

# Supercomputing and Visualization

**Russ Miller, Director**

**Center for Computational Research**



**“Top 10 Worldwide  
Supercomputing  
Center”**

**- [www.gapcon.com](http://www.gapcon.com)**



**University at Buffalo**

*The State University of New York*

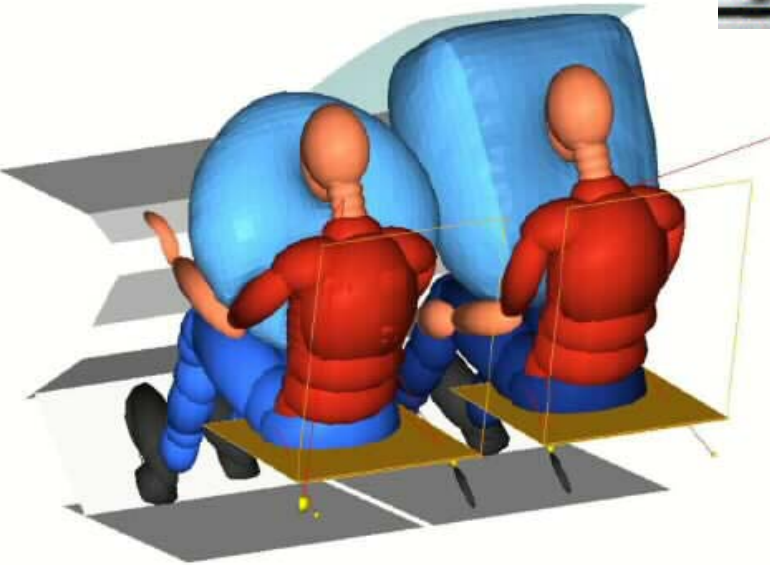
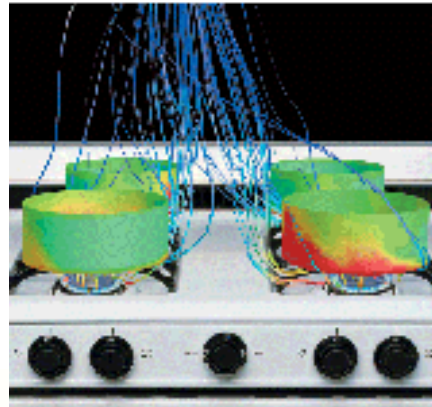
# Outline

- **Pervasive Computing**
- **Computer Trends**
- **Definition of Supercomputer**
- **Overview of Center for Computational Research**
- **Sample CCR Projects**
- **Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics**
- **H.S. Workshop**

# Take-Home Message

- **Computers play an important role in your life**
- **Currently ~10 processors per person**
- **Working with computers can be fun and exciting**

# Computers Touch Every Aspect of Our Life....





# .... including entertainment



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► Even during an Ice Age, things can get hot for Sid the sloth.



# Computers are used in Many Professions

- Science and Engineering
  - Physics, Chemistry, Biology
  - Aerospace, Mechanical, Civil, Environmental
- Architecture
  - Building and Bridge Design
- Computer Animation
  - Cartoons, Movies, Advertising
  - Games (Playstation, Nintendo, PC games, etc)
- Graphic Arts/Design
- Computer programmers





# What is a CPU?

It's the computer's brain -  
it's the main *processor*

**CPU** stands for  
**C**entral **P**rocessing **U**nit

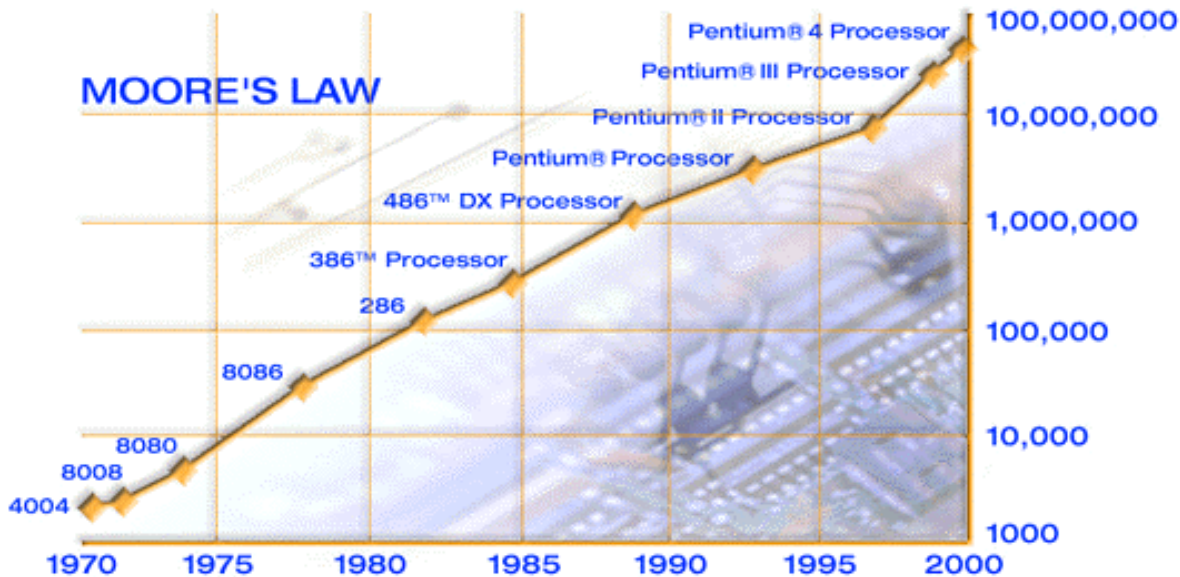


# Gordon E. Moore

- Co-Founder of Intel
- Predicted (1965/75) that transistor density would double every 12/18 months
- Processing speed doubling every 18 mos.
- Disk storage doubling every 12 mos.
- Aggregate bandwidth doubling every 9 mos.



