

# Optimizing the particle mesh method for extreme scale simulations

Yuki Kaneko, Chiba University

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# Outline

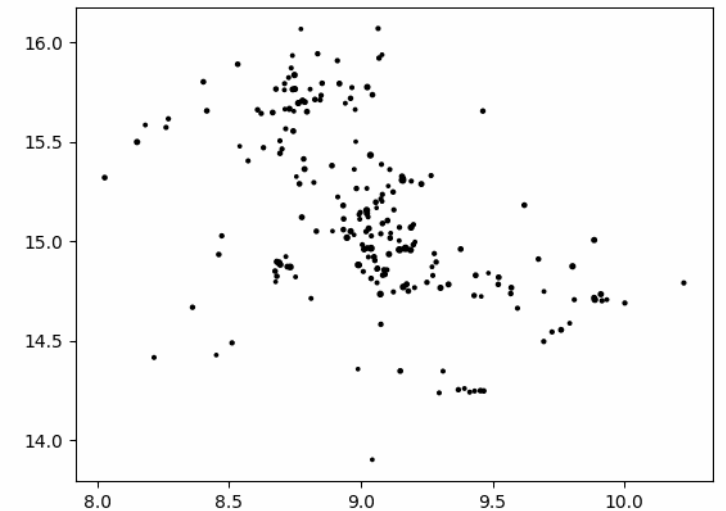
1. Introduction
2. Method
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# Introduction: N body simulation

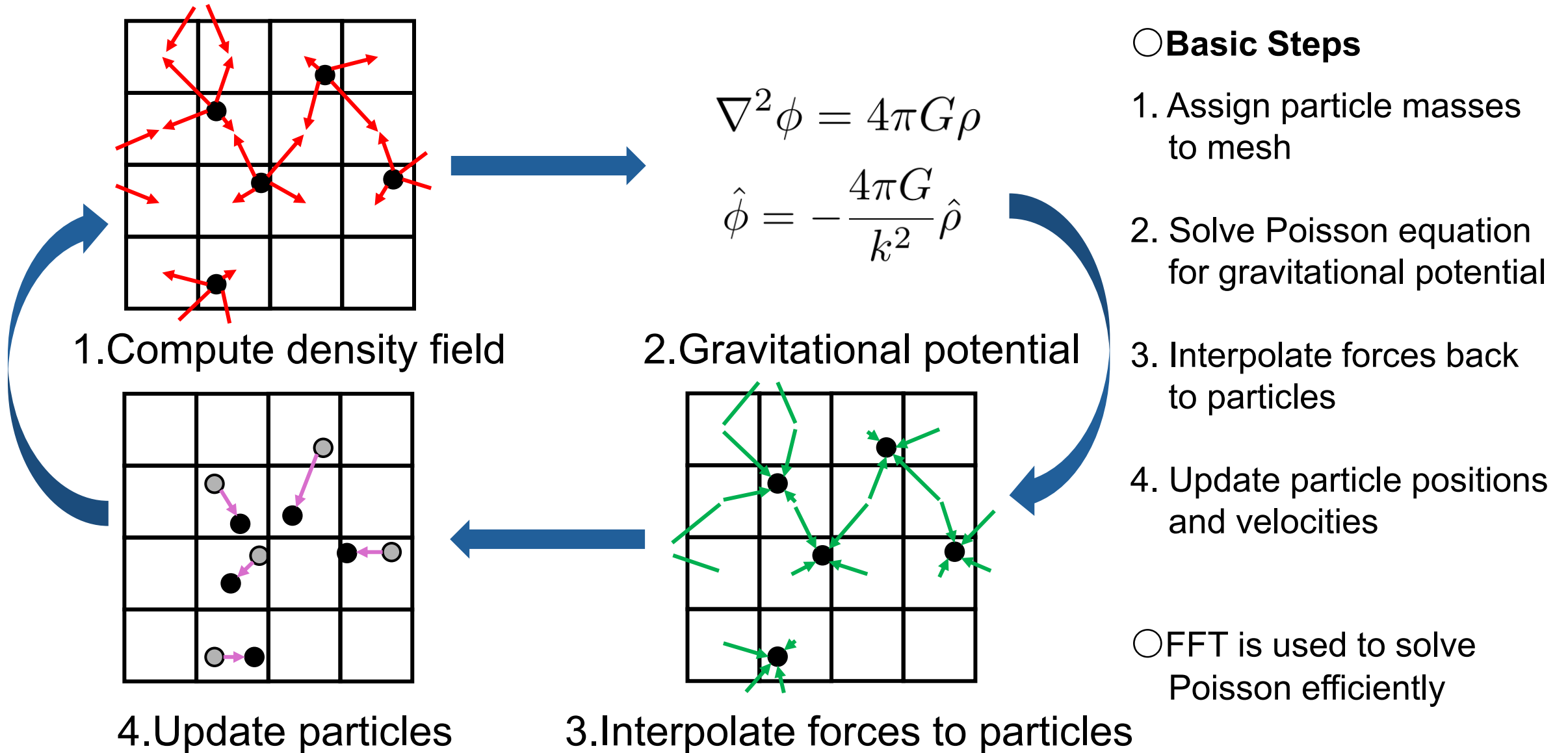
- gravitational N-body system  
→ many particles interacting through gravity  
(e.g., solar system, galaxies)
- Acceleration given by Newton's law of gravitation

