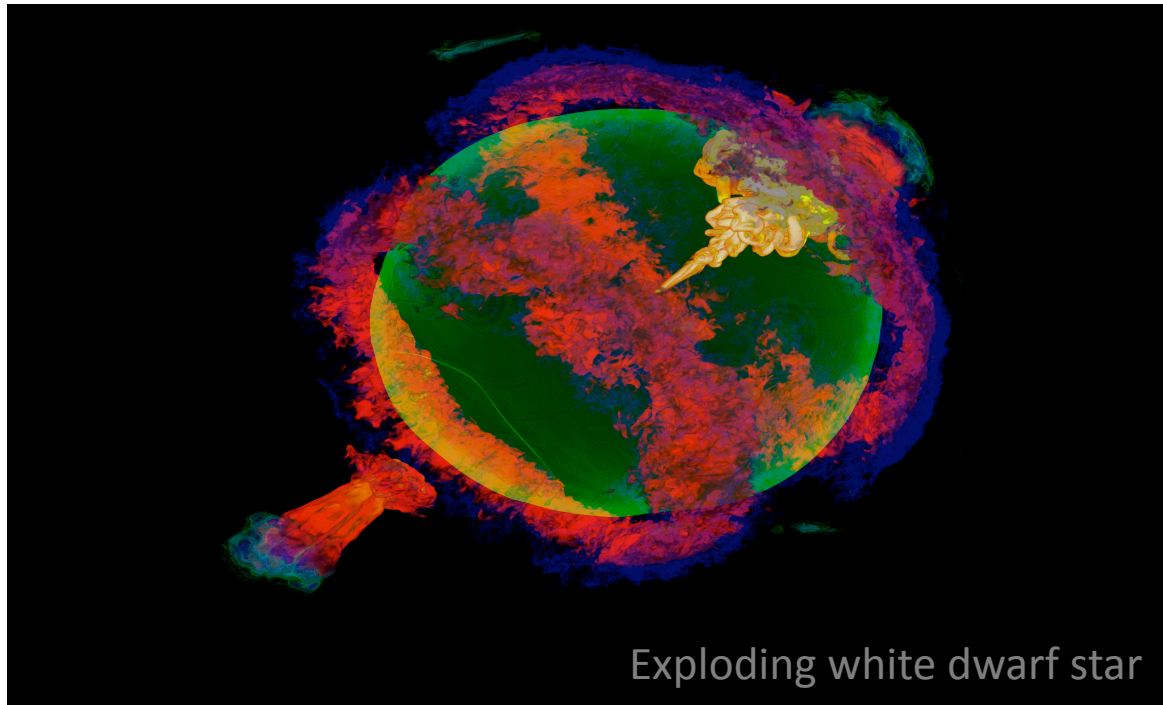
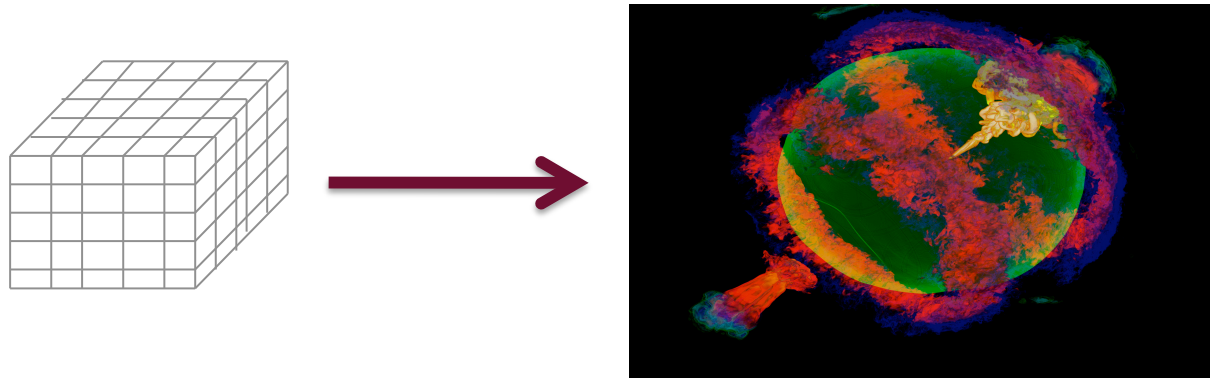


