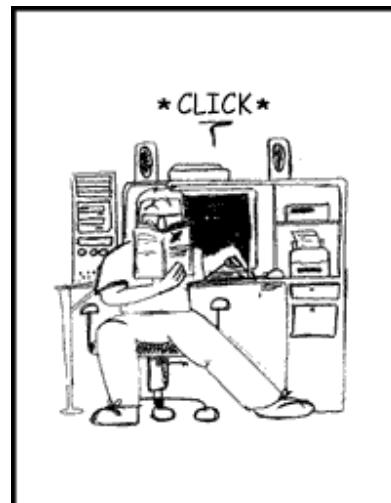
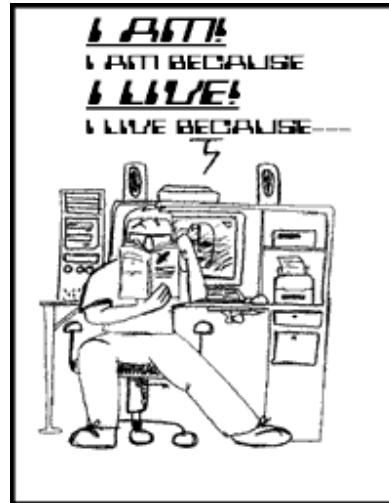


# Computational Astrophysics

Solving for Gravity

Alexander Knebe, Universidad Autonoma de Madrid



## Solving for Gravity

- Poisson's equation

$$\Delta\Phi = 4\pi G\rho$$

$$\vec{F} = -m\nabla\Phi$$

## Solving for Gravity

- Poisson's equation

$$\Delta\Phi(\vec{r}) = 4\pi G \rho(\vec{r})$$

$$\vec{F}(\vec{r}) = -m \nabla \Phi(\vec{r})$$

particle approach

$$\vec{F}(\vec{r}_i) = -\sum_{i \neq j} \frac{G m_i m_j}{(r_i - r_j)^3} (\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j)$$

grid approach ( $\vec{r}_{i,j,k}$  = position of centre of grid cell  $(i,j,k)$ )

$$\Delta\Phi(\vec{r}_{i,j,k}) = 4\pi G \rho(\vec{r}_{i,j,k})$$

$$\vec{F}(\vec{r}_{i,j,k}) = -m \nabla \Phi(\vec{r}_{i,j,k})$$

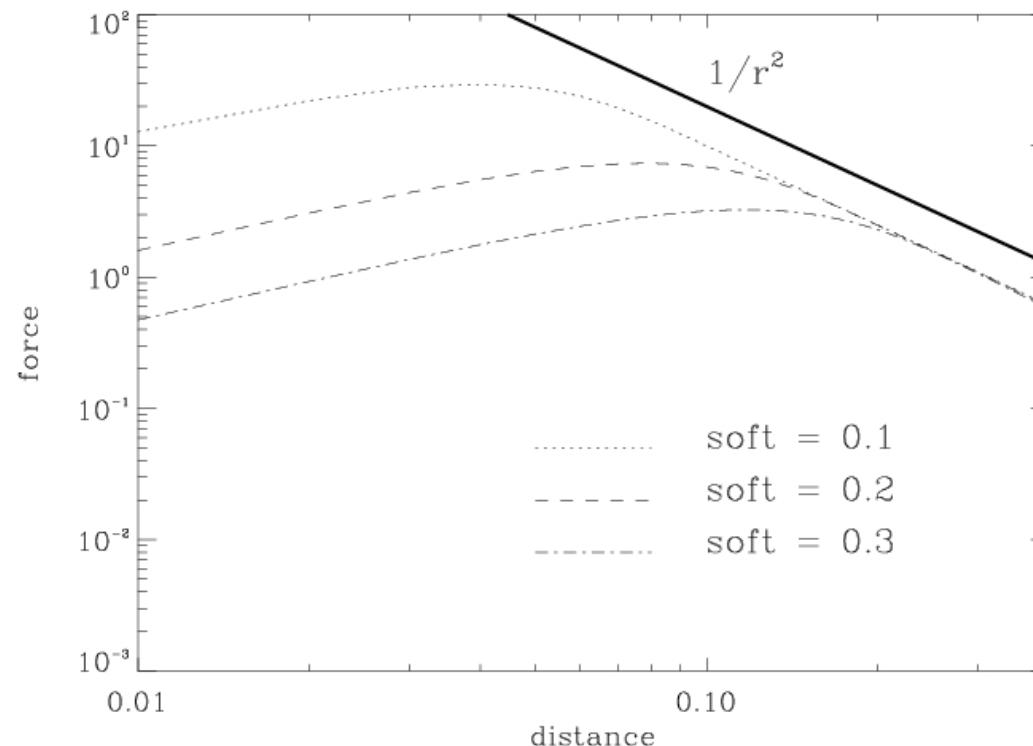
**heart and soul of every N-body code**

## Solving for Gravity

## ■ Poisson's equation

- the particle approach

$$\vec{F}(\vec{r}_i) = - \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{Gm_i m_j}{\left( |\vec{r}_i - \vec{x}_j|^2 + \epsilon^2 \right)^{3/2}} (\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j)$$



