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OPS-Particle: A DSL for particulate systems



ParaSols
Particulate Solids Simulations



What is a domain specific language?

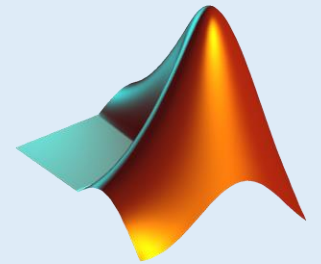
- A computer language specialized to specific applications
- Need of concepts and domain operations (functions)

Advantages

- Restrict writing code that is difficult for the compiler to reason and optimize
- Implementation of the API left to a lower level
 - Target implementation to hardware - automatically generate implementation from specification for the context
 - Generate code in best parallelization model
 - Code can be used by multiple applications

Examples of domain specific languages

HTML



L^AT_EX

Why do we need domain specific languages ?

HPC landscape

- **Diversity** in HPC resources (CPUs, GPUs)
- **Programming diversity** (i.e., open standards, proprietary model etc)

The picture for the TOP 10

(<https://top500.org/lists/top500/2026/06/>)

- 40% AMD GPUs, 30% NVIDIA GPUs, 20% CPUs and 10% Intel GPU
- But #1 is a CPU-based!!!!

{DSLs can bring balance !!!

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Challenges

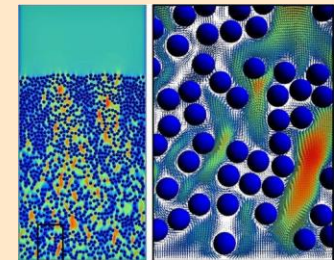
- **New platforms may require different tuning efforts**
- **Cannot recode applications for each new type of architecture**

Our goal

Develop a domain-specific language (DSL) framework for modelling particulate systems based on OPS library



Modeling of
particle-turbulent
flows

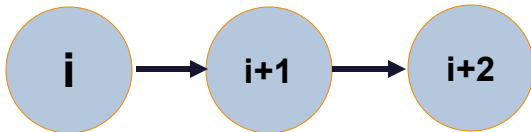


DNS modeling of
particulate systems

OPS-Particle iterators

User writes kernel functions that handle the
Finest details of the interactions

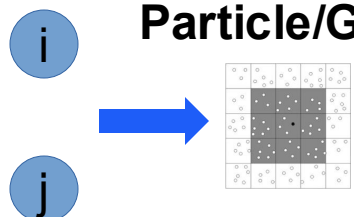
Particle iterations



Iterate over particle
structures

Used to update
particle
positions or
velocities

Particle/Grid iterations



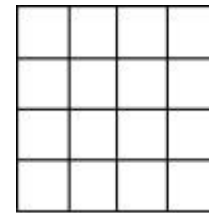
Gathering grid data

Kernel at
particle/grid
interactions

Iterators to
compute
forces to
particles due
to grids

Grid/particle interactions

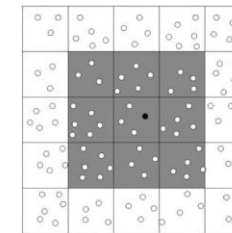
Grid



map



Particles in cells



stencil



User kernel

Operations at
grid/particle
level

Scattering particle data to grid

Particle/particle inter.



