

Particle simulation

If interactions particle-particle are included for N particles \Rightarrow N^2 forces

When two particles get very near to each other – large variation of

velocities in small $\Delta t \Rightarrow$ short timestep

Such approach possible for $N \leq 1000$

For illustration 10^8 častic, 10 Tflop/s,

1 timestep – 3 hours

10^4 timesteps – 3 years

Larger systems

- *Tree codes* – interaction particle-cluster
- **Particle-In-Cell** - interaction particle-grid

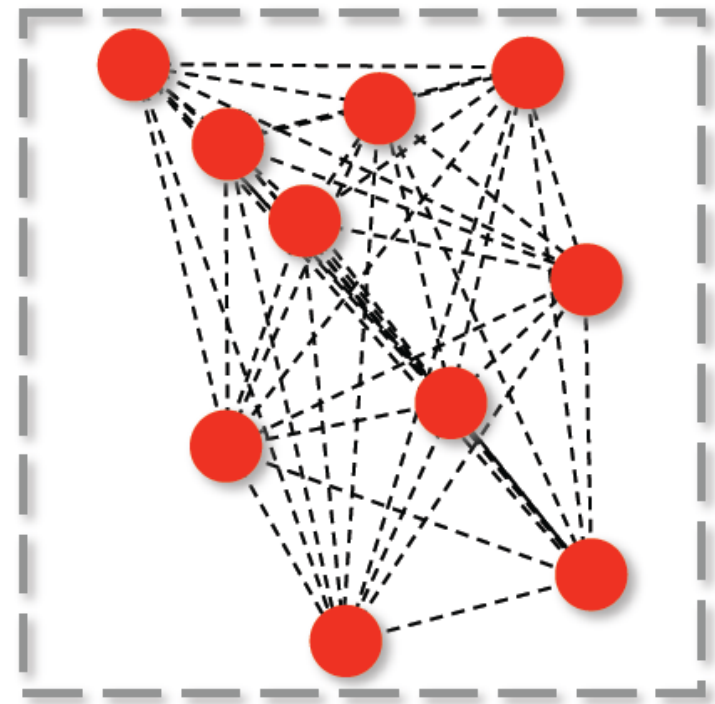
PIC is very widely applied method

Aim is not accurate description of binary

interactions, but oppositely, aim is to obtain equivalent of Vlasov equation.

Thus, macroscopic electromagnetic field and motion of particles in it.

PIC - 1 timestep ~ 0.3 ms, 10^4 steps ~ 3 s



Spatial grid is introduced, field is calculated in nodes and interpolated among them, particles have dimensions equal to cell size - **macroparticles**

In one dimension (1D) – **slabs** of thickness 1 cell  , 2D –  **rods**,
 v 3D **cubes**, particles have finite dimensions

More velocities than dimensions possible (1D2V, 1D3V, 2D3V) \Rightarrow currents

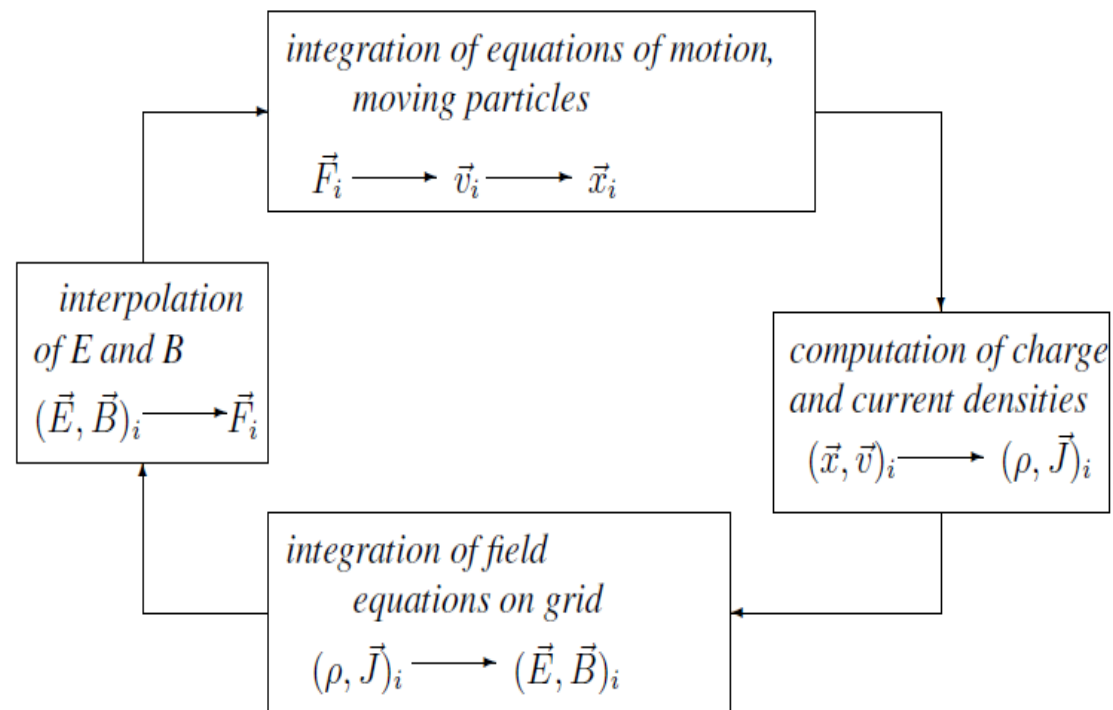
Macroparticles may **penetrate** through each other (they are particle clouds)

