

# Intro. Lecture 01: Overview\*

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US Particle Accelerator School (USPAS) Lectures On  
“Self-Consistent Simulations of Beam and Plasma Systems”  
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# Abbreviated Outline

## Introductory Lectures on Self-Consistent Simulations

1. Overview
2. Classes of Intense Beam Simulations
3. Overview of Basic Numerical Methods
4. Numerical Methods for Particle and Distribution Methods
5. Diagnostics
6. Initial Distributions
7. Numerical Convergence
8. Practical Considerations
9. Example Simulations

# Outline

## Introductory Lectures on Self-Consistent Simulations

### 1) Overview

- A. Why Numerical Simulation?
- B. Which Numerical Tools

### 2) Classes of Intense Beam Simulations

- A. Overview
- B. Particle Methods
- C. Distribution Methods
- D. Moment Methods
- E. Hybrid Methods

### 3) Overview of Basic Numerical Methods

- A. Discretization
- B. Discrete Numerical Operations
- C. Time Advance

## Outline - 2

### 4) Numerical Methods for Particle and Distribution Methods

- A. Overview
- B. Integration of Equations of Motion
- C. Field Solution
- D. Weighting: Depositing Particles on the Field Mesh and Interpolating Gridded Fields to Particles
- E. Computational Cycle for Particle in Cell Simulations

### 5) Diagnostics

- A. Overview
- B. Snapshot Diagnostics
- C. History Diagnostics

### 6) Initial Distributions and Particle Loading

- A. Overview
- B. KV Load and the rms Equivalent Beam
- C. Beam Envelope Matching
- D. Semi-Gaussian Load
- E. PseudoEquilibrium Distributions Based on Continuous Focusing Equilibria
- F. Injection off a Source

# Outline - 3

## 7) Numerical Convergence

- A. Overview
- B. Resolution: Advance Step
- C. Resolution: Spatial Grid
- D. Statistics
- E. Illustrative Examples with the Warp Code

## 8) Practical Considerations

- A. Overview
- B. Fast Memory
- C. Run Time
- D. Machine Architectures

## 9) Example Simulations

Contact Information

References

Acknowledgments

# Overview

## A. Why Numerical Simulation?

### Builds intuition of intense beam physics

- ◆ “The purpose of computation is insight, not numbers.”  
*Richard Hamming*, chief mathematician of the Manhattan Project and Turing Award recipient
- ◆ Advantages over laboratory experiments:
  - Full nonintrusive beam diagnostics are possible
  - Effects can be turned on and off

### Allows analysis of more realistic situations than analytically tractable

- ◆ Realistic geometries
- ◆ Non-ideal distributions
- ◆ Combined effects
- ◆ Large amplitude (nonlinear) effects

### Insight obtained can motivate analytical theories

- ◆ Suggest and test approximations and reduced models to most simply express relevant effects

## Why Numerical Simulation? (2)

### Can quantify expected performance of specific machines

- ◆ Machines and facilities expensive – important to have high confidence that systems will work as intended/promised to funding agencies
- ◆ Difficult to get proposals funded without significant motivation provided by simulation
  - Agencies want confidence that investment will work
  - - Simulations for concept verification help credibility

### Computers and numerical methods/libraries are becoming more powerful

Enables both analysis of more realistic problem modeling and/or better numerical convergence

- ◆ **Bigger and faster hardware**
  - Processor speed increasing
  - Parallel machine architectures
  - Greater memory
- ◆ **More developed software**
  - Improved numerical methods
  - Libraries of debugged code modules
  - Graphics and visualization tools
  - Data management and software maintenance tools

## Why Numerical Simulation? (3)

Simulations are increasingly powerful and valuable in the analysis of intense beams, but should not be used to exclusion

