

GetDP: a General Finite-Element Solver for the de Rham Complex

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History

- Started at the end of 1996
- First feature-complete public release (binary-only): mid-1998
- Open-sourced under GNU GPL in 2004

Design:

- Small, fast, no GUI
- For (sophisticated) end-users: not yet another library
- Limit external dependencies to a minimum

Original Goal

Software environment open to various couplings

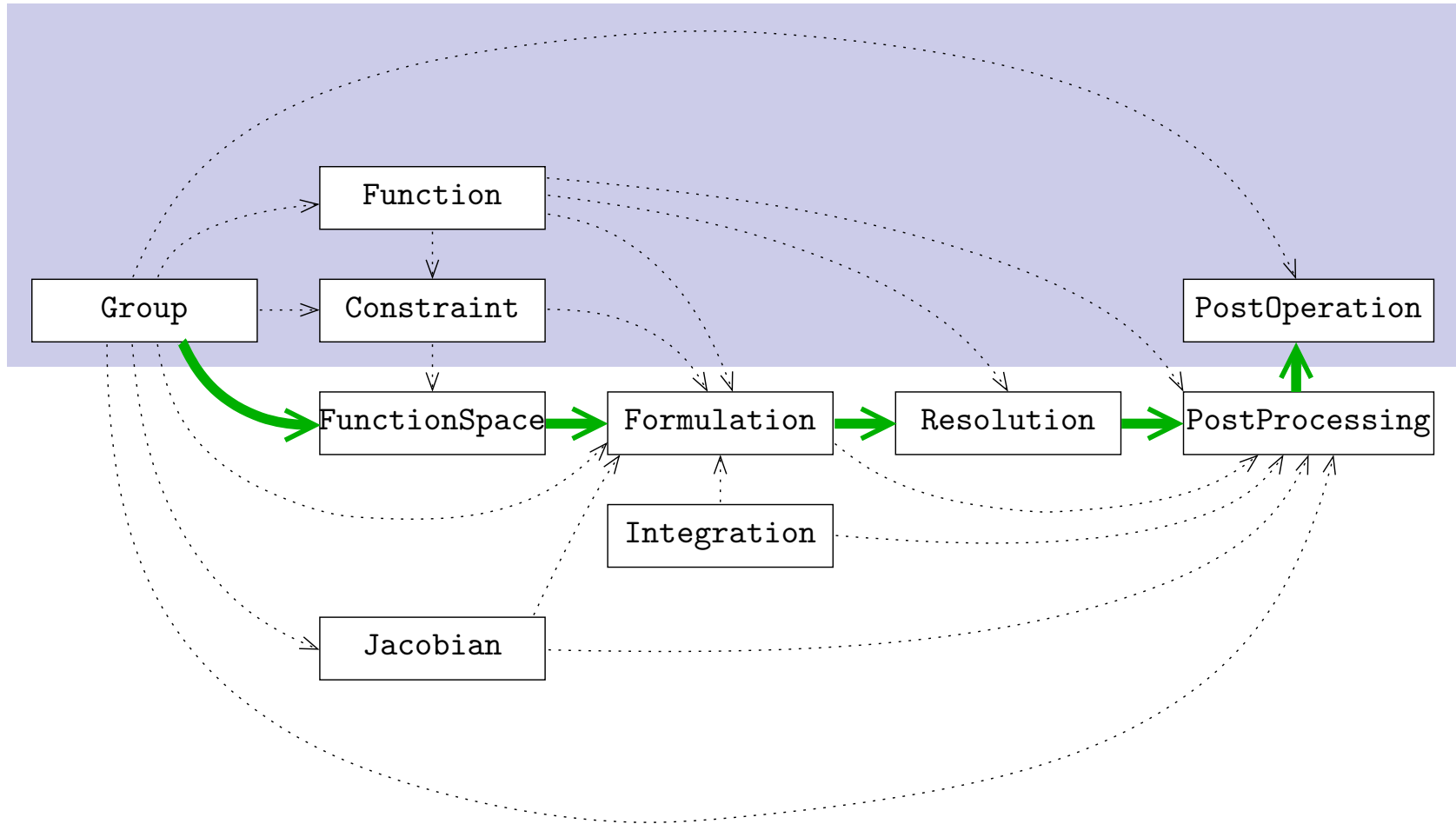
- *Physical* problems (electromagnetic, thermal, mechanical, ...)
- *Numerical* methods (finite element methods, integral methods, ...)
- *Geometries* (1D, 2D, 3D)
- *Time* states (static, harmonic, transient, eigen values)

How?

