

# Fully Algebraic Two-Level Overlapping Schwarz Preconditioners for Elasticity Problems



Alexander Heinlein, Christian Hochmuth, and Axel Klawonn

**Abstract** Different parallel two-level overlapping Schwarz preconditioners with Generalized Dryja–Smith–Widlund (GDSW) and Reduced dimension GDSW (RGDSW) coarse spaces for elasticity problems are considered. GDSW type coarse spaces can be constructed from the fully assembled system matrix, but they additionally need the index set of the interface of the corresponding nonoverlapping domain decomposition and the null space of the elasticity operator, i.e., the rigid body motions. In this paper, fully algebraic variants, which are constructed solely from the uniquely distributed system matrix, are compared to the classical variants which make use of this additional information; the fully algebraic variants use an approximation of the interface and an incomplete algebraic null space. Nevertheless, the parallel performance of the fully algebraic variants is competitive compared to the classical variants for a stationary homogeneous model problem and a dynamic heterogeneous model problem with coefficient jumps in the shear modulus; the largest parallel computations were performed on 4096 MPI (Message Passing Interface) ranks. The parallel implementations are based on the Trilinos package FROSch.

## 1 Introduction

We consider the solution of large, parallel distributed stationary and dynamic discretized elasticity problems with a moderate Poisson ratio; i.e., we do not consider the nearly incompressible case. As the solver, we use the Generalized

---

A. Heinlein (✉) · A. Klawonn

Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Cologne, Köln, Germany

Center for Data and Simulation Science, University of Cologne, Köln, Germany

e-mail: [alexander.heinlein@uni-koeln.de](mailto:alexander.heinlein@uni-koeln.de); <http://www.cds.uni-koeln.de>

C. Hochmuth

Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Cologne, Köln, Germany

© Springer Nature Switzerland AG 2021

F. J. Vermolen, C. Vuik (eds.), *Numerical Mathematics and Advanced Applications*

*ENUMATH 2019*, Lecture Notes in Computational Science and Engineering 139,

[https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-55874-1\\_52](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-55874-1_52)

Minimal Residual (GMRES) method preconditioned by two-level overlapping Schwarz preconditioners with Generalized Dryja–Smith–Widlund (GDSW) [2, 3] and Reduced dimension GDSW (RGDSW) [5, 12] coarse spaces. Even though these preconditioners can be constructed from the fully assembled system matrix, a minimum of geometric information is also needed. In particular, the domain decomposition interface and the null space are used for their construction. Here, we focus on the construction of fully algebraic GDSW type coarse spaces if this information is not available. In particular, we consider the case when the system matrix is uniquely distributed, such that the interface cannot be identified.

Therefore, we will describe a method to approximate the nonoverlapping subdomains, resulting in an approximate interface; cf. [10]. Our parallel implementation is based on the FROSch framework [9], which is part of the ShyLU package in Trilinos [13]; see [10, 11] for more details on the implementation. To discuss the performance of the fully algebraic approach, we will compare it to the classical GDSW type coarse spaces using all necessary information.

## 2 Model Problems

The equilibrium equation for an elastic body covering the domain  $\Omega = [0, 1]^3$  under the action of a body force  $f$  in the time interval  $[0, T]$  is

$$\partial_{tt}\mathbf{u} - \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\sigma} = f \quad \text{in } \Omega \times [0, T], \quad (1)$$

with the symmetric Cauchy stress tensor  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  and the displacement  $\mathbf{u}$ . We consider a Saint Venant-Kirchhoff material, a hyperelastic material with the linear material law

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{E}) = \frac{\lambda}{2} (\operatorname{trace} \mathbf{E})^2 + \mu \operatorname{trace} \mathbf{E} \mathbf{I} \quad (2)$$

and the nonlinear strain tensor given by  $\mathbf{E} := \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{I})$ , where  $\mathbf{C}$  is the right Cauchy-Green tensor. Furthermore, we consider the boundary conditions

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u} &= 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega_D &:= \{0\} \times [0, 1]^2, \\ \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{n} &= 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega_N &:= \partial\Omega \setminus \partial\Omega_D, \end{aligned}$$

and the body force  $f = (-20, 0, 0)^T$ , for  $t < 5 \cdot 10^{-3}$ , and  $f = 0$ , afterwards.

