



New developments in IMAS and Muscle3 for integrated modelling and digital twins

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IGNITIONCOMPUTING

About Us

Building the software powering science

- Since 2020, in Eindhoven, NL
- Extensive track record:
 - Simulation software
 - Numerical methods
 - Machine Learning
 - High Performance Computing
 - Visualization
 - Performance optimization
- Team of 10 with MSc/PhD in Fusion, Applied Physics, CS or Mathematics



IMAS

- Standardized data ontology
- In-memory data structures
- File formats
- Software tools
- Physics applications & interoperability

★ core_profiles

Core plasma profiles

- Maximum occurrences (MDS+ backend only): 15

! **New in version 3.1.0:** lifecycle status active

! **Changed in version 4.2.0.**

> **ids_properties**

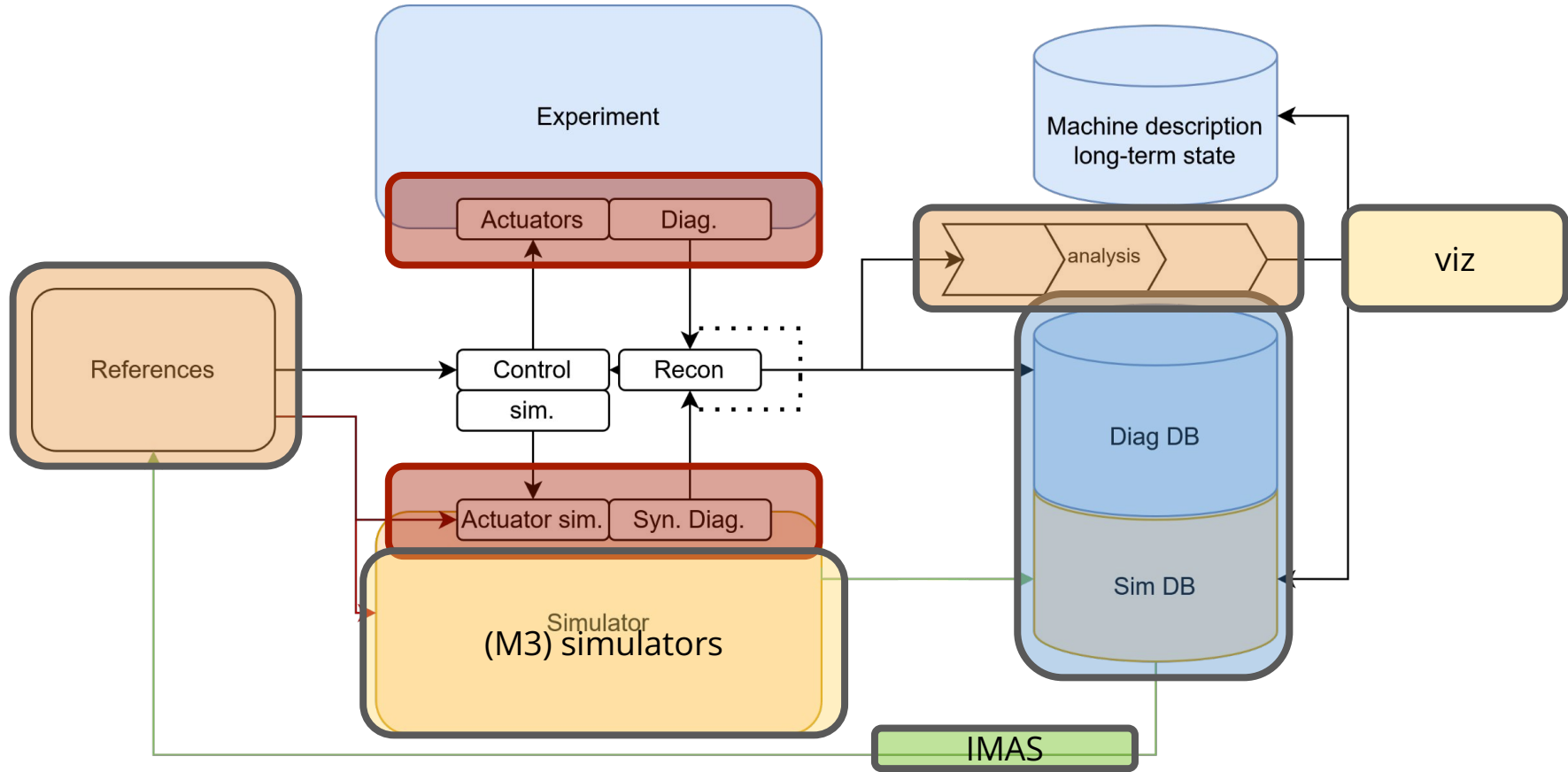
> **profiles_1d(itime)** {dynamic}

Core plasma radial profiles for various time slices

> **profiles_2d(itime)** {dynamic}

Core plasma quantities in a poloidal cross section, for various [...]

What's in a digital twin



Waveform Editor

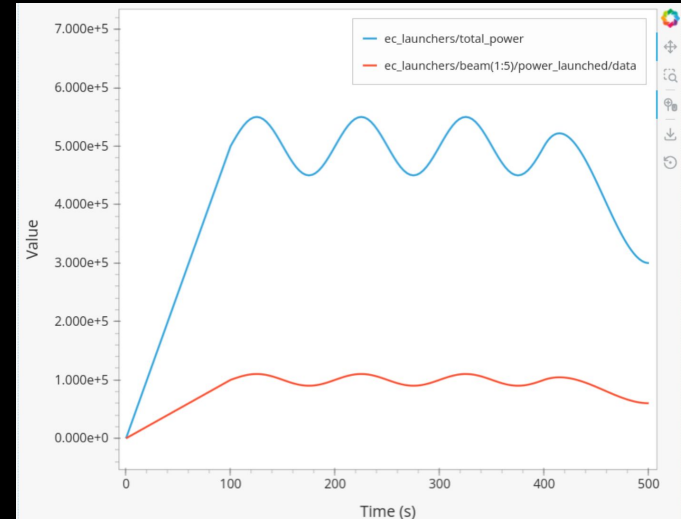
- YAML format for specifying waveforms
 - Machine & human-readable descriptions
 - e.g. **linear**, **piecewise**, **repeat**, **sine**
 - Easy to share, alter, review
 - LLM compatible
- With expressions
 - **waveform1 = waveform2 + 10 * waveform3**
- Output IMAS variables
 - Export to PCSSP, M3 actor, more

ec_launchers:

ec_launchers/total_power:

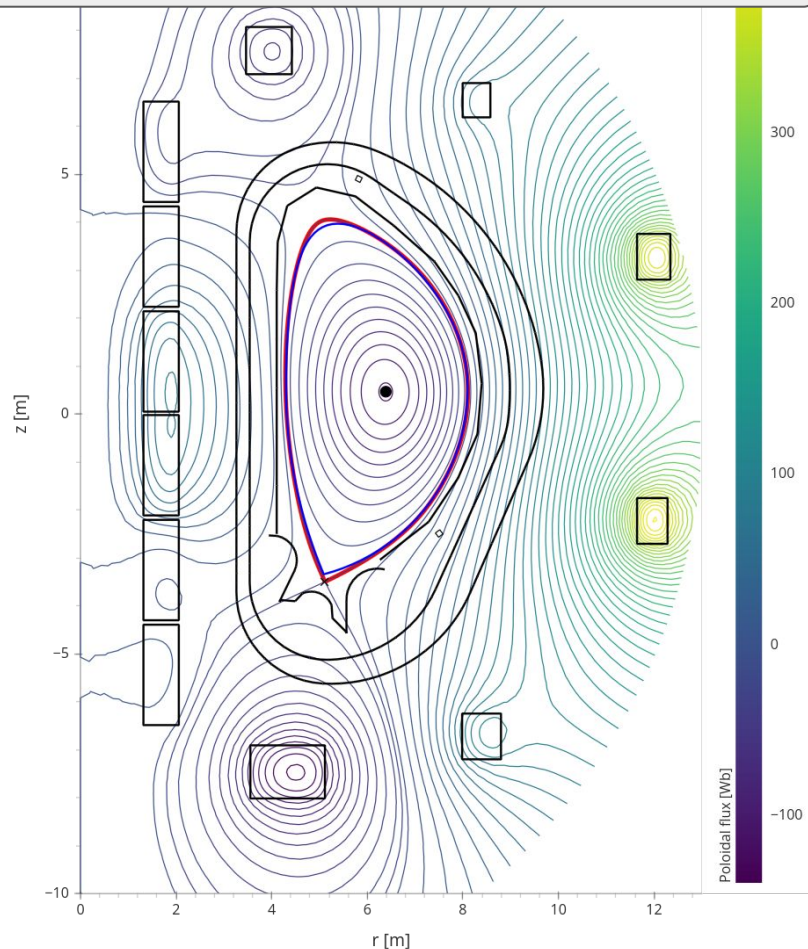
- { type: **linear**, duration: **100** }
- { type: **sine**, base: **5e+5**, amplitude: **5e4**, frequency: **0.01**, duration: **300** }
- { type: **smooth** to: **3e+5**, duration: **100** }

ec_launchers/beam(1:5)/power_launched/data: |
'ec_launchers/total_power' / 5



Plasma Shape Editor

- Define shape targets, test equilibrium
- Uses [NICE](#) FBE code
 - Desired coil currents $\rightarrow$ plasma shape
 - Desired plasma shape $\rightarrow$ coil currents
- Link to waveform editor
- Machine-agnostic
 - Demonstrate on WEST



(IMAS?) descriptions of actuators

- (Control system) commands to actuators form a 'natural' interface
 - Could send to simulator instead
- Available actuators and configuration varies per machine
 - Limits application of simulators with controllers between machines
- Actuator simulators to translate commands into physics IDS
 - Example: ECRH steering and power commands -> ec_launchers IDS (t)

(IMAS?) descriptions of diagnostics

- Several open diagnostics frameworks!
 - <https://github.com/ToFuProject/tofu>
 - <https://github.com/ProjectTorreyPines/FusionSyntheticDiagnostics.jl>
 - <https://github.com/hoppe93/SOFT2>
 - <https://tokalab.github.io/SynDiag/Overview/>
 - ...
- How to also describe which diagnostics exist, LoS etc?
 - Example: https://imas-data-dictionary.readthedocs.io/en/latest/generated/ids/bolometer.html#bolometer-camera-channel-line_of_sight
 - Link to machine description databases
 - Configure diagnostics framework, instead of program it?
- Build M3 actors based on this, and link to simulators

IMAS interfaces

- Sometimes too many options to store data in IMAS
- Encode some necessary conditions for code/data interoperability
 - IDS variable requiredness, optionality
 - Use IMAS-validator for stricter checks
 - Whole interface far too complex. Use LLM to read interface code instead?
- Check incompatibility upfront
 - In M3 workflow documentation pages
 - Checked reads
- Data reduction before sending

```
schema_version: 0.0.1
💡
doi_url: https://doi.org/10.5072/zenodo.511119

dd_version_range: [3.42.2, 4.0.0]

paths:
- equilibrium/ids_properties/version_put/data_dictionary
- equilibrium/time_slice/boundary/outline
```

IMAS M3 Operating Limits & Conditions checking

```
@validator("pf_active")
def validate_force_limits_pf(ids):
    """Validate forces in poloidal field coils are within operational limits"""
    for coil in ids.coil:
        for key in pf_force_limits.keys():
            if key in coil.name:
                if coil.force_vertical.data.value:
                    assert coil.force_vertical.data.value < pf_force_limits[key][0]
                    assert coil.force_vertical.data.value > pf_force_limits[key][1]
```

- **halt_on_error:** (bool) Whether or not the simulation should be forcibly stopped when a validation test fails. Defaults to False.
- **extra_rule_dirs:** (str) The rule directories in which to look for IMAS-Validator rulesets. If inserting multiple, split them with a ';'. Defaults to "".
- **rulesets:** (str) The names of rulesets to run in the found rule directories. If inserting multiple, split them with a ';'. Defaults to 'PDS-OLC'.
- **apply-generic:** (bool) Whether or not to apply the generic bundled validation tests. Defaults to True.

