

# Multiphysics Software for the Modeling of Hypersonic Flows

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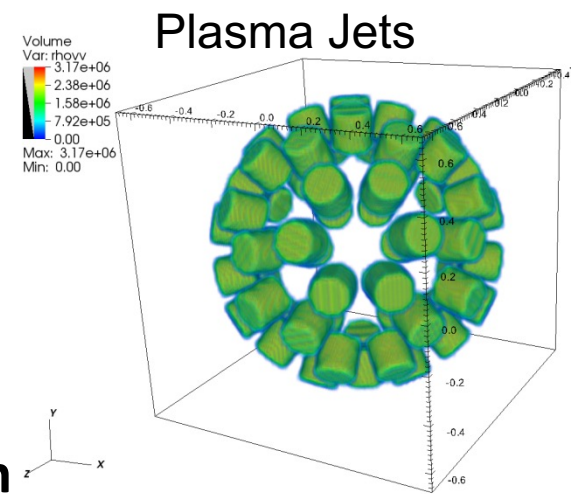
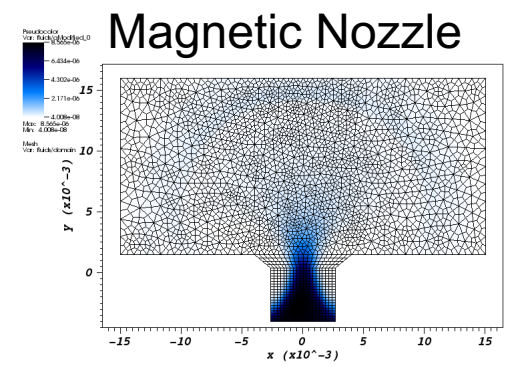
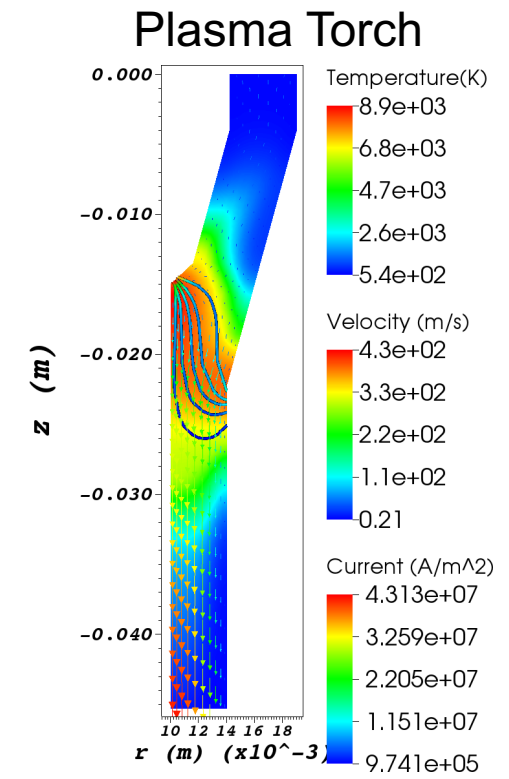
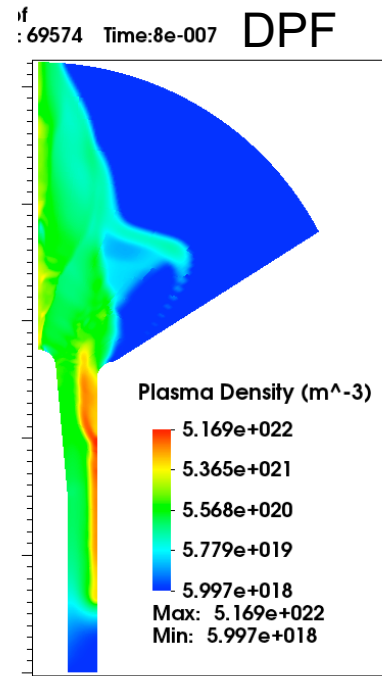
# USim: Advanced Fluid, Plasma and Electromagnetic Modeling on Unstructured Meshes

**USim** is a Generalized fluid plasma modeling framework developed to model the dynamics of neutral, partially-ionized and fully-ionized fluids on unstructured meshes.

Fluid models such as Hall MHD, two-fluid plasma, and Navier-Stokes enabling increasingly detailed models of hypersonic flows and improved designs for high energy density laboratory plasma experiments

## Areas of Application Include:

- Hypersonic Flight
- Radar Cross Section
- Blackout of Reentry Vehicles
- Dense Plasma Focus
- Plasma Jets Modelling
- Ion Sources
- Magnetic Reconnection
- Plasma Torches
- Scram Jets



# USim: Equation Systems

- Multi-Fluid Equations

- Models inviscid, viscous, and reactive flow descriptions. Several fluids can be coupled together using their collisional momentum and energy transfer. The fluids can be neutrals and/or ions.

- Single-Fluid Multi-Species System

- Models inviscid, viscous, reactions. Single bulk fluid with multiple species transported using the bulk velocity.

- Maxwell's Equations

- Electric and Magnetic field solver for a full description of plasma (two-fluid).
- EM wave propagation.

- MHD Equations

- Ideal MHD along with the generalized Ohm's law to include the hall, resistive, and diamagnetic drift terms.

- Poisson Equation

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

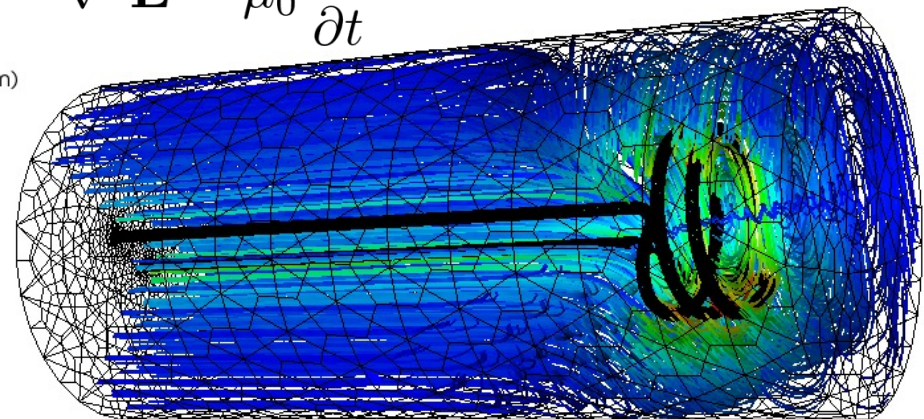
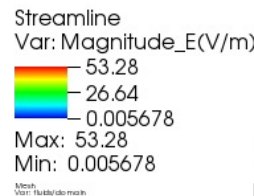
$$\frac{\partial \rho \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u} \mathbf{u} + p \mathbf{I} + P_B) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial e_{tot}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot ((e_{tot} + p) \mathbf{u} + P_B \cdot \mathbf{u}) = \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{1}{\sigma \mu_0^2} \mathbf{B} \times \nabla \times \mathbf{B} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} + \nabla \times \left( -\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B} + \frac{\mathbf{J}}{\sigma \mu_0} \right) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial s_e}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (s_e \mathbf{u}) = \frac{(\gamma - 1)}{n_e^{\gamma-1}} \left( \frac{\mathbf{J}^2}{\sigma} \right)$$

$$\nabla^2 \mathbf{E} = \mu_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{J}}{\partial t}$$



# USim Benefits

- USim provides scientists & engineers:
  - Ability to perform coupled fluid-plasma-electromagnetic simulations with chemistry and ablation physics
  - Simulation models for high density plasmas where kinetic simulations are not practical
- USim is built with software engineering best practices:
  - Test driven development & simulation validation
  - Object-orientated design that enables multi physics simulation
  - Cross-platform simulation engine & GUI
  - Examples & documentation for a wide range of problems

# Multi-fluid Model

Mass 
$$\frac{\partial \rho_\alpha}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho_\alpha \vec{u}_\alpha) = 0$$

Momentum 
$$\frac{\partial (\rho_\alpha \vec{u}_\alpha)}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho_\alpha \vec{u}_\alpha \vec{u}_\alpha + p_\alpha I) = \frac{\rho_\alpha}{m_\alpha} q_\alpha \left( \vec{E} + \vec{u}_\alpha \times \vec{B} \right) + \nabla \cdot \tau_\alpha + \vec{R}_\alpha$$

Energy 
$$\frac{\partial (e_\alpha)}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\vec{u}_\alpha (e + p_\alpha)) = \frac{\rho_\alpha}{m_\alpha} q_\alpha \vec{u}_\alpha \cdot \vec{E} + \tau_\alpha : \nabla \vec{u}_\alpha + \nabla \cdot (k_\alpha \nabla T_\alpha) + \vec{V} \cdot \vec{R}_\alpha + Q_\alpha$$

Bulk velocity 
$$\vec{V} = \left( \sum_i \rho_i \vec{u}_i \right) / \sum_i \rho_i$$
 Momentum exchange 
$$\vec{R}_\alpha = - \sum_i \frac{\rho_\alpha}{m_\alpha} \mu_{\alpha i} \zeta_{\alpha i}^{-1} (\vec{u}_\alpha - \vec{u}_i)$$

Internal energy exchange 
$$Q_\alpha = - \sum_i 3k_B \frac{\rho_\alpha}{m_\alpha} [\mu_{\alpha i} / (m_\alpha + m_i)] \zeta_{\alpha i}^{-1} (T_\alpha - T_i)$$

Ampere's law 
$$\frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} - c^2 \nabla \times \vec{B} = - \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \sum_\alpha \frac{q_\alpha \rho_\alpha \vec{u}_\alpha}{m_\alpha}$$

Faraday's law 
$$\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} + \nabla \times \vec{E} = 0$$

Divergence equations 
$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \sum_\alpha q_\alpha \rho_\alpha$$

Divergence cleaning is applied to obtain divergence free fields.

Munz et.al, Computer Physics Communications 130.1 (2000): 83-117

# Reentry Vehicle Analysis

Atmospheric flights of hypersonic vehicles encounter plasma environment due to shock heating.

Flow characterization is important for various design aspects including the aerothermal design, signature prediction, and blackout analysis.

Plasma interrupts communication waves, when the plasma frequency exceeds the wave frequency.

Mitigation ideas are electrophilic fluid injection, ablators, magnetic window.

# USim Models for Hypersonics

- Available models & capabilities
  - 7 or 11 species air chemistry
  - Translational-vibrational energies
  - Variable thermophysical properties computed self-consistently using kinetic theory
  - Full Maxwell's equations solver
  - Parallel processing
  - Structured and unstructured grids
- Gas radiation
  - Any available empirical data can be added without any difficulty!
  - Emissivities can be computed for atomic species using PROPACEOS software.

# Single Fluid Multi-Species Model

Mass  $\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{u}) = 0$

Momentum  $\frac{\partial (\rho \vec{u})}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{u} \vec{u} + pI) = \nabla \cdot \tau$

Energy  $\frac{\partial (e)}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\vec{u}(e + p)) = \tau : \nabla \vec{u} + \nabla \cdot (k \nabla T)$

$$e = \rho c_v T + \frac{1}{2} \rho \vec{u} \cdot \vec{u} + \sum_i n_i H_i$$

Equation of State (ideal gas laws)

$$\tau = -\frac{2}{3} \mu (\nabla \cdot \vec{u}) I + \mu (\nabla \vec{u} + (\nabla \vec{u})^T)$$

Species conservation  $\frac{\partial n_i}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\vec{u} n_i) = s_i$

Dynamic viscosity  $\mu_i = \frac{5}{16} \frac{\sqrt{\pi m_i k_B T}}{(\pi \sigma^2 \Omega)}$

Thermal conductivity  $k_i = \frac{5}{2} c_{vi} \mu_i$       Specific heat  $c_{vi} = \frac{f}{2} R_i$

Energy density  $e$  is the sum of the internal energy, kinetic energy, and chemical energy of the fluid.

$S_i$  is the rate of change of species due to reactions.

$f$  is the number of degrees of freedom

Species will be transported with the bulk velocity  $u$



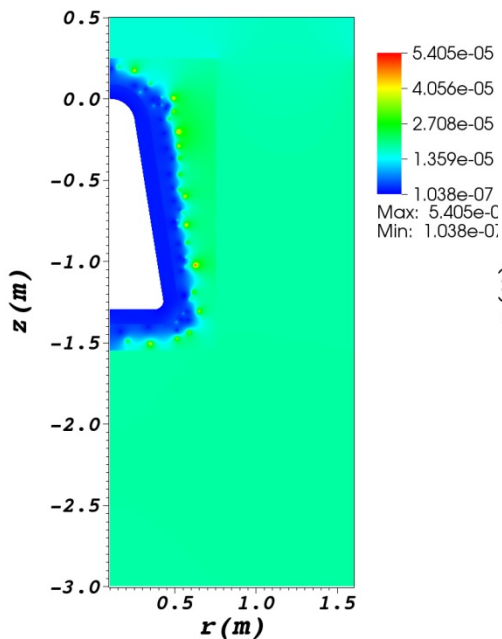
# Multi-Species Simulation on RAMC

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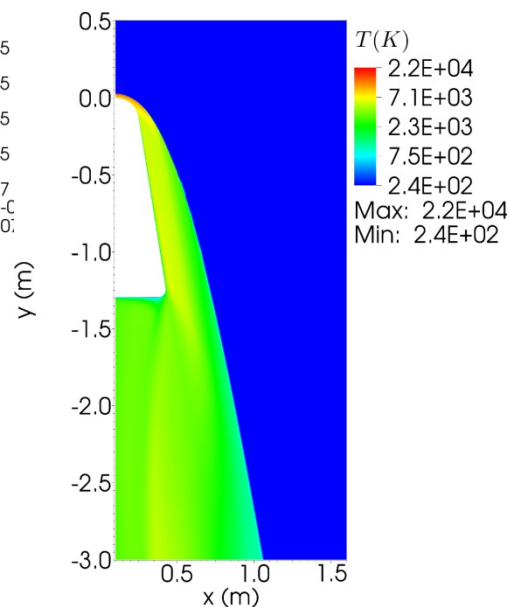
Mach 24

