

Extreme Scale Computing Advances & Challenges in PIC Simulations

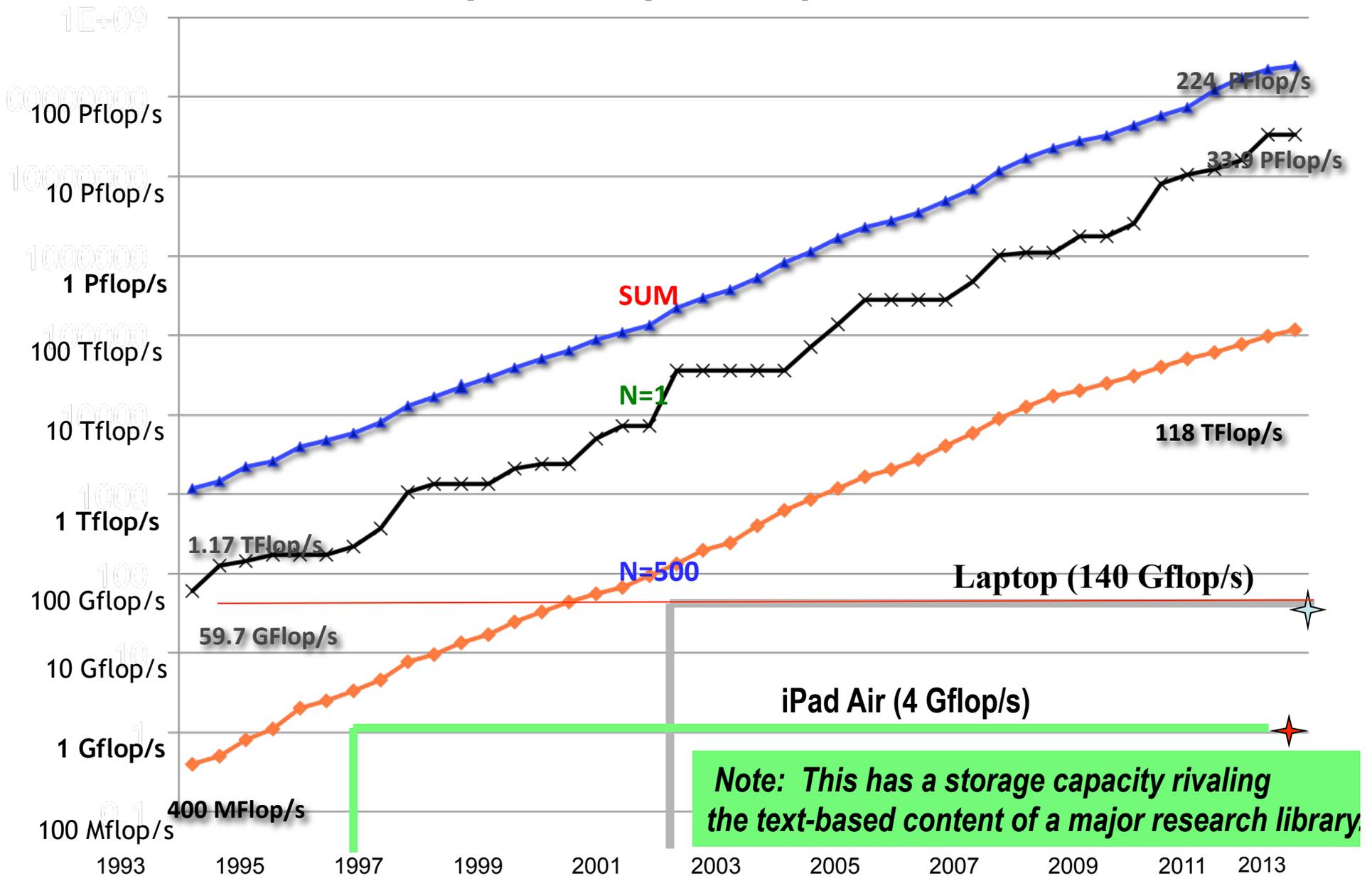
**William M. Tang
Princeton University
Princeton, NJ USA**

