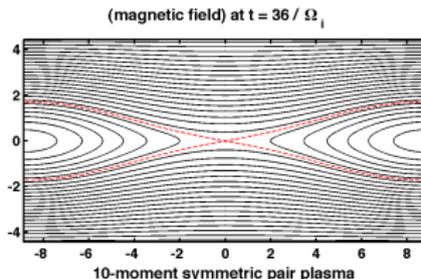
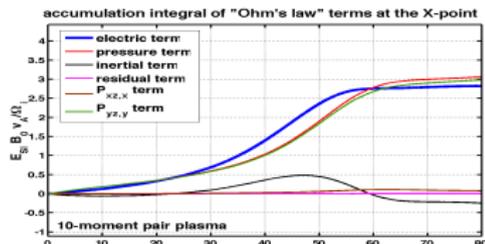


# Fast magnetic reconnection with a ten-moment two-fluid plasma model

E. Alec Johnson

Department of Mathematics  
University of Wisconsin – Madison

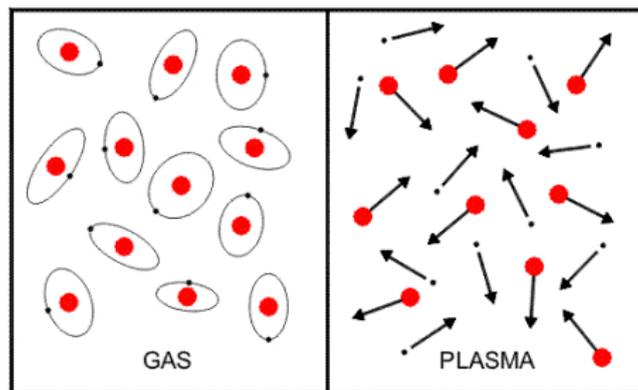
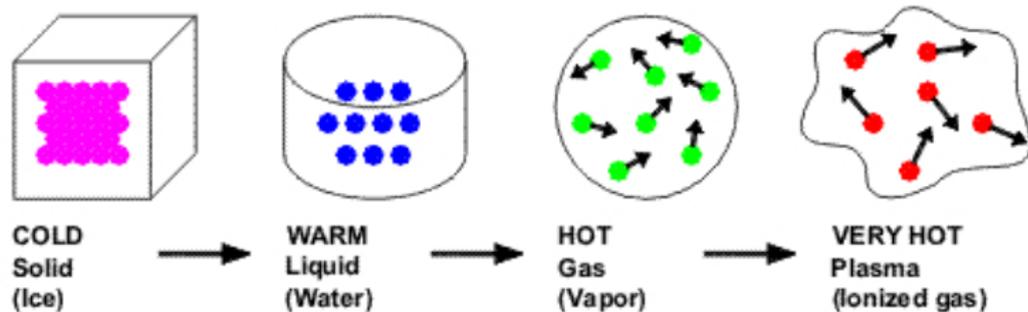
August 23, 2011, thesis defense



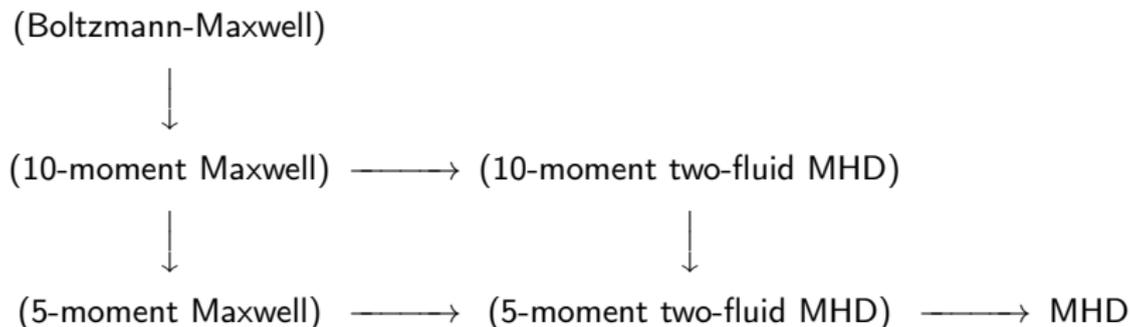
- 1 Plasma modeling
- 2 Magnetic reconnection
- 3 Heat flux

# Part I: Plasma modeling

# Fluids and plasmas



# Model hierarchy



## Boltzmann-Maxwell model

- Boltzmann equations:

$$\partial_t f_i + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla_x f_i + \mathbf{a}_i \cdot \nabla_v f_i = C_i + C_{ie},$$

$$\partial_t f_e + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla_x f_e + \mathbf{a}_e \cdot \nabla_v f_e = C_e + C_{ei},$$

- Lorentz force law

$$\mathbf{a}_i = \frac{q_i}{m_i} (\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}),$$

$$\mathbf{a}_e = \frac{q_e}{m_e} (\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B})$$

- Maxwell's equations:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{E} \end{bmatrix} + \nabla \times \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{E} \\ -c^2 \mathbf{B} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -\mathbf{J}/\epsilon_0 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \sigma/\epsilon_0,$$

$$\sigma = \sum_s \frac{q_s}{m_s} \int f_s d\mathbf{v}, \quad \mathbf{J} = \sum_s \frac{q_s}{m_s} \int \mathbf{v} f_s d\mathbf{v}$$

## 10-moment two-fluid Maxwell model:

- moments:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \rho_s \\ \rho_s \mathbf{u}_s \\ \mathbb{E}_s \end{bmatrix} = \int \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \mathbf{v} \\ \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v} \end{bmatrix} f_s d\mathbf{v}$$

- closure:

$$\mathbb{R}_s = \int \mathbf{c}_s \mathbf{c}_s C_s d\mathbf{v},$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_s \\ \mathbb{Q}_s \end{bmatrix} = \int \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v} \\ \mathbf{c}_s \mathbf{c}_s \end{bmatrix} C_{sp} d\mathbf{v},$$

$$\mathbb{Q}_s = \int \mathbf{c}_s \mathbf{c}_s \mathbf{c}_s f_s d\mathbf{c}_s$$

$$(\mathbf{c}_s := \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{u}_s)$$

## Boltzmann-Maxwell model

- Boltzmann equations:

$$\partial_t f_i + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla_x f_i + \mathbf{a}_i \cdot \nabla_v f_i = C_i + C_{ie},$$

$$\partial_t f_e + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla_x f_e + \mathbf{a}_e \cdot \nabla_v f_e = C_e + C_{ei},$$

- Lorentz force law

$$\mathbf{a}_i = \frac{q_i}{m_i} (\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}),$$

$$\mathbf{a}_e = \frac{q_e}{m_e} (\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B})$$

- Maxwell's equations:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{E} \end{bmatrix} + \nabla \times \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{E} \\ -c^2 \mathbf{B} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -\mathbf{J}/\epsilon_0 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \sigma/\epsilon_0,$$

$$\sigma = \sum_s \frac{q_s}{m_s} \int f_s d\mathbf{v}, \quad \mathbf{J} = \sum_s \frac{q_s}{m_s} \int \mathbf{v} f_s d\mathbf{v}$$

## 5-moment two-fluid Maxwell model:

- moments:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \rho_s \\ \rho_s \mathbf{u}_s \\ \mathcal{E}_s \end{bmatrix} = \int \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \mathbf{v} \\ \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{v}\|^2 \end{bmatrix} f_s d\mathbf{v}$$

- closure:

$$\mathbb{P}_s^o = \int (\mathbf{c}_s \mathbf{c}_s - \|\mathbf{c}_s\|^2 \mathbb{1}/3) f_s d\mathbf{v},$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_s \\ Q_s \end{bmatrix} = \int \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v} \\ \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{c}_s\|^2 \end{bmatrix} C_{sp} d\mathbf{v},$$

$$\mathbf{q}_s = \int \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{c}_s \|\mathbf{c}_s\|^2 f_s d\mathbf{v}$$

$$(\mathbf{c}_s := \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{u}_s)$$

# Equations of the 10-moment 2-fluid Maxwell model

## Gas dynamics equations

$$\bar{\delta}_t \begin{bmatrix} \rho_i \\ \rho_i \mathbf{u}_i \\ \rho_i \mathcal{E}_i \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbb{P}_i \\ \text{Sym2}(\nabla \cdot (\mathbb{P}_i \mathbf{u}_i)) + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q}_i \end{bmatrix} = \sigma_i \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{u}_i \times \mathbf{B} \\ \text{Sym2}(\mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{E} + \mathcal{E}_i \times \mathbf{B}) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \mathbf{R}_i \\ \mathbf{R}_i + \mathbf{Q}_i \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\bar{\delta}_t \begin{bmatrix} \rho_e \\ \rho_e \mathbf{u}_e \\ \rho_e \mathcal{E}_e \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbb{P}_e \\ \text{Sym2}(\nabla \cdot (\mathbb{P}_e \mathbf{u}_e)) + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q}_e \end{bmatrix} = \sigma_e \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{u}_e \times \mathbf{B} \\ \text{Sym2}(\mathbf{u}_e \mathbf{E} + \mathcal{E}_e \times \mathbf{B}) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \mathbf{R}_e \\ \mathbf{R}_e + \mathbf{Q}_e \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $\bar{\delta}_t \alpha := \partial_t \alpha + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u}_s \alpha)$ ,

## Maxwell's equations

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{E} \end{bmatrix} + \nabla \times \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{E} \\ -c^2 \mathbf{B} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -c^2 \mathbf{J} \end{bmatrix},$$
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \sigma / \epsilon_0,$$
$$\sigma_s = \frac{q_s}{m_s} \rho_s, \quad \sigma = \sum_s \sigma_s, \quad \mathbf{J} = \sum_s \sigma_s \mathbf{u}_s$$

## Closures:

$$\mathbf{R}_s = -\tau_s^{-1} \mathbb{P}_s^\circ$$
$$\mathbf{q}_s = -\frac{2}{5} \mathbf{K}_s \text{: Sym3} \left( \frac{\mathbb{T}_s}{T_s} \cdot \nabla \mathbb{T}_s \right)$$
$$-\mathbf{R}_i = \mathbf{R}_e = n e \eta \cdot \mathbf{J} ?$$
$$\mathbf{Q}_s = ?$$

