

SAND2011-6981C

DSMC11

G. Radtke

Motivation

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Introduction

Stat. error  
VR Methods

LVDSMC

Advection  
BGK Coll.  
VHS Coll.

Applications

Temp. jump  
Kn pumps

Conclusion

# Low-variance Deviational Monte Carlo Simulation for Applications in Nanotechnology

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Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Mechanical Engineering

**DSMC11, Santa Fe**

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<sup>1</sup>Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-program laboratory managed and operated by Sandia Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corporation, for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000. 

# Motivation:

Efficient simulation of molecular gas transport

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$\Delta T/T_0$ ,  
 $Ma$ ,  
etc.

10

1

0.1

Navier Stokes  
(slip flow)

$$\rho \frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} = -\nabla P + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}$$

$$u(x_B) - u_B = a_1 \lambda \frac{\partial u}{\partial n}(x_B)$$

Navier-Stokes breakdown

$$L \gg \lambda = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\pi(\rho/m)d^2}$$

collisionless

0.1

1

10

$Kn = \lambda/L$

# Motivation:

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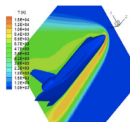
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$\Delta T/T_0$ ,  
 $Ma$ ,  
etc.

10

1

0.1



Gallis, 2005

Navier Stokes  
(slip flow)

high-altitude  
hypersonic flow

Direct simulation Monte Carlo  
efficient for large departures  
from equilibrium

collisionless

0.1

1

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$Kn = \lambda/L$

# Motivation:

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$\Delta T/T_0$ ,  
 $Ma$ ,  
etc.

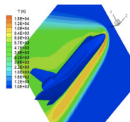
10

1

0.1

Navier Stokes  
(slip flow)

high-altitude  
hypersonic flow



Gallis, 2005

DSMC

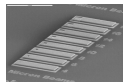
collisionless

MEMS  
acceler.



Frangi, 2007

oscillating  
microbeam



Gallis, 2004

Knudsen  
pump



Han, 2007

0.1

1

10

$Kn = \lambda/L$

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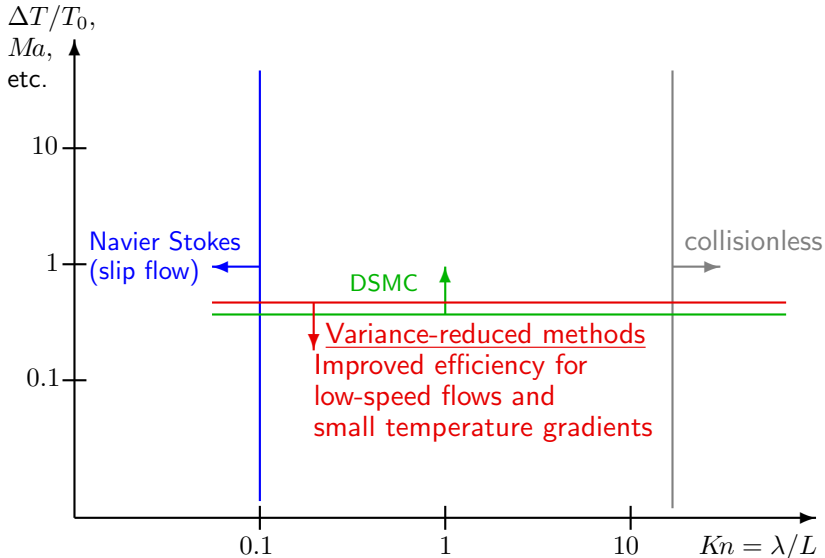
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# Inefficiency of the DSMC method

Example: transient temperature response of argon gas

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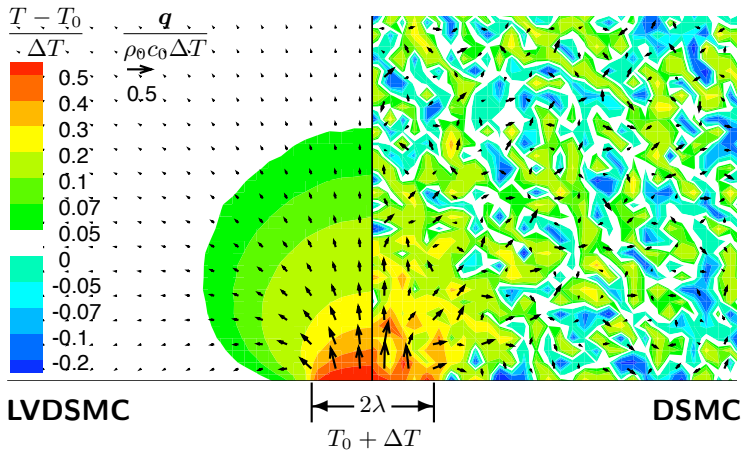
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$$\frac{\Delta T}{T_0} = 0.01 \quad \frac{c_0 t}{\lambda} = 10$$

