

984. Multicontinuum modeling for heterogeneous porous media processes

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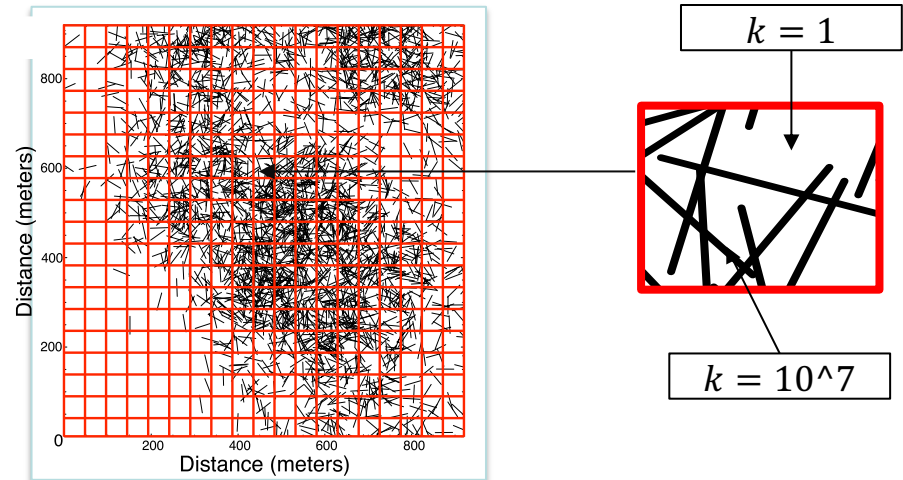
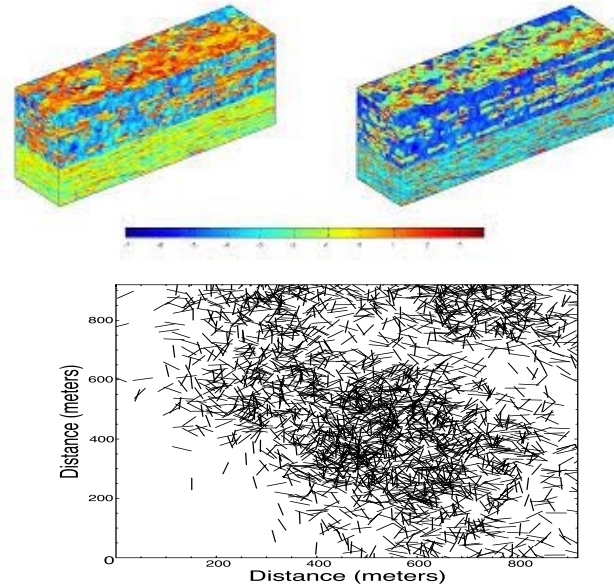
Joint work: M. Al Kobaisi, D. Ammosov, W.T. Leung

Congratulations to Prof. Jun Yao!
Interpore 2026

Multiscale problems

- Scales, complex heterogeneities, high contrast (H vs. contrast), e.g.,

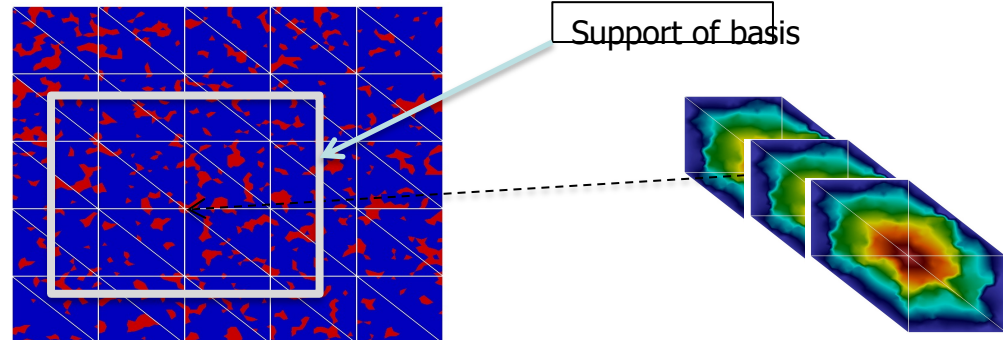
e.g., $-\text{div}(k(x)\nabla u)=f$.



