



# High-Q en route to exascale

Scaling applications to the full JUQUEEN system with 458 752 cores and over 1.8M threads

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## JUQUEEN Porting & Tuning and Extreme Scaling Workshops, 2–6 February 2015

- 7 teams invited to (im)prove their application scalability with 30 hours of dedicated access to the entire JUQUEEN system
- Expert assistance provided by JSC Simulation Laboratories (SimLabs) and Cross-sectional teams, with IBM and JUQUEEN technical support
- All 7 teams within 24 hours successfully ran their codes using the full system, preparing for entry to the High-Q Club
- Additional experience gained about effectively exploiting extremely scalable computer systems



- CoreNEURON** (F. Delalandre & A. Ovcharenko, EPFL Blue Brain Project) simulation of electrical activity of neuronal networks including morphologically detailed neurons
- FE2TI** (M. Lanser, Universität Köln & O. Rheinbach, TUB Freiberg) scale-bridging incorporating micro-mechanics in macroscopic simulations of multi-phase steels
- FEMPAR** (A. Martín, UPC-CIMNE) massively-parallel finite-element simulation of multi-physics problems governed by PDEs
- ICON** (T. Jahns, DKRZ & C. Meyer, JSC SimLab Climate Science) icosahedral non-hydrostatic atmospheric model
- MPAS-A** (D. Heinzeller, KIT) multi-scale non-hydrostatic atmospheric model for global, convection-resolving climate simulations
- psOpen** (M. Gauding, RWTH-ITV Inst. for Combustion Technology & J.-H. Göbbert, JARA) direct numerical simulation of fine-scale turbulence
- SHOCK** (M. Gageik, RWTH Shock Wave Laboratory) structured high-order finite-difference kernel for compressible flows

## JUQUEEN

IBM BlueGene/Q with **28 racks**, 28 672 nodes.  
Each 1.6 GHz PowerPC A2 compute **node** has:

- 16 cores with 64 hardware threads
- 16 GB memory, 32 MB L2 Cache

In total 458 752 cores with 1 835 008 threads.  
Aggregate I/O bandwidth 200 GB/s to GPFS.

