

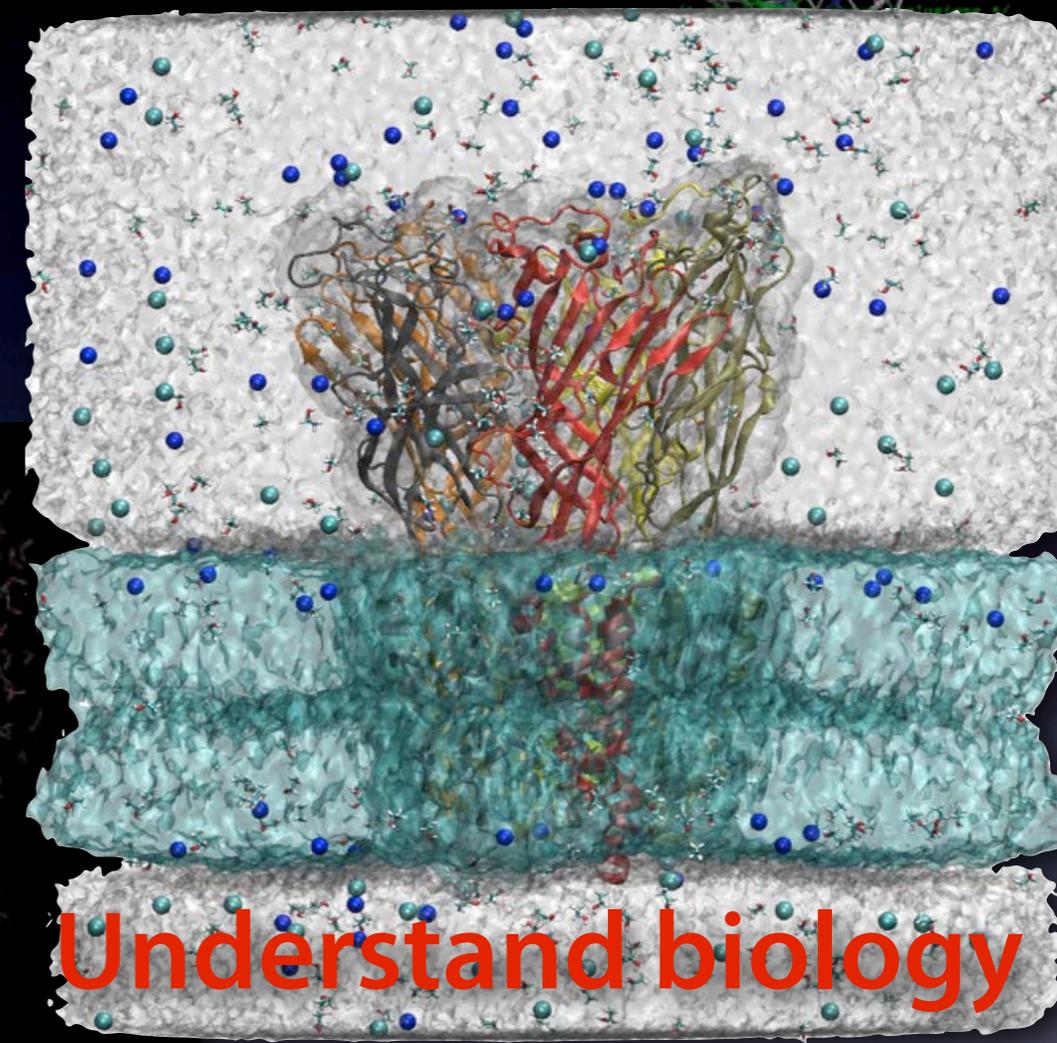
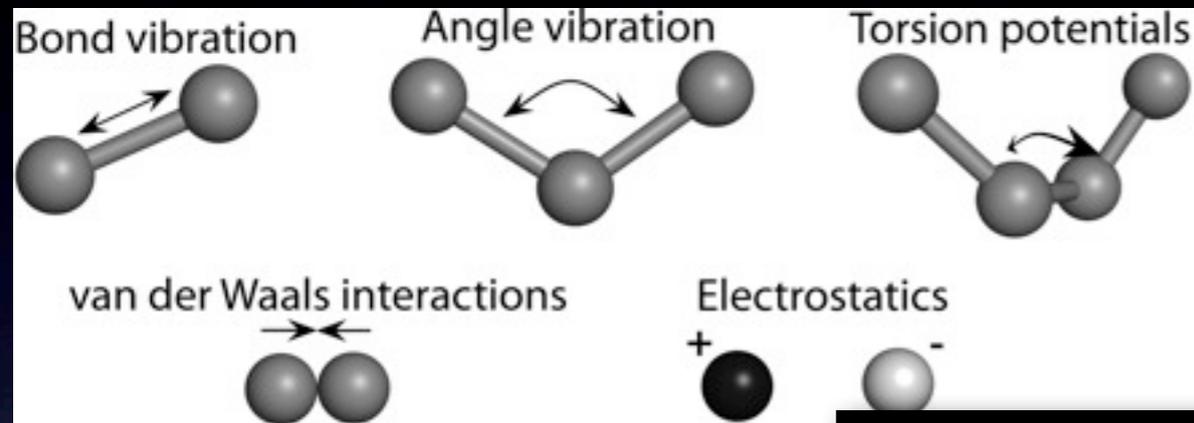
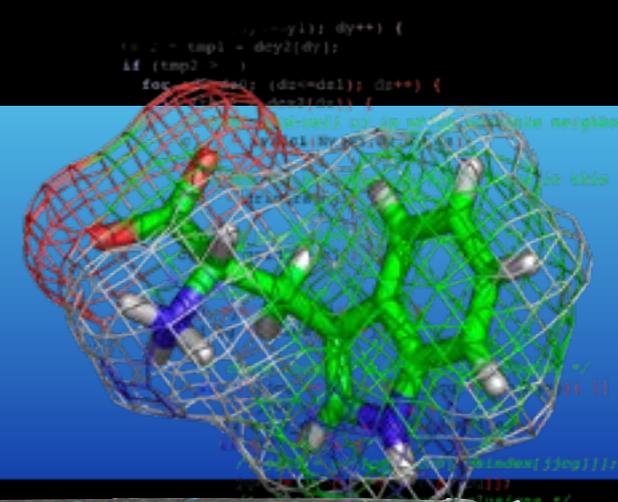
**A microsecond a day keeps the
doctor away:
Efficient GPU Molecular Dynamics
with GROMACS**

Erik Lindahl

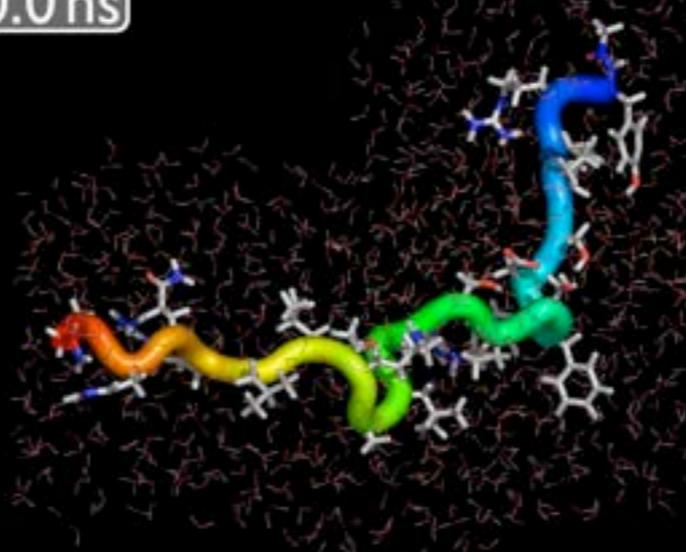
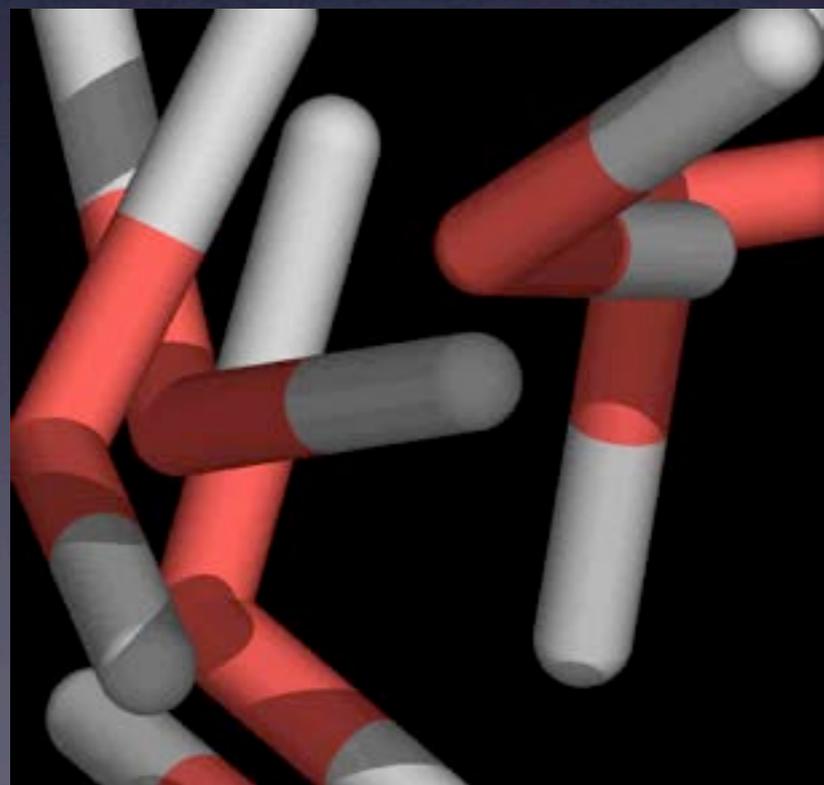
erik.lindahl@scilifelab.se

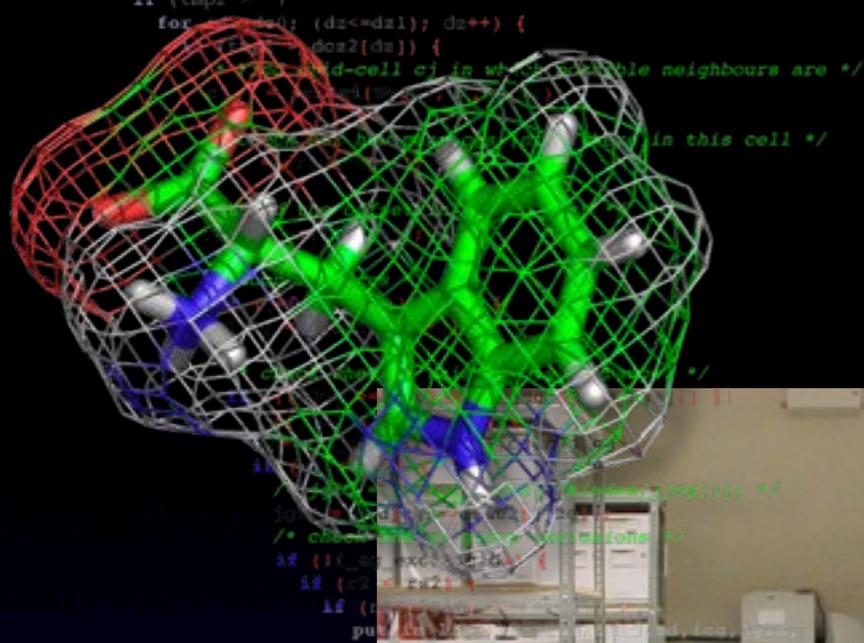


Molecular Dynamics



0.0 ns





**We're comfortably
on the single- μ s
scale today**

**Larger machines
often mean larger
systems, not
necessarily longer
simulations**

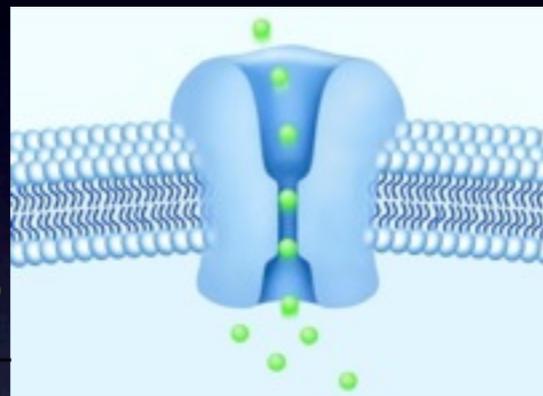
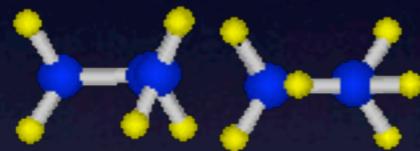
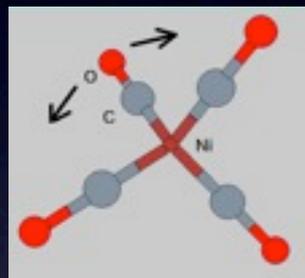


MD Simulation Challenges



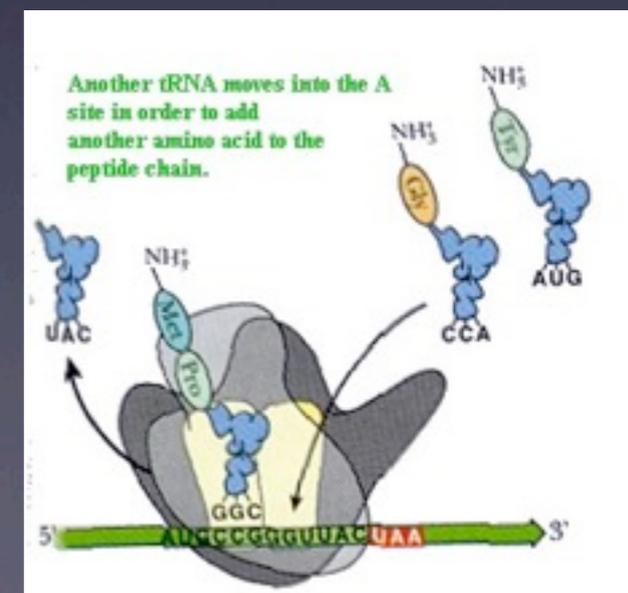
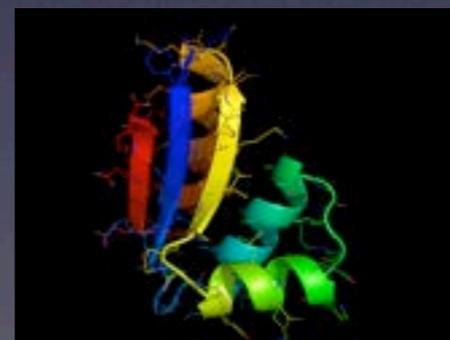
Experiments

Efficient averaging
Less detail

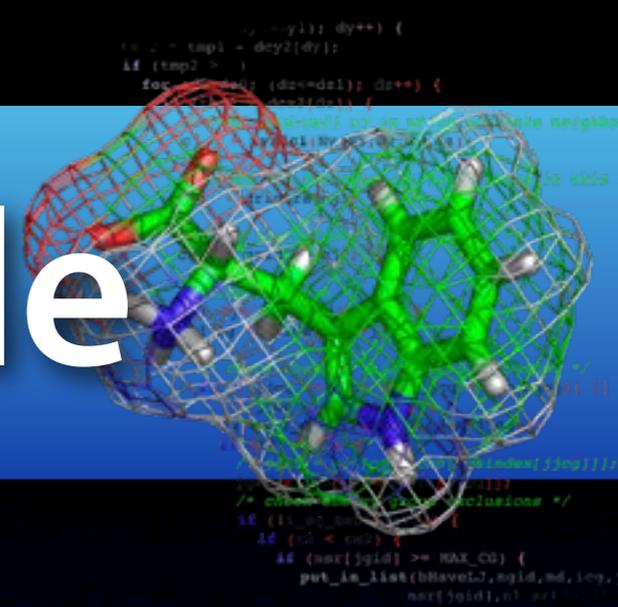


Simulations

Extreme detail
Sampling issues?
Parameter quality?