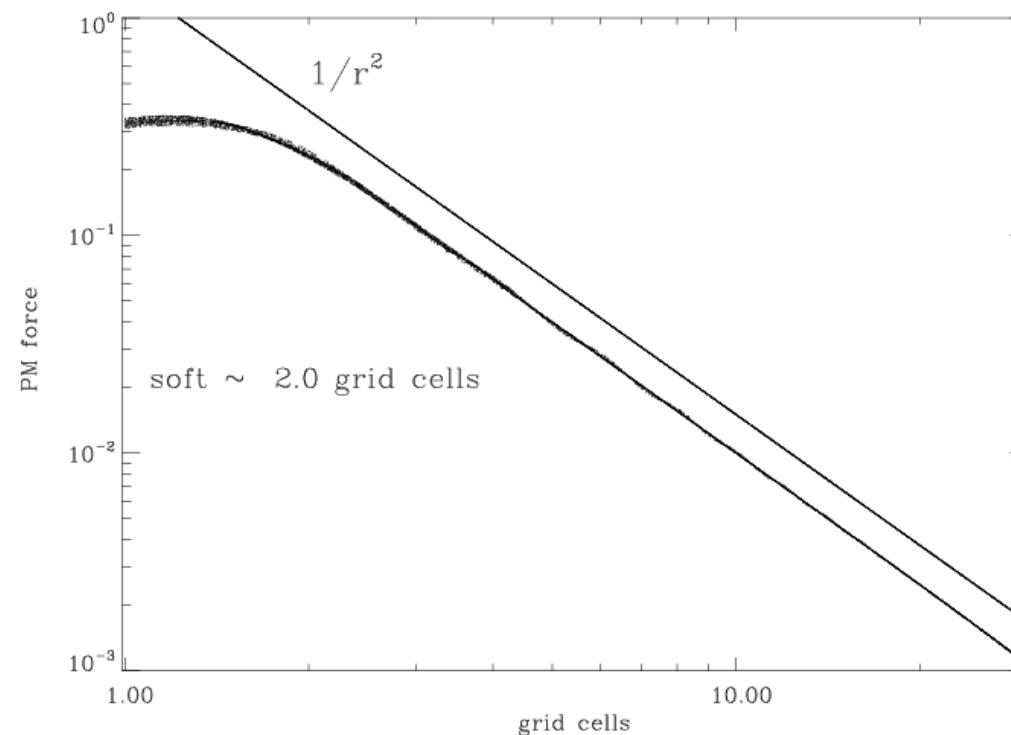
## Solving for Gravity

## ■ Poisson's equation

- the grid approach

$$\Delta\Phi_{i,j,k} = 4\pi G \rho_{i,j,k}$$

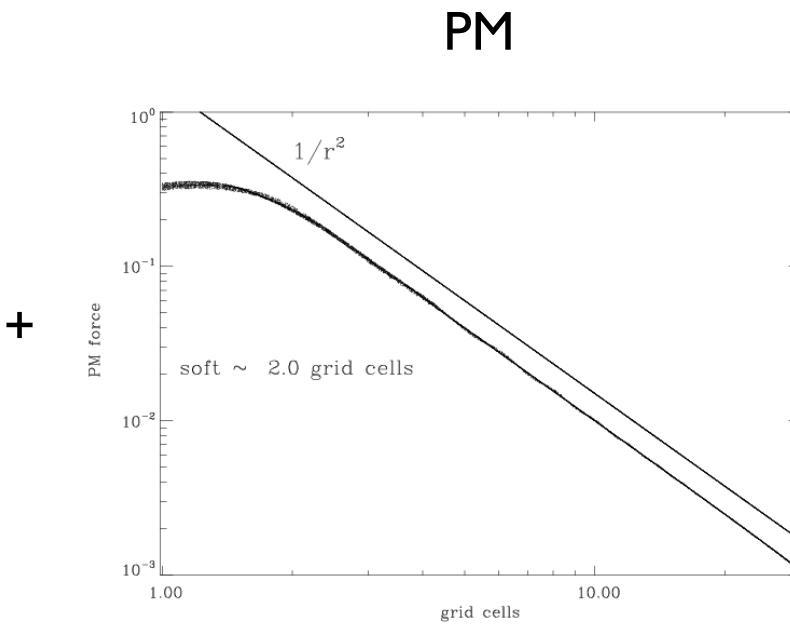
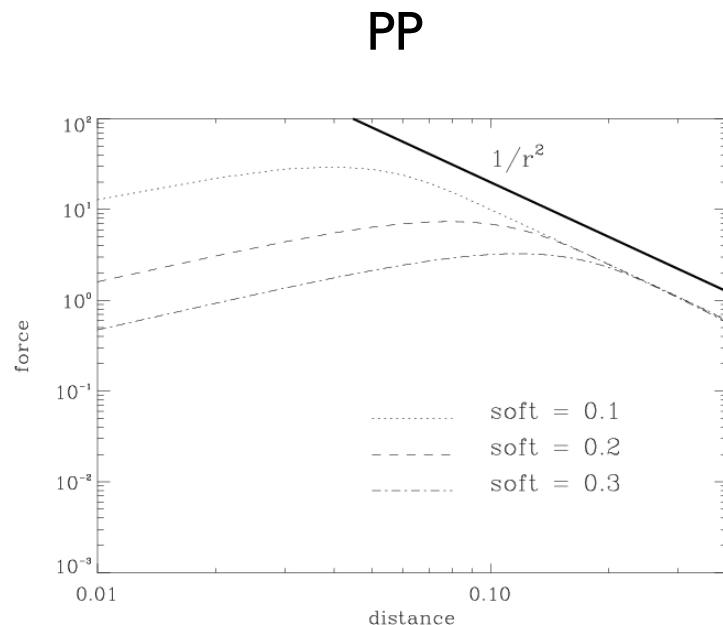
$$\vec{F}_{i,j,k} = -m \nabla \Phi_{i,j,k}$$



