

# SPICE2 PROGRESS WITHIN TSVV-7

A. Podolník<sup>1</sup>, M. Komm<sup>1</sup>, D. Tskhakaya<sup>1</sup> with thanks to R. Dejarnac<sup>1</sup> and J. P. Gunn<sup>2</sup>

List of affiliations:

<sup>1</sup> Institute of Plasma Physics of Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, Czechia

<sup>2</sup> CEA IRFM, Saint-Paul-lez-Durance, France



EUROfusion



**IPP**

INSTITUTE OF PLASMA PHYSICS  
OF THE CZECH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

**EMISSIVE SHEATH (MK)  
SPICE2 BASELINE SHEATH (AP)**

# OUTLINE

## PROGRESS IN EMISSIVE SHEATH SIMULATIONS

- Angular scan
- Scaling validity

## BENCHMARK SIMULATION OF THE SHEATH

- Motivation
- Setup and relevance
- Results

# EMISSIVE SHEATH IN ITER INTER-ELM PLASMA

## ANGULAR SCAN

**Objective:** Assess the validity of the scaling for the escaping current [Komm NF 2020] for the case of TE+SEE+EBS (using models described in [Tolias NME 2020])

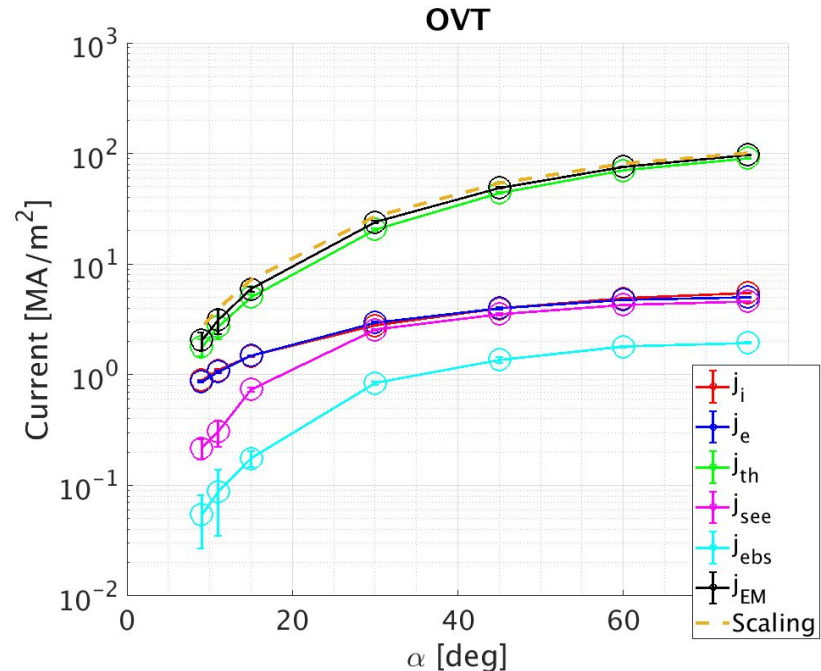
$$J_{th}^{lim} \simeq 0.43en_e\nu_{Te} \sin^2 \alpha$$

**Plasma conditions:** ITER intra-ELM plasmas ( $T_e = 500$  eV) for...

- OVT ( $B_T = 6$  T,  $n_e = 1.67e20$  m<sup>-3</sup>) and
- IVT ( $B_T = 8$  T,  $n_e = 2.9e20$  m<sup>-3</sup>)

### Model settings

- Schottky correction has been turned off
- Angular scan: **75, 60, 45, 30, 15, 11, 9, 7, 5** degrees



# EMISSIVE SHEATH IN ITER INTER-ELM PLASMA

## ANGULAR SCAN

**Objective:** Assess the validity of the scaling for the escaping current [Komm NF 2020] for the case of TE+SEE+EBS (using models described in [Tolias NME 2020])

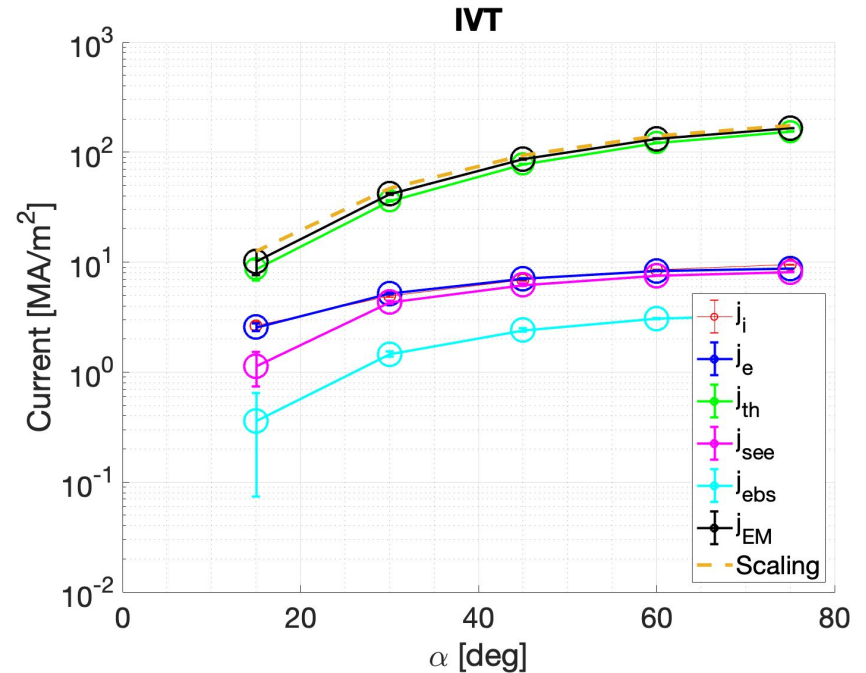
$$J_{th}^{lim} \simeq 0.43en_e\nu_{Te} \sin^2 \alpha$$

**Plasma conditions:** ITER intra-ELM plasmas ( $T_e = 500$  eV) for...

- OVT ( $B_T = 6$  T,  $n_e = 1.67e20$  m<sup>-3</sup>) and
- IVT ( $B_T = 8$  T,  $n_e = 2.9e20$  m<sup>-3</sup>)

### Model settings

- Schottky correction has been turned off
- Angular scan: **75, 60, 45, 30, 15, 11, 9, 7, 5** degrees

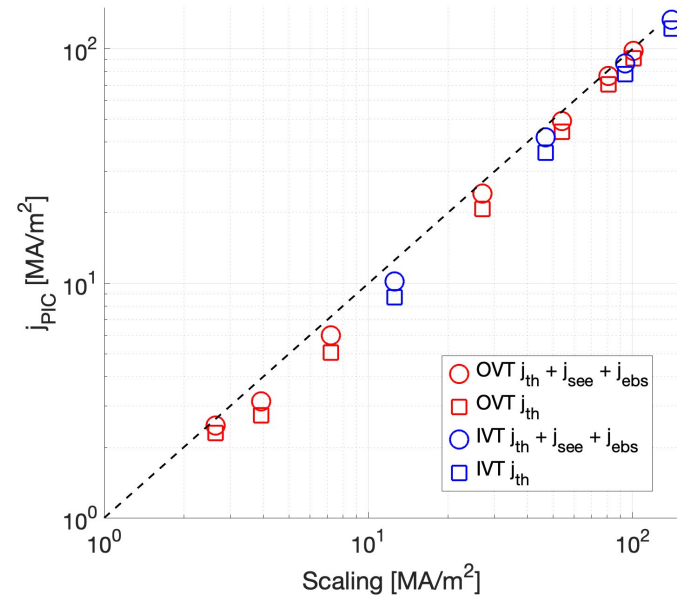


# EMISSIVE SHEATH IN ITER INTER-ELM PLASMA

## SCALING VALIDATION

- So far the total escaping current follows the scaling law and the contribution of SEE and EBS is not significant
- Let's see what happens at 5 degrees

Simulations for low angle of incidence are expected to be done by the end of this year.



