

Robust domain decomposition methods for high-contrast multiscale problems on irregular domains

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- Introduction
- Virtual elements
- Domain Decomposition Methods
- Generalized eigenvalue problems
- Numerical experiments

- Interest in problems posed in $H(\text{curl})$ with irregular subdomains



J.C., *Domain Decomposition Methods for Problems in $H(\text{curl})$* , PhD Thesis, NYU 2015. Advisor: Prof. Olof Widlund.

- Met Juan Galvis at the (virtual) Mathematical Congress of the Americas 2021 (Session: Applied Math and Computational Methods and Analysis across the Americas).

- For simplicity, consider the problem

$$-\operatorname{div}(\kappa \nabla u) = f, \quad \mathbf{x} \in D \subset \mathbb{R}^2,$$

with homogeneous Dirichlet boundary conditions

- The coefficient $\kappa = \kappa(\mathbf{x})$ represents the permeability of the porous media D
- Problem: Find $u \in H_0^1(D)$ such that

$$a(u, v) := \int_{\Omega} \kappa \nabla u \cdot \nabla v \, d\mathbf{x} = (f, v)_{0,D} \quad \forall v \in H_0^1(D)$$

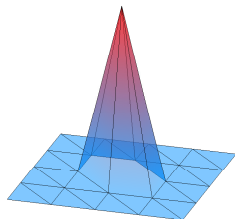
Two ideas:

- Given the contrast $\eta = \max \kappa(x) / \min \kappa(x)$, obtain bounds that are independent of κ (work by Juan Galvis)
- Handle irregular decompositions/interfaces (work by J.C.)

- Consider a polygonal mesh and virtual elements.
- Find $u_h \in V_h$ such that

$$a_h(u_h, v_h) = (f, v_h) \quad \forall v_h \in V_h.$$

- In order to solve the associated linear system we build a preconditioner and use PCG.
- For simplicity we consider a two-level overlapping additive Schwarz

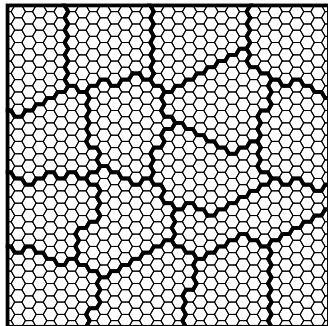


Discretization

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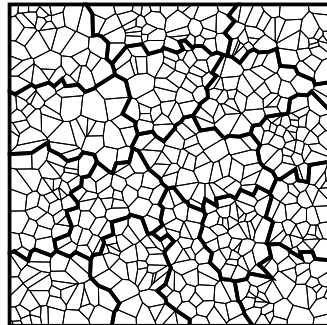





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-  B. AHMAD, A. ALSAEDI, F. BREZZI, L. D. MARINI, AND A. RUSSO, *Equivalent projectors for virtual element methods*, *Comput. Math. Appl.*, 66 (2013), pp. 376–391.
-  L. BEIRÃO DA VEIGA, F. BREZZI, A. CANGIANI, G. MANZINI, L. D. MARINI, AND A. RUSSO, *Basic principles of virtual element methods*, *Math. Models Methods Appl. Sci.*, 23 (2013), pp. 199–214.
-  L. BEIRÃO DA VEIGA, F. BREZZI, L. D. MARINI, AND A. RUSSO, *The hitchhiker's guide to the virtual element method*, *Math. Models Methods Appl. Sci.*, 24 (2014), pp. 1541–1573.

- For any subdomain Ω_i , let

$$\mathcal{B}_1(\partial E) := \{v \in C^0(\partial E) : v|_e \in \mathcal{P}_1(e) \forall e \subset \partial E\},$$

where e represents any edge on the boundary of Ω_i

- Local virtual space:

$$V_1^E := \{v \in H^1(E) : v|_{\partial E} \in \mathcal{B}_1(\partial E), \Delta v = 0\}.$$

- V_1^E is piecewise-linear on the boundary and harmonic in the interior, and its dof are the values at the vertices of the polygon

- Bilinear form:

$$a_h(u, v) = \sum_{E \in \mathcal{T}^h} \int_E \nabla \Pi_{E,1}^\nabla u \cdot \nabla \Pi_{E,1}^\nabla v + \sum_{r=1}^{N_{\text{dof}}^E} \text{dof}_r((I - \Pi_{E,1}^\nabla)u) \text{dof}_r((I - \Pi_{E,1}^\nabla)v)$$