Species: N<sub>2</sub>, N, O<sub>2</sub>, O, NO, NO<sup>+</sup>, e<sup>-</sup>

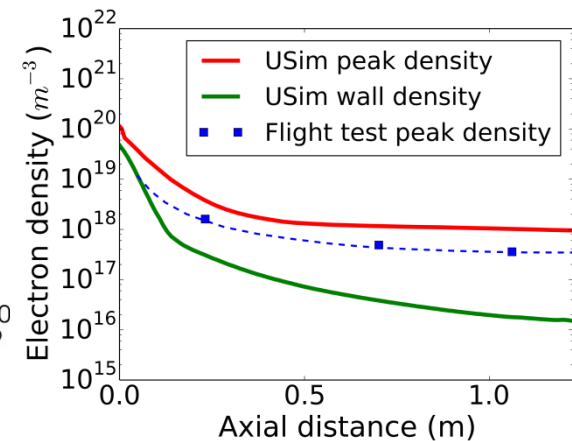
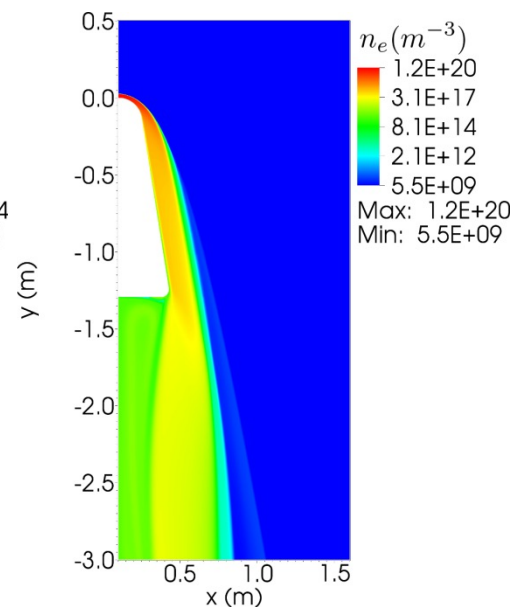
Grid area (m<sup>2</sup>)



Temperature (K)



Electron density (m<sup>-3</sup>)



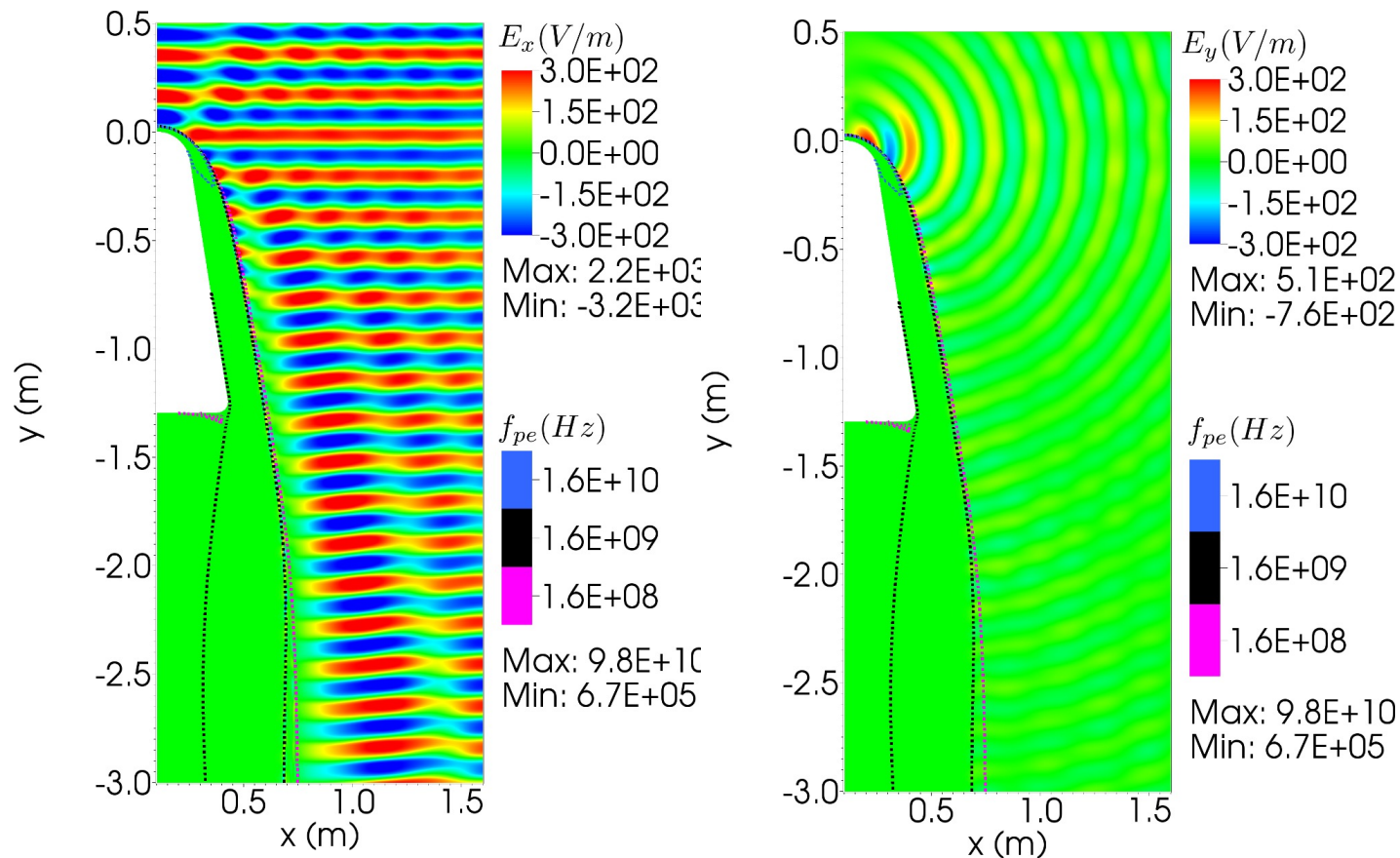
Simulation density is about three times the experiments  
radiation losses the diffusion of electrons could decrease the density to some extent.

Stagnation region surface density of electrons =  $4.3e19$  is on par with the results from the other researchers Candler and MacCormack, Grasso and Capano, Josyula and Bailey, JSR 2003. Their computations vary between  $2e19$  and  $1e20$ .

*Kundrapu et.al, JSR 2015*

# Wave Propagation on RAMC

$f = 1.6 \text{ GHz}$ ;  $E_x = 300\sin(\omega t)$ ; plasma density  $> 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$



EM wave was fully reflected by the plasma layer.

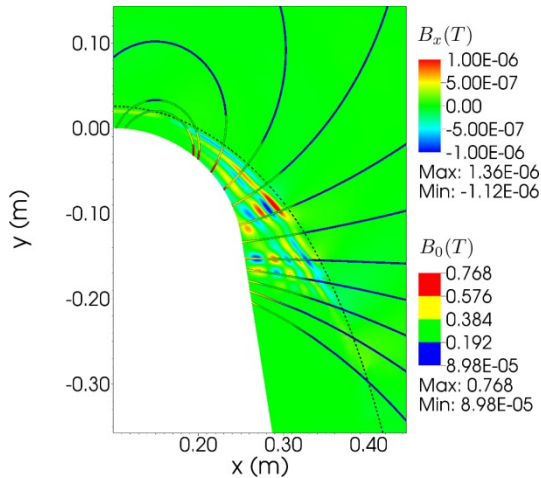
Electrophilic fluid injection

Magnetic window

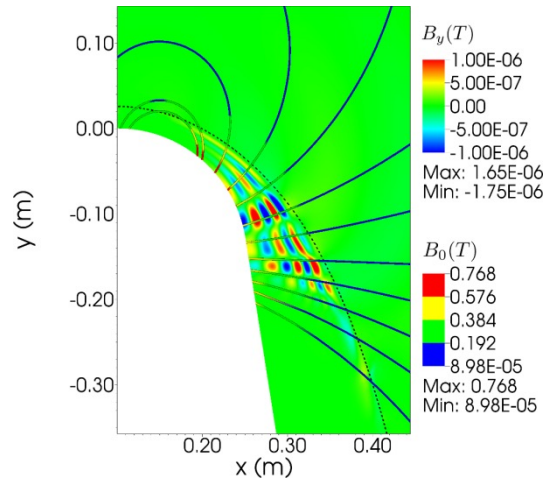
# Magnetic Window on RAM C

A magnetic field of 0.7T was applied near the surface!  
Wave propagates on to the surface

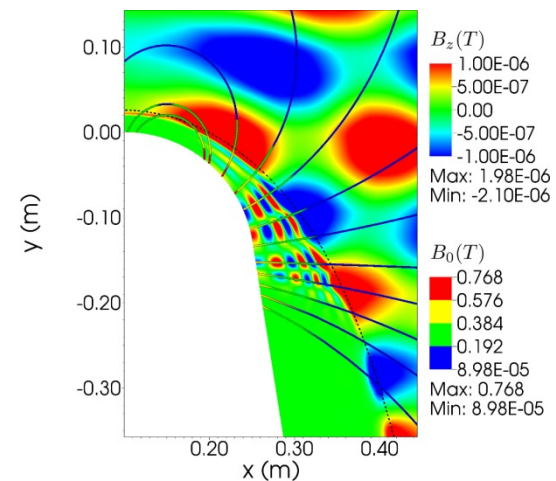
$B_x$  (T)



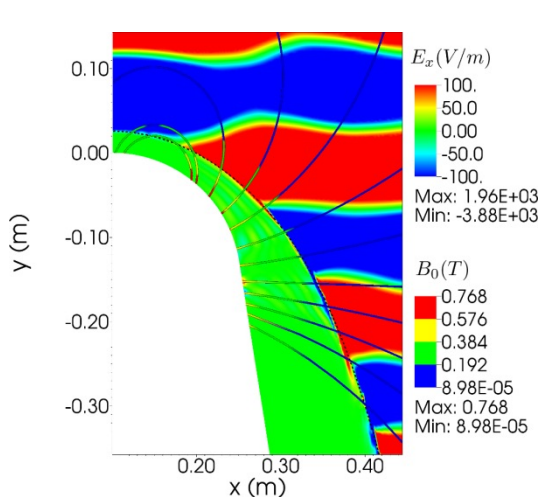
$B_y$  (T)



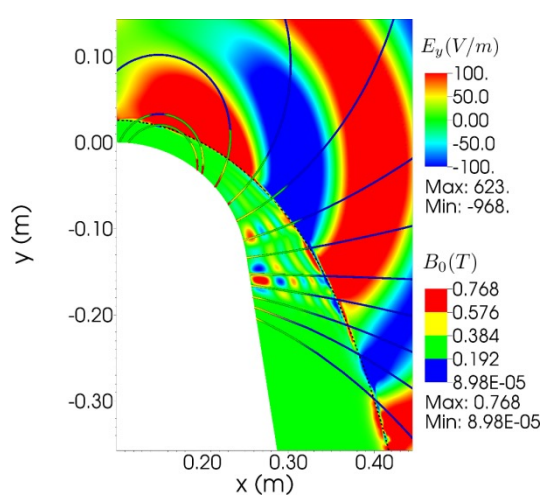
$B_z$  (T)



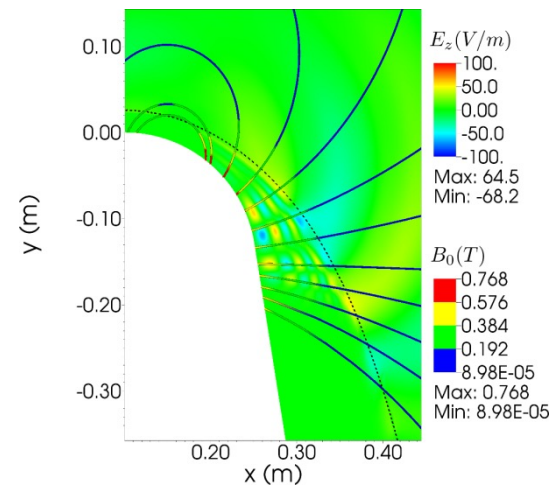
$E_x$  (V/m)



$E_y$  (V/m)



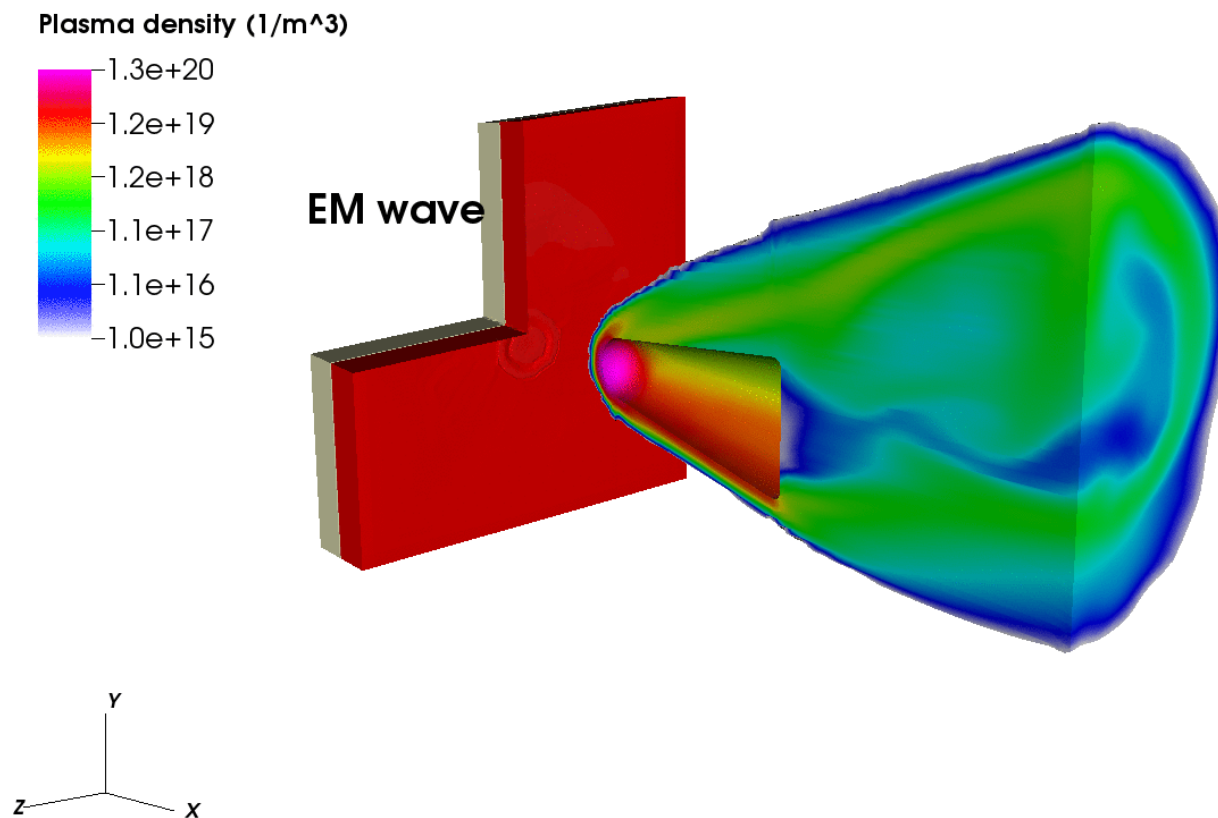
$E_z$  (V/m)



