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# Spectral Elements

## CSRF FY05 Completing Projects Review

**October 18, 2:30pm**

**PI: Bill Spotz, 1433**

**PM: Jennifer Nelson, 1430**

**Mark Taylor, Mark Boslough  
1433**



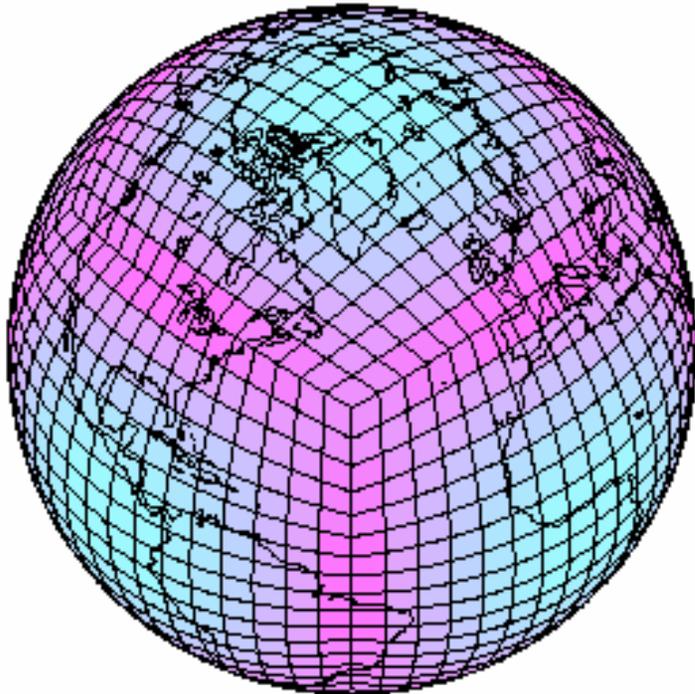
## A Little Background...

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- Interest in getting Sandia into the climate modeling community
- I proposed working with spectral element model
  - Highly scalable research code
  - Collaboration with NCAR
- For CSRF, stressed **Dual Use** capabilities of spectral elements
- LDRD the following year
  - Independence of projects
  - **Dual Use** the conceptual dividing line

# SEAM: Spectral Element Atmosphere Model

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- Atmospheric global circulation model (GCM)
  - NCAR/DOE CHAMMP
- Quadrilateral spectral elements in horizontal
- Finite differences in vertical
- Cubed sphere, 2D domain decomposition
- 6 transforms between spherical and local cartesian coordinates
  - No pole problem
  - Edge conditions
- 2001 Gordon Bell Honorable Mention



# SEAM: A Little History

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- Developed in 1996 at NCAR (Taylor, Tribbia, Iskandarani)
- Taylor left NCAR for LANL in 1998
- Tribbia, Fournier, Wang continued work w/SEAM
- Loft, Thomas wrote new SEAM (later HOMME)
- SEAM(2) wins Gordon Bell Honorable Mention (2001, stacked shallow water)
- Sandia begins collaboration in 2003
  - Stacked shallow water → full 3D primitive eqns
  - Explicit time stepping → semi-implicit
  - Pushed high-resolution, HPC capabilities
  - Physics integration
- LDRD in 2004
- Sandia hires Taylor, 2004