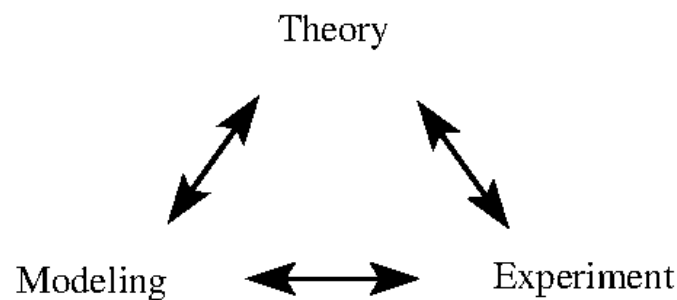
- ◆ Parametric scaling is *very* important in machine design
  - Often hard to understand best choices in physical aperture sizes, etc.
  - Although scaling can be explored with simulation, analytical theory often best illustrates the trade-offs, sensitivities, and relevant combinations of parameters
- ◆ Concepts often fail due to limits of technology (e.g., fabrication tolerances, material failures, and unanticipated properties) and hence full laboratory testing is vital
  - Many understood classes of errors can be probed with simulation
  - Unanticipated error sources are most dangerous!
  - Must understand both contemporary technology limits and limitations of numerical models to work effectively
- ◆ Economic realities often severely limit what can be constructed
  - Simulating something financially unattainable may serve little purpose
  - Need compelling evidence of improvements for major experiment funding



## Why Numerical Simulation? (4)

The highest understanding and confidence is achieved when results from analytic theory, numerical simulation, and experiment all converge

- ◆ Motivates model simplifications and identification of relevant sensitivities
- ◆ Unfortunately, full agreement often hard in complex systems/problems. But gives strong confidence when it works!



When All Agree



And/Or Any Deviations Understood

Numerical simulation skills are highly sought in many areas of accelerator and beam physics

- ◆ Specialists readily employable
- ◆ Skills transfer easily to many fields of physics and engineering

## B. Which Numerical Tools?

There are many simulation codes with a wide variety of scope and capabilities which evolve in time. This course is intended as a top-down review of contemporary methods commonly employed in numerical simulation of intense beams and plasmas.

- ◆ The topic of codes and preferences can at times (especially with developers!) border on discussions of religious preferences.

Numerous programming languages are employed in numerical simulations of intense beams and plasmas

- ◆ Most common today: Fortran (90, 2000, ... ), C, C++, Java, ...
- ◆ Strengths and weaknesses depend on application, preferences, and history (legacy code)

Results are analyzed with a variety of graphics packages:

The well-known saying: “A picture is worth a thousand words” nicely summarizes the importance of good graphics in illustrating concepts.

- ◆ Commonly used: Matplotlib, Gnuplot, IDL, Narcisse, NCAR, Gist, Mathematica, Mathcad, MATLAB, Maple, Sage, ...
- ◆ Plot frames combine into movies to better illustrate evolutions
- ◆ Use can greatly simplify construction of beam visualization diagnostics
  - Many person-years of labor go into writing extensive graphics packages

## Which Numerical Tools? (2)

A modern and flexible way to construct simulation packages is to link routines in fast, compiled code with an interactive interpreter

- ◆ Examples: Python, Yorick, Basis ...
- ◆ Python used in OS development and will not disappear anytime soon
  - Has many open and free numerical, data, scientific, and graphics packages
  - We will employ extensively in this course

Advantages of using interactive interpreters:

- ◆ Allows routines to be coded in mixed languages
  - Renders choice of programming languages less important
  - Discussing programming languages appears to border on religion ...
- ◆ Flexible reconfiguration of code modules possible to readily adapt for unanticipated needs
  - Reduces need for recompilation and cumbersome structures for special uses
  - Aids cross-checking problems and debugging when switching numerical methods and parameters, etc.
- ◆ “Steering” of code during runs to address unanticipated side effects
  - Change diagnostics/methods in middle of long run based on results obtained
- ◆ Can facilitate modern, object-oriented structure for the problem description
- ◆ Allows use of wide variety of packages based on a users preference
  - Graphics/diagnostics, numerical methods (e.g., Scientific Python: SciPy), ....

## Which Numerical Tools? (3)

Broadly overviewing programming languages and graphics packages is beyond the scope of this class. Here our goal is to survey numerical simulation methods employed without presenting details of specific implementations.

