

# Mixed Hybrid Finite Element Method Eddington Acceleration of Discrete Ordinates Source Iteration

ANS Student Conference  
Mathematics and Computation

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**NUCLEAR ENGINEERING**  
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1. Motivation
2. Source Iteration Background
3. Eddington Acceleration
4. Results
5. Conclusions

# Motivation

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# Motivation

## Radiation Hydrodynamics

- Propagate thermal radiation through fluid
- Model effects of thermal radiation on fluid momentum and energy
- Required in high energy density laboratory physics and astrophysics

## Efficient methods developed independently

- Mixed Hybrid Finite Element Method (MHFEM) for hydrodynamics
- Linear Discontinuous Galerkin (LDG) for transport

## Need hydrodynamics and transport to be spatially discretized with the same method

- Interpolating between spatial grids introduces noise
- Matching grids between methods is not always possible in higher dimensions

## Goal

Develop an acceleration scheme that

1. Robustly reduces the number of source iterations in Discrete Ordinates calculations
2. Is compatible with MHFEM multiphysics

Show that MHFEM can be used to accelerate lumped LDG radiation transport

## Source Iteration Background

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# Boltzmann Equation

Steady-state, mono-energetic, isotropically-scattering, fixed-source Linear Boltzmann Equation in 1D slab geometry:

$$\mu \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x}(x, \mu) + \Sigma_t(x) \psi(x, \mu) = \frac{\Sigma_s(x)}{2} \int_{-1}^1 \psi(x, \mu') d\mu' + \frac{Q(x)}{2}$$

$\mu = \cos \theta$  the cosine of the angle of flight  $\theta$  relative to the  $x$ -axis

$\Sigma_t(x)$ ,  $\Sigma_s(x)$  total and scattering macroscopic cross sections

$Q(x)$  the isotropic fixed-source

$\psi(x, \mu)$  the angular flux

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**Integro-differential equation**

## Discrete Ordinates ( $S_N$ ) Angular Discretization

Compute angular flux on  $N$  discrete angles

$$\psi(x, \mu) \xrightarrow{S_N} \begin{cases} \psi_1(x), & \mu = \mu_1 \\ \psi_2(x), & \mu = \mu_2 \\ \vdots \\ \psi_N, & \mu = \mu_N \end{cases}$$

$\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_N$  defined by  $N$ -point Gauss Quadrature Rule

Integrate order  $2N - 1$  polynomials exactly with

$$\phi(x) = \int_{-1}^1 \psi(x, \mu) d\mu \xrightarrow{S_N} \sum_{n=1}^N w_n \psi_n(x)$$



$$\mu_n \frac{d\psi_n}{dx}(x) + \Sigma_t(x)\psi_n(x) = \frac{\Sigma_s(x)}{2}\phi(x) + \frac{Q(x)}{2}, 1 \leq n \leq N$$

$$\phi(x) = \sum_{n=1}^N w_n \psi_n(x)$$

$N$  coupled, ordinary differential equations

All coupling in scattering term

# Source Iteration

Decouple by lagging scattering term

$$\mu_n \frac{d\psi_n^{\ell+1}}{dx}(x) + \Sigma_t(x)\psi_n^{\ell+1}(x) = \frac{\Sigma_s(x)}{2}\phi^\ell(x) + \frac{Q(x)}{2}, 1 \leq n \leq N$$

**$N$  independent, first-order, ordinary differential equations**

Solve each equation with well-known sweeping process

## Source Iteration

1. Given previous estimate for  $\phi^\ell(x)$ , solve for  $\psi_n^{\ell+1}$
2. Compute  $\phi^{\ell+1}(x) = \sum_{n=1}^N w_n \psi_n^{\ell+1}(x)$
3. Update scattering term with  $\phi^{\ell+1}(x)$  and repeat until:

$$\frac{\|\phi^{\ell+1}(x) - \phi^\ell(x)\|}{\|\phi^{\ell+1}(x)\|} < \epsilon$$

## Need For Acceleration in Source Iteration

Convergence rate is linked to the number of collisions in a particle's lifetime

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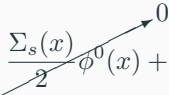
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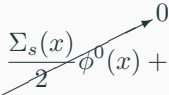
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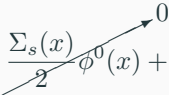
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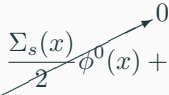
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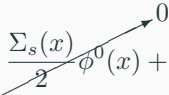
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**Slow to converge in optically thick systems with minimal losses to absorption and leakage**

