



# Direct Sparse Linear Solvers, Preconditioners

SuperLU, STRUMPACK, with hands-on examples

Sherry Li, Pieter Ghysels  
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

# Agenda

- Setup for SuperLU hands-on (5 min)
- Overview of sparse direct solvers + SuperLU (30 min)
  
- Setup for STRUMPACK hands-on (5 min)
- STRUMPACK with compression techniques (30 min)

# ThetaGPU setup

[https://xSDK-project.github.io/MathPackagesTraining2022/setup\\_instructions/](https://xSDK-project.github.io/MathPackagesTraining2022/setup_instructions/)

- Copy all examples to your home:

```
cd ~
```

```
rsync -a /grand/ATPESC2022/EXAMPLES/track-5-numerical .
```

- Get a single GPU node

```
qsub -l -q single-gpu -n 1 -t 60 -A ATPESC2022
```

- Follow SuperLU lesson at:

[https://xSDK-project.github.io/MathPackagesTraining2022/lessons/superlu\\_dist](https://xSDK-project.github.io/MathPackagesTraining2022/lessons/superlu_dist)



# Algorithm tour of sparse direct solvers (illustration with SuperLU\_DIST)

# Gaussian Elimination (GE) to solve $Ax=b$

- First step of GE:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & w^T \\ v & B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ v/\alpha & I \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & w^T \\ 0 & C \end{bmatrix}$$

$$C = B - \frac{v \cdot w^T}{\alpha}$$

- Repeat GE on C
- Result in LU factorization ( $A = LU$ )
  - L lower triangular with unit diagonal, U upper triangular
- Then,  $x$  is obtained by solving two triangular systems with L and U, easier to solve

# Strategies of solving sparse linear systems

- Iterative methods: (e.g., Krylov, multigrid, ...)
  - **A is not changed (read-only)**
  - **Key kernel: sparse matrix-vector multiply**
    - Easier to optimize and parallelize
  - **Low algorithmic complexity, but may not converge**
- Direct methods:
  - **A is modified (factorized) :  $A = L^*U$** 
    - Harder to optimize and parallelize
  - **Numerically robust, but higher algorithmic complexity**
- Often use direct method to **precondition** iterative method
  - **Solve an easier system:  $M^{-1}Ax = M^{-1}b$**

# Exploit sparsity

## 1) Structural sparsity

- Defined by {0, 1} structure (Graphs)
- LU factorization  $\sim O(N^2)$  flops, for many 3D discretized PDEs

## 2) Data sparsity (usually with approximation)

- On top of 1), can find data-sparse structure in dense (sub)matrices  
(often involve [approximation](#))
- LU factorization  $\sim O(N \text{ polylog}(N))$

SuperLU: only structural sparsity

STRUMLPACK: both structural and data sparsity

# PDE discretization leads to sparse matrices

- Poisson equation in 2D (continuum)

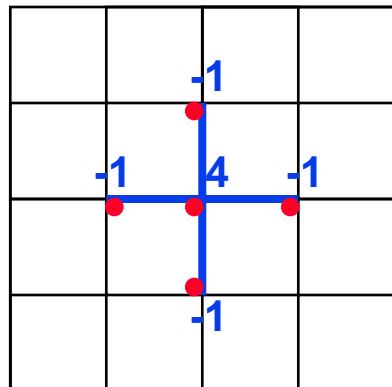
$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}(x,y) + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}(x,y) = f(x,y), \quad (x,y) \in R$$

$$u(x,y) = g(x,y), \quad (x,y) \text{ on the boundary}$$

- Stencil equation (discretized)

$$4 \cdot u(i,j) - u(i-1,j) - u(i+1,j) - u(i,j-1) - u(i,j+1) = f(i,j)$$

Graph and “stencil”



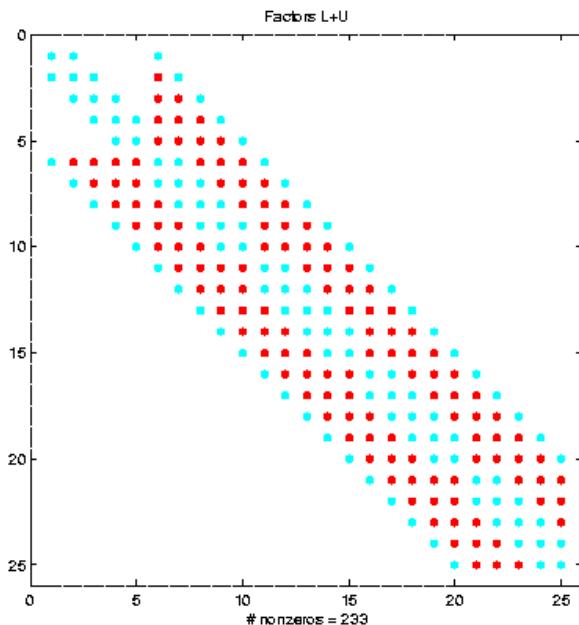
$$A = \left( \begin{array}{ccccc|ccccc} 4 & -1 & & & & -1 & & & \\ -1 & 4 & -1 & & & & -1 & & \\ & -1 & 4 & & & & & -1 & \\ \hline -1 & & & 4 & -1 & & -1 & & \\ & -1 & & -1 & 4 & -1 & & -1 & \\ & & -1 & -1 & 4 & & & -1 & \\ \hline & & & -1 & & 4 & -1 & & \\ & & & & -1 & -1 & 4 & -1 & \\ & & & & & -1 & -1 & 4 & \\ \end{array} \right)$$

# Fill-in in Sparse GE

Original zero entry  $A_{ij}$  becomes nonzero in L or U

- Red: fill-ins (Matlab: spy())

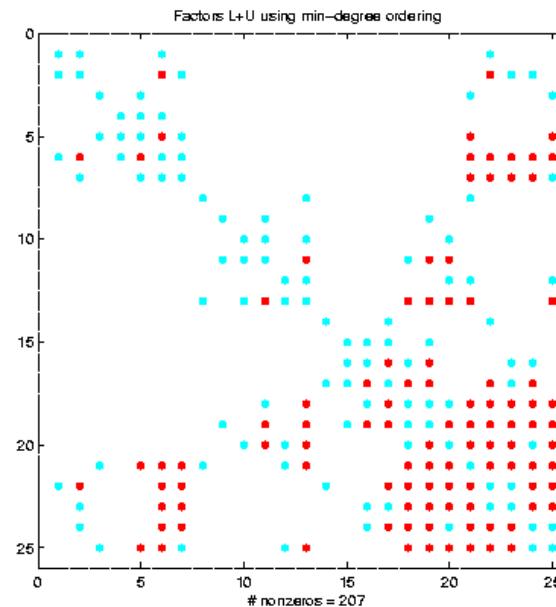
Natural order: NNZ = 233



Band solver

Fill-in:  $O(N^{3/2})$   
Flops:  $O(N^2)$

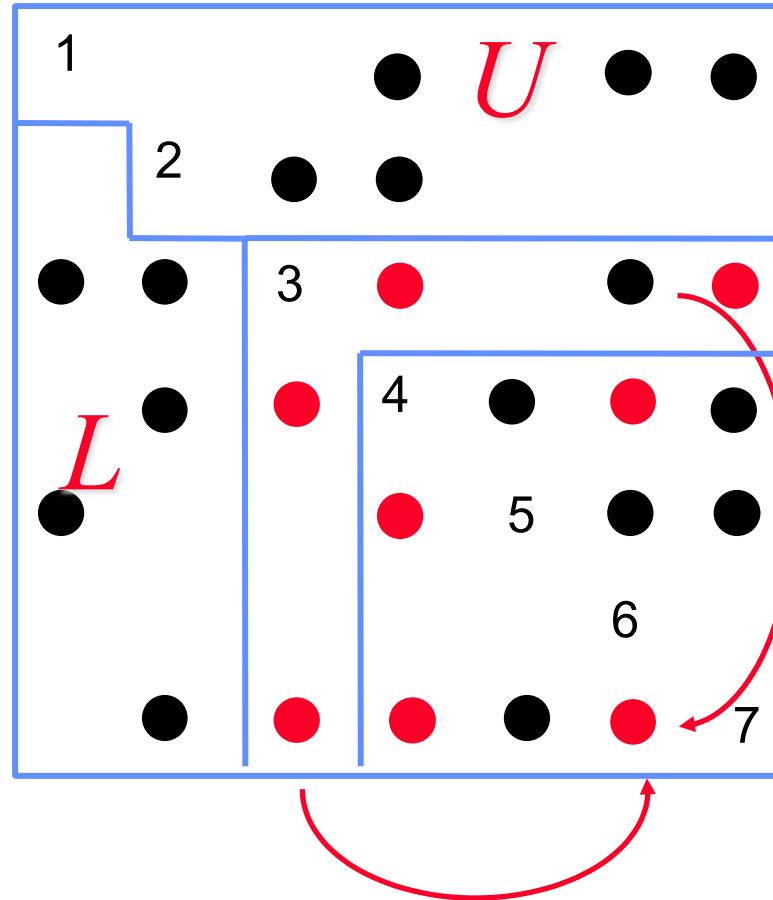
Minimum Degree order: NNZ = 207



General sparse solver

Fill-in:  $O(N \log(N))$   
Flops:  $O(N^{3/2})$

# Fill-in in sparse LU



# Store general sparse matrix: Compressed Row Storage (CRS)

- Store nonzeros row by row contiguously
- Example:  $N = 7$ ,  $NNZ = 19$
- 3 arrays:
  - Storage:  $NNZ$  reals,  $NNZ+N+1$  integers

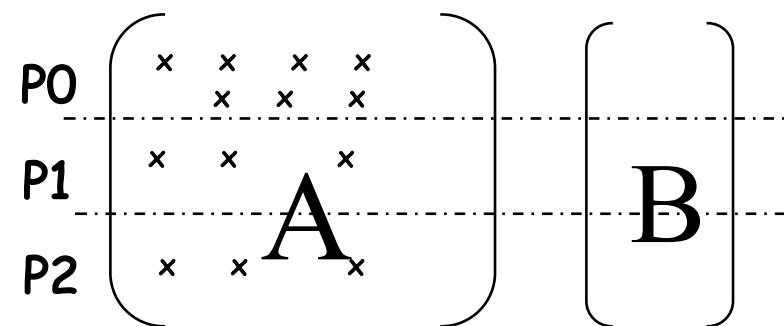
|        | 1 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 11 | 13 | 17 | 20 |
|--------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| nzval  | 1 | a | 2 | b | c  | d  | 3  | e  |
| colind | 4 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 2  | 3  | 2  | 4  |
| rowptr | 1 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 11 | 13 | 17 | 20 |

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & a \\ & 2 & & b \\ c & d & 3 & \\ e & & 4 & f \\ & & & 5 \\ & & & g \\ h & i & 6 & j \\ k & l & & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

Many other data structures: “*Templates for the Solution of Linear Systems: Building Blocks for Iterative Methods*”, R. Barrett et al.