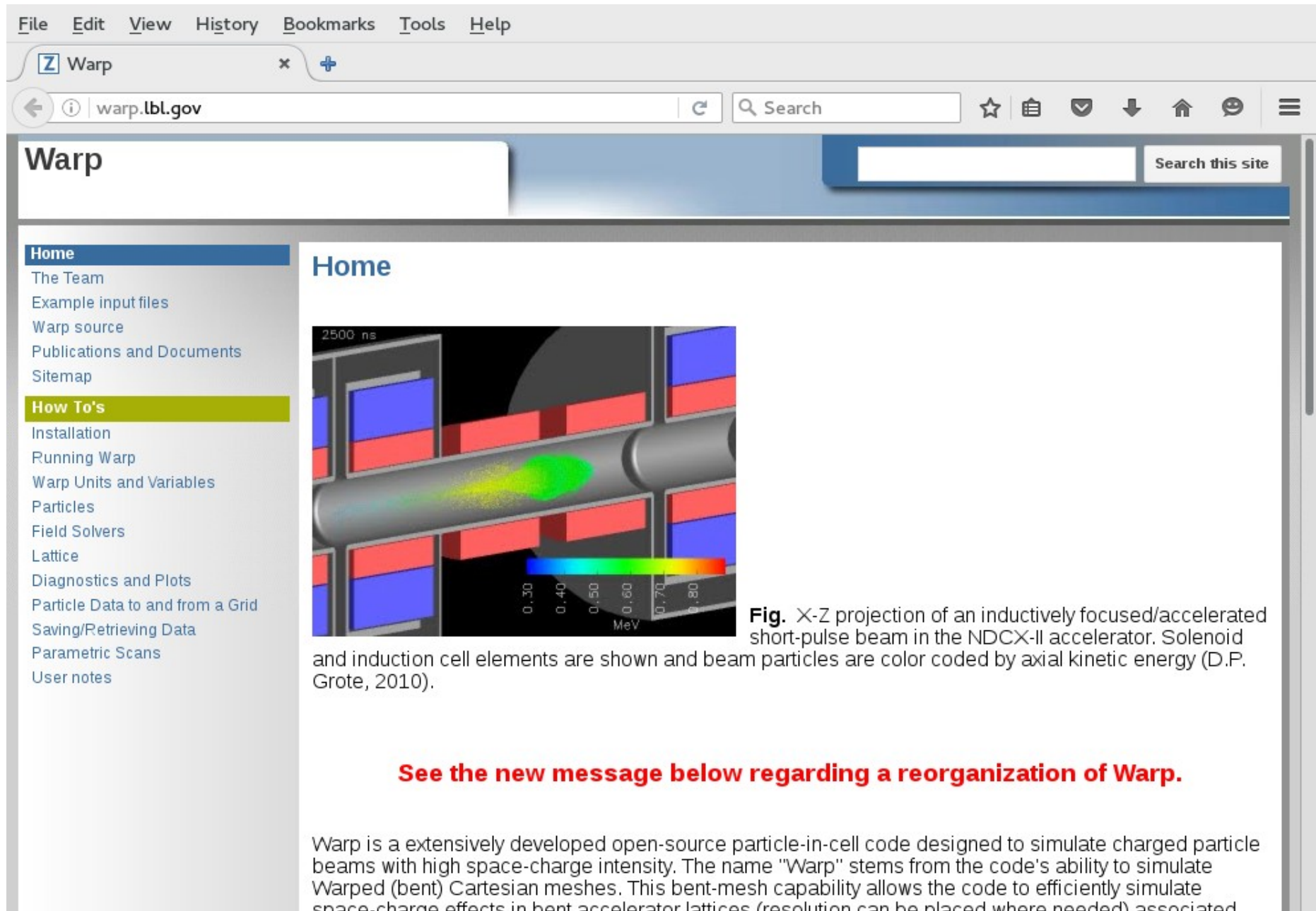
We will show examples based on the **Warp** particle-in-cell code developed for intense beam simulation at LLNL and LBNL: <http://warp.lbl.gov>

