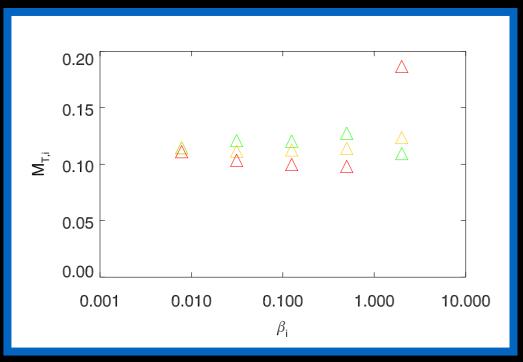
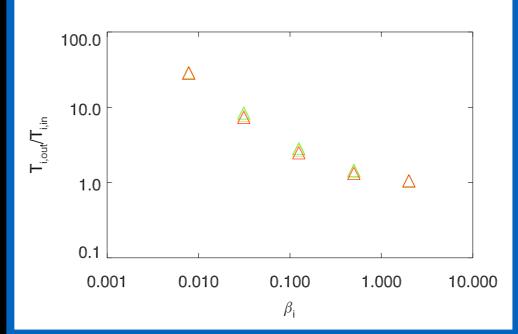
Numerical stability

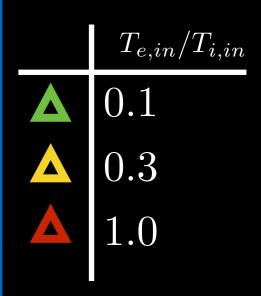
- The particle granularity gives short-scale fluctuations of the electromagnetic fields, whose mean amplitude scales (Poisson-like) as \sqrt{n} , where n is the particle density.
- The fractional contribution of the fluctuations (over the slowly varying fields) scales as $1/\sqrt{n}$.
- This is problematic because the number of super-particles in particle-in-cell codes is « number of real particles.
- We need to control the level of the fluctuations such that they give negligible effects over the timespan of the simulations.

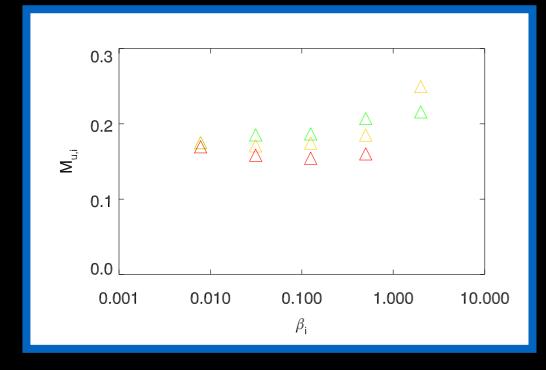
Ion heating I

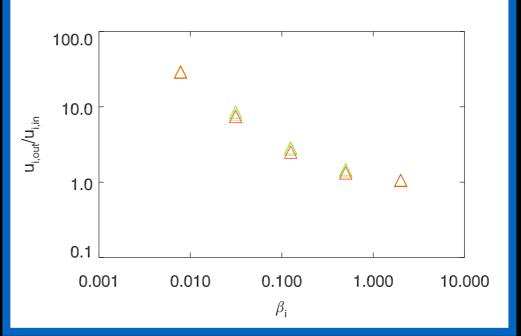
For completeness, here are the corresponding ion plots:











$$\sigma = 0.1$$
 $m_i/m_e = 25$
 $ppc = 16;64$
 $m_y = 10240$