

Partitioning and Divide-and-Conquer Strategies

Partitioning

Partitioning simply divides the problem into parts.

Divide and Conquer

Characterized by dividing problem into sub-problems of same form as larger problem. Further divisions into still smaller sub-problems, usually done by recursion.

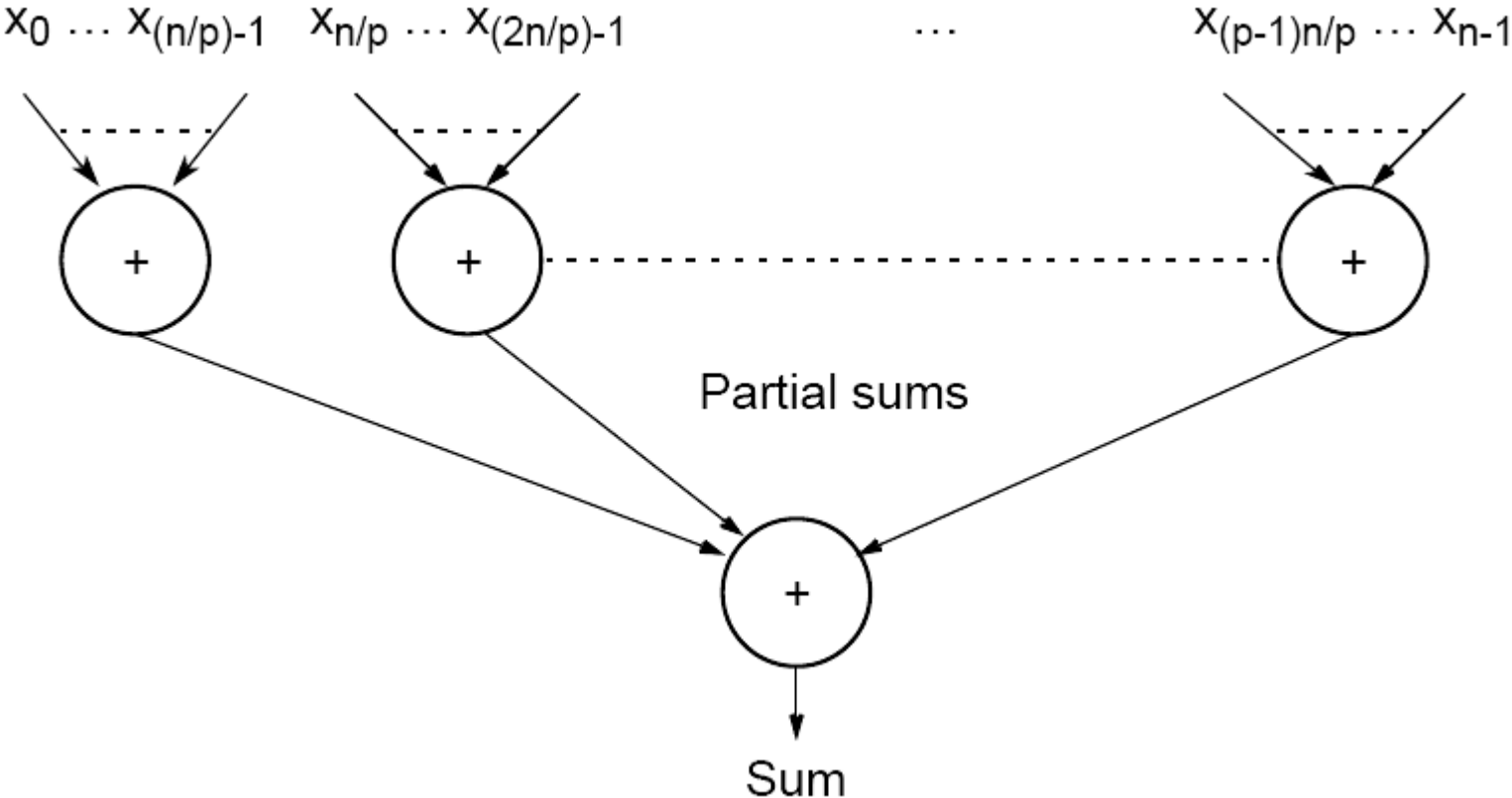
Recursive divide and conquer amenable to parallelization because separate processes can be used for divided parts. Also usually data is naturally localized.

Partitioning/Divide and Conquer Examples

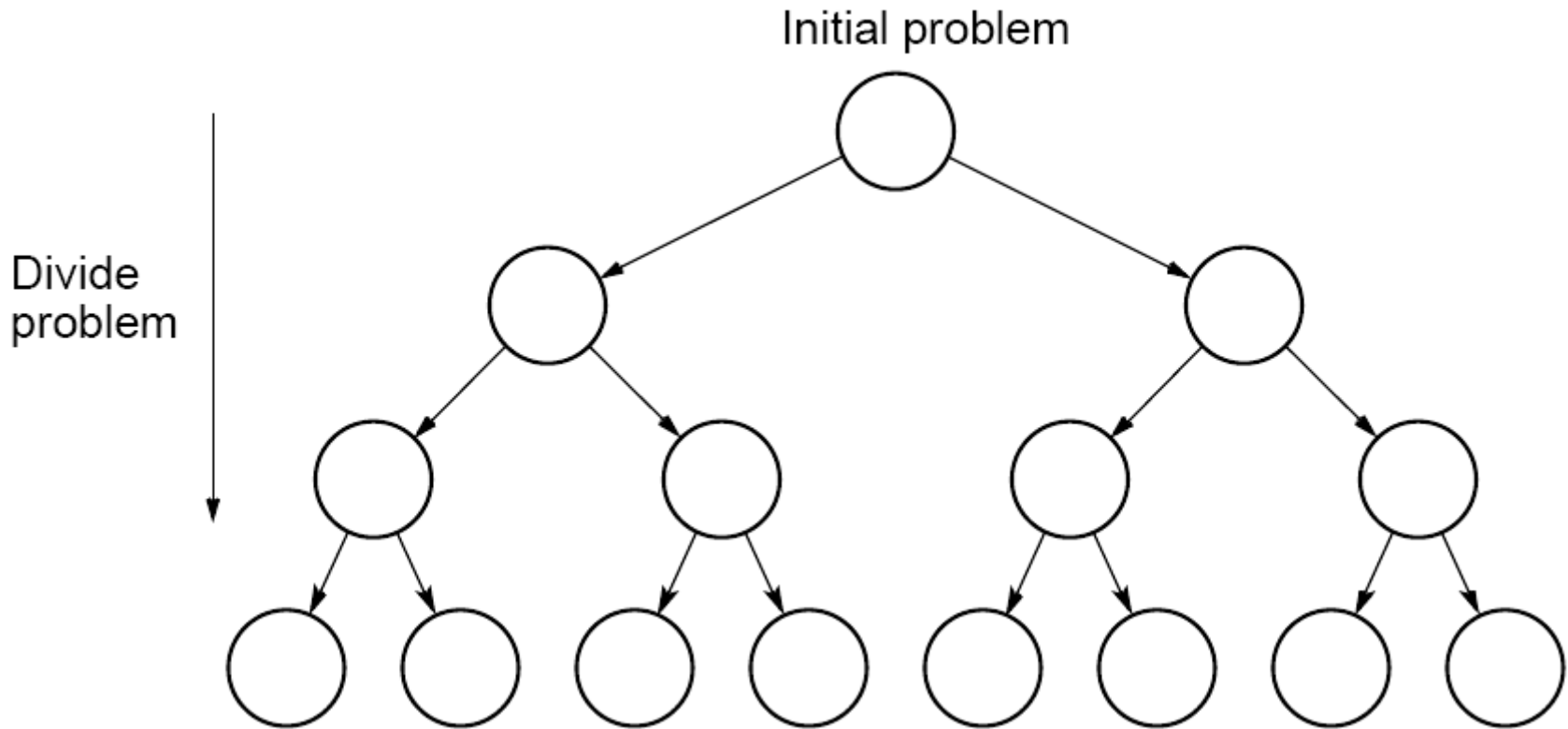
Many possibilities.