Gordon E. Moore



- A computation that took 1 year to run on a PC in 1985 would only take 5 mins to run on a PC today!
- A computation that runs in 2 hours on a PC today would have taken 24 years to run on a PC in 1985!



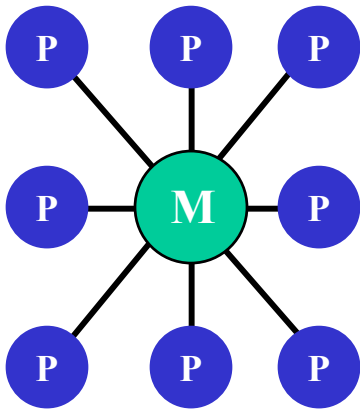
# What is a Parallel Computer?

**A computer that contains  
more than 1 processor (CPU)**

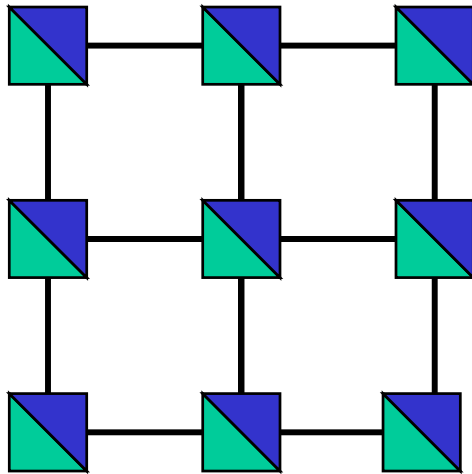
**Why are they used?**

**To solve problems faster than they  
could be solved using only 1 processor**

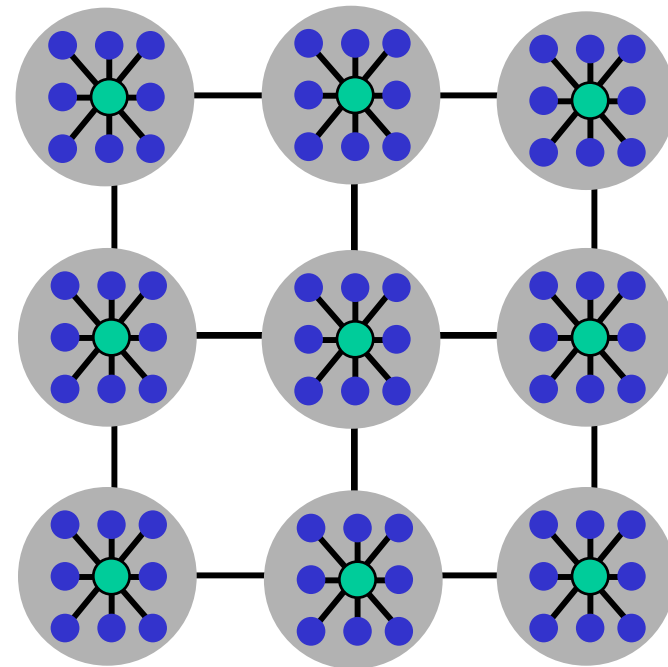
# Parallel Computing Architectures



**Shared Memory**



**Distributed Memory**



**Distributed-Shared  
Memory**

# What is a (Beowulf) Cluster?

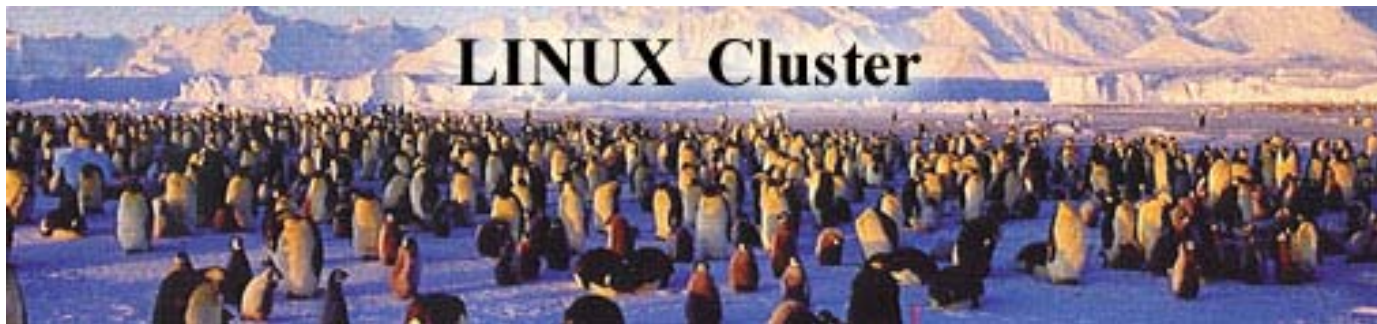
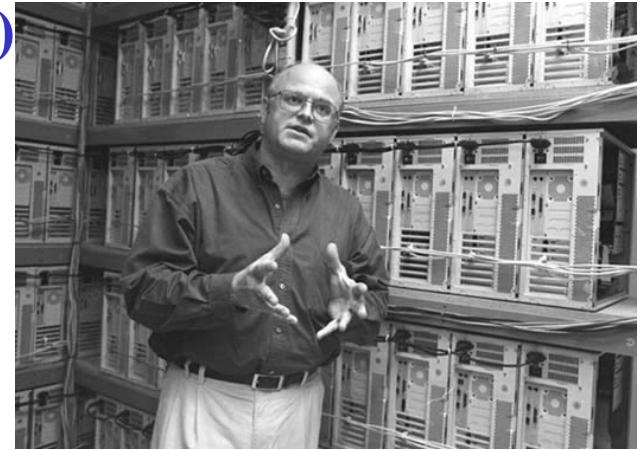
## ■ Industry Standard Hardware and Software