# Distributed input interface

- Matrices involved:
  - A, B (turned into X) – input, users manipulate them
  - L, U – output, users do not need to see them
- A (sparse) and B (dense) are distributed by block rows



Local A stored in *Compressed Row Format*

# Distributed input interface

- Each process has a structure to store local part of A

## Distributed Compressed Row Storage

```
typedef struct {  
    int_t nnz_loc; // number of nonzeros in the local submatrix  
    int_t m_loc; // number of rows local to this processor  
    int_t fst_row; // global index of the first row  
    void *nzval; // pointer to array of nonzero values, packed by row  
    int_t *colind; // pointer to array of column indices of the nonzeros  
    int_t *rowptr; // pointer to array of beginning of rows in nzval[]and colind[]  
} NRformat_loc;
```

# Distributed Compressed Row Storage

SuperLU\_DIST/FORTRAN/f\_5x5.f90

A is distributed on 2 processors:

|    |   |   |   |   |   |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|
| P0 | s |   | u |   | u |
|    | 1 | u |   |   |   |
| P1 |   | 1 | p |   |   |
|    |   |   |   | e | u |
|    | 1 | 1 |   |   | r |

- Processor P0 data structure:

- nnz\_loc = 5
- m\_loc = 2
- fst\_row = 0 // 0-based indexing
- nzval = { s, u, u, l, u }
- colind = { 0, 2, 4, 0, 1 }
- rowptr = { 0, 3, 5 }

- Processor P1 data structure:

- nnz\_loc = 7
- m\_loc = 3
- fst\_row = 2 // 0-based indexing
- nzval = { l, p, e, u, l, l, r }
- colind = { 1, 2, 3, 4, 0, 1, 4 }
- rowptr = { 0, 2, 4, 7 }

# Direct solver solution phases

1. Preprocessing: Reorder equations to minimize fill, maximize parallelism (~10% time)
  - Sparsity structure of L & U depends on A, which can be changed by row/column permutations (vertex re-labeling of the underlying graph)
  - **Ordering** (combinatorial algorithms; “NP-complete” to find optimum [Yannakis ’83]; use heuristics)
2. Preprocessing: predict the fill-in positions in L & U (~10% time)
  - **Symbolic factorization** (combinatorial algorithms)
3. Preprocessing: Design efficient data structure for quick retrieval of the nonzeros
  - Compressed storage schemes
4. Perform factorization and triangular solutions (~80% time)
  - **Numerical algorithms** (F.P. operations only on nonzeros)
  - Usually dominate the total runtime

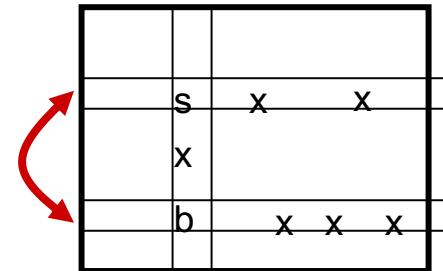
For sparse Cholesky and QR, the steps can be separate. For sparse LU with pivoting, steps 2 and 4 must be interleaved.

# Numerical pivoting for stability

- Goal of pivoting is to control element growth in L & U for stability
  - For sparse factorizations, often relax the pivoting rule to trade with better sparsity and parallelism (e.g., threshold pivoting, static pivoting , . . .)
- **Partial pivoting** used in dense LU, sequential SuperLU and SuperLU\_MT (GEPP)
  - Can force diagonal pivoting (controlled by diagonal threshold)
  - Hard to implement scalably for sparse factorization

## Relaxed pivoting strategies:

- **Static pivoting** used in SuperLU\_DIST (GESP)
  - Before factor, scale and permute A to maximize diagonal:  $P_r D_r A D_c = A'$
  - During factor  $A' = LU$ , replace tiny pivots by  $\sqrt{\varepsilon} \|A\|$ , w/o changing data structures for L & U
  - If needed, use a few steps of iterative refinement after the first solution
  - quite stable in practice
- **Restricted pivoting**
- ...



# Can we reduce fill? -- various ordering algorithms

- Reordering (= permutation of equations and variables)

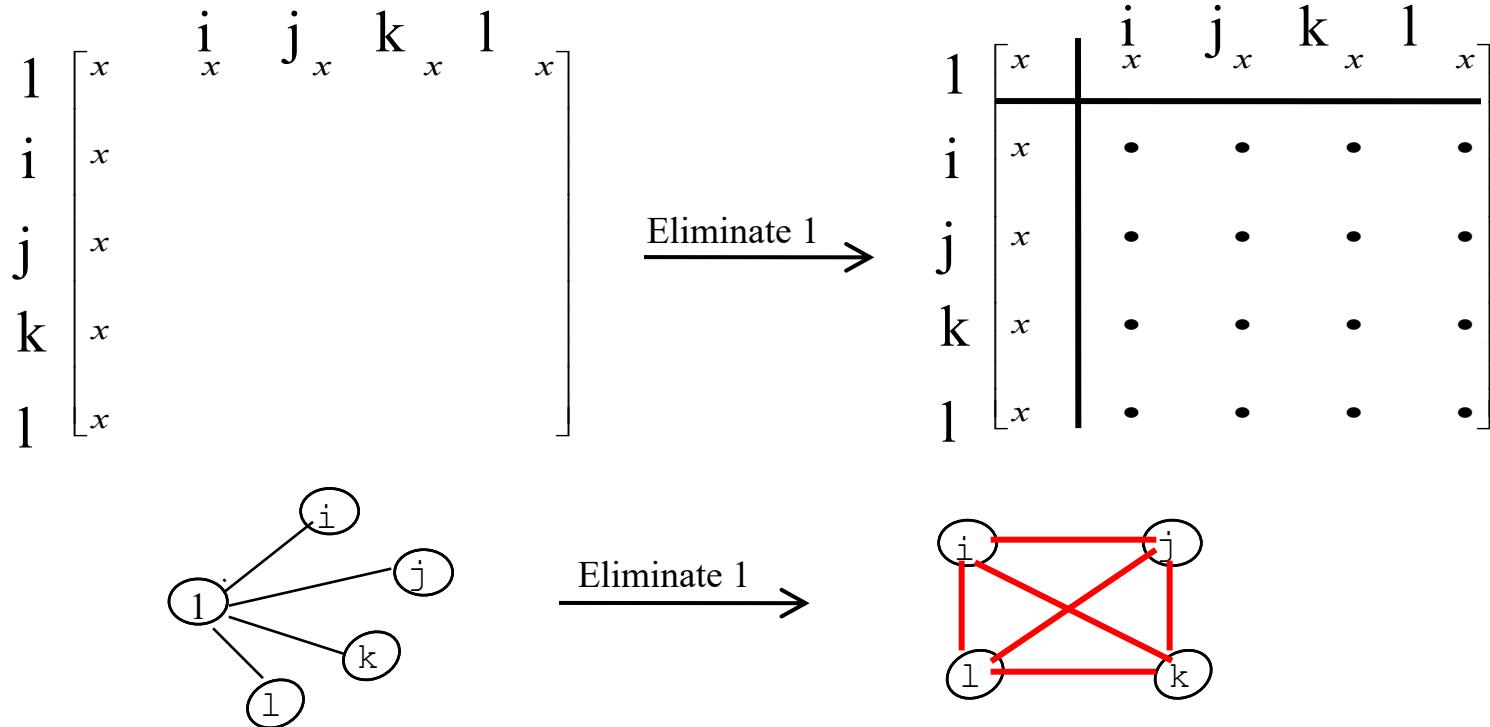
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 2 & 2 & & & \\ 3 & & 3 & & \\ 4 & & & 4 & \\ 5 & & & & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

(all filled after elimination)

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} & & & 1 & \\ & & & & 1 \\ & & 1 & & \\ & 1 & & & \\ 1 & & & & \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 2 & 2 & & & \\ 3 & & 3 & & \\ 4 & & & 4 & \\ 5 & & & & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} & & & 1 & \\ & & & & 1 \\ & & 1 & & \\ & 1 & & & \\ 1 & & & & \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & & & 5 & \\ & 4 & & 4 & \\ & & 3 & 3 & \\ & & & 2 & 2 \\ 5 & 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

(no fill after elimination)

# Ordering to preserve sparsity : Minimum Degree

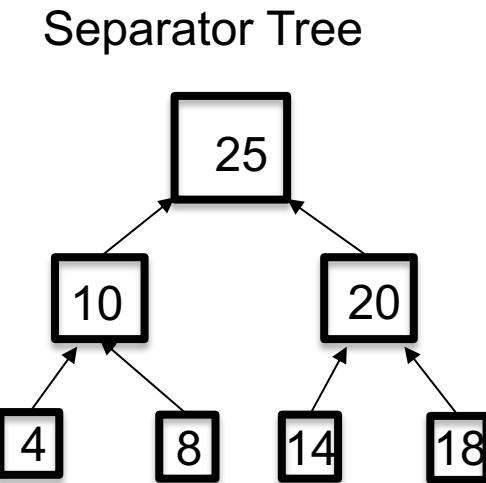
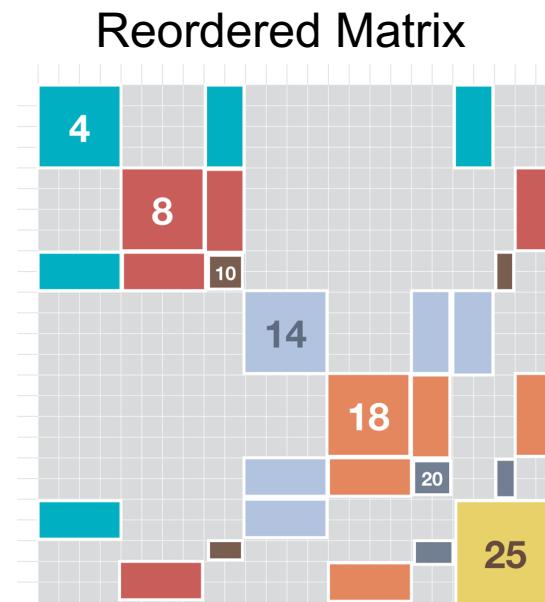
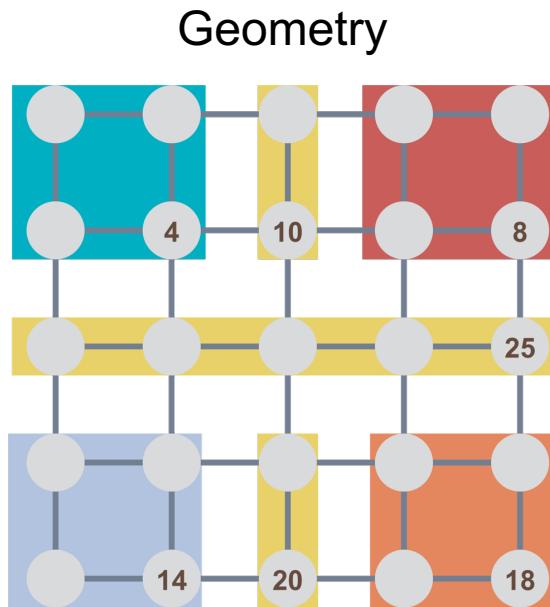


- Local greedy strategy: minimize upper bound on fill-in at each elimination step
- Algorithm: Repeat N steps:
  - Choose a vertex with minimum degree to eliminate
  - Update the remaining graph

Fast implementation: Quotient graph, approximate degree

# Ordering to preserve sparsity : Nested Dissection

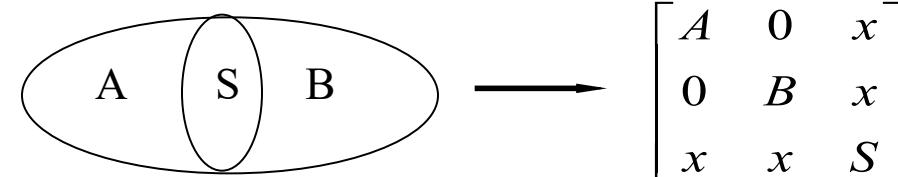
- Model problem: discretized system  $Ax = b$  from certain PDEs, e.g., 5-point stencil on  $k \times k$  grid,  $N = k^2$ 
  - Factorization flops:  $O(k^3) = O(N^{3/2})$
- Theorem: ND ordering gives optimal complexity in exact arithmetic [George '73, Hoffman/Martin/Rose]



# ND Ordering

- Generalized nested dissection [Lipton/Rose/Tarjan '79]
  - Global graph partitioning: top-down, divide-and-conquer
  - Best for large problems
  - Parallel codes available: ParMetis, PT-Scotch

