

# Load Balancing Unstructured Meshes for Massively Parallel Transport Sweeps

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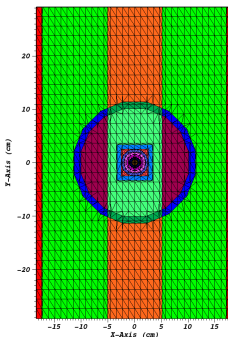
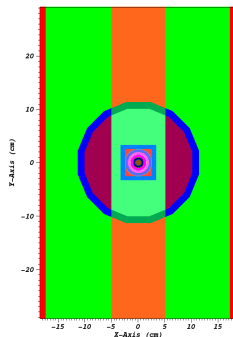
- 1 Introduction
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- 3 Load Balance Algorithm
- 4 Load Balancing Results
- 5 Solution Verification
- 6 Conclusions





# The Triangle Mesh Generator

- Unstructured meshes in PDT are generated in 2D using the Triangle Mesh Generator.
- These can be extruded to create 3D meshes.



# The Transport Equation

$$\vec{\Omega} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \psi(\vec{r}, E, \vec{\Omega}) + \Sigma_t(\vec{r}, E) \psi(\vec{r}, E, \vec{\Omega}) =$$

$$\int_0^\infty dE' \int_{4\pi} d\Omega' \Sigma_s(\vec{r}, E' \rightarrow E, \Omega' \rightarrow \Omega) \psi(\vec{r}, E', \vec{\Omega}') + S_{\text{ext}}(\vec{r}, E, \vec{\Omega})$$

$$\vec{\Omega} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \psi(\vec{r}, E, \vec{\Omega}) + \Sigma_t(\vec{r}, E) \psi(\vec{r}, E, \vec{\Omega}) =$$

$$\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^\infty dE' \Sigma_s(\vec{r}, E' \rightarrow E) \int_{4\pi} d\Omega' \psi(\vec{r}, E', \vec{\Omega}') + S_{\text{ext}}(\vec{r}, E, \vec{\Omega})$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^\infty dE' \Sigma_s(\vec{r}, E' \rightarrow E) \phi(\vec{r}, E') + S_{\text{ext}}(\vec{r}, E, \vec{\Omega})$$

# The Multigroup Transport Equation

$$\phi(\vec{r}, E') = \int_{4\pi} d\Omega' \psi(\vec{r}, E', \vec{\Omega}')$$

$$\vec{\Omega} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \psi_g(\vec{r}, \vec{\Omega}) + \Sigma_{t,g}(\vec{r}) \psi_g(\vec{r}, \vec{\Omega}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{g'} \Sigma_{s,g' \rightarrow g}(\vec{r}) \phi_{g'}(\vec{r}) + S_{ext,g}(\vec{r}, \vec{\Omega}),$$

for  $1 \leq g \leq G$

# The Discrete Ordinates Transport Equation

$$\vec{\Omega}_m \cdot \vec{\nabla} \psi_{g,m}(\vec{r}) + \Sigma_{t,g}(\vec{r}) \psi_{g,m}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{g'} \Sigma_{s,g' \rightarrow g}(\vec{r}) \phi_{g'}(\vec{r}) + S_{\text{ext},g,m}(\vec{r})$$

$$\phi_g(\vec{r}) \approx \sum_{m=1}^{m=M} w_m \psi_{g,m}(\vec{r}).$$



# Source Iteration

$$\vec{\Omega}_m \cdot \vec{\nabla} \psi_m^{(l+1)}(\vec{r}) + \Sigma_t \psi_m^{(l+1)}(\vec{r}) = q_m^{(l)}(\vec{r})$$

# The Transport Sweep

A parallel sweep algorithm is defined by three properties:

- partitioning: dividing the spatial domain among available processors
- aggregation: grouping cells, directions, and energy groups into tasks
- scheduling: choosing which task to execute if more than one is available

# The Sweep

4	5	6	7
3	4	5	6
2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4

$\Omega$

# Aggregation

- $A_x = \frac{N_x}{P_x}$ , where  $N_x$  is the number of cells in  $x$  and  $P_x$  is the number of processors in  $x$
- $A_y = \frac{N_y}{P_y}$ , where  $N_y$  is the number of cells in  $y$  and  $P_y$  is the number of processors in  $y$
- $N_g = \frac{G}{A_g}$
- $N_m = \frac{M}{A_m}$
- $N_k = \frac{N_z}{P_z A_z}$
- $N_k A_x A_y A_z = \frac{N_x N_y N_z}{P_x P_y P_z}$

# Parallel Efficiency

$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon &= \frac{T_{\text{task}} N_{\text{tasks}}}{[N_{\text{stages}}][T_{\text{task}} + T_{\text{comm}}]} \\ &= \frac{1}{\left[1 + \frac{N_{\text{idle}}}{N_{\text{tasks}}}\right]\left[1 + \frac{T_{\text{comm}}}{T_{\text{task}}}\right]}\end{aligned}$$

