

By applying integration by parts elementwise and noting that  $u$  is the analytical solution of the PDE, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \tilde{B}_d(u, w_h) - \tilde{\ell}(u, w_h) \right| &= \left| \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_h^I \cup \mathcal{F}_h^B} \int_F \{ (\nabla u - \Pi_{L^2}(\nabla u)) \} \cdot [w_h] ds \right| \\ &\leq \left( \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_h^I \cup \mathcal{F}_h^B} \int_F \sigma^{-1} | \{ (\nabla u - \Pi_{L^2}(\nabla u)) \} |^2 ds \right)^{1/2} \\ &\quad \times ||| w_h |||_{DG}. \end{aligned}$$

Here, we have used the identity

$$\sum_{\kappa \in \mathcal{T}_h} \int_{\partial \kappa} \mathbf{q}^+ \cdot \mathbf{n}^+ v^+ ds = \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_h} \int_F \{ \mathbf{q} \} \cdot [v] ds + \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_h^I} \int_F [ \mathbf{q} ] \{ v \} ds.$$

Adding and subtracting  $\tilde{\Pi}_p(\nabla u)$ , gives

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_h^I \cup \mathcal{F}_h^B} \int_F \sigma^{-1} |\llbracket (\nabla u - \Pi_{L^2}(\nabla u)) \rrbracket|^2 ds \\ & \leq \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}_h^I \cup \mathcal{F}_h^B} \int_F 2\sigma^{-1} (|\llbracket (\nabla u - \tilde{\Pi}_p(\nabla u)) \rrbracket|^2 + |\llbracket (\Pi_{L^2}(\tilde{\Pi}_p(\nabla u)) - \nabla u) \rrbracket|^2) ds \\ & \equiv \mathbb{I}_1 + \mathbb{I}_2. \end{aligned}$$

Exploiting approximation bounds yields

$$\mathbb{I}_1 \leq C \sum_{\kappa \in \mathcal{T}_h} \frac{h_\kappa^{2(s_\kappa-1)}}{p_\kappa^{2(l_\kappa-1)}} \frac{h_\kappa^{-d}}{p_\kappa^{-1}} \left( \sum_{F \subset \partial\kappa} C_m(p_\kappa, \kappa, F) \sigma^{-1} |F| \right) \|\mathfrak{E}u\|_{H^{l_\kappa}(\mathcal{K})}^2.$$

Similarly, employing the inverse inequality, the  $L^2$ -stability of the projector  $\Pi_{L^2}$ , and approximation bounds, gives

$$\mathbb{I}_2 \leq C \sum_{\kappa \in \mathcal{T}_h} \frac{h_\kappa^{2(s_\kappa-1)}}{p_\kappa^{2(l_\kappa-1)}} \frac{|\kappa|^{-1}}{p_\kappa^{-2}} \left( \sum_{F \subset \partial\kappa} C_{\text{INV}}(p_\kappa, \kappa, F) \sigma^{-1} |F| \right) \|\mathfrak{E}u\|_{H^{l_\kappa}(\mathcal{K})}^2.$$

Combining the above above bounds, we deduce:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sup_{w_h \in V^{\mathbf{P}}(\mathcal{T}_h) \setminus \{0\}} \frac{|\tilde{B}_d(u, w_h) - \tilde{\ell}(u, w_h)|}{|||w_h|||_{\text{DG}}} \\
 & \leq (\|I_1\| + \|I_2\|)^{1/2} \\
 & \leq c \left( \sum_{\kappa \in \mathcal{T}_h} \frac{h_{\kappa}^{2(s_{\kappa}-1)}}{p_{\kappa}^{2(l_{\kappa}-1)}} \right. \\
 & \quad \times \left( \sum_{F \subset \partial \kappa} \left( c_m(p_{\kappa}, \kappa, F) \frac{h_{\kappa}^{-d}}{p_{\kappa}^{-1}} + c_{\text{INV}}(p_{\kappa}, \kappa, F) \frac{|\kappa|^{-1}}{p_{\kappa}^{-2}} \right) \sigma^{-1} |F| \right) \\
 & \quad \left. \times \| \mathfrak{E}u \|_{H^{l_{\kappa}}(\mathcal{K})}^2 \right)^{1/2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

