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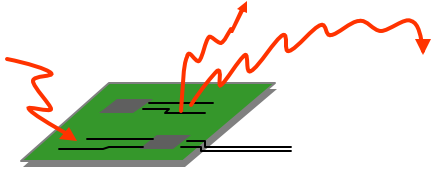
# Numerical Issues In Fast Maxwell's Equation Solvers for Integrated Circuit Interconnect

***Zhenhai Zhu, Ben Song***

***and Jacob White***

***RLE Computational prototyping group, MIT***

***[rleweb.mit.edu/vlsi](http://rleweb.mit.edu/vlsi)***

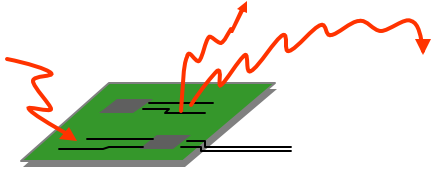


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# Outline

- **Background**
- **Pre-corrected FFT algorithm**
- **Unit testing results**
- **Surface integral formulation**
- **Numerical Results**



# Mathematical Preliminaries

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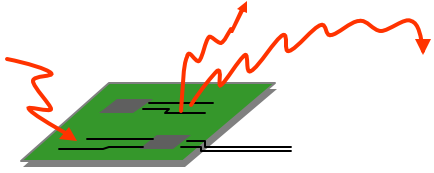
**A simple integral equation:**

$$\int_S dS' K(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') r(\vec{r}') = f(\vec{r}), \quad \vec{r} \in S$$

$$K(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') = \frac{1}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}, \quad \frac{e^{ik|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}$$

**Project the solution on a functional space:**

$$\mathbf{r}_n(\vec{r}') = \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbf{a}_j b_j(\vec{r}'), \quad B_n = \text{span}\langle b_j(\vec{r}') \rangle$$



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# Mathematical Preliminaries

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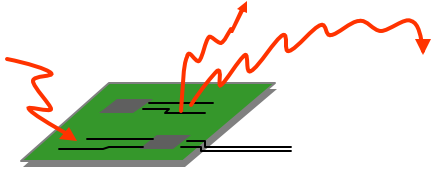
**Residual:**

$$\mathbf{e}_n(\bar{\mathbf{r}}) = \int_S dS' K(\bar{\mathbf{r}}, \bar{\mathbf{r}}') \mathbf{r}_n(\bar{\mathbf{r}}') - f(\bar{\mathbf{r}})$$

**Enforce the residual to be orthogonal to another functional space:**

$$\langle t_i(\bar{\mathbf{r}}), \mathbf{e}_n(\bar{\mathbf{r}}) \rangle = 0, \quad T_n = \text{span} \langle t_i(\bar{\mathbf{r}}) \rangle$$

**A dense linear system:**  $A\bar{\mathbf{a}} = \bar{\mathbf{f}}$

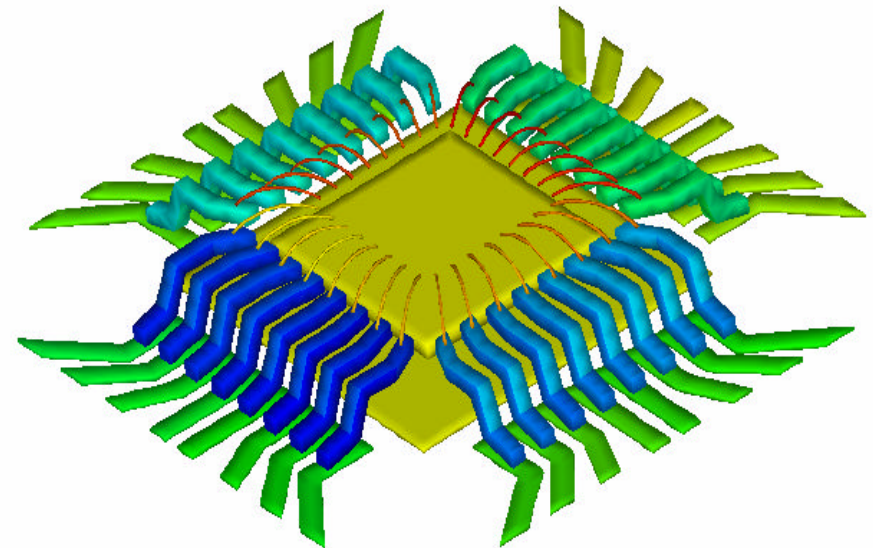
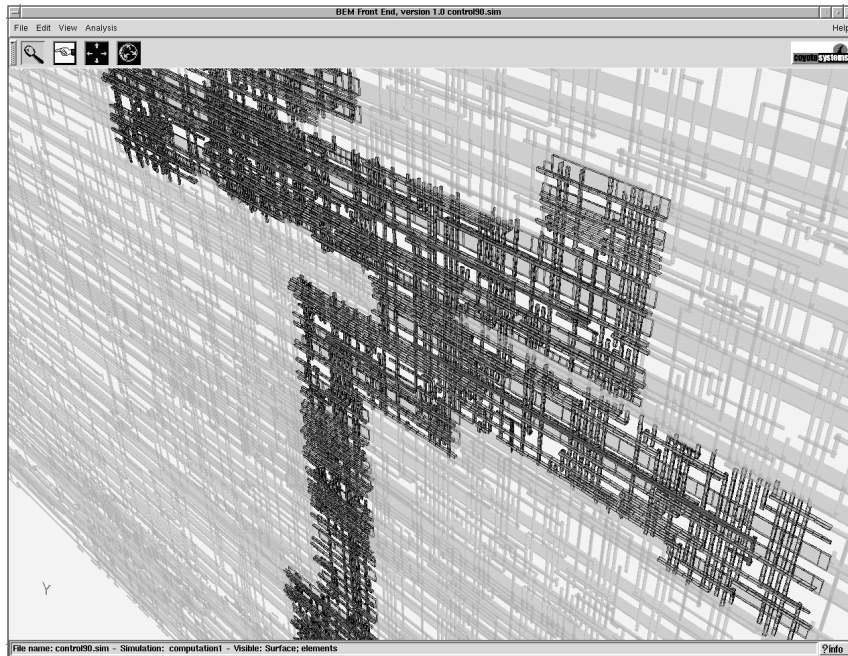


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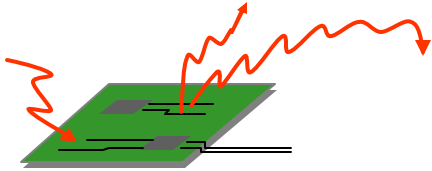
# Some very useful applications

**Electrostatic analysis  
to compute the  
capacitance**

**Magneto-quasi-static analysis  
to compute impedance**



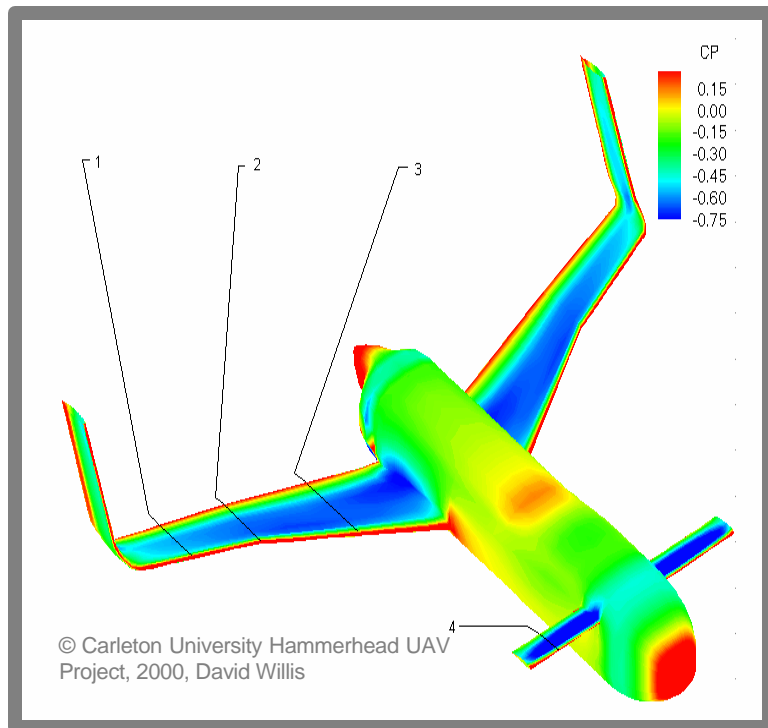
Figures thank to Coventor



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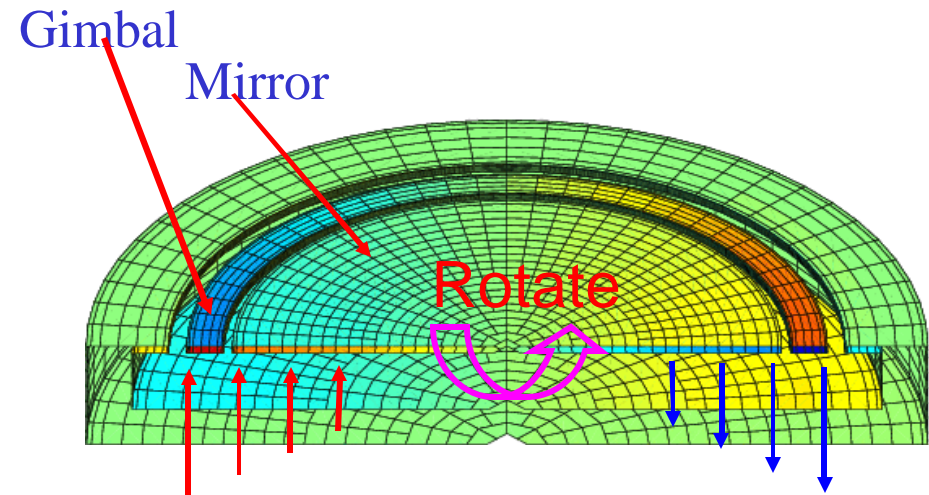
# Some very useful applications

## Computational Aerodynamics

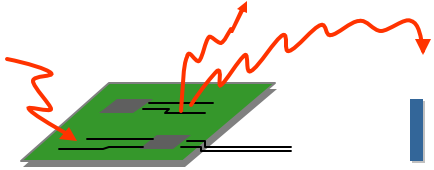


Picture thanks to David Joe Willis

## Stokes Flow Solver Viscous drag



Picture thanks to Xin Wang



## A simple iterative solver:

Solve  $Ax = b$

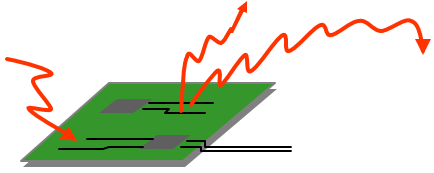
step 1: guess an initial solution  $x_0$ , let  $k = 0$

step 2: compute the residual  $r = b - Ax_k$

step 3: find an update  $\Delta x$  from  $r$

step 4: update the solution  $x_{k+1} = x_k + \Delta x$

step 5:  $k = k + 1$ , go to step 2



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# Fast Matrix-Vector Product

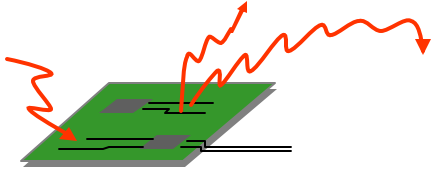
**The most expensive step:**

$$Ax$$

**Goal:**

$$O(N^2) \quad \Rightarrow \quad O(N) \text{ or } O(N \log(N))$$



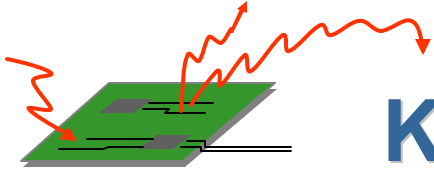


# Well-known Fast Algorithms

- **Fast Multiple Method**
- **Hierarchical SVD**
- **Panel Clustering Method**

**Key idea:**

**interaction matrix is low rank**



# Kernel “Independent” Technique

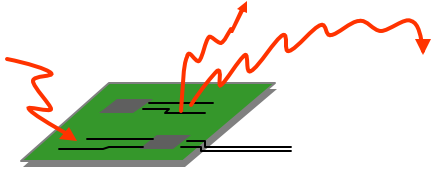
## Basic requirements:

Reciprocity:  $G(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') = G(\vec{r}', \vec{r})$

Shift invariance:  $G(\vec{r} + \Delta\vec{r}, \vec{r}' + \Delta\vec{r}) = G(\vec{r}, \vec{r}')$

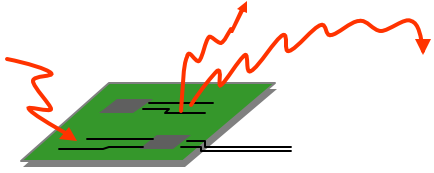
**Commonly used Green’s function all satisfy these requirements**

$$\frac{1}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}, \quad \frac{e^{ik|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \left( \frac{1}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|} \right), \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \left( \frac{e^{ik|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|} \right)$$



# Outline

- **Background**
- **Pre-corrected FFT Algorithm**
- **Unit testing results**
- **Surface Integral Formulation**
- **Numerical Results**



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## FFT-based Method

**Key idea: kernel is shift-invariant**

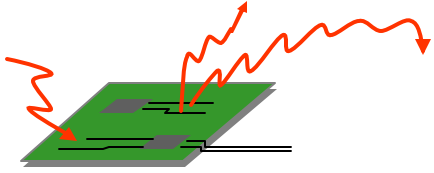
$$G(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') = G(\vec{r} - \vec{r}', 0) = \tilde{G}(\vec{r} - \vec{r}')$$

**A simple example:**



$$\int_S dS' G(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') \mathbf{r}(\vec{r}') = f(\vec{r}), \quad \vec{r} \in S$$

$$H\bar{\mathbf{a}} = \bar{f}$$



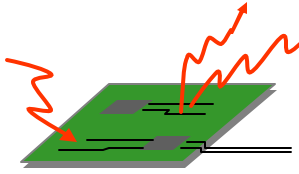
## FFT-based Method

If collocation method with constant basis is used

$$H_{i,j} = \int_{panel_j} dS' \tilde{G}(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}'_j)$$

Only  $H_{1,j}$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, N$ ) are unique.  $H$  is a Toeplitz matrix. Matrix vector product could be computed using FFT in  $O(M \log(N))$  time.

