## Trefftz method in solving the inverse problems

#### Krzysztof Grysa

#### Kielce University of Technology, Al.. 1000-lecia P.P.7, 25-314 Kielce, Poland e-mail: krzysztof@grysa.pl



Trefftz method has been known since the work of Trefftz in 1926\*.

An approximate solution of a problem is a linear combination of functions that satisfy the governing differential linear equation or such one that is possible to be converted into such a form.

The unknown coefficients are determined from the conditions of approximate fulfilling the boundary and initial conditions, finally having a form of a system of algebraic equations.

\* E. Trefftz, *Ein Gegenstuek zum Ritz'schen Verfahren*. Proceedings of the 2nd International Congress of Applied Mechanics, 131–137, Zurich, 1926.

Generally, Trefftz bases fall into two broad classes, F-Trefftz bases based on fundamental solutions and T-Trefftz bases, which are usually (but not always) obtained by separation of variables in polar and Cartesian coordinate systems.

In 2000 Ciałkowski presented two other methods, one of which, based on developing function in Taylor series, is particularly simple and effective. We will focus our attention on T-Trefftz bases.

In eighties and nineties T-complete functions have been used to find approximate solutions of BVP, also with the use of FEM. However, no IBVP were investigated. Researchers used to get rid of time variable, and as a result they considered the Helmholtz type equation. Therefore the first T-complete functions were found for Laplace equation, biharmonic one and for reduced wave equation (Helmholtz type eq.)

M.J. Ciałkowski, A. Frackowiak, *Heat functions and their application to solving heat conduction* and mechanical problems. Wyd. Politechniki Poznańskiej, Poznań, 2000. (in Polish)

During the last 10 years Trefftz method has been applied to find approximate solutions of the inverse problems.

Up to now the following inverse problems have been considered:

- boundary value determination inverse problems,
- material properties determination inverse problems,
- sources determination inverse problems.

At first a "global" approach (i.e. looking for an approximate solution in the whole domain) was applied with good results for simple geometry and initial-boundary conditions. However, a great majority of more complex problems of mathematical modeling cannot be solved without division of the area  $\Omega$  into subregions (elements). FEM with Trefftz functions as trial functions is then used. Trefftz functions for some linear differential equations without time\*

Laplace equation: 
$$\nabla^2 u = 0$$
  
2D in  $\Omega$  { 1, Re  $(z^n)$ , Im  $(z^n)$  }  
3D in  $\Omega$  {  $r^n P_n^q (\cos \theta) e^{iq \phi}$ ;  $n = 0, 1, 2, ..., -n \le q \le n$  }  
 $P_n^q (\cos \theta)$  - associated Legendre functions  
Reduced wave equation:  $\nabla^2 u + u = 0$   
2D in  $\Omega$  {  $J_0(r), J_n(r) \cos(n\theta), J_n(r) \sin(n\theta), n = 1, 2, ...$  }  
3D in  $\Omega$  {  $j_n(r) P_n^q (\cos \theta) e^{iq \phi}$ ;  $n = 1, 2, ..., -n \le q \le n$  }  
 $j_n(r) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2r}} J_{n+1/2}(r)$ 

\*A.P. Zieliński, On trial functions applied in the generalized Trefftz method. Adv. in Eng. Software, 24, 147-155, 1995.

## Trefftz functions for some linear differential equations with time

Heat conduction equation: 
$$\nabla^2 u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$$
  
1D in  $\Omega \left\{ v_n(x,t) = \sum_{k=0}^{[n/2]} \frac{x^{n-2k}t^k}{(n-2k)!k!}, n = 0,1,2... \right\}$   
2D in  $\Omega \left\{ V_m(x,y,t) = v_{n-k}(x,t)v_k(y,t), n = 0,1,..., k = 0,...,n, m = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + k \right\}$   
Beam vibration equation \*:  $\frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = 0$   
 $S_0 = 1$   
 $S_1 = x$   
 $S_2 = t$   
 $S_n(x,t) = \sum_{j=0}^{\left[\frac{n-3\left[\frac{n-2}{4}\right]-3}{2}\right]} \frac{(-1)^j t^{n-3\left[\frac{n-2}{4}\right]-3-2j} x^4 \left[\frac{n-2}{4}\right] - n+5+4j}{\left[n-3\left[\frac{n-2}{4}\right]-3-2j\right]! \left(4\left[\frac{n-2}{4}\right]-n+5+4j\right)}$ 

M.J. Al-Khatib, K. Grysa, A. Maciąg, *The method of solving polynomials in the beam vibration problems.* J. Theoret. Appl. Mech., 46, 2, 347-366, 2008.

