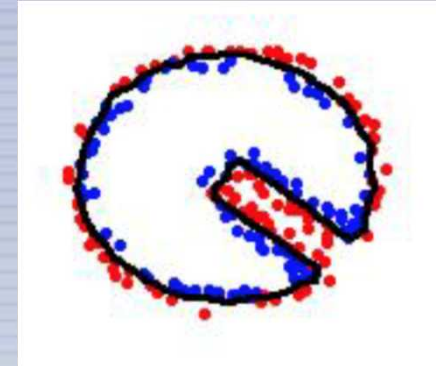
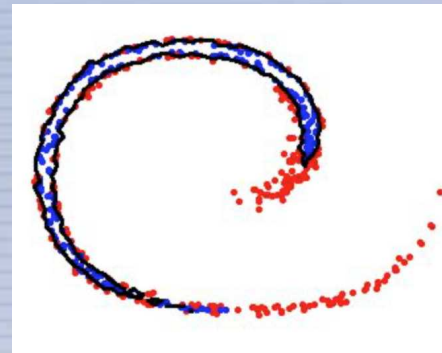
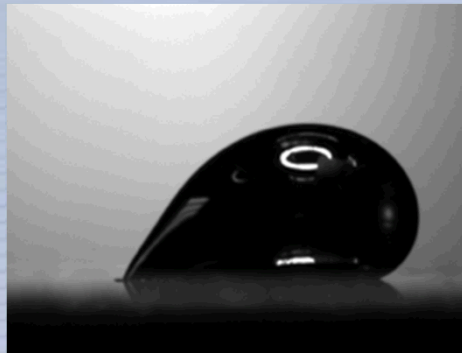




