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**Multi-scale Simulations of Fires and  
Explosions ( and other things )**

**Adaptive Mesh Refinement/ Particle Method  
Challenges for Parallel Computing**



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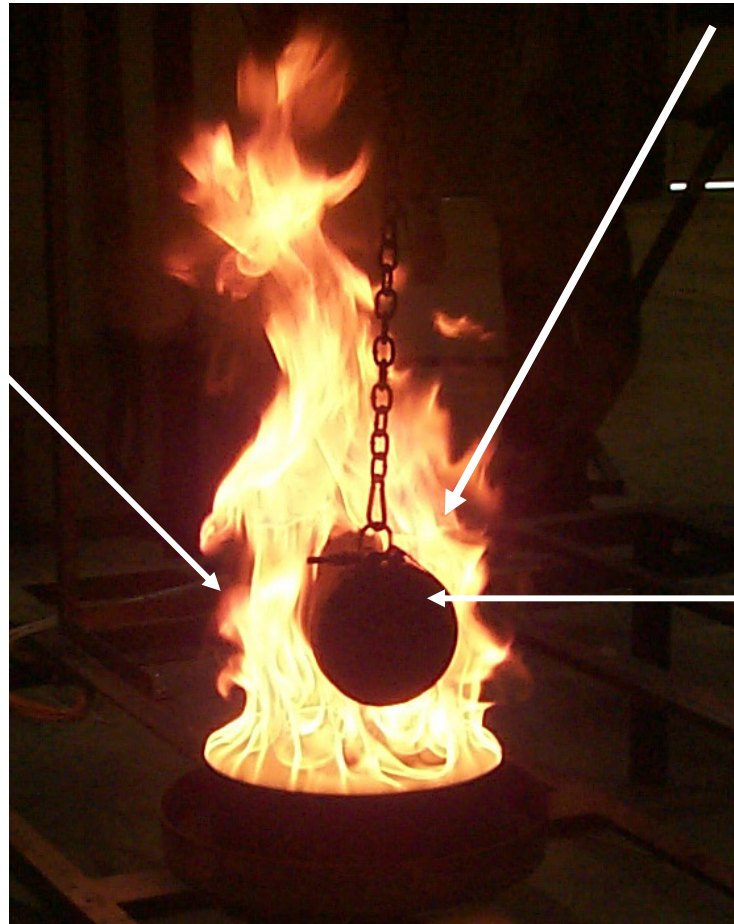
Thanks to DOE for funding from 1997-2008

# University of Utah CSAFE DoE Project

When is the explosion?  
How strong is it ?

## Hydrocarbon Fire

- turbulent combustion
- complex kinetics
- soot formation
- wind allowed
- wide range of scales