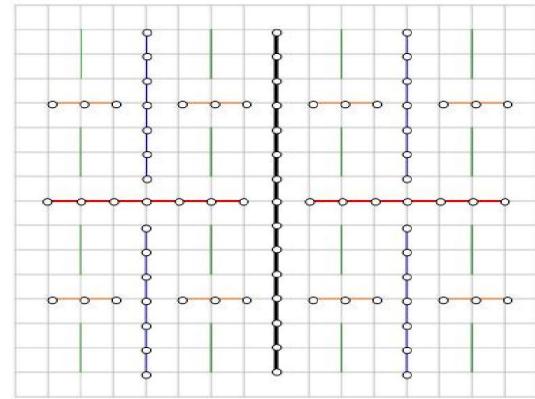
- First level



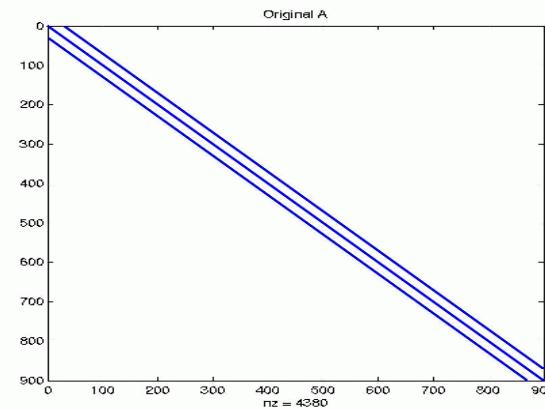
- Recurse on A and B

- Goal: find the smallest possible separator S at each level
  - Multilevel schemes:
    - Chaco [Hendrickson/Leland '94], Metis [Karypis/Kumar '95]
    - Spectral bisection [Simon et al. '90-'95, Ghysels et al. 2019- ]
    - Geometric and spectral bisection [Chan/Gilbert/Teng '94]

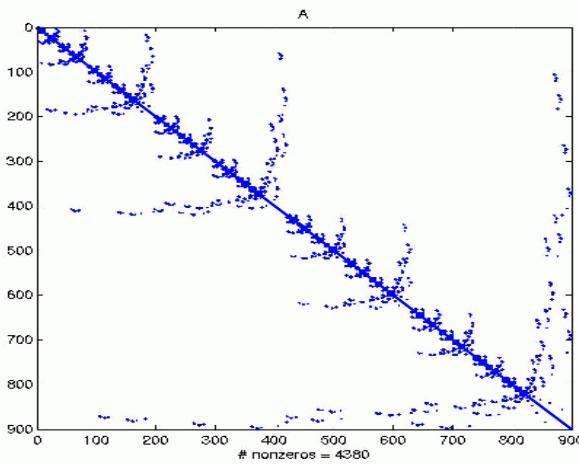
# ND Ordering



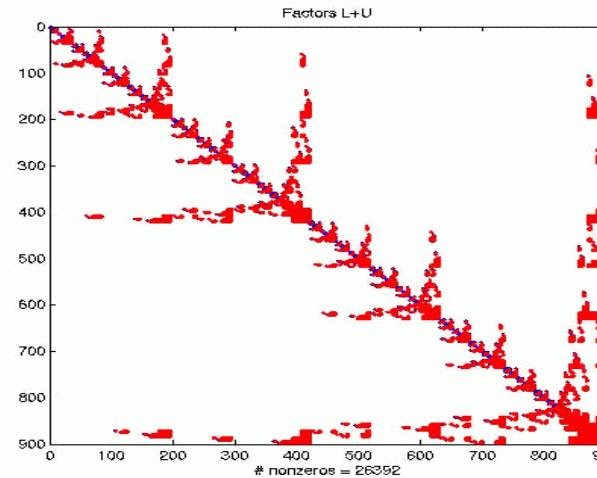
2D mesh



A, with row-wise ordering



A, with ND ordering



L & U factors

# Ordering for LU with non-symmetric patterns

- Can use a symmetric ordering on a symmetrized matrix
- Case of partial pivoting (serial SuperLU, SuperLU\_MT):
  - Use ordering based on  $A^T * A$
- Case of static pivoting (SuperLU\_DIST):
  - Use ordering based on  $A^T + A$
- Can find better ordering based solely on  $A$ , without symmetrization
  - Diagonal Markowitz [Amestoy/Li/Ng '06]
    - Similar to minimum degree, but without symmetrization
  - Hypergraph partition [Boman, Grigori, et al. '08]
    - Similar to ND on  $A^T A$ , but no need to compute  $A^T A$

# Algorithm variants, codes .... depending on matrix properties

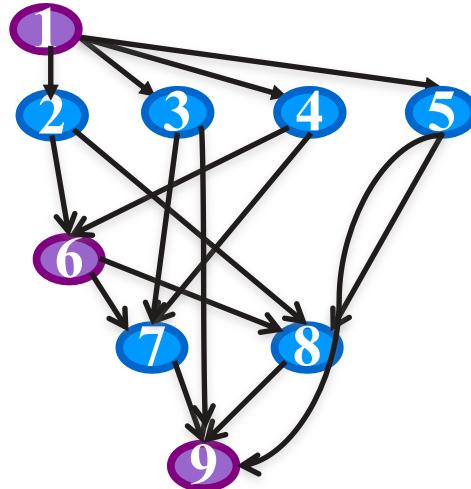
| Matrix properties  | Supernodal<br>(updates in-place) | Multifrontal<br>(partial updates passing around) |
|--|----------------------------------|--|
| Symmetric<br>Pos. Def.: Cholesky LL'<br>indefinite: LDL' | symPACK (DAG)                    | MUMPS (tree)                                     |
| Symmetric pattern,<br>non-symmetric value                | PARDISO (DAG)                    | MUMPS (tree)<br>STRUMPACK (binary tree)          |
| Non-symmetric everything                                 | SuperLU (DAG)<br>PARDISO (DAG)   | UMFPACK (DAG)                                    |

- Remarks:
  - SuperLU, MUMPS, UMFPACK can use any sparsity-reducing ordering
  - STRUMPACK can only use nested dissection (restricted to binary tree)
- Survey of sparse direct solvers (codes, algorithms, parallel capability):  
<https://portal.nersc.gov/project/sparse/superlu/SparseDirectSurvey.pdf>

# Sparse LU: two algorithm variants

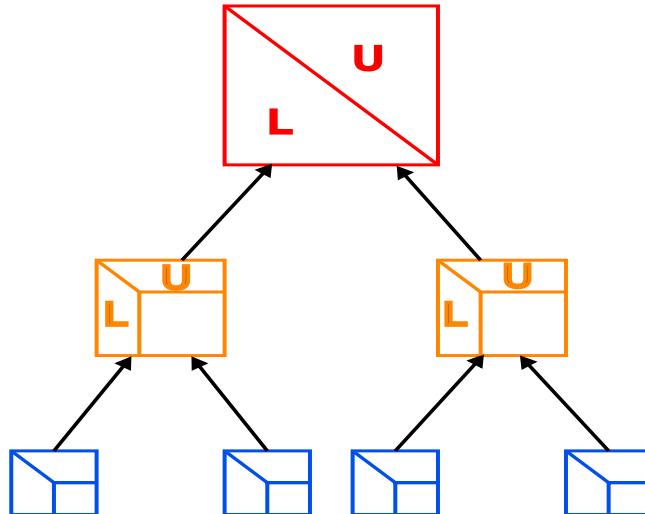
... depending on how updates are accumulated

DAG based  
Supernodal: SuperLU

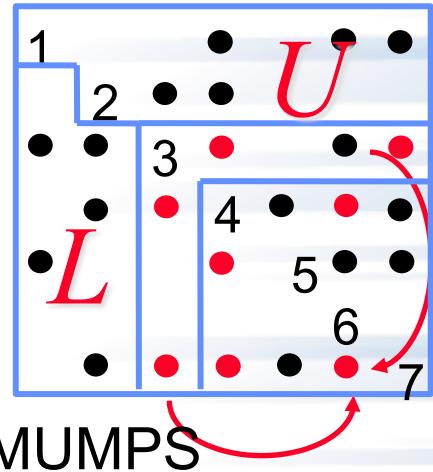


$$S^{(j)} \leftarrow ((A^{(j)} - D^{(k1)}) - D^{(k2)}) - \dots$$

Tree based  
Multifrontal: STRUMPACK, MUMPS



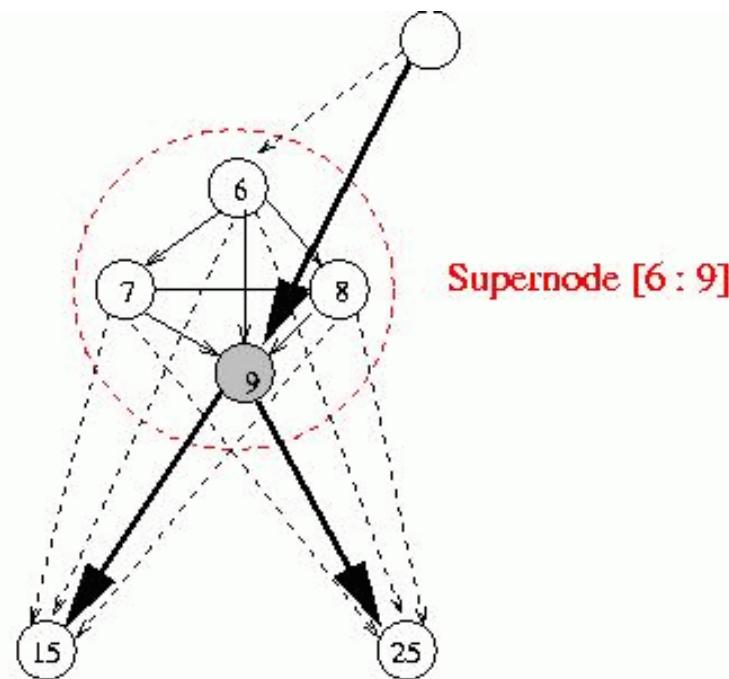
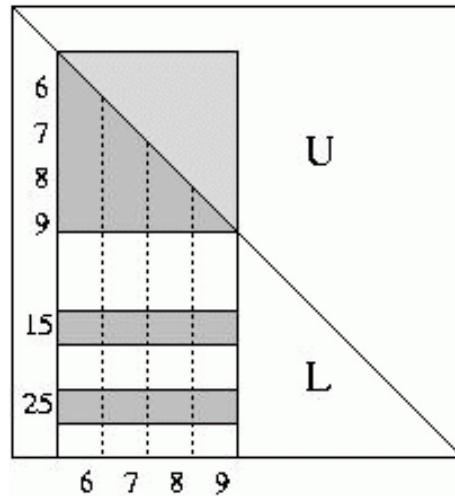
$$S^{(j)} \leftarrow A^{(j)} - (..(D^{(k1)} + D^{(k2)}) + \dots)$$



# Supernode

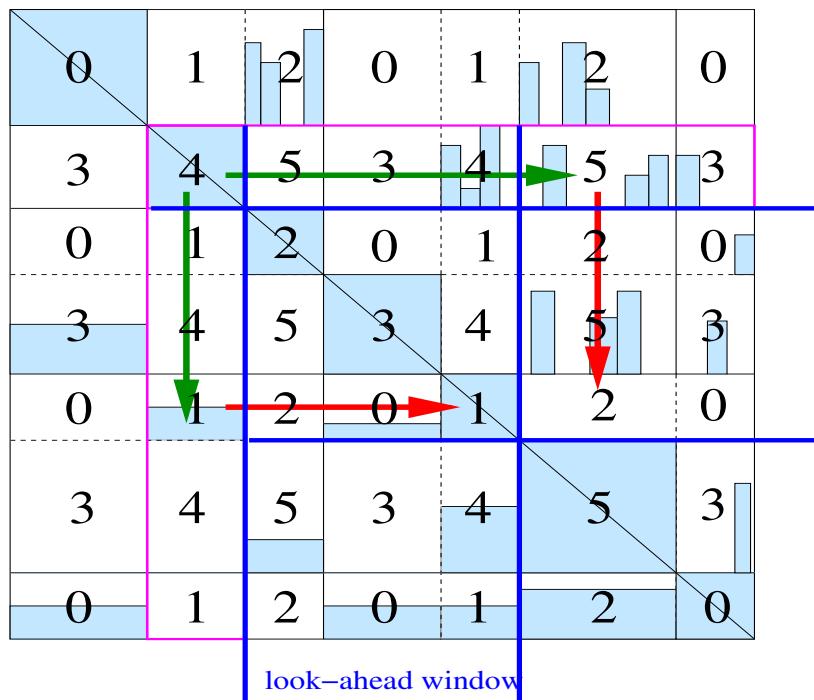
Exploit dense submatrices in the factors

- Can use Level 3 BLAS
- Reduce inefficient indirect addressing (scatter/gather)
- Reduce graph traversal time using a coarser graph



# 2D distributed L & U factored matrices (internal to SuperLU)

- 2D block cyclic layout – specified by user.
- Rule: process grid should be as square as possible.  
Or, set the row dimension (*nrow*) slightly smaller than the column dimension (*ncol*).
- For example: 2x3, 2x4, 4x4, 4x8, etc.



