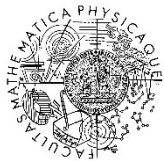


# The effect of approximate coarsest-level solves on the convergence of multigrid V-cycle methods

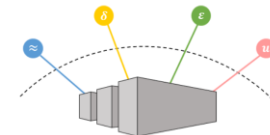
Petr Vacek, Erin Carson, Kirk M. Soodhalter  
Charles University in Prague

Sparse Days Meeting 2024, Cerfacs, France

June 17, 2024



FACULTY  
OF MATHEMATICS  
AND PHYSICS  
Charles University



**inEXASCALE**

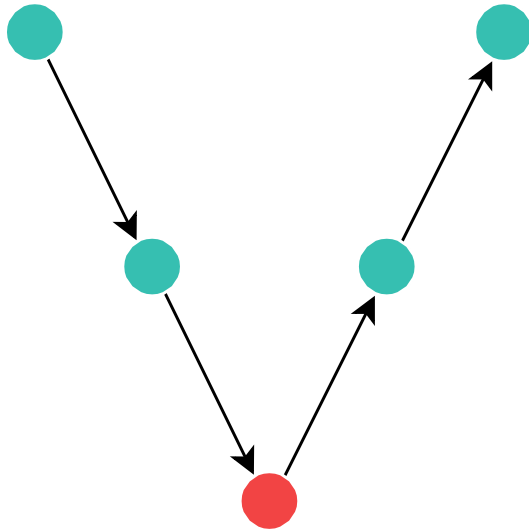
We acknowledge funding from ERC Starting Grant No. 101075632, Charles University PRIMUS project no. PRIMUS/19/SCI/11, the Exascale Computing Project (17-SC-20-SC), a collaborative effort of the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science and the National Nuclear Security Administration.

# Introduction

Find  $x$ :  $Ax = b$ .

$x^{\text{prev}}$

$x^{\text{new}}$



● smoothing

● solving on the coarsest level

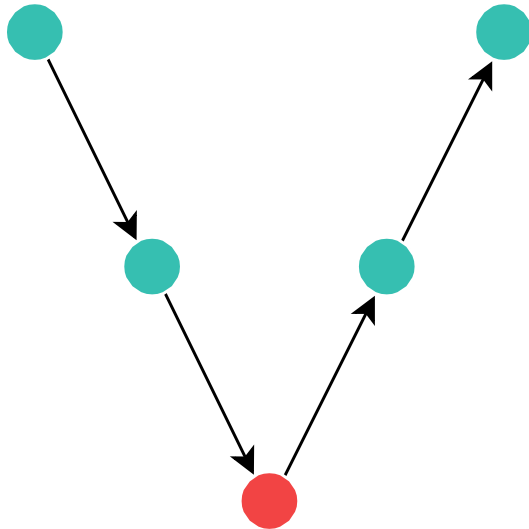
Find  $v_0$ :  $A_0 v_0 = f_0$ .

# Introduction

Find  $x$ :  $Ax = b$ .

$x^{\text{prev}}$

$x^{\text{new}}$



● smoothing

● solving on the coarsest level

direct solver based on LU decomposition

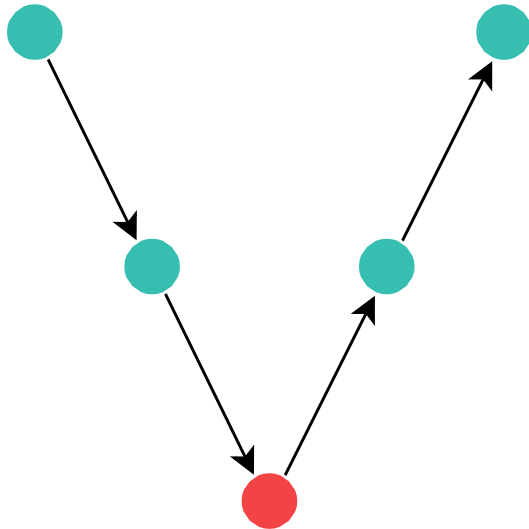
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Find  $x$ :  $Ax = b$ .

