

Mesh-Free Contamination Transport Modeling using CAD Geometries

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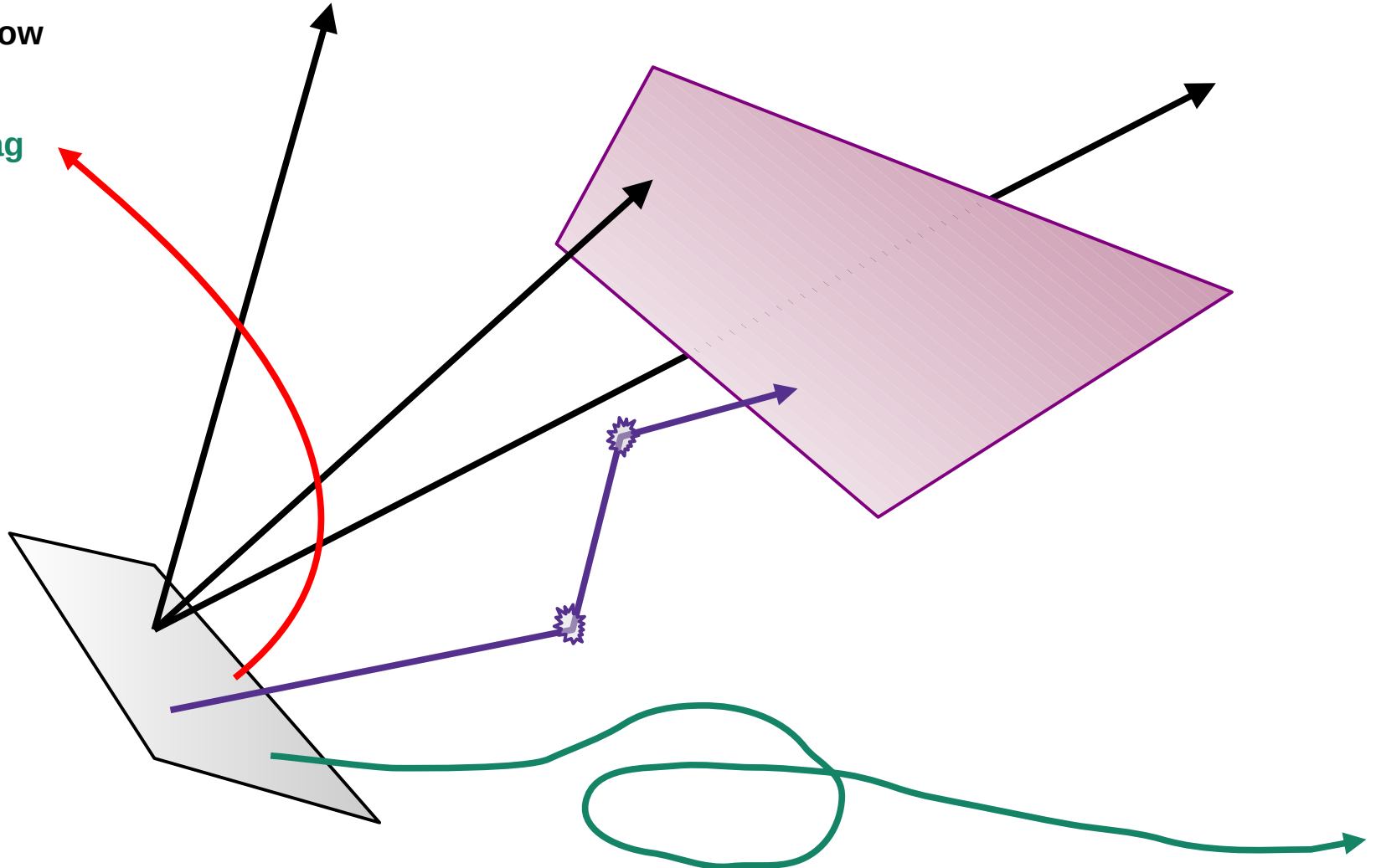
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Betsy Pugel was the Task Manager.

Contamination modeling conceptually very simple:

Determine how much material deposits on surfaces of interest due to outgassing and particulation on other surfaces

Transport Mechanisms

- free-molecular flow
- **electric fields**
- **collisions**
- **aerodynamic drag**



- Contaminant build up on some element “e” can be described mathematically as

$$\Gamma_{e,net} = \sum_j^{n_{el}} k_{je} \Gamma_{i,out} - \Gamma_{e,out} \quad ; j \neq e$$

