

# VTK-m Update

DOECGF 2019

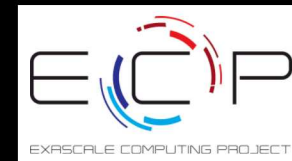
April 23 or 24, 2019

Kenneth Moreland Sandia National Laboratories  
with lots of contributions from the VTK-m community

# Acknowledgements



- This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Office of Advanced Scientific Computing Research, under Award Numbers 10-014707, 12-015215, and 14-017566.
- This research was supported by the Exascale Computing Project (17-SC-20-SC), a collaborative effort of two U.S. Department of Energy organizations (Office of Science and the National Nuclear Security Administration) responsible for the planning and preparation of a capable exascale ecosystem, including software, applications, hardware, advanced system engineering, and early testbed platforms, in support of the nation's exascale computing imperative.
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- **Thanks to many, many partners in labs, universities, and industry.**





# Thanks to All Our Partners!



Code Sprint, September 2015, LLNL



Code Sprint, April 2017, University of Oregon

# Why VTK-m?

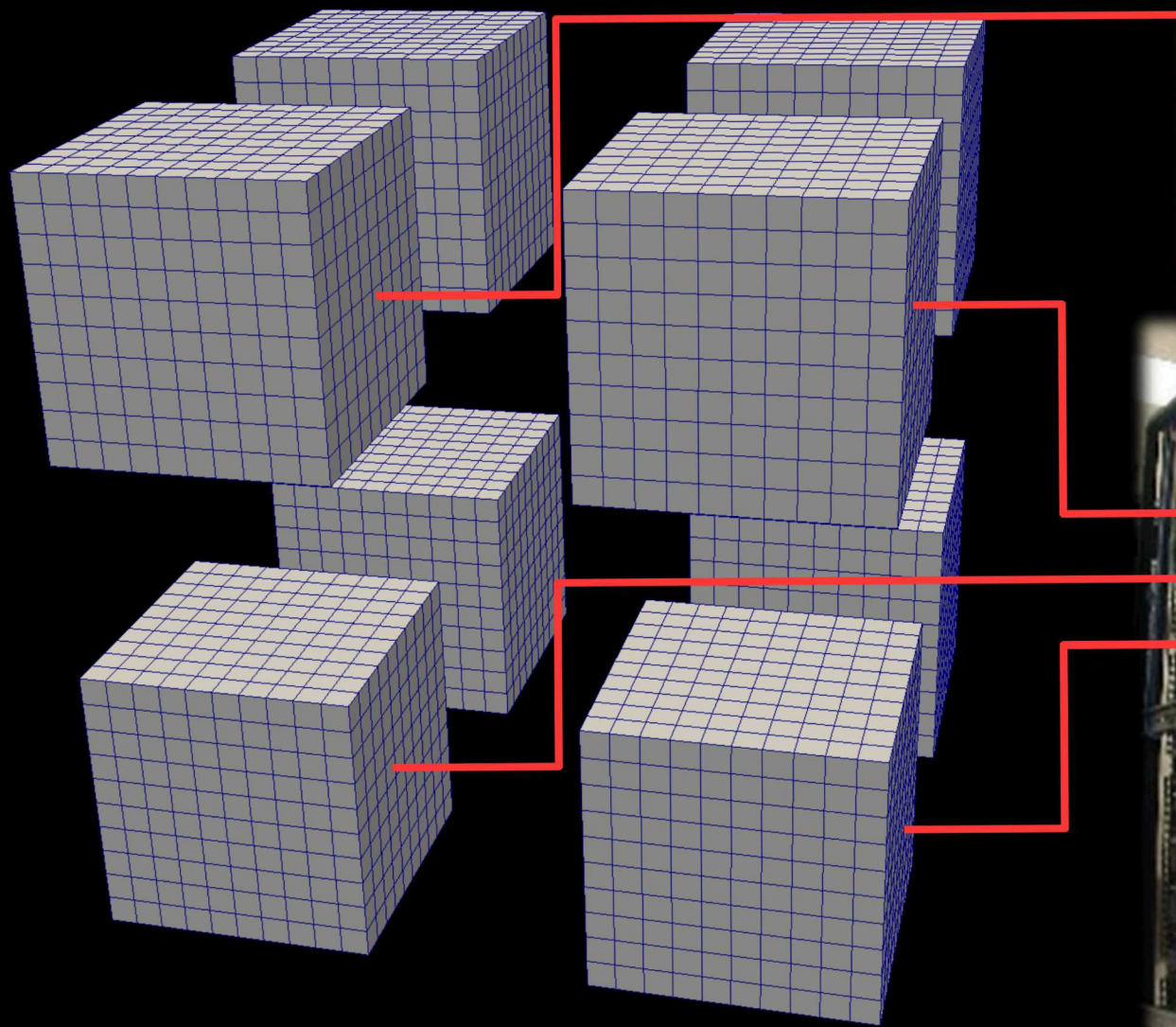
My new computer's got the clocks, it rocks  
But it was obsolete before I opened the box

– “Weird” Al Yankovic, *It's All About the Pentiums*, circa 1999

Moore's Law is dead.