- Fine-grid (grid that resolves fine-scale features) simulations are not practical.
- Coarse grid does not resolve the physical scales
- Coarse grid does not resolve the contrast (w.r.t. to H) 2

Multiscale vs multicontinuum

Consider $\nabla \cdot (\kappa(x)\nabla u) = f(x)$.



Multiscale methods: Seek $u = \sum_i u_i^j \phi_i^j$

ϕ_i^j are basis for macroscopic location j , i is basis number.

Result: Discretization "A u = b"

Goal: To solve the equation on a coarse grid.

Multicontinuum method: Seek $u = \sum_i \phi_i U_i + \phi_i^m \nabla_m U_i$.

ϕ_i are local cell problems for continua i .

Result: Macroscopic PDE $\nabla(\alpha_{ij}\nabla U_j) + \beta_{ij}\nabla U_j + \gamma_{ij}U_j = g_i$

Goal: To derive macroscopic models (PDEs).

Goal of this talk is to derive macroscopic models for two-phase flow and transport

Constraint Energy Minimizing GMsFEM*.GMsFEM identifying multicontinua.

- The idea is to construct a local space that “solution operator doesn’t see”.

For each coarse element K , we define the local spectral problem by

$$a_K(\phi, w) = \lambda s_K(\phi, w)$$

where

$$a_K(\phi, w) = \int_K \kappa \nabla \phi \cdot \nabla w, \quad s_K(\phi, w) = \int_K \tilde{\kappa} \phi w$$

and $\tilde{\kappa} = \kappa \sum |\nabla \chi_j|^2$, where we define $\{\chi_j\}$ as partition of unity functions with respect to the coarse grid.

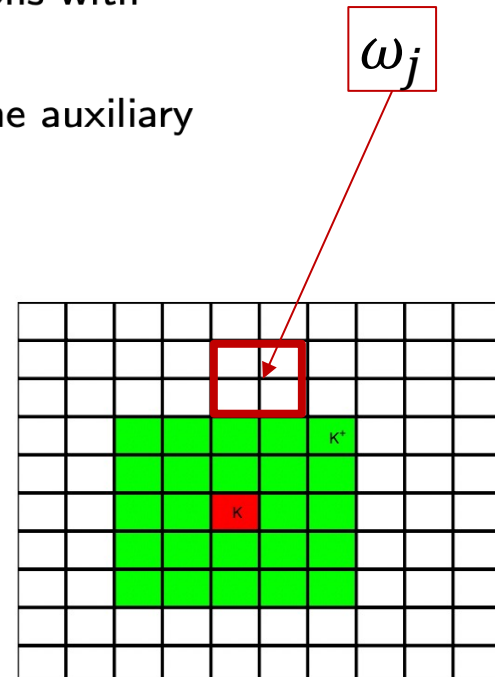
We take the first l_K eigenfunctions with small eigenvalues, we define the auxiliary space as

$$V_{\text{aux}}^{(K)} := \text{span}\{\phi_i^{(K)} : 1 \leq i \leq l_K\} \quad \text{and} \quad V_{\text{aux}} := \bigoplus_K V_{\text{aux}}^{(K)}$$

It identifies number of high contrast channelized networks in a cell.

$$\phi_i^{\omega_j} \chi_j \text{ — GMsFEM basis}$$

- Efendiev, Galvis, Efendiev, MMS 2009, JCP 2010
- Chung, Efendiev, Leung, 2017;



Oversampled constraint problems

We construct the multiscale basis functions. For a given $\phi_i^{(K)}$ and an oversampled region $K^+ \supset K$

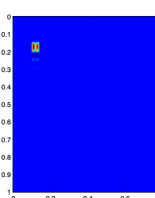
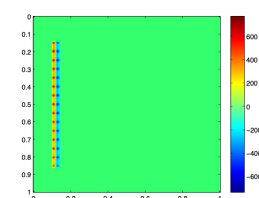
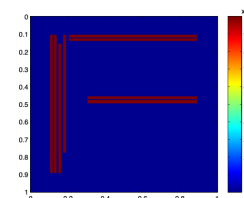
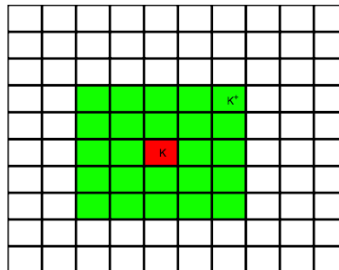
$$\min_{\psi \in H_0^1(K^+)} \int_{K^+} \kappa |\nabla \psi|^2$$

subject to the constraints

$$s_J(\psi, \phi) = 0, \quad \forall \phi \in V_{\text{aux}}^{(J)}, \quad \forall J \subset K^+, \quad J \neq K$$

$$s_K(\psi, \phi_\ell^{(K)}) = \delta_{\ell i}$$

Solving the above, we obtain the multiscale basis functions $\{\psi_{i,\text{ms}}^{(K)}\}$. The multiscale space V_H is the span of all these $\{\psi_{i,\text{ms}}^{(K)}\}$, for all K .



