

ON THE PIECEWISE CONSTANT  
COLLOCATION METHOD FOR MULTIDIMENSIONAL  
WEAKLY SINGULAR INTEGRAL EQUATIONS

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ABSTRACT. Convergence rates of the piecewise constant collocation method (PCCM) and related methods for weakly singular integral equations on an open bounded set  $G \subset \mathbf{R}^n$  are investigated in [3, 7–10]. The main purpose of this paper is to show how the  $l_h^2$  elements of the system of PCCM can be evaluated in  $\mathcal{O}(l_h^2)$  arithmetical operations with an accuracy preserving the convergence rate of the basic PCCM.

**1. Integral equation.** In this paper, we shall deal with an integral equation

$$(1.1) \quad u(x) = \int_G K(x, y)u(y) dy + f(x), \quad x \in G,$$

where  $G \subset \mathbf{R}^n$  is an open bounded set with a piecewise smooth boundary  $\partial G$ . The following assumptions (A1)–(A4) are made.

(A1) The kernel  $K(x, y)$  is twice continuously differentiable on  $(G \times G) \setminus \{x = y\}$  and there exists a real number  $\nu$  ( $\nu < n$ ) such that, for any  $x, y \in G$ ,  $x \neq y$ , and any multi-indices  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  and  $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n)$  with  $|\alpha| + |\beta| \leq 2$ ,

$$(1.2) \quad \left| \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \right)^{\alpha_1} \cdots \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \right)^{\alpha_n} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y_1} \right)^{\beta_1} \cdots \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y_n} \right)^{\beta_n} K(x, y) \right| \leq b \begin{cases} 1, & \nu + |\alpha| < 0 \\ 1 + |\log |x - y||, & \nu + |\alpha| = 0, \quad b = \text{constant.} \\ |x - y|^{-\nu - |\alpha|}, & \nu + |\alpha| > 0 \end{cases}$$

Here the following usual conventions are adopted:

$$|\alpha| = \alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_n \quad \text{for } \alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in \mathbf{Z}_+^n,$$

$$|x| = (x_1^2 + \cdots + x_n^2)^{1/2} \quad \text{for } x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbf{R}^n.$$

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Note that from (1.2) a similar estimate for  $|D_y^\alpha D_{x+y}^\beta D(x, y)|$  follows.

(A2) The homogeneous integral equation corresponding to (1.1) has in  $L(G)$  only the trivial solution.

(A3)  $f \in C^{2,\nu}(G)$ , i.e.,  $f$  is twice continuously differentiable on  $G$  and, for any  $x \in G$  and any multi-index  $\alpha \in \mathbf{Z}_+^n$  with  $|\alpha| \leq 2$ ,

$$|D^\alpha f(x)| \leq c_f \begin{cases} 1, & |\alpha| < n - \nu \\ 1 + |\log \rho(x)|, & |\alpha| = n - \nu \\ \rho(x)^{n-\nu-|\alpha|}, & |\alpha| > n - \nu \end{cases}, \quad c_f = \text{constant},$$

where  $\rho(x) = \inf_{y \in \partial G} |x - y|$  is the distance from  $x$  to  $\partial G$ .

(A4) For any  $x^1, x^2 \in G$ ,

$$|f(x^1) - f(x^2)| \leq c'_f \begin{cases} d_G(x^1, x^2), & \nu < n - 1 \\ d_G(x^1, x^2)[1 + |\log d_G(x^1, x^2)|], & \nu = n - 1 \\ d_G(x^1, x^2)^{n-\nu}, & \nu > n - 1 \end{cases}$$

where  $d_G(x^1, x^2)$  is defined as the infimum of lengths of polygonal paths in  $G$  joining points  $x^1$  and  $x^2$ ; if  $x^1$  and  $x^2$  belong to different connectivity components of  $G$ , define  $d_G(x^1, x^2) = \infty$ .

In many cases (A4) is a consequence of (A3), e.g., if  $\nu < n - 1$  or if  $G$  satisfies the cone condition [5].

From (A1)–(A3) it follows that equation (1.1) is uniquely solvable in  $C^{2,\nu}(G)$  (see [6]).

Note that the kernels  $K(x, y) = a(x, y)|x - y|^{-\nu}$  ( $0 < \nu < n$ ) and  $K(x, y) = a(x, y) \log |x - y|$  ( $\nu = 0$ ) satisfy (A1) if  $a(x, y)$  is twice continuously differentiable on  $(G \times G) \setminus \{x = y\}$  and its derivatives are bounded or, more generally, e.g., in case  $0 < \nu < n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \right)^{\alpha_1} \cdots \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \right)^{\alpha_n} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y_1} \right)^{\beta_1} \cdots \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y_n} \right)^{\beta_n} a(x, y) \right| \\ & \leq b' |x - y|^{-|\alpha|}, \quad |\alpha| + |\beta| \leq 2, \quad b' = \text{constant}. \end{aligned}$$

A further example of a kernel satisfying (A1) derives from radiation transfer theory and is known as Peierls kernel

$$K(x, y) = \frac{1}{4\pi} e^{-\tau(x,y)} |x - y|^{-2} \sigma_s(y), \quad n = 3, \nu = 2,$$

where

$$\tau(x, y) = |x - y| \int_0^1 \sigma(tx + (1 - t)y) dt$$

is the optical distance between points  $x, y \in G$  (the set  $G$  is assumed to be convex in this example); the extinction coefficient  $\sigma : \overline{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  and the scattering coefficients  $\sigma_s : \overline{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  are assumed to be twice continuously differentiable.