- Operations on sequences of number such as simply adding them together
- Several sorting algorithms can often be partitioned or constructed in a recursive fashion
- Numerical integration
- N -body problem

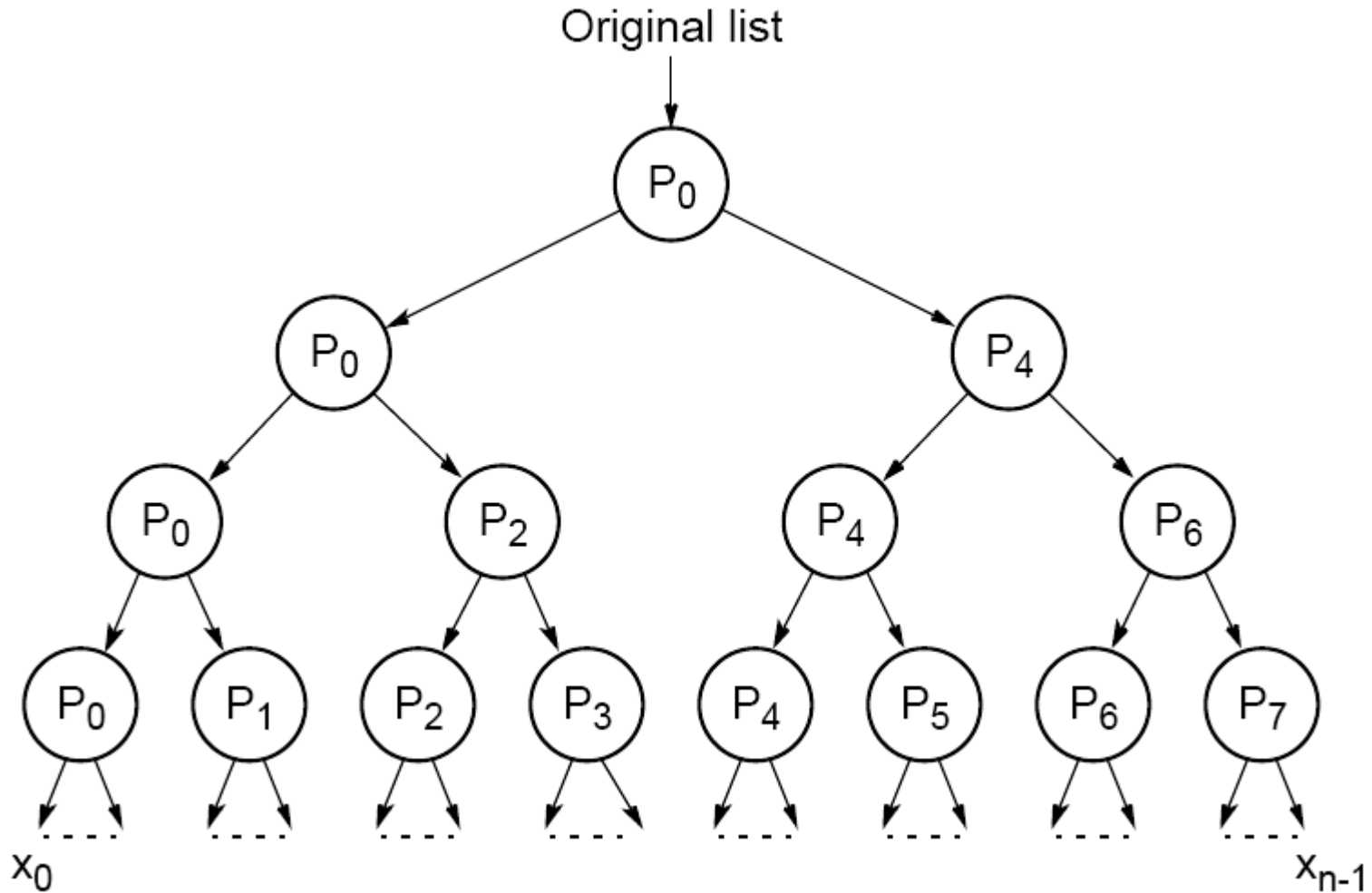
Partitioning a sequence of numbers into parts and adding the parts