- Clear *mathematical structure*
- Directly transcribed into *10 objects* in *text data file*

Definition of Discrete Problems

10 objects defined in *text data files* (“*.pro files*”)



(Top: particular to a given problem. Bottom: particular to a method of resolution)

Group: Topological Entities

- Regions
- “Functions” on regions (nodes, edges, edges of tree, dual faces, ...)

```
Group{  
  Air = Region[1]; //elementary group (linked with the mesh)  
  Core = Region[2];  
  Gamma = Region[{3,4}];  
  
  Omega = Region[{Air, Core}]; //combining elementary groups  
  
  nodes = NodesOf[Omega]; //function group  
  edgesOfSpanningTree = EdgesOfTreeIn[Omega, StartinOn Gamma];  
}
```

Function: Functional Expressions

- Piecewise definitions
- Space-time dependent
- Physical characteristics, sources, constraints, ...

```
Function{  
  f = 50; //constants  
  mu0 = 4.e-7 * Pi;  
  
  mu[Air] = mu0; //piecewise definition  
  mu[Core] = mu0 + 1/(100 + 100 * ($1)^6); //argument ($1)  
  
  TimeFct[] = Cos[2*Pi*f*$Time] * Exp[-$Time/0.01]; //current value  
}
```

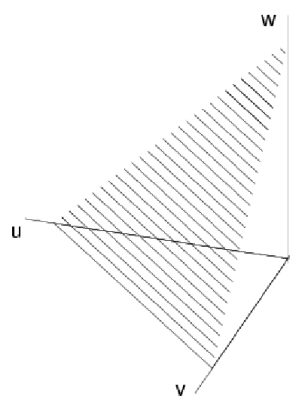
FunctionSpace: Discrete Function Spaces

- Basis functions (associated with nodes, edges, faces, ...) of various orders
- Coupling of fields and potentials
- Definition of global quantities (fluxes, circulations, ...)
- Essential constraints (boundary and gauge conditions, ...)

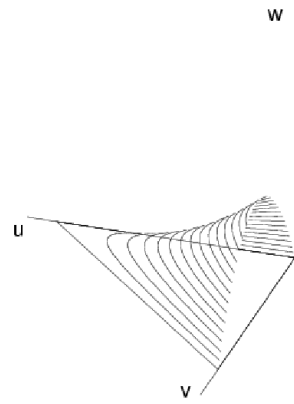
```
FunctionSpace{
  { Name H1; Type Form0; //discrete function space for H1_h
    BasisFunction {
      { Name wi; NameOfCoef fi; Function BF_Node; //''P1 finite elements''
        Support Omega; Entity NodesOf[All]; }
    }
    Constraint {
      { NameOfCoef fi; EntityType NodesOf; NameOfConstraint Dirichlet; }
    }
  }
}
```

//higher-order version

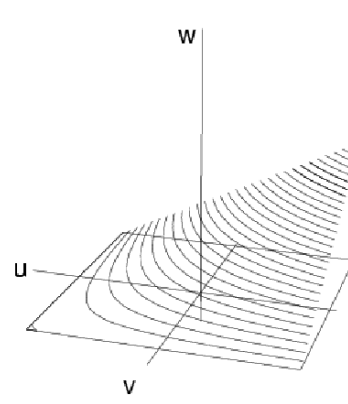
```
FunctionSpace{
  { Name H1; Type Form0;
    BasisFunction {
      { Name wi; NameOfCoef fi; Function BF_Node; //order 1
        Support Omega; Entity NodesOf[All]; }
      { Name wi2; NameOfCoef fi2; Function BF_Node_2E; //order 2
        Support Omega; Entity EdgesOf[All]; }
    }
  Constraint {
    { NameOfCoef fi; EntityType NodesOf; NameOfConstraint Dirichlet; }
    { NameOfCoef fi2; EntityType EdgesOf; NameOfConstraint Dirichlet2; }
  }
}
```



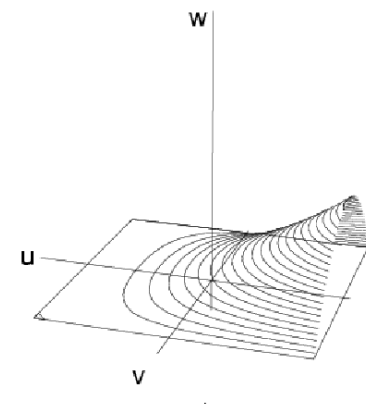
a. p_0



d. p_3



a. p_2



e. p_4

de Rham Complex

$$H_h^1(\Omega) \xrightarrow{\text{grad}_h} \mathbf{H}_h(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega) \xrightarrow{\text{curl}_h} \mathbf{H}_h(\text{div}; \Omega) \xrightarrow{\text{div}_h} L^2(\Omega)$$

Exact sequence preserved at the discrete level using Whitney elements.