- $\Pi_{E,1}^\nabla : V_1(E) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}_1(E)$ is the L^2 projection of the gradient defined as the linear polynomial $w = \Pi_{E,1}^\nabla v$ such that

$$\int_E \nabla w \cdot \nabla p = \int_E \nabla v \cdot \nabla p \quad \forall p \in \mathcal{P}_1(E)$$

and

$$\frac{1}{N_V^E} \sum_{i=1}^{N_V^E} v(\mathbf{x}_i) = \frac{1}{N_V^E} \sum_{i=1}^{N_V^E} w(\mathbf{x}_i).$$

- Find $u_h \in V_h$ such that

$$a_h(u_h, v_h) = (f, v_h) \quad \forall v_h \in V_h.$$

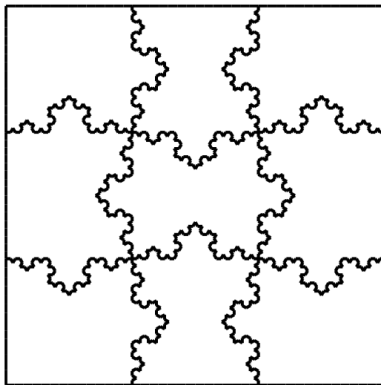
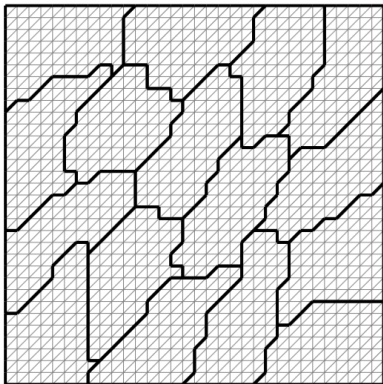
- If $V_h = \langle \varphi_i \rangle_i$, the problem is rewritten as

$$Ax = b$$

with $(A)_{ij} = a_h(\phi_j, \phi_i)$, $(b)_j = (f, \Pi\phi_j)$ and x is the vector of coordinates of the solution u

Domain Decomposition

- Efficient parallel computing algorithms
- How to define coarse functions for irregular subdomains?



- For scalar elliptic problems in H^1 with irregular subdomains:



C. R. DOHRMANN, A. Klawonn, AND O. B. WIDLUND, *Domain decomposition for less regular subdomains: Overlapping Schwarz in two dimensions*, SIAM J. Numer. Anal. 2008.



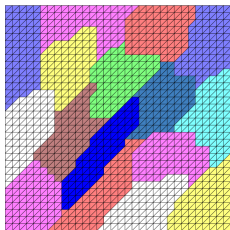
O. B. WIDLUND, *Accommodating irregular subdomains in domain decomposition theory*, 2009.



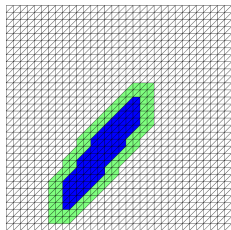
C. R. DOHRMANN AND O. B. WIDLUND, *An alternative coarse space for irregular subdomains and an overlapping Schwarz algorithm for scalar elliptic problems in the plane*, SIAM J. Numer. Anal., 2012.

Domain Decomposition - Overlapping version

- We divide the domain Ω into subdomains $\{D_i\}_{i=1}^N$
- Then construct overlapping subdomains $\{D'_i\}_{i=1}^N$



Subdomains D_i



Overlapping subdomains D'_i

METIS Subdomains for a triangular mesh

- Homogeneous Dirichlet problems in Ω'_i , $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$.

- Local spaces:

$$V_i := H_0^1(\Omega'_i) \cap V_h$$

- Zero extension operator $R_i^T : V_i \rightarrow V_h$
- Exact solvers: $\tilde{A}_i = R_i A R_i^T$
- \tilde{A}_i : block of A that corresponds to the interior nodes of Ω'_i

Two-level Preconditioner

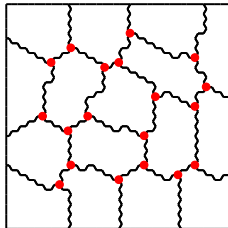
- Suppose we have a coarse space V_0 (with just a few dof per subdomain) and an operator $R_0^T : V_0 \rightarrow V_h$
- Exact solvers: $\tilde{A}_0 = R_0 A R_0^T$
- Preconditioner:

$$A_{ad}^{-1} = R_0^T \tilde{A}_0^{-1} R_0 + \sum_{i=1}^N R_i^T \tilde{A}_i^{-1} R_i$$

- Question: How to define a proper coarse space V_0 and $R_0^T : V_0 \rightarrow V_h$ for irregular subdomains?