## Solving for Gravity

## ■ Poisson's equation

- the
- $P^3M$
- hybrid approach

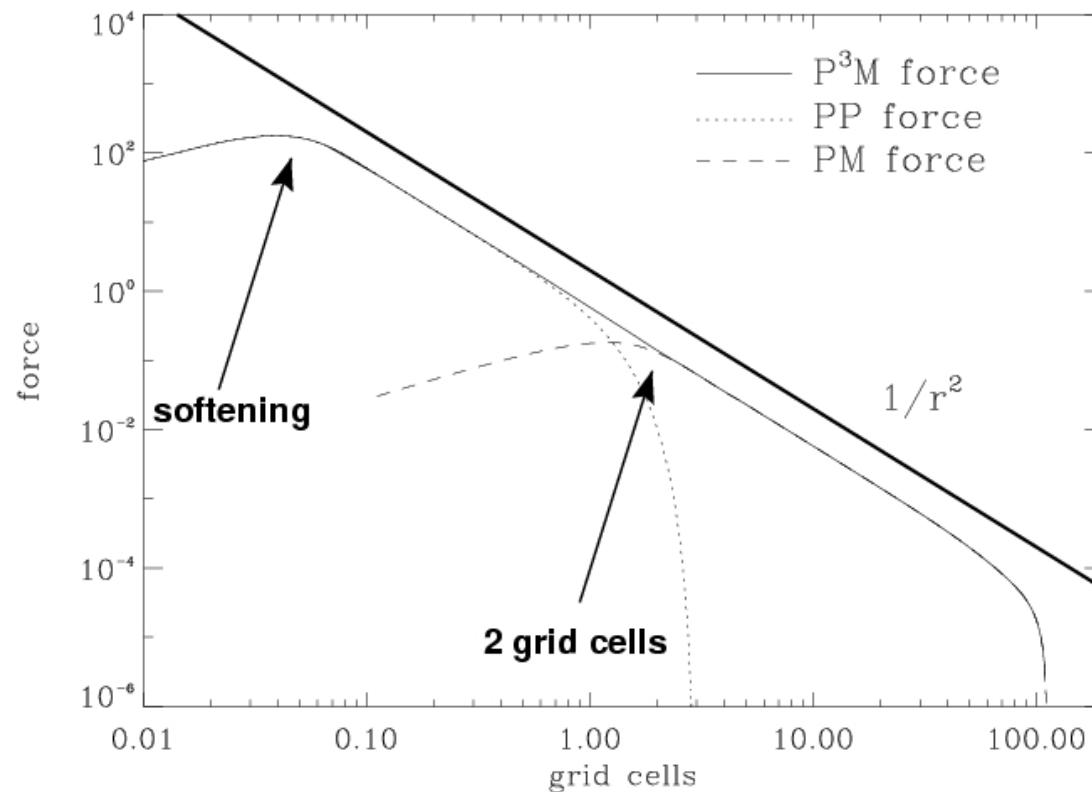


particle-particle-particle-mesh code...