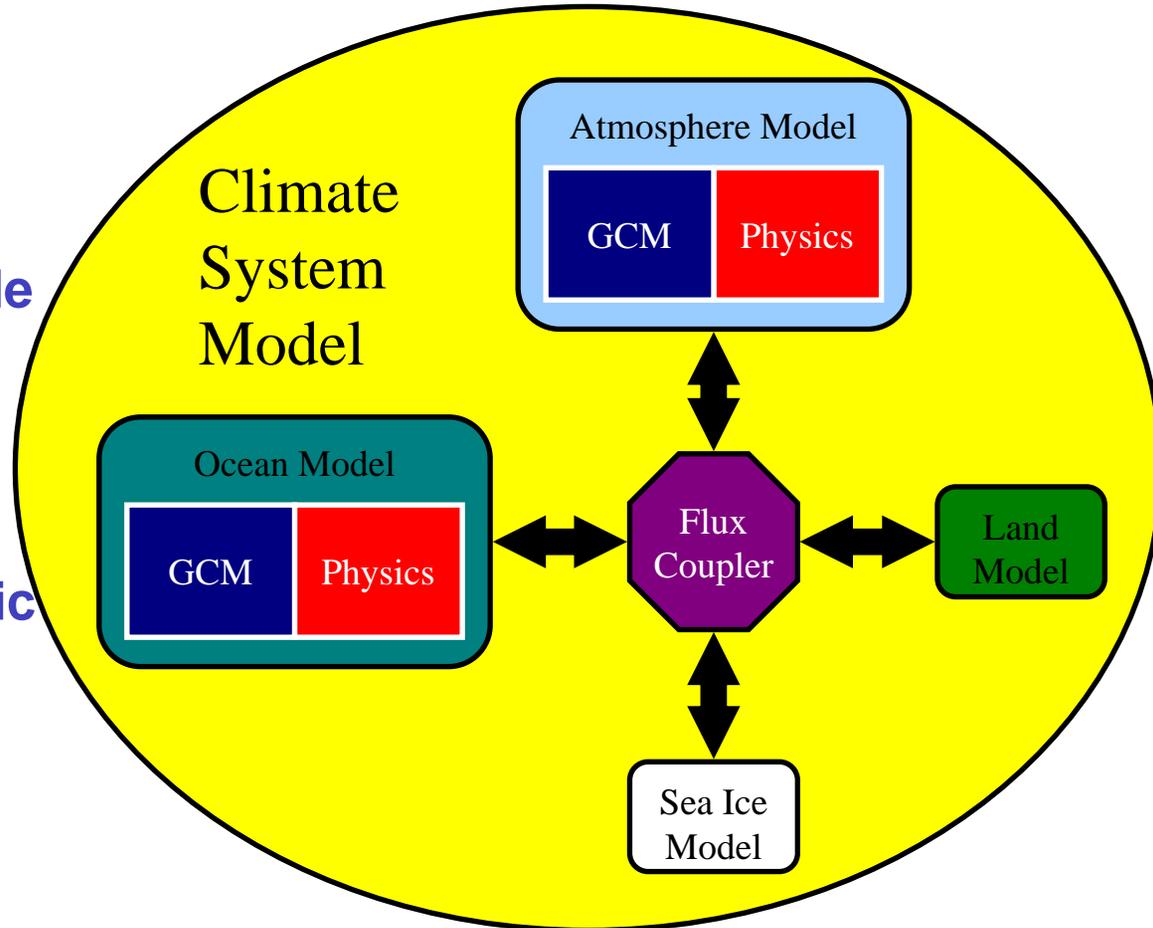
# Collaborators

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- **National Center for Atmospheric Research**
  - Steve Thomas
  - Joe Tribbia
  - Rich Loft
  - Amik St-Cyr
  - Jim Edwards
  - Henry Tufo (joint w/CU Boulder)
- **Naval Research Laboratories**
  - Frank Giraldo (Monterrey)
  - Alan Wallcraft (Stennis)
- **Oak Ridge National Laboratory**
  - John Drake
- **Los Alamos National Laboratory**
  - Phil Jones
  - Beth Wingate
- **University of New Mexico**
  - Tim Warburton (now at Rice)
  - Dagoberto Justo
  - Joe Galewsky

# Where SEAM Fits in Climate Modeling

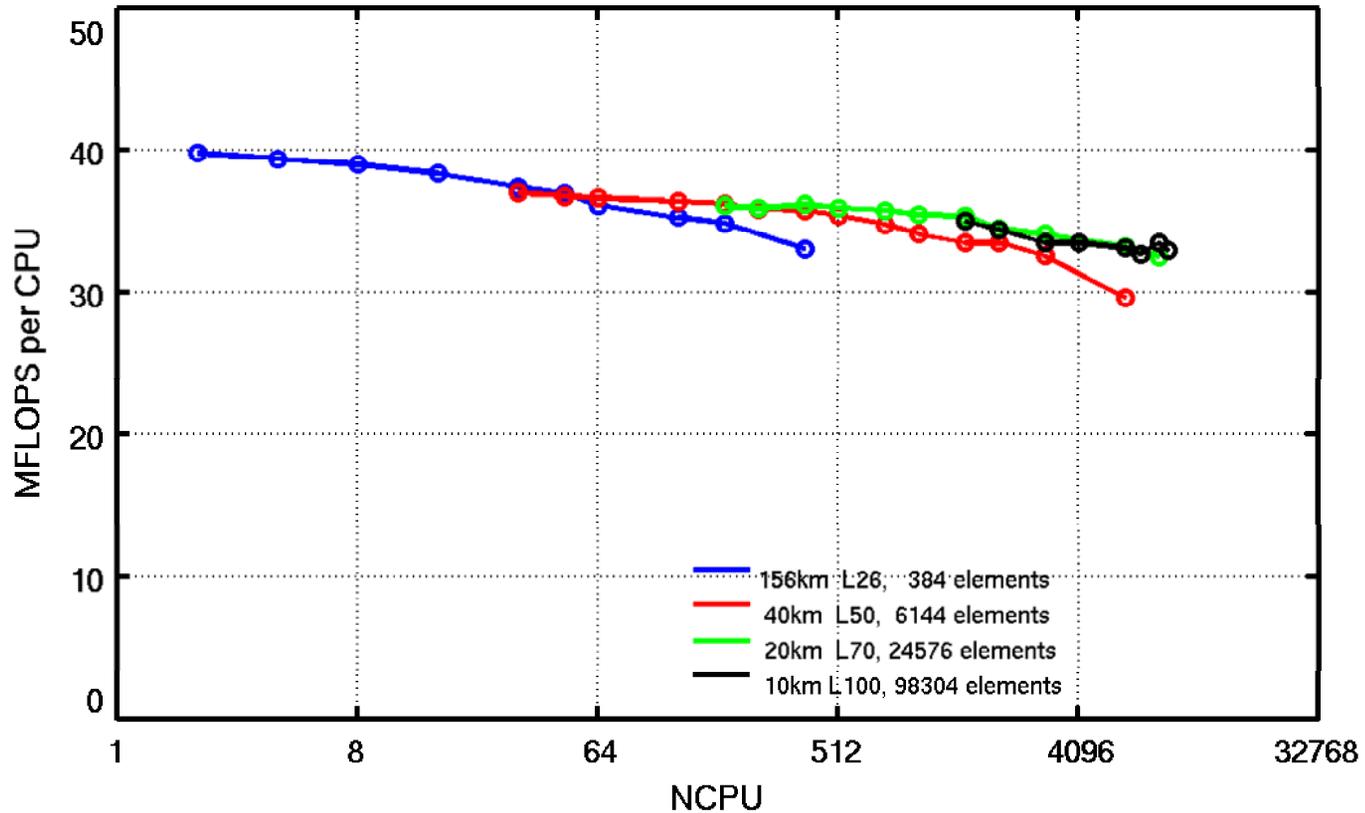
- Community Climate System Model (**CCSM**)
- Managed by NCAR
- Funding sources include SciDAC
- Atmosphere model is most computationally intense
- Community Atmospheric Model (**CAM**):
  - Spectral Transform
  - Finite Volume
  - Spectral Element?



