

Title: Special Topics in Astrophysics - Numerical Hydrodynamics - Lecture 4

Speakers: Daniel Siegel

Collection: Special Topics in Astrophysics - Numerical Hydrodynamics

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CUBE – Towards an Optimal Scaling of Cosmological N -body Simulations

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Abstract— N -body simulations are essential tools in physical cosmology to understand the large-scale structure (LSS) formation of the universe. Large-scale simulations with high resolution are important for exploring the substructure of universe and for determining fundamental physical parameters like neutrino mass. However, traditional particle-mesh (PM) based algorithms use considerable amounts of memory, which limits the scalability of simulations. Therefore, we designed a two-level PM algorithm CUBE towards optimal performance in memory consumption reduction. By using the *fixed-point compression* technique, CUBE reduces the memory consumption per N -body particle to only 6 bytes, an order of magnitude lower than the traditional PM-based algorithms. We scaled CUBE to 512 nodes (20,480 cores) on an Intel Cascade Lake based supercomputer with $\approx 95\%$ weak-scaling efficiency. This scaling test was performed in Cosmo- π – a cosmological LSS simulation using ≈ 4.4 trillion particles, tracing the evolution of the universe over ≈ 13.7 billion years. To our knowledge, Cosmo- π is the largest completed cosmological N -body simulation. We believe CUBE has a huge potential to scale on exascale supercomputers for larger simulations.

Index Terms— N -body, particle-mesh method, large-scale sim-

A direct-summation algorithm is unaffordable for a large N because the computational complexity of such a **pairwise force (PP force) calculation is $O(N^2)$** . Many algorithms have been designed to reduce the complexity to $O(N \log N)$, such as the **particle-mesh (PM) or tree methods**, or even $O(N)$, such as the **fast multipole method**. Fortunately, cosmological N -body simulations rarely require accurate trajectories of individual particles, but rather just correct statistical distributions. In this scenario, the PM-based algorithms usually meet the accuracy requirements and have a potential to simulate with a very large N .

However, achieving the largest N with the PM-based algorithms is typically bound by memory capacity, instead of computing capacity. For example, TianNu [2], one of the world's largest N -body simulations, used the P³M algorithm [3] to complete an $N \approx 3 \times 10^{12}$ cosmological N -body simulation on the Tianhe-2 supercomputer. The simulation used



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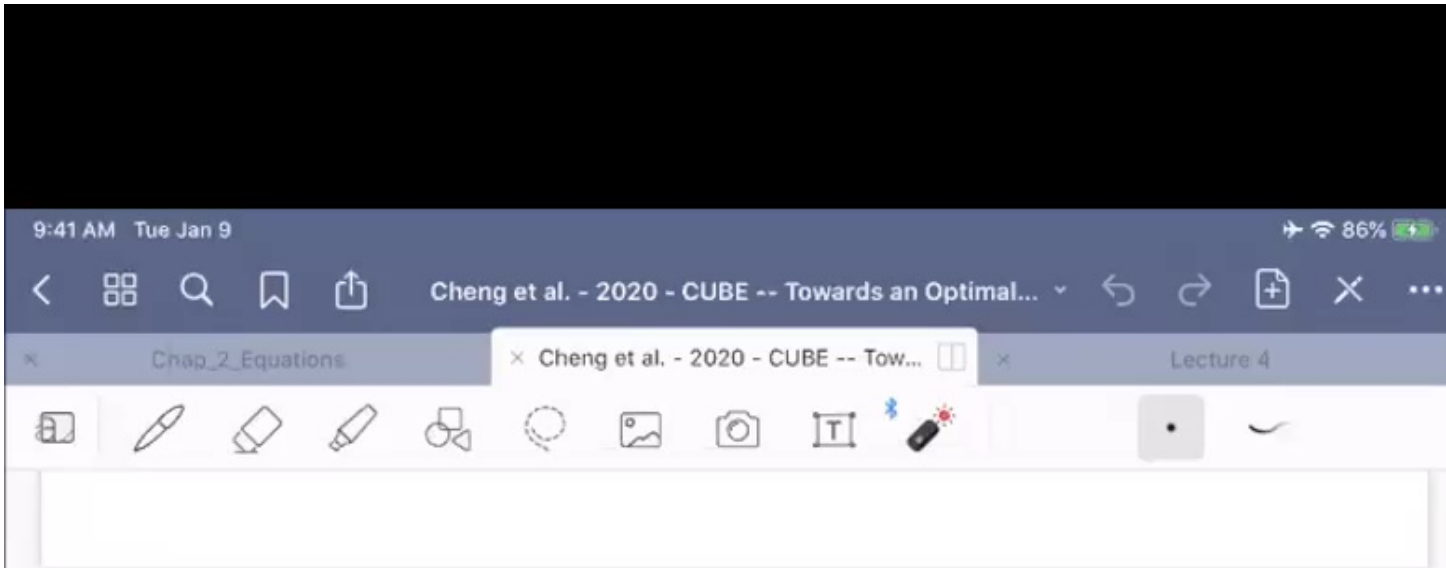