## Solving for Gravity

■ Poisson's equation - **the P<sup>3</sup>M hybrid approach**

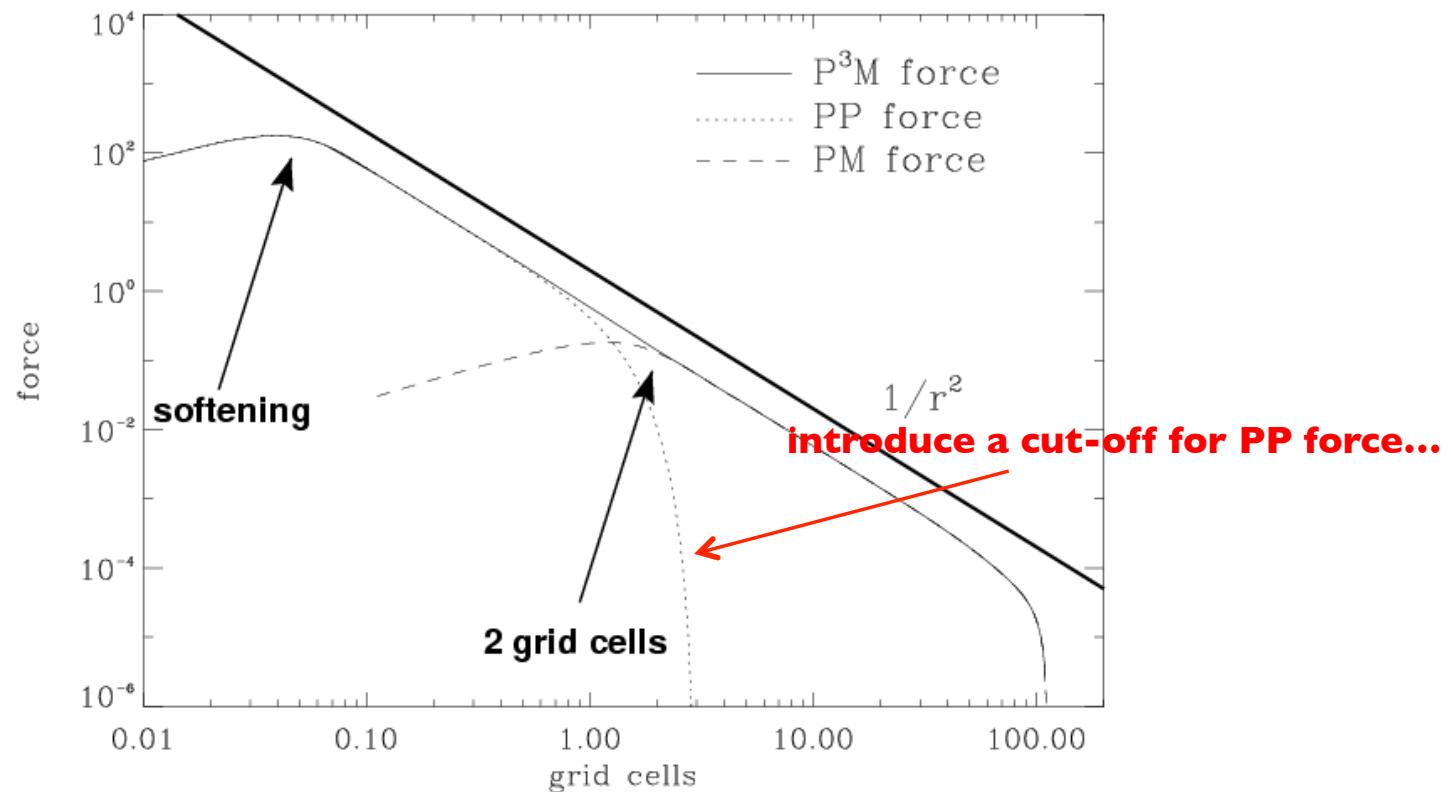
- short range force: pure PP method
- long range force: pure PM method



## Solving for Gravity

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## Solving for Gravity

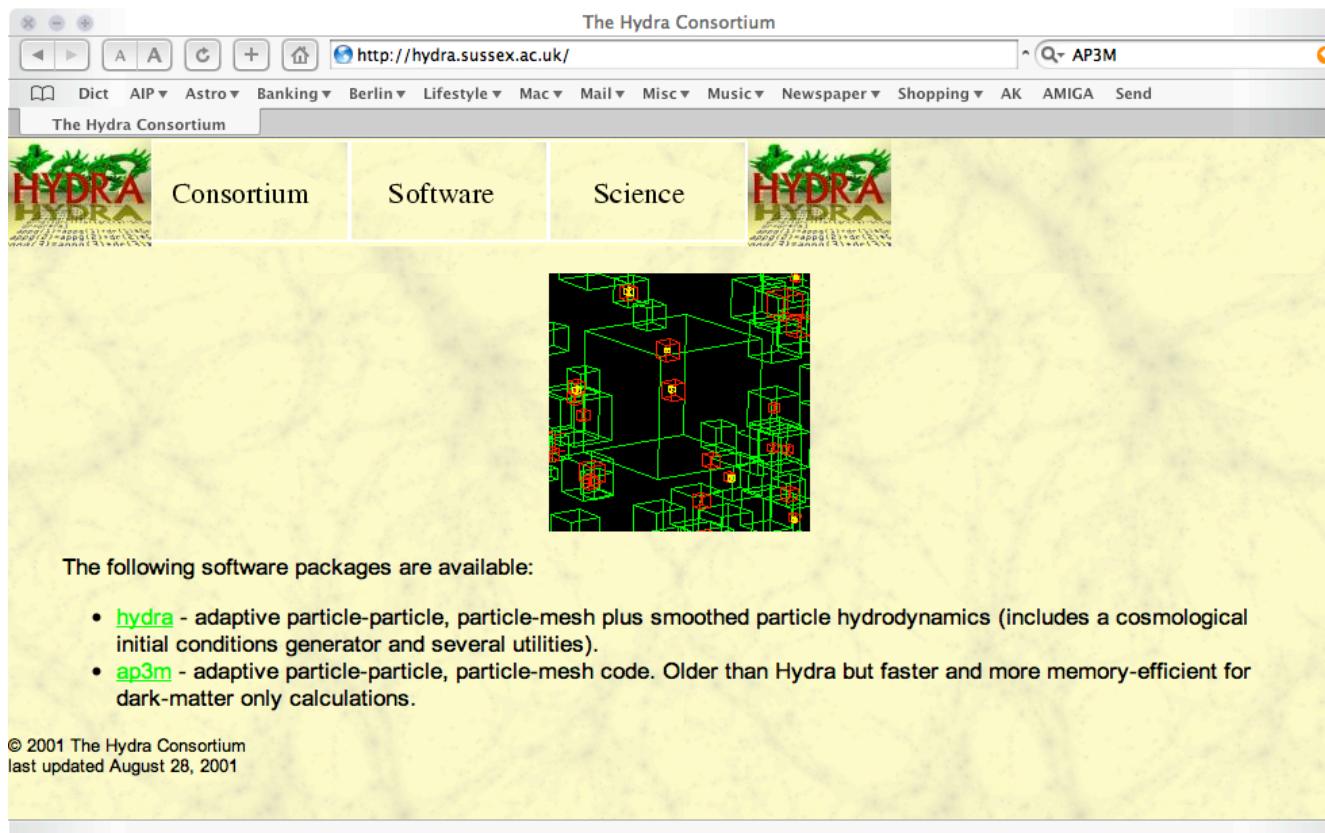
### ■ Poisson's equation - the P<sup>3</sup>M hybrid approach