# How Well Does SEAM Scale?



Janus



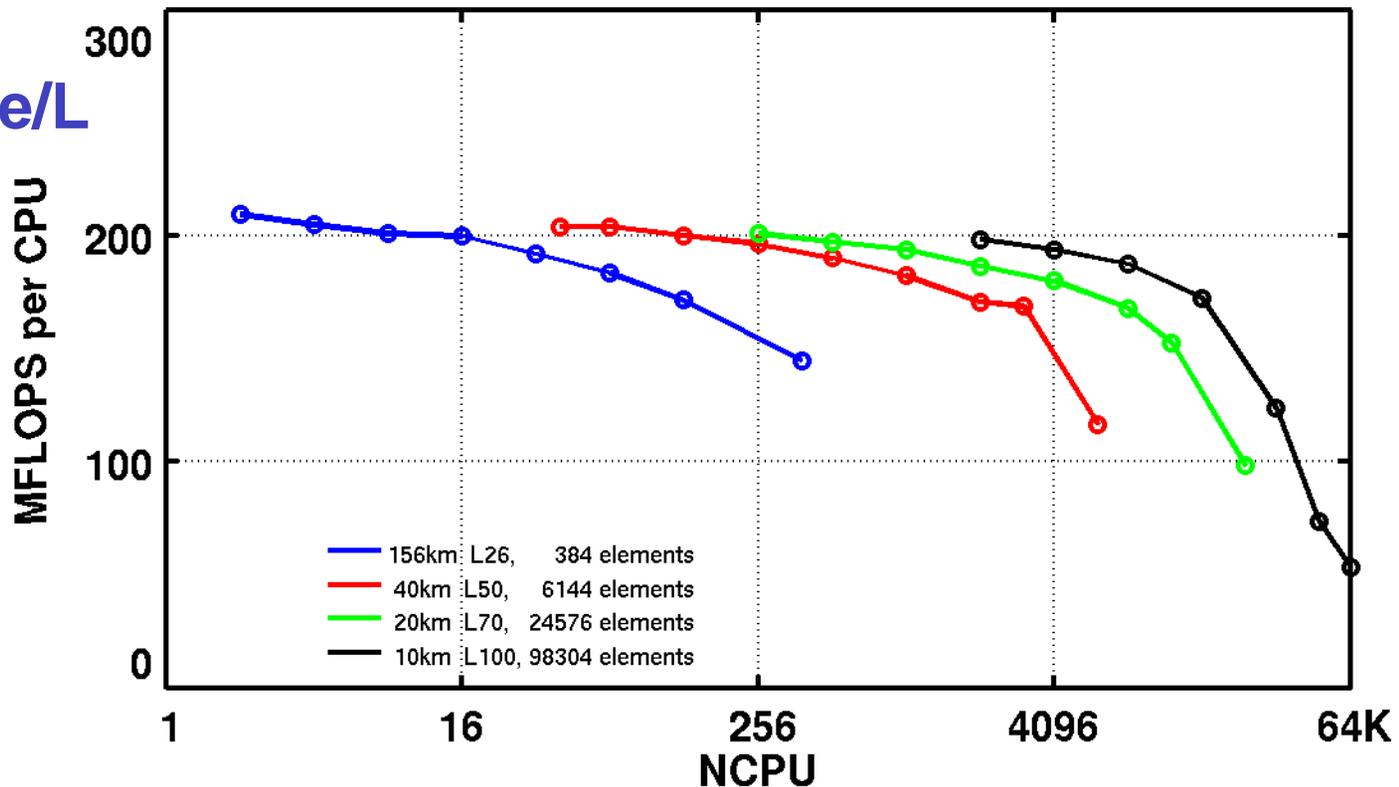
Spotz, "Performance Results and Analysis of the Spectral Element Method on the Sphere at Sandia," presented at the *2004 Workshop for the Solution of PDEs on the Sphere*, Yokohama, Japan, July 21, 2004.