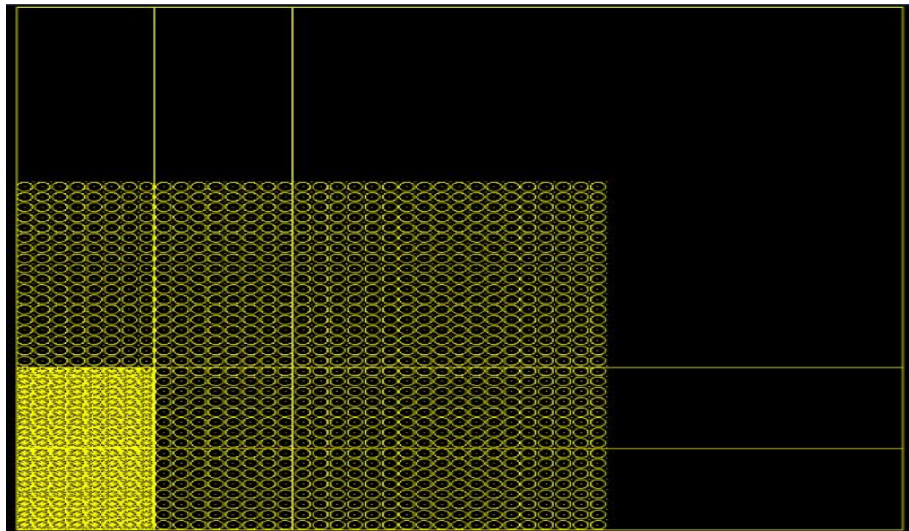
$$T_{\text{comm}} = M_L T_{\text{latency}} + T_{\text{byte}} N_{\text{bytes}}$$

$$T_{\text{task}} = A_x A_y A_z A_m A_g T_{\text{grind}}$$

# Partitioning for an Unstructured Mesh

- The user inputs coordinates for cut lines in the X and Y directions.
- The cut lines will determine the number of subsets the problem is partitioned into.
- Optimizing the location of these cut lines is the basis of the load balancing algorithm.

# The Subset



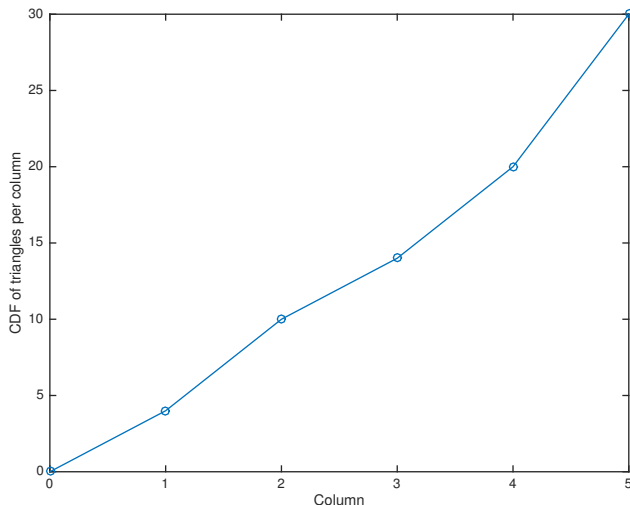




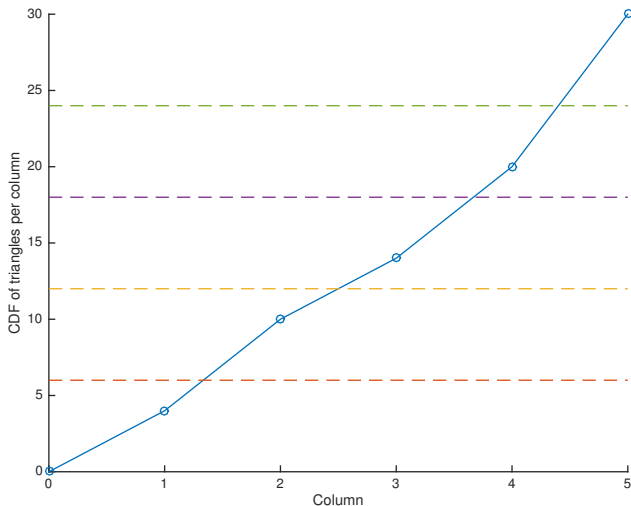
# Load Balancing Algorithm

```
//I,J subsets specified by user
//Check if all subsets meet the tolerance
while (f > tol_subset)
{
    //Mesh all subsets
    if (f_I > tol_column)
    {
        Redistribute(X);
    }
    if (f_J > tol_row)
    {
        Redistribute(Y);
    }
}
```

