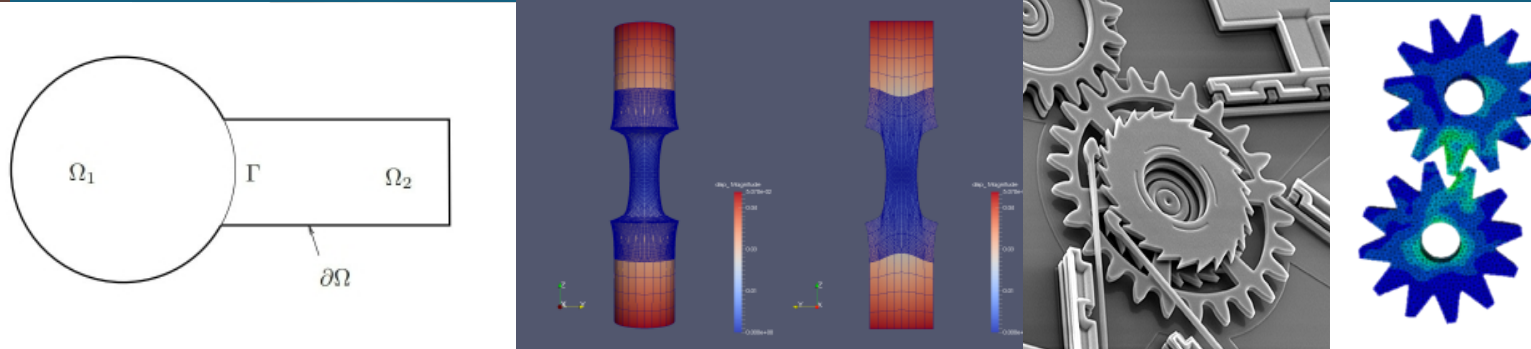




The Schwarz Alternating Method for Multi-Scale Coupling and Contact in Solid Mechanics



Alejandro Mota¹, Irina Tezaur¹, Jonathan Hoy²

¹Sandia National Laboratories, ²University of Southern California

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Motivation

- **Large scale structural failure** frequently originates from **small scale** phenomena (e.g, defects, microcracks, inhomogeneities), which grow quickly in unstable manner
 - **Concurrent multiscale methods** are essential to capture correctly the multiscale behavior!
 - Stable, accurate and robust methods for simulating **mechanical contact** (touching surfaces, sliding, tightened bolts, impact) are equally important!

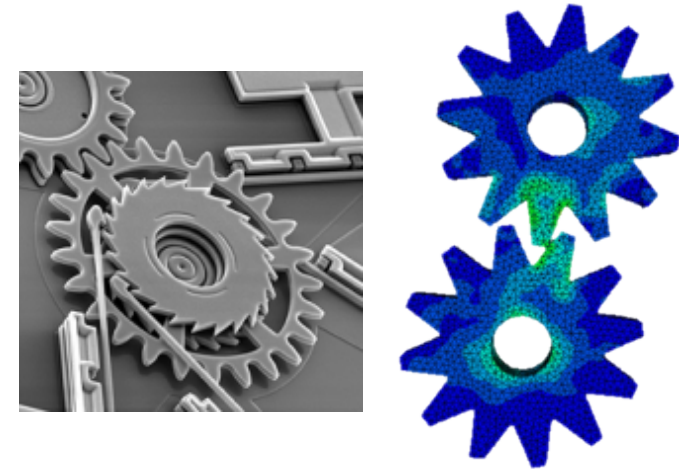


Above: roof failure of Boeing 737 aircraft due to fatigue cracks. From imechanica.org

Two-step process to the computational simulation of contact:

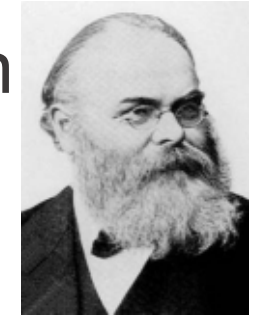
1. **Proximity search:** computer science problem, has received much attention due to importance in video game development 😊
2. **Contact enforcement step:** existing methods (penalty, Lagrange multiplier, augmented Lagrangian) suffer from poor performance 😞
 - Long simulation times 😞
 - Lack of accuracy 😞
 - Lack of robustness 😞

This talk.



Above: gears in contact within MEMS device. From sandia.gov/media

Schwarz Alternating Method for Domain Decomposition



H. Schwarz (1843-1921)

- Proposed in 1870 by H. Schwarz for solving Laplace PDE on irregular domains.

Crux of Method: if the solution is known in regularly shaped domains, use those as pieces to iteratively build a solution for the more complex domain.

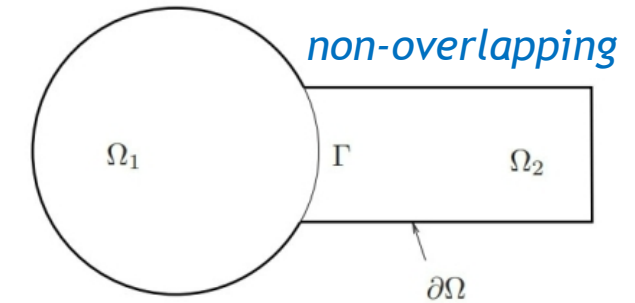
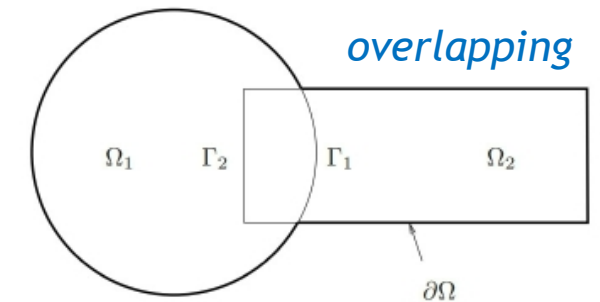
Basic Schwarz Algorithm

Initialize:

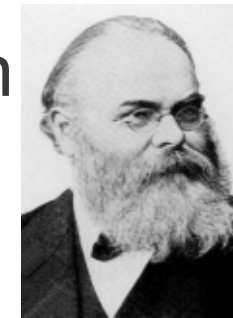
- Solve PDE by any method on Ω_1 w/ initial guess for transmission BCs on Γ_1 .

Iterate until convergence:

- Solve PDE by any method on Ω_2 w/ transmission BCs on Γ_2 based on values just obtained for Ω_1 .
- Solve PDE by any method on Ω_1 w/ transmission BCs on Γ_1 based on values just obtained for Ω_2 .



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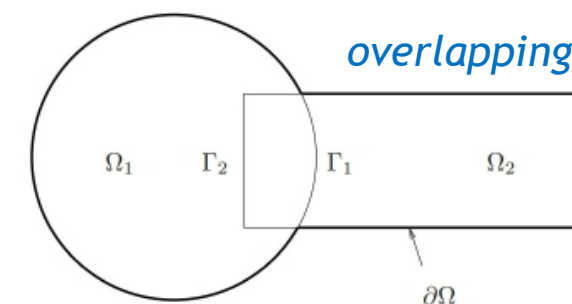
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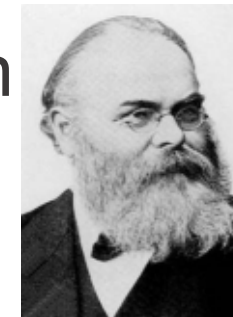
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Overlapping Schwarz: convergent with all-Dirichlet transmission BCs¹ if $\Omega_1 \cap \Omega_2 \neq \emptyset$.

¹Schwarz, 1870; Lions, 1988.

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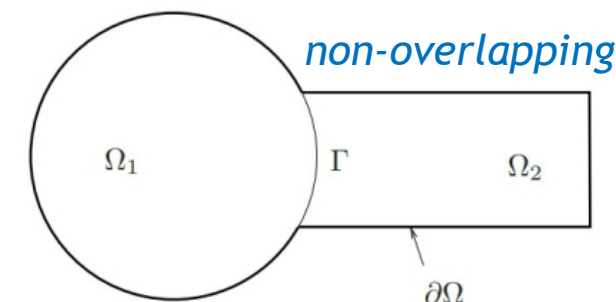
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Overlapping Schwarz: convergent with all-Dirichlet transmission BCs¹ if $\Omega_1 \cap \Omega_2 \neq \emptyset$.

Non-overlapping Schwarz: convergent with Robin-Robin² or alternating Neumann-Dirichlet³ transmission BCs.

¹Schwarz, 1870; Lions, 1988. ²Lions, 1990. ³Zanolli *et al.*, 1987.

