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VARIABLE WEIGHT FRACTIONAL COLLISIONS FOR MULTIPLE SPECIES MIXTURES

Robert Martin

IN-SPACE PROPULSION BRANCH, AIR FORCE RESEARCH LABORATORY, EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, CA USA



Direct Simulation Monte Carlo, 2017 Distribution Statement A: Approved for public release; Distribution is Unlimited; PA #17517



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BACKGROUND & REVIEW OF METHOD

2 MULTI-SPECIES TEST CASES

3 FUTURE WORK







• Concept from Fusion Energy - Scaled Down for Propulsion







- Concept from Fusion Energy - Scaled Down for Propulsion
- Electrodeless
 - Limits Erosion
 - Enables Flexible Fuels



Pancotti, et al, "Adaptive Electric Propulsion for ISRU Missions", 20th Adv. Space Prop., 11/2014

RP3X FRC Thruster



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- Pulsed Operation - Tunable Thrust/ISP
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Complex to Design





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- Challenges Common to Pulsed EM

Complex to Design Significant Modeling Challenge







Dominant Physics Varies with Cycle:



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PHASES OF FRC OPERATION



Dominant Physics Varies with Cycle: Neutral Fill - Rarefied Kinetic Flow



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- Neutral Fill
 - Rarefied Kinetic Flow
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PHASES OF FRC OPERATION



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- Field Reversal
 - Magnetic Reconnection



https://astrobear.pas.rochester.edu/trac/wiki/AstroBearProjects/resistiveMHD



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Continuous Cycle: (5) impacts (1)



IMPORTANCE OF COLLISION PHYSICS



Important Collisions in Spacecraft Propulsion:

- Discharge and Breakdown in FRC
- Collisional Radiative Cooling/Ionization
- Combustion Chemistry

Common Features in Spacecraft Collisions:

- Relevant Densities Spanning Many Orders of Magnitude — 6+
- Transitions from Collisional to Collisionless
- Tiny Early *e*⁻ or Radical Populations Critical to Induction Delay
- Many types of Inelastic Collisions with Unknown Effects on Distribution Shapes

Shock Ionization



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Need Low Noise & High Dynamic Range Collision Algorithms

Shock Ionization



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Previous Collision Methods:

- Monte Carlo Collisions (MCC)
 - Particles Collide with Background "Fluid"
 - Often Used in Plasma/PIC Simulation
 - Ion- e^- Collisions Assume Stationary Ions
 - No Conservation/Detailed Balance
- Direct Simulation Monte Carlo Collisions (DSMC)
 - Most Modern Versions use No-Time Counter (NTC) Method
 - Conservative/Reversible Collision
 - Satisfies Detailed Balance
 - Subset of Possible Collisions Sampled
 - Random Selection vs Z_{ij} for All/Nothing Collision

All Random Flip vs Number of Collisions: $Z_{ij} = \frac{n_i n_j}{2} \langle \sigma v \rangle dt$







• Many Particles $\xrightarrow{\sim}$ Continuous Distribution







- Many Particles $\xrightarrow{\sim}$ Continuous Distribution
- Discretized VDF Yields Vlasov But Collision Integral Still a Problem





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VARIABLE WEIGHTS FOR DYNAMIC RANGE



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Variable Weight "All-or-Nothing" Collisions?





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Variable Weight "All-or-Nothing" Collisions? Physically Inconsistent! (Mixing Violates Momentum/Energy Conservation)







• Developed by Rjasanow & Wagner

 $\nu = f(2\bar{w} - w_{min})N_n(N_n - 1) \langle \sigma v \rangle^{max} dt$ Select Pair (i,j) if: Rand $< \frac{w_i + w_j - w_{min}}{N_n(N_n - 1)(2\bar{w} - w_{min})}$ -or-Rand $< \frac{w_i + w_j - w_{min}}{(2w_{max} - w_{min})}$ Collide If: Rand < $\frac{\langle \sigma v \rangle_{ij}}{\langle \sigma v \rangle^{max}} \frac{f \max(w_i, w_j)}{w + w_j - w_j}$ Perform Standard VHS Collisions Generate/Modify Particles with: $\pm \Delta w/f = \pm \min(w_i, w_i)/f$ Update $\langle \sigma v \rangle^{max}$

Attempted Collisions/Cell:





- Developed by Rjasanow & Wagner
- Adapted as Modified NTC/MCF

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- Adds 2-particles/collision for $\Delta w = \min(w_i, w_j)/f$
- Still Requires Merge $w_i \neq \text{const}$

Attempted Collisions/Cell: $\nu = f(2\bar{w} - w_{min})N_p(N_p - 1) \langle \sigma v \rangle^{max} dt$



Generate/Modify Particles with: $\pm \Delta w/f = \pm \min(w_i, w_j)/f$



Merge to Pair \rightarrow DOF for Conservation:

- (n+2):2 yields Exact Mass, Momentum, and Kinetic Energy Conservation
- Applied Spatially also Shown to Conserve Electrostatic Energy
- Though Energy Conserving, Still Thermalizes VDF





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Selection of Near Neighbors in VDF Limits Thermalization



Similarly: $\vec{x}_{(a/b)} = \vec{x} \pm \hat{\mathcal{R}} \sqrt{\overline{X^2}}$


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Merge via Separate Octree/Species Only Change for Mixtures!

