

# A posteriori error estimators for high-order FEM applied to 1D reaction-diffusion equations

*Ded. to Michal Křížek on his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday*

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# Introduction

## Model problem

$$\mathcal{L}u := -\varepsilon^2 u'' + cu = f \quad \text{in } (0, 1), \quad u(0) = u(1) = 0.$$

$0 < \varepsilon \ll 1, c \geq \gamma^2$  on  $[0, 1], \gamma > 0$

- boundary/interior layers

**Goal:** *maximum-norm a posteriori error estimators*

$$\|(u - u_h)\|_\infty \leq \eta(\text{data}, u_h)$$

of interpolation type

$$\eta(\text{data}, u_h) = C_r h_i^\kappa \|D^\kappa u_h\|_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]} + \text{osc}$$

# Introduction

**Renewed motivation:** FEM for parabolic problems

$$u_t - \varepsilon^2 u_{xx} + cu = f \quad \text{in } (0, 1) \times (0, T].$$

- general framework:  
elliptic reconstruction
  - Nocetto, Makridakis, Akrivis, Lakkis
  - Kopteva, Linß
- elliptic estimators (for stationary problems)
- estimators for temporal discretisation
  - Euler
  - Crank-Nicolson
  - dG(r)

# Outline

- variational formulation
- Green's functions
- FE-discretisation
- a posteriori error analysis
- numerical results

# Variational formulation

**Boundary value problem:**

$$\mathcal{L}u := -\varepsilon^2 u'' + cu = f \quad \text{in } (0, 1), \quad u(0) = u(1) = 0$$

**Variational formulation:** Find  $u \in V := H_0^1(0, 1)$  such that

$$a(u, v) = f(v) \quad \forall v \in V$$

with

$$a(u, v) := \varepsilon^2(u', v') + (cu, v), \quad f(v) := (f, v) := \int_0^1 fv$$

# Green's function

$\mathcal{G} : [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{with}$

$$v(x) = a(v, \mathcal{G}(x, \cdot)) \quad \forall v \in V \text{ and } x \in (0, 1)$$

“ $\iff$ ”

$$[v \rightarrow u - u_\Delta]$$

$$v(x) = \int_0^1 (\mathcal{L}v)(\xi) \mathcal{G}(x, \xi) d\xi$$

Characterisation:

