## On convergence of a multiscale method

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## Motivating example: secondary oil recovery



Find pressure p and water concentration s such that:

$$-\nabla \cdot k\lambda(s)\nabla p = q, \quad \dot{s} - \nabla \cdot [f(s)\lambda(s)k\nabla p] = g, \quad \text{in } \Omega,$$

where k is permeability,  $\lambda(s)$  the total mobility, f fractional flow, and g, q sink and source terms.

## Outline and papers

## Outline

- Model problem, elliptic
- Previous work
- Derivation of a multiscale method
- Convergence analysis, with numerical examples
- Adaptivity, with numerical examples
- Conclusions and future work

## **Papers**

- M. G. Larson and A. Målqvist, Adaptive variational multiscale methods based on a posteriori error estimation: energy norm estimates for elliptic problems, CMAME 2007
- A. Målqvist, A priori error analysis of a multiscale method, preprint

## Thanks

 M. G. Larson, Umeå, G. Tsogtgerel, McGill, D. Elfverson Uppsala, and D. Peterseim Humboldt.

## Model problem



We consider the strong form:

 $-\nabla \cdot \alpha \nabla u = f$ , in  $\Omega$ , u = 0 on  $\partial \Omega$ .

The weak form reads: find  $u \in \mathcal{V} := H_0^1(\Omega)$  such that,

$$a(u,v) := \int_{\Omega} \alpha \nabla u \cdot \nabla v \, dx = \int_{\Omega} fv \, dx := l(v), \quad \text{for all } v \in \mathcal{V}.$$

We assume  $f \in L^2(\Omega)$  and  $0 < \alpha_0 \le \alpha \in L^{\infty}(\Omega)$ .

Why do we need to resolve the coefficients?

**Example:** Consider the Poisson equation

 $-\nabla \cdot \alpha \nabla u = f,$ 

with coefficient  $\alpha$ , with oscillations down to a scale  $\epsilon$ , solved using the finite element method (mesh size H),

 $\|\sqrt{\alpha}\nabla(u-u_H)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \lesssim H\|\Delta u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \lesssim \epsilon^{-1}H\|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)},$ 

- $\epsilon < H$  will give unreliable results even with exact quadrature.

From now on we assume nothing on the coefficients, more than what is needed to guarantee existence and uniqueness.

## Some previous works and related methods

- Upscaling techniques: Durlofsky et al. 98, Nielsen et al. 98
- Variational multiscale method: Hughes et al. 95, Arbogast 04, Larson-Målqvist 05, Nolen et al. 08, Nordbotten 09
- Multiscale finite element method: Hou-Wu 96, Efendiev-Ginting 04, Aarnes-Lie 06
- Multiscale finite volume method: Jenny et al. 03
- Heterogeneous multiscale method: Engquist-E 03, E-Ming-Zhang 04
- Equation free: Kevrekidis et al. 05

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Local approximations (in parallel) on a fine scale are used to modified a coarse scale equation.

The variational multiscale method (VMS)

The weak form reads: find  $u \in \mathcal{V}$  such that,

$$a(u,v) = l(v), \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{V}.$$

Now let  $\mathcal{V}_c \oplus \mathcal{V}_f = \mathcal{V}$ .



- $V_c$  is a finite dimensional approximation of V. (FE space)
- $\mathcal{V}_f$  can be chosen e.g. as hierarchical basis,  $L^2(\Omega)$ -orthogonal to  $\mathcal{V}_c$ , or wavelet modified hierarchical basis.

#### The variational multiscale method

Using the split we have: find  $u_c \in \mathcal{V}_c$  and  $u_f \in \mathcal{V}_f$  such that,

$$a(u_c, v_c) + a(u_f, v_c) = l(v_c), \quad \forall v_c \in \mathcal{V}_c$$
$$a(u_f, v_f) = l(v_f) - a(u_c, v_f) := (f - \mathcal{L}u_c, v_f), \quad \forall v_f \in \mathcal{V}_f.$$

