

Best Practices: Large Scale Multiphysics

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Acknowledging financial, technical, or computational support from: NASA, Navair, Dept of Energy Office of Science, Oak Ridge National Labs, Argonne National Labs, ERDC (DoD), GE

Motivation: A multiphysics problem

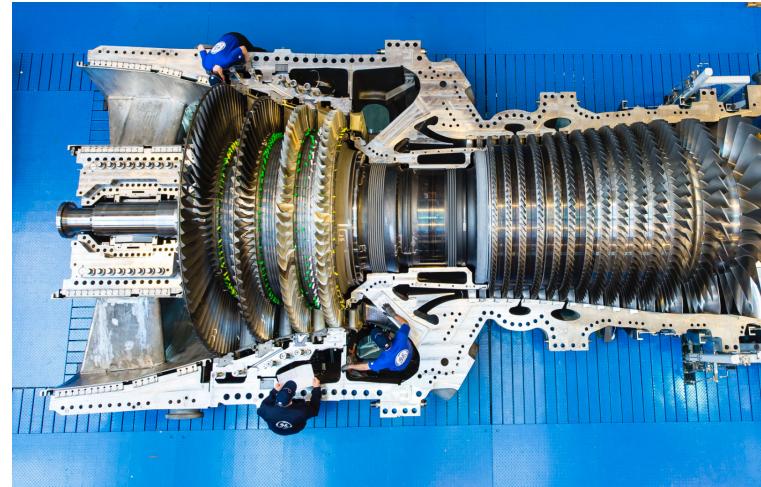
Gas Turbine Self-Excited Dynamics (SED)

In 2014, GE observed combustion dynamics during a full-scale test of a gas turbine

The particular frequency had not been predicted by lower-fidelity models, and had not been observed in single can combustor testing

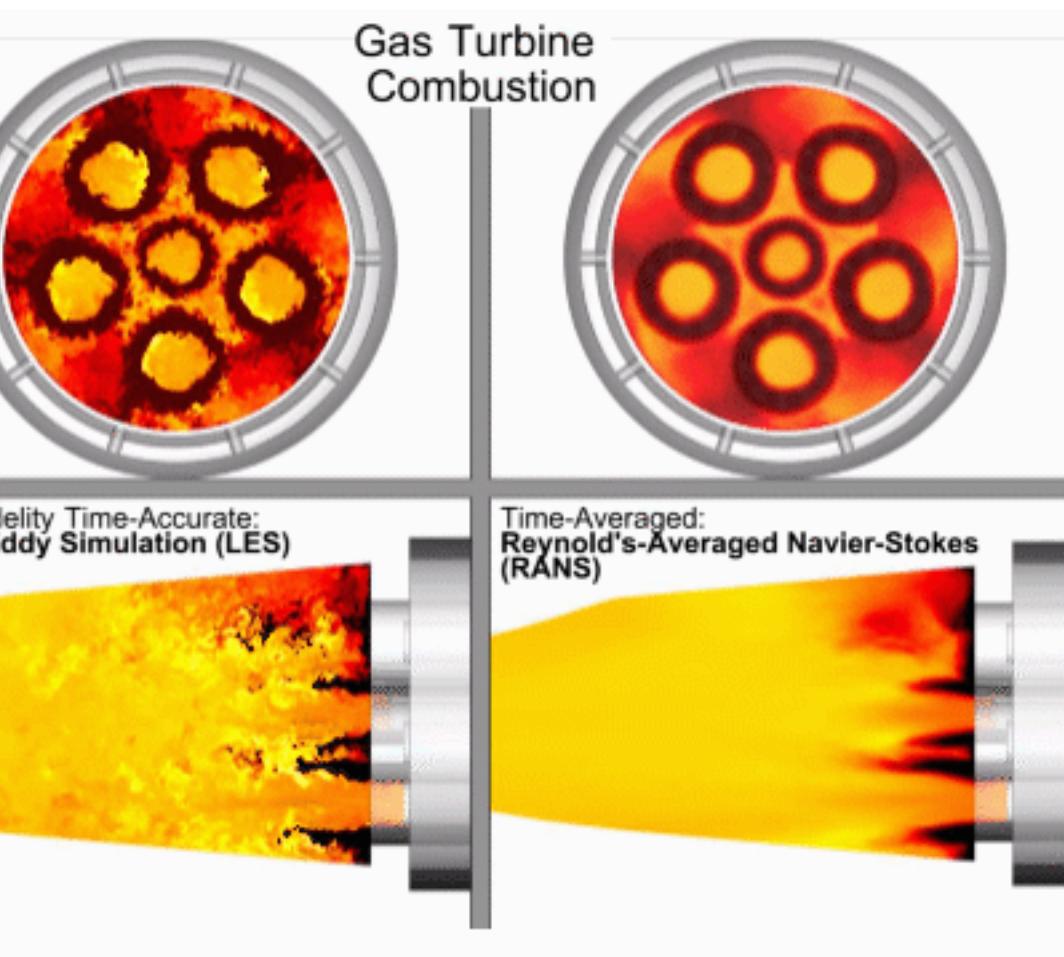
Amplitudes were not a concern, and could be managed with fueling adjustments, but important questions remained:

- What caused the observed dynamics?
- Would it manifest in a new engine configuration with new technology scheduled for testing in late 2015?



2015 Press Release: Super Collaboration

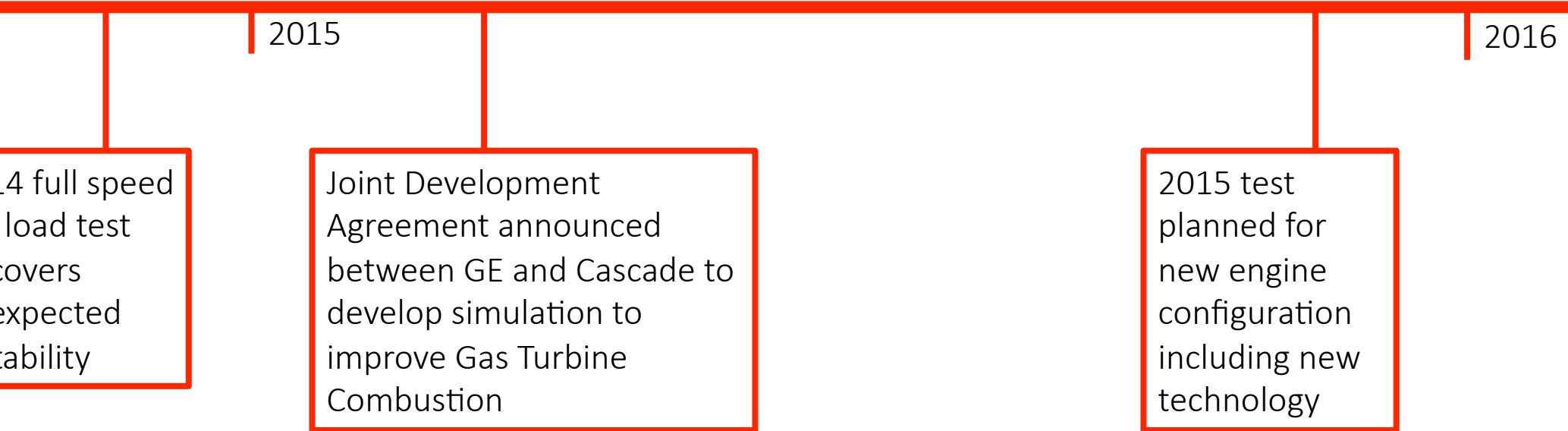
GE and Cascade Apply New Technologies and Super-Computer Capabilities to Improve Gas Turbine Combustion