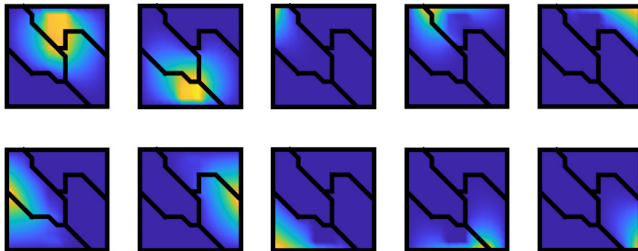
Partition of unity for decomposition

- One coarse function per subdomain vertex
- Common approach: define values on interface and then use discrete harmonic extensions.

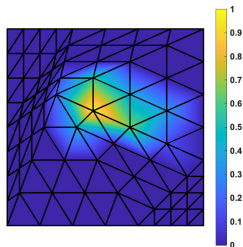
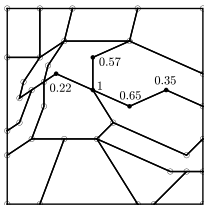


$$\{\Omega_i\}_{i=1}^N$$

Partition of unity



Partition of unity - values on interface



Partition of unity - extensions

- Usually, boundary values are extended as harmonic extensions to the interior of the subdomains.



J.C., *On the approximation of a virtual coarse space for Domain Decomposition Methods in two dimensions.*, *Mathematical Models and Methods in Applied Sciences*, 2018.

- Partition of unity is constructed by computing projections to polynomial spaces of degree $k \geq 2$ in the interior of each subdomain
- No discrete harmonic extensions required

- For high-contrast elliptic problems in H^1 (regular subdomains):



Y. EFENDIEV, J. GALVIS, AND T. HOU. *Generalized multiscale finite element methods*, Journal of Computational Physics, 251:116–135, 2013.



J. GALVIS AND Y. EFENDIEV. *Domain decomposition preconditioners for multiscale flows in high contrast media.*, SIAM J. Multiscale Modeling and Simulation, 8:1461–1483, 2010.



J. GALVIS, E.T. CHUNG, Y. EFENDIEV, AND W. T. LEUNG. *On overlapping domain decomposition methods for high-contrast multiscale problems*, in International Conference on Domain Decomposition Methods, pages 45–57. Springer, 2017.

- We assume that

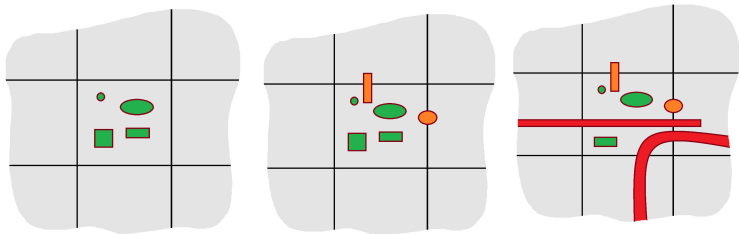
$$0 < \kappa_{\min} \leq \kappa(x) \leq \kappa_{\max} \quad \forall x \in \overline{D}$$

- Define the contrast of κ restricted to Ω by

$$\eta_{\Omega} := \frac{\max_{x \in \overline{\Omega}} \kappa(x)}{\min_{x \in \overline{\Omega}} \kappa(x)}.$$

- It is known that the performance of iterative methods for the solution depend on η_D and on the local variations of κ across D

High-contrast multiscale coefficient



Example of a multiscale subdomain with interior high-contrast inclusions in green (left), boundary inclusions in orange (center), and long channels in red (right). We have $\kappa = 1$ in the gray background, and $\kappa \asymp \eta \gg 1$ inside the channels and inclusions.

High-contrast multiscale coefficient

- The label “multiscale coefficient” refers to the fact that the coefficient varies at multiple scales
- There is a large quantity of high-contrast subdomains scattered everywhere around the whole domain.

