

A Nitsche finite element method for dynamic contact

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NFEM for dynamic contact

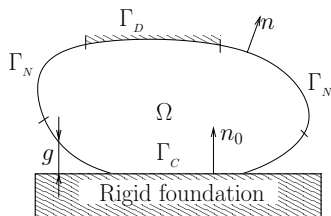
Analysis of the semi-discrete problem

Time-marching schemes

Numerical experiments

Conclusions

Setting: contact in linear elastodynamics



$$\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d \quad (d = 2, 3)$$

Find $\mathbf{u} : [0, T) \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ s.t.:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho \ddot{\mathbf{u}} - \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{u}) &= \mathbf{f} && \text{in } (0, T) \times \Omega \\ \mathbf{u} &= \mathbf{0} && \text{on } (0, T) \times \Gamma_D \\ \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{u})\mathbf{n} &= \mathbf{g} && \text{on } (0, T) \times \Gamma_N \\ \mathbf{u}(0, \cdot) &= \mathbf{u}_0 && \text{in } \Omega \\ \dot{\mathbf{u}}(0, \cdot) &= \dot{\mathbf{u}}_0 && \text{in } \Omega \end{aligned}$$

Contact without friction on $(0, T) \times \Gamma_C$:

$$\begin{cases} u_n \leq 0 & \sigma_n(\mathbf{u}) \leq 0 & \sigma_n(\mathbf{u}) u_n = 0 & \text{(contact)} \\ \sigma_{\mathbf{t}}(\mathbf{u}) = 0 & & & \text{(no friction)} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{with } \mathbf{u} = u_n \mathbf{n} + u_{\mathbf{t}}, \quad \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{u})\mathbf{n} = \sigma_n(\mathbf{u})\mathbf{n} + \sigma_{\mathbf{t}}(\mathbf{u}).$$

Setting: contact in linear elastodynamics

Coulomb frictional case ($\sigma_t(\mathbf{u}) \neq 0$) on $(0, T) \times \Gamma_C$:

$$\dot{\mathbf{u}}_t = \mathbf{0} \implies |\sigma_t(\mathbf{u})| \leq -\mu \sigma_n(\mathbf{u})$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{u}}_t \neq \mathbf{0} \implies \sigma_t(\mathbf{u}) = \mu \sigma_n(\mathbf{u}) \frac{\dot{\mathbf{u}}_t}{|\dot{\mathbf{u}}_t|}$$

$\mu \geq 0$: friction coefficient ($\mu = 0 \leftrightarrow$ no friction)

Remark:

- ▶ No friction $\rightarrow$ energy conservation.
- ▶ Friction $\rightarrow$ energy dissipation when slip.

Theoretical results (without friction)

(Scalar) wave equation with unilateral constraints:

1. One dimensional case $\rightarrow$ one contact point:
Existence and uniqueness.

(Schatzman, 1980 ; Dabaghi, Petrov, Pousin, Renard, 2014)

2. $N \geq 2$ dimensional case:

Existence and uniqueness (half space).

(Lebeau, Schatzman, 1984)

Existence (bounded domain with smooth boundary).

(Kim, 1989)

Some well-known numerical difficulties

Discretization: method of lines.

Finite elements for space variables + time-marching schemes.

Contact condition: Lagrange multipliers or penalty.

Difficulties for the space semi-discrete problem:

1. ill-posedness with mixed FE discretization of contact conditions

(Khenous, Laborde, Renard, 2008)

→ modified mass method

2. well-posedness of discrete systems with springs

(Ballard, 2000 ; Ballard, Charles, 2014)

Some well-known numerical difficulties

Discretization: method of lines.

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Contact condition: Lagrange multipliers or penalty.

Difficulties for the space-time discrete problem and for some conservative time-stepping (e.g., Crank-Nicolson).

