

Development of a Spatial Domain Decomposition Scheme for Monte Carlo Neutron Transport



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Motivation

- McSAFE project:
 - Full-core pin-by-pin LWR analysis based on the Monte Carlo method.
 - Steady-state, depletion and transient problems.
 - High performance Monte Carlo neutron transport (Serpent2).
 - Multiphysics: thermalhydraulics and fuel performance feedback.

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 - Efficient variant reduction for steady-state and transient problems.
 - Massive parallelization with MPI-OpenMP (speedup optimization).
 - Huge memory demand (memory footprint reduction or distribution).

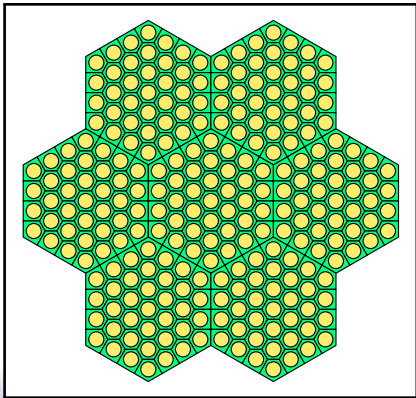
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 - Data decomposition.
 - Spatial domain decomposition.

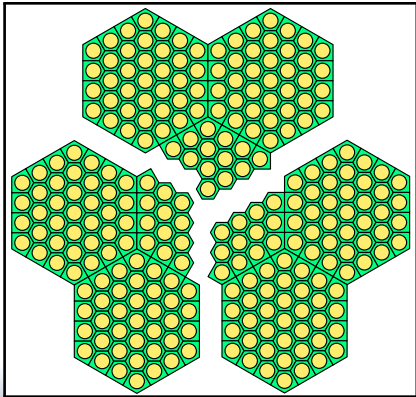
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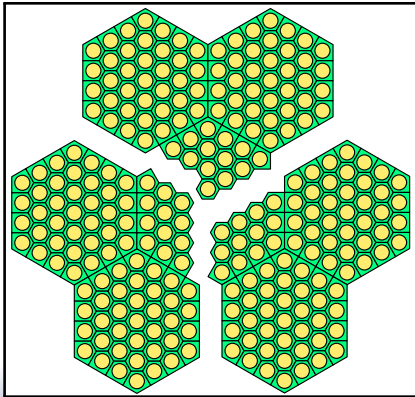
Overview of SDD



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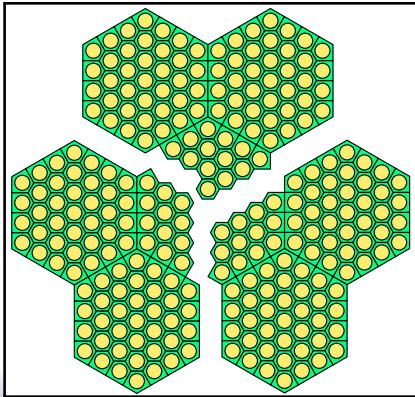


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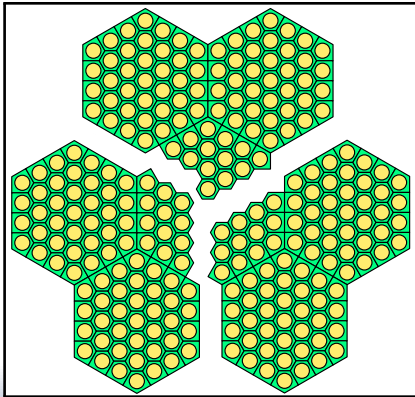
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 - Gathering of results.

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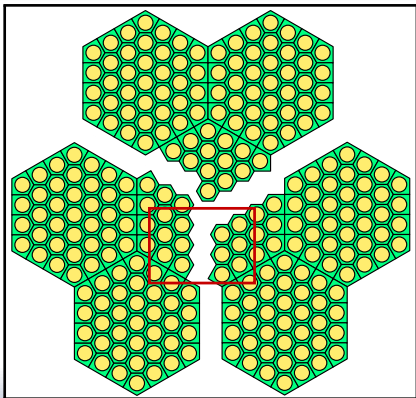
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 - Distribution of the memory demand across nodes (MPI).
 - Data locality (nuclear properties, material compositions, tallies).
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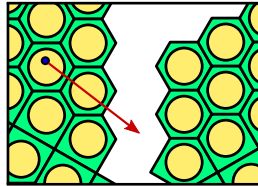
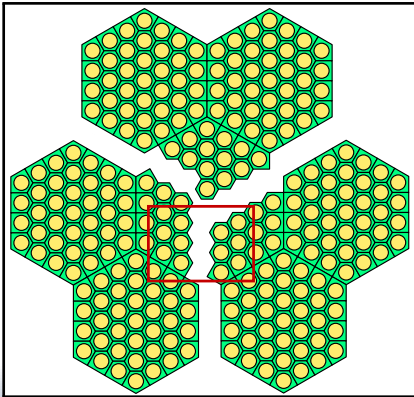


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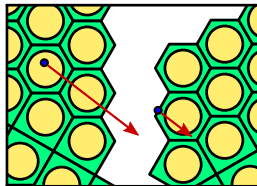
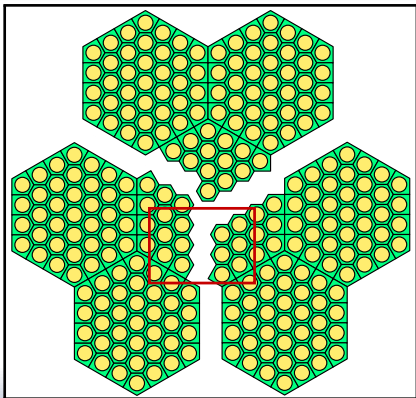
Domain crossing