- AP<sup>3</sup>M code

(Couchman 1991)

- HYDRA code

(Couchman, Thomas & Pearce 1995)



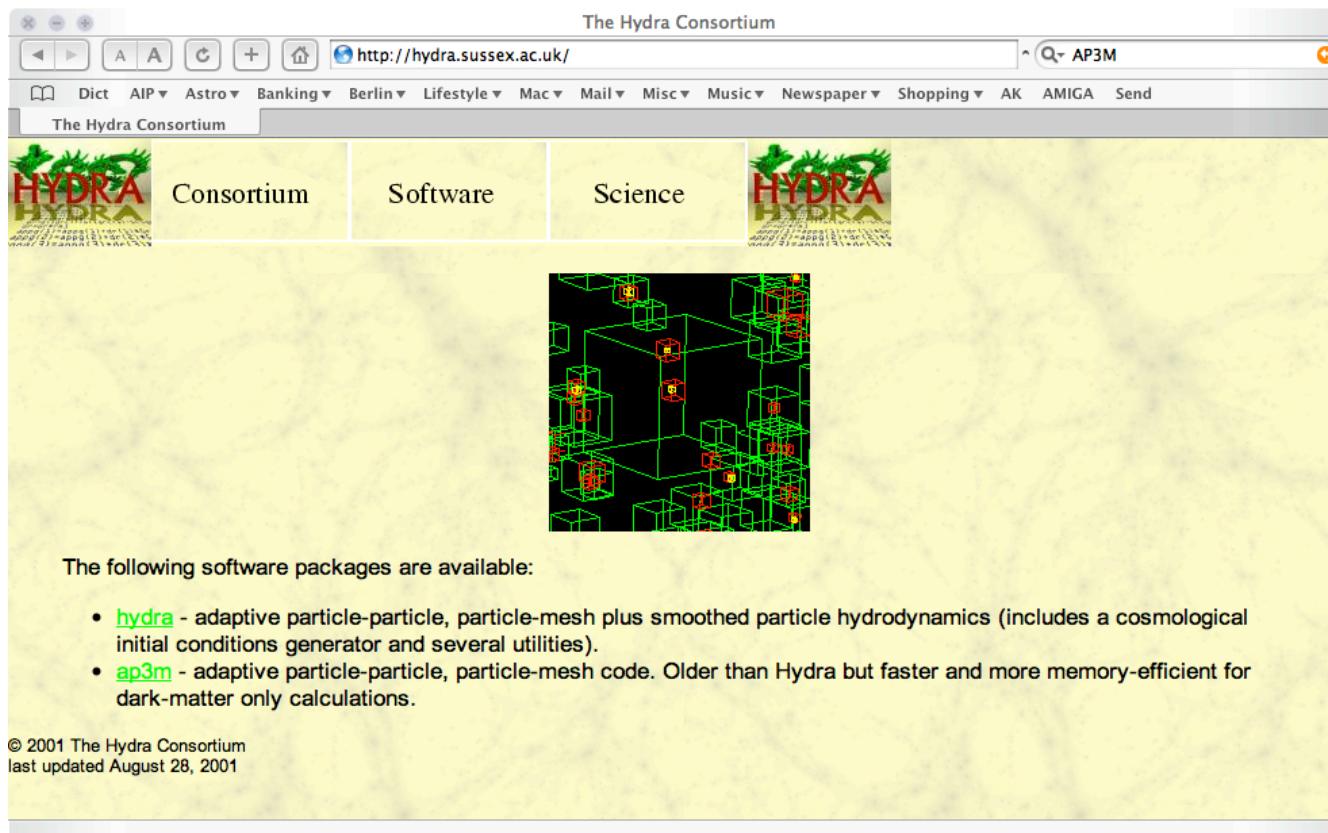
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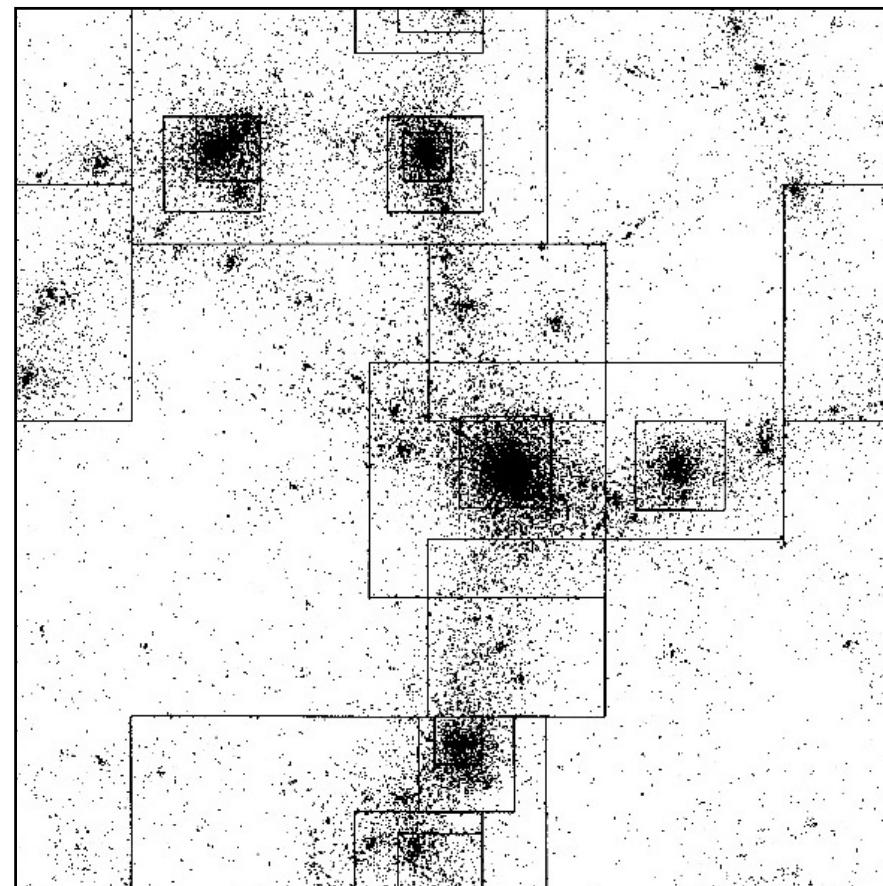