# RAMC at an AOA

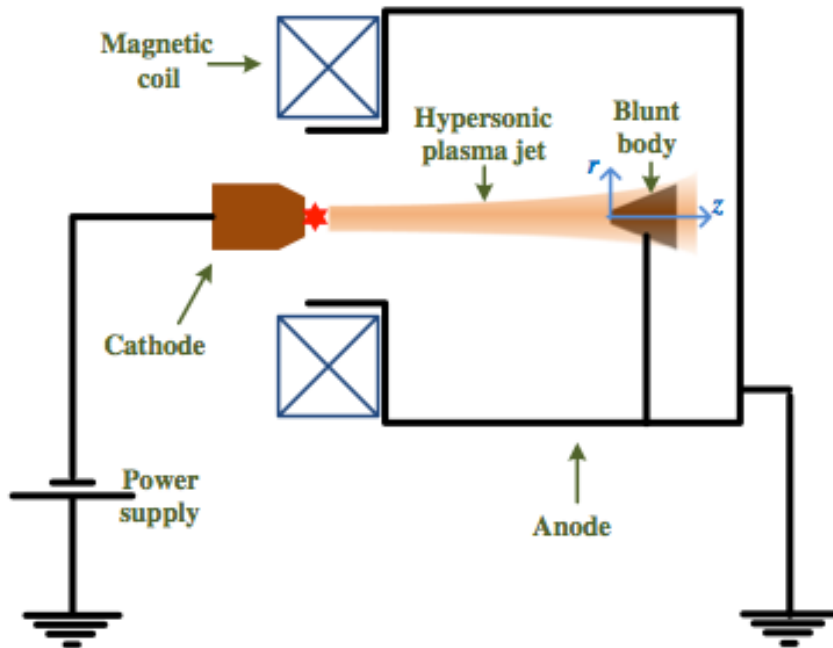
15° AOA, Mach 24, 7 species chemistry

## Communication Blackout of Reentry Vehicle



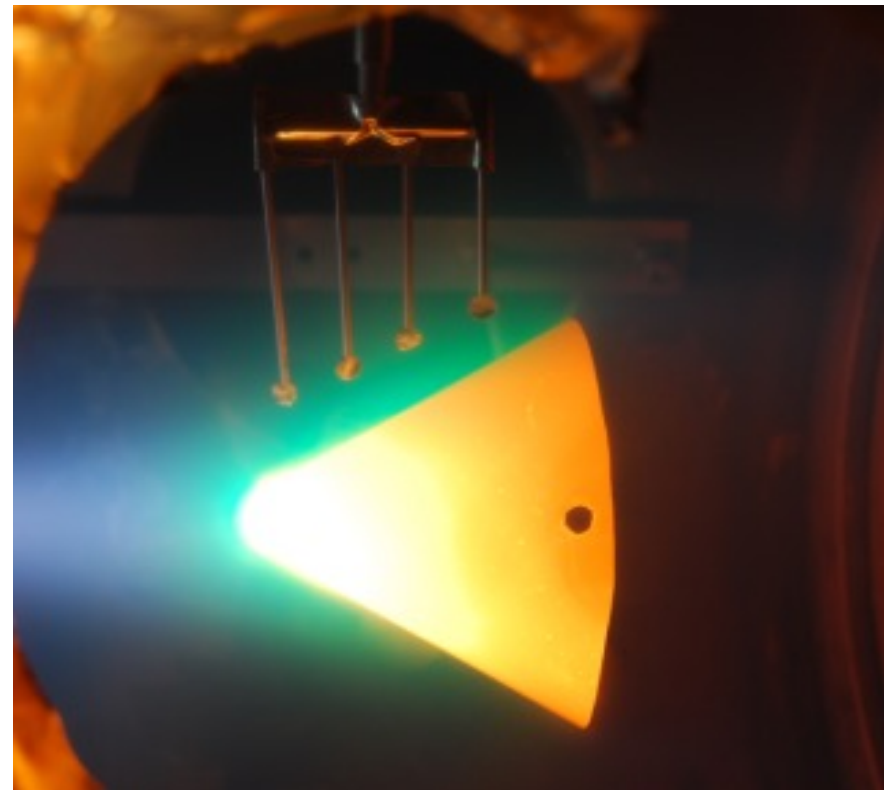
# Experiment to Simulate High Speed Plasma Flow Over a Blunt Cone: Multi-fluids

GWU MpNL  
experiment setup



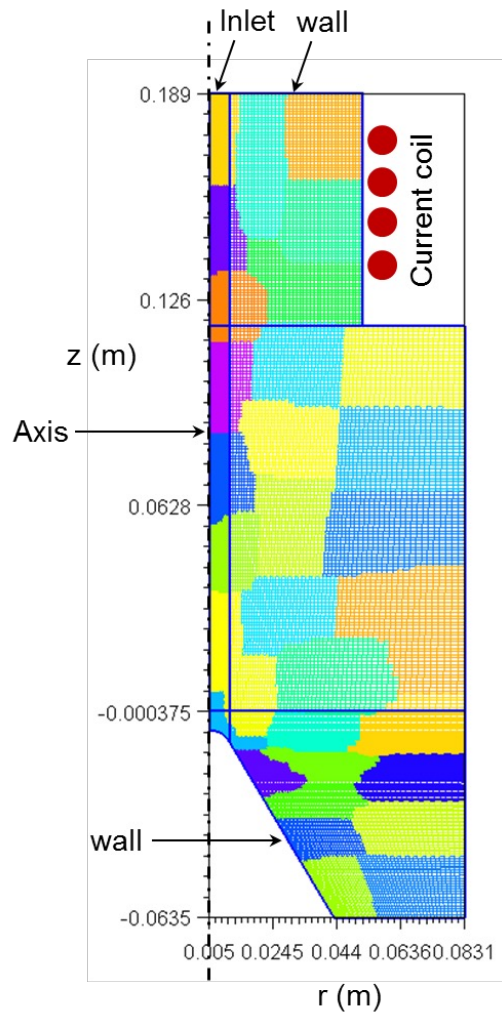
**Arc current: 150 A**  
**Arc Voltage: ~35 V**  
**Cathode material: Cu**  
**Cathode Diameter: 0.5 inch**  
**Anode: Chamber**  
**B at coil center: ~370 Gauss**

Plasma flow over Mo cone



Experiments designed by Alexey Shashurin  
and Michael Keidar at GWU

# Grid Partition

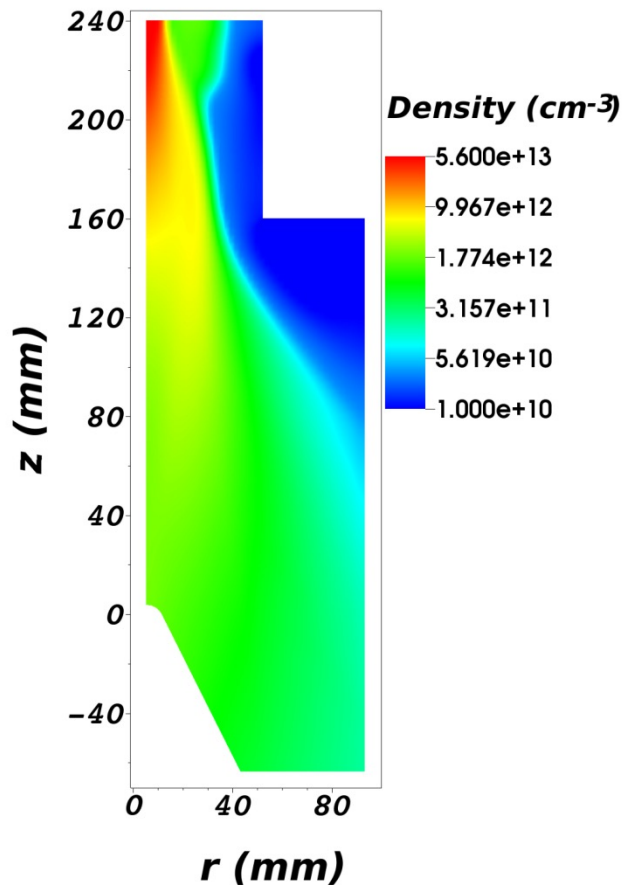


Gmsh or Cubit can be used for the unstructured mesh generation.

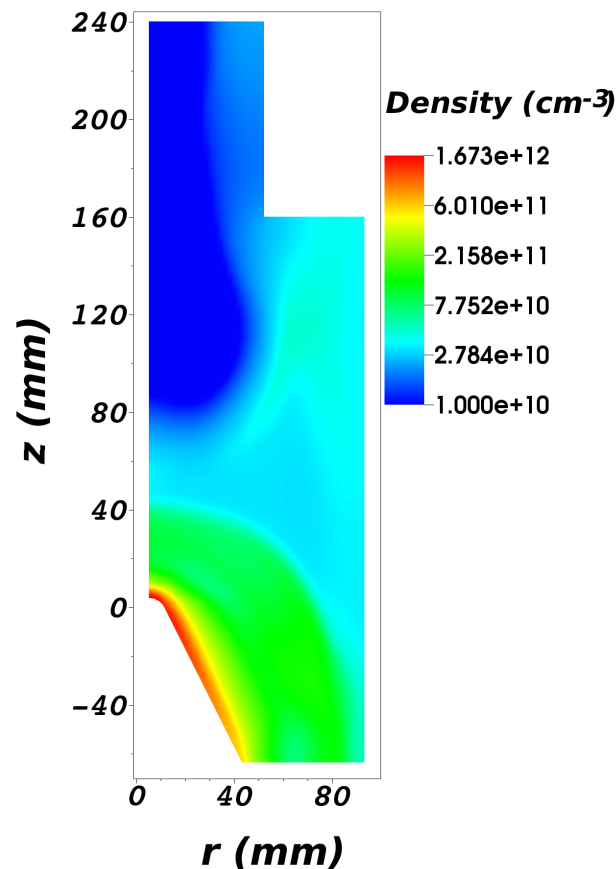
External magnetic field is imposed using current carrying coils.

# Multi-Fluid Simulation

Plasma jet flow

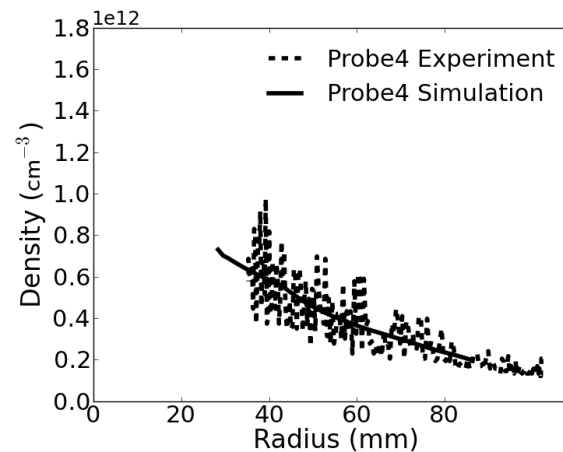
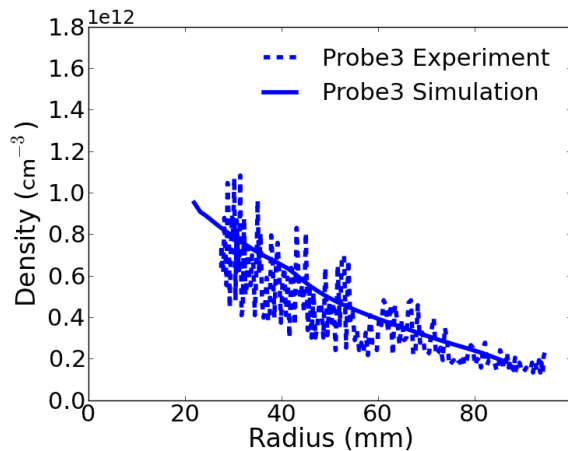
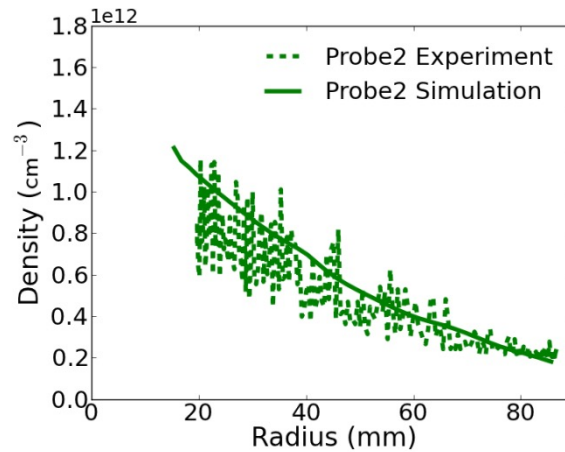
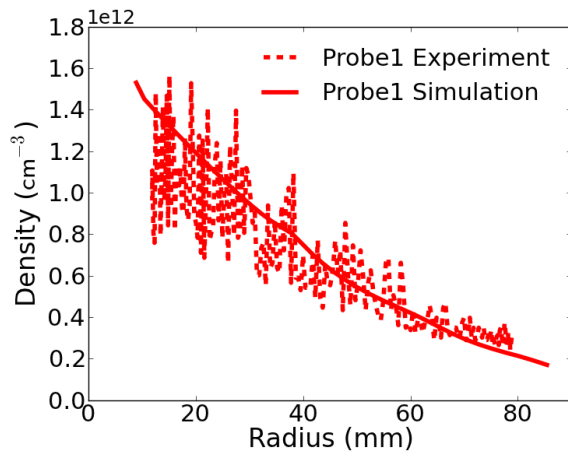


Re-evaporation



- Two fluids two equation simulation
- Gas dynamic MHD equations for jet plasma
- Euler equations for re-evaporated material
- Unstructured grid parallel simulation

# Multi-Fluids Comparison



The radial distribution of electron density measured at 4 equally spaced locations on the lateral surface of cone is compared.

The simulation results match well with the measurements.



# Summary

- USim is a good candidate for modeling hypersonic flows with multiphysics, particularly electromagnetics.
- Flexible equation system is a big advantage of USim.

# USim Examples

Diffusion

Supersonic crossflow over a cylinder

Flow over a cylindrical rod

*Thank you*

# Summary

- USim unstructured multi-species and multi-fluid models were presented
- Electron densities in the multi-species model showed similar trends as measured in the original experiment of RAM C.
- The higher densities predicted in the simulation may match experiments if radiation losses and diffusion are considered.
- Multi-fluid model was verified using analytical solutions from the dispersion relations and the collisional interaction was validated the experiments. Both comparisons showed an excellent agreement.
- Whistler mode wave propagation in the plasma was demonstrated on RAM C reentry vehicle.

