A mixed finite element method for nonlinear magnetostatics

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1. Motivation

2. Magnetostatics The primal formulation

3. Mixed formulation

Finite element spaces Linearization Hybridization Postprocessing B-field

4. Summary/Outlook

Motivation





Relevance:

- Automotive industry
- Parameter studies, shape optimization of motors
- Torque computation of electric motors

Figure: Cross section of a permanent magnet synchronous machine (PMSM)

Motivation





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Challenges:

- Anisotropic nonlinear material laws
- Rotating geometries
- Non-smooth coefficients
- Fast, reliable, accurate simulations

Maxwell's equations for magnetostatics

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 \blacktriangleright Let $\Omega\subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ be a simply connected domain and consider Maxwell's equations

 $\operatorname{curl} H = J$ (Ampere Law) $\operatorname{div} B = 0$ (Gauss Law) $n \cdot B = 0$ on $\partial \Omega$

Nonlinear material law

$$H = f'(B)$$
 or $B = g'(H)$

Here f and g are the energy/coenergy densities.

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Nonlinear material law

$$H = f'(B)$$
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Here f and g are the energy/coenergy densities. Further, we have



- Coil, air and shaft : $g'(H) = \mu H$
- Magnets : $g'(H) = \widetilde{\mu}H M$
- ▶ Iron : g'(H)



Functional analytical setting: For $v = (v_1, v_2)$ and q, let

$$\operatorname{curl} v = \partial_x v_2 - \partial_y v_1 \qquad \operatorname{Curl} q = (\partial_y q, -\partial_x q)^\top$$
$$H(\operatorname{curl}, \Omega) = \{ v \in L^2(\Omega)^2 \mid \operatorname{curl} v \in L^2(\Omega) \}$$
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Substituting leads to

$$\operatorname{curl}(f'(\operatorname{Curl} A)) = J \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

 $A = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial \Omega$



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Weak formulation:

Find $A \in H_0(\operatorname{Curl}, \Omega)$: $(f'(\operatorname{Curl} A), \operatorname{Curl} v) = (J, v) \quad \forall v \in H_0(\operatorname{Curl}, \Omega)$



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Theorem

Assume f satisfies:

- $\blacktriangleright \ f \in C^1(\Omega)$
- ► f' Lipschitz continuous

• f' is strongly monotonic (coercive), i.e. $(f'(x) - f'(y))(x - y) \ge c|x - y|^2$

Then the system above admits a unique solution.

1960 - Zarantonello - Solving functional equations by contractive averaging.



Find $A_h \in V_h \subset H(\operatorname{Curl}, \Omega)$: $(f'(\operatorname{Curl} A_h), \operatorname{Curl} v_h) = (J, v_h) \quad \forall v_h \in V_h \subseteq H_0(\operatorname{Curl}, \Omega)$

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▶ The diescrete problem admits a unique solution as well.



Remarks:

- Used as a standard in solving magnetostatics. (FEMM)
- Linearizing with Newton, each step requires the solution of an elliptic problem.
- Line search for the equivalent minimization problem $\min_{A \in H_0^1(\Omega)} \int_{\Omega} f(\operatorname{curl} A)$
- Provable convergence orders



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▶ But ...

- ▶ If $V_h = P_1(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H_0^1(\Omega)$, then *B* and *H* are only approximated in $P_0(\mathcal{T}_h)$, which are actually the quantities of interest, in general.
- The physical Ampere law is only satisfied in a weak sense, while the material law is satisfied pointwise on the discrete level.

$$\operatorname{curl}(\overbrace{f'(\underbrace{\operatorname{Curl} A}_B)}^H) = J$$

• We do not have access to either $t \cdot H$ or $n \cdot B$ across element interfaces.



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$$(g'(H), v) - (A, \operatorname{curl} v) + (A, n \times v)_{\Gamma} = 0$$
$$(\operatorname{curl} H, q) = (J, q)$$



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1992 - Barba, Marini, Savini - Mixed finite elements in magnetostatics.



