# VMD: enabling preparation, visualization, and analysis of petascale and pre-exascale molecular dynamics simulations

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# VMD – "Visual Molecular Dynamics"

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





#### Whole Cell Simulation







**MD** Simulations



CryoEM, Cellular Tomography

Sequence Data

## Goal: A Computational Microscope Study the molecular machines in living cells

Ribosome: target for antibiotics

Poliovirus





## VMD Interoperability Serves Many Communities

- Uniquely interoperable with a broad range of tools:
  - AMBER, CHARMM, CPMD, DL\_POLY, GAMESS, GROMACS, HOOMD, LAMMPS, NAMD, and many more ...
- Supports key data types, file formats, and databases
- Incorporates tools for simulation preparation, visualization, and analysis



## 2015 VMD Achievements

1.9.1: 101,900 users, 16,800 NIH (Feb'12) 1.9.2: 50,000 users, 8,200 NIH (Dec'14)

#### 1.9.3 coming soon

#### (~Jan'16)

- Many visualization advances:
  - Ray tracing advances, GPU 2x faster!
  - NanoShaper: molecular surfaces, cavity calc.
  - Vector-field volumetric maps, variance maps, ...
  - Parallel analysis infrastructure
- New, updated, user-contributed plugins:
  - qwikMD simulation prep/analysis
  - ffTK force field parameterization
  - Plumed free energy + collective variable analysis
  - Multiseq improved MAFFT alignment support
  - Many more....



#### New QwikMD simulation preparation plugin

#### **Recent Publications:**

- J. Parallel Computing, 2016. (in-press)
- SC'15 Visualization and Data Analytics Showcase, 2015.
- J. Chemical Theory and Comp. 2015.
- IEEE Transactions on Parallel and Distributed Systems, 2015.

## Parameterization with the Force Field Toolkit

#### Major updates for VMD 1.9.3:

- Read starting parameters computed by CGenFF
- Prepares initial structure files
- New ffTK parameterization tutorial





#### Future Plans:

- Energy evaluation engine in VMD
- Support additional and free-to-academic QM software

NAMD and VMD Use GPUs and Petascale Computing to Meet Computational Biology's Insatiable Demand for Processing Power



## NAMD Titan XK7 Performance August 2013

NAMD on Titan Cray XK7 (2fs timestep with PME)



## VMD Petascale Visualization and Analysis

- Analyze/visualize large trajectories too large to transfer off-site:
  - User-defined parallel analysis operations, data types
  - Parallel rendering, movie making
- Supports GPU-accelerated Cray XK7 nodes for both visualization and analysis:
  - GPU accelerated trajectory analysis w/ CUDA
  - OpenGL and GPU ray tracing for visualization and movie rendering
- Parallel I/O rates up to 275 GB/sec on 8192 Cray XE6 nodes – can read in 231 TB in 15 minutes!

Parallel VMD currently available on:

#### ORNL Titan, NCSA Blue Waters, Indiana Big Red II, CSCS Piz Daint, and similar systems



NCSA Blue Waters Hybrid Cray XE6 / XK7 22,640 XE6 dual-Opteron CPU nodes 4,224 XK7 nodes w/ Telsa K20X GPUs





## Optimizing VMD for Speed+Power Consumption







## CUDA GPU-Accelerated Trajectory Analysis and Visualization in VMD

8

10

12

VMD GPU-Accelerated Feature or GPU Kernel	Exemplary speedup vs. contemporary 4-core CPU	3.0 = 2.5
Molecular orbital display	30x	
Radial distribution function	23x	in 1.5 – ( in 1.5 – (
Molecular surface display	15x	
Electrostatic field calculation	11x	2 4 6 Distance(Å)
cryoEM cross correlation quality-of-fit	7x	
Ion placement	6x	
MDFF density map synthesis	6x	
Implicit ligand sampling	6x	
Root mean squared fluctuation	6x	
Radius of gyration	5x	
Close contact determination	5x	
Dipole moment calculation	4x	2