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$v_{0,\text{in}} \approx v_0$



smoothing



solving on the coarsest level

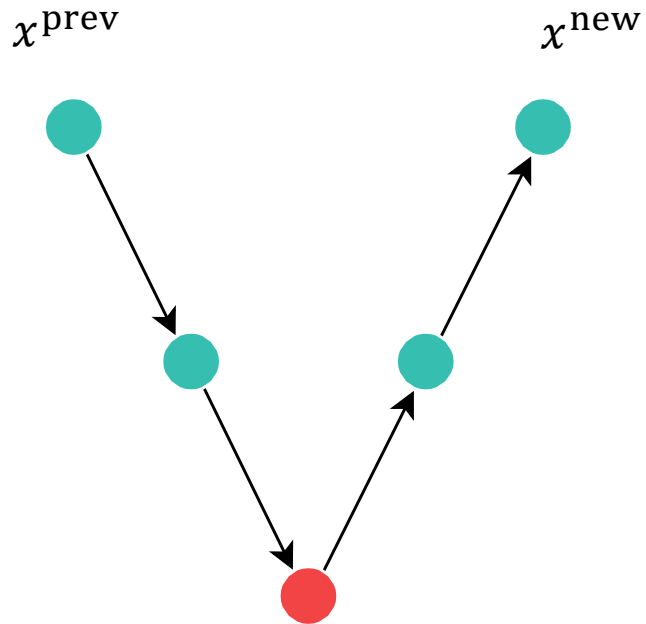
direct solver based on LU decomposition

Krylov subspace methods

Block Low Rank direct solver

# Introduction

Find  $x$ :  $Ax = b$ .



Find  $v_0$ :  $A_0 v_0 = f_0$ .

$$v_{0,\text{in}} \approx v_0$$

● smoothing

● solving on the coarsest level

direct solver based on LU decomposition

Krylov subspace methods

$$\frac{\|f_0 - A_0 v_{0,\text{in}}\|}{\|f_0\|} \leq \tau$$

Block Low Rank direct solver

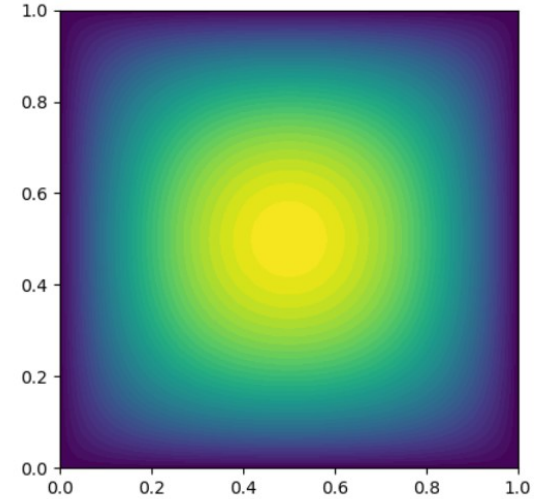
# Motivational experiment

## Poisson problem

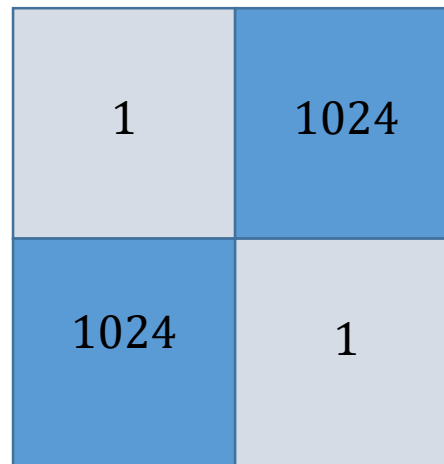
$$-\Delta u = 1 \text{ in } \Omega, \quad u = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega.$$

## jump-1024 problem

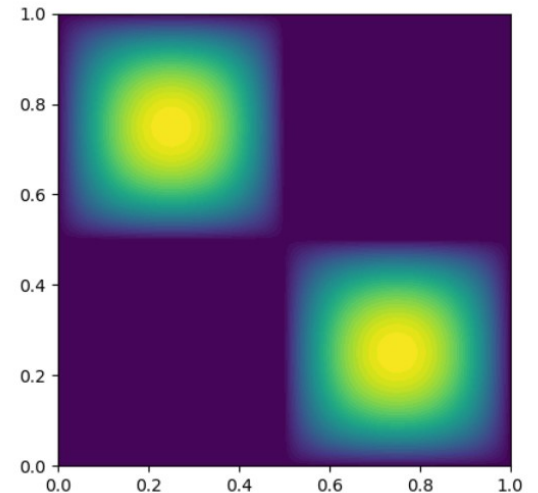
$$-\nabla \cdot (k(x)\nabla u) = 1 \text{ in } \Omega, \quad u = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega.$$



