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A SPACE-TIME DISCRETIZATION FOR THE MIXED
VARIATIONAL FORMULATION OF AN ELECTROMAGNETIC
PROBLEM WITH A MOVING NON-MAGNETIC CONDUCTOR

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Outline

- 1 Mathematical model
- 2 Space-time discretization
- 3 Error estimates

Mathematical model

Eddy current equations

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0, \quad (\text{Gauss's law})$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\partial_t \mathbf{B}, \quad (\text{Faraday's law})$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{J}, \quad (\text{Ampère's law})$$

with the constitutive relations

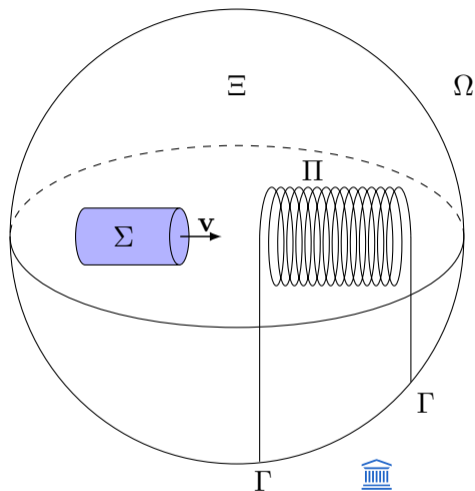
$$\mathbf{B} = \mu \mathbf{H}, \quad \mathbf{J} = \sigma(\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}).$$

Boundary condition

$$\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0.$$

Interface conditions

$$[[\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{n}]] = 0, \quad [[\mathbf{H} \times \mathbf{n}]] = 0, \quad [[(\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}) \times \mathbf{n}]] = 0.$$



Material coefficients

The subscripts Σ , Π and Ξ are used to distinguish the value of material coefficients on subdomains. For instances,

$$\mu = \begin{cases} \mu_{\Pi} & \text{in } \Pi, \\ \mu_{\Sigma} & \text{in } \Sigma, \\ \mu_{\Xi} & \text{in } \Xi, \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma = \begin{cases} \sigma_{\Pi} & \text{in } \Pi, \\ \sigma_{\Sigma} & \text{in } \Sigma, \\ \sigma_{\Xi} & \text{in } \Xi. \end{cases}$$

In general, material coefficients have jumps at the interfaces of different subdomains

$$[[\sigma]]_{\partial\Sigma} := \sigma_{\Xi} - \sigma_{\Sigma} \neq 0,$$

$$[[\sigma]]_{\partial\Pi \setminus \Gamma} := \sigma_{\Xi} - \sigma_{\Pi} \neq 0.$$

Assumptions: $\sigma_{\Xi} = 0$ and $\mu = \mu_0$ in Ω .

$\mathbf{A} - \phi$ potential formulation

The BVP for the electric scalar potential ϕ

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \cdot (-\sigma_{\Pi} \nabla \phi) = 0 & \text{in } \Pi \times (0, T), \\ -\sigma_{\Pi} \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0 & \text{on } (\partial\Pi \setminus \Gamma) \times (0, T), \\ -\sigma_{\Pi} \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n} = j & \text{on } \Gamma \times (0, T). \end{cases}$$

The IBVP for the magnetic vector potential \mathbf{A} ($\mathbf{B} := \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$)

$$\begin{cases} \sigma \partial_t \mathbf{A} + \mu_0^{-1} \nabla \times \nabla \times \mathbf{A} \\ \quad + \chi_{\Pi} \sigma \nabla \phi - \sigma \mathbf{v} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{0} & \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T), \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T), \\ \mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{0} & \text{on } \partial\Omega \times (0, T), \\ [(\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) \times \mathbf{n}] = \mathbf{0} & \text{on } (\partial\Theta \setminus \Gamma) \times (0, T), \\ \mathbf{A}(\cdot, 0) = \mathbf{A}_0 & \text{in } \Theta(0) := \Sigma(0) \cup \Pi. \end{cases}$$

Function spaces

💡 Goal: proposing a finite element (FE) space-time discretization for the variational problem.