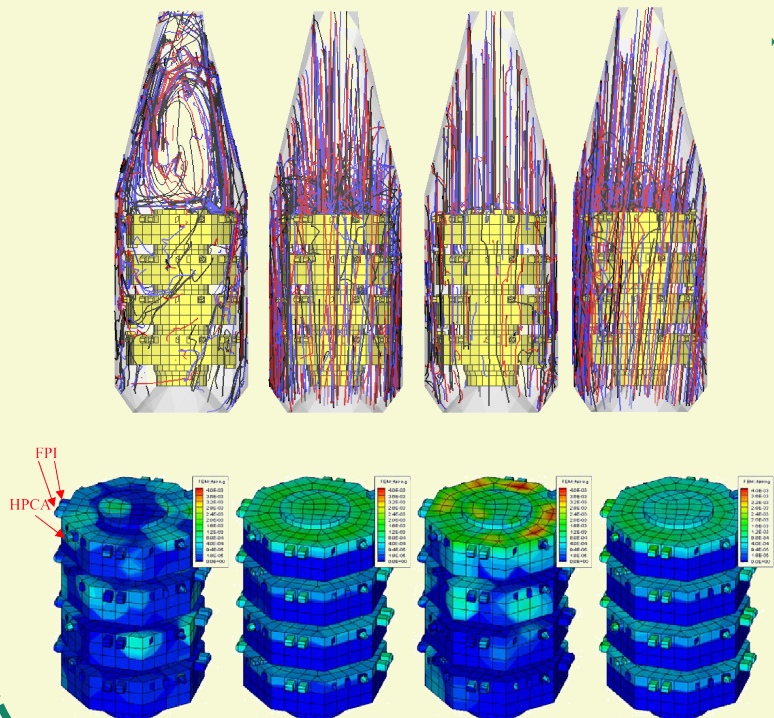
- where k_{ie} is the **view factor** between from some source element “j”
- Various numerical tools available to calculate view factors
- Monte-Carlo methods use some form of ray tracing (for free-molecular flow) or particle pushing (to account for forces or collisions):

```
for k in num time steps:  
  
  for e in surfaces:  
    generate particles on surface e  
  
  for p in particles:  
    integrate velocity of particle p through dt  
    integrate position of particle p through dt  
    check for surface impact (deposit / bounce off)  
  
  apply collisions
```


Analysis of Particulate Contamination During Launch of MMS Mission

Lubos Brieda, Alexander Barrie
Millennium Engineering and Integration, Arlington, VA
 David Hughes, Therese Errigo
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD

SPIE Optics & Photonics 2010



Numerical study of water ice and molecular contamination build up during JWST deployment

Lubos Brieda^a, Marc Laugham^a, Michael Woronowicz^b, Kelly Henderson-Nelson^b, Christopher May^c, Eve Wooldridge^d

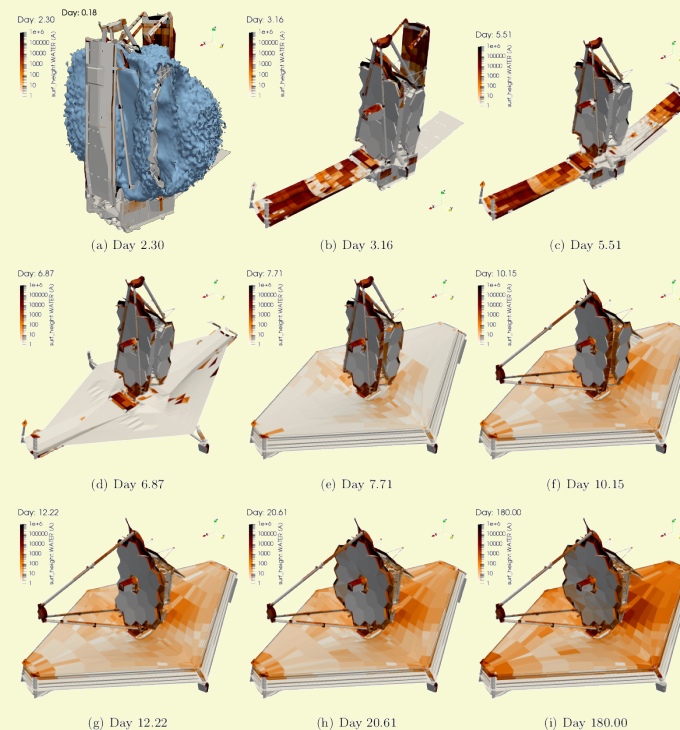
^aParticle in Cell Consulting LLC, Westlake Village, CA 91362, USA

