

# ENZO: An Adaptive Mesh Refinement Code for Astrophysics (Version 2.6)

DOI: [10.21105/joss.01636](https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.01636)

## Software

- [Review ↗](#)
- [Repository ↗](#)
- [Archive ↗](#)

Submitted: 02 August 2019

Published: 03 October 2019

## License

Authors of papers retain copyright and release the work under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License ([CC-BY](#)).

**Corey Brummel-Smith<sup>4</sup>, Greg Bryan<sup>1, 2</sup>, Iryna Butsky<sup>14</sup>, Lauren Corlies<sup>5, 6</sup>, Andrew Emerick<sup>1, 10</sup>, John Forbes<sup>19</sup>, Yusuke Fujimoto<sup>34</sup>, Nathan J. Goldbaum<sup>15</sup>, Philipp Grete<sup>3</sup>, Cameron B. Hummels<sup>8</sup>, Ji-hoon Kim<sup>18</sup>, Daegene Koh<sup>24, 25</sup>, Miao Li<sup>2</sup>, Yuan Li<sup>29</sup>, Xinyu Li<sup>1</sup>, Brian O'Shea<sup>3, 16</sup>, Molly S. Peebles<sup>5, 7</sup>, John A. Regan<sup>11</sup>, Munier Salem<sup>1</sup>, Wolfram Schmidt<sup>33</sup>, Christine M. Simpson<sup>21, 22</sup>, Britton D. Smith<sup>9</sup>, Jason Tumlinson<sup>5, 7</sup>, Matthew J. Turk<sup>15</sup>, John H. Wise<sup>4</sup>, Tom Abel<sup>24, 25</sup>, James Bordner<sup>20</sup>, Renyue Cen<sup>27</sup>, David C. Collins<sup>12</sup>, Brian Crosby<sup>3</sup>, Philipp Edelmann<sup>32</sup>, Oliver Hahn<sup>31</sup>, Robert Harkness<sup>20</sup>, Elizabeth Harper-Clark<sup>36</sup>, Shuo Kong<sup>37</sup>, Alexei G. Kritsuk<sup>20</sup>, Michael Kuhlen<sup>29</sup>, James Larrue<sup>37</sup>, Eve Lee<sup>37</sup>, Greg Meece<sup>3</sup>, Michael L. Norman<sup>20, 23</sup>, Jeffrey S. Oishi<sup>13</sup>, Pascal Paschos<sup>20</sup>, Carolyn Peruta<sup>3</sup>, Alex Razoumov<sup>35</sup>, Daniel R. Reynolds<sup>26</sup>, Devin Silvia<sup>16</sup>, Samuel W. Skillman<sup>28</sup>, Stephen Skory<sup>30</sup>, Geoffrey C So<sup>20</sup>, Elizabeth Tasker<sup>17</sup>, Rick Wagner<sup>20</sup>, Peng Wang<sup>24</sup>, Hao Xu<sup>20</sup>, and Fen Zhao<sup>24</sup>**

**1** Dept. of Astronomy, Columbia University **2** Center for Computational Astrophysics, Flatiron Institute **3** Dept. of Physics and Astronomy, Michigan State University **4** Center for Relativistic Astrophysics, School of Physics, Georgia Institute of Technology **5** Dept. of Physics and Astronomy, Johns Hopkins University **6** Large Synoptic Survey Telescope **7** Space Telescope Science Institute **8** California Institute of Technology **9** Royal Observatory, University of Edinburgh **10** American Museum of Natural History **11** Center for Astrophysics and Relativity, Dublin City University **12** Dept. of Physics, Florida State University **13** Physics and Astronomy, Bates College **14** Dept. of Astronomy, University of Washington in Seattle **15** School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign **16** Department of Computational Mathematics, Science, and Engineering, Michigan State University **17** Institute of Space and Astronautical Science, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency **18** Seoul National University, Korea **19** Center for Astrophysics, Harvard & Smithsonian **20** Center for Astrophysics and Space Sciences, University of California, San Diego **21** Enrico Fermi Institute, The University of Chicago **22** Department of Astronomy & Astrophysics, The University of Chicago **23** SDSC, University of California, San Diego **24** Kavli Institute for Particle Astrophysics and Cosmology, Stanford University **25** Department of Physics, Stanford University, Stanford **26** Department of Mathematics, Southern Methodist University **27** Department of Astrophysical Sciences, Princeton University **28** Descartes Labs **29** Theoretical Astrophysics Center, University of California Berkeley **30** OnSpot Data **31** Observatoire de la Côte d'Azur **32** Max-Planck-Institut für Astrophysik **33** Hamburg Observatory, University of Hamburg **34** RSAA, Australian National University **35** Dept. of Astronomy & Physics, Saint Mary's University, Halifax **36** Canadian Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics **37** No current affiliation