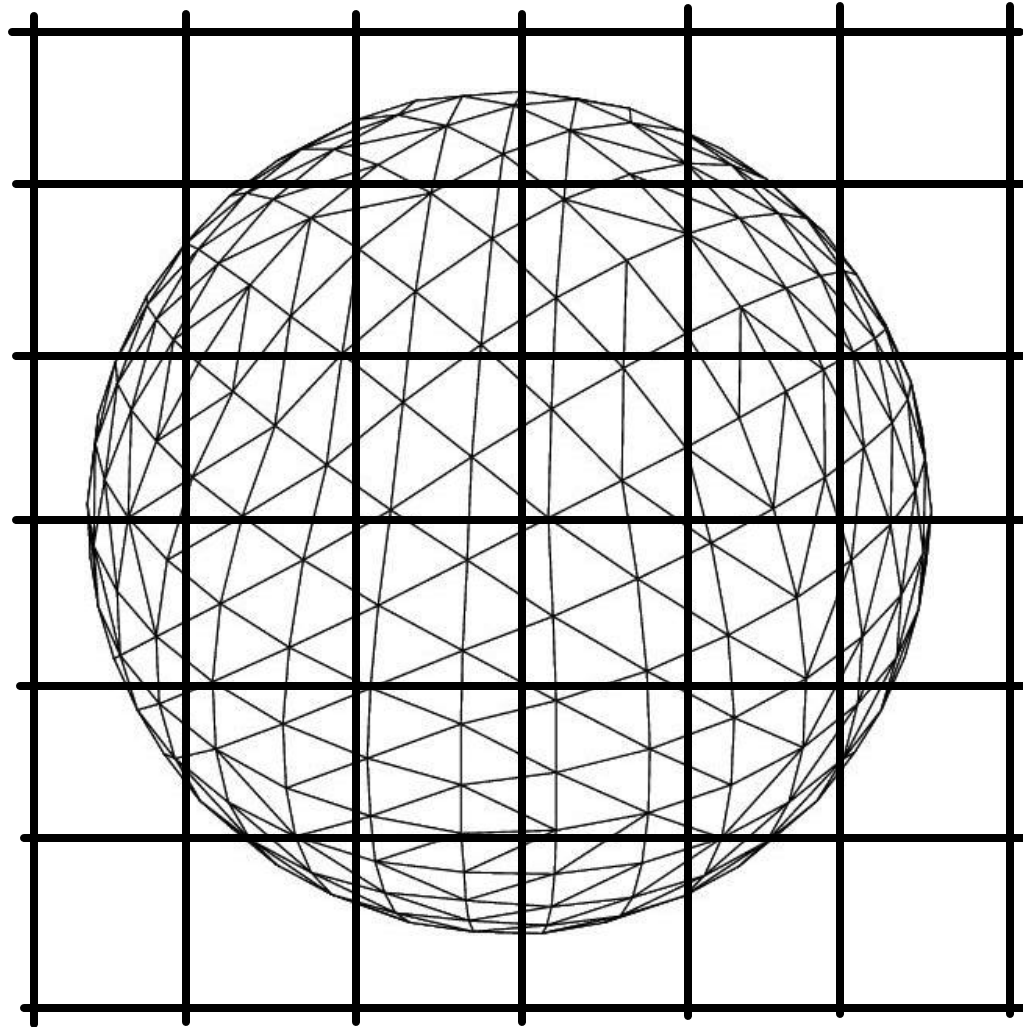
**Operations:  $O(M \log(N))$     Memory:  $O(N)$**

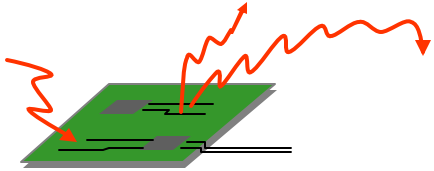


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# Separation of Regular Grid From Discretization Panels

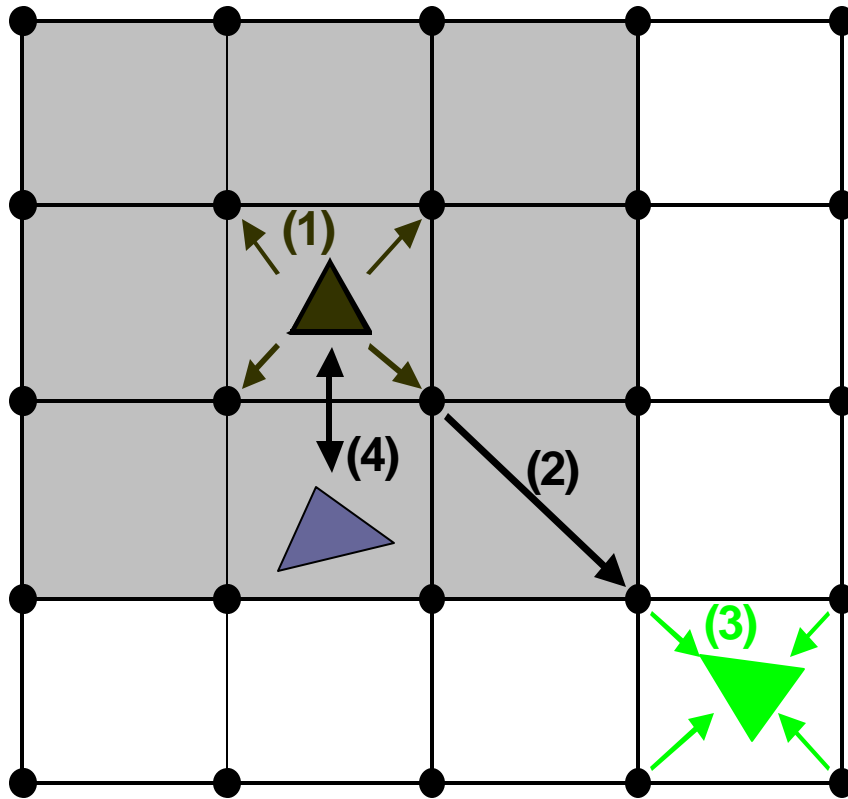
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# pFFT Algorithm: Basic steps



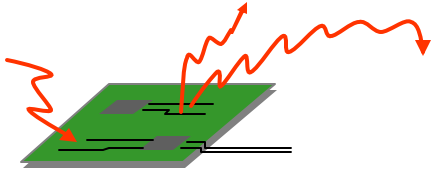
(1) Project :  $\bar{Q}_g = [P]\bar{a}$

(2) Convolve :  $\bar{f}_g = [H]\bar{Q}_g$

(3) Interpolate :  $\bar{\Psi}_g = [I]\bar{f}_g$

(4) Direct :  $\bar{\Psi}_d = [D]\bar{a}$

$$\Psi = \Psi_g + \Psi_d = ([D] + [I][H][P])\bar{a}$$



# pFFT Algorithm: Basic Idea

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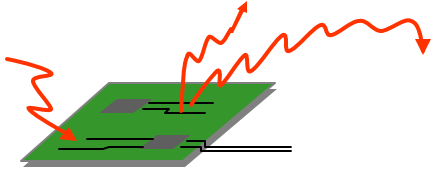
## A sparse representation of the system matrix

$$[A]_{N_b \times N_b} = [D]_{N_b \times N_b} + [I]_{N_b \times N_g} [H]_{N_g \times N_g} [P]_{N_g \times N_b}$$

$$O(N_b^2) \quad O(N_b) \quad O(N_b) \quad O(N_g \log(N_g)) \quad O(N_b)$$

$$O(N_b^2) \quad O(N_b) \quad O(N_b) \quad O(N_g) \quad O(N_b)$$

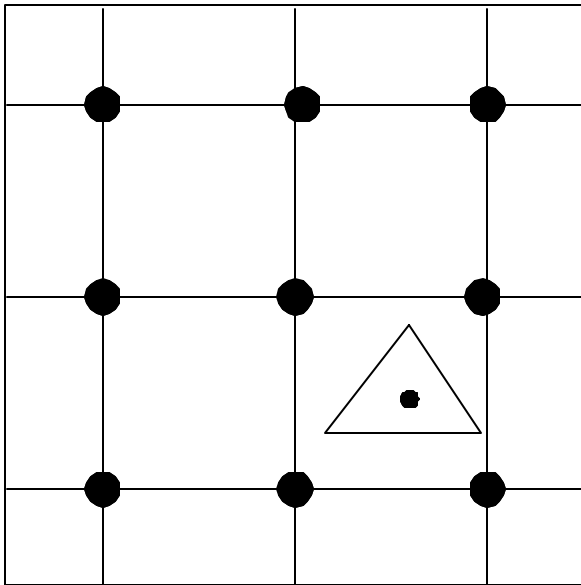




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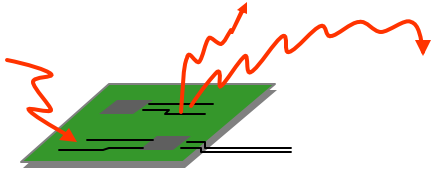
# pFFT Algorithm: Interpolation Matrix

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Given  $\bar{f}_g$

Compute  $f(x, y)$



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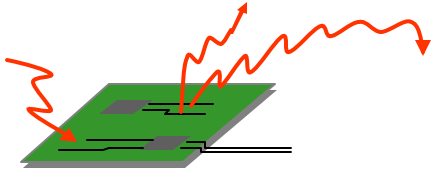
# pFFT Algorithm: Interpolation Matrix

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$$\mathbf{f}(x, y) = \sum_k c_k f_k(x, y) = \bar{\mathbf{f}}^t(x, y) \bar{\mathbf{c}}$$

An example of  $f_k(x, y)$ :

$$1, x, x^2, y, xy, x^2 y, y^2, xy^2, x^2 y^2$$



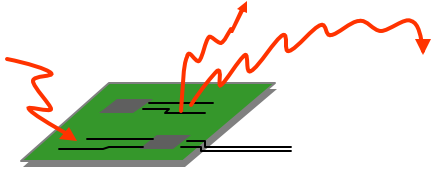
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# pFFT Algorithm: Interpolation Matrix

$$\mathbf{f}(x, y) = [f_1(x, y) \quad f_2(x, y) \quad \cdots \quad f_9(x, y)] \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_9 \end{bmatrix} = \bar{\mathbf{f}}^t(x, y) \bar{\mathbf{c}}$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{f}}_g = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}_{g,1} \\ \mathbf{f}_{g,2} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{f}_{g,9} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(x_1, y_1) & f_2(x_1, y_1) & \cdots & f_9(x_1, y_1) \\ f_1(x_2, y_2) & f_2(x_2, y_2) & \cdots & f_9(x_2, y_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ f_1(x_9, y_9) & f_2(x_9, y_9) & \cdots & f_9(x_9, y_9) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_9 \end{bmatrix} = [F] \bar{\mathbf{c}}$$

$$\mathbf{f}(x, y) = \bar{\mathbf{f}}^t(x, y) [F]^{-1} \bar{\mathbf{f}}_g$$



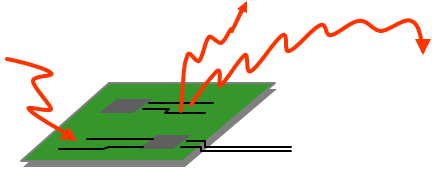
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# pFFT Algorithm: Interpolation Matrix

$$\Psi_i = \langle t_i(\bar{r}), \mathbf{f}(\bar{r}) \rangle = \int_{\Delta_i^t} dS t_i(\bar{r}) \bar{f}^t(\bar{r}) [F]^{-1} \bar{\mathbf{f}}_g = \bar{W}^t \bar{\mathbf{f}}_g$$

$$\bar{\Psi} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \Psi_i \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cdots & W_1 & \cdots & W_9 & \cdots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \mathbf{f}_{g,1} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{f}_{g,9} \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = [I] \bar{\mathbf{f}}_g$$

**Operations:  $9N_b$     Memory:  $9N_b$**



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# pFFT Algorithm: Outer Differential Operator

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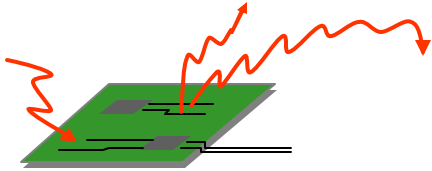
**If the kernel has a differential operator outside:**

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial n(\vec{r})} \int_S dS' G(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') \mathbf{r}(\vec{r}')$$

**The operator works on the interpolation**

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial n(\vec{r})} \mathbf{f}(\vec{r}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial n(\vec{r})} \bar{\mathbf{f}}^t(\vec{r}) F^{-1} \bar{\mathbf{f}}_g$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{W}}_n^t = \int_{\Delta_i^t} dS t_i(\vec{r}) \frac{\partial}{\partial n(\vec{r})} \bar{\mathbf{f}}^t(\vec{r}) [F]^{-1}$$

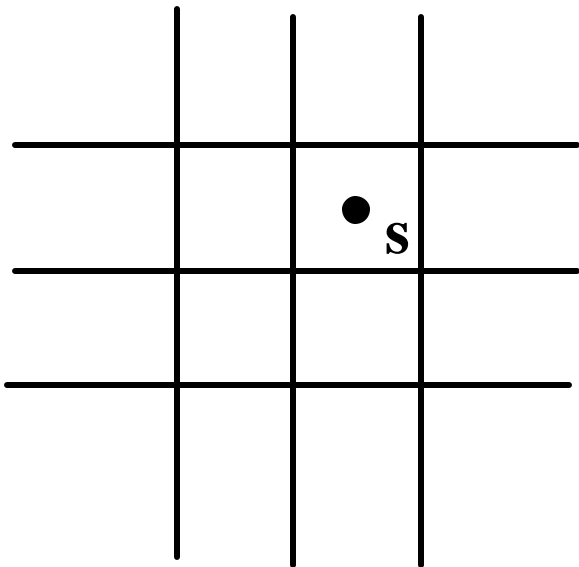


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# pFFT Algorithm: Projection Matrix

Assume a unit charge at point **S**

**E** ●

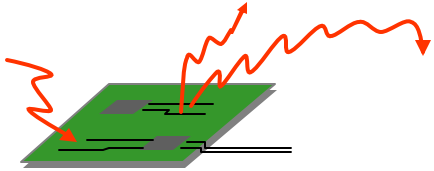


$$\mathbf{f}_E^{(1)} = G(\vec{r}_S, \vec{r}_E)$$

find grid charge  $\bar{\mathbf{r}}_g$

$$\mathbf{f}_E^{(2)} = \sum_i \mathbf{r}_{g,i} G(\vec{r}_i, \vec{r}_E) = (\bar{\mathbf{r}}_g)^t \bar{\mathbf{f}}_g$$

such that  $\mathbf{f}_E^{(1)} = \mathbf{f}_E^{(2)}$

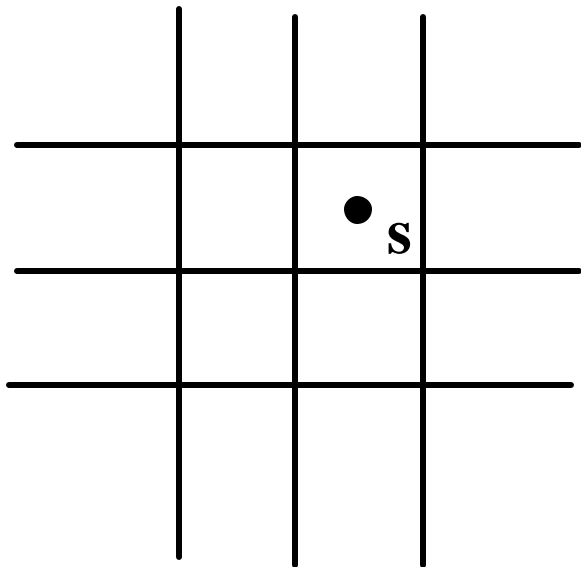


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# pFFT Algorithm: Projection Matrix

