

# The Schwarz alternating method for transient solid dynamics

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## Abstract

In our earlier work, we formulated the Schwarz alternating method as a means for concurrent multiscale coupling in finite deformation solid mechanics for quasi-static problems. Herein, we advance this method for the study of transient dynamic multiscale solid mechanics problems where information is exchanged back and forth between small and large scales. The extension to dynamics relies on the notion of a global time stepper. Within each global time step, the subdomains are coupled by the standard Schwarz iterative process. Remarkably, each subdomain can use its own time step or even its own time integrator to advance its solution in time, provided that they synchronize at each global time step.

We study the performance of the Schwarz method on several examples designed for this purpose. Our numerical experiments demonstrate that the method is capable of coupling regions with different mesh resolutions, different element types, and different time integration schemes (e.g., implicit and explicit), all without introducing any artifacts that afflict other coupling methods for transient dynamics. Finally, we apply the dynamic Schwarz alternating method to the simulation of a bolted joint subjected to dynamic loading, as a demonstration of the performance of the method in a realistic scenario.

**Keywords:** Schwarz alternating method, concurrent multiscale coupling, finite deformation, variational methods, transient dynamics

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## 1 Introduction

An important aspect of computational simulation of mechanical systems, whether engineered or natural, is the understanding of the conditions that may lead to their failure when they are subjected to normal or abnormal environments. The failure may be the result of phenomena that develops and evolves at small scales, such as strain localization or fracture. It is not feasible, however, to conduct micro-scale simulations for macroscopic problems to fully resolve small-scale failure phenomena. So that computational resources can be efficiently allocated, it is advantageous to perform multiscale analyses. A fine scale model is used in regions to resolve fields that lead to failure phenomena. Away from these regions, a less expensive coarse scale model is used to capture the far-field behavior [6, 14, 4, 33, 31].

We described in previous work a broad categorization of multiscale methods in three types, namely: sub-grid methods, homogenization methods, and concurrent methods [25]. We emphasized the ability of concurrent coupling methods to effectively allocate computational resources to subdomains, depending upon the need to characterize their fine-scale behavior. We also demonstrated the ability of the Schwarz alternating method for concurrent coupling between continuum-based micro-scale and macro-scale finite element simulations for the fully inelastic finite deformation problem in quasi-static scenarios. Herein, we propose an extension of the Schwarz coupling method originally developed for quasi-static finite deformation solid mechanics [25], to the case of dynamic finite deformation solid mechanics. In particular, we seek to develop a method that lacks the reflection and refraction artifacts that have been observed with other coupling methods in dynamics [14].

### 1.1 Previous work

The paramount problem in dynamic coupling is the avoidance of artifacts introduced by the coupling method itself, such as spurious reflection and refraction when waves traverse from one subdomain to another. To that end, it has been shown that coupling methods that introduce or require an overlap between different subdomains reduce significantly the presence of these dynamic artifacts [5].

The Schwarz alternating method was first introduced in an 1870 paper by Hermann Schwarz [37], who used the algorithm to prove the existence of harmonic functions in irregular domains by expressing them as the union of simpler domains. The method gained prevalence in the second half of the twentieth century within the linear solver community, where it is typically used as a preconditioner for Krylov iterative methods for solving linear algebraic equations [40, 45, 22, 34]. Although it is somewhat natural to formulate the method as a discretization method for multiscale partial differential equations (PDEs), surprisingly few works employ the method in this way. In recent years, several authors have used the method for concurrent multiscale coupling of atomistic and continuum scales statically, e.g. Hadjiconstantinou and Patera [15], Parks et al. [31], and Pandurangan et al. [30], as well as dynamically, e.g. Werder et al. [46]. In these works, different numerical schemes are applied in the atomistic and continuum regions, each restricted to its own subdomain, and the transfer of information from the continuum to the atomistic scale occurs in the overlap region. A domain decomposition and multiplicative alternating Schwarz-type procedure is developed for Coupled Atomistic/Dislocation Dynamics (CADD) simulations in the series of papers by Anciaux et al. [1], Hodapp et al. [17], and Cho et al. [9]. This method iterates quasistatically between the atomistic and dislocation dynamics subproblems following a domain decomposition into the atomistic and continuum domain. The dislocation line is detected automatically by the algorithm.

Schwarz-like methods have also been proposed to couple dynamically distinct physics in different subdomains, for example, fluid-structure interaction (Engel and Griebel [10]), and computational fluid dynamics with aero-acoustics (Borrel et al. [8] and Ryan et al. [35]). Our recent work [25] was the first to our knowledge to propose the use of the Schwarz alternating method to accomplish concurrent multiscale continuum-to-continuum coupling for finite-deformation solid mechanics. In this earlier work, attention was focused on quasi-static solid mechanics.

The aim of the present work is to extend our earlier Schwarz formulation to the case of dynamics. This extension uses a governing time stepping algorithm that controls time integrators within each domain (Figure 1), which allows the usage of different integrators (e.g., implicit, explicit) with different time steps in each domain. We note that the dynamic Schwarz formulation can be viewed as acting in the space-time domain, as depicted in Figure 2, similar to the formulation described in Section 11.6.1 of [22] for parabolic equations. We emphasize, however, that a space-time framework/code is not required to implement the method. The approach is also fundamentally different from Schwarz waveform relaxation algorithms [12], iterative domain-decomposition-based methods for accelerating the time-advancement of hyperbolic and parabolic problems that can work with time-parallel methods such as the parallel algorithm.

## 1.2 Convergence and theoretical properties

While a number of authors have studied the convergence of the Schwarz alternating method, including Hermann Schwarz himself, most of these analyses are restricted to the application of the method to elliptic problems. The original proof by Schwarz considered linear elliptic second order equations and utilized the maximum principle [37]. Subsequent authors employed variational methods, which were considered by Sobolev [41] for linear elasticity, and by Mikhlin [23] and Prager [32] for polyharmonic functions. Higher-order linear equations, e.g. biharmonic, were studied by Morgenstern [24] and Babuška [2], among others. Many of these works applied variational ideas after recasting the method as a series of successive projections. The application of Schwarz to nonlinear equations was not considered until the 1980s, when a series of authors, including Lions [19], Badea [3], and Lui [20] proved convergence of the method for certain types of nonlinear monotone problems. In [25], we proved that the Schwarz alternating method converges for the finite-deformation solid mechanics problem under the conditions that the single-domain problem is well-posed and that the overlap region is non-empty, a critical requirement for convergence [40, 45, 22, 34].

The majority of the references enumerated above consider elliptic problems, specifically problems that are independent of time. Very little work has been done on the analysis of the Schwarz alternating method in the context of time-dependent, parabolic or hyperbolic PDEs. Lions [19] sketched out several possible dynamic Schwarz formulations for parabolic and hyperbolic problems, namely the transient heat equation and the wave equation, respectively. A proof of *a priori* convergence of several of these dynamic Schwarz algorithms is outlined. Convergence analysis of a dynamic Schwarz algorithm is performed by Boglaev et al. [7] in the context of transient 2D eddy-current problem, a parabolic PDE that can be considered a “singularly perturbed” problem whose solution exhibits boundary layers. Two Schwarz-like algorithms that combine a domain-decomposition-based handling of the spatial problem together with a time-discretization scheme are presented. Convergence is proven and an algebraic convergence rate is established.

For the finite deformation solid dynamics problem, it proves convenient to formulate the problem in terms of the Variational Principle of Hamilton. We discuss the conditions under which the corresponding action functional is strictly convex or strictly concave. In these cases, the convergence

analysis follows directly from our previous work for the quasi-static case [25]. For all other cases, it is necessary to introduce discretizations in space and time to probe further the nature of the action functional. We develop a heuristic test to determine whether the discrete action functional is convex, and therefore whether the Schwarz algorithm will converge.

### 1.3 Scope and organization

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. The Schwarz alternating method for dynamic finite deformation solid mechanics problem is presented in variational form in Section 2. Section 3 is devoted to numerical experiments on which we study the accuracy and performance of the proposed method. We describe succinctly our implementation of the method within two finite element codes known as ALBANY and SIERRA (Section 3.1). In Section 3.2, we discuss some of the convergence and error analyses in our subsequent numerical studies. Following these preliminaries, three dynamic mechanics problem are considered in the order of increasing complexity: a linear elastic wave propagation problem on a clamped bar geometry (Section 3.3), a problem involving a nonlinear elastic bar subjected to a high degree of torsion (Section 3.4), and a problem involving a realistic inelastic bolted joint specimen (Section 3.5). Results are discussed and conclusions are drawn in Section 4. Some remarks about the conditions necessary for the convergence of the Schwarz alternating method for finite deformation solid dynamics are made in Appendix A.

## 2 Formulation of the Schwarz alternating method for transient solid dynamics

We start by defining the standard finite deformation variational formulation to establish notation before presenting the formulation of the coupling method.

### 2.1 Variational formulation on a single domain

Let  $I := \{t \in [t_0, t_1]\}$  be a closed time interval with  $0 \leq t_0 < t_1$ , and  $t_0, t_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ , and consider a body as the regular open set  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  undergoing a motion described by the mapping  $\mathbf{x} = \boldsymbol{\varphi}(\mathbf{X}, t) : \Omega \times I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ , where  $\mathbf{X} \in \Omega$  and  $t \in I$ . Assume that the boundary of the body is  $\partial\Omega = \partial_{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}\Omega \cup \partial_{\mathbf{T}}\Omega$  with unit normal  $\mathbf{N}$ , where  $\partial_{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}\Omega$  is a prescribed position boundary,  $\partial_{\mathbf{T}}\Omega$  is a prescribed traction boundary, and  $\partial_{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}\Omega \cap \partial_{\mathbf{T}}\Omega = \emptyset$ . The prescribed boundary positions or Dirichlet boundary conditions are  $\boldsymbol{\chi} : \partial_{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}\Omega \times I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ . The prescribed boundary tractions or Neumann boundary conditions are  $\mathbf{T} : \partial_{\mathbf{T}}\Omega \times I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ . Let  $\mathbf{F} := \text{Grad } \boldsymbol{\varphi}$  be the deformation gradient. Let the initial position and velocity at time  $t_0$  be  $\mathbf{x}_0 \equiv \mathbf{X} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ , and  $\mathbf{v}_0 : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ , correspondingly. Let also  $\rho_0 \mathbf{B} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be the body force, with  $\rho_0$  the mass density in the reference configuration. Furthermore, introduce the kinetic energy of the body as

$$T(\dot{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}) := \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \rho_0 \dot{\boldsymbol{\varphi}} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\varphi}} \, dV, \quad (1)$$

and its potential energy as

$$V(\boldsymbol{\varphi}) := \int_{\Omega} A(\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{Z}) \, dV - \int_{\Omega} \rho_0 \mathbf{B} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varphi} \, dV - \int_{\partial_{\mathbf{T}}\Omega} \mathbf{T} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varphi} \, dS, \quad (2)$$

in which  $A(\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{Z})$  is the Helmholtz free-energy density and  $\mathbf{Z}$  is a collection of internal variables. The Lagrangian function of the body is then

$$L(\varphi, \dot{\varphi}) := T(\dot{\varphi}) - V(\varphi), \quad (3)$$

which gives rise to the action functional

$$S[\varphi] := \int_I L(\varphi, \dot{\varphi}) \, dt. \quad (4)$$

According to the Variational Principle of Hamilton, the equation of motion is obtained by finding the critical point of the action functional  $S[\varphi]$  over the Sobolev space  $W_2^1(\Omega \times I)$  that is comprised of all functions that are square-integrable and have square-integrable first derivatives, for fixed endpoints of the deformation mapping at  $t_0$  and  $t_1$  [21]. Define

$$\mathcal{S} := \{ \varphi \in W_2^1(\Omega \times I) : \varphi = \chi \text{ on } \partial_\varphi \Omega \times I; \varphi = \mathbf{x}_0 \text{ on } \Omega \times t_0; \varphi = \mathbf{x}_1 \text{ on } \Omega \times t_1 \} \quad (5)$$

and

$$\mathcal{V} := \{ \xi \in W_2^1(\Omega \times I) : \xi = \mathbf{0} \text{ on } \partial_\varphi \Omega \times I \cup \Omega \times t_0 \cup \Omega \times t_1 \} \quad (6)$$

where  $\xi$  is a test function. This leads to

$$\begin{aligned} \delta S := DS[\varphi](\xi) &= \int_I \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial \varphi} \cdot \xi + \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\varphi}} \cdot \dot{\xi} \right) dt = \int_I \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial \varphi} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\varphi}} \right) \cdot \xi \, dt \\ &= \int_I \left[ \int_\Omega \left( \rho_0 \mathbf{B} \cdot \xi - \mathbf{P} : \text{Grad } \xi + \rho_0 \dot{\varphi} \cdot \dot{\xi} \right) dV + \int_{\partial_T \Omega} \mathbf{T} \cdot \xi \, dS \right] dt \\ &= \int_I \left[ \int_\Omega (\text{Div } \mathbf{P} + \rho_0 \mathbf{B} - \rho_0 \ddot{\varphi}) \cdot \xi \, dV + \int_{\partial_T \Omega} \mathbf{T} \cdot \xi \, dS \right] dt = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

where  $\mathbf{P} = \partial A / \partial \mathbf{F}$  denotes the first Piola-Kirchhoff stress. The Euler-Lagrange equation corresponding to (4) is then

$$\text{Div } \mathbf{P} + \rho_0 \mathbf{B} = \rho_0 \ddot{\varphi} \quad \text{in } \Omega \times I, \quad (8)$$

with initial conditions

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(\mathbf{X}, t_0) &= \mathbf{x}_0 \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ \dot{\varphi}(\mathbf{X}, t_0) &= \mathbf{v}_0 \quad \text{in } \Omega, \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

and boundary conditions

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(\mathbf{X}, t) &= \chi \quad \text{on } \partial_\varphi \Omega \times I, \\ \mathbf{P} \mathbf{N} &= \mathbf{T} \quad \text{on } \partial_T \Omega \times I. \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

## 2.2 Coupling two or more subdomains via the Schwarz alternating method for transient solid dynamics

In this section, we describe a variant of the Schwarz alternating method for coupling multiple overlapping subdomains for transient solid dynamics. Consider without loss of generality a partition of the domain  $\Omega$  into two open subsets or subdomains  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$ , such that  $\Omega = \Omega_1 \cup \Omega_2$  and

$\Omega_1 \cap \Omega_2 \neq \emptyset$  as shown in Figure 1. Consider also the existence of a global controller stepper that defines global time stops  $t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_N \in \mathbb{R}$ , with  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  denoting a pre-defined number of global time steps. The global time steps may be equal or not. They serve the purpose of convenient markers in time for events of interest, and for synchronization of the Schwarz algorithm. Crucially, they also define the periods or intervals in which the solutions of the initial boundary value problem (8), corresponding to the action functional (4), are determined by means of the Schwarz alternating method.

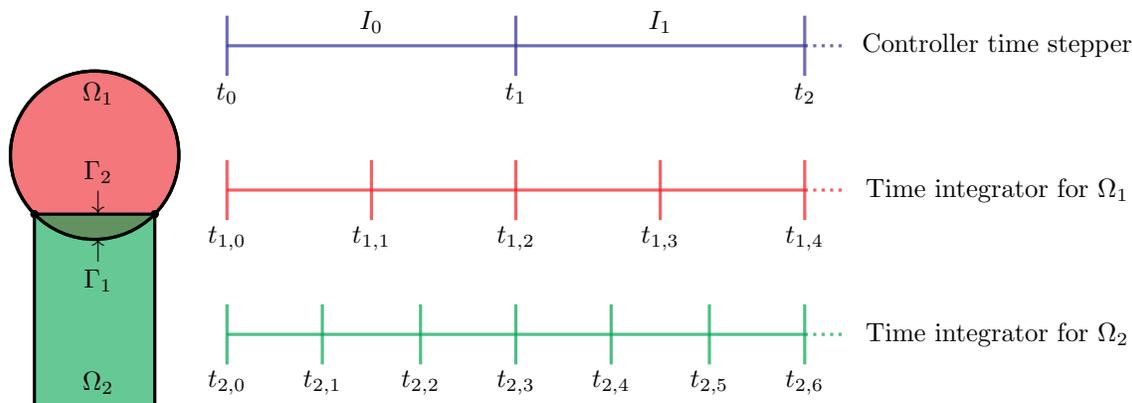


Figure 1: Two subdomains  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$  and the corresponding boundaries  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$ . The blue global controller stepper has global time stops  $t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_N$ . They are convenient markers for events of interest, and for synchronization of the Schwarz algorithm. They also define the periods or intervals in which the solutions of the initial boundary value problem (8), corresponding to the action functional (4), are determined by means of the Schwarz alternating method.

