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Generated domain-specific sparse data kernels for high-performance Lattice Boltzmann Methods



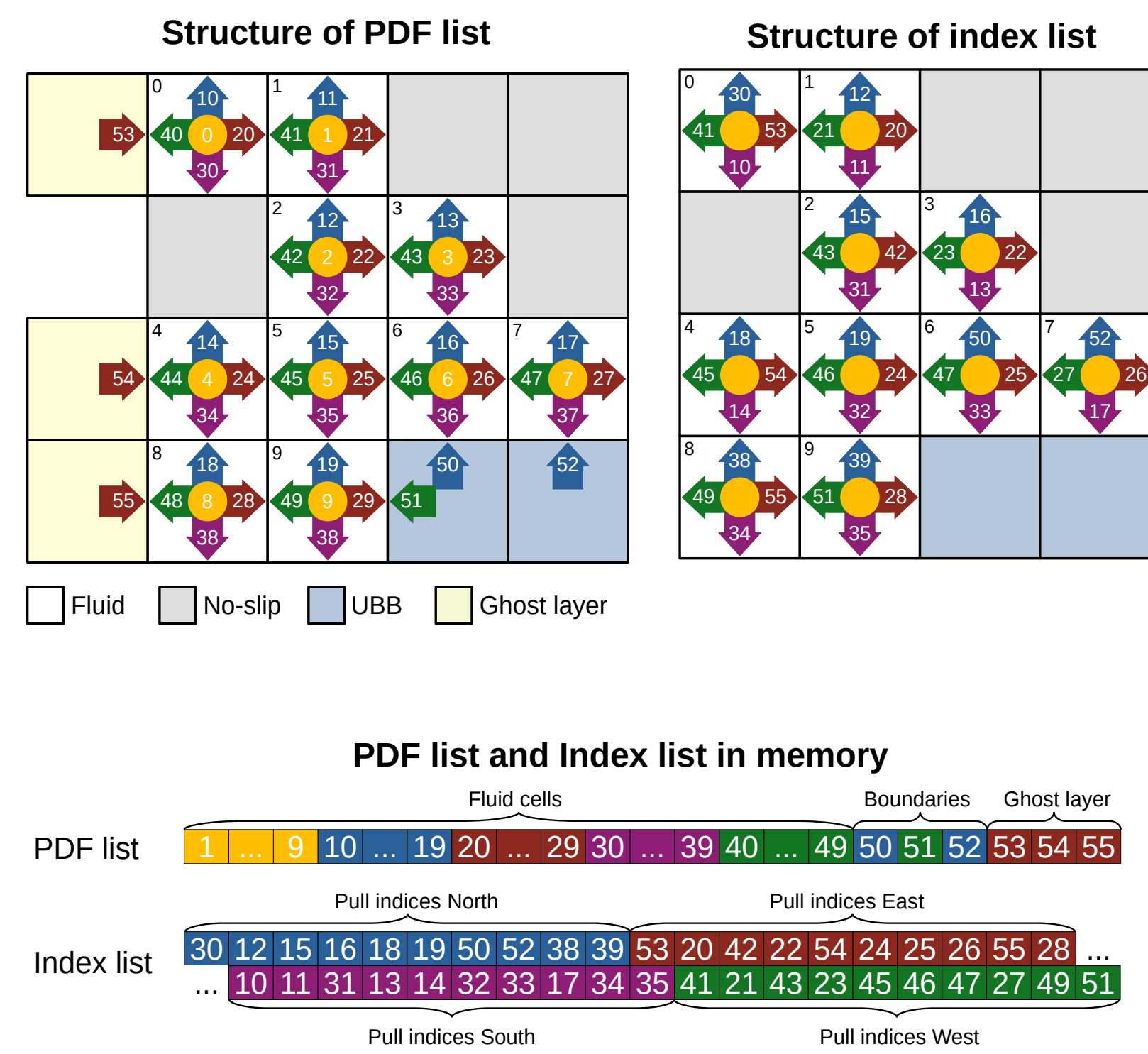
Sparse Lattice Boltzmann Method in waLBerla

Sparse Data Structure:

- **Indirect addressing:** Store only fluid cells of domain
 - **Save memory and computation time**
- No-slip and periodic boundaries handled implicitly
 - **No extra boundary kernel needed**

Code Generation:

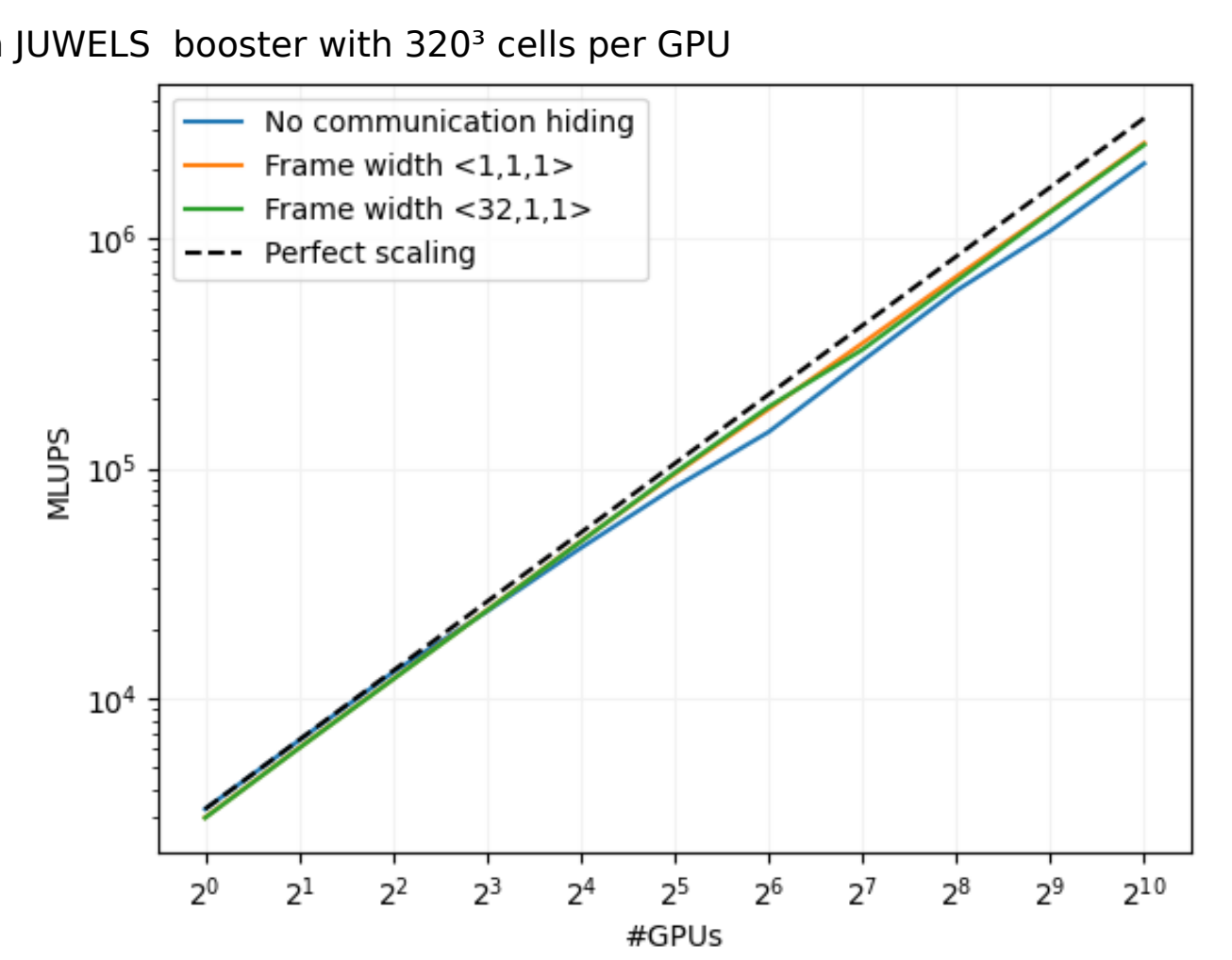
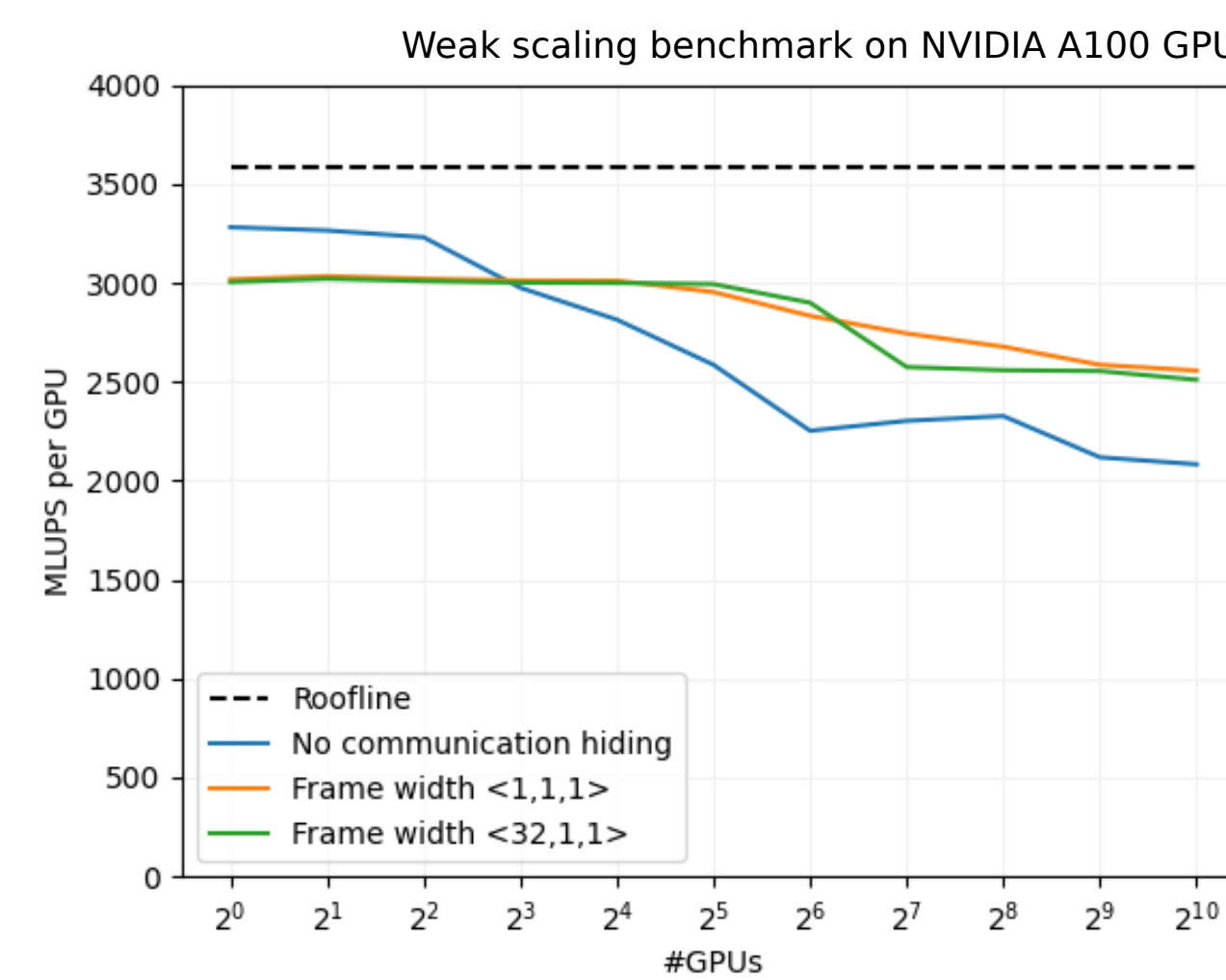
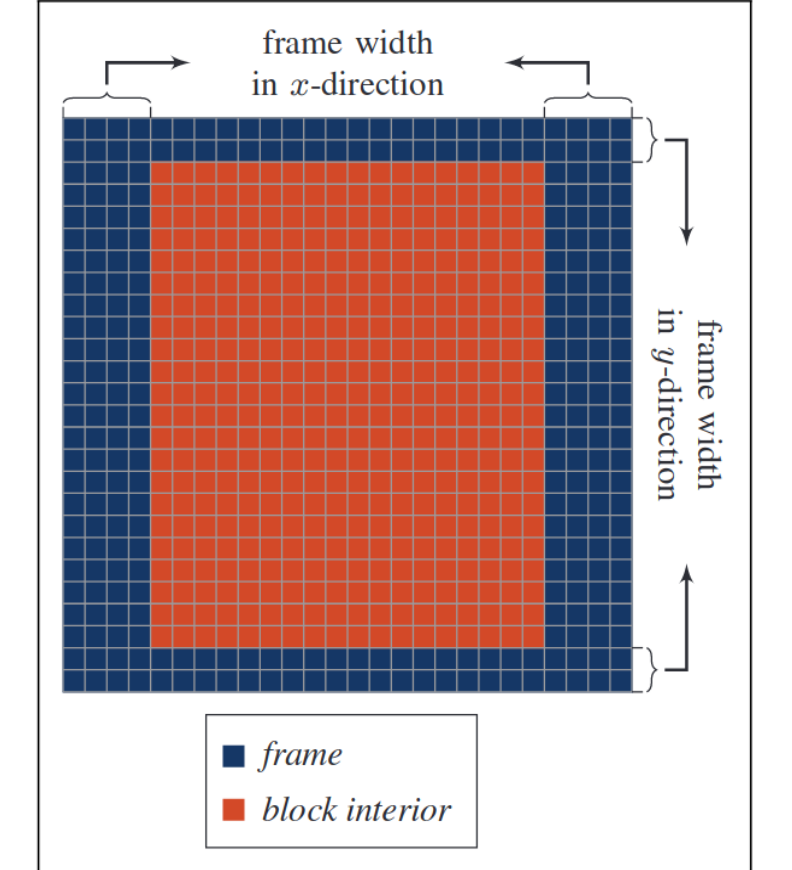
- Integrated in the code generation pipeline of *lbmpy/pystencils*
 - **Generate sparse kernels for CPU and GPU architectures**
 - **Flexible stencils and collision (SRT, TRT, MRT, Cumulants, ...)**