# How Well Does SEAM Scale?



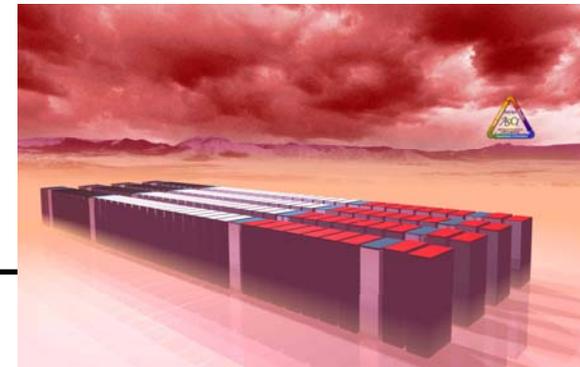
## Parallel Scalability

BlueGene/L



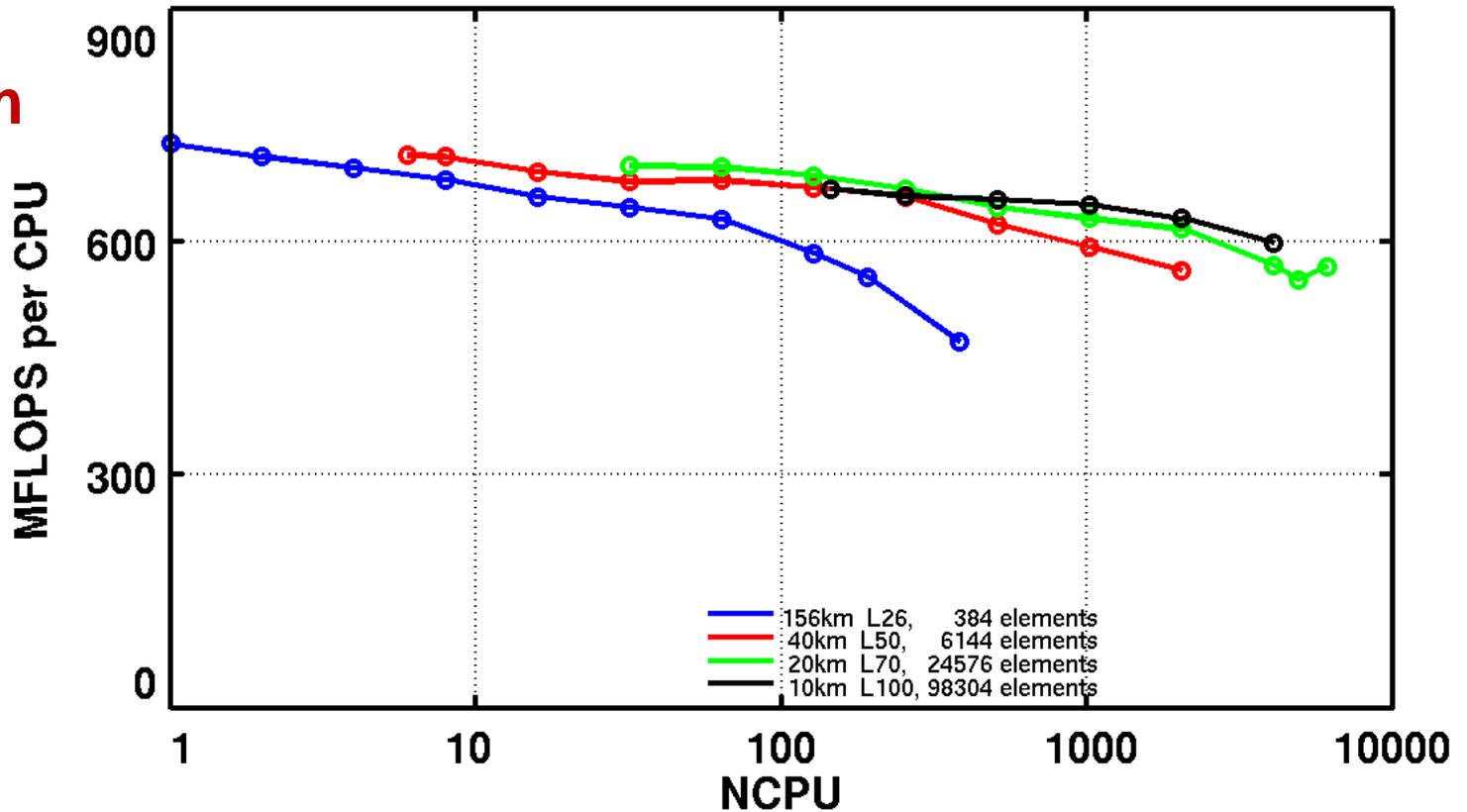
Dennis, Fournier, Spatz, St.-Cyr, Taylor, Thomas, Tufo, "High Resolution Mesh Convergence Properties and Parallel Efficiency of a Spectral Element Atmospheric Dynamical Core," *Int. J. High Perform. Comp. Appl.* special issue on Climate Modeling Algorithms and Software Practice

# How Well Does SEAM Scale?



Red Storm

### Parallel Scalability

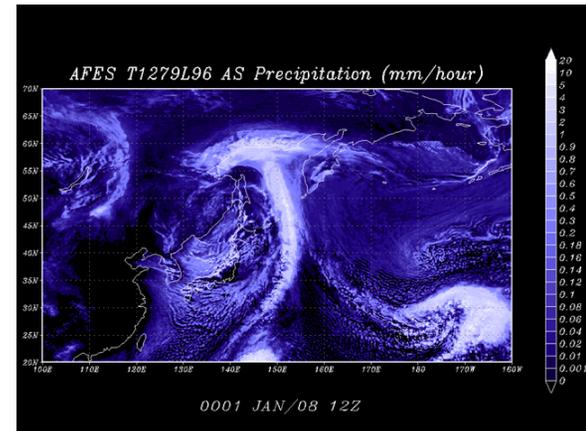


# Goal: Compete with Japanese Earth Simulator



## • Atmosphere For Earth Simulator (AFES)

- Global spectral model (spherical harmonics: Legendre transforms, all-to-all transpositions)
- Full physics
- 10km (24TF) 57 sim days/day



## • Red Storm (SEAM)

- Spectral elements: local computations and communications
- Aquaplanet (reduced physics)
- 40km (3TF) 7-30 sim years/day
- 10km (5TF) 32-128 sim days/day

