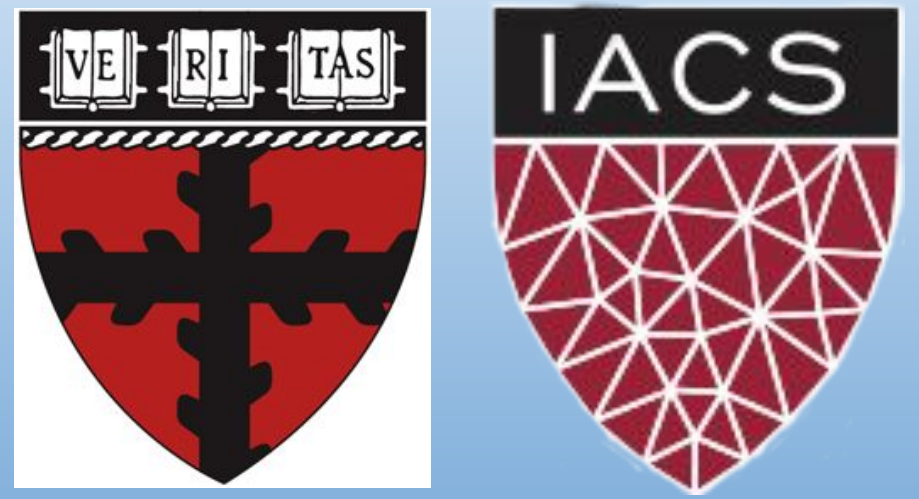


CS205: Final Project

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Chemistry on grain surfaces in space

Simulation of stochastic chemical processes on a grain surface in a cloud of gas



The Chemistry

4 processes govern the dynamics of particles on grain surfaces:

- Adsorption - sticks to surface
- Desorption (Thermal) - leaves surface
- Diffusion - moves around surface
- Reaction - forms a new molecule with another particle

All of the processes are experimentally observed to be Poisson Processes whose rates depend on known parameters.

The equations governing the rates are nonlinear, but they do not change with time. This means we can precompute.

$$R_{des} = \nu \exp\left(\frac{-E_{bind,a}}{kT_{gr}}\right) \quad R_{diff} = \nu \exp\left(\frac{-E_{surf,a}}{kT_{gr}}\right) \quad R_{ads} = s_a v_a n_a \pi r_{gr}^2$$
$$\nu = \sqrt{\frac{2N_s E_{bind,a}}{\pi^2 m_a}} \quad \nu = \sqrt{\frac{2N_s E_{surf,a}}{\pi^2 m_a}} \quad v_a = \sqrt{\frac{8kT_{gas}}{\pi m_a}}$$

Poisson Processes

Assumptions

- The number of events in a fixed interval follows a Poisson distribution
- The number of events in disjoint intervals are independent

$$P(k=0) = \frac{e^{-\lambda t} (\lambda t)^k}{k!} = e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$P(k>0) = 1 - e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$P(k>0) = 1 - e^{-(\lambda_{desorption} + \lambda_{diffusion})t}$$

$$P(desorption|event) = \frac{\lambda_{desorption}}{\lambda_{desorption} + \lambda_{diffusion}}$$

$$P(diffusion|event) = \frac{\lambda_{diffusion}}{\lambda_{desorption} + \lambda_{diffusion}}$$

