

# Variance Reduction for Multi-physics Analysis of Moving Systems

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Preliminary Exam

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# Shutdown Dose Rate (SDR) Analysis



- Fusion Energy Systems (FES)
  - Burning plasma, D-T fusion
  - ${}^2_1\text{H} + {}^3_1\text{H} \rightarrow {}^4_2\text{He} + {}^1_0\text{n}$
- Neutrons penetrate deeply into system components, causing activation
- Radioisotopes persist long after shutdown
- Important to quantify the dose caused by decay photons

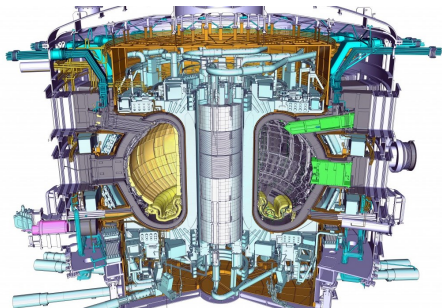


Figure : Cutaway view of ITER drawing.

- Example: maintenance procedure
  - Need to move component(s) around facility
  - Interested in SDR at a particular location
  - SDR will change as a function of the activated component's position over time



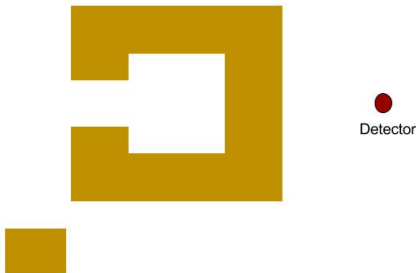
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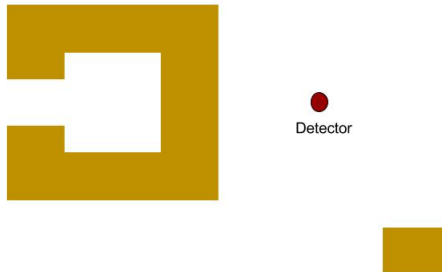
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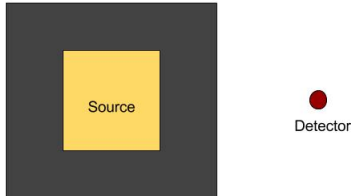




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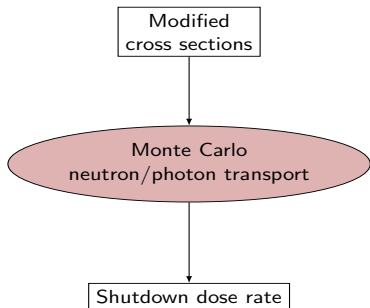


**Optimize** the **radiation transport** simulation used to calculate the **shutdown dose rate** at a particular location as activated components are **moving** around the facility.



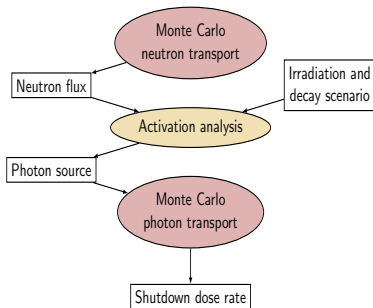
Deterministic vs. MC

- Direct 1-Step Method (D1S)



Add pros/cons of D1S, R2S

- Rigorous 2-Step Method (R2S)



- Monte Carlo (MC) analysis of fusion energy systems is:
  - Accurate for large, complex models
  - Challenging due to the highly attenuating structural materials
    - Results scored in regions that have low particle flux, have higher statistical uncertainty
- To decrease statistical uncertainty:
  - Increase number of histories
  - Use variance reduction (VR) techniques

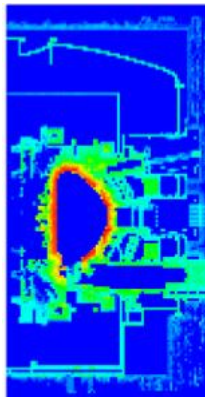


Figure : Photon flux in ITER tokamak building.