# Eddington Acceleration

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# Zeroth Angular Moment

Boltzmann Equation

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Integrate over all angles

$$\int_{-1}^1 \mu \frac{d\psi}{dx}(x, \mu) d\mu + \int_{-1}^1 \Sigma_t(x)\psi(x, \mu) d\mu = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{\Sigma_s(x)}{2}\phi(x) d\mu + \int_{-1}^1 \frac{Q(x)}{2} d\mu$$

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Use  $J(x) = \int_{-1}^1 \mu\psi(x, \mu) d\mu$ ,  $\phi(x) = \int_{-1}^1 \psi(x, \mu) d\mu$

## Zeroth Angular Moment

$$\frac{d}{dx}J(x) + \Sigma_a(x)\phi(x) = Q(x)$$

# First Angular Moment

Multiply by  $\mu$  and integrate

$$\int_{-1}^1 \mu^2 \frac{d\psi}{dx}(x, \mu) d\mu + \int_{-1}^1 \mu \Sigma_t(x) \psi(x, \mu) d\mu = \int_{-1}^1 \mu \frac{\Sigma_s(x)}{2} \phi(x) d\mu + \int_{-1}^1 \mu \frac{Q(x)}{2} d\mu$$

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Rearrange derivative

$$\frac{d}{dx} \int_{-1}^1 \mu^2 \psi(x, \mu) d\mu$$

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$$\frac{d}{dx} \int_{-1}^1 \mu^2 \psi(x, \mu) d\mu$$

Multiply and divide by  $\int_{-1}^1 \psi(x, \mu) d\mu$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \int_{-1}^1 \psi(x, \mu) d\mu \frac{\int_{-1}^1 \mu^2 \psi(x, \mu) d\mu}{\int_{-1}^1 \psi(x, \mu) d\mu}$$

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Eddington Factor

$$\langle \mu^2 \rangle(x) = \frac{\int_{-1}^1 \mu^2 \psi(x, \mu) d\mu}{\int_{-1}^1 \psi(x, \mu) d\mu}$$

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Shape function

# Moment Equations

## Moment Equations

$$\frac{d}{dx}J(x) + \Sigma_a(x)\phi(x) = Q(x) \quad (\text{Zeroth Moment})$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}\langle\mu^2\rangle(x)\phi(x) + \Sigma_t(x)J(x) = 0 \quad (\text{First Moment})$$

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Solve First Moment for  $J(x)$

$$J(x) = -\frac{1}{\Sigma_t(x)} \frac{d}{dx} \langle\mu^2\rangle(x)\phi(x)$$



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Combine Zero and First Moments  $\Rightarrow$  Drift Diffusion Equation

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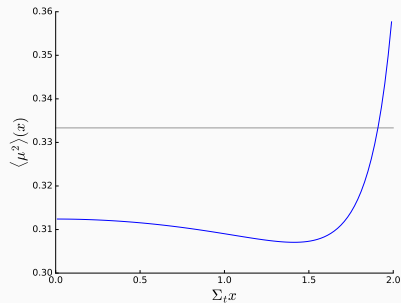
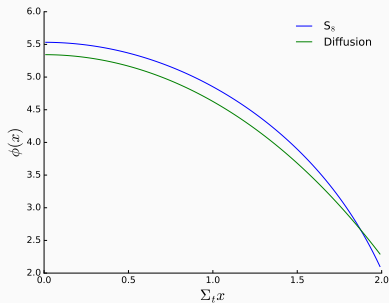
$$-\frac{d}{dx} \frac{1}{\Sigma_t(x)} \frac{d}{dx} \langle \mu^2 \rangle(x) \phi(x) + \Sigma_a(x) \phi(x) = Q(x)$$