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- 1992 Barba, Marini, Savini Mixed finite elements in magnetostatics.
- The solution of the variational formulation solves

$$\min_{H \in H(\operatorname{curl},\Omega)} \int_{\Omega} g(H) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \operatorname{curl} H = J$$



Variational formulation

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Discrete variational formulation

Find
$$H_h \in V_h \subseteq H(\operatorname{curl}, \Omega)$$
 and $A_h \in Q_h \subseteq L^2(\Omega)$:
 $(g'(H_h), v_h) - (A_h, \operatorname{curl} v_h) = 0 \qquad \forall v_h \in V_h$
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Theorem

Assume g satisfies:

- $\blacktriangleright \ g \in C^1(\Omega)$
- ► g' Lipschitz continuous
- g' is strongly monotonic (coercive), i.e. $(g'(x) g'(y))(x y) \ge c|x y|^2$

Further assume (V_h, Q_h) form a stable inf-sup pair.

Then the system above admits a unique solution.

Finite element spaces



▶ Finite element spaces on reference elements.







 $\begin{aligned} V_h(T) &= \mathcal{N}_1(T) \\ Q_h(T) &= P_1(T) \end{aligned}$

▶ 1980 - Nedelec - Mixed finite elements in \mathbb{R}^3

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Theorem

For $V_h = \mathcal{N}_k(\mathcal{T}_h) \cap H(\operatorname{curl}, \Omega)$ and $Q_h = \mathcal{P}_k(\mathcal{T}_h)$, we have

$$||H - H_h||_{H(\operatorname{curl})} + ||A - A_h||_{L^2} \le Ch^k$$

where (H_h, A_h) and (H, A) solve the continuous and discrete problems, resp.

- 1992 Monk Analysis of a finite element method for Maxwell's equations
- 1993 Monk An analysis of Nedelec's method for spatial discretization of Maxwell's equations

Linearization



▶ We use the Newton method: Construct sequences $(H_h^n, A_h^n)_{n \ge 1}$ with

$$(H_{h}^{n+1}, A_{h}^{n+1}) = (H_{h}^{n}, A_{h}^{n}) - \tau^{n}(\delta H_{h}^{n}, \delta A_{h}^{n})$$

where (H_h^n, A_h^n) solve

Find $\delta H_h^n \in V_h \subseteq H(\operatorname{curl}, \Omega)$ and $\delta A_h^n \in Q_h \subseteq L^2(\Omega)$: $(g''(H_h^n)\delta H_h^n, v_h) - (\delta A_h^n, \operatorname{curl} v_h) = (g'(H_h^n), v_h) \quad \forall v_h \in V_h$ $(\operatorname{curl} \delta H_h^n, q_h) = (J, q_h) \quad \forall q_h \in Q_h$

Existence and uniqueness of solutions for each linearized system follows from the assumptions on g and the fact that V_h and Q_h form a stable pair in the context of Brezzi theory.

 \blacktriangleright We choose τ^n by using Armijo Backtracking. This guarantees global convergence for the Newton method.



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▶ Relax the H(curl)-continuity by using hybridization.

Find $\delta H_h^n \in V_h^{di}, \delta A_h^n \in Q_h$ and $\widehat{\delta A_h^n} \in L_h$ for all $T \in \mathcal{T}_h$: $(g''(H_h^n)\delta H_h^n, v_h)_T - (\delta A_h^n, \operatorname{curl} v_h)_T + (\widehat{\delta A_h^n}, [n \times v_h])_F = (g'(\delta A_h^n), v_h)_T \forall v_h \in V_h^{di}$ $(\operatorname{curl} \delta H_h^n, q_h)_T = (J, q_h) \quad \forall q_h \in Q_h$ $([n \times \delta H_h^n], \mu_h)_F = 0 \quad \forall \mu_h \in L_h$



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▶ We can now proceed to eliminate both δH_h and δA_h algebraically, which yields a symmetric positive definite system for the Lagrange multiplier $\widehat{\delta A_h}$ alone.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathsf{M} & -\mathsf{B}^\top & \mathsf{L}^\top \\ \mathsf{B} & 0 & 0 \\ \mathsf{L} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \delta \mathsf{h} \\ \delta \mathsf{a} \\ \delta \widehat{\mathsf{a}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathsf{r} \\ \mathsf{j} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



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$$\begin{pmatrix} -\mathsf{B}\mathsf{M}^{-1}\mathsf{B}^\top & \mathsf{B}\mathsf{M}^{-1}\mathsf{L}^\top \\ -\mathsf{L}\mathsf{M}^{-1}\mathsf{B}^\top & \mathsf{L}\mathsf{M}^{-1}\mathsf{L}^\top \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \delta \mathsf{a} \\ \delta \widehat{\mathsf{a}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathsf{B}\mathsf{M}^{-1}\mathsf{r} - \mathsf{j} \\ \mathsf{L}\mathsf{M}^{-1}\mathsf{r} \end{pmatrix}$$