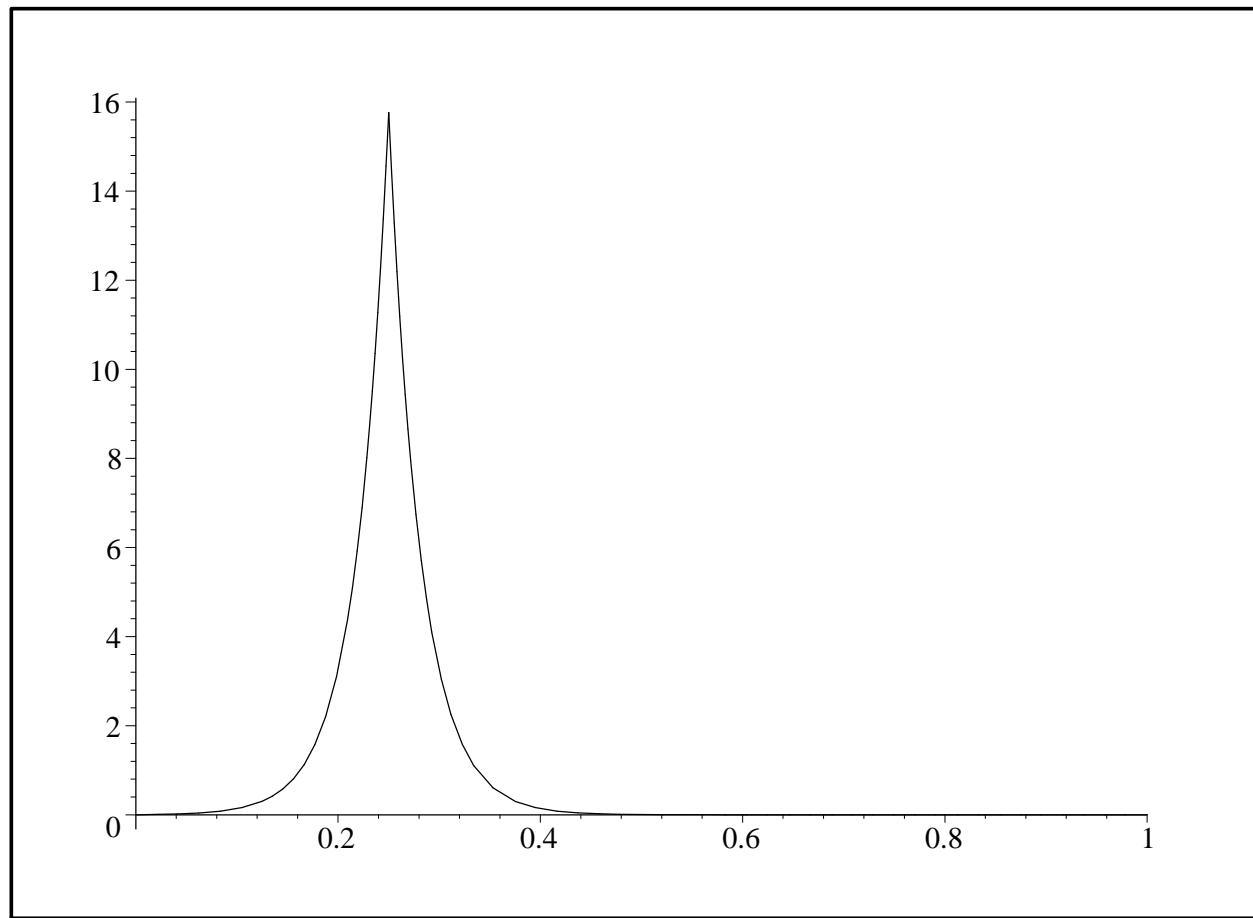
$$(\mathcal{L}\mathcal{G}(\cdot, \xi))(x) = \delta(x - \xi) \quad x \in (0, 1), \quad \mathcal{G}(0, \xi) = \mathcal{G}(1, \xi) = 0$$

$$(\mathcal{L}^*\mathcal{G}(x, \cdot))(\xi) = \delta(\xi - x), \quad \xi \in (0, 1), \quad \mathcal{G}(x, 0) = \mathcal{G}(x, 1) = 0$$

$$\dots \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}^* \implies \mathcal{G}(x, \xi) = \mathcal{G}(\xi, x)$$

# Green's function

$\mathcal{G}(x, \cdot), \varepsilon^2 = 10^{-3}$



# Green's function

**Pointwise bounds:**

$$0 \leq \mathcal{G}(x, \xi) \leq \frac{e^{-\gamma|x-\xi|/\varepsilon}}{2\varepsilon\gamma}$$

and

$$\mathcal{G}_\xi(x, \xi) \geq 0 \quad \text{for } \xi < x,$$

$$\mathcal{G}_\xi(x, \xi) \leq 0 \quad \text{for } x < \xi.$$

# Green's function

**$L_1$ -bounds:**

$$\int_0^1 c(\xi) \mathcal{G}(x, \xi) d\xi \leq 1,$$

$$\int_0^1 |\mathcal{G}_\xi(x, \xi)| d\xi = 2\mathcal{G}(x, x) \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon\gamma}$$

and

$$\varepsilon^2 \int_0^1 |\mathcal{G}_{\xi\xi}(x, \xi)| d\xi \leq 2.$$

# FEM discretisation

**Mesh:**  $\Delta : 0 = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_N = 1,$   
 $J_i := [x_{i-1}, x_i], \quad h_i := x_i - x_{i-1}.$

**FE:** piecewise  $\Pi_r, C^0$ , bc's

$$\mathcal{S}_{r,0}^0(\Delta) := \left\{ v \in H_0^1(0,1) : v|_{J_i} \in \Pi_r, \quad i = 1, \dots, N \right\}$$