# Redistribution Function

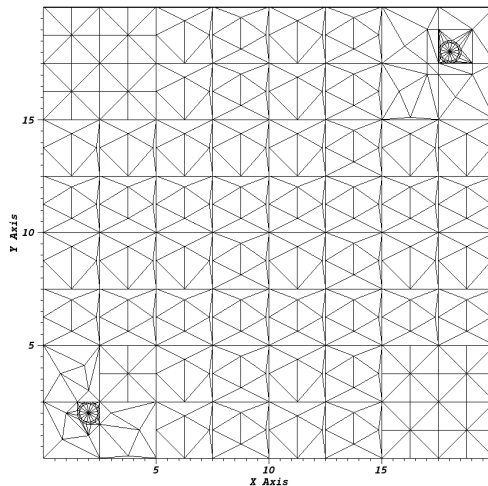


# Redistribution Function



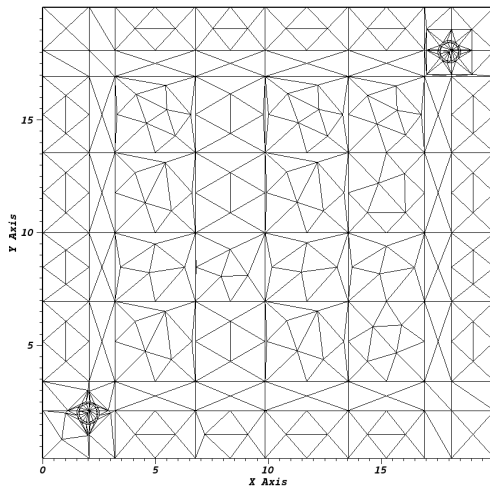
# Example

$$f = 7.20583$$



# Example

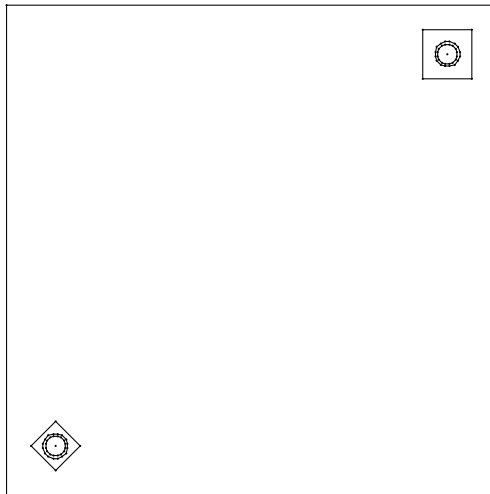
$$f = 3.61695$$



# Load Balancing Results

- Three test cases were used to study the behavior of the load balancing algorithm.
- For each test case, 162 inputs were constructed by varying:
  - The number of subsets
  - The spatial resolution of the mesh (maximum triangle area).

# Test Case 1

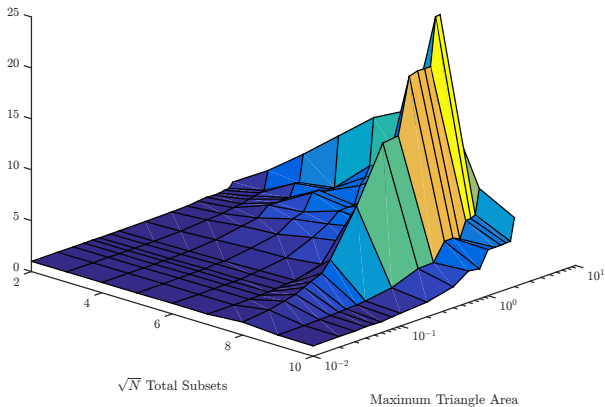






# Test Case 1

### Metric Behavior with no Load Balancing Iterations



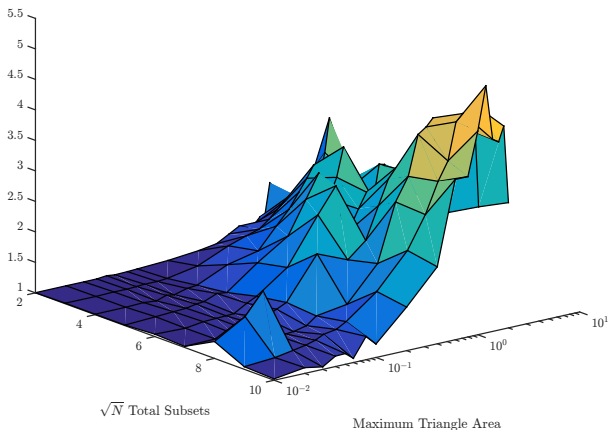
# Test Case 1

2: The metric behavior of the first test case after **10 load balancing iterations**.