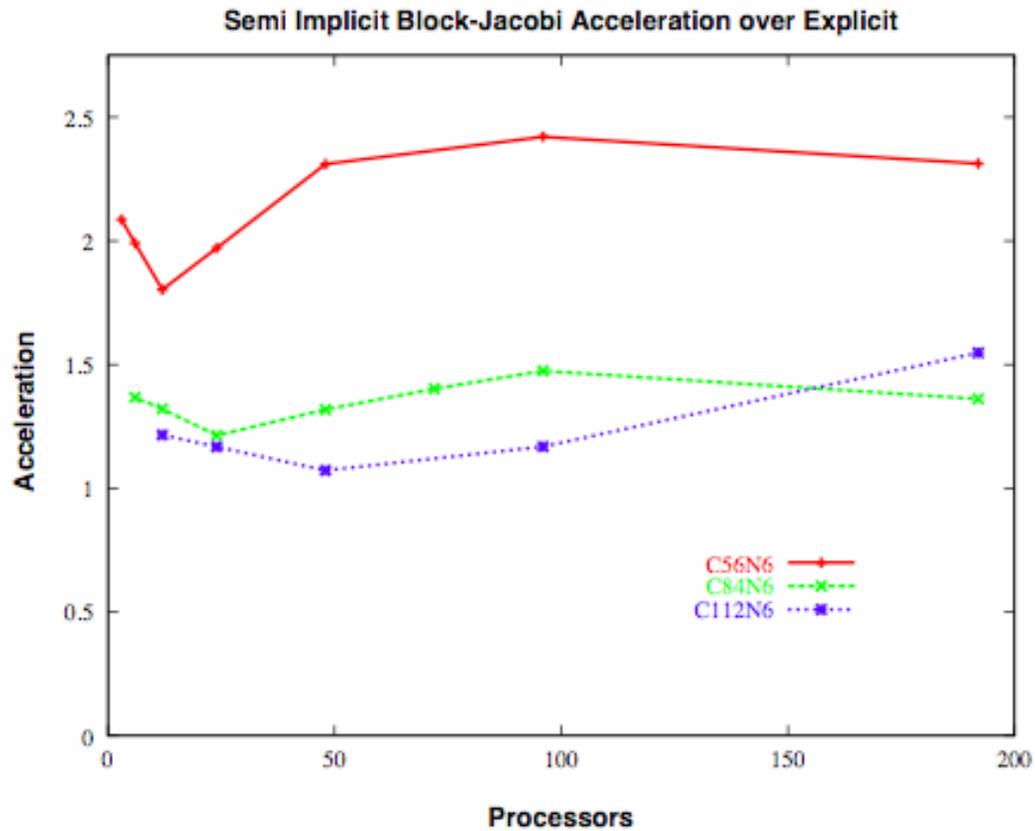


# Why the Range of Integration Rates?

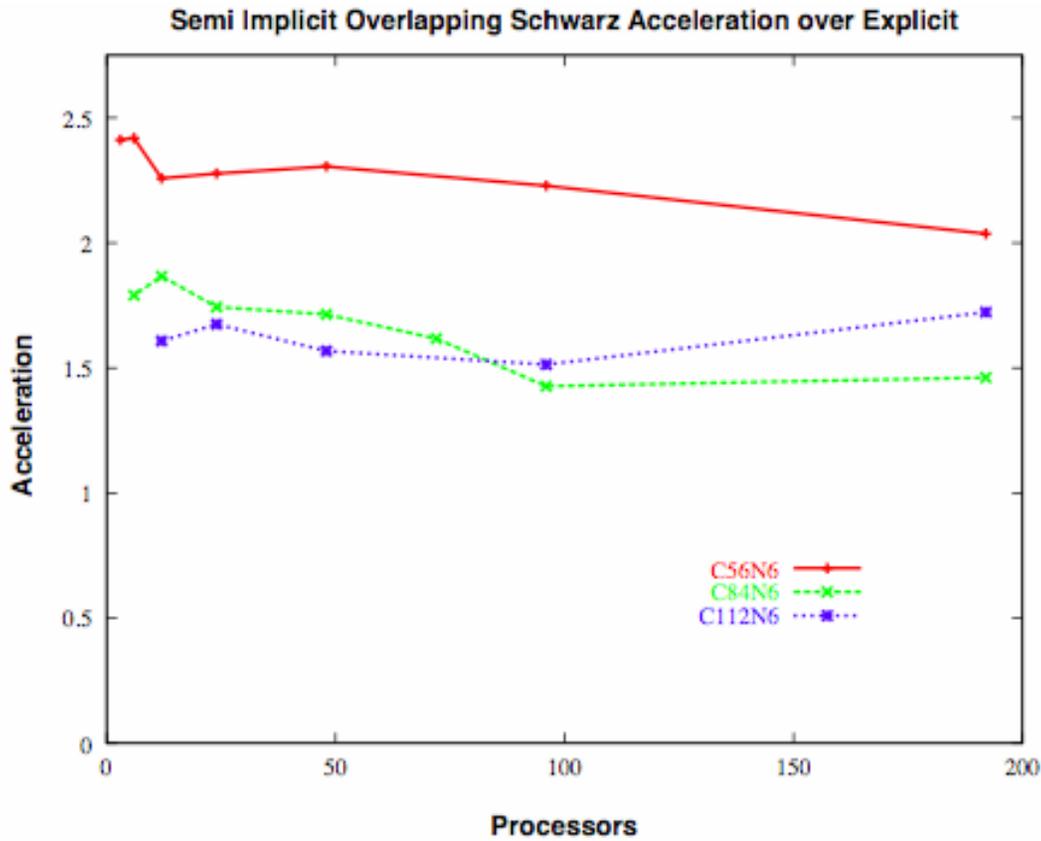
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- **Explicit vs. Semi-implicit time stepping**
- **Explicit (lower bound):**
  - **Small  $\Delta t$  for stability**
  - **Efficient numerical kernel**
- **Semi-implicit (upper bound...):**
  - **Larger  $\Delta t$  for stability ( $\sim x8$ )**
  - **Helmholtz solve: communication required every iteration**
  - **How many iterations?**
- **Dual use research question: what is the best algebraic preconditioner for spectral elements?**
- **Related question: what is the best integration rate we can obtain?**