SAND2016-7229C



# An Interpolative Particle Level Set Method

**Lindsay Crowl Erickson**  
**Sandia National Laboratories**



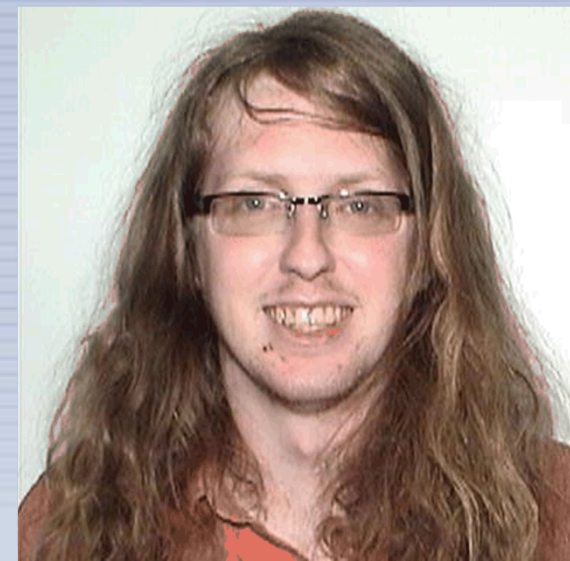
# Acknowledgements



Karla Morris



Jeremy Templeton



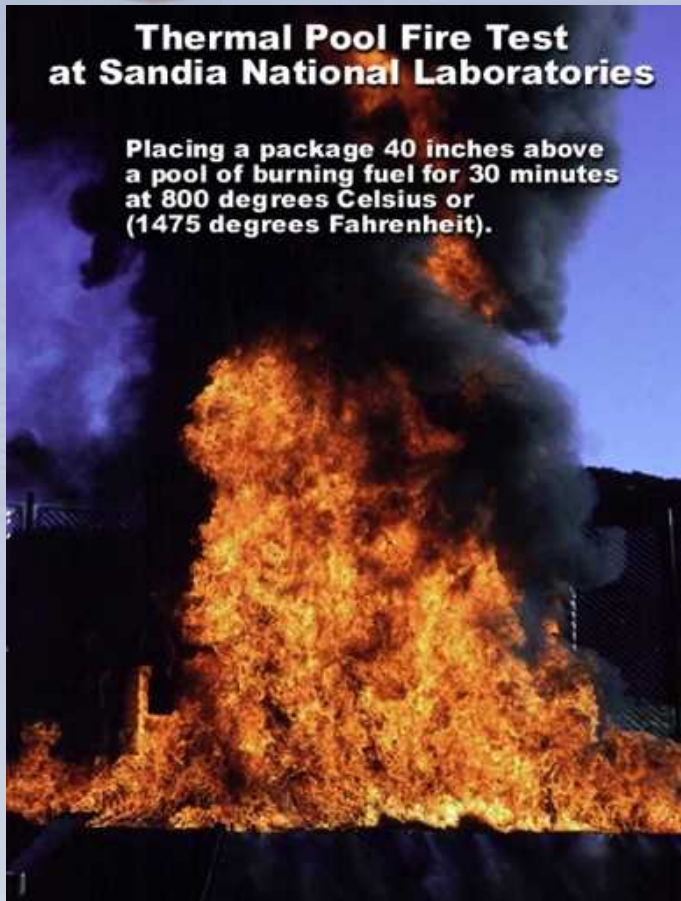
David Poliakov

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# Interfacial methods are needed for melting metal simulations



Fire scenario simulations



Heated metal droplet on incline, courtesy of C. Brooks  
(Sandia National Laboratories, 2012)





# Interface Method Choices

- **Interface capturing (VOF, Level Set)**
  - ✓ Natural merging and pinch-off
  - ✓ Normal vector and curvature calculations
  - ✗ Mass conservation problems
  - ✗ Limited by grid size
- **Interface tracking (Lagrangian particle methods)**
  - ✓ Conservative by design
  - ✓ Excellent at resolving fine scale
  - ✓ Can handle topological changes
  - ✗ No connectivity/difficult to define normal vector/curvature
  - ✗ Needs reseeding



# Particle-Level Set Method

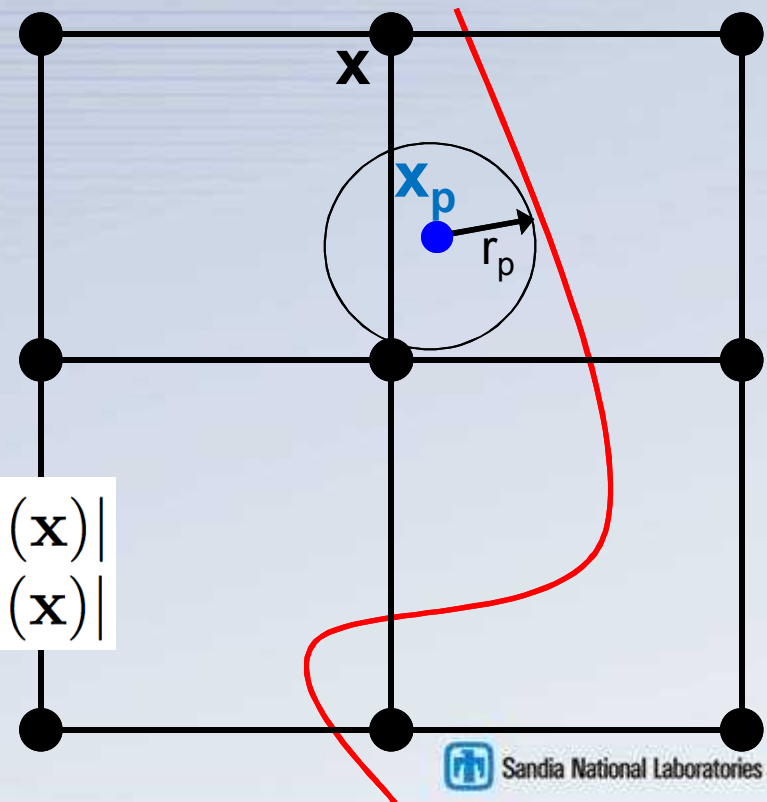
- **Particles are placed near the interface and initialized with a sign and distance from the interface**
- **This information is used to update the level set field**

