

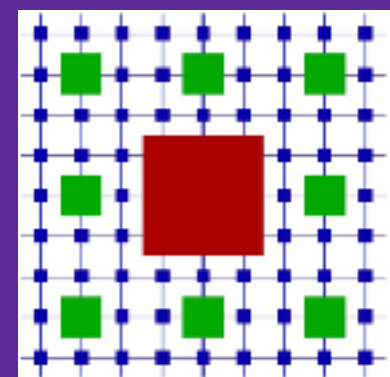
# AsterX: a new open-source GPU-accelerated GRMHD code for dynamical spacetimes

Jay V. Kalinani

Center for Computational Relativity and Gravitation, RIT

in collaboration with

F. Armengol, S. Brandt, M. Campanelli, R. Cioffi, L. Ennoggi, B. Giacomazzo,  
R. Haas, L. Ji, L.T. Sanches, E. Schnetter, J. Tsao, Y. Zlochower

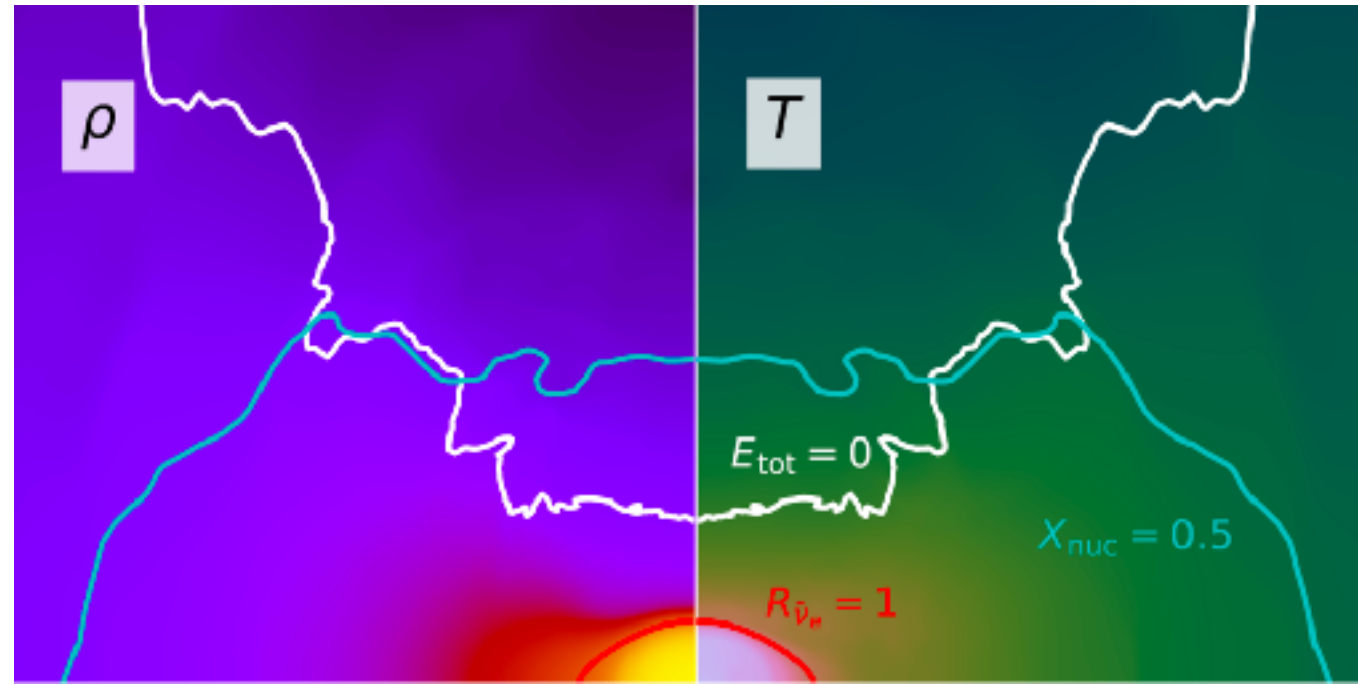


North American Einstein Toolkit Workshop 2024  
Louisiana State University, June 6, 2024

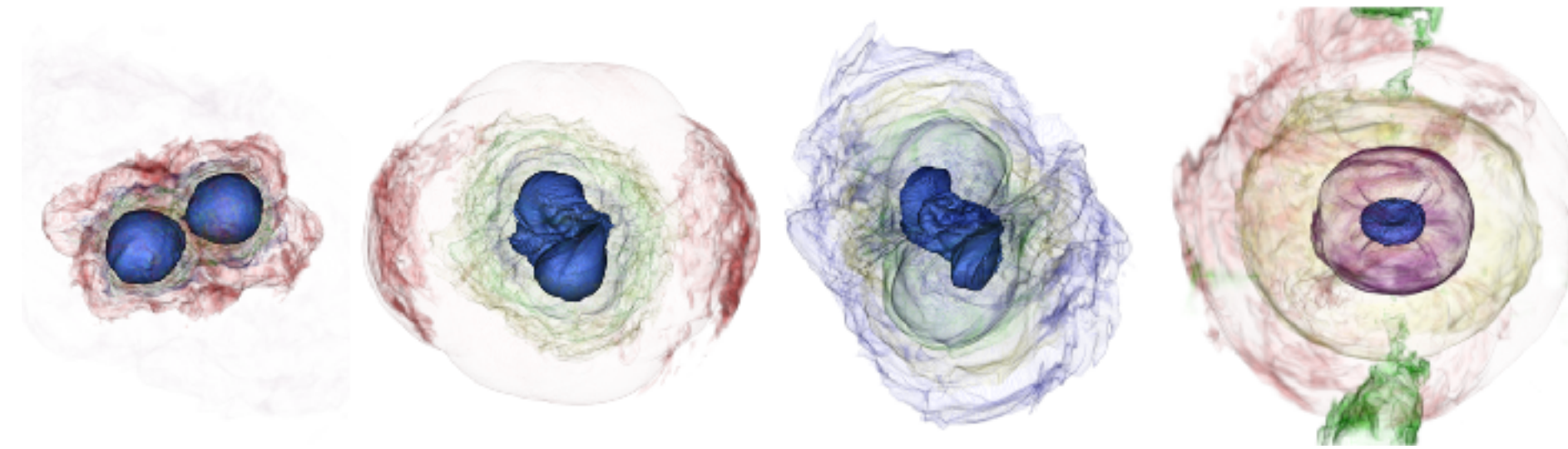
# Overview

- Numerical background
- Code workflow
- AsterX code
- Test results
- Performance benchmarks
- Hands-on tutorial

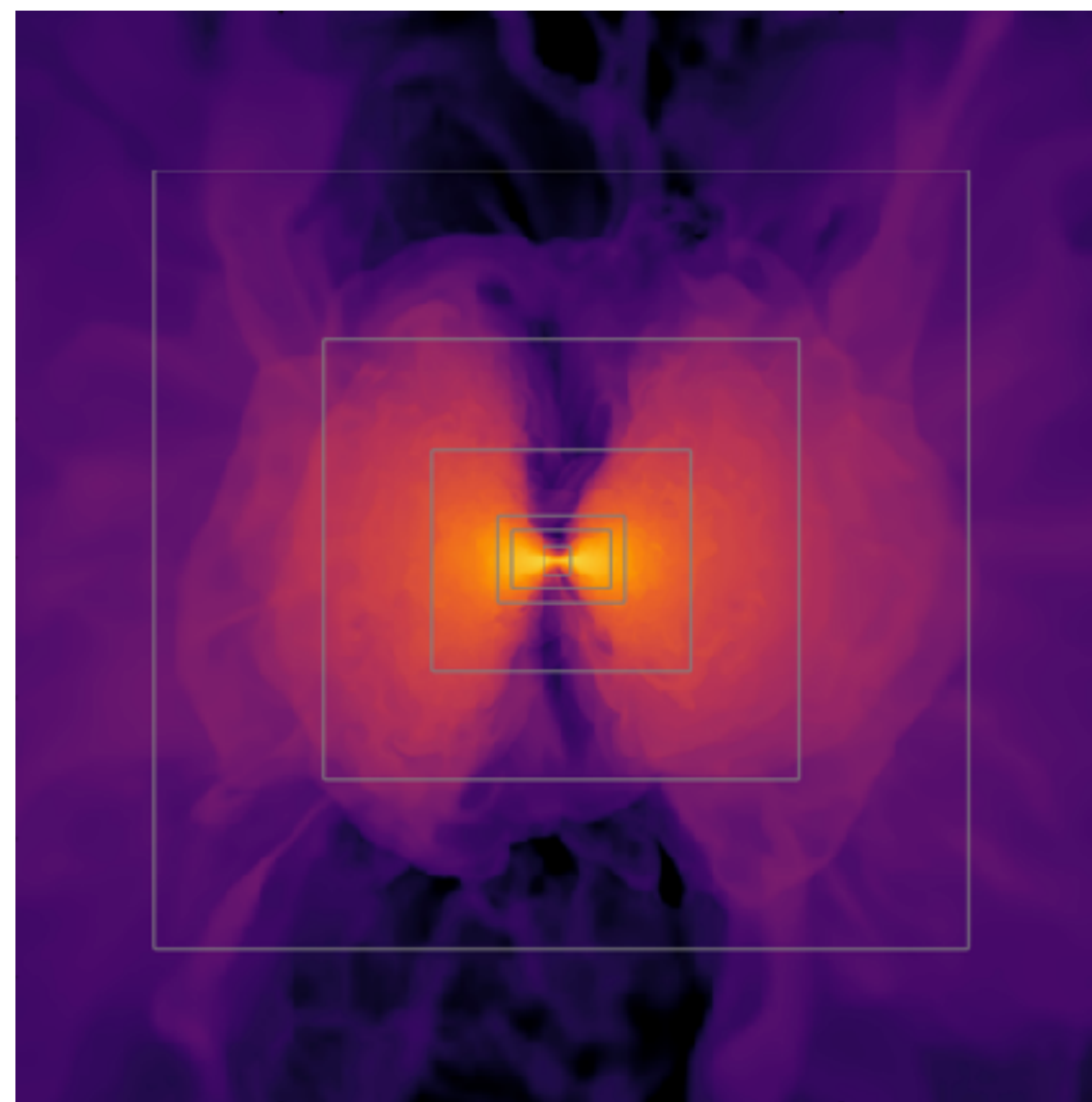
# Need for GRMHD simulations



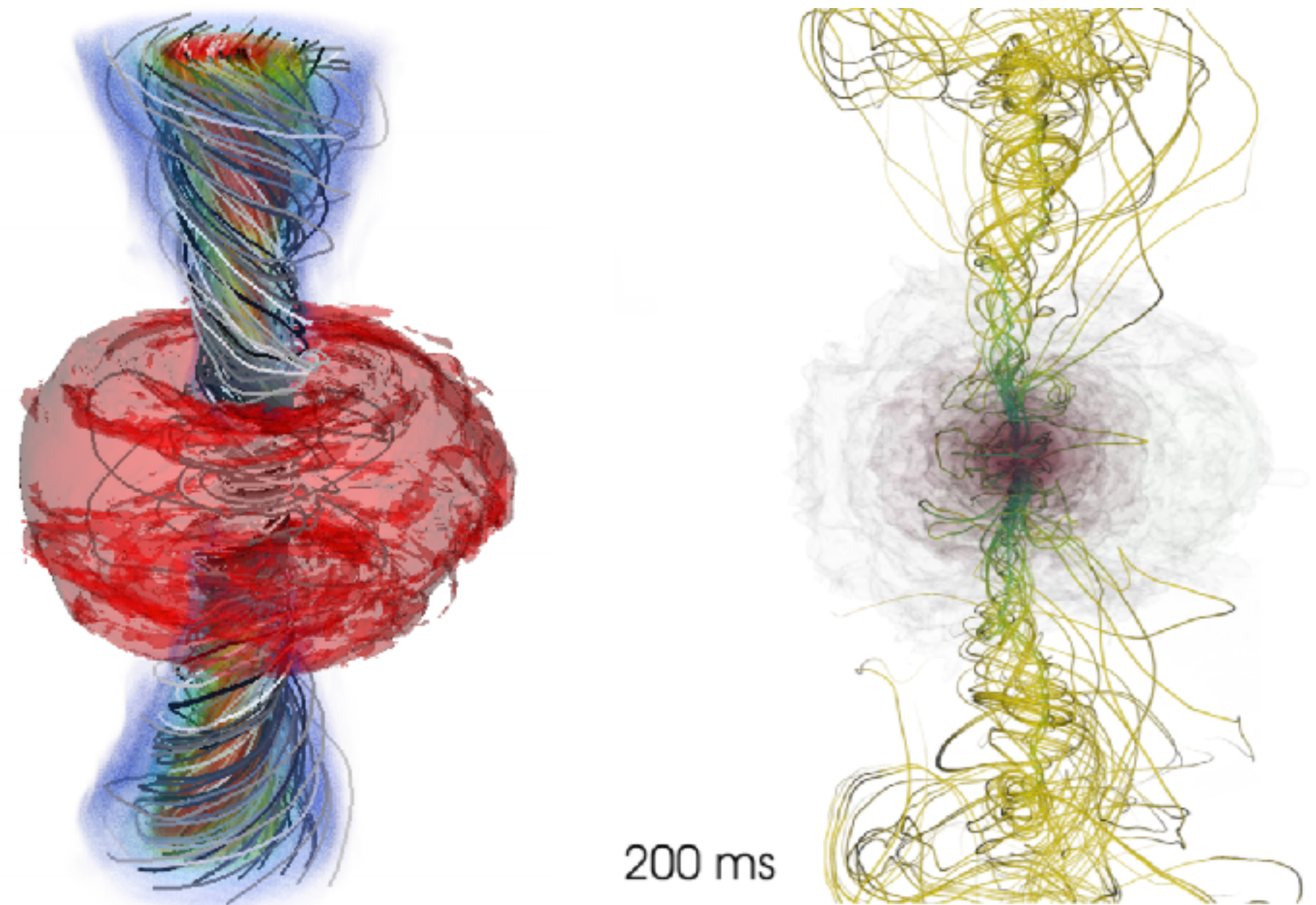
[Desai+2022]



[Combi+2022]



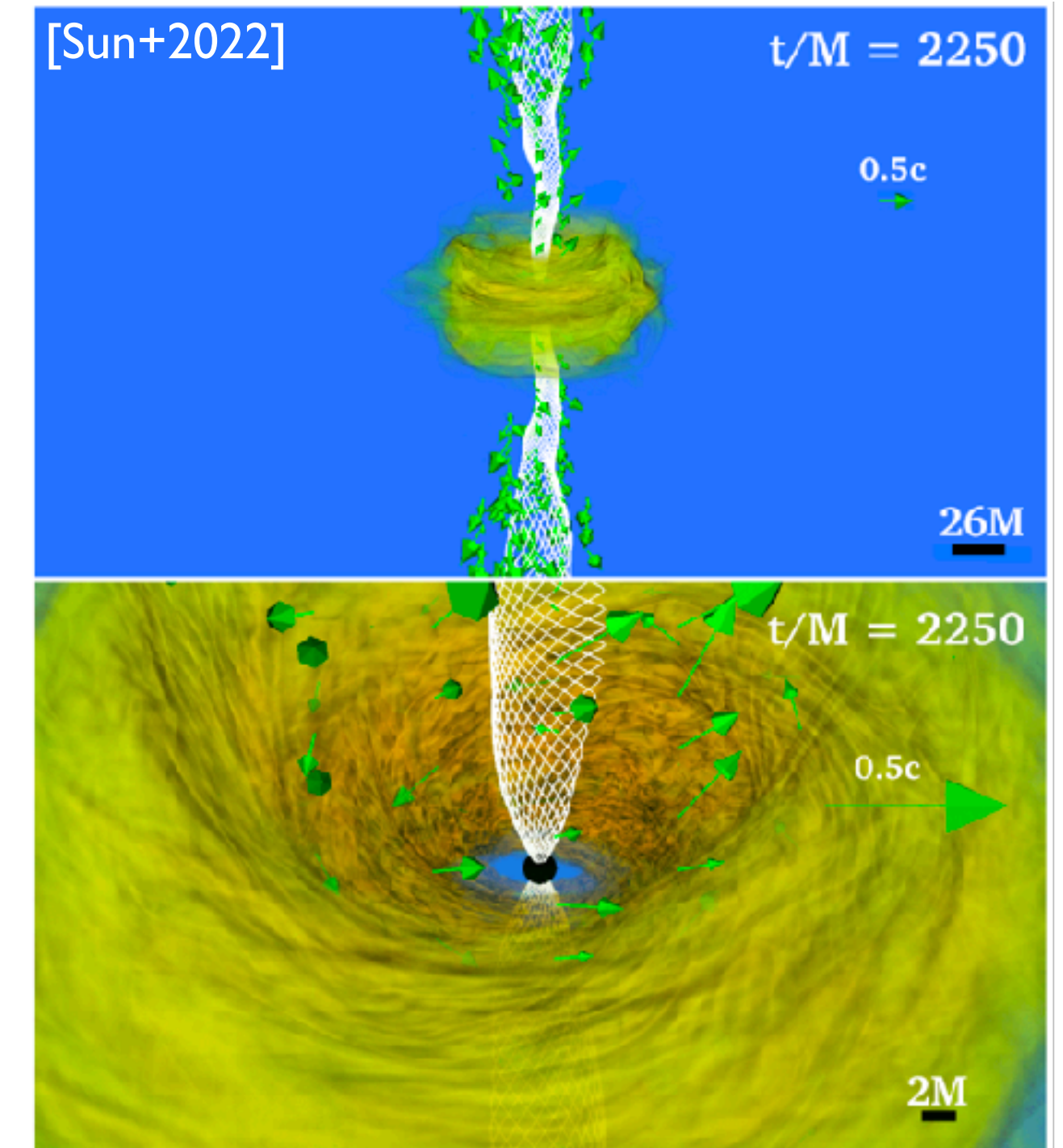
[Lopez-Armengol+2021]



[Moesta+2020]

200 ms

[Ciolfi 2020]



[Sun+2022]