TABLE II: Comparison of the large-scale cosmological N -body simulations on supercomputers. For each simulation, we summarize the computational scale in CPU cores (c) or GPU cards (g), the problem scale in the particles number (N_p), redshift range (z_i, z_f), box size (L), method used to compute the force, and force resolution (ϵ). To the best of our knowledge, this work is the largest cosmological N -body simulation (4.39 trillion particles).

Simulations	Years	Codes	Supercomputers	Scale	$N_p (\times 10^{12})$	z_i, z_f	L (Gpc/h)	Force	ϵ (kpc/h)
Dark Sky [15]	2014	2HOT	Titan	12,288g ¹	1.074	93, 0	8	Tree	36.8
ν^2 GC [16]	2015	GreeM ³	K Computer	131,072c	0.55	127, 0	1.12	TreePM	4.27
Q Continuum [17]	2015	HACC	Titan	16,384g ¹	0.55	200, 0	0.923	P ³ M	2
TianNu [2]	2017	CUBEP ³ M	Tianhe-2	331,776c	2.97	5, 0	1.2	PM-PM-PP	13
Euclid Flagship [18]	2017	PKDGRAV3	Piz Daint	>4,000g ¹	2.0	49, 0	3	FMM	4.8
Outer Rim [19]	2019	HACC	MIRA	524,288c	1.074	200, 0	3	TreePM	2.84
Cosmo-π (This work)	2019	CUBE	π 2.0	20,480c	4.39	99, 0	3.2	PM-PM	195

1. These three simulations were carried out using NVIDIA Tesla K20X.

VI. IMPACT OF THE SOLUTION

We summarize the impact of the Cosmo- π simulation in three aspects. First, Cosmo- π is, to the best of our knowledge, the largest completed cosmological N -body simulation, evolving 4.39 trillion particles from redshift 99 to 0. Simulations such as Cosmo- π , as well as higher resolution ones using the PP force, will allow for improved LSS statistics and better understanding of halo assembly and substructure.

Second, we believe CUBE has a huge potential for large-scale cosmological simulations. Cosmo- π was able to evolve 4.39 trillion particles using just 20,480 cores, a substantial improvement in N enabled by CUBE's memory consumption optimization. In the next few years, exascale supercomputers

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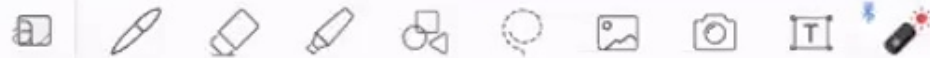
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Thermodynamic equilibrium:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = 0, \nabla f = 0, \vec{F} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{Df}{dt} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right]_{\text{coll}} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

2-particle collisions

$$\Rightarrow f = f_0(\vec{u}) = n \left(\frac{m}{2\pi k_B T} \right)^{3/2} e^{-\frac{m \vec{u}^2}{2k_B T}}$$

$$T \text{ given by } \overline{\epsilon} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{k_B}{m} \overline{\epsilon} T$$

Local thermodynamic equilibrium:

Allow for small gradients in ϵ, \vec{v}, ρ etc.

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distribution
(equilibrium state $t \rightarrow \infty$,
 $\frac{df}{dt} = 0$)

Thermodynamic equilibrium:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = 0, \nabla f = 0, \vec{F} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{Df}{dt} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right]_{\text{coll}} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

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3) Validity of continuous medium approximation

(i) $\lambda \ll dx \ll l_{sys}$

λ → mean free path
 dx → finite size of medium elements
 l_{sys} ← characteristic size of system

f should not vary over dx
 dN should be large enough for averaging to be meaningful

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dN should be large enough for averaging to be meaningful

(ii) interparticle forces must be short-range

$$l_{\text{force}} \ll dx$$

long range forces: \vec{F}

(iii) peculiar motion close to boundary of fluid elements dx leads to "diffusion"

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2.3 Viscosity: Navier Stokes Equations

↳ Modify momentum flux density:

$$\pi \rightarrow \Pi \equiv \pi - \sigma, \quad \Pi_{ij} = \rho v_i v_j + \rho \delta_{ij}$$