$$\frac{d^2 \mathbf{r}_i}{dt^2} = \sum_{j \neq i}^N G m_j \frac{\mathbf{r}_j - \mathbf{r}_i}{\left( |\mathbf{r}_j - \mathbf{r}_i|^2 + \epsilon^2 \right)^{\frac{3}{2}}}$$

- Direct method  
This is very large computation  
because of  $O(N^2)$  computations
- Tree method
- Particle Mesh method
- TreePM



# Introduction: Particle Mesh Method



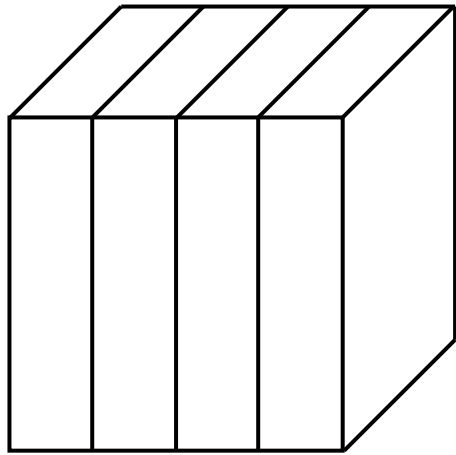
## ○ Basic Steps

1. Assign particle masses to mesh
2. Solve Poisson equation for gravitational potential
3. Interpolate forces back to particles
4. Update particle positions and velocities

○ FFT is used to solve Poisson efficiently

# Introduction: Process decomposition

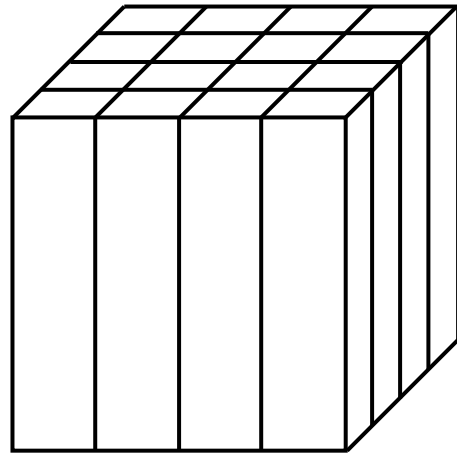
## FFT Libraries and their decomposition schemes



Slab

(1D decomposition)

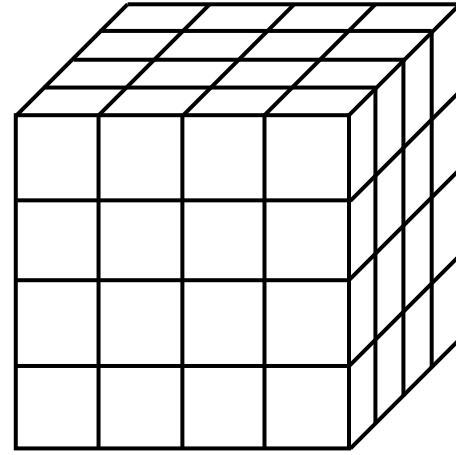
e.g. FFTW, FFTE



Pencil

(2D decomposition)