How We Use the Schwarz Alternating Method



AS A *PRECONDITIONER*
FOR THE LINEARIZED
SYSTEM

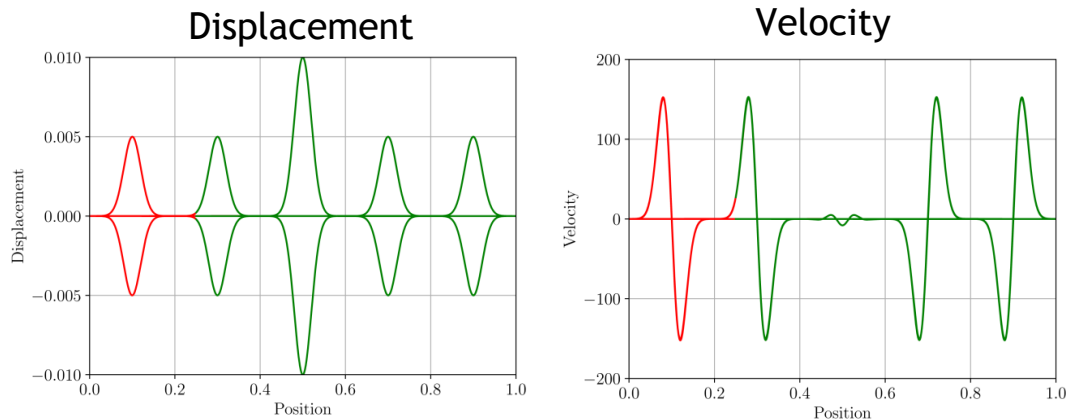


AS A *SOLVER* FOR THE
COUPLED
FULLY NONLINEAR
PROBLEM

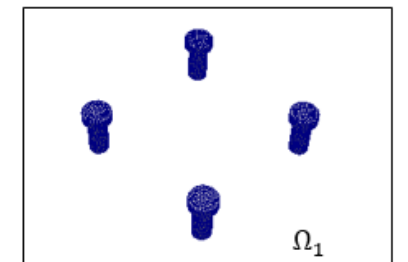
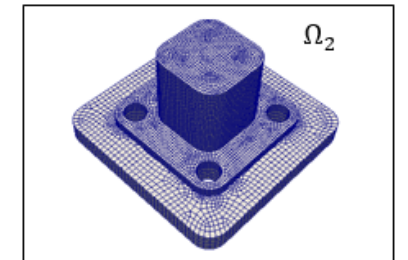
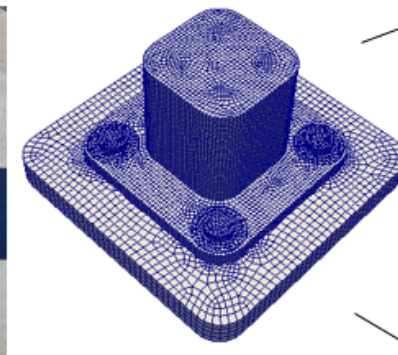
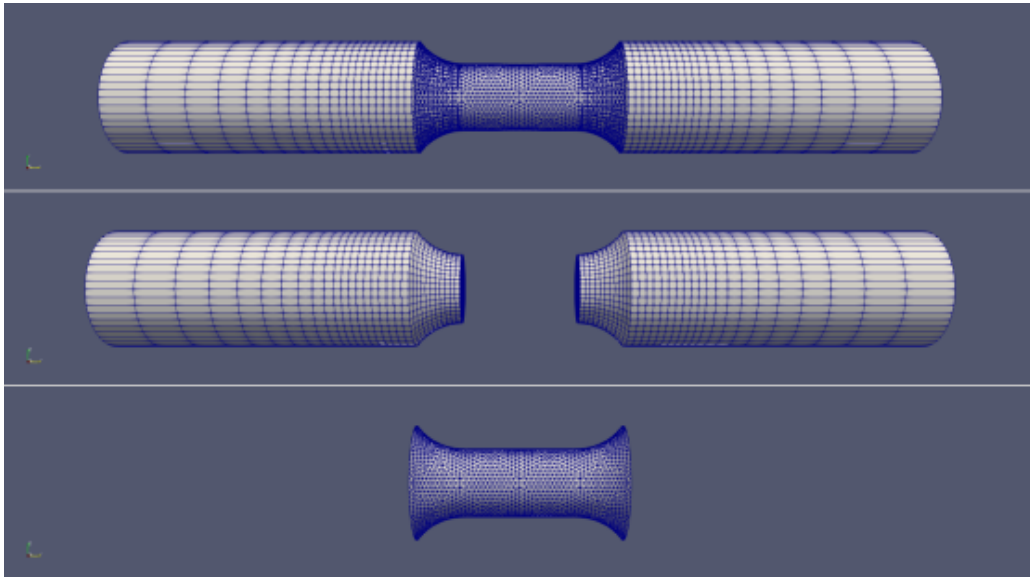
Overlapping Schwarz for Multiscale Coupling in Solid Mechanics



The **Schwarz alternating method** has been developed/implemented for **concurrent multiscale quasistatic & dynamic modeling** in Sandia's *Albany/LCM* and *Sierra/SM* codes.



- Coupling is **concurrent** (two-way)
- **No nonphysical artifacts** and theoretical **convergence properties**¹
- “**Plug-and-play**” framework: couples different meshes, element types, solvers, integrators



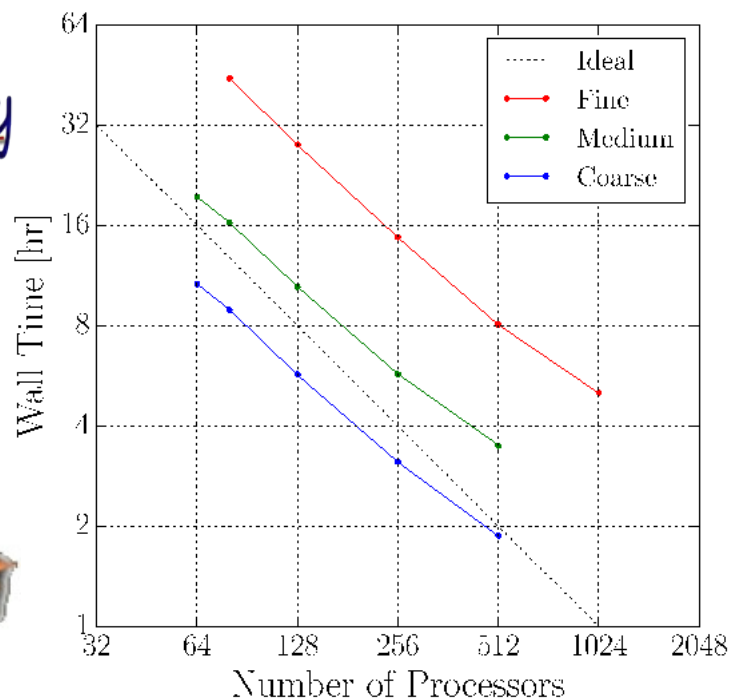
¹Mota *et al.*, 2017; Mota *et al.*, 2021.

Overlapping Schwarz for Multiscale Coupling in Solid Mechanics

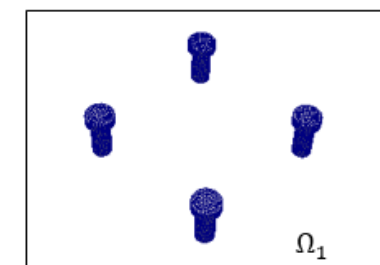
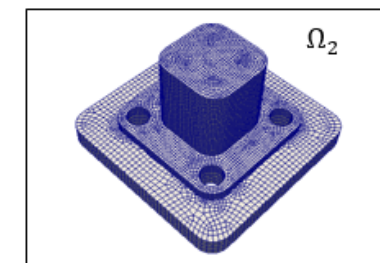
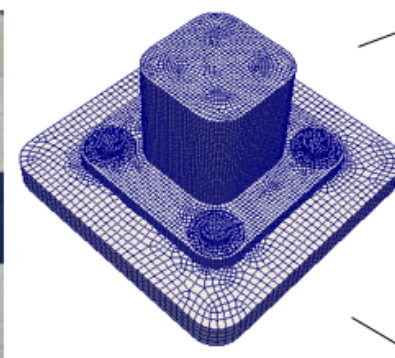


The Schwarz alternating method has been developed/implemented for concurrent multiscale quasistatic & dynamic modeling in Sandia's *Albany*/*LCM* and *Sierra*/*SM* codes.

	CPU times	# Schwarz iters
Single Ω	3h 34m	—
Schwar	2h 42m	3.22



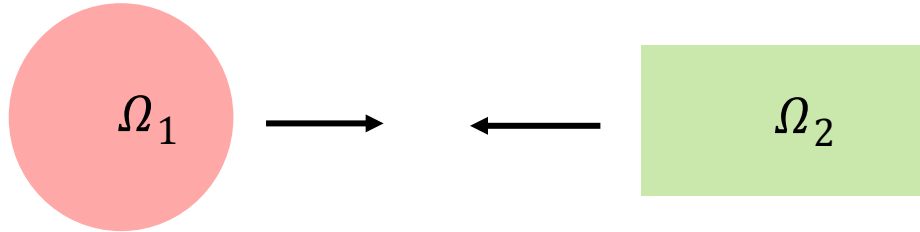
- Coupling is concurrent (two-way)
- No nonphysical artifacts and theoretical convergence properties¹
- “Plug-and-play” framework: couples different meshes, element types, solvers, integrators
- Easy to implement in existing HPC codes, and scalable, fast, robust



¹Mota *et al.*, 2017; Mota *et al.*, 2021.