Introduction to vl3



Venkat Vishwanath
Argonne National Laboratory
University of Chicago

Volume Rendering Pipeline

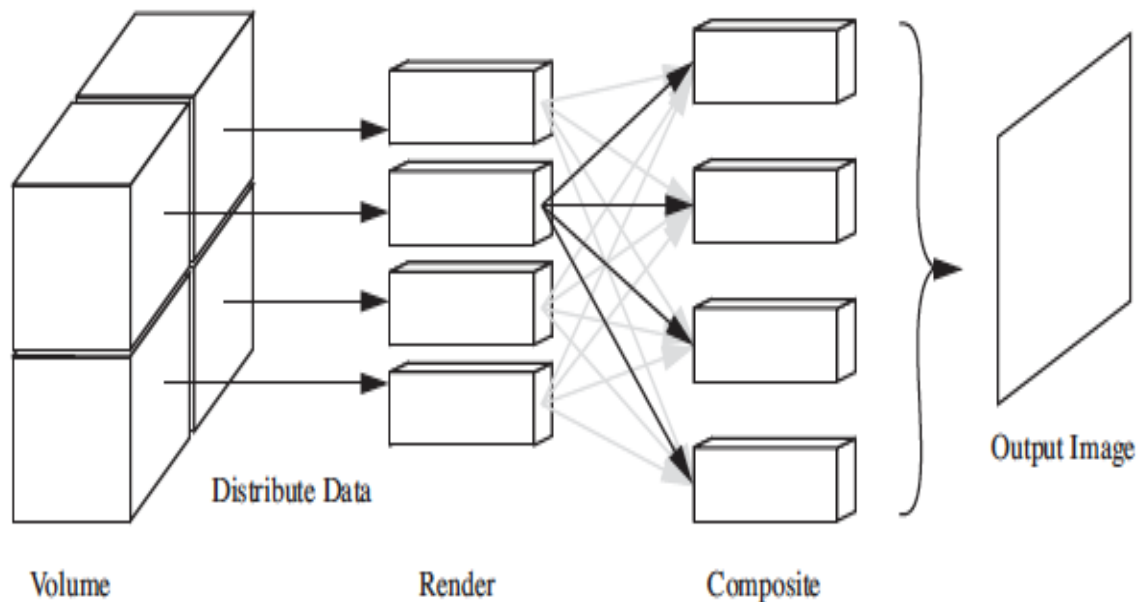


Data → Filter → Render → Composite → Image

- Reduces 2- and 3-dimensional datasets into 2D images
- Enables one to better understand scientific phenomena



Scalable Volume Rendering



Leverage Parallelism in all stages

- Subdivision of data
- Parallel rendering
- Parallel image composition



Software Rendering vs Hardware Rendering

- Software rendering refers to the computations being performed on the CPU.
- Software rendering is extremely flexible and runs on any hardware.
- With the proliferation of commodity Graphical Processing Units (GPU), one can leverage GPUs for volume rendering. This is referred to as Hardware Rendering.
- Hardware Rendering requires a GPU and is portable across GPUs (AMD, NVidia) using the GLSL shading language. CUDA is not portable.



vl3 Architecture - Modular and Extensible

Input → Filter → Render → Composite → Output

Raw,
DICOM,
VTK, etc.

Range based
filtering,
Generate
derived fields

Ray casting
based
techniques,
Support for
lighting models

Direct Send,
Binary Swap,
Parallel
Compositing

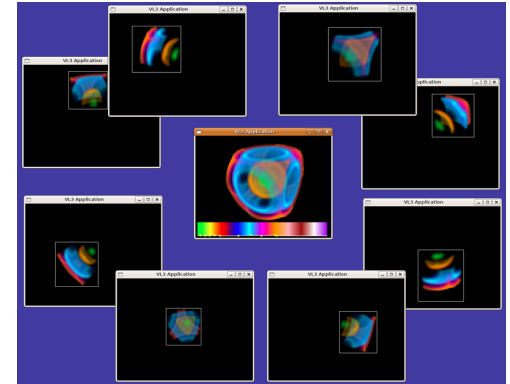
Tiled Walls,
Remote Desktop,
Storage,
Web Browser