\uparrow
viscous
stress tensor
 $-\sigma_{ij}$
stress
tensor

- friction requires differences in velocity
 $\rightarrow \sigma$ should depend on $\frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j}$

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- friction requires differences in velocity
→ σ should depend on $\frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j}$
If gradients small → only consider 1st order derivatives,
 σ linear in derivatives

- $\sigma = 0$ when the fluid rotates rigidly
or $v \equiv \text{const.}$

↓ Landau & Lifshits Fluid Mechanics §15

$$\tau_{ij} = \eta \left(\frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial x_i} - \frac{2}{3} \frac{\partial v_k}{\partial x_k} \delta_{ij} \right) + \zeta \frac{\partial v_k}{\partial x_k} \delta_{ij}$$

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↑
shear
viscosity coefficient
(“dynamic viscosity
coefficient”)

η, ρ independent
of velocity
 ≥ 0

↑
bulk
viscosity
coefficient

bulk: energy transfer btw translational
and internal motions

→ vanishing for incompressible
fluids $\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = 0 \Rightarrow \nabla \cdot \vec{v} = 0$

shear: momentum diffusion through

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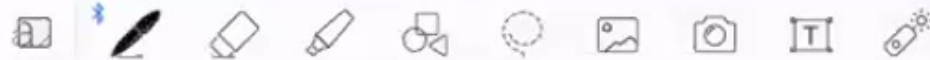


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With the replacement (1) we obtain

Navier Stokes equations

$$\left[\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\rho v_i) &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\rho v_i) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\rho v_i v_j - \sigma_{ij}) &= -\frac{\partial P}{\partial x_i} + \rho F_i \quad (i=1,2,3) \end{aligned} \right]$$

$$\left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} [(E+P)v_j - \sigma_{jk} v_k] = \rho v_j F_j \right]$$

Navier (1827)

Stokes (1845)

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$$\left. \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} [(E+p)v_j - \sigma_{jk} v_k] = \rho v_j F_j \right\}$$

Navier (1827)

Stokes (1845)

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$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} [(E+P)v_j - \sigma_{jk} v_k] = \rho v_j F_j$$

Navier (1827)

Stokes (1845)

Properties of viscous effects

- Viscous timescale:

Assume that viscous effects dominate
(for simplicity, incompressible fluid)

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_{ij} = \eta \left(\frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial x_i} \right)$$

• Magnitude of effects:

→ molecular viscosity (planar motions with bulk motion)

$$v_{mol} = \lambda \tilde{u}_{sys}$$

\uparrow mean free path
 \nwarrow characteristic velocity of planar motions

$$t_v = \frac{2 l_{sys}}{\lambda \tilde{u}_{sys}}$$

HI cloud $\sim 3 \times 10^{12}$ yr

protostellar disk $\sim 3 \times 10^{14}$ yr

$l_{sys} \sim 10^{19}$ cm
 $\lambda \sim 10^{14}$ cm
 $\tilde{u}_{sys} \sim 10^4 \frac{cm}{s}$



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→ turbulent viscosity (turbulent flows within bulk flow)

no random motions of eddies with characteristic l_t and velocity v_t

$$v = l_t v_t$$


Consider accretion disk:

$$l_t \sim h$$



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Consider accretion disk:

$$r_t \sim h$$

$$v_t \sim \alpha c_s$$

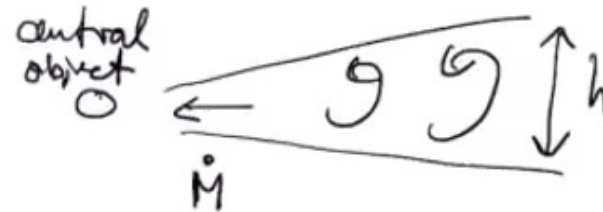
\uparrow \leftarrow sound speed
 $\in (0, 1)$

$$\Rightarrow v_t = \alpha c_s h$$

α : " α -viscosity" (Shakura & Sunyaev 1973)

→ source for such disk turbulence

3rd lecture 17 (1973)



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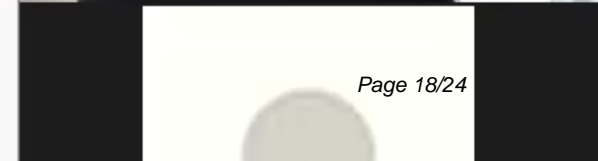
2.4 Magnetohydrodynamics

ionized medium (plasma) can conduct electric currents \Rightarrow interacts with EM fields

Simplest possible approximation

Magnetohydrodynamics (MHD):

