

CS601: Software Development for Scientific Computing

Autumn 2023

Week15 : Particle Methods (N-Body
Problems), Misc Topics

Particle (Simulation) Methods

- N-Body Simulation – Problem

System of N-bodies (e.g. galaxies, stars, atoms, light rays etc.) interacting with each other continuously


- Problem:

- Compute force acting on a body due to all other bodies in the system
 - Determine position, velocity, at various times for each body

- Objective:

- Determine the (approximate) evolution of a system of bodies interacting with each other simultaneously

Particle (Simulation) Methods

- N-Body Simulation - Examples
 - Astrophysical simulation: E.g. each body is a star/galaxy
https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?title=File%3AGalaxy_collision.ogv
 - Graphics: E.g. each body is a ray of light emanating from the light source.
<https://www.fxguide.com/fxfeatured/brave-new-hair/>

 - Here each body is a point on a strand of hair

N-Body Simulation

- All-pairs Method
 - Naïve approach. Compute *all pair-wise interactions*
- Hierarchical Methods
 - Optimize. Reduce the number of pair-wise force calculations. How? dependence on ‘distant’ particle(s) can be *compressed*
 - Examples:
 - Barnes-Hut
 - Fast Multipole Method

N-Body Simulation


- Three fundamental simulation approaches
 - Particle-Particle (PP)
 - Particle-Mesh (PM)
 - Particle-Particle-Particle-Mesh (P3M)
- Hybrid approaches
 - Nested Grid Particle Scheme
 - Tree Codes
 - Tree Code Particle Mesh (TPM)
- Self Consistent Field (SCF), Smoothed-Particle Hydrodynamics (SPH), Symplectic etc.

Particle-Particle method

- Simplest. Adopts an all-pairs approach.
- State of the system at time t given by particle positions $x_i(t)$ and velocity $v_i(t)$ for $i=1$ to N

$$\{x_i(t), v_i(t); i = 1, N\}$$

– Steps:

- 
1. Compute forces
 2. Integrate equations of motion
 3. Update time counter
- Each iteration updates $x_i(t)$ and $v_i(t)$ to compute $x_i(t + \Delta t)$ and $v_i(t + \Delta t)$

Particle-Particle Method

1. Compute forces

```
//initialize forces
```

```
for i=1 to N
```

```
   $F_i = 0$ 
```

```
//Accumulate forces
```

```
for i=1 to N-1
```

```
  for j=i+1 to N
```

```
     $F_i = F_i + F_{ij}$  ←  $F_{ij}$  is the force on particle i due to particle j
```

```
     $F_j = F_j - F_{ij}$ 
```

Typically: $F_i = F_{\text{external}} + F_{\text{nearest_neighbor}} + F_{\text{N-Body}}$

Particle-Particle Method

2. Integrate equations of motion

for $i=1$ to N

$$v_i^{new} = v_i^{old} + \frac{F_i}{m_i} \Delta t \quad // \text{using } a=F/m \text{ and } v=u+at$$

$$x_i^{new} = x_i^{old} + v_i \Delta t$$

3. Update time counter

$$t^{new} = t^{old} + \Delta t$$

Particle-Particle Method

```
t=0
while(t<tfinal) {
  //initialize forces
  for i=1 to N
    Fi = 0
  //Accumulate forces
  for i=1 to N-1
    for j=i+1 to N
      F[i] = F[i] + Fij
      F[j] = F[j] - Fij
  //Integrate equations of motion
  for i=1 to N
     $v_i^{new} = v_i^{old} + \frac{F_i}{m_i} \Delta t$  //using a=F/m and v=u+at
     $x_i^{new} = x_i^{old} + v_i \Delta t$ 
  // Update time counter
  t = t + Δt
}
```

Particle-Particle Method

- Costs (CPU operations)?

```
t=0
while(t<tfinal) {
  //initialize forces
  for i=1 to N
    Fi = 0
  //Accumulate forces
  for i=1 to N-1
    for j=i+1 to N
      F[i] = F[i] + Fij
      F[j] = F[j] - Fij
  //Integrate equations of motion
  for i=1 to N
    vinew = viold +  $\frac{F_i}{m_i} \Delta t$  //using a=F/m and v=u+at
    xinew = xiold + vi Δt
  // Update time counter
  t = t + Δt
}
```

The diagram consists of three curly braces on the right side of the code, each with an arrow pointing to the right. The first brace groups the 'for i=1 to N' loop and the 'F_i = 0' assignment. The second brace groups the nested 'for i=1 to N-1' and 'for j=i+1 to N' loops. The third brace groups the 'for i=1 to N' loop containing the velocity and position updates, and the 't = t + Δt' assignment.