- vl3 runs on a desktop, GPU-based clusters and CPU-based clusters
- vl3 was used to generate the **top 2** visualizations at SciDAC 2010 and has won a total of 5 OASCRs in the past 3 years



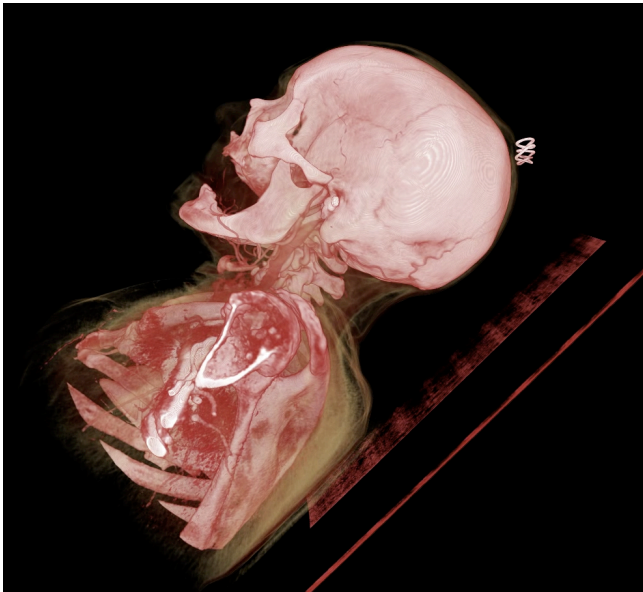
vl3 Features

- Parallel Volume Visualization
- Supports both Software and GPU-based Hardware volume rendering and compositing
- Support for multiple data formats, filters, compositing algorithms via plugins
- Support for multiple output modes
- Support for multiple interaction devices
- Configurable design enables vl3 to be customized for the underlying architecture