e.g. FFTE

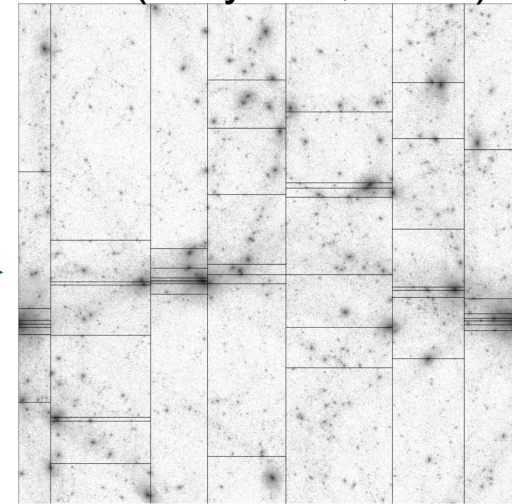


Cube

(3D decomposition)

e.g. heFFTe

Reshape



(Ishiyama, 2009)

FFTW : Frigo & Johnson, (2005)

FFTE : Takahashi, (2020)

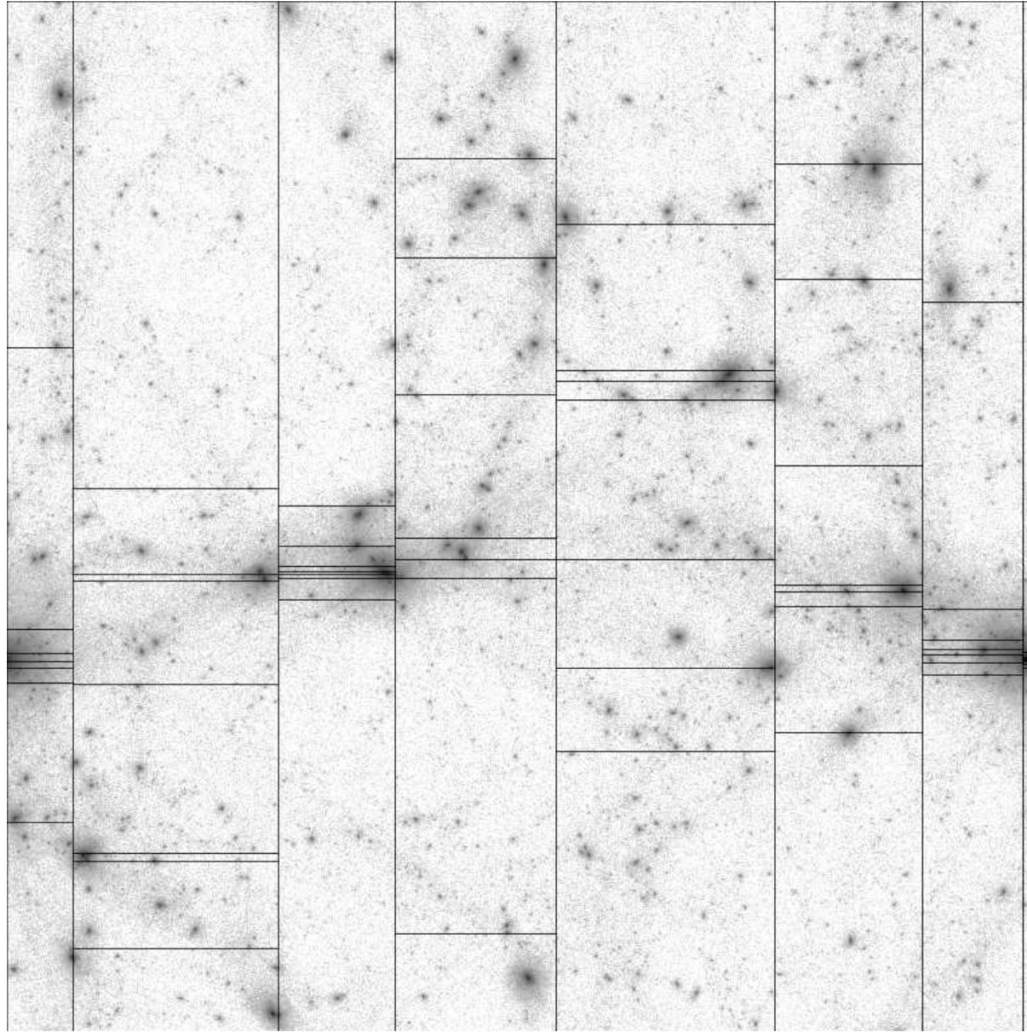
heFFTe : Ayala et al., (2020)

