

# Multilevel Preconditioning Based on Element Agglomeration

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ELEVENTH COPPER MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE  
ON MULTIGRID METHODS  
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- Type of problem and method
- 3 test problems
- Element agglomeration
- The Schur Complement Approximation
- ILU based on element agglomeration
- Factorization of the pivot matrix
- Nonlinear Algebraic Multilevel Iteration
- Outlook

### Type of Problem:

- elliptic PDEs (salar equations, or systems)
- finite element problems
- (general) SPD matrices

### Type of Method:

- preconditioning based on element agglomeration
- hierarchical incomplete factorization
- nonlinear Algebraic Multilevel Iteration
- inner and outer iterations of CG or GCG typ

The main emphasis is on non-M matrices.

## Problem 1

$$\begin{aligned} -(\Delta u + 2\alpha \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y}) &= f \quad \text{on } \Omega = [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \\ u &= 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma, \quad |\alpha| < 1 \end{aligned}$$

Grid: orthogonal and uniform.

Discretization by the finite difference stencil:

$$\frac{1}{h^2} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 4 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{\alpha}{h^2} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

or, equivalently, the element matrix:

$$A_e = \frac{1}{h^2} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1+\alpha}{2} & -\frac{1+\alpha}{2} & \alpha \\ -\frac{1+\alpha}{2} & 1+\alpha & 0 & -\frac{1+\alpha}{2} \\ -\frac{1+\alpha}{2} & 0 & 1+\alpha & -\frac{1+\alpha}{2} \\ \alpha & -\frac{1+\alpha}{2} & -\frac{1+\alpha}{2} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

For  $\alpha > 0$  the stiffness matrix will be a non-M matrix!

## Problem 2

$$a(u, v) = (f, v) \quad \forall v \in H^1(\Omega)$$

$$a(u, v) = \int_{\Omega} (\nabla v)^T D(x) \nabla u dx + \int_{\Omega} \sigma uv dx$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial n} = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma$$

$$D(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon \end{pmatrix}, \quad 0 < \epsilon \leq 1$$

Domain:  $\Omega$  is the unit square.

Discretization: quadratic finite elements with bilinear Ansatz functions.

Element matrix:

$$A_e = \frac{1}{\epsilon h^2} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 + 2\epsilon^2 & 1 - 2\epsilon^2 & -2 + \epsilon^2 & -1 - \epsilon^2 \\ 1 - 2\epsilon^2 & 2 + 2\epsilon^2 & -1 - \epsilon^2 & -2 + \epsilon^2 \\ -2 + \epsilon^2 & -1 - \epsilon^2 & 2 + 2\epsilon^2 & 1 - 2\epsilon^2 \\ -1 - \epsilon^2 & -2 + \epsilon^2 & 1 - 2\epsilon^2 & 2 + 2\epsilon^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

For  $|\epsilon| < \sqrt{2}/2$  the stiffness matrix will be a non-M matrix!

### Problem 3

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{1-\mu}{2} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{1+\mu}{2} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x \partial y} &= f \quad \text{on } \Omega \\ \frac{1+\mu}{2} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{1-\mu}{2} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} &= g \quad \text{on } \Omega \\ u = v &= 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma \end{aligned}$$

Domain:  $\Omega$  is the unit square.

Discretization: quadratic finite elements.

Element matrix  $A_e = \frac{1}{3\gamma_1\gamma_2 h^2} \begin{pmatrix} B_e & -C_e \\ -C_e^T & B_e \end{pmatrix}$ :

$$B_e : \begin{pmatrix} 4(1+\gamma_1) & 3\gamma_2 & 2(1-2\gamma_1) & \gamma_3 \\ 3\gamma_2 & 4(1+\gamma_1) & -\gamma_3 & -2(2-\gamma_1) \\ 2(1-2\gamma_1) & -\gamma_3 & 4(1+\gamma_1) & -3\gamma_2 \\ \gamma_3 & -2(2-\gamma_1) & -3\gamma_2 & 4(1+\gamma_1) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$C_e : \begin{pmatrix} 2(1+\gamma_1) & 3\gamma_2 & 2(2-\gamma_1) & \gamma_3 \\ 3\gamma_2 & 2(1+\gamma_1) & -\gamma_3 & -2(1-2\gamma_1) \\ 2(2-\gamma_1) & -\gamma_3 & 2(1+\gamma_1) & -3\gamma_2 \\ \gamma_3 & -2(1-2\gamma_1) & -3\gamma_2 & 2(1+\gamma_1) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\gamma_1 = (1-\mu)/2, \quad \gamma_2 = (1+\mu)/2 \quad \text{and} \quad \gamma_3 = 3(1-3\mu)/2.$$

We consider a simple element agglomeration of the following type:

- dofs are associated with vertices of elements, that is, no dofs on edges (or faces) of elements
- elements are agglomerated along edges in 2D (and faces in 3D)
- agglomerates build coarse grid elements at each level, where coarse dofs are associated with vertices of coarse-grid elements

## Element agglomeration: 2D example—Scalar equation

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### Fine-grid elements:

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} 22 & = & 5 & = & 18 & = & 6 & = & 23 \\ \parallel & & | & & \parallel & & | & & \parallel \\ 7 & - & 1 & - & 8 & - & 2 & - & 9 \\ \parallel & & | & & \parallel & & | & & \parallel \\ 19 & = & 10 & = & 17 & = & 11 & = & 20 \\ \parallel & & | & & \parallel & & | & & \parallel \\ 12 & - & 3 & - & 13 & - & 4 & - & 14 \\ \parallel & & | & & \parallel & & | & & \parallel \\ 24 & = & 15 & = & 21 & = & 16 & = & 25 \end{array}$$

### Coarse-grid elements:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 22 & = & 18 & = & 23 \\ \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel \\ 19 & = & 17 & = & 20 \\ \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel \\ 24 & = & 21 & = & 25 \end{array}$$

### Local ordering of dofs within an agglomerate:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 6 & - & 2 & - & 7 \\ | & & | & & | \\ 3 & - & 1 & - & 4 \\ | & & | & & | \\ 8 & - & 5 & - & 9 \end{array}$$



## Element agglomeration: 2D example—System of 2 PDEs

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### Fine-grid elements:

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} 43,44 & = & 9,10 & = & 35,36 & = & 11,12 & = & 45,46 \\ \parallel & & | & & \parallel & & | & & \parallel \\ 13,14 & - & 1,2 & - & 15,16 & - & 3,4 & - & 17,18 \\ \parallel & & | & & \parallel & & | & & \parallel \\ 37,38 & = & 19,20 & = & 33,34 & = & 21,22 & = & 39,40 \\ \parallel & & | & & \parallel & & | & & \parallel \\ 23,24 & - & 5,6 & - & 25,26 & - & 7,8 & - & 27,28 \\ \parallel & & | & & \parallel & & | & & \parallel \\ 47,48 & = & 29,30 & = & 41,42 & = & 31,32 & = & 49,50 \end{array}$$

### Coarse-grid elements:

$$\begin{array}{cccc} 43,44 & = & 35,36 & = & 45,46 \\ \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel \\ 37,38 & = & 33,34 & = & 39,40 \\ \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel \\ 47,48 & = & 41,42 & = & 49,50 \end{array}$$

### Local ordering of dofs within an agglomerate:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 11,12 & - & 3,4 & - & 13,14 \\ | & & | & & | \\ 5,6 & - & 1,2 & - & 7,8 \\ | & & | & & | \\ 15,16 & - & 9,10 & - & 17,18 \end{array}$$

With respect to the ordering of dofs within an agglomerate, the agglomerate matrices take the  $2 \times 2$  block form

$$A_a = \begin{pmatrix} A_{a,11} & A_{a,12} \\ A_{a,21} & A_{a,22} \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $A_{a,11}$  and  $A_{a,22}$  are the blocks corresponding to fine dofs and coarse dofs (coarse-element dofs), respectively.

This allows us to compute the local Schur complements

$$S_a = A_{a,22} - A_{a,21}(A_{a,11})^{-1}A_{a,12}$$

that serve as element matrices on the next coarser level, i.e.,

$$A_e^{(k+1)} := S_a^{(k)}$$

for all agglomerates  $a$  at level  $k$ .

As a global Schur complement approximation we now take the globally assembled local Schur complements (coarse-element matrices), i.e.,

$$\tilde{S}^{(k)} = \sum_a S_a^{(k)} = \sum_e A_e^{(k+1)}.$$

That is, the approximation matrix  $\tilde{S}^{(k)}$  acts as coarse-grid operator, i.e.,  $A^{(k+1)} := \tilde{S}^{(k)}$ .

We will use the assembled Schur complement approximation later on.

Our next goal will be to assemble an incomplete factorization of the pivot-matrix (that yields the exact Schur complement).

Thus, all components of an algebraic multi-level iteration will be computed locally from agglomerate matrices!

A straight-forward approach can be used to define a new type of incomplete factorization method:

At levels  $0 \leq k < l$ , let

$$A_a^{(k)} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{a,11}^{(k)} & A_{a,12}^{(k)} \\ A_{a,21}^{(k)} & A_{a,22}^{(k)} \end{pmatrix},$$

and  $A_{a,11}^{(k)} = L_a^{(k)} U_a^{(k)}$ , where  $\text{diag}(L_a^{(k)}) = I$ .

Further on, let  $A^{(l)} = \tilde{S}^{(l-1)} = L^{(l)} U^{(l)}$ ,  $\text{diag}(L^{(l)}) = I$ .