A more general example of a kernel satisfying (A1) is given by

$$K(x, y) = \kappa(x, y, |x - y|)$$

where  $\kappa : G \times G \times \mathbf{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is a twice continuously differentiable function such that, for  $|\alpha| + |\beta| + k \leq 2$ ,

$$\left| D_x^\alpha D_y^\beta \frac{\partial^k}{\partial r^k} \kappa(x, y, r) \right| \leq b'' r^{-\nu-k}, \quad 0 < \nu < n, b'' = \text{constant}.$$

**2. Subdivisions of  $G$ .** Let us denote, for a set  $G' \subset G$ ,

$$d_G\text{-diam } G' = \sup_{x,y \in G'} d_G(x, y).$$

Denote by  $H_c$  the collection of  $h = (h_1, \dots, h_n) \in \mathbf{R}^n$  with  $h_i > 0$ ,  $|h|/h_i \leq c$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ). For any  $h \in H_c$ , divide  $\mathbf{R}^n$  into rectangular boxes

$$B_{\lambda,h} = \{x \in \mathbf{R}^n : (\lambda_i - 1/2)h_i \leq x_i < (\lambda_i + 1/2)h_i, i = 1, \dots, n\},$$

$$\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbf{Z}^n.$$

Let  $\Lambda_h \subset \mathbf{Z}^n$  be the subset of those  $\lambda \in \mathbf{Z}^n$  that  $G \cap B_{\lambda,h}$  is nonvoid. Then, by

$$(2.1) \quad G_{\lambda,h} = G \cap B_{\lambda,h}, \quad \lambda \in \Lambda_h \subset \mathbf{Z}^n,$$

is defined a subdivision of  $G$ . We make the following assumption about the regularity of the boundary  $\partial G$ :

(A5) For all  $h \in H_c$  with sufficiently small  $|h|$ , the sets  $G_{\lambda,h}$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda_h$  are connected and  $d_G$ -diam  $G_{\lambda,h} \leq \text{const} \cdot |h|$  where the constant does not depend on  $h$ .

Note that  $d_G$ -diam  $G_{\lambda,h} = |h|$  for inner boxes  $G_{\lambda,h} = B_{\lambda,h} \subset G$ ; thus, this assumption concerns only subsets  $G_{\lambda,h}$  such that  $\partial G \cap B_{\lambda,h} \neq \emptyset$ . Note also that (A5) is trivially fulfilled for a convex set  $G$  and  $\text{const} = 1$  in this case.

Further, in any  $G_{\lambda,h}$  choose a point  $\xi_{\lambda,h}$  as follows:

$$(2.2) \quad \begin{cases} \xi_{\lambda,h} = (\lambda_1 h_1, \dots, \lambda_n h_n) \text{ is the center of } G_{\lambda,h} & \text{in case } B_{\lambda,h} \subset G; \\ \xi_{\lambda,h} \in G_{\lambda,h} \text{ is arbitrary} & \text{in case } \partial G \cap B_{\lambda,h} \neq \emptyset. \end{cases}$$

These points will be used as collocation points in the PCCM and as nodes in the cubature formula

$$(2.3) \quad \int_{G_{\lambda,h}} v(y) dy \approx v(\xi_{\lambda,h}) w_{\lambda,h}.$$

Here weights  $w_{\lambda,h}$  are considered as approximations to  $\text{meas } G_{\lambda,h}$ ; it is assumed that

$$(2.4) \quad \begin{cases} w_{\lambda,h} = h_1 \dots h_n & \text{in case } B_{\lambda,h} \subset G, \\ |w_{\lambda,h} - \text{meas } G_{\lambda,h}| \leq \text{const} |h| h_1 \dots h_n & \text{in case } \partial G \cap B_{\lambda,h} \neq \emptyset, \end{cases}$$

where the constant does not depend on  $h \in H_c$ . Note that in the case of a piecewise  $C^2$ -smooth boundary  $\partial G$  we can put, e.g.,

$$w_{\lambda,h} = \text{meas } \tilde{G}_{\lambda,h}$$

where  $\tilde{G}_{\lambda,h}$  is obtained from  $G_{\lambda,h}$  approximating  $\partial G$ , inside a box  $G_{\lambda,h}$ , by means of tangent or secant planes. This procedure can be performed in  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  arithmetical operations, but it is not the purpose of this paper to develop these procedures in detail. Instead, we make our last assumption:

(A6) Every weight  $w_{\lambda,h}$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda_h$ , corresponding to a  $G_{\lambda,h}$  with a nonvoid  $B_{\lambda,h} \cap \partial G$  and satisfying (2.4) can be found in  $\text{const} |h|^{-1}$  arithmetical operations where the constant does not depend on  $h \in H_c$ .

Note that the number of  $B_{\lambda,h}$  intersecting  $\partial G$  is  $\mathcal{O}(|h|^{-n+1})$ ; thus all weights  $w_{\lambda,h}$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda_h$ , satisfying (2.4) can be found in  $\mathcal{O}(|h|^{-n})$  arithmetical operations. Note also that  $\text{card}\Lambda_h$  is of the order  $|h|^{-n}$ .

**3. Piecewise constant collocation method (PCCM) and the related cubature formula method (CFM).** Represent an approximate solution to equation (1.1) in the form  $\bar{u}_h = \sum_{\lambda' \in \Lambda_h} u_{\lambda',h} \chi_{\lambda',h}$  where  $\chi_{\lambda',h}$  is the characteristic function of  $G_{\lambda',h}$  (see (2.1)) and  $u_{\lambda',h}$  is an approximate value to the exact solution of (1.1) at the point  $\xi_{\lambda',h}$  (see (2.2)). Substituting  $\bar{u}_h$  into equation (1.1) and collocating at points  $\xi_{\lambda,h}$  we obtain the following PCCM-system of equations with respect to  $u_{\lambda,h}$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda_h$ :

$$(3.1) \quad u_{\lambda,h} = \sum_{\lambda' \in \Lambda_h} \int_{G_{\lambda',h}} K(\xi_{\lambda,h}, y) dy u_{\lambda',h} + f(\xi_{\lambda,h}), \quad \lambda \in \Lambda_h.$$

Now, using the cubature formula (2.3) we obtain a related cubature formula method (CFM)

$$(3.2) \quad u_{\lambda,h} = \sum_{\substack{\lambda' \in \Lambda_h: |\xi_{\lambda,h} - \xi_{\lambda',h}| \geq c_1 |h| \\ \lambda \in \Lambda_h}} K(\xi_{\lambda,h}, \xi_{\lambda',h}) w_{\lambda',h} u_{\lambda',h} + f(\xi_{\lambda,h}),$$

We omitted the terms where the arguments of  $K(x, y)$  were too close to one another;  $c_1$  is a positive constant not depending on  $h$ .