- Techniques to modify particle behavior
  - **Goal:** preferentially sample events that will contribute to results of interest
- Statistical weight of particles is adjusted to keep playing a fair game



## Consistent Adjoint Driven Importance Sampling (CADIS)

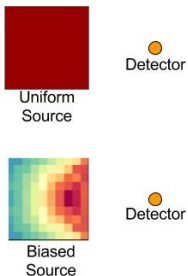
- Adjoint flux can define the importance of regions of phase space to the detector response
- Use **deterministic** estimate of the adjoint flux,  $\Psi^+$ , to generate **Monte Carlo** VR parameters in a **consistent** manner
  - Define detector response function to be the adjoint source

$$H^+ \Psi^+ = q^+ \quad (1)$$

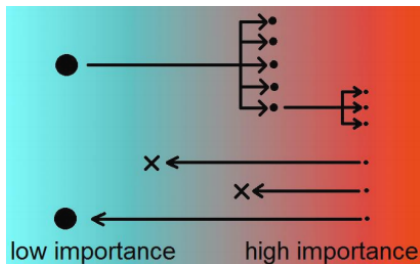
$$H^+ = -\hat{\Omega} \cdot \nabla + \sigma_t(\vec{r}, E) - \int_0^\infty dE' \int_{4\pi} d\Omega' \sigma_s(\vec{r}, E \rightarrow E', \hat{\Omega} \rightarrow \hat{\Omega}') \quad (2)$$

- Use the adjoint flux to generate MC source and transport biasing parameters

Source: sample from biased PDF



Transport: weight windows





## VR for **photon** transport

- **Straightforward**
- Can use CADIS method to direct photons towards detector
  - Flux-to-dose-rate conversion factors define adjoint source

## VR for **neutron** transport

- More **complicated**
- Biasing function needs to capture
  - ① Potential of regions to become activated
  - ② Potential to produce photons that will contribute to the SDR
- Can use CADIS if we can construct adjoint source that will fulfill these criteria

## Multi-Step (MS)-CADIS

- VR method to optimize the initial radiation transport step of a coupled, multi-step process
  - Relies upon function that represents importance of particles to final response of interest
- When applied to SDR analysis, MS-CADIS will optimize the neutron transport
  - Use function that represents the importance of the neutrons to the final dose rate

$$\int_{\vec{r}} \int_{E_n} \phi_n(\vec{r}, E_n) q_n^+(\vec{r}, E_n) d\vec{r} dE_n = SDR \quad (3)$$

$$SDR = \int_{\vec{r}} \int_{E_\gamma} \phi_\gamma^+(\vec{r}, E_\gamma) q_\gamma(\vec{r}, E_\gamma) d\vec{r} dE_\gamma \quad (4)$$

- Combining these equations:

$$\int_{\vec{r}} \int_{E_n} \phi_n(\vec{r}, E_n) q_n^+(\vec{r}, E_n) d\vec{r} dE_n = \int_{\vec{r}} \int_{E_\gamma} \phi_\gamma^+(\vec{r}, E_\gamma) q_\gamma(\vec{r}, E_\gamma) d\vec{r} dE_\gamma \quad (5)$$

- To solve for the adjoint neutron source,  $q_n^+$ , a relationship between  $q_\gamma$  and  $\phi_n$  is required

$$q_\gamma(E_\gamma) = \int_{E_n} T(E_n, E_\gamma) \phi_n(E_n) dE_n \quad (6)$$

- Groupwise Transmutation (GT)-CADIS
  - Implementation of MS-CADIS specifically for SDR analysis
  - Provides method to calculate optimal adjoint neutron source,  $q_n^+$ , by first calculating,  $T$
  - Calculate  $T$ :
    - ① Irradiate each material with neutrons from a single energy group,  $g$
    - ② Record resulting photon emission in each energy group,  $h$

