

Trilinos User Group Meeting  
 October 22 – 24, 2024  
 SAND2024-14351C UUR

On Scalable Multiphysics Block Preconditioning of an Implicit VMS  
 Resistive MHD Formulation with Application to MCF\*

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*Fusion Energy Sciences*



Sandia National Laboratories is a multission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc. for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.

# Collaborators

Edward Phillips, Michael Crockatt, Roger Pawlowski,  
Ray Tuminaro, Jonathan Hu, Sandia National Labs

Jesus Bonilla and Xian-Zhu Tang, Los Alamos National Lab

Peter Ohm, RIKEN, Japan

Three useful resources on fusion energy for students:



<https://www.cpepphysics.org/>

**Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory**  
**2021 Introduction to Fusion Energy and Plasma Physics Course**

<https://sul.i.pppl.gov/2021/course/>

**Progress toward fusion energy breakeven  
and gain as measured against the Lawson  
criterion**

Wurzel, Hsu, Physics of Plasmas 29, 062103 (2022)

# Outline

- **MCF Motivation**
- **VMS FE MHD Formulation**
- **A few ITER relevant results**
- **Multiphysics Block Preconditioner**
- **Performance of preconditioner**
- **Conclusions**

**A **Very** Few Comments on MCF Energy**

# Why fusion power?

Source: Cami Collins, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

To produce 1000 megawatts electricity for 1 day (enough for a major city)



## Coal Plant



18 million Lb  
coal

**80**  
railroad cars

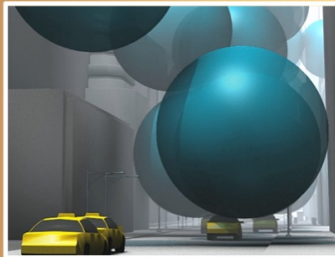
**Fuel  
Consumed**

## D-T Fusion Plant



1.0 Lb  $D_2$   
1.5 Lb  $T_2$

**3**  
water bottles



61 million Lb  
greenhouse  
gases

**28,000**  
33 foot  
spheres

**Waste  
Produced**

2.0 Lb  
helium

**400**  
balloons



6

# Why fusion power? Energy Release!

To produce 1000 megawatts electricity for 1 day (enough for a major city)



**Energy Density Comparison**

DT Fusion: **339** GJ/g DT

Fission: **82** GJ/g U-235

Methane: **20** kJ/g CH<sub>4</sub>

↑

**Fusion is a million times larger!**

## D-T Fusion Plant

1.0 Lb D<sub>2</sub>  
1.5 Lb T<sub>2</sub>

**3**  
water bottles



2.0 Lb  
helium

**400**  
balloons



Source: Cami Collins, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

# How close are we to fusion power?

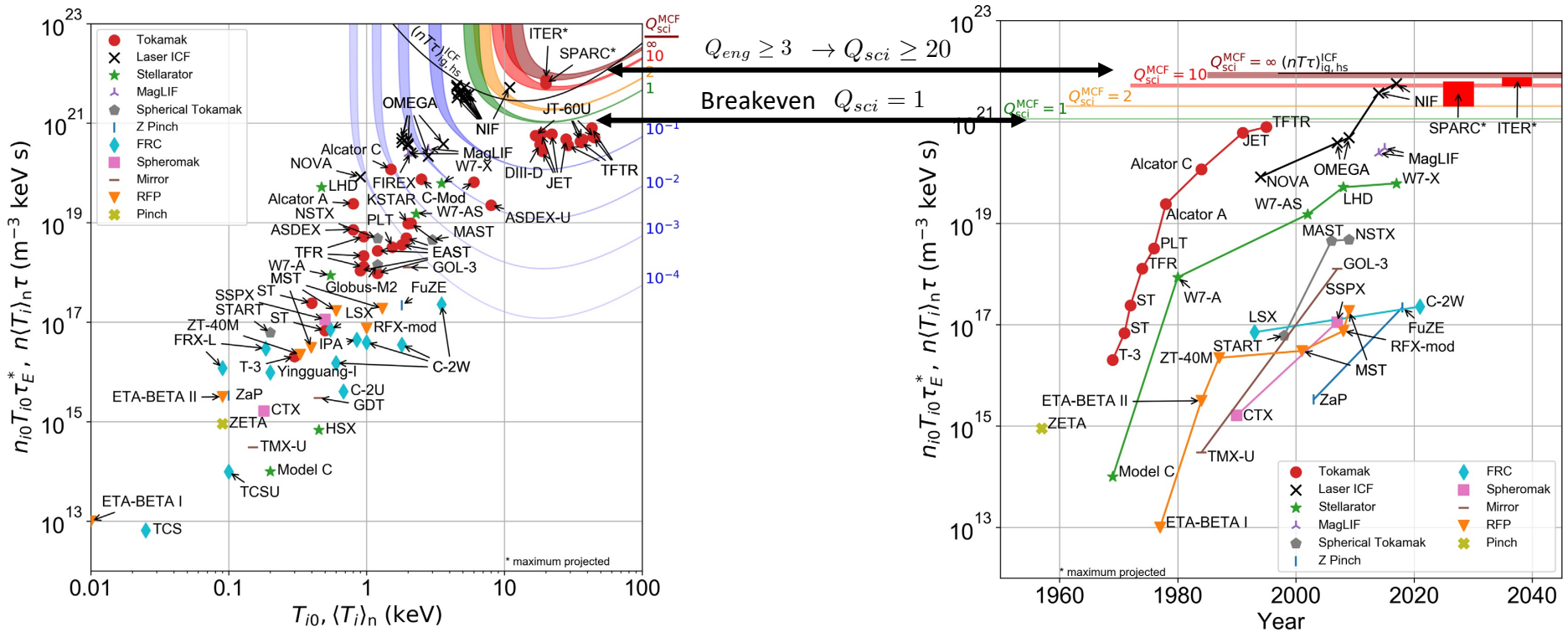
Fusion Triple product ( $n_{i0} T_{i0} \tau_E^*$ ): MCF Energy released in fusion products must exceed total energy applied as heat.

Progress toward fusion energy breakeven and gain as measured against the Lawson criterion

Cite as: Phys. Plasmas 29, 062103 (2022); <https://doi.org/10.1063/5.0083990>  
 Submitted: 31 December 2021 • Accepted: 06 April 2022 • Published Online: 08 June 2022

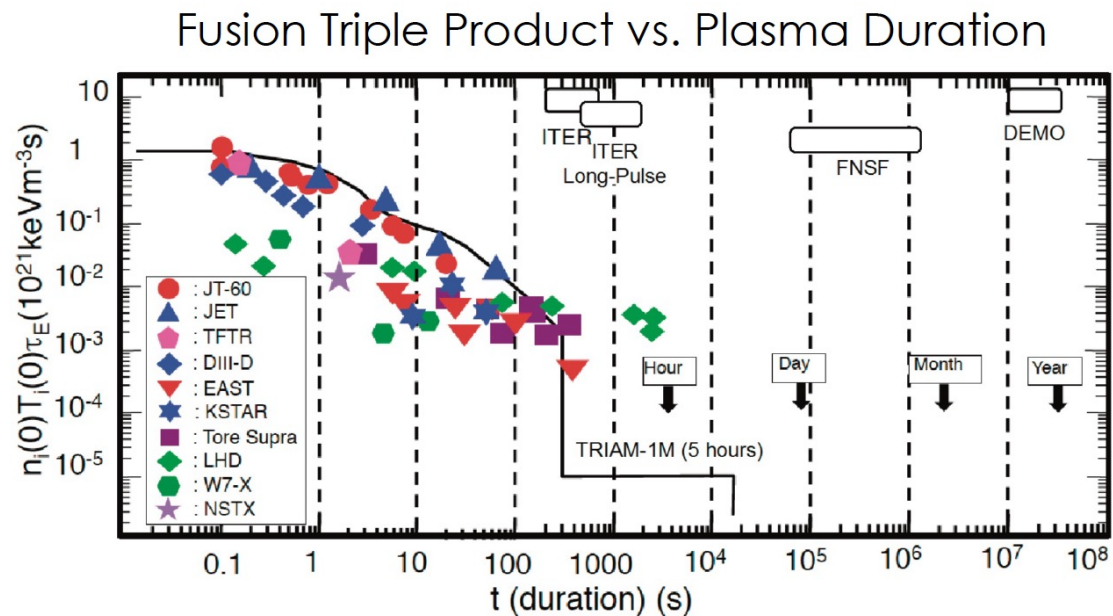
Samuel E. Wurzel and Scott C. Hsu

$$Q_{sci} = \frac{P_{out} - P_{ext}}{P_{ext}} = \frac{P_F}{P_{ext}}$$



Credit right image: Cami Collins, Oak Ridge National Laboratory

## But Making Electricity Is More Than Just Triple Product



Significant progress is needed to demonstrate high gain AND long-duration (or high rep rate?) to be relevant for cost-effective, uninterrupted fusion power production



## For Sufficiently Long MCF Plasma Confinement Times Understanding and Controlling Instabilities/Disruptions in Plasma Confinement is Critical.