**Galerkin FEM:** Find  $u_\Delta \in V_r = \mathcal{S}_{r,0}^0(\Delta)$  such that

$$a(u_\Delta, v) = f(v) \quad \forall v \in V_r.$$

→ quadrature is essential

# FEM discretisation

**Lagrange Interpolation:** sub mesh on  $[0, 1] \rightarrow J_i$

$$0 \leq t_0 < t_1 < \cdots < t_r \leq 1.$$

$I_r^L : v \in C_0[0, 1] \mapsto I_r^L v \in \mathcal{S}_r^0(\Delta)$  with

$$I_r^L v(x_i + t_j h_i) = v(x_i + t_j h_i), \quad i = 1, \dots, N, \quad j = 0, \dots, r.$$

Then  $(w, v) \approx (w, v)_\Delta := (I_r^L w, v),$

**FEM with quadrature:** Find  $u_\Delta \in V_r$  such that

$$a_\Delta(u_\Delta, v) := \varepsilon^2(u'_h, v') + (cu_\Delta, v)_\Delta = (f, v)_\Delta \quad \forall v \in V_r,$$

# FEM, a posteriori analysis

**Error in point**  $x \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\Gamma := \mathcal{G}(x, \cdot)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}(u - u_\Delta)(x) &= a(u - u_\Delta, \Gamma) = (f, \Gamma) - a(u_\Delta, \Gamma) \\ &= (f, \Gamma) - (f, I_r^M \Gamma)_\Delta - a(u_\Delta, \Gamma) + a_\Delta(u_\Delta, I_r^M \Gamma)\end{aligned}$$

**Special interpolant:**  $I_r^M : v \in C_0[0, 1] \mapsto I_r^M v \in V_r$  with

$$I_r^M v(x_i) = v(x_i), \quad i = 0, \dots, N,$$

and

$$\int_{J_i} (I_r^M v - v)(\xi) \pi(\xi) d\xi = 0 \quad \forall \pi \in \Pi_{r-2}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N.$$

# FEM, a posteriori analysis

Then

$$(u - u_\Delta)(x) = \underbrace{(f - cu_\Delta, \Gamma)}_{=: q} - \underbrace{(f - cu_\Delta, I_r^M \Gamma)_\Delta}_{= (I_r^L q, I_r^M \Gamma)}$$

**Error representation:**

$$(u - u_\Delta)(x_k) = (q - I_r^L q, \Gamma) - (I_r^L q, \Gamma - I_r^M \Gamma)$$

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Then

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First term: interpolation error/data oscillations

$$\left| (q - I_r^L q, \Gamma) \right| \leq \left\| \frac{q - I_r^L q}{c} \right\|_\infty \Rightarrow \textit{sampling}$$

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Then

$$(u - u_\Delta)(x) = \underbrace{(f - cu_\Delta, \Gamma)}_{=: q} - \underbrace{(f - cu_\Delta, I_r^M \Gamma)_\Delta}_{= (I_r^L q, I_r^M \Gamma)}$$

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# FEM, a posteriori analysis

Taylor:

$$(I_r^L q)(\xi) = \sum_{j=0}^r \frac{(I_r^L q)^{(j)}_{i-1/2}}{j!} (\xi - x_{i-1/2})^j$$

# FEM, a posteriori analysis

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$$\begin{aligned} & (-1)^{r+1} \int_{J_i} (I_r^L q)(\xi) (\Gamma - I_r^M \Gamma)(\xi) d\xi \\ &= \frac{(I_r^L q)^{(r)}_{i-1/2}}{(2r+1)!} \int_{J_i} \frac{d^{r-1}}{d\xi^{r-1}} \left( p_{r,i}(\xi) (\xi - x_{i-1/2}) \right) \Gamma''(\xi) d\xi \\ &+ \frac{(I_r^L q)^{(r-1)}_{i-1/2}}{(2r)!} \int_{J_i} \frac{d^{r-1}}{d\xi^{r-1}} p_{r,i}(\xi) \Gamma''(\xi) d\xi, \end{aligned}$$

$$p_{r,i}(\xi) := (\xi - x_i)^r (\xi - x_{i-1})^r$$

# FEM, a posteriori analysis

## Constants

$$\alpha_r := \max_{\xi \in [0,1]} \left| \frac{d^{r-1}}{d\xi^{r-1}} \left( \xi^r (\xi - 1)^r \right) \right|$$

$$\beta_r := \max_{\xi \in [0,1]} \left| \frac{d^{r-1}}{d\xi^{r-1}} \left( \xi^r (\xi - 1)^r (\xi - 1/2) \right) \right|$$