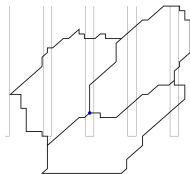
- For the bound of the preconditioned system, we need a decomposition for a global field $v \in V = V^h(D)$ as

$$v = R_0^T v_0 + \sum_{j=1}^{N_S} R_j^T v_j \quad (v_i \in V_i). \quad (1)$$

- The decomposition (1) is stable in the sense that there exists $C_0 > 0$ such that

$$a_h(R_0^T v_0, R_0^T v_0) + \sum_{j=1}^{N_S} a_h(R_j^T v_j, R_j^T v_j) \leq C_0^2 a_h(v, v).$$

- A global function $v \in V_h$ is restricted to ω_i , by identifying a local field $I_0^{\omega_i} v$ that will contribute to the coarse space



A subdomain vertex and the associated region ω_i

Theoretical analysis

- A global function $v \in V_h$ is restricted to ω_i , by identifying a local field $I_0^{\omega_i} v$ that will contribute to the coarse space
- A global coarse field can be assembled as

$$v_0 = I_0 v = \sum_{i=1}^{N_S} I^h(\chi_i(I_0^{\omega_i} v)), \quad (2)$$

where I^h is the fine-scale nodal value interpolation.

- In classical two-level domain decomposition methods, $I_0^{\omega_i} v$ is the average of v in ω_i
- Note that in each coarse block $K \in \mathcal{T}^H$ we have

$$v - v_0 = \sum_{x_i \in K} I^h(\chi_i(v - I_0^{\omega_i} v)), \quad (3)$$

where the sum goes over the subdomain vertices of K .

- For each overlapping subdomain D_j' , the corresponding local part of the stable decomposition is defined by

$$v_j = I^h(\xi_j(v - v_0)),$$

with $v_0 = I_0 v$.

- $\{\xi_j\}_{j=1}^N$ is a partition of unity for the overlapping subdomains
- To bound the energy of v_j , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_K \kappa |\nabla I^h(\xi_j(v - v_0))|^2 &\preceq \int_{\omega_j} \kappa (\xi_j \chi_i)^2 |\nabla(v - I_0^{\omega_i} v)|^2 \\ &+ \int_{\omega_j} \kappa |\nabla(\xi_j \chi_i)|^2 |v - I_0^{\omega_i} v|^2, \end{aligned}$$

- Poincaré inequality for the case of bounded coefficient combined with a small overlap trick; for high-contrast multiscale coefficients, the resulting bound depends on the contrast η in general
- L^∞ estimates:

$$\int_{\omega_i} \kappa |\nabla(\xi_j \chi_i)|^2 |v - I_0^{\omega_i} v|^2 \preceq \|\kappa |\nabla(\xi_j \chi_i)|^2\|_\infty \int_{\omega_i} |v - I_0^{\omega_i} v|^2.$$

Partitions of unity can be constructed such that the term $\|\kappa |\nabla(\xi_j \chi_i)|^2\|_\infty$ is bounded independently of the contrast

- **Local generalized eigenvalue problems**

- We can write

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\omega_i} \kappa |\nabla(\xi_j \chi_i)|^2 |v - I_0^{\omega_i} v|^2 &\preceq \frac{1}{\delta^2 H^2} \int_{\omega_i} \kappa |(v - I_0^{\omega_i} v)|^2 \\ &\preceq C \int_{\omega_i} \kappa |\nabla v|^2, \end{aligned}$$

where we need to justify the last inequality with constant independence of the contrast

- Consider the Rayleigh quotient

$$Q(v) := \frac{\int_{\omega_i} \kappa |\nabla v|^2}{\int_{\omega_i} \kappa |v|^2}$$

with $v \in V^h(\omega_i)$.

- The associated eigenproblem is given by

$$-\operatorname{div}(\kappa(x)\nabla\psi_\ell^{\omega_i}) = \lambda_\ell\kappa(x)\psi_\ell^{\omega_i} \text{ in } \omega_i,$$

with homogeneous Neumann boundary conditions for floating subdomains and a mixed homogeneous Neumann-Dirichlet condition for subdomains that touch the boundary

- Write the spectrum as

$$\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_L < \lambda_{L+1} \leq \dots$$

where $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_L$ are small, asymptotically vanishing eigenvalues, and λ_L can be bounded below independently of the contrast.