Convergence of CEM-GMsFEM

The scheme: find $u_H \in V_H$ such that

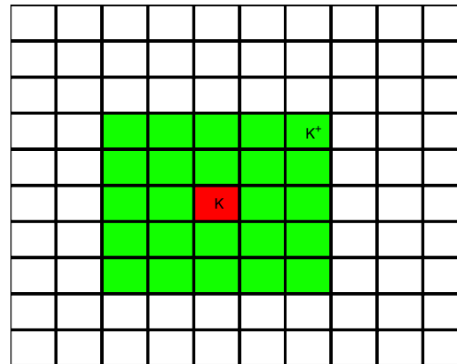
$$a(u_H, v) = (f, v), \quad \forall v \in V_H$$

We prove the convergence bound:

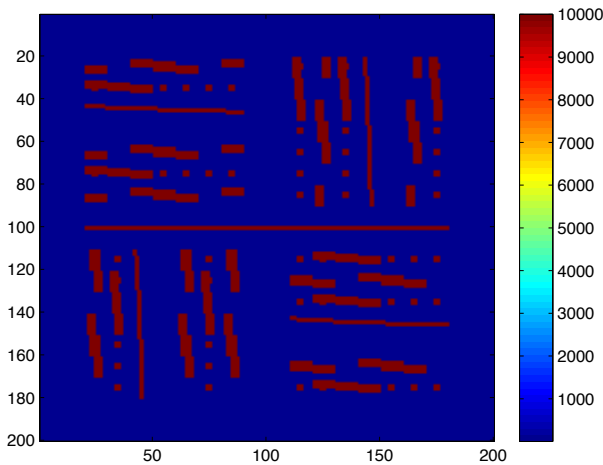
$$\|u - u_H\|_V \lesssim H\Lambda^{-\frac{1}{2}} \|f\|_2 \quad \text{provided} \quad k = O(\log(\kappa_c/H))$$

where k is the number of oversampling layers, and

$$\Lambda = \min_K \lambda_{|K|+1}^{(K)}$$



Numerical results



Layer \ Contrast	1e+4	1e+6	1e+8	1e+10
3	3.73%	3.89%	11.99%	65.19%
4	3.72%	3.72%	3.73%	5.14%
5	3.72%	3.72%	3.73%	3.72%

Number basis per K	H	# oversampling coarse layers	L_2 error	energy error
3	1/10	3	0.33%	3.73%
3	1/20	4 ($\log(1/20)/\log(1/10)*3=3.9031$)	0.047%	1.17%
3	1/40	5 ($\log(1/40)/\log(1/10)*3=4.8062$)	0.010%	0.47%
3	1/80	6 ($\log(1/40)/\log(1/10)*3=5.7093$)	0.0015%	0.15%

Can be used (1) Online methods/solvers (2) temporal splitting...

Multicontinua GMsFEM method.

Motivation.

$$u = \sum_i \phi_i^j u_i^j. \quad \phi_i^j \text{ --basis for coarse location } j$$

$$\phi_i^j = G_i^j \chi^j, \text{ where } G_i^j \text{ are local eigenvectors, and}$$
$$\chi^j \text{ - MsFEM basis functions}$$

$$\chi^j = \phi_0^j + Z_i^j \cdot \nabla \phi_0^j, \text{ where } \phi_0^j \text{ -- standard "hat" basis}$$

$$\phi_i^j = G_i^j \phi^j = G_i^j \phi_0^j + (G_i^j Z_i^j) \cdot \nabla \phi_0^j = N_i \phi_0^j + M_i \cdot \nabla \phi_0^j$$