## **Trefftz Methods**

Trefftz Methods have not received a precise definition, although this terminology has had wide acceptance. Herrera's definition of what is meant by a Trefftz Method is:

Given a region of an Euclidean space or some partitions of that region, a "Trefftz Method" is any procedure for solving initial boundary value problems of partial differential equations or systems of such equations, on such region, using solutions of that differential equation or its adjoint, defined in its subregions.

When Trefftz Method is conceptualized in this manner, it includes many of the basic problems considered in numerical methods for partial differential equations and becomes a fundamental concept of that subject.

I. Herrera, Trefftz method: A general theory. Numer. Meth. Partial Diff. Eq. 16, 561-580, 2000.

## **Indirect Trefftz Methods**

Consider a linear diff eq Lu=0 in  $\Omega$  with values of u=u<sub>1</sub> prescribed on  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\partial u/\partial n=q_2$  prescribed on  $\Gamma_2$ .  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  are parts of  $\partial \Omega$  or are included in  $\Omega$ .

$$u(P) \cong \widetilde{u}(P) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} a_n u_n^* = \mathbf{a}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{u}^*(P)$$
  
$$q(P) \cong \widetilde{q}(P) = \frac{\partial \widetilde{u}}{\partial n}(P) = \mathbf{a}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{q}^*(P)$$
  
$$\left\{ u_n^* \right\} \text{ - T-complete functions}$$

**Residuals:** 
$$R_1 \equiv \mathbf{a}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{u}^*(P) - u_1(P) \neq 0$$
 for  $P \in \Gamma_1$   
 $R_2 \equiv \mathbf{a}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{q}^*(P) - q_2(P) \neq 0$  for  $P \in \Gamma_2$ 

1. Collocation method: residuals at the points  $P_i$  placed on  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  are forced to vanish  $\Rightarrow$  Ka=f  $\Rightarrow$  a  $\Rightarrow (P)$ 

2. Least-square-method: 
$$\Rightarrow F(\mathbf{a}) = \int_{\Gamma_1} R_1^2 d\Gamma + \alpha \int_{\Gamma_2} R_2^2 d\Gamma \rightarrow \min \Rightarrow \mathsf{Ka=f} \Rightarrow$$
  
 $\Rightarrow \mathbf{a} \Rightarrow \tilde{u}(P) \qquad \alpha \text{ - weighting parameter}$ 

## **Indirect Trefftz Methods**

Consider a linear diff eq Lu=0 in  $\Omega$  with values of u=u<sub>1</sub> prescribed on  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\partial u/\partial n=q_2$  prescribed on  $\Gamma_2$ .  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  are parts of  $\partial \Omega$  or are included in  $\Omega$ .

- **3. Galerkin method formulation:**  $F(\mathbf{a}) = \int \widetilde{q} R_1 d\Gamma \int \widetilde{u} R_2 d\Gamma = 0$ 
  - $\widetilde{q}$  and  $-\widetilde{u}$  weighting parameter

$$\Rightarrow$$
 Ka=f  $\Rightarrow$   $\widetilde{u}(P)$ 

## 4. Modified Trefftz formulation (T-Trefftz approach)

In this case the T-complete functions are built using fundamental solution for the eq Lu=0. The f.s. is a function of  $r(P,Q_i)$  with P being an integral point of  $\Omega$  and  $Q_i$  standing for external source placed on the imaginary boundary surrounding the (real) boundary. Then

$$u(P) \cong \widetilde{u}(P) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} a_n u^*(P, Q_i) = \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{u}^*(P) \text{ and } q(P) \cong \widetilde{q}(P) = \frac{\partial \widetilde{u}}{\partial n}(P) = \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{q}^*(P)$$

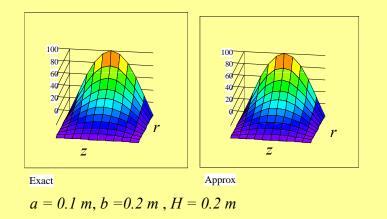
## **Direct Trefftz Methods**

The direct Trefftz formulation is based on the boundary integral equation. Details for the Laplace eq: in the article E. Kita, N. Kamiya, *Trefftz method: an overview.* Adv. in Eng. Software, 24, 3-12, 1995.

