

FEniCS Course

Lecture 19: FEniCS implementation

Contributors

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FENICS
PROJECT

Key steps (linear PDEs)

- 1 Formulate linear variational problem: $a(u, v) = L(v)$
- 2 Assemble linear system: $A = A(a)$ and $b = b(L)$
- 3 Solve linear system: $U = A^{-1}b$

Key steps (nonlinear PDEs)

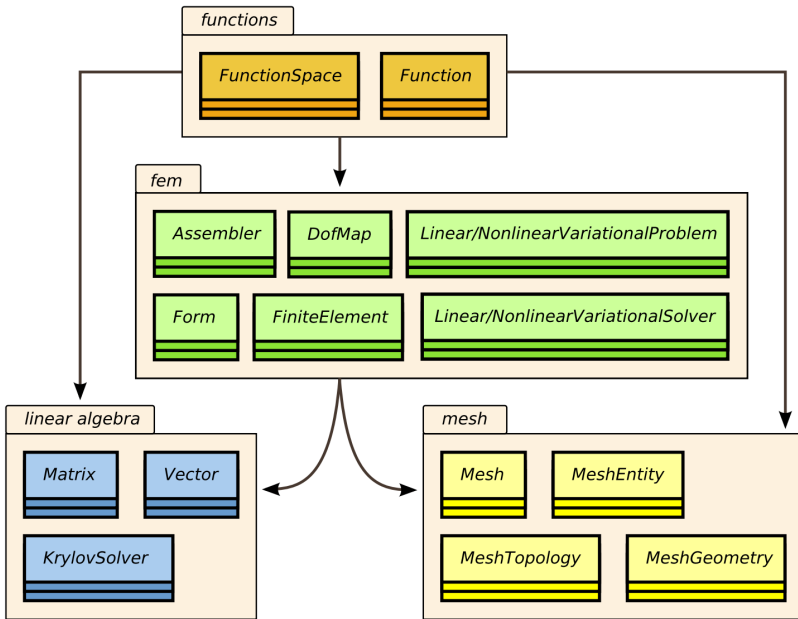
- 1 Formulate variational problem: $F(u) = 0$
- 2 Differentiate variational problem: $F' = \partial F / \partial u$
- 3 Solve nonlinear system:
 - 1 Assemble linear system: $A = A(F')$ and $b = b(F)$
 - 2 Solve linear system: $\delta U = -A^{-1}b$
 - 3 Update: $U \leftarrow U + \delta U$

Key steps for linear and nonlinear PDEs

- ① Assemble linear system
- ② Solve linear system

Key data structures

- Meshes: Mesh
- Sparse matrices and vectors:
Matrix, Vector, PETScMatrix, PETScVector
- Functions: Function
- Dof maps: DofMap



Key algorithms

- Assembling linear systems: `Assembler`
 - Mapping degrees of freedom: `DofMapBuilder`
 - Computing the element (stiffness) matrix:
`ufc::tabulate_tensor`
 - Sparse matrix inseration: `Matrix.add()`
- Solving linear systems:
`LinearSolver`, `PETScKrylovSolver`

Mesh data structure

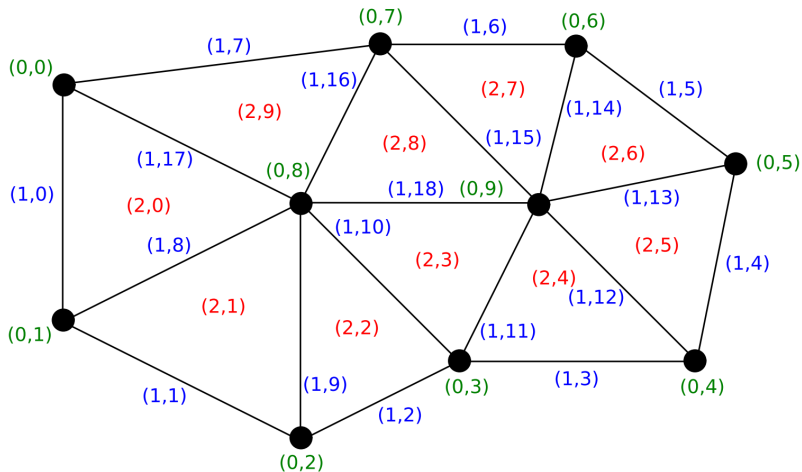
Separate mesh data into *topology* (connectivity) and *geometry* (coordinates).