Then,

$$\left\| \frac{d^{r-1}}{d\xi^{r-1}} \left( p_{r,i}(\xi) (\xi - x_{i-1/2}) \right) \right\|_{\infty, J_i} \leq \beta_i h_i^{r+2}$$

$$\left\| \frac{d^{r-1}}{d\xi^{r-1}} p_{r,i}(\xi) \right\|_{\infty, J_i} \leq \alpha_i h_i^{r+1}$$

# FEM, a posteriori analysis

## Constants

	$\alpha_r$	$\beta_r$
$r = 1$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{36}$
$r = 2$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{9}$	$\frac{1}{16}$
$r = 3$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{(3\sqrt{30}+9)\sqrt{525-70\sqrt{3}}}{2450}$
$r = 4$	$\frac{(12\sqrt{30}+36)\sqrt{525-70\sqrt{3}}}{1225}$	$\frac{3}{8}$
$r = 5$	$\frac{15}{4}$	$\approx 1.434081520$

# FEM, a posteriori analysis

$$(I_r^L q)_{i-1/2}^{(r-1)}, (I_r^L q)_{i-1/2}^{(r)} : \quad q_{i-(r+\ell)/r} := q(x_{i-1} + t_\ell h_i), \quad t_\ell = \ell/r$$

$$D_-^{r-1} q_i := \left(\frac{r}{h_i}\right)^{r-1} \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} \binom{r-1}{j} (-1)^j q_{i-(1+j)/r}$$

$$D_+^{r-1} q_i := \left(\frac{r}{h_i}\right)^{r-1} \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} \binom{r-1}{j} (-1)^j q_{i-j/r}.$$

$$(I_r^L q)_{i-1/2}^{(r-1)} = \frac{D_+^{r-1} q_i + D_-^{r-1} q_i}{2}$$

$$(I_r^L q)_{i-1/2}^{(r)} = \frac{r (D_+^{r-1} q_i - D_-^{r-1} q_i)}{h_i}$$

# FEM, a posteriori analysis

**Theorem 1.**

$$\begin{aligned} \|u - u_\Delta\|_\infty &\leq \left\| \frac{q - I_r^L q}{c} \right\|_\infty \\ &+ \max_{i=1,\dots,N} \left\{ \frac{h_i^{r+1}}{\varepsilon^2} \left( \frac{\alpha_r}{(2r)!} \left| D_+^{r-1} q_i + D_-^{r-1} q_i \right| \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. + \frac{2r\beta_r}{(2r+1)!} \left| D_+^{r-1} q_i - D_-^{r-1} q_i \right| \right) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

# FEM, a posteriori analysis

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**Remark:** If  $c$  and  $f$  smooth, then

$$\lim_{h_i \rightarrow 0} \left| D_+^{r-1} q_i - D_-^{r-1} q_i \right| = 0$$

# FEM, a posteriori analysis

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**Remark:**  $q \hat{=} \varepsilon^2 u''_\Delta \Rightarrow D_+^{r-1} q, D_-^{r-1} q \hat{=} \varepsilon^2 D^{r+1} u_\Delta$

Interpolation:

$$\|u - I_r^L u\|_{J_i} \leq C h_i^{r+1} \|u^{(r+1)}\|_{J_i}$$

# FEM, a posteriori analysis

**Theorem 1.**

$$\begin{aligned} \|u - u_\Delta\|_\infty &\leq \left\| \frac{q - I_r^L q}{c} \right\|_\infty \\ &+ \max_{i=1,\dots,N} \left\{ \frac{h_i^{r+1}}{\varepsilon^2} \left( \frac{\alpha_r}{(2r)!} \left| D_+^{r-1} q_i + D_-^{r-1} q_i \right| \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. + \frac{2r\beta_r}{(2r+1)!} \left| D_+^{r-1} q_i - D_-^{r-1} q_i \right| \right) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