## "Global" approach, BVP

Consider a stationary heat conduction problem in a hollow cylinder:

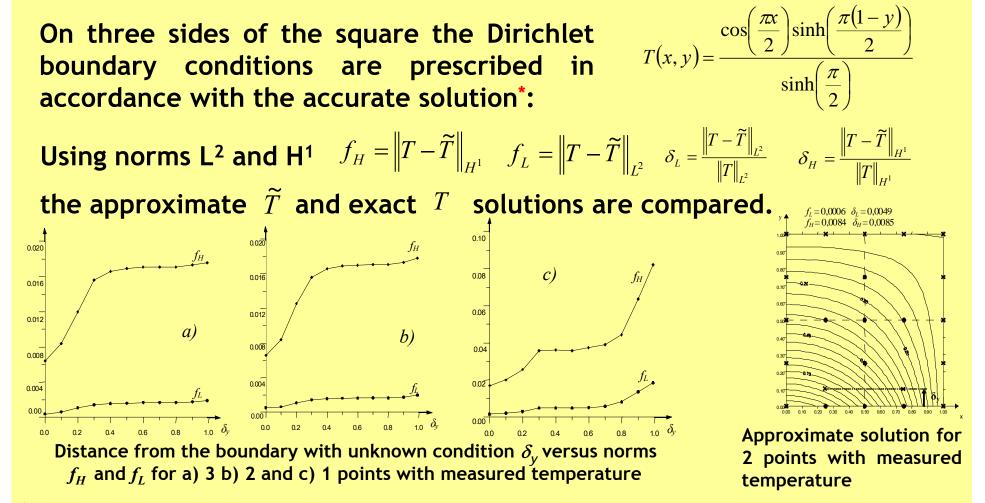
 $\frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial z^2} = 0, \quad r \in (a,b) \subset R, \ z \in (0,H) \subset R$   $T(a,z) = C \sin \frac{z\pi}{H} \qquad T(r,z) \cong \theta(r,z) = \sum_{n=0}^{N} c_n h_n(r,z) + \sum_{m=0}^{M} d_m w_m(r,z)$   $T(b,z) = T_b \qquad \text{Exact solution:}$   $T(r,0) = T_b \qquad T(r,z) = C \sin \frac{z\pi}{H} \frac{F_0\left(\frac{r\pi}{H};\frac{b\pi}{H}\right)}{F_0\left(\frac{a\pi}{H};\frac{b\pi}{H}\right)} \qquad F_0(x;y) = I_0(x)K_0(y) - K_0(x)I_0(y)$ 



Approximate solution has been obtained with 8 1<sup>st</sup> kind h<sub>n</sub> and 10 2<sup>nd</sup> kind w<sub>n</sub> Tfunctions  $h_n(r,z) = \sum_{k=0}^{[n/2]} \frac{(-1)^k}{(k!)^2(n-2k)!} \left(\frac{r}{2}\right)^{2k} z^{n-2k}$ 

$$w_n(r,z) = h_n(r,z) \ln r - \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \frac{(-1)^k a_k}{(k!)^2 (n-2k)!} \left(\frac{r}{2}\right)^{2k} z^{n-2k}$$
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## A square, 4 elements, inverse BVP



<sup>\*</sup> M.J. Ciałkowski, A. Frąckowiak, *Heat functions and their application to solving heat conduction and mechanical problems*. Wyd. Politechniki Poznańskiej, Poznań, 2000. (in Polish)

## FEMT for the IHCP:

1° FEMT with condition of continuity of temperature in the common nodes of elements.