Particle-Particle Method

- Experimental results (then):
 - Intel Delta = 1992 supercomputer, 512 Intel i860s
 - 17 million particles, 600 time steps, 24 hours elapsed time

M. Warren and J. Salmon

Gordon Bell Prize at Supercomputing 1992

 - Sustained 5.2 GigaFlops = 44K Flops/particle/time step
 - 1% accuracy
 - *Direct method (17 Flops/particle/time step) at 5.2 Gflops would have taken 18 years, 6570 times longer*

Particle-Particle Method

- Experimental results (now):

Vortex particle simulation of turbulence

- Cluster of 256 NVIDIA GeForce 8800 GPUs
- 16.8 million particles
 - T. Hamada, R. Yokota, K. Nitadori, T. Narumi, K. Yasuki et al
 - *Gordon Bell Prize for Price/Performance at Supercomputing 2009*
- Sustained 20 Teraflops, or \$8/Gigaflop

Particle-Particle (PP) Method

- Discussion
 - Simple/trivial to program
 - High computational cost
 - Useful when number of particles are small (few thousands) and
 - We are interested in close-range dynamics when the particles in the range contribute *significantly* to forces
 - Constant time step must be replaced with variable time steps and numerical integration schemes for close-range interactions

N-Body Simulation

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Tree Codes

$$F_i = F_{\text{external}} + F_{\text{nearest_neighbor}} + F_{\text{N-Body}}$$

- F_{external} can be computed for each body independently. $O(N)$
- $F_{\text{nearest_neighbor}}$ involve computations corresponding to few nearest neighbors. $O(N)$
- $F_{\text{N-Body}}$ require all-to-all computations. Most expensive. $O(N^2)$ if computed using all-pairs approach.

for(i = 1 to N)

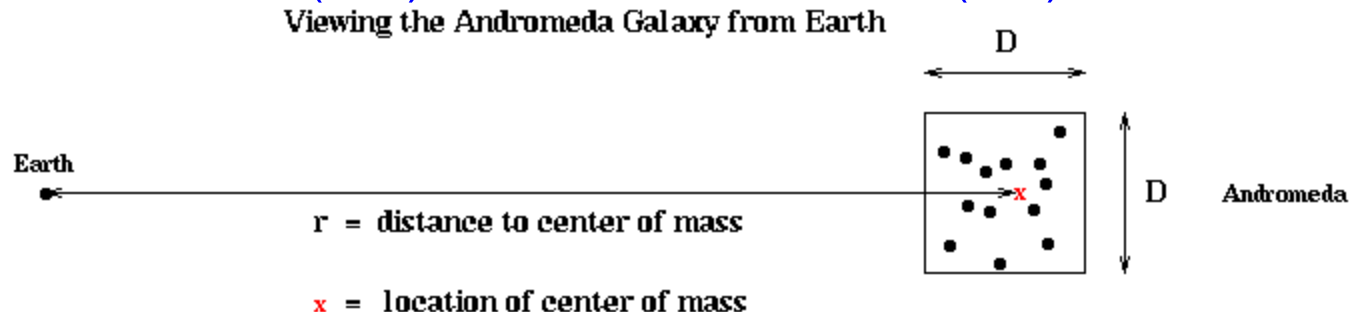
$$F_i = \sum_{j \neq i} F_{ij} \quad F_{ij} = \text{force on } i \text{ from } j$$

$$F_{ij} = c \cdot v / \|v\|^3 \text{ in 3D, } F_{ij} = c \cdot v / \|v\|^2 \text{ in 2D}$$

v = vector from particle i to particle j , $\|v\|$ = length of v , c = product of masses or charges