1. Spurious oscillations on contact pressure, velocity and displacement.
2. No energy conservation and possible blow up.

(Khenous, Laborde, Renard, 2008 ; Doyen, Ern, Piperno, 2011 ; Krause, Walloth, 2012)

Some numerical contributions

(Non-exhaustive) list of strategies:

1. *“Modify the model”*

Impact law. (*Paoli, 2001*)

2. *“Modify the time-discretization”*

2.1 Implicit (dissipative) time-discretization of contact term.
(*Carpenter-et-al, 1991 ; Kane-et-al, 1999 ; Dumont & Paoli, 2006 ; Deufflhard-et-al, 2008*)

2.2 Velocity update method / contact condition with velocity.
(*Laursen & Love, 2002 ; Laursen & Chawla, 1997*)

2.3 Penalty with energy conservative schemes.
(*Armero & Petöcz, 1998 ; Hauret & Le Tallec, 2006*)

3. *“Modify the space discretization”*

Modified mass method and extensions.

(*Khenous, Laborde & Renard, 2008 ; Hager, Hieber & Wohlmuth, 2008 ; Hauret, 2010 ; Renard, 2010*)

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NFEM for dynamic contact

Key idea: contact condition can be reformulated as

$$\sigma_n(\mathbf{u}) = -\frac{1}{\gamma}[u_n - \gamma\sigma_n(\mathbf{u})]_+$$

(Alart & Curnier, 1988)

Nitsche-FEM for (frictionless) dynamic contact:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Find } \mathbf{u}^h : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbf{V}^h \text{ s.t.:} \\ \langle \rho \ddot{\mathbf{u}}^h(t), \mathbf{v}^h \rangle + A_{\Theta\gamma_h}(\mathbf{u}^h(t), \mathbf{v}^h) + \int_{\Gamma_C} \frac{1}{\gamma_h} [P_{\gamma_h}(\mathbf{u}^h(t))]_+ P_{\Theta\gamma_h}(\mathbf{v}^h) d\Gamma \\ \qquad \qquad \qquad = L(t)(\mathbf{v}^h) \quad \forall \mathbf{v}^h \in \mathbf{V}^h \\ \mathbf{u}^h(0, \cdot) = \mathbf{u}_0^h \quad \dot{\mathbf{u}}^h(0, \cdot) = \dot{\mathbf{u}}_0^h \end{array} \right.$$

Notations:

- ▶ $\gamma_h := \gamma_0 h$
- ▶ $P_{\Theta\gamma_h}(\mathbf{v}^h) := v_n^h - \Theta\gamma_h \sigma_n(\mathbf{v}^h)$
- ▶ $A_{\Theta\gamma_h}(\mathbf{u}^h, \mathbf{v}^h) := a(\mathbf{u}^h, \mathbf{v}^h) - \int_{\Gamma_C} \Theta\gamma_h \sigma_n(\mathbf{u}^h) \sigma_n(\mathbf{v}^h) d\Gamma$

$\mathbf{V}^h$: H^1 -conformal FE space ($\mathbb{P}_k$ -cont, $k = 1, 2$).

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Two numerical parameters:

1. γ_0 (in $\gamma_h := \gamma_0 h$): **Nitsche's parameter**.

Should be small enough for well-posedness
(in the fully discrete framework).

2. Θ : **Select a variant**.

Skew-symmetric (-1), non-symmetric (0) or symmetric (1).

(F.C., Hild & Renard, 2014)

Remark: consistency for all $\gamma_0 > 0$ ($\neq$ penalty).

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NFEM for dynamic contact : frictional case

No additional difficulty ...

since the frictional contact conditions can be rewritten:

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_n(\mathbf{u}) &= -\frac{1}{\gamma}[u_n - \gamma\sigma_n(\mathbf{u})]_+ \\ \sigma_t(\mathbf{u}) &= -\frac{1}{\gamma}[\dot{\mathbf{u}}_t - \gamma\sigma_t(\mathbf{u})]_{-\gamma\mu\sigma_n(\mathbf{u})} \\ &= -\frac{1}{\gamma}[\dot{\mathbf{u}}_t - \gamma\sigma_t(\mathbf{u})]_{\mu[u_n - \gamma\sigma_n(\mathbf{u})]_+}\end{aligned}$$