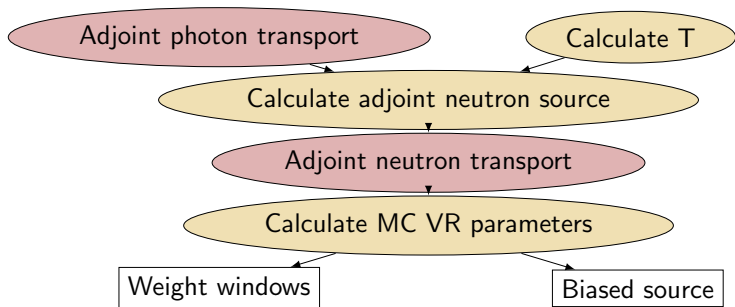
$$T_{g,h} = \frac{q_{\gamma,h}(\phi_{n,g})}{\phi_{n,g}} \quad (7)$$



- Use  $T$  to solve for adjoint neutron source:

$$q_n^+(E_n) = \int_{E_\gamma} T(E_n, E_\gamma) \phi_\gamma^+(E_\gamma) dE_\gamma \quad (8)$$

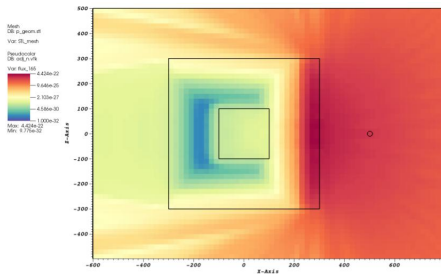
- GT-CADIS workflow







**Figure :** Demo model. Steel chamber, walls are 2 m thick. 14 MeV neutron source in center. Chamber surrounded by air.

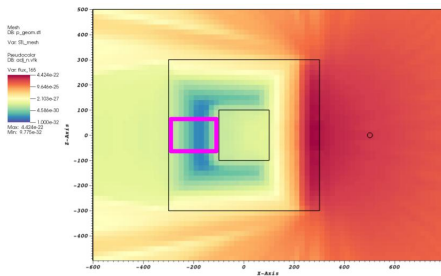


**Figure :** GT-CADIS adjoint neutron flux. Functions as importance map.

GT-CADIS importance map is **insufficient** for moving systems.



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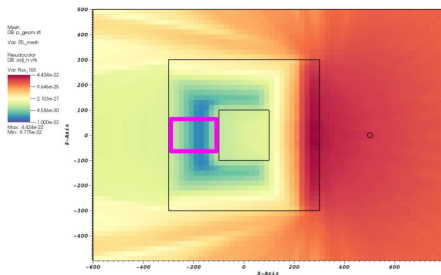


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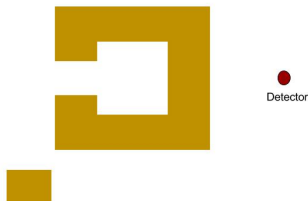


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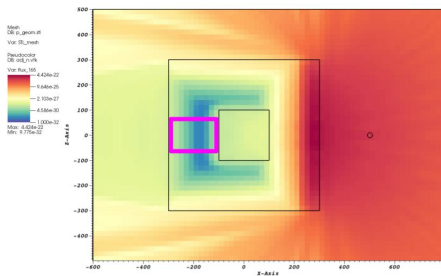


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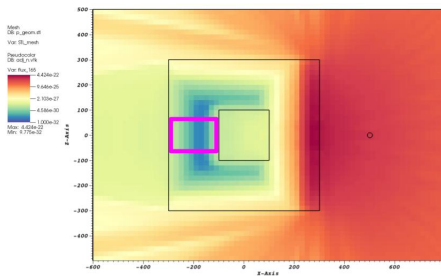


