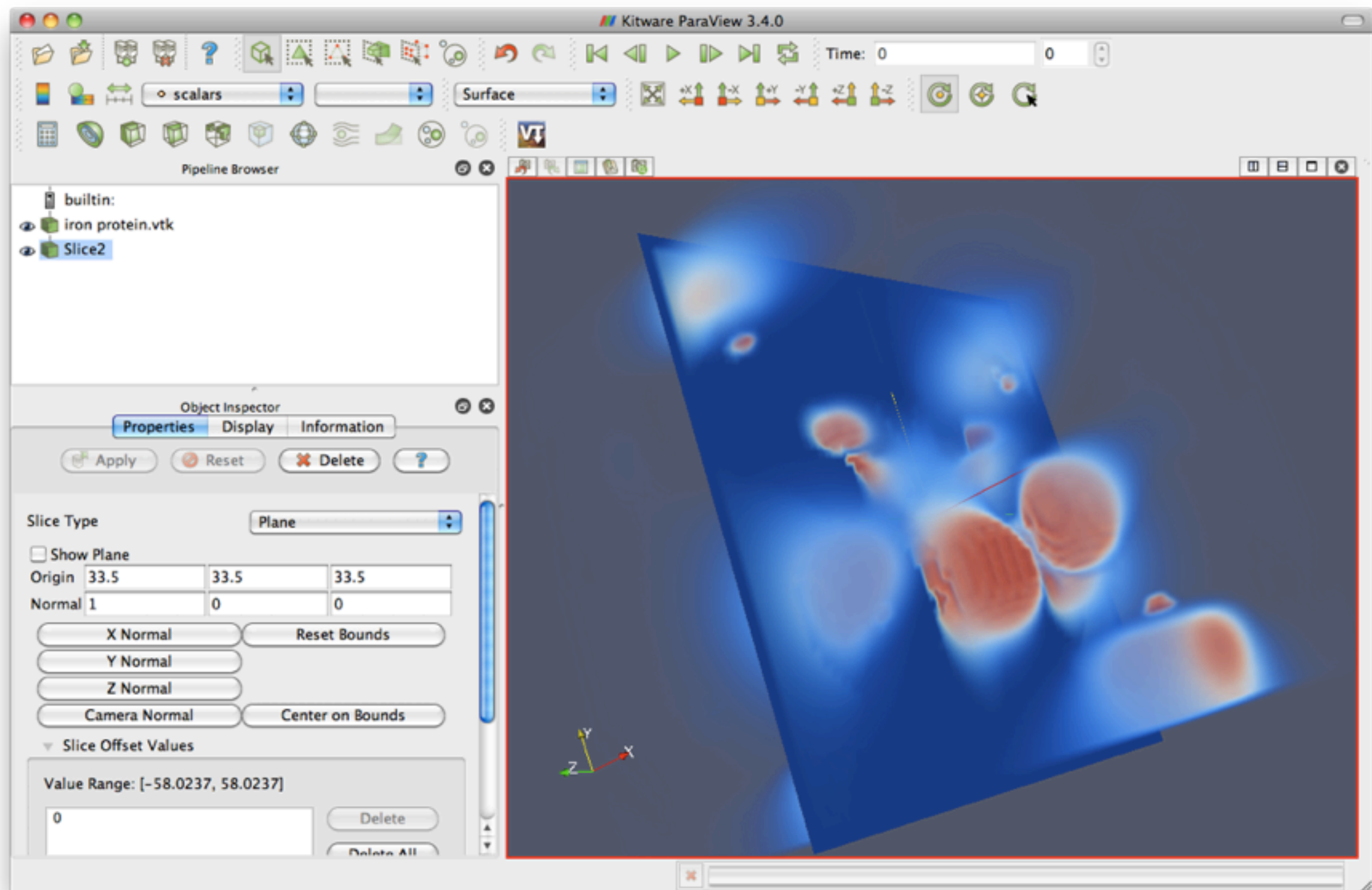


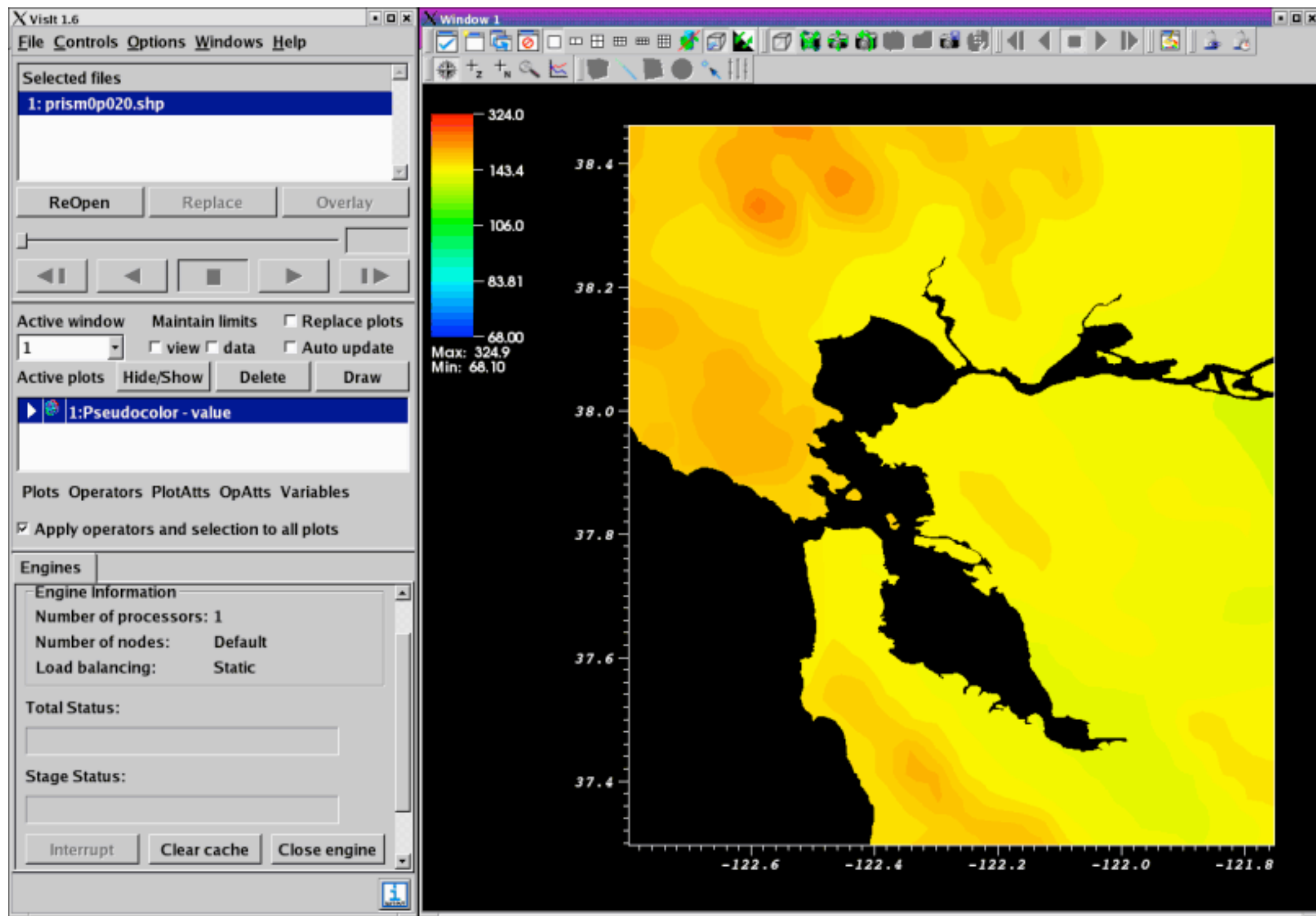
# Developing a plug-in

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