



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

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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

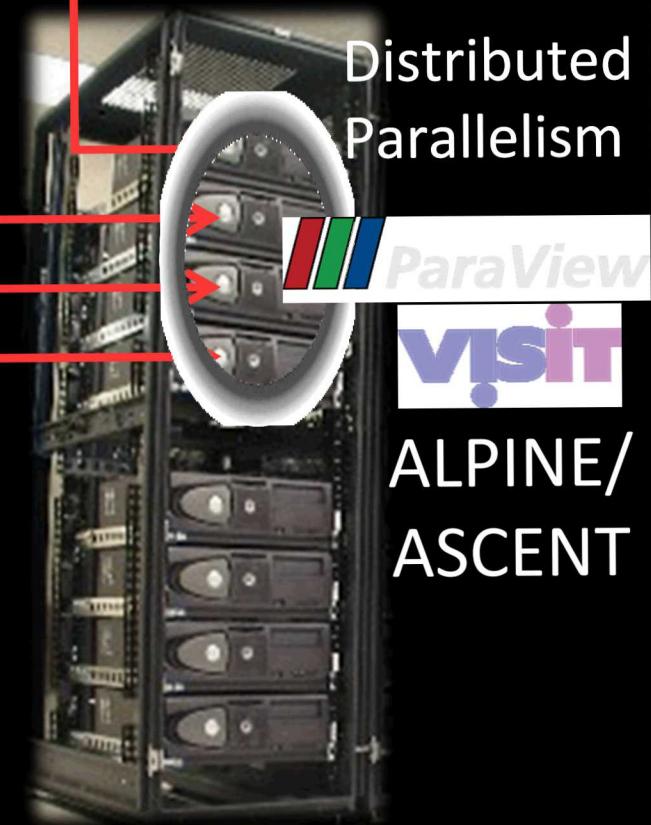
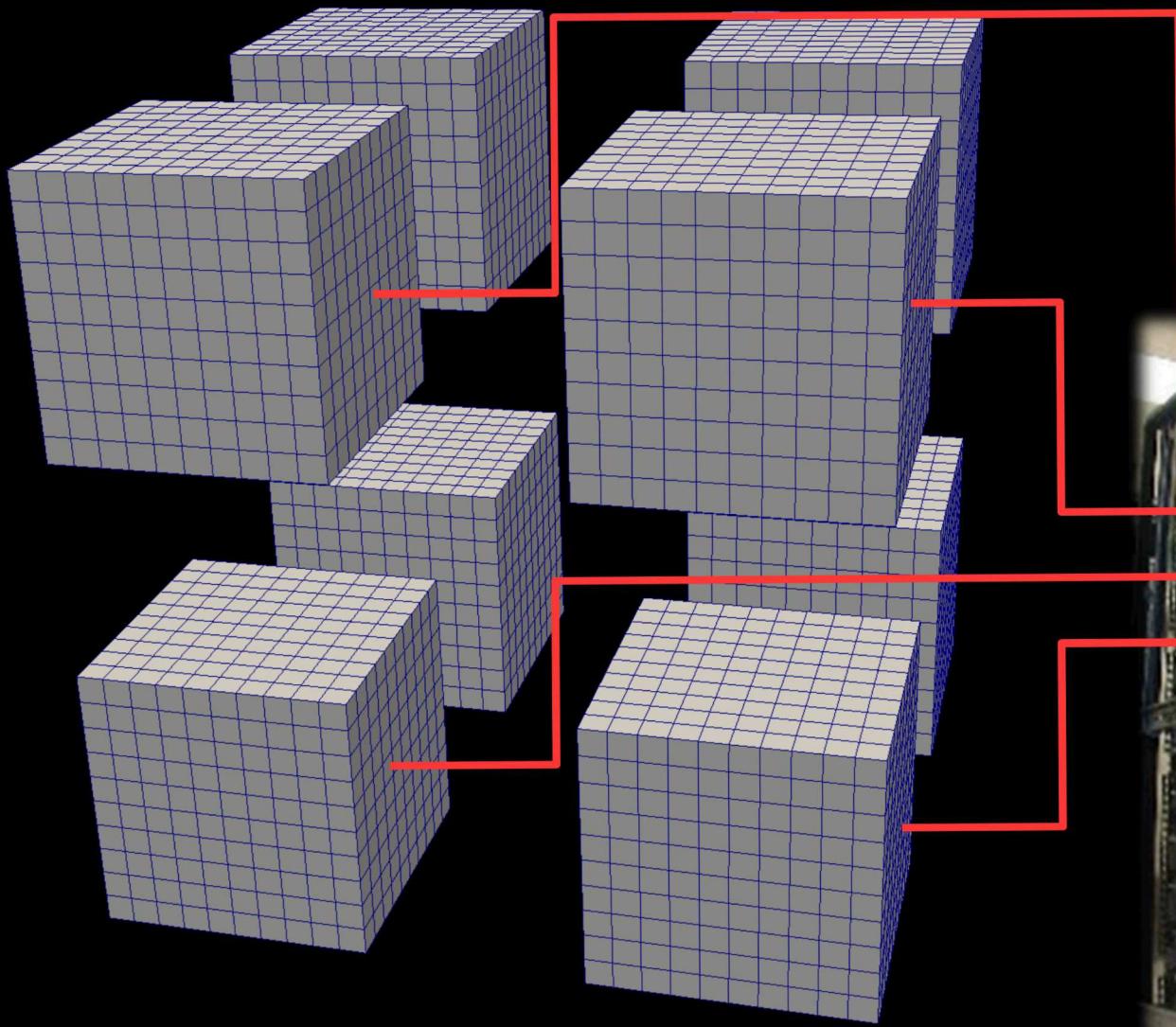
Why VTK-m?