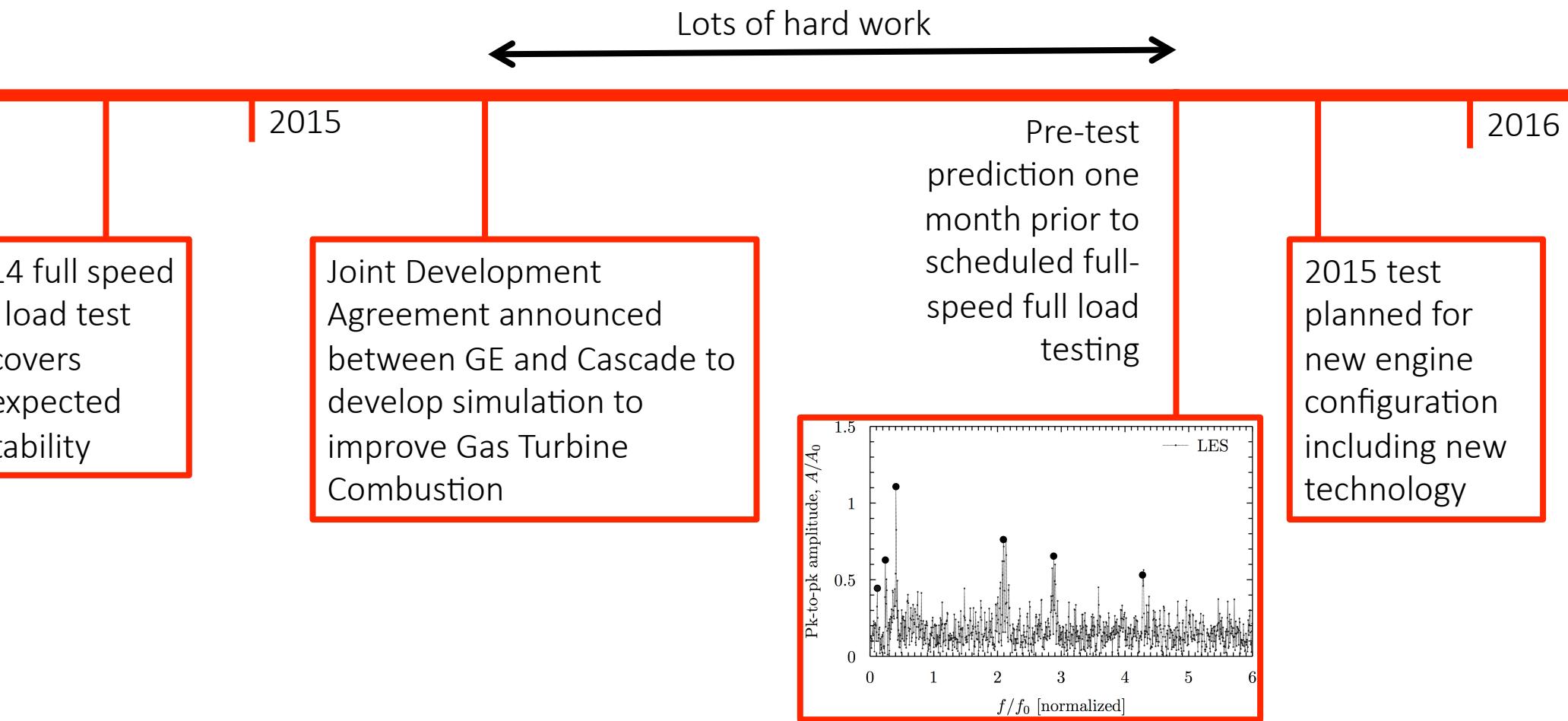
“The enhanced simulation and visualization capabilities enabled by our collaboration with Cascade can help us deliver even higher efficiency and lower emissions in the next generation of gas turbines,”

John Lammas, vice president,
power generation engineering
GE Power and Water

The timeline: Simulating Gas Turbine Self-Excited Dynamics (SED)



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HPC Partnerships: critical for success stories and the likely model for early industrial use of exascale)



- Owner of the problem/challenge
- Business urgency (read \$)
- Deep domain-specific knowledge
- Compelling energy and US competitive arguments



- Owner of the hardware (Titan)
- Aligned with energy and US competitive argument



- Owner of the software
- HPC Software/Multiphysics/Numerics development team able to move fast and touch all parts of the simulation workflow

The full story

<https://www.olcf.ornl.gov/2016/05/31/better-combustion-for-power-generation/>

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SCIENCE - Written by [Jonathan Hines](#) on May 31, 2016

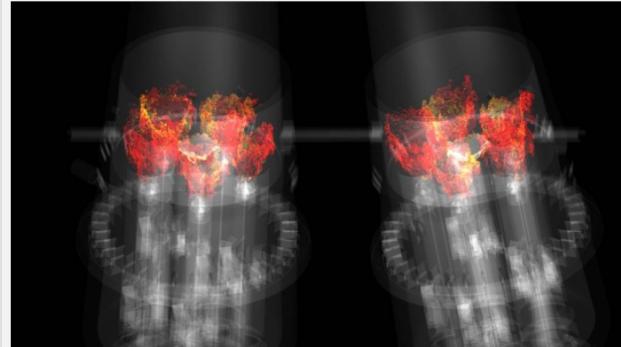
Better Combustion for Power Generation

Tags: [ACCEL](#), [Combustion](#), [GE Global Research](#), [Industrial Partnerships](#), [Industry](#), [Supercomputing](#)



Titan propels GE beyond the limits of gas turbine testing

In the United States, the use of natural gas for electricity generation continues to grow. The driving forces behind this development? A boom in domestic natural gas production, historically low prices, and increased scrutiny over fossil fuels' carbon emissions. Though coal still accounts for about a third of US electricity generation, utility companies are pivoting to cleaner natural gas to replace decommissioned coal plants.



A simulation of combustion within two adjacent gas turbine combustors. GE researchers are incorporating advanced combustion modeling and simulation into product testing after developing a breakthrough methodology on the OLCF's Titan supercomputer. Image courtesy of Cascade Technologies

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Revolutionary Computational Aerosciences

5 revolutions required...

NASA/CR-2014-218178



CFD Vision 2030 Study: A Path to Revolutionary Computational Aerosciences

*Jeffrey Slotnick and Abdollah Khodadoust
Boeing Research & Technology, Huntington Beach, California*

*Juan Alonso
Stanford University, Stanford, California*

*David Darmofal
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts*

*William Gropp
National Center for Supercomputing Applications, Urbana, Illinois*

*Elizabeth Lurie
Pratt & Whitney, United Technologies Corporation, East Hartford, Connecticut*

*Dimitri Mavriplis
University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming*

- Efficient deployment on **next-generation computer hardware** and **algorithmic innovation**
- Complex geometries, **mesh generation** and **adaptation** remain a bottleneck
- **Wall modeling**, and current inability to predict separated turbulent flows
- The need for more than a single prediction: sensitivity analysis, design optimization, UQ, and the consequent **data management issues**
- **Multi-physics modeling** – push toward constitutive models that reflect the underlying physics more closely than ever before

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Starting point: Cascade's CharLES solver 2015

