

A recipe to couple two Finite Volume schemes for elliptic problems

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- 1 Introduction**
 - FV schemes for elliptic equations
 - Ideas and objectives
- 2 The generic coupling method**
 - Core elements of FV schemes for elliptic problems
 - Definition of the coupling
 - Study of convergence
- 3 Numerical results**

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Model problem

Elliptic linear equation:

$$\begin{cases} -\operatorname{div}(A\nabla u) = f & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = g & \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{cases}$$

- Ω bounded polygonal open set of \mathbb{R}^d ,
- $A : \Omega \rightarrow M_N(\mathbb{R})$ bounded uniformly elliptic tensor,
- $f \in L^2(\Omega)$, $g \in H^{1/2}(\partial\Omega)$.

Remark: also possible: convection terms, less regular right-hand side, etc.

2-points Finite Volume schemes

Advantages

- ▶ good properties (conservation of fluxes, maximum principle)
- ▶ no complex geometric function to compute, accept generic grid elements
- ▶ cost-effective and easy to implement

Drawbacks

- ▶ the mesh must satisfy orthogonality conditions depending on the diffusion tensor A .
- ▶ strong non-linearity not obvious to handle

“Advanced” FV schemes

(VF-Hybrid, MultiPoint Flux Approximation, Discrete Duality Finite Volume, Mixed Finite Volume, etc... also: Discontinuous Galerkin, Mimetic Finite Difference...)

Advantages

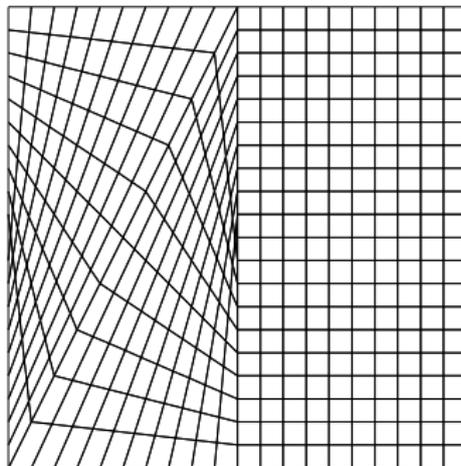
- ▶ nearly any kind of grid
- ▶ anisotropic, heterogeneous diffusion tensor
- ▶ sometimes even strongly non-linear problems

Drawbacks

- ▶ loss of good properties (mainly the maximum principle)
- ▶ very expensive (number of unknowns)

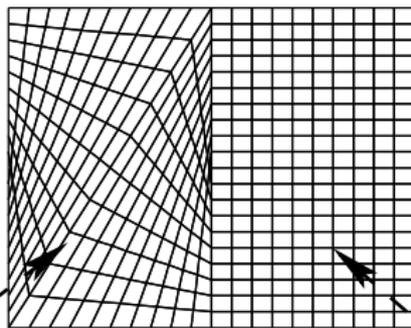
“Advanced” FV schemes built to accept anisotropy or non-admissible grids.

These issues are however not necessarily spread throughout the domain Ω :



Ideas

Idea 1 (not original): use a simple scheme where possible, and a complex scheme only where necessary.

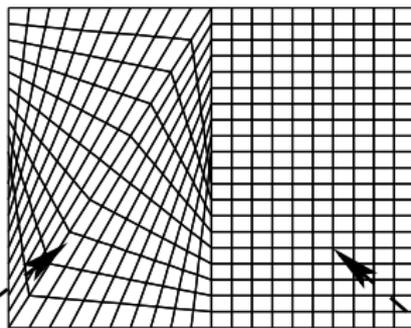


Complex scheme, capable of
handling a non-admissible grid

Simple scheme,
cost effective

Ideas

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Complex scheme, capable of
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Idea 2 (a little bit more original?): do this in a systematic way.

About mixing two schemes for a single equation...