$t/M = 2250$

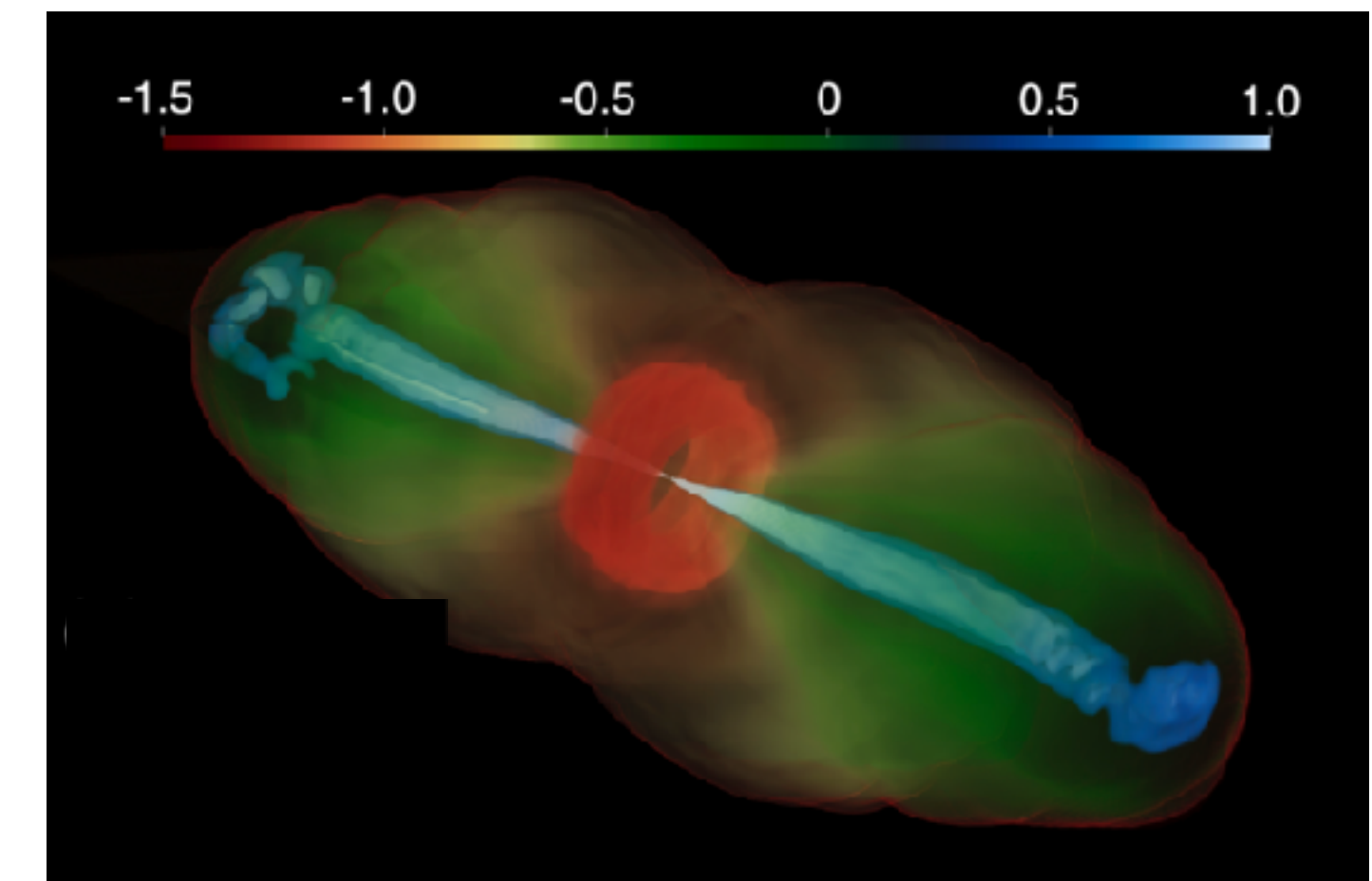
$0.5c$

$26M$

$t/M = 2250$

$0.5c$

$2M$



-1.5 -1.0 -0.5 0 0.5 1.0

# Numerical Background

Einstein field equations:  $G_{\mu\nu} = R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R = 8\pi T_{\mu\nu}$

Maxwell equations:  $\nabla_\nu^* F^{\mu\nu} = 0; \quad \nabla_\nu F^{\mu\nu} = 4\pi \mathcal{J}^\mu$

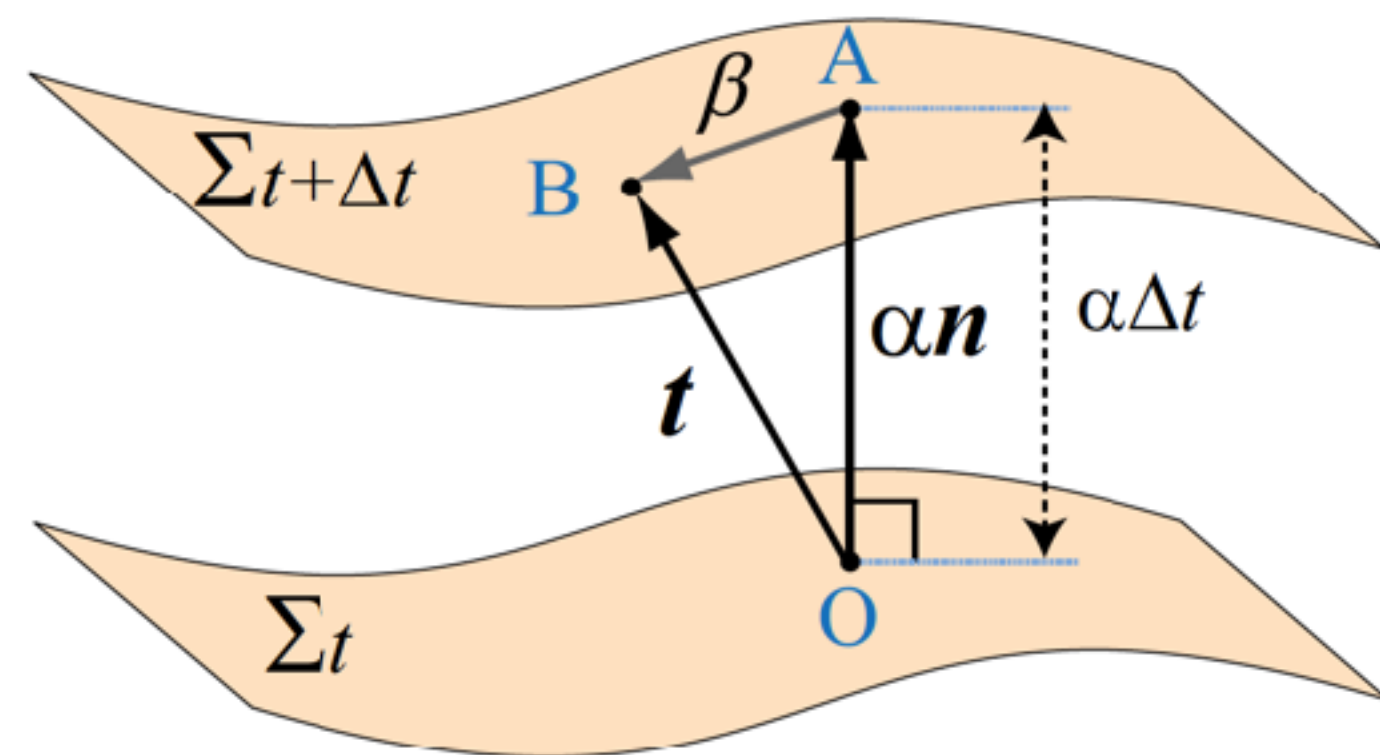
4-current density:  $\mathcal{J}^\mu = qu^\mu + \sigma F^{\mu\nu}u_\nu$

Energy conservation:  $\nabla_\mu T^{\mu\nu} = 0$

Mass conservation:  $\nabla_\mu (\rho u^\mu) = 0$

Equation of state:  $P = P(\rho, \epsilon)$

- **Numerical Relativity**: solve non-linear Einstein equations coupled with MHD equations in GR
- **3+1 foliation**: treating the system as *initial value problem* - solution in future based on initial data



Line element:  $ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu}dx^\mu dx^\nu = -(\alpha^2 - \beta^i \beta_i) dt^2 + 2\beta_i dx^i dt + \gamma_{ij} dx^i dx^j$

Time-like unit normal:  $n^\mu = \frac{1}{\alpha} (1, -\beta^i); \quad n_\mu = (-\alpha, 0, 0, 0)$

Eulerian 3-velocity:  $v^i = \frac{1}{\alpha} \left( \frac{u^i}{u^0} + \beta^i \right)$

# Numerical Background

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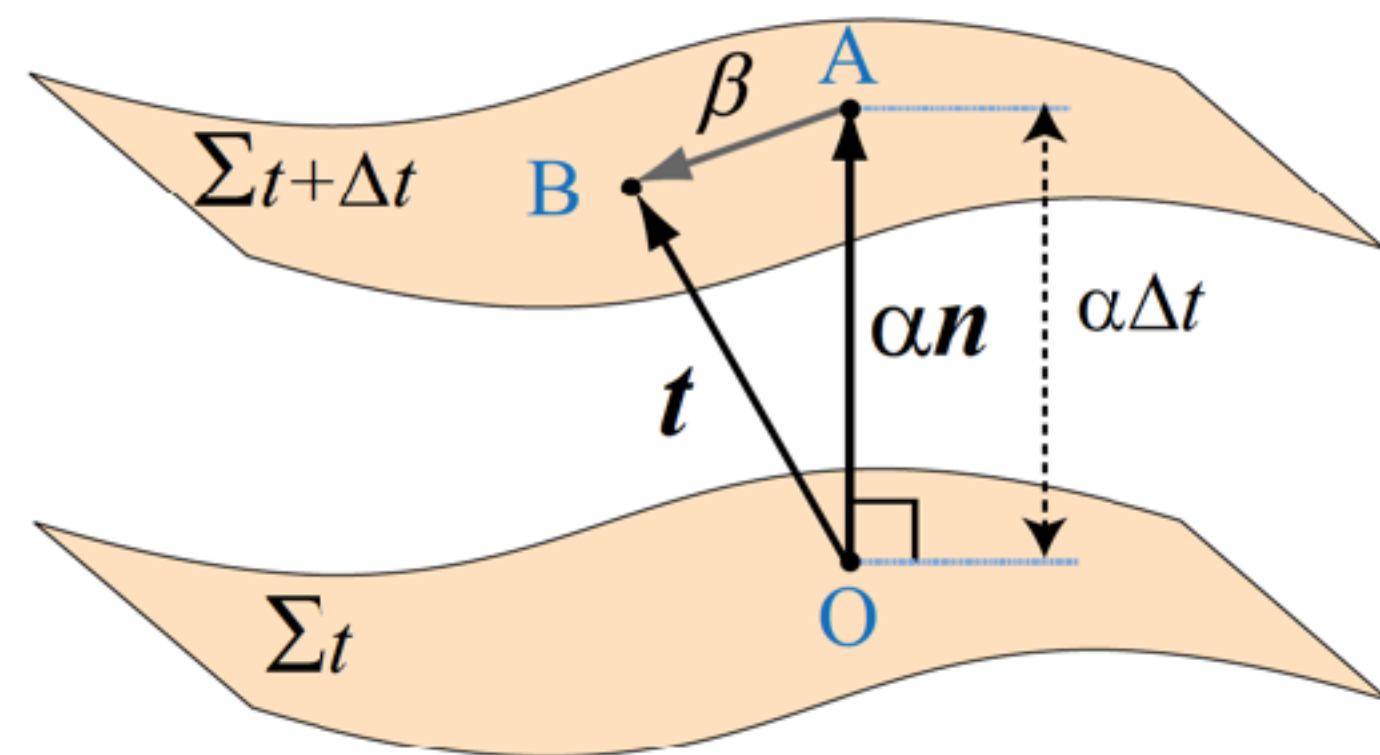
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[Shibata 2015]

- **Spacetime evolution**: based on BSSN/Z4c formulation (via McLachlan, Baikal, Z4c)
- **GRMHD evolution**: based on Valencia formulation (via WhiskyMHD, IllinoisGRMHD, GRHydro, Spritz, GRHayl)

Sam Cupp's talk on Tuesday!

# GRMHD Equations

First order flux-conservative hyperbolic Valencia formalism

$$\frac{1}{\alpha\sqrt{\gamma}} \left[ \partial_t \left( \sqrt{\gamma} \mathbf{U} \right) + \partial_i \left( \sqrt{\gamma} \mathbf{F}^i \right) \right] = \mathbf{S}$$

State vector

$$\mathbf{U} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} D \\ S_j \\ \tau \\ B^k \\ DY_e \end{pmatrix}$$

Fluxes

$$\mathbf{F} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} D\tilde{v}^i \\ S_j\tilde{v}^i + \alpha \left( P + P_{\text{mag}} \right) \delta_j^i - \alpha b_j B^i / W \\ \tau\tilde{v}^i + \alpha \left( P + P_{\text{mag}} \right) v^i - \alpha^2 b^0 B^i / W \\ B^k\tilde{v}^i - B^i\tilde{v}^k \\ DY_e\tilde{v}^i \end{pmatrix}$$

Source terms

$$\mathbf{S} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ T^{\mu\nu} \left( \partial_\mu g_{\nu j} - \Gamma_{\nu\mu}^\delta g_{\delta j} \right) \\ \alpha \left( T^{\mu 0} \partial_\mu \ln \alpha - T^{\mu\nu} \Gamma_{\nu\mu}^0 \right) \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$T^{\mu\nu} = (\rho h + b^2) u^\mu u^\nu + (p_{\text{gas}} + p_{\text{mag}}) g^{\mu\nu} - b^\mu b^\nu$$

fluid can interchange energy and momentum with the spacetime

# Prim2Con

## primitives

$\rho$  rest-mass density

$v^i$  fluid 3-velocity

$\epsilon$  specific internal energy

$Y_e$  electron fraction

$P$  gas pressure

$P_{\text{mag}} \equiv b^2/2$  magnetic pressure

$W = 1/\sqrt{1 - v^2}$  Lorentz factor

$h = 1 + \epsilon + P/\rho$  specific enthalpy

$\vec{A}$  vector potential

## conservatives

conserved density

$$D \equiv \rho W$$

conserved momentum

$$S_j \equiv (\rho h + b^2) W^2 v_j - \alpha b^0 b_j$$

conserved internal energy

$$\tau \equiv (\rho h + b^2) W^2 - \left( P + P_{\text{mag}} \right) - \alpha^2 (b^0)^2 - D$$

conserved magnetic field

$$\vec{B} \equiv \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}$$

conserved electron fraction

$$DY_e$$

# Evolution Equations for B

Ideal MHD

$$\sigma \rightarrow \infty; \quad F^{\mu\nu} u_\nu \rightarrow 0$$

co-moving observer measures no electric field

Maxwell equations

$$\nabla_\nu^* F^{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{-g}} \partial_\nu \left( \sqrt{-g} (b^\mu u^\nu - b^\nu u^\mu) \right) = 0$$

written solely in terms of b

Divergence-free condition:  $\partial_i \tilde{B}^i = 0$

Induction equations:  $\partial_t \tilde{B}^i = \partial_j (\tilde{v}^i \tilde{B}^j - \tilde{v}^j \tilde{B}^i)$

where  $\tilde{B}^i \equiv \sqrt{\gamma} B^i; \quad \tilde{v}^i \equiv \alpha v^i - \beta^i$

Co-moving magnetic field components

$$b^0 = \frac{W B^i v_i}{\alpha}, \quad b^i = \frac{B^i + \alpha b^0 u^i}{W}, \quad b^2 \equiv b^\mu b_\mu = \frac{B^2 + \alpha^2 (b^0)^2}{W^2}$$

# Evolution Equations for A

4-vector potential:  $\mathcal{A}_\nu = n_\nu \Phi + A_\nu$

Induction equations:  $\partial_t A_i = -E_i - \partial_i \left( \alpha \Phi - \beta^j A_j \right)$

Computing B:  $B^i = \epsilon^{ijk} \partial_j A_k$

Algebraic gauge:  $\Phi = \frac{1}{\alpha} \left( \beta^j A_j \right) = -n^j A_j$

$$\partial_t A_i = \epsilon_{ijk} v^j B^k$$

Generalised  
Lorenz gauge:  $\nabla_\nu \mathcal{A}^\nu = \xi n_\nu \mathcal{A}^\nu$

$$\partial_t \left( \sqrt{\gamma} \Phi \right) + \partial_i \left( \alpha \sqrt{\gamma} A^i - \sqrt{\gamma} \beta^i \Phi \right) = -\xi \alpha \sqrt{\gamma} \Phi$$

# Equation of State

- Analytical

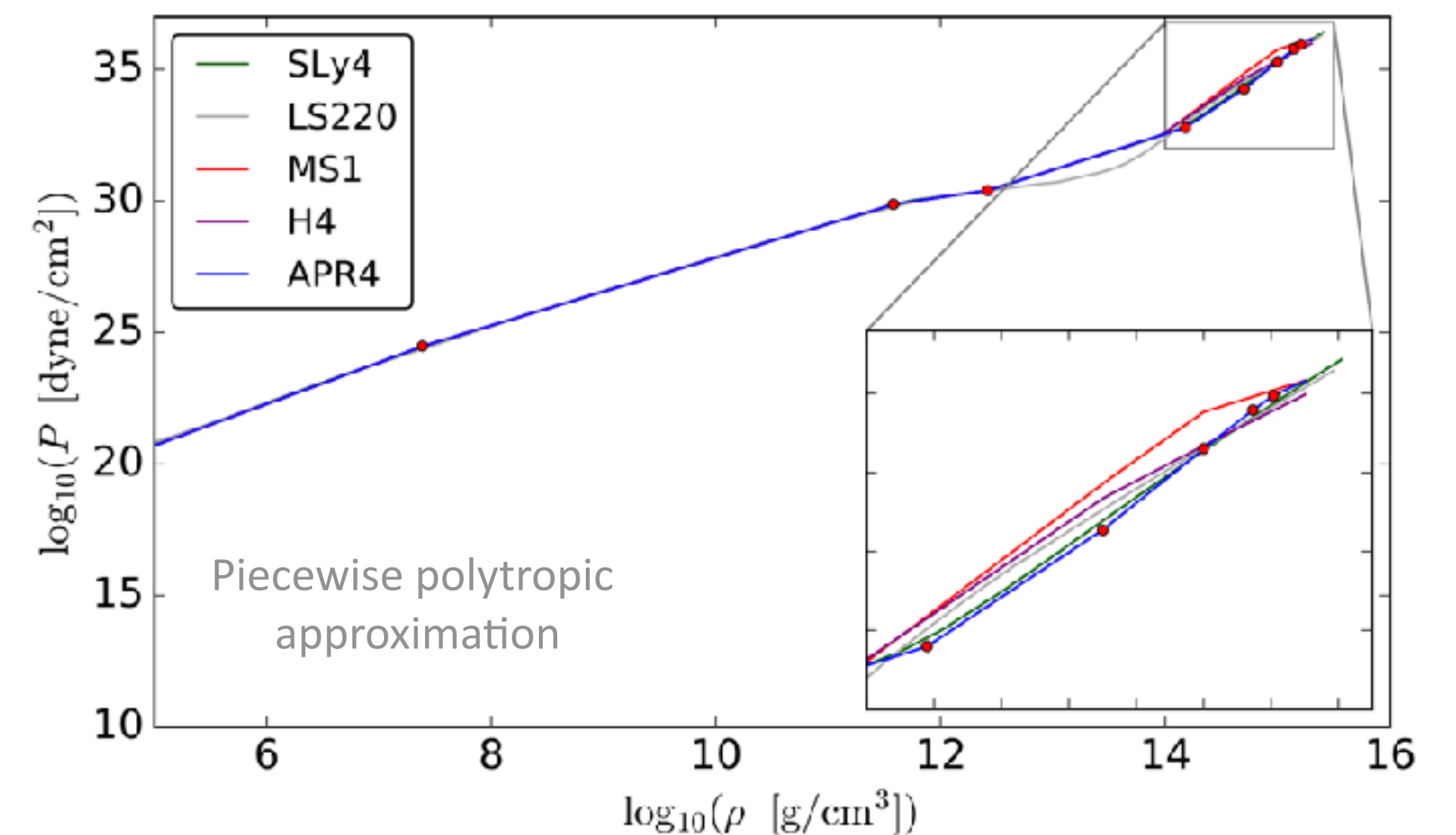
- ideal gas  $P(\rho, \epsilon) = (\Gamma - 1)\rho\epsilon; \epsilon_{\min} = 0$
- polytrope  $P(\rho) = k\rho^\Gamma; \Gamma = 1 + 1/n$

- Hybrid

$$P(\rho, \epsilon) = P_{\text{cold}}(\rho) + (\Gamma_{\text{th}} - 1)\rho (\epsilon - \epsilon_{\text{cold}}(\rho))$$
$$\epsilon_{\min}(\rho) = \epsilon_{\text{cold}}(\rho)$$