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$$\left(-\mathsf{L}\mathsf{M}^{-1}\mathsf{L}^{\top}+\mathsf{L}\mathsf{M}^{-1}\mathsf{B}^{\top}(\mathsf{B}\mathsf{M}^{-1}\mathsf{B}^{\top})^{-1}\mathsf{B}\mathsf{M}^{-1}\mathsf{L}^{\top}\right)\delta\widehat{\mathsf{a}}=\ldots$$

Algorithmic framework



- ▶ (1) Start with initial guesses H_h^0 , A_h^0 .
- (2) For $n \ge 0$ assemble the system

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and reduce it to a s.p.d. system in $\widehat{\delta A_h^n}$ alone.

- (3) Solve for $\widehat{\delta A_h^n}$
- ▶ (4) From $\widehat{\delta A_h^n}$, compute δH_h^n and δA_h^n from local systems
- \blacktriangleright (5) Compute the step size τ_n by Armijo backtracking and apply the update

$$(H_{h}^{n+1}, A_{h}^{n+1}) = (H_{h}^{n}, A_{h}^{n}) - \tau^{n}(\delta H_{h}^{n}, \delta A_{h}^{n})$$

▶ (6) If tolerance is achieved, stop. Otherwise jump to (2).

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and reduce it to a s.p.d. system in $\widehat{\delta A_h^n}$ alone. This is fast!

- (3) Solve for $\delta \widehat{A}_h^n$ This is where most of the computational time is spent!
- ▶ (4) From $\delta \widehat{A_h^n}$, compute δH_h^n and δA_h^n from local systems This is fast!
- \blacktriangleright (5) Compute the step size τ_n by Armijo backtracking and apply the update

$$(H_h^{n+1}, A_h^{n+1}) = (H_h^n, A_h^n) - \tau^n (\delta H_h^n, \delta A_h^n)$$

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Let's look at the equations again:

$$\begin{split} B &= g'(H) \\ \operatorname{div} B &= 0 \\ B \cdot n &= 0 \quad \text{ on } \partial \Omega \end{split}$$



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Integration by parts

$$(B, w) - (\ell, \operatorname{div} w) + (\ell, n \cdot w)_{\Gamma} = (g'(H), w)$$
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Discrete variational formulation

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$$B_h \in W_h \subseteq H_0(\operatorname{div}, \Omega)$$
 and $\ell_h \in Z_h \subseteq L^2(\Omega)$:
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▶ We now have both $H_h \in H(\operatorname{curl}, \Omega)$ and $B_h \in H_0(\operatorname{div}, \Omega)$



▶ While $H_h \in H(\operatorname{curl}, \Omega)$, we just have $B_h := g'(H_h) \in L^2(\Omega)$.

Let's look at the equations again:

$$\begin{split} B + \nabla \boldsymbol{\ell} &= g'(H) \\ \operatorname{div} B &= 0 \\ B \cdot n &= 0 \quad \text{ on } \partial \Omega \end{split}$$

Discrete variational formulation

Find
$$B_h \in W_h \subseteq H_0(\operatorname{div}, \Omega)$$
 and $\ell_h \in Z_h \subseteq L^2(\Omega)$:
 $(B_h, w_h) - (\ell_h, \operatorname{div} w_h) = (g'(H_h), w_h) \quad \forall w_h \in W_h$
 $(\operatorname{div} B_h, z_h) = 0 \quad \forall z_h \in Z_h$

 \blacktriangleright Existence \checkmark , Uniqueness \checkmark . Can be solved efficiently by hybridization.

- ▶ We now have both $H_h \in H(\operatorname{curl}, \Omega)$ and $B_h \in H_0(\operatorname{div}, \Omega)$
- ► A discrete B_h can also be constructed locally from \widehat{A}_h and the fields H_h , $A_{h_{15/16}}$

Why mixed? Outlook



- Why use the mixed formulation over the primal one?
 - We approximate the constitutive laws exactly, while the material laws are only imposed weakly.
 - Direct access to $t \cdot H$ and $n \cdot B$ along interfaces.
 - Better handling of jumping coefficients.
 - Stator-rotor coupling by mortaring is automatically covered.



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However...

- Larger system matrices, but better stencils.
- Further improvement of the stencil possible through numerical integration and clever choices of basis functions.
- Number of Newton iterations?
- Fair time-to-solution simulations needed...