- Quarteroni-Valli 1999 (Domain Decomposition)
 - Lazarov-Pasciak-Vassilevski 1999 (MFE+FV) [*FVCA2*]
 - Achdou-Japhet-Maday-Nataf 2002 (mortar for FV)
-
- ▶ Mainly performed on specific schemes, using their precise expressions.
 - ▶ No reflexion, especially for FV methods, on a mixing based on generic properties and principles of the schemes.

Objectives

- ▶ Extract the “core” elements of FV methods:
 - basic *unknowns* and *relations* used to write the schemes
 - basic *properties* proved on the schemes to study their convergence.

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Objectives

- ▶ Extract the “core” elements of FV methods:
 - basic *unknowns* and *relations* used to write the schemes
 - basic *properties* proved on the schemes to study their convergence.
 - ▶ Using only the core unknowns and relations: find a way to couple two FV schemes (each one being applied in a subregion of Ω).
 - ▶ Using only the core properties of the schemes: study the convergence of the coupling of the schemes.
- ↪ *generic coupling method working with many FV schemes.*

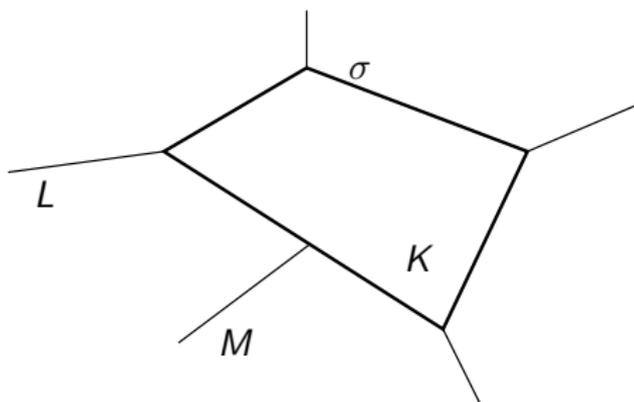
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Core unknowns of FV schemes for $-\operatorname{div}(A\nabla u) = f$

Mesh: partition \mathcal{M} of Ω in polygonal control volumes K .

- ▶ \mathcal{E}_K set of edges σ of K .
- ▶ \mathcal{E}_{int} and \mathcal{E}_{ext} interior and boundary edges.



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- ▶ \mathcal{E}_{int} and \mathcal{E}_{ext} interior and boundary edges.

Unknowns: approximate values...

- $(u_K)_K$ of the solution in the control volumes,
- $(u_\sigma)_\sigma$ of the solution on the boundary edges \mathcal{E}_{ext} ,
- $(F_{K,\sigma})_{K,\sigma}$ of the flux $\int_\sigma A\nabla u \cdot \mathbf{n}_{K,\sigma}$.

In some schemes, some of these unknowns can be directly eliminated and/or other unknowns can be needed.

Core relations of FV schemes for $-\operatorname{div}(A\nabla u) = f$

Conservativity of the fluxes:

$$F_{K,\sigma} + F_{L,\sigma} = 0 \quad \text{for all } \sigma \text{ between } K \text{ and } L$$

Balance of fluxes:

$$-\sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}_K} F_{K,\sigma} = \int_K f \quad \text{for all } K$$

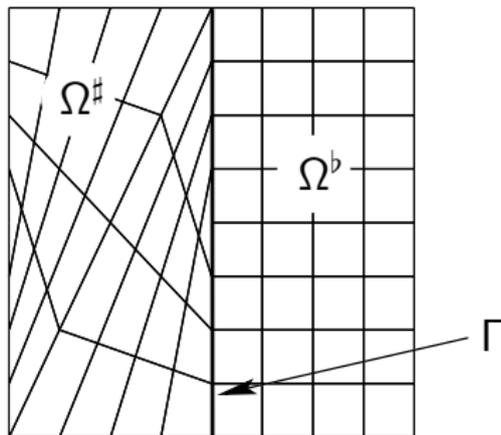
Boundary conditions:

$$u_\sigma = \int_\sigma g \quad \text{for all } \sigma \in \mathcal{E}_{\text{ext}}$$