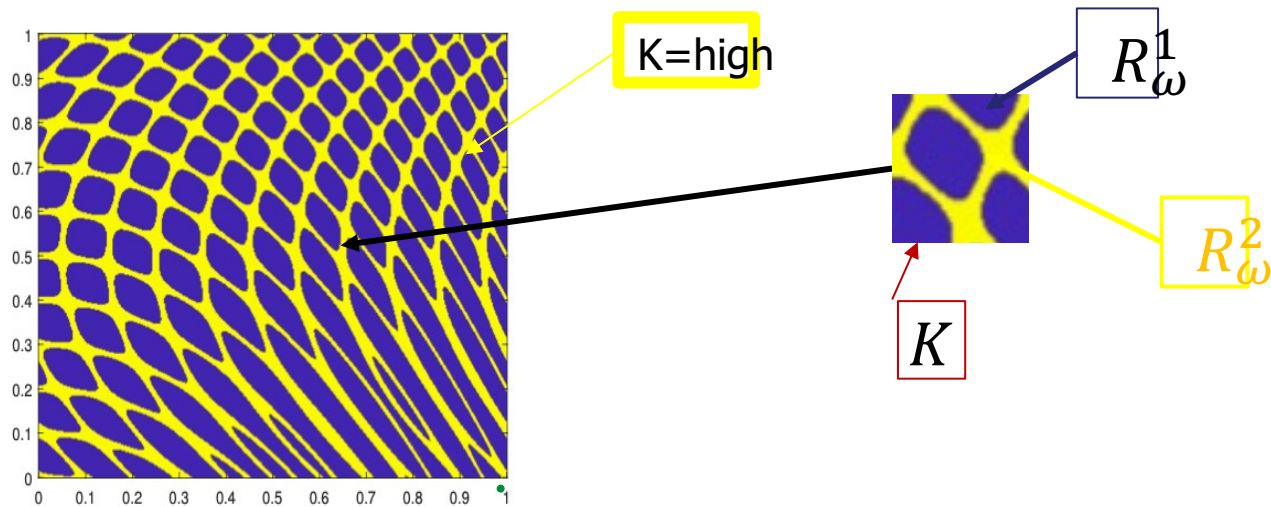
$$G_i^j \approx N_i \text{ (independent of } j)$$

are smoothly varying if properly indexed

Multicontinua GMsFEM method

- Define $\psi_i, \psi_i = 1$ in continua i and 0 otherwise
- Solve the extended-local problems N_i , such that

$$L(N_i) = g_i, \int_K N_i \psi_j = \delta_{ij} \int_K \psi_j$$



Multicontinua GMsFEM method

- Define $\psi_i, \psi_i = 1$ in continua i and 0 otherwise

- Construct multiscale basis functions ϕ_i^j as

$\phi_i^j = N_i \phi_0^j + "M_i \cdot \nabla \phi_0^j"$, where ϕ_0^j solves local problems and M_i vanishes on the boundary of coarse cells

- Then, $u_H =$

$$\sum_{i,j} \phi_i^j u_i^j = \sum_i N_i (\sum_j \phi_0^j u_i^j) + M_i (\sum_j \phi_0^j u_i^j) = \sum_i N_i U_i + M_i \cdot \nabla U_i$$

$$U_i = \sum_j u_i^j \phi_0^j \quad \text{-- smooth function w. r. t. } x$$

Elliptic equation

$$a(u_H, v_H) = \int_{\Omega} \kappa \nabla u_H \cdot \nabla v_H, \quad f(v_H) = \int_{\Omega} f v_H.$$