## Theorem 1

Given that  $\mathcal{T}_h = \{\kappa\}$  satisfies Assumptions 2 & 3. Assuming  $u|_{\kappa} \in H^{l_{\kappa}}(\kappa)$ ,  $l_{\kappa} > 1 + d/2$ , for each  $\kappa \in \mathcal{T}_h$ , such that  $\mathfrak{E}u|_{\mathcal{K}} \in H^{l_{\kappa}}(\mathcal{K})$ , where  $\mathcal{K} \in \mathcal{T}_h^{\#}$  with  $\kappa \subset \mathcal{K}$ , then

$$\|u - u_h\|_{\text{DG}}^2 \leq C \sum_{\kappa \in \mathcal{T}_h} \frac{h_{\kappa}^{2(s_{\kappa}-1)}}{p_{\kappa}^{2(l_{\kappa}-1)}} (1 + \mathcal{G}_{\kappa}(F, \mathbf{C}_{\text{INV}}, \mathbf{C}_m, p_{\kappa})) \|\mathfrak{E}u\|_{H^{l_{\kappa}}(\mathcal{K})}^2,$$

with  $s_{\kappa} = \min\{p_{\kappa} + 1, l_{\kappa}\}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}_{\kappa}(F, \mathbf{C}_{\text{INV}}, \mathbf{C}_m, p_{\kappa}) &:= p_{\kappa} h_{\kappa}^{-d} \sum_{F \subset \partial \kappa} \mathbf{C}_m(p_{\kappa}, \kappa, F) \sigma^{-1} |F| \\ &\quad + p_{\kappa}^2 |\kappa|^{-1} \sum_{F \subset \partial \kappa} \mathbf{C}_{\text{INV}}(p_{\kappa}, \kappa, F) \sigma^{-1} |F| \\ &\quad + h_{\kappa}^{-d+2} p_{\kappa}^{-1} \sum_{F \subset \partial \kappa} \mathbf{C}_m(p_{\kappa}, \kappa, F) \sigma |F|, \end{aligned}$$

where  $C$  is a positive constant, which depends on the shape-regularity of  $\mathcal{T}_h^{\#}$ .

- For uniform orders  $p_\kappa = p \geq 1$ ,  $h = \max_{\kappa \in \mathcal{T}_h} h_\kappa$ ,  $s_\kappa = s$ ,  $s = \min\{p + 1, l\}$ ,  $l > 1 + d/2$ , and  $\text{diam}(F) \sim h_\kappa$ ,  $F \subset \partial\kappa$ ,  $\kappa \in \mathcal{T}_h$ , we get the bound

$$|||u - u_h|||_{\text{DG}} \leq C \frac{h^{s-1}}{p^{l-3/2}} \|u\|_{H^l(\Omega)},$$

cf. H., Schwab & Süli 2002.

- Optimal in  $h$  and suboptimal in  $p$  by  $p^{1/2}$ .