Definition of the coupling of two schemes S^b and S^\sharp

Setting:

- ▶ Ω cut in two: $\Omega = \Omega^b \sqcup \Omega^\sharp$
- ▶ \mathcal{M}^b mesh on Ω^b , adapted to a FV scheme S^b .
- ▶ \mathcal{M}^\sharp mesh on Ω^\sharp , adapted to a FV scheme S^\sharp .
- ▶ the edges of \mathcal{M}^b and \mathcal{M}^\sharp are the same on $\Gamma = \partial\Omega^b \cap \partial\Omega^\sharp$.



Definition of the coupling of two schemes S^b and S^\sharp

Equations inside each subdomain:

▶ The equations of S^b on \mathcal{M}^b , of S^\sharp on \mathcal{M}^\sharp .

$\rightsquigarrow 2 \times \text{Card}(\{\sigma \subset \Gamma\})$ equations cannot be written: boundary equations on Γ for each schemes.

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Equations coupling the schemes:

▶ No jump of the solution at Γ :

$$u_\sigma^b = u_\sigma^\sharp \quad \text{for all } \sigma \subset \Gamma$$

▶ conservativity of the fluxes:

$$F_{K,\sigma}^b + F_{L,\sigma}^\sharp = 0 \quad \text{for all } \sigma \subset \Gamma \text{ between } K \in \mathcal{M}^b \text{ and } L \in \mathcal{M}^\sharp.$$

Works with other kinds of schemes, if they have fluxes...

“FV technique of proof”

Find an adequate discrete H^1 (semi-)norm: multiply the left-hand side of the flux balance by u_K .

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▶ Compactness of the approximate solution, convergence in L^2 up to a subsequence to a function $\bar{u} \in H^1$.

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▶ Compactness of the approximate solution, convergence in L^2 up to a subsequence to a function $\bar{u} \in H^1$.

Convergence: take φ regular, multiply the flux balance by $\varphi_K \approx \varphi$ on K , and perform discrete integrate-by-parts.

▶ \bar{u} is the solution to the PDE.

Technique also efficient for non-linear equations, coupled systems with low regularity on the solutions, etc.

Discrete H^1 semi-norm

We denote $U = (u_K, F_{K,\sigma}, u_\sigma)$ the vector of core unknowns.

$$|U|_S^2 = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}_{\text{int}}} F_{K,\sigma}(u_L - u_K) + \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}_{\text{ext}}} F_{K,\sigma}(u_\sigma - u_K) \quad (1)$$

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Definition (Property N)

A scheme S satisfies Property N if, for any solution U , the right-hand side of (1) is indeed non-negative, and if $U = 0$ as soon as $|U|_S$ and one u_σ are zero.

Proposition

If S^b and S^\sharp satisfy Property N, then the coupling $S^b - S^\sharp$ has one and only one solution $U^{b\sharp}$.

A priori estimates ($g = 0$)

Definition (Properties P_Λ and T)

Let $\Lambda \subset \partial\omega$. A scheme S on ω satisfies Property P_Λ or T if there exists C such that, for any solution $U = (u_K, F_{K,\sigma}, u_\sigma)$,

$$\|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq C|U|_S + C\|t(U)\|_{L^2(\Lambda)} \quad (\text{Property } P_\Lambda)$$

$$\|t(U)\|_{L^2(\partial\Omega)} \leq C|U|_S + C\|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \quad (\text{Property T}).$$

with $t(U) = (u_\sigma)_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}_{\text{ext}}}$.

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with $t(U) = (u_\sigma)_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}_{\text{ext}}}$.

Proposition

If S^b satisfies Property $P_{\partial\Omega^b \setminus \Gamma}$ and if

- $S^\#$ satisfies Property $P_{\partial\Omega^\# \setminus \Gamma}$, or
- $S^\#$ satisfies Properties $P_{\partial\Omega^\#}$ and S^b satisfies Property T

then the L^2 and discrete H^1 norms of $U^{b\#}$ are bounded.