– Gordon Moore, circa 2005





Distributed  
Parallelism

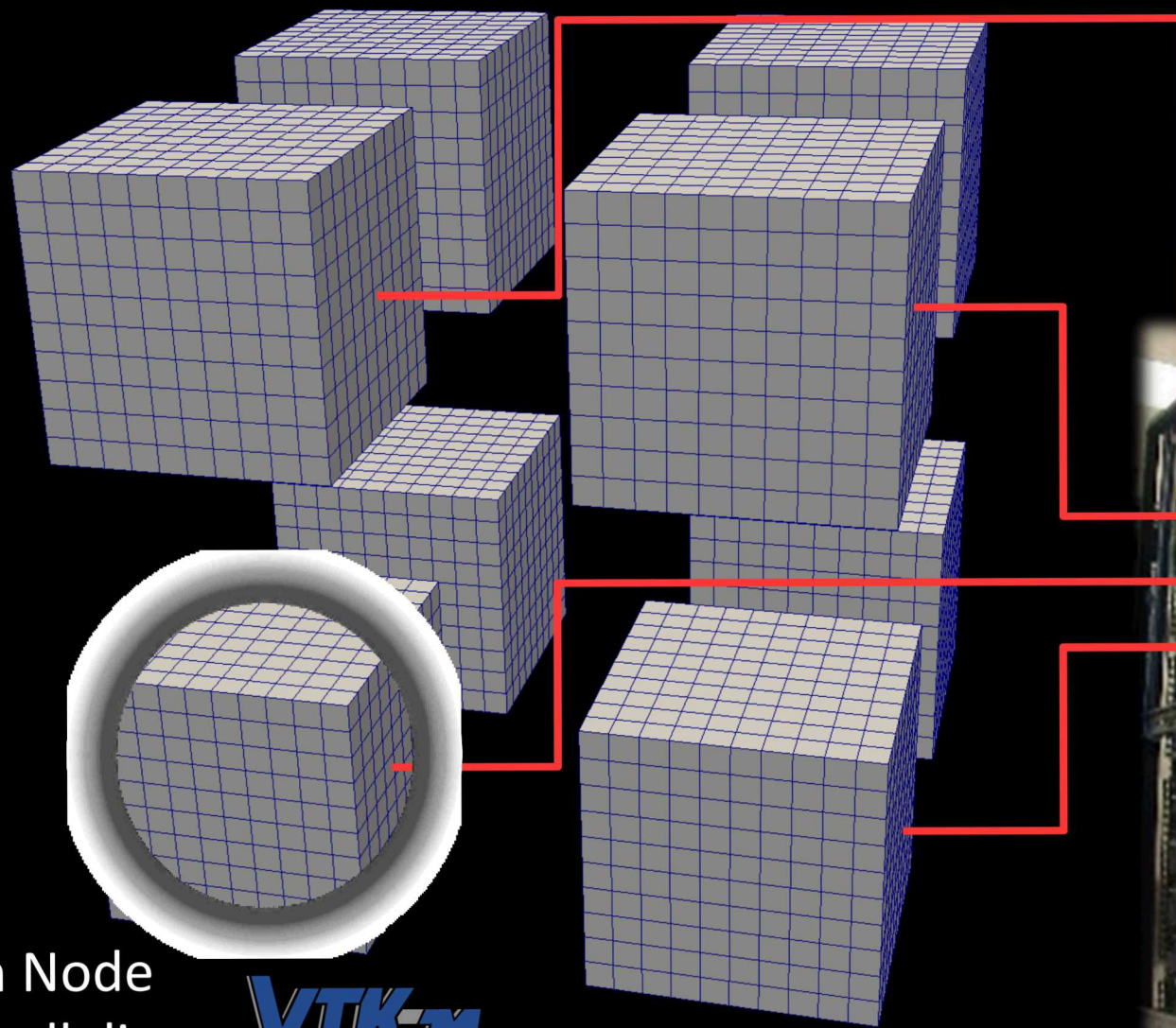


ParaView



ALPINE/  
ASCENT





Distributed  
Parallelism



ParaView



ALPINE/  
ASCENT

On Node  
Parallelism

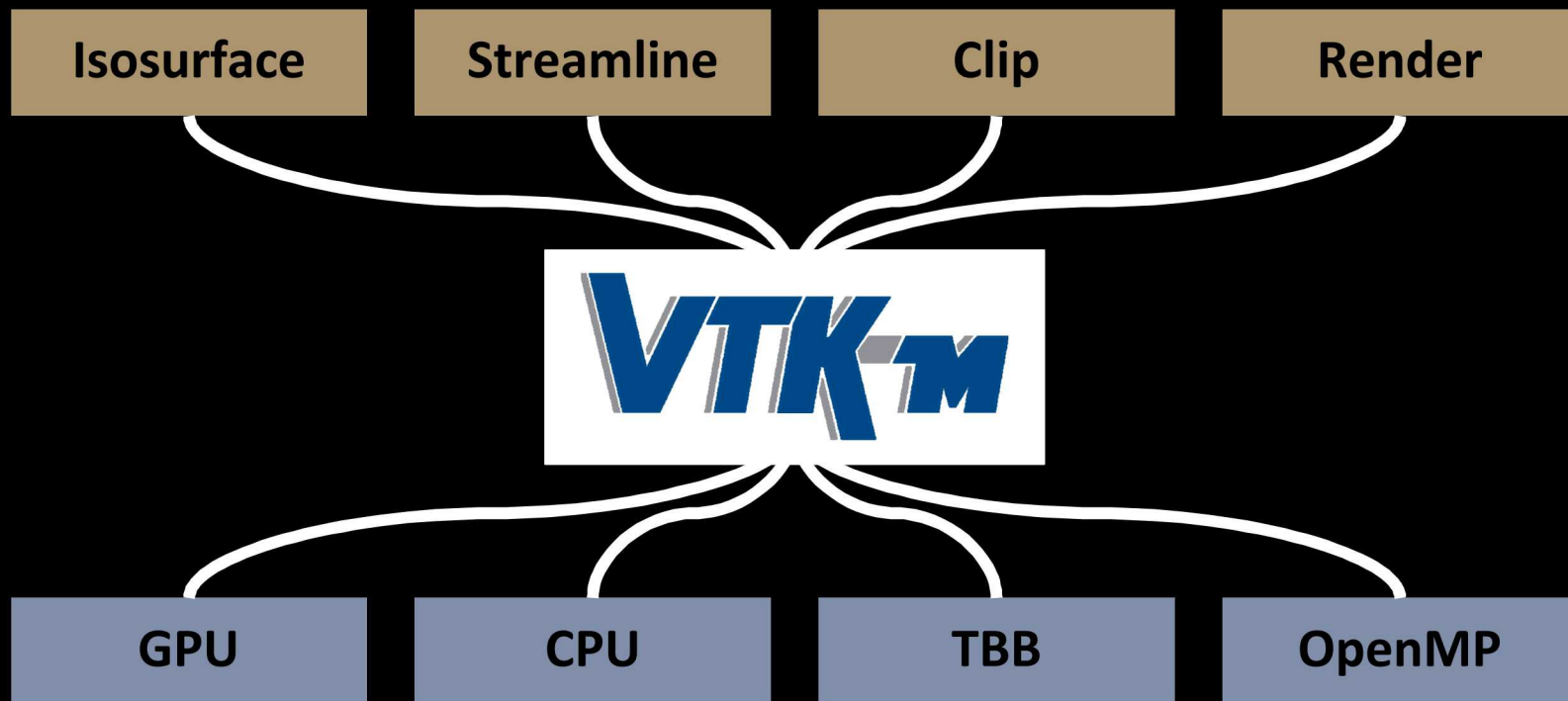


# VTK-m: the 'm' is for many-core

- VTK:
  - popular, open source, supported by a community
  - ... but primarily single core only.
- VTK-m:
  - name chosen to evoke the positive attributes of VTK
  - ... but will support multi-core and many-core.
- VTK-m is the only DOE effort for many-core visualization.
  - Previously there were 3 predecessor projects, but the PI's of those projects decided to join forces in 2014 to make VTK-m.