### Goal for Fusion Device:

- Achieve temperatures of  $> 100\text{M deg K}$  ( $> 6\text{x Sun temp.}$ ),
- Burning plasma / energy confinement times of  $O(1) - O(10)$  sec. (ITER).

### Strong external magnetic fields are used for:

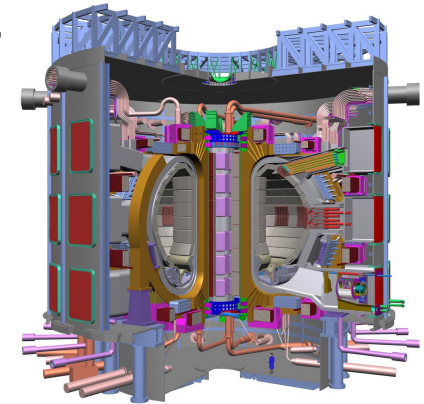
- Resistive heating of the plasma (along with RF-EM waves, ..)
- Confinement of the hot plasma to keep it from striking the wall

### Plasma disruptions can

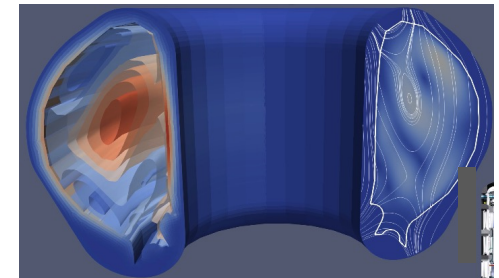
- cause a loss of vertical positioning control,
- a breakdown of magnetic confinement with huge plasma thermal energy loss to the walls, and
- a discharge of very large electrical currents to surface,

that can damage the device.

ITER can sustain only a limited number of significant disruptions,  $O(1 - 5)$  without bringing down the device.



ITER Tokamak [under construction, Cadarache, Fr.]



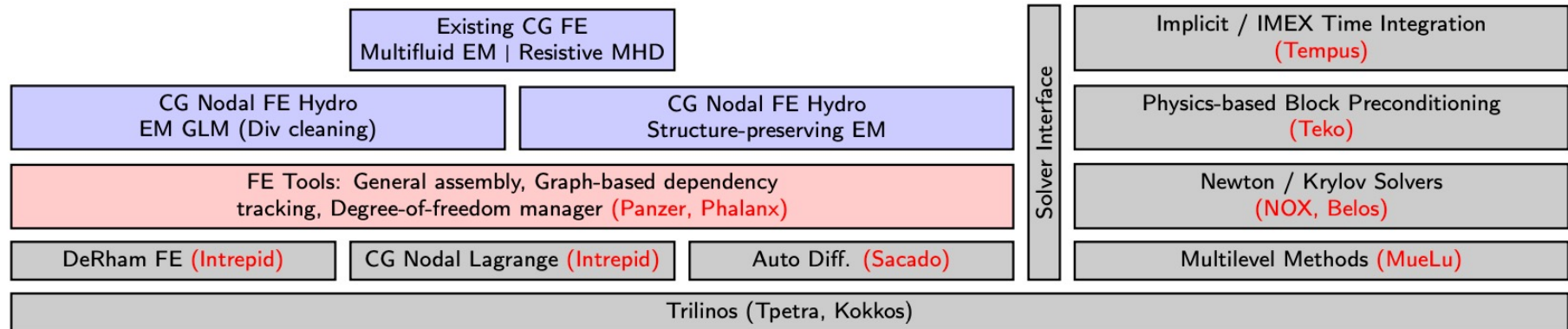
Vertical Displacement Event (VDE) in ITER Tokamak Plasma and Wall Geometry (Drekar sim.)



# Context

## Drekar: Resistive MHD / Multifluid with Coupled Multiphysics

- Arbitrarily many equations describing physics (continuity, momentum, energy, electromagnetics).
- ERK, DIRK, IMEX time integration (Tempus).
- 2D & 3D unstructured finite element (Intrepid):
  - Stabilized Q1/P1 elements (high-order possible).
  - Physics compatible discretizations (node, edge, face).
  - High-resolution positivity-preserving methods.
- Advanced software capabilities:
  - MPI+X (Kokkos).
  - Linear/non-linear solvers (NOX, Belos) with robust, scalable preconditioning (Teko, MueLu).
  - Jacobians computed through automatic differentiation (Sacado).
  - Asynchronous dependency manages multiphysics complexity (Phalanx).





## Trilinos Assembly/Evaluation Engines

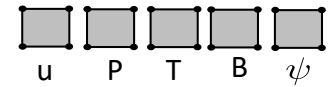
**Panzer:** Multiphysics finite element assembly engine.

- Implement models using *equation set* classes to describe physics in residual form (eg., weak form residual).
- Manages arbitrary assignments of physics models (*equation sets*) to mesh regions (*element blocks*) with various discretizations.
- Handles indexing of solution fields into global solution vectors, Jacobian matrices, etc.

**Phalanx:** DAG-based expression evaluation.

- Each node (*evaluator*) maps input fields to output fields (Ideal gas EoS:  $(\rho, \rho \mathbf{u}, \mathcal{E}) \mapsto (p, T)$ ).
- Written using *evaluate* strategy (output =  $f$ (input)) or *contribute* strategy (output + =  $f$ (input)).
- Simple closure relations (eg., equation of state) leverage *evaluate* strategy for flexibility: just replace with a different evaluation.
- *Contribute* strategy allows for flexibility in model construction: *evaluate* a base model, then *contribute* specialized components for specific models.
- Template evaluators on scalar type to support generation of Jacobian matrices through automatic differentiation (AD).

Basic Resistive Low Mach Number Magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) is “useful” for Studying Some Aspects of Macroscopic Instabilities and Disruptions in MCF



Conservation of mass	$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u}) = 0,$	<span style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">Sound wave off diagonal coupling</span>	
Conservation of momentum	$\frac{\partial(\rho \mathbf{u})}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot [(\rho \mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{u}) + pI + \frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{Re} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u})I - \frac{1}{Re} (\nabla \mathbf{u} + (\nabla \mathbf{u})^T)] - \mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{B} = 0,$		<span style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 2px;">Lorentz force</span>
Internal energy balance eq.	$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla T + \frac{2}{3} T (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q} = 0,$		<span style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">Alfven wave strong off diagonal coupling</span>
Magnetic induction	$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot [\mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{u} - \frac{1}{S} (\nabla \mathbf{B} - (\nabla \mathbf{B})^T) + \psi I] = 0,$		
Solenoidal constraint	$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0,$	<span style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">Elliptic divergence cleaning</span>	



## Whole Device Modeling Requires Heterogeneous Multiphysics

$$\frac{\partial \rho \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot [\rho \mathbf{v} \otimes \mathbf{v} - (\mathbf{T} + \mathbf{T}_M)] + 2\rho \boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{v} - \rho \mathbf{g} = \mathbf{0} \quad \mathbf{T} = - \left( P + \frac{2}{3} \mu (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) \right) \mathbf{I} + \mu [\nabla \mathbf{u} + \nabla \mathbf{u}^T]$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0$$

$$\mathbf{T}_M = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{B} - \frac{1}{2\mu_0} \|\mathbf{B}\|^2 \mathbf{I}$$

$$\frac{\partial(\rho e)}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot [\rho \mathbf{v} e + \mathbf{q}] - \mathbf{T} : \nabla \mathbf{v} - \eta \left\| \frac{1}{\mu_0} \nabla \times \mathbf{B} \right\|^2 = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \left[ \mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v} \otimes \mathbf{B} - \frac{\eta}{\mu_0} (\nabla \mathbf{B} - (\nabla \mathbf{B})^T) + \psi \mathbf{I} \right] = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

Solid walls and vacuum regions

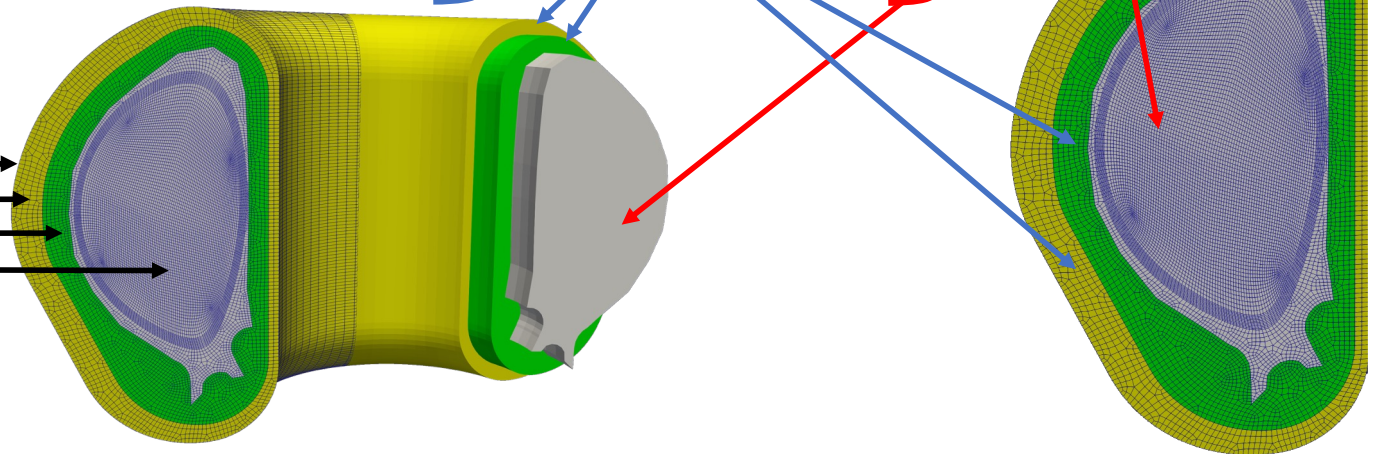
- Internal energy
- Magnetic induction

Plasma region: visco-resistive MHD

- Momentum
- Mass
- Internal energy
- Magnetic induction

### Heterogeneous Physics Regions

- Outer perfect conducting wall
- Vacuum region
- Solid 1<sup>st</sup> wall
- Plasma region