The iteration cycle



With a time step of 5fs...

... you need 200 million iterations to reach
1 μ s of simulated time

To achieve that in a day (86,400 seconds)...

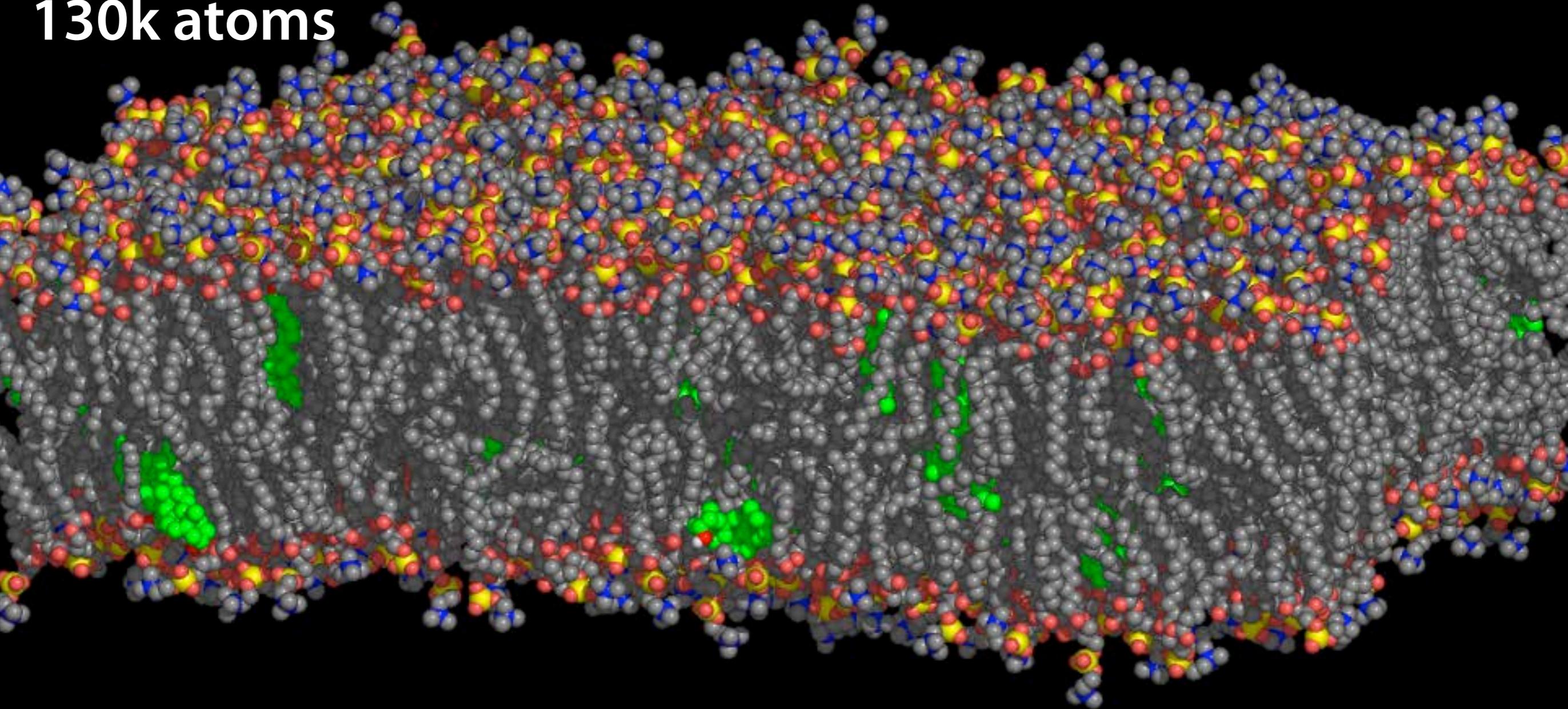
...each iteration must complete in 432 (wallclock) μ s

**How not to do it:
(Old scaling data from 2008)**

DPPC & Cholesterol

130k atoms

**Blue Gene/L & Blue Matter:
scaled to 3 atoms/CPU
~10ns/day on 8192 CPUs**



GROMACS 3: 2ns/day

**...on a single dual
dual-core Opteron!**

It is easier to get a reference
problem/algorithm to scale

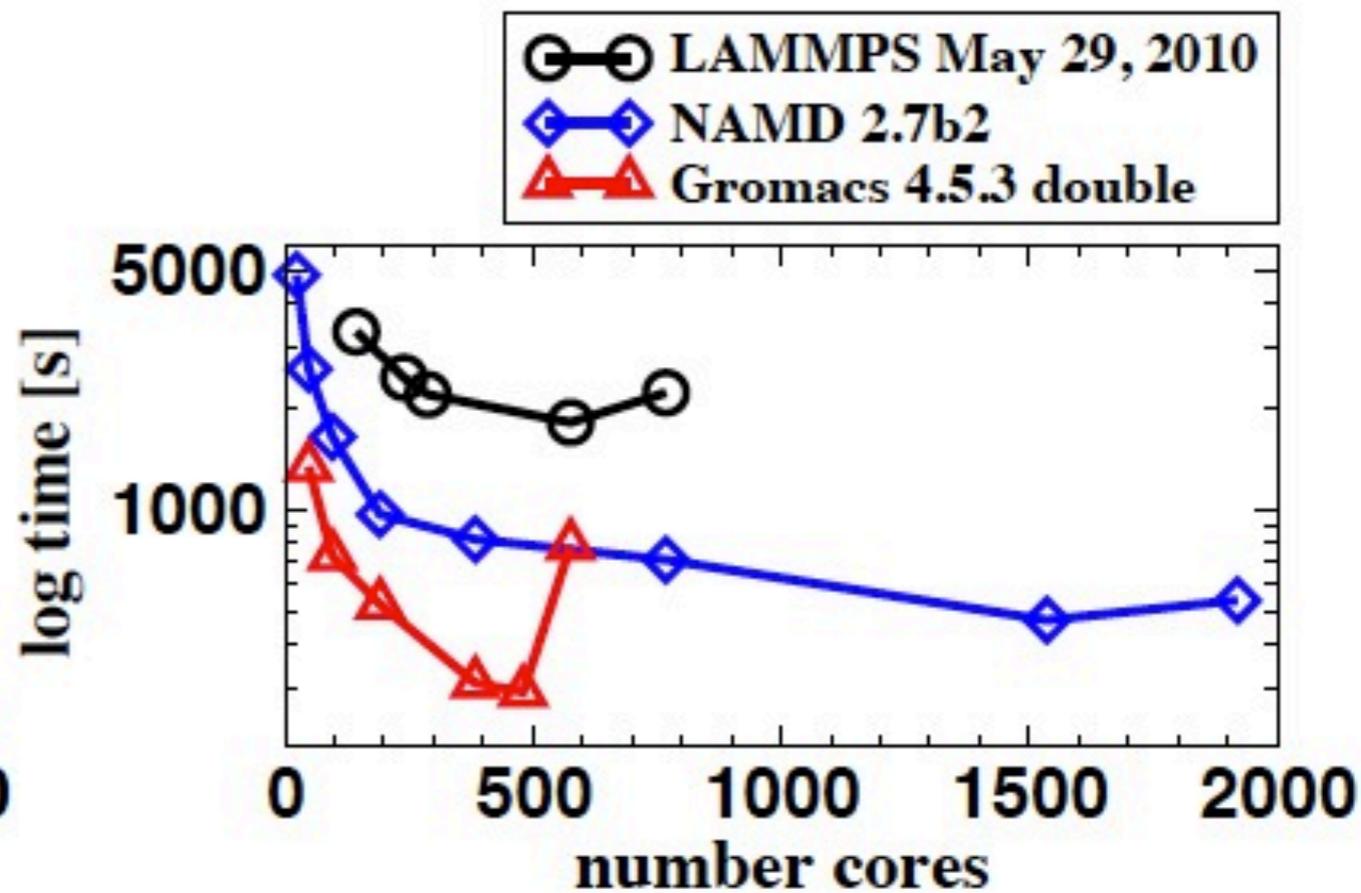
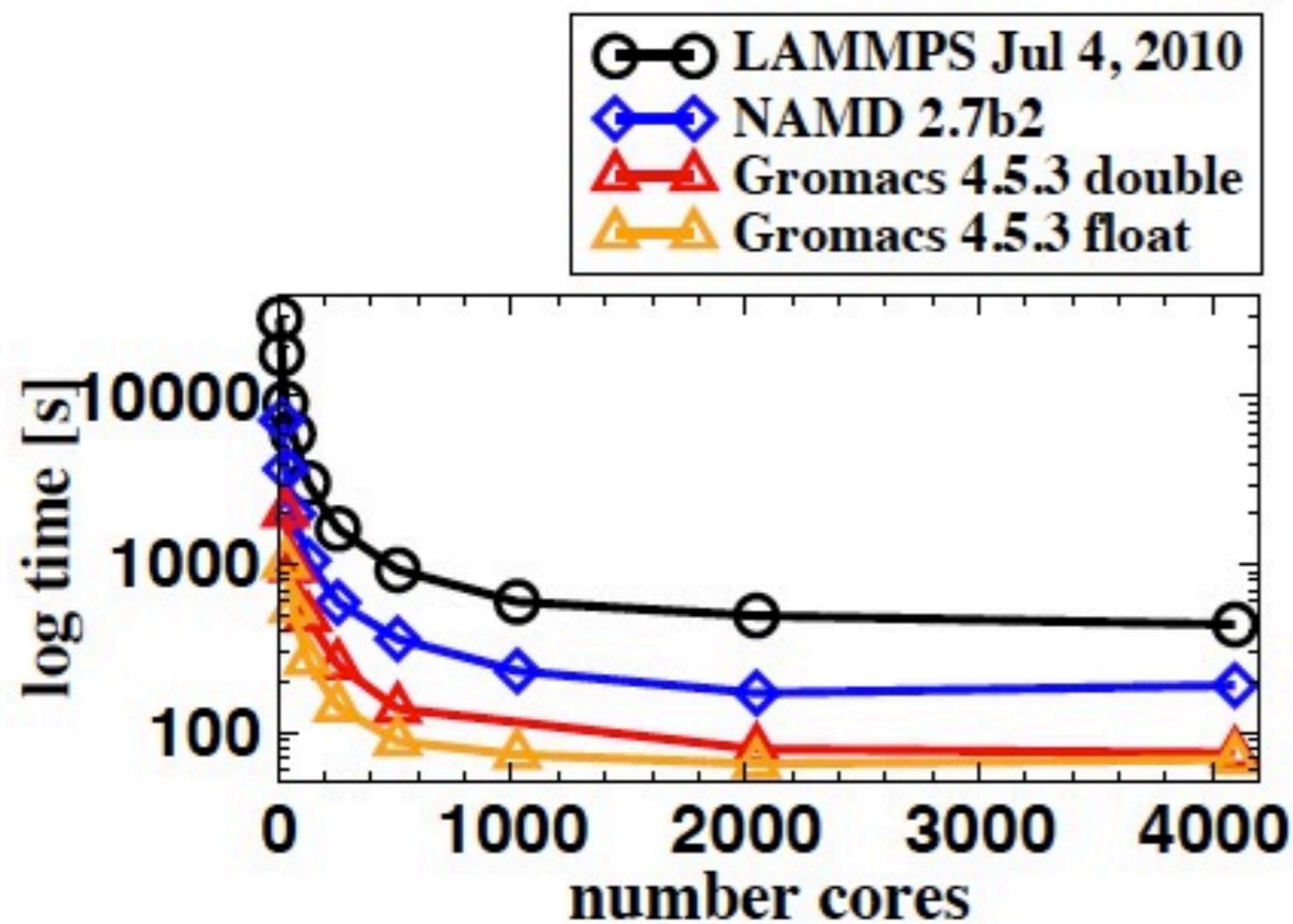
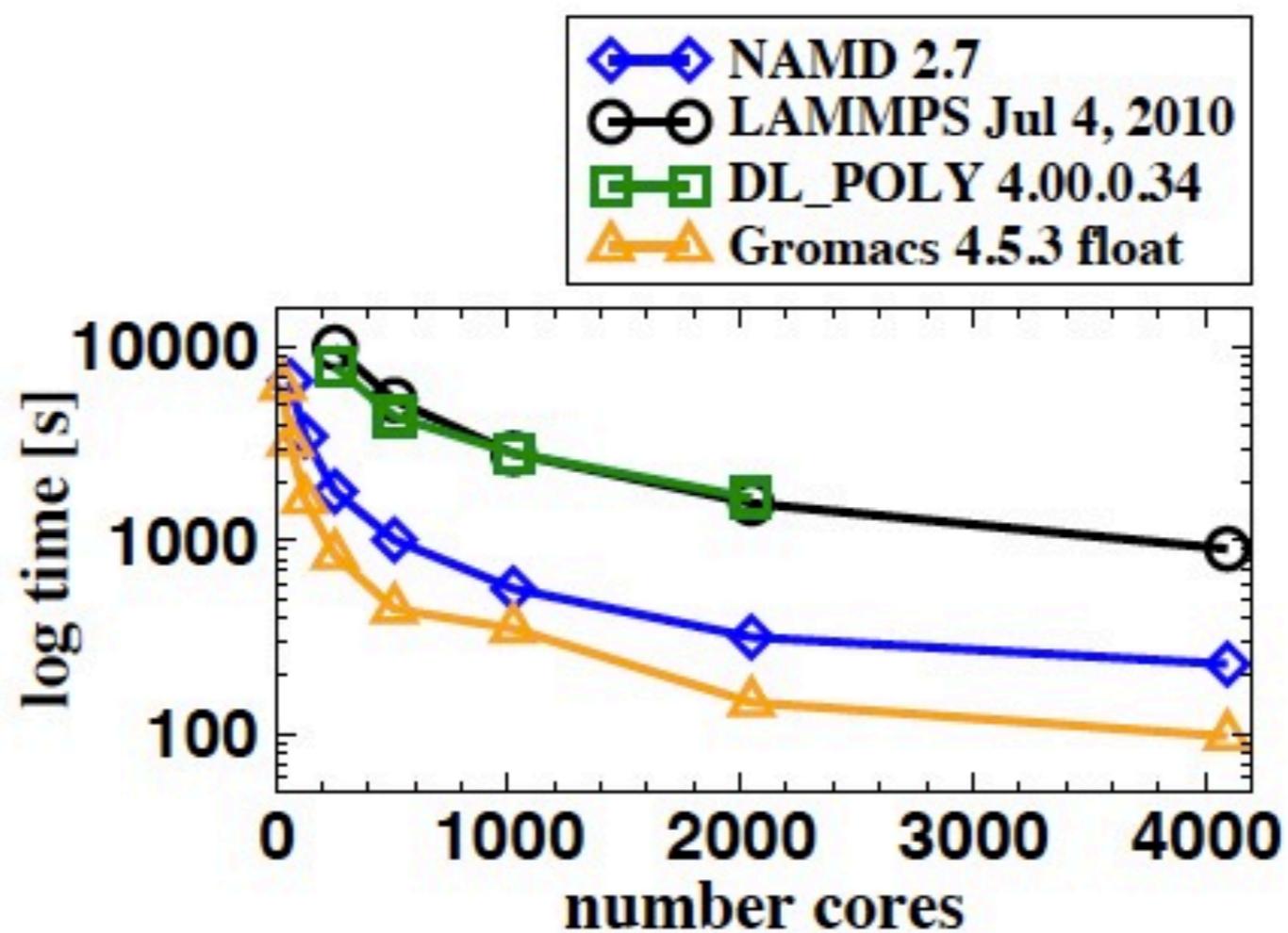
i.e., you see much better
relative scaling before
introducing any optimization