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## 1 Introduction

- Statistical noise for the DSMC method
- Review of variance reduced particle methods

## 2 Low-variance deviational simulation Monte Carlo (LVDSMC)

- Advection step
- Bhatnagar-Gross-Krook (BGK) collision model
- Variable hard sphere collision operator

## 3 Applications

- Second-order temperature jump
- Knudsen pumps

## 4 Conclusion

# Inefficiency of the DSMC method:

## Statistical error

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## Relative statistical uncertainty in the hydrodynamic variables<sup>2</sup>

$$\frac{\sigma_{u_x}}{|u_{x,0}|} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_C N_{\text{ens}}}} \frac{1}{Ma \sqrt{\gamma}}, \quad \frac{\sigma_T}{\Delta T} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_C N_{\text{ens}}}} \frac{\sqrt{k_B/c_V}}{\Delta T/T_0}, \quad \text{etc.}$$

- Small departure from equilibrium ( $Ma \ll 1$ ,  $\Delta T/T_0 \ll 1$ , etc.) leads to high levels of statistical noise.

## Low variance deviational simulation Monte Carlo

- Deviational particle approach: simulate  $f^d = f - f^{\text{eq}}$
- Leads to constant relative uncertainty in the limit of small departure from equilibrium

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<sup>2</sup>Hadjiconstantinou et al., *J. Comp. Phys.*, 2003 

# Variance reduced particle methods:

## A brief history

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### Deviational particle approach

- Unstable, requires particle cancellation  
Baker & Hadjiconstantinou (2005)  
Baker & Hadjiconstantinou (2006)

### Low-variance deviational simulation Monte Carlo (LVDSMC)

- Exploits structure of the collision operator to achieve stability
- Hard sphere:  
Homolle & Hadjiconstantinou (2007)
- BGK model:  
Radtke & Hadjiconstantinou (2009)  
Hadjiconstantinou, et al. (2009)
- VHS model:  
Wagner (2007)  
Radtke, et al. (2010, 2011)

### Alternative approaches:

#### *Linearized distribution using weights*

- Unstable for hard sphere, requiring particle cancellation  
Chun & Koch (2005)

#### *Direct variance reduction of DSMC (VRDSMC)*

- Kernel density estimation required for stability, resulting in bias error  
Al-Mohssen & Hadjiconstantinou (2010)

# LVDSMC simulation method:

## Deviational particle approach

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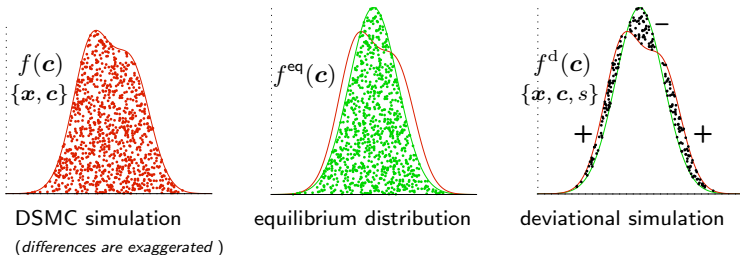
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**Deviational particle approach:**  $f^d = f - f^{eq}$



**Fixed equilibrium**

$$f^0 = \frac{\rho_0}{\pi^{3/2} c_0^3} \exp \left[ -\frac{\|c - u_0\|^2}{c_0^2} \right]$$
$$c_0 = \sqrt{2RT_0}$$

*constant properties:*

$$\rho_0, u_0, T_0$$

**Spatially-variable equilibrium**

$$f^{MB} = \frac{\rho_{MB}}{\pi^{3/2} c_{MB}^3} \exp \left[ -\frac{\|c - u_{MB}\|^2}{c_{MB}^2} \right]$$
$$c_{MB} = \sqrt{2RT_{MB}}$$