Finite volume method

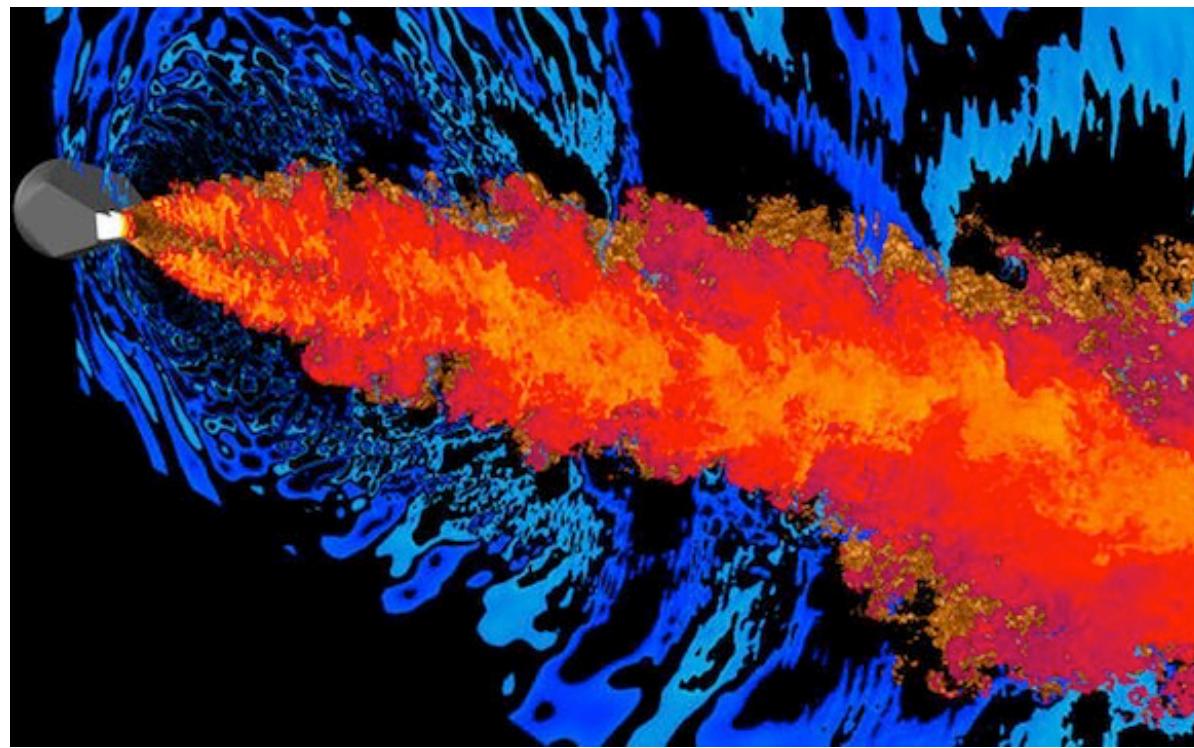
Explicit RK3 time
advancement

Compressible reacting flow

Flamelet-based tabulation
of EOS

Arbitrary unstructured grids
with parMetis-based
domain-decomposition

Significant verification and
validation



Pressure and temperature field of a screeching supersonic jet.
Image from “Stanford researchers break million-core supercomputing barrier”.

Can we do grid generation on the HPC resource?

Generating grids is still a bottleneck for most solvers working with geometries of engineering relevance

Grids not going away for turbulent flows: problems are non-smooth and require energy estimates to ensure stability

Grid generation/optimization should ultimately be part of the simulation process (to minimize grid-related only known during the simulation)

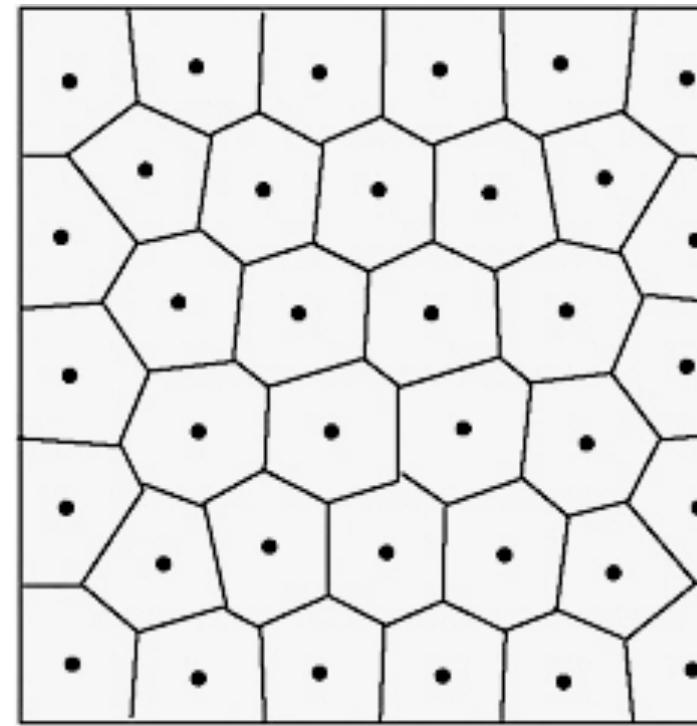
What about Voronoi diagrams?

Clipped Voronoi Diagrams

Key technology: Robust direct generation of the clipped Voronoi diagram inside an arbitrary hull

Fully and uniquely defines the mesh from a set of points (connectivity, volumes, normals)

To modify the mesh, move, add, or remove points
mesh changes are continuous and differentiable with point motion
Voronoi diagram has compact support, and can thus be essentially “rendered” from the given point set



Voronoi Generating Points

HCP = hexagonal close-packed lattice

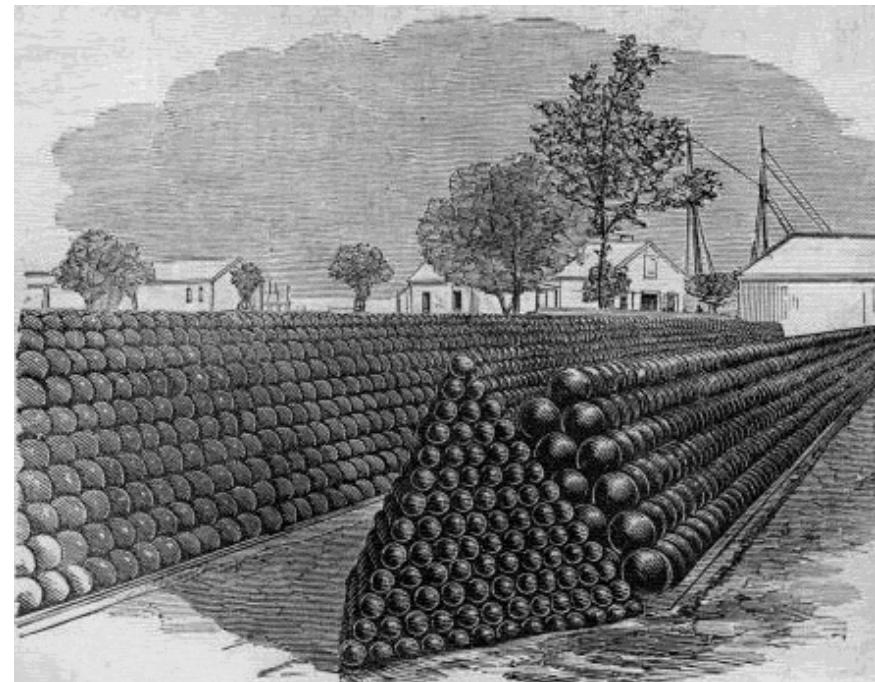
Leads to centroidal Voronoi meshes of self-similar truncated octahedra

User specifies regions/windows and desired point density

HCP mesh inserted using fast scanning approach

Similar to pixel “rendering”

