Multiscale Inversion of Elliptic Operators

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Abstract. A fast adaptive algorithm for the solution of elliptic partial differential equations is presented. It is applied here to the Poisson equation with periodic boundary conditions. The extension to more complicated equations and boundary conditions is outlined.

The purpose is to develop algorithms requiring a number of operations proportional to the number of significant coefficients in the representation of the r.h.s. of the equation. This number is related to the specified accuracy, but independent of the resolution. The wavelet decomposition and the conjugate gradient iteration serve as the basic elements of the present approach.

The main difficulty in solving such equations stems from the inherently large condition number of the matrix representing the linear system that result from the discretization. However, it is known that periodized differential operators have an effective di

velop a framework for solving problems with general boundary conditions. Let us consider the partial differential equation

$$\mathcal{L}u = f \quad x \in \mathbf{D} \subset \mathbf{R}^{\mathrm{d}}, \tag{1.1}$$

with the boundary condition

$$\mathcal{B}u|_{\partial\mathbf{D}} = g, \tag{1.2}$$

where $\mathcal{L}$ is an elliptic operator,

$$\mathcal{L}u = -\sum_{i,j=1,\ldots,d} (a_{ij}(x)\ u_{x_i})_{x_j} + b(x)\ u, \tag{1.3}$$

and $\mathcal{B}$ is the boundary operator,

$$\mathcal{B}u = \alpha u + \beta \frac{\partial u}{\partial N}. \tag{1.4}$$

We assume that the boundary $\partial\mathbf{D}$ is "complicated." As a practical matter

valid in higher dimensions as well.

We adopt a classical approach to this problem which, until now, was not practical from the numerical point of view. We consider the following steps for solving the problem in (1.1) and (1.2):

where $\mathbf{V}_j$ is a subspace of an MRA spanned by translations of the scaling function,

$$\phi_{j,k}(x) = 2^{-jd/2}\phi(2^{-j}x_1 - k_1)\,\phi(2^{-j}x_2 - k_2)\ldots\phi(2^{-j}x_d - k_d). \qquad (2.3)$$

scaling function of MRA of $\mathbf{L}^2(\mathbf{R})$.

Let us define the subspaces $\mathbf{W}_j$ as orthogonal complements of $\mathbf{V}_j$ in $\mathbf{V}_{j-1}$,

$$\mathbf{V}_{j-1} = \mathbf{V}_j \oplus \mathbf{W}_j, \qquad (2.4)$$

and represent the space $\mathbf{L}^2(\mathbf{R}^{\mathrm{d}})$ as a direct sum

$$\mathbf{L}^2(\mathbf{R}^{\mathrm{d}}) = \mathbf{V}_n \bigoplus \mathbf{W}_j \qquad (2.5)$$

where

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)\, g(x) dx. \tag{2.12}$$

The sum over σ is finite and the number of terms is $2^{\mathrm{d}} - 1$ for each $\mathbf{k}$.

Instead of estimating $M_{\lambda,\mu}$ directly, we may use an iterative approach. For example, solving directly on $M^{\epsilon}_{\text{r.h.s}}$ produces a solution $\tilde{u}$ with accuracy $\tilde{\epsilon} > \epsilon$. Applying the Laplacian to $\tilde{u}$, we generate $\tilde{f}$. Estimating the

In [5] the s-form is used to solve the two-point boundary-value problem. Alternatively, we may use the ns-form. Some care is required at this point since the preconditioned ns-form is dense unlike the s-form, which remains sparse. Thus, in the process of solving the linear system, it is necessary to apply the preconditioner and the ns-form sequentially in order to maintain sparsity. The ns-form is preferable in multiple dimensions since, for example, differential operators require $O(1)$ elements for representation on all scales (see *e.g.* [4]).

We develop a constrained (see below) preconditioned CG algorithm for solving (1.5) in an adaptive manner. Both the s-form and the

§4 Preconditioner for the operator $-\Delta + \text{Const}$

An "efficient" preconditioner is an essential element in the present approach. In a more restricted sense, "efficient" means insensitive to the size of the problem.

Let us demonstrate how to construct a diagonal preconditioner for the sum of operators $-\Delta + \text{Const}$ in the wavelet bases. We observe that if A and B are diagonal operators with diagonal entries a_i and b_i, then the diagonal operator with entries $1/(a_i + b_i)$ (provided $a_i + b_i \neq 0$) is an ideal preconditioner.