Eigenvalue problem

Define the matrix A^{ω_i} corresponding to homogeneous Neumann problem by

$$v^T A^{\omega_i} w = \int_{\omega_i} \kappa \nabla v \cdot \nabla w \quad \text{for all } v, w \in V^h(\omega_i),$$

and the *modified mass matrix* of same dimension M^{ω_i} by

$$v^T M^{\omega_i} w = \int_{\omega_i} \kappa v w \quad \text{for all } v, w \in \tilde{V}^h(\Omega), \quad (4)$$

where $\tilde{V}^h = V^h(\omega_i)$ if $\bar{\Omega} \cap \partial D = \emptyset$ and $\tilde{V}^h = \{v \in V^h(\omega_i) : v = 0 \text{ on } \partial\omega_i \cap \partial D\}$ otherwise. We have then the generalized eigenvalue problem

$$A^{\omega_i} \psi = \lambda M^{\omega_i} \psi. \quad (5)$$

- Given an integer L and $v \in V^h(\omega_i)$, we define

$$I_L^{\omega_i} v = \sum_{\ell=1}^L \left(\int_{\omega_i} \kappa v \psi_{\ell}^{\omega_i} \right) \psi_{\ell}^{\omega_i}. \quad (6)$$

- It is easy to prove that

$$\int_{\omega_i} \kappa (v - I_L^{\omega_i} v)^2 \leq \frac{1}{\lambda_{L+1}^{\omega_i}} a(v - I_L^{\omega_i} v, v - I_L^{\omega_i} v) \leq \frac{1}{\lambda_{L+1}^{\omega_i}} a(v, v). \quad (7)$$

- When $L = 1$, $\kappa = 1$ (or κ is smooth and bounded) and $\partial\omega_i$ is smooth (Lipschitz), we obtain the classical Poincaré inequality

- Define the set of coarse basis functions

$$\Phi_{i,\ell} = I^h(\chi_i \psi_\ell^{\omega_i}) \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq N_c \text{ and } 1 \leq \ell \leq L_i,$$

where I^h is the fine-scale nodal value interpolation and L_i is an integer number for each $i = 1, \dots, N_c$.

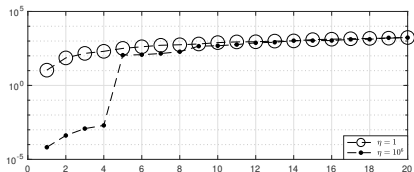
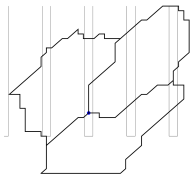
- Denote by V_0 the *local spectral multiscale* space

$$V_0 = \text{span}\{\Phi_{i,\ell} : 1 \leq i \leq N_c \text{ and } 1 \leq \ell \leq L_i\}.$$

- Define also the coarse interpolation $I_0 : V^h(D) \rightarrow V_0$ by

$$I_0 v = \sum_{i=1}^{N_c} \sum_{\ell=1}^{L_i} \left(\int_{\omega_i} \kappa v \psi_\ell^{\omega_i} \right) I^h(\chi_i \psi_\ell^{\omega_i}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_c} I^h \left((I_{L_i}^{\omega_i} v) \chi_i \right),$$

Eigenvalues for high-contrast subdomains



(left) A subdomain vertex with three METIS subdomains. The coefficient κ is $\kappa = \eta$ inside the small rectangular channels, and $\kappa = 1$ in the background. (right) Eigenvalue distribution for $\eta = 1$ (circles) and $\eta = 10^6$ (black dots). The effect of having a high contrast coefficient implies the addition of four eigenfunctions, associated to the four eigenvalues smaller than 1.

Theorem [J.C and J. Galvis (2023)]

$$\text{cond}(M_2^{-1}A) \preceq C_0^2 \preceq \max \left\{ 1 + \frac{1}{\delta^2 \lambda_{L+1}}, 1 + \frac{1}{H^2 \lambda_{L+1}} \right\},$$

where $\lambda_{L+1} = \min_{1 \leq i \leq N_c} \lambda_{L_i+1}^{\omega_i}$.