The fine scale problem is then decoupled on each element K,

$$a(u_c, v_c) + a(u_f, v_c) = l(v_c), \quad \forall v_c \in \mathcal{V}_c$$
$$a(u_{f,K}, v_f) = l(v_f) - a(u_c, v_f) := (f - \mathcal{L}u_c, v_f), \quad \forall v_f \in \mathcal{V}_f \cap H^1_0(K).$$

The solutions  $u_{f,K} \in H_0^1(K)$  are approximated using the element Green's function. The coarse equations reads:

$$a(u_c^{\mathsf{vms}}, v_c) + a(M(f - \mathcal{L}u_c^{\mathsf{vms}}), v_c) = l(v_c), \quad \forall v_c \in \mathcal{V}_c,$$

where M is the approximate fine scale solution operator.

The multiscale finite element method (MsFEM)

On each element we let  $\mathcal{T}\phi_i \in H^1_0(K)$  solve,

 $a(\phi_i + \mathcal{T}\phi_i, v) = 0, \quad \forall v \in H^1_0(K), \quad K \in \mathcal{K}, \quad i \in \mathcal{N}.$ 



We then get the multiscale finite element solution by solving: find  $u_c^{\text{msfem}} \in \mathcal{V}_c^{\text{ms}} = \text{span}(\{\phi_i + \mathcal{T}\phi_i\}_{i \in \mathcal{N}})$  such that,

$$a(u_c^{\text{msfem}}, v) = l(v), \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{V}_c^{\text{ms}}.$$

The modified basis functions  $\mathcal{T}\phi_i$  are computed on subgrids of the individual coarse elements K.

#### Comments

- VMS gives a non-symmetric coarse scale equation even if the original problem is symmetric.
- VMS can be used to derive stabilized methods (GLS, SUPG, ...).
- MsFEM is based on ideas from homogenization theory where periodic problems can be solved using a homogenized (coarse scale) equation derived by solving a fine scale cell problem.
- The error analysis available for MsFEM is also based on ideas from homogenization theory an can only be applied for very special coefficients, such as periodic coefficients.
- A convergence proof for general  $L^{\infty}$  coefficient is still an open problem.

We want to:

- use the split into a coarse scale where we can do computations using standard techniques and a fine scale where computations are totally decoupled.
- use the space  $V_f = \{v \in V : \pi_c v = 0\}$  since it has very nice properties (condition number, decay of solution to elliptic problems).
- symmetric method based on modification of basis functions.
- use adaptivity to focus computational resources on local problems that contribute most to the error.
- be able to prove convergence for arbitrary  $L^{\infty}$  coefficients.

#### The proposed method

Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be a (coarse) mesh with mesh parameter H and FE space  $\mathcal{V}_c = \operatorname{span}(\{\phi_i\}_{i \in \mathcal{N}})$ . Further let  $\mathcal{V}_f = \{v \in \mathcal{V} : \pi_c v = 0\}$  where  $\pi_c : C(\Omega) \cap \mathcal{V} \to \mathcal{V}_c$  is an interpolant.

We let  $\mathcal{T}: \mathcal{V}_c \to \mathcal{V}_f$  and  $u_{l,i} \in \mathcal{V}_f$  solve (fine scale equations),

$$a(\phi_i + \mathcal{T}\phi_i, v) = 0, \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{V}_f,$$
$$a(u_{l,i}, v) = l(\phi_i v), \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{V}_f.$$

We let  $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} (\beta_i(\phi_i + \mathcal{T}\phi_i) + u_{l,i})$  solve (coarse scale equation),

$$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} \beta_i a(\phi_i + \mathcal{T}\phi_i, \phi_j + \mathcal{T}\phi_j) = l(\phi_j + \mathcal{T}\phi_j) - \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} a(u_{l,i}, \phi_j + \mathcal{T}\phi_j), \forall j$$

We note that  $u = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} (\beta_i (\phi_i + \mathcal{T} \phi_i) + u_{l,i})$ , why?