# Block Jacobi



# Overlapping Schwarz



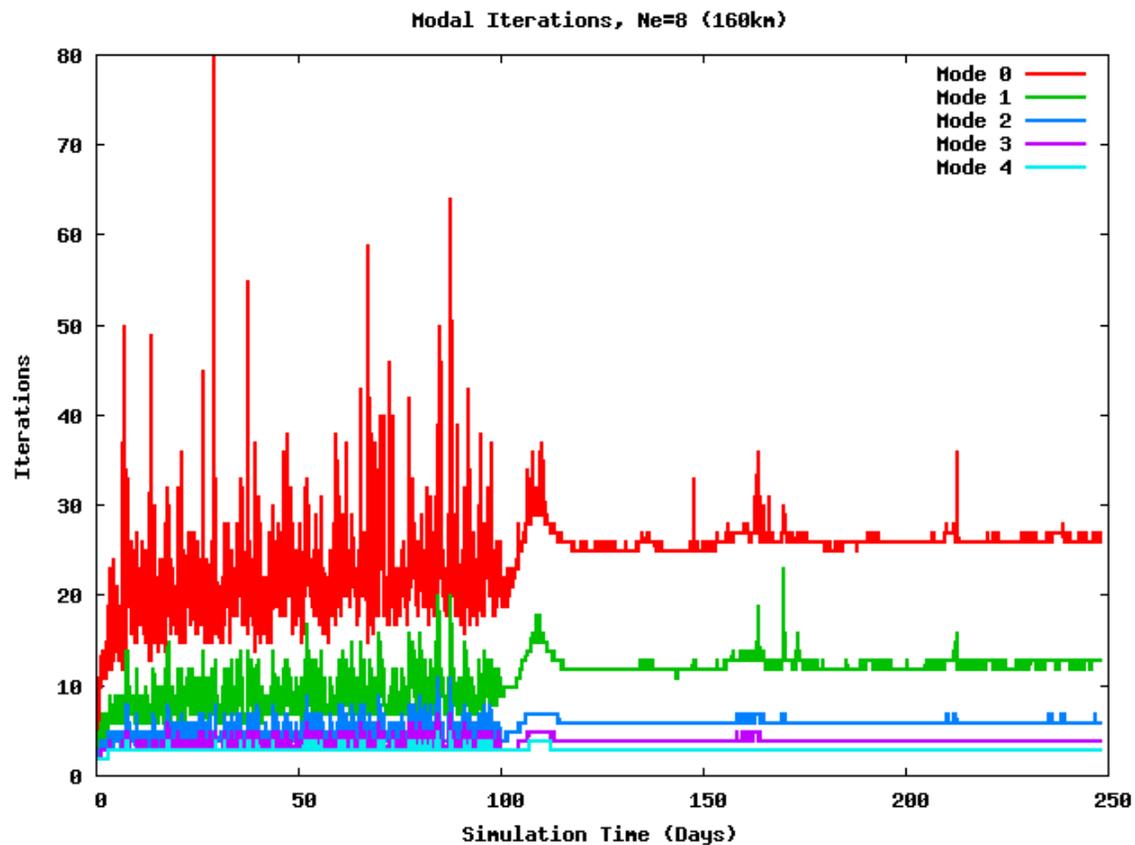


# Current Semi-Implicit Scheme

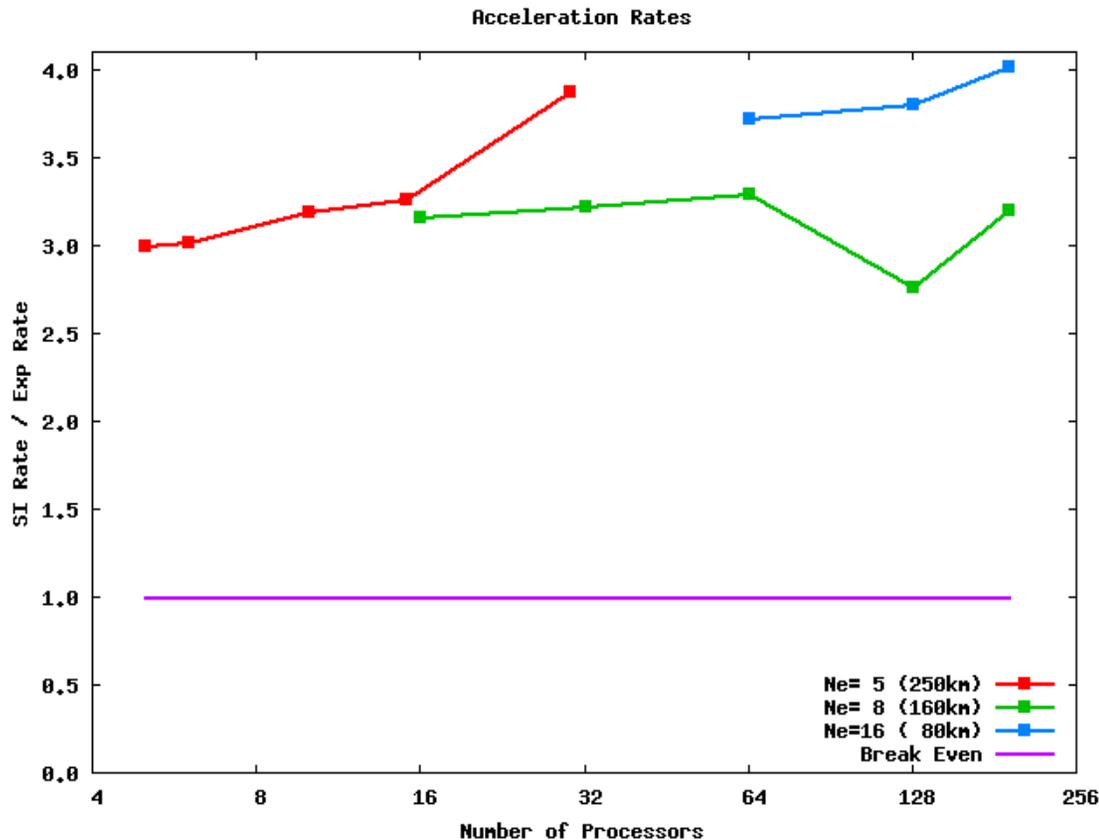
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- 3D primitive equations
- Hydrostatic assumption
- Loosely coupled “stack” of shallow water equations
- **Eigenmode decomposition** in vertical direction (split semi-implicit)
  - For  $L$  levels, this is an  $L \times L$  eigensystem
  - Results in  $L$  independent 2D systems to solve
  - Most energy & linear system solver work occurs in lowest eigenmodes
  - Decomposition is pre-processing step
  - Transforms: physical space  $\Leftrightarrow$  eigenspace
  - Quantity of interest: post-spinup average iterations for each eigenmode (function of resolution)