$$\phi_p(\mathbf{x}) = s_p(r_p \pm |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_p|)$$

$$\phi^+(\mathbf{x}) = \max_{p \in E^+} (\phi_p, \phi)$$

$$\phi^-(\mathbf{x}) = \min_{p \in E^-} (\phi_p, \phi)$$

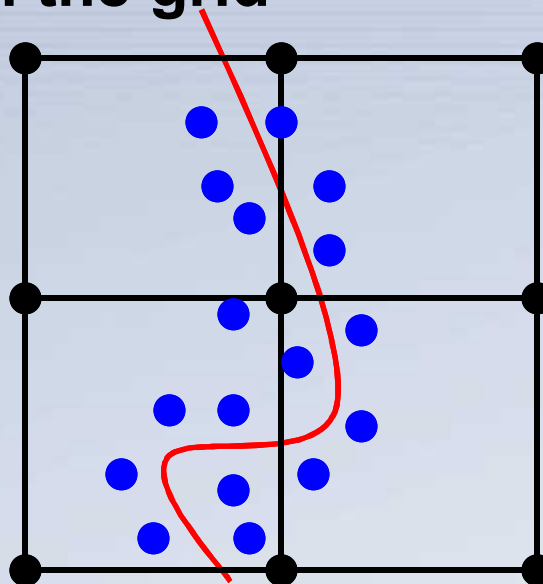
$$\phi(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} \phi^+(\mathbf{x}) & \text{if } |\phi^+(\mathbf{x})| \leq |\phi^-(\mathbf{x})| \\ \phi^-(\mathbf{x}) & \text{if } |\phi^+(\mathbf{x})| > |\phi^-(\mathbf{x})| \end{cases}$$





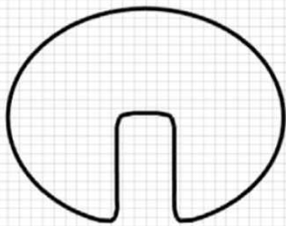
# Interpolative Level Set Method

- Instead of using a min/max function to reset the level set field and only using escaped particles, we treat the particles as a refinement around the interface and use bilinear interpolation to update the 'coarse' level set field on the grid

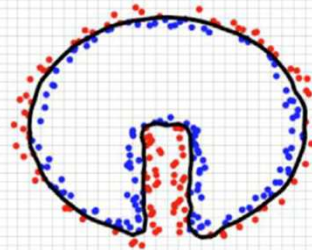




# Rotating Zalesak's disk test



Level set method



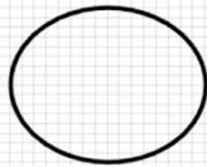
Level set method + particle interpolation

- Comparing numerical diffusion between traditional level set method and our particle interpolation correction procedure
  - Numerical diffusion is diminished