**High Performance Computing (HPC) 2014
From Clouds & Big Data to Exascale & Beyond**

***An International Advanced Research Workshop
Cetraro, Italy***

July 7-11, 2014

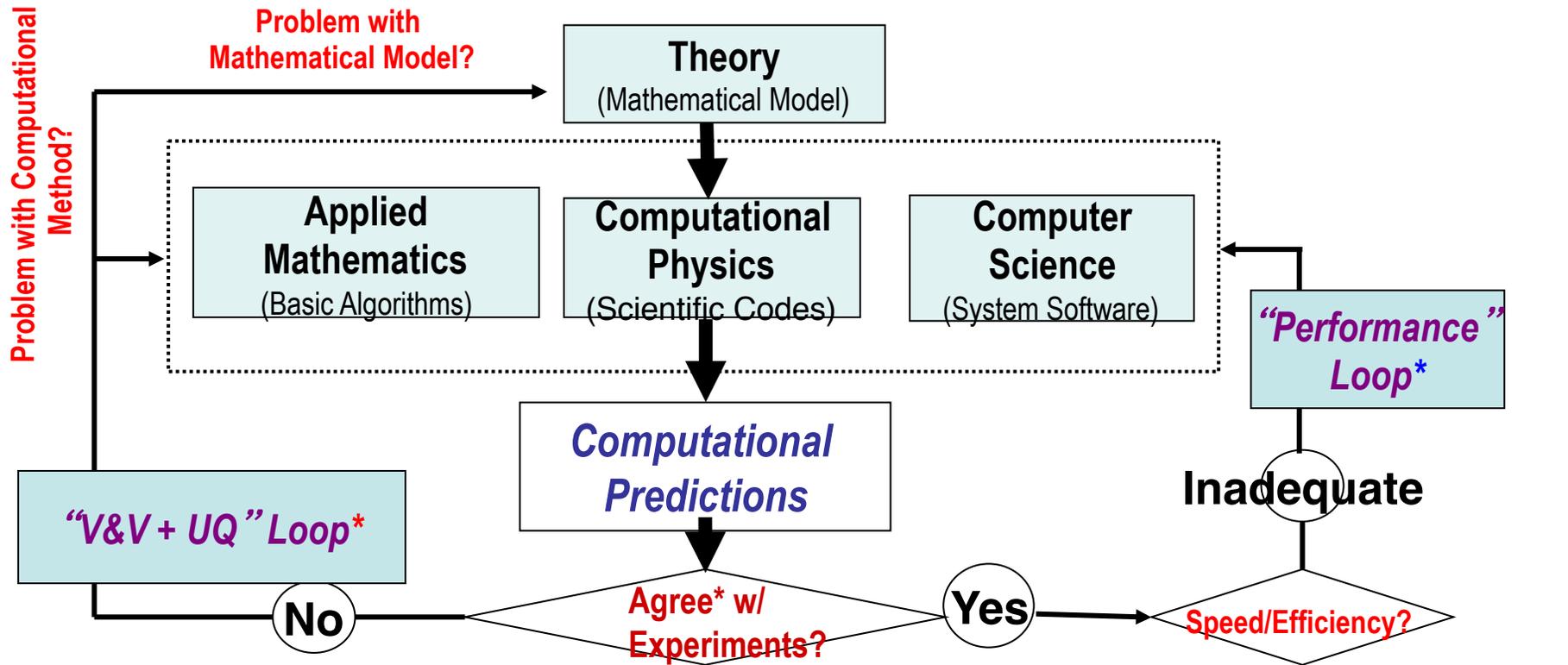
Performance Development of HPC Over the Last 20 Years from Top 500 Supercomputers Worldwide



Applications Impact → Actual value of extreme Scale HPC to scientific domain applications & industry

- **Practical Considerations:** achieving “buy-in” from general scientific community → need to:
 - Distinguish between **“voracious”** (more of same - just bigger & faster) vs. **“transformational”** (achievement of major new levels of scientific understanding)
 - Improve on **experimental validation** together with **verification & uncertainty quantification** to enhance realistic predictive capability of both *hypothesis-driven* and *big-data-driven statistical approaches*
 - New software engineering tools & environments to **enable improved “time to solution”** -- without big tax on improvements of science in targeted applications
- **Associated Extreme Scale Computing Challenges:** *As hardware performance & storage capacity increases through many orders of magnitude,*
 - *Produce advances featuring balanced combination of memory bandwidth, interconnect performance, computational performance, & reliability*
 - **Hardware complexity:** Heterogenous multicore (e.g., gpu+cpu → “Titan”; mic+cpu → “TH-2”)
 - **Software challenges:** New operating systems, I/O and file systems, and coding/algorithmic & solver advances in volatile environment of vastly increased computer architecture complexity that demands rewriting code focused on data movement over arithmetic → **innovative deployable software!**
- **Applications Imperative: “Accountability” aspect**
 - **Need to articulate what impactful scientific and mission advances have been enabled by the rapid progress from terascale to petascale to today’s multi-petascale HPC capabilities?**

Advanced Scientific HPC Codes --- “a measure of the state of understanding of natural and engineered systems”



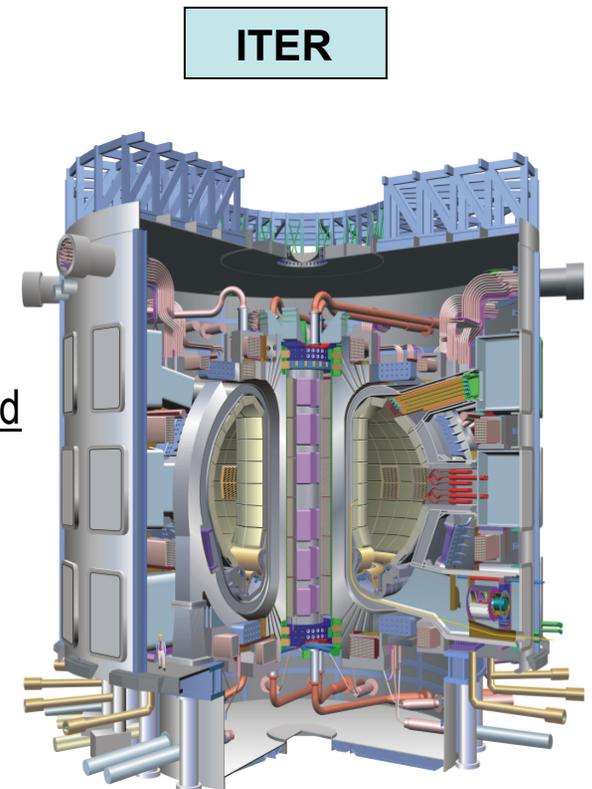
***Comparisons:** “empirical/extrapolation” trends; sensitivity studies; detailed structure (spectra, correlation functions, ...)

