



CONFERENCE 4 – 7 December 2018  
EXHIBITION 5 – 7 December 2018  
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# GPU-Based Large-Scale Scientific Visualization

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Course Website:

<http://johanna-b.github.io/LargeSciVis2018/index.html>

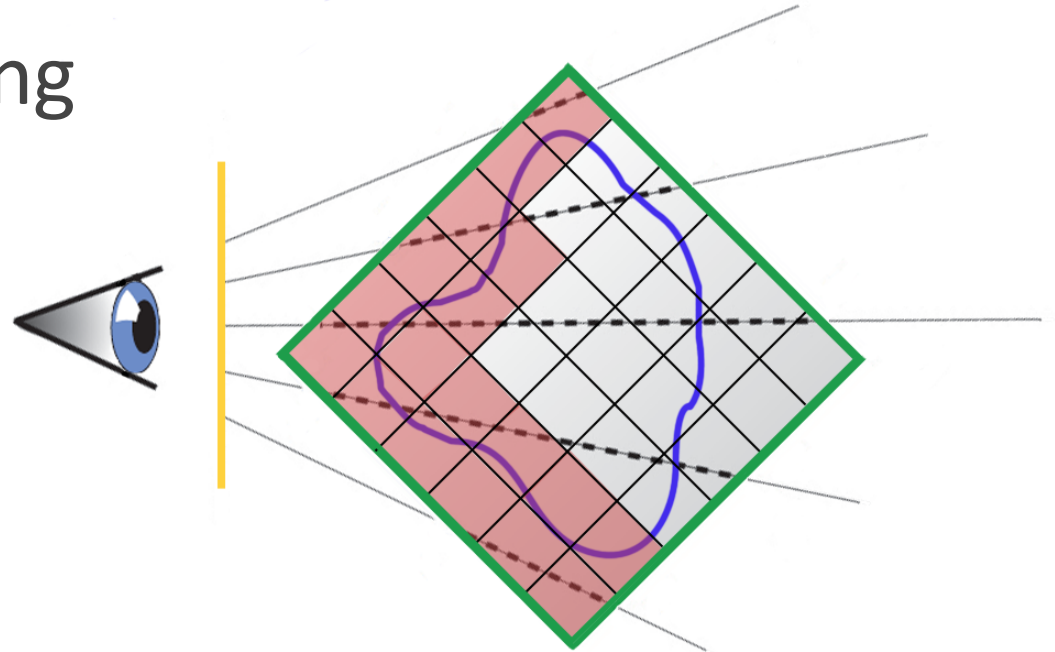




**Part 3 -  
GPU-Based Ray-Guided  
Volume Rendering Algorithms &  
Efficient Empty Space Skipping**

## RAY-GUIDED VOLUME RENDERING

- Working set determination on GPU
- Single-pass rendering
- Traversal on GPU
- Virtual texturing





## RAY-GUIDED VOLUME RENDERING (2)

Examples using octree traversal (kd-restart):

- Gigavoxels [Crassin et al., 2009]
  - Gigavoxel isosurface and volume rendering
- Tera-CVR [Engel, 2011]
  - Teravoxel volume rendering with dynamic transfer functions



## RAY-GUIDED VOLUME RENDERING (2)

### Examples using virtual texturing instead of tree traversal

- Petascale volume exploration of microscopy streams  
[Hadwiger et al., 2012]
  - *Visualization-driven* pipeline, including data construction
- ImageVis3D [Fogal et al., 2013]
  - Analysis of different settings (brick size, ...)



# Ray-guided Volume Rendering Examples



## EARLY 'RAY-GUIDED' OCTREE RAY-CASTING (1)

[Gobbetti et al., The Visual Computer, 2008]

Volume representation

Octree

Rendering

GPU octree traversal

Working set determination

Interleaved occlusion queries



## EARLY 'RAY-GUIDED' OCTREE RAY-CASTING (1)

### Data structure: Octree with ropes

- Pointers to 8 children, 6 neighbors and volume data
- Active subtree stored in spatial index structure and texture pool on GPU

[Gobbetti et al.]

<b>Volume representation</b>	<b>Octree</b>
Rendering	GPU octree traversal
Working set determination	Interleaved occlusion queries





## EARLY 'RAY-GUIDED' OCTREE RAY-CASTING (2)

Rendering:

- Stackless GPU octree traversal (rope tree)

[Gobbetti et al.]

Volume representation	Octree
<b>Rendering</b>	<b>GPU octree traversal</b>
Working set determination	Interleaved occlusion queries



## EARLY 'RAY-GUIDED' OCTREE RAY-CASTING (2)

### Culling: Culling on CPU

- Culling uses global transfer function, iso-value, view frustum
- Only visible nodes of previous rendering pass get refined
- Occlusion queries to check bounding box of node against depth of last sample during raycasting

[Gobbetti et al.]

Volume representation	Octree
Rendering	GPU octree traversal
<b>Working set determination</b>	<b>Interleaved occlusion queries</b>



## RAY-GUIDED OCTREE RAY-CASTING (1)

[Crassin et al., ACM SIGGRAPH i3D, 2009]

Volume representation

Octree

Rendering

GPU octree traversal

Working set determination

Ray-guided



## RAY-GUIDED OCTREE RAY-CASTING (1)

Data structure:  $N^3$  tree + multi-resolution volume

- Subtree stored on GPU in node/brick pool
  - Node: 1 pointer to children, 1 pointer to volume brick
  - Children stored together in node pool

[Crassin et al.]

<b>Volume representation</b>	<b>Octree</b>
Rendering	GPU octree traversal
Working set determination	Ray-guided

## RAY-GUIDED OCTREE RAY-CASTING (2)

### Rendering:

- Stackless GPU octree traversal (Kd-restart)
- 3 mipmap levels for correct filtering
- Missing data substituted by lower-res data

[Crassin et al.]

Volume representation	Octree
<b>Rendering</b>	<b>GPU octree traversal</b>
Working set determination	Ray-guided



## RAY-GUIDED OCTREE RAY-CASTING (2)

### Culling:

- Multiple render targets write out data usage
- Exploits temporal and spatial coherence

[Crassin et al.]

Volume representation	Octree
Rendering	GPU octree traversal
<b>Working set determination</b>	<b>Ray-guided</b>



## RAY-GUIDED MULTI-LEVEL PAGETABLE RAY-CASTING (1)

[Hadwiger et al., IEEE SciVis 2012]

Volume representation

Multi-resolution grid

Rendering

Multi-level virtual texture  
ray-casting

Working set determination

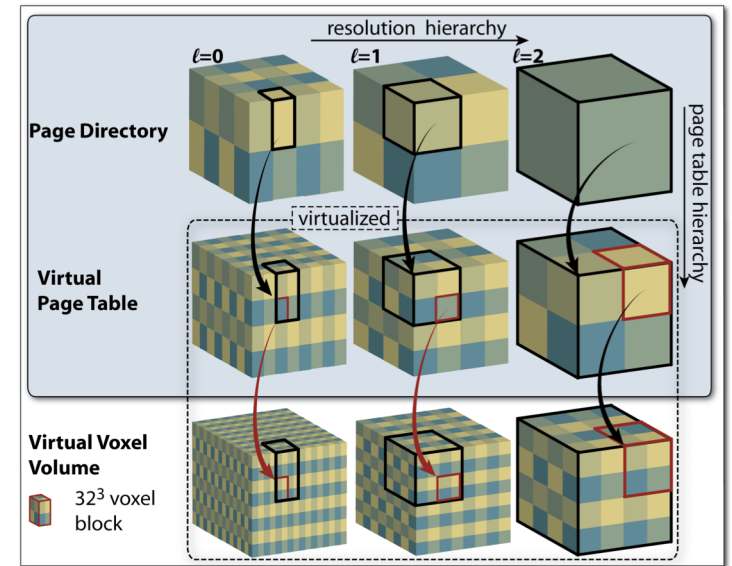
Ray-guided

# RAY-GUIDED MULTI-LEVEL PAGETABLE RAY-CASTING (1)

## Data structure: Multi-res grid

- On-the-fly reconstruction of bricks
- Stored on disk in 2D multi-resolution grid
- Multi-level multi-res. page table on GPU

[Hadwiger et al.]



