

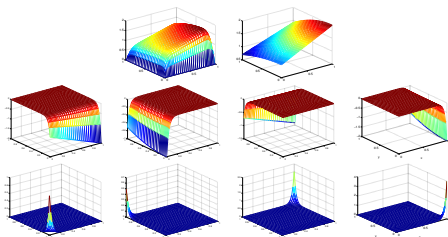
AARMS-CRM Workshop on NA of SPDEs, July 2016
http://www.math.mun.ca/~smaclachlan/anasc_spde/

Short course on Numerical Analysis of Singularly Perturbed Differential Equations

Niall Madden, NUI Galway (Niall.Madden@NUIGalway.ie)

§7 Finite Element Methods

Version 22.07.16



Presentation version: not for printing

Outline

	Monday, 25 July	Tuesday, 26 July
09:00	Welcome/Coffee	
09:15	1. Introduction to singularly perturbed problems	5. PDEs (i): time-dependent problems.
10:00	Break	
10:15	2. Numerical methods and uniform convergence; FDMs and their analysis.	6. PDEs (ii): elliptic problems 7. Finite Element Methods
12:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00	3. Coupled systems	8. Convection-diffusion (Stynes)
15:00	Break	
15:15	3. Coupled systems (continued)	9. Nonlinear problems (Kopteva)
16:15	4. Lab 1	10. Lab 2 (PDEs)
17:30	<i>Finish</i>	

§7. Finite Element Methods

(60 minutes)

In this section we will study the analysis of a **finite element method**, of PDEs of the form

$$-\varepsilon^2 \Delta u + bu = f \quad \text{on } \Omega := (0, 1)^d.$$

We will use a standard Galerkin method on a tensor product space with bilinear elements, on a Shishkin mesh (again!). Analysing the method, we'll obtain an error estimate that is *parameter robust*, in the sense that dependence on ε is entirely accounted for.

However, the estimate is not independent of ε , we will finish with a discussion of appropriate norms for this problem.

- 1 A 2D, SP, reaction-diffusion equation
 - Notation
 - Solution decomposition
- 2 The Shishkin mesh
- 3 Interpolation
- 4 The Galerkin FEM
- 5 Numerical Example
- 6 Other norms
 - A simple 1D example
 - Balanced norms and analyses
- 7 References

Primary references

The main reference to this section is [Liu et al., 2009]. Although that article is primarily about a *sparse grid method*, it also provides a sharp analysis of a standard Galerkin FEM.

Again, we'll rely on the solution decomposition whose exposition was presented in [Clavero et al., 2005].

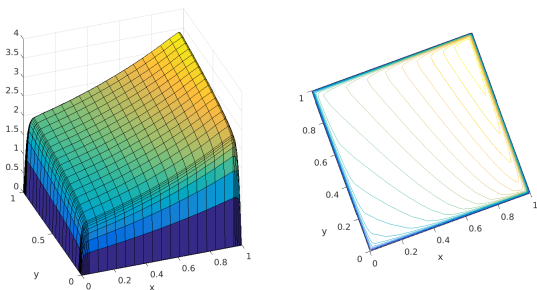
If you would like to read some more about FEMs+SPPS, a good starting point would be [Linß and Madden, 2004], which has a simple analysis of a system of two coupled reaction-diffusion problems in one-dimension, on Shishkin and Bakhvalov meshes.

As usual, the monograph [Linß, 2010] gives a more detailed analysis, including sections on quadrature, etc. See also [Roos et al., 2008].

The more recent material, on balanced norms, is motivated by [Lin and Stynes, 2012], and the discussion in [Adler et al., 2016].

A 2D singularly perturbed problem

$$-\varepsilon^2(u_{xx} + u_{yy}) + b(x, y)u = f(x, y), \text{ on } \Omega := (0, 1)^2 \quad u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0. \quad (1)$$



As before, we expect the solution to exhibit 9 distinct regions: the interior, four edge layer regions, and four corner layer regions.

A 2D singularly perturbed problem

$$-\varepsilon^2(u_{xx} + u_{yy}) + b(x, y)u = f(x, y), \text{ on } \Omega := (0, 1)^2 \quad u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0. \quad (2)$$

As usual, $\varepsilon \in (0, 1]$, but also $b(x, y) \geq 2\beta^2 > 0$.

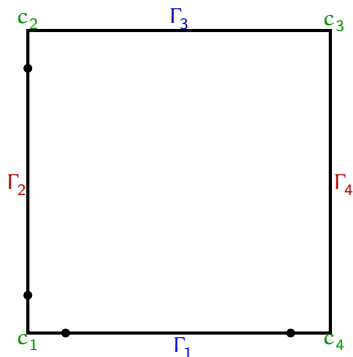
We assume that $f, b \in C^{4,\alpha}(\bar{\Omega})$ for some $\alpha \in (0, 1]$. It follows that $u \in C^{6,\alpha}(\Omega)$. We also assume that f vanishes at each corner of $\bar{\Omega}$ to ensure that $u \in C^{3,\alpha}(\bar{\Omega})$.