# Equations of the 5-moment 2-fluid Maxwell model

## Gas dynamics equations

$$\bar{\delta}_t \begin{bmatrix} \rho_i \\ \rho_i \mathbf{u}_i \\ \rho_i e_i \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \nabla p_i + \nabla \cdot \mathbb{P}_i^\circ \\ \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u}_i \rho_i) + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u}_i \cdot \mathbb{P}_i^\circ) + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q}_i \end{bmatrix} = \sigma_i \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{u}_i \times \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{u}_i \cdot \mathbf{E} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \mathbf{R}_i \\ \mathbf{Q}_i \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\bar{\delta}_t \begin{bmatrix} \rho_e \\ \rho_e \mathbf{u}_e \\ \rho_e e_e \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \nabla p_e + \nabla \cdot \mathbb{P}_e^\circ \\ \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u}_e \rho_e) + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u}_e \cdot \mathbb{P}_e^\circ) + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q}_e \end{bmatrix} = \sigma_e \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{u}_e \times \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{u}_e \cdot \mathbf{E} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \mathbf{R}_e \\ \mathbf{Q}_e \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $\bar{\delta}_t \alpha := \partial_t \alpha + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u}_s \alpha)$ ,

## Maxwell's equations

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{E} \end{bmatrix} + \nabla \times \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{E} \\ -c^2 \mathbf{B} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -c^2 \mathbf{J} \end{bmatrix},$$
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \sigma / \epsilon_0,$$
$$\sigma_s = \frac{q_s}{m_s} \rho_s, \quad \sigma = \sum_s \sigma_s, \quad \mathbf{J} = \sum_s \sigma_s \mathbf{u}_s$$

## Closures:

$$\mathbb{P}_s^\circ = -2\mu : (\nabla \mathbf{u})^\circ$$
$$\mathbf{Q}_s = -\mathbf{k} \cdot \nabla T$$
$$-\mathbf{R}_i = \mathbf{R}_e = ne\eta \cdot \mathbf{J}?$$
$$Q_s = ?$$

# MHD: Maxwell's equations

Magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) assumes that the light speed is infinite. Then Maxwell's equations simplify to

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t \mathbf{B} + \nabla \times \mathbf{E} &= 0, & \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} &= 0, \\ \mu_0 \mathbf{J} &= \nabla \times \mathbf{B} - \cancel{c^{-2} \partial_t \mathbf{E}}, & \mu_0 \sigma &= 0 + \cancel{c^{-2} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}}\end{aligned}$$

This system is Galilean-invariant, but its relationship to gas-dynamics is fundamentally different:

variable	MHD	2-fluid-Maxwell
$\mathbf{E}$	supplied by <i>Ohm's law</i> (from gas dynamics)	evolved (from $\mathbf{B}$ and $\mathbf{J}$ )
$\mathbf{J}$	$\mathbf{J} = \nabla \times \mathbf{B} / \mu_0$ (comes from $\mathbf{B}$ )	$\mathbf{J} = e(n_i \mathbf{u}_i - n_e \mathbf{u}_e)$ (from gas dynamics)
$\sigma$	$\sigma = 0$ (quasineutrality) (gas-dynamic constraint)	$\sigma = e(n_i - n_e)$ (electric field constraint)

The assumption of charge neutrality reduces the number of gas-dynamic equations that must be solved:

- **net density** evolution

The density of each species is the same:

$$n_i = n_e = n$$

- **net velocity** evolution

The species fluid velocities can be inferred from the net current, net velocity, and density:

$$\mathbf{u}_i = \mathbf{u} + \frac{m_e}{m_i + m_e} \frac{\mathbf{J}}{ne}, \quad \mathbf{u}_e = \mathbf{u} - \frac{m_i}{m_i + m_e} \frac{\mathbf{J}}{ne}.$$

**Ohm's law** is current evolution solved for the electric field:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{E} = & \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{u} && \text{(ideal term)} \\
 & + \boldsymbol{\eta} \cdot \mathbf{J} && \text{(resistive term)} \\
 & + \frac{m_i - m_e}{e\rho} \mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B} && \text{(Hall term)} \\
 & + \frac{1}{e\rho} \nabla \cdot (m_e \mathbb{P}_i - m_i \mathbb{P}_e) && \text{(pressure term)} \\
 & + \frac{m_i m_e}{e^2 \rho} \left[ \partial_t \mathbf{J} + \nabla \cdot \left( \mathbf{u} \mathbf{J} + \mathbf{J} \mathbf{u} - \frac{m_i - m_e}{e\rho} \mathbf{J} \mathbf{J} \right) \right] && \text{(inertial term)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Ohm's law gives an implicit closure to the induction equation,  $\partial_t \mathbf{B} + \nabla \times \mathbf{E} = 0$ , and entails an implicit numerical method.

# Equations of 10-moment 2-fluid MHD

## Pressure evolution

$$n_i d_t \mathbb{T}_i + \text{Sym}2(\mathbb{P}_i \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}_i) + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q}_i = \frac{q_i}{m_i} \text{Sym}2(\mathbb{P}_i \times \mathbf{B}) + \mathbb{R}_i + \mathbb{Q}_i,$$

$$n_e d_t \mathbb{T}_e + \text{Sym}2(\mathbb{P}_e \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}_e) + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q}_e = \frac{q_e}{m_e} \text{Sym}2(\mathbb{P}_e \times \mathbf{B}) + \mathbb{R}_e + \mathbb{Q}_e.$$

## mass and momentum:

$$\partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u}) = 0$$

$$\rho d_t \mathbf{u} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbb{P}_i + \mathbb{P}_e + \mathbb{P}^d) = \mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$$

## Electromagnetism

$$\partial_t \mathbf{B} + \nabla \times \mathbf{E} = 0, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0,$$

$$\mathbf{J} = \mu_0^{-1} \nabla \times \mathbf{B},$$

## Ohm's law

$$\mathbf{E} = \eta \cdot \mathbf{J} + \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{u} + \frac{m_i - m_e}{e\rho} \mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{e\rho} \nabla \cdot (m_e \mathbb{P}_i - m_i \mathbb{P}_e)$$

$$+ \frac{m_i m_e}{e^2 \rho} \left[ \partial_t \mathbf{J} + \nabla \cdot \left( \mathbf{u} \mathbf{J} + \mathbf{J} \mathbf{u} - \frac{m_i - m_e}{e\rho} \mathbf{J} \mathbf{J} \right) \right]$$

## Definitions:

$$d_t := \partial_t + \mathbf{u}_s \cdot \nabla,$$

$$\mathbb{P}^d := \rho_i \mathbf{w}_i \mathbf{w}_i + \rho_e \mathbf{w}_e \mathbf{w}_e$$

$$\mathbf{w}_i = \frac{m_e \mathbf{J}}{e\rho}, \quad \mathbf{w}_e = -\frac{m_i \mathbf{J}}{e\rho}$$

## Closures:

$$\mathbb{R}_s = -\tau_s^{-1} \mathbb{P}_s^\circ$$

$$\mathbb{Q}_s = -\frac{2}{5} \mathbf{K}_s \text{ : Sym}3 \left( \frac{\mathbb{T}_s}{T_s} \cdot \nabla \mathbb{T}_s \right)$$

$$-\mathbb{R}_i = \mathbb{R}_e = n e \eta \cdot \mathbf{J}$$

$$\mathbb{Q}_s = ?$$

# Equations of 5-moment 2-fluid MHD

## Pressure evolution

$$\frac{3}{2} n d_t T_i + p_i \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}_i + \mathbb{P}_i^\circ : \nabla \mathbf{u}_i + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q}_i = Q_i,$$

$$\frac{3}{2} n d_t T_e + p_e \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}_e + \mathbb{P}_e^\circ : \nabla \mathbf{u}_e + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q}_e = Q_e;$$

## mass and momentum:

$$\partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u} \rho) = 0$$

$$\rho d_t \mathbf{u} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbb{P}_i + \mathbb{P}_e + \mathbb{P}^d) = \mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$$

## Definitions:

$$d_t := \partial_t + \mathbf{u}_s \cdot \nabla,$$

$$\mathbb{P}^d := \rho_i \mathbf{w}_i \mathbf{w}_i + \rho_e \mathbf{w}_e \mathbf{w}_e$$

$$\mathbf{w}_i = \frac{m_e \mathbf{J}}{e \rho}, \quad \mathbf{w}_e = -\frac{m_i \mathbf{J}}{e \rho}$$

## Electromagnetism

$$\partial_t \mathbf{B} + \nabla \times \mathbf{E} = 0, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0,$$

$$\mathbf{J} = \mu_0^{-1} \nabla \times \mathbf{B},$$

## Closures:

## Ohm's law

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E} = & \eta \cdot \mathbf{J} + \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{u} + \frac{m_i - m_e}{e \rho} \mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B} \\ & + \frac{1}{e \rho} \nabla \cdot (m_e (p_i + \mathbb{P}_i^\circ) - m_i (p_e + \mathbb{P}_e^\circ)) \\ & + \frac{m_i m_e}{e^2 \rho} \left[ \partial_t \mathbf{J} + \nabla \cdot \left( \mathbf{u} \mathbf{J} + \mathbf{J} \mathbf{u} - \frac{m_i - m_e}{e \rho} \mathbf{J} \mathbf{J} \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbb{P}_s^\circ = -2\mu : (\nabla \mathbf{u})^\circ$$

$$\mathbb{Q}_s = -\mathbf{k} \cdot \nabla T$$

$$-\mathbf{R}_i = \mathbf{R}_e = n e \eta \cdot \mathbf{J}?$$

$$Q_s = ?$$

Ohm's law:

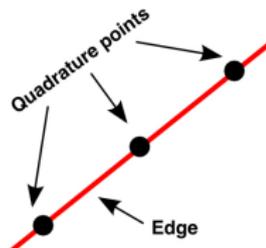
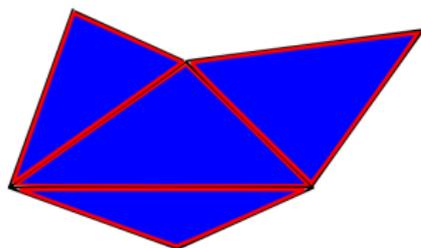
$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{E} = & \eta \cdot \mathbf{J} && \text{(resistive term)} \\
 & + \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{u} && \text{(ideal term)} \\
 & + \frac{m_i - m_e}{e\rho} \mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B} && \text{(Hall term)} \\
 & + \frac{1}{e\rho} \nabla \cdot (m_e \mathbb{P}_i - m_i \mathbb{P}_e) && \text{(pressure term)} \\
 & + \frac{m_i m_e}{e^2 \rho} \left[ \partial_t \mathbf{J} + \nabla \cdot \left( \mathbf{u} \mathbf{J} + \mathbf{J} \mathbf{u} - \frac{m_i - m_e}{e\rho} \mathbf{J} \mathbf{J} \right) \right] && \text{(inertial term).}
 \end{aligned}$$