In keeping with other works on the convergence of the Schwarz alternating method, we introduce a set of indices that alternate between the subdomains as

$$n \in \mathbb{N}^0 = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}, \quad i = 2 - n + 2 \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor \in \{1, 2\}, \quad j = n + 1 - 2 \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor \in \{1, 2\}, \quad (11)$$

that is  $i = 1$  and  $j = 2$  if  $n$  is odd, and  $i = 2$  and  $j = 1$  if  $n$  is even. Introduce the following definitions for each subdomain  $i$ :

- Closure:  $\bar{\Omega}_i := \Omega_i \cup \partial\Omega_i$
- Dirichlet boundary:  $\partial_{\varphi}\Omega_i := \partial_{\varphi}\Omega \cap \bar{\Omega}_i$ .
- Neumann boundary:  $\partial_{\mathbf{T}}\Omega_i := \partial_{\mathbf{T}}\Omega \cap \bar{\Omega}_i$ .
- Schwarz boundary:  $\Gamma_i := \partial\Omega_i \cap \Omega_j$ .

Note that with these definitions we guarantee that  $\partial_{\varphi}\Omega_i \cap \partial_{\mathbf{T}}\Omega_i = \emptyset$ ,  $\partial_{\varphi}\Omega_i \cap \Gamma_i = \emptyset$  and  $\partial_{\mathbf{T}}\Omega_i \cap \Gamma_i = \emptyset$ . Let us also introduce the closed time interval  $I_k := \{t \in [t_k, t_{k+1}]\}$ , with  $k \in \{0, \dots, N-1\}$ . Now define the spaces

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}_i := \{ \varphi \in W_2^1(\Omega_i \times I_k) : \varphi &= \chi \text{ on } \partial_{\varphi}\Omega_i \times I_k, \\ \varphi &= P_{\Omega_j \rightarrow \Gamma_i}[\varphi(\Omega_j, I_k)] \text{ on } \Gamma_i \times I_k, \\ \varphi &= \mathbf{x}_k^{(i)} \text{ on } \Omega_i \times t_k \}, \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

and

$$\mathcal{V}_i := \{\boldsymbol{\xi} \in W_2^1(\Omega_i \times I_k) : \boldsymbol{\xi} = \mathbf{0} \text{ on } [(\partial_{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}\Omega_i \cup \Gamma_i) \times I_k] \cup (\Omega_i \times t_k)\}, \quad (13)$$

where  $\mathbf{x}_k^{(i)}$  is the known position at time  $t_k$  for subdomain  $\Omega_i$ , and the symbol  $P_{\Omega_j \rightarrow \Gamma_i}[\cdot]$  denotes the projection from the subdomain  $\Omega_j$  onto the Schwarz boundary  $\Gamma_i$ . This projection operator plays a central role in the Schwarz alternating method. For the moment it is sufficient to assume that the operator is able to project a field  $\boldsymbol{\varphi}$  from one subdomain to the Schwarz boundary of the other subdomain. The action functional for subdomain  $\Omega_i$  is

$$S_i[\boldsymbol{\varphi}] := \int_{I_k} L_i(\boldsymbol{\varphi}, \dot{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}) \, dt, \quad (14)$$

with its Lagrangian function

$$L_i(\boldsymbol{\varphi}, \dot{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}) := T_i(\dot{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}) - V_i(\boldsymbol{\varphi}), \quad (15)$$

in which the kinetic energy is

$$T_i(\dot{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}) := \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega_i} \rho_0 \dot{\boldsymbol{\varphi}} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\varphi}} \, dV, \quad (16)$$

and the corresponding potential energy is

$$V_i(\boldsymbol{\varphi}) := \int_{\Omega_i} A(\mathbf{F}, \mathbf{Z}) \, dV - \int_{\Omega_i} \rho_0 \mathbf{B} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varphi} \, dV - \int_{\partial_{\mathbf{T}}\Omega_i} \mathbf{T} \cdot \boldsymbol{\varphi} \, dS. \quad (17)$$

The optimization of the functional (14) leads to a variational formulation of the form (7)–(8) for each subdomain as

$$\begin{aligned} \delta S_i &:= DS_i[\boldsymbol{\varphi}^{(n)}](\boldsymbol{\xi}^{(i)}) = \int_{I_k} \left( \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial \boldsymbol{\varphi}^{(n)}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\xi}^{(i)} + \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial \dot{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}^{(n)}} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\xi}}^{(i)} \right) dt \\ &= \int_{I_k} \left( \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial \boldsymbol{\varphi}^{(n)}} - \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial \dot{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}^{(n)}} \right) \cdot \boldsymbol{\xi}^{(i)} \, dt = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

in which  $\boldsymbol{\xi}^{(i)} \in \mathcal{V}_i$ . The corresponding Euler-Lagrange equations are

$$\text{Div } \mathbf{P} + \rho_0 \mathbf{B} = \rho_0 \ddot{\boldsymbol{\varphi}} \quad \text{in } \Omega_i \times I_k, \quad (19)$$

with initial conditions

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\varphi}^{(n)}(\mathbf{X}, t_k) &= \mathbf{x}_k^{(i)} \quad \text{in } \Omega_i, \\ \dot{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}^{(n)}(\mathbf{X}, t_k) &= \mathbf{v}_k^{(i)} \quad \text{in } \Omega_i, \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

where  $\mathbf{v}_k^{(i)}$  is the known velocity at time  $t_k$  for subdomain  $\Omega_i$ . We also have the following Dirichlet boundary conditions

$$\boldsymbol{\varphi}^{(n)}(\mathbf{X}, t) = \begin{cases} \boldsymbol{\chi}, & \text{for } n \geq 0 \text{ on } \partial_{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}\Omega_i \times I_k, \\ \text{id}_{\mathbf{X}}, & \text{for } n = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_2 \times I_k, \\ P_{\Omega_j \rightarrow \Gamma_i}[\boldsymbol{\varphi}^{(n-1)}(\Omega_j, I_k)], & \text{for } n > 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_i \times I_k, \end{cases} \quad (21)$$

where  $\text{id}_{\mathbf{X}}$  is the identity map (i.e. zero displacement, or a better guess, if available), and Neumann boundary conditions

$$\mathbf{P}\mathbf{N} = \mathbf{T} \quad \text{on } \partial_{\mathbf{T}}\Omega_i \times I_k. \quad (22)$$

Assume that the solutions for all subdomains  $\Omega_i$  are known at time  $t_k$ . Let us further assume that those solutions constitute a partition of the global domain solution at time  $t_k$ . The Schwarz alternating method for transient solid dynamics solves a sequence of problems on  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$  for  $t \in I_k$  that converge to the solution for the entire domain  $\Omega$ . The solution  $\varphi^{(n)}$  for the  $n$ -th problem is obtained by solving (19) subjected to initial conditions (20) and boundary conditions (21) and (22). In summary, the dynamic Schwarz alternating method is described in Algorithm 1.

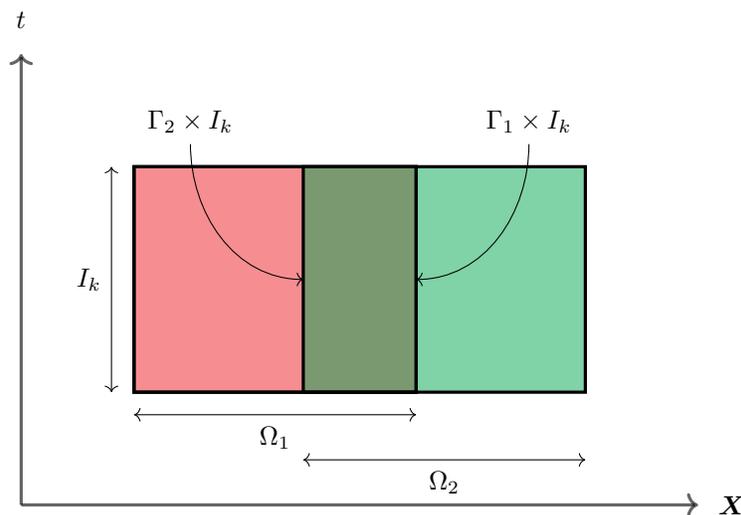


Figure 2: Two subdomains  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$  and the time interval  $I_k := \{t \in [t_k, t_{k+1}]\}$ . The Schwarz Algorithm 1 may be interpreted as applying the traditional Schwarz alternating iterations in spacetime between  $\Omega_1 \times I_k$  and  $\Omega_2 \times I_k$ . In this view, the Schwarz boundaries are  $\Gamma_1 \times I_k$  and  $\Gamma_2 \times I_k$ , respectively.

Note that the method is indifferent to the way the subdomains are numbered, but the domain of a specific problem may dictate which sequence is better. This procedure may be extended in a straightforward way to more than two subdomains. The Schwarz iterative process in dynamics may be interpreted as an instance of the repeated application of Hamilton's principle in each subdomain  $\Omega_i$  to advance the solution of the entire domain  $\Omega$  from  $t_k$  to  $t_{k+1}$  in each controller step. Within that interval, each of the Schwarz iterations finds the solution to its own dynamic problem, and this sequence of solutions converges to the solution of the entire domain. This process may also be interpreted as applying the traditional Schwarz alternating iterations in space-time between  $\Omega_1 \times I_k$  and  $\Omega_2 \times I_k$ , as shown in Figure 2. In this view, the Schwarz boundaries are  $\Gamma_1 \times I_k$  and  $\Gamma_2 \times I_k$ , respectively.

The solution to the action functional  $S_i$  for each subdomain is found independently from other subdomains. Within each subdomain the computation of the solution can be effected by whatever means available, in a close analog to the quasistatic method [25]. Thus, each subdomain can advance its own solution within the interval  $I_k$  using its own time integrator, and its own time step. Crucially, there are no dynamic artifacts as the sequence of solutions derived from the Schwarz process is converging to the solution in the entire domain, which has no artifacts of its own.

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1:  $k \leftarrow 0$ 
2: repeat ▷ controller time stepper
3:    $\varphi^{(0)}(\Gamma_2, I_k) \leftarrow \text{id}_{\mathcal{X}}$  ▷ set to zero displacement or a better guess in  $\Gamma_2$ 
4:    $n \leftarrow 1$ 
5:   repeat ▷ Schwarz loop
6:      $\varphi^{(n)}(\Omega_i, t_k) \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_k^{(i)}$  ▷ position IC
7:      $\dot{\varphi}^{(n)}(\Omega_i, t_k) \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_k^{(i)}$  ▷ velocity IC
8:      $\varphi^{(n)}(\partial\varphi\Omega_i, I_k) \leftarrow \chi$  ▷ Dirichlet BC
9:      $\varphi^{(n)}(\Gamma_i, I_k) \leftarrow P_{\Omega_j \rightarrow \Gamma_i}[\varphi^{(n-1)}(\Omega_j, I_k)]$  ▷ Schwarz BC
10:     $\varphi^{(n)}(\Omega_i, I_k) \leftarrow \text{solution of (19), (20), (21), (22)}$  ▷ solve dynamic problem on  $\Omega_i \times I_k$ 
11:     $n \leftarrow n + 1$ 
12:  until converged
13:   $k \leftarrow k + 1$ 
14: until  $k = N$  ▷  $N$  is the total number of time steps

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Algorithm 1: Schwarz alternating method for solid transient dynamics.

### 3 Numerical Examples

We have described in detail our Schwarz alternating formulation for dynamic multiscale coupling, and therefore we now present three numerical examples that demonstrate the method’s convergence and properties. We employ SI units of measurement, unless otherwise indicated.

#### 3.1 Implementation

The Schwarz coupling method for dynamic multiscale coupling described herein has been implemented within two finite-element code frameworks at Sandia National Laboratories: ALBANY LCM and SIERRA. We describe these codes succinctly below.

##### 3.1.1 Albany LCM finite element code

The ALBANY LCM framework<sup>1</sup> is a recently-created fork of, ALBANY, an open-source<sup>2</sup> C++ object-oriented, parallel, unstructured-grid, implicit finite element code for solving general partial differential equations. ALBANY was developed using the “Agile Components” code development strategy in which mature modular libraries from the TRILINOS [16] project<sup>3</sup> are glued together using template-based generic programming and abstract interfaces, giving users access to dozens of capabilities at run time simply by changing an option in the input file. Over the years, ALBANY has hosted a number of science and engineering applications, including the AERAS global atmosphere code [42], the Albany Land-ICE (ALI) [44] ice sheet model solver, the Quantum Computer Aided Design (QCAD) [13] simulator, and the Laboratory for Computational Mechanics (LCM) [43] research code. This last project comprises ALBANY LCM and is specifically targeted at solid mechanics applications. It contains our implementation of the Schwarz alternating method described

<sup>1</sup>ALBANY LCM is available on GitHub: <https://github.com/SNLComputation/LCM>.

<sup>2</sup>ALBANY is available on GitHub: <https://github.com/SNLComputation/Albany>.

<sup>3</sup>TRILINOS is available on GitHub: <https://github.com/trilinos/trilinos>.

herein and in [25]. A more detailed description of ALBANY, including a detailed description of its underlying design and the physics implemented therein, can be found in Salinger et al. [36].

A detailed discussion of several implementations of the Schwarz alternating method for coupling quasi-static problems in solid mechanics within ALBANY LCM is presented in [25]. To enable concurrent dynamic coupling, we have implemented Algorithm 1 within ALBANY LCM. This implementation is an extension of the Schwarz variant named “Full Schwarz” in [25], and the reader is referred to this earlier publication for a detailed discussion of the implementation. To perform the projection of the solution from a subdomain  $\Omega_i \in \mathbb{R}^3$  to a boundary of a subdomain  $\Gamma_j \in \mathbb{R}^2$  for some  $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$ , we utilize an open-source<sup>4</sup> library known as Data Transfer Kit (DTK) [39], designed to provide parallel, scalable services for solution transfer between shared volumes and surfaces. For our purposes, we use DTK to perform the projection of the solution from one subdomain to another using the underlying finite element interpolation functions of the meshes of each of the subdomains. For time-stepping, our dynamic Schwarz implementation within ALBANY LCM utilizes the TEMPUS package [28] of TRILINOS, which provides a general infrastructure for the time evolution of solutions to ordinary differential equations (ODEs), PDEs, and discrete algebraic equations (DAEs), through a variety of general verified time-integration schemes.

### 3.1.2 Sierra Solid Mechanics code

SIERRA Solid Mechanics (Sierra/SM) [38] is a Lagrangian code for the analysis of solids and structures, providing capabilities for explicit as well as implicit quasistatic and dynamic analyses. Sierra/SM contains a versatile library of continuum and structural elements, as well as an extensive library of constitutive models. For implicit problems, Sierra/SM uses FETI [11], a highly scalable and efficient domain-decomposition-based parallel iterative linear solver that can be used to compute the action of the full tangent preconditioner when utilizing a nonlinear Conjugate Gradient (CG) solver. Sierra/SM has been written for parallel computing environments, and allows for scalable solutions of very large problems for both implicit and explicit analyses.

## 3.2 Error and convergence analyses

To highlight the ability of the proposed Schwarz framework to couple different element types, we employ three different types of finite elements:

1. 8-node isoparametric hexahedral elements (referred to as “hex” elements),
2. 4-node isoparametric tetrahedral elements (referred to as “tet” elements), and
3. 10-node composite tetrahedral elements (referred to as “composite tet” elements).

The composite tet elements were introduced recently [29], where it was shown that they offer a significant improvement in terms of accuracy and computational expense over isoparametric 10-node tetrahedral elements.