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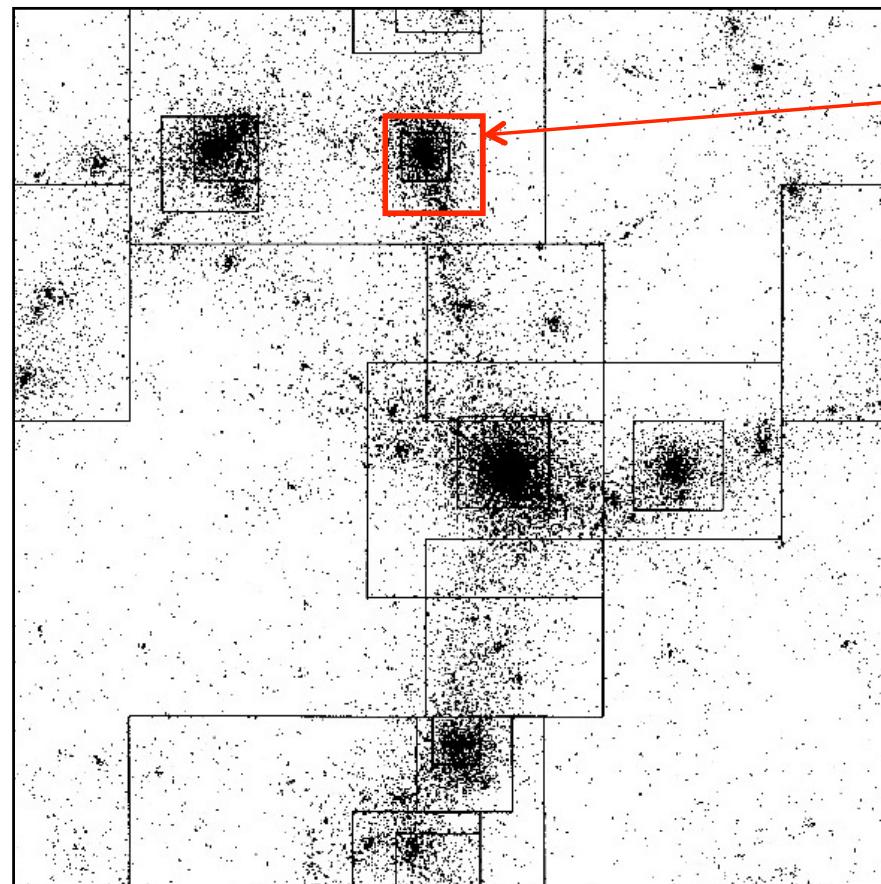
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individual  $P^3M$  calculation  
with  
isolated boundaries