# SPICE2 BASELINE SHEATH

## DOUBLE MOTIVATION – (A) SHEATH EXPANSION

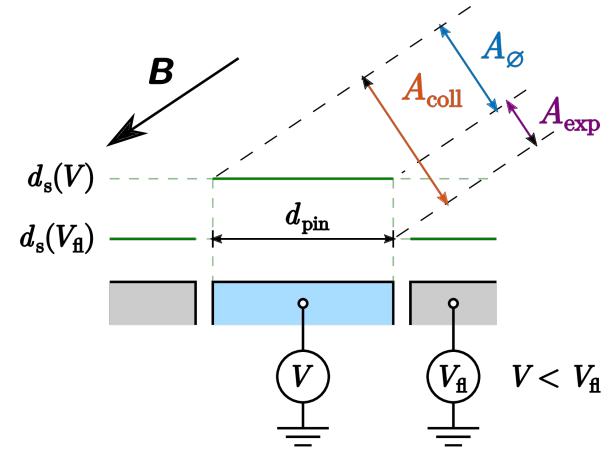
Sheath thickness in front of charged surface appears to change with the voltage. Simple formula w/o  $\mathbf{B}$  gives approx.  $\frac{3}{4}$  power:

$$z_{DS} = \frac{2\sqrt[4]{2}}{3} \left| \frac{V}{T_e} \right|^{\frac{3}{4}} \lambda_D$$

**Simple conclusion:** More negative voltage, more extra current collected.

Some corrections on angular dependence – not good.

**Main application:** Correction of probe measurements that depend on low-biased probes.



**Sheath** in front of the flush-mounted probe biased below floating potential.

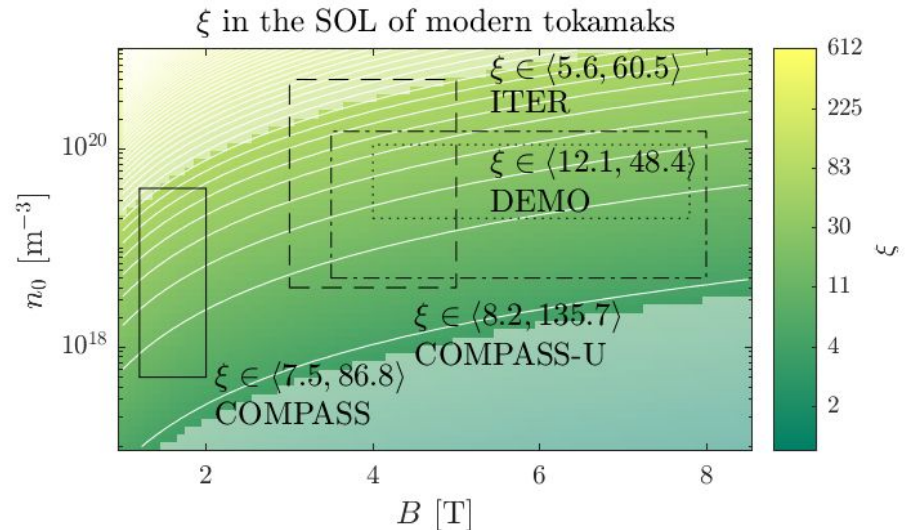
# SPICE2 BASELINE SHEATH

## DOUBLE MOTIVATION – (B) SHEATH

SPICE task within TSVV-7 aims to provide tools for simulation of **novel processes** within the Debye sheath and magnetic presheath.

However, no baseline sheath properties table/database has been provided with **current capabilities**.

Both (A) and (B) are in synergy – setup of the **database** of sheath parameters and profiles and infer either comparison or direct results.



**Magnetization parameter  $\xi$**  in upcoming tokamaks.



# THE SETUP

Using SPICE2 as 1D simulation tool – fast, allows a lot of...

## PARAMETRIC SCANS

### TEMPERATURE RATIO

$$\tau = T_i/T_e = 0.2, 0.5, 1, 2, 4$$

### MAGNETIZATION

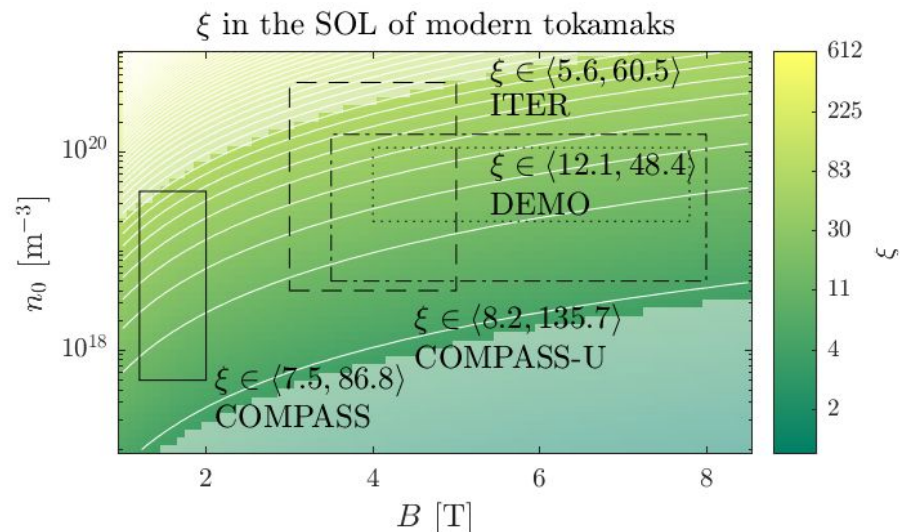
$$\xi = r_L/\lambda_D = 4, 6, 12, 19, 38, 87$$

### MAGNETIC FIELD ANGLE

$$\ln \sin \alpha_B = -5 (0.4^\circ), -4.5, \dots, -1, -0.5, -0.25, 0 (90^\circ)$$

### TOTAL SHEATH POTENTIAL DROP

$$V/T_e = -10, -8, -6, -5, -4.5, \dots, 0$$



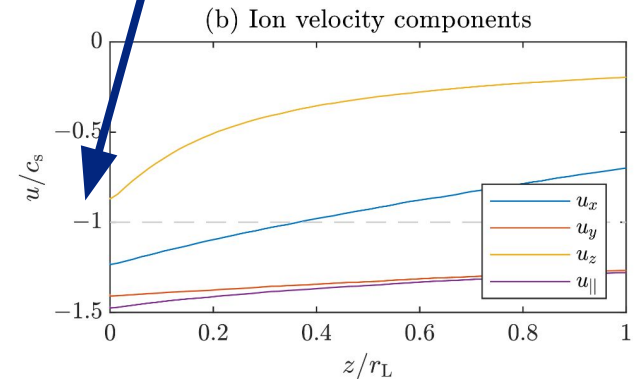
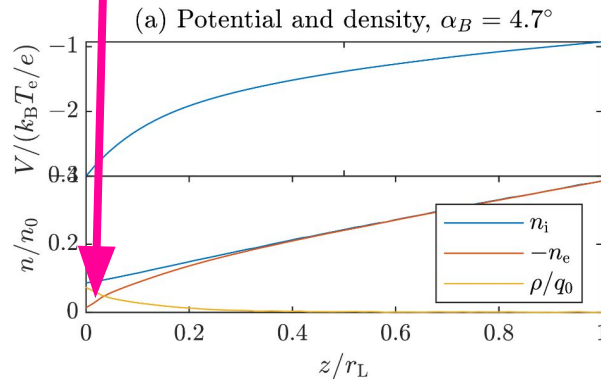
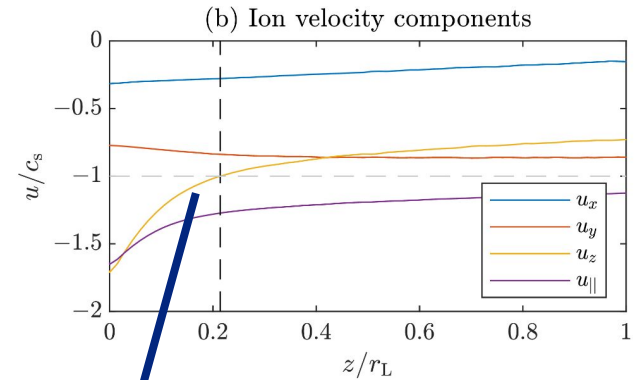
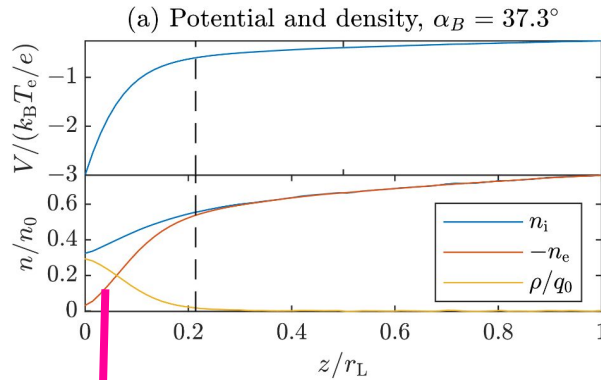
**Magnetization parameter  $\xi$**  in upcoming tokamaks.

# Sheath w/B

Region where quasineutrality is broken and plasma particles interface with surface via electric forces.

Bohm-Chodura condition gives values of  $u_z$  at sheath entry, however, angular dependency and a critical angle exist [Stangeby 2012].

