

A hybrid parareal Monte-Carlo algorithm for parabolic problems

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École des Ponts
ParisTech



Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Parareal algorithm
- 3 Coarse and fine propagator
- 4 Hybrid parareal algorithm
- 5 Numerical experiments
- 6 Extension to the Boltzmann equation
- 7 Conclusion

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Simplified model for neutron transport in nuclear reactors.

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Boltzmann equation $\frac{1}{|v|} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t}(\mathbf{r}, E, \Omega, t) + (\mathcal{A} - \mathcal{S} - \mathcal{F}) \psi(\mathbf{r}, E, \Omega, t) = Q(\mathbf{r}, \Omega, E, t)$

Monte Carlo simulation Lux & Koblinger (1991)

- intrinsically parallel : one replica \iff one processor
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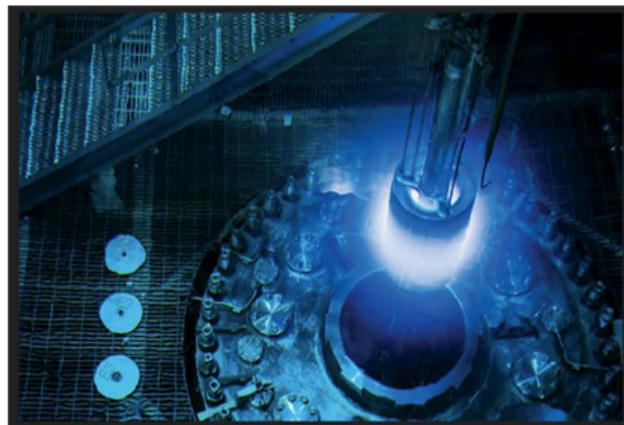
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Can we speed-up a Monte Carlo resolution?

- time parallelization

Very complicated model: Start with a diffusion problem to understand the involved underlying mechanisms.



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Model problem

Time-dependent diffusion equation with dirichlet boundary conditions:

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u - \mathcal{D}\Delta u = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \times [0, T], \\ u(\cdot, 0) = u^0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \times [0, T]. \end{cases}$$

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Weak formulation: Find $u \in H_0^1(\Omega)$ such that

$$\langle \partial_t u, v \rangle_{H^{-1}(\Omega), H_0^1(\Omega)} + \mathcal{D} \int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v \, dx = 0 \quad \forall v \in H_0^1(\Omega) \quad \text{Well-posed problem}$$

Lions (1969), Dautrey & Lions (1985), Brezis (2011)

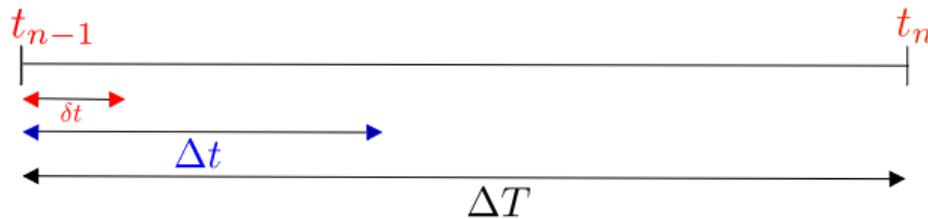
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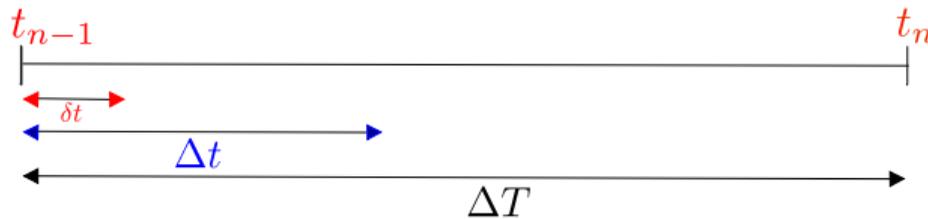
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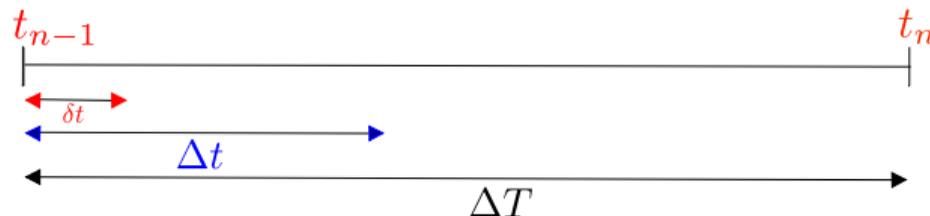
- Initialization : Compute a coarse solution at each time step n

$$\mathbf{U}_{k=0}^{n+1} := \mathcal{G}_{\Delta T}(\mathbf{U}_{k=0}^n), \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{U}_{k=0}^0 = \mathbf{U}^0 \quad k : \text{parareal iteration}$$

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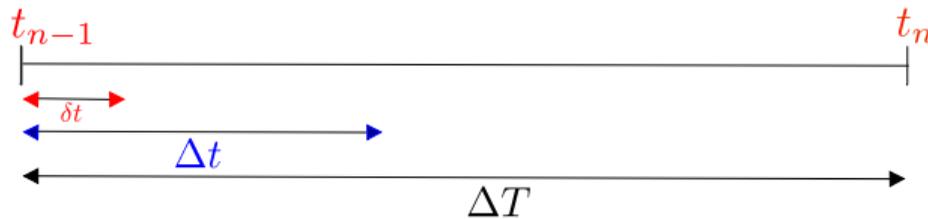
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- Parareal updates

$$\boxed{\mathbf{U}_k^n \approx u(t_n)}$$

$$\mathbf{U}_{k+1}^{n+1} := \underbrace{\mathcal{G}_{\Delta T}(\mathbf{U}_{k+1}^n)}_{\text{prediction}} + \underbrace{\mathcal{F}_{\Delta T}(\mathbf{U}_k^n) - \mathcal{G}_{\Delta T}(\mathbf{U}_k^n)}_{\text{correction}} \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{U}_{k+1}^0 := \mathbf{U}^0$$

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Some remarks on parareal

- 1 In general the two solvers are deterministic
- 2 Parareal converges for parabolic problems [Gander, Vandewalle \(2007\)](#)
- 3 Instability observed for hyperbolic problems [Gander \(2008\)](#)