Optimization: Communication Hiding and Scalability

Communication Hiding for Sparse Data Structure:

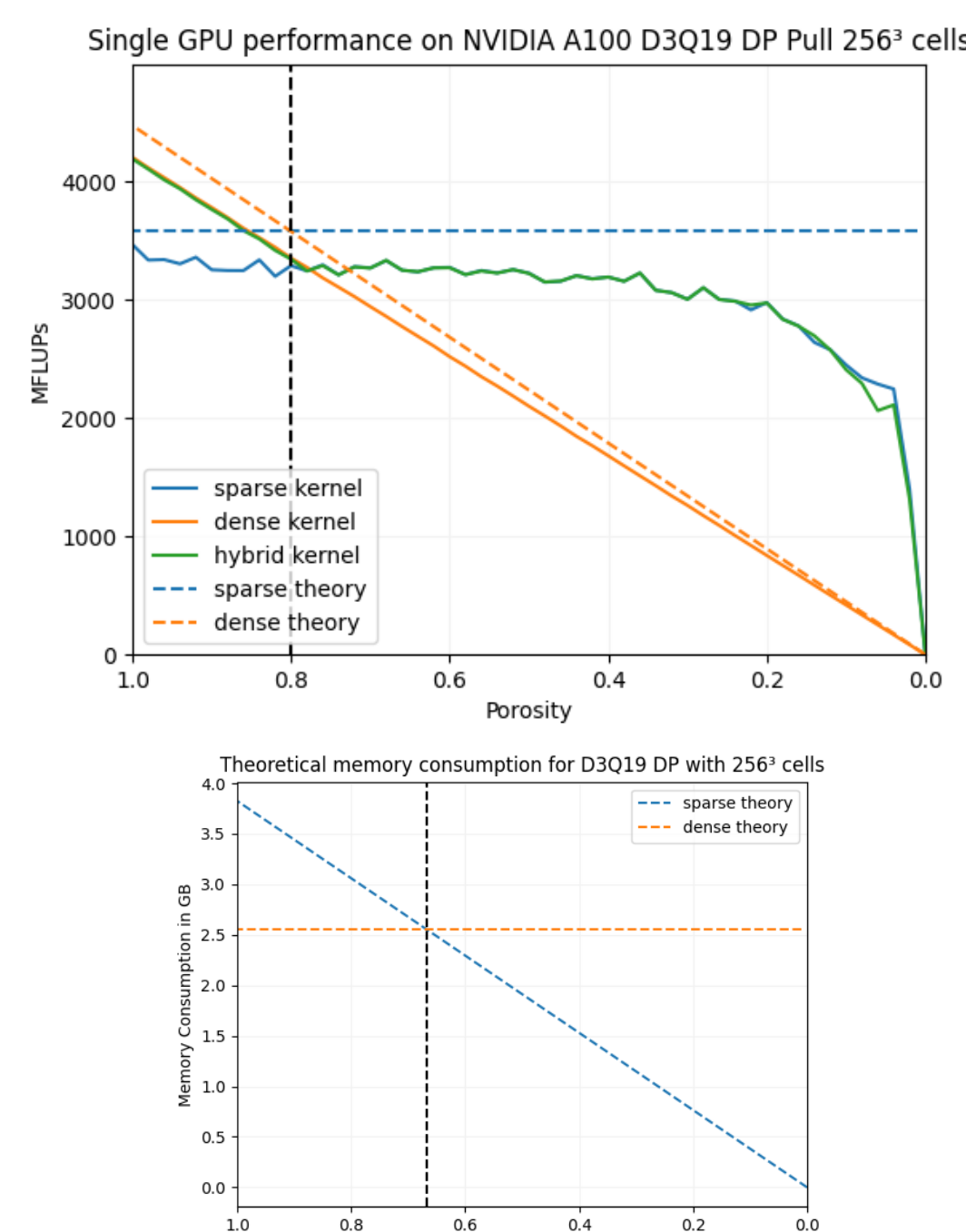
- Divide block into interior and frame cells
- Algorithm:
 - 1) Start communication of ghost layers
 - 2) Run kernels on interior cells
 - 3) Wait for communication to finish
 - 4) Run kernels on frame cells
- **Hide communication behind inner kernel runs**