Fick's Law: set  $\langle \mu^2 \rangle(x) = \frac{1}{3}$

$$J(x) = -\frac{1}{3\Sigma_t(x)} \frac{d}{dx} \phi(x)$$

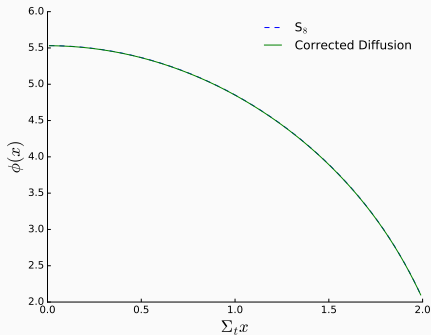
# $S_8$ v. Diffusion

Small system  $\Rightarrow$  diffusion not expected to be accurate



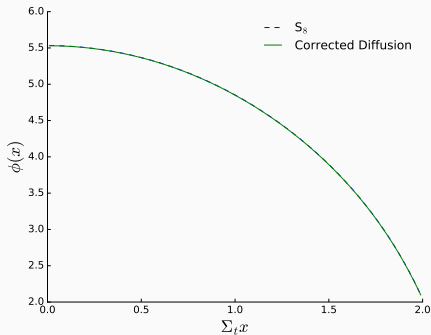
## $S_8$ v. Drift Diffusion

Use  $\langle \mu^2 \rangle(x)$  from  $S_8$  in Moment Equations



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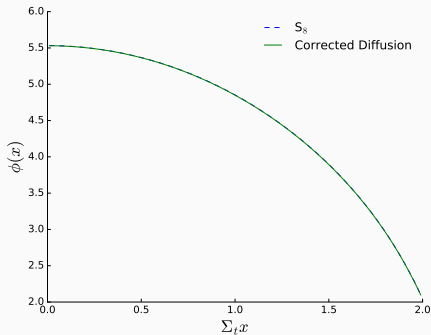
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Drift Diffusion and  $S_N$  match!

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Drift Diffusion and  $S_N$  match!

Requires knowledge of angular flux

Use  $S_N$  to compute  $\langle \mu^2 \rangle(x)$  and Moment Equations to find  $\phi(x)$

## Eddington Acceleration

1. Given the previous estimate for the scalar flux,  $\phi^\ell(x)$ , solve for  $\psi_n^{\ell+1/2}(x)$
2. Compute  $\langle \mu^2 \rangle^{\ell+1/2}(x)$
3. Solve the Moment Equations for  $\phi^{\ell+1}(x)$  using  $\langle \mu^2 \rangle^{\ell+1/2}(x)$
4. Update the scalar flux estimate with  $\phi^{\ell+1}(x)$  and repeat the iteration process until the scalar flux converges

# Eddington Acceleration Properties

Acceleration occurs due to:

1. Angular shape of the angular flux converges quickly  $\Rightarrow$  Eddington factor quickly converges
2. Solution to moment equations models all scattering events at once
3. Dependence on source iterations to introduce scattering information is reduced



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Benefits

1. No need for consistent differencing  $\Rightarrow$  transport can be LDG and acceleration can be MHFEM
2. Accelerates source iterations
3. Moment Equations are conservative and relatively inexpensive compared to transport sweep
4. Difference between  $S_N$  and Moment solution can be used as a measure of spatial truncation error (measure of mesh convergence)

## Results

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# Diffusion Limit

Scale cross sections, source

$$\Sigma_t \rightarrow \Sigma_t/\epsilon$$

$$\Sigma_a \rightarrow \epsilon \Sigma_a$$

$$Q \rightarrow \epsilon Q$$

System becomes diffusive as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$

# Diffusion Limit

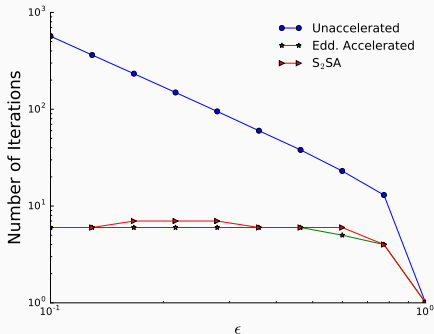
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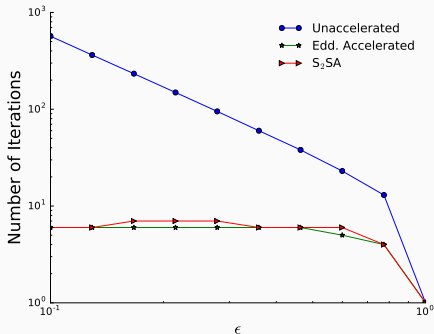
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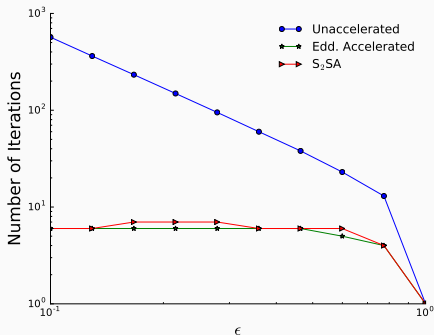
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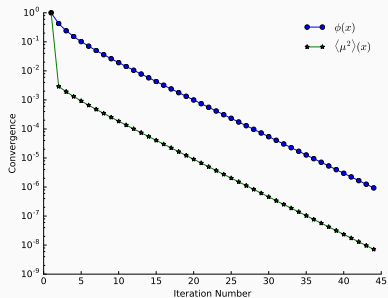
Accelerates source iteration, survives diffusion limit