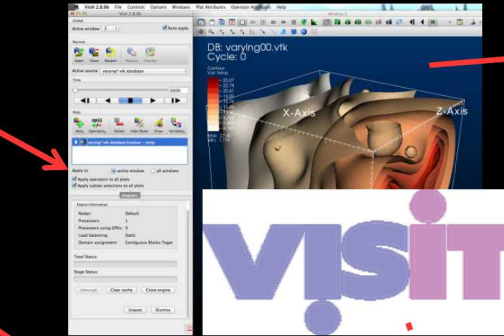
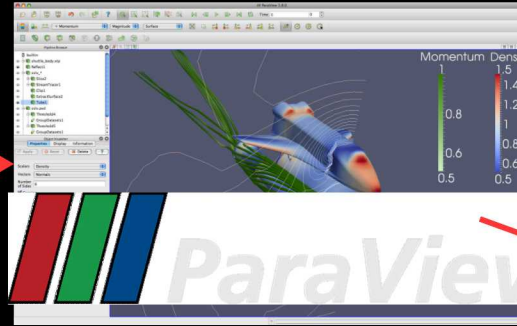






## GUI / Parallel Management

In Situ Vis Library  
(Integration with Sim)



Base Vis Library  
(Algorithm Implementation)



Multithreaded Algorithms  
Processor Portability



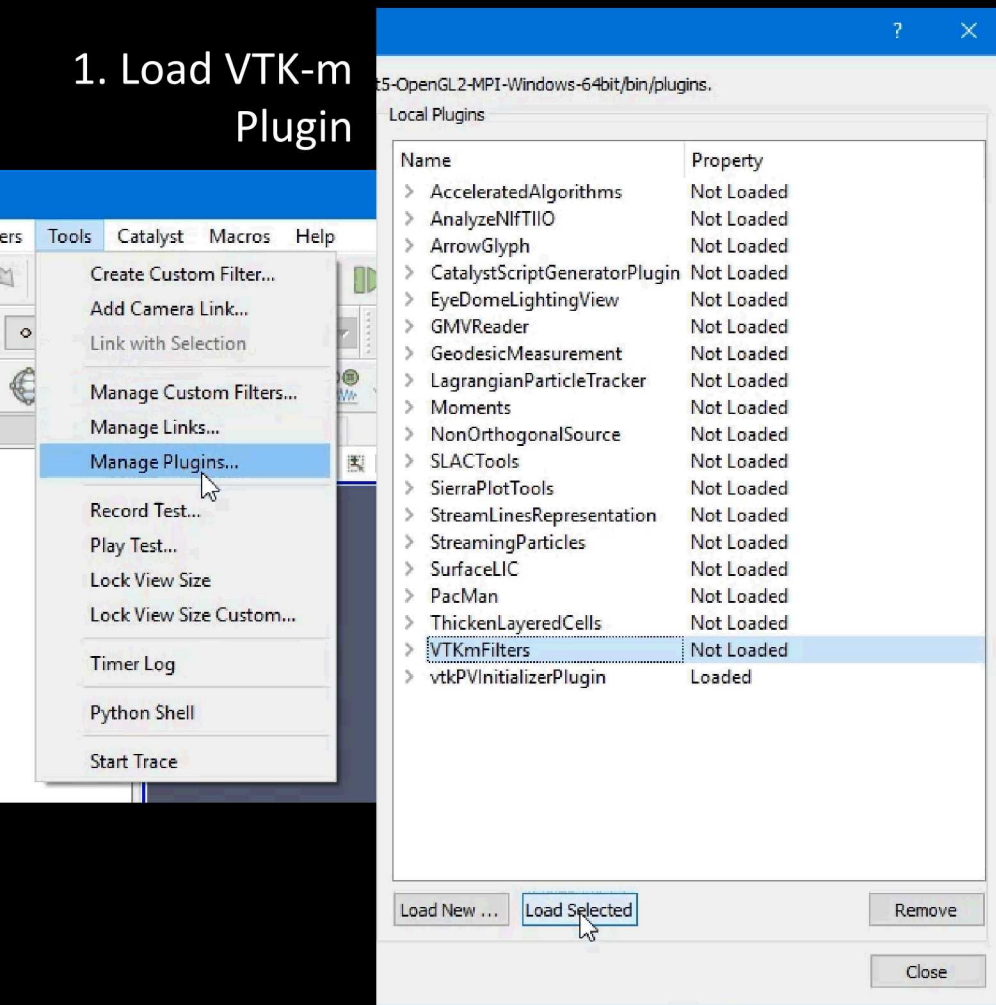
Simulations

Libsim

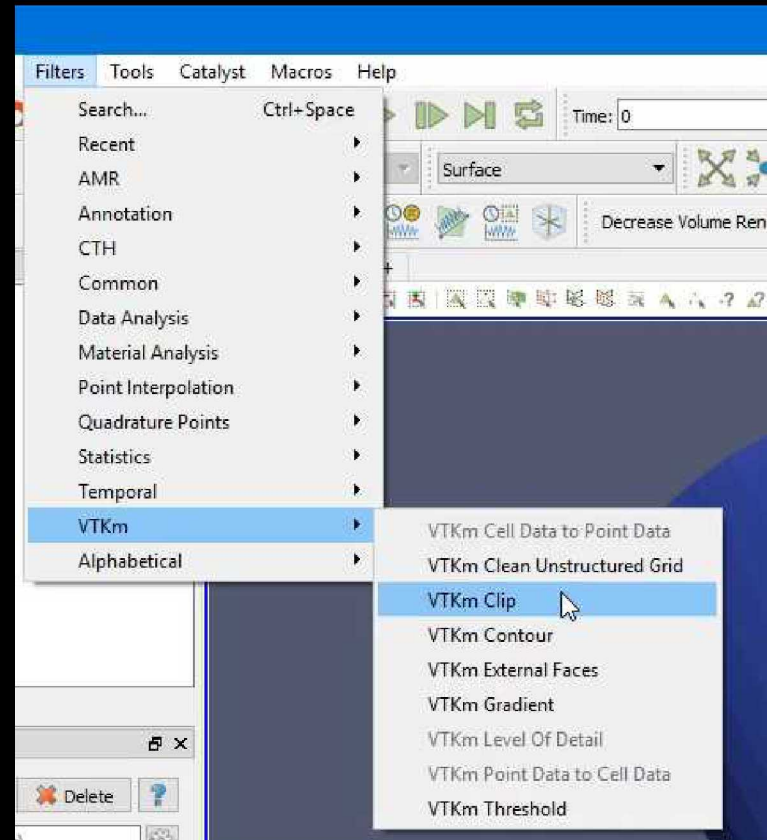


# Using VTK-m in ParaView

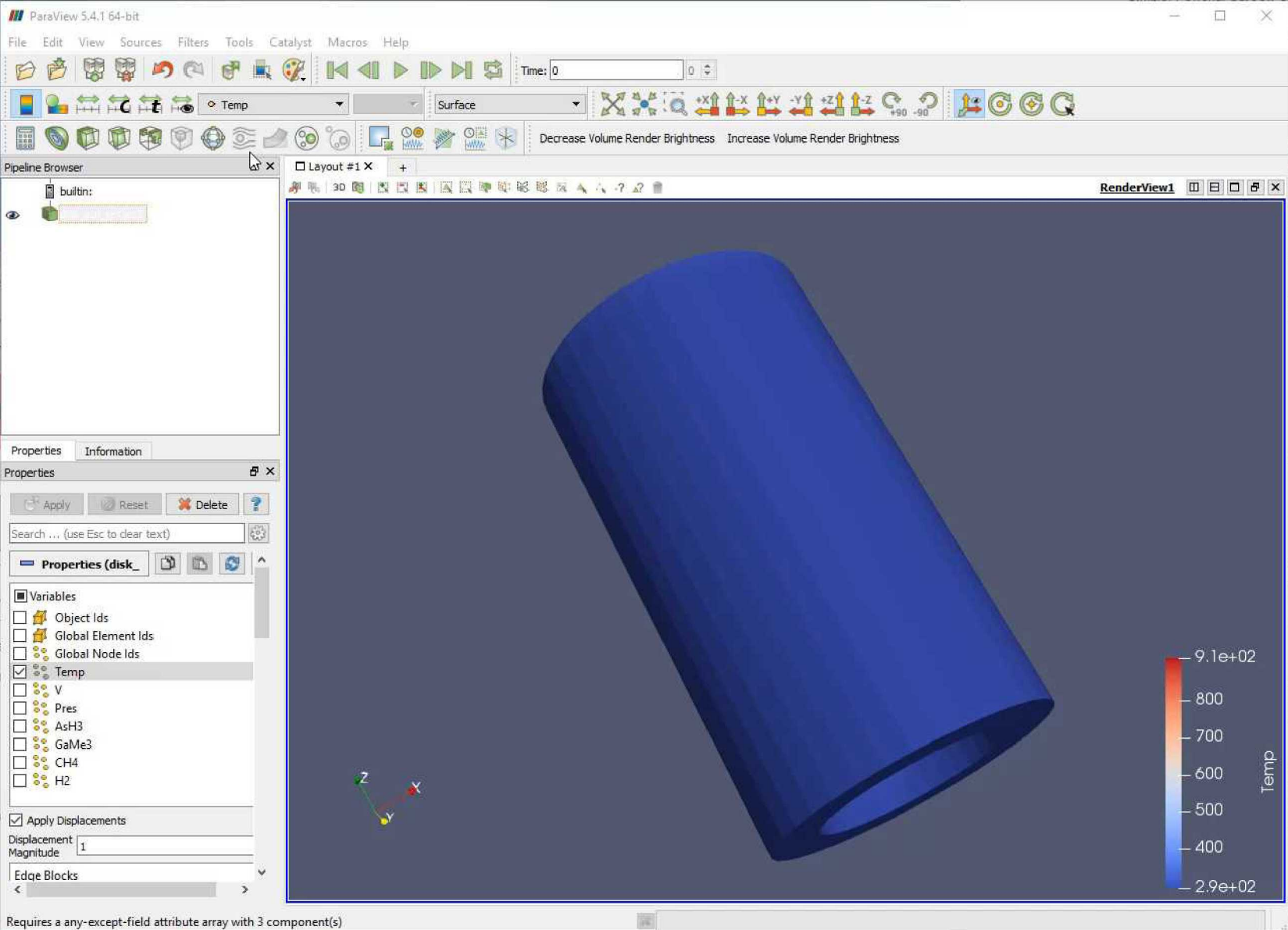
## 1. Load VTK-m Plugin



## 2. Use a VTK-m filter like any other

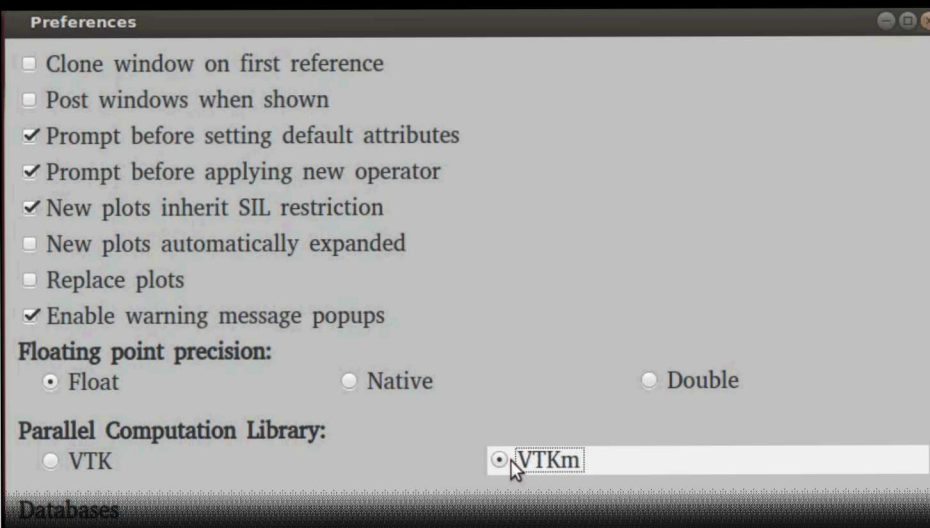




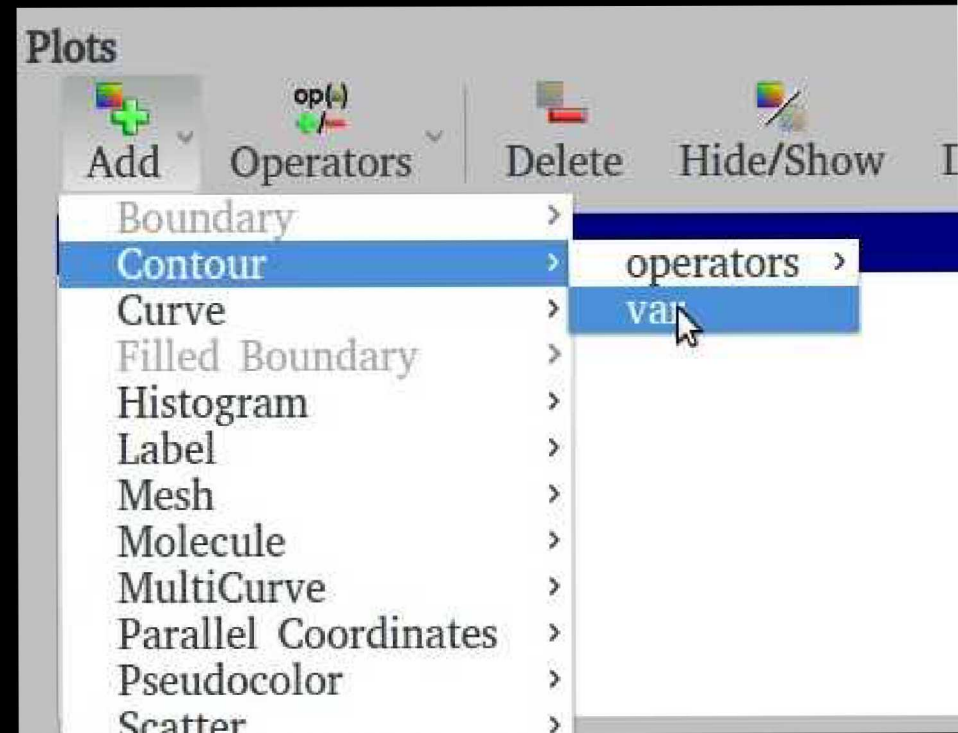


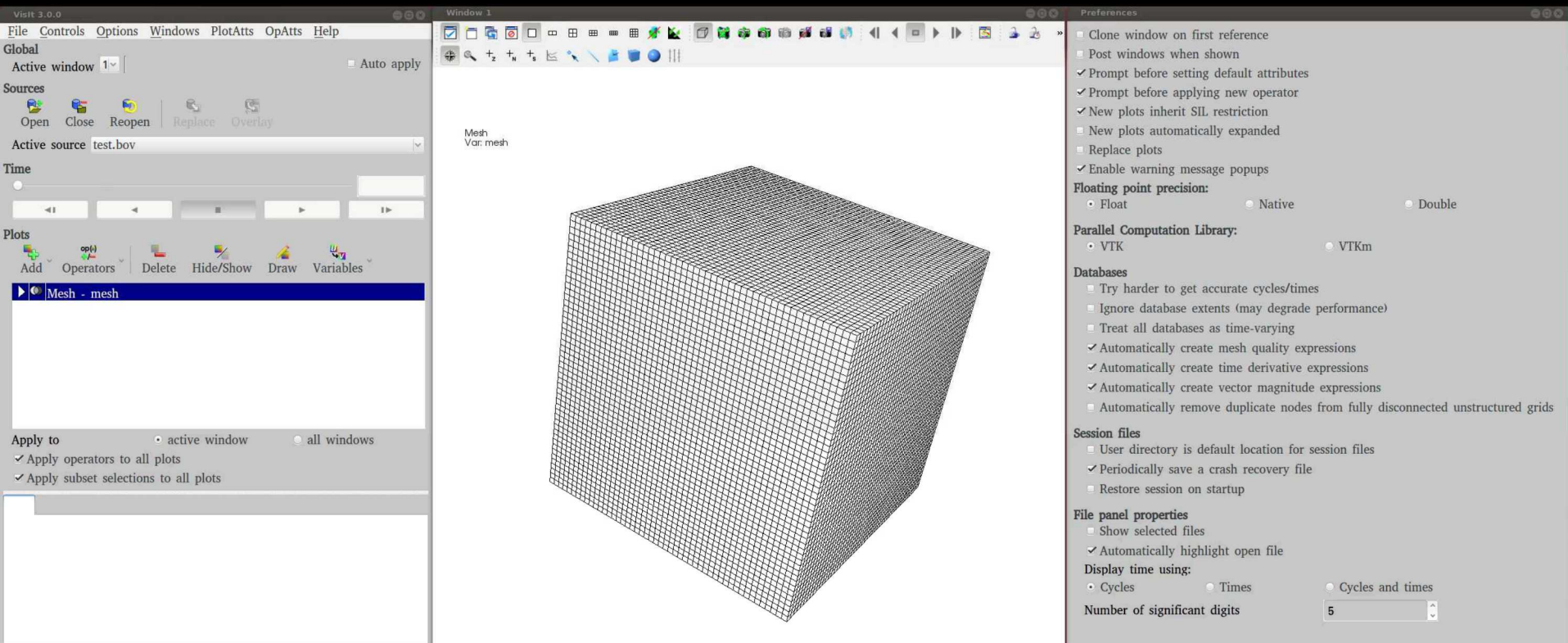
# Using VTK-m in VisIt

## 1. Turn on VTK-m in Preferences



## 2. Use VTK-m-enabled plots as normal

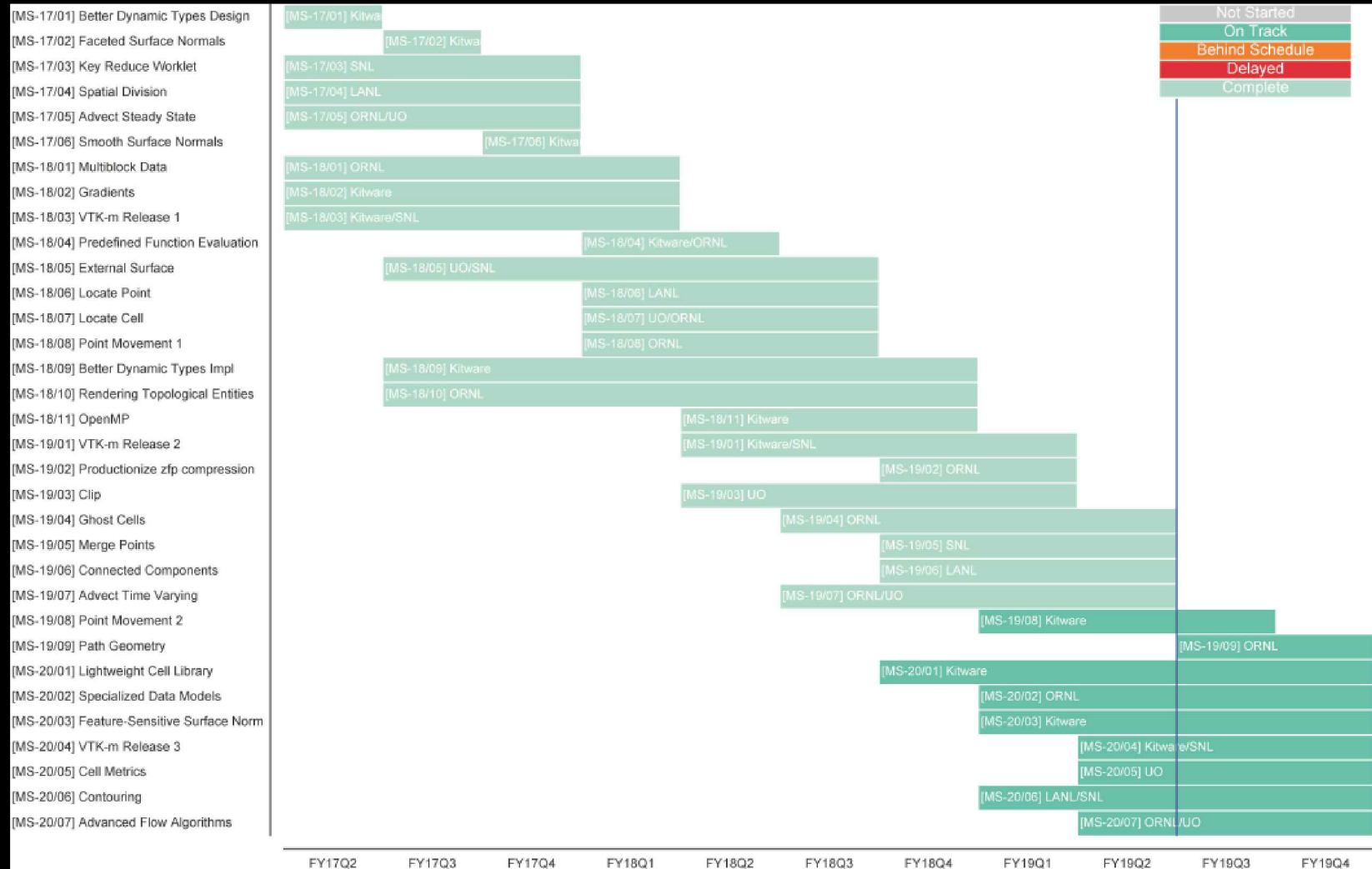




# What is Going on Now?



# ECP/VTK-m Schedule



# Extracting External Mesh Surfaces in VTK-m

ECP WBS 2.3.4.13 ECP/VTK-m

PI Kenneth Moreland, SNL

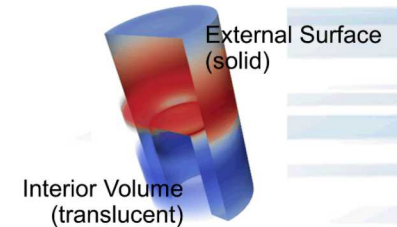
Members ORNL, LANL, UO, Kitware

## Scope and objectives

- ECP/VTK-m enables scientific visualization on the emerging processors required extreme scale computers
- Major focus on core functionality of HPC sci-vis software
- FY18 focus on field computation, computational geometry, and framework development/maintenance

