

Efficient Reduced Magnetic Vector Potential Method for Superconducting Accelerator Magnets

Laura D'Angelo and Herbert De Gersem



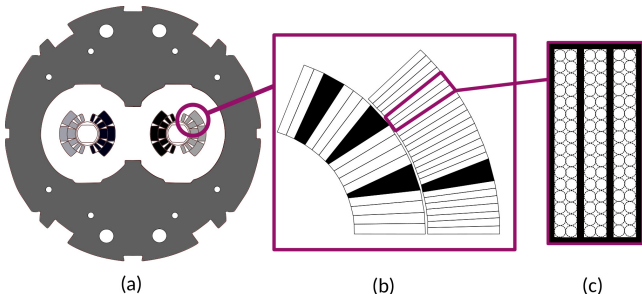
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Superconducting Accelerator Magnet = Multi-Scale Problem



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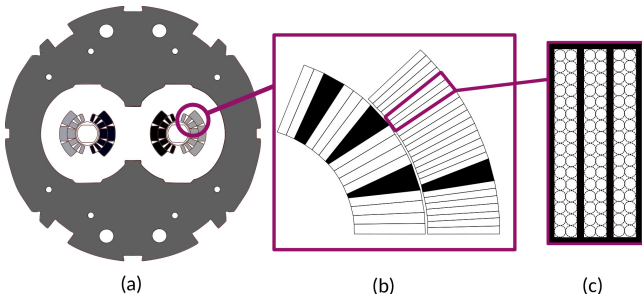
Challenges for the simulation:

- **Multi-scale** problem
 - **Multi-physical** problem
 - **Three-dimensional** effects
 - **Nonlinear** material characteristics
- ⇒ **Meshing everything in full 3D resolution is expensive!**

Superconducting Accelerator Magnet = Multi-Scale Problem



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Solution idea:

Do not resolve the coils/cables/wires in the finite-element mesh, discretize by **(macro-)wires**



- 1 Reduced Magnetic Vector Potential Formulation
- 2 Performance Comparison
- 3 Quadrupole Magnet Simulation
- 4 Summary and Outlook



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Reduced Magnetic Vector Potential (RMVP) Ansatz



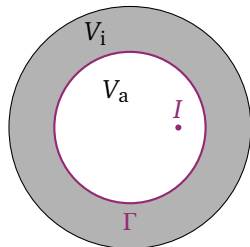
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Split the magnetic vector potential (MVP):

$$\vec{A}(\vec{r}, t) = \underbrace{\vec{A}_s(\vec{r}, t)}_{\text{source MVP}} + \underbrace{\vec{A}_r(\vec{r}, t)}_{\text{reduced MVP}}$$

Biot-Savart integral for each wire \mathcal{L}' :

$$\vec{A}_s(\vec{r}) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int_{\mathcal{L}'} \frac{I}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|} d\vec{r}'$$



Split the total domain V into

- V_a : air domain with source currents
- V_i : source-free domain, typically iron yoke
- Γ : interface surface between V_a and V_i

Standard RMVP Formulation (Christian Paul 1997)



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1. Evaluate the **source MVP** \vec{A}_s via Biot-Savart for each point $\vec{r} \in V$.

2. Find the **reduced MVP** $\vec{A}_r \in H_r(\text{curl}; V) = \left\{ \vec{A}_r \in H(\text{curl}; V) : \vec{n} \times \vec{A}_r = -\vec{n} \times \vec{A}_s \text{ on } \partial V \right\}$, s.t.

$$\left(\nu \nabla \times \vec{A}_r, \nabla \times \vec{A}'_r \right)_V = - \left(\nu \nabla \times \vec{A}_s, \nabla \times \vec{A}'_r \right)_{V_i} \quad \forall \vec{A}'_r \in H_r(\text{curl}; V)$$

3. Compose total MVP: $\vec{A} = \vec{A}_s + \vec{A}_r$ in V .

☞ Can get computationally **expensive**!

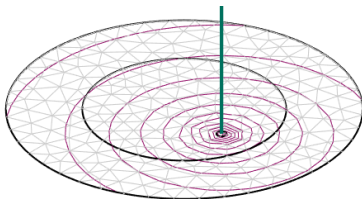
Updated RMVP Formulation (D'Angelo et al. 2024)



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1. Evaluate the **source MVP** \vec{A}_s via Biot-Savart **only at the interface** $\Gamma = \partial V_a$...
...and on every point of interest $\vec{r} \in V_a$.

👁 Huge improvement in computational efficiency!



source MVP \vec{A}_s (everywhere) and **source current**

2. Find the **image MVP** $\vec{A}_m \in H(\text{curl}; V_a)$, $\vec{n} \times \vec{H}_m \in H^{-1/2}(\text{curl}; \Gamma)$, s.t.

$$\left(\nu_0 \nabla \times \vec{A}_m, \nabla \times \vec{A}'_m \right)_{V_a} + \left(\vec{n} \times \vec{H}_m, \vec{A}'_m \right)_\Gamma = 0$$

$$\forall \vec{A}'_m \in H(\text{curl}; V_a),$$

$$\left(\vec{A}_m, \vec{n} \times \vec{H}'_m \right)_\Gamma + \left(\vec{A}_s, \vec{n} \times \vec{H}'_m \right)_\Gamma = 0$$

$$\forall \vec{n} \times \vec{H}'_m \in H^{-1/2}(\text{curl}; \Gamma).$$

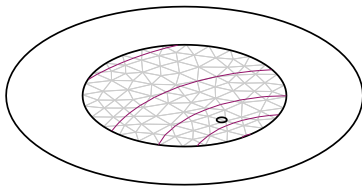
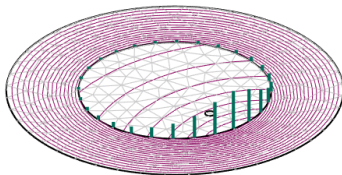