Resistive MHD model:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} \rho \\ \rho \mathbf{u} \\ \mathcal{E} \\ \mathbf{B} \end{bmatrix} + \nabla \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \rho \mathbf{u} \mathbf{u} + \left( \rho + \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{B}\|^2 \right) \mathbb{I} - \mathbf{B} \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{u} \left( \mathcal{E} + \rho + \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{B}\|^2 \right) - \mathbf{B} (\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{B}) \\ \mathbf{u} \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{B} \mathbf{u} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \mathbf{0} \\ \eta \nabla \cdot [\mathbf{B} \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{B})] \\ \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{B} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

# Discontinuous Galerkin methods



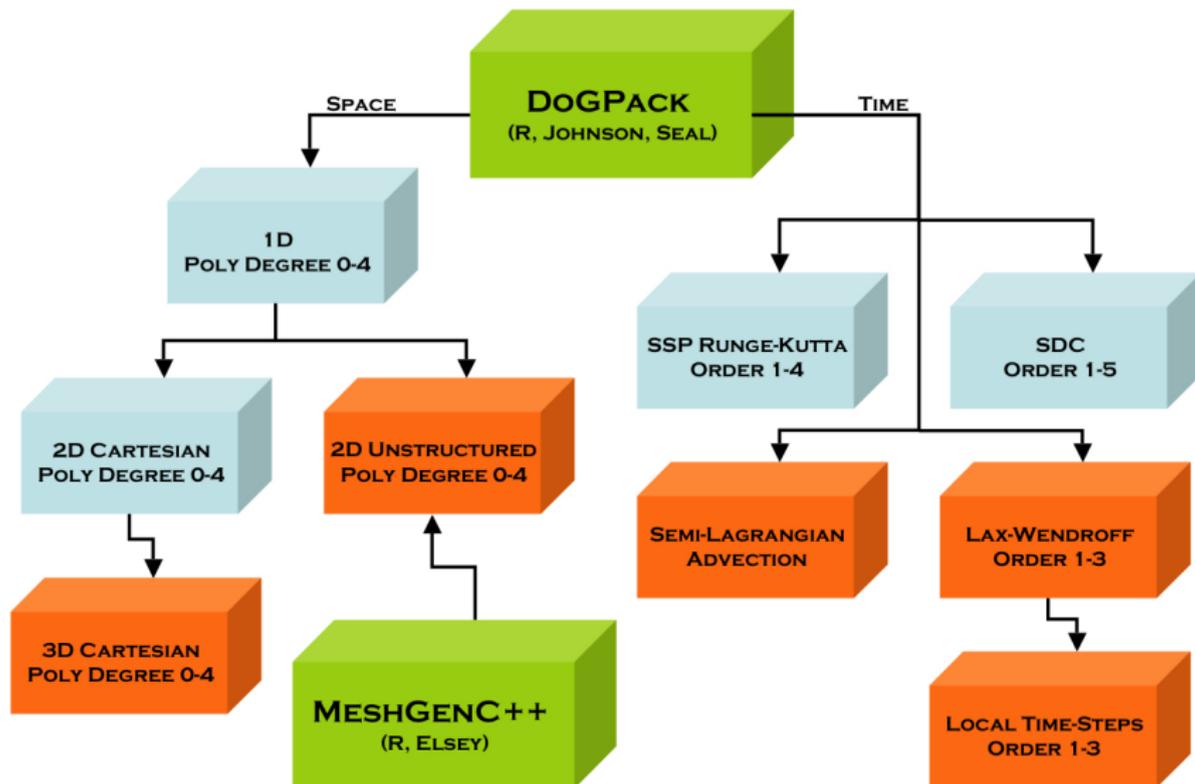
## Spatial discretization [Cockburn & Shu, 1990's]

- Basis functions:  $\phi^{(\ell)}(\mathbf{x}) = \{\dots, x^{k-1}, x^{k-2}y, \dots, xy^{k-2}, y^{k-1}\}$
- Galerkin expansion:  $q^h(\mathbf{x}, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{k(k+1)/2} Q^{(\ell)}(t) \phi^{(\ell)}(\mathbf{x})$
- $\forall \mathcal{T}$  start with  $q_{,t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}(q) = 0$  and obtain semi-discrete weak-form:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathcal{T}} \phi^{(\ell)} q_{,t} dx &= - \int_{\mathcal{T}} \phi^{(\ell)} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}(q) dx \\ \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} Q^{(\ell)} &= \underbrace{\frac{1}{|\mathcal{T}|} \int_{\mathcal{T}} \nabla \phi^{(\ell)} \cdot \mathbf{F}(q) dx}_{\text{Interior}} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{|\mathcal{T}|} \oint_{\partial \mathcal{T}} \phi^{(\ell)} \mathbf{F}(q) \cdot ds}_{\text{Edge}} \end{aligned}$$

- **Interior**: numerical quadrature, **Edge**: approx Riemann soln, then quadrature

# The DoGPack software package

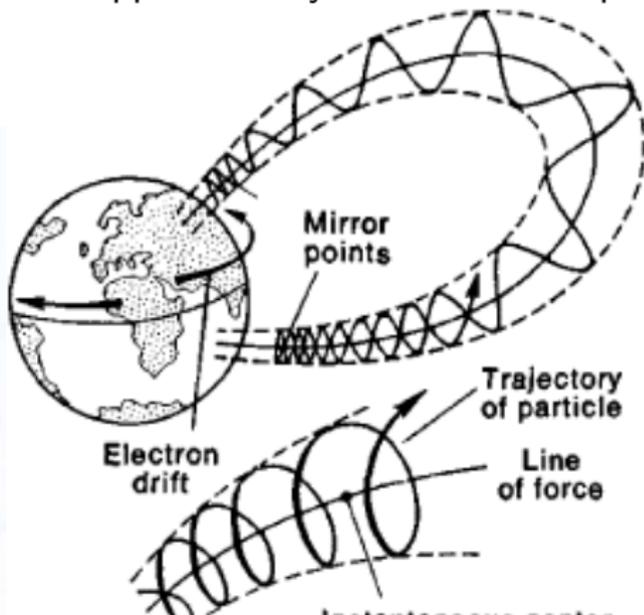
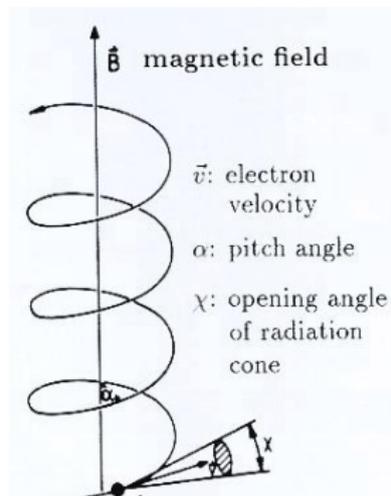


## Part II: Magnetic reconnection

# “Frozen-in” magnetic field lines

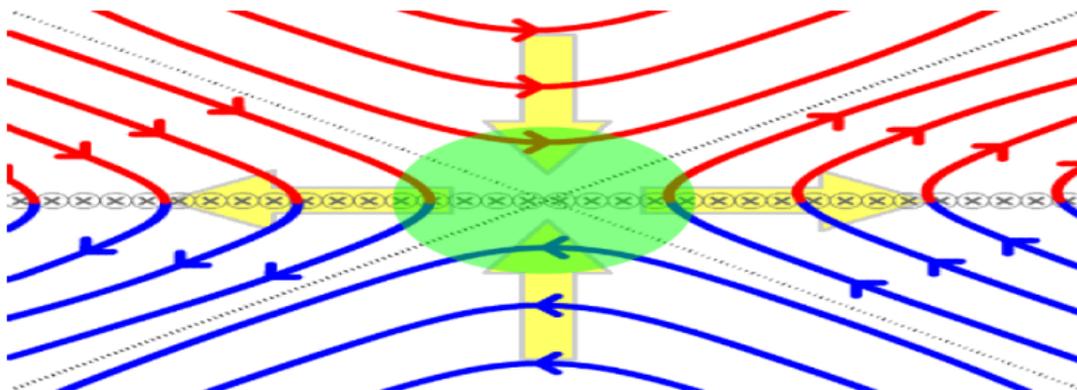
How does a plasma act differently from a normal gas?

- moving charges  $\rightarrow$  electrical current  $\rightarrow$  magnetic field
- charged particles spiral around magnetic field lines.
- viewed from a distance, the particles are stuck to the field lines.
- so magnetic field lines approximately move with the plasma.



# Magnetic Reconnection

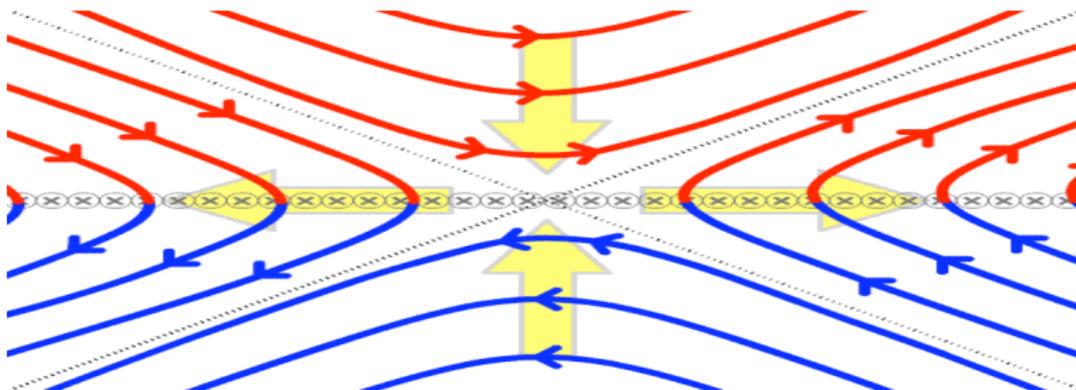
- **Start:** oppositely directed field lines are driven towards each other.
- Field lines reconnect at the **X-point**.
- **Lower energy state:** change topology of field lines
- Results in large energy release in the form of oppositely directed jets



2D separator reconnection

# Magnetic Reconnection

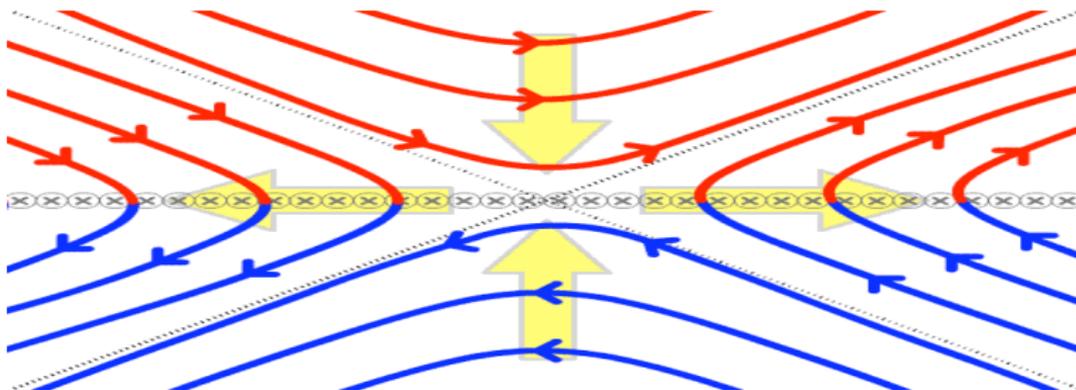
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2D separator reconnection