## Cool image

When rendering solid objects, it is only necessary to external surface of the object as the interior of the volume is hidden.



## Impact

- External surfaces are used in most executions of ECP scientific visualization tools like ParaView and VisIt
  - Used by the rendering system to draw surfaces of solid volumes
- The accelerated external surface extraction will be integrated into the core behavior of vis tools

## Project accomplishment

- The extraction of external surfaces are now supported by VTK-m
- Specialized “fast path” methods are provided for structured data sets
- VTK-m multicore code outperforms serial VTK external faces performance.

**Deliverables** FY18Q3 [MS-18/05-08] External Surface / Locate / Point Movement, WBS 2.3.4.13, Milestone STDA05-15  
VTK-m source code repository available at: <https://gitlab.kitware.com/vtk/vtk-m>

# Point Movement Operations in VTK-m

ECP WBS 2.3.4.13 ECP/VTK-m

PI Kenneth Moreland, SNL

Members ORNL, LANL, UO, Kitware

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## Impact

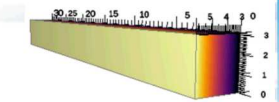
- Transformations of point coordinates are commonly used in scientific visualization tools like ParaView and VisIt
  - Used for general transformations (e.g., translate, rotation, scale), as well as coordinate system transforms (e.g., cartesian, cylindrical, spherical)
- The accelerated point movement will be integrated into the core behavior of vis tools

**Deliverables** FY18Q3 [MS-18/05-08] External Surface / Locate / Point Movement, WBS 2.3.4.13, Milestone STDA05-15  
VTK-m source code repository available at: <https://gitlab.kitware.com/vtk/vtk-m>

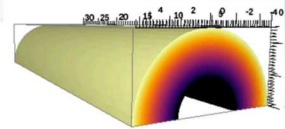
## Cool image

Simulations represent data in different coordinates systems. Transformations allow visualizations to be done in the desired coordinate system

Cylindrical Coordinates



Cartesian Coordinates



## Project accomplishment

- Implementations of two forms of point coordinate transformation
  - General affine transformations (any combinations of translate, rotate, and scale)
  - Coordinate system transformations (translations between Cartesian, cylindrical, and spherical representations)

# Cell and Point Locators in VTK-m

ECP WBS 2.3.4.13 ECP/VTK-m

PI Kenneth Moreland, SNL

Members ORNL, LANL, UO, Kitware

## Scope and objectives

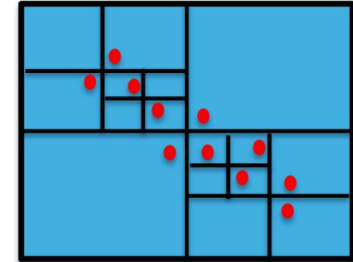
- ECP/VTK-m enables scientific visualization on the emerging processors required by extreme scale computers
- Major focus is core functionality of HPC sci-vis software