From `dolfin/mesh/Mesh.h`:

C++ code

```
class Mesh
{
public:
    ...
private:
    MeshTopology _topology;
    MeshGeometry _geometry;
};
```


Mesh entities



Mesh topology

From dolfin/mesh/MeshTopology.h:

C++ code

```
class MeshTopology
{
public:
    ...
private:
    std::vector<std::vector<MeshConnectivity> >
        connectivity;
};
```

Mesh connectivity

From dolfin/mesh/MeshConnectivity.h:

C++ code

```
class MeshConnectivity
{
public:
    ...
private:
    std::vector<unsigned int> _connections;
    std::vector<unsigned int> _offsets;
};
```

Sparse matrix data structure

Sparse matrices in FEniCS are delegated to PETSc (or some other linear algebra backend).

Can otherwise be implemented using CRS (Compressed Row Storage):

C++ code

```
class Matrix
{
public:
    ...
private:
    double* data;
    unsigned int* cols;
    unsigned int* offsets;
};
```

Computing the sparse matrix A

- $a = a(u, v)$ is a bilinear form (form of arity 2)
- A is a sparse matrix (tensor of rank 2)

$$A_{ij} = a(\phi_j, \phi_i)$$

Note reverse order of indices!

Naive assembly algorithm

$A = 0$

for $i = 1, \dots, N$

for $j = 1, \dots, N$

$$A_{ij} = a(\phi_j, \phi_i)$$

end for

end for

The element matrix

The global matrix A is defined by

$$A_{ij} = a(\phi_j, \phi_i)$$

The *element matrix* A_T is defined by

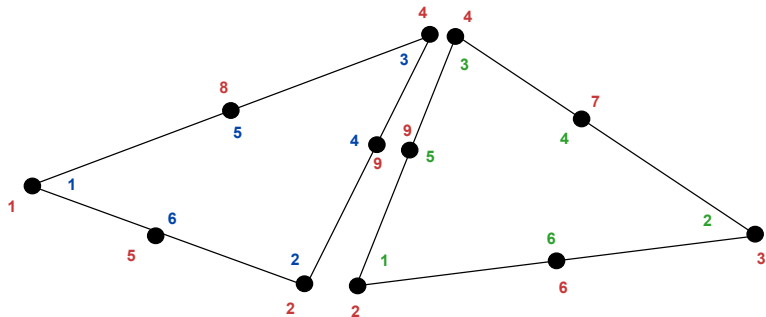
$$A_{T,ij} = a_T(\phi_j^T, \phi_i^T)$$

The local-to-global mapping

The global matrix ι_T is defined by

$$I = \iota_T(i)$$

where I is the *global index* corresponding to the *local index* i



The assembly algorithm

$A = 0$

for $T \in \mathcal{T}$