In addition to this, we also consider a stationary problem with  $\partial_{tt}\mathbf{u} = 0$ , i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\sigma} &= (0, -100, 0)^T & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \mathbf{u} &= 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega_D &:= \{0\} \times [0, 1]^2, \\ \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{n} &= 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega_N &:= \partial\Omega \setminus \partial\Omega_D. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

We transform the model problems to their respective variational formulations and discretize them using piecewise linear or quadratic finite elements; we denote the corresponding finite element spaces by  $V^h = V^h(\Omega)$ . For the time-dependent problem, the resulting semi-discrete problem is further discretized with the Newmark- $\beta$  method. In particular, we choose the parameters for the fully implicit constant average acceleration method, i.e.,  $\beta = 1/2$  and  $\gamma = 1/4$ .

The fully discrete nonlinear equations are linearized using Newton's method. We solve the equation

$$J(u^{(k)})\delta u^{(k+1)} = R(u^{(k)}), \quad (4)$$

for the update  $\delta u^{(k+1)}$ . Here,  $J(u^{(k)})$  and  $R(u^{(k)})$  are the Jacobian and the nonlinear residual for the solution  $u^{(k)}$ , respectively.

## 2.1 GDSW and RGDSW Preconditioners

We consider the system of linear equations (4) as derived in the previous section. For simplicity, we use the notation  $Ax = b$  in this section.

Let  $\Omega$  be decomposed into nonoverlapping subdomains  $\{\Omega_i\}_{i=1}^N$  with typical diameter  $H$  and corresponding overlapping subdomains  $\{\Omega'_i\}_{i=1}^N$ , resulting from extending the nonoverlapping subdomains by  $k$  layers of elements. We define  $R_i : V^h \rightarrow V_i^h$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$ , as the restriction from the global finite element space  $V^h$  to the local finite element space  $V_i^h := V^h(\Omega'_i)$  and corresponding prolongation operators  $R_i^T$ . In addition to that, we can also define restricted and scaled prolongation operators  $\tilde{R}_i^T$ ; cf., e.g., [1, 4, 7].

Furthermore, let

$$\Gamma := \{x \in (\overline{\Omega}_i \cap \overline{\Omega}_j) \setminus \partial\Omega_D : i \neq j, 1 \leq i, j \leq N\}$$

be the interface of the nonoverlapping domain decomposition.

The GDSW preconditioner, which was introduced by Dohrmann, Klawonn, and Widlund in [2, 3], is a two-level additive overlapping Schwarz preconditioner with energy minimizing coarse space and exact solvers. Thus, the preconditioner can be written in the form

$$M_{\text{GDSW}}^{-1} = \Phi A_0^{-1} \Phi^T + \sum_{i=1}^N R_i^T A_i^{-1} R_i, \quad (5)$$

where  $A_i = R_i A R_i^T$ . In the second level, we solve the coarse problem matrix  $A_0 = \Phi^T A \Phi$ . The columns of  $\Phi$  are the basis functions of the coarse space. To construct the GDSW coarse basis functions, let  $R_{\Gamma_j}$  be the restriction from  $\Gamma$

onto the interface component  $\Gamma_j$ . For the GDSW coarse space in three dimensions, the interface components are the vertices, edges, and faces. Then, the values of the GDSW basis functions on  $\Gamma$  read

$$\Phi_\Gamma = \left[ R_{\Gamma_1}^T \Phi_{\Gamma_1} \dots R_{\Gamma_M}^T \Phi_{\Gamma_M} \right],$$

where the columns of  $\Phi_{\Gamma_j}$  are the restrictions of the null space of subdomain Neumann matrices to the interface component  $\Gamma_j$ . For elasticity, the null space consists of the rigid body motions, i.e., the translations and rotations. After partitioning the degrees of freedom into interface ( $\Gamma$ ) and interior ( $I$ ) ones, the matrix  $A$  can be written as

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} A_{II} & A_{I\Gamma} \\ A_{\Gamma I} & A_{\Gamma\Gamma} \end{bmatrix}$$

and the GDSW coarse basis functions are the discrete harmonic extensions of  $\Phi_\Gamma$  into the interior,

$$\Phi = \begin{bmatrix} \Phi_I \\ \Phi_\Gamma \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -A_{II}^{-1} A_{I\Gamma} \Phi_\Gamma \\ \Phi_\Gamma \end{bmatrix}. \quad (6)$$

The RGDSW coarse space is constructed similarly. However, in general, we only obtain one basis function for each vertex, resulting in a much smaller dimension of the coarse space; cf. [5] and, for more details on the parallel implementation in FROSch, [7, 12]. The reduction of the coarse space dimension can also be seen in Table 1. There are several variants of RGDSW coarse spaces, which differ in a scaling of the interface degrees of freedom. Here, we will only consider the most algebraic variant, which is denoted as Option 1 in [5]; cf. [7] for a detailed description of our implementation of Option 1 of the RGDSW coarse space.