Tree Codes: Divide-Conquer Approach

- Consider computing force on earth due to all celestial bodies
 - Look at the night sky. Number of terms in $\sum_{i \neq j} F_{ij}$ is greater than the number of visible stars
 - One “star” could really be the Andromeda galaxy, which contains billions of real stars. *Seems like a lot more work than we thought ...*
 - Idea: Ok to approximate all stars in Andromeda by a single point at its center of mass (CM) with same total mass (TM)



- Require that D/r be “small enough” (D = size of box containing Andromeda , r = distance of CM to Earth).

Idea is not new. Newton approximated earth and falling apple by CM

Tree Codes: Divide-Conquer Approach

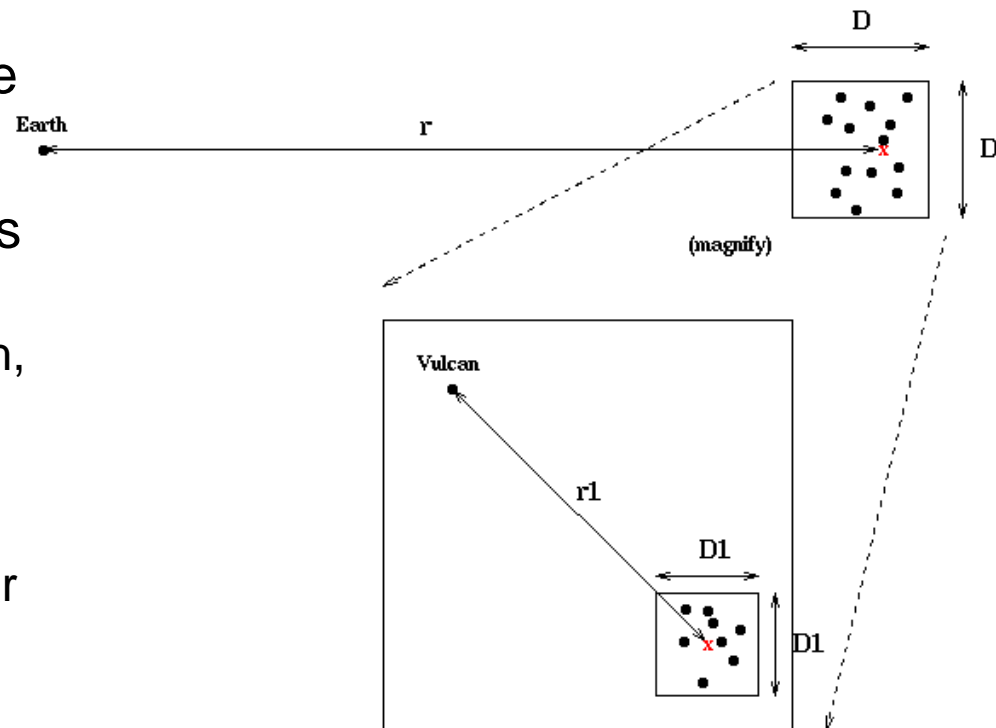
- New idea: recursively divide the box.

- If you are in Andromeda, Milky Way (the galaxy we are part of) could appear like a white dot. So, can be approximated by a point mass.

- Within Andromeda, picture repeats itself

- As long as $D1/r1$ is small enough, stars inside smaller box can be replaced by their CM to compute the force on Vulcan
- If you are on Vulcan, another solar system in Andromeda can be a white dot.
- Boxes nest in boxes recursively

