



Some recent developments of ElmerSolver

Peter Råback
ElmerTeam

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Elmer/Ice splinter meeting

Outline



- Gmsh format based restart and interpolation between different meshes
- ...
- ...
- ...
- Improvements for semilagrangian transport



Some developments in other fields that may be of interest, or probably not

File based hierarchical coupling

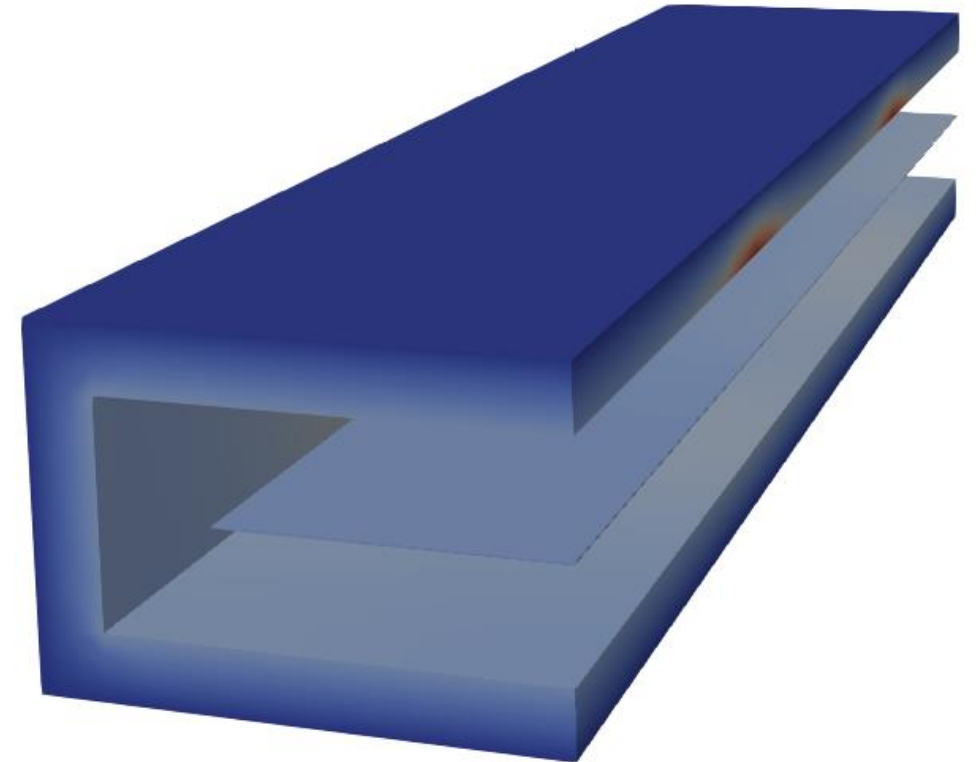
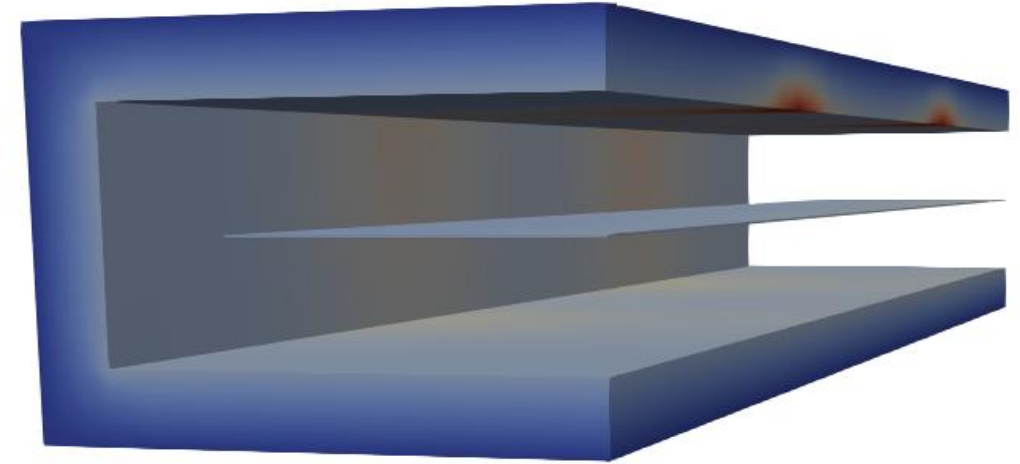
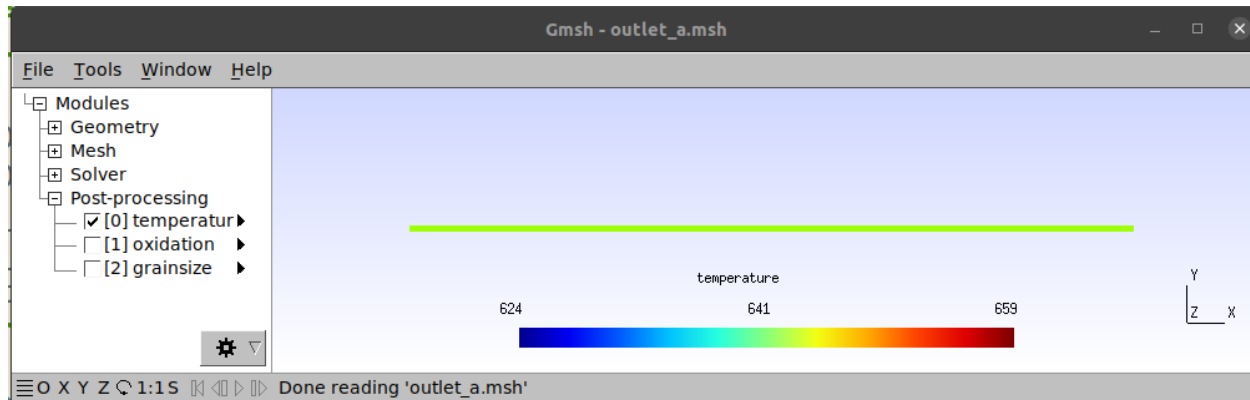
- Shortcomings of restart file of Elmer
 - Includes only results, needs to be consistent with the mesh
 - In parallel requires exactly same partitioning
 - Always saves the full model
 - Impractical for boundary-only coupling
- Wishlist for coupling
 - Selection on what to save and read (which bodies or boundaries)
 - Intermediate results should be visualized, if needed
 - Robust operation regarding parallel operation

