

# A FAST introduction to The Fast Multipole Method

*A FAST ALGORITHM FOR PARTICLE SIMULATIONS*

Authors: GREENGARD L, ROKHLIN V, Journal: JCP, and  
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# An intro to N-Body problem

Let's recall the Newton's law of universal gravitation for 2 point masses

$$\mathbf{F}_{1,2} = G \frac{m_1 m_2 (\mathbf{x}_2 - \mathbf{x}_1)}{\|\mathbf{x}_2 - \mathbf{x}_1\|^3}. \quad (1)$$

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or

$$m_j \ddot{\mathbf{q}}_j = \sum_{k \neq j} \mathbf{F}_{k,j} = \gamma \sum_{k \neq j} \frac{m_j m_k (\mathbf{q}_k - \mathbf{q}_j)}{|\mathbf{q}_k - \mathbf{q}_j|^3}, \quad j = 1 \dots N. \quad (3)$$

# Now, let's go to FMM

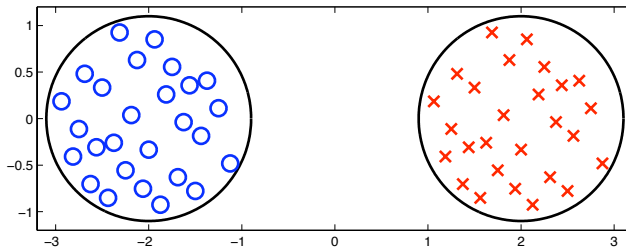


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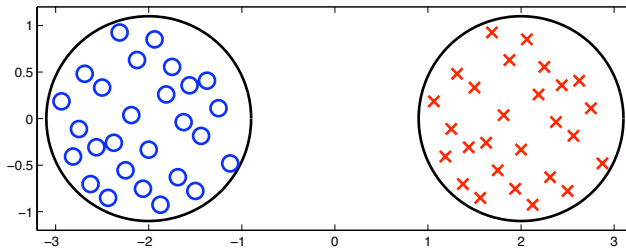


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From now on, let's define  $\log(z)$  as the potential due to a charge.

## Lemma

*Let a point charge of intensity  $q$  be located at  $z_0$ . Then for any  $z$  such that  $|z| > |z_0|$ ,*

$$\phi_{z_0}(z) = q \log(z - z_0) = q \left( \log(z) - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k} \left( \frac{z_0}{z} \right)^k \right) \quad (4)$$

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## Proof.

Since  $\log(z - z_0) = \log(z) + \log(1 - z_0/z)$ , for  $\omega := |z_0/z| < 1$ , and

$$\frac{1}{1 - \omega} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \omega^k \quad \Rightarrow \int \text{and shifting } \log(1 - \omega) = (-1) \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\omega^k}{k} \quad (5)$$





## Theorem

**[Multipole Expansion]** Suppose that  $m$  charges of strengths  $q_i$  are located at points  $z_i$  for  $i = 1 : m$ , with  $|z_i| < r$ . Then for any  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $|z| > r$ , the potential  $\phi(z)$  is given by

$$\phi(z) = Q \log(z) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_k}{z^k} \quad (6)$$

where

$$Q = \sum_{i=1}^m q_i \quad \text{and} \quad a_k = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{-q_i z_i^k}{k} \quad (7)$$

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Furthermore, for any  $p \geq 1$ ,

$$\left| \phi(z) - Q \log(z) - \sum_{k=1}^p \frac{a_k}{z^k} \right| \leq \left( \frac{A}{c-1} \right) \left( \frac{1}{c} \right)^p \quad (8)$$

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where

$$c = \left| \frac{z}{r} \right| \quad \text{and} \quad A = \sum_{i=1}^m |q_i| \quad (9)$$

# Understanding the multipole expansion

L. 1

$$\begin{aligned} q \log(z - z_0) &= q \left( \log(z) - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k} \left( \frac{z_0}{z} \right)^k \right) \\ &= q \log(z) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{-q z_0^k}{k} \frac{1}{z^k} \end{aligned}$$

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So, it is easy to see,

$$Q = \sum_{i=1}^m q_i \quad \text{and} \quad a_k = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{-q_i z_i^k}{k}$$