**Theorem 1.** *Let assumptions (A1)–(A5) hold. Then there exists a  $\delta_0 > 0$  such that, for all  $h \in H_c$  with  $|h| < \delta_0$ , systems (3.1) and (3.2) are uniquely solvable and the following error estimates hold.*

(a) For PCCM (3.1),

$$(3.3) \quad \max_{\lambda \in \Lambda_h} |u_{\lambda,h} - u(\xi_{\lambda,h})| \leq \text{const} (\varepsilon_{\nu,h})^2,$$

$$(3.4) \quad \sup_{x \in G} |u_h(x) - u(x)| \leq \text{const} (\varepsilon_{\nu,h})^2$$

where  $u$  is the solution to (1.1),

$$(3.5) \quad u_h(x) = \sum_{\lambda' \in \Lambda_h} \int_{G_{\lambda',h}} K(x, y) dy u_{\lambda',h} + f(x), \quad x \in G,$$

and

$$(3.6) \quad \varepsilon_{\nu,h} = \begin{cases} |h|, & \nu < n-1 \\ |h|(1 + |\log |h||), & \nu = n-1 \\ |h|^{n-\nu}, & \nu > n-1 \end{cases}.$$

(b) For CFM (3.2),

$$(3.7) \quad \max_{\lambda \in \Lambda_h} |u_{\lambda,h} - u(\xi_{\lambda,h})| \leq \text{const } \varepsilon'_{\nu,h},$$

$$(3.8) \quad \sup_{x \in G} |u_h(x) - u(x)| \leq \text{const } \varepsilon'_{\nu,h}$$

where

$$(3.9) \quad u_h(x) = \sum_{\{\lambda' \in \Lambda_h : \text{dist}(x, G_{\lambda',h}) \geq c_1 |h|\}} K(x, \xi_{\lambda',h}) w_{\lambda',h} u_{\lambda',h} + f(x), \quad x \in G,$$

and

$$(3.10) \quad \varepsilon'_{\nu,h} = \begin{cases} |h|^2, & \nu < n-2 \\ |h|^2(1 + |\log |h||), & \nu = n-2 \\ |h|^{n-\nu}, & \nu > n-2 \end{cases}.$$

For the proof of this Theorem, we refer to [9]. The case of PCCM (3.1) is considered also in [7]. In these papers, more general (approximate) subdivisions of  $G$  are used.

We see that, for  $\nu < n-2$  method (3.2) achieves the accuracy of method (3.1); for  $\nu \geq n-2$ , method (3.1) is more precise than method (3.2).

**4. Refined algorithms for the evaluation of coefficients.** To evaluate the integrals (coefficients of system (3.1))

$$(4.1) \quad t_{\lambda,\lambda',h} = \int_{G_{\lambda',h}} K(\xi_{\lambda,h}, y) dy, \quad \lambda, \lambda' \in \Lambda_h$$

we shall use cubature formula (2.3) and its composite version:

$$(4.2) \quad \tilde{t}_{\lambda, \lambda', h} = K(\xi_{\lambda, h}, \xi_{\lambda', h}) w_{\lambda', h},$$

$$(4.3) \quad \tilde{t}_{\lambda, \lambda', h} = \sum_{\{\mu \in \Lambda_{N-1h}; \xi_{\mu, N-1h} \in G_{\lambda', h}\}} K(\xi_{\lambda, h}, \xi_{\mu, N-1h}) w_{\mu, N-1h},$$

again omitting terms where the arguments of  $K(x, y)$  are too near to one another. Here  $N$  is an integer which will be chosen depending on  $|\xi_{\lambda, h} - \xi_{\lambda', h}|$ . More precisely, the following algorithms are proposed.

**Algorithm 1.** Fix numbers  $c_0 > 0$  and  $c_1 > 0$ , find an integer  $p = p(h)$  such that

$$(4.4) \quad 2^{-p-1} c_0 < |h| \leq 2^{-p} c_0$$

and

- (i) use formula (4.2) if  $|\xi_{\lambda, h} - \xi_{\lambda', h}| \geq c_0$ ;
- (ii) use formula (4.3) with  $N = 2^k$  if  $2^{-k} c_0 \leq |\xi_{\lambda, h} - \xi_{\lambda', h}| < 2^{-k+1} c_0$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq p - 1$ ;
- (iii) use formula (4.3) with  $N = 2^p$  if  $|\xi_{\lambda, h} - \xi_{\lambda', h}| < 2^{-p+1} c_0$  omitting terms where  $|\xi_{\mu, N-1h} - \xi_{\lambda, h}| < c_1 2^{-p} |h|$ .

**Algorithm 2.** Differs from Algorithm 1 only in prescription (ii) which now has the form:

- (ii') use formula (4.3) with  $N = 2^{k-\sigma_k}$  if  $2^{-k} c_0 \leq |\xi_{\lambda, h} - \xi_{\lambda', h}| < 2^{-k+1} c_0$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq p - 1$ , where  $\sigma_k = [s \log_2 k]$  is the integer part of  $s \log_2 k$  and  $s > 1/n$  is a further parameter.

Due to (4.4) the smallest mesh size used in Algorithms 1 and 2 is of order  $|h|^2$ . Let us denote by  $l_h = \text{card} \Lambda_h$  the number of unknowns in system (3.1). It is a quantity of order  $\mathcal{O}(|h|^{-n})$ .

**Proposition 1.** Let (A6) be satisfied. Then the amount of work to evaluate  $l_h^2$  integrals (4.1) by means of Algorithm 1 or 2 is, respectively,  $\mathcal{O}(l_h^2 \log_2 l_h)$  and  $\mathcal{O}(l_h^2)$  arithmetical operations.

*Proof.* First we estimate the amount of the work needed to compute nonstandard weights  $w_{\mu, 2^{-k}h}$ ,  $\mu \in \Lambda_{2^{-k}h}$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots, p$ . According to (A6), the calculation of  $w_{\mu, 2^{-k}h}$ ,  $\mu \in \Lambda_{2^{-k}h}$ , with  $k$  fixed, requires  $\leq c|2^{-k}h|^{-n} = c2^{kn}|h|^{-n}$  arithmetical operations. All weights used in Algorithm 1 do not require more than

$$c|h|^{-n} \sum_{k=0}^p 2^{kn} \leq c'|h|^{-n} 2^{pn} \leq c''|h|^{-2n} \leq c'''l_h^2$$

arithmetical operations (we exploited (4.4) here). Algorithm 2 requires slightly less work, but still  $\mathcal{O}(l_h^2)$  arithmetical operations to evaluate the weights.