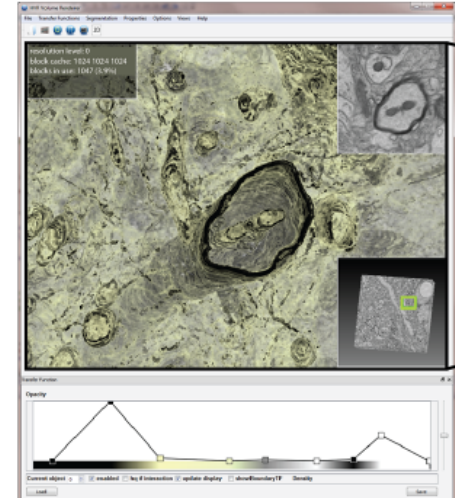
Volume representation	Multi-resolution grid
Rendering	Multi-level virtual texture ray-casting
Working set determination	Ray-guided



## RAY-GUIDED MULTI-LEVEL PAGETABLE RAY-CASTING (2)

### Rendering:

- Multi-level virtual texture ray-casting
- LOD chosen per individual sample
- Data reconstruction triggered by ray-caster



[Hadwiger et al.]

Volume representation	Multi-resolution grid
<b>Rendering</b>	<b>Multi-level virtual texture ray-casting</b>
Working set determination	Ray-guided



## RAY-GUIDED MULTI-LEVEL PAGETABLE RAY-CASTING (2)

### Culling:

- GPU hash table to report missing blocks
  - Exploits temporal and spatial coherence

[Hadwiger et al.]

Volume representation	Multi-resolution grid
Rendering	Multi-level virtual texture ray-casting
<b>Working set determination</b>	<b>Ray-guided</b>



## RAY-GUIDED MULTI-LEVEL PAGETABLE RAY-CASTING - ANALYSIS

[Fogal et al., IEEE LDAV 2013]

Volume representation

Multi-resolution grid

Rendering

(Multi-level) virtual texture  
ray-casting

Working set determination

Ray-guided



## RAY-GUIDED MULTI-LEVEL PAGETABLE RAY-CASTING - ANALYSIS

Implementation differences:

- Lock-free hash table, pagetable lookup only per brick
- Fallback for multi-pass rendering

[Fogal et al.]

Volume representation	Multi-resolution grid
Rendering	(Multi-level) virtual texture ray-casting
Working set determination	Ray-guided



## RAY-GUIDED MULTI-LEVEL PAGETABLE RAY-CASTING - ANALYSIS

### Analysis:

- Many detailed performance numbers (see paper)
- Working set size: typically lower than GPU memory
- Brick size: larger on disk ( $\geq 64^3$ ), smaller for rendering ( $16^3, 32^3$ )

[Fogal et al.]

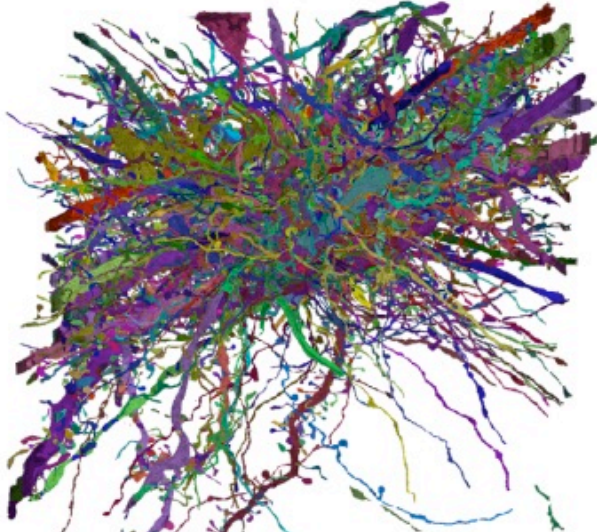
Volume representation	Multi-resolution grid
Rendering	(Multi-level) virtual texture ray-casting
Working set determination	Ray-guided