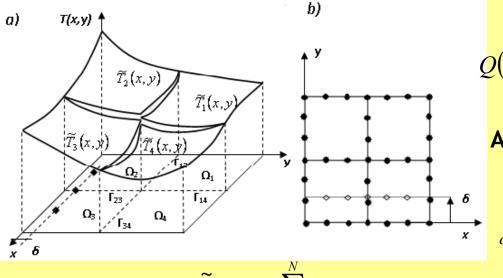
2° No temperature continuity at any point between elements.

3° Nodeless FEMT. Instead, in each finite element the temperature is approximated with the linear combination of the Trefftz functions. The unknown coefficients of the combination are calculated from the condition of minimizing the functional that describes the mean-square fitting of the approximated temperature field in an element to the boundary and initial conditions.

Moreover, the energetic regularisation is used to improve the approximate solution, i.e. one minimizes defect of energy dissipation between elements or numerical entropy production, (being a result of discontinuity of heat flux between elements).

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A square, 4 elements, temperature discontinuous between elements

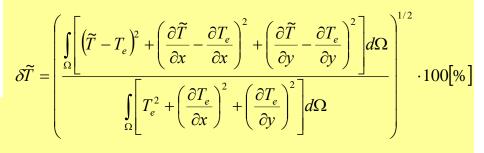


$$T(r,z) \cong \widetilde{T}(r,z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n V_n(x,y)$$

**Objective functional:** 

$$Q(T) = \sum_{ij} \left| \int_{\Gamma_{ij}} (q_{n+} - q_{n-})^2 d\Gamma_{ij} + \alpha \int_{\Gamma_{ij}} (T_+ - T_-)^2 d\Gamma_{ij} \right|$$

Accuracy of the approximate solution  $\widetilde{T}$ 



C	FE	MT continuo	us	FEMT discontinuous			
δ	<i>α</i> =0.001	<i>α</i> =1	<i>α</i> =1000	<i>α</i> =0.001	<i>α</i> =1	<i>α</i> =1000	
0.00	0.0042	0.0042	0.0042	0.0207	0.0141	0.0161	
0.10	0.0046	0.0046	0.0047	0.0852	0.0153	0.0168	
0.30	0.0184	0.0184	0.0178	0.1805	0.0376	0.0333	
0.50	0.3471	0.3471	0.3471	0.1856	0.0383	0.0523	
0.70	0.1655	0.1656	0.3076	0.3954	0.1711	0.3990	
0.90	0.3426	0.3425	0.3153	0.2029	0.0753	0.3492	
0.99	0.2097	0.2101	0.0958	0.3669	0.1173	0.7800	

Norm  $\delta \tilde{T}$  as a function of distance  $\delta$  for 12 trial functions. Input data are accurate.

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## The energetic regularisation for IHCP\*

In order to find an approximate solution one minimizes *a heat flux jump* or *defect of energy dissipation* or *defect of numerical entropy production* between elements. The terms in the functional are minimized to find coefficients in the formula describing  $\tilde{T}_i$ . They read:

the heat flux jump

$$\sum_{j=0}^{t_e} \int_{\Gamma_{ij}} dt \int_{\Gamma_{ij}} (\tilde{\dot{q}}_{ni} - \tilde{\dot{q}}_{nj})^2 d\Gamma \qquad \qquad \tilde{\dot{q}} = \frac{\partial \tilde{T}}{\partial n}$$
  
Detion
$$\sum_{i,j=0}^{t_e} \int_{\Gamma_{ij}} dt \int_{\Gamma_{ij}} \left(\frac{\tilde{\dot{q}}_{ni}}{\tilde{T}_i} - \frac{\tilde{\dot{q}}_{nj}}{\tilde{T}_j}\right)^2 d\Gamma$$