computed solution



coefficient  $k(x)$



computed solution

# Motivational experiment

## Discretization

Galerkin FEM – continuous piecewise linear functions

uniform refinement

6 levels

coarsest-level: 1.52E+03 DoF

finest level: 1.64E+06 DoF

## V-cycle method V(1,1)

smoother: symmetric Gauss-Seidel method

solver: MATLAB backslash or CG

zero initial approximation

$$\|x - x^{(n)}\|_A \leq \theta, \quad \theta = 10^{-4} \text{ or } \theta = 10^{-11}$$

# Motivational numerical experiment

	Poisson problem		jump-1024 problem	
	condition number of the coarsest-level matrix			
	6.48E+02		1.66E+05	
	finest level tolerance $\theta$		finest level tolerance $\theta$	
	1.00E-04	1.00E-11	1.00E-04	1.00E-11
$\tau$	V-cycles	total CG it.		
5.00E-01	5	68		
2.50E-01	3	62		
1.25E-01	3	71		
6.25E-02	2	63		
3.13E-02	2	71		
1.56E-02	2	79		
7.81E-03	2	88		
3.91E-03	2	96		
1.95E-03	2	100		
9.77E-04	2	106		
4.88E-04	2	110		
2.44E-04	2	115		
1.22E-04	2	120		
6.10E-05	2	125		
3.05E-05	2	129		
1.53E-05	2	132		
7.63E-06	2	135		
3.81E-06	2	139		
1.91E-06	2	152		
9.54E-07	2	158		
$A \setminus b$	2			



# Motivational numerical experiment

$\tau$	Poisson problem				jump-1024 problem	
	condition number of the coarsest-level matrix					
	6.48E+02				1.66E+05	
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	V-cycles	total CG it.		V-cycles	total CG it.	
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2.50E-01	3	62		11	234	
1.25E-01	3	71		10	231	
6.25E-02	2	63		9	240	
3.13E-02	2	71		9	251	
1.56E-02	2	79		9	294	
7.81E-03	2	88		9	352	
3.91E-03	2	96		9	390	
1.95E-03	2	100		9	412	
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4.88E-04	2	110		9	472	
2.44E-04	2	115		9	543	
1.22E-04	2	120		9	579	
6.10E-05	2	125		9	638	
3.05E-05	2	129		9	671	
1.53E-05	2	132		9	711	
7.63E-06	2	135		9	741	
3.81E-06	2	139		9	773	
1.91E-06	2	152		9	815	
9.54E-07	2	158		9	843	
A\b	2			9		

# Motivational numerical experiment

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A\b	2		9		2		9	

# Motivational numerical experiment

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A\b	2		9		2		9	

Can we analytically describe how the choice of the relative tolerance on the coarsest-level affects the convergence of the V-cycle method?

# Motivational numerical experiment

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Can we analytically describe how the choice of the relative tolerance on the coarsest-level affects the convergence of the V-cycle method?

Can we define coarsest-level stopping criteria that would yield a computed V-cycle approximation „close“ to the V-cycle approximation which would be obtained by solving the coarsest-level problems exactly?

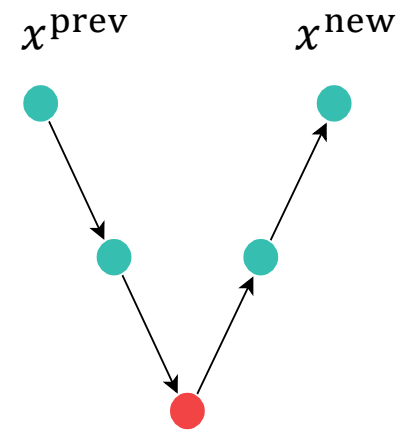
# Setting

$A$  - symmetric positive definite matrix

V-cycle method,  $R_j = P_j^T$ ,  $A_j = P_j^T A P_j$ , Galerkin condition

V-cycle with exact solver converges

Find  $x$  :  $Ax = b$  .