# Scalable Empty-Space Skipping

## MOTIVATION

Large volumes, finely detailed structures, many segmented objects



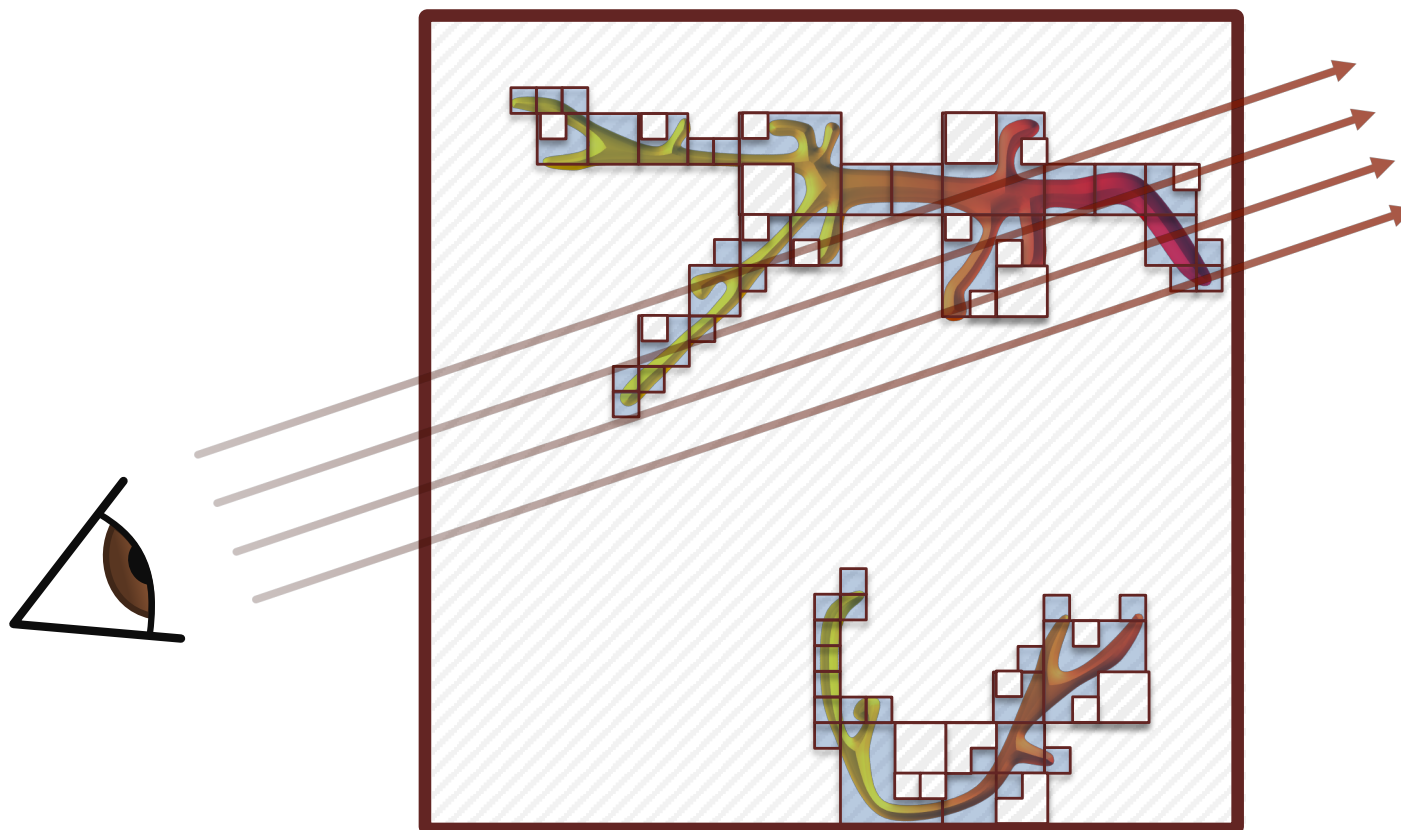
connectomics electron microscopy volume

21,000 x 25,000 x 2,000

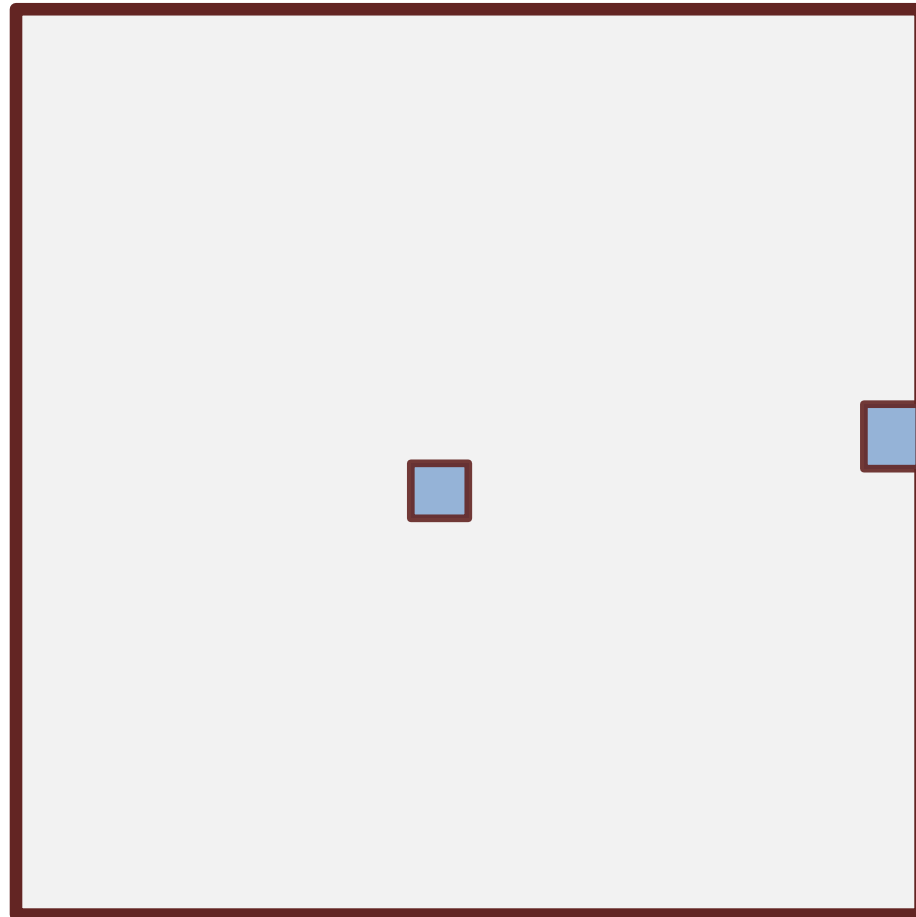
> 1 teravoxels

> 4,000 objects

## MOTIVATION

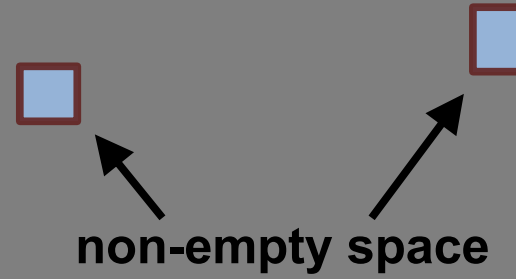






no skipping

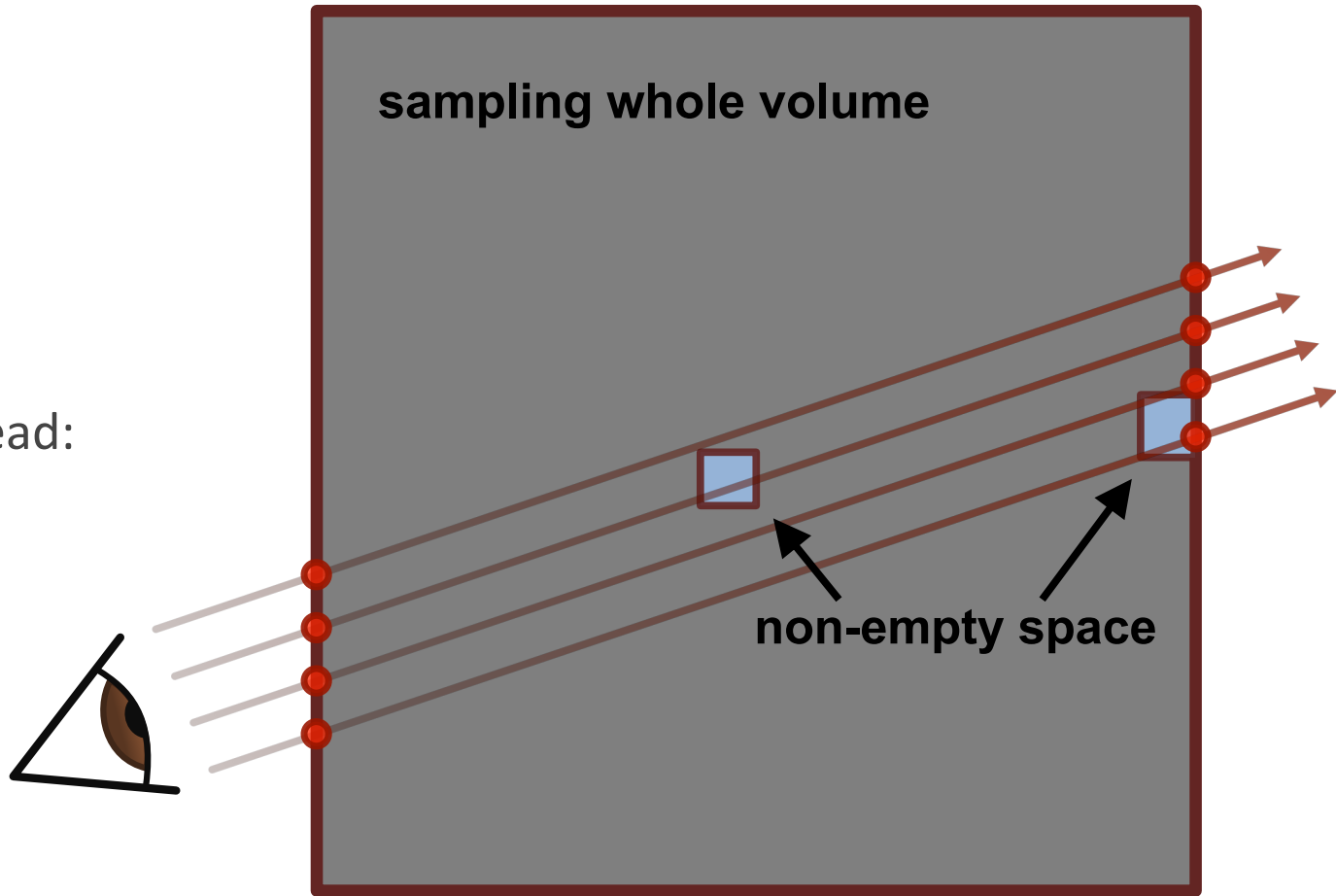
sampling whole volume



no skipping

look-up overhead:  
none

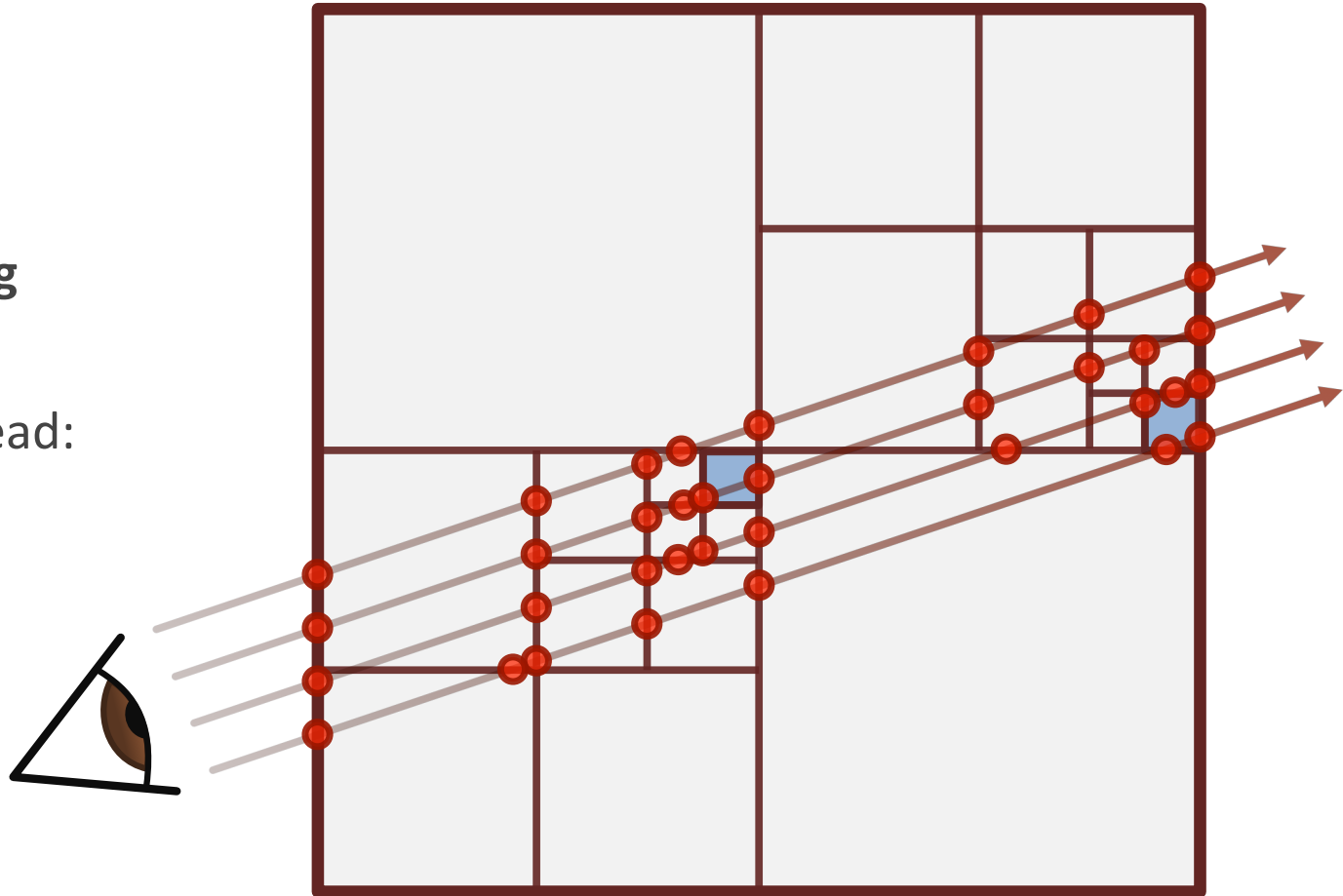
● look-ups



octree skipping

look-up overhead:  
high

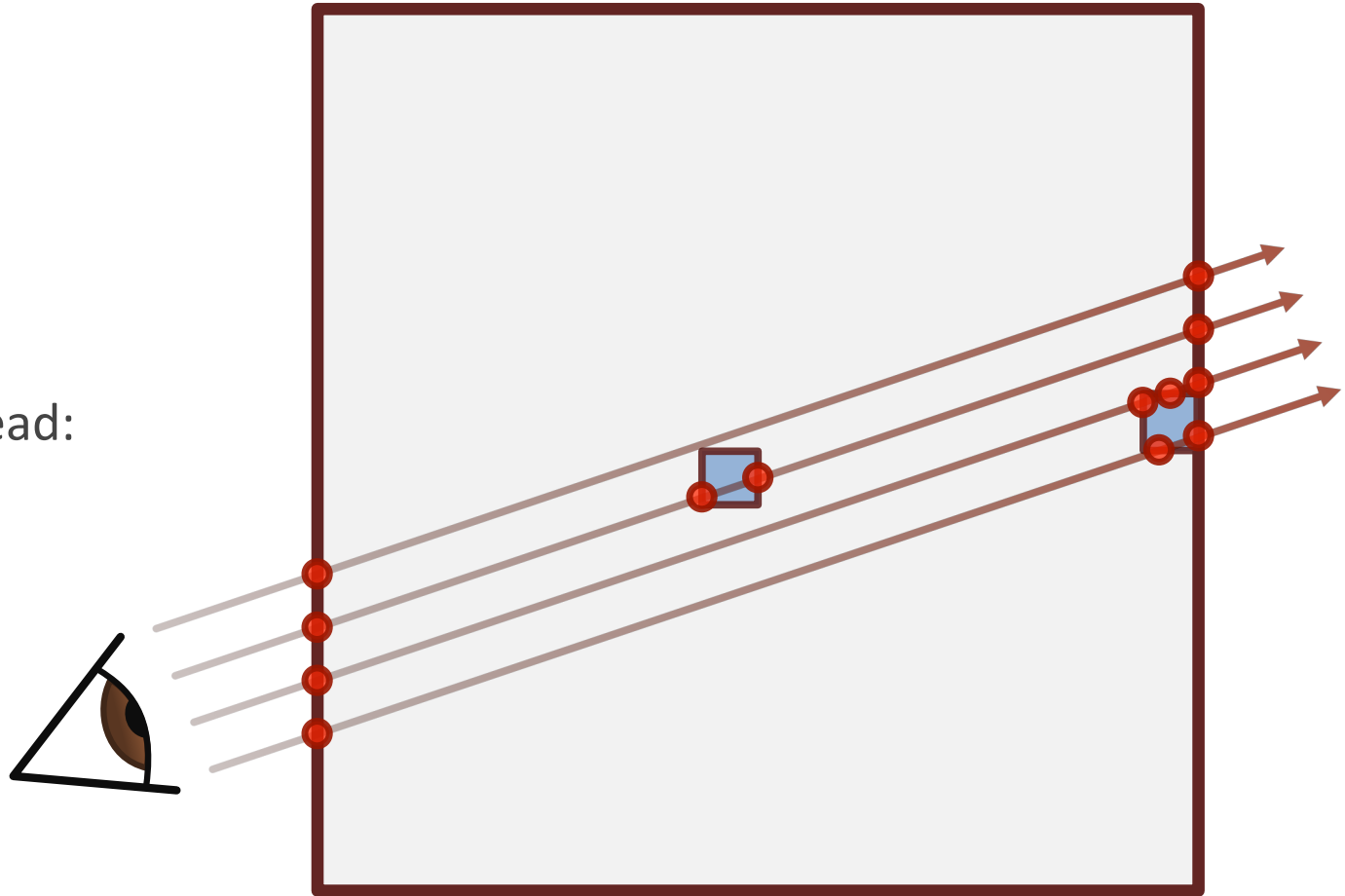
● look-ups

