

# Visualization Challenges and Opportunities Posed by Petascale Molecular Dynamics Simulations

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**<http://www.ks.uiuc.edu/Research/vmd/>**

Workshop on Molecular Graphics and Visual Analysis of Molecular Data

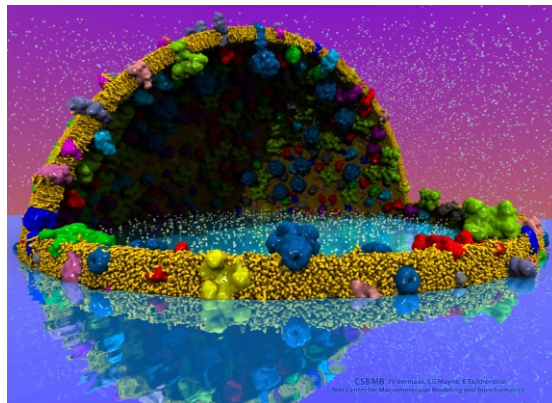
Co-located with EuroVis 2018

14:25-15:20, Hotel International,

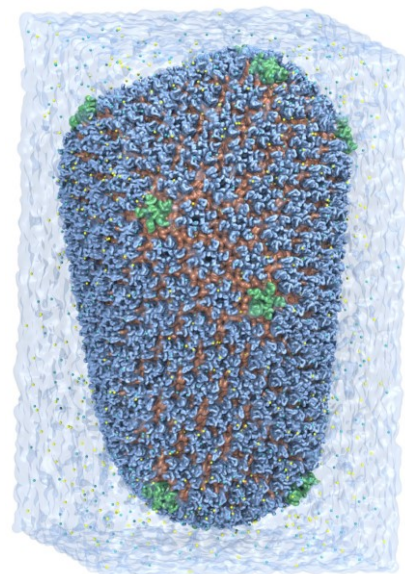
Brno, Czech Republic, Thursday June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018

# VMD – “Visual Molecular Dynamics”

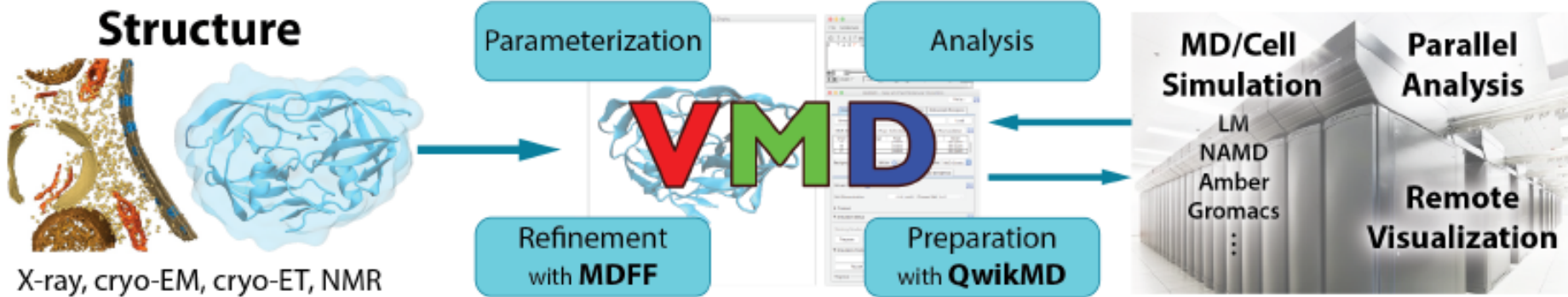
- 100,000 active users worldwide
- Visualization and analysis of:
  - Molecular dynamics simulations
  - Lattice cell simulations
  - Quantum chemistry calculations
  - Cryo-EM densities, volumetric data
- User extensible scripting and plugins
- <http://www.ks.uiuc.edu/Research/vmd/>



Cell-Scale Modeling



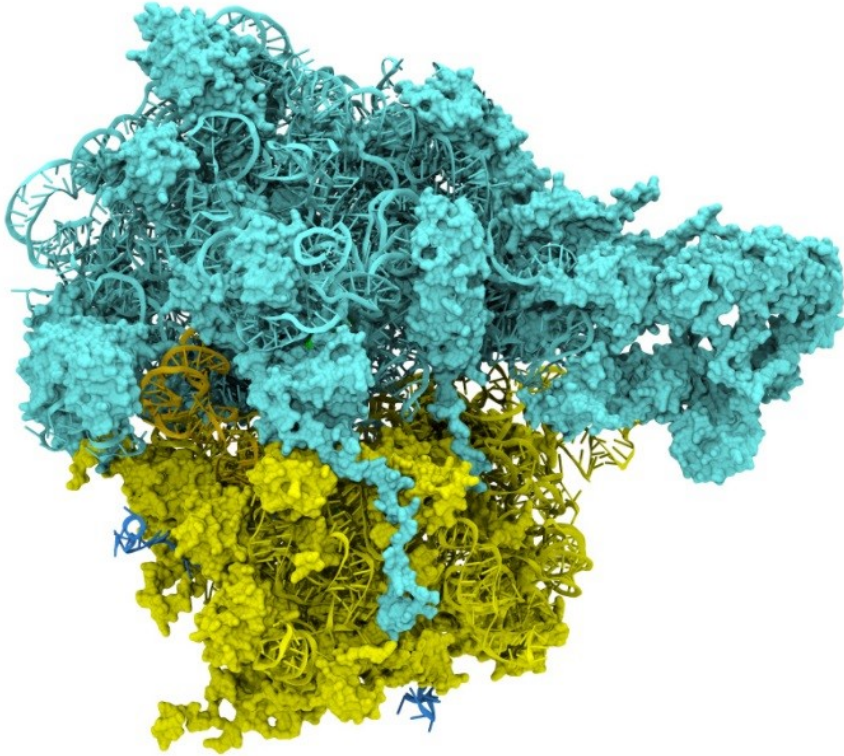
MD Simulation



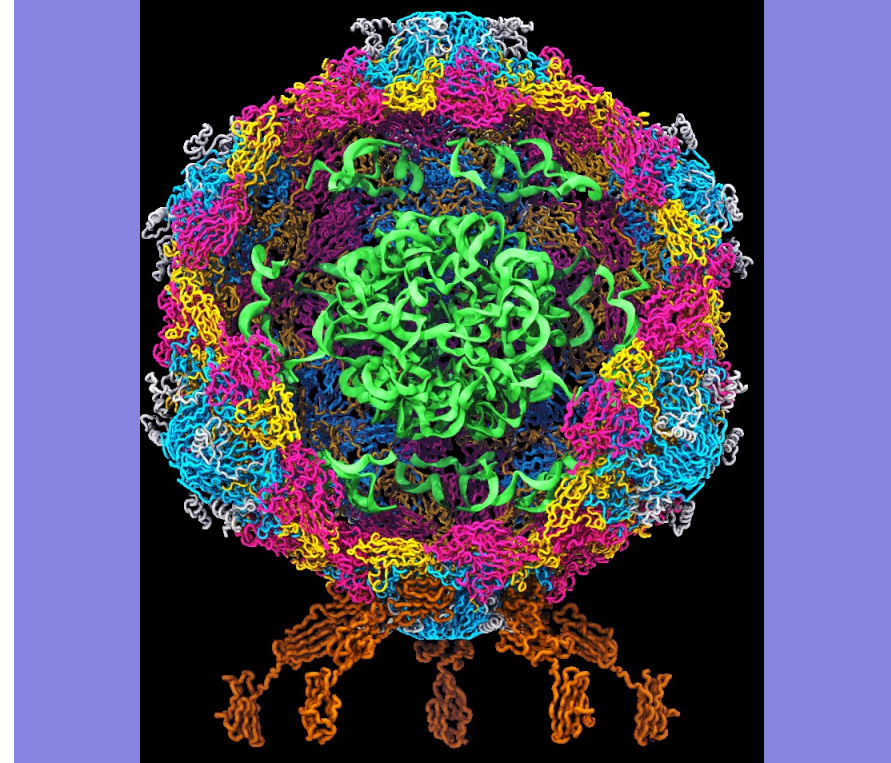
# Goal: A Computational Microscope

Study the molecular machines in living cells

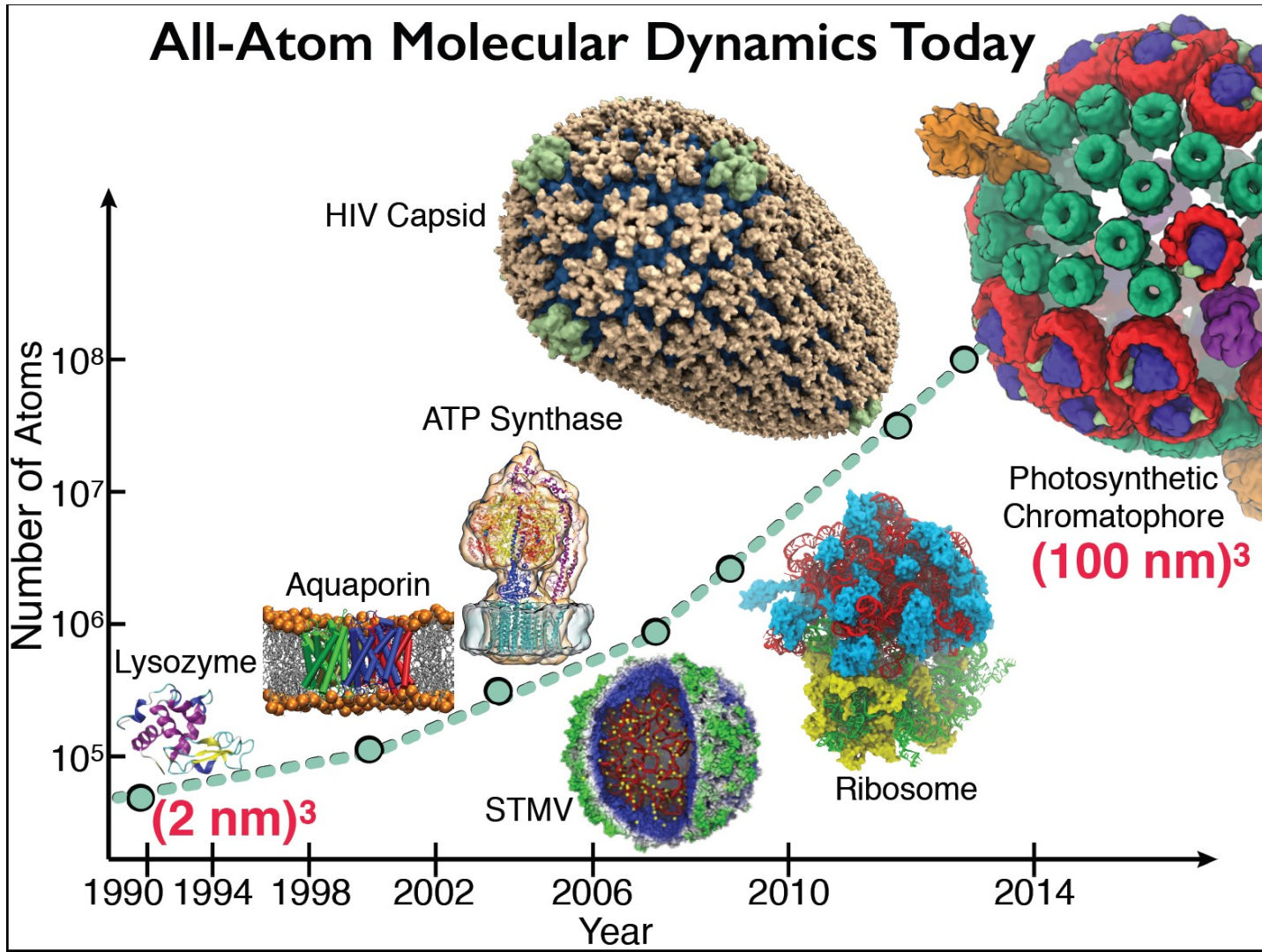
Ribosome: target for antibiotics



Poliovirus



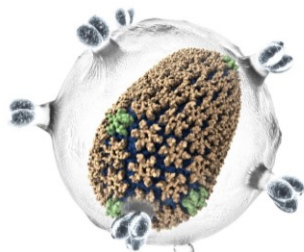
# All-Atom Molecular Dynamics Today



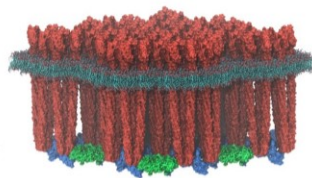
# What Drives Increasing Molecular Dynamics System Size and Timescale?