## Expand the Green's function

**E** •



$$G(\vec{r}, \vec{r}_E) = \sum_k f_k(\vec{r}) c_k$$

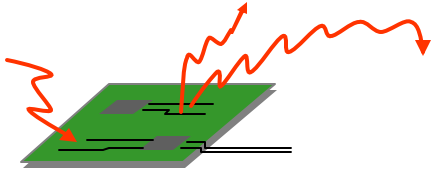
match both sides at grid point  $\vec{r}_i$

$$\bar{c} = F^{-1} \bar{\mathbf{f}}_g$$

$$\mathbf{f}_E^{(1)} = G(\vec{r}_s, \vec{r}_E) = \bar{\mathbf{f}}^t(\vec{r}_s) F^{-1} \bar{\mathbf{f}}_g$$

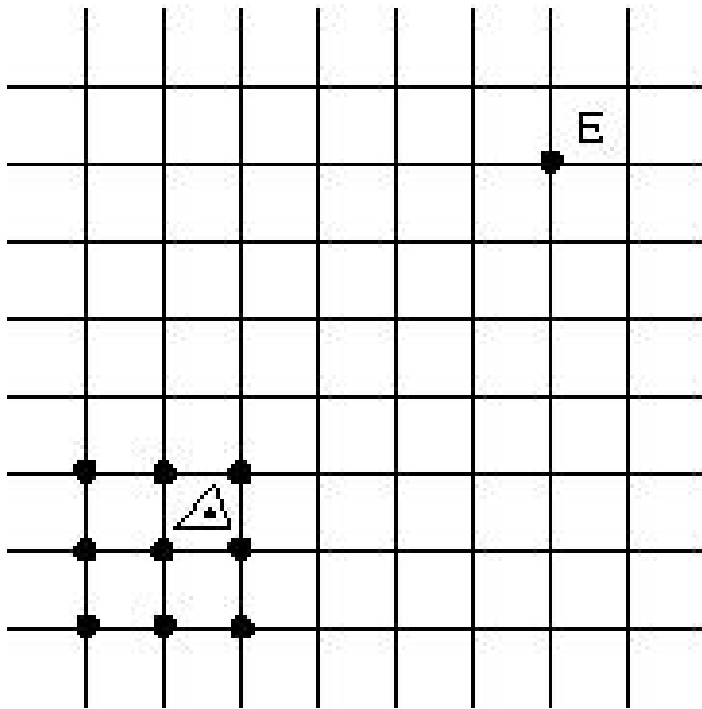
$$\mathbf{f}_E^{(2)} = \sum_i \mathbf{r}_{g,i} G(\vec{r}_i, \vec{r}_E) = (\bar{\mathbf{r}}_g)^t \bar{\mathbf{f}}_g$$

$$(\bar{\mathbf{r}}_g)^t = \bar{\mathbf{f}}^t(\vec{r}_s) [F]^{-1}$$



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# pFFT Algorithm: Projection Matrix



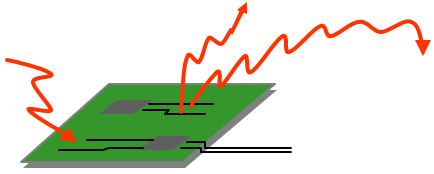
For unit point charge

$$(\bar{\mathbf{r}}_g)^t = \bar{f}^t(\bar{\mathbf{r}}_s)[F]^{-1}$$

If the charge is  
a distribution  $b_j(\bar{\mathbf{r}})$

$$(\bar{\mathbf{r}}_g^{(j)})^t = \int_{\Delta_j^b} dS b_j(\bar{\mathbf{r}}) \bar{f}^t(\bar{\mathbf{r}})[F]^{-1}$$



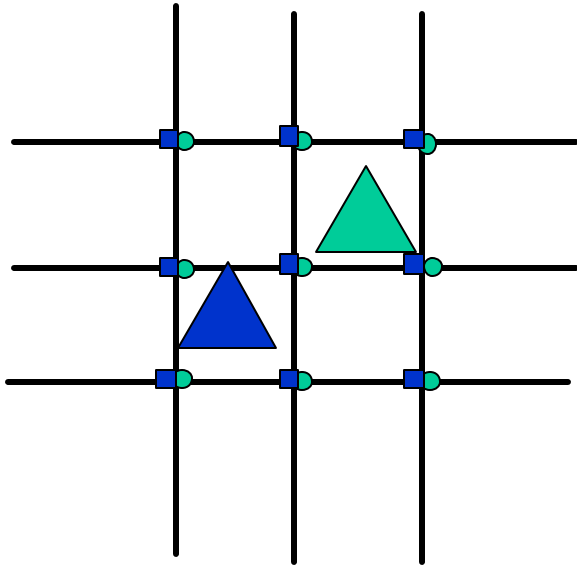


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# pFFT Algorithm: Projection Matrix

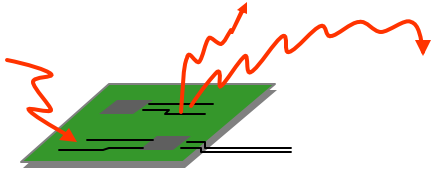
**For multiple panels:**

$$\mathbf{r}(\bar{\mathbf{r}}) = \sum_j \mathbf{a}_j b_j(\bar{\mathbf{r}})$$



$$(\bar{\mathbf{r}}_g^{(j)})^t = \int_{\Delta_j^b} dS b_j(\bar{\mathbf{r}}) \bar{f}^t(\bar{\mathbf{r}}) [F]^{-1}$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{Q}}_g = \sum_{j=1}^{N_b} \mathbf{a}_j (\bar{\mathbf{r}}_g^{(j)})^t$$



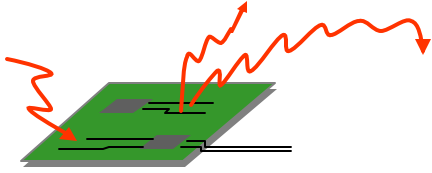
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# pFFT Algorithm: Projection Matrix

$$\bar{Q}_g = \sum_{j=1}^{N_b} \mathbf{a}_j (\bar{\mathbf{r}}_g^{(j)})^t$$

$$\bar{Q}_g = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ Q_{g,1} \\ \vdots \\ Q_{g,9} \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \ddots & 0 & \vdots & 0 & \vdots \\ \vdots & \mathbf{r}_{g,1}^{(j)} & \vdots & \mathbf{r}_{g,1}^{(k)} & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \mathbf{r}_{g,9}^{(j)} & \vdots & \mathbf{r}_{g,9}^{(k)} & \vdots \\ \vdots & 0 & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \mathbf{a}_j \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{a}_k \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = [P] \bar{\mathbf{a}}$$

**Operations:  $9N_b$     Memory:  $9N_b$**



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# pFFT Algorithm: Inner Differential Operator

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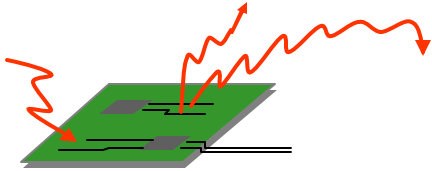
**If the kernel has a differential operator inside:**

$$\int_S dS' \frac{d}{dn(\vec{r}')} G(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') \mathbf{r}(\vec{r}')$$

**The operator works on the projection**

$$\frac{d}{dn(\vec{r})} \mathbf{f}(\vec{r}_s) = \frac{d}{dn(\vec{r})} \bar{\mathbf{f}}^t(\vec{r}_s) F^{-1} \bar{\mathbf{f}}_g$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{r}}_g^t = \int_{\Delta_j^b} dS b_j(\vec{r}) \frac{d}{dn(\vec{r})} \bar{\mathbf{f}}^t(\vec{r}) [F]^{-1}$$



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# pFFT Algorithm: Duality of $[I]$ and $[P]$

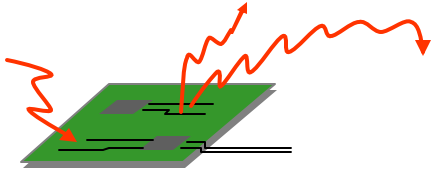
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**$i$ th row of  $[I]$ :** 
$$\int_{\Delta_i^t} dS t_i(\vec{r}) \bar{f}^t(\vec{r}) [F]^{-1}$$

**$j$ th column of  $[P]$ :** 
$$\int_{\Delta_j^b} dS b_j(\vec{r}) \bar{f}^t(\vec{r}) [F]^{-1}$$

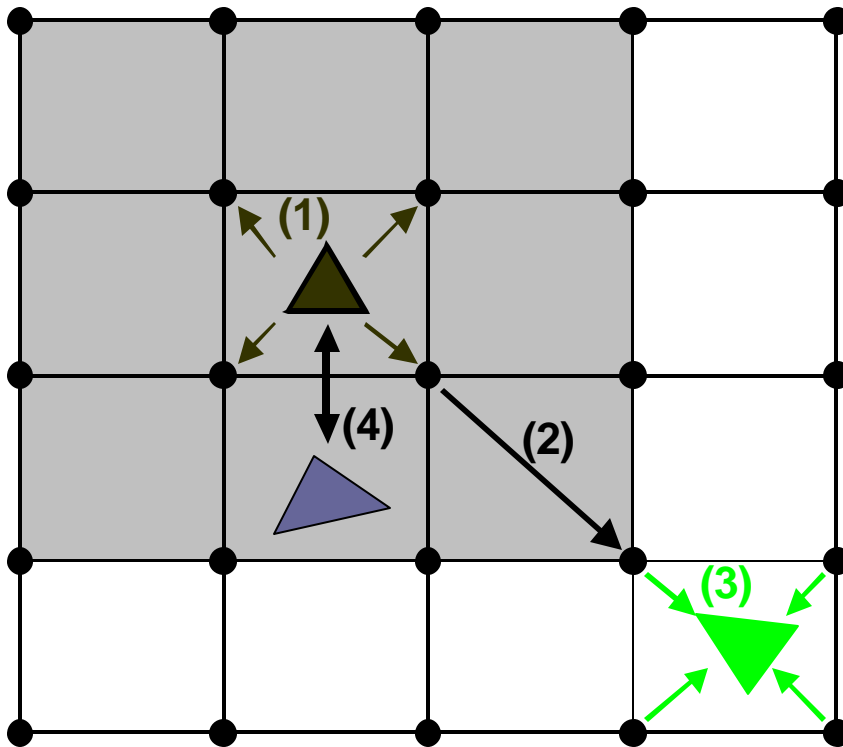
If  $t_i(\vec{r}) = b_j(\vec{r})$ , or  $T_n = B_n$ , then

$$P = I^t$$



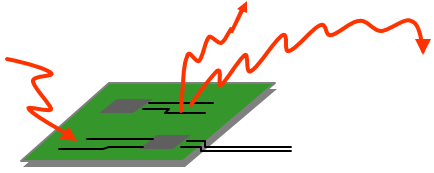
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# pFFT Algorithm: Convolution Matrix



$$f_{g,j} = \sum_i G(\vec{r}'_i, \vec{r}_j) Q_{g,i}$$

$$\bar{f}_g = [H] \bar{Q}_g$$



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# pFFT Algorithm: Convolution Matrix

**Regular grid and position invariance**

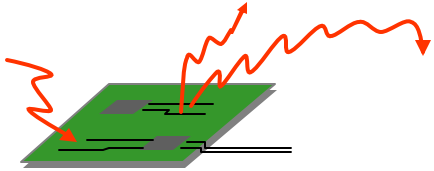
$$f_{g,j} = \sum_i \tilde{G}(\vec{r}'_i - \vec{r}_j) Q_{g,i}$$

**Fast convolution by FFT in  $O(N \log(N))$  time**

$$H_{i,j} = \tilde{G}(\vec{r}'_i - \vec{r}_j)$$

Only  $H_{1,j}$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, N_g$ ) are unique

**Operations:  $O(N_g \log(N_g))$     Memory:  $O(N_g)$**



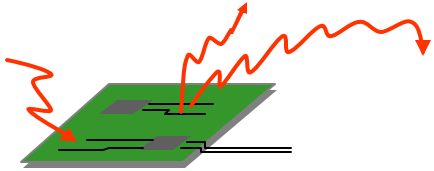
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# pFFT Algorithm: Direct Matrix

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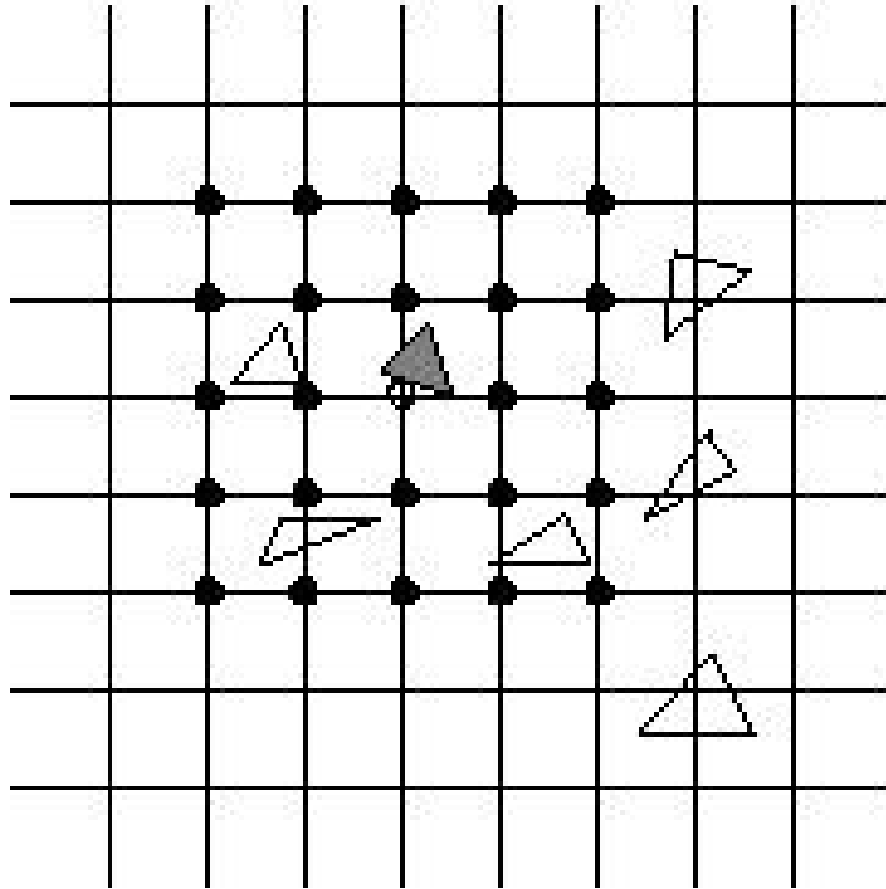
**Summary of the first three steps:**

$$\begin{cases} \bar{Q}_g = [P]\bar{a} \\ \bar{f}_g = [H]\bar{Q}_g \\ \bar{\Psi} = [I]\bar{f}_g \end{cases} \quad \rightarrow \quad \bar{\Psi} = [I][H][P]\bar{a}$$