Analysis of the semi-discrete problem. 1. Well-posedness

NFEM for dynamic contact can be recasted as:

$$\begin{cases} \text{Find } \mathbf{u}^h : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbf{V}^h \text{ s.t.:} \\ \mathbf{M}^h \ddot{\mathbf{u}}^h(t) + \mathbf{B}^h \mathbf{u}^h(t) = \mathbf{L}^h(t) \\ \mathbf{u}^h(0, \cdot) = \mathbf{u}_0^h \quad \dot{\mathbf{u}}^h(0, \cdot) = \dot{\mathbf{u}}_0^h \end{cases}$$

with

$$(\mathbf{M}^h \mathbf{v}^h, \mathbf{w}^h)_{\gamma_h} = \langle \rho \mathbf{v}^h, \mathbf{w}^h \rangle$$

$$(\mathbf{B}^h \mathbf{v}^h, \mathbf{w}^h)_{\gamma_h} = A_{\Theta \gamma_h}(\mathbf{v}^h, \mathbf{w}^h) + \int_{\Gamma_C} \frac{1}{\gamma_h} [P_{\gamma_h}(\mathbf{v}^h)]_+ P_{\Theta \gamma_h}(\mathbf{w}^h) d\Gamma$$

$$(\mathbf{L}^h(t), \mathbf{w}^h)_{\gamma_h} = L(t)(\mathbf{w}^h)$$

for all $\mathbf{v}^h, \mathbf{w}^h \in \mathbf{V}^h$, and

$$(\mathbf{v}^h, \mathbf{w}^h)_{\gamma_h} := (\mathbf{v}^h, \mathbf{w}^h)_{1,\Omega} + (\gamma_h^{-\frac{1}{2}} v_n^h, \gamma_h^{-\frac{1}{2}} w_n^h)_{0,\Gamma_C}.$$

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Theorem (F.C., Hild, Renard)

$\mathbf{B}^h$ is Lipschitz-continuous:

$$\|\mathbf{B}^h \mathbf{v}_1^h - \mathbf{B}^h \mathbf{v}_2^h\|_{\gamma_h} \leq C(1 + \gamma_0)(1 + |\Theta|) \|\mathbf{v}_1^h - \mathbf{v}_2^h\|_{\gamma_h}$$

for all $\mathbf{v}_1^h, \mathbf{v}_2^h \in \mathbf{V}^h$; $C > 0$ independent of h , Θ and γ_0 .

So, for all $\Theta \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\gamma_0 > 0$, Problem $(\star)$ admits one unique solution $\mathbf{u}^h \in \mathcal{C}^2([0, T], \mathbf{V}^h)$.

Remark: the same result applies in the frictional case.

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Analysis of the semi-discrete problem.

2. Energy conservation

Proposition (F.C., Hild & Renard)

For a conservative system, i.e., $L(t) \equiv 0$ for all $t \in [0, T]$, the solution $\mathbf{u}^h$ of NFEM semi-discretization satisfies:

$$\frac{d}{dt} E_{\Theta}^h = (\Theta - 1) \int_{\Gamma_C} \frac{1}{\gamma_h} [P_{\gamma_h}(\mathbf{u}^h)]_+ \dot{\mathbf{u}}_n^h d\Gamma$$

where

$$E_{\Theta}^h := E^h - \frac{\Theta}{2} \left[\|\gamma_h^{\frac{1}{2}} \sigma_n(\mathbf{u}^h)\|_{0,\Gamma_C}^2 - \|\gamma_h^{-\frac{1}{2}} [P_{\gamma_h}(\mathbf{u}^h)]_+\|_{0,\Gamma_C}^2 \right]$$

$$E^h := \frac{1}{2} \rho \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}^h\|_{0,\Omega}^2 + \frac{1}{2} a(\mathbf{u}^h, \mathbf{u}^h)$$

When $\Theta = 1$, the augmented energy E_{Θ}^h is conserved.