MPI Process Grid

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 |

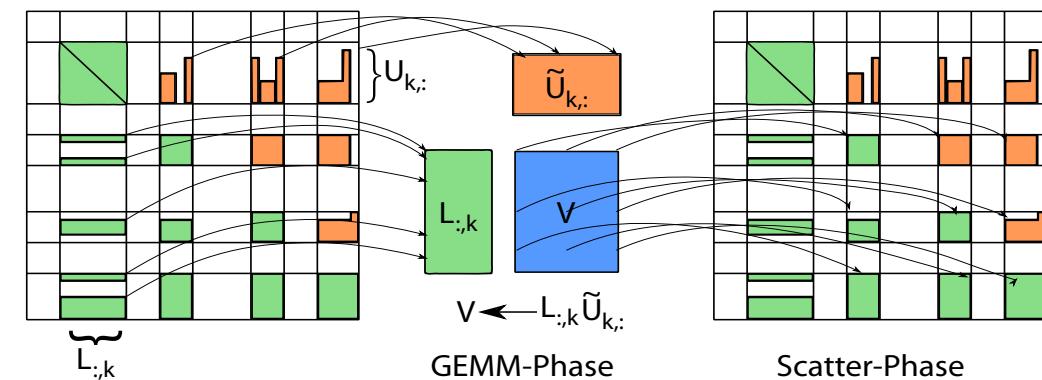
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 |

## Per-rank Schur complement update

```

Loop through N steps: (Gaussian Elimination)
FOR ( k = 1, N ) {
    1) Gather sparse blocks A(:, k) and A(k,:)
       into dense work[]
    2) Call dense GEMM on work[]
    3) Scatter work[] into remaining sparse blocks
}

```



# Communication-avoid 3D algorithm ('pddrive3d')

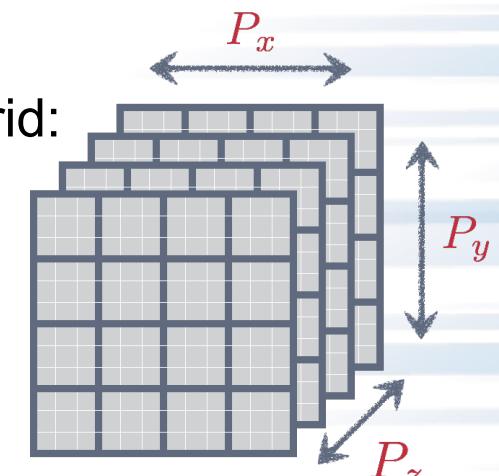
Sao, Li, Vuduc, JPDC 2019

- For matrices from planar graph, provably asymptotic lower communication complexity:
  - Comm. volume reduced by a factor of  $\sqrt{\log(n)}$ .
  - Latency reduced by a factor of  $\log(n)$ .
- Strong scale to 24,000 cores.

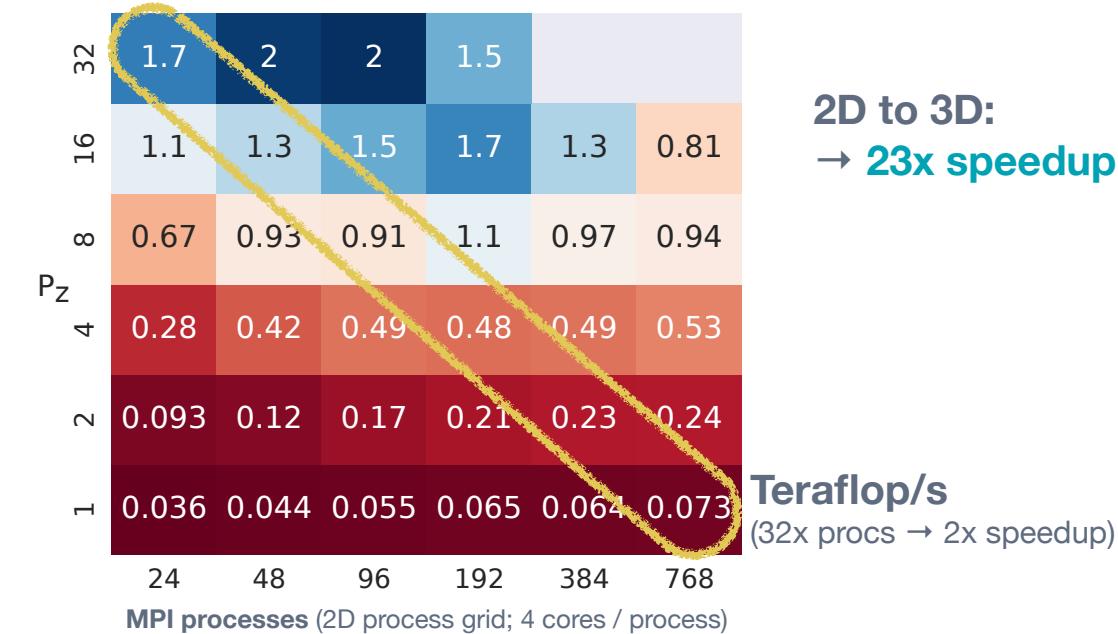
Compared to 2D algorithm:

- Planar graph: up to 27x faster, 30% more memory @  $P_z = 16$
- Non-planar graph: up to 3.3x faster, 2x more memory @  $P_z = 16$

3D process grid:  
 $\{P_{XY}, P_z\}$



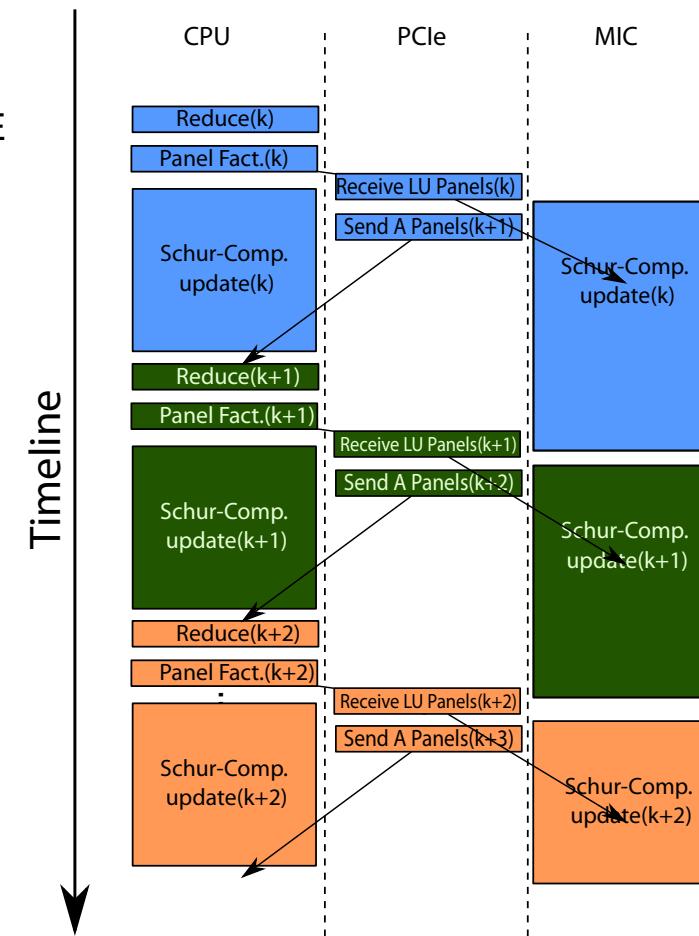
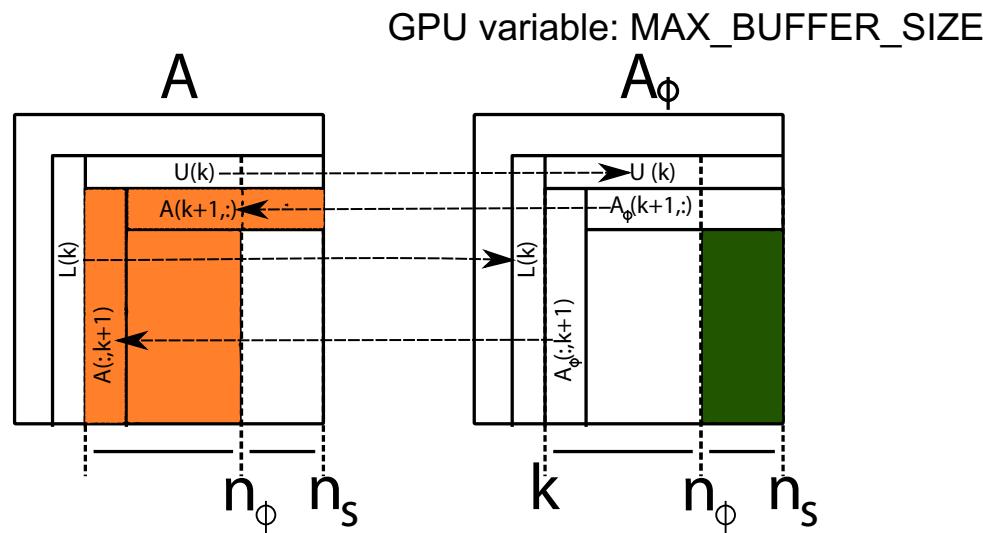
[hpcgarage.org/](http://hpcgarage.org/)



# Offload more to GPU

- Offload Schur-complement update to GPU

Sao, Liu, Vuduc, Li, IPDPS 2015



# SpLU tiime on ThetaGPU (AMD EPYC 7742, NVIDIA A100)

```
export matdir=/grand/ATPESC2022/usr/MathPackages/datafiles
```

```
export OMP_NUM_THREADS=1
```

- 2D algorithm: mpiexec -n 2 pddrive -r 1 -c 2 \${matdir}/<matrix file>
  - Only offload GEMM
- 3D algorithm: mpiexec -n 2 pddive3d -r 1 -c 1 -d 2 \${matdir}/<matrix file>
  - Offload GEMM and Scatter in Schur-complement, panel factor still on CPU

|        |                             | 2D proc grid:<br>1x1      1x2 |       | 3D proc grid:<br>1x1x1      1x1x2 |       |
|--------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| torso3 | CPU (SUPERLU_ACC_OFFLOAD=0) | 21.2                          | 12.2  | 24.4                              | 14.3  |
|        | +GPU                        | 18.1                          | 10.8  | 6.3                               | 5.2   |
| Li4244 | CPU (SUPERLU_ACC_OFFLOAD=0) | 259.5                         | 140.6 | 298.5                             | 179.8 |
|        | +GPU                        | 175.1                         | 98.2  | 31.1                              | 28.2  |

# User-controllable options in SuperLU\_DIST

For stability and efficiency, need to solve transformed linear system:

$$P_c ( P_r ( D_r \mathbf{A} D_c ) ) P_c^T P_c D_c^{-1} \mathbf{x} = P_c P_r D_r \mathbf{b}$$

“Options” fields with C enum constants:

- Equil: { NO, YES }
- RowPerm: { NOROWPERM, LargeDiag\_MC64, LargeDiag\_HWPM, MY\_PERMR }
- ColPerm: { NATURAL, MMD\_ATA, MMD\_AT\_PLUS\_A, COLAMD, METIS\_AT\_PLUS\_A, PARMETIS, ZOLTAN, MY\_PERMC }

Call `set_default_options_dist(&options)` to set default values.