*spatially-variable properties:*

$$\rho_{MB}(x), u_{MB}(x), T_{MB}(x)$$

# LVDSMC simulation method:

## Advection step

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### Boltzmann equation

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \mathbf{c} \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}}}_{\text{advection}} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{m} \int_{S^2} d^2 \Omega \int_{\mathcal{R}^3} d^3 \mathbf{c}_* \sigma c_r (f' f'_* - f f_*)}_{\text{collision}}$$

### Advection step for deviational particles

*Fixed equilibrium*  $f^{\text{eq}} = f^0$

$$\frac{\partial f^{\text{d}}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{c} \cdot \frac{\partial f^{\text{d}}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = 0$$

- Deviational particles advect like DSMC particles

$$\mathbf{x}_i \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_i + \mathbf{c}_i \Delta t$$

*Variable equilibrium*  $f^{\text{eq}} = f^{\text{MB}}$

$$\frac{\partial f^{\text{d}}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{c} \cdot \frac{\partial f^{\text{d}}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = -\mathbf{c} \cdot \frac{\partial f^{\text{MB}}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$$

- Additional particles generated at cell interfaces

$$\left[ \frac{\partial f^{\text{d}}}{\partial t} \right]_{\text{int}} \propto c_n [f_-^{\text{MB}} - f_+^{\text{MB}}]$$

Inefficient for simulating multiple spatial dimensions

# LVDSMC simulation method:

## Collision step for the BGK collision model

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### Bhatnagar-Gross-Krook (BGK) collision model

$$\left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right]_{\text{coll}} \approx -\frac{f - f^{\text{loc}}}{\tau}; \quad f^{\text{loc}} = \frac{\rho}{(2\pi RT)^{3/2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{\|\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{u}\|^2}{2RT} \right]$$

### Fixed equilibrium distribution<sup>3</sup>

$$\left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right]_{\text{coll}} \Delta t = \underbrace{\frac{\Delta t}{\tau} (f^{\text{loc}} - f^0)}_{\text{particle generation}} - \underbrace{\frac{\Delta t}{\tau} f^d}_{\text{particle deletion}}$$

- Simple, easy to implement
- Particle sink term provides stability

<sup>3</sup>Hadjiconstantinou, Radtke, and Baker, *J. Heat Trans.*, 2010

# LVDSMC simulation method:

## Collision step for the BGK collision model

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## Bhatnagar-Gross-Krook (BGK) collision model

$$\left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right]_{\text{coll}} \approx -\frac{f - f^{\text{loc}}}{\tau}; \quad f^{\text{loc}} = \frac{\rho}{(2\pi RT)^{3/2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{\|\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{u}\|^2}{2RT} \right]$$

## Spatially-variable equilibrium distribution

$$\left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right]_{\text{coll}} \Delta t = \underbrace{\frac{\Delta t}{\tau} (f^{\text{loc}} - f^{\text{MB}})}_{\text{particle generation}} - \underbrace{\Delta f^{\text{MB}}}_{\text{change in equilibrium}} + \underbrace{-\frac{\Delta t}{\tau} f^{\text{d}}}_{\text{particle deletion}}$$

- $\Delta f^{\text{MB}}$  chosen to eliminate the lower order moments of particle generation distribution

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Delta \rho_{\text{MB}} \\ \Delta \mathbf{u}_{\text{MB}} \\ \Delta T_{\text{MB}} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\Delta t}{\tau} \begin{bmatrix} \rho - \rho_{\text{MB}} \\ \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_{\text{MB}} \\ T - T_{\text{MB}} \end{bmatrix}$$

- $f^{\text{MB}}$  approaches local equilibrium state: consistent with physics inherent in BGK (relaxation-time) model
- Highly efficient for continuum limit ( $Kn \rightarrow 0$ )

# LVDSMC simulation method:

## Collision step for the BGK collision model

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### Bhatnagar-Gross-Krook (BGK) collision model

$$\left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right]_{\text{coll}} \approx -\frac{f - f^{\text{loc}}}{\tau}; \quad f^{\text{loc}} = \frac{\rho}{(2\pi RT)^{3/2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{\|\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{u}\|^2}{2RT} \right]$$