- Working to gain insight into structure and dynamics of molecular basis of disease
- Many **health-relevant biomolecular complexes are large**, and key **processes often occur at long timescales**, presenting many computational challenges...
- New **hybrid modeling approaches** that combine the best structure information from **multiple modalities of experimental imaging**, physics, e.g. from MD force fields:
  - “**Computational Microscopy**”
- **Parallel computing** provides the resources required to keep pace with advances in structure determination and modeling

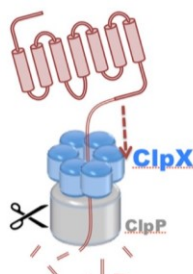
# Petascale Simulations Driving NAMD/VMD Development



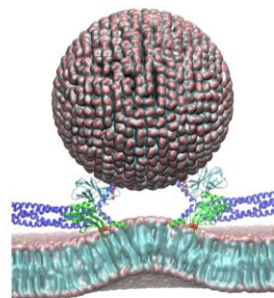
Viral  
Infection



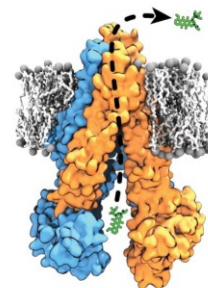
Symbiont  
Bacteria



Molecular  
Motors



Neurons and  
Synapses

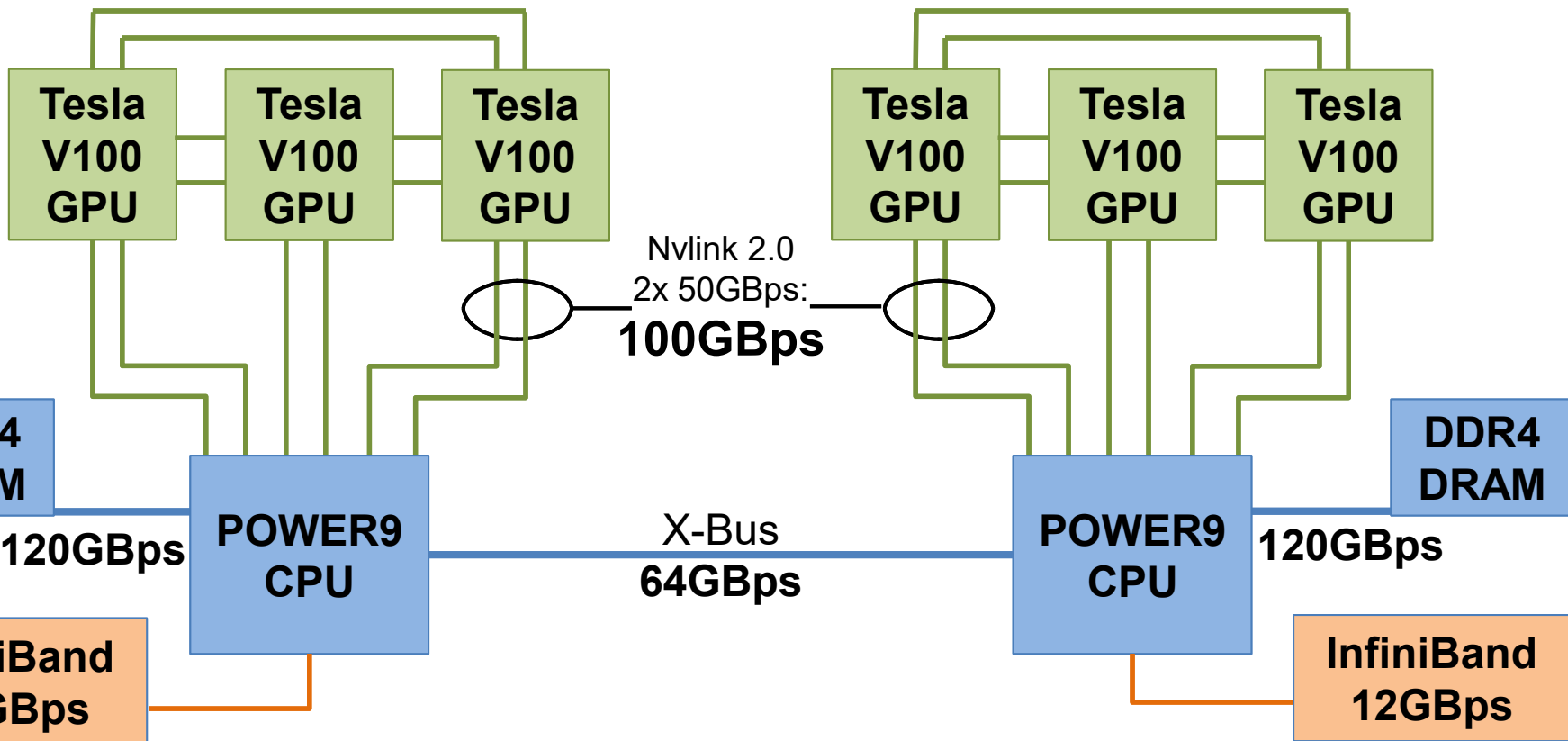


Membrane  
Transporters

NCSA ORNL	Blue Waters (4,228 XK7 nodes) Titan (18,688 XK7 nodes)	AMD Opteron + K20X Kepler GPU	16 CPU cores / GPU
TACC	Stampede 2 (4200 KNL nodes, 1736 Skylake nodes)	Intel Knights Landing Intel Xeon Skylake	68 CPU cores 48 CPU cores
<b>ORNL</b>	<b>Summit (~4600 nodes, 27,000 GPUs)</b>	<b>2 IBM Power9 CPUs + 6 Tesla V100 GPUs</b>	<b>7 CPU cores / GPU</b>

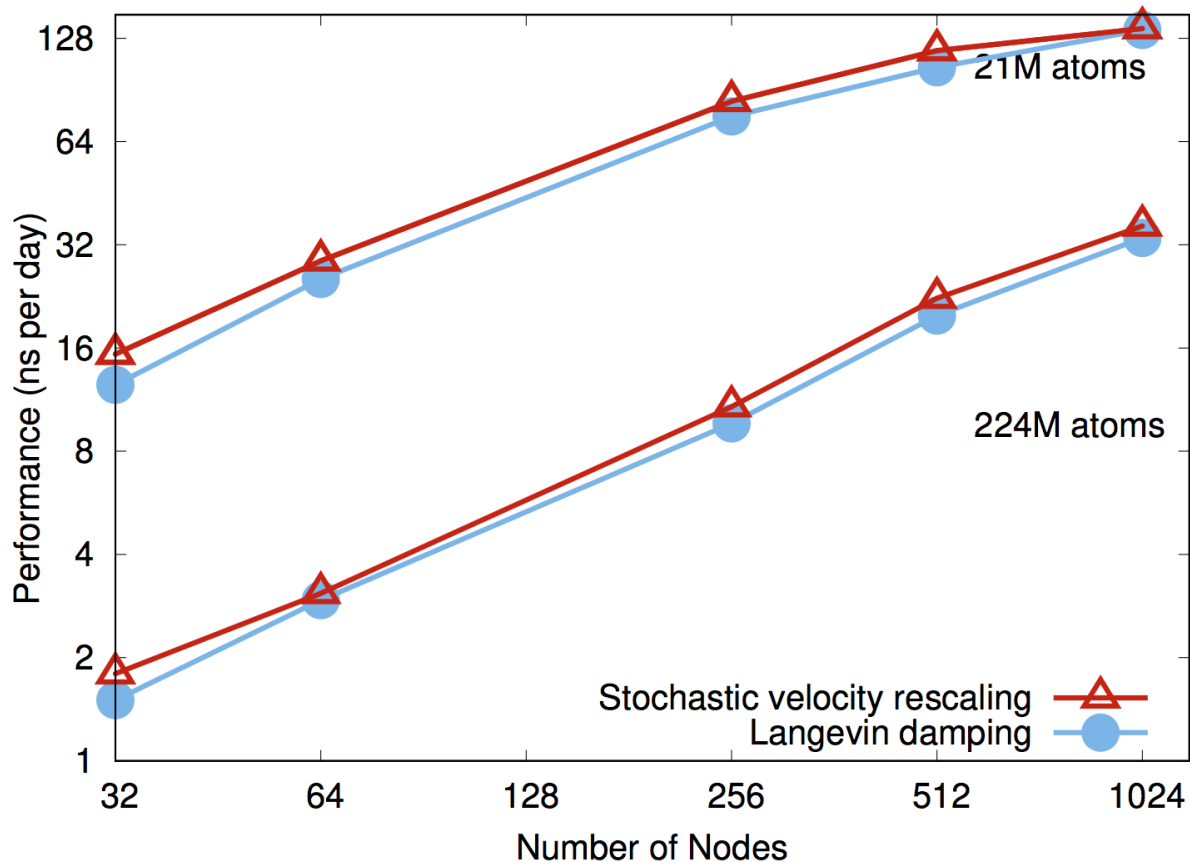
# IBM AC922 Summit Node

3 GPUs Per CPU Socket



# NAMD Performance on Summit, May 2018

- **NAMD Summit GPU performance somewhat CPU-bound (at present)**
- **NAMD scaling efficiency is currently affected by system noise** in the early developmental OS/software
- Stochastic velocity rescaling yields up to **20% performance benefit** vs. Langevin damping
- **Reduction in RNG/entropy required per timestep** yields immediate performance benefits
- **Reduces CPU-bound components of NAMD timestep integration**



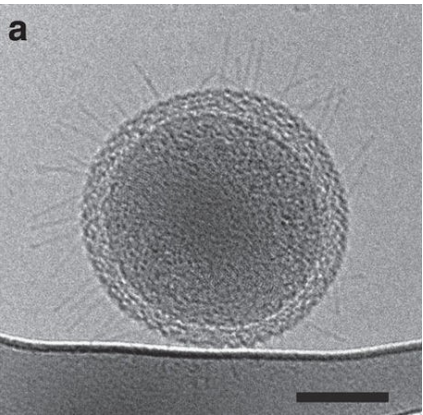
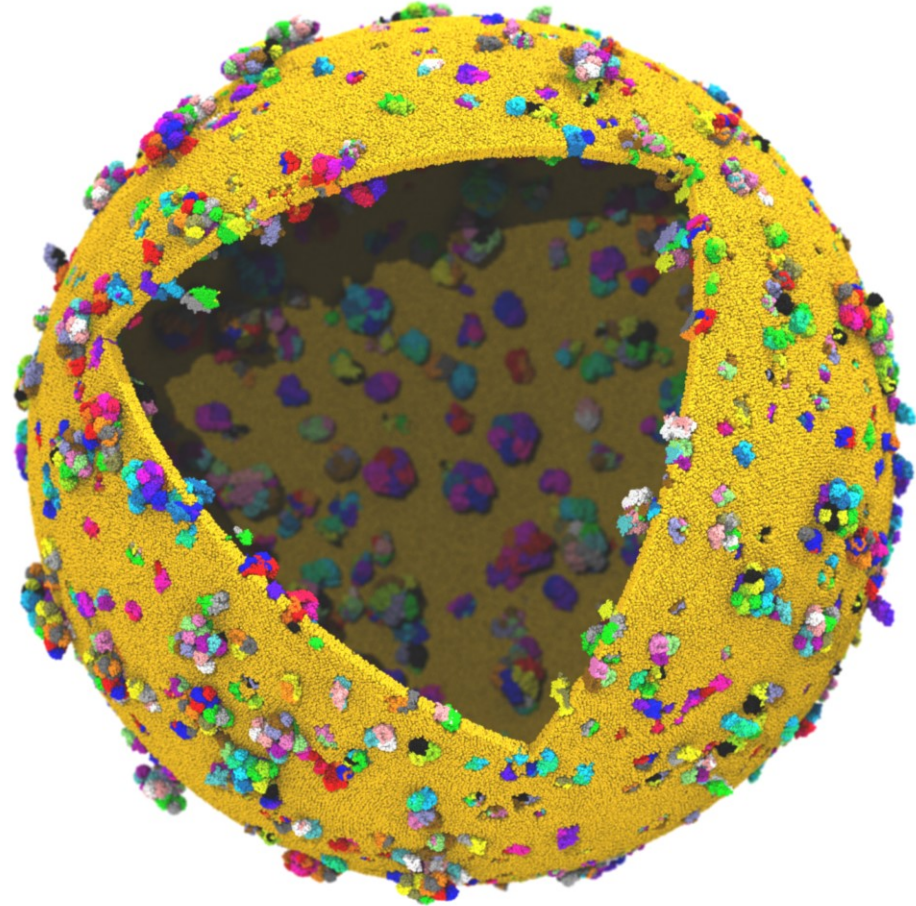


# Petascale Molecular Dynamics I/O and Storage Challenges

- **Petascale science campaigns require months of simulation runs**
- **Historical “download output files for interactive visualization” approach is a non-starter at this scale**
- 12 bytes/atom/timestep for common trajectory file formats
- NAMD performance levels on Summit can generate **more than 10TB/day @ 1024 nodes (20% of final machine)**, w/ trajectory frames written once per 10ps (once per 5,000 steps w/ 2fs steps)
- **Long-term storage of large-fractional petabytes is impractical**
- Demands visualization and analysis operate on the data **in-place** on the HPC system, **whether *post-hoc, in-transit, or in-situ***
- Analyses must identify salient features of structure, dynamics, cull data that don't contribute biomolecular processes of interest

# Next Generation: Simulating a Proto-cell

- Emulate aspects of the *Mycoplasma mycoides* bacterium
- 200nm diameter
- ~1 billion atoms w/ solvent
- ~1400 proteins in membrane



Cryo-ET image of ultra-small bacteria (scale bar 100nm)  
Luef et al. Nature Comm., 6:6372, 2015.