## Molecular Dynamics Flexible Fitting (MDFF)



## Molecular Dynamics Flexible Fitting - Theory

Two terms are added to the MD potential

 $U_{total} = U_{MD} + U_{EM} + U_{SS}$ 

An external potential derived from the EM map is defined on a grid as

$$U_{EM}(\mathbf{R}) = \sum_{j} w_{j} V_{EM}(\mathbf{r}_{j})$$

$$V_{EM}(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{cases} \xi \left(1 - \frac{\Phi(\mathbf{r}) - \Phi_{thr}}{\Phi_{max} - \Phi_{thr}}\right) & \text{if } \Phi(\mathbf{r}) \ge \Phi_{thr}, \\ \xi & \text{if } \Phi(\mathbf{r}) < \Phi_{thr}. \end{cases}$$

A mass-weighted force is then applied to each atom  $\mathbf{f}_{i}^{EM} = -\nabla U_{EM}(\mathbf{R}) = -w_{i}\partial V_{EM}(\mathbf{r}_{i})/\partial r_{i}$ 





## Structural Route to the all-atom HIV-1 Capsid

1st TEM (1999) 1st tomography (2003)



Briggs et al. Structure, 2006

cryo-ET (2006)

hexameric tubule

Ganser et al. Science, 1999 Briggs et al. EMBO J, 2003



Li et al., Nature, 2000



Byeon et al., Cell 2009

Crystal structures of separated hexamer and pentamer



High res. EM of hexameric tubule, tomography of capsid, all-atom model of capsid by MDFF w/ NAMD & VMD, **NSF/NCSA Blue Waters computer at Illinois** 





Zhao et al., *Nature* 497: 643-646 (2013)

## Evaluating Quality-of-Fit for Structures Solved by Hybrid Fitting Methods

**Compute Pearson** correlation to evaluate the fit of a reference cryo-EM density map with a simulated density map produced from an all-atom structure.



## GPUs Can Reduce MDFF Trajectory Analysis Runtimes from Hours to Minutes

GPUs enable laptops and desktop workstations to handle tasks that would have previously required a cluster, or a *long wait*...

GPU-accelerated petascale supercomputers enable analyses that were previously impractical, allowing detailed study of very large structures such as viruses



GPU-accelerated MDFF Cross Correlation TimelineRegions with poor fitRegions with good fit



# MDFF Density Map Algorithm

- Build spatial acceleration data structures, optimize data for GPU
- Compute 3-D density map:

$$\rho(\vec{r}; \vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \dots, \vec{r}_N) = \sum_{i=1}^N e^{\frac{-|\vec{r}-\vec{r}_i|^2}{2\alpha^2}}$$

 Truncated Gaussian and spatial acceleration grid ensure linear time-complexity



**3-D** density map lattice point and the neighboring spatial acceleration cells it references

## Single-Pass MDFF GPU Cross-Correlation



## VMD GPU Cross Correlation Performance

	RHDV	Mm-cpn open	GroEL	Aquaporin
Resolution (Å)	6.5	8	4	3
Atoms	702K	61K	54K	1.6K
VMD-CUDA	0.458s	0.06s	0.034s	0.007s
Quadro K6000	34.6x	25.7x	36.8x	55.7x
VMD-CPU-SSE	0.779s	0.085s	0.159s	0.033s
32-threads, 2x Xeon E5-2687W	20.3x	18.1x	7.9x	11.8x
Chimera	15.86s	1.54s	1.25s	0.39s
1-thread Xeon E5-2687W	1.0x	1.0x	1.0x	1.0x

**GPU-Accelerated Analysis and Visualization of Large Structures Solved by Molecular Dynamics Flexible Fitting.** J. E. Stone, R. McGreevy, B. Isralewitz, and K. Schulten. Faraday Discussions 169:265-283, 2014.





## VMD RHDV Cross Correlation Timeline on Cray XK7

	RHDV				
Atoms	702K				
Traj. Frames	10,000				
Component Selections	720				
Single-node XK7 (projected)	336 hours (14 days)				
128-node XK7	3.2 hours 105x speedup				
2048-node XK7	19.5 minutes 1035x speedup				
Calculation would take 5 years					

# using original serial CC calculation on a workstation!





# Visualization Goals, Challenges

- Increased CPU+GPU acceleration for visualization of petascale molecular dynamics trajectories
- Overcome memory capacity limits, enable high quality visualization of 100M atom to 1B atom systems
- Use GPU to accelerate not only interactive-rate visualizations, but also photorealistic ray tracing with artifact-free ambient occlusion lighting, etc.
- Maintain ease-of-use, intimate link to VMD analytical features, atom selection language, etc.