Gmsh file format for restart

- **Gmsh** output existing since long
 - Part of **ResultOutputSolver**
 - Ability to choose what to save and what not
 - Now also saves in parallel (with suffix `_np#np`)
- **GmshOutputReader**
 - Reads Mesh + Results from Gmsh file
 - Performs the coupling with **MeshToMeshInterpolationQ**
 - Passive coordinates may be used to enable exact hits in lower dimensional entities
- **Parallel operation**
 - Each partition performs its own interpolation which may results to some I/O bottle-necks.
 - Every process reads every file, process N starts reading part N
 - Room for easy improvement if this becomes I/O bottle-neck
 - Bounding Boxes used to eliminate non-overlapping pieces of mesh

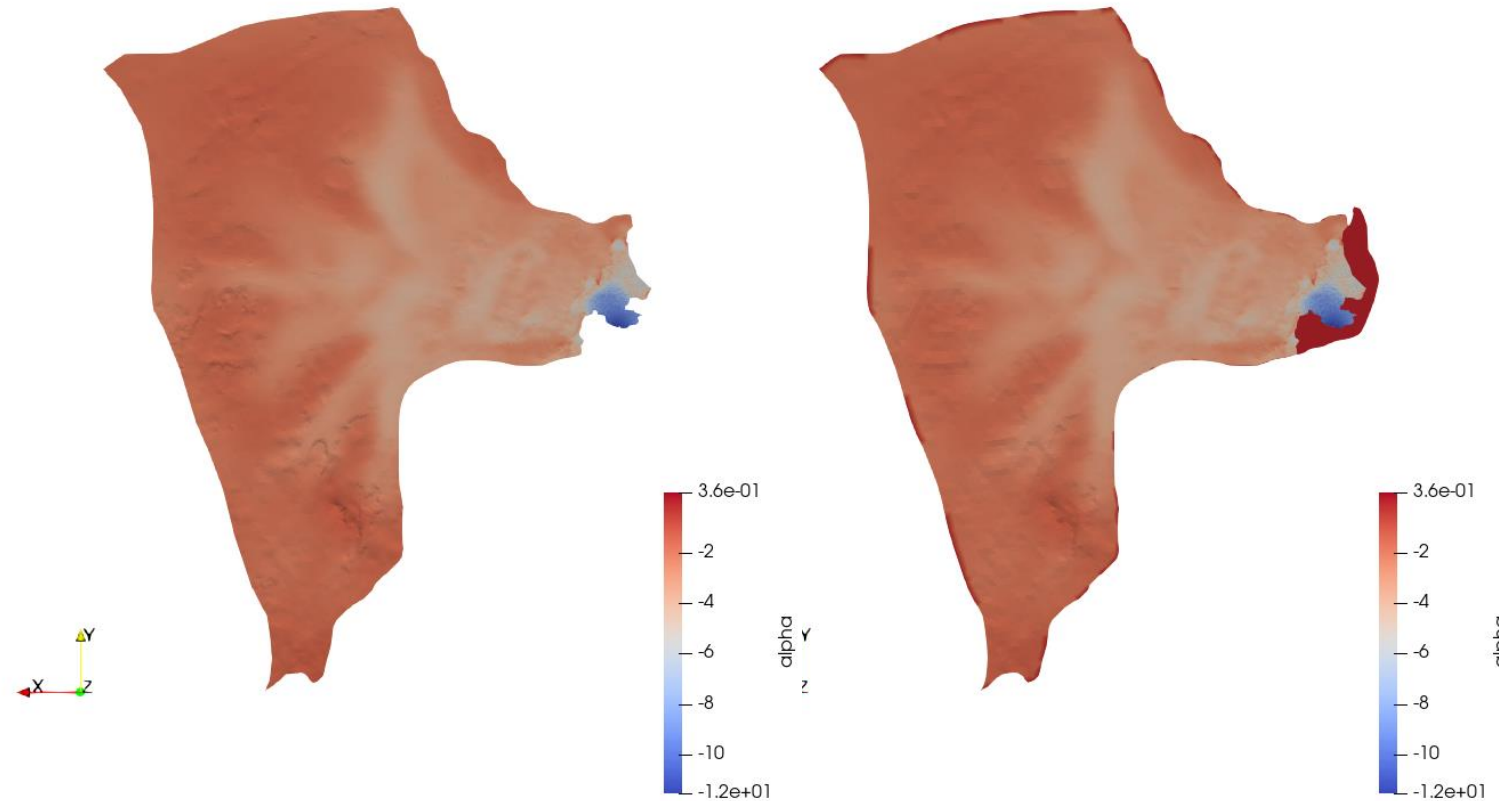
Gmsh-file based restart

- First application heat treatment of metal sheets over several ovens
 - The 1st oven gives the temperature used as boundary condition for the 2nd oven
 - Helps to split heavy simulations to independent ones
- Intermediate results visualized with Gmsh



Gmsh restart for Elmer/Ice

- In Elmer/Ice we often need to map data between meshes
- Often mapping on surface is sufficient even in 3D
 - Save data at bedrock only
 - Read data on bedrock only