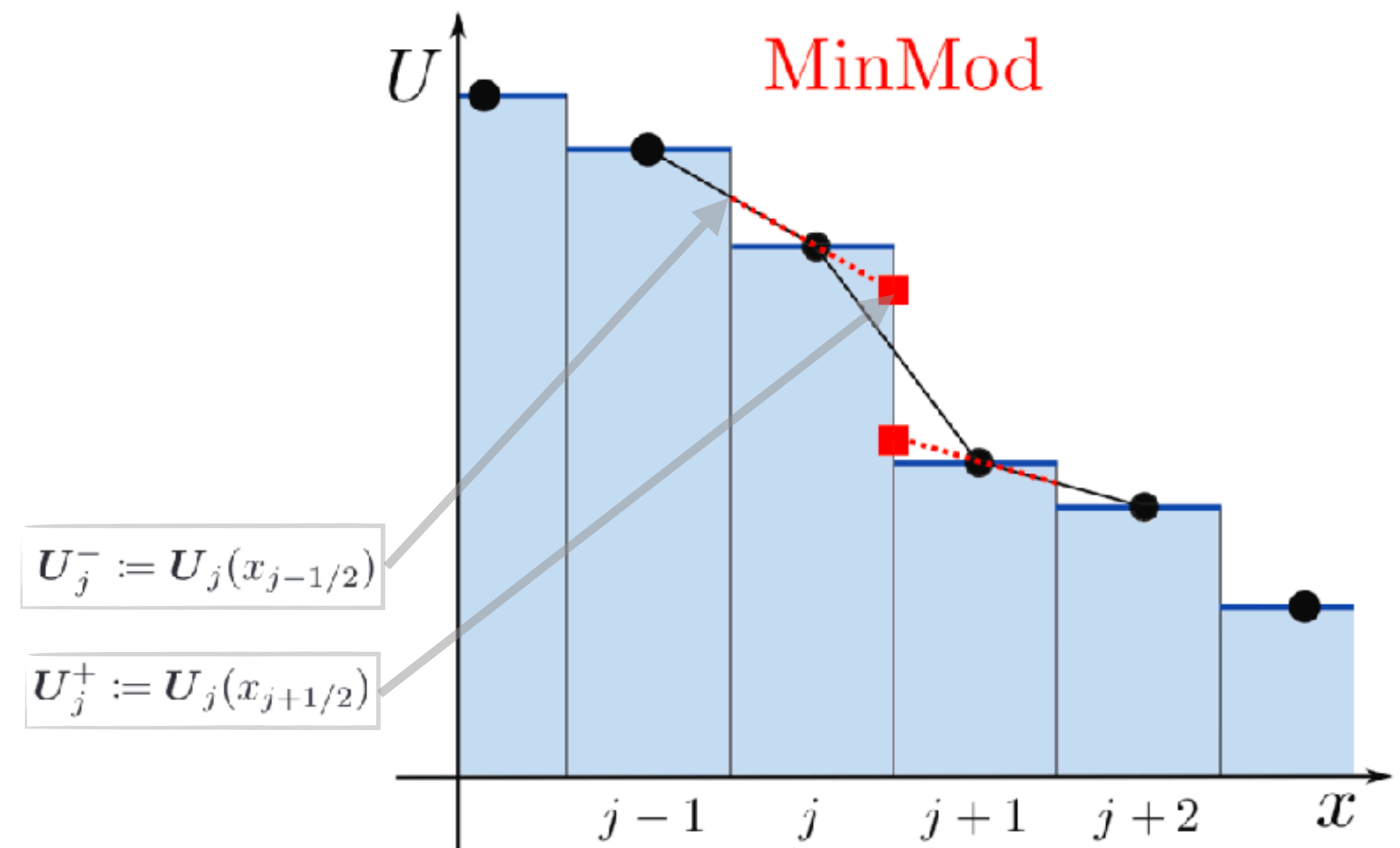
- Tabulated

- 1 parameter  $P = P(\rho)$
- 3 parameter  $P = P(\rho, T, Y_e)$



# HRSC Methods

- **Reconstruction methods:**  
reconstruct the variables to the left and right of the grid-interfaces
  - ➔ Minmod
  - ➔ Piecewise parabolic method (PPM)
- **Approximate Riemann solvers:**  
compute the fluxes at cell-interfaces
  - ➔ Lax-Friedrichs
  - ➔ HLL solver



[Rezzolla+2013]

# Con2Prim

- Recover primitive variables from evolved conservative ones: **C2P**
  - no analytical solution in GRMHD
  - needs numerical approach: root finding algorithms
- Currently known C2P schemes (e.g., Noble+2006, Duran+2008, Neilsen+2014, Newman+2014, **Siegel+2018**) could all fail in certain regimes, e.g. for high magnetizations and Lorentz factors

## Types of methods:

- Newton-Raphson schemes
  - unbounded; usually need initial guess; depend on EOS derivatives
- Root-bracketing schemes
  - bounded; might not depend on initial guess and on EOS derivatives

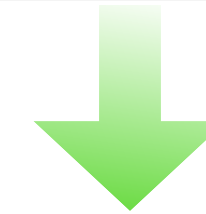
# Code Workflow

$$\frac{1}{\alpha\sqrt{\gamma}} \left[ \partial_t (\sqrt{\gamma} \mathbf{U}) + \partial_i (\sqrt{\gamma} \mathbf{F}^i) \right] = \mathbf{S}$$

**Initialisation:** primitive variables defined at each grid point



**Prim2Con:** conserved variables computed from primitives



**Source terms:** evaluated using FD schemes



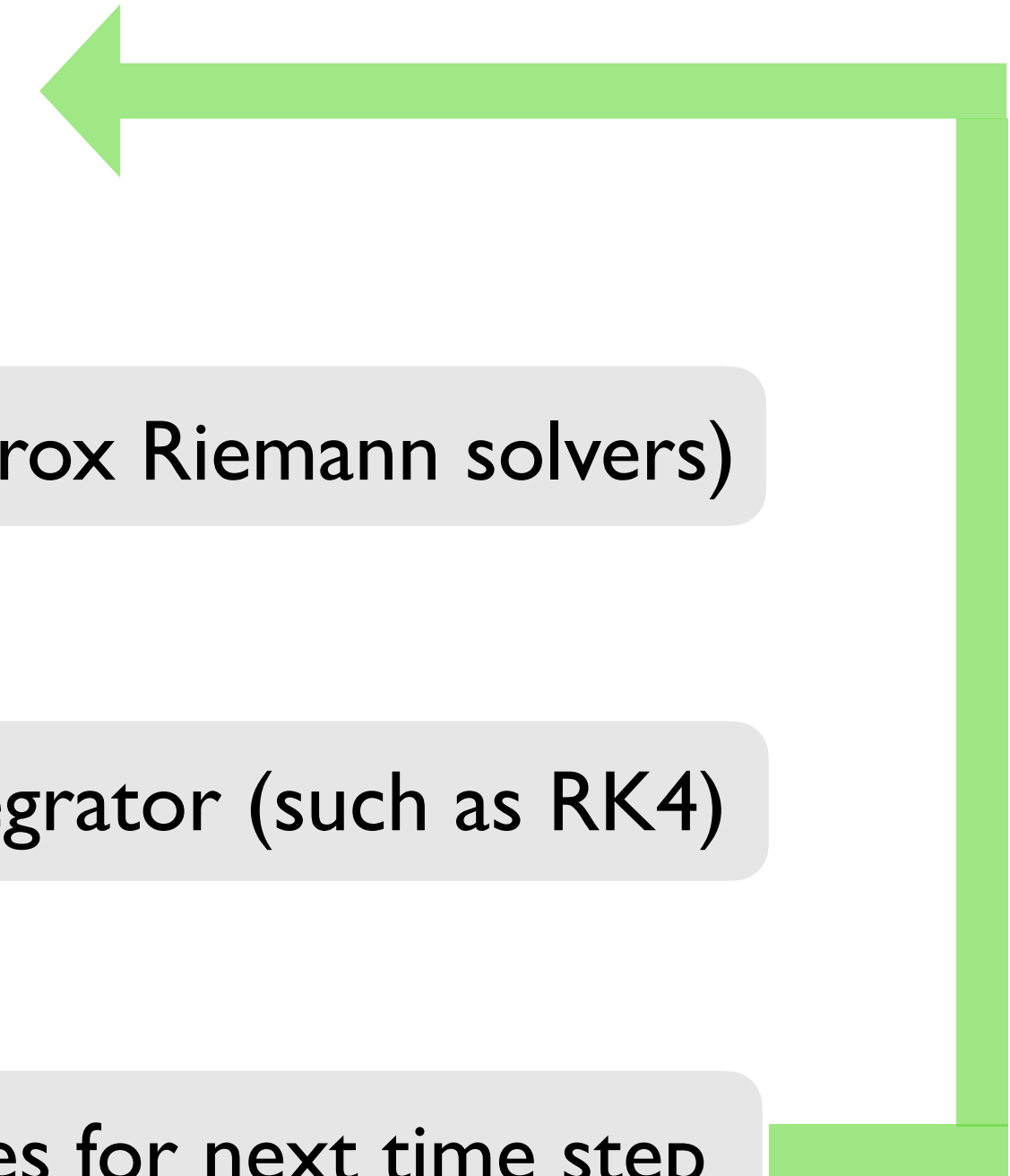
**Flux terms:** computed using HRSC methods (reconstruction + approx Riemann solvers)



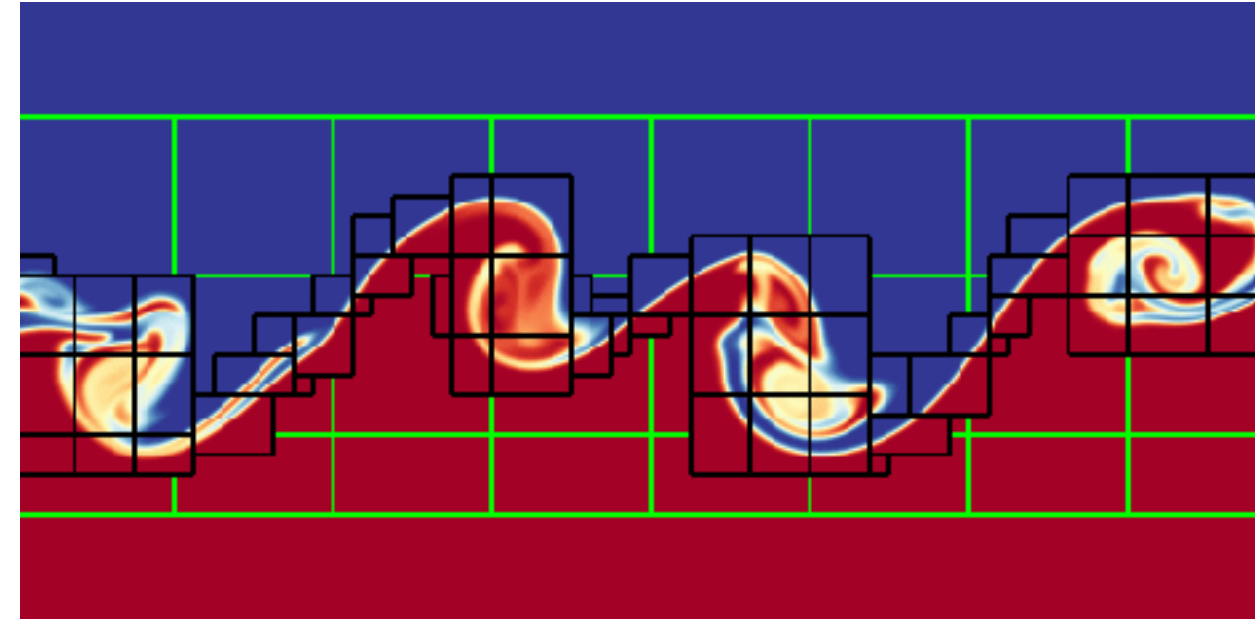
**Time update:** ODEs for conserved variables solved using time integrator (such as RK4)



**Con2Prim:** computes primitives from evaluated conserved variables for next time step

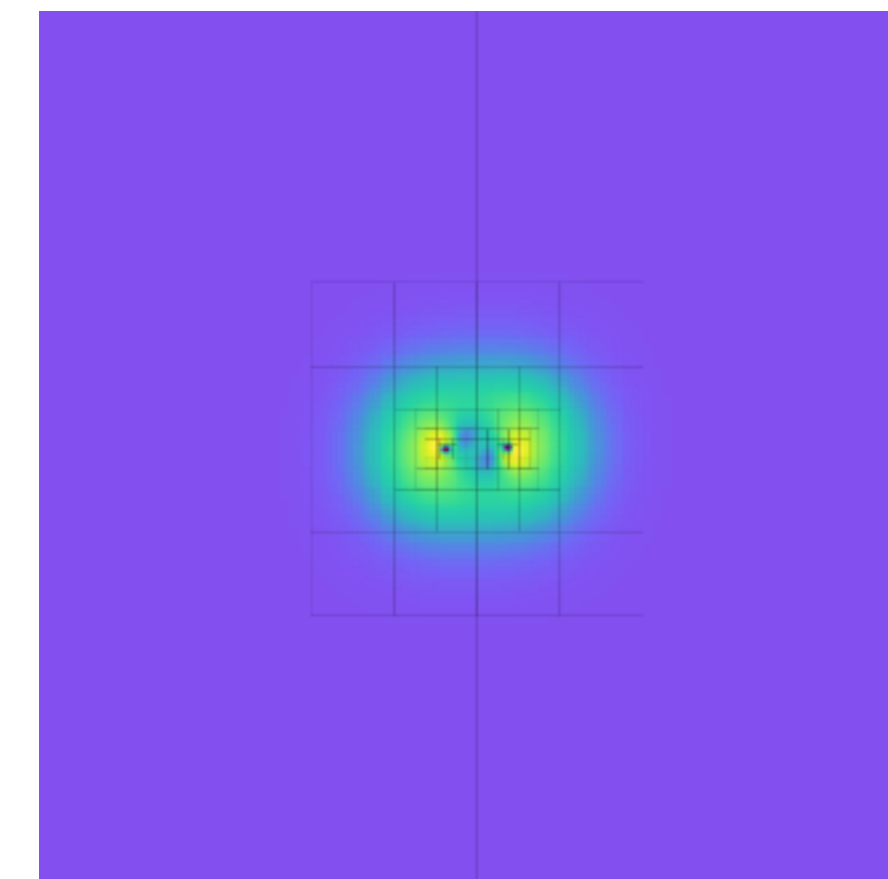
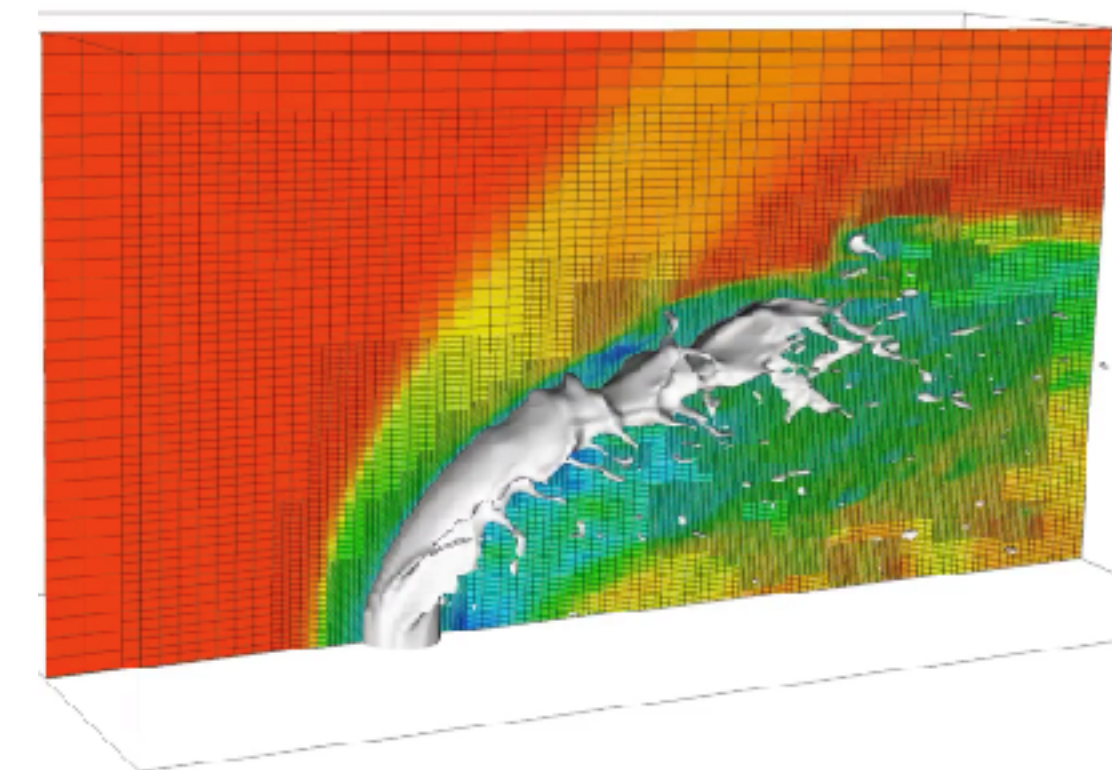
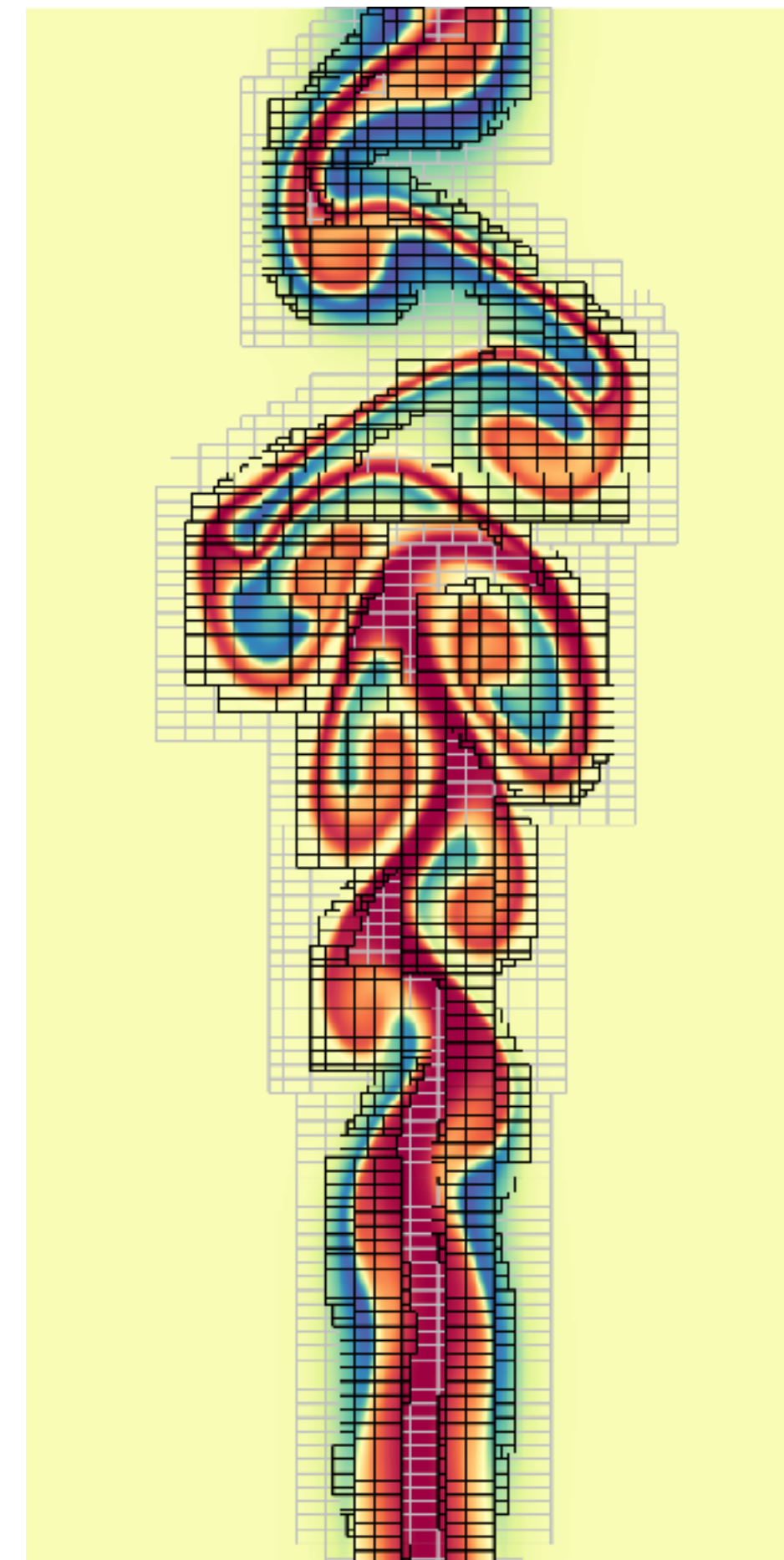