Use the New Tool for Scientific Discovery
(Repeat cycle as new phenomena encountered)

***Modern “co-design” Challenges:** low memory/ core; locality; latency;

ITER Goal: *Demonstration of the Scientific and Technological Feasibility of Fusion Power*

- **ITER** is an ~\$25B facility located in France & involving 7 governments representing over half of world's population
→ **dramatic next-step for Magnetic Fusion Energy (MFE) producing a sustained burning plasma**
 - Today: 10 MW(th) for 1 second with gain ~1
 - **ITER**: 500 MW(th) for >400 seconds with gain >10
 - **“DEMO”** will be demonstration fusion reactor after ITER
 - 2500 MW(th) continuous with gain >25, in a device of similar size and field as ITER
 - Ongoing R&D programs worldwide [experiments, theory, **computation**, and technology] essential to provide growing knowledge base for ITER operation targeted for ~ 2020
- **Realistic HPC-enabled simulations required to cost-effectively plan, “steer,” & harvest key information from expensive (~\$1M/long-pulse) ITER shots**



Microturbulence in Fusion Plasmas – Mission Importance: Fusion reactor size & cost determined by balance between loss processes & self-heating rates

- **“Scientific Discovery”** - *Transition to favorable scaling of confinement produced in simulations for ITER-size plasmas*

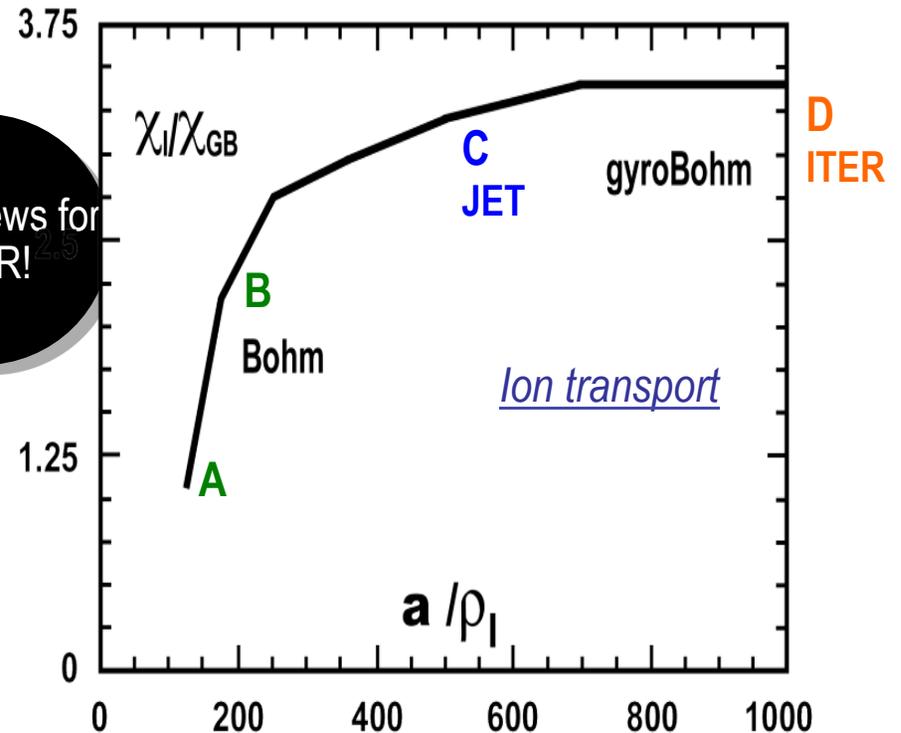
- $a/\rho_i = 400$ (JET, largest present lab experiment) through
- $a/\rho_i = 1000$ (ITER, ignition experiment)

- *Multi-TF simulations* using GTC global PIC code [Z. Lin, et al, [2002](#)) deployed a billion particles, 125M spatial grid points; 7000 time steps → *1st ITER-scale simulation with ion gyroradius resolution*

- BUT, **compelling understanding** of plasma size scaling demands **higher physics fidelity** requiring much greater computational resources + new algorithms & modern diagnostics for VV&UQ

→ Progress from current DOE INCITE Projects on LCF's & from ongoing G8 Fusion Exascale Project on major international facilities

Good news for ITER!