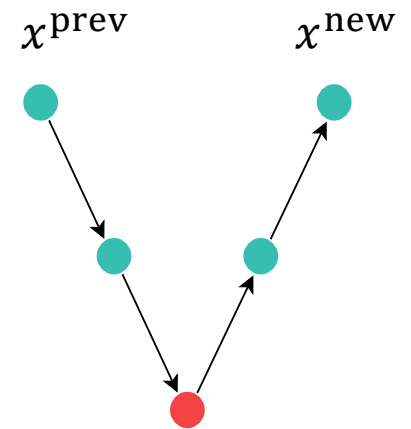
Find  $v_0$  :  $A_0 v_0 = f_0$  .

$$v_{0,\text{in}} \approx v_0$$

# Analysis

$$x - x_{\text{in}}^{\text{new}} = x - x_{\text{ex}}^{\text{new}} + x_{\text{ex}}^{\text{new}} - x_{\text{in}}^{\text{new}}$$

Find  $x$  :  $Ax = b$  .



Find  $v_0$  :  $A_0 v_0 = f_0$  .

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# Analysis

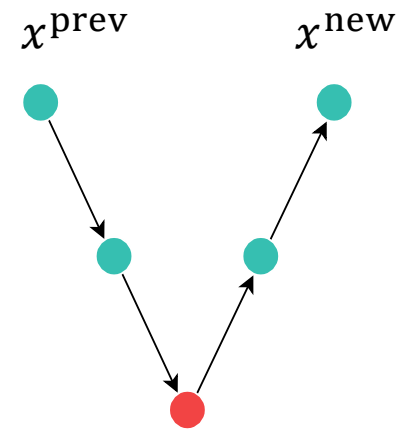
$$\begin{aligned}x - x_{\text{in}}^{\text{new}} &= x - x_{\text{ex}}^{\text{new}} + x_{\text{ex}}^{\text{new}} - x_{\text{in}}^{\text{new}} \\ &= E(x - x^{\text{prev}}) + S(v_0 - v_{0,\text{in}})\end{aligned}$$

error propagation  
matrix of V-cycle with  
exact solver

error of previous  
approximation

error on the  
coarsest-level

Find  $x$  :  $Ax = b$  .



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# Analysis

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error propagation  
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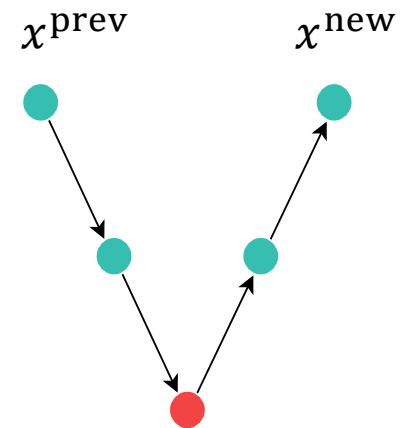
error of previous  
approximation

error on the  
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$$\|x - x_{\text{in}}^{\text{new}}\|_A \leq \|E\|_A \cdot \|x - x^{\text{prev}}\|_A + \underbrace{\|S\|_{A_0,A}}_{\leq 1} \cdot \|v_0 - v_{0,\text{in}}\|_{A_0}$$

$$\|S\|_{A_0,A} := \max_{v \in \mathbb{R}^{n_0}, v \neq 0} \frac{\|Sv\|_A}{\|v\|_{A_0}}$$

Find  $x$ :  $Ax = b$ .



Find  $v_0$ :  $A_0 v_0 = f_0$ .

$$v_{0,\text{in}} \approx v_0$$



# Analysis

$$\begin{aligned} x - x_{\text{in}}^{\text{new}} &= x - x_{\text{ex}}^{\text{new}} + x_{\text{ex}}^{\text{new}} - x_{\text{in}}^{\text{new}} \\ &= E(x - x^{\text{prev}}) + S(v_0 - v_{0,\text{in}}) \end{aligned}$$

error propagation  
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$$\|x - x_{\text{in}}^{\text{new}}\|_A \leq \|E\|_A \cdot \|x - x^{\text{prev}}\|_A + \underbrace{\|S\|_{A_0,A}}_{\leq 1} \cdot \|v_0 - v_{0,\text{in}}\|_{A_0}$$