Goal: Construct a hybrid parareal Monte Carlo algorithm for parabolic problems

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Coarse propagator

\mathcal{T}_h : mesh of the domain Ω

\mathcal{V}_h : Lagrange nodes, $\mathcal{V}_h^{\text{int}}$: interior nodes,

$\mathcal{N}_h^{\text{int}}$: number of internal Lagrange nodes, N_e : number of elements

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The finite element propagator

$$X_h^p := \left\{ v_h \in C^0(\Omega); v_h|_K \in \mathbb{P}_p(K) \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h \right\} \subset H^1(\Omega)$$

$$X_{0h}^p := \left\{ v_h \in C^0(\Omega); v_h|_K \in \mathbb{P}_p(K) \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h, v_h|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \right\} \subset H_0^1(\Omega)$$

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The discrete vector of unknowns : $\mathbf{U}_h^n \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}_h^{\text{int}}}$ satisfies $\mathbf{U}_h^n = \mathcal{G}_{\Delta t}(\mathbf{U}_h^{n-1})$ with

$$\mathcal{G}_{\Delta t}(\mathbf{U}_h^{n-1}) = [\mathbb{A}^n]^{-1} \times \mathbf{F}^{n-1}, \quad \underbrace{[\mathbb{A}^n]^{-1}}_{\text{Stiffness matrix} + \text{mass matrix}} \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}_h^{\text{int}}, \mathcal{N}_h^{\text{int}}}, \quad \mathbf{F}^{n-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{N}_h^{\text{int}}}$$

Stiffness matrix + mass matrix

The cell centered finite volume propagator

$$\mathbf{U}_h^n := (\mathbf{U}_K^n)_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h}, \quad \text{one value per cell and time step}$$

The discrete vector of unknowns : $\mathbf{U}_h^n \in \mathbb{R}^{N_e}$ satisfies $\mathbf{U}_h^n = \mathcal{G}_{\Delta t}(\mathbf{U}_h^{n-1})$ with

$$\mathcal{G}_{\Delta t}(\mathbf{U}_h^{n-1}) = [\mathbb{A}^n]^{-1} \times \mathbf{F}^{n-1}, \quad \underbrace{[\mathbb{A}^n]^{-1}}_{\text{Sparse}} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_e, N_e}, \quad \mathbf{F}^{n-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_e}$$

The discontinuous Galerkin propagator

$\mathcal{N}_h^{\text{int}}$: total number of local internal degrees of freedom.

Discontinuous Galerkin space:

$$X_h^p := \left\{ v_h \in L^2(\Omega); v_h|_K \in \mathbb{P}_p(K) \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h \right\} \not\subset H^1(\Omega),$$

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local matrix $[\mathbb{A}^n]_K^{-1}$ = stiffness matrix + mass matrix + consistency and stability terms.

Fine propagator : Monte-Carlo

Principle: It gives an approximation of

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Compute $g(X_1), \dots, g(X_M)$.

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Law of large numbers: $\lim_{M \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M g(X_i) = \int_K u(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}.$

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Central limit Theorem:

$$\text{error} \approx 1/\sqrt{M}.$$

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Repeat M times the procedure.

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The table lookup method:

Probability each element: $\mathbb{P}([x_{i-1}, x_i]) = \int_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]} f(x) dx$,

Cumulative function: $F_i : \Omega \rightarrow [0, 1]$, $F_i = \sum_{j \leq i} \mathbb{P}([x_{j-1}, x_j])$

Let $\xi_1 \sim \mathcal{U}([0, 1])$. Identify the two intervals such that $F_{i-1} \leq \xi_1 \leq F_i$.

Position of the particle: $X_i = \frac{(x_i - x_{i-1}) \xi_1 - x_i F_{i-1} + x_{i-1} F_i}{F_i - F_{i-1}}$.

Repeat M times the procedure.

Kernel Transport

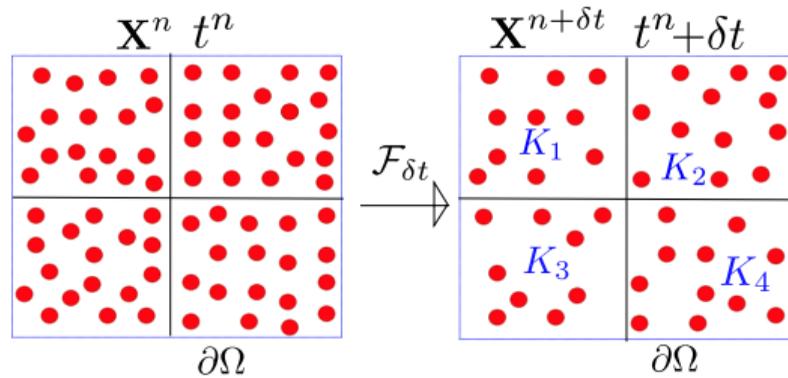
(\mathbf{x}, t) : position of the particle \mathbf{x} at time t , (\mathbf{x}', t') : position of the particle \mathbf{x}' at time t'

Density transition kernel:

$$T(\mathbf{x}', t' \rightarrow \mathbf{x}, t) := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\mathcal{D}(t-t')}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')^2}{2\mathcal{D}(t-t')}\right).$$

Practical formula for the brownian motion:

$$T(\mathbf{X}^{n+\delta t}, t^n + \delta t) = T(\mathbf{X}^n, t^n) + \sqrt{2\mathcal{D}\delta t} \mathcal{S}_n \quad \text{where} \quad \mathcal{S}_n \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$$



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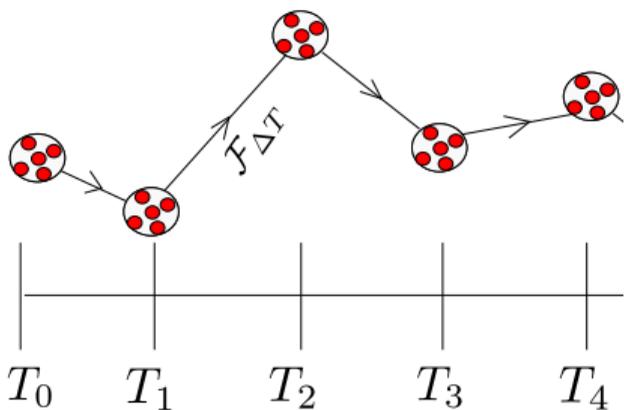
Hybrid parareal algorithm

Philosophy of the present work

Assume that 1000 processors are available.