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# pFFT Algorithm: Direct Matrix

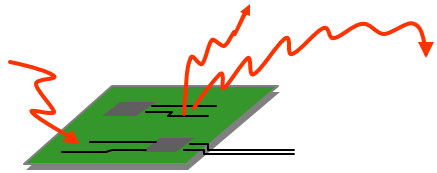


$$D_{i,j} = A_{i,j} - (\overline{W}^{(i)})^t [H^{(i,j)}] \overline{\mathbf{r}}_g^{(j)}$$

$$j \in \mathbf{N}^{(i)}$$

**Operations:  $O(N_b)$  Memory:  $O(N_b)$**



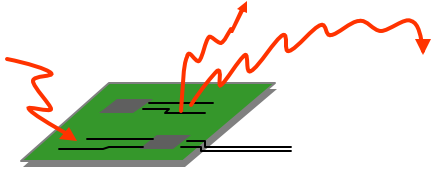


# pFFT Algorithm: Four sparse matrices

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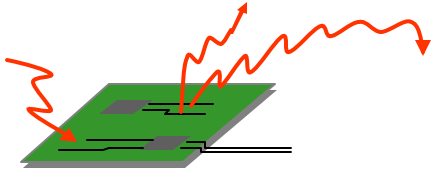
$$\bar{\Psi} = [A]\bar{a} \approx ([D] + [I][H][P])\bar{a}$$

- **Projection:**  
**Operations:  $O(N_b)$    Memory:  $O(N_b)$**
- **Convolution:**  
**Operations:  $O(N_g \log(N_g))$    Memory:  $O(N_g)$**
- **Interpolation:**  
**Operations:  $O(N_b)$    Memory:  $O(N_b)$**
- **Nearby interaction:**  
**Operations:  $O(N_b)$    Memory:  $O(N_b)$**



# Outline

- **Background**
- **Pre-corrected FFT Algorithm**
- **Unit testing results**
- **Surface Integral Formulation**
- **Numerical Results**



# Unit testing

**On the surface of a sphere with radius  $R$**

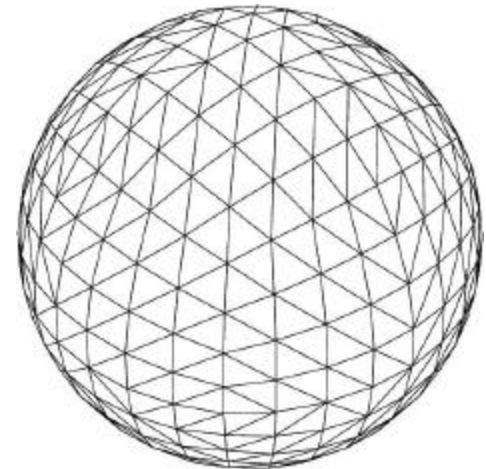
$$\int_S dS' K(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') \mathbf{r}(\vec{r}') \Rightarrow A\mathbf{x}$$

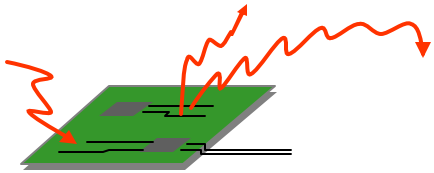
**Let  $\mathbf{x}$  be a random vector**

$$\mathbf{y}_1 = A\mathbf{x}$$

$$\mathbf{y}_2 = \text{pfft}(\mathbf{x})$$

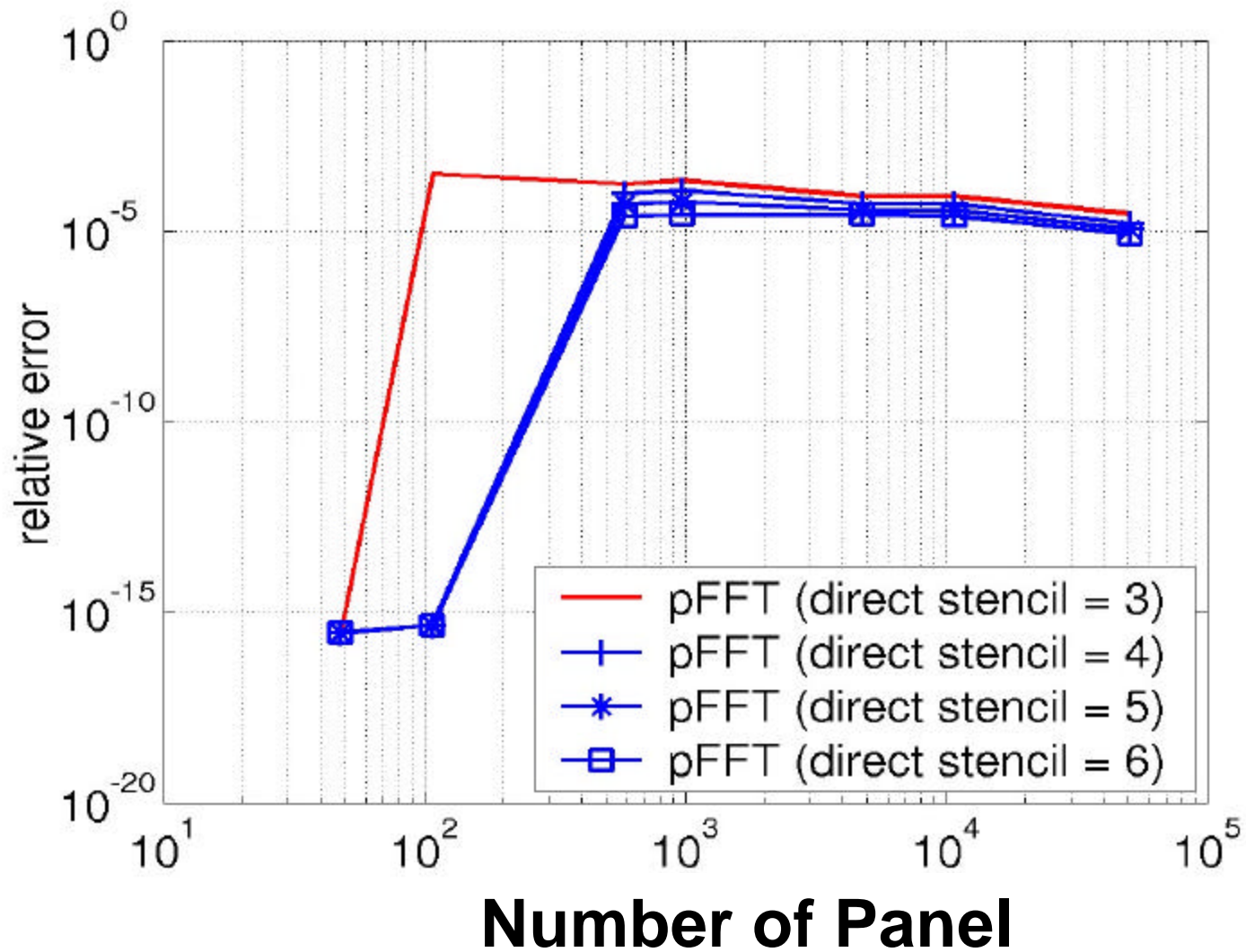
$$\text{error} = \frac{\|\mathbf{y}_1 - \mathbf{y}_2\|_2}{\|\mathbf{y}_1\|_2}$$



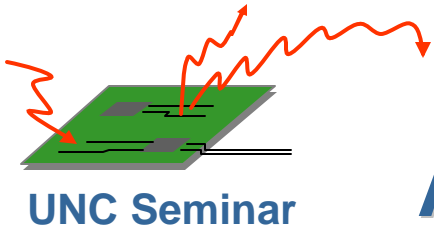


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# Single-Layer Kernel Accuracy (4-5 digits)

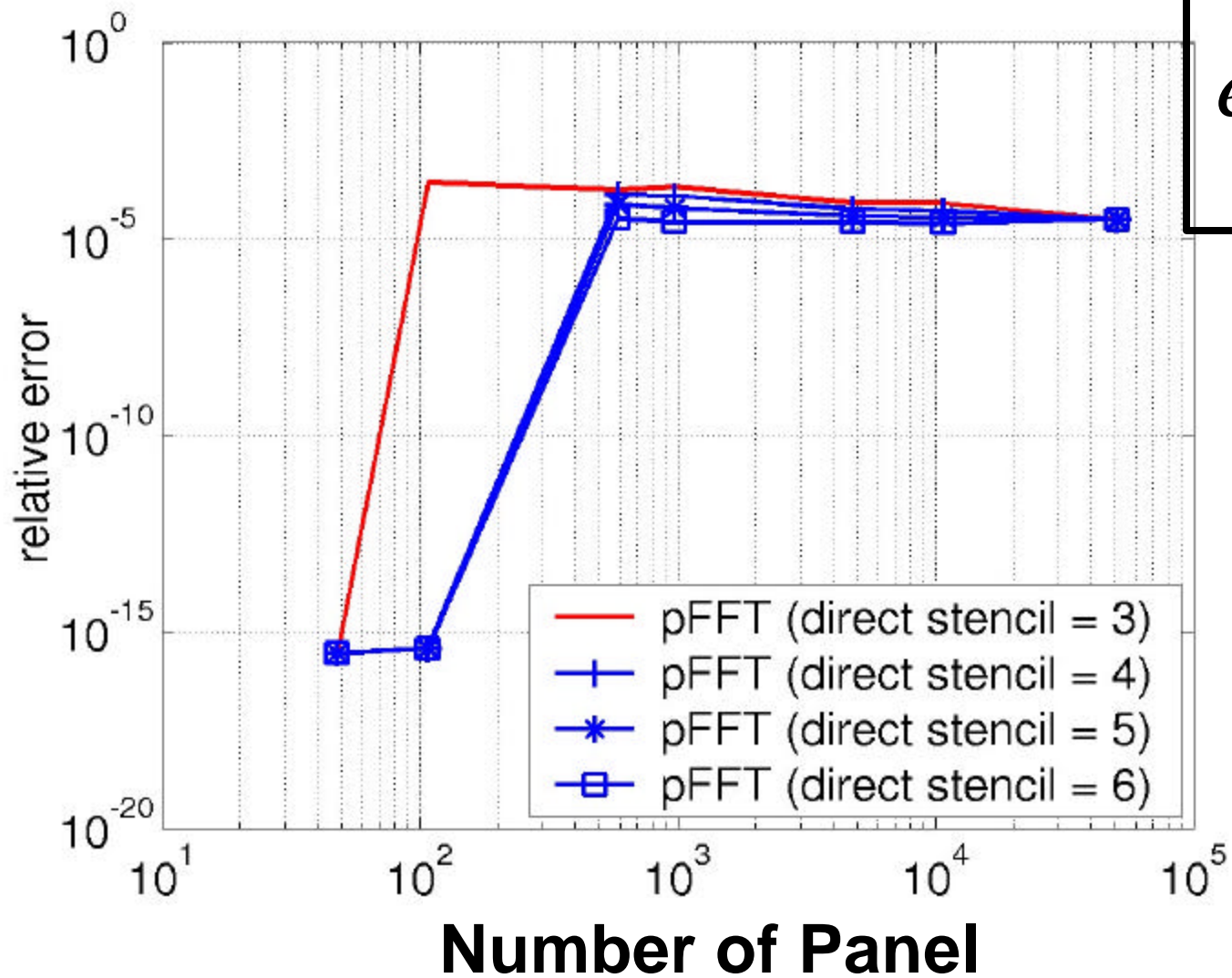


$$\frac{1}{r}$$

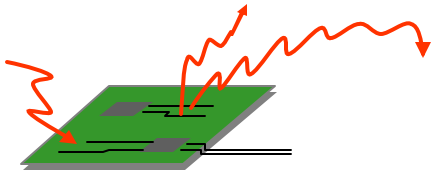


# Single-Layer Kernel

## Accuracy (4-5 digits), $R/l = 1e-6$



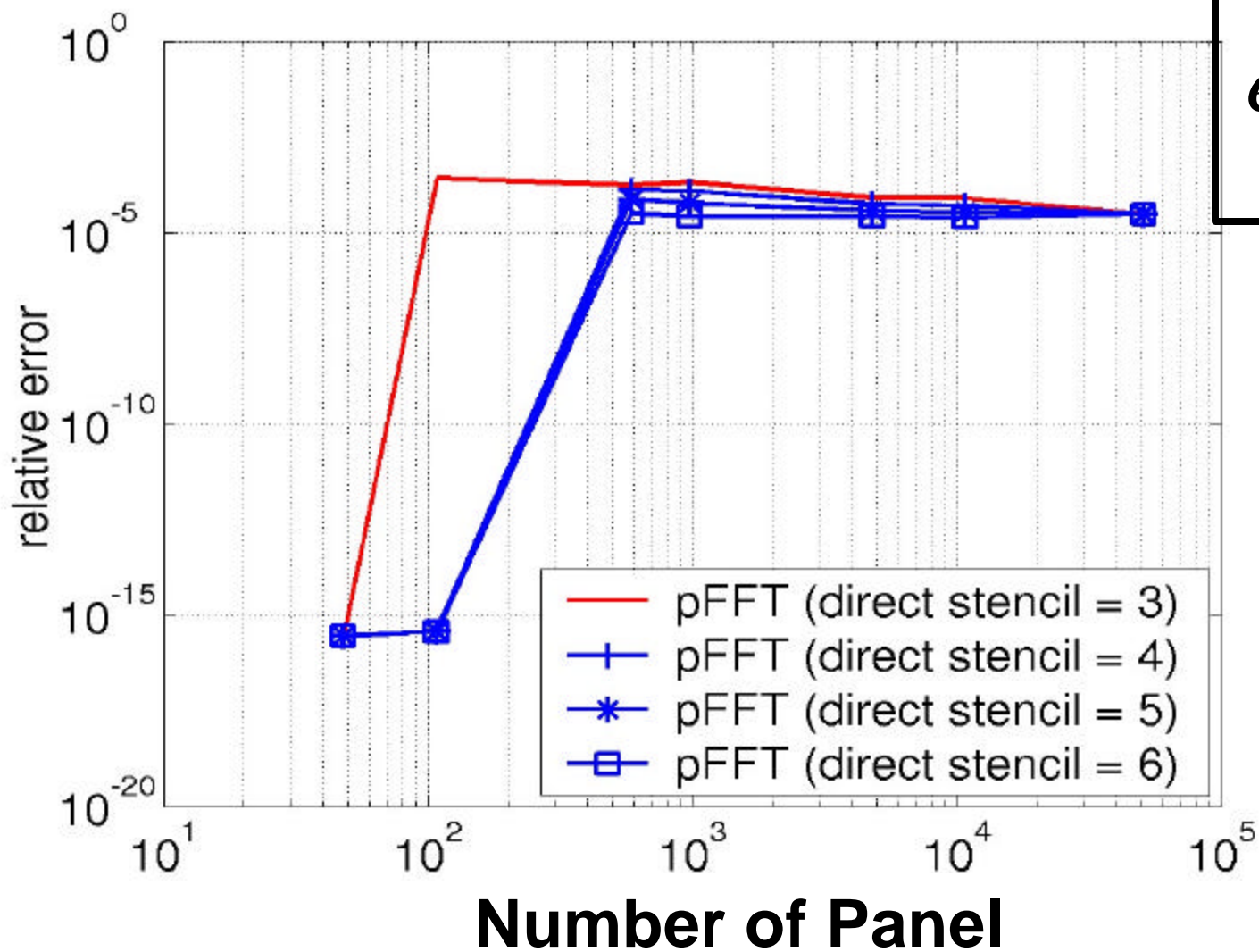
$$\frac{e^{ikr}}{r}$$



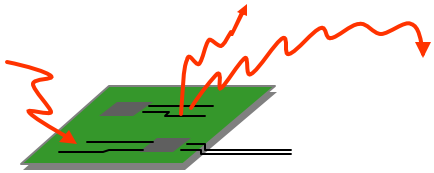
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# Single-Layer Kernel

