



# Coupling of a vertical-equilibrium model to a full-dimensional model

**Beatrix Becker**, Bernd Flemisch, Rainer Helmig

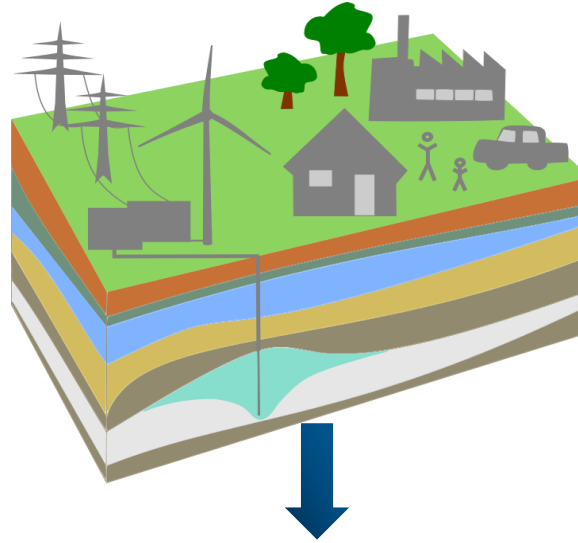
University of Stuttgart

In cooperation with Bo Guo and Mike Celia

Princeton University



## Subsurface energy storage



Mechanical

Compressed air  
energy storage

Chemical

Hydrogen/SNG  
storage

Thermal

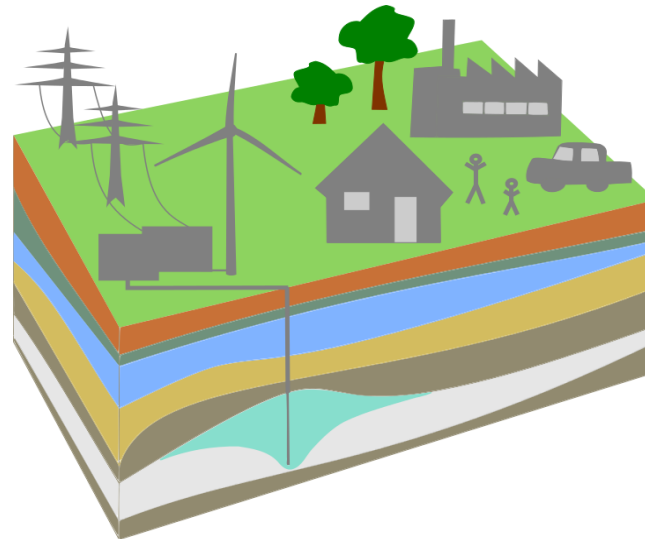
Hot/cold water  
storage



# Why modeling energy storage?

Leakage to surface

Influence groundwater flow pattern and quality