Convergence

Definition (Properties C and L)

A couple $(S, (\mathcal{M}_n)_{n \geq 1})$ of scheme/discretizations on ω satisfies Property C if $\text{size}(\mathcal{M}_n) \rightarrow 0$ and, with U_n solution to S on \mathcal{M}_n , if $(\|U_n\|_S + \|u_n\|_{L^2})_n$ is bounded then, up to a subsequence, $u_n \rightarrow \bar{u}$ and $t(U_n) \rightarrow \gamma(\bar{u})$ weakly in L^2 , with $\bar{u} \in H^1$.

It satisfies Property L if, moreover, for all regular φ ,

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}_{\text{int}}^n} F_{K,\sigma}(\varphi_L - \varphi_K) + \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}_{\text{ext}}^n} F_{K,\sigma}(\varphi_\sigma - \varphi_K) \rightarrow \int A \nabla \bar{u} \cdot \nabla \varphi.$$

Proposition

If $(S^b, (\mathcal{M}_n^b)_{n \geq 1})$ and $(S^\sharp, (\mathcal{M}_n^\sharp)_{n \geq 1})$ satisfy Properties C and L, then $U^{b\sharp}$ converges to the solution of the PDE.

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Framework

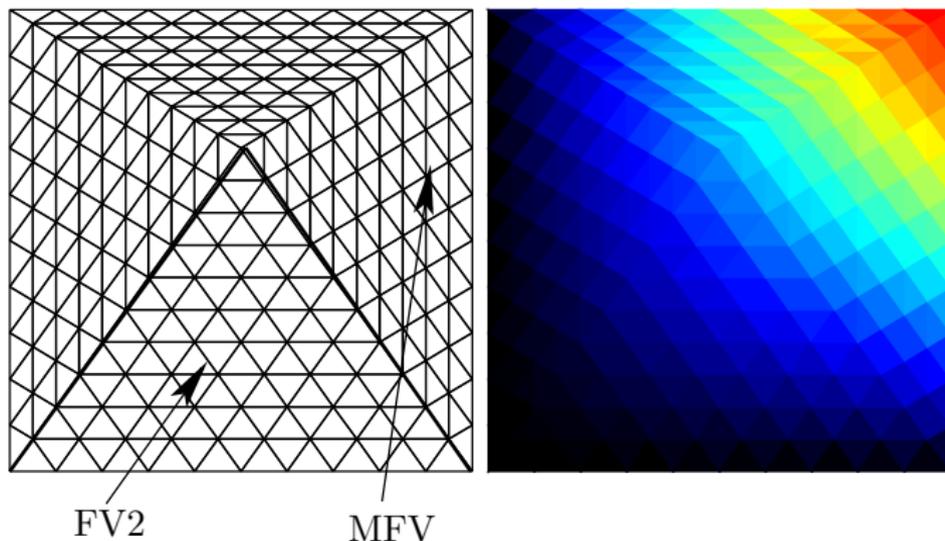
Following numerical tests realized by coupling:

- ▶ Standard 2-point Finite Volume scheme (FV2).
- ▶ Mixed Finite Volume scheme (MFV) [“advanced” scheme].