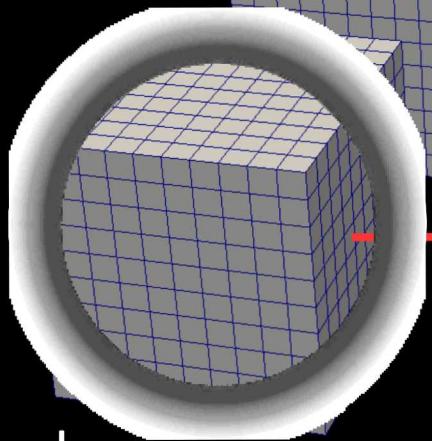
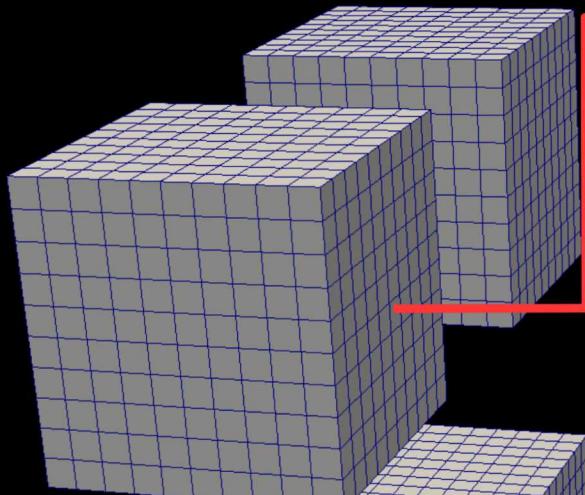
My new computer's got the clocks, it rocks
But it was obsolete before I opened the box

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

Moore’s Law is dead.

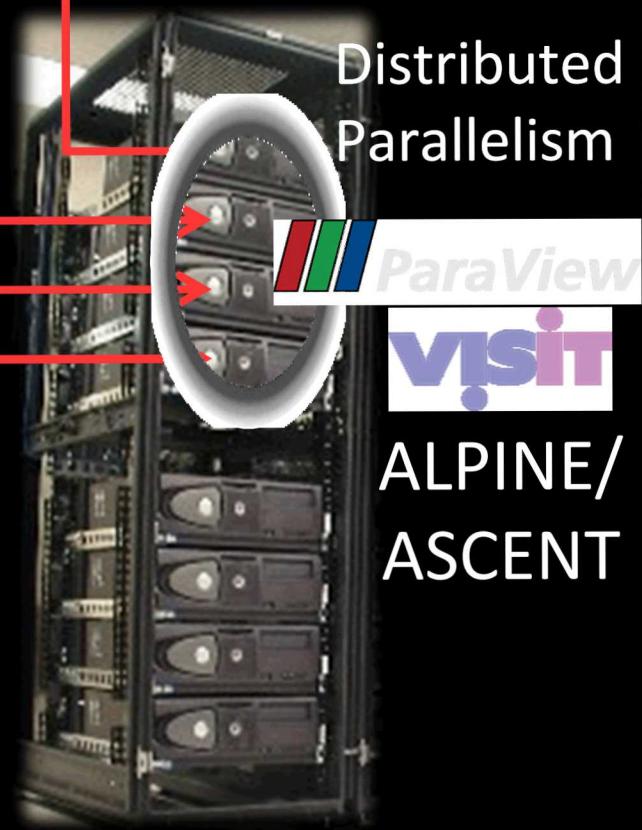
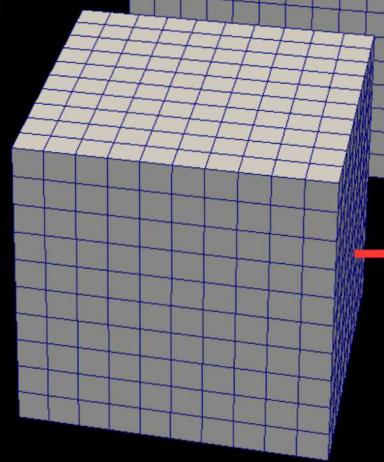
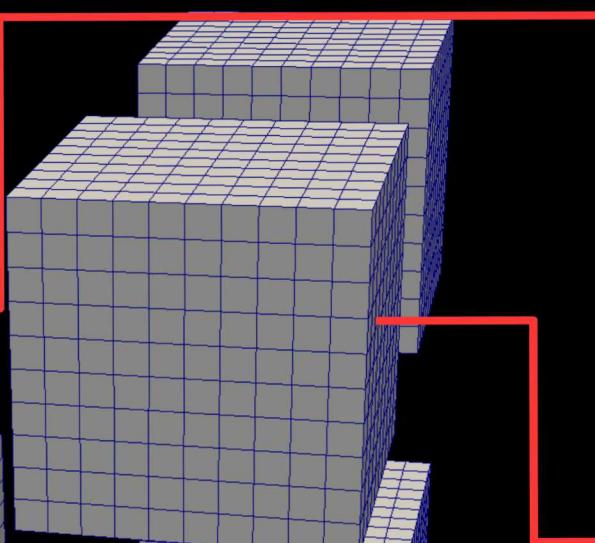
– Gordon Moore, circa 2005