PIC – illustrative, NL problems solved and limits of analytic models found

PIC code cycle

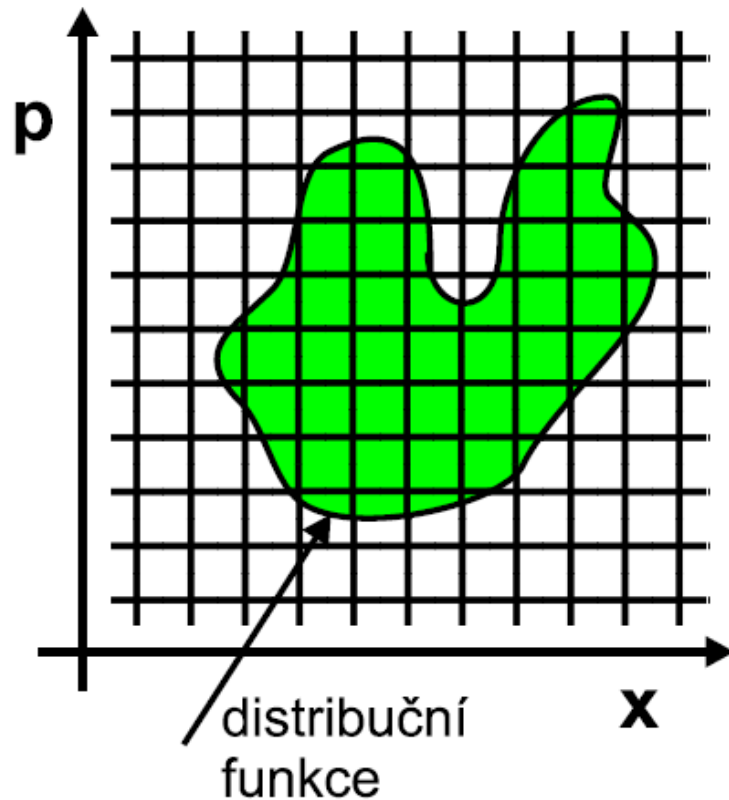
Velocities and positions
 calculated from equations
 of motion

Charge and current
 densities computed via
 interpolation to cell nodes
 Fields calculated in nodes
 Forces via field interpolat-
 ion to particle positions