In our numerical simulations, we will also employ the recycling strategies presented in [7]. We always reuse the symbolic factorizations from previous time

**Table 1** Comparison of coarse matrix sizes for a structured domain decomposition and the approximated subdomain maps for a P1 ( $H/h = 21$ ) and P2 ( $H/h = 9$ ) discretization

	#cores	64	512	4096
GDSW	Rotations	1593	16,149	144,045
	No rotations	837	8589	77,085
	Algebraic P1 disc.	1395	11,355	84,762
	Algebraic P2 disc.	1554	11,466	84,708
RGDSW	Rotations	162	2058	20,250
	No rotations	81	1029	10,125
	Algebraic P1 disc.	93	1065	10,218
	Algebraic P2 disc.	93	1038	10,134

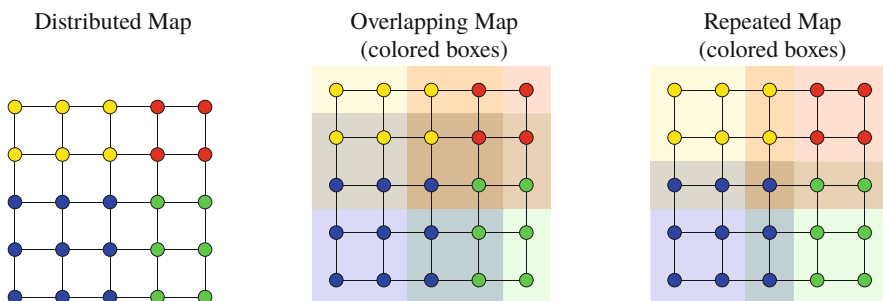
or Newton iterations. Moreover, we reuse the coarse space from previous iterations and, for the dynamic problem, additionally the coarse matrix. Furthermore, as in [7], we always use a scaled first level operator with overlap  $\delta = 1h$ .

### 3 Fully Algebraic Construction of GDSW and RGDSW Coarse Spaces

As previously described, the construction of GDSW and RGDSW coarse spaces for elasticity problems requires both the domain decomposition interface and the null space of the operator, i.e., the rigid body motions. Here, we describe how we construct the coarse space if this information is not available.

**Algebraic Approximation of the Interface** If the distribution of the system matrix is unique, the interface cannot be recovered. Therefore, we will carry out the following process to approximate the nonoverlapping subdomains and hence the interface. Starting from the unique distribution, we first add one layer of elements to each subdomain. The overlap of the resulting domain decomposition now contains the interface but also other finite element nodes. In order to reduce the number of unnecessary nodes, we compare the subdomain ID of the original unique decomposition and the decomposition with one layer of overlap and remove nodes from the overlapping subdomains if the subdomain ID is lower compared to the original decomposition; this process is sketched in [10] and Fig. 1.

**Incomplete Null Space** The rigid body modes are the translations and rotations of the elastic body. The translations are constant functions which can be constructed without any geometric information. Since we are not able to compute the rotations from the fully assembled matrix and without coordinates of the finite element nodes, we just omit them in the fully algebraic coarse space; see also [11]. For the results