## DGFEMs on Polytopic Meshes I: Elliptic PDEs

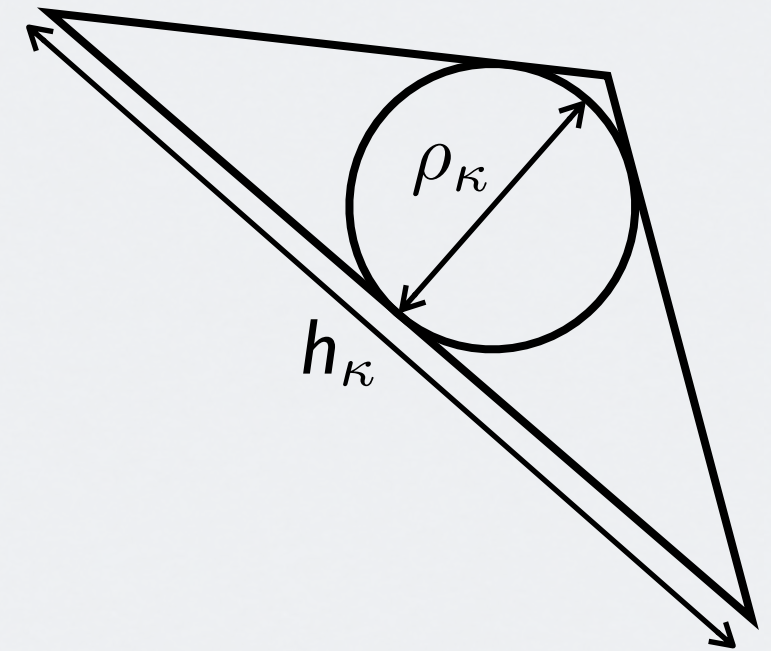
### Error Analysis II: Arbitrary number of element faces

## Recall: Definition 1 (Shape-Regularity)

A subdivision  $\mathcal{T}_h$  is said to be shape-regular if there exists a positive constant  $C_r$  such that:

$$\forall \kappa \in \mathcal{T}_h, \quad \frac{h_\kappa}{\rho_\kappa} \leq C_r,$$

independently of the mesh parameters, where  $\rho_\kappa$  denotes the diameter of the largest ball contained in  $\kappa$ .



Given  $F \subset \partial T$ , where  $T$  is a  $d$ -simplex, the volume of  $T$  is given by

$$|T| = \frac{1}{d} |F| \mathfrak{h}_T \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathfrak{h}_T = \frac{|T|}{|F|} d,$$

where  $\mathfrak{h}_T$  denotes the height of  $T$  above  $F$ .



## Assumption 4

For any  $\kappa \in \mathcal{T}_h$ , there exists a set of non-overlapping  $d$ -dimensional simplices  $\{\kappa_b^F\}_{F \subset \partial\kappa} \subset \mathcal{F}_b^\kappa$  contained in  $\kappa$ , such that for all  $F \subset \partial\kappa$ , the following holds

$$h_\kappa \leq C_s \frac{d|\kappa_b^F|}{|F|},$$

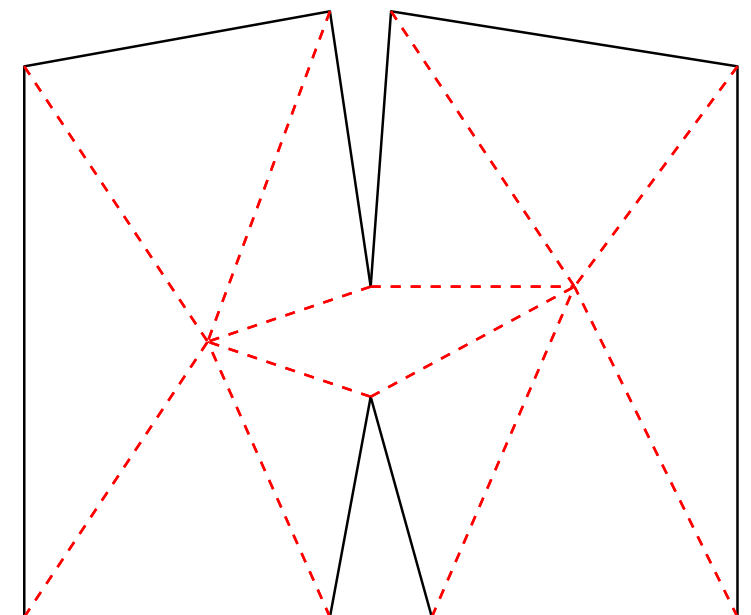
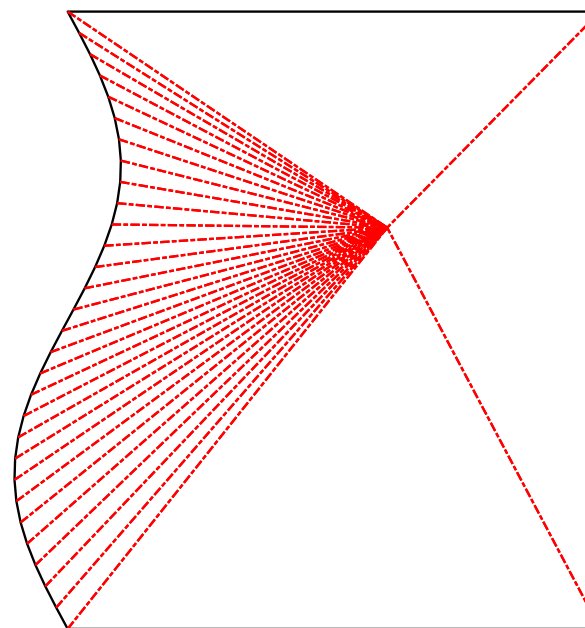
where  $C_s$  is a positive constant, which is independent of the discretization parameters, the number of faces that the element possesses, and  $|F|$ .