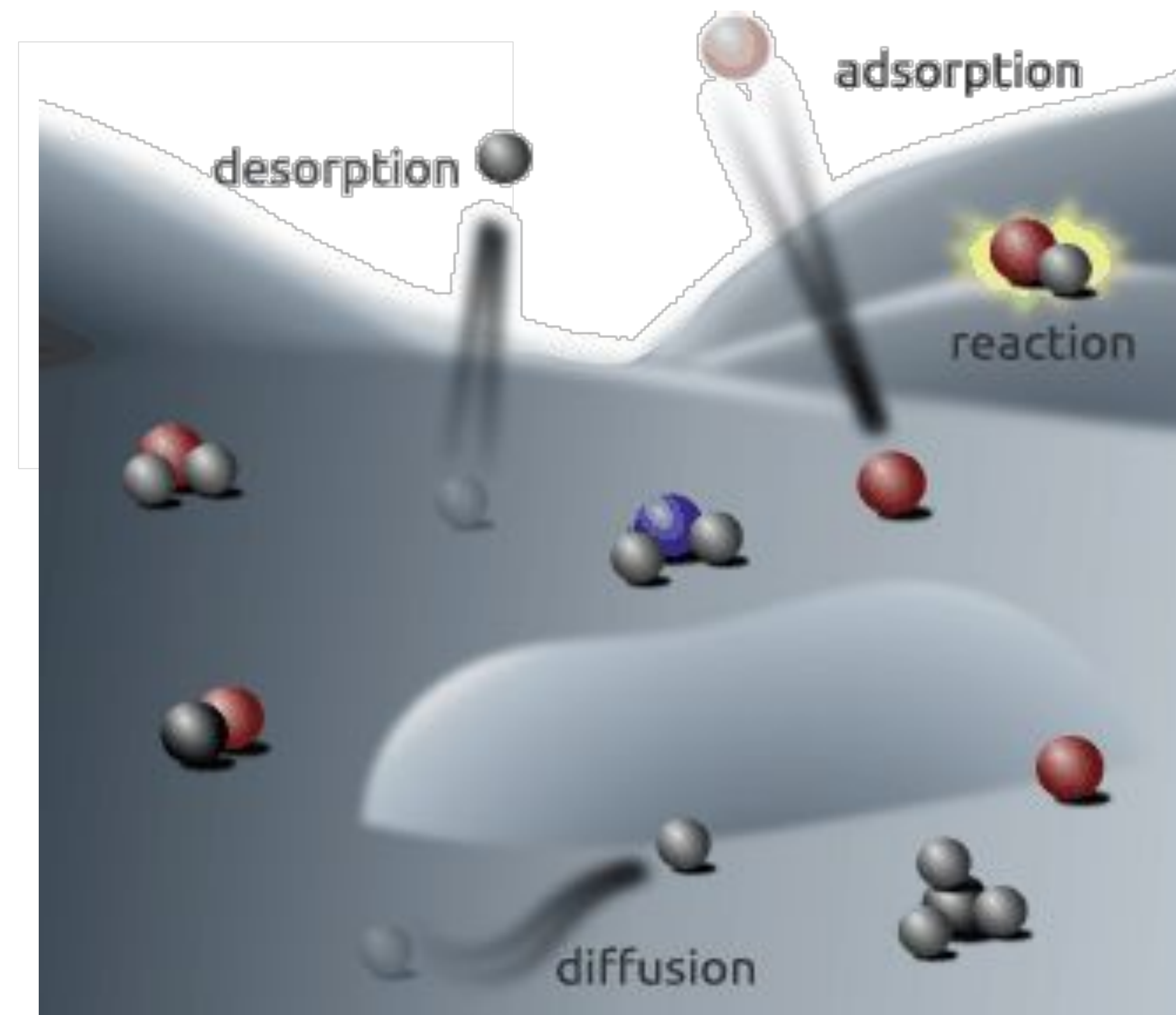