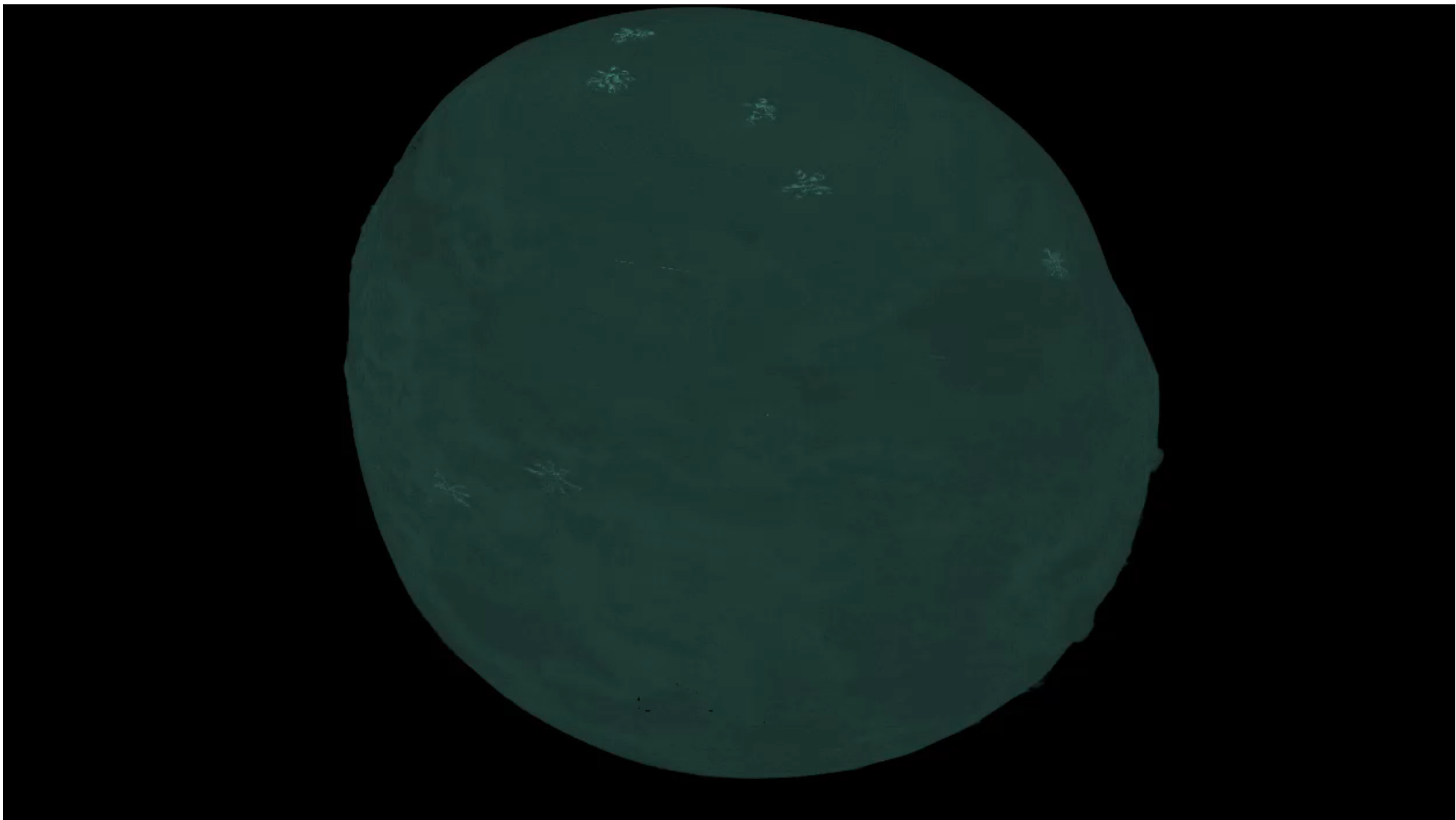


## SparseLeap

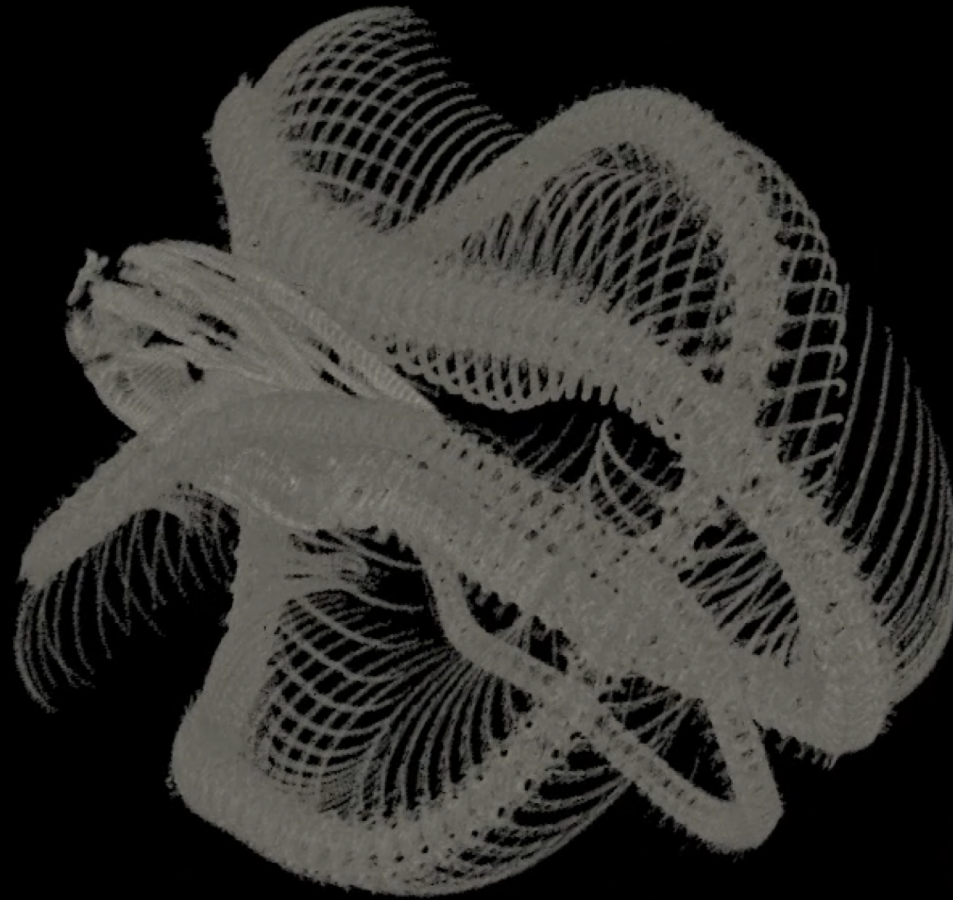
look-up overhead:  
small

● look-ups



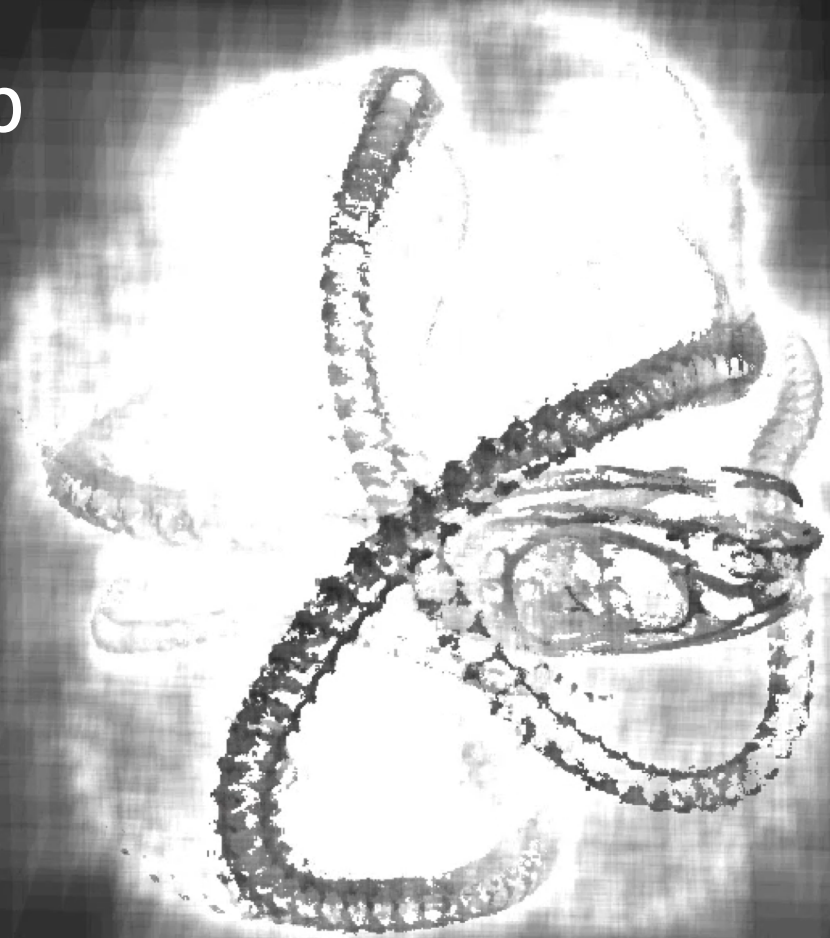


# Octree



depth complexity: # look-ups for space skipping

SparseLeap



depth complexity: # look-ups for space skipping





## SPARSELEAP PIPELINE

Track volume occupancy

- Occupancy histogram tree

Extract nested occupancy

- Occupancy geometry

Rasterize occupancy

- Ray segment lists

Empty space skipping: Linear list traversal

## SPARSELEAP PIPELINE

### Track volume occupancy

- Occupancy histogram tree

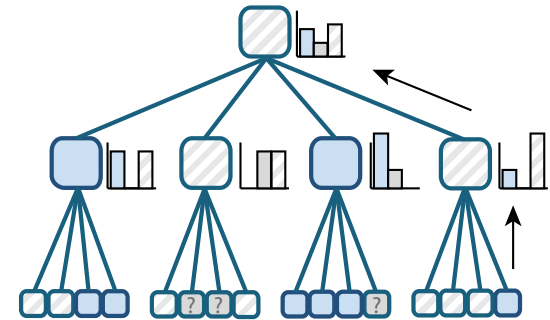
### Extract nested occupancy

- Occupancy geometry