Let us introduce the following Hilbert spaces

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{H}(\operatorname{div}, \Omega) \cap \mathbf{H}_0(\operatorname{curl}, \Omega),$$

$$\mathbf{W}_0 = \{ \mathbf{f} \in \mathbf{W} : \nabla \cdot \mathbf{f} = 0 \},$$

equipped with the norms

$$\|\varphi\|_{\mathbf{W}} = \|\varphi\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\Omega)} + \|\nabla \times \varphi\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\Omega)} + \|\nabla \cdot \varphi\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\Omega)},$$

$$\|\varphi\|_{\mathbf{W}_0} = \|\nabla \times \varphi\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\Omega)}.$$

In addition, we introduce the spaces

$$\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{H}^1(\Pi)/\mathbb{R},$$

$$\mathbf{L}_0^2(\Omega) = \mathbf{L}^2(\Omega)/\mathbb{R},$$

$$\mathbf{H}_0^1(\operatorname{div}, \Omega) = \left\{ \varphi \in \mathbf{H}_0^1(\Omega) : \nabla \cdot \varphi = 0 \right\}.$$

Motivation

The mixed variational formulation for \mathbf{A} reads as: find $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbf{W}$ and $p \in L^2(\Omega)$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} (\sigma \partial_t \mathbf{A}, \boldsymbol{\varphi})_{\Theta(t)} + \mu_0^{-1} (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}, \nabla \times \boldsymbol{\varphi})_{\Omega} + \sigma_{\Pi} (\nabla \phi, \boldsymbol{\varphi})_{\Pi} \\ - \sigma_{\Sigma} (\mathbf{v} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}), \boldsymbol{\varphi})_{\Sigma(t)} + (p, \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\varphi})_{\Omega} = 0 \quad \forall \boldsymbol{\varphi} \in \mathbf{W}, \\ (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}, q)_{\Omega} = 0 \quad \forall q \in L^2(\Omega). \end{aligned}$$

Let V^h be a FE subspace of $L^2(\Omega)$. Since

$$\left(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}^h, q^h \right)_{\Omega} = 0, \quad \forall q^h \in V^h \quad \not\Rightarrow \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}^h = 0 \quad \text{in } L^2(\Omega),$$

in general, $\mathbf{A}^h \notin \mathbf{W}_0$. The solvability of the discretized system is not guaranteed.

Therefore, this approach is impractical.

Modified problem for \mathbf{A}

Based on the vector identity

$$\Delta \mathbf{A} = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}) - \nabla \times \nabla \times \mathbf{A},$$

we propose the following modified IBVP for the magnetic potential \mathbf{A}

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \sigma \partial_t \mathbf{A} - \mu_0^{-1} \Delta \mathbf{A} + \chi_{\Pi} \sigma \nabla \phi - \sigma \mathbf{v} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{0} & \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T), \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T), \\ \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{0} & \text{on } \partial\Omega \times (0, T), \\ [(\nabla \mathbf{A}) \mathbf{n}] = \mathbf{0} & \text{on } (\partial\Theta \setminus \Gamma) \times (0, T), \\ \mathbf{A}(\cdot, 0) = \mathbf{A}_0 & \text{in } \Theta(0). \end{array} \right.$$

Mixed variational formulation

Find $\phi \in Z$, $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbf{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ and $p \in L_0^2(\Omega)$ such that

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_{\Pi} (\nabla \phi, \nabla \psi)_{\Pi} + (j, \psi)_{\Gamma} &= 0, \\ (\sigma \partial_t \mathbf{A}, \boldsymbol{\varphi})_{\Theta(t)} + \mu_0^{-1} (\nabla \mathbf{A}, \nabla \boldsymbol{\varphi})_{\Omega} + \sigma_{\Pi} (\nabla \phi, \boldsymbol{\varphi})_{\Pi} \\ &\quad - \sigma_{\Sigma} (\mathbf{v} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}), \boldsymbol{\varphi})_{\Sigma(t)} + (p, \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\varphi})_{\Omega} = 0, \\ (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}, q)_{\Omega} &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

for any $\psi \in Z$, $\boldsymbol{\varphi} \in \mathbf{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ and any $q \in L_0^2(\Omega)$.

