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## PIECEWISE BILINEAR PRECONDITIONING OF HIGH-ORDER FINITE ELEMENT METHODS\*

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**Abstract.** Bounds on eigenvalues which are independent of both degrees of high-order elements and mesh sizes are shown for the system preconditioned by bilinear elements for high-order finite element discretizations applied to a model uniformly elliptic operator.

Key words. multigrid, high-order finite element methods, piecewise linear preconditioning

AMS subject classifications. 65F10, 65M30

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