### Rasterize occupancy

- Ray segment lists

### Empty space skipping: Linear list traversal





## SPARSELEAP PIPELINE

Track volume occupancy

- Occupancy histogram tree

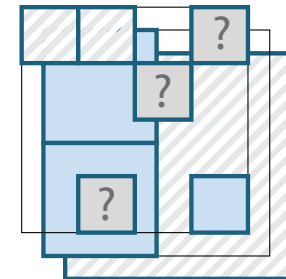
**Extract nested occupancy**

- **Occupancy geometry**

Rasterize occupancy

- Ray segment lists

Empty space skipping: Linear list traversal



## SPARSELEAP PIPELINE

Track volume occupancy

- Occupancy histogram tree

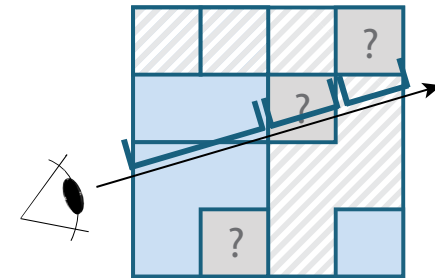
Extract nested occupancy

- Occupancy geometry

**Rasterize occupancy**

- **Ray segment lists**

Empty space skipping: Linear list traversal





## SPARSELEAP PIPELINE

Track volume occupancy

- Occupancy histogram tree

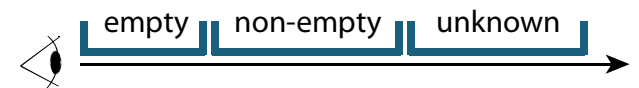
Extract nested occupancy

- Occupancy geometry

Rasterize occupancy




- Ray segment lists

**Empty space skipping: Linear list traversal**

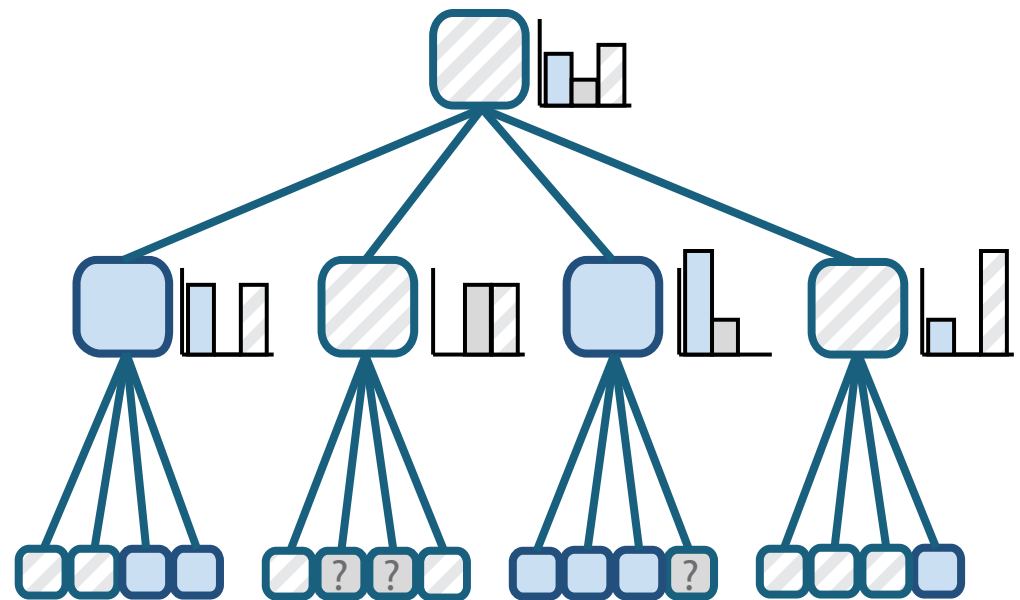


## OCCUPANCY HISTOGRAM TREE

Occupancy classes




-  non-empty
-  empty
-  unknown

Node count in each class over whole subtree

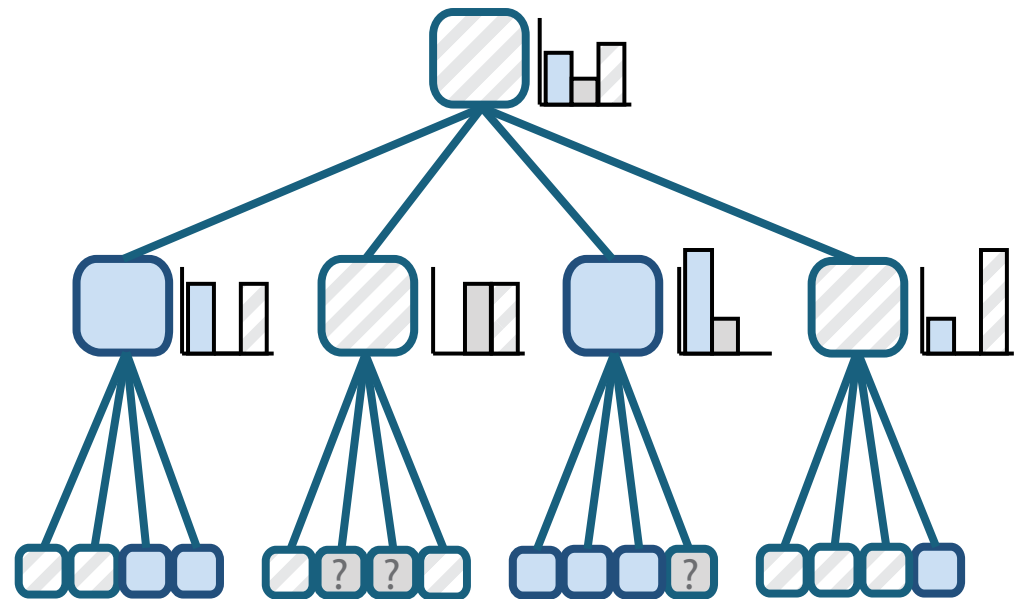


## OCCUPANCY HISTOGRAM TREE

Occupancy classes

-  non-empty
-  empty
-  unknown \*




Node count in each class over whole subtree



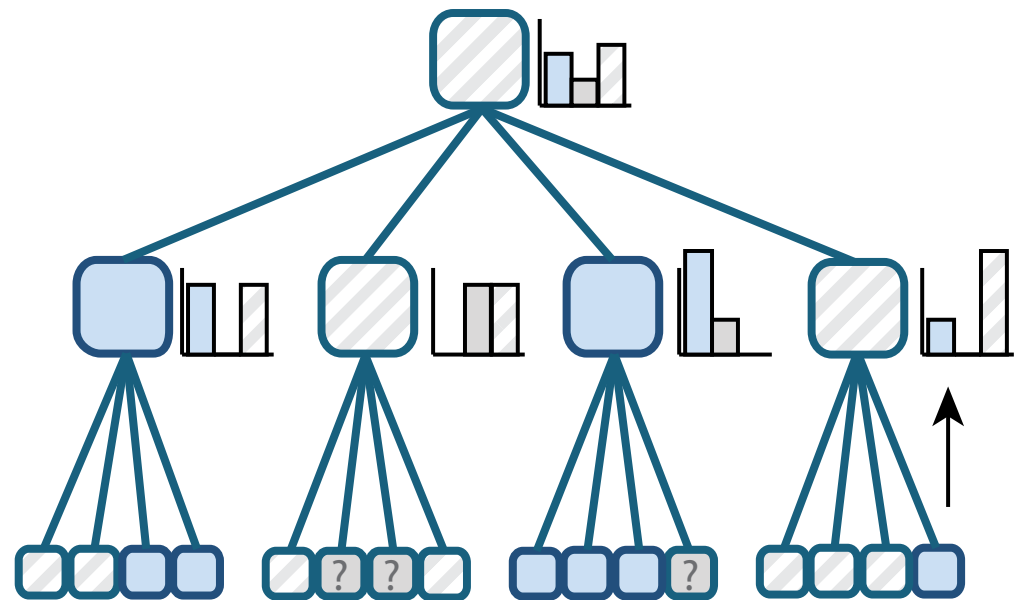