- Strategy bit heavy for mapping all 3D results

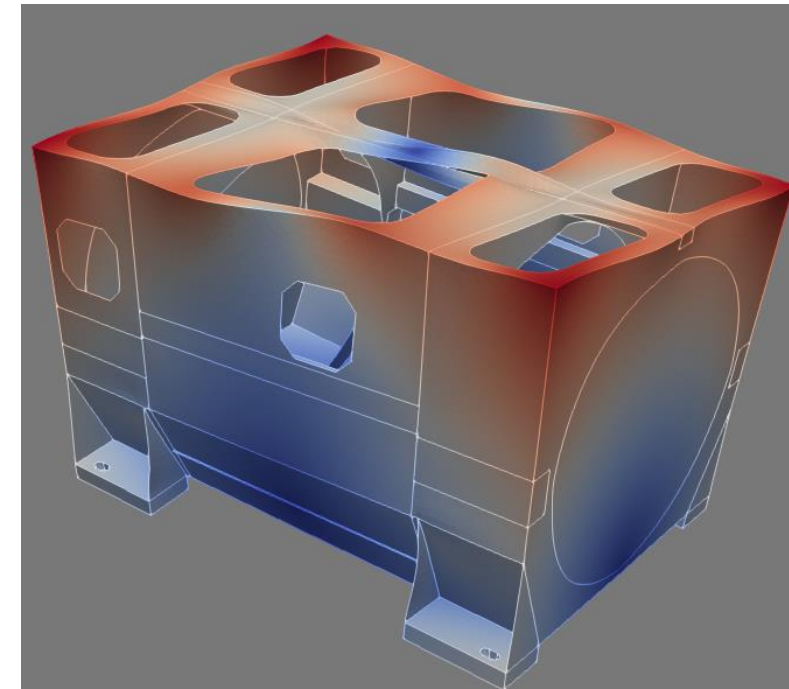
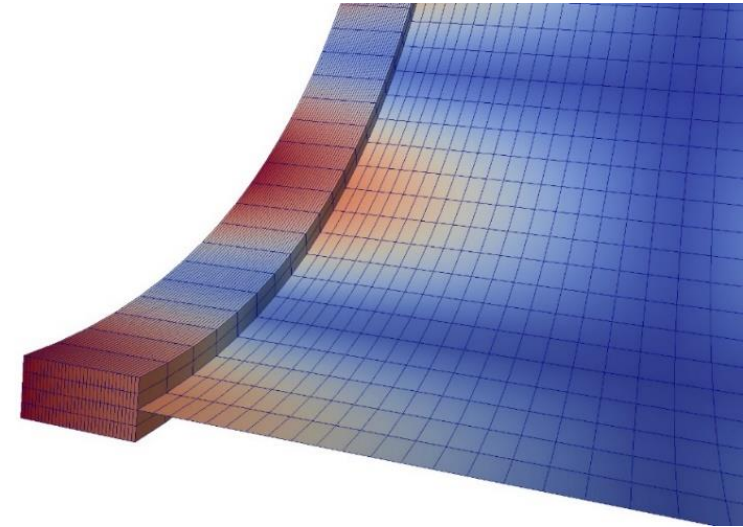


Mapping of fitted slip coefficient between two meshes.
 Figures by Anna Crawford, 2023.

- Test case to start from:
ParallelBoundaryMapGmsh

Coupling of shells and solids

- Many mechanical models have shells and solids
 - Shells to economically model thin regions
 - Solids to accurately model thick regions
- Completely new and generic coupling approach has been developed
 - Requires no modification from solid and shell models
 - Only coupling matrices need to be defined
- Applicable to eigen analysis as well



M. Malinen & P. Råback: *The coupling of solids and shells by conjugate approximations*, *Rakenteiden mekaniikka*, 55(4), 2022.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.23998/rm.120470>

Reduced dimensional Navier-Stokes - FilmFlowSolver

- Motivation

- Coupling of ice and glacier outburst
(joint work with T. Johannesson & T. Zwinger)
- Initially idea was to use ReynoldsSolver i.e. flow solver reduced to 2D pressure field
- Problematic to solve the coupled system because the assumption behind Reynolds equation are not well compatible with dynamical coupling
- New solver was coined, very much work under progress