Thomas Sterling  
Caltech

- ❑ PC-Based Components (Intel or AMD)
- ❑ Ethernet or Myrinet
- ❑ Linux, PBS, MPI
- ❑ “Commodity Off-The-Shelf” (COTS)

## ■ Operates as a Single System

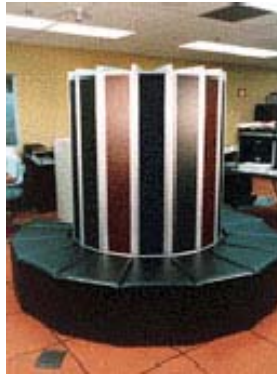
## ■ Rivals Performance of Traditional Supercomputer at a Fraction of the Price



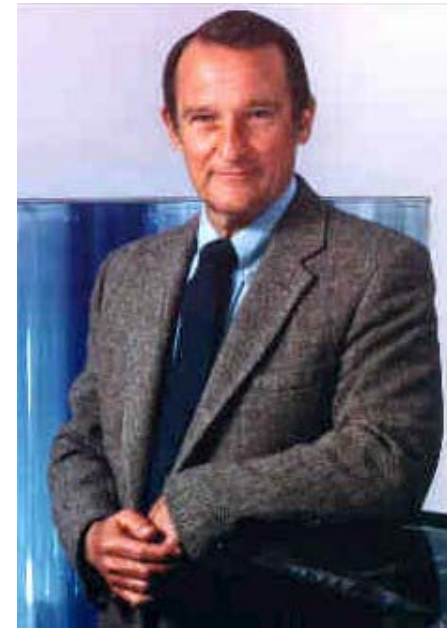


# What is a Supercomputer?

- Fastest computers at any point in time
- Used to solve large and complex problems
- Machines 1000 times faster than a PC
- Machines 10 times slower than what you need to solve the most challenging problems



Cray1 - 1976



**“Seymour Cray is the Thomas Edison of the supercomputing industry”** Seymour Cray  
- Larry L. Smarr 1925-1996

# Example

If you wanted to know what the weather will be like **tomorrow**, you could ...

Solve the problem at home on your PC and wait **one month** to get the answer

*or*

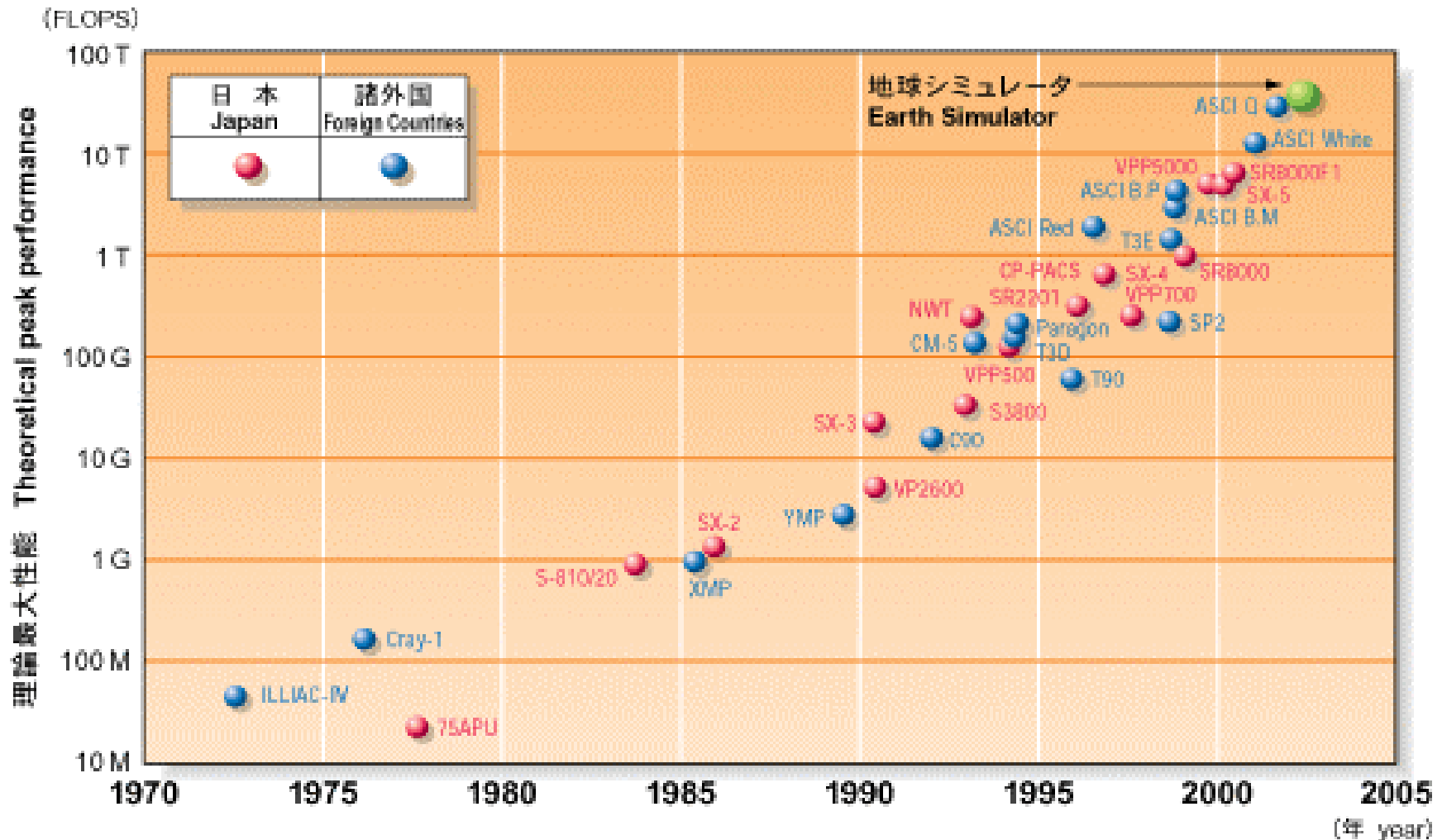
Solve the problem on a supercomputer and have the answer in **one hour!**