Example for $\mathbf{H}_h(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega)$:

```
FunctionSpace {
  { Name Hcurl_h; Type Form1; //discrete Hcurl_h
    BasisFunction {
      { Name se; NameOfCoef he; Function BF_Edge;
        Support Omega; Entity EdgesOf[All]; }
    }
  Constraint {
    { NameOfCoef he; EntityType EdgesOf; NameOfConstraint Dirichlet; }
  }
}
```

$$\mathbf{h} = \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}(\Omega)} h_e \mathbf{s}_e \quad \mathbf{h} \in W^1(\Omega)$$

Coupled Field-Potential

$$\mathbf{h} = \sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}(\Omega_c)} h_e \mathbf{s}_e + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}(\Omega - \Omega_c)} \phi_n \mathbf{v}_n \quad \mathbf{h} \in W^1(\Omega)$$

```

FunctionSpace {
  { Name Hcurl_hphi; Type Form1;
    BasisFunction {
      { Name se; NameOfCoef he; Function BF_Edge;
        Support OmegaC; Entity EdgesOf[All, Not SkinOmegaC]; }
      { Name vn; NameOfCoef phin; Function BF_GradNode;
        Support OmegaCC; Entity NodesOf[All]; }
      { Name vn; NameOfCoef phic; Function BF_GroupOfEdges;
        Support OmegaC; Entity GroupsOfEdgesOnNodesOf[SkinOmegaC]; }
    }
  Constraint {
    { NameOfCoef he; EntityType EdgesOf; NameOfConstraint h; }
    { NameOfCoef phin; EntityType NodesOf; NameOfConstraint phi; }
    { NameOfCoef phic; EntityType NodesOf; NameOfConstraint phi; }
  }
}

```

Topologically Non-Trivial Domains

```
FunctionSpace {
  { Name Hcurl_hphi; Type Form1;
    BasisFunction {
      ...//same as above
      { Name sc; NameOfCoef Ic; Function BF_GradGroupOfNodes;
        Support ElementsOf[DomainCC, OnOneSideOf SurfaceCut];
        Entity GroupsOfNodesOf[SurfaceCut]; }
      { Name sc; NameOfCoef Icc; Function BF_GroupOfEdges;
        Support DomainC; Entity GroupsOfEdgesOf[SurfaceCut,
          InSupport ElementsOf[SkinDomainC, OnOneSideOf SurfaceCut]]; }
    }
  GlobalQuantity {
    { Name I; Type AliasOf          ; NameOfCoef Ic; }
    { Name U; Type AssociatedWith; NameOfCoef Ic; }
  }
  Constraint {
    ...//same as above
    { NameOfCoef Ic; EntityType GroupsOfNodesOf; NameOfConstraint I; }
    { NameOfCoef Icc; EntityType GroupsOfNodesOf; NameOfConstraint I; }
    { NameOfCoef U; EntityType GroupsOfNodesOf; NameOfConstraint V; }
  }
}
```

Constraint: Constraints on Function Spaces

- Boundary conditions (classical, periodic, etc.)
- Initial conditions
- Topology of circuits with lumped elements
- Other constraints (on local and global quantities)

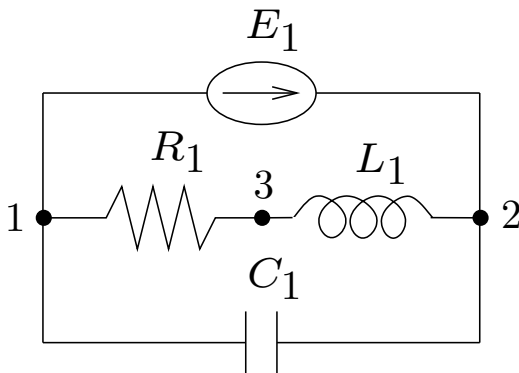
```
Constraint{
  { Name Dirichlet; Type Assign; //boundary conditions
    Case {
      { Region Surface0; Value 0; }
      { Region Surface1; Value 1; }
    }
  }
}
```

```

Constraint{
  //time-dependent or harmonic constraints
  { Name Current; Type Assign;
    Case {
      { Region CurrentLoop; Value 1000; TimeFunction TimeFct[]; }
    }
  }

  //network relations between global quantities
  { Name ElectricalCircuit; Type Network;
    Case Circuit {
      { Region E1; Branch {1,2}; }
      { Region R1; Branch {1,3}; }
      { Region L1; Branch {3,2}; }
      { Region C1; Branch {1,2}; }
    }
  }
}

