e(u_h)\|_{0, e} \|w - w_h\|_{0, e} \right] =: \eta_{\delta_r}(u_h)$$

$$= \sum_{r \in \mathcal{R}_h} \eta_{\delta_r}(u_h) = \eta(u_h), \text{ no constants, but } w, w_h \text{ dual weights}$$

$$\text{PDE: } Lu = f \text{ in } \Omega \quad - \Delta u = f \text{ in } \Omega \quad \text{Example}$$

$$\text{BC: } lu = g \text{ on } \Gamma \quad u = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma$$

$$R_r(u_h) = f - Lu_h = f + \Delta u_h \quad \text{PDE residual}$$

$$R_e(u_h) = \left[ \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} \right]_e = \left[ \frac{\partial u_h}{\partial n} \right]_e \quad \text{jumps in the fluxes}$$

Question: How to determine the dual weights  $w \in \tilde{V}_0$  and its FE approximation  $w_h \in \tilde{V}_{0h}$ ?

① We proceed as in the proof of Theorem 2.19, i.e.

$$1) w_h = \text{CLÉMENT}(w) : \|w - w_h\|_{0, \delta_r} \leq ch_r |w|_{1, \text{quadr}_r} \quad (\dots)$$

$$2) \text{ Find FE-solution } \tilde{w}_h \in \tilde{V}_{0h} : (47) \rightarrow |\tilde{w}_h|_{1, \text{quadr}_r} \approx |w|_{1, \text{quadr}_r}$$

② We solve the "dual" problem (47) twice:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} w_h \in \tilde{V}_{0h} : (47)_h \\ \tilde{w}_h \in \tilde{V}_{0h}^{\text{HO}} : (47)_h \approx w \end{array} \right\} \|w - w_h\|_{\bullet} \approx \|\tilde{w}_h - w_h\|_{\bullet}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \textcircled{3} \text{ Solve } (47)_h \text{ } \tilde{w}_h \in \tilde{V}_{0h} \\ w \approx \text{Higher-order reconstruction } (w_h) = \tilde{w}_h \end{array} \right\} \text{---||---}$$

## Adaptive Mesh Refinement ( $\sim$ Coarsening)

on the basis of the local error estimator

$$\eta_r(u_h) := \left[ h_r^2 \|R_h(u_h)\|_{L_2(\delta_r)}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{e \in \partial \delta_r \cap \Gamma_0} h_e \|R_e(u_h)\|_{L_2(e)}^2 \right]$$

$r \in \mathbb{R}_h$

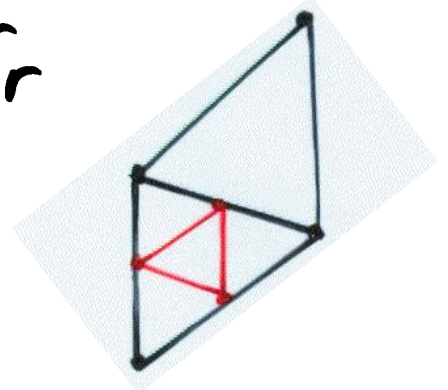
The principle of the uniform distribution of these local errors leads to the following ALGORITHM: AFEM

- Mark all  $\delta_r : \eta_r(u_h) \geq \theta \max_{q \in \mathbb{R}_h} \eta_q(u_h)$

e.g. with  $\theta = 0.7$

- Refine all marked  $\delta_r$

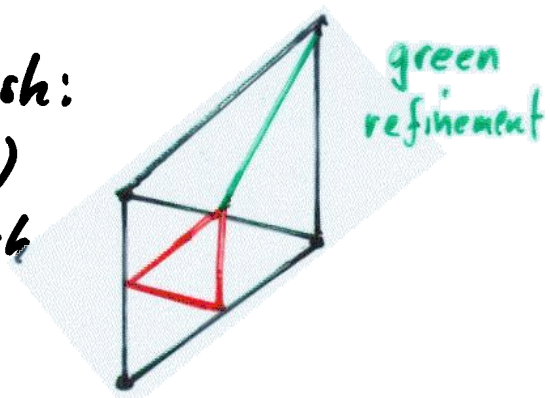
red refinement



- Ensure the conformity of the mesh

Rule ensuring the shape regularity of the mesh:

"Do halven (bisect) an angle of the mesh only once!"



- New FE-calculation with the new mesh

AFEM

