

PETSc Newton Trust-Region for Simulating Large-scale Engineered Subsurface Systems with PFLOTRAN



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6/5/2023, PETSc Annual Meeting 2023, Chicago, IL

PFLOTRAN

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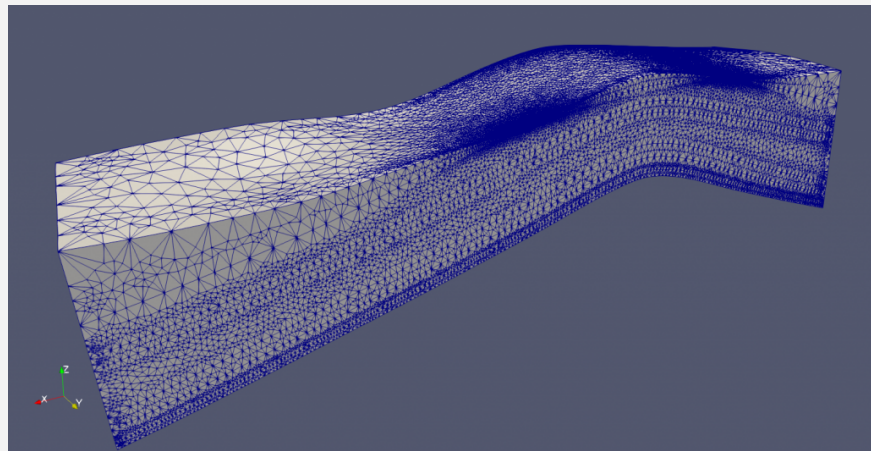
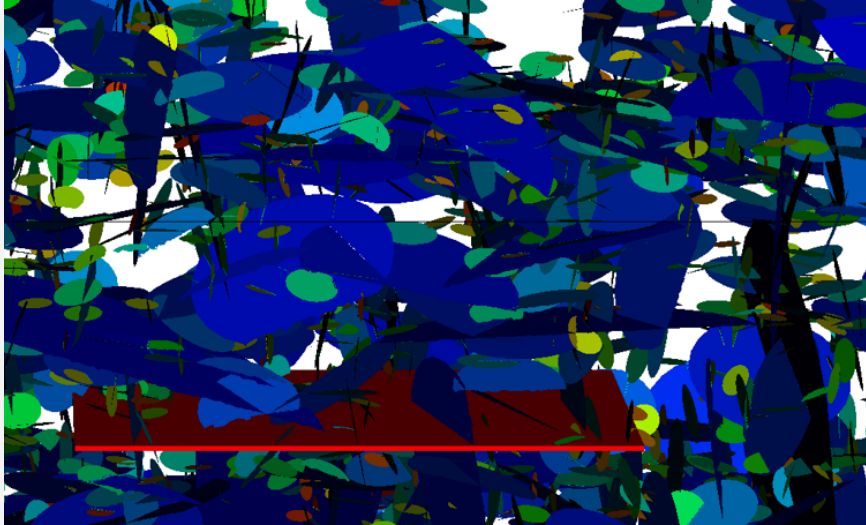


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Flow and Reactive Transport code in porous media

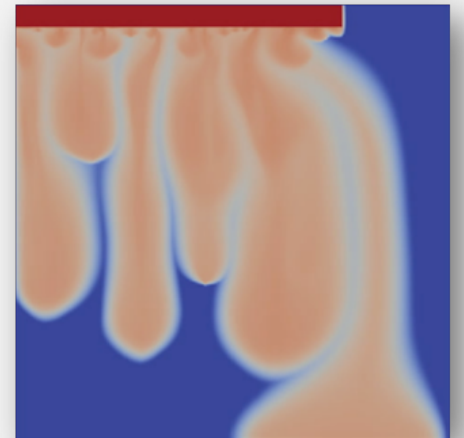
- Funded by US DOE
- Open-source and community-driven code
- Written in modern Fortran; employs PETSc framework
 - Runs in HPC, workstations, and laptops
 - Jaguar at ORNL with 262k cores on 3.3B unknowns
- Numerical methods
 - Backward Euler temporal discretization
 - Finite volume spatial discretization
- Flow: multiphase, CO₂ two-phase, black-oil, Richards, thermal-hydrologic models
- Transport: multicomponent aqueous complexation, sorption, precipitation dissolution
- METIS/PARMETIS libraries for unstructured grids
- HDF5 and ASCII files for input and output