# Fluxes

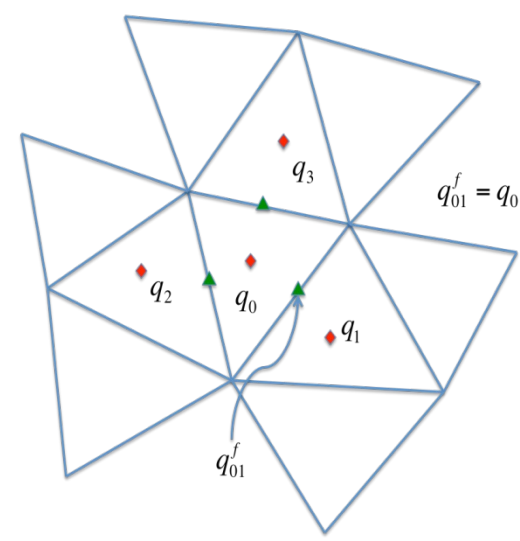
General Equation  $\frac{\partial q}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot F(q, v_1, \dots, v_n) = \psi(q, v_1, \dots, v_n) + S$

Least Squares Polynomial  $q(x, y) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2y + a_3xy + a_4x^2 + a_5y^2$

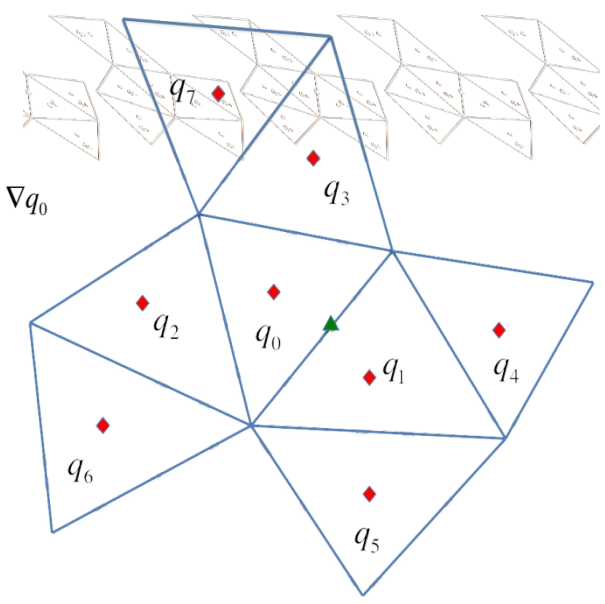
$$\nabla q(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 + a_3y + a_42x \\ a_2 + a_3x + a_52y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^N \frac{A_k}{V} F_k \cdot n_k$$

Advection Terms



Diffusion Terms



HLLE, HLLC, Lax flux schemes  
 Positivity preserving scheme allows upto  $10^9$  times pressure and density jumps

# USim: Solvers

## Time integrators

1-4th order Runge-Kutta

Used for integrating most of the equations in USim

## Super Time Stepping

Can be used up to 1000 times smaller time steps.

Used for integrating the sources

## Local ODE Integrator from Boost library

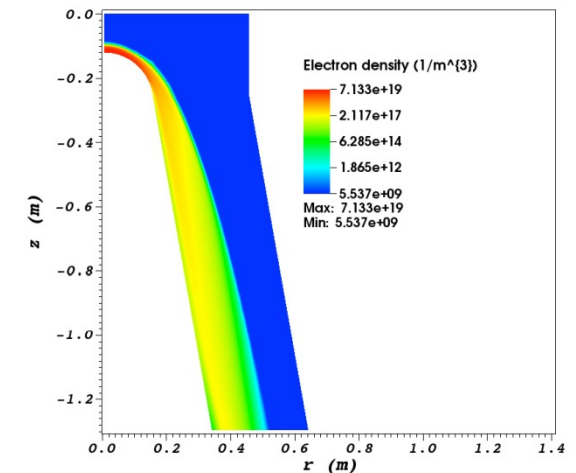
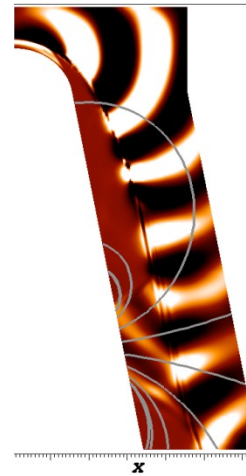
Used for integrating the reaction rate equations

## Iterative

JFNK methods from Trilinos

Used for the Poisson equation

Implicitly solving the hyperbolic equations.



USim solvers allow multi-scale multi-physics simulations with varying time scales:

$10^{-7}$  Flow speeds

$10^{-9}$  Reactions

$10^{-11}$  EM wave frequency

$10^{-14}$  Plasma frequency, cyclotron frequency

# Computational Scheme

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{pmatrix} \rho \\ \rho u_x \\ \rho u_y \\ \rho u_z \\ e \end{pmatrix} + \nabla \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \rho u_x & \rho u_y & \rho u_z \\ \rho u_x^2 + P & \rho u_x u_y & \rho u_x u_z \\ \rho u_y u_x & \rho u_y u_y + P & \rho u_y u_z \\ \rho u_z u_x & \rho u_z u_y & \rho u_z u_z + P \\ u_x (e + P) & u_y (e + P) & u_z (e + P) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} S_i \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{pmatrix}$$

- MUSCL reconstruction of variables: compute gradient at the cell center and extrapolate on to the faces
- Limiter to avoid spurious oscillations (min-mod, mc, superbee, Van-Leer)
- Flux schemes to get interface fluxes (HLLE, HLLC, Lax)
- Diffusion fluxes: least squares gradient on the faces and then integrate
- Runge-Kutta time integration
- Super time stepping
- Boost ode integrators

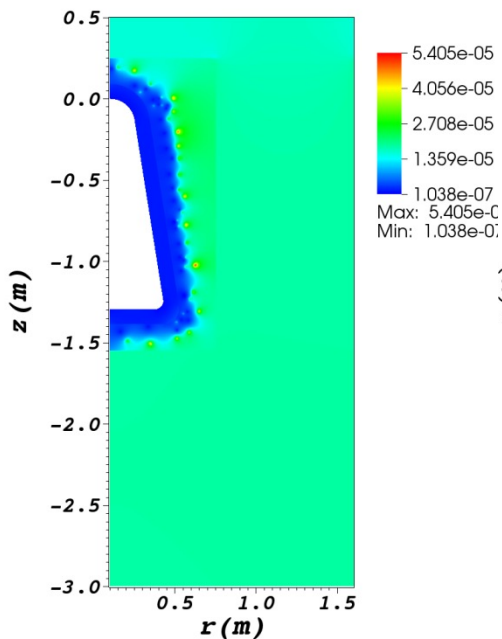
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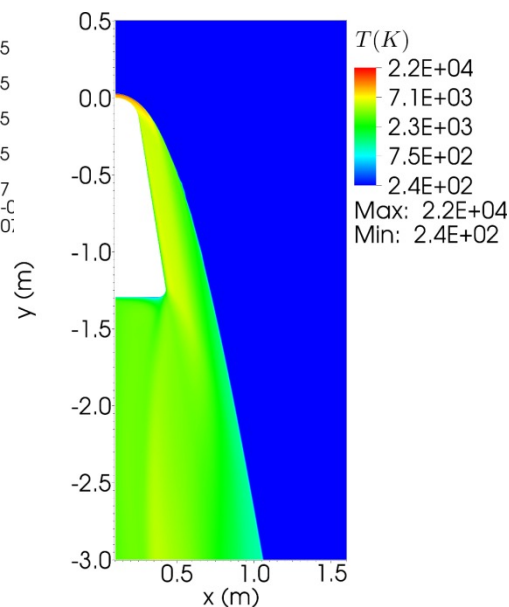
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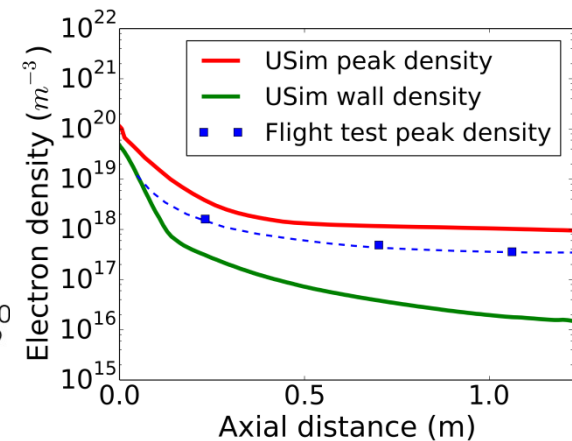
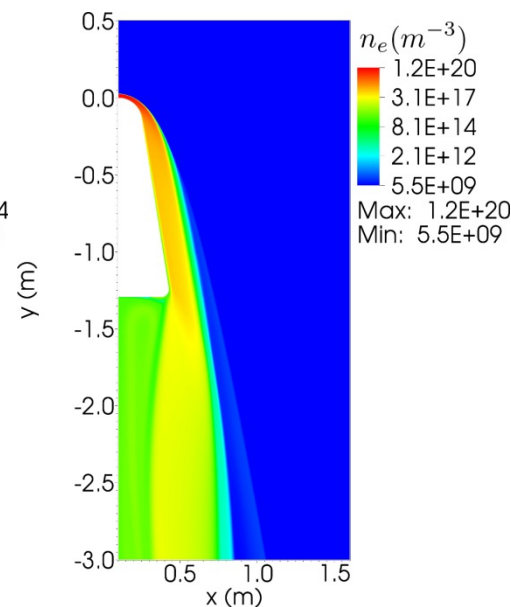
Grid area (m<sup>2</sup>)



Temperature (K)



Electron density (m<sup>-3</sup>)



Simulation density is about three times the experiments  
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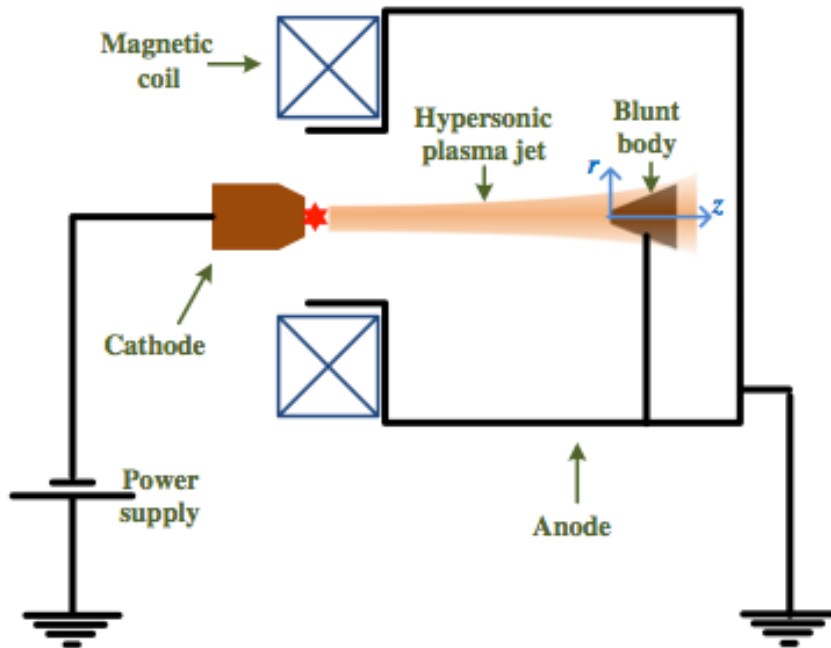
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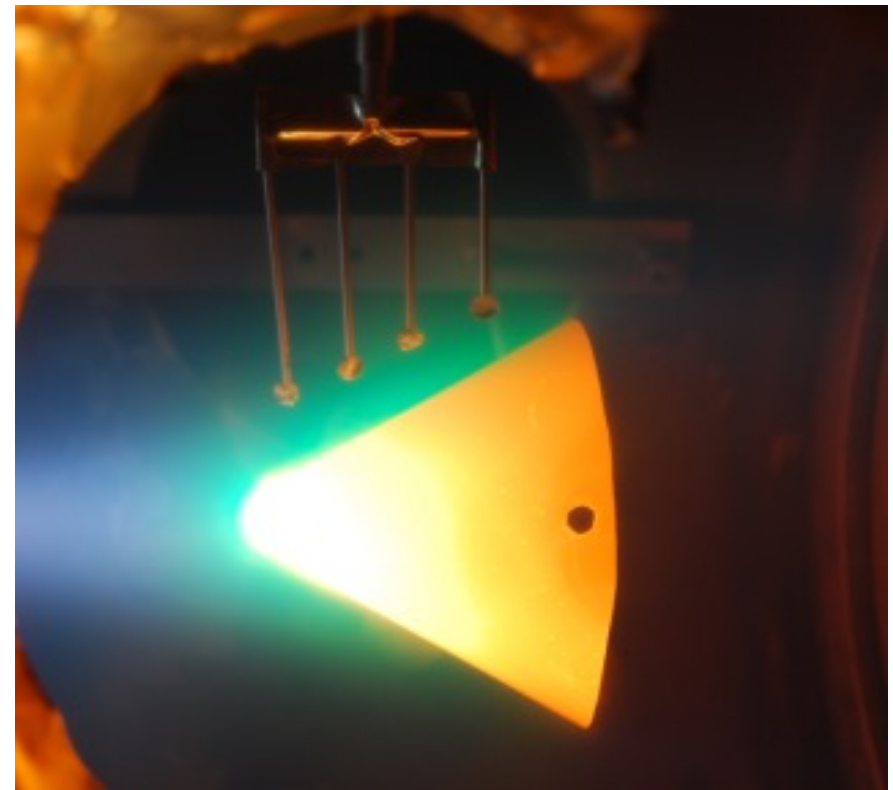
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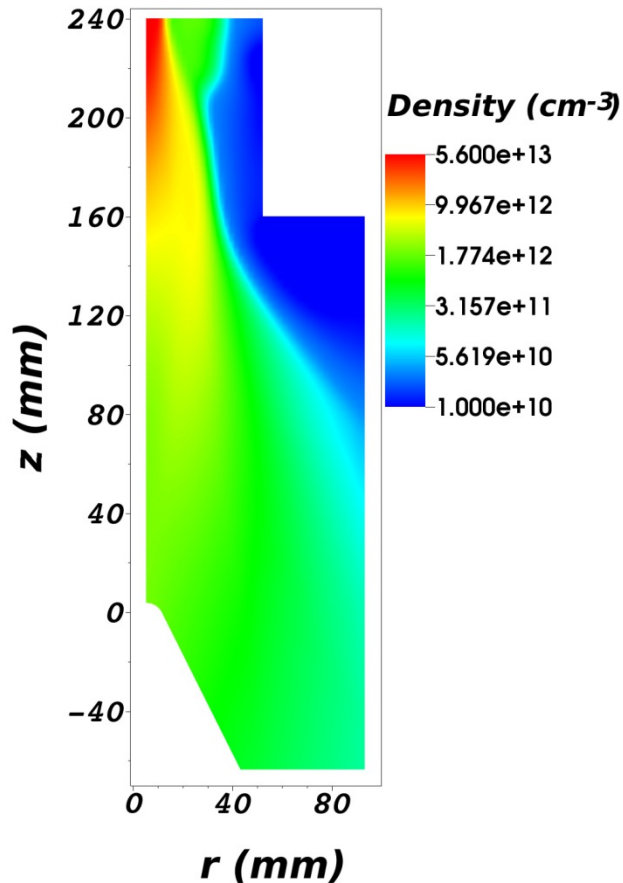
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Plasma flow over Mo cone