## VMD "QuickSurf" Representation, Ray Tracing







All-atom HIV capsid simulations w/ up to 64M atoms on Blue Waters

# VMD "QuickSurf" Representation

- Displays continuum of structural detail:
  - All-atom, coarse-grained, cellular models
  - Smoothly variable detail controls
- Linear-time algorithm, scales to millions of particles, as limited by memory capacity
- Uses multi-core CPUs and GPU acceleration to enable smooth interactive animation of molecular dynamics trajectories w/ up to ~1-2 million atoms
- GPU acceleration yields 10x-15x speedup vs. multi-core CPUs

Fast Visualization of Gaussian Density Surfaces for Molecular
Dynamics and Particle System Trajectories.
M. Krone, J. E. Stone, T. Ertl, K. Schulten. *EuroVis Short Papers*,
pp. 67-71, 2012



**Satellite Tobacco Mosaic Virus** 

## VMD 1.9.x QuickSurf Algorithm Improvements

- 50%-66% memory use, 1.5x-2x speedup
- Build spatial acceleration data structures, optimize data for GPU
- Compute 3-D density map, 3-D color texture map with data-parallel "gather" algorithm:

$$\rho(\vec{r}; \vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \dots, \vec{r}_N) = \sum_{i=1}^N e^{\frac{-|\vec{r} - \vec{r}_i|^2}{2\alpha^2}}$$

- Normalize, quantize, and compress density, color, surface normal data while in registers, before writing out to GPU global memory
- Extract isosurface, maintaining **quantized/compressed** data representation
- Centralized GPU memory management among all molecules+representations: enables graceful eviction of surface data for ray tracing, or other GPU-memory-capacity-constrained operations



3-D density map lattice, spatial acceleration grid, and extracted surface

# Ray Tracing in VMD

- Support for ray tracing of VMD
   molecular scenes began in 1995
- Tachyon parallel RT engine interfaced with VMD (1999)
- Tachyon embedded as an internal VMD rendering engine (2002)
- Built-in support for large scale parallel rendering (2012)
- Refactoring of VMD to allow fully interactive ray tracing as an alternative to OpenGL (2014 to present, *ongoing*)





# **Geometrically Complex Scenes**

Ray tracing techniques well matched to molecular viz. needs:

- Curved geometry, e.g. spheres, cylinders, toroidal patches, easily supported
- Greatly reduced memory footprint vs. polygonalization
- Runtime scales only moderately with increasing geometric complexity
- Occlusion culling is "free", RT acceleration algorithms do this and much more





## Lighting Comparison, STMV Capsid

Two lights, no shadows

Two lights, hard shadows, 1 shadow ray per light

Ambient occlusion + two lights, 144 AO rays/hit



# Benefits of Advanced Lighting and Shading Techniques

- Exploit visual intuition
- Spend computer time in exchange for scientists' time, make images that are more easily interpreted







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# **Ray Tracing Performance**

- Well suited to massively parallel hardware
- Peak performance requires full exploitation of SIMD/vectorization, multithreading, efficient use of memory bandwidth
- Traditional languages+compilers not yet up to the task:
  - Efficacy of compiler autovectorization for Tachyon and other classical RT codes is very low...
  - Core ray tracing kernels have to be explicitly designed for the target hardware, SIMD, etc.



# Fast Ray Tracing Frameworks

- Applications focus on higher level RT ops
- Parallel SPMD-oriented languages and compilers address the shortcomings of traditional tools
- RT frameworks provide performance-critical algorithms:
  - NVIDIA OptiX/CUDA: general RT framework for writing high performance GPU ray tracing engines
  - Intel OSPRay/Embree/ISPC: general RT framework and library, includes both basic kernels and full renderer implementations
  - AMD FireRays/OpenCL: library of high perf. GPU RT algorithms





## Photosynthetic Chromatophore of Purple Bacteria

- Purple bacteria live in lightstarved conditions at the bottom of ponds, with ~1% sunlight
- Chromatophore system
  - 100M atoms, 700 Å<sup>3</sup> volume
  - Contains over 100 proteins, ~3,000 bacteriochlorophylls for collection of photons
  - Energy conversion process synthesizes ATP, which fuels cells...