```



Formulation: Equation builder

- Various formulation types: Galerkin finite elements, collocation, boundary elements, ...
- Symbolic expression of equations
- Involves local, global and integral quantities based on function spaces

```
Formulation{
  { Name Maxwell_e; Type FemEquation;
    Quantity {
      { Name e; Type Local; NameOfSpace Hcurl_h; }
    }
    Equation {
      Galerkin { [ 1/mu[] * Dof{Curl e} , {Curl e} ];
                 In Omega; Jacobian Jac1; Integration Int1; }
      Galerkin { DtDt [ epsilon[] * Dof{e} , {e} ];
                 In Omega; Jacobian Jac1; Integration Int1; }
    }
  }
}
```

“Find $\mathbf{e} \in \mathbf{H}_h(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega)$ such that
 $(\mu^{-1} \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{e}, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{e}') + \partial_t^2(\epsilon \mathbf{e}, \mathbf{e}') = 0, \quad \forall \mathbf{e}' \in \mathbf{H}_h(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega)$ ”

```

Formulation { //handle complexity with loops, etc.
  { Name OSRC; Type FemEquation;
    Quantity {
      { Name psi; Type Local; NameOfSpace Hdiv_psi; }
      { Name w; Type Local; NameOfSpace Hdiv_w; }
      For j In{1:N}
      { Name phi~{j}; Type Local; NameOfSpace Hdiv_phi~{j}; }
      EndFor
      { Name nxh; Type Local; NameOfSpace Hdiv_nxh; }
    }
    Equation {
      Galerkin { [ ZO * OSRC_CO[]{N,theta_branch} * Dof{nxh} , {nxh} ];
                In Gama; Jacobian JSur; Integration I1; }
      Galerkin { [ -{psi} , {nxh} ];
                In Gama; Jacobian JSur; Integration I1; }
      For j In{1:N}
      Galerkin { [ ZO * OSRC_Aj[]{j,N,theta_branch} * Dof{phi~{j}} , {nxh} ];
                In Gama; Jacobian JSur; Integration I1; }
      Galerkin { [ Dof{phi~{j}} , {phi~{j}} ];
                In Gama; Jacobian JSur; Integration I1; }
      Galerkin { [ -OSRC_Bj[]{j,N,theta_branch} / keps[]^2 * Dof{d phi~{j}} , {d phi~{j}} ];
                In Gama; Jacobian JSur; Integration I1; }
      Galerkin { [ 1 / keps[]^2 * Dof{d nxh} , {d phi~{j}} ];
                In Gama; Jacobian JSur; Integration I1; }
      EndFor
    }
  }
}

```

Jacobian: Mappings

- Mapping from reference to real space
- Geometrical transformations (axisymmetry, infinite domains, PML, ...)

```
Jacobian{  
  { Name Jac1;  
    Case { //piecewise defined on groups  
      { Region OmegaInf; Jacobian VolSphShell{Rint, Rext}; }  
      { Region OmegaAxi; Jacobian VolAxi; }  
      { Region All; Jacobian Vol; }  
    }  
  }  
}
```


Integration: Integration Methods

- Various numeric and analytic integration methods
- Criterion-based selection

```
Integration {  
  { Name Int1; Criterion Test[];  
    Case {  
      { Type Gauss;  
        Case {  
          { GeoElement Triangle; NumberOfPoints 3; }  
          { GeoElement Tetrahedron; NumberOfPoints 3; }  
        }  
      }  
      { Type Analytic; }  
    }  
  }  
}
```