(i) plasma treated as continuous medium,



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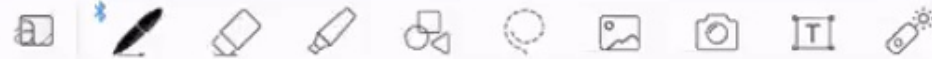
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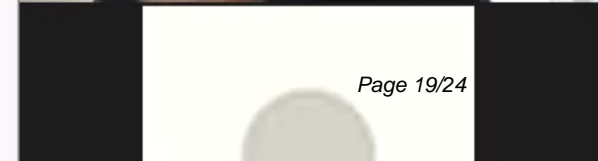
Simplest possible approximation

Magnetohydrodynamics (MHD):

(i) plasma treated as continuous medium,
described by Navier-Stokes in absence
of EM fields

(ii) positive & negative charges are locally
and globally balanced at all times
(\rightarrow fluid elements are neutral)

(iii) electrons are in statistical equilibrium
with ions (same T)



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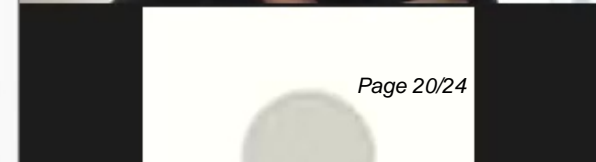
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- (ii) positive & negative charges are locally and globally balanced at all times
(\rightarrow fluid elements are neutral)
- (iii) electrons are in statistical equilibrium with ions (same T)
- (iv) interparticle collisions frequent enough for all effects of magnetic forces to be instantaneously transferred from e^- to ions & neutral particles (if present)



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Note: for currents to flow, e^- & ions cannot move at the same velocity.

However, the relative drift velocity is so small that it can be neglected (see below)

Vacuum Maxwell eqns:

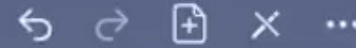
$$\text{I} \quad \nabla \cdot \vec{E} = 4\pi q \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{cgs} \\ \text{units} \end{array} \right)$$

$$\text{II} \quad \nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$$

$$\text{III} \quad \nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$



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Plasma approximation:

$$\text{III} \Rightarrow \frac{E_{\text{sys}}}{l_{\text{sys}}} \sim \frac{B_{\text{sys}}}{c t_{\text{sys}}} \quad , \quad v_{\text{sys}} \equiv \frac{r_{\text{sys}}}{t_{\text{sys}}}$$

$$\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial E_{\text{sys}}}{\partial t} \sim \frac{E_{\text{sys}}}{c t_{\text{sys}}} \sim \frac{B_{\text{sys}} l_{\text{sys}}}{c^2 t_{\text{sys}}^2} \sim \frac{v_{\text{sys}}^2}{c^2} |\nabla \times \vec{B}|$$

$$\ll |\nabla \times \vec{B}|$$

↑
assuming
non-relativistic
plasma

$$|\nabla \times \vec{B}| \approx \frac{B_{\text{sys}}}{l_{\text{sys}}} \approx \frac{4\pi}{c} q_e n_e |v_{\text{drift}}|$$

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decelerate, slower element accelerate

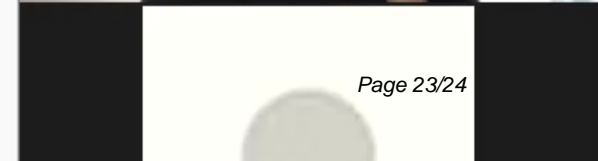
With the replacement (1) we obtain

Navier Stokes equations

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\rho v_i) = 0$$

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$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} [(E+p)v_j - \sigma_{jk} v_k] = \rho v_j F_j + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q}$$



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$$\text{III} \quad (\nabla \times \mathbf{E}) = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}$$

$$\text{IV} \quad \nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \left(\frac{4\pi}{c} \mathbf{j} \right) + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \approx \left(\frac{4\pi}{c} \mathbf{j} \right)$$

Plasma approximation:

$$\text{III} \Rightarrow \frac{E_{\text{sys}}}{l_{\text{sys}}} \sim \frac{B_{\text{sys}}}{c t_{\text{sys}}} \quad , \quad v_{\text{sys}} \equiv \frac{l_{\text{sys}}}{t_{\text{sys}}}$$

$$\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \sim \frac{E_{\text{sys}}}{c t_{\text{sys}}} \sim \frac{B_{\text{sys}} l_{\text{sys}}}{c^2 t_{\text{sys}}^2} \sim \frac{v_{\text{sys}}^2}{c^2} |\nabla \times \mathbf{B}|$$

$$\ll |\nabla \times \mathbf{B}|$$

assuming
non-relativistic
plasma

