

Discussion on: Tue, February 2nd, 2016

Exercise 1 (discrete mean curvature stability)

Let $S_h \subseteq H^1(\Omega)$ a discretization of $H^1(\Omega)$, $\tau \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$, $u_h^0 \in S_h$ and $u_h^{m+1} \in S_h$ the solution of

$$\forall v \in S_h: \frac{1}{\tau} \int_{\Omega} \frac{u_h^{m+1} v}{Q(u_h^m)} + \int_{\Omega} \frac{\nabla u_h^{m+1} \cdot \nabla v}{Q(u_h^m)} = \frac{1}{\tau} \int_{\Omega} \frac{u_h^m v}{Q(u_h^m)}$$

for all $m \in \{0, \dots, M-1\}$ where $Q(u_h^m) = \sqrt{1 + \|\nabla u_h^m\|^2}$. Prove that

$$\tau \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \int_{\Omega} |V_h^k|^2 Q(u_h^k) + \int_{\Omega} Q(u_h^m) \leq \int_{\Omega} Q(u_h^0)$$

holds for all $m \in \{1, \dots, M\}$ where $V_h^k = -\frac{u_h^{k+1} - u_h^k}{\tau Q(u_h^k)}$.

Exercise 2 (fully discrete mean curvature error estimate)

Let $u: [0, T] \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ sufficiently smooth with $\partial_t u, \nabla u \in L^\infty([0, T] \times \Omega)$ and $u_h^m \in S_h$ for $m \in \{0, \dots, M\}$ where $h \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ and $S_h \subseteq H^1(\Omega)$ is some discretization of $H^1(\Omega)$. Furthermore, let $\tau := \frac{T}{M}$ and define $u^m := u(m\tau, \cdot)$, $\nu^m = \frac{1}{Q(u^m)}(\nabla u^m, -1)^T$, $\nu_h^m = \frac{1}{Q(u_h^m)}(\nabla u_h^m, -1)^T$ for $m \in \{0, \dots, M\}$ and $V^m := -\frac{\partial_t u^m}{Q(u^m)}$, $V_h^m := -\frac{u_h^{m+1} - u_h^m}{\tau Q(u_h^m)}$ for $m \in \{0, \dots, M-1\}$ where $Q(v) := \sqrt{1 + \|\nabla v\|^2}$ for $v \in H^1(\Omega)$. Finally, assume that $\|Q(u_h^m)\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)}$ is bounded independently of τ and h and

$$\tau \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} \int_{\Omega} |V^m - V_h^m|^2 Q_h^m + \sup_{m \in \{0, \dots, M\}} \int_{\Omega} \|\nu^m - \nu_h^m\|^2 Q_h^m \leq c(\tau^2 + h^2)$$

holds for some $c \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$. Prove that there exists $\hat{c} \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ independent of τ and h such that

$$\tau \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} \int_{\Omega} \left| \partial_t u^m - \frac{u_h^{m+1} - u_h^m}{\tau} \right|^2 + \sup_{m \in \{0, \dots, M\}} \int_{\Omega} \|\nabla u^m - \nabla u_h^m\|^2 \leq \hat{c}(\tau^2 + h^2).$$

Have fun!