Geologic Disposal Safety Assessment (GDSA) Framework

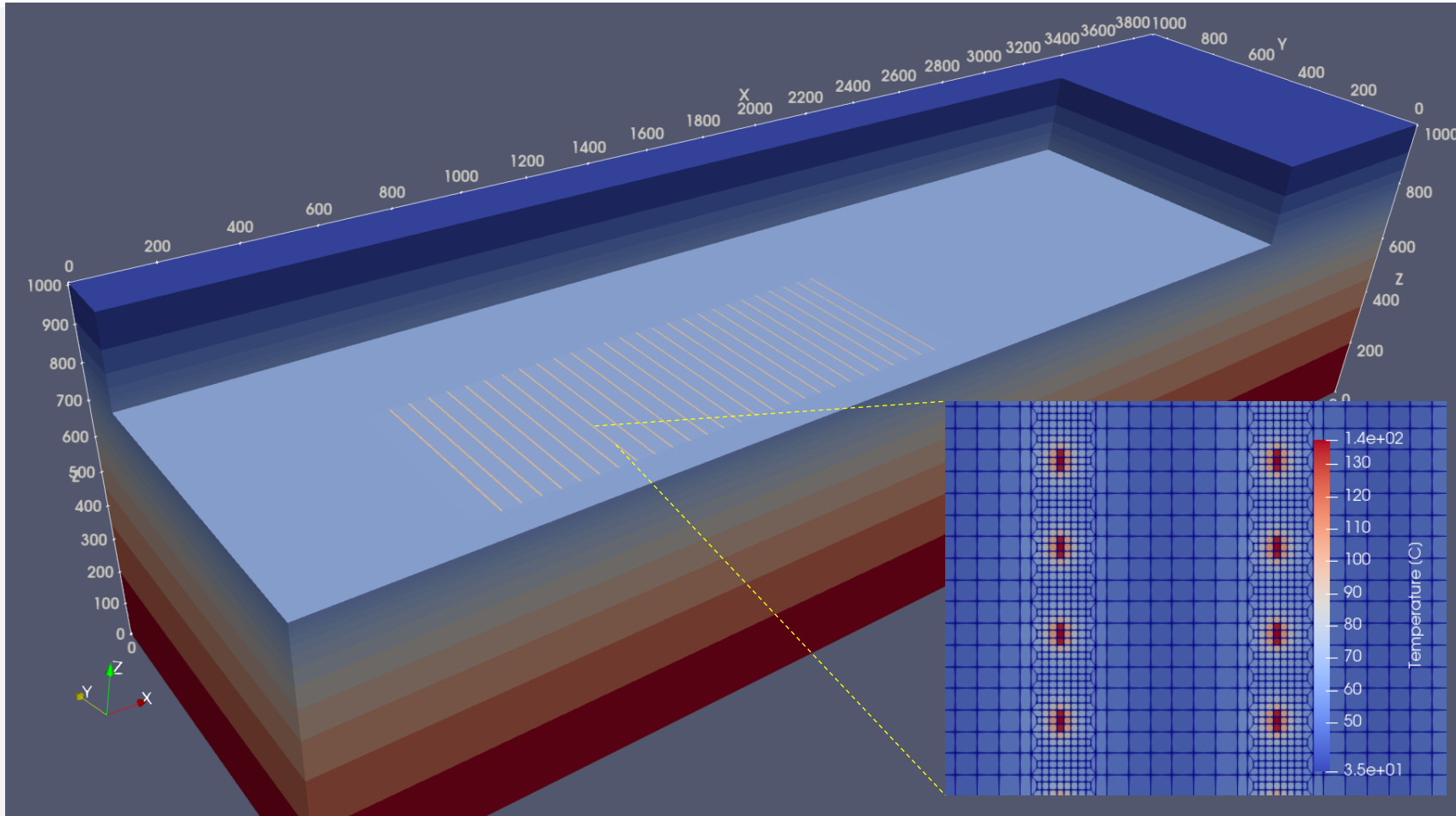


Background

- Purpose:
 - open-source software toolkit for probabilistic performance assessment of deep geologic repositories for nuclear waste
- Large-scale engineered system
 - Hypothetical Nuclear Waste repository in host rocks such as salt, argillite, crystalline, and alluvium.
 - Heat-generating high-level nuclear wastes
 - Possibly water-boiling peak temperature
 - 1 million-year simulations
 - Hypothetical domain spans in kilometers
 - Excavation, shaft access, ramp access, Engineered barriers (bentonite), Natural barriers, multiple soil types, and constitutive relations



Observation and Motivation

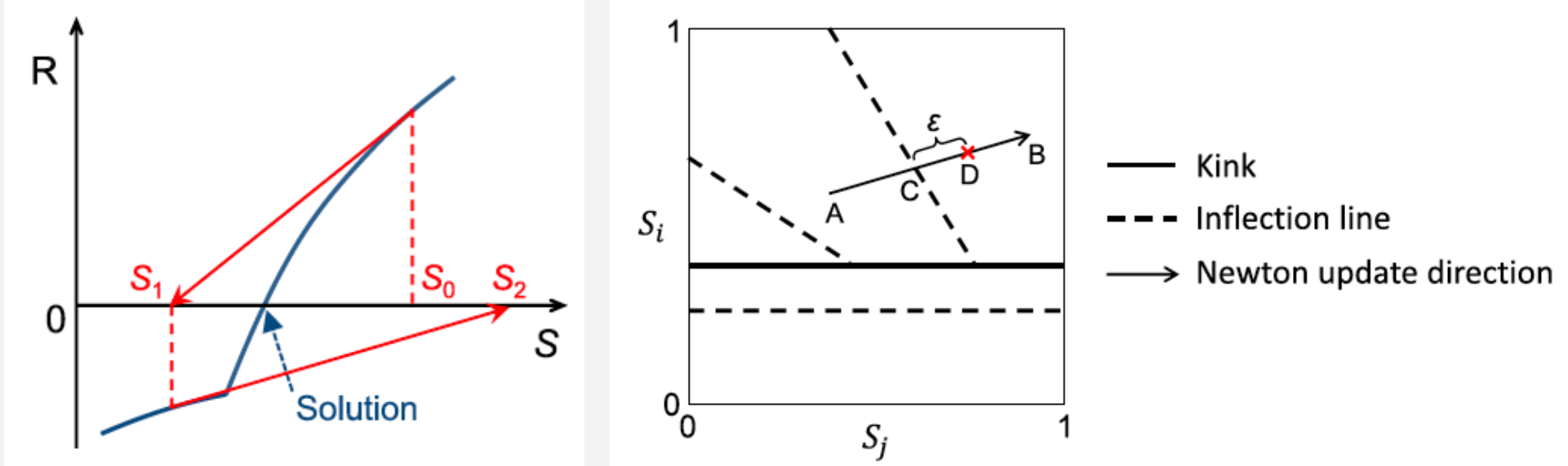


- GDSA Alluvial Unsaturated Zone (UZ) reference case
- 105k grid cells
- Miscible Nonisothermal
- Heat-generating spent nuclear waste packages
- Newton-Raphson (Newton)
- Simulations ended with non-convergence failure
- Higher peak temperature simulations failed sooner
- **Cannot handle discontinuous phase state changes**

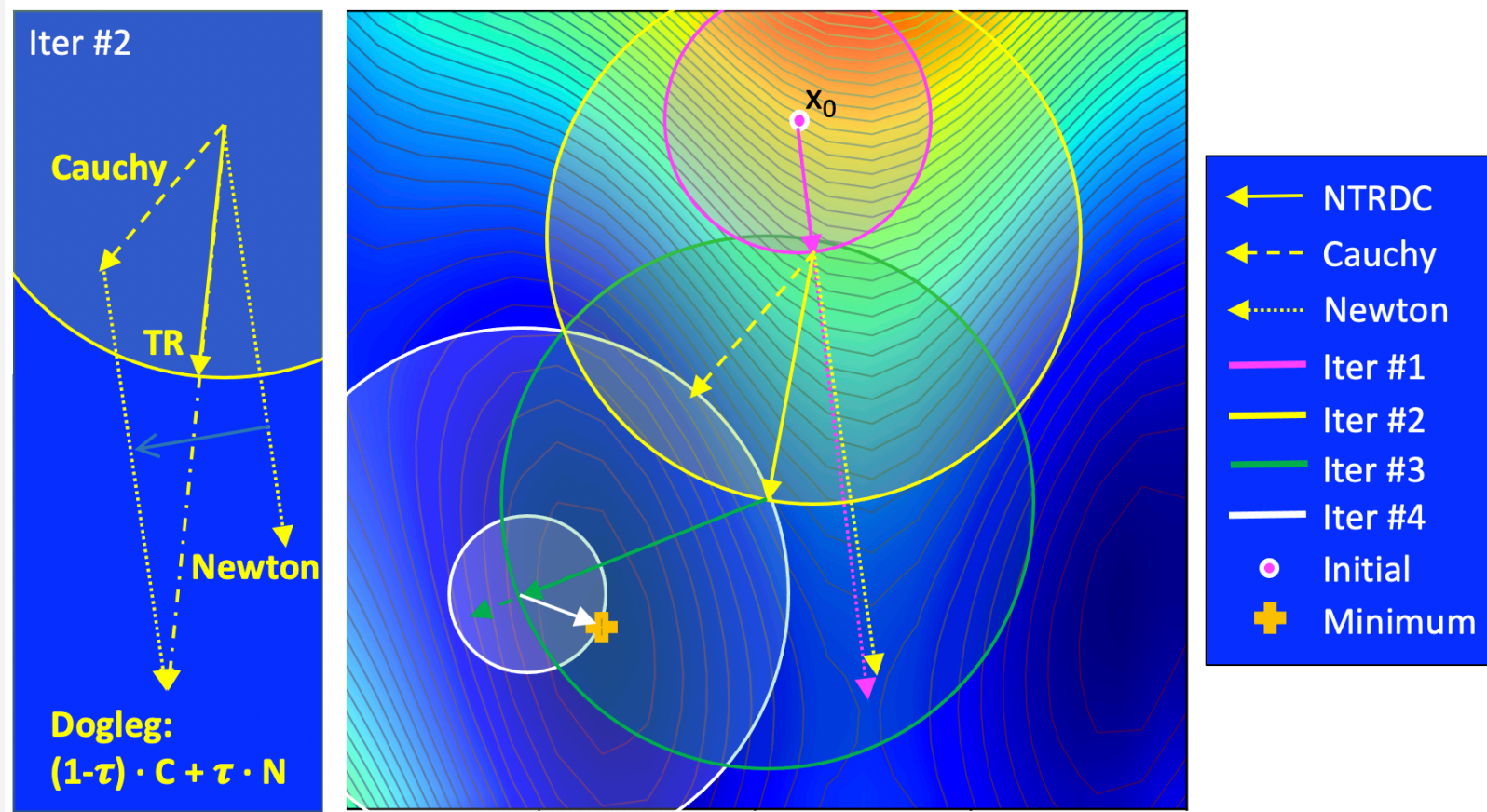
A Potential Solution

Literature Search

A successful numerical trust-region simulation by Li (2015) for specific capillary pressures with kinks and relative permeability functions in two-phase porous media model. Time step size 10 days (NT) vs 1M days (NTR)