- Movie sums up ~40 papers and 37 years of work by Schulten lab and collaborators
- Driving NAMD and VMD software design:
  - Two decades of simulation, analysis, and visualization of individual chromatophore components w/ NAMD+VMD



# VMD Chromatophore Rendering on Blue Waters

- New representations, GPU-accelerated molecular surface calculations, memoryefficient algorithms for huge complexes
- VMD GPU-accelerated ray tracing engine w/ OptiX+CUDA+MPI+Pthreads
- Each revision: 7,500 frames render on ~96 Cray XK7 nodes in 290 node-hours, 45GB of images prior to editing



GPU-Accelerated Molecular Visualization on Petascale Supercomputing Platforms. J. E. Stone, K. L. Vandivort, and K. Schulten. UltraVis'13, 2013.

Visualization of Energy Conversion Processes in a Light Harvesting Organelle at Atomic Detail. M. Sener, et al. SC'14 Visualization and Data Analytics Showcase, 2014. \*\*\*Winner of the SC'14 Visualization and Data Analytics Showcase VMD 1.9.3+OptiX 3.8 – ~1.5x Performance Increase on Blue Waters Supercomputer

- OptiX GPU-native "Trbvh" acceleration structure builder yields substantial perf increase vs. CPU builders running on Opteron 6276 CPUs
- New optimizations in VMD TachyonL-OptiX RT engine:
  - CUDA C++ Template specialization of RT kernels
    - Combinatorial expansion of ray-gen and shading kernels at compile-time: stereo on/off, AO on/off, depth-of-field on/off, reflections on/off, etc...
    - Optimal kernels selected from expansions at runtime
  - Streamlined OptiX context and state management
  - Optimization of GPU-specific RT intersection routines, memory layout

Atomic Detail Visualization of Photosynthetic Membranes with GPU-Accelerated Ray Tracing. J. E. Stone et al., J. Parallel Computing, 2016.



VMD/OptiX GPU Ray Tracing of chromatophore w/ lipids.



## VMD HIV-1 Parallel Movie Rendering on 1.9.3 Blue Waters Cray XE6/XK7

**New VMD 1.9.3:** TachyonL-OptiX on XK7 vs. Tachyon on XE6, K20X GPUs yield **up to twelve times** geom+ray tracing speedup

Ray Tracer Version	Node Type and Count	Script Load	State Load	Geometry + Ray Tracing	Total Time
New TachyonL-OptiX [2]	64 XK7 Tesla K20X GPUs	2 s	39 s	435 s	476 s
New TachyonL-OptiX [2]	128 XK7 Tesla K20X GPUs	3 s	62 s	230 s	295 s
TachyonL-OptiX [1]	64 XK7 Tesla K20X GPUs	2 s	38 s	655 s	695 s
TachyonL-OptiX [1]	128 XK7 Tesla K20X GPUs	4 s	74 s	331 s	410 s
TachyonL-OptiX [1]	256 XK7 Tesla K20X GPUs	7 s	110 s	171 s	288 s
Tachyon [1]	256 XE6 CPUs	7 s	160 s	1,374 s	1,541 s
Tachyon [1]	512 XE6 CPUs	13 s	211 s	808 s	1,032 s

[1] GPU-Accelerated Molecular Visualization on Petascale Supercomputing Platforms. J. E. Stone, K. L. Vandivort, and K. Schulten. UltraVis'13: Proceedings of the 8th International Workshop on Ultrascale Visualization, pp. 6:1-6:8, 2013.

[2] Atomic Detail Visualization of Photosynthetic Membranes with GPU-Accelerated Ray Tracing. J. E. Stone et al., J. Parallel Computing, 2016 (in-press)

# VMD 1.9.x Interactive Ray Tracing

- Ray tracing heavily used for VMD publication-quality images/movies
- High quality lighting, shadows, transparency, depth-of-field focal blur, etc.
- VMD now provides –*interactive* ray tracing on laptops, desktops, and *remote* visual supercomputers





