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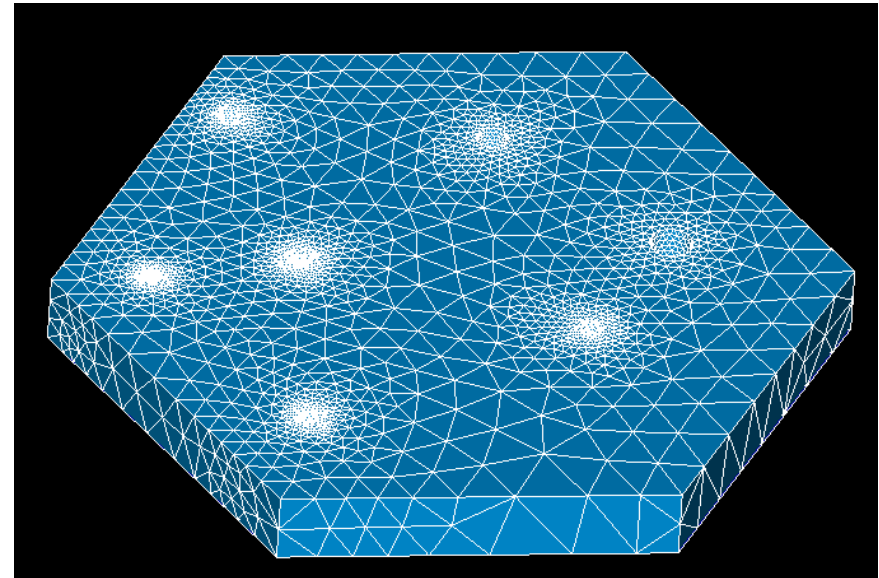
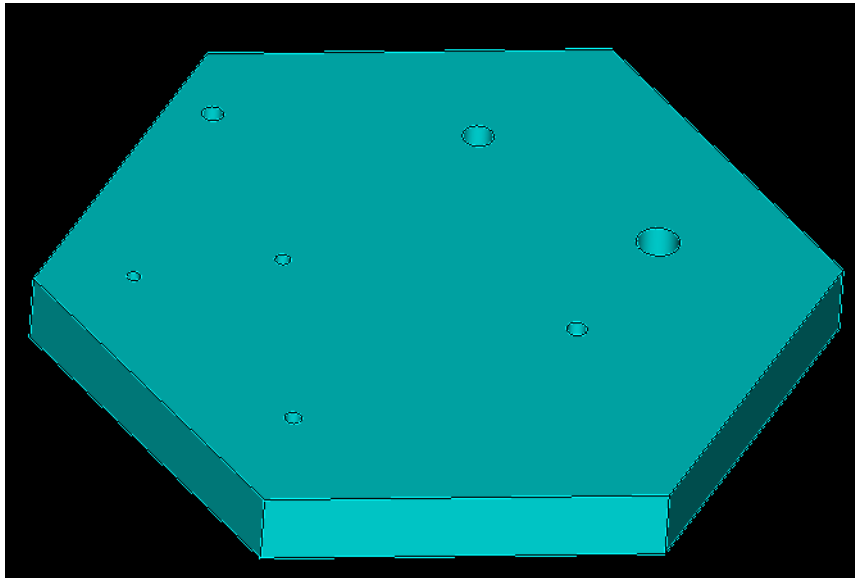
^cMAZE Engineering Solutions, Inc., Marshall, VA 20115

^dNASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD 20771, USA

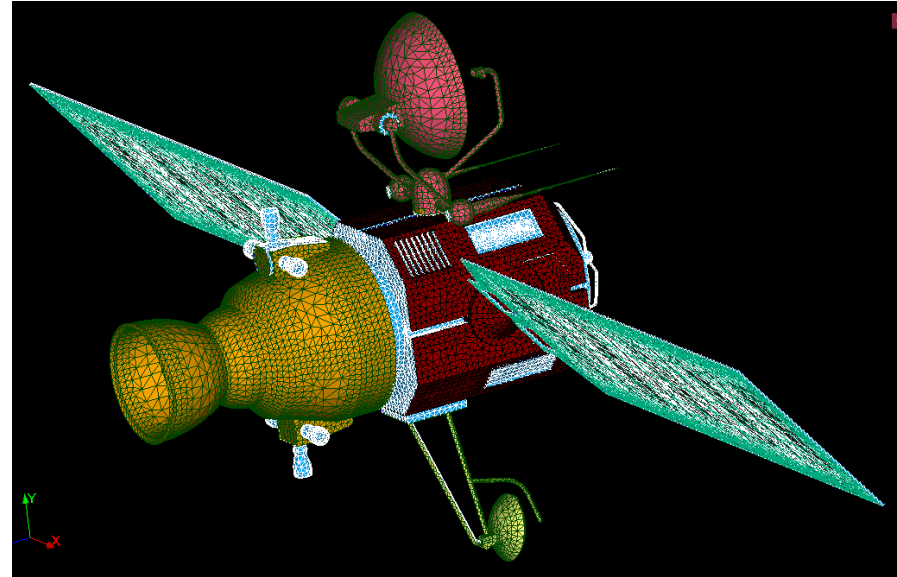
SPIE Optics and Photonics 2022



- Legacy modeling tools utilize surface mesh to store model geometry
 - Triangular/quadrilateral mesh, or assembly of analytical shapes in TD/TSS
 - Inefficient: remeshing required when mechanical design changes
 - Analysis often lags behind latest mechanical design
- Mechanical models tend to contain small features such as drill holes or screws
 - Lead to meshing challenges or an excessive number of surface elements
 - **Often requires substantial work to redraw / simplify CAD model!**



- Surface elements also need to be organized into groups to assign material properties, surface models, etc.
- Challenge: mechanical and thermal grouping typically NOT compatible with CC needs
- Example: JWST thermal components grouped by external material. Majority of material was kapton to capture MLI outer layer. CC cares about what is *underneath* the MLI!
- Extremely tedious manual work involving selecting groups of coplanar elements.
- Must be redone whenever the mesh changes.
 - Interns come in handy...