→ **Excellent Scalability of Global PIC Codes on modern HPC platforms enables much greater resolution/physics fidelity to improve understanding**

→ **BUT - further improvements for efficient usage of current LCF's demands code re-write featuring modern CS/AM methods addressing locality, low-memory-per-core,**

Particle Simulation of the Boltzmann-Maxwell System

- The Boltzmann equation (Nonlinear PDE in Lagrangian coordinates):

$$\frac{dF}{dt} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \frac{\partial F}{\partial \mathbf{x}} + \left(\mathbf{E} + \frac{1}{c} \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B} \right) \cdot \frac{\partial F}{\partial \mathbf{v}} = C(F).$$

- “Particle Pushing” (Linear ODE’s)

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}_j}{dt} = \mathbf{v}_j, \quad \frac{d\mathbf{v}_j}{dt} = \frac{q}{m} \left(\mathbf{E} + \frac{1}{c} \mathbf{v}_j \times \mathbf{B} \right)_{\mathbf{x}_j}.$$

- Klimontovich-Dupree representation,

$$F = \sum_{j=1}^N \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_j) \delta(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_j),$$

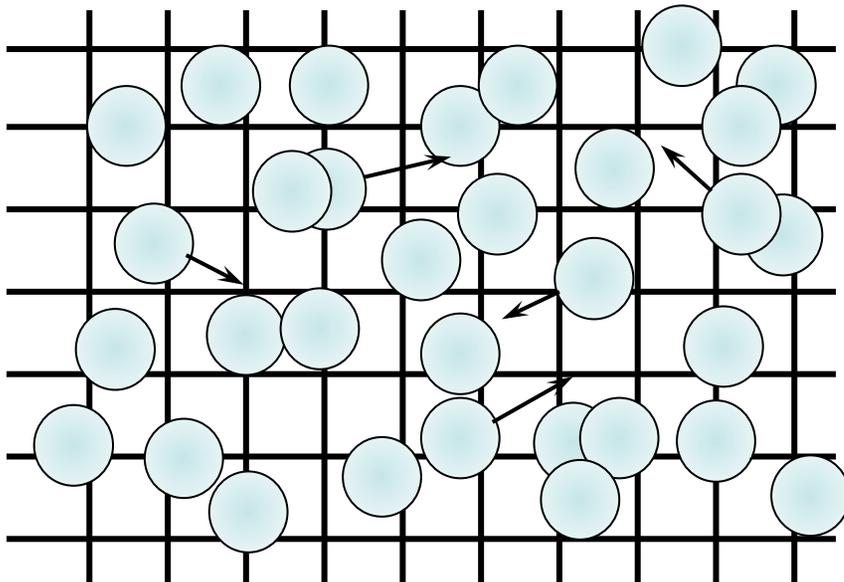
- Poisson’s Equation: (Linear PDE in Eulerian coordinates (lab frame))

$$\nabla^2 \phi = -4\pi \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} \sum_{j=1}^N \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_{\alpha j})$$

- Ampere’s Law and Faraday’s Law [Linear PDE’s in Eulerian coordinates (lab frame)]

Basic Particle-in-Cell Method

- Charged particles sample distribution function
- Interactions occur on a grid with the forces determined by gradient of electrostatic potential (calculated from deposited charges)
- *Grid resolution dictated by Debye length (“finite-sized” particles) up to gyro-radius scale*



Specific PIC Operations:

- “**SCATTER**”, or deposit, charges as “nearest neighbors” on the grid
- Solve Poisson Equation for potential
- “**GATHER**” forces (gradient of potential) on each particle
- Move particles (**PUSH**)
- Repeat...

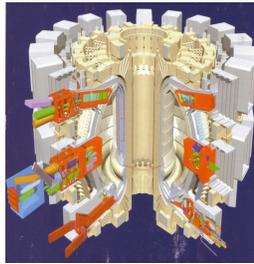
New Physics Insights on Fusion Confinement Scaling Enabled by Computing at Extreme Scale

DOE INCITE Project on “Kinetic Simulations of Fusion Energy Dynamics @ Extreme Scale”

Objectives

- Develop modern software capable of using *low memory* supercomputers to carry out high physics fidelity first principles simulations of multiscale tokamak plasmas for magnetic fusion energy (MFE)
- Fusion Physics & HPC Challenges:
 - Key decade-long MFE estimates of confinement scaling with device size (“Bohm to Gyro-bohm” trend) *need much higher resolution to be realistic/reliable.*
 - *Major algorithmic advances* needed for MFE global PIC codes to effectively engage computing at extreme scale.

Burning Plasmas/ITER



Impact

- Understanding the physics governing MFE confinement scaling → one of highest *priority research areas for success of next-step burning plasma experiments (e.g., ITER)*
- GTC-Princeton (“GTC-P”) makes efficient use of DoE’s LCF’s to carry out *ITER scale simulations with unprecedented resolution in phase-space & time.*