We also evaluate the method’s ability to couple different time integrators in different subdomains. The employed time integrators are from the Newmark-Beta family of methods [27], which are well-suited for the dynamic solid mechanics problems of interest here. The method is defined by two parameters,  $\beta, \gamma \in [0, 1]$ . Here, we consider two choices for these parameters:

<sup>4</sup>Custom DTK is available on GitHub: <https://github.com/ikalash/DataTransferKit> (dtk-2.0-tpetra-static-graph branch).

- $\beta = 0.25$ ,  $\gamma = 0.5$ , which yields an implicit, second-order, unconditionally-stable scheme also known as the average acceleration method.
- $\beta = 0$ ,  $\gamma = 0.5$ , which yields an explicit, second-order, conditionally-stable scheme, also known as the central difference method.

For the first two test cases considered, the linear elastic wave propagation problem (Section 3.3) and the torsion problem (Section 3.4), the numerical results presented below include an error analysis. For the former test case, a closed-form analytic solution is available, and relative errors are computed with respect to this solution. For general problems, an exact closed-form analytic solution is not available. In this case, relative errors are computed with respect to a reference solution computed on a fine mesh. For such analyses, we utilize the `DTK_Interp_and_Error` utility built as a part of ALBANY LCM. This utility utilizes the DTK library described earlier, and operates on Exodus output files produced by both ALBANY LCM and SIERRA; for a more detailed discussion of how the utility operates, the reader is referred to Section 4.2 of [25]. We report single time-step errors as well as time-averaged errors over multiple time-steps.

In the test cases considered, we refer to a quantity of interest known as the “overlap volume fraction”. This is defined as the volume of the overlap region between a pair of Schwarz subdomains, divided by the volume of the underlying single domain geometry:

$$\text{overlap volume fraction} = \frac{\text{vol}(\Omega_i \cap \Omega_j)}{\text{vol}(\Omega)} \quad (23)$$

for  $i \neq j \in \mathbb{N}$ .

### 3.3 Elastic wave propagation

We begin by evaluating the application of dynamic Schwarz coupling to an elastic wave propagation problem, which we have implemented within both the ALBANY LCM and SIERRA codes. We consider a simple beam geometry of length  $L$ , and square cross section  $l \times l$  that is clamped on both sides. Although the test case is one-dimensional (1D), we treat it as a three-dimensional (3D) problem within our codes. Toward this effect,  $\Omega = (0, l) \times (0, l) \times (0, L) \in \mathbb{R}^3$ . Here, we choose  $L = 1\text{m}$  and  $l = 1\text{mm}$ . Let  $\mathbf{x} := (x, y, z)^T \in \mathbb{R}^3$  denote the coordinate vector. To ensure 1D behavior, we set a homogeneous Dirichlet boundary condition on the  $x$ - and  $y$ -displacements at the  $x = 0$ ,  $x = l$ ,  $y = 0$  and  $y = l$  boundaries

$$u_i(x = 0, t) = u_i(x = l, t) = u_i(y = 0, t) = u_i(y = l, t) = 0, \quad i = 1, 2 \forall t \geq 0. \quad (24)$$

The clamped end assumption translates to a homogeneous Dirichlet boundary condition on the  $z$ -displacement at the  $z = 0$  and  $z = L$  boundaries

$$u_3(z = 0, t) = u_3(z = L, t) = 0, \quad \forall t \geq 0. \quad (25)$$

A simple linear elastic material model with Young’s modulus  $E = 1\text{GPa}$ , density  $\rho = 1000\text{kg/m}^3$  and Poisson’s ratio  $\nu = 0$  is prescribed. Let

$$f(z) = \frac{a}{2} \exp\left[-\frac{(z-b)^2}{2s^2}\right], \quad (26)$$

for  $a, b, s \in \mathbb{R}$ . The initial condition is a Gaussian of the form

$$u_3(\mathbf{x}, 0) = 2f(z), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \Omega, \quad z \in (0, L) \quad (27)$$

where  $a = 0.01$ ,  $b = 0.5$ ,  $s = 0.02$ . From standard wave equation analysis, the wave speed  $c = \sqrt{E/\rho} = 1\text{km/s}$ . It is straightforward to show using separation of variables that the exact solution for the  $z$ -displacement is

$$u_3(\mathbf{x}, t) = f(z - ct) + f(z + ct) - f(z - c(T - t)) - f(z + c(T - t)) \quad (28)$$

which includes the two terms due to the first wave reflection at the ends, and where  $T = L/c = 1\text{ms}$ . It follows that the  $z$ -velocity is

$$\dot{u}_3(\mathbf{x}, t) = \frac{c}{s^2} \{ (z - ct - b)f(z - ct) - (z + ct - b)f(z + ct) - [z - c(T - t) - b]f[z - c(T - t)] - [z + c(T - t) - b]f[z + c(T - t)] \} \quad (29)$$

For a mesh resolution of  $\Delta z = 1\text{mm}$ , the time step needed to resolve the wave is  $\Delta t \leq \Delta z/c = 1\mu\text{s}$ . One can see from (28) that the exact solution satisfies

$$u_3(\mathbf{x}, T) = -u_3(\mathbf{x}, 0) \quad \text{at} \quad T = L/c = 1\text{ms}, \quad (30)$$

that is, the solution should be the mirror image of the initial condition at  $T = L/c = 1\text{ms}$ . Although deceptively simple, this problem is a very stringent test case that reveals possible coupling artifacts, e.g., spurious oscillations and/or lack of energy conservation.

### 3.3.1 Baseline single-domain results

Prior to evaluating our dynamic alternating Schwarz formulation on the linear elastic wave propagation problem, we provide some baseline results obtained by solving the problem using a standard finite element formulation in our ALBANY LCM code base. We discretize the domain  $\Omega = (0, 0.001) \times (0, 0.001) \times (0, 1)$  using a uniform hexahedral mesh with resolution  $\Delta x = \Delta y = \Delta z = 0.001$ . We solve the problem using implicit and explicit Newmark time integration schemes. For the examples that use the conditionally stable explicit scheme, with  $E = 1\text{GPa}$ ,  $\rho = 1000\text{kg m}^{-3}$ , and  $h = 0.001\text{m}$ , we obtain a wave propagation speed  $c = \sqrt{\frac{E}{\rho}} = 1000\text{m s}^{-1}$ , and a stable time step estimate  $\Delta t = \frac{h}{c} = 10^{-6}\text{s}$ . Nevertheless, we choose to use smaller time steps of  $\Delta t = 10^{-7}\text{s}$  for conformal meshes and  $\Delta t = 10^{-8}\text{s}$  for non-conformal meshes to be able to resolve the wave propagation rather smoothly. We also consider two variants of the explicit scheme: one in which a consistent mass is used, denoted ‘‘Explicit(CM)’’, and one in which a lumped mass is used, denoted ‘‘Explicit(LM)’’. We advance the problem forward in time until a final time of  $T = 1\text{ms}$ .

Section 3.3.1 reports the average  $z$ -displacement and  $z$ -velocity relative errors with respect to the exact solutions (28) and (29). The time-averaged  $z$ -displacement and  $z$ -velocity relative errors are computed using the formulas

$$\mathcal{E}_{z\text{-disp}} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{T}_{\text{disp}}|} \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}_{\text{disp}}} \left[ \frac{\sum_z |u_3^{\text{comp}}(z, t) - u_3^{\text{exact}}(z, t)|}{\sum_z |u_3^{\text{exact}}(z, t)|} \right], \quad (31)$$

and

$$\mathcal{E}_{z\text{-vel}} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{T}_{\text{vel}}|} \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}_{\text{vel}}} \left[ \frac{\sum_z |\dot{u}_3^{\text{comp}}(z, t) - \dot{u}_3^{\text{exact}}(z, t)|}{\sum_z |\dot{u}_3^{\text{exact}}(z, t)|} \right], \quad (32)$$

respectively. Here,  $u_3^{\text{comp}}(z, t)$  and  $\dot{u}_3^{\text{comp}}(z, t)$  denote the computed  $z$ -displacement and  $z$ -velocity respectively at spatial point  $z \in \Omega$  and time  $t > 0$ ;  $u_3^{\text{exact}}(z, t)$  and  $\dot{u}_3^{\text{exact}}(z, t)$  denote the exact analytic expressions for the  $z$ -displacement (28) and  $z$ -velocity (29) respectively at spatial point  $z \in \Omega$  and time  $t > 0$ ; finally, the  $\mathcal{T}_{\text{disp}}$  and  $\mathcal{T}_{\text{vel}}$  are sets of time indices over which time averaging is performed. Here, we define

$$\mathcal{T}_{\text{disp}} = \{t \mid 0 \leq t \leq (5 \times 10^{-4}) - \delta, (5 \times 10^{-4}) + \delta < t \leq 1 \times 10^{-3}\} \quad (33)$$

and

$$\mathcal{T}_{\text{vel}} = \{t \mid 0 \leq t \leq (1 \times 10^{-3}) - 2\delta\} \quad (34)$$

for  $\delta > 0$ , with all the corresponding times given in seconds. The reason these sets are defined in this way is to avoid the singularity in the  $z$ -displacement error at time  $t = 5 \times 10^{-4}$ s and in the  $z$ -velocity error at time  $t = 10^{-3}$ s. These singularities occur due to the exact solutions for the  $z$ -displacement (28) and  $z$ -velocity (29) approaching 0 at these times. In the calculations shown here, we select  $\delta = 5.0 \times 10^{-6}$ . The expressions  $|\mathcal{T}_{\text{disp}}|$  and  $|\mathcal{T}_{\text{vel}}|$  in (31) and (32) denote the cardinality of each of these sets.

The reader can observe by examining Section 3.3.1 that for the schemes considered, the time-averaged relative errors in the  $z$ -displacement and  $z$ -velocity are on the order of 0.1 – 1%.

	Implicit	Explicit(CM)	Explicit(LM)
Time-averaged $z$ -disp rel error	$2.78 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.54 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.64 \times 10^{-3}$
Time-averaged $z$ -vel rel error	$7.32 \times 10^{-3}$	$9.10 \times 10^{-3}$	$9.35 \times 10^{-3}$

Table 1: Baseline accuracy study for single-domain finite element discretization of  $\Omega$  with a uniform mesh having resolution  $\Delta x = \Delta y = \Delta z = 0.001$ m and  $\Delta t = 10^{-7}$ s. Relative errors are with respect to exact solutions (28) and (29).

### 3.3.2 Accuracy study

First, we study the accuracy of the proposed dynamic Schwarz alternating formulation for the case of a fixed domain decomposition of  $\Omega$  into two subdomains:  $\Omega_1 = (0, 0.001) \times (0, 0.001) \times (0, 0.75)$  and  $\Omega_2 = (0, 0.001) \times (0, 0.001) \times (0.75, 1)$ . The overlap volume fraction for this discretization is 50%. Let  $\Delta x_i$ ,  $\Delta y_i$  and  $\Delta z_i$  denote the mesh resolutions in  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$ , respectively, for domain  $i$  with  $i = 1, 2$ . We consider the following three discretizations:

- Conformal hexahedral-hexahedral (“conformal hex-hex”) coupling with  $\Delta x_i = \Delta y_i = \Delta z_i = 0.001$  for  $i = 1, 2$ .
- Nonconformal hexahedral-hexahedral (“nonconformal hex-hex”) coupling with  $\Delta x_i = \Delta y_i = 0.001$  for  $i = 1, 2$ ,  $\Delta z_1 = 10^{-4}$  and  $\Delta z_2 = 0.001$ .
- Tetrahedral-hexahedral (“tet-hex”) coupling with  $\Delta x_i = \Delta y_i = \Delta z_i = 0.001$  for  $i = 1, 2$ .

The tetrahedral mesh in the tet-hex coupling case is generated by using a uniform hexahedral mesh and splitting each hexahedron into six tetrahedra. It is important to note that the mesh increment for all three cases considered is fine enough to resolve the propagating wave.

In addition to the three discretizations described above, we also consider three time-integration options:

- “Implicit-Implicit” coupling: an implicit Newmark scheme is used in each subdomain.
- “Explicit(CM)-Implicit” coupling: an explicit Newmark scheme with a consistent mass matrix is used in  $\Omega_1$  whereas an implicit Newmark scheme is used in  $\Omega_2$ .
- “Explicit(LM)-Implicit” coupling: an explicit Newmark scheme with a lumped mass matrix is used in  $\Omega_1$  whereas an implicit Newmark scheme is used in  $\Omega_2$ .

The time-steps ( $\Delta t$ ) utilized in all the studies are summarized in Section 3.3.2. Note that a smaller time step was used for the nonconformal hex-hex discretization solved with an explicit time-stepping scheme to ensure stability.

	Implicit-Implicit	Explicit(CM)-Implicit	Explicit(LM)-Implicit
Conformal hex-hex	$10^{-7}$	$10^{-7}$	$10^{-7}$
Nonconformal hex-hex	$10^{-7}$	$10^{-8}$	$10^{-8}$
Tet-hex	$10^{-7}$	$10^{-7}$	$10^{-7}$

Table 2: Time steps  $\Delta t$  [s] utilized in elastic wave propagation problem studies.

With the exception of the results in Section 3.3.3, we employ a very tight relative Schwarz tolerance of  $10^{-15}$ .

Sections 3.3.2 and 3.3.2 report the average (over all times and subdomains) relative errors in  $z$ -displacement and  $z$ -velocity (respectively) with respect to the exact solutions (28) and (29) (respectively) for the nine different couplings considered. These were obtained by computing the time-averaged errors within each subdomain using the formulas (31) and (32), and averaging the values among all subdomains. The reader can observe from inspecting Sections 3.3.2 and 3.3.2 that the errors in the displacement are on the order of 0.5% and the errors in the velocity are on the order of 1% for all couplings considered. These values are comparable to the errors in the single-domain baseline solution (Section 3.3.1), confirming that very little additional error, if any, is introduced by our dynamic alternating Schwarz coupling method.

	Implicit-Implicit	Explicit(CM)-Implicit	Explicit(LM)-Implicit
Conformal hex-hex	$2.79 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.53 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.72 \times 10^{-3}$
Nonconformal hex-hex	$2.90 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.82 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.84 \times 10^{-3}$
Tet-hex	$2.79 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.52 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.72 \times 10^{-3}$

Table 3: Averaged (over times and domains) relative errors in  $z$ -displacement for the elastic wave propagation problem with several different Schwarz couplings, 50% overlap volume fraction.

Figure 3 plots the relative errors in the  $z$ -displacement and  $z$ -velocity with tet-hex, implicit-implicit coupling as a function of time  $t$ . The  $z$ -displacement relative errors at  $t = 5 \times 10^{-4}$  are not shown, as the relative error at this point is not defined due to the exact solution being identically zero.