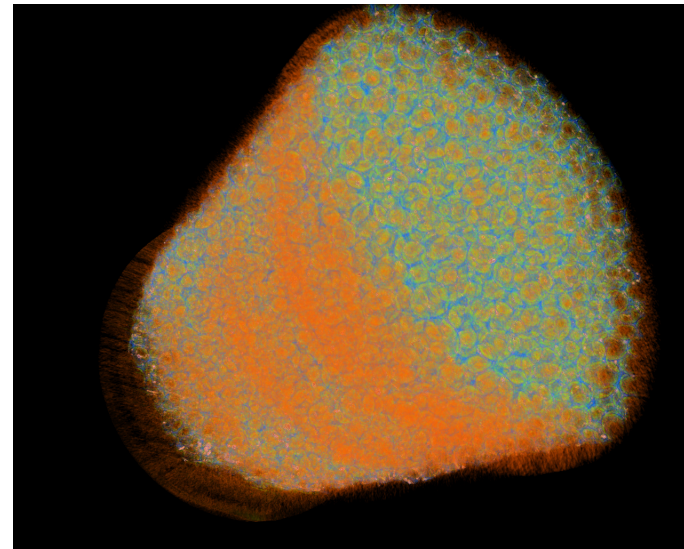


vl3 Examples

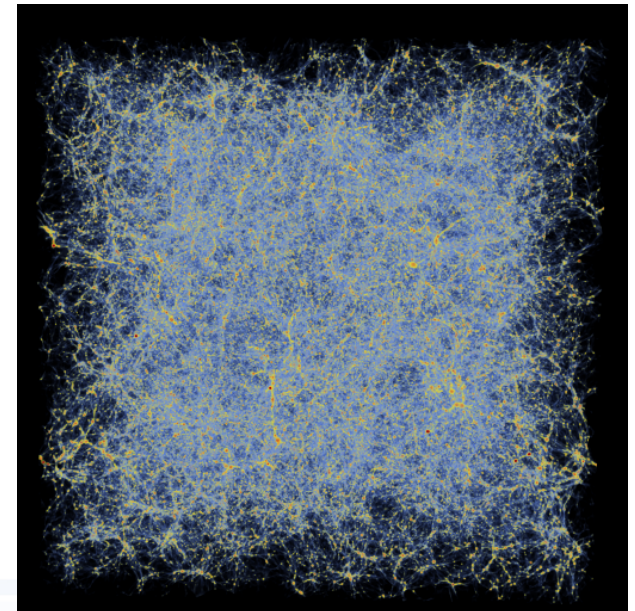
Computed Tomography



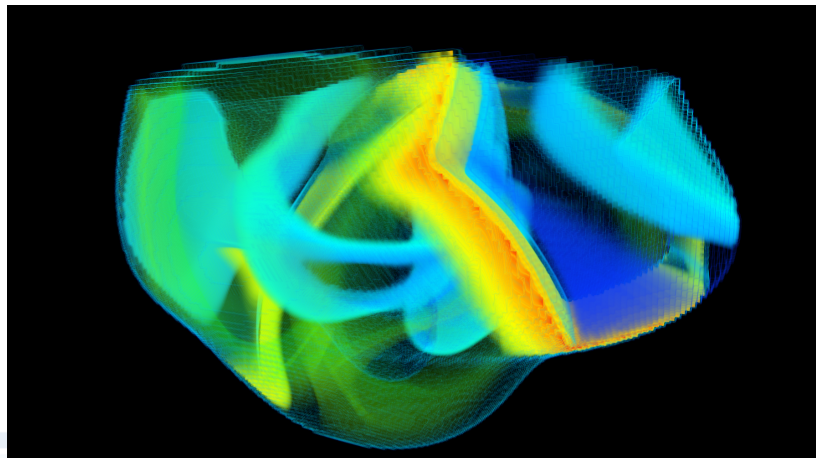
Microtomography



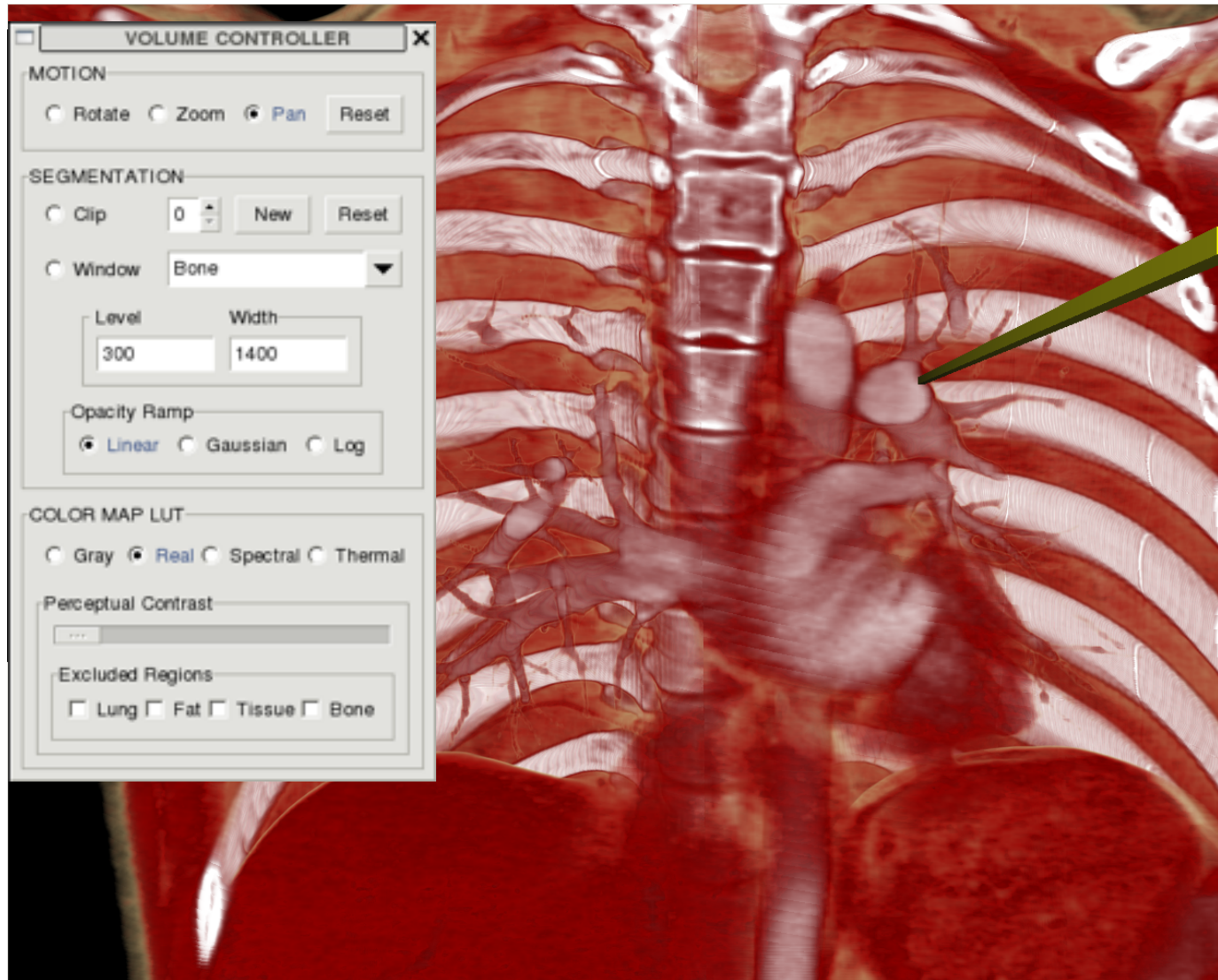
Cosmology



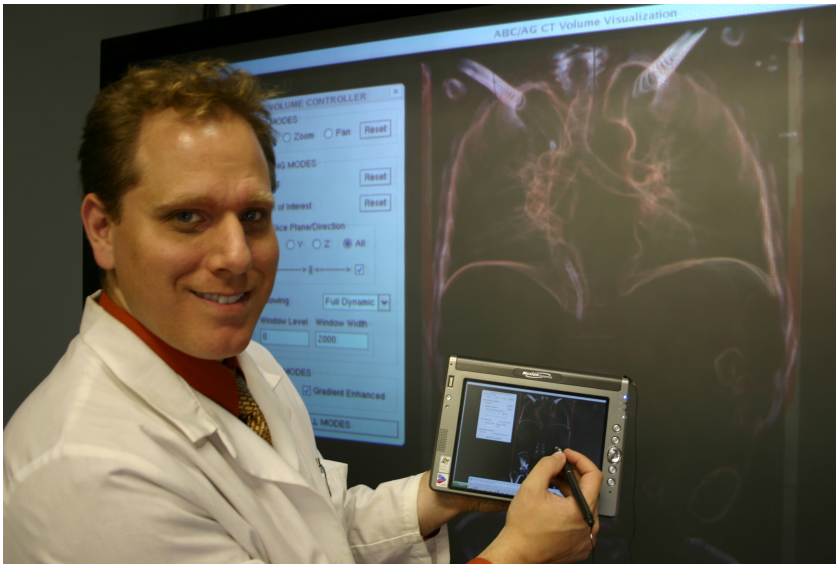
Bioengineering



vl3- Enabling Domain-specific Visualization



vl3- Enabling Domain-specific Visualization



- vl3 is regularly used by surgeons at Univ. of Chicago and provides them with an intuitive user experience
- vl3 is used in teaching a virtual anatomy class at University of Chicago