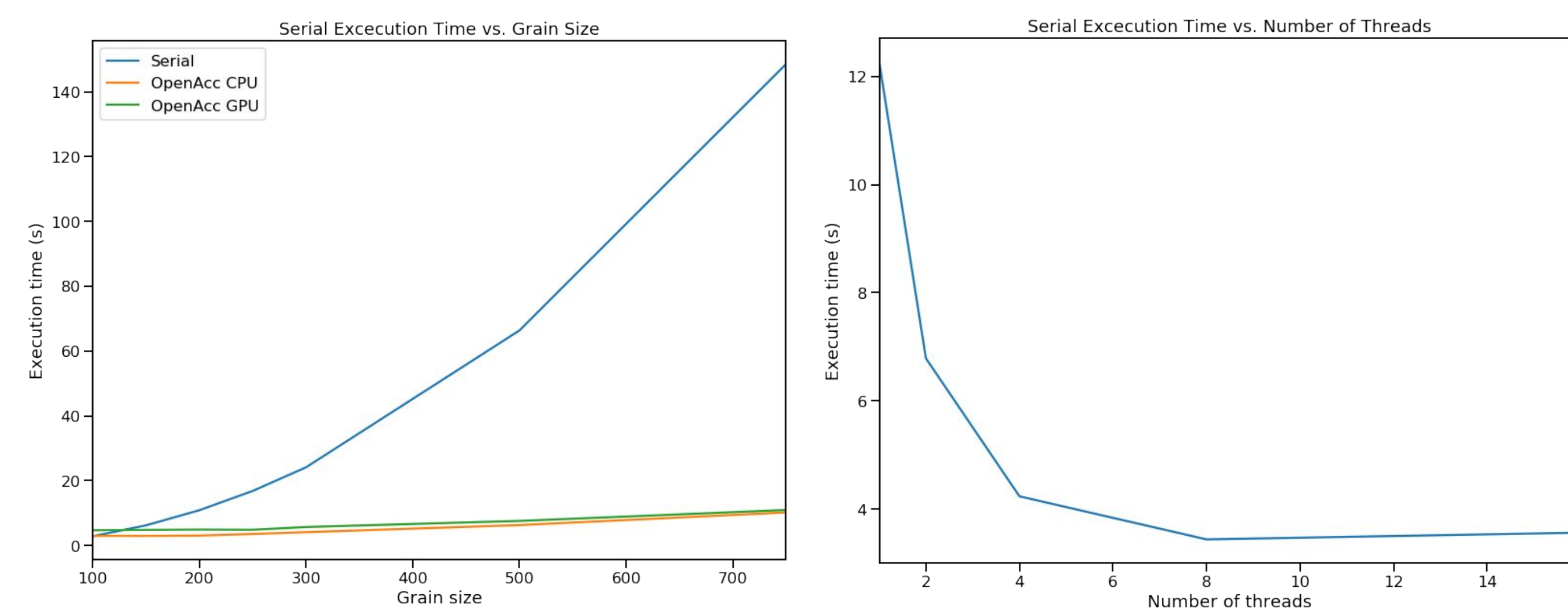


