Space-time Finite Element Methods for Maxwell's equations

Julia Hauser¹ Olaf Steinbach²

We consider Maxwell's equations in a space-time setting and the corresponding variational formulations. In particular we take a look at the vectorial wave equation for the electric field E including the spatial curl operator. By applying integration by parts in both time and space we derive a Galerkin-Petrov formulation for which we will discuss unique solvability under different assumptions on the given data. Although the numerical discretization in a 4D space-time setting seems to be ambitious at a first glance, it allows for an adaptive resolution simultaneously in time and space and for a parallel implementation. In the end we will consider examples and open problems.

¹Graz University of Technology, Institute of Applied Mathematics jhauser@math.tugraz.at

²Graz University of Technology, Institute of Applied Mathematics o.steinbach@tugraz.at