

A Domain Decomposition Method for Quasilinear Elliptic PDEs Using Mortar Finite Elements

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DD23, International Conference on Domain Decomposition Methods

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IGDK 1754



Outline

1. Motivation

2. Approach

- Continuous Formulation
- Discretization Strategies

3. Numerical Example

4. Outlook



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Motivation

See [Berningner, 2008].

To describe the flow of fluid (water) in porous media, we use the [Richards equation](#) for the *physical pressure* p .

Richards Equation

$$n(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial \theta(p(\mathbf{x}, t))}{\partial t} - \nabla \cdot \left(\frac{K(\mathbf{x})}{\mu} k_r(\theta(p(\mathbf{x}, t))) \nabla (p(\mathbf{x}, t) - \varrho g z) \right) = f(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

Quantities

$\theta \dots$ saturation

$n \dots$ porosity

$\varrho \dots$ density

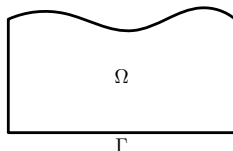
$\mu \dots$ viscosity

$K \dots$ permeability

$k_r \dots$ relative permeability

$g \dots$ gravitational const.

$f \dots$ source term



Motivation

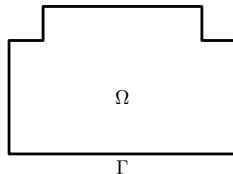
Consider the **heat equation** to describe the distribution of heat where the thermal conductivity depends on the **heat** p .

Heat Equation

$$\frac{\partial p(\mathbf{x}, t)}{\partial t} - \nabla \cdot (k(p(\mathbf{x}, t)) \nabla p(\mathbf{x}, t)) = f(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

Quantities

$k \dots$ thermal conductivity $f \dots$ heat source



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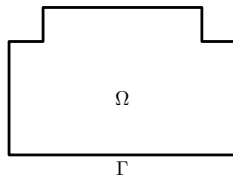
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Heat Equation

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Quantities

$k \dots$ thermal conductivity $f \dots$ heat source



Both equations have **same second order term** $-\nabla \cdot (k(p(\mathbf{x}, t)) \nabla p(\mathbf{x}, t))$.

Motivation

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$. For given data f, g_N, g_D consider the following **quasilinear boundary value problem**.

Model Problem

Find p , such that

$$\begin{aligned} -\nabla \cdot \left(k(p(\mathbf{x})) \nabla p(\mathbf{x}) \right) &= f(\mathbf{x}) && \text{in } \Omega \\ p(\mathbf{x}) &= g_D(\mathbf{x}) && \text{on } \Gamma_D \\ k(p(\mathbf{x})) \nabla p(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\Gamma_N} &= g_N(\mathbf{x}) && \text{on } \Gamma_N \end{aligned}$$



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Assumptions on $k : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

-) $k \in L_\infty(\mathbb{R})$, i.e. $|k(s)| \leq C < \infty$ for almost all $s \in \mathbb{R}$.
-) there exists a constant $c > 0$ such that $0 < c \leq k(s)$ for almost all $s \in \mathbb{R}$.
-) k is Lipschitz continuous, i.e. $|k(s) - k(t)| \leq L |s - t|$.



Motivation

Consider the weak formulation of the BVP.

Weak Formulation

Find $p \in H_{g_D, \Gamma_D}^1(\Omega)$, such that

$$\int_{\Omega} k(p) \nabla p \cdot \nabla v \, dx = \int_{\Omega} f v \, dx + \int_{\Gamma_N} g_N v \, ds_x$$

is satisfied for all $v \in H_{0, \Gamma_D}^1(\Omega)$.



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is satisfied for all $v \in H_{0, \Gamma_D}^1(\Omega)$.

We can apply the [Kirchhoff transformation](#) to the physical quantity p and introduce the *generalized quantity* u as

$$u(\mathbf{x}) := \kappa(p(\mathbf{x})) = \int_0^{p(\mathbf{x})} k(s) \, ds.$$



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We can apply the [Kirchhoff transformation](#) to the physical quantity p and introduce the *generalized quantity* u as

$$u(\mathbf{x}) := \kappa(p(\mathbf{x})) = \int_0^{p(\mathbf{x})} k(s) \, ds.$$

Therefore we get

$$\nabla u(\mathbf{x}) = \kappa'(p(\mathbf{x})) \nabla p(\mathbf{x}) = k(p(\mathbf{x})) \nabla p(\mathbf{x}).$$



Motivation

Transformed Model Problem

Find $u \in H_{h_D, \Gamma_D}^1(\Omega)$, such that

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is satisfied for all $v \in H_{0, \Gamma_D}^1(\Omega)$ with $h_D := \kappa(g_D)$.