# Discretization

## Finite element discretization (Galerkin terms)

Find  $\mathbf{U} \doteq [\rho, \mathbf{m}, T, \mathbf{B}, \psi]^T \in \mathcal{U}$  such that  $\rho = \bar{\rho}$  on  $\Gamma_D^\rho$ ,  $\mathbf{m} = \bar{\mathbf{m}}$  on  $\Gamma_D^{\mathbf{m}}$ ,  $T = \bar{T}$  on  $\Gamma_D^T$ ,  $\mathbf{B} = \bar{\mathbf{B}}$  on  $\Gamma_D^{\mathbf{B}}$ ,  $\psi = \bar{\psi}$  on  $\Gamma_D^\psi$ , and

$$\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{U}) = \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{W}) \quad \forall \mathbf{W} \doteq [q, \mathbf{w}, \theta, \mathbf{C}, s]^T \in \mathcal{V},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{U}) \doteq & (q, \partial_t \rho) - (\nabla q, \rho \mathbf{u}) \\ & + (\mathbf{w}, \partial_t \rho \mathbf{u}) - \langle \nabla \mathbf{w}, \rho \mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{u} \rangle - (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{w}, p + \frac{2}{3Re} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u})) + \langle \nabla \mathbf{w}, \frac{1}{Re} (\nabla \mathbf{u} + (\nabla \mathbf{u})^T) \rangle - (\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{B}) \\ & + (\theta, \partial_t T) + (\theta, \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla T) + \frac{2}{3} (\theta, T (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u})) + (\nabla \theta, \mathbf{q}) \\ & + (\mathbf{C}, \partial_t \mathbf{B}) - \langle \nabla \mathbf{C}, \mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{u} \rangle + \left\langle \nabla \mathbf{C}, \frac{1}{S} (\nabla \mathbf{B} - (\nabla \mathbf{B})^T) \right\rangle - (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{C}, \psi) \\ & + (s, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B}), \end{aligned}$$

$$(a, b) = \int_{\Omega} ab \, d\Omega$$

$$(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b} \, d\Omega$$

$$\langle \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \rangle = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{A} : \mathbf{B} \, d\Omega$$

Deficiencies of Galerkin Weak Form:

- Equal-order interpolation have stability problems for saddle point prbs. (LBB condition, see .e.g. Gunzburger 1989)
  - Induction – div  $\mathbf{B} = 0$ ; Lagrange multiplier coupling  $(\mathbf{B}, \psi)$
  - Strong guide field (large  $\mathbf{B}$ ) produces an incompressible flow limit type response plane  $\perp \mathbf{B}$  and therefore, a saddle point like structure (e.g. Stokes-like behavior for  $(\rho \mathbf{u}, \rho)$ )
- Strong convective transport and large unresolved gradients can produce unphysical spatial oscillations (internal / boundary layers).
- For unresolved high-wavenumber signals aliasing of energy into lower-wavenumber resolved components

# Brief Outline Following Variational Multiscale (VMS) Approach

VMS: T.J.R Hughes et. al.; & VMS MHD: Codina et. al., JS et. al.

## Upwinding and saddle point stabilization

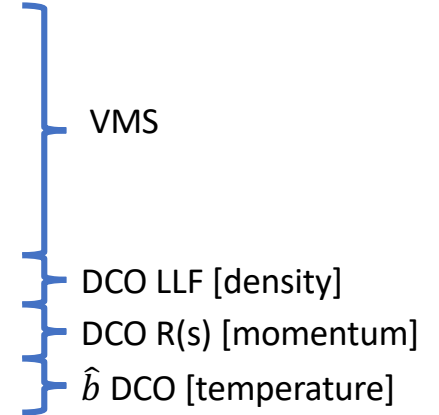
Split the solution and test spaces in resolved and unresolved scales, i.e.,  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}_h + \mathcal{U}'$  and  $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{V}_h + \mathcal{V}'$  thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{W}_h, \mathbf{U}_h + \mathbf{U}') &= \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{W}_h) \quad \forall \mathbf{W}_h \in \mathcal{V}_h \\ \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{W}', \mathbf{U}_h + \mathbf{U}') &= \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{W}') \quad \forall \mathbf{W}' \in \mathcal{V}' \end{aligned} \rightarrow \mathbf{U}' \text{ not resolved, modeled by } \mathbf{U}' \approx -\tau \mathbf{P}\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{U}^h)$$

*i.e. sub-grid / unresolved scales driven by residual resolved scales of strong from PDEs, variationally consistent*

VMS + additional optional DCO terms are included for enhanced stability

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{W}_h, \mathbf{U}_h + \mathbf{U}') &= \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{W}_h, \mathbf{U}_h) - \sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} ((\nabla q_h, \rho_h \mathbf{u}' + \mathbf{u}_h \rho')_K \\ &\quad + \langle \nabla \mathbf{w}_h, \rho \mathbf{u}' \otimes \mathbf{u}_h + \rho' \mathbf{u}_h \otimes \mathbf{u}_h \rangle_K + (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{w}_h, p')_K \\ &\quad + \langle \nabla \theta_h, \mathbf{u}_h T' \rangle_K \\ &\quad + \langle \nabla \mathbf{C}_h, \mathbf{u}_h \otimes \mathbf{B}' - \mathbf{B}' \otimes \mathbf{u}_h \rangle_K + (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{C}_h, \psi')_K \\ &\quad + \langle \nabla s_h, \mathbf{B}' \rangle_K \\ &\quad + (\nabla q_h, \nu_\rho^K \nabla \rho_h)_K \\ &\quad + (\nabla \mathbf{w}_h, \frac{1}{2} \nu_m^K (\nabla \mathbf{u}_h + (\nabla \mathbf{u}_h)^T))_K + \langle \nabla \mathbf{w}_h, \nu_\rho^K \nabla \rho_h \otimes \mathbf{u}_h \rangle_K \\ &\quad + \frac{C}{2} (u_A h \hat{b} \cdot \nabla \theta, \hat{b} \cdot \nabla T)_K \end{aligned}$$



**First order** cG finite elements for  $\rho_h, \mathbf{m}_h, \mathbf{B}_h, \psi_h$  and **second order** finite elements  $T_h$ .

(momentum / density fluctuation as in X. Zeng, G. Scovazzi, A variational multiscale finite element method for monolithic ALE computations of shock hydrodynamics using nodal elements, J. Comput. Phys. 315 (2016) 577–608.)

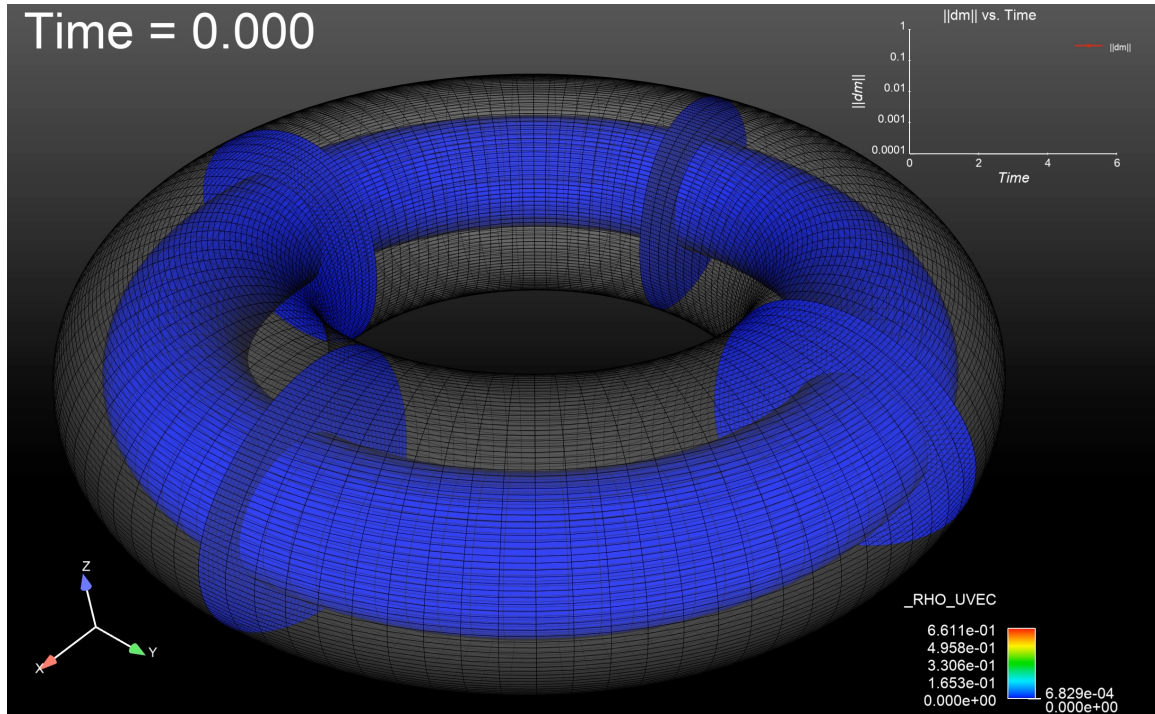
Bonilla, S, Tang, Crockatt, Ohm, Phillips, Pawlowski, Conde, Beznosov, On a Fully-implicit VMS-stabilized FE Formulation for Low Mach Number Compressible Resistive MHD with Application to MCF, Comput. Methods Appl. Mech. Engrg. 2023