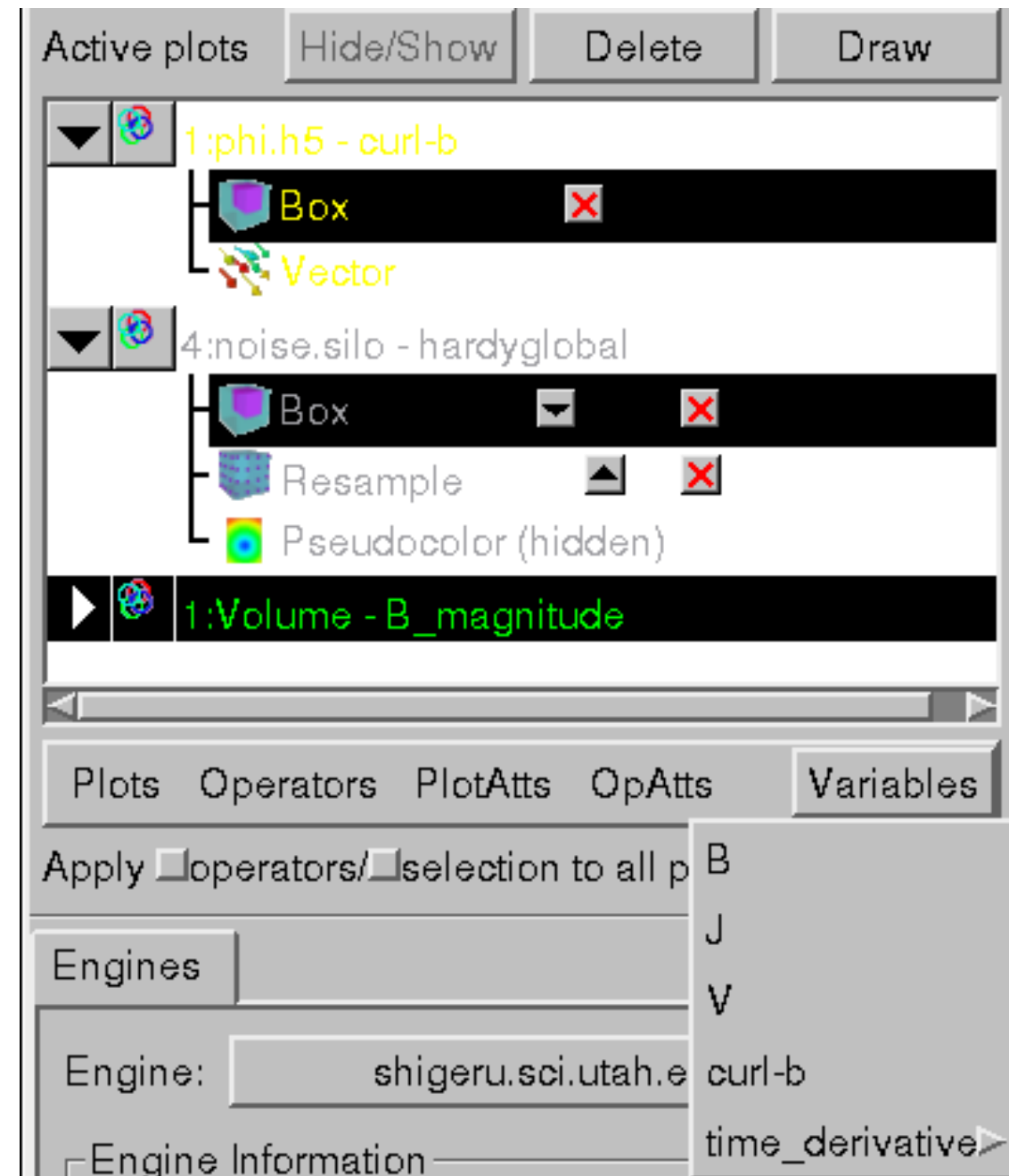
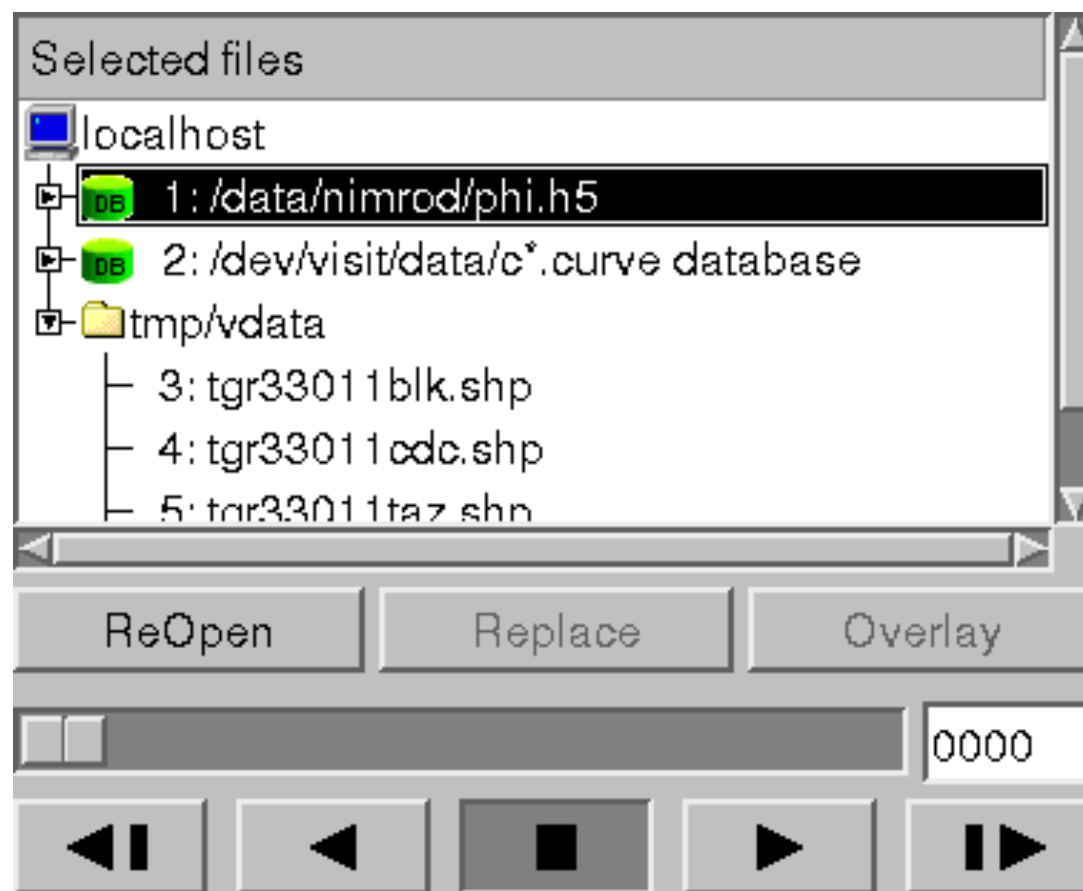
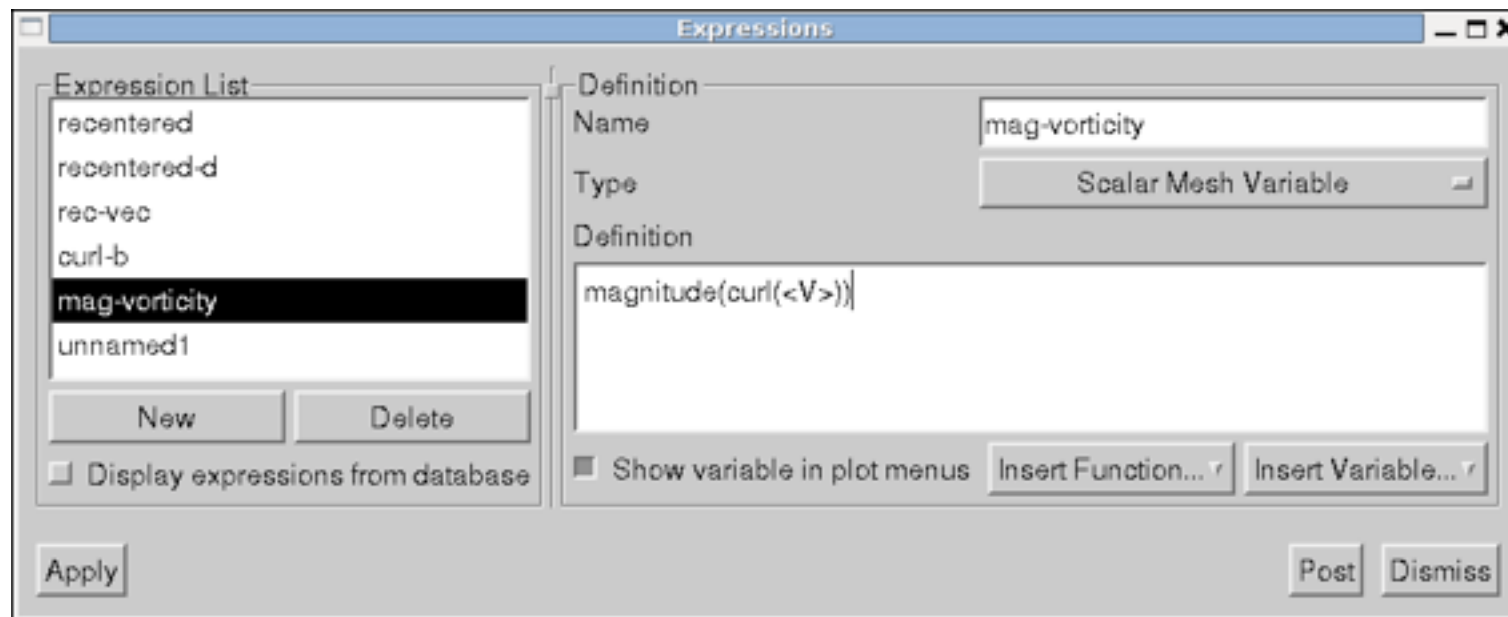
# ParaView



