## In-Situ Visualization and Analysis of Petascale Molecular Dynamics Simulations with VMD

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NIH Resource for Macromolecular Modeling and Bioinformatics http://www.ks.uiuc.edu/ Beckman Institute, UIUC

### VMD – "Visual Molecular Dynamics"

- Visualization and analysis of:
  - molecular dynamics simulations
  - quantum chemistry calculations
  - particle systems and whole cells
  - sequence data
- User extensible w/ scripting and plugins
- http://www.ks.uiuc.edu/Research/vmd/



Electrons in Vibrating Buckyball



Cellular Tomography, Cryo-electron Microscopy





**Ribosome Sequences** 



Whole Cell Simulations

#### Molecular Visualization and Analysis Challenges for Petascale Simulations

- Very large structures (10M to over 100M atoms)
  - 12-bytes per atom per trajectory frame
  - 100M atom trajectory frame: 1200MB!
- Long-timescale simulations produce huge trajectories
  - MD integration timesteps are on the femtosecond timescale (10<sup>-15</sup> sec) but many important biological processes occur on microsecond to millisecond timescales
  - Even storing trajectory frames infrequently, resulting trajectories frequently contain millions of frames
- Petabytes of data to analyze, far too large to move
- Viz and analysis must be done primarily on the supercomputer where the data already resides

#### Approaches for Visualization and Analysis of Petascale Molecular Simulations with VMD

- Abandon conventional approaches, e.g. bulk download of trajectory data to remote viz/analysis machines
  - In-place processing of trajectories on the machine running the simulations
  - Use remote visualization techniques: Split-mode VMD with remote frontend instance, and back-end viz/analysis engine running in parallel on supercomputer
- Large-scale parallel analysis and visualization via distributed memory MPI version of VMD
- Exploit GPUs and other accelerators to increase per-node analytical capabilities, e.g. NCSA Blue Waters Cray XK6
- In-situ on-the-fly viz/analysis and event detection through direct communication with running MD simulation

#### Improved Support for Large Datasets in VMD

- New structure building tools, file formats, and data structures enable VMD to operate efficiently up to 150M atoms
  - Up to 30% more memory efficient
  - Analysis routines optimized for large structures, up to 20x faster for calculations on 100M atom complexes where molecular structure traversal can represent a significant amount of runtime
  - New and revised graphical representations support smooth trajectory animation for multi-million atom complexes; VMD remains interactive even when displaying surface reps for 20M atom membrane patch
- Uses multi-core CPUs and GPUs for the most demanding computations

20M atoms: membrane patch and solvent



#### New Interactive Display & Analysis of Terabytes of Data: Out-of-Core Trajectory I/O w/ Solid State Disks



#### Commodity SSD, SSD RAID

- Timesteps loaded on-the-fly (out-of-core)
  - Eliminates memory capacity limitations, even for multi-terabyte trajectory files
  - High performance achieved by new trajectory file formats, optimized data structures, and efficient I/O
- Analyze long trajectories significantly faster
- New SSD Trajectory File Format 2x Faster vs. Existing Formats

Immersive out-of-core visualization of large-size and long-timescale molecular dynamics trajectories. J. Stone, K. Vandivort, and K. Schulten. *Lecture Notes in Computer Science*, 6939:1-12, 2011.

#### VMD Out-of-Core Trajectory I/O Performance: SSD-Optimized Trajectory Format, 8-SSD RAID



Ribosome w/ solventMembrane patch w/ solvent3M atoms20M atoms3 frames/sec w/ HD0.4 frames/sec w/ HD60 frames/sec w/ SSDs8 frames/sec w/ SSDsNew SSD Trajectory File Format 2x Faster vs. Existing Formats<br/>VMD I/O rate ~2.1 GB/sec w/ 8 SSDs

#### Parallel VMD Analysis w/ MPI

- Analyze trajectory frames, structures, or sequences in parallel supercomputers:
  - Parallelize user-written analysis scripts with minimum difficulty
  - Parallel analysis of independent trajectory frames
  - Parallel structural analysis using custom parallel reductions
  - Parallel rendering, movie making
- Dynamic load balancing:
  - Recently tested with up to 15,360 CPU cores
- Supports GPU-accelerated clusters and supercomputers







### GPU Accelerated Trajectory Analysis and Visualization in VMD

<b>GPU-Accelerated Feature</b>	Speedup vs. single CPU core
Molecular orbital display	120x
Radial distribution function	92x
Electrostatic field calculation	44x
Molecular surface display	40x
Ion placement	26x
MDFF density map synthesis	26x
Implicit ligand sampling	25x
Root mean squared fluctuation	25x
Radius of gyration	21x
Close contact determination	20x
Dipole moment calculation	15x







### NCSA Blue Waters Early Science System Cray XK6 nodes w/ NVIDIA Tesla X2090



# Time-Averaged Electrostatics Analysis on NCSA Blue Waters Early Science System

NCSA Blue Waters Node Type	Seconds per trajectory frame for one compute node
Cray XE6 Compute Node: 32 CPU cores (2xAMD 6200 CPUs)	9.33
Cray XK6 GPU-accelerated Compute Node: 16 CPU cores + NVIDIA X2090 (Fermi) GPU	2.25
Speedup for GPU XK6 nodes vs. CPU XE6 nodes	GPU nodes are 4.15x faster overall

Preliminary performance for VMD time-averaged electrostatics w/ Multilevel Summation Method on the NCSA Blue Waters Early Science System



### In-Situ Visualization and Analysis with VMD

- Early prototype and testing phase
- VMD supports live socket connection to running MD code
- Custom user-written analysis scripts are triggered by callbacks as incoming frames arrive
- Separate threads handle async. network I/O between MD code and "master" VMD instance, MPI broadcast or decomposition among peer VMD nodes
- Perform real-time analysis processing of incoming frames to find rare events
  - Store the most "interesting" timesteps
  - Build summary analyses useful for accelerating interactive "Timeline" displays, and subsequent detailed batch mode analysis runs

Live, running MD simulation, e.g. NAMD running on thousands of compute nodes





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