The edges of $\partial\Omega$ are

$$\Gamma_1 := \{(x, 0) | 0 \leq x \leq 1\}, \quad \Gamma_2 := \{(0, y) | 0 \leq y \leq 1\},$$

$$\Gamma_3 := \{(x, 1) | 0 \leq x \leq 1\}, \quad \Gamma_4 := \{(1, y) | 0 \leq y \leq 1\}.$$

Label the corners of $\bar{\Omega}$ as c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4 where c_1 is $(0, 0)$ and the numbering is clockwise.



Again, we make use of the Shishkin decomposition from [Clavero et al., 2005], with minor variations.

Subject to the assumptions that $b, f \in C^{4,\alpha}(\bar{\Omega})$, and corner compatibility conditions, the solution u can be decomposed as

$$u = v + w + z = v + \sum_{i=1}^4 w_i + \sum_{i=1}^4 z_i,$$

where each w_i is a layer associated with the edge Γ_i , and each z_i is a layer associated with the corner c_i . There exists a constant C such that

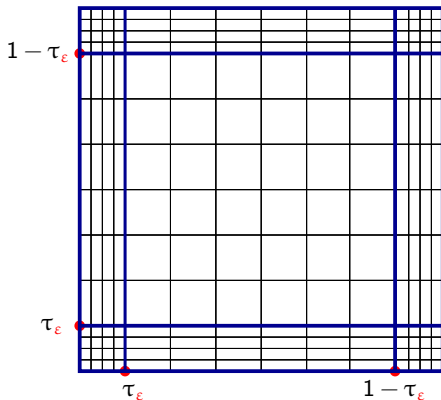
$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{\partial^{m+n} v}{\partial x^m \partial y^n}(x, y) \right| &\leq C(1 + \epsilon^{2-m-n}), & 0 \leq m + n \leq 4, \\ \left| \frac{\partial^{m+n} w_1}{\partial x^m \partial y^n}(x, y) \right| &\leq C(1 + \epsilon^{2-m}) \epsilon^{-n} e^{-\beta y/\epsilon} & 0 \leq m + n \leq 3, \\ \left| \frac{\partial^{m+n} w_2}{\partial x^m \partial y^n}(x, y) \right| &\leq C(1 + \epsilon^{2-n}) \epsilon^{-m} e^{-\beta x/\epsilon} & 0 \leq m + n \leq 3, \\ \left| \frac{\partial^{m+n} z_1}{\partial x^m \partial y^n}(x, y) \right| &\leq C \epsilon^{-m-n} e^{-\beta(x+y)/\epsilon} & 0 \leq m + n \leq 3, \end{aligned}$$

with analogous bounds for w_3, w_4, z_2, z_3 and z_4 .

The Shishkin mesh

We use the same Shishkin mesh as for the Finite Difference method. Define

$$\tau_\varepsilon = \min \left\{ \frac{1}{4}, 2\varepsilon\beta^{-1} \ln N \right\}.$$



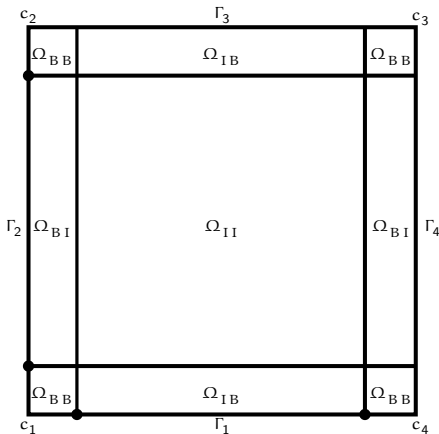
The Shishkin mesh

We will consider the case where ε is so small that

$$\tau_\varepsilon = 2\varepsilon\beta^{-1} \ln N.$$

Partition Ω as follows: $\bar{\Omega} = \Omega_{II} \cup \Omega_{BI} \cup \Omega_{IB} \cup \Omega_{BB}$, where

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega_{II} &= [\tau_\varepsilon, 1 - \tau_\varepsilon] \times [\tau_\varepsilon, 1 - \tau_\varepsilon], \\ \Omega_{BI} &= ([0, \tau_\varepsilon] \cup [1 - \tau_\varepsilon, 1]) \times [\tau_\varepsilon, 1 - \tau_\varepsilon], \\ \Omega_{IB} &= [\tau_\varepsilon, 1 - \tau_\varepsilon] \times ([0, \tau_\varepsilon] \cup [1 - \tau_\varepsilon, 1]), \\ \Omega_{BB} &= ([0, \tau_\varepsilon] \times ([0, \tau_\varepsilon] \cup [1 - \tau_\varepsilon, 1])) \\ &\quad \cup (([1 - \tau_\varepsilon, 1] \times ([0, \tau_\varepsilon] \cup [1 - \tau_\varepsilon, 1])).\end{aligned}$$