## Accuracy (4-5 digits), $R/l = 1e2$

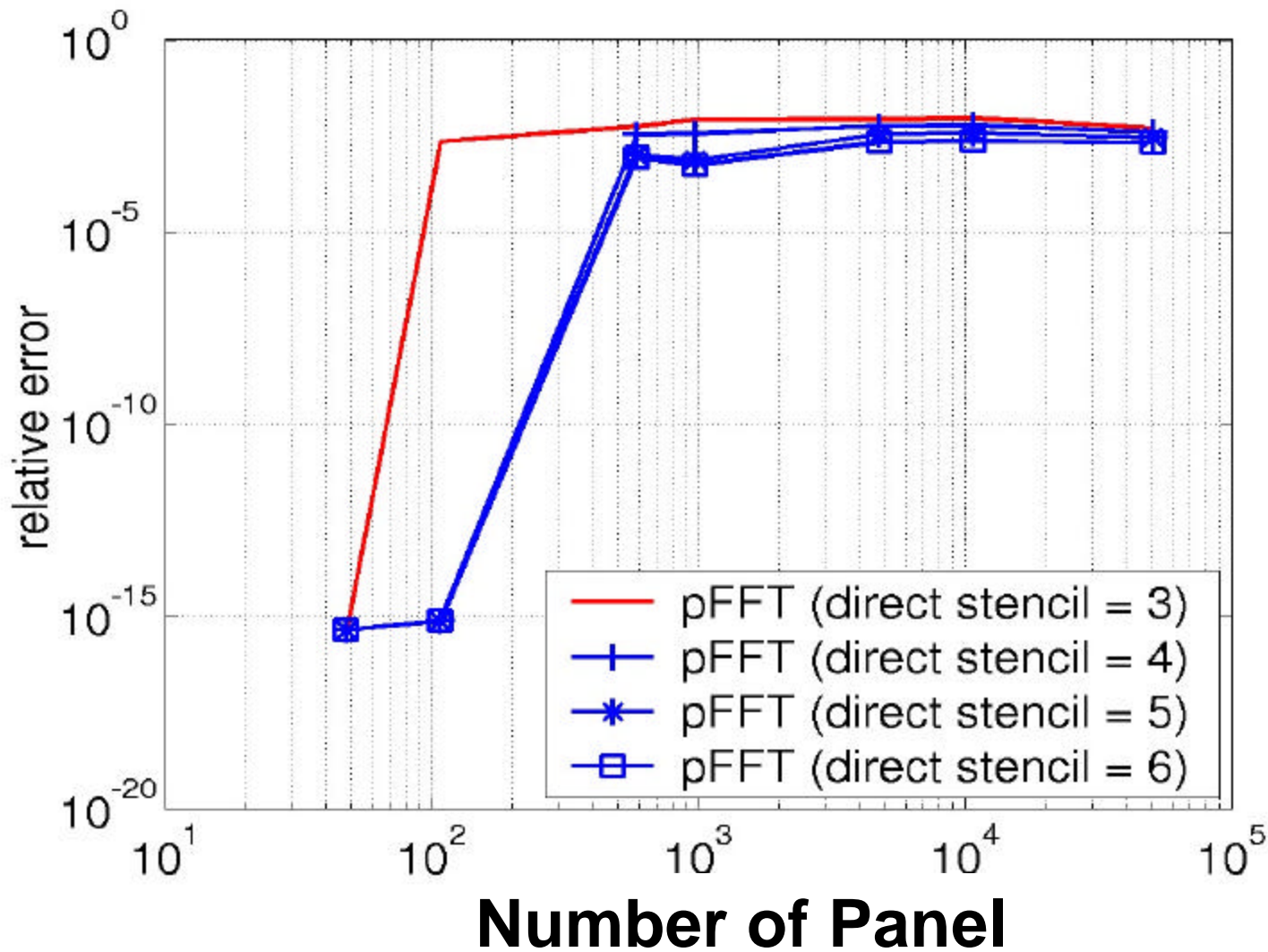




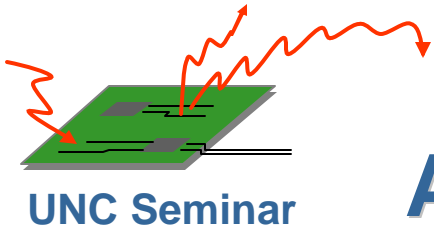


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# Double-Layer Kernel Accuracy (2-3 digits)