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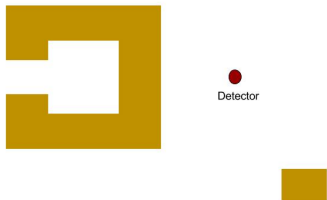


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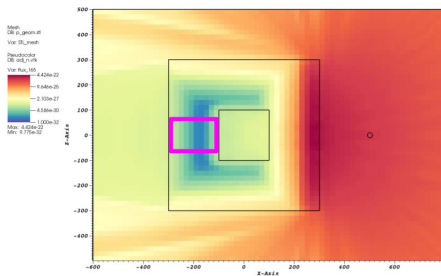


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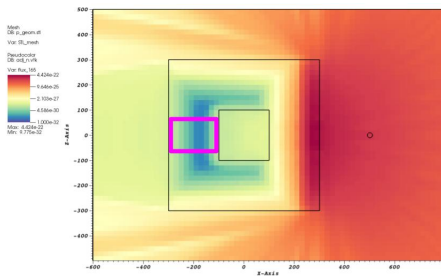


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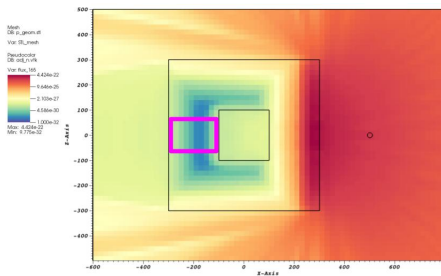


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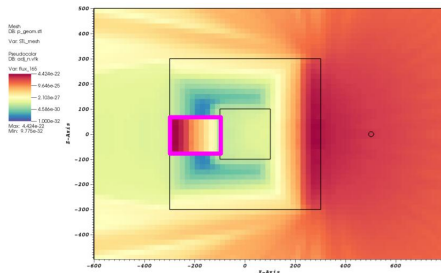


- Geometry movement during photon transport effects the construction of the adjoint neutron source
- Need to:
  - ① Perform adjoint photon transport at each time step of geometry movement
  - ② Integrate over time

$$q_{n,v}^+(E_n) = \int_t \int_{E_\gamma} T_v(E_n, E_\gamma, t) \phi_\gamma^+(\vec{r}_v(t), E_\gamma, t) dE_\gamma dt \quad (9)$$

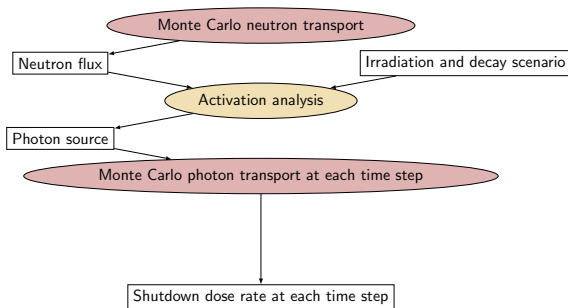
- $\phi_\gamma^+(\vec{r}_v(t), E_\gamma, t)$  is the adjoint flux of photons of energy  $E_\gamma$ , in volume element  $v$ , at time  $t$
- $T_v(E_n, E_\gamma, t)$  is the  $T$  value of the material in volume element  $v$ , at decay time  $t$

- Perform deterministic adjoint neutron transport using the time-integrated source
- Resultant adjoint neutron flux should look something like this:



- Use this adjoint neutron flux to generate biasing parameters that will optimize the MC neutron transport step of R2S.

- R2S workflow for geometry movement after shutdown



- Assumptions
  - Photon transport occurs much faster than geometry movement  $\therefore$  reasonable to do quasi-static simulation
  - Period of geometry movement is short enough that the photon source will not change appreciably  $\therefore$  can use same photon source for all MC calculations
- Challenges
  - Depending on complexity of model and fidelity of time resolution, can amass large number of CAD geometry files, volume mesh tally files
  - Need to optimize this workflow in order to keep file storage at minimum

Questions?