

# Parallel Performance of VASP: CPU and GPU

Alireza Ghasemi

Erlangen National High Performance Computing Center

Monthly HPC Café, Erlangen, Nov. 21, 2023



# Kohn-Sham Density Functional Theory

Kohn-Sham energy functional:

$$E[\{\phi_i\}] = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{orb}} \int \phi_i^*(\mathbf{r}) \nabla^2 \phi_i(\mathbf{r}) d^3r + \int V_{ext}(\mathbf{r}) \rho(\mathbf{r}) d^3r + \frac{1}{2} \int \int \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}) \rho(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} d^3r d^3r' + E_{xc}[\rho]$$

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{orb}} f_i |\phi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2$$

$$\frac{\delta E[\rho]}{\delta \phi_i(\mathbf{r})} = 0 \quad \xrightarrow{\text{yields}} \quad \text{Kohn-Sham eigenvalue problem}$$

Computation cost:

- Basis set: type and size
- Number of KS orbitals
- Exchange-correlation energy ( $E_{xc}$ ): conventional vs. hybrid functional

# Vienna Ab initio Simulation Package (VASP)

---

Computational complexity of major tasks in VASP: plane-wave codes

- Application of Hamiltonian:
  - FFT:  $O(N^2 \log(N))$
  - Potential:  $O(N^2)$
  - Nonlocal part of the pseudopotential:  $O(N^2)$  or  $O(N^3)$
- Diagonalization  $O(N^3)$

# Vienna Ab initio Simulation Package (VASP)

## Degrees of freedom within optimization:

- FFTs: coefficients, `NCORE`
- Number of orbitals: `MPI groups`
- K-points: `KPAR`

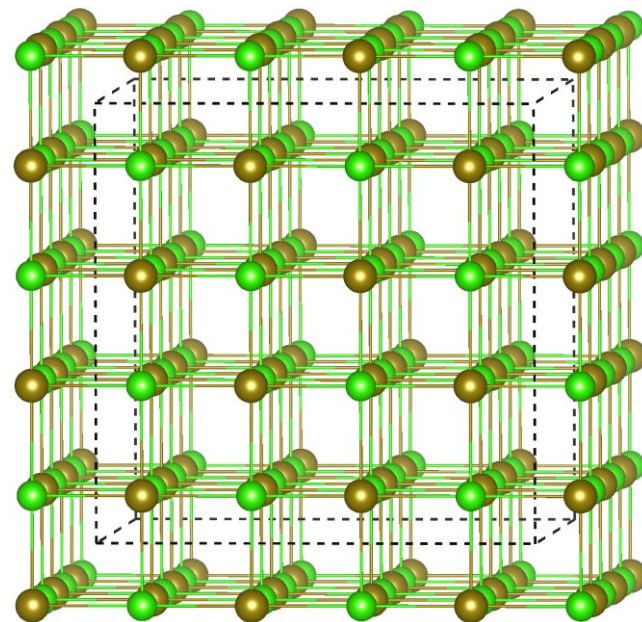
## VASP makes decisions on top of users':

- Number of orbitals,  $\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{orb}} f_i |\phi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2$
- `NCORE`: Parallel efficiency and Memory requirement
- `LREAL=Auto` , `RHOP=1.E-4` ,  $O(N^2)$  or  $O(N^3)$
- Different versions of VASP!

# Simulation supercells

## The systems in this benchmark:

- Three supercells of rocksalt bulk sodium chloride:
  - System(I): #atoms=64 ; #electrons=2\*224
  - System(II): #atoms=512 ; #electrons=2\*1792
  - System(III): #atoms=1728 ; #electrons=2\*6048
- ~~Tiny~~ – Small – Medium – Large - ~~Huge~~
- System(I) with 2x2x2 k-points with `ISYM=0`  
and `KPAR=1`, the rest with no k-point.
- Relaxed geometry with PBE from:
  - <https://next-gen.materialsproject.org>



# HPC clusters & systems at NHR@FAU

## HPC clusters used in this benchmark

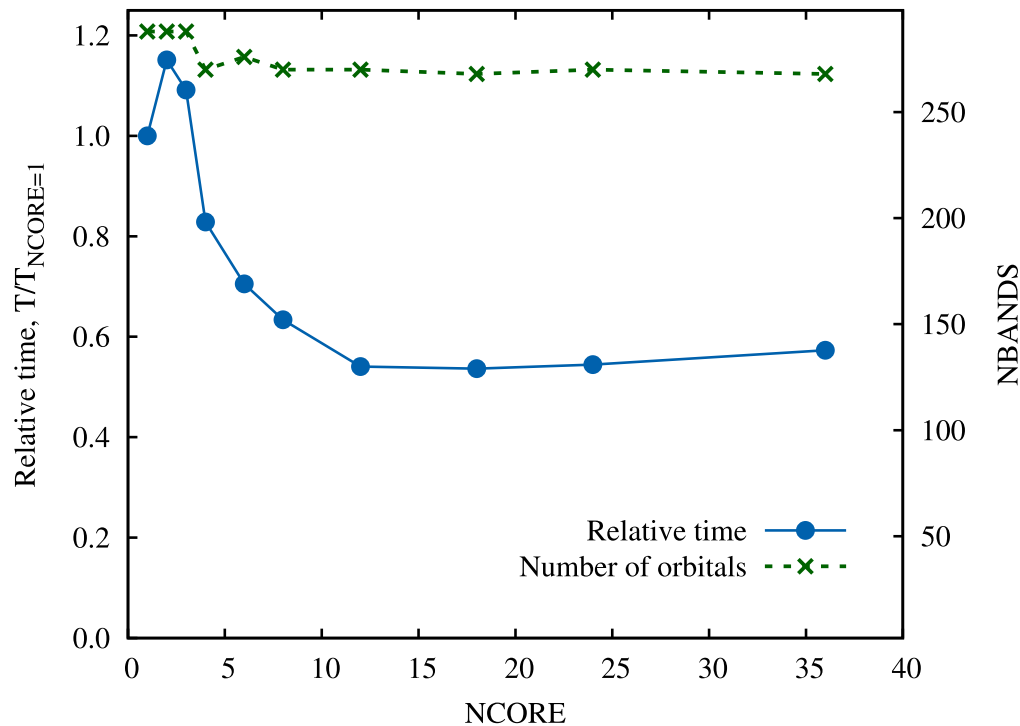
- Fritz Ice-Lake
  - Two Intel Xeon Platinum 8360Y, base frequency 2.4 GHz
  - 54 MB shared L3 cache per chip
  - 256 GB of DDR4 RAM
- Alex
  - A40: 48 GB DDR6, 696 GB/s, 37.42 TFlop/s in FP32
  - A100: 40 GB HBM2, 1,555 GB/s, 9.7 TFlop/s in FP64 or 19.5 TFlop/s in FP32
  - A100: 80 GB HBM2, 2,039 GB/s, 9.7 TFlop/s in FP64 or 19.5 TFlop/s in FP32