map



Stencil
to
access J





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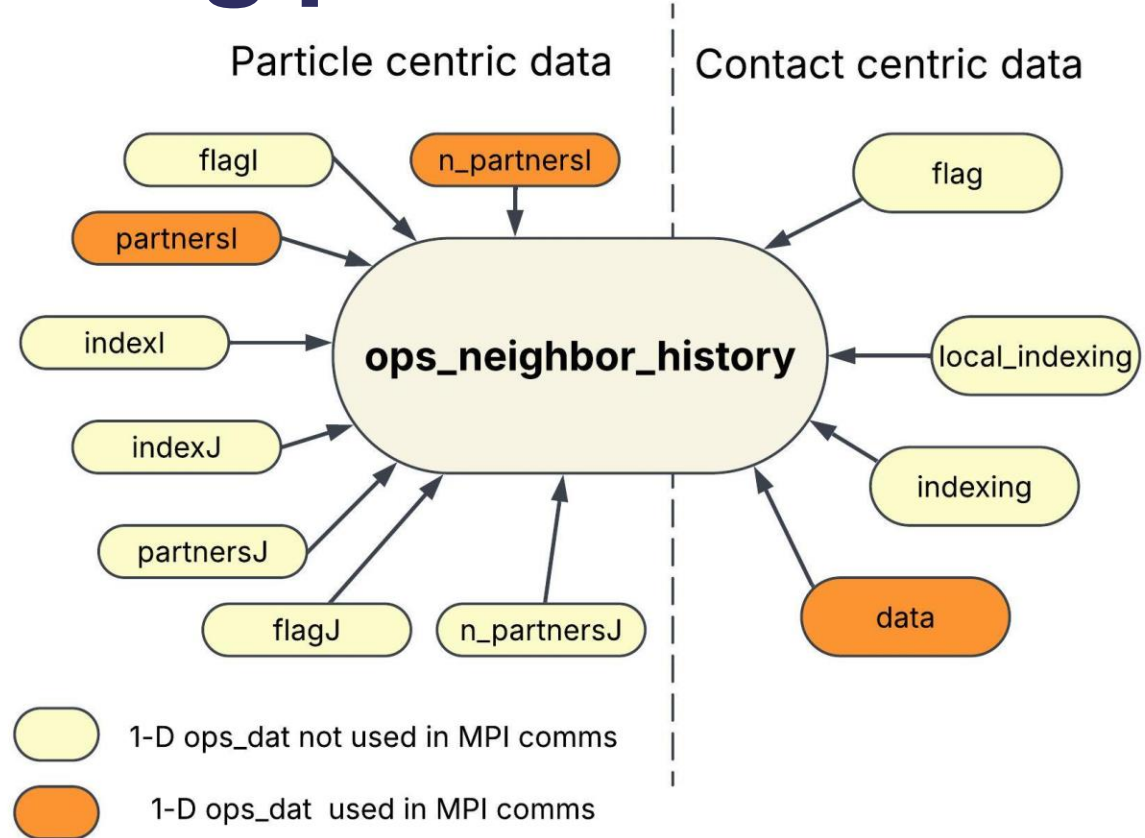
Updates on OPS-Particle

Restructuring of particle mapping structures and communication functionalities

- Early versions of OPS-Particle supported only double precision arithmetics
- Particle mapping and halo (interblock/intrablock) functionalities restructured to handle **different floating-point precision arithmetics**
- Introduced an agnostic C++ template format. Later to be integrated into OPS Python translator
- User can now set which particle data can be exchanged between processes or not

Neighbor histories-Testing phase

- OPS-Particle **supports** both **particle-centric** and **contact-centric** access to contact histories
- Verlet & neighbor lists are updated **simultaneously**.
- MPI communications rely on particle-centric ops-dat structures
- MPI comms of neighbor histories via first particle in neighbor
- Use arrays for **easier extension** to GPUs systems

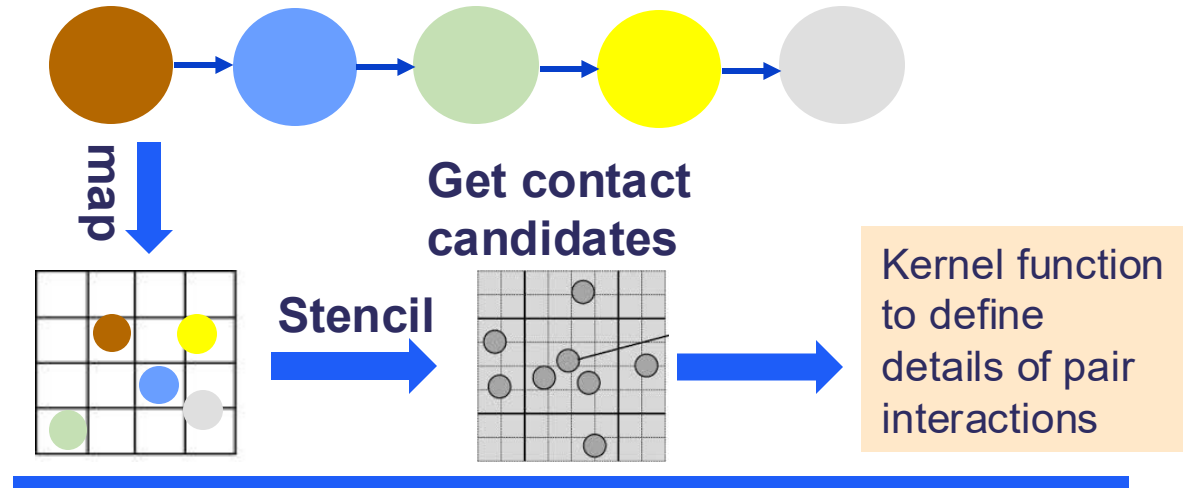


```
template<typename T>
ops_neighbor_history ops_decl_neigh_history(ops_particle particleI,
ops_particle particleJ,
int dofs, int no_neighborsI,
int no_neighborsJ, int update_type,
int type_history, T* array,
const char* type, const char* name)
```