Leakage into groundwater

Mechanical stress

Groundwater contamination

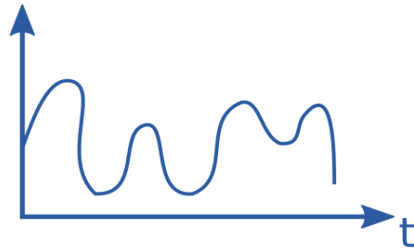
Brine displacement

Structural failure



# Modeling challenges

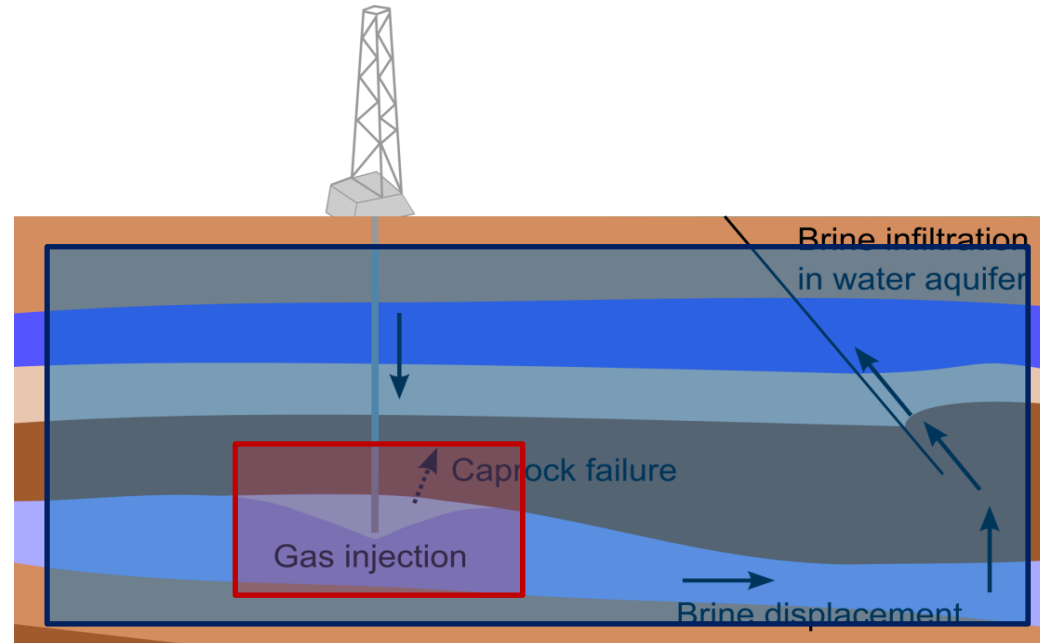
injection rate



Injection

Withdrawal

- Fluctuations:
  - daily
  - weekly
  - seasonally



Highly complex

Less complex

# Adaptive modeling: a vision

Multi dimensions

Multi physics

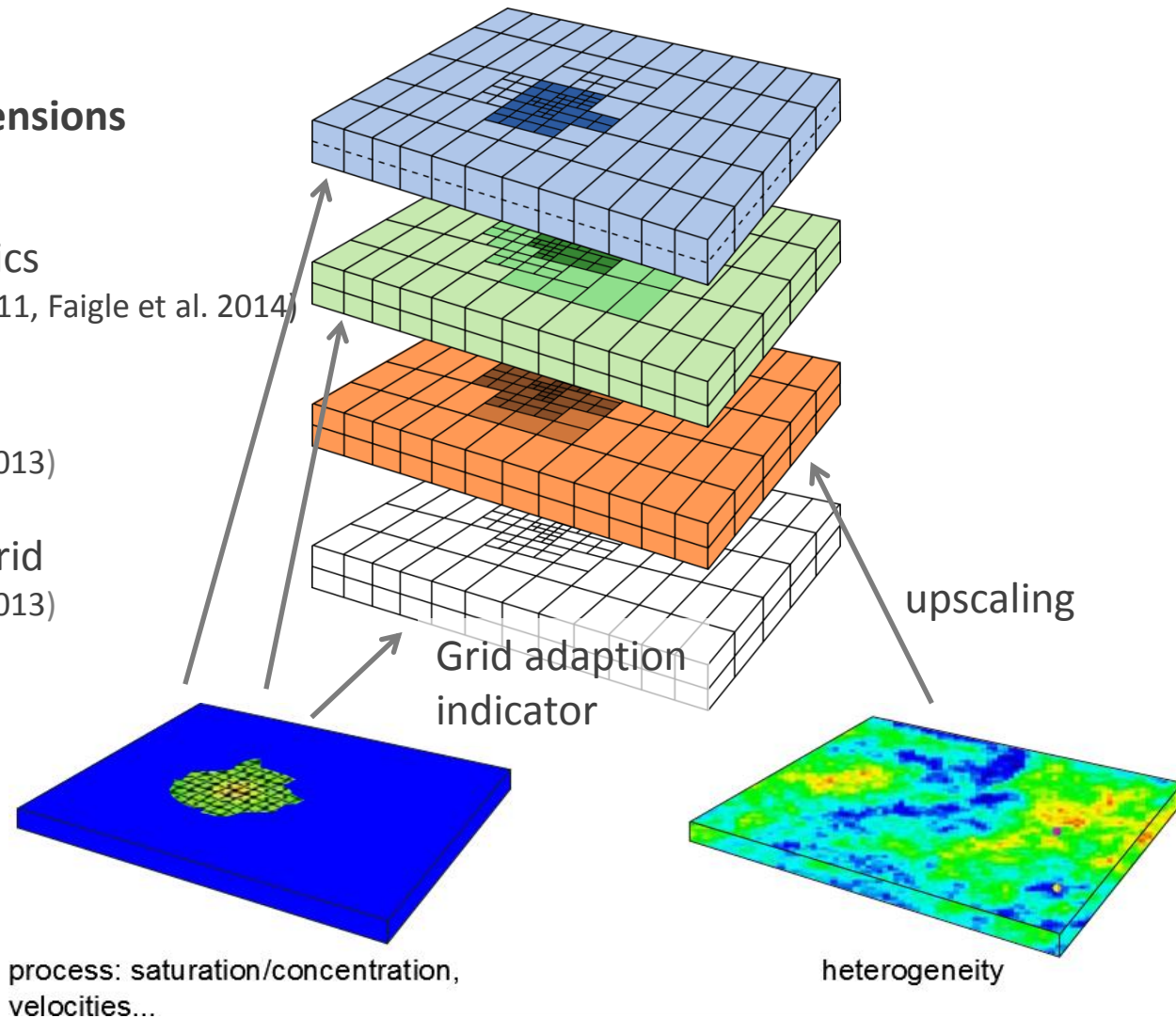
(Fritz et al. 2011, Faigle et al. 2014)

Multi scale

(Wolff et al. 2013)

Adaptive grid

(Wolff et al. 2013)

