High-Accuracy, Implicit Solution of the Extended-MHD Equations using High-Continuity Finite Elements

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(Global Stability of Magnetic Fusion Devices)

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a SciDAC activity... Partners with: TOPS TSTT APDEC Considerations for a next-generation nonlinear MHD code for Magnetic Fusion Applications i.e.: what have we learned?

- 2-fluid terms (Extended MHD) are essential to model real fusion experiments...but best form is uncertain
- Highly implicit treatment is needed to address long timescales
- There are advantages to using the potential/stream function form of the vector fields...avoids spec. pol.+ low order subsets
- High-order (4<sup>th</sup> or more) finite elements are essential for describing highly anisotropic heat conduction.
- Direct sparse matrix inversions (vs iterative solvers) in the poloidal plane can be very efficient for the MHD system
- It is advantageous to have a fast linear option to scope runs
- Boundary conditions should be applied at infinity, but we need the capability to model a nearby resistive conducting structure



Our center is comparing 5+ different Extended-MHD models and

need to be able to change models without major code restructuring

Model	Momentum Equation	Ohm's law	Whist- lers <sup>1</sup>	KAW <sup>2</sup>	GV <sup>3</sup>	Slow dynamics <sup>4</sup>
General	$ \begin{aligned} & mn\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} = -\nabla(p_e + p_i) \\ & +\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B} - \nabla \cdot (\Pi_{\parallel e} + \Pi_{\parallel i}) - \nabla \cdot \Pi_i^{gv} \end{aligned} $	$\mathbf{E} = -\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{B} + \eta \mathbf{J} + \frac{1}{ne} \left( \mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B} - \nabla p_e - \nabla \cdot \Pi_{\parallel e} \right)$	Yes	Yes	Yes	Either
Generalized Hall MHD <sup>5</sup>	$ mn \frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} = -\nabla(p_e + p_i) $ + $\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B} - \nabla \cdot (\Pi_{\parallel e} + \Pi_{\parallel i}) $	$\mathbf{E} = -\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{B} + \eta \mathbf{J} \\ + \frac{1}{ne} \left( \mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B} - \nabla p_e - \nabla \cdot \Pi_{\parallel e} \right)$	Yes	Yes	No	No
Neoclassical- MHD	$mn\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} = -\nabla(p_e + p_i)$ $+\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B} - \nabla \cdot (\Pi_{\parallel e} + \Pi_{\parallel i}) - \nabla \cdot \Pi_i^{gv}$	$\mathbf{E} = -\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{B} + \eta \mathbf{J} - \frac{1}{ne} \nabla \cdot \Pi_{\parallel e}$	No	No	Yes	Yes
Generalized resistive MHD <sup>5</sup>	$mn\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} = -\nabla p + \mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B} - \nabla \cdot \Pi_{\parallel}$	$\mathbf{E} = -\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{B} + \eta \mathbf{J}$	No	No	No	No
Generalized drift <sup>6</sup>	$mn\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} = -mn\mathbf{V}_{di} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{V}_{\perp} + \upsilon_{gv}$ $+ nm\mu\nabla_{\perp}^{2}\mathbf{V} - \nabla \cdot (\Pi_{\parallel e} + \Pi_{\parallel i})$ $-\nabla (p_{e} + p_{i}) + \mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$	$\mathbf{E} = -\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{B} + \eta \mathbf{J}^* \\ -\frac{1}{ne} \Big[ \nabla_{\parallel} p_e + \nabla \cdot \Pi_{\parallel e} \Big]$	No	Yes	Yes	Yes



# All the MHD models beyond resistive MHD contain dispersive waves

#### Resistive MHD

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$$mn \frac{d\mathbf{v}}{dt} = -\nabla(p_e + p_i) + \mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B} - \nabla \cdot (\Pi_{\parallel e} + \Pi_{\parallel i}) - \nabla \cdot \Pi_i^{gv} \qquad \text{Off-diagonal stress tensor terms lead to} \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = -\nabla \times \mathbf{E} , \qquad \mathbf{E} = -\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{B} + \eta \mathbf{J} + \frac{1}{ne} (\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B} - \nabla p_e - \nabla \cdot \Pi_{\parallel e}) \qquad \text{waves} \\ \text{All these new} \\ \text{"Extended MHD"} \\ \text{waves have} \\ \text{similar structure} \qquad \text{Hall term leads to} \\ \text{Whistler wave} \qquad \text{Pressure gradient} \\ \text{terms lead to Kinetic} \\ \text{Alfven wave} \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{B}}{\partial t^2} = -\left(\frac{V_A^2}{\Omega}\right)^2 \left(\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla\right)^2 \nabla^2 \mathbf{B}$$
Note 4<sup>th</sup> spatial

derivatives

Limiting form gives wave-like equation where wave speed is inversely proportional to wavelength:

i.e. 
$$\frac{\omega}{k} \sim k$$

Need viable implicit techniques for these 4<sup>th</sup> order (in space) equations to provide numerical stability for large timesteps.