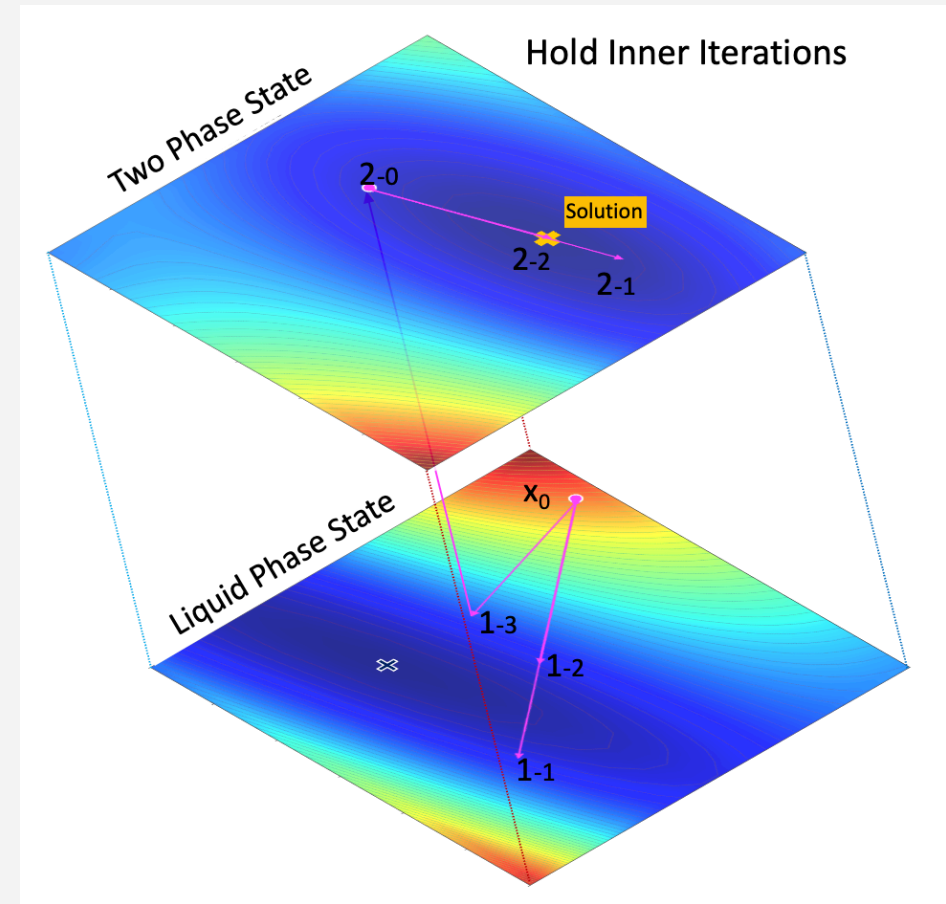
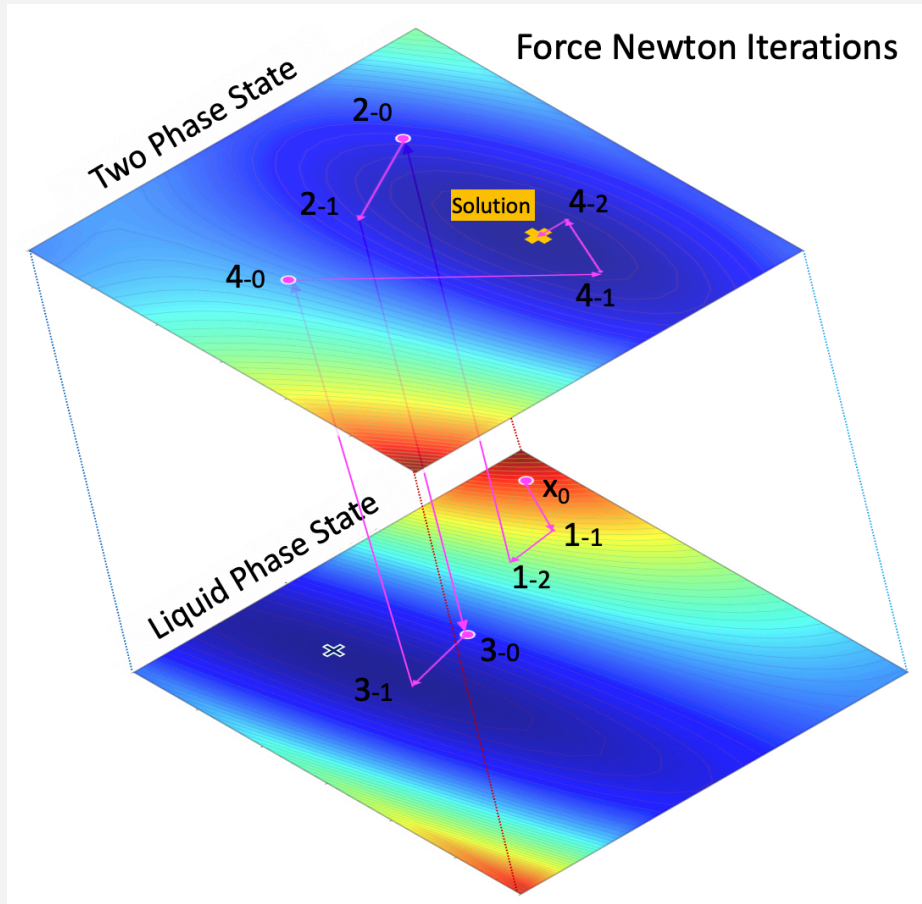


Newton trust-region dogleg Cauchy nonlinear solver



Red contour is high and blue contour is low representing residual space. x_0 is the initial guess and golden cross is the solution. Cauchy evaluates the solution in steepest descent direction.