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Time-marching schemes. 1. θ -scheme

Parameter is $\theta \in [0, 1]$.

For $n \geq 0$, the fully discretized problem reads:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Find } \mathbf{u}^{h,n+1}, \dot{\mathbf{u}}^{h,n+1}, \ddot{\mathbf{u}}^{h,n+1} \in \mathbf{V}^h \text{ such that:} \\ \mathbf{u}^{h,n+1} = \mathbf{u}^{h,n} + \tau \dot{\mathbf{u}}^{h,n+\theta}, \\ \dot{\mathbf{u}}^{h,n+1} = \dot{\mathbf{u}}^{h,n} + \tau \ddot{\mathbf{u}}^{h,n+\theta}, \\ \langle \rho \ddot{\mathbf{u}}^{h,n+1}, \mathbf{v}^h \rangle + A_{\Theta \gamma_h}(\mathbf{u}^{h,n+1}, \mathbf{v}^h) + \int_{\Gamma_c} \frac{1}{\gamma_h} [P_{\gamma_h}(\mathbf{u}^{h,n+1})]_+ P_{\Theta \gamma_h}(\mathbf{v}^h) d\Gamma \\ = L^{n+1}(\mathbf{v}^h), \quad \forall \mathbf{v}^h \in \mathbf{V}^h. \end{array} \right.$$

Well posedness when $\theta = 0$ or when $(1 + \Theta)^2 \gamma_0 \leq C \left(1 + \frac{\rho h^2}{\tau^2 \theta^2}\right)$.

Stability (augmented energy) when $\Theta = 1$ (symmetric variant) and $\theta = 1$ (backward Euler).

Time-marching schemes. 2. Newmark scheme

Parameters are $\beta \in [0, 1/2]$, $\gamma \in [0, 1]$.

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Stability (augmented energy) when $\Theta = 1$ (symmetric variant) and $\beta = 1/2$, $\gamma = 1$.

Time-marching schemes: θ -scheme and Newmark

To summarize:

1. For the θ -scheme:
numerical stability for arbitrary time-steps τ **only for $\theta = 1$.**
2. Newmark:
numerical stability for arbitrary time-steps τ **only for $\gamma = 1$, $\beta = \frac{1}{2}$.**
3. Especially for **Crank-Nicolson**: no theoretical proof and no numerical evidence of (unconditional) stability.
4. Can we design a time-marching scheme that is stable and (almost) conservative ?

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Time-marching schemes. 3. A new hybrid scheme

Hybrid time-discretization of NFEM for dynamic contact:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Find } \mathbf{u}^{h,n+1}, \dot{\mathbf{u}}^{h,n+1}, \ddot{\mathbf{u}}^{h,n+1} \in \mathbf{V}^h \text{ s.t.:} \\ \mathbf{u}^{h,n+1} = \mathbf{u}^{h,n} + \tau \dot{\mathbf{u}}^{h,n+\frac{1}{2}} \\ \dot{\mathbf{u}}^{h,n+1} = \dot{\mathbf{u}}^{h,n} + \tau \ddot{\mathbf{u}}^{h,n+\frac{1}{2}} \\ \langle \rho \ddot{\mathbf{u}}^{h,n+\frac{1}{2}}, \mathbf{v}^h \rangle + A_{\Theta\gamma_h}(\mathbf{u}^{h,n+\frac{1}{2}}, \mathbf{v}^h) + \int_{\Gamma_c} \frac{1}{\gamma_h} \Phi(\mathbf{u}^{h,n}, \mathbf{u}^{h,n+1}) P_{\Theta\gamma_h}(\mathbf{v}^h) d\Gamma = L^{n+\frac{1}{2}}(\mathbf{v}^h) \\ \forall \mathbf{v}^h \in \mathbf{V}^h \end{array} \right.$$

Initial conditions: $\mathbf{u}^{h,0} = \mathbf{u}_0^h$, $\dot{\mathbf{u}}^{h,0} = \dot{\mathbf{u}}_0^h$, $\ddot{\mathbf{u}}^{h,0} = \ddot{\mathbf{u}}_0^h$.