Monte Carlo : We simulate 10^6 particules per processor. Precision : $1/\sqrt{10^9}$

1 replica = 1 processor



Required time for the propagation over a window ΔT : $\mathcal{F}_{\Delta T} = T/4$ seconds.

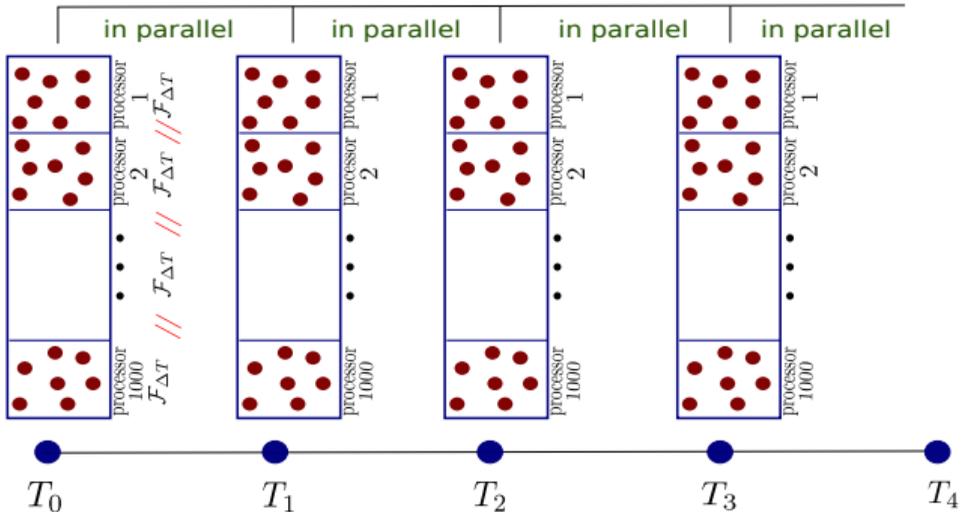
Total required time for each replica = T seconds \Rightarrow total time $\approx T$ secondes.

Assume now that 4000 processors are available.

precision: $1/\sqrt{4 \times 10^9}$ but statistical precision was already achieved...

Parareal : We employ the excess processors to parallelize the time variable !

- 4 processors allocated to the time parallelization
- For each time observable we have 1000 processors. For each of these processors we simulate 10^6 particles.



Precision :

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{10^9}}$$

CPU cost :

$$\tilde{T} = \frac{T}{4} \times \bar{k} \quad \text{with} \quad \bar{k} < 4$$

Other possibility: simulate a Borwnian motion on an interval $\left[0, \frac{4}{k} T\right]$.

The hybrid algorithm

- **Coarse propagator** : Deterministic solver
- **Fine propagator**: Monte-Carlo solver: deterministic data + sampling + average

The numerical solution obtained for a replica $j \in [1, p]$ at parareal iteration k is denoted by $\mathbf{U}_{k,j}^{n+1}$

$$\mathbf{U}_k^{n+1} := \frac{1}{p} \sum_{j=1}^p \mathbf{U}_{k,j}^{n+1}$$

When $\mathbf{U}_{k,j}^{n+1}$ is computed, we need its statistical version for the com-

putation of $\mathbf{U}_{k+1,j}^{n+2} = \mathcal{G}_{\Delta T}(\mathbf{U}_{k+1,j}^{n+1}) \times \frac{\mathcal{F}_{\Delta T}(\mathbf{U}_{k,j}^{n+1})}{\mathcal{G}_{\Delta T}(\mathbf{U}_{k,j}^{n+1})}$. Introduce bias in the

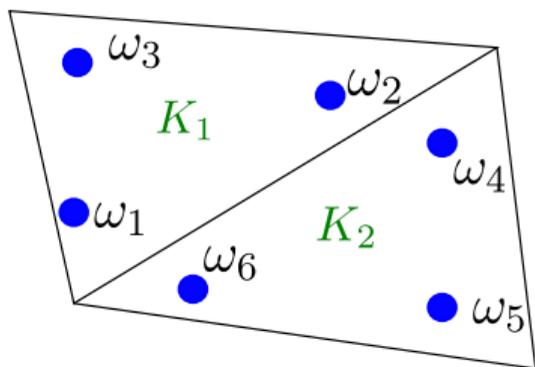
Monte-Carlo solver.



Updating the statistical weights

Example: How avoid sampling $\mathbf{U}_{k=2}^3 = \mathcal{G}_{\Delta T}(\mathbf{U}_{k=2}^2) \times \frac{\mathcal{F}_{\Delta T}(\mathbf{U}_{k=1}^2)}{\mathcal{G}_{\Delta T}(\mathbf{U}_{k=1}^2)}$? We consider the statistical representation $\widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_{\Delta T}(\mathbf{U}_{k=1}^2)$ before the average and we modify each of its particle weights.

$$[\omega_{k=2}^3]_{i \in K} = [\omega_{\widetilde{\mathcal{F}}_{\Delta T}(\mathbf{U}_{k=1}^2)}]_{i \in K} \times \left(\frac{\mathbf{U}_{k=2}^3}{\mathcal{F}_{\Delta T}(\mathbf{U}_{k=1}^2)} \right) |_K$$



$$\omega_{1,2,3} \leftarrow \alpha_{K_1} \times \omega_{1,2,3}$$

$$\omega_{4,5,6} \leftarrow \alpha_{K_2} \times \omega_{4,5,6}$$

$$\alpha_{K_1} = \frac{[\mathbf{U}_{k=2}^2]_{|K_1}}{[\mathcal{F}_{\Delta T}(\mathbf{U}_{k=1}^1)]_{|K_1}}$$

$$\alpha_{K_2} = \frac{[\mathbf{U}_{k=2}^2]_{|K_2}}{[\mathcal{F}_{\Delta T}(\mathbf{U}_{k=1}^1)]_{|K_2}}$$