IMAS M3 Operating Limits & Conditions checking

```
Summary Report :
Tested URI : imas:hdf5?path=ids-validator-course/bad
Number of tests carried out : 16
Number of successful tests : 14
Number of failed tests : 2

PASSED IDSs:

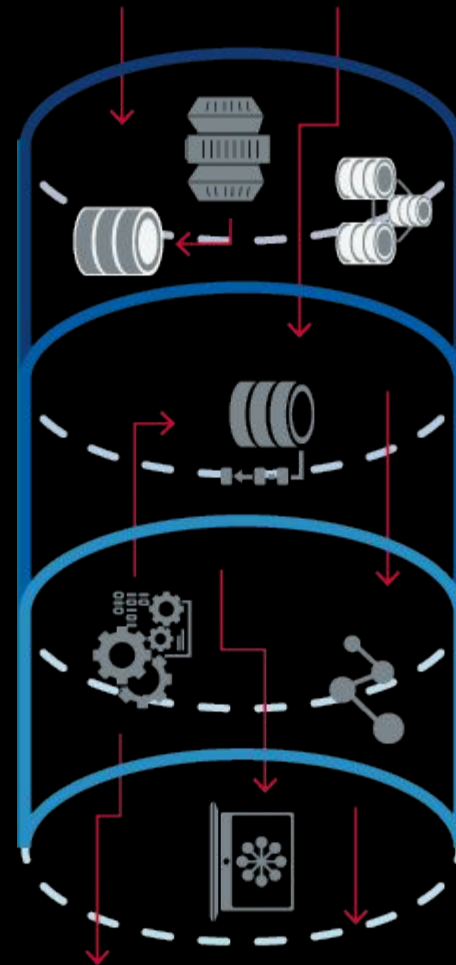
FAILED IDSs:
- IDS core_profiles occurrence 0
    RULE: generic/generic.py:validate_increasing_time
    MESSAGE:
        TRACEBACK: FrameSummary file /work/imas/opt/EasyBuild/software/IDS-Validator/0.4.0-intel-2
023b/lib/python3.11/site-packages/ids_validator/assets/rulesets/generic/generic.py, line 43 in validate_in
creasing_time
        NODES COUNT: 1
        NODES: ['time']

- IDS waves occurrence 0
    RULE: generic/generic.py:validate_increasing_time
    MESSAGE:
        TRACEBACK: FrameSummary file /work/imas/opt/EasyBuild/software/IDS-Validator/0.4.0-intel-2
023b/lib/python3.11/site-packages/ids_validator/assets/rulesets/generic/generic.py, line 43 in validate_in
creasing_time
        NODES COUNT: 1
        NODES: ['time']
```



Analysis pipelines

- Streaming data during pulses
 - Mapped to IMAS data standard
 - Stream data frames with Kafka
- Near-live processing of physics data
 - Run interpretive simulations in tandem with experiments
- Browser-based visualisation
 - Standard & custom plots
 - Compatible with PDS

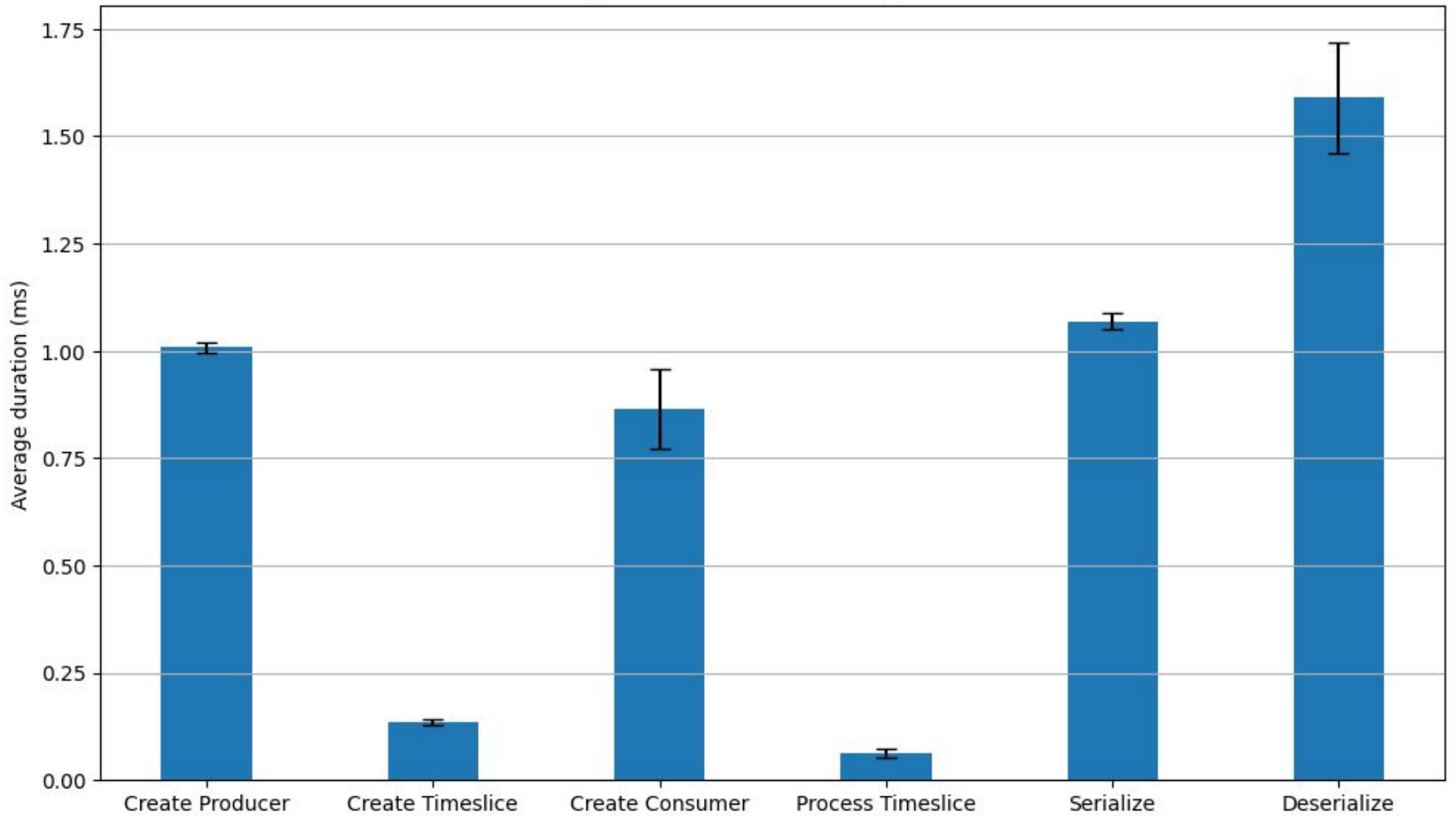


IMAS-Streams

- Much data in an IMAS time slice is static
- Serialize/deserialize unnecessarily repeats
- Split static data and dynamic data
- Only send data arrays for each time slice
- Use case: streaming IMAS data for in-pulse data processing at ITER
- Limitation: array sizes fixed!