## Summary

Enzo (Enzo Developers, 2019a) is a block-structured adaptive mesh refinement code that is widely used to simulate astrophysical fluid flows (primarily, but not exclusively, cosmological structure formation, star formation, and turbulence). The code is a community project with dozens of users, and has contributed to hundreds of peer-reviewed publications in astrophysics, physics, and computer science. The code utilizes a Cartesian mesh can be run in one, two, or

three dimensions. It supports a wide variety of physics including (magneto)hydrodynamics, the self-gravity of fluids and particles, cosmological expansion, primordial gas chemistry, optically thin radiative plasma cooling, radiation transport, conduction, and models for star formation, stellar feedback, and the feedback from supermassive black holes.

Enzo's original method paper (Bryan et al., 2014) was published in 2014, and documented Version 2.3. This paper describes Enzo's most recent public release, Version 2.6 (released on August 2, 2019; see (Enzo Developers, 2019b)). Since Version 2.3, there have been several new features added to the code:

- Support for the Grackle chemistry and cooling library (Smith et al., 2017)
- Several new types of adaptive mesh refinement algorithms (Peeples et al., 2019)
- Cosmic ray pressure, diffusion, and injection (Salem & Bryan, 2014)
- A stochastic forcing module (for driven turbulence calculations) (Schmidt, Federrath, Hupp, Kern, & Niemeyer, 2009)
- A subgrid-scale turbulence modeling framework (Grete, Vlakov, Schmidt, & Schleicher, 2017)
- Kinetic supernova feedback (Simpson, Bryan, Hummels, & Ostriker, 2015)
- Magnetic supernova feedback (Butsky, Zrake, Kim, Yang, & Abel, 2017)
- An “active particle” framework for complex particle types (Meece, Voit, & O’Shea, 2017; Regan & Downes, 2018)
- Fuzzy dark matter evolution (Li, Hui, & Bryan, 2019)
- Many new code test problems
- Automated regression testing on GitHub with CircleCI

In addition, there are a much larger number of code enhancements and bug fixes. A complete listing of new features, enhancements, and bug fixes for all code releases can be found at (Enzo Developers, 2019b).

## Research with Enzo

Enzo is used extensively in the astrophysics research community. A few recent notable research areas that have benefited from the use of Enzo include:

- Exploration of galaxy formation in the early universe (O’Shea, Wise, Xu, & Norman, 2015; Smith, Wise, O’Shea, Norman, & Khochfar, 2015; Wise et al., 2019)
- Reionization of the universe (Norman, Chen, Wise, & Xu, 2018)
- High resolution examination of the circumgalactic medium around Milky Way-like galaxies (Peeples et al., 2019; Salem, Bryan, & Corlies, 2016)
- The impact of supermassive black holes on the regulation of galaxy cluster cores (Li et al., 2017; Meece et al., 2017)
- Astrophysical turbulence (Grete et al., 2017; Krtsuk, Flauger, & Ustyugov, 2018)
- Star formation, both in a primordial context and in a Milky Way-type environment (Burkhart, Stalpes, & Collins, 2017; Chiaki & Wise, 2019)
- The interstellar medium and its effect on galaxy behavior (Fujimoto, Bryan, Tasker, Habe, & Simpson, 2016; Goldbaum, Krumholz, & Forbes, 2016; M. Li et al., 2017)
- Supernova deflagration (Hristov, Collins, Hoeflich, Weatherford, & Diamond, 2018)

## Acknowledgments

The development of Enzo has been funded from a wide variety of sources. The Enzo method paper (Bryan et al., 2014) enumerates support through 2014. Since then, Enzo development has been funded by NASA grants NNX15AP39G (BWO), NNX17AG23G (JHW),