**Remark:** On a badly adapted mesh:  $\eta \sim \varepsilon^{-2}$ ,  
but  $\|u - u_\Delta\|_\infty \leq C$

# FEM, a posteriori analysis

**alternative estimate:** trade  $h_i$  for  $\varepsilon^{-1}$

$$\begin{aligned} & (I_r^L q)_{i-1/2}^{(r)} \int_{J_i} \frac{d^{r-1}}{d\xi^{r-1}} \left( p_{r,i}(\xi) (\xi - x_{i-1/2}) \right) \Gamma''(\xi) d\xi \\ &= - (I_r^L q)_{i-1/2}^{(r)} \int_{J_i} \frac{d^r}{d\xi^r} \left( p_{r,i}(\xi) (\xi - x_{i-1/2}) \right) \Gamma'(\xi) d\xi, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & (I_r^L q)_{i-1/2}^{(r-1)} \int_{J_i} \frac{d^{r-1}}{d\xi^{r-1}} p_{r,i}(\xi) \Gamma''(\xi) d\xi \\ &= - (I_r^L q)_{i-1/2}^{(r-1)} \int_{J_i} \frac{d^r}{d\xi^r} p_{r,i}(\xi) \Gamma'(\xi) d\xi \end{aligned}$$

# FEM, a posteriori analysis

**Theorem 1'.**

$$\begin{aligned} \|u - u_\Delta\|_\infty &\leq \left\| \frac{q - I_r^L q}{c} \right\|_\infty \\ &+ \frac{2}{(2r)!} \max_{i=1,\dots,N} h_i^{r+1} \left[ \bar{\alpha}_r \left| D_+^{r-1} q_i + D_-^{r-1} q_i \right| \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{r}{2r+1} \bar{\beta}_r \left| D_+^{r-1} q_i - D_-^{r-1} q_i \right| \right]. \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\bar{\alpha}_r := \min \left\{ \frac{2\alpha_r}{\varepsilon^2}, \frac{r!}{h_i \varepsilon \gamma} \right\}, \quad \bar{\beta}_r := \min \left\{ \frac{2\beta_r}{\varepsilon^2}, \frac{r!}{2h_i \varepsilon \gamma} \right\}$$

# Numerical results

$$-\varepsilon^2 u''(x) + (1 + x^2 + \cos x) u(x) = e^{-x}, \quad u(0) = u(1) = 0.$$

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Bakhvalov mesh,  $r = 5$ ,  $\varepsilon = 10^{-8}$ :

$N$	$\ u - u_\Delta\ _\infty$	rate	$\eta_I$	$\eta_D$	$\eta$	eff
$2^8$	2.753e-12	5.99	8.512e-19	1.104e-11	1.104e-11	4.012
$2^9$	4.344e-14	5.99	1.331e-20	8.824e-14	8.824e-14	2.031
$2^{10}$	6.820e-16	6.00	2.081e-22	1.375e-15	1.375e-15	2.015
$2^{11}$	1.068e-17	6.00	3.252e-24	2.144e-17	2.144e-17	2.007
$2^{12}$	1.671e-19	6.00	5.082e-26	3.348e-19	3.348e-19	2.003
$2^{13}$	2.613e-21	6.00	7.941e-28	5.229e-21	5.229e-21	2.001
$2^{14}$	4.084e-23	6.00	1.241e-29	8.169e-23	8.169e-23	2.001
$2^{15}$	6.382e-25	6.00	1.939e-31	1.276e-24	1.276e-24	2.000
$2^{16}$	9.972e-27	—	3.029e-33	1.994e-26	1.994e-26	2.000

# Numerical results

$$-\varepsilon^2 u''(x) + (1 + x^2 + \cos x) u(x) = e^{-x}, \quad u(0) = u(1) = 0.$$

Bakhvalov mesh,  $r = 10$ ,  $\varepsilon = 10^{-8}$ :