Accommodating PVS in Advanced Nonlinear Solver

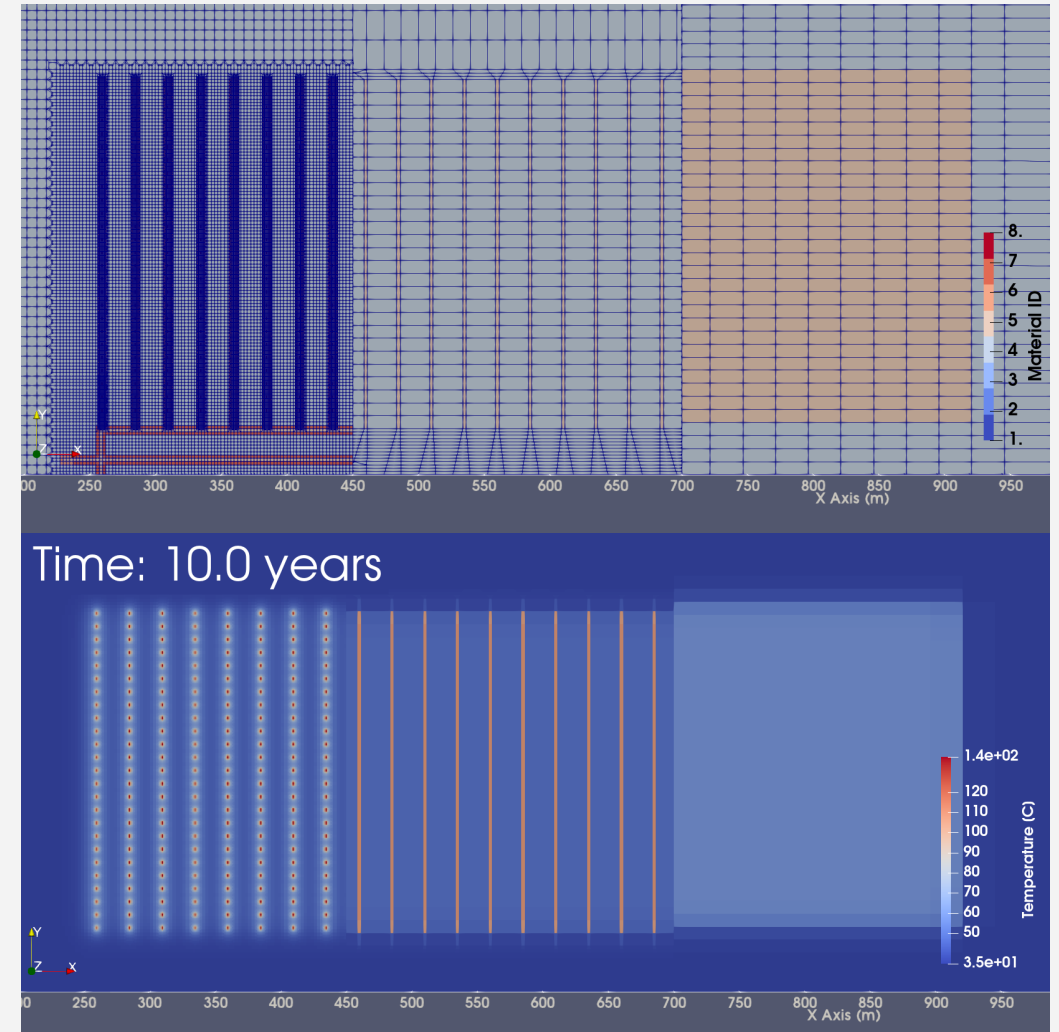
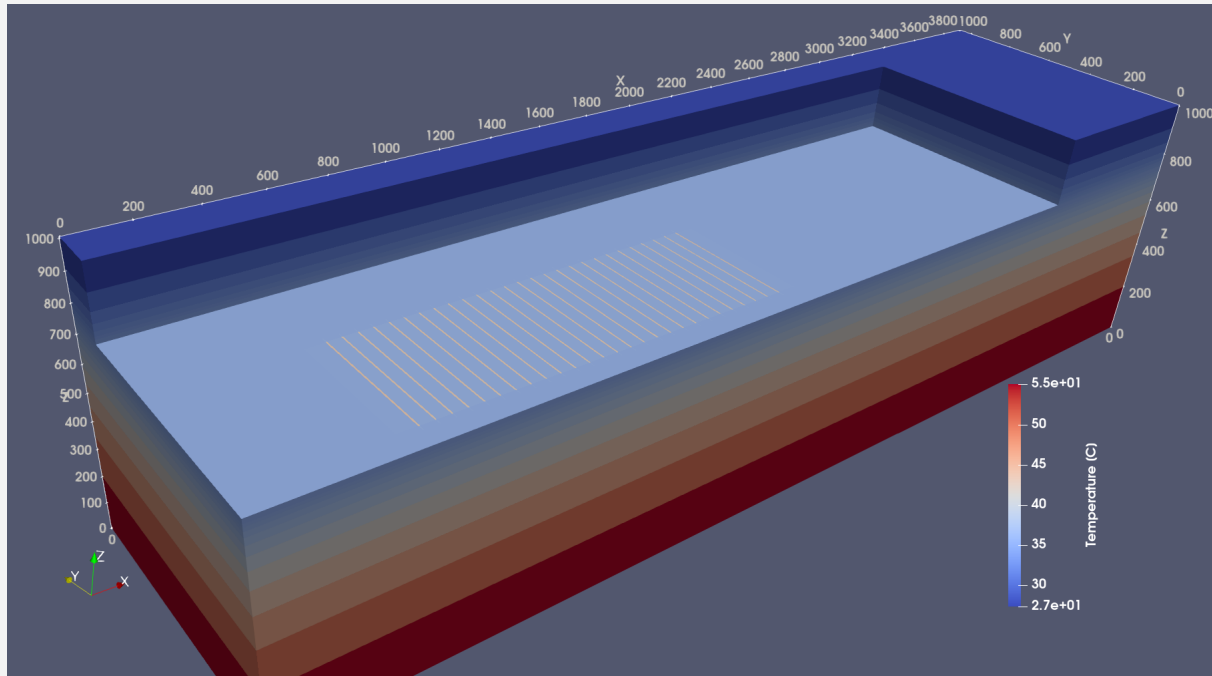


This is my original idea to accommodate PVS for trust-region. Same treatment is needed for any advanced nonlinear solvers. The first number is outer iteration and the second number is inner iteration.

Numerical Experiment

Alluvium Unsaturated Zone Model

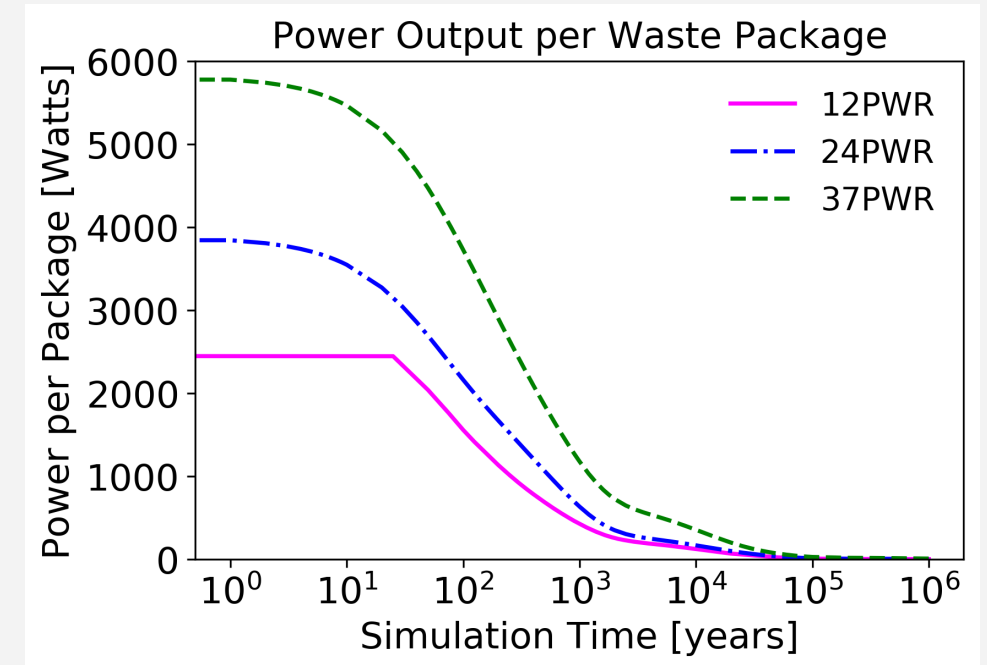
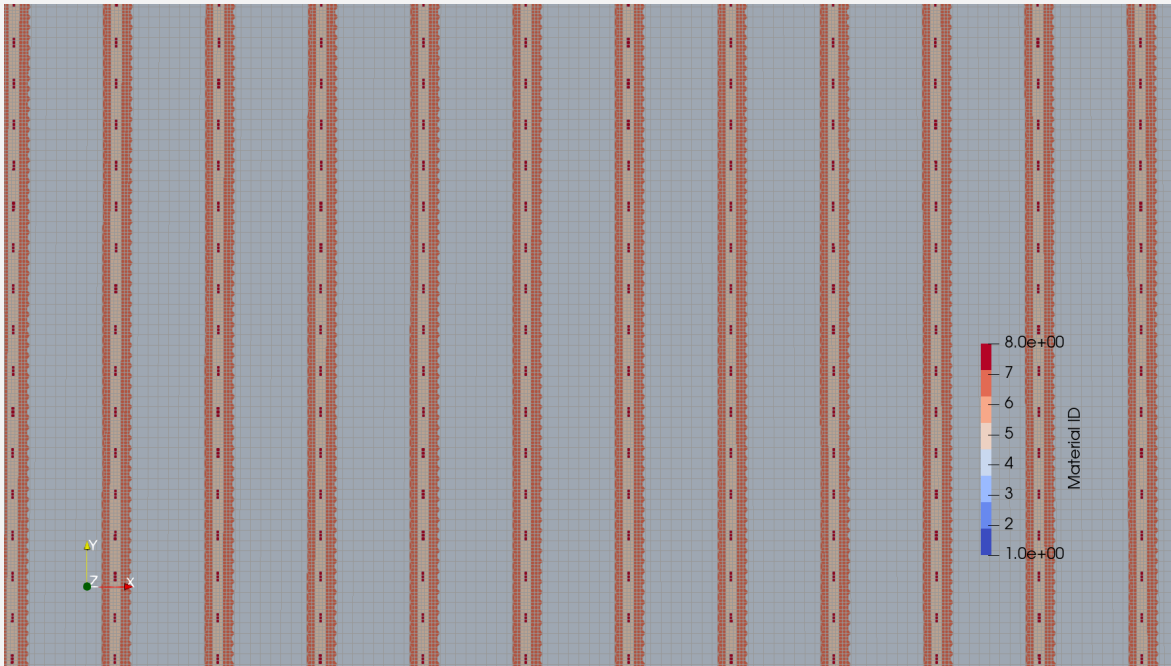
- Fully-refined (7.2M unknowns), refined (313k), uniform (190k) testing domains
- Refinement controls peak temperature of the domain
 - Same heat source different volumes