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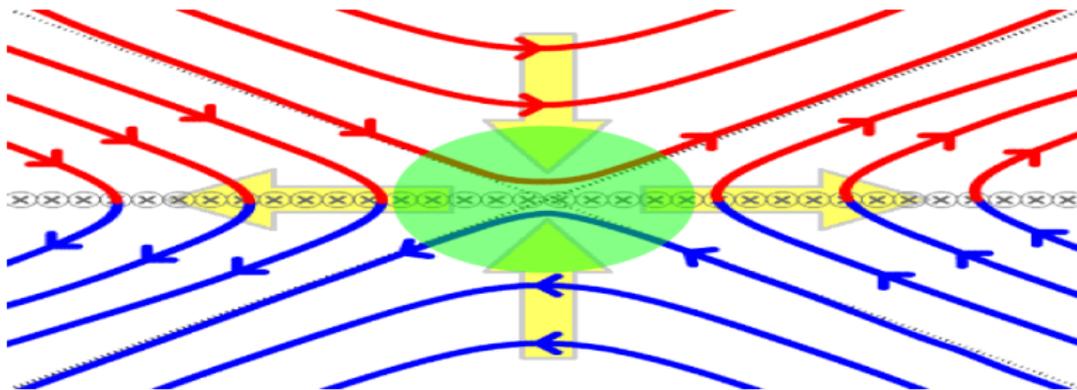
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2D separator reconnection

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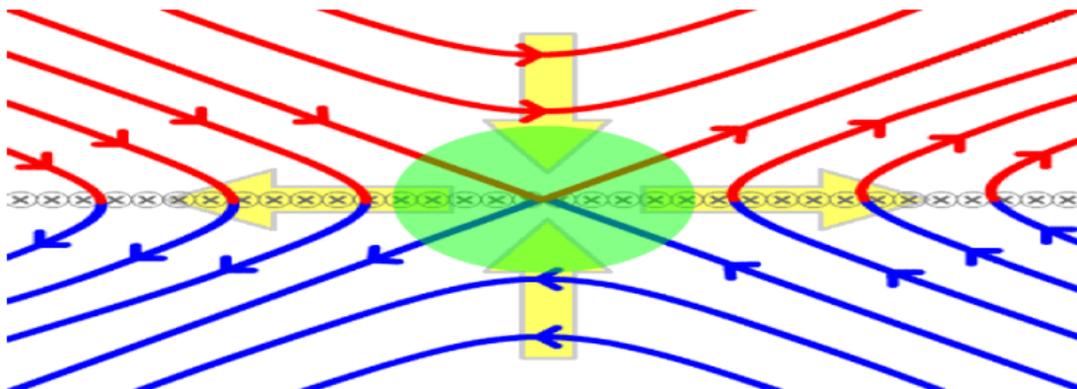
- **Start:** oppositely directed field lines are driven towards each other.
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2D separator reconnection

# Magnetic Reconnection

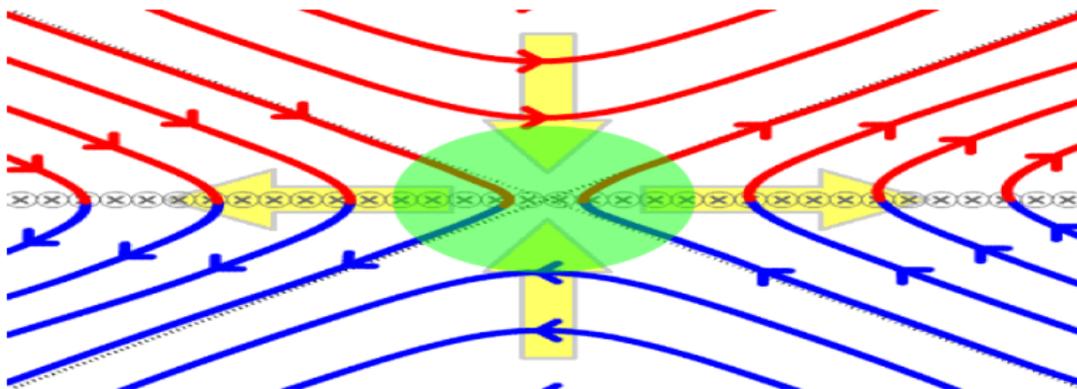
- **Start:** oppositely directed field lines are driven towards each other.
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2D separator reconnection

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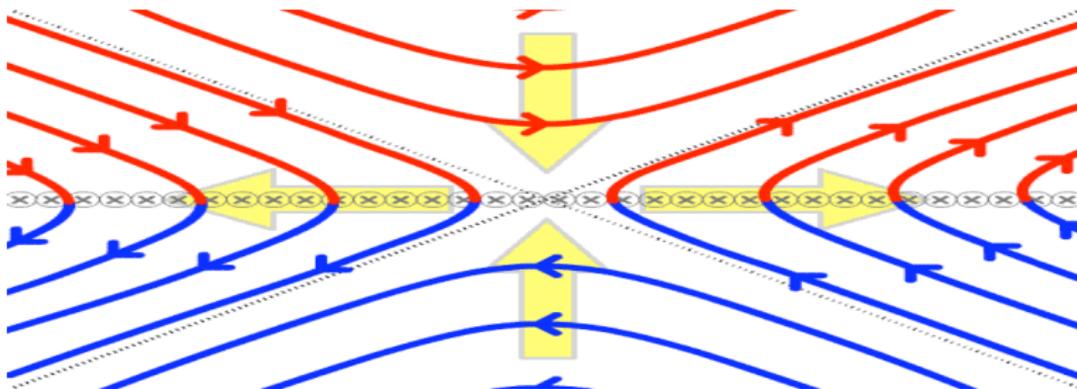
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2D separator reconnection

# Magnetic Reconnection

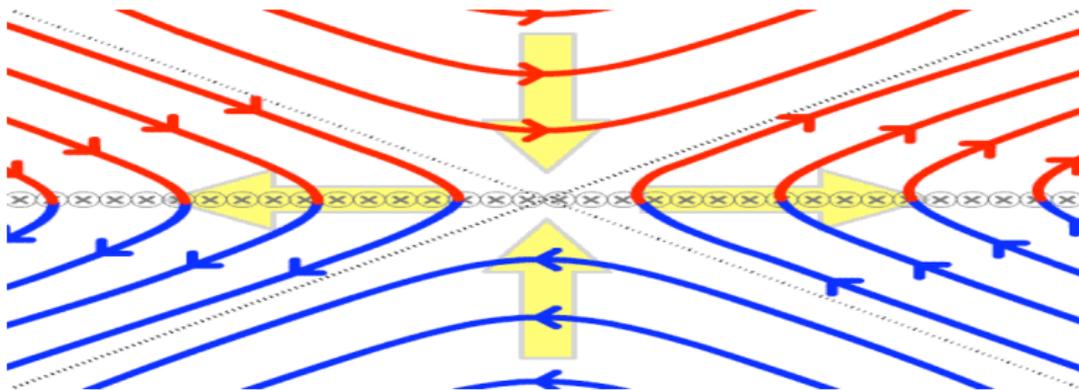
- **Start:** oppositely directed field lines are driven towards each other.
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- **Lower energy state:** change topology of field lines
- Results in large energy release in the form of oppositely directed jets



2D separator reconnection

# Magnetic Reconnection

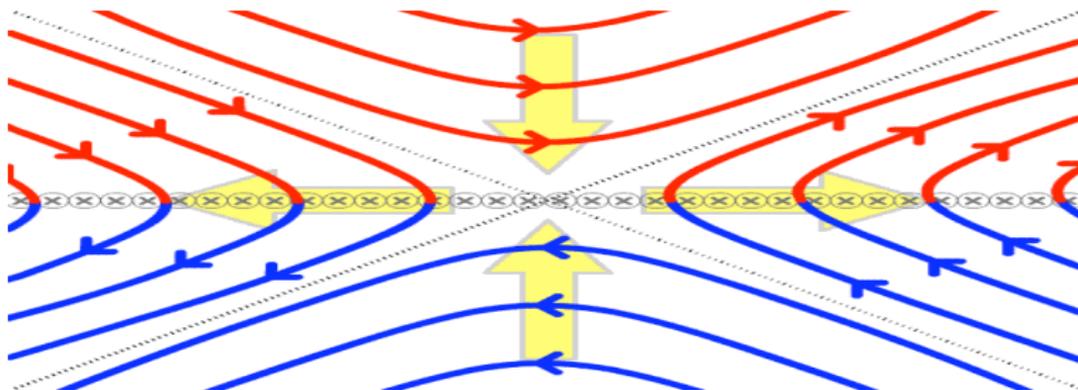
- **Start:** oppositely directed field lines are driven towards each other.
- Field lines reconnect at the **X-point**.
- **Lower energy state:** change topology of field lines
- Results in large energy release in the form of oppositely directed jets



2D separator reconnection

# Magnetic Reconnection

- **Start:** oppositely directed field lines are driven towards each other.
- Field lines reconnect at the **X-point**.
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2D separator reconnection

At the X-point the momentum equation (“Ohm’s law”) reduces to

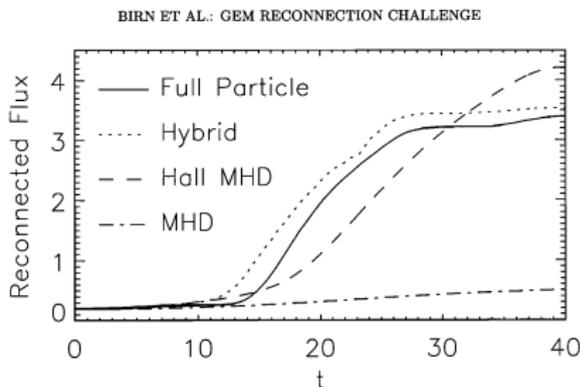
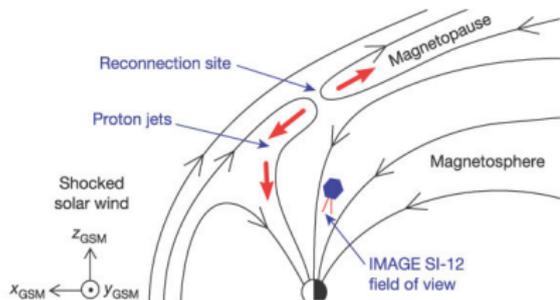
$$\begin{aligned} \text{rate of reconnection} = \mathbf{E}_3(0) &= \frac{-\mathbf{R}_i}{en_i} && \text{(resistive term)} \\ &+ \frac{\nabla \cdot \mathbb{P}_i}{en_i} && \text{(pressure term)} \\ &+ \frac{m_i}{e} \partial_t \mathbf{u}_i && \text{(inertial term)} \end{aligned}$$

Consequences:

- 1 *Collisionless reconnection* is supported by the inertial or pressure term.
- 2 For the 5-moment model the *inertial* term must support the reconnection; i.e. each species velocity at the origin should track exactly with reconnected flux.
- 3 For *steady-state* reconnection without resistivity the *pressure* term must provide for the reconnection.