9 Non-Overlapping Schwarz Formulation for Contact Mechanics

Before contact: simulation proceeds as usual

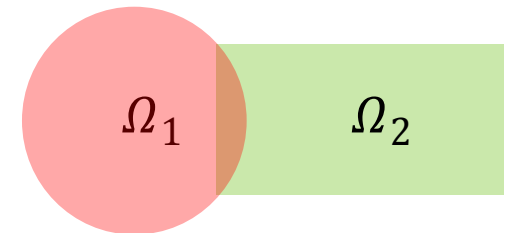


There are no contact constraints!

Contact constraints replaced w/ BCs applied iteratively at contact boundaries.

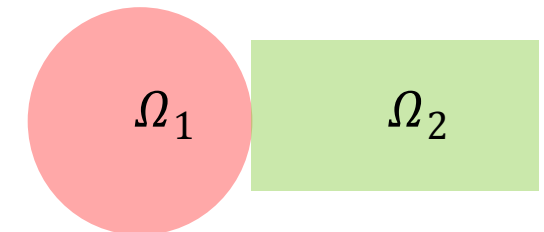
Detection of contact: proximity search and application of contact conditions to determine contact

- **Overlap condition:** triggered when two or more objects/domains have begun to overlap/penetrate each other
- **Push condition:** triggered when both of the following properties hold
 - **Compression:** the tractions at the interface are compressive
 - **Sustainability:** there was contact in the previous controller time step

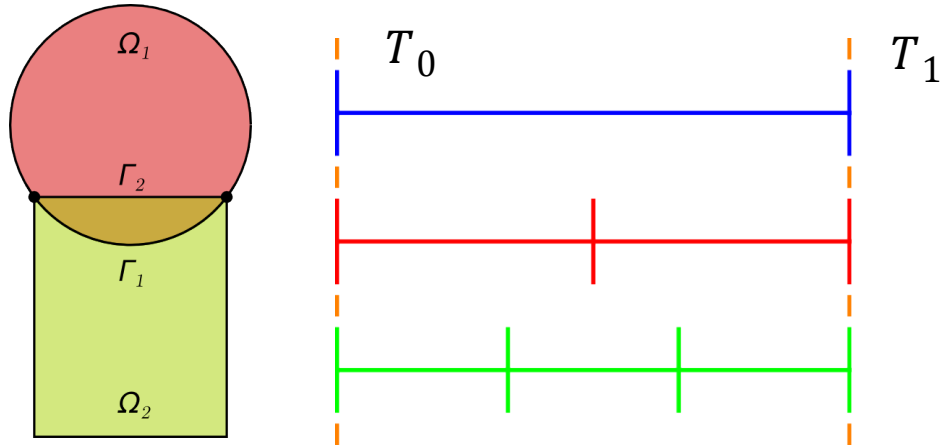


Enforcement of contact: alternating Schwarz iteration with Dirichlet-Neumann transmission BCs

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} M_1 \ddot{u}_1^{n+1} + f_1^{\text{int};n+1} = f_1^{\text{ext};n+1} \\ \varphi_1^{n+1} = \chi, \text{ on } \partial_\varphi \Omega_1 \setminus \Gamma, \\ \varphi_1^{n+1} = \varphi_2^n, \text{ on } \Gamma, \end{array} \right. \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} M_2 \ddot{u}_2^{n+1} + f_2^{\text{int};n+1} = f_2^{\text{ext};n+1} \\ \varphi_2^{n+1} = \chi, \text{ on } \partial_\varphi \Omega_2 \setminus \Gamma, \\ \mathbf{T}_2^{n+1} = \mathbf{T}_1^{n+1}, \text{ on } \Gamma \end{array} \right.$$



Non-Overlapping Schwarz Formulation for Contact Mechanics



Controller time stepper

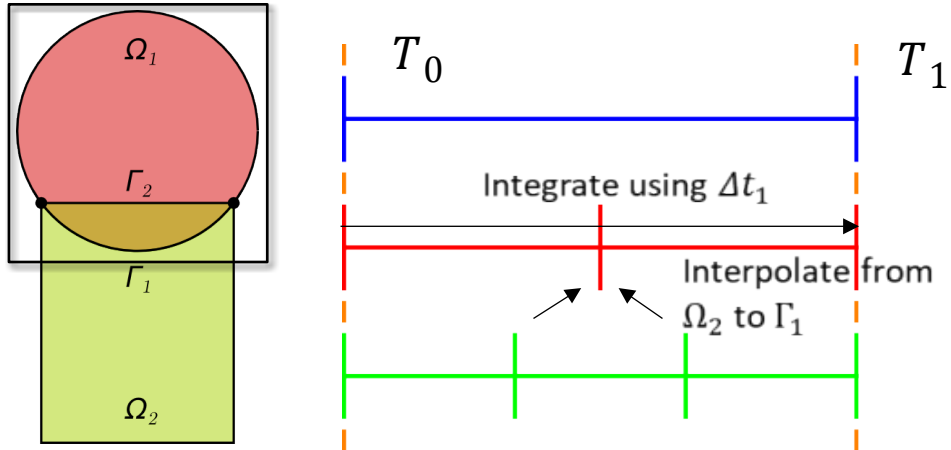
Time integrator for Ω_1

Time integrator for Ω_2

Controller time stepper: defines global ΔT s at which subdomains are synchronized

Step 0: Initialize $i = 0$ (controller time index).

Non-Overlapping Schwarz Formulation for Contact Mechanics



Controller time stepper

Time integrator for Ω_1

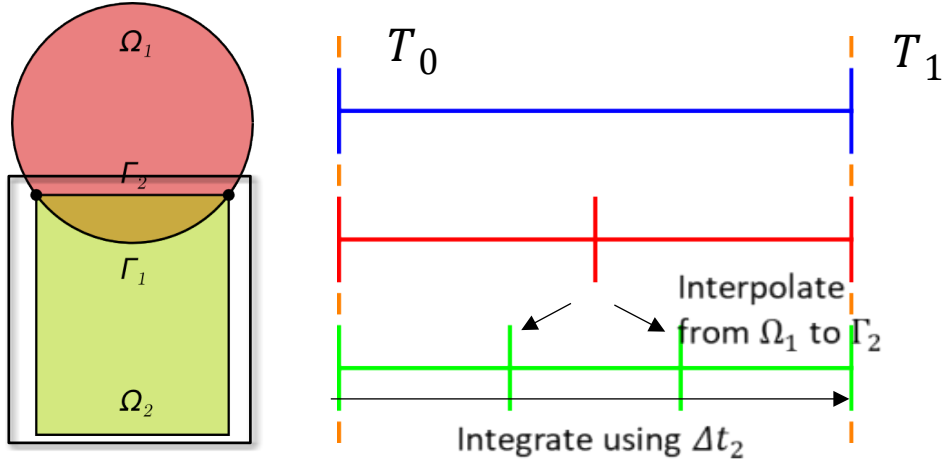
Time integrator for Ω_2

Controller time stepper: defines global ΔT s at which subdomains are synchronized

Step 0: Initialize $i = 0$ (controller time index).

Step 1: Advance Ω_1 solution from time T_i to time T_{i+1} using time-stepper in Ω_1 with time-step Δt_1 , using solution in Ω_2 interpolated to Γ_1 at times $T_i + n\Delta t_1$.