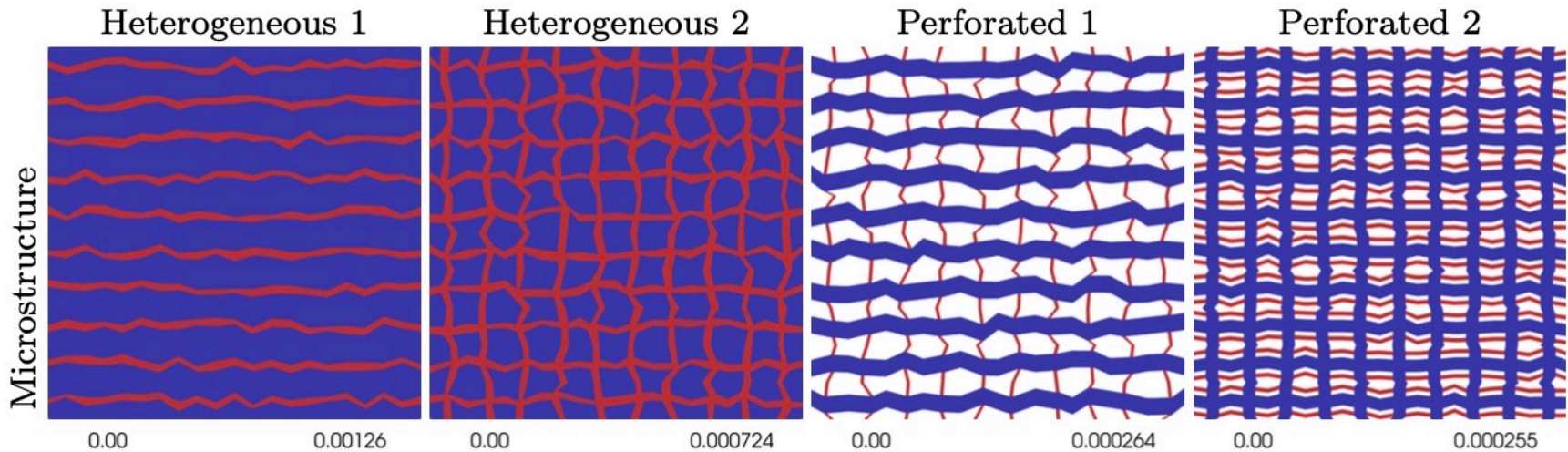
$$u_H = \sum_i N_i U_i + \sum_i M_i \cdot \nabla U_i, \quad v_H = \sum_j N_j V_j + \sum_j M_j \cdot \nabla V_j.$$

$$a(u_H, v_H) = \sum_K \sum_{i,j} \int_K \kappa \left[(\nabla N_i \cdot \nabla N_j) U_i V_j + (\nabla N_i \cdot B_j) U_i \nabla V_j \right. \\ \left. + (B_i \nabla U_i \cdot \nabla N_j) V_j + (B_i \nabla U_i) \cdot (B_j \nabla V_j) \right],$$

$$\int_{\Omega} (\alpha_{ij} U_i V_j + \beta_{ij} U_i \nabla V_j + \gamma_{ij} \nabla U_i V_j + \theta_{ij} \nabla U_i \cdot \nabla V_j) = \int_{\Omega} (F_j V_j + G_j \cdot \nabla V_j).$$

$$\alpha_{ji} U_i - \nabla \cdot (\theta_{ji} \nabla U_i) - \nabla \cdot (\beta_{ji} U_i) + \gamma_{ji} \cdot \nabla U_i = F_j - \nabla \cdot G_j.$$

Numerical result



Microstructure	$e_2^{(1)}$	$e_2^{(2)}$
Heterogeneous 1	7.67 %	6.23 %
Heterogeneous 2	6.11 %	15.24 %
Perforated 1	5.19 %	7.31 %
Perforated 2	3.50 %	2.95 %

Two-phase flow

- Two-phase flow at pore scale

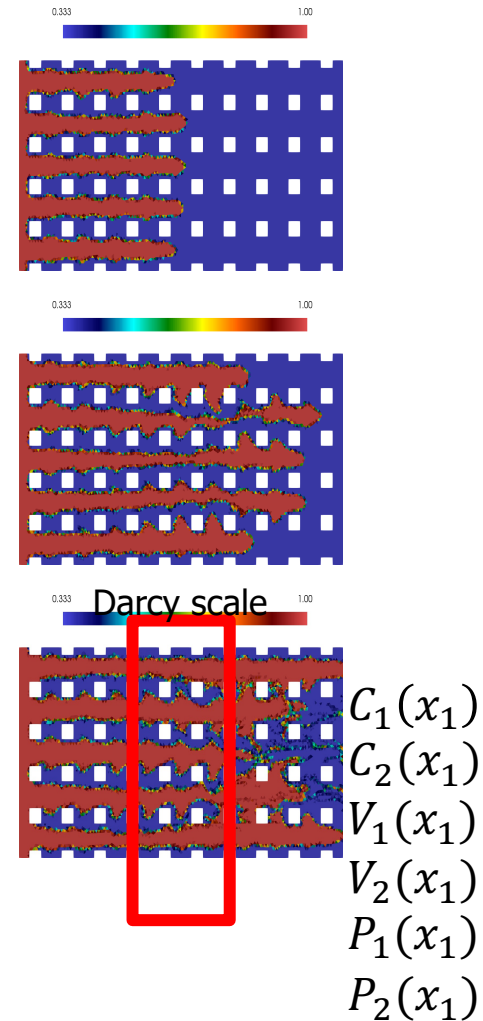
$$-\nabla p + \nabla \cdot (\mu(\phi)\nabla u) = f + \nabla\phi,$$