Let us consider the case of Algorithm 1. It is sufficient to show that, for any fixed  $\lambda \in \Lambda_h$ , elements  $\tilde{t}_{\lambda, \lambda', h}$ ,  $\lambda' \in \Lambda_h$  can be calculated in  $\mathcal{O}(l_h \log_2 l_h)$  operations. It is clear that the calculations via (4.2) take  $\mathcal{O}(l_h)$  operations. Further, every application of (4.3) with  $N = 2^k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq p-1$ , costs  $\leq 2 \cdot 2^{kn}$  operations (here  $2^{kn}$  is the number of nodes used in (4.3)). Thereby, formula (4.3) with  $N = 2^k$  is used not more than

$$\text{meas} \{y \in \mathbf{R}^n : 2^{-k}c_0 - |h| \leq |\xi_{\lambda, h} - y| \leq 2^{-k+1}c_0 + |h|\} / \text{meas} B_{\lambda, h} \equiv \tau_{k, h}$$

times, and this quantity can be estimated as follows:

$$\tau_{k, h} \leq c|h|^{-n} \text{meas} \{y \in \mathbf{R}^n : |y| \leq 2^{-k+2}c_0\} \leq c'|h|^{-n} 2^{-kn}.$$

Thus, the total work with (4.3) with  $N = 2^k$  is  $c|h|^{-n}$  arithmetical operations and, for all  $k = 1, \dots, p-1$ , this number is  $c'|h|^{-n} |\log_2 |h||$  while, due to (4.4),  $p \leq |\log_2 |h|| + \log_2 c_0$ . Quantities  $|h|^{-n} |\log_2 |h||$  and  $l_h \log_2 l_h$  are of the same order. It remains to estimate the amount of work with  $N = 2^p$ . Due to (4.4), condition  $|\xi_{\lambda, h} - \xi_{\lambda', h}| < 2^{-p+1}c_0$  implies inequality  $|\xi_{\lambda, h} - \xi_{\lambda', h}| < 4|h|$ , therefore the number of  $\tilde{t}_{\lambda, \lambda', h}$  calculated via  $\{(4.3), N = 2^p\}$  remains bounded as  $|h| \rightarrow 0$ . One evaluation by  $\{(4.3), N = 2^p\}$  costs no more than  $2 \cdot 2^{pn} \leq 2(c_0/|h|)^n \leq cl_h$  arithmetical operations, thus the total amount of work is  $\mathcal{O}(l_h)$  arithmetical operations. This completes the proof of Proposition 1 for Algorithm 1.

Let us consider the case of Algorithm 2. Let  $\lambda \in \Lambda_h$  be fixed again. The number of arithmetical operations on every application of (4.3)



with  $N = 2^{k-\sigma_k}$  is  $2 \cdot 2^{(k-\sigma_k)n} \leq 2 \cdot 2^{kn} \cdot (2k^{-2})^n$ ; the number of evaluations was estimated by  $c'|h|^{-n}2^{-kn}$ . Thus, all applications of (4.3) with  $N = 2^{k-\sigma_k}$  for  $k = 1, \dots, p-1$ , but fixed  $\lambda \in \Lambda_h$ , are done in

$$c|h|^{-n} \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} k^{-ns} \leq c'|h|^{-n} \leq c''l_h$$

arithmetical operations. This completes the proof of Proposition 1 for Algorithm 2.  $\square$

**5. Error analysis (preliminaries).** Here we examine the preciseness of cubature formula (4.3) for a single coefficient  $t_{\lambda, \lambda', h}$ .

**Lemma 1.** *Let (A1) with  $\nu > 0$  and (A5) be satisfied. Let  $|\xi_{\lambda, h} - \xi_{\lambda', h}| \geq 2|h|$ . Then, for cubature formula (4.3),*

$$(5.1) \quad |t_{\lambda, \lambda', h} - \tilde{t}_{\lambda, \lambda', h}| \leq \text{const } N^{-2}|h|^2 \int_{G_{\lambda', h}} |\xi_{\lambda, h} - y|^{-\nu-2} dy + \text{const } N^{-1}|h| \int_{\{y \in B_{\lambda', h}; \rho(y) < N^{-1}|h|\}} |\xi_{\lambda, h} - y|^{-\nu-1} dy, \quad \lambda, \lambda' \in \Lambda_h$$

(if  $\partial G \cap B_{\lambda', h} = \emptyset$ , then the second term in the right hand side can be cancelled).

*Proof.* We have, due to (2.4),

$$(5.2) \quad |t_{\lambda, \lambda', h} - \tilde{t}_{\lambda, \lambda', h}| \leq \sum_{\{\mu \in \Lambda_{N^{-1}h}; \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h} \in G_{\lambda', h}\}} \left| \int_{G_{\mu, N^{-1}h}} [K(\xi_{\lambda, h}, y) - K(\xi_{\lambda, h}, \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h})] dy \right| + \sum_{\{\mu \in \Lambda_{N^{-1}h}; \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h} \in G_{\lambda', h}, B_{\mu, N^{-1}h} \not\subset G\}} \left| K(\xi_{\lambda, h}, \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h}) \right| \cdot \left| w_{\mu, N^{-1}h} - \text{meas } G_{\mu, N^{-1}h} \right|.$$

For inner boxes  $G_{\mu, N^{-1}h} = B_{\mu, N^{-1}h} \subset G$ , (2.2) implies

$$\int_{G_{\mu, N^{-1}h}} (y - \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h}) dy = 0;$$

therefore, for those  $G_{\mu, N^{-1}h}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_{G_{\mu, N^{-1}h}} [K(\xi_{\lambda, h}, y) - K(\xi_{\lambda, h}, \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h})] dy \right| \\ &= \left| \int_{G_{\mu, N^{-1}h}} \left[ K(\xi_{\lambda, h}, y) - K(\xi_{\lambda, h}, \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h}) \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. - \frac{\partial K(\xi_{\lambda, h}, \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h})}{\partial y} (y - \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h}) \right] dy \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \int_{G_{\mu, N^{-1}h}} \max_{0 \leq t \leq 1} \left| \frac{\partial^2 K(\xi_{\lambda, h}, ty + (1-t)\xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h})}{\partial y^2} \right| \\ &\quad \cdot |y - \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h}|^2 dy \end{aligned}$$

where the derivatives are understood in Frechet sense. Here  $|y - \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h}|^2 \leq N^{-2}|h|^2/4$  for  $y \in G_{\mu, N^{-1}h}$  and, as a consequence of (1.2),

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{\partial^2 K(\xi_{\lambda, h}, ty + (1-t)\xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h})}{\partial y^2} \right| &\leq c |\xi_{\lambda, h} - (ty + (1-t)\xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h})|^{-\nu-2} \\ &\leq c' |\xi_{\lambda, h} - y|^{-\nu-2}. \end{aligned}$$

Summing up over  $\mu$  we obtain the first term in the right hand side of estimate (5.1).