DCO: Hughes et. al, Tezduyar et. al.,  
Entropy viscosity: Guermond et. al.

**An example of the importance of implicit, implicit/explicit (IMEX) methods for over-stepping time-scales in magnetic confinement fusion relevant applications.**



# Resistive MHD: Soloviev Analytic Equilibrium Nonlinear Disturbance Saturation (VMS Q1).



Kink and interchange instability.

## MHD Wave speeds

$\|\mathbf{u}\|, \|\mathbf{u}\| \pm c_s, \|\mathbf{u}\| \pm c_a, \|\mathbf{u}\| \pm c_f, \pm c_h$  Here  $c_h$  is  $\infty$  for elliptic divergence cleaning

## Approx. Computational Time Scales:

- B Divergence Const. ( $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$ ):  $1/\infty = 0$
- Fast Magnetosonic Wave ( $c_f$ ):  $10^{-4}$  to  $10^{-7}$
- Alfvén Wave ( $c_a$ ):  $10^{-4}$  to  $10^{-7}$
- Slow Magnetosonic Wave ( $c_s$ ):  $10^{-2}$  to  $10^{-3}$
- Sound Wave ( $c$ ):  $10^{-1}$  to  $10^{-3}$
- **Convection ( $c_{v \max}$ ):**  $\sim 10^{-2}$
- **Diffusion:**  $10^{-3}$  to  $10^{-2}$
- Macroscopic Dynamic Time-scale:  
unstable mode:  $O(1)$
- Implicit time step  $\Delta t = 10^{-2}$

Fully-implicit (BDF2, SDIRK22)

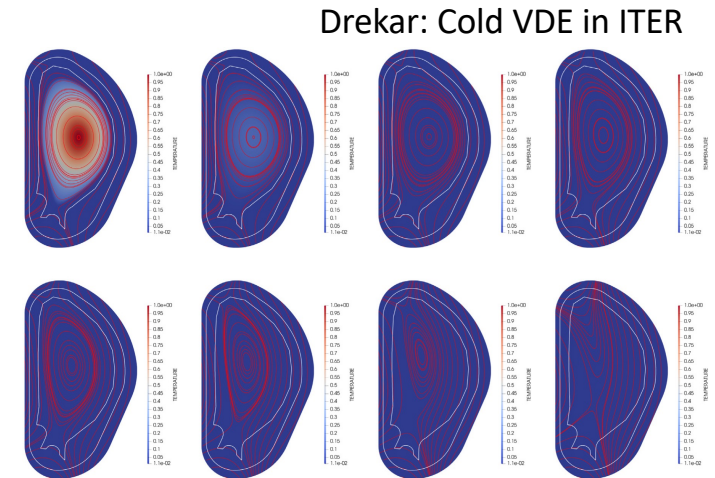
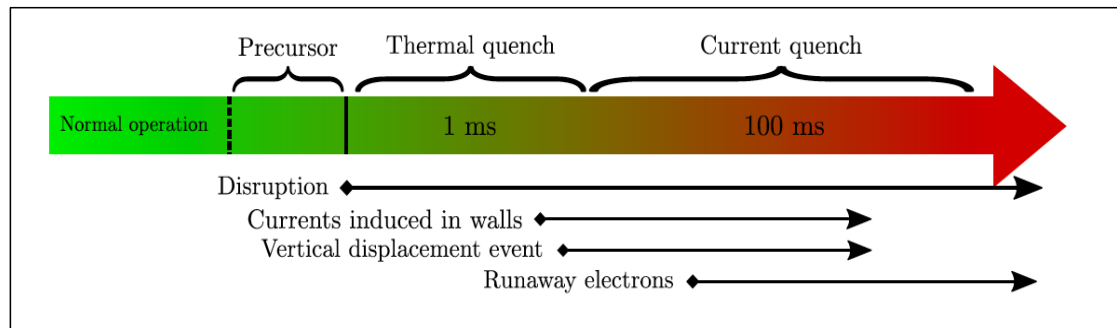
Max CFL:

- $CFL_{\text{div}} = \infty$
- $CFL_{c_f} \sim 10^5$
- $CFL_{c_a} \sim 10^5$
- $CFL_{c_s} \sim 10^1$
- $CFL_c \sim 10^1$
- $CFL_{c_v} \sim 1$

# **Preliminary Tokamak Relevant Results**

## Vertical displacement events (VDEs) are major disruption events occurring in tokamaks when vertical stability control is lost.

These events cause large currents to flow in the vessel and other adjacent metallic structures.



### Cold VDE fast internal energy loss (i.e. Temperature drop)

1. Initial equilibrium momentum force balance:  $\mathbf{u}_0 = 0$  and  $\nabla P_0 = (\mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{B})_0$

$$\frac{\partial(\rho\mathbf{u})}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \left[ (\rho\mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{u}) + p\mathbf{I} + \frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{Re} (\nabla \mathbf{u}) - \frac{1}{Re} (\nabla \mathbf{u} + (\nabla \mathbf{u})^T) \right] - \mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{B} = 0$$

2. Temperature drops quickly, pressure changes  $\nabla P_{0+} \neq (\mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{B})_{0+}$

3. Loss of vertical position control of plasma magnetic field structure; Magnetic field rearranges, also  $\mathbf{u}_{0+} \neq 0$

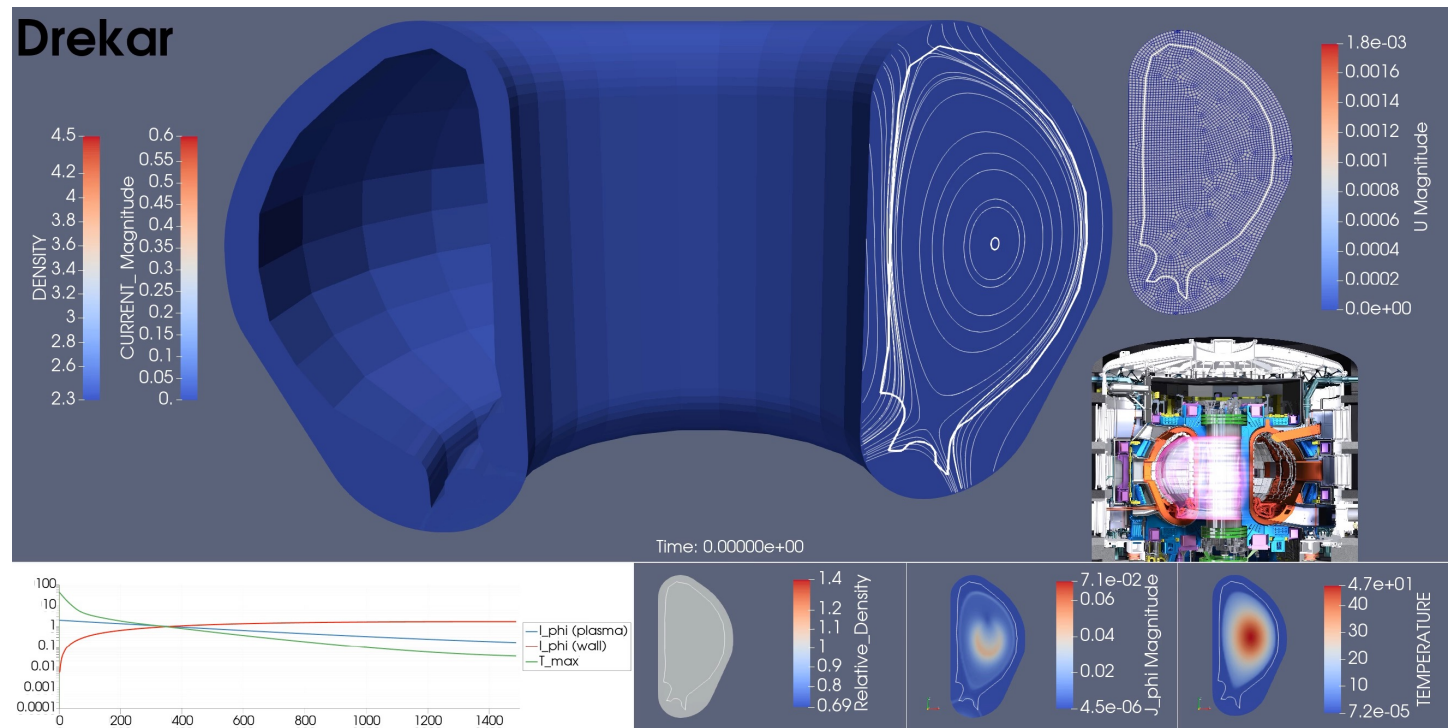
## Computational Goals of Tokamak Disruption Simulation (TDS\*) Center SciDAC-4 Partnership (DOE OFES/ASCR)