-) Unique solvability from Lax–Milgram Lemma.
-) Numerical analysis is well known for this problem.
-) Apply inverse Kirchhoff transformation to obtain the physical quantity p .



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- ⇒ We considered nonlinearities of the form $k : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.
- ⇒ Try nonlinearities of the form $k : \mathbb{R} \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.



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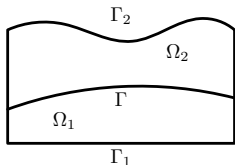
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Approach Continuous Formulation

Consider a second order term is of the form $-\nabla \cdot (k(p(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}) \nabla p(\mathbf{x}))$.

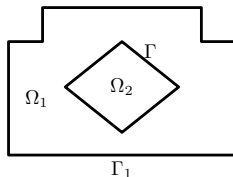
Richards equation



Different soil parameter.

\Rightarrow Different permeabilities.

Heat equation



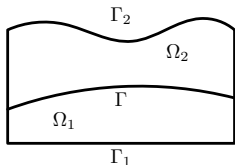
Different material types.

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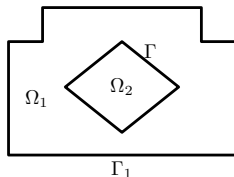
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-) Apply Kirchhoff transformation.

$$\Rightarrow u(\mathbf{x}) := \kappa(p(\mathbf{x})) = \int_0^{p(\mathbf{x})} k(s, \mathbf{x}) ds \quad \text{but} \quad \nabla u(\mathbf{x}) \neq k(p(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}) \nabla p(\mathbf{x}).$$

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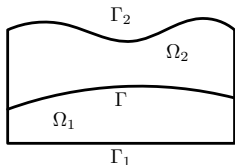
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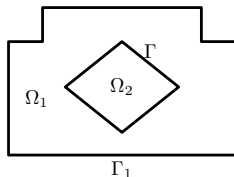
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\Rightarrow new approach to exploit the advantages of the Kirchhoff transformation.

Heat equation



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Approach

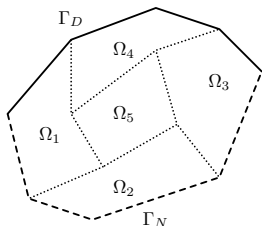
Continuous Formulation

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$. For given data f, g_N, g_D consider the following **quasilinear boundary value problem**.

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Assumption:

- $k(p(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^K \chi_{\Omega_i}(\mathbf{x}) k_i(p(\mathbf{x}))$
- $k_i \in L_\infty(\mathbb{R})$ and $0 < c_i \leq k_i$ for $c_i \in \mathbb{R}$,
- k_i is Lipschitz continuous.

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Nonlinear Variational Formulation

Find $p \in H_{g_D, \Gamma_D}^1(\Omega)$, such that

$$\tilde{a}(p, v) = (f, v)_{0, \Omega} + (g_N, v)_{0, \Gamma_N} \quad \forall v \in H_{0, \Gamma_D}^1(\Omega)$$

The linear form $\tilde{a}(\cdot, \cdot)$ is given by

$$\tilde{a}(p, v) := \int_{\Omega} k(p) \nabla p \cdot \nabla v \, dx.$$



Approach Continuous Formulation

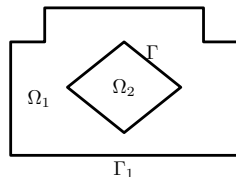
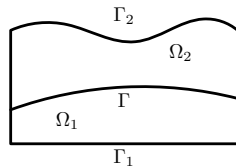
Use **Primal Hybrid Formulation** to exploit the structure of the nonlinearity.
See [Raviart, 1977].

Introduce

$$X := \left\{ v \in L_2(\Omega) \mid v_i \in H^1(\Omega_i), i = 1, \dots, N \right\},$$

and

$$M_{0,\Gamma_N} := \left\{ \mu \in \prod_{i=1}^N H^{\frac{1}{2}}(\partial\Omega_i)' \mid \exists \mathbf{q} \in H_{0,\Gamma_N}(\operatorname{div}, \Omega) : \right. \\ \left. \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{n}_i = \mu \text{ on } \partial\Omega_i, i = 1, \dots, N \right\}.$$



Approach Continuous Formulation

The variational problem can be written in the equivalent formulation.