Now consider boxes  $B_{\mu, N^{-1}h}$  intersecting  $\partial G$ . For these we use a more simple estimate

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_{G_{\mu, N^{-1}h}} [K(\xi_{\lambda, h}, y) - K(\xi_{\lambda, h}, \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h})] dy \right| \\ &\leq cN^{-1}|h| \int_{G_{\mu, N^{-1}h}} |\xi_{\lambda, h} - y|^{-\nu-1} dy \end{aligned}$$

which is a corollary of (1.2) and (A5). Summing up over these  $\mu$ , we obtain the second term in the right hand side of estimate (5.1).

Further, due to (2.4), the second sum in (5.2) can be bounded by quantity

$$cN^{-1}|h| \sum_{\substack{\{\mu \in \Lambda_{N^{-1}h} : \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h} \in G_{\lambda', h}, \\ B_{\mu, N^{-1}h} \not\subset G\}}} \int_{B_{\mu, N^{-1}h}} |K(\xi_{\lambda, h}, \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h})| dy.$$

Estimating  $|K(x, y)|$  by  $c|x - y|^{-\nu-1}$  (not by  $b|x - y|^{-\nu}$  which would also be possible) we represent this quantity also in the form of second term in the right hand side of (5.1). We thereby exploit the fact that the  $|\xi_{\lambda, h} - \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h}|$  and  $|\xi_{\lambda, h} - y|$  are of the same order if  $y \in B_{\mu, N^{-1}h}$  and  $|\xi_{\lambda, h} - \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h}| \geq 2N^{-1}|h|$ . The proof of Lemma 1 is completed.  $\square$

Now consider the case where  $\xi_{\lambda, h}$  and  $\xi_{\lambda', h}$  may be close to one another, i.e.,  $\lambda = \lambda'$ .

**Lemma 2.** *Let (A1) with  $\nu > 0$  and (A5) be satisfied. Omit from (4.3) the terms with  $|\xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h} - \xi_{\lambda, h}| < c_1 N^{-1}|h|$ . Then*

$$(5.3) \quad \begin{aligned} |t_{\lambda, \lambda', h} - \tilde{t}_{\lambda, \lambda', h}| &\leq \text{const } (N^{-1}|h|)^{n-\nu} \\ &+ \text{const } N^{-2}|h|^2 \int_{\substack{\{y \in G_{\lambda', h} : \\ |\xi_{\lambda, h} - y| > N^{-1}|h|\}}} |\xi_{\lambda, h} - y|^{-\nu-2} dy \\ &+ \text{const } N^{-1}|h| \int_{\substack{\{y \in B_{\lambda', h} : \\ \rho(y) < N^{-1}|h|, \\ |\xi_{\lambda, h} - y| > N^{-1}|h|\}}} |\xi_{\lambda, h} - y|^{-\nu-1} dy. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* We estimate the integrals and their cubature approximations in a rough manner if arguments of  $K(x, y)$  are too near to one another:

$$\begin{aligned} &\left| \sum_{\{\mu \in \Lambda_{N^{-1}h} : \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h} \in G_{\lambda', h}, |\xi_{\lambda, h} - \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h}| < 2N^{-1}|h|\}} \int_{G_{\mu, N^{-1}h}} K(\xi_{\lambda, h}, y) dy \right| \\ &\leq b \int_{\{y \in \mathbf{R}^n : |\xi_{\lambda, h} - y| < 3N^{-1}|h|\}} |\xi_{y, h} - y|^{-\nu} dy \\ &\leq \text{const } (N^{-1}|h|)^{n-\nu}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\left| \sum_{\{\mu \in \Lambda_{N^{-1}h} : \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h} \in G_{\lambda', h}, c_1 N^{-1}|h| \leq |\xi_{\lambda, h} - \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h}| < 2N^{-1}|h|\}} \cdot K(\xi_{\lambda, h}, \xi_{\mu, N^{-1}h}) w_{\mu, N^{-1}h} \right|$$

$$\leq b(c_1 N^{-1}|h|)^{-\nu} \text{meas} \{y \in \mathbf{R}^n : |\xi_{\lambda, h} - y| < 3N^{-1}|h|\}$$

$$\leq \text{const} \{N^{-1}|h|\}^{n-\nu}$$

(the last sum occurs in (4.3) only in case  $c_1 < 2$ ). After this the remaining terms can be treated in a similar way as in the proof of Lemma 1, and the result is (5.3).  $\square$

**6. Error analysis of Algorithms 1 and 2.** Introduce matrices

$$T_h = (t_{\lambda, \lambda', h})_{\lambda, \lambda' \in \Lambda_h}, \quad \tilde{T}_h = (\tilde{t}_{\lambda, \lambda', h})_{\lambda, \lambda' \in \Lambda_h}$$

where  $\tilde{t}_{\lambda, \lambda', h}$ ,  $\lambda, \lambda' \in \Lambda_h$  are computed by means of Algorithm 1 or 2. We shall estimate the norm

$$\|T_h - \tilde{T}_h\| = \max_{\lambda \in \Lambda_h} \sum_{\lambda' \in \Lambda_h} |t_{\lambda, \lambda', h} - \tilde{t}_{\lambda, \lambda', h}|.$$

**Lemma 3.** *Let (A1) and (A5) be satisfied. Then, for Algorithms 1 and 2,*

$$(6.1) \quad \|T_h - \tilde{T}_h\| \leq \text{const} (|h|^2 + |h|^{2(n-\nu)}).$$

*Proof.* It suffices to prove (6.1) in case  $n-1 \leq \nu < n$ . Indeed, if (1.2) is fulfilled with a  $\nu < n-1$ , then also with  $\nu = n-1$ , and (6.1) with  $\nu = n-1$  provides  $\|T_h - \tilde{T}_h\| \leq \text{const} |h|^2$ . Thus, let  $n-1 \leq \nu < n$  hold.