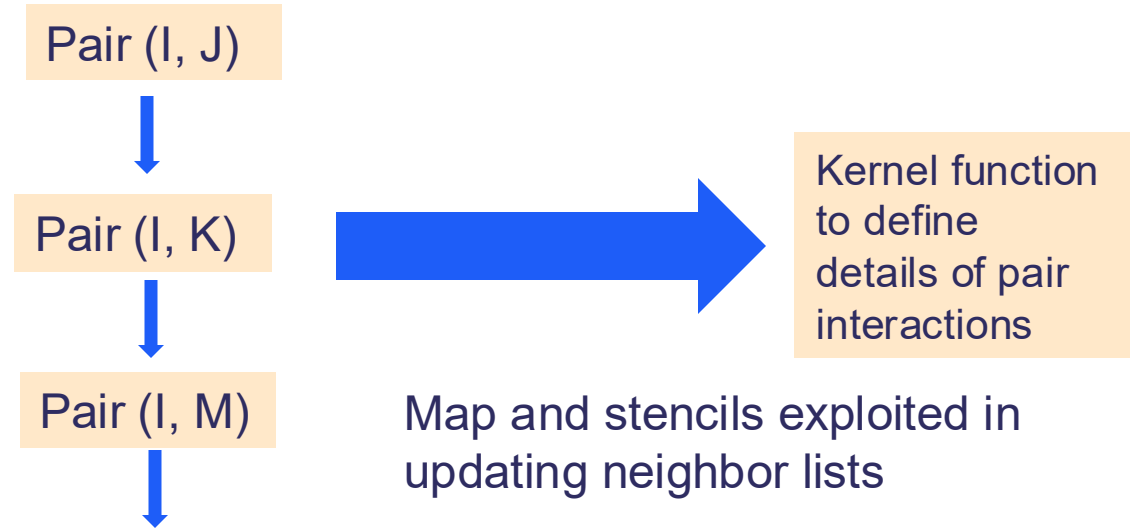
OPS-Particle: Functions for force calculation

- OPS-Particle support both particle-based (`ops_particle_inter_loop`) and contact-based (`ops_particle_par_verlet`) force calculation loops
- Particle approach iterates over particles. Previously was iterating over grid-points.
- Verlet-approach iterates over **all possible contacts**, while particle-approach iterate over **all particles or particles in a user-defined region**
- Neighbor structures introduced to force calculation functions as a new `ops_arg_dat` type structure

Particle centered approach



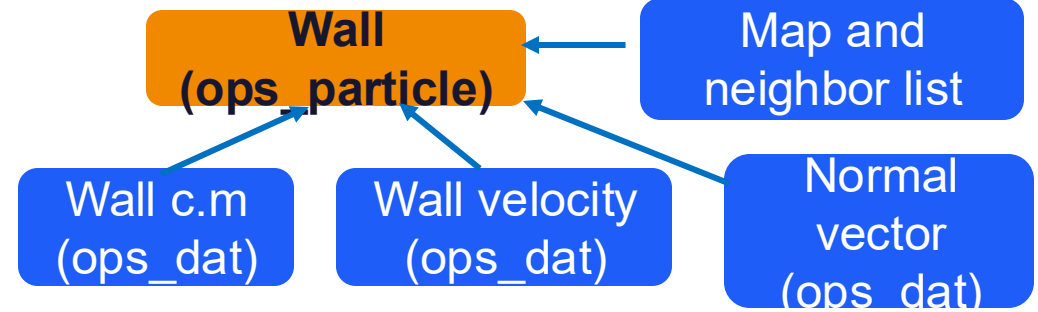
Contact centered approach



Analytical walls on OPS-Particle

- Analytical walls are treated as a new type of particles (ops-particle)
- User defined ops-dat structures & particle maps fully define the wall.
- Build-in functionalities handling different wall types.
- Currently OPS-Particle supports only infinite walls normal to the x,y,z directions
- To be extended to other shapes