## Metal Container

- heat transfer from fire
- fragmentation

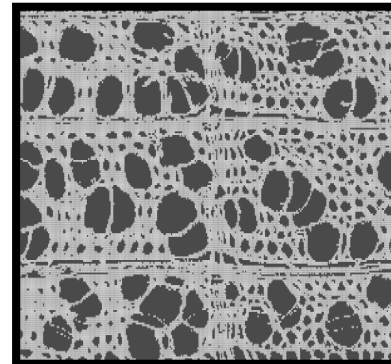
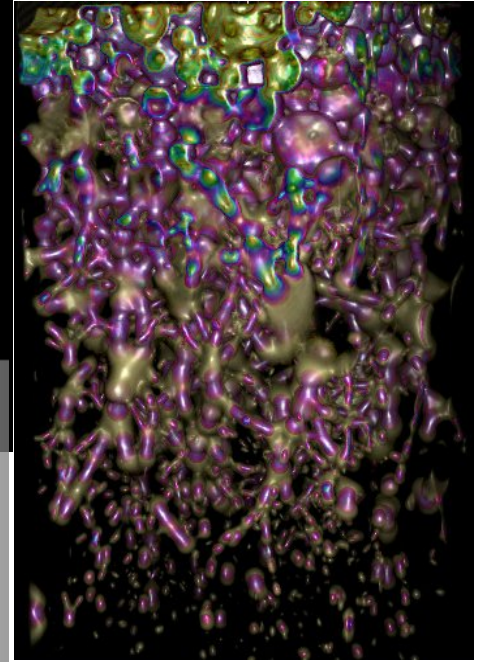
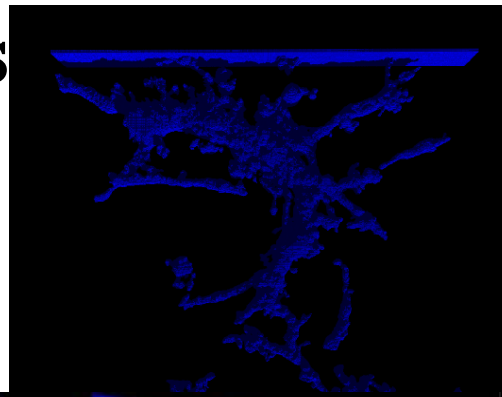
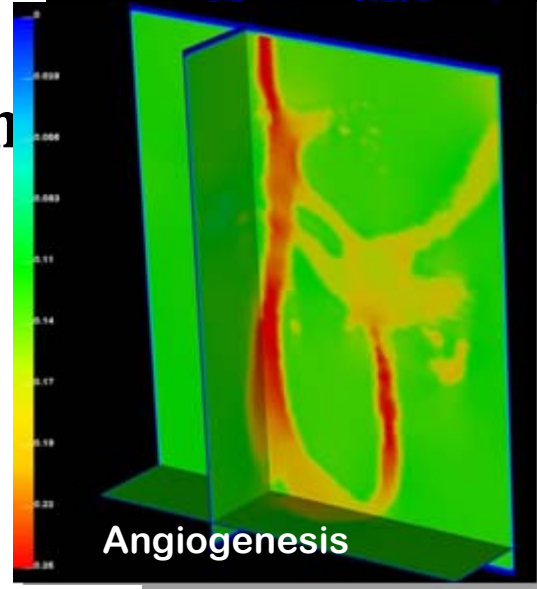
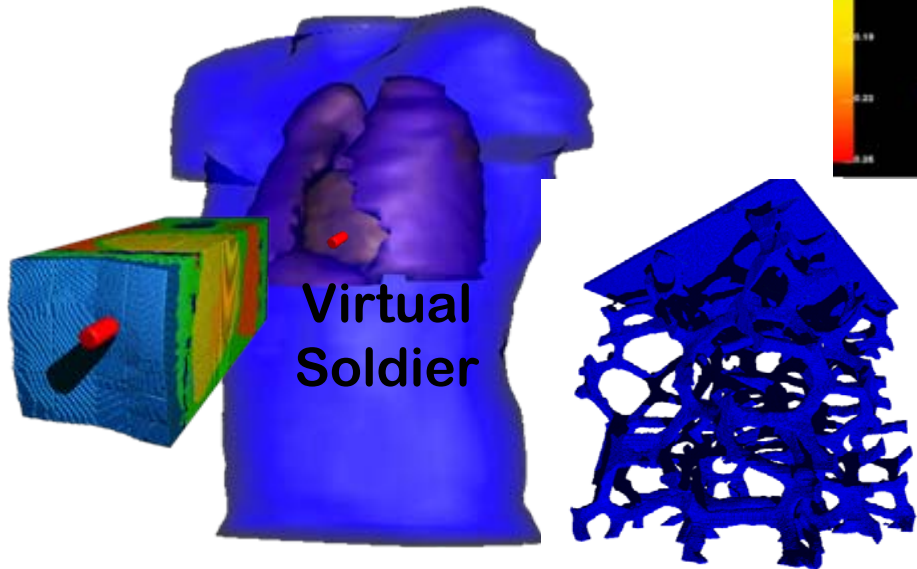
## HE Material PBX

- surface burning
- microscopic crack formation

Single mesh with Navier Stokes eqns for multiphase-fluid-structure interaction problems. Material particles MPM move in a fixed grid. Automated parallelization including MPM and AMR

# Uintah Applications

- Flare Simulation
- Angiogenesis
- Vocal modeling
- Rocket stage separation
- Bullet-torso impact
- Foam properties