*But conversely: The relevant
comparison for GPUs is not a
slow reference implementation
running on a single core!*

**Even with amazing network we
used to hit a limit at
~250 atoms/core**

**100 atoms/core is certainly
within reach, maybe 10, not 1**

**We need *faster* nodes, not just
more nodes at lower clock**



Early GPU acceleration

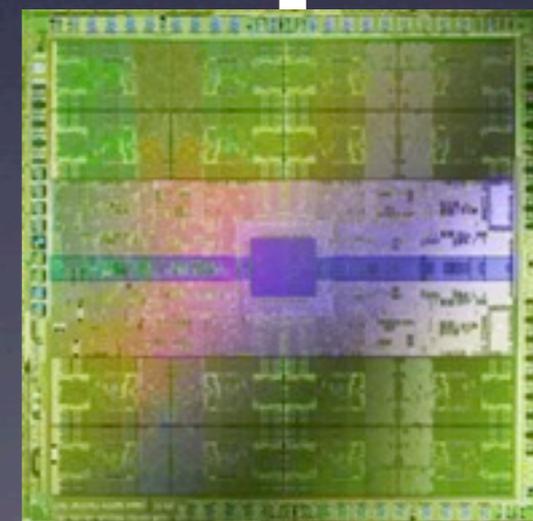
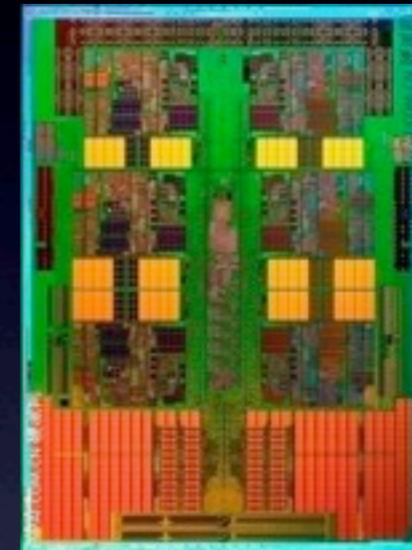
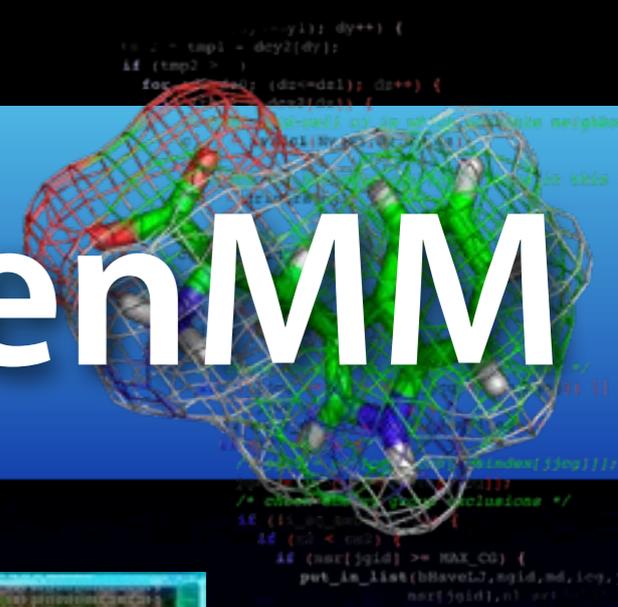


Gromacs-4.5 with OpenMM

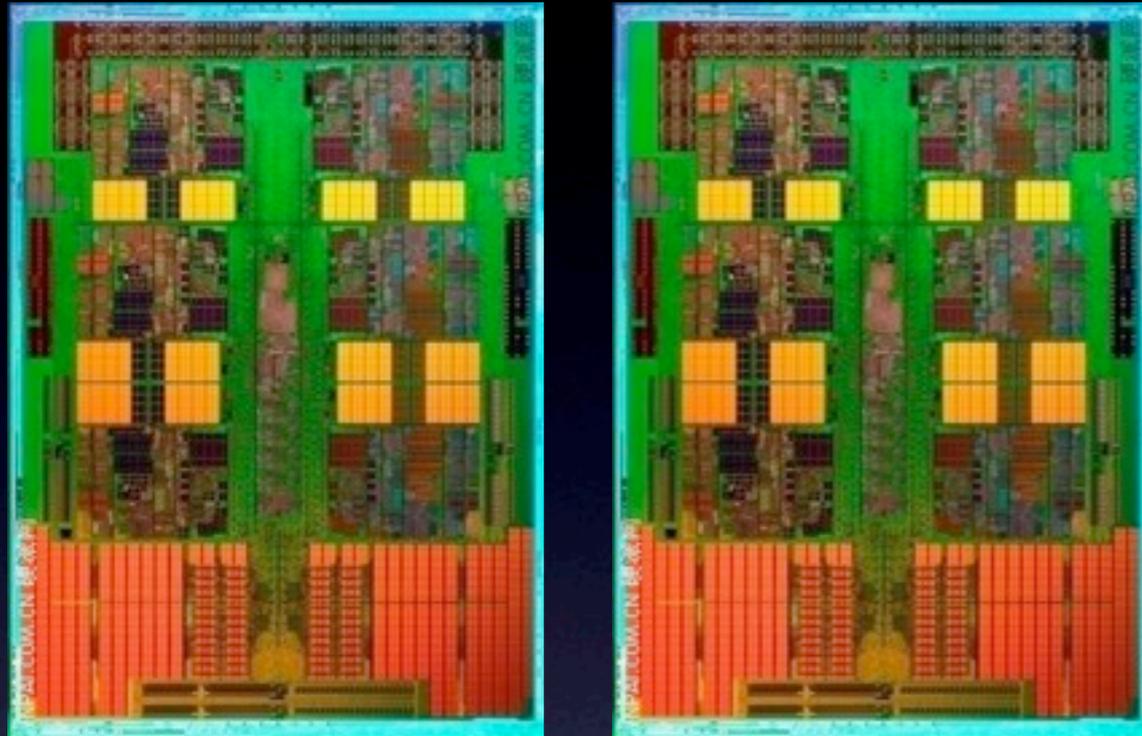
Gromacs running
entirely on CPU as
an interface

Actual simulation running
entirely on GPU
using OpenMM kernels

Only a few algorithms worked



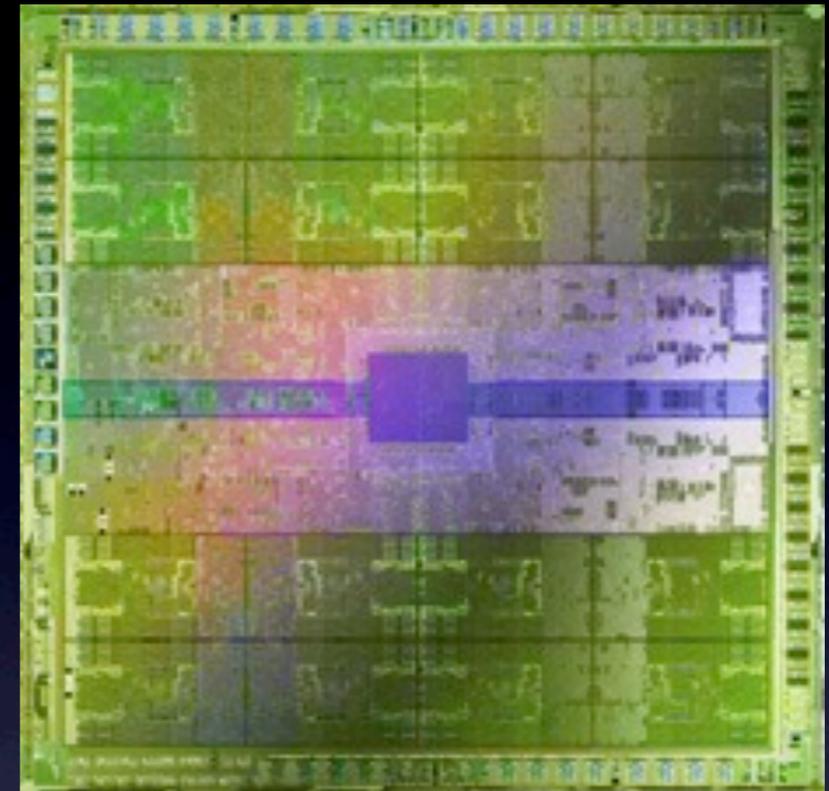
Why do we use the CPU too?



0.5-1 TFLOP

Random memory
access OK (not great)

