

# Hierarchical low-Rank Approx of Green's Functions

$$\phi(y) = \int G(x-y) \rho(x) dx$$

targets  
 $y_1, \dots, y_m$ 
sources  
 $x_1, \dots, x_N$   
 $m_1, \dots, m_N$

Poisson Kernel

$$G(x-y) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \log(\|x-y\|)$$



$$S = \max_{x_i} \frac{\|x_i - x_B\|}{\|y_j - x_B\|}$$

"separation"

low-rank Approx.

Represent 2D  
vec by complex  $k$ 's

$$G(x_i - y_j) = G(x_B - y_j) - \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{p=1}^k \frac{1}{p} \left( \frac{x_i - x_B}{y_j - x_B} \right)^p + \mathcal{O}(S^{k+1})$$

$\nwarrow$  separable terms  
from Taylor series

"Multipole expansion"

$$\Rightarrow \phi(y_j) = \sum_{i=1}^N m_i G(x_i - y_j)$$

$\Rightarrow$  compute  $a_n \mathcal{O}(Nk)$

$\Rightarrow$  compute pot  
at each  $y_j \mathcal{O}(Mk)$

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}((N+M)k)$

$$= m_B G(x_B - y_j) - \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{p=1}^k \frac{1}{p} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{m_i}{p} (x_i - x_B)^p + \mathcal{O}(S^{k+1})$$

$\nwarrow$  Error  
 $\underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{m_i}{p} (x_i - x_B)^p}_{k \text{ length } N \text{ sums}} = a_n$

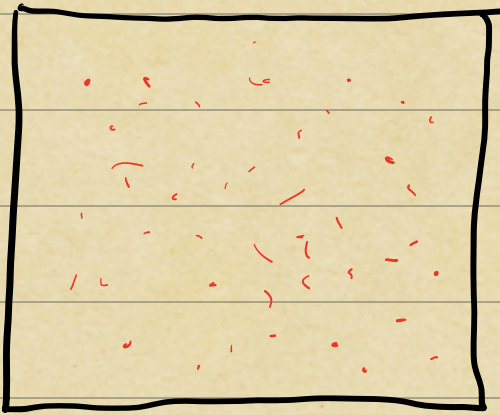


$\Rightarrow$  Similar expansions for 3D Poisson and other translation invariant "additive" or "multiplicative" kernels.

$\Rightarrow$  Only effective for  $S \ll 1$  so that  $k \ll \min(M, N)$ .

Idea: Hierarchical subdivision to maintain separation between sources & targets.

Suppose  $N$  "particles" are distributed in  $[-1, 1]^2$ .

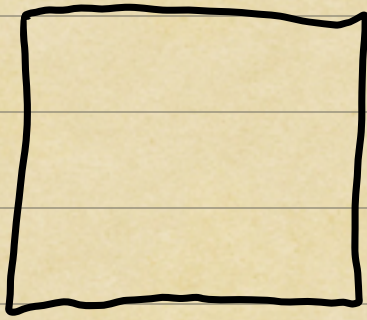


$\Rightarrow$  Calculate potential each particle feels due to others to target accuracy  $\epsilon > 0$ .

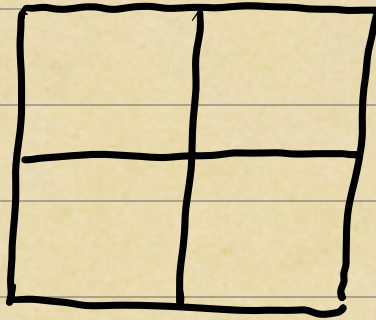
Although the "sources" & "targets" are not separate, we can iteratively partition domain into well separated regions. Recursively divide into 4s, until each box contains  $\leq C$  particles ( $C \leq 10$ ).