The domain decomposition used for particle calculations differs from that used in FFT. Therefore, an **additional communication** for exchanging data among all processes is required to reconcile these decompositions during parallel execution.

# Introduction: motivation

- Particle computations use a domain decomposition optimized for particle interactions, while FFT relies on library-specific decompositions.
- These decompositions do not match, so data must be communicated and transposed between processes.
- At large scales, this communication cost becomes the main bottleneck.
- The communication overhead depends on the FFT library and its decomposition scheme.
- Therefore, it is important to compare different FFT libraries to evaluate their efficiency in large-scale simulations.

# Method



Example of non-uniform domain decomposition

**Two types of particle distributions are used in the experiments**

1. Uniform distribution:

Particles are evenly distributed, corresponding to early-universe conditions (high- $z$ ).

Scale free

2. Non-uniform distribution:

Particles are clustered, representing late-time universe conditions (low- $z$ ).

box size : 1.0Gpc/h      redshift : 0

This non-uniform distribution is obtained from actual cosmological simulations.

# Method

- **FFT Libraries**

- 1. Slab : FFTW, FFTE-1D
  - 2. pencil : FFTE-2D

- **Particle number** :  $4096^3$

- **Mesh size** :

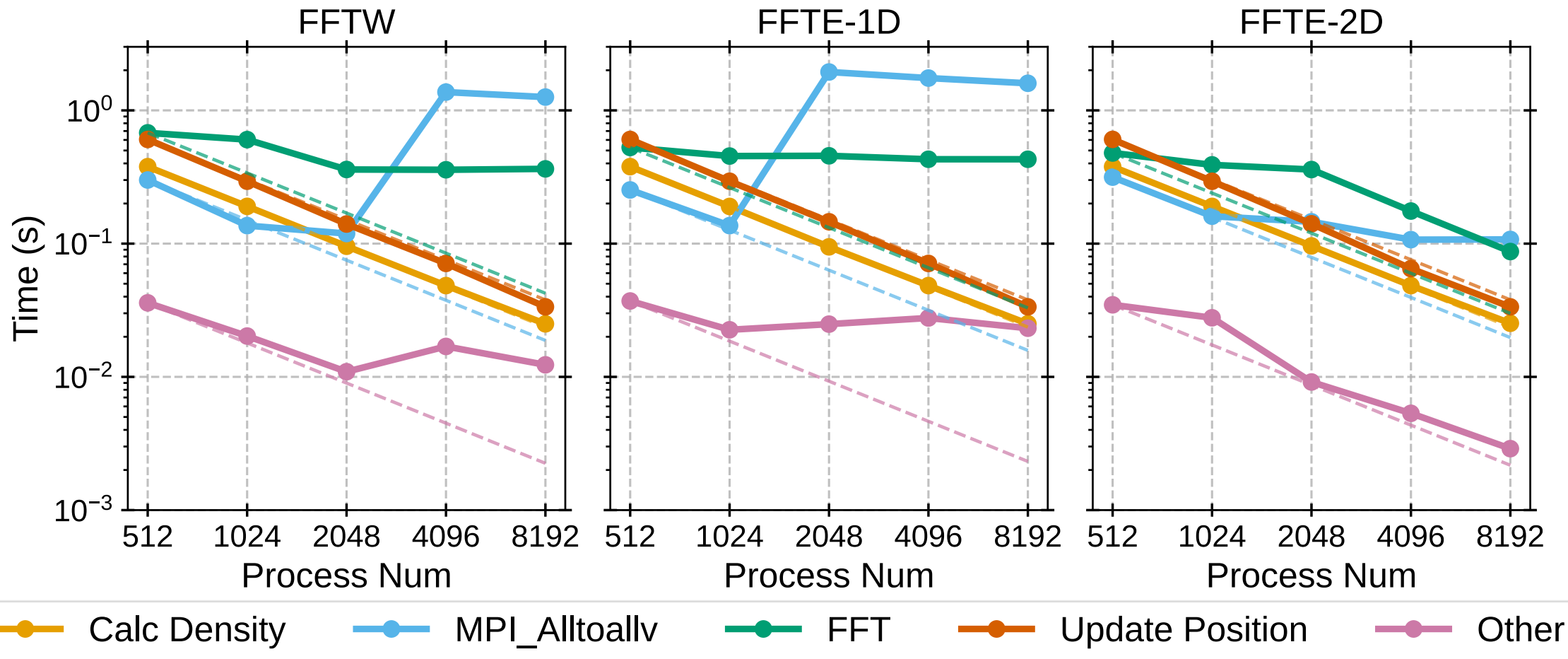
- 1.  $2048^3$
  - 2.  $4096^3$

- **System** : Supercomputer Fugaku

- 48 cores per node and 2.0 GHz clock frequency
  - total node : 158,976 nodes
  - Nodes used in this study : 128-2048
  - 12threads and 4processes per node