*Great for complex
latency-sensitive stuff
(domain decomposition, etc.)*

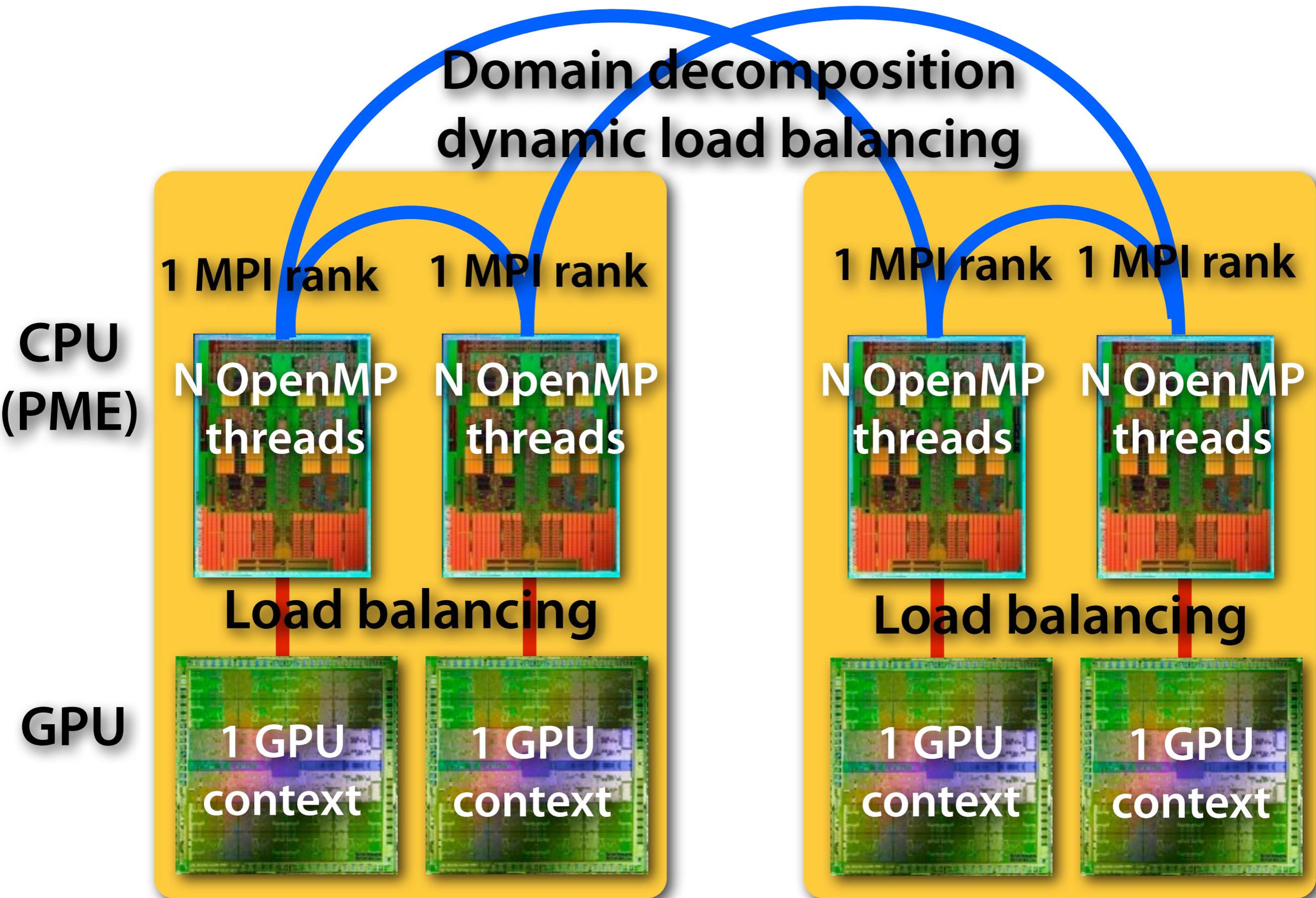


~2 TFLOP

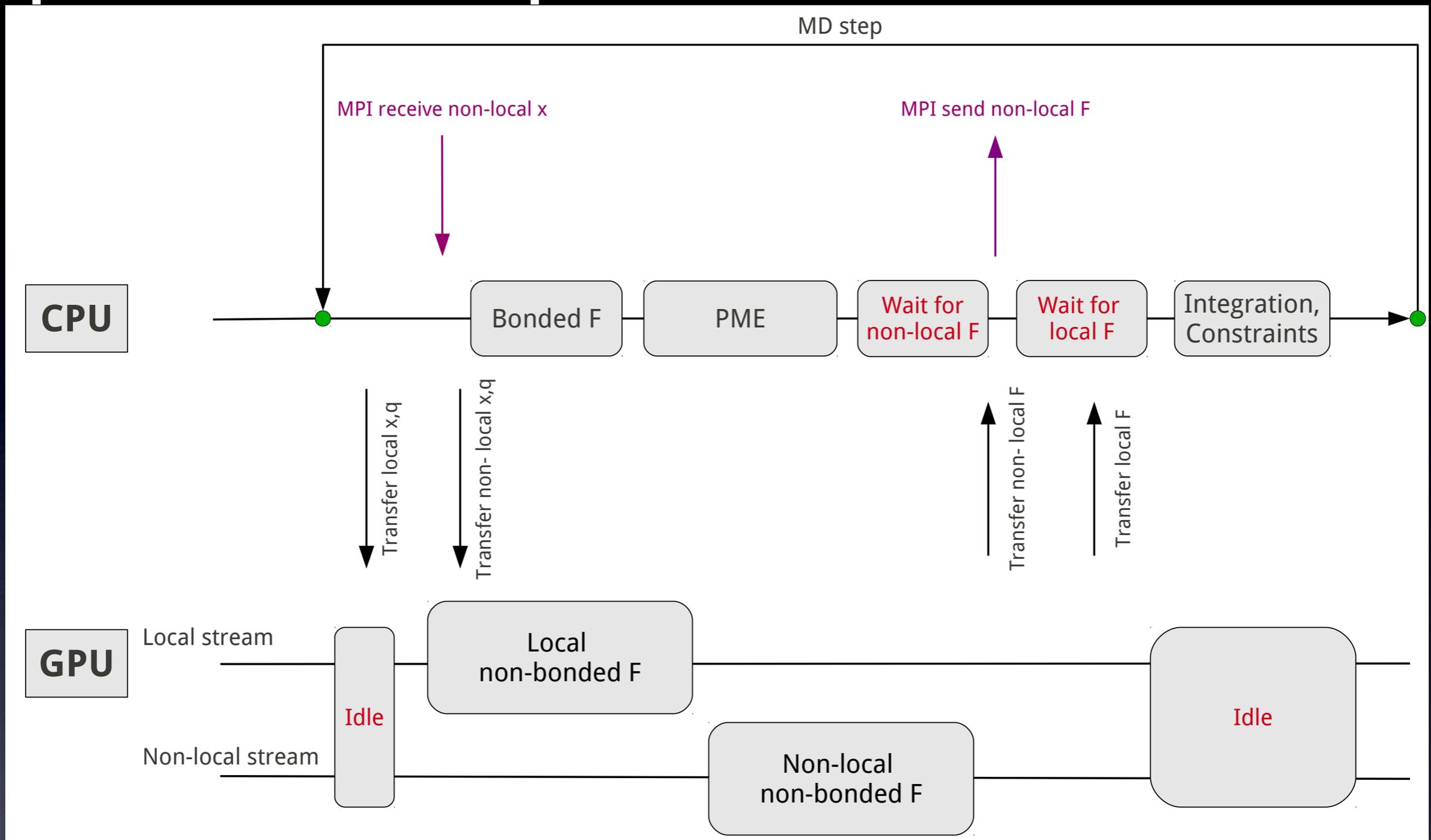
Random memory
access won't work

*Great for
throughput*

Gromacs-4.6 next-generation GPU implementation:



Simplified execution path



Wallclock time for an MD step:
~0.5 ms if we want to simulate 1 μ s/day

CPU trick 1: all-bond constraints



- **Δt limited by fast motions - 1fs**

- Remove bond vibrations

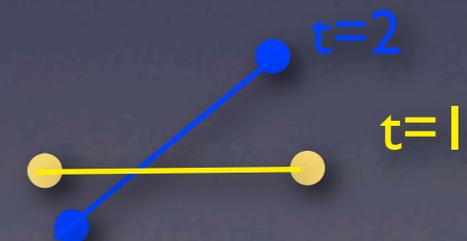
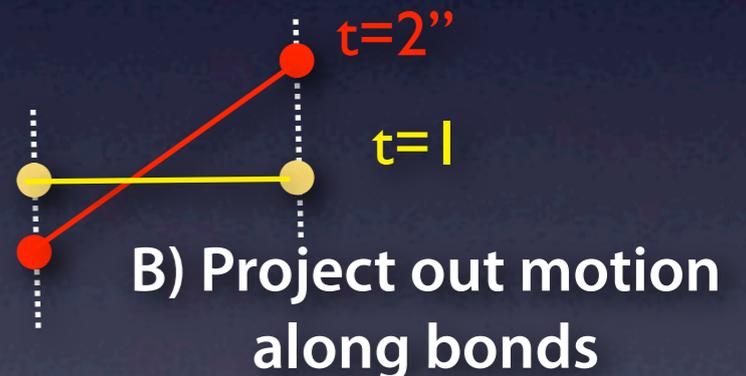
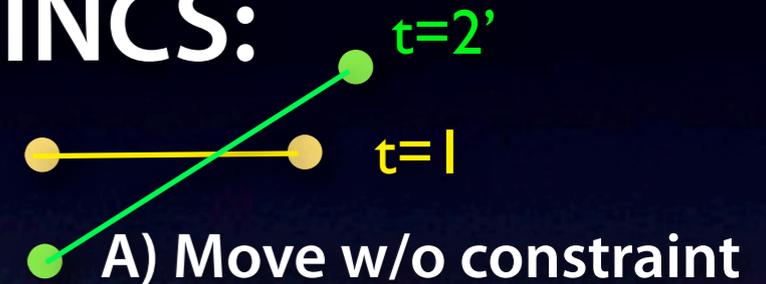
- **SHAKE (iterative, slow) - 2fs**

- Problematic in parallel (won't work)
- Compromise: constrain h-bonds only - 1.4fs

- **GROMACS (LINCS):**

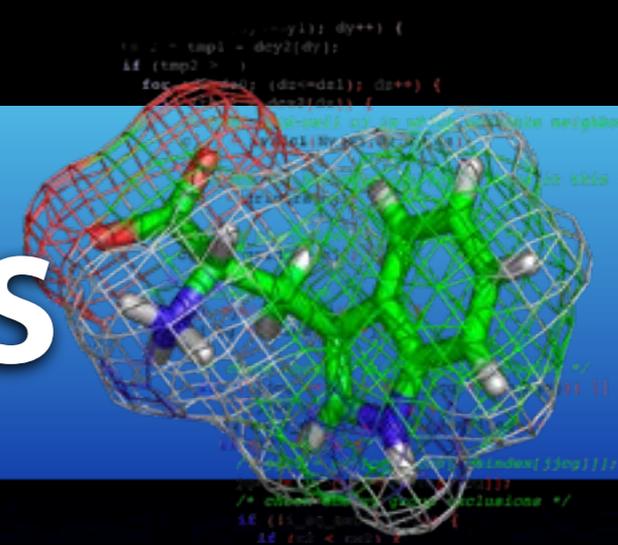
- LINear Constraint Solver
- *Approximate* matrix inversion expansion
- Fast & stable - much better than SHAKE
- Non-iterative
- Enables 2-3 fs timesteps
- Parallel: P-LINCS (from Gromacs 4.0)

LINCS:

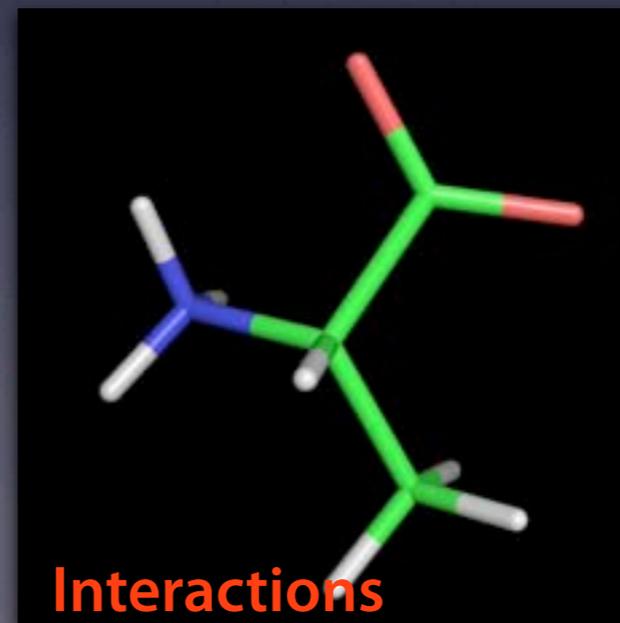
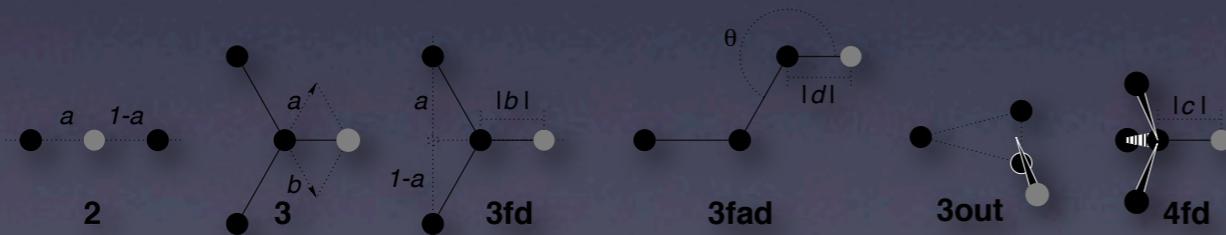
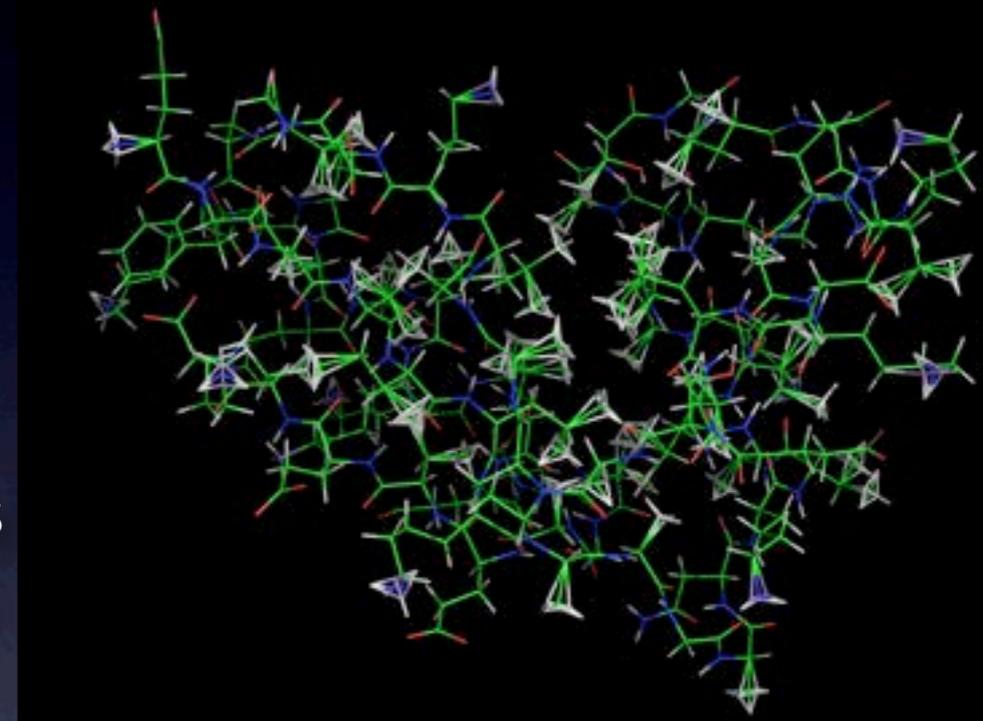


C) Correct for rotational extension of bond

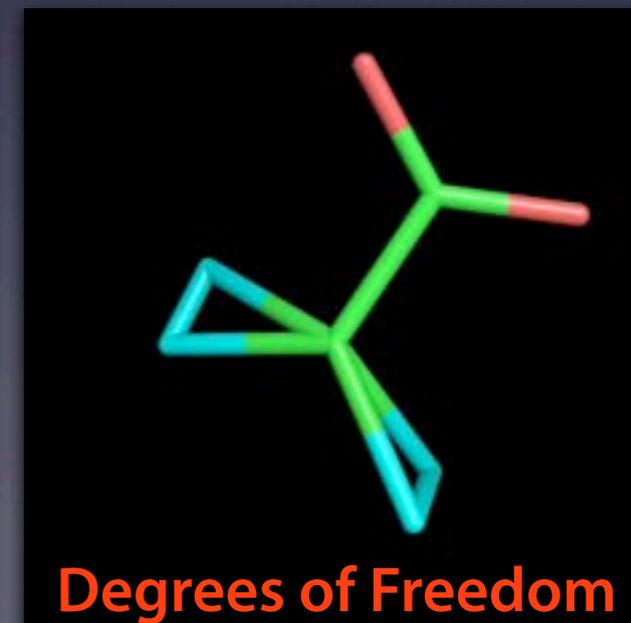
CPU trick 2: Virtual sites



- Next fastest motions is H-angle and rotations of CH₃/NH₂ groups
- Try to remove them:
 - Ideal H position from heavy atoms.
 - CH₃/NH₂ groups are made rigid
 - Calculate forces, then project back onto heavy atoms
 - Integrate only heavy atom positions, reconstruct H's
- Enables 5fs timesteps!