Let us prove (6.1) for Algorithm 1. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \|T_h - \tilde{T}_h\| &= \max_{\lambda \in \Lambda_h} \sum_{\lambda' \in \Lambda_h} |t_{\lambda, \lambda', h} - \tilde{t}_{\lambda, \lambda', h}| \\ &= \max_{\lambda \in \Lambda_h} \sum_{k=0}^p \tau_{\lambda, h}^{(k)} \end{aligned}$$

where the terms

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_{\lambda,h}^{(0)} &= \sum_{\{\lambda' \in \Lambda_h: |\xi_{\lambda,h} - \xi_{\lambda',h}| \geq c_0\}} |t_{\lambda,\lambda',h} - \tilde{t}_{\lambda,\lambda',h}|, \\ \tau_{\lambda,h}^{(k)} &= \sum_{\{\lambda' \in \Lambda_h: 2^{-k}c_0 \leq |\xi_{\lambda,h} - \xi_{\lambda',h}| < 2^{-k+1}c_0\}} |t_{\lambda,\lambda',h} - \tilde{t}_{\lambda,\lambda',h}|, \\ &\quad k = 1, \dots, p-1, \\ \tau_{\lambda,h}^{(p)} &= \sum_{\{\lambda' \in \Lambda: |\xi_{\lambda,h} - \xi_{\lambda',h}| < 2^{-p+1}c_0\}} |t_{\lambda,\lambda',h} - \tilde{t}_{\lambda,\lambda',h}| \end{aligned}$$

correspond to different definitions of  $\tilde{t}_{\lambda,\lambda',h}$ , see (i), (ii) and (iii) in Algorithm 1. Denote by  $d$  the diameter of  $G$ . Using Lemmas 1 and 2, we estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_{\lambda,h}^{(0)} &\leq c|h|^2 \int_{\{y \in \mathbf{R}^n: c_0 - |h| \leq |\xi_{\lambda,h} - y| < d\}} |\xi_{\lambda,h} - y|^{-\nu-2} dy \\ &\quad + c|h| \int_{\substack{\{y \in \mathbf{R}^n: c_0 - |h| < |\xi_{\lambda,h} - y| < d, \\ \rho(y) < |h|\}}} |\xi_{\lambda,h} - y|^{-\nu-1} \leq c'|h|^2, \\ \tau_{\lambda,h}^{(k)} &\leq c2^{-2k}|h|^2 \int_{\{y \in \mathbf{R}^n: 2^{-k-1}c_0 < |\xi_{\lambda,h} - y| < 2^{-k+2}c_0\}} |\xi_{\lambda,h} - y|^{-\nu-2} dy \\ (6.2) \quad &\quad + c2^{-k}|h| \int_{\substack{\{y \in \mathbf{R}^n: 2^{-k-1}c_0 < |\xi_{\lambda,h} - y| < 2^{-k+2}c_0, \\ \rho(y) < 2^{-k}|h|\}}} |\xi_{\lambda,h} - y|^{-\nu-1} dy \\ &\leq c'2^{-k(n-\nu)}|h|^2, \quad k = 1, \dots, p-1, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_{\lambda,h}^{(p)} &\leq c(2^{-p}|h|)^{n-\nu} \\ &\quad + c2^{-2p}|h|^2 \int_{\{y \in \mathbf{R}^n: 2^{-p}|h| < |\xi_{\lambda,h} - y| < 2^{-p+2}c_0\}} |\xi_{\lambda,h} - y|^{-\nu-2} \\ &\quad + c2^{-p}|h| \int_{\substack{\{y \in \mathbf{R}^n: 2^{-p}|h| < |\xi_{\lambda,h} - y| < 2^{-p+2}c_0, \\ \rho(y) < 2^{-p}|h|\}}} |\xi_{\lambda,h} - y|^{-\nu-1} dy \\ &\leq c'|h|^{2(n-\nu)}. \end{aligned}$$

Here we took into account that, due to (4.4),  $2^{-p} \leq 2c_0^{-1}|h|$ , and for  $\nu \geq n - 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\{y \in \mathbf{R}^n: r < |y| < d\}} |y|^{-\nu-2} dy &\leq \text{const } r^{n-\nu-2}, \\ \int_{\{y' \in \mathbf{R}^{n-1}: r < |y'| < d\}} |y'|^{-\nu-1} dy' &\leq \text{const } r^{n-\nu-2}; \end{aligned}$$

we also have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\{y \in \mathbf{R}^n: r < |\xi_{\lambda, h} - y| < r_1, \rho(y) < \delta\}} |\xi_{\lambda, h} - y|^{-\nu-1} dy \\ \leq c\delta \int_{\{y' \in \mathbf{R}^{n-1}: r < |y'| < r_1\}} |y'|^{-\nu-1} dy' \end{aligned}$$

(this inequality can be established by arguments using the rectification of boundary  $\partial G$ ).

Summing up, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|T_h - \tilde{T}_h\| &\leq c'(|h|^2 + \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} 2^{-k(n-\nu)}|h|^2 + |h|^{2(n-\nu)}) \\ &\leq c|h|^2 + c'|h|^{2(n-\nu)}. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof in case of Algorithm 1.