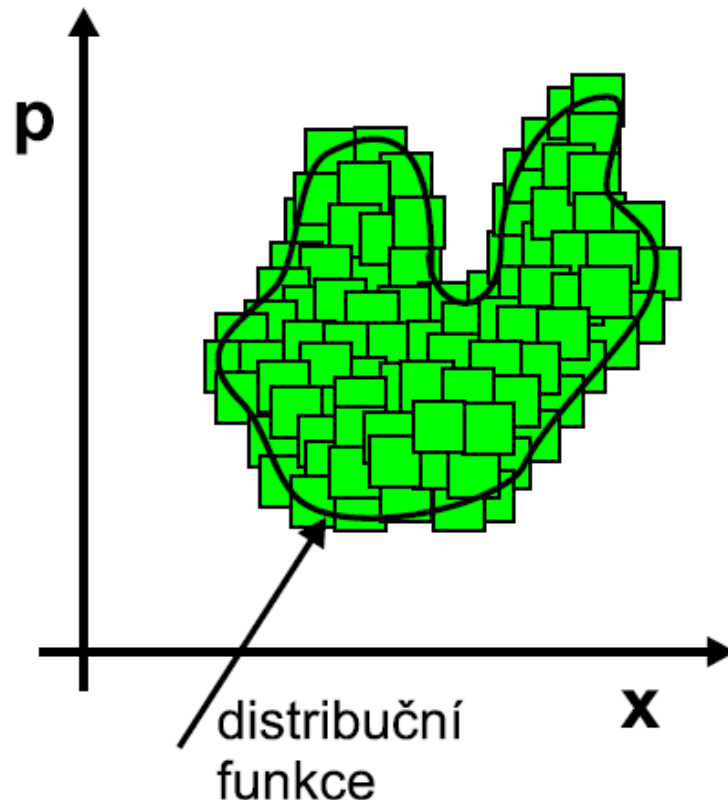


Numerical solving of Vlasov equation – much slower, usually done in less dimensions (often only in 1D), noise-free, favorable for distribution tails
PIC method is in fact solving of Vlasov equation via sampling

(a)



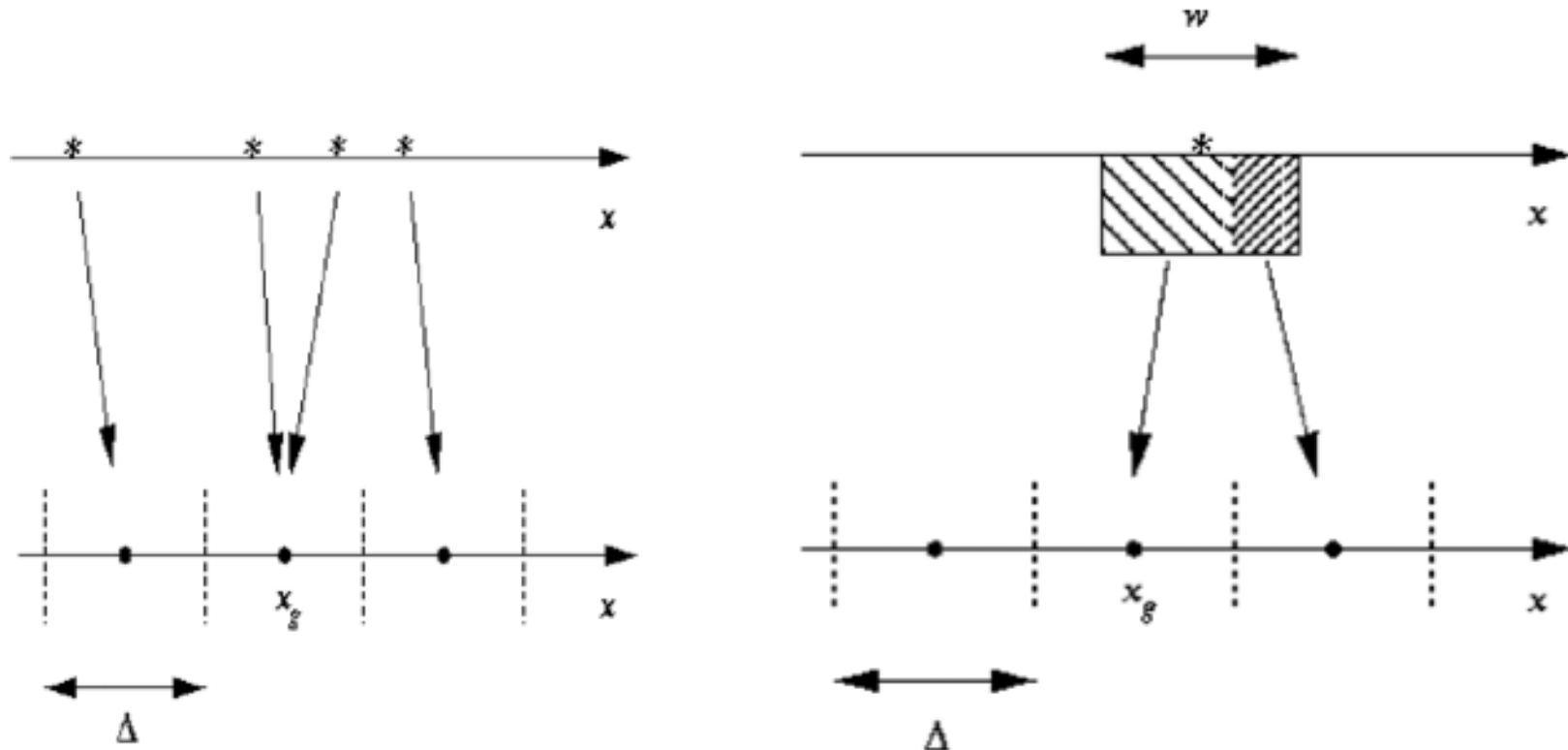
(b)