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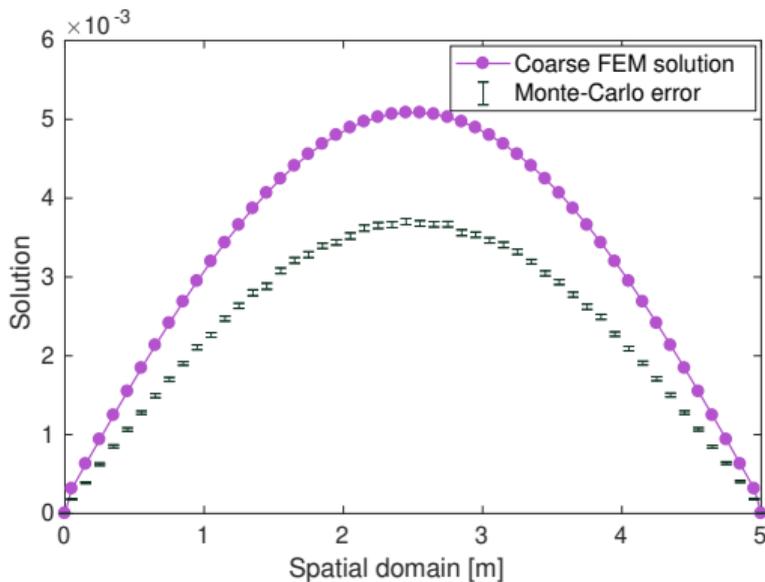
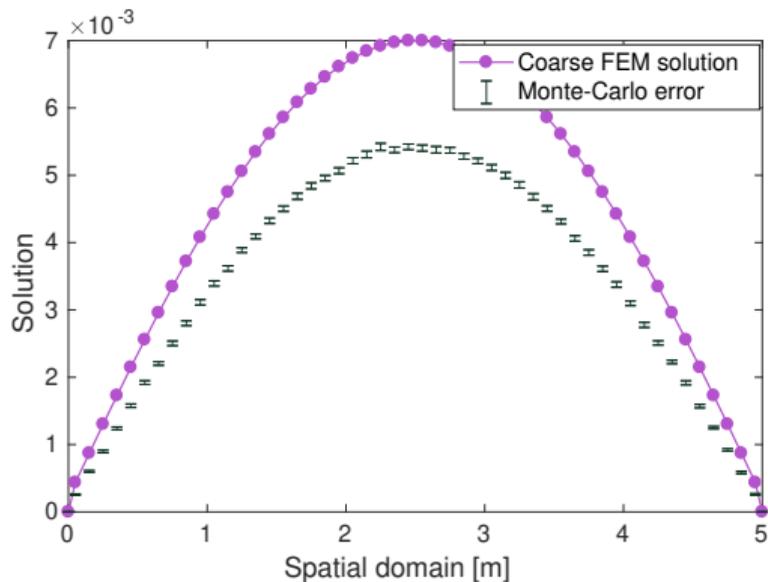
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Numerical experiments

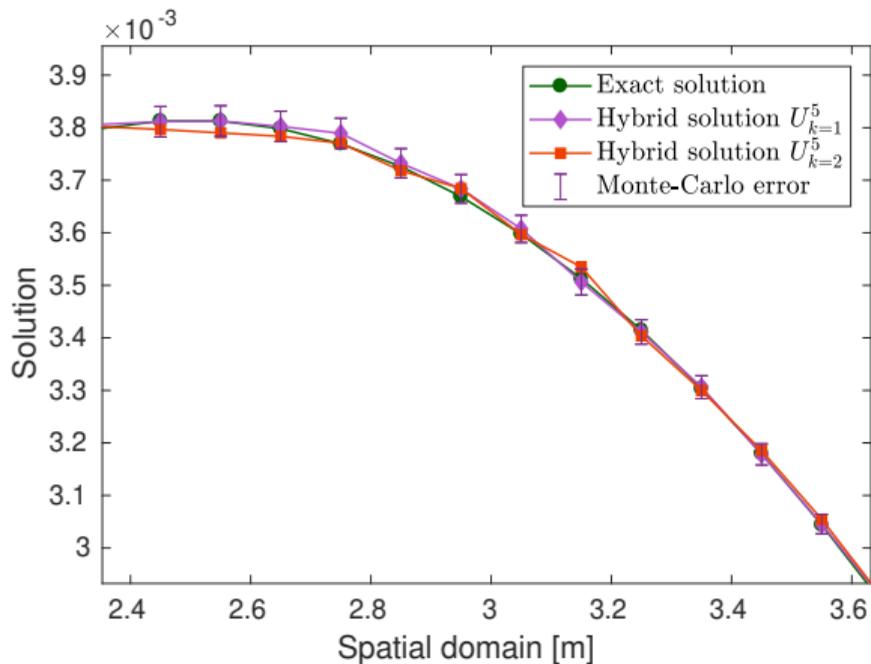
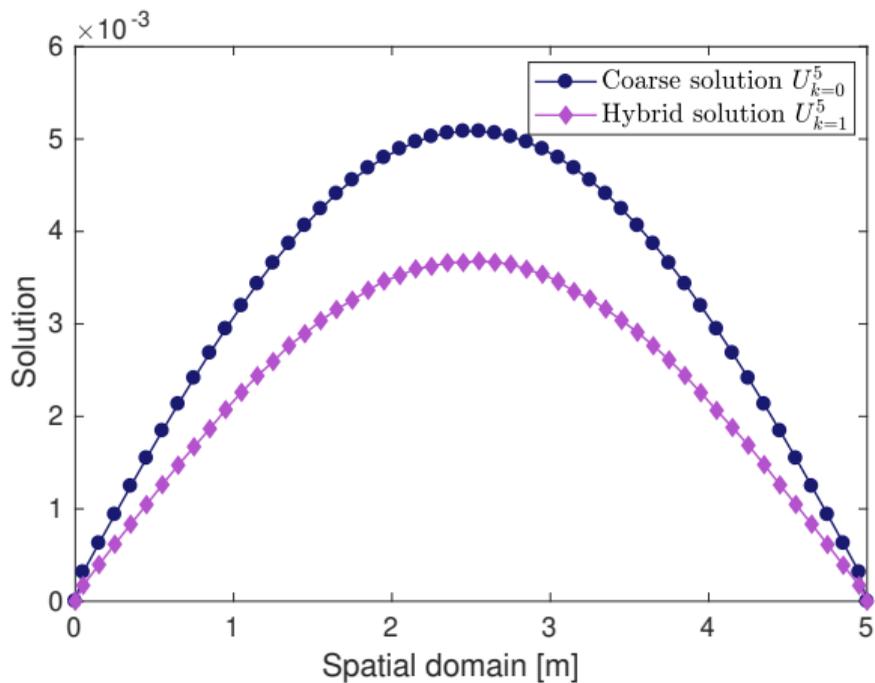
Final simulation time: $T = 10s$. **Diffusion coefficient:** $\mathcal{D} = 0.5m^2 \cdot s^{-1}$.