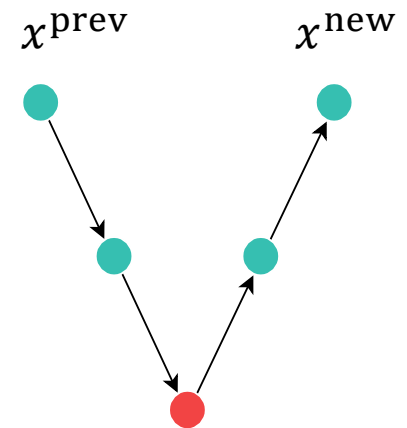
Relative coarsest-level accuracy assumption

$$\text{Let } \gamma > 0: \|v_0 - v_{0,\text{in}}\|_{A_0} \leq \gamma \cdot \|x - x^{\text{prev}}\|_A$$

Result:

$$\|x - x_{\text{in}}^{\text{new}}\|_A \leq (\|E\|_A + \gamma \cdot \|S\|_{A_0,A}) \|x - x^{\text{prev}}\|_A$$

Find  $x$ :  $Ax = b$ .



Find  $v_0$ :  $A_0 v_0 = f_0$ .

$$v_{0,\text{in}} \approx v_0$$

# Coarsest-level solver with relative residual tolerance

$$\frac{\|f_0 - A_0 v_{0,\text{in}}\|}{\|f_0\|} \leq \tau$$

$$\|x - x_{\text{in}}^{\text{new}}\|_A \leq \left( \|E\|_A + \tau \cdot \|T\| \cdot \|S\|_{A_0, A} \cdot \sqrt{\|A\| \cdot \|A_0^{-1}\|} \right) \|x - x^{\text{prev}}\|_A$$

# Analysis

$$\begin{aligned} x - x_{\text{in}}^{\text{new}} &= x - x_{\text{ex}}^{\text{new}} + x_{\text{ex}}^{\text{new}} - x_{\text{in}}^{\text{new}} \\ &= E(x - x^{\text{prev}}) + S(v_0 - v_{0,\text{in}}) \end{aligned}$$

error propagation  
matrix of V-cycle with  
exact solver

error of previous  
approximation

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$$\|x - x_{\text{in}}^{\text{new}}\|_A \leq \|E\|_A \cdot \|x - x^{\text{prev}}\|_A + \underbrace{\|S\|_{A_0,A}}_{\leq 1} \cdot \|v_0 - v_{0,\text{in}}\|_{A_0}$$

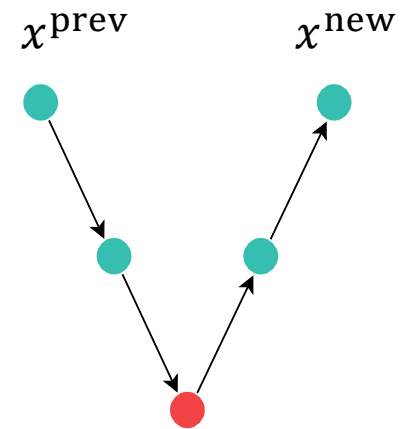
Absolute coarsest-level accuracy assumption

$$\text{Let } \epsilon > 0: \|v_0 - v_{0,\text{in}}\|_{A_0} \leq \epsilon$$

Result:

$$\|x_{\text{ex}}^{(n)} - x_{\text{in}}^{(n)}\|_A \leq \frac{\epsilon \cdot \|S\|_{A_0,A}}{1 - \|E\|_A} \leq \frac{\epsilon}{1 - \|E\|_A}$$

Find  $x$ :  $Ax = b$ .



Find  $v_0$ :  $A_0 v_0 = f_0$ .

$$v_{0,\text{in}} \approx v_0$$

# New coarsest-level stopping criterion

Can we define coarsest-level stopping criteria that would yield a computed V-cycle approximation „close“ to the V-cycle approximation which would be obtained by solving the coarsest-level problems exactly?

## Ingredients:

Upper bound on the error of the coarsest level solver  $\|v_0 - v_{0,\text{in}}\|_{A_0} \leq \eta(v_{0,\text{in}})$

Estimate of the convergence rate  $\|E\|_A \leq \alpha$

## Stop the coarsest-level solver when

$\frac{\eta(v_{0,\text{in}})}{(1-\alpha)} \leq \theta$ , where  $\theta$  is a parameter chosen by the user.