AMReX



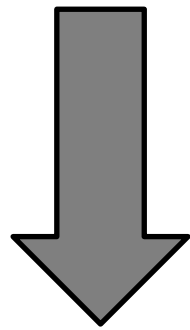
# AMReX

- Software framework for massively parallel, block-structured adaptive mesh refinement (AMR) applications
- Developed at **LBNL**, **NREL** and **ANL** as a part of DOE's Exascale Computing Project
- **Key features:**
  - C++ and Fortran interfaces
  - 1-, 2- and 3-D support
  - Support for cell-, face-, vertex-, edge-centered data
  - Support for hyperbolic, parabolic, and elliptic solvers
  - Optional subcycling in time for time-dependent PDEs
  - Support for particles
  - **Performance portability:** parallelization via flat MPI, OpenMP, hybrid MPI/OpenMP, hybrid MPI/(**CUDA** or **HIP** or DPC++)
  - Parallel I/O

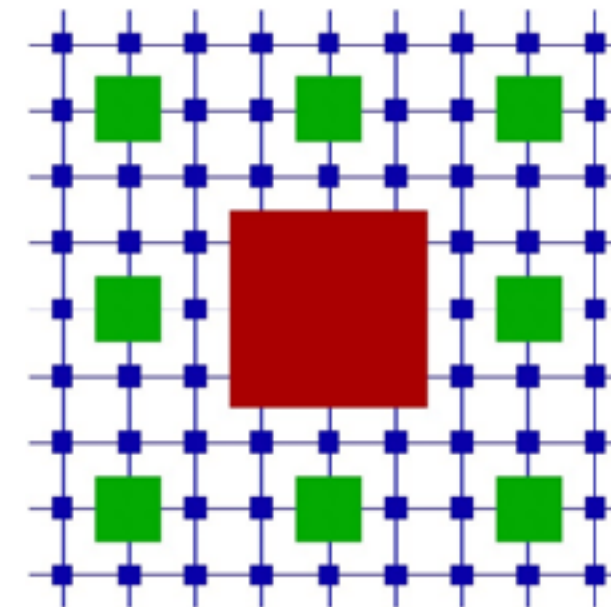
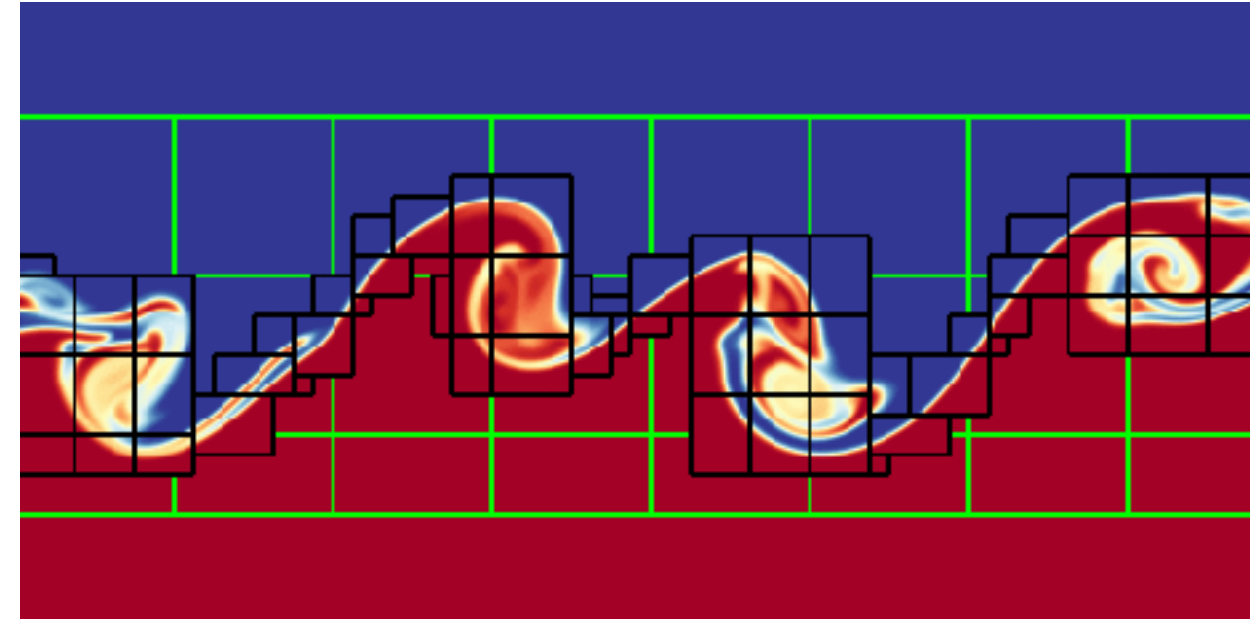


Taken from <https://amrex-codes.github.io/amrex/>

AMReX



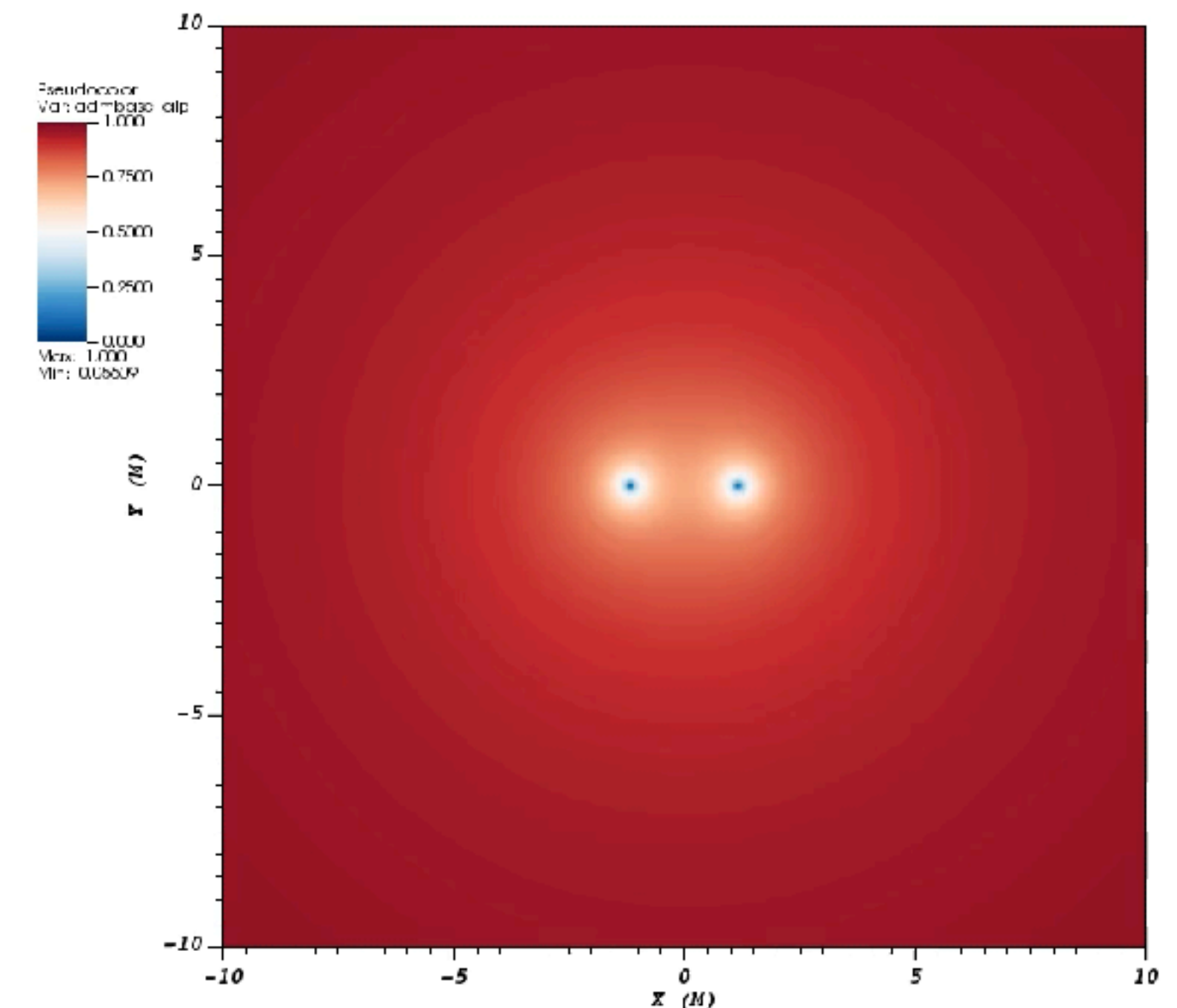
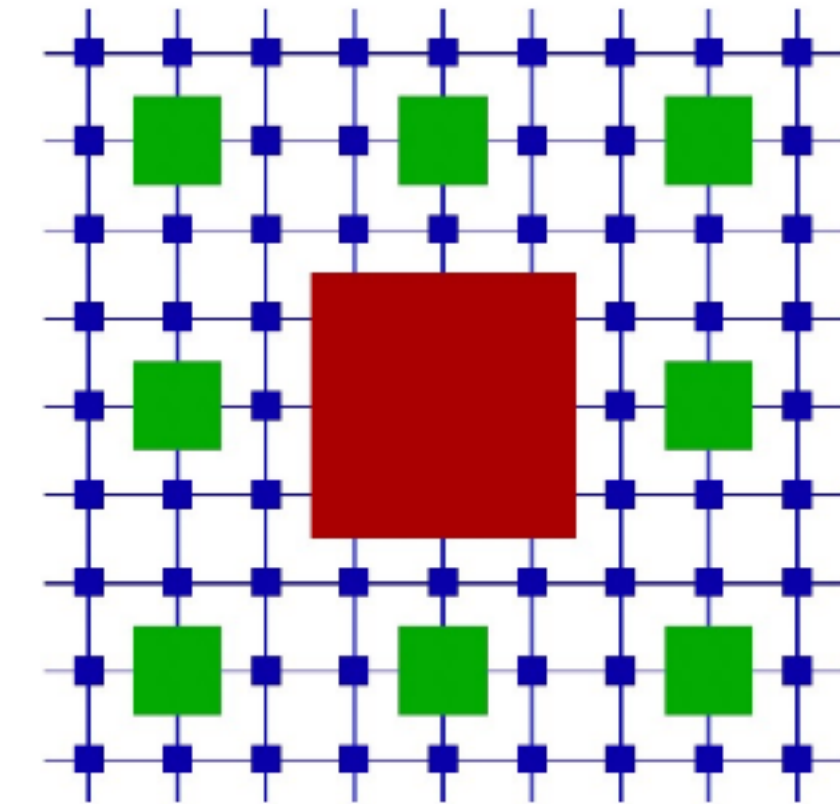
CarpetX



Erik Schnetter's talk on Tuesday!

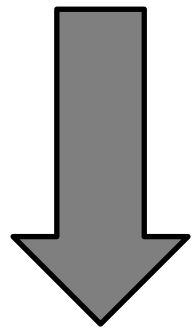
# CarpetX: a new driver for the Einstein Toolkit

- Support for accelerators (e.g. GPUs)
- AMR based on local criteria
- Scalable → Exascale
- Hydro refluxing
- Elliptic solvers
- I/O in HDF5 (Silo, openPMD) or ASCII
- GitHub: <https://github.com/EinsteinToolkit/CarpetX>
- Applications:
  - **WaveToyX**: solves a scalar wave equation
  - **Z4c**: Einstein field equations in vacuum
  - **GRaM-X**: a new GRMHD code [Shankar et al. 2022]

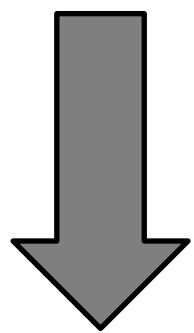


BBH merger simulations by  
**Allen Wen (RIT)**

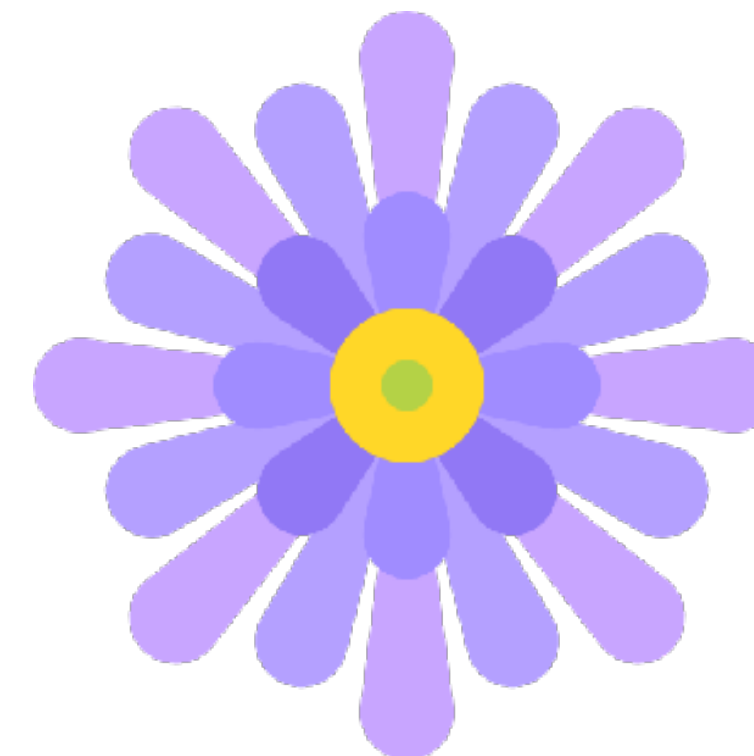
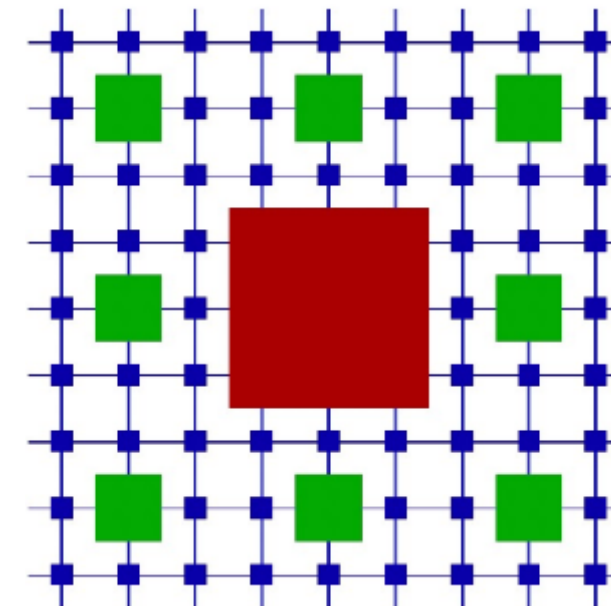
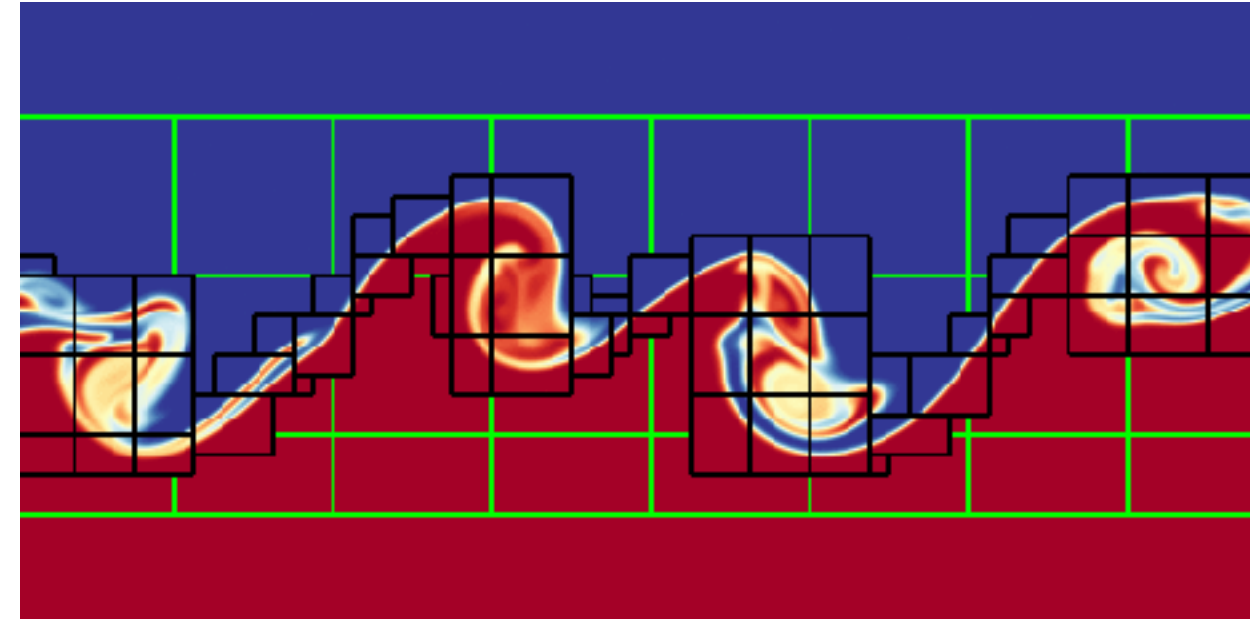
AMReX