# Proteome Data Challenges

- **Requires machine w/ ~1TB RAM to build complete proteome model from scratch...**
- **Complete proteome binary structure file: ~63GB**
- **Trajectory frame atomic coordinates: 12GB, 1.2TB/ns of simulation (1 frame per 10ps)**
- **At start, VMD (currently) reads+analyzes the structure entirely from scratch:**
  - **Existing file formats don't yet encompass cell-scale organization**, requires many new levels of additional structure information
  - **8 minutes to do structure checking**, identify and validate everything from atoms, to residues, to segments, classify protein vs. nucleic vs. carbohydrate, identify+record key structure components, etc.
  - With **better file formats**, VMD would trust inputs and avoid reanalyzing the structure at load time
- **Interactive** modeling and visualization tasks are a big challenge at this scale
  - **Models contain thousands of atomic-detail components** that must all work together in harmony
  - **New interactive visual analysis schemes are needed** to help scientists work on models that reach the sub-cellular and minimal-cell scale...
  - **Exploit persistent memory technologies** to enable “instant on” operation on massive cell-scale models

# VMD Petascale Visualization and Analysis

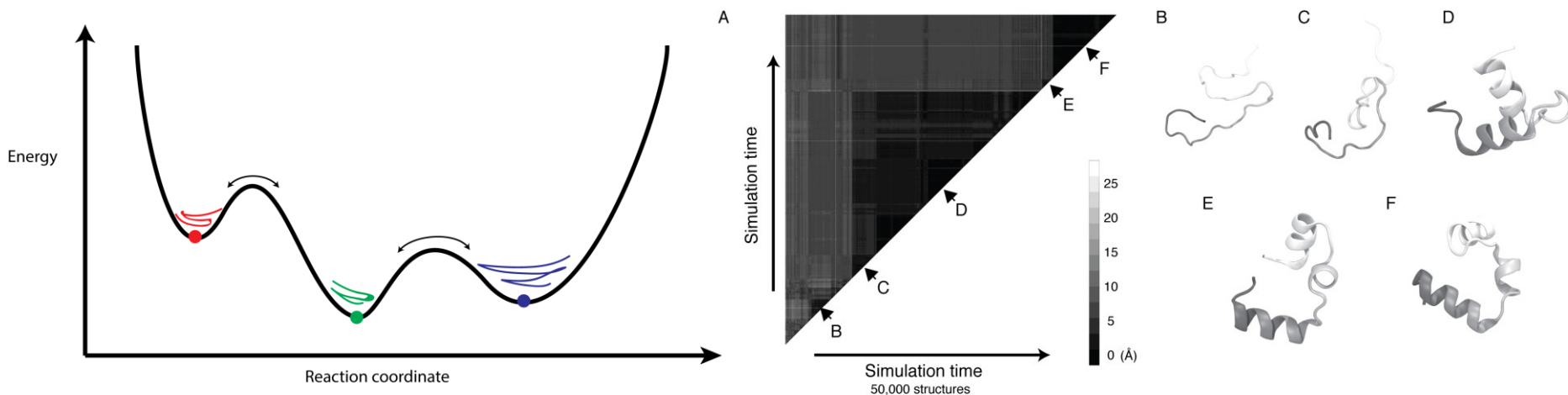
- Combination of growing system sizes and timescales of simulation trajectories poses a major data size challenge for molecular visualization and analysis
- Parallel I/O rates up to **275 GB/sec** on 8192 Cray XE6 nodes – can read in **231 TB in 15 minutes!**
- Analyze/visualize large trajectories **too large to transfer off-site:**
  - User-defined parallel analysis operations, data types
  - Parallel rendering, movie making
- Supports GPU-accelerated compute nodes for both visualization and analysis tasks:
  - GPU accelerated trajectory analysis w/ CUDA
  - OpenGL and GPU ray tracing for visualization and movie rendering



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

**Parallel VMD currently available on:**  
**ORNL Summit and Titan, NCSA Blue**  
**Waters, IU Big Red II, CSCS Piz Daint,**  
**many similar systems**

# Clustering Analysis of Molecular Dynamics Trajectories: Requires I/O+Memory for All-Pairs of Trajectory Frames



**GPU-Accelerated Molecular Dynamics Clustering Analysis with OpenACC.** J.E. Stone, J.R. Perilla, C. K. Cassidy, and K. Schulten. In, Robert Farber, ed., *Parallel Programming with OpenACC*, Morgan Kaufmann, Chapter 11, pp. 215-240, 2016.

# Molecular Dynamics Flexible Fitting (MDFF)

X-ray crystallography



APS at Argonne

MDFF

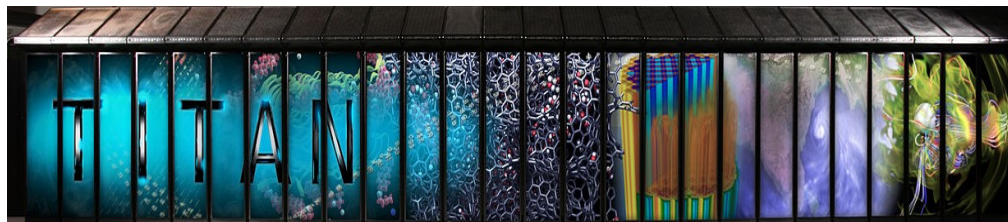


Electron microscopy

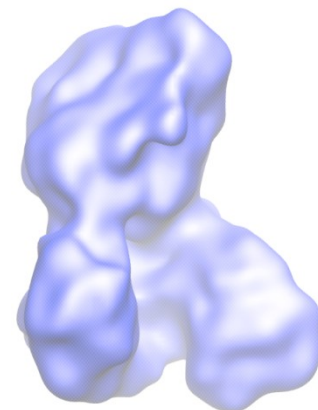


FEI microscope

ORNL Titan



**Molecular dynamics-based refinement and validation for sub-5Å cryo-electron microscopy maps.** A. Singharoy, I. Teo, R. McGreevy, J. E. Stone, J. Zhao, and K. Schulten. eLife 2016;10.7554/eLife.16105



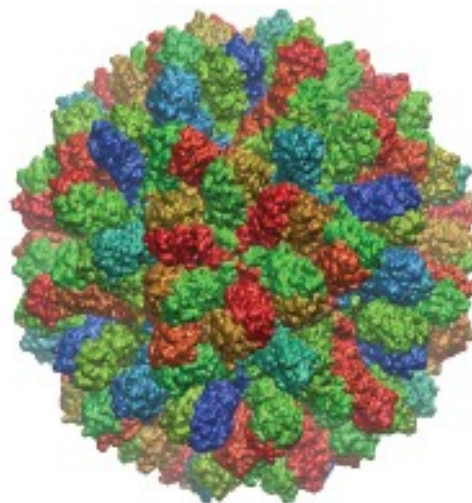


# Parallel MDFF Cross Correlation Analysis on Cray XK7

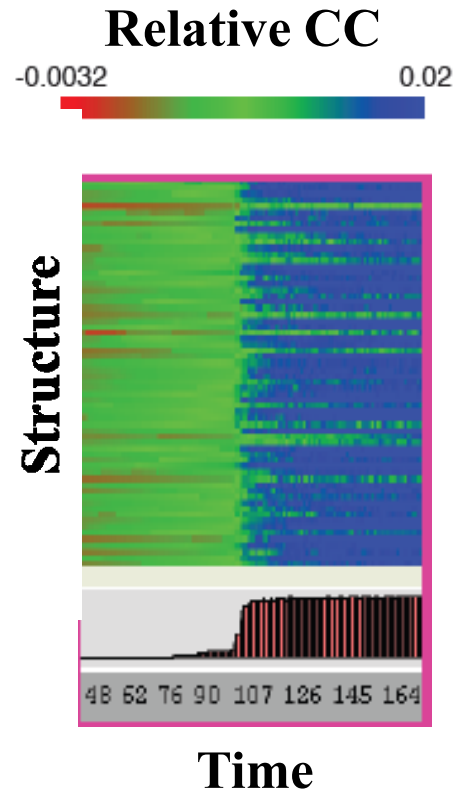
## Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus (RHDV)

Traj. frames	10,000
Structure 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 of 7M CCs would take **5 years** using serial CPU algorithm!



**RHDV colored  
by relative CC**





# VMD Tesla V100 Cross Correlation Performance

Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus: 702K atoms, 6.5Å resolution

Volta GPU architecture almost 2x faster than previous gen Pascal:

Application and Hardware platform	Runtime, Speedup vs. Chimera, VMD+GPU
Chimera Xeon E5-2687W (2 socket) [1]	15.860s, 1x
VMD-CUDA IBM Power8 + 1x Tesla K40 [2]	0.488s, 32x <b>0.9x</b>
VMD-CUDA Intel Xeon E5-2687W + 1x Quadro K6000 [1,2]	0.458s, 35x <b>1.0x</b>
<b>VMD-CUDA Intel Xeon E5-2698v3 + 1x Tesla P100</b>	<b>0.090s,</b> 176x <b>5.1x</b>
<b>VMD-CUDA IBM Power8 “Minsky” + 1x Tesla P100</b>	<b>0.080s,</b> 198x <b>5.7x</b>
<b>VMD-CUDA Intel Xeon E5-2697Av4 + 1x Tesla V100</b>	<b>0.050s,</b> 317x <b>9.2x</b>
<b>VMD-CUDA IBM Power9 “Newell” + 1x Tesla V100</b>	<b>0.049s,</b> 323x <b>9.3x</b>

[1] 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.

[2] Early Experiences Porting the NAMD and VMD Molecular Simulation and Analysis Software to GPU-Accelerated OpenPOWER Platforms. J. E. Stone, A.-P. Hynninen, J. C. Phillips, K. Schulten. International Workshop on OpenPOWER for HPC (IWOPH'16), LNCS 9945, pp. 188-206, 2016.

# Challenges Posed by Next-Gen GPU-Dense Workstation/Node Designs

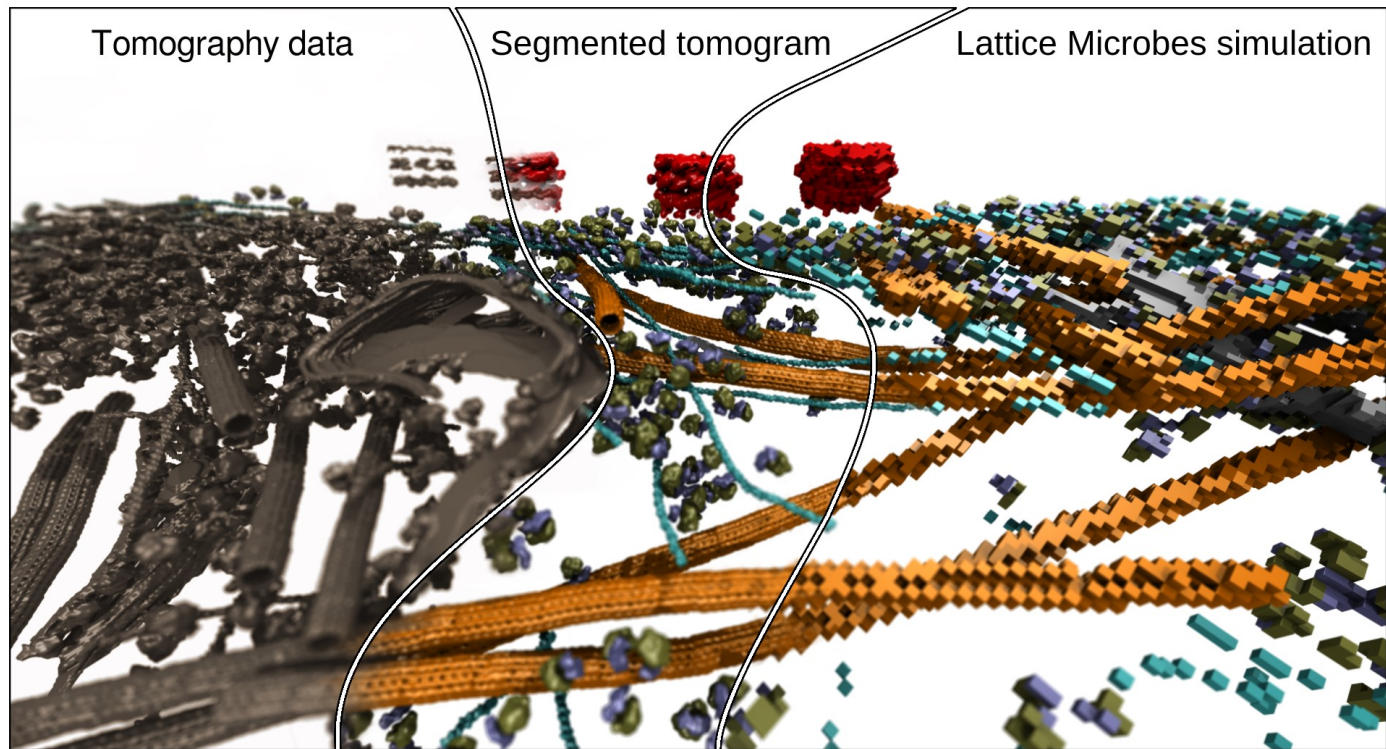
Application and Hardware platform	Runtime,	VMD+GPU
VMD-CUDA Intel Xeon E5-2687W + 1x Quadro K6000 [1,2]	0.458s,	1.0x
VMD-CUDA IBM Power9 “Newell” + 1x Tesla V100	0.049s,	9.3x

- **~9x performance gain from Kepler to Volta GPUs in 4 years**
- CPUs and PCIe have not matched this rate of performance gain
- **Challenge: new GPU-dense nodes** have far less CPU available to manage GPUs and execute non-GPU code
  - **More GPUs per CPU socket, fewer CPU threads per GPU**
  - **ORNL Summit 3 GPUs/socket, 7 CPU cores per GPU**
  - **Remaining CPU code needs to be FAST, otherwise it must move to GPU**

# Cryo-EM / Cryo-ET Image Segmentation

**Evaluate 3-D volumetric electron density maps and segment them, to identify key structural components**

**Index/label components so they can be referred to, colored, analyzed, and simulated...**



# Cryo-EM Density Map Segmentation

## Approach, goals

Watershed segmentation:

- Smooth/denoise image (e.g. blur)
- Find local minima of image/gradients
- Connect minimum voxels with neighbors of similar intensity, marking them with the same “group” number
- “Grow” each group (merging groups where rules allow) until no more updates occur

Scale-space segmentation variant does further blurring and group merging to reach a user-specified target segment count