Cold VDE studies: Rapid loss of internal energy. Vertical displacement event (VDE) disruption simulation in ITER plasma and wall region. For our computations our initial choice was (dimensional parameters):

- $D_2$  plasma
- $T = 40$  keV ( $\sim 500$  M K)
- $n = 10^{20}$   $1/m^3$
- $B_{max} = 8.5$  T
- $S = 10^4$  (have run higher in VDE scaling  $> 10^{10}$ )

Proof-of-principle

Vertical displacement event (VDE) disruption simulation in ITER plasma and wall region.

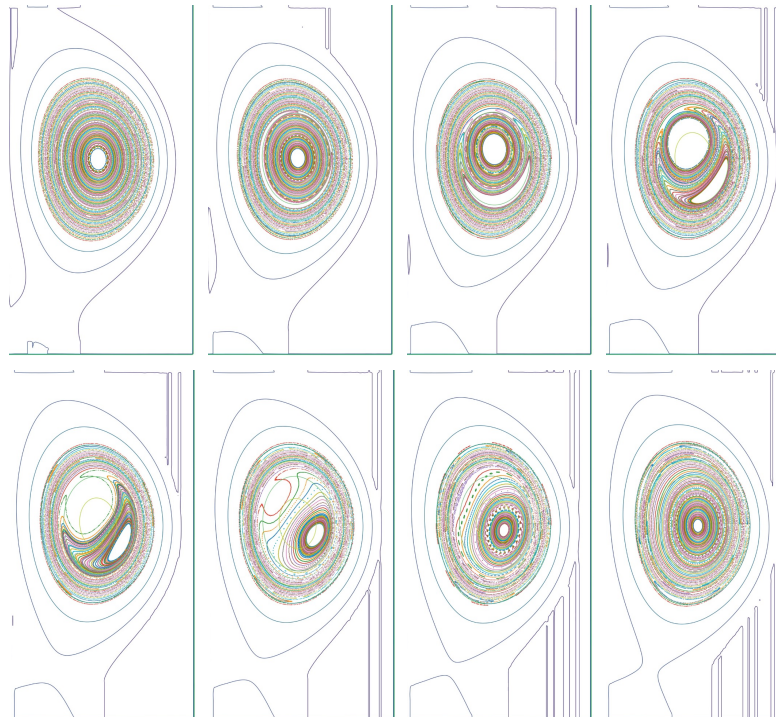


## Internal kink

- Initial equilibrium with  $q$  profile  $< 0.9$  (very unstable)
- Introduced (1,1) perturbation and let evolve in time
  - (1,1) leads to sawtooth crash with island growth
  - (2,1) is excited leading to stochastic magnetic field
  - breakdown of magnetic surfaces and a disruption.

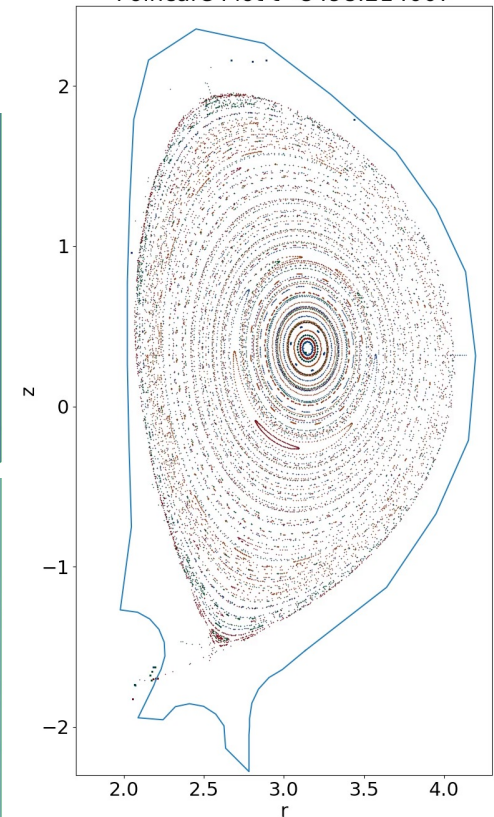
Return map of B on  
poloidal plane:  
(Poincaré plot)

Sawtooth Progression



- $B_0 : 5T$
- $n : 10^{20}$
- $Sp : 10^4 - 10^6$
- $\kappa_{\perp} : 10^{-5}$
- $\kappa_{\parallel} : 10^{-3}$
- $\nu : 10^{-5}$

Poincare Plot t=8498.214007



## Critical aspects of modeling disruptions and instabilities with MHD

- Need to integrate to longer time-scales a multiple time-scale multiphysics system
  - Convective transport, wave propagation (strong off-diagonal coupling), source terms, B involution, nearly incompressible flow (perpendicular to strong guide field)
- Whole device modeling (WDM) for fusion requires heterogeneous physics (plasma, wall, vacuum vessel).
- Higher-order temperature approximation is required for strongly anisotropic heat conductivity, and produces a mixed FE integration from i.e.

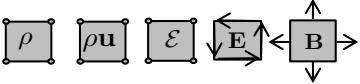
**First order** cG FE for  $(\mathbf{m}_h, \rho_h, \mathbf{B}_h, \psi_h)$  and **second order** FE  $T_h$ .

*Note we have also demonstrated  $Q^2$  for  $m_h, B_h$  as well.  $Q^N$  higher-order available.*

- Important diffusion process for highly-resolved meshes (elliptic behavior)

Given these challenges we develop multiphysics block preconditioning approaches with AMG sub-block solvers to pursue development of optimal scalable solution methods

## Approximate Block Factorization / Physics-based Preconditioning (using Teko)

- Applies to mixed interpolation (FE), staggered (FV), physics compatible /  structure preserving discretization using segregated unknown blocking
- Applies to heterogeneous physics systems (different physics in different sub-domains)
- Applies to systems where coupled system AMG is difficult or might completely fail (e.g. Hyperbolic systems with strong off diagonal physics coupling, multiphysics)
- Enables optimal AMG to be applied to sub-blocks (ML, MueLu)
- Handles disparate spatial discretizations and allows application of specialized optimized AMG e.g. H(grad), H(curl), H(div) in the required spaces.

## Structure of 5 x 5 block Jacobian system from Newton's method

$$\mathbf{F}'(\mathbf{x}_k) \mathbf{p} = -\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}_k)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{F}_m & \tilde{\mathbf{B}}_{m,\rho}^T & \mathbf{C}_{m,T} & \mathbf{Z} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{B}_{\rho,m} & \mathbf{F}_\rho & \mathbf{C}_{\rho,T} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{A}_{T,m} & \mathbf{C}_{T,\rho} & \mathbf{F}_T & \mathbf{Z}_T & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{Y} & \mathbf{C}_{B,\rho} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{F}_B & \mathbf{B}_B^T \\ \mathbf{C}_{\psi,m} & \mathbf{C}_{\psi,\rho} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{B}_B & \mathbf{L}_\psi \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \delta \hat{\mathbf{m}} \\ \delta \hat{\rho} \\ \delta T \\ \delta \hat{\mathbf{B}} \\ \delta \hat{\psi} \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_m \\ \mathbf{r}_\rho \\ \mathbf{r}_T \\ \mathbf{r}_B \\ \mathbf{r}_\psi \end{bmatrix}$$

VMS FE resistive MHD and block solvers for MCF:

Ohm, Bonilla, Phillips, JS, Crockatt, Tuminaro, Hu, Tang, SISC, 2024

Bonilla, JS, Tang, Crockatt, Ohm, Phillips, Pawlowski, Conde, Beznosov, Comput. Methods Appl. Mech. Engrg. 2023

Teko multiphysics block preconditioning package:

E. C. Cyr, JS, and R. S. Tuminaro, SIAM SISC Vol. 38, No. 5, pp. S307–S331, 2016



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$$[\mathbf{F}_{\text{ns}} = [\mathbf{F}_{\rho\mathbf{u}}, \mathbf{F}_{\rho}], \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{B}}, \mathbf{L}_r, \mathbf{F}_T]$$

