

**The ICoCo based Coupling of TRACE and SCF in SALOME,  
and a new function of TRACE: an automatic connection  
between Cylinder and Cartesian VESSELS  
instead of using the VESSEL JUNCTION component in SNAP**

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# Presentation Outline

## The Coupling of TRACE and SCF through ICoCo in SALOME

- **Elements involved in the coupling system**
- **Implementation of TRACE-ICoCo, SCF-ICoCo, and an interpolation toolkit to SALOME**
- **Strategy of the Coupling System**
- **Verification of the Coupling System**

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# Elements involved in the coupling system

**Title:** The Coupling of **TRACE** and **SCF** through **ICoCo** and **SALOME**

**TRACE:** the thermal-hydraulic system code by U.S. NRC.

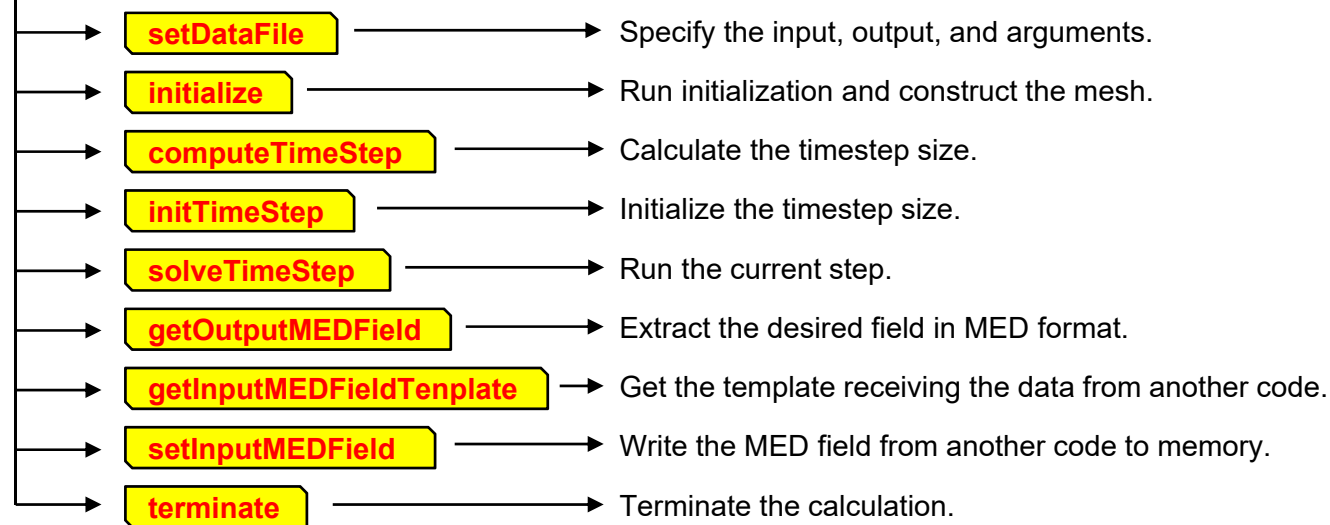
**SCF:** the sub-channel code by KIT Germany.

**ICoCo:** a code coupling framework initiated by CEA France.

**SALOME:** an open-source platform for numerical simulations by CEA and EDF.

## ICoCo -- two prerequisites

- 1) Codes must have explicit meshes in MED format.
- 2) Codes must be pre-split into specified functional components.



# Elements involved in the coupling system

**Title:** The Coupling of **TRACE** and **SCF** through **ICoCo** and **SALOME**

**TRACE:** the thermal-hydraulic system code by U.S. NRC.

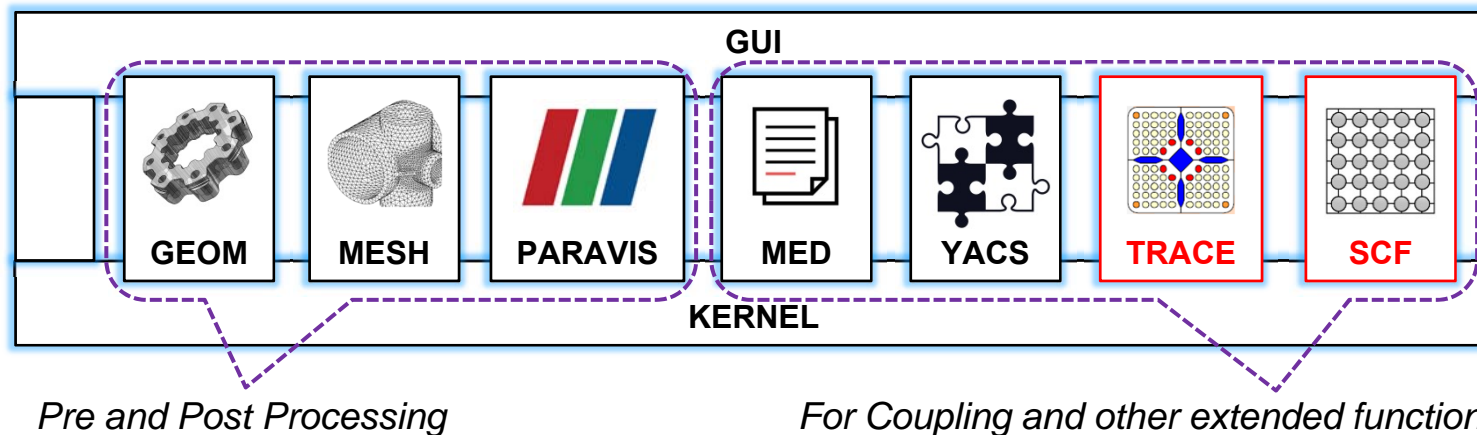
**SCF:** the sub-channel code by KIT Germany.

**ICoCo:** a code coupling framework initiated by CEA France.

**SALOME:** an open-source platform for numerical simulations by CEA and EDF.

## SALOME -- two main functions

- 1) Provide generic functions for numerical pre- and post- processing.
- 2) Manage codes coupling, corresponds to ICoCo.



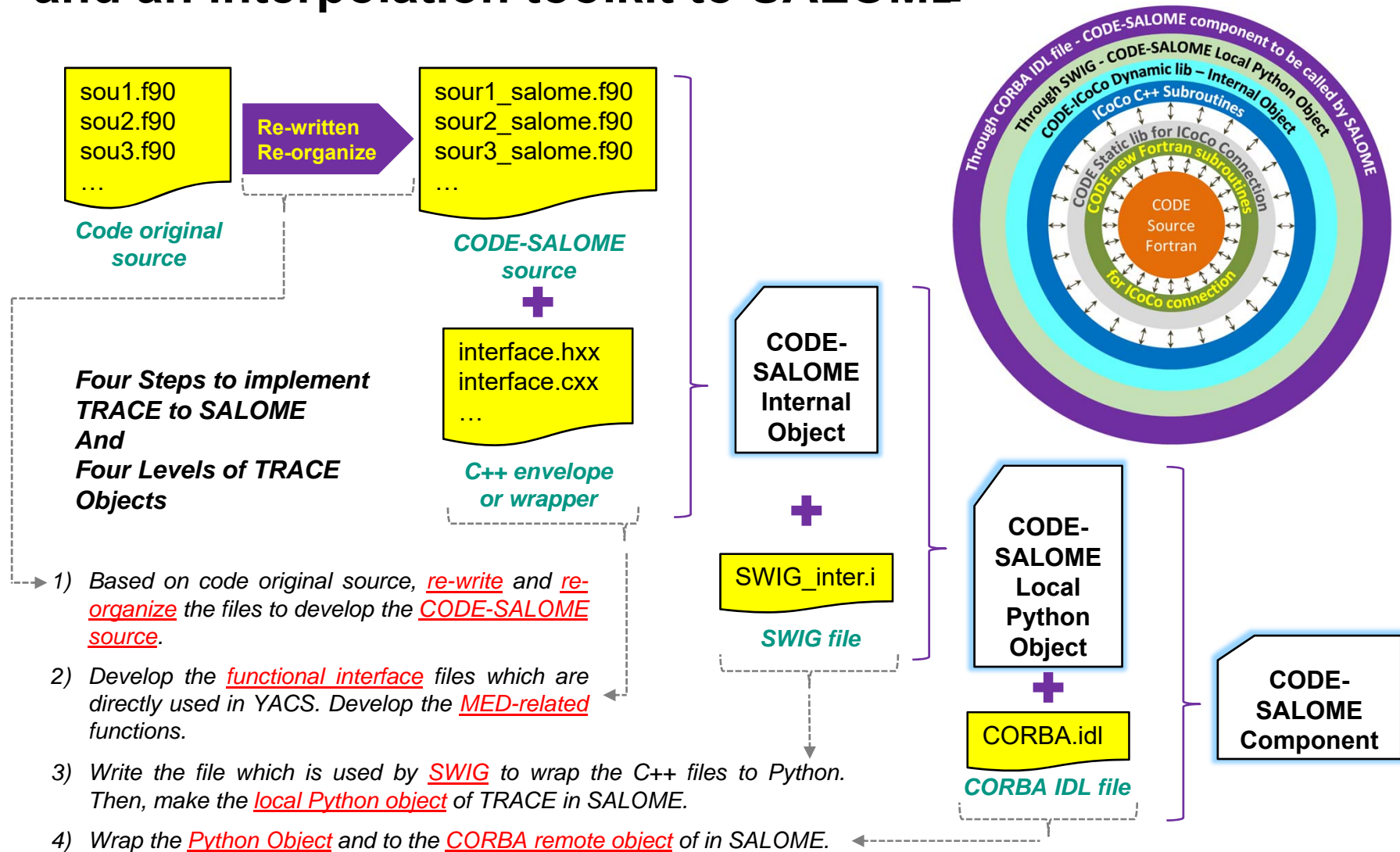
**TRACE and SCF should be implemented into SALOME based on ICoCo standard.**