### Spatially-variable equilibrium distribution: linearized version<sup>4</sup>

$$\left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right]_{\text{coll}} \Delta t = \underbrace{\frac{\Delta t}{\tau} (f^{\text{loc}} - f^{\text{MB}})}_{\text{particle generation} \rightarrow 0} - \underbrace{\frac{\Delta t}{\tau} f^{\text{d}}}_{\text{particle deletion}} + \underbrace{\Delta f^{\text{MB}}}_{\text{change in equilibrium}}$$

- In the linearized regime ( $Ma \ll 1$ ,  $\Delta T \ll T_0$ , etc.), no particle generation required
- Simplified collision step
- Highly-efficient overall method for 1D transport

<sup>4</sup>Radtke and Hadjiconstantinou, *Phys. Rev. E*, 2009

# Numerical efficiency:

## BGK LVDSMC methods

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### Simulation example:

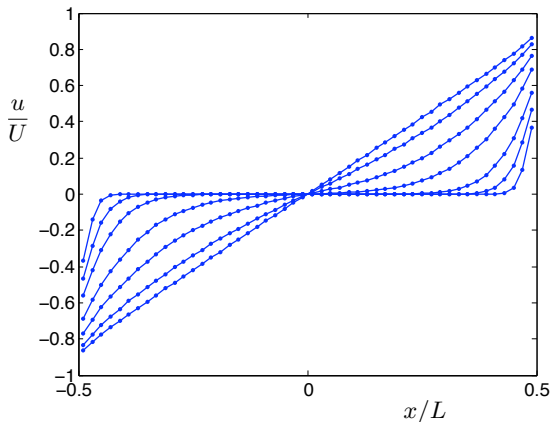
- BGK, spatially-variable equilibrium distribution
- Transient shear problem

#### Details

- $Kn = 0.1$
- $u\left(\pm \frac{L}{2}\right) = \mp U$   
 $U \ll c_0$

CPU time:

**70 sec. (3.0 GHz)**



# Numerical efficiency:

## BGK LVDSMC methods

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### Simulation example:

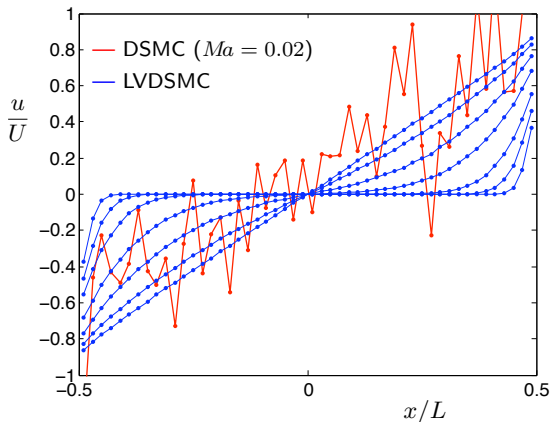
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# Numerical efficiency:

## BGK LVDSMC methods

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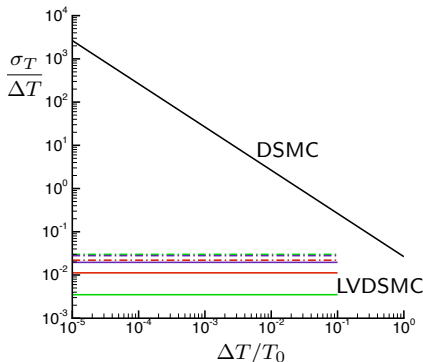
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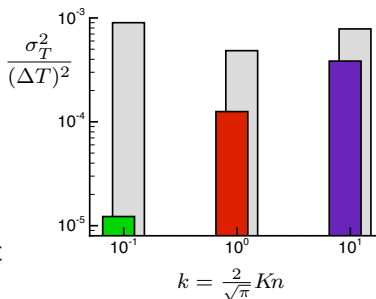
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### Statistical error in temperature LVDSMC vs. DSMC



- For a single cell in the center of the simulation containing  $\approx 950$  particles (all methods)

### LVDSMC: fixed vs. spatially-variable equilibrium



- Gray: fixed equilibrium
- Colors: spatially-variable equilibrium

# LVDSMC simulation method:

## Collision step for the VHS collision model

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### VHS collision model

$$\left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right]_{\text{coll}} = C_{\beta} \int_{S^2} d^2 \Omega \int_{\mathcal{R}^3} d^3 \mathbf{c}_* c_r^{\beta} (f' f'_* - f f_*)$$