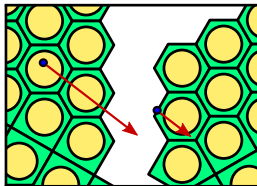
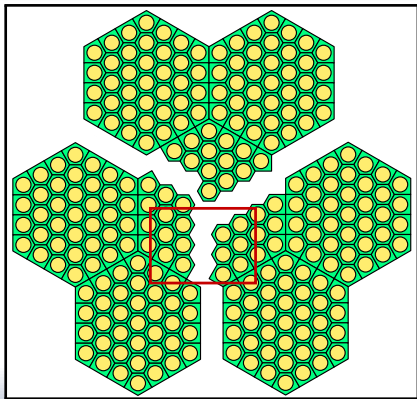
Domain crossing



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Domain crossing



- Particle transfers:

- Data: \vec{r} , $\vec{\Omega}$, E , t , w , etc.
- Asynchronous (`MPI_Isend()`, `MPI_Irecv()`).
- Buffered.

Tracking termination

- Termination condition:
 - All local histories have to be completed.
 - All sent particles have to be received.
 - Global operation.
 - Not trivial due to asynchronous particle communications.

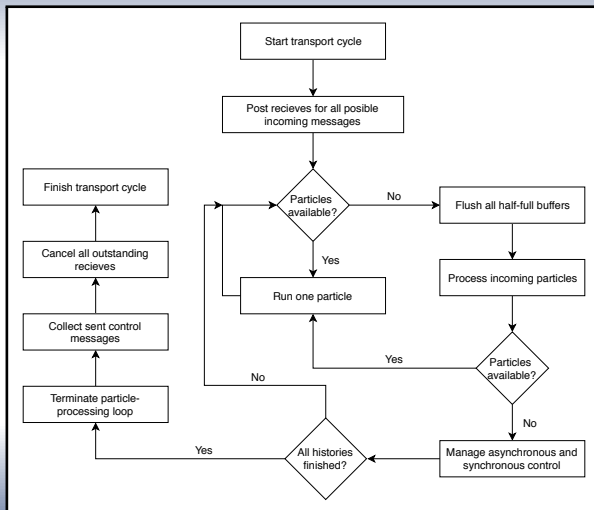
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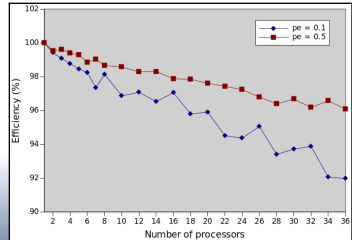
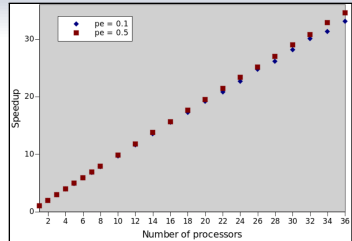
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- Asynchronous estimation:
 - The particle balance can be estimated without synchronization.
 - Synchronization can be requested when this estimation matches.

Particle tracking loop

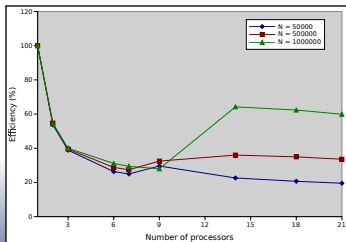
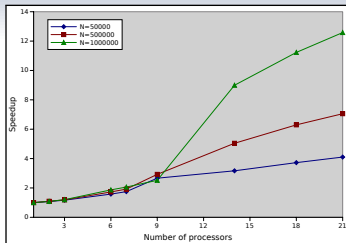


Test program

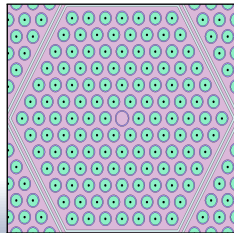
- No transport.
- Neutrons born in a domain escape with probability p_e .
- Uniform source.
- Average tracking time taken from Serpent2.



Serpent2



- VVER-440 pin-by-pin fuel assembly.
- Pure MPI (no OpenMP).
- Simplified algorithm.

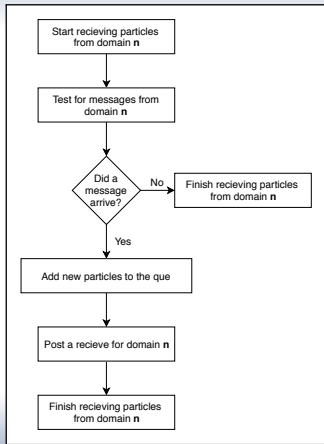
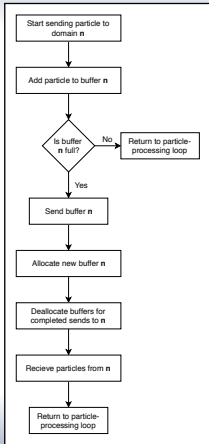


Current status and future work

- Current status:
 - SDD communications scheme implemented, tested and optimized.
 - Implementation in Serpent2 underway.
 - Geometry partition being developed.
- Future work:
 - Development of an MPI-OpenMP optimized algorithm.
 - Further optimization and verification.
- McSAFE project:
 - Potential capabilities for pin-by-pin full-core simulation.
 - Optimization of parallel multiphysics schemes.

Appendices

Particle communications



Tracking termination

