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Approximation of Elliptic Control Problems in Measure Spaces with Sparse Solutions

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A joint work with Christian Clason and Karl Kunisch (University of Graz)



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Setting of the Control Problem (P)

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$$\min_{u \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)} J(u) = \frac{1}{2} \|y - y_d\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 + \alpha \|u\|_{\mathcal{M}(\Omega)},$$

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with $c_0 \in L^{\infty}(\Omega)$ and $c_0 \geq 0$. We assume that $\alpha > 0$, $y_d \in L^2(\Omega)$ and Ω is a bounded domain in \mathbb{R}^n , n = 2 or 3, which is supposed to either be convex or have a $C^{1,1}$ boundary Γ . The controls are taken in the space of regular Borel measures $\mathcal{M}(\Omega)$.

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$$||u||_{\mathcal{M}(\Omega)} = \sup_{||z||_{C_0(\Omega)} \le 1} \langle u, z \rangle = \sup_{||z||_{C_0(\Omega)} \le 1} \int_{\Omega} z(x) \, du = |u|(\Omega)$$



Related Papers

•C. Clason and K. Kunisch: "A duality-based approach to elliptic control problems in non-reflexive Banach spaces", ESAIM Control Optim. Calc. Var., 17:1 (2011), pp. 243–266.

•E.C., R. Herzog and G. Wachsmuth: "Optimality conditions and error analysis of semilinear elliptic control problems with L^1 cost functional". Submitted.

•G. Stadler: "Elliptic optimal control problems with L^1 -control cost and applications for the placement of control devices", Comp. Optim. Appls., 44:2 (2009), pp. 159–181.

•D. Wachsmuth and G. Wachsmuth: "Convergence and regularization results for optimal control problems with sparsity functional", ESAIM Control Optim. Calc. Var. 2010, DOI: 10.1051/cocv/2010027.



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The State Equation

Given a measure $u \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega),$ we say that y is a solution to the state equation if

$$\int_{\Omega} (-\Delta z + c_0 z) y \, dx = \int_{\Omega} z \, du$$

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It is well known that there exists a unique solution in this sense. Moreover, $y\in W^{1,p}_0(\Omega)$ for every $1\le p<\frac{n}{n-1}$ and

$$\|y\|_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} \le C_p \|u\|_{\mathcal{M}(\Omega)}$$

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then

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha \|\bar{u}\|_{\mathcal{M}(\Omega)} &+ \int_{\Omega} \bar{\varphi} \, d\bar{u} = 0, \\ \left\{ \begin{split} \|\bar{\varphi}\|_{C_0(\Omega)} &= \alpha \quad \text{ if } \bar{u} \neq 0, \\ \|\bar{\varphi}\|_{C_0(\Omega)} &\leq \alpha \quad \text{ if } \bar{u} = 0. \end{split} \right. \end{aligned}$$

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• Let us assume that Ω is convex and $\{\mathcal{T}_h\}_{h>0}$ is a regular triangulation of Ω satisfying an inverse assumption.



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• Discrete States:

 $Y_h = \{ y_h \in C(\bar{\Omega}) \mid y_{h|T} \in \mathcal{P}_1, \text{ for all } T \in \mathcal{T}_h, \text{ and } y_h = 0 \text{ on } \bar{\Omega} \setminus \Omega_h \},\$



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• Discrete State Equation:

$$\begin{cases} \text{Find } y_h \in Y_h \text{ such that, for all } z_h \in Y_h, \\ \int_{\Omega_h} [\nabla y_h \nabla z_h + c_0 y_h z_h] \, dx = \int_{\Omega_h} z_h \, du. \end{cases}$$





The Approximation (\mathbf{P}_h)

$$(\mathsf{P}_h) \qquad \min_{u \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)} J_h(u_h) = \frac{1}{2} \|y_h - y_d\|_{L^2(\Omega_h)}^2 + \alpha \|u\|_{\mathcal{M}(\Omega)},$$

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Since we have not discretized the control space, this approach is related to the variational discretization method introduced by Hinze. We will show that among all the solutions to (P_h) there is a unique one which is a finite linear combination of Dirac measures concentrated in the interior vertices of the triangulation, leading to a simple numerical implementation.



