

## The Parallel Block Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient Algorithm†

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**Abstract** In this paper we discuss the parallel algorithm of block preconditioned conjugate gradient for obtaining a numerical solution of elliptic partial differential equation boundary value problems on a MIMD computer. In section 2 we give two algorithms: BLICG(1) and its modification BLICG(n). In section 3 we discuss their convergence and point out that algorithm 2 has almost the same convergence rate on any number of processors as on one processor even for an anisotropic problem. In section 4 we give a numerical example

### 1. Introduction

Preconditioning by incomplete decomposition is one of the standard techniques in iterative methods for the solution of large sparse linear system. In combination with conjugate gradient, the so-called ICCG algorithm is one of the efficient methods for solving symmetric positive definite linear systems arising in the numerical solution of elliptic partial differential equation. Recent years ICCG for multiprocessor computers with local memory has been of great interest. We partition the domain into a number of strip subdomains and call the interface between two subdomains an inner boundary. Each processor is related to one subdomain and inner boundary. However, the main problem is that the convergence rate will decrease when the number of processors increases for the same number of mesh points, especially for anisotropic problems. In this paper we are concerned with finding a block preconditioner for a parallel CG algorithm. In section 2 we give an algorithm BLICG(1) and its modification whose basic idea is to increase the completeness of the decomposition on the inner boundary. In section 3 we discuss some problems about the convergence and convergence rate of the algorithm and come to the conclusion that algorithm BLICG(n) is of the same convergence rate on  $N(N > 1)$  processors and on one processor. In section 4 we give a numerical example.

### 2. The parallel block ICCG algorithm.

We consider elliptic partial differential equations with Dirichlet or Neumann boundary con-

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† This work supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China.









Since  $D^{-1} \geq 0, L \leq 0, R \geq 0$ , it can be shown easily that  $(D + L)^{-1}$  exists and  $(D + L)^{-1} \geq 0, D(D + L)^{-1} \geq 0$ , hence  $K^{-1} = (D + L)^{-1}D(D + L)^{-1} \geq 0$ , and  $A = K - R$  is a regular splitting.

Corollary. A natural selection of the index set  $S$  is  $\bar{S} = \{(i, j) \mid A_{i,j} \neq 0\}$ . In (5), (6) the incomplete decomposition  $K$  is undertaken with  $\bar{S}$ , hence (5), (6), is a regular splitting. As for the decomposition (11), (12) it would be complete if all inverse matrices were exact i.e. if  $\bar{\Lambda}_{i,j}^{-1}$  were used instead of  $\pi_{i,j}$  in (12). Because all  $\bar{\Lambda}_{i,j}$  of (6) are diagonally dominant M-matrices,  $\bar{\Lambda}_{i,j}^{-1}$  of (8) are diagonally dominant also, so  $\bar{K}$  of (9) is positive definite and algorithm 1 converges. Similarly  $\tilde{K}$  in algorithm 2 is positive definite also and algorithm 2 converges.

Application to anisotropic problems. Consider the following anisotropic problem

$$\begin{cases} -(\varepsilon u_{xx} + u_{yy}) = f, \varepsilon \ll 1 & (x, y) \in \Omega = (0, 1)^2 \\ u = g & (x, y) \in \partial\Omega \end{cases} \tag{15}$$

with the five-point difference scheme, the main submatrix of  $A$  is

$$d_i = \begin{bmatrix} 2(1 + \varepsilon) & -\varepsilon & & & \\ -\varepsilon & 2(1 + \varepsilon) & -\varepsilon & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & -\varepsilon & 2(1 + \varepsilon) \end{bmatrix}_{n \times n} \tag{16}$$