PIC solves Vlasov equation only in places, where particles are present;
it is parallelized easily

Particle assignment and force interpolation

Nearest point assignment (1.order) Linear interpol. (cloud in cell 2. order)



Maxwell's equations

N cells (length 1) – area length $L=N$, particle number M , length $\delta=1$,
particle number per cell $n_{av}=M/L$

Cloud-in-cell – part of charge in $x < (x_i+x_{i+1})/2$ assigned to point i

$$\Delta\rho_i = q(1 - \Delta x) \quad \Delta\rho_{i+1} = q\Delta x$$

Electromagnetic code – Maxwell's equations – charges and currents

In seminars - electrostatic code ES1 → Poisson equation

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial x} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \quad E(i+1) = E(i) + \frac{\rho(i) + \rho(i+1)}{2\epsilon_0}$$

kód ES1-Fourier transform $ikE_k = \rho_k / \epsilon_0$

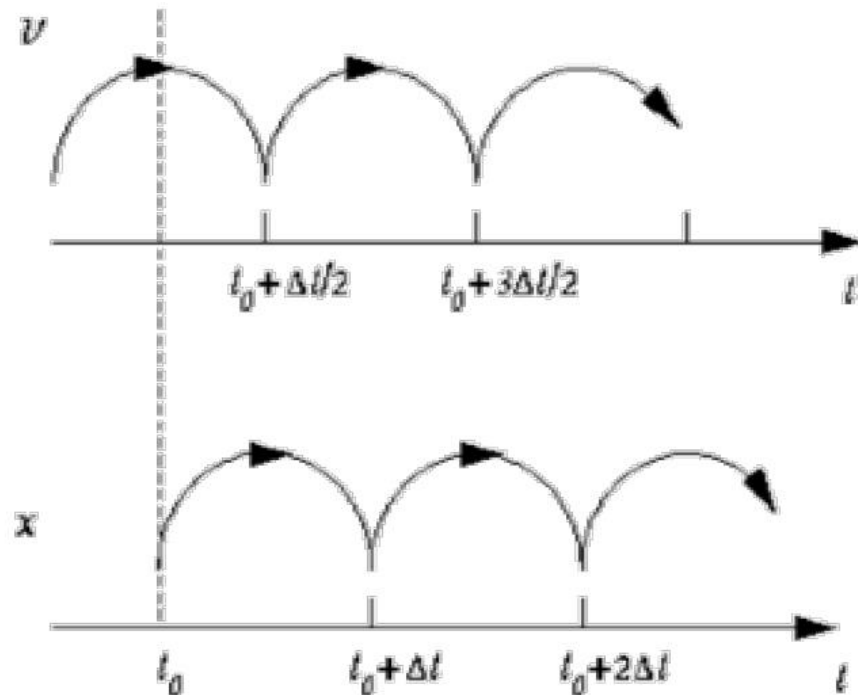
Force acting in $x_i + \Delta x$ $F = qE_i(1 - \Delta x) + qE_{i+1}\Delta x$

Leap-frog method often used for particle motion

Equation of motion

$$v^{n+1/2} = v^{n-1/2} + F^n \Delta t / m$$

$$x^{n+1} = x^n + v^{n+1/2} \Delta t$$



Normalization (multiplying by constants takes time)

$$t' = \omega_{pe} t \quad x' = x / \delta$$

$$v' = \frac{v}{\omega_{pe} \delta} \quad E' = \frac{\epsilon_0 E}{e N_{av}} = \frac{\epsilon_0 E}{e n_{av} \delta} \quad \text{and equations transform into form}$$

$$\frac{dx'}{dt'} = v' \quad \frac{dv'}{dt'} = -E' \quad \frac{dE'}{dx'} = 1 - \frac{N}{N_{av}} \quad \text{simplest case}$$

motion of electrons solved, ions as homogenous neutralizing background

Check – total energy conservation

$$\epsilon = \sum_{j=1}^M \frac{m}{2} v_j^2 + \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\epsilon_0 E_i^2}{2} \delta = \frac{m \omega_{pe}^2 \delta^2}{2} \left[\sum_{j=1}^M v_j'^2 + N_{av} \sum_{i=1}^N E_i'^2 \right]$$

ES1 – 1D electrostatic non-relativistic, today for education,

Moving ions, possible $B_0 \perp x$, periodic boundaries $E(N+1)=E(1)$