Approximation of  $\mathcal{T}\phi_i$  and  $u_{l,i}$ 

Spatial approximation  $\mathcal{V}_{f}^{h} \subset \mathcal{V}_{f}$  gives,  $a(\phi_{i} + \mathcal{T}^{h}\phi_{i}, v) = 0, \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{V}_{f}^{h},$  $a(u_{l,i}^{h}, v) = l(\phi_{i}v), \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{V}_{f}^{h}.$ 

Localization: introduce a patch  $\omega_i^k$  around supp $(\phi_i)$ ,



Let  $\mathcal{V}_f^h(\omega_i^k) = \{v \in \mathcal{V}_f : v \text{ piecewise polynomial, } \operatorname{supp}(v) \subset \omega_i^k\}.$ 

#### **Discrete version**

Let 
$$\mathcal{T}^{h,k}\phi_i \in \mathcal{V}_f^h(\omega_i^k)$$
 and  $u_{l,i}^{h,k} \in \mathcal{V}_f^h(\omega_i^k)$  be given by,  
 $a(\phi_i + \mathcal{T}^{h,k}\phi_i, v) = 0, \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{V}_f^h(\omega_i^k),$   
 $a(u_{l,i}^{h,k}, v) = l(\phi_i v), \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{V}_f^h(\omega_i^k).$ 

The method reads: Find  $u_c^{h,k} \in \mathcal{V}_c$  such that  $a(u_c^{h,k} + \mathcal{T}^{h,k}u_c^{h,k}, v + \mathcal{T}^{h,k}v) = l(v + \mathcal{T}^{h,k}v) - a(u_l^{h,k}, v + \mathcal{T}^{h,k}v), \ \forall v \in \mathcal{V}_c.$ 



## Sketch of algorithm

One local problem for each coarse dof, minimal communication.



Observation about decay in  $\mathcal{V}_{f}$  (Fourier)

Consider the Poisson equation,

 $-\Delta u = \phi_i \quad \text{in } \Omega, \quad u = 0 \text{ on } \partial \Omega,$ 

where  $\phi_i$  has local support in  $\Omega$ . The weak form reads: find  $u \in \mathcal{W}$  such that,  $a(u, v) = (\phi_i, v)$  for all  $v \in \mathcal{W}$ .



To the left  $\mathcal{W} = \mathcal{V}$  (log decay) and right  $\mathcal{W} = \mathcal{V}_f$  (exp decay).

Constraints are realized using Lagrangian multipliers.

## Summary so far

- We have derived a multiscale method using modified basis functions *a*-orthogonal to the kernal of the coarse scale interpolant  $\pi_c$ .
- The approximation is computed by solving totally decoupled local fine scale problems on patches using homogeneous (Dirichlet) boundary conditions.
- The quality of the solution will directly depend on the decay of these localized fine scale solutions.
- Experiments indicate exponential decay (in terms of *k*) for fix *H*.
- The main goal is to prove this result theoretically.

#### A priori error analysis

Let  $\mathcal{V}^h$  be the FE space resulting from J uniform refinements of  $\mathcal{V}_c$ . Further let  $u^h$  solve  $a(u^h, v) = l(v)$  for all  $v \in \mathcal{V}^h$ .

We show  $|\!|\!| u^h - u^{h,k} |\!|\!| \lesssim \rho^k$  , for some  $0 \le \rho(J) < 1$  , in two steps

1. First we prove  $\| \mathcal{T}^h \phi_i - \mathcal{T}^{h,k} \phi_i \| \lesssim \rho^k \| \mathcal{T}^h \phi_i \|$ , (and  $\| u_{l,i}^h - u_{l,i}^{h,k} \| \lesssim \rho^k \| u_{l,i}^h \|$ ),



2. and then,  $|||u^h - u^{h,k}||| \leq \rho^k$  using the bound of the basis functions  $\phi_i + \mathcal{T}^h \phi_i$  and the right hand side  $-a(u_{l,i}^h, \cdot)$ .

Proof of step 1: condition number of stiffness matrix

Let  $\mathcal{V}_{f}^{h} = \{v \in \mathcal{V}^{h} : \pi_{c}v = 0\}$ . Further let  $\{\chi_{j}\}_{j \in \mathcal{M}}$  be a hierarchical basis of  $\mathcal{V}_{f}^{h}$ , and  $A_{ij} = a(\chi_{j}, \chi_{i})$ .



