

Advection Project

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January 2018

Direct forces calculation

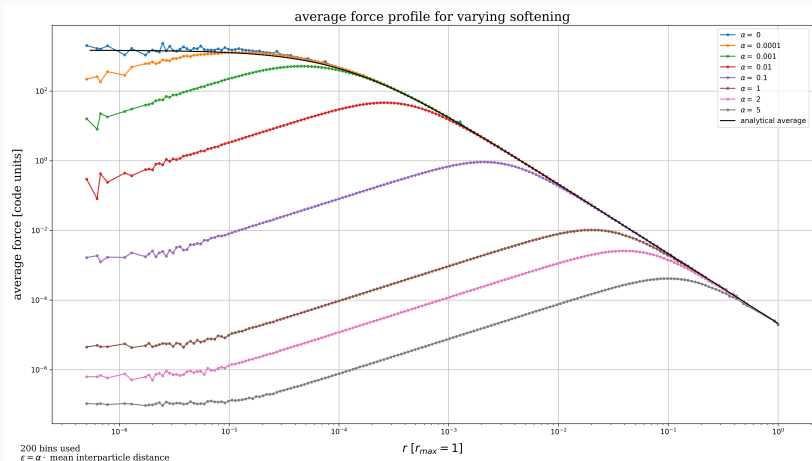
Acceleration of particle i :

$$\ddot{\mathbf{r}}_i = -G \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{m_j}{[(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j)^2 + \epsilon^2]^{\frac{3}{2}}} (\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j)$$

ϵ is the *softening length*. It's purposes are:

- computational efficiency
- avoid large angle scatterings
- avoid expense to calculate orbits in a singular potential
- prevent the possibility of formation of bound particle pairs

Direct force calculation results for varying softening



Hierarchical Multipole Method

Central idea: use the multipole expansion of a distant group of particles to describe its gravity, instead of summing up the forces from all individual particles. (For close groups, I use direct force calculation.)

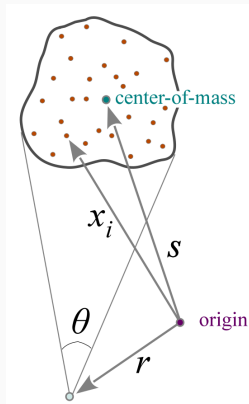
Multipole expansion of the potential gives:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}) = -G \left(\frac{M}{|\mathbf{y}|} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{y}}{|\mathbf{y}|^5} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{s}$$

$$Q_{ij} = \sum_k m_k [3(\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{x}_k)_i (\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{x}_k)_j - \delta_{ij} (\mathbf{s} - \mathbf{x}_k)^2]$$

The expansion is valid for $\theta \approx \frac{l}{y} \ll 1$



The particles are grouped hierarchically and the multipole moments are pre-computed for later use.

I used the Barnes-Hut oct-tree: Assume particles are in a cube. The cube is then recursively subdivided into 8 sub-cubes of half the size in each spatial dimension, until each sub-cube contains only a single particle (or some other user-set limit).

Force calculation:

For all leaf cells:

For all root cells:

walk tree (this leaf cell, root cell)

Walking the tree (target cell, source cell):

If source cell is leaf cell: Use direct force calculation, end walk for this source.

If target (leaf) cell is inside this source cell:

for all children of the source cell:

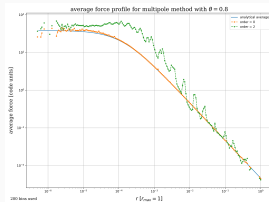
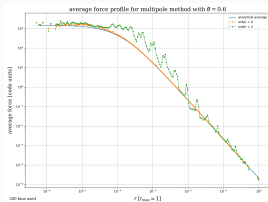
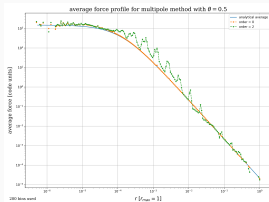
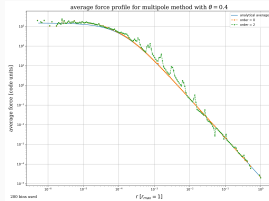
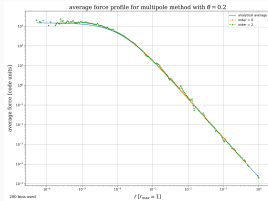
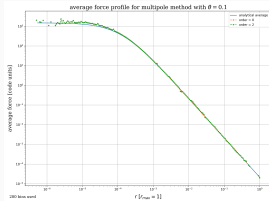
walk the tree (target, child of source)

If target (leaf) cell is *not* inside this source cell:

if $\theta < \theta_{max}$: Calculate multipole force, stop walk for this source

else: for all children of the source cell:

walk the tree (target, child of source)

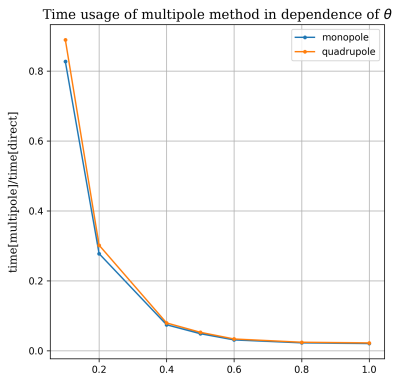
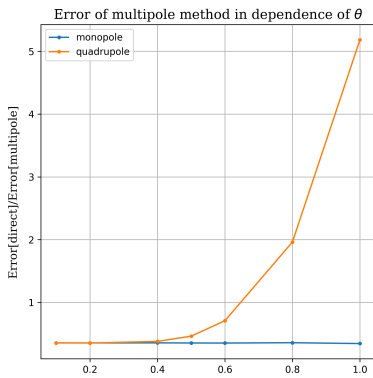


Comparison Direct vs multipole calculation

Estimating accuracy with the $L1$ norm:

$L1 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i |\bar{F}_i - \bar{F}_{analytical}(r_i)|$, where $\bar{F}_{analytical}(r_i)$ is the analytical average force at r_i .

For both the direct forces and multipole method, $\epsilon = 0.01 \cdot mid$.
Shown are the relative values for both monopole and quadrupole orders, relative to the values for the direct forces calculation.



Program, plotting scripts and this presentation available on
https://bitbucket.org/mivkov/computational_astrophysics