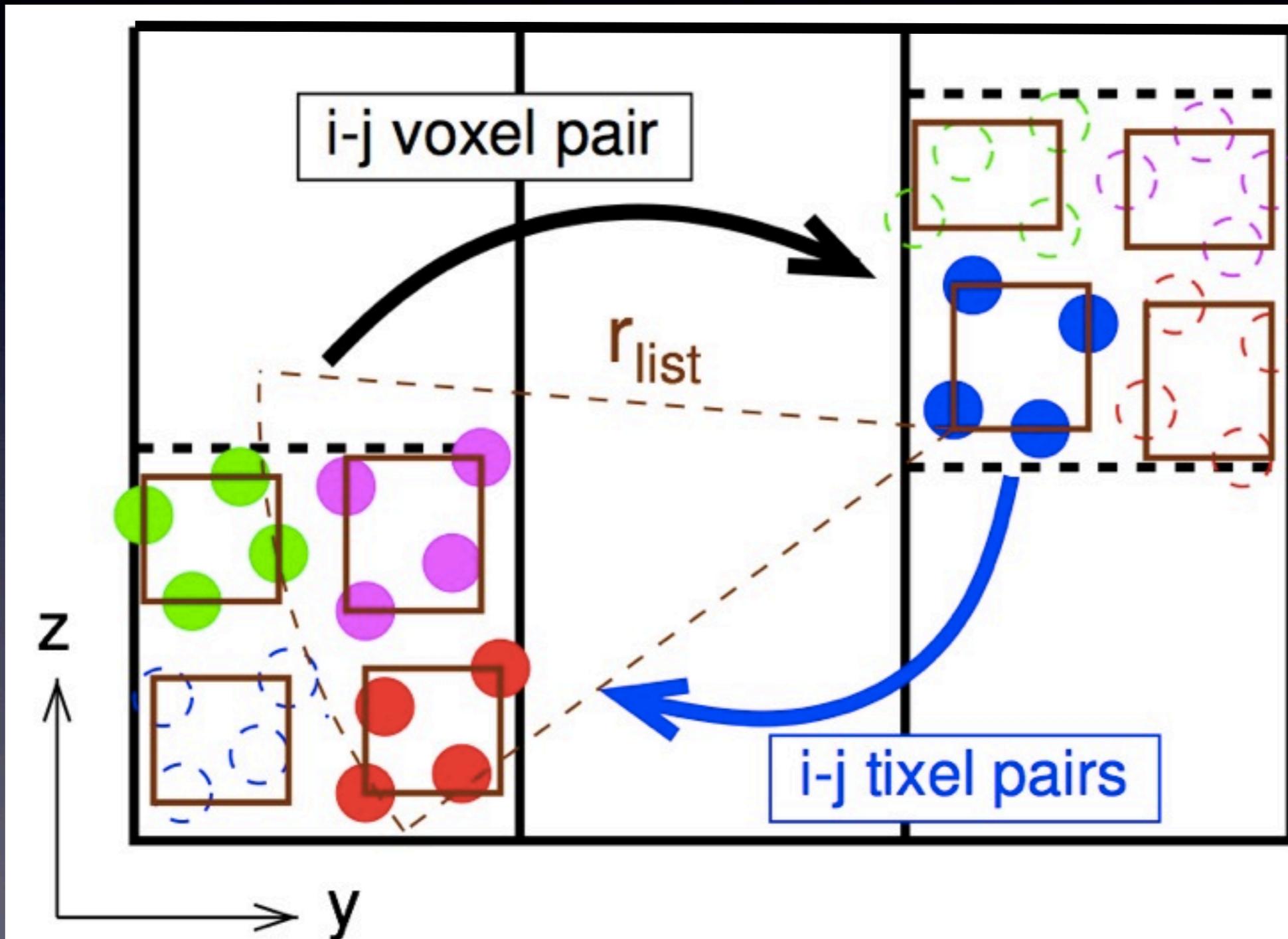
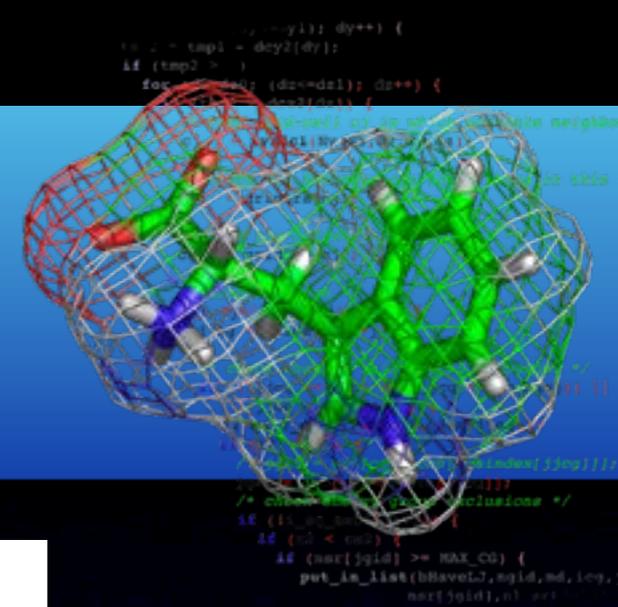


Interactions



Degrees of Freedom

From neighborlists to pairs of proximity cells



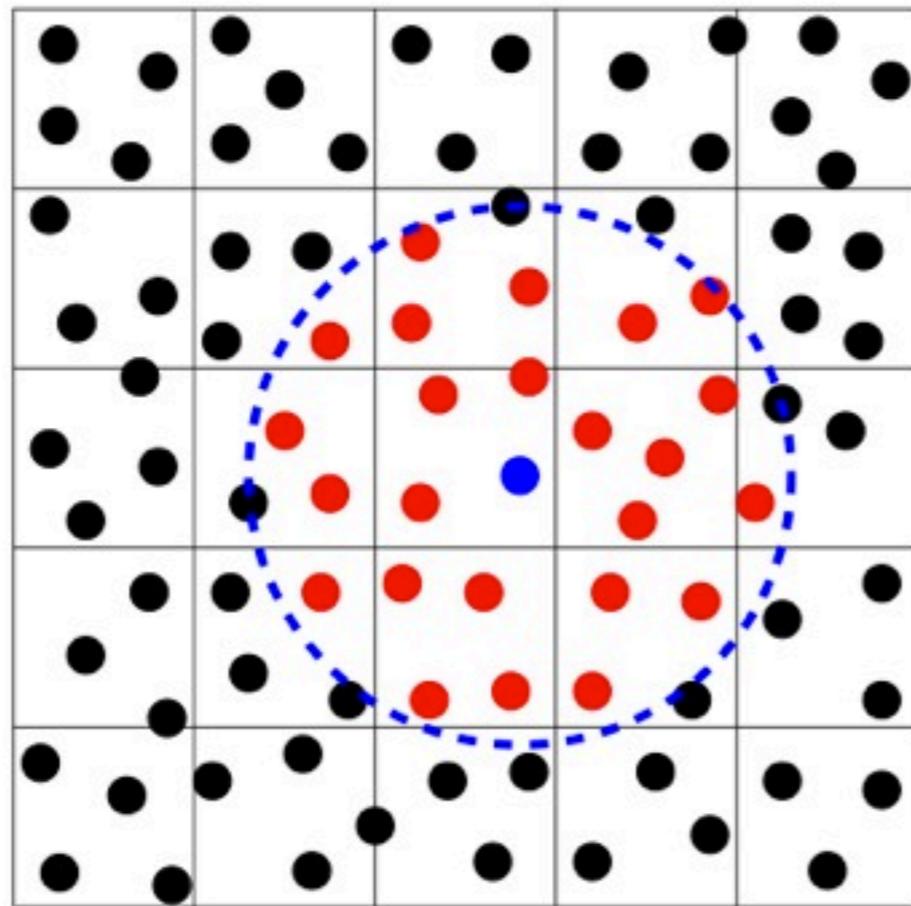
Organize
as tiles with
all-vs-all
interactions:

X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X
X	X	X	X

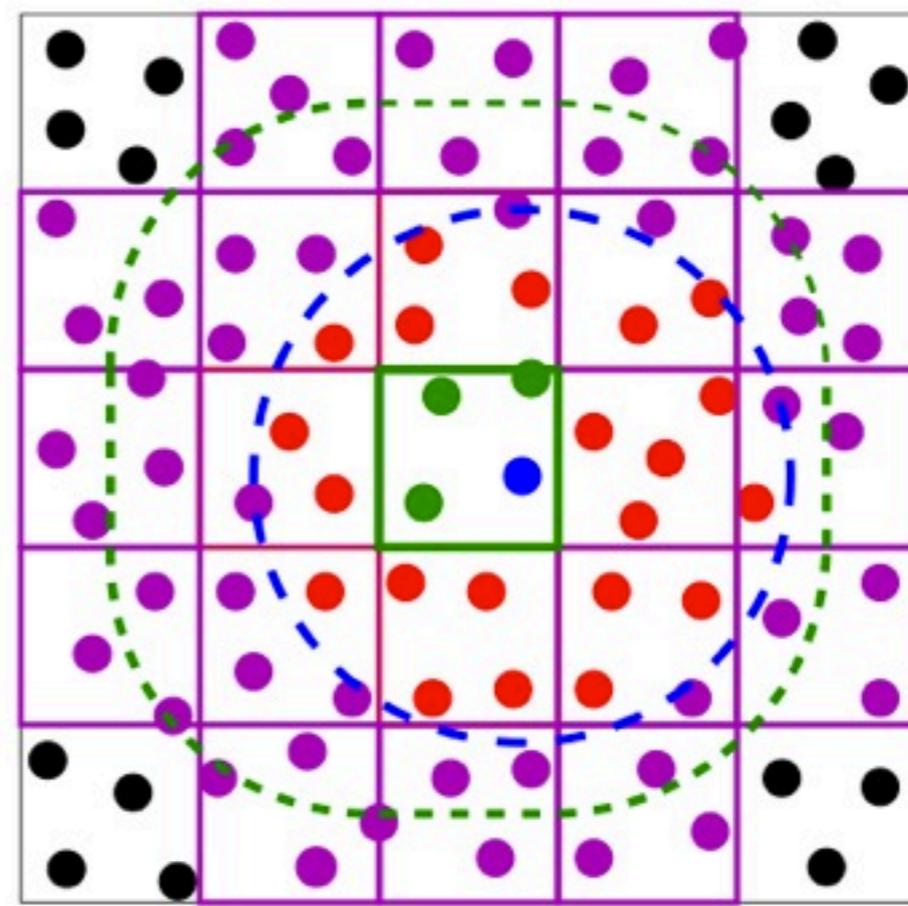
Tiling circles is difficult!



serial computing

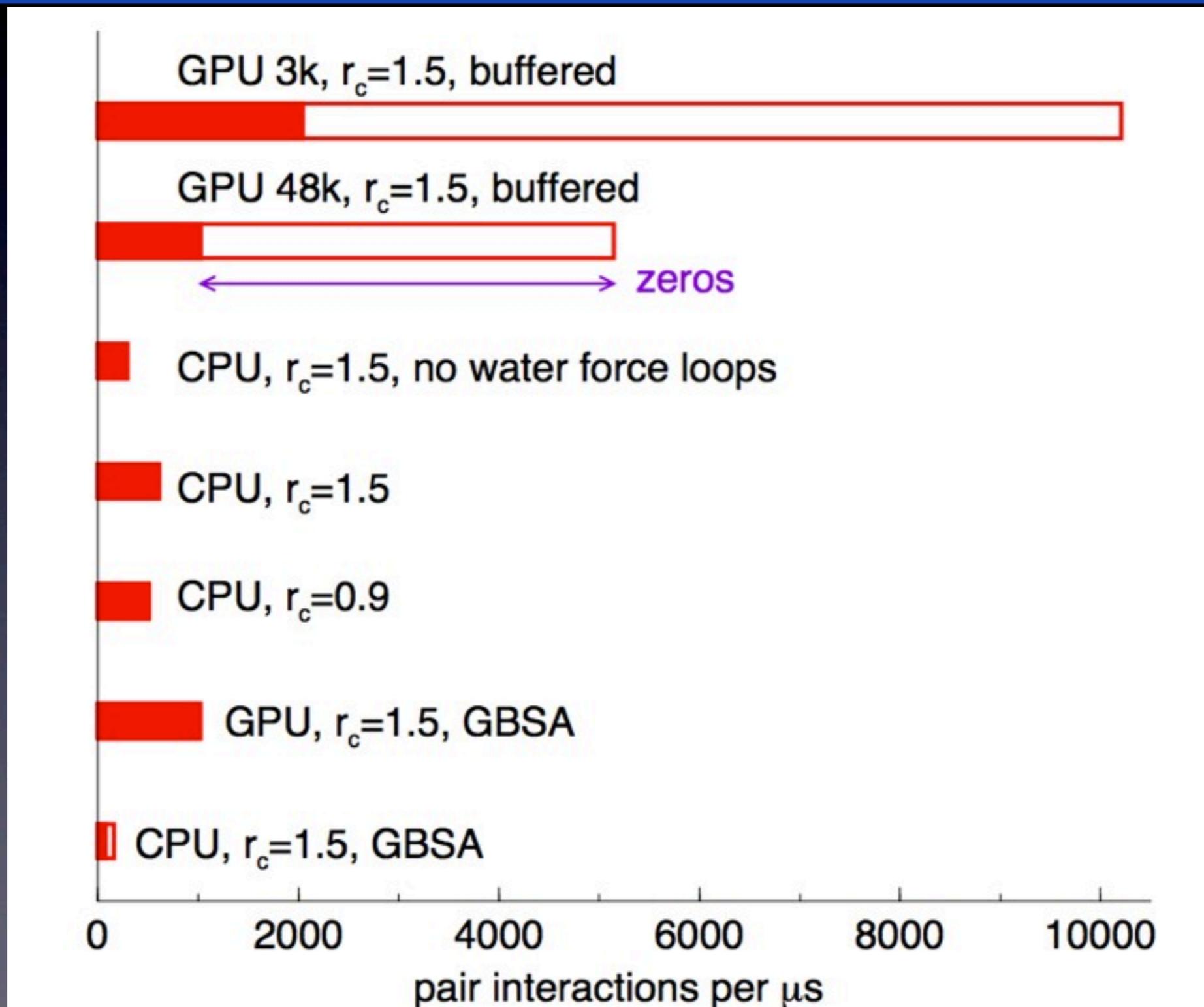
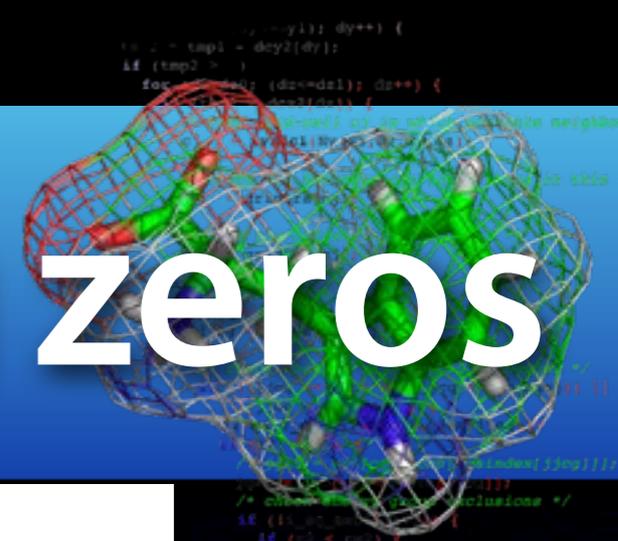


stream computing



- You need a lot of cubes to cover a sphere
- All interactions beyond cutoff need to be zero