Then  $\kappa(A) = J^2$  in 2D and  $\kappa(A) = 2^{2J}$  in 3D, Marion & Xu 1995, but independent of the coarse mesh size H.

#### Proof of step 1: decay of basis function

Let  $\mathcal{T}^h \phi_i = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{M}} \beta_j \chi_j$ . We use CG with  $\hat{\beta}_0 = 0$  and right hand side  $b_j = -a(\phi_i, \chi_j)$ , which has support on a 1-ring. We have,

$$|\beta - \hat{\beta}^m|_A \le 2\left(\frac{\sqrt{\kappa(A)} - 1}{\sqrt{\kappa(A)} + 1}\right)^m |\beta|_A := 2\rho^m |\beta|_A, \text{ where } |v|_A^2 = v^T A v.$$

HB only spreads information within  $\omega_i^k$  in 2k iterations,

$$|\beta_{\Omega\setminus\omega^k}|^2 = \sum_{j\in\mathcal{M}(\Omega\setminus\omega_i^k)} |\beta_j|^2 = \sum_{j\in\mathcal{M}(\Omega\setminus\omega_i^k)} |\beta_j - \hat{\beta}_j^{2k}|^2 \le |\beta - \hat{\beta}^{2k}|^2,$$

where  $\beta_{\Omega \setminus \omega^k}$  only contains the node values outside  $\omega_i^k$ .

Furthermore  $|\beta_{\Omega\setminus\omega^k}|_A^2 \leq C_{\kappa}|\beta - \hat{\beta}^{2k}|_A^2 \leq C_{\kappa}\rho^{4k}|\beta|_A^2$  which means that the coefficients in  $\beta$  decays away from node i and more precisely  $\|\mathcal{T}^h\phi_i|_{\Omega\setminus\omega_i^k}\| \leq C\rho^{2k}\|\mathcal{T}^h\phi_i\|$ , with  $\|v\|_{\omega}^2 = \langle v,v\rangle_{\omega}$ .

#### Proof of step 1: error in basis function

We have  $\||\mathcal{T}^h \phi_i|_{\Omega \setminus \omega_i^k}\|| \leq C \rho^{2k} \||\mathcal{T}^h \phi_i\||$ , where *C* depends on the condition number of *A*.

We use Galerkin Orthogonality to conclude,

$$a(\mathcal{T}^{h}\phi_{i}-\mathcal{T}^{h,k}\phi_{i},\mathcal{T}^{h}\phi_{i}-\mathcal{T}^{h}\phi_{i}|_{\Omega\setminus\omega_{i}^{k}}-\mathcal{T}^{h,k}\phi_{i})=0,$$

i.e. 
$$\|\mathcal{T}^{h}\phi_{i} - \mathcal{T}^{h,k}\phi_{i}\|^{2} = a(\mathcal{T}^{h}\phi_{i} - \mathcal{T}^{h,k}\phi_{i}, \mathcal{T}^{h}\phi_{i}|_{\Omega\setminus\omega_{i}^{k}})$$
$$\leq \|\mathcal{T}^{h}\phi_{i} - \mathcal{T}^{h,k}\phi_{i}\|\|\mathcal{T}^{h}\phi_{i}|_{\Omega\setminus\omega_{i}^{k}}\|$$

We conclude,

$$\|\!|\!| \mathcal{T}^{h} \phi_{i} - \mathcal{T}^{h,k} \phi_{i} \|\!|\!| \leq C \rho^{2k} \|\!|\!| \mathcal{T}^{h} \phi_{i} \|\!|\!|,$$
$$\|\!|\!| u_{l,i}^{h} - u_{l,i}^{h,k} \|\!|\!| \leq C \rho^{2k} \|\!|\!| u_{l,i}^{h} \|\!|\!|.$$

#### Step 2: global error bound

 $\mathcal{V}_{c}^{h} = \operatorname{span}(\{\phi_{i} + \mathcal{T}^{h}\phi_{i}\}) \text{ (blue) } \mathcal{V}_{c}^{h,k} = \operatorname{span}(\{\phi_{i} + \mathcal{T}^{h,k}\phi_{i}\}) \text{ (red).}$ 