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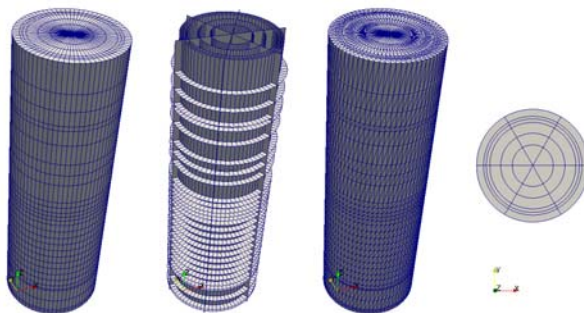
# Implementation of TRACE-ICoCo, SCF-ICoCo, and an interpolation toolkit to SALOME



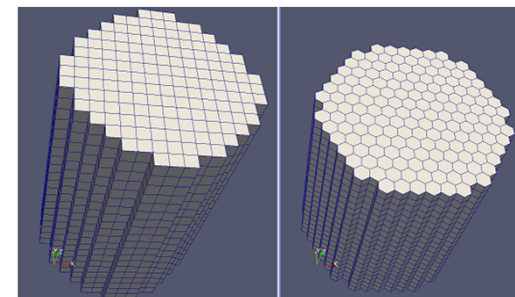
# Implementation of TRACE-ICoCo, SCF-ICoCo, and an interpolation toolkit to SALOME

- 1) The TRACE and SCF modules in SALOME fully follows the ICoCo framework and contain the functional components.
- 2) Their different meshes have to map to translate and transfer fields.
- 3) A toolkit for mesh interpolation and field mapping is desired.

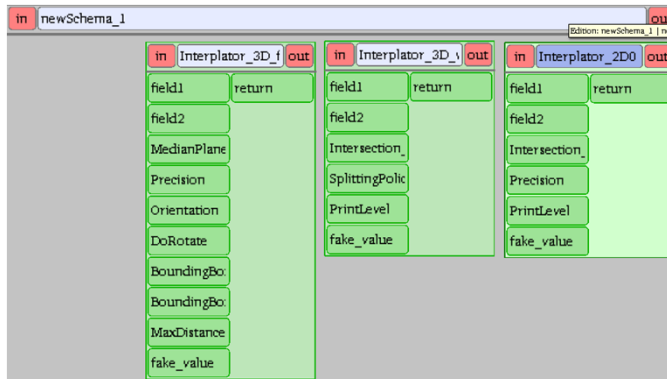
TRACE MED meshes



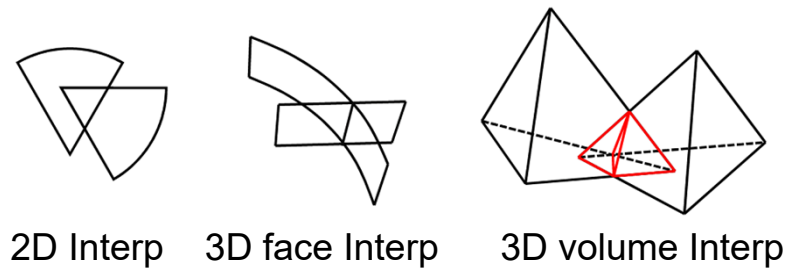
SCF MED meshes



Mapping

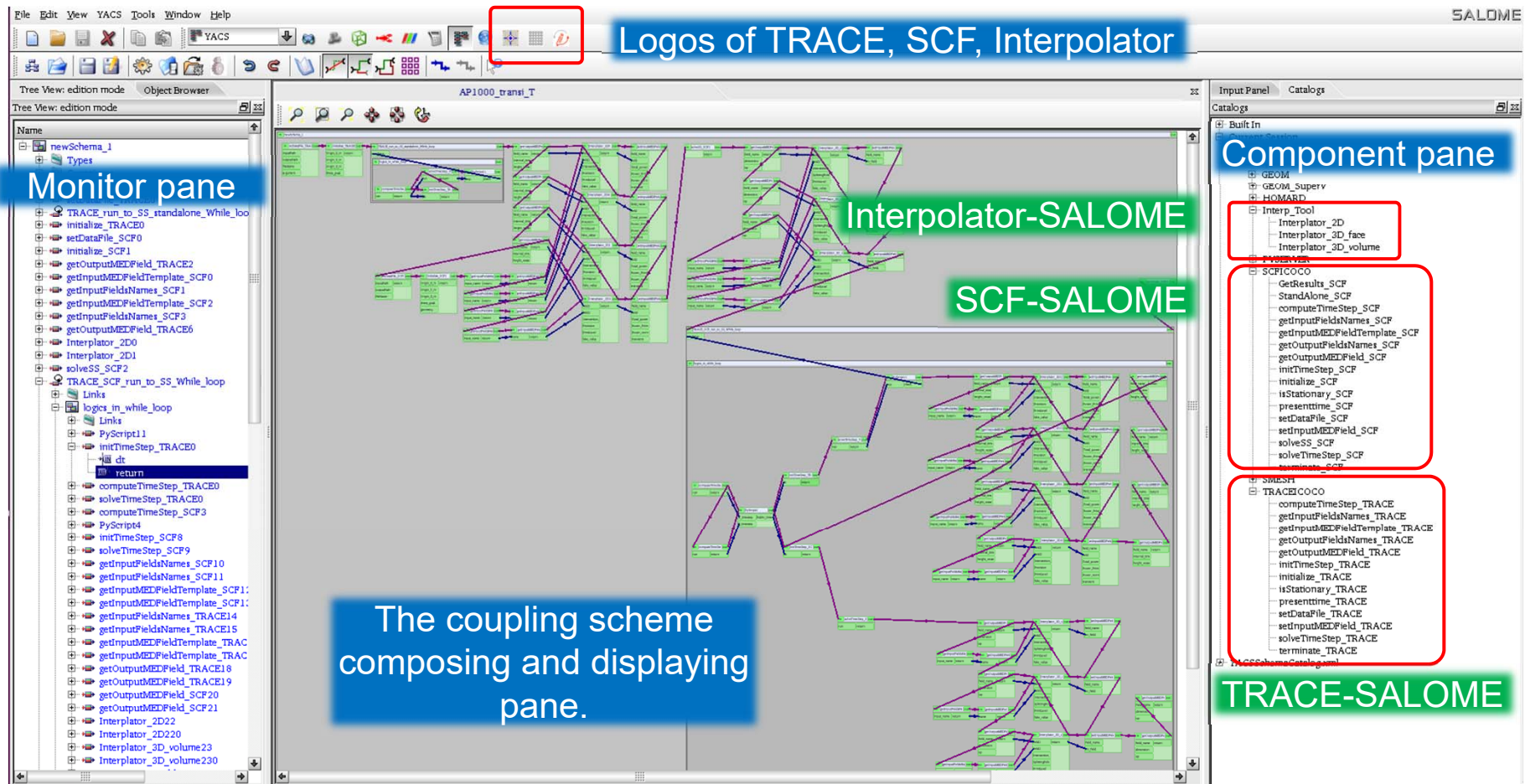


Interpolation toolkit





# Implementation of TRACE-ICoCo, SCF-ICoCo, and an interpolation toolkit to SALOME



The screenshot displays the SALOME software interface with a complex coupling scheme diagram in the center. The diagram consists of numerous green rectangular nodes connected by purple lines, representing the relationships between different components. The interface includes a menu bar at the top, a toolbar, and several panels:

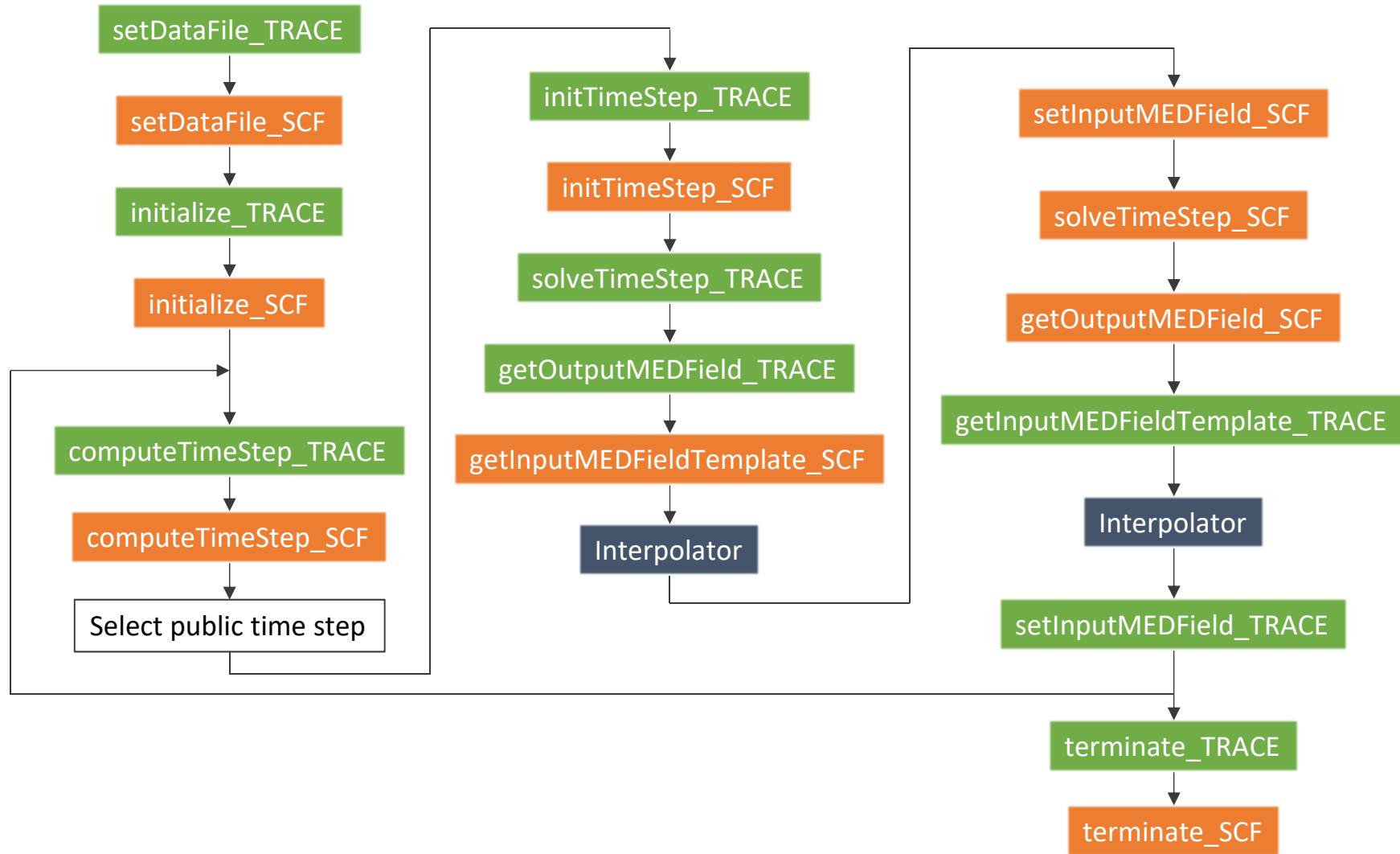
- Monitor pane:** Located on the left side, it shows a hierarchical tree view of the model's components and their properties.
- Logos of TRACE, SCF, Interpolator:** A blue box highlights three icons in the top toolbar.
- Component pane:** Located on the right side, it shows a list of components categorized into 'Built In', 'Interp\_Tool', 'SCFICOCO', and 'TRACEICOCO'. Red boxes highlight specific sub-components within these categories.
- Interpolator-SALOME:** A green label points to the top portion of the coupling scheme diagram.
- SCF-SALOME:** A green label points to the middle portion of the coupling scheme diagram.
- TRACE-SALOME:** A green label points to the bottom portion of the coupling scheme diagram.
- The coupling scheme composing and displaying pane:** A blue box at the bottom center describes the main diagram area.

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# Strategy of the Coupling System



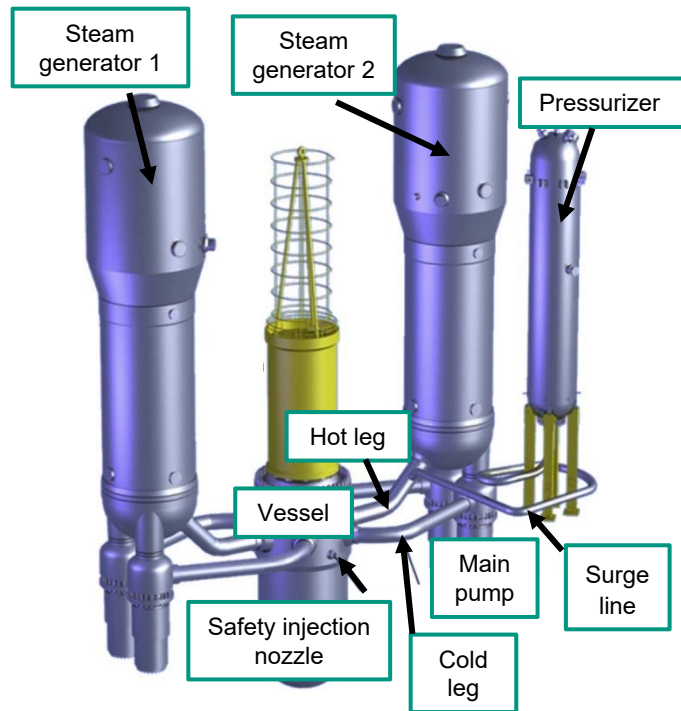
# Presentation Outline

## The Coupling of TRACE and SCF through ICoCo in SALOME

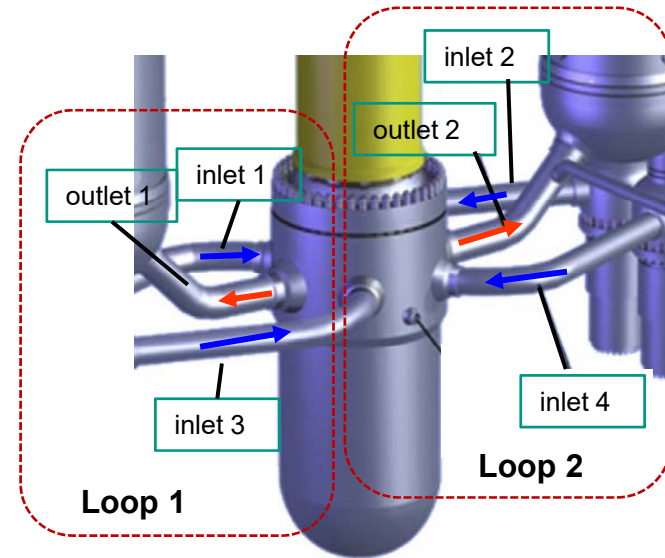
- Elements involved in the coupling system
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# Verification of the Coupling System

