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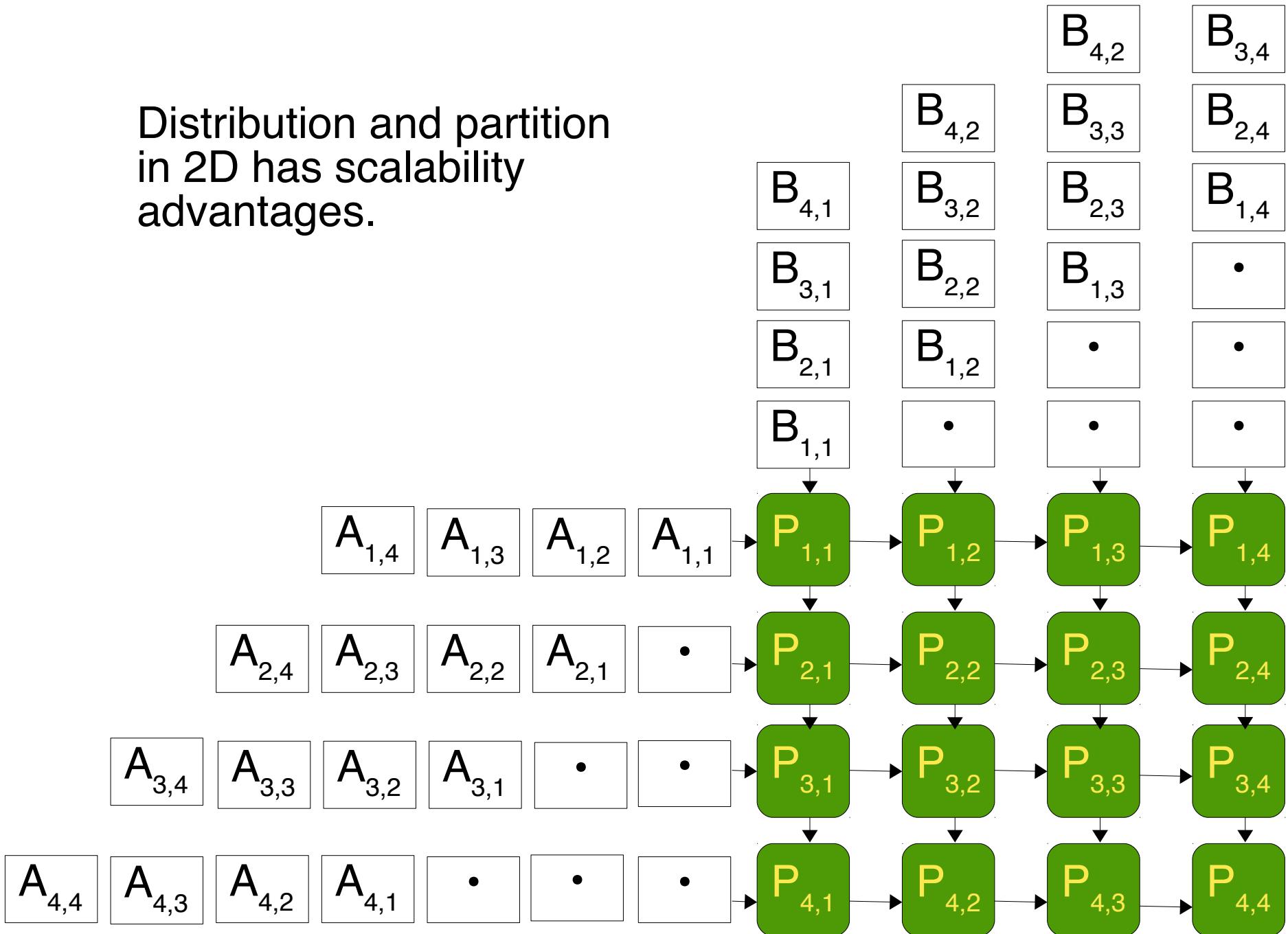
COSC 462

Solving Linear Systems

Piotr Luszczek

# Cannon's (Systolic) Algorithm Recap

Distribution and partition  
in 2D has scalability  
advantages.