Area	N=4	N=9	N=16	N=25	N=36	N=49	N=64	N=81	N=100
Coarse	1.95	1.60	3.37	2.10	2.28	2.68	2.53	2.81	3.05
1.8	1.46	1.94	2.81	2.59	2.98	2.89	2.97	4.50	4.33
1.6	1.42	1.95	2.43	2.42	3.00	3.05	2.71	4.11	4.09
1.4	1.32	1.87	2.65	3.13	2.45	3.03	4.14	4.39	4.15
1.2	1.30	1.77	2.46	2.66	2.59	3.18	4.02	4.28	5.05
1	1.35	1.64	2.26	2.33	2.35	3.01	3.93	3.67	4.34
0.8	1.26	1.51	2.02	2.79	2.02	2.61	3.27	3.37	3.63
0.6	1.14	1.45	1.79	2.41	2.81	2.09	2.90	2.87	3.63
0.4	1.09	1.35	1.45	1.87	2.40	1.84	1.96	2.35	2.26
0.2	1.05	1.14	1.34	1.55	1.65	2.05	1.40	1.79	1.71
0.1	1.02	1.04	1.11	1.17	1.29	1.36	1.32	1.41	1.22
0.08	1.01	1.03	1.09	1.19	1.21	1.29	1.20	1.32	1.38
0.06	1.01	1.03	1.04	1.10	1.09	1.20	1.15	1.28	1.07
0.05	1.02	1.02	1.06	1.09	1.08	1.11	1.14	1.22	1.18
0.04	1.00	1.01	1.00	1.06	1.07	1.07	1.16	1.17	1.17
0.03	1.00	1.02	1.02	1.05	1.07	1.05	1.93	1.13	1.04
0.02	1.00	1.01	1.01	1.03	1.02	1.03	1.57	1.08	1.09
0.01	1.00	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.04	1.02	1.28	1.04	1.02

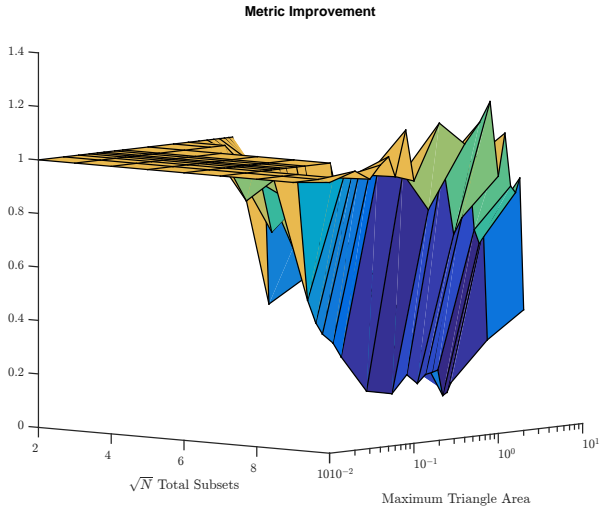
## Test Case 1

### Metric Behavior with 10 Load Balancing Iterations

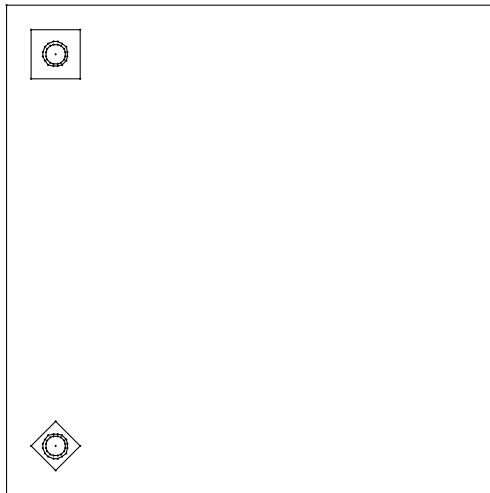




# Test Case 1



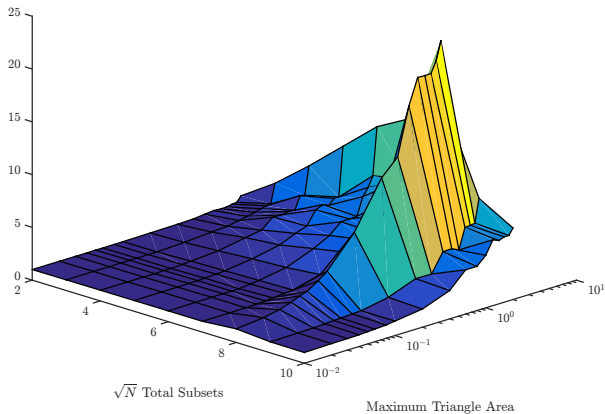
# Test Case 2





## Test Case 2

Metric Behavior with no Load Balancing Iterations





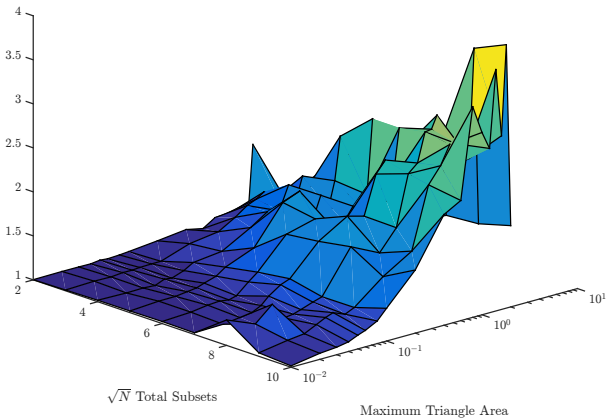
## Test Case 2

5: The metric behavior of the second test case after **10 load balancing iterations**.