- One of investigated tasks was to identify the sonic-subsonic transition wrt magnetic field angle.



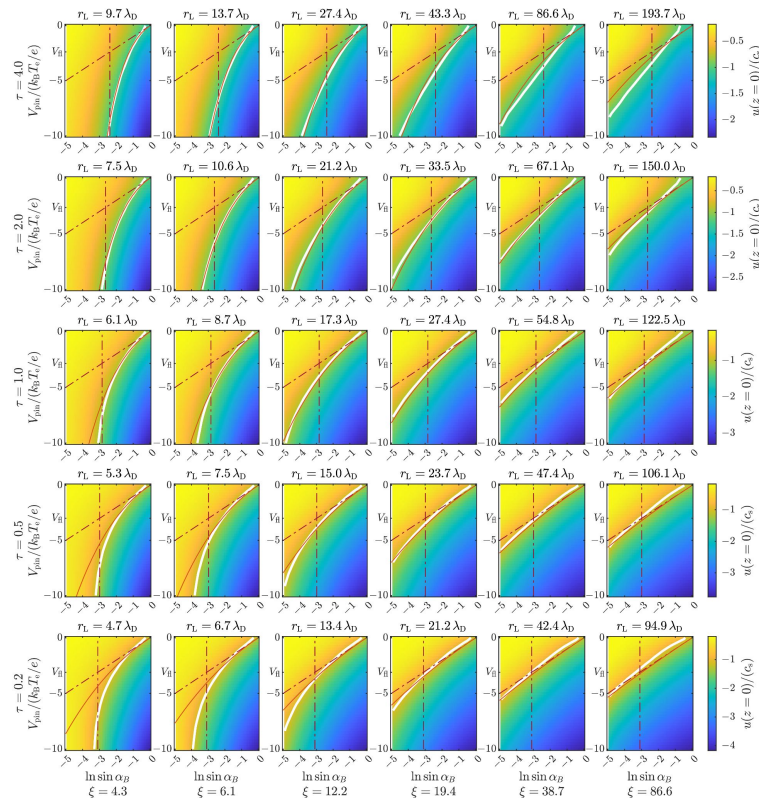
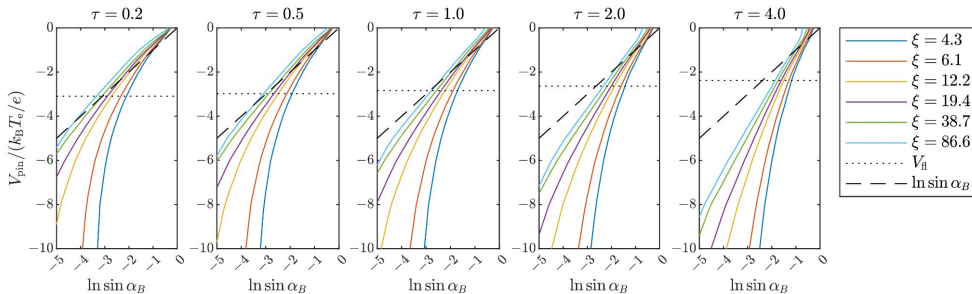
# SONIC FLOW LIMIT

Color – perpendicular velocity ( $u_z$ ) at surface = **limit of a sonic flow**

White line –  $u_z = c_s$

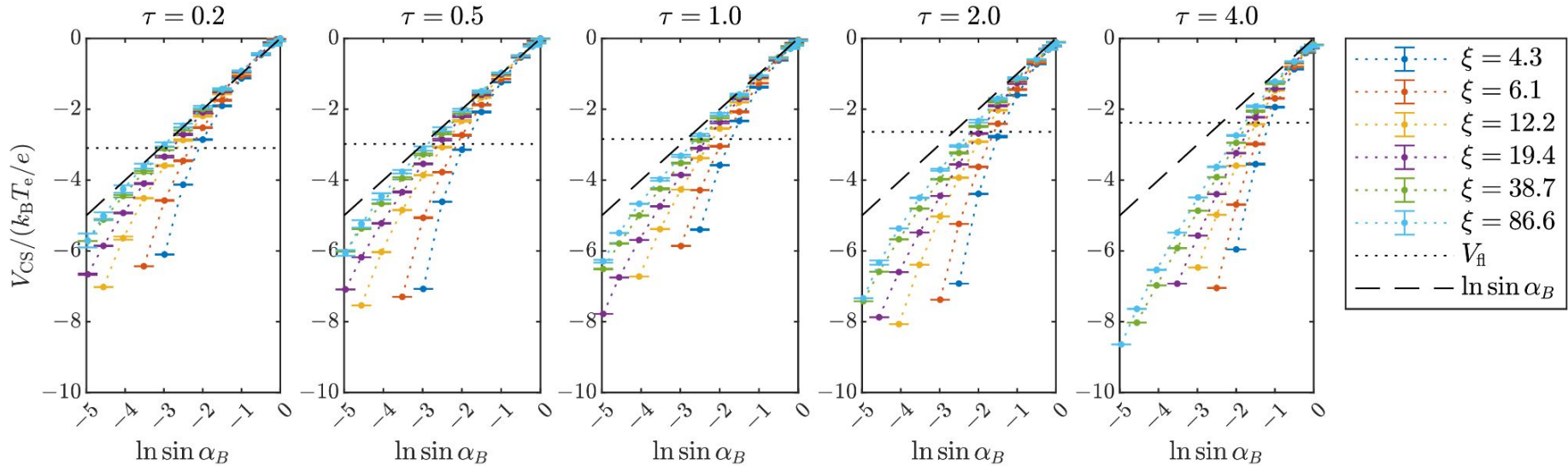
Red dashed – equivalent magnetic **pre-sheath potential drop**

Probing surface transitions from sub-sonic to supersonic.