Blue-Genie-Q
“Mira” @ ALCF

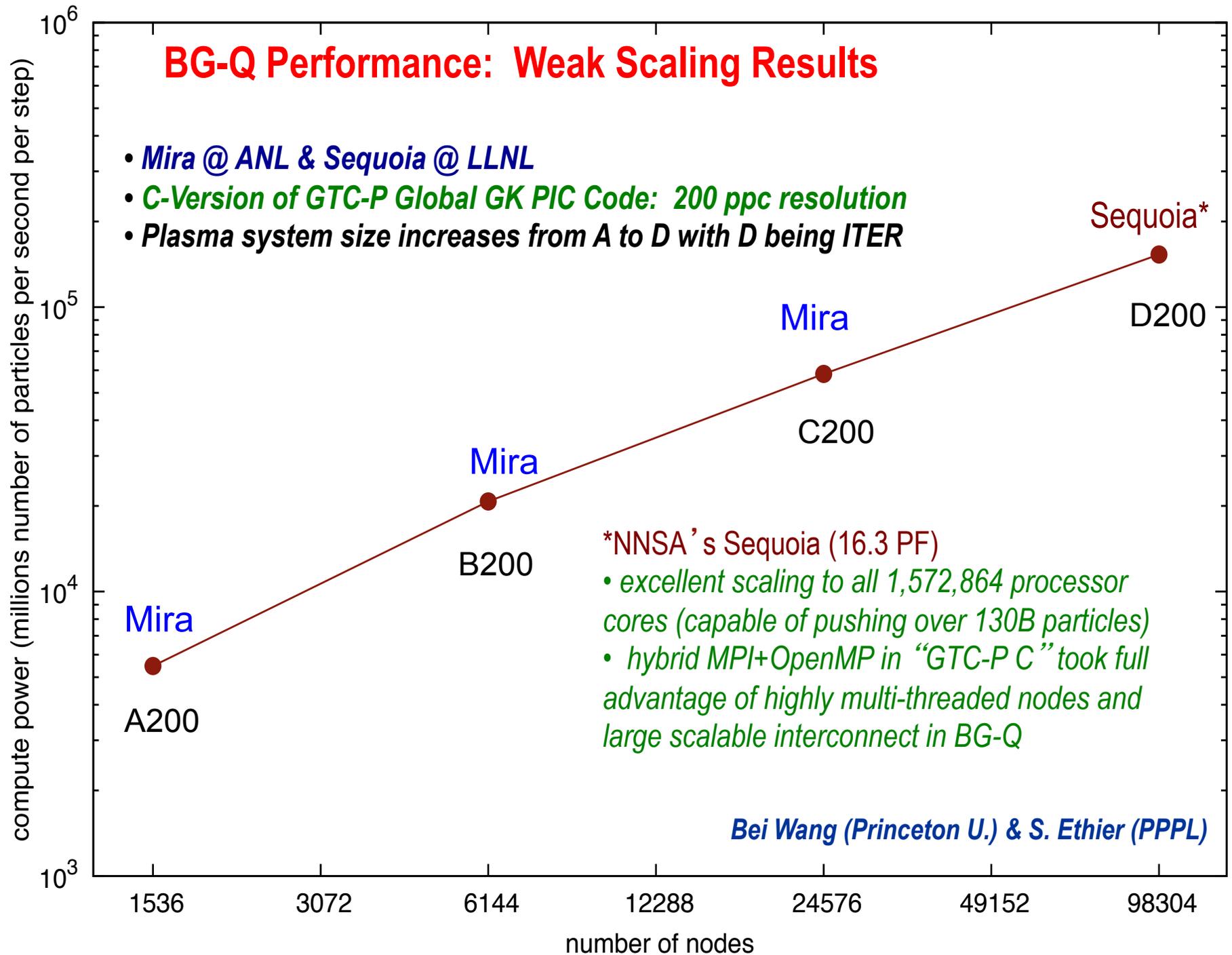


Accomplishments

- Production-run simulations of turbulence dynamics governing confinement physics for large-scale MFE plasmas (e.g., ITER) have been successfully carried out for the first time with very high phase-space resolution and long temporal duration.
- Co-design interdisciplinary research has now produced “GTC-P” – a modern HPC fusion energy science code that enables efficient use of multi-petascale capabilities on world-class CPU systems such as the IBM BG-Q “Mira” @ ALCF & “Sequoia” @ LLNL to deliver important new scientific insights.

BG-Q Performance: Weak Scaling Results

- *Mira @ ANL & Sequoia @ LLNL*
- *C-Version of GTC-P Global GK PIC Code: 200 ppc resolution*
- *Plasma system size increases from A to D with D being ITER*