Primal Hybrid Variational Formulation

Find $(p, \lambda) \in X \times M_{0, \Gamma_N}$, such that

$$\widehat{a}(p, v) + b(v, \lambda) = (f, v)_{0, \Omega} + (g_N, v)_{0, \Gamma_N} \quad \forall v \in X$$

$$b(p, \mu) = - \langle \widetilde{g}_D, \mu \rangle_{\partial \Omega} \quad \forall \mu \in M_{0, \Gamma_N}$$



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The linear form $\widehat{a}(\cdot, \cdot)$ and the bilinear form $b(\cdot, \cdot)$ are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{a}(p, v) &:= \sum_{i=1}^N a_i(p_i, v_i) = \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega_i} k_i(p_i) \nabla p_i \cdot \nabla v_i \, dx \\ b(p, \mu) &:= \sum_{i=1}^N b_i(p, \mu) = - \sum_{i=1}^N \langle \gamma_{\partial \Omega_i}^0, p_i, \mu \rangle_{\partial \Omega_i} \end{aligned}$$

The bilinear form $b(\cdot, \cdot)$ “enforces” the test function v and the solution u to be continuous (in a weak sense) on the interface and therefore to be in $H^1(\Omega)$.



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Apply the Kirchhoff transformation in each subdomain separately.

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow u_i(\mathbf{x}) &:= \kappa_i(p_i(\mathbf{x})) = \int_0^{p_i(\mathbf{x})} k_i(s) \, ds \quad \text{and} \quad \nabla u_i(\mathbf{x}) = k_i(p_i(\mathbf{x})) \nabla p_i(\mathbf{x}) \\ \Rightarrow p_i(\mathbf{x}) &:= \kappa_i^{-1}(u_i(\mathbf{x})) \end{aligned}$$



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Rewrite the linear form $\widehat{a}(\cdot, \cdot)$ and the bilinear form $b(\cdot, \cdot)$ in terms of u .

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{a}(p, v) &= \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega_i} k_i(p_i) \nabla p_i \cdot \nabla v_i \, dx = \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega_i} \nabla u_i \cdot \nabla v_i \, dx =: a(u, v) \\ b(p, \mu) &= - \sum_{i=1}^N \langle \gamma_{\partial \Omega_i}^0 p_i, \mu \rangle_{\partial \Omega_i} = - \sum_{i=1}^N \langle \gamma_{\partial \Omega_i}^0 \kappa_i^{-1}(u_i), \mu \rangle_{\partial \Omega_i} =: c(u, \mu) \end{aligned}$$



Approach Continuous Formulation

We end up with the following variational problem.

Transformed Nonlinear Primal Hybrid Variational Formulation

Find $(u, \lambda) \in X \times M_{0, \Gamma_N}$, such that

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The above variational problem is equivalent to the variational problem

Nonlinear Variational Formulation

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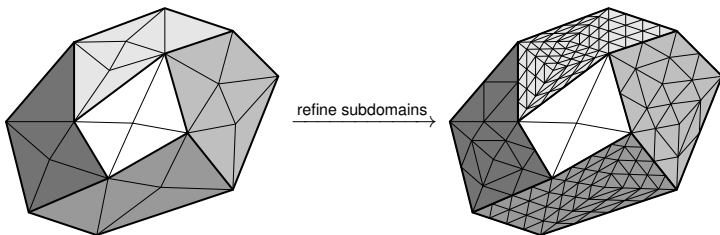
$$\tilde{a}(p, v) = (f, v)_{0, \Omega} + (g_N, v)_{0, \Gamma_N} \quad \forall v \in H_{0, \Gamma_D}^1(\Omega)$$

which is uniquely solvable.



Approach Discretization Strategies

How to discretize the corresponding spaces? See [Wohlmuth, 2001].