CarpetX



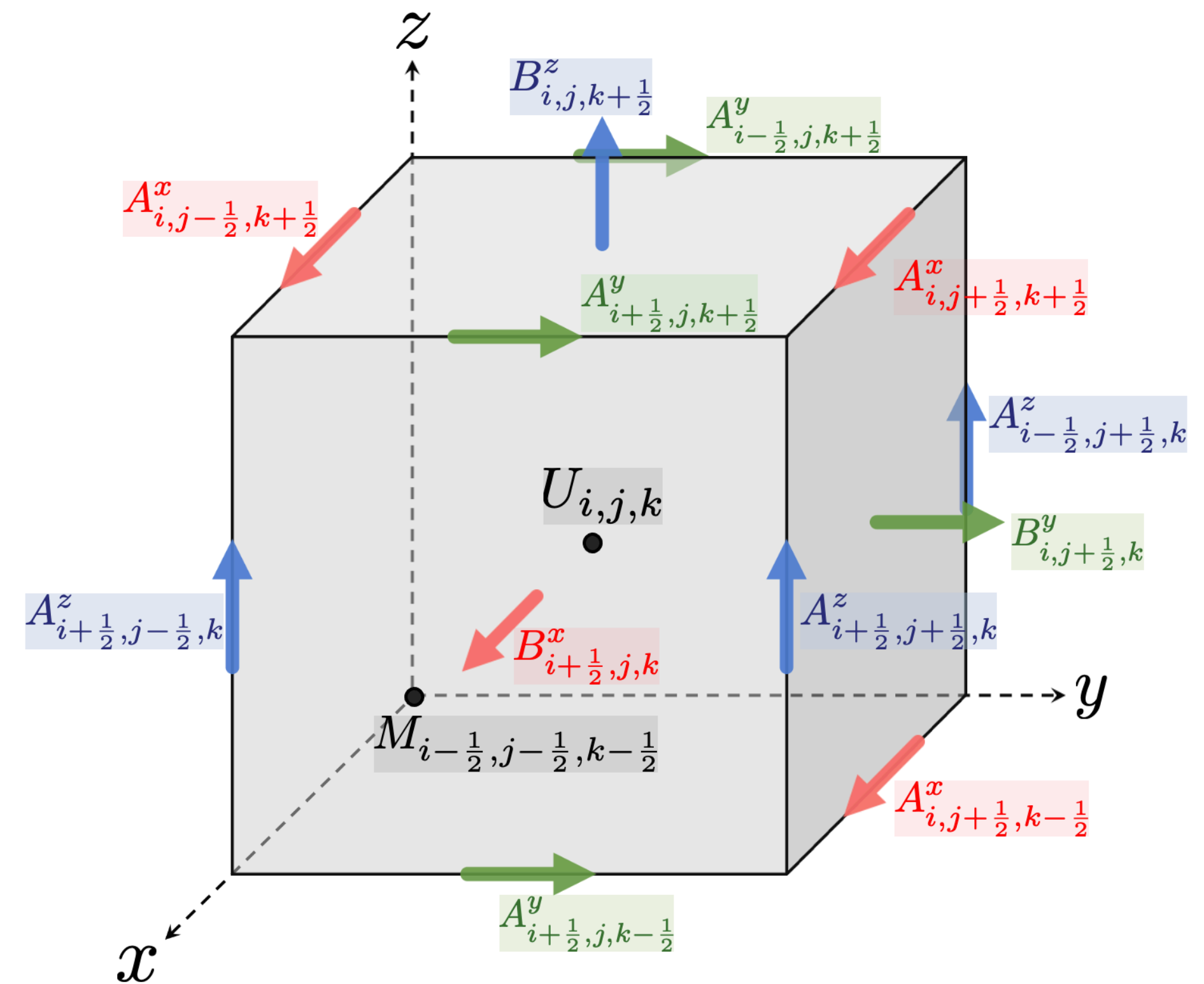
AsterX



# AsterX: General Relativistic MHD code

Heavily derived from the **Spritz** code

- **ReconX:**
  - MinMod (TVD)
  - Piecewise Parabolic Method (PPM)
  - WENO-Z (weighted essentially non-oscillatory)
  - MP5 (5th order monotonicity-preserving)
- Flux solvers:
  - Lax-Friedrichs
  - HLLE
- **Con2PrimFactory:**
  - 2D Noble et al.
  - 1D Palenzuela et al.
  - 1D RePrimAnd (only CPU-compatible)
  - **3D Anton et al.**
  - **1D Newman & Hamlin**



Locations of different grid-functions  
in a grid-cell

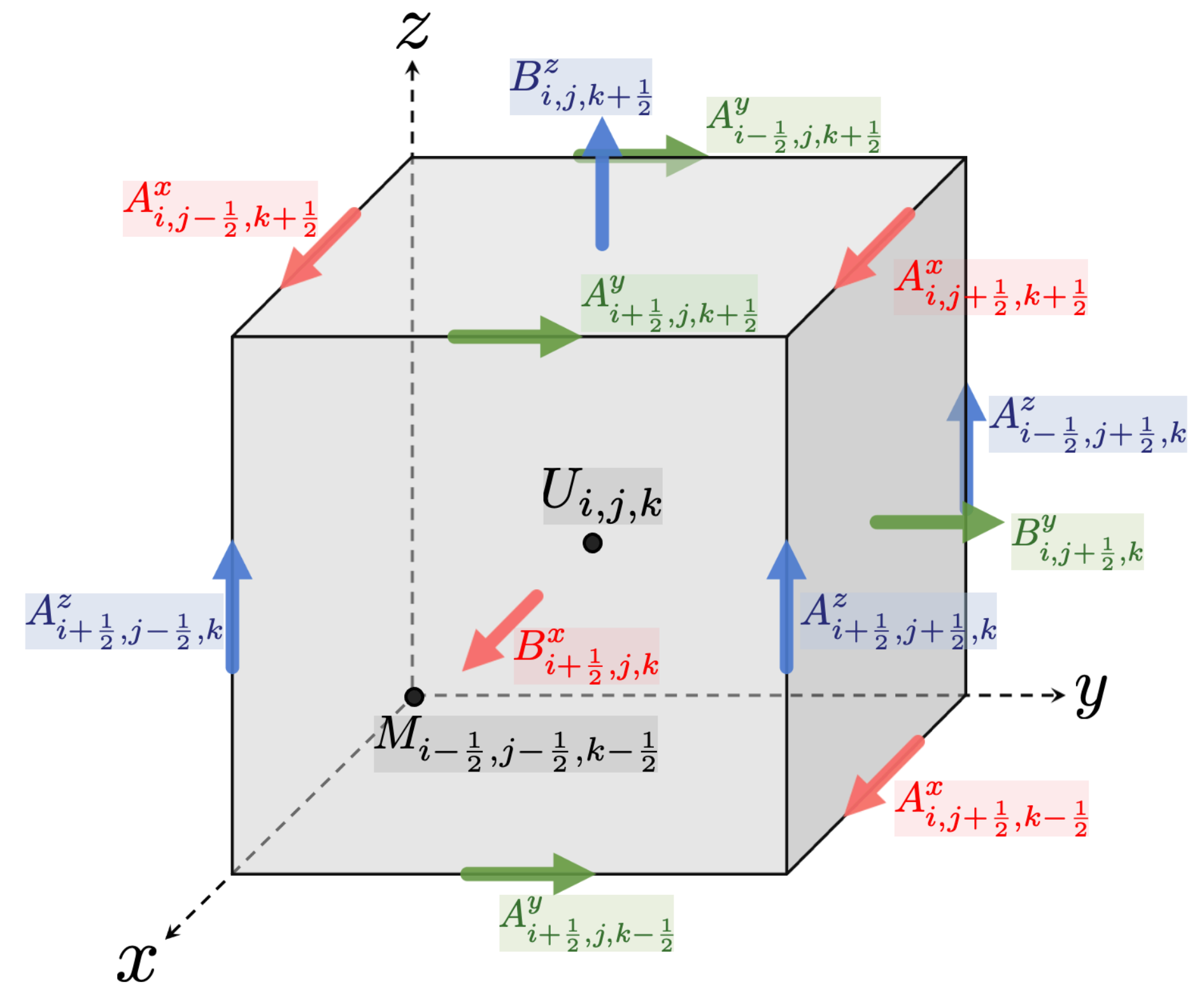
# AsterX: General Relativistic MHD code

Heavily derived from the **Spritz** code

- **EOSX:**
  - Analytical: Ideal gas, Polytropic
  - **Hybrid**
  - **Finite temperature tabulated**
- **Vector potential evolution:**
  - Flux CT
  - Upwind CT (HLLE)