Theorem (Well-posedness)

Let us assume

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v} &\in \mathbf{C}^1(\bar{\Omega} \times [0, T]), & j &\in \text{Lip}([0, T], \mathbf{H}^{-1/2}(\Gamma)), \\ \mathbf{A}_0 &\in \mathbf{H}_0^1(\text{div}, \Omega) \cap \mathbf{H}^2(\Omega), & \Delta \mathbf{A}_0 &= \mathbf{0} \quad \text{on } \Omega \setminus \bar{\Theta}_0. \end{aligned}$$

Then, the mixed variational system admits exactly one solution (ϕ, \mathbf{A}, p) satisfying

$$\phi \in \text{Lip}([0, T], Z), \quad \mathbf{A} \in C([0, T], \mathbf{H}_0^1(\text{div}, \Omega)), \quad p \in L^2((0, T), L_0^2(\Omega)).$$

Proof: Using Brezzi's theorem combined with the Reynolds transport theorem

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\omega(t)} f \, d\mathbf{x} = \int_{\omega(t)} \partial_t f \, d\mathbf{x} + \int_{\partial\omega(t)} f \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, ds.$$

Space-time discretization

The time interval $[0, T]$ is partitioned into n equidistant subintervals with time step

$$\tau = \frac{T}{n}.$$

Let $U^h \subset Z$, $\mathbf{V}_0^h \subset \mathbf{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ and $V^h \subset L_0^2(\Omega)$ be FE spaces with projection operators

$$Q^h \in \mathcal{L}(Z, U^h), \quad \mathbf{P}^h \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{H}_0^1(\Omega), \mathbf{V}_0^h), \quad P^h \in \mathcal{L}(L_0^2(\Omega), V^h).$$

According to Céa's lemma, there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\psi - Q^h \psi\|_Z &\leq C \inf_{\psi^h \in U^h} \|\psi - \psi^h\|_Z, \\ \|q - P^h q\|_{L^2(\Omega)} &\leq C \inf_{q^h \in V^h} \|q - q^h\|_{L^2(\Omega)}, \\ \|\varphi - \mathbf{P}^h \varphi\|_{\mathbf{H}_0^1(\Omega)} &\leq C \inf_{\varphi^h \in \mathbf{V}_0^h} \|\varphi - \varphi^h\|_{\mathbf{H}_0^1(\Omega)}. \end{aligned}$$

Space-time discretization scheme

Let ϕ_i^h , \mathbf{A}_i^h and p_i^h be approximations of ϕ , \mathbf{A} and p at time $t_i := i\tau$. Moreover, we introduce

$$\delta \mathbf{A}_i^h = \frac{\mathbf{A}_i^h - \mathbf{A}_{i-1}^h}{\tau}, \quad \mathbf{A}_0^h = \mathbf{P}^h \mathbf{A}_0, \quad \Sigma_i = \Sigma(t_i), \quad \Theta_i = \Theta(t_i).$$

Find $\phi_i^h \in U^h$, $\mathbf{A}_i^h \in \mathbf{V}_0^h$ and $p_i^h \in V^h$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{\Pi} \left(\nabla \phi_i^h, \nabla \psi^h \right)_{\Pi} + \left(j_i, \psi^h \right)_{\Gamma} &= 0, \\ \left(\sigma_i \delta \mathbf{A}_i^h, \boldsymbol{\varphi}^h \right)_{\Theta_i} + \mu_0^{-1} \left(\nabla \mathbf{A}_i^h, \nabla \boldsymbol{\varphi}^h \right)_{\Omega} + \sigma_{\Pi} \left(\nabla \phi_i^h, \boldsymbol{\varphi}^h \right)_{\Pi} \\ &\quad - \sigma_{\Sigma} \left(\mathbf{v}_i \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}_i^h), \boldsymbol{\varphi}^h \right)_{\Sigma_i} + \left(p_i^h, \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\varphi}^h \right)_{\Omega} = 0, \\ \left(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A}_i^h, q^h \right)_{\Omega} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

for any $\psi^h \in U^h$, $\boldsymbol{\varphi}^h \in \mathbf{V}_0^h$, $q^h \in V^h$ and for any $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