Resolution: Solver

- Description of a sequence of operations
- Time stepping, nonlinear iterations, ...
- Coupled problems (e.g. magneto-thermal coupling)
- Link various resolution steps (e.g. pre-computation of source fields)

```
Resolution{
  { Name Parabolic;
    System {
      { Name A; NameOfFormulation Parabolic; }
    }
    Operation{
      InitSolution[A];
      TimeLoopTheta[tmin,tmax,dt,1]{
        Generate[A]; Solve[A]; If[Save[]]{ SaveSolution[A]; }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

PostProcessing: Quantities of Interest

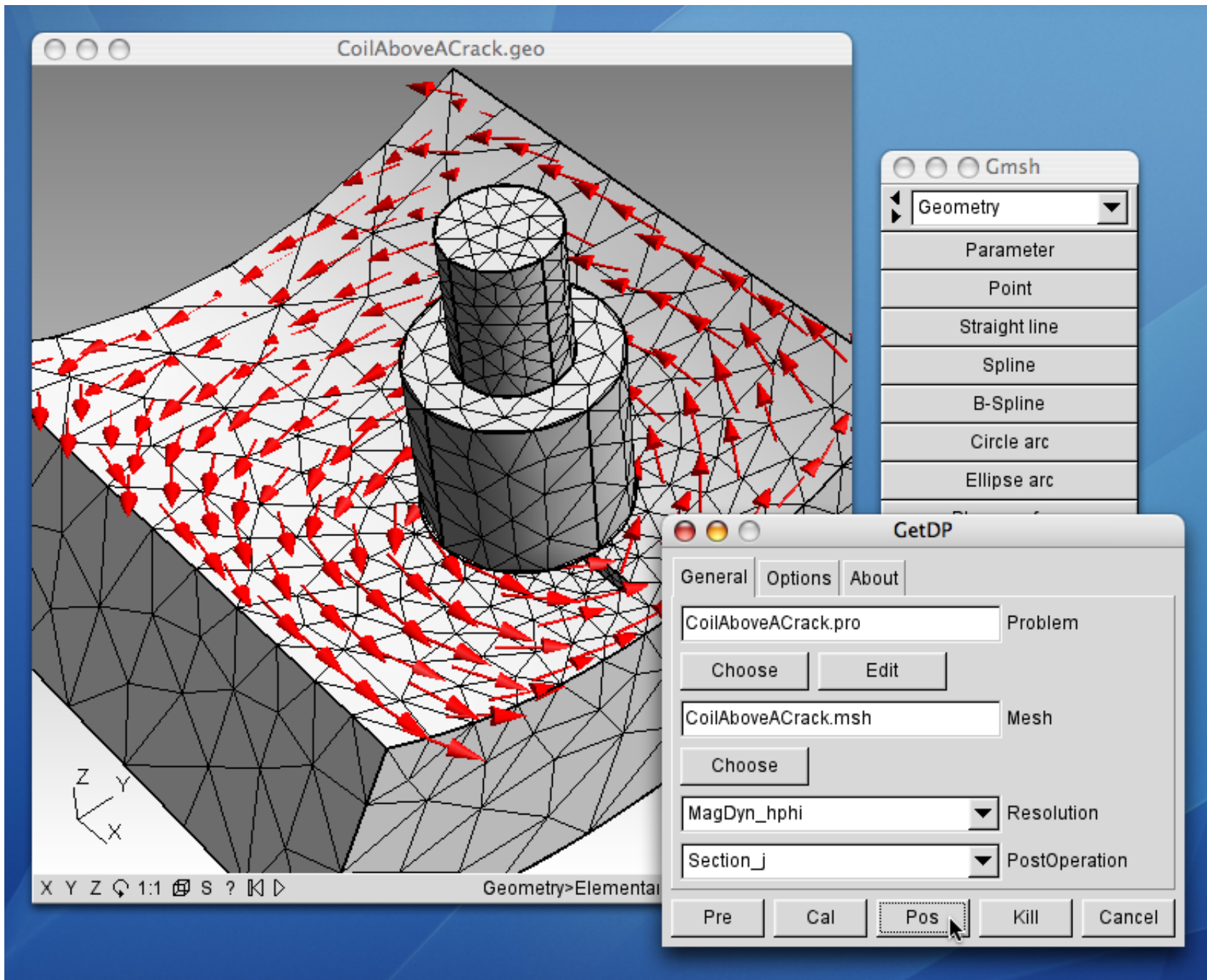
- “Front-end” to computational data
- Piecewise definition of any quantity of interest
- Local or integral evaluation

```
PostProcessing {
  { Name magfields; NameOfFormulation Dynamic;
    Quantity {
      { Name b;
        Value {
          Local { [ -mu[] * {Grad phi} ]; In OmegaCC; }
          Local { [ mu[] * h ]; In OmegaC; }
        }
      }
    }
  }
}
```

PostOperation: Export

- Evaluation of post-processing quantities (e.g. maps, sections, local or global evaluation, ...)
- Operations on post-processing quantities (sorting, smoothing, adaptation, ...)
- Various output formats (e.g. space or time oriented, text, binary, ...)