On Node
Parallelism

VTK-m



Distributed
Parallelism

ParaView

visIt

ALPINE/
ASCENT

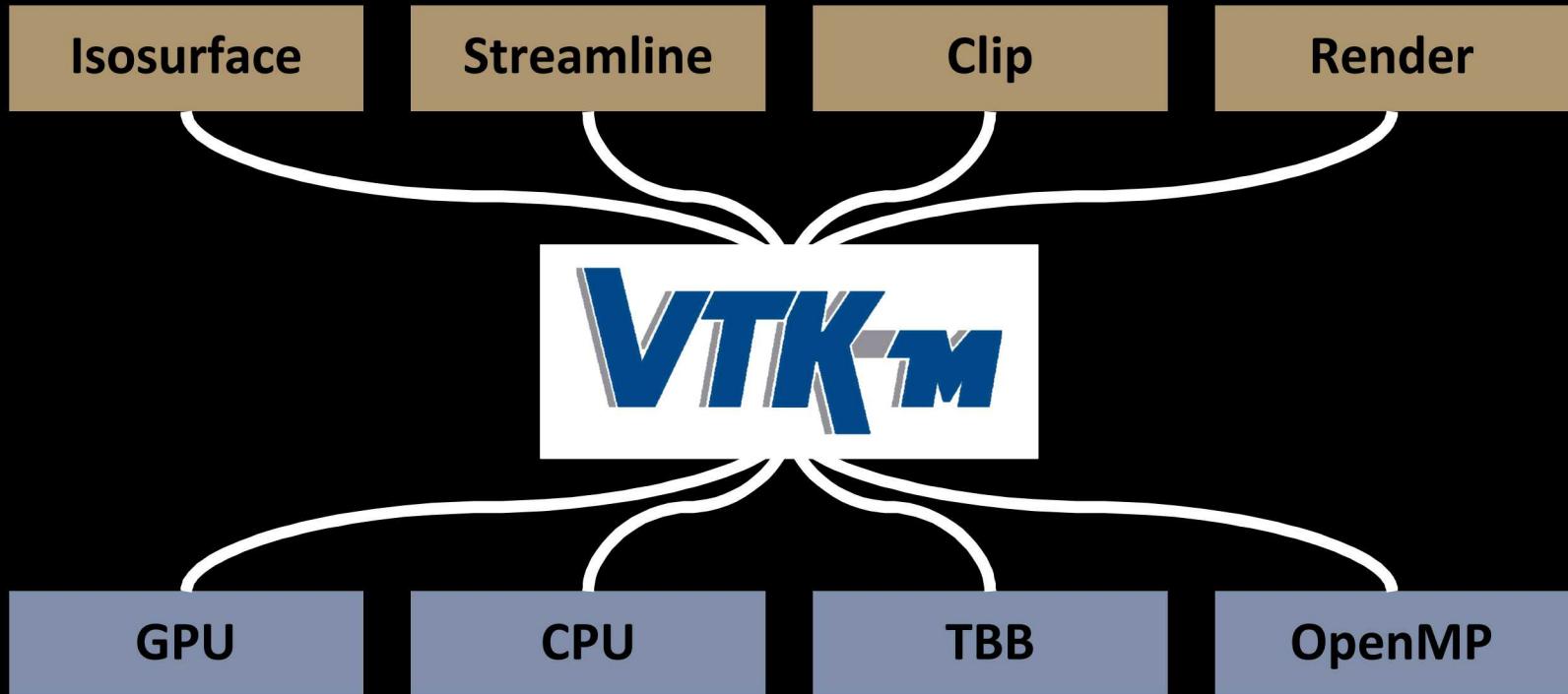
VTK-m: the 'm' is for many-core

- 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.