The Shishkin mesh

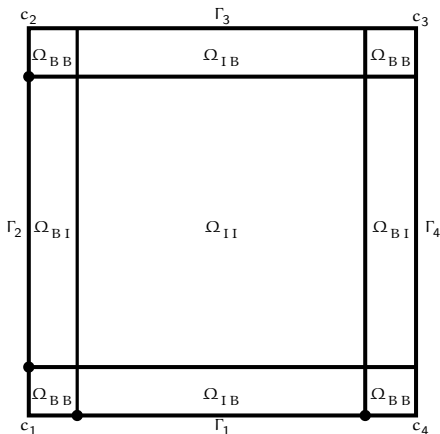
In the case of interest, $\varepsilon \leq N^{-1}$,
and so $\tau = 2\varepsilon\beta^{-1} \ln N$. Thus, for
any point $(x, y) \in \Omega_{II}$,

$$e^{-\beta x/\varepsilon} \leq e^{-\beta\tau/\varepsilon} = N^{-2},$$

$$e^{-\beta y/\varepsilon} \leq e^{-\beta\tau/\varepsilon} = N^{-2}.$$

$$\|e^{-\beta(x+y)/\varepsilon}\|_{0,\Omega/\Omega_{BB}} \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{\beta} N^{-2};$$

$$\|e^{-\beta(x+y)/\varepsilon}\|_{0,\Omega_{BB}} = \frac{\varepsilon}{2\beta}.$$



$$\|e^{-\beta y/\varepsilon}\|_{0,\Omega_{II} \cup \Omega_{BI}}^2 = \|e^{-\beta x/\varepsilon}\|_{0,\Omega_{II} \cup \Omega_{IB}}^2 \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2\beta} N^{-4}.$$

$$\|e^{-\beta y/\varepsilon}\|_{0,\Omega_{BB} \cup \Omega_{IB}}^2 = \|e^{-\beta x/\varepsilon}\|_{0,\Omega_{BB} \cup \Omega_{BI}}^2 \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2\beta}.$$

Interpolation

Given a one-dimensional mesh, Ω_x^N , let V^N be the associated space of piecewise linear functions.

Let $I^N : C[0, 1] \rightarrow V^N[0, 1]$ be the usual piecewise linear Lagrange interpolation operator associated with V^N .

Let $p \in [2, \infty]$ and $\phi \in W^{2,p}[0, 1]$. Then the piecewise linear interpolant $I_N \phi$ of ϕ satisfies the bounds

$$\|\phi - I_N \phi\|_{0,p,[x_{i-1},x_i]} + h_i \|(\phi - I_N \phi)'\|_{0,p,[x_{i-1},x_i]} \leq C \min \{h_i \|\phi'\|_{0,p,[x_{i-1},x_i]}, h_i^2 \|\phi''\|_{0,p,[x_{i-1},x_i]}\}.$$

From standard inverse inequalities in one dimension one sees easily that

$$h_x \left\| \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \right\|_{0,K} + k_y \left\| \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \right\|_{0,K} \leq \|\psi\|_{0,K} \quad \forall \psi \in V^{N_x, N_y}(\Omega), \quad \forall K \in T^{N_x, N_y}(\Omega), \quad (3)$$

where the rectangle K has size $h_x \times k_y$.

Interpolation

The Shishkin mesh is highly anisotropic on $\Omega_{IB} \cup \Omega_{BI}$, and to obtain satisfactory interpolation error estimates on this region one uses the sharp anisotropic interpolation analysis of [Apel, 1999, Apel and Dobrowolski, 1992]:

Lemma

Let τ be any mesh rectangle of size $h_x \times k_y$. Let $\phi \in H^2(\tau)$. Then its piecewise bilinear nodal interpolant ϕ^I satisfies the bounds

$$\begin{aligned}\|\phi - \phi^I\|_{0,\tau} &\leq C (h_x^2 \|\phi_{xx}\|_{0,\tau} + h_x k_y \|\phi_{xy}\|_{0,\tau} + k_y^2 \|\phi_{yy}\|_{0,\tau}), \\ \|(\phi - \phi^I)_x\|_{0,\tau} &\leq C (h_x \|\phi_{xx}\|_{0,\tau} + k_y \|\phi_{xy}\|_{0,\tau}), \\ \|(\phi - \phi^I)_y\|_{0,\tau} &\leq C (h_x \|\phi_{xy}\|_{0,\tau} + k_y \|\phi_{yy}\|_{0,\tau}).\end{aligned}$$

Equipped with these results, we would like to prove that

Lemma

There exists a constant C such that

$$\|u - I_{N,N}u\|_{0,\Omega} \leq CN^{-2}. \quad (4a)$$

and

$$\varepsilon \|\nabla(u - I_{N,N}u)\|_{0,\Omega} \leq C(N^{-2} + \varepsilon^{1/2}N^{-1} \ln N). \quad (4b)$$

Here we will give an account of how the bound for the (4b) term is obtained.