```
PostOperation {
  { Name Map_b; NameOfPostProcessing magfields;
    Operation {
      Print[ b, OnElementsOf Omega, File "b.pos", Format Gmsh ];
      Print[ b, OnLine {{0,0,0}}{1,0,0}} {100}, File "b.txt" ];
    }
  }
}
```



Technical Details

- Written in C
- Language parser using Lex/Yacc
- Linear algebra: Sparskit2 or PETSc
- (GPL version depends on GSL)

Performance?

IMHO, the only limitation on interesting problems is the solver.

More info: <http://www.montefiore.ulg.ac.be/~geuzaine>

(or simply <http://geuz.org>)

Magnetostatics

$$\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{h} = \mathbf{j}, \quad \mathbf{div} \mathbf{b} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{b} = \mu \mathbf{h} + \mu_0 \mathbf{h}_m$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & \text{grad}_h & \text{curl}_h & \text{div}_h & \\
 \phi & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{h} & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{j} \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \updownarrow \mu & & \\
 & \text{div}_e & \mathbf{b} & \longleftarrow & \mathbf{a} \\
 0 & \longleftarrow & & &
 \end{array}$$

- Weak form of Gauss' law:

$$(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{grad} \phi')_+ + \langle \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{b}, \phi' \rangle = 0 \quad \forall \phi' \in H_0^1(\Omega)$$

- Weak form of Ampere's law:

$$(\mathbf{h}, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}')_+ + \langle \mathbf{n} \times \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{a}' \rangle = (\mathbf{j}, \mathbf{a}') \quad \forall \mathbf{a}' \in \mathbf{H}_0(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega)$$

Magnetostatics: b -conforming

Vector potential formulation

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}$$

⇓

Weak form of Ampere's law

⇓

$$(\mu^{-1} \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}') = (\mathbf{j}, \mathbf{a}'), \quad \forall \mathbf{a}' \in \mathbf{H}_0(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega)$$

NB: gauge for \mathbf{a} , ...

```
Group {  
    Core = #1; Inductor = #2; SkinInductor = #3, Air = #4;  
    Omega = Region[{Core, Inductor, Air}];  
}
```

```
Function {  
    mu0 = 4.e-7 * Pi; mur = 1000;  
    mu[ Core ] = mur * mu0;  
    mu[ Region[{Air, Inductor}] ] = mu0;  
    j[ Inductor ] = ...; //to be defined  
}
```

```
Constraint {  
    { Name a;  
        Case {  
            { Region CL_a0; Value 0; }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

```

FunctionSpace {
  { Name Hcurl; Type Form1; //vector potential
    BasisFunction {
      { Name se; NameOfCoef ae; Function BF_Edge; Support Omega;
        Entity EdgesOf[All]; } //associated with the edges of the mesh
    }
    Constraint { //essential constraint + gauge (unicity)
      { NameOfCoef ae; EntityType EdgesOf; NameOfConstraint a; }
      { NameOfCoef ae; EntityType EdgesOfTreeIn;
        EntitySubType StartingOn; NameOfConstraint Gauge; }
    }
  }
}

```

```

Formulation {
  { Name MagSta_a; Type FemEquation;
    Quantity {
      { Name a; Type Local; NameOfSpace Hcurl; }
    }
    Equation {
      Galerkin { [ 1/mu[] * Dof{Curl a} , {Curl a} ];
        In Omega; Integration I1; Jacobian JVol; }
      Galerkin { [ -j[] , {a} ];
        In Inductor; Integration I1; Jacobian JVol; }
    }
  }
}

```

```

Resolution {
  { Name MagSta_a;
    System {
      { Name A; NameOfFormulation MagSta_a; }
    }
    Operation { Generate[A]; Solve[A]; SaveSolution[A]; }
  }
}

PostProcessing {
  { Name test; NameOfFormulation MagSta_a;
    Quantity {
      { Name a; Value { Local{ [ {a} ]; In Omega; } } }
      { Name normb; Value { Local{ [ Norm[{d a}] ]; Omega; } } }
    }
  }
}

```

Magnetodynamics?

Additional term in the formulation:

```
Galerkin { DtDof [ sigma[] * Dof{a} , {a} ];  
           In Core; Integration I1; Jacobian JVol; }
```

New resolution:

```
{ Name MagDyn_a_t; //time domain  
  System {  
    { Name A; NameOfFormulation MagDyn_a; }  
  }  
  Operation {  
    InitSolution[A]  
    TimeLoopTheta[0,20/50,0.1/50,1] { //tmin,tmax,dt,theta  
      Generate[A]; Solve[A]; SaveSolution[A];  
    }  
  }  
}
```

Magnetostatics: \mathbf{h} -conforming

Magnetic field conforming formulation

$$\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{h}_s + \mathbf{h}_r, \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{h}_s = \mathbf{j} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{h}_r = -\mathbf{grad} \phi$$

↓

Weak form of Gauss law

↓

$$(\mu(-\mathbf{grad} \phi + \mathbf{h}_s), \mathbf{grad} \phi') = 0, \quad \forall \phi' \in H_0^1(\Omega)$$