Replacing Clusters by their Centers of Mass Recursively



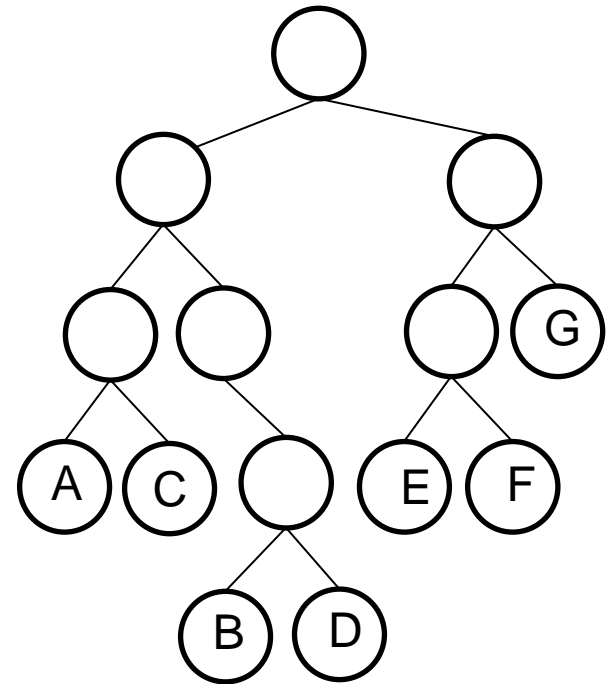
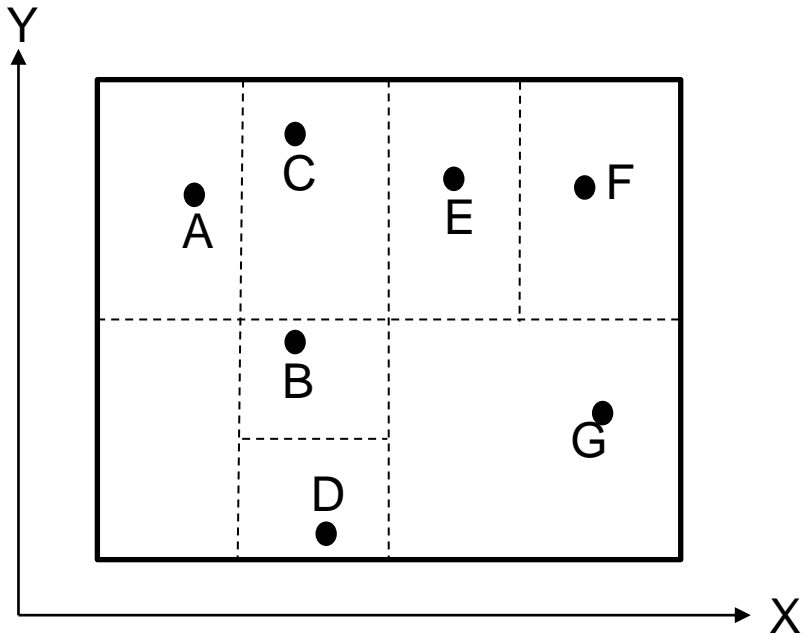
Tree Codes: Divide-Conquer Approach

- Data structures needed:
 - Quad-trees
 - Octrees

Background – metric trees

e.g. K-dimensional (kd-), Vantage Point (vp-), quad-trees, octrees, ball-trees

2-dimensional space of points Binary kd-tree, 1 point /leaf cell



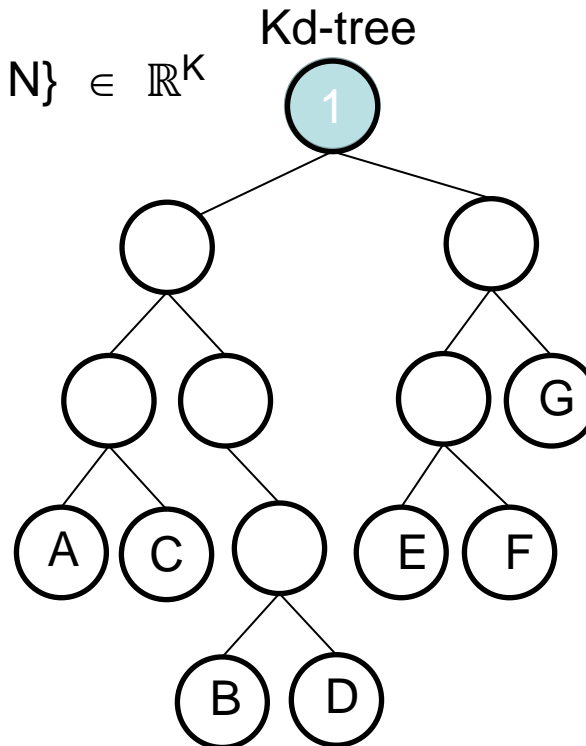
Background - metric trees

Typical use: traverse the tree (often repeatedly), truncate the traversal at some intermediate node if a domain-specific criteria is not met. E.g. Does the distance

Input points = $\{1, 2, \dots, N\} \in \mathbb{R}^K$

Cost ???