Non-Overlapping Schwarz Formulation for Contact Mechanics



Controller time stepper

Time integrator for Ω_1

Time integrator for Ω_2

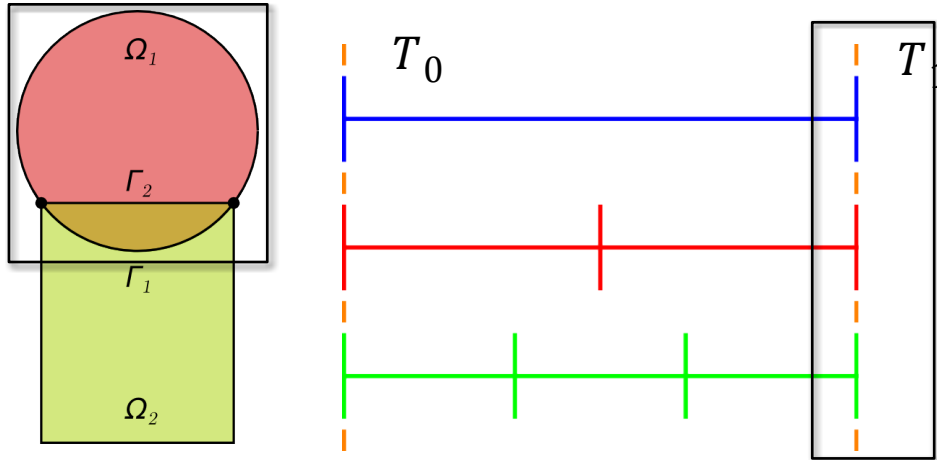
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Non-Overlapping Schwarz Formulation for Contact Mechanics



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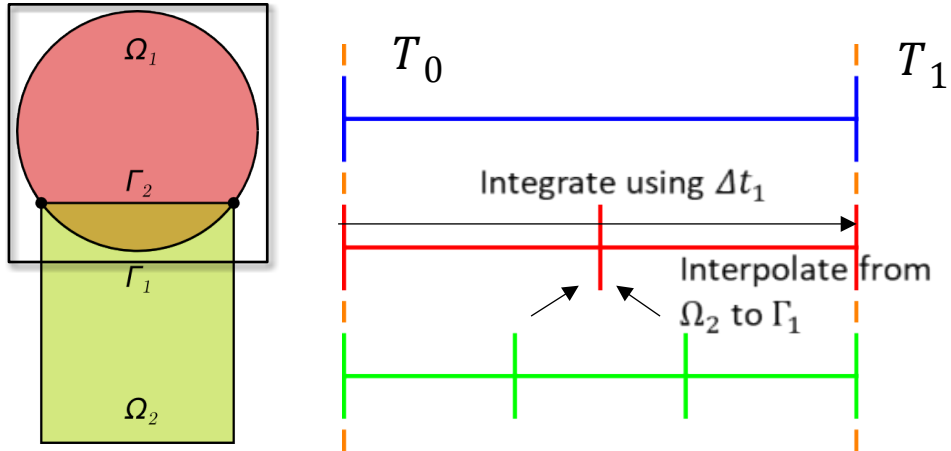
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Step 3: Check for convergence at time T_{i+1} .

Non-Overlapping Schwarz Formulation for Contact Mechanics



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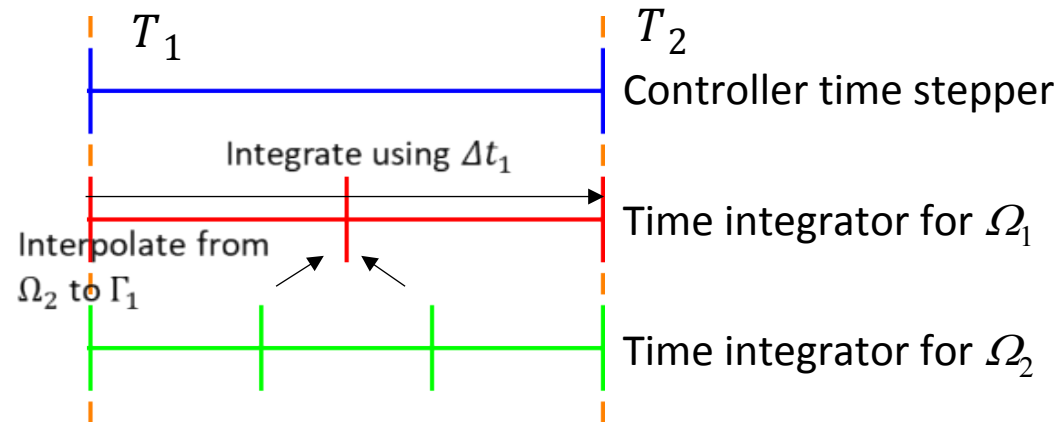
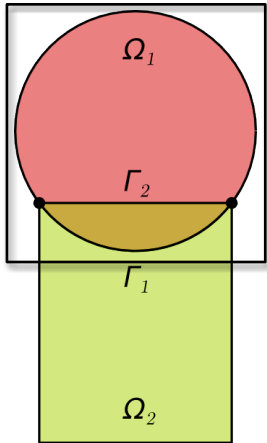
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➤ If unconverged, return to Step 1.

Non-Overlapping Schwarz Formulation for Contact Mechanics



Controller time stepper: defines global ΔT s at which subdomains are synchronized

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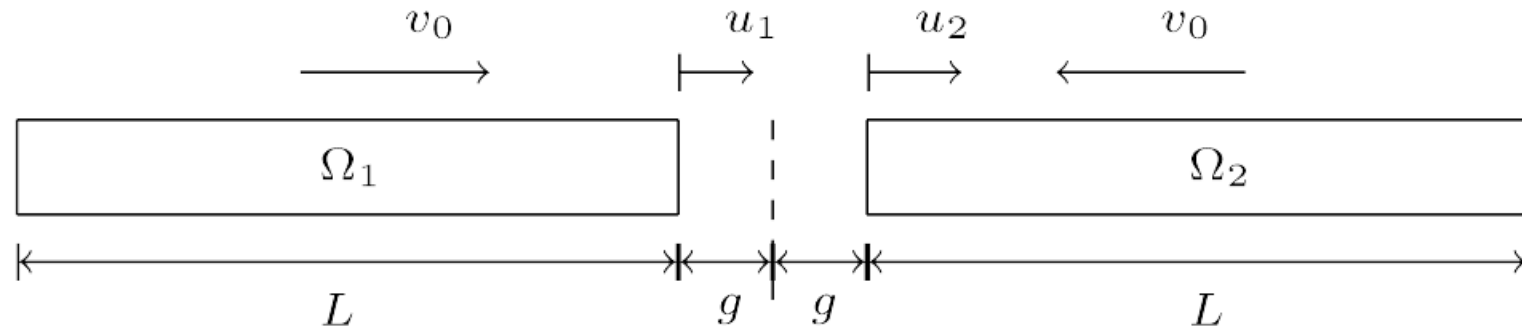
- If unconverged, return to Step 1.
- If converged, set $i = i + 1$ and return to Step 1.

Can use *different integrators* with *different time steps* within each domain!

Numerical Results: 1D Impact Problem¹



- Impact of two **1D identical linear elastic prismatic rods** discretized using $N_x = 200$ linear elements with exact analytic solution [Carpenter *et al.*, 1991]



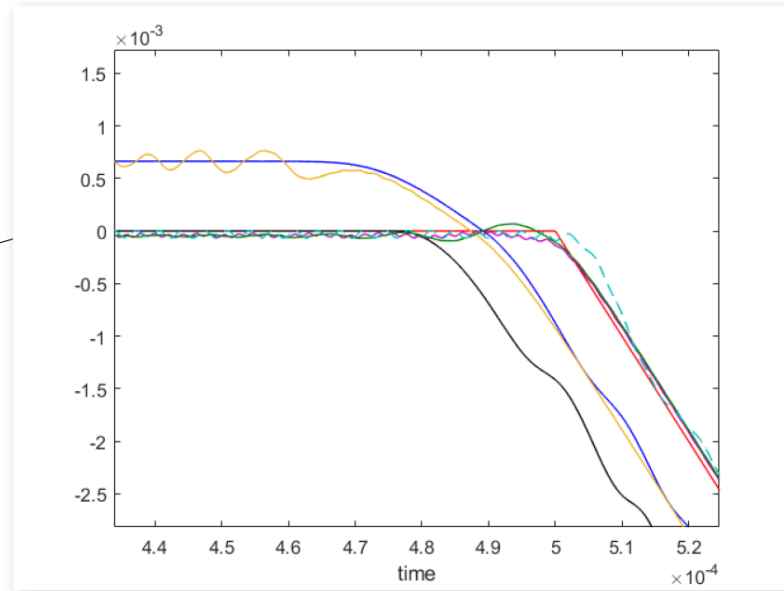
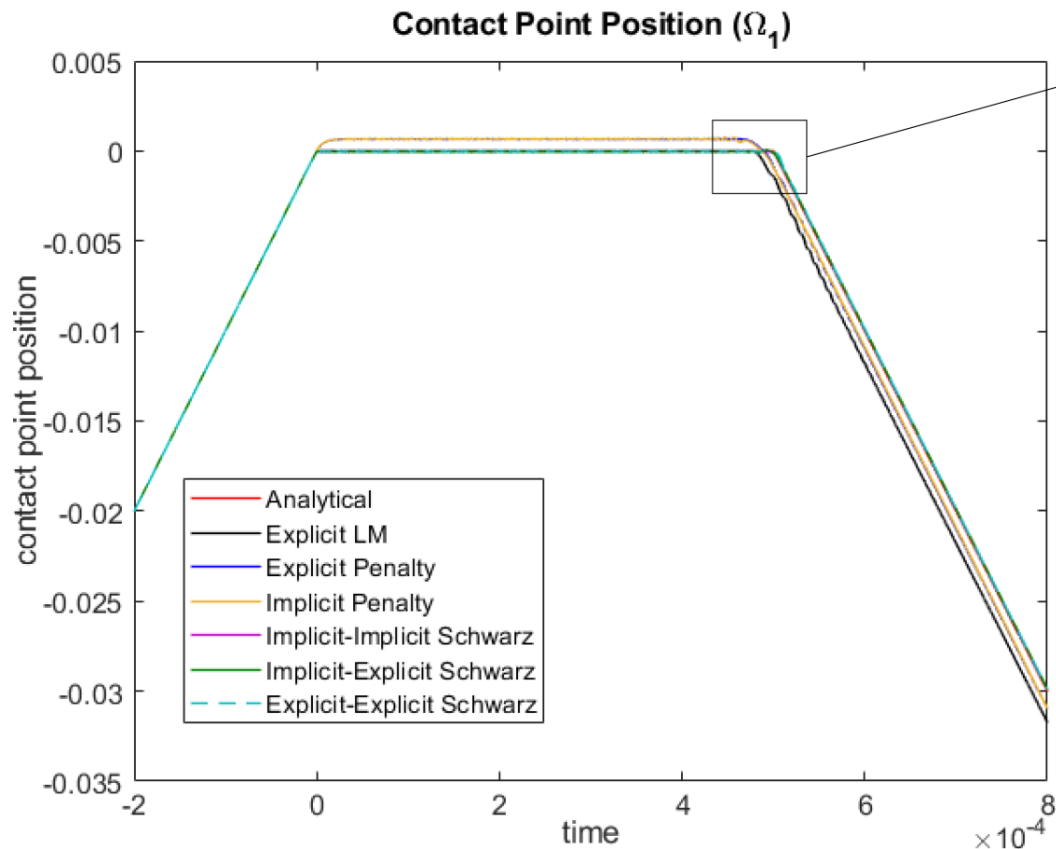
- Schwarz alternating method compared to **two conventional contact algorithms** with a **zero gap** contact constraint
 - Implicit and explicit **penalty method** with penalty parameter $\tau = 7.5 \times 10^4$
 - Forward increment (explicit) **Lagrange multiplier (LM)** method [Carpenter *et al.*, 1991]
- Time stepper:** Newmark-beta
 - Schwarz couplings included Explicit-Explicit, Implicit-Explicit and Implicit-Implicit
 - $\Delta t = 1.0 \times 10^{-7}$ used for all methods except Implicit-Explicit Schwarz, which uses $\Delta t = 1.0 \times 10^{-8}$ in explicit domain.

