

# GAME AI PLANNING

## WHICH GPU FOR HOW MANY NPCs?

Stéphane CARDON, Éric JACOPIN  
Écoles de Saint-Cyr Coëtquidan - France

{stephane.cardon,eric.jacopin}@st-cyr.terre-net.defense.gouv.fr

### Motivation

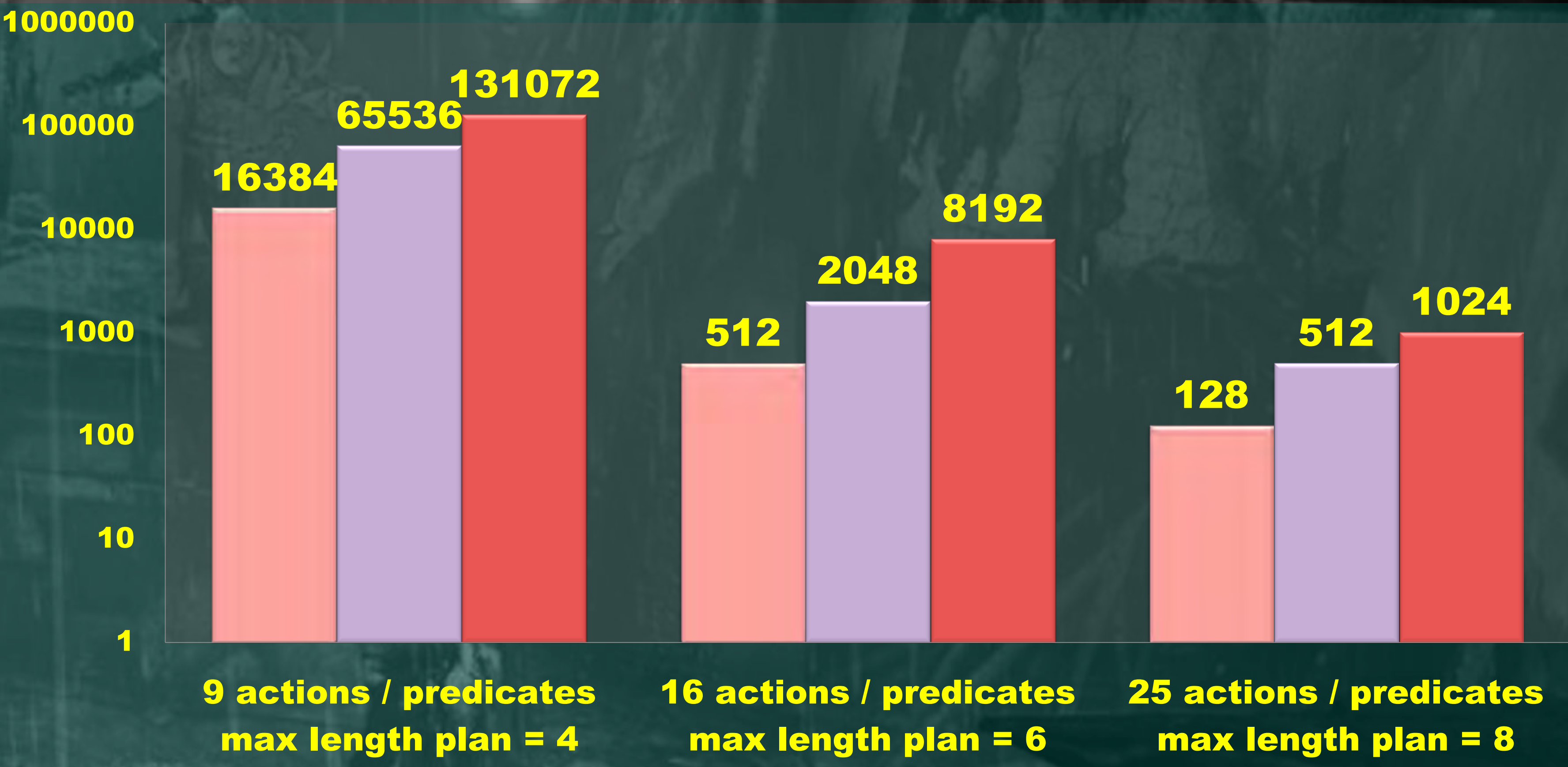