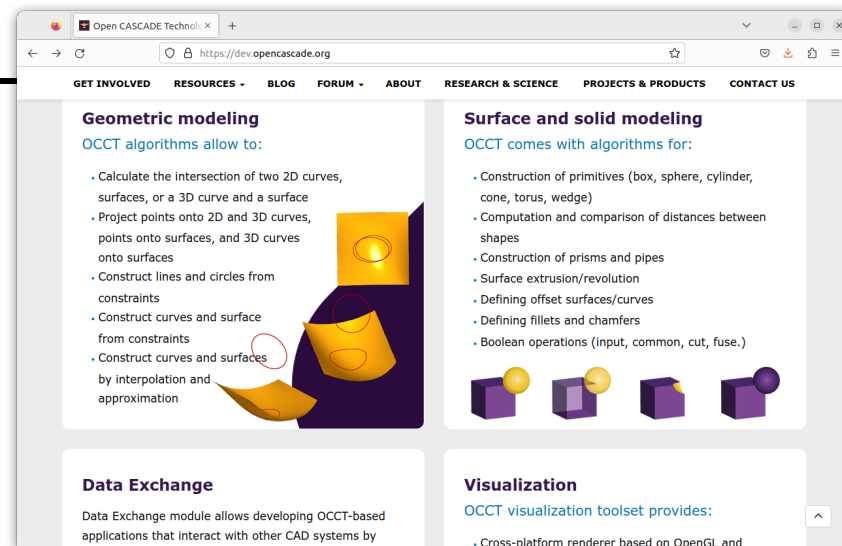


- The surface mesh has dual role:
 - 1) Used for particle-geometry boundary checks (did the particle hit something?)
 - 2) Used to store surface data including results (deposition thickness, PAC, etc.) and surface-adsorption model inputs (surface temperature, roughness, material, etc.)
- Mesh not needed in the volume! Can use point clouds to load airflows or electric fields.

CAD models are internally composed of analytically defined shapes (faces). Can we do **line-CAD** intersection test instead of the legacy **line-triangle** to check for surface impact?

And perhaps there is some way to store data on CAD geometries?

- Elimination of meshing expected to lead to **significant reduction in labor cost and ability to automatically re-run analysis** when mechanical model is changed
- But how to work with CAD files?
- Open Cascade Technology (OCCT) to the rescue!
 - Open source C++ software for performing 3D CAD analysis
 - Developed by Open Cascade SAS company
 - LGPL 2.1 license, allows use in proprietary applications
- **The Bad: documentation very limited, much of our effort involved trial and error**