# VisIt

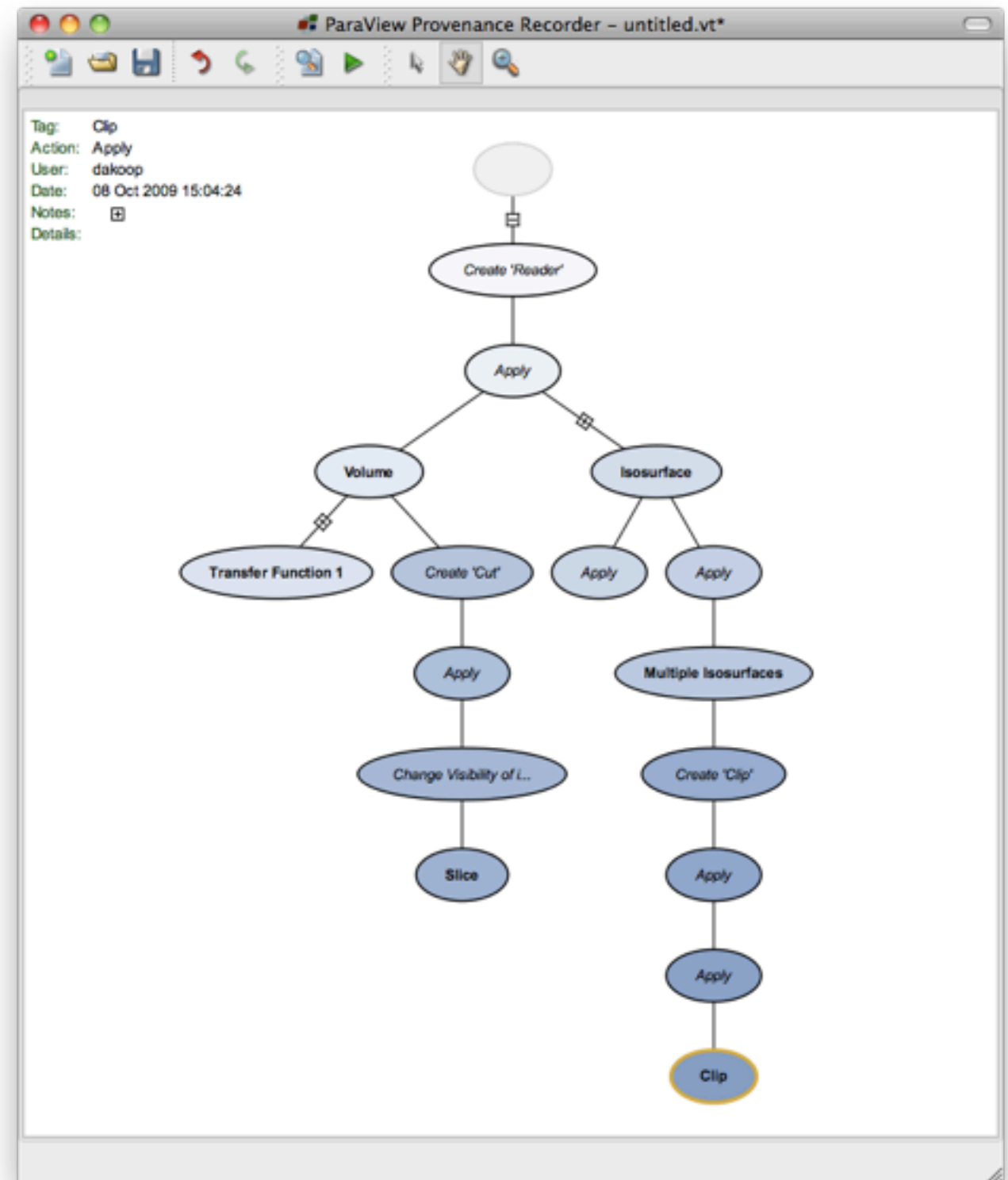


# State Information

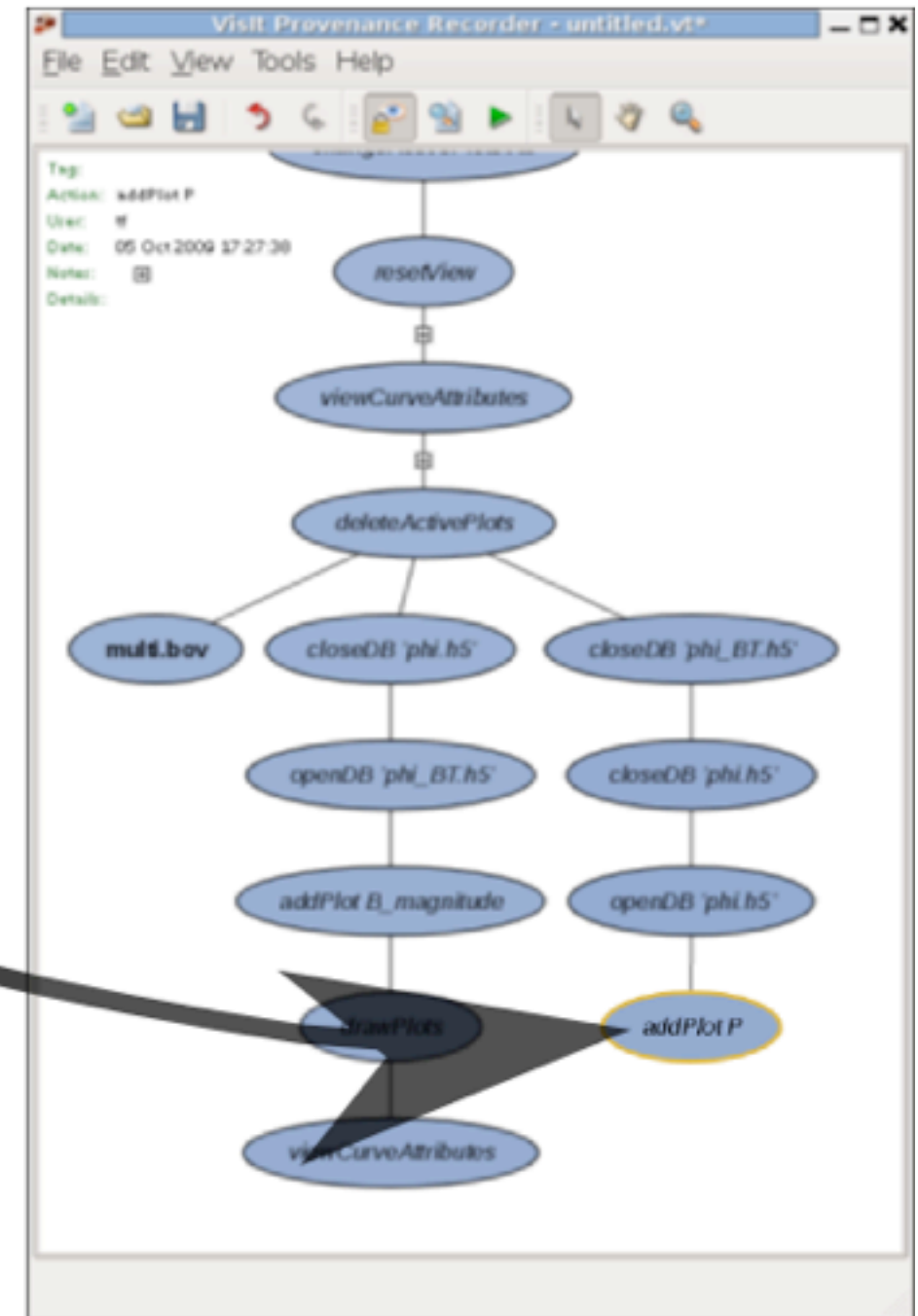
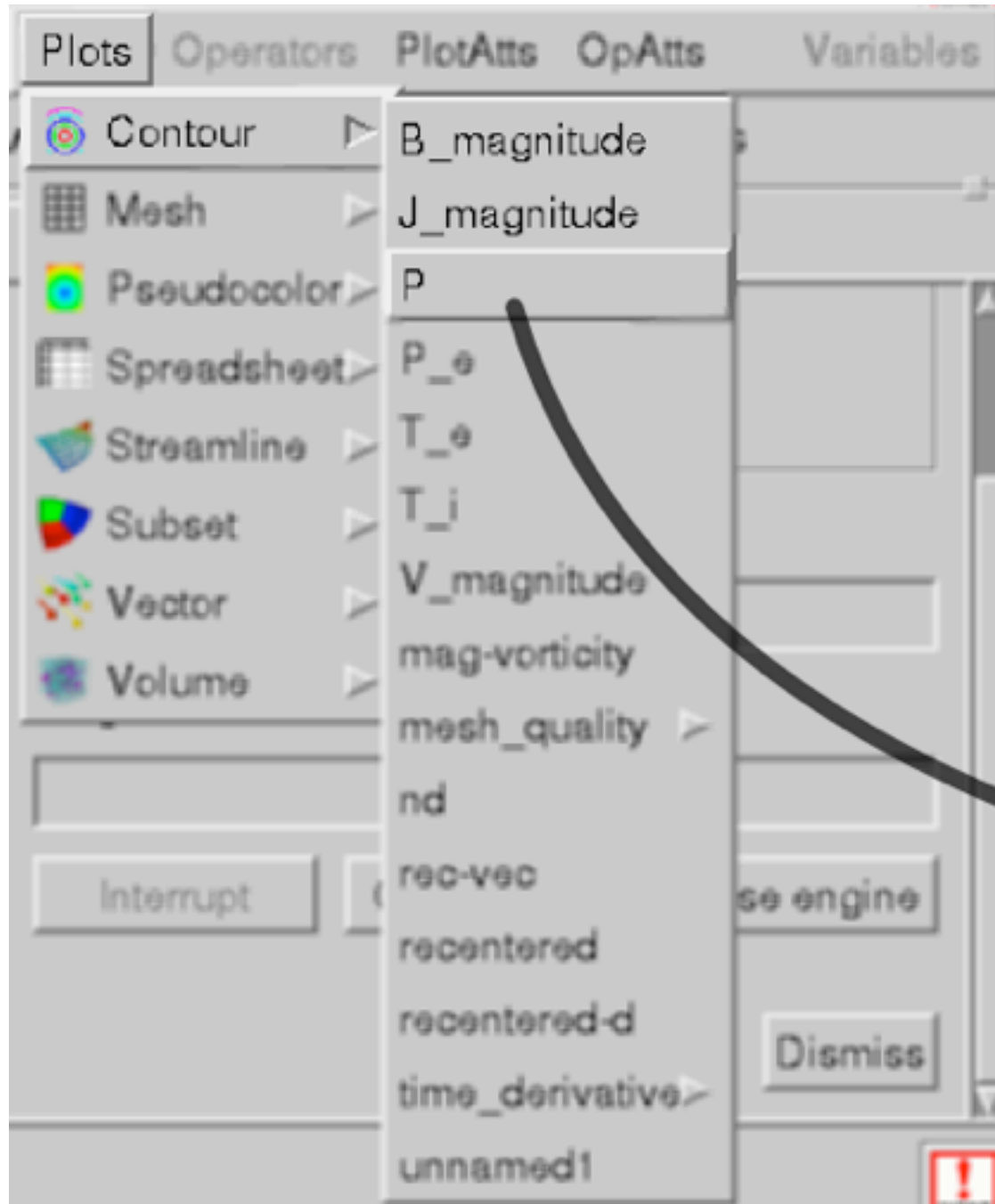


# Why Plug-ins?

- Enable provenance capabilities for tools that have existing interfaces
- Store each step involved in developing a product