Note that

$$\bigcup_{F \subset \partial\kappa} \bar{\kappa}_b^F \subseteq \bar{\kappa}.$$

Furthermore,

$$\rho_\kappa := \min_{F \subset \partial\kappa} d|\kappa_b^F|/|F|.$$





## Lemma 11

Let  $\kappa \in \mathcal{T}_h$ ; then assuming Assumption 4 is satisfied, for each  $v \in \mathcal{P}_p(\kappa)$ , the following inverse inequality holds

$$\|v\|_{L^2(\partial\kappa)}^2 \leq C_s C_{\text{inv},1} d \frac{p^2}{h_\kappa} \|v\|_{L^2(\kappa)}^2.$$

Here,  $C_s$  is independent of  $v$ ,  $|\kappa| / \sup_{\kappa_b^F \subset \kappa} |\kappa_b^F|$ ,  $|F|$ , and  $p$

The proof is based on applying Lemma 2 over each simplex  $\kappa_b^F$  contained within  $\kappa$ , together with Assumption 4; thereby, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|v\|_{L^2(\partial\kappa)}^2 &\leq \sum_{F \subset \partial\kappa} C_{\text{inv},1} p^2 \frac{|F|}{|\kappa_b^F|} \|v\|_{L^2(\kappa_b^F)}^2 \leq \sum_{F \subset \partial\kappa} C_s C_{\text{inv},1} d \frac{p^2}{h_\kappa} \|v\|_{L^2(\kappa_b^F)}^2 \\ &\leq C_s C_{\text{inv},1} d \frac{p^2}{h_\kappa} \|v\|_{L^2(\kappa)}^2. \end{aligned}$$

## Lemma 12

Let  $\kappa \in \mathcal{T}_h$  and  $\mathcal{K} \in \mathcal{T}_h^\#$  the corresponding simplex such that  $\kappa \subset \mathcal{K}$ . Suppose that  $v \in H^1(\Omega)$  is such that  $\mathcal{E}v|_{\mathcal{K}} \in H^{l_\kappa}(\mathcal{K})$ , for some  $l_\kappa > 1/2$ . Then, given that Assumption 4 is satisfied, we have

$$\|v - \tilde{\Pi}_p v\|_{L^2(\partial\kappa)} \leq C_{I,5} \frac{h_\kappa^{s_\kappa - 1/2}}{p^{l_\kappa - 1/2}} \|\mathcal{E}v\|_{H^{l_\kappa}(\mathcal{K})},$$

where  $s_\kappa = \min\{p + 1, l_\kappa\}$  and  $C_{I,5}$  is a positive constant depending on  $C_s$  and the shape-regularity of  $\mathcal{K}$ , but is independent of  $v$ ,  $h_\kappa$ ,  $p$ .