# Fastest Computers

| Year  | Mach      | Procs | GFlops |  | Year | Mach         | Procs | GFlops |
|---|-----------|-------|--------|--|------|--------------|-------|--------|
| 1976  | Cray 1    | 1     | 0.1    |  | 1993 | Cray T3D     | 1024  | 152    |
| 1982  | Cray X-MP | 4     | 0.9    |  | 1994 | Fujitsu VPP  | 140   | 236    |
| 1986  | Cray 2    | 4     | 2      |  | 1996 | Hitachi SR2  | 2048  | 368    |
| 1989  | Cray Y-MP | 8     | 2.7    |  | 1997 | Intel ASCI-R | 9152  | 1830   |
| 1989  | TMC CM-2  | 8192  | 28     |  | 1999 | SGI ASCI-BM  | 6144  | 3072   |
| 1992  | TMC CM-5  | 1024  | 131    |  | 2000 | IBM ASCI-W   | 8192  | 12,288 |
| <p><b>A 1-year calc in 1980 = 5.4 sec today</b><br/> <b>A 1990 HPC = a laptop today</b></p> |           |       |        |  | 2002 | NEC E.S.     | 5120  | 40,960 |



# Earth Simulator in Japan (NEC Vector Supercomputer)



# Earth Simulator

- 40TFlops Peak
- Homogeneous, Centralized, Proprietary, Vector
- Expensive!
- CFD-Weather, Climate, Earthquake
- 640 NEC SX/6 Nodes (5120 CPUs)
- Footprint = 4 tennis courts
- \$6M/year in power



## El Niño / La Niña

**abnormal weather**

Chilly summer,  
Warm winter,  
Heavy rain,  
Heavy snow,  
Drought

**global warming**

Burning of  
fossil fuel,  
Deforestation

**crustal movement**

Earthquake•Volcanic activity

**acid rain**

Air pollution

# Center for Computational Research

## ■ High-Performance Computing and High-End Visualization

- ❑ 70 (40+ active) Research Groups in 27 Depts
- ❑ 13 Local Companies
- ❑ 10 Local Institutions
- ❑ External Funds: \$108M
- ❑ Vendor Contributions: \$41M

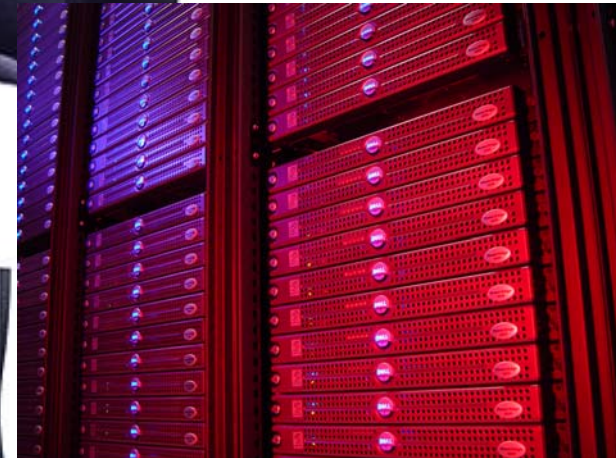


## ■ Deliverables

- ❑ 350 Publications and Presentations
- ❑ Hardware, Software, Algorithms, etc

## ■ Training

- ❑ Workshops
- ❑ Courses
- ❑ Degree Programs





# Computational Resources

## ■ Dell Linux Cluster - #22 in World

- ❑ 600 P4 Processors (2.4 GHz)
- ❑ 600 GB RAM; 40 TB Disk



## ■ Dell Linux Cluster - #187 in World

- ❑ 4036 Processors (PIII 1.2 GHz)
- ❑ 2TB RAM; 160TB Disk; 16TB RD
- ❑ Private Use

## ■ SGI Origin3800

- ❑ 64 Processors (400 MHz)
- ❑ 32 GB RAM; 400 GB Disk

## ■ IBM RS/6000 SP

- ❑ 78 Processors
- ❑ 26 GB RAM; 640 GB Disk

## ■ Sun Microsystems Cluster

- ❑ 48 Sun Ultra 5s (333MHz)
- ❑ 16 Dual Sunblades (750MHz)
- ❑ 30 GB RAM, Myrinet



## ■ SGI Intel Linux Cluster

- ❑ 150 PIII Processors (1 GHz)
- ❑ 75 GB RAM, 2.5 TB Disk Storage

## ■ Apex Bioinformatics System

- ❑ Sun V880 (3), 6800, 280R (2), PIIIs
- ❑ Sun 3960: 7 TB Disk Storage

## ■ HP/Compaq SAN (3/2003)

- ❑ 25 TB Disk; 250 TB Tape



# Sample Computational Research

- **Computational Chemistry** (King, Kofke, Coppens, Furlani, Tilson, Lund, Swihart, Ruckenstein, Garvey)
  - ❑ Algorithm development & simulations
- **Groundwater Flow Modeling** (Rabideau, Jankovic, Becker, Flewelling)
  - ❑ Predict contaminant flow in groundwater & possible migration into streams and lakes
- **Geophysical Mass Flows** (Patra, Sheridan, Pitman, Bursik, Jones, Winer)
  - ❑ Study of geophysical mass flows for risk assessment of lava flows and mudslides
- **Bioinformatics** (Zhou, Miller, Hu, Szyperski – NIH Consortium, HWI)
  - ❑ Protein Folding: computer simulations to understand the 3D structure of proteins
  - ❑ Structural Biology; Pharmacology
- **Computational Fluid Dynamics** (Madnia, DesJardin, Lordi, Taulbee)
  - ❑ Modeling turbulent flows and combustion to improve design of chemical reactors, turbine engines, and airplanes
- **Physics** (Jones, Sen)
  - ❑ Many-body phenomena in condensed matter physics
- **Chemical Reactions** (Mountziaris)
- **Molecular Simulation** (Errington)