- ◆ Warp is so-named since it works on a “warped” Cartesian mesh with bends
  - ◆ Alex Friedman (LLNL) original architect/developer in 1980s using LLNL steerable code philosophy; Dave Grote primary developer for many years
  - ◆ Warp has evolved into a family of particle-in-cell code tools built around a common Python interpreter for flexible operation
  - ◆ Open Sourced since 2013: free to modify, extend, redistribute
  - ◆ Optimized for simulation of beams with self-consistent space-charge forces
  - ◆ Actively maintained and extended:
    - Movers
    - Electrostatic Field Solvers
    - Electromagnetic Field Solvers
    - Diagnostics
    - Multi-species
    - E-Cloud effects
    - Mesh Refinement
    - Dense Plasmas
    - Multipole Fields
- ⋮

More on Warp in parallel **Warp/Python Lectures** and **Advanced Lectures**

More information on the Warp code: <http://warp.lbl.gov/>

▶ Work in progress: being updated and extended year by year



The screenshot shows the Warp website homepage. The browser address bar displays 'warp.lbl.gov'. The page has a blue header with the 'Warp' logo and a search bar. A left sidebar contains a navigation menu with sections: 'Home' (The Team, Example input files, Warp source, Publications and Documents, Sitemap), 'How To's' (Installation, Running Warp, Warp Units and Variables, Particles, Field Solvers, Lattice, Diagnostics and Plots, Particle Data to and from a Grid, Saving/Retrieving Data, Parametric Scans, User notes), and 'Home' (2500 ns). The main content area features a 3D visualization of an inductively focused/accelerated short-pulse beam in the NDCX-II accelerator. The beam is shown as a green and yellow cylindrical volume within a grey pipe, surrounded by red and blue rectangular elements representing solenoid and induction cells. A color scale at the bottom of the visualization ranges from 0.30 to 0.80 MeV. The text '2500 ns' is visible in the top left corner of the visualization.

**Fig.** X-Z projection of an inductively focused/accelerated short-pulse beam in the NDCX-II accelerator. Solenoid and induction cell elements are shown and beam particles are color coded by axial kinetic energy (D.P. Grote, 2010).

**See the new message below regarding a reorganization of Warp.**

Warp is a extensively developed open-source particle-in-cell code designed to simulate charged particle beams with high space-charge intensity. The name "Warp" stems from the code's ability to simulate Warped (bent) Cartesian meshes. This bent-mesh capability allows the code to efficiently simulate space-charge effects in bent accelerator lattices (resolution can be placed where needed) associated

# Corrections and suggestions for improvements welcome!

These notes will be corrected and expanded for reference and for use in future editions of US Particle Accelerator School (USPAS) and Michigan State University (MSU) courses. Contact:

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Please provide corrections with respect to the present archived version at:

[https://people.nslc.msu.edu/~lund/uspas/scs\\_2016](https://people.nslc.msu.edu/~lund/uspas/scs_2016)

Redistributions of class material welcome. Please do not remove author credits.

## References: For more information see:

These US Particle Accelerator School (USPAS) course notes are posted with updates, corrections, and supplemental material at:

[https://people.nsl.msui.edu/~lund/uspas/scs\\_2016/](https://people.nsl.msui.edu/~lund/uspas/scs_2016/)

This course evolved from material originally presented in a related USPAS course :

JJ Barnard and SM Lund, *Beam Physics with Intense Space-Charge*, USPAS:  
[https://people.nsl.msui.edu/~lund/uspas/bpisc\\_2015/](https://people.nsl.msui.edu/~lund/uspas/bpisc_2015/) 2015 Lectures + Info

- ◆ Also taught at the USPAS in 2011, 2008, 2006, 2004, and 2001 and a similar version at UC Berkeley in 2009
- ◆ This course serves as a reference for physics discussed in this course from a numerical modeling perspective.



# References: Continued (2):

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