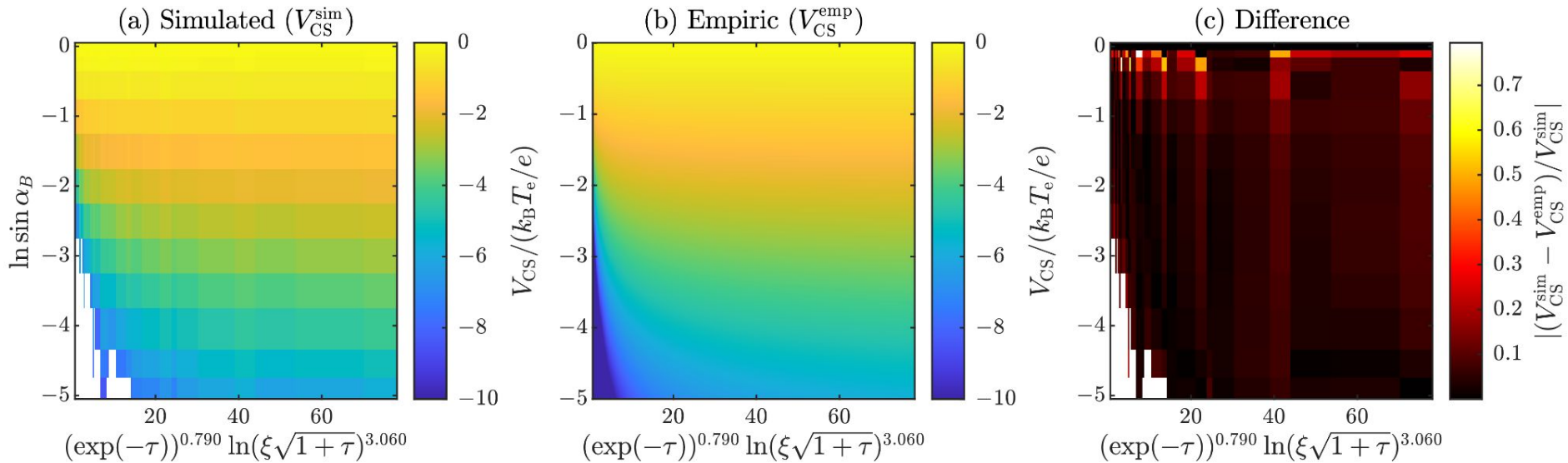
# CS POTENTIAL $V_{CS}$

1. Find a place (in  $z$ ), where  $u_z = c_s$ ,
2. Get plasma potential  $\rightarrow V_{CS}$



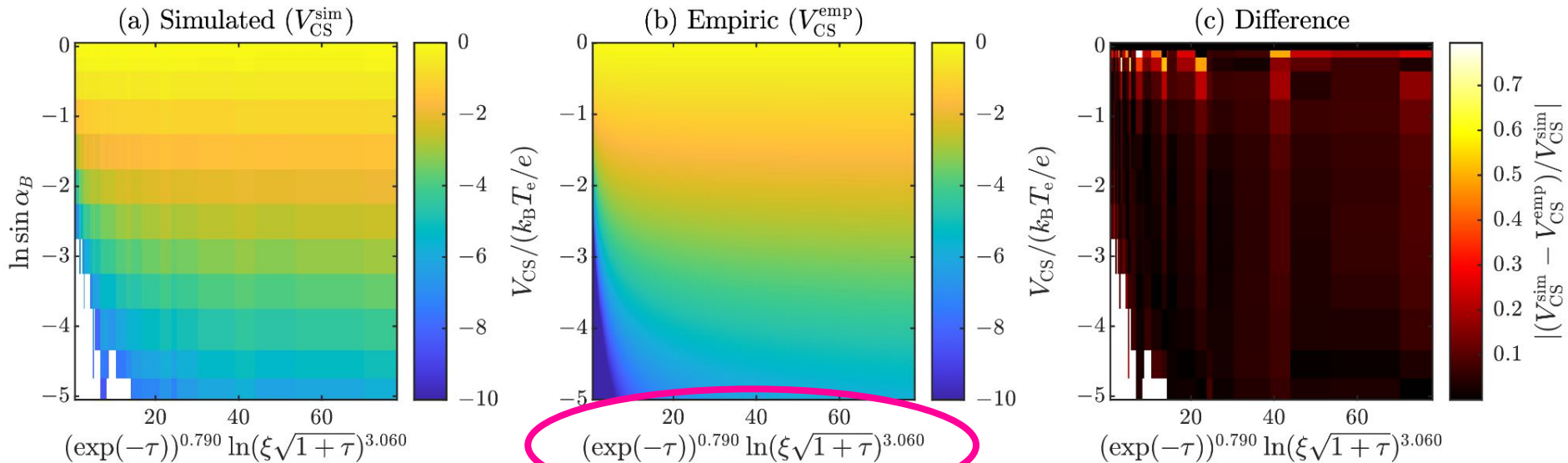
# CS POTENTIAL $V_{CS}$

1. Find a place (in  $z$ ), where  $u_z = c_s$ ,
2. Get plasma potential  $\rightarrow V_{CS}$



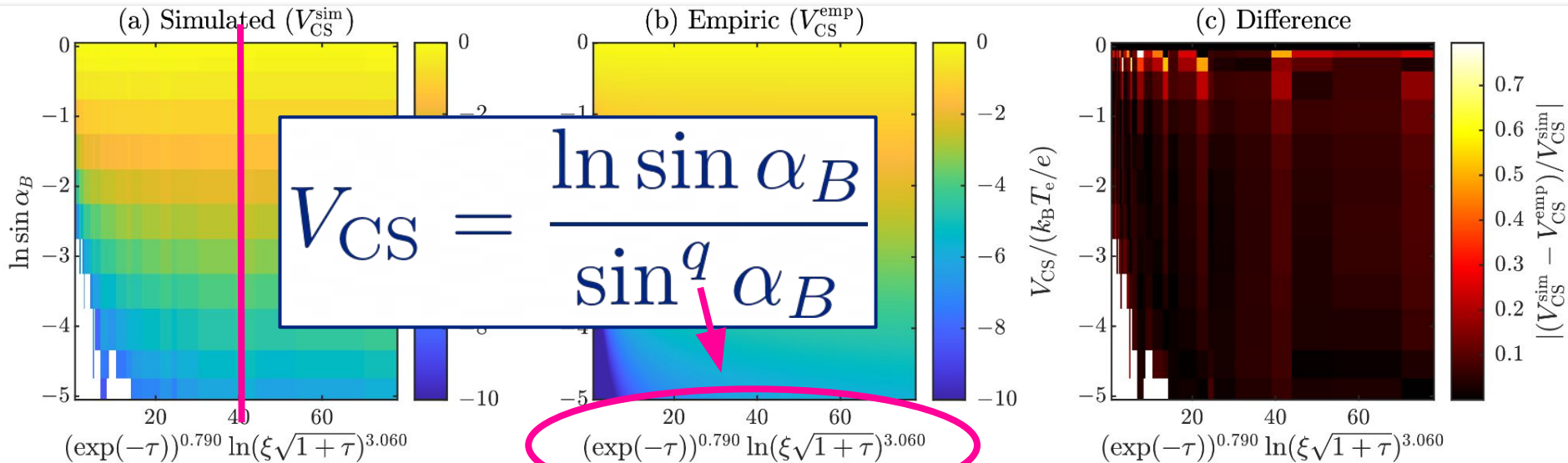
# CS POTENTIAL $V_{CS}$

1. Find a place (in  $z$ ), where  $u_z = c_s$ ,
2. Get plasma potential  $\rightarrow V_{CS}$



# CS POTENTIAL $V_{CS}$

1. Find a place (in  $z$ ), where  $u_z = c_s$ ,
2. Get plasma potential  $\rightarrow V_{CS}$



# POTENTIAL IN z-axis

Usually, some codes use following expression for  $V(z)$  in CS:

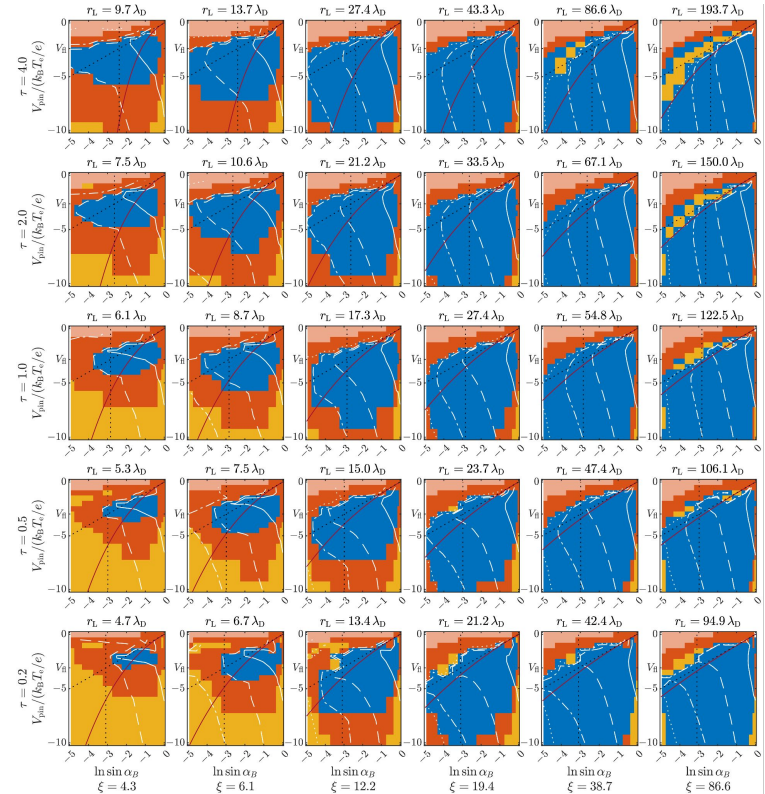
$$V(z) = V_{DS} \exp\left(\frac{-z}{L_{DS}}\right) + V_{CS} \exp\left(\frac{-z}{L_{CS}}\right)$$

However, other descriptions can be used...

$$V(z) = V_{sh} \exp\left(\frac{-z}{L_{sh}}\right) + kz$$

$$V(z) = V_{sh} \exp\left[\left(\frac{-z}{L_{sh}}\right)^q\right]$$

Which fits the  $V(z)$  the best? Use **LSQ comparison!**





# POTENTIAL IN z-axis

Usually, some codes use following expression for  $V(z)$  in CS:

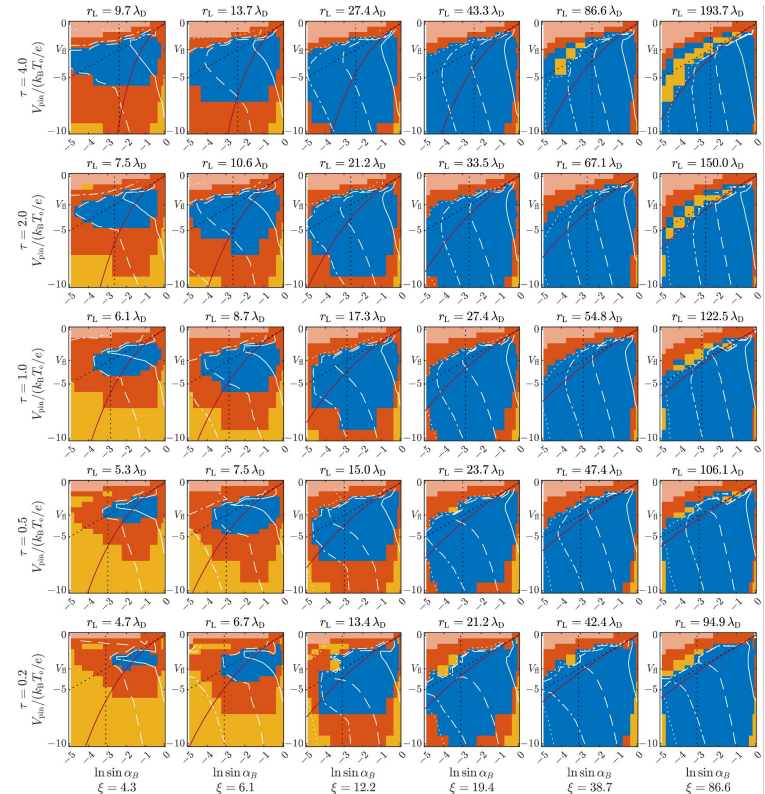
$$V(z) = V_{DS} \exp\left(\frac{-z}{L_{DS}}\right) + V_{CS} \exp\left(\frac{-z}{L_{CS}}\right) \quad \bullet$$

However, other descriptions can be used...

$$V(z) = V_{sh} \exp\left(\frac{-z}{L_{sh}}\right) + kz \quad \bullet$$

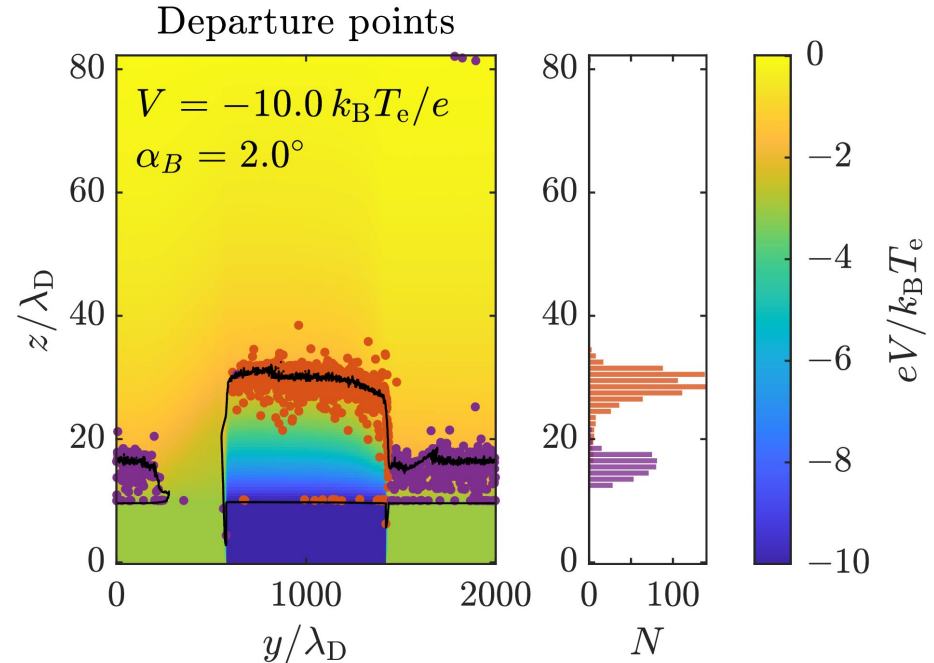
$$V(z) = V_{sh} \exp\left[\left(\frac{-z}{L_{sh}}\right)^q\right] \quad \bullet$$

Which fits the  $V(z)$  the best? Use **LSQ comparison!**



## OTHER TASKS

- Particle collection location identification using particle tracing (right figure).
- Identification of scalings related to the location point.
- Extrapolation of results to sheath expansion effect prediction.



**Sheath edge identification** using different methods.

## SUMMARY pt. 1

- Emmisive sheath simulations under way.  
Preliminary results indicate **validity of** previously discovered **scalings**.
- General sheath simulations for comparison were performed.  
Sheath properties were tracked.  
Publication under way for **sheath expansion** estimation.

# UPGRADES OF INJECTION SCHEMA IN SPICE2

# Outline

- SPICE injection
  - Updates of injection schema
  - Double-bounded system
  - Benchmarking simulations
- Coupling with BIT1

# SPICE PARTICLE INJECTION SCHEMA

## How does SPICE inject particles?

Several options are available, however, most commonly used is the “injection plane” scenario.

### The algorithm

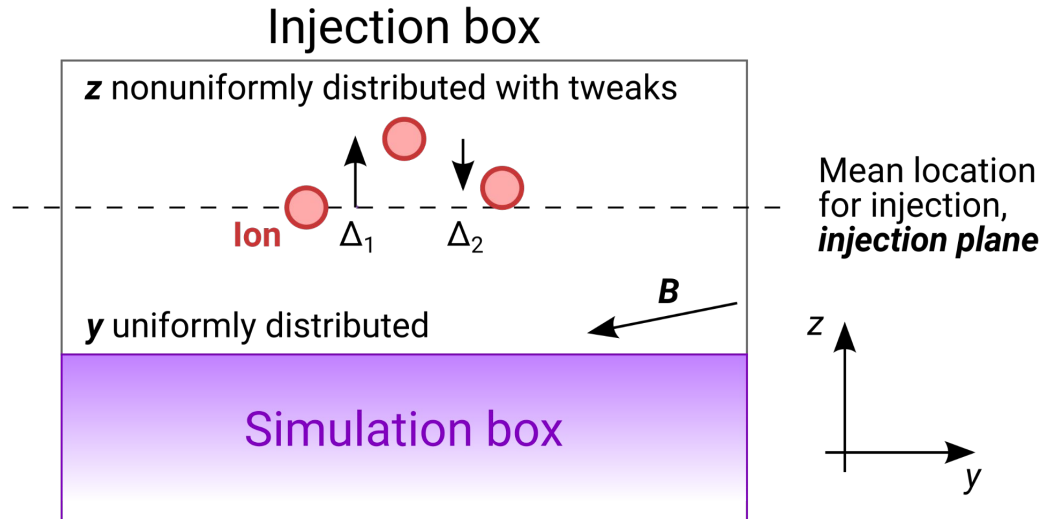
- Generate velocity –  $v_{\perp,1}, v_{\perp,2}, v_{\parallel}$  W/RT the magnetic field orientation.
  - Perpendicular components **Gaussian**, parallel component from a **prescribed SOLID** distribution.
  - Transform to xyz coordinates.
- Generate location
  - 2D geometry – no x component
  - y – uniformly distributed
  - z – injection box strategy

# Injection box strategy

## SINGLE BOUNDED SYSTEM

Place generated particles around the injection plane. Shake slightly.

1.  $\Delta_1$  – randomize within a time step
2.  $\Delta_2$  – equalize within Larmor rotation
3. Wind back for leapfrog motion



# FIRST STEPS

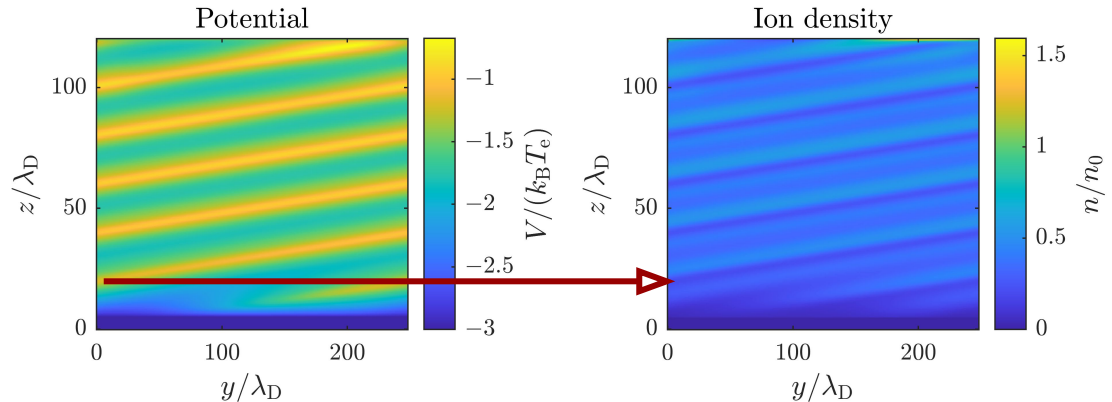
```

1  call G05FAF(0.d0,1.d0,1,rndx)
2
3  if (spec_params(stype(no_part))%param1.gt.0) then
4  |   y(no_part) = Ly*(ASIN(rndx * 2 - 1)/3.1415926535 + 0.5)
5  else
6  |   y(no_part) = Ly*rndx
7  endif
    
```

Simple sinusoidal injection location modulation.  
Fig. in the left, line 4.