**Goals:**

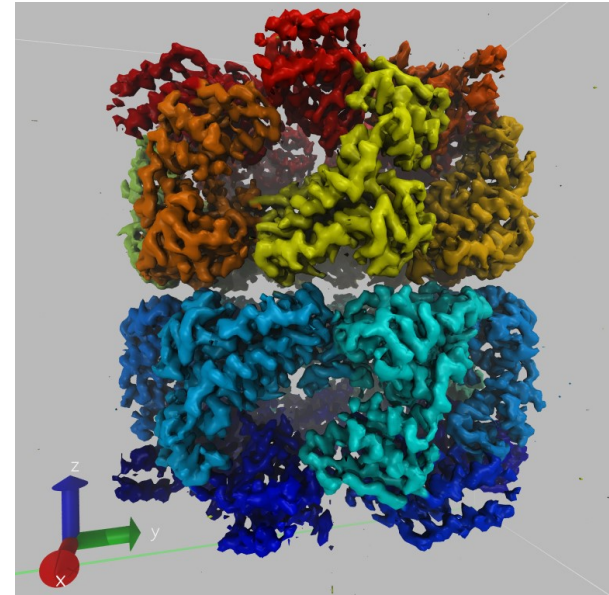
- **Reach interactive performance rates (under 1 second)** for common density map sizes between  $128^3$  to  $256^3$  voxels
- Handle **next-generation problem sizes ( $768^3$  to  $2048^3$ )** smoothly with only a brief wait

**Key methods:**

- **Watershed: Tile-based early-exit schemes** pervasively used for all iterative segmentation update/merge kernels
- **Privatization, shared memory atomic counters** for segmentation group index kernels
- **Significantly faster (12x-25x) than other algorithm designs we are aware of**

# Density Map Segmentation Optimization Opportunities

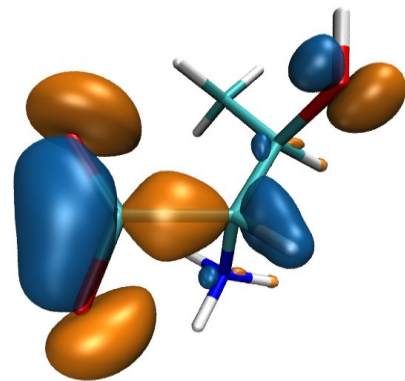
- Optimize numerical precision for 3-D density maps:
  - **Improved memory bandwidth, lower arithmetic cost**
  - FP16: half-precision EM density map representation
  - INT8: byte density map representation for EM tomograms
- **NVIDIA Tensor Core (~120 TFLOPS FP16 MMA)** for iterative scale-space segmentation merge/blur convolutions, initial noise filtering steps:
  - **Difficult to prevent TC from becoming mem bandwidth-bound**
  - Some dimensionalities and matrix-based problem decompositions perform much better than others – this is an area of ongoing exploration



VMD GPU density map segmentation of GroEL

# Computing+Visualizing Molecular Orbitals

- Animation of (classical mechanics) molecular dynamics trajectories provides insight into simulation results
- To do the same for QM or hybrid QM/MM simulations one must compute MOs at **~5-10 FPS** or more
- Re-compute MO grid on-the-fly from QM basis set, **huge decrease in RAM+I/O in exchange for heavy FP arithmetic**



**NAMD goes quantum: An integrative suite for hybrid simulations.** Melo, M. C. R.; Bernardi, R. C.; Rudack T.; Scheurer, M.; Riplinger, C.; Phillips, J. C.; Maia, J. D. C.; Rocha, G. D.; Ribeiro, J. V.; Stone, J. E.; Neese, F.; Schulten, K.; Luthey-Schulten, Z.; **Nature Methods, 2018.**

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/nmeth.4638>

**High Performance Computation and Interactive Display of Molecular Orbitals on GPUs and Multi-core CPUs.** J. E. Stone, J. Saam, D. Hardy, K. Vandivort, W. Hwu, K. Schulten, *2nd Workshop on General-Purpose Computation on Graphics Processing Units (GPGPU-2), ACM International Conference Proceeding Series*, volume 383, pp. 9-18, 2009.

# MO Kernel for One Grid Point (Naive C)

```
...
for (at=0; at<numatoms; at++) {
    int prim_counter = atom_basis[at];
    calc_distances_to_atom(&atompos[at], &xdist, &ydist, &zdist, &dist2, &xdiv);
    for (contracted_gto=0.0f, shell=0; shell < num_shells_per_atom[at]; shell++) {
        int shell_type = shell_symmetry[shell_counter];
        for (prim=0; prim < num_prim_per_shell[shell_counter]; prim++) {
            float exponent      = basis_array[prim_counter    ];
            float contract_coeff = basis_array[prim_counter + 1];
            contracted_gto += contract_coeff * expf(-exponent*dist2);
            prim_counter += 2;
        }
        for (tmpshell=0.0f, j=0, zdp=1.0f; j<=shell_type; j++, zdp*=zdist) {
            int imax = shell_type - j;
            for (i=0, ydp=1.0f, xdp=pow(xdist, imax); i<=imax; i++, ydp*=ydist, xdp*=xdiv)
                tmpshell += wave_f[ifunc++] * xdp * ydp * zdp;
        }
        value += tmpshell * contracted_gto;
        shell_counter++;
    }
}
}.....
```

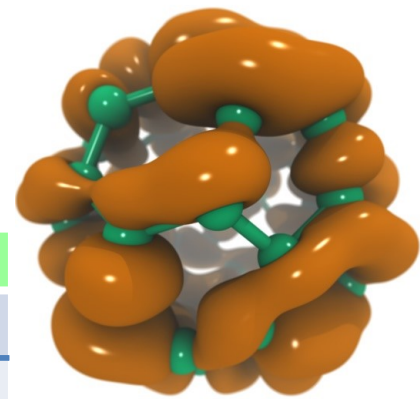
Loop over atoms

Loop over shells

Loop over primitives:  
largest component of  
runtime, due to **expf()**

Loop over angular  
momenta  
(unrolled in real code)

# VMD Tesla V100 Performance for $C_{60}$ Molecular Orbitals, 516x519x507 grid



Hardware platform	Runtime,	Speedup
IBM Power8 (ORNL 'crest') + 1x Tesla K40 [1]	3.49s,	1.0x
Intel Xeon E5-2697Av4 + 1x Tesla V100	0.610s,	5.7x
Intel Xeon E5-2697Av4 + 2x Tesla V100	0.294s,	11.8x
Intel Xeon E5-2697Av4 + 3x Tesla V100	0.220s,	15.9x
IBM Power9 "Newell" + 1x Tesla V100	0.394s,	8.8x
IBM Power9 "Newell" + 2x Tesla V100	0.207s,	16.8x
IBM Power9 "Newell" + 3x Tesla V100	0.151s,	23.1x
IBM Power9 "Newell" + 4x Tesla V100	0.130s,	26.8x
IBM Power9 "Newell" + 6x Tesla V100	0.156s,	22.3x

NVLink perf. boost w/ no code tuning (YET)

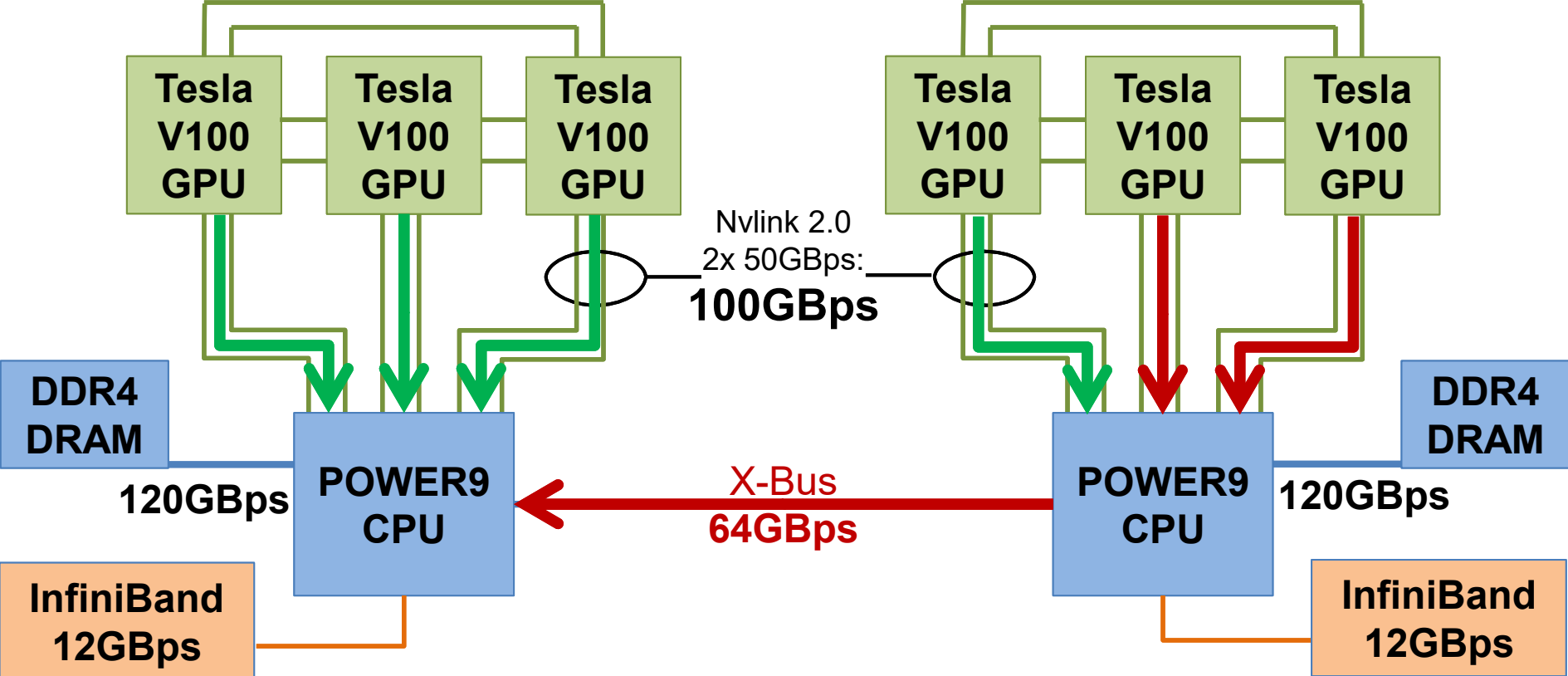
Need tune

[1] Early Experiences Porting the NAMD and VMD Molecular Simulation and Analysis Software to GPU-Accelerated OpenPOWER Platforms. J. E. Stone, A.-P. Hynninen, J. C. Phillips, K. Schulten. International Workshop on OpenPOWER for HPC (IWOPH'16), LNCS 9945, pp. 188-206, 2016.



# Molecular Orbital Alg. Behavior on Summit

3 GPUs Per CPU Socket



# Molecular Orbital Computation and Display Process

Runtime Kernel Generation, NVRTC Just-In-Time (JIT) Compilation: **1.8x Faster**

**One-time  
initialization**

**Initialize Pool of GPU  
Worker Threads**

Read QM simulation log file, trajectory

Preprocess MO coefficient data  
eliminate duplicates, sort by type, etc...

**Generate/compile basis set-specific CUDA kernel**

For current frame and MO index,  
retrieve MO wavefunction coefficients

**Compute 3-D grid of MO wavefunction amplitudes  
using basis set-specific CUDA kernel**

Extract isosurface mesh from 3-D MO grid

Render the resulting surface

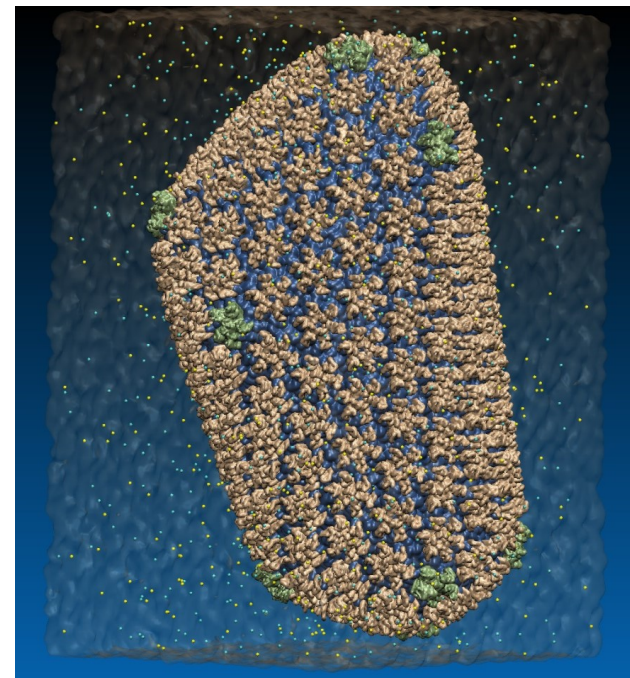
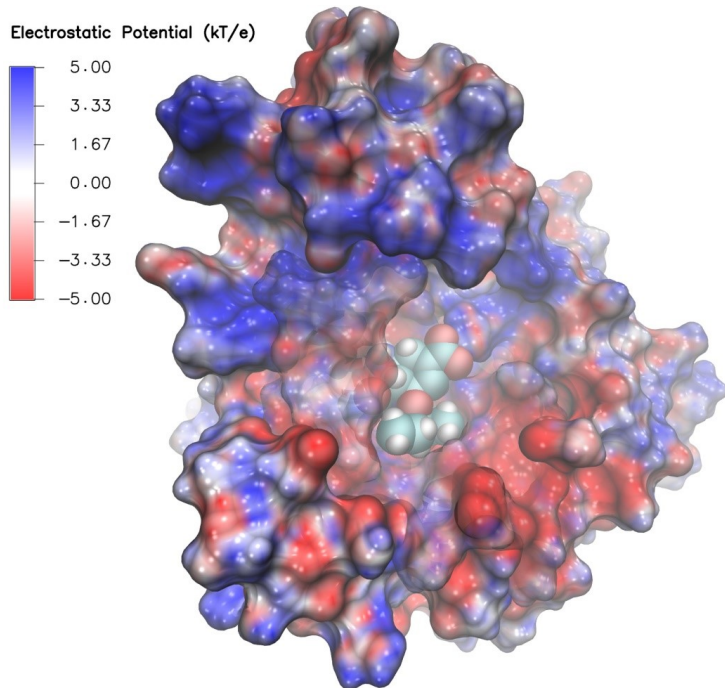
**For each trj frame,  
for each MO shown**

# VMD Off-Screen Rasterization w/ EGL

- **Eliminate requirement for windowing system**, support HPC visualization workloads, in-situ, and remote visualization
- VMD on HPC systems w/ EGL:
  - Cray XC50, CSCS Piz Daint
  - **ORNL Summit in progress now**
  - IBM OpenPOWER, NVIDIA drivers 375.66 and later support both GLX and EGL
- Containers+Cloud+Workstations with recent NVIDIA drivers



# VMD EGL Rendering: Supports full VMD GLSL shading features, multisample antialiasing, ray cast spheres, 3-D tex mapping, ...