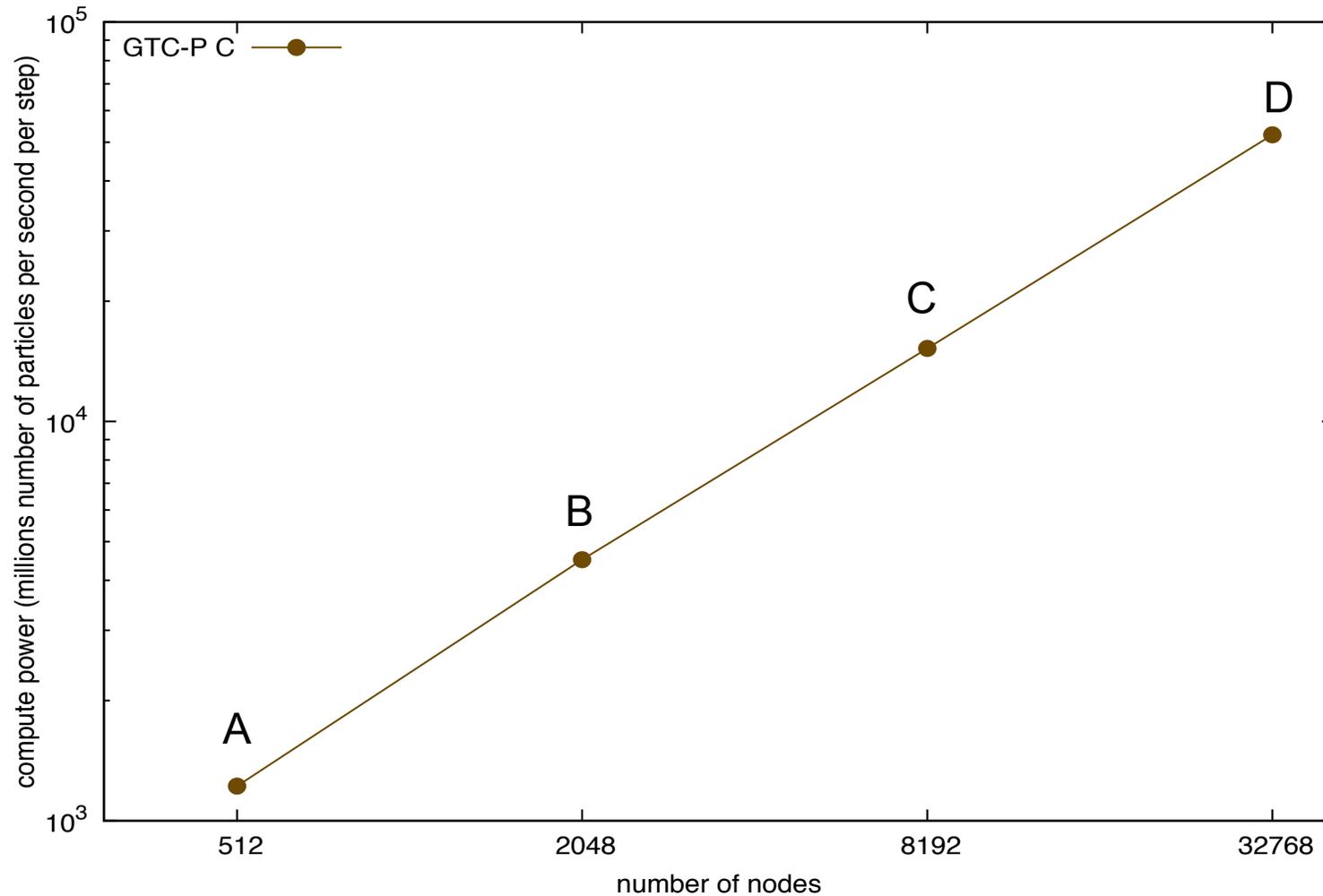
*NNSA's Sequoia (16.3 PF)

- *excellent scaling to all 1,572,864 processor cores (capable of pushing over 130B particles)*
- *hybrid MPI+OpenMP in "GTC-P C" took full advantage of highly multi-threaded nodes and large scalable interconnect in BG-Q*

Bei Wang (Princeton U.) & S. Ethier (PPPL)

K-Computer Performance: Weak Scaling Results

- *Fujitsu-K Computer @ RIKEN AICS, Kobe, Japan*
- *C-Version of GTC-P Global GK PIC Code: 200 ppc resolution*
- *Plasma system size increases from A to D with D being ITER*

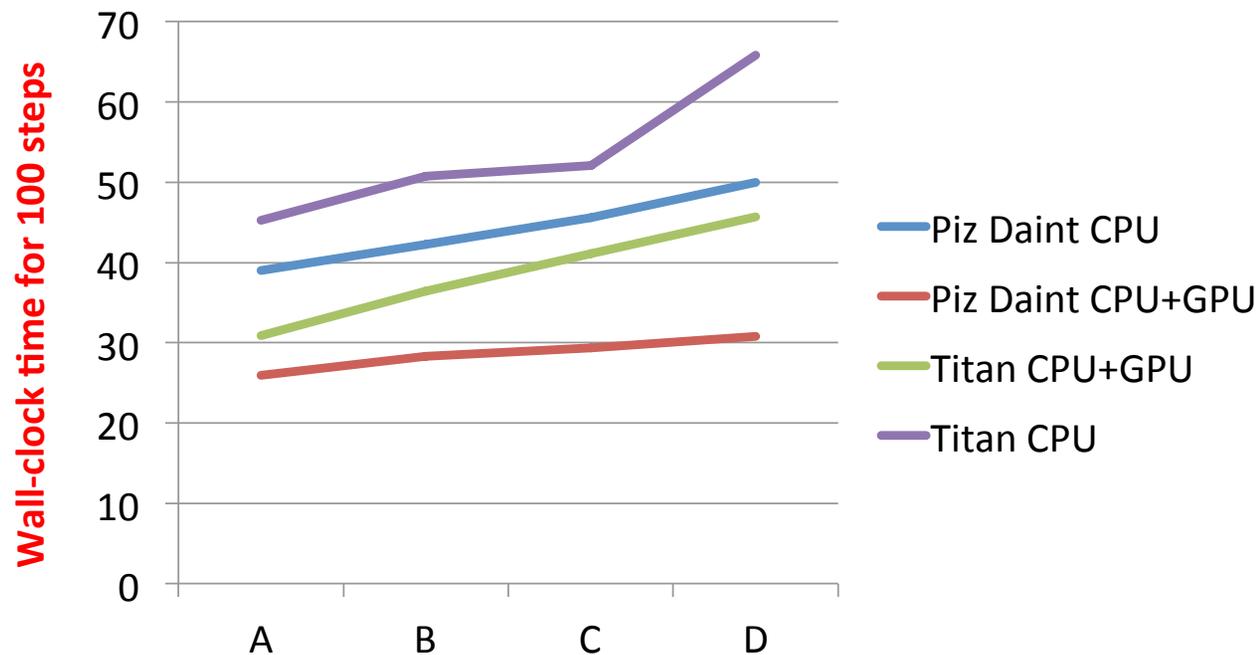


Takenori Shimosaka (RIKEN) & Bei Wang (Princeton U.)