Parallel, scalable

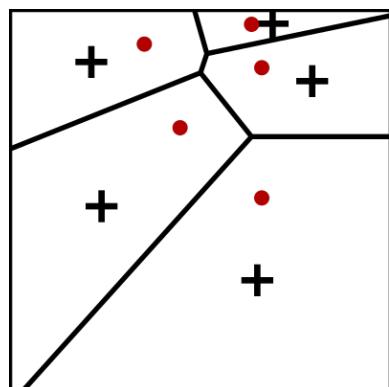


Optimal sphere packing is the motivation for HCP-lattice based Voronoi diagrams

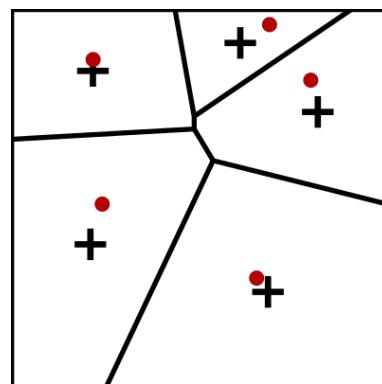
Boundary Recovery using Lloyd Iteration

Lloyd iteration is a robust and powerful mesh smoothing capability for Voronoi diagrams that can be used to:

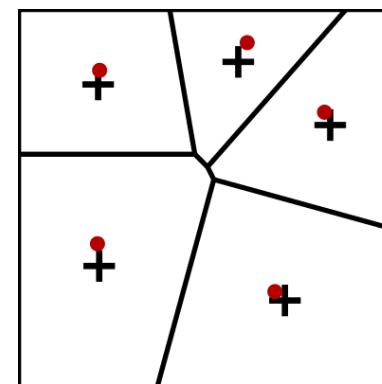
- Improve the mesh quality either locally or globally
- Introduce boundary alignment



Starting mesh:
Voronoi sites and
mesh centroids
very different

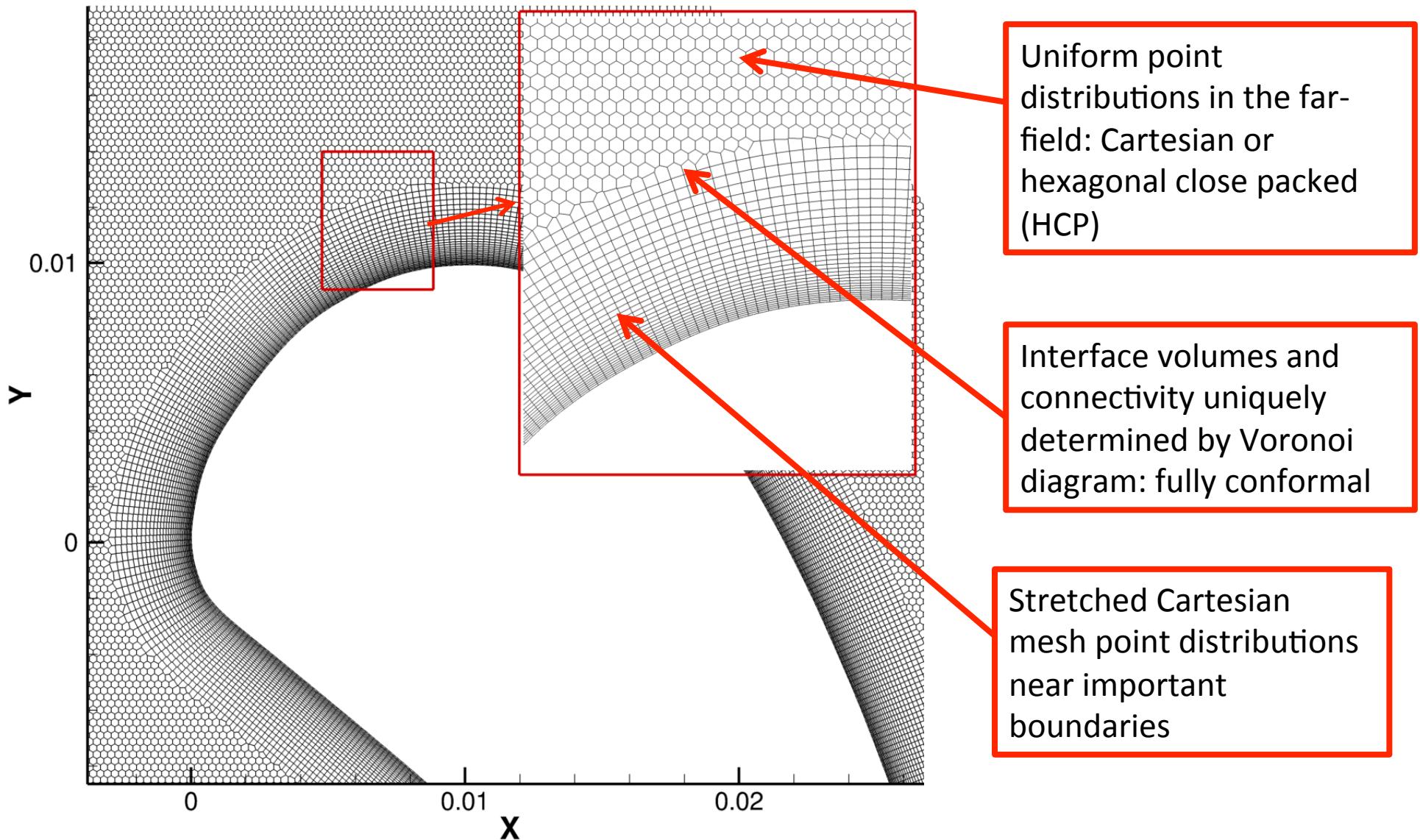


Iteration 1:
regenerate Voronoi
from centroids of
previous mesh



Iteration 2:
regenerate Voronoi
from centroids of
previous mesh

Example of a Voronoi Mesh around an airfoil



CPU-side solver optimizations: 1/2

Restructuring data layout for increased cache efficiency

```
void calcInternalFlux(flux,fa[ifa],rho[icv0], rho[icv1],
                      u[icv0], u[icv1], p[icv0], p[icv1],
                      h[icv0], h[icv1], ...);
```

original

```
class State {
public:
    double vol;
    double rho;
    double u[3];
    double rhoE;
    double h;
    double p;
};

void calcInternalFlux(flux,fa[ifa],cv[icv0],cv[icv1]);
```

refactored

Aggressive overlapping computation/communication (latency hiding)

Vectorizing instructions, aggressive inlining

Improved partitioning algorithm (native, no longer ParMetis)