Numerical Experiment

Fully refined Model and heat source

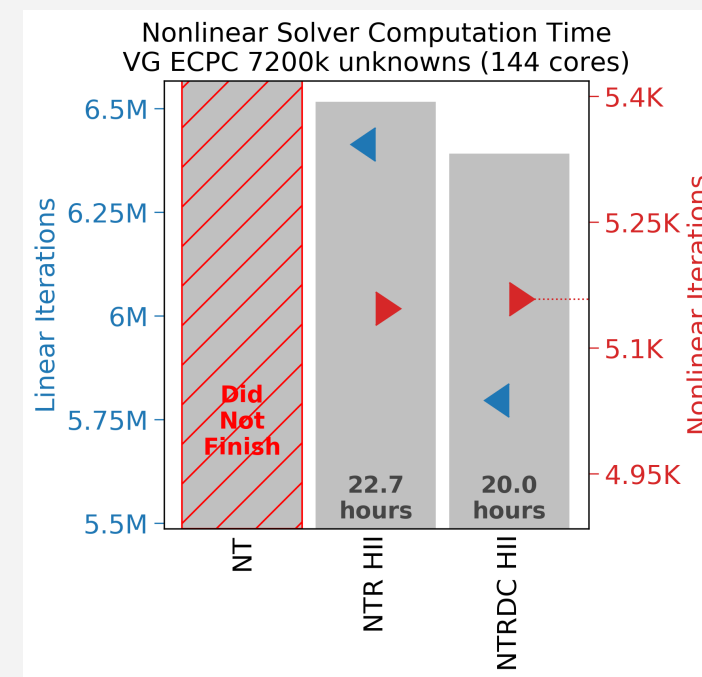
- 5m long waste package, engineered barrier, damaged rock zone, host rock
- Number of fuel assemblies from pressurized water reactor (PWR)



Results

Fully-refined Simulations

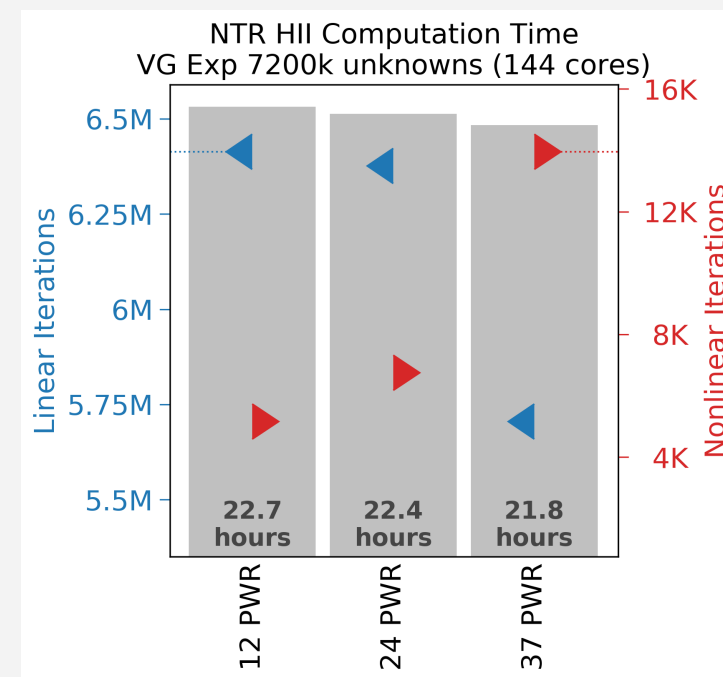
- Fully-Refined domain with 12PWR heat source
 - Reaches 140 C peak temperature in the domain
- 100,000-year simulation
 - Experiences 2.2M phase state changes
- Newton fails with nonconvergence
 - Fails with 24PWR and 37PWR as expected
- Trust-region methods (NTX) perform similarly
 - NTR and NTRDC with FNI and HII



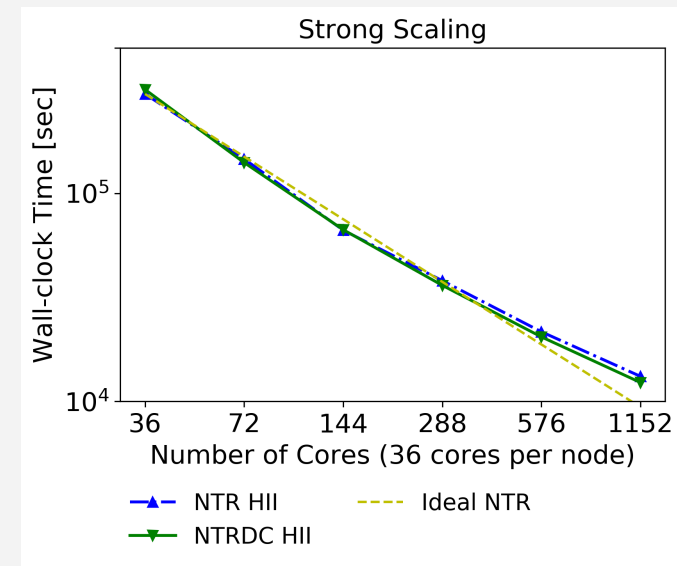
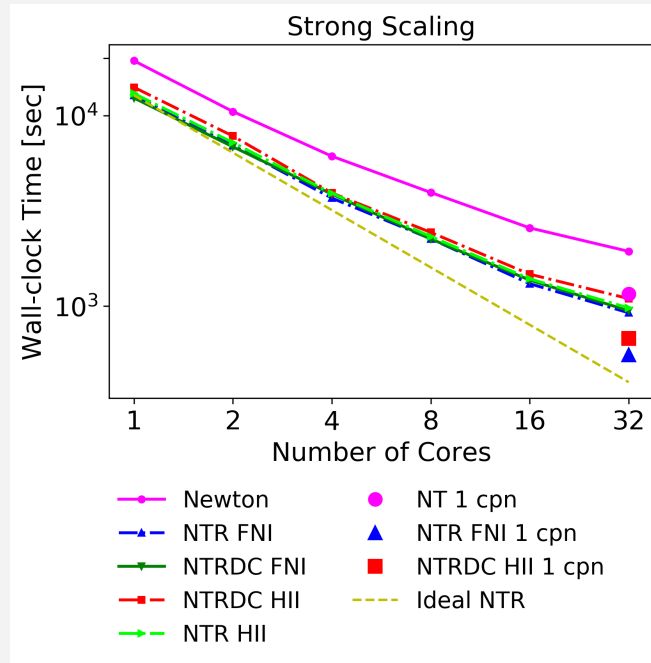
Results