Hybrid Crank-Nicolson/Midpoint discretization of contact term:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{u}^{h,n}, \mathbf{u}^{h,n+1}) := H(P_{\gamma_h}(\mathbf{u}^{h,n}))[P_{\gamma_h}(\mathbf{u}^{h,n+\frac{1}{2}})]_+ + H(-P_{\gamma_h}(\mathbf{u}^{h,n}))[P_{\gamma_h}(\mathbf{u}^h)]_+^{n+\frac{1}{2}}$$

$H(\cdot)$ is the Heaviside function.

$$\mathbf{x}^{h,n+\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}^{h,n} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}^{h,n+1}$$

(Gonzalez, 2000, Hauret & Le Tallec, 2006,
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Proposition (F.C., Hild, Renard)

*If $(1 + \Theta)^2 \gamma_0 \leq C \left(1 + \frac{\rho h^2}{\tau^2}\right)$, then for all n ,
Problem (HN) admits one unique solution.*

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Time-marching schemes. 3. A new hybrid scheme

Proposition (F.C., Hild & Renard)

Suppose $L^n \equiv 0$ for all $n \geq 0$ and that Problem (HN) is well-posed. If γ_0 small (or $\Theta = -1$), then, for all $n \geq 0$:

$$\begin{aligned} & E_{\Theta}^{h,n+1} - E_{\Theta}^{h,n} \\ &= -\Theta \int_{\Gamma_C} \frac{1}{2\gamma_h} (H(P^n)H(P^n + P^{n+1})[P^{n+1}]_-^2 \\ & \quad + H(P^n)H(-P^n - P^{n+1})[P^n]_+^2 + [P^n]_-[P^{n+1}]_+) d\Gamma \\ & \quad + (\Theta - 1) \int_{\Gamma_C} \frac{1}{2\gamma_h} (H(P^n)[P^n + P^{n+1}]_+ + H(-P^n) ([P^n]_+ + [P^{n+1}]_+)) \\ & \quad (u_n^{h,n+1} - u_n^{h,n}) d\Gamma \end{aligned}$$

with $P^n = P_{\gamma_h}(\mathbf{u}^{h,n})$, $P^{n+1} = P_{\gamma_h}(\mathbf{u}^{h,n+1})$ and

$$E_{\Theta}^{h,n} := E^{h,n} - \frac{\Theta}{2} \left[\|\gamma_h^{\frac{1}{2}} \sigma_n(\mathbf{u}^{h,n})\|_{0,\Gamma_C}^2 - \|\gamma_h^{-\frac{1}{2}} [P_{\gamma_h}(\mathbf{u}^{h,n})]_+\|_{0,\Gamma_C}^2 \right]$$

$$E^{h,n} := \frac{1}{2} \rho \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}^{h,n}\|_{0,\Omega}^2 + \frac{1}{2} a(\mathbf{u}^{h,n}, \mathbf{u}^{h,n})$$

Time-marching schemes. 2. A new hybrid scheme

Corollary (F.C., Hild & Renard)

Suppose $L^n \equiv 0$ for all $n \geq 0$ and that Problem (HN) is well-posed.

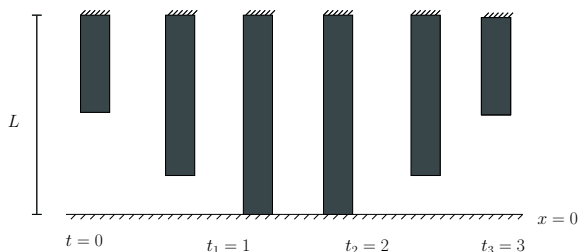
If γ_0 small and $\Theta = 1$, then, for all $n \geq 0$:

$$\begin{aligned} & E_{\Theta}^{h,n+1} - E_{\Theta}^{h,n} \\ &= -\Theta \int_{\Gamma_c} \frac{1}{2\gamma_h} (H(P^n)H(P^n + P^{n+1})[P^{n+1}]_-^2 \\ &\quad + H(P^n)H(-P^n - P^{n+1})[P^n]_+^2 + [P^n]_-[P^{n+1}]_+) d\Gamma \leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