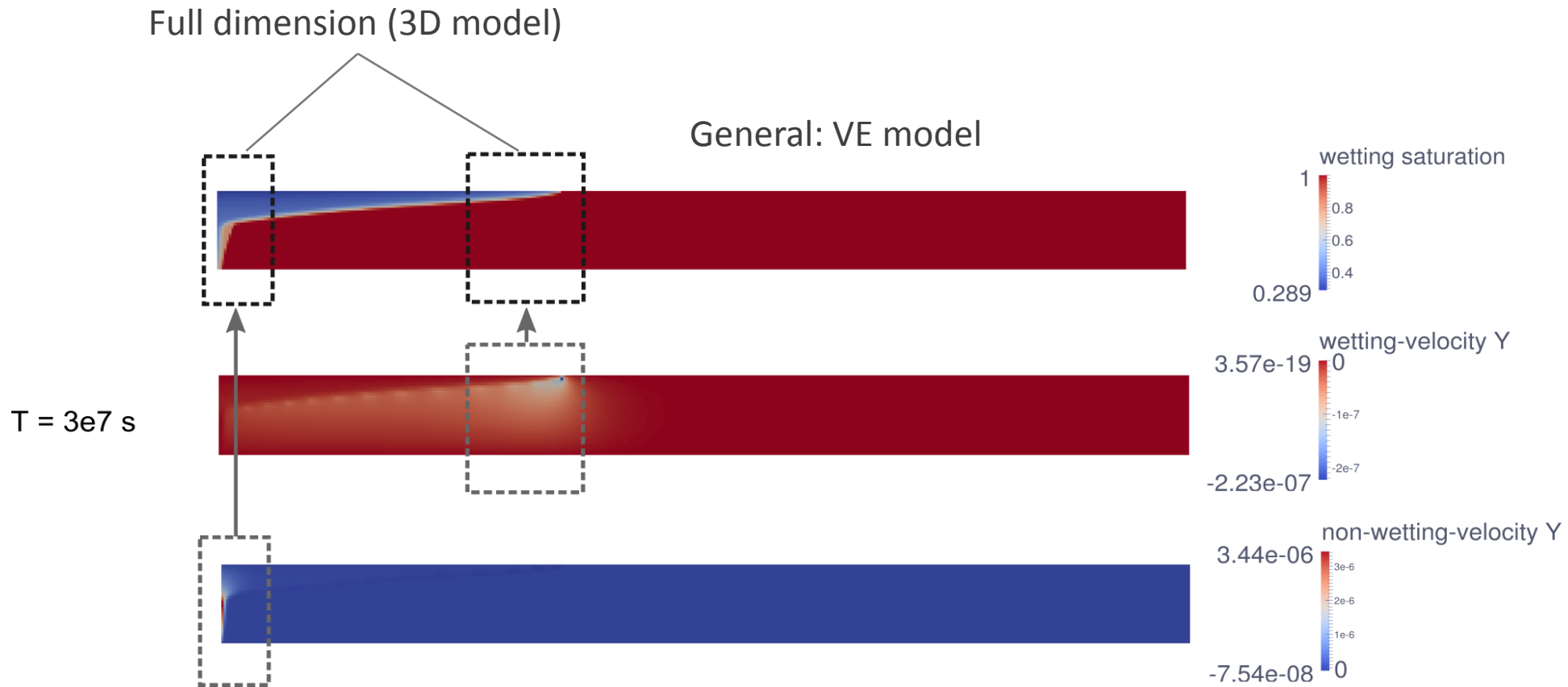


process: saturation/concentration,  
velocities...

heterogeneity

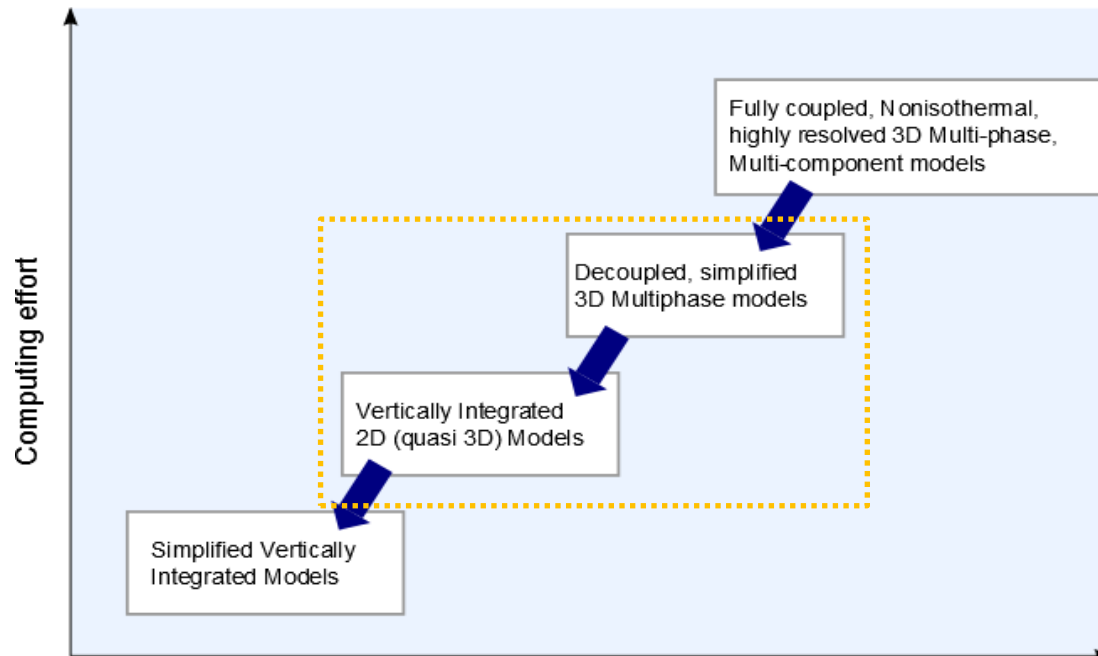


# Coupling of a VE to a 3D model





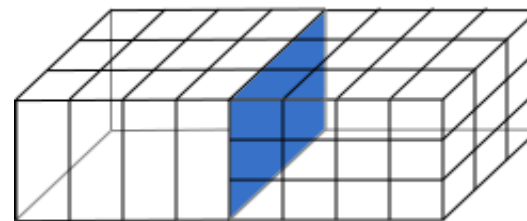
# Model complexity and coupling



(M. Celia)