For each triangulation $\mathcal{T}_{h,i}$ of Ω_i define

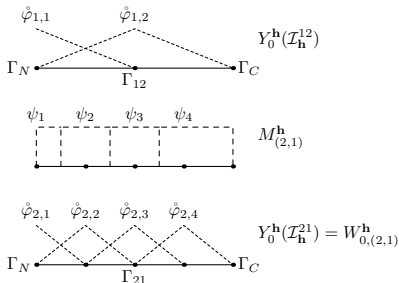
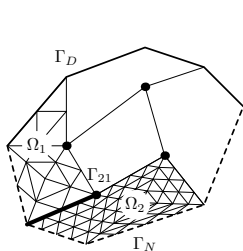
$$X_{h,i} := \mathcal{S}_{h,i}^1(\mathcal{T}_{h,i}) = \left\{ u \in \mathcal{C}(\Omega_i) \mid u|_T \in \mathcal{P}^1(T) \quad \forall T \in \mathcal{T}_{h,i} \right\}$$

and set

$$X_h := \prod_{i=1}^N \left(X_{h,i} \cap H_{0,\partial\Omega_i \cap \Gamma_D}^1(\Omega_i) \right)$$

Approach Discretization Strategies

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Define $\mathcal{M} := \left\{ m = (k, l) \mid \Gamma_{kl} = \partial\Omega_k \cap \partial\Omega_l \neq \emptyset \text{ with } \mathcal{T}_{h,k} \text{ finer than } \mathcal{T}_{h,l} \right\}$.

For each interface Γ_m define

$$M_{h,m} := \mathcal{S}_{h,m}^0(\mathcal{I}'_{h,m}) = \left\{ \lambda \in L_2(\Gamma_m) \mid \lambda|_E \in \mathcal{P}^0(E) \quad \forall E \in \mathcal{I}'_{h,m} \right\}$$

and set

$$M_h := \prod_{m \in \mathcal{M}} M_{h,m}$$



Approach Discretization Strategies

Assume $\tilde{u}_h := u_h + u_{h,D}$ with $u_h \in X_h$.

We obtain the following modified discrete variational problem.

Transformed Nonlinear Primal Hybrid Variational Formulation

Find $(u_h, \lambda_h) \in X_h \times M_h$, such that

$$a(u_h, v_h) + b(v_h, \lambda_h) = (f, v_h)_{0,\Omega} + (g_N, v_h)_{0,\Gamma_N} - a(u_{h,D}, v_h) \quad \forall v_h \in X_h$$

$$c(u_h, \mu_h) = 0 \quad \forall \mu_h \in M_h$$



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In the discrete setting the bilinear form $b(\cdot, \cdot)$ can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} b(u_h, \mu_h) &:= - \sum_{i=1}^N (u_{h,i}, \mu_h)_{0,\partial\Omega_i} = \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}} (u_{h,k} - u_{h,l}, \mu_h)_{0,\Gamma_m} \\ &= \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}} ([u_h]_{\Gamma_m}, \mu_h)_{0,\Gamma_m}. \end{aligned}$$



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$$c(u_h, \mu_h) = 0 \quad \forall \mu_h \in M_h$$

The same can be done for the linear form $c(\cdot, \cdot)$.

$$\begin{aligned} c(u_h, \mu_h) &:= - \sum_{i=1}^N (\kappa_i^{-1}(u_{h,i} + u_{h,D,i}), \mu_h)_{0,\partial\Omega_i} \\ &= \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}} (\kappa_k^{-1}(u_{h,k} + u_{h,D,k}) - \kappa_l^{-1}(u_{h,l} + u_{h,D,l}), \mu_h)_{0,\Gamma_m} \\ &= \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}} (\llbracket \kappa^{-1}(u_h + u_{h,D}) \rrbracket \llbracket \mu_h \rrbracket \rrbracket_{\Gamma_m}, \mu_h)_{0,\Gamma_m}. \end{aligned}$$



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To solve the nonlinear problem, we apply Newton's method and solve a sequence of linear problems.



Approach Discretization Strategies

Linearized Formulation

For a given $w_h \in X_h$ find $(u_h, \lambda_h) \in X_h \times M_h$, such that

$$a(u_h, v_h) + b(v_h, \lambda_h) = (f, v_h)_{0,\Omega} + (g_N, v_h)_{0,\Gamma_N} - a(u_{h,D}, v_h)$$

$$c'[w_h](u_h, \mu_h) = c'[w_h](w_h, \mu_h) - c(w_h, \mu_h)$$

for all $(v_h, \mu_h) \in X_h \times M_h$.