the defect of energy dissipation

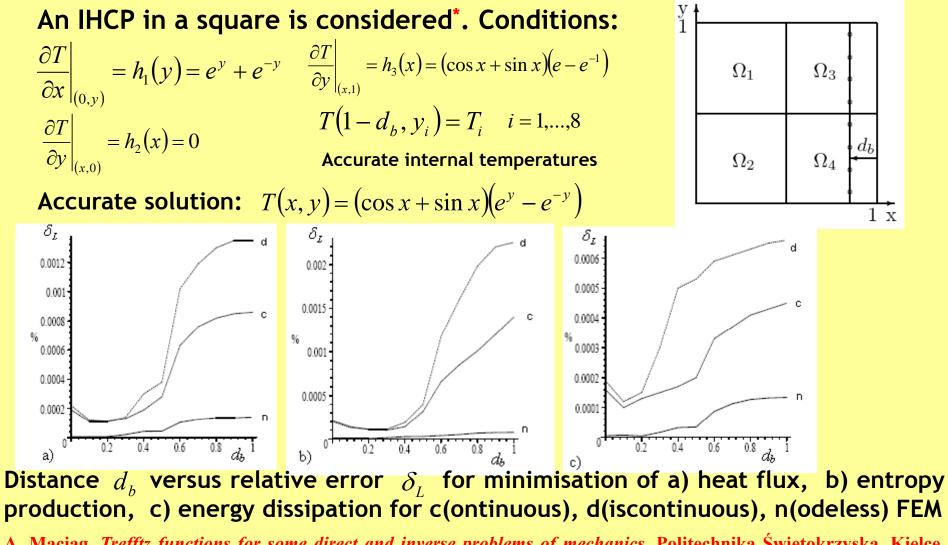
the defect of numerical entropy production

$$\sum_{i,j} \int_{0}^{t_e} dt \int_{\Gamma_{ij}} \left( \tilde{\dot{q}}_{ni} \ln \tilde{T}_i - \tilde{\dot{q}}_{nj} \ln \tilde{T}_j \right)^2 d\Gamma$$

\*M.J.Ciałkowski, A. Frąckowiak, K. Grysa, Solution of a stationary inverse heat conduction problem by means of Trefftz non-continuous mthod. Int. J. Heat Mass Transfer, 50, 2170-2181, 2007.

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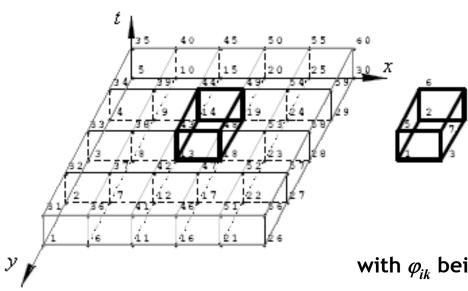
A square, three FEMT approaches, the energetic regularisation



A. Maciąg, Trefftz functions for some direct and inverse problems of mechanics. Politechnika Świętokrzyska, Kielce, 2009 (in Polish). 16/27

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## **Time-space finite elements**



 $v_n(x_j, y_j, t_j)$  the *n*-th trial Trefftz function  $\widetilde{T}_i(x_j, y_j, t_j) \equiv T^{ij} = \sum_{n=1}^N a_{in} v_n(x_j, y_j, t_j)$ j = 1, ..., N

hence the temperature in the *i*-th element:

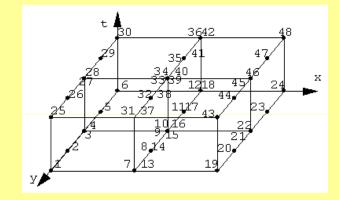
$$\widetilde{T}_{i}(x, y, t) = \sum_{k=1}^{N} \varphi_{ik}(x, y, t) T^{ik}$$

with  $\varphi_{ik}$  being a linear combination of the Trefftz function.