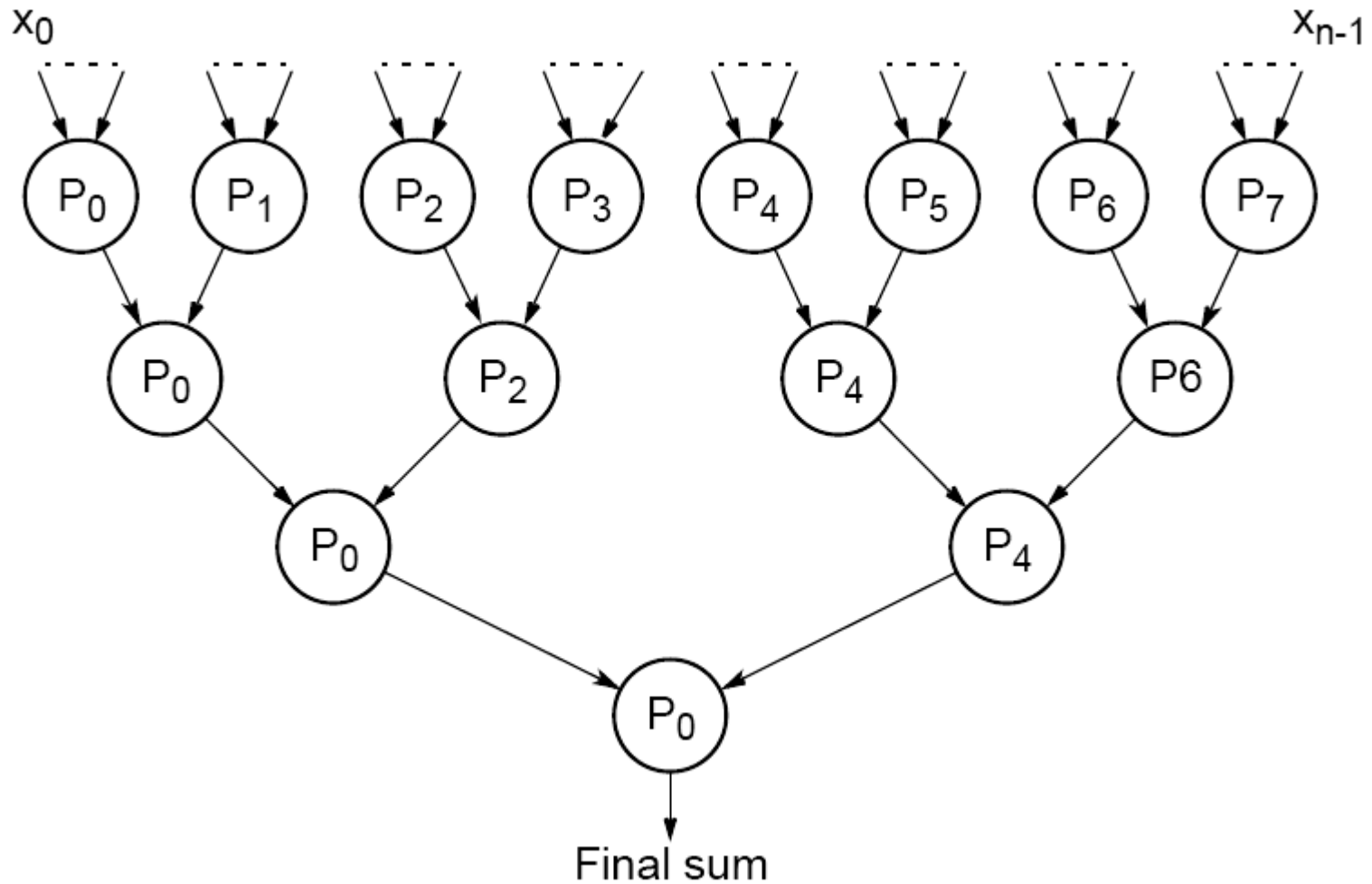
Tree construction



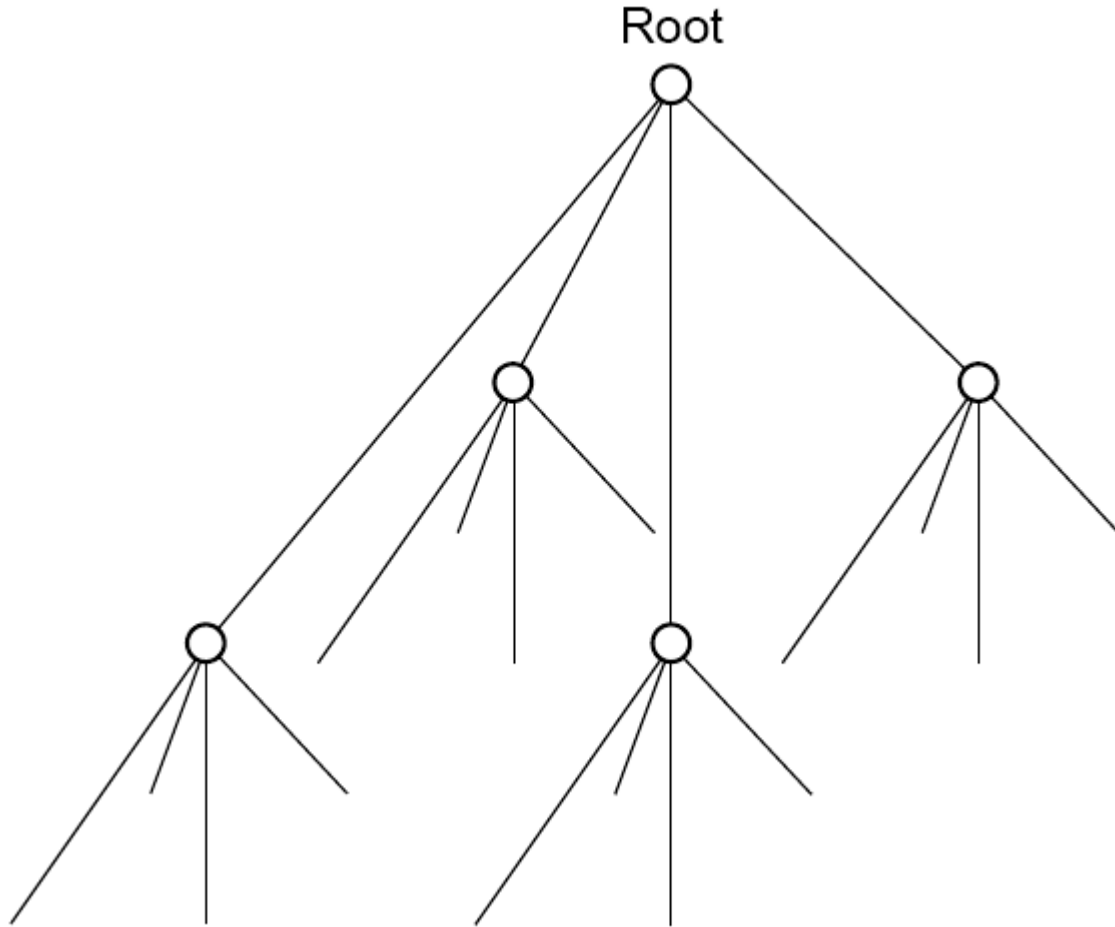
Dividing a list into parts



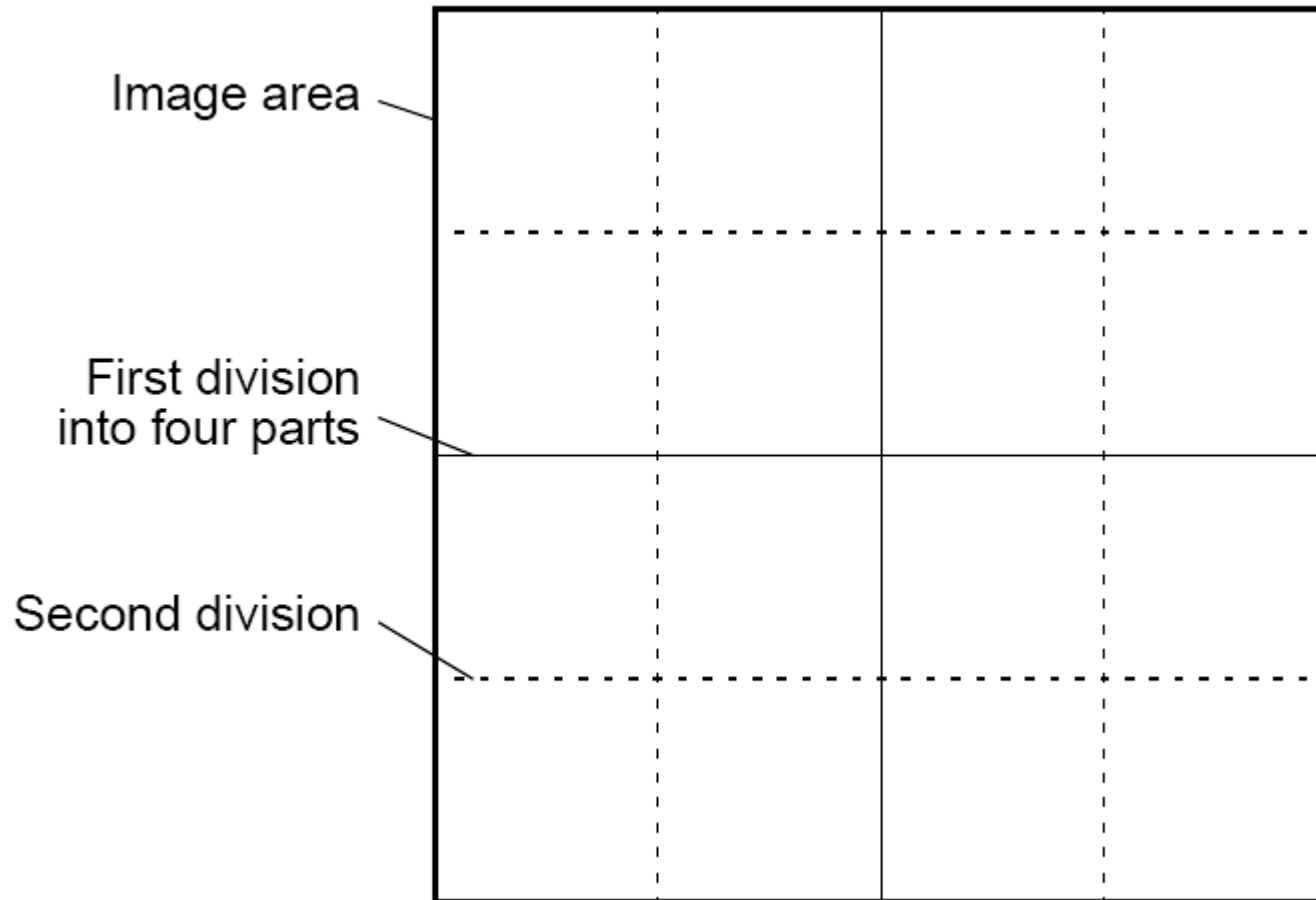
Partial summation



Quadtree

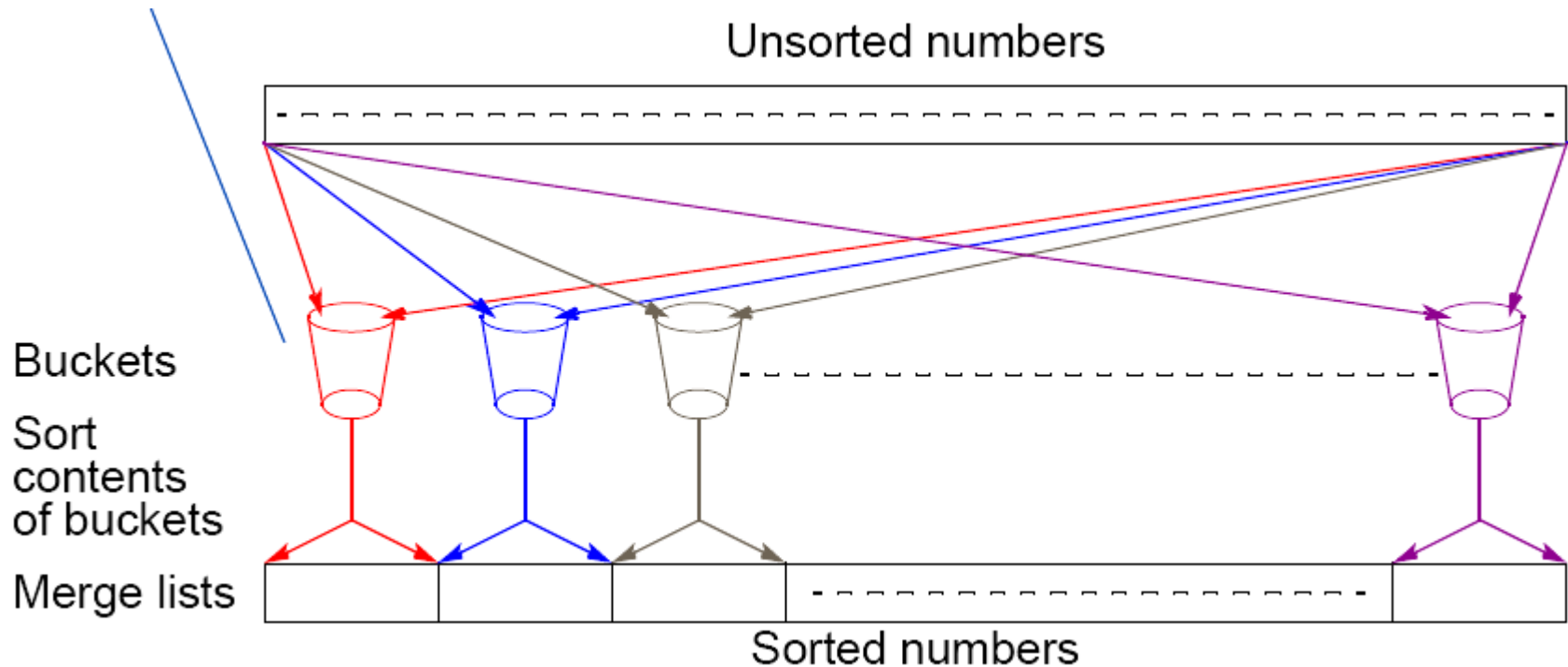


Dividing an image



Bucket sort

One “bucket” assigned to hold numbers that fall within each region.
Numbers in each bucket sorted using a sequential sorting algorithm.