Block Jacobi

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{F}_{\text{ns}} & \mathbf{Z} & & \mathbf{C}_T \\ \mathbf{Y} & \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{B}} & \mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{B}}^T & \\ \mathbf{C}_{\text{ns}} & \mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{B}} & \mathbf{L}_r & \\ \mathbf{A}_T & \mathbf{Z}_T & & \mathbf{F}_T \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

↓

$$\begin{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{F}_{\text{ns}} & \mathbf{Z} & \\ \mathbf{Y} & \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{B}} & \mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{B}}^T \\ \mathbf{C}_{\text{ns}} & \mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{B}} & \mathbf{L}_r \end{bmatrix}^{-1} & \\ & [\mathbf{F}_T]^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[\mathbf{F}_{\text{ns}} = [\mathbf{F}_{\rho\mathbf{u}}, \mathbf{F}_{\rho}], \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{B}}, \mathbf{L}_r, \mathbf{F}_T]$$

Block Jacobi

$[\mathbf{F}_{\text{ns}}, \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{B}}, \mathbf{L}_r]$   
Operator Splitting

$[\mathbf{F}_T]$   
AMG

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{F}_{\text{ns}} & \mathbf{Z} & \\ \mathbf{Y} & \mathbf{F}_{\mathbf{B}} & \mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{B}}^T \\ \mathbf{C}_{\text{ns}} & \mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{B}} & \mathbf{L}_r \end{array} \right]^{-1} \\ \\ \end{array} \right] [\mathbf{F}_T]^{-1}$$

$[\mathbf{F}_{ns} = [\mathbf{F}_{\rho u}, \mathbf{F}_{\rho}], \mathbf{F}_B, \mathbf{L}_r, \mathbf{F}_T]$ Block Jacobi		
$[\mathbf{F}_{ns}, \mathbf{F}_B, \mathbf{L}_r]$ Operator Splitting		$[\mathbf{F}_T]$ AMG
$[\mathbf{F}_B, \mathbf{L}_r]$ LU Decomp. + SIMPLEC	$[\mathbf{F}_B, \mathbf{F}_{ns}]$ LU Decomp. + SIMPLEC	

$$\left( \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{F}_{ns} & \mathbf{Z} \\ \mathbf{Y} & \mathbf{F}_B \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \\ & \mathbf{F}_B^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \\ & \mathbf{F}_B & \mathbf{B}_B^T \\ & \mathbf{B}_B & \mathbf{L}_r \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1}$$

2x2 critical implicit Stiff Alfven wave coupling

2x2 Saddle point system for (B,r)

$[\mathbf{F}_{ns} = [\mathbf{F}_{\rho u}, \mathbf{F}_{\rho}], \mathbf{F}_B, \mathbf{L}_r, \mathbf{F}_T]$ Block Jacobi			
$[\mathbf{F}_{ns}, \mathbf{F}_B, \mathbf{L}_r]$ Operator Splitting			$[\mathbf{F}_T]$ AMG
$[\mathbf{F}_B, \mathbf{L}_r]$ LU Decomp. + SIMPLEC		$[\mathbf{F}_B, \mathbf{F}_{ns}]$ LU Decomp. + SIMPLEC	
$[\mathbf{F}_B]$ AMG	$[\mathbf{S}_L]$ AMG	$[\mathbf{S}_{mag}]$ AMG	$[\mathbf{F}_{ns}]$ LU Decomp. + SIMPLEC

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & & & \\ & \mathbf{F}_B & \mathbf{B}_B^T & \\ & & \mathbf{S}_L & \\ & & & \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & & & \\ & \mathbf{F}_B & & \\ & -\mathbf{B}_B & & \\ & & & \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{F}_{ns} & \mathbf{Z} & & \\ & \mathbf{S}_{mag} & & \\ & & & \mathbf{I} \\ & & & & \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & & & \\ & -\mathbf{Y} \mathbf{F}_{ns}^{-1} & & \\ & & & \mathbf{I} \\ & & & & \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{S}_L := \mathbf{L}_r - \mathbf{B}_B (\text{absrowsum}(\mathbf{F}_B))^{-1} \mathbf{B}_B^T, \quad \mathbf{S}_{mag} := \mathbf{F}_B - \mathbf{Y} (\text{absrowsum}(\mathbf{F}_{ns}))^{-1} \mathbf{Z}$$

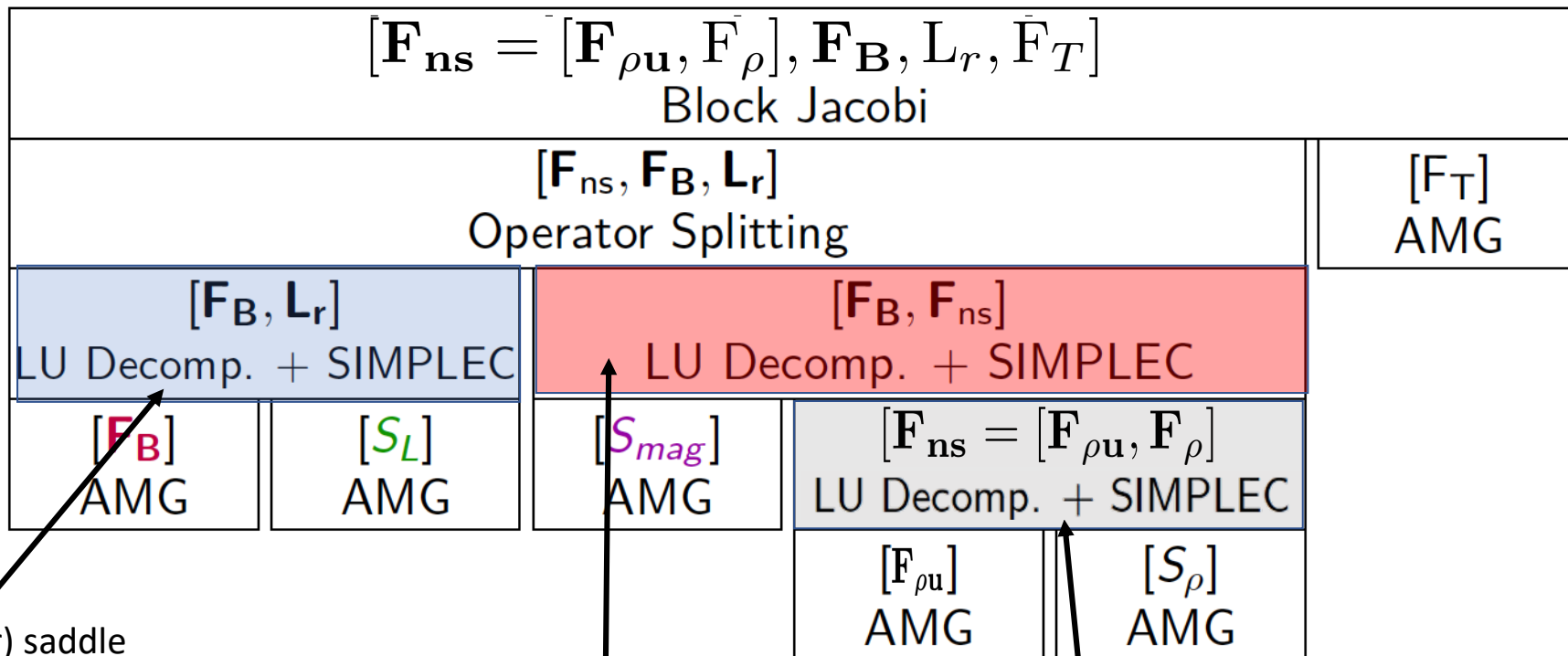
$$\mathbf{F}_{ns} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{F}_{\rho u} & \mathbf{B}_{\rho u, \rho}^T \\ \mathbf{B}_{\rho, \rho u} & \mathbf{F}_{\rho} \end{bmatrix}$$

$[\mathbf{F}_{ns} = [\mathbf{F}_{\rho u}, \mathbf{F}_{\rho}], \mathbf{F}_B, \mathbf{L}_r, \mathbf{F}_T]$ Block Jacobi			
$[\mathbf{F}_{ns}, \mathbf{F}_B, \mathbf{L}_r]$ Operator Splitting			$[\mathbf{F}_T]$ AMG
$[\mathbf{F}_B, \mathbf{L}_r]$ LU Decomp. + SIMPLEC		$[\mathbf{F}_B, \mathbf{F}_{ns}]$ LU Decomp. + SIMPLEC	
$[\mathbf{F}_B]$ AMG	$[\mathbf{S}_L]$ AMG	$[\mathbf{S}_{mag}]$ AMG	$[\mathbf{F}_{ns}]$ LU Decomp. + SIMPLEC
		$[\mathbf{F}_u]$ AMG	$[\mathbf{S}_{\rho}]$ AMG

$$\mathbf{F}_{ns} \approx \mathcal{M}_{NS} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{F}_{\rho u} & \tilde{\mathbf{B}}_{\rho u, \rho}^T \\ & \mathbf{S}_{\rho} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{S}_{\rho} = \mathbf{F}_{\rho} - \mathbf{B}_{\rho, \rho u} (\text{absrowsum}(\mathbf{F}_{\rho u}))^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{B}}_{\rho u, \rho}^T$$