Then  $\|x_{\text{ex}}^{(n)} - x_{\text{in}}^{(n)}\|_A \leq \theta$ ,  
 $\|x - x_{\text{in}}^{(n)}\|_A \leq \|x - x_{\text{ex}}^{(n)}\|_A + \theta$

# Numerical Experiments

Stop the coarsest-level solver when

$$\frac{\eta(v_{0,in})}{(1-\alpha)} \leq \theta$$

$$\|E\|_A < \alpha = 2/3$$

$$\theta = 10^{-4} \text{ or } 10^{-11}$$

(GR) Gauss-Radau bound  
on A-norm of the error in CG  
 [Meurant, Tichý2023]

$\tau$	Poisson problem, 6 levels				jump-1024 problem, 6 levels				
	condition number coarsest-level matrix								
	6.48E+02				1.66E+05				
	finest level tolerance $\theta$				finest level tolerance $\theta$				
	1.00E-04		1.00E-11		1.00E-04		1.00E-11		
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1.91E-06	2	152	9	815	2	1621	9	7664	
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GR	2	82	9	674	2	743	9	6489	

# Conclusions

New approach for analyzing the effects of approximate coarsest-level solves on the convergence of multigrid V-cycle methods

New coarsest-level stopping strategy tailored to multigrid methods

Future work:

Algebraic multigrid methods

CG preconditioned by multigrid with inexact coarsest level solver

P. V., E. Carson and K. M. Soodhalter, The Effect of Approximate Coarsest-Level Solves on the Convergence of Multigrid V-Cycle Methods, SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing (accepted; in press), <https://arxiv.org/abs/2306.06182>

# A posteriori error estimates based on multilevel decompositions with large problems on the coarsest level

Petr Vacek, Jan Papež and Zdeněk Strakoš

# Multilevel a posteriori error estimate [Rüde 1993]

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

$$Ax = b, \text{ FEM P1 discretization}$$

$$\hat{x} \approx x$$

$$r_j = P_j^T (b - A\hat{x})$$

$$\eta_J = \left( \sum_{j=1}^J r_j^T \text{diag}(A_j)^{-1} r_j + r_0^T A_0^{-1} r_0 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$



# Multilevel a posteriori error estimate [Rüde 1993]

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

$$Ax = b, \text{ FEM P1 discretization}$$

$$\hat{x} \approx x$$

$$r_j = P_j^T (b - A\hat{x})$$

$$\eta_J = \left( \sum_{j=1}^J r_j^T \text{diag}(A_j)^{-1} r_j + r_0^T A_0^{-1} r_0 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$c\eta_J \leq \|x - \hat{x}\|_A \leq C\eta_J$$

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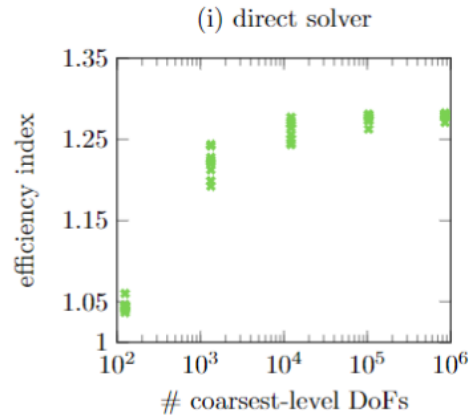
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# Numerical experiment

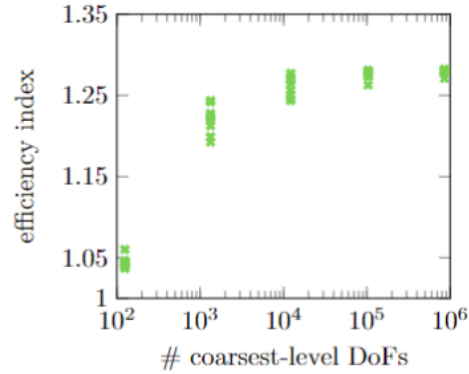
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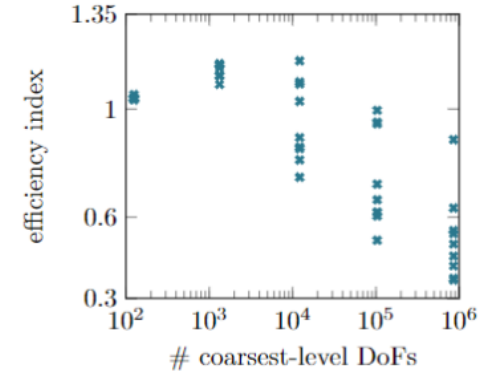
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(i) direct solver