$N$	$\ u - u_\Delta\ _\infty$	rate	$\eta_I$	$\eta_D$	$\eta$	eff
$2^8$	1.566e-21	10.96	2.918e-28	1.493e-20	1.493e-20	9.538
$2^9$	7.840e-25	10.98	1.462e-31	7.469e-24	7.469e-24	9.527
$2^{10}$	3.877e-28	10.99	7.228e-35	3.691e-27	3.691e-27	9.522
$2^{11}$	1.905e-31	11.00	3.552e-38	1.813e-30	1.813e-30	9.520
$2^{12}$	9.330e-35	11.00	1.740e-41	8.881e-34	8.881e-34	9.518
$2^{13}$	4.563e-38	11.00	8.509e-45	4.343e-37	4.343e-37	9.518
$2^{14}$	2.230e-41	11.00	4.158e-48	2.122e-40	2.122e-40	9.517
$2^{15}$	1.089e-44	11.00	2.031e-51	1.037e-43	1.037e-43	9.517
$2^{16}$	5.319e-48	—	9.920e-55	5.062e-47	5.062e-47	9.517

# Numerical results

$$-\varepsilon^2 u''(x) + (1 + x^2 + \cos x) u(x) = x^{3/2} + e^{-x}, \quad u(0) = u(1) = 0.$$

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Bakhvalov mesh,  $r = 7$ ,  $\varepsilon = 10^{-8}$ :

$N$	$\ u - u_\Delta\ _\infty$	rate	$\eta_I$	$\eta_D$	$\eta$	eff
$2^8$	2.943e-07	1.52	2.943e-07	6.343e-06	6.637e-06	22.548
$2^9$	1.028e-07	1.53	1.028e-07	2.115e-06	2.218e-06	21.569
$2^{10}$	3.555e-08	1.56	3.555e-08	6.881e-07	7.236e-07	20.357
$2^{11}$	1.205e-08	1.61	1.205e-08	2.160e-07	2.280e-07	18.920
$2^{12}$	3.949e-09	1.69	3.949e-09	6.438e-08	6.833e-08	17.304
$2^{13}$	1.220e-09	1.84	1.220e-09	1.780e-08	1.902e-08	15.594
$2^{14}$	3.418e-10	2.06	3.418e-10	4.411e-09	4.752e-09	13.903
$2^{15}$	8.203e-11	2.40	8.203e-11	9.300e-10	1.012e-09	12.338
$2^{16}$	1.555e-11	—	1.555e-11	1.549e-10	1.704e-10	10.959

# Numerical results

$$-\varepsilon^2 u''(x) + (1 + x^2 + \cos x) u(x) = x^{3/2} + e^{-x}, \quad u(0) = u(1) = 0.$$

Adaptive algorithm,  $r = 7$ ,  $\varepsilon = 10^{-8}$ :

$N$	$\ u - u_\Delta\ _\infty$	rate	$\eta_I$	$\eta_D$	$\eta$	eff	K
$2^8$	9.130e-16	5.91	1.467e-16	4.606e-15	4.753e-15	5.2	16
$2^9$	1.522e-17	11.41	4.000e-18	1.076e-16	1.116e-16	7.3	7
$2^{10}$	5.587e-21	8.77	1.031e-19	2.827e-20	1.314e-19	23.5	8
$2^{11}$	1.279e-23	8.05	2.273e-21	5.604e-23	2.329e-21	182.2	8
$2^{12}$	4.816e-26	4.98	1.769e-23	6.188e-25	1.831e-23	380.1	9
$2^{13}$	1.528e-27	10.60	8.918e-27	9.763e-27	1.868e-26	12.2	12
$2^{14}$	9.817e-31	7.03	1.398e-28	9.326e-30	1.491e-28	151.9	11
$2^{15}$	7.537e-33	9.43	1.230e-30	1.178e-31	1.347e-30	178.8	11
$2^{16}$	1.094e-35	—	3.463e-33	7.680e-35	3.540e-33	323.5	12
		8.27	7.32	8.21	7.53		

# Outlook

- reaction-diffusion in 1D,  
theoretical results & numerical experiments ☺
- adaptivity, mesh equidistribution (preliminary results)
- reaction-convection-diffusion

$$-\varepsilon u'' + \nu b u' + c u = f$$

(SD)FEM ☺

- time-dependent problems
  - theory: ☺ (with Natalia Kopteva)
  - numerical validation: in progress

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Thank you.