FilmFlowSolver

- Test cases for full dimensional and reduced dimensional problems
 - Good agreement

FilmFlowLine

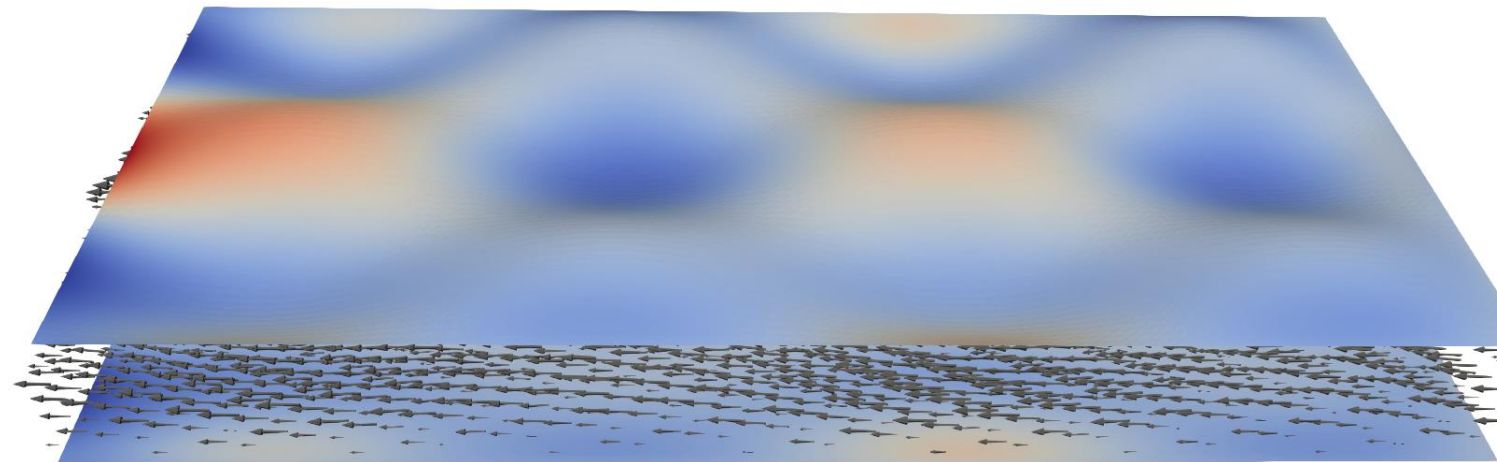
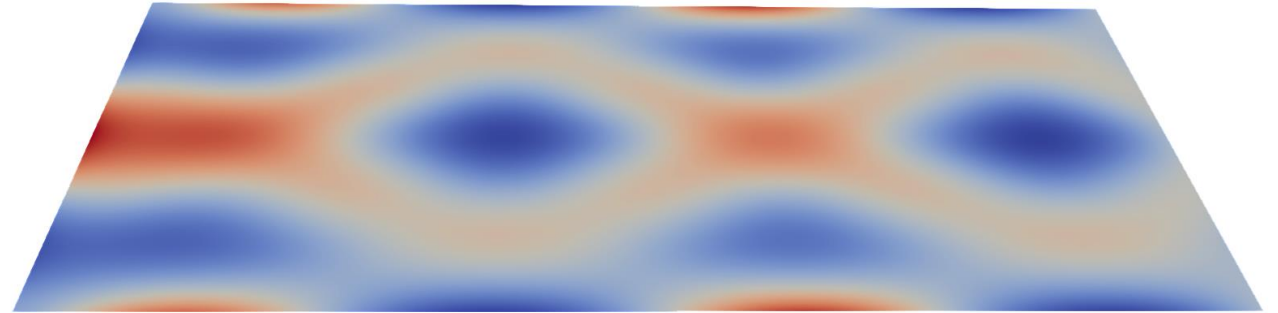
FilmFlowPipe