Then, since

$$A_a^{(k)} = \begin{pmatrix} L_a^{(k)} & 0 \\ A_{a,21}^{(k)} (U_a^{(k)})^{-1} & I \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} U_a^{(k)} & (L_a^{(k)})^{-1} A_{a,12}^{(k)} \\ 0 & S_a^{(k)} \end{pmatrix}$$

we define

$$\tilde{U}^{(l)} := \sum_{k=0}^{l-1} \sum_a \left[ U_a^{(k)}, (L_a^{(k)})^{-1} A_{a,12}^{(k)} \right]$$

and, finally,

$$U := \tilde{U}^{(l)} + U^{(l)}, \quad \text{and} \quad L = U^T (\text{diag}(U))^{-1}.$$

Now, let us use this idea in order to compute an incomplete LU factorization of the pivot matrix  $A_{11}^{(k)}$  at every level  $k$ ,  $0 \leq k < l$ :

The pivot block  $A_{11}^{(k)}$  of

$$A^{(k)} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11}^{(k)} & A_{12}^{(k)} \\ A_{21}^{(k)} & A_{22}^{(k)} \end{pmatrix}$$

is given by the assembly of the local pivot blocks, i.e.,

$$A_{11}^{(k)} = \sum_a A_{a,11}^{(k)}.$$

Thus,

$$\tilde{U}^{(k)} := \sum_a U_a^{(k)}$$

gives an approximation of  $U^{(k)}$ , where

$$A_{a,11}^{(k)} = L_a^{(k)} U_a^{(k)}, \quad A_{11}^{(k)} = L^{(k)} U^{(k)},$$

and

$$\tilde{L}^{(k)} = (\tilde{U}^{(k)})^T (\text{diag}(\tilde{U}^{(k)}))^{-1}.$$

As numerical experiments show, a simple modification helps to improve the approximations  $\tilde{U}^{(k)}$  and  $\tilde{L}^{(k)}$ .

That is, we adjust the diagonal entries of  $\tilde{U}^{(k)}$  such that

$$\text{diag}(\tilde{A}_{11}^{(k)}) = \text{diag}(A_{11}^{(k)})$$

where

$$A_{11}^{(k)} = L^{(k)} U^{(k)}$$

and

$$\tilde{A}_{11}^{(k)} = \bar{L}^{(k)} \bar{U}^{(k)}.$$

This is done by replacing the main diagonal of  $\tilde{U}^{(k)}$  by  $(\bar{u}_{ii})_{i=1}^n$ , where

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{u}_{ii} &= a_{ii} - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \frac{\tilde{u}_{ji}^2}{\bar{u}_{jj}} \\ \bar{u}_{ij} &= \tilde{u}_{ij} \quad \text{for } j > i.\end{aligned}$$

$$\lambda_{\max}((\tilde{A}_{11}^{(0)})^{-1}A_{11}^{(0)})/\lambda_{\min}((\tilde{A}_{11}^{(0)})^{-1}A_{11}^{(0)}):$$

### Problem 1

$\alpha$	4 aggs	16 aggs	64 aggs
0	1.06955	1.07786	1.08069
0.5	1.07408	1.07447	1.07428
0.9	1.10782	1.11126	1.11164
0.99	1.11729	1.12165	1.12206

### Problem 2

$\epsilon$	4 aggs	16 aggs	64 aggs
0.5	1.16665	1.19919	1.21136
0.25	1.10414	1.13528	1.14592
0.1	1.02519	1.03400	1.04152
0.01	1.00215	1.00225	1.00228

### Problem 3

$\mu$	4 aggs	16 aggs	64 aggs
0.1	1.43393	1.46719	1.47636
0.25	1.53208	1.55038	1.55821
0.3	1.59849	1.60504	1.61168
0.5	1.76591	1.74664	1.75159

Linear System:  $A^{(0)}\mathbf{x}^{(0)} = \mathbf{b}$

**initialize:**    **for**  $k = 0$  **to**  $l$  **set**  $\mathbf{x}^{(k)} := \mathbf{0}$

$k := 0$

$\mathbf{d}^{(0)} := \mathbf{b}$

**forward:**     $\sigma_k := \sigma_k + 1$

**if**  $(\sigma_k = 1 \ \&\& \ k \neq 0)$

$\mathbf{x}^{(k)} := \mathbf{0}$

$\mathbf{r}^{(k)} := \mathbf{d}^{(k)}$

**end**

**pcgsolve:**  $\mathbf{p}_{1(\sigma_k)}^{(k)} \cong (A_{1,1}^{(k)})^{-1} \mathbf{r}_1^{(k)}$

$\mathbf{d}^{(k+1)} := \mathbf{r}_2^{(k)} - A_{2,1}^{(k)} \mathbf{p}_{1(\sigma_k)}^{(k)}$