Performance Evaluation Platforms

Systems	IBM BG/Q	Cray XK7 (Titan)	Cray XC 30 (Piz Daint)	NVIDIA Kepler
Chips per node	1	2	1	1
Cores per chip	16	8	8	14 (SMX's)
Interconnect	Custom 5D Torus	Gemini 3D Torus	Aries Dragonfly	-
Core	IBM A2	AMD Opteron 6274 (Interlagos)	Intel Xeon E5-2670 (SNBe)	K20x
Clock (GHz)	1.6	2.2	2.6	0.732
Cores per chip	16	8	8	14 (SMX's)
Last-level Cache	32 MB	8 MB	20 MB	1.5 MB
DP GFlop/s per chip	204.8	281.6	166.4	1311
STREAM GB/s per node	28	?	38	171

Weak Scaling of GTC-P (GPU-version) on Heterogenous (GPU/CPU) “Titan” and “Piz Daint”



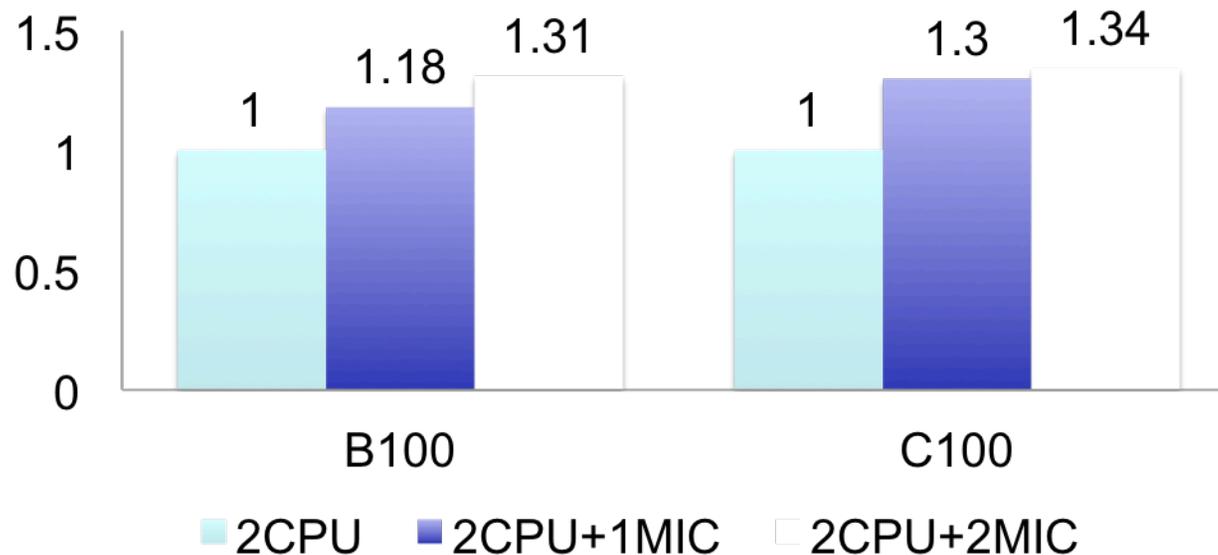
of nodes: 64 256 1024 4096

- The number of particles per cell is 100
- GTC-P GPU obtains 1.7x speed up

Same code for all cases → Performance difference solely due to hardware/system software

Recent GTC-P weak scaling results from “Stampede”

Wall-clock time for pushing ion particles 100 time steps (s)			
Problem	B100	C100	D100
Nodes	32	128	512
2CPU	93.16	114.93	-
2CPU+1MIC	79.24	88.97	-
2CPU+2MIC	71.71	85.30	-



- B100 means “B-size problem with 100 ppc resolution;” Number of toroidal domains set at 32 for all problems; 1 MPI/16 OpenMP threads on the host, 1 MPI/240 OpenMP threads on each MIC.
- 512 nodes GTC-P simulation on “Stampede” targeted next.