# Fundamental Uintah

data Structure is a

patch – multiple variable types

**Cell –Vertex  
Variables**

Load balancing uses patches

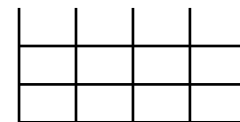
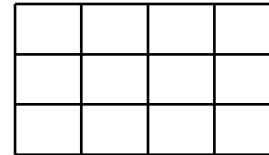
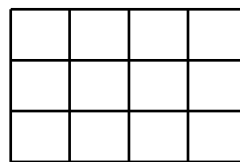
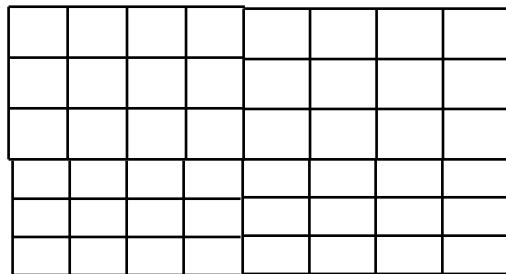
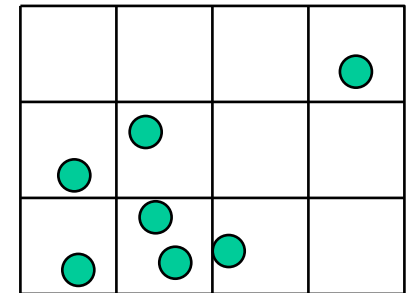
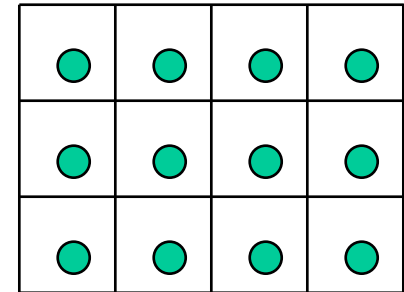
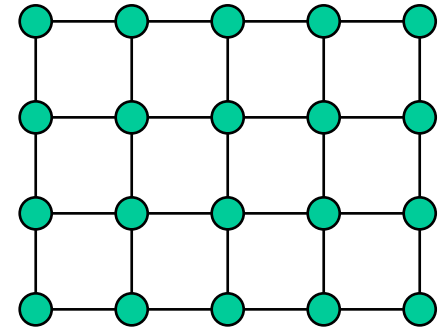
User writes code for a  
patch and its communications

**Cell Centered  
Variables**

only - Uintah uses this  
information to construct

communications pattern via a  
task graph

**Particle  
Variables**



**Uintah Domain Decomposition**

# Scheduler component

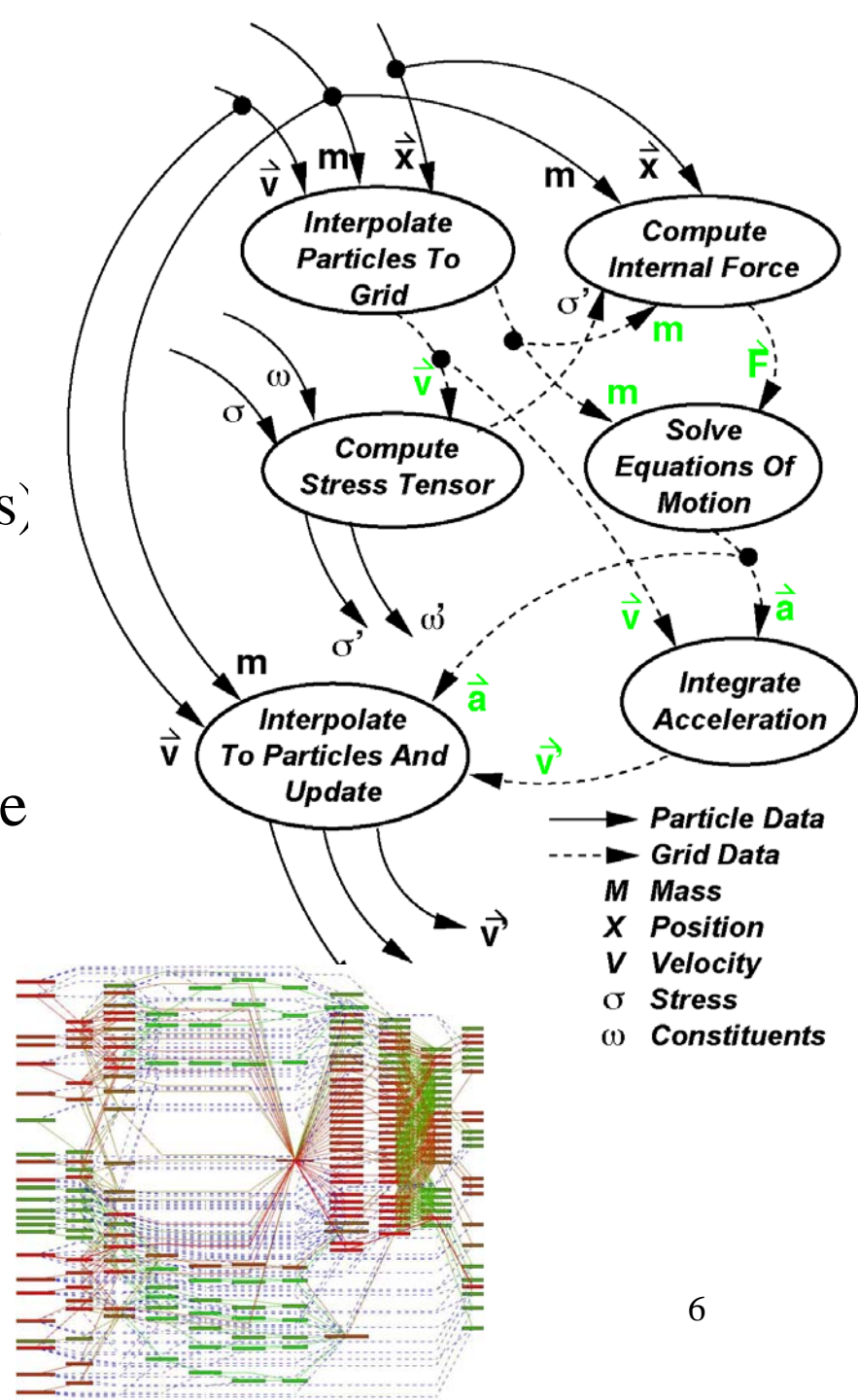
- decides which task will be executed by which processor
- is guided by cost models for computation and communication
- can be very simple or very complex
- can be static (MPI), dynamic (threads), or perhaps a mixture
- is encapsulated and composable