\* enables deferred culling

# OCCUPANCY HISTOGRAM TREE

Occupancy classes

-  non-empty
-  empty
-  unknown \*

Node count in each class over whole subtree






\* enables deferred culling

build bottom-up

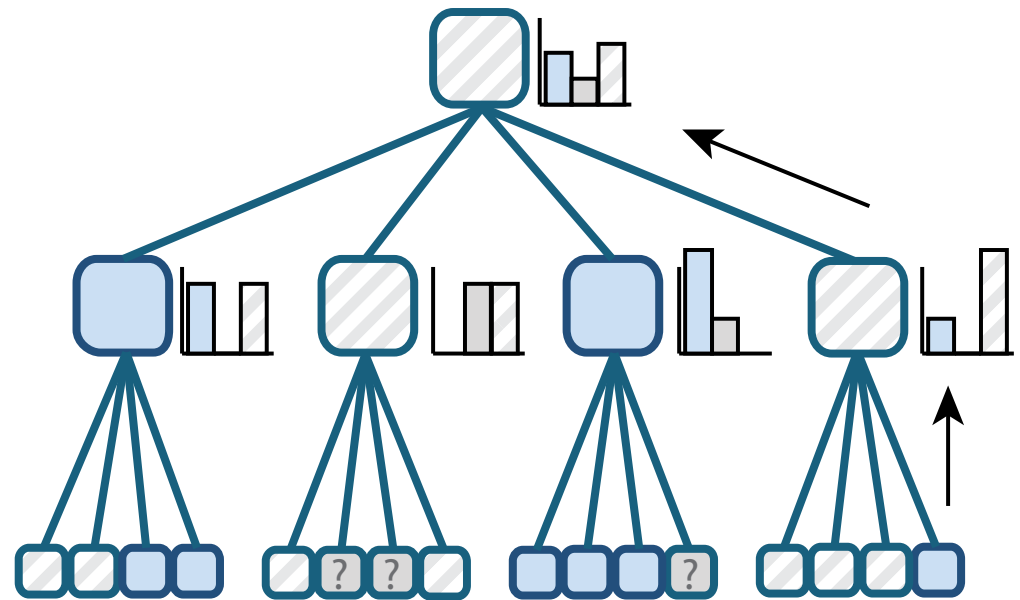


# OCCUPANCY HISTOGRAM TREE

Occupancy classes

-  non-empty
-  empty
-  unknown \*

Node count in each class over whole subtree

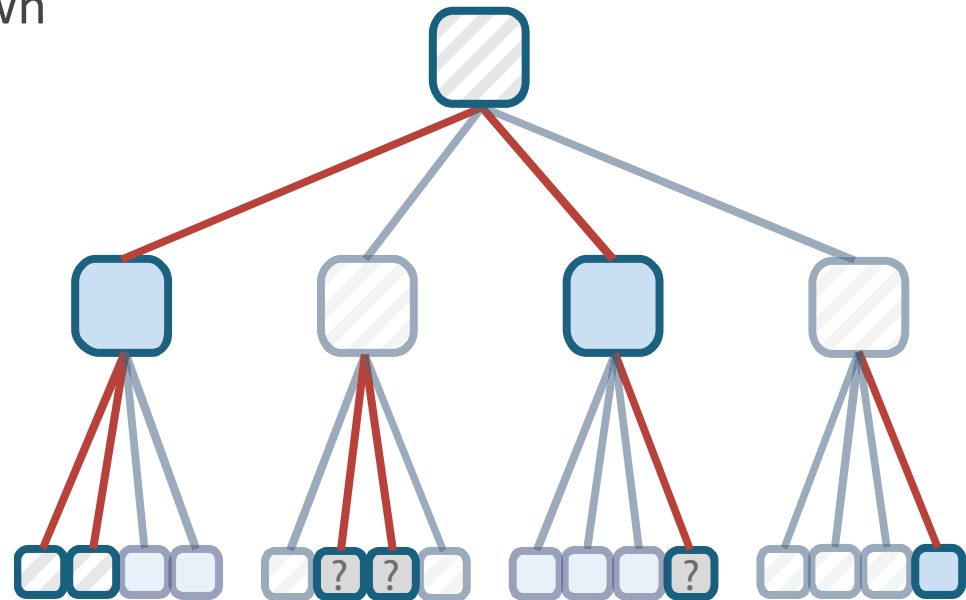


\* enables deferred culling

build bottom-up

## OCCUPANCY GEOMETRY

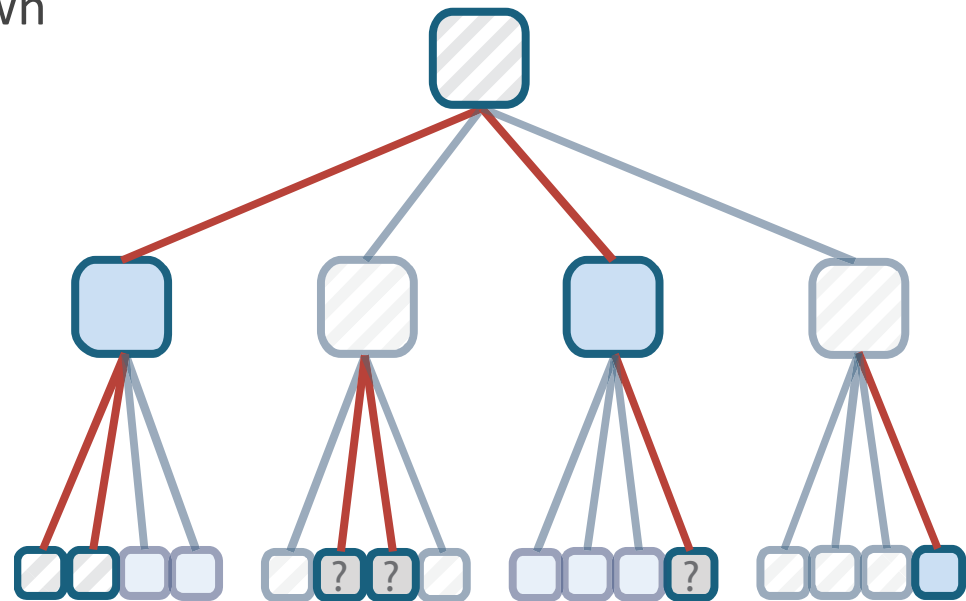
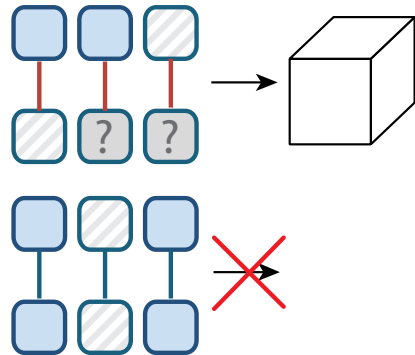
Traverse histogram tree top-down  
Pick majority class in each node