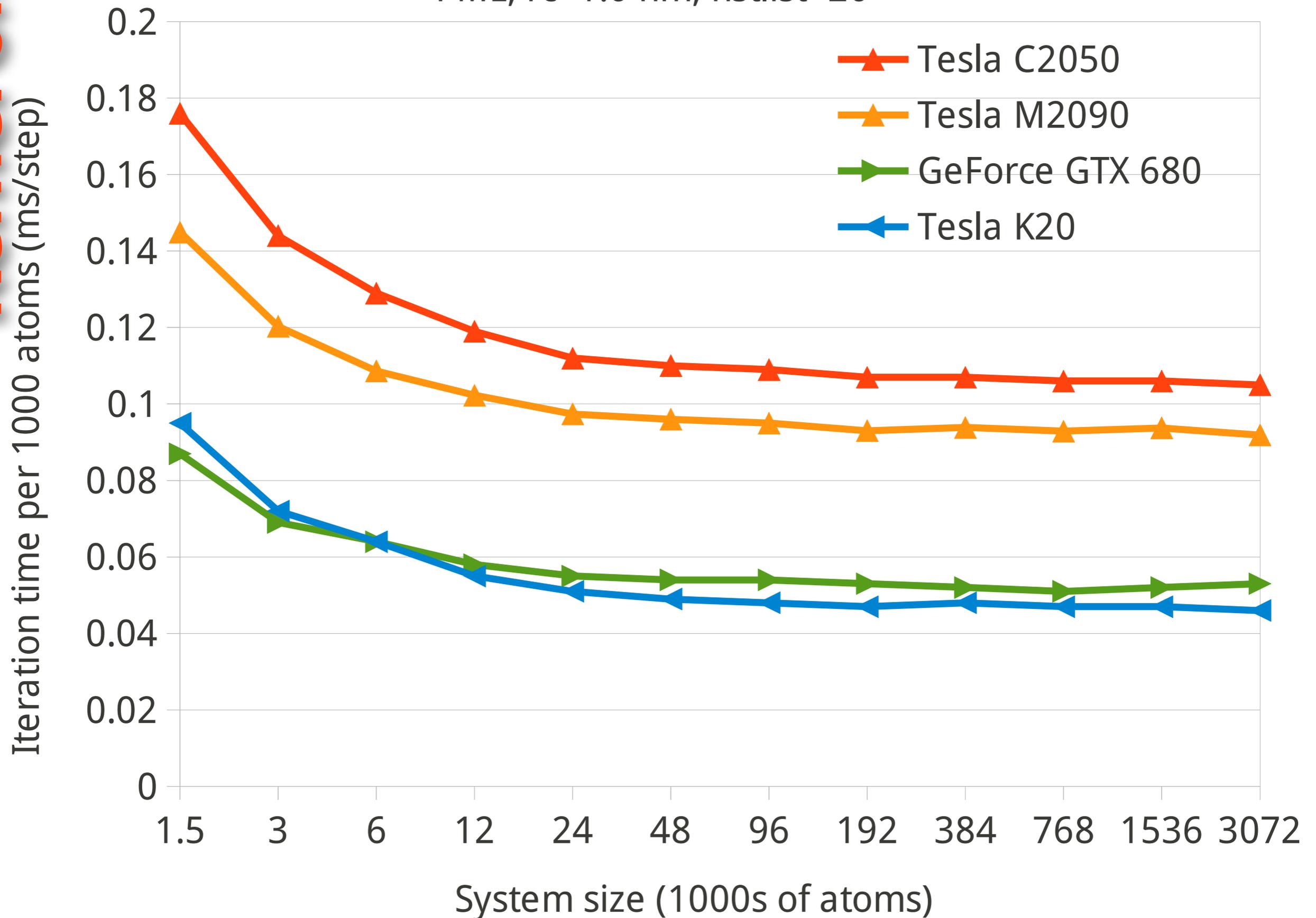
The art of calculating zeros



Kernel only

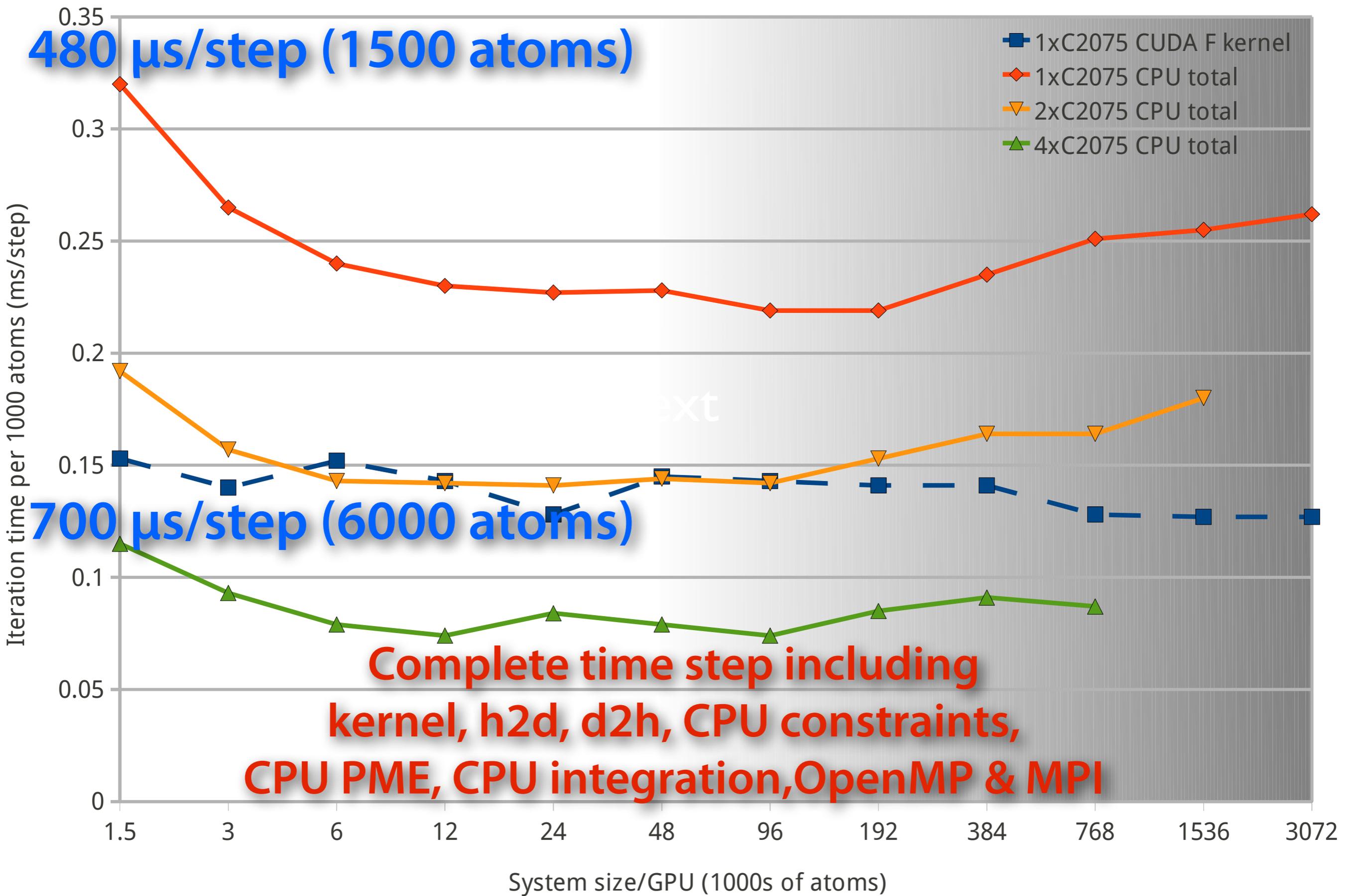
CUDA non-bonded force kernel scaling

PME, rc=1.0 nm, nstlist=20

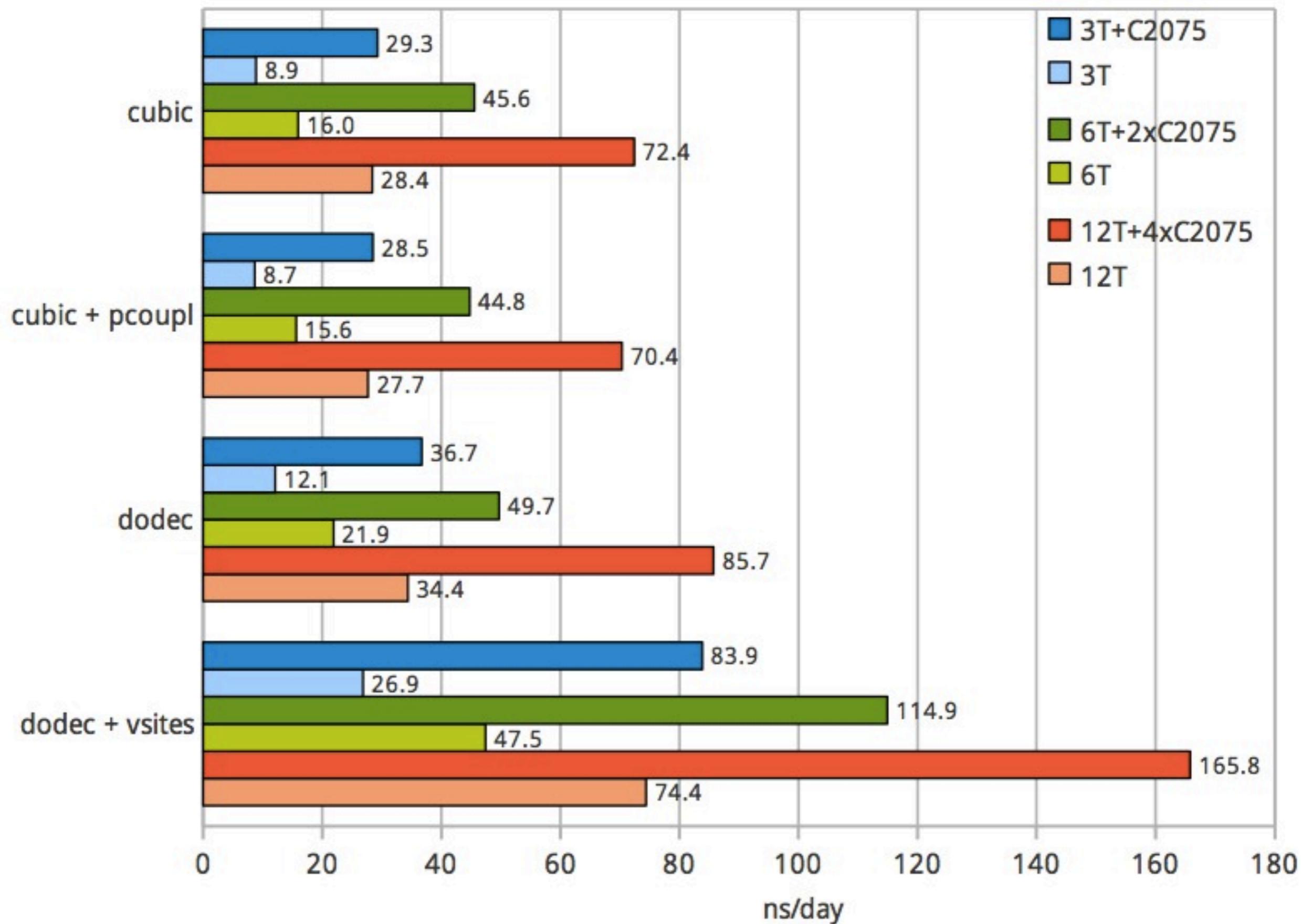


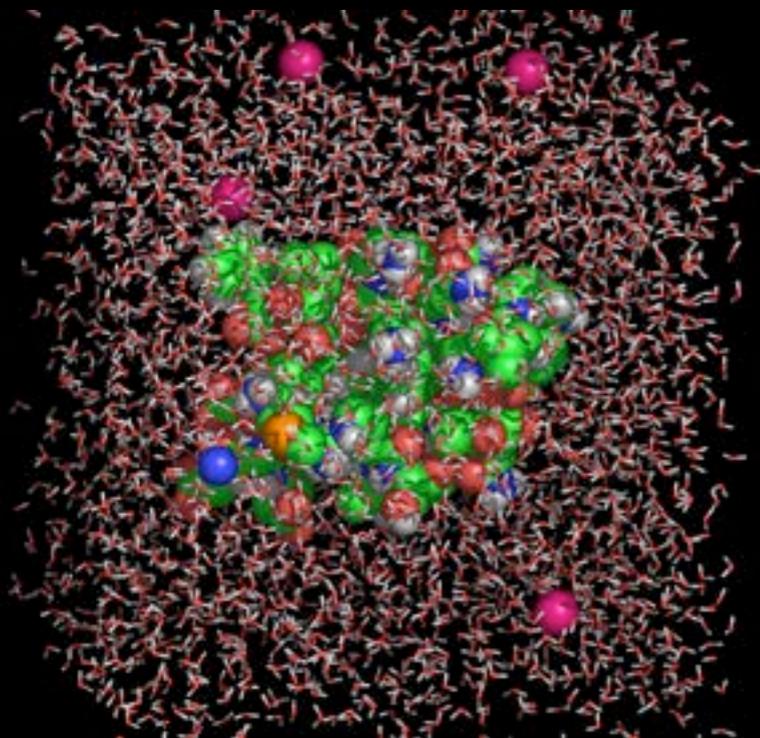
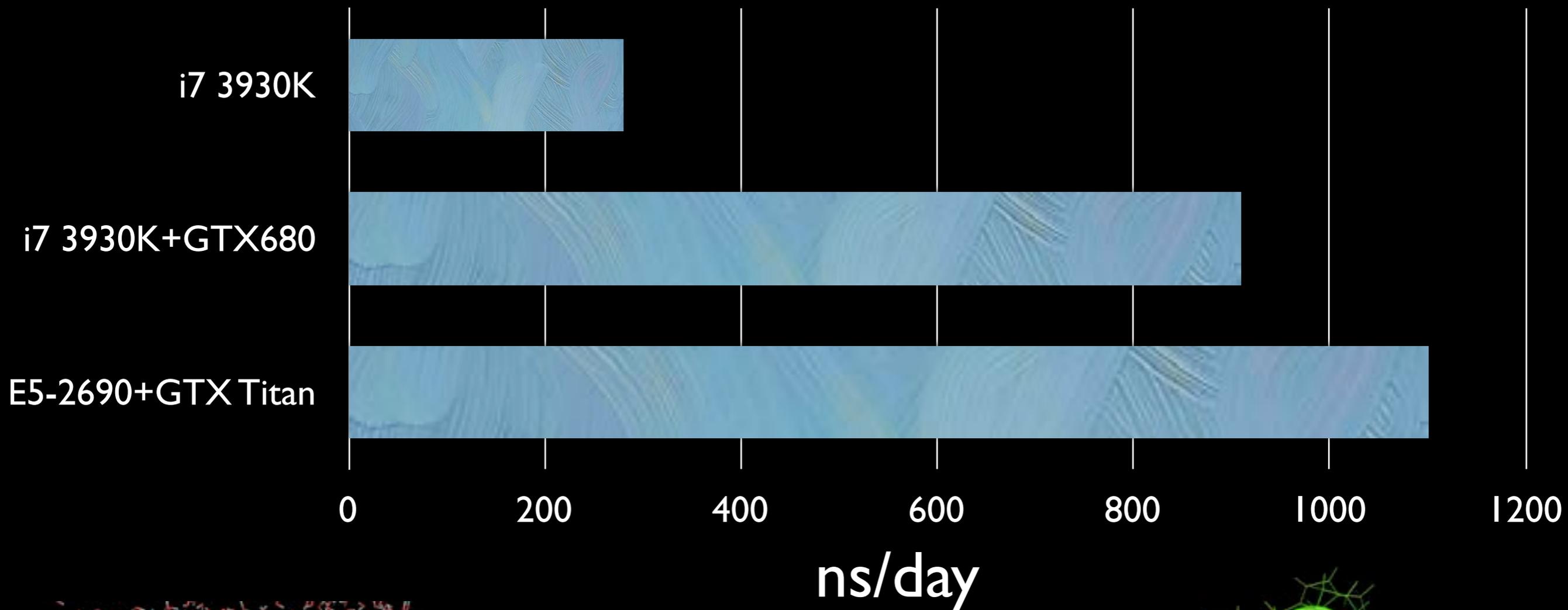
PME weak scaling