Fully-refined Simulations

- 12PWR, 24PWR, 37PWR heat source
- 100,000-year simulation
 - Experiences 2.2M phase state changes for 12PWR
 - Experiences 4.3M phase state changes for 24PWR
 - Experiences 9.4M phase state changes for 37PWR
- More nonlinear iterations for 37PWR
 - Nonlinear iterations caused by phase state changes
- Shows the robustness of NTR solver



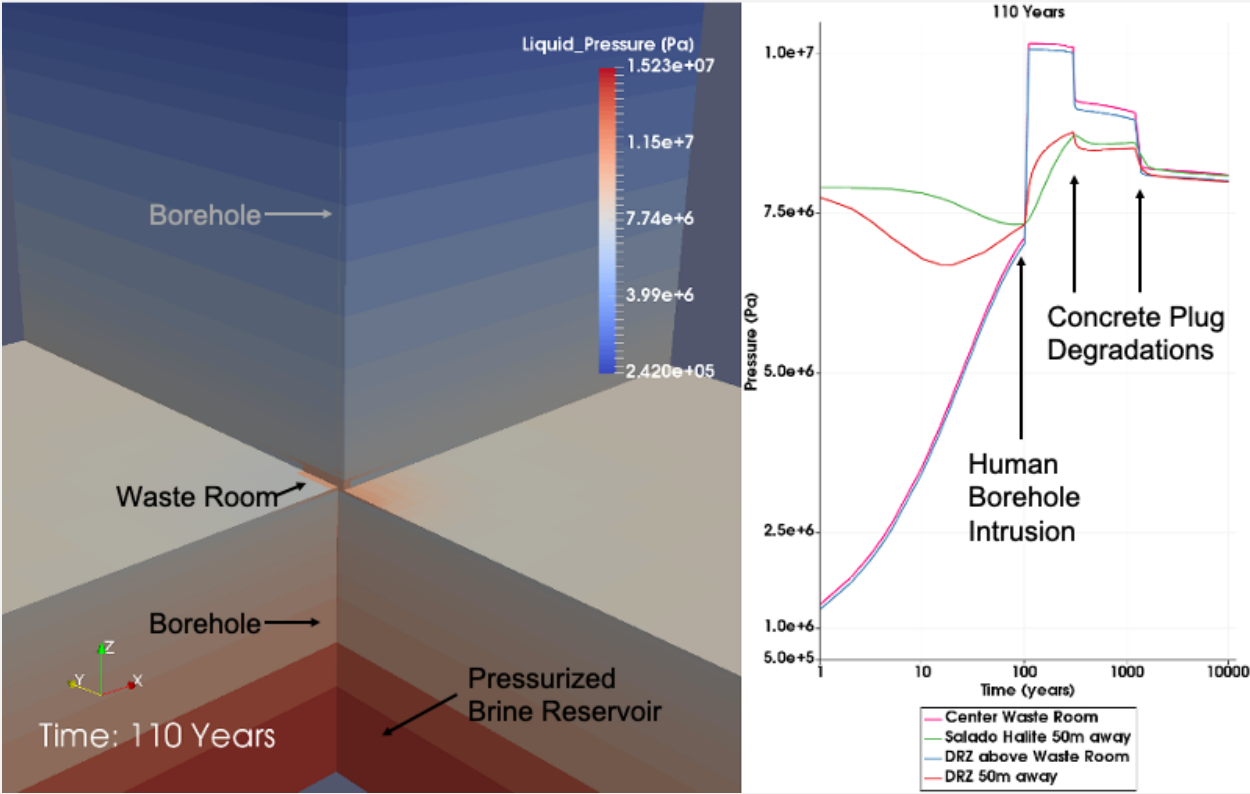
Strong Scalability



- Parallel scalability is very important to run large-scale simulations
 - Wall-clock time should decrease in proportion to the number of cores
- In-node strong scaling effect (note 1cpn when memory channel bottleneck is avoided)
- Cross-node strong scaling effect
- 36 cores with Intel Xeon Gold 6240 Processor 2.60 GHz, 24.75 MB cache in two sockets with 6 memory channels

Richards unsaturated flow

3D Model Test Cases	Compute Time [Min]	Nonlinear iter.	Linear iter.
100-year intrusion lithostatic			
Newton's method (NT)	68.6	8019	3026014
Trust Region Dogleg (NTRDC)	1.77	482	29975
100-year intrusion hydrostatic			
NT	32.2	1931	1363055
NTRDC	1.77	412	31386
350-year intrusion lithostatic			
NT	75.7	3457	3919579
NTRDC	3.42	621	60134
350-year intrusion hydrostatic			
NT	25.6	1812	1191325
NTRDC	2.85	510	51534



