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HR: 1340h
AN: **SF13A-0702**
TI: **Distributed volume rendering of global models of seismic wave propagation**
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AB: Modeling the dynamics and structure of the Earth's interior now routinely involves massively distributed computational techniques, which makes it feasible to study time-dependent processes in the 3D Earth. Accurate, high-resolution models require the use of distributed simulations that run on, at least, moderately large PC clusters and produce large amounts of data on the order of terabytes distributed across the cluster. Visualizing such large data sets efficiently necessitates the use of the same type and

magnitude of resources employed by the simulation. Generic, distributed volumetric rendering methods that produce high-quality monoscopic and stereoscopic visualizations currently exist, but rely on a different distributed data layout than is produced during simulation. This presents a challenge during the visualization process because an expensive data gather and redistribution stage is required before the distributed volume visualization algorithm can operate. We will compare different general purpose techniques and tools for visualizing volumetric data sets that are widely used in the field of scientific visualization, and propose a new approach that eliminates the data gather and redistribution stage by working directly on the data as distributed by, e.g., a seismic wave propagation simulation.

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