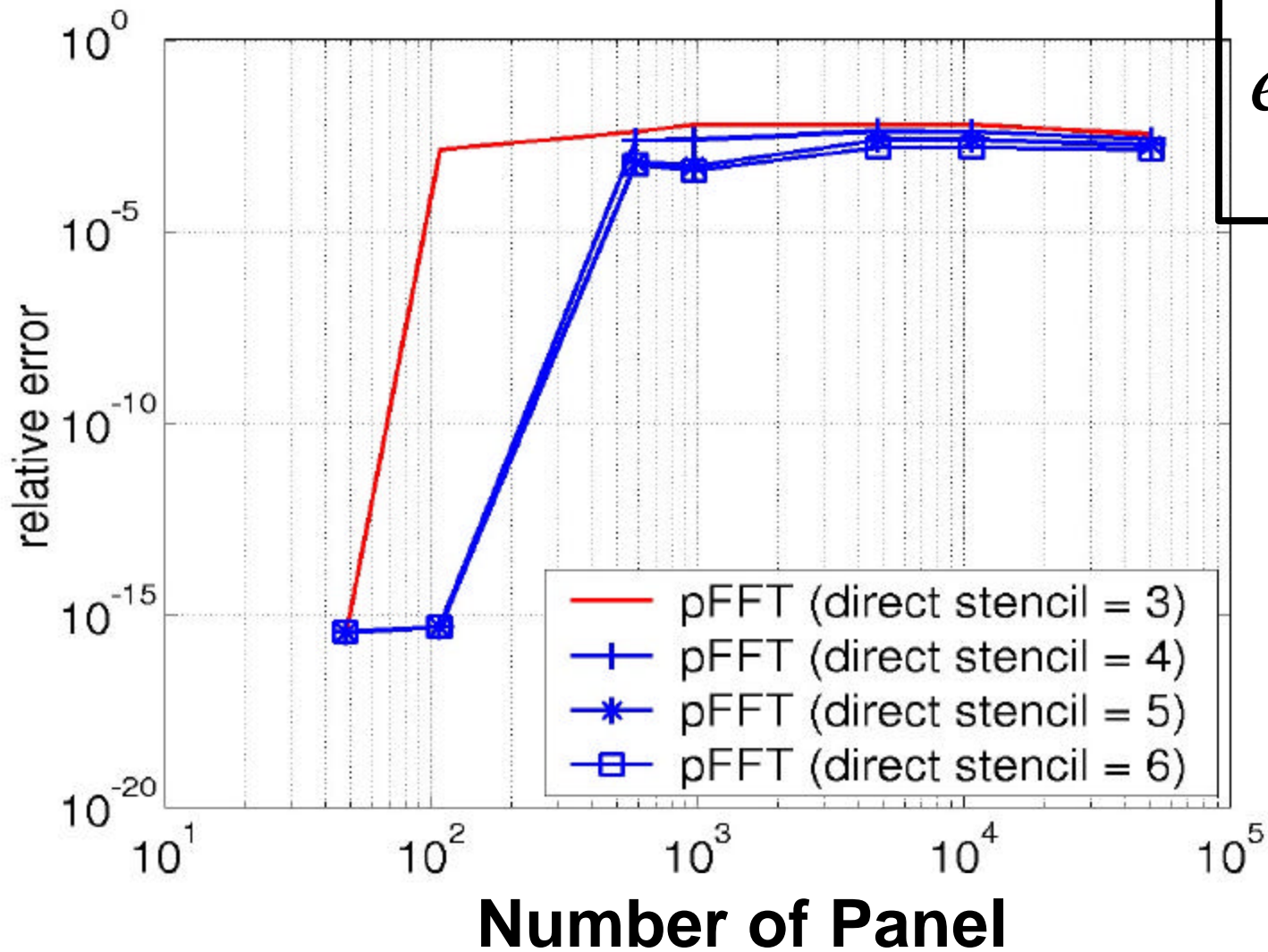


$$\frac{1}{r}$$



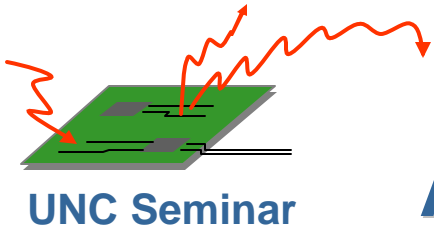
# Double-Layer Kernel

Accuracy (2-3 digits),  $R/l = 1e-6$

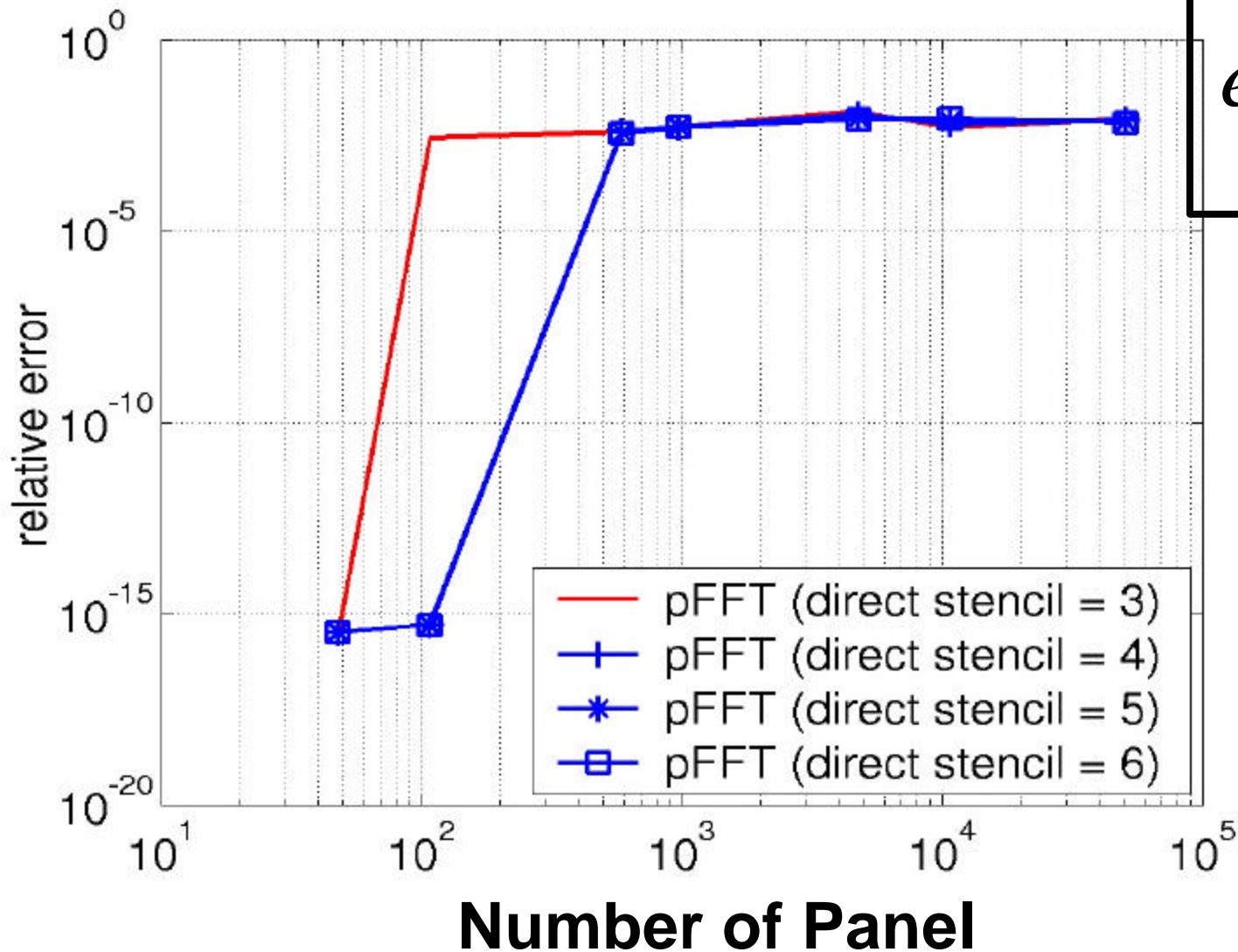


$$\frac{e^{ikr}}{r}$$

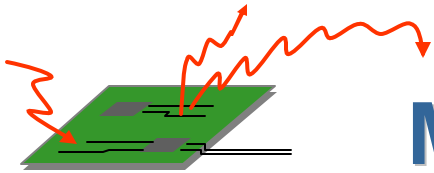




# Double-Layer Kernel Accuracy (2-3 digits), $R/l = 1e2$

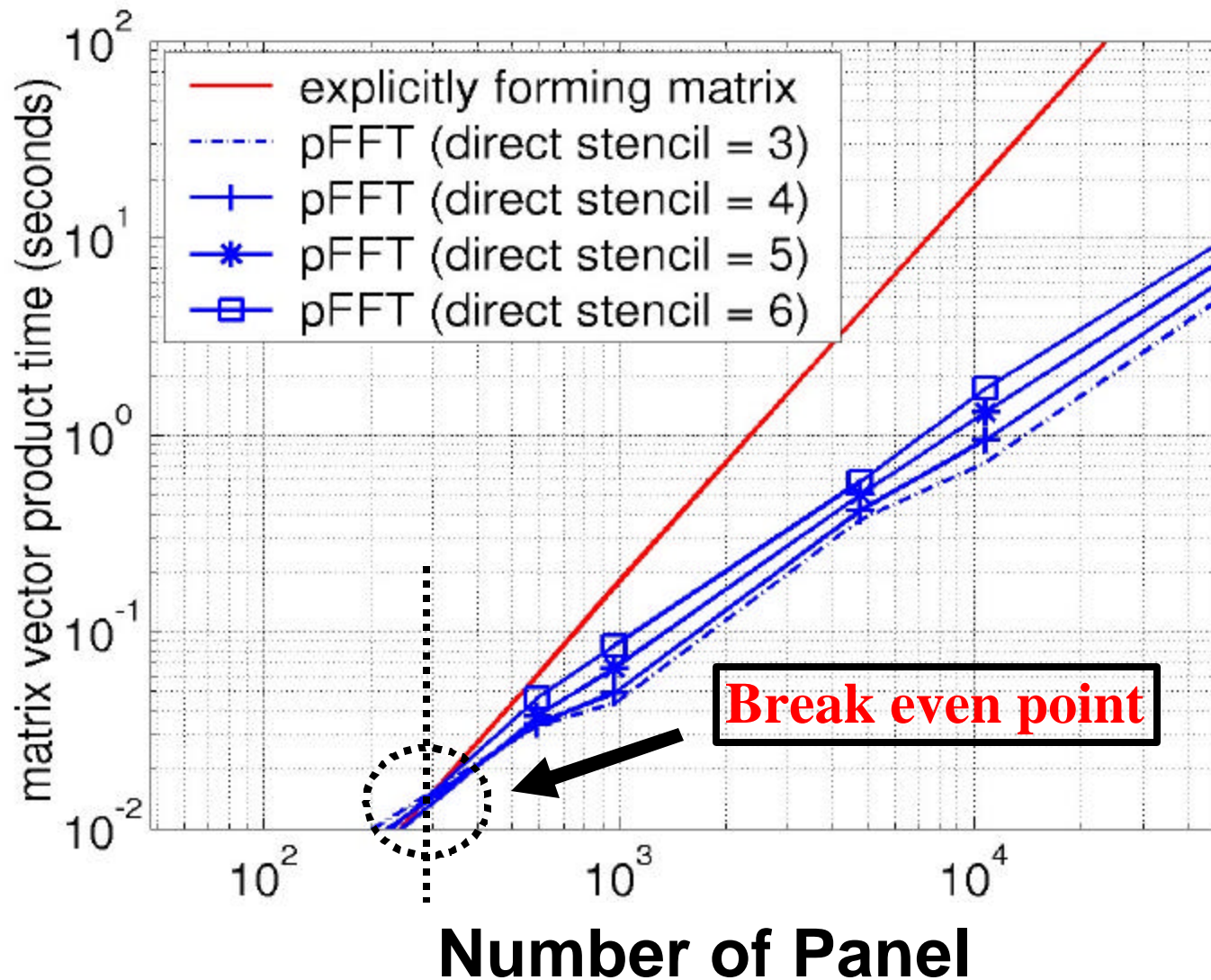


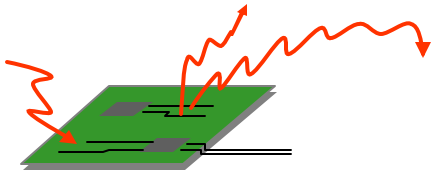
$$\frac{e^{ikr}}{r}$$



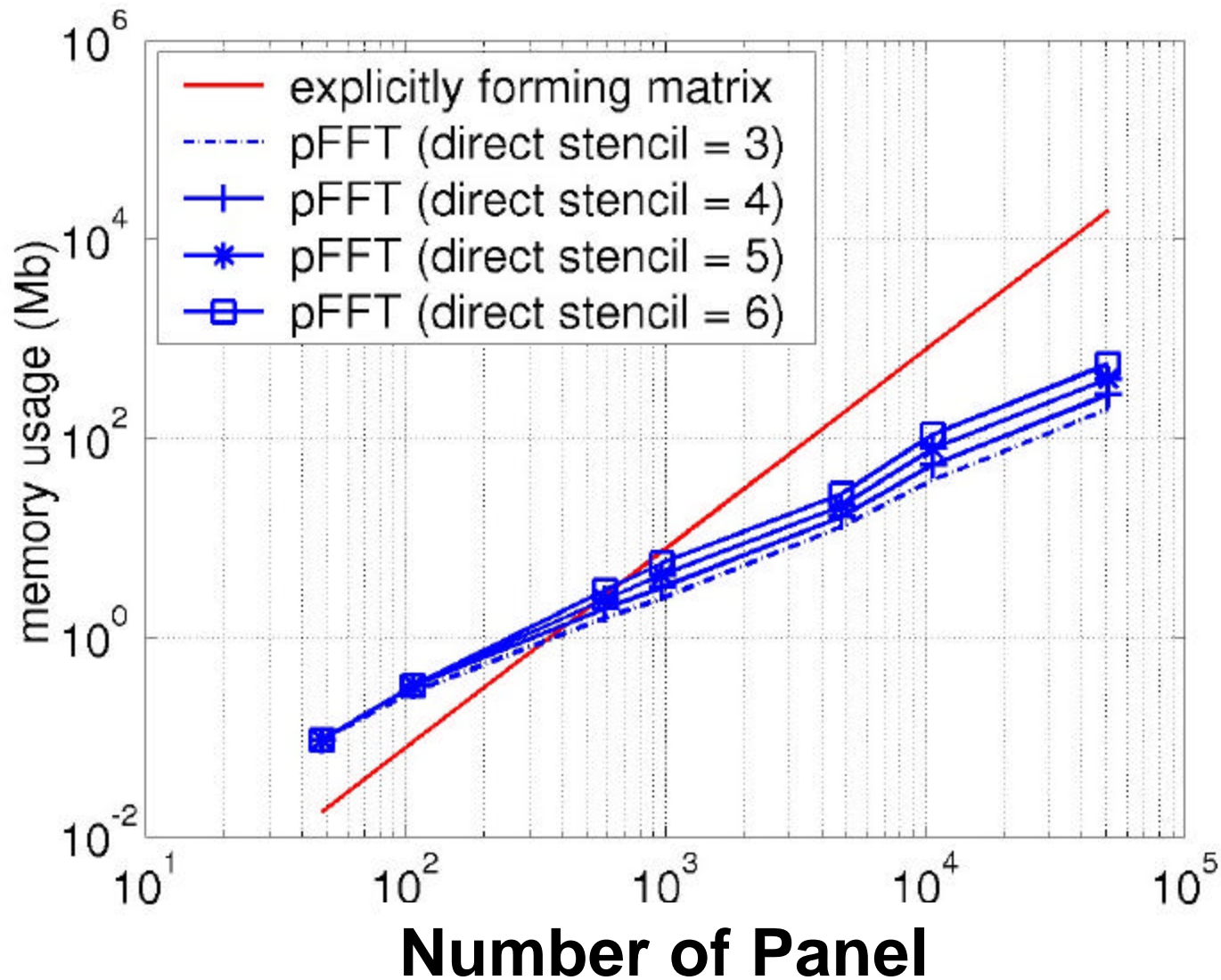
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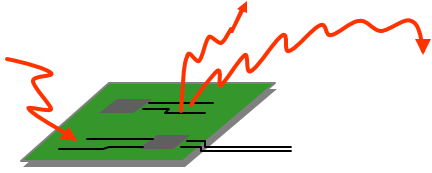
# Matrix vector product time $O(N)$





# Memory $O(N)$



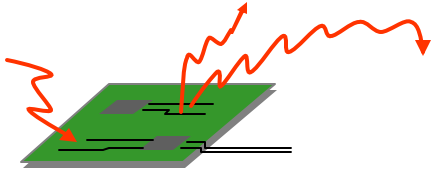


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# Outline

- **Background**
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# Summary of the Surface Integral Formulation

$$\frac{1}{2} \vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \int_{S_i} dS' (G_1(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') \frac{\partial \vec{E}(\vec{r}')}{\partial n(\vec{r}')} - \frac{\partial G_1(\vec{r}, \vec{r}')}{\partial n(\vec{r}')} E(\vec{r}')) \quad \vec{r} \in S_i$$

$$-\frac{1}{2} \vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \int_S dS' (G_0(\vec{r}, \vec{r}') \frac{\partial \vec{E}(\vec{r}')}{\partial n(\vec{r}')} - \frac{\partial G_0(\vec{r}, \vec{r}')}{\partial n(\vec{r}')} E(\vec{r}')) + \nabla \mathbf{f}(\vec{r}) \quad \vec{r} \in S$$

$$\int_S d\vec{r}' G_0(\vec{r}', \vec{r}) \mathbf{r}_s(\vec{r}') = \mathbf{e} \mathbf{f}(\vec{r}) \quad \vec{r} \in S$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E}(\vec{r}) = 0$$

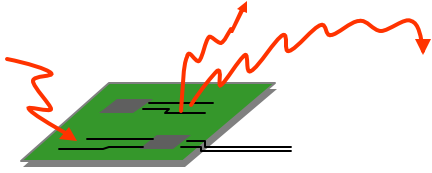


Current Conservation

$$\mathbf{f}(\vec{r}) = c, \quad \vec{r} \in \text{contact}$$







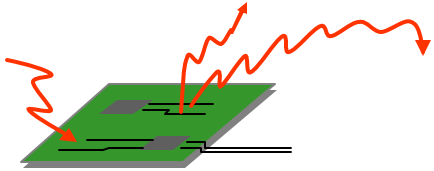
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# Outline

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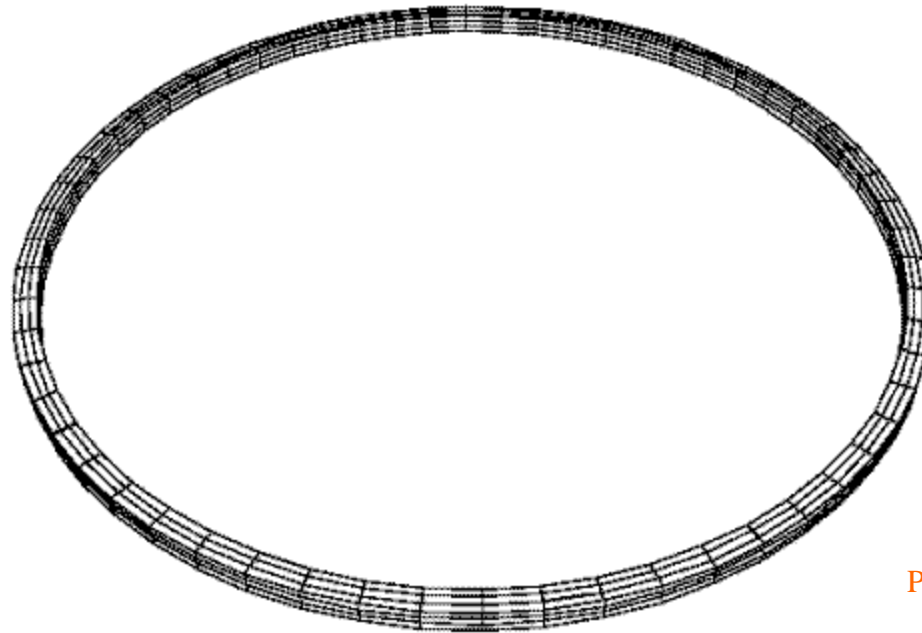




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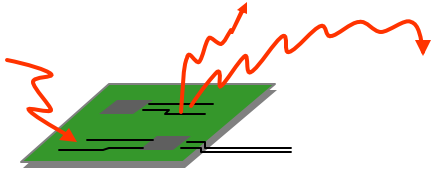
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# A Ring Example