## An AP1000 transient case:



**Configuration of the main components of AP1000 reactor**



### Main initial parameters

- 1) Core power: 3400 MW
- 2) Core mass flow rate: 14275 kg/s
- 3) Core inlet temperature: 553.8 K
- 4) Core outlet temperature: 596.5 K

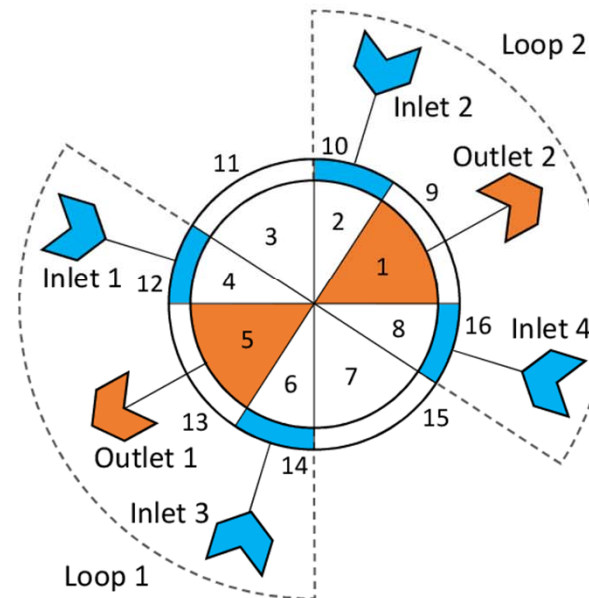
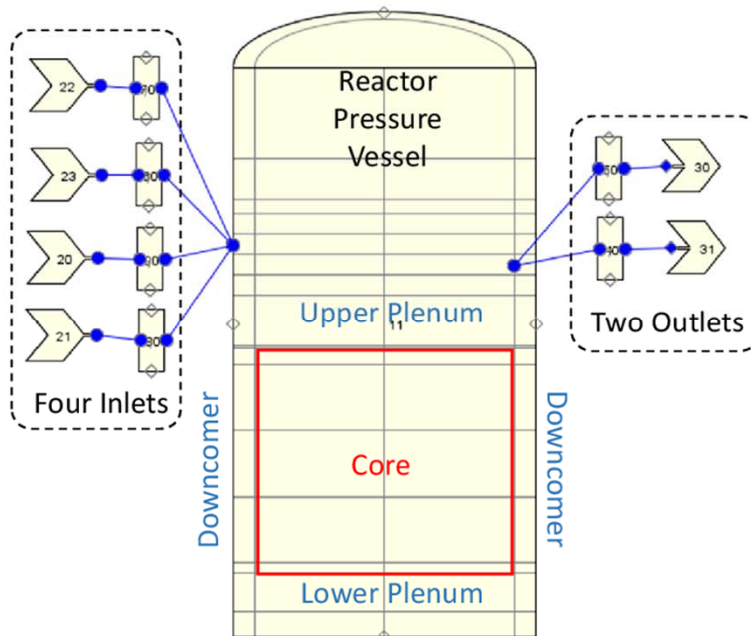
- Transient sequence**
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) $t = 0$ s, temp (inlet 1, 2, 3, 4) = 553.7 K | 3) $t = 15$ s, temp (inlet 1, 3) = 503.7 K |
| 2) $t = 5$ s, temp (inlet 1, 2, 3, 4) = 553.7 K | 4) $t = 20$ s, temp (inlet 1, 3) = 503.7 K |

# Verification of the Coupling System

## TRACE model

The model was develop with SNAP  
for TRACE v5.1051

Axial levels	16
Radial rings	2
Azimuthal sectors	8



# Verification of the Coupling System

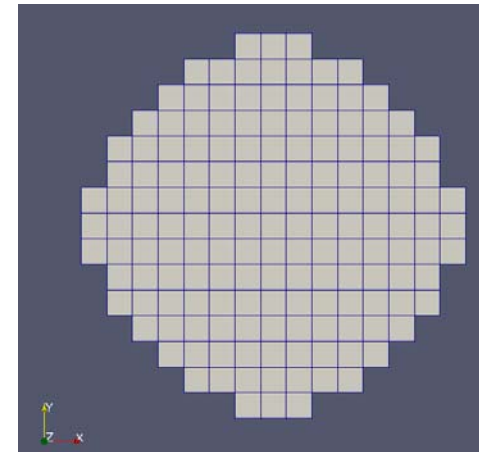
## SCF model

The model was develop with SCF v3.3

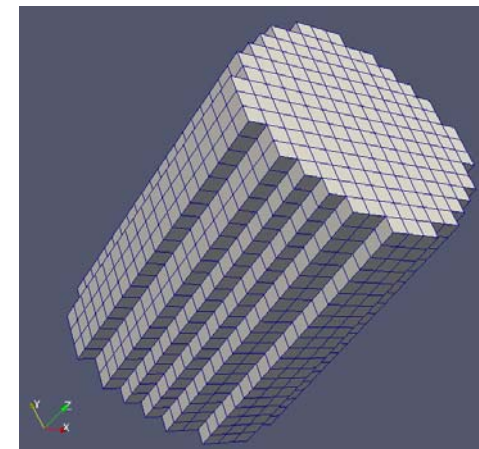
---

total_fuel_assemblies	157
fuel_assembly_pitch [m]	0.214
rod_diameter [m]	0.0095
channel_area [m <sup>2</sup> ]	0.0253127
wetted_perimeter [m]	9.4808
heated_perimeter [m]	7.878782
channel_gap [m]	1.016x10 <sup>-3</sup>
total_axial_length [m]	4.2671