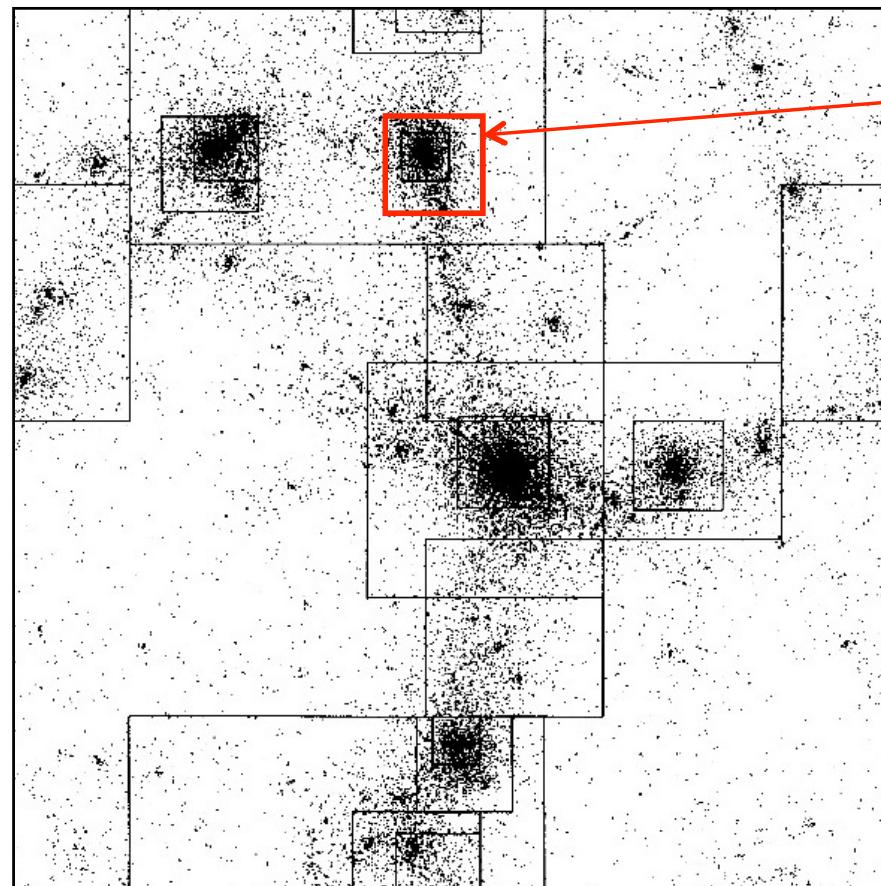
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(Couchman 1991)

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individual  $P^3M$  calculation  
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isolated boundaries



no gain in accuracy,  
“just” speed-up...

# Solving for Gravity

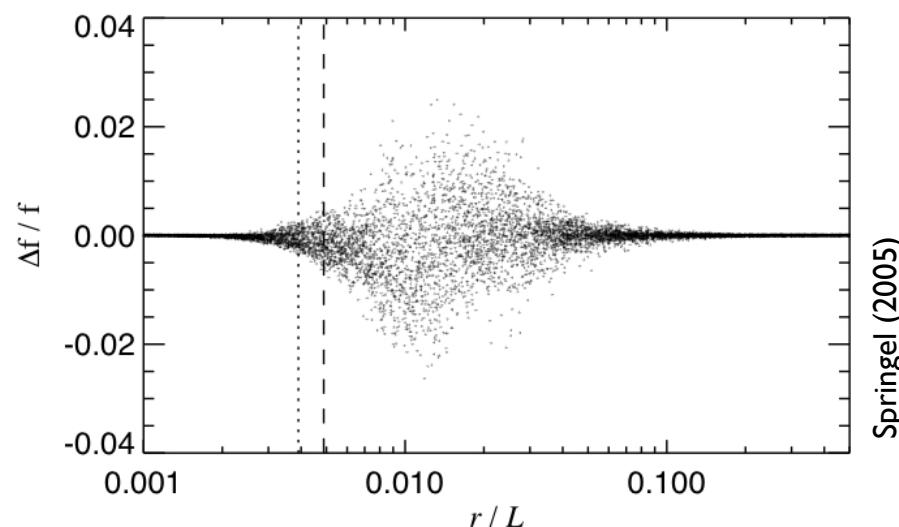
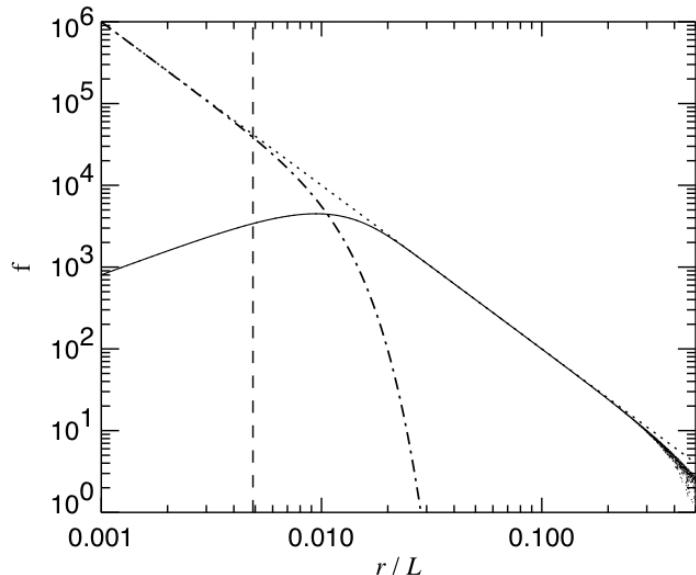
- ## ▪ Poisson's equation - **the hybrid approach**