# Collisionless magnetic reconnection: GEM problem

[Frey et al., Nature, 2003]

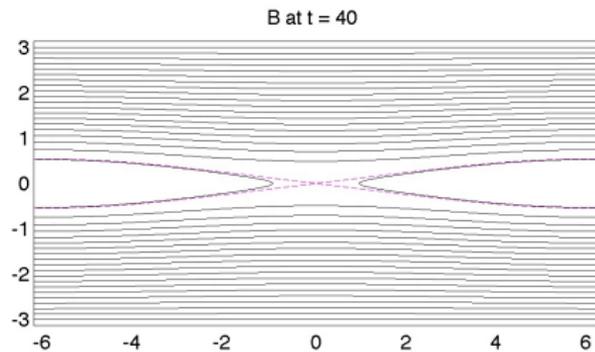
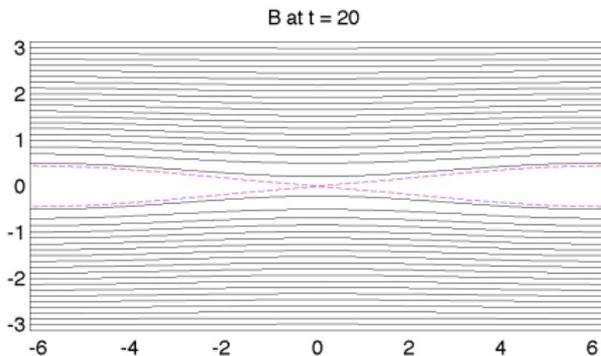
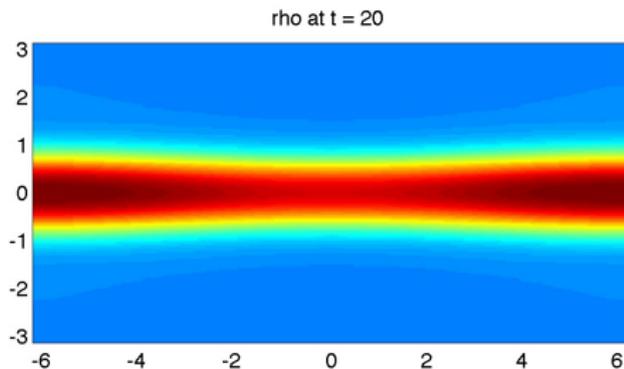
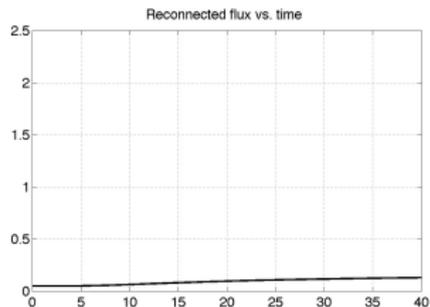


- 1 [Shay et al., 2001]: GEM challenge problem studied reconnection rate for different models; concluded that the Hall term is critical:  $(m_i - m_e) \mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B} / (\rho e)$
- 2 [Bessho and Bhattacharjee, 2007]: fast reconnection in electron-positron plasma; Hall term is absent, dominant term in Ohm's law is  $\nabla \cdot \mathbb{P}$
- 3 [Chacón et al., 2008]: Fluid case: steady fast reconnection in a five-moment viscous magnetized pair plasma

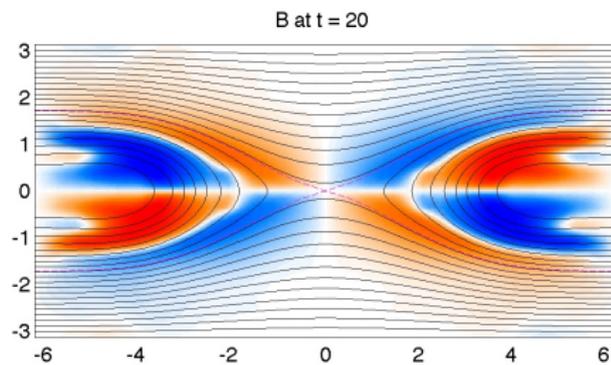
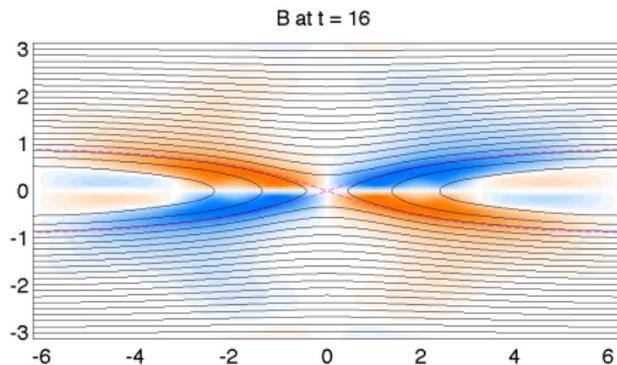
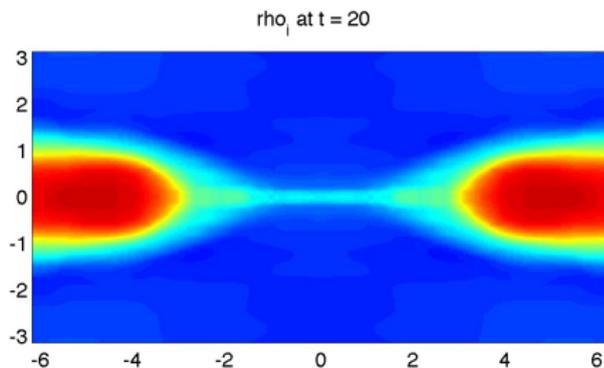
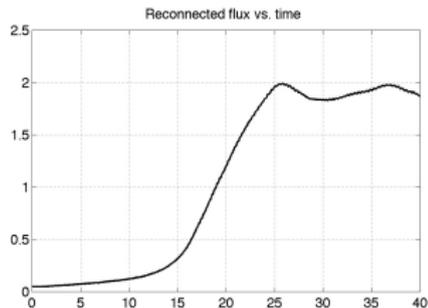
Q1: fast reconnection in an electron-positron plasma with only scalar pressure?

Q2: fast reconnection in an electron-positron plasma with 10-moment model?

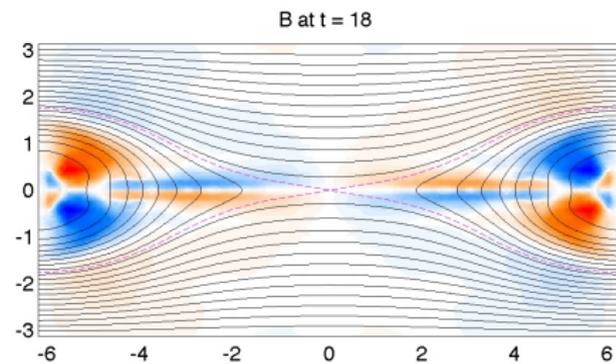
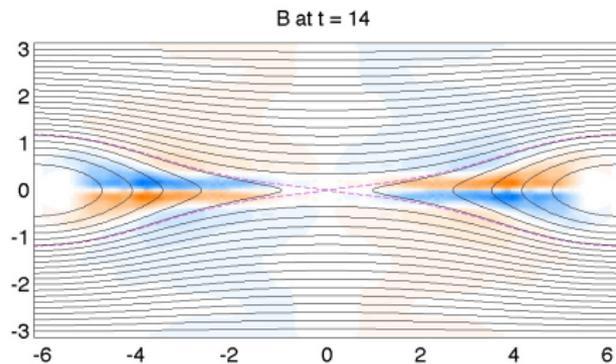
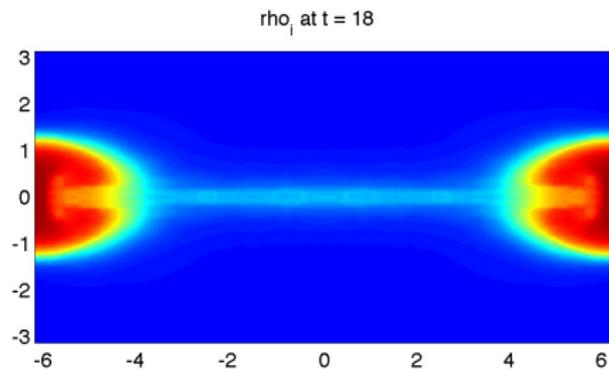
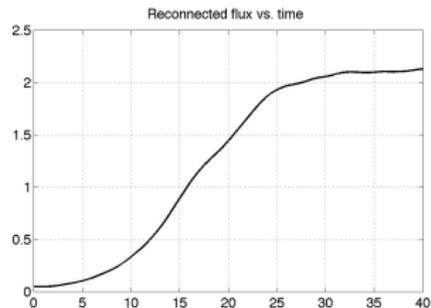
# GEM: Resistive MHD ( $\eta = 5 \times 10^{-3}$ )