---



2D mesh



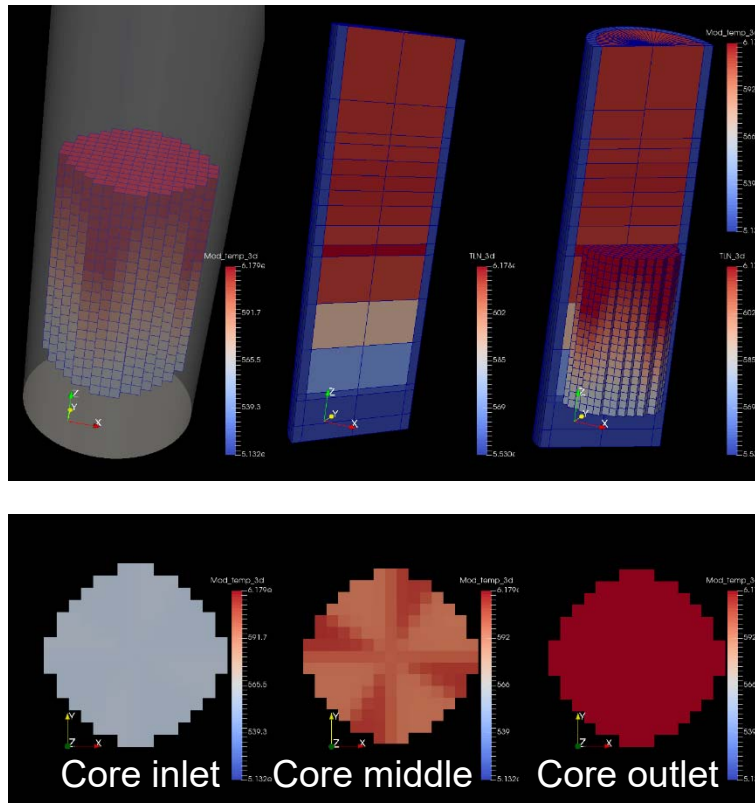
3D mesh



# Verification of the Coupling System

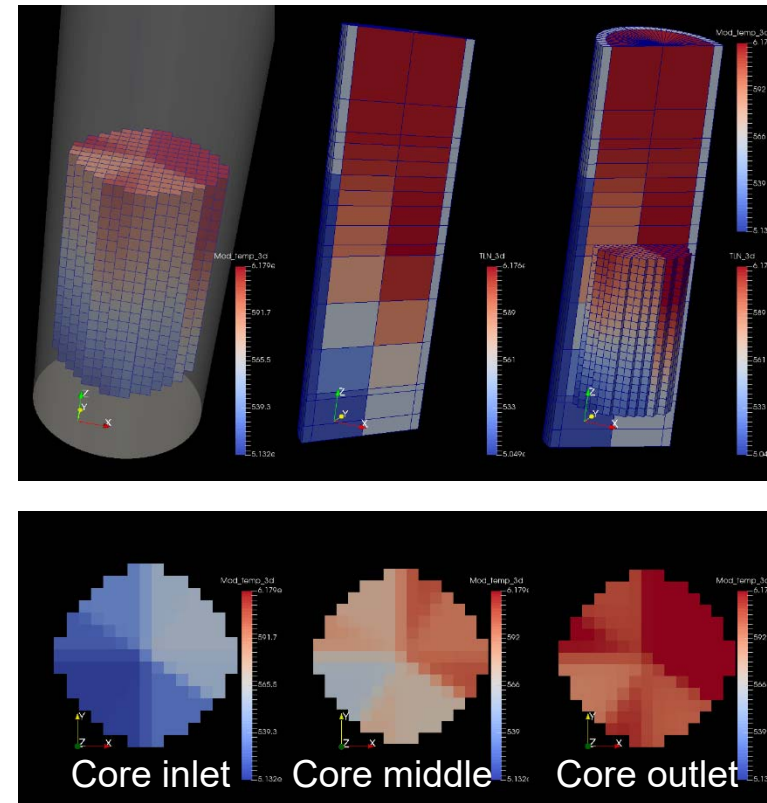
## The coolant temperature profile at the beginning of the transient

The coolant temperature distribute symmetrically in TRACE(Vessel) and SCF(Core).



## The coolant temperature profile at the end of the transient

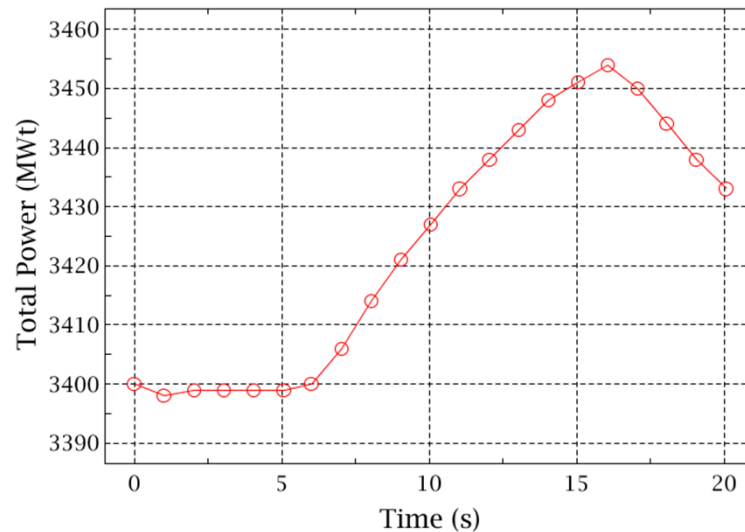
The coolant temperature at the loop1 corresponding area of TRACE(Vessel) and SCF(Core) is lower than loop2 area.



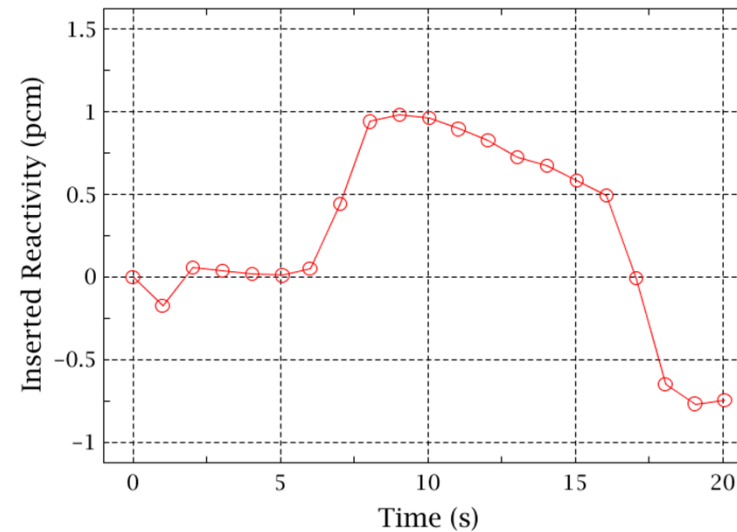


# Verification of the Coupling System

## The neutronic results of the transient by SCF (point kinetic model)



Evolution of the total thermal power in the core



Evolution of the reactivity in the core

- 1) As the coolant temperature decreases, a positive reactivity was introduced to the core. It first increase rapidly and then gradually reduce and finally become negative because of the thermal feedback.
- 2) Corresponding to the evolution of reactivity, the thermal power of the core increases to the peak and then decreases.

# Presentation Outline

**A new function of TRACE: an automatic connection between Cylinder and Cartesian VESSELS instead of using the VESSEL JUNCTION component in SNAP**

- **Current coupling method between Cylinder and Cartesian vessels**
- **The new automatic coupling between the vessels**
- **Additional features for the vessel coupling cases**

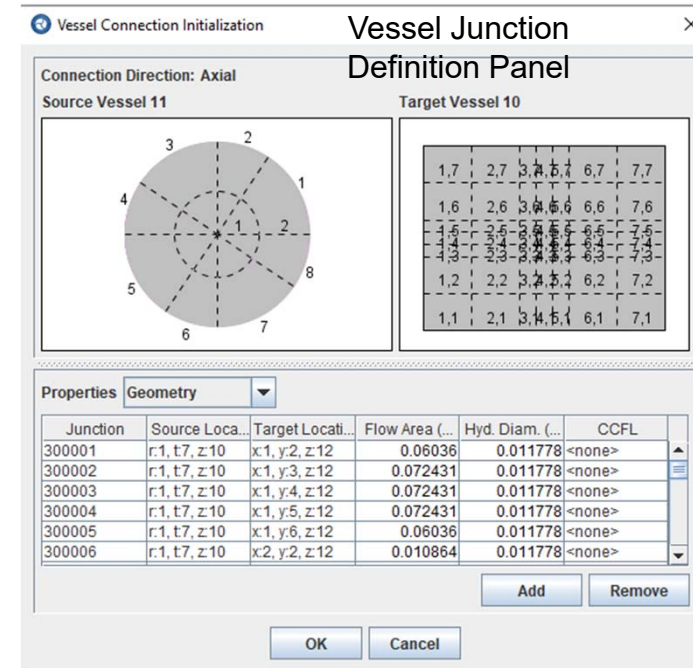
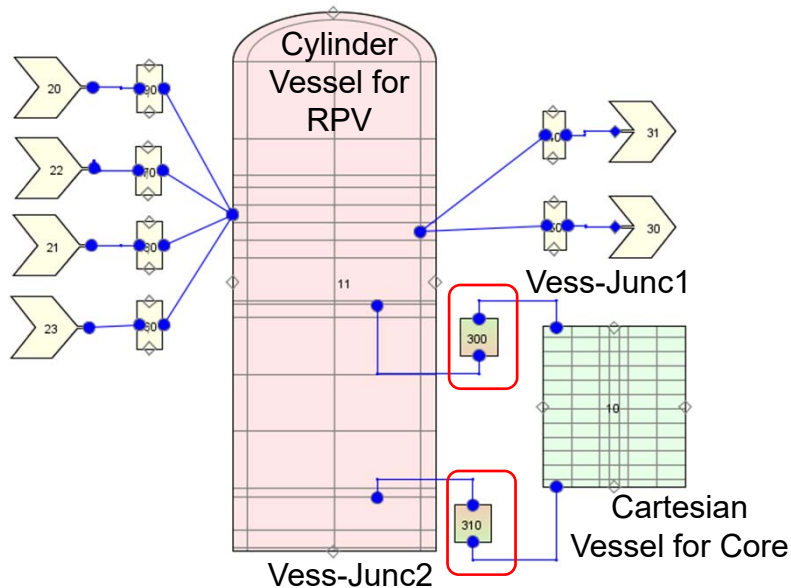
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# Current coupling method between Cylinder and Cartesian vessels

A TRACE model includes  
Cylinder and Cartesian vessels



- 1) The Cylinder Vessel models the RPV.
- 2) The Cartesian Vessel models the Core.
- 3) The two vessel are connected by two vessel junction component at core inlet and outlet.

- 1) Users define the positional correspondence.
- 2) Users calculate and set the flow area, hydraulic diameters for each channel.
- 3) Both of the operations are borring and error-prone.