# Tips for Debugging Performance

- Check sparsity ordering
- Diagonal pivoting is preferable
  - E.g., matrix is diagonally dominant, . . .
- Need good BLAS library (vendor, OpenBLAS, ATLAS)
  - May need adjust block size for each architecture
    - ( Parameters modifiable by environment variables)
    - Larger blocks better for uniprocessor
    - Smaller blocks better for parallelism and load balance
- **GPTune:** ML algorithms for selection of best parameters
  - <https://github.com/gptune/GPTune/>

## SuperLU\_DIST other examples

### superlu\_dist/EXAMPLE

See README file (e.g. mpiexec -n 12 ./pddrive1 -r 3 -c 4 stomach.rua)

- pddrive1.c: Solve the systems with same A but different right-hand side at different times.
  - **Reuse the factored form of A.**
- pddrive2.c: Solve the systems with the same pattern as A.
  - **Reuse the sparsity ordering.**
- pddrive3.c: Solve the systems with the same sparsity pattern and similar values.
  - **Reuse the sparsity ordering and symbolic factorization.**
- pddrive4.c: Divide the processes into two subgroups (two grids) such that each subgroup solves a linear system independently from the other.

|   |   |    |    |
|---|---|----|----|
| 0 | 1 |    |    |
| 2 | 3 |    |    |
|   |   | 4  | 5  |
|   |   | 6  | 7  |
|   |   | 8  | 9  |
|   |   | 10 | 11 |

Block Jacobi preconditioner

# Algorithm complexity (in bigO sense)

- Dense LU:  $O(N^3)$
- Model PDEs with regular mesh, nested dissection ordering

|                                     | 2D problems<br>$N = k^2$ |             |             | 3D problems<br>$N = k^3$                          |             |             |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|---|-------------|-------------|
|                                     | Factor flops             | Solve flops | Memory      | Factor flops                                      | Solve flops | Memory      |
| Exact sparse LU                     | $N^{3/2}$                | $N \log(N)$ | $N \log(N)$ | $N^2$   | $N^{4/3}$   | $N^{4/3}$   |
| STRUMPACK with low-rank compression | $N$                      | $N$         | $N$         | $N^\alpha \text{ polylog}(N)$<br>( $\alpha < 2$ ) | $N \log(N)$ | $N \log(N)$ |

| Code   | Technique           | Scope                        | Contact         |      |
|--|---------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------|
| <i>Serial platforms (possibly on GPU)</i>                |                     |                              |                 |      |
| CHOLMOD  | Left-looking        | SPD                          | Davis           | [8]  |
| GLU3.0   | Left-looking        | Unsym (GPU)                  | Peng            | [36] |
| KLU  | Left-looking        | Unsym                        | Davis           | [11] |
| MA57   | Multifrontal        | Sym                          | HSL             | [19] |
| MA41   | Multifrontal        | Sym-pat                      | HSL             | [1]  |
| MA42   | Frontal             | Unsym                        | HSL             | [20] |
| MA67   | Multifrontal        | Sym                          | HSL             | [17] |
| MA48   | Right-looking       | Unsym                        | HSL             | [18] |
| Oblio  | Left/right/Multifr. | sym, Out-core                | Dobrian         | [14] |
| SPARSE   | Right-looking       | Unsym                        | Kundert         | [32] |
| SPARSPAK   | Left-looking        | SPD, Unsym, QR               | George et al.   | [22] |
| SPOOLES  | Left-looking        | Sym, Sym-pat, QR             | Ashcraft        | [5]  |
| SSIDS  | Multifrontal        | Sym (GPU)                    | Hogg            | [28] |
| SuperLLT   | Left-looking        | SPD                          | Ng              | [35] |
| SuperLU  | Left-looking        | Unsym                        | Li              | [12] |
| UMFPACK  | Multifrontal        | Unsym                        | Davis           | [9]  |
| <i>Shared memory parallel machines (possibly on GPU)</i> |                     |                              |                 |      |
| BCSLIB-EXT   | Multifrontal        | Sym, Unsym, QR               | Ashcraft et al. | [6]  |
| Cholesky   | Left-looking        | SPD                          | Rothberg        | [31] |
| MF2  | Multifrontal        | Sym, Sym-pat, Out-core (GPU) | Lucas           | [34] |
| MA41   | Multifrontal        | Sym-pat                      | HSL             | [2]  |
| MA49   | Multifrontal        | QR                           | HSL             | [4]  |
| PanelLLT   | Left-looking        | SPD                          | Ng              | [24] |
| PARASPAR   | Right-looking       | Unsym                        | Zlatev          | [41] |
| PARDISO  | Left-Right looking  | Sym-pat                      | Schenk          | [39] |
| SPOOLES  | Left-looking        | Sym, Sym-pat                 | Ashcraft        | [5]  |
| SuiteSparseQR  | Multifrontal        | Rank-revealing QR            | Davis           | [10] |
| SuperLU_MT   | Left-looking        | Unsym                        | Li              | [13] |
| TAUCS  | Left/Multifr.       | Sym, Unsym, Out-core         | Toledo          | [7]  |
| WSMP   | Multifrontal        | SPD, Unsym                   | Gupta           | [25] |
| <i>Distributed memory parallel machines</i>              |                     |                              |                 |      |
| Clique   | Multifrontal        | Sym (no pivoting)            | Poulson         | [37] |
| MF2  | Multifrontal        | Sym, Sym-pat, Out-core, GPU  | Lucas           | [34] |
| DSCPACK  | Multifrontal        | SPD                          | Raghavan        | [26] |
| MUMPS  | Multifrontal        | Sym, Sym-pat                 | Amestoy         | [3]  |
| PARDISO  | Left-Right looking  | Sym-pat, Unsym               | Schenk          | [39] |
| PaStiX   | Left-Right looking  | SPD, Sym, Sym-pat            | Ramet           | [29] |
| PSPASES  | Multifrontal        | SPD                          | Gupta           | [23] |
| SPOOLES  | Left-looking        | Sym, Sym-pat, QR             | Ashcraft        | [5]  |
| STRUMPACK  | Multifrontal        | Unsym, Sym-pat (GPU)         | Ghysels         | [40] |
| SuperLU_DIST   | Right-looking       | Unsym (GPU)                  | Li              | [33] |
| symPACK  | Left-Right looking  | SPD                          | Jacquelin       | [30] |
| S+   | Right-looking†      | Unsym                        | Yang            | [21] |
| WSMP   | Multifrontal        | SPD, Unsym                   | Gupta           | [25] |

Table 1: Software to solve sparse linear systems using direct methods.

## Survey of sparse direct solver codes

[portal.nersc.gov/project/sparse/superlu/Sparse  
DirectSurvey.pdf](http://portal.nersc.gov/project/sparse/superlu/SparseDirectSurvey.pdf)



# References

- Short course, “Factorization-based sparse solvers and preconditioners”, 4th Gene Golub SIAM Summer School, 2013.<https://archive.siam.org/students/g2s3/2013/index.html>
  - 10 hours lectures, hands-on exercises
  - Extended summary: <http://crd-legacy.lbl.gov/~xiaoye/g2s3-summary.pdf>  
(in book “Matrix Functions and Matrix Equations”, <https://doi.org/10.1142/9590>)
- SuperLU: [portal.nersc.gov/project/sparse/superlu](http://portal.nersc.gov/project/sparse/superlu)
  - Users guide, papers, ...

# Rank Structured Solvers for Dense Linear Systems



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# Hierarchical Matrix Approximation

$\mathcal{H}$ -matrix representation [1]

- Data-sparse, rank-structured, compressed

Hierarchical/recursive  $2 \times 2$  matrix blocking, with blocks either:

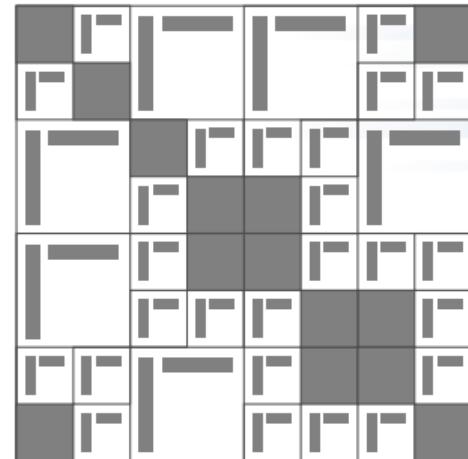
- Low-rank:  $A_{IJ} \approx UV^\top$
- Hierarchical
- Dense (at lowest level)

Use cases:

- Boundary element method for integral equations
- Cauchy, Toeplitz, kernel, covariance, ... matrices
- Fast matrix-vector multiplication
- $\mathcal{H}$ -LU decomposition
- Preconditioning



Hackbusch, W., 1999. *A sparse matrix arithmetic based on  $\mathcal{H}$ -matrices. part I: Introduction to  $\mathcal{H}$ -matrices.* Computing, 62(2), pp.89-108.



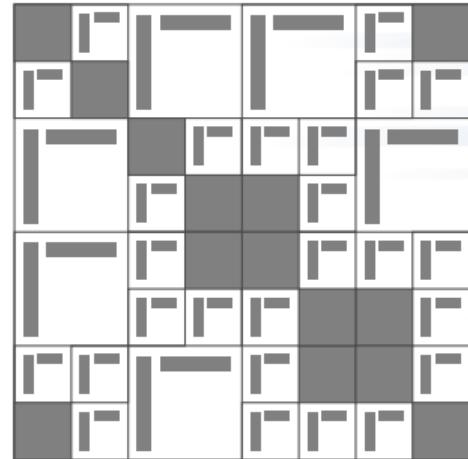
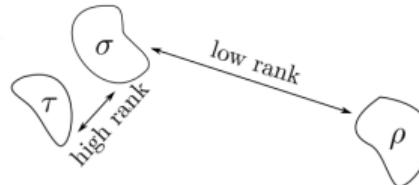
# Admissibility Condition

- Row cluster  $\sigma$
- Column cluster  $\tau$
- $\sigma \times \tau$  is compressible  $\Leftrightarrow$

$$\frac{\max(\text{diam}(\sigma), \text{diam}(\tau))}{\text{dist}(\tau, \sigma)} \leq \eta$$

- $\text{diam}(\sigma)$ : diameter of physical domain corresponding to  $\sigma$
- $\text{dist}(\sigma, \tau)$ : distance between  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$

- Weaker interaction between clusters leads to smaller ranks
- Intuitively larger distance, greater separation, leads to weaker interaction
- Need to cluster and order degrees of freedom to reduce ranks



Hackbusch, W., 1999. A sparse matrix arithmetic based on  $\mathcal{H}$ -matrices. part i: Introduction to  $\mathcal{H}$ -matrices. Computing, 62(2), pp.89-108.

# HODLR: Hierarchically Off-Diagonal Low Rank

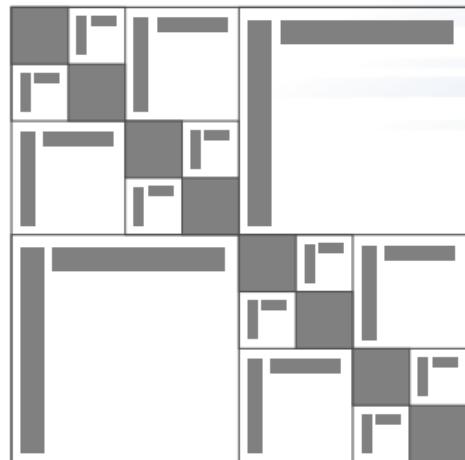
- Weak admissibility

$$\sigma \times \tau \text{ is compressible} \Leftrightarrow \sigma \neq \tau$$

Every off-diagonal block is compressed as low-rank,  
even interaction between neighboring clusters (no  
separation)

Compared to more general  $\mathcal{H}$ -matrix

- Simpler data-structures: same row and column cluster tree
- More scalable parallel implementation
- Good for 1D geometries, e.g., boundary of a 2D region  
discretized using BEM or 1D separator
- Larger ranks



## HSS: Hierarchically Semi Separable

- Weak admissibility
- Off-diagonal blocks

$$A_{\sigma,\tau} \approx U_\sigma B_{\sigma,\tau} V_\tau^\top$$

- Nested bases

$$U_\sigma = \begin{bmatrix} U_{\nu_1} & 0 \\ 0 & U_{\nu_2} \end{bmatrix} \hat{U}_\sigma$$

with  $\nu_1$  and  $\nu_2$  children of  $\sigma$  in the cluster tree.