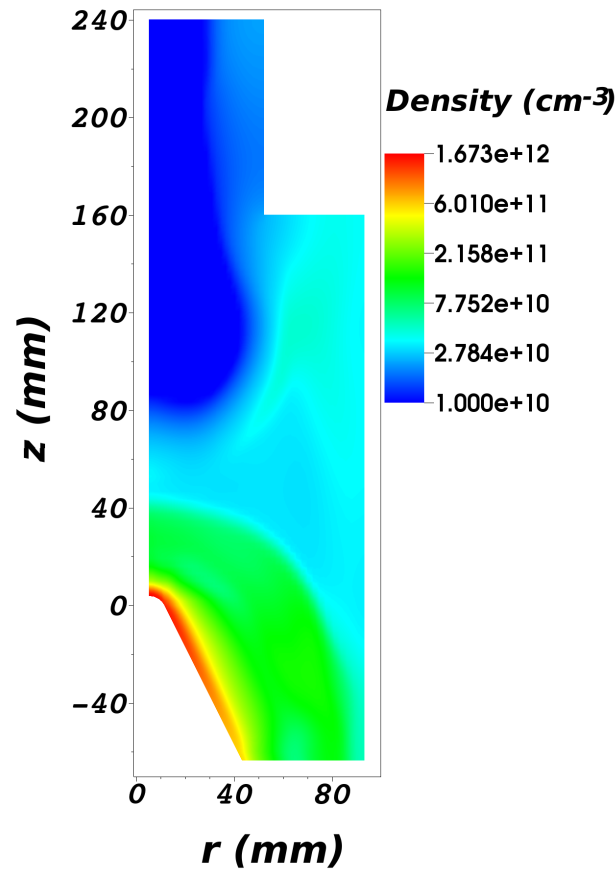


# Multi-Fluid Simulation

Plasma jet flow

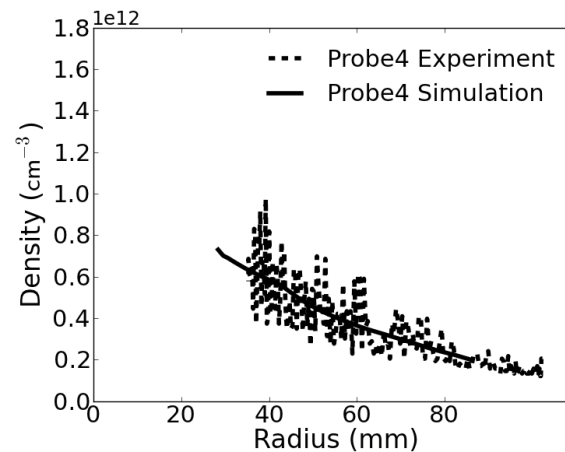
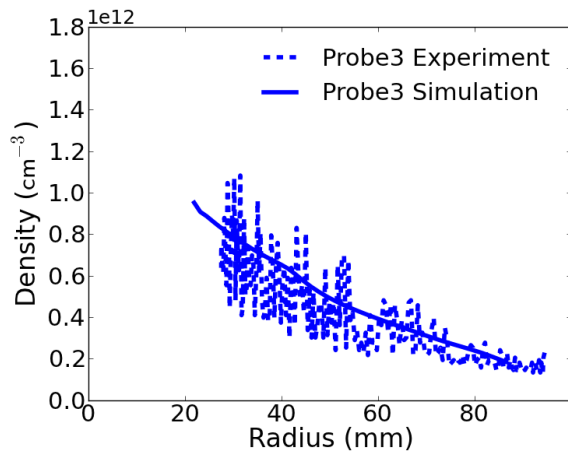
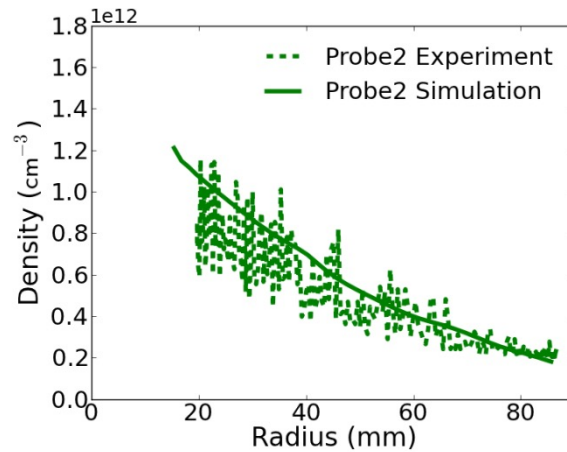
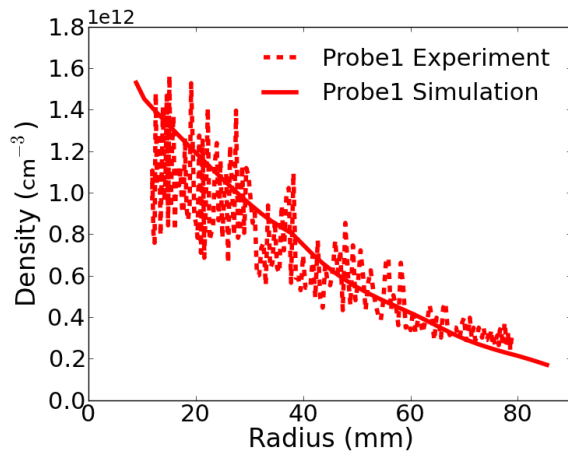


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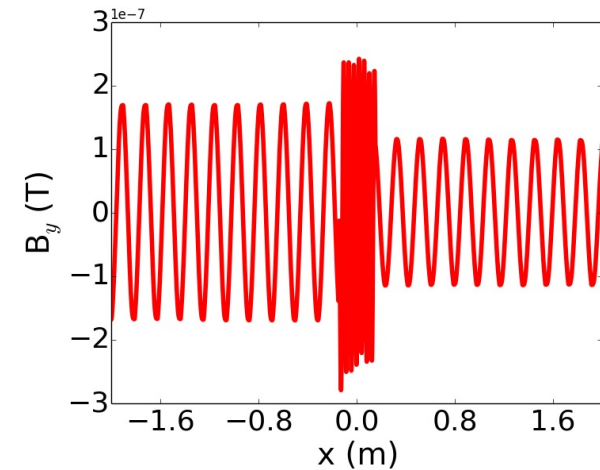
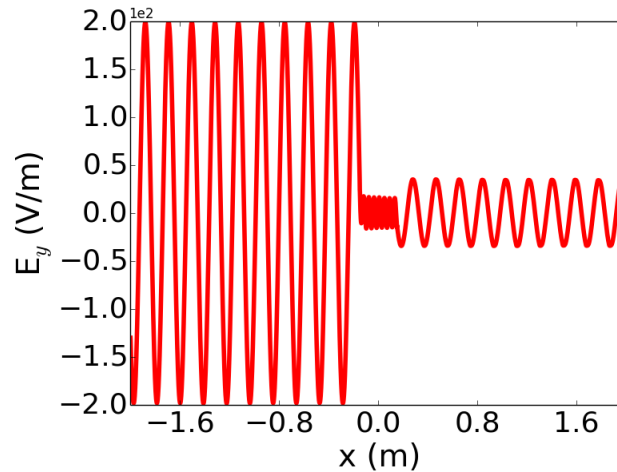
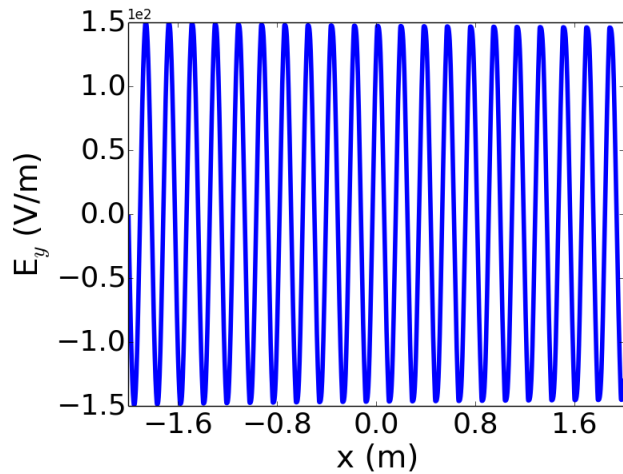
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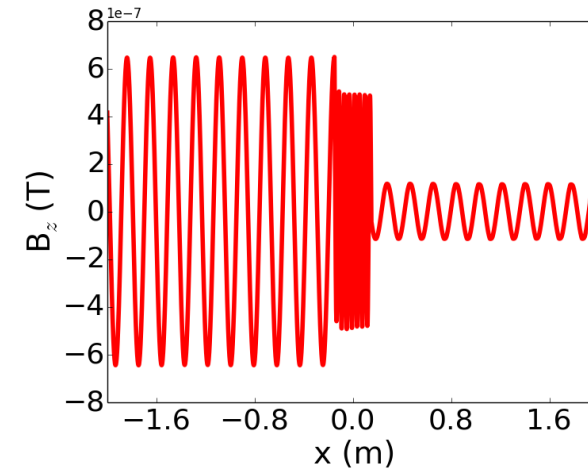
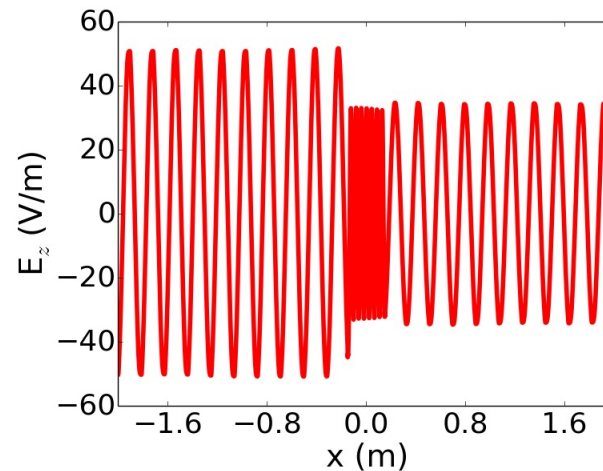
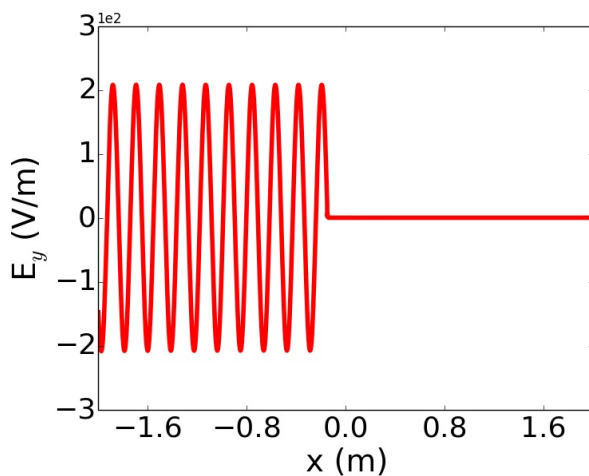
# Whistler Wave Propagation

$f = 1.6 \text{ GHz}; E_y = 150\sin(\omega t)$

$B_{0x} = 1 \text{ T}$

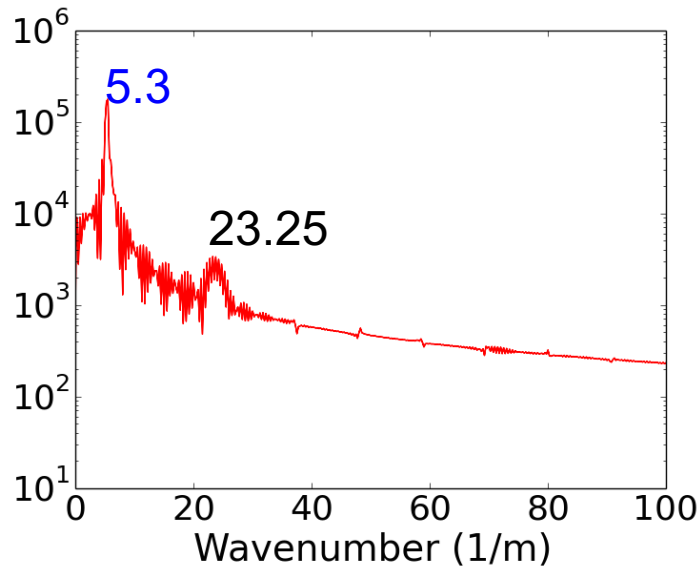


Plasma slab =  $0.3 \text{ m}$   
Density =  $10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$