Solvability of the discretized problem

Lemma (Solvability)

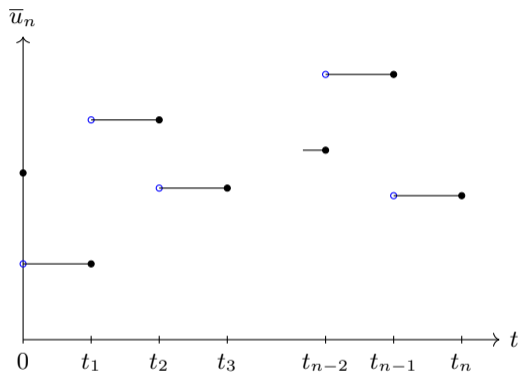
We assume that the discrete inf-sup condition is satisfied, i.e.

$$\sup_{\varphi^h \in \mathbf{V}_0^h, \varphi^h \neq \mathbf{0}} \frac{(\nabla \cdot \varphi^h, q^h)_\Omega}{\|\varphi^h\|_{\mathbf{H}_0^1(\Omega)}} \geq C \|q^h\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \quad \forall q^h \in V^h.$$

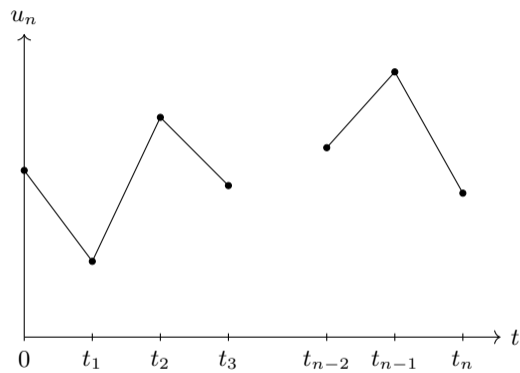
Then, for any $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, there exists a solution $(\phi_i^h, \mathbf{A}_i^h, p_i^h) \in U^h \times \mathbf{V}_0^h \times V^h$ to the discretized variational problem. Moreover, there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{1 \leq l \leq n} \|\nabla \delta \phi_l^h\|_{L^2(\Pi)}^2 + \max_{1 \leq l \leq n} \|p_l^h\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \max_{1 \leq l \leq n} \|\delta \mathbf{A}_l^h\|_{L^2(\Theta_l)}^2 \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^n \|\nabla \delta \mathbf{A}_i^h\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \tau + \sum_{i=1}^n \|\delta \mathbf{A}_i^h - \delta \mathbf{A}_{i-1}^h\|_{L^2(\Theta_{i-1})}^2 \leq C. \end{aligned}$$

Rothe's functions



$$\bar{u}_n(t) = u_i, \quad t \in (t_{i-1}, t_i].$$



$$u_n(t) = u_{i-1} + (t - t_{i-1})\delta u_i.$$

Discretized problem in the continuous sense

The following identities are valid for any $\psi^h \in U^h$, $\varphi^h \in \mathbf{V}_0^h$ and $q^h \in V^h$

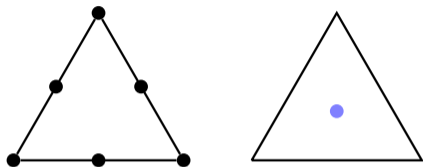
$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{\Pi} \left(\nabla \bar{\phi}_n^h, \nabla \psi^h \right)_{\Pi} + \left(\bar{j}_n, \psi^h \right)_{\Gamma} &= 0, \\ \left(\bar{\sigma}_n \partial_t \mathbf{A}_n^h, \varphi^h \right)_{\bar{\Sigma}_n} + \mu_0^{-1} \left(\nabla \bar{\mathbf{A}}_n^h, \nabla \varphi^h \right)_{\Omega} + \sigma_{\Pi} \left(\nabla \bar{\phi}_n^h, \varphi^h \right)_{\Pi} \\ &\quad - \sigma_{\Sigma} \left(\bar{\mathbf{v}}_n \times (\nabla \times \bar{\mathbf{A}}_n^h), \varphi^h \right)_{\bar{\Sigma}_n} + \left(\bar{p}_n^h, \nabla \cdot \varphi^h \right)_{\Omega} = 0, \\ \left(\nabla \cdot \bar{\mathbf{A}}_n^h, q^h \right)_{\Omega} &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem (Error estimates)