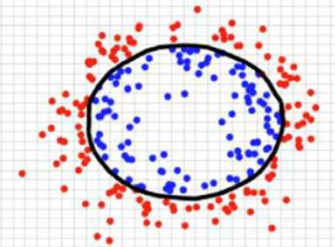




# Particle level set method reduces the numerical diffusion of the level set method



Level set method



Level set method + interpolative particle correction

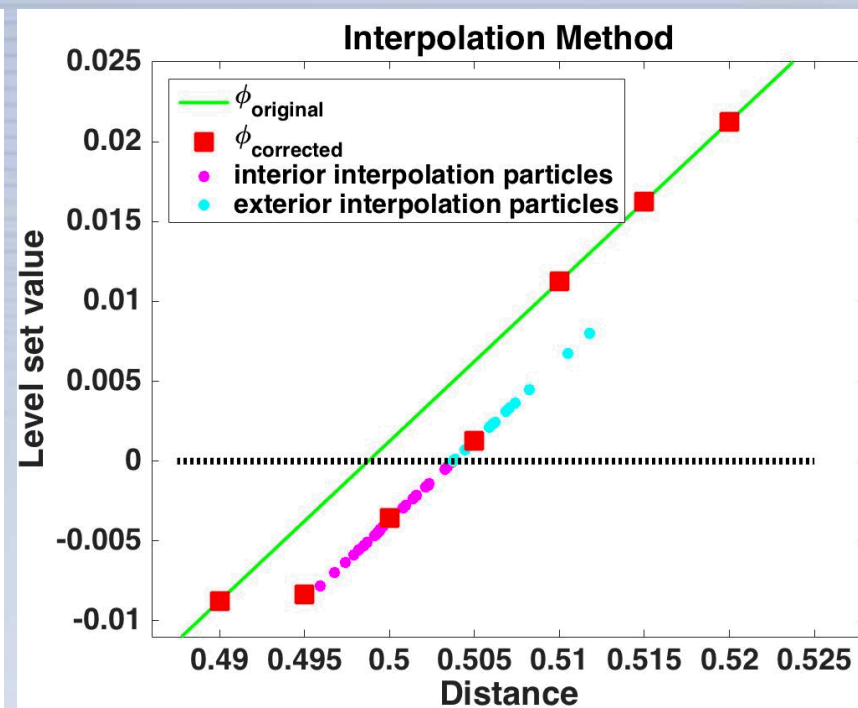
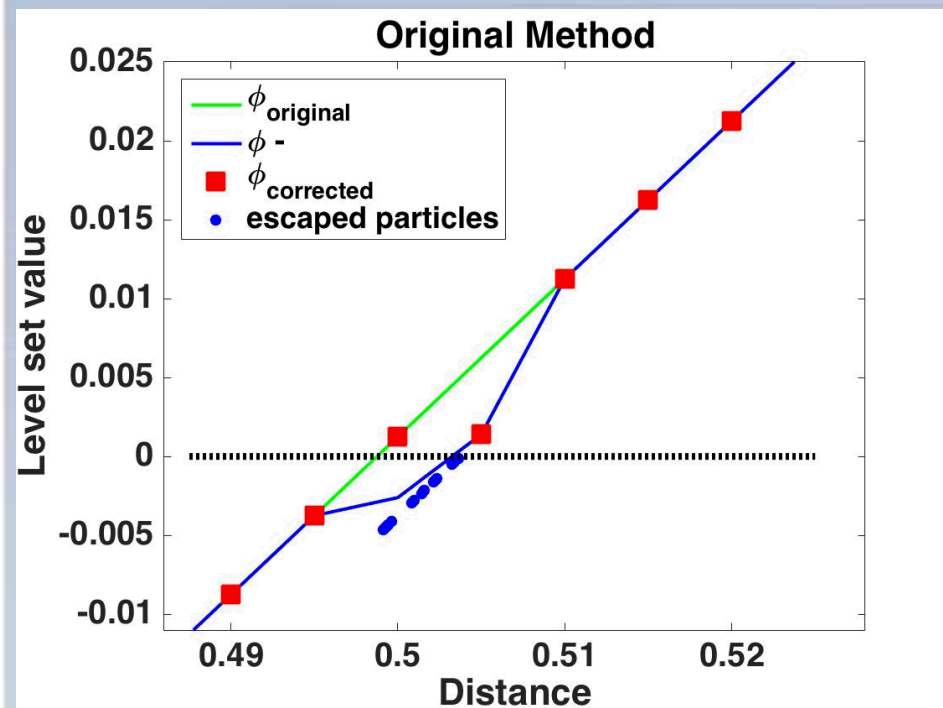
- PLS beats traditional level set method when tested on a single vortex problem
  - Limits numerical diffusion
  - Resolves thin filaments below the mesh scale