# Dispersion Relation Comparison

Fourier transform of  $E_y$   
in space

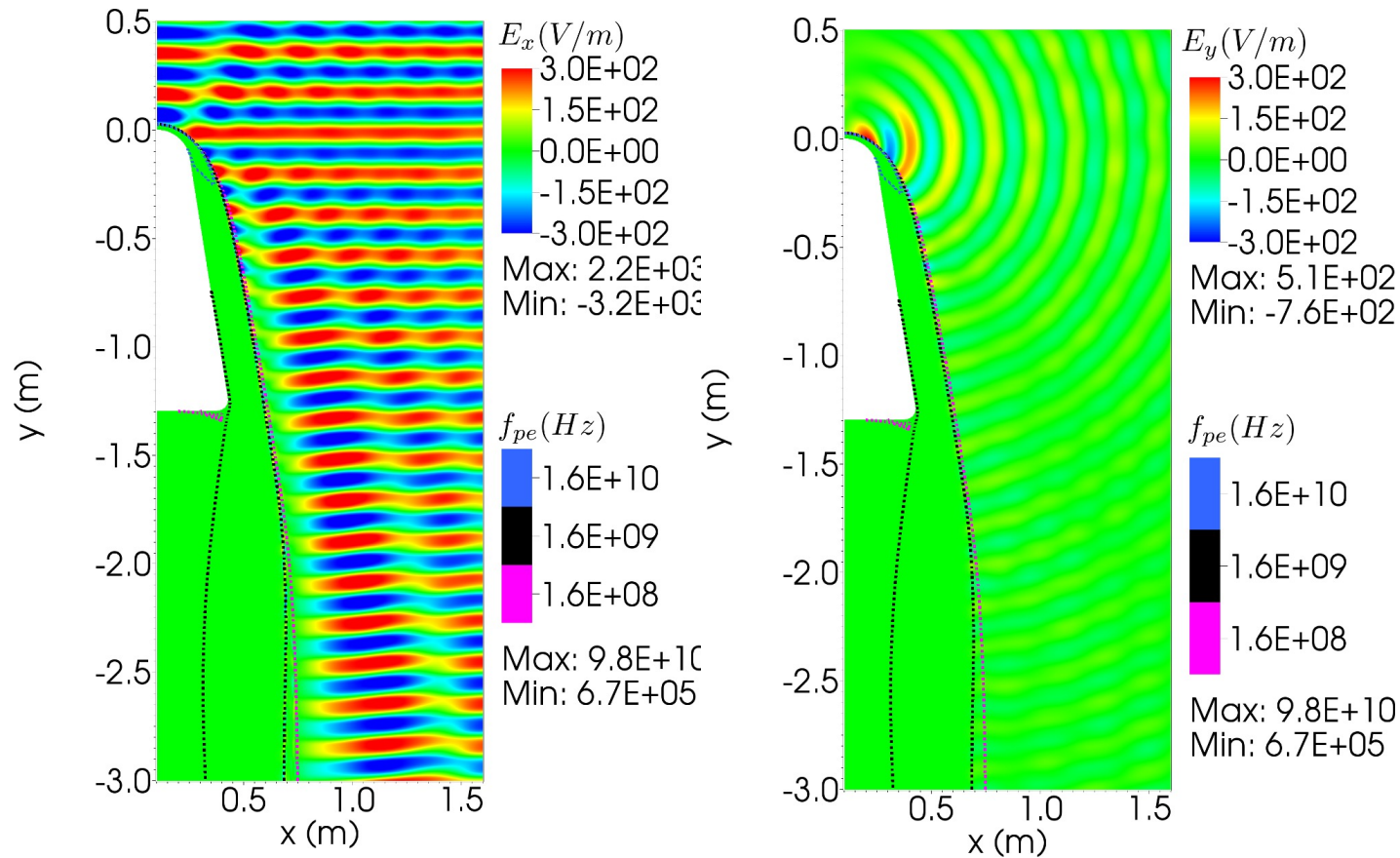


$n_e$ (m <sup>-3</sup> )	B0 (T)	k (m <sup>-1</sup> ) analytical	k (m <sup>-1</sup> ) USim
1e18	0.1	34.97	No clear peak
1e18	0.2	19.66	19.38
1e18	0.4	13.32	13.01
1e19	0.5	34.40	34.01
1e19	1.0	23.89	23.25
1e19	2.0	17.07	16.50

- Dispersion matrix has to be solved for Whistler wave number. Mather
- Two-fluid solver results match well with the analytical solution.

# Wave Propagation on RAMC

$f = 1.6 \text{ GHz}$ ;  $E_x = 300\sin(\omega t)$ ; plasma density  $> 10^{19} \text{ m}^{-3}$



EM wave was fully reflected by the plasma layer.

Electrophilic fluid injection

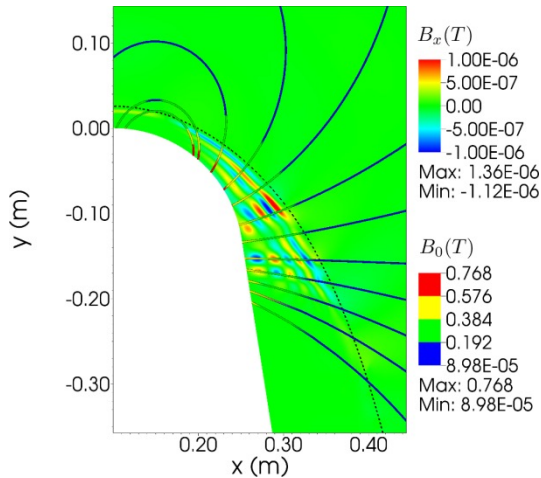
Reduced bit rate based on the reflected wave

Magnetic window

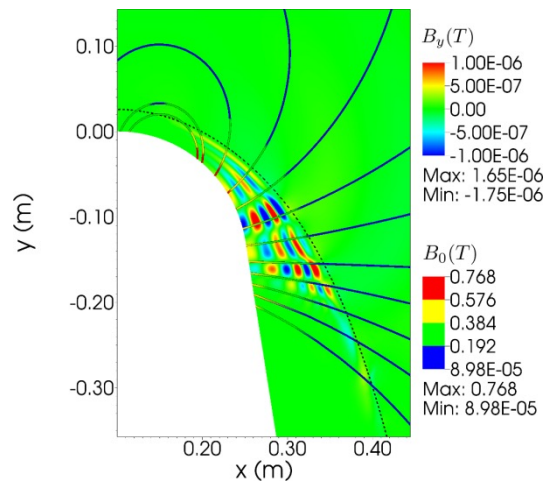
# Magnetic Window on RAM C

A magnetic field of 0.7T was applied near the surface!  
 Wave propagates on to the surface

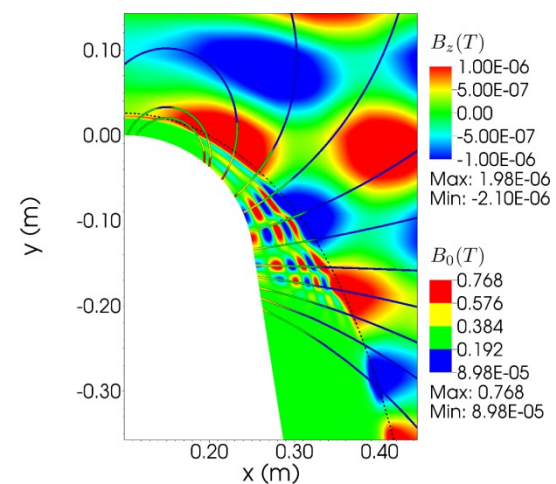
$B_x$  (T)



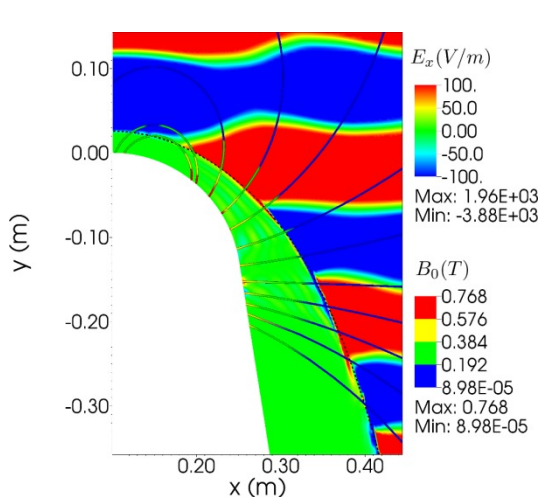
$B_y$  (T)



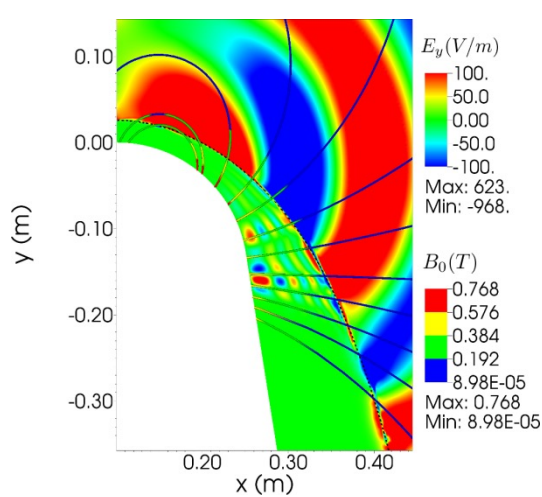
$B_z$  (T)



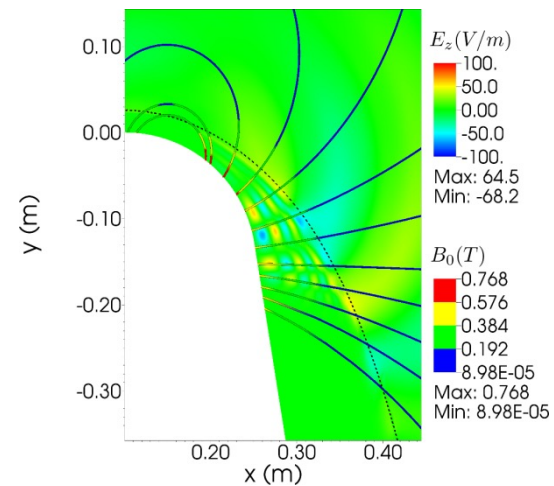
$E_x$  (V/m)



$E_y$  (V/m)

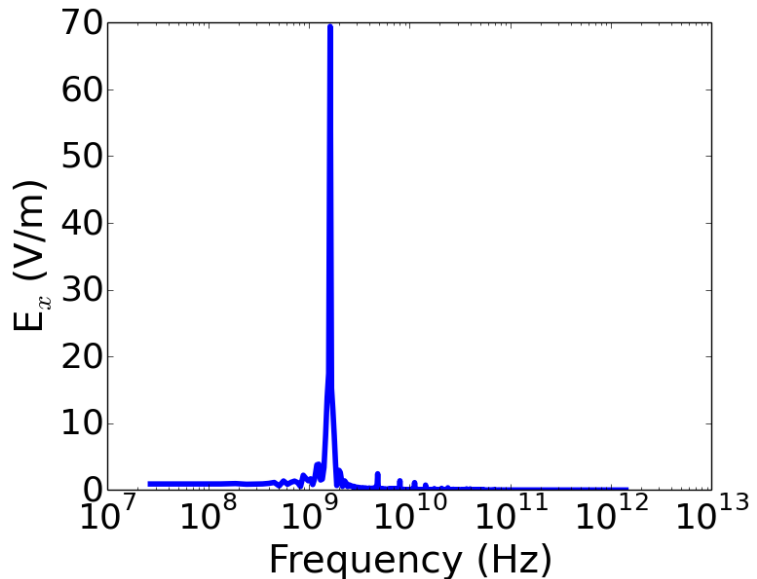


$E_z$  (V/m)



# Magnetic Window on RAM C: Wave Analysis

EM wave frequency on the surface

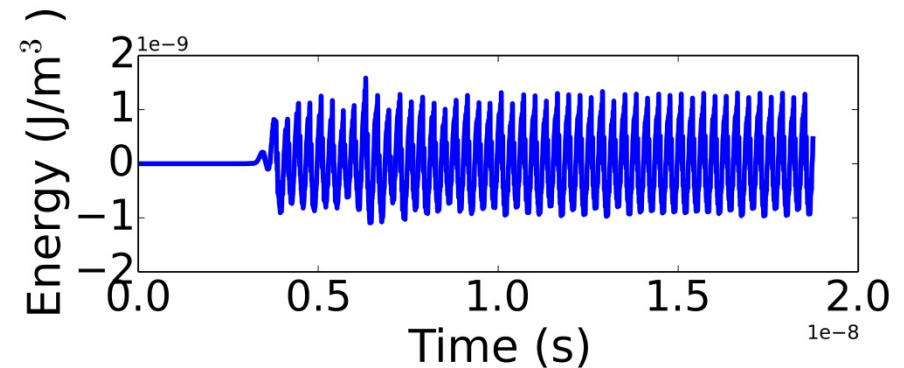


EM wave frequency is preserved after propagating on to the surface in the whistler mode.

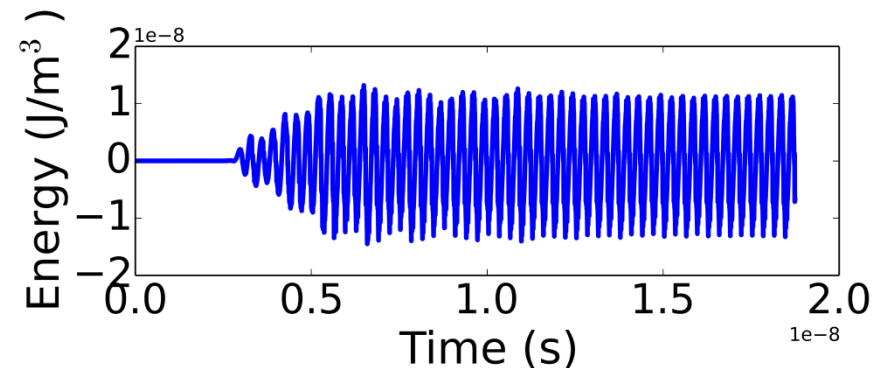
EM wave's energy density is about 25% of the actual wave!

$$Q_{EM} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \epsilon_0 \vec{E} \cdot \vec{E} + \frac{1}{\mu_0} \vec{B} \cdot \vec{B} \right)$$