Area	N=4	N=9	N=16	N=25	N=36	N=49	N=64	N=81	N=100
Coarse	1.85	1.36	1.76	1.48	1.74	1.60	1.79	1.82	1.92
1.8	1.15	1.33	1.65	2.08	2.58	2.41	2.69	3.83	3.99
1.6	1.12	1.34	1.65	2.35	2.67	2.47	2.96	2.59	2.97
1.4	1.12	1.37	1.79	1.86	1.83	2.71	2.82	2.58	3.74
1.2	1.15	1.50	1.54	1.56	1.71	2.13	2.81	2.79	2.87
1	1.15	1.45	1.73	1.74	1.74	2.39	2.48	2.81	3.07
0.8	1.14	1.40	1.47	1.44	1.58	2.26	2.38	2.60	3.39
0.6	1.05	1.31	1.49	1.85	1.57	1.81	1.81	2.42	2.36
0.4	1.09	1.19	1.37	1.77	1.71	1.87	1.57	1.72	2.26
0.2	1.06	1.15	1.18	1.35	1.63	1.67	1.73	1.52	1.72
0.1	1.02	1.04	1.15	1.22	1.29	1.34	1.25	1.26	1.37
0.08	1.01	1.04	1.08	1.15	1.20	1.30	1.22	1.21	1.26
0.06	1.01	1.03	1.04	1.10	1.08	1.20	1.18	1.26	1.19
0.05	1.02	1.03	1.05	1.07	1.06	1.12	1.15	1.23	1.16
0.04	1.00	1.03	1.01	1.06	1.08	1.07	1.13	1.18	1.11
0.03	1.01	1.02	1.01	1.04	1.07	1.05	1.32	1.11	1.08
0.02	1.01	1.02	1.01	1.04	1.04	1.03	1.15	1.09	1.07
0.01	1.00	1.01	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.29	1.04	1.02

# Test Case 2

Metric Behavior with 10 Load Balancing Iterations

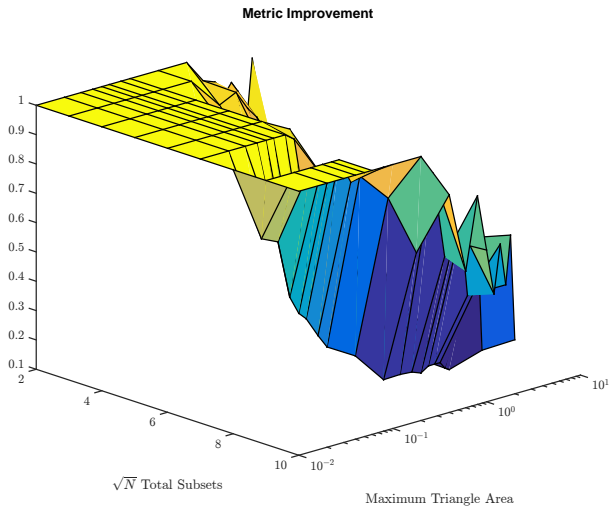


# Test Case 2

6: The ratio of the metric with no iteration and 10 iterations. The closer the z-value to zero, the better the improvement.

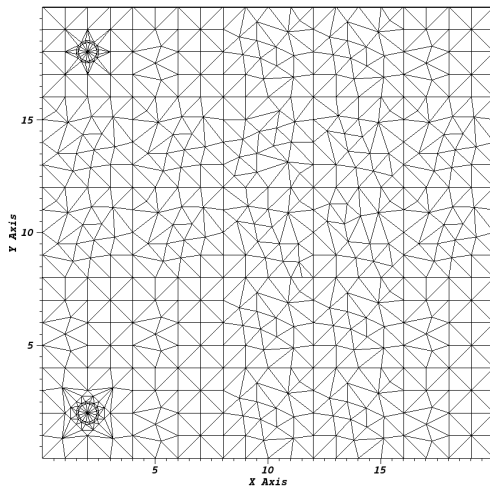
Area	N=4	N=9	N=16	N=25	N=36	N=49	N=64	N=81	N=100
Coarse	0.95	0.33	0.26	0.15	0.14	0.11	<b>0.11</b>	0.21	0.28
1.8	0.79	0.57	0.40	0.42	0.33	0.28	0.12	0.60	0.65
1.6	0.79	0.60	0.39	0.48	0.38	0.29	0.14	0.41	0.48
1.4	0.85	0.64	0.60	0.42	0.29	0.32	0.14	0.41	0.62
1.2	0.89	0.77	0.51	0.34	0.38	0.30	0.14	0.65	0.46
1	0.85	0.81	0.60	0.40	0.39	0.41	0.12	0.61	0.62
0.8	0.91	0.85	0.50	0.47	0.35	0.51	0.14	0.57	0.81
0.6	0.92	0.92	0.73	0.68	0.45	0.44	0.14	0.86	0.57
0.4	1.00	0.89	0.76	0.85	0.63	0.56	0.14	0.61	0.84
0.2	1.00	1.00	0.89	0.86	0.95	0.82	0.25	0.82	1.00
0.1	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.98	0.30	0.92	1.00
0.08	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.35	0.91	1.00
0.06	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.42	1.00	1.00
0.05	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.45	1.00	1.00
0.04	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.51	1.00	1.00
0.03	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.71	1.00	1.00
0.02	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.74	1.00	1.00
0.01	<b>1.00</b>	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