Coarse propagator: \mathbb{P}_1 FEM, $\Delta t = 2s$, **Fine propagator:** Monte-Carlo, $\delta t = 2 \times 10^{-4}s$.

Initial condition: $u_0(x) = \frac{1}{L}$, **Number of particles:** 10^4 , **Number of replicas:** 10^3



Hybrid solution



CPU time and convergence

Hybrid parareal resolution						
Number of processors time parallelization	Number of replicas for each parallel-in-time propagation	Number of particles for one replica j	CPU time $k = 1$	CPU time $k = 2$	Gain factor $k = 1$	Gain factor $k = 2$
5	10^2	10^5	335.76 s	537.16 s	4.92	3.04
5	10^3	10^4	33.05 s	53.1 s	4.96	3.09
5	10^4	10^3	3.39 s	5.49 s	4.97	3.07
5	10^5	10^2	0.35 s	0.58 s	5.08	3.02

A second test case

Final simulation time: $T = 14s$.

Deterministic propagator: \mathbb{P}_1 finite element, $\Delta t = 2s$.

Fine propagator: Monte-Carlo, $\delta t = 2 \times 10^{-4}s$.

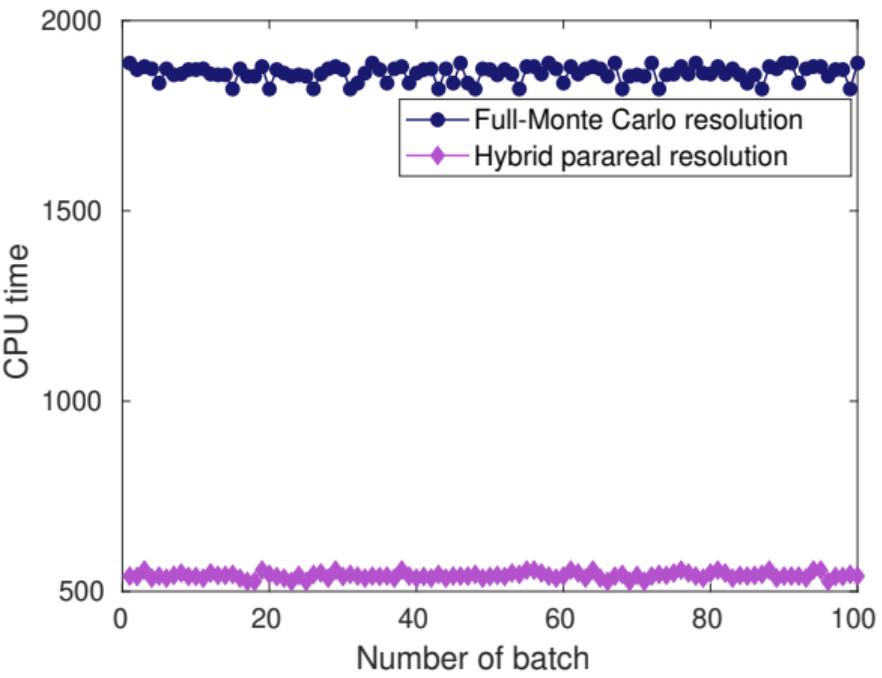
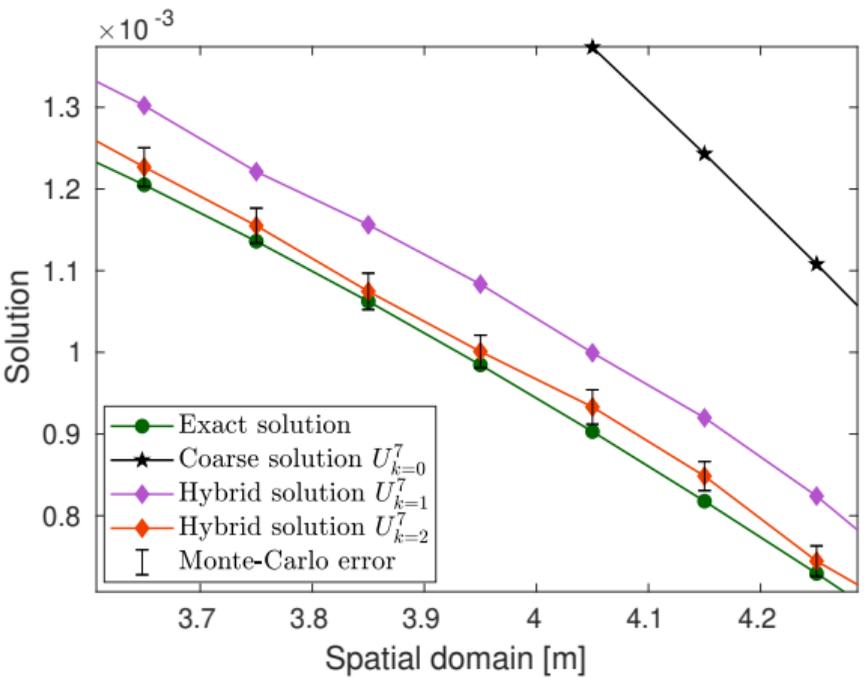
Diffusion coefficient MC: $\mathcal{D} = 0.5m^2 \cdot s^{-1}$

Diffusion coefficient FEM: $\mathcal{D} = 0.48m^2 \cdot s^{-1}$

Initial condition: $u_0(x) = \frac{1}{L} \left(1 + \cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) \right)$.

Number of particles: 10^5 , **Number of replicas:** 10^2

CPU time and convergence



A third test case

Final simulation time: $T = 50s$.

Deterministic propagator: \mathbb{P}_1 finite element, $\Delta t = 2s$.

Fine propagator: Monte-Carlo, $\delta t = 2 \times 10^{-3}s$.