Qualitative behavior of the coupling

Equation: $-\Delta u = f$ on $\Omega = (0, 1)^2$

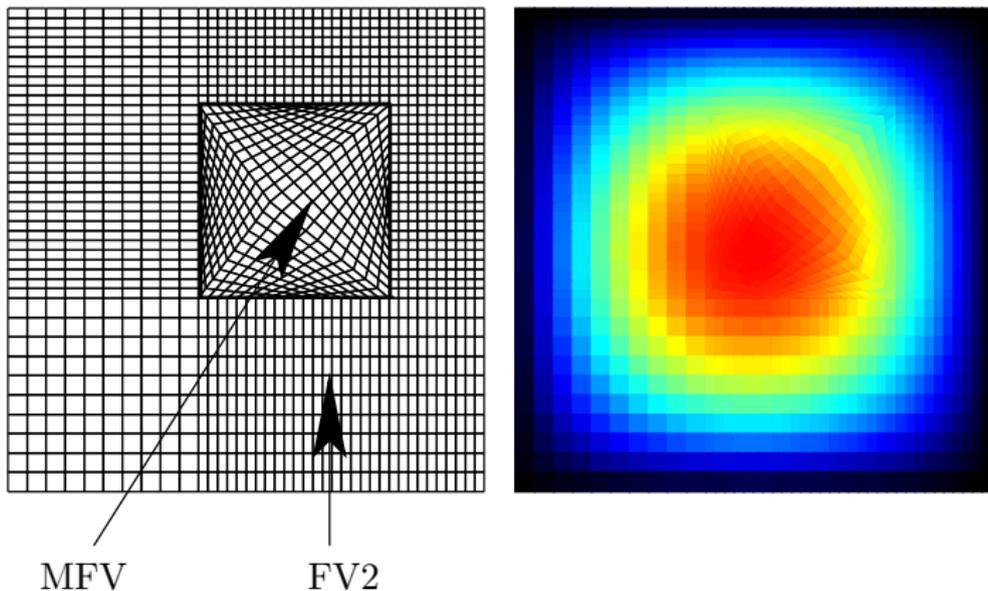
Exact solution: $u(x, y) = \sin(xy)$.



Visually completely similar to the pure MFV scheme

Equation: $-\Delta u = f$ on $\Omega = (0, 1)^2$

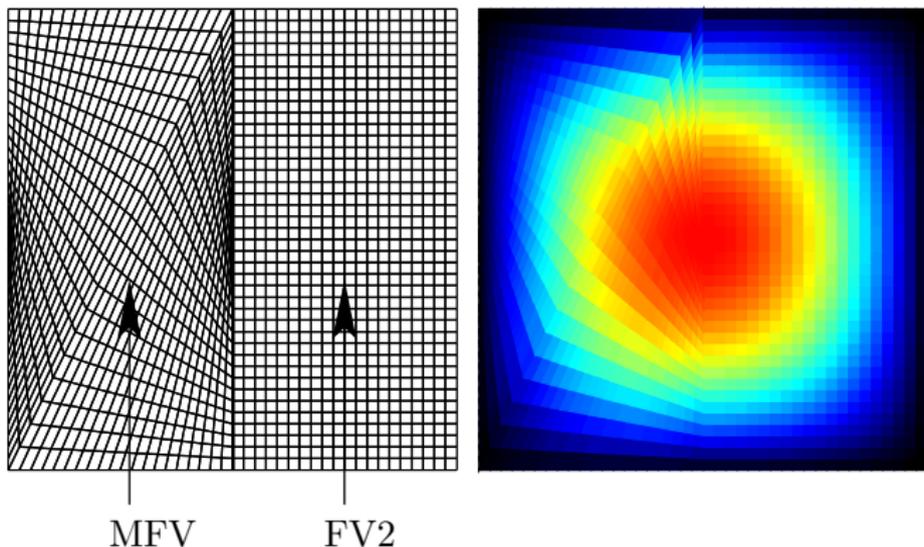
Exact solution: $u(x, y) = x(1 - x)y(1 - y)$.



Equation: $-\operatorname{div}(A\nabla u) + \operatorname{div}(Vu) = f$ on $\Omega = (0, 1)^2$ with:

- $A = Id$ in the FV2 zone.
- $A(x, y) = R_{2\pi x} \begin{pmatrix} 0.1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} R_{2\pi x}^T$ in the MFV zone.
- $V(x, y) = 10(-y, x)$.

Exact solution: $u(x, y) = x(1-x)y(1-y)$.