From the solution decomposition,

$$\varepsilon \|\nabla(u - I_{N,N}u)\|_{0,\Omega} = \varepsilon \left\| \nabla \left((I - I_{N,N}) \left(v + \sum_{k=1}^4 w_k + \sum_{k=1}^4 z_k \right) \right) \right\|_{0,\Omega}.$$

Each term in this decomposition is bounded separately.

First, standard arguments give,

$$\varepsilon \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (v - I_{N,N}v) \right\|_{0,\Omega} \leq C\varepsilon N^{-1} |v|_{2,\Omega} \leq CN^{-2}.$$

Interpolation

Recall that w_1 is the term associated with Γ_1 , and, so $w_1(x, y) \sim e^{-y\beta/\epsilon}$. That fact, and the anisotropic interpolation results, give

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (w_1 - I_{N,N} w_1) \right\|_{0, \Omega_{II} \cup \Omega_{BI}} &\leq C \epsilon N^{-1} \left(\left\| \frac{\partial^2 w_1}{\partial x^2} \right\|_{0, \Omega_{II} \cup \Omega_{BI}} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \left\| \frac{\partial^2 w_1}{\partial x \partial y} \right\|_{0, \Omega_{II} \cup \Omega_{BI}} \right) \\ &\leq C \epsilon N^{-1} \left(1 + \max_{(x,y) \in \Omega_{II} \cup \Omega_{BI}} \epsilon^{-1} e^{-\beta y/\epsilon} \right) \\ &\leq C N^{-2}. \end{aligned}$$

Interpolation

On $\Omega_{IB} \cup \Omega_{BB}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (w_1 - I_{N,N} w_1) \right\|_{0, \Omega_{IB} \cup \Omega_{BB}} &\leq C \varepsilon \left[N^{-1} \left\| \frac{\partial^2 w_1}{\partial x^2} \right\|_{0, \Omega_{IB} \cup \Omega_{BB}} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \varepsilon N^{-1} (\ln N) \left\| \frac{\partial^2 w_1}{\partial x \partial y} \right\|_{0, \Omega_{IB} \cup \Omega_{BB}} \right] \\ &\leq CN^{-2}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\varepsilon \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (w_1 - I_{N,N} w_1) \right\|_{0, \Omega} \leq CN^{-2}$.

Interpolation

Next recall that w_2 is the component associated with the edge layer near Γ_2 . So, roughly, $w_2(x, y) \sim e^{-x\beta/\epsilon}$.

Similar to above, we can show that $\epsilon \|(w_2 - I_{N,N} w_2)_x\|_{0, \Omega_{II} \cup \Omega_{IB}} \leq N^{-2}$.

However, the most significant term is

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (w_2 - I_{N,N} w_2) \right\|_{0, \Omega_{BI} \cup \Omega_{BB}} &\leq \\ C \epsilon \left[\epsilon N^{-1} (\ln N) \left\| \frac{\partial^2 w_2}{\partial x^2} \right\|_{0, \Omega_{BI} \cup \Omega_{BB}} + N^{-1} \left\| \frac{\partial^2 w_2}{\partial x \partial y} \right\|_{0, \Omega_{BI} \cup \Omega_{BB}} \right] \\ &\leq C \epsilon^{1/2} N^{-1} \ln N. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$\epsilon \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (w_2 - I_{N,N} w_2) \right\|_{0, \Omega} \leq C(N^{-2} + \epsilon^{1/2} N^{-1} \ln N).$$

Interpolation

Analogous results are valid for w_3, w_4 and the corner layer terms, z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4 .

Gathering these results yields $\epsilon \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\mathbf{u} - I_{N,N} \mathbf{u}) \right\|_{0,\Omega} \leq C(N^{-2} + \epsilon^{1/2} N^{-1} \ln N)$.

The same estimate is valid for $\epsilon \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (\mathbf{u} - I_{N,N} \mathbf{u}) \right\|_{0,\Omega}$.