Average duration for Streaming Processes



IMAS-ITER-Mapping

Basic mapping

Complex stuff in later
steps of pipeline

```
description: Example mapping file for the README
data_dictionary_version: 4.0.0
machine_description_uri: iter_md_magnetics_150100_5.nc
target_ids: magnetics
signals:
  flux_loop:
    - name: 55.AD.00-MSA-1001
      flux/data: AAA-BBBB-CCCC-DDD-EEEE:FF1001-XI [Wb]
      voltage/data: AAA-BBBB-CCCC-DDD-EEEE:FF1001-XP [V]
    - name: 55.AD.00-MSA-1002
      flux/data: AAA-BBBB-CCCC-DDD-EEEE:FF1101-XI [Wb]
      voltage/data: AAA-BBBB-CCCC-DDD-EEEE:FF1101-XP [V]
```

SimDB

- Metadata, storage, search for IMAS data
- Validation
- Provenance
- simdb.iter.org

Server	https://simdb.iter.org/scenarios/api
Simulation	4dd781b67e9311ee9a0e0000045bfe80
Alias	koechlf/edge2d/iter/53298/sep2923/seq-3
Upload Info	Florian.Koechl@iter.org, Thu, 21 Aug 2025 07:50:27 GMT

Metadata

Key	Value
code name	jintrac-imas
ids	[core_profiles, core_sources, core_transport, dataset_description, edge_profiles, edge_sources, edge_transport, equilibrium, summary]
description	5 MA 5.3 T H PEC=40MW, ~0.5*nGW L-mode, Gamma_H = 1.75e22/s, Gamma_W_wall = 1e18/s, H+trace D+W, COCONUT, NCLASS+TGLF-SAT2, err. Palf (few MW)
status	passed
creation date	No data available.

Sel... ▼

ADD ROW

REMOVE LAST ROW

RESET

IMAS NetCDF file format

- Tensorized, annotated, standardized
 - S3-compatible
 - Conventions here: <https://imas-python.readthedocs.io/en/stable/netcdf/conventions.html#imas-conventions-for-the-netcdf-data-format>
- Write, read with IMAS-Python, xarray, fsspec
 - No IMAS-Core writing, slice writing support yet
- (WIP) read natively (without IMAS-Core!) from Fortran, C++, MATLAB

```
import xarray
ds: Dataset = xarray.load_dataset(filename_or_obj="iter_disruption_113112_1.nc", group="equilibrium/0")
```

✓ 1.1s

+ Code

```
ds["time_slice.profiles_2d.psi"]
```

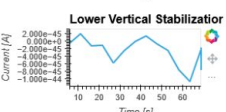
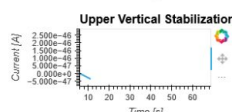
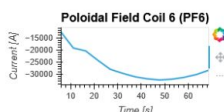
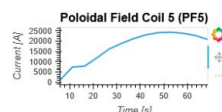
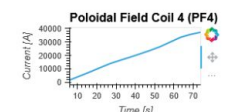
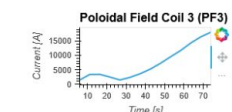
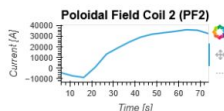
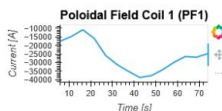
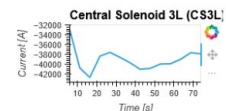
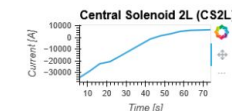
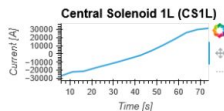
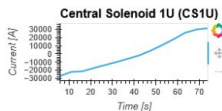
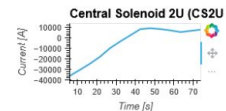
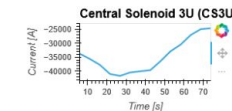
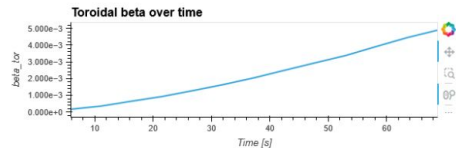
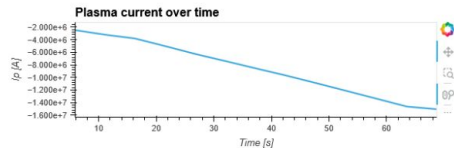
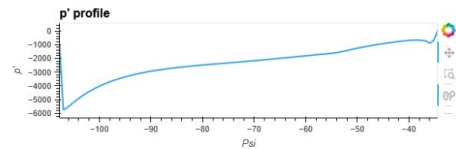
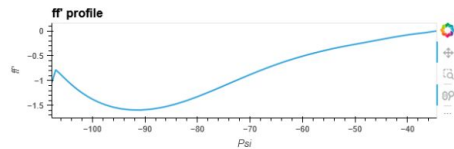
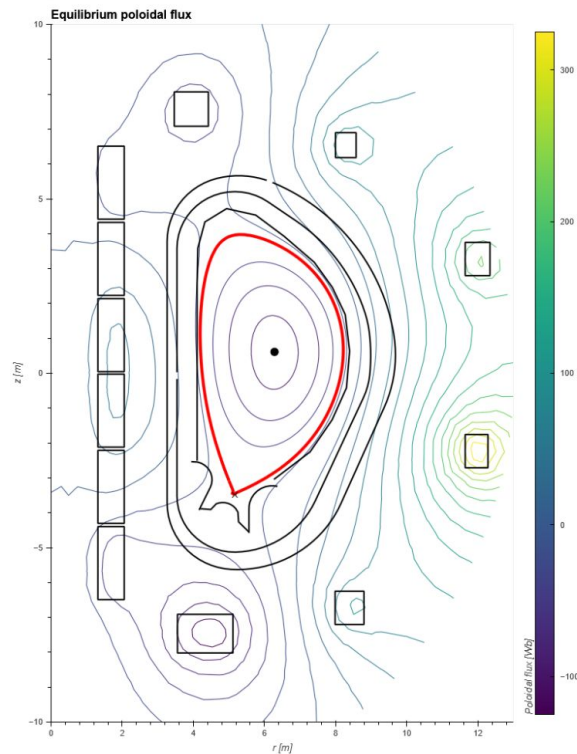
✓ 0.0s