**Kay, Loghin, Wathen, Silvester, Elman (1999 - 2006); (PCD etc.)**  
**Pernice and Tocci (2001);**  
**Elman, Howle, JS, Tuminaro (2003);**  
**(Taxonomy of Block Preconditioners, Elman, Howle, JS, Shuttleworth, Tuminaro, JCP 2008);**

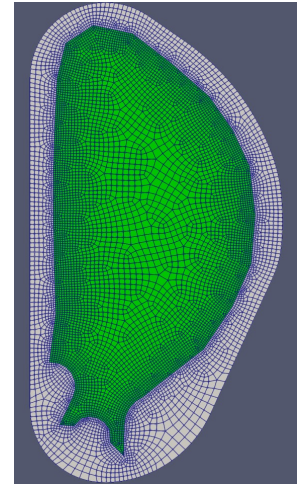


(B,r) saddle point problem for  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$

Stiff Alfven Wave Coupling

Nearly incompressible flow saddle point problem  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \approx 0$

# Drekar Strong Scaling Results 3D ITER VDE



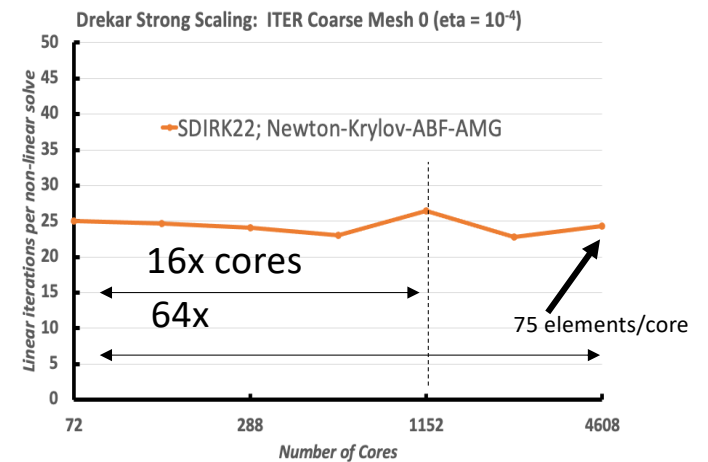
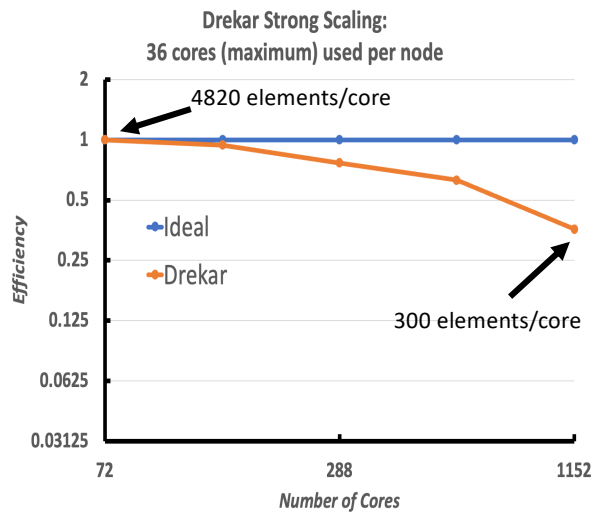
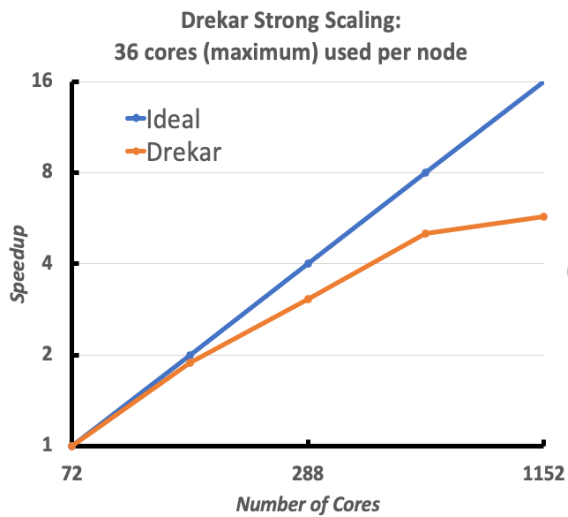
Strong scaling unperturbed initial equilibrium on coarse mesh with  $S = 1e4$ .

To 250 global Alfvén times. 72 cores  $\rightarrow$  4608 cores (64x increase).

Coarse Mesh 0: 347K elements, 7.2K poloidal x 48 toroidal

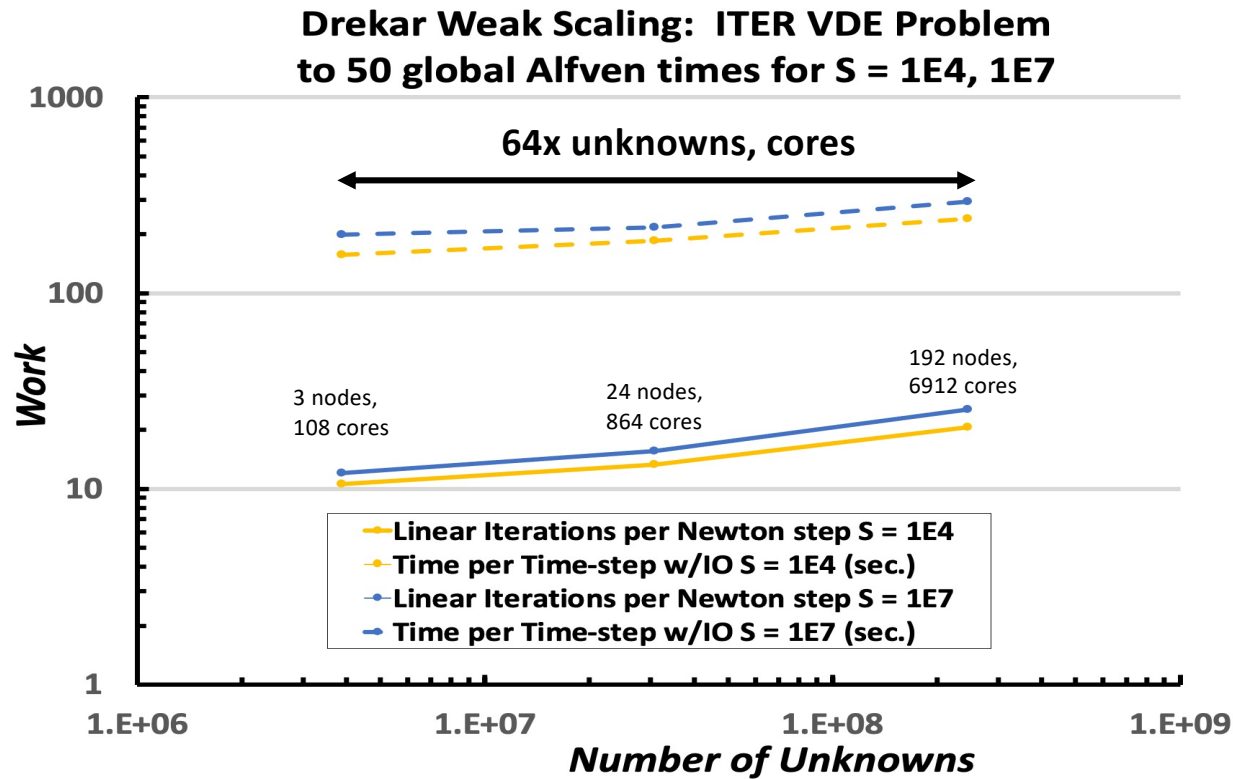
Constant time-step size  $dt = 2$

Max  $CFL_A \sim 750$ ,  $CFL_u \sim 3.2$

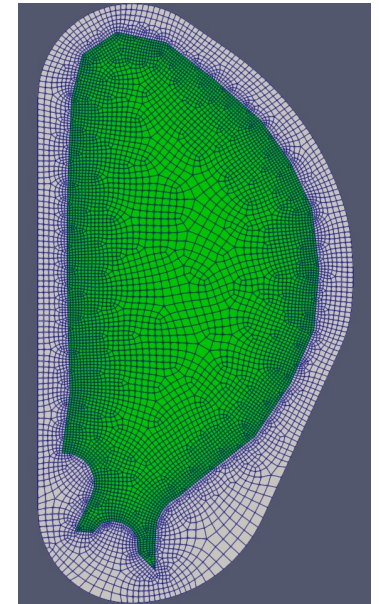


Outer iterations GMRES, Blocks –  
AMG one V-cycle; smoothers DD/ILU(0)

# Drekar Weak scaling Study 3D ITER VDE



mesh 0. : 347K elements, 7.2K poloidal x 48 toroidal,  $dt \sim 1.2$ ; 108 cores on ghost  
 mesh 1. : 2.77M elements, 28.8K poloidal x 96 toroidal,  $dt \sim 0.55$ ; 864 cores on ghost  
 mesh 2. : 22.2M elements, 115.2K poloidal x 192 toroidal,  $dt \sim 0.25$ ; 6912 cores on ghost