CPU-side solver optimizations: 2/2

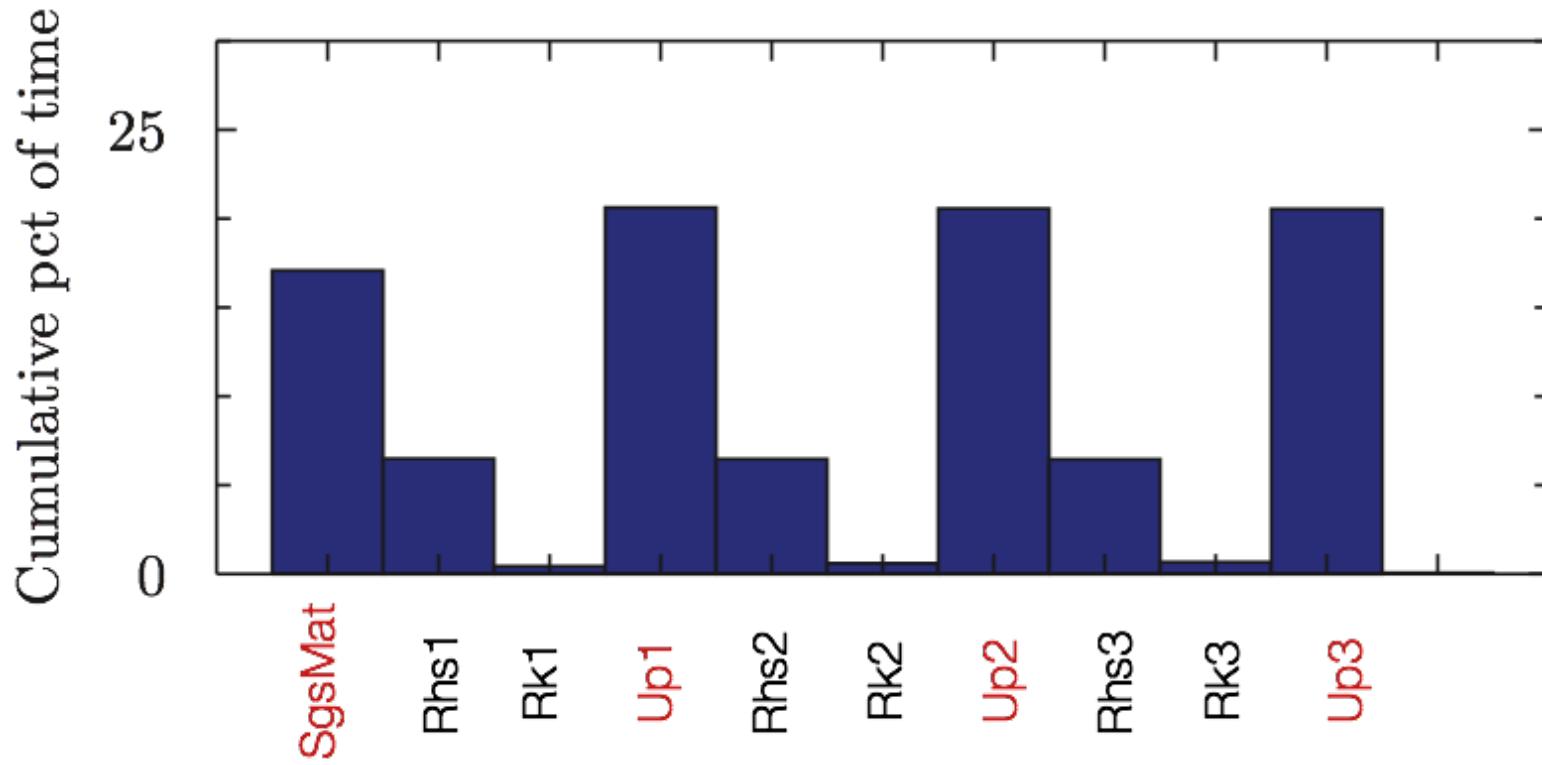
LLVM bytecode: load operations for internal flux calculation [Dec 2015]

```
%2 = load double* %1, align 8, !dbg !542, !tbaa!434          cv0.idx 1 [cv0.rho]
%5 = load double* %4, align 8, !dbg !542, !tbaa!434          cv1.idx 1 [cv1.rho]
%10 = load double* %9, align 8, !dbg !546, !tbaa!425         cv0.idx 2,0 [cv0.u0]
%12 = load double* %11, align 8, !dbg !546, !tbaa!425        cv1.idx 2,0 [cv1.u1]
%16 = load double* %15, align 8, !dbg !546, !tbaa!425        cv0.idx 2,1 [cv0.u2]
%18 = load double* %17, align 8, !dbg !546, !tbaa!425        cv1.idx 2,1
%22 = load double* %21, align 8, !dbg !546, !tbaa!425        cv0.idx 2,2
%24 = load double* %23, align 8, !dbg !546, !tbaa!425        cv1.idx 2,2
%38 = load double* %37, align 8, !dbg !551, !tbaa!451         cv0.idx 9
%40 = load double* %39, align 8, !dbg !551, !tbaa!451         cv1.idx 9
%46 = load double* %45, align 8, !dbg !555, !tbaa!556          cv0.idx 6
%49 = load double* %48, align 8, !dbg !555, !tbaa!556          cv1.idx 6
%59 = load double* %58, align 8, !dbg !562, !tbaa!425          fa idx1,0
%62 = load double* %61, align 8, !dbg !562, !tbaa!425          fa idx1,1
%66 = load double* %65, align 8, !dbg !562, !tbaa!425          fa idx1,2
%72 = load double* %58, align 8, !dbg !564, !tbaa!425          fa idx1,0
%77 = load double* %61, align 8, !dbg !565, !tbaa!425          fa idx1,1
%82 = load double* %65, align 8, !dbg !566, !tbaa!425          fa idx1,2
%103 = load <2 x double>* %102, align 8, !dbg !568, !tbaa!425
%106 = load <2 x double>* %105, align 8, !dbg !568, !tbaa!425
%113 = load double* %58, align 8, !dbg !570, !tbaa!425          fa idx1,0
%115 = load double* %61, align 8, !dbg !570, !tbaa!425          fa idx1,1
%118 = load double* %65, align 8, !dbg !570, !tbaa!425          fa idx1,2
%125 = load double* %124, align 8, !dbg !572, !tbaa!425          fa idx1,2
```

Reordering instructions, algebraic factorizations, storing intermediate variables in internal flux routines to reduce repeated load instructions

Execution time breakdown

CPU-optimized compressible premixed solver



The most time-consuming operations are associated with tabulated lookups (cubic interpolation on a Cartesian grid) - move execution of these kernels to the GPU (cuda for Titan's K20X Keplers)

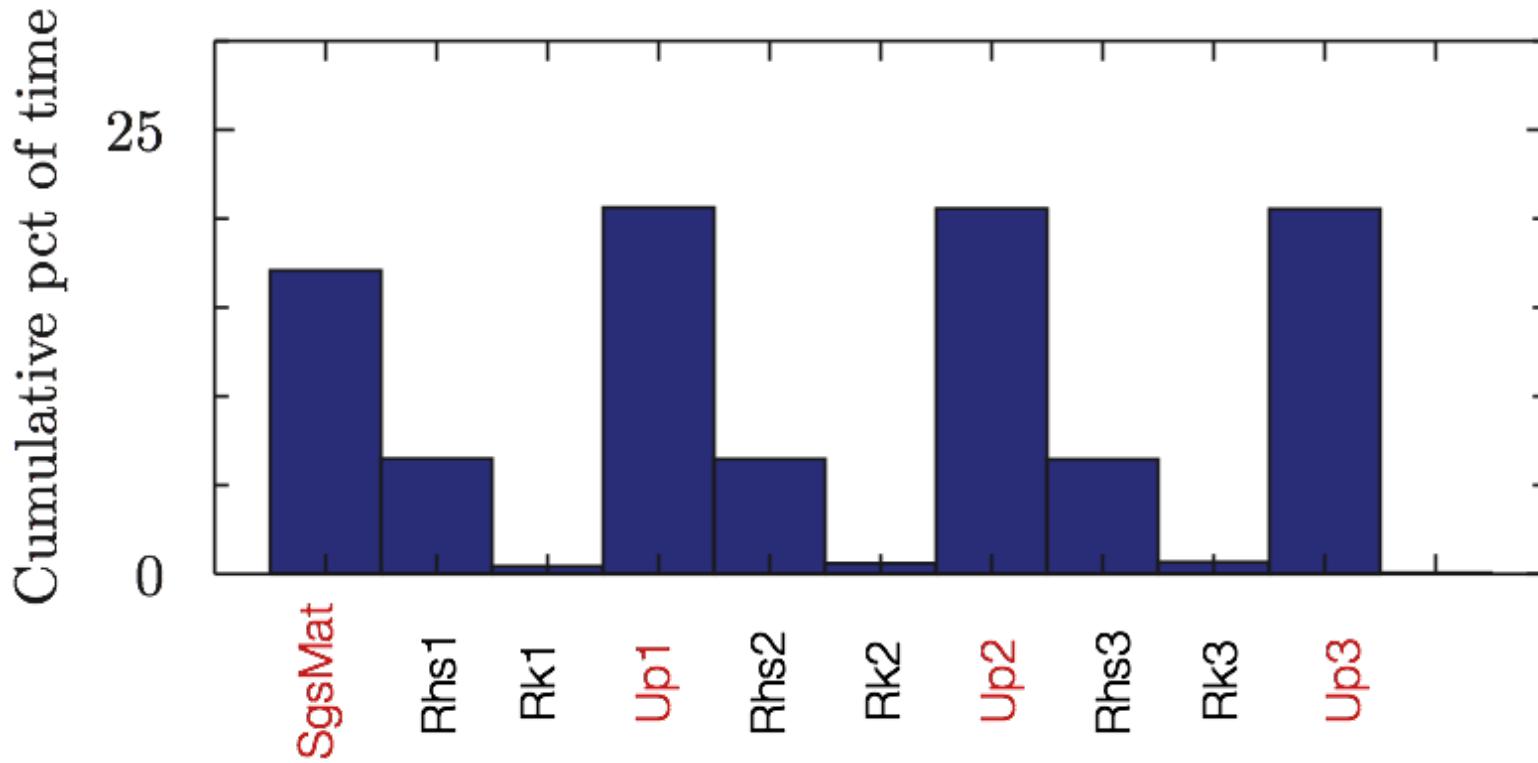
Speedup from CPU-side optimizations including flux simplifications associated with Voronoi diagrams