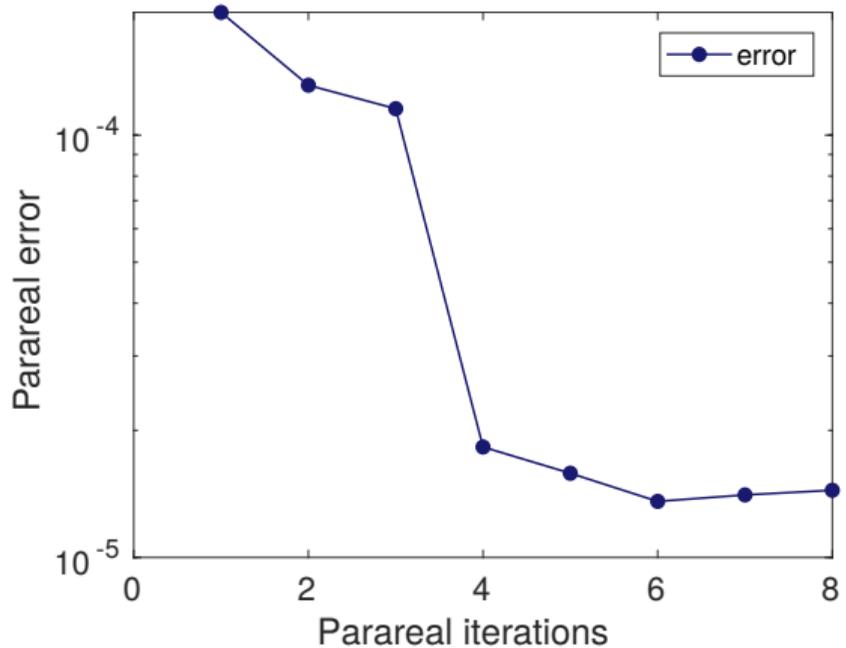
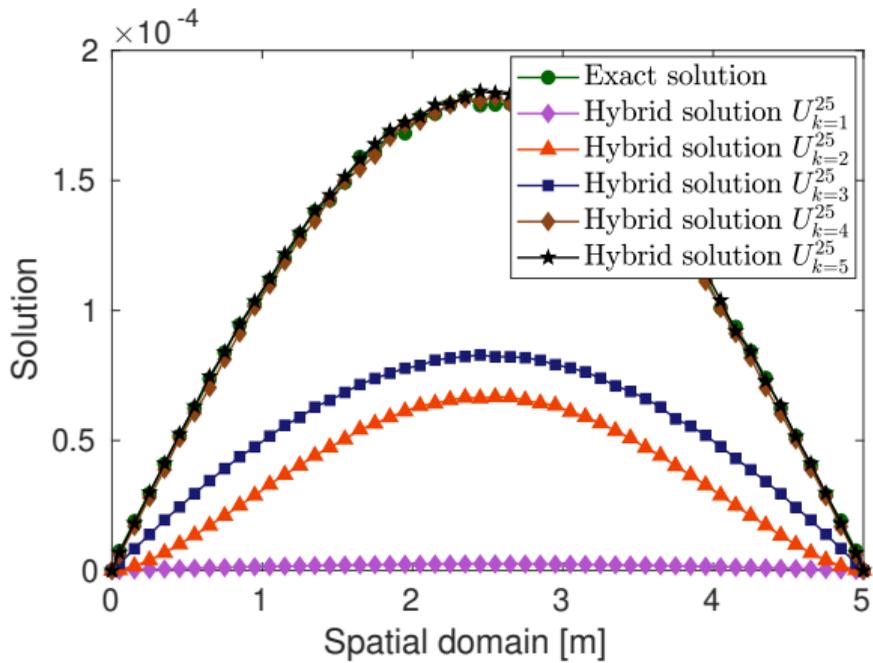
Diffusion coefficient MC: $\mathcal{D} = 0.25m^2 \cdot s^{-1}$

Diffusion coefficient FEM: $\mathcal{D} = 0.25m^2 \cdot s^{-1}$

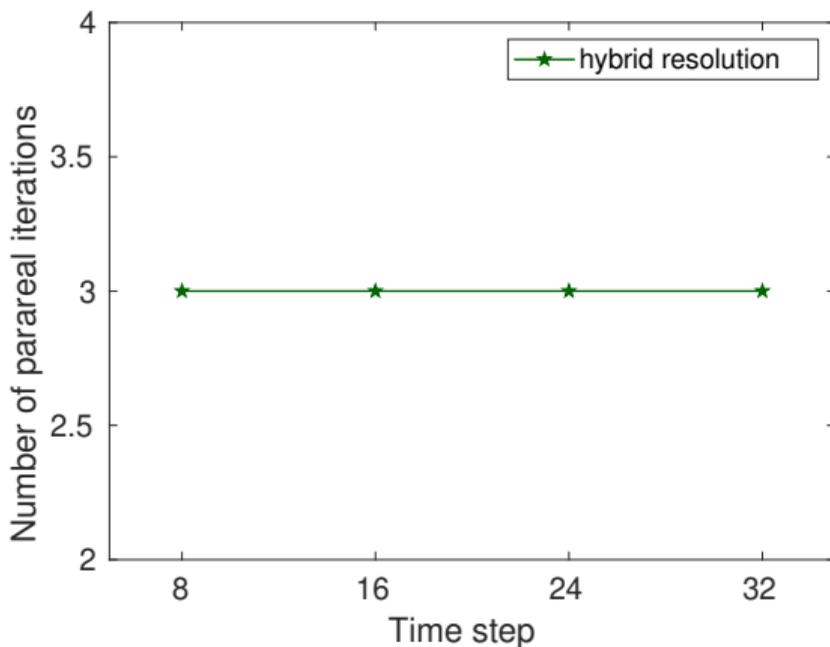
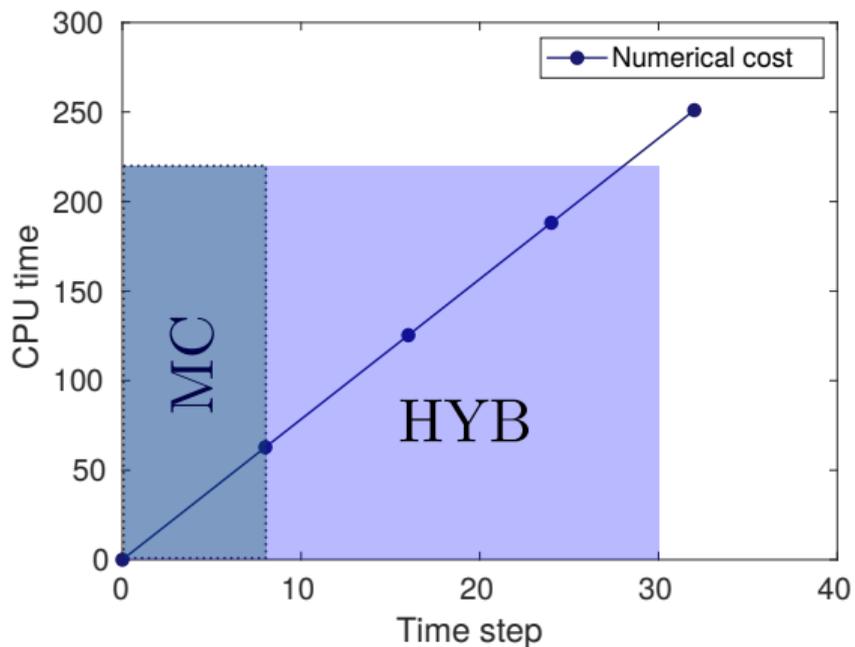
Initial condition: $u_0(x) = \frac{1}{L}$.