Performs similarly to consistently differenced, linear acceleration ( $S_2SA$ )

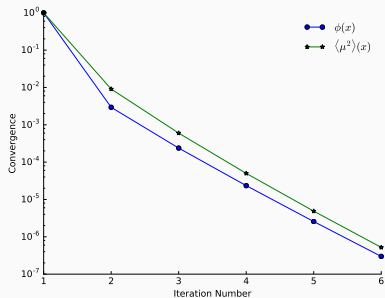


# Convergence Rate Comparison

## Unaccelerated

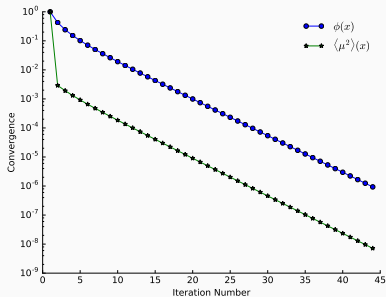


## Accelerated

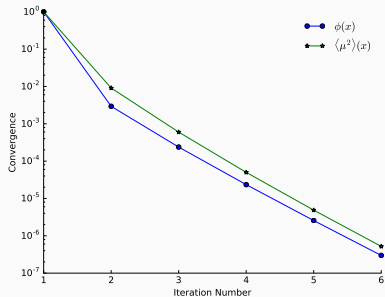


# Convergence Rate Comparison

## Unaccelerated



## Accelerated



Fast rate of convergence of  $\langle \mu^2 \rangle(x)$  is transferred to  $\phi(x)$

# Solution Convergence

Compare

$$\frac{\|\phi_{S_N}(x) - \phi_{\text{Moment}}(x)\|}{\|\phi_{\text{Moment}}(x)\|}$$

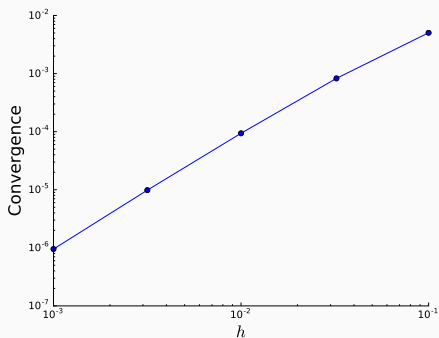
as  $h \rightarrow 0$

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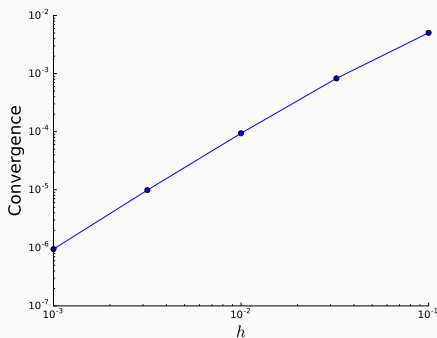


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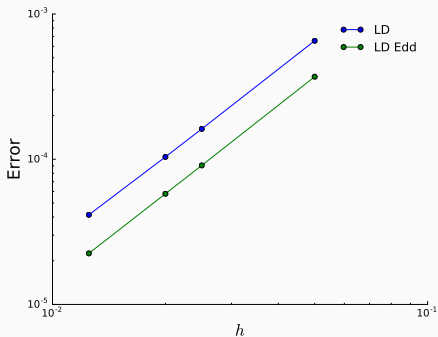


$S_N$  and Moment solutions converge

# Method of Manufactured Solutions Order of Accuracy

Set source term to force solution to

$$\phi(x) = \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{x_b}\right)$$



Both second order accurate

## Conclusions

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## Conclusions

- Scheme successfully accelerated source iteration in 1D slab geometry
- Inherently compatible with rad-hydro multiphysics
  - Transport and acceleration steps can be discretized with arbitrarily different methods
  - Avoids consistency issues
  - Provides less expensive, conservative solution
- Proved Mixed Hybrid Finite Element Method can be used to accelerate lumped Linear Discontinuous Galerkin transport



# Summary

## Conclusions

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  - Avoids consistency issues
  - Provides less expensive, conservative solution
- Proved Mixed Hybrid Finite Element Method can be used to accelerate lumped Linear Discontinuous Galerkin transport

## Future Work

- Develop a rad-hydro algorithm
  - Make use of inexpensive Moment solution in multiphysics iterations
- Add discretization in energy
- Higher dimensions
- Anisotropic scattering
- Implement LDG basis functions in MHFEM

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**Questions?**