# VASP: version, compilation, and libraries

- On Fritz:
  - VASP-6.3.2
  - Intel Compiler, MPI, and MKL
- On Alex:
  - VASP-6.3.0
  - NVHPC Compiler, openmpi CUDA-enabled, Intel MKL
  - NVIDIA NCCL
- All calculations with
  - Standard binary: `vasp_std`
  - ENCUT=500 eV

# PBE: Impact of NCORE

## System(I) on 1 node (72 cores)



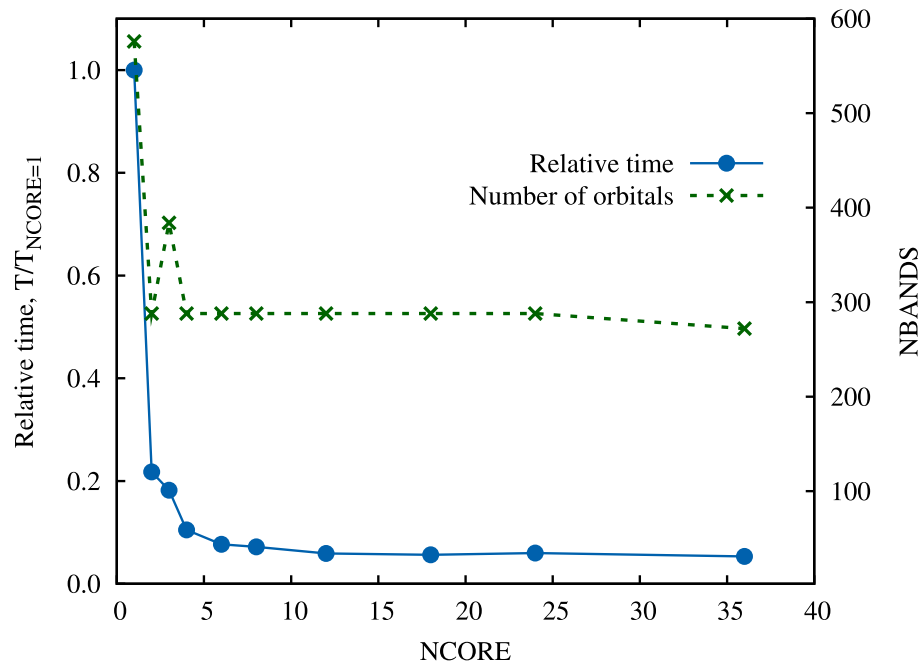
NCORE is **not** the number of CPU cores!



# PBE: Impact of NCORE

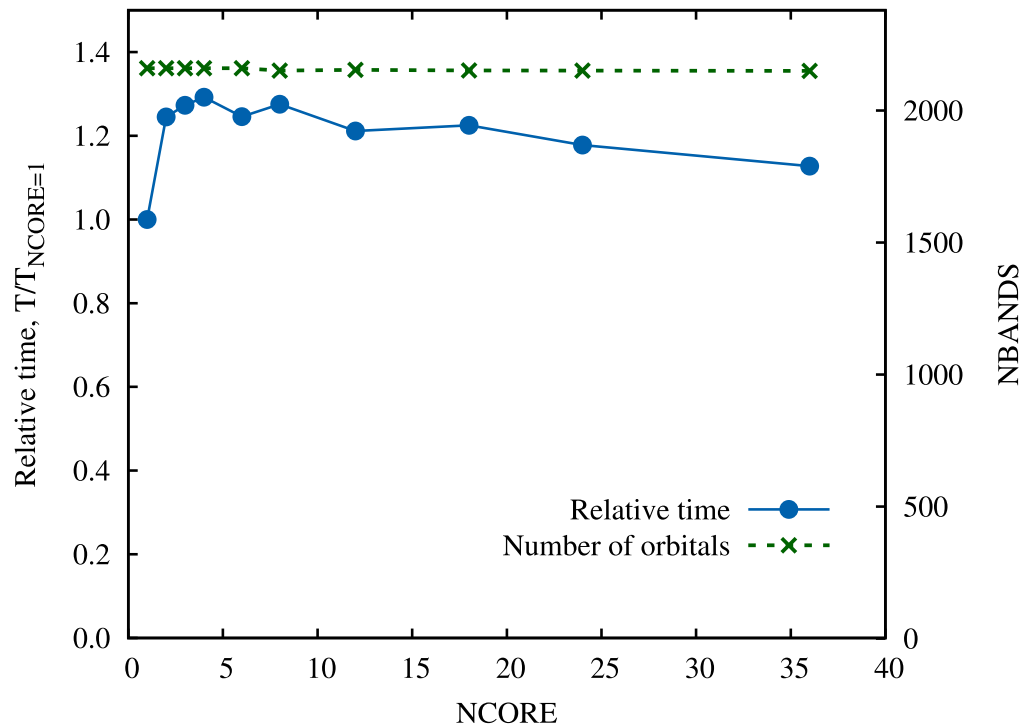
## System(I) on 8 nodes (576 cores)

- $\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{orb}} f_i |\phi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2$
- Occupied orbitals: 224
  - Default: 1.2\*224
- $T_{N_{CORE}=4} / T_{N_{CORE}=36} \approx 2$