$k := k + 1$

**if**  $k < l$  **goto forward**

**solve:**  $L^{(l)} U^{(l)} \mathbf{x}^{(l)} = \mathbf{d}^{(l)}$

**backward:**     $\sigma_k = 0; \quad k := k - 1$

$\mathbf{p}_{2(\sigma_k)}^{(k)} := \mathbf{x}^{(k+1)}$

**solve:**  $\tilde{L}^{(k)} \tilde{U}^{(k)} \mathbf{y}^{(k)} = A_{1,2}^{(k)} \mathbf{p}_{2(\sigma_k)}^{(k)}$

$\mathbf{p}_{1(\sigma_k)}^{(k)} := \mathbf{p}_{1(\sigma_k)}^{(k)} - \mathbf{y}^{(k)}$

**if**  $\nu_k = 0$

$\mathbf{x}^{(k)} := \mathbf{p}_{(\sigma_k)}^{(k)}; \quad \mathbf{goto \ backward}$

**end**



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 $\mathbf{q}_{(\sigma_k)}^{(k)} := A^{(k)} \mathbf{p}_{(\sigma_k)}^{(k)}$ 
for  $j = 1$  to  $\sigma_k - 1$ 
     $\beta = (\mathbf{q}_{(\sigma_k)}^{(k)}, \mathbf{p}_{(j)}^{(k)}) / \gamma_{(j)}^{(k)}$ 
     $\mathbf{p}_{(\sigma_k)}^{(k)} := \mathbf{p}_{(\sigma_k)}^{(k)} - \beta \mathbf{p}_{(j)}^{(k)}$ 
     $\mathbf{q}_{(\sigma_k)}^{(k)} := \mathbf{q}_{(\sigma_k)}^{(k)} - \beta \mathbf{q}_{(j)}^{(k)}$ 
end
 $\gamma_{(\sigma_k)}^{(k)} = (\mathbf{q}_{(\sigma_k)}^{(k)}, \mathbf{p}_{(\sigma_k)}^{(k)})$ 
 $\alpha = (\mathbf{r}^{(k)}, \mathbf{p}_{(\sigma_k)}^{(k)}) / \gamma_{(\sigma_k)}^{(k)}$ 
 $\mathbf{x}^{(k)} := \mathbf{x}^{(k)} + \alpha \mathbf{p}_{(\sigma_k)}^{(k)}$ 
 $\mathbf{r}^{(k)} := \mathbf{r}^{(k)} - \alpha \mathbf{q}_{(\sigma_k)}^{(k)}$ 
if  $(k = 0)$ 
    if (termination) goto finish
    if  $(\sigma_0 = \nu_0)$   $\sigma_0 = 0$ 
end
if  $(\sigma_k < \nu_k)$  goto forward
goto backward

```

**finish:**

The above algorithm performs a **nonlinear AMLI with inner GCG and PCG iterations**, where  $\nu_k$  is the number of inner GCG iterations at level  $k$ ; **restart at the fine-grid level after every  $\nu_0$  iterations.**

The number of dofs at level  $k + 1$  is approximately one fourth of the number of dofs at level  $k$ . Hence, a visit at level  $k$  must induce less than four visits at level  $k + 1$  for optimal order of computational complexity of each outer iteration.

The PCG-solve in the forward loop is not critical in this respect if a fixed number of iterations is not exceeded, but it may increase the work per outer iteration significantly.

In our tests we used 3 inner PCG iterations in the forward loop and 2 inner GCG iterations at levels 1, 3, 5, .... The tables summarize the number of outer iterations that reduced the  $L_2$ -norm of the initial residual by a factor  $10^{-6}$ .

Number of outer iterations for 3 to 8 levels  
(64 to 65536 elts):

Problem 1

$\alpha \backslash l$	3	4	5	6	7	8
0	4	5	5	5	6	6
0.5	4	5	5	5	5	6
0.9	4	5	5	6	6	6
0.99	5	5	6	6	6	7

Problem 2

$\epsilon \backslash l$	3	4	5	6	7	8
0.5	7	8	8	9	9	9
0.25	6	9	9	10	10	10
0.1	5	7	9	9	10	10
0.01	2	2	3	3	4	4

Problem 3

$\mu \backslash l$	3	4	5	6	7	8
0.1	5	6	7	8	8	8
0.25	5	6	8	8	8	8
0.3	5	7	8	8	8	9
0.5	5	7	8	9	9	10

Future investigations will deal with:

- numerical tests for 3D Problems and unstructured FE meshes
- more sophisticated agglomeration techniques (and the optimal size of agglomerates)
- different types of elements and problems
- a generalization of the method to unsymmetric problems
- a theoretical convergence analysis (if possible)