The sequence of images in Figures 4 and 5 demonstrates that the application of dynamic Schwarz coupling to the elastic wave propagation problem introduces no dynamic artifacts in displacement

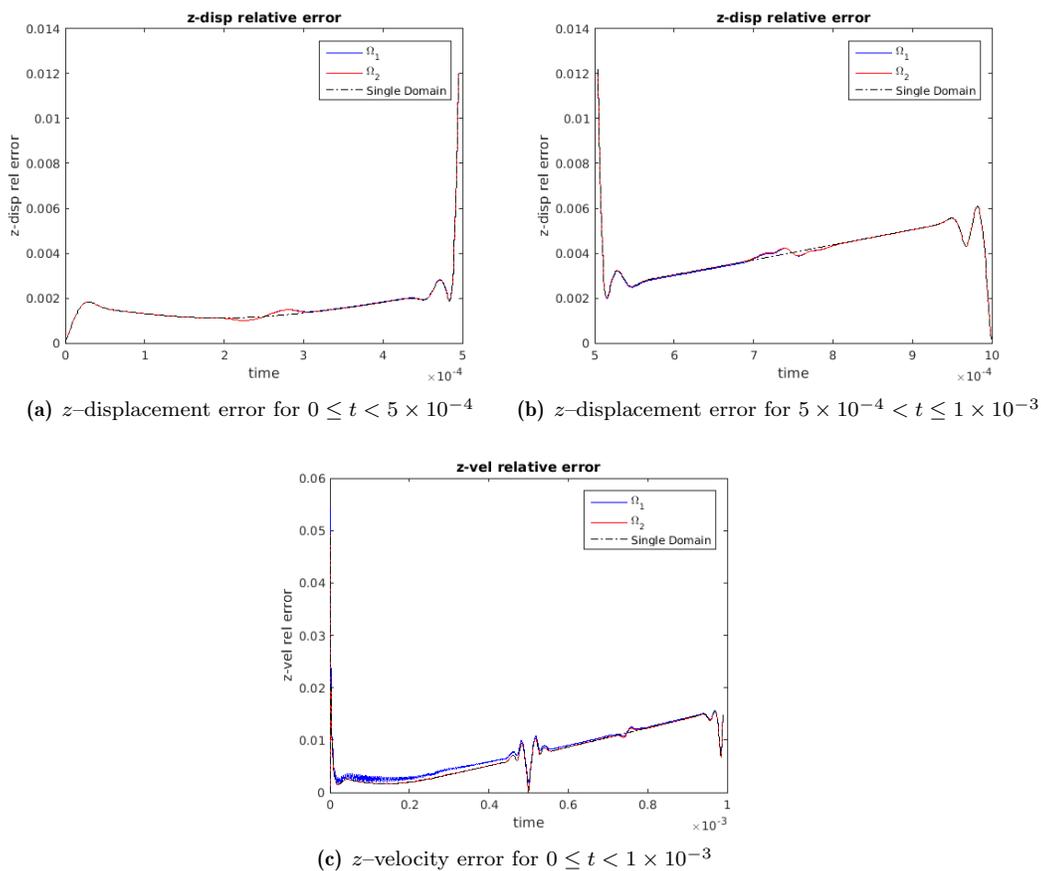


Figure 3: Plots of relative errors in  $z$ -displacement and  $z$ -velocity for the elastic wave propagation problem with tet-hex, implicit-implicit coupling as a function of time  $t$ , computed separately within each subdomain  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$ .  $z$ -displacement relative errors at  $t = 5 \times 10^{-4}$  are not shown, as the relative error at this point is not defined due to the exact solution being identically zero. Errors are comparable to single-domain solution errors of comparable resolution for all times.

	Implicit-Implicit	Explicit(CM)-Implicit	Explicit(LM)-Implicit
Conformal hex-hex	$7.32 \times 10^{-3}$	$8.70 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.19 \times 10^{-2}$
Nonconformal hex-hex	$7.10 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.29 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.33 \times 10^{-3}$
Tet-hex	$7.58 \times 10^{-3}$	$8.92 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.19 \times 10^{-2}$

Table 4: Averaged (over times and domains) relative errors in  $z$ -velocity for the elastic wave propagation problem with several different Schwarz couplings, 50% overlap volume fraction.

(Figure 4) or velocity (Figure 5) that are pervasive in other coupling methods, regardless of whether the coupling is done with different mesh resolutions, different element types like hexahedral or tetrahedral elements, or even different time integration schemes, like implicit and explicit.

### 3.3.3 Convergence study

The previous subsection focused on evaluating the accuracy of the proposed dynamic Schwarz alternating formulation on the elastic wave propagation problem. Here, we turn our attention to performance.

Figure 6 shows the average number of iterations per time step as a function of the overlap volume fraction (23) for the case where two subdomains are coupled. Here, without loss of generality, each subdomain is discretized using a uniform hexahedral mesh with  $\Delta x_i = \Delta y_i = \Delta z_i = 0.001$  for  $i = 1, 2$ , and advanced forward in time using an implicit Newmark time-integration scheme with  $\Delta t = 10^{-7}$ . We generate conformal hexahedral discretizations of our two subdomains having eight different overlap volume fractions, ranging from 0.2% to 100%. The details of these discretizations are summarized in Table 5. The reader can observe from examining Figure 6 that, as expected, the method converges in fewer iterations as the size of the overlap region is increased. The large relatively flat region between 5% and 80% overlap volume fraction is due to the fact that the traveling waves in this problem remain within a single subdomain for the majority of the simulation time.

Overlap volume fraction	$\Omega_{z,1}$	$\Omega_{z,2}$
0.2%	(0, 0.501)	(0.499, 1)
5%	(0, 0.525)	(0.475, 1)
10%	(0, 0.55)	(0.45, 1)
20%	(0, 0.6)	(0.4, 1)
25%	(0, 0.625)	(0.375, 1)
40%	(0, 0.7)	(0.3, 1)
80%	(0, 0.8)	(0.2, 1)
100 %	(0, 1)	(0, 1)

Table 5: Summary of the eight discretizations employed in our study of the effect of the size of the overlap volume region on convergence for the elastic wave propagation problem. Here,  $\Omega_{z,i}$  is the size of  $\Omega_i$  in the  $z$ -direction, so that  $\Omega_i = (0, 0.001) \times (0, 0.001) \times \Omega_{z,i}$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . Each subdomain is discretized using a uniform hexahedral mesh with  $\Delta x_i = \Delta y_i = \Delta z_i = 0.001$  for  $i = 1, 2$ .

Section 3.3.3 reports the maximum and average number of Schwarz iterations for a fixed overlap

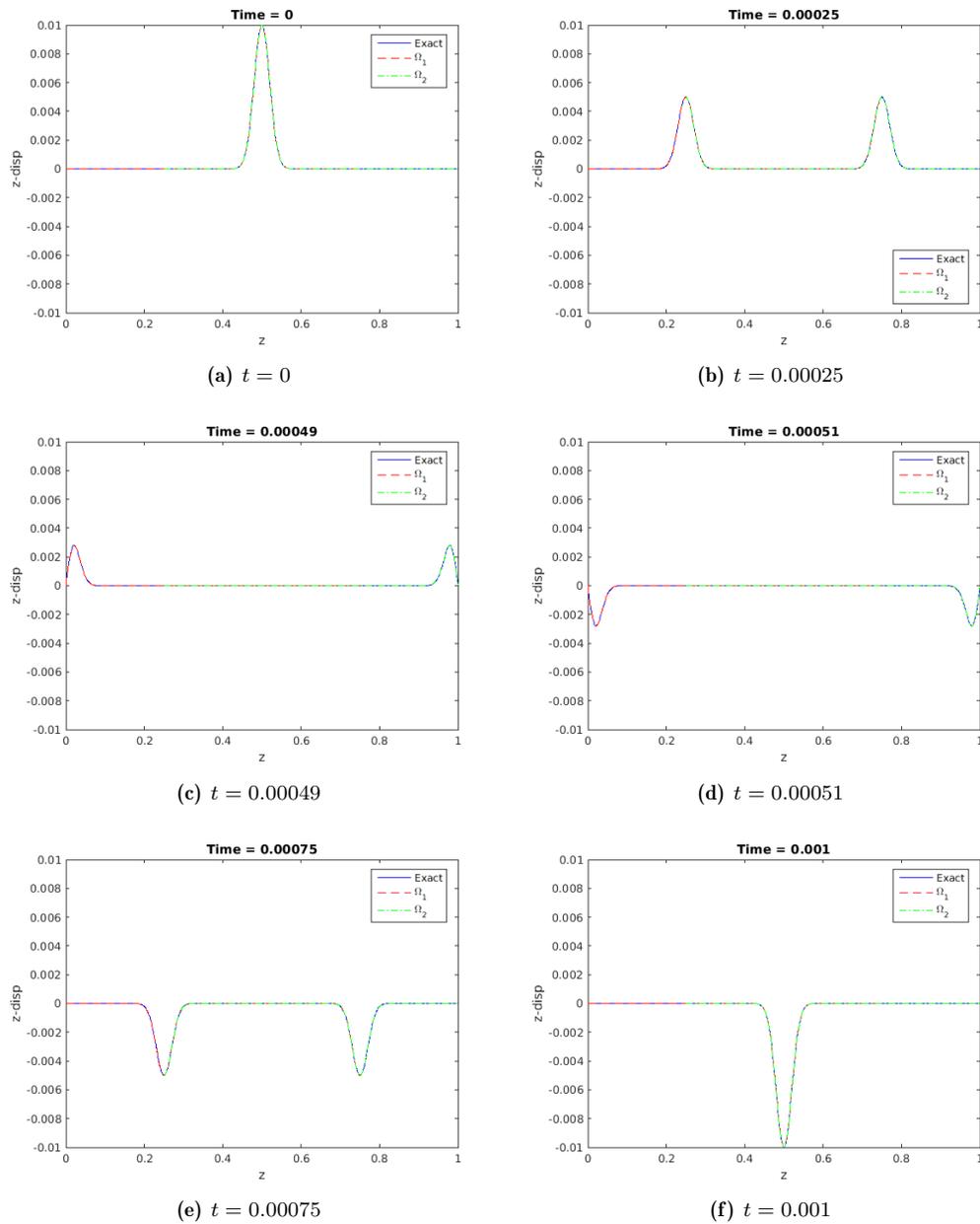


Figure 4: Typical snapshots of  $z$ -displacement for the elastic wave propagation problem. There are no dynamic artifacts that are pervasive in other coupling methods.

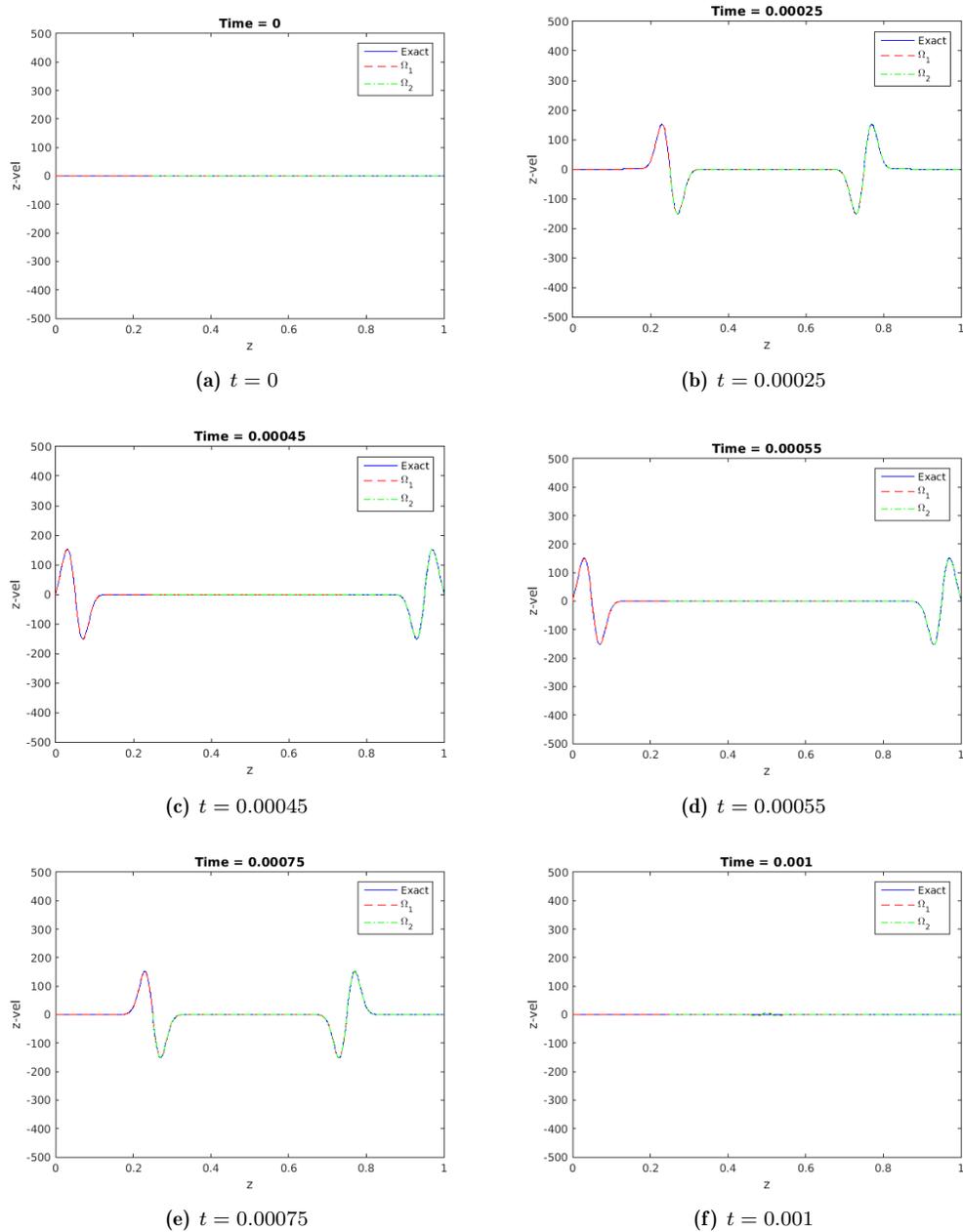


Figure 5: Typical snapshots of  $z$ -velocity for the elastic wave propagation problem. There are no dynamic artifacts that are pervasive in other coupling methods.

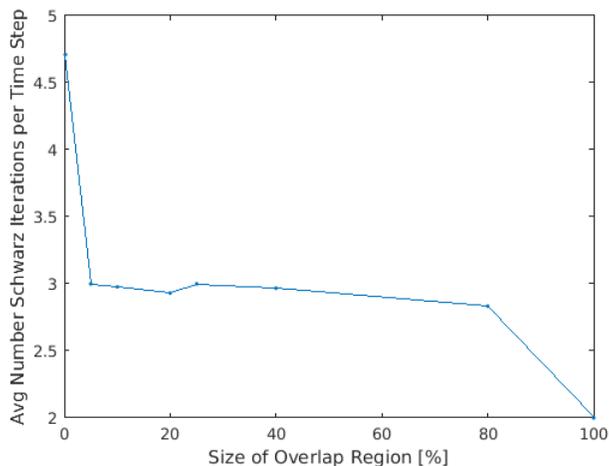


Figure 6: Average number of Schwarz iterations per time step as a function of the overlap volume fraction for the elastic wave propagation problem for a fixed relative Schwarz tolerance of  $10^{-15}$ . As expected, the method does not converge for 0% overlap. If the overlap is 100%, then the single domain solution is recovered for each of the subdomains.

volume fraction of 50% using a time step of  $\Delta t = 10^{-7}$  and implicit-implicit conformal hex-hex coupling as a function of the relative Schwarz tolerance.

Schwarz tolerance	$10^{-6}$	$10^{-10}$	$10^{-15}$
Average # Schwarz iterations	2.08	2.38	2.83
Maximum # Schwarz iterations	3	3	4

Table 6: Average and maximum number of Schwarz iterations for the conformal hex-hex coupling discretization of the elastic wave propagation problem as a function of the relative Schwarz tolerance, assuming implicit-implicit coupling with  $\Delta t = 10^{-7}$ s and an overlap volume fraction of 50%.

As expected, the number of Schwarz iterations increases as the Schwarz tolerance is tightened.

Next, we study numerically some of the convergence properties of our dynamic Schwarz method. In keeping with the convergence criterion for the Schwarz procedure proposed in Algorithm 1, we use the error measure for each Schwarz iteration

$$\epsilon^{(n)} := \left[ \left( \frac{\|\Delta \mathbf{x}^{(n)}\|}{\|\mathbf{x}^{(n)}\|} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\|\Delta \mathbf{x}^{(n+1)}\|}{\|\mathbf{x}^{(n+1)}\|} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} \quad (35)$$

for  $n \in \{0, 2, 4, \dots\}$ . Figure 7 plots the Schwarz error measures in two subsequent Schwarz iterations, namely  $\epsilon^{(n)}$  versus  $\epsilon^{(n+1)}$ , on a log-log scale. The figure demonstrates a monotonic linear convergence of the proposed dynamic alternating Schwarz approach. This result is similar to the one observed in [25] for the quasistatic version of our alternating Schwarz algorithm.