	$\approx 25k$ cvs/core	$\approx 3k$ cvs/core
Dec 2015	74	87
Feb 2016 (CPU only)	14.8	16

normalized timing: core-sec/M cells/step at 2 levels of strong scaling
Approximately speedup of 5X for the CPU only execution
slightly better strong scaling due to latency hiding

Execution time breakdown

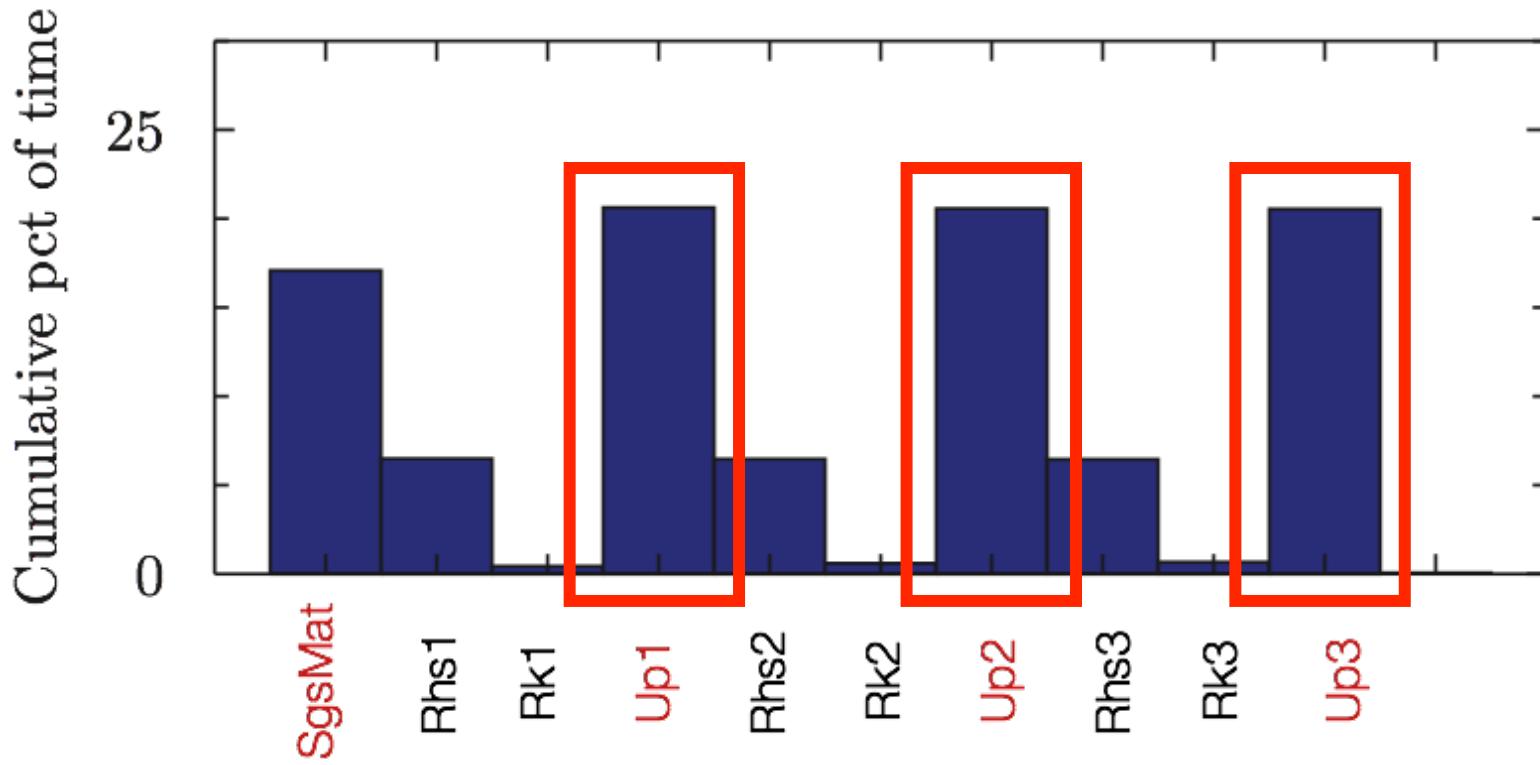
CPU-optimized + GPU port of tabulation



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Speedup from CPU+GPU optimizations

GPU chemistry tabulation

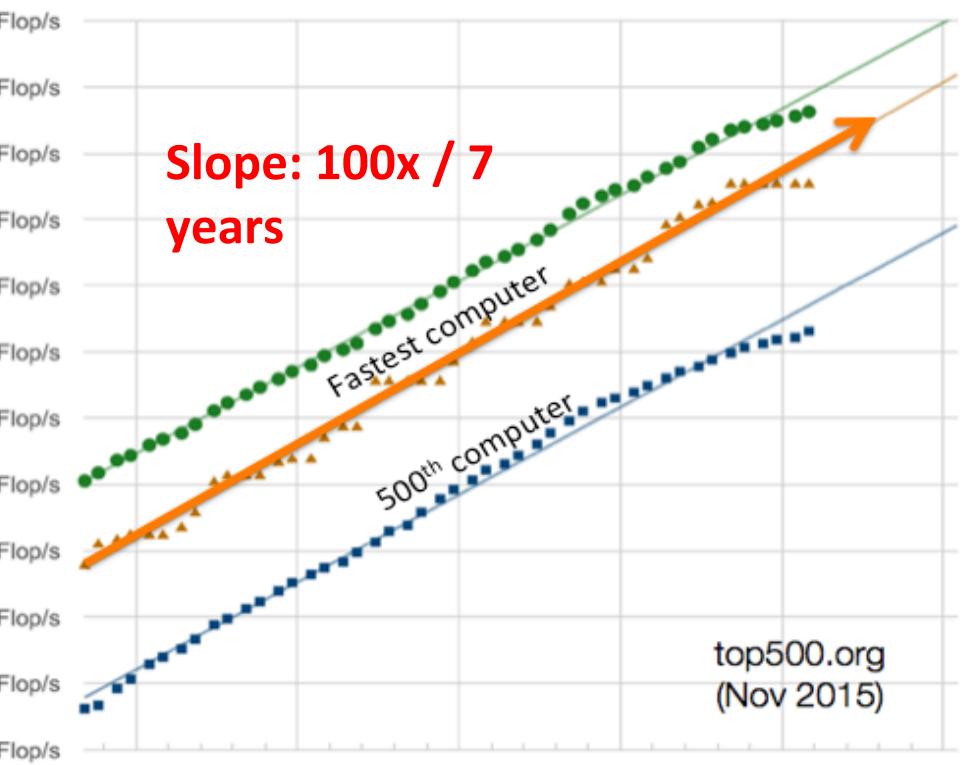
	≈ 25k cvs/core	≈ 3k cvs/core
Dec 2015	74	87
Feb 2016 (CPU only)	14.8	16
Mar 2016 (CPU/GPU)	8.3	9.7