Isothermal Immiscible Flow

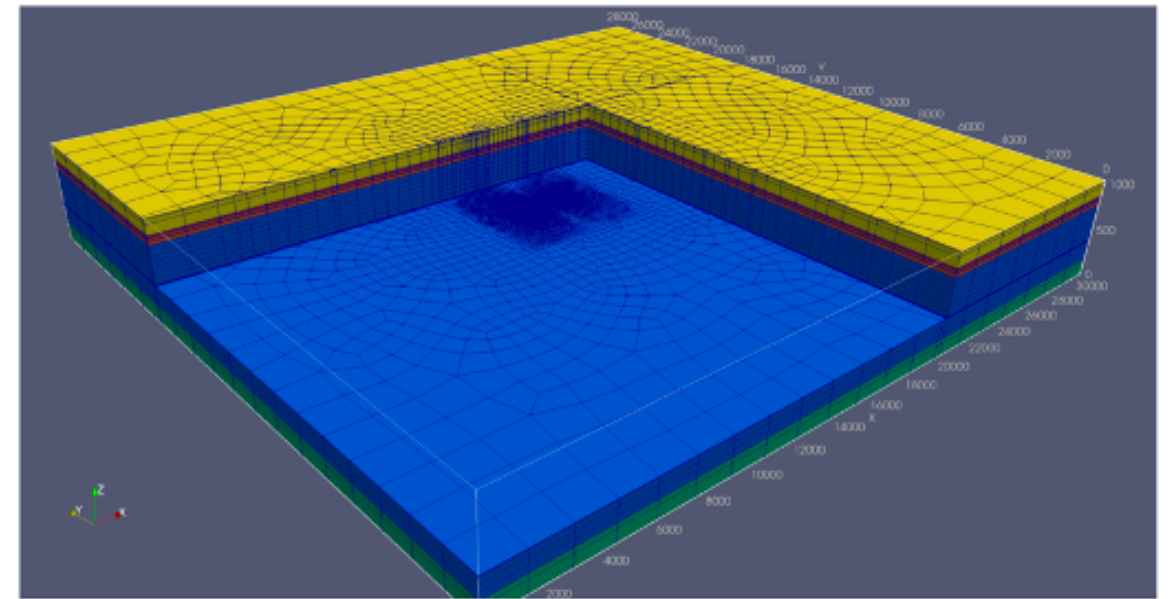
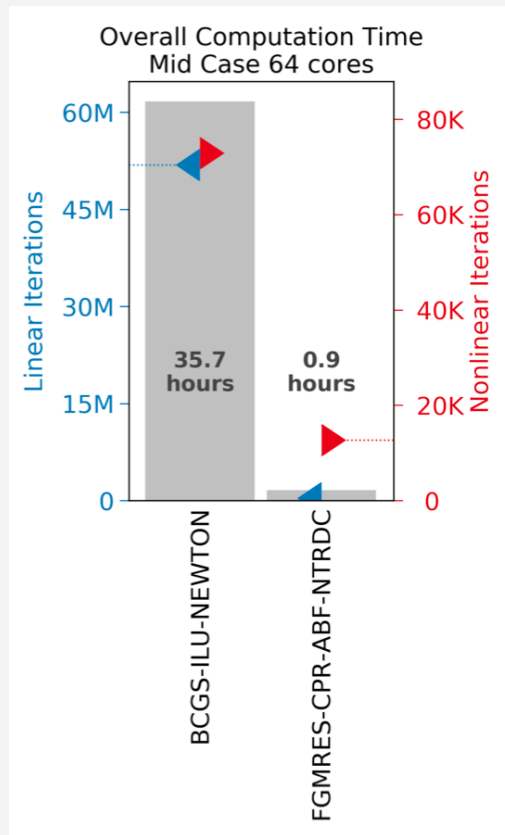
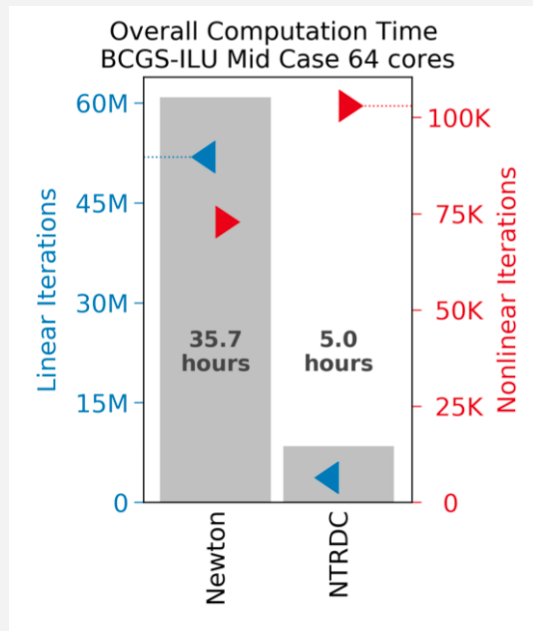


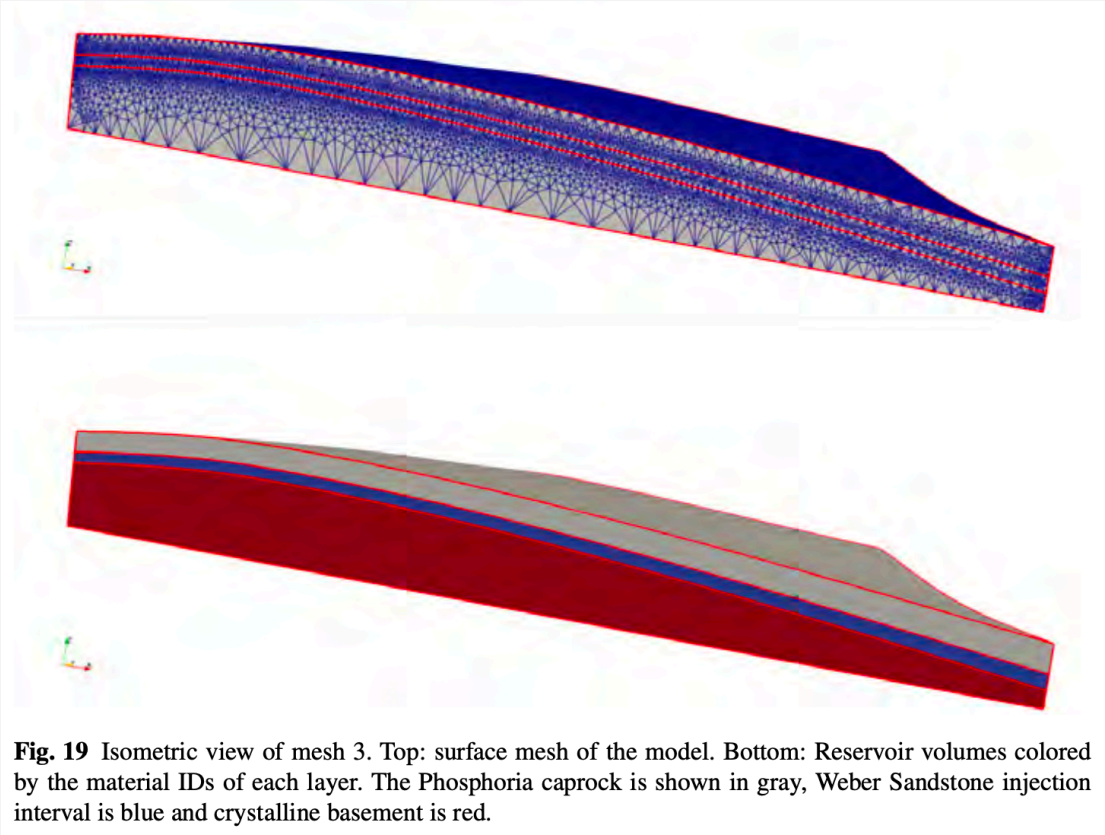
Figure 3.3: Far view of the cropped simulation model. The domain spans approximately 30 km in the x-, 28km in the y-, and 1km in the z-direction. The repository is the finely gridded region near the center of the model.

10,000-year sim. 64 cores, 920k unknowns, about 14,000 unknowns per core

Voronoi cell domain/CO₂ injection

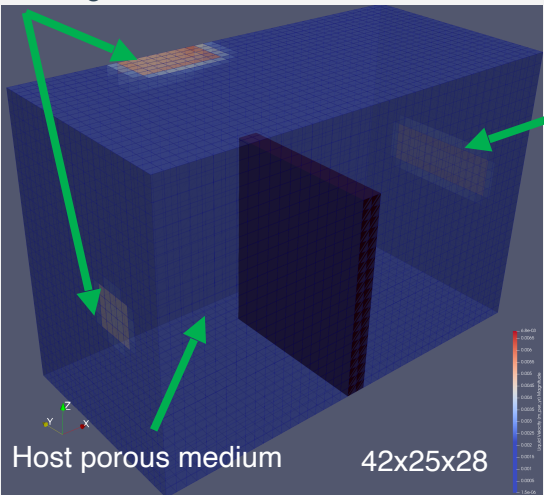
100-year sim. 144 cores, about 10,000 unknowns per core (LaForce, 2022)
Newton solver did not finish. NTRDC results in the table.