# Current coupling method between Cylinder and Cartesian vessels

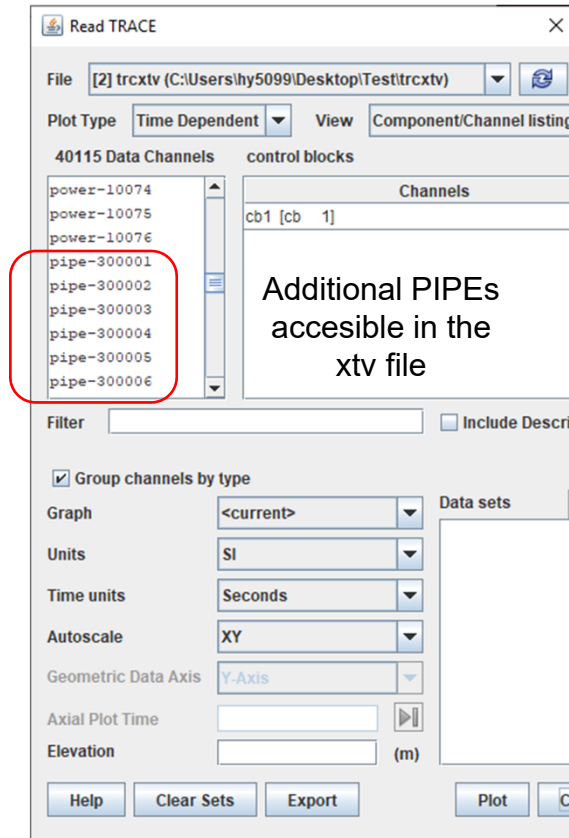
```

55 *****
56 * component-number data *
57 *****
58 *
59 * Component input order (IORDER)
60 *-- type ---- num ----- name -----+   jun1   jun2   jun3
61 * VESSEL *    10 s * core                +
62 * VESSEL *    11 s *                    +
63 * FILL   *    20 s *                    +   110
64 * FILL   *    21 s *                    +   100
65 * FILL   *    22 s *                    +    90
66 * FILL   *    23 s *                    +    10
67 * BREAK  *    30 s *                    +   20
68 * BREAK  *    31 s *                    +    80
69 * PIPE   *    40 s *                    +    70    80
70 * PIPE   *    50 s *                    +    30    20
71 * PIPE   *    60 s *                    +    10   120
72 * PIPE   *    70 s *                    +    90   130
73 * PIPE   *    80 s *                    +   100   140
74 * PIPE   *    90 s *                    +   110   150
75 * PIPE   * 300001 s * $300$ vessel 11 to vessel 10 + 30000113000012
76 * PIPE   * 300002 s * $300$ vessel 11 to vessel 10 + 30000213000022
77 * PIPE   * 300003 s * $300$ vessel 11 to vessel 10 + 30000313000032
78 * PIPE   * 300004 s * $300$ vessel 11 to vessel 10 + 30000413000042
79 * PIPE   * 300005 s * $300$ vessel 11 to vessel 10 + 30000513000052
80 * PIPE   * 300006 s * $300$ vessel 11 to vessel 10 + 30000613000062
81 * PIPE   * 300007 s * $300$ vessel 11 to vessel 10 + 30000713000072
    
```

Input file of the vessel coupling case

Additional PIPEs by vessel junction component

- 1) A series of additional PIPE components are added to the input file. They appear in the component list and more lines follow in the component definition data block.
- 2) Make the input file redundant and unreadable.



- 1) Users can access the variables of each additional PIPE by the vessel junction.

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# The new automatic coupling between the vessels

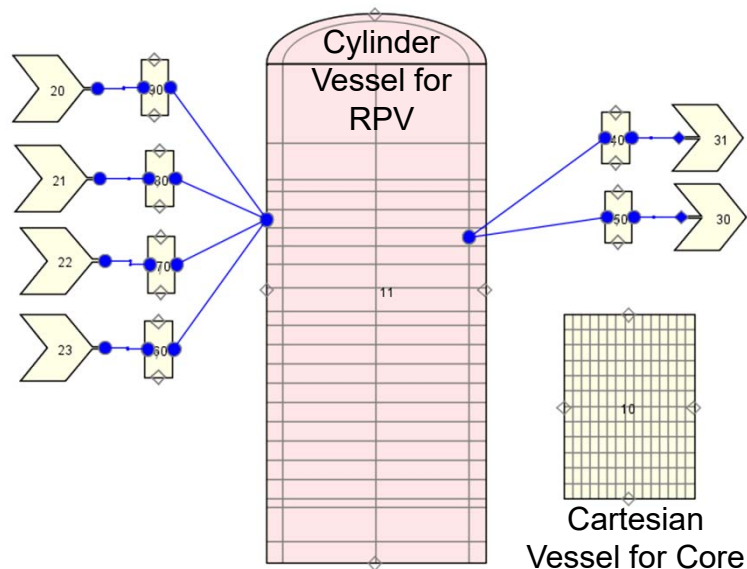
## Drawbacks of current vessel coupling method

- 1) Manual definition of posi corre.
- 2) Manual calculation of FA, HD.
- 3) Redundant input file.

## Features of the new vessel coupling method

- 1) Automatic definition of posi corre.
- 2) Automatic calculation of FA, HD.
- 3) Clean input file.

## A TRACE model includes Cylinder and Cartesian vessels



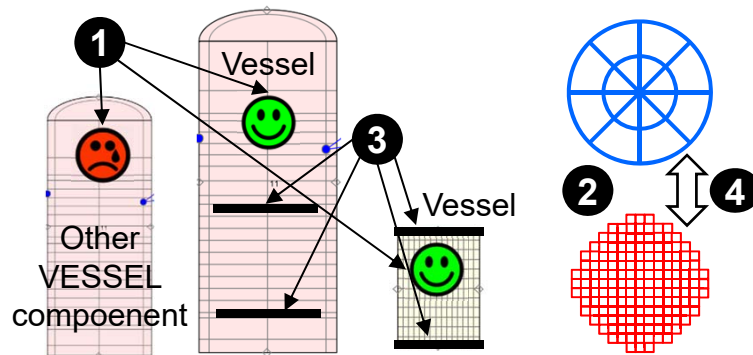
## Modeling instruction for users

- 1) Both of the Cylinder and Cartesian vessels must include core boundary definition.
- 2) The axial flow area of the core area in the Cylinder vessel must be 0.0.
- 3) The largest length (x, y direction) of Cartesian vessel must not exceed the core outer radial ring of the Cylinder vessel.
- 4) Source the environment of MED libs.
- 5) Restart calculation is available.

# The new automatic coupling between the vessels

## Principles of the method

- 1) Recognize the VESSEL component which models the Vessels.
- 2) Read the geometry data of the Vessels and construct the 2D mesh based on MED libs.
- 3) Locate the core inlet and outlets.
- 4) Load the flow area data to meshes and map the 2D meshes.
- 5) Build new PIPE as junctions between vessels and insert to TRACE data structure.