Optimization: Hybrid Data Structure

Domain Decomposition into blocks:

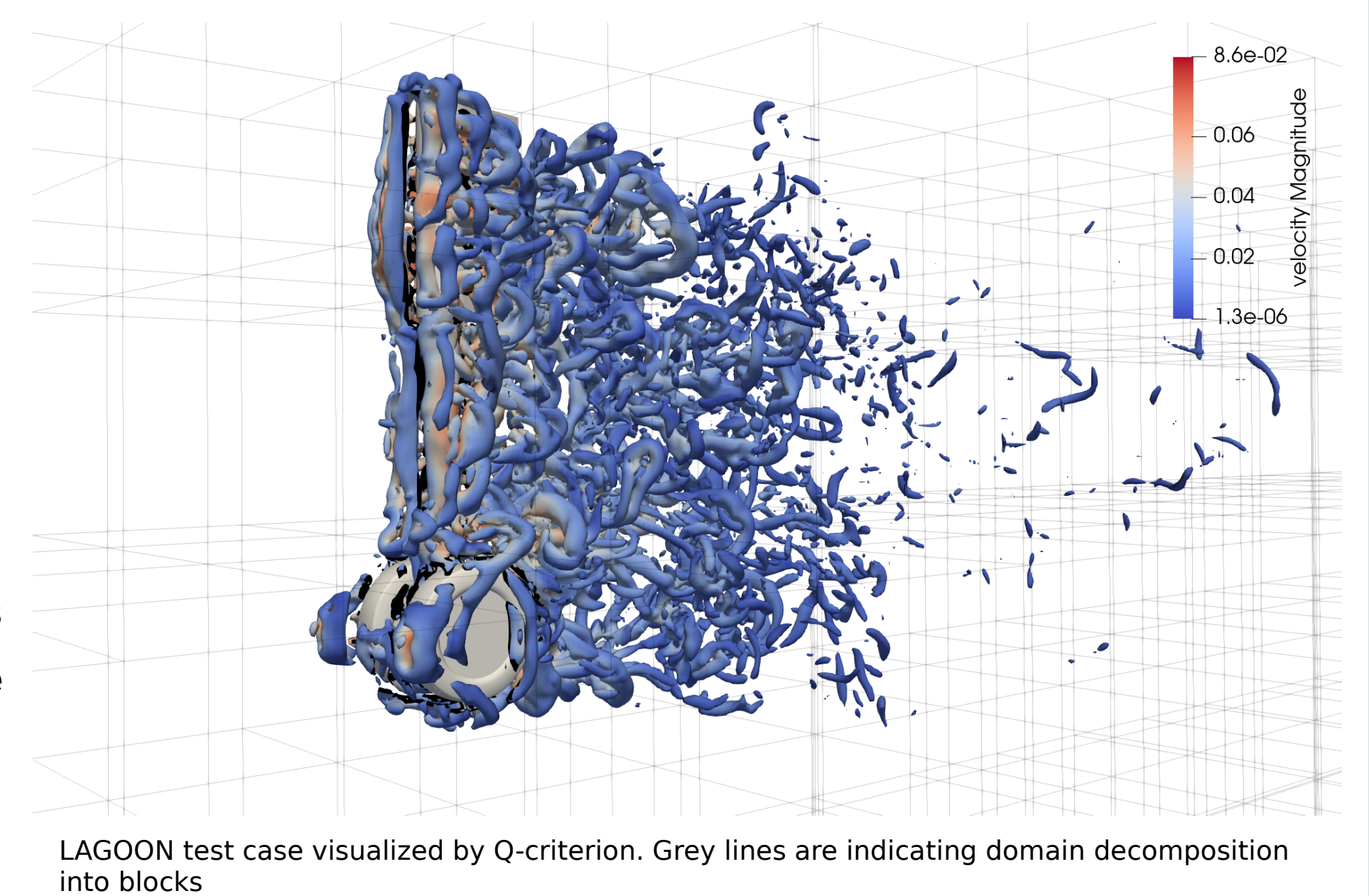
- Indirect addressing (sparse) ↔ Direct addressing (dense)
- Decision about data structure per block
 - **Generate sparse and dense kernels based on block porosity**
- Porosity = fluid cells / total cells
 - **Performance superiority of sparse data structure at porosity < 0.8**
 - Theoretical memory consumption superiority at porosity < 0.66
- **Best of both worlds: Hybrid data structure**