## First test results

- Formation of **potential wells** near injection plane - propagating downwards.
  - Minima on ion density close to zero!
- Possible **influence of parallel streamlines**





# NONUNIFORM DENSITY

**Tweak 1:** Inject from arbitrary probability distribution function (PDF). Will be useful later.

1. Prescribe PDF using SPICE input.
2. Generate the PDF  
Implemented: sinusoidal wave-like “bump” distribution with prescribed width and position.
3. Calculate and invert the cumulative distribution function (CDF).
4. Draw a number from 0 to 1 and convert it to location using inverted CDF.

**New Fortran module for generating PDF created.**

**Tweak 2:** Inject extra electrons to compensate for extra ions.

Extra ions form positive cloud thus blocking more extra ions from entering the simulation box.

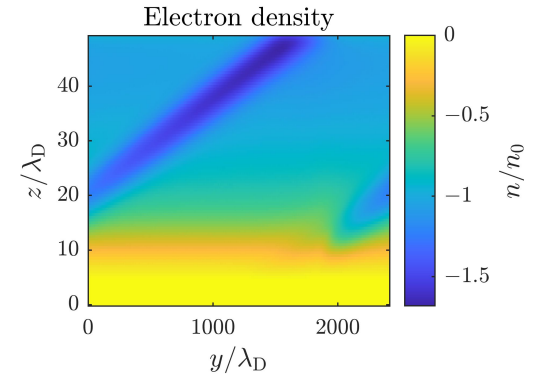
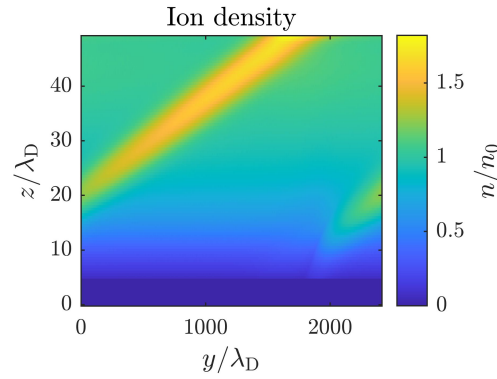
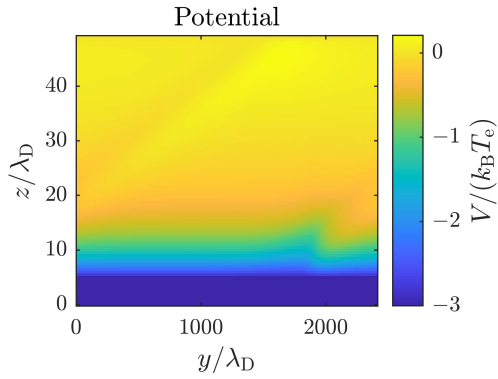
**Tweak 3:** Feedback the extra electron density on density of extra ions at the simulation box entrance.

Now the usefulness of arbitrary PDF generator comes into play.

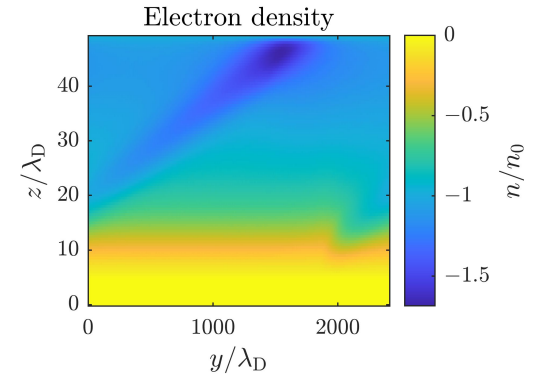
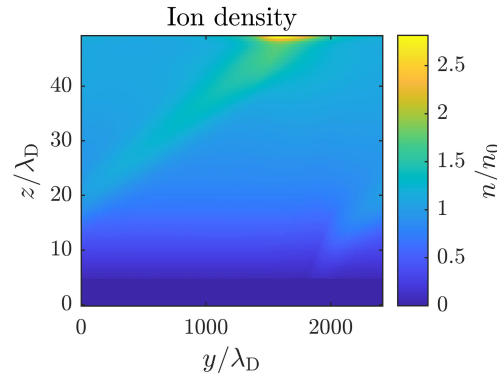
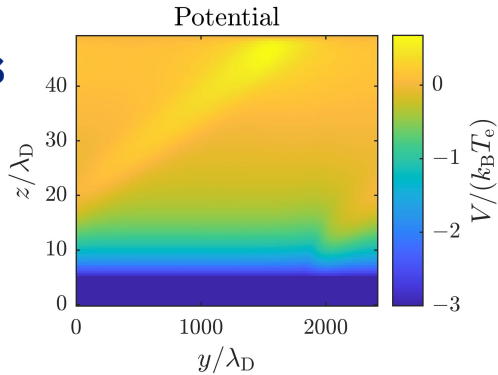


```
! Fortran code for PDF generation module
```

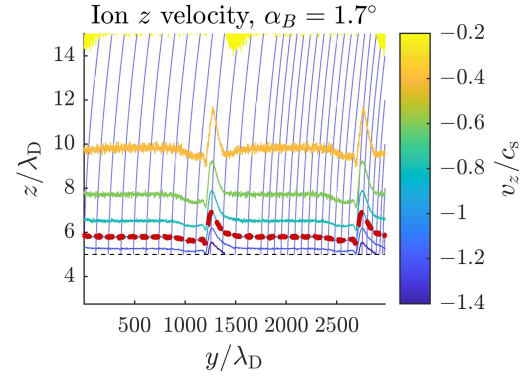
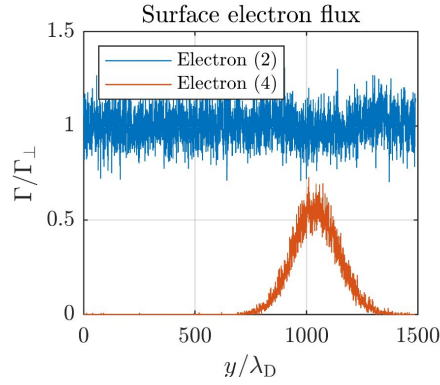
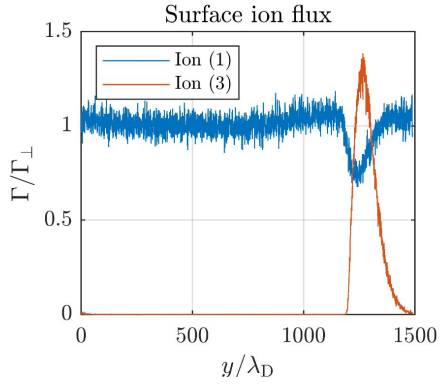
All  
tweaks  
on



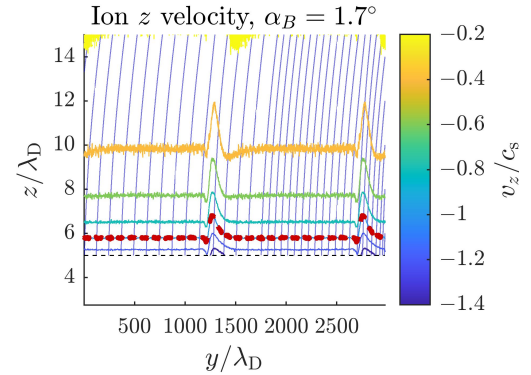
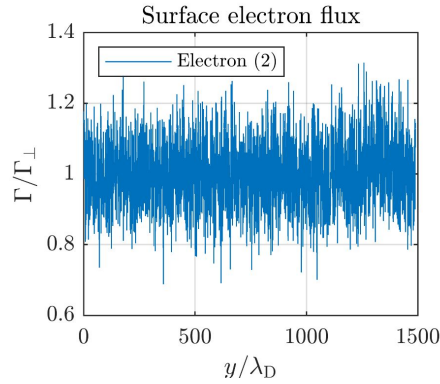
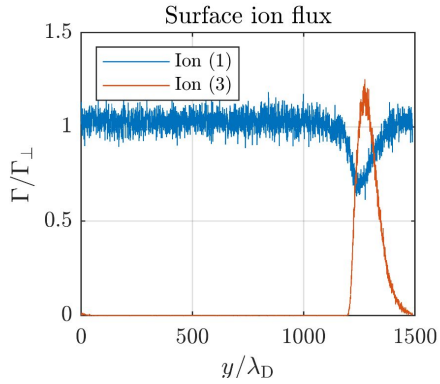
No extra  
electrons