Time-space elements continuous in nodes

$$\delta L_2 = \left[ \frac{\int \left( \tilde{T}(x, y, t_e) - T(x, y, t_e) \right)^2 dD}{\int D T(x, y, t_e)^2 dD} \right]^{1/2}$$

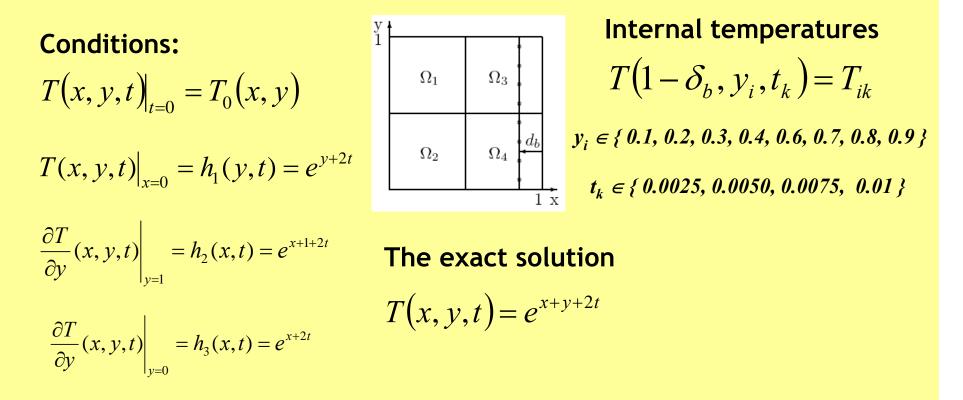
**Relative error** 



Time-space elements discontinuous in nodes

A square, non-stationary IHCP, FEMT\*

**Heat transfer eq.**  $\Delta T = \partial T / \partial t$   $(x, y) \in (0, 1) \times (0, 1)$   $t \in (0, t_e)$ 



\*K. Grysa, R. Leśniewska, Different finite element approaches for inverse heat conduction problems. Inv. Probl. in Science and Eng., 18: 1, 3 — 17, 2010,

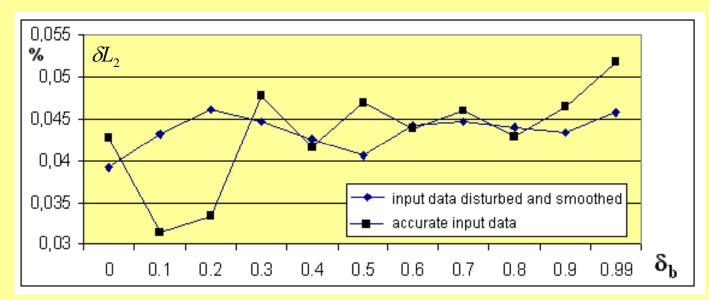
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## **Objective functional**

$$J = \sum_{i} \int_{D_{i}} (\tilde{T}_{i}(x, y, 0) - f(x, y))^{2} dD + \sum_{i} \int_{0}^{t_{e}} dt \int_{\Gamma_{i}} (\tilde{T}_{i}(0, y, t) - h_{I}(y, t))^{2} d\Gamma + \sum_{i} \int_{0}^{t_{e}} dt \int_{\Gamma_{i}} (\frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{i}}{\partial y}(x, 0, t) - h_{2}(x, t))^{2} d\Gamma + \sum_{i} \int_{0}^{t_{e}} dt \int_{\Gamma_{i}} (\frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{i}}{\partial y}(x, 0, t) - h_{3}(x, t))^{2} d\Gamma + \sum_{i,j} \int_{0}^{t_{e}} dt \int_{\Gamma_{i,j}} (\tilde{T}_{i} - \tilde{T}_{j})^{2} d\Gamma + \sum_{i} \int_{k=1}^{t_{e}} (\tilde{T}_{i}(x_{k}, y_{k}, t_{k}) - T_{ik})^{2} \Big|_{x=I-\delta_{b}} + \sum_{i,j} \int_{0}^{t_{e}} dt \int_{\Gamma_{ij}} (\frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{i}}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{j}}{\partial x})^{2} d\Gamma + \sum_{i,j} \int_{0}^{t_{e}} dt \int_{\Gamma_{ij}} (\frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{i}}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{j}}{\partial x})^{2} d\Gamma + \sum_{i,j} \int_{0}^{t_{e}} dt \int_{\Gamma_{ij}} (\frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{i}}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{j}}{\partial y})^{2} d\Gamma$$
heat flux jump,  $J_{S}$   
+  $\sum_{i,j} \int_{0}^{t_{e}} \int_{\Gamma_{ij}} (\frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{i}}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{j}}{\tilde{T}_{j}} \frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{j}}{\partial x})^{2} d\Gamma + \sum_{i,j} \int_{0}^{t_{e}} dt \int_{\Gamma_{ij}} (\frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{i}}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{j}}{\tilde{T}_{j}} \frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{j}}{\partial y})^{2} d\Gamma$ entropy prod. jump,  $J_{E}$   
+  $\sum_{i,j} \int_{0}^{t_{e}} \int_{\Gamma_{ij}} (\frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{i}}{\partial x} (n \tilde{T}_{i} - \frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{j}}{\partial x} (n \tilde{T}_{j})^{2} d\Gamma + \sum_{i,j} \int_{0}^{t_{e}} dt \int_{\Gamma_{ij}} (\frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{i}}{\partial y} (n \tilde{T}_{i} - \frac{\partial \tilde{T}_{j}}{\partial y} (n \tilde{T}_{j})^{2} d\Gamma$ 