Energy density outside the plasma layer



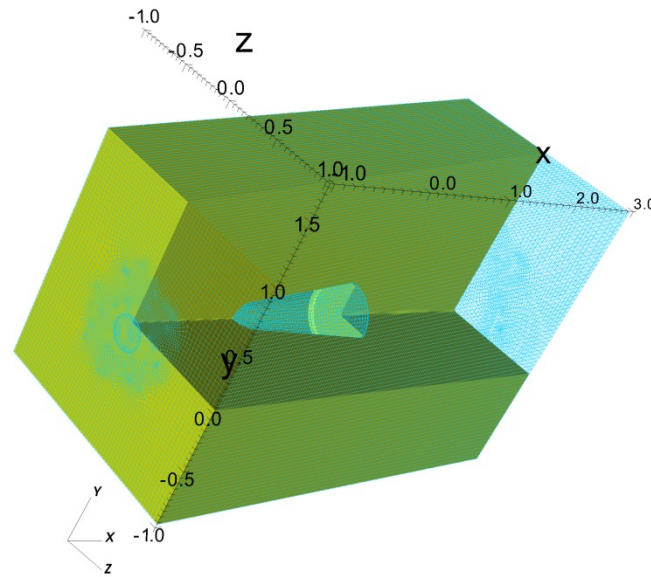
Energy density at the surface





# RAM C at an AOA

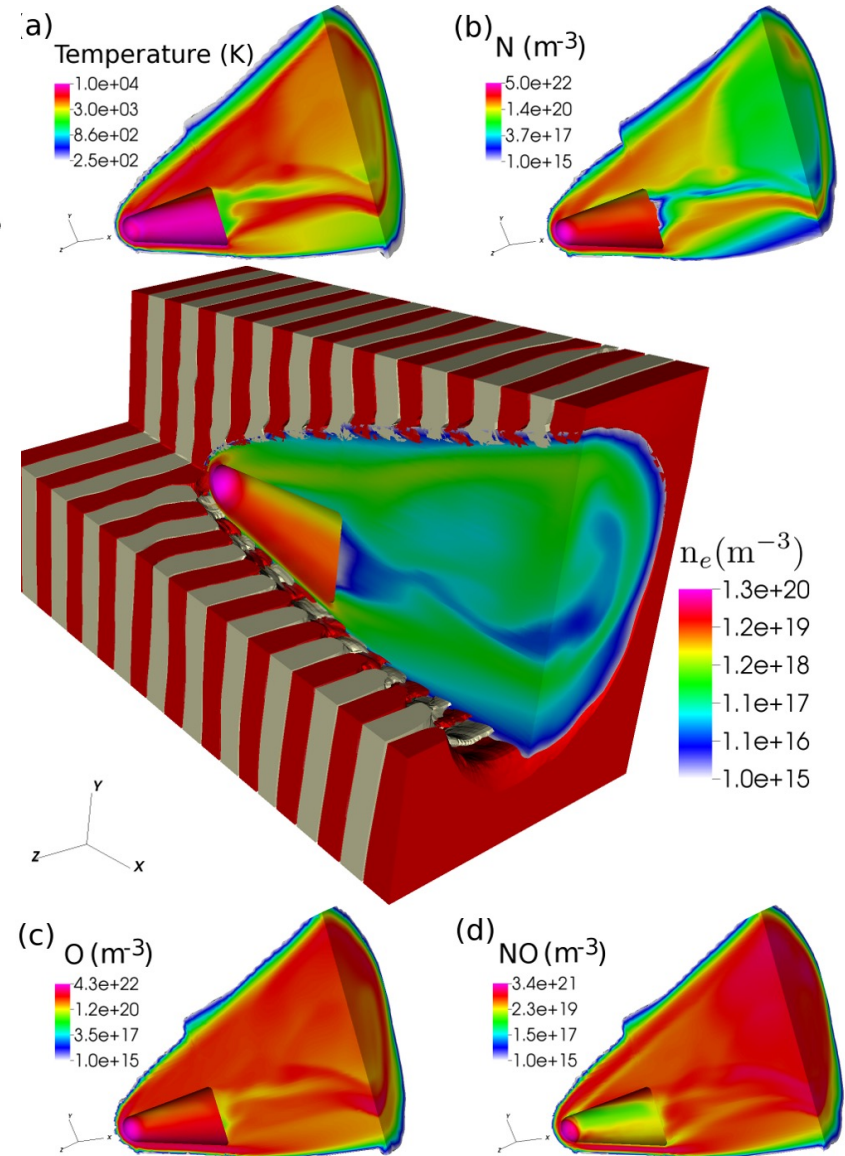
853,000 hexahedral cells  
 minimum and maximum  
 edges of 7 mm and 4 cm.  
 2x2 m<sup>2</sup> front and 2x2.75  
 m<sup>2</sup> rear. Length 4 m.



AOA = 15°  
 Altitude = 61 km  
 Mach number = 23  
 EM wave at 0.8 GHz

The peak density of the plasma is  $1.3 \times 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$ .  
 The peak temperature of the gas is 10470 K.  
 N and O are  $5 \times 10^{22}$  and  $4.3 \times 10^{22} \text{ m}^{-3}$ .

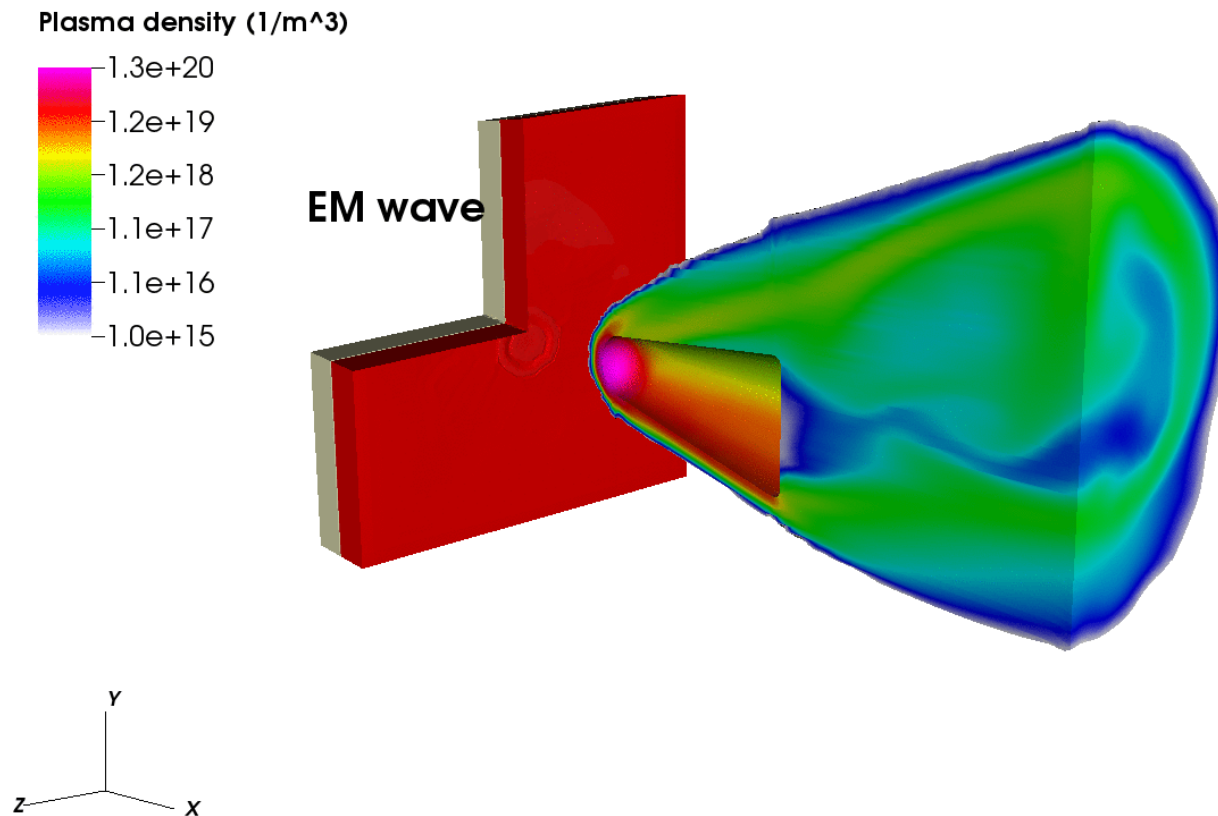
EM wave is fully reflected at  $n_e = 8 \times 10^{15} \text{ m}^{-3}$



# RAMC at an AOA

15° AOA, Mach 24, 7 species chemistry

## Communication Blackout of Reentry Vehicle



# Euler Three Temperature Model

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{pmatrix} \rho_l \\ \rho u_x \\ \rho u_y \\ \rho u_z \\ e_t \\ e_e \\ e_v \end{pmatrix} + \nabla \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \rho_l u_x & \rho_l u_y & \rho_l u_z \\ \rho u_x^2 + P & \rho u_x u_y & \rho u_x u_z \\ \rho u_y u_x & \rho u_y^2 + P & \rho u_y u_z \\ \rho u_z u_x & \rho u_z u_y & \rho u_z^2 + P \\ u_x (e_t + P) & u_y (e_t + P) & u_z (e_t + P) \\ u_x (e_e + P_e) & u_y (e_e + P_e) & u_z (e_e + P_e) \\ u_x (e_v) & u_y (e_v) & u_z (e_v) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} s_l \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{J} + Q_{v-t} \\ \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{J}_e \\ -Q_{v-t} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P = P_l + P_e$$

$$Q_{v-t} = \sum_l \rho_l \left( \frac{e_{v,l}^* - e_{v,l}}{\tau_l} \right)$$

$$e_{v,l} = \frac{R}{M_l} \left[ \frac{\theta_{v,l}}{\exp(\theta/T_v) - 1} \right]$$

$$e_{v,l}^* = \frac{R}{M_l} \left[ \frac{\theta_{v,l}}{\exp(\theta/T) - 1} \right]$$

$$J_{e,x} = n_e e^{-u_x}$$

$$J_x = (n_i - n_e) e^{-u_x}$$

$$E_x = -\frac{\partial P_e}{\partial x} \frac{1}{n_e e^{-}}$$

$\Theta$  is the characteristic vibrational temperature.

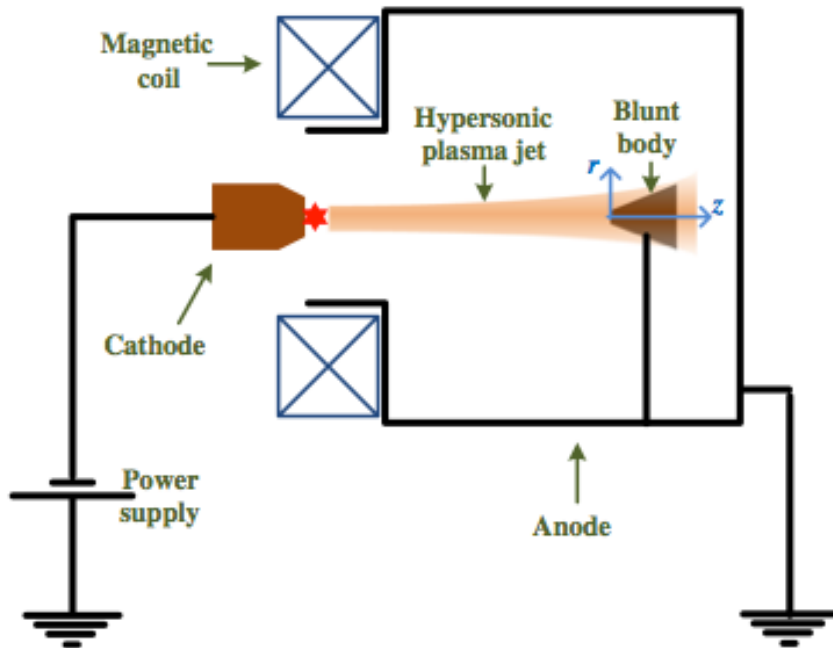
$\tau$  is vibrational-translational relaxation time

USim has a verified model of vibrational-translational relaxation. Verification ensures the correct implementation.

The electron energy evolution can be segregated to make the model strictly two-temperature.

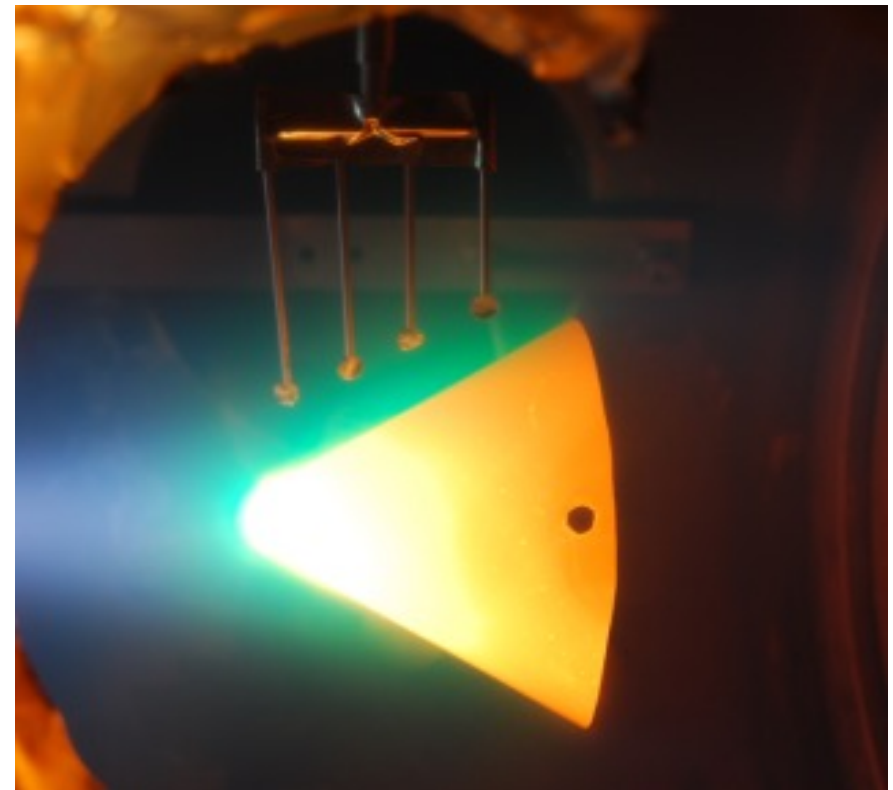
# Experiment to Simulate High Speed Plasma Flow Over a Blunt Cone: Multi-fluids

GWU MpNL  
experiment setup



**Arc current: 150 A**  
**Arc Voltage: ~35 V**  
**Cathode material: Cu**  
**Cathode Diameter: 0.5 inch**  
**Anode: Chamber**  
**B at coil center: ~370 Gauss**