Highly anisotropic heat conduction requires accurate spatial representation and implicit time differencing

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \nabla \bullet \left[ \kappa_{\parallel} \frac{\vec{B}\vec{B}}{B^2} \bullet \nabla T \right] + \nabla \bullet \kappa \nabla T + S$$

In a highly magnetized fusion plasma,  $\kappa_{\parallel} >> \kappa$ 

- Low-order finite difference methods are not adequate
- AMR based on rectangles (or cubes) is probably not the most efficient approach
- Two approaches have been shown to be viable:
  - High order finite elements:  $C^0 vs C^1$
  - Field aligned coordinates
- Similar considerations for anisotropy in mass diffusion and wave propagation



## Approach

- Use high-order, *high-continuity* triangular finite elements in poloidal plane, spectral in the toroidal direction
- The compactness and high-continuity of this representation makes a full *implicit* solution practical: including whistler, gyroviscous, and kinetic Alfvén waves



# **Divide domain into triangular regions: represent solution as a quintic polynomial within each region**



Error ~  $h^5$  (since complete Taylor series through  $h^4$ )

*C*<sup>1</sup> continuity allows treatment of 4<sup>th</sup> spatial derivatives (*Galerkin Method*) Most compact representation for this accuracy "reduced quintic"

 $m_1$ 

 $\frac{n_k}{0}$ 



 $a_i = g_{ij} \Phi_j$ 

## The Trial Functions:





These are the trial functions. There are 18 for each triangle.

 $v_j = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \xi^{m_i} \eta^{n_i} g_{ij}$ 

The 6 shown here correspond to one node, and vanish at the other nodes, along with their derivatives

Each of the six has value 1 for the function or one of it's derivatives at the node, zero for the others.



Note that the function and it's derivatives (through 2<sup>nd</sup>) play the role of the amplitudes

## Comparison with a popular $C^0$ Element





Lagrange Cubic: C<sup>0</sup>, h<sup>4</sup>

9 new unknowns: 2 new triangles

 $9/2 = 4^{1/2}$  unknowns/ triangle





Reduced Quintic:  $C^1$ ,  $h^5$ 

6 new unknowns: 2 new triangles

6/2 = 3 unknowns/ triangle



# Comparison of reduced quintic to other popular triangular elements

	Vertex nodes	Line nodes	Interior nodes	accuracy order h <sup>p</sup>	Unknowns per triangle	continuity
linear element	3	0	0	2	1/2	$C^0$
Lagrange quadratic	3	3	0	3	2	$C^0$
Lagrange cubic	3	6	1	4	41/2	$C^0$
Lagrange quartic	3	9	3	5	8	$C^0$
reduced quintic	18	0	0	5	3	<i>C</i> <sup>1</sup>

The "reduced quintic" is the most compact representation of an element of this order of accuracy (fewest unknowns/triangle)

- and -

It's  $C^1$  continuity property allows it to represent spatial derivatives up to 4<sup>th</sup> order without introducing auxiliary variables



=> Smaller matrices to invert

## **Anisotropic Diffusion**



N..number of points per side

N<sup>-5</sup>

60

40



### 2D Incompressible MHD

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \nabla^2 \phi + \left[ \nabla^2 \phi, \phi \right] - \left[ \nabla^2 \psi, \psi \right] = \mu \nabla^4 \phi$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi = \eta \nabla^2 \psi$$
note:
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi = \eta \nabla^2 \psi$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} = \eta \nabla^2 \psi$$

 $\begin{array}{l} \theta \text{-centering....Taylor expand in time (centered about n+1/2 for $\theta=0.5$)} \\ \nabla^2 \dot{\phi} + \left[ \nabla^2 \phi^n + \theta \delta t \nabla^2 \dot{\phi}, \phi^n + \theta \delta t \dot{\phi} \right] - \left[ \nabla^2 \psi^n + \theta \delta t \nabla^2 \dot{\psi}, \psi + \theta \delta t \dot{\psi} \right] = \mu \left[ \nabla^4 \phi + \theta \delta t \nabla^4 \dot{\phi} \right] \\ \dot{\psi} + \left[ \psi^n + \theta \delta t \dot{\psi}, \phi + \theta \delta t \dot{\phi} \right] = \eta \left[ \nabla^2 \psi^n + \theta \delta t \nabla^2 \dot{\psi} \right] \end{array}$ 

Multiply out non-linear terms, neglecting terms ~  $(\delta t)^2$ . Finite difference in time:

$$\dot{\phi} = rac{\phi^{n+1} - \phi^n}{\delta t}, \qquad \dot{\psi} = rac{\psi^{n+1} - \psi^n}{\delta t}$$