¹Hoy *et al.*, 2021; Mota *et al.* (in prep), 2021.

Numerical Results: 1D Impact Problem¹



Contact point position: of the right-most node of left bar (Ω_1) as a function of time



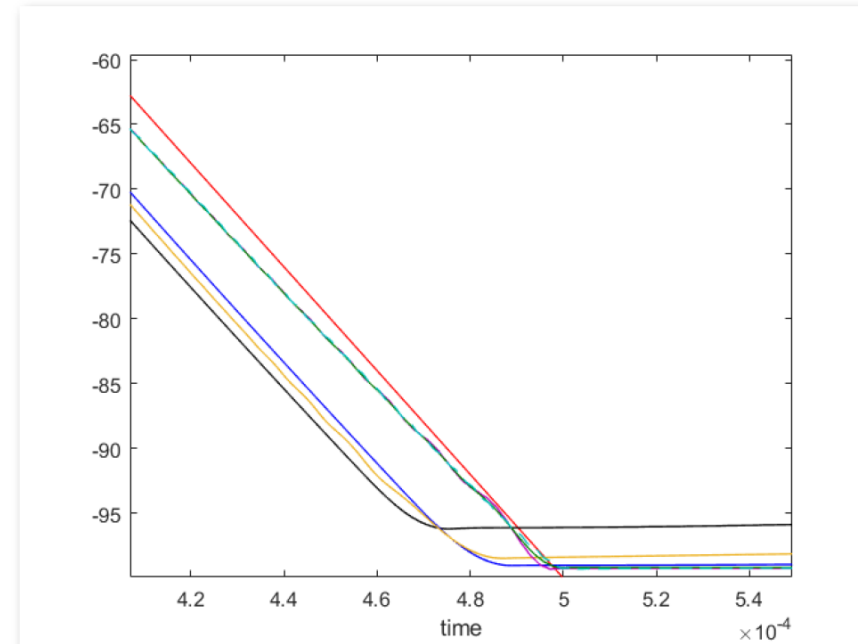
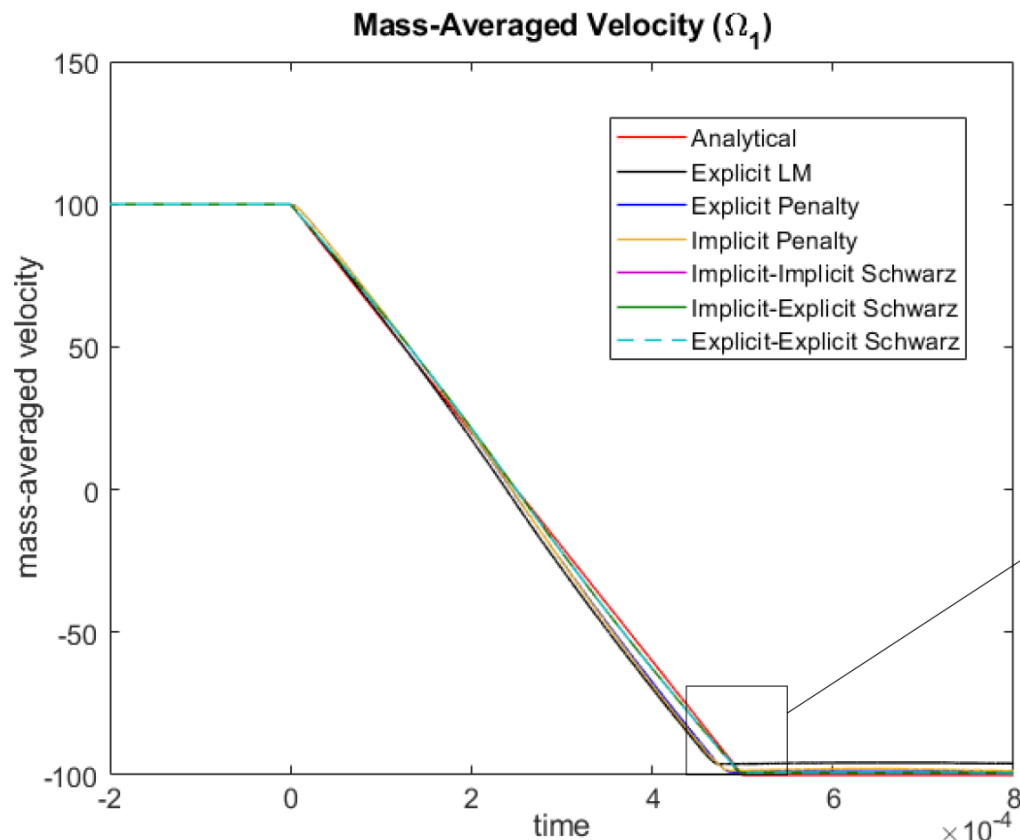
- Penalty methods **overpredict** contact point location between impact and release times
- Schwarz methods capture **release time** to an accuracy of $\approx 0.1\%$.

¹Hoy *et al.*, 2021; Mota *et al.* (in prep), 2021.

Numerical Results: 1D Impact Problem¹



Mass-averaged velocity: of the left bar (Ω_1) as a function of time



- **Similar conclusions** can be drawn from mass-averaged velocity
- Schwarz variants calculate mass-averaged velocity to a **sufficiently greater accuracy** than any of the conventional methods, especially near the time of release