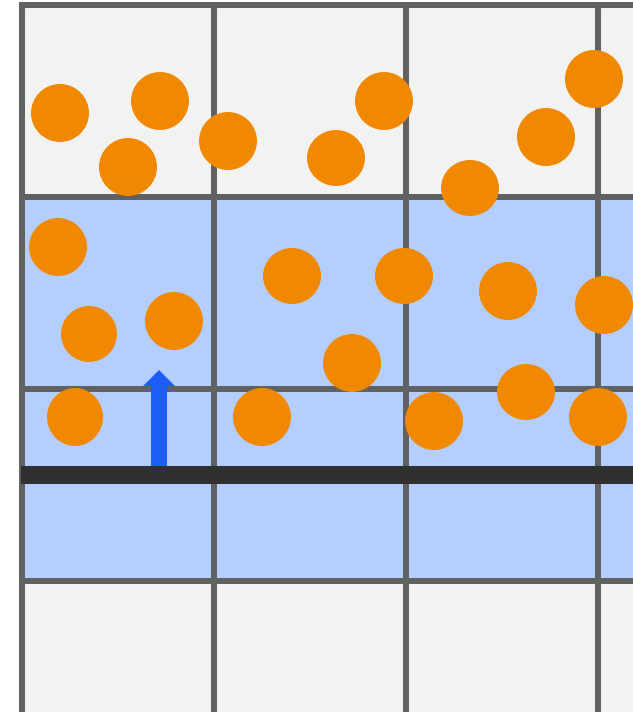
Example: Setting up a servo-mechanism for triaxial test simulations with rigid walls



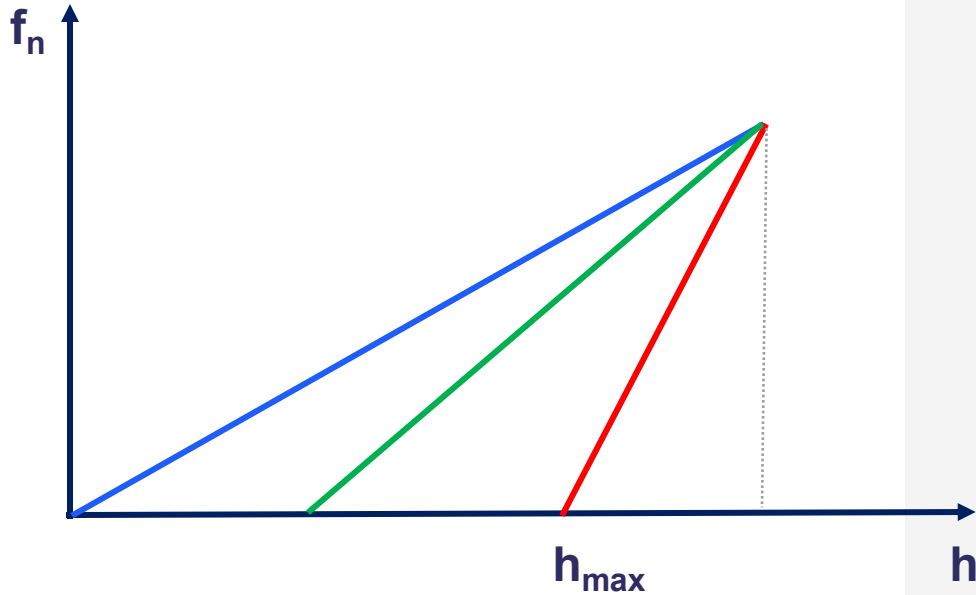
Note: Wall is moving with user defined velocities