In our case, the operator $-\Delta$ is not diagonal but we know a good diagonal preconditioner for it in wavelet bases (3.4). Let us use this preconditioner instead of $-\Delta$ for the purpose of constructing a preconditioner [redacted] identity operator remains unchanged. We restrict $\text{Const} \cdot I$, where I is the identity operator, to the subspace

$$\bigoplus_{1 \leq j \leq n} \mathbf{W}_j \tag{4.1}$$

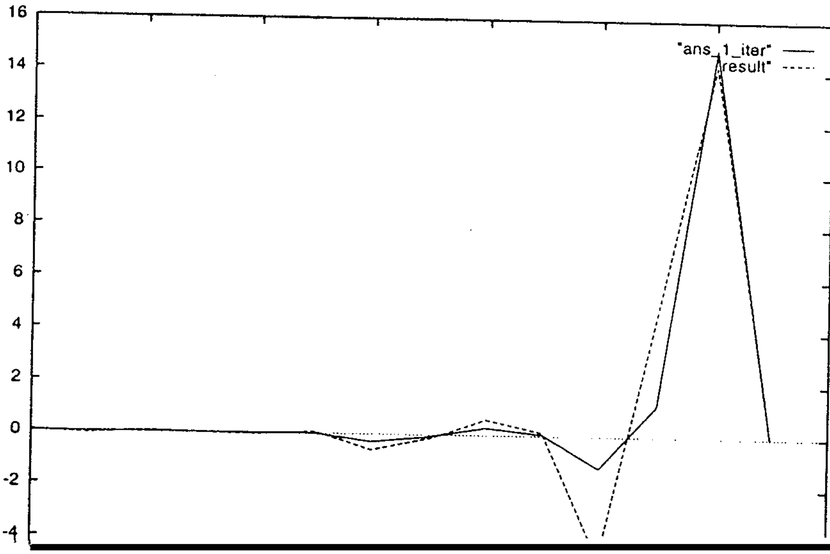
and construct a preconditioner on this subspace.

We obtain

$$\mathcal{P}_{il} = \frac{\delta_{il}}{[redacted]} \tag{4.2}$$

[redacted]

Const	κ	κ_p
$7.1 \cdot 10^{-0}$	$2.4 \cdot 10^{0}$	2.1
$7.1 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$1.5 \cdot 10^{1}$	6.3
$7.1 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$1.4 \cdot 10^{2}$	9.4
$7.1 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.3 \cdot 10^{3}$	9.5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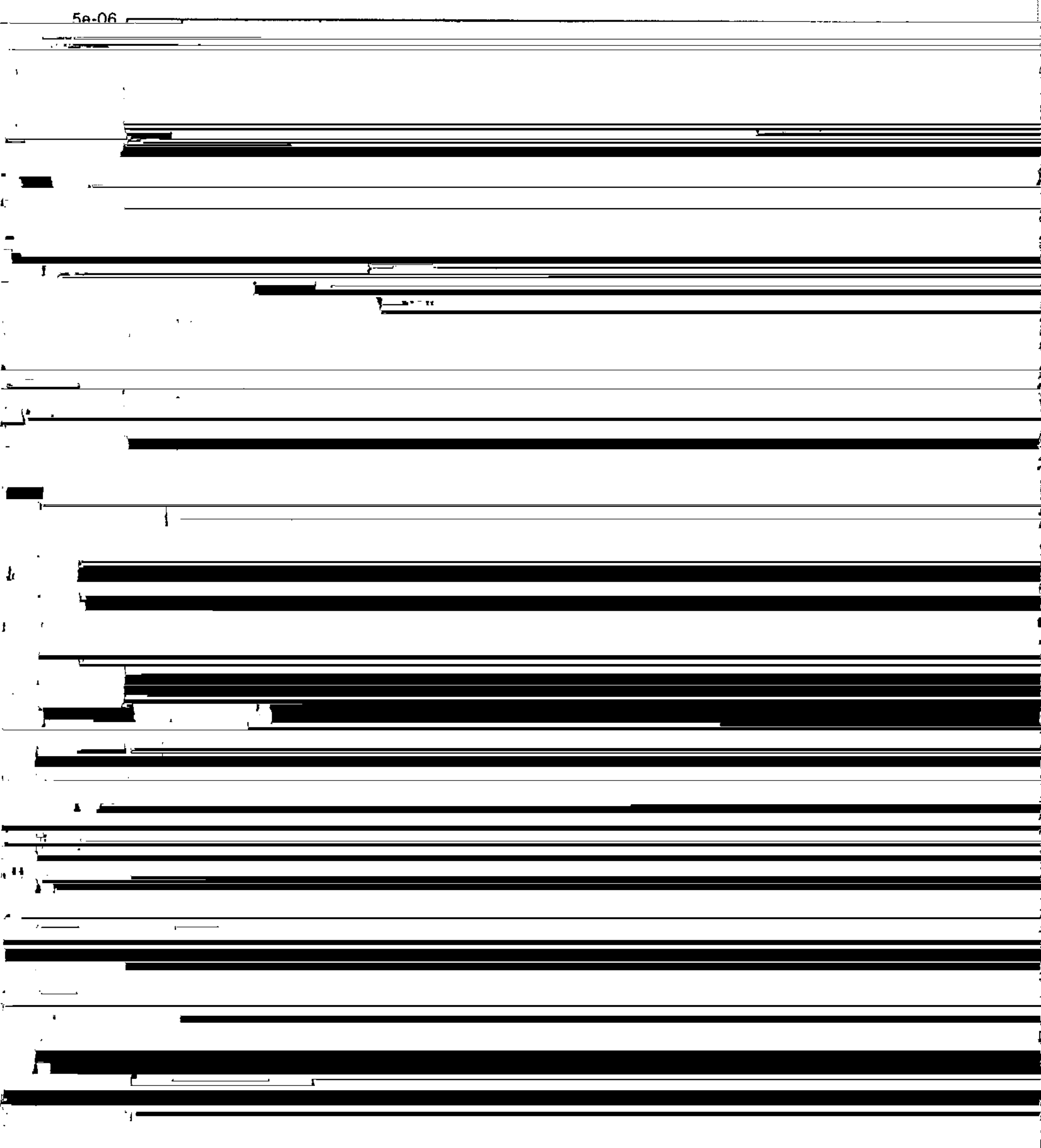
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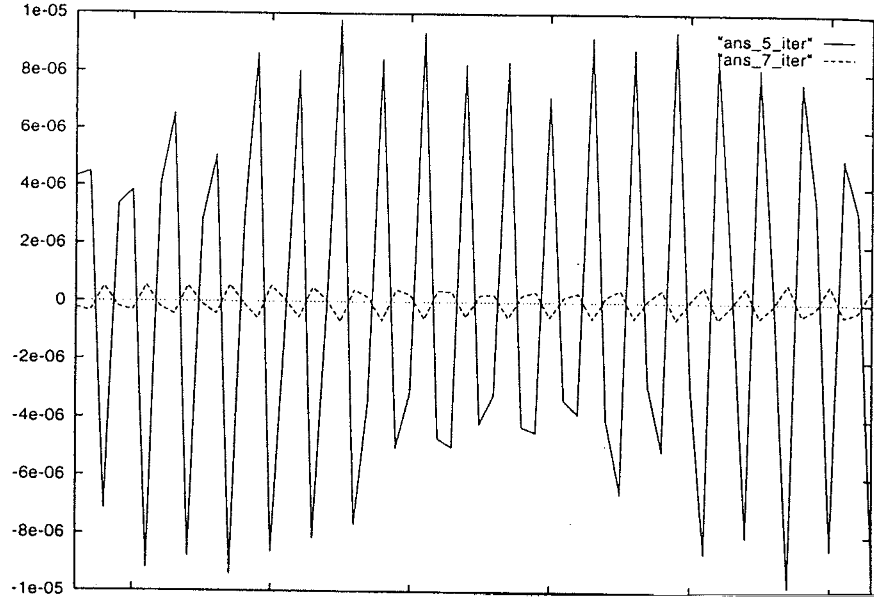