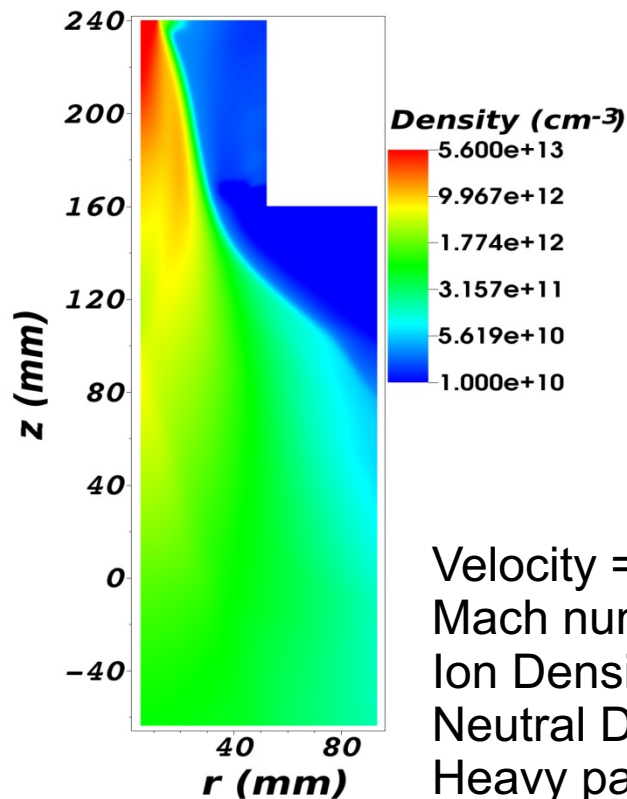
Plasma flow over Mo cone



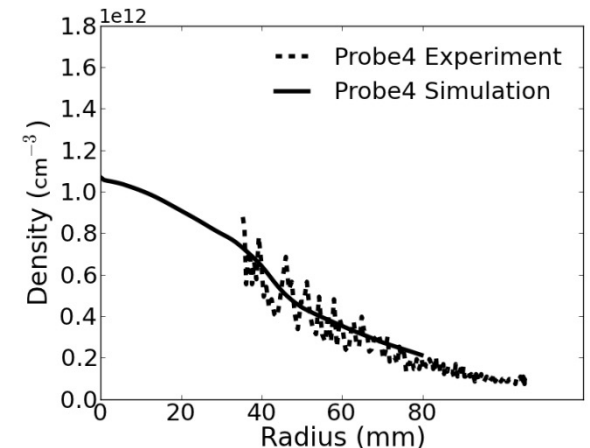
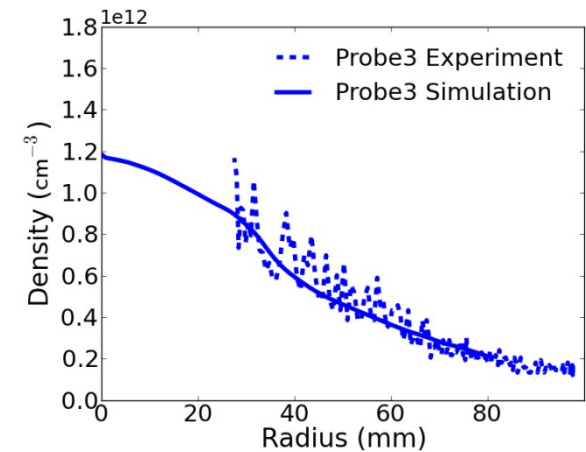
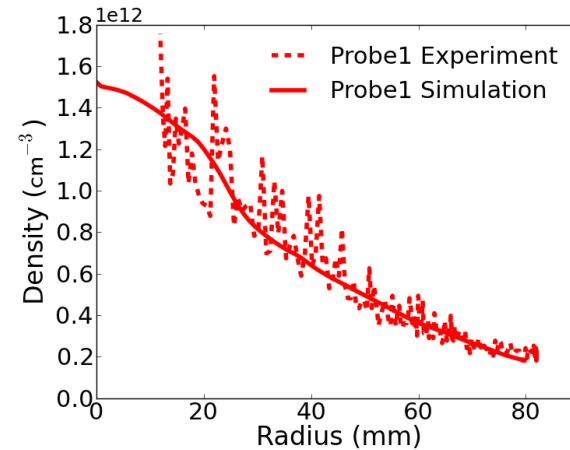
# USim Validation -backup

Plasma density of free jet

Comparison

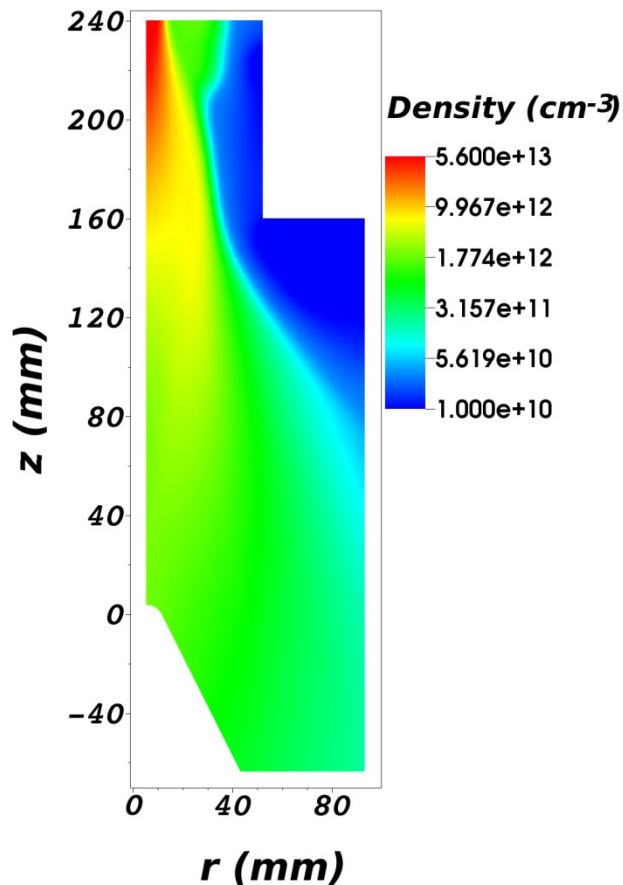


Velocity = 12800 m/s  
 Mach number = 4  
 Ion Density =  $3.5e19$   $1/m^3$   
 Neutral Density =  $5.25e19$   $1/m^3$   
 Heavy particle Temperature = 1.3 eV  
 Electron temperature = 2.5 eV  
 Charge number = 1.8

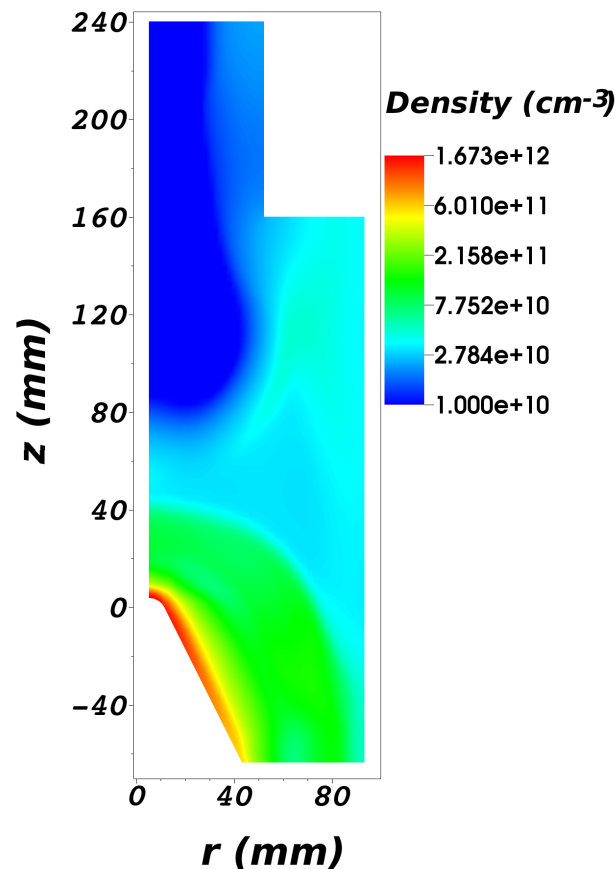


# Multi-Fluid Simulation

Plasma jet flow

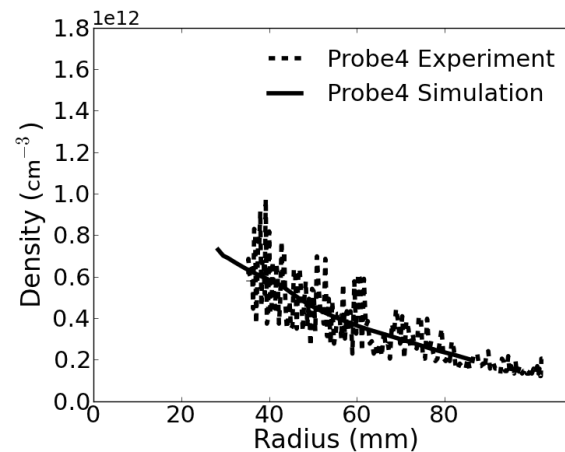
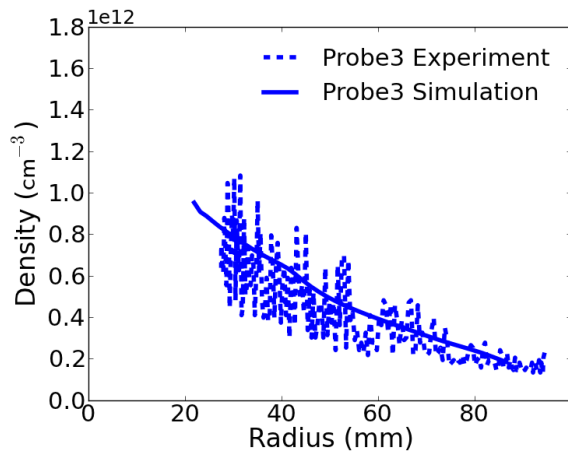
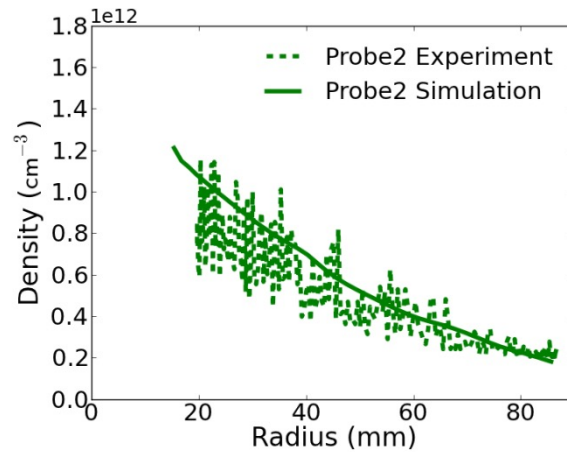
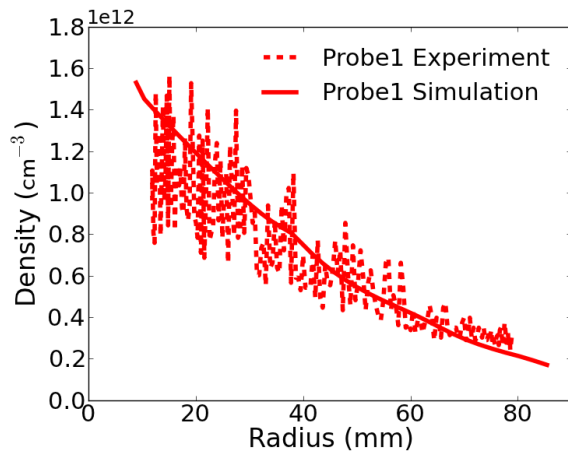


Re-evaporation



- Two fluids two equation simulation
- Gas dynamic MHD equations for jet plasma
- Euler equations for re-evaporated material
- Unstructured grid parallel simulation

# Multi-Fluids Comparison

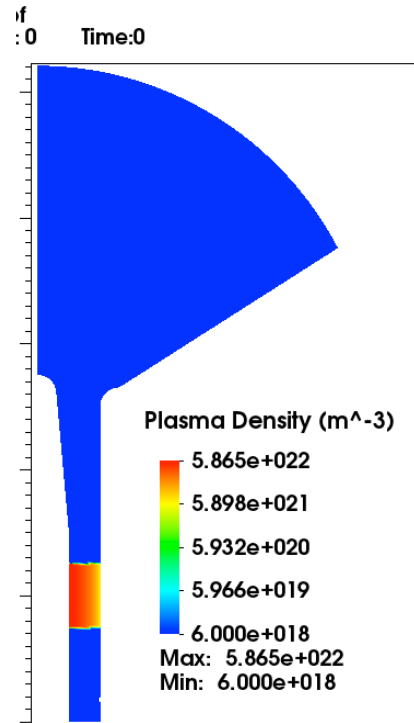


The radial distribution of electron density measured at 4 equally spaced locations on the lateral surface of cone is compared.

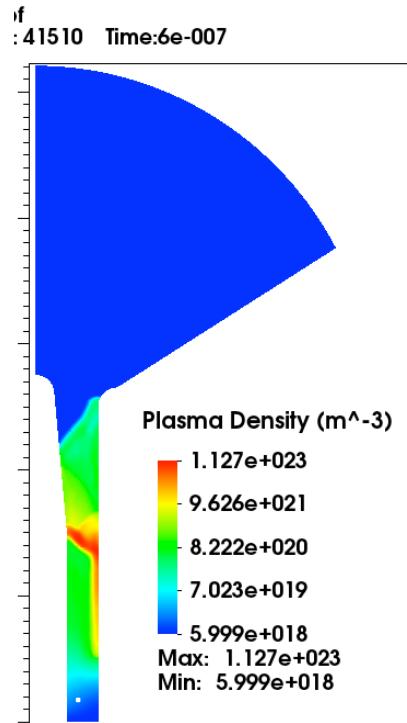
The simulation results match well with the measurements.

# USim modeling helped predict the density on axis for a given applied voltage

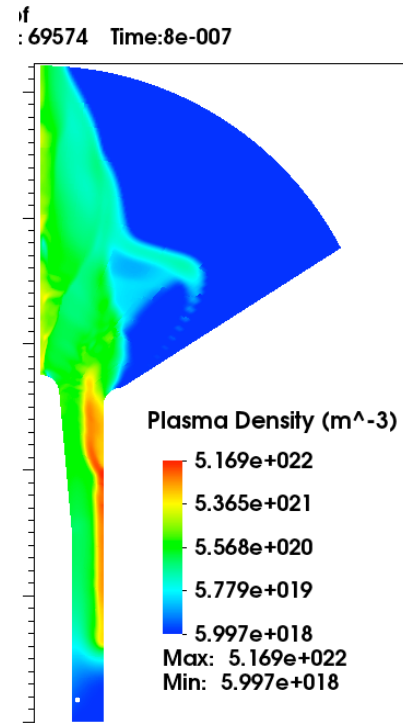
Initial distribution



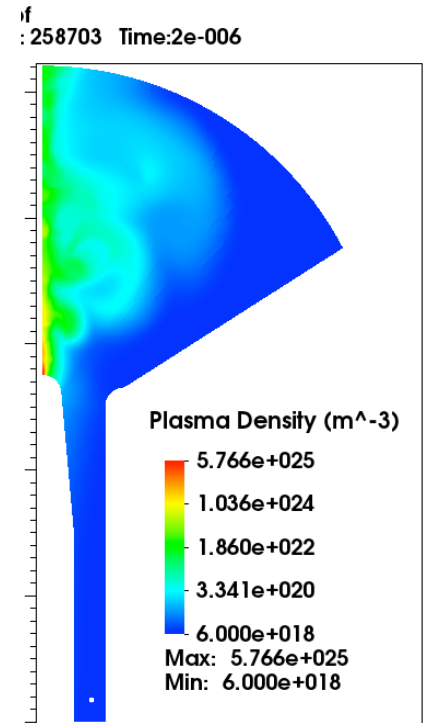
Plasma moves forward in the clearance



Plasma moves out of the clearance



Distribution at the end of the pulse





# RAMC at an AOA

15° AOA, Mach 24, 7 species chemistry