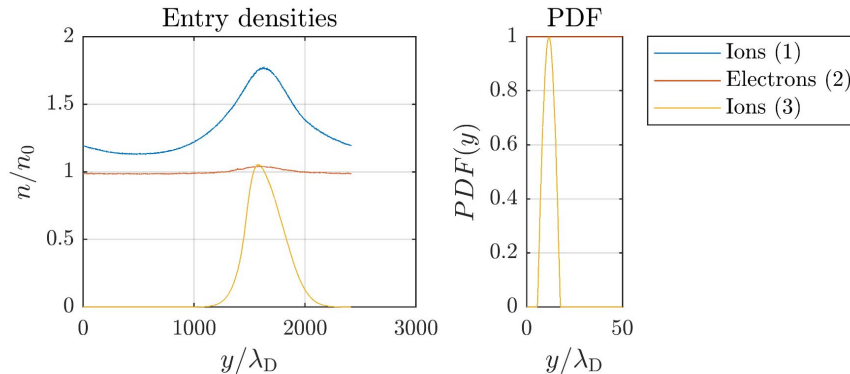
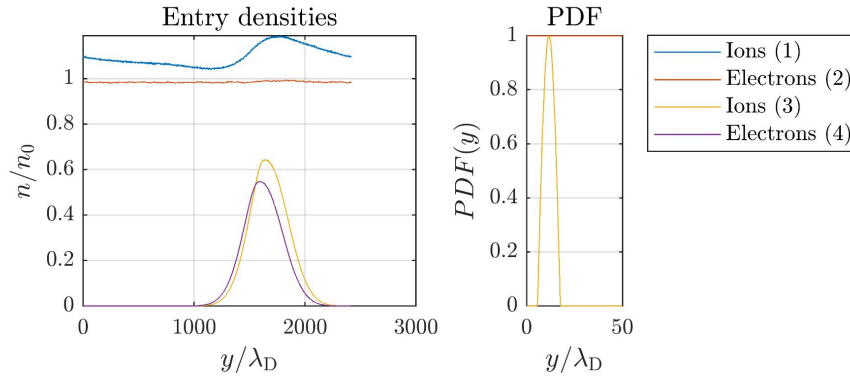
All  
tweaks  
on



No extra  
electrons



All  
tweaks  
on



No extra  
electrons

## Effects summary

Arbitrary PDF injection enables us to

- inject nonuniform ion density,
- compensate using feedback.

Extra electron injection compensates the potential maximum formed by ions.

Extra electron injection stabilizes the cross-species influence between injected ions.

Both variants show similar ion flux, substantial difference in electron fluxes.

Extension of the simulation box length minimizes cross-streamline influence.

# NONUNIFORM TEMPERATURE

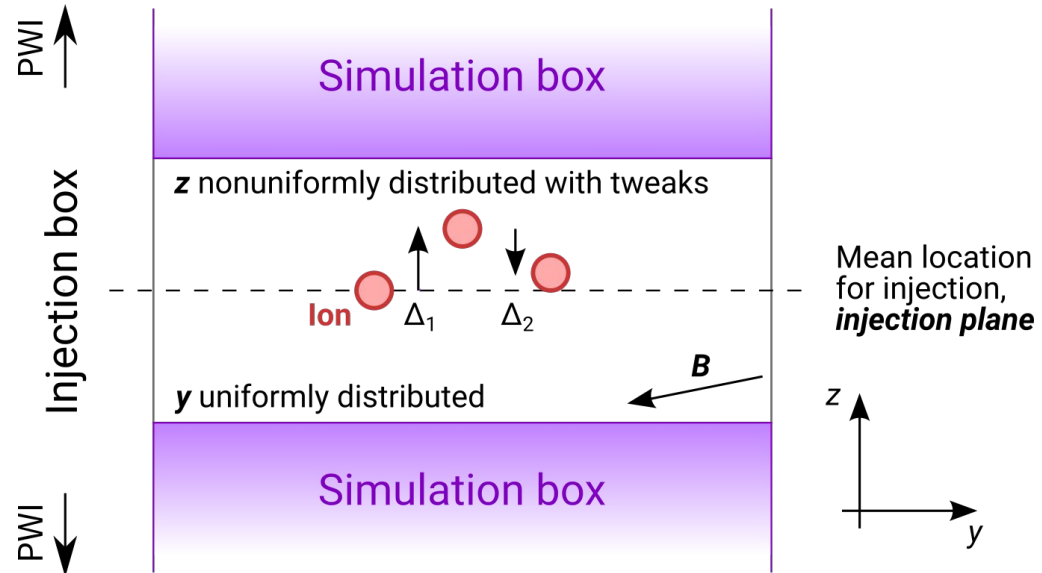
## DOUBLE BOUNDED SYSTEM

Nonuniform  $T_e$  injection implies nonuniform boundary conditions on potential. Possible solution = **double bounded system**.

Previous work done by M. Komm and J. P. Gunn already introduced first attempt.

A novel injection schema was introduced to SPICE2.

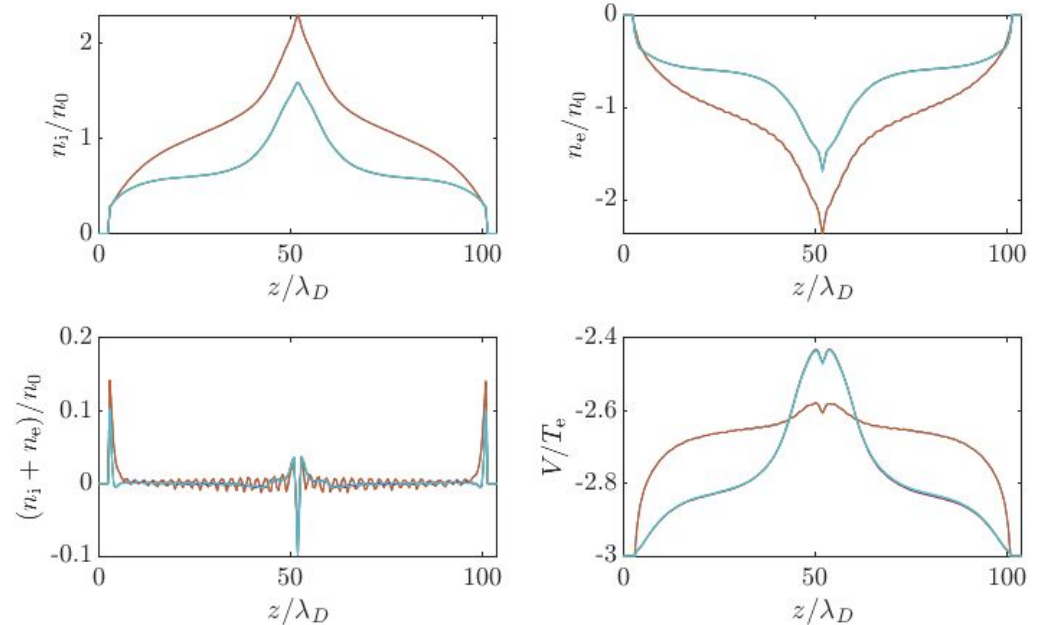
- Maxwellian source in the middle.
- Simple collision operator (re-maxwellization)-
- **Pre-sheath acceleration maybe necessary!**



# DOUBLE BOUNDED SYSTEM

## IMPLEMENTATION RESULTS

- Sheath-like structures are produced.
- Potential oscillation in space is visible
  - Mitigation using  $dz < 1$ .
- Oscillations in time initially visible, proper collision operator did help.

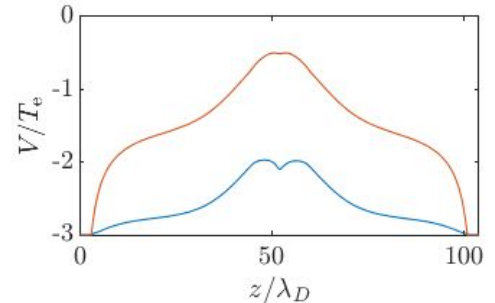
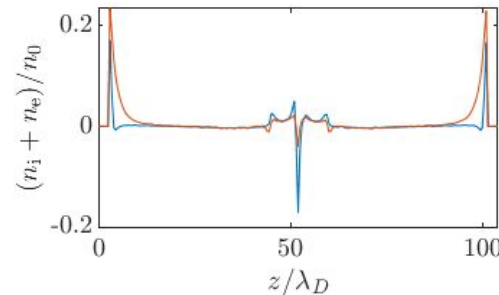
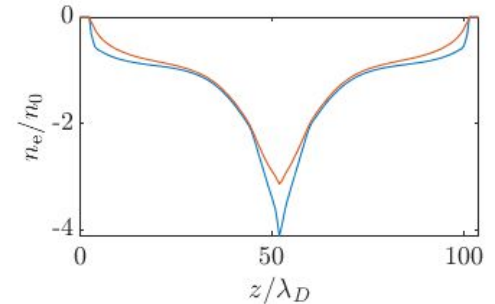
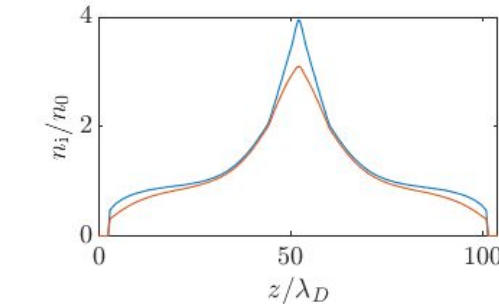


# DOUBLE BOUNDED SYSTEM

## IMPLEMENTATION RESULTS

- Sheath-like structures are produced.
- Potential oscillation in space is visible
  - Mitigation using  $dz < 1$ .
- Oscillations in time initially visible, proper collision operator did help.