# Test Case 2



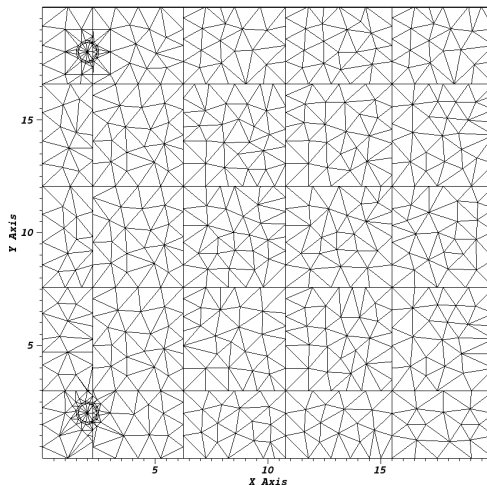
# A Closer Look at Test Case 2

$$f = 2.72$$

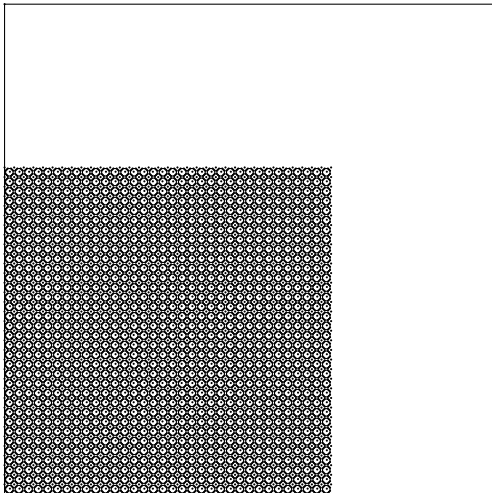


# A Closer Look at Test Case 2

$$f = 1.85$$



# Test Case 3



# Test Case 3

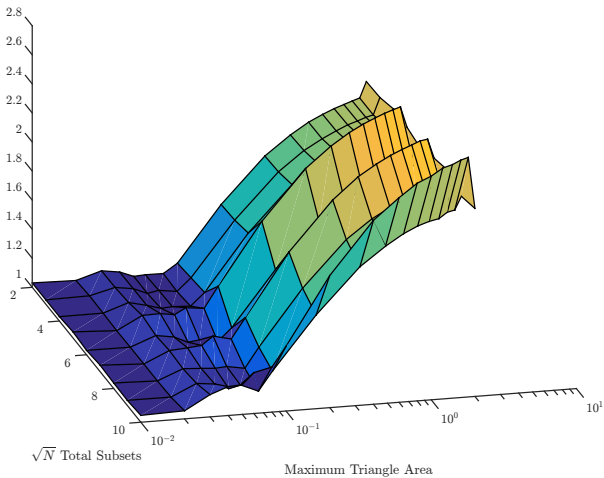
7: The metric behavior of the third test case after **no load balancing iterations**.

Area	N=4	N=9	N=16	N=25	N=36	N=49	N=64	N=81	N=100
Coarse	2.24	2.24	2.28	2.27	2.24	2.29	2.32	2.26	2.29
1.8	2.13	2.13	2.16	2.42	2.13	2.43	2.23	2.17	2.65
1.6	2.11	2.12	2.15	2.40	2.11	2.42	2.22	2.16	2.63
1.4	2.09	2.10	2.13	2.38	2.10	2.39	2.20	2.12	2.61
1.2	2.07	2.07	2.11	2.35	2.08	2.37	2.18	2.11	2.59
1	2.04	2.04	2.07	2.32	2.04	2.33	2.15	2.08	2.54
0.8	1.99	1.99	2.02	2.27	1.99	2.28	2.10	2.03	2.50
0.6	1.91	1.92	1.95	2.18	1.92	2.20	2.03	1.96	2.41
0.4	1.78	1.79	1.82	2.04	1.79	2.06	1.90	1.83	2.27
0.2	1.47	1.48	1.51	1.70	1.49	1.72	1.59	1.52	1.91
0.1	1.09	1.10	1.12	1.28	1.11	1.29	1.21	1.16	1.45
0.08	1.03	1.02	1.03	1.13	1.02	1.15	1.07	1.03	1.31
0.06	1.03	1.04	1.04	1.15	1.04	1.18	1.09	1.08	1.28
0.05	1.02	1.02	1.03	1.11	1.03	1.13	1.09	1.06	1.20
0.04	1.06	1.06	1.06	1.12	1.08	1.12	1.09	1.10	1.20
0.03	1.08	1.08	1.09	1.12	1.10	1.11	1.10	1.11	1.15
0.02	1.02	1.03	1.03	1.03	1.03	1.03	1.03	1.03	1.06
0.01	1.03	1.03	1.03	1.04	1.03	1.04	1.04	1.03	1.05