NNX17AF87G (DCC), NNX15AB19G (GB), HST-AR-13261.01-A (BWO), HST-AR-13895 (JHW), HST-AR-14315.001-A (BWO), HST-AR-14326 (JHW), HST-AR-15012 (LC), NSF grants AST-1333360 (JHW), AST-1615955 (GB), AST-1514700 (BWO), AST-1517908 (BWO, MSP, LC, JT), AST-1614333 (JHW), AST-1615848 (BDS, MLN), PHY-1430152 (BWO), OAC-1835213 (GB, MLN, BWO, JHW), ACI-1516003 (MLN), AST-1616026 (DCC), AAG AST-1715133 (DCC), OAC-1810074, NSF Graduate Research Fellowship DGE 16-44869 (AE), the Blue Waters Graduate Fellowship, which was supported by NSF grants No. OCI-0725070 and No. ACI-1238993 and the State of Illinois (IB, AE, FG), Michigan State University internal funding (BWO), the Los Alamos National Laboratory Institute for Geophysics and Planetary Physics (BWO), and the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Grant – ‘SMARTSTARS’ – grant number 699941 (JAR).

## References

- Bryan, G. L., Norman, M. L., O’Shea, B. W., Abel, T., Wise, J. H., Turk, M. J., Reynolds, D. R., et al. (2014). ENZO: An Adaptive Mesh Refinement Code for Astrophysics. *The Astrophysical Journal Supplements*, 211(2), 19. doi:[10.1088/0067-0049/211/2/19](https://doi.org/10.1088/0067-0049/211/2/19)
- Burkhart, B., Stalpes, K., & Collins, D. C. (2017). The Razor’s Edge of Collapse: The Transition Point from Lognormal to Power-Law Distributions in Molecular Clouds, 834(1), L1. doi:[10.3847/2041-8213/834/1/L1](https://doi.org/10.3847/2041-8213/834/1/L1)
- Butsky, I., Zrake, J., Kim, J.-h., Yang, H.-l., & Abel, T. (2017). Ab Initio Simulations of a Supernova-driven Galactic Dynamo in an Isolated Disk Galaxy, 843(2), 113. doi:[10.3847/1538-4357/aa799f](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/aa799f)
- Chiaki, G., & Wise, J. H. (2019). Seeding the second star: enrichment from population III, dust evolution, and cloud collapse, 482, 3933–3949. doi:[10.1093/mnras/sty2984](https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/sty2984)
- Enzo Developers. (2019a). Enzo github repository. Retrieved July 19, 2019, from <https://github.com/enzo-project/enzo-dev>
- Enzo Developers. (2019b). Enzo release notes. Retrieved July 19, 2019, from <https://enzo-project.org/ReleaseNotes.html>
- Fujimoto, Y., Bryan, G. L., Tasker, E. J., Habe, A., & Simpson, C. M. (2016). GMC evolution in a barred spiral galaxy with star formation and thermal feedback, 461(2), 1684–1700. doi:[10.1093/mnras/stw1461](https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stw1461)
- Goldbaum, N. J., Krumholz, M. R., & Forbes, J. C. (2016). Mass Transport and Turbulence in Gravitationally Unstable Disk Galaxies. II: The Effects of Star Formation Feedback, 827(1), 28. doi:[10.3847/0004-637X/827/1/28](https://doi.org/10.3847/0004-637X/827/1/28)
- Grete, P., Vlaykov, D. G., Schmidt, W., & Schleicher, D. R. G. (2017). Comparative statistics of selected subgrid-scale models in large-eddy simulations of decaying, supersonic magnetohydrodynamic turbulence, 95(3), 033206. doi:[10.1103/PhysRevE.95.033206](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevE.95.033206)
- Hristov, B., Collins, D. C., Hoeflich, P., Weatherford, C. A., & Diamond, T. R. (2018). Magnetohydrodynamical Effects on Nuclear Deflagration Fronts in Type Ia Supernovae, 858(1), 13. doi:[10.3847/1538-4357/aab7f2](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/aab7f2)
- Kritsuk, A. G., Flauger, R., & Ustyugov, S. D. (2018). Dust-Polarization Maps for Local Interstellar Turbulence, 121(2), 021104. doi:[10.1103/PhysRevLett.121.021104](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.121.021104)
- Li, M., Bryan, G. L., & Ostriker, J. P. (2017). Quantifying Supernovae-driven Multiphase Galactic Outflows, 841(2), 101. doi:[10.3847/1538-4357/aa7263](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/aa7263)
- Li, X., Hui, L., & Bryan, G. L. (2019). Numerical and perturbative computations of the fuzzy dark matter model, 99(6), 063509. doi:[10.1103/PhysRevD.99.063509](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.99.063509)