- Materialize any version with a single click
- Use the VisTrails provenance capture mechanism, version tree interface, and annotation capabilities across multiple tools



# Why Plug-ins?





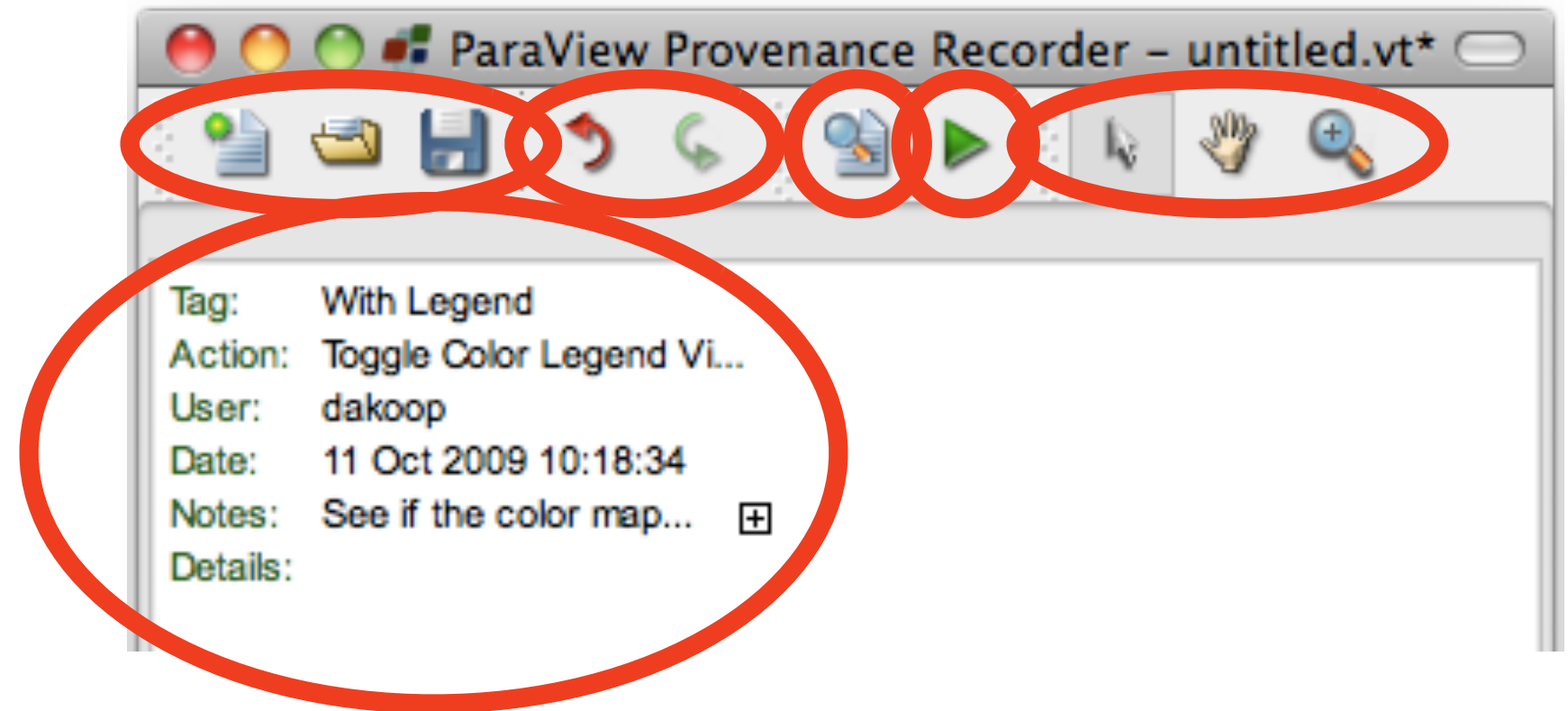
# VisTrails Package vs. VisTrails Plug-in