# Applications Using Linear Solve

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- Structural analysis (civil engineering)
- Heat transport (mechanical engineering)
- Analysis of power grids (electrical engineering)
- Production planning (economics)
- Regression analysis (statistics)
- Antenna/radar/stealth fighter design(electromagnetics)
- Plasma containment (physics)
- Benchmarking (TOP500, HPL)

# Gaussian Elimination Example

$+x$	$-3y$	$+z$	$=$	$+4$
$+2x$	$-8y$	$+8z$	$=$	$-2$
$-6x$	$+3y$	$-15z$	$=$	$9$

Could divide by 2 to get row values closer to 1

$*(-2)$

$*6$

$+x$	$-3y$	$+z$	$=$	$+4$
$0x$	$-2y$	$+6z$	$=$	$-10$
$0x$	$-15y$	$-9z$	$=$	$33$

$/2$

$+x$	$-3y$	$+z$	$=$	$+4$
$0x$	$-y$	$+3z$	$=$	$-5$
$0x$	$-5y$	$-3z$	$=$	$11$

$*5$

$+x$	$-3y$	$+z$	$=$	$+4$
$0x$	$-y$	$+3z$	$=$	$-5$
$0x$	$0y$	$-18z$	$=$	$36$

$$x = 3$$

$$y = -1$$

$$z = -2$$

Back-substitution

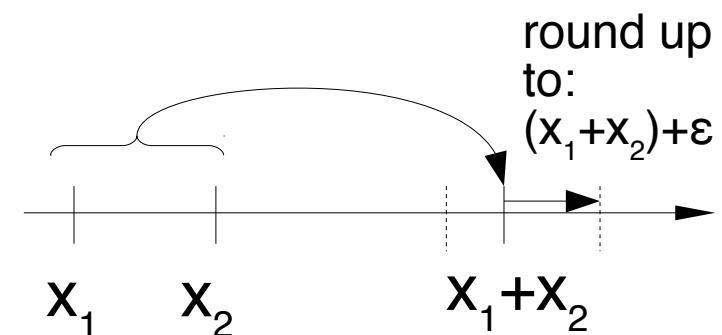
# Reference Implementation

- $Ax = b$ 
  - $A$  is  $N$  by  $N$  matrix
  - $x, b$  are  $N$  by 1 vectors
- ```
for (i = 0; i < N; ++i)
    pivot = A[max_loc(abs(A[:,i]))][j]
    A[i+1:N][j] /= pivot

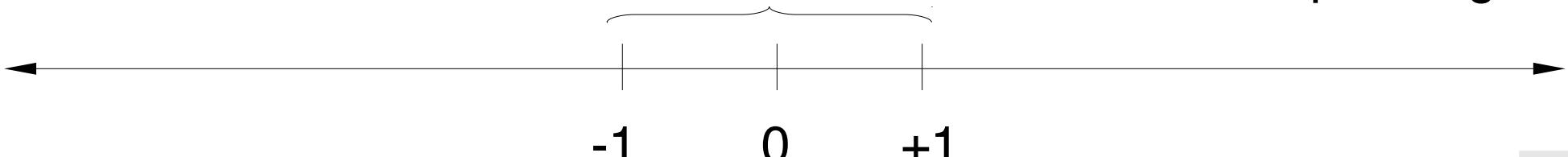
    for (j = i+1; j < N; ++j)
        for (k = i+1; k < N; ++k)
            A[j][k] -= A[k][i] * A[i][j]
```
- Complexity
  - $\frac{2}{3}N^3$

# Floating Point Arithmetic Primer

- Floating point numbers in a computer are stored in IEEE 754 standard (1985, 2008)
  - A subset of rational numbers and infinities, NaN's, -0
  - Binary representation is sign, mantissa, exponent
  - Multiple sizes available
    - 16-bits (half precision, storage only)
    - 32-bits (single precision)
    - 64-bits (double precision)
    - 80-bits (extended precision)
    - 128-bits (quad precision)