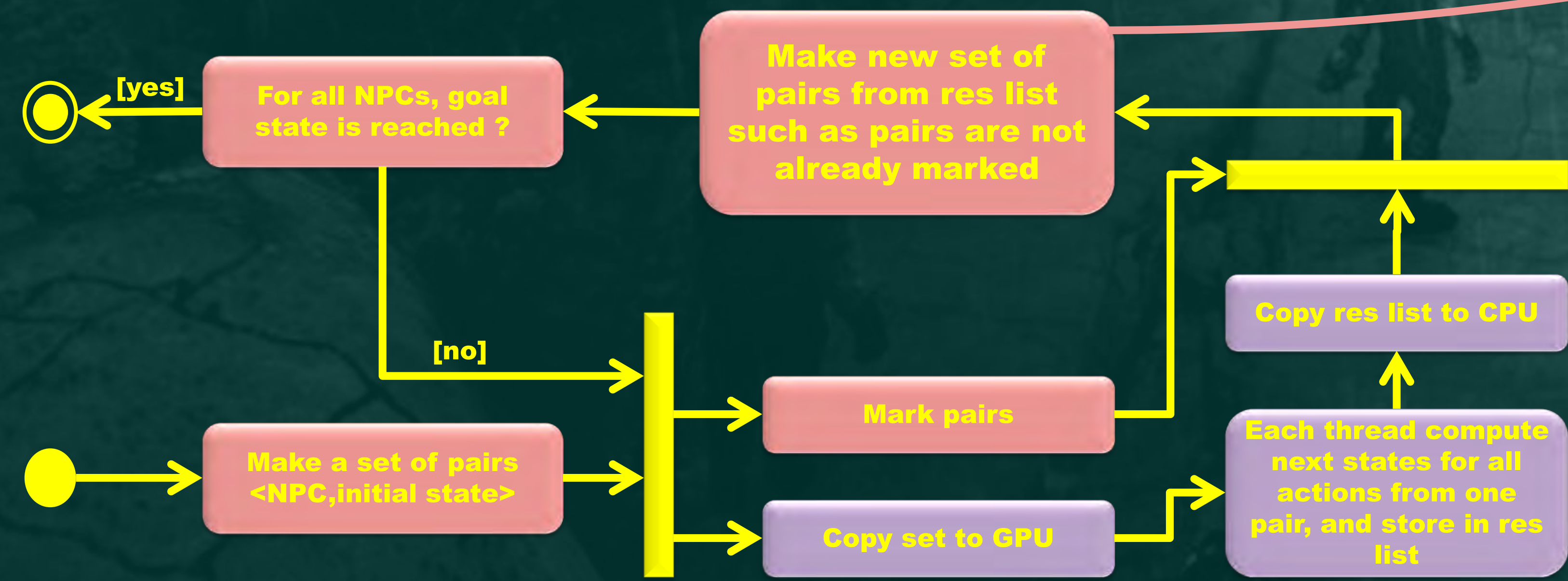
- GPGPU for the future of Game AI <sup>c,d,e</sup>
- Games use planning <sup>a,b,f,g</sup> (plans of at most 4-6 actions, for 50 bots max)
- Previous work shows encouraging speed-up <sup>h</sup>