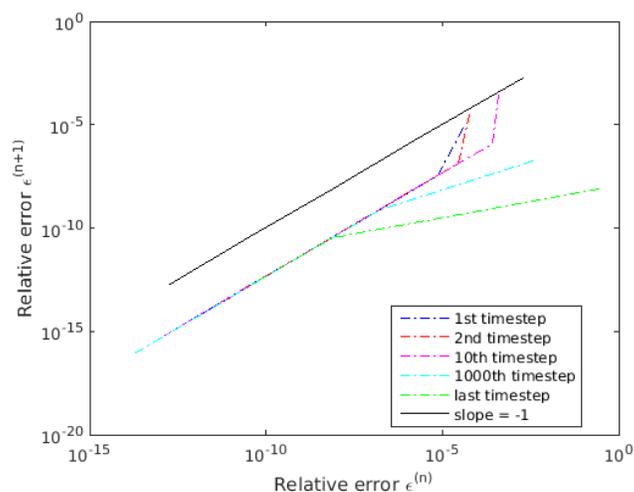


Figure 7: Convergence behavior of the dynamic Schwarz algorithm for the elastic wave propagation problem for small overlap volume fraction (0.2%). The plot shows that a linear convergence rate is achieved.

### 3.3.4 Different time integrators and time steps

In this subsection we demonstrate the ability of the Schwarz method to couple subdomains using different time integrators and also different time steps. Figure 8 shows a typical plot of displacement, velocity and acceleration for the elastic wave propagation problem using different time integrators (implicit and explicit) and different time steps ( $2 \times 10^{-7}$ s and  $1 \times 10^{-2}$ s) for each subdomain, superimposed over the analytic solution. The controller time step in this case is set to  $2 \times 10^{-7}$ s. These results demonstrate that our dynamic Schwarz implementation enables the use of not only different time integrators within different subdomains, but also different time steps. Moreover, the use of different time-steps does not introduce into the computation spurious errors or artifacts. We note that the use of different time steps in different subdomains requires a slightly more intrusive computer implementation, as one needs to store the solution history of each subdomain within the controller time step as well as interpolate solutions in time for the application of the Schwarz boundary conditions.

## 3.4 Torsion

In the next test case, evaluated within the ALBANY LCM code, we consider a hyperelastic bar subjected to finite deformation by a high degree of torsion. The geometry is given by  $\Omega = (-0.025, 0.025) \times (-0.025, 0.025) \times (-0.5, 0.5)$ . The initial condition corresponds one of torsion about the  $z = 0$  axis:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}, 0) &= \mathbf{0}, \\ \dot{\mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{x}, 0) &= (-ayz, axz, 0), \end{aligned} \tag{36}$$

where  $a = 8000$ ,  $\mathbf{u}$  is the displacement vector, and  $\dot{\mathbf{u}}$  is the velocity vector. The boundary conditions are all homogeneous Neumann. We specify a Neo-Hookean-type material model with Young's modulus

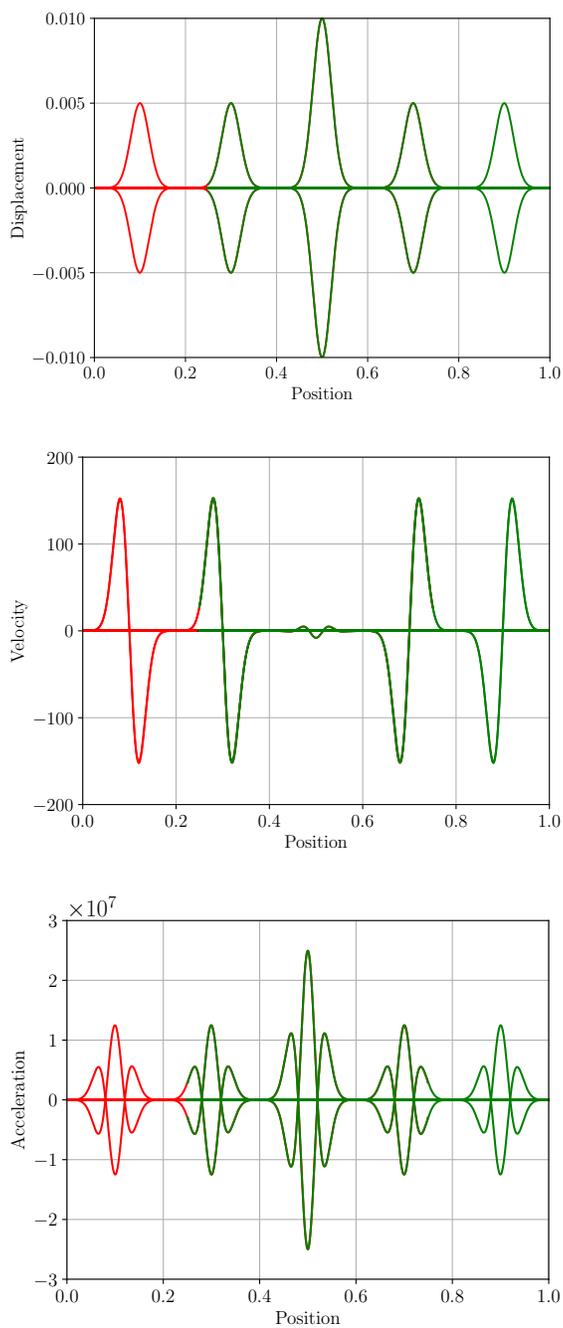


Figure 8: Typical plot of displacement, velocity and acceleration for the elastic wave propagation problem using different time integrators (implicit and explicit) and different time steps ( $2 \times 10^{-7}$ s and  $1 \times 10^{-2}$ s) for each subdomain, superimposed over the analytic single domain solution. Overlapped plots shown at  $t = (0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10) \times 10^{-4}$ s. The analytic solution is hidden behind the solutions for  $\Omega_1$  (red) and  $\Omega_2$  (green).

$E = 1.0 \times 10^9$  GPa, Poisson's ratio  $\nu = 0.25$  and density  $\rho = 1000$  kg/m<sup>3</sup>. The problem is run until time  $T = 2 \times 10^{-3}$  s. In order to resolve the solution, the time step employed in the time-integration scheme,  $\Delta t$ , must satisfy  $\Delta t \leq h/c$ , where  $h$  is a measure of the mesh spatial resolution, and  $c$  is the relevant wave propagation speed, given by  $c = \max\left(\sqrt{E/\rho}, \sqrt{G/\rho}, \sqrt{K/\rho}\right)$  where  $E$  is the Young's modulus,  $G$  is the shear modulus,  $K$  is the bulk modulus, and  $\rho$  is the solid density. For this torsion problem, with  $E = 1$  GPa,  $\nu = 0.25$  and  $\rho = 1000$  kg m<sup>-3</sup>, the relevant wave propagation speed is  $c = 1000$  m s<sup>-1</sup>. The minimum element size used is  $h = 0.0045$  m, therefore the stable time step is  $\Delta t = \frac{h}{c} = 4.5 \times 10^{-6}$  s. We simply choose to use  $\Delta t = 10^{-6}$  s as being sufficiently close to the estimate and to more easily track the output.

The main purpose of this case is to demonstrate that the dynamic Schwarz method can be used to couple two regions of the bar using different mesh resolutions, different element types, and different time integration schemes, once more without introducing any dynamic artifacts.

### 3.4.1 Conformal hex-hex coupling

In our first study, we investigate the error introduced by our dynamic alternating Schwarz formulation while removing other sources of error as much as possible. To this end, we consider a domain decomposition of the geometry  $\Omega$  into two subdomains  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$  in which the subdomains are discretized using conformal hexahedral meshes. Let  $\Omega_1 = (-0.025, 0.025) \times (-0.025, 0.025) \times (-0.5, 0.25)$  and  $\Omega_2 = (-0.025, 0.025) \times (-0.025, 0.025) \times (-0.25, 0.5)$ . We discretize each domain with a uniform hexahedral mesh with mesh size  $\Delta x = \Delta y = \Delta z = 0.01$ , see Figure 9(a) and (b). We apply our dynamic Schwarz method to solve this problem and compare the result to a single-domain solution discretized using the same uniform mesh resolution, shown in Figure 9(c). We utilize an implicit Newmark time-integration scheme with time step  $\Delta t = 1 \times 10^{-6}$  s to compute the Schwarz as well as the single-domain solutions. Figure 9 shows the magnitude of the displacement at the final time. The solutions obtained using the Schwarz method in each of the two domains (Figure 9(a) and (b)) are indistinguishable from the single domain solution (Figure 9(c)). Indeed, Figures 10 and 11 show the errors in the displacement and velocity respectively at the final time, which are close to machine precision. Since the Schwarz meshes and the single-domain mesh are conformal, it is straightforward to compute relative errors in the Schwarz solutions with respect to the single domain solution simply by subtracting the solutions at the nodes and taking an  $l_2$  vector norm of this difference.

Figure 12(a) and (b) show a time-history of the relative error in the displacement and velocity magnitudes, respectively. The reader can observe that the maximum error is  $\mathcal{O}(10^{-11})$ . This demonstrates that, in the absence of other sources of error such as geometric error, the error in the coupling using our Schwarz formulation can be decreased up to numerical precision. Spikes in the displacement and velocity relative errors are observed near times where the reference solution magnitude is close to zero<sup>5</sup>.

### 3.4.2 Nonconformal composite tet-hex coupling

After verifying that the coupling errors of our dynamic Schwarz method are close to machine precision in the case of conformal coupling, where no other source of error (such as geometric mismatch) exist, we now evaluate this formulation on the torsion problem in the case  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$  are discretized using

<sup>5</sup>The same behavior is observed in an error analysis of a single-domain discretization of the torsion problem with respect to a reference solution computed on a finer mesh.

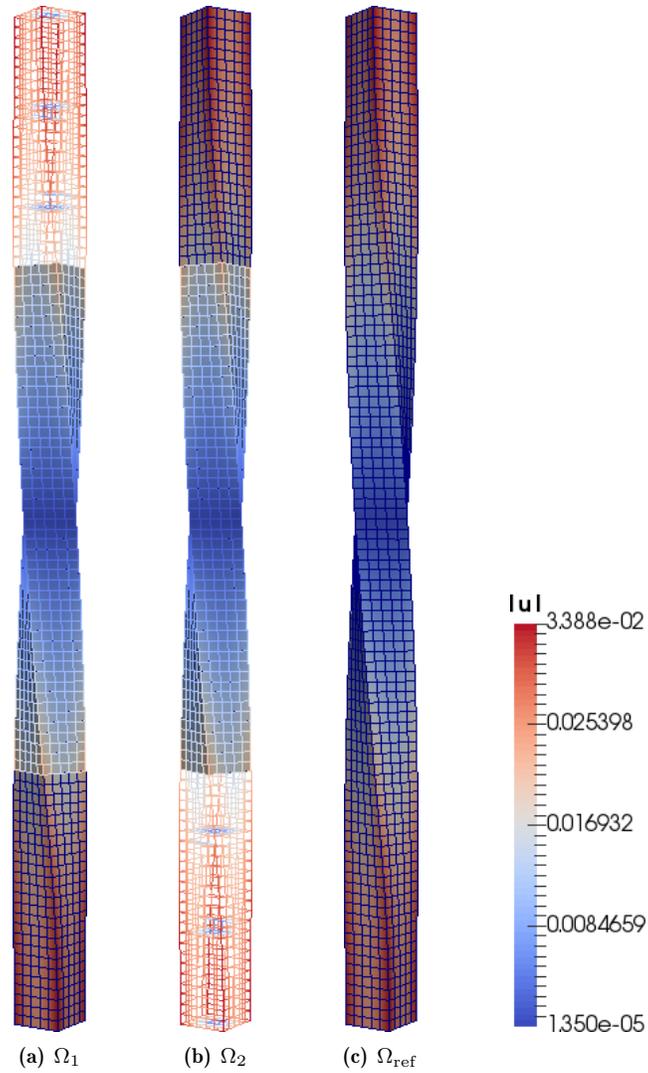


Figure 9: Comparison of the solution for the coupled torsion problem with respect to a single-domain solution. The color scheme shows the norm of the displacement vector  $|\mathbf{u}|$  at the final time step computed on  $\Omega_1$  with 1875 hexahedral elements in (a) and  $\Omega_2$  with 1875 hexahedral elements in (b). The reference single-domain solution on  $\Omega_{\text{ref}}$  with 2500 hexahedral elements is shown in (c). All meshes are conformal.

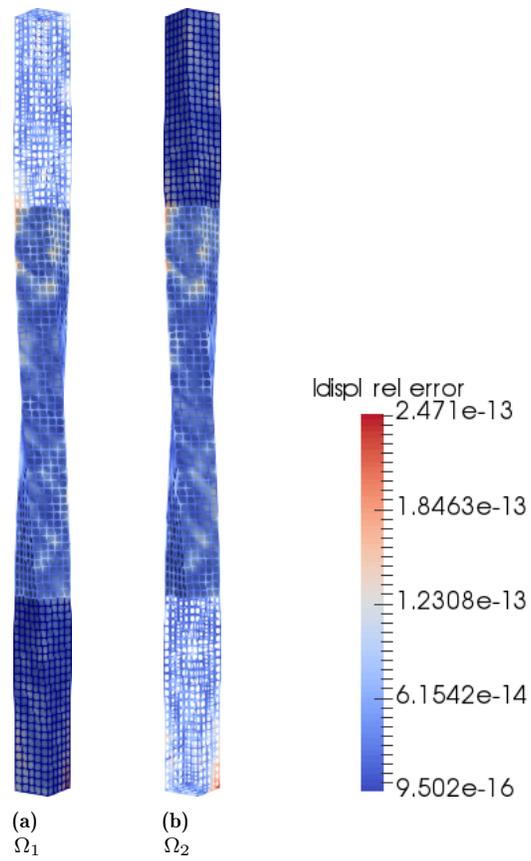


Figure 10: Relative errors in the norm of the displacement for the coupled torsion problem discretized using conformal hexahedral meshes with respect to a single-domain solution at the final time  $T = 2 \times 10^{-3}$ s. Errors are close to machine precision.

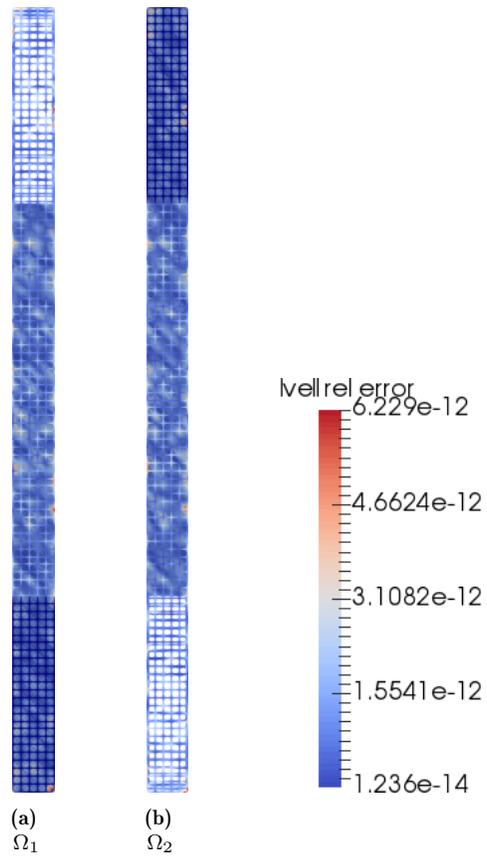


Figure 11: Relative errors in the norm of the velocity for the coupled torsion problem discretized using conformal hexahedral meshes with respect to a single-domain solution at the final time  $T = 2 \times 10^{-3}$ s. Errors are close to machine precision.