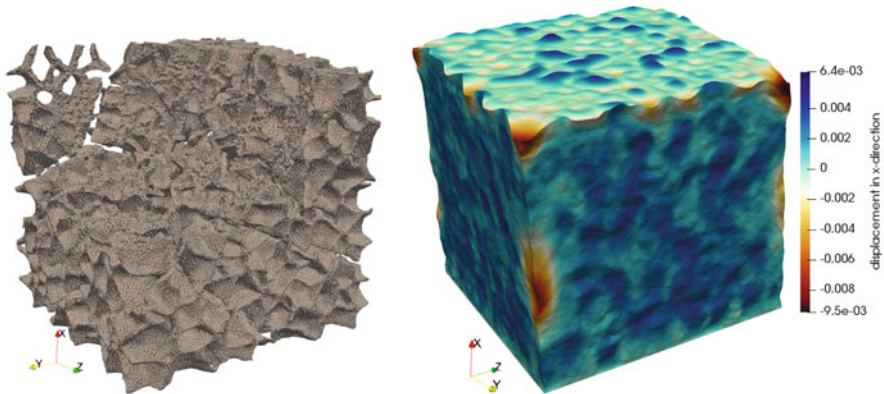


**Fig. 1** Sketch of the approximation of the nonoverlapping subdomains and the interface, respectively: uniquely distributed map (left); extension of the uniquely distributed map by one layer of elements resulting in an overlapping map, where the overlap contains the interface (middle); by selection, using the lower subdomain ID, the a map approximating to the nonoverlapping subdomains is constructed (right). Taken from [10]

in Sect. 4, only the number of iterations is negatively affected by omitting rotations from the coarse space but the time to solution actually benefits from the smaller coarse space. Note that, from theory, the rotational basis functions are necessary for numerical scalability. Therefore, we expect that there are problems for which the full coarse space performs better.

## 4 Numerical Results

In this section, we compare the GDSW and RDSW preconditioners with exact interface maps and full coarse space, GDSW and RGDSW preconditioners with exact interface map but without rotational basis functions, and the fully algebraic variant with approximated interface and without rotational basis functions; for the sake of brevity, we denote the three variants as “rotations”, “no rotations”, and “algebraic”, respectively. As discussed in Sect. 2, we consider a stationary elasticity problem with homogeneous shear modulus of  $\mu = 5 \cdot 10^3$  and a dynamic elasticity problem with two material phases; cf. Fig. 2 (left) for a graphical representation of the coefficient distribution of the shear modulus. For both cases, we choose  $\nu = 0.4$ . For the stationary homogeneous model problem, we use structured grids and structured decompositions into square subdomains, whereas for the dynamic problem, we use a fixed unstructured tetrahedral mesh with roughly 3.3 million elements and 588 k nodes. We use the inexact Newton method of Eisenstat and Walker [6] with a type 2 forcing term until a relative residual of  $\epsilon_{nl} = 10^{-8}$  is achieved. The initial forcing term is  $\eta_{init} = 10^{-3}$  and the maximum and minimum forcing terms are  $\eta_{max} = 10^{-2}$  and  $\eta_{min} = 10^{-8}$ , respectively. Therefore, we use a



**Fig. 2** Left: Slice through elements with high coefficient ( $\mu_{high} = 10^3$ ) displayed as a wireframe. Low coefficient is  $\mu_{low} = 1$ ; cf. [8], for a detailed discussion of the foam geometry used for an heterogeneous Poisson problem. Right: Solution of dynamic problem at  $T = 10^{-2}$  for  $\Delta t = 10^{-3}$  with a warp filter and a 5 times scaling factor

combination of the Trilinos packages Thyra and NOX. Furthermore, NOX is used for a backtracking globalization strategy. In particular, the step length is chosen as  $0.5^l$  with  $l = 0, 1, \dots$  until the Armijo condition is satisfied. All linearized problems are solved with right-preconditioned GMRES with the corresponding GDSW and RGDSW preconditioners and the tolerance for the relative residual error is the forcing term  $\eta$ . All computations were carried out on the supercomputer magnitUDE of the University Duisburg-Essen, Germany.

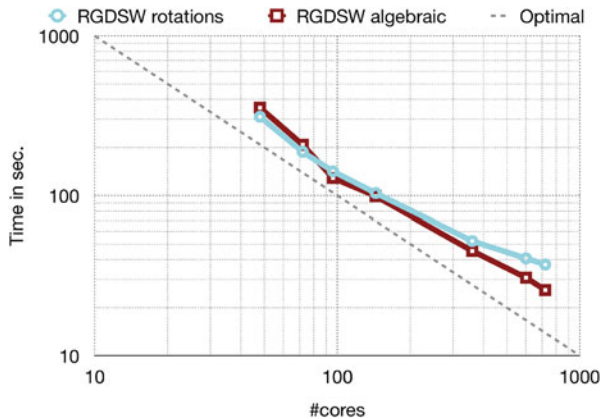
In Tables 2 and 3, weak scaling results for the stationary model problem with piecewise linear and piecewise quadratic elements are depicted. Although, iteration counts are slightly higher for the RGDSW coarse spaces compared to the respective