Number of particles: 10^5 , **Number of replicas:** 10^3

Convergence



Simulate longer times



Outline

- 1 Introduction
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Model problem

monokinetic 1D Boltzmann model

$$\frac{\partial \psi_+}{\partial t}(\mathbf{x}, t) + \frac{\partial \psi_+}{\partial \mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}, t) + \Sigma_t \psi_+(\mathbf{x}, t) = \left(\frac{\Sigma_s}{2} + \nu \frac{\Sigma_f}{2} \right) (\psi_+(\mathbf{x}, t) + \psi_-(\mathbf{x}, t))$$
$$\frac{\partial \psi_-}{\partial t}(\mathbf{x}, t) - \frac{\partial \psi_-}{\partial \mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x}, t) + \Sigma_t \psi_-(\mathbf{x}, t) = \left(\frac{\Sigma_s}{2} + \nu \frac{\Sigma_f}{2} \right) (\psi_+(\mathbf{x}, t) + \psi_-(\mathbf{x}, t)).$$

- **unknowns** : ψ_+ and ψ_- : angular fluxes in direction +1 and -1
- $\Sigma_t = \Sigma_s + \Sigma_a + \Sigma_f$ (cross sections)
- ν : average number of neutrons emitted per fission

Fine propagator : The Monte Carlo algorithm

Fine propagator : The Monte Carlo algorithm

① Sampling the initial guess

- Position of particles (direct inversion of cumulative, table lookup, rejection...)
- direction of particles. Select $\xi \sim \mathcal{U}([0, 1])$. If $\xi \leq p^+$, $\omega_j = +1$. Otherwise, $\omega_j = -1$.

Fine propagator : The Monte Carlo algorithm

1 Sampling the initial guess

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2 Sampling the flights

Probability of collision between $s > 0$ and $s + ds > 0$ is $p(s)ds = \Sigma_t e^{-\Sigma_t s} ds$. The path is obtained by the direct inversion of the cumulative $s = -\frac{1}{\Sigma_t} \ln(1 - \xi)$ with $\xi \sim \mathcal{U}([0, 1])$

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3 Collision

$\xi_1 \sim \mathcal{U}([0, 1])$. If $\xi_1 \leq \frac{\Sigma_s}{\Sigma_t}$ scattering event \Rightarrow sample a new direction and flight. If

$\frac{\Sigma_s}{\Sigma_t} < \xi_1 \leq \frac{\Sigma_s}{\Sigma_t} + \frac{\Sigma_a}{\Sigma_t}$ absorption event \rightarrow the neutron is dead.

If $\xi_1 > \frac{\Sigma_s}{\Sigma_t} + \frac{\Sigma_a}{\Sigma_t}$ fission event. The mother neutron is dead and $\bar{\nu}$ child neutrons are emitted. New directions and flights have to be sampled for each child neutrons.

Fine propagator : The Monte Carlo algorithm

1 Sampling the initial guess

- Position of particles (direct inversion of cumulative, table lookup, rejection...)
- direction of particles. Select $\xi \sim \mathcal{U}([0, 1])$. If $\xi \leq p^+$, $\omega_i = +1$. Otherwise, $\omega_i = -1$.

2 Sampling the flights

Probability of collision between $s > 0$ and $s + ds > 0$ is $p(s)ds = \Sigma_t e^{-\Sigma_t s} ds$. The path is obtained by the direct inversion of the cumulative $s = -\frac{1}{\Sigma_t} \ln(1 - \xi)$ with $\xi \sim \mathcal{U}([0, 1])$

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4 Monte Carlo computation

Compute an approximation of $\int_{\Omega} (\psi_+ + \psi_-)(x, t) dx = \int_{\Omega} \Phi(x, t) dx$

Coarse propagator : A reaction-diffusion model

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t}(x, t) - \mathcal{D} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2}(x, t) + \Sigma_a \phi(x, t) + (\nu - 1) \Sigma_f \phi(x, t) &= 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega \times [0, T] \\ \phi(x, 0) &= \phi^0(x) \quad \text{in } \Omega \\ \phi(x, t) &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \times]0, T[\end{aligned}$$

Cell-centered finite volume method: a single constant value per cell: $\forall 1 \leq n \leq N_t - 1$ we let

$$\Phi^n := (\phi_K^n)_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_e} \quad \phi_K^n := \frac{1}{|K|} \int_K \phi^n(x) dx$$