It is then clear that

Theorem

There exists a constant C such that

$$\|\mathbf{u} - I_{N,N} \mathbf{u}\|_{0,\Omega} + \epsilon \|\nabla(\mathbf{u} - I_{N,N} \mathbf{u})\|_{0,\Omega} \leq C(N^{-2} + \epsilon^{1/2} N^{-1} \ln N).$$

The Galerkin FEM

The variational formulation of (2) is: find $u \in H_0^1(\Omega)$ such that

$$B(u, v) := \varepsilon^2(\nabla u, \nabla v) + (bu, v) = (f, v) \quad \forall v \in H_0^1(\Omega).$$

Define an associated *energy norm*

$$\|v\|_\varepsilon := \{\varepsilon^2 \|\nabla v\|_{0,\Omega}^2 + \|v\|_{0,\Omega}^2\}^{1/2}.$$

This bilinear form is coercive with respect to this norm:

$$B(v, v) = \varepsilon^2 \left\| \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \right\|_{0,\Omega}^2 + \varepsilon^2 \left\| \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right\|_{0,\Omega}^2 + b \|v\|_{0,\Omega}^2 \geq \min\{1, 2\beta^2\} \|v\|_\varepsilon^2 \quad \forall v \in H_0^1(\Omega).$$

Furthermore it is continuous

$$|B(v, w)| \leq (2 + \|b\|_{0,\infty,\Omega}) \|v\|_\varepsilon \|w\|_\varepsilon \quad \forall v, w \in H_0^1(\Omega).$$

The Galerkin FEM

Define the Galerkin finite element approximation $u_{N,N} \in V_0^{N,N}(\Omega)$

$$B(u_{N,N}, v_{N,N}) = (f, v_{N,N}) \quad \forall v_{N,N} \in V_0^{N,N}(\Omega).$$

Classical finite element arguments based on coercivity and Galerkin orthogonality yields the quasioptimal bound

$$\|u - u_{N,N}\|_{\epsilon} \leq C \inf_{\phi \in V_0^{N,N}(\Omega)} \|u - \phi\|_{\epsilon} \leq \|u - I_{N,N}u\|_{\epsilon}.$$

It then follows that...

Theorem

There exists a constant C such that

$$\|u - u_{N,N}\|_{\epsilon} \leq C(N^{-2} + \epsilon^{1/2}N^{-1} \ln N).$$

Example

$$-\varepsilon^2 \Delta u + (1 + x^2 y^2 e^{xy/2}) u = f \quad \text{on } \Omega := (0, 1)^2,$$

where f and the boundary conditions are chosen so that

$$u = x^3(1 + y^2) + \sin(\pi x^2) + \cos(\pi y/2) \\ + (x + y)(e^{-2x/\varepsilon} + e^{-2(1-x)/\varepsilon} + e^{-3y/\varepsilon} + e^{-3(1-y)/\varepsilon}).$$

ε^2	$N = 2^4$	$N = 2^6$	$N = 2^8$	$N = 2^{10}$
1	3.395e-1	8.714e-2	2.190e-2	5.482e-3
10^{-2}	4.618e-1	1.572e-1	4.214e-2	1.070e-2
10^{-4}	2.287e-1	1.578e-1	7.228e-2	2.510e-2
10^{-6}	7.220e-2	4.979e-2	2.280e-2	7.921e-3
10^{-8}	2.361e-2	1.574e-2	7.211e-3	2.504e-3
10^{-10}	9.621e-3	4.992e-3	2.280e-3	7.919e-4
10^{-12}	6.787e-3	1.619e-3	7.214e-4	2.504e-4
10^{-14}	6.435e-3	6.265e-4	2.292e-4	7.920e-5

Other norms

The above results are somewhat suspect looking... although the method does resolve layers, the error, in both theory and practice, shows an ε -dependency. However, it is observed that (subject to sufficient regularity),

$$\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_{N,N}\|_{\infty, \bar{\Omega}^N} \leq CN^{-2}.$$

So, in some sense, the difficulty is with the norm, rather than the method.

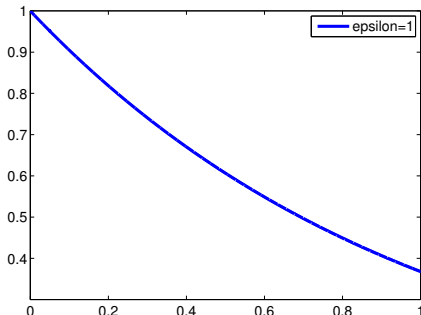
Consider this very simple one-dimensional singularly perturbed reaction-diffusion problem:

$$-\varepsilon^2 u''(x) + u(x) = 0 \text{ on } (0, 1),$$

$$u(0) = 1, u(1) = e^{-1/\varepsilon} (\approx 0).$$

Its solution is $u(x) = e^{-x/\varepsilon}$.

$$\varepsilon = \{1\}$$



$$\|u\|_{\infty} := \max_{0 \leq x} |u(x)| = 1, \quad \text{but} \quad \|u\|_0 := \sqrt{\int_0^1 (u(x))^2 dx} \approx \sqrt{\varepsilon}.$$

As $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, we get that $\|u\|_0 \rightarrow 0$, even though $\|u\|_{\infty} \rightarrow 1$.