# GEM: 2-fluid 5-moment ( $\frac{m_i}{m_e} = 25$ )

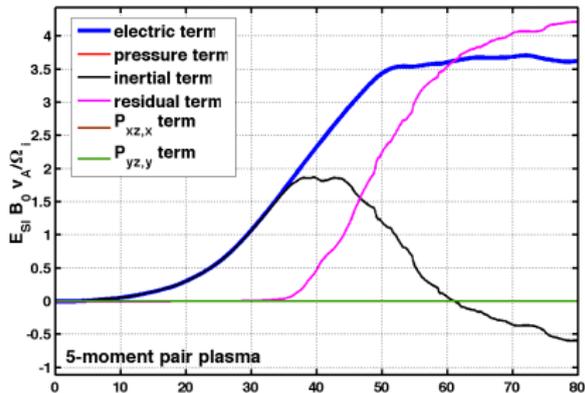


# GEM: 2-fluid 5-moment ( $\frac{m_i}{m_e} = 1$ )

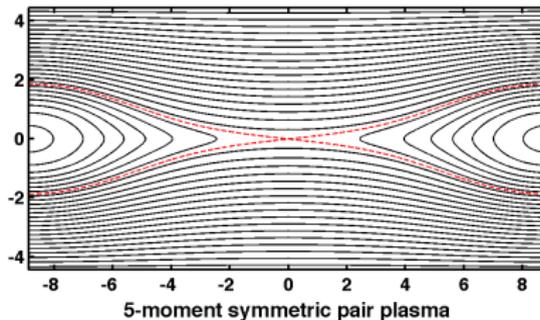


# GEM: 2-fluid 5-moment ( $\frac{m_i}{m_e} = 1, \tau = 0$ )

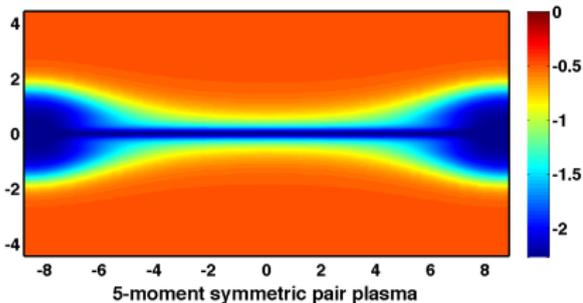
accumulation integral of "Ohm's law" terms at the X-point



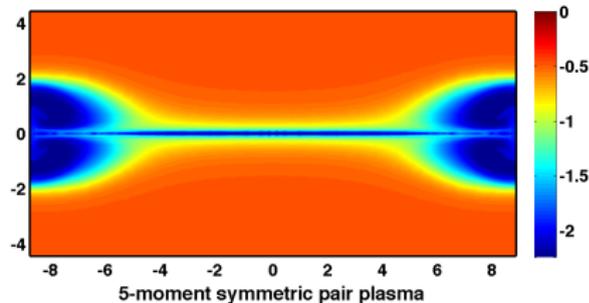
(magnetic field) at  $t = 30 / \Omega_i$



(entropy) at  $t = 30 / \Omega_i$

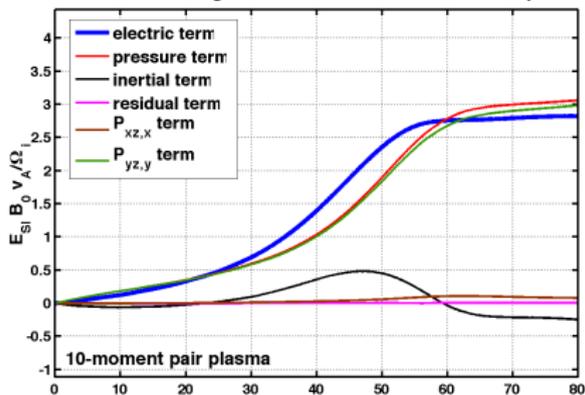


(entropy) at  $t = 36 / \Omega_i$

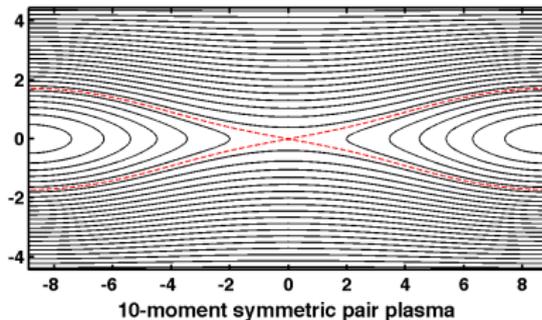


# GEM: 2-fluid 10-moment ( $\frac{m_i}{m_e} = 1, \tau = 0.2$ )

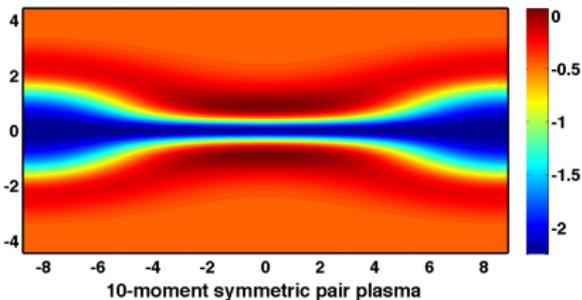
accumulation integral of "Ohm's law" terms at the X-point



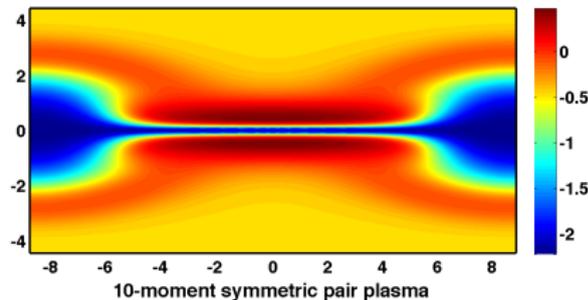
(magnetic field) at  $t = 36 / \Omega_i$



(entropy<sub>i</sub>) at  $t = 36 / \Omega_i$



(entropy<sub>i</sub>) at  $t = 46 / \Omega_i$



# GEM ( $\frac{m_i}{m_e} = 25$ ): kinetic models vs. 5- and 10-moment

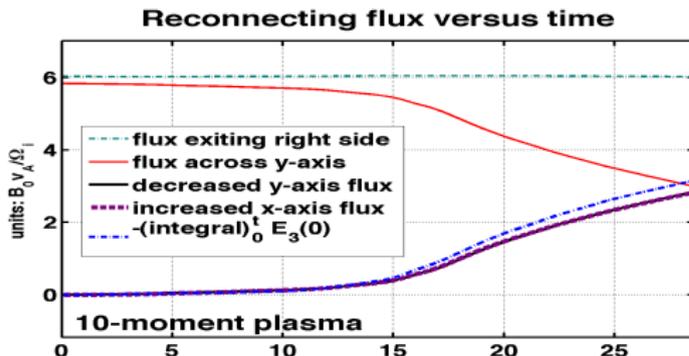
How does our model compare with published kinetic simulations on the full GEM problem?

We compare the time until peak reconnection rate with published kinetic results.

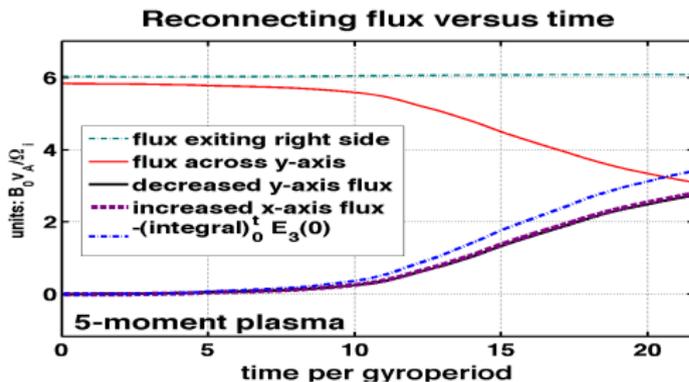
model	16% flux reconnected
Vlasov [ScGr06]	$t = 17.7/\Omega_i$ :
PIC [Pritchett01]	$t = 15.7/\Omega_i$ :
10-moment	$t = 18/\Omega_i$ :
5-moment	$t = 13.5/\Omega_i$ :

# GEM ( $\frac{m_i}{m_e} = 25$ ): kinetic models vs. 5- and 10-moment

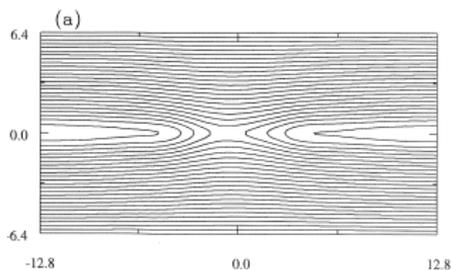
The ten-moment model attained 16% flux reconnected at about  $t = 18/\Omega_i$ :



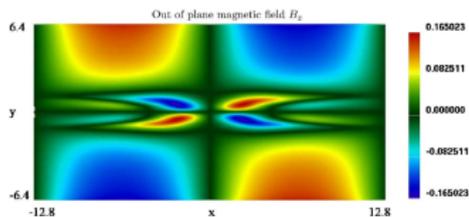
The five-moment model attained 16% flux reconnected at about  $t = 13.5/\Omega_i$ :



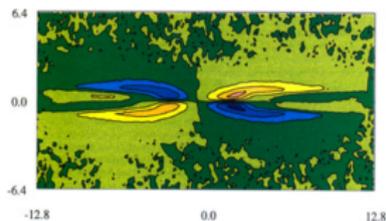
# Magnetic field at 16% reconnected



Magnetic field lines for PIC  
at  $\Omega_i t = 15.7$  [Pritchett01]

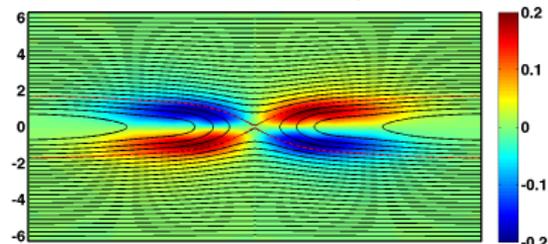


Magnetic field for Vlasov  
at  $\Omega_i t = 17.7$  [ScGr06]

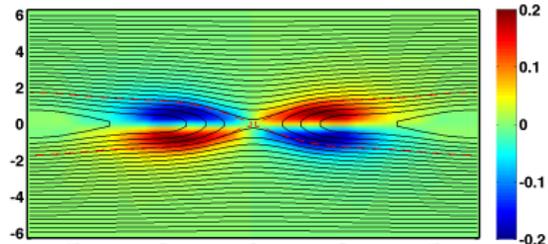


magnetic field of [Pritchett01]