## Inaccurate input data

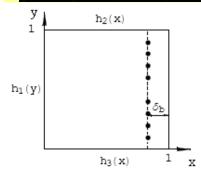
The time-spatial domain is divided into 4 elements. The measurements are simulated from the exact solution and disturbed with a noise with normal distribution not greater than 5% of the exact value. In order to obtain good results the input data have been smoothed with the use of 18 Trefftz functions.



The relative error  $\delta L_2$  versus the distance  $\delta_b$  for accurate and inaccurate smoothed input data for nodeless FEMT without energetic regularisation

# The approximate temperature accuracy in the nodeless FEMT for 12 Trefftz functions

$\delta_b$	$J_S$			$J_E$			J <sub>RE</sub>		
	δ	$\mathcal{A}_2[\%]$	$\partial H^1[\%]$	δ	$d_2[\%]$	$\delta H^1$ [%]	δ	$\delta L_2[\%]$	$\partial H^1[\%]$
0	0,0095	0,0428	0,3197	0,0070	0,0308	0,2488	0,0128	0,0487	0,3499
0,1	0,0079	0,0315	0,2510	0,0060	0,0236	0,2089	0,0116	0,0384	0,2860
0,2	0,0100	0,0334	0,2623	0,0079	0,0285	0,2368	0,0109	0,0380	0,2846
0,3	0,0124	0,0478	0,3388	0,0153	0,0450	0,3290	0,0114	0,0489	0,3471
0,4	0,0109	0,0416	0,3105	0,0143	0,0394	0,3003	0,0117	0,0468	0,3381
0,5	0,0130	0,0469	0,3436	0,0154	0,0465	0,3380	0,0130	0,0530	0,3780
0,6	0,0120	0,0438	0,3236	0,0142	0,0393	0,2999	0,0121	0,0486	0,3451
0,7	0,0122	0,0459	0,3331	0,0143	0,0411	0,3090	0,0114	0,0500	0,3520
0,8	0,0120	0,0429	0,3171	0,0149	0,0407	0,3080	0,0123	0,0449	0,3250
0,9	0,0131	0,0464	0,3382	0,0154	0,0416	0,3130	0,0139	0,0480	0,3460
0.99	0,0141	0,0517	0,3713	0,0157	0,0446	0,3308	0,0149	0,0550	0,3850

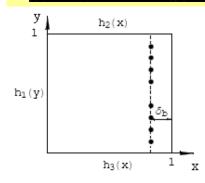


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# The approximate temperature accuracy in the nodeless FEMT for 15 Trefftz functions