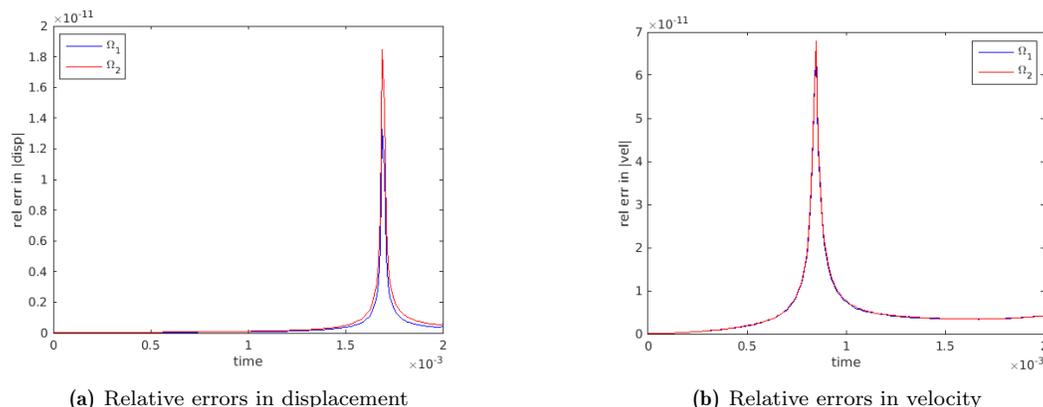


Figure 12: Time history of the relative errors in the norm of the displacement and velocity for the coupled torsion problem discretized using conformal hexahedral meshes with respect to a single-domain solution. Errors are at most  $\mathcal{O}(10^{-11})$ . Spikes in the displacement and velocity relative errors are observed near times where the reference solution magnitude is close to zero.

nonconformal meshes with different element types. Toward this end, let us define the following domain decomposition of  $\Omega$ :  $\Omega = \Omega_1 \cup \Omega_2$ , where  $\Omega_1 = (-0.025, 0.025) \times (-0.025, 0.025) \times (-0.5, 0.22)$  and  $\Omega_2 = (-0.025, 0.025) \times (-0.025, 0.025) \times (-0.22, 0.5)$ . First, we discretize  $\Omega_1$  with a uniform hexahedral mesh with mesh sizes  $\Delta x_1 = \Delta y_1 = 0.01$  and  $\Delta z_1 = 0.012$ , resulting in a mesh with 1500 hexahedral elements. Similarly, we discretize  $\Omega_2$  with a uniform hexahedral mesh with mesh sizes  $\Delta x_2 = \Delta y_2 = 0.005$  and  $\Delta z_2 = 0.0045$ , resulting in a mesh with 16,000 hexahedral elements. Since we wish to employ different element types in different subdomains, we create a 10-node composite tetrahedron (“composite tet”) [29] mesh of  $\Omega_1$  by splitting each hexahedral element in this mesh into 6 tetrahedra, and enriching this mesh with additional nodes. The resulting mesh consists of 9000 10-node composite tet elements. The decomposition and their corresponding discretizations are shown in Figure 13(a) and (b). We evaluate the accuracy in the solutions obtained by our dynamic Schwarz coupling method by computing errors with respect to a reference solution discretized using 20,000 hexahedral elements with mesh size  $\Delta x = \Delta y = \Delta z = 0.005$  (Figure 13(c)). The resolution of  $\Omega$  is roughly comparable to that of  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$ ; we emphasize, however, that none of the meshes considered are conformal with each other, that is, they do not share any nodes.

We study the accuracy in the proposed nonconformal Schwarz coupling of meshes with different element types. As with the elastic wave problem considered in Section 3.3, we consider three time-integration options:

- “Implicit-Implicit” coupling: an implicit Newmark scheme is used in each subdomain.
- “Explicit(CM)-Implicit” coupling: an explicit Newmark scheme with a consistent mass matrix is used in  $\Omega_1$  whereas an implicit Newmark scheme is used in  $\Omega_2$ .
- “Explicit(LM)-Implicit” coupling: an explicit Newmark scheme with a lumped mass matrix is used in  $\Omega_1$  whereas an implicit Newmark scheme is used in  $\Omega_2$ .

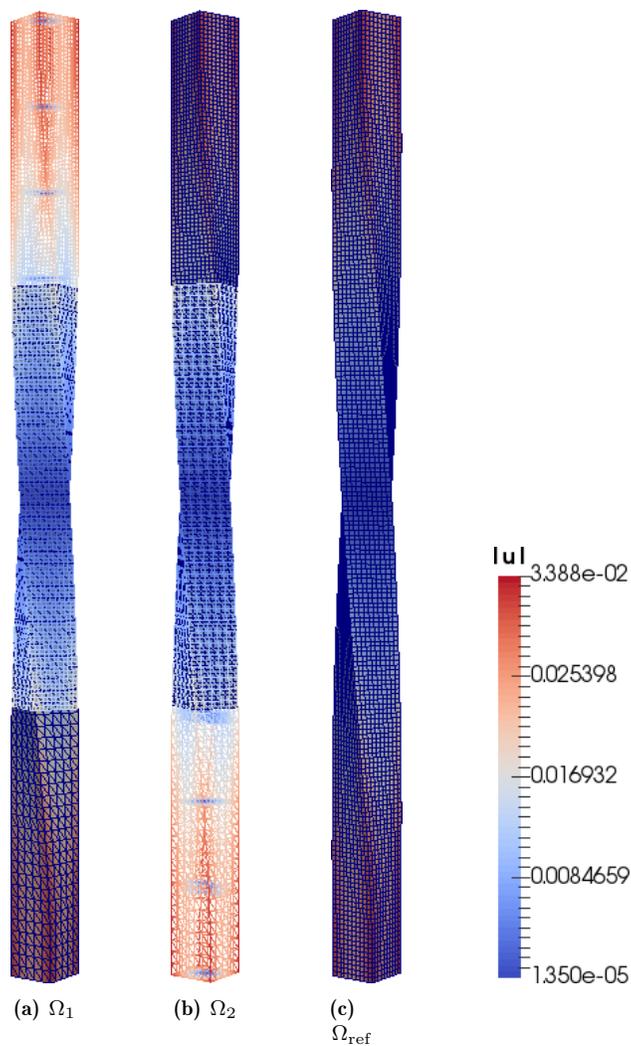


Figure 13: Comparison of the solution for the coupled torsion problem, where  $\Omega_1$  is discretized using a composite tet mesh with 16,000 elements, and  $\Omega_2$  is discretized using a hex mesh with 9,000, with respect to a single-domain solution obtained on a fine (20,000 element) hexahedral mesh. The color scheme shows the norm of the displacement vector  $|\mathbf{u}|$  at the final time step. All meshes are non-conformal. Without loss of generality, we show here only the solution computed using implicit Newmark time steppers within each subdomain.

For all time-integration schemes, a time step of  $\Delta t = 1 \times 10^{-6}$  is employed. This time step is stable and small enough to resolve the torsion behavior in the bar.

Sections 3.4.2 and 3.4.2 give the relative errors in the displacement and velocity norms, respectively, in the solutions obtained using our nonconformal Schwarz coupling method with the three integrators considered at four representative times during the simulation. These errors were calculating using the `DTK_Interp_and_Error` utility within ALBANY LCM, described earlier in Section 3.2. Each entry in the tables contains the average relative error, with the averaging performed over the two subdomains considered. These tables show that, for the Implicit-Implicit and Explicit(CM)-Implicit time-discretizations, the errors in the Schwarz solutions are  $\mathcal{O}(0.1)\%$  for the displacement and  $\mathcal{O}(1)\%$  for the velocity. For the errors in the Explicit(LM)-Implicit time-discretization, the errors in the Schwarz solution are up to an order of magnitude higher. This is due to the fact that mass lumping introduces some error into the simulation, which accumulates and leads to a slight difference in phase between the two subdomains. Figure 14 shows a time-history of the relative errors in the Schwarz displacement (a) and velocity (b) solutions obtained using the nonconformal composite tet-hex Implicit-Implicit coupling. The reader can observe that the relative errors are at  $< 5\%$  for most times. As for the conformal hex-hex coupling variant of this problem, spikes in the displacement and velocity relative errors are observed near times where the reference solution magnitude is close to zero. The time-values at which relative errors are reported in Sections 3.4.2 and 3.4.2 are marked by circles.

	Relative error in displacement norm			
	$t = 5 \times 10^{-4}$	$t = 1 \times 10^{-3}$	$t = 1.5 \times 10^{-3}$	$t = 2 \times 10^{-3}$
Implicit-Implicit	$7.96 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.28 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.68 \times 10^{-3}$	$7.23 \times 10^{-3}$
Explicit(CM)-Implicit	$1.09 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.93 \times 10^{-3}$	$8.19 \times 10^{-3}$	$8.21 \times 10^{-3}$
Explicit(LM)-Implicit	$3.66 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.62 \times 10^{-2}$	$7.13 \times 10^{-2}$	$6.14 \times 10^{-2}$

Table 7: Comparison of relative errors in displacement norm for the torsion problem discretized using the Schwarz method with nonconformal composite tet-hex coupling and different time-integration schemes with respect to a single-domain fine reference solution. At each time, the reported errors are an average of the errors over the two subdomains.

	Relative error in velocity norm			
	$t = 5 \times 10^{-4}$	$t = 1 \times 10^{-3}$	$t = 1.5 \times 10^{-3}$	$t = 2 \times 10^{-3}$
Implicit-Implicit	$1.27 \times 10^{-2}$	$4.50 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.09 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.89 \times 10^{-2}$
Explicit(CM)-Implicit	$1.30 \times 10^{-2}$	$4.63 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.13 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.89 \times 10^{-2}$
Explicit(LM)-Implicit	$4.59 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.60 \times 10^{-1}$	$5.91 \times 10^{-2}$	$6.72 \times 10^{-2}$

Table 8: Comparison of relative errors in velocity norm for the torsion problem discretized using the Schwarz method with nonconformal composite tet-hex coupling and different time-integration schemes with respect to a single-domain fine reference solution. At each time, the reported errors are an average of the errors over the two subdomains.

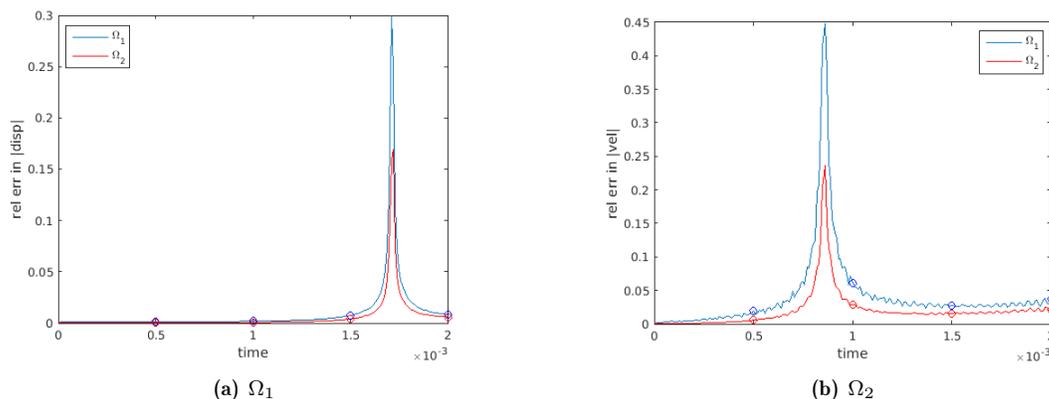


Figure 14: Time history of the relative errors in the norm of the displacement and velocity for the coupled torsion problem discretized using nonconformal meshes (a composite tet mesh in  $\Omega_1$  and a hexahedral mesh in  $\Omega_2$ ) with respect to a fine single-domain solution. Without loss of generality, we show here only the errors for solutions obtained using implicit Newmark time steppers within each subdomain. Relative errors are at  $< 5\%$  for most times. Spikes in the displacement and velocity relative errors are observed near times where the reference solution magnitude is close to zero. The time values at which relative errors are reported in Sections 3.4.2 and 3.4.2 are marked by circles.

### 3.4.3 Convergence study

Figure 15 plots the Schwarz error measures in two subsequent Schwarz iterations, namely  $\epsilon^{(n)}$  versus  $\epsilon^{(n+2)}$  as defined in (35), on a log-log scale. The overlap volume fraction for this study is 2%, which is much smaller than the one in the studies discussed above, with  $\Omega_1 = (-0.025, 0.025) \times (-0.025, 0.025) \times (-0.5, 0.01)$  and  $\Omega_2 = (-0.025, 0.025) \times (-0.025, 0.025) \times (-0.01, 0.5)$ . Both subdomains are discretized using conformal hexahedral meshes with uniform mesh resolutions of  $\Delta x_i = \Delta y_i = \Delta z_i = 0.01$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . We reduce the overlap for the convergence study in order to stress-test the method and to demonstrate that it converges even in the case of a very small overlap. The reader can observe that the method is converging monotonically at a linear rate of convergence, similar to what was observed for the problem in Section 3.3. These results are consistent with what is reported in Section 3.3.3 for the elastic wave propagation problem and in [25] for our quasistatic variant of Schwarz coupling.

Section 3.4.3 reports the average number of Schwarz iterations per time step for some of the different discretizations discussed above, each with an overlap volume fraction of close to 50%. One can see that a small number (3 – 4) of Schwarz iterations are required to achieve convergence. It is interesting to observe that more Schwarz iterations are required when employing an explicit time-integration scheme with a lumped mass in one of the subdomains.

## 3.5 Bolted joint

We conclude our numerical experiments by applying the proposed dynamic alternating Schwarz method to a realistic problem that is of interest to us, which highlights the “plug-and-play” nature of this coupling approach as used with the SIERRA code [38]. We will refer to as a bolted joint problem. Bolted joints are ubiquitous in machine design and engineered structures encountered in

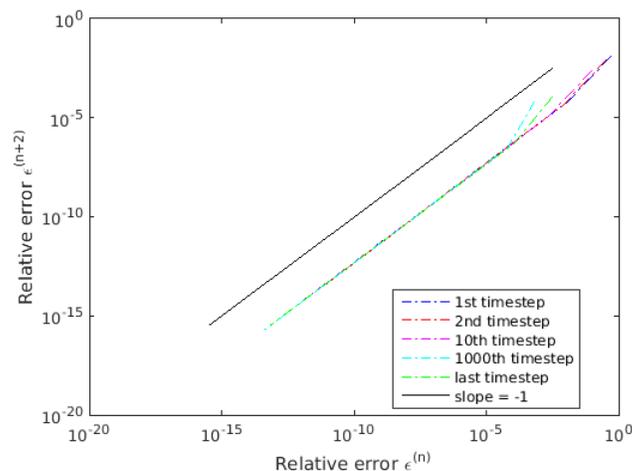


Figure 15: Convergence behavior of the dynamic Schwarz algorithm for the torsion problem for small overlap volume fraction (2%) in which each subdomain is discretized using a hexahedral mesh. The plot shows that a linear convergence rate is achieved.

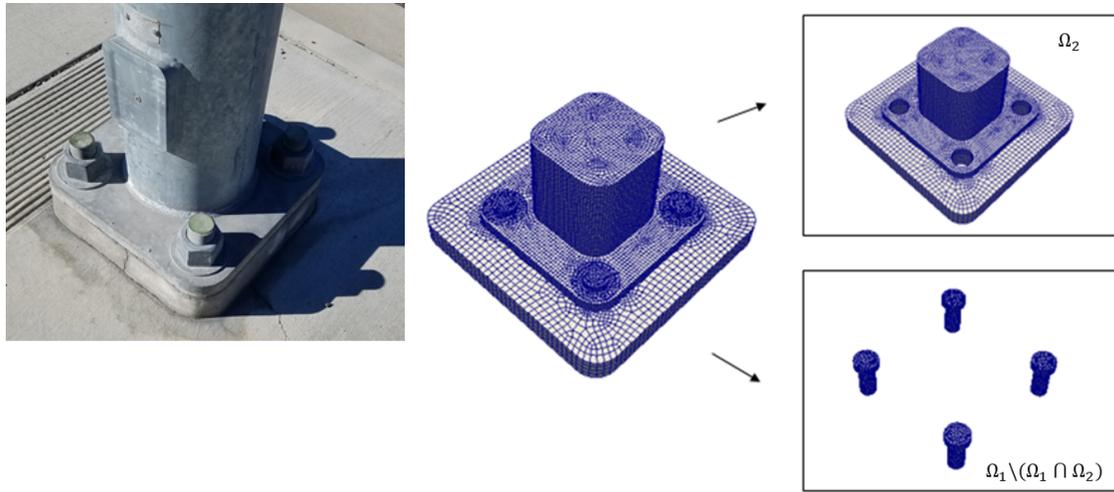
	Conformal hex-hex	Nonconformal composite tet-hex
Overlap volume fraction	44%	50%
Implicit-Implicit, Explicit(CM)-Implicit	3	3
Explicit(LM)-Implicit	4	4

Table 9: Average number of Schwarz iterations per time step.

daily life (e.g., the light post in Figure 16 (a)). They consist of small-scale fasteners or bolts which join together other, larger-scale components.