IMAS M3 Visualization actor

Stop Server Received $t = 6.87176e+01$

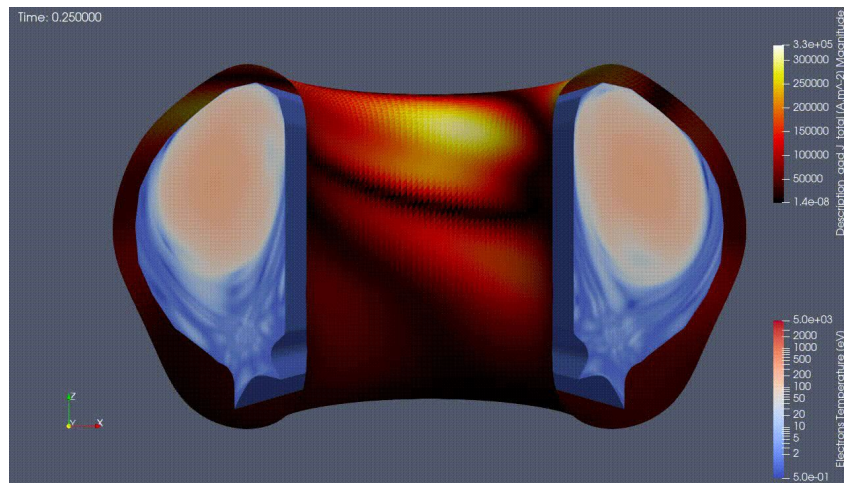
Live View $t = 7.39176e+01$ s

Contour levels: 20



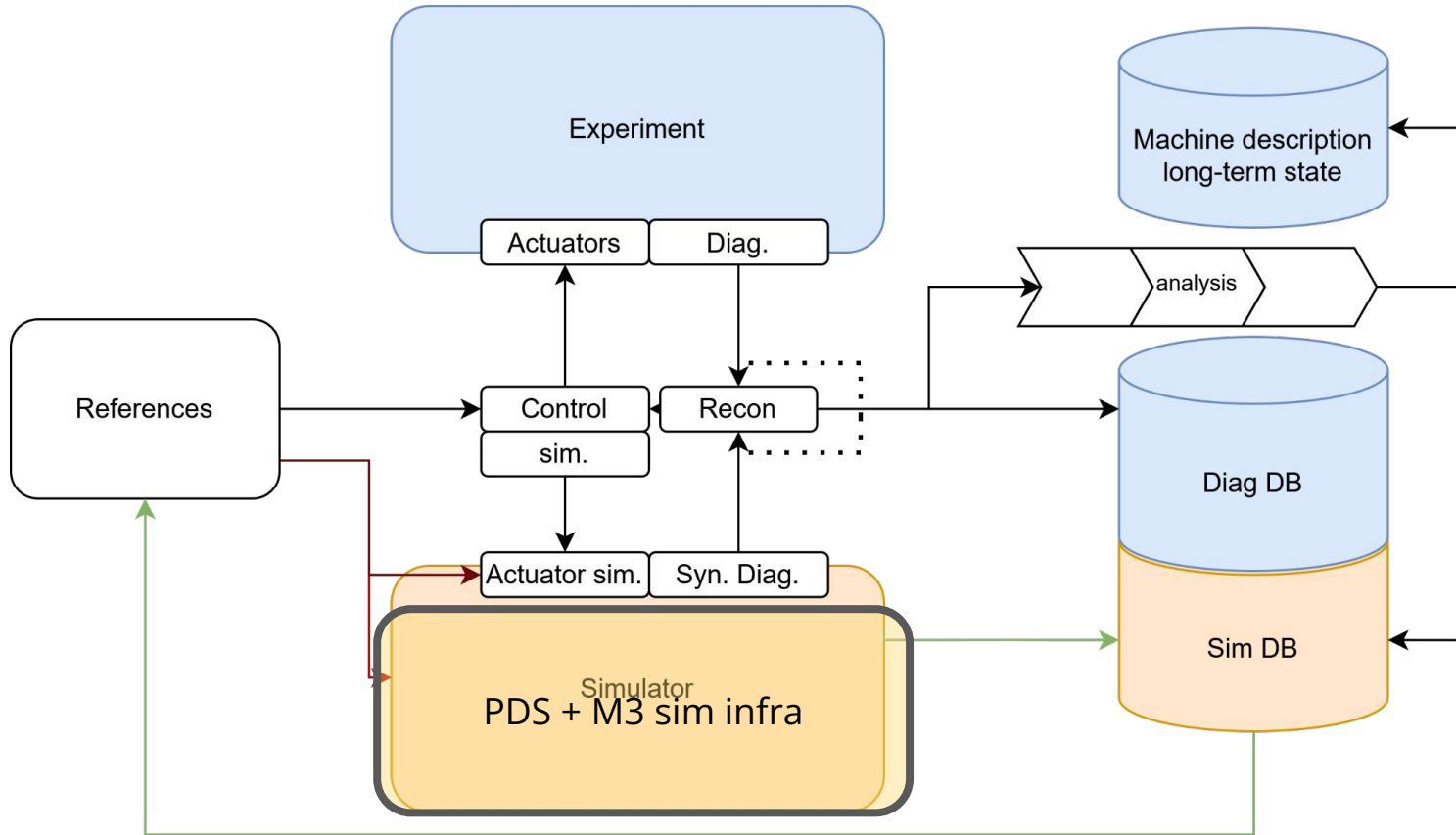
IMAS-ParaView

- ParaView plugins for visualizing various IMAS data
 - Generalized Grid Descriptions (GGDs)
 - 1D/2D Profiles
 - Many other Machine Description structures
 - Camera sightlines
- CLI tool available
 - GGD → VTK
 - VTK → GGD