Move all terms at time level (n+1) to left of equal sign. Expand in trial functions. Multiply equations by each trial function and integrate over space. Integrate by parts as needed. *(Galerkin Method)* 

$$\phi^n = \sum_{j=1}^{18} v_j \Phi_j^n \qquad \psi^n = \sum_{j=1}^{18} v_j \Psi_j^n$$



#### Leads to the Matrix Implicit System

step.

and

are

Each spatial operator becomes a submatrix



## Tilting of a Plasma Column

#### Initial Condition:

$$\psi = \begin{cases} [2/kJ_0(k)]J_1(kr)\cos\theta, & r < 1\\ (r-1/r)\cos\theta, & r > 1 \end{cases}$$
$$J_1(k) = 0$$

## Give small perturbation and evolve in time





Stream function and vorticity at final time



Flux (top) and current (bottom) at initial and final times

#### Tilting of a Plasma Column-cont



Converged (in time) growth rate the same for N=30,40 out to 6 decimal places Calculation stopped each time when energy error reached 1%.



## Higher order formulation

By further manipulation, it is possible to get a 4<sup>th</sup> order (in space) PDE for  $\Phi^{n+1}$  that is independent of  $\Psi^{n+1}$ 

$$\begin{bmatrix} S'^{11}_{j} & 0 \\ S^{21}_{j} & S^{22}_{j} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Phi^{n+1}_{j} \\ \Psi^{n+1}_{j} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} D'^{11}_{j} & D'^{12}_{j} \\ D^{21}_{j} & D^{22}_{j} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Phi^{n}_{j} \\ \Psi^{n}_{j} \end{bmatrix}$$

Note:  $S'^{11}_{j}$  now is a 4<sup>th</sup> order operator: contains all the linear Ideal MHD (Alfven wave) response

Instead of inverting full S matrix, invert two sub-matrices sequentially. Gives same results in  $1/8^{\text{th}} - 1/4^{\text{th}}$  the time

$$S_{j}^{\prime 11} \Phi_{j}^{n+1} = D_{j}^{\prime 11} \Phi_{j}^{n} + D_{j}^{\prime 12} \Psi_{j}^{n}$$

$$S_{j}^{22}\Psi_{j}^{n+1} = -S_{j}^{21}\Phi_{j}^{n+1} + D_{j}^{21}\Phi_{j}^{n} + D_{j}^{22}\Psi_{j}^{n}$$



M3D-*C1* code has full Extended MHD equations expressed in a form that allows non-trivial subsets of lower rank equations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} S_{11}^{\nu} & S_{12}^{\nu} & S_{13}^{\nu} \\ S_{21}^{\nu} & S_{22}^{\nu} & S_{23}^{\nu} \\ S_{31}^{\nu} & S_{32}^{\nu} & S_{33}^{\nu} \end{bmatrix} \bullet \begin{bmatrix} \phi \\ V_z \\ \chi \end{bmatrix}^{n+1} = \begin{bmatrix} D_{11}^{\nu} & D_{12}^{\nu} & D_{13}^{\nu} \\ D_{21}^{\nu} & D_{22}^{\nu} & D_{23}^{\nu} \\ D_{31}^{\nu} & D_{32}^{\nu} & D_{33}^{\nu} \end{bmatrix} \bullet \begin{bmatrix} \phi \\ V_z \\ \chi \end{bmatrix}^n + \begin{bmatrix} R_{11}^{\nu} & R_{12}^{\nu} & R_{13}^{\nu} \\ R_{21}^{\nu} & R_{22}^{\nu} & R_{23}^{\nu} \\ R_{31}^{\nu} & R_{32}^{\nu} & R_{33}^{\nu} \end{bmatrix} \bullet \begin{bmatrix} \psi \\ I \\ T_e \end{bmatrix}^n$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{S}_{11}^{p} & \mathbf{S}_{12}^{p} & \mathbf{S}_{13}^{p} \\ \mathbf{S}_{21}^{p} & \mathbf{S}_{22}^{p} & \mathbf{S}_{23}^{p} \\ \mathbf{S}_{31}^{p} & \mathbf{S}_{32}^{p} & \mathbf{S}_{33}^{p} \end{bmatrix} \bullet \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\psi} \\ \mathbf{I} \\ T_{e} \end{bmatrix}^{n+1} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{D}_{11}^{p} & \mathbf{D}_{12}^{p} & \mathbf{D}_{13}^{p} \\ \mathbf{D}_{21}^{p} & \mathbf{D}_{22}^{p} & \mathbf{D}_{23}^{p} \\ \mathbf{D}_{31}^{p} & \mathbf{D}_{32}^{p} & \mathbf{D}_{33}^{p} \end{bmatrix} \bullet \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\psi} \\ \mathbf{I} \\ T_{e} \end{bmatrix}^{n} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{11}^{p} & \mathbf{R}_{12}^{p} & \mathbf{R}_{13}^{p} \\ \mathbf{R}_{21}^{p} & \mathbf{R}_{22}^{p} & \mathbf{R}_{23}^{p} \\ \mathbf{R}_{31}^{p} & \mathbf{R}_{32}^{p} & \mathbf{R}_{33}^{p} \end{bmatrix} \bullet \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\phi} \\ V_{z} \\ \boldsymbol{\chi} \end{bmatrix}^{n+1} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Q}_{11}^{p} & \mathbf{Q}_{12}^{p} & \mathbf{Q}_{13}^{p} \\ \mathbf{Q}_{21}^{p} & \mathbf{Q}_{22}^{p} & \mathbf{Q}_{23}^{p} \\ \mathbf{Q}_{31}^{p} & \mathbf{Q}_{32}^{p} & \mathbf{Q}_{33}^{p} \end{bmatrix} \bullet \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\phi} \\ V_{z} \\ \boldsymbol{\chi} \end{bmatrix}^{n}$$