Accessing walls in iteration functions

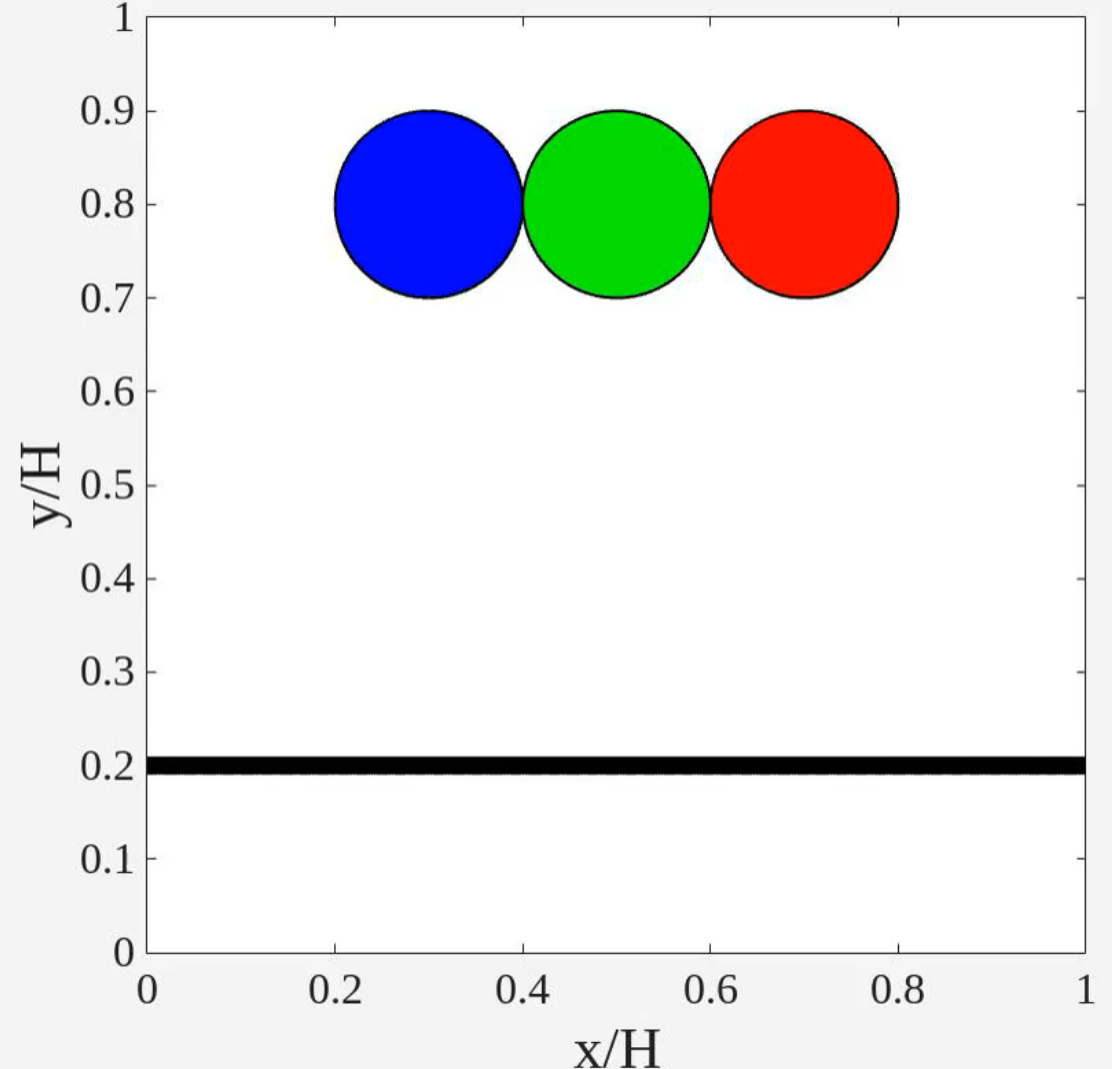
- Define particle maps and neighbor lists (if necessary). Set wall as particle I in neighbor list.
- Update particle maps and neighbor lists
- Call iterative function with wall as particle I