- **GitHub:**

<https://github.com/jaykalinani/AsterX>

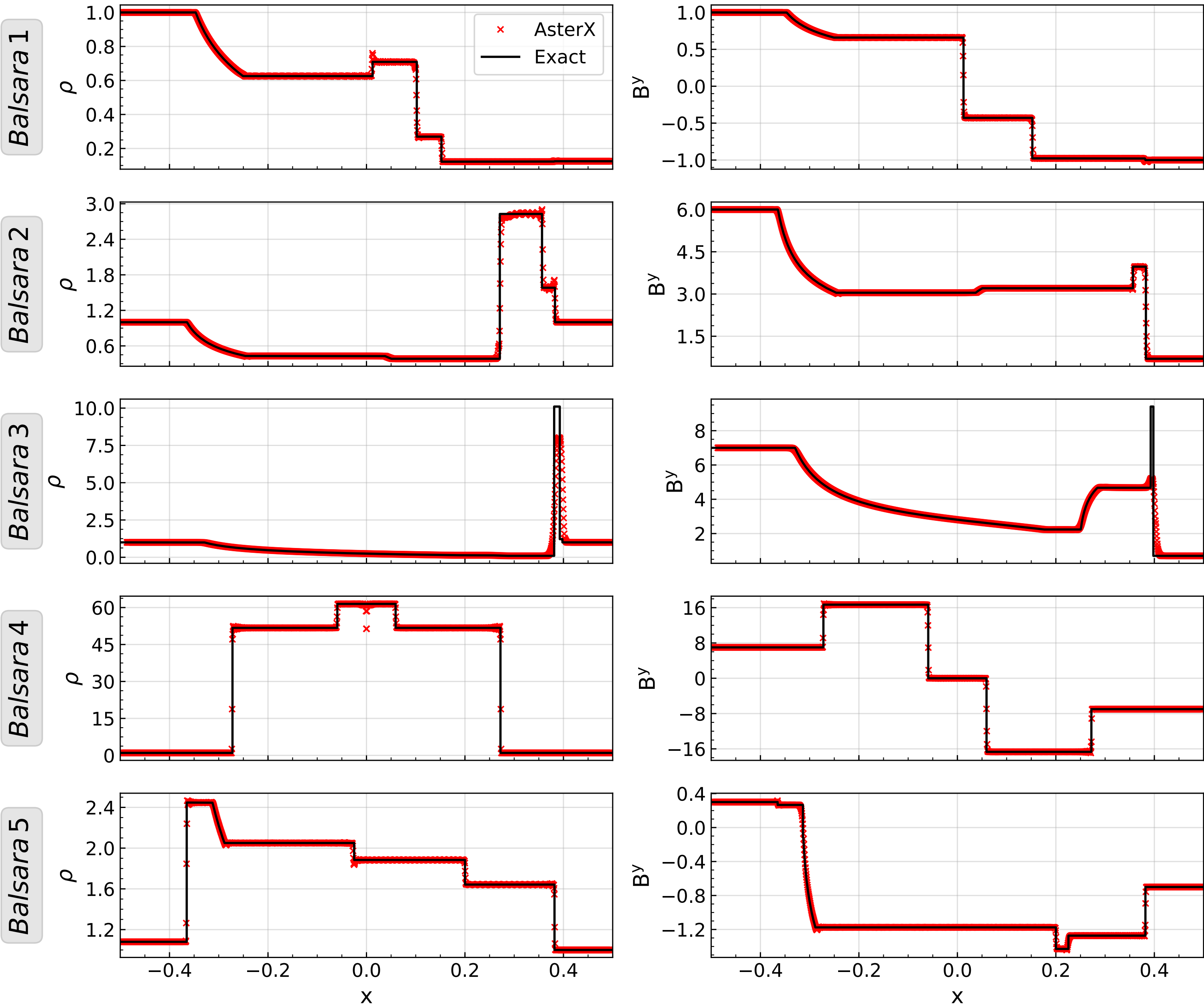


Locations of different grid-functions  
in a grid-cell

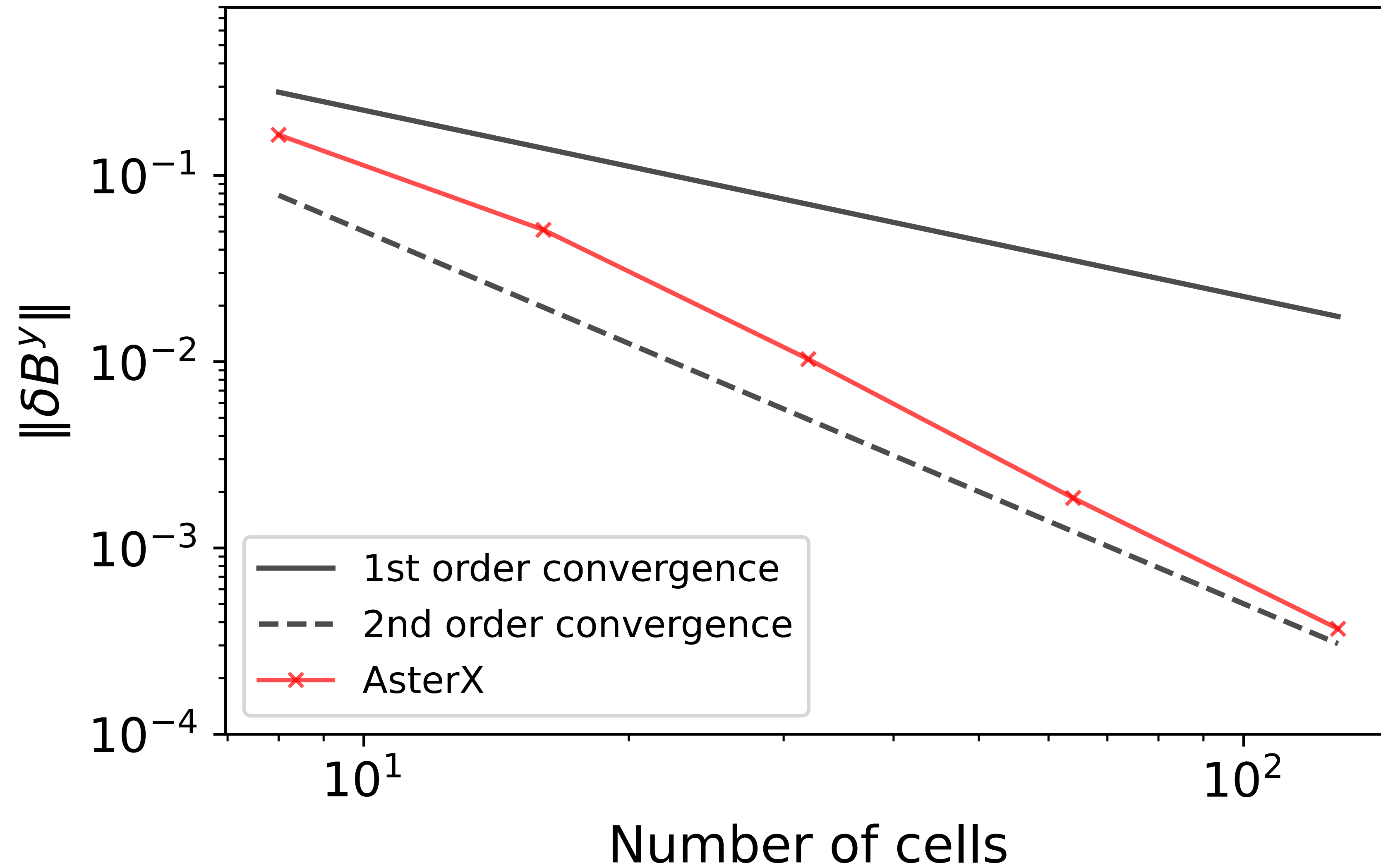
# Balsara Shocktube

Rest-mass density

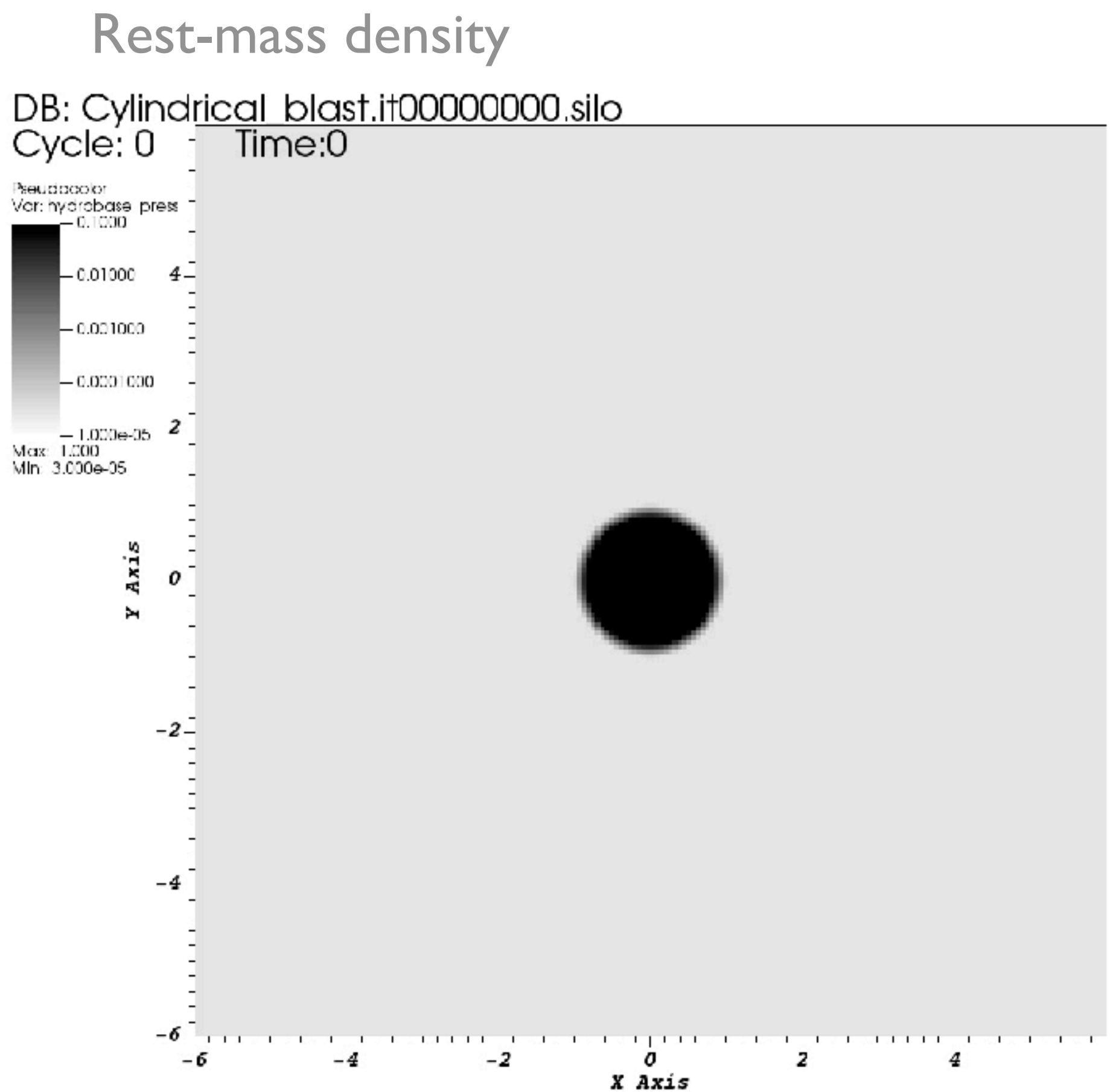
Magnetic field:  $B_y$



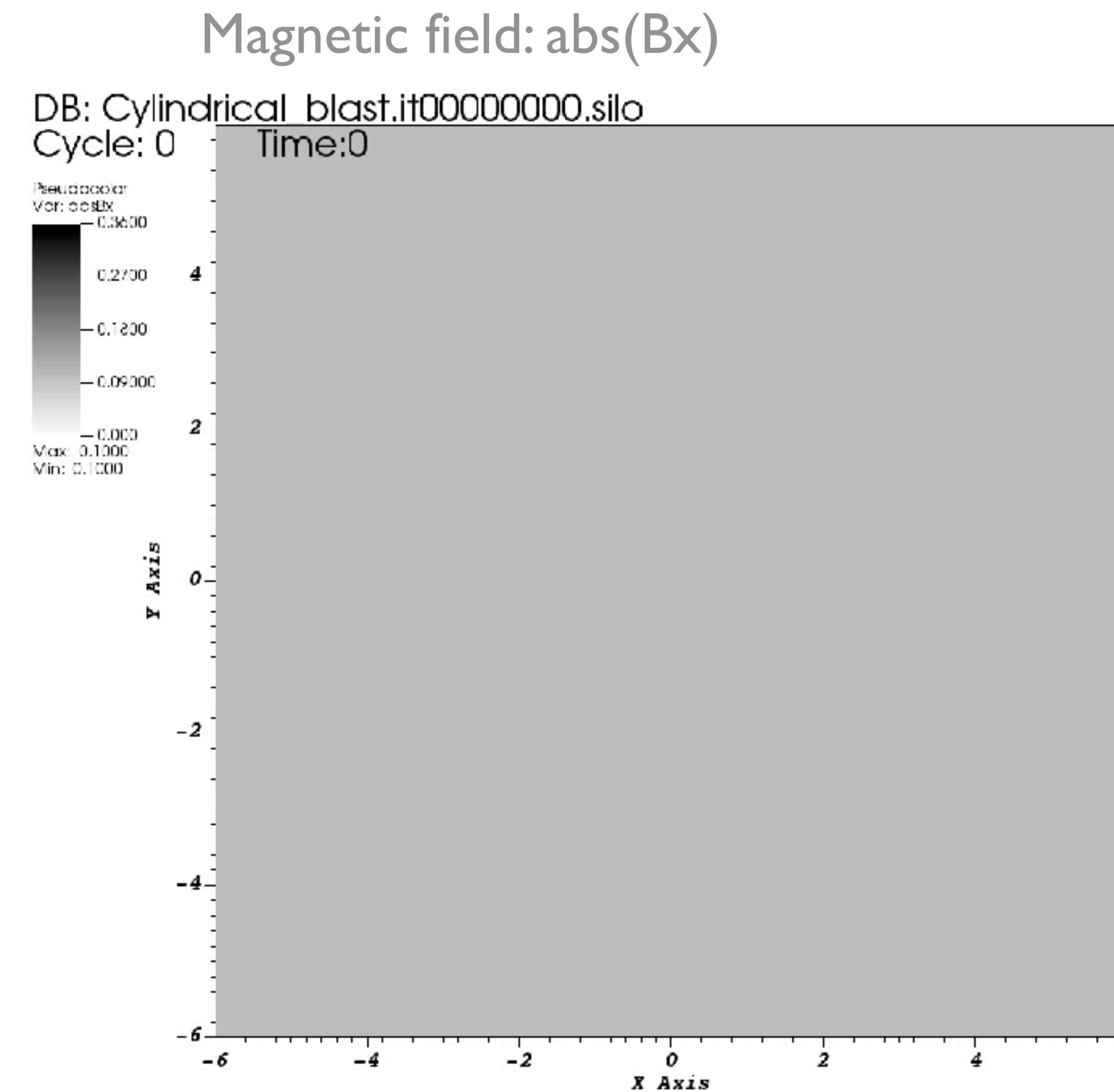
# Convergence study: Alfvén wave



# Cylindrical Explosion



user: jaykalinani  
Sun Jan 29 23:12:58 2023

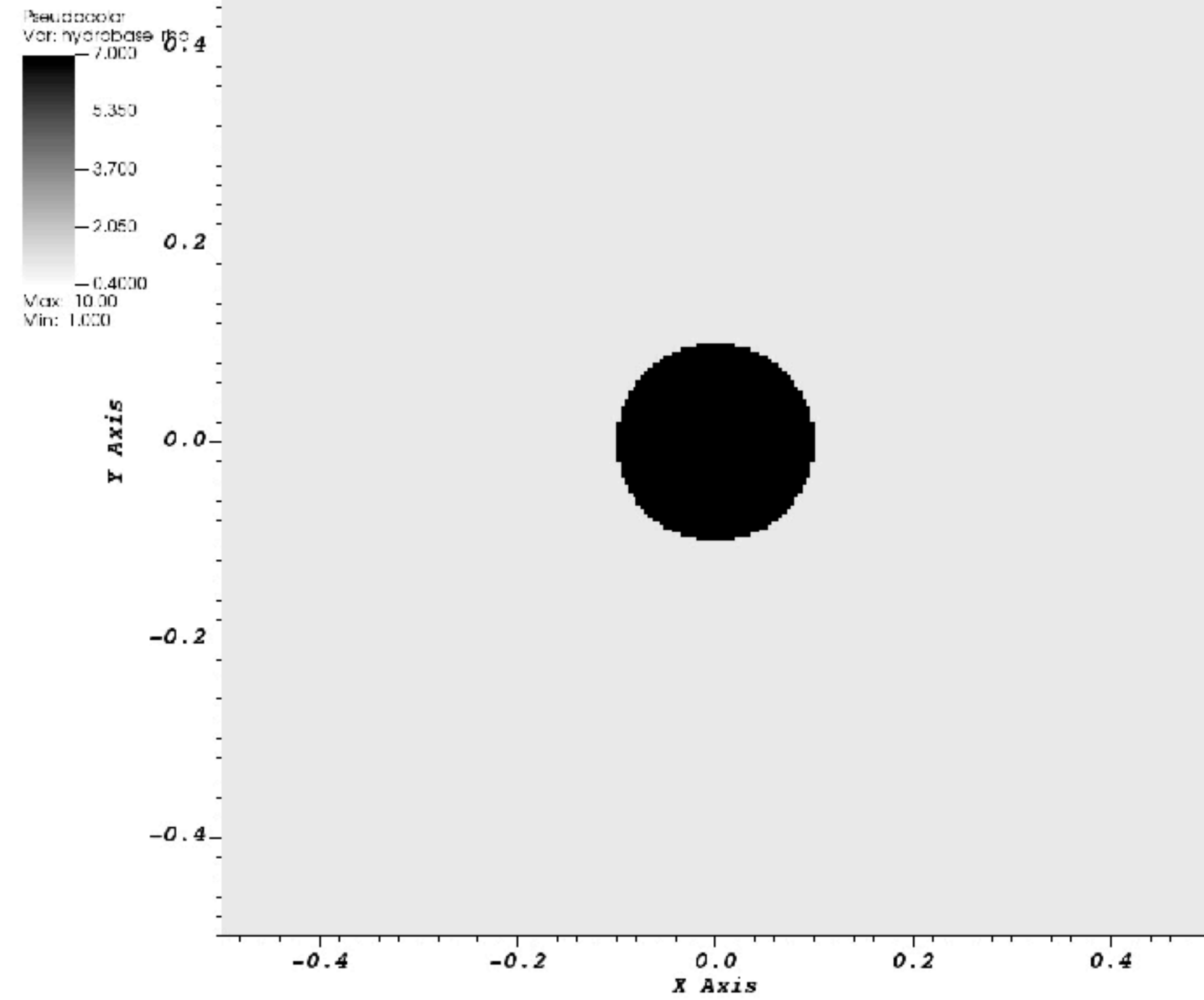


user: jaykalinani  
Sun Jan 29 23:14:44 2023

# Magnetic Rotor

Rest-mass density

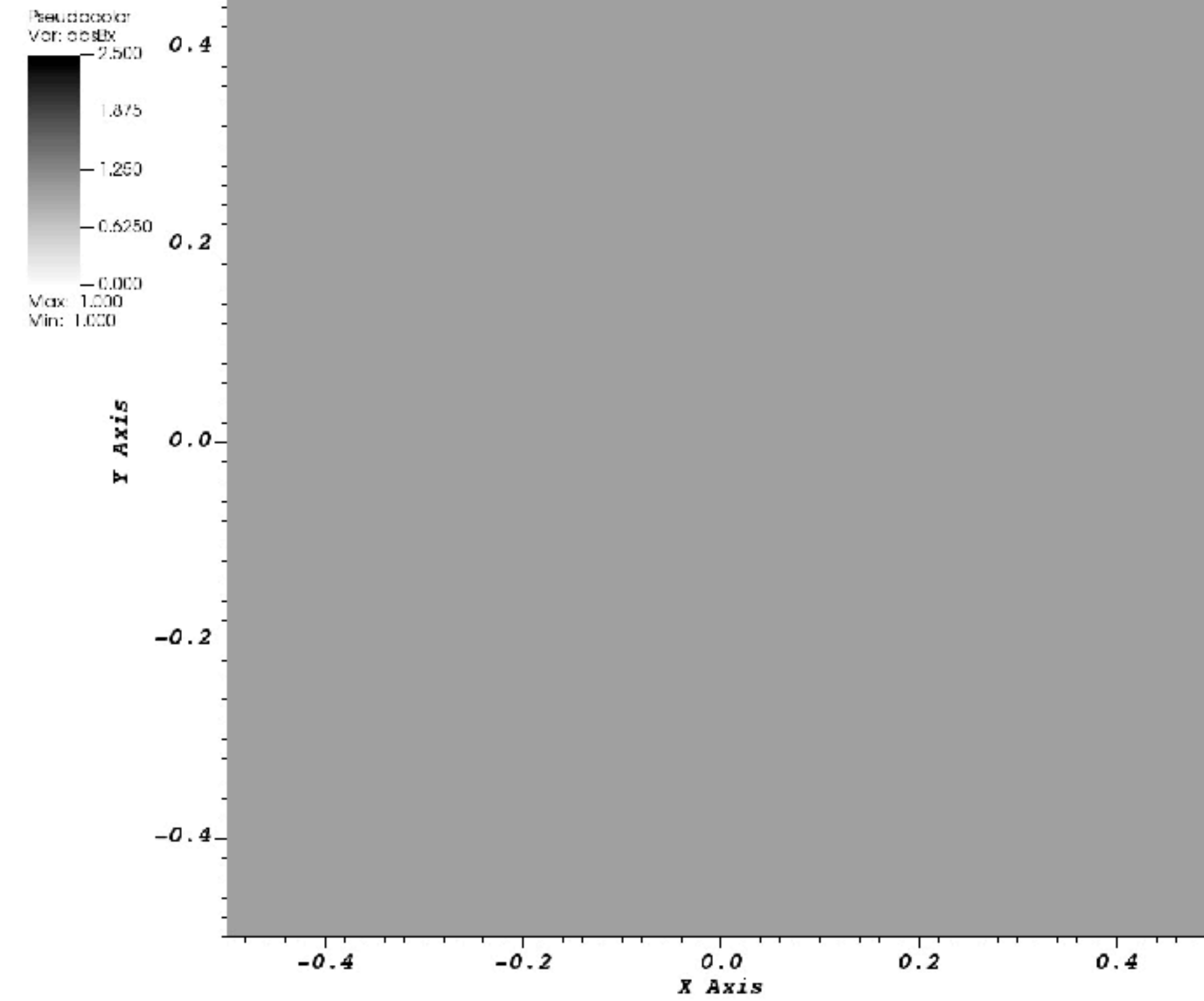
DB: Magnetic\_rotor.it000000000.silo  
Cycle: 0 Time:0



User: jaykalinani  
Sun Jan 29 23:08:40 2023

Magnetic field: abs(Bx)

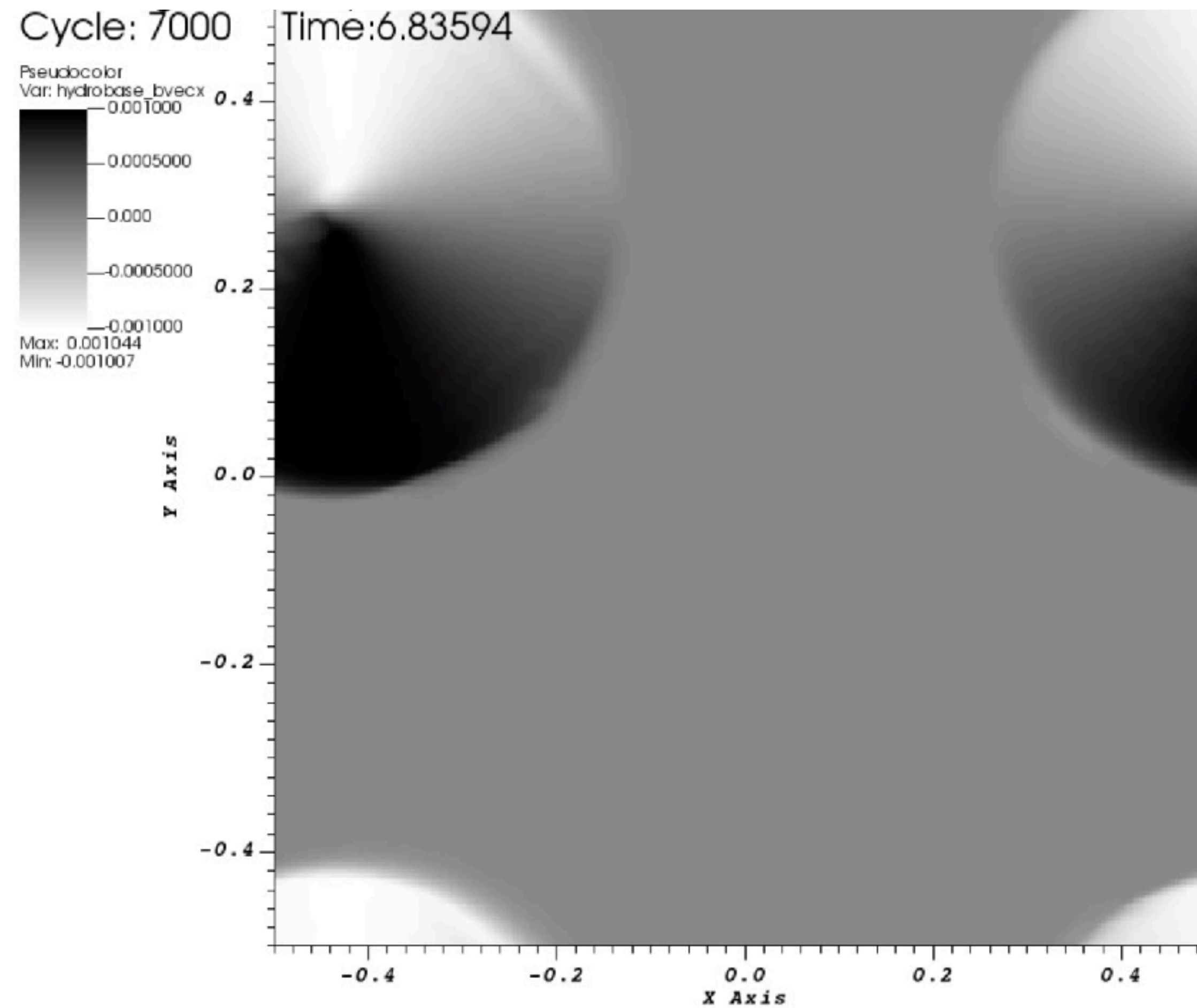
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Cycle: 0 Time:0



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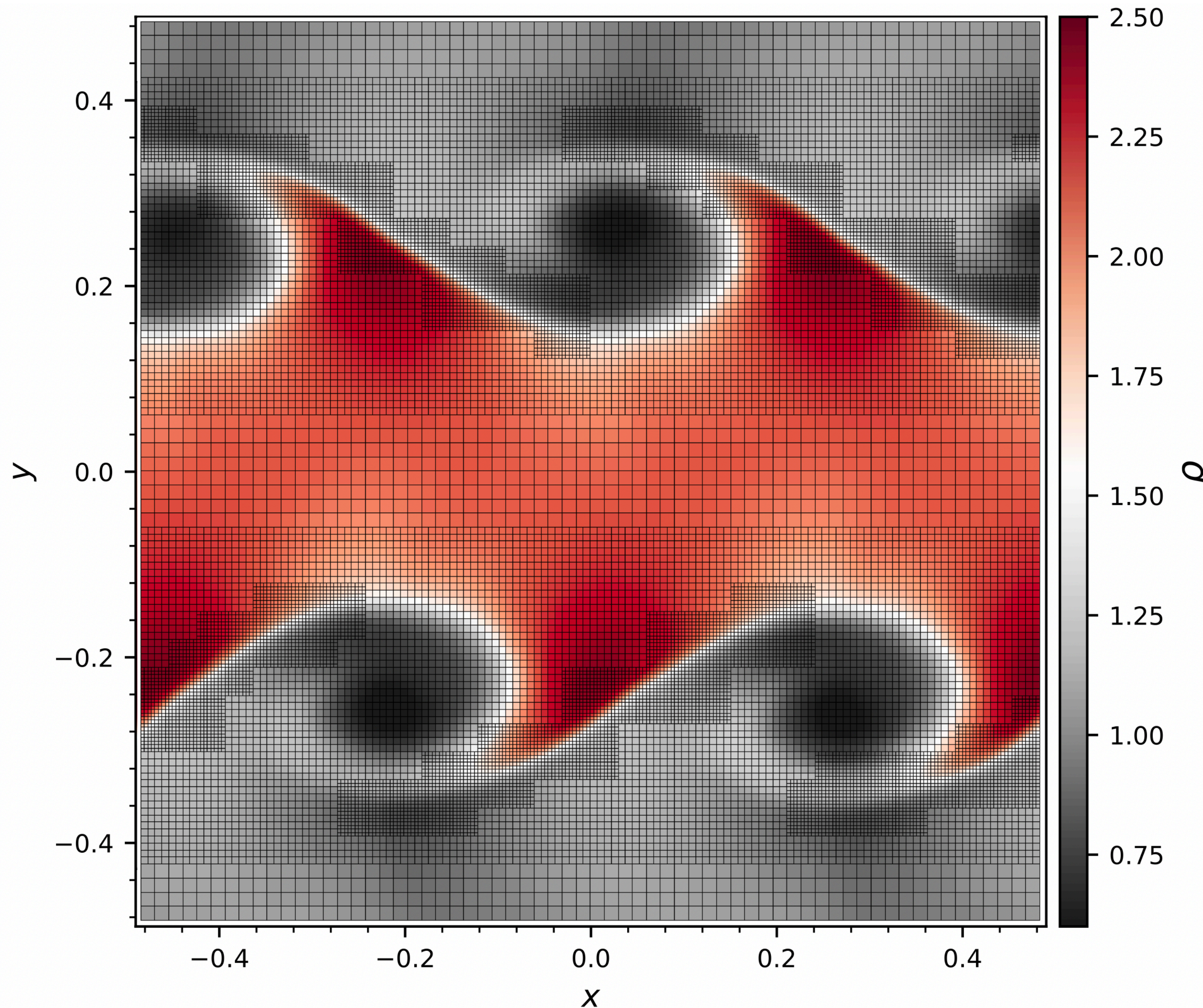
# Magnetic Loop Advection