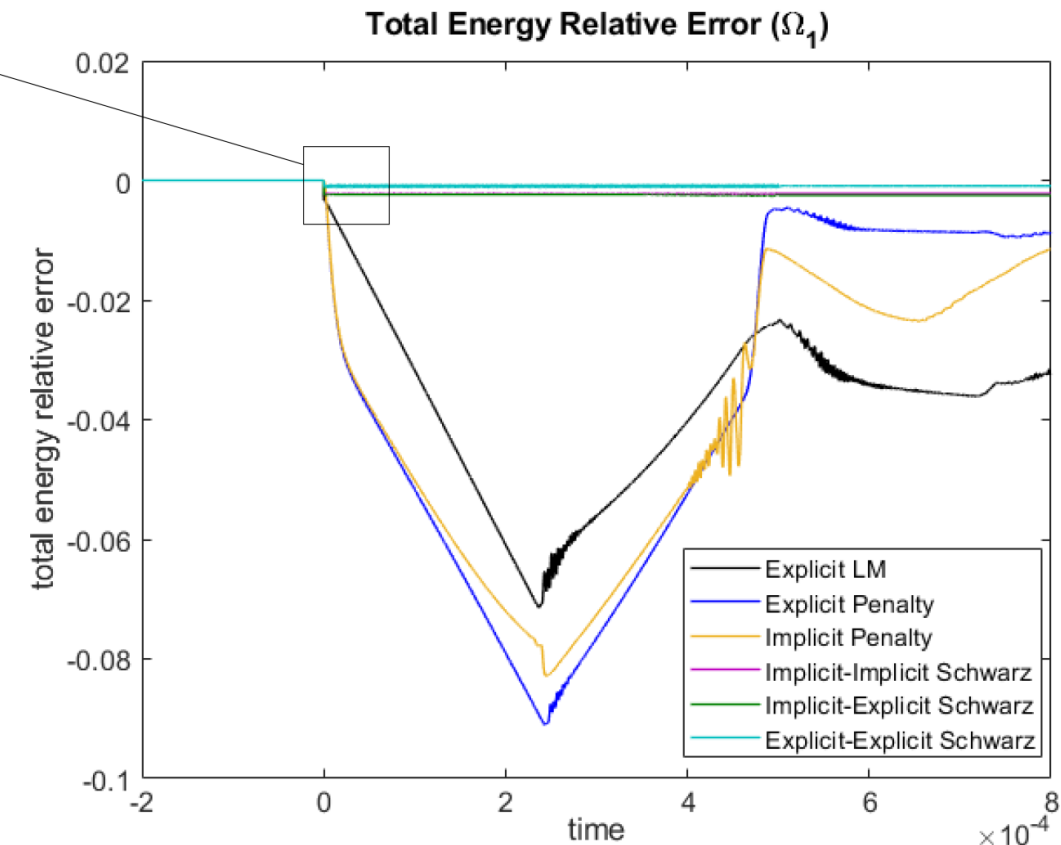
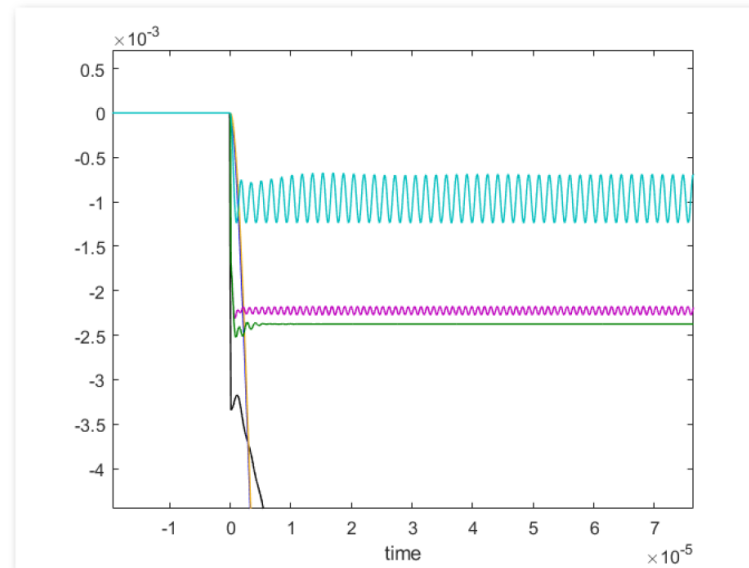
¹Hoy *et al.*, 2021; Mota *et al.* (in prep), 2021.

Numerical Results: 1D Impact Problem¹



Total energy relative error: for the left bar (Ω_1) as a function of time

Total energy should be conserved for this problem

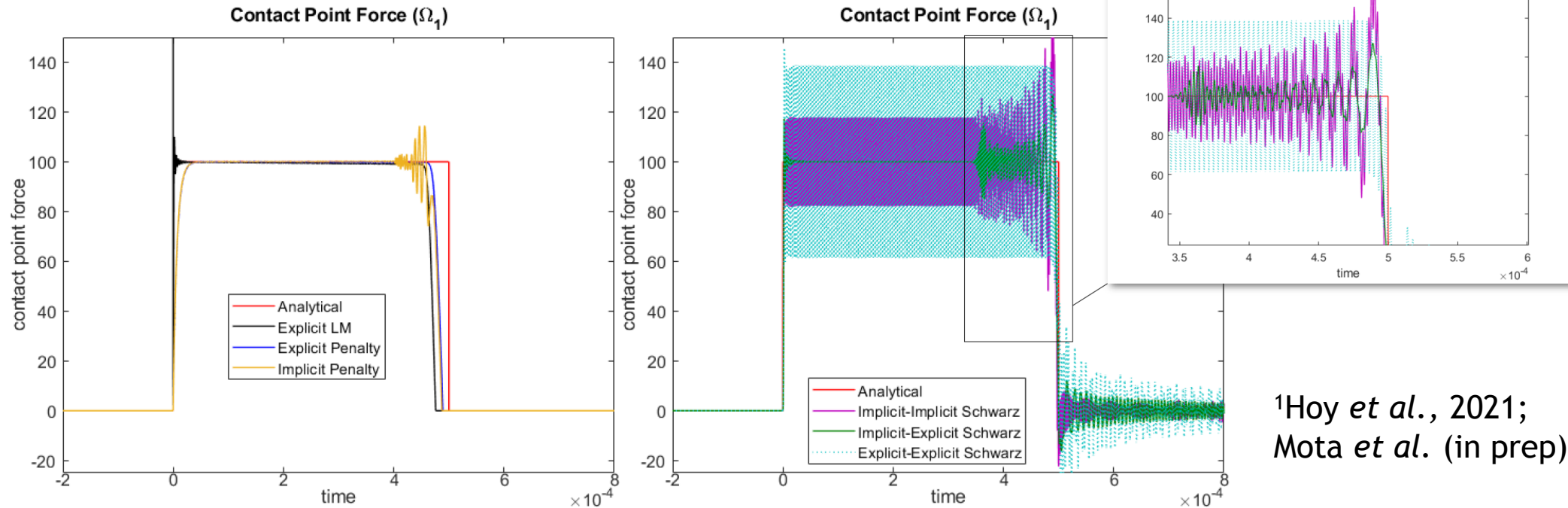


- Total energy error is **negative** for all 6 methods \Rightarrow all methods are **stable**.
- All three conventional methods exhibit **total energy loss** of up to 9% following contact.
- Unlike conventional contact methods, **Schwarz** achieves an error of at most **0.25%** in the total energy!
 - Explicit-Explicit Schwarz gives most accurate total energy, followed by Implicit-Implicit Schwarz and Implicit-Explicit Schwarz

¹Hoy *et al.*, 2021; Mota *et al.* (in prep), 2021.

Numerical Results: 1D Impact Problem¹

Contact point force: for the left bar (Ω_1) as a function of time

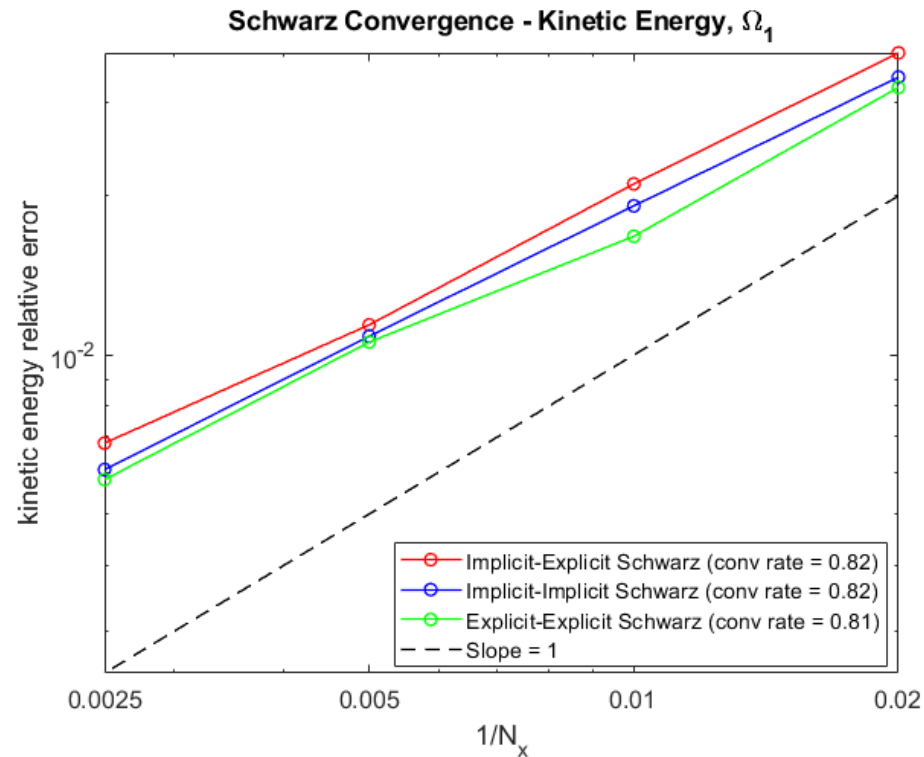


¹Hoy *et al.*, 2021;
Mota *et al.* (in prep), 2021.