Corollary [J.C and J. Galvis (2023)]

If we select L_i appropriately, it holds that

$$\text{cond}(M_2^{-1}A) \preceq C \left(1 + \frac{H^2}{\delta^2}\right),$$

where C is independent of the contrast and the mesh size.

- We solve the resulting linear systems using a PCG method, to a relative residual tolerance of 10^{-6} .

Numerical examples - triangular mesh

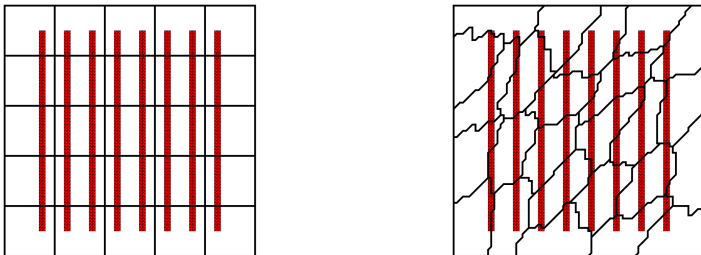


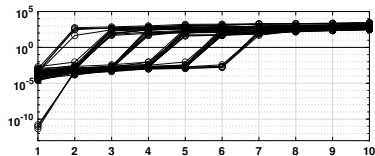
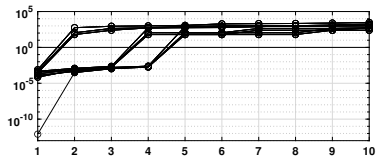
Figure: $\kappa = \eta \in \{1, 10^2, 10^4, 10^6\}$ for red elements, and $\eta = 1$ in the background for (left) square and (right) METIS subdomains

Numerical examples - triangular mesh

| Subdomains | η | Non adaptive, harmonic | | | Adaptive, $k = 2$ /harmonic | | |
|------------|--------|------------------------|------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|-------|
| | | Cond | Iter | dimV0 | Cond | Iter | dimV0 |
| Squares | 1e0 | 17.3 | 22 | 36 | 23.8/23.8 | 21/21 | 4 |
| | 1e2 | 44.5 | 36 | 36 | 26.8/21.0 | 28/26 | 56 |
| | 1e4 | 4827 | 87 | 36 | 5.0/6.3 | 18/18 | 96 |
| | 1e6 | 1.7e6 | 148 | 36 | 5.3/5.3 | 19/18 | 96 |
| METIS | 1e0 | 17.8 | 29 | 52 | 25.4/25.3 | 34/34 | 16 |
| | 1e2 | 31.3 | 45 | 52 | 28.4/12.7 | 43/27 | 96 |
| | 1e4 | 3741 | 167 | 52 | 6.9/6.0 | 23/22 | 190 |
| | 1e6 | 3.0e5 | 342 | 52 | 7.2/6.0 | 25/24 | 190 |

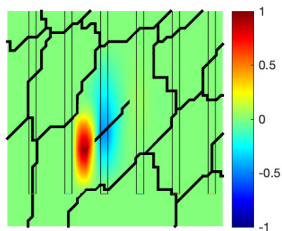
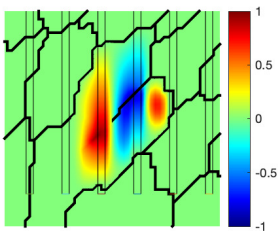
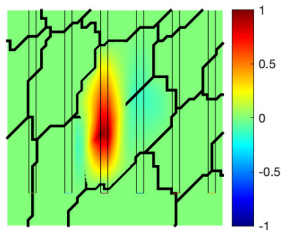
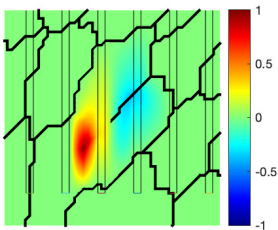
Number of iterations (Iter) and estimated condition number (Cond) for a triangular mesh with 12800 elements, 25 subdomains, $H/h \approx 16$, $H/\delta \approx 4$.

Numerical examples - triangular mesh

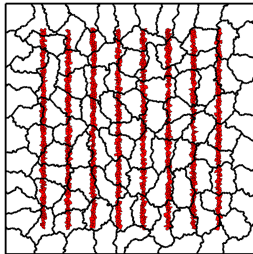
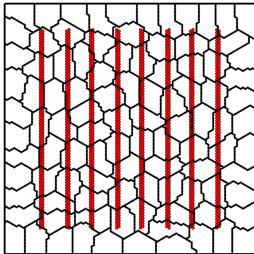


Smaller eigenvalues (circles) for (left) square and (right) METIS subdomains with a triangular mesh with 12800 elements and $\eta = 10^6$.