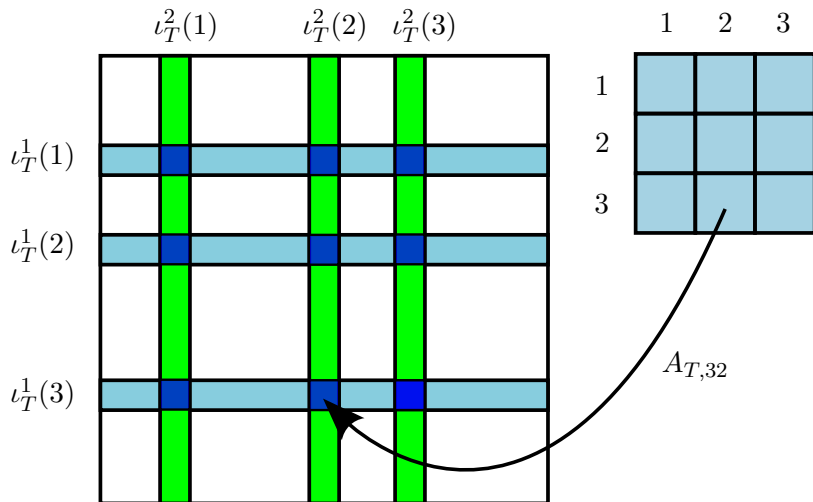
 Compute the element matrix A_T

 Compute the local-to-global mapping ι_T

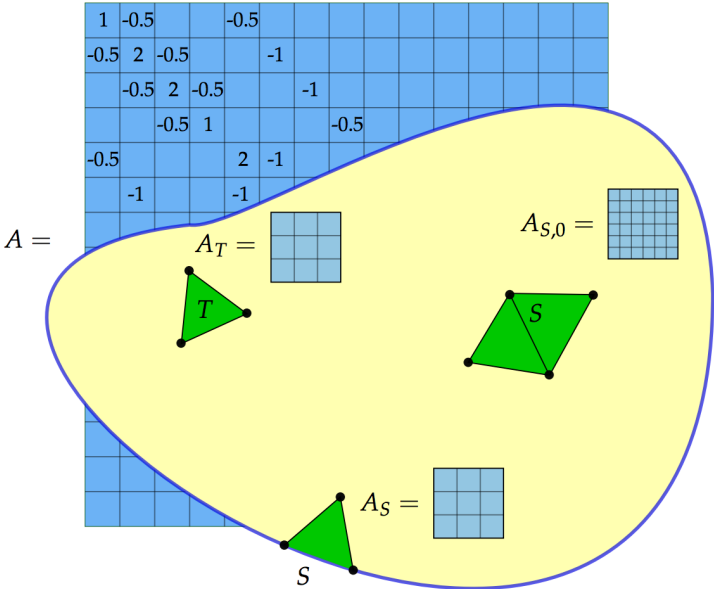
 Add A_T to A according to ι_T

end for

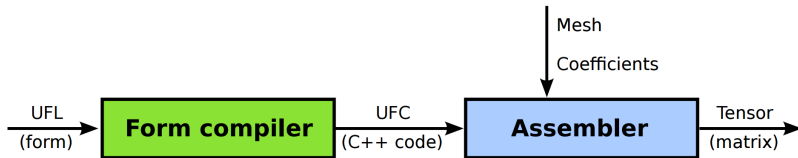
Adding the element matrix A_T



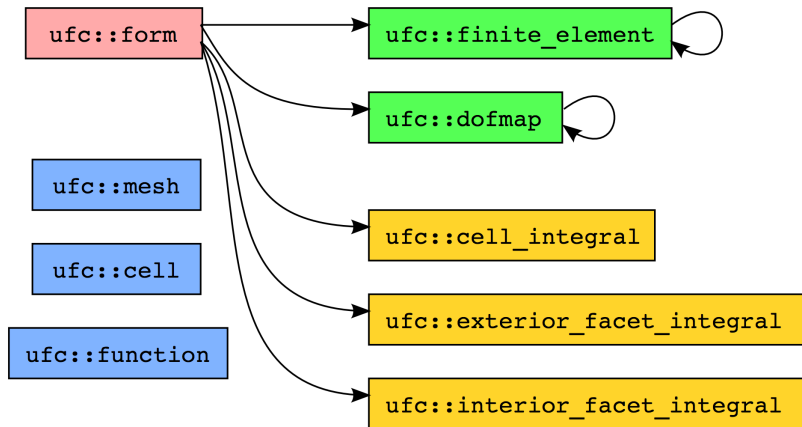
Cell integrals and facet integrals



Code generation chain



UFC data structures



The assembly implementation

From dolfin/fem/Assembler.cpp:

C++ code

```
void assemble(GenericTensor& A, const Form& a)
{
    ...
    for (CellIterator cell(mesh); !cell.end(); ++cell)
    {
        for (std::size_t i = 0; i < form_rank; ++i)
            dofs[i] = dofmaps[i]->cell_dofs(cell->index());

        integral->tabulate_tensor(ufc.A.data(), ...);

        A.add_local(ufc.A.data(), dofs);
    }
}
```

Iterative methods

Krylov subspace methods

- GMRES (Generalized Minimal RESidual method)
- CG (Conjugate Gradient method)
 - Works if A is symmetric and positive definite
- BiCGSTAB, MINRES, TFQMR, ...

Multigrid methods

- GMG (Geometric MultiGrid)
- AMG (Algebraic MultiGrid)

Preconditioners

- ILU, ICC, SOR, AMG, Jacobi, block-Jacobi, additive Schwarz, ...

Solving linear systems

Iterative linear solvers in FEniCS are delegated to PETSc (or some other linear algebra backend).

From `dolfin/la/PETScKrylovSolver.cpp`:

C++ code

```
std::size_t solve(PETScVector& x,  
                 const PETScVector& b)  
{  
    ...  
    // Solve system  
    ierr = KSPSolve(_ksp, b.vec(), x.vec());  
    if (ierr != 0) petsc_error(ierr, __FILE__,  
        "KSPSolve");  
    ...  
}
```

This function alone is 140 lines long. (!)