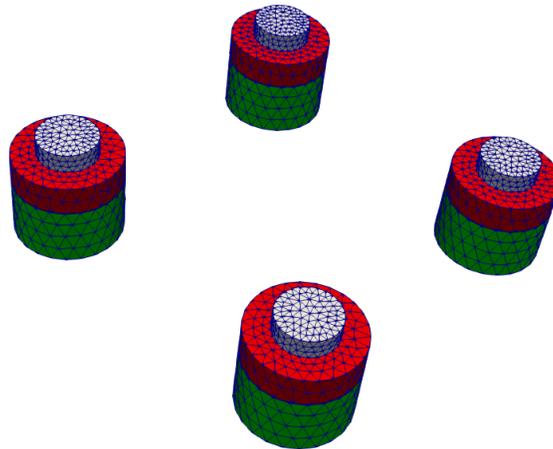
The Computer-Aided Design (CAD) model considered here (Figure 16 (b)) is comprised of three pieces: a bottom aluminum plate, a top steel (FC0205) component, and four high-strength steel (8740) bolts, which join together the plate and the component. The material properties are shown in Table 10. The overall dimensions of the joint are a square base of  $127\text{mm} \times 127\text{mm}$ , and a height of  $127\text{mm}$ . We prescribe a finite deformation  $J_2$  material with linear hardening within the model.

In applying the Schwarz method, a natural domain decomposition of the geometry is into two subdomains, one containing the four bolts and one containing the so-called “parts”, which consist of the bottom plate and the top component (Figure 16). The intention of this problem is to demonstrate the application of the Schwarz method to a production-like problem, as well as to highlight the “plug-and-play” nature of the method: if one is interested in changing the shape the parts and/or including more detail in the bolts (e.g., by adding threading), one can create these new models offline and apply the Schwarz method to the new geometry. It is similarly easy to replace the meshes and/or material models employed in the simulation. For more complex geometries, one can craft a domain decomposition that will facilitate generating meshes for the separate subdomain geometries,



(a) Example physical model

(b) CAD model, domain decomposition and meshing of physical model



(c) Bolts with overlap region ( $\Omega_1$ )

Figure 16: Depiction of bolted joint geometry physical model and its CAD model analog, along with a domain decomposition into two subdomains,  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$  for the application of Schwarz, and meshing of each subdomain.  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$  are referred to as the “bolts” and the “parts”, respectively. For the application of Schwarz, we discretize  $\Omega_1$  with a composite tetrahedral mesh and  $\Omega_2$  with a hexahedral mesh. Subfigure (c) depicts  $\Omega_1$  together with the overlap region, colored in red and green.

Material	Young's modulus [GPa]	Poisson's ratio	Yield strength [MPa]	Hardening modulus [GPa]	Density [kg m <sup>-3</sup> ]
Aluminum	70	0.36	250	0.70	2700
FC0205 Steel	200	0.30	350	8.00	7800
8740 Steel	200	0.30	1000	0.15	7800

Table 10: Material properties for the bolted joint example.

thereby circumventing the task of having to remesh a complex realistic geometry, a task which can take *weeks*. Figure 16(c) depicts  $\Omega_1$  together with the overlap region, which contains a piece of the “parts” and bottom plate, shown in red and green, respectively. Remark that the domain decomposition is done such that the overlap region is quite small relative to the overall volume of the considered geometry.

In this domain decomposition, it is natural to discretize the parts with a relatively coarse mesh, while representing the bolts with a fine mesh. A fine mesh representation the bolts is particularly important in the case that the bolts are threaded.

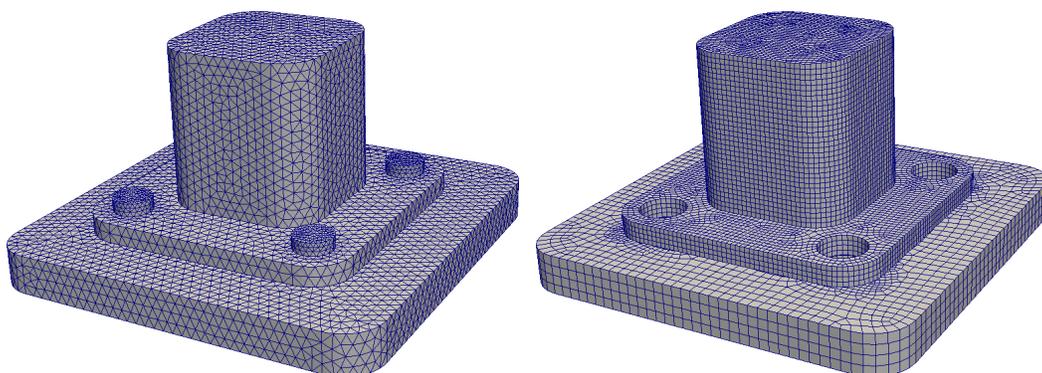
In the study summarized herein, the discretized parts domain is labeled  $\Omega_2$  and discretized using an 8-node hexahedral mesh having a total of 38,728 elements. To test the “plug-and-play” nature of the proposed Schwarz formulation, we consider two meshes for the bolts, labeled  $\Omega_1^f$  and  $\Omega_1^c$ , defined as  $\Omega_1 \setminus (\Omega_1 \cap \Omega_2)$  for the fine and coarse discretizations of the bolts, respectively. Both of these meshes are comprised of 10-node composite tetrahedral elements [29]. The former discretization has 15,576 such elements whereas the latter has 132,060 such elements. We compare our Schwarz solution with a solution computed on a single-domain mesh of the geometry, which we will denote by  $\Omega^c$ . This mesh of  $\Omega^c$  is comprised of 118,619 composite tetrahedral elements, 17,238 of which are used to discretize the bolts. The meshes considered are shown in Figure 17. The total element and node counts for the various discretizations considered are summarized in Section 3.5.

We prescribe a zero displacement boundary condition on the bottom boundary of  $\Omega_2$ . Meanwhile, at the top boundary of  $\Omega_2$  we apply a time-dependent  $x$ -displacement:

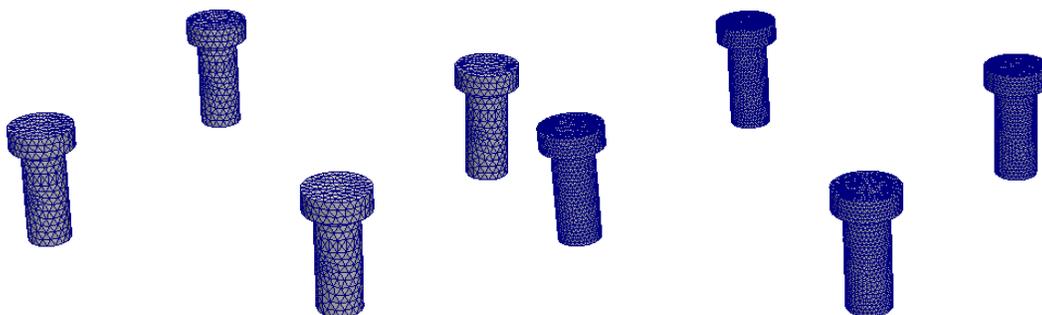
$$u_1(\mathbf{x}, t) = 2t, \quad t \geq 0, \mathbf{x} \in \Omega_2. \quad (37)$$

We assume the initial displacement and velocities are identically zero within both subdomains. We advance the problem forward in time using an implicit Newmark scheme with a simple time-step control algorithm up to a final time of  $T = 8.0 \times 10^{-4}$ s. The time-step control algorithm effectively reduces the time-step by a reduction factor  $r$  if convergence is not achieved within a time-step; alternatively, the time-step is increased by an amplification factor  $a$ . For the runs described here, we take  $r = 0.5$  and  $a = 1.1$ . We take the initial time steps for the single-domain and Schwarz runs to be  $\Delta t = 1.0 \times 10^{-6}$ s. Given the strong nonlinearity implied by the prescribed (inelastic) material model, we employ a relative tolerance of  $1.0 \times 10^{-8}$  on the residual within our Newton nonlinear solver. For the Schwarz runs, we utilize a relative Schwarz tolerance of  $1.0 \times 10^{-6}$ .

Figure 18 shows the  $x$ -component of the displacement for the three runs considered at time  $t = 4.87 \times 10^{-4}$ s. The reader can observe that the geometry has undergone significant deformation. Moreover, the Schwarz solutions (Figure 18 (a) and (b)) are indistinguishable from the single-domain solution (Figure 18 (c)). Moreover, the deformation exhibited by the numerically-computed solutions is similar in nature to a real-world reference geometry (Figure 18 (e)).



(a) Composite tetrahedral mesh of single domain ( $\Omega^c$ ) (b) Hexahedral mesh of the parts ( $\Omega_2$ ) for Schwarz coupling



(c) Coarse composite tetrahedral mesh of the bolts ( $\Omega_1^c$ ) for Schwarz coupling (d) Fine composite tetrahedral mesh of the bolts ( $\Omega_1^f$ ) for Schwarz coupling

Figure 17: Meshes for single domain and Schwarz runs for the bolted joint problem. In the single domain case, we discretize the geometry with a composite tetrahedral mesh (a). For the application of Schwarz, we mesh the parts ( $\Omega_2$ ) with a hexahedral mesh (b), and consider two composite tetrahedral meshes of the bolts: a coarse mesh  $\Omega_1^c$  (c) and a fine mesh  $\Omega_1^f$  (d).

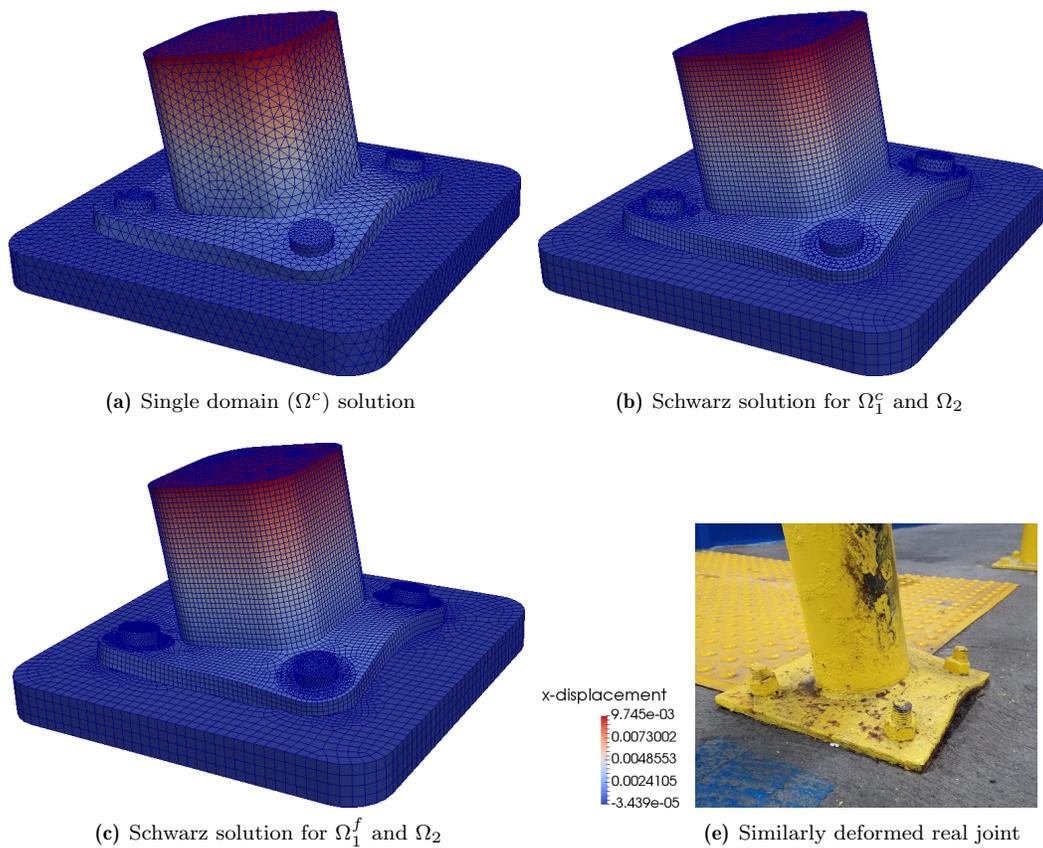


Figure 18: The  $x$ -component of the displacement computed using the traditional finite element method and the proposed dynamic Schwarz coupling at time  $t = 4.87 \times 10^{-4}$ s. The time integrator for all runs was implicit Newmark with variable time stepping. The displayed solutions are indistinguishable from one another, and exhibit deformation similar in nature to a real-world reference geometry (d). The 10-node tetrahedral element counts for the bolts subregion for each discretization are as follows: (a) 17,238, (b) 15,576, (c) 132,060.

In addition to the  $x$ -displacement, we compare also the nodal equivalent plastic strain (eqps), computed via a weighted volume average within the ALBANY code, in the bolts. This quantity is plotted for all three runs in Figures 19 and 20. Figure 20 depicts a vertical slice through the bolts (Figure 20). The reader can observe higher strain concentrations within the bolts at the locations where failure is expected for the Schwarz solution with the finer mesh of the bolts  $\Omega_1^f$  (Figure 20 (c)), which has almost ten times the number of elements within the bolts subregion compared to the single-domain mesh (132,060 composite tetrahedra versus 17,238). The Schwarz solution with the coarser mesh of the bolts  $\Omega_1^c$  (Figure 20 (b)) matches well the single domain solution (Figure 20 (a)). This is because the meshes within the bolts are comparable in resolution: 15,576 composite tetrahedra for Schwarz versus 17,238 composite tetrahedra for the single-domain.

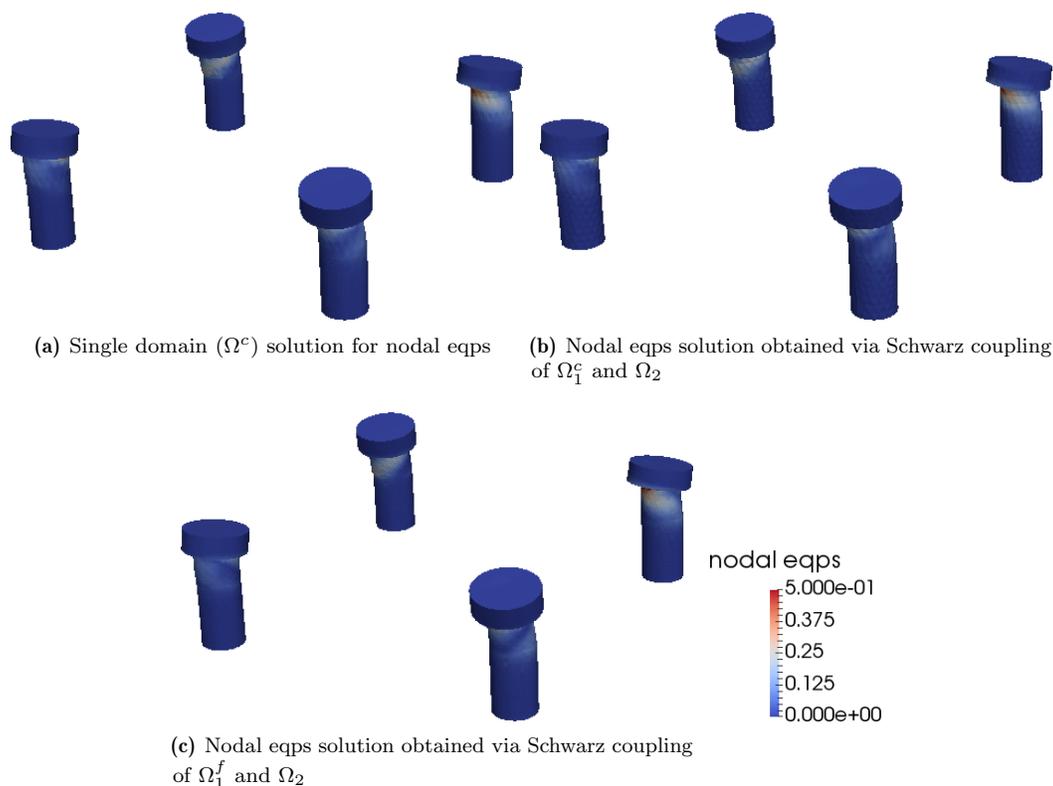


Figure 19: Nodal equivalent plastic strain (eqps) in the bolts computed using the traditional finite element method and the proposed dynamic Schwarz coupling at time  $t = 4.87 \times 10^{-4}$ s. The time integrator for all runs was implicit Newmark with variable time stepping. The 10-node tetrahedral element counts for the bolts subregion for each discretization are as follows: (a) 17,238, (b) 15,576, (c) 132,060.