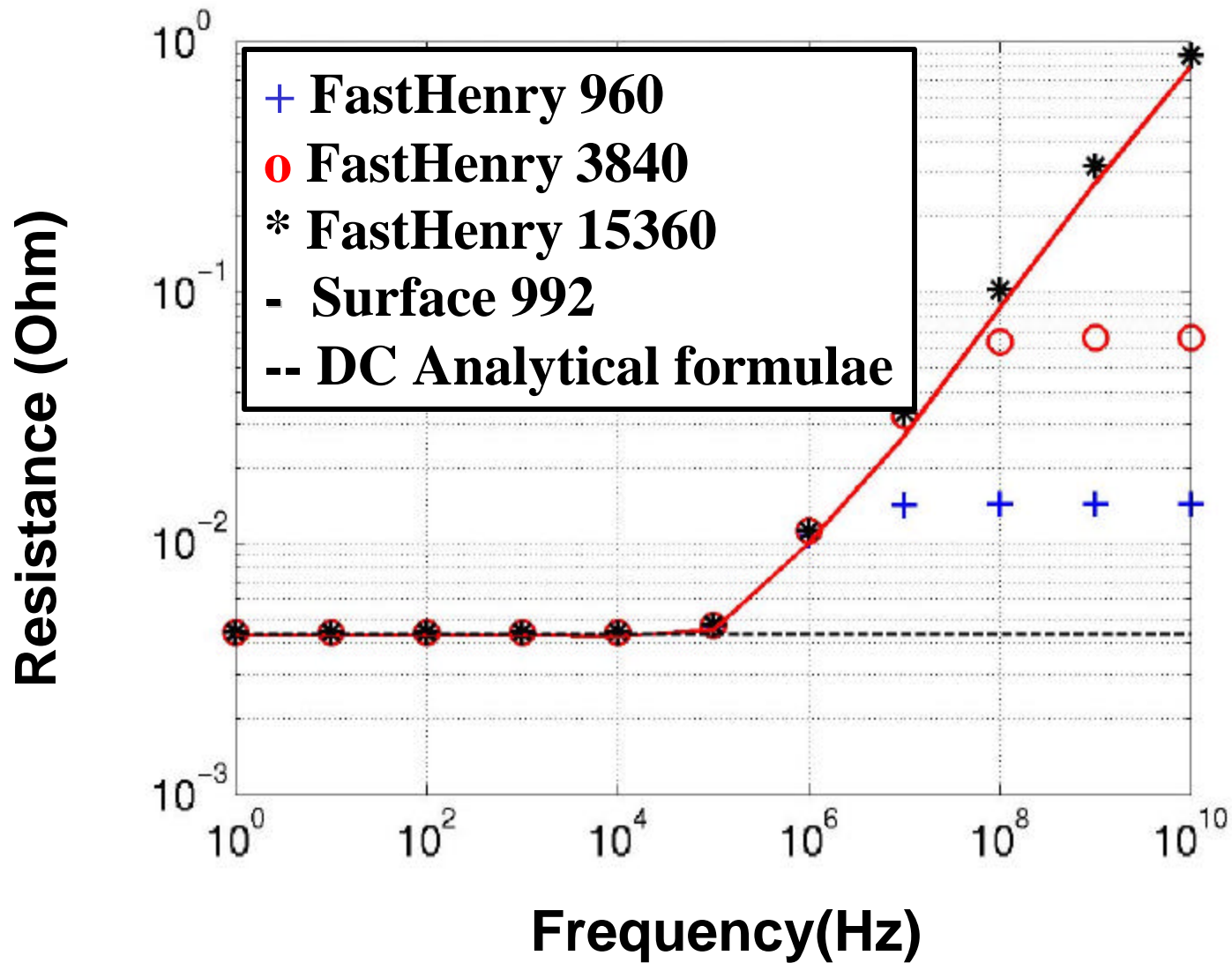


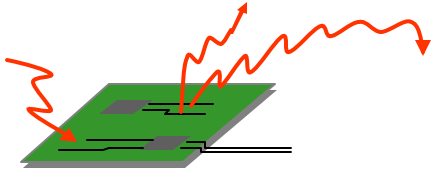
Picture thanks to Junfeng Wang

**Cross-section:  $0.5 \times 0.5 \text{ mm}^2$**   
**Radius: 10 mm**

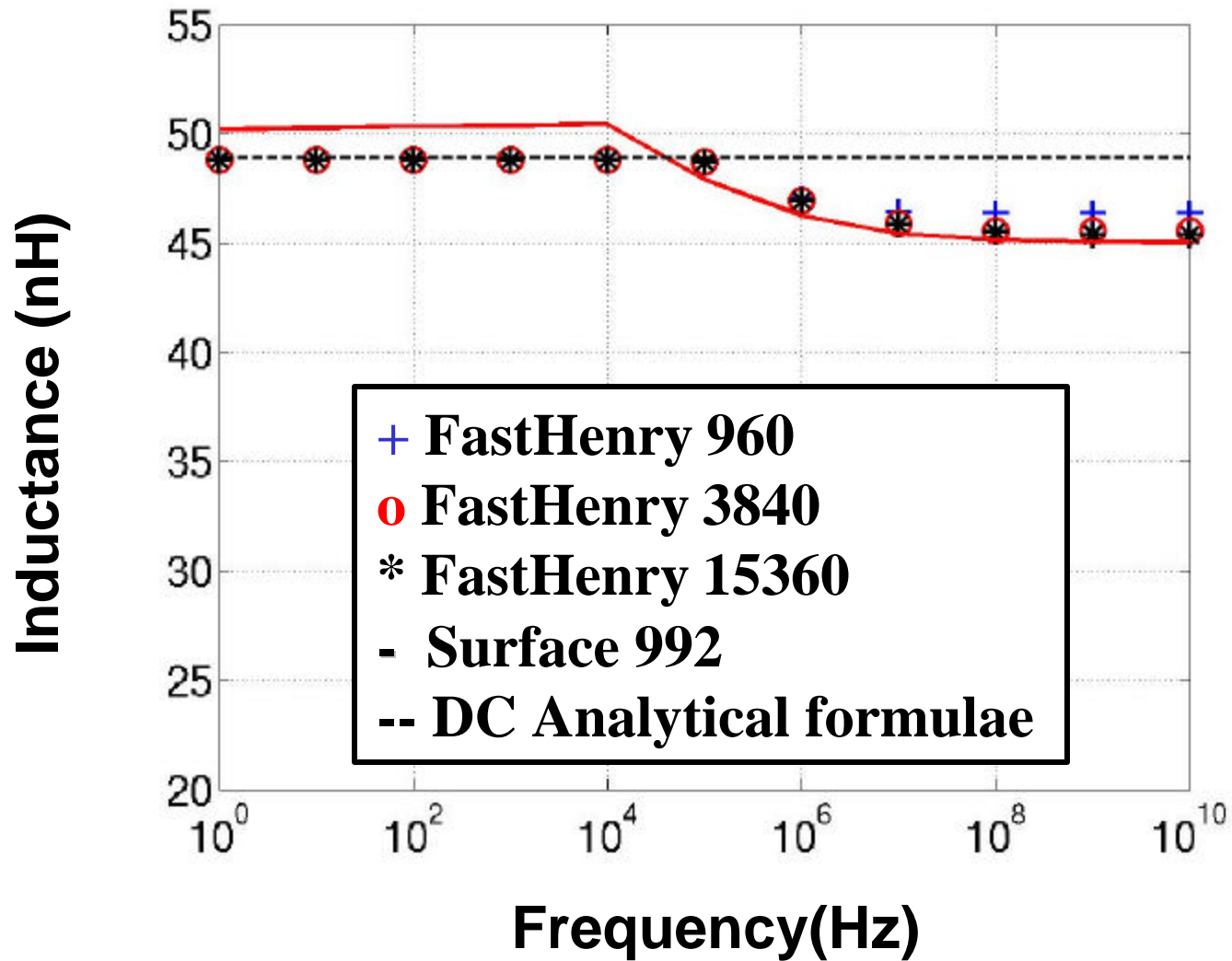


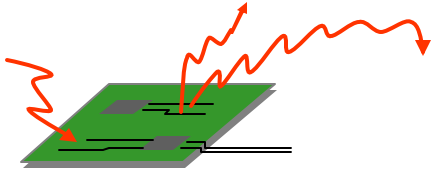
# A Ring Example





# A Ring Example

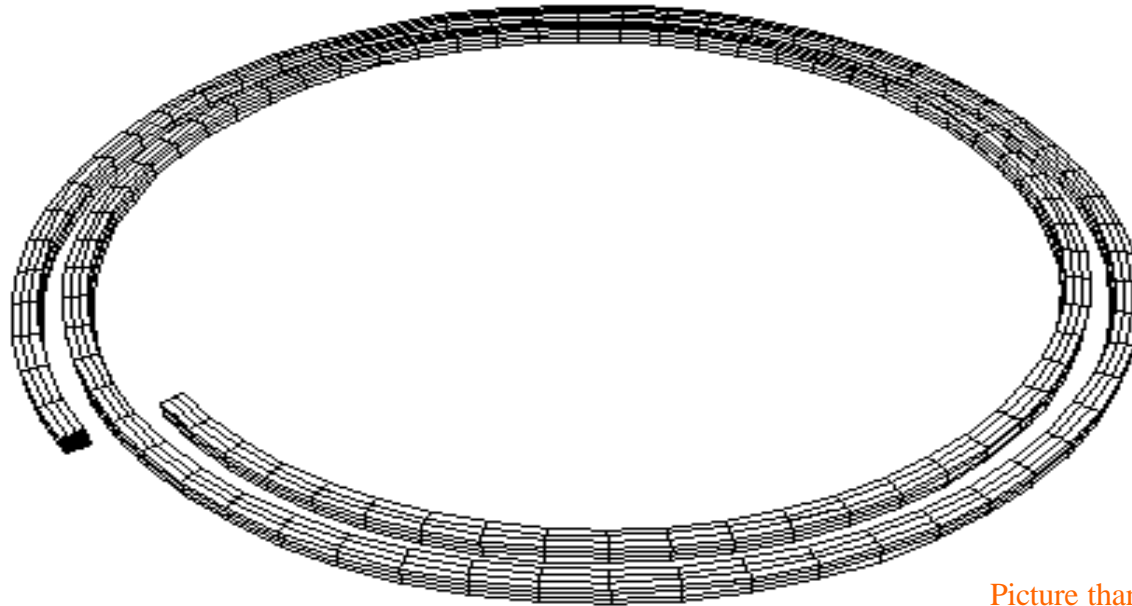




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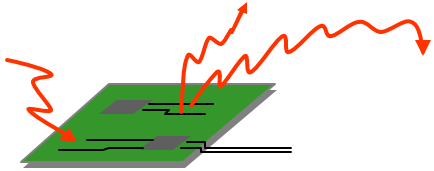
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# A Spiral Example



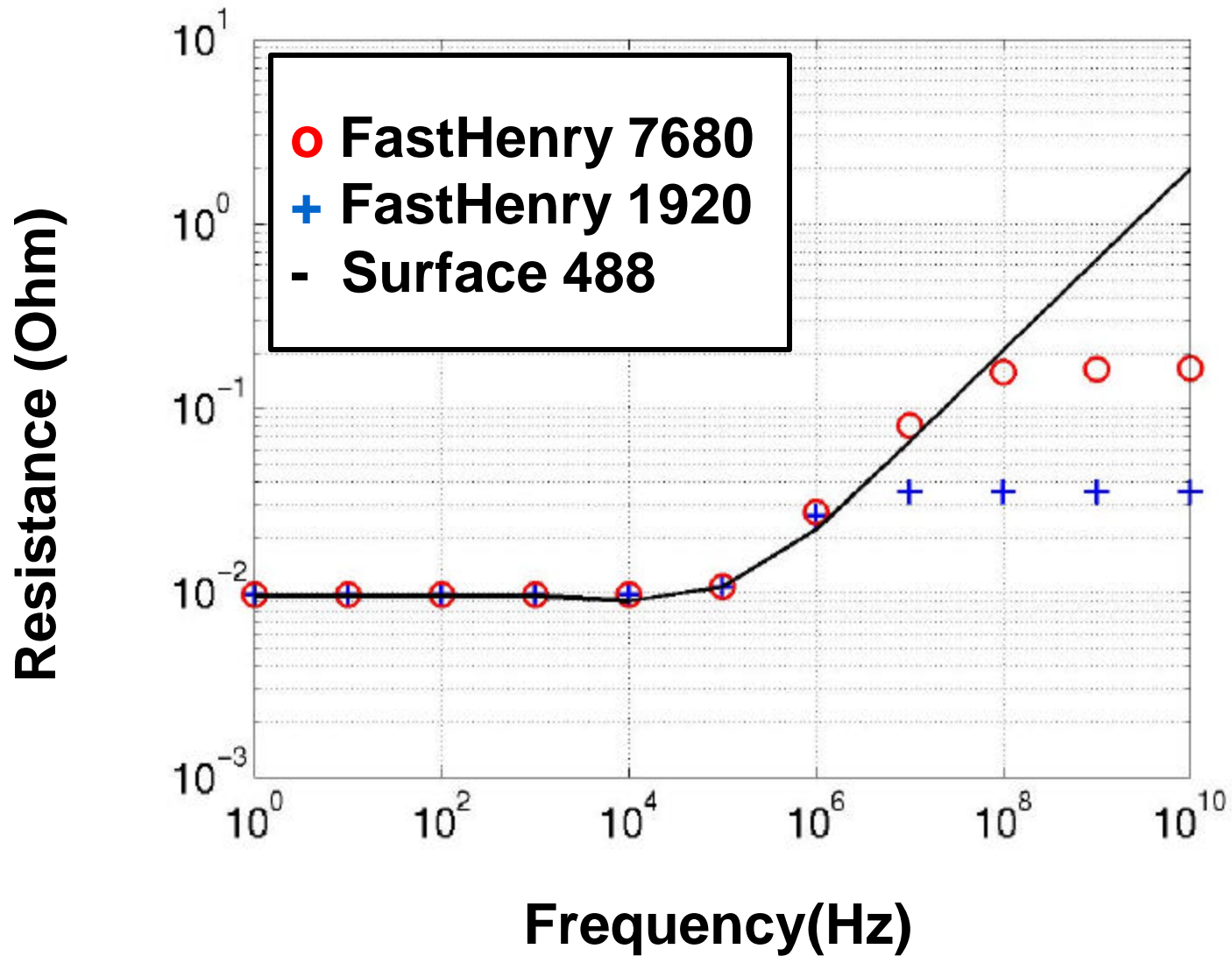
Picture thanks to Junfeng Wang

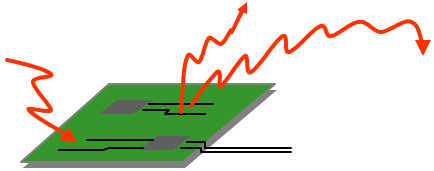
**Cross-section:**      **0.5x0.5 mm<sup>2</sup>**  
**Inner Radius:**      **10 mm**  
**Spacing:**            **0.5 mm**  
**Number of turns:**   **2**



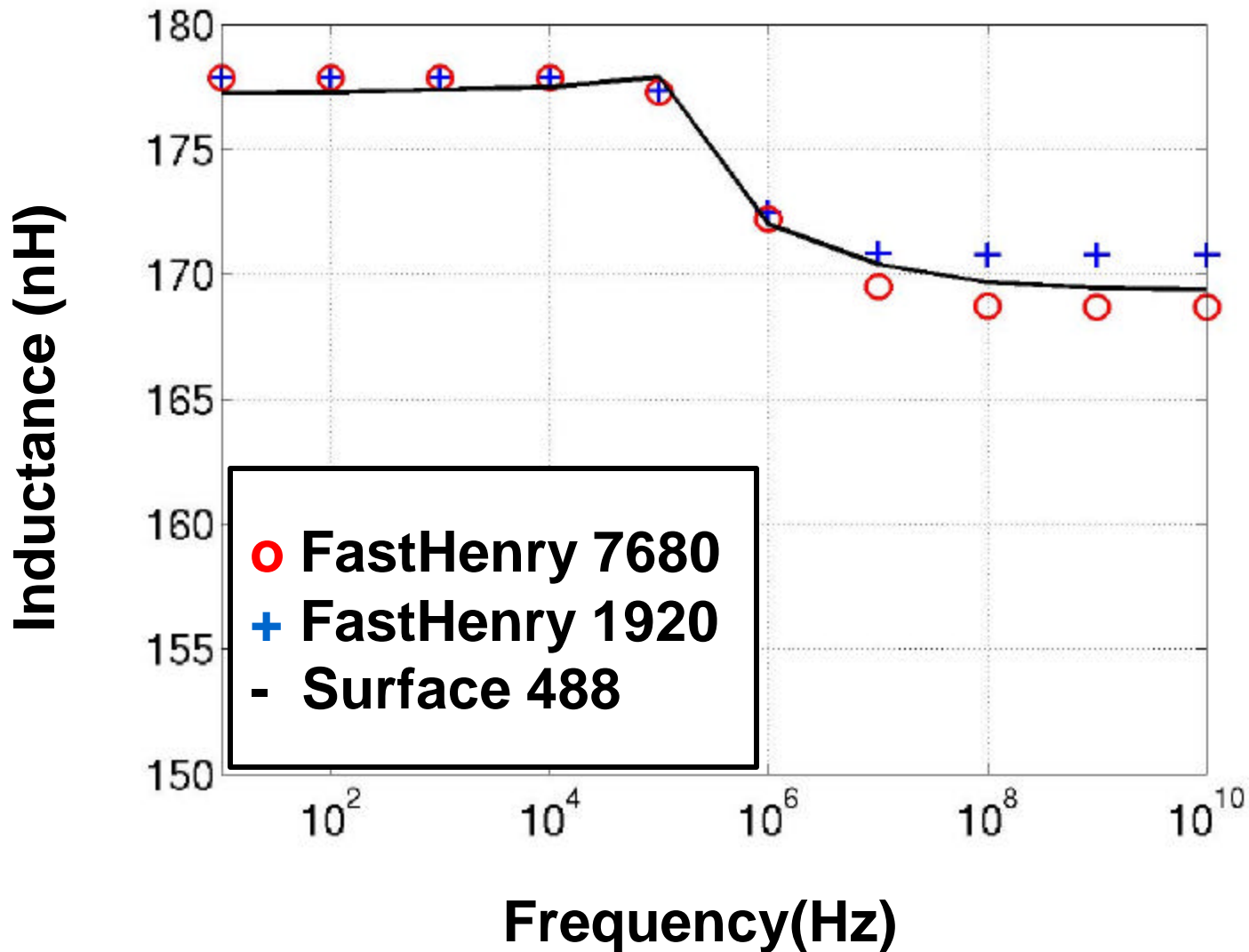
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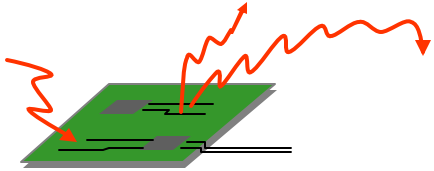
# A Spiral Example