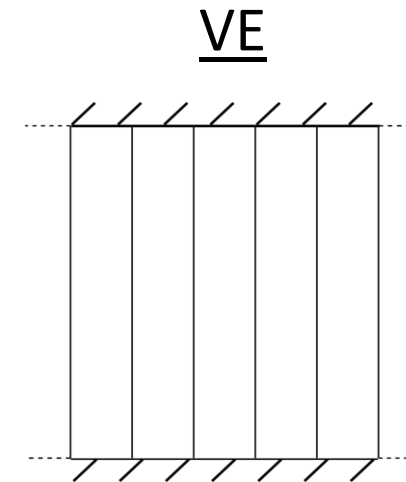
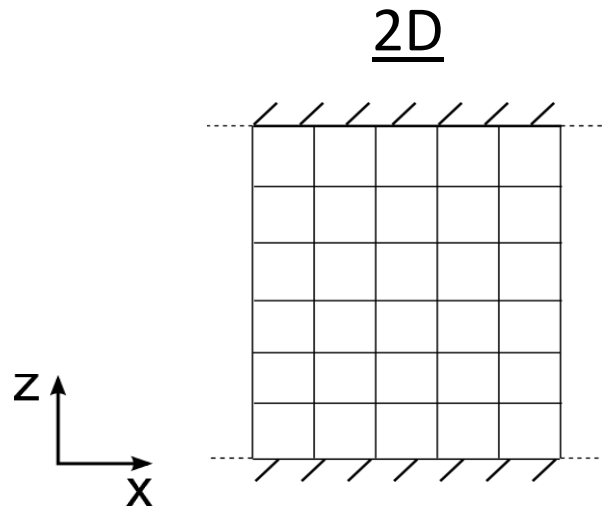
Coupling



2D

3D

## Governing equations



$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\rho_\alpha \phi S_\alpha) + \nabla \cdot (\rho_\alpha \mathbf{u}_\alpha) = \rho_\alpha \psi^\alpha$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\rho_\alpha \Phi S_\alpha) + \nabla \cdot (\rho_\alpha \mathbf{U}_\alpha) = \rho_\alpha \Psi^\alpha$$

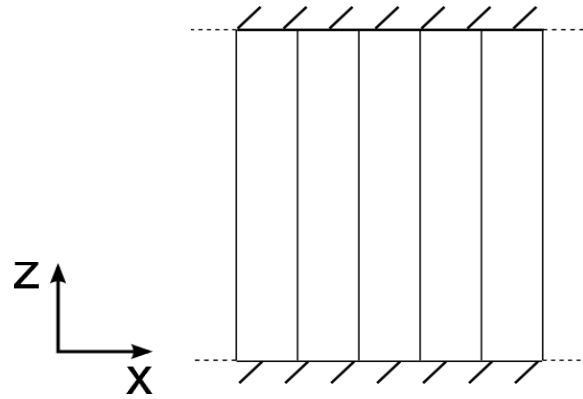
$$\mathbf{u}_\alpha = -\frac{k_{r,\alpha} \mathbf{k}}{\mu_\alpha} (\nabla p_\alpha - \rho_\alpha \mathbf{g})$$

$$\mathbf{U}_\alpha = -\mathbf{K} \Lambda_\alpha (\nabla_i \mathbf{P}_\alpha - \rho_\alpha \mathbf{G})$$

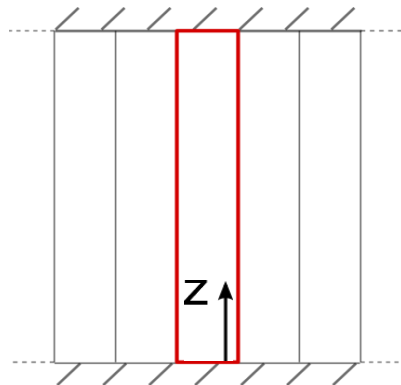
(Nordbotten & Celia, 2012)



# Reconstruction



↓ Static (Dupuit) reconstruction



$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\rho_\alpha \Phi S_\alpha) + \nabla \cdot (\rho_\alpha \mathbf{U}_\alpha) = \rho_\alpha \Psi^\alpha$$

$$\mathbf{U}_\alpha = -\mathbf{K} \Lambda_\alpha (\nabla_{||} P_\alpha - \rho_\alpha \mathbf{G})$$

↓  $P^{\text{cap}}(S_\alpha)$

$$\sum S_\alpha = 1$$

$$S_\alpha, P_\alpha$$

$$p_\alpha(z) = P_\alpha + \rho_\alpha (\mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{e}_z) z$$