We compute  $u_c^h$  (black) and  $u_c^{h,k}$  (green) as projections: **Theorem 1** Let  $u^h$  be the reference solution and  $u^{h,k} = (1 + \mathcal{T}^{h,k})u_c^{h,k} + u_l^{h,k}$  the multiscale approximation. Then,  $||u^h - u^{h,k}||| \leq C \left( ||u^h||_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)} / H + ||f||_{L^2(\Omega)} \right) \rho^{2k},$ 

where  $\rho = \frac{\sqrt{\kappa(A)}-1}{\sqrt{\kappa(A)}+1}$  and  $\sqrt{\kappa(A)} \sim J$  in 2D and  $\sqrt{\kappa(A)} \sim 2^J$  in 3D.

#### Numerical examples

$$\begin{split} &\alpha_1(x,y) = 1, \\ &\alpha_2(x,y) = 1 + 0.5 \cdot \sin(8x) \sin(8y), \\ &\alpha_3(x,y) = 0.1 + 0.9 * \text{rand}, \quad (x,y) \in \tau, \quad \forall \tau \in \mathcal{T}_1, \\ &\alpha_4(x,y) = \alpha_{\mathsf{GSLIB}}(i,j), \text{ for } \frac{i-1}{120} \leq x < \frac{i}{120}, \ \frac{j-1}{120} \leq y < \frac{j}{120}, \\ &\alpha_5(x,y) = \alpha_{\mathsf{SPE}}(i,j), \text{ for } \frac{i-1}{120} \leq x < \frac{i}{120}, \ \frac{j-1}{120} \leq y < \frac{j}{120}, \end{split}$$



We let  $f = \chi_{inj} - \chi_{prod}$ , with  $supp(\chi_{inj}) = [0, 1/60] \times [0, 1/60]$ , and  $supp(\chi_{prod}) = [1 - 1/60, 1] \times [1 - 1/60, 1]$ .

## Convergence of local solution $\mathcal{T}^{h,k}\phi_i$

 $i = 435, h = H2^{-J}, J = 3, H = 1/30$ , using rectangular mesh:



Relative error in energy norm (left). We get exponential convergence in k.

Corresponding error using 2k cg iterations (right)  $\Rightarrow$  slower convergence for high aspect ratio.

Preconditioner that works in the argument?

# Convergence of global solution $u^{h,k}$

Again J = 3 and H = 1/30. We plot the error  $u^h - u^{h,k}$  in energy norm (relative).



#### How does the error depend on H?

Remember

$$|||u^{h} - u^{h,k}||| \le C \left( ||u^{h}||_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)} / H + ||f||_{L^{2}(\Omega)} \right) \rho^{2k},$$

We let J = 2 and k = 3.



The bound is not sharp in terms of H.

Using the modified basis  $\{\phi_i + \mathcal{T}^k \phi_i\}_{i \in \mathcal{N}}$  it has been proven that,

$$||u - u^k||| \le C(||Hf||_{L^2(\Omega)} + \gamma^k),$$

where  $0 \le \gamma < 1$  is computable and only dependent on shape regularity constant and  $\max \alpha / \min \alpha$ . Classical a priori error analysis then gives a bound for  $|||u^k - u^{h,k}|||$ .

Note that the condition number is not present at all, analytical techniques using cut off functions are instead used.

The constant C depends on  $\max_T H / \min_T H$ .

M. & Peterseim, *Localization of elliptic multiscale problems*, preprint arXiv

## A posteriori error estimation and adaptivity

Motivation:

- The method we propose will have overlapping patches, which, especially in 3D, is expensive.
- The problems we consider often includes channels so the solution is typically localized in space.
- The size of the patches and the refinement level is difficult to predict a priori, we therefore need error indicators to tune these parameters automatically.