NB: choice of source field \mathbf{h}_s , treatment of multiply connected Ω , ...

```

FunctionSpace {
  { Name H1; Type Form0; //scalar potential
    BasisFunction {
      { Name sn; NameOfCoef phin; Function BF_Node; Support Omega;
        Entity NodesOf[All]; } //associated with the nodes of Omega
      }
    Constraint { //essential constraint
      { NameOfCoef phin; EntityType NodesOf; NameOfConstraint phi; }
      }
    }
}

```

```

Formulation {
  { Name MagSta_phi; Type FemEquation;
    Quantity {
      { Name phi; Type Local; NameOfSpace H1; }
      { Name hs; Type Local; NameOfSpace Hcurl_s; } //patience...
    }
    Equation {
      Galerkin { [ mu[] * {hs} , {Grad phi} ];
        In Omega; Integration I1; Jacobian JVol; }
      Galerkin { [ mu[] * Dof{Grad phi} , {Grad phi} ];
        In Omega; Integration I1; Jacobian JVol; }
    }
  }
}

```



```

FunctionSpace {
  { Name Hcurl_s; Type Form1; //space for the source field
    BasisFunction {
      { Name se; NameOfCoef he; Function BF_Edge; Support Inductor;
        Entity EdgesOf[All, Not SkinInductor]; }
      { Name sc; NameOfCoef Ic; Function BF_GradGroupOfNodes;
        Support Transition; Entity GroupsOfNodesOf[Cut]; }
      { Name sc; NameOfCoef Icc; Function BF_GroupOfEdges;
        Support Inductor; Entity ...; }
    }
  Constraint {
    { NameOfCoef he; EntityType EdgesOfTreeIn;
      EntitySubType StartingOn; NameOfConstraint Gauge; }
    { NameOfCoef Ic; EntityType GroupsOfNodesOf; NameOfConstraint I; }
    { NameOfCoef Icc; EntityType GroupsOfNodesOf; NameOfConstraint I; }
  }
}
}

```

```

Formulation {
  { Name MagSta_hs; Type FemEquation;
    Quantity {
      { Name hs; Type Local; NameOfSpace Hcurl_hs; }
    }
    Equation {
      Galerkin { [ Dof{Curl hs} , {Curl hs} ];
                 In Omega; Integration I1; Jacobian JVol; }
      Galerkin { [ -j[] , {d hs} ];
                 In Omega; Integration I1; Jacobian JVol; }
    }
  }
}

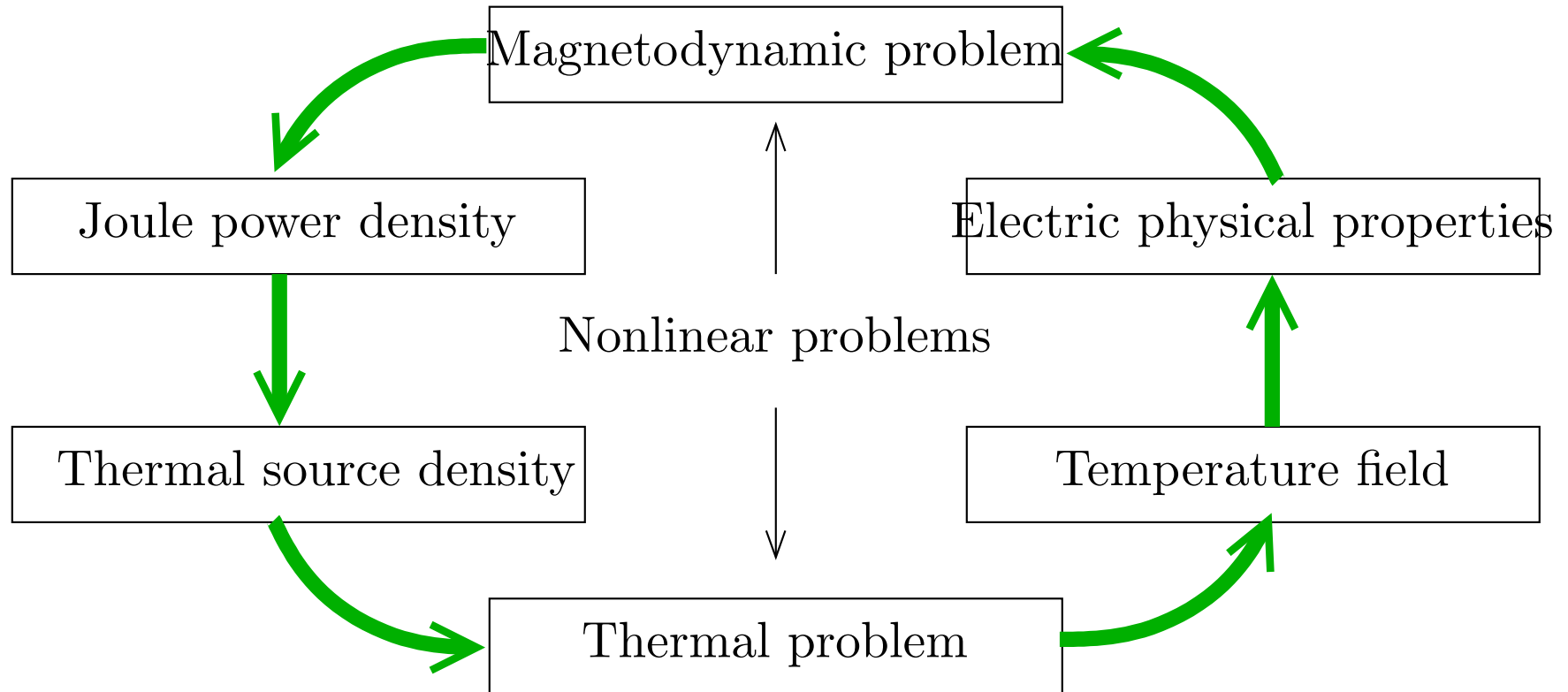
```

```

Resolution { //link pre-computation of source field
  { Name MagSta_h;
    System {
      { Name Hs; NameOfFormulation MagSta_hs; }
      { Name Phi; NameOfFormulation MagSta_phi; }
    }
    Operation {
      Generate[Hs]; Solve[Hs]; SaveSolution[Hs];
      Generate[Phi]; Solve[Phi]; SaveSolution[Phi];
    }
  }
}