CUDA SDK
561 Lines

VTK-m
283 Lines

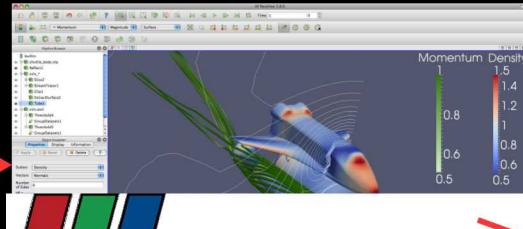


Simulations

In Situ Vis Library
(Integration with Sim)



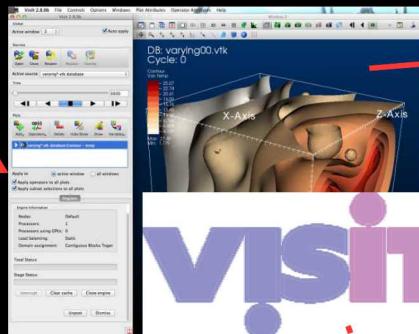
GUI / Parallel Management



Libsim



Base Vis Library
(Algorithm Implementation)

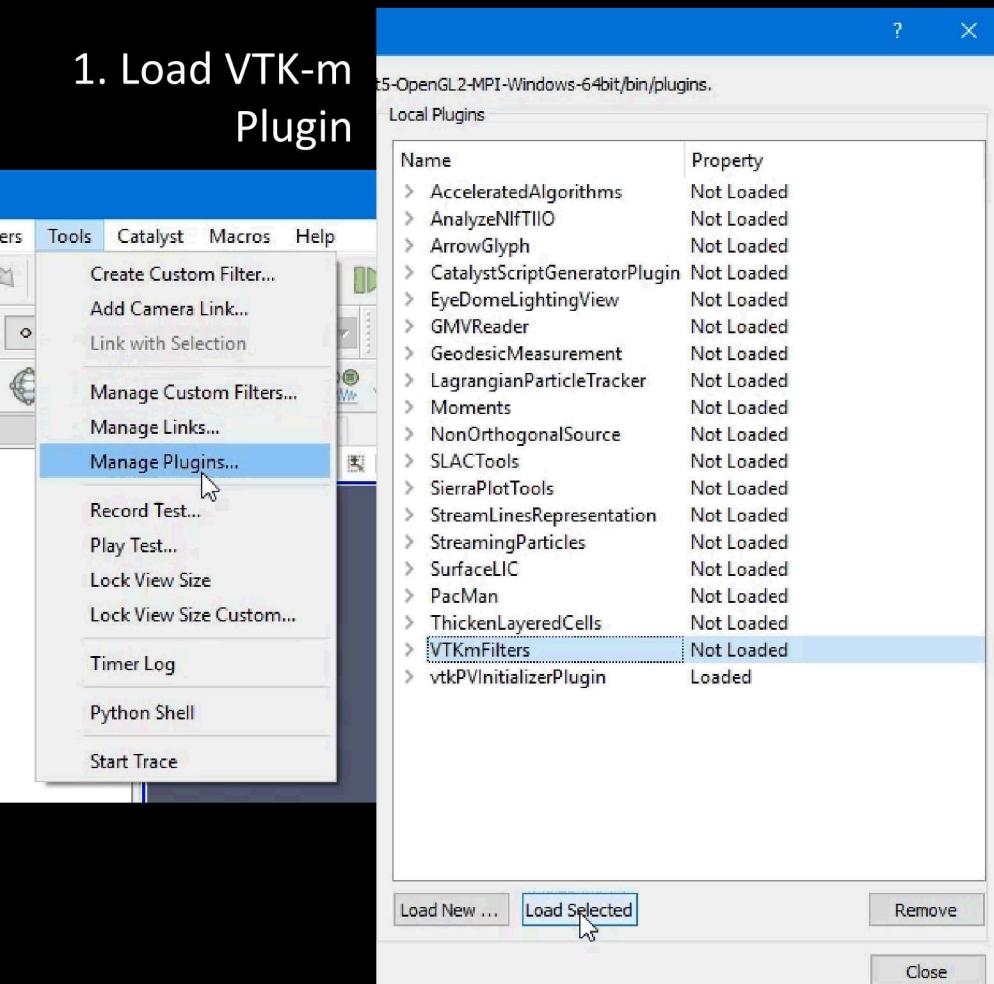


Multithreaded Algorithms
Processor Portability

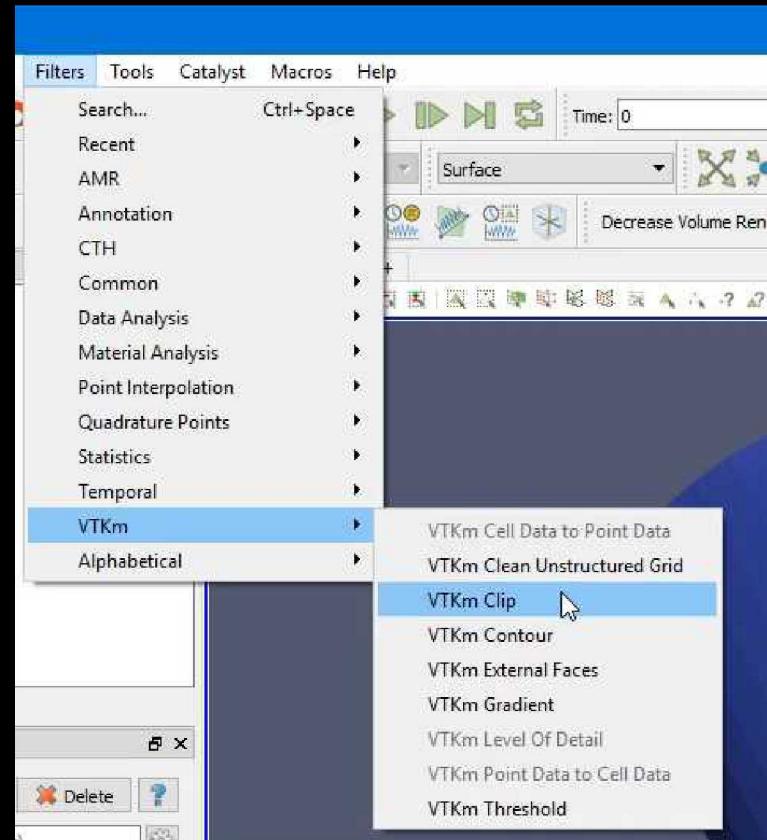


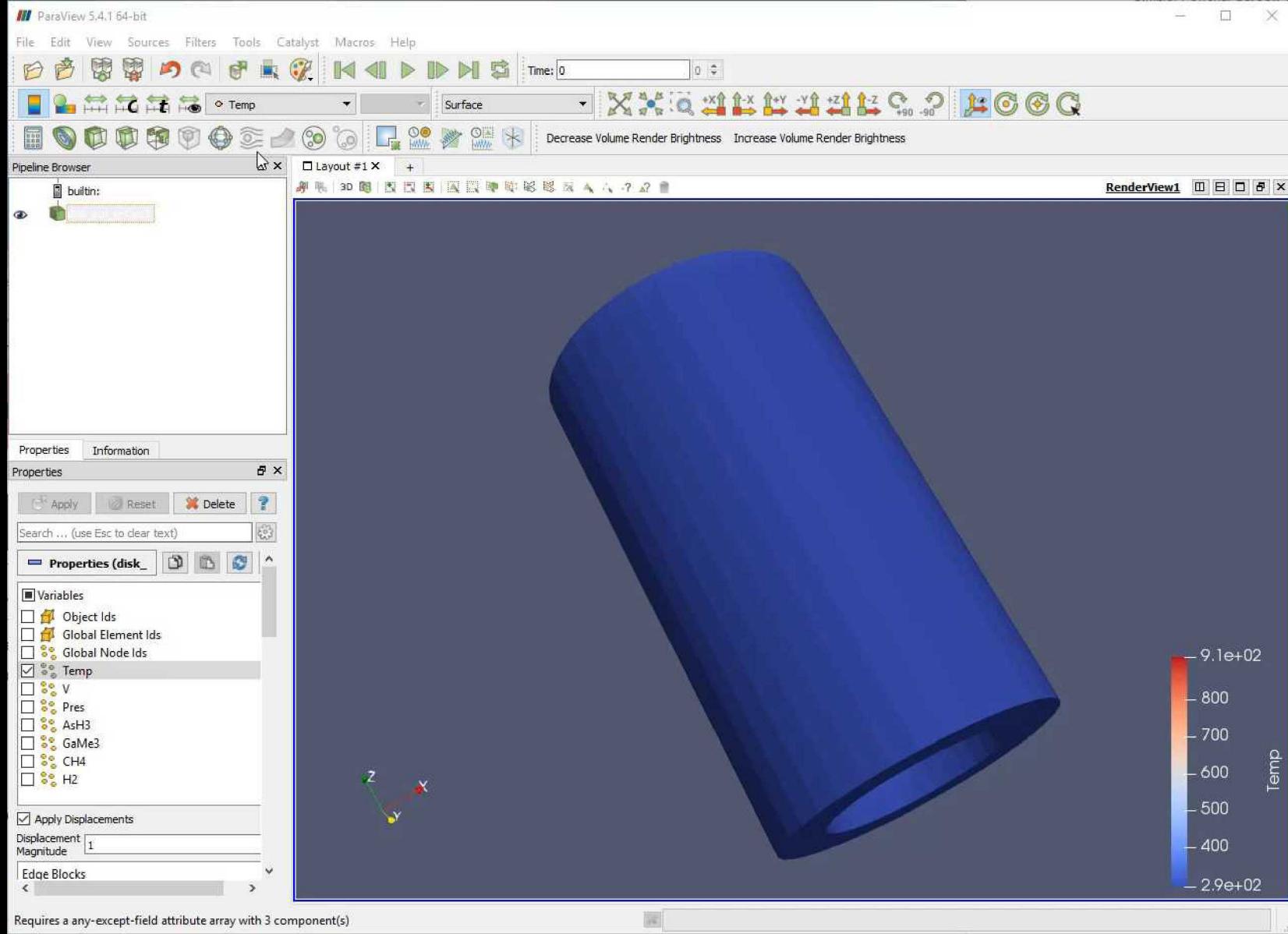
Using VTK-m in ParaView