- At lowest level

$$U_\sigma \equiv \hat{U}_\sigma$$

- Store only  $\hat{U}_\sigma$ , smaller than  $U_\sigma$
- Complexity  $\mathcal{O}(N) \leftrightarrow \mathcal{O}(N \log N)$  for HODLR
- HSS is special case of  $\mathcal{H}^2$ :  $\mathcal{H}$  with nested bases

$$\begin{bmatrix} D_0 & U_0 B_{0,1} V_1^* \\ U_1 B_{1,0} V_0^* & D_1 \\ & U_5 B_{5,2} V_2^* \\ & U_4 B_{4,3} V_3^* \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} & U_2 B_{2,5} V_5^* \\ D_3 & U_3 B_{3,4} V_4^* \\ & D_4 \end{bmatrix}$$



# HSS: Hierarchically Semi Separable

- Weak admissibility
- Off-diagonal blocks

$$A_{\sigma,\tau} \approx U_\sigma B_{\sigma,\tau} V_\tau^\top$$

- Nested bases

$$U_\sigma = \begin{bmatrix} U_{\nu_1} & 0 \\ 0 & U_{\nu_2} \end{bmatrix} \hat{U}_\sigma$$

with  $\nu_1$  and  $\nu_2$  children of  $\sigma$  in the cluster tree.

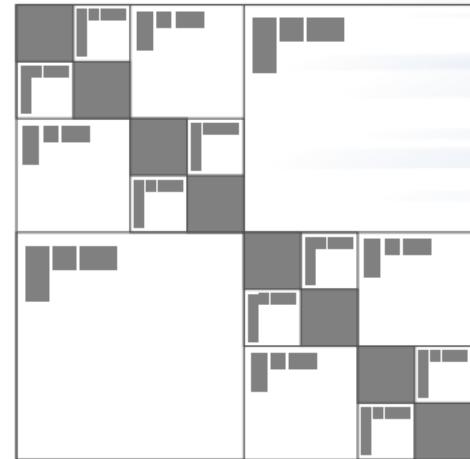
- At lowest level

$$U_\sigma \equiv \hat{U}_\sigma$$

- Store only  $\hat{U}_\sigma$ , smaller than  $U_\sigma$
- Complexity  $\mathcal{O}(N) \leftrightarrow \mathcal{O}(N \log N)$  for HODLR
- HSS is special case of  $\mathcal{H}^2$ :  $\mathcal{H}$  with nested bases

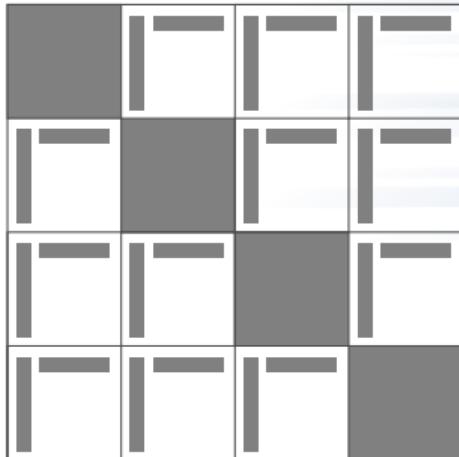
$$\begin{bmatrix} D_0 & U_0 B_{0,1} V_1^* \\ U_1 B_{1,0} V_0^* & D_1 \\ \begin{bmatrix} U_3 & 0 \\ 0 & U_4 \end{bmatrix} \hat{U}_5 B_{5,2} \hat{V}_2^* & \begin{bmatrix} V_0^* & 0 \\ 0 & V_1^* \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} U_0 & 0 \\ 0 & U_1 \end{bmatrix} \hat{U}_2 B_{2,5} \hat{V}_5^* \begin{bmatrix} V_3^* & 0 \\ 0 & V_4^* \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{array}{c} D_3 \\ U_4 B_{4,3} V_3^* \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} U_3 B_{3,4} V_4^* \\ D_4 \end{array} \end{bmatrix}$$



## BLR: Block Low Rank [1, 2]

- Flat partitioning (non-hierarchical)
- Weak or strong admissibility
- Larger asymptotic complexity than  $\mathcal{H}$ , HSS, ...
- Works well in practice

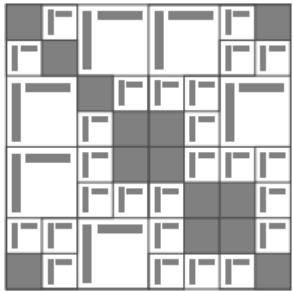


Mary, T. (2017). *Block Low-Rank multifrontal solvers: complexity, performance, and scalability*. (Doctoral dissertation).



Amestoy, Patrick, et al. (2015). *Improving multifrontal methods by means of block low-rank representations*. SISC 37.3 : A1451-A1474.

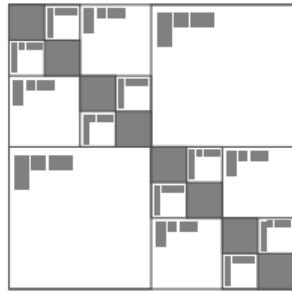
# Data-Sparse Matrix Representation Overview



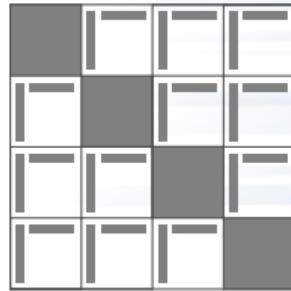
$\mathcal{H}$



HODLR



HSS



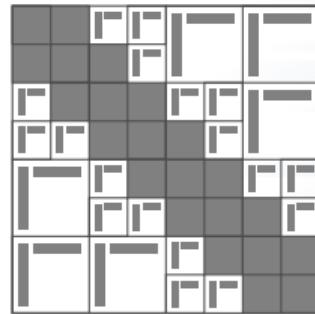
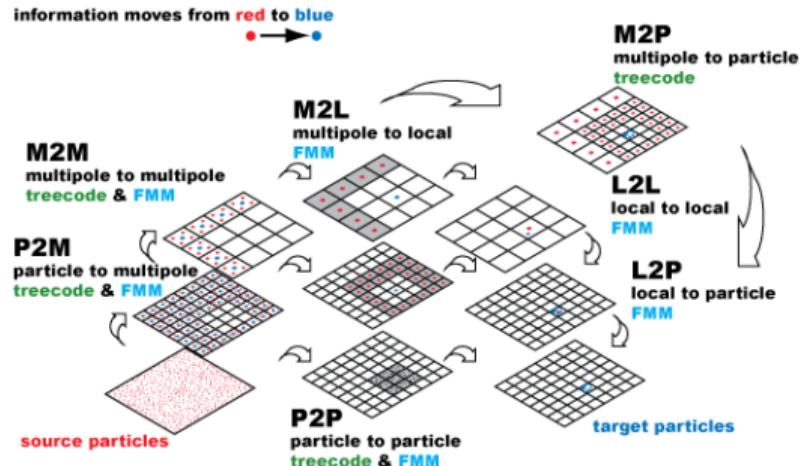
BLR

- Partitioning: **hierarchical** ( $\mathcal{H}$ , HODLR, HSS) or **flat** (BLR)
- Admissibility: **weak** (HODLR, HSS) or **strong** ( $\mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathcal{H}^2$ )
- Bases: **nested** (HSS,  $\mathcal{H}^2$ ) or **not nested** (HODLR,  $\mathcal{H}$ , BLR)

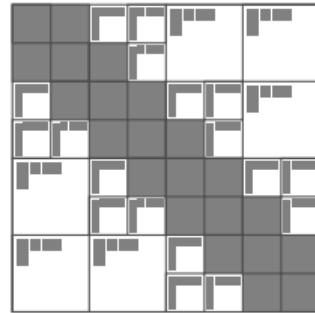
# Fast Multipole Method [1]

Particle methods like Barnes-Hut and FMM can be interpreted algebraically using hierarchical matrix algebra

- Barnes-Hut  $\mathcal{O}(N \log N)$
- Fast Multipole Method  $\mathcal{O}(N)$



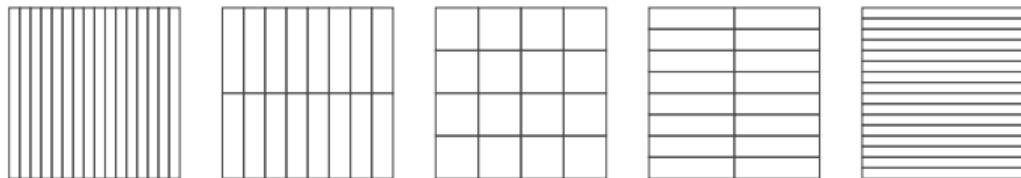
Barnes-Hut



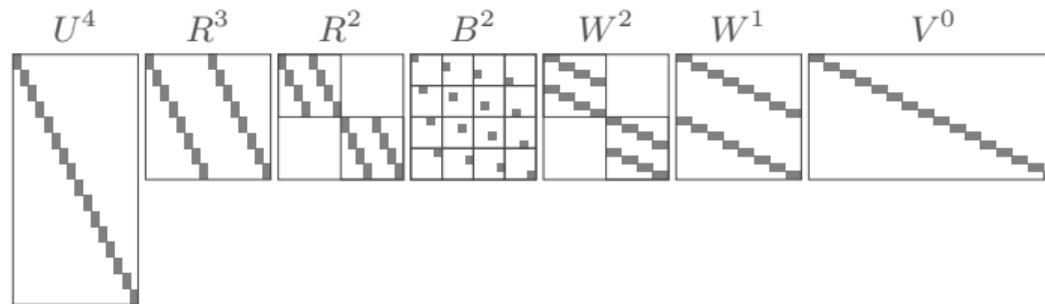
FMM

## Butterfly Decomposition [1]

Complementary low rank property: sub-blocks of size  $\mathcal{O}(N)$  are low rank:



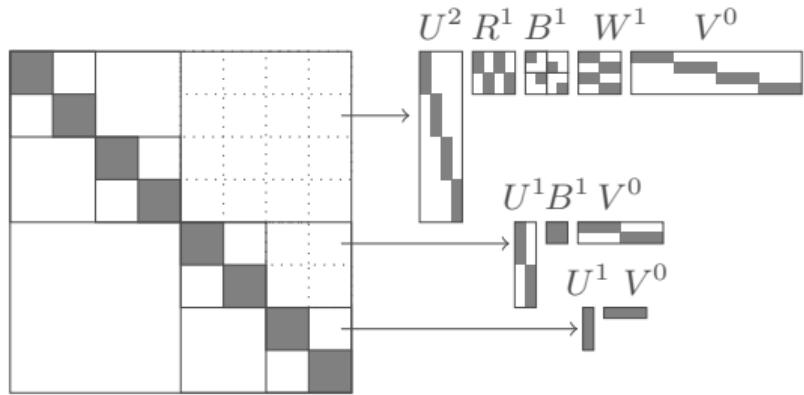
Multiplicative decomposition:



- Multilevel generalization of low rank decomposition
- Based on FFT ideas, motivated by high-frequency problems



# HODBF: Hierarchically Off-Diagonal Butterfly



- HODLR but with low rank replaced by Butterfly decomposition
- Reduces ranks of large off-diagonal blocks

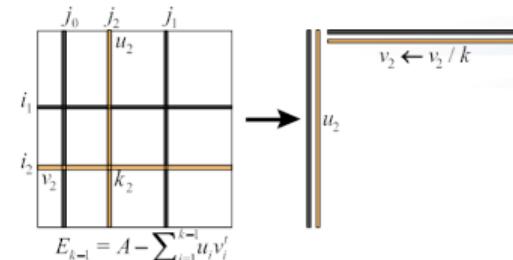
# Low Rank Approximation Techniques

Traditional approaches need entire matrix

- Truncated Singular Value Decomposition (TSVD):  $A \approx U\Sigma V^T$ 
  - Optimal, but expensive
- Column Pivoted QR:  $AP \approx QR$ 
  - Less accurate than TSVD, but cheaper

Adaptive Cross Approximation

- No need to compute every element of the matrix
- Requires certain assumptions on input matrix
- Left-looking LU with rook pivoting



Randomized algorithms [1]

- Fast matrix-vector product:  $S = A\Omega$   
Reduce dimension of  $A$  by random projection with  $\Omega$
- E.g., operator is sparse or rank structured, or the product of sparse and rank structured



Halko, N., Martinsson, P.G., Tropp, J.A. (2011). *Finding structure with randomness: Probabilistic algorithms for constructing approximate matrix decompositions*. SIAM Review, 53(2), 217-288.