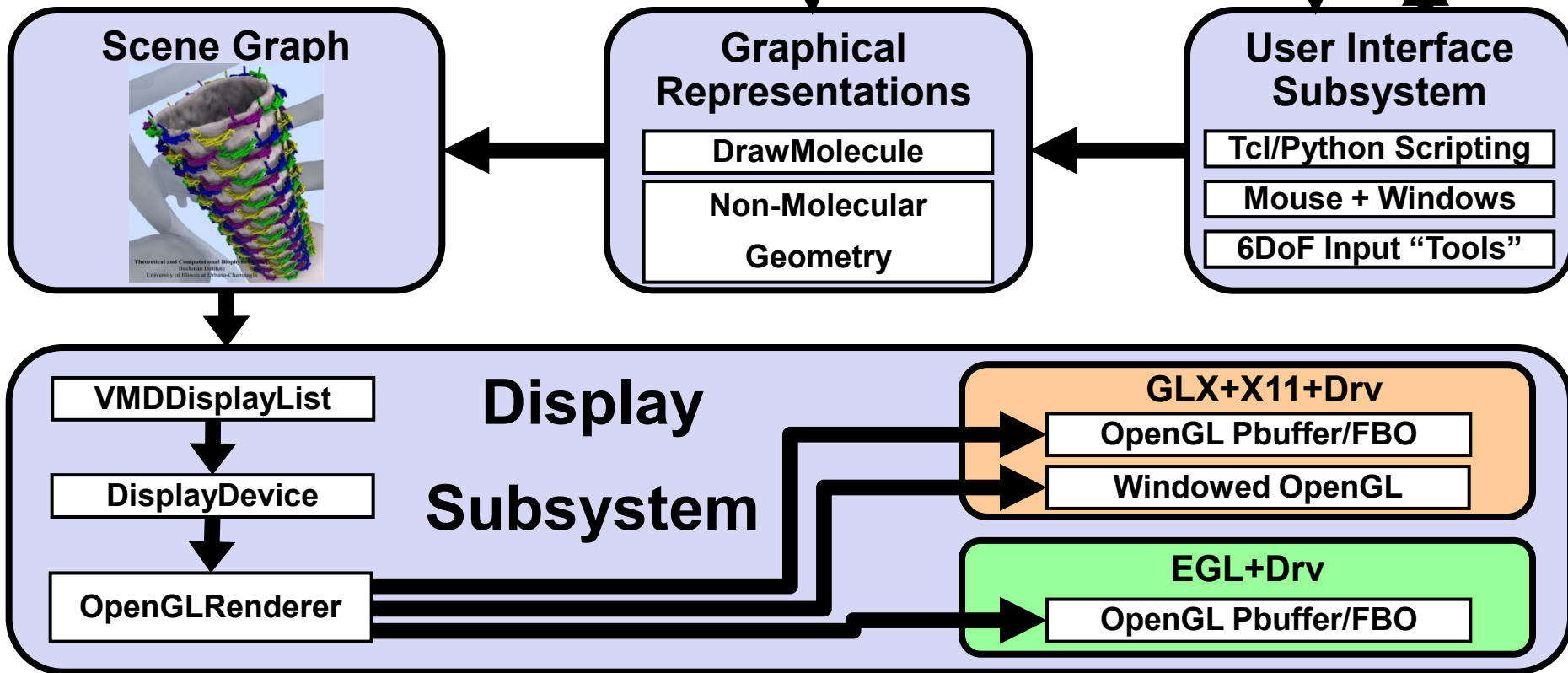
**Swine Flu A/H1N1 neuraminidase bound to Tamiflu**

**64M atom HIV-1 capsid simulation**

**High Performance Molecular Visualization: In-Situ and Parallel Rendering with EGL.**

J. E. Stone, P. Messmer, R. Sisneros, and K. Schulten. High Performance Data Analysis and Visualization Workshop, IEEE IPDPSW, pp. 1014-1023, 2016.

# Molecular Structure Data and Global VMD State



# Benefits of EGL Platform Interfaces for HPC Systems

- **EGL interfaces make it EASY to bind a GPU to a thread with optimal CPU affinity with respect to NUMA topology, NVLink GPU topology**
  - High-perf. multi-GPU image compositing, video streaming
  - EGL plays nicely with MPI, CUDA/OpenCL, OptiX, NVENC, etc
  - NVIDIA EGL supports multiple GPU indexing schemes, e.g. **PCIe ordering**
  - **Exploit NVLink interconnect topology on IBM OpenPOWER platforms, DOE/ORNL “Summit” system**

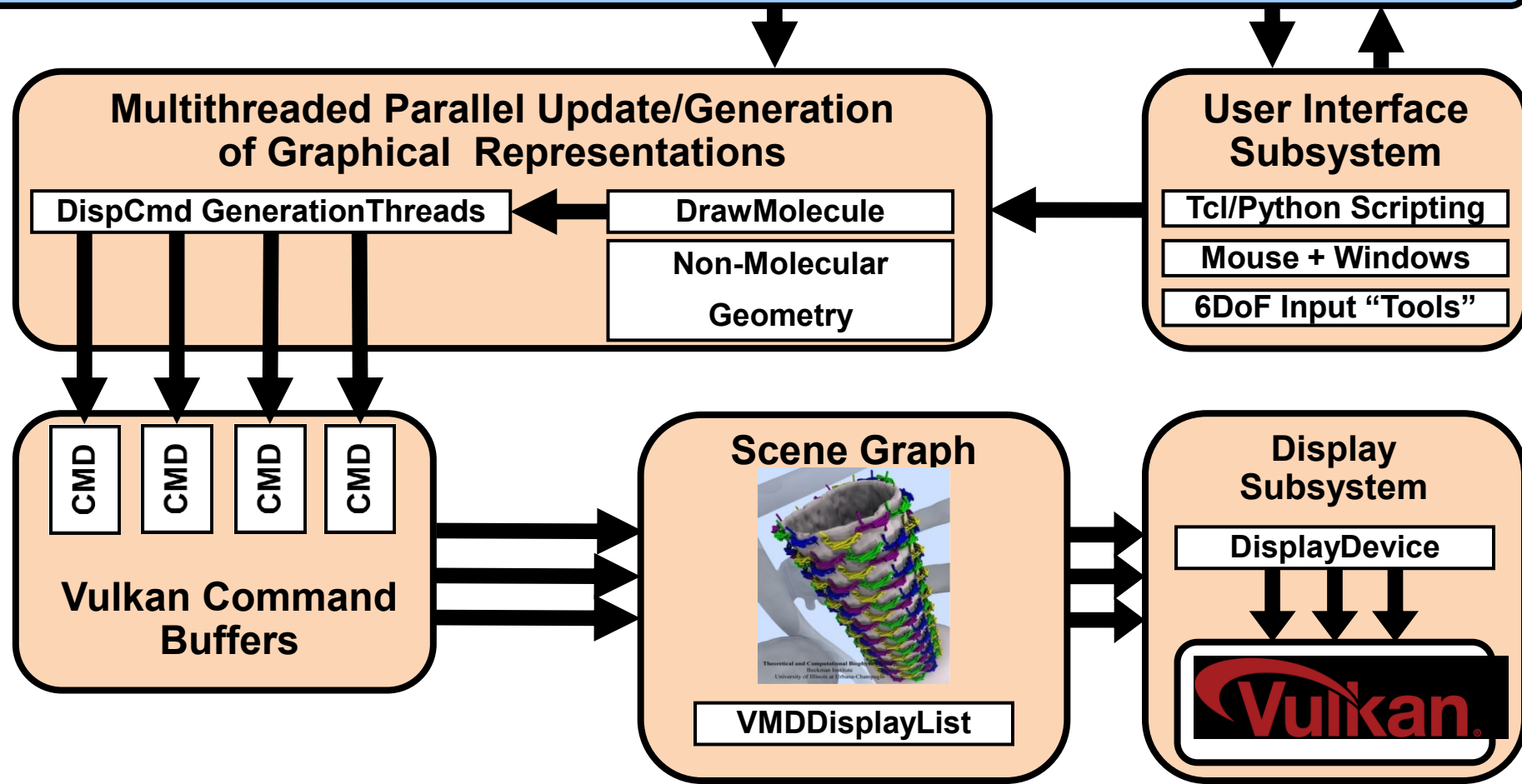


# VMD on



- **High performance, low-overhead, low-abstraction rasterization API**
- ***In-progress: Vulkan-based rasterization path for VMD:***
  - **Vulkan ideally suited** as the API for **high-end rasterization approaches**
  - Maintain existing OpenGL renderer to support integrated/legacy GPUs
  - **Parallel Vulkan command buffer generation** will allow deep multithreading of time-varying VMD graphical representation updates
  - VMD Vulkan rendering path will be able to go all-in on techniques that are only viable on high-end GPUs
  - **Headless operation supported**, akin to EGL and GLX Pbuffer APIs
    - **Headless Vulkan works now on CSCS Piz Daint Cray XC50 test and development system with a few Cray-specific tweaks**
    - **Testing on ORNL Summit and POWER9 CPUs ongoing**

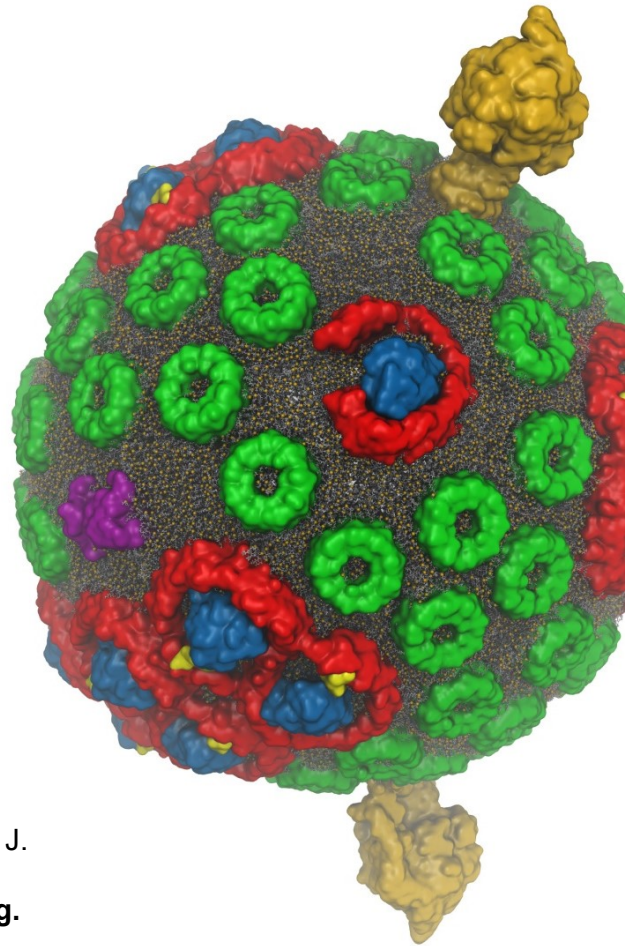
# Molecular Structure Data and Global VMD State





# VMD Interactive Ray Tracing

- **Uses hardware-optimized RT frameworks for both GPUs and CPUs**
- **Interactive RT** on laptops, desktops, cloud, and HPC clusters or supercomputers
- Large-scale parallel rendering: in situ or post hoc visualization
- Remote RT on NVIDIA GPU clusters
- Stereoscopic panoramic and full-dome projections
- **Omnidirectional VR for YouTube, VR HMDs**
- **GPU memory sharing via NVLink, e.g., Tesla V100, Quadro GV100**
- **In-progress:**
  - **OptiX denoising support: fast turnaround w/ AO, DoF, etc**
  - **Denoising to enable practical use of path tracing in VMD**



**GPU-Accelerated Molecular Visualization on Petascale Supercomputing Platforms.** J. E. Stone, K. L. Vandivort, and K. Schulten. UltraVis'13, pp. 6:1-6:8, 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.

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**Immersive Molecular Visualization with Omnidirectional Stereoscopic Ray Tracing and Remote Rendering** J. E. Stone, W. R. Sherman, and K. HPDAV, IPDPSW, pp. 1048-1057, 2016.