Sparse LBM Applications

LAGOON Test Case:

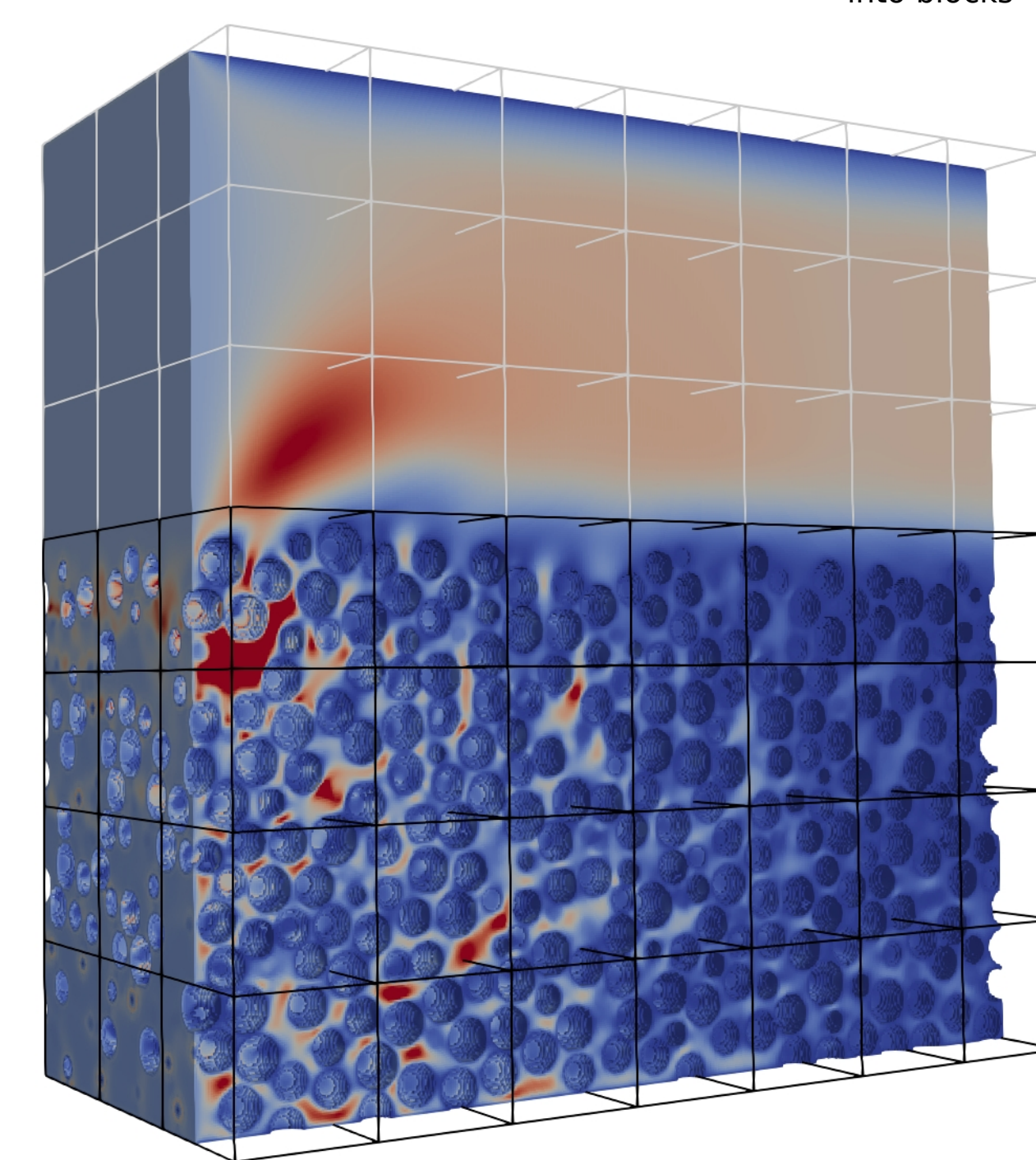
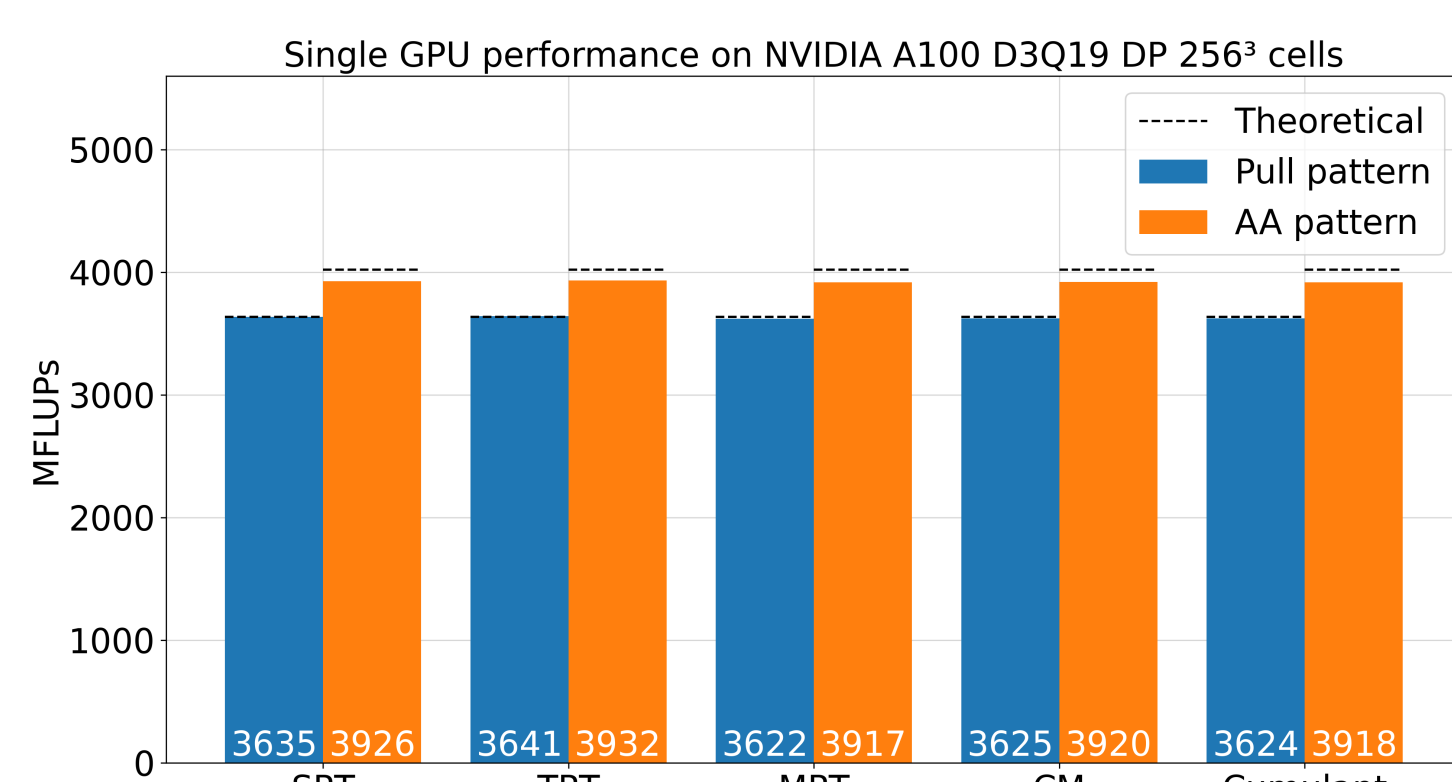
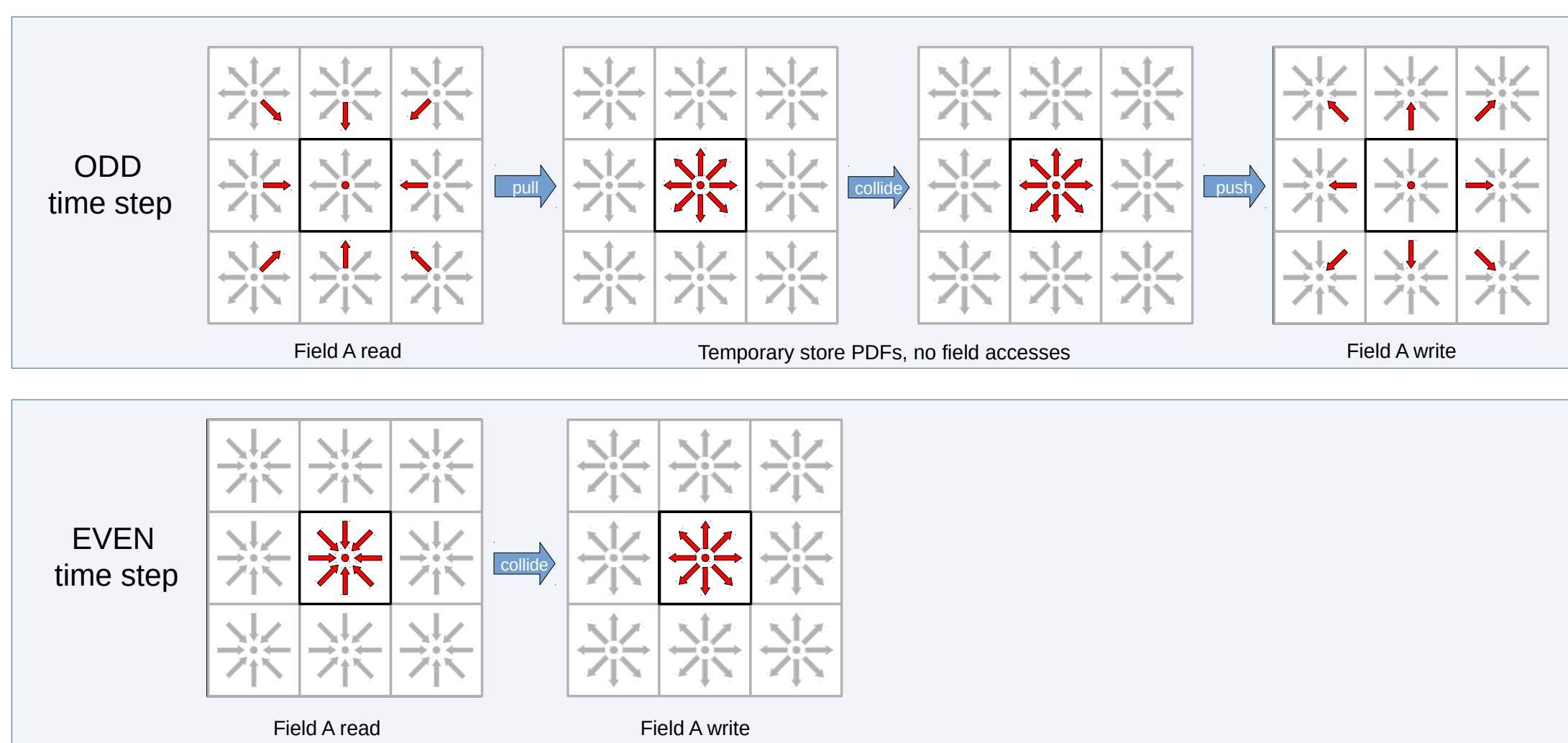
- SCALABLE application: **Aircraft landing gear**
- 720 Block (720 cores on JUWELS Cluster)
 - 188,743,680 cells
- 2 h run time for 3s simulation time
- Reynolds number: 1.59 * 10⁶
- Sparse data structure only
- But: Low number of boundary cells
 - **Test case not suited for sparse LBM**



Optimization: AA Streaming Pattern

Theory of in-place Streaming - AA Pattern:

- Two alternating time steps
- **ODD time step:** PDFs are loaded and stored at the same position
 - For parallel updating no temporary PDF field is needed → **~50% reduced memory consumption**
 - Avoid "write allocate" memory access on CPU → **Save 33% of memory accesses**
- **EVEN time step:**
 - No streaming, therefore no index list access needed → **Save ~10% of memory accesses**



Artificial Riverbed Example:

- Porous media and free flow interaction
- Sediment porosity: 0.4 – 0.6
- Simulation automatically decides per block where to use sparse or dense data structure (porosity threshold < 0.8)
- Well suited case for hybrid data structure
 - **Good performance and memory consumption for every part of the domain**

Blood Vessels:

- Complex geometry case with high number of small blocks
 - **Exclude all blocks without fluid cells from domain**
- Remaining blocks have porosity between 0.01 and 1.0 (Ø 0.15)
 - **Sparse Lattice Boltzmann Method very worth**
- **Outlook: Balancing workload over processors based on block porosity**