FLASH Center

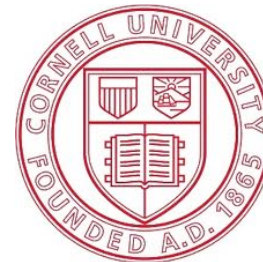


APS, Argonne

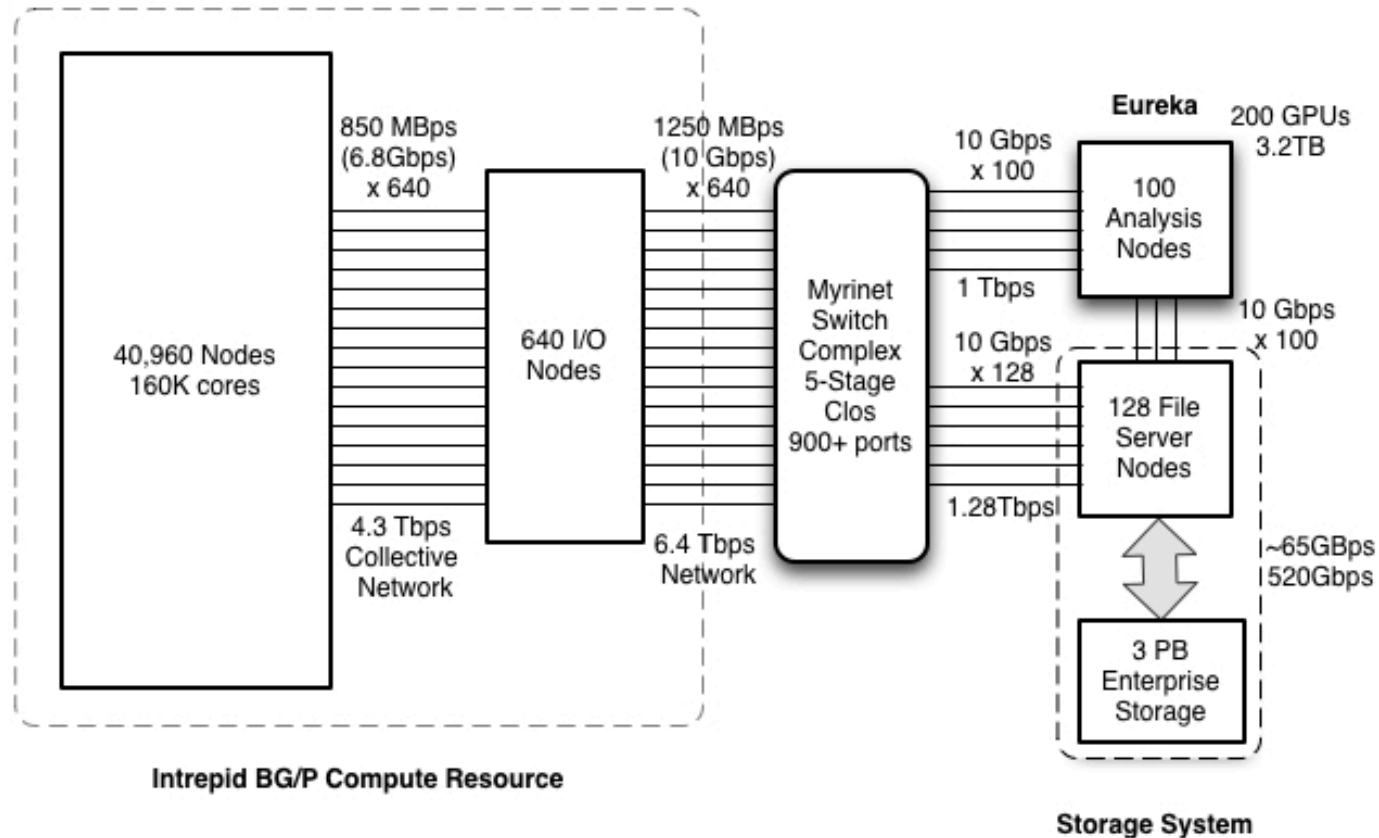
vl3 users



Department of Surgery



Argonne Leadership Class Facility (ALCF)