## Impediments to large-scale executions

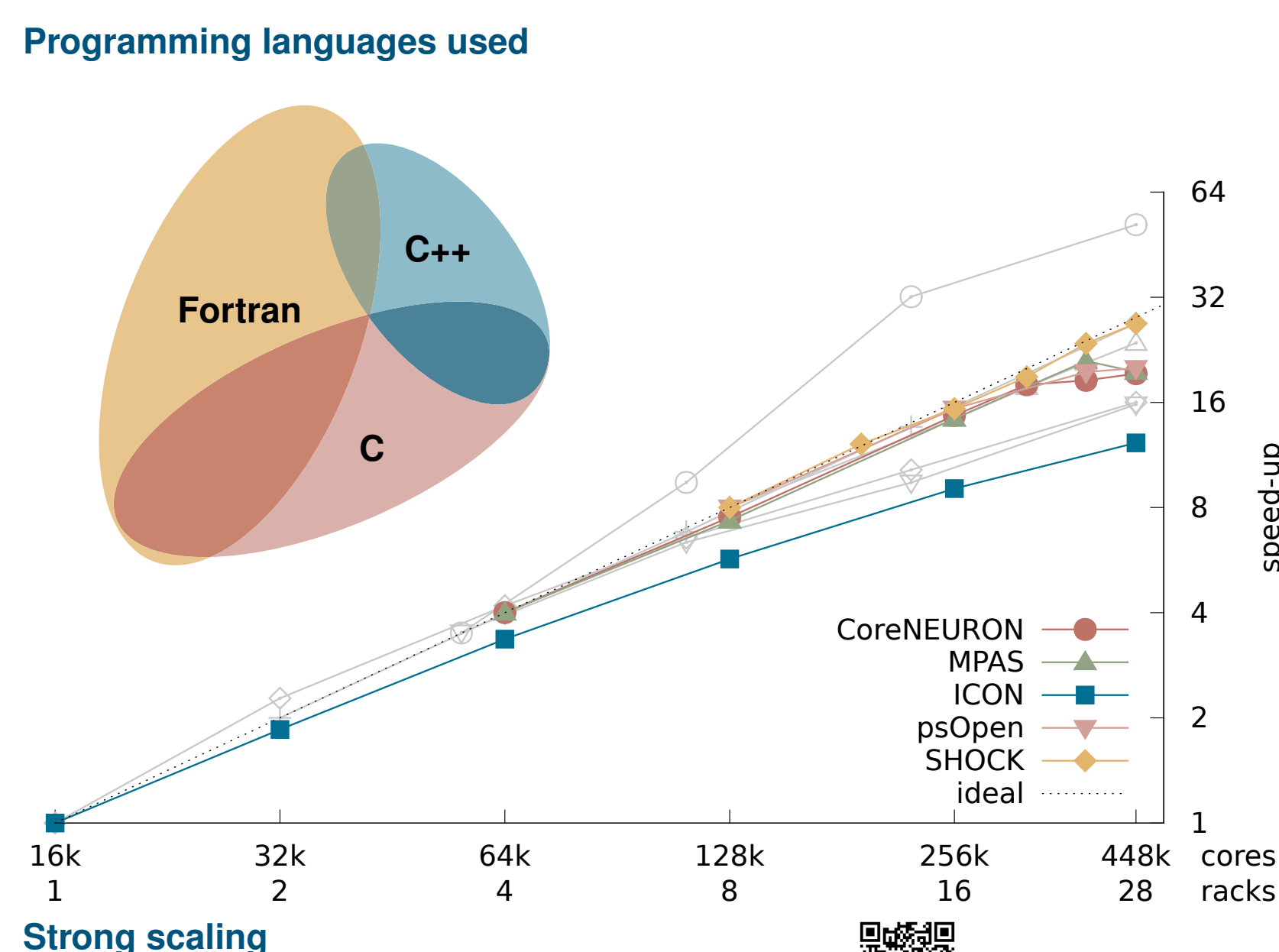
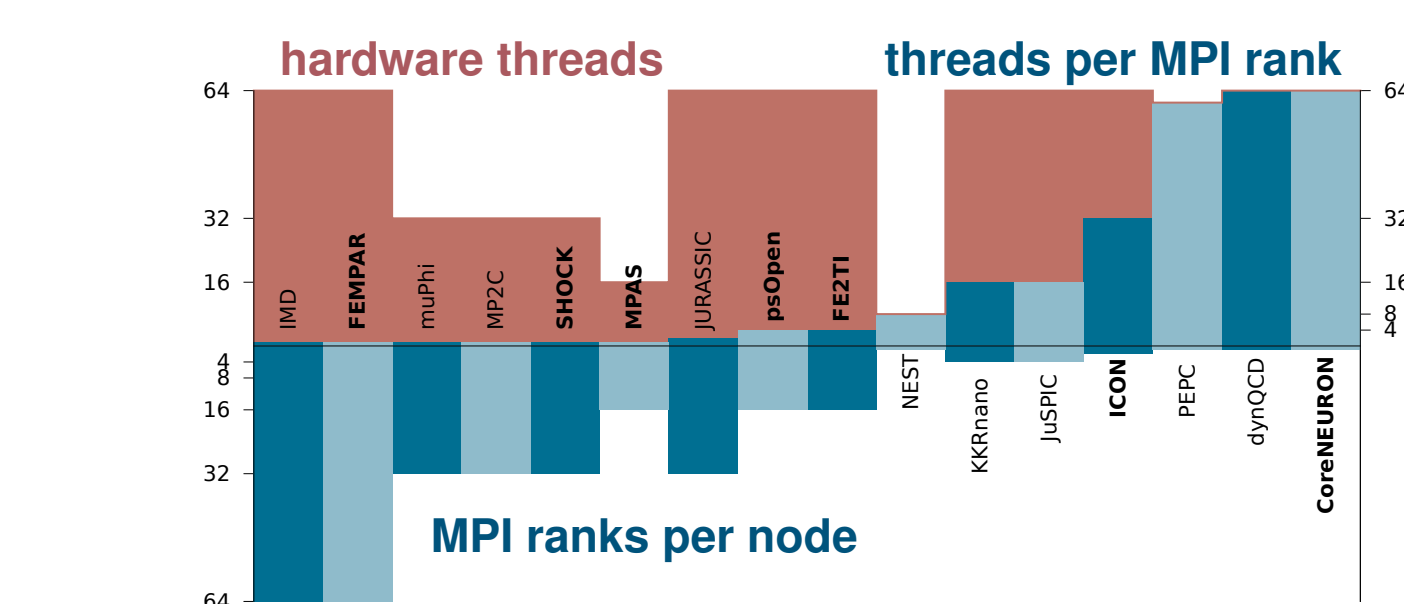
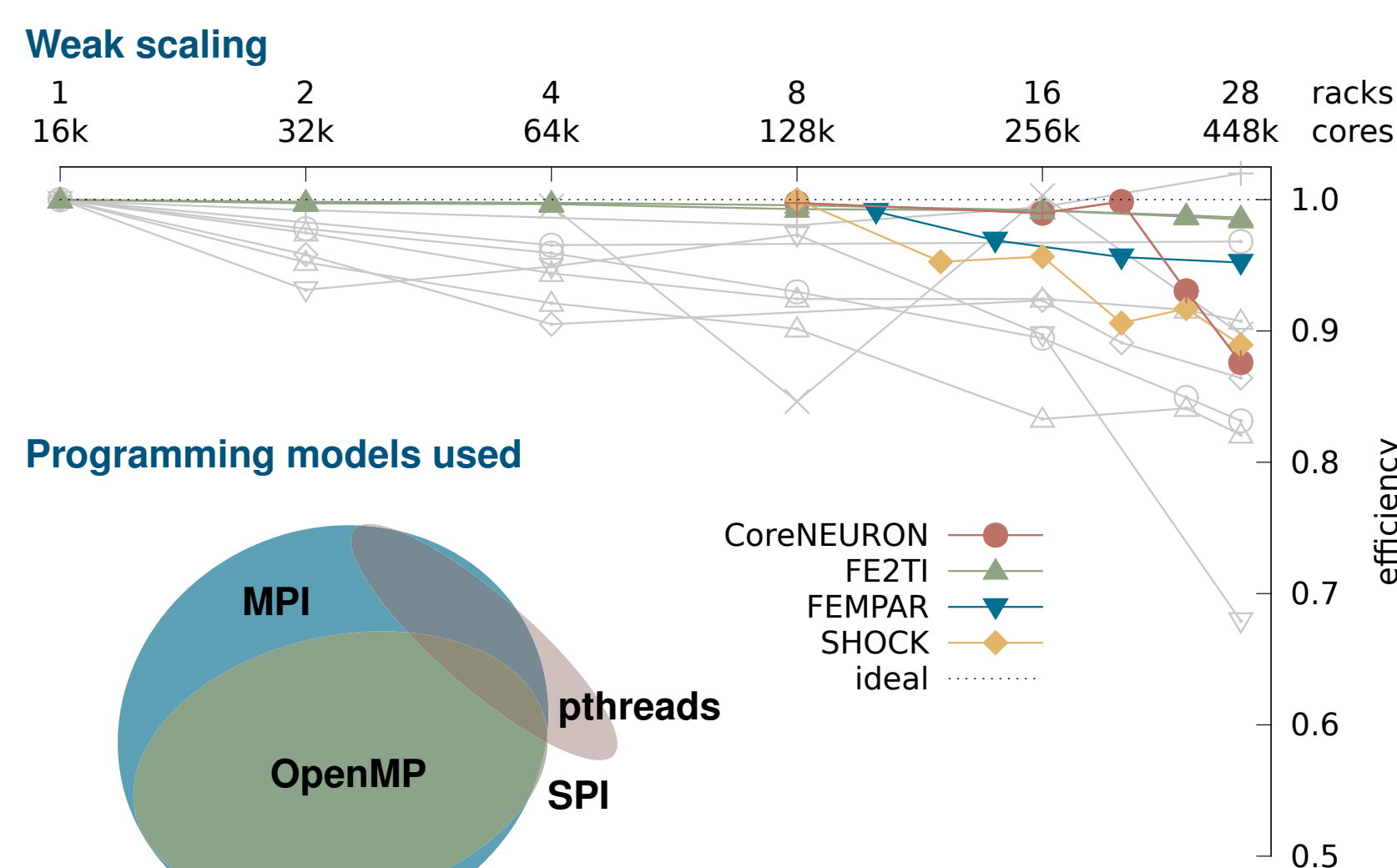
**File I/O** Large machine runs often require parallel I/O, but which is no guarantee of success: **SHOCK** and **CoreNEURON** had to limit or disable I/O. **ICON**, **MPAS-A**, and **psOpen** employ PIO/NetCDF, HDF5 or pNetCDF to read in up to 1.2 TB of data. An exception are codes making use of SIONlib, which is developed by JSC to address I/O scalability. Examples using SIONlib are High-Q members **KKRnano**, **MP2C**, and **muPhi**.