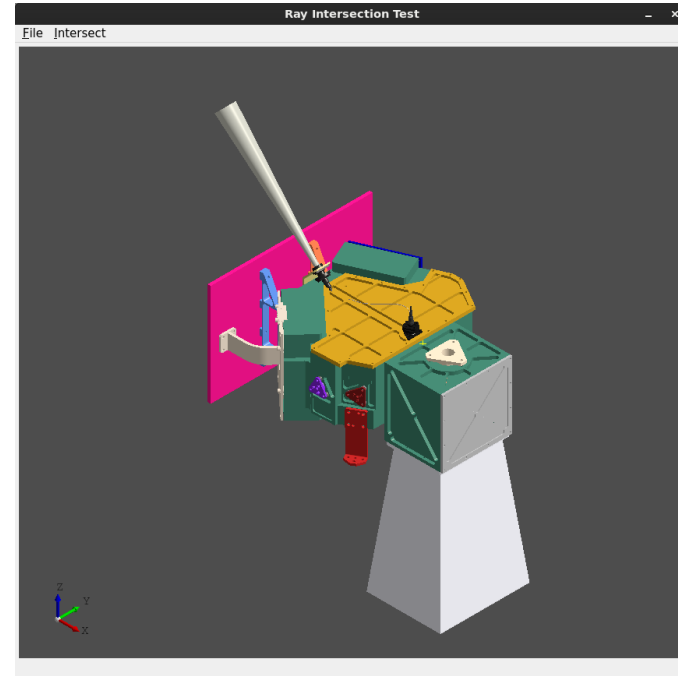
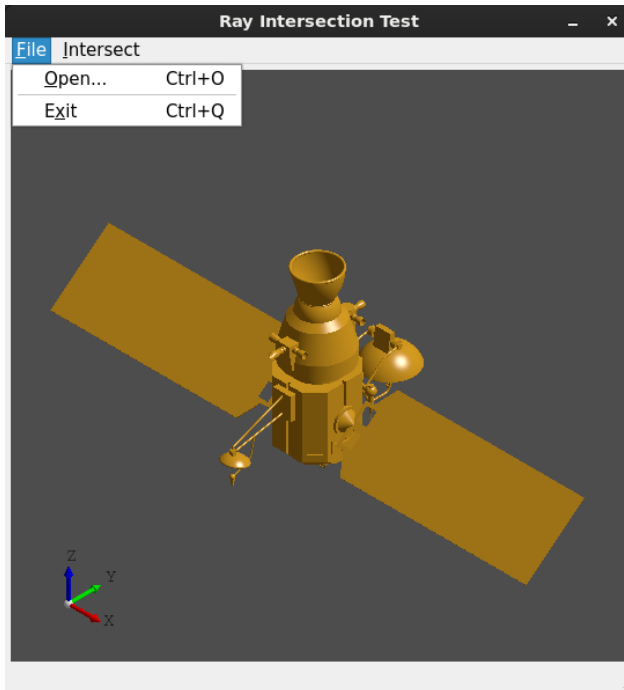
```
const TopoDS_Shape &aComp2 = ((AIS_Shape*)myObject3d.First().get()->Shape());
// Handle(Geom_Line) l = new Geom_Line(gp_Pnt(100, 0, 0), gp_Dir(-1, 0, 0));
Handle(Geom_Line) l = new Geom_Line(gp_Pnt(300, 0, 1000), gp_Dir(0, 0, -1));
NCollection_Vector<Handle(AIS_InteractiveObject)> myPts;

TopTools_IndexedMapOfShape faces;
TopExp::MapShapes (aComp2, TopAbs_FACE, faces);
int i, j=0;
for (i = 1; i <= faces.Extent (); i++) {
  TopoDS_Face face = TopoDS::Face(faces(i));
  Handle(Geom_Surface) S = BRep_Tool::Surface(face);
  GeomAPI_IntCS in(l, S);
  if (in.NbPoints() > 0) {
    const gp_Pnt &pp = in.Point(1);
    Handle(Geom_Point) ppp = new Geom_CartesianPoint(pp);

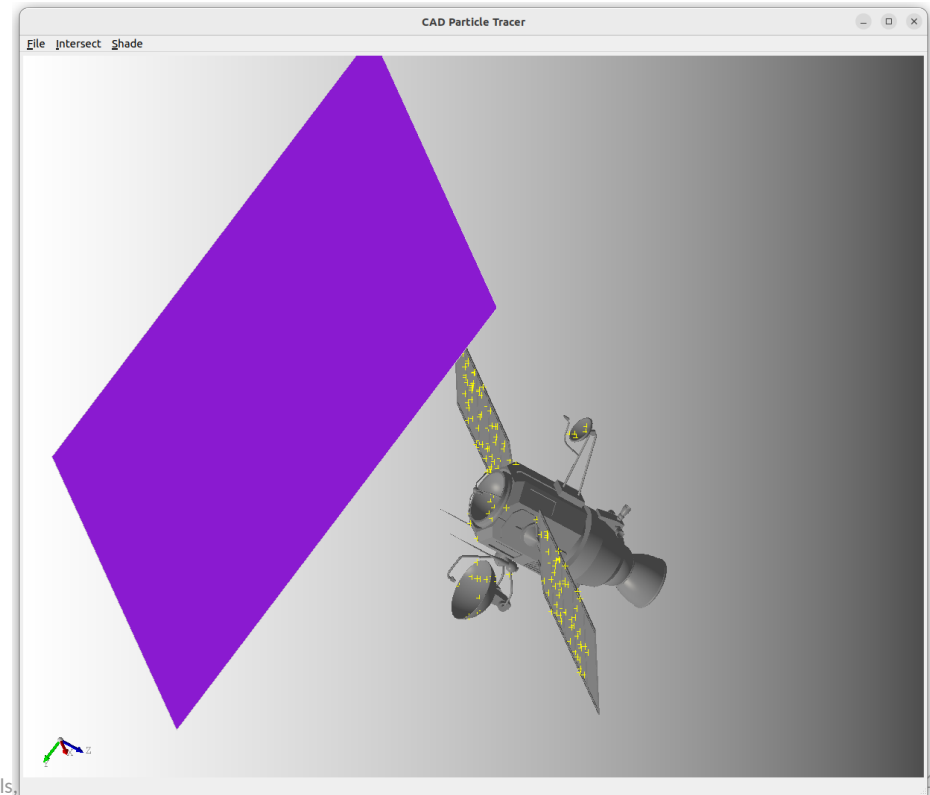
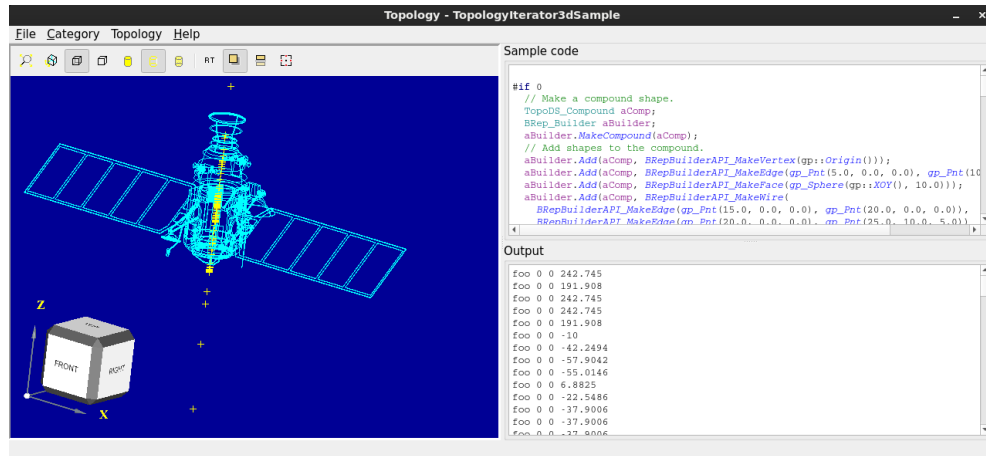
    myResult << " " << pp.X() << " " << pp.Y() << " " << pp.Z() << std::endl;
    myObject3d.Append(new AIS_Point(ppp));

    j++;
  }
}
myResult << "done " << j << std::endl;
```