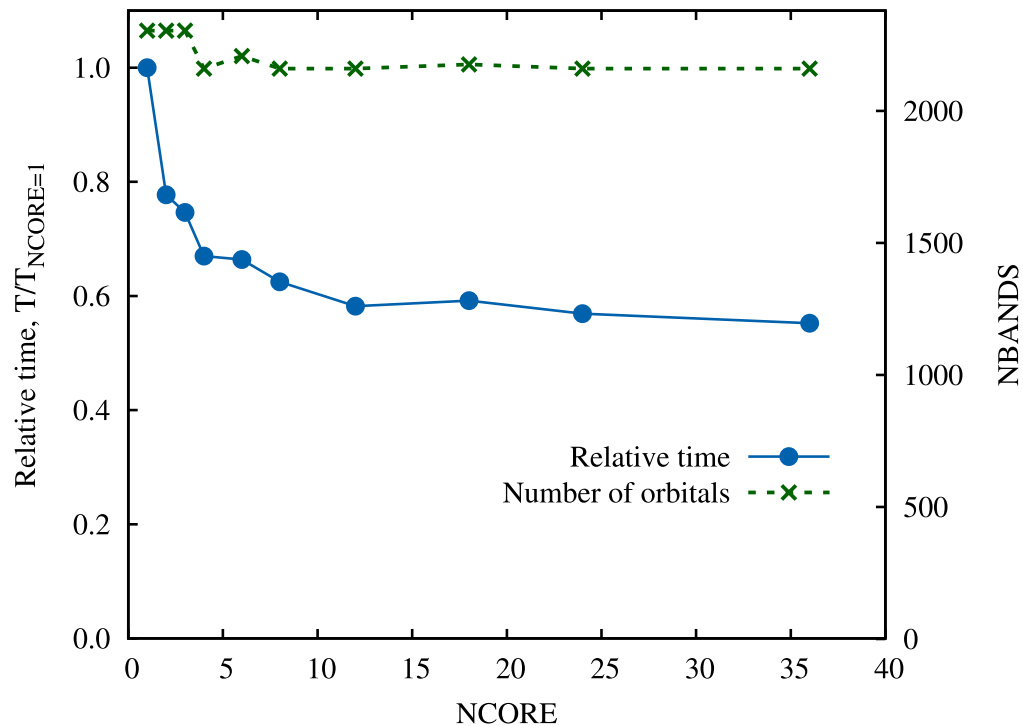
# PBE: Impact of NCORE

## System(II) on 1 node (72 cores)



# PBE: Impact of NCORE

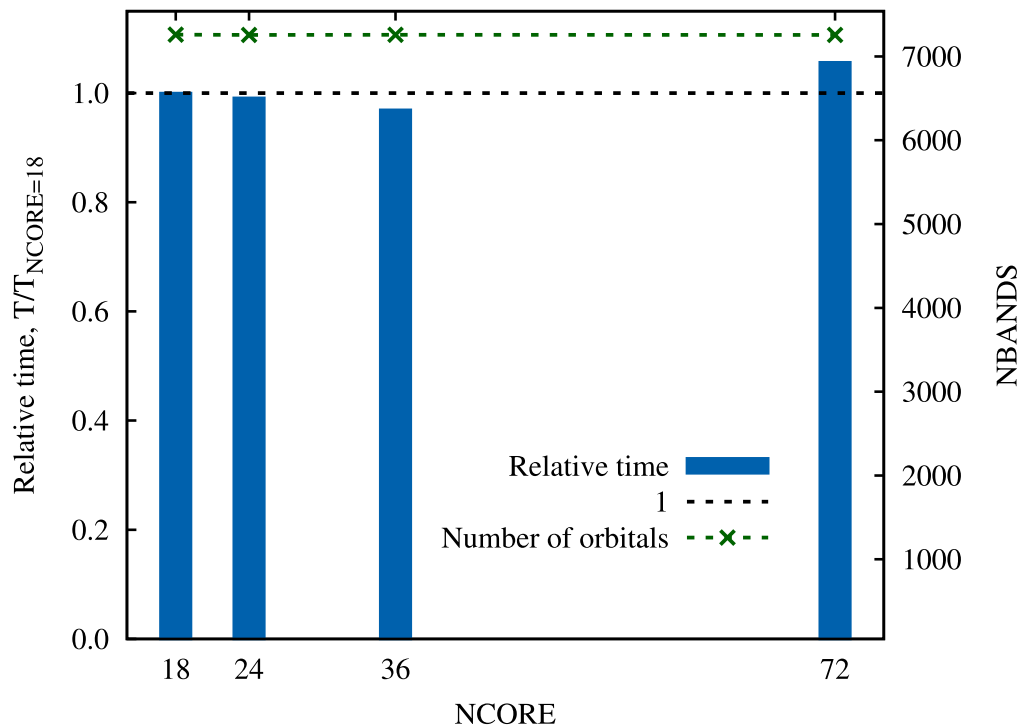
## System(II) on 8 nodes (576 cores)