10-moment:  $-B$  at  $t = 18 / \Omega_i$

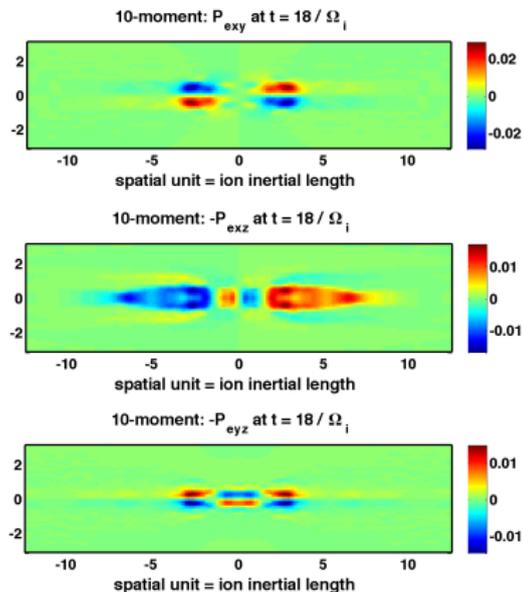


5-moment:  $-B$  at  $t = 13.5 / \Omega_i$

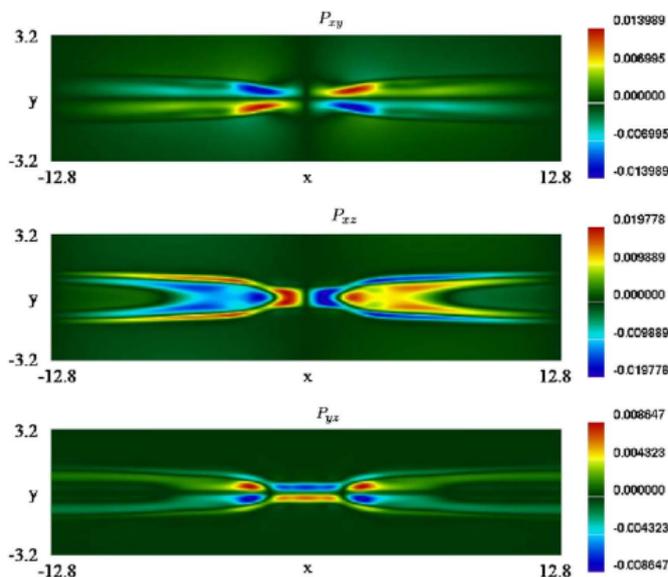


spatial unit = ion inertial length

# Off-diagonal components of electron pressure tensor

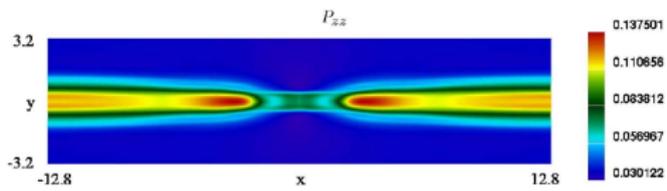
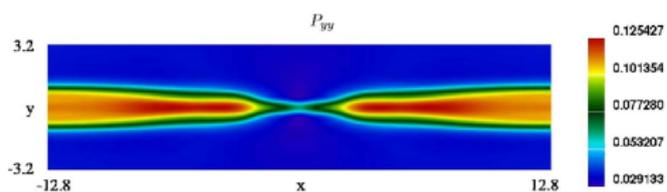
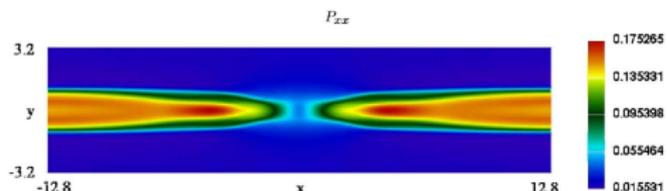
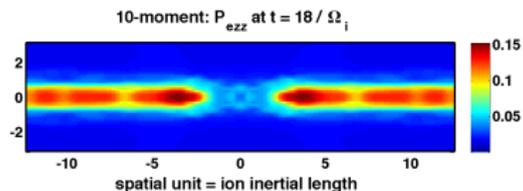
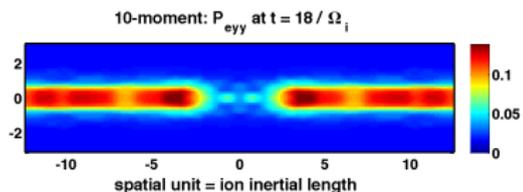
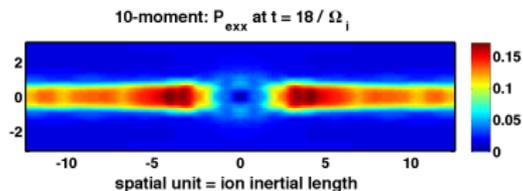


Off-diagonal components of the electron pressure tensor for 10-moment simulation at  $\Omega_i t = 18$



Off-diagonal components of the electron pressure tensor for Vlasov simulation at  $\Omega_i t = 17.7$  [ScGr06]

# Diagonal components of electron pressure tensor

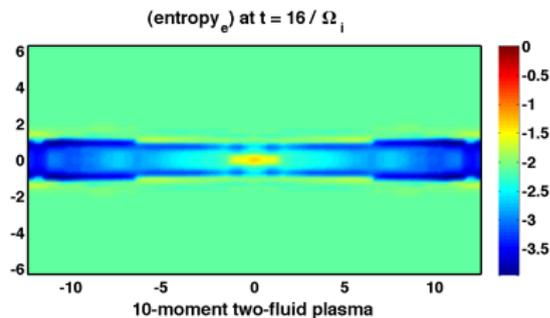
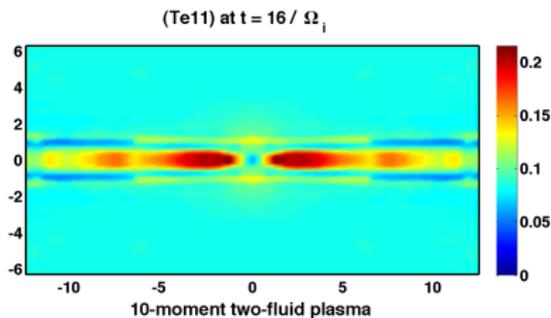
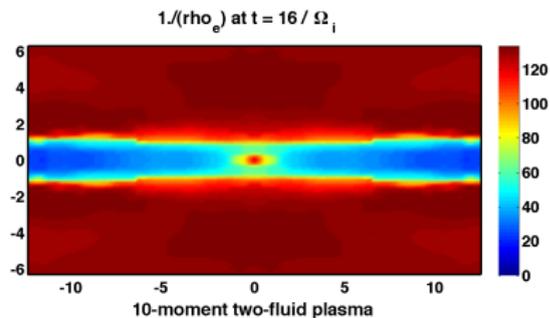
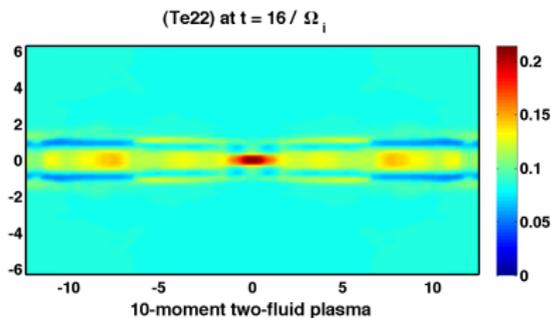


Diagonal components of the electron pressure tensor for 10-moment simulation at  $\Omega_i t = 18$

Diagonal components of the electron pressure tensor for Vlasov simulation at  $\Omega_i t = 17.7$  [ScGr06]

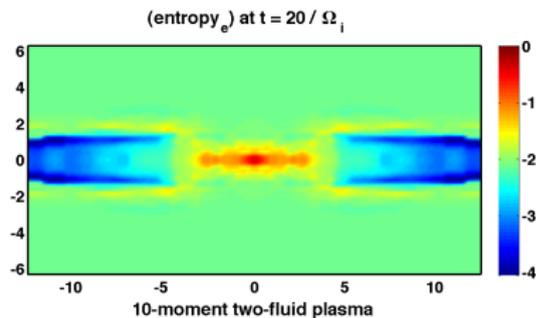
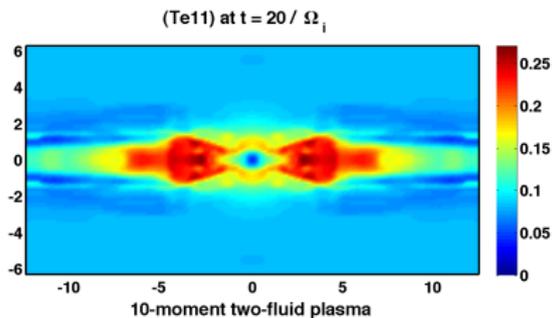
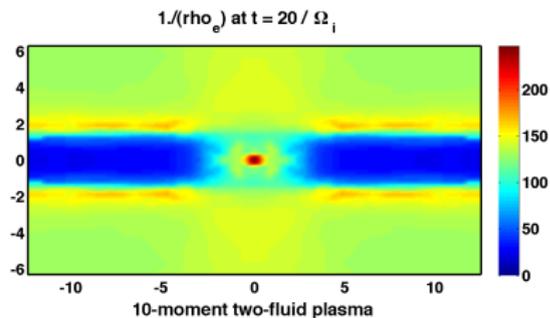
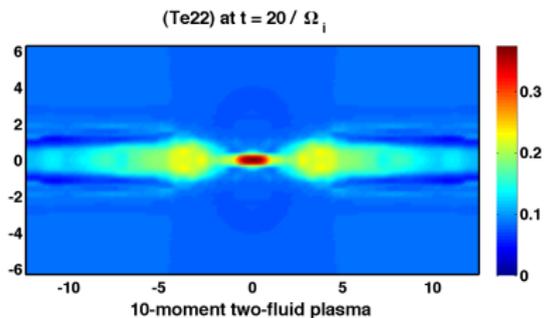
# Electron gas at $t = 16$

Problem: the code crashes! Why? Look at electron gas dynamics:



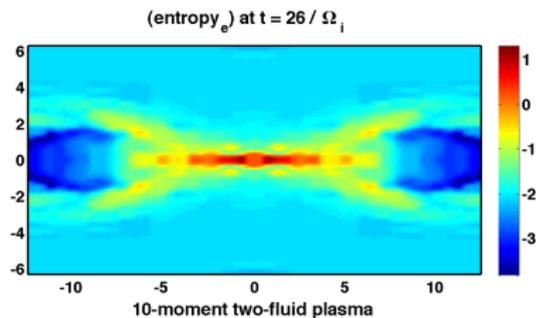
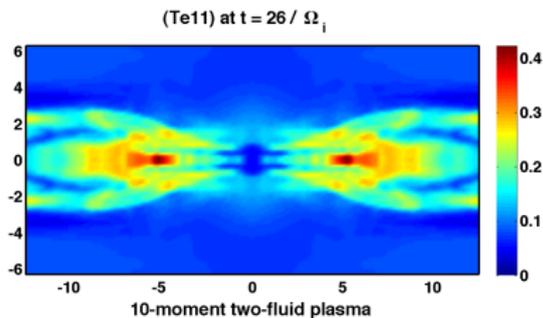
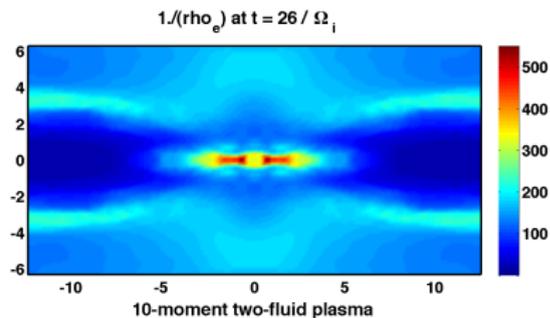
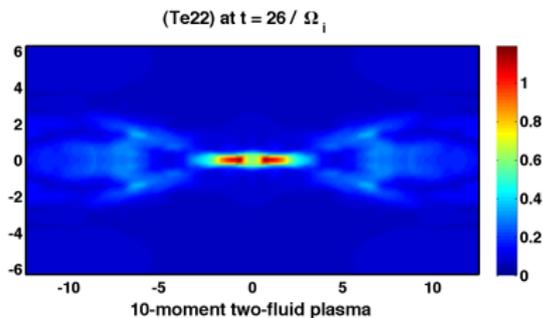
# Electron gas at $t = 20$