- (A)P<sup>3</sup>M (Couchman 1991)
  - Tree-PM (Xu 1995; Bode & Ostriker 2003; Dubinski et al. 2004; Springel 2005)
  - ...

## Solving for Gravity

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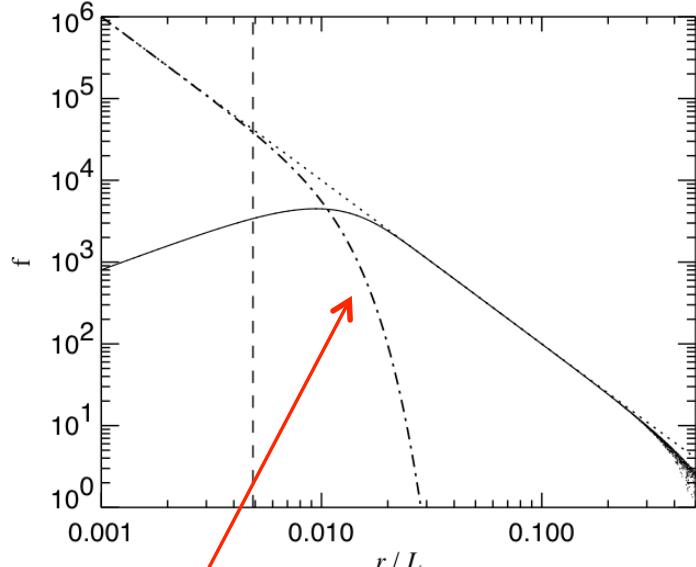
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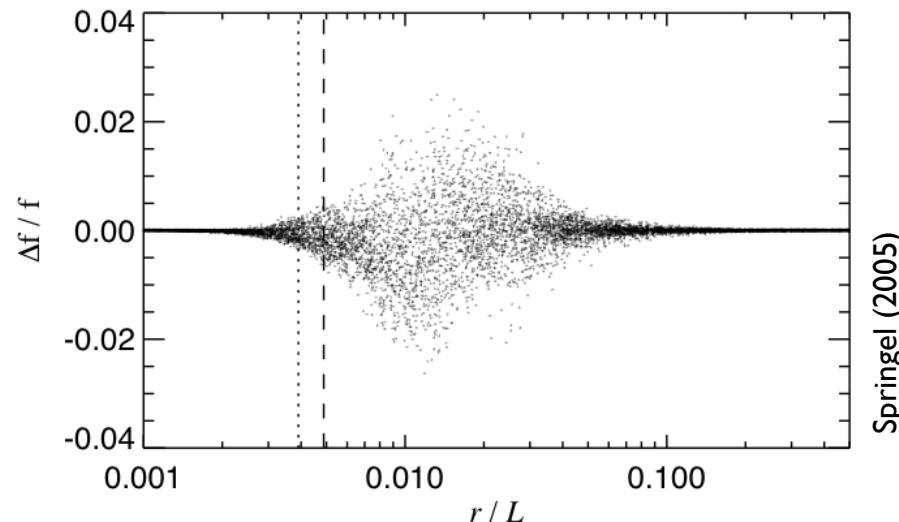
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modified via short-range cut-off factor again...



# Solving for Gravity

- Poisson's equation - **the hybrid approach**

- (A)P<sup>3</sup>M (Couchman 1991)
  - **Tree-PM** (Xu 1995; Bode & Ostriker 2003; Dubinski et al. 2004; Springel 2005)
  - ...  
  - tree walk only in spatial vicinity of target particle
  - no periodic boundaries

=> substantial performance improvement!

# Solving for Gravity

- ## ▪ Poisson's equation - **the hybrid approach**

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