GPU-Accelerated Analysis of Petascale Molecular Dynamics Simulations

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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

Goal: A Computational Microscope

• Study the molecular machines in living cells







Meeting the Diverse Needs of the Molecular Modeling Community

- Over 212,000 registered users
 - 18% (39,000) are NIH-funded
 - Over 49,000 have downloaded multiple VMD releases
- Over 6,600 citations
- User community runs VMD on:
 - MacOS X, Unix, Windows operating systems
 - Laptops, desktop workstations
 - Clusters, supercomputers

- VMD user support and service efforts:
 - 20,000 emails, 2007-2011
 - Develop and maintain
 VMD tutorials and topical mini-tutorials; 11 in total
 - Periodic user surveys



VMD Interoperability – Linked to Today's Key Research Areas

- Unique in its interoperability with a broad range of modeling tools: AMBER, CHARMM, CPMD, DL_POLY, GAMESS, GROMACS, HOOMD, LAMMPS, NAMD, and many more ...
- Supports key data types, file formats, and databases, e.g. electron microscopy, quantum chemistry, MD trajectories, sequence alignments, super resolution light microscopy
- Incorporates tools for simulation preparation, visualization, and analysis







Molecular Visualization and Analysis Challenges for Petascale Simulations

- Very large structures (10M to over 100M atoms)
 - 12-bytes per atom per trajectory frame
 - One 100M atom trajectory frame: 1200MB!
- Long-timescale simulations produce huge trajectories
 - MD integration timesteps are on the femtosecond timescale (10⁻¹⁵ sec) but many important biological processes occur on microsecond to millisecond timescales
 - Even storing trajectory frames infrequently, resulting trajectories frequently contain millions of frames
- Terabytes to petabytes of data, often 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

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

GPU-Accelerated Feature	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







Quantifying GPU Performance and Energy Efficiency in HPC Clusters

- NCSA "AC" Cluster
- Power monitoring hardware on one node and its attached Tesla S1070 (4 GPUs)
- Power monitoring logs recorded separately for host node and attached GPUs
- Logs associated with batch job IDs



•32 HP XW9400 nodes•128 cores, 128 Tesla C1060 GPUs•QDR Infiniband



Tweet-a-Watt

- Kill-a-watt power meter
- Xbee wireless transmitter
- Power, voltage, shunt sensing tapped from op amp
- Lower transmit rate to smooth power through large capacitor
- Readout software upload samples to local database
- We built 3 transmitter units and one Xbee receiver
- Currently integrated into AC cluster as power monitor





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Beckman Institute, U. Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Time-Averaged Electrostatics Analysis on Energy-Efficient GPU Cluster

- **1.5 hour** job (CPUs) reduced to **3 min** (CPUs+GPU)
- Electrostatics of thousands of trajectory frames averaged
- Per-node power consumption on NCSA "AC" GPU cluster:
 - CPUs-only: 299 watts
 - CPUs+GPUs: 742 watts
- GPU Speedup: 25.5x
- Power efficiency gain: 10.5x



Quantifying the Impact of GPUs on Performance and Energy Efficiency in HPC Clusters. J. Enos, C. Steffen, J. Fullop, M. Showerman, G. Shi, K. Esler, V. Kindratenko, J. Stone, J. Phillips. *The Work in Progress in Green Computing*, pp. 317-324, 2010.

AC Cluster GPU Performance and Power Efficiency Results

Application	GPU speedup	Host watts	Host+GPU watts	Perf/watt gain
NAMD	6	316	681	2.8
VMD	25	299	742	10.5
MILC	20	225	555	8.1
QMCPACK	61	314	853	22.6

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Power Profiling: Example Log

AC Power Utilization



JSON Data

- Mouse-over value displays
- Under curve totals displayed
- If there is user interest, we may support calls to add custom tags from application



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



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



Early Experiences with Kepler Preliminary Observations

- Arithmetic is cheap, memory references are costly (trend is certain to continue & intensify...)
- Different performance ratios for registers, shared mem, and various floating point operations vs. Fermi
- Kepler GK104 (e.g. GeForce 680) brings improved performance for some special functions vs. Fermi:

CUDA Kernel	Dominant Arithmetic Operations	Kepler (GeForce 680) Speedup vs. Fermi (Quadro 7000)
Direct Coulomb summation	rsqrtf()	2.4x
Molecular orbital grid evaluation	expf(), exp2f(), Multiply-Add	1.7x



Timeline Plugin: Analyze MD Trajectories for Events



VMD Timeline plugin: live 2D plot linked to 3D structure

- Single picture shows changing properties across entire structure+trajectory
- Explore time vs. per-selection attribute, linked to molecular structure
- Many analysis methods available; user-extendable

Recent progress:

- Faster analysis with new VMD SSD trajectory formats, GPU acceleration
- Per-secondary-structure native contact and density correlation graphing



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.

Challenges for Immersive Visualization of Dynamics of Large Structures

- Graphical representations re-generated for each animated simulation trajectory frame:
 - Dependent on user-defined atom selections
- Although visualizations often focus on interesting regions of substructure, fast display updates require rapid traversal of molecular data structures
- Optimized atom selection traversal:
 - Increased performance of per-frame updates by ~10x for 116M atom BAR case with 200,000 selected atoms
- New GLSL point sprite sphere shader:
 - Reduce host-GPU bandwidth for displayed geometry
 - Over 20x faster than old GLSL spheres drawn using display lists drawing time is now inconsequential
- Optimized all graphical representation generation routines for large atom counts, sparse selections



116M atom BAR domain test case: 200,000 selected atoms, stereo trajectory animation 70 FPS, static scene in stereo 116 FPS



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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
VMD I/O rate ~2.1 GB/sec w/ 8 SSDs

Challenges for High Throughput Trajectory Visualization and Analysis

- It is not currently possible to fully exploit full I/O bandwidths when streaming data from SSD arrays (>4GB/sec) to GPU global memory
- Need to eliminated copies from disk controllers to host memory – bypass host entirely and perform zero-copy DMA operations straight from disk controllers to GPU global memory
- Goal: GPUs directly pull in pages from storage systems bypassing host memory entirely



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



VMD "QuickSurf" Representation

- Large biomolecular complexes are difficult to interpret with atomic detail graphical representations
- Even secondary structure representations become cluttered
- Surface representations are easier to use when greater abstraction is desired, but are computationally costly
- Existing surface display methods incapable of animating dynamics of large structures



VMD "QuickSurf" Representation

- Displays continuum of structural detail:
 - All-atom models
 - Coarse-grained models
 - Cellular scale models
 - Multi-scale models: All-atom + CG, Brownian + Whole Cell
 - Smoothly variable between full detail, and reduced resolution representations of very large complexes



Fast Visualization of Gaussian Density Surfaces for Molecular Dynamics and Particle System Trajectories.

M. Krone, J. Stone, T. Ertl, K. Schulten. EuroVis 2012. (In-press)

VMD "QuickSurf" Representation

- Uses multi-core CPUs and GPU acceleration to enable **smooth** real-time animation of MD trajectories
- Linear-time algorithm, scales to millions of particles, as limited by memory capacity



Satellite Tobacco Mosaic Virus



Lattice Cell Simulations

QuickSurf Representation of Lattice Cell Models



Continuous particle based model – often 70 to 300 million particles Discretized lattice models derived from continuous model shown in a surface representation



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