normalized timing: core-sec/M cells/step at 2 levels of strong scaling

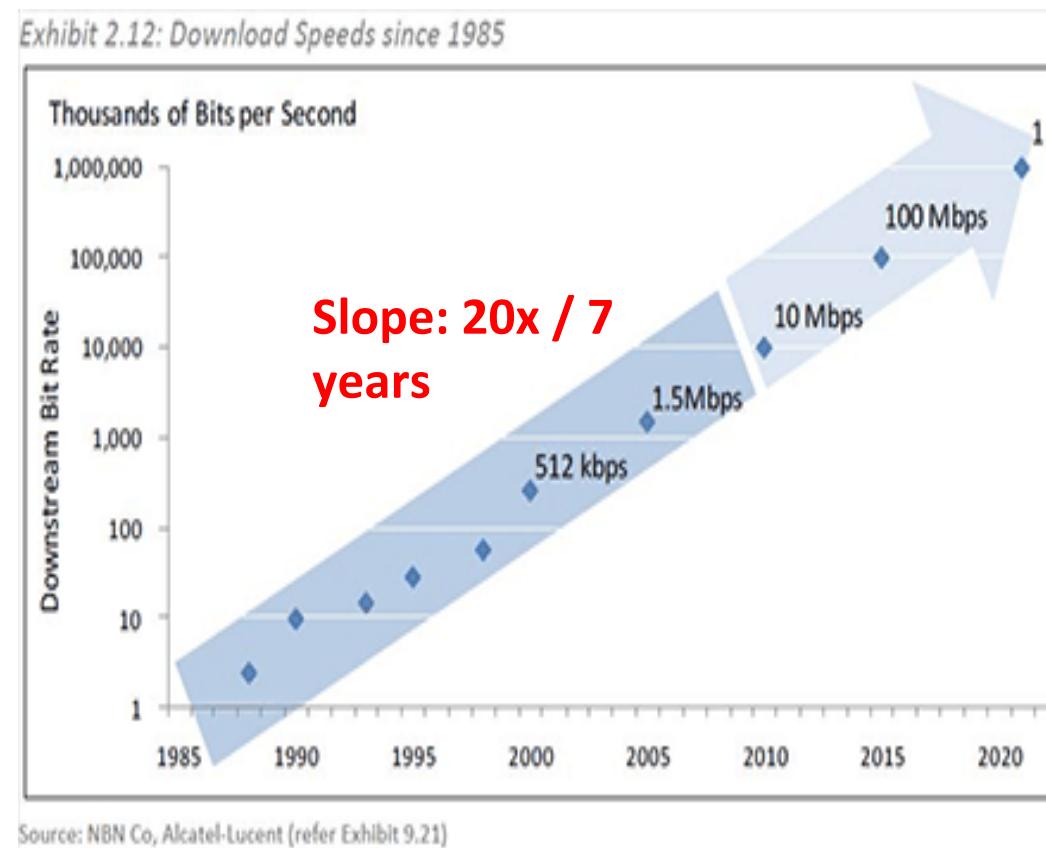
Approximately speedup of 9X for the CPU+GPU execution

Great: Simulations are running fast Now how do we look at them/learn from them?

Ability to produce data exceeding our ability to move data by 5x/7years



History of supercomputer performance



History of network bandwidth

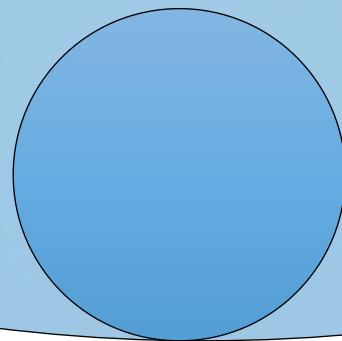
Solution: Images + metadata

Instrument solvers to directly write images + metadata

Images become Cartesian arrays of probes

Dimensional reduction + lossless compression at source

Intrinsically valuable

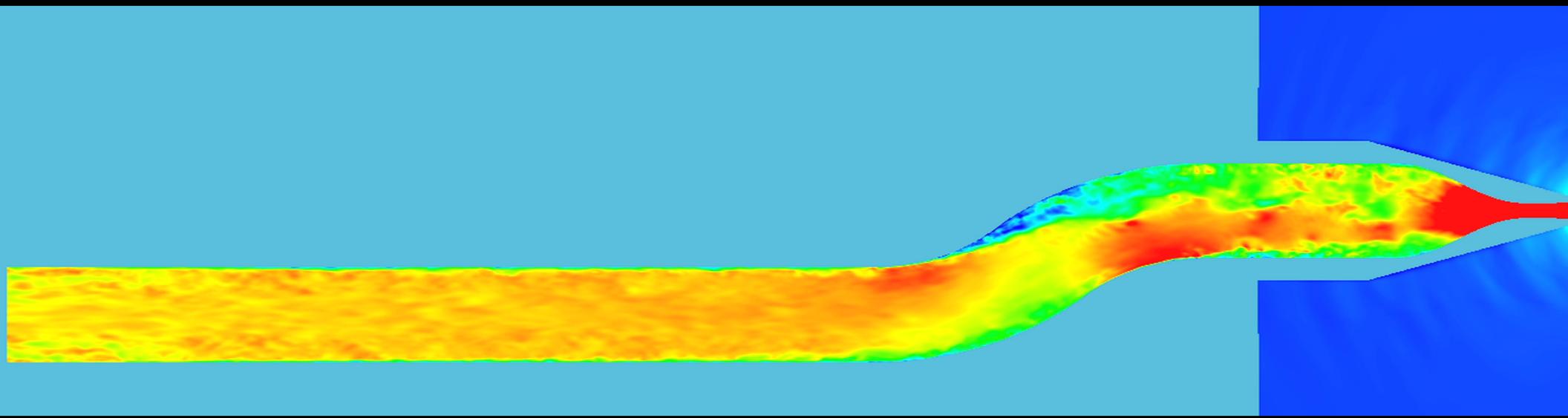


Simulation result file size: 20-200+ GB

•
Image size: ~1 MB
(4-5 orders of magnitude smaller)