## Test Case 3

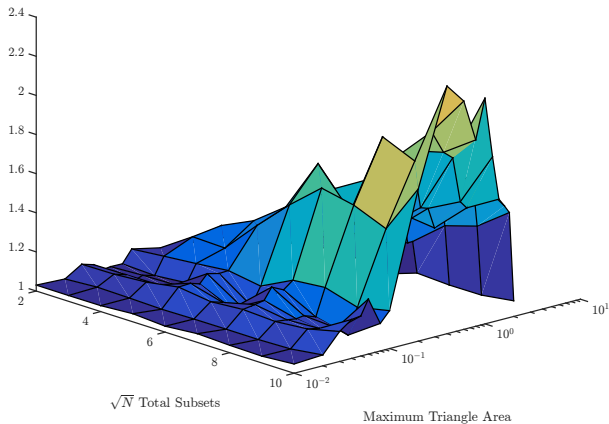
### Metric Behavior with no Load Balancing Iterations





# Test Case 3

Metric Behavior with 10 Load Balancing Iterations



# Test Case 3

9: The ratio of the metric with no iteration and 10 iterations. The closer the z-value to zero, the better the improvement.

Area	N=4	N=9	N=16	N=25	N=36	N=49	N=64	N=81	N=100
Coarse	<b>0.45</b>	0.45	0.46	0.46	0.45	0.46	0.45	0.47	0.47
1.8	0.48	0.48	0.53	0.50	0.56	0.51	0.61	0.65	0.58
1.6	0.49	0.49	0.50	0.50	0.56	0.51	0.69	0.78	0.60
1.4	0.49	0.50	0.51	0.52	0.63	0.58	0.62	0.72	0.62
1.2	0.50	0.51	0.59	0.53	0.62	0.56	0.68	0.74	0.71
1	0.50	0.51	0.56	0.54	0.64	0.58	0.69	0.86	0.85
0.8	0.52	0.53	0.54	0.54	0.64	0.67	0.85	0.90	0.78
0.6	0.54	0.58	0.58	0.63	0.79	0.73	0.88	1.00	0.90
0.4	0.59	0.66	0.70	0.68	0.93	0.71	1.00	1.00	1.00
0.2	0.72	0.79	0.77	0.78	1.00	0.94	1.00	1.00	0.93
0.1	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.89	1.00	0.92	1.00	1.00	0.83
0.08	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.87
0.06	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
0.05	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
0.04	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
0.03	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
0.02	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
0.01	<b>1.00</b>	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00



# Solution Verification

- Two benchmark problems were set up to verify that the scalar flux was being computed correctly on unstructured meshes in PDT.
- Both problems utilized a 1 cm×1 cm square domain, with opposing reflecting boundaries on the y boundaries, an incident isotropic angular flux on the left boundary, and a vacuum boundary on the right.

The error presented when comparing numerical to analytical solutions is defined as follows:

$$\epsilon = \frac{\|\text{Analytical} - \text{Numerical}\|_{l_2}}{\|\text{Analytical}\|_{l_2}},$$

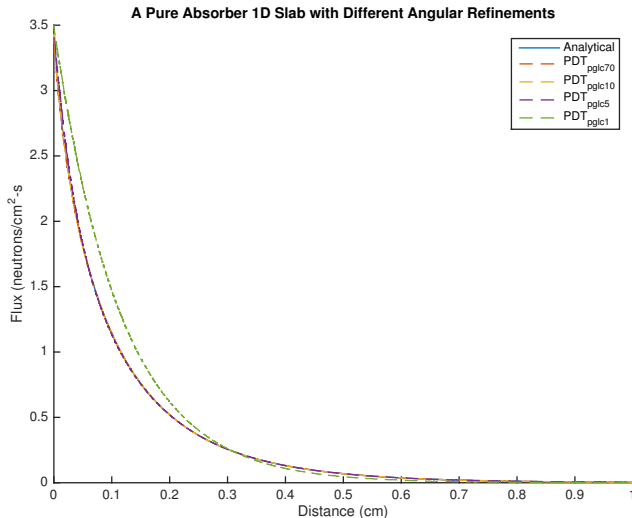
# Pure Absorber

The analytical scalar flux solution of the 1D Pure Absorber is:

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(x) &= \int_0^1 \psi(x, \mu > 0) d\mu \\ &= \int_0^1 \psi_{inc} \exp\left(-\frac{\Sigma_a}{\mu} x\right) d\mu = \psi_{inc} E_2(\Sigma_a x),\end{aligned}$$