The most amount of numbers per length



# Row Pivoting for Numerical Stability

Row pivoting

|       |       |        |   |      |
|-------|-------|--------|---|------|
| $+x$  | $-3y$ | $+z$   | = | $+4$ |
| $+2x$ | $-8y$ | $+8z$  | = | $-2$ |
| $-6x$ | $+3y$ | $-15z$ | = | $9$  |

|       |       |        |   |      |
|-------|-------|--------|---|------|
| $+x$  | $-3y$ | $+z$   | = | $+4$ |
| $+2x$ | $-8y$ | $+8z$  | = | $-2$ |
| $-6x$ | $+3y$ | $-15z$ | = | $9$  |

|       |       |        |   |      |
|-------|-------|--------|---|------|
| $-6x$ | $+3y$ | $-15z$ | = | $+9$ |
| $+2x$ | $-8y$ | $+8z$  | = | $-2$ |
| $+x$  | $-3y$ | $+z$   | = | $+4$ |

|         |         |         |   |        |
|---------|---------|---------|---|--------|
| $-x$    | $+1/2y$ | $-5/2z$ | = | $+3/2$ |
| $+1/3x$ | $-4/3y$ | $+3/2z$ | = | $+1/2$ |
| $+1/6x$ | $-1/2y$ | $+z/6$  | = | $+2/3$ |

|      |         |         |   |         |
|------|---------|---------|---|---------|
| $-x$ | $+1/2y$ | $-5/2z$ | = | $3/2$   |
| $0x$ | $-7/2y$ | $+8/6z$ | = | $-5/6$  |
| $0x$ | $-5/2y$ | $-3/2z$ | = | $+11/2$ |

|       |       |        |   |      |
|-------|-------|--------|---|------|
| $+x$  | $-3y$ | $+z$   | = | $+4$ |
| $+2x$ | $-8y$ | $+8z$  | = | $-2$ |
| $-6x$ | $+3y$ | $-15z$ | = | $9$  |