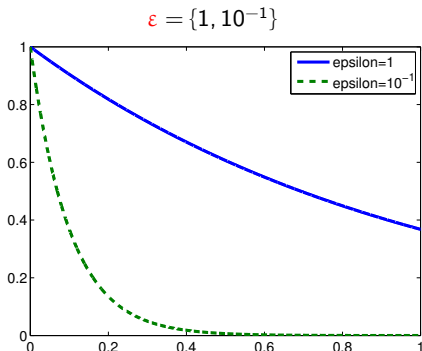
Trivially, this shows that $u^h \equiv 0$ is a terrible approximation to u with respect to $\|\cdot\|_{\infty}$, but rather good with respect to $\|\cdot\|_0$.

Consider this very simple one-dimensional singularly perturbed reaction-diffusion problem:

$$-\varepsilon^2 u''(x) + u(x) = 0 \text{ on } (0, 1),$$

$$u(0) = 1, u(1) = e^{-1/\varepsilon} (\approx 0).$$

Its solution is $u(x) = e^{-x/\varepsilon}$.



$$\|u\|_{\infty} := \max_{0 \leq x} |u(x)| = 1, \quad \text{but} \quad \|u\|_0 := \sqrt{\int_0^1 (u(x))^2 dx} \approx \sqrt{\varepsilon}.$$

As $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, we get that $\|u\|_0 \rightarrow 0$, even though $\|u\|_{\infty} \rightarrow 1$.

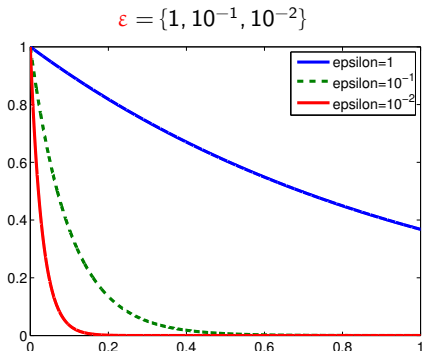
Trivially, this shows that $u^h \equiv 0$ is a terrible approximation to u with respect to $\|\cdot\|_{\infty}$, but rather good with respect to $\|\cdot\|_0$.

Consider this very simple one-dimensional singularly perturbed reaction-diffusion problem:

$$-\varepsilon^2 u''(x) + u(x) = 0 \text{ on } (0, 1),$$

$$u(0) = 1, u(1) = e^{-1/\varepsilon} (\approx 0).$$

Its solution is $u(x) = e^{-x/\varepsilon}$.



$$\|u\|_{\infty} := \max_{0 \leq x} |u(x)| = 1, \quad \text{but} \quad \|u\|_0 := \sqrt{\int_0^1 (u(x))^2 dx} \approx \sqrt{\varepsilon}.$$

As $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, we get that $\|u\|_0 \rightarrow 0$, even though $\|u\|_{\infty} \rightarrow 1$.

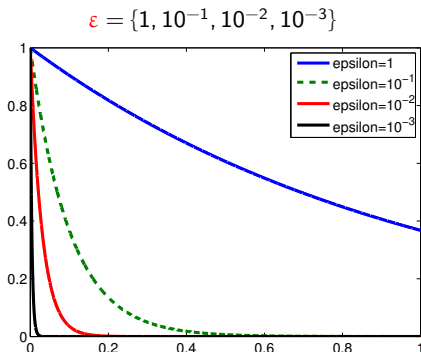
Trivially, this shows that $u^h \equiv 0$ is a terrible approximation to u with respect to $\|\cdot\|_{\infty}$, but rather good with respect to $\|\cdot\|_0$.

Consider this very simple one-dimensional singularly perturbed reaction-diffusion problem:

$$-\varepsilon^2 u''(x) + u(x) = 0 \text{ on } (0, 1),$$

$$u(0) = 1, u(1) = e^{-1/\varepsilon} (\approx 0).$$

Its solution is $u(x) = e^{-x/\varepsilon}$.



$$\|u\|_{\infty} := \max_{0 \leq x} |u(x)| = 1, \quad \text{but} \quad \|u\|_0 := \sqrt{\int_0^1 (u(x))^2 dx} \approx \sqrt{\varepsilon}.$$

As $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, we get that $\|u\|_0 \rightarrow 0$, even though $\|u\|_{\infty} \rightarrow 1$.

Trivially, this shows that $u^h \equiv 0$ is a terrible approximation to u with respect to $\|\cdot\|_{\infty}$, but rather good with respect to $\|\cdot\|_0$.

Slightly less trivially, try solving this problem with a standard Galerkin FEM.