# Visualization Resources

- **Fakespace ImmersaDesk R2**
  - Portable 3D Device
- **Tiled-Display Wall**
  - 20 NEC projectors: 15.7M pixels
  - Screen is 11'×7'
  - Dell PCs with Myrinet2000
- **Access Grid Node**
  - Group-to-Group Communication
  - Commodity components
- **SGI Reality Center 3300W**
  - Dual Barco's on 8'×4' screen
- **VREX VR-4200 Stereo Imaging Projector**
  - Portable projector works with PC



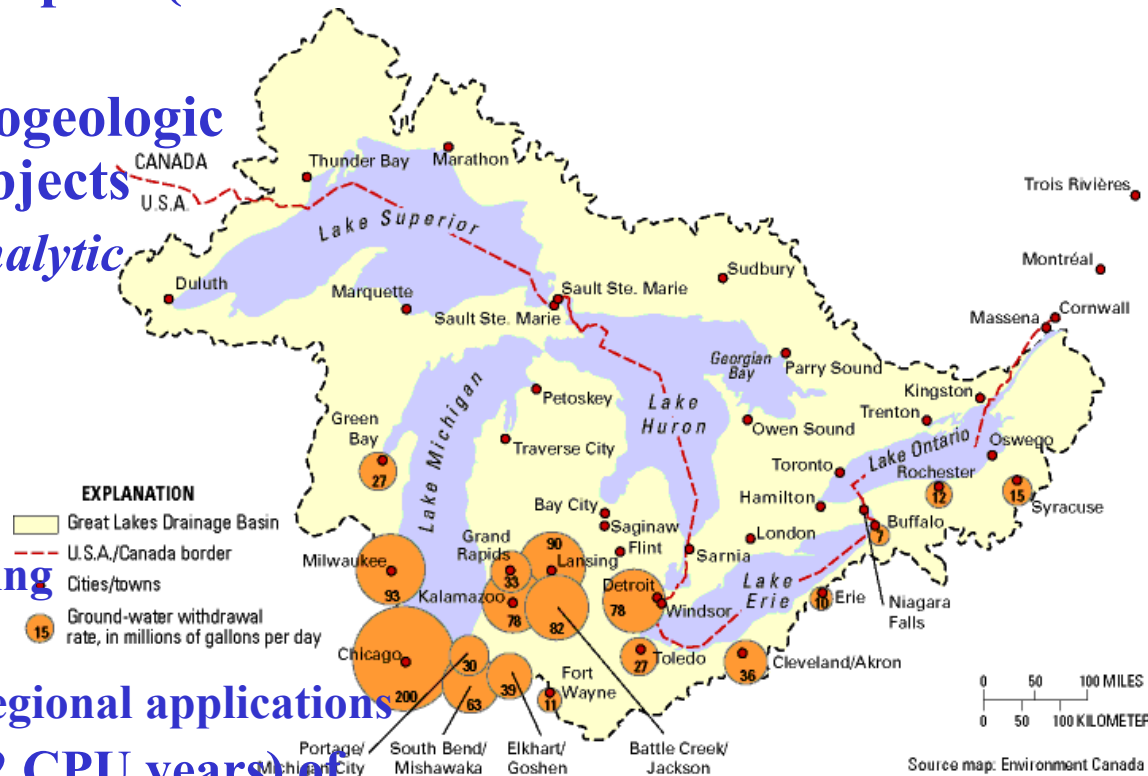
# Sample Visualization Areas

- **Computational Science** (Patra, Sheridan, Becker, Flewelling, Baker, Miller, Pitman)
  - Simulation and modeling
- **Urban Visualization and Simulation** (CCR)
  - Public projects involving urban planning
- **Medical Imaging** (Hoffmann, Bakshi, Glick, Miletich, Baker)
  - Tools for pre-operative planning; predictive disease analysis
- **Geographic Information Systems** (CCR, Bisantz, Llinas, Kesavadas, Green)
  - Parallel data sourcing software
- **Historical Reenactments** (Paley, Kesavadas, More)
  - Faithful representations of previously existing scenarios
- **Multimedia Presentations** (Anstey, Pape)
  - Networked, interactive, 3D activities