Problem: the code crashes! Why? Look at electron gas dynamics:



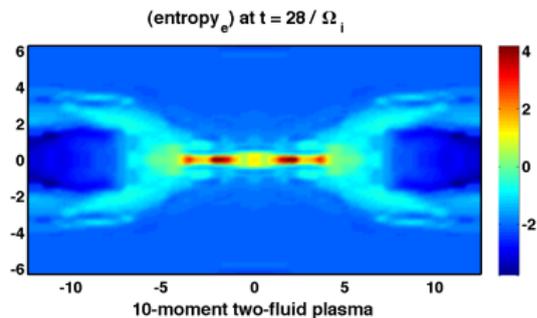
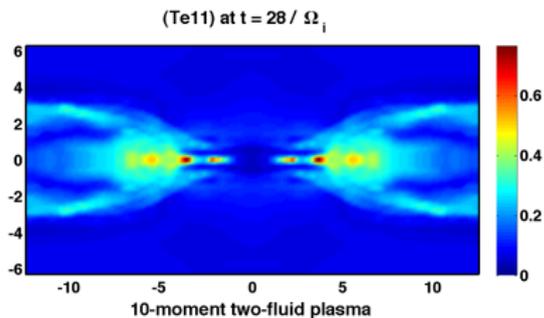
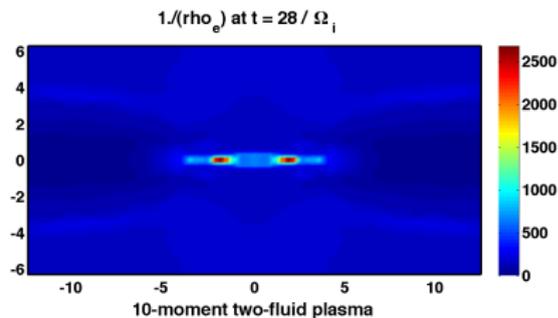
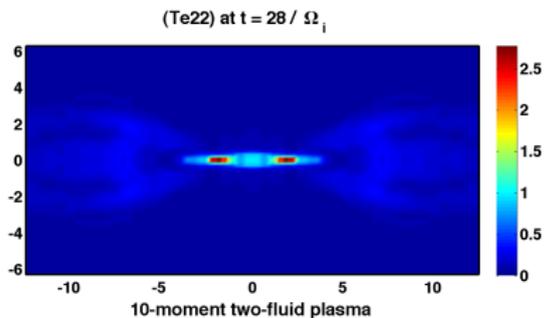
# Electron gas at $t = 26$

Problem: the code crashes! Why? Look at electron gas dynamics:



# Electron gas at $t = 28$ (just before crashing)

Problem: the code crashes! Why? Look at electron gas dynamics:



# Heating singularity ( $\frac{m_i}{m_e} = 25$ )

A heating singularity develops between 20% and 50% reconnected flux which crashes the code or produces a central magnetic island.

- $(T_e)_{yy}$  becomes large.
- $(T_e)_{xx}$  becomes small.
- $\rho_e$  becomes small.
- electron entropy becomes large.

These difficulties prompted me to study whether nonsingular steady-state solutions exist for adiabatic plasma models.

# Steady magnetic reconnection requires heat flux

*Theorem.* 2D rotationally symmetric steady magnetic reconnection must be singular in the vicinity of the X-point for an adiabatic model.

*Argument.* In a steady state solution that is symmetric under 180-degree rotation about the X-point, momentum evolution at the X-point says:

$$\text{rate of reconnection} = \mathbf{E}_3(0) = \frac{-\mathbf{R}_i}{en_i} + \frac{\nabla \cdot \mathbb{P}_i}{en_i}.$$

Assume a nonsingular steady solution. Then at the origin (0) no heat can be produced, so  $\mathbf{R}_i = 0$  at 0. Differentiating entropy evolution twice shows that  $\nabla \cdot \mathbb{P}_i = 0$  at 0. So there is no reconnection.

## Part III: Heat flux closure

We need a nonzero heat flux closure. I advocate to use:

$$\mathbf{q}_s = -\frac{2}{5} k_s \tilde{\mathbf{K}}_s : \text{Sym3} \left( \frac{\mathbf{T}_s}{T_s} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{T}_s \right);$$

here  $k$  is the heat conductivity. In the absence of a magnetic field  $\tilde{\mathbf{K}}$  is the identity tensor [McDonald and Groth, 2008].

***What should  $\tilde{\mathbf{K}}$  be in the presence of a magnetic field?***

- depends on collision operator.
- I assume a BGK collision operator.

Recall the Boltzmann equation,

$$\partial_t f_s + \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \cdot (\mathbf{v} f_s) + \nabla_{\mathbf{v}} \cdot (\mathbf{a}_s f_s) = \mathcal{C}_s.$$

The BGK collision operator relaxes  $f_s$  to a Maxwellian distribution:

$$\mathcal{C}_s = \frac{f_{\mathcal{M}} - f_s}{\tau_s}.$$

# Closure coefficients for heat flux tensor

For the heat flux coefficients a Chapman-Enskog expansion assuming a BGK collision operator yields

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\mathbf{K}} = & \left( \mathbb{1}_{\parallel}^3 + \frac{3}{2} \mathbb{1}_{\parallel} (\mathbb{1}_{\perp}^2 + \mathbb{1}_{\wedge}^2) \right) \\ & + \frac{3}{1 + \varpi^2} \left( \mathbb{1}_{\perp} \mathbb{1}_{\parallel}^2 - \varpi \mathbb{1}_{\wedge} \mathbb{1}_{\parallel}^2 \right) \\ & + \frac{3}{1 + 4\varpi^2} \left( \frac{\mathbb{1}_{\perp}^2 - \mathbb{1}_{\wedge}^2}{2} \mathbb{1}_{\parallel} - 2\varpi \mathbb{1}_{\wedge} \mathbb{1}_{\perp} \mathbb{1}_{\parallel} \right) \\ & + (k_0 \mathbb{1}_{\perp}^3 + k_1 \mathbb{1}_{\wedge} \mathbb{1}_{\perp}^2 + k_2 \mathbb{1}_{\wedge}^2 \mathbb{1}_{\perp} + k_3 \mathbb{1}_{\wedge}^3); \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

here  $\varpi := \tau_s \frac{q_s}{m_s} |\mathbf{B}|$  is gyrofrequency per collision frequency,  $\mathbf{b} := \mathbf{B}/|\mathbf{B}|$  is the direction vector of the magnetic field,  $\mathbb{1}$  is the identity matrix, and  $\mathbb{1}_{\parallel} := \mathbf{b}\mathbf{b}$ ,  $\mathbb{1}_{\perp} := \mathbb{1} - \mathbb{1}_{\parallel}$ , and  $\mathbb{1}_{\wedge} = \mathbb{1} \times \mathbf{b}$  generate gyrotropic basis tensors. The remaining coefficients are...

# Closure coefficients for heat flux tensor

$$k_3 := \frac{-6\varpi^3}{1 + 10\varpi^2 + 9\varpi^4} = -(2/3)\varpi^{-1} + \mathcal{O}(\varpi^{-3}),$$

$$k_2 := \frac{6\varpi^2 + 3\varpi(1 + 3\varpi^2)k_3}{1 + 7\varpi^2} = \mathcal{O}(\varpi^{-2}),$$

$$k_1 := \frac{-3\varpi + 2\varpi k_2}{1 + 3\varpi^2} = -\varpi^{-1} + \mathcal{O}(\varpi^{-3}),$$

$$k_0 := 1 + \varpi k_1 = \mathcal{O}(\varpi^{-2}).$$

# Closure coefficients for heat flux tensor

All tensor products in equation (1) are **splice symmetric products**, satisfying

$$2(AB)_{j_1 j_2 k_1 k_2} := A_{j_1 k_1} B_{j_2 k_2} + B_{j_1 k_1} A_{j_2 k_2} \text{ and}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3!(ABC)_{j_1 j_2 j_3 k_1 k_2 k_3} &:= A_{j_1 k_1} B_{j_2 k_2} C_{j_3 k_3} + A_{j_1 k_1} C_{j_2 k_2} B_{j_3 k_3} \\ &\quad + B_{j_1 k_1} A_{j_2 k_2} C_{j_3 k_3} + B_{j_1 k_1} C_{j_2 k_2} A_{j_3 k_3} \\ &\quad + C_{j_1 k_1} A_{j_2 k_2} B_{j_3 k_3} + C_{j_1 k_1} B_{j_2 k_2} A_{j_3 k_3} \end{aligned}$$

(so permute the letters and leave the indices unchanged).  
For computational efficiency instead use **splice products**,

$$(AB)'_{j_1 j_2 k_1 k_2} := A_{j_1 k_1} B_{j_2 k_2},$$

$$(ABC)'_{j_1 j_2 j_3 k_1 k_2 k_3} := A_{j_1 k_1} B_{j_2 k_2} C_{j_3 k_3},$$

and symmetrize at the end:

$$\mathbb{Q}_s = -\frac{2}{5} k_s \text{Sym} \left( \tilde{\mathbf{K}}'_s : \text{Sym3} \left( \frac{\mathbb{T}_s}{T_s} \cdot \nabla \mathbb{T}_s \right) \right);$$

- Clean up my dissertation (!)
- Develop DoGPack.
- Develop Boundary Integral Positivity Limiter framework.
- Study 10-moment two-fluid tearing.
- Implement heat flux closure.
- Lorentz-invariant heat flux evolution.

# Thanks!

I want to thank my committee, with special thanks to James Rossmanith for advising me, Jerry Brackbill for *lots* of help and advice, and Carl Sovinec for many consultations.

Also, I want to acknowledge people have been especially helpful to me in this research, particularly Ping Zhu, Nick Murphy, and Ammar Hakim.