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$$D_h = \left\{ u_h \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega) : u_h = \sum_{j=1}^{N(n)} \lambda_j \delta_{x_j}, \text{ where } \{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^{N(h)} \subset \mathbb{R} \right\}$$



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$$D_h = Y'_h$$
, $\langle u_h, y_h \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^{N(h)} \lambda_j y_j$ $\forall u_h \in D_h$, $\forall y_h \in Y_h$.



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Two Linear Operators

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• There exist a constant C > 0 such that for every $u \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)$

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THEOREM 3 Problem (P_h) admits at least one solution. Among them there exists a unique one \bar{u}_h belonging to D_h . Moreover, any other solution $\tilde{u}_h \in \mathcal{M}(\Omega)$ of (P_h) satisfies that $\Lambda_h \tilde{u}_h = \bar{u}_h$.





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REMARK 1 The fact that (P_h) has exactly one solution in D_h is of practical interest. Indeed, recall that, as an element of D_h , \bar{u}_h has a unique representation of the form

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 and $\|\bar{u}_h\|_{\mathcal{M}(\Omega)} = \sum_{j=1}^{N(h)} |\bar{\lambda}_j|$

Then, the numerical computation of \bar{u}_h is reduced to the computation of the coefficients $\{\bar{\lambda}_j\}_{j=1}^{N(h)}$.



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THEOREM 4 For every h > 0, let \bar{u}_h be the unique solution to (P_h) belonging to D_h and let \bar{u} be the solution to (P). Then, the following convergence properties hold for $h \rightarrow 0$:

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$$\begin{split} \bar{u}_h &\stackrel{*}{\rightharpoonup} \bar{u} \quad \text{in } \mathcal{M}(\Omega) \\ \|\bar{u}_h\|_{\mathcal{M}(\Omega)} &\to \|\bar{u}\|_{\mathcal{M}(\Omega)} \\ \|\bar{y} - \bar{y}_h\|_{L^2(\Omega)} &\to 0 \end{split}$$





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$$\|\bar{u}_{h}\|_{\mathcal{M}(\Omega)} \to \|\bar{u}\|_{\mathcal{M}(\Omega)}$$
$$\|\bar{y} - \bar{y}_{h}\|_{L^{2}(\Omega)} \to 0$$
$$J_{h}(\bar{u}_{h}) \to J(\bar{u})$$

where \bar{y} and \bar{y}_h are the continuous and discrete states associated to \bar{u} and \bar{u}_h , respectively.



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Some Error Estimates

Assumption:

$$y_d \in L^r(\Omega)$$
 with $r = \begin{cases} 4 & \text{if } n = 2\\ \frac{8}{3} & \text{if } n = 3 \end{cases}$





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THEOREM 5 There exists a constant C > 0 independent of h such that

$$|J(\bar{u}) - J_h(\bar{u}_h)| \le Ch^{\kappa}$$

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THEOREM 6 There exists a constant C > 0 independent of h such that

$$\|\bar{y} - \bar{y}_h\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \le Ch^{\frac{\kappa}{2}}$$





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Computational Results

 $\bullet \Omega_h = \Omega = [-1, 1]^2.$

- \bullet Uniform triangulation arising from $N\times N$ equidistributed nodes.
- N = 128 ($h \approx 0.0157$), $c_0 = 0$, and $\alpha = 10^{-2}$.

• $y_d = 10 \exp(-50 ||x||^2).$







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Optimal Control \bar{u}_h



Dependence of $||u_h||_{M(\Omega)}$ on penalty parameter α



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Convergence order for the functionals

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Convergence order for the states



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