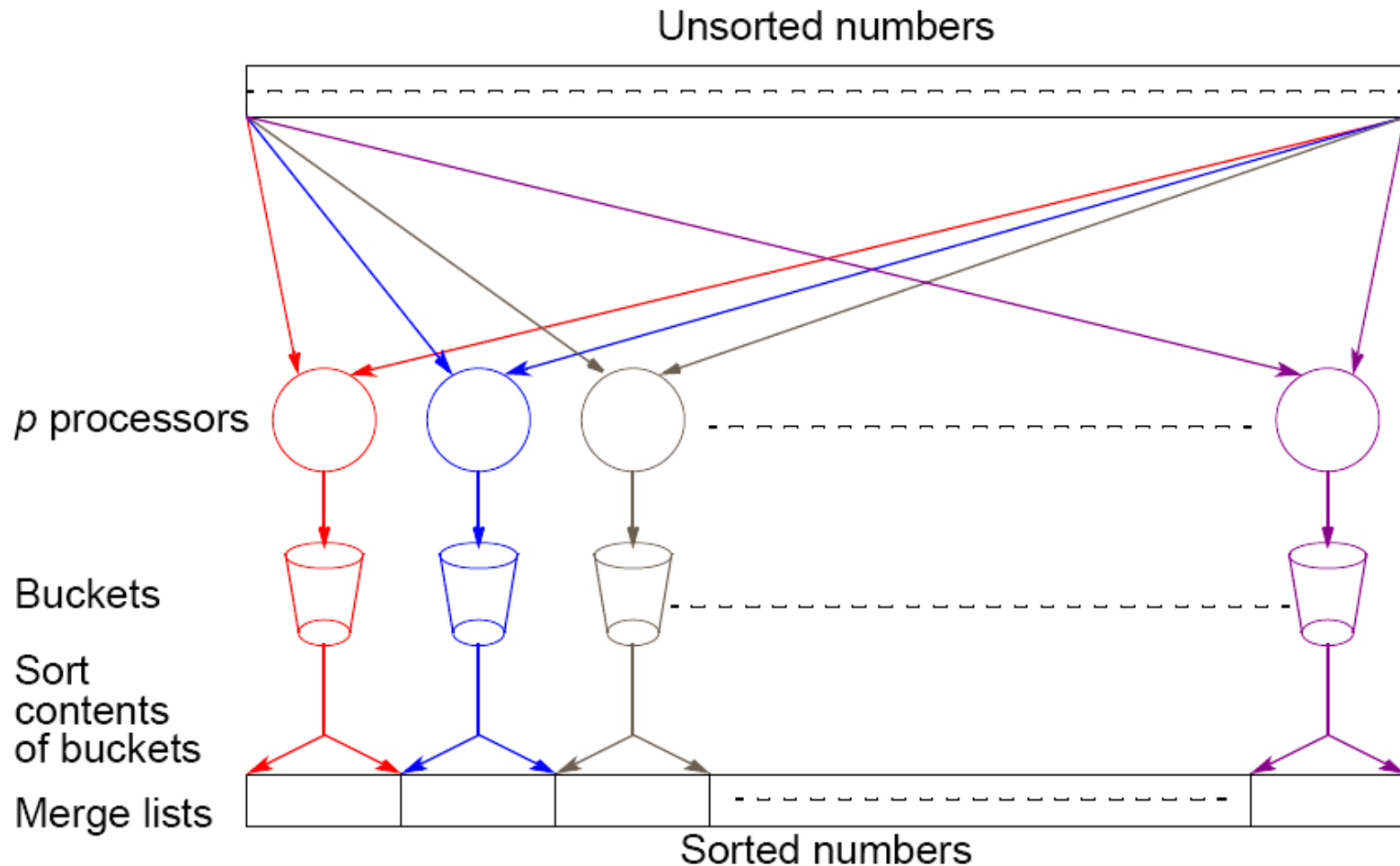
Sequential sorting time complexity: $O(n \log(n/m))$.

Works well if the original numbers uniformly distributed across a known interval, say 0 to $a - 1$.

Parallel version of bucket sort

Simple approach

Assign one processor for each bucket.



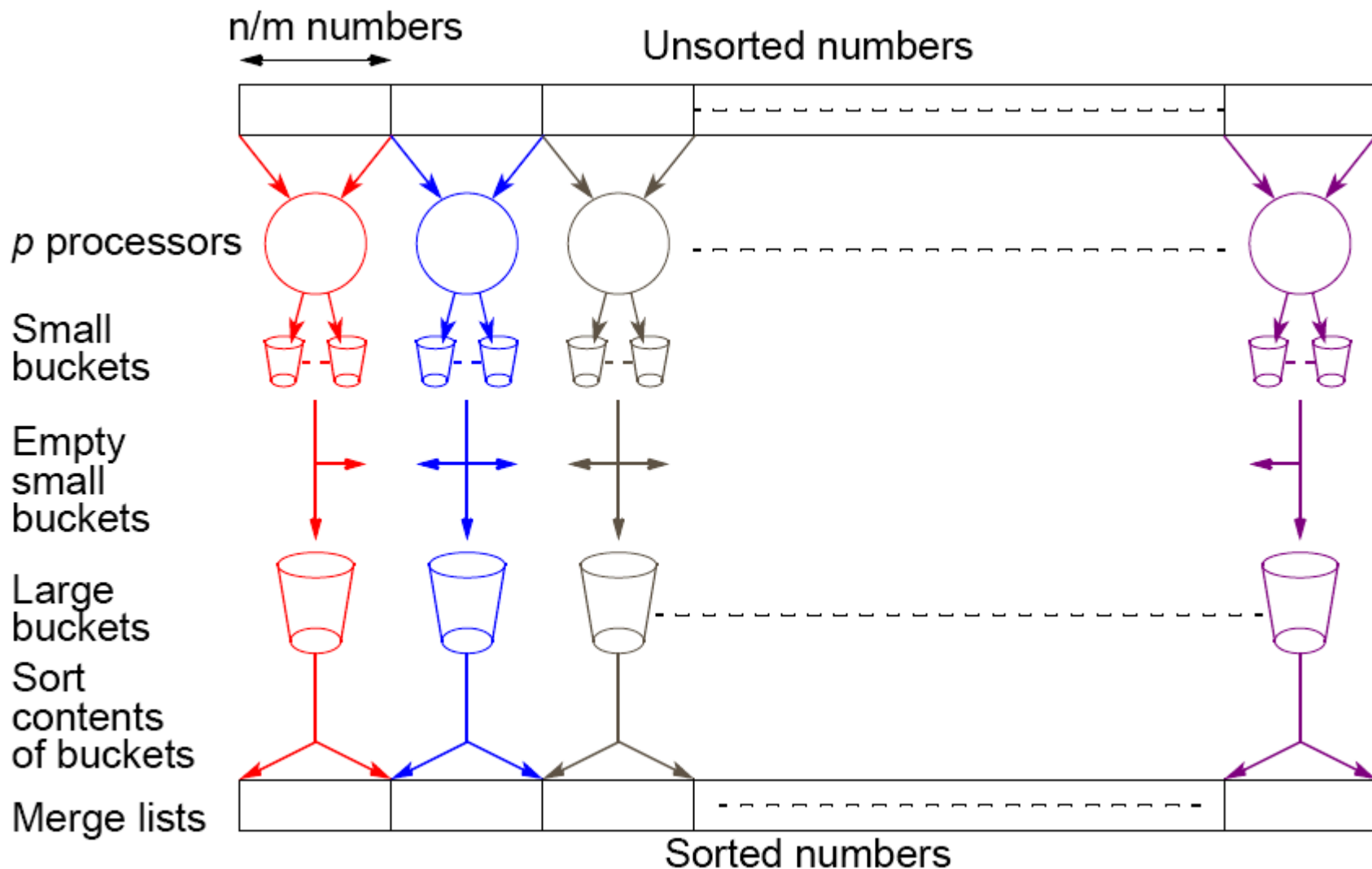
Further Parallelization

Partition sequence into m regions, one region for each processor.