By integration over the element K and using the Green's formula we obtain

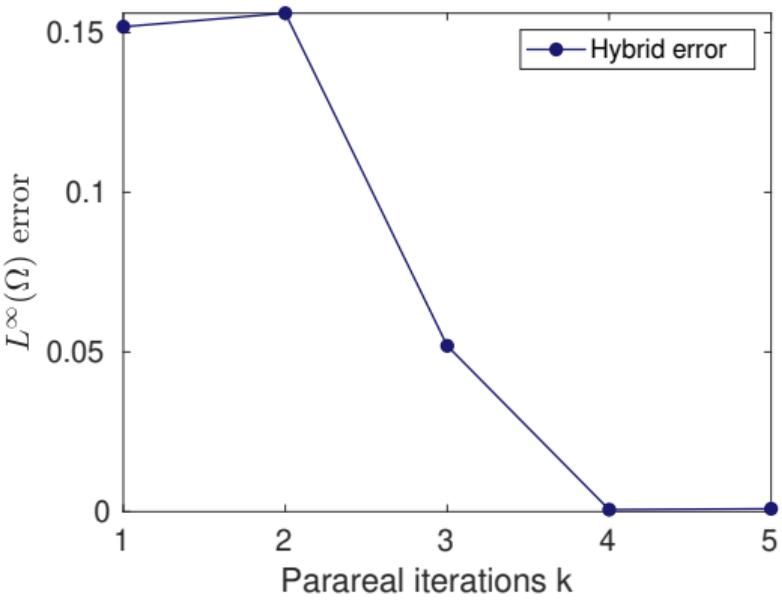
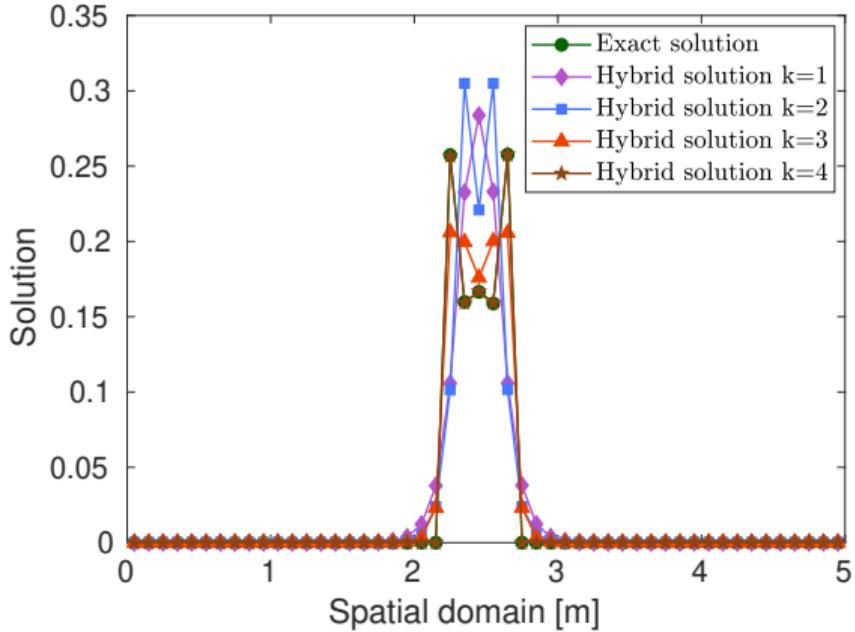
$$\frac{|K|}{\Delta t_n} \phi_K^n + \mathcal{D} \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{E}_K} \mathfrak{F}_{K,\sigma}^n - |\sigma| \frac{\phi_K^n}{d_{K\sigma}} + \Sigma_a \phi_K^n + (\nu - 1) \Sigma_f \phi_K^n = Q_K^{n-1} \quad \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h.$$

Φ^n is solution to a linear system of equations

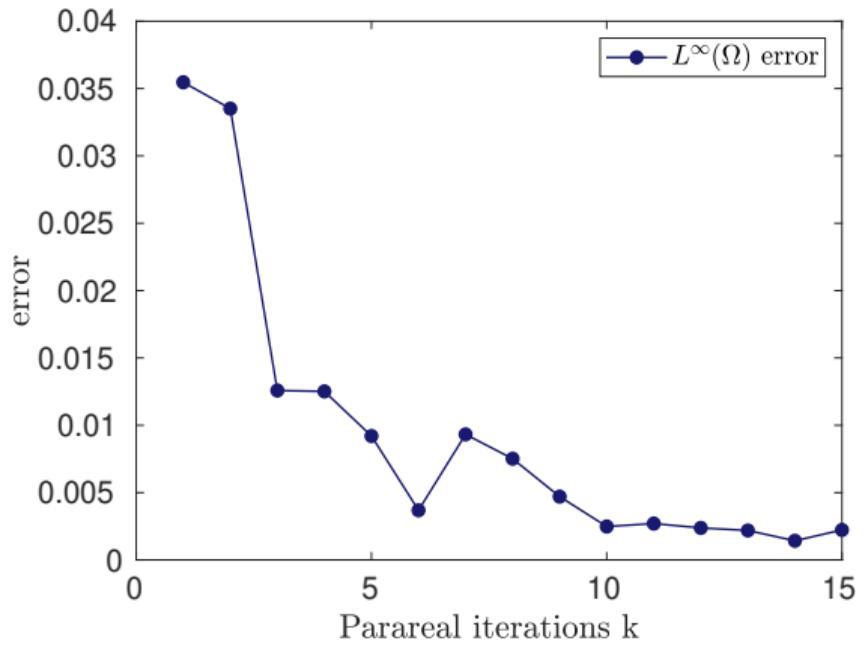
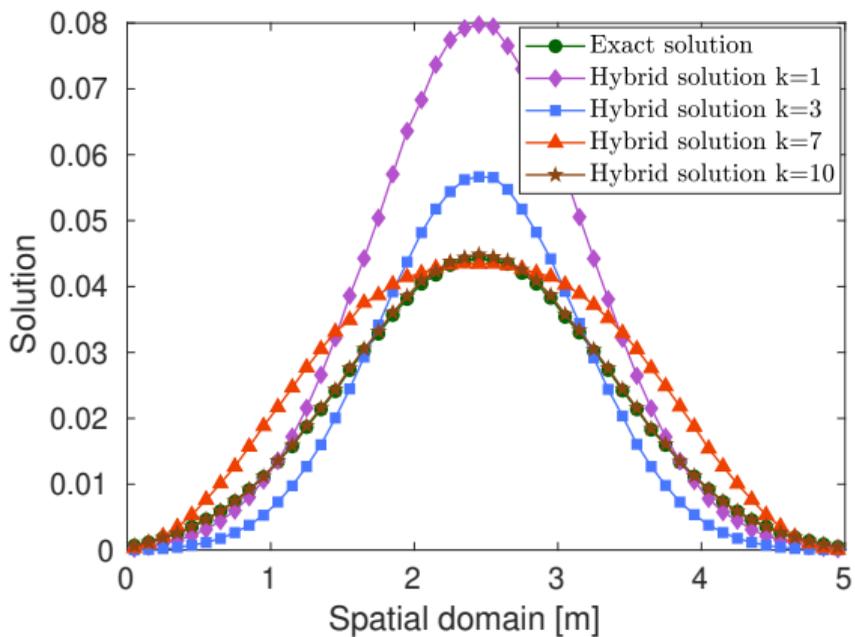
Numerical experiments

$$\Sigma_a = \Sigma_f = 0$$

$n = 4$



$n = 80$



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Conclusion

- We devised for the diffusion equation a hybrid parareal algorithm.
- Our approach reduces the CPU time of a Monte-Carlo simulation.

Ongoing work:

- Extension to the Boltzmann equation in neutronics with absorption and fission

Thank you for your attention!