$$\nabla \cdot u = 0, \phi_t + u \cdot \nabla\phi = \Delta\mu(\phi)$$

$$\phi = 1 \text{ (water)}, \phi = 0 \text{ (oil)}$$

We define the continua based on ϕ , *i. e.*,

$$\psi_1 = 1 - \phi, \psi_2 = \phi.$$



Multicontinuum two-phase flow

One pressure continua and 2 velocity continua

$$\phi_i^j = N_i \phi_0^j + M_i \cdot \nabla \phi_0^j \quad - \textit{velocity basis}$$

$$v(x) = N_i(x)V_i(x) + M_i(x) \cdot \nabla V_i(x),$$

Variational formulation

$$\int_{\Omega_f} 2\mu \varepsilon(v) : \varepsilon(w) dx + \int_{\Gamma_s} \beta v_\tau \cdot w_\tau ds - \int_{\Omega_f} p_0(x) \nabla \cdot w dx = \int_{\Omega_f} f \cdot w dx$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega_f} 2\mu \varepsilon (N_i V_i + M_i \cdot \nabla V_i) : \varepsilon (N_j W_j + M_j \cdot \nabla W_j) dx \\ & + \int_{\Gamma_s} \beta (N_i V_i + M_i \cdot \nabla V_i)_\tau \cdot (N_j W_j + M_j \cdot \nabla W_j)_\tau ds \\ & - \int_{\Omega_f} \nabla p_0(x) (N_j W_j + M_j \cdot \nabla W_j) dx = \int_{\Omega_f} f \cdot (N_j W_j + M_j \cdot \nabla W_j) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Multicontinuum model

Variational macroscopic formulation

$$\int_{\Omega_f} \alpha_{ij} V_i W_j dx + \int_{\Omega_f} \gamma_{ij} \nabla V_i W_j dx + \int_{\Omega_f} \gamma_{ji} V_i \nabla W_j dx + \int_{\Omega_f} \theta_{ij} \nabla V_i \cdot \nabla W_j dx - \int_{\Omega_f} \rho_j \nabla p_0(x) W_j dx = \int_{\Omega_f} \eta_j W_j dx + \int_{\Omega_f} \zeta_j \cdot \nabla W_j dx.$$

Strong-form macroscopic formulation

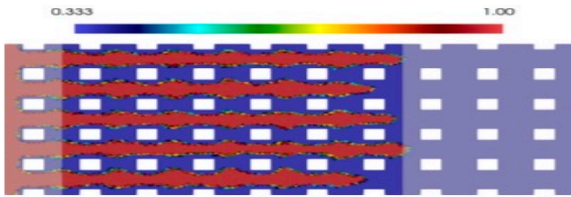
$$\alpha_{ij} V_i - \nabla \cdot (\theta_{ij} \nabla V_i) + \gamma_{ij} \nabla V_i + \gamma_{ji}^T \nabla V_i + \rho_j \nabla p_0 = \eta_j - \nabla \cdot \zeta_j$$

If $v = N_i^v V_i$, then $\alpha_{ij} V_i + \rho_j \nabla p_0 = 0$, $div(\zeta_{ij} V_i) = 0$

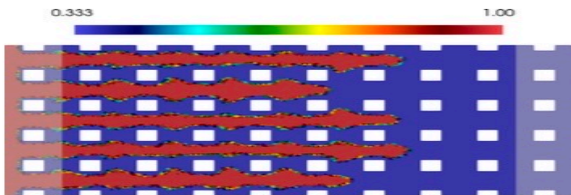
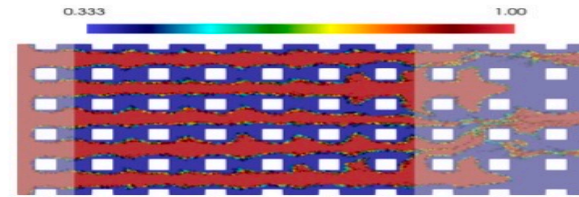
For concentration, we use $c = N_i^c C_i$

$$(C_i)_t + \nabla \cdot (\xi_{ij} C_j) = 0 \rightarrow (C_i)_t + \nabla \cdot (\xi_{ij} V_j) = \dots$$