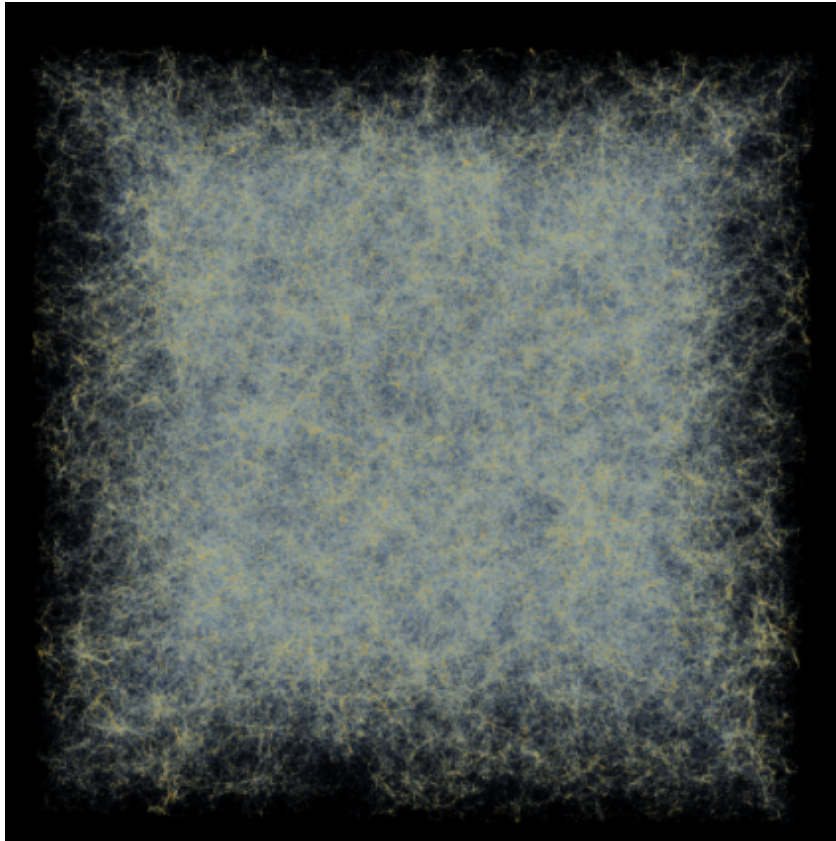


Eureka is a 110 Tflop GPU-based Data Analytics and Visualization Cluster facilitating major scientific discoveries and breakthroughs for programs including INCITE and ALCC



Exploring Cosmology With Supercomputers, Supernetworks, and Supervisualization

Intergalactic medium on 2 Glyr scale



- 4096^3 particle/cell hydrodynamic cosmology simulation
- NICS Kraken (XT5)
 - 16,384 cores
- Output
 - 148 TB movie output
 - 80 TB diagnostic dumps

Science: Norman, Harkness, Paschos SDSC

Visualization: Insley, ANL; Wagner SDSC



• ANL * Calit2 * LBNL * NICS * ORNL * SDSC

ESnet

ALCF Internal

StarGate Streaming Rendering

3

A media bridge at the border provides secure access to the parallel rendering streams.

gs1.intrepid.alcf.anl.gov

SDSC
San Diego

10 Gbps

ALCF
Chicago



5

Updated instructions are sent back to the renderer to change views, or load a different dataset.

4

fIPy, a parallel (MPI) tiled image/movie viewer composites the individual movies, and synchronizes the movie playback across the OptiPortal rendering nodes.