Scheduler and Load balancer are the key components for portable scalability. One size does not fit all.

**Challenge is dealing with mapping onto multi-cores and increasingly novel architectures at a purely system level**

# Task graph

- Each algorithm (MPM, CFD, Fire, I/O, etc.) defines a description of the computation
  - Required inputs and outputs (names and spatial relationships)
  - Callbacks to perform each task on a single subregion of space (C++ or Fortran)
- Communication is performed at the edges in the graph
- Uintah uses this information to create a graph of computation and communication

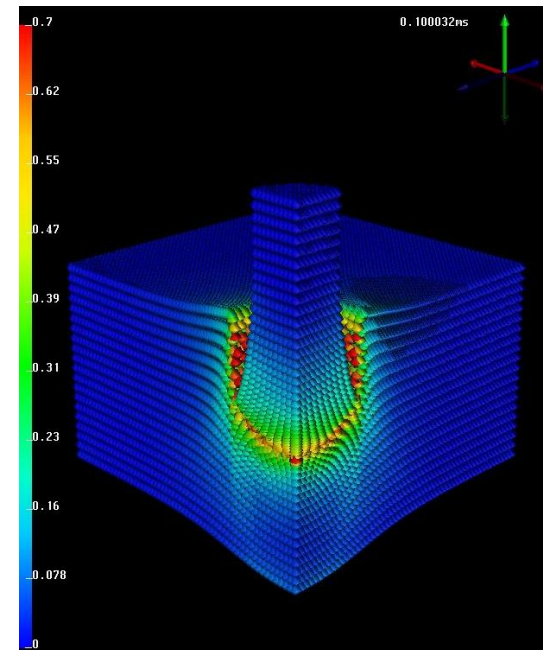


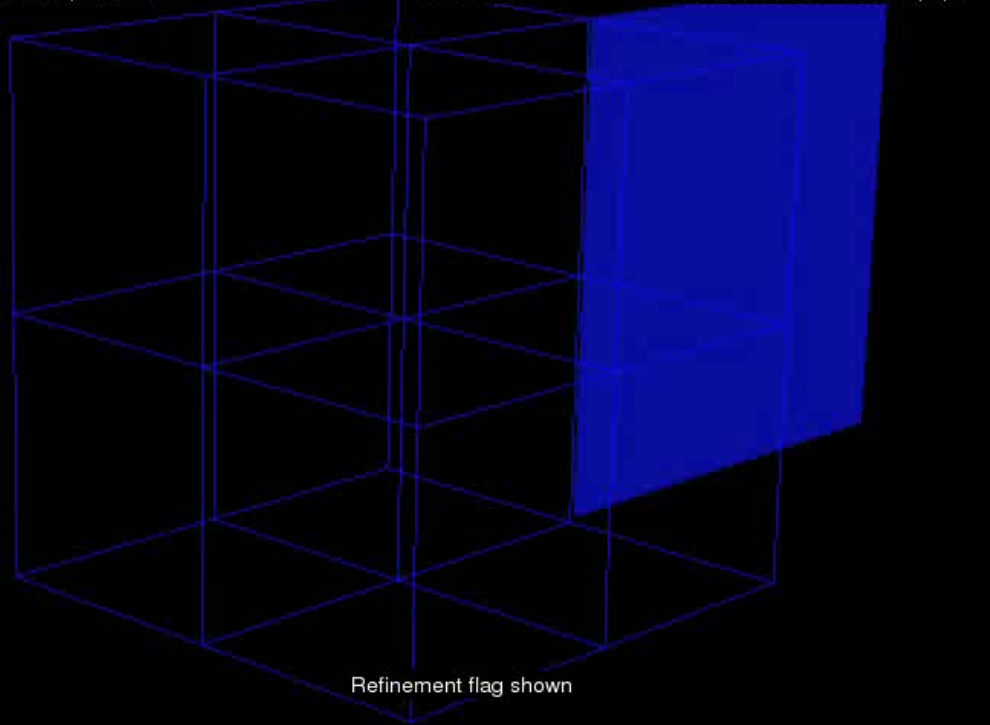
# Task graph (dis)advantages

- Enables complex physics in a flexible manner
- Expresses complex communication patterns that arise from meshes/work changing dynamically
- Enables scalability
- Allows components (including the scheduler) to evolve independently

## BUT

- Optimal scheduling is NP-hard
  - However, “optimal enough” isn’t too hard
- Creation of schedule can be costly
  - only done periodically when needed

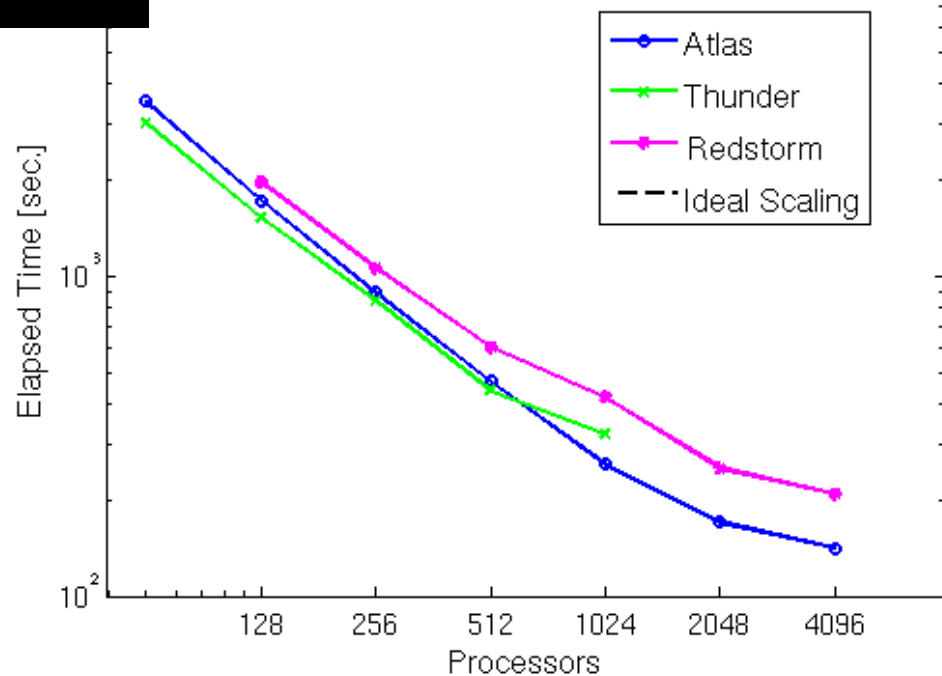
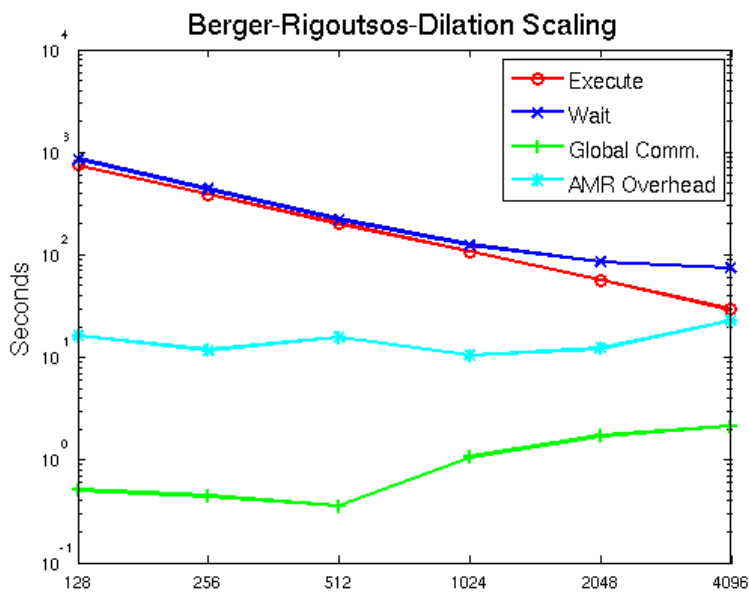