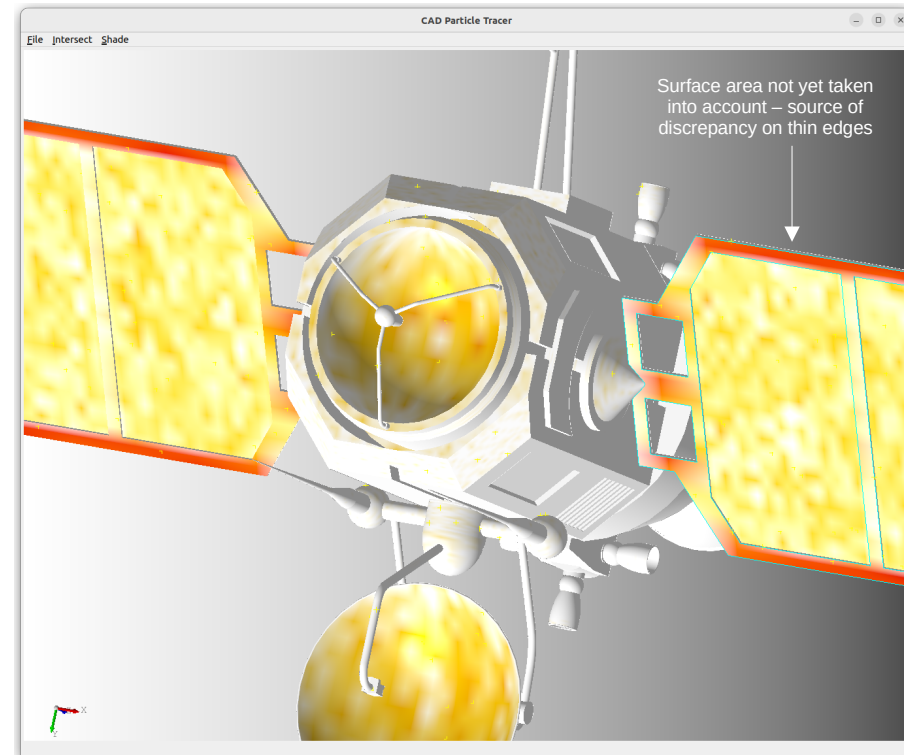
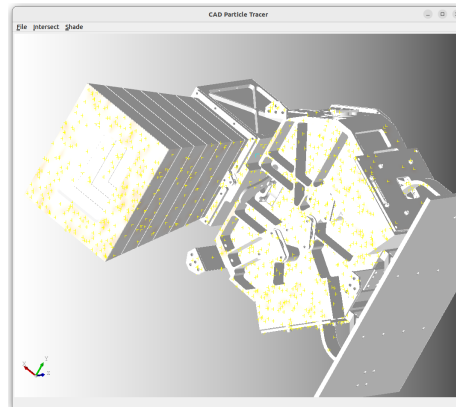
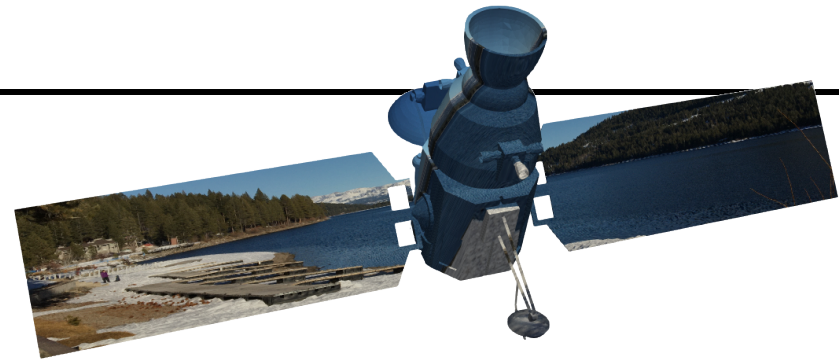
- Developed standalone application to study the feasibility of this CAD-based modeling approach
 - OCPT: OpenCascade Particle Tracer
- First step involved learning how to load and visualize STEP files, and to identify different element groups



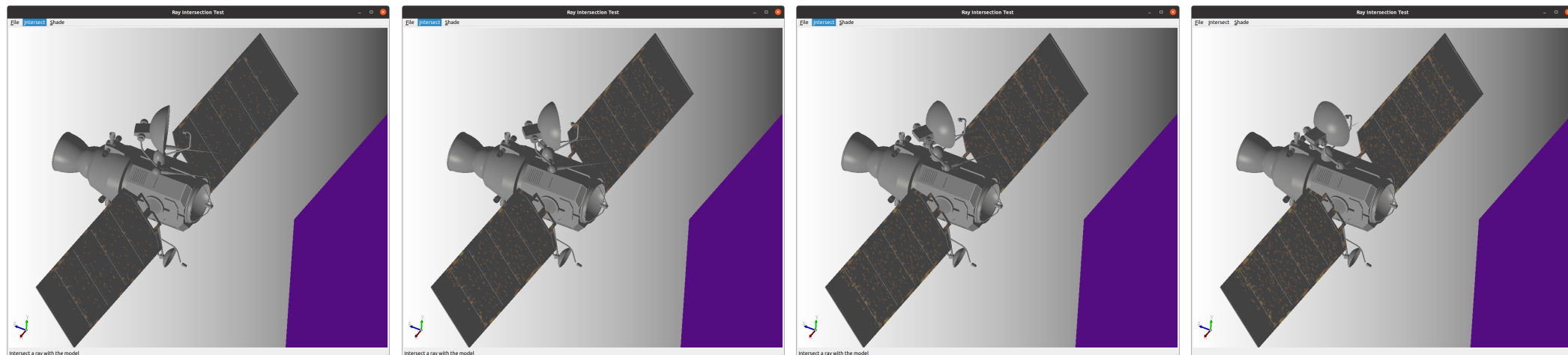
- Next had to figure out how to use OpenCascade to find intersections between an arbitrary line and the loaded surface
- Effort greatly complicated by documentation consisting mainly of API documents with very limited information and multiple classes seemingly doing the same thing