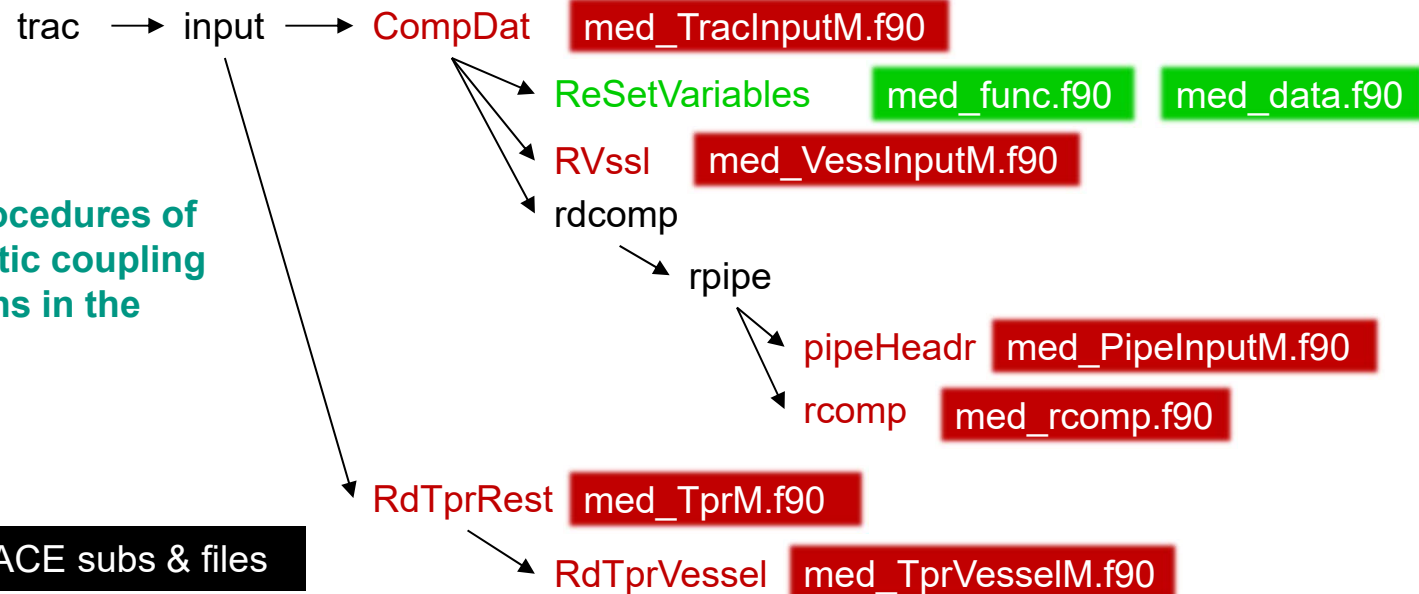
## Source code level (only arrays)

- 1) `vessTab%geom, vessTab%vessType.`
- 2) `vessTab%nasx, %nrsv, %ntsv, vsAr%z(:), %rad(:), %th(:).`
- 3) `vessTab%icru, %icrl.`
- 4) `vaAr3%faz(:, :, :).`
- 5) `vessTab%ncsr, vsAr%isrl(:), vsAr%isrc(:), vsAr%isrf(:), vsAr%juns(:).`
- 6) Other arrays to be modified in TRACE data structure: `compIndices(:), compNumList(:), compCcoList(:), g1DAr(:), intAr(:), PipeAr(:), genTab(:), PipeTab(:), fillTab(:), fillAr(:), breakTab(:), breakAr(:), chanTab(:), chanAr(:), radTab(:), radar(:), pumpTab(:), pumpAr(:), valveTab(:), valveAr(:), plenTab(:), plenAr(:), turbTab(:), prizeTab(:), teeTab(:), teeAr(:), heatrTab(:), heatrAr(:), jetpTab(:), sepdAr(:), hsTab(:), hsAr(:), hsTab(:), hsAr(:), powTab(:), powAr(:), flPowTab(:), flPowAr(:), exterTab(:), exterAr(:), vsAr2(:), vsAr4(:), vsSrcAr(:).`



# The new automatic coupling between the vessels

Logical procedures of the automatic coupling functions in the



Original TRACE subs & files

Modified TRACE subs & files

Newsubs & files

- 1) 13 modified TRACE source files
- 2) 2 new files

med\_PipeArrayM.f90

med\_CountingCompM.f90

med\_Global.f90

med\_Gen1DArrayM.f90

med\_IntArrayM.f90

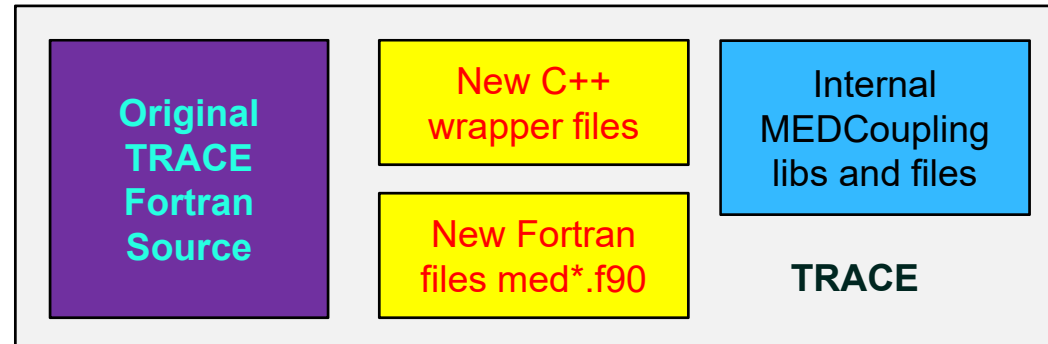
med\_FltM.f90

med\_PipeVltM.f90

# The new automatic coupling between the vessels

Python `scons/scons.py` compiler = intel `icoco_med` = med

In addition to TRACE normal functions, it can automatically couple the Cylinder and Cartesian vessels.



Python `scons/scons.py` compiler = intel

Compile Normal TRACE executable.



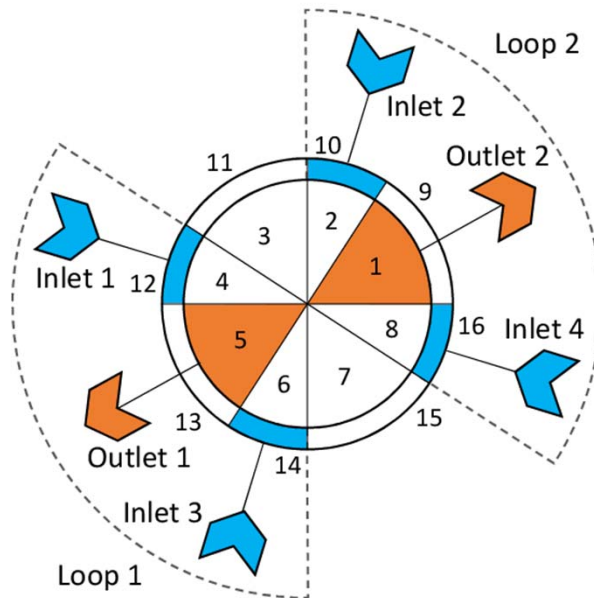
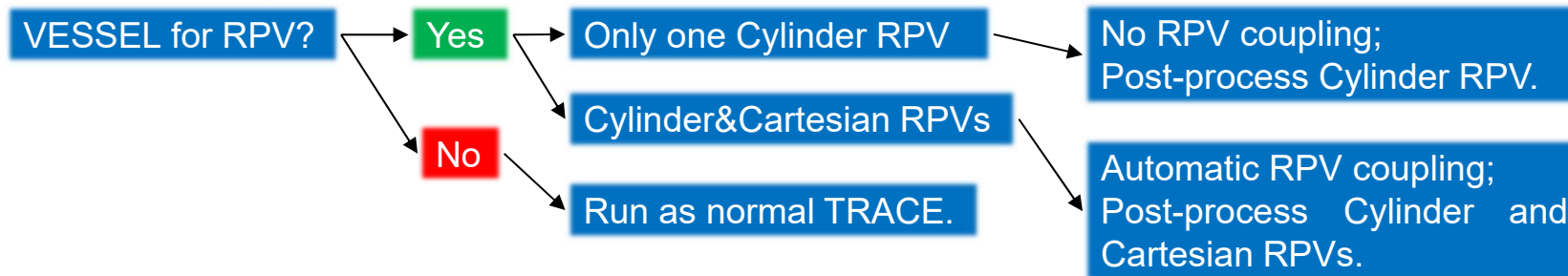
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# Additional features for the vessel coupling cases