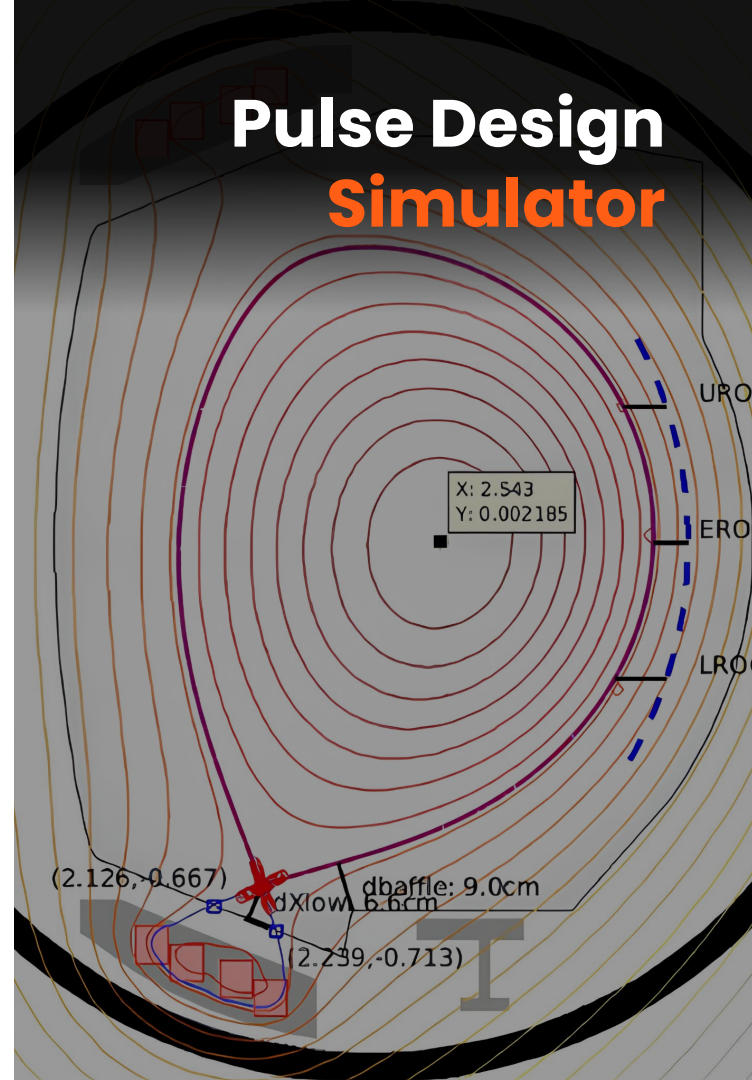
Current in vacuum vessel wall, and electron temperature of a JOREK simulation visualized with IMAS-ParaView

Simulators



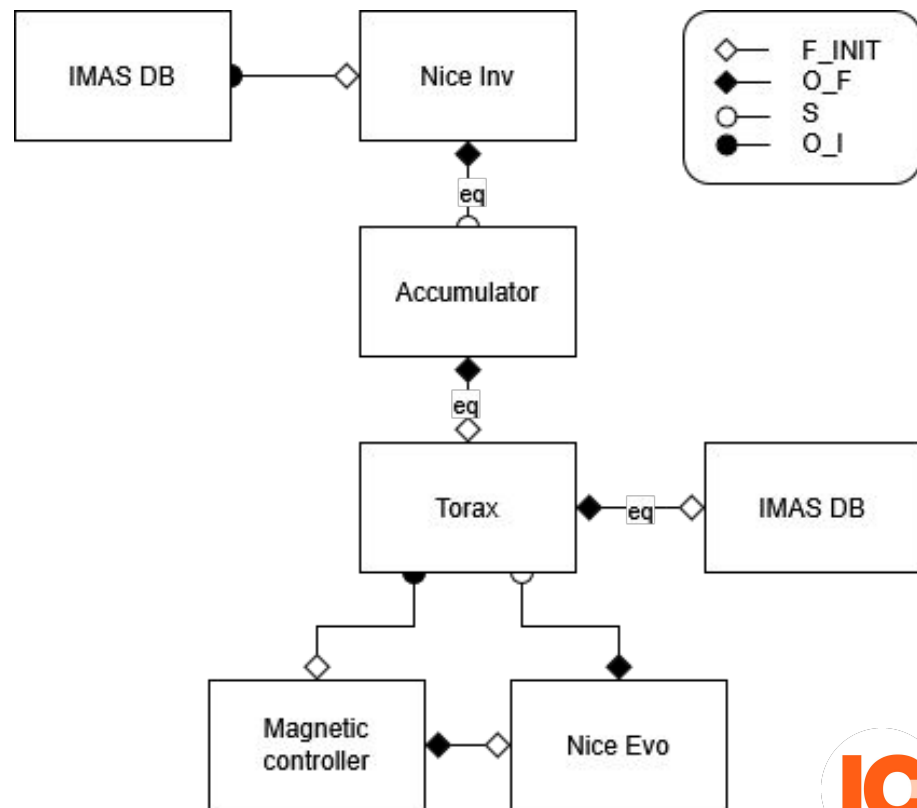
Simulator development

- Combine fast, simple **physics simulators** with **control system**
- Send IMAS data structures between codes
- Design pulse schedule & control targets
- Transport ([METIS](#) or [TORAX](#))
- Forward & inverse 2D equilibrium ([NICE](#))
- ITER control system simulator integration



Pulse Design Simulator example workflow

- Inverse + Forward simulation
 - Freeboundary
- Separate models, running individually as actors
 - Sending IMAS messages
- Several configurations relevant