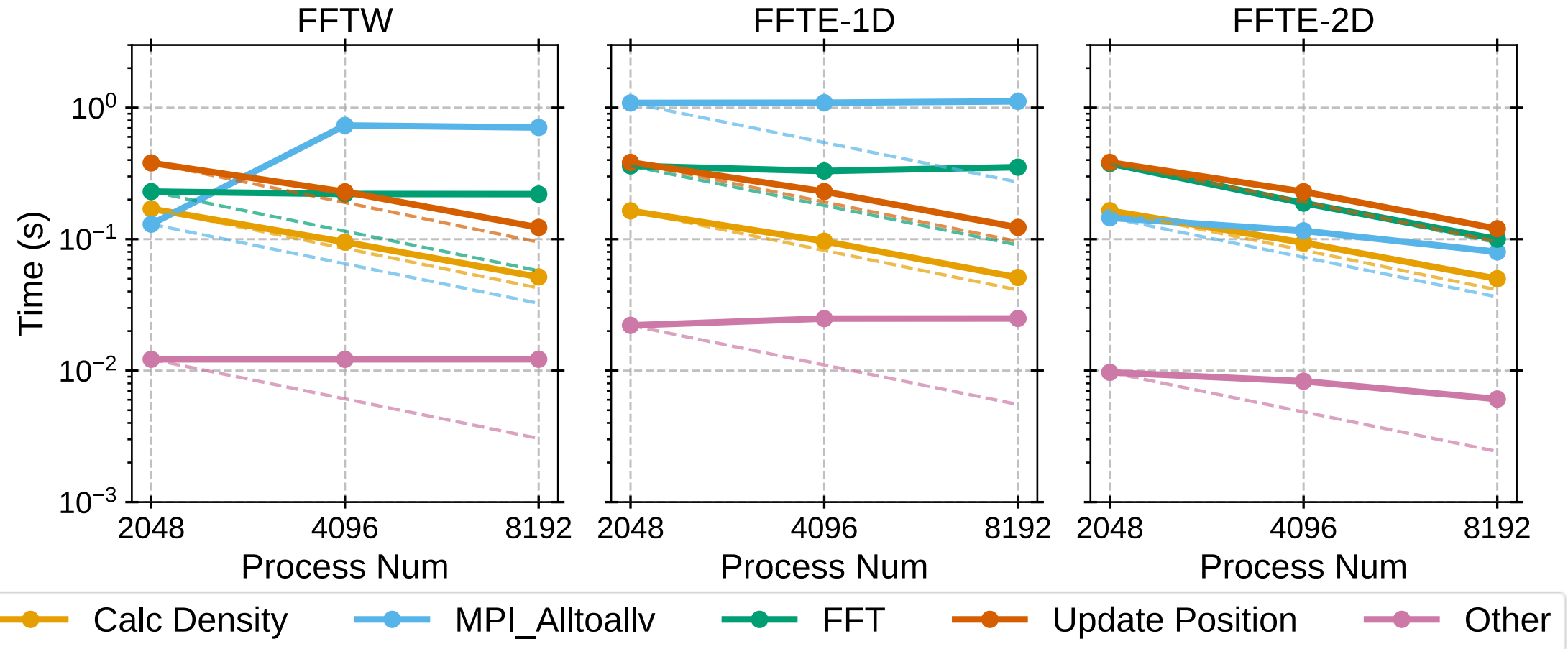


# Result Uniform distribution( $N_g = 2048$ )



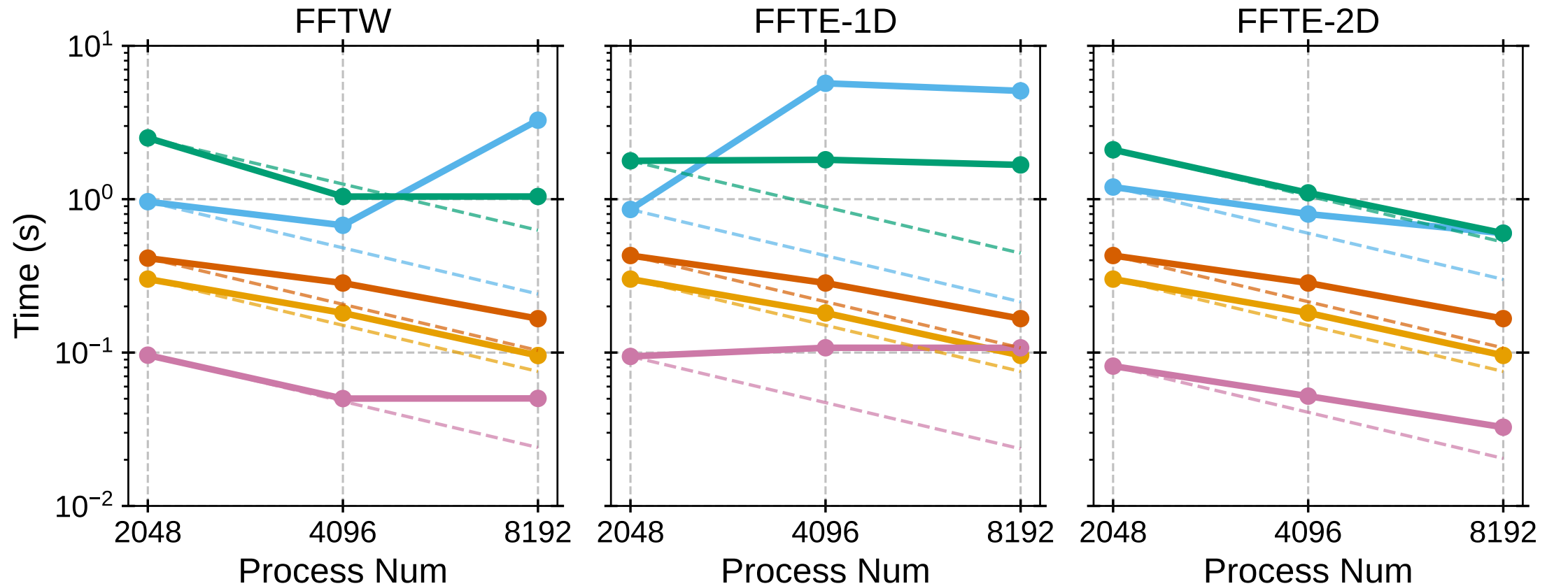
- FFTW/FFTE-1D (slab): saturate when the number of processes reaches the slab limit.
- FFTE-2D (pencil): Scales to larger process numbers

# Result Non-uniform distribution( $N_g = 2048$ )



- Process range is limited due to particle imbalance
- Runtime increases slightly, but parallel efficiency remains similar to the uniform case