The linearized bilinear form $c'[\cdot](\cdot, \cdot)$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned} c'[w_h](u_h, \mu_h) &:= \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}} (\kappa_k^{-1'}(w_{h,k} + u_{h,D,k}) u_{h,k} - \kappa_l^{-1'}(w_{h,l} + u_{h,D,l}) u_{h,l}, \mu_h)_{0,\Gamma_m} \\ &= \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}} (\llbracket \kappa^{-1'}(w_h + u_{h,D}) u_h \rrbracket_{\Gamma_m}, \mu_h)_{0,\Gamma_m}. \end{aligned}$$



Approach Discretization Strategies

To obtain solvability of the variational problem we have to show that

$$\sup_{v_h \in X_h} \frac{b(v_h, \mu_h)}{\|v_h\|_X} \geq \gamma_b \|\mu_h\|_{M_h} \quad \text{for all } \mu_h \in M_h,$$

$$\sup_{v_h \in X_h} \frac{c'[w_h](v_h, \mu_h)}{\|v_h\|_X} \geq \gamma_c \|\mu_h\|_{M_h} \quad \text{for all } \mu_h \in M_h,$$

and

$$\sup_{v_h \in \text{Ker} B} \frac{a(u_h, v_h)}{\|v_h\|_X} \geq \gamma_a \|u_h\|_X \quad \text{for all } u_h \in \text{Ker} C'[w_h],$$

$$\sup_{v_h \in \text{Ker} C'[w_h]} a(u_h, v_h) > 0 \quad \text{for all } u_h \in \text{Ker} B,$$

with positive constants γ_b , γ_c and γ_a . See [Nicolaides, 1982].



Outline

1. Motivation

2. Approach

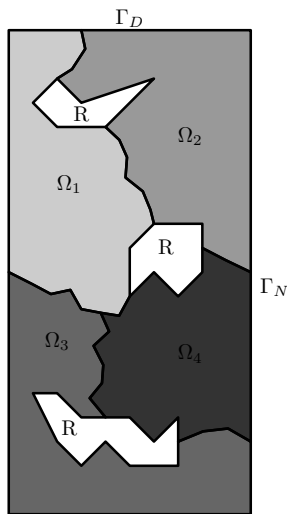
- Continuous Formulation
- Discretization Strategies

3. Numerical Example

4. Outlook



Numerical Example



- Consider the instationary Richards equation.
- Domain:

$$\bar{\Omega} = [0, 1] \times [0, 2] \subset \mathbb{R}^2$$

- Soil types:
 - Ω_1 ... sand, Ω_2 ... sandy loam,
 - Ω_3 ... loam, Ω_4 ... sand
- Boundary conditions:

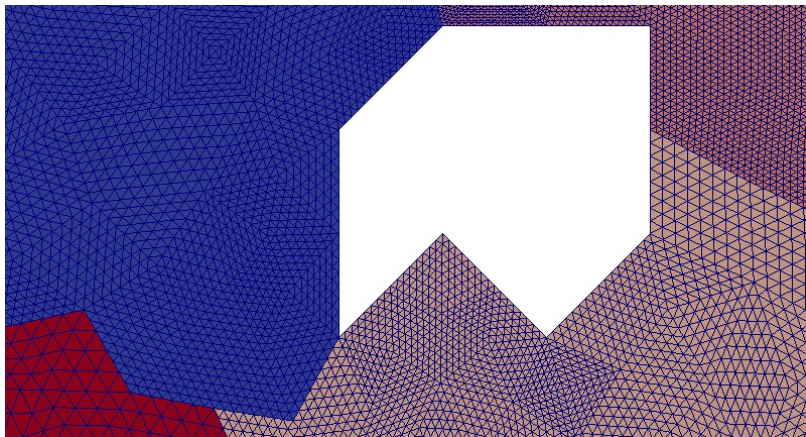
$$h_D(\mathbf{x}, t) = \begin{cases} \kappa_1^{-1}(-0.5(1-t)) & \mathbf{x} \in \Gamma_{D,1}, t < 1 \\ \kappa_2^{-1}(-0.5(1-t)) & \mathbf{x} \in \Gamma_{D,2}, t < 1 \\ 0.0 & \mathbf{x} \in \Gamma_D, t \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

$$h_N(\mathbf{x}, t) = 0.0 \quad \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega \setminus \Gamma_D$$

- Time discretization parameter:
 - Timestep : $\tau = 0.02$
 - Timesteps : $T = 1500$

Numerical Example

Triangulation of the four domains (zoomed in cutout).



VIDEO : Solution

Outline

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2. Approach

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Outlook

Summary

- Transform quasilinear PDEs to linear PDEs
- Apply discretization and linearization methods
- Numerical example

Outlook

- Numerical analysis of the discrete linearized SPP
- Convergence analysis
- Preconditioners



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Thank you for your attention!



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