Figure 4. Compare the results after 5 and 7 iterations for $\omega = 0.8$, 1024 points, Daubechies 20, no skip.

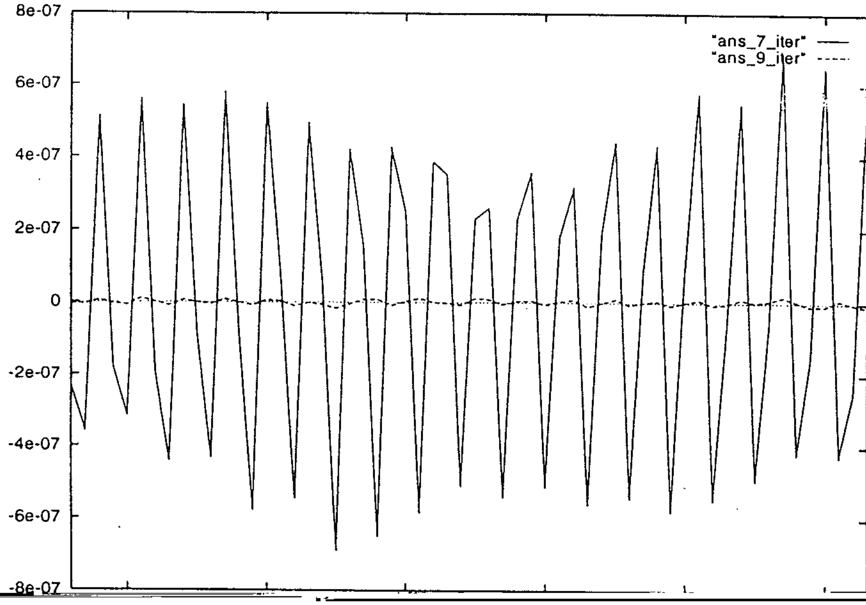

Figure 5. Compare the results after 7 and 9 iterations for $\omega = 0.8$, 1024 points, Daubechies 20, no skip.

# scales to skip	# iterations	$\| \; \|_\infty$	$\| \; \|_2$
0	36	10^{-13}	10^{-14}
1	36	0.45×10^{-9}	0.32×10^{-9}
2	34	0.96×10^{-8}	0.52×10^{-8}
3	32	0.17×10^{-6}	0.83×10^{-7}
4	27	0.30×10^{-5}	0.13×10^{-5}
5	17	0.48×10^{-4}	0.21×10^{-4}
6	9	0.80×10^{-3}	0.34×10^{-3}

[redacted]

§6 Further numerical experiments

In the second set of one-dimensional experiments we verify that using the "constrained CG" method we can maintain the sparsity of the conjugate [redacted]

# scales			

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