The weak form is:

$$B(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) := \int_0^1 \varepsilon^2 \mathbf{u}'(x) \mathbf{v}'(x) + \mathbf{u}(x) \mathbf{v}(x), \quad (\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{v}) := \int_0^1 \mathbf{f}(x) \mathbf{v}(x),$$

and find $\mathbf{u} \in H_0^1(0, 1)$.

$$B(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = (\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{v}) \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{v} \in H_0^1(0, 1).$$

The energy norm is

$$\|\mathbf{g}\|_{\varepsilon} := \left(\varepsilon^2 \|\mathbf{g}'\|_0^2 + \|\mathbf{g}\|_0^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

But this norm is weak, since

$$\left(\varepsilon^2 \|\mathbf{u}'\|_0 + \|\mathbf{u}\|_0 \right)^{1/2} \approx \sqrt{\varepsilon}.$$

In contrast,

$$\left(\varepsilon \|\mathbf{u}'\|_2 + \|\mathbf{u}\|_2 \right)^{1/2} \approx 1.$$

Slightly less trivially, try solving this problem with a standard Galerkin FEM.

The weak form is:

$$B(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) := \int_0^1 \varepsilon^2 \mathbf{u}'(x) \mathbf{v}'(x) + \mathbf{u}(x) \mathbf{v}(x), \quad (f, \mathbf{v}) := \int_0^1 f(x) \mathbf{v}(x),$$

and find $\mathbf{u} \in H_0^1(0, 1)$.

$$B(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = (f, \mathbf{v}) \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{v} \in H_0^1(0, 1).$$

The energy norm is

$$\|g\|_{\varepsilon} := \left(\varepsilon^2 \|g'\|_0^2 + \|g\|_0^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

But this norm is weak, since

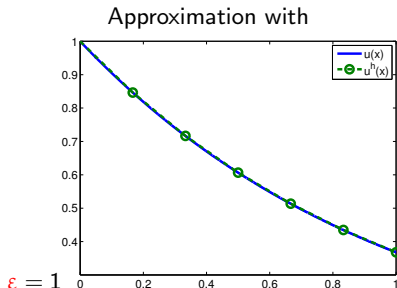
$$\left(\varepsilon^2 \|\mathbf{u}'\|_0 + \|\mathbf{u}\|_0 \right)^{1/2} \approx \sqrt{\varepsilon}.$$

In contrast,

$$\left(\varepsilon \|\mathbf{u}'\|_2 + \|\mathbf{u}\|_2 \right)^{1/2} \approx 1.$$

Suppose we did try to solve our simple ODE with a Galerkin FEM with linear elements on a uniform mesh... Clearly, even though this is a “good” estimate at mesh points, it is clear that

$$\|u - u_N\|_{\infty, \Omega} \sim \mathcal{O}(1).$$



It is known ([Bagaev and Shaïdurov, 1998], [Farrell et al., 2000]) that

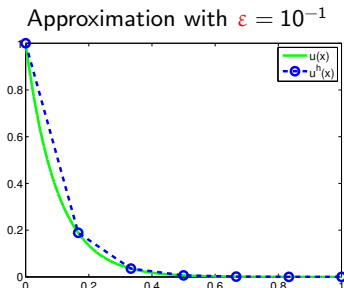
$$\|u - u^N\|_{\varepsilon} \leq CN^{-1/2}.$$

So we now have two problems with the energy norm:

- it appears to show robust convergence even when layers are not being resolved.
- On the layer-resolving Shishkin mesh, the $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{1/2}N^{-1} \ln N)$ quantity demonstrates that this norm is not “balanced”.

Suppose we did try to solve our simple ODE with a Galerkin FEM with linear elements on a uniform mesh... Clearly, even though this is a “good” estimate at mesh points, it is clear that

$$\|u - u_N\|_{\infty, \Omega} \sim \mathcal{O}(1).$$



It is known ([Bagaev and Shaïdurov, 1998], [Farrell et al., 2000]) that

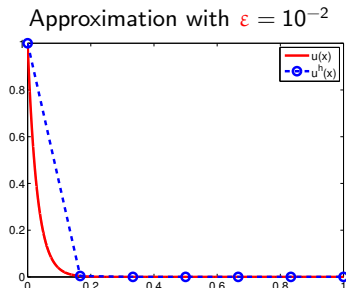
$$\|u - u^N\|_{\varepsilon} \leq CN^{-1/2}.$$

So we now have two problems with the energy norm:

- it appears to show robust convergence even when layers are not being resolved.
- On the layer-resolving Shishkin mesh, the $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{1/2}N^{-1} \ln N)$ quantity demonstrates that this norm is not “balanced”.