image MVP \vec{A}_m in V_a

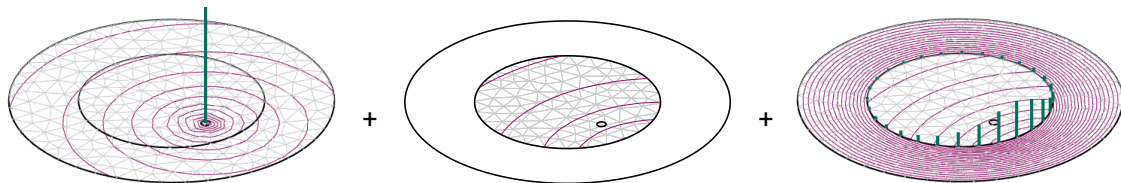
3. Find the **reaction MVP** $\vec{A}_g \in H_0(\text{curl}; V)$ s.t.

$$\left(\nu \nabla \times \vec{A}_g, \nabla \times \vec{A}'_g \right)_V = \left(\vec{n} \times \vec{H}_s, \vec{A}'_g \right)_\Gamma + \left(\vec{n} \times \vec{H}_m, \vec{A}'_g \right)_\Gamma \quad \forall \vec{A}'_g \in H_0(\text{curl}; V).$$



reaction MVP \vec{A}_g in V ,
surface current density $\vec{K}_g = \vec{n} \times (\vec{H}_s + \vec{H}_m)$ on Γ

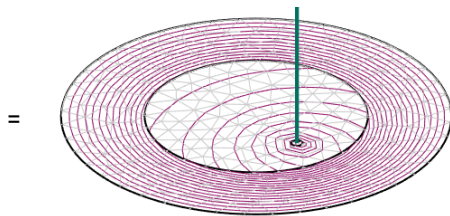
Updated RMVP Formulation (D'Angelo et al. 2024)



source MVP \vec{A}_s

image MVP \vec{A}_m

reaction MVP \vec{A}_g



4. Compose final solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{A} &= \vec{A}_s + \vec{A}_m + \vec{A}_g & \text{in } V_a, \\ \vec{A} &= \vec{A}_g & \text{in } V_i.\end{aligned}$$



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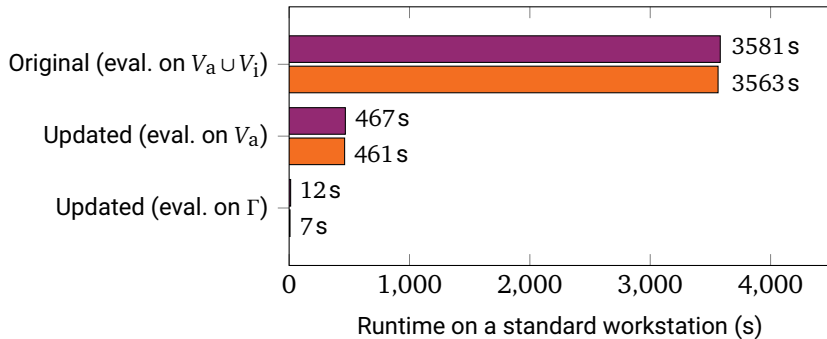
4 Summary and Outlook

Performance Comparison

Benchmark Model with > 100,000 DoF and 18 wires



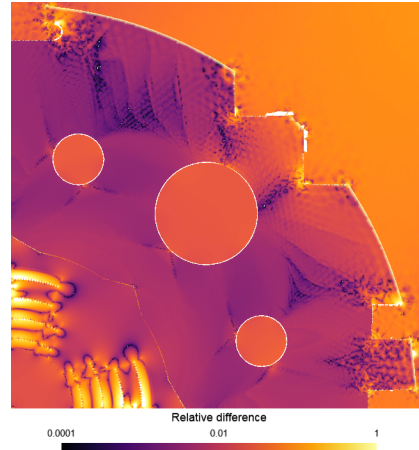
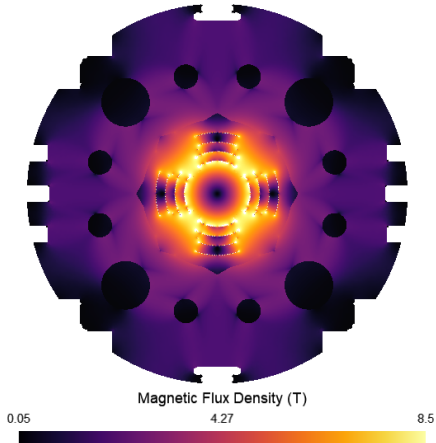
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1. **Biot-Savart** computation is dominant \Rightarrow Parallelize and use fast-multipole methods
2. **Updated RMVP** formulation by far superior than standard one

Quadrupole Magnet Simulation: Magnetic Flux Density

MQXA low-beta quadrupole @LHC





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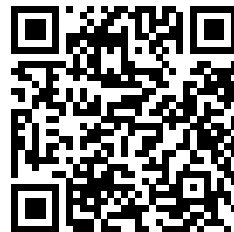
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👁 **Goal:** Tackle the **multi-scale problem** of superconducting accelerator magnets

Updated RMVP Formulation:

- No explicit meshing of wires
- Biot-Savart's law for source field computation
- But evaluate only on $\Gamma \Rightarrow$ High efficiency increasement
- Superior efficiency to original RMVP



↪ QR code to paper

- Expansion of the RMVP method for magnetization and superconducting effects
- Goal: Calculation of transient effects in **high-temperature superconducting coils**
- Collaborative research with Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT)



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Thank you for your attention!
Questions?