2

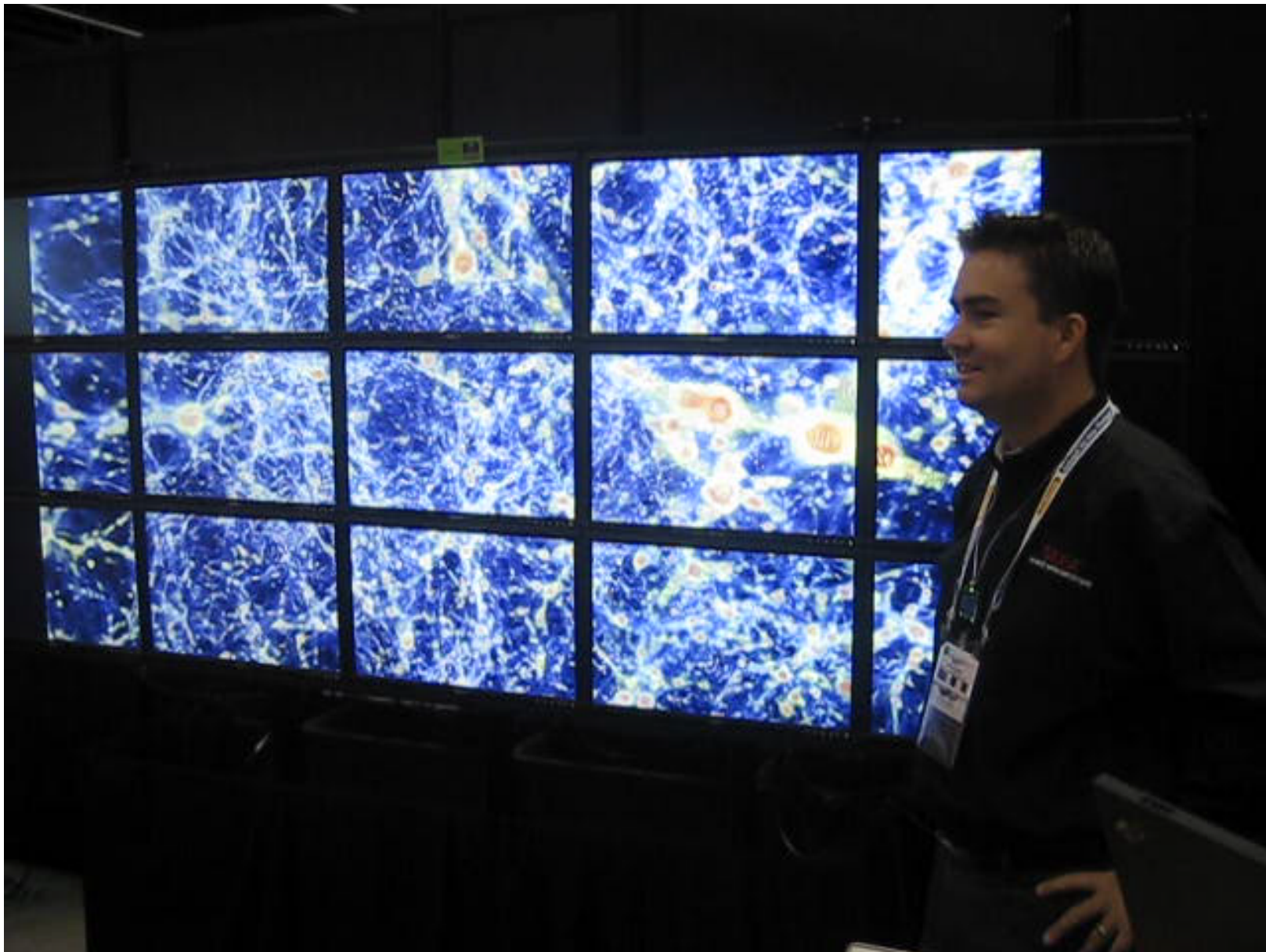
The full image is broken into subsets (tiles). The tiles are continuously encoded as a separate movies.

1

Simulation volume is rendered using vI3, a parallel (MPI) volume renderer utilizing Eureka's GPUs. The rendering changes views steadily to highlight 3D structure.



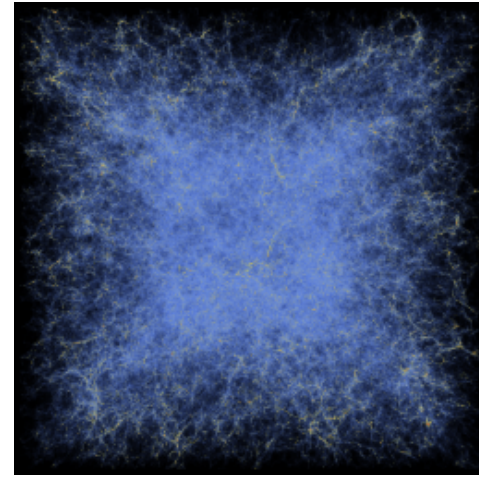
• ANL * Calit2 * LBNL * NICS * ORNL * SDSC



Rick Wagner in front of OptiPortal on SC09 show floor in Portland, OR, with vl3 streaming from Eureka at Argonne



vl3 Rendering Performance on Eureka



Data Size	Number of Processors/ Graphics Cards	Render + Composite Time
1024^3	8	0.9 sec
4096^3	64	1.3 sec

vl3 has currently scaled to $(6400)^3$ data sizes
and the entire Eureka cluster



Acknowledgements

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- Eric Olson, Joseph Insley, Michael Papka, Mark Hereld, Tom Uram (ANL); Brad Gallagher (UChicago)
- Matt McCrory (NWU) and Joe Paris (NWU)





Back up Slides