Leveraging the PNG standard images+metadata as Cartesian arrays of probes

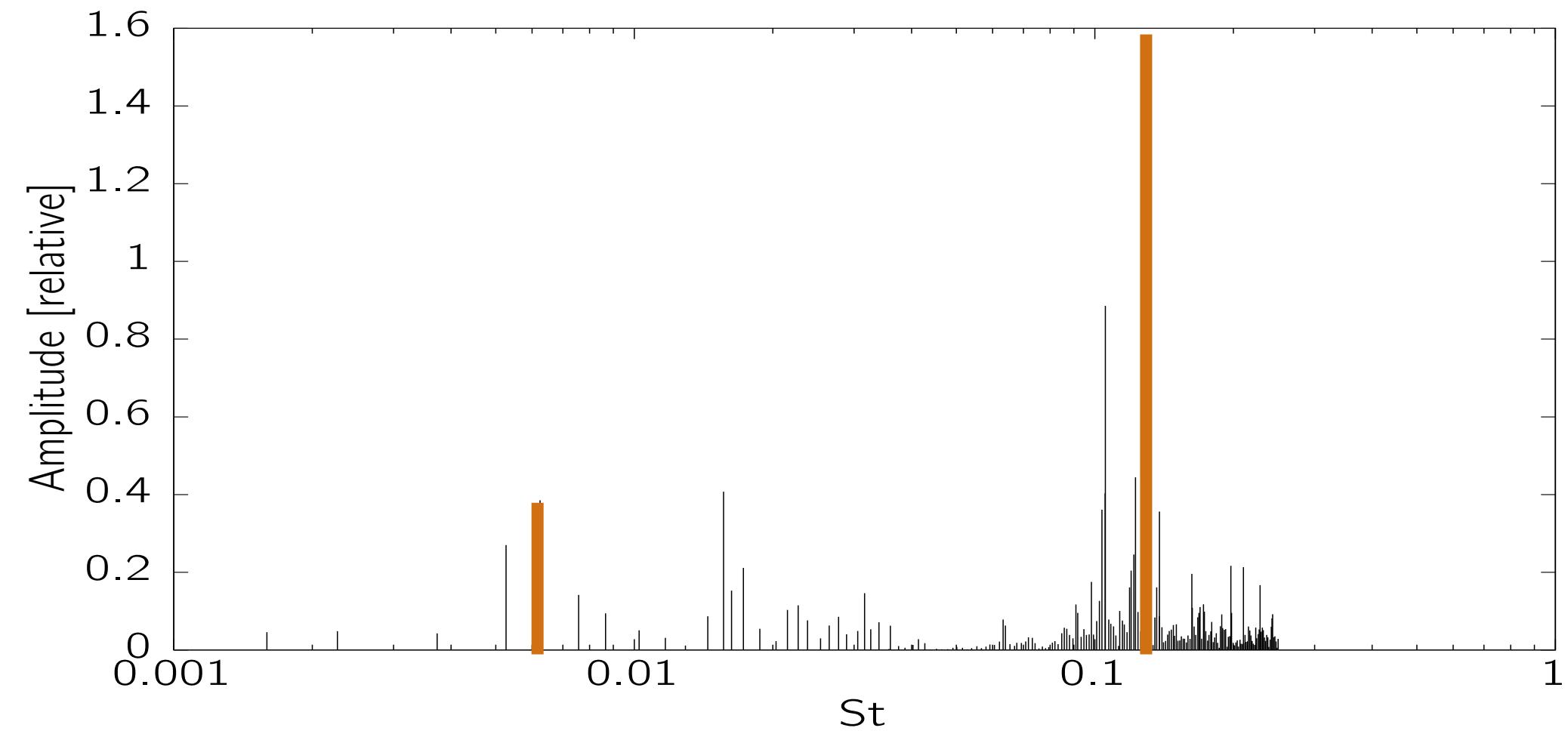
Contours of streamwise velocity, u/c_0
 $Re_j = 418,000$, $St_{\text{samp}} = 2$, Data size = 50 MB



*Treat each pixel in image as a data point (excluding geometry)
analogous to PIV analysis*

Quantitative data analysis from images

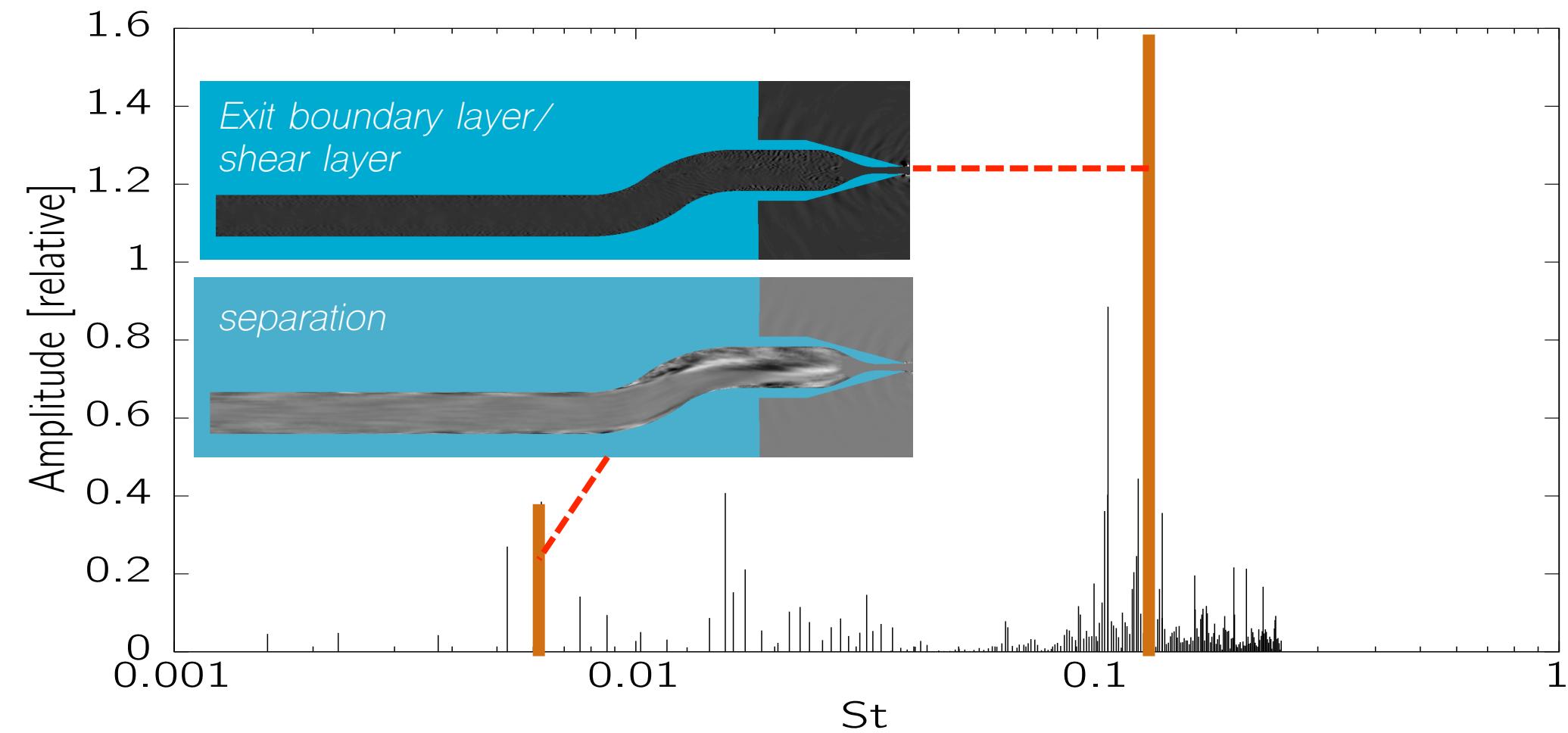
Dynamic mode decomposition



Identify salient flow structures/frequencies directly from images (similar to Schmid 2011, Schmid al 2012 applied to expt data)

Quantitative data analysis from images

Dynamic mode decomposition



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Summary

Fast development + tight coupling with internal design team AND hardware team allowed Titan-based simulations to contribute understanding and mitigate new technology risk for GE

Solvers realized speedup of 9X relative to starting point over 2 quarters
3-way partnership with physics software developer in the loop critical for this success

Speedup has allowed GE to bring many more impactful simulations in-house onto internal HPC