## 1) Full automation of simulation for vessel involved cases.



## 2) Post-processing for the Cylinder Vessel and Cartesian Vessel

### Testing Case – AP1000 reactor

#### 2.1 Steady State calculation

Temperature (inlet 1, 2, 3, 4) = 553.7 K

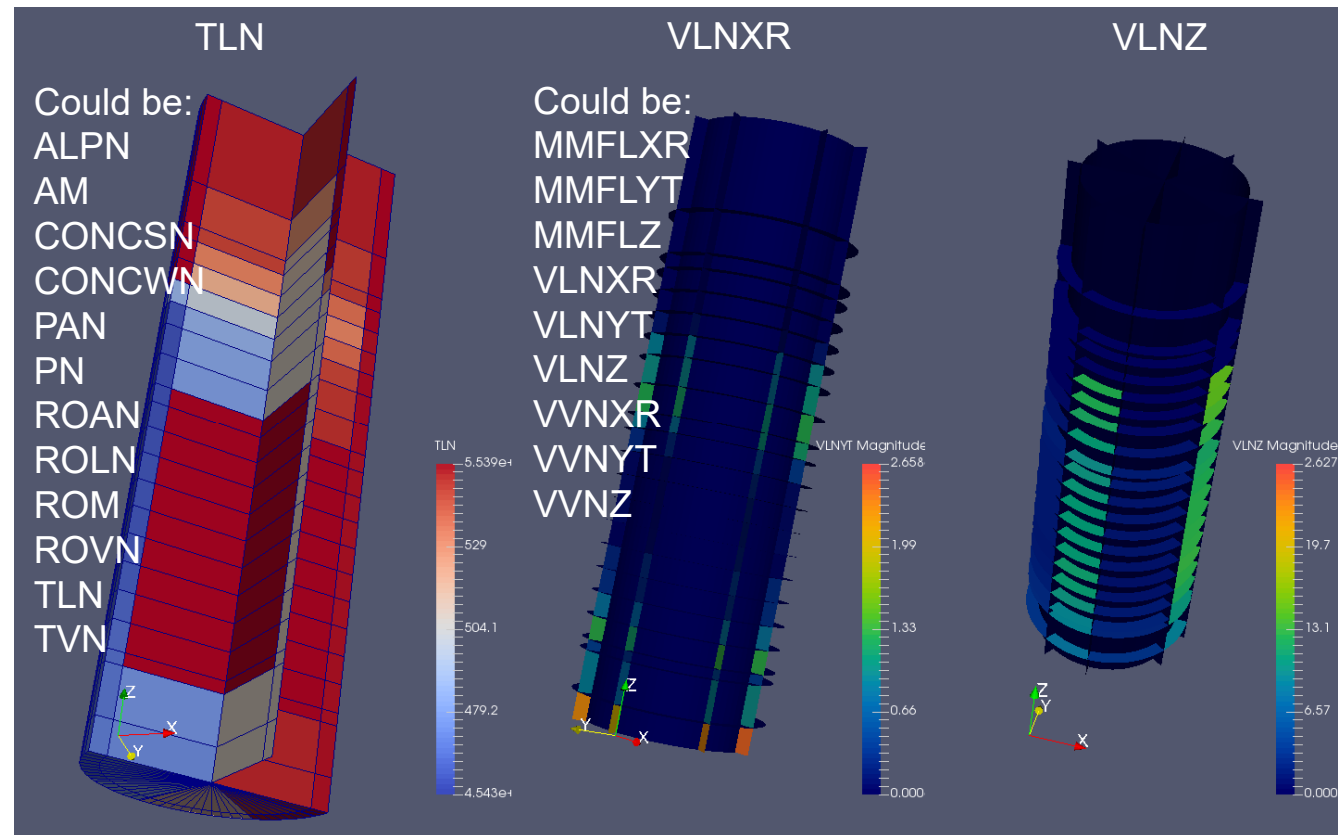
#### 2.2 Restart calculation

Temperature (inlet 1, 3) = 453.7 K

Temperature (inlet 2, 4) = 553.7 K

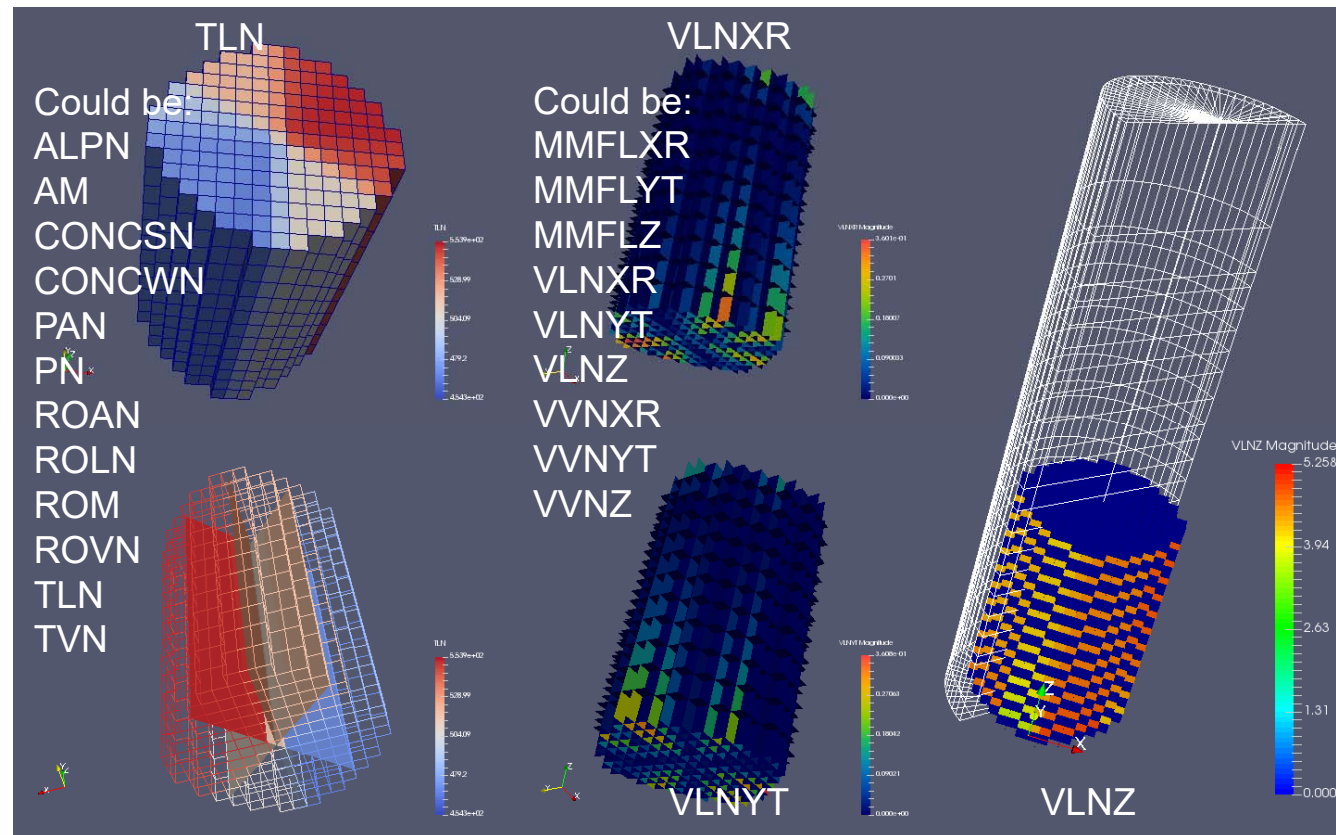
# Additional features for the vessel coupling cases

## 2) Post-processing for the Cylinder Vessel and Cartesian Vessel



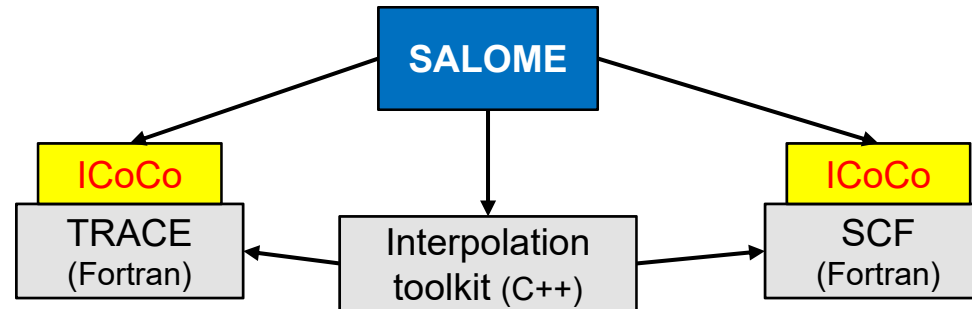
# Additional features for the vessel coupling cases

## 2) Post-processing for the Cylinder Vessel and Cartesian Vessel



# Summary

## 1) TRACE and SCF are coupled through ICoCo in SALOME.



## 2) The coupling of Cylinder and Cartesian Vessels is fully automated.

- Users only need to define the Vessels for vessel coupling cases, the inter-junctons between vessels will be automatically established and the flow area will be automatically calculated.
- Volumetric and face meshes are constructed for both vessels and various fields are stored in the meshes for post-processing.
- Users can decide to compile classic TRACE or TRACE with auto-coupling and post-processing functions by identify a compiling flag.

**Thank you for your attention.**