Realization	mesh 1	mesh 2	mesh 3
Grid cells	763,607	763,769	762,763
Simulation time (hr)	24.7	25.1	28.2



Reactive Transport Simulation

Injection/Leaching sites



Flow Exit Boundary

Retardation material with lower permeability

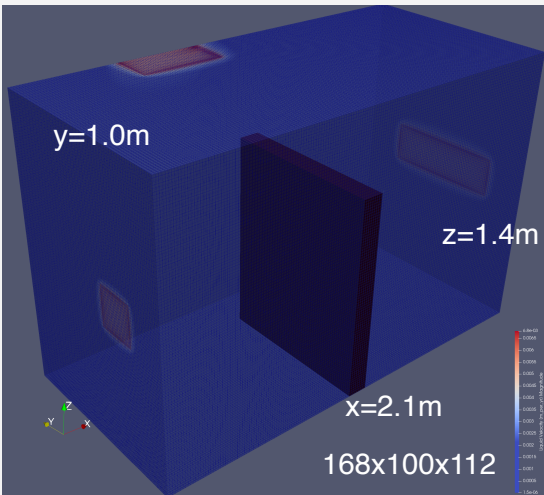
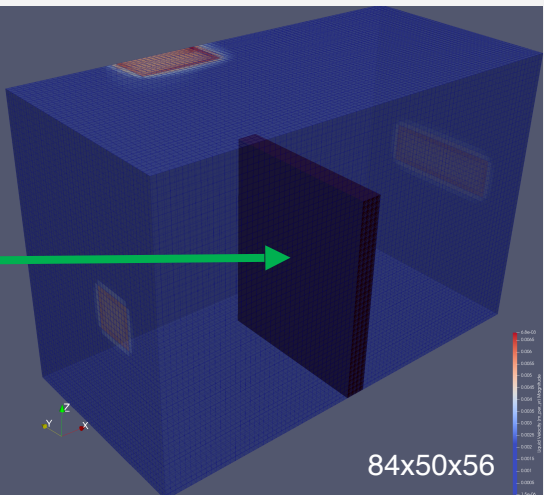


Table 1. Characteristics of the media

	Host	Low perm.
Porosity θ	0.25	0.5
Hydraulic cond. K (m/yr)	1.0E-2	1.0E-5
Site (S) Conc. (mol/m ³)	1.0	10.0
Dispersion αL (m)	1.0E-2	6.0E-2

Table 2. Chemical concentration of the initial and boundary cond.

Total Conc.	T1*	T2	T3	T4	TS
Host	0.0	-2.0	0.0	2.0	1.0
Low perm.	0.0	-2.0	0.0	2.0	10.0
Injection @ 0yrs	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	
Leaching @ 1500y	0.0	-2.0	0.0	2.0	

secondary species (aqueous)



$$K = 10^{-12}$$



$$K = 1$$



$$K = 1$$



$$K = 0.1$$

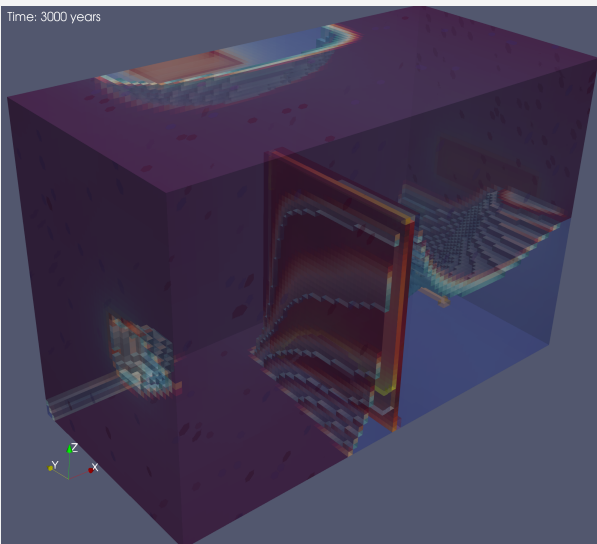
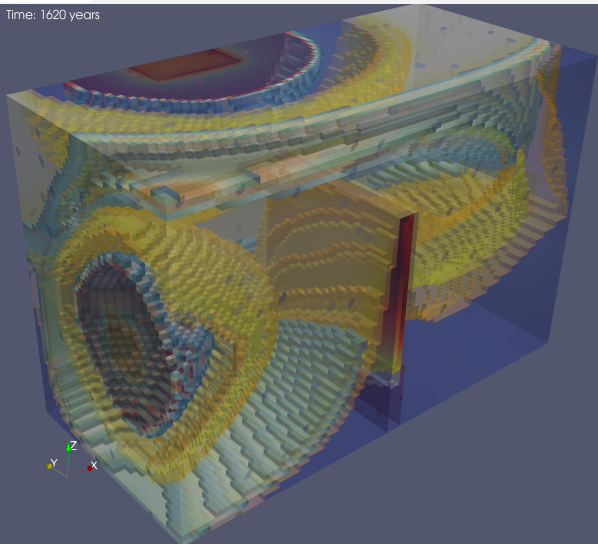
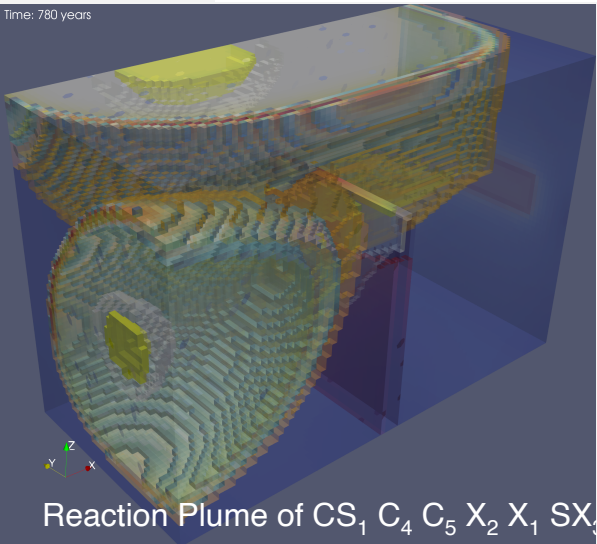
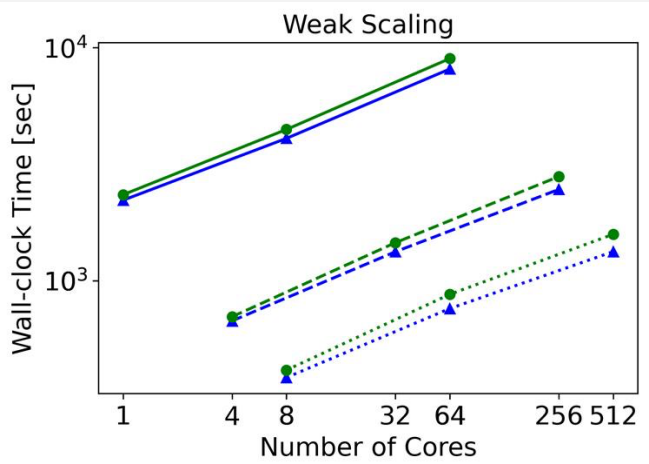
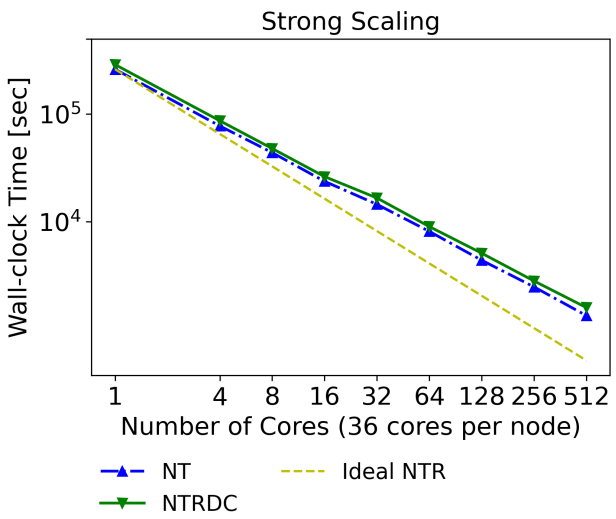


$$K = 10^{35}$$

surface complexation (sorbed)



Results



Questions?

Thank you for listening