**Table 2** Stationary problem, discretization P1 ( $H/h = 21$ ), iteration counts are averages over all Newton iterations. All problems were solved in 4 Newton iterations. The three timings are for the setup/solve/total time and are in seconds. All total times are highlighted

Prec.	Type	#cores	64	512	4096
GDSW	Rot.	#its.	17.8	19.0	19.0
		time	35.1 / 7.4 / <b>42.5</b>	45.3 / 9.7 / <b>55.0</b>	167.1 / 26.1 / <b>183.2</b>
	No rot.	#its.	27.3	32.0	35.5
		time	29.3 / 10.6 / <b>39.9</b>	32.9 / 13.8 / <b>46.7</b>	70.8 / 23.3 / <b>94.1</b>
	Algebraic	#its.	32.8	38.5	39.0
		time	39.5 / 13.4 / <b>52.9</b>	41.6 / 17.2 / <b>58.8</b>	84.3 / 27.3 / <b>111.6</b>
RGDSW	Rot.	#its.	20.5	22.5	22.5
		time	28.8 / 8.2 / <b>37.0</b>	30.9 / 9.5 / <b>40.4</b>	42.0 / 11.7 / <b>53.7</b>
	No rot.	#its.	33.0	37.3	39.5
		time	25.2 / 12.4 / <b>37.6</b>	26.5 / 14.7 / <b>41.2</b>	30.1 / 18.0 / <b>48.1</b>
	Algebraic	#its.	40.0	42.0	43.0
		time	27.2 / 15.5 / <b>42.7</b>	28.7 / 16.8 / <b>45.5</b>	32.9 / 19.6 / <b>52.5</b>

**Table 3** Stationary problem, discretization P2 ( $H/h = 9$ ), iteration counts are averages over all Newton iterations. All problems were solved in 4 Newton iterations. The three timings are for the setup/solve/total time and are in seconds. All total times are highlighted

Prec.	Type	#cores	64	512	4096
GDSW	Rot.	#its.	16.3	17.3	19.3
		time	40.1 / 5.9 / <b>46.0</b>	55.0 / 8.5 / <b>63.5</b>	223.3 / 24.4 / <b>247.7</b>
	No rot.	#its.	24.5	29.3	32.3
		time	32.5 / 8.4 / <b>40.9</b>	38.4 / 11.8 / <b>46.7</b>	102.2 / 20.0 / <b>122.2</b>
	Algebraic	#its.	57.5	74.8	78.0
		time	42.0 / 20.5 / <b>62.5</b>	46.0 / 29.9 / <b>75.9</b>	124.8 / 50.5 / <b>175.3</b>
RGDSW	Rot.	#its.	18.8	21.3	19.8
		time	27.8 / 6.4 / <b>34.2</b>	31.1 / 8.0 / <b>39.1</b>	41.3 / 8.9 / <b>50.2</b>
	No rot.	#its.	29.0	32.8	35.5
		time	26.2 / 9.4 / <b>35.6</b>	27.3 / 11.8 / <b>39.1</b>	31.1 / 14.3 / <b>45.4</b>
	algebraic	#its.	60.7	78.5	83.0
		time	27.9 / 19.9 / <b>47.8</b>	28.7 / 27.9 / <b>56.6</b>	34.1 / 33.1 / <b>67.2</b>



**Fig. 3** Strong scaling for dynamic problem up to time  $T = 2 \cdot 10^{-2}$  for the foam geometry

GDSW coarse spaces, the total computation time is much smaller for RGDSW due to the lower dimension of the coarse problem. This effect is even stronger for larger numbers of subdomains and cores; cf. Table 1. Furthermore, we observe competitive iteration counts and computing times when using the fully algebraic coarse spaces. In addition to that, the approximation strategy for the interface seems to perform better for piecewise linear than for piecewise quadratic elements.