Suppose we did try to solve our simple ODE with a Galerkin FEM with linear elements on a uniform mesh... Clearly, even though this is a “good” estimate at mesh points, it is clear that

$$\|u - u_N\|_{\infty, \Omega} \sim \mathcal{O}(1).$$



It is known ([Bagaev and Shaïdurov, 1998], [Farrell et al., 2000]) that

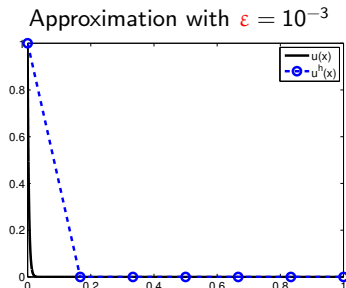
$$\|u - u^N\|_{\varepsilon} \leq CN^{-1/2}.$$

So we now have two problems with the energy norm:

- it appears to show robust convergence even when layers are not being resolved.
- On the layer-resolving Shishkin mesh, the $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{1/2}N^{-1} \ln N)$ quantity demonstrates that this norm is not “balanced”.

Suppose we did try to solve our simple ODE with a Galerkin FEM with linear elements on a uniform mesh... Clearly, even though this is a “good” estimate at mesh points, it is clear that

$$\|u - u_N\|_{\infty, \Omega} \sim \mathcal{O}(1).$$



It is known ([Bagaev and Shaïdurov, 1998], [Farrell et al., 2000]) that

$$\|u - u^N\|_{\varepsilon} \leq CN^{-1/2}.$$

So we now have two problems with the energy norm:

- it appears to show robust convergence even when layers are not being resolved.
- On the layer-resolving Shishkin mesh, the $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{1/2}N^{-1} \ln N)$ quantity demonstrates that this norm is not “balanced”.

There are several approaches to resolving the problem of the weakness of the usual energy norm for this problem:

- (a) Analyse a standard FEM (on a suitable mesh), but with respect to a stronger norm, such as

$$\|v\|_{\text{bal}} := (\epsilon \|\nabla v\|_0^2 + \|v\|_0^2)^{1/2}.$$

This is done in [Roos and Schopf, 2014], and also [Melenk and Xenophontos, 2015].

- (b) Design a new FEM for which the natural induced norm *is* balanced. E.g.,
- In [Lin and Stynes, 2012], this is done using a first-order system approach.
 - In FOSLS-type setting, see [Adler et al., 2016]
 - In [Roos and Schopf, 2014], a C^0 interior penalty (CIP) method is constructed.

References



Adler, J., MacLachlan, S., and Madden, N. (2016).

A first-order system Petrov-Galerkin discretization for a reaction-diffusion problem on a fitted mesh.

IMA Journal of Numerical Analysis, 36(3):1281–1309.

10.1093/imanum/drv045.



Apel, T. (1999).

Anisotropic finite elements: Local estimates and applications.

Advances in Numerical Mathematics. B.G. Teubner, Stuttgart.



Apel, T. and Dobrowolski, M. (1992).

Anisotropic interpolation with applications to the finite element method.

Computing, 47:277–293.



Bagaev, B. M. and Shaĭdurov, V. V. (1998).

Setochnye metody resheniya zadach s pogranichnym sloem. Chast 1.

“Nauka”, Sibirskoe Predpriyatie RAN, Novosibirsk.

References



Clavero, C., Gracia, J. L., and O'Riordan, E. (2005).

A parameter robust numerical method for a two dimensional reaction-diffusion problem.

Math. Comp., 74(252):1743–1758.



Farrell, P. A., Hegarty, A. F., Miller, J. J. H., O'Riordan, E., and Shishkin, G. I. (2000).

Robust Computational Techniques for Boundary Layers.

Number 16 in Applied Mathematics. Chapman & Hall/CRC, Boca Raton, U.S.A.



Lin, R. and Stynes, M. (2012).

A balanced finite element method for singularly perturbed reaction-diffusion problems.

SIAM J. Numer. Anal., 50(5):2729–2743.



Linß, T. (2010).

Layer-adapted meshes for reaction-convection-diffusion problems, volume 1985 of *Lecture Notes in Mathematics*.

Springer-Verlag, Berlin.

References



Linß, T. and Madden, N. (2004).

A finite element analysis of a coupled system of singularly perturbed reaction-diffusion equations.

Appl. Math. Comp., 148:869–880.



Liu, F., Madden, N., Stynes, M., and Zhou, A. (2009).

A two-scale sparse grid method for a singularly perturbed reaction–diffusion problem in two dimensions.

IMA J. Numer. Anal., 29(4):986–1007.



Melenk, J. and Xenophontos, C. (2015).

Robust exponential convergence of hp-fem in balanced norms for singularly perturbed reaction-diffusion equations.

Calcolo, pages 1–28.



Roos, H.-G. and Schopf, M. (2014).

Convergence and stability in balanced norms of finite element methods on Shishkin meshes for reaction-diffusion problems.

ZAMM, Z. Angew. Math. Mech.

doi: 10.1002/zamm.201300226.

References



Roos, H.-G., Stynes, M., and Tobiska, L. (2008).

Robust Numerical Methods for Singularly Perturbed Differential Equations,
volume 24 of *Springer Series in Computational Mathematics*.

Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 2nd edition.