Distributed, multiscale simulation



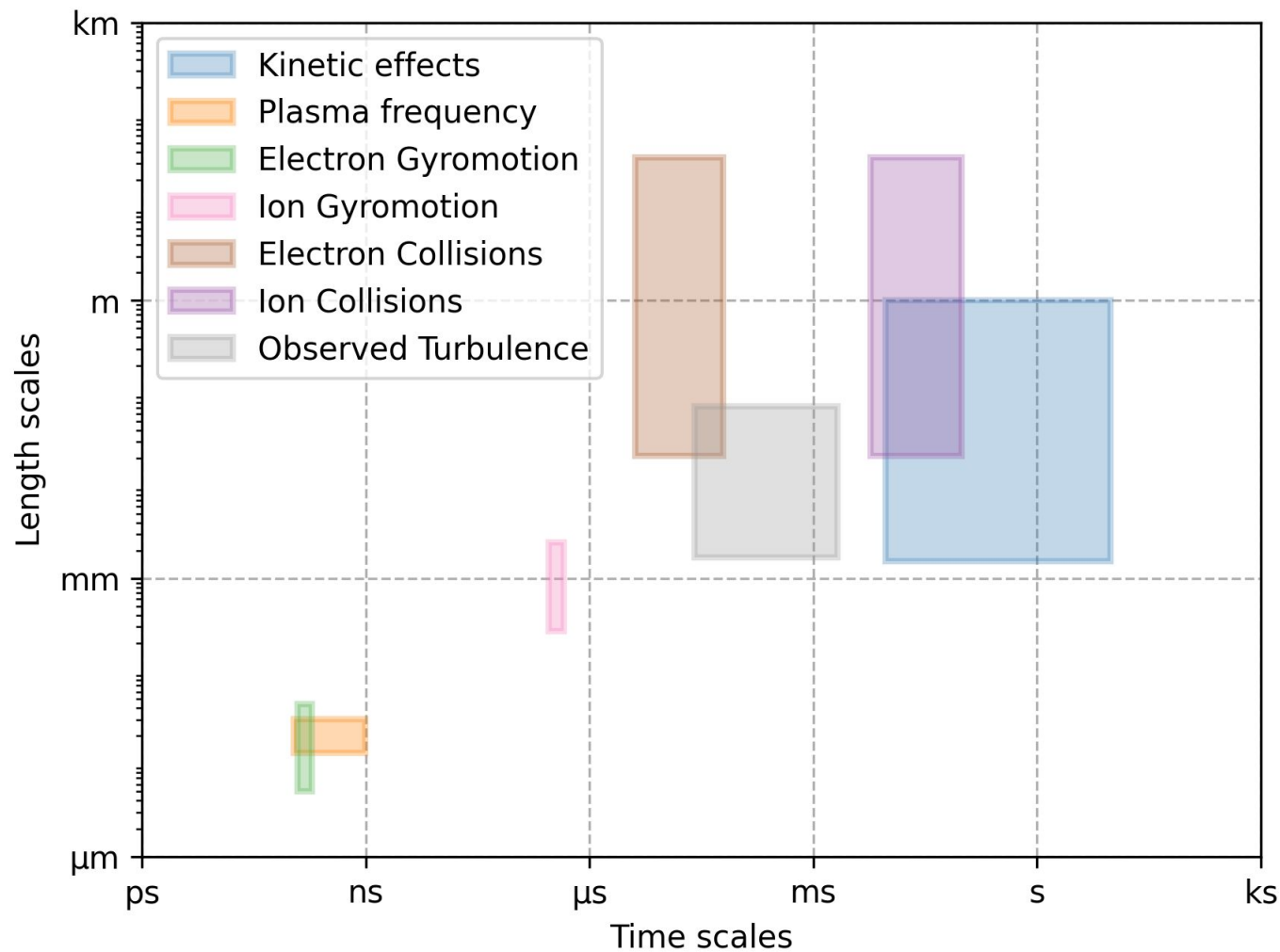
- Communication library for heterogeneous programs
 - C++, Fortran, C, Python, Matlab/Simulink
 - MPI compatible
- Communication scheme for multiscale modelling
 - Local micro-models (ex: turbulent transport) & more
 - Timescale bridges
- Distributed, globally consistent checkpointing

```
components:
  macro: my.macro_model
  meso:
    ports:
      f_init: boundary_in
      o_i: state_out
      s: state_in
      o_f: boundary_out
    implementation: my.meso_model
    multiplicity: 5
  micro:
    implementation: my.micro_model
    multiplicity: [5, 10]
```

Multiscale

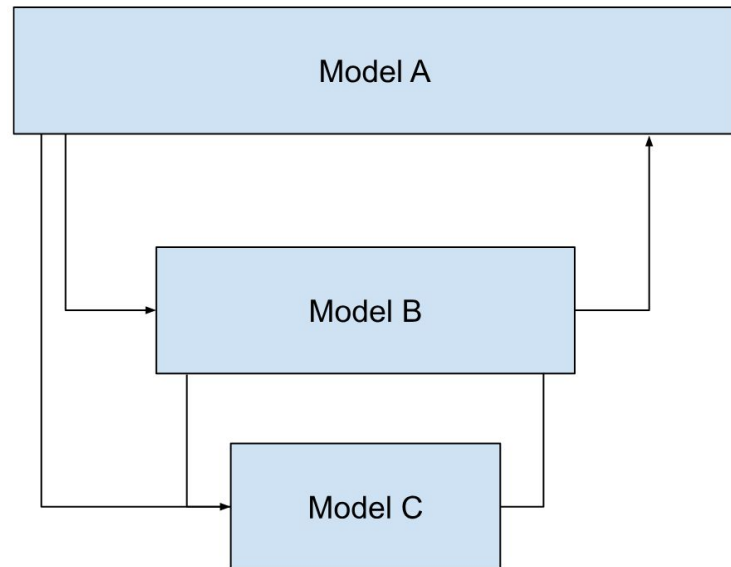
Physical process
scales (kinetics
only, simplified)

Avoid computing
'too much'; use
appropriate
resolution in time
and space



MUSCLE3 developments

- Subworkflows
 - Treat an entire workflow like a model
- Timelines
 - Annotate ports with a timeline
 - Repeat messages as needed
 - Avoid pass-through f_init messages
- General time bridge



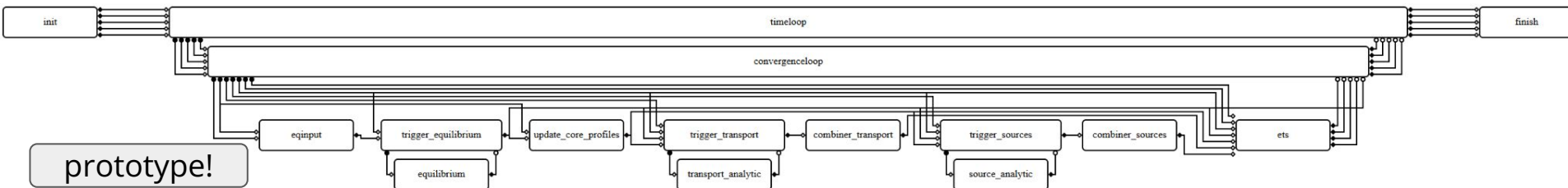
MUSCLE3 developments

- Optional components
 - Write connections as usual
 - Only start if implementation defined
- Pytest helpers
- Dynamic ports
 - Useful for generic components



MUSCLE3 developments

- Workflow documentation
 - Rules-based workflow graph rendering
- Model discovery
 - Python plugin mechanism
 - YMMSL_PATH autodiscovery
 - Useful with env modules