In Fig. 3, we present strong scaling results from 48 to 720 cores for the dynamic model problem. The reported times are the total times for our preconditioners, i.e., the sum of the times needed for their construction and their applications in GMRES. We solve the problem with  $\Delta t = 10^{-3}$  up to a final time  $T = 2 \cdot 10^{-2}$  using the RGDSW rotations coarse space and using the RGDSW algebraic coarse space both with matrix recycling; cf. [7]. Here, we observe very good strong scalability results for both variants even though the model problem has coefficient jumps. Again, the fully algebraic variant is competitive.

**Acknowledgments** The authors gratefully acknowledge financial support by the German Science Foundation (DFG), project no. 214421492 and the computing time granted by the Center for Computational Sciences and Simulation (CCSS) of the University of Duisburg-Essen and provided on the supercomputer magnitUDE (DFG grants INST 20876/209-1 FUGG, INST 20876/243-1 FUGG) at the Zentrum für Informations- und Mediendienste (ZIM). We further thank Jascha Knepper for providing the foam geometry.

## References

1. X.-C. Cai and M. Sarkis. A restricted additive Schwarz preconditioner for general sparse linear systems. *SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing*, 21:239–247, 1999.
2. C. R. Dohrmann, A. Klawonn, and O. B. Widlund. Domain decomposition for less regular subdomains: overlapping Schwarz in two dimensions. *SIAM J. Numer. Anal.*, 46(4):2153–2168, 2008.



3. C. R. Dohrmann, A. Klawonn, and O. B. Widlund. A family of energy minimizing coarse spaces for overlapping Schwarz preconditioners. In *Domain decomposition methods in science and engineering XVII*, volume 60 of *Lect. Notes Comput. Sci. Eng.*, pages 247–254. Springer, Berlin, 2008.
4. C. R. Dohrmann and O. B. Widlund. Hybrid domain decomposition algorithms for compressible and almost incompressible elasticity. *Internat. J. Numer. Meth. Engng*, 82(2):157–183, 2010.
5. C. R. Dohrmann and O. B. Widlund. On the design of small coarse spaces for domain decomposition algorithms. *SIAM J. Sci. Comput.*, 39(4):A1466–A1488, 2017.
6. S. C. Eisenstat and H. F. Walker. Choosing the forcing terms in an inexact Newton method. volume 17, pages 16–32. 1996. Special issue on iterative methods in numerical linear algebra (Breckenridge, CO, 1994).
7. A. Heinlein, C. Hochmuth, and A. Klawonn. Reduced dimension GDSW coarse spaces for monolithic Schwarz domain decomposition methods for incompressible fluid flow problems. *International Journal for Numerical Methods in Engineering*, 121(6):1101–1119, 2020.
8. A. Heinlein, A. Klawonn, J. Knepper, and O. Rheinbach. Adaptive GDSW coarse spaces for overlapping Schwarz methods in three dimensions. *SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing*, 41(5):A3045–A3072, 2019.
9. A. Heinlein, A. Klawonn, S. Rajamanickam, and O. Rheinbach. FROSch – a parallel implementation of the GDSW domain decomposition preconditioner in Trilinos. In preparation.
10. A. Heinlein, A. Klawonn, S. Rajamanickam, and O. Rheinbach. FROSch: A Fast and Robust Overlapping Schwarz Domain Decomposition Preconditioner Based on Xpetra in Trilinos. Technical report, Universität zu Köln, November 2018.
11. A. Heinlein, A. Klawonn, and O. Rheinbach. A parallel implementation of a two-level overlapping Schwarz method with energy-minimizing coarse space based on Trilinos. *SIAM J. Sci. Comput.*, 38(6):C713–C747, 2016.
12. A. Heinlein, A. Klawonn, O. Rheinbach, and O. B. Widlund. Improving the parallel performance of overlapping Schwarz methods by using a smaller energy minimizing coarse space. *International Conference on Domain Decomposition Methods*, pages 383–392. Springer, 2017.
13. M. A. Heroux, R. A. Bartlett, V. E. Howle, R. J. Hoekstra, J. J. Hu, T. G. Kolda, R. B. Lehoucq, K. R. Long, R. P. Pawlowski, E. T. Phipps, A. G. Salinger, H. K. Thornquist, R. S. Tuminaro, J. M. Willenbring, A. Williams, and K. S. Stanley. An overview of the Trilinos project. *ACM Trans. Math. Softw.*, 31(3):397–423, 2005.