FilmFlowPlane

FilmFlowPlane2

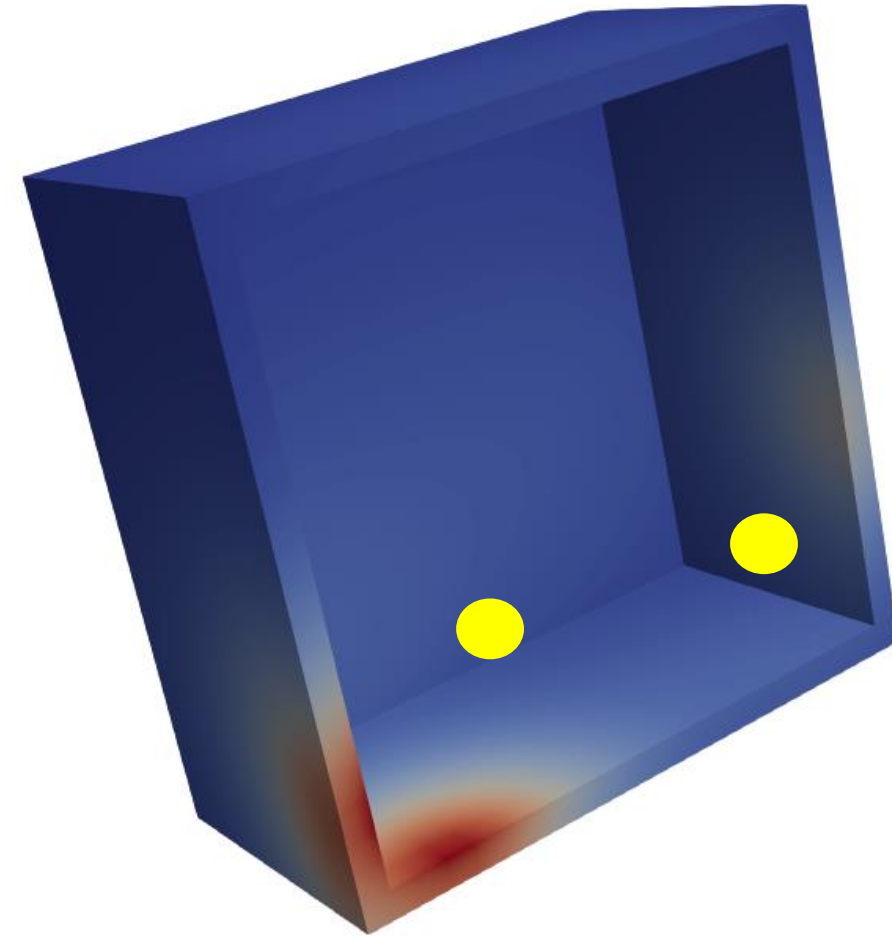
FilmFlowPlane3

- Started with laminar cases
 - Poiseuille velocity profile assumed
- Other choices to be added



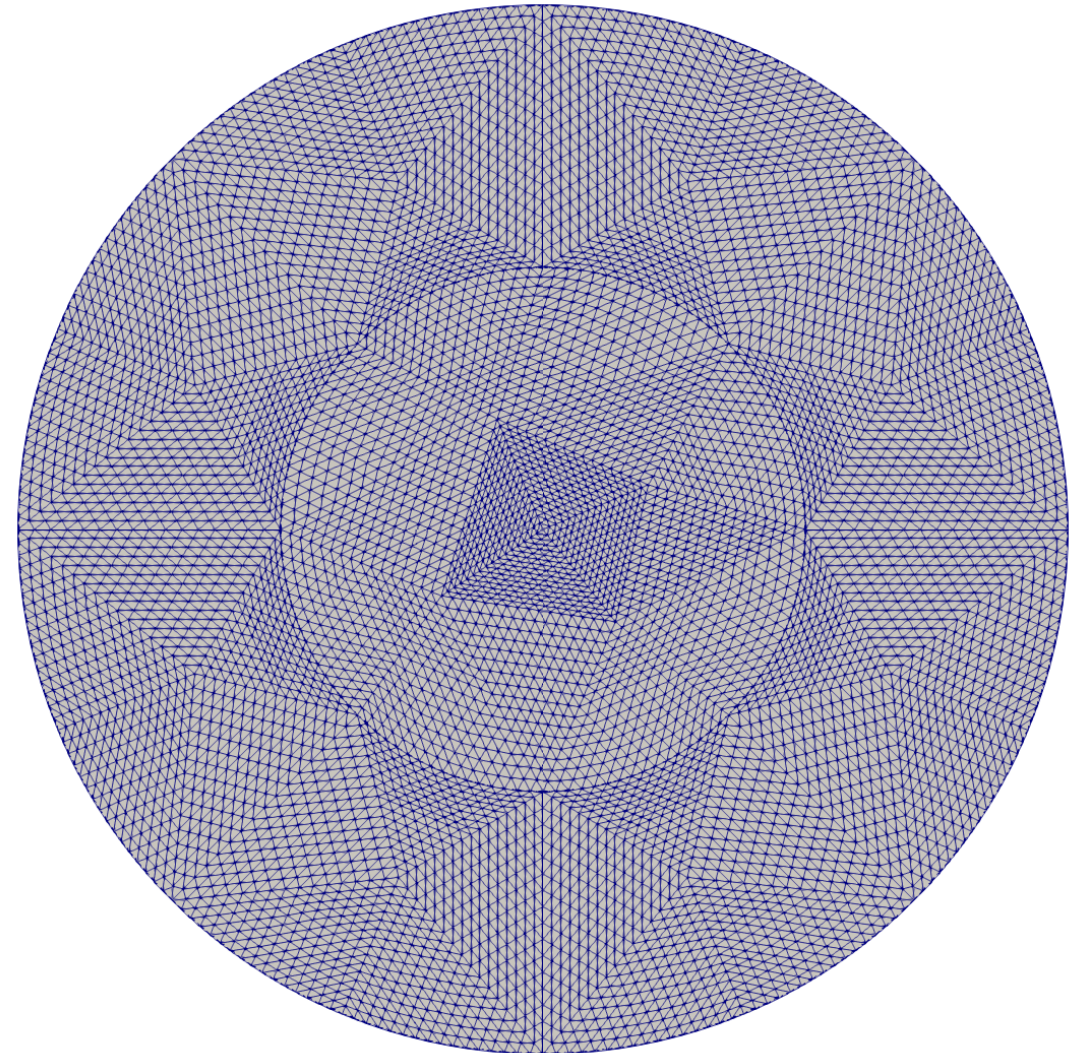
Improvements in radiation heat transfer

- Radiator
 - Point like sources that radiate in all directions
 - Viewing angle is compute similarly as for ViewFactors
 - Economical way to model e.g. heaters
- Radiosity
 - Explicit treatment of radiation heat transfer
 - More economical way to treat radiation problems compared to Gebhart Factors
 - Emissivity and Absorptivity may be temperature-dependent, possible also wavelength-dependent
- Documented in *Elmer Models Manual* under HeatSolver!
- Probably totally impractical for solar enforcing