Xeon X5650 3T + C2075 / process

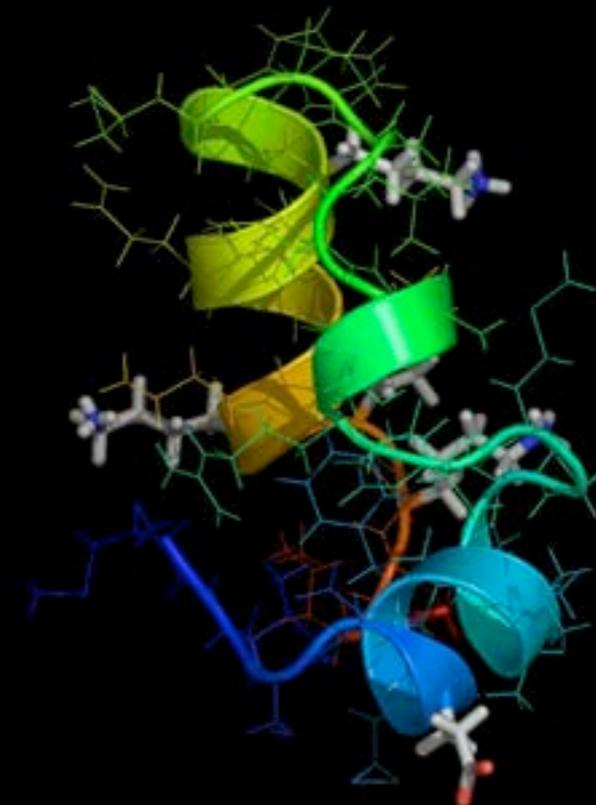


Example performance: 24,000 atom protein (ns/day)

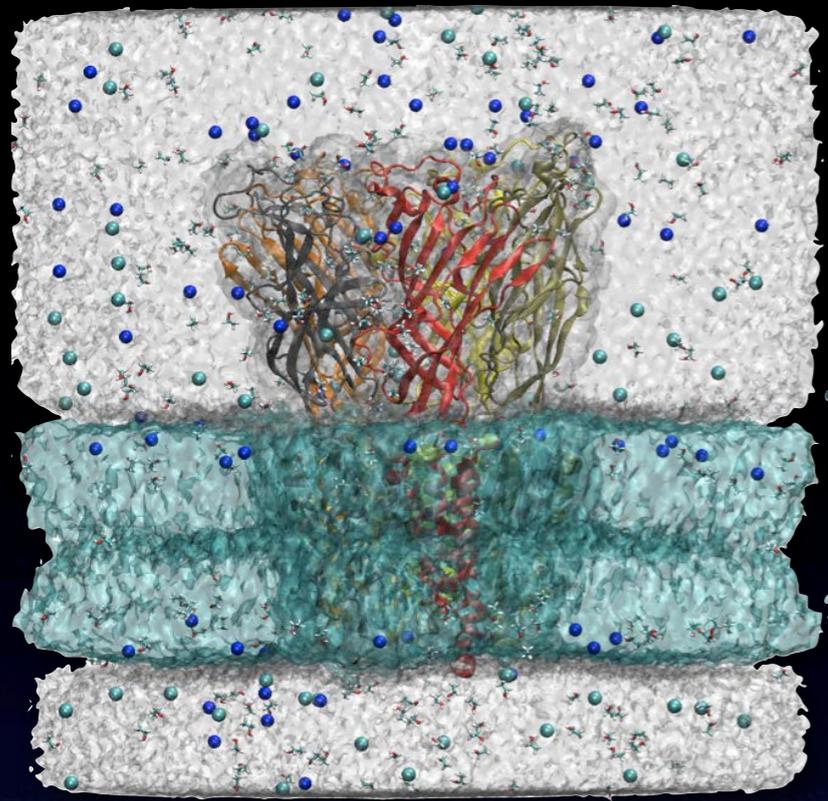




The Villin headpiece
8,000 atoms
water
triclinic box
PME electrostatics

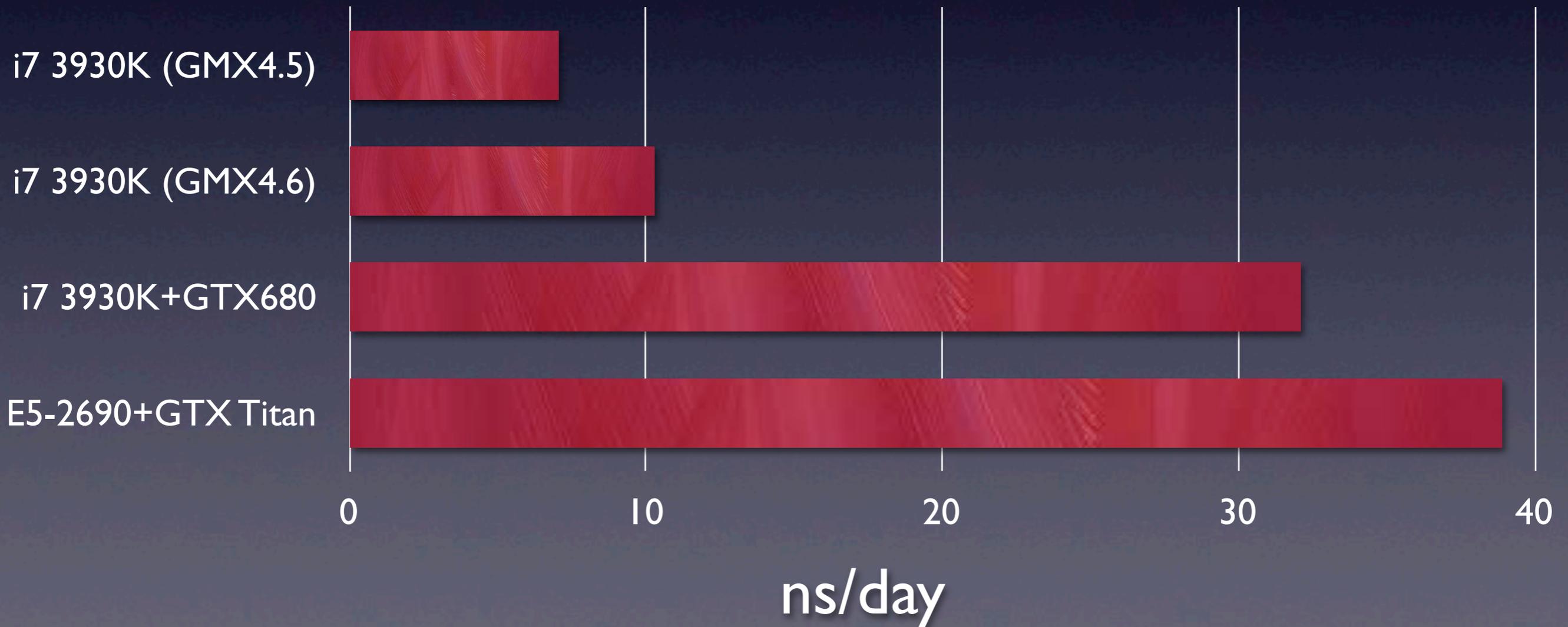


2546 FPS (beat that, Battlefield)



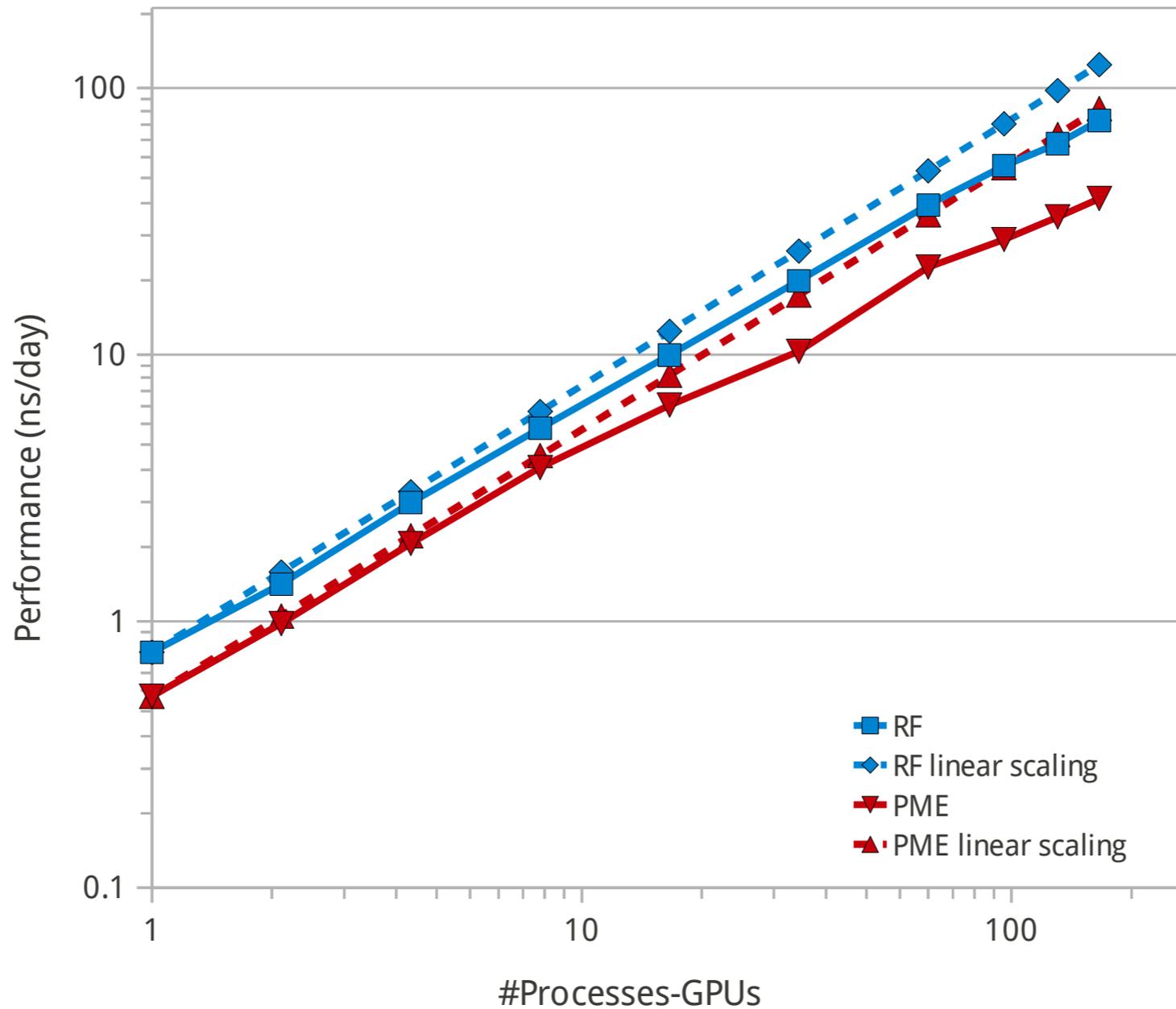
**GLIC: Ion channel
membrane protein**

150,000 atoms



Scaling of Reaction-field & PME

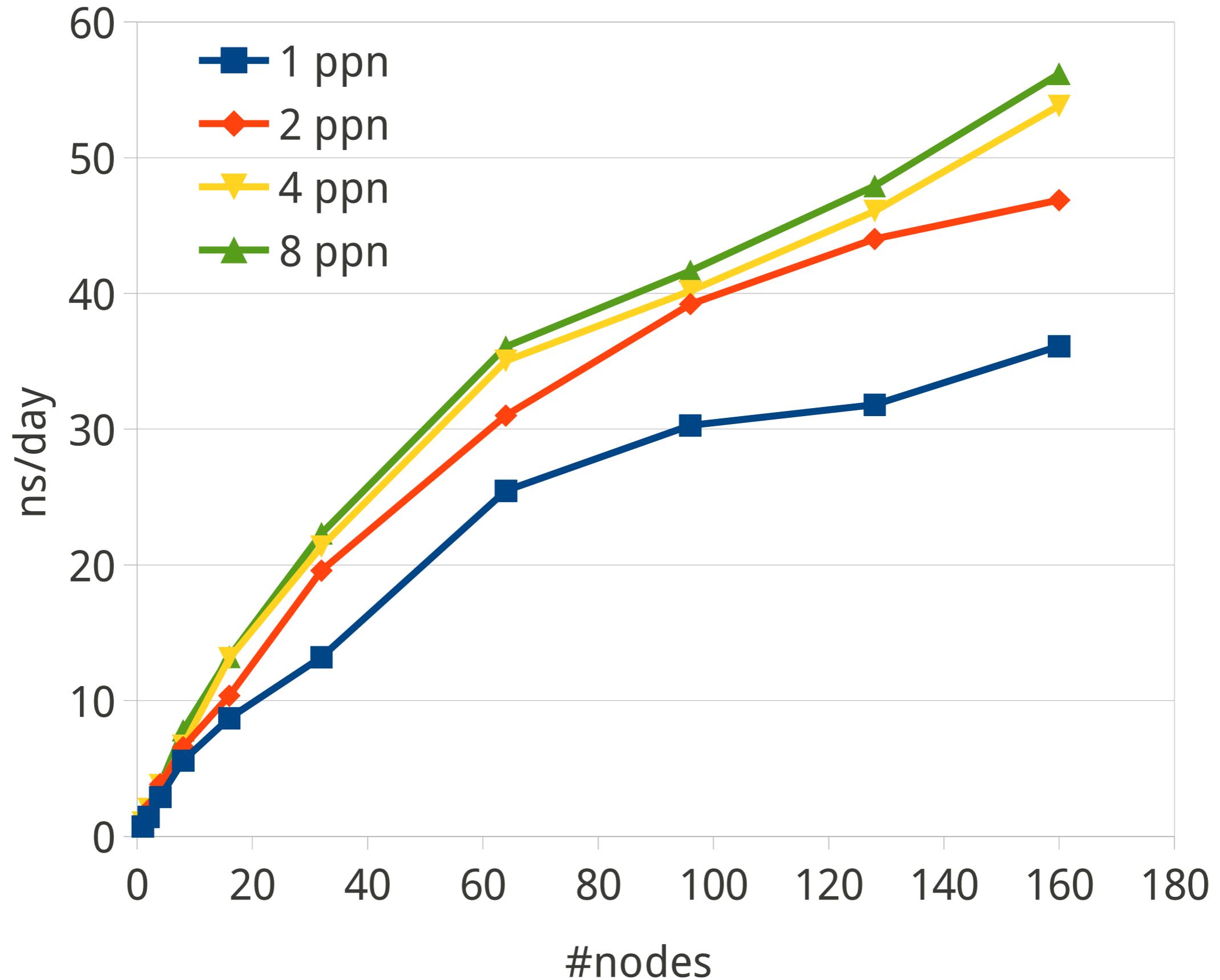
1.5M atoms waterbox, RF cutoff=0.9nm, PME auto-tuned cutoff