### Deviational collision step ( $f^d = f - f^0$ )

$$\left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right]_{\text{coll}} = \underbrace{\mathcal{L}[f^d]}_{\text{linear part}} + \underbrace{\mathcal{Q}[f^d, f^d]}_{\text{nonlinear part}}$$

**Linear part**<sup>5</sup>  $\mathcal{L}[f^d] = \int_{\mathcal{R}^3} d^3 \mathbf{c}_* \left[ 2K^{(1)} - K^{(2)} \right] (\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{c}_*) f_*^d - \nu f^d$

$$K^{(1)}(\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{c}_*) = \frac{4C_{\beta}}{\|\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{c}_*\|} \int_{\Gamma_{\perp}(\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{c}_*)} d^3 \zeta \frac{f^0(\mathbf{c} + \zeta)}{\|\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{c}_* - \zeta\|^{1-\beta}}$$

$$K^{(2)}(\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{c}_*) = 4\pi C_{\beta} \|\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{c}_*\|^{\beta} f^0$$

$$\nu(\mathbf{c}) = 4\pi C_{\beta} \int_{\mathcal{R}^3} d^3 \mathbf{c}_* \|\mathbf{c} - \mathbf{c}_*\|^{\beta} f_*^0$$

<sup>5</sup>Cercignani, 1969; Wagner, *Monte Carlo Meth. Appl.* 2008; etc. 

# LVDSMC simulation method:

## Collision step for the VHS collision model

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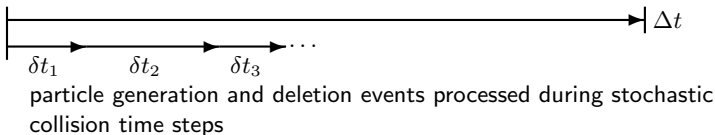
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### Linear part of the VHS collision operator

$$\mathcal{L}[f^d] = \underbrace{\int_{\mathcal{R}^3} d^3 \mathbf{c}_* \left[ 2K^{(1)} - K^{(2)} \right] (\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{c}_*) f_*^d}_{\text{particle generation}} \quad \underbrace{-\nu f^d}_{\text{particle deletion}}$$

### Markov jump processes<sup>6</sup>



### Initial implementation

Radtke, Hadjiconstantinou, and Wagner, *RGD* 27, 2010

### Mass-conservative version

Radtke, Hadjiconstantinou, and Wagner, *Phys. Fluids*, 2011

- Simulations with  $\sim 10$  particles per cell, without random walks in the hydrodynamic variables!

<sup>6</sup>Wagner, *Monte Carlo Meth. Appl.*, 2008

# Validation: mass-conservative, VHS

Response of argon gas to spatially-varying boundary temperature

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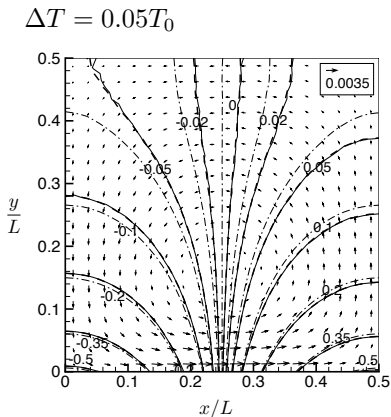
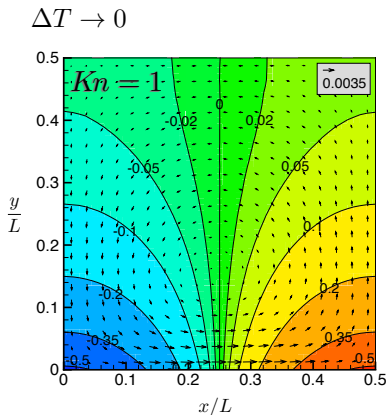
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---  $\Delta T \rightarrow 0$

--- LVDSMC

— DSMC

# Applications:

## Second-order temperature jump

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### Second-order jump boundary condition

$$T(x_B) - T_B = b_1 \lambda \frac{dT}{dn}(x_B) + b_2 \lambda^2 \frac{d^2 T}{dn^2}(x_B)$$