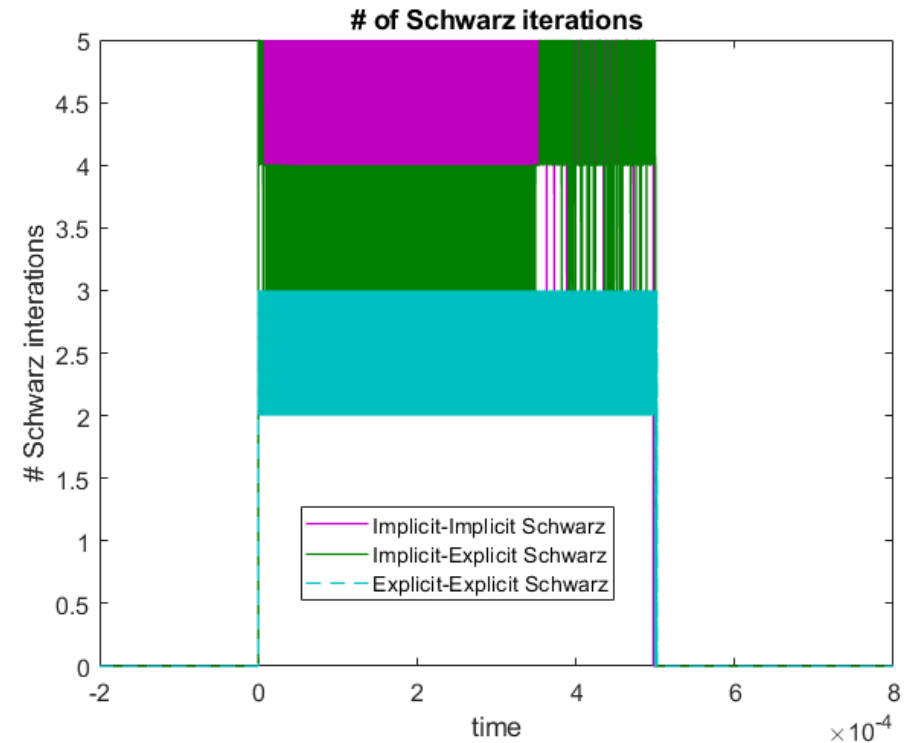
- Three conventional methods exhibit some **undesirable artifacts** in contact point force but deliver in general a **smooth solution**
- Schwarz solutions exhibit **oscillations** following instantiation of contact → “**chatter**” problem
 - Schwarz method with **largest total energy loss** (Implicit-Explicit) exhibits **least amount of chatter**
 - **Energy dissipation** is necessary for establishment of persistent contact [Solberg *et al.*, 1998]
 - Chatter problem can likely be mitigated through addition of **numerical dissipation**



Convergence of Schwarz methods



Mesh convergence of kinetic energy for left bar (Ω_1) when $\Delta t = 1.0 \times 10^{-8}$



Schwarz iterations required for convergence ($N_x = 200$, $\Delta t = 1.0 \times 10^{-7}$)

- Convergence rates are comparable to published results [Tezaur *et al.*, 2021]
- At most 5 Schwarz iterations are needed for convergence
 - Explicit-Explicit Schwarz variant requires fewest # iterations for convergence

¹Hoy *et al.*, 2021; Mota *et al.* (in prep), 2021.



Summary:

- The Schwarz alternating method was shown to be an effective **multi-scale coupling** method in solid mechanics
- The Schwarz alternating method has shown promise as a **novel technique** for simulating **multi-scale mechanical contact**
 - Contact constraints are replaced with **transmission BCs** applied iteratively on contact boundaries
 - Schwarz method delivers **substantially more accurate solution** than conventional contact approaches in contact point displacement, mass-averaged velocity, impact time, release time, and kinetic, potential total energies
 - An unfortunate consequence of the method's ability to **conserve energy so well** appears to be the introduction of **chatter** in contact point velocity and force.

Ongoing/future work:

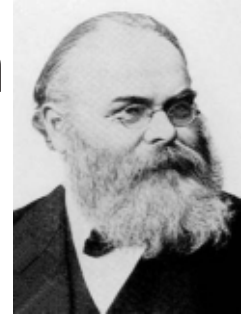
- Introduction of **dissipation** and/or **numerical relaxation** to mitigate chatter problem
- Introduction of **additional** or **alternate contact constraints** into Schwarz formulation
- Comparison to conventional contact formulations with **zero gap rate constraint**
- Implementation/evaluation of the Schwarz alternating method in **multi-D**
 - Requires the development of operators for **consistent transfer** of contact traction BCs using concept of prolongation/restriction



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- J. M. Solberg and P. Papadopoulos, A finite element method for contact/impact, Finite Elements in Analysis and Design, 30 (1998), pp. 297-311.
- I. Tezaur, T. Voth, J. Niederhaus, J. Robbins, and J. Sanchez, An extended finite element method (XFEM) formulation for multi-material Eulerian solid mechanics in the Alegra code (in preparation).

Start of Backup Slides

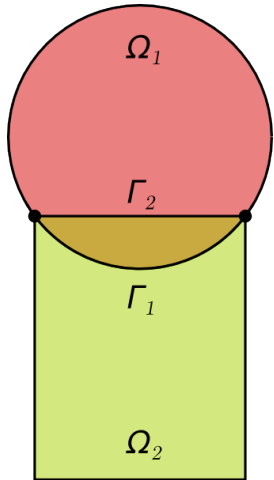
Schwarz Alternating Method for Domain Decomposition



H. Schwarz (1843 - 1921)

- Proposed in 1870 by H. Schwarz for solving Laplace PDE on irregular domains.

Crux of Method: if the solution is known in regularly shaped domains, use those as pieces to iteratively build a solution for the more complex domain.



Basic Schwarz Algorithm

Initialize:

- Solve PDE by any method on Ω_1 w/ initial guess for Dirichlet BCs on Γ_1 .

Iterate until convergence:

- Solve PDE by any method (can be different than for Ω_1) on Ω_2 w/ transmission BCs on Γ_2 that are the values just obtained for Ω_1 .
- Solve PDE by any method (can be different than for Ω_2) on Ω_1 w/ transmission BCs on Γ_1 that are the values just obtained for Ω_2 .

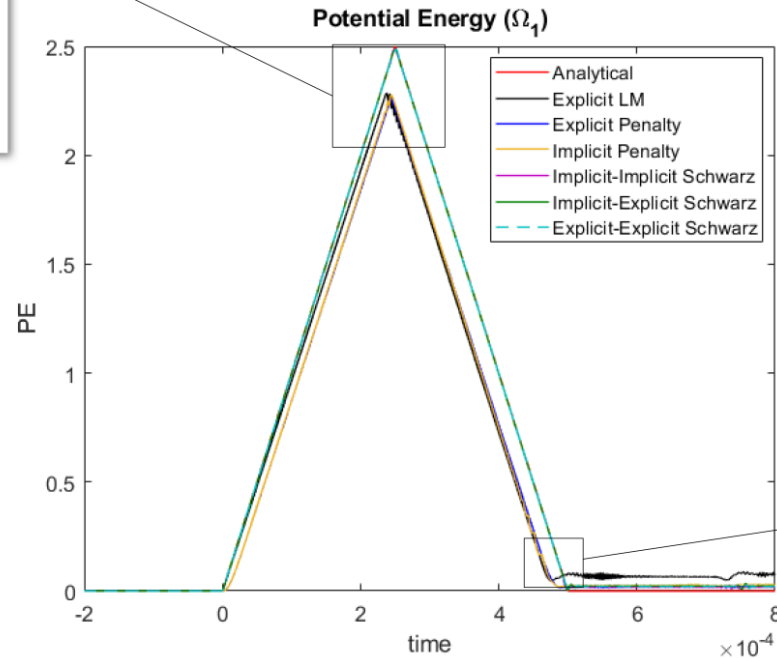
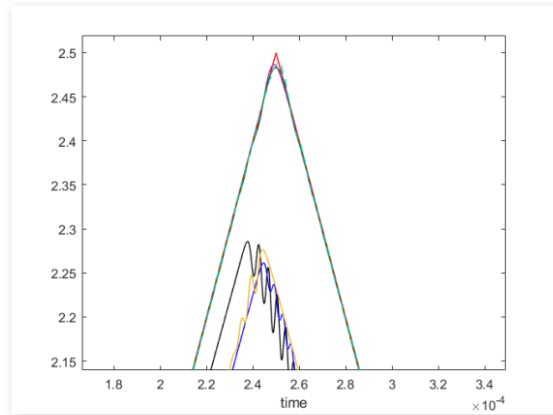
- Schwarz alternating method most commonly used as a ***preconditioner*** for Krylov iterative methods to solve linear algebraic equations.