NIH

## VMD TachyonL-OptiX Interactive RT w/ OptiX 3.8 Progressive API



NIH

## VMD TachyonL-OptiX Interactive RT w/ OptiX 3.8 Progressive API





# Interactive RT of All-Atom Minimal Cell Envelope

- 200 nm spherical envelope
- Membrane with ~50% occupancy by proteins (2000x Aquaporin channels)
- 42M atoms in membrane
- Interactive RT w/ 2 dir. lights and AO on GeForce Titan X @ ~12 FPS
- Complete model with correct proteins, solvent, etc, will contain billions of atoms



# Interactive RT of All-Atom Minimal Cell Envelope

## **New: VMD-OSPRay Interactive CPU Ray Tracing with Progressive Refinement**

**Scene Graph** and RT accel. data structures





# Interactive Remote Visualization and Analysis

- Enabled by hardware H.264/H.265 video encode/decode
- Enable visualization and analyses not possible with conventional workstations
- · Access data located anywhere in the world
  - Same VMD session available to any device





# Interactive Collaboration

- Enable interactive VMD sessions with multiple-endpoints
- Enable collaboration features that were previously impractical:
  - Remote viz. overcomes local computing and visualization limitations for interactive display





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# Immersive Viz. w/ VMD

- VMD began as a CAVE app (1993)
- Use of immersive viz by molecular scientists limited due to cost, complexity, lack of local availability, convenience
- Commoditization of HMDs excellent opportunity to overcome cost/availability
- This leaves many challenges still to solve:
  - UIs, multi-user collaboration/interaction
  - Accomodating limitations idiosynchracies of commercial HMDs
  - Support for remote visualization
  - Rendering perf for large molecular systems



#### VMD running in a CAVE





## **Goal: Intuitive interactive viz. in crowded molecular complexes**



# VMD Planetarium Dome Master Camera

- RT-based dome projection -rasterization poorly suited to non-planar projections
- Fully interactive RT with ambient occlusion, shadows, depth of field, reflections, and so on
- Both mono and stereoscopic
- No further post-processing required



# Stereoscopic Panorama Ray Tracing w/ OptiX

- Render 360° images and movies for VR headsets such as Oculus Rift, Google Cardboard
- Ray trace panoramic stereo spheremaps or cubemaps for very high-frame-rate display via OpenGL texturing onto simple geometry
- Stereo requires spherical camera projections poorly suited to rasterization
- Benefits from OptiX multi-GPU rendering and load balancing, remote visualization



# HMD Ray Tracing Challenges

- HMDs require high frame rates (90Hz or more) and minimum latency between IMU sensor reads and presentation on the display
- Multi-GPU workstations fast enough to direct-drive HMDs at required frame rates for simple scenes with direct lighting, hard shadows
- Advanced RT effects such as AO lighting, depth of field require much larger sample counts, impractical for direct-driving HMDs
- Remote viz. required for many HPC problems due to large data
- Remote viz. latencies too high for direct-drive of HMD
- Our two-phase approach: moderate-FPS remote RT combined with local high-FPS view-dependent HMD reprojection w/ OpenGL







## HMD View-Dependent Reprojection with OpenGL

- Texture map panoramic image onto reprojection geometry that matches the original RT image formation surface
- HMD sees standard perspective frustum view of the textured surface
- Commodity HMD optics require software lens distortion and chromatic aberration correction prior to display, implemented with multi-pass FBO rendering
- Low-latency redraw as HMD head pose changes







**Immersive Molecular Visualization with Omnidirectional Stereoscopic Ray Tracing and Remote Rendering.** J. E. Stone, W. R. Sherman, and K. Schulten. High Performance Data Analysis and Visualization Workshop, IEEE International Parallel and Distributed Processing



# VMD-Next: Coming Soon

- Improved structure building tools
- Many new and updated user-contributed plugins
- Further integration of interactive ray tracing into VMD
  - Seamless interactive RT in main VMD display window
  - Support trajectory playback in interactive RT
  - Enable multi-node interactive RT on HPC systems
- Improved movie making tools, off-screen OpenGL movie rendering, parallel movie rendering:
  - $\circ~$  EGL for parallel graphics w/o X11 server
  - Built-in (basic) interactive remote visualization on HPC clusters and supercomputers
- Much work to do on VR user interfaces, multi-user collaborative visualization, ...



GPU Ray Tracing of HIV-1 Capsid Detail

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