1. Load VTK-m Plugin



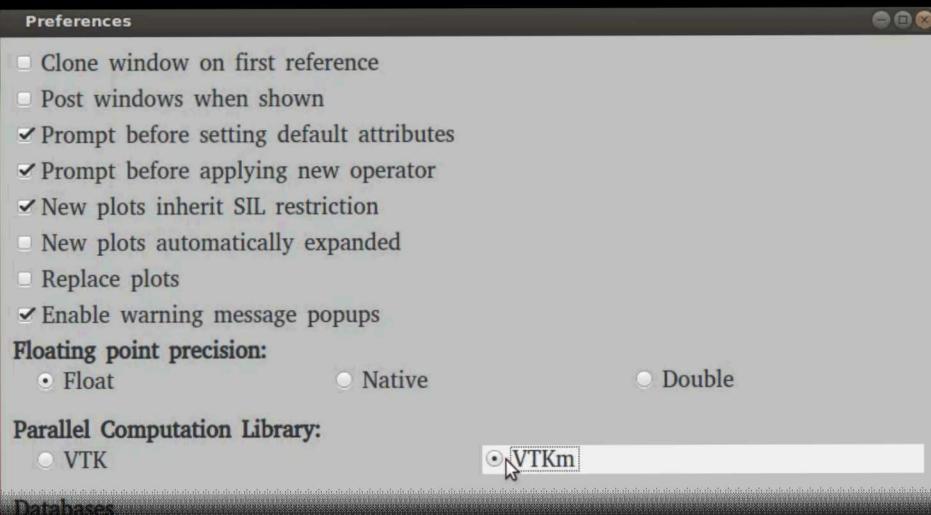
2. Use a VTK-m filter like any other



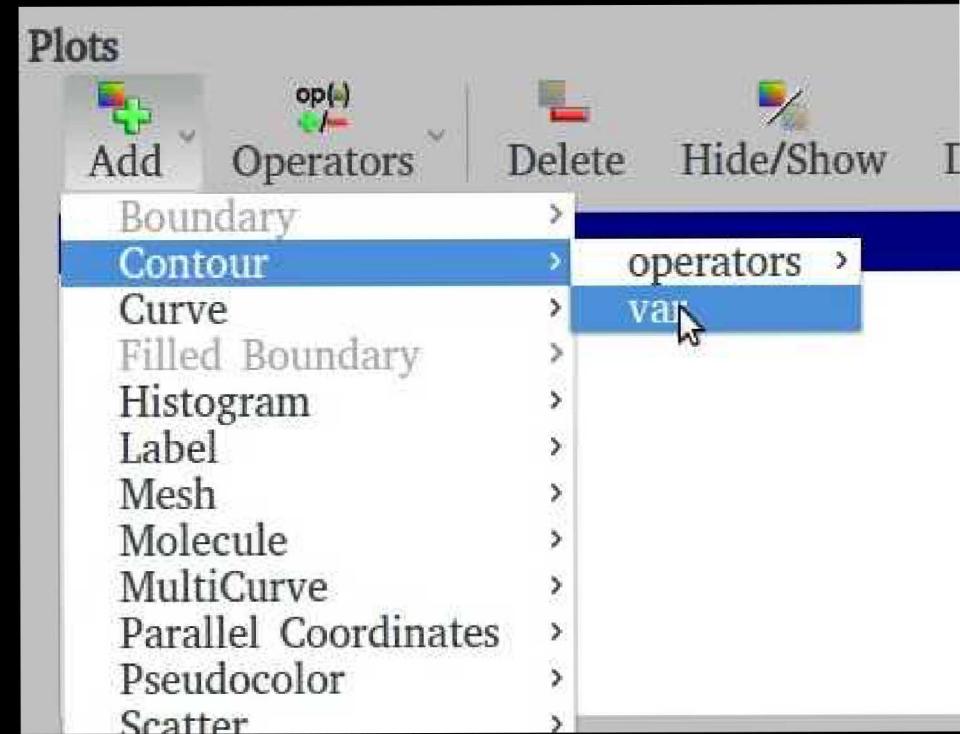


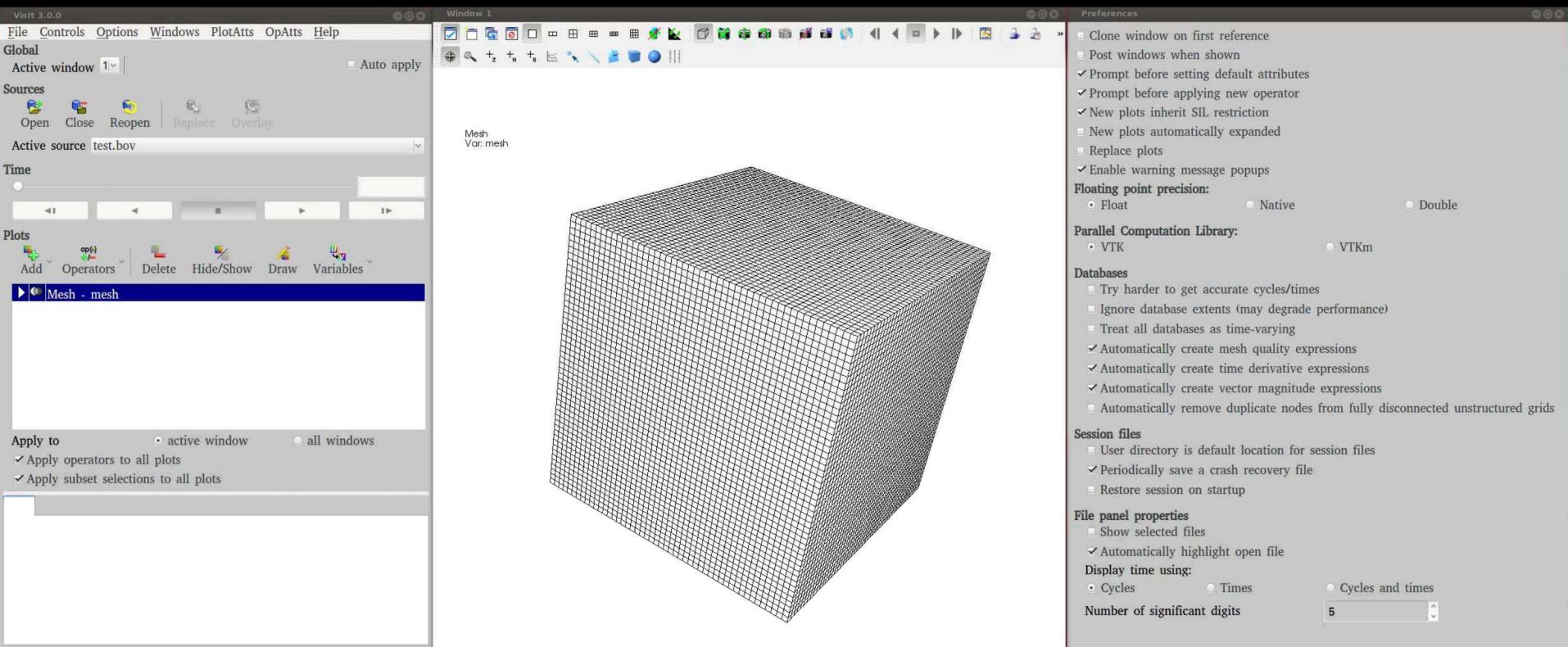
Using VTK-m in VisIt

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

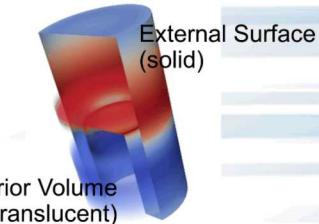
Members ORNL, LANL, UO, Kitware

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 render the 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