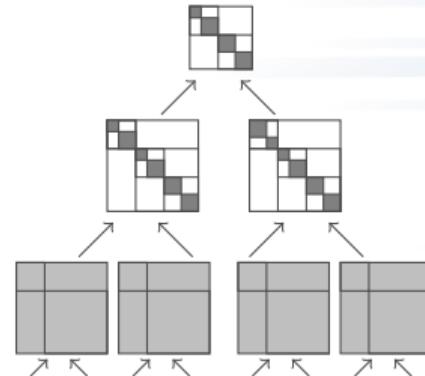
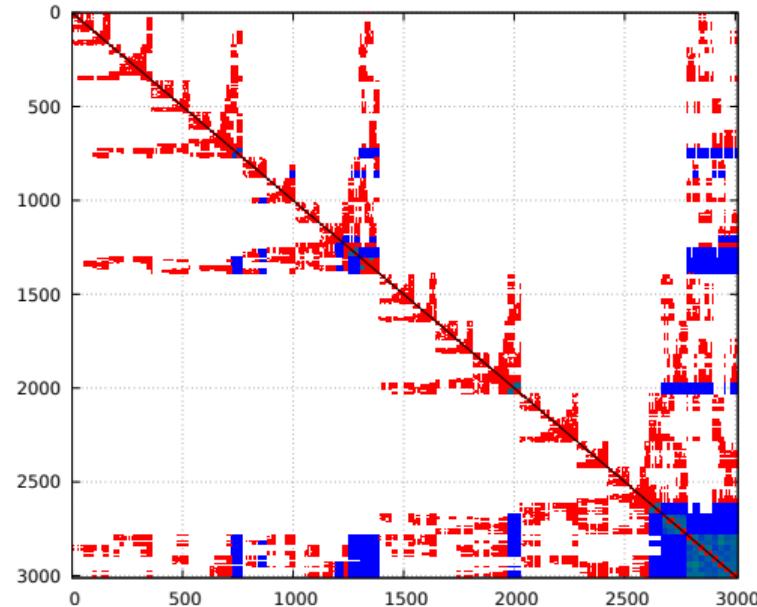
## Approximate Multifrontal Factorization



EXASCALE COMPUTING PROJECT

# Sparse Multifrontal Solver/Preconditioner with Rank-Structured Approximations

$L$  and  $U$  factors, after nested-dissection ordering,  
compressed blocks in blue

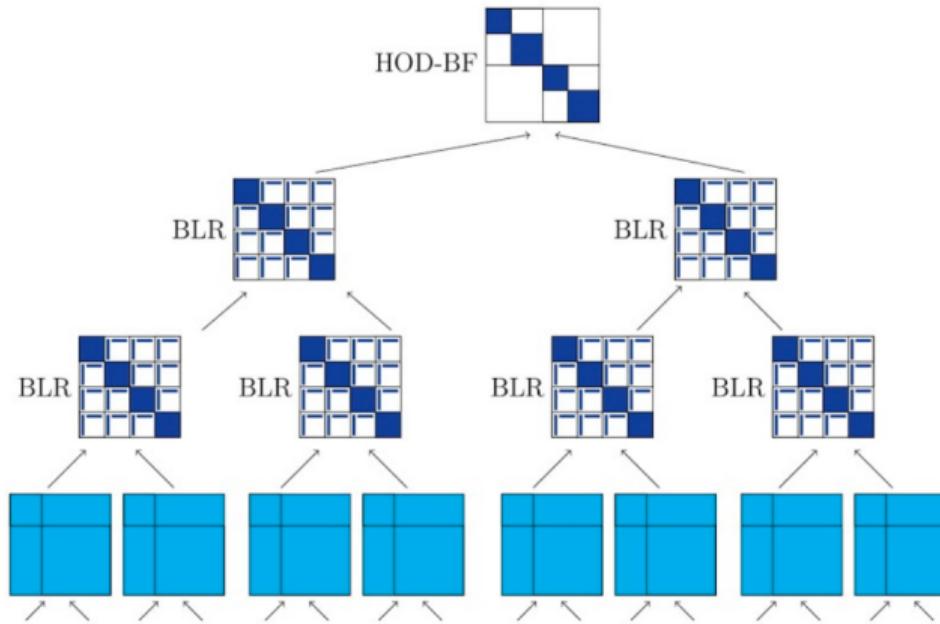


Only apply rank structured compression to largest fronts (dense sub-blocks), keep the rest as regular dense

# Combining Block Low Rank and Hierarchically Off-Diagonal Butterfly

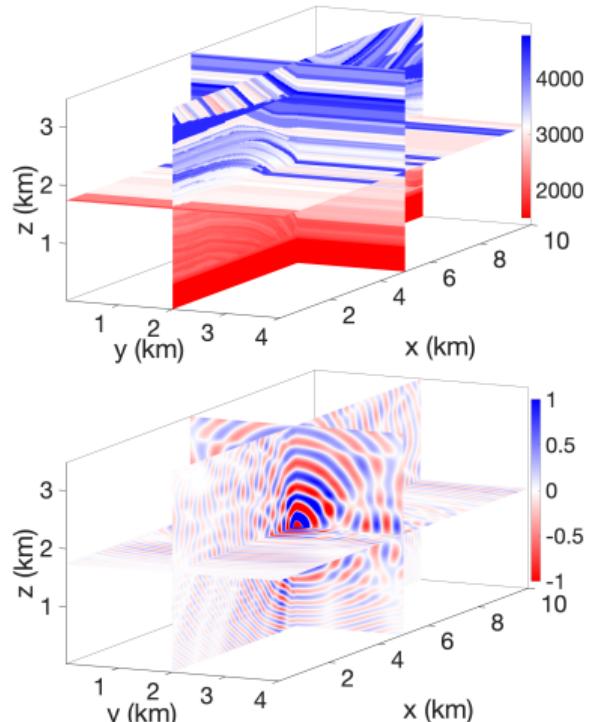
## Rank-structured compression of largest dense blocks in the multifrontal/assembly tree

- Largest: HOD-BF
- Medium: BLR
- Smaller: dense

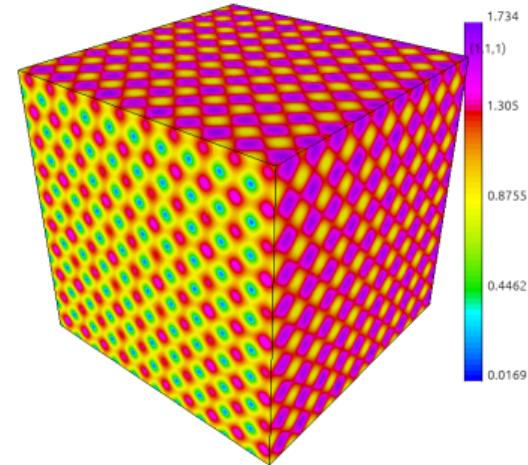


# High Frequency Helmholtz and Maxwell

Regular  $k^3 = N$  grid, fixed number of discretization points per wavelength



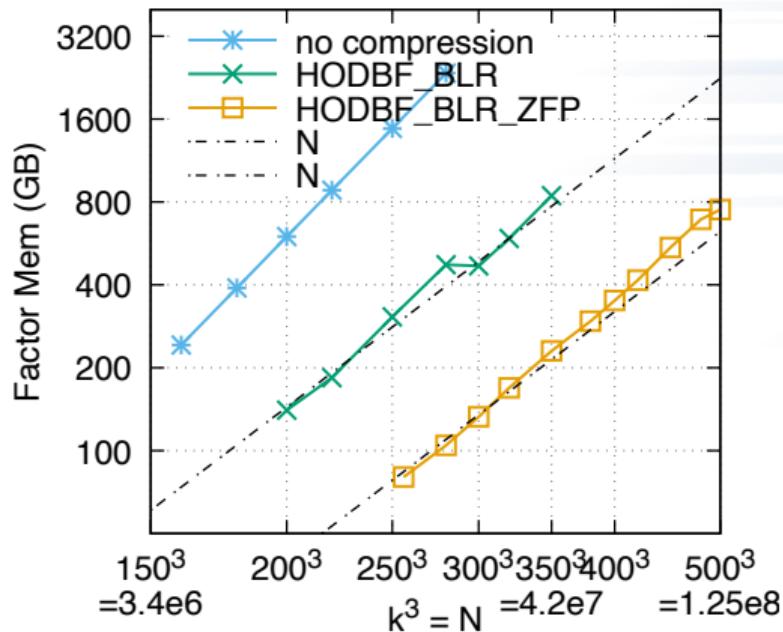
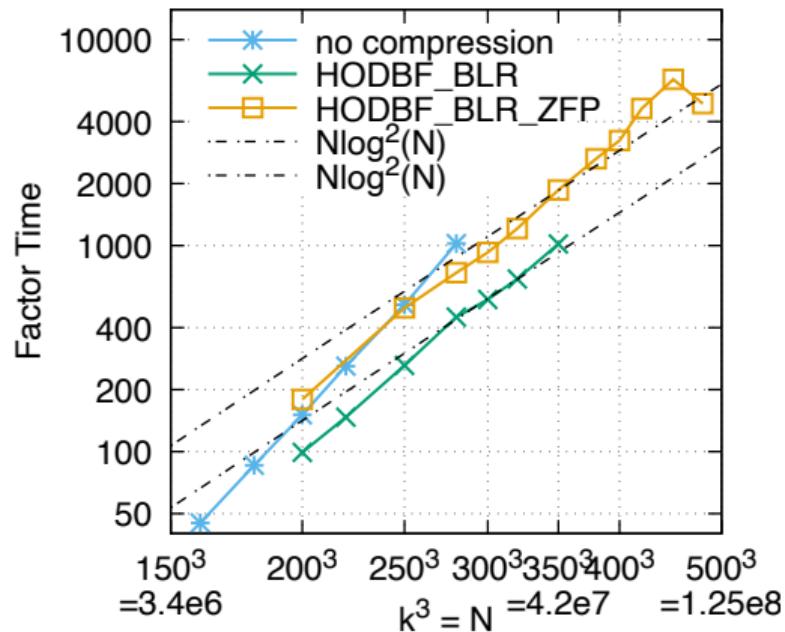
Marmousi2 geophysical elastic dataset



Indefinite Maxwell, using MFEM

# STRUMLPACK Preconditioners for High Frequency Helmholtz and Maxwell

Sparse multifrontal solver with hybrid ZFP, BLR and HODBF compression



- Highly oscillatory problems are hard for iterative solvers
- Typically solved with sparse direct solvers, but scale as  $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$

## Software: ButterflyPACK

- Butterfly
- Hierarchically Off-Diagonal Low Rank (HODLR)
- Hierarchically Off-Diagonal Butterfly (HODBF)
- Hierarchical matrix format ( $\mathcal{H}$ )
  - Limited parallelism
- Fast compression, using randomization
- Fast multiplication, factorization & solve
- Fortran2008, MPI, OpenMP