MUSCLE3 dashboard

m3dash | MUSCLE3 runs



81 runs; last scan 4s ago took 3.0s

Rescan now

Run	Status	Updated	Job/PID	Run directory
run-2026-05-18-110808-test waveform editor	finished	28d		/home/ITER/sanderm/gitrepos/pds/run/tmp/m3_runs/run-2026-05-18-110808-test_waveform_editor
run-2026-05-18-110742-test visualization actor	finished	28d		/home/ITER/sanderm/gitrepos/pds/run/tmp/m3_runs/run-2026-05-18-110742-test_visualization_actor
run-2026-05-18-110655-test torax actor	finished	28d		/home/ITER/sanderm/gitrepos/pds/run/tmp/m3_runs/run-2026-05-18-110655-test_torax_actor
run-2026-05-18-110648-test sink source actor	finished	28d		/home/ITER/sanderm/gitrepos/pds/run/tmp/m3_runs/run-2026-05-18-110648-test_sink_source_actor
run-2026-05-18-110640-test olc actor	finished	28d		/home/ITER/sanderm/gitrepos/pds/run/tmp/m3_runs/run-2026-05-18-110640-test_olc_actor
run-2026-05-18-110508-test nice actor	finished	28d		/home/ITER/sanderm/gitrepos/pds/run/tmp/m3_runs/run-2026-05-18-110508-test_nice_actor
run-2026-05-18-110334-test metis actor	finished	28d		/home/ITER/sanderm/gitrepos/pds/run/tmp/m3_runs/run-2026-05-18-110334-test_medis_actor
run-2026-05-18-110327-test accumulator actor	finished	28d		/home/ITER/sanderm/gitrepos/pds/run/tmp/m3_runs/run-2026-05-18-110327-test_accumulator_actor
run-2026-05-18-110229-test cheese actor	unknown	28d		/home/ITER/sanderm/gitrepos/pds/run/tmp/m3_runs/run-2026-05-18-110229-test_cheese_actor
run-2026-05-18-110214-test accumulator actor	finished	28d		/home/ITER/sanderm/gitrepos/pds/run/tmp/m3_runs/run-2026-05-18-110214-test_accumulator_actor

Run on HPC system, access through port forward or ssh (exec) bridge



MUSCLE3 dashboard

Component status

Proxy to analysis pages (http)

Crash analysis

Log viewing

Diagram to be included

What would you like to see?

MUSCLE3 Dashboard | 0.1.dev94 | Run folder: run-2026-05-18-110808-test_waveform_editor

Overview

- Simulation status: The simulation finished without error.
- Last log update: 2026-05-18 11:08:22
- Components: Found 3 components in simulation

Component status

name	status	exit_code
source	Finished	0
waveform_editor	Finished	0
sink	Finished	0

All log messages

component DEBUG INFO WARNING

Log files

Muscle manager logs Component logs

```
muscle_manager 2026-05-18 11:08:22,460 INFO libmuscle.manager.instance_manager: The simulation finished without error.
```

Logs are truncated at 1000 lines. Full logs found at [/home/ITER/sanderm/gitrepos/pds/run/tmp/m3_runs/run-2026-05-18-110808-test_waveform_editor/muscle3_manager.log](#)

Crash analysis

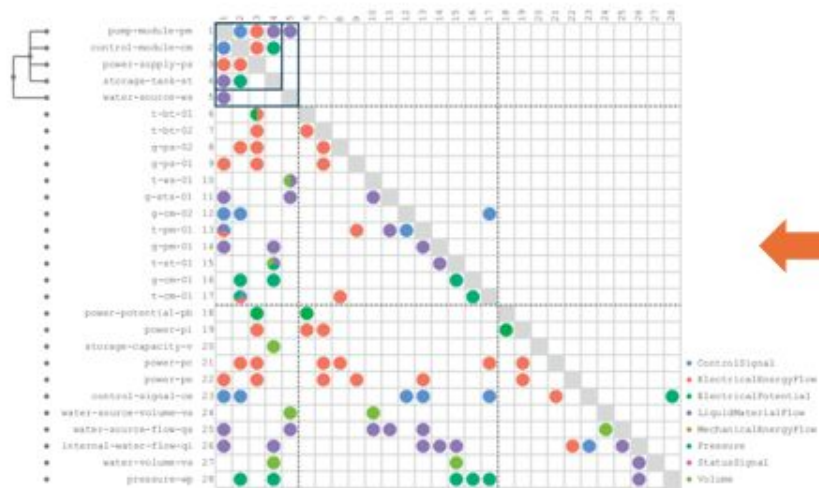
No crash detected



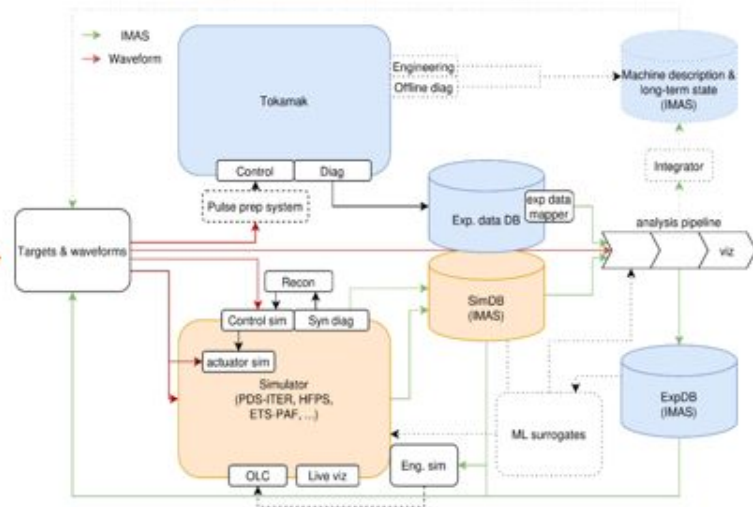
Systems Engineering for Physics Intensive Systems

The goal: Structured development of multi-physics simulations for early system-level requirement verification

Systems Engineering



Physics Modeling



Thanks to Olivier Hoenen, Simon McIntosh, Mireille Schneider, Francesca Poli, Paulo Abreu, Simon Pinches, Richard Pitts, ...
@ ITER

Thanks to IC team (on the right)



Maarten Sebrechts



Alan Cotino



Iris van der Werf



Mike Sanders



Yannick de Jong



Sebbe Blokhuisen



Alexandra Ioan

 Would you like to collaborate? Let's talk!

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