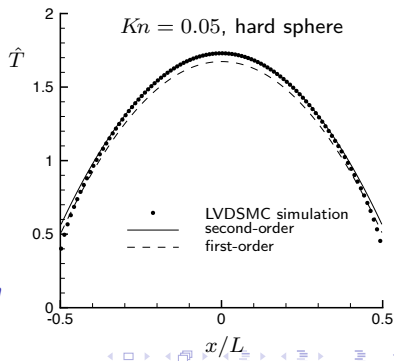
### Internal heat generation problem

$$-K \frac{d^2 T}{dx^2} = \dot{q}'''$$

- $b_1$  is known (Sone, 2007)
- $b_2$  can be calculated using LVDSMC

Radtke, Hadjiconstantinou,  
Takata, and Aoki, *in preparation*

Takata, Aoki, Hattori, and  
Hadjiconstantinou, *in preparation*



# Applications:

## Second-order temperature jump

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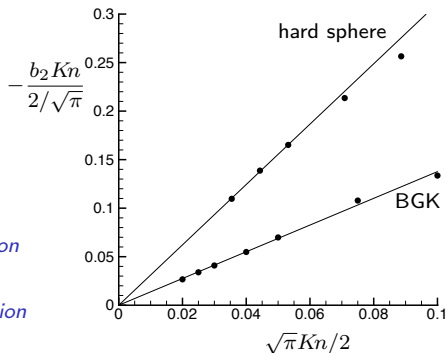
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Takata, and Aoki, *in preparation*

Takata, Aoki, Hattori, and  
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### Parameter fit



# Applications:

## Simulation of Knudsen pumps

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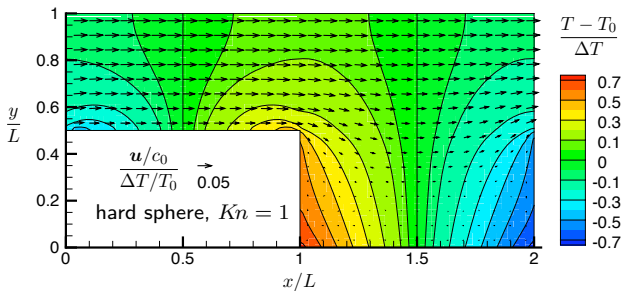
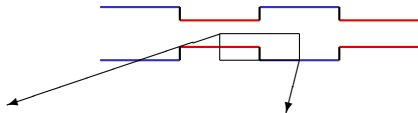
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### LVDSMC approach:

able to efficiently resolve the  $\Delta T/T_0 \rightarrow 0$  limit.



# Applications:

## Simulation of Knudsen pumps

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### Study of Kn pump performance for different configurations

T. A. Klein, MIT SM Thesis, *in progress*.

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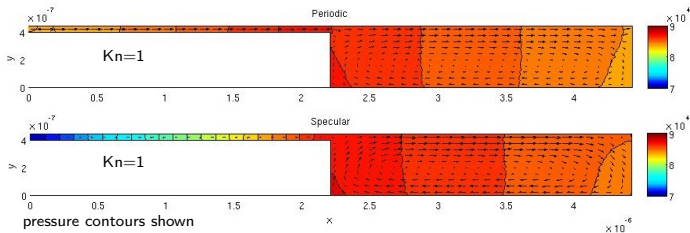
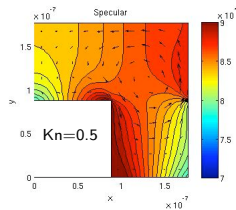
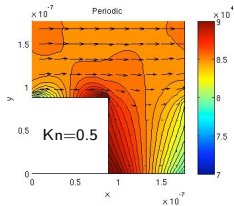
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# Conclusion

## LVDSMC methods for efficient simulation of nanoscale flows

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### BGK particle simulation methods

- Fixed equilibrium: most efficient for general multi-dimensional geometries
- Spatially-variable equilibrium: highly-efficient for resolving the continuum ( $Kn \rightarrow 0$ ) limit

### Advanced VHS particle simulation method

- Collisions simulated as Markov jump events without time step error in the collision step
- Extended to include mass conservation, enabling efficient simulation of gas flows with  $\sim 10$  particles per cell

### LVDSMC simulation codes available at:

<http://web.mit.edu/ngh-group>