To achieve convergence to the specified relative Schwarz tolerance of  $1.0 \times 10^{-6}$ , only 2-4 iterations per time-step were required for both Schwarz runs shown herein. As one would expect, the number of Schwarz iterations increased as the simulation progressed and the geometry deformed (Figure 22. Section 3.5 summarizes some of the convergence and performance data for the Schwarz

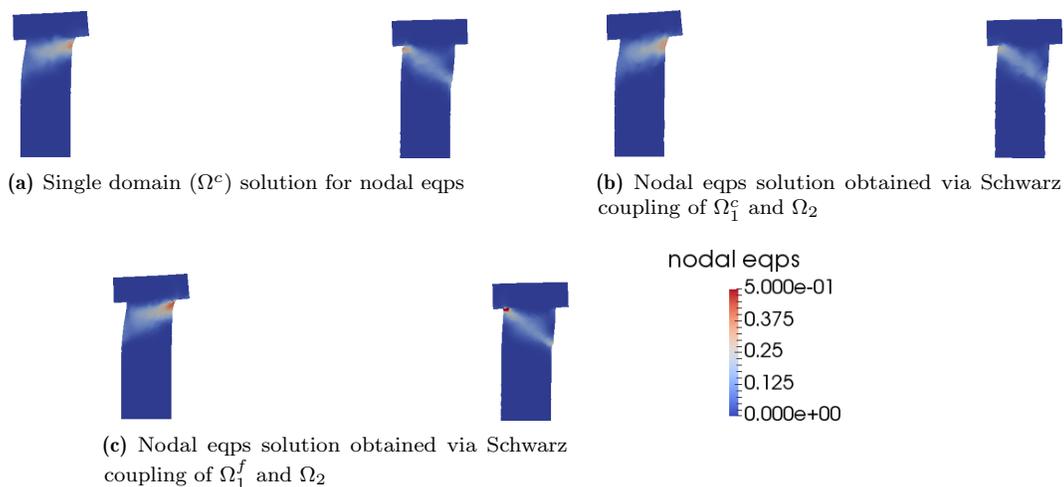


Figure 20: Nodal equivalent plastic strain (eqps) in the bolts computed using the traditional finite element method and the proposed dynamic Schwarz coupling at time  $t = 4.87 \times 10^{-4}$ s. The time integrator for all runs was implicit Newmark with variable time stepping. Strain concentrations are higher when the bolts are discretized with a finer mesh (c), which is an indication that the coarser mesh is too coarse. The 10-node tetrahedral element counts for the bolts subregion for each discretization are as follows: (a) 17,238, (b) 15,576, (c) 132,060.

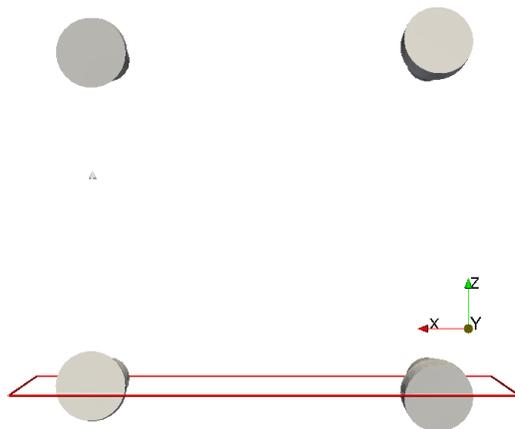


Figure 21: Depiction of slice through bolts used to generate Figure 20.

runs considered, compared to two single domain runs. Both single domain runs use composite tetrahedral meshes of the bolted joint geometry. The first mesh is the previously-considered mesh denoted by  $\Omega^c$ , which contains 118,619 elements. The second mesh is much more refined, and will be denoted  $\Omega^f$ . This second mesh contains 295,378 elements. The single domain meshes  $\Omega^c$  and  $\Omega^f$  contain 17,238 and 132,400 elements within the bolts subregion, respectively. These discretizations are comparable to the Schwarz runs with  $\Omega_1^c$  and  $\Omega_1^f$  respectively. For both the Schwarz and the single domain simulations, the time-step control algorithm never had to augment or reduce the time-step, so that a constant time-step  $\Delta t = 1.0 \times 10^{-6}$ s was employed in all the simulations considered here. Section 3.5 summarizes the number of elements and nodes in all the meshes considered here.

	Parts		Bolts	
	elements	nodes	elements	nodes
Single domain ( $\Omega^c$ )	101,381 [ct-10]	89,534	17,238 [ct-10]	26,667
Schwarz with coarser mesh of bolts $\Omega_1^c$	38,728 [hex]	47,209	15,576 [ct-10]	24,188
Single domain with finer mesh ( $\Omega^f$ )	162,978 [ct-10]	240,872	132,400 [ct-10]	190,096
Schwarz with finer mesh of bolts $\Omega_1^f$	38,728 [hex]	47,209	132,060 [ct-10]	189,428

Table 11: Node and element counts for the single domain and Schwarz meshes considered for the bolted-joint geometry, with the element type in brackets. The shorthand ‘ct-10’ refers to the composite tetrahedron element.

The study was performed on a Linux cluster located at Sandia National Laboratories containing 144 Intel(R) Xeon(R) Gold 6154 3.00 GHz Skylake CPUs, by utilizing 64 of the available CPUs. The reader can observe that the Schwarz simulation with the coarser mesh of the bolts  $\Omega_1^c$  actually took about 33% *less* time than coarser single domain simulation on  $\Omega^c$ , which had a comparable number of elements used to represent the bolts. In contrast, the Schwarz simulation with the finer mesh of the bolts  $\Omega_1^f$  is 74% slower than the single-domain simulation on  $\Omega^f$ . This situation can likely be ameliorated by specifying a looser Schwarz tolerance than the one employed in these runs ( $1.0 \times 10^{-6}$ ). We emphasize that the advantage of the Schwarz method here is its ‘‘plug-and-play’’ nature: the method allows one to easily consider different geometries and discretizations for the bolts. Creating conformal meshes of more complex variants of our bolted joint geometry (e.g., if threading is added to the bolts) can be an extremely time-consuming process, in contrast. These two cases for the bolted joint are not enough to draw definite conclusions about the time performance of the Schwarz method, and additional studies in many more situations are needed to determine and tune its performance. We emphasize that even if the method is more expensive computationally for certain mesh resolutions, the alternating Schwarz coupling framework may be preferred for its ability to rapidly change and evaluate a variety of engineering designs, our typical use case.

## 4 Conclusions

Concurrent multiscale methods for solid mechanics are essential for the understanding and prediction of behavior of engineering systems when a small scale event eventually determines the performance of an entire system. The Schwarz alternating method has been adapted and implemented for use in concurrent multiscale coupling. The main advantage of this method is its ‘‘plug-and-play’’ nature, as it enables one to easily consider different geometries and discretizations for different subdomains comprising a targeted engineered component, such as a bolted joint.

	CPU times	Avg # Schwarz iters	Max # Schwarz iters
Single domain ( $\Omega^c$ )	3h 34m	—	—
Schwarz with coarser mesh of bolts $\Omega_1^c$	2h 42m	3.32	4
Single domain with finer mesh ( $\Omega^f$ )	17h 00m	—	—
Schwarz with finer mesh of bolts $\Omega_1^f$	29h 29m	3.28	4

Table 12: Single domain vs. Schwarz performance data for the bolted-joint problem (CPU times are averaged over 64 CPUs).

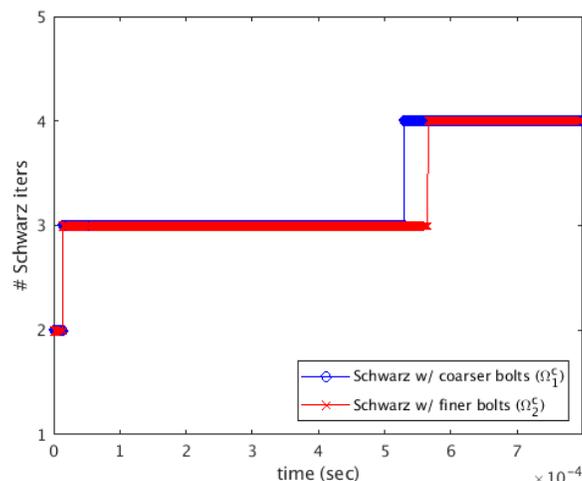


Figure 22: Number of Schwarz iterations as a function of time for the bolted joint problem.

In this paper, we extended to transient dynamics the Schwarz alternating method proposed in our previous work for quasi-static multiscale analysis [25]. We developed a practical implementation of the method in terms of traditional time stepping schemes, which we showed is equivalent to performing the Schwarz algorithm in space-time. We derived a heuristic criterion on based on the size of the time step to show that the analysis of convergence developed in [25] also applies to the dynamic case. We implemented the proposed dynamic Schwarz algorithm in two codes, ALBANY LCM and SIERRA, and evaluated the method’s performance on several numerical examples, including a bolted joint specimen problem of practical interest. We demonstrated by means of these numerical examples that the method does not introduce dynamic artifacts that have been observed with other coupling methods in dynamics. We also showed that the proposed method is capable of coupling conformal meshes, non-conformal meshes, meshes with different levels of refinement, and meshes with different element topologies, as well as different time integrators with different time-steps. Lastly, we illustrated that, despite its iterative nature, the Schwarz alternating method can actually lead to a reduction in CPU time relative to a single-domain simulation that has a comparable resolution.

Future work will focus on several further extensions of the alternating Schwarz methodology, including advancing the method to enable coupling of structural elements to continuum elements, exploring the use of Schwarz-like algorithms for simulating contact, and the development of a multi-physics coupling framework based on variational formulations and the Schwarz alternating method

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## A Convergence of the Schwarz alternating method for transient solid dynamics

In this section, we provide some conditions under which the Schwarz method for solid dynamics described in Section 2.2 converges. In essence, we rely on the analysis of the Schwarz alternating method performed by Lions, who defines the conditions for convergence for monotone nonlinear problems. Provided that the time step is small enough, the discrete problem at each time step reduces to an elliptic problem whose tangent matrix is diagonally dominant, and for which the analysis in Section I.5 of [19] applies, proving linear convergence of the method.

To determine if the problem defined by (8), (9), and (10) is well posed, and therefore whether the Schwarz coupling method will converge to the solution, we investigate the second variation of the action functional (4) given by

$$\begin{aligned} \delta^2 S &:= D^2 S[\varphi](\boldsymbol{\xi}, \dot{\boldsymbol{\xi}}) = \int_I \int_{\Omega} \Lambda(\mathbf{X}, t) \, dV \, dt, \\ \Lambda(\mathbf{X}, t) &:= \rho_0 \dot{\boldsymbol{\xi}} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\xi}} - \text{Grad } \boldsymbol{\xi} : \mathbb{A} : \text{Grad } \boldsymbol{\xi}, \end{aligned} \tag{38}$$

where  $\mathbb{A} := \partial^2 A / \partial \mathbf{F} \partial \mathbf{F}$  is the fourth-order tensor of tangent moduli. The action functional  $S[\varphi]$  in (4) is strictly convex if  $\Lambda(\mathbf{X}, t) > 0$  for all  $(\mathbf{X}, t) \in \Omega \times I$ , and strictly concave if  $\Lambda(\mathbf{X}, t) < 0$  for all  $(\mathbf{X}, t) \in \Omega \times I$ , respectively; otherwise this test is indeterminate. For the strictly convex and strictly concave cases, the arguments advanced in [19] for the convergence of the Schwarz alternating method apply directly here. In other words, the Schwarz alternating method converges provided that the problem defined by  $S[\varphi]$  is well-posed, i.e., it has a solution and that solution is unique. Next, we examine the conditions that are required for the strictly convex and strictly concave cases.

The first term in  $\Lambda(\mathbf{X}, t)$  is  $\rho_0 \dot{\boldsymbol{\xi}} \cdot \dot{\boldsymbol{\xi}}$ . This is guaranteed to be always greater or equal to zero for all  $(\mathbf{X}, t) \in \Omega \times I$ , since the mass density  $\rho_0 > 0$ . If it is equal to zero, the action functional is concave and the problem is quasi-static. For this case, and provided the following strong-ellipticity condition holds, the relevant convergence analysis is given in [19].

The second term in  $\Lambda(\mathbf{X}, t)$  is  $\text{Grad } \boldsymbol{\xi} : \mathbb{A} : \text{Grad } \boldsymbol{\xi}$ . This admits an interpretation as the *strong ellipticity condition* for finite-deformation solid mechanics [26]. The strong ellipticity condition can be expressed as

$$(\mathbf{m} \otimes \mathbf{n}) : \mathbb{A} : (\mathbf{m} \otimes \mathbf{n}) > 0, \quad \forall \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{R}^3. \quad (39)$$

The loss of the strong ellipticity condition is associated with the presence of material instabilities, and plays an important role in the simulation of material failure. The analysis of numerical instability under material failure is beyond the scope of this work, and the reader is referred to works on numerical techniques for material failure [26]. Nevertheless, for localized failure under the control of regularization, the heuristic method discussed below applies.

The indeterminate case, where  $\delta^2 S$  is neither strictly convex or strictly concave, is perhaps the most common. Without additional information, however, nothing concrete can be said about the nature of the action functional, until the introduction of discretizations for both space and time. We address this in a heuristic fashion below.

For concreteness and to fix ideas, let us introduce a standard finite element discretization into the action functional (4), thereby obtaining a discrete variational statement corresponding to (7). Let us introduce also a standard time integrator such as Newmark, and then linearize to use a Newton-type scheme to solve the attendant nonlinear system of equations. This is lengthy, but straightforward, and the end result for the discretized version of (38) is

$$\delta^2 S[\varphi_h] := \mathbf{x}^T \left[ \frac{\gamma^2}{(\beta \Delta t)^2} \mathbf{M} + \mathbf{K} \right] \mathbf{x}, \quad (40)$$

where  $\mathbf{M}$  is the mass matrix,  $\mathbf{K}$  is the stiffness matrix,  $\Delta t$  is the time step, and  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  are the parameters for the Newmark method, usually set to  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  [18]. For well-defined problems,  $\mathbf{M}$  is always symmetric and positive definite, while  $\mathbf{K}$  may also be assumed to be symmetric and positive definite. In that case, it becomes clear that for non-trivial solutions, (40) can always be made positive by choosing an appropriately small time step  $\Delta t$ . The size of that time step depends on the properties of both the mass and stiffness matrices. In our simulations, the size of the time step was dictated by other considerations, such as stability for explicit time integration, or the need to have a sufficiently small time step to be able to solve the attendant nonlinear system associated with large-deformation plasticity.

In conclusion, the second variation of the dynamical problem represented by the action functional (4) can be rendered positive by choosing a sufficiently small time step once it is discretized both in space and time. This in turn allows the use of the analysis presented by Lions for nonlinear monotone problems [19]. We show the application of the Schwarz method to dynamic problems in the following sections, where the size of time step was dictated in every instance by other considerations rather than the criterion discussed above, since this appears to be a rather conservative estimate. For instance, for the elastic wave propagation problem of Section 3.3, this estimate yields a value of  $\Delta t < 10^{-6}$ s to guarantee that (40) will be positive. However, in order to resolve the propagation of the waves, we choose time steps one order the magnitude smaller,  $\Delta t \approx 10^{-7}$ s.

Finally, it is noted that, like for the quasistatic case, convergence of our dynamic Schwarz alternating formulation is requisite on performing the domain decomposition such that the overlap

region(s) is (are) non-empty; for details, the reader is referred to [19]. In general, faster convergence of the Schwarz method is observed for larger overlap regions, as shown numerically in Section 3.

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