Magnetic field: Bx



# Kelvin Helmholtz Instability

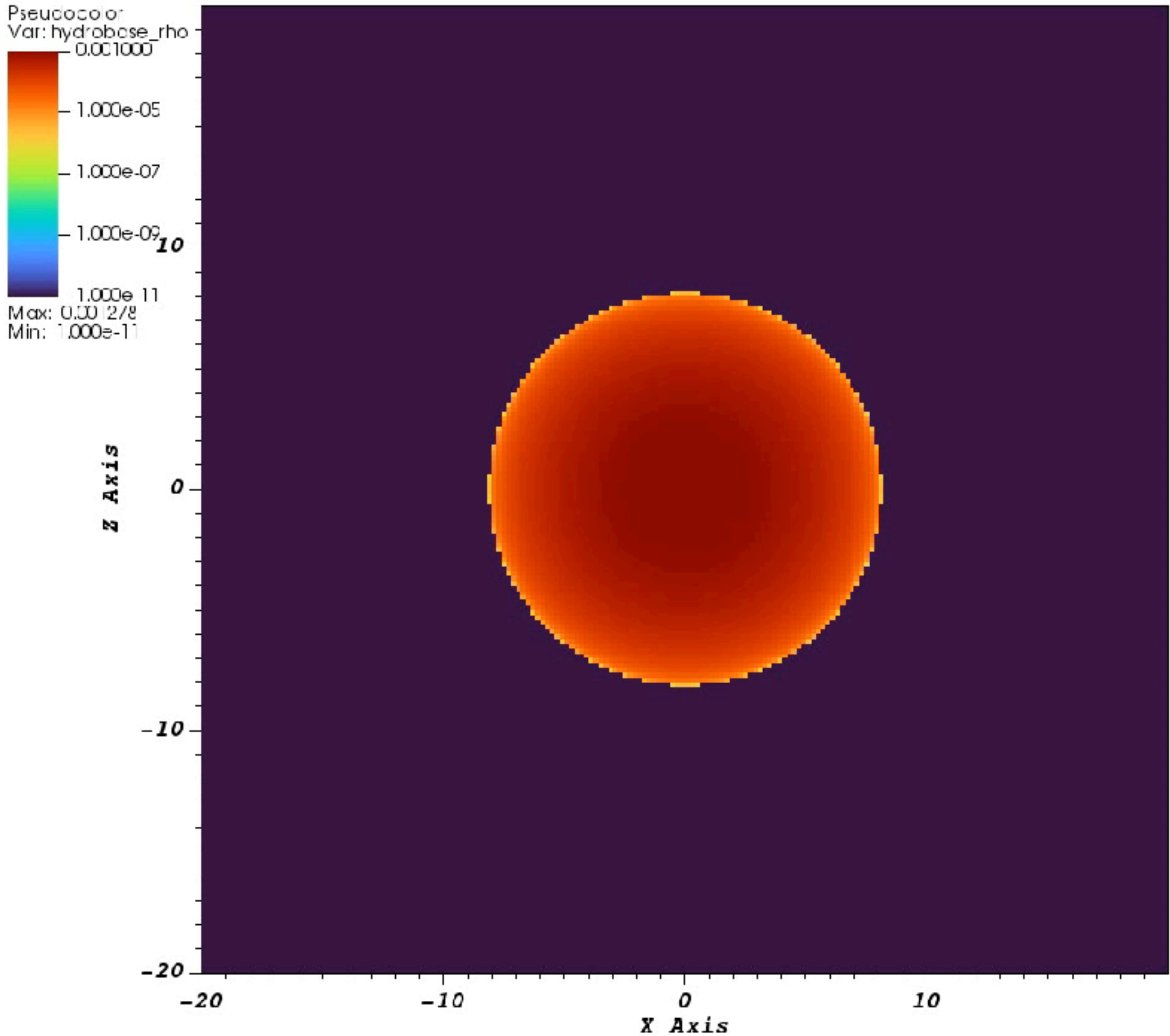
Rest-mass density



# Magnetized TOV

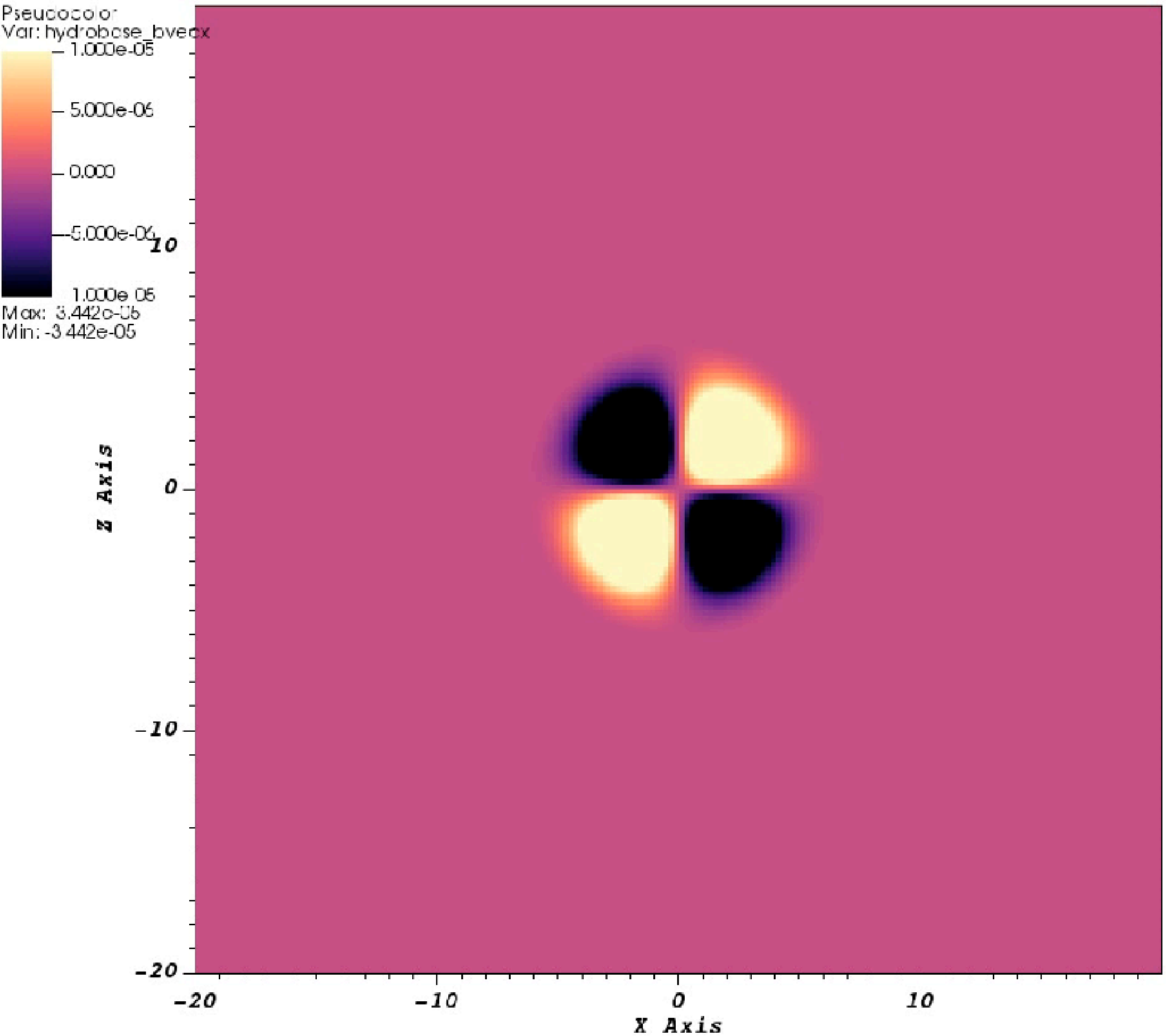
Rest-mass density

DB: magTOV\_Cowling.it000000000.silo  
Cycle: 0 Time:0



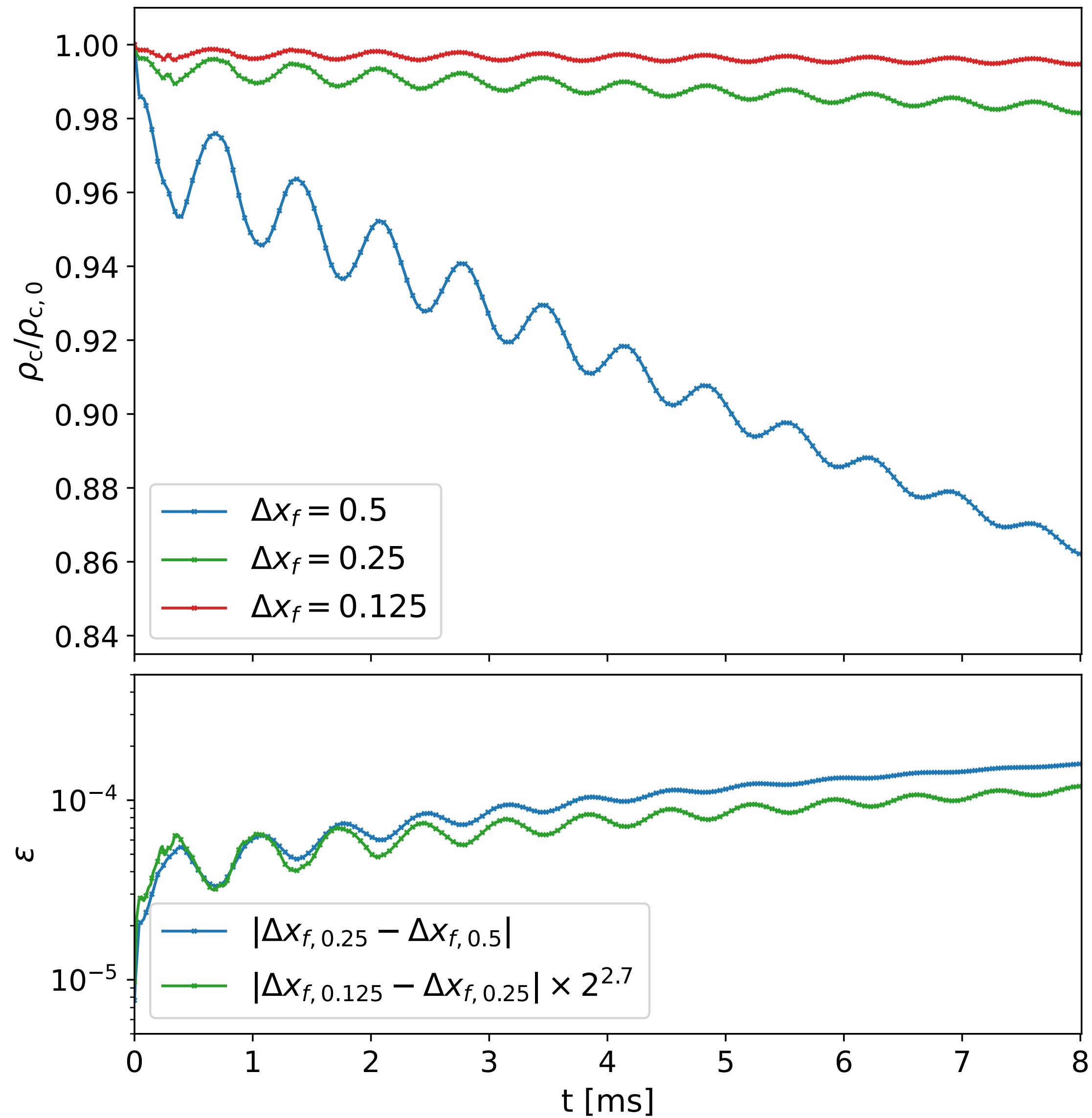
Magnetic field: Bx

DB: magTOV\_Cowling.it000000000.silo  
Cycle: 0 Time:0

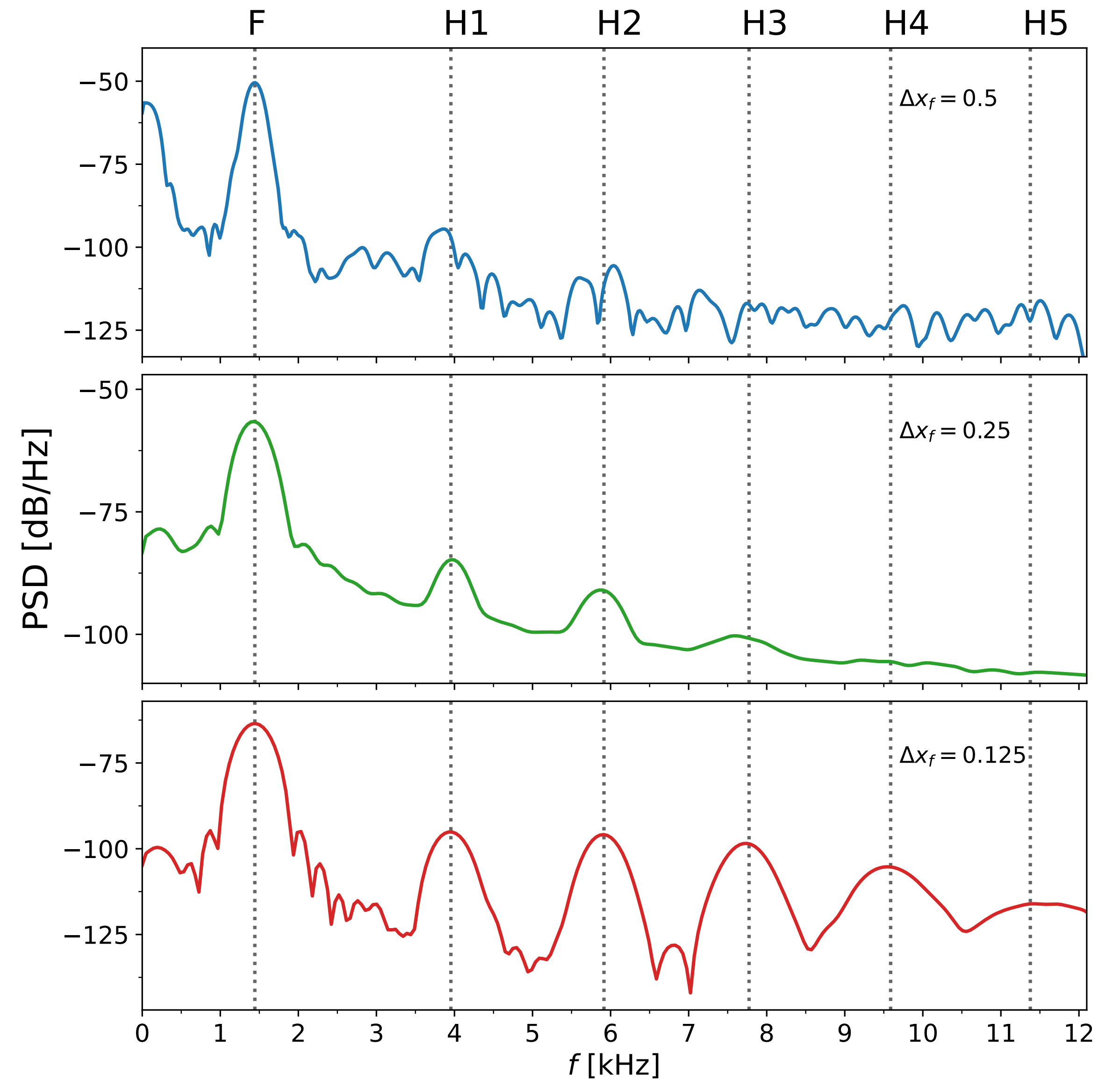


# Magnetized TOV

Max. rest-mass density evolution

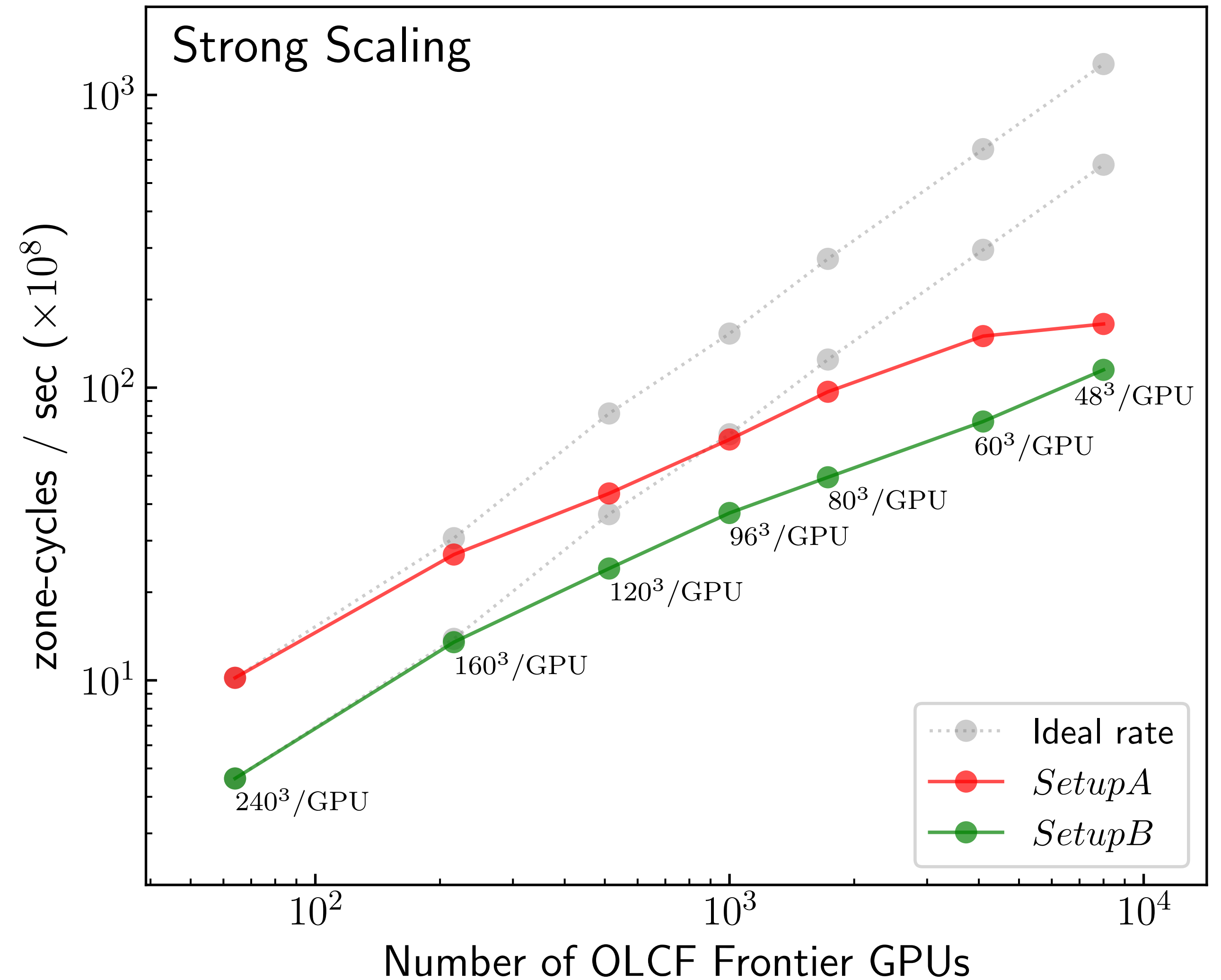


Power spectral density

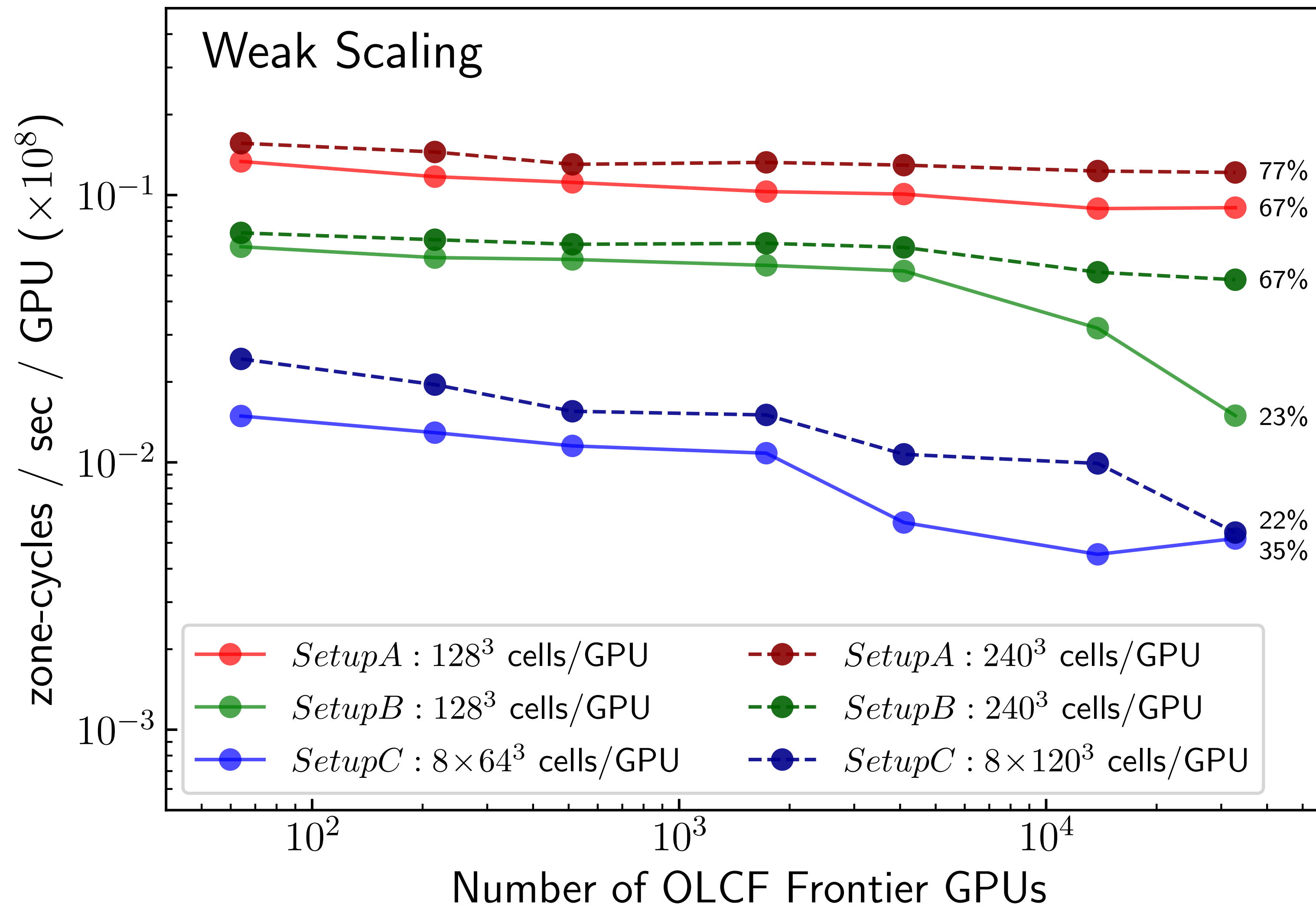


# GPU Scaling Tests: Frontier

- **Setup A:** static (Cowling) spacetime + uniform grid
- **Setup B:** dynamic (Z4c) spacetime + uniform grid
- **Setup C:** dynamic (Z4c) spacetime + 8-level AMR