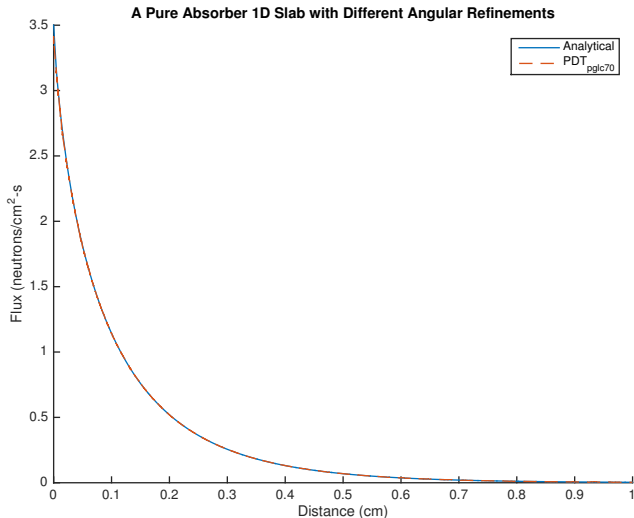
The pure absorber was run with  $\psi_{inc} = 3.5 \frac{n}{\text{cm}^2\text{-s-ster}}$  and  $\Sigma_a = 5 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

# PDT Results vs. Analytical for the Pure Absorber





# Analysis with 70 Positive Polar Angles



$$\epsilon = 0.012$$

# Pure Scatterer

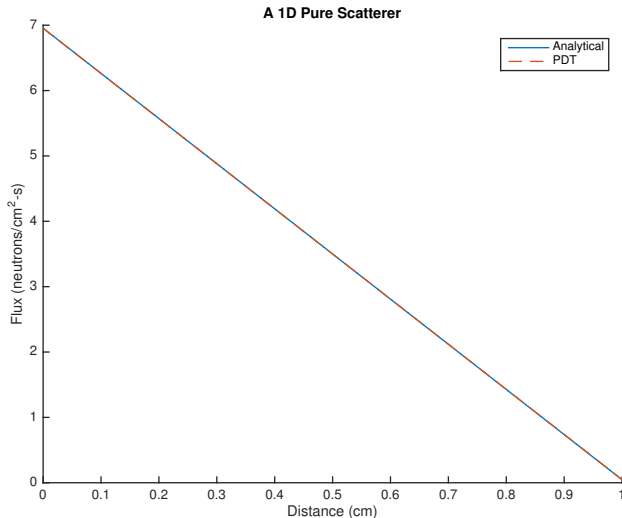
The transport solution for a pure scatterer reaches the diffusion limit, and the solution is:

$$\phi(x) = \frac{4j_{inc}}{1 + 4D}(-x + x_{\max} + 2D).$$

This problem was run with  $\Sigma_t = 100 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $j_{inc} = \frac{7}{4} \frac{n}{\text{cm}^2\text{-s}}$ .

# PDT Results vs. Analytical for the Pure Scatterer

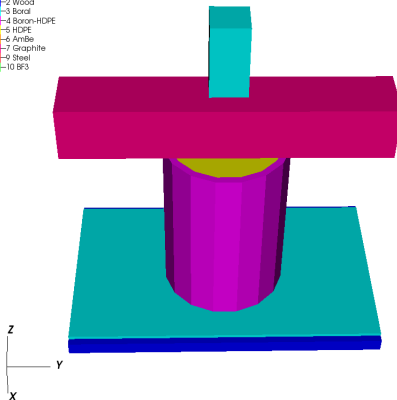
$\epsilon=4.25\text{E-}04$



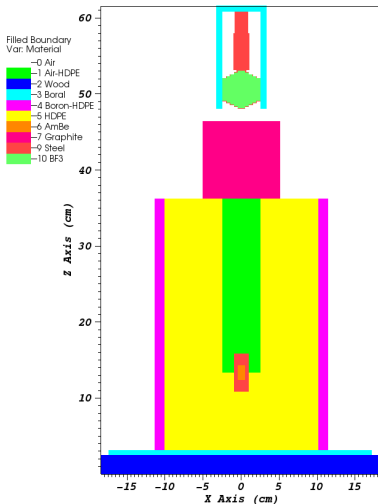
# Extruded Mesh Capability

Filled Boundary  
Var: Material

- 0 Air
- 1 Air-HDPE
- 2 Wood
- 3 Boraf
- 4 Boron-HDPE
- 5 HDPE
- 6 AmBe
- 7 Graphite
- 8 Steel
- 9 BF3
- 10 BF3



# Extruded Mesh Capability



# Conclusions

- The effectiveness of the load balancing algorithm depends on the maximum triangle area used, and the number of subsets the domain is decomposed into.
- Good improvement is seen for all test cases, particularly the first two.
- Improvements to the algorithm must be made, as the user will often need to decide on the number of subsets based on how many processors are wanted.

# Future Work

- Improvements to the algorithm, moving portions of cut lines instead of moving the entire cutline.
- Domain overloading is the logical extension to the work presented in this thesis.
  - Processors could own different numbers of subsets, with no restriction on these subsets being contiguous.

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