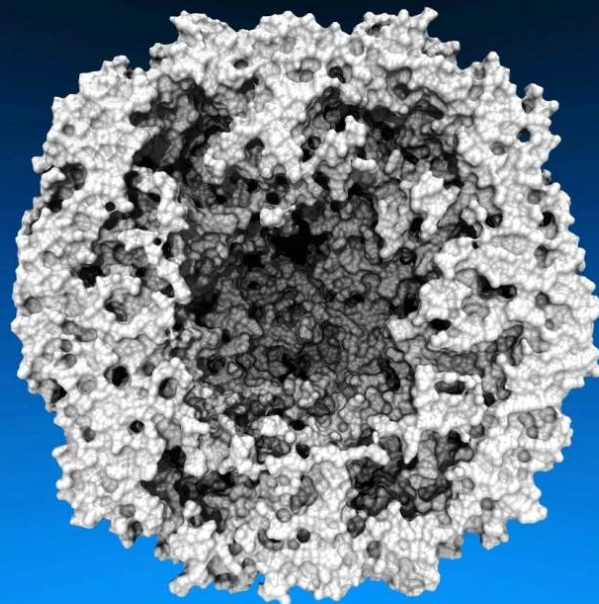
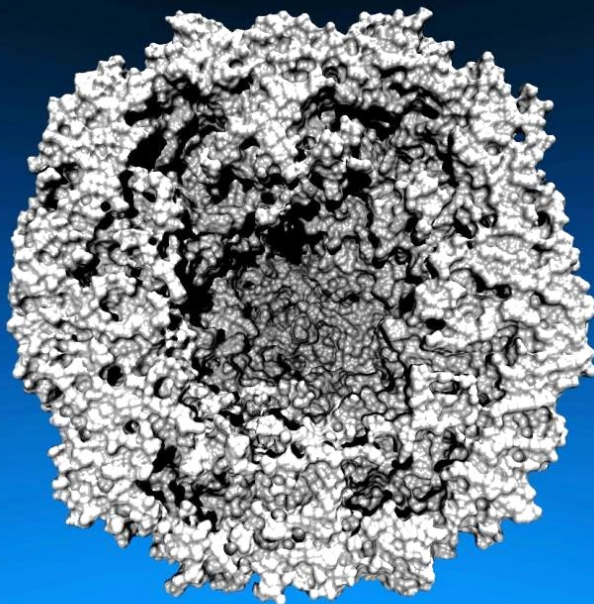
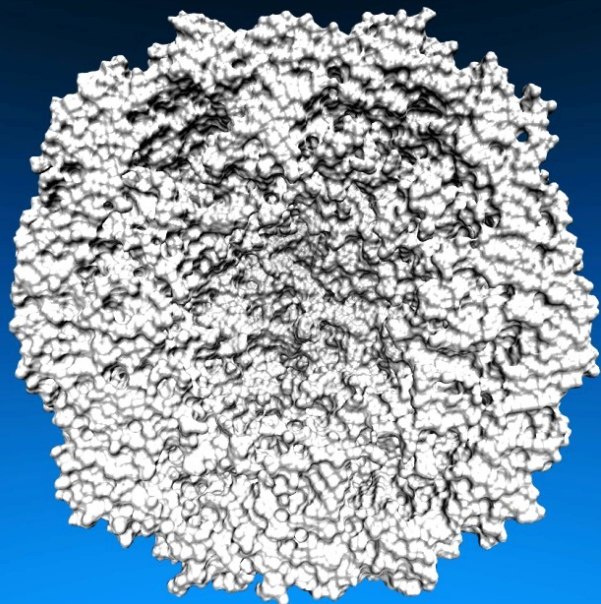
**VMD/OptiX GPU Ray Tracing of all-atom Chromatophore w/ lipids.**

# Lighting Comparison, STMV Capsid

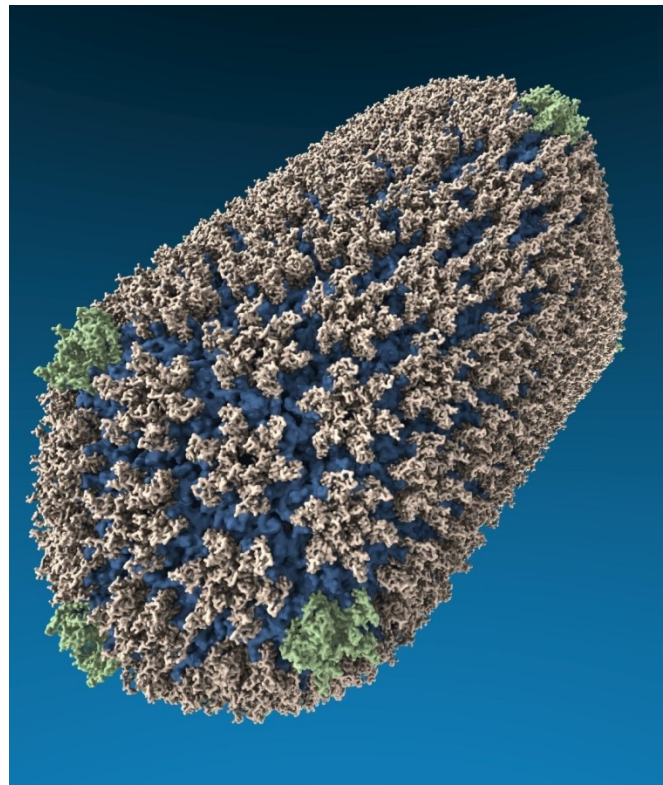
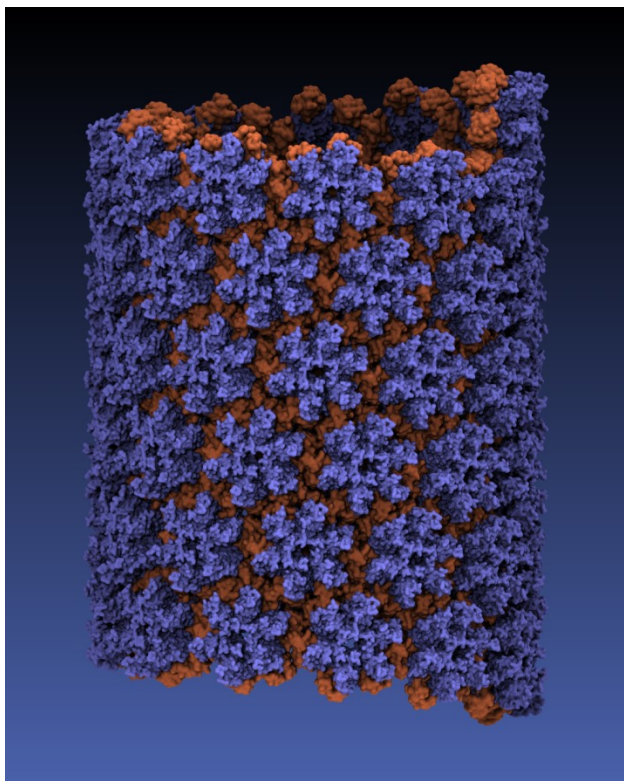
**Two lights, no shadows**

**Two lights, hard shadows, 1 shadow ray per light**

**Ambient occlusion + two lights, 144 AO rays/hit**



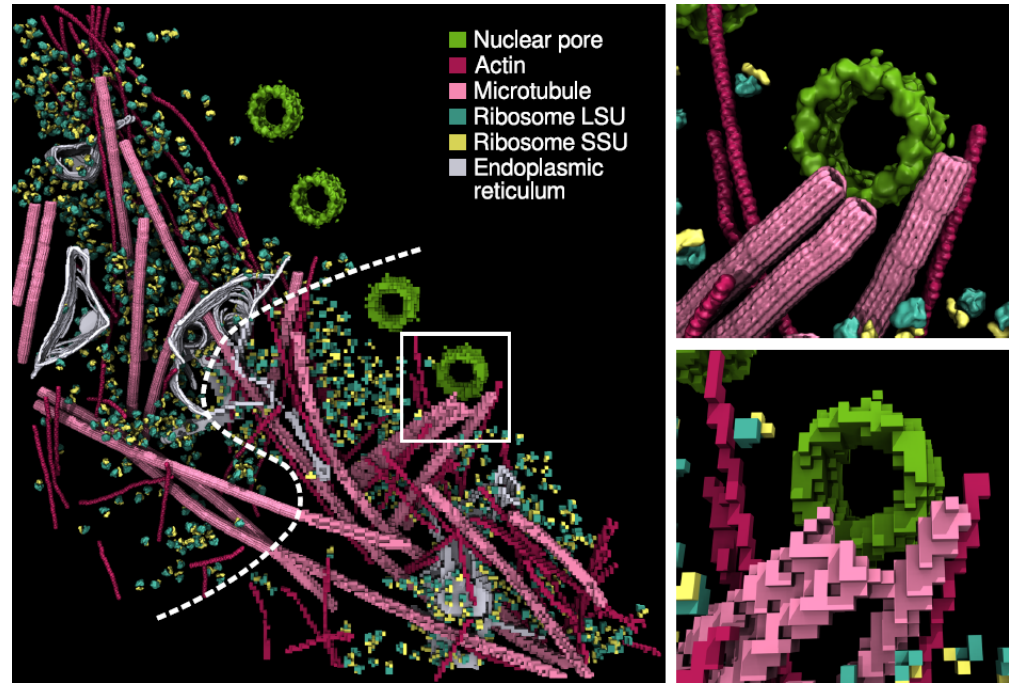
# VMD “QuickSurf” Representation, Ray Tracing



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

# Interactive Ray Tracing of Cells

- High resolution cellular tomograms, **billions of voxels**
- Even isosurface or lattice site graphical representations involve ~100M geometric primitives
- **Quadro GP100 / GV100 GPUs benefit from OptiX, NVLink distribution of molecular scene over multiple GPUs**

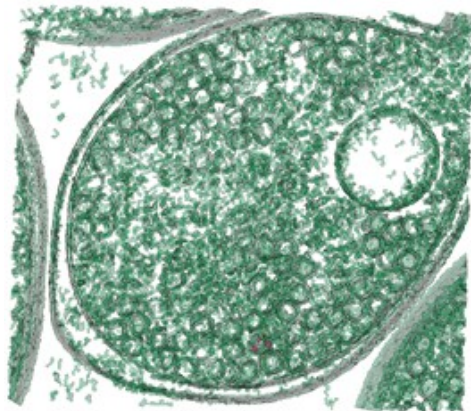


Earnest, et al. *J. Physical Chemistry B*, 121(15): 3871-3881, 2017.

# VMD Atomic Detail Visualization of Cell Architecture w/ Instancing

- VMD 1.9.4 instancing of graphical representations
- Exploit **VBO caching** in OpenGL to eliminate host-GPU geometry transfers
- **RT Instancing** of geometry, minimize memory footprint for cell-scale scenes w/ atomic detail structures

Tomogram showing dense packing of photosynthetic chromatophores (circles) in bacterial cell

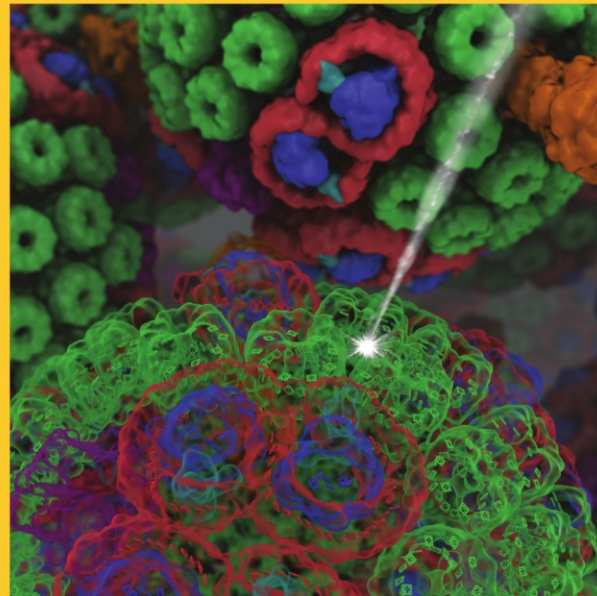


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KLAUS SCHULTEN MEMORIAL ISSUE