Figure 1 of Cuppen et al. 2017.

Parallelization: OpenACC Approach



Our simplest parallelization approach was an OpenACC implementation of a single node multi-threaded CPU, shared memory parallel design.

Features:

- easy portability to a GPU parallel model
- linear scaling as thread count increased
- Using shared memory parallelization allowed us to not worry about separate copies of our matrix becoming out of sync.

Overheads (pgprof analysis):

- Fork - [CUDA memcpy HtoD]
- Waits - [CUDA memcpy DtoH]
- Synchronization

Our GPU compute implementation involved changing our data management strategy to limit the memory copy from host to device overhead. We used OpenACC pragma data clause to copy in our two matrices after initialization, then maintained local copies in GPU memory

Features:

- Large number of threads
- Good speedup
- Still using shared memory in this implementation meant no communication to synchronize separate matrix copies.

Parallelization: MPI Approach

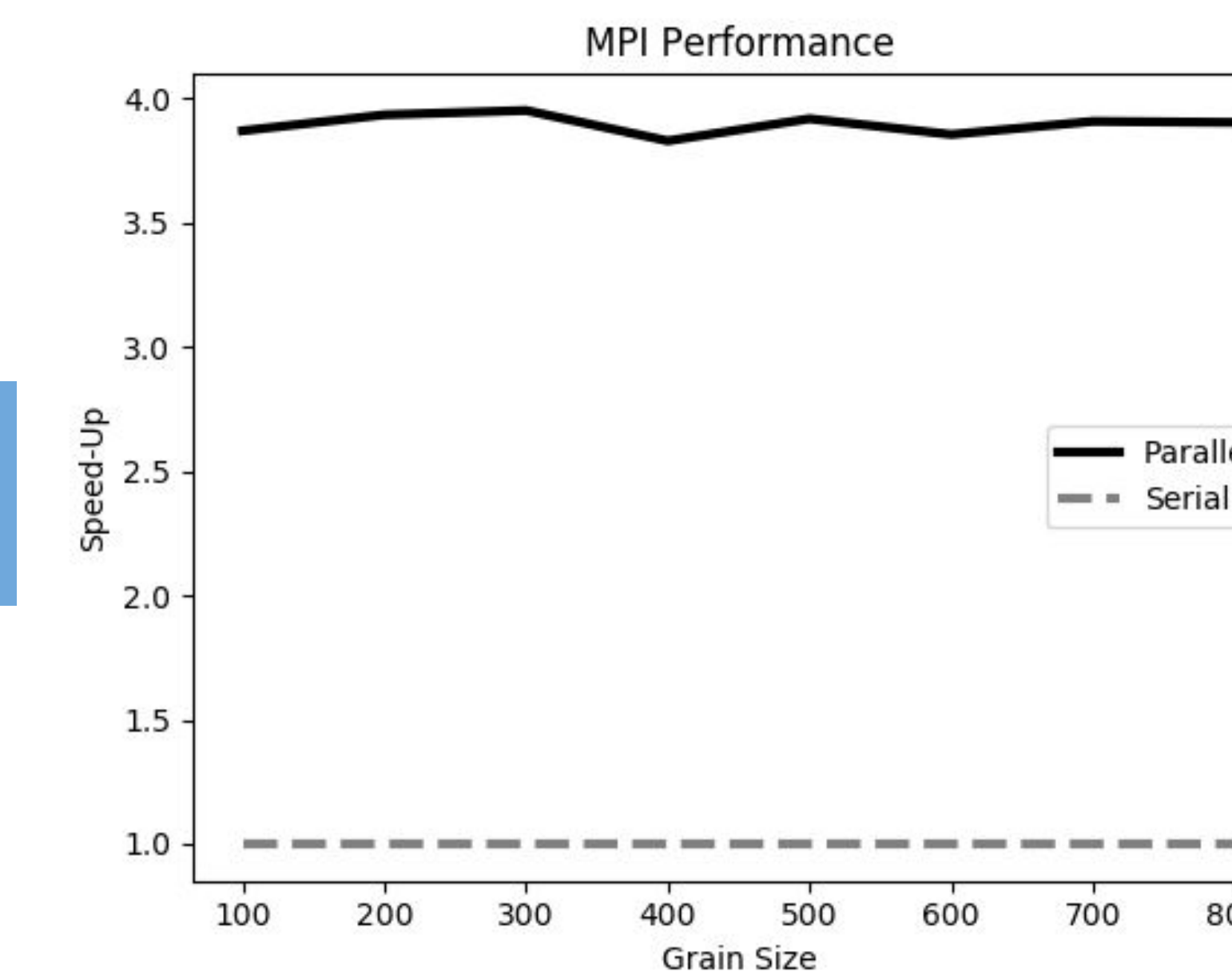
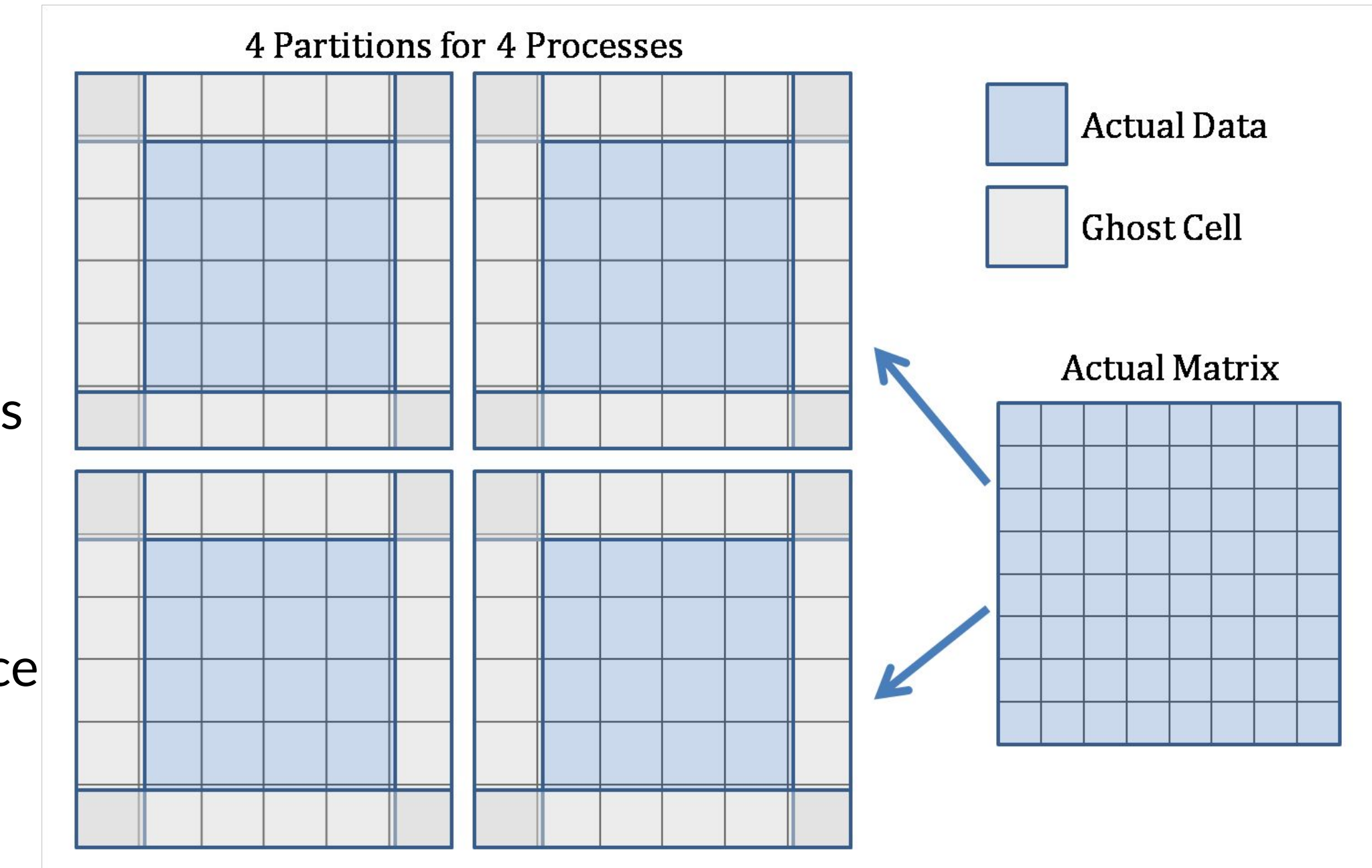
System Setup: AWS t2.2xlarge