# Scalability

## Challenging dynamically changing workload

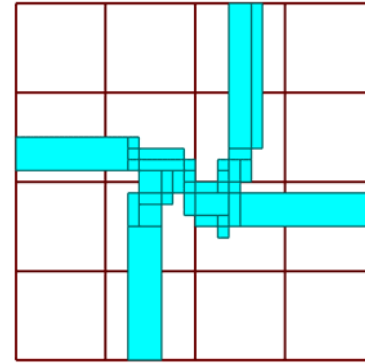
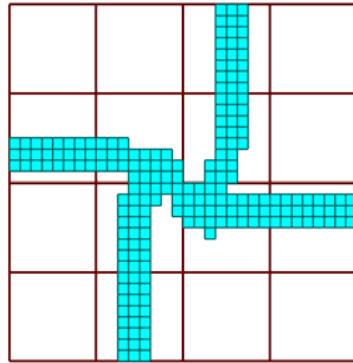
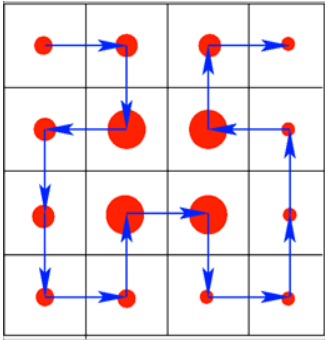
### ICE AMR Blastwave



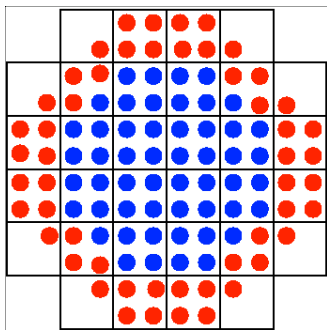


# AMR Scaling Developments

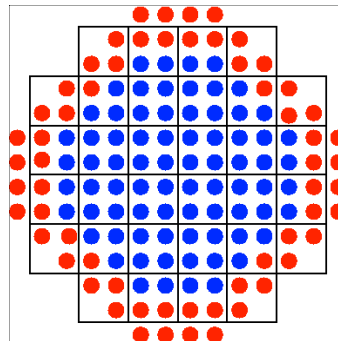
New fast space filling curve load balancer plus new modified Berger Rigoutsos algorithm



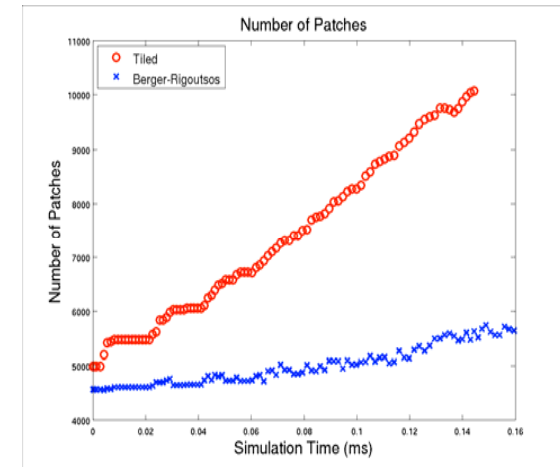
Careful splitting of patches so just enough  
Speculative patch sizing so less frequent remeshes