Comparison of the number of unknowns and errors

Triangular grids ($\approx -8\%$ unknowns):

| MFV | | | Coupling MFV-FV2 | | |
|-------|---------|------------|------------------|---------|------------|
| #UNK | L^2 | L^∞ | #UNK | L^2 | L^∞ |
| 14900 | 5.76E-4 | 1.15E-3 | 13725 | 6.04E-4 | 1.15E-3 |
| 33600 | 2.56E-4 | 5.12E-4 | 30900 | 2.68E-4 | 5.12E-4 |
| 59800 | 1.44E-4 | 2.88E-4 | 54950 | 1.51E-4 | 2.88E-4 |

Quadrangular grids, "well" ($\approx -35\%$ unknowns):

| MFV | | | Coupling MFV-FV2 | | |
|-------|---------|------------|------------------|---------|------------|
| #UNK | L^2 | L^∞ | #UNK | L^2 | L^∞ |
| 19800 | 2.75E-4 | 3.38E-4 | 12600 | 2.92E-4 | 3.37E-4 |
| 43512 | 1.25E-4 | 1.54E-4 | 29032 | 1.26E-4 | 1.49E-4 |
| 79600 | 6.98E-5 | 8.63E-5 | 50200 | 7.31E-5 | 8.99E-5 |

A remark on singularities

Equation: $-\operatorname{div}(A\nabla u) = f$ with $u(x, y) = x^2$ and

$$A = k_1 \mathbf{1}_{x < 0.5} + k_2 \mathbf{1}_{x \geq 0.5}.$$

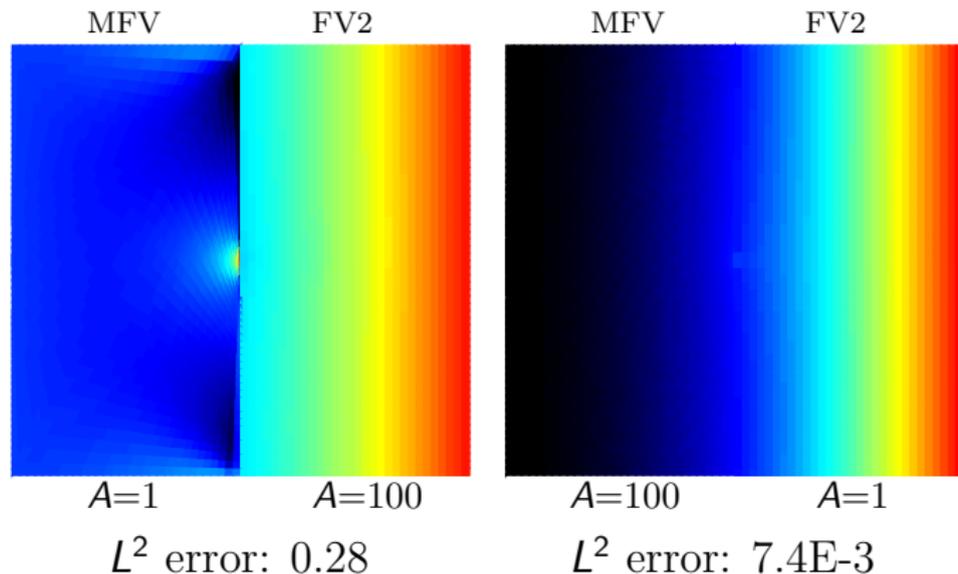
► f is singular: measure on $x = 0.5$, put in the left domain.

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► f is singular: measure on $x = 0.5$, put in the left domain.



Conclusion

- ▶ Generic coupling method, using only the core elements of FV schemes, not their particular expression.
- ▶ Convergence of the coupling ensured by properties satisfied by each scheme separately (*if you know your scheme, you do not need to make a specific study of the coupling*).
- ▶ Gain of computational cost, no degradation of the qualitative and quantitative convergence properties.
- ▶ The solution of the coupling can be computed by an iterative process, using pre-existing “black boxes” implementations of each scheme.