#### A posteriori error estimate

Let  $\rho^2(g; v) = \sum_{K \in \mathcal{K}_h} h_K^2 \|g + \nabla \cdot \alpha \nabla v\|_{L^2(K)}^2 + h_K \|[n \cdot \alpha \nabla v]\|_{L^2(\partial K)}^2$ **Theorem 2** Let  $u^{h,k} = (1 + \mathcal{T}^{h,k})u_c^{h,k} + u_l^{h,k}$  be the multiscale approximation. Then,

$$\|\|u - u^{h,k}\|\|^{2} \lesssim \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} \rho(-\nabla \cdot \alpha \nabla \phi_{i}; \mathcal{T}^{h,k} \phi_{i}) + \rho(f\phi_{i}; u^{h,k}_{l,i})$$
$$+ \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} H(\|n \cdot \alpha \nabla \mathcal{T}^{h,k} \phi_{i}\|^{2}_{L^{2}(\partial \omega_{i}^{k})} + \|n \cdot \alpha \nabla u^{h,k}_{l,i}\|^{2}_{L^{2}(\partial \omega_{i}^{k})})$$

- A standard element indicator on each patch measuring the effect of decreasing fine scale mesh size *h*.
- A new indicator on the boundary of each patch  $\partial \omega_i^k$ . The a priori analysis shows that  $\mathcal{T}^{h,k}\phi_i$  and  $u_{l,i}^{h,k}$  decays exponentially in k.

#### Adaptive algorithm

Given the bound

$$\begin{aligned} \| u - u^{h,k} \| ^2 &\lesssim \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} \rho(-\nabla \cdot \alpha \nabla \phi_i; \mathcal{T}^{h,k} \phi_i) + \rho(f\phi_i; u^{h,k}_{l,i}) \\ &+ \sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} H(\| n \cdot \alpha \nabla \mathcal{T}^{h,k} \phi_i \|_{L^2(\partial \omega_i^k)}^2 + \| n \cdot \alpha \nabla u^{h,k}_{l,i} \|_{L^2(\partial \omega_i^k)}^2). \end{aligned}$$

- 1. Compute multiscale approximation.
- 2. Compute indicators.
- 3. If the error is small enough break.
- 4. Otherwise, decrease h locally if interior indicator is large and increase k locally is boundary indicator is large.
- 5. Go back to 1.

#### Numerical example

- Let the coarse mesh consist of  $32 \times 32$  elements.
- Let the fine reference mesh consist of  $256 \times 256$  elements.
- f = -1 in lower left corner ( $0 \le x, y \le 1/128$ ) and f = 1 in upper right corner, otherwise f = 0.
- We consider four layers of the SPE data set:



We use a symmetric Discontinuous Galerkin method as base for the multiscale method. Local problems are solved using Neumann boundary conditions, hanging nodes are allowed, there is a common reference mesh for the local problems.

#### Numerical example

We start with one refinement and two layers in each local problem. In each iteration we refine and increase the size of 30% of the patches (possibly different patches).



We plot refinements and layers for layer 31 after three iterations.





#### Numerical example

#### Convergence of relative error vs. number of iterations.



## Why DG?

## Advantage:

- It allows for Neumann conditions on the patches since discontinuous fine scale solutions are not a problem.
- One can use adaptively refined local subgrid and still have a global reference grid by using hanging nodes.
- Construction of a conservative flux, which is essential in the application area, is easy.

Disadvantage:

- Expensive.
- There is a penalty parameter which needs to be tuned.

## Summary of this talk

- 1. We prove an *a priori* error bound and thereby convergence as  $k \to \infty$  for the proposed method, for fix H and  $h = H2^{-J}$ .
- 2. The bound reveals that for fix H and J we get *exponential decay* in the number of layers k.
- 3. Numerical experiments confirms this and furthermore reveals that a very small value  $k \sim 2$  is needed for 2D examples in practise.
- 4. There are still improvements needed in the analysis in the case when  $\frac{\max_x \alpha(x)}{\min_x \alpha(x)}$  or *J* is large. Preconditioner and/or wavelet basis might resolve this. Different split may also prove useful.
- 5. We show an *a posteriori* error bound and numerical examples with adaptively refined local problems.

## **Future directions**

- Improving the convergence result with Peterseim (quasi-uniform, max  $a/\min a$ )
- Convergence results for different equations, such as convection-diffusion
- Convergence of the adaptive algorithm
- Multiscale in time
- Implementation on parallel machines, 3D
- Solving the coupled system of hyperbolic and elliptic arising in porous media flow