- FY18 focus on field computation, computational geometry, and framework development/maintenance

## Impact

- Visualization algorithms in VTK-m that depend on cell or point location can now receive significant acceleration.
  - For example, particle advection depends on repeatedly evaluating a velocity field, which requires point location. This operation can now be done quickly for unstructured meshes.

## Cool image

Locators enable for quick spatial searching. The time complexity for searching when using locators becomes logarithmic.



## Project accomplishment

- Implementation of VTK-m of point locators and cell locators
- Effort to make a consistent interface across all locators
- Work merged to VTK-m master
- API documented

**Deliverables** FY18Q3 [MS-18/06-07] Locate Point / Locate Cell, WBS 2.3.4.13, Milestone STDA05-24,25  
VTK-m source code repository available at: <https://gitlab.kitware.com/vtk/vtk-m>



# Rendering Topological Entities

ECP WBS 2.3.4.13 ECP/VTK-m

PI Kenneth Moreland, SNL

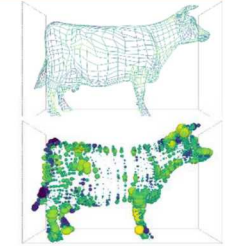
Members ORNL, LANL, UO, Kitware

## Scope and objectives

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## Cool image

Examples of rendering a surface mesh based on edges (top) and points (bottom).