Numerical examples - triangular mesh

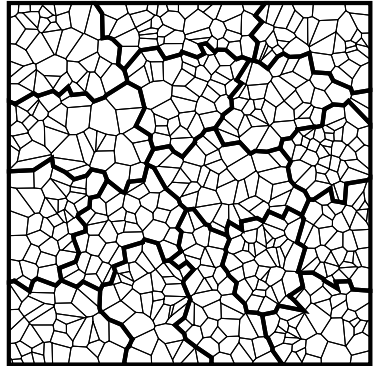
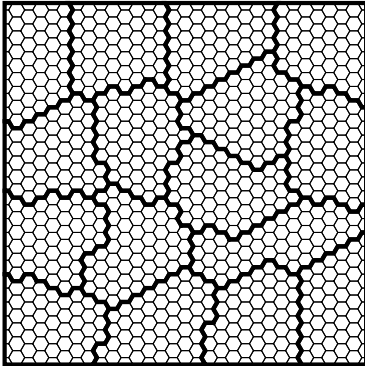


Numerical examples - hexagonal and Voroni meshes



$\kappa = \eta \in \{1, 10^2, 10^4, 10^6\}$ for red elements, and $\eta = 1$ in the background for (left) hexagonal and (right) Voroni-type meshes with METIS subdomains.

Numerical examples - hexagonal and Voronoi meshes



Fine mesh and 16 subdomains (thick black lines) with METIS subdomains.

Numerical examples - hexagonal mesh

| η | Non adaptive, harmonic | | | Adaptive, harmonic | | | Adaptive, $k = 2$ | | |
|--------|------------------------|------|-------|--------------------|------|-------|-------------------|------|-------|
| | Cond | Iter | dimV0 | Cond | Iter | dimV0 | Cond | Iter | dimV0 |
| 1e0 | 29.6 | 35 | 202 | 52.1 | 48 | 96 | 47.7 | 48 | 96 |
| 1e2 | 34.3 | 45 | 202 | 20.8 | 37 | 191 | 52.5 | 61 | 191 |
| 1e4 | 1027 | 129 | 202 | 11.2 | 30 | 335 | 12.8 | 34 | 335 |
| 1e6 | 1.0e5 | 236 | 202 | 11.8 | 34 | 335 | 13.6 | 37 | 335 |

Number of iterations (Iter) until convergence of the PCG and condition number (Cond), for different values of the contrast η , with κ as shown in Figure 44, for an hexagonal mesh with 9699 elements, 100 subdomains, $H/h \approx 20$, $\delta \approx 2h$.

Numerical examples - Voroni mesh

| η | Non adaptive, harmonic | | | Adaptive, harmonic | | | Adaptive, $k = 2$ | | |
|--------|------------------------|------|-------|--------------------|------|-------|-------------------|------|-------|
| | Cond | Iter | dimV0 | Cond | Iter | dimV0 | Cond | Iter | dimV0 |
| 1e0 | 43.6 | 42 | 202 | 62.7 | 54 | 97 | 68.3 | 55 | 97 |
| 1e2 | 45.5 | 48 | 202 | 21.1 | 37 | 199 | 63.5 | 53 | 199 |
| 1e4 | 1448 | 130 | 202 | 13.3 | 34 | 382 | 17.1 | 39 | 382 |
| 1e6 | 1.2e5 | 246 | 202 | 13.6 | 37 | 382 | 15.7 | 42 | 382 |

Number of iterations (Iter) until convergence of the PCG and condition number (Cond), for different values of the contrast η for a Voroni mesh with 12325 elements, 100 subdomains, $H/h \approx 34$, $h \approx 0.136$, $\delta \approx 2h$.

Final remarks and future work

- Applications to different PDEs
- Particular interest for problems posed in $H(\text{curl})$ and $H(\text{div})$



J.C., J. GALVIS, *Robust domain decomposition methods for high-contrast multiscale problems on irregular domains with virtual element discretizations*, Journal of Computational Physics, 2024.

Thank you!