*So the hybrid scheme is **unconditionally stable** (for all $h, \tau > 0$).*

Numerical experiments. A 1D test-case

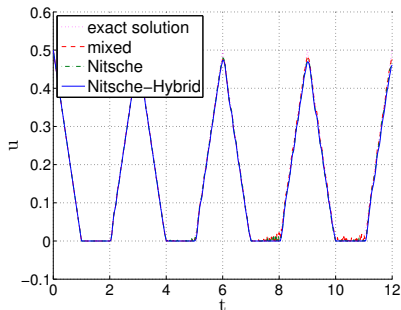
Multiple impacts of an elastic bar



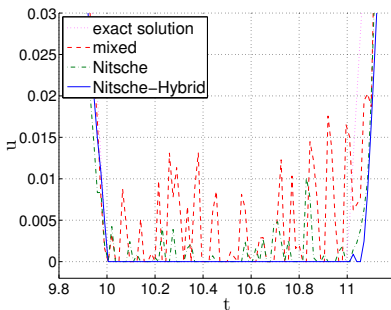
- ▶ Parameters:
 $f = 0$, $E = 1$, $\rho = 1$, $L = 1$, $u_0(x) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{x}{2}$, $\dot{u}_0(x) = 0$
- ▶ Periodic analytical solution with multiple impacts.
(Dabaghi-et-al, 2014)
- ▶ Numerical experiments with GetFEM++.
<http://download.gna.org/getfem/html/homepage/>
- ▶ Generalized Newton to solve the non-linear problem.

Numerical experiments. A 1D test-case

Mixed(+Crank-Nicolson) vs. Nitsche(+Crank-Nicolson) vs.
Nitsche-Hybrid



Displacement

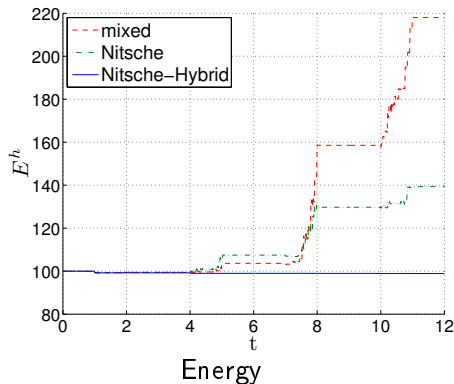


Symmetric variant $\Theta = 1$, with $\gamma_0 = 10^{-6}$,
100 finite elements ($h = 0.01$), $\tau = 0.015$.

(F.C., Hild & Renard, 2015)

Numerical experiments. A 1D test-case

Mixed(+Crank-Nicolson) vs. Nitsche(+Crank-Nicolson) vs.
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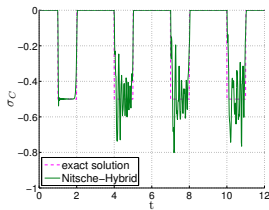
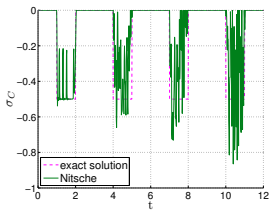
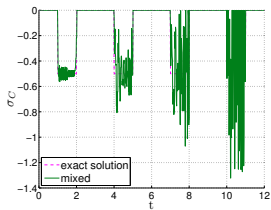