Each processor maintains p “small” buckets and separates numbers in its region into its own small buckets.

Small buckets then emptied into p final buckets for sorting, which requires each processor to send one small bucket to each of the other processors (bucket i to processor i).

Another parallel version of bucket sort

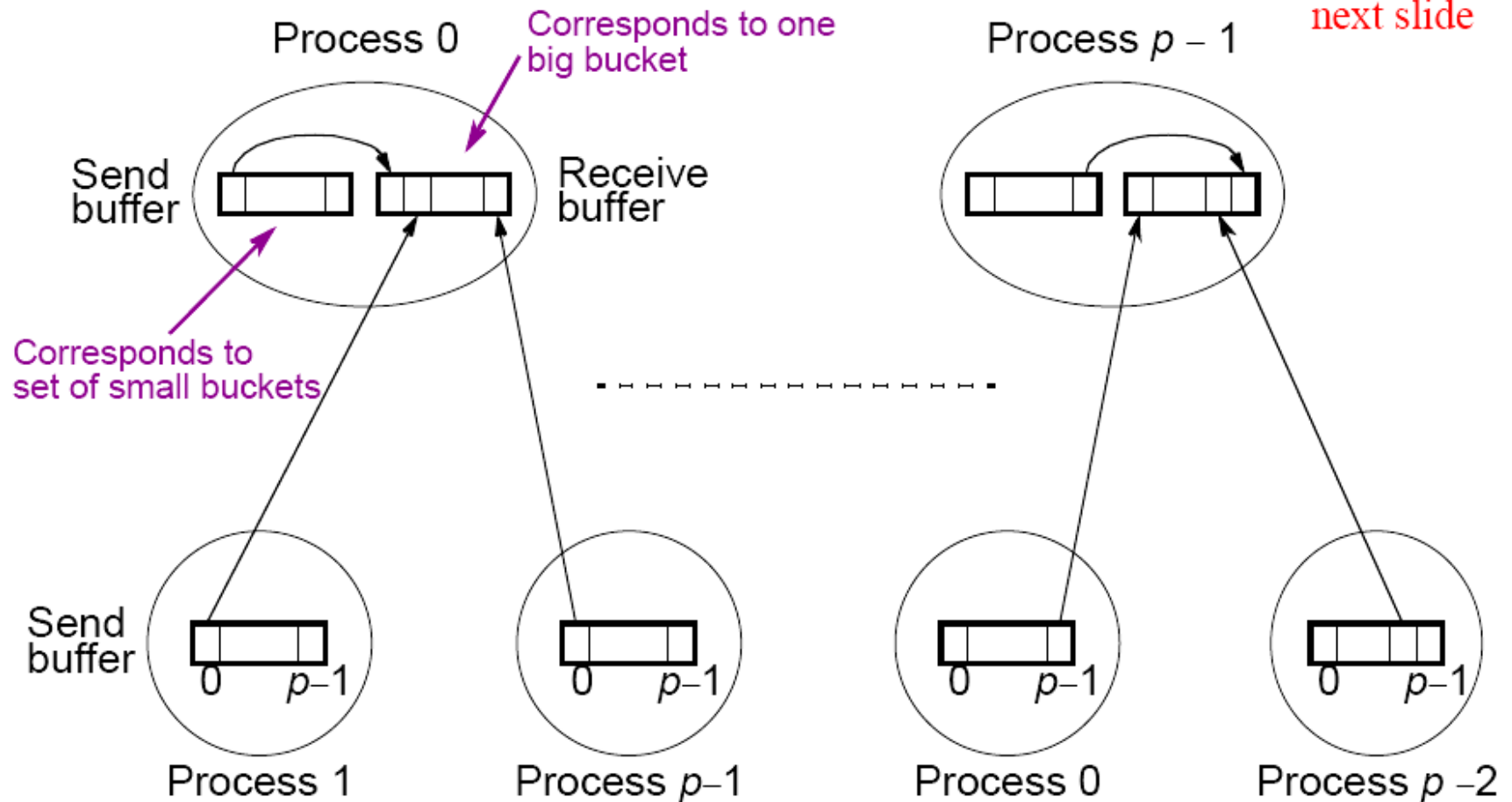


Introduces new message-passing operation - all-to-all broadcast.