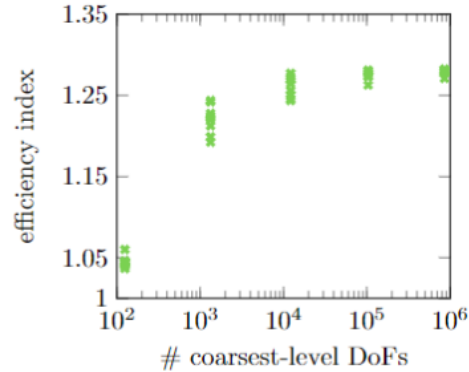
(ii) 4 iterations of CG



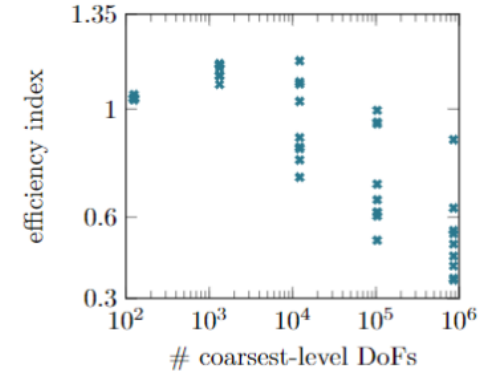
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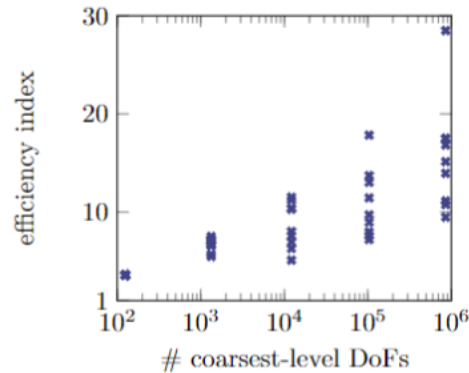
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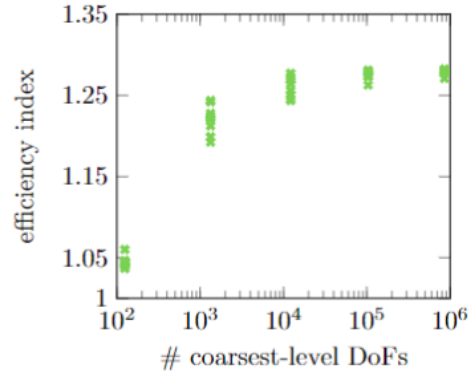
(iii) diagonal approximation



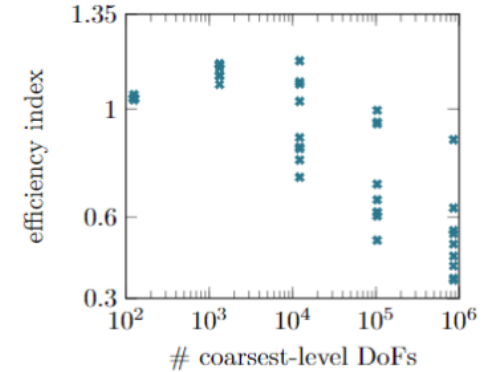
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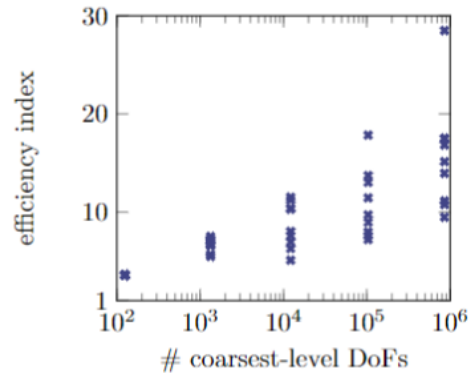
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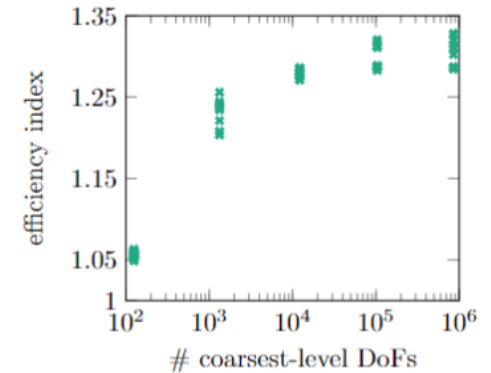
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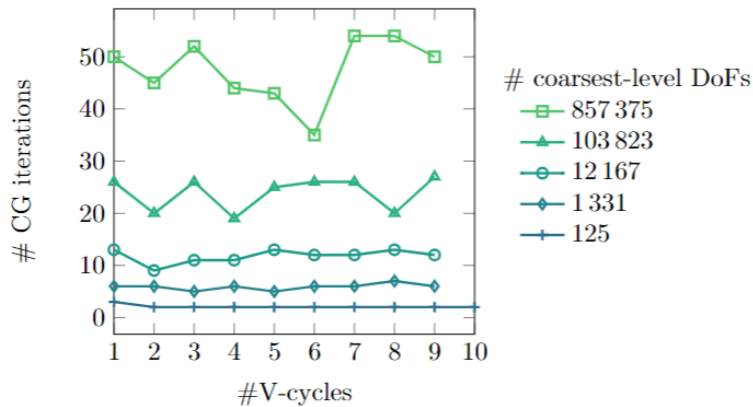