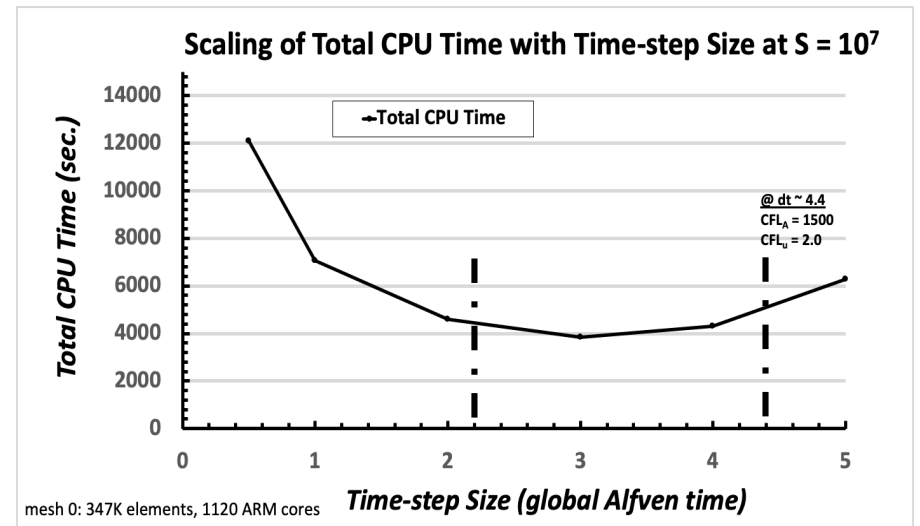
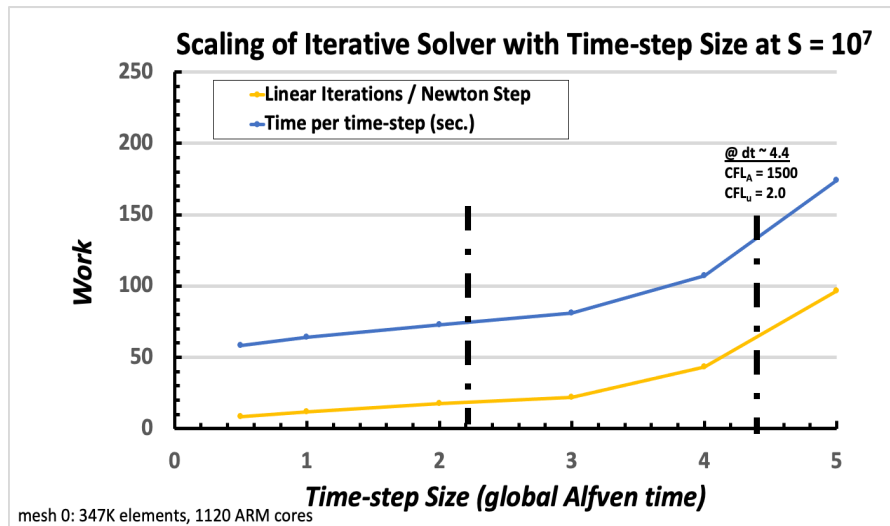
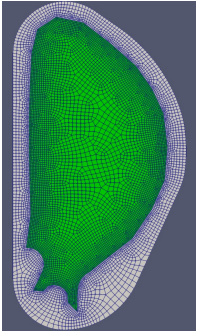


Unstructured mesh sequence  
 To 50 global Alfvén times  
 Max  $CFL_A = 400$ ,  $CFL_u = 2$   
 $Pr_m = 0.1$ ,  $Pr_T = 1$



# Time-step Size scaling for $S = 10^7$

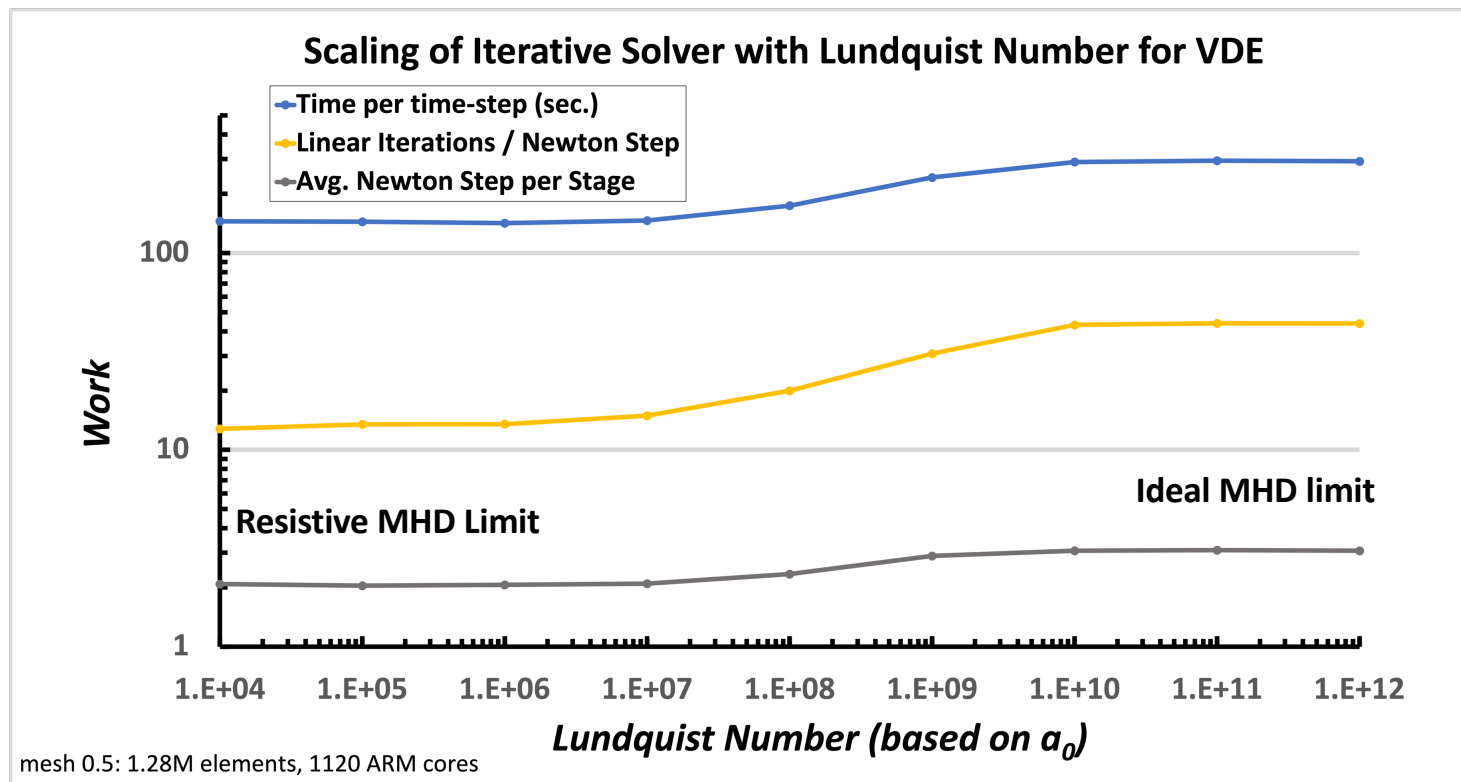
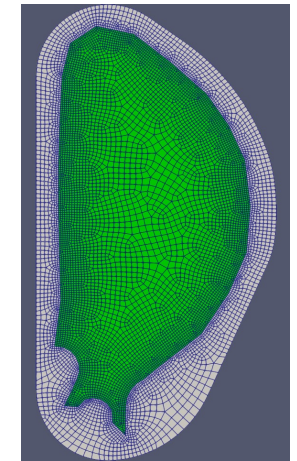
Coarse mesh0



To 100 global Alfven times

# Lundquist Number scaling, coarse mesh 0.5 to 25 global Alfvén times.

( $Pr_m = 10$ ,  $Pr_T = 1$  i.e. both momentum and thermal diffusivities the same, scale 10x resistivity)



Mesh 0.5:  
1.28M elements, 10K  
poloidal x 128  
toroidal, 1120 ARM  
cores

To 25 global Alfvén times  
Max  $CFL_A = 400$ ,  $CFL_u = 2$   
 $dt \sim 1.0$

## Conclusions

- Developed scalable fully implicit low Mach compressible visco-resistive MHD solver.
  - VMS FE → pursuing the control of numerical instabilities (convection, unresolved gradients) and saddle point system solvability (demonstrated numerically)
  - Approximate block factorization → scalable treatment of multiphysics equation coupling.
  - Scalable AMG solves → efficient scalable nearly optimal sub-block preconditioning.
- Demonstrated scalability (strong and weak), Lundquist number robustness, promising initial efficiency for longer-time scale simulations.
- Proof-of-principle numerical experiments.
  - Cold VDE and a (1,1) internal kink mode.
- Future work
  - Implement more complete reuse of AMG projections and all symbolic factorizations
  - Complete weak implementation of tangential interface conditions on B
  - Further V&V benchmarks.
  - Extension to two temperature models ( $T_i$ ,  $T_e$ ).
  - Extended MHD (XMHD) formulation.