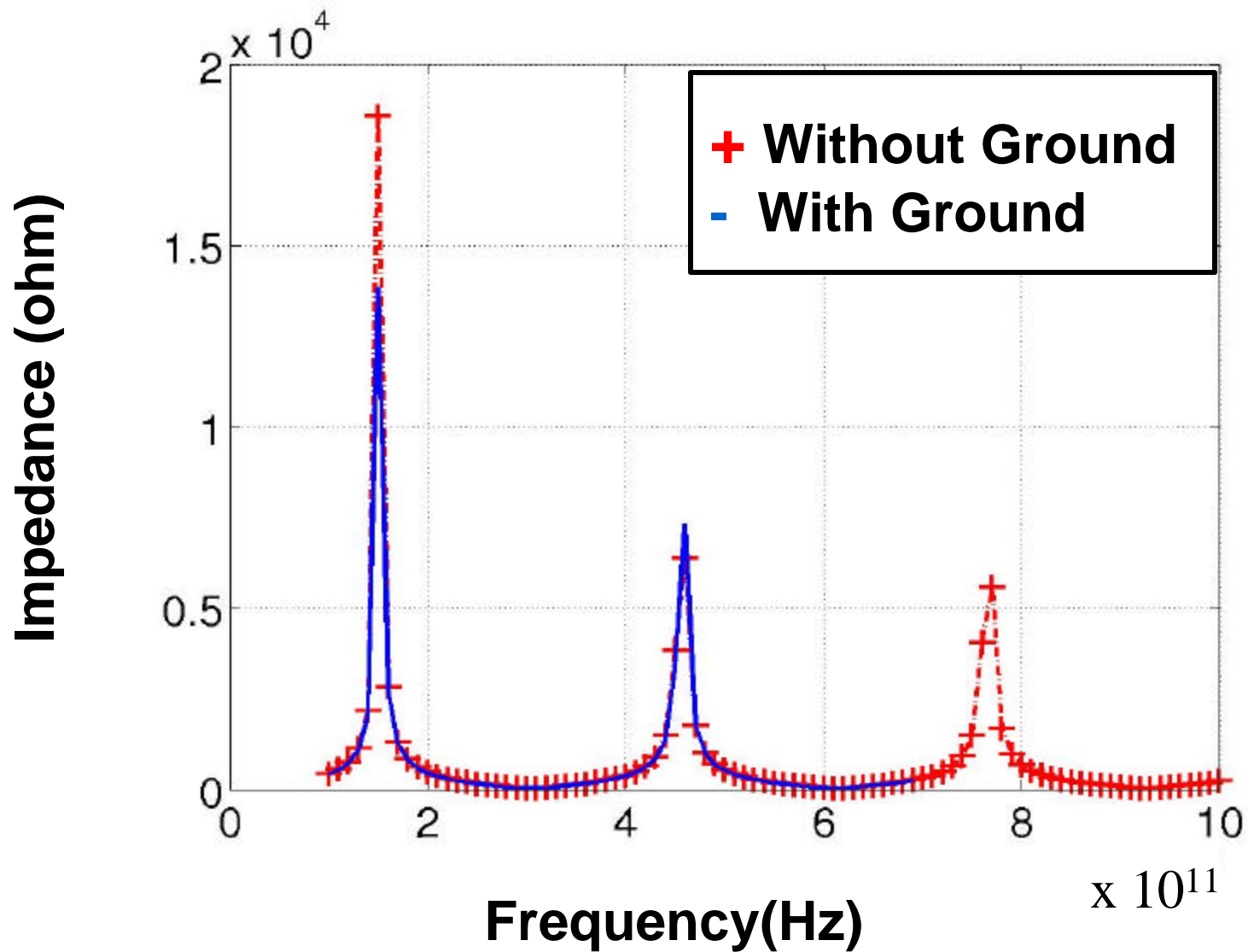
# A Spiral Example

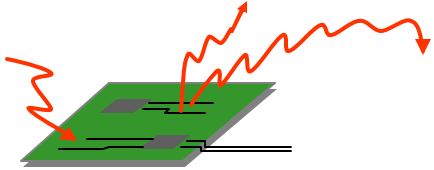




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# A Shorted Transmission Line



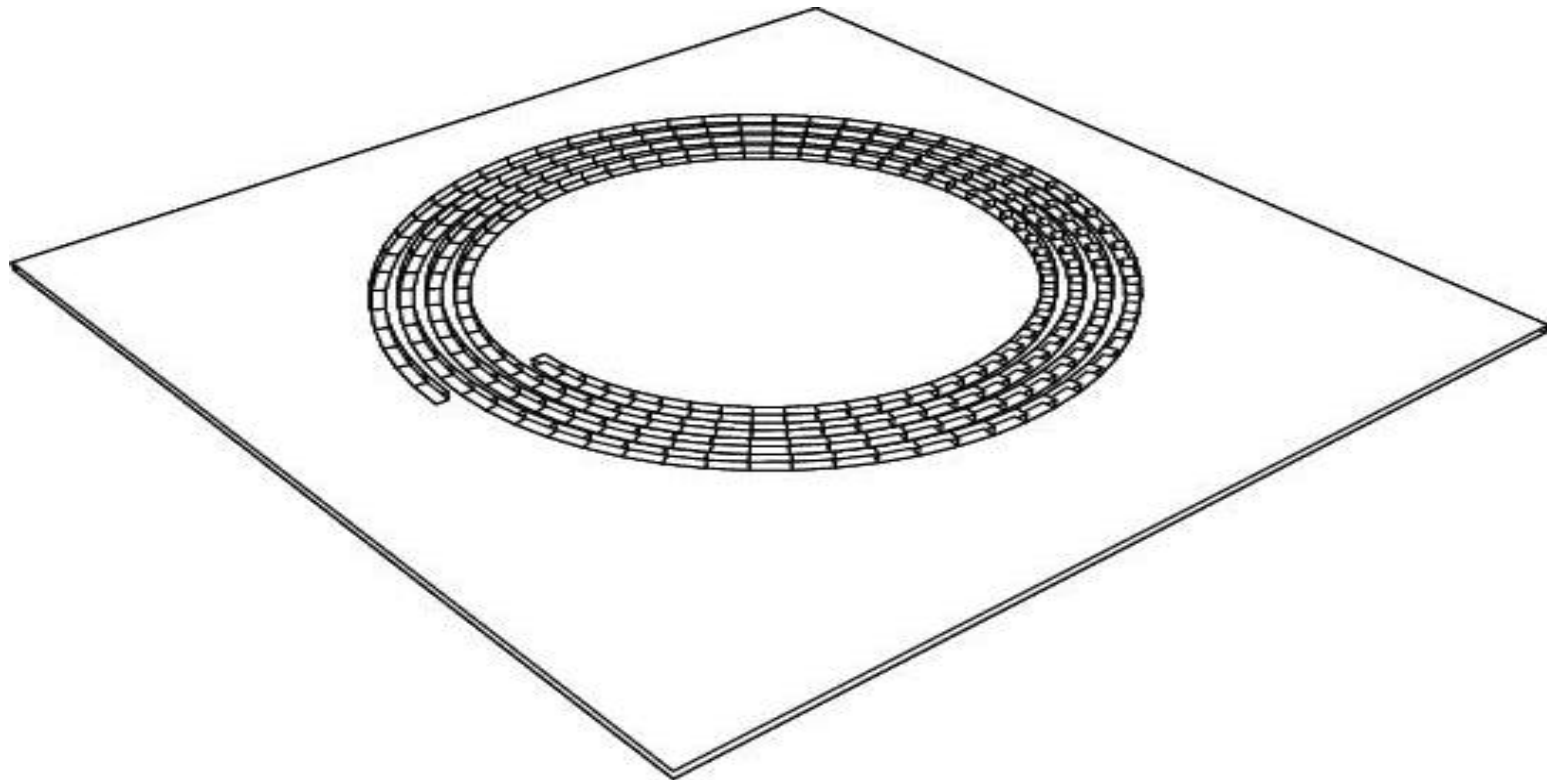


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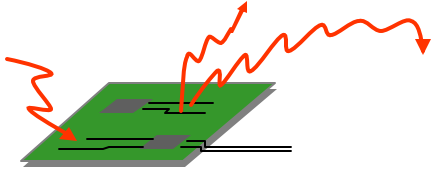
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## A Spiral Over Ground

4-turn spiral over substrate 15162 panels  
MQS: 106k unknowns, 69 minutes, 348 Mb  
EMQS: 121k unknowns, 93minutes, 379 Mb







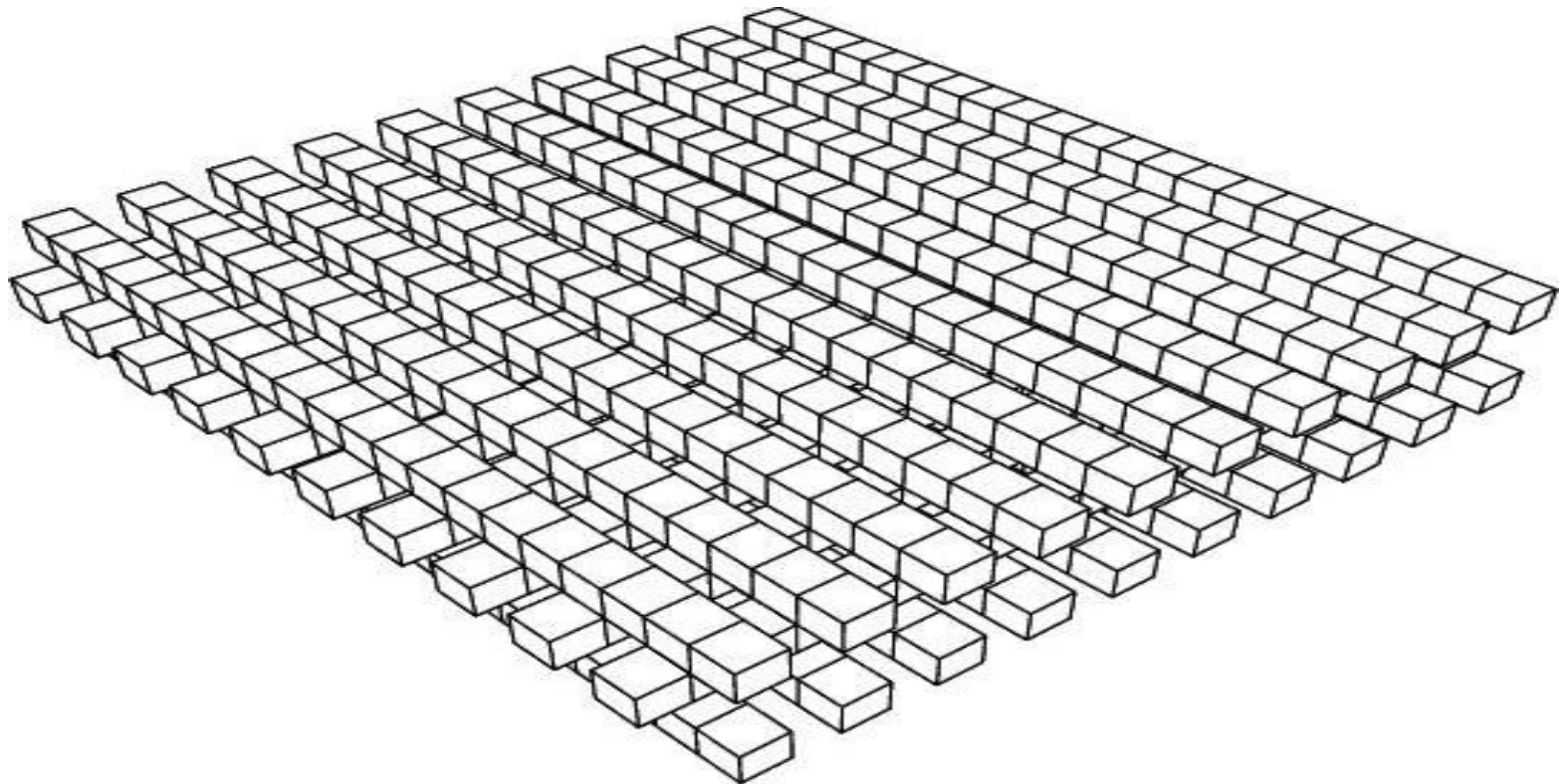
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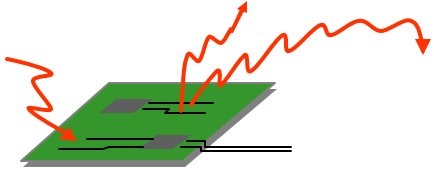
## Multi-conductor bus

3 layer, 10 conductors each layer 12540 panels

MQS: 87.5k unknowns, 41 minutes, 165 Mb

EMQS: 100k unknowns, 61 minutes, 218 Mb





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# Conclusions

- **Pre-corrected FFT algorithm**
- **Performance of the algorithm**
- **A surface integral formulation**
- **Numerical results**