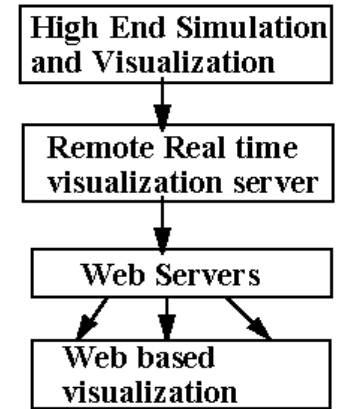
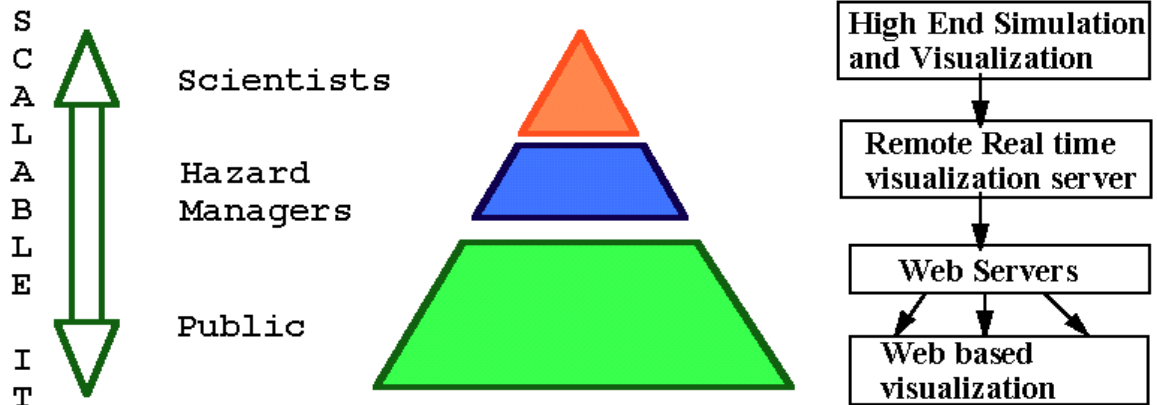
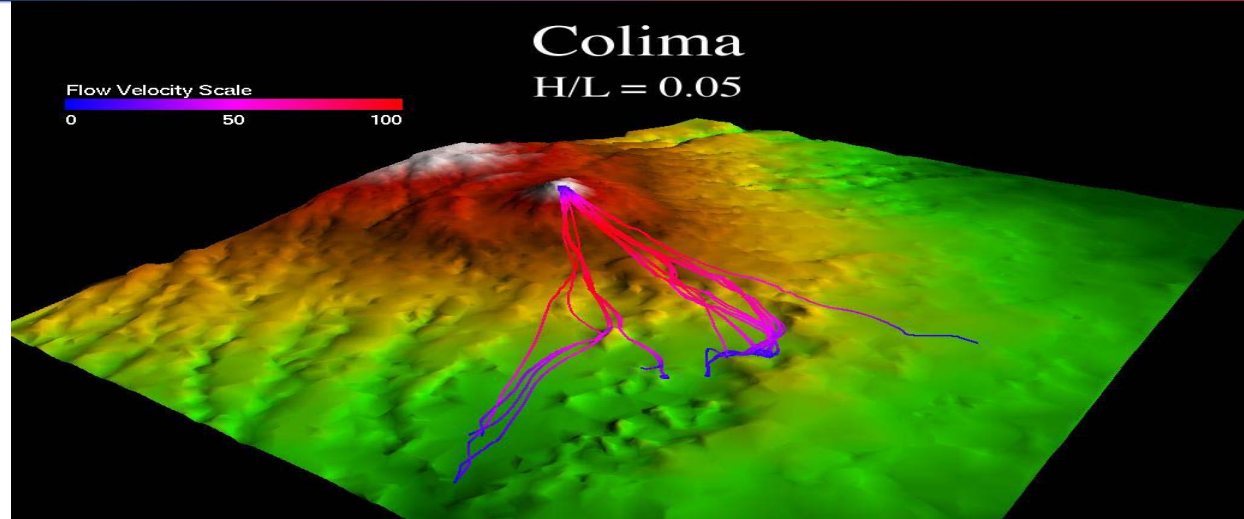
# Groundwater Flow Modeling

- Regional-scale modeling of groundwater flow and contaminant transport (Great Lakes Region)
- Ability to include all hydrogeologic features as independent objects
- Current work is based on *Analytic Element Method*
- Key features:
  - High precision
  - Highly parallel
  - Object-oriented programming
  - Intelligent user interface
  - GIS facilitates large-scale regional applications
- Utilized 10,661 CPU days (32 CPU years) of computing in past year on CCR's commodity clusters



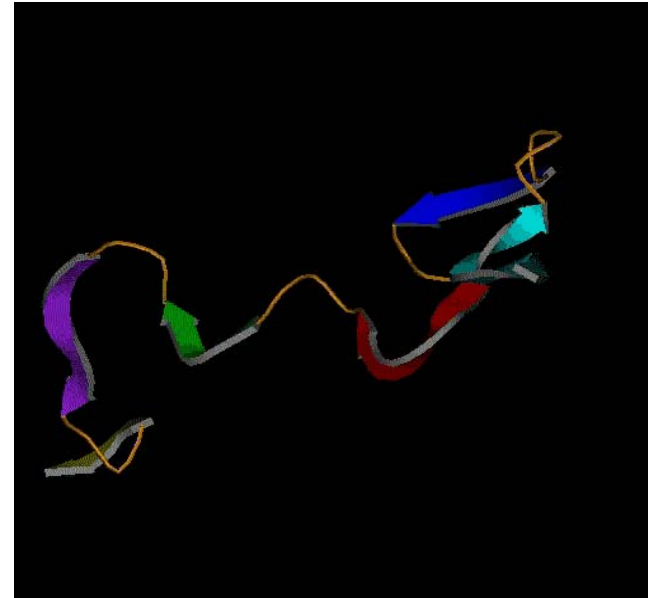
# Risk Mitigation

- Integrate information from several sources
  - Simulation results
  - Remote sensing
  - GIS data
- Develop realistic 3D models of geophysical mass flows
- Present information at user appropriate resolutions