Phase-I: Resistive MHD:

Phase-II: Fitzpatrick-Porcelli 4-field model:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \nabla^2 \phi + \left[ \nabla^2 \phi, \phi \right] - \left[ \nabla^2 \psi, \psi \right] = \mu \nabla^4 \phi$$
$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} + \left[ \psi, \phi \right] = \eta \nabla^2 \psi$$







Tilting spheromak in 2-field (left) and 4-field (right) models.

Poloidal Magnetic Flux

Toroidal Current Density

Toroidal Magnetic Field

Toroidal Velocity



4-field (2-fluid) model predicts that growth rate of tilt mode increases linearly with the square of the ion skin depth  $d_i$ 





Poloidal Magnetic Flux

Toroidal Current Density

Toroidal Magnetic Field

Toroidal Velocity

#### Comparison of GEM reconnection with 2-field and 4-field models





4-field (2-fluid) equations with di=1 show much greater reconnection rate that 2-field (reduced MHD) description



The 2D cylindrical two-fluid MHD equations and definition of the variables.

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} &= -\nabla \times \vec{E} \\ \vec{E} + \vec{V} \times \vec{B} &= \eta \vec{J} + \frac{1}{ne} \left( \vec{J} \times \vec{B} - \nabla p_e \right) \\ \mu_0 \vec{J} &= \nabla \times \vec{B} \\ nM_i \left( \frac{\partial \vec{V}}{\partial t} + \vec{V} \bullet \nabla \vec{V} \right) + \nabla p &= \vec{J} \times \vec{B} - \nabla \cdot \vec{\Pi}_i^{gv} + \mu n \nabla \cdot \left[ \nabla \vec{V} + \nabla \vec{V}^\dagger \right] \\ \frac{\partial n}{\partial t} + \nabla \bullet \left( n \vec{V} \right) &= 0 \\ \frac{3}{2} \frac{\partial p_e}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{3}{2} p_e \vec{V}_i \right) &= -p_e \nabla \cdot \vec{V}_i + \frac{\vec{J}}{ne} \cdot \left[ \frac{3}{2} \nabla p_e - \frac{5}{2} \frac{p_e}{n} \nabla n + \vec{R} \right] - \nabla \cdot \vec{q}_e - Q_\Delta \\ \frac{3}{2} \frac{\partial p_i}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{3}{2} p_i \vec{V}_i \right) &= -p_i \nabla \cdot \vec{V}_i - \Pi_i : \nabla V_i + \nabla (\mu n \vec{V}) : \left[ \nabla \vec{V} + \nabla \vec{V}^\dagger \right] - \nabla \cdot \vec{q}_i + Q_A \\ \frac{3}{2} \frac{\partial p}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{3}{2} p \vec{V} \right) &= -p \nabla \cdot V - \Pi_i : \nabla V_i + \nabla (\mu n \vec{V}) : \left[ \nabla \vec{V} + \nabla \vec{V}^\dagger \right] - \nabla \cdot (\vec{q}_i + \vec{q}_e) \\ &+ \frac{\vec{J}}{ne} \cdot \left[ \frac{3}{2} \nabla p_e - \frac{5}{2} \frac{p_e}{n} \nabla n + \vec{R} \right] \end{split}$$



# Numerical stability analysis for 2-fluid equations shows sequential inversion method leads to stability for arbitrary timestep





## Summary

- Major upgrade to the M3D code is being explored--based on quintic  $C^1$  finite elements
- Primary motivation is to allow efficient, high order, implicit solution of extended MHD equations with whister and KAW
- Staged implementation using reduced sets of equations with 2, 4, and then 6 variables
- Initial results look promising!