# Particle Level Set Method Comparison

## Particle Level Set (PLS) Method<sup>1</sup> versus Interpolative PLS<sup>2</sup>



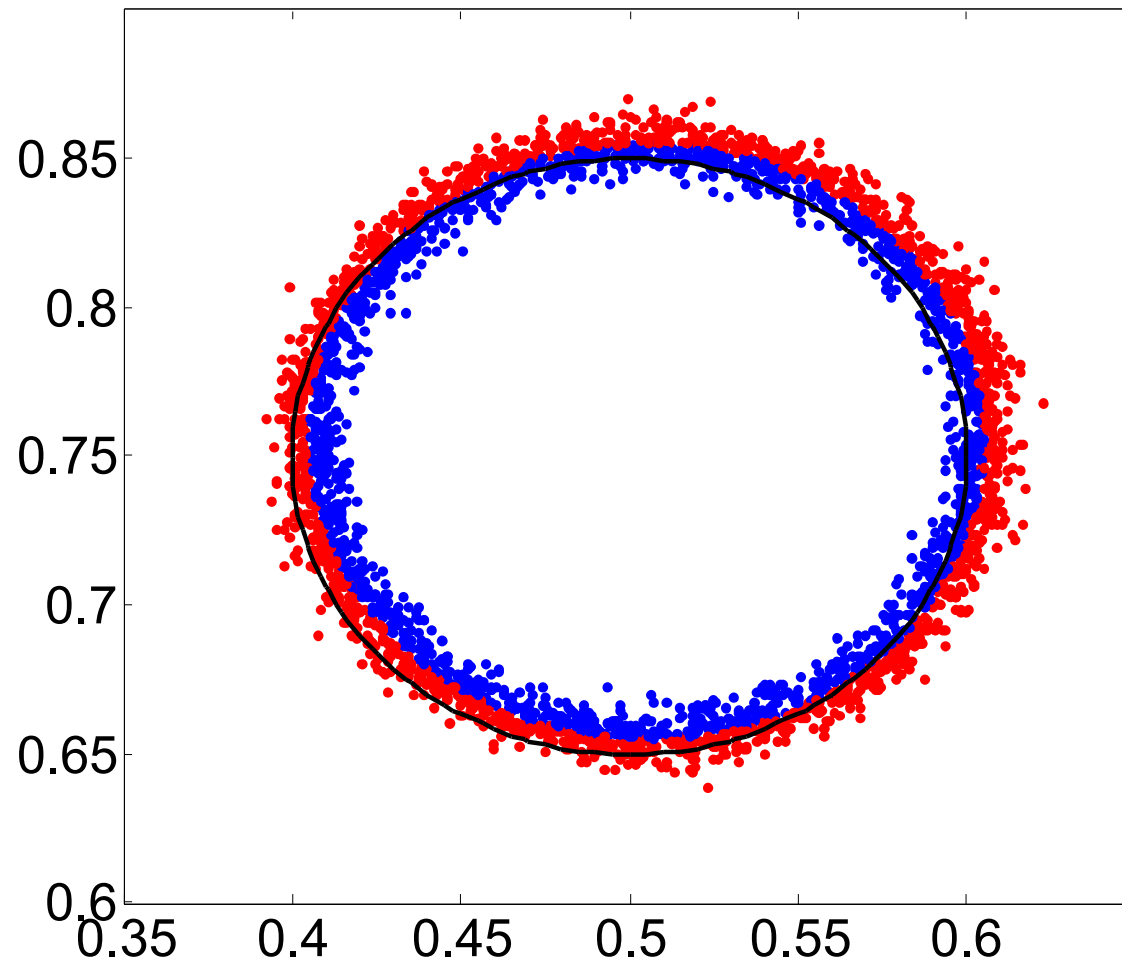
<sup>1</sup> Enright, Fedkiw, Ferziger, Mitchell, "A hybrid particle level set method for improved interface capturing," J. Comp. Phys. (2002).