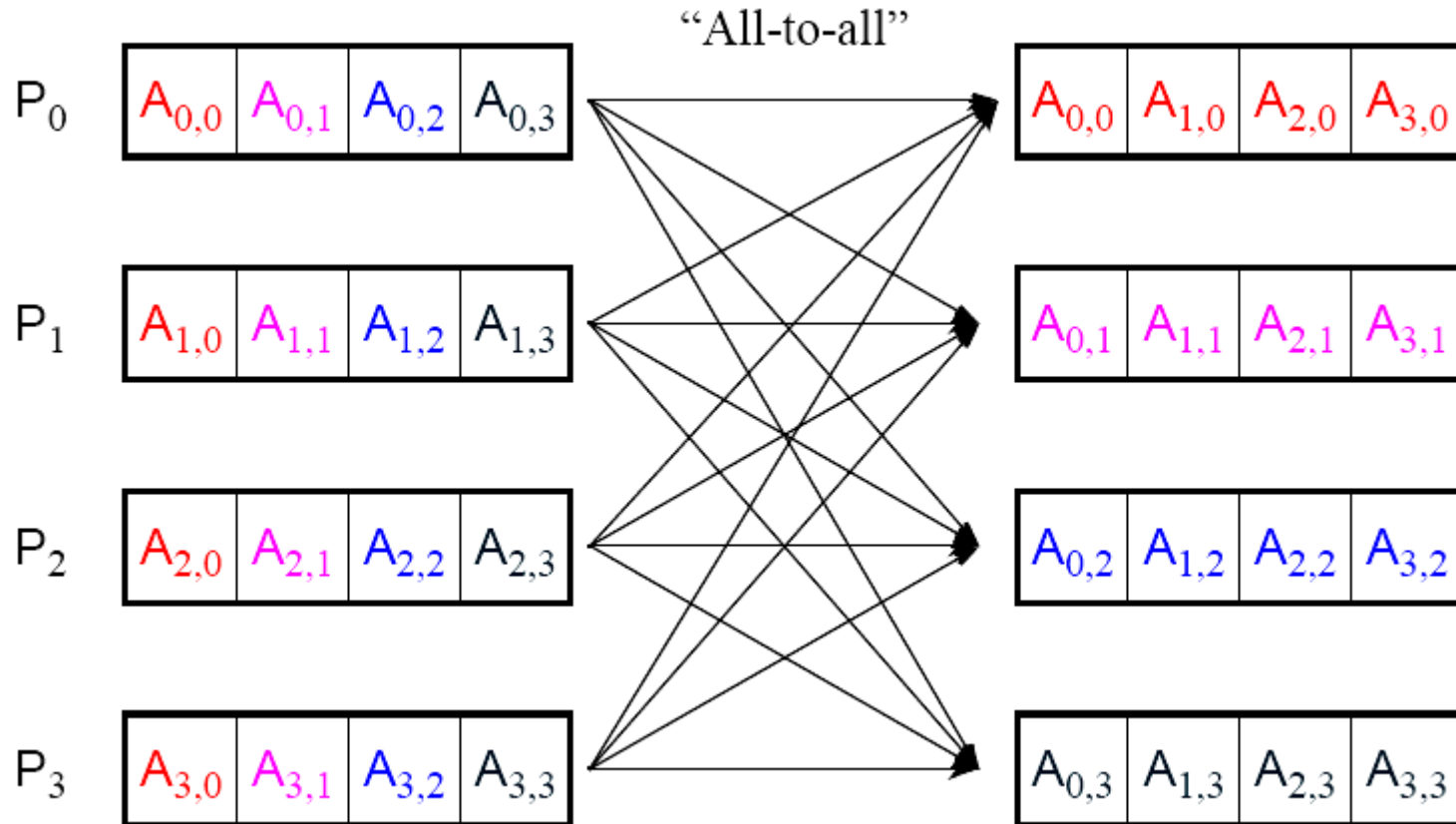
“all-to-all” broadcast routine

Sends data from each process to every other process

See also
next slide



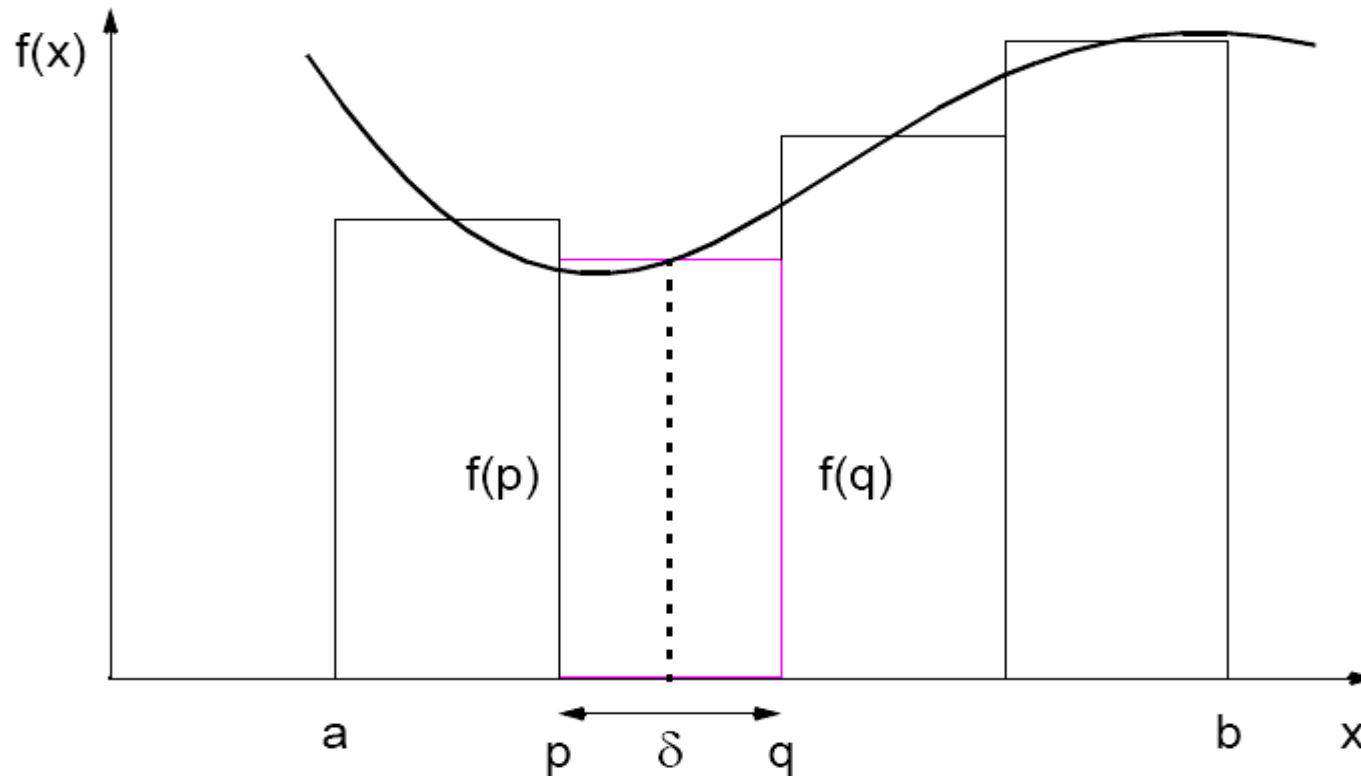
“all-to-all” routine actually transfers rows of an array to columns:
Transposes a matrix.



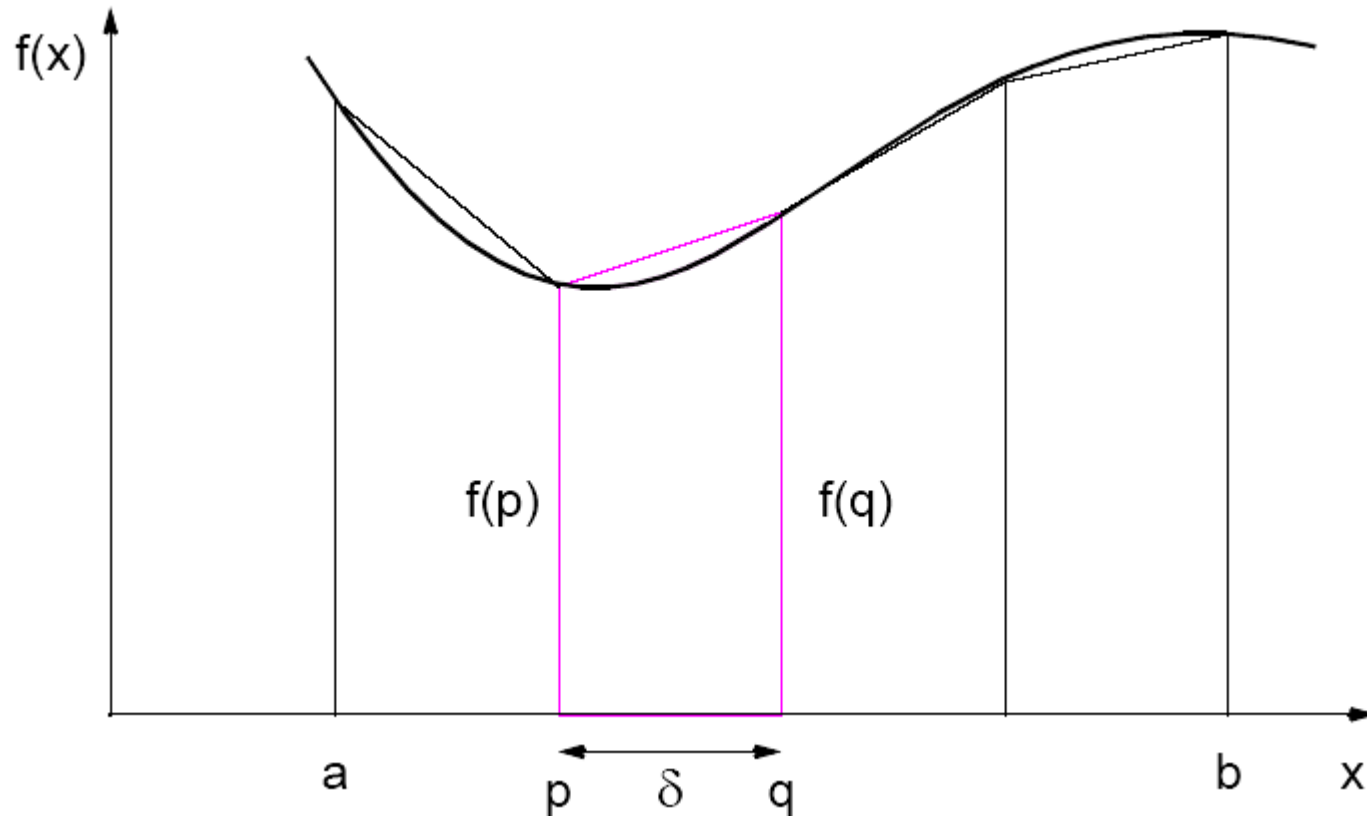
Numerical integration using rectangles

Each region calculated using an approximation given by rectangles:

Aligning the rectangles:



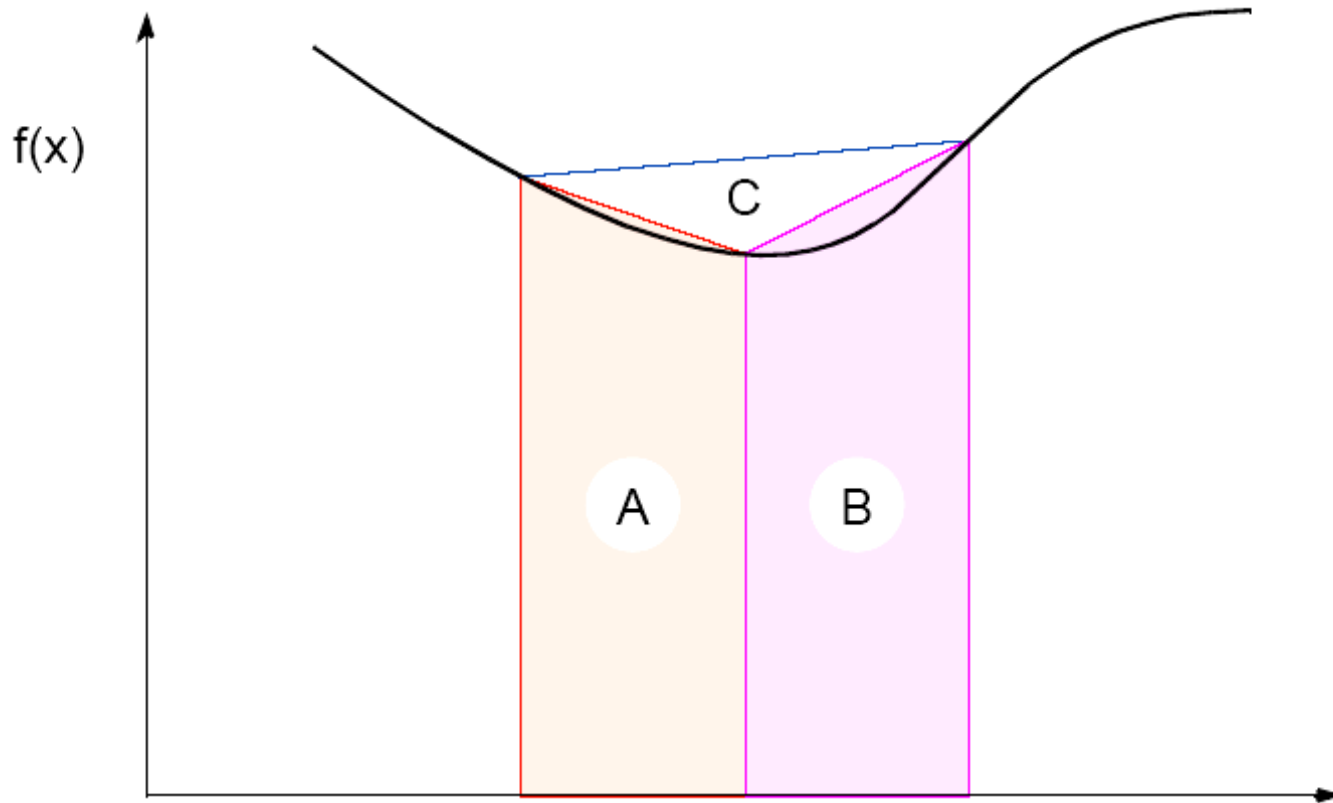
Numerical integration using trapezoidal method



May not be better!

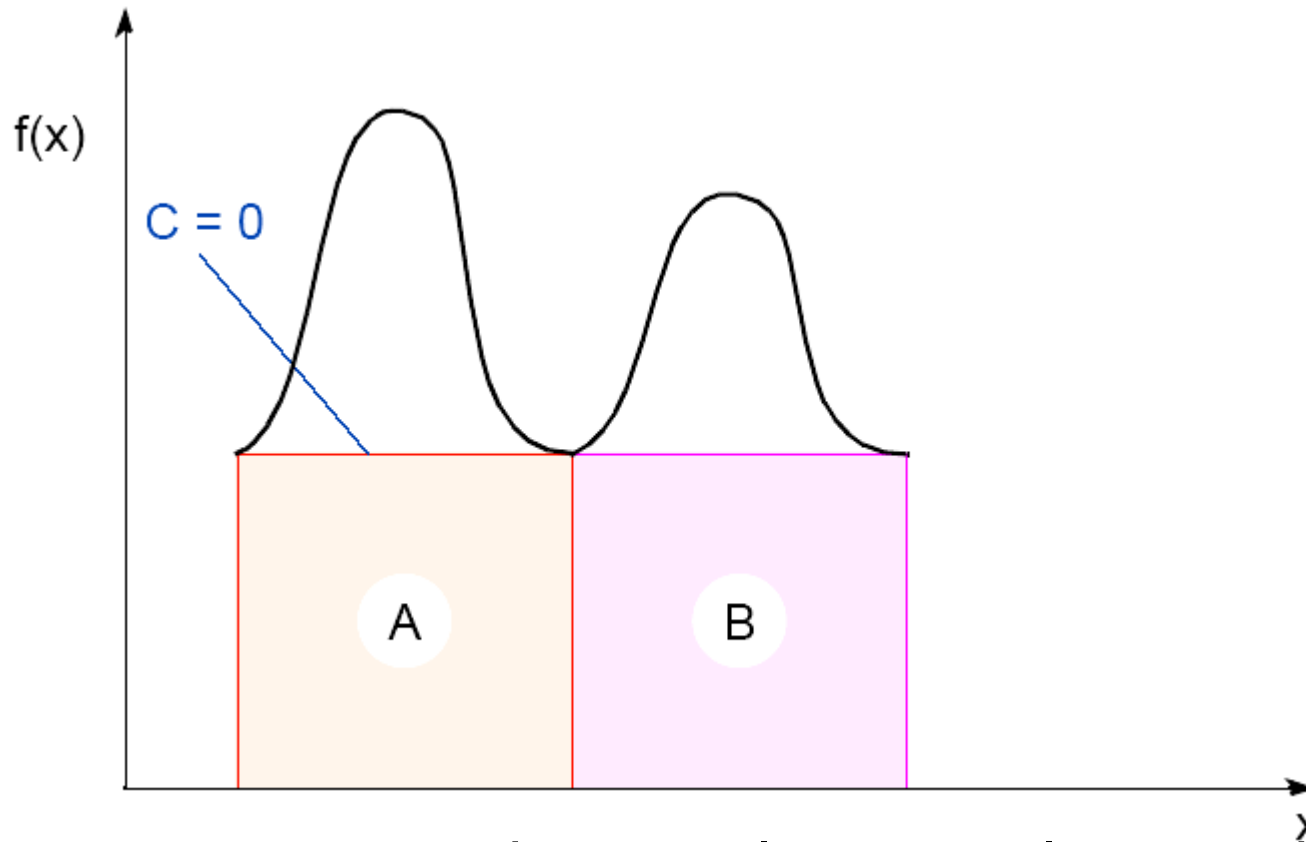
Adaptive Quadrature

Solution adapts to shape of curve. Use three areas, A , B , and C . Computation terminated when largest of A and B sufficiently close to sum of remain two areas .



Adaptive quadrature with false termination.

Some care might be needed in choosing when to terminate.



Might cause us to terminate early, as two large regions are the same (i.e., $C = 0$).

Gravitational *N*-Body Problem

Finding positions and movements of bodies in space subject to gravitational forces from other bodies, using Newtonian laws of physics.

Gravitational *N*-Body Problem Equations

Gravitational force between two bodies of masses m_a and m_b is:

$$F = \frac{Gm_a m_b}{r^2}$$

G is the gravitational constant and r the distance between the bodies. Subject to forces, body accelerates according to Newton's 2nd law:

$$F = ma$$

m is mass of the body, F is force it experiences, and a the resultant acceleration.

Details

Let the time interval be Δt . For a body of mass m , the force is:

$$F = \frac{m(v^{t+1} - v^t)}{\Delta t}$$

New velocity is:

$$v^{t+1} = v^t + \frac{F\Delta t}{m}$$

where v^{t+1} is the velocity at time $t + 1$ and v^t is the velocity at time t .

Over time interval Δt , position changes by

$$x^{t+1} - x^t = v\Delta t$$

where x^t is its position at time t .

Once bodies move to new positions, forces change.

Computation has to be repeated.