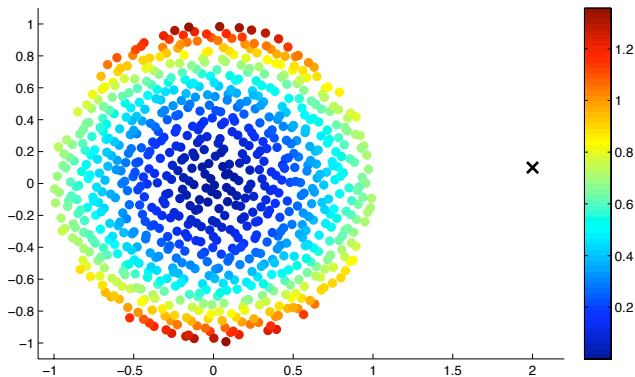


Figure: Set up of experiment with 787 sources and 1 target

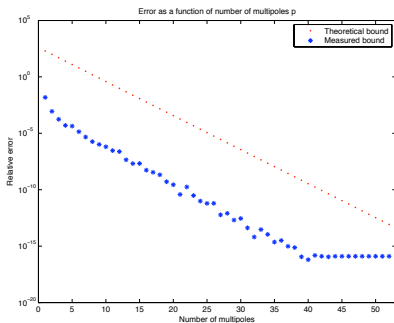


The experiment try to give numerical evidence that the p-sum is a good idea to approximate potential fields.

$$\phi(z) = Q \log(z) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_k}{z^k} \approx Q \log(z) + \sum_{k=1}^p \frac{a_k}{z^k} =: \phi(z, p) \quad (10)$$

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recall: p-error bound

$$|\phi(z) - \phi(z, p)| \leq \left( \frac{A}{c-1} \right) \left( \frac{1}{c} \right)^p$$

with

$$c = \left| \frac{z}{r} \right|$$

and

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Figure: Numerical simulation

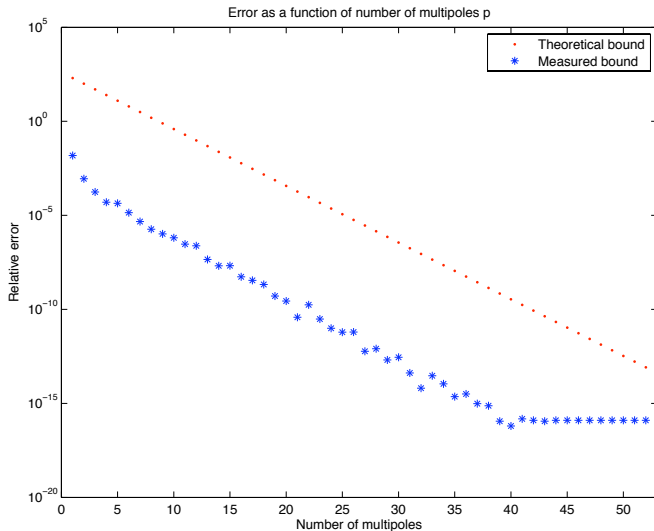


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# Why do we call it *Fast* multipole method?

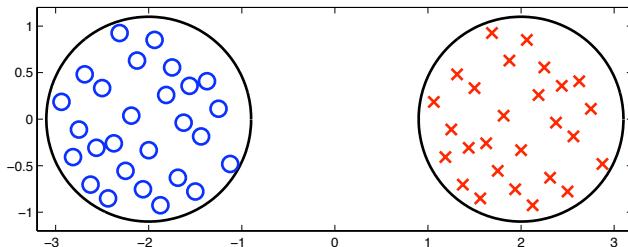


Figure:  $m$  sources at  $x_i$  (blue) and  $n$  targets at  $y_i$  (red)

Direct evaluation of potential field, due to  $m$  charges located at  $x_i$ , evaluated at  $y_i$  is  $\mathcal{O}(nm)$ .

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Therefore, the work has been reduced from  $\mathcal{O}(nm)$  to  $\mathcal{O}(pm + pn)$ !, and since  $p$  is constant we only have  $\mathcal{O}(m + n)$ .



# Shifting the multipole expansion

## Lemma

*Suppose that*

$$\phi(z) = a_0 \log(z - z_0) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_k}{(z - z_0)^k} \quad (11)$$

*is a multipole expansion of the potential due to a set of  $m$  charges of strengths  $q_i$ , with  $i = 1 : m$ , all of which are located inside the circle  $D$  of radius  $R$  with center at  $z_0$ . Then for  $z$  outside the circle  $D_1$  of radius  $(R + |z_0|)$  and center at the origin we have the following multipole expansion,*

$$\phi(z) = a_0 \log(z) + \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \frac{b_l}{z^l} \quad (12)$$

where

$$b_l = \left( \sum_{k=1}^l a_k z_0^{l-k} \binom{l-1}{k-1} \right) - \frac{a_0 z_0^l}{l} \quad (13)$$