<sup>2</sup> Erickson, Morris, Poliakoff, Templeton, "An interpolative particle level set method," in preparation.



# Shifted circle test

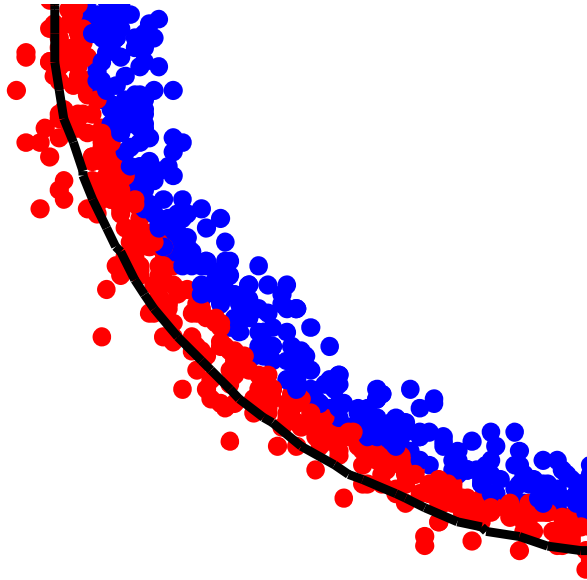
Initial Configuration



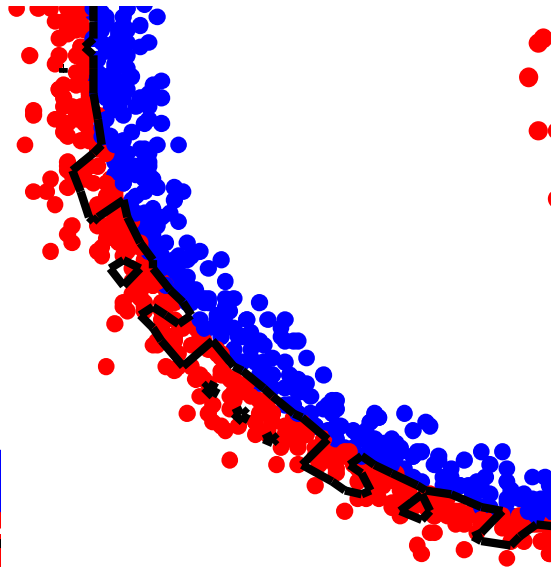


# Interpolation improves PLS correction for 2D circle test

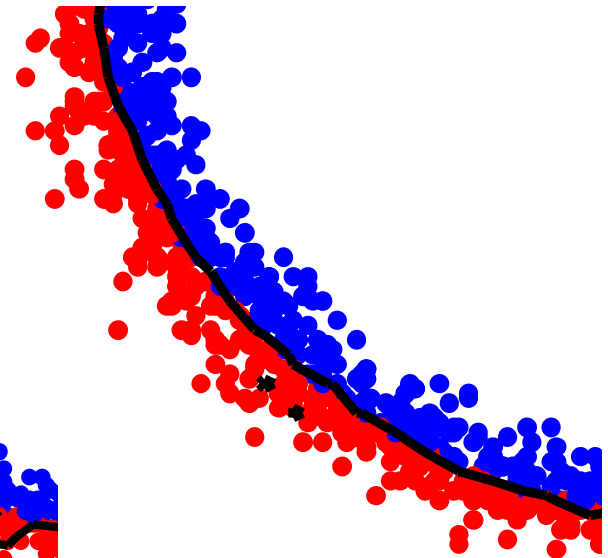
Initial Level Set Error



Particle Level Set



Interpolation Method







# Conclusions and Future Work

- Under certain conditions, interpolative PLS method can out-perform original PLS
- Developing particle level set method that can handle topological changes for melting metal applications
- D. Enright, F. Losasso, R. Fedkiw, A fast and accurate semi-Lagrangian particle level set method, *Computers & structures* 83 (6) (2005) 479–490.
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5837.