Challenge: GROMACS has very short iteration times - hard requirements on latency/bandwidth

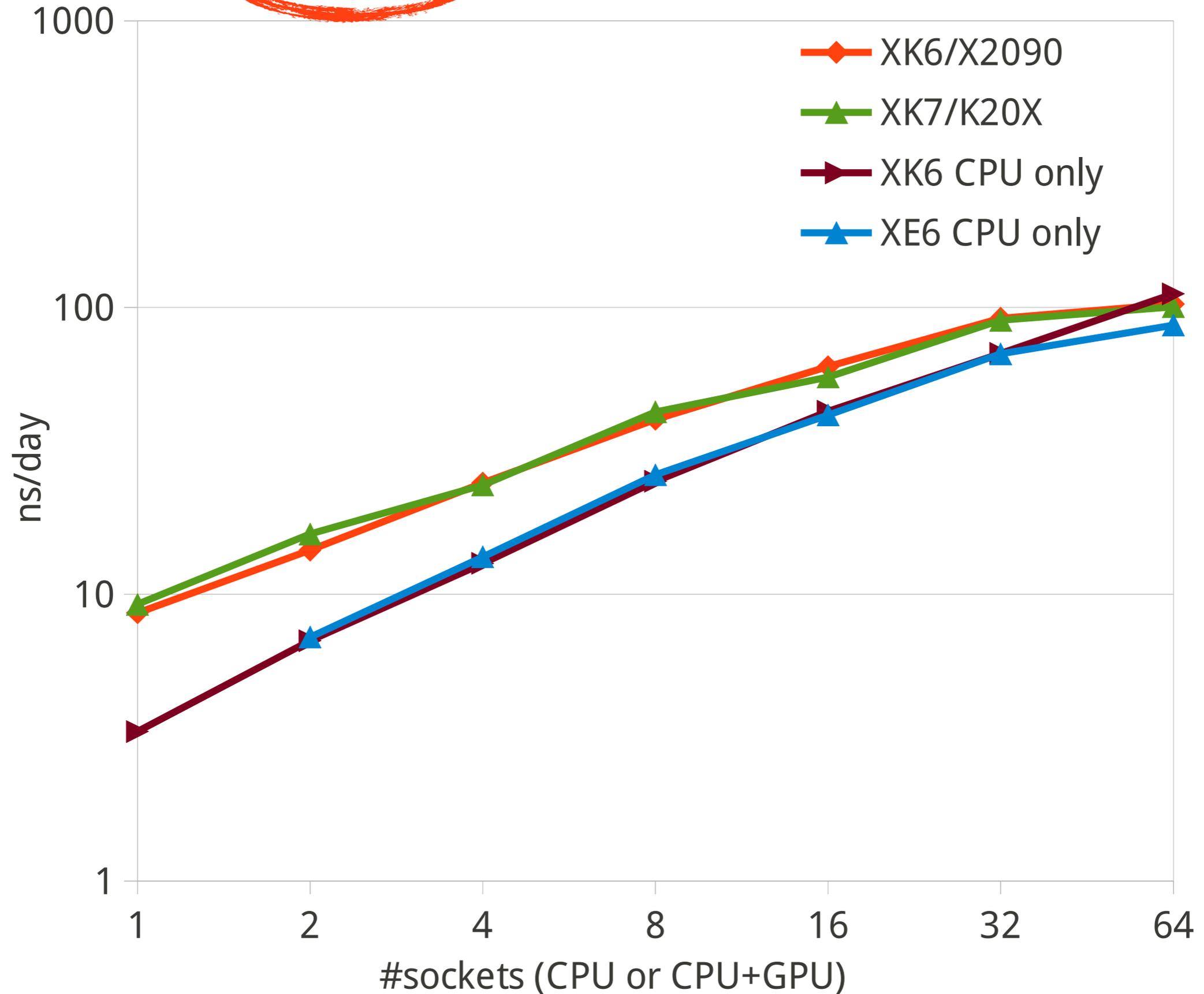
Strong scaling on Cray XK6

Input: water-box 1.5M atoms, PME, rc \geq 0.9



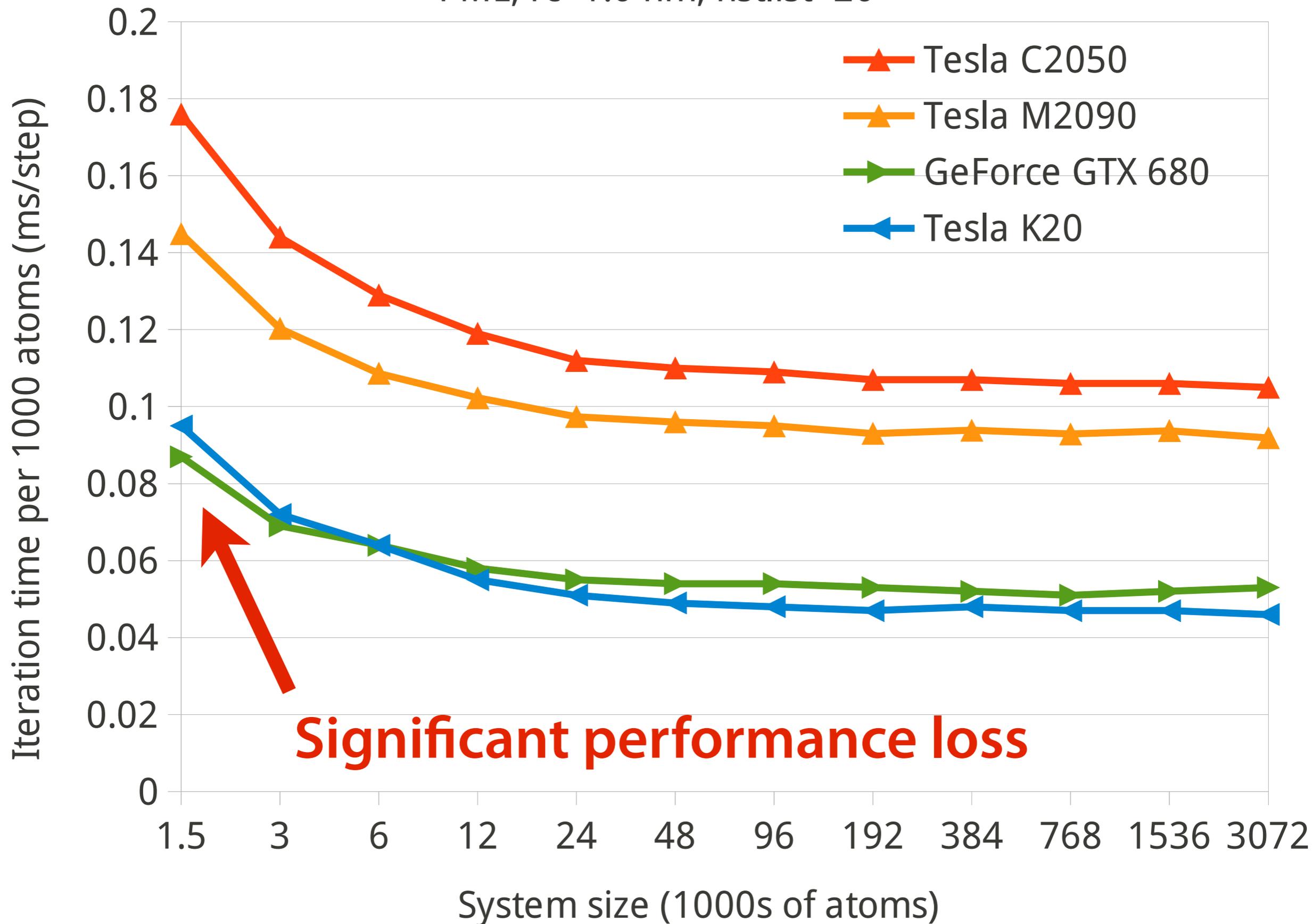
GROMACS 4.6 extreme scaling

Scaling to 130 atoms/core: ADH protein 134k atoms, PME, rc \geq 0.9

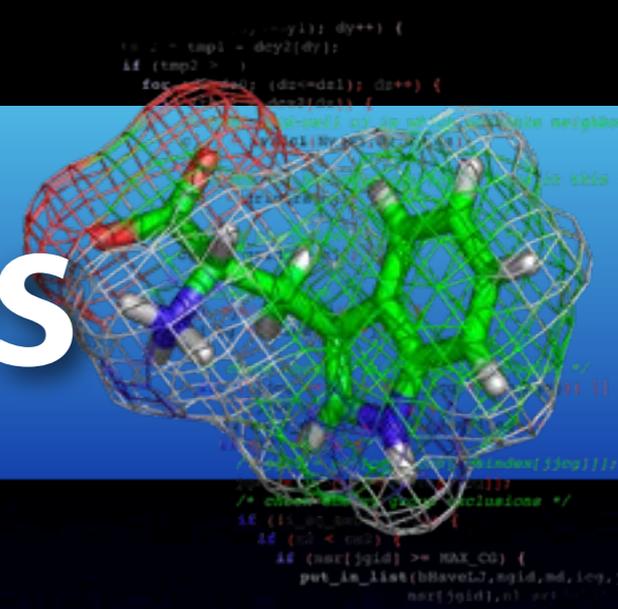


CUDA non-bonded force kernel scaling

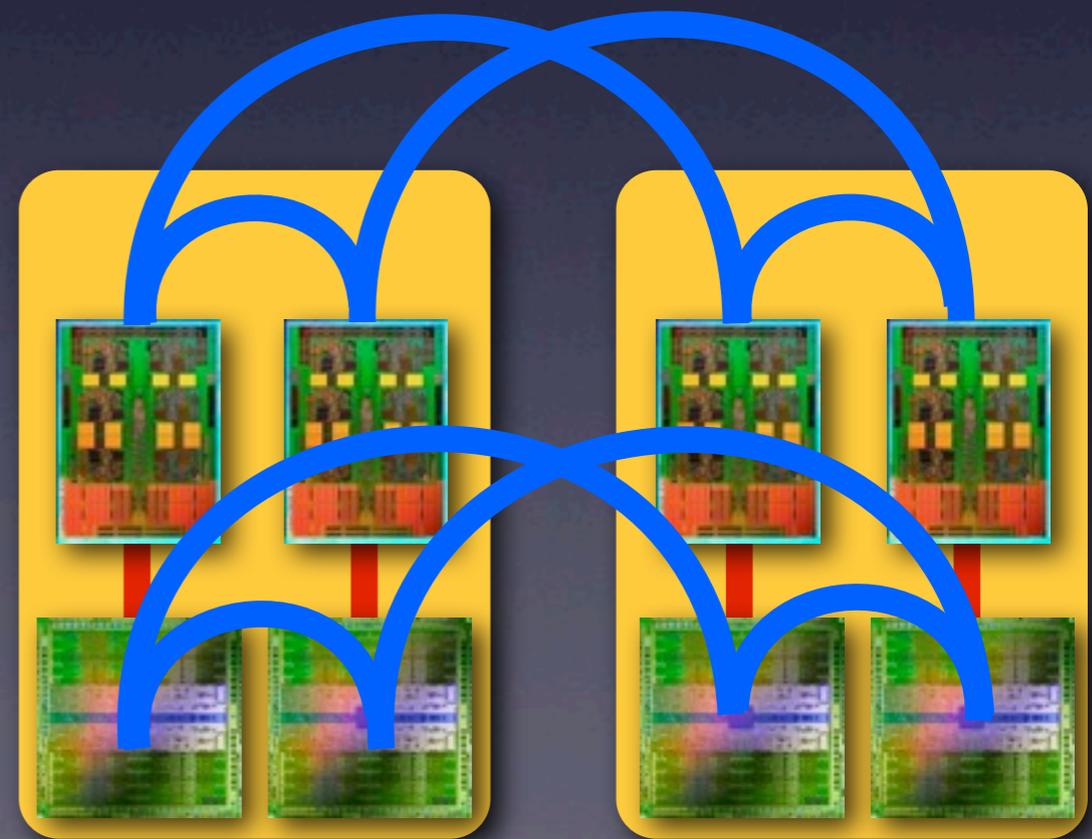
PME, rc=1.0 nm, nstlist=20



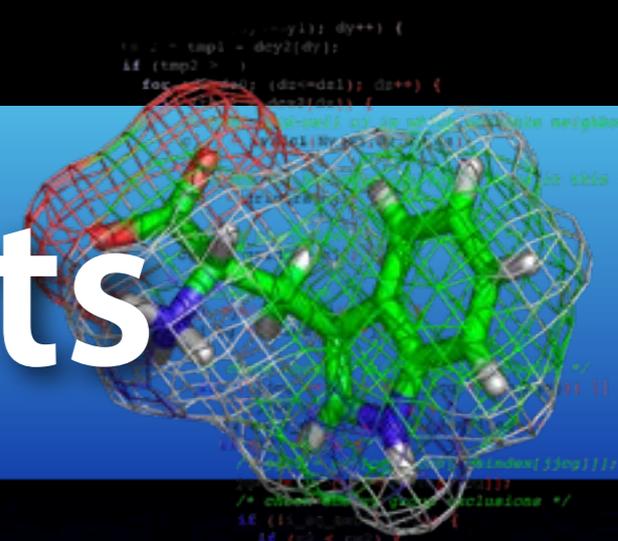
Remaining challenges



- Increase performance for small systems - necessary for improved parallelization
- Overlap communication/calculation (GPU-CPU-MPI)
- Keep all SMs busy 100% of time
- Reduce latencies
- Interested in the gory details?
Szilárd Páll, Wednesday 10am
Room212B



Acknowledgments



- **GROMACS:** Berk Hess, David van der Spoel, Per Larsson
- **Gromacs-GPU:** Szilard Pall, Berk Hess, Rossen Apostolov
- **Multi-Threaded PME:** Roland Shultz, Berk Hess
- **Copernicus:** Sander Pronk, Iman Pouya, Peter Kasson
- **Nvidia:** Mark Berger, Scott LeGrand, Duncan Poole, Andrew Walsh



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