$\delta_b$	$J_S$			$J_E$			J <sub>RE</sub>		
	δ	$\mathcal{A}_2[\%]$	$\partial H^1[\%]$	δ	$\mathcal{A}_2[\%]$	$\delta H^1$ [%]	δ	$\delta L_2[\%]$	$\partial H^{1}[\%]$
0	0,00111	0,00419	0,03820	0,00082	0,00361	0,03470	0,00137	0,00475	0,04230
0,1	0,00100	0,00334	0,03210	0,00081	0,00288	0,02930	0,00137	0,00390	0,03570
0,2	0,00121	0,00397	0,03750	0,00118	0,00364	0,03510	0,00138	0,00412	0,03810
0,3	0,00142	0,00447	0,04100	0,00168	0,00509	0,04360	0,00153	0,00484	0,04240
0,4	0,00142	0,00445	0,03910	0,00164	0,00512	0,04110	0,00150	0,00483	0,04030
0,5	0,00178	0,00537	0,04540	0,00190	0,00553	0,04520	0,00195	0,00591	0,04820
0,6	0,00139	0,00431	0,03880	0,00168	0,00450	0,03870	0,00142	0,00466	0,04090
0,7	0,00137	0,00453	0,04110	0,00171	0,00472	0,04070	0,00154	0,00474	0,04210
0,8	0,00125	0,00401	0,03750	0,00171	0,00479	0,04100	0,00126	0,00443	0,04010
0,9	0,00130	0,00374	0,03530	0,00165	0,00442	0,03840	0,00111	0,00419	0,03780
0.99	0,00131	0,00380	0,03560	0,00161	0,00435	0,03810	0,00108	0,00440	0,03860



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## Remarks

The test problems with energetic regularization lead to very good results for the all three methods.

The best to apply seem to be the nodeless FEMT.

The relative error does not exceed 1% even in norm  $\delta H^{1}$  for inaccurate and smoothed input data and 12 trial functions.

The greater number of T-functions the better results one obtains.

Smoothing the inaccurate data with the use of Trefftz functions leads to results comparable with those obtained with accurate input data.

In the case of a direct problem all three methods lead to good results.

## **Open problems:**

- 1. A type of time-space element depends on the type of governing equation, because the "length" of the time side of the element should probably depend on the signal propagation velocity.
- 2. For the HC problems a "velocity" of temperature propagation should be related to the temperature measurement accuracy.
- 3. Generally in FEMT big finite elements can be used. However, their size depends on the number of trial functions.
- 4. In the places of accumulation of the investigated phenomenon the elements should be concentrated in space and time. Far from such places the time-space elements can be greater in time and space.
- 5. An approximate solution of a (direct, inverse) problem seems to be of better quality if the conditions and input data are formulated in the same subspace of the space generated by the T-complete functions.

## **Open problems:**

- 6. The nodeless FEMT seems to be an interesting method to examine in terms of solution discontinuities at the edges between the elements versus the size of the elements and dimensions of the subspace generated by T-functions.
- 7. In our study on T-functions application, small number of points with input data (internal responses) led to good results. Also the incomplete data (eg lack of initial condition or the boundary conditions known only on a part of the boundary) lead to good (comparable with accurate) results.
- 8. Regularisation with the use of normal derivative jump on the borders between time-space elements seems to be interesting to investigate.
- 9. In the case of nonhomogeneous diff equation an idea of approximating the right side of the eq. with the T-functions seems to simplify the investigation.

### Mathematicians and engineers

In the article of Z.C. Li, T.T. Lu, H.T. Huang, A.H.-D. Cheng, *Trefftz, Collocation, and Other Boundary Methods - A Comparison.* Numer. Meth. Par.Diff. Eq, 23,93-144, 2007 I have found the following remark:

It is of interest to point out that some of the TMs are developed in the engineering community [E. Kita, N. Kamiya, *Trefftz method: an overview*. Adv. in Eng. Software, 24, 3-12, 1995. ], while others in the mathematical community [Z.C. Li, *Combined methods for elliptic equations with singularities, interfaces and infinities*. Kluwer Academic Publisher, Dordrecht, 1998 ]. As commented in an article on the history of boundary methods [A.H.-D. Cheng, D.T. Cheng, *Heritage and early developmentof boundary element*. Eng. Anal. Bound. Elem. 29, 268-302, 2005 ], "the developments in the two communities, the applied mathematics and the engineering, seems to ran parallel to each other, almost devoid of any cross citations...although many techniques have much in common, and cross-fertilization is needed."

It would be useful to unify the studies of the two communities, and to stimulate cross-fertilization and citation.

## Thank you for your attention



#### Krzysztof Grysa Kielce University of Technology, Al.. 1000-lecia P.P.7, 25-314 Kielce, Poland e-mail: krzysztof@grysa.pl

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