Octree Velocity Bins



Efficient Neighbor Selection

FROM RGD30: MACH 2 ARGON SHOCK





- Simple Verification vs. DS1V
- Initial Conditions:

 $T_0 = 293$ K, $n_0 = 1$ E22/m³, $v_0 = 637.4$ (m/s)

- Initial Jump to Post-Shock at 1cm
- VHS Collisions:

 T_{ref} =273K, d_{ref} =4.17Å, ω_{VHS} =0.81



FROM RGD30: MACH 2 ARGON SHOCK





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FROM RGD30: MACH 2 ARGON SHOCK





TURF - SWPM+Octree

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0.020

0.020

FROM RGD30: MACH 8 ARGON BOW SHOCK





2D Argon Shock Test

- Initial Conditions like M=2 Except:
 v₀ = 2550m/s
- Specular: x=5-5.04 mm with $y=\pm 2$ mm
- Half Domain Modeled: 80µm × 80µm Cells

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- SWPM Similar to Standard DSMC

FROM RGD30: MACH 8 ARGON BOW SHOCK





4.e+22 3.e + 22((mm) 2.e+22 1.e + 22X (mm) TURE: n - SWPM+Octree TURF Np/Cell - Standard DSMC (mm) / 5 15 X (mm) SWPM+Octree

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- SWPM Similar to Standard DSMC
- Despite Different Np/Cell

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 Mach 3.89 with He:Xe of 97:3 (i.e. Bird '94 Fig 12.35)





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- Highlights Species Separation





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Noise Reduction via Variable Weights?





- Xe Noise Controlled by 1:1 Target
- He:Xe Noise Comparable





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- He:Xe Noise Comparable
- Direct Noise Control by Target Ratio





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- Potentially Sensitivity to He Tails?
 -Merge Impacts Higher Moments
 -TBD Error vs. He-Noise Level
 -Improvement Merge to Preserve Tails
- Adaptation of SWMP Incorrect?
 -# of Collisions Sampled as WDF Varies?
 -Collision Pair Rule Wrong, w_i « w_i?





1D He:Xe Shock with SWPM+Octrees

- Xe Noise Controlled by 1:1 Target
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 -Collision Pair Rule Wrong, w_i « w_j?

Error Identification in Future Work



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- Helium-Argon Mixture
- Expanded through Nozzle to Vacuum
- e-Beam Concentration Measurements



Re=533



FIG. 11. Mole fraction of argon throughout the flow field of a free jet.

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PRIOR RESULTS FROM DS2V AND CONTINUUM





Surrogate for FRC Injection



Dynamic Range \gg Shocks



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• Wing Increases near Nozzle Edge



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Wing Increases near Nozzle Edge



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- Wing Increases near Nozzle Edge
- Lower Radial Boundary Edge Concentration



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- Wing Increases near Nozzle Edge
- Lower Radial Boundary Edge Concentration
- Deeper Jet Edge Concentration Drop









- Considered 2D-Axisymmetric TURF
- Simple DSMC but Merge Complex (Conservation on $v_{\parallel}v_{\perp}$ -Quadtrees?)

Standard 3D DSMC



- TURF Naturally 3D Cartesian
- Considered 2D-Axisymmetric TURF
- Simple DSMC but Merge Complex (Conservation on $v_{\parallel}v_{\perp}$ -Quadtrees?)
- Opted to Run Coarse Full 3D (Simplified Boundary Conditions)
- 3D Expensive at Tractable Resolution
- Added Collision Sub-Cells to TURF





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 X_{Ar} to RX-Plane \rightarrow for Detailed Results...







Standard DSMC Poor Results



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- Standard DSMC Poor Results
- 2x2x2 Collision Cell Improves Standard DSMC



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- Standard DSMC Poor Results
- 2x2x2 Collision Cell Improves Standard DSMC
- SWPM+Octree Significantly Better (2x2x2 Collision Cell)



Future Directions: Hybrid ∂f



- ∂f Concept Old
- How to make *∂f* cheaper than full-*f* (Must adapt DOF Usage..?)





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- How to make ∂f cheaper than full-f (Must adapt DOF Usage..?)
- Recent Progress using $\pm \delta$ -weight Particles





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- Requires Remapping due to Particle Growth





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- SWPM has Similar Issue (Basis for Octree B2B Collisions)





The ∂f -Boltzmann for $f = f^{eq} + f^{dev}$

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- Octree: Bin Moments, $M_i \rightarrow$ Particles
- Root Bin Sum \rightarrow Equilibrium Moments





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- ∂M_i from M_i^{Bin} - M_i^{Eq}





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- ∂M_i from M_i^{Bin} - M_i^{Eq}
- B2B Collision Recast with δw Particles

Octree ∂f -Boltzmann Bin-to-Bin Collisions



Sample Collisions using Δw : for P-P, P-N, N-N, P-M, N-M M-M: \emptyset



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- Collision Work $\propto \partial f$, not f





The $\partial f\text{-Boltzmann}$ for $f=f^{eq}+f^{dev}$

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- B2B Collision Recast with δw Particles
- Collision Work $\propto \partial f$, not f
- Valid at Adaptive Tree Depths
- Entropy Estimate for DOF Distribution





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Octree ∂f -Boltzmann Bin-to-Bin Collisions



 Δw : for P-P, P-N, N-N, P-M, N-M M-M: \emptyset Combine with 2⁶-Tree XV \rightarrow Multigrid Solves?





Current Results:

- SWPM+Octree Option for Variable Weight Mixture Collisions
- Multiple Octree Merge only Modification for Multi-Species
- Initial Verification vs. Standard Shock Cases
- Merge/Target Enables Direct Control of Noise
- Unidentified Systematic Error with 1:1 Target
- Initial Testing on 3D Mixture Expansion Better with SWPM+Octree

Future Efforts:

- Additional Investigation of Error Source for Disparate Weights
- Improved Merge/Control of Tails
- Apply to Reacting Flow
- Adaptation for δf





Thank You

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Questions?

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21/21