Best solution so far (fig. left, red line) still shows that proper pre-sheath acceleration region should be introduced – TBD.



# COUPLING TO BIT1

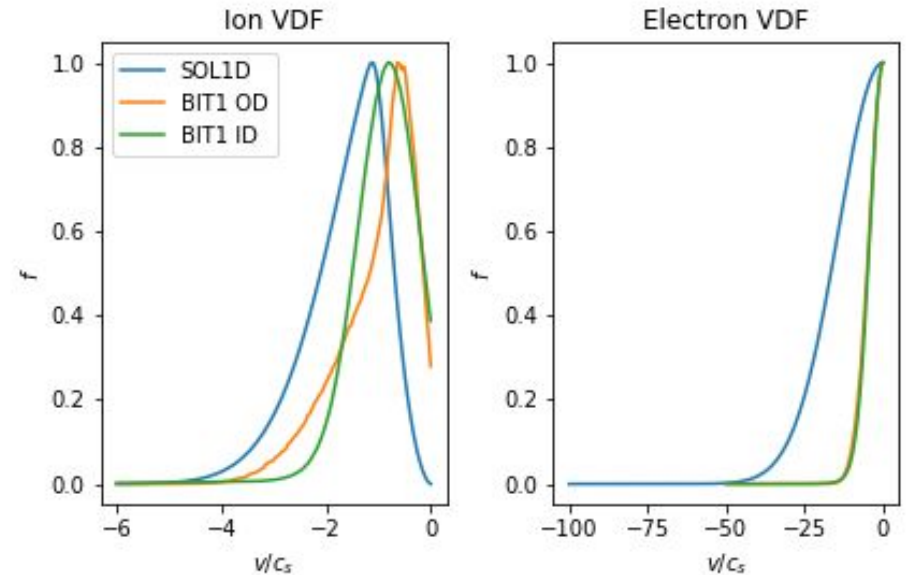
## DISTRIBUTION FUNCTION TRANSFER

BIT1 (D. Tskhakaya) produces distribution functions for velocity/energy.

SPICE2 so far used DFs from SOLID, new results with BIT1 are simulated = need of coupling.

Simple **conversion tool** was introduced for format conversion.

Fig. right: Comparison of SOLID injection VDF to BIT1 solution. BIT1 results – courtesy of D. Tskhakaya.





# COUPLING TO BIT1

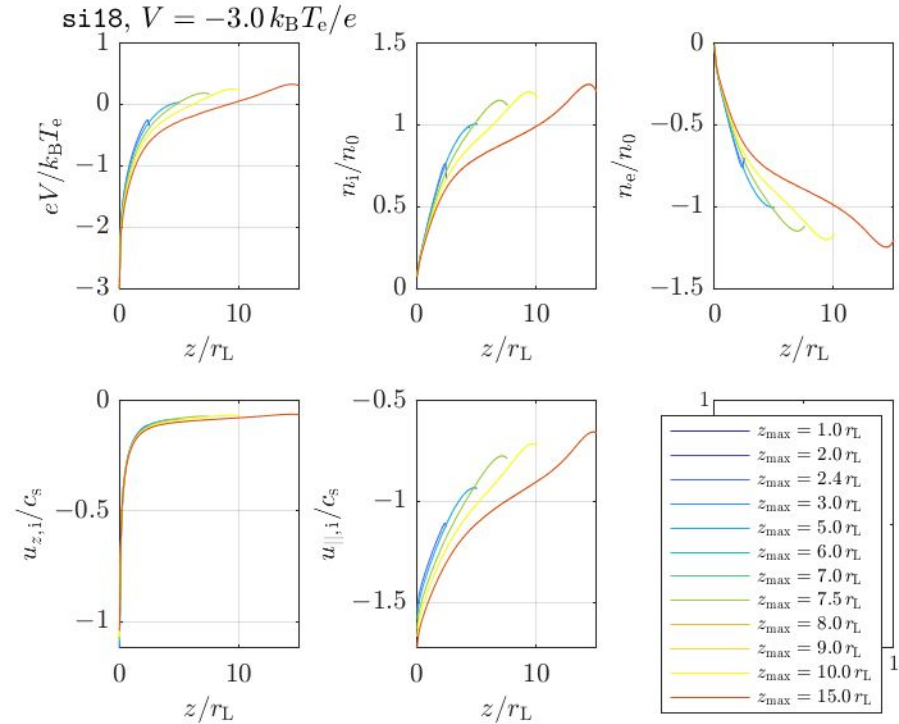
## DISTRIBUTION FUNCTION TRANSFER

Comparison with SOL1D DF for identical Ti/Te ratio was performed.

Standard exercise “find proper injection location” to suppress artificial injection sheath.

**Fig. right (stage 1): Results using SOL1D injection VDF.**

Fig. right (stage 2): Results using BIT1 OD injection VDF.



# COUPLING TO BIT1

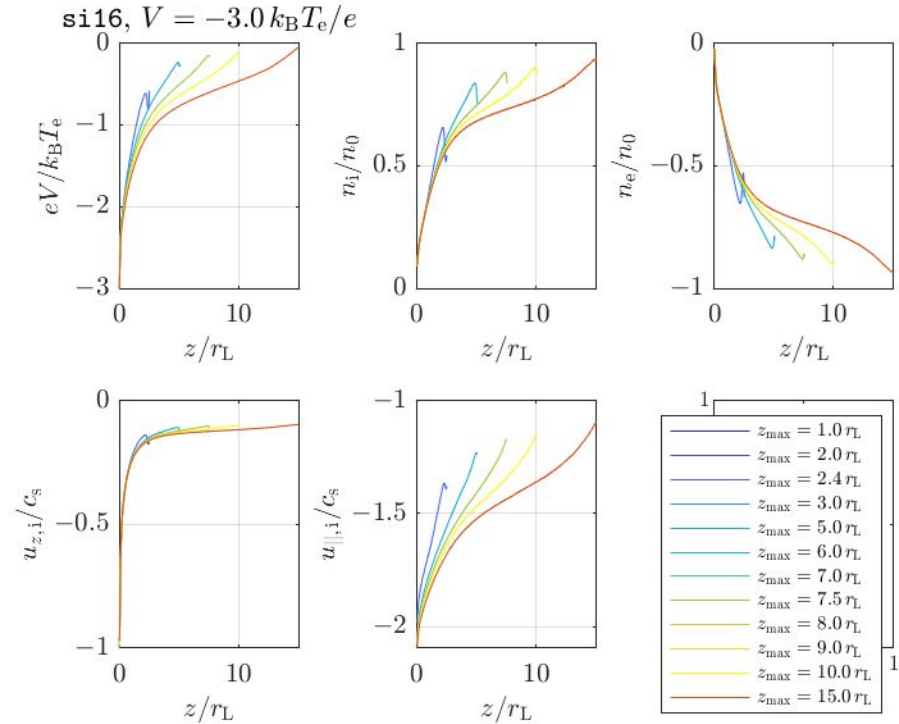
## DISTRIBUTION FUNCTION TRANSFER

Comparison with SOL1D DF for identical  $T_i/T_e$  ratio was performed.

Standard exercise “find proper injection location” to suppress artificial injection sheath.

Fig. right (stage 1): Results using SOL1D injection VDF.

**Fig. right (stage 2): Results using BIT1 OD injection VDF.**



## SUMMARY pt. 2

- SPICE2 contains nonuniform density injection schema  
Applicable especially for toroidal injection
- Double-bounded injection was also introduced  
For proper functionality, pre-sheath acceleration region should be introduced.
- BIT1/SPICE injection coupling was introduced and first comparison was provided.
- **Handling of neutrals?**