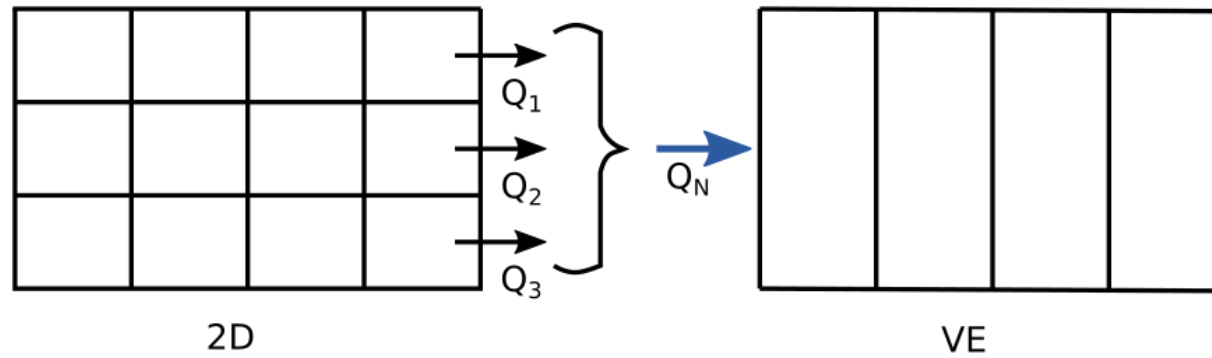
$$p_c(s_w)^{-1}$$

(Nordbotten & Celia, 2012)