- Initial surface impacts visualized using markers – not practical for visualizing analysis results
 - Prefer to paint “contour map” on the surface
- Can be accomplished by mapping texture data to the CAD model
 - Intersection code determines texture coordinate and increments corresponding data
- Texture coordinates can also be used to sample surface data to control particle behavior

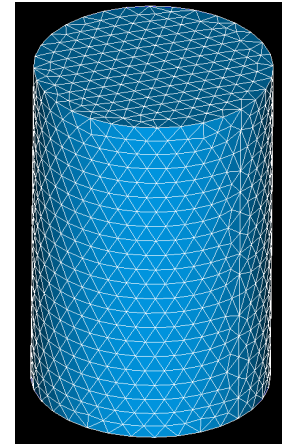
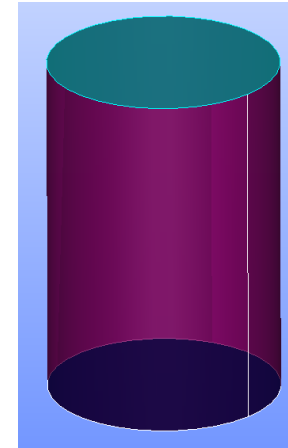


- STEP files describe geometry using analytical shapes
- Surface parts can be easily transformed
- Could be very useful for modeling deployments of stowed components, instrument slew, rotation of antennas, and planetary body surface operations

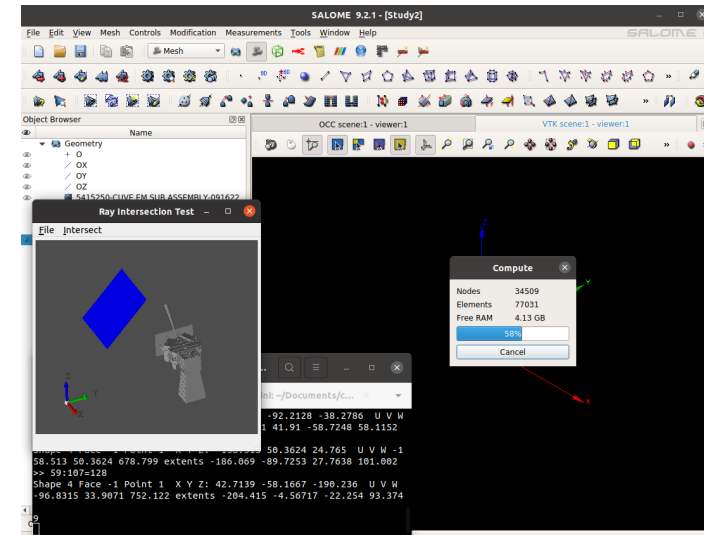


Frames from a simulation with a continuous translation and rotation of the antenna dish

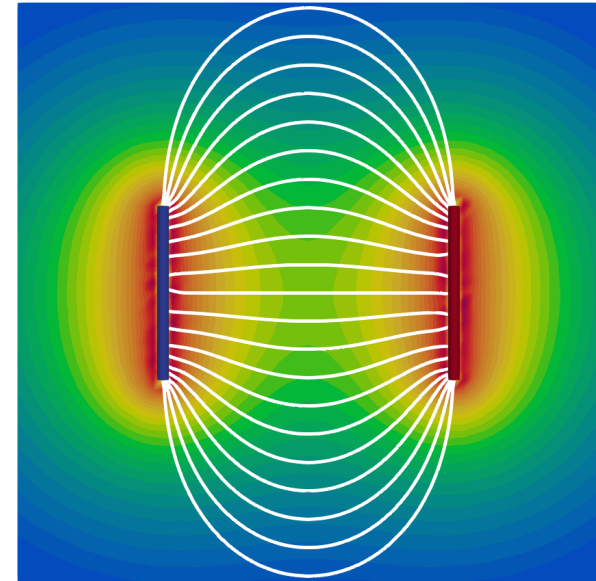
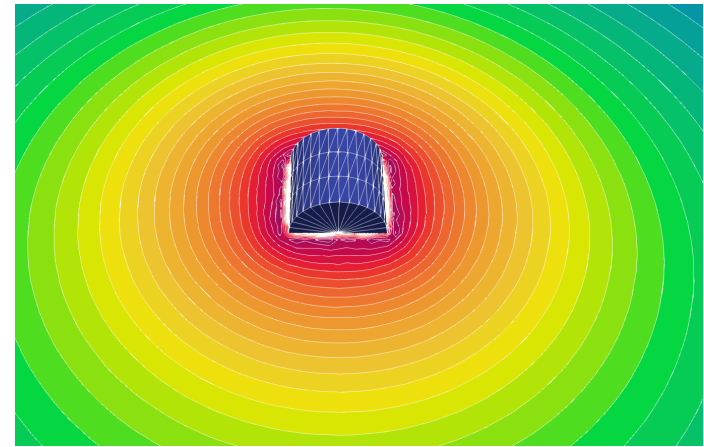
- CAD-based time per particle push currently about 100,000 slower than using triangulated surface
 - CAD model in general contains far fewer faces than FEM model (i.e. cylinder can be represented by only 3 shapes) but intersection check more computationally expensive
 - But OCPT not optimized – rays intersections tested against entire CAD model
 - CTSP uses octree to limit triangle search only to elements withing the ray's bounding box – similar ordering required in OCPT
- OCPT **faster** when considering entire workflow – can load STEP file and complete analysis while meshing algorithm still running