### GPU and Planning

- GPU is designed for Matrix & Vector of integers
- *What integer-based representation to encode planning predicates, states and actions?*
- One bit == One predicate; e.g. ennemy-is-dead
- One state is 32 predicates max (32-bit integer)

### GOAP <sup>a</sup>-like Grounded Planning

- Instantiated actions: attack-ennemy, dodge, patrol, flee, cover, ... (32 actions max)
- 64-bit integer (plan length at most 12 actions <sup>g</sup>)
- Breadth-first search for each NPC



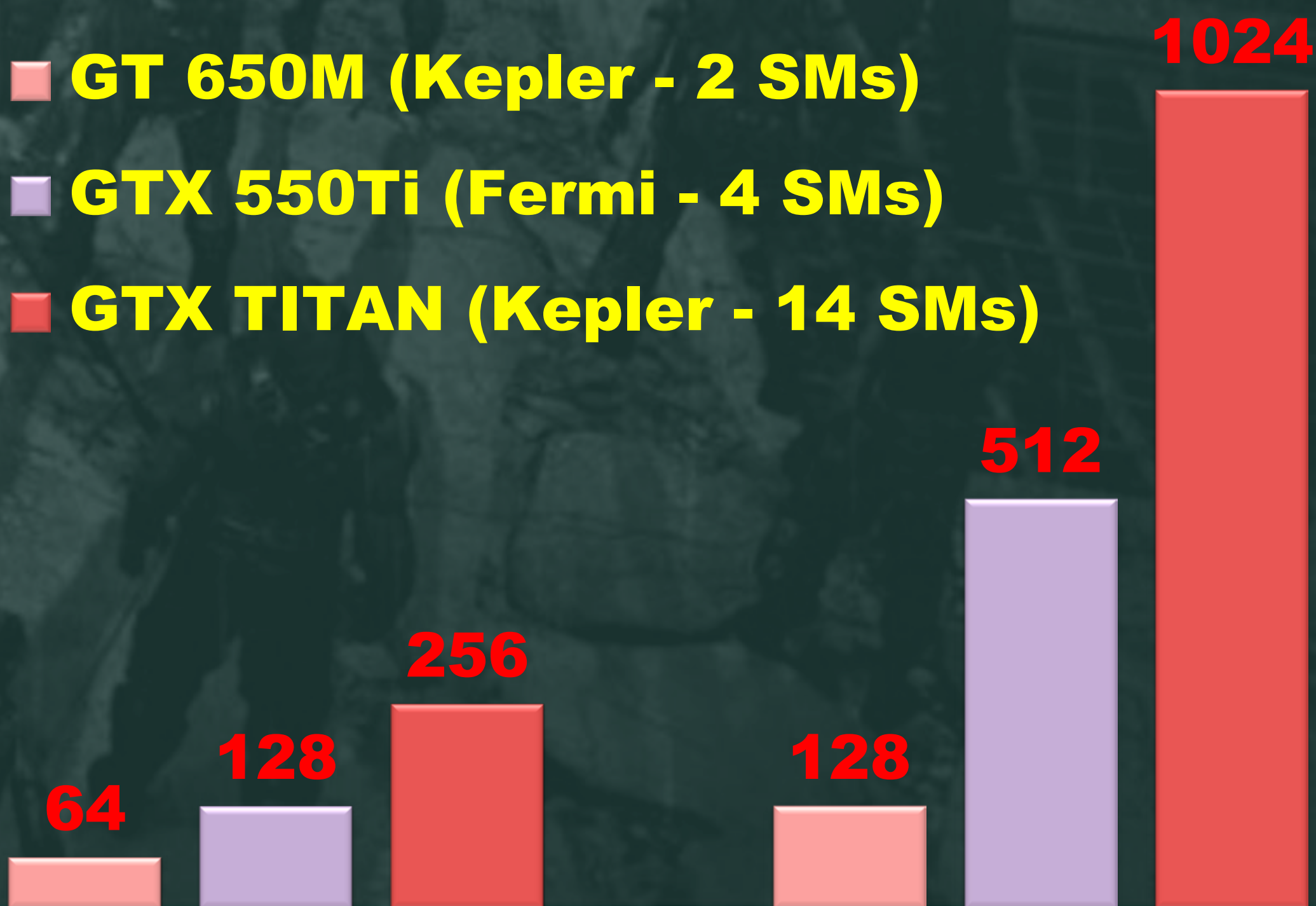
More NPCs  
if the algorithm is  
completely in GPU

### Experiments

- 1GB used max on GPU
- GT 650M on Intel core i7 2.3GHz
- GTX 550Ti on core 2 duo 2.2GHz
- GTX TITAN on Xeon E5 2.7GHz
- On a simple planning problem: Blocks World (3, 4 and 5 blocks)
- Random initial and goal states

### Planning for how many NPCs per frame?

- GT 650M (Kepler - 2 SMs)
- GTX 550Ti (Fermi - 4 SMs)
- GTX TITAN (Kepler - 14 SMs)



### References

- a - Jeff ORKIN - Three States and a Plan : The A.I. Of F.E.A.R. - Proceedings of the Game Developer Conference (2006)
- b - Dana NAU, Yue CAO, Amnon LOTEM & Héctor MUÑOZ-AVILA - The SHOP Planning System - AI Magazine 22(3), AAAI Press (Fall 2001)
- c - William BLEWITT, Gary USHAW & Graham MORGAN - Applicability of GPGPU Computing to Real-Time AI Solutions in Games - Computational Intelligence and AI in Games (2013)
- d - Alex CHAMPANDARD & Andrew RICHARDS - Massively Parallel AI on GPGPUs with OpenCL or C++ - Proceedings of the Game Developer Conference (2014)
- e - Damian SULEWSKI, Stefan EDELKAMP & Peter KISSMANN - Exploiting the Computational Power of the Graphics card : Optimal State Space Planning on the GPU - Proceedings of International Conference on Automated Planning and Scheduling (2011)
- f - Éric JACOPIN - Game AI Planning Analytics - Proceedings of the 10<sup>th</sup> AIIDE (AAAI Press, 2014) - pages 119 à 124.
- g - Éric JACOPIN - GOAP Analytics - GDC 2015 AI Summit - March 3rd.
- h - Stéphane CARDON, Éric JACOPIN - CUDA Constraint Programming for AI Gaming in the Cloud - Poster at the NVIDIA GPU Technology Conference 2015

GPU planning  
150 faster than  
CPU planning  
(one breadth-first  
search for each NPC)