Scope and objectives

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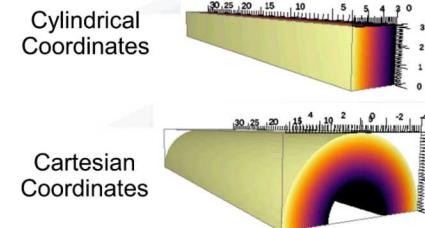
Impact

- 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



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

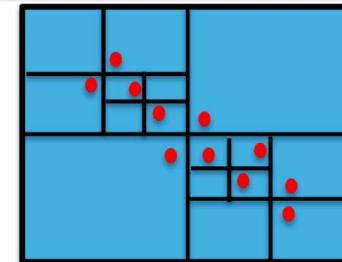
Impact

- 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.

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>

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

Rendering Topological Entities

ECP WBS 2.3.4.13 ECP/VTK-m

PI Kenneth Moreland, SNL

Members ORNL, LANL, UO, Kitware

Scope and objectives

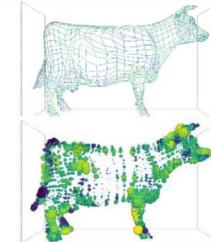
- ECP/VTK-m enables scientific visualization on the emerging processors required extreme scale computers
- Major focus on core functionality of HPC sci-vis software
- FY18 focus on field computation, computational geometry, and framework development/maintenance