(iv) adaptive CG approximation

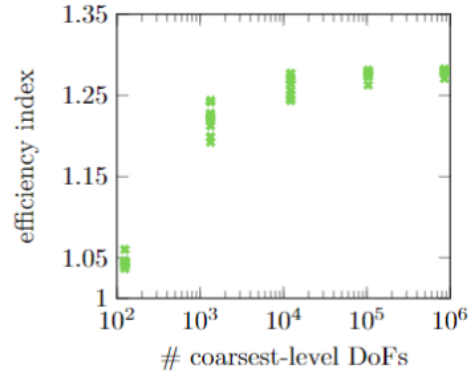


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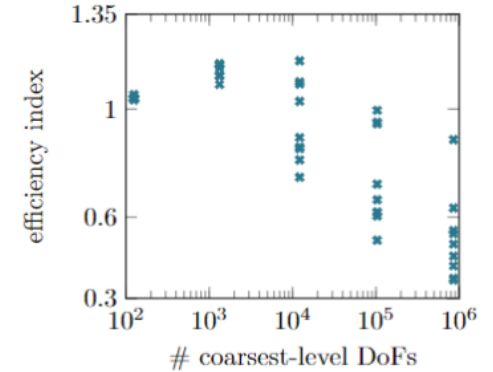
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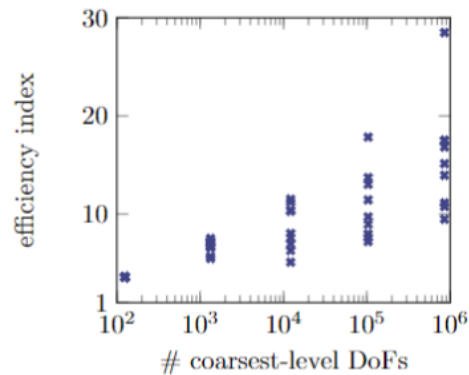
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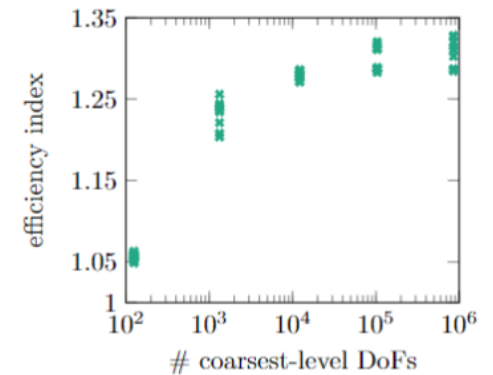
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P. V., E. Carson and K. M. Soodhalter, The Effect of Approximate Coarsest-Level Solves on the Convergence of Multigrid V-Cycle Methods, SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing (accepted; in press), <https://arxiv.org/abs/2306.06182>

P. V., J. Papež and Z. Strakoš, A posteriori error estimates based on multilevel decompositions with large problems on the coarsest level, (submitted) May 2024, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.06532>



<https://sites.google.com/view/petrvacek>