Novel idea: using the Schwarz alternating as a ***discretization method*** for solving multiscale partial differential equations (PDEs).

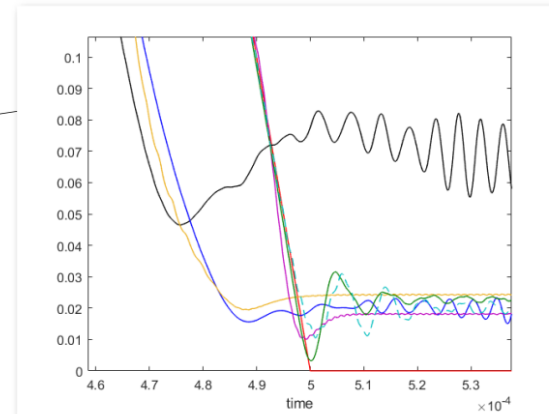
Numerical Results: 1D Impact Problem¹



Potential energy: for the left bar (Ω_1) as a function of time



- **Similar conclusions** can be drawn from potential energy plots.
- All three conventional methods **underpredict peak potential energy** by $\approx 10\%$.
- Schwarz solutions **capture peak potential energy** with relative error $< 0.1\%$

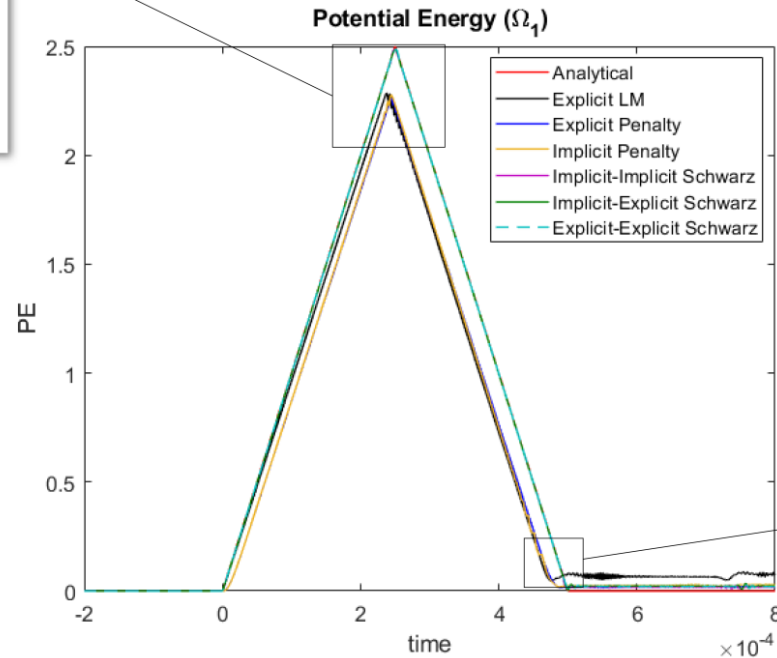
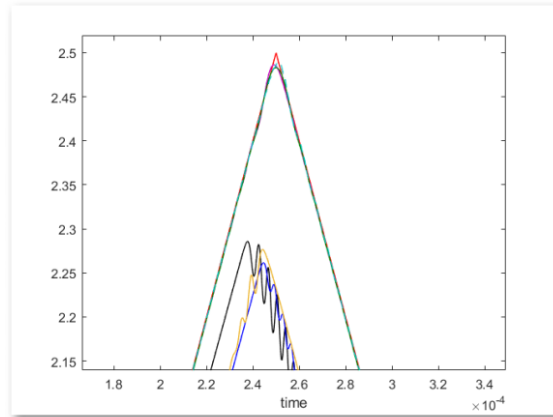


¹Hoy *et al.*, 2021; Mota *et al.* (in prep), 2021.

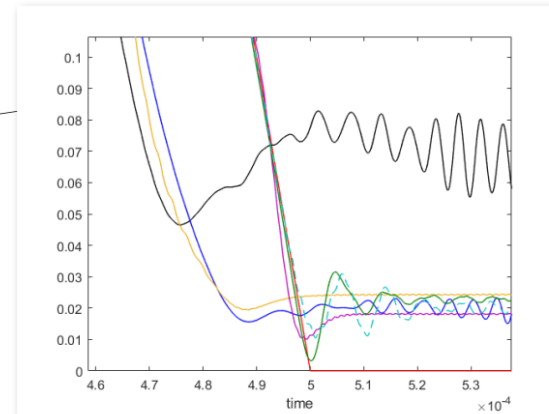
Numerical Results: 1D Impact Problem¹



Potential energy: for the left bar (Ω_1) as a function of time



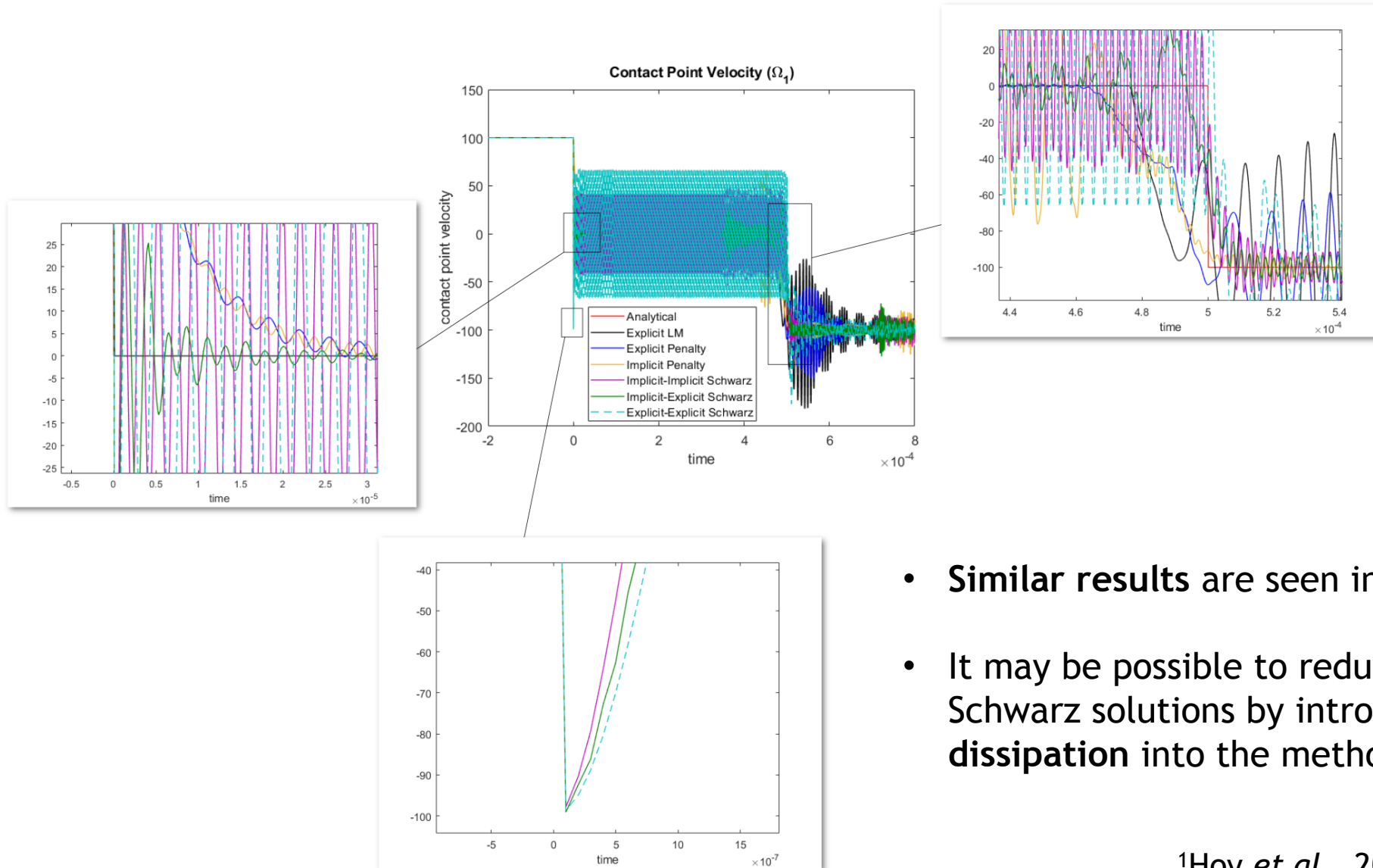
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¹Hoy *et al.*, 2021; Mota *et al.* (in prep), 2021.

Numerical Results: 1D Impact Problem¹

Contact point velocity: for the left bar (Ω_1) as a function of time



- **Similar results** are seen in the contact point velocity
- It may be possible to reduce amount of chatter in Schwarz solutions by introducing **numerical dissipation** into the method.

¹Hoy *et al.*, 2021; Mota *et al.* (in prep), 2021.