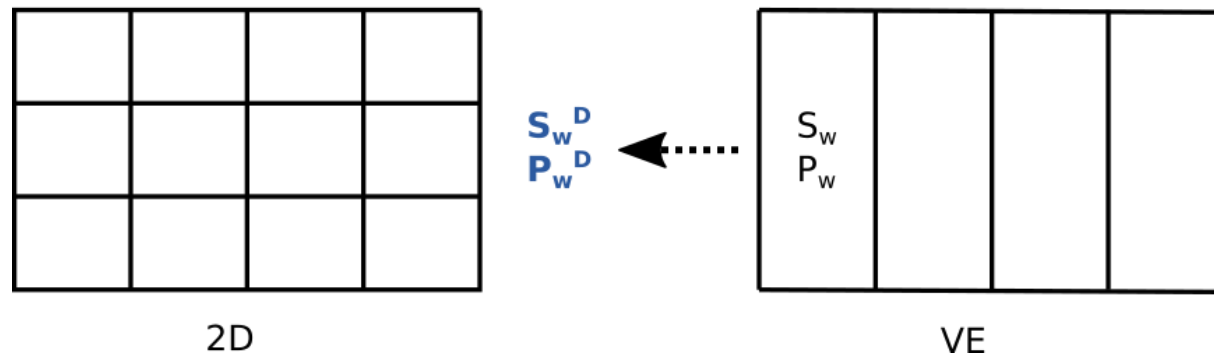


# Coupling boundary

## Neumann condition for VE-model

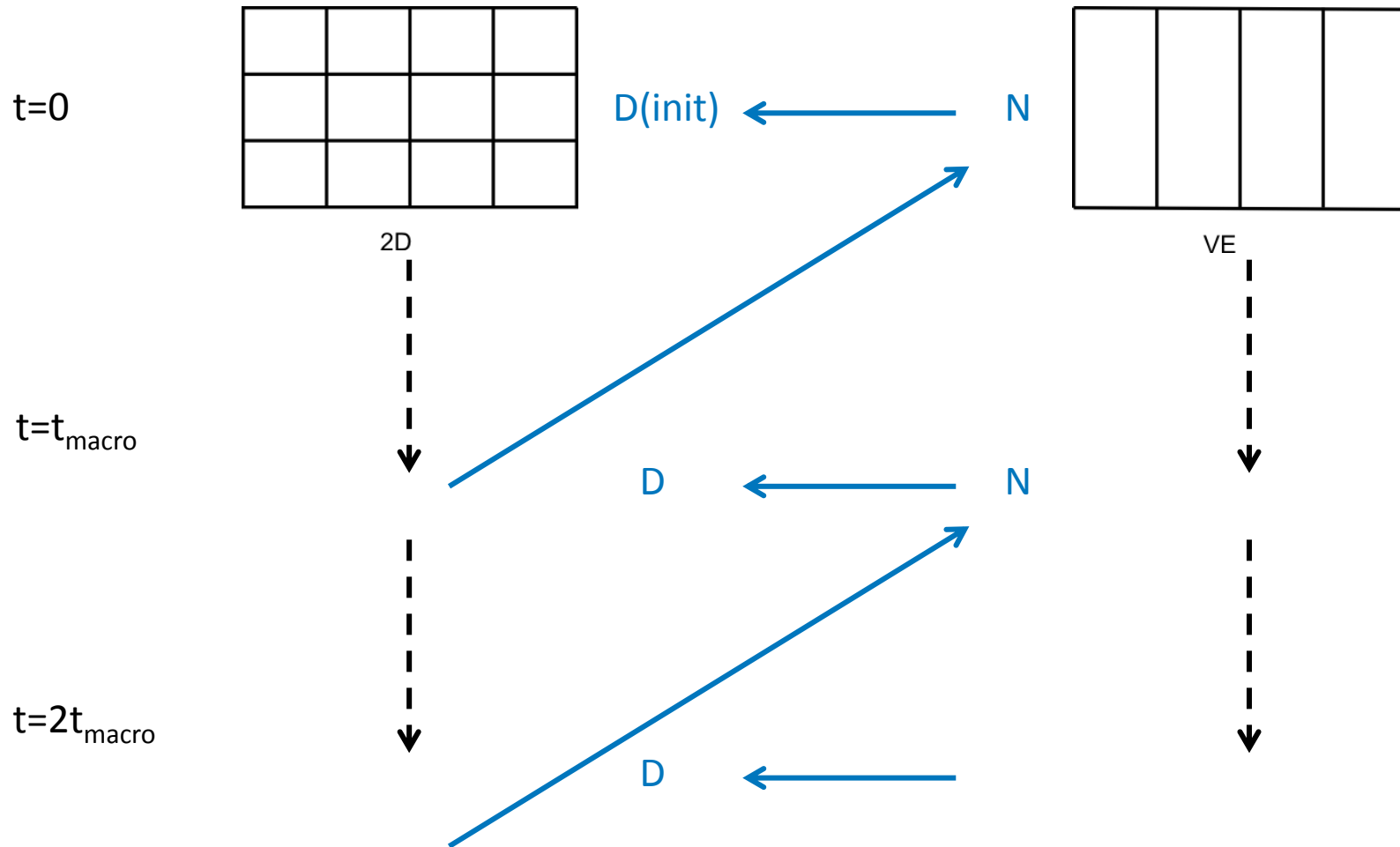


## Dirichlet condition for FullD-model





# Sequential coupling





## How to implement: modelcoupling

One coupling problem:

- `init()`
- `timeIntegration()`

Two sub-problems:

- Need to be able to run in episodes
- Need to be able to give boundary information to the other model
- Need to be able to receive boundary information from the other model