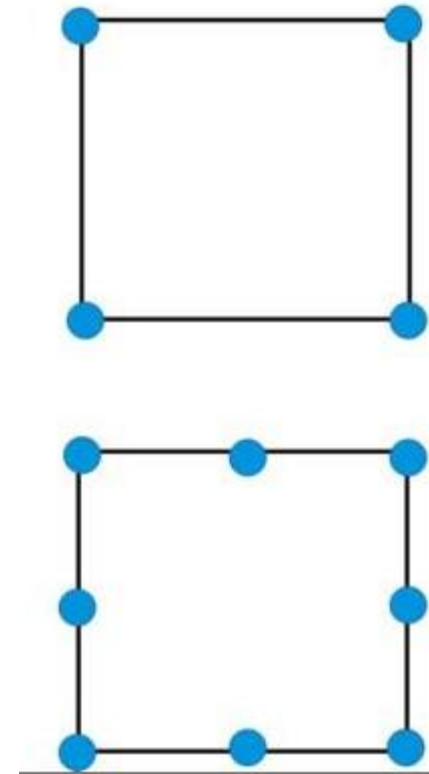
Geometry following shape

- Motivation
 - Need to accurately present curved shapes for better accuracy
 - Problem is particularly important for p-elements
 - Faceted geometry will limit accuracy in mesh multiplication
- Current state
 - cylinder, sphere
 - Levelset $\phi(r) = 0$
- Low hanging fruit
 - Follow data from another (denser) mesh



Increase of element order

- Elmer supports higher order nodal elements
 - But mesh extrusion and mesh multiplication do not
- Simple method to add nodes at element edges implemented
 - “Serendipity elements”
 - May be done after extrusion and multiplications
 - Extruded machinery may not be well supported!



Create Boundary condition on-the-fly

- Mesh generation routine might not support 3D, 2D and 1D entities
- User forgot to add the boundary
- A boundary may be created on-the-fly as intersection of two existing ones

```
Boundary Condition 7  
Name = "South-East"  
Intersection BC(2) = Integer 1 2  
Temperature = 1  
Save Line = True  
End
```

- Test cases
IntersectionBCs
IntersectionBCs0D

Sif file checks added

- Over the years people have spent hours of futile work in stupid sif mistakes
- Trailing crap + wrong sized vectors will result to errors

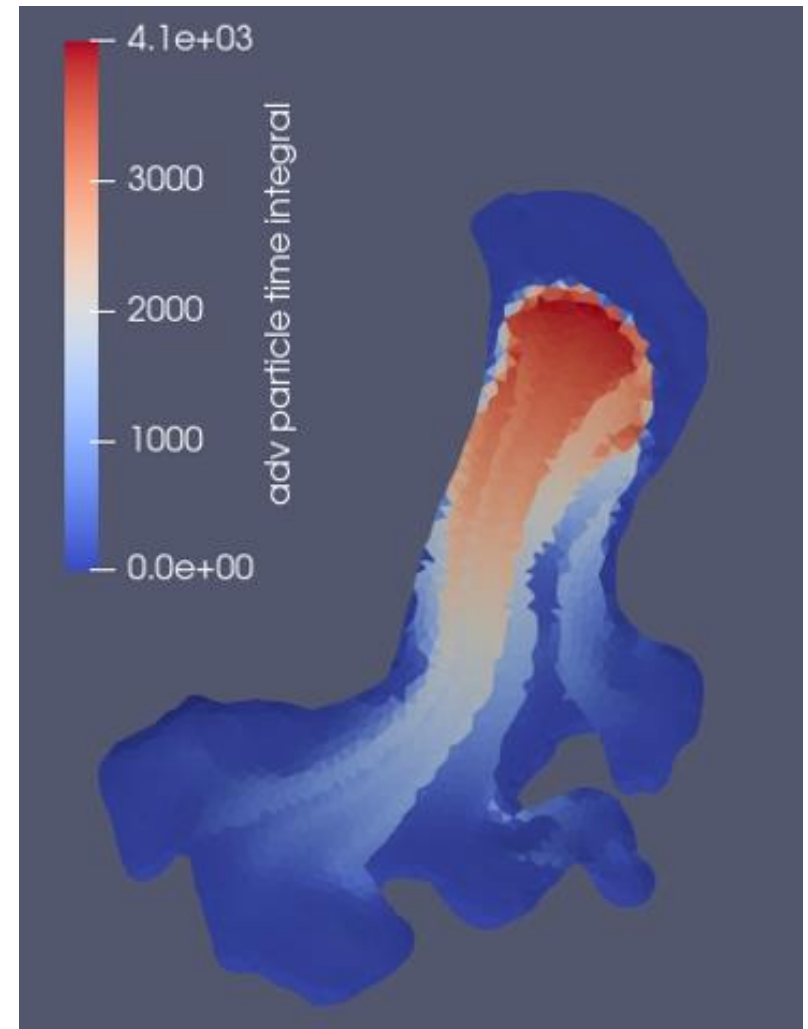
- Note, this is legit too since many years