Sequential Code

Overall gravitational N -body computation can be described by:

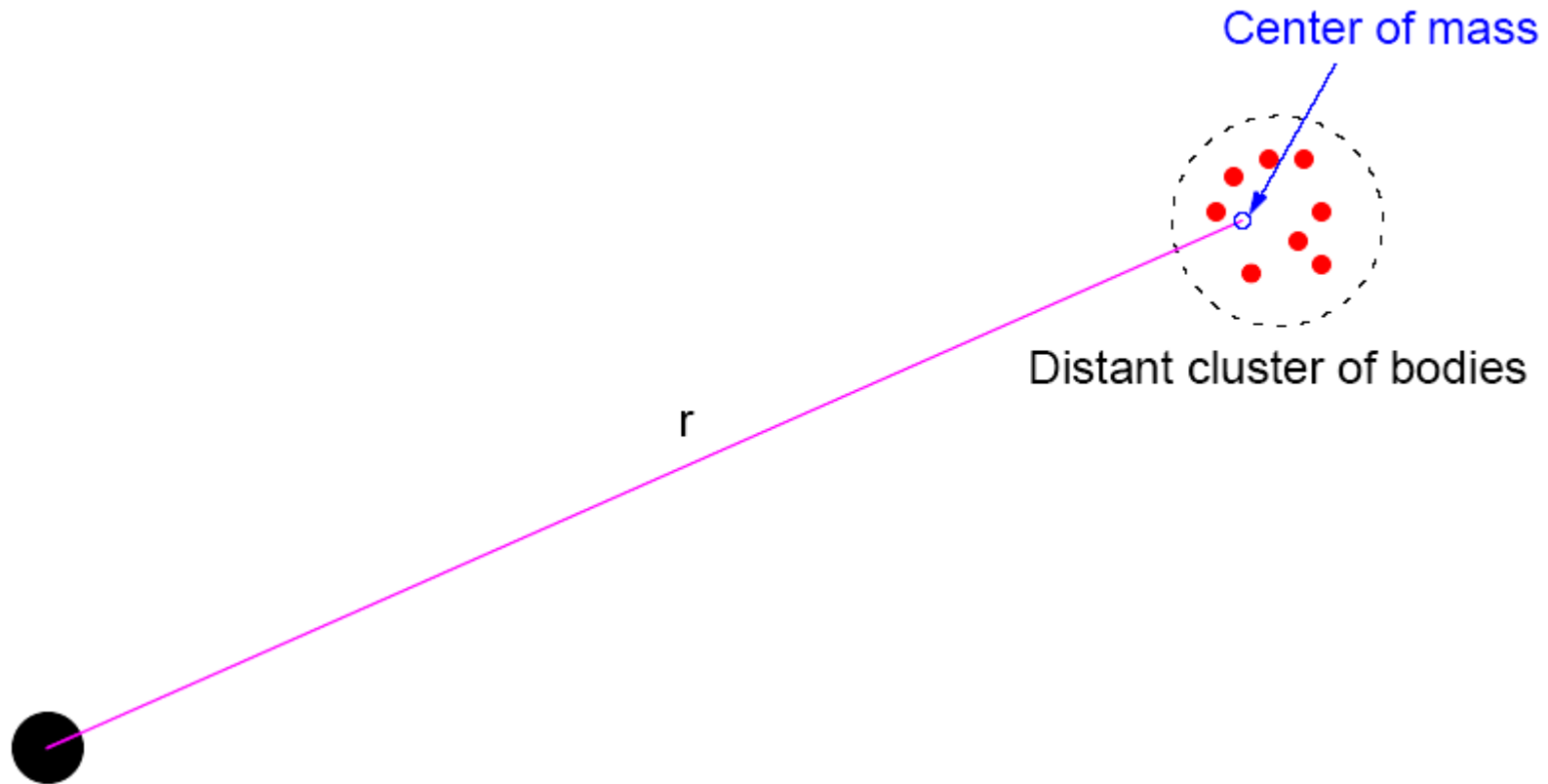
```
for (t = 0; t < tmax; t++)           /* for each time period */
  for (i = 0; i < N; i++) {          /* for each body */
    F = Force_routine(i);           /* compute force on ith body */
    v[i]new = v[i] + F * dt / m;    /* compute new velocity */
    x[i]new = x[i] + v[i]new * dt;  /* and new position */
  }
for (i = 0; i < nmax; i++) {        /* for each body */
  x[i] = x[i]new;                  /* update velocity & position */
  v[i] = v[i]new;
}
```

Parallel Code

The sequential algorithm is an $O(N^2)$ algorithm (for one iteration) as each of the N bodies is influenced by each of the other $N - 1$ bodies.

Not feasible to use this direct algorithm for most interesting N -body problems where N is very large.

Time complexity can be reduced approximating a cluster of distant bodies as a single distant body with mass sited at the center of mass of the cluster:



Barnes-Hut Algorithm

Start with whole space in which one cube contains the bodies (or particles).

- First, this cube is divided into eight subcubes.
- If a subcube contains no particles, subcube deleted from further consideration.
- If a subcube contains one body, subcube retained.
- If a subcube contains more than one body, it is recursively divided until every subcube contains one body.

Creates an *octtree* - a tree with up to eight edges from each node.

The leaves represent cells each containing one body.

After the tree has been constructed, the total mass and center of mass of the subcube is stored at each node.

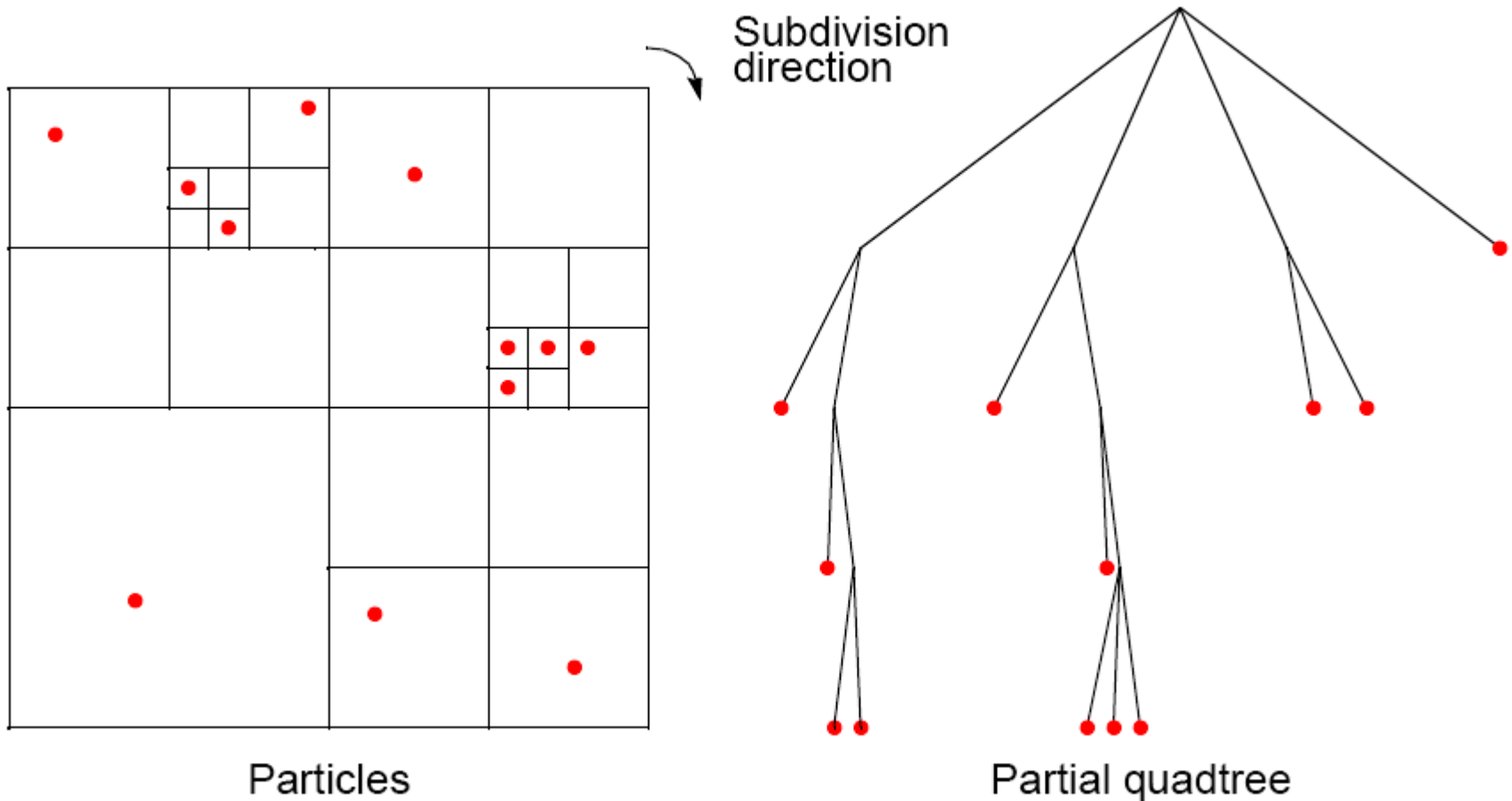
Force on each body obtained by traversing tree starting at root, stopping at a node when the clustering approximation can be used, e.g. when:

$$r \geq \frac{d}{\bar{\theta}}$$

where $\bar{\theta}$ is a constant typically 1.0 or less.

Constructing tree requires a time of $O(n \log n)$, and so does computing all the forces, so that overall time complexity of method is $O(n \log n)$.

Recursive division of 2-dimensional space



Orthogonal Recursive Bisection

(For 2-dimensional area) First, a vertical line found that divides area into two areas each with equal number of bodies. For each area, a horizontal line found that divides it into two areas each with equal number of bodies. Repeated as required.