Techniques:

- Divide grain surface across multiple processors
- Communicate at specific points via ghost cells

Major challenges:

- Message-passing across surface partitions
- Handling ghost cells

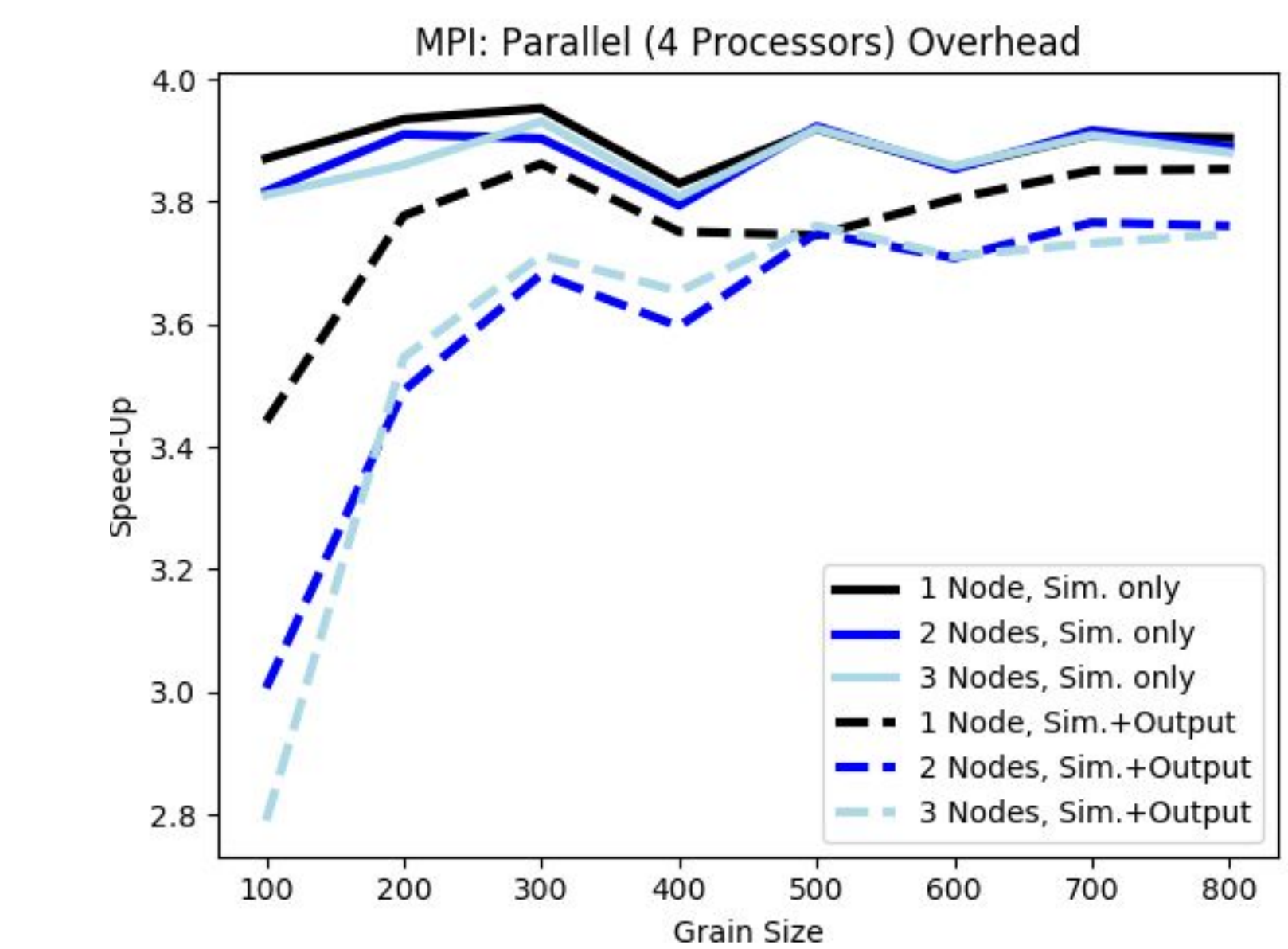
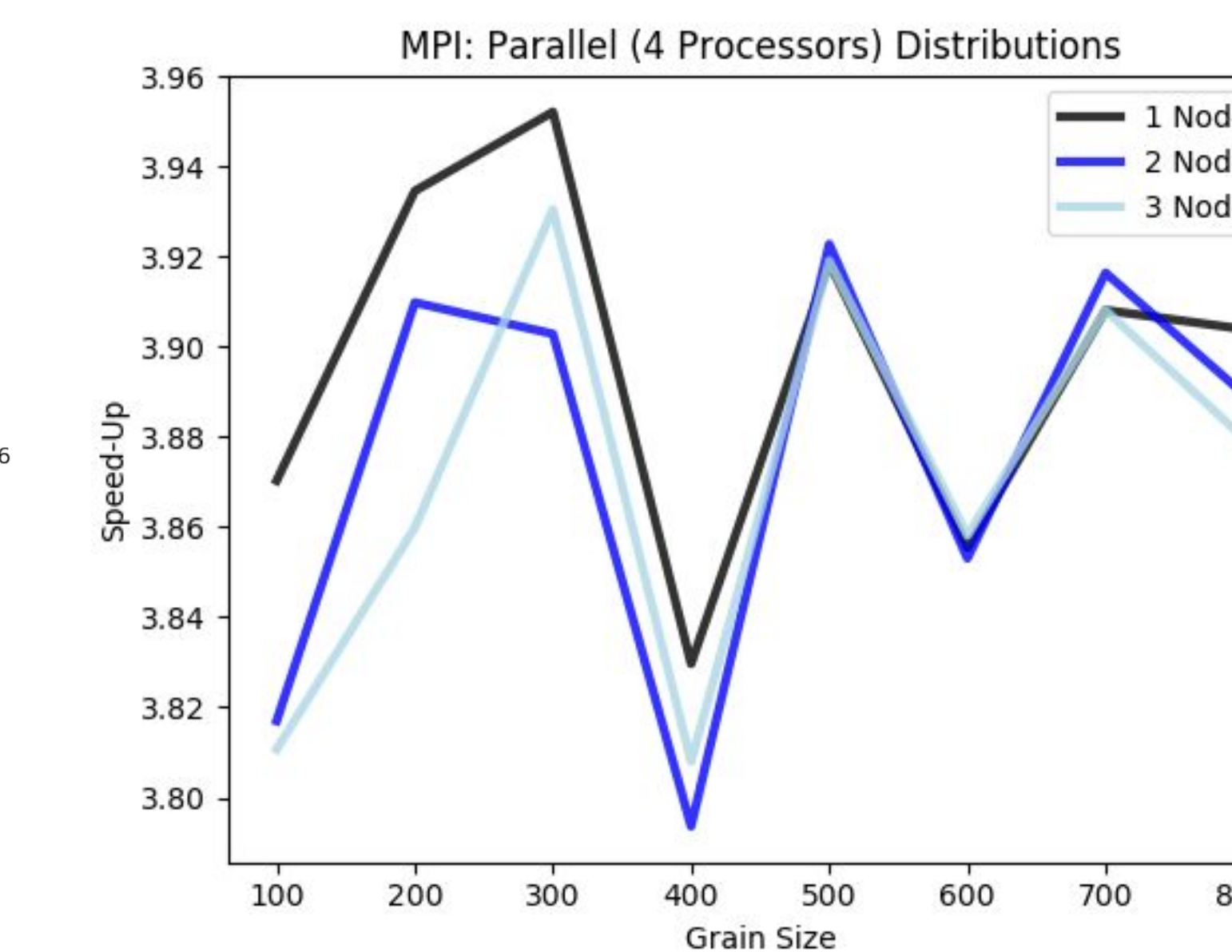


Consistent simulation performance across node cluster.

Consistent speed-up of simulation with increasing problem size.

Gathering data from different processors significantly affects speed-up.

Magnitude of effect decreases for larger problem size.



Citations and Links

Github: <https://github.com/ddeuel/CS205>

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