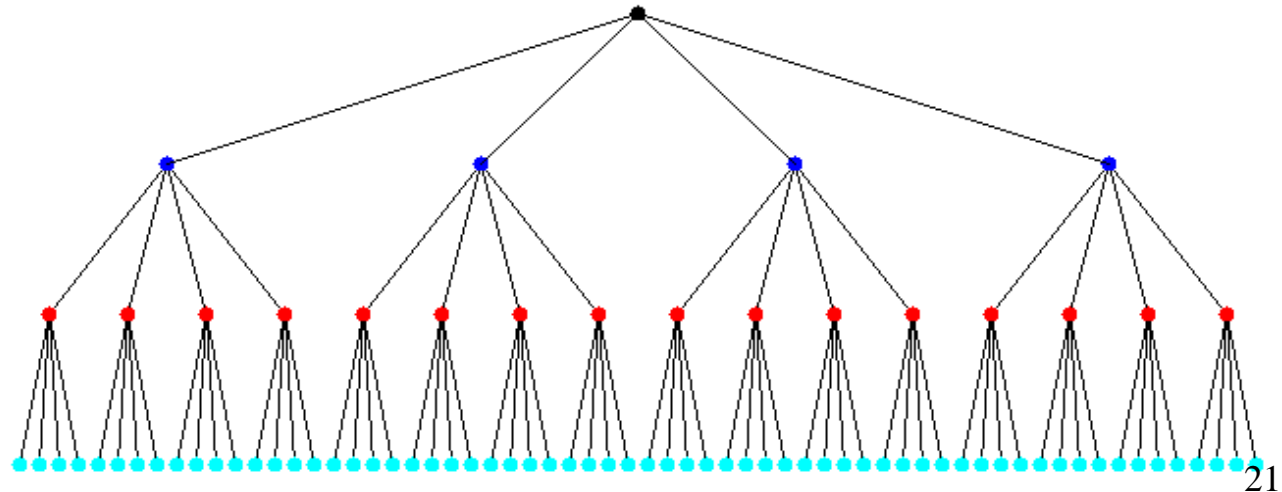
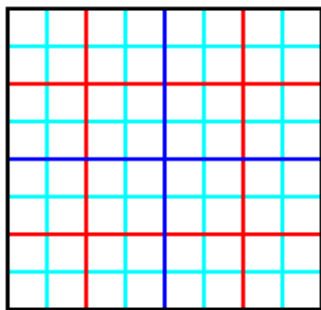
E.g. Does the distance from CM to me $< D/r$?



Quad Tree

- Data structure to subdivide the plane
 - Nodes can contain coordinates of center of box, side length.
 - Eventually also coordinates of CM, total mass, etc.
- In a **complete** quad tree, each non-leaf node has 4 children

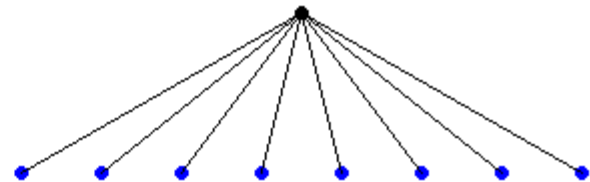
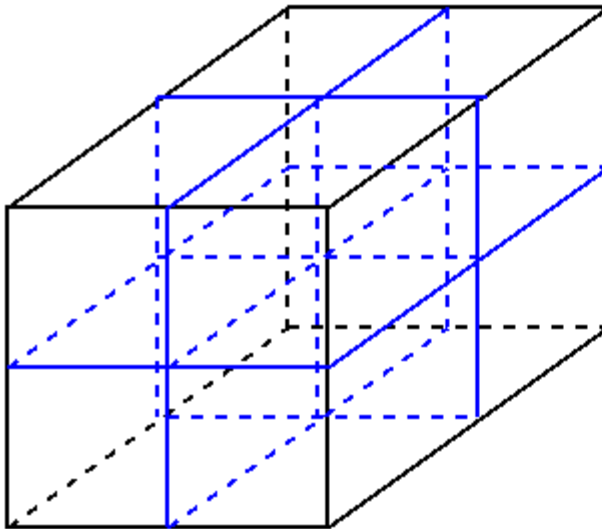
A Complete Quadtree with 4 Levels