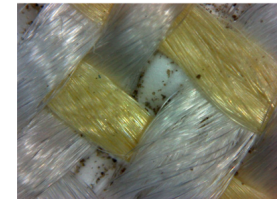
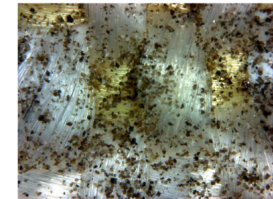
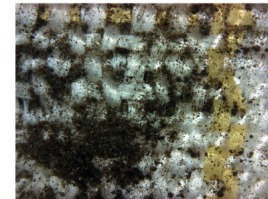
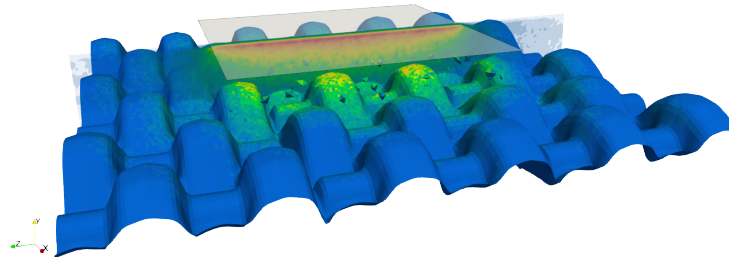
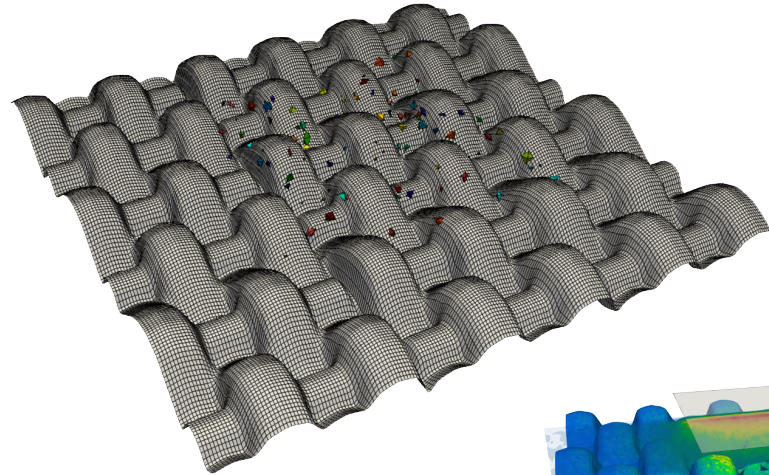
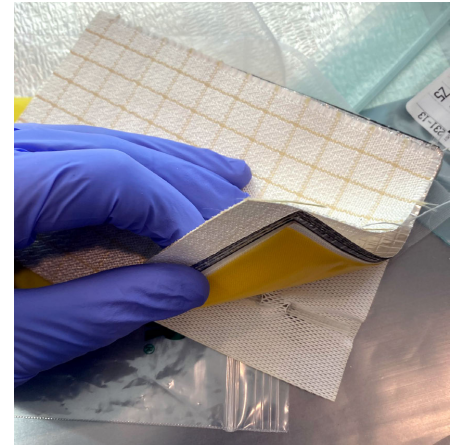
Case	meshing	geometry load	time per particle
OCPT, Satellite, 3.6 Mb STEP	N/A	0.9	0.012 s
CTSP, Satellite 7.5 Mb UNV UNV	30 min	2 s	5.05e-7 s
OCPT, Instrument, 18 Mb STEP	N/A	10.6 s	0.34 s
CTSP, Instrument	FAIL		
OCPT, Dragonfly, 48 Mb STEP	N/A	16.3 s	0.49 s



- CAD-based modeling approach also very attractive for modeling space weather instruments
 - Analysis involves simulating trajectories of charged particles in an electric field imposed by instrument electrodes
 - Discretized elements used in legacy codes cannot accurately capture the curvature of actual hardware
- Molecular contaminants can also become photo-ionized and subsequently return to the spacecraft
- Developed a standalone code to demonstrate feasibility of calculating volumetric electric field using solely surface data (surface charge density) coupled with Coulomb force.
- Future work involves investigation of the Boundary Element Method, as well as coupling with volumetric mesh to perform kinetic plasma simulations.



- Also interested in modeling dynamic objects – specifically dust grains individually represented by unique geometry shapes interacting with ambient plasma and other surfaces
- Being used to model lunar regolith adhesion to spacesuits, experimental work conducted at USC
- Preliminary results just published in IEEE TPS, update at ASEC



- Developed a proof of concept simulation code to demonstrate the feasibility of performing contamination transport analysis directly using CAD geometries
- Proved out the required technology: ability to load STEP files, ability to perform line-CAD intersections, ability to access surface data
 - Also demonstrated ability to compute volumetric electric field using surface charge density
- Several steps remaining before the tool can be used by the CCE community:
 - Code optimization and speedup – shapes need to be sorted into an octree to limit search space
 - CC specific algorithms – ability to set outgassing rates, assign surface temperatures, specify particle-surface behavior – primarily port from our legacy mesh-based code
 - Graphical user interface as well as input files
 - Spring 2024 ECD for beta version
- Contact: *lubos.brieda@particleincell.com*

Acknowledgment: Partial funding provided by NASA SBIR Phase 1 contract 80NSSC22PB145. Betsy Pugel was the Task Manager.