# SEAM Split Semi-Implicit Iterations



# SEAM Split Semi-Implicit Acceleration



## Issues

- Some fail-to-converges seen
- Unexplained iteration profiles
- Overlapping Schwarz implementation
- Higher resolutions
- Higher processor counts



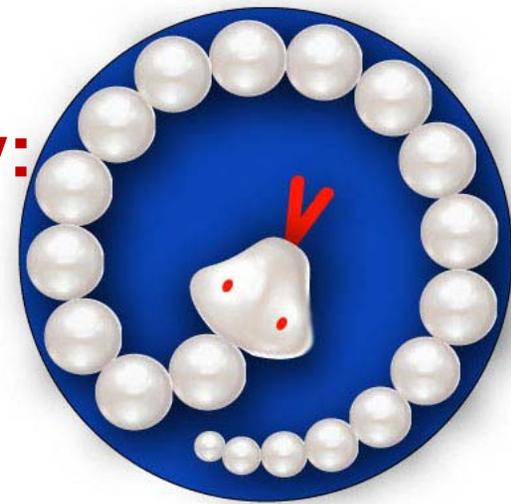
# Using Trilinos to Study Preconditioners

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- SEAM is written in FORTRAN 90
- Trilinos is written in C++
- Interfacing F77 and C is a pain . . . interfacing F90 and C++ is excruciating
- Possible solutions:
  - SIDL/Babel
  - Python (using swig and f2py)
    - Python is an “off-line” solution
    - Winning preconditioner must be re-coded for SEAM
    - Advantages...

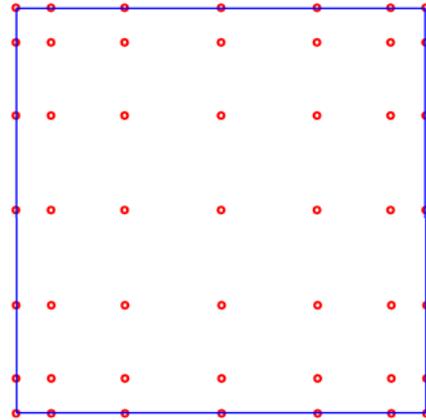
# Spin-off Enabling Technology: PyTrilinos

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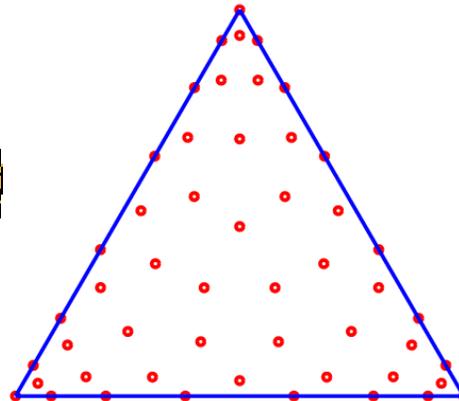
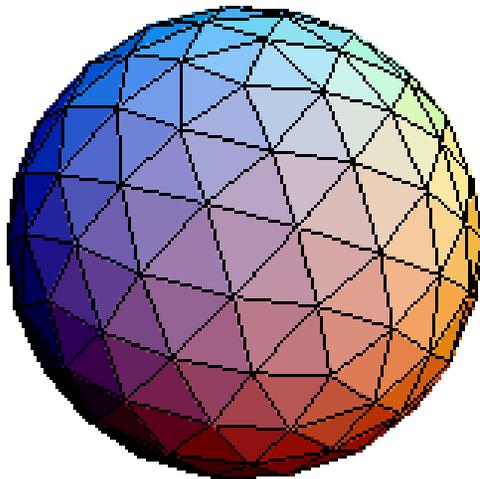


- Python interface to selected Trilinos packages:
  - **Epetra, EpetraExt, NOX** (with Alfred Lorber)
- Mike Heroux has been very supportive
- In addition to “gluing,” it facilitates rapid prototyping, enhances testing capabilities, and expands Trilinos user base
- Recruited Trilinos developers to wrap packages:
  - Eric Phipps: **NOX, LOCA**; Marzio Sala: **AztecOO, IFPACK, ML, Amesos, TriUtils**; Heidi Thornquist: **Anasazi**
- First appeared in Trilinos Release 5.0 with 3 packages; 10 packages in Trilinos Release 6.0
- Presentation at 2005 Scientific Python Conference at Cal Tech
- Sala, Spatz, Heroux, “PyTrilinos: High-Performance Distributed-Memory Solvers for Python,” submitted to *ACM TOMS*.