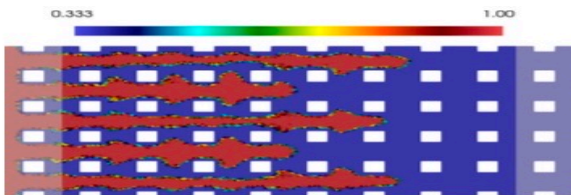
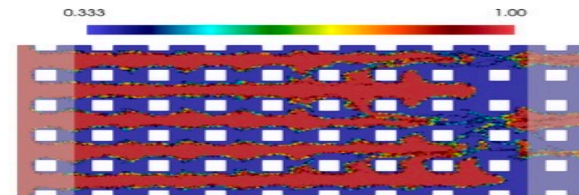
Two-Phase Flow Simulations



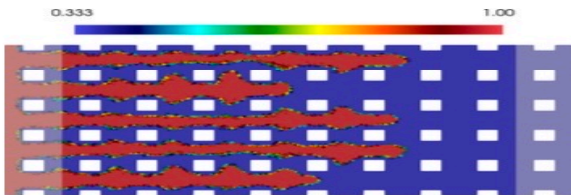
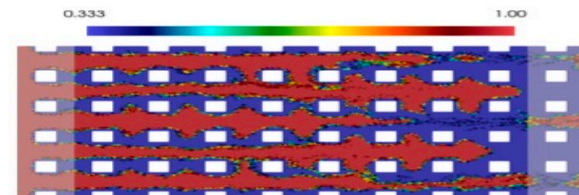
Test A



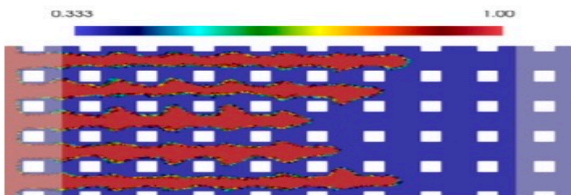
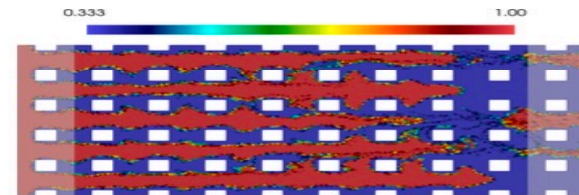
Test B



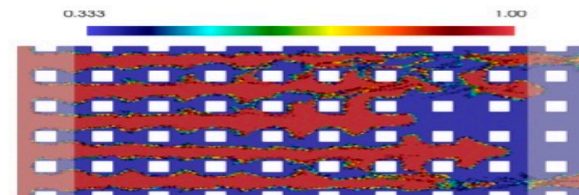
Test C



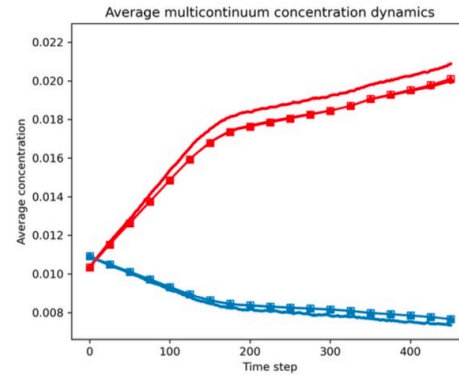
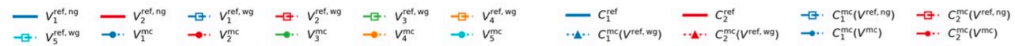
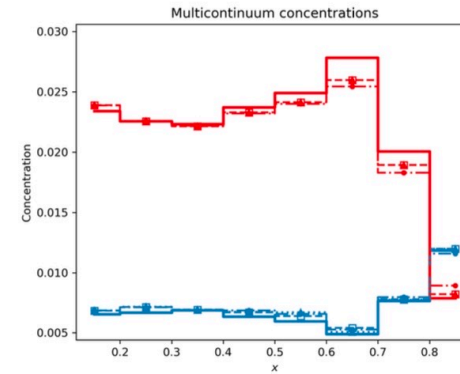
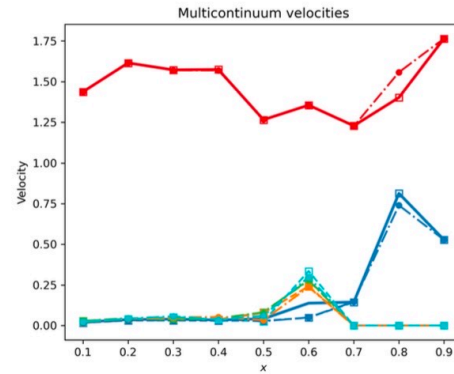
Test D