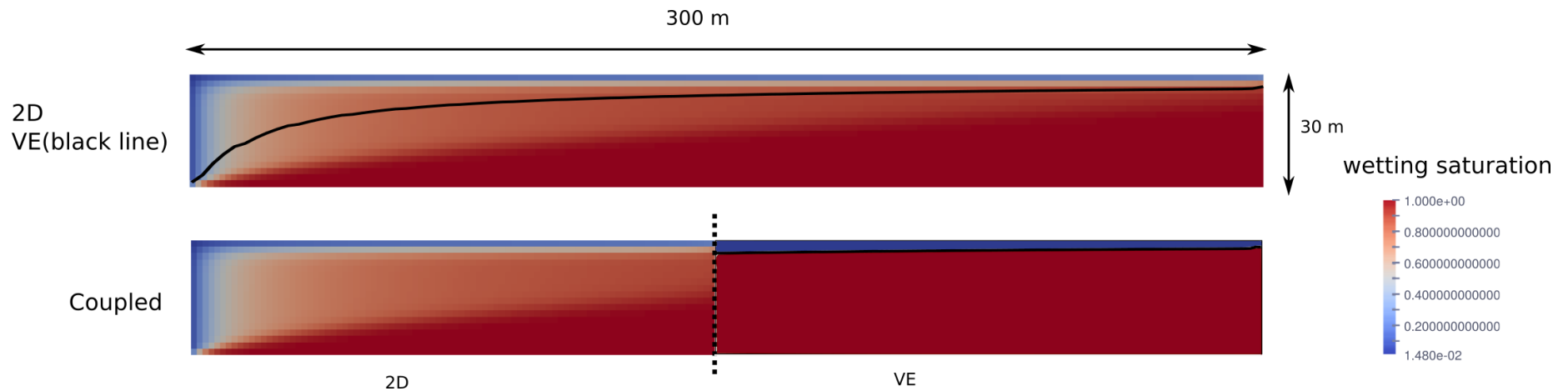
## The coupling model



## The sub-model



## Results: 2D and VE model vs. coupling model

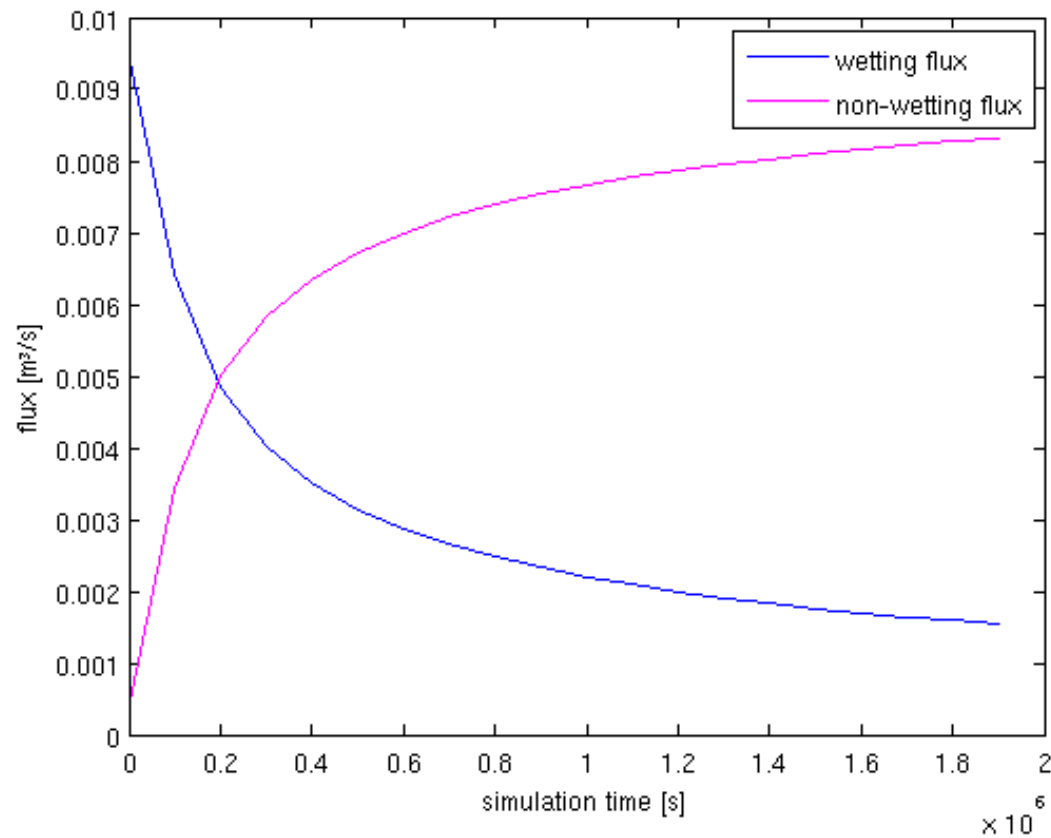


### CPU time:

- 2D model: 100%
- VE model: 3%
- Coupled model: 30%



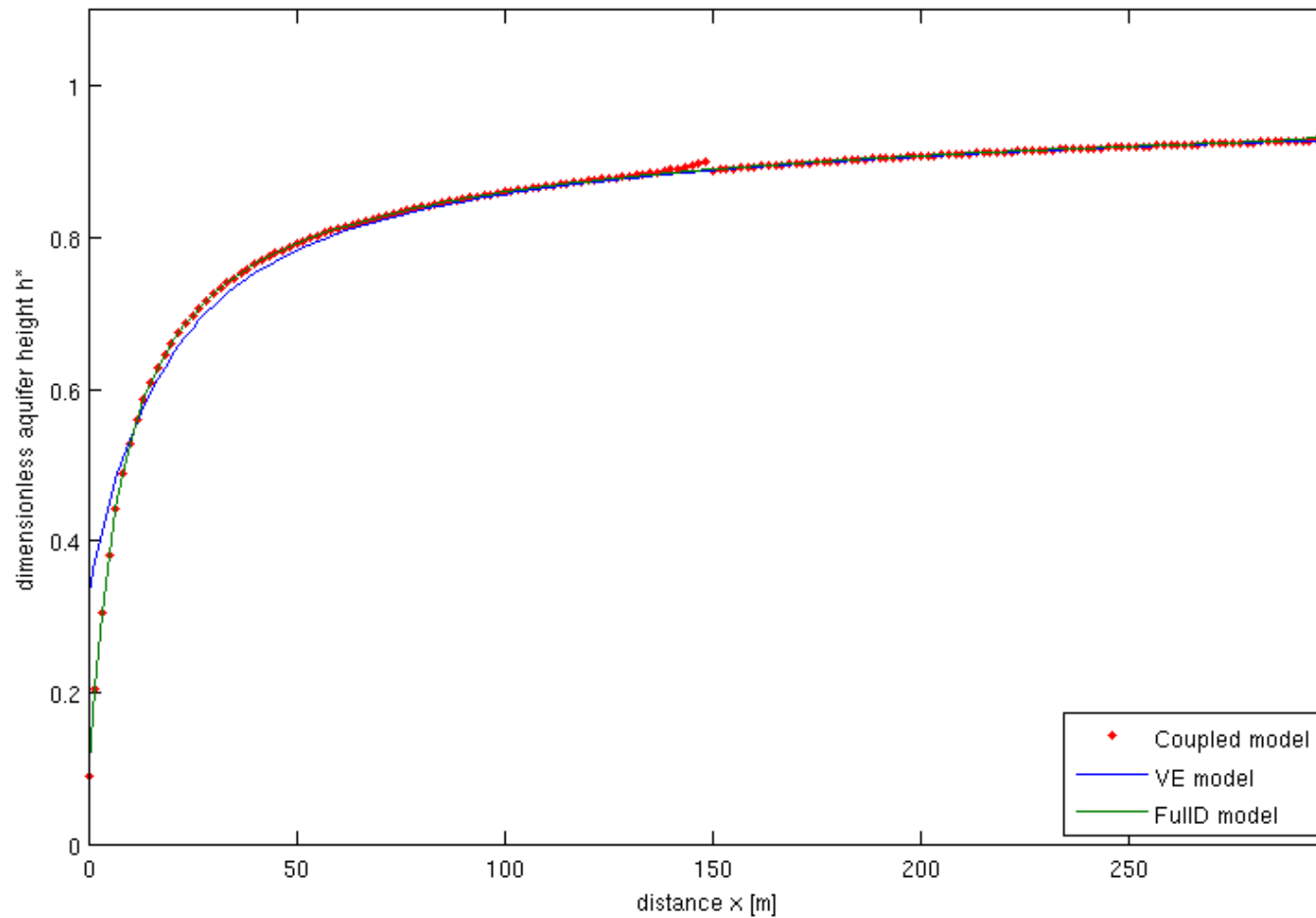
## Results: Flux at coupling boundary



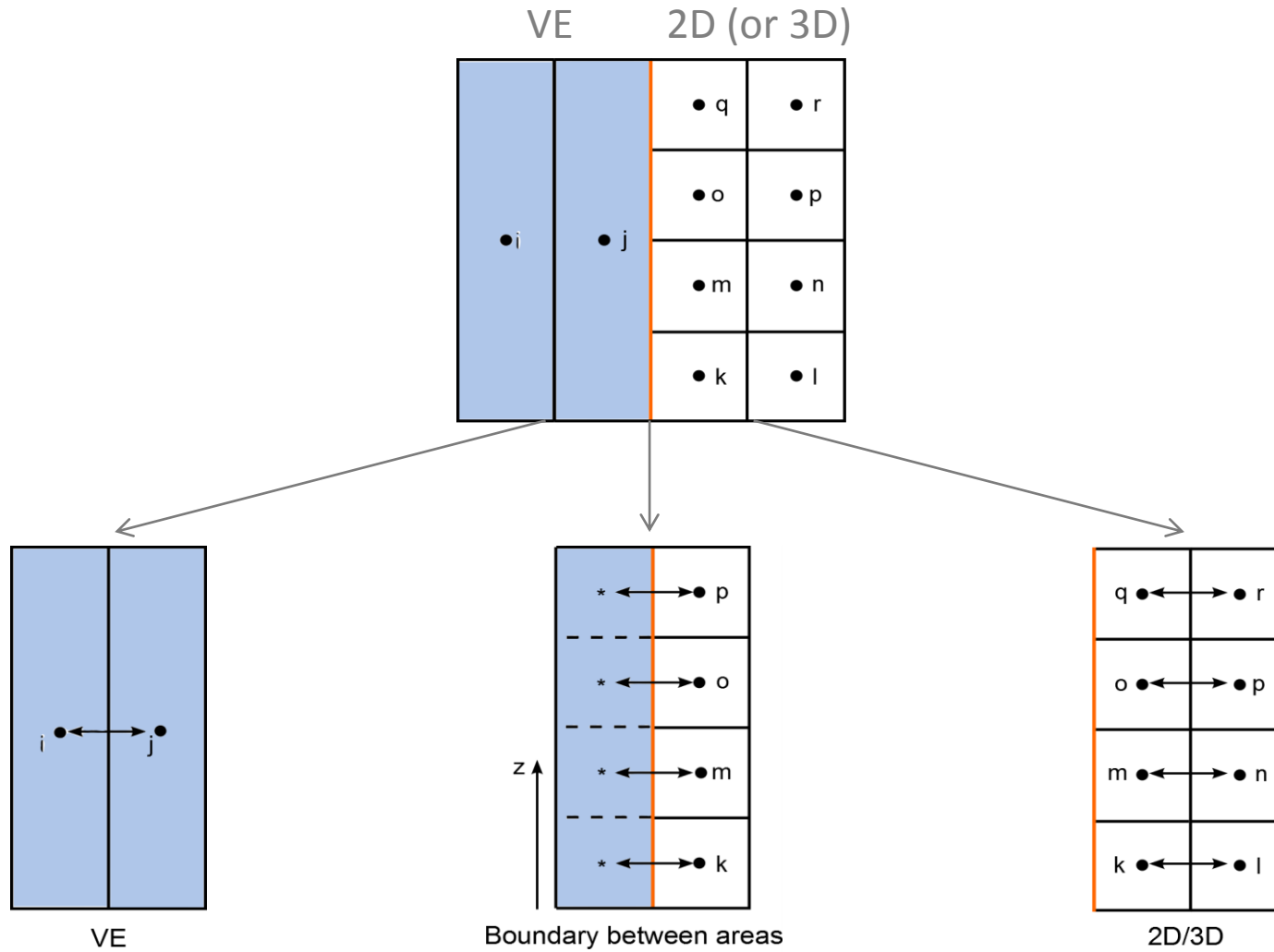




## Results: Vertically integrated saturation



# Outlook: Monolithic coupling concept



Boundary between areas

\* Dupuit reconstruction  
 of pressure:

$$p_{\alpha}(z) = P_{\alpha,j} + \rho_{\alpha}(\mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{e}_z)z$$



## Summary and outlook

### First steps:

- Coupling of VE model to Full-D model
- Model switching criteria → adaptive coupling
- In cooperation with Bo Guo and Mike Celia, Princeton University

Including heterogeneity

Including hysteresis (Papafotiou, et al. 2010)

Including multi-physics



## References

- Faigle, B., Helmig, R., Aavatsmark, I. & Flemisch, B. (2013). Efficient multi-physics modeling with adaptive grid-refinement using a MPFA method. *Computational Geoscience*, 1-12.
- Faigle, B., Elfeel, M. A., Helmig, R., Becker, B., Flemisch, B., & Geiger-Boschung, S. (2014). Multi-physics modeling of non-isothermal compositional flow on adaptive grids. *Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering*.
- Guo, B., Bandilla, K. W., Doster, F., Keilegavlen, E. and Celia, M. A. (2014). A vertically integrated model with vertical dynamics for CO<sub>2</sub> storage, *Water Resources Research*, 50.
- Nordbotten, J. M. & Celia, M. A. (2012). *Geological Storage of CO<sub>2</sub> - Modeling Approaches for Large-Scale Simulation*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Papafotiou, A., Sheta, H., & Helmig, R. (2010). Numerical modeling of two-phase hysteresis combined with an interface condition for heterogeneous porous media. *Computational Geosciences*, 14(2), 273-287.
- Wolff, M., Flemisch, B. & Helmig, R. (2013). An adaptive multi-scale approach for modeling two-phase flow in porous media including capillary pressure. *Water Resources Research*, 49(12), 8139–8159.