<https://github.com/liuyangzhuan/ButterflyPACK>

# Software: STRUMPACK

## STRUCTured Matrix PACKAGE

- Fully algebraic solvers/preconditioners
- Sparse direct solver (multifrontal LU factorization)
- Approximate sparse factorization preconditioner
- Dense
  - HSS: Hierarchically Semi-Separable
  - BLR: Block Low Rank
  - ButterflyPACK integration/interface:
    - Butterfly
    - HODLR
    - HODBF
- C++, MPI + OpenMP + CUDA, real & complex, 32/64 bit integers
- BLAS, LAPACK, Metis
- Optional: MPI, ScaLAPACK, ParMETIS, (PT-)Scotch, cuBLAS/cuSOLVER, SLATE, ZFP

<https://github.com/pgphysels/STRUMPACK>

<https://portal.nersc.gov/project/sparse/strumpack/master/>

## Other Available Software

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| HiCMA   | <a href="https://github.com/ecrc/hicma">https://github.com/ecrc/hicma</a>                               |
| HLib    | <a href="http://www.hlib.org/">http://www.hlib.org/</a>   |
| HLibPro | <a href="https://www.hlibpro.com/">https://www.hlibpro.com/</a>   |
| H2Lib   | <a href="http://www.h2lib.org/">http://www.h2lib.org/</a>   |
| HACApK  | <a href="https://github.com/hoshino-UTokyo/hacapk-gpu">https://github.com/hoshino-UTokyo/hacapk-gpu</a> |
| MUMPS   | <a href="http://mumps.enseeiht.fr/">http://mumps.enseeiht.fr/</a>                                       |
| PaStiX  | <a href="https://gitlab.inria.fr/solverstack/pastix">https://gitlab.inria.fr/solverstack/pastix</a>     |
| ExaFMM  | <a href="http://www.bu.edu/exafmm/">http://www.bu.edu/exafmm/</a>                                       |

See also:

[https://github.com/gchavez2/awesome\\_hierarchical\\_matrices](https://github.com/gchavez2/awesome_hierarchical_matrices)

## STRUMPACK Hands-On Session



# HODLR Compression of Toeplitz Matrix $T(i, j) = \frac{1}{1+|i-j|}$

[track-5-numerical/rank\\_structured\\_strumpack/build/testHODLR](#)

- See [track-5-numerical/rank\\_structured\\_strumpack/README](#)

- Get a compute node:

```
qsub -I -n 1 -t 30 -A ATPESC2022 -q single-gpu
```

- Set OpenMP threads:

```
export OMP_NUM_THREADS=1
```

- Run example:

```
mpiexec -n 1 ./build/testHODLR 2000
```

- With description of command line parameters:

```
mpiexec -n 1 ./build/testHODLR 2000 --help
```

- Vary leaf size (smallest block size) and tolerance:

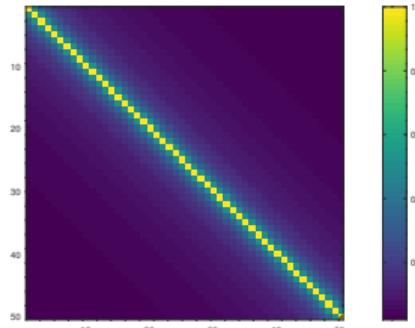
```
mpiexec -n 1 ./build/testHODLR 2000 --structured_rel_tol 1e-4 --structured_leaf_size 16
```

```
mpiexec -n 1 ./build/testHODLR 2000 --structured_rel_tol 1e-4 --structured_leaf_size 12
```

- Vary number of MPI processes:

```
mpiexec -n 12 ./build/testHODLR 2000 --structured_rel_tol 1e-8 --structured_leaf_size 16
```

```
mpiexec -n 12 ./build/testHODLR 2000 --structured_rel_tol 1e-8 --structured_leaf_size 12
```



# HODLR Compression of Toeplitz Matrix $T(i,j) = \frac{1}{1+|i-j|}$

[track-5-numerical/rank\\_structured\\_strumpack/build/testHODLR](#)

```
OMP_NUM_THREADS=1 mpiexec -n 16 ./testHODLR 20000 --structured_rel_tol 1e-4
```

dense (2DBC) 20000 x 20000 matrix

- memory(T2d) = 201.925 MByte

Compression from matrix elements

HODLR

- total\_nonzeros(H) = 297121
- total\_memory(H) = 2.37697 MByte
- maximum\_rank(H) = 12
- ||T-H||\_F/||T||\_F = 1.95816e-06
- ||X-T\\*(T\*X)||\_F/||X||\_F = 2.90269e-06

GMRES it. 0 res = 140.258 rel.res = 1 restart!

GMRES it. 1 res = 0.000378084 rel.res = 2.69563e-06

GMRES it. 2 res = 7.45695e-09 rel.res = 5.31659e-11

- ||X-A\\*(A\*X)||\_F/||X||\_F = 5.24893e-11

# Solve a Sparse Linear System with Matrix pde900.mtx

*track-5-numerical/rank\_structured\_strumpack/build/testMMdouble{MPIDist}*

- See track-5-numerical/rank\_structured\_strumpack/README
- Get a compute node:  
`qsub -I -n 1 -t 30 -A ATPESC2022 -q single-gpu`
- Set OpenMP threads: `export OMP_NUM_THREADS=1`
- Run example:

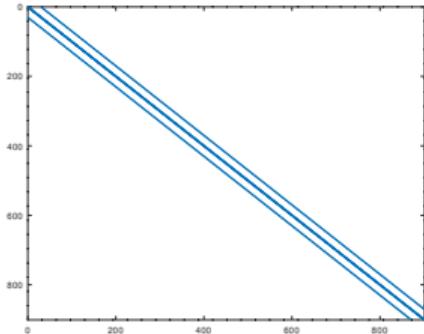
```
mpiexec -n 1 ./build/testMMdouble pde900.mtx
```

- With description of command line parameters:  
`mpiexec -n 1 ./build/testMMDouble pde900.mtx --help`

- Enable/disable GPU off-loading:  
`mpiexec -n 1 ./build/testMMDouble pde900.mtx --sp_disable_gpu`

- Vary number of MPI processes:  
`mpiexec -n 1 ./build/testMMdouble pde900.mtx`  
`mpiexec -n 12 ./build/testMMdoubleMPIDist pde900.mtx`

- Other sparse matrices, in matrix market format:  
NIST Matrix Market: <https://math.nist.gov/MatrixMarket>  
SuiteSparse: <http://faculty.cse.tamu.edu/davis/suitesparse.html>



# GPU Performance for SuiteSparse Problems

[track-5-numerical/rank\\_structured\\_strumpack/build/testMMdouble](#)

See /grand/ATPESC2022/usr/MathPackages/datafiles/

```
OMP_NUM_THREADS=16 ./testMMdouble torso3.mtx  
OMP_NUM_THREADS=16 ./testMMdouble torso3.mtx --sp_disable_gpu
```

| matrix   | N         | nnz        | time (seconds) |        | GFlop/s  |        |
|----------|-----------|------------|----------------|--------|----------|--------|
|          |           |            | GPU A100       | 16 CPU | GPU A100 | 16 CPU |
| torso3   | 259,156   | 4,429,042  | 0.81           | 2.18   | 505.4    | 174.7  |
| Geo_1438 | 1,437,960 | 60,236,322 | 9.54           | 147.72 | 3618.7   | 233.7  |
| nlpkkt80 | 1,062,400 | 28,192,672 | 7.97           | 133.58 | 4056.6   | 242.0  |

Table: Numerical factorization time (seconds) and performance in terms of floating point operations per second.

## Solve 3D Poisson Problem

[track-5-numerical/rank\\_structured\\_strumpack/build/testPoisson3d{MPIDist}](track-5-numerical/rank_structured_strumpack/build/testPoisson3d{MPIDist})

- See track-5-numerical/rank\_structured\_strumpack/README
- Get a compute node: qsub -I -n 1 -t 30 -A ATPESC2022 -q single-gpu
- Set OpenMP threads: export OMP\_NUM\_THREADS=1

- Solve  $40^3$  Poisson problem:

```
mpiexec -n 1 ./build/testPoisson3d 40 --help --sp_disable_gpu
```

- Enable BLR compression:

```
mpiexec -n 1 ./build/testPoisson3d 40 --sp_compression BLR --help
```

```
mpiexec -n 1 ./build/testPoisson3d 40 --sp_compression BLR --blr_rel_tol 1e-2
```

```
mpiexec -n 1 ./build/testPoisson3d 40 --sp_compression BLR --blr_rel_tol 1e-4
```

```
mpiexec -n 1 ./build/testPoisson3d 40 --sp_compression BLR --blr_leaf_size 128
```

```
mpiexec -n 1 ./build/testPoisson3d 40 --sp_compression BLR --blr_leaf_size 256
```

- Parallel, with HSS/HODLR compression:

```
mpiexec -n 12 ./build/testPoisson3dMPIDist 40
```

```
mpiexec -n 12 ./build/testPoisson3dMPIDist 40 --sp_compression HSS \
--sp_compression_min_sep_size 1000 --hss_rel_tol 1e-2
```

```
mpiexec -n 12 ./build/testPoisson3dMPIDist 40 --sp_compression HODLR \
--sp_compression_min_sep_size 1000 --hodlr_leaf_size 128
```

# Rank Structured Preconditioning

[track-5-numerical/rank\\_structured\\_strumpack/build/testPoisson3d](#)

```
export OMP_NUM_THREADS=16
./testPoisson3d 50 --sp_compression none --sp_disable_gpu
./testPoisson3d 100 --sp_compression none --sp_disable_gpu

./testPoisson3d 50 --sp_compression blr --blr_rel_tol 1e-2
./testPoisson3d 100 --sp_compression blr --blr_rel_tol 1e-2
```

| compression<br>mesh size | NONE   |         | BLR    |         |
|--------------------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
|                          | $50^3$ | $100^3$ | $50^3$ | $100^3$ |
| factor time (sec)        | 1.11   | 51.59   | 0.59   | 17.20   |
| factor memory (MB)       | 902    | 16,477  | 533    | 5,190   |
| compression              | -      | -       | 59%    | 31%     |
| peak memory (MB)         | 2,316  | 43,956  | 1,366  | 16,809  |
| solve time (sec)         | 0.05   | 0.78    | 0.17   | 2.32    |
| GMRES its                | 1      | 1       | 7      | 12      |

Table: Multifrontal solver with block low rank compression for 3D Poisson equation, using compression tolerance  $\varepsilon = 10^{-2}$ . GMRES relative tolerance is  $10^{-6}$ .

# Rank Structured Preconditioning

[track-5-numerical/rank\\_structured\\_strumpack/build/testMMdouble](#)

```
export OMP_NUM_THREADS=16
./testMMdouble torso3.mtx --sp_compression NONE --sp_disable_gpu
./testMMdouble torso3.mtx --sp_compression BLR --blr_rel_tol 1e-2
```

| matrix<br>compression | torso3 |       | Geo_1438 |        | nlpkkt80 |        |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|----------|--------|----------|--------|
|                       | NONE   | BLR   | NONE     | BLR    | NONE     | BLR    |
| factor time (sec)     | 2.17   | 1.10  | 147.81   | 50.10  | 140.21   | 38.19  |
| factor memory (MB)    | 1,855  | 1,281 | 38,523   | 17,999 | 30,199   | 10,128 |
| compression           | 100%   | 70.1% | 100%     | 46.7%  | 100%     | 33.5%  |
| peak memory (MB)      | 5,505  | 3,694 | 109,741  | 45,603 | 89,171   | 40,775 |
| solve time (sec)      | 0.09   | 0.14  | 1.80     | 10.69  | 1.46     | 5.54   |
| GMRES its             | 1      | 2     | 1        | 18     | 1        | 15     |

Table: Multifrontal solver with block low rank compression for several SuiteSparse linear systems, using compression tolerance  $\epsilon = 10^{-2}$ . GMRES relative tolerance is  $10^{-6}$ .