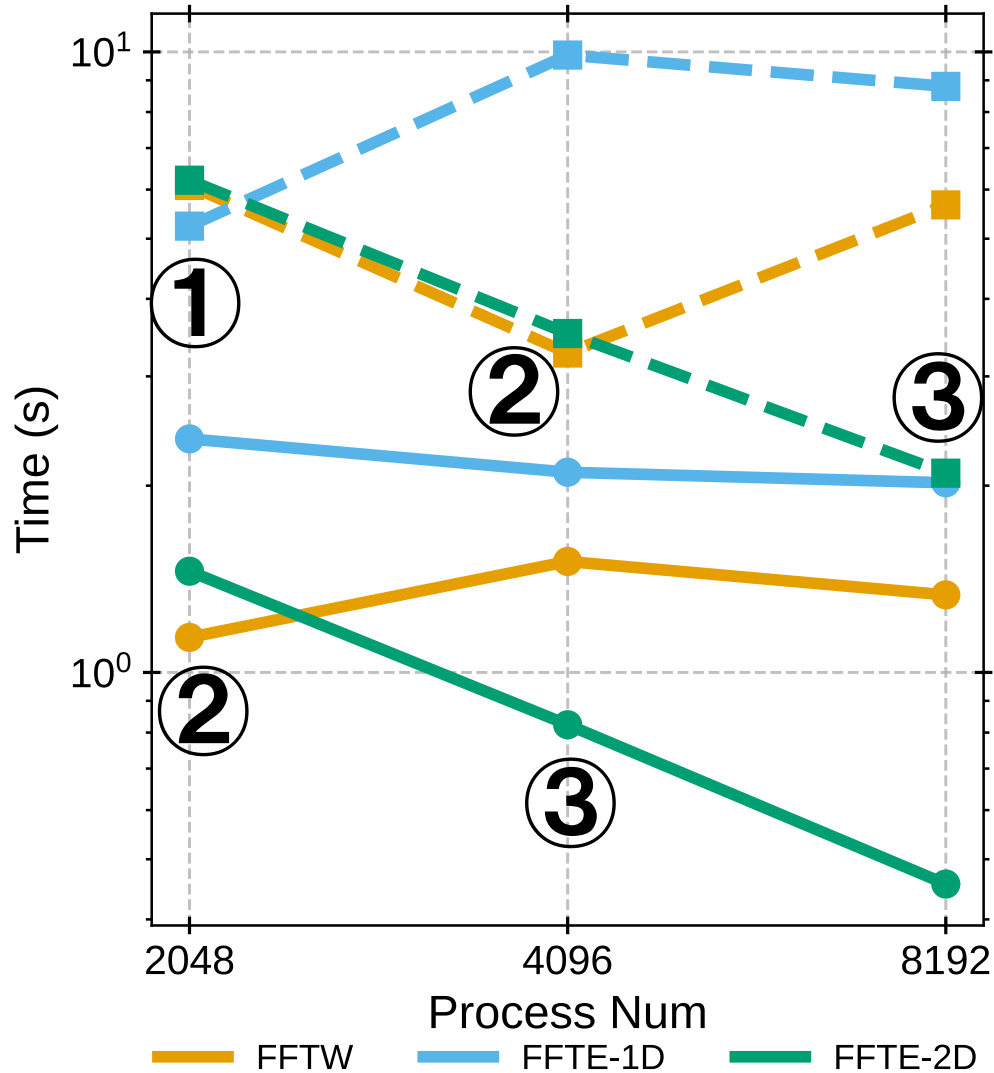
# Result Non-uniform distribution (Ng = 4096)



● Calc Density    ● MPI\_Alltoallv    ● FFT    ● Update Position    ● Other

- The scaling behavior remains similar to previous results.
- But with larger grids, FFTW scales up to 4096 processes.

# Result Overall comparison



Solid line: Ng = 2048, Dashed line: Ng = 4096  
(both non-uniform)

- ① FFTE-1D is fastest when Process Num < Ng.
- ② FFTW is fastest when Process Num = Ng.
- ③ FFTE-2D is fastest when Process Num > Ng.

# Summary and future work

- Slab decomposition saturates when the number of processes reaches the grid size, while pencil decomposition continues to scale beyond it.
- The performance strongly depends on the decomposition:
  - FFTE-1D is fastest when Process Num < Ng**
  - FFTW is fastest when Process Num = Ng**
  - FFTE-2D is fastest when Process Num > Ng**
- Future work :
  - Evaluate cube-based FFT decomposition (heFFTe)
  - Investigate performance differences across node topologies on Fugaku
  - Further optimize communication overhead