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- Package:
  - Ideal for libraries not attached to a GUI
  - Can connect with other VisTrails modules (VTK, Matplotlib, etc.)
- Plug-in:
  - Ideal for end-user tools with their own GUI
  - Capture provenance from undo stack, state information
  - Plug-ins do not change the existing interface, just add a new window

# Plug-in Features

- New, Open, Save
- Undo, Redo
- Search
- Playback
- Select, Pan, Zoom
- Metadata





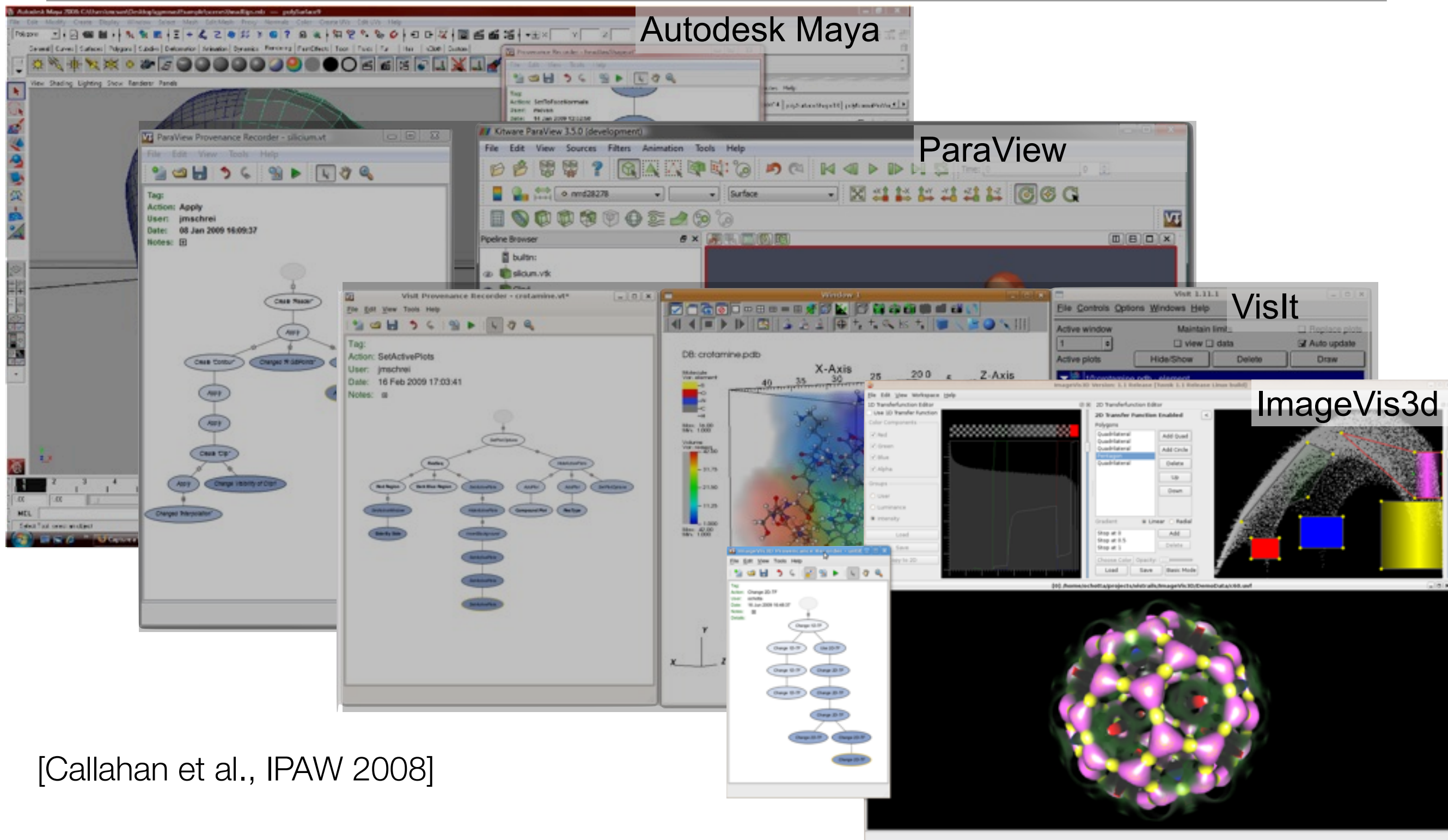
# ParaView Demo

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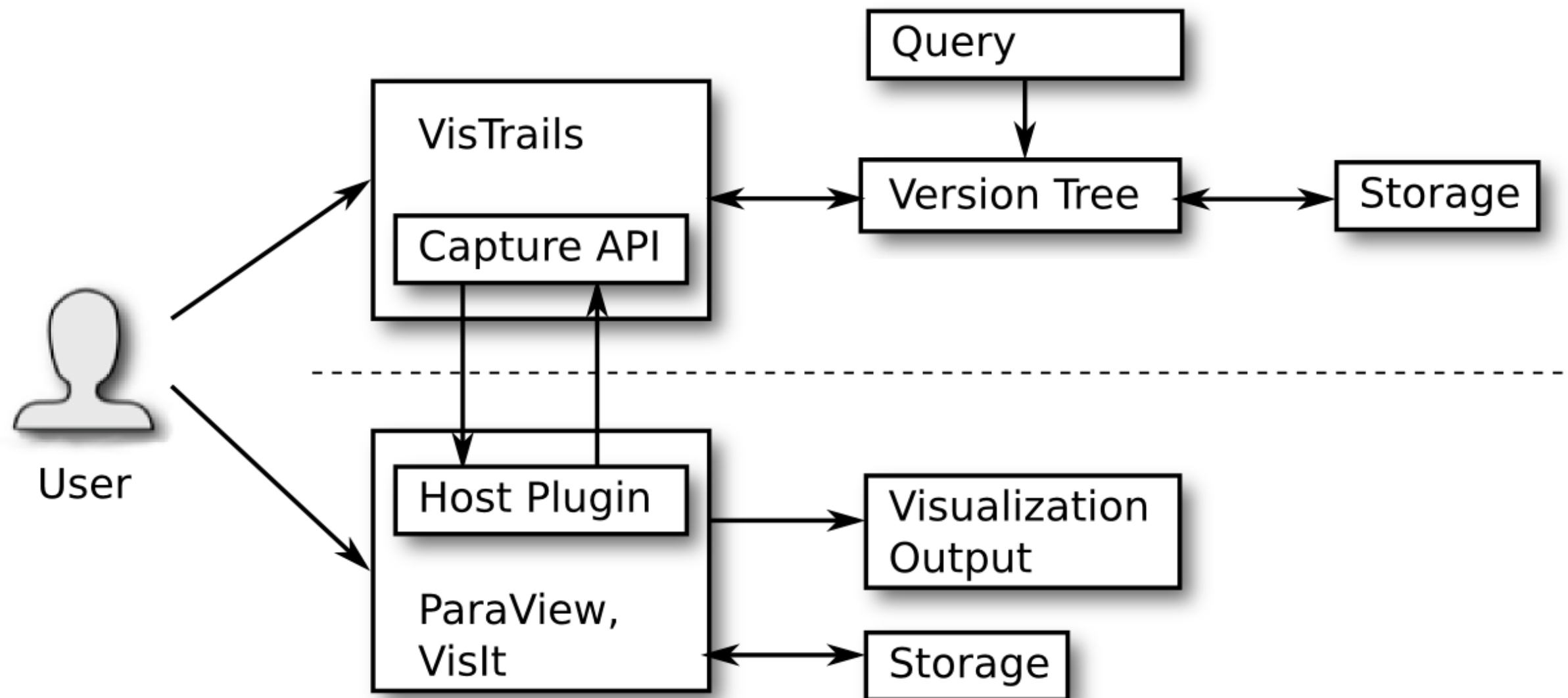
## VisTrails Plugin for ParaView

[Callahan et al., IPAW 2008]