# OCCUPANCY GEOMETRY

Traverse histogram tree top-down  
Pick majority class in each node

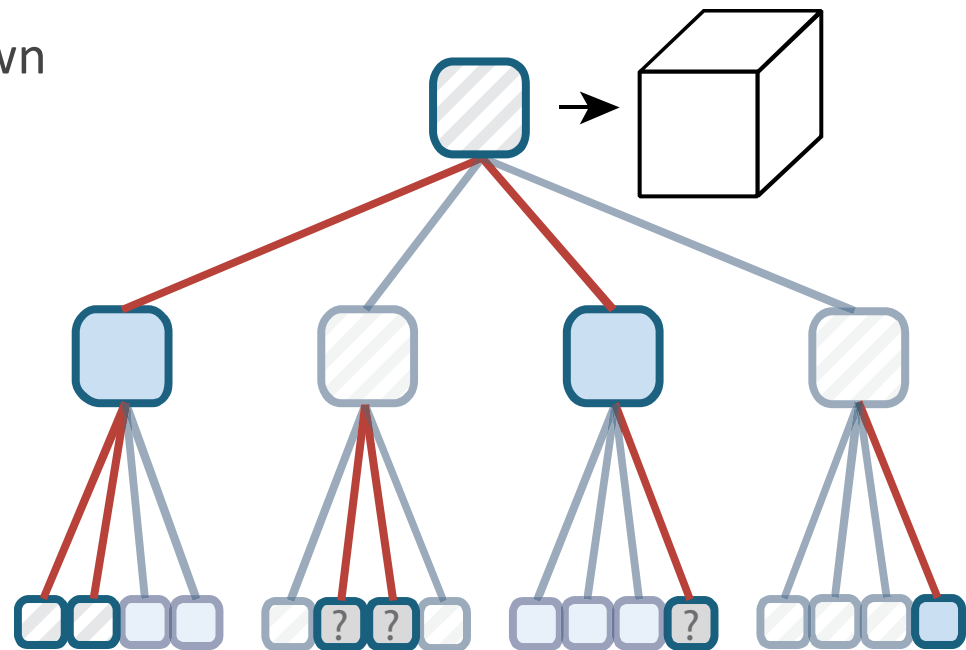
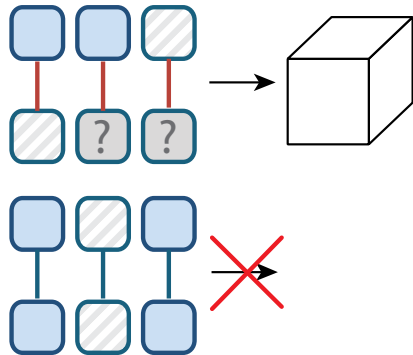
Emit box on class change



# OCCUPANCY GEOMETRY

Traverse histogram tree top-down  
Pick majority class in each node

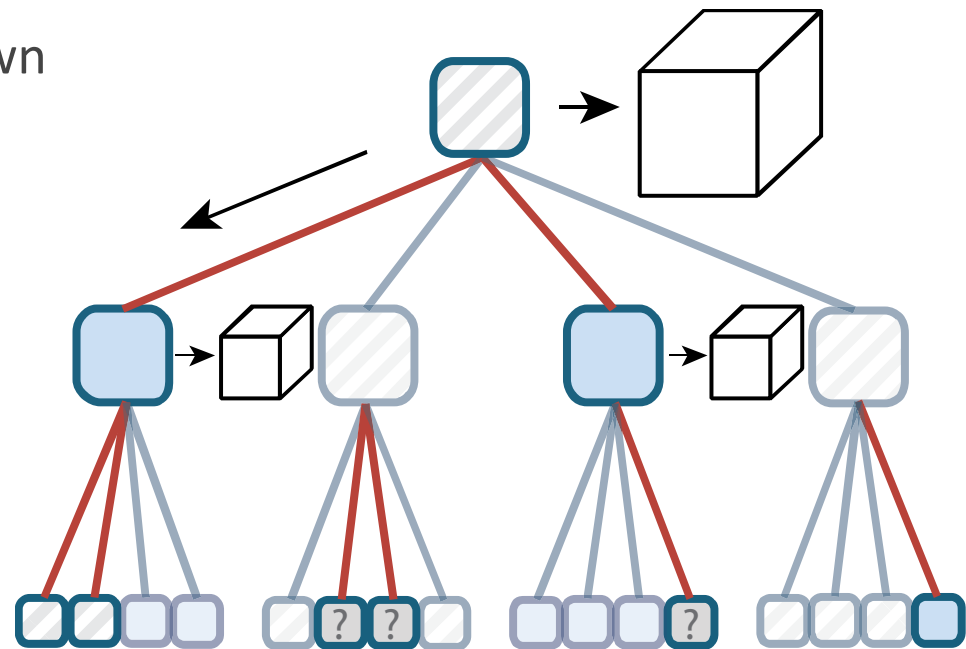
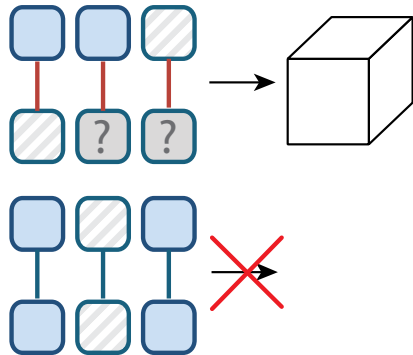
Emit box on class change



# OCCUPANCY GEOMETRY

Traverse histogram tree top-down  
 Pick majority class in each node

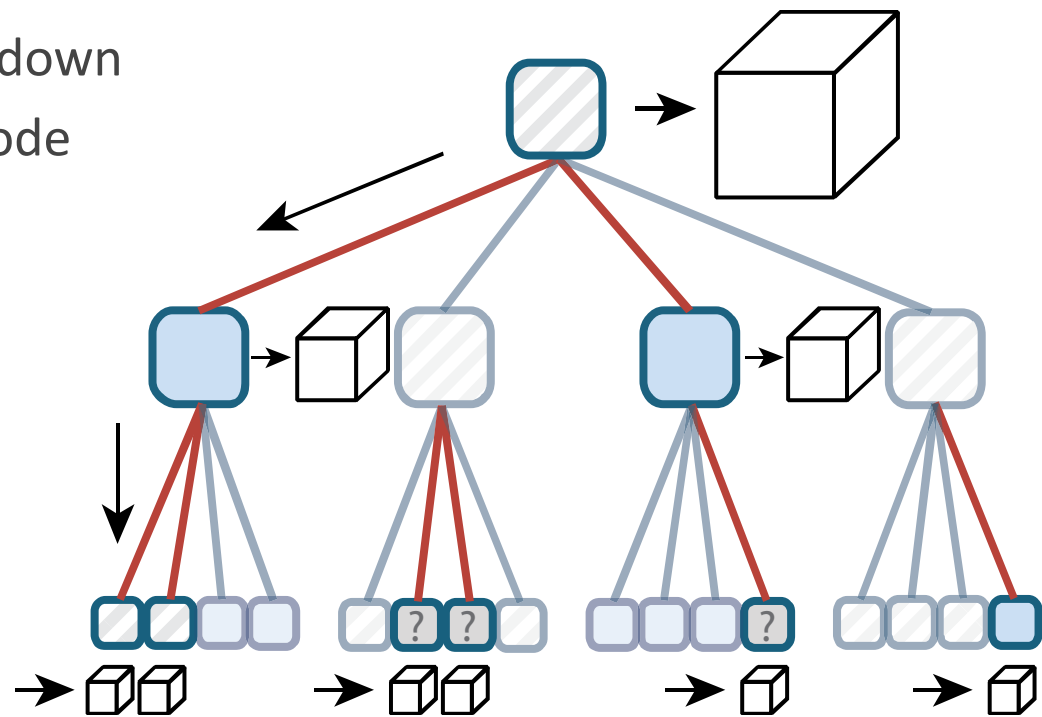
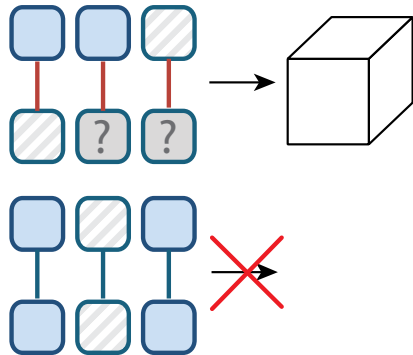
Emit box on class change



# OCCUPANCY GEOMETRY

Traverse histogram tree top-down  
Pick majority class in each node