Total # levels =  $L$

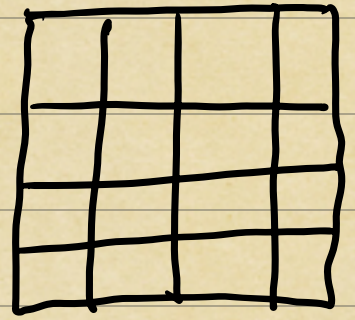




$l=0$



$l=1$

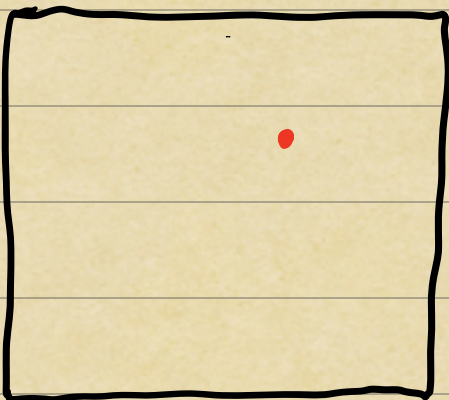


$l=2$

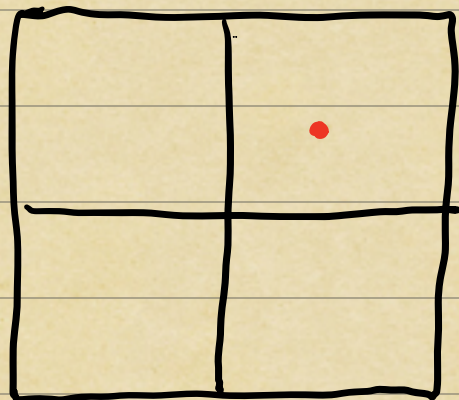
Need  $N \approx 4^L_c \Rightarrow L \approx \frac{1}{2} \log_2 \frac{N}{c} = O(\log N)$ .

At each level we define the categories:

- $\Rightarrow$  Two boxes are "nearest neighbors" if touching.
- $\Rightarrow$  Two boxes are "well-separated" if not.
- $\Rightarrow$  Every box has an "interaction list," which are children of near-neighbors that are well-separated from current box at level.



Level 0

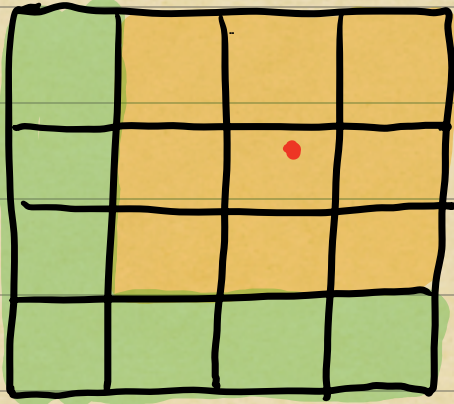


Level 1



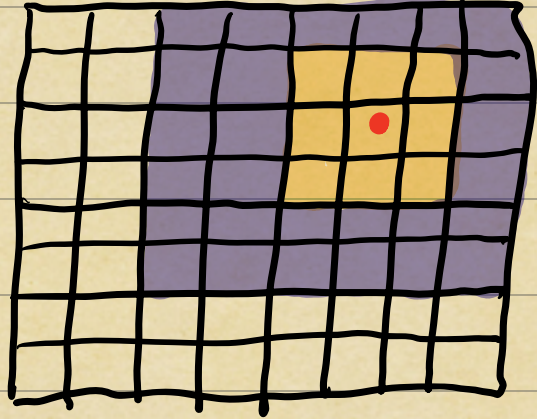
nearest neighbors

well separated



Level 2

Interaction list



level 3

At each level, a box has

# nearest neighbors  $\leq 9$

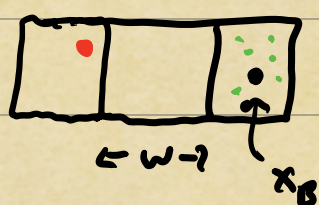
# boxes interacting  $\leq 9 \cdot 4 - 9 = 27$   
 children of nearest neighbors  $\nearrow$  not well separated

For each target point:

- 1) Compute potential from sources in nearest-neighbors list at lowest level  
 $\sim 9c$  sources  $\Rightarrow \mathcal{O}((9c)^2) = \mathcal{O}(1)$  (indep. of  $N$ )
- 2) For each level, compute potential from each box in interaction list using the multipole expansion about its center.



$\Rightarrow$  Boxes in interaction list are well-separated  
so that  $\delta \leq \frac{1}{2}$ .



$$\delta = \max_i \frac{\|x_B - x_i\|}{\|x_B - x_j\|} \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\delta \leq \frac{\sqrt{2} \frac{w}{2}}{3 \frac{w}{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3} \approx 0.47$$

$\Rightarrow$  To achieve accuracy  $\epsilon > 0$ , need

$$\epsilon \sim \delta^{k+1} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{k+1} \Rightarrow k \sim 1 + \log_2 \epsilon^{-1} = O(\log \frac{1}{\epsilon})$$

At each level, costs  $O(Nk)$  to construct multipole expansions for each box.

For each target, it costs  $O(27k)$  to evaluate potential contribution from each box in interaction list.

Total cost at all levels:

$$\text{cost of multipole expansions} = O(kN \log N)$$

$$+ \text{cost of potential at } N \text{ pts} = O(27kN \log N)$$

$$= O(28N \log N \log \frac{1}{\epsilon})$$



Idea: Hierarchical subdivision to maintain separation between sources & targets.

$\Rightarrow$  The algorithm above is due to Barnes & Hut (1986)

$\Rightarrow$  It relies purely on "projection," compressing sources via multipole expansions and "broadcasting" to every target at each level.

$\Rightarrow$  The Fast Multipole Method (FMM) improves scaling to  $O(N \log^2 \epsilon)$  by carefully incorporating "interpolation," compressing targets via multipole expansions and carefully broadcasting to targets via "multipole-to-multipole" and "multipole-to-local" approximations.