# Provenance Enabling 3rd-Party Tools

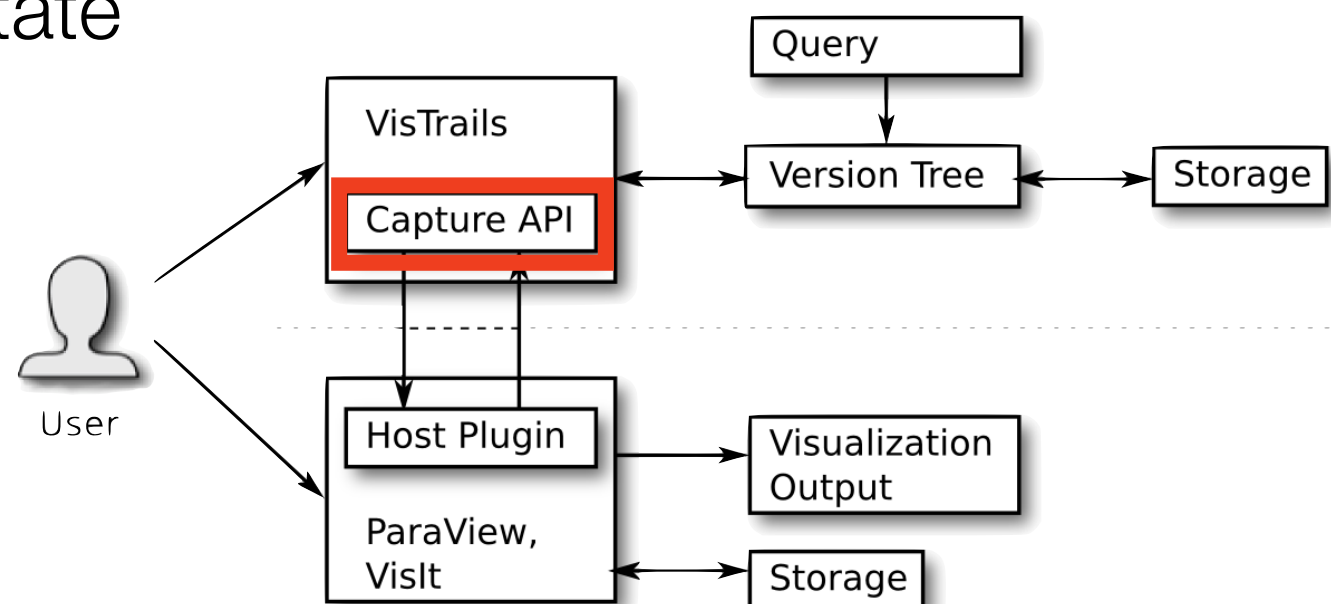


# Plug-in Architecture



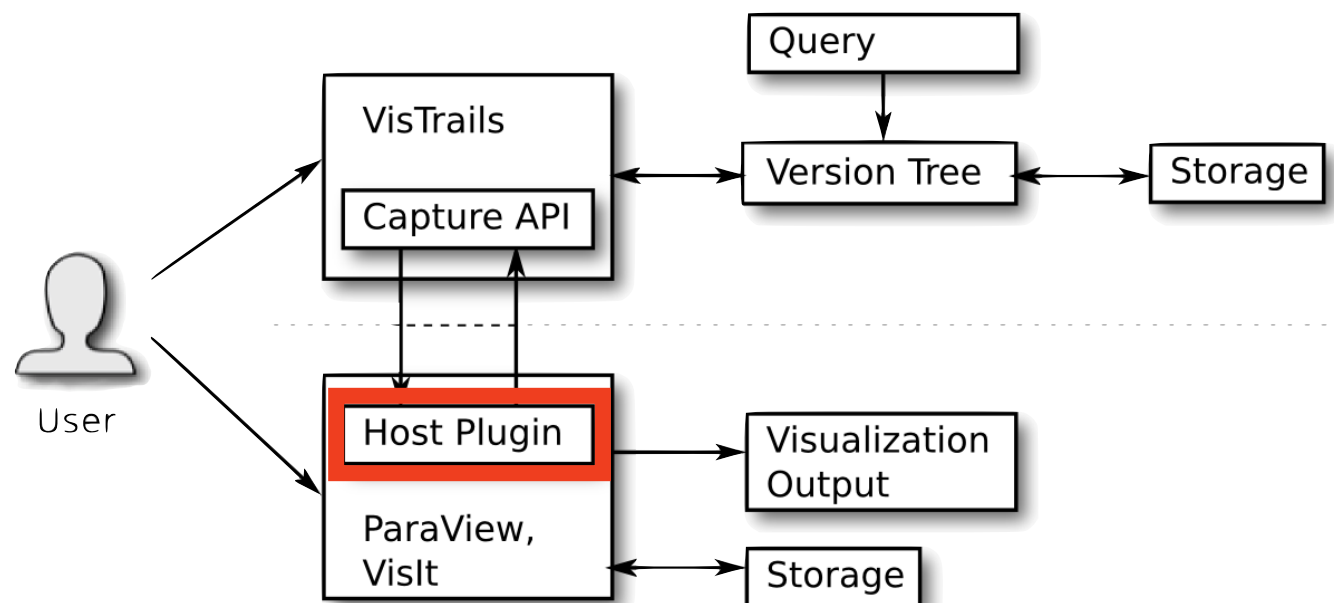
# VisTrails Capture API

- Python-based, uses Qt & PyQt
- Creates .vt files like VisTrails
- Capture user actions
- Description of actions relies on host specifications
- Can use any serialization that permits reproduction
- Better serializations facilitate difference, analogy possibilities



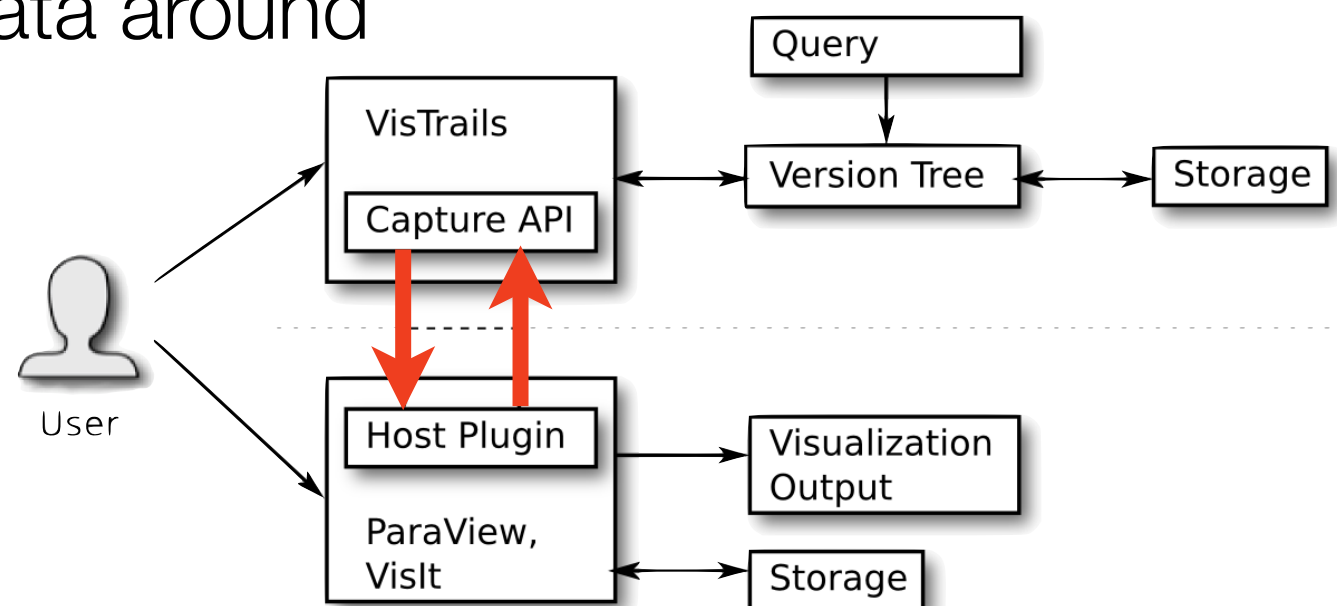
# Attaching the Host Plug-in

- Undo/redo stack
  - Requires serializable state information
- Callback mechanism
  - Hook into root callbacks
  - Take advantage of existing save functionality (session saves)



# Link between Host Plug-in and Capture API

- Callbacks
  - Build calls to the Capture API into host plug-in
  - Can use existing python capabilities
- Sockets
  - Run VisTrails as a separate application
  - Use sockets to push data around