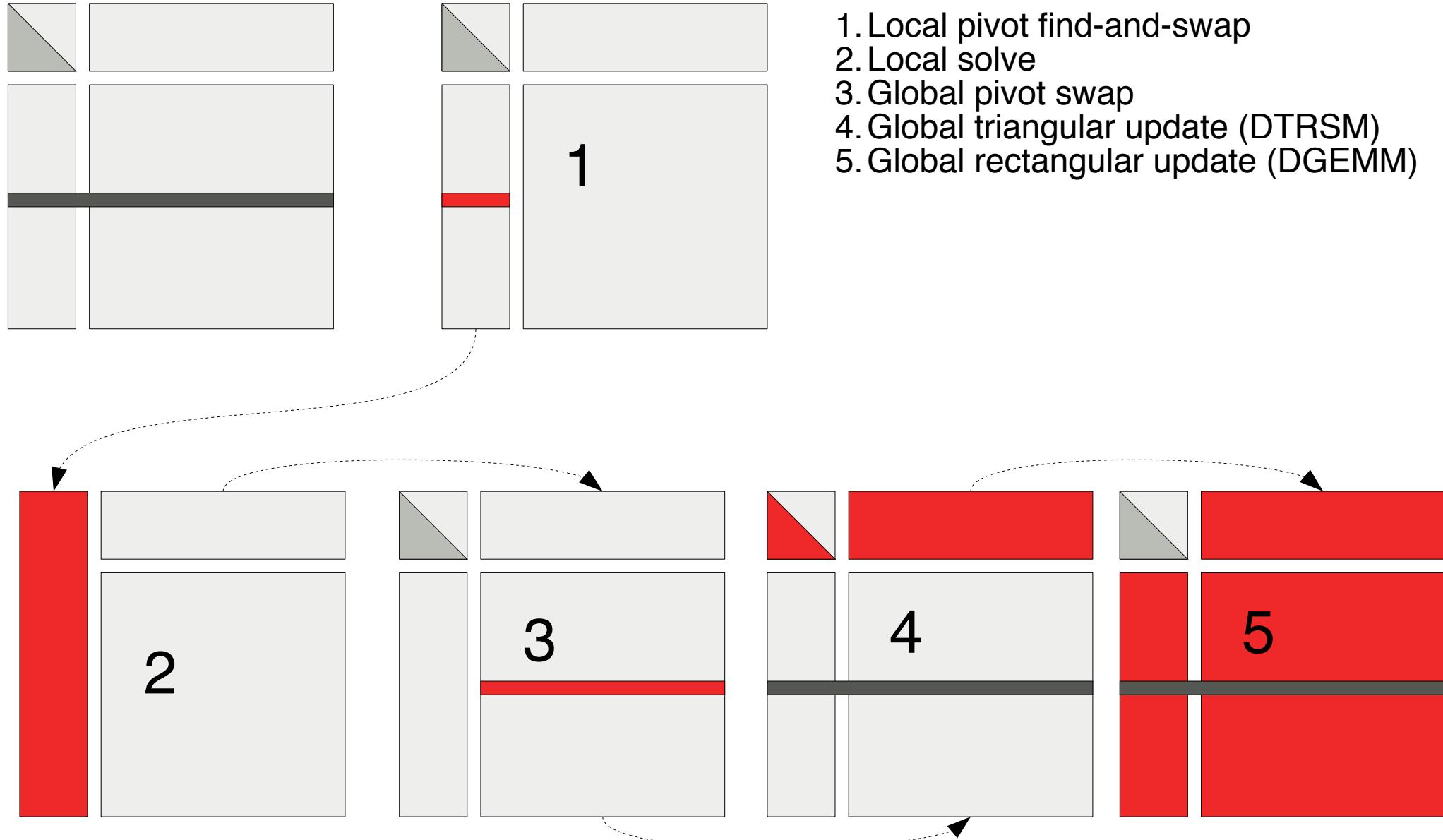
No pivoting

swap

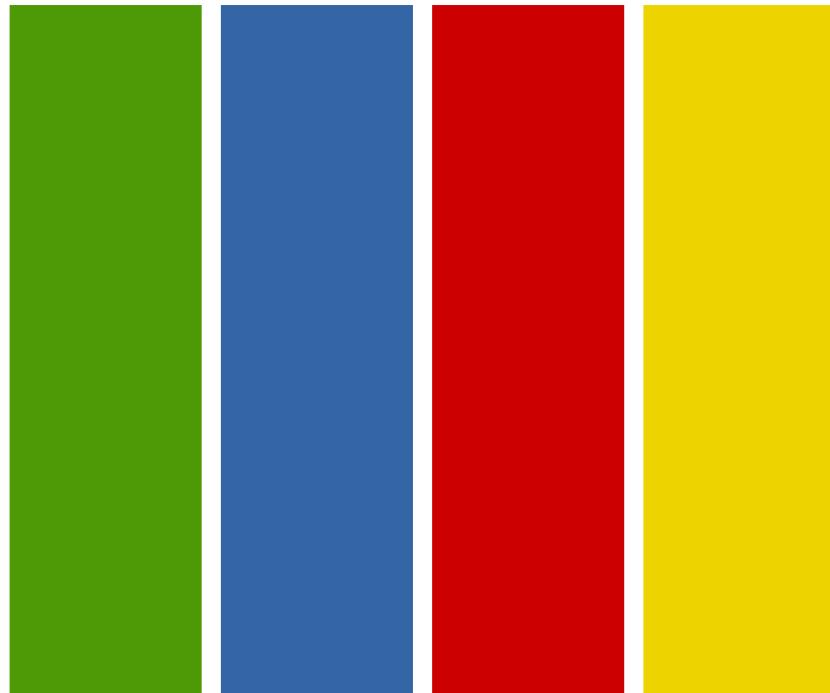
|      |        |       |   |       |
|------|--------|-------|---|-------|
| $+x$ | $-3y$  | $+z$  | = | $+4$  |
| $0x$ | $-2y$  | $+6z$ | = | $-10$ |
| $0x$ | $-15y$ | $-9z$ | = | $33$  |

- /6 Without proper down-scaling, errors get multiplied and the magnitude of updated entries grows: phenomenon call pivot growth.