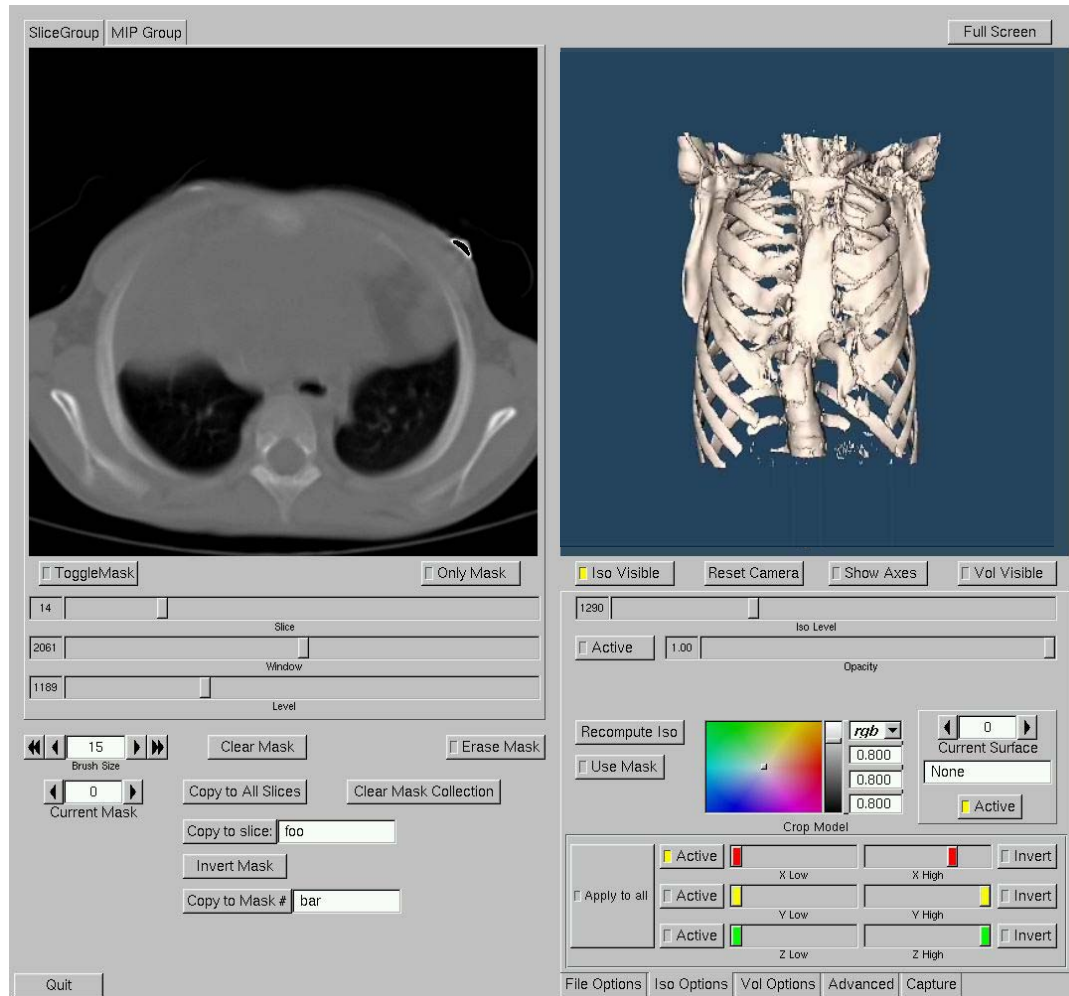
# Protein Folding

- Ability of proteins to perform biological function is attributed to their 3-D structure.
- Protein folding problem refers to the challenge of predicting 3-D structure from amino-acid sequence.
- Solving the protein folding problem will impact drug design.



# 3D Medical Visualization App

- Collaboration with Children's Hospital
  - Leading miniature access surgery center
- Application reads data output from a CT Scan
- Visualize multiple surfaces and volumes
- Export images, movies or CAD representation of model