# ParaView Plug-in Implementation Details

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- Capturing actions:
  - Take advantage of built-in 'undo/redo' functionality
  - Extract top item from undo stack
  - XML action representation
- Materializing versions:
  - Apply sequence of deltas captured from undo stack
  - Caching possible for faster access
- Exposing the undo stack (C++ source modifications):
  - Qt/Core/pqUndoStack.\*
  - Servers/ServerManager/vtkSMUndoStack.\*

# ParaView Plug-in Implementation Details

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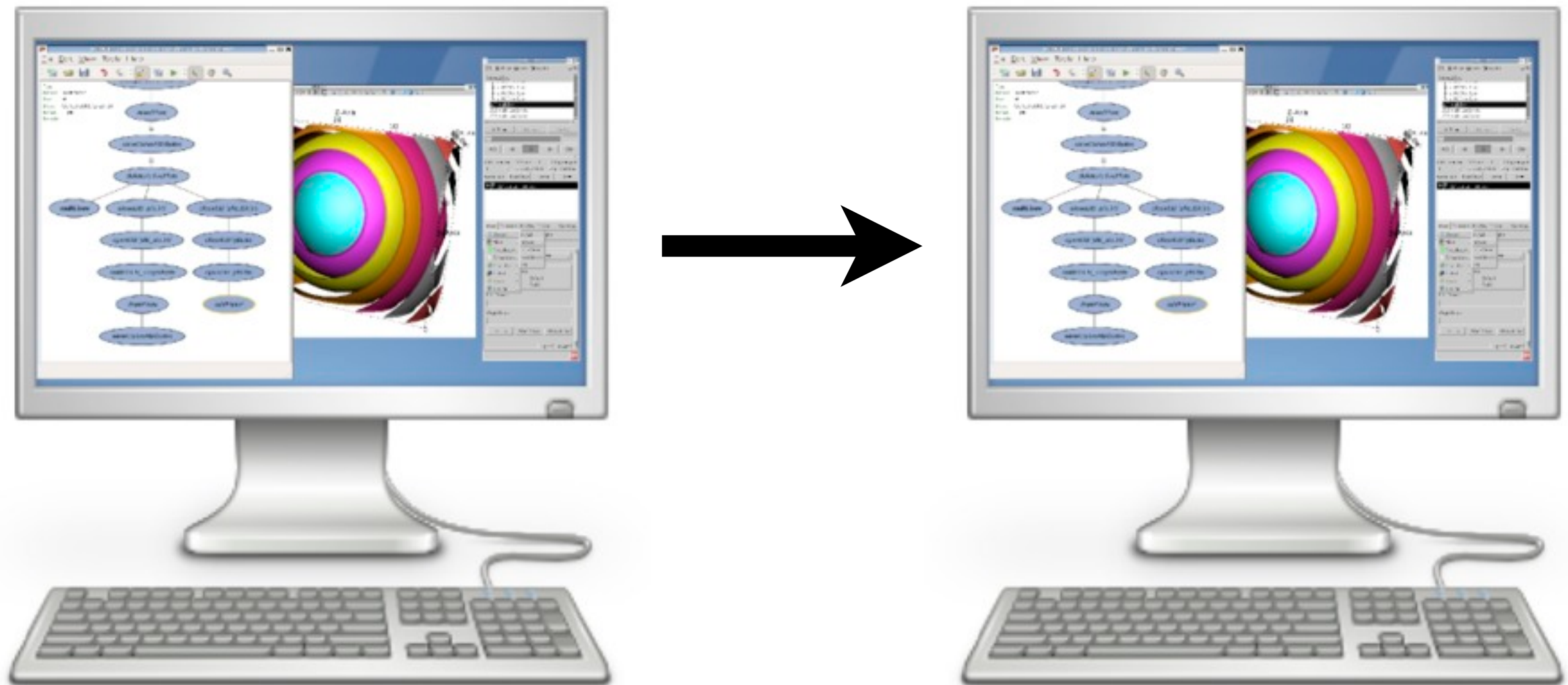
- Single QApplication instance per process
  - Use sockets for communication
  - Starts the VisTrails Capture API as a separate process
  - Establish TCP connection with the Capture API once started

# VisIt Plug-in Implementation Details

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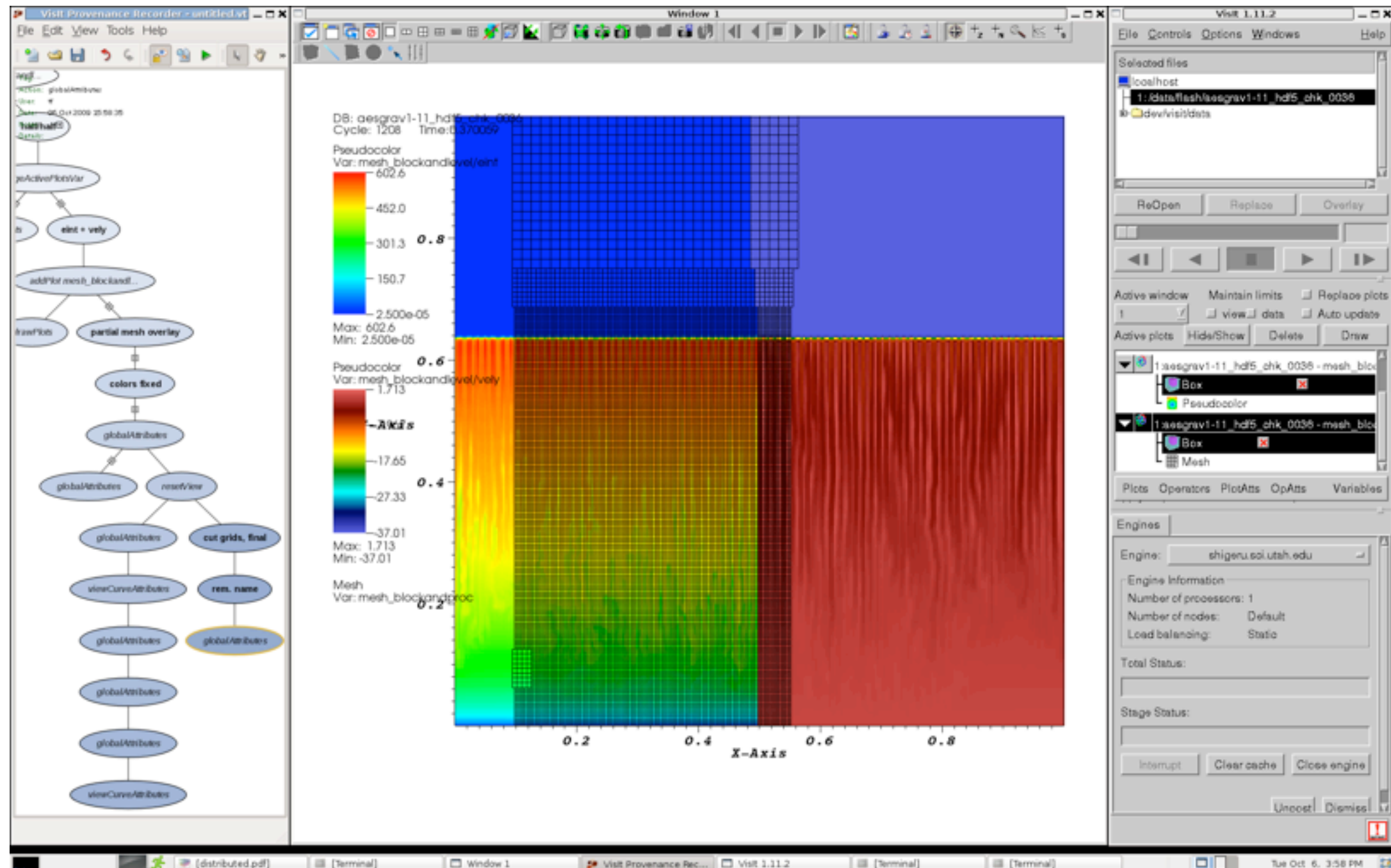
- Capturing actions:
  - Trigger via hooks into callbacks
  - Use VisIt's session saving capabilities
  - Compute difference between sessions to produce actions
- Connecting to Capture API:
  - Use VisIt's python support
  - Contact VisTrails Capture API directly