Octree or Oct Tree

- Similar data structure for subdividing 3D space

2 Levels of an Octree

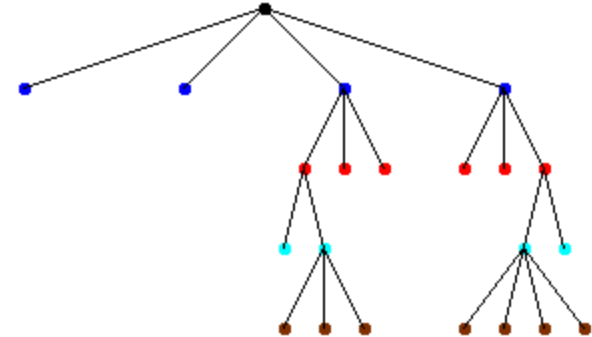
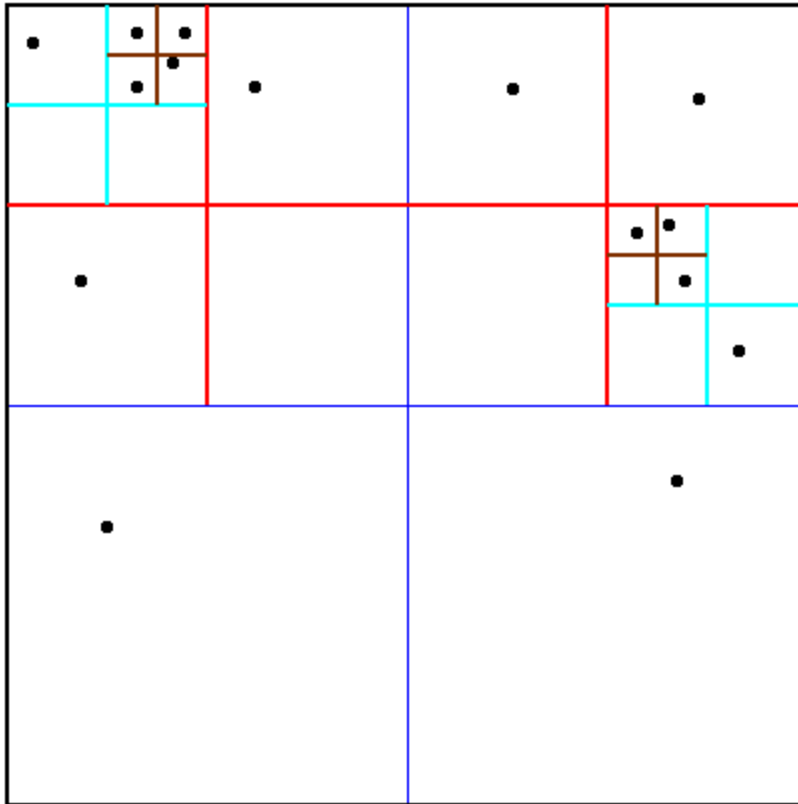


Using Quad Tree and Octree

- Begin by constructing a tree to hold all the particles
 - Interesting cases have nonuniformly distributed particles
 - In a complete tree most nodes would be empty, a waste of space and time
 - **Adaptive** Quad (Oct) Tree only subdivides space where particles are located
- For each particle, traverse the tree to compute force on it

Using Quad Tree and Octree

Adaptive quadtree where no square contains more than 1 particle



Child nodes enumerated counterclockwise from SW corner, empty ones excluded

- In practice, have $q > 1$ particles/square; tuning parameter (code to build data structure on hidden slide)