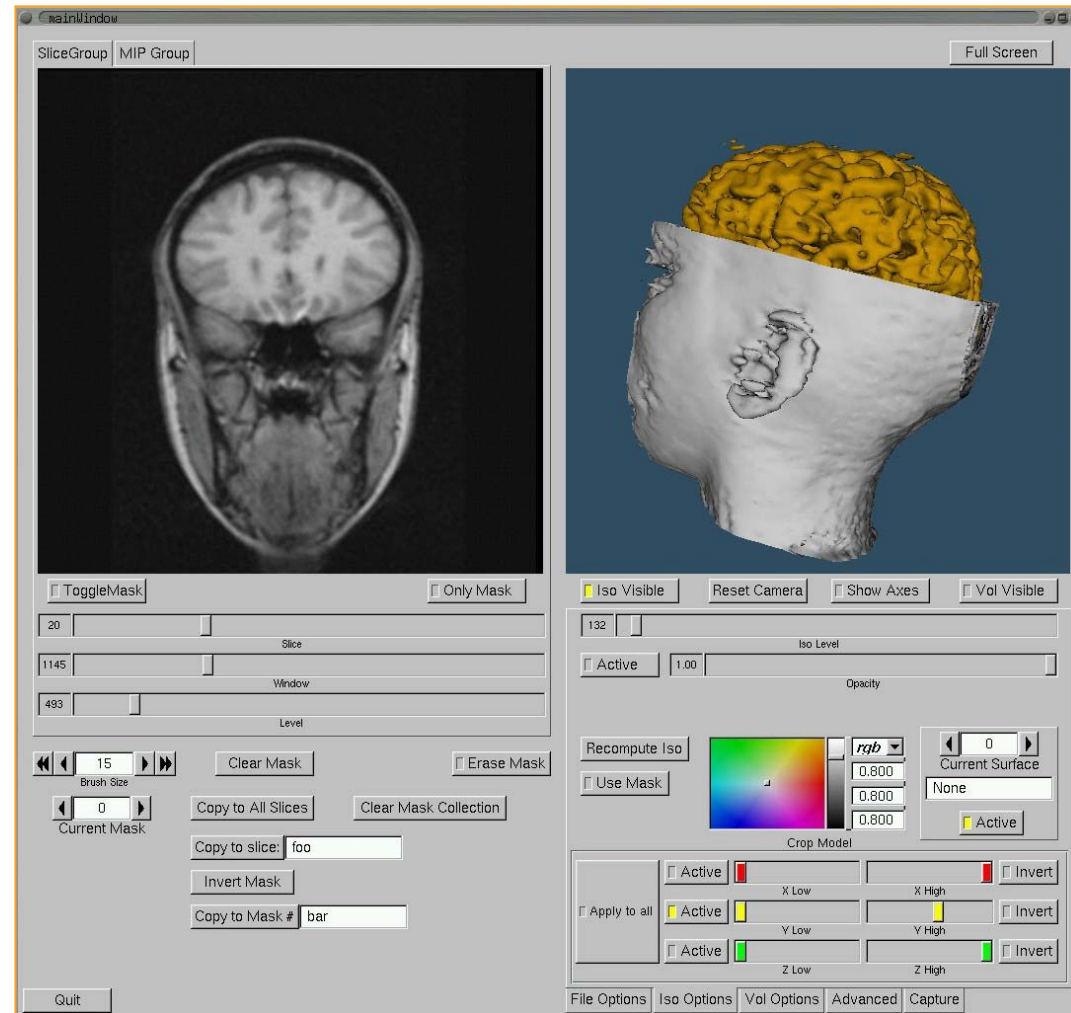


# Multiple Sclerosis Project

- Collaboration with Buffalo Neuroimaging Analysis Center (BNAC)

- Developers of Avonex, drug of choice for treatment of MS

- MS Project examines patients and compares scans to healthy volunteers



# Peace Bridge Visualization

## ■ Proposed Options

- Relocate US plaza
- Build a 3-lane companion span, rehab existing bridge
- Build a six lane signature span



PHOTO AND STORY BY BRUCE JACKSON

# Select WNY Synergies

## ■ IBC Digital

- Gov. Pataki Visit
- Peace Bridge (Early & Current)
- Buffalo-Niagara Medical Campus
- Compute Cycles for Animation

## ■ Bergmann Associates

- Peace Bridge (Current)
- NYS Thruway Toll Plaza

## ■ Azar & More

- Reenactment of 1901 Pan Am Exhibition
- PHSCologram & Courses
- Avid Digital Editing

## ■ Niagara College

- Start up
- Peace Bridge (Current)

## ■ Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute

- Computing
- Collaboratory

## ■ The Children's Hospital of Buffalo

- Medical Visualization

## ■ Veridian

- Battlespace Management

# Bioinformatics in Buffalo

“This Center [of Excellence in Bioinformatics] will, through the University of Buffalo’s Center for Computational Research, create academic and industrial partnerships ...”

- NYS Gov. George S. Pataki, January 2001



Gov. Pataki



Congressman Reynolds



Senator Clinton



# WNY Biomedical Advances

■ PSA Test (screen for Prostate Cancer)

■ Avonex: Interferon Treatment for Multiple Sclerosis

■ Artificial Blood

■ Nicorette Gum

■ Fetal Viability Test

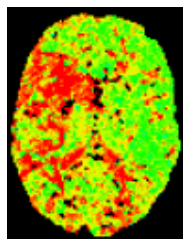
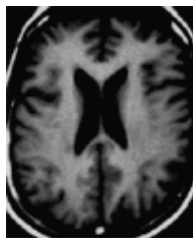
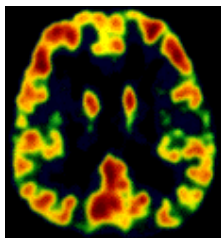
■ Implantable Pacemaker

■ Edible Vaccine for Hepatitis C

■ Timed-Release Insulin Therapy

■ Anti-Arrhythmia Therapy

□ Tarantula venom



■ Direct Methods Structure Determination

□ Listed on “Top Ten Algorithms of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century”

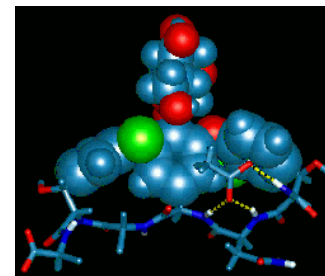
□ Vancomycin

□ Gramacidin A

■ High Throughput Crystallization Method: Patented

■ NIH National Genomics Center: Northeast Consortium

■ Howard Hughes Medical Institute: Center for Genomics & Proteomics



# Bioinformatics in Buffalo

## ■ UB Center for Advanced Bioengineering & Biomedical Technologies

- ❑ \$1M/yr NYS
- ❑ Med Tech for Product Dev & Commer.

## ■ Center Disease Modeling & Therapy Discovery

- ❑ UB, HWI, RPCI, Kaleida
- ❑ \$15.3M NYS
- ❑ Software, device development, and drug therapies

## ■ Buffalo Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics

- ❑ UB, HWI, RPCI
- ❑ \$61M NYS
- ❑ \$10.6M Federal Government
- ❑ \$151 Corporate Funding
- ❑ Significant Local Foundation Support



# Buffalo Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics

- Act as a *research, development, education, and economic resource* for industries based on bioinformatics, including information technology, biotech, and pharmaceuticals.
- Combine state-of-the-art *computational facilities* with *high-throughput experimental facilities* to enable the development of new medical treatments.
- Develop and exploit new algorithms for data acquisition, storage, management, and transmission.





# Academic Programs

- **Bachelor's & Master's Program in Bioinformatics**
- **Related Disciplines**
  - **Chemical Biology**
  - **Computational Chemistry**
  - **Environmental Analysis (Sloan Support)**
  - **Medical Informatics (Sloan Support)**
- **Advanced Degrees under Development**
  - **Pharmacometrics, Biophotonics**
- **UB-HWI Department of Structural Biology**
- **Complementary Degrees**
  - **Canisius College**
  - **Niagara University**



# Outreach





# 2003 H.S. Summer Workshop Bioinformatics

- June 30 – July 11
- Perl Scripts
- Public Databases
- Filtering Results
- Graphics & Visualization



## ■ Contact

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# Lunch & Exhibition



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