**Memory** The limited amount of memory available per node provides constraints not only for strong scaling runs: After tuning the problem size **CoreNEURON** was able to use 15.9 GB (99%) of the available RAM, **FEMPAR** had to trade memory for MPI against prohibitive MPI execution times, and **MPAS-A** was limited to 16 MPI ranks per node to fit in 1 GB per process.

## Results

On the right is a selection of results from the High-Q Club and Extreme Scaling Workshop:

- Weak and strong scaling graphs summarise some of the submitted performance data. (For reference, High-Q club codes grey and unlabelled.)
- Venn set diagrams with statistics about the programming models and languages used by the codes provide the colour key to the code listing. While all 3 programming languages are roughly equally popular, mixed-mode programming combining MPI and multi-threading dominates.
- A bar chart shows the breadth of MPI process / thread combinations used and the extent of over-subscription of cores to fully exploit the hardware capabilities.
- More results can be found in the technical report **FZJ-JSC-IB-2015-01**



## High-Q Club Codes

- dynQCD** (JSC SimLab Nuclear and Particle Physics & Bergische Universität Wuppertal) lattice quantum chromodynamics with dynamical fermions
- Gysela** (CEA-IRFM Cadarache) gyrokinetic semi-Lagrangian code for plasma turbulence simulations
- IMD** (Ruhr-Universität Bochum & JSC SimLab Molecular Systems) classical molecular dynamics simulations
- JURASSIC** (JSC SimLab Climate Science) solver for infrared radiative transfer in the Earth's atmosphere
- JuSPIC** (JSC SimLab Plasma Physics) fully relativistic particle-in-cell code, plasma physics simulations, laser-plasma interaction
- KKRnano** (FZJ-IAS) Korringa-Kohn-Rostoker Green function code for quantum description of nano-materials in all-electron density-functional calculations
- MP2C** (JSC SimLab Molecular Systems) massively-parallel multi-particle collision dynamics for soft matter physics and mesoscopic hydrodynamics
- μφ (muPhi)** (Universität Heidelberg) modelling and simulation of water flow and solute transport in porous media, algebraic multi-grid solver
- Musubi** (Universität Siegen) multi-component Lattice Boltzmann solver for flow simulations
- NEST** (FZJ/INM-6 & IAS-6) large-scale simulations of biological neuronal networks
- OpenTBL** (Universidad Politécnica de Madrid) direct numerical simulation of turbulent flows
- PEPC** (JSC SimLab Plasma Physics) tree code for N-body simulations, beam-plasma interaction, vortex dynamics, gravitational interaction, MD simulations
- PMG+PFASST** (LBNL, Universität Wuppertal, USI & JSC) space-time parallel solver for systems of ODEs with linear stiff terms, e.g. from lines discretisations of PDEs
- PP-Code** (University of Copenhagen) simulations of relativistic and non-relativistic astrophysical plasmas
- TERRA-NEO** (Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, LMU & TUM) modeling and simulation of earth mantle dynamics
- waLBerla** (Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg) Lattice-Boltzmann method for the simulation of fluid scenarios