







- Richly featured visualization and analysis tool for large data sets
- Built for five use cases:
 - Data exploration
 - Visual debugging
 - Quantitative analysis
 - Presentation graphics
 - Comparative analysis
- Data-parallel client server model, distribution on per patch-basis
- Use of meta-data / contracts to reduce amount of processed data

Ideal basis for specialized AMR visualization tool replacement

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[Argon bubble subjected to shock Jeff Greenbough, LLNL]



[Logarithm of gas/dust density in Enzo star/galaxy simulation, Tom Abel & Matthew Turk, Kavli Institute]

Vislt Concepts (1/2)

- Databases: Implementation of various file formats, e.g., Chombo, Boxlib, Enzo, FLASH, ...
- Plots: Display data on screen (volume rendering, pseudocolor, isosurface, vector glyphs)



 Operators: Filter data before it is displayed (slice, isosurface, clip, displace, ...)

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Vislt Concepts (2/2)

Expressions:

- Create new variables from existing ones via arithmetic expressions: +, -, *, /, dot product, cross product, ...
- Conditionals and comparisons

- Import variables from different time steps or simulations
- Other operations: image processing (smoothing), connected components of isosurfaces, ...
- Picking: Get information (value, location in mesh) for a given "point" in a visualization
- Queries: High-level information (area, volume, integral of variable, number of connected components, ...) coupled with ability to create curve of quantity over time

Vislt Capabilities

- Meshes: rectilinear, curvilinear, unstructured, point, AMR
- Data: scalar, vector, tensor, material, species
- Dimension: 1D, 2D, 3D, time varying

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- Rendering (~15): pseudocolor, volume rendering, hedgehogs, glyphs, mesh lines, etc...
- Data manipulation (~40): slicing, contouring, clipping, thresholding, restrict to box, reflect, project, revolve, …
- File formats (~85)
- Derived quantities: >100 interoperable building blocks

+,-,*,/, gradient, mesh quality, if-then-else, and, or, not

- Many general features: position lights, make movie, etc
- Queries (~50): ways to pull out quantitative information, debugging, comparative analysis

Vislt's Parallelized Client-Server Architecture.



- Client-server observations:
 - Good for remote visualization
 - Leverages available resources
 - Scales well
 - No need to move data



Vislt and AMR Data

- Supported as "first-class" data type
- Vislt understands:
 - Nesting of patches / Boundaries between patches
- Strategy:
 - Each patch is processed separately
 - After reading data, subsequent passes to:
 - Identify coarse elements that are refined and mark them as "ghost"
 - Create ghost layers around outer boundaries (needs work)
 - Work on rectilinear grids and skip ghost cells or "remove" results produced in ghost cells later on
- UI:
 - Color by patch, color by level

- Remove / show patches, levels
- Have appropriate info returned for picks



Recent Development Focus: Debugging for AMR Code Development (Chombo)

- Worked with LBNL Applied Numerical Algorithms Group/Applied Partial Differential Equations Center to replace ChomboVis with VisIt
- Spreadsheet support and use VisIt in gdb Chombo debug sessions

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Visual Spreadsheets

- Significance:
 - Essential debugging tool for code development teams
 - Support inspecting values in individual cells
 - Available in ChomboVis (ANAG) and AMRVis (CCSE)
- Development:

- Implemented ChomboVis version of visual spreadsheets
- Linked spreadsheets to VisIt's "pick" capability +
- Mark picked points in 2D/3D visualization view (existing VisIt capability) and spreadsheet to indicate correlation
- Double precision data available in spreadsheet plots

Visual Spreadsheets – Example



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Basic Embedded Boundary Support for Chombo Files



- Convert embedded boundary information contained in Chombo files to Vislt's internal representation
- Embedded "Boundary" Operator

Easing the Transition from ChomboVis

 Wrote macros to ease transition of Applied Numerical Algorithms Group to VisIt



- Customized setting for ANAG / APDEC collaborators, e.g.,
 - Show only root level by default
 - Show only explicit materials

Mapped Grids – Analytical Mapping

• Functionality beyond ChomboVis capabilities

- VisIt already supported analytical mappings via expressions and "Displacement" operator
- Issue: Cell centered data vs. vertex centered mapping



Mapped Grids – Arbitrary Mapping



- Analytical mapping not sufficiently flexible, e.g., different maps for different boxes
- Chombo:
 - No file format for mapped grids
 - Current Chombo files either node or cell centered
- Workaround with two Chombo files and "conn_cmfe" expression
- Automated via "visitrc" macros tying it all together (e.g., AddPlot callback)

Mapped Grids – Examples



Improved Volume Rendering (Utah SCI Institute SLIVR)

- High-quality volume rendering library developed by the SCI Institute at the University of Utah
- Multidimensional transfer functions

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In progress 🛰

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Outlook: Future Vislt Extensions (Work in Progress)

- Fully integrate SLIVR and add hardware-accelerated AMR volume rendering without resampling
- Improve VisIt's streamline capabilities
 - Parallel streamline computation
 - Streamlines that cross patch/box boundaries
 - Streamlines as "buillding blocks" for higher-level visualization/analysis techniques (stream surfaces etc.)
 - AMR-aware streamlines
- Improve Embedded Boundary (EB) / Material Interface Reconstruction (MIR) support
- Improve double precision support (expressions, select set of plots)
- Crack-free isosurfaces

Becoming more Open Source-y Project and Forming a Supporting Community

- Moved from ClearCase to Subversion
 - Previously only LLNL folks could develop
 - Checkin every 3.85 hours over last 7 months
- Bug tracking still at LLNL, need to move to Gforge.
- Mailing lists transitioned to ORNL.
 - − Visit-help \rightarrow visit-users
 - Will be searchable.
- Wiki (http://visitusers.org) for users and developers
 - 200+ pages of content

- Reducing barriers for new developers
 - Renaming of many modules to reduce barriers for new developers
 - Wiki documents "-debug", "-dump", memory leaks detection, how to do memory management, design of code, etc.

Questions?

A(F)