The entries of  $D_i^{-1} = (\alpha_{i,j})$  decay along each row or column<sup>[4]</sup>, i.e. there exists constant  $C_1$  such that  $\alpha_{i,j} \leq C_1 r^{|\bar{i}-\bar{j}|}$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} r &= (\sqrt{k} - 1)/(\sqrt{k} + 1) \text{ and } k = \lambda_{max}(D_i)/\lambda_{min}(D_i) \\ \lambda_{max}(D_i) &\simeq 2 + 4\varepsilon, \lambda_{min}(D_i) \simeq 2 + \varepsilon(\pi h)^2, h = \frac{1}{n+1} \\ k &= 1 + c_1\varepsilon, r = c_2\varepsilon \\ \alpha_{i,j} &\leq C_1(C_2\varepsilon)^{|\bar{i}-\bar{j}|} = C\varepsilon^{|\bar{i}-\bar{j}|}, C_1, C_2, C \text{ are constants} \\ D_i^{-1} - [D_i^{-1}]^{(p)} &= \begin{cases} 0 & |\bar{i}-\bar{j}| \leq p \\ \alpha_{i,j} = O(\varepsilon^{p+1}) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

$$\text{i.e. } \text{In}(10), \|\bar{\Lambda}_{i,1}^{-1} - \Pi_{i,1}\| = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \sum_{j=1}^n |\alpha_{i,j}| = O(\varepsilon^{p+1})$$

By induction from (8) we can prove that  $\|\bar{\Lambda}_{i,j}^{-1} - \Pi_{i,j}\| = O(\varepsilon^{p+1}), j = 2, \dots, n$ . So in (13), all norms of submatrices  $\tilde{R}_i, \tilde{R}_{i,1}, \tilde{R}_{i,i}, \tilde{r}_i$  are of  $O(\varepsilon^{p+1})$

$$\|\tilde{R}\| = \|K - A\| = O(\varepsilon^{p+1})$$

We have [9, theorem 3.13]

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(\tilde{K}^{-1}\tilde{R}) &\leq \frac{\|\tilde{R}\| \cdot \|A^{-1}\|}{1 + \|\tilde{R}\| \cdot \|A^{-1}\|} = O(\varepsilon^{p+1}) \\ \lambda(\tilde{K}^{-1}A) &= 1 - \lambda(\tilde{K}^{-1}\tilde{R}) = 1 + O(\varepsilon^{p+1}) \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

**Theorem 2.** In algorithm 2 for preconditioner  $\tilde{K}$ , the eigenvalues of  $\tilde{K}^{-1}A$  are of form  $1 + O(\varepsilon^{p+1})$ .

For algorithm 1, from (10) the norms of  $\bar{R}_{i,1}$  only are of  $O(1)$ , hence  $\lambda(\bar{K}^{-1}A) = 1 + O(1)$ . Therefore for anisotropic problem (16) when  $\varepsilon \ll 1$  algorithm 2 is much more efficient than algorithm 1.

When  $N =$  there is no interior interface, from (10) the remaining matrix  $R = \text{diag}\{0, B_{i,1}(\bar{\Lambda}_{i,1}^{-1} - \Pi_{i,1})B_{i,1}^T, 0, \dots, 0\}$ . Hence  $\|\bar{R}\| = O(\varepsilon^{p+1}), \lambda(\bar{K}^{-1}A) = 1 + O(\varepsilon^{p+1})$ . So algorithm 2 using  $N$  processors has the same convergence rate as on one processor.

4. Numerical results.

We use algorithm 1 and 2 described in section 2 to solve problem(15).

We take the 5 point difference scheme with  $h = 1/64, r = 10^{-10}$ . In table 1, N is the number of processors, m the number of iterations needed for  $|r_m| \leq r, r_m = \frac{1}{7} \max (f - AU^{(m)})$ ; and in (12) we take  $\Pi_{i,j}$  diagonal matrices, i.e.  $p = 0$ . From the table we can find that the smaller the  $\epsilon$  and the bigger the N are, the more efficient the algorithm 2 is. In that case algorithm 2 has almost the same number of iterations as the serial algorithm on one processor.

Algorithm	N	$\epsilon = 10^{-4}$	$10^{-3}$	$10^{-2}$	$10^{-1}$	$10^0$
		m	m	m	m	m
1	1	3	6	13	25	34
	2	15	28	47	46	45
	4	30	46	60	57	50
	8	53	77	84	75	55
	16	85	120	133	104	69
2	1	—	—	—	—	—
	2	5	9	18	28	39
	4	5	9	20	32	39
	8	5	8	19	37	45
	16	4	6	15	33	51

TABLE 1

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