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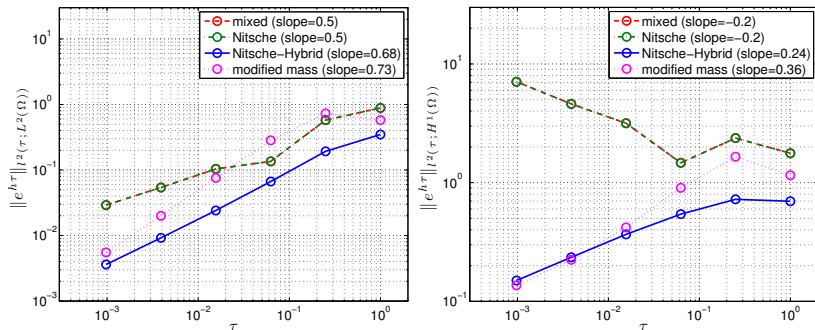
Contact pressure

Symmetric variant $\Theta = 1$, with $\gamma_0 = 10^{-6}$,
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(F.C., Hild & Renard, 2015)

Numerical experiments. A 1D test-case

Convergence when $h, \tau \rightarrow 0$

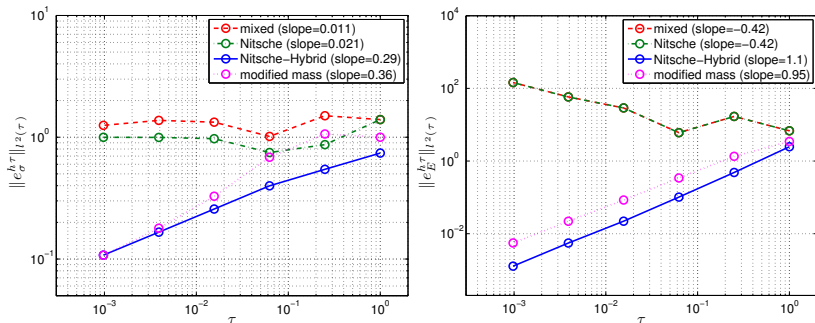


Error curves for u : error $e^{\tau h}$ in norm $l^2(\tau; L^2(\Omega))$ and $l^2(\tau; H^1(\Omega))$
Ratio τ/h is kept constant.

(F.C., Hild & Renard, 2015)

Numerical experiments. A 1D test-case

Convergence when $h, \tau \rightarrow 0$

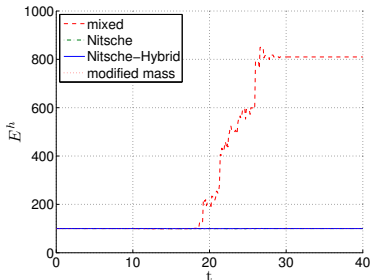
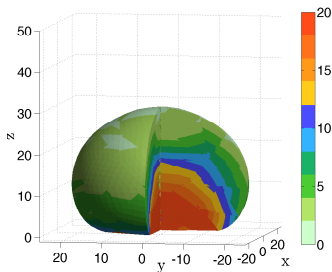


Error curves for the contact pressure σ_C and for the energy E .
Ratio τ/h is kept constant.

(F.C., Hild & Renard, 2015)

Numerical experiments. A 3D test-case

Impact of a ball



Deformed configuration and von Mises strain at $t = 18$, for Nitsche-Hybrid. Energy E^h for different methods.

Parameters: $D = 40$, $\lambda = 20$, $\mu = 20$, $\rho = 1$, $\|\mathbf{f}\| = 0.1$.

$\mathbb{P}_2$ Lagrange FEM, $h \simeq 8$ (400 elements), $\tau = 0.1$.

Symmetric variant $\Theta = 1$, with $\gamma_0 = 0.001$.

(F.C., Hild & Renard, 2015)

Conclusions

At the semi-discrete level: NFEM for dynamic contact

1. Consistency.
2. A well-posed semi-discrete problem.
3. Conservation of an augmented energy (when $\Theta = 1$) in the frictionless case.

Time-discretization of NFEM

1. Nitsche with Crank-Nicolson:
still some spurious oscillations / no energy preservation.
2. Nitsche with the Hybrid scheme:
no spurious oscillations on u + energy almost conserved.
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Further work

1. Theoretical study of convergence.
2. Schemes for frictional contact.

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