- Li, Y., Ruszkowski, M., & Bryan, G. L. (2017). AGN Heating in Simulated Cool-core Clusters, *847*(2), 106. doi:[10.3847/1538-4357/aa88c1](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/aa88c1)
- Meece, G. R., Voit, G. M., & O'Shea, B. W. (2017). Triggering and Delivery Algorithms for AGN Feedback, *841*(2), 133. doi:[10.3847/1538-4357/aa6fb1](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/aa6fb1)
- Norman, M. L., Chen, P., Wise, J. H., & Xu, H. (2018). Fully Coupled Simulation of Cosmic Reionization. III. Stochastic Early Reionization by the Smallest Galaxies, *867*(1), 27. doi:[10.3847/1538-4357/aae30b](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/aae30b)
- O'Shea, B. W., Wise, J. H., Xu, H., & Norman, M. L. (2015). Probing the Ultraviolet Luminosity Function of the Earliest Galaxies with the Renaissance Simulations, *807*(1), L12. doi:[10.1088/2041-8205/807/1/L12](https://doi.org/10.1088/2041-8205/807/1/L12)
- Peeples, M. S., Corlies, L., Tumlinson, J., O'Shea, B. W., Lehner, N., O'Meara, J. M., Howk, J. C., et al. (2019). Figuring Out Gas & Galaxies in Enzo (FOGGIE). I. Resolving Simulated Circumgalactic Absorption at  $2 \leq z \leq 2.5$ , *873*(2), 129. doi:[10.3847/1538-4357/ab0654](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/ab0654)
- Regan, J. A., & Downes, T. P. (2018). Rise of the first supermassive stars, *478*(4), 5037–5049. doi:[10.1093/mnras/sty1289](https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/sty1289)
- Salem, M., & Bryan, G. L. (2014). Cosmic ray driven outflows in global galaxy disc models, *437*(4), 3312–3330. doi:[10.1093/mnras/stt2121](https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stt2121)
- Salem, M., Bryan, G. L., & Corlies, L. (2016). Role of cosmic rays in the circumgalactic medium, *456*(1), 582–601. doi:[10.1093/mnras/stv2641](https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stv2641)
- Schmidt, W., Federrath, C., Hupp, M., Kern, S., & Niemeyer, J. C. (2009). Numerical simulations of compressively driven interstellar turbulence. I. Isothermal gas, *494*(1), 127–145. doi:[10.1051/0004-6361:200809967](https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361:200809967)
- Simpson, C. M., Bryan, G. L., Hummels, C., & Ostriker, J. P. (2015). Kinetic Energy from Supernova Feedback in High-resolution Galaxy Simulations, *809*(1), 69. doi:[10.1088/0004-637X/809/1/69](https://doi.org/10.1088/0004-637X/809/1/69)
- Smith, B. D., Bryan, G. L., Glover, S. C. O., Goldbaum, N. J., Turk, M. J., Regan, J., Wise, J. H., et al. (2017). GRACKLE: a chemistry and cooling library for astrophysics, *466*(2), 2217–2234. doi:[10.1093/mnras/stw3291](https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stw3291)
- Smith, B. D., Wise, J. H., O'Shea, B. W., Norman, M. L., & Khochfar, S. (2015). The first Population II stars formed in externally enriched mini-haloes, *452*(3), 2822–2836. doi:[10.1093/mnras/stv1509](https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stv1509)
- Wise, J. H., Regan, J. A., O'Shea, B. W., Norman, M. L., Downes, T. P., & Xu, H. (2019). Formation of massive black holes in rapidly growing pre-galactic gas clouds, *566*(7742), 85–88. doi:[10.1038/s41586-019-0873-4](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-019-0873-4)