```

Magneto-thermal coupling: step by step



Magnetodynamic formulations

- Adapted function spaces for the fields and potentials involved
- Boundary conditions
- Electric circuit coupling, prescribed currents or voltages
- Nonlinear magnetic characteristics

$$(\mu^{-1} \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}')_{\Omega} + (\sigma \partial_t \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}')_{\Omega_c} + (\sigma \mathbf{grad} v, \mathbf{a}')_{\Omega_c} = 0,$$

e.g.

$$\forall \mathbf{a}' \in \mathbf{H}_0(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega)$$

$$\partial_t (\mu \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{h}')_{\Omega} + (\sigma^{-1} \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{h}')_{\Omega_c} = 0, \quad \forall \mathbf{h}' \in \mathbf{H}_0(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega)$$

Thermal formulation

- For example temperature T formulation
- Essential boundary conditions for T
- Natural boundary conditions for convection and radiation heat flows
- Nonlinear thermal characteristics

$$\begin{aligned} & (\kappa \mathbf{grad} T, \mathbf{grad} T')_{\Omega} - (\rho c_p \partial_t T, T')_{\Omega} + (p_q, T')_{\Omega} \\ & + \langle \eta(T - T_0), T' \rangle_{\Gamma_{\text{conv}}} + \langle \epsilon \sigma_s (T^4 - T_0^4), T' \rangle_{\Gamma_{\text{rad}}} = 0, \quad \forall T' \in H_0^1(\Omega) \end{aligned}$$

Movement of regions

- Addition of transport term (e.g. modified Ohm's law: $\mathbf{j} = \sigma(\mathbf{e} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{b})$)

e.g.

$$-(\sigma \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{a}')_{\Omega_v}$$

$$-(\mu \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{curl} \mathbf{h}')_{\Omega_v}$$

e.g.

Magneto-thermal coupling

- Heat source term $p_q = \frac{1}{2}\sigma^{-1}j^2$
- Temperature dependent electric and magnetic characteristics $\mu(T)$ and $\sigma(T)$

e.g.

$$j = \sigma \|\partial_t \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{grad} v\|$$

$$j = \|\mathbf{curl} \mathbf{h}\|$$

Resolutions

- Magnetodynamic resolution in time or frequency domain
- Thermal resolution in steady state or in time domain

```
Resolution { //magnetodynamic freq + thermal static
  { Name Magnetothermal_h_T;
    System {
      { Name Mag; NameOfFormulation MagDyn_h; Frequency 50; }
      { Name The; NameOfFormulation The_T }
    }
    Operation {
      IterativeLoop[16,1.e-4,1] { //max_its, stop, relax
        GenerateJac[Mag]; SolveJac[Mag]; GenerateJac[The]; SolveJac[The];
      }
      SaveSolution[Mag]; SaveSolution[The];
    }
  }
}
```