## Impact

- A mesh contains multiple distinctive features, all of which can affect the solution achieved by a solver
- Renderings of different topological features are important to understand mesh structures and data in the mesh

## Project accomplishment

- Implemented multiple “mappers” that represent topologies in different ways
  - MapperCylinder: Represent edges as 3D tubes that can be sized based on physical properties
  - MapperPoint: Represent points as 3D spheres that can be sized based on physical properties
  - MapperQuad: Optimize render for surfaces of quads

**Deliverables** FY18Q4 [MS-18/09-10] Dynamic Types / Rendering Topologies, WBS 2.3.4.13, Milestone STDA05-16  
VTK-m source code repository available at: <https://gitlab.kitware.com/vtk/vtk-m>

# OpenMP Thread Management in VTK-m

ECP WBS 2.3.4.13 ECP/VTK-m

PI Kenneth Moreland, SNL

Members ORNL, LANL, UO, Kitware

## Scope and objectives

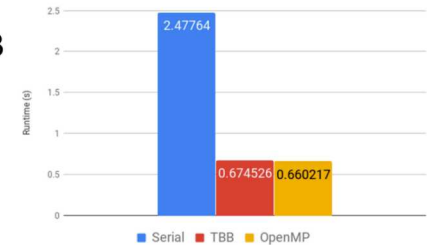
- ECP/VTK-m enables scientific visualization on the emerging processors required extreme scale computers
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## Impact

- Many software products used and developed in ECP use OpenMP
- VTK-m's previous thread manager, TBB, could interact with OpenMP in poor ways
- VTK-m with OpenMP insures that VTK-m's threads will not interfere with other integrated software

## Performance

The OpenMP backend performs similarly to the TBB backend. Benchmark shown is the Marching Cubes algorithm on a 512x512x512 volume on a quad core workstation.



## Project accomplishment

- A “device adapter” using OpenMP was added to VTK-m
  - TBB device adapter still exists
  - Users can choose between the two
- Performance comparisons show that the OpenMP implementation is as efficient as our TBB implementation

**Deliverables** FY18Q4 [MS-18/09-10] Dynamic Types / Rendering Topologies, WBS 2.3.4.13, Milestone STDA05-16  
VTK-m source code repository available at: <https://gitlab.kitware.com/vtk/vtk-m>

# Dynamic Types in VTK-m

ECP WBS 2.3.4.13 ECP/VTK-m

PI Kenneth Moreland, SNL

Members ORNL, LANL, UO, Kitware

## Scope and objectives

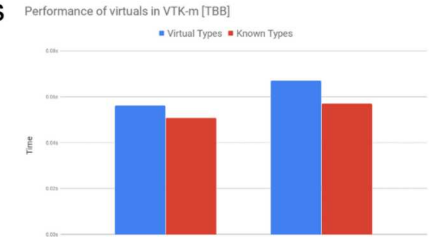
- ECP/VTK-m enables scientific visualization on the emerging processors required extreme scale computers
- Major focus on core functionality of HPC sci-vis software
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## Impact

- VTK-m is designed to adapt to other app data structures
- Often specific types of these structures are not known until run time.
- VTK-m's new dynamic data types hide the physical structure behind a virtual method interface.

## Performance

Comparison of Black-Scholes with and without the overhead of virtual calls



## Project accomplishment

- ArrayHandleVirtual was added to VTK as primary virtual method interface which works seamlessly across TBB, OpenMP, and CUDA.
- Support was added for filters to have full de-virtualization of specific type and layout combinations

**Deliverables** FY18Q4 [MS-18/09-10] Dynamic Types / Rendering Topologies, WBS 2.3.4.13, Milestone STDA05-16  
VTK-m source code repository available at: <https://gitlab.kitware.com/vtk/vtk-m>

# ZFP Compression Available in VTK-m

ECP WBS 2.3.4.13 ECP/VTK-m

PI Kenneth Moreland, SNL

Members ORNL, LANL, UO, Kitware

## Scope and objectives

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- Major focus on core functionality of HPC sci-vis software
- FY19 focus on computational geometry, flow visualization, and framework development/maintenance

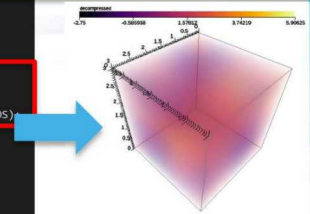
## Ease of Integration

Enabling ZFP in rendering can be implemented in as little as 4 lines of code.

```
template<typename M, typename C, typename V3>
void RenderZFP(vtkm::cont::DataSet &compressedDS,
              vtkm::Float64 rate)
{
    vtkm::filter::ZFPDecompressor3D decompressor;
    decompressor.SetActiveField("compressed");
    decompressor.SetRate(rate);
    auto decompress = decompressor.Execute(compressedDS);

    vtkm::cont::ColorTable colorTable("Inferno");
    colorTable.AddPointAlpha(0.0, .01f);
    colorTable.AddPointAlpha(1.0, .01f);

    vtkm::rendering::testing::Render<M, C, V3>{
        decompress, "decompressed", colorTable, "reg3D.pnm"};
}
```



## Impact

- ZFP provides fast, tunable compression
  - A critical technology for ECP (WBS 2.3.4.11)
- Benefits of implementing ZFP in VTK-m:
  - Device portability
  - Easier integration in visualization and other software

## Project accomplishment

- Implement ZFP using VTK-m parallel primitives model
- Implement VTK-m compression filters
- Implement VTK-m compression worklets

**Deliverables** FY19Q1 [MS-19/01-03] ZFP / Release / Clip, WBS 2.3.4.13, Milestone STDA05-17  
VTK-m source code repository available at: <https://gitlab.kitware.com/vtk/vtk-m>



# Fast, Highly Parallel Mesh Clipping

ECP WBS 2.3.4.13 ECP/VTK-m

PI Kenneth Moreland, SNL

Members ORNL, LANL, UO, Kitware

## Scope and objectives

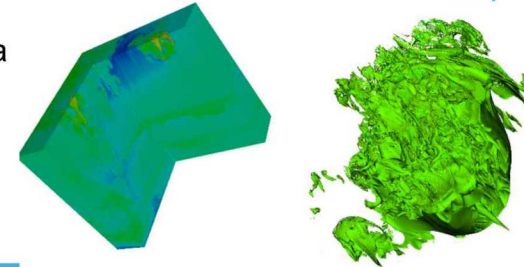
- ECP/VTK-m enables scientific visualization on the emerging processors required extreme scale computers
- Major focus on core functionality of HPC sci-vis software
- FY19 focus on computational geometry, flow visualization, and framework development/maintenance

## Impact

- Clipping is a common visualization operation for extracting regions of interest.
- The algorithm intersects a mesh with spatial or field region to provide cutaways and isovolumes (the region of a volume between a minimum and maximum scalar value)

## Cool image

Two uses of clipping, applied to a buoyancy data set. Left: clipping away using two planes. Right: clipping away regions outside a scalar range.