# Uses: Collaboration

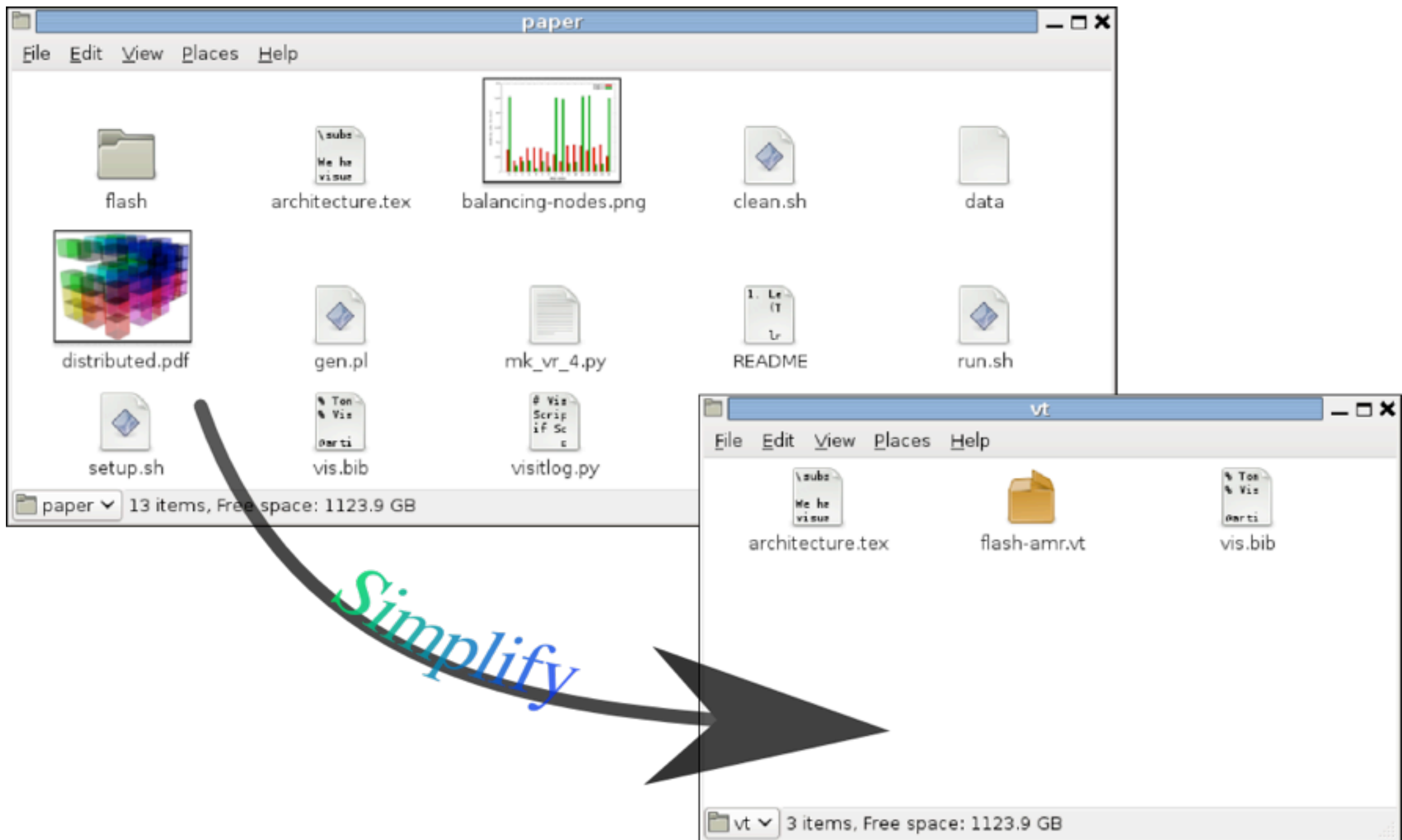


- Send **vistrails** instead of images
- Allow collaborators to manipulate and explore results

# Uses: Simulation Debugging



# Uses: Publishing





# Availability

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- ParaView: [http://www.vistrails.org/index.php/ParaView Plugin](http://www.vistrails.org/index.php/ParaView_Plugin)
  - VisTrails plug-in included with next ParaView release
- VisIt: Working with VisIt developers to release soon
- Maya: Available from [www.vistrails.com](http://www.vistrails.com)
- ImageVis3d: Available from [www.sci.utah.edu](http://www.sci.utah.edu)

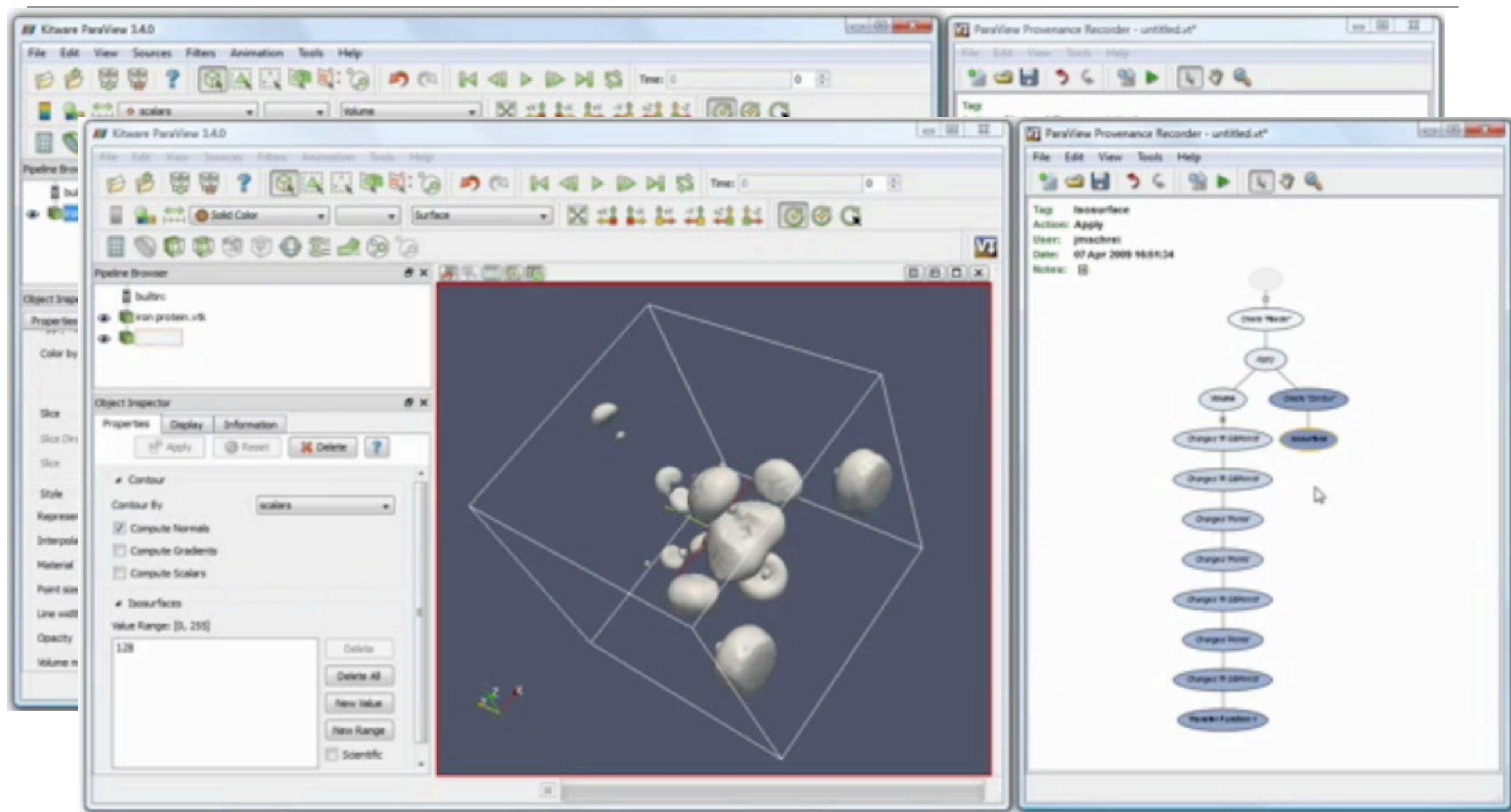
# Future Directions

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- Plan to release an SDK that allows developers to include provenance with their tools
- If you are interested in adding provenance capabilities to your tools, please contact us: [www.vistrails.org](http://www.vistrails.org)

# Questions?

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# VisIt