Current Ongoing Investigations on “Stampede”

Goals:

- Improve intra-node communication between the host and the MICs to reduce overhead in the MPI Scatter operation in GTC-P
- Improve inter-node communication between MIC's (for particle shift operation)

GTC-P Performance Studies on Heterogeneous (MIC/CPU) TH-2 System

- GTC-P ran successfully on up to 2048 nodes (host only) of TH-2 (Sept. 2013)
- In preparation for continuation of this collaboration, we engaged NSF's "Stampede" (MIC/CPU) System [Oct.'13 to present] in developing a MIC version of GTC-P (for symmetric mode operation).
- Stampede Results: *for 1MIC per node, obtain up to 1.46x speed up compared with CPU-only version of GTC-P*
- "Lesson Learned" from running Intel MPI benchmark – via measuring latency & bandwidth of MPI communication for CPU to CPU; CPU to MIC; and MIC to MIC → *Can optimize bandwidth between host and MIC's by tuning GTC-P in accordance with optimal MPI communication pattern in "Stampede."*
 - *plan to use same optimization approach for TH-2 studies using possible TH-2 benchmark data*

Collaborative Studies with TH-2

- Measure MPI bandwidth between CPU to CPU, CPU to MIC and MIC to MIC on TH-2 using the Intel MPI benchmark
- **Test GTC-P MIC performance (symmetric mode) on TH-2**
 - Weak scaling performance: starting from A100 problem size on 224 TH-2 nodes, and ultimately with D100 (ITER) problem size on 14336 nodes
 - Deployment of 1MIC, 2MIC's and 3MIC's respectively for these weak scaling performance studies

Comments on HPC Extreme Scale Challenges

- Need more **“demo-apps”** that deploy innovative algorithms within modern codes that deliver new scientific insights on **world-class systems** – (e.g, BG/Q, K-Computer, Sequoia & Titan, Piz Daint, Stampede, TH-2)

Example from Fusion application domain: “Scientific Discovery in Fusion Plasma Turbulence Simulations @ Extreme Scale;” W. Tang, B. Wang, S. Ethier, to be published (Sept. 2014) in special issue on leadership computing in Computing in Science & Engineering (CiSE)

- *Excellent performance scaling & “time-to-solution” have been achieved on top homogeneous architecture systems → still to be demonstrated on top heterogeneous GPU/CPU and GPU/MIC platforms*
- *Demonstration domain applications that deliver new science needed to help provide comparative performance studies on top supercomputing systems with “time to solution” as a viable metric.*

→ Need algorithmic advances enabled by Applied Mathematics – in an interdisciplinary environment together with Computer Science & Domain Applications

GEOMETRIC HAMILTONIAN APPROACH TO SOLVING GENERALIZED VLASOV-MAXWELL EQUATIONS

Hamiltonian → Lagrangian → Action → Variational Optimization → Discretized Symplectic Orbits for Particle Motion

I. “Ultrahigh Performance 3-Dimensional Electromagnetic Relativistic Kinetic Plasma Simulation

Kevin J. Bowers, et al., *Phys. Plasmas* 15, 055703 (2008)

- Basic foundation for symplectic integration of particle orbits in electromagnetic fields without frequency ordering constraints
- Foundational approach for present-day simulations of laser-plasma interactions on modern supercomputing systems
- Limited applicability with respect to size of simulation region and geometric complexity

II. “Geometric Gyrokinetic Theory for Edge Plasmas”

Hong Qin, et al., *Phys. Plasmas* 14, 056110 (2007)

- Basic foundation for symplectic integration of particle orbits in electromagnetic low-frequency plasma following GK ordering
- Still outstanding challenge: Address reformulation of non-local Poisson Equations structure for electromagnetic field solve

Summary: Challenges in Moving toward Exascale

- **Locality:** *Need to develop mathematical algorithms able to deal with data locality*
 - due to physical limitations, **moving data between, and even within, modern microchips is more time-consuming than performing computations!**
 - scientific codes often use data structures that are easy to implement quickly but limit flexibility and scalability in the long run
- **Advanced Architectures:** *Need to deploy innovative algorithms within modern science codes on **low memory per node architectures** – (e.g, **BG/Q, Fujitsu-K, Titan, & Tianhe-2**)*
 - multi-threading within nodes, maximizing locality while minimizing communications
 - **Substantive results achieved with GTC-P PIC code on IBM BG/Q (homogeneous architecture); good progress on hybrid (heterogeneous) CPU-GPU & CPU-MIC systems**
- **Advanced Algorithms:** *Need to develop Geometric Hamiltonian approaches most capable of ensuring locality of calculations and symplectic features*
 - **Local EM field solve needed to complement existing local particle dynamics solve for Gyrokinetics**
 - (Meanwhile, focus on deployment of fastest solvers (FMM, etc.)

US/EU Statistical Disruption Studies on JET

W. M. Tang (Princeton University/PPPL)

- Situation Analysis:
 - The most critical of all problems facing magnetic fusion energy development is the need to avoid/mitigate large-scale major disruptions in tokamaks
 - The most advanced conventional “hypothesis-driven” MHD codes are currently still far away from producing the timely predictive capability needed for disruption avoidance in JET (Joint European Torus)–only experiment that achieved near “break-even” fusion energy production.
- Proposed “Big Data” Project: Use of large- data-driven statistical predictions for the occurrence of disruptions in JET
 - Based on new statistical machine-learning techniques developed in the Computer Science/Applied Math community in the U.S.
 - Use powerful hardware at the ORNL Leadership Class Facility for needed large-scale “data-mining” analysis of JET data
- Current Status:
 - JET has expressed serious willingness to provide access to their large disruption-relevant multi-dimensional data base that has yet to be analyzed.
 - Excellent opportunity for G8 NuFuSE Project to possibly leverage this important emerging “Big-Data Discovery” project on a problem of great importance for Fusion Energy futures.

Fusion Data Mining Diagram