## Project accomplishment

- Evolved the VTK-m clipping functionality to work natively on all cell types, rather than just tetrahedrons.
  - This work was carried out by adapting the routines from the VisIt visualization tool to VTK-m.
- This minimizes the amount of memory needed to carry out the algorithm and also produces more accurate visualizations.

**Deliverables** FY19Q1 [MS-19/01-03] ZFP / Release / Clip, WBS 2.3.4.13, Milestone STDA05-17  
VTK-m source code repository available at: <https://gitlab.kitware.com/vtk/vtk-m>

# Better Ghost Cell Support in VTK-m

ECP WBS 2.3.4.13 ECP/VTK-m

PI Kenneth Moreland, SNL

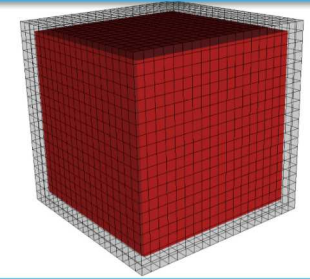
Members ORNL, LANL, UO, Kitware

## Scope and objectives

- ECP/VTK-m enables scientific visualization on the emerging processors required extreme scale computers
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- FY19 focus on computational geometry, flow visualization, and framework development/maintenance

## Cool image

Grid with boundary layer cells marked as ghost cells. The ghost cells are rendered transparently and the other cells in red.



## Impact

- Support for ghost cells allows for better representation of raw simulation data
- Support will allow for zero-copy data required for in situ visualization scenarios
- Support for both simulation embedded visualization as well as tools in the ALPINE project

## Project accomplishment

- Ghost cells are critical for simulations to ensure boundary continuity
- Two VTK-m filters provided for working with ghost cells
  - Filter to mark boundary layers as ghost cells
  - Filter to remove ghost cells from dataset preserving structured topology when possible

**Deliverables** FY19Q2 [MS-19/04-07] Ghost / Merge / Connected / Advect Time, WBS 2.3.4.13, P6 Activity STDA05-18  
VTK-m source code repository available at: <https://gitlab.kitware.com/vtk/vtk-m>

# Fast Point Merging in VTK-m

ECP WBS 2.3.4.13 ECP/VTK-m

PI Kenneth Moreland, SNL

Members ORNL, LANL, UO, Kitware

## Scope and objectives

- ECP/VTK-m enables scientific visualization on the emerging processors required extreme scale computers
- Major focus on core functionality of HPC sci-vis software
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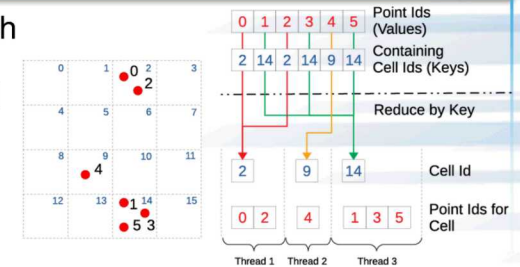
## Impact

- Mesh structures can contain coincident points, and it may be necessary to merge these coincident points
- Efficiency is important for large points sets (naïve algorithm is  $O(N^2)$ )
- Point merging can: save space, make a mesh watertight, help identify malformed cells, simplify geometry

**Deliverables** FY19Q2 [MS-19/04-07] Ghost / Merge / Connected / Advect Time, WBS 2.3.4.13, P6 Activity STDA05-18  
VTK-m source code repository available at: <https://gitlab.kitware.com/vtk/vtk-m>

## Cool image

Our “virtual grid” approach quickly identifies nearby points much like a spatial search structure but without building the structure itself.



## Project accomplishment

- Developed a “virtual grid” approach to point merging
  - Faster than an explicit search structure
  - Demonstrates scalable performance
- Adjustable tolerance for distance of “coincident”
  - Can manage floating point error at different scales

# Identifying Connected Components in VTK-m

ECP WBS 2.3.4.13 ECP/VTK-m

PI Kenneth Moreland, SNL

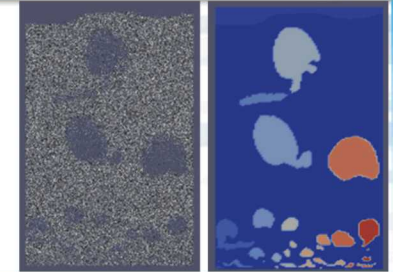
Members ORNL, LANL, UO, Kitware

## Scope and objectives

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## Cool image

Bubble detection for MFIX particle data, identifying low particle density regions in the simulation.



## Impact

- Identifying subsets with common property is a widely used data analysis technique.
- Simulations like ExSky and MFIX can use Connected Components to identify region of dense/sparse particle distributions.

## Project accomplishment

- Implement ImageConnectivity filter for structured grid based on cell data.
- Implement CellSetConnectivity filter for unstructured grid based on cell to cell connectivity.

**Deliverables** FY19Q2 [MS-19/04-07] Ghost / Merge / Connected / Advect Time, WBS 2.3.4.13, P6 Activity STDA05-18  
VTK-m source code repository available at: <https://gitlab.kitware.com/vtk/vtk-m>



# Time Varying Particle Advection in VTK-m

ECP WBS 2.3.4.13 ECP/VTK-m

PI Kenneth Moreland, SNL

Members ORNL, LANL, UO, Kitware

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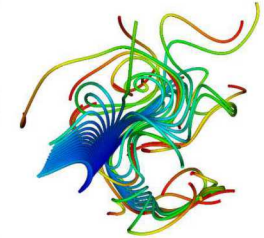
## Impact

- Time-varying flow visualization algorithms are often needed by ECP Applications to understand their data
  - With this work, we will be able to deliver the most meaningful analysis to stakeholders, as opposed to our previous generation of code that supported only steady-state flow

## VTK-m Particle Advection

Particle advection is a foundational operation for many flow visualization algorithms

VTK-m's particle advection system supports diverse flow visualization algorithms, and does so efficiently in a performance portable, parallel manner



## Project accomplishment

- Enhanced the VTK-m particle advection system to support unsteady flow data
  - Extensive development task, requiring all previous components to add support for time information, as well as support for handling multiple time steps, and temporal interpolation

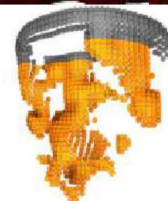
**Deliverables** FY19Q2 [MS-19/04-07] Ghost / Merge / Connected / Advect Time, WBS 2.3.4.13, P6 Activity STDA05-18  
VTK-m source code repository available at: <https://gitlab.kitware.com/vtk/vtk-m>



# LD AV

# 2019

**The 9th IEEE Symposium on Large  
Data Analysis and Visualization**  
in conjunction with IEEE VIS 2019,  
Vancouver, BC, Canada, October 21, 2019



Abstracts Due: June 17

Papers Due: June 24