Massive Parallel GPU-accelerated Simulation of the Milky Way Galaxy



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1608 Lippershey

For the last 400 years telescopes became larger

CAStLe group



Computational Astrophysics and Cosmology

Open Access Springer Journal

CompAC publishes paper on

- Astronomy, physics and cosmology
- Computational and information science

The combination of these two disciplines leads to a wide range of topics which, from an astronomical point of view covers all scales and a rich palette of statistics, physics and chemistry. Computing is interpreted in the broadest sense and may include hardware, algorithms, software, networking, data management, visualization, modeling, simulation, visualization, high-performance computing and data intensive computing.

The Pillars of Science





13,000km

360,000km away

~13Gyr old

~100 billion stars
~ 1 trillion planets
> 1 quadrillion planetesimals

10¹⁹ km



we ignore:

- The rest of the universe (our galaxy is isolated)
- * The interstellar gas (~15% of the Galactic mass)
- Magnetic fields
- The evolution of the stars
- The prescence of planets and planetesimals
- * The Human population (and any other form of life)

We ignore everything, except...



Lyman Spitzer, Jr

-6

-4

-2

0

2

4

Rete libra at their En - Litchelantes Malarine Are



COLONIÆ ALLOBROGUM, Sumpribut CL & ANY. PHILIBURT Bibliop,

Gravity's complexities

•Gravity has a negative heat capacity. As a consequence, our daily experience is not trained to appreciate the complexities of gravity.

- •The force calculation is an N*N operation.
- •There is no shielding in gravity, such as in molecular dynamics: the system is global-aware.
- •At small distances the main driving force (gravity) grows limitless.
- •The equations of motion are intrinsically chaotic.

100,000,000,000
 10,000,000,000,000,000,000
 100,000
 100,000
 10,000,000,000,000,000,000,000
 yotta zetta

stars

steps

flops

interactions







II. A STUDY OF ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN LABORATORY MODELS OF STELLAR SYSTEMS BY A NEW INTEGRATION PROCEDURE

ERIK HOLMBERG



FIG. 1.--Cross-section of light-bulb and photocell (half-size)

10mFlop



FIG. 4a.—Tidal deformations corresponding to parabolic moti the diameters of the nebulae. The spiral arms point in the direct

FIG. 4b.—Same as above, with the exception of counterclock the rotation.









Erik Holmberg 1908-2000



~30 000 000 times faster



von Neuman & IAS





Relative increase of code performance



N² / Transistors

Bedorf & PZ, 2012



Bedorf & PZ, 2012



Bonsai Small, but strong in the force

Available as part of the AMUSE framework at amusecode.org



Bedorf et al 2014





~20000GPUs= 25PFflops



Bonsai gravitationalTreecode



Josh Barnes & Piet Hut, 1986 Nature



Novelties

- •All force calculations on the GPU
- •2D space filling curve for the domain decomposition (allows higher degree of parallelism)
- •Flactal-shaped domains combined with Tree structure (Allows asynchronicity: no communication during tree traversal)
- Use the fractal domain edges to minimize communication (Allows bulk data transport with exactly the right amount of data: saves latency and bandtwidth)

Peano-Hilbert Space Filling Curve

Beyond single GPU systems



Sort full data set along a Peano-Hilbert Space Filling Curve and chop this up in separate domains

Titan Node usage



GPU: Compute and data-intensive operations \rightarrow performance CPU: Communication and control operations \rightarrow efficiency

Titan Node Usage



HPC on Titan's GPU-farm

Weak scaling, Milky Way model ~13M per GPU





Jeroen Bédorf etal: simulation of Andromeda/Milky Way encounter on Titan

Being able to perform large calculations is not the same as being able to perform accurate calculations

"Errors in calculations of n-body systems grow exponentially ... and may therefore invalidate the results ..." (Miller 1964)

BRUTUS

a brute force arbitrary-precision N-body code

- Two ingredients:
 - Gragg-Bulirsch-Stoer method
 - Modified midpoint method
 - Richardson extrapolation
 - Tolerance parameter
 - Arbitrary-Precision arithmetic
 - Number of significant digits



Tjarda Boekholt



10,000 realizations of N=3 give no systematic bias



Next step





Conclusions

- 24.773 PetaFlop/s on Titan (18600 nodes): about 90% efficiency
- Simulate 1Gyr of the Milky Way in about 1 day.
- All calculations on the GPUs
- Load-balance/communication/async I/O on the CPU