Target Boundaries(2) = 1 4 7

Target Boundaries(*) = 1 4

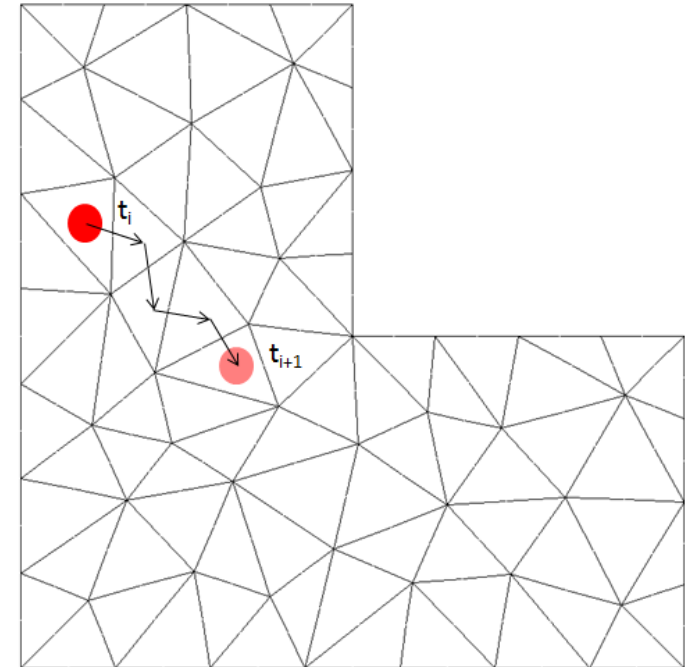
Semi-Lagrangian advection using particles

- Convenient method for fully convective problems
 - No diffusion introduced
 - Module: **ParticleAdvecton.F90**
- Follow particles backward in time along velocity and register the field value
 - Passive fields are easiest
 - Issues revealed with real usage by Cyrille
- Integrals over path are ideally reversible
 - $F = \int_{-dt}^0 f(r) ds = \int_0^{-dt} f(r) ds$
- Some integrals are not reversible
 - $F = \int_{-dt}^0 f(f, F) ds$