# Spectral Elements in Triangles

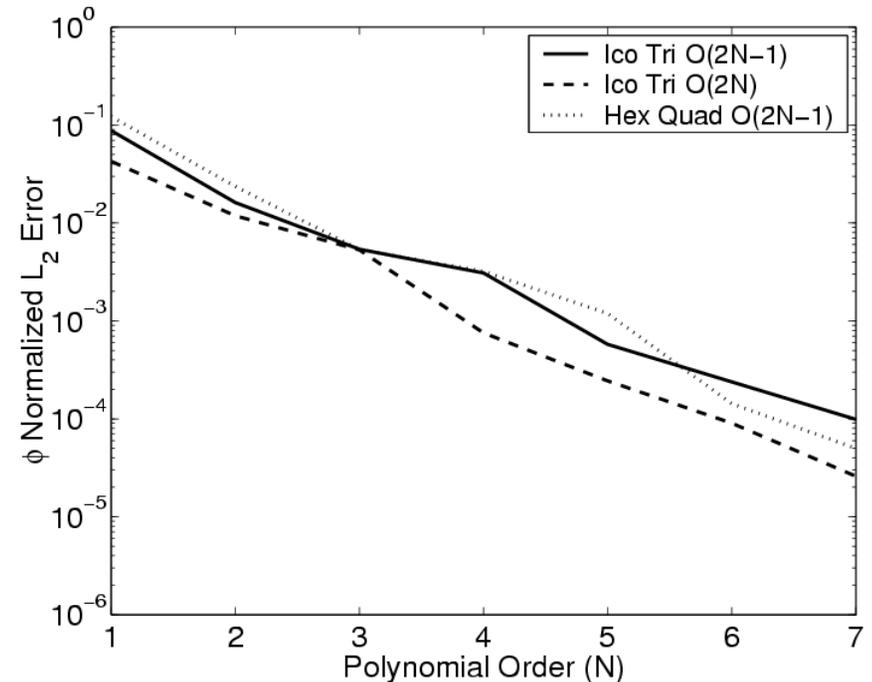
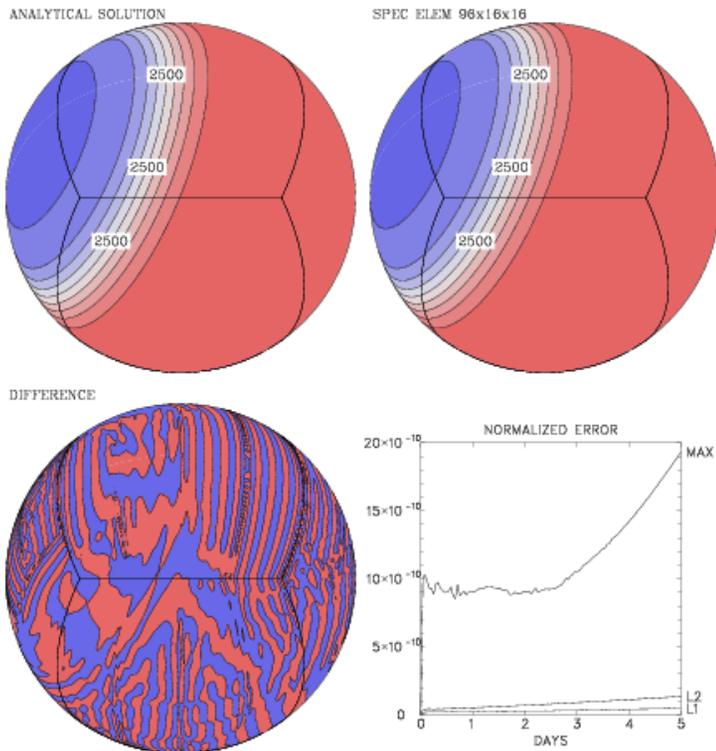


- **Quadrilateral spectral elements**
  - Choice of tensor-product Gauss-Lobatto points for nodal basis and quadrature leads to diagonal mass matrix and excellent interpolation properties
- **Triangular spectral elements**
  - Choice of nodal grid points is much more complicated . . . hard to get good interpolation and quadrature simultaneously



- **Taylor:** perform numerical optimization to look for suitable points
- Taylor, Wingate, Bos, “A New Cardinal Function Algorithm for Computing Multivariate Quadrature Points,” accepted by *SIAM J. Numer. Anal.*

# Triangular Spectral Element Results



Giraldo, Warburton, Taylor, “A Triangle-Based Spectral Element Method with Diagonal Mass Matrix,” invited paper in preparation for *J. Eng. Mech.* special issue on spectral interpolation and applications.



# Programmatics

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- **Sandia climate mission: “depth” and “breadth”**
- **Successful funding acquisitions**
  - LDRD (SEAM - Spotz)
  - LDRD (Conflict Modeling - Boslough)
  - ASC (High-performance ocean modeling)
  - CSRF (Red Storm Demonstration run)
- **Other attempts**
  - MICS (Multiscale climate - w/Los Alamos)
  - LDRD (Infrasound - Taylor)
  - CCPP (Advancements to SEAM - Spotz, Taylor)
  - NASA (Superparameterization - Debenedictis)
- **Pending opportunities**
  - Strategic Adaptation to Climate Change (Backus)
  - SciDAC (SEAM, Parameterizations - Spotz, Taylor)



# Red Storm Demonstration Run

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- **Polar vortex problem: Strong circumpolar jet that traps air over the poles**
- **Numerical Statistics**
  - **13km grid spacing, 300 levels in the vertical (1 billion grid points)**
  - **Integrated for 288,000 time steps using 7200 CPUs for 36 hours**
  - **Produced 1TB of data**

# Red Storm Demonstration Run

Isosurface and contours  
of potential vorticity over  
north pole