Test E



Numerical results



Numerical results

Table 5: Relative errors of multicontinuum velocities at the final time for Test B.

Velocity error $e_V^{(i)}$	$e_V^{(1)}$	$e_V^{(2)}$	
$\ V_i^{\text{ref,wg}} - V_i^{\text{ref,ng}}\ _2 / \ V_i^{\text{ref,ng}}\ _2 \times 100\%$	9.10 %	0.00 %	
$\ V_i^{\text{mc}} - V_i^{\text{ref,ng}}\ _2 / \ V_i^{\text{ref,ng}}\ _2 \times 100\%$	11.65 %	3.51 %	
$\ V_i^{\text{mc}} - V_i^{\text{ref,wg}}\ _2 / \ V_i^{\text{ref,wg}}\ _2 \times 100\%$	7.52 %	3.51 %	
Velocity error for ganglia $e_V^{(i)}$	$e_V^{(3)}$	$e_V^{(4)}$	$e_V^{(5)}$
$\ V_i^{\text{mc}} - V_i^{\text{ref,wg}}\ _2 / \ V_i^{\text{ref,wg}}\ _2 \times 100\%$	3.06 %	18.18 %	14.77 %

Table 6: Relative errors of multicontinuum concentrations at the final time for Test B.

Concentration error $e_C^{(i)}$	$e_C^{(1)}$	$e_C^{(2)}$
$\ C_i^{\text{mc}}(V^{\text{ref,ng}}) - C_i^{\text{ref}}\ _2 / \ C_i^{\text{ref}}\ _2 \times 100\%$	4.58 %	3.85 %
$\ C_i^{\text{mc}}(V^{\text{ref,wg}}) - C_i^{\text{ref}}\ _2 / \ C_i^{\text{ref}}\ _2 \times 100\%$	4.99 %	3.85 %
$\ C_i^{\text{mc}}(V^{\text{mc}}) - C_i^{\text{ref}}\ _2 / \ C_i^{\text{ref}}\ _2 \times 100\%$	5.34 %	5.29 %
$\ C_i^{\text{mc}}(V^{\text{ref,wg}}) - C_i^{\text{mc}}(V^{\text{ref,ng}})\ _2 / \ C_i^{\text{mc}}(V^{\text{ref,ng}})\ _2 \times 100\%$	2.07 %	0.00 %
$\ C_i^{\text{mc}}(V^{\text{mc}}) - C_i^{\text{mc}}(V^{\text{ref,ng}})\ _2 / \ C_i^{\text{mc}}(V^{\text{ref,ng}})\ _2 \times 100\%$	2.42 %	1.77 %
$\ C_i^{\text{mc}}(V^{\text{mc}}) - C_i^{\text{mc}}(V^{\text{ref,wg}})\ _2 / \ C_i^{\text{mc}}(V^{\text{ref,wg}})\ _2 \times 100\%$	2.41 %	1.77 %

“Brinkman” or Darcy

Table 17: Relative L^2 errors of multicontinuum velocities obtained with and without gradient terms.

Multicontinuum basis functions	$e_V^{(1)}$	$e_V^{(2)}$	$e_V^{(3)}$	$e_V^{(4)}$
$N_i \phi_0^j + M_i \cdot \nabla \phi_0^j$	8.04 %	2.35 %	16.53 %	3.75 %
$N_i \phi_0^j$	18.92 %	4.32 %	96.13 %	21.62 %

*Accuracy of proposed macroscopic model can be improved
by adding continua

* These results show that new model (Brinkman-type) are more accurate

Conclusions

- MC-GMsFEM provides accurate upscaling and macroscopic modeling for two-phase flow
- Continua for velocity defined based on concentrations can be improved
- Effective for various multicontinuum applications

Thank You !
Congratulations Prof. Jun Yao!