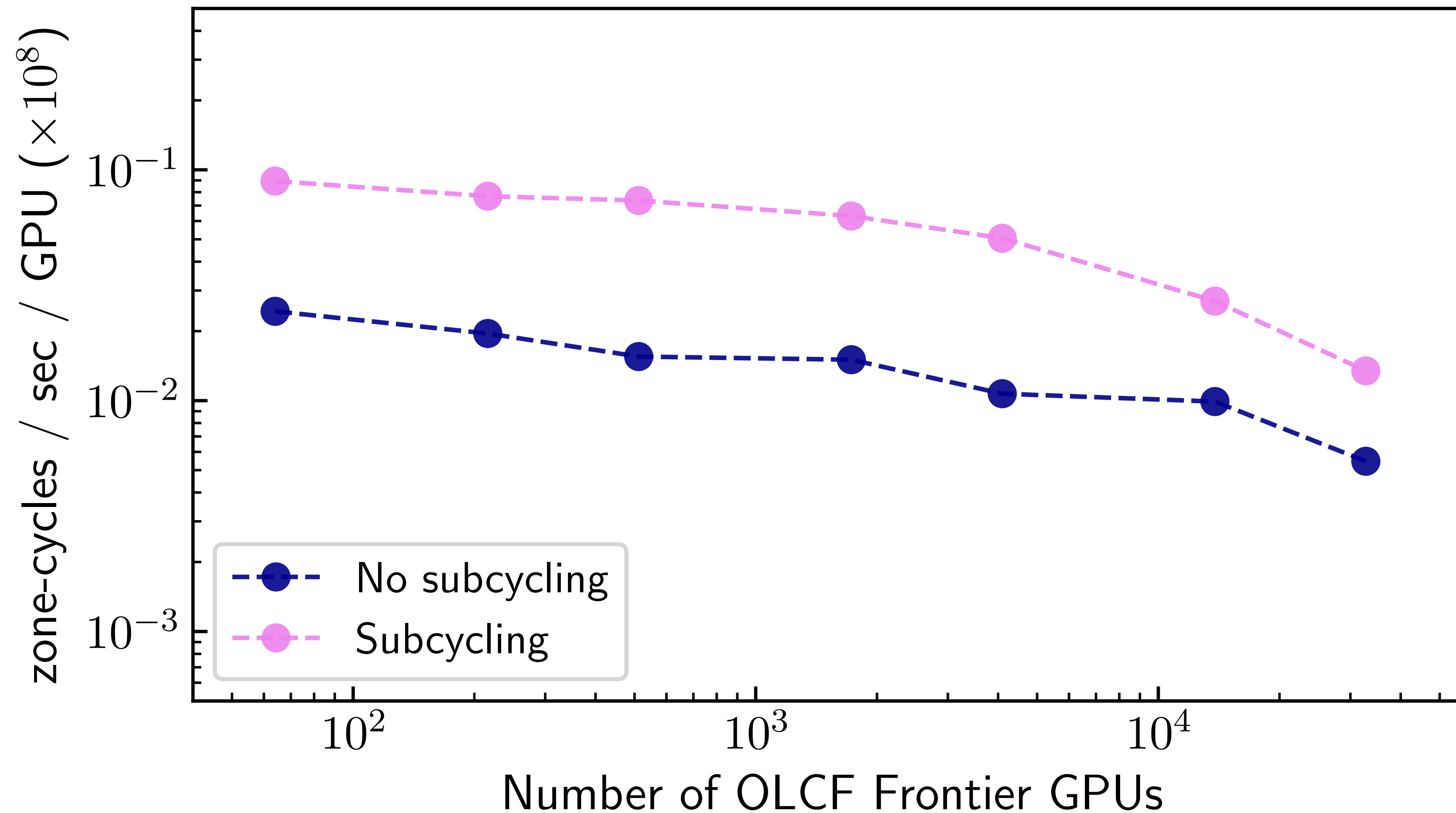


# GPU Scaling Tests: Frontier



# GPU Scaling Tests: Frontier

Subcycling in time: **Liwei Ji's talk on Tuesday!**

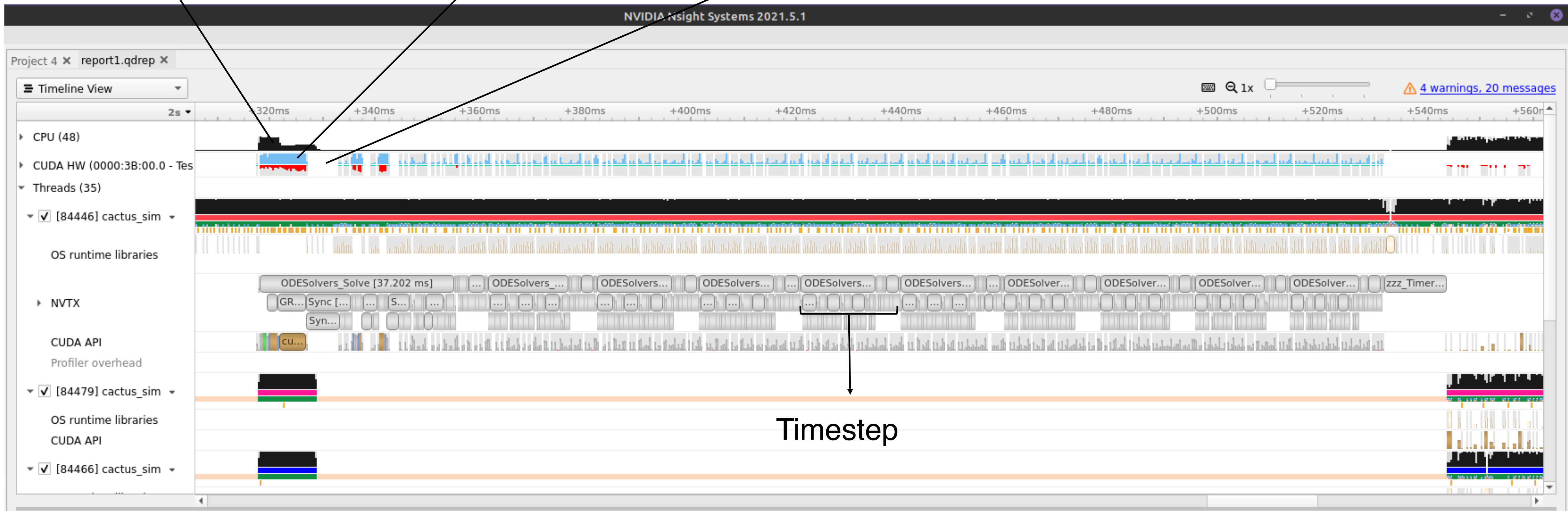


# Profiling: Nvidia Nsight Systems

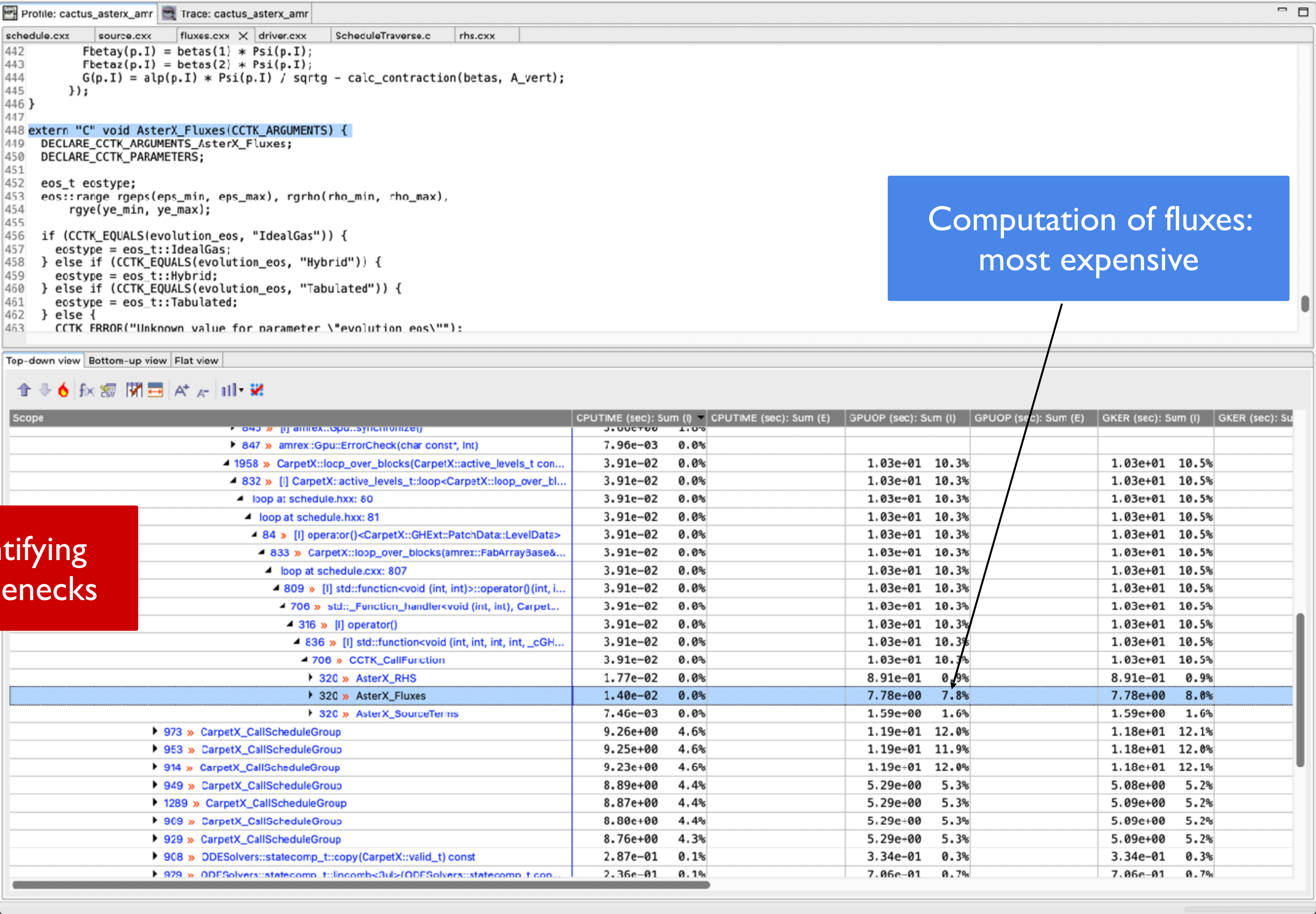
CPU workload

GPU workload

Memory transference



# Profiling: HPCToolkit

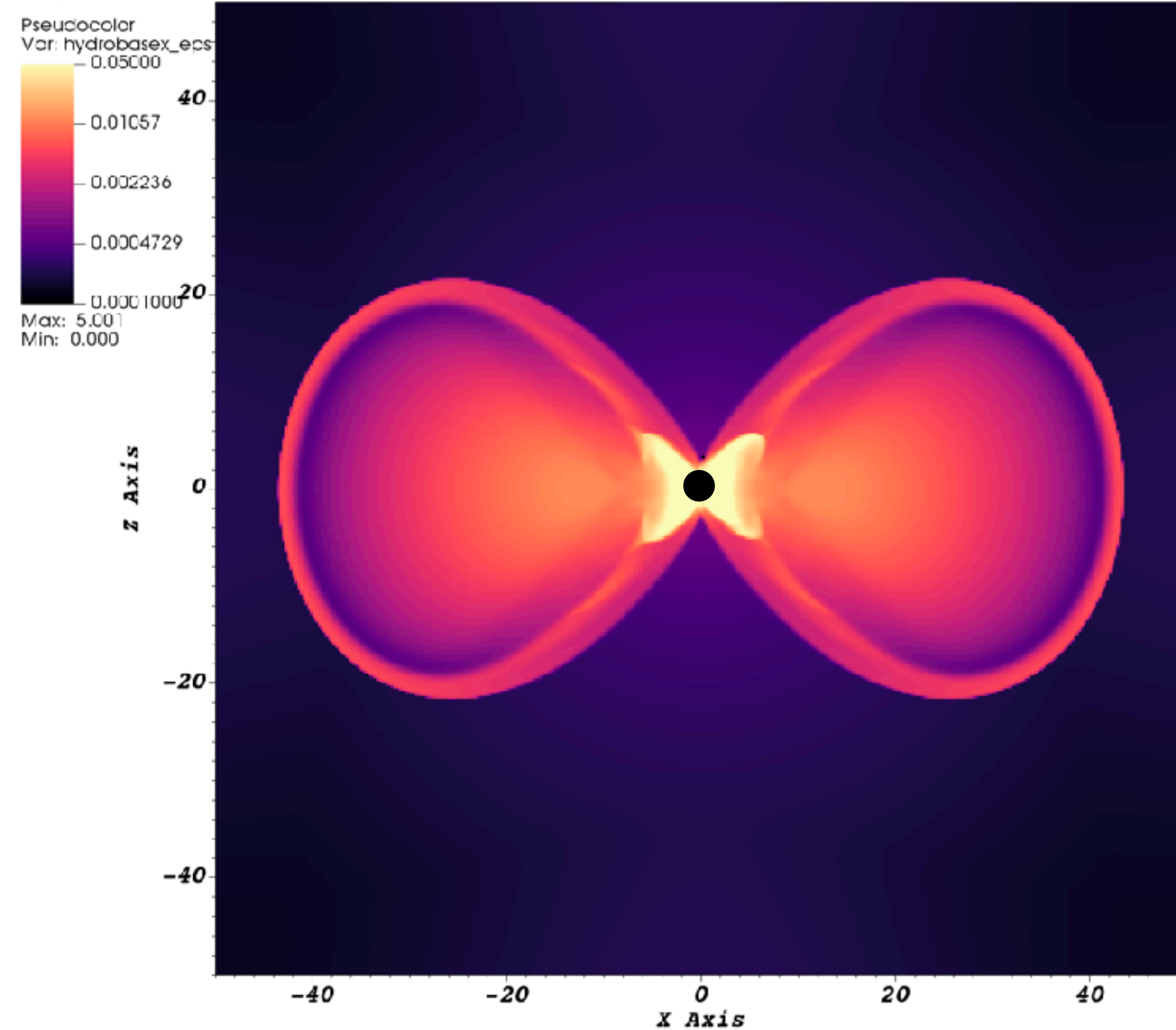


# Ongoing developments

Photon leakage + FM disk simulations

**Michail Chabanov**

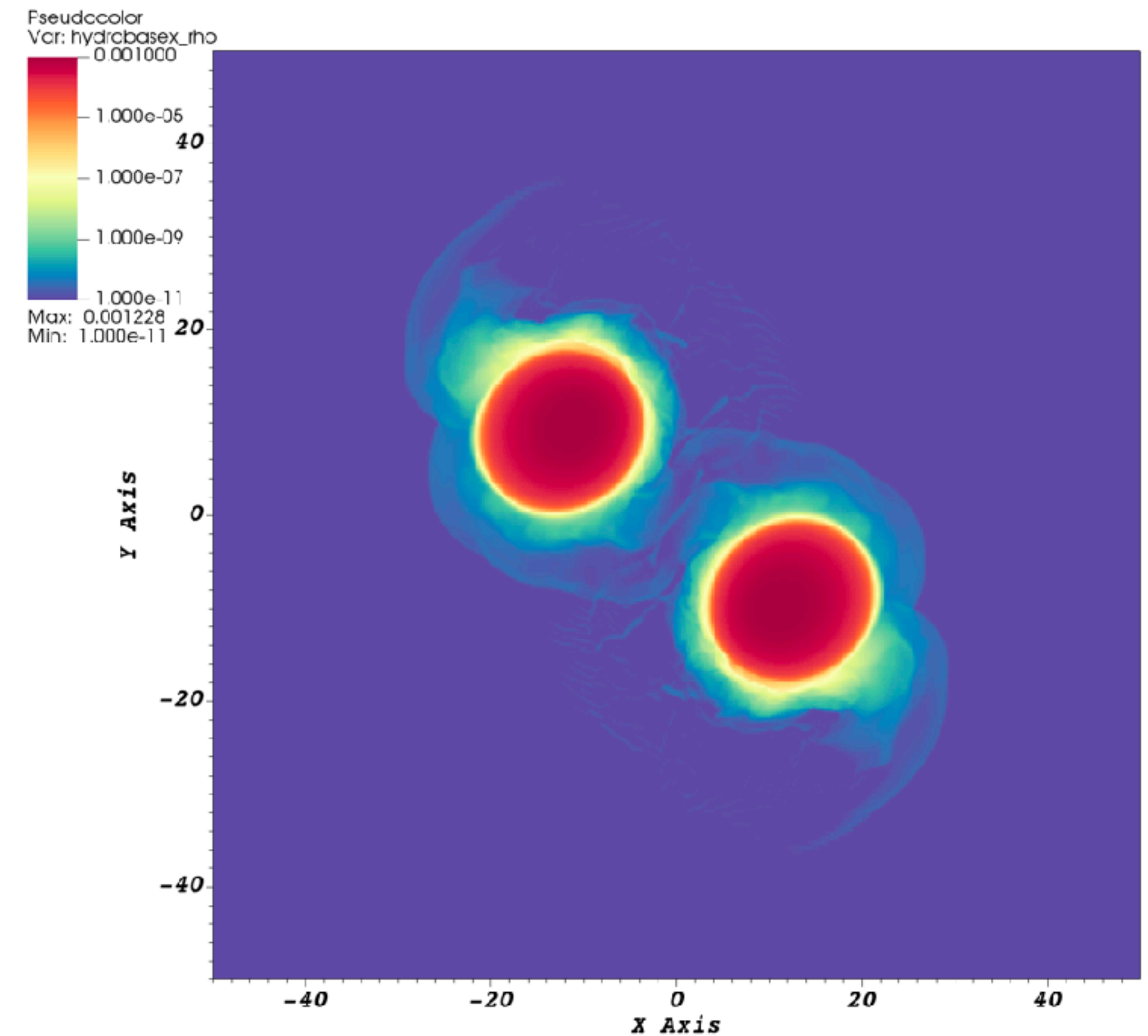
DB: parfile.it00001190.silo  
Cycle: 1190 Time: 185.938



BNS simulations

FUKA ID + Importer **Samuel Tootle**

DB: AsterX\_BNS.it00003328.silo  
Cycle: 3328 Time: 291.2



# Work in Progress

- Extension of **EOSX** and **Con2PrimFactory**
- Code optimization
- M1 neutrino transport
- BNS & SMBBH merger simulations!

**Thank you for your attention!**