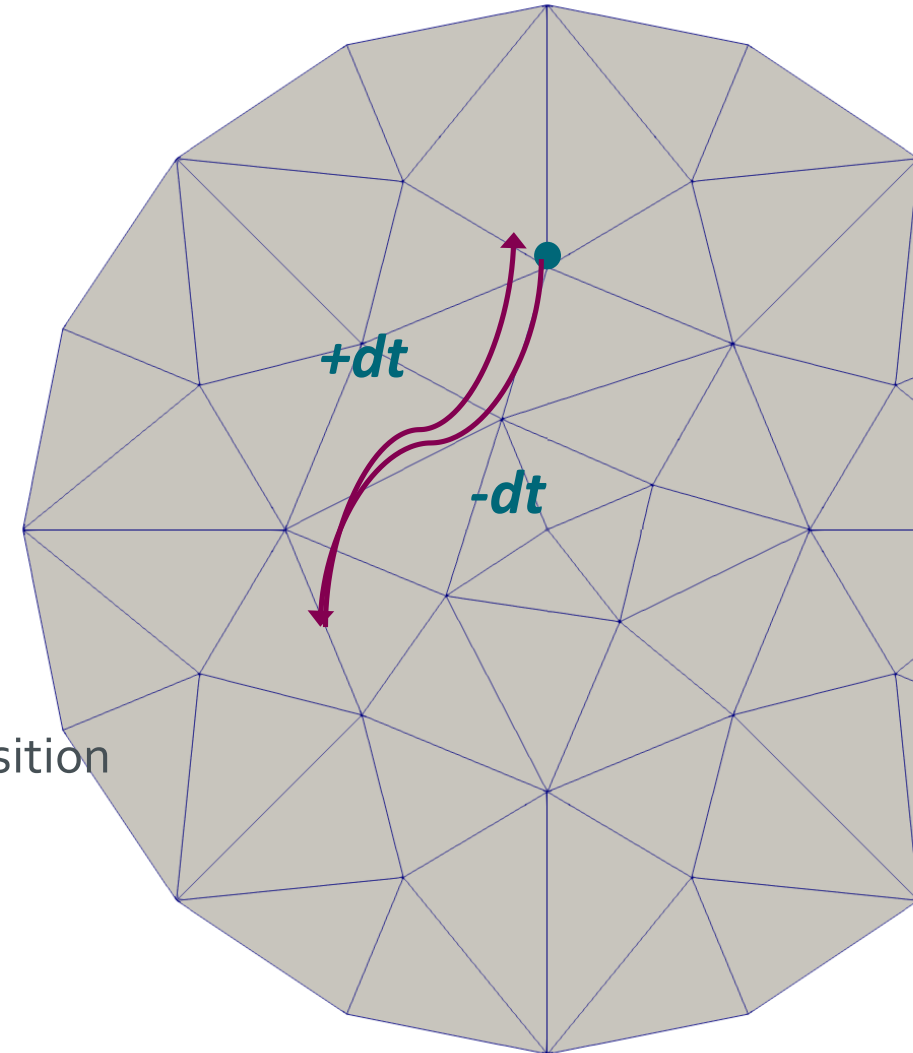
ParticleAdvect - tracking algorithm

- Problem: Locate a particle in the finite element mesh
- Octree based search
 - Scales as $N \log(N)$
 - Same cost for each step
 - Used in Elmer in mesh-to-mesh mapping
 - More difficult to parallelize effectively
- **Marching search**
 - March from element-to-element
 - Initial price scales as $N^{(1/\text{dim})}$
 - When the previous parent element is known the additional work is independent of mesh size
 - It is reasonable that the timestep is so small that the particle remains in the same element, or is in the neighbour element



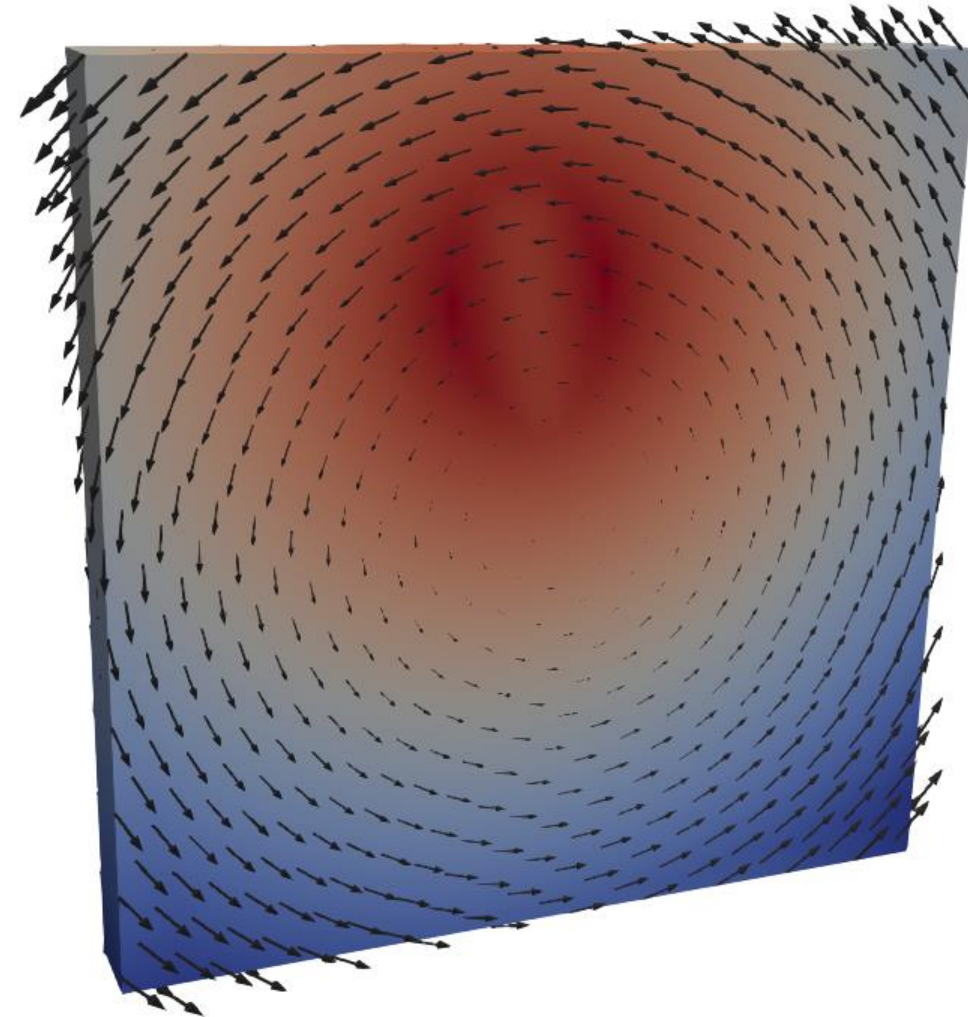
ParticleAdvector - irreversibility

- Idea:
 - Integrate $-dt$ (backwards) in time passively
 - Initiate the value from the field
 - Integrate $+dt$ (forward) in time performing the path integral
- Pros
 - The integral may be irreversible
- Cons
 - Twice the labour
 - The back-and-forth integration may end at slightly different position
 - We can register the displacement in the end to follow the error



ParticleAdvect - Outward pointing velocities

- For ParticleAdvect we should ideally not lose any particles
- Particles that follow velocity vectors may go out of the domain if the velocity has a non-vanishing normal component
- Remedy: project the suggested step dr into the plane spanned by the face edges
 - **Boundary Condition i :: Particle Tangent = Logical True**
- There is also a diagnostics solver that can be used to analyze or eliminate normal components of velocity field
 - **FixTangentVelo.F90**



Summary

- Some developments that may be useful for the Elmer/Ice community
 - Many are currently still ongoing
- Working solution for an easy geometry does not imply success in large scale complex geometries
 - Devil lies in the detail
- If you have questions, ideas or wishes contact us
 - Thomas.Zwinger@csc.fi & Peter.Raback@csc.fi