# PBE: Impact of NCORE

## System(III) on 1 node (72 cores)

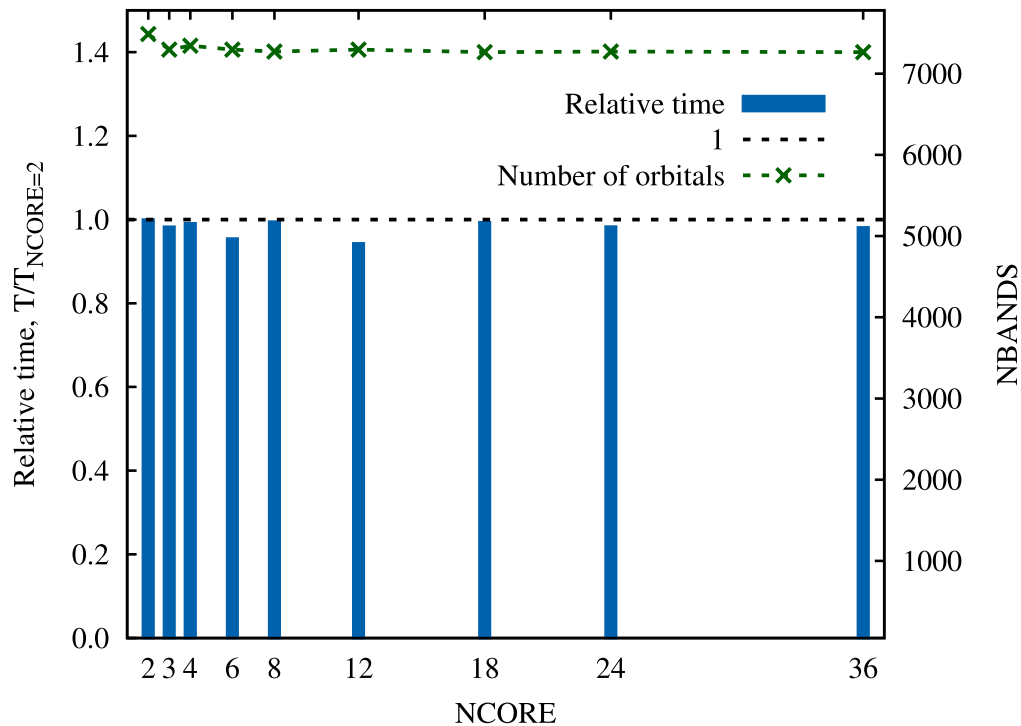
- Insufficient memory for NCORE<18



# PBE: Impact of NCORE

## System(III) on 8 nodes (576 cores)

- Insufficient memory for NCORE=1



# Roofline analysis

## System(III): MPI-only on one node

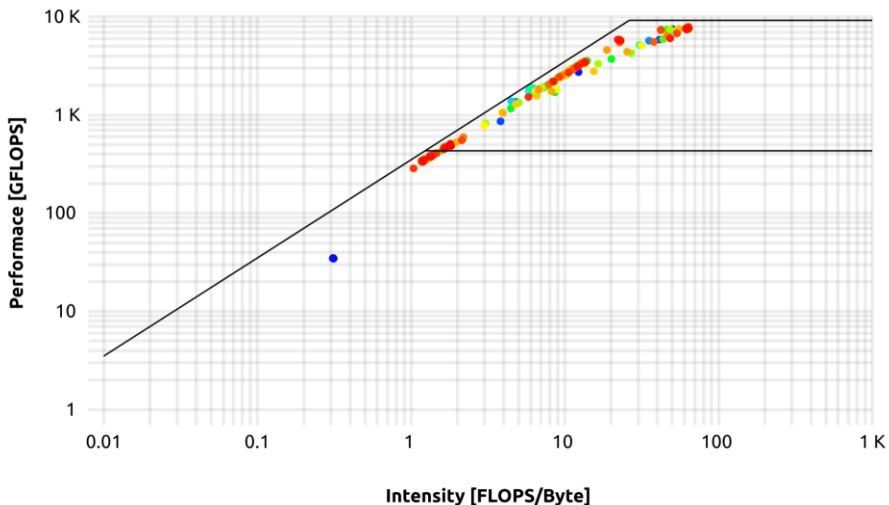
- Screenshot from ClusterCockpit:

<https://monitoring.nhr.fau.de>



- Average performance

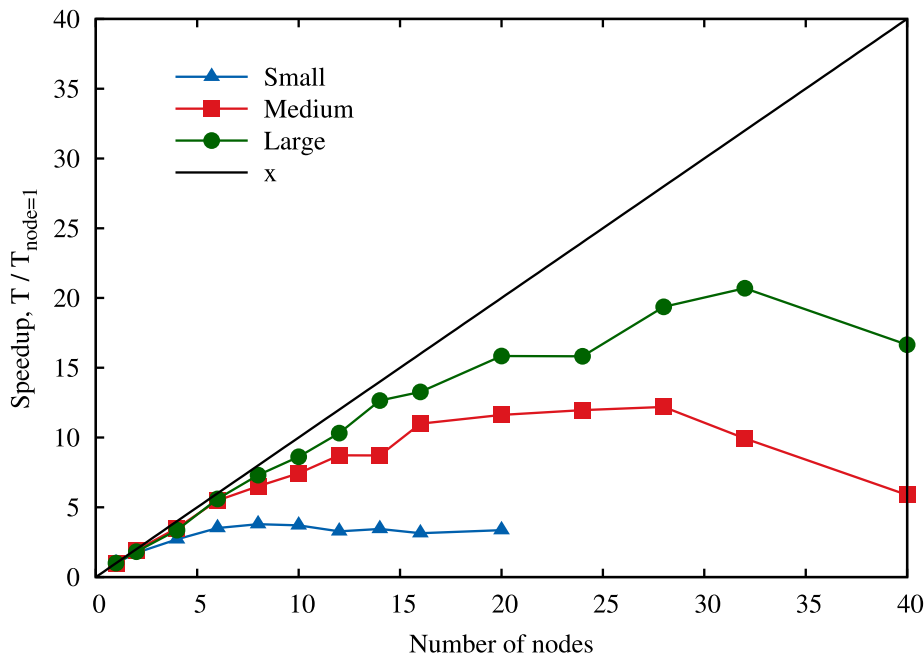
- 1169 GFLOPS
- 258 GB/s
- 4.5 FLOP/Byte



# PBE: MPI parallelization

## Parallel performance on Fritz with MPI-only

- NCORE=36
- No drastic change in NBANDS
- Fritz nodes are exclusive!
- Parallel efficiency < 0.8:
  - System(I): nodes  $\geq 4$
  - System(II): nodes  $\geq 10$
  - System(III): nodes  $\geq 24$



# PBE: hybrid parallelization

## Parallel performance on Fritz with OpenMP

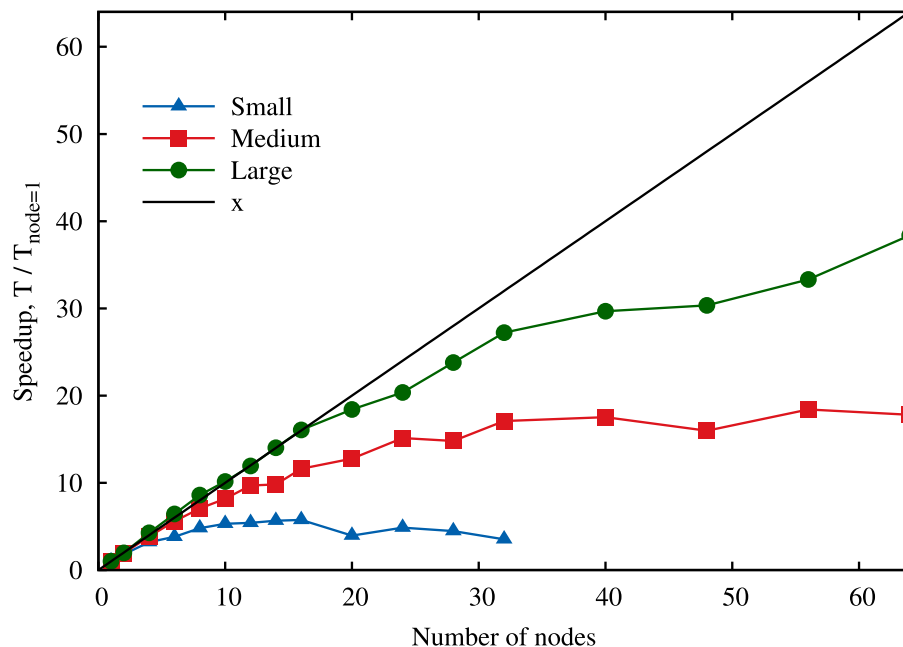
- NCORE=1

```
OMP_NUM_THREADS=18
```

- ```
export OMP_PLACES=sockets
```

```
export OMP_PROC_BIND=close
```

- Drastic change in NBANDS for system(I) with nodes>14
- Improved speedup over MPI-only but not necessarily faster!
- Parallel efficiency < 0.8: Systems (I), (II), and (III): nodes>= 6, 14, and 40, respectively

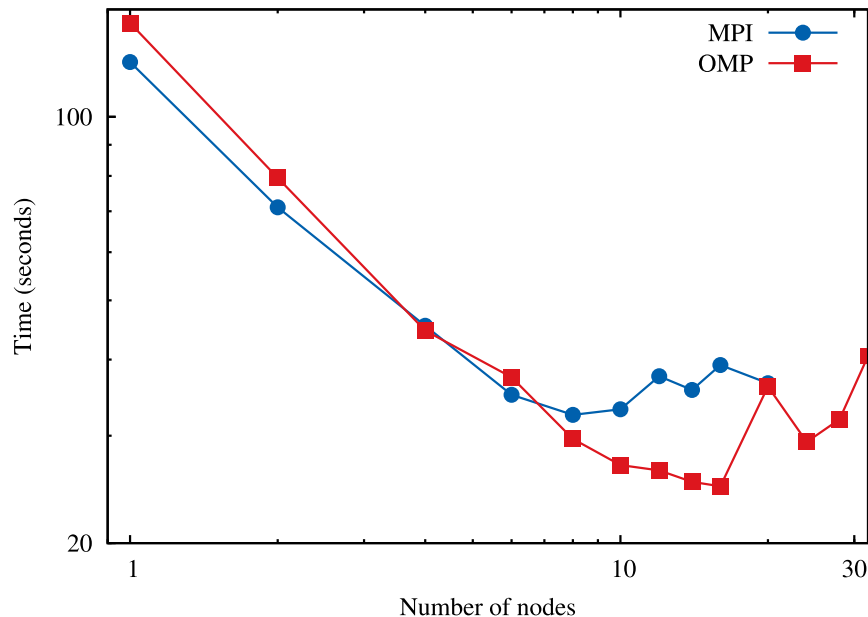




# PBE: run time on Fritz

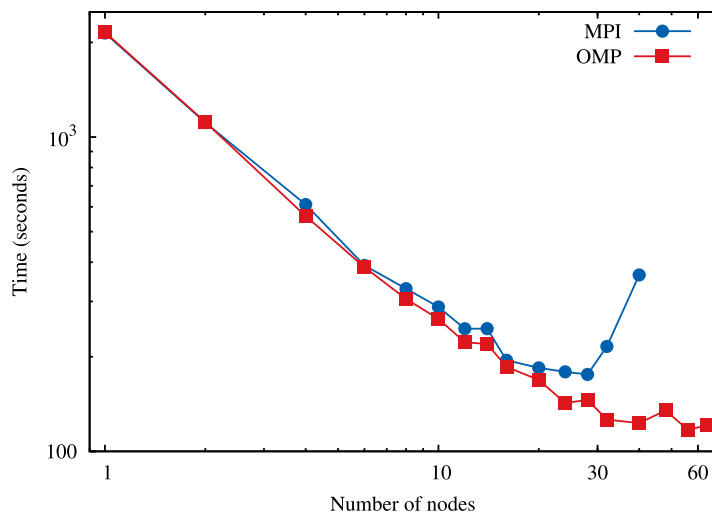
## System(I): MPI vs. OMP

- In the case of OpenMP, drastic change in NBANDS for **nodes>14**
- OpenMP: **Shortest run time with nodes=16**
- Parallel efficiency < 0.8
  - MPI: nodes  $\geq 4$
  - OMP: nodes  $\geq 6$

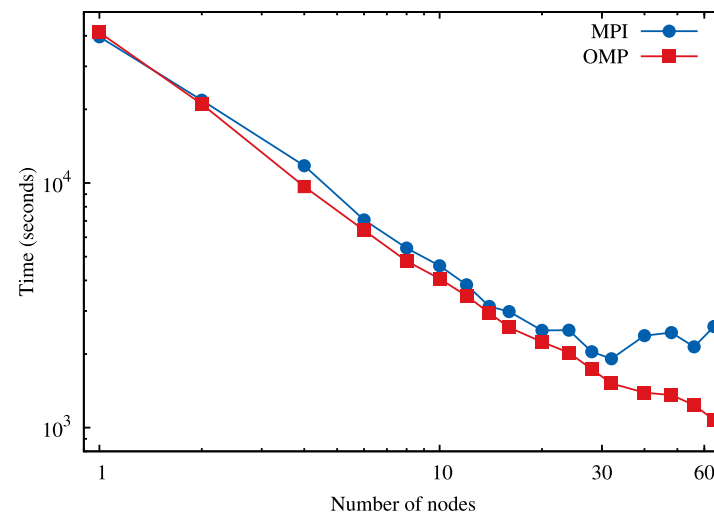


# PBE: MPI vs. OMP

## System(II)



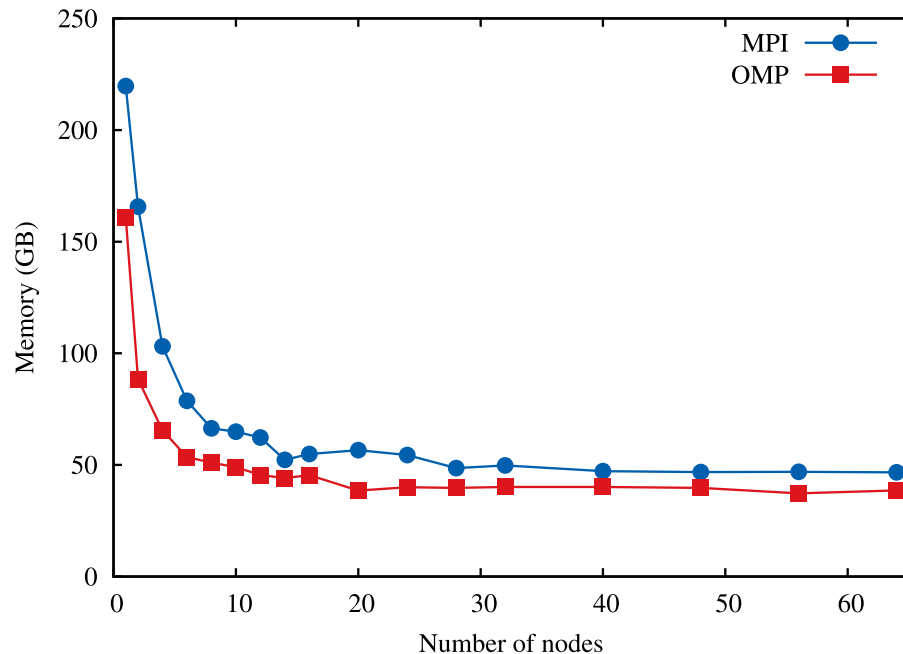
## System(III)



- OpenMP results in shortest possible run time in both systems (II) & (III)
- No drastic change in NBANDS for MPI, but slightly for OpenMP

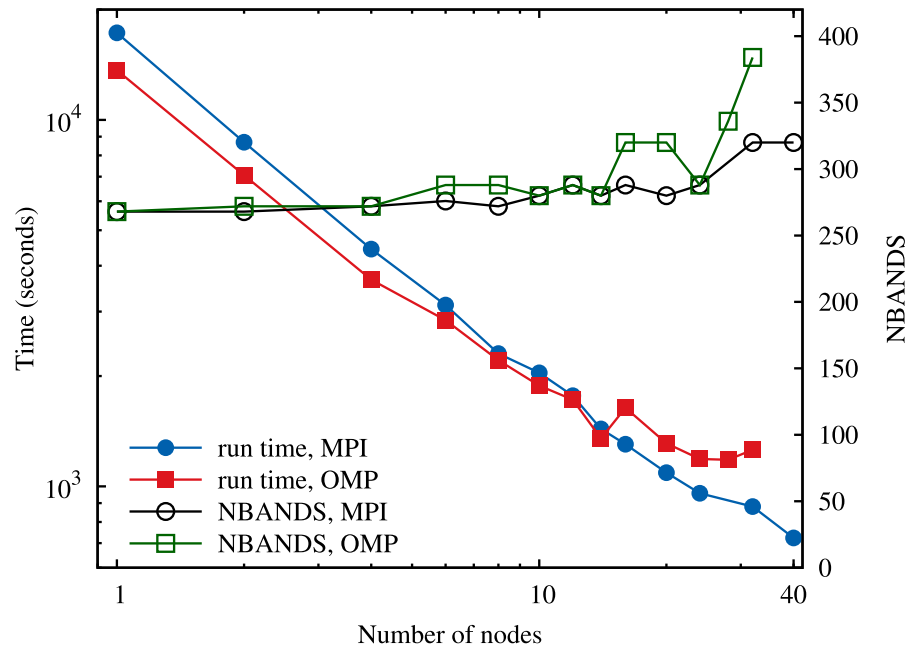
# Memory use for system(III): MPI vs. OMP

- `export OMP_STACKSIZE=?`
  - Not used in this case!
- PBE, standard DFT, with 1728 atoms on one node needs almost all memory available!

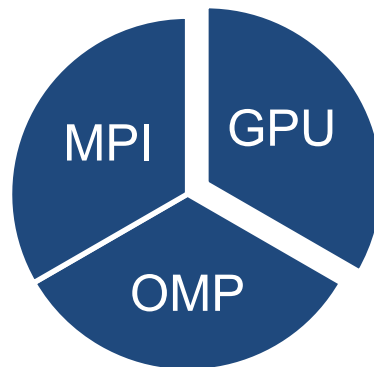
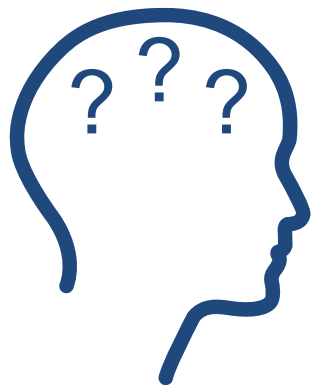


## System(I): MPI vs. OpenMP

- `export OMP_STACKSIZE=512m`
- Decent parallel performance both with MPI and OMP
- Problem with NBANDS more important in the case of HSE!



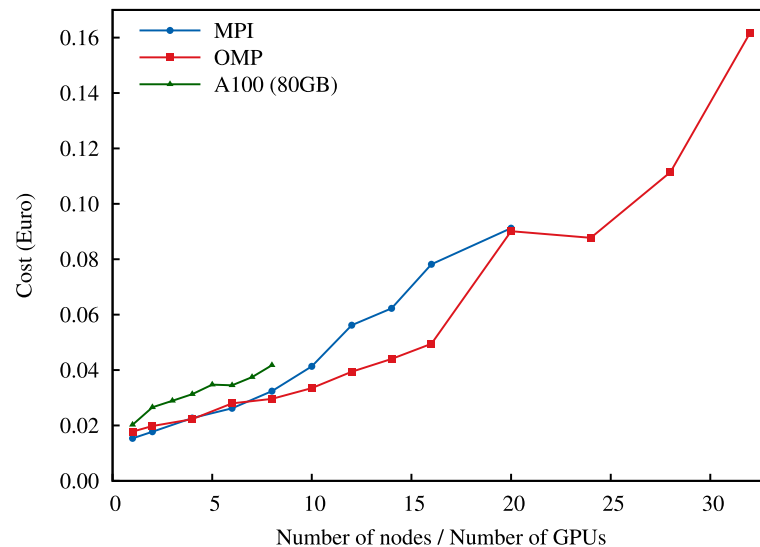
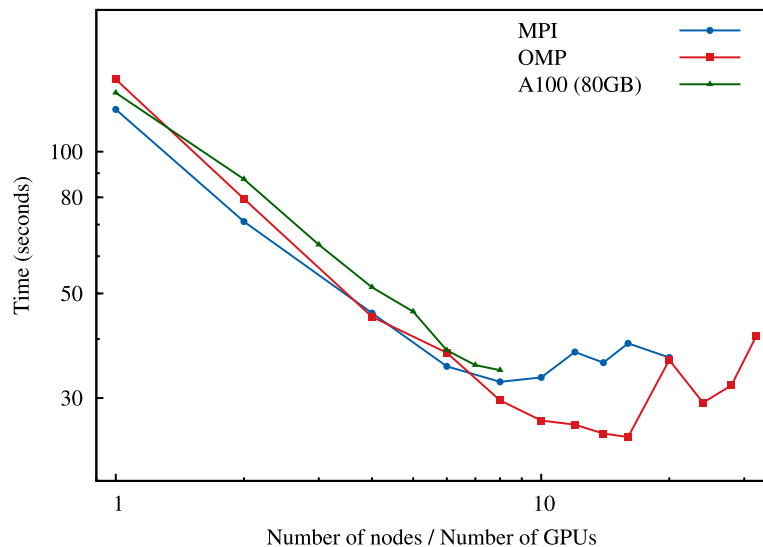
# Graphics processing unit



- NCCL: NVIDIA Collective Communications Library
  - Topology-aware inter-GPU communication
- OpenACC: hiding launch latency by asynchronous execution queues
  - Independent kernels

# PBE: run time and cost

## System(I): GPU vs. MPI vs. OMP

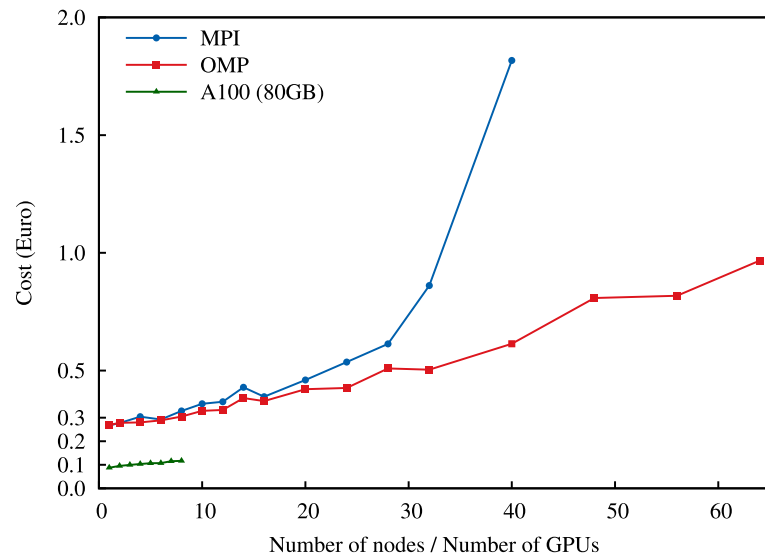
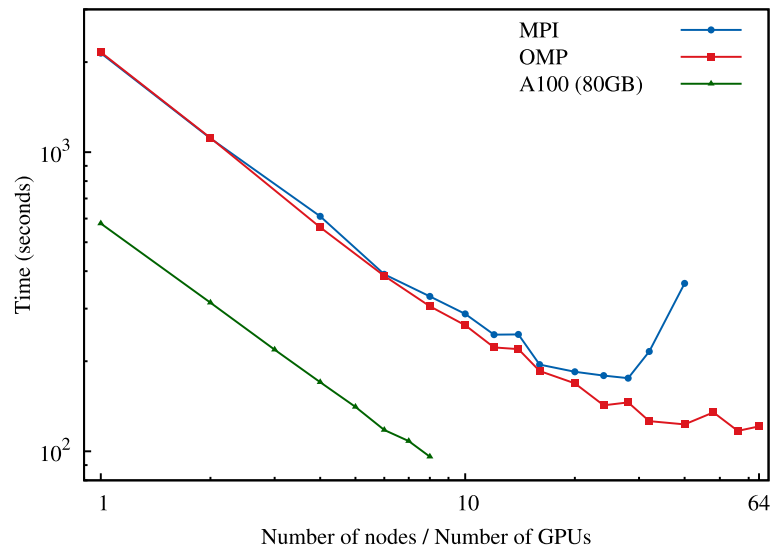


- Each A100 GPU: 0.55 €/hour
- System(I): MPI on one node ✓

- Each Fritz node: 0.45 €/hour
- NCCL: no concern with NBANDS

# PBE: run time and cost

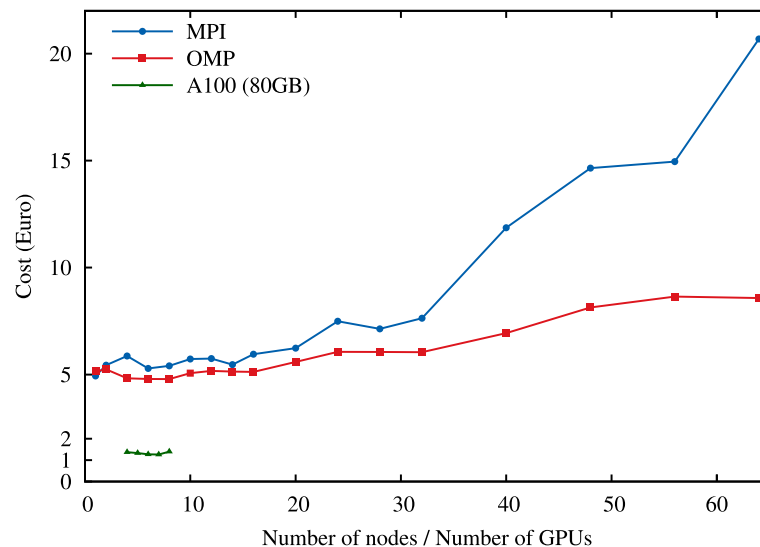
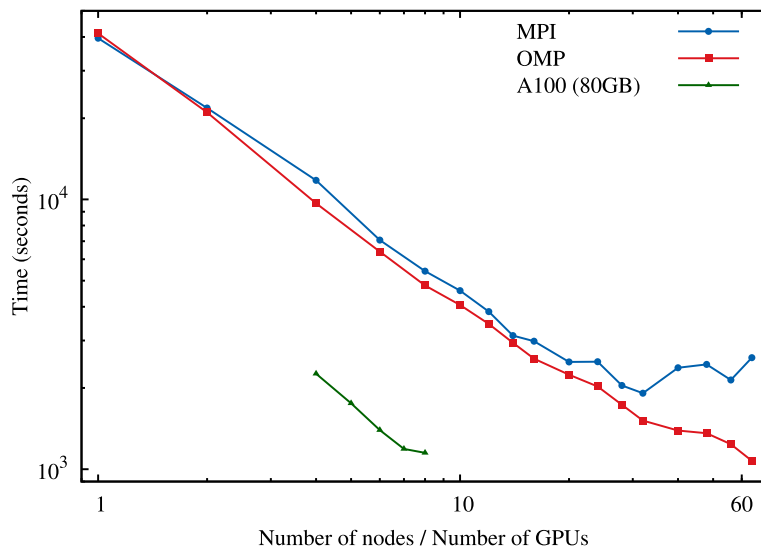
## System(II): GPU vs. MPI vs. OMP



- OMP: minor problem with NBANDS for large number of nodes
- GPU: shortest possible run time!

# PBE: run time and cost

## System(III): GPU vs. MPI vs. OMP



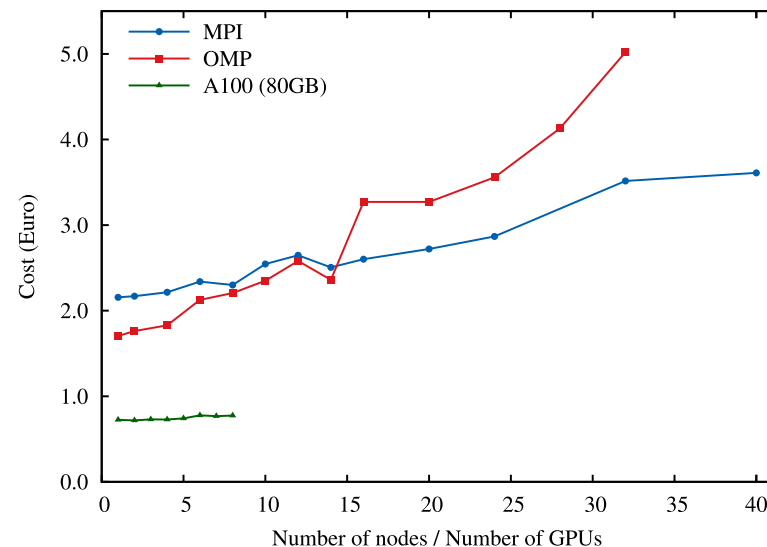
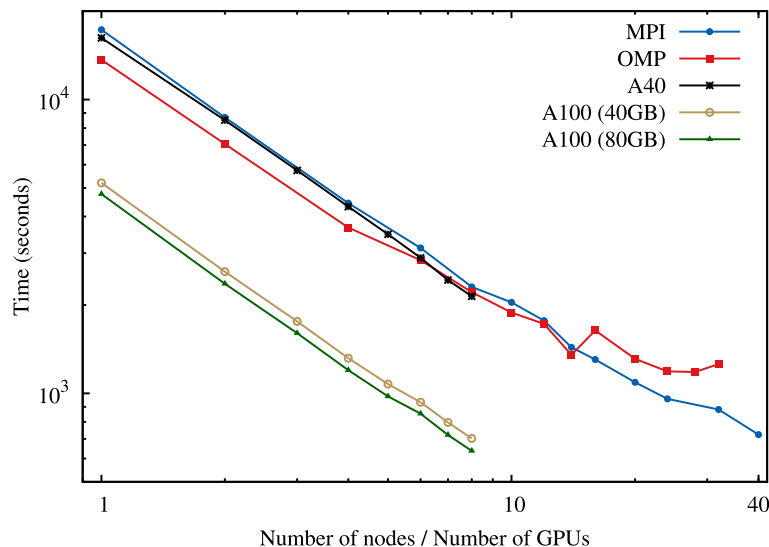
- OMP: despite minor problem with NBANDS for large #nodes, shortest possible run time!

- GPU:
  - insufficient device memory, #GPUs<4
  - Superlinearity, 1.03, 1.07, 1.09, 0.98



# HSE: run time and cost

## System(I): GPU vs. MPI vs. OMP

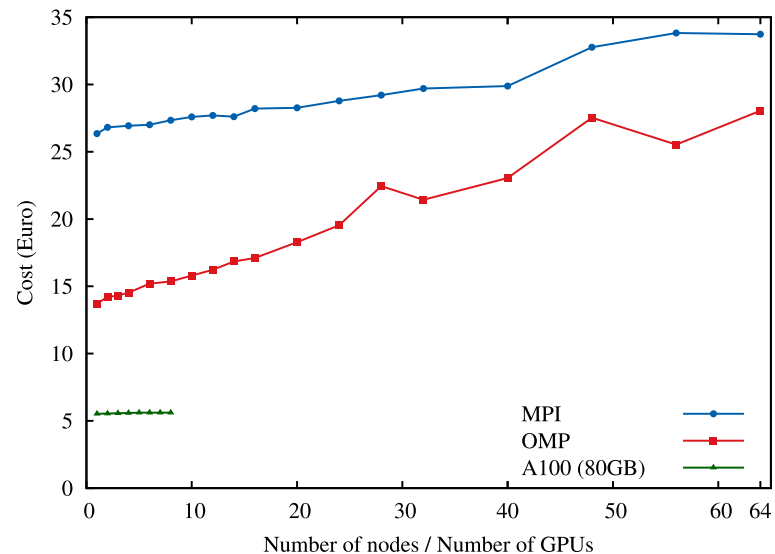
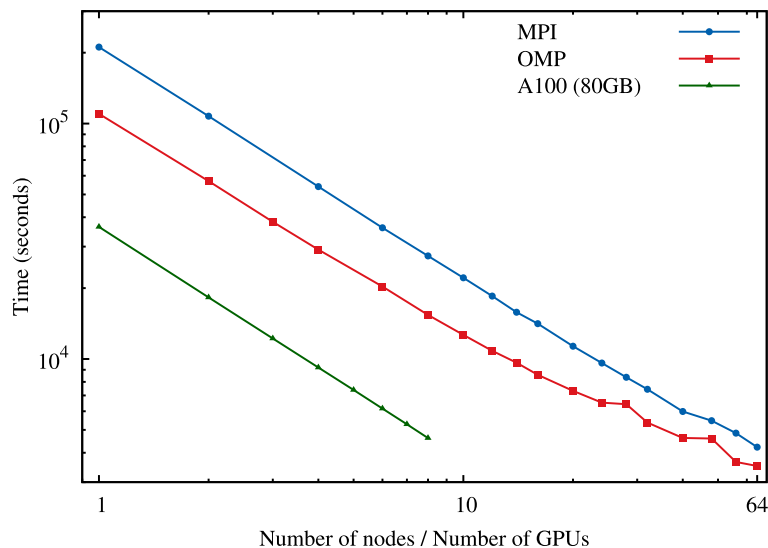


- A100 (80GB) 10% better than A100 (40GB) while having 30% higher bandwidth

- A40: ✗
- OMP: problem with NBANDS

# HSE: run time and cost

## System(II): GPU vs. MPI vs. OMP



- MPI: better than previous tests
- OMP: shortest run time
  - `export OMP_STACKSIZE=2048m`

- A100:
  - Due to memory A100 (80GB) needed
  - Parallel efficiency: 0.99

# Summary

- NCORE: important for memory and performance, **check for NBAND**
- Shortest run time: either of OpenMP or GPU
  - Depending on type of simulation and system size
- Best way to reduce memory requirement is the use of OpenMP with OMP\_NUM\_THREADS set to number of cores in NUMA domain
  - Do not forget `export OMP_STACKSIZE=?`
- At shortest run time, i.e. many CPU nodes or multiple GPUs, **the latter is cheaper**
- Running on GPU with NCCL, **no concern over NBAND**
- Running VASP on GPUs for Hartree-Fock and HSE calculations is highly recommended and it is a good choice in every respect.

---

Thanks for support:

- Christoph Kluge
- Thomas Zeiser
- Johannes Veh

Thank you all