Remesh needed



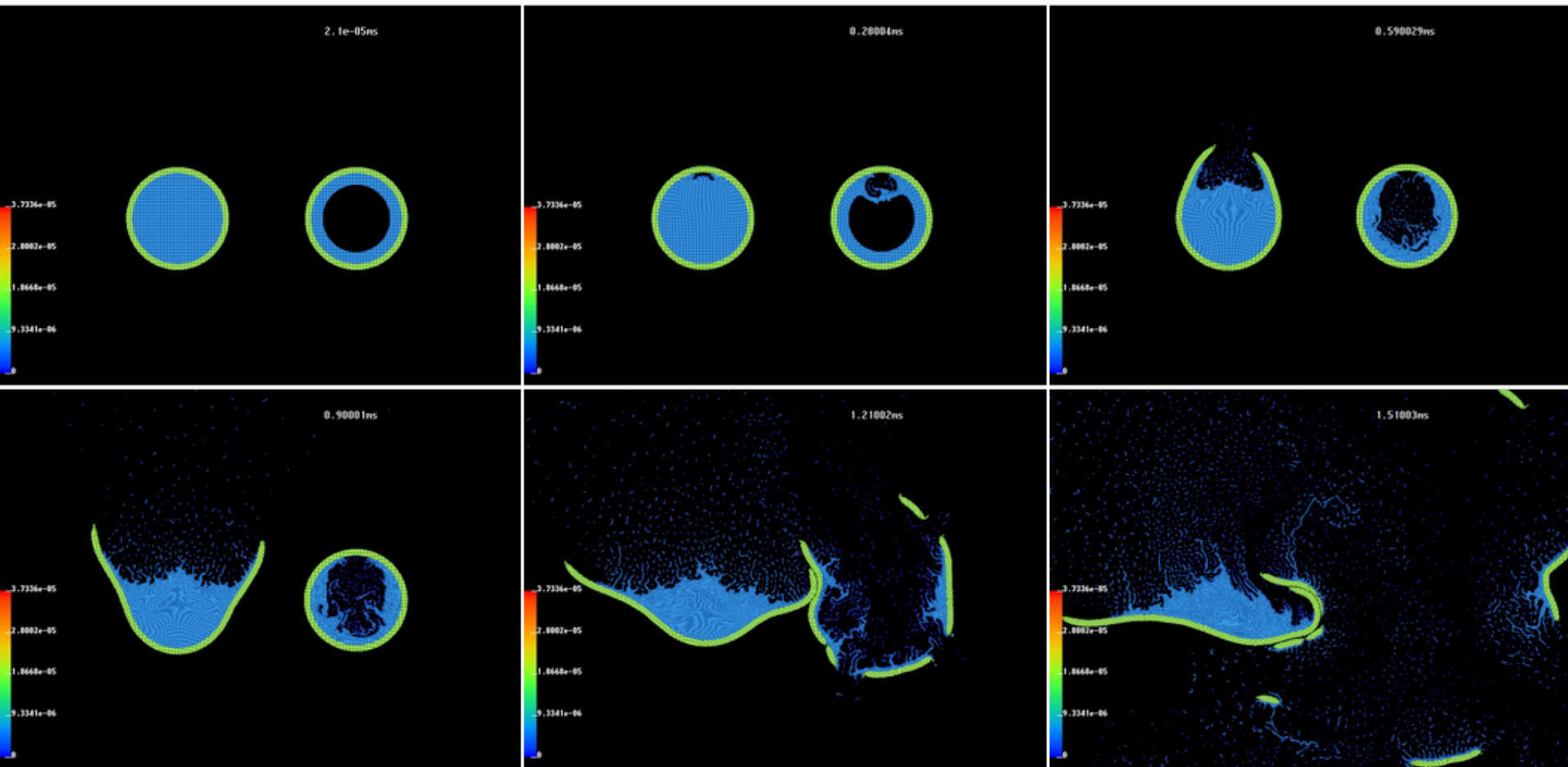
remesh not needed



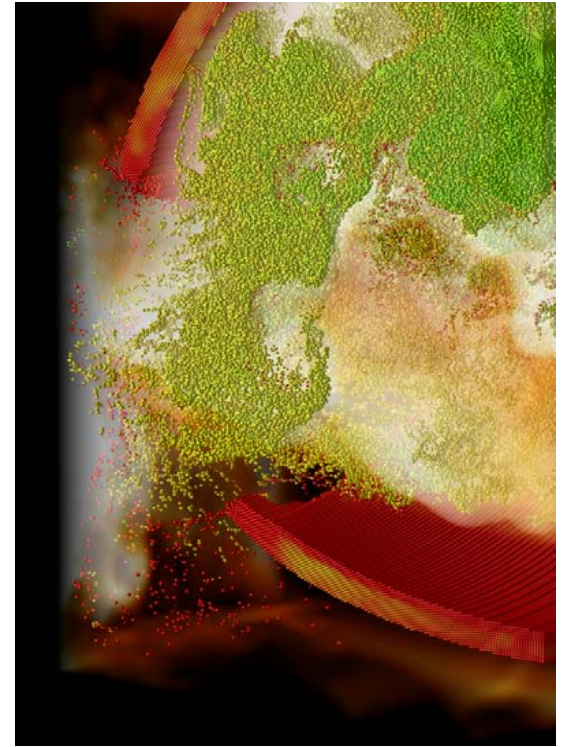
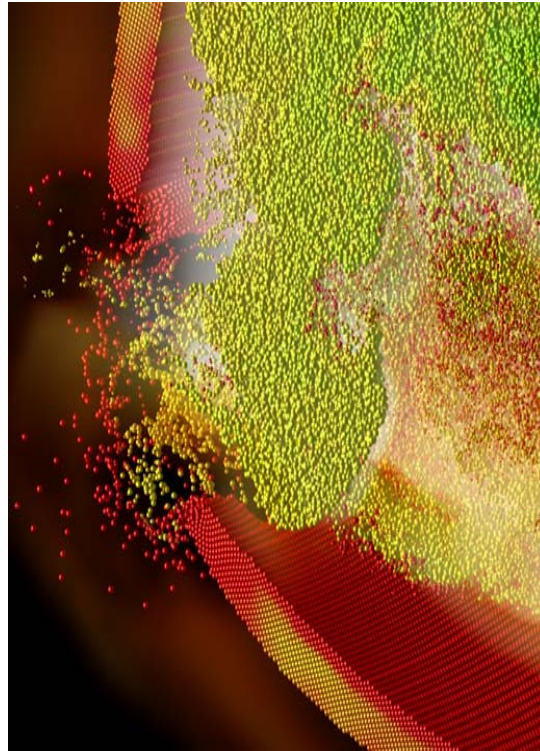
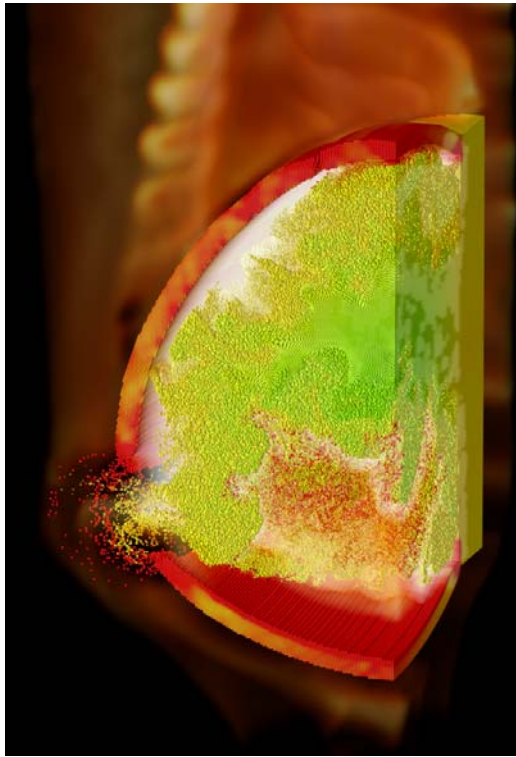
- Refinement flag
- Dilated flag

# Dual Container Experiment

left – solid explosive, right- explosive with air



# Snapshots of Container Rupture



# Summary

- Uintah has automated parallelism for the user at the cost of sophisticated infrastructure ( and \$50M).
- Task graph as scheduled overlaps communications and computation.
- Good load balancing still requires fast advanced algorithms and precise models.
- Scalability depends a lot on availability of large machines.
- **Ease of portability is a major issue for efficient use of parallel machines –especially novel architectures.**

Center for the  
Simulation of Accidental  
Fires and Explosions  
(C-SAFE)

University of Utah

Supercomputing 2004