In the case of Algorithm 2, only inequalities (6.2) must be overlooked. Now, instead of  $2^{-2k}$  and  $2^{-k}$ , multipliers  $2^{-2(k-\sigma_k)}$  and  $2^{-(k-\sigma_k)}$  arise in front of the integrals in (6.2), and the result is

$$\tau_{\lambda, h}^{(k)} \leq c' k^{2s} 2^{-k(n-\nu)} |h|^2, \quad k = 1, \dots, p-1.$$

Consequently, (6.1) holds again. The proof of Lemma 3 is completed.  $\square$

**7. Error estimates for approximate solutions.** We are interested in the behavior of the solution of system (3.1) with approximated coefficients:

$$(7.1) \quad \tilde{u}_{\lambda, h} = \sum_{\lambda' \in \Lambda_h} \tilde{\tau}_{\lambda, \lambda', h} \tilde{u}_{\lambda', h} + f(\xi_{\lambda, h}), \quad \lambda \in \Lambda_h.$$

Solving this system we can define an approximate solution to (1.1) for all  $x \in G$  in a similar way as in (3.5):

$$(7.2) \quad \tilde{u}_h(x) = \sum_{\lambda' \in \Lambda_h} \int_{G_{\lambda',h}} K(x, y) dy \tilde{u}_{\lambda',h} + f(x), \quad x \in G.$$

The integrals in (7.2) can be calculated using an extension of Algorithm 1 or 2 which we obtain by substituting  $\xi_{\lambda,h}$  for  $x$  in (4.2), (4.3) and (i)–(iii). Thus, we design an approximation

$$(7.3) \quad \tilde{v}_h(x) = \sum_{\lambda' \in \Lambda_h} \tilde{t}_{\lambda',h}(x) \tilde{u}_{\lambda',h} + f(x), \quad x \in G.$$

Every evaluation of  $\tilde{v}_h(x)$  at a point  $x \in G$ ,  $x \notin \Xi_h$ , costs  $\mathcal{O}(l_h)$  or  $\mathcal{O}(l_h \log_2 l_h)$  arithmetical operations if Algorithm 1, or, respectively, Algorithm 2 is used. For  $x = \xi_{\lambda,h}$ , we have  $\tilde{v}_h(\xi_{\lambda,h}) = \tilde{u}_{\lambda,h}$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda_h$ .

**Theorem 2.** *Let assumptions (A1)–(A5) hold. Let coefficients  $\tilde{t}_{\lambda,\lambda',h}$  be calculated by means of Algorithm 1 or Algorithm 2. Then there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that, for all  $h \in H_c$  with  $|h| < \delta$ , systems (3.1) and (7.1) are uniquely solvable, and*

$$(7.4) \quad \max_{\lambda \in \Lambda_h} |u_{\lambda,h} - \tilde{u}_{\lambda,h}| \leq \text{const} (|h|^2 + |h|^{2(n-\nu)}),$$

$$(7.5) \quad \sup_{x \in G} |u_h(x) - \tilde{u}_h(x)| \leq \text{const} (|h|^2 + |h|^{2(n-\nu)}),$$

$$(7.6) \quad \sup_{x \in G} |\tilde{u}_h(x) - \tilde{v}_h(x)| \leq \text{const} (|h|^2 + |h|^{2(n-\nu)}).$$

where  $\{u_{\lambda,h}\}$  and  $\{\tilde{u}_{\lambda,h}\}$  are solutions to systems (3.1) and (7.1), respectively,  $u_h(x)$  is defined in (3.5),  $\tilde{u}_h(x)$  is defined in (7.2) and  $\tilde{v}_h(x)$  is obtained from  $\tilde{u}_h(x)$  approximating the integrals in (7.2) by means of the extension of Algorithm 1 or 2.

*Proof.* Introduce the space  $E_h$  of grid functions  $u_h : \Xi \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  where  $\Xi_h = \{\xi_{\lambda,h}\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$ , and equip it with norm

$$\|u_h\| = \max_{\lambda \in \Lambda_h} |u_h(\xi_{\lambda,h})|.$$

Systems (3.1) and (7.1) can be represented as equations in  $E_h$ ,  $u_h = T_h u_h + p_h f$  and  $\tilde{u}_h = \tilde{T}_h \tilde{u}_h + p_h f$ , respectively, where  $p_h f$  is the restriction of  $f$  to grid  $\Xi_h$ . In [7,9], it is proved that, under assumptions (A1)–(A5), operators  $I_h - T_h$  are for sufficiently small  $|h|$  invertible, and the inverse operators are uniformly bounded in  $h$ :

$$\|(I_h - T_h)^{-1}\|_{L(E_h, E_h)} \leq \text{const}, \quad h \in H_c, \quad |h| < \delta.$$

According to Lemma 3, we have

$$\|T_h - \tilde{T}_h\|_{L(E_h, E_h)} \leq \text{const} (|h|^2 + |h|^{2(n-\nu)})$$

(note that we estimated namely this operator norm).

The last two inequalities immediately imply (7.4). Estimation (7.5) is a direct consequence of (7.4). Repeating the arguments of the proof of Lemma 3, we see that

$$\sup_{x \in G} \sum_{\lambda' \in \Lambda_h} \left| \int_{G_{\lambda', h}} K(x, y) dy - \tilde{t}_{\lambda', h}(x) \right| \leq \text{const} (|h|^2 + |h|^{2(n-\nu)}).$$

This together with the uniform boundedness of  $\{\tilde{u}_{\lambda, h}\}$  as  $|h| \rightarrow 0$  implies (7.6). The proof of Theorem 2 is complete.  $\square$

**Corollary of Theorems 1 and 2.** *Under assumptions (A1)–(A5),*

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\lambda \in \Lambda_h} |\tilde{u}_{\lambda, h} - u(\xi_{\lambda, h})| &\leq \text{const} (\varepsilon_{\nu, h})^2, \\ \sup_{x \in G} |\tilde{u}_h(x) - u(x)| &\leq \text{const} (\varepsilon_{\nu, h})^2, \\ \sup_{x \in G} |\tilde{v}_h(x) - u(x)| &\leq \text{const} (\varepsilon_{\nu, h})^2 \end{aligned}$$

where  $u$  is the solution to integral equation (1.1),  $\{\tilde{u}_{\lambda, h}\}$  is the solution to system (7.1) with coefficients  $\tilde{t}_{\lambda, \lambda', h}$  evaluated by means of Algorithm 1 or 2,  $\tilde{u}_h(x)$  is defined by (7.2) and  $\tilde{v}_h(x)$  by (7.3).

In other words, Algorithms 1 and 2 are sufficiently precise to preserve the convergence rate of the basic method (3.1).



**8. Some further algorithms.** Cubature formulae Algorithms 1 and 2 are universal in the sense that they do not depend on  $\nu$ , the strength of the singularity of the kernel. In some sense, they are most properly adapted to the case  $\nu = n - 1$ . Here we give some further modifications of Algorithm 1 depending on  $\nu$ . In Algorithms 3 and 4, prescription (ii) allows the use of cubature formula (4.3) with an essentially smaller  $N$  than  $N = 2^k$  as in the case of Algorithm 1. On the other hand, we have not so much succeeded in prescription (iii).