# Immersive Viz. w/ VMD

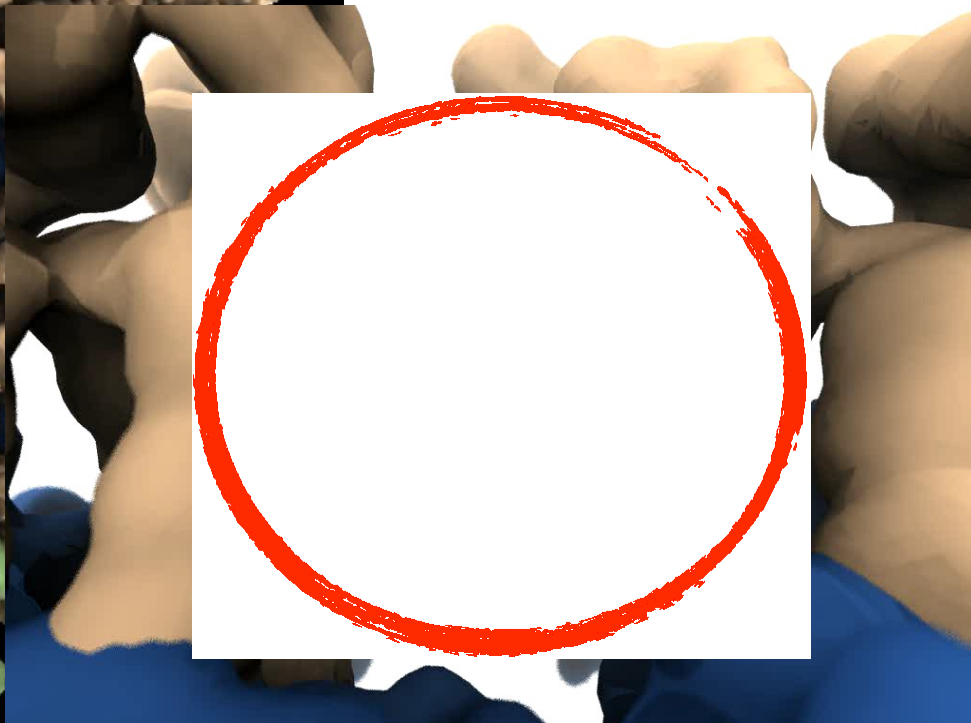
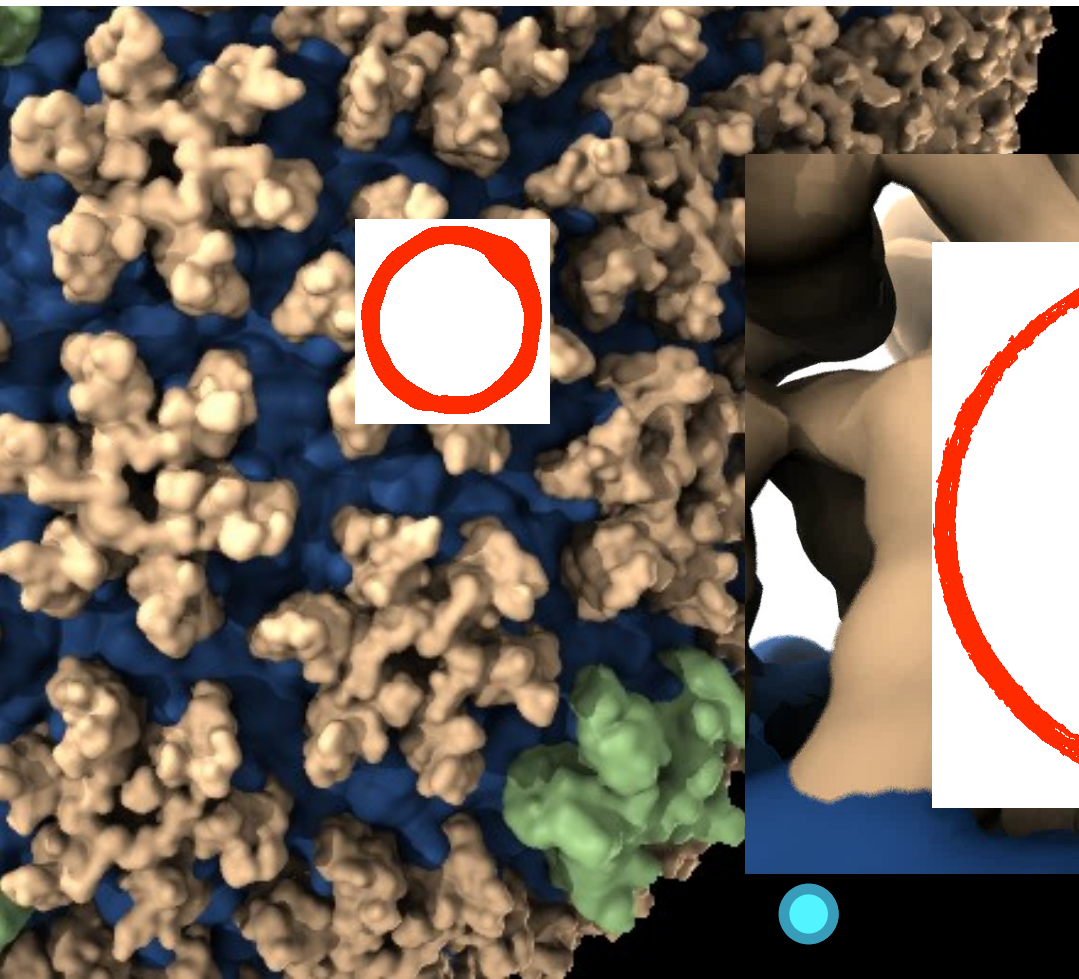
- VMD began as a CAVE app (1993)
- Use of immersive viz by molecular scientists limited due to cost, complexity, lack of local availability, convenience
- Commoditization of HMDs excellent opportunity to overcome cost/availability
- This leaves many challenges still to solve:
  - Incorporate support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



VMD running in a CAVE w/ VR Juggler

# Goal: Intuitive interactive viz. in crowded molecular complexes

Results from 64 M atom, 1  $\mu$ s sim!



Number of chloride ions permeating  
capsid hexameric centers

# In-Progress VMD VR Development

VMD VR ray tracing:  
Google Cardboard [1]  
Demo w/ Indiana U., SC'15 [2]

Prototype of VR user  
interaction with VMD  
models in **room-scale VR**  
with NVIDIA @ SC'16



[1] **Atomic Detail Visualization of Photosynthetic Membranes with GPU-Accelerated Ray Tracing.** Stone et al., J. Parallel Computing, 55:17-27, 2016.

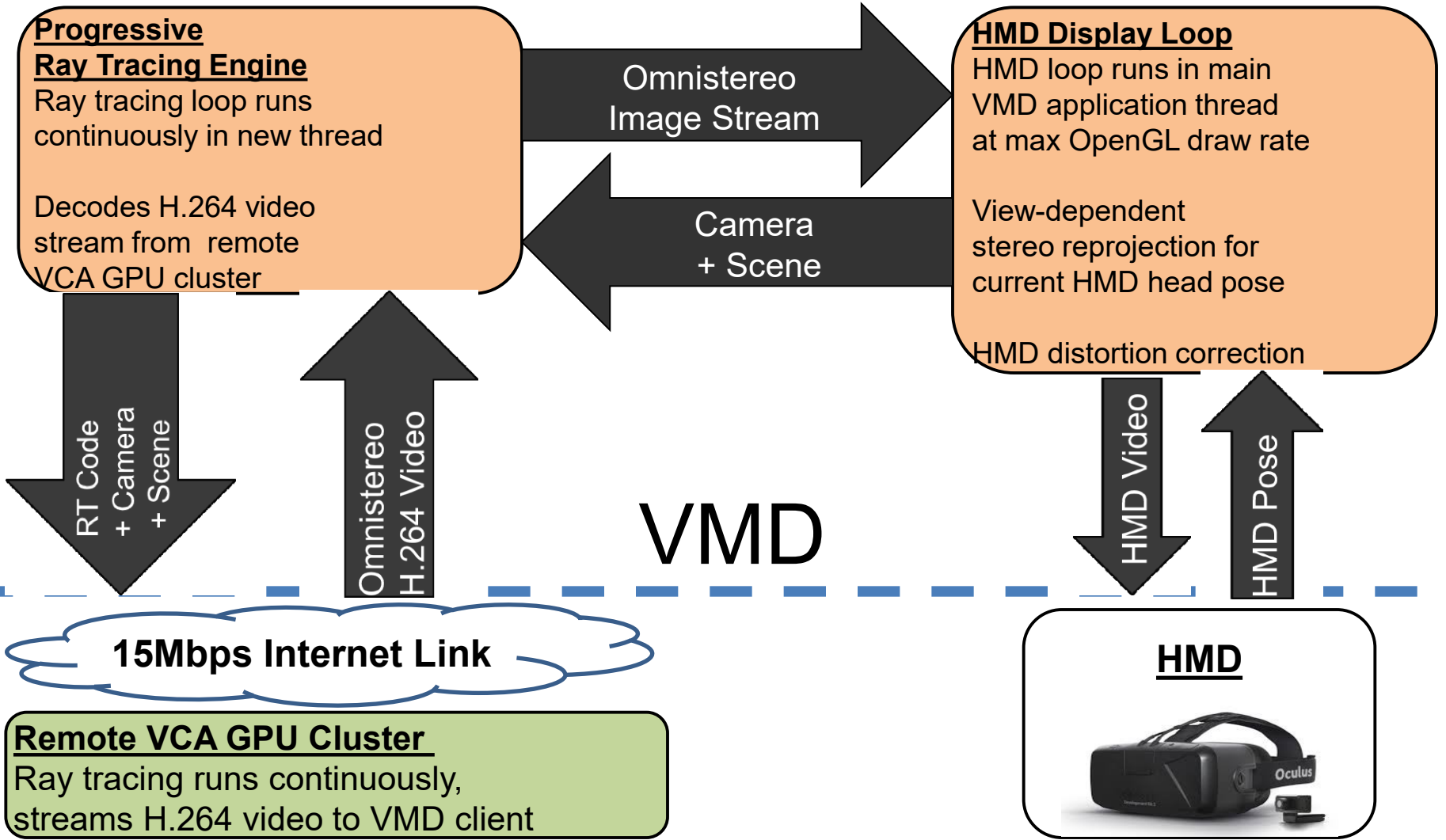
[2] **Immersive Molecular Visualization with Omnidirectional Stereoscopic Ray Tracing and Remote Rendering.** J.E. Stone, W.R. Sherman, K. Schulten. IEEE HPDAV (IPDPSW), pp. 1048-1057, 2016.

VMD Chromatophore Demo,  
NVIDIA VR Room at SC'16



# 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**



**Progressive**

**Ray Tracing Engine**

Ray tracing loop runs continuously in new thread

Decodes H.264 video stream from remote VCA GPU cluster

**HMD Display Loop**

HMD loop runs in main VMD application thread at max OpenGL draw rate

View-dependent stereo reprojection for current HMD head pose

HMD distortion correction

Omnistereo Image Stream

Camera + Scene

RT Code + Camera + Scene

Omnistereo H.264 Video

VMD

HMD Video

HMD Pose

15Mbps Internet Link

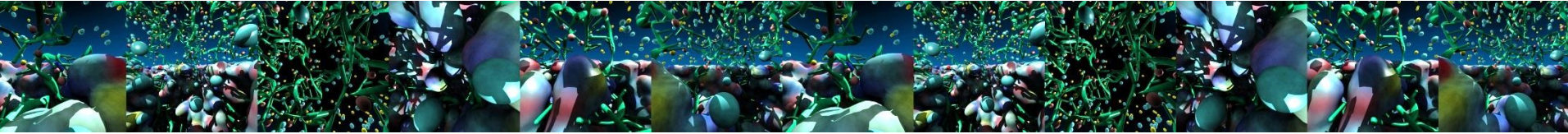
**Remote VCA GPU Cluster**

Ray tracing runs continuously, streams H.264 video to VMD client

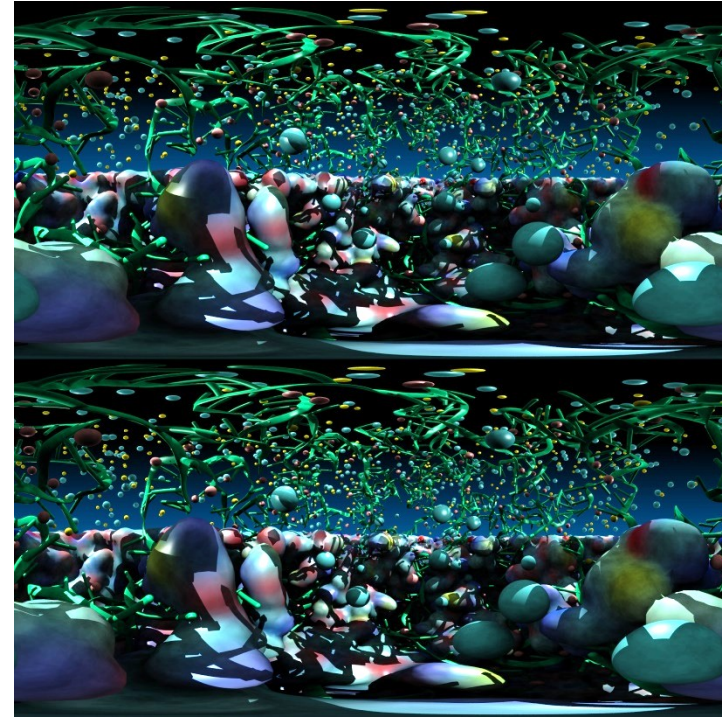
**HMD**



# Stereoscopic Panorama Ray Tracing w/ OptiX

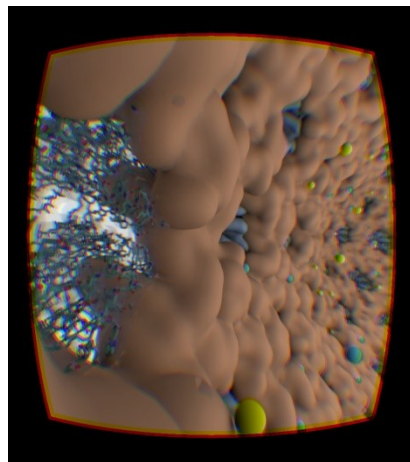
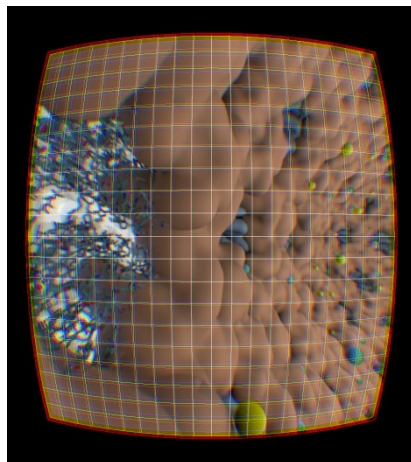
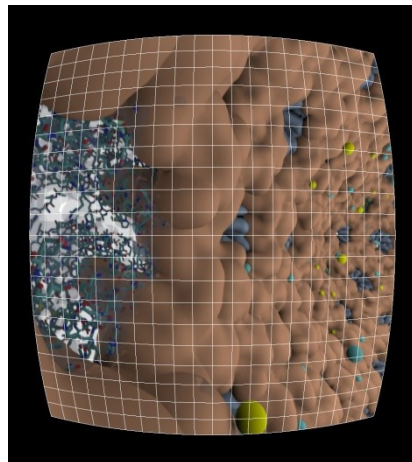
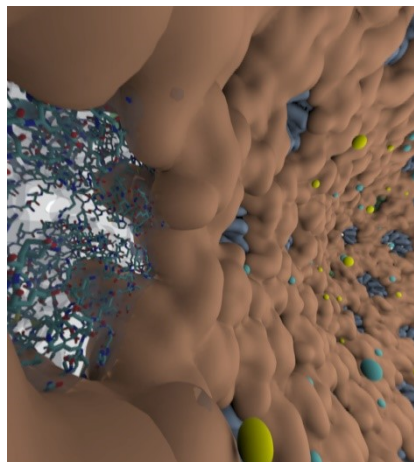
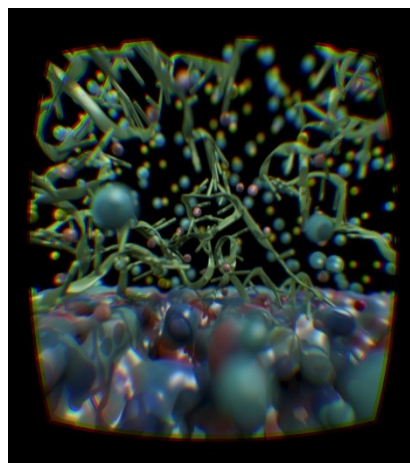
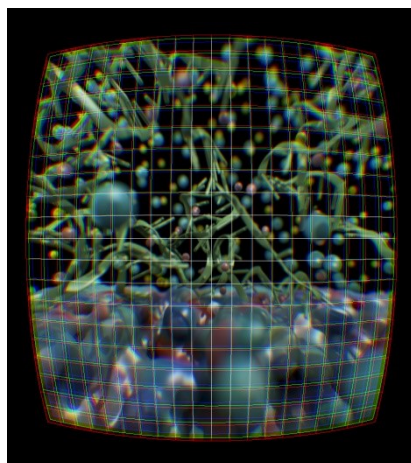
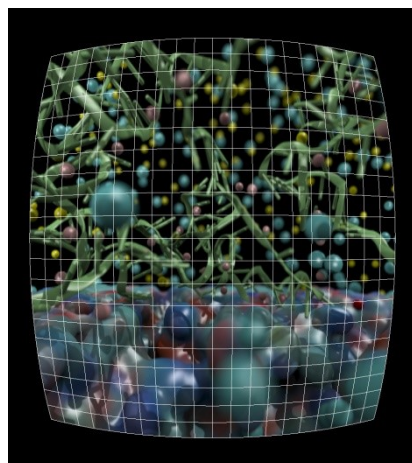
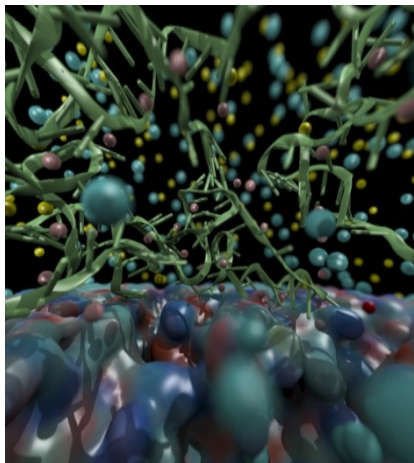