An example: Elastic & inelastic spheres bouncing on a rigid wall

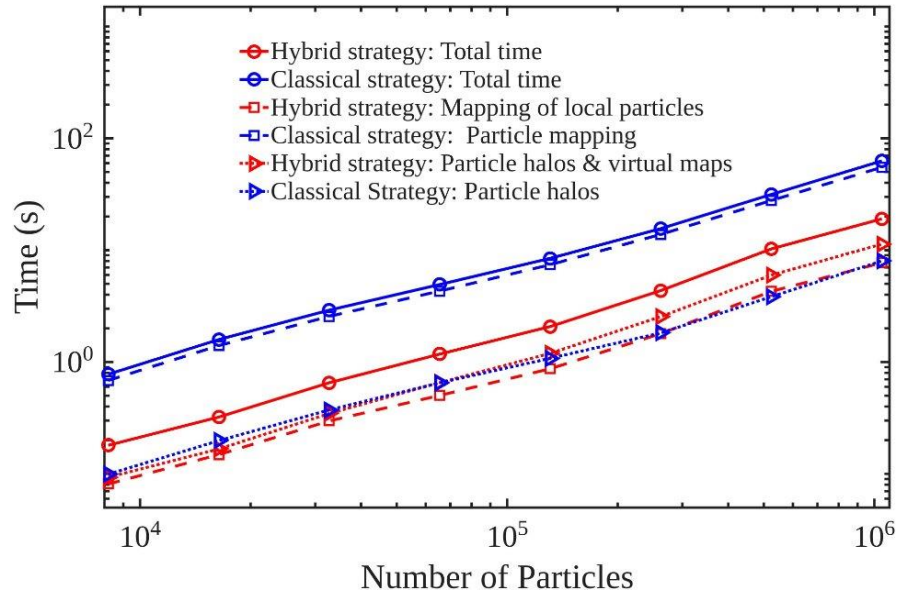


- The interaction of the spheres with the rigid wall was modeled with a bilinear-model
- Neighbor histories were used to store the $h_{\max}$ for each wall-particle pair



Why map exploitation is beneficial for large systems

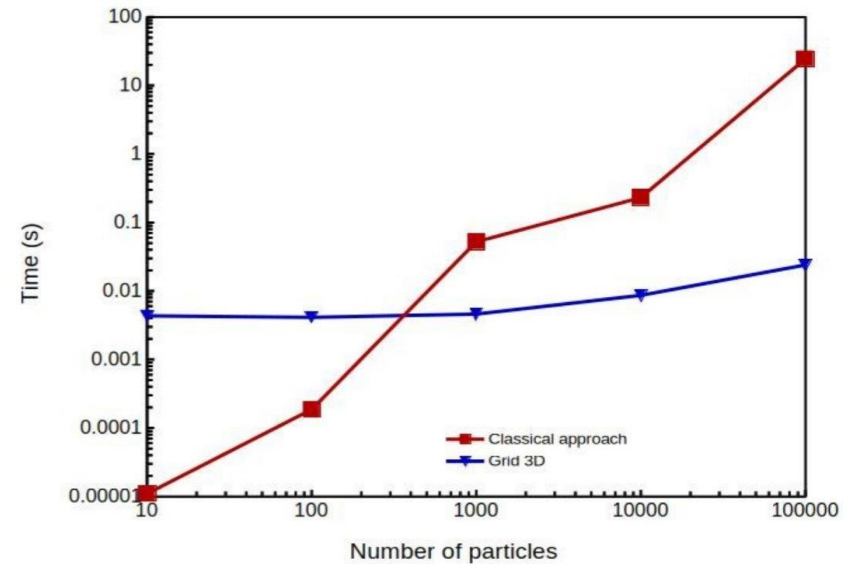
Case I: Intrablock halos



- Intrablock communications rely on searching against all particles if projected into a given region
- Maps are rebuilt if a single particle moves to a neighbor cell
- Grid exploitation can improve algorithms

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Case II: Random particle insertion



- Projection of particle into grid expedites overlap checks for adding new particles

Conclusions & Future plan

- The main features of a domain specific language are set
- Pending release of sequential and MPI versions

Future work

- First release of OPS-Particle via OPS github (<https://github.com/OP-DSL/OPS>) (End of September)
- Porting of particle maps to GPUs (October-End of November)
- Porting of particle iteration algorithms to GPUs (December-January)
- Testing and Benchmark cases (February-March)
- Development of Mercury-OPS (September-March)



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Thank you

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