**Algorithm 3** (for  $n - 1 \leq \nu < n$ ). Fix  $c_0 > 0$ ,  $c_1 > 0$ ,  $c_2 > 0$ ,  $a \in (1 - (n - \nu)/2, 1]$ , find  $p$  such that

$$2^{-p-1}c_0 < |h|^{1-\Theta} \leq 2^{-p}c_0 \quad \text{with} \quad \Theta = \frac{2 - 2(n - \nu)}{2 - (n - \nu)}$$

and

- (i) use (4.2) if  $|\xi_{\lambda,h} - \xi_{\lambda',h}| \geq c_0|h|^\Theta$ ;
- (ii) use (4.3) with  $N = 2^{[ak]}$  if  $2^{-k}c_0h^\Theta \leq |\xi_{\lambda,h} - \xi_{\lambda',h}| < 2^{-k+1}c_0h^\Theta$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq p - 1$ ;
- (iii) use (4.3) with  $N = [c_1|h|^{-1}]$  if  $|\xi_{\lambda,h} - \xi_{\lambda',h}| < 2^{-p+1}c_0h^\Theta$  omitting the terms where  $|\xi_{\mu,N^{-1}h} - \xi_{\lambda,h}| < c_2|h|^2$ .

**Algorithm 4** (for  $n - 2 < \nu \leq n - 1$ ). Fix  $c_0 > 0$ ,  $c_1 > 0$ ,  $c_2 > 0$ ,  $a \in (1 - (n - \nu)/2, 1]$ ; find  $p$  such that

$$2^{-p-1}c_0 < |h| \leq 2^{-p}c_0$$

and

- (i) use (4.2) if  $|\xi_{\lambda,h} - \xi_{\lambda',h}| \geq c_0$ ;
- (ii) use (4.3) with  $N = 2^{[ak]}$  if  $2^{-k}c_0 \leq |\xi_{\lambda,h} - \xi_{\lambda',h}| < 2^{-k+1}c_0$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq p - 1$ ;
- (iii) use (4.3) with  $N = [c_1|h|^{1-2/(n-\nu)}]$  if  $|\xi_{\lambda,h} - \xi_{\lambda',h}| < 2^{-p+1}c_0$  omitting the terms where  $|\xi_{\mu,N^{-1}h} - \xi_{\lambda,h}| < c_2|h|^{2/(n-\nu)}$ .

**Algorithm 5** (for  $\nu = n - 2$ ). Fix  $c_0 > 0$ ,  $c_1 > 0$ ; find  $p$  such that

$$2^{-p-1}c_0 < |h| < 2^{-p}c_0$$

and

- (i) use (4.2) if  $|\xi_{\lambda,h} - \xi_{\lambda',h}| \geq c_0$ ;
- (ii) use (4.3) with  $N = k$  if  $2^{-k}c_0 \leq |\xi_{\lambda,h} - \xi_{\lambda',h}| < 2^{-k+1}c_0$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq p-1$ ;
- (iii) use (4.3) with  $N = p$  if  $|\xi_{\lambda,h} - \xi_{\lambda',h}| < 2^{-p+1}c_0$  omitting the terms where  $|\xi_{\mu,N-1h} - \xi_{\lambda,h}| < c_1|h| |\log|h||^{-1/2}$  or, in case  $n \geq 3$ , simply put  $\tilde{t}_{\lambda,\lambda',h} = 0$ .

Note that in the case  $\nu < n-1$ , the simplest cubature formula method (3.2) is of accuracy  $\mathcal{O}(|h|^2)$ , and no further algorithms are needed.

**Proposition 2.** *Let (A6) be satisfied. Then the number of arithmetical operations to evaluate the  $l_h^2$  integral (4.1) is as follows:*

$\mathcal{O}(l_h^2)$  for Algorithm 3 if  $\nu > n-1$  or  $a < 1$  and  $\mathcal{O}(l_h^2 \log_2 l_h)$  if  $\nu = n-1$ ,  $a = 1$ ;

$\mathcal{O}(l_h^2)$  for Algorithm 4 if  $a < 1$  and  $\mathcal{O}(l_h^2 \log_2 l_h)$  if  $a = 1$ ;

$\mathcal{O}(l_h^2)$  for Algorithm 5.

**Lemma 4.** *Let (A1) and (A5) be satisfied. Then:*

$\|T_h - \tilde{T}_h\| \leq \text{const } |h|^{2(n-\nu)}$  if  $n-1 \leq \nu < n$  and Algorithm 3 is applied;

$\|T_h - \tilde{T}_h\| \leq \text{const } |h|^2$  if  $n-2 < \nu \leq n-1$  and Algorithm 4 is applied;

$\|T_h - \tilde{T}_h\| \leq \text{const } |h|^2$  if  $\nu = n-2$  and Algorithm 5 is applied.

The proofs of these assertions are similar to the proofs of Proposition 1 and Lemma 3.

From Lemma 4 it follows again that Algorithms 3, 4 and 5 preserve the convergence rate of the basic method (3.1) for respective  $\nu$ .

**9. Concluding remarks.** The results of the paper remain valid if, instead of exact subdivisions of  $G$ , approximate partitions of  $G$  are used where tangent or secant planes are constructed to approximate

$\partial G$  inside the boxes which intersect the boundary; the weights  $w_{\lambda,h} = \text{meas } G_{\lambda,h}$  can be found exactly in this case. The results can be extended to other sufficiently regular approximate or sharp partitions of  $G$ , e.g., for simplex partitions.

Using two grid methods (see [2, 4, 8, 11]) system (3.1) and its approximations by Algorithms 1–5 can be solved with an accuracy  $\mathcal{O}((\varepsilon_{\nu h})^2)$  in  $\mathcal{O}(l_h^2)$  arithmetical operations. Details and proofs are given in [12].

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Added in proof:

**12.** G. Vainikko, *Solution of large systems arising by discretization of multidimensional weakly singular integral equations*, Acta et Comm. Univ. Tartuensis **937** (1992), 3–14.

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