Furthermore, for any  $p \geq 1$

$$\left| \phi(z) - a_0 \log(z) - \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \frac{b_l}{z^l} \right| \leq \left( A / \left( 1 - \left| \frac{|z_0| + R}{z} \right| \right) \right) \left| \frac{|z_0| + R}{z} \right|^{p+1} \quad (14)$$

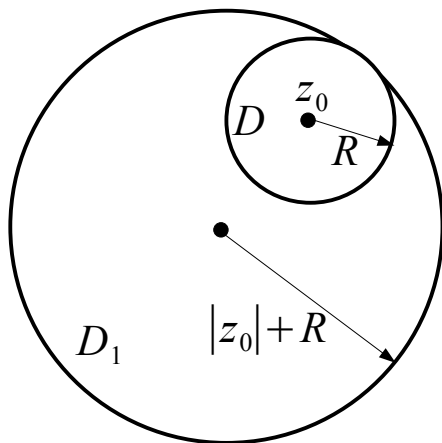
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Remark: Computing  $b_l$  from  $a_k$  is *exact!*,  $\Rightarrow$  we are able to shift a truncated multipole expansions without losing accuracy.



# From multipole to local Taylor series

## Lemma

*Suppose that  $m$  charges of strength  $q_i$  are located inside the circle  $D_1$  with radius  $R$  and center at  $z_0$ , and that  $|z_0| > (c + 1)R$  with  $c > 1$ . Then the corresponding multipole expansion (11) converges inside the circle  $D_2$  of radius  $R$  centered about the origin. Inside  $D_2$ , the potential due to the charges is described by a power series:*

$$\phi(z) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} b_l z^l \quad (15)$$

where

$$b_0 = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_k}{z_0^k} (-1)^k + a_0 \log(-z_0) \quad (16)$$

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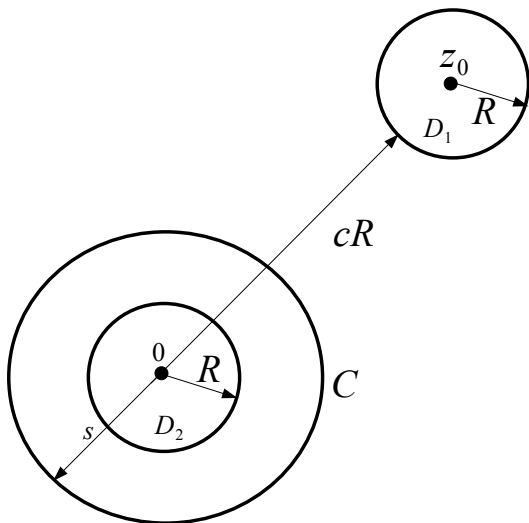
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$$b_l = \left( \frac{1}{z_0^l} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_k}{z_0^k} \binom{l+k-1}{k-1} (-1)^k \right) - \frac{a_0}{l z_0^l}, \quad \text{for } l \geq 1. \quad (16)$$

Furthermore, for any  $p \geq \max(2, 2c/(c-1))$ , an error bound for the truncated series is given by

$$\left| \phi(z) - \sum_{l=0}^p b_l z^l \right| < \frac{A(4e(p+c)(c+1) + c^2)}{c(c-1)} \left( \frac{1}{c} \right)^{p+1} \quad (17)$$





## Lemma

For any complex  $z_0$ ,  $z$ , and  $\{a_k\}$ , for  $k = 0 : n$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n a_k (z - z_0)^k = \sum_{l=0}^n \left( \sum_{k=l}^n a_k \binom{k}{l} (-z_0)^{k-l} \right) z^l \quad (18)$$

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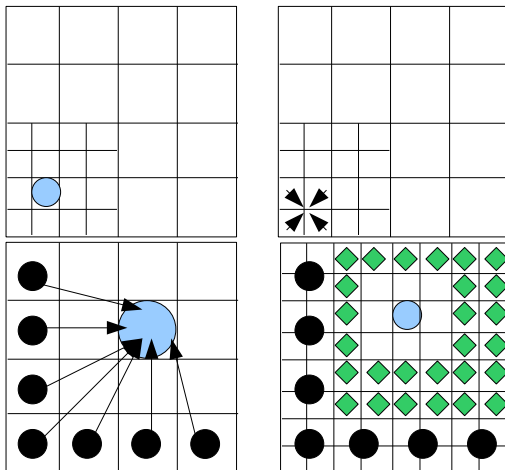
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- 8 Add far field and near field interactions.



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- 2 It has been  $\sim 1313$  times cited!!\*.

\* Source: Web of Science.

The End