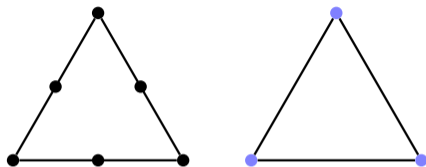
The following relations hold true for any $\xi \in [0, T]$

$$\begin{aligned} i. & \quad \left\| \nabla \bar{\phi}_n^h(\xi) - \nabla \phi(\xi) \right\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\Pi)}^2 \leq C \left(\tau^2 + \left\| \nabla \phi(\xi) - \nabla \mathbf{Q}^h \phi(\xi) \right\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\Pi)}^2 \right), \\ ii. & \quad \int_0^\xi \left\| \partial_t \mathbf{A}_n^h(t) - \partial_t \mathbf{A}(t) \right\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\Theta(t))}^2 dt + \left\| \nabla \mathbf{A}_n^h(\xi) - \nabla \mathbf{A}(\xi) \right\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\Omega)}^2 + \int_0^\xi \left\| \bar{p}_n^h(t) - p(t) \right\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \\ & \leq C \left(\tau + \left\| \nabla \mathbf{A}_0 - \nabla \mathbf{P}^h \mathbf{A}_0 \right\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\Omega)}^2 + \left\| \nabla \phi(\xi) - \nabla \mathbf{Q}^h \phi(\xi) \right\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\Pi)}^2 \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sqrt{\int_0^\xi \left\| p(t) - \mathbf{P}^h p(t) \right\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\Omega)}^2 dt} + \int_0^\xi \left\| \nabla \partial_t \mathbf{A}(t) - \nabla \mathbf{P}^h \partial_t \mathbf{A}(t) \right\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\Omega)}^2 dt \right). \end{aligned}$$

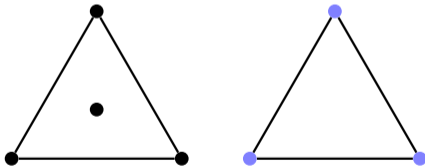
Some finite element pairs



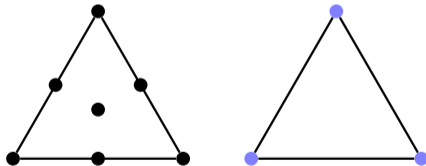
(a) $\mathcal{P}_2 - \mathcal{P}_0$ elements



(b) Taylor-Hood elements



(c) Mini elements



(d) $\mathcal{P}_{2b} - \mathcal{P}_1$ elements

Convergence rate for Taylor-Hood elements

Let

$$U^h = \mathcal{P}_1 \cap Z, \quad \mathbf{V}_0^h = (\mathcal{P}_2)^d \cap \mathbf{H}_0^1(\Omega) \quad \text{and} \quad V^h = \mathcal{P}_1 \cap L_0^2(\Omega).$$

In addition, we assume that

$$\phi \in \text{Lip}([0, T], Z) \cap C([0, T], H^2(\Pi)), \quad \mathbf{A} \in C([0, T], \mathbf{H}_0^1(\text{div}, \Omega)) \cap L^2((0, T), \mathbf{H}^2(\Omega)).$$

Then, there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| \nabla \bar{\phi}_n^h(\xi) - \nabla \phi(\xi) \right\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\Pi)}^2 \leq C(\tau^2 + h^2), \\ & \int_0^\xi \left\| \partial_t \mathbf{A}_n^h(t) - \partial_t \mathbf{A}(t) \right\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\Theta(t))}^2 dt + \left\| \nabla \mathbf{A}_n^h(\xi) - \nabla \mathbf{A}(\xi) \right\|_{\mathbf{L}^2(\Omega)}^2 \leq C(\tau + h^2). \end{aligned}$$

The convergence rate: $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{\tau} + h)$.

References and acknowledgement



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