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

Cool image

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



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

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- Major focus on core functionality of HPC sci-vis software
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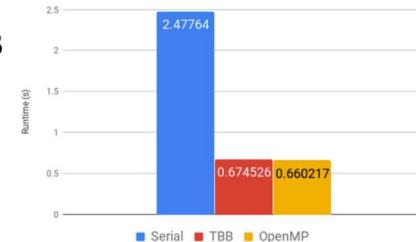
Impact

- 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

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>

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

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SAND 2018-14227 PE

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

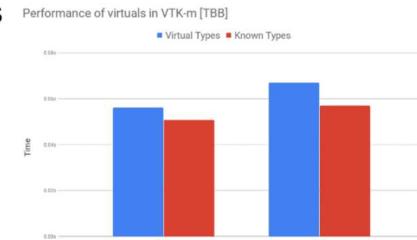
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Impact

- 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

- 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

- 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

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>

Ease of Integration

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



Project accomplishment

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

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

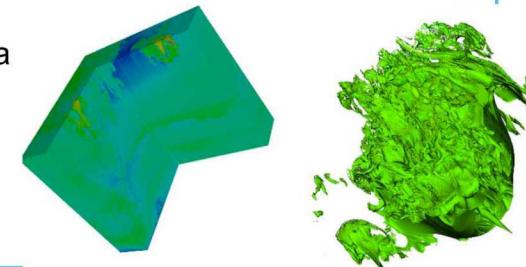
- ECP/VTK-m enables scientific visualization on the emerging processors required extreme scale computers
- Major focus on core functionality of HPC sci-vis software
- FY19 focus on computational geometry, flow visualization, and framework development/maintenance

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>

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SAND 2019-0139 PE

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

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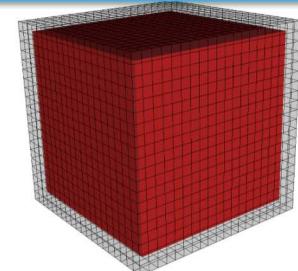
Impact

- 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

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

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



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

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

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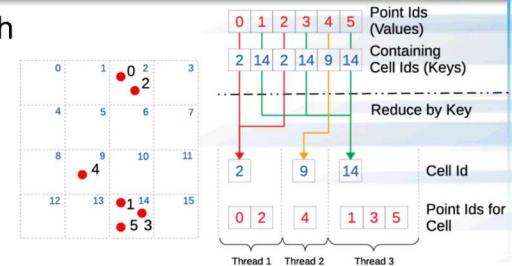
Impact

- 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

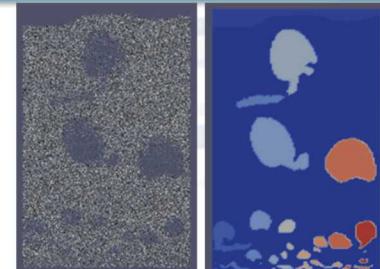
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Impact

- 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.

Cool image

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



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

Scope and objectives

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Impact

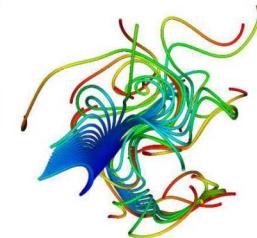
- Time-varying flow visualization algorithms are often needed by ECP Applications to understand their data
 - With this work, we will be able to deliver the most meaningful analysis to stakeholders, as opposed to our previous generation of code that supported only steady-state flow

Deliverables FY19Q2 [MS-19/04-07] Ghost / Merge / Connected / Advect Time, WBS 2.3.4.13, P6 Activity STDA05-18
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VTK-m Particle Advection

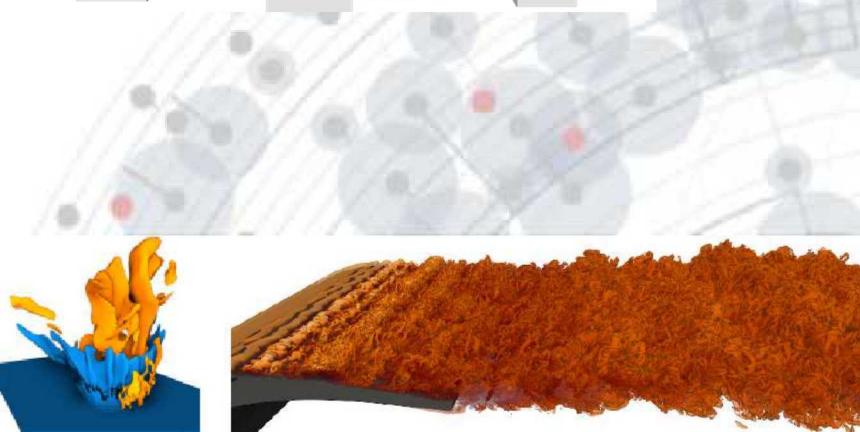
Particle advection is a foundational operation for many flow visualization algorithms

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



Abstracts Due: June 17
Papers Due: June 24

The 9th IEEE Symposium on Large Data Analysis and Visualization

in conjunction with IEEE VIS 2019,
Vancouver, BC, Canada, October 21, 2019