# Agglomeration: Blocking

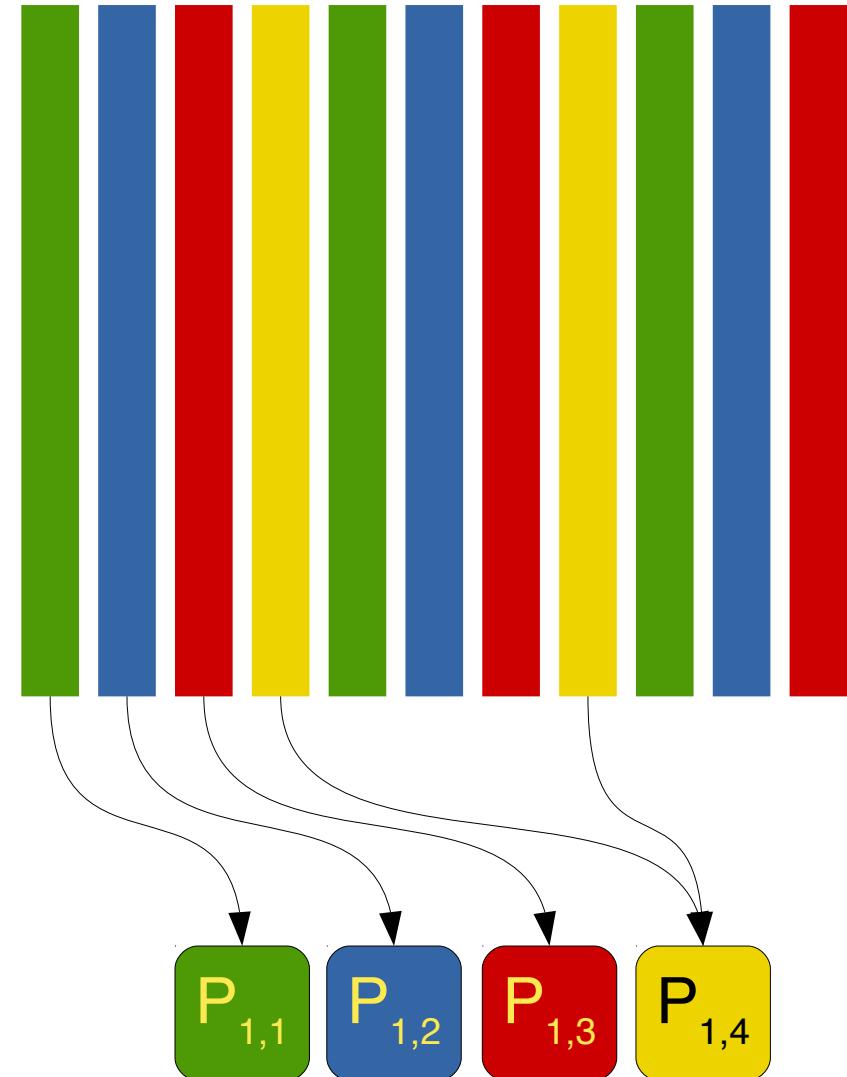


# Block Distribution vs. Block Cyclic Distribution



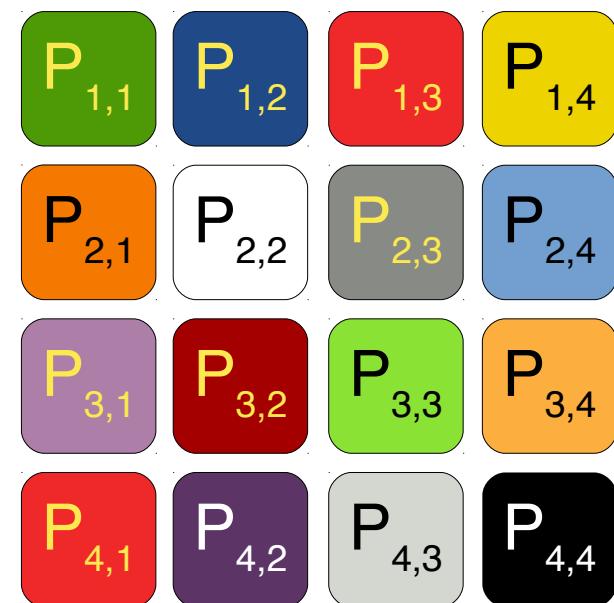
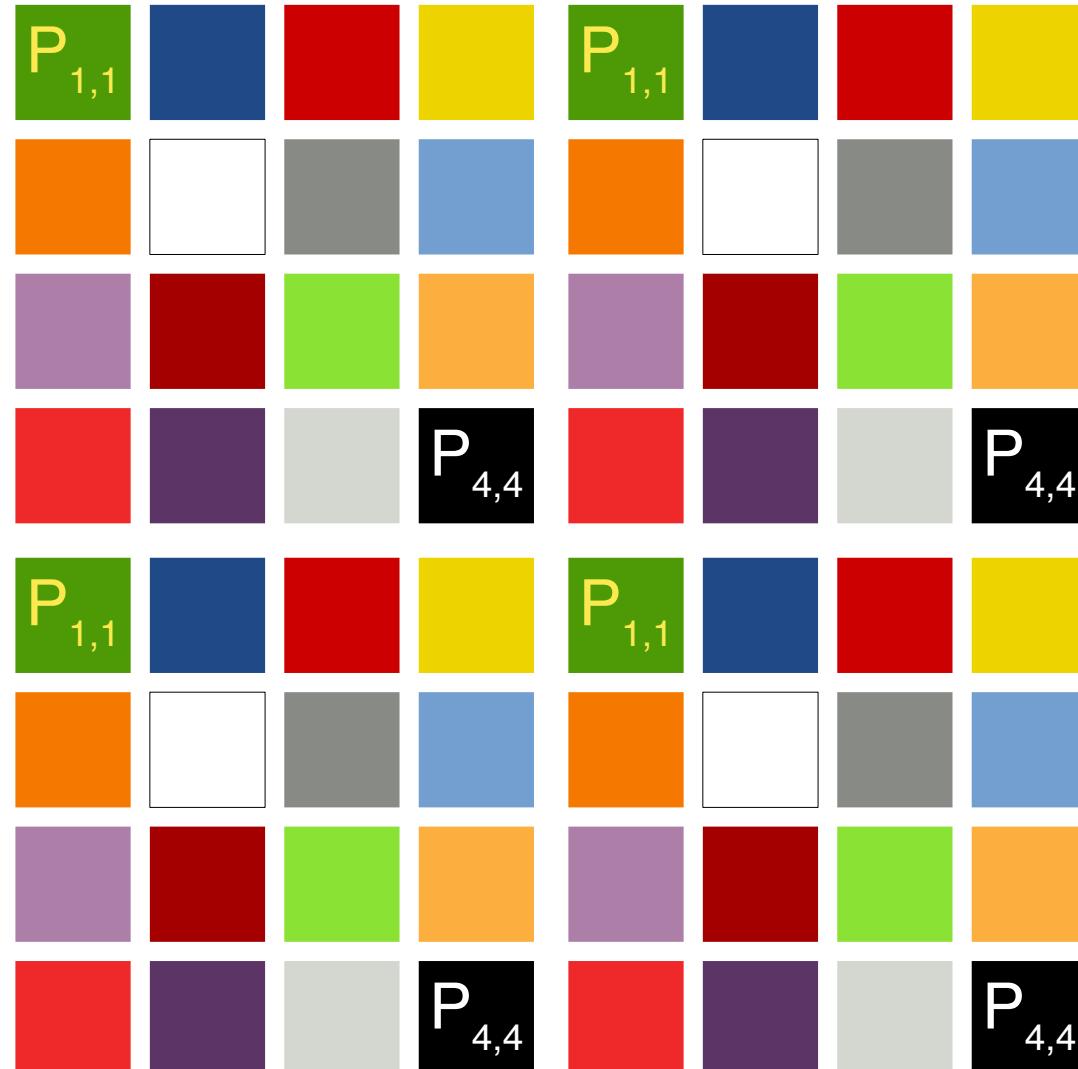
Non-cyclic distribution  
sequentializes the  
computational steps:

1. Solve first block
2. Wait for pivot information  
and scaling factors.



Cyclic distribution in both  
dimensions minimizes  
communication and improves  
scalability.

# Mapping: 2D Block Cyclic Distribution



# Divisibility and Padding

- If  $P$  is not a square of an integer
  - Use prime factors of  $P$  to form as square of the process grid as possible
  - If  $P$  is a prime then leave some of the processes out of the grid to get close-to-square grid
- If  $N$  is not divisible by  $P$ 
  - Consider implementing clean-up code
  - If extra operations are OK, pad the matrix with 0's and 1's
    - Example: extend to 8

aaaaaa000  
aaaaaa000  
aaaaaa000  
aaaaaa000  
aaaaaa000  
00000100  
00000010  
00000001

padding      padding      identity matrix extension