- **Render 360° images and movies for VR headsets such as Oculus Rift, Google Cardboard**
- Ray trace panoramic stereo spheremaps or cubemaps for very high-frame-rate display via OpenGL texturing onto simple geometry
- Stereo requires spherical camera projections **poorly suited to rasterization**
-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





**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 Symposium Workshops (IPDPSW), pp. 1048-1057, 2016.

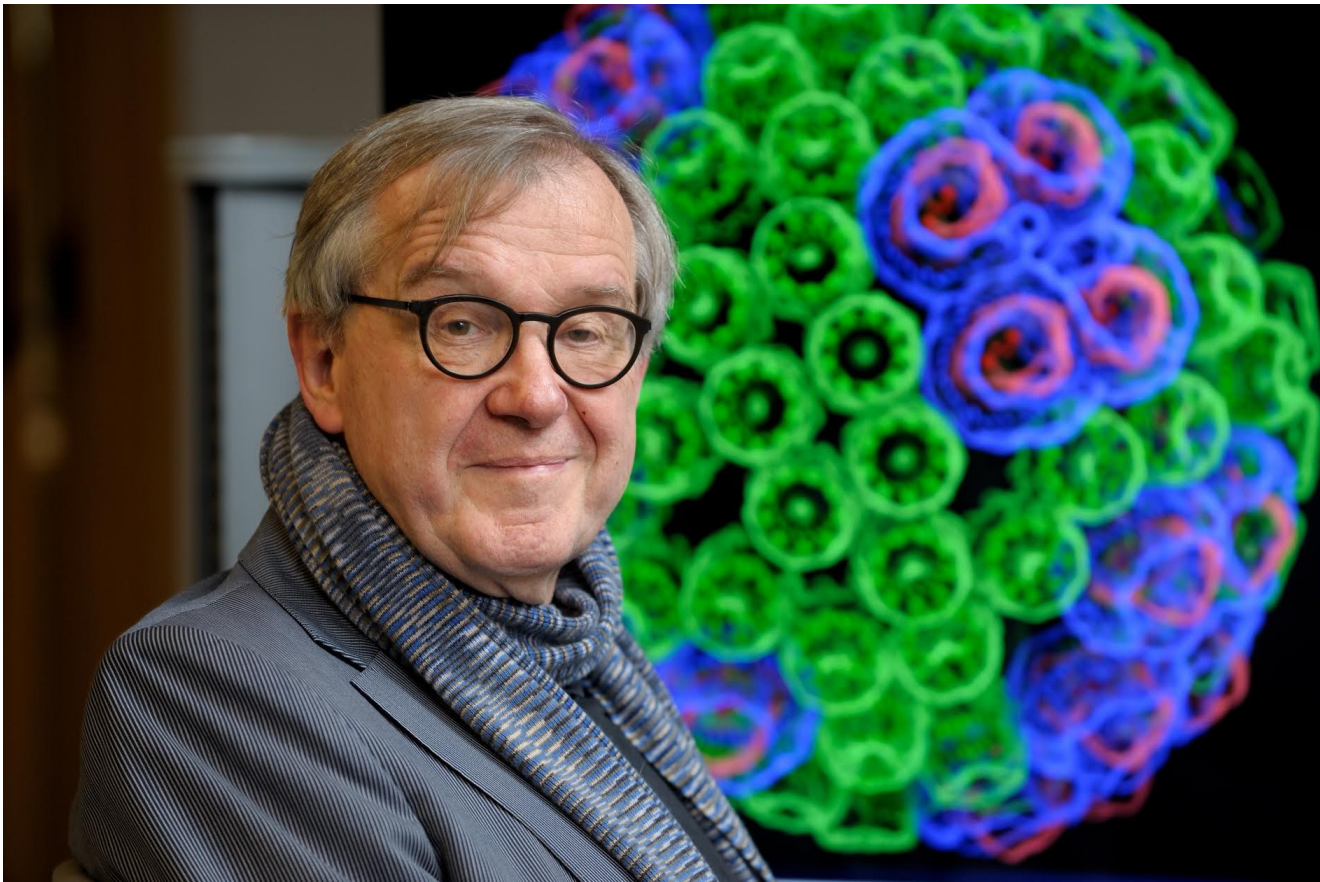


# Ongoing VR Work

- OpenXR – cross platform multi-vendor HMD support
- Ray tracing engine and optimizations:
  - **AI denoising for better average quality**
  - Interactive RT stochastic sampling strategies to improve interactivity
  - Improved omnidirectional cubemap/spheremap sampling approaches
  - **AI multi-view warping to allow rapid in-between view generation amid multiple HMD head locations**
  - **H.265 for high-res omnidirectional video streaming**
  - **Multi-node parallel RT and remote viz. on general clusters and supercomputers, e.g. NCSA Blue Waters, ORNL Titan**
- Tons of work to do on VR user interfaces, multi-user collaborative visualization, ...

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- Theoretical and Computational Biophysics Group, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- NVIDIA CUDA and OptiX teams
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  - DOE INCITE, ORNL Titan: DE-AC05-00OR22725
  - NSF Blue Waters:  
NSF OCI 07-25070, PRAC “The Computational Microscope”,  
ACI-1238993, ACI-1440026



*“When I was a young man, my goal was to look with mathematical and computational means at the inside of cells, one atom at a time, to decipher how living systems work. That is what I strived for and I never deflected from this goal.” – Klaus Schulten*



# Related Publications

<http://www.ks.uiuc.edu/Research/gpu/>

- **NAMD goes quantum: An integrative suite for hybrid simulations.** Melo, M. C. R.; Bernardi, R. C.; Rudack T.; Scheurer, M.; Riplinger, C.; Phillips, J. C.; Maia, J. D. C.; Rocha, G. D.; Ribeiro, J. V.; Stone, J. E.; Neese, F.; Schulten, K.; Luthey-Schulten, Z.; Nature Methods, 2018. (In press)
- **Challenges of Integrating Stochastic Dynamics and Cryo-electron Tomograms in Whole-cell Simulations.** T. M. Earnest, R. Watanabe, J. E. Stone, J. Mahamid, W. Baumeister, E. Villa, and Z. Luthey-Schulten. J. Physical Chemistry B, 121(15): 3871-3881, 2017.
- **Early Experiences Porting the NAMD and VMD Molecular Simulation and Analysis Software to GPU-Accelerated OpenPOWER Platforms.** J. E. Stone, A.-P. Hynninen, J. C. Phillips, and K. Schulten. International Workshop on OpenPOWER for HPC (IWOPH'16), LNCS 9945, pp. 188-206, 2016.
- **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 Symposium Workshop (IPDPSW), pp. 1048-1057, 2016.
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- **Chemical Visualization of Human Pathogens: the Retroviral Capsids.** Juan R. Perilla, Boon Chong Goh, John E. Stone, and Klaus Schulten. *SC'15 Visualization and Data Analytics Showcase*, 2015.
- **Visualization of Energy Conversion Processes in a Light Harvesting Organelle at Atomic Detail.** M. Sener, J. E. Stone, A. Barragan, A. Singharoy, I. Teo, K. L. Vandivort, B. Isralewitz, B. Liu, B. Goh, J. C. Phillips, L. F. Kourkoutis, C. N. Hunter, and K. Schulten. *SC'14 Visualization and Data Analytics Showcase*, 2014.  
\*\*\*Winner of the **SC'14 Visualization and Data Analytics Showcase**
- **Runtime and Architecture Support for Efficient Data Exchange in Multi-Accelerator Applications.** J. Cabezas, I. Gelado, J. E. Stone, N. Navarro, D. B. Kirk, and W. Hwu. *IEEE Transactions on Parallel and Distributed Systems*, 26(5):1405-1418, 2015.
- **Unlocking the Full Potential of the Cray XK7 Accelerator.** M. D. Klein and J. E. Stone. Cray Users Group, Lugano Switzerland, May 2014.
- **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.
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- **Early Experiences Scaling VMD Molecular Visualization and Analysis Jobs on Blue Waters.** J. Stone, B. Isralewitz, and K. Schulten. In proceedings, *Extreme Scaling Workshop*, 2013.
- **Lattice Microbes: High-performance stochastic simulation method for the reaction-diffusion master equation.** E. Roberts, J. Stone, and Z. Luthey-Schulten. *J. Computational Chemistry* 34 (3), 245-255, 2013.
- **Fast Visualization of Gaussian Density Surfaces for Molecular Dynamics and Particle System Trajectories.** M. Krone, J. Stone, T. Ertl, and K. Schulten. *EuroVis Short Papers*, pp. 67-71, 2012.
- **Immersive Out-of-Core Visualization of Large-Size and Long-Timescale Molecular Dynamics Trajectories.** J. Stone, K. L. Vandivort, and K. Schulten. G. Bebis et al. (Eds.): *7th International Symposium on Visual Computing (ISVC 2011)*, LNCS 6939, pp. 1-12, 2011.
- **Fast Analysis of Molecular Dynamics Trajectories with Graphics Processing Units – Radial Distribution Functions.** B. Levine, J. Stone, and A. Kohlmeyer. *J. Comp. Physics*, 230(9):3556-3569, 2011.

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- **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. *International Conference on Green Computing*, pp. 317-324, 2010.
- **GPU-accelerated molecular modeling coming of age.** J. Stone, D. Hardy, I. Ufimtsev, K. Schulten. *J. Molecular Graphics and Modeling*, 29:116-125, 2010.
- **OpenCL: A Parallel Programming Standard for Heterogeneous Computing.** J. Stone, D. Gohara, G. Shi. *Computing in Science and Engineering*, 12(3):66-73, 2010.
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- **Long time-scale simulations of in vivo diffusion using GPU hardware.** E. Roberts, J. Stone, L. Sepulveda, W. Hwu, Z. Luthey-Schulten. In *IPDPS'09: Proceedings of the 2009 IEEE International Symposium on Parallel & Distributed Computing*, pp. 1-8, 2009.
- **High Performance Computation and Interactive Display of Molecular Orbitals on GPUs and Multi-core CPUs.** J. E. Stone, J. Saam, D. Hardy, K. Vandivort, W. Hwu, K. Schulten, *2nd Workshop on General-Purpose Computation on Graphics Processing Units (GPGPU-2)*, *ACM International Conference Proceeding Series*, volume 383, pp. 9-18, 2009.
- **Probing Biomolecular Machines with Graphics Processors.** J. Phillips, J. Stone. *Communications of the ACM*, 52(10):34-41, 2009.
- **Multilevel summation of electrostatic potentials using graphics processing units.** D. Hardy, J. Stone, K. Schulten. *J. Parallel Computing*, 35:164-177, 2009.

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C. Rodrigues, D. Hardy, J. Stone, K. Schulten, and W. Hwu. *Proceedings of the 2008 Conference On Computing Frontiers*, pp. 273-282, 2008.
- **GPU computing.** J. Owens, M. Houston, D. Luebke, S. Green, J. Stone, J. Phillips. *Proceedings of the IEEE*, 96:879-899, 2008.
- **Accelerating molecular modeling applications with graphics processors.** J. Stone, J. Phillips, P. Freddolino, D. Hardy, L. Trabuco, K. Schulten. *J. Comp. Chem.*, 28:2618-2640, 2007.
- **Continuous fluorescence microphotolysis and correlation spectroscopy.** A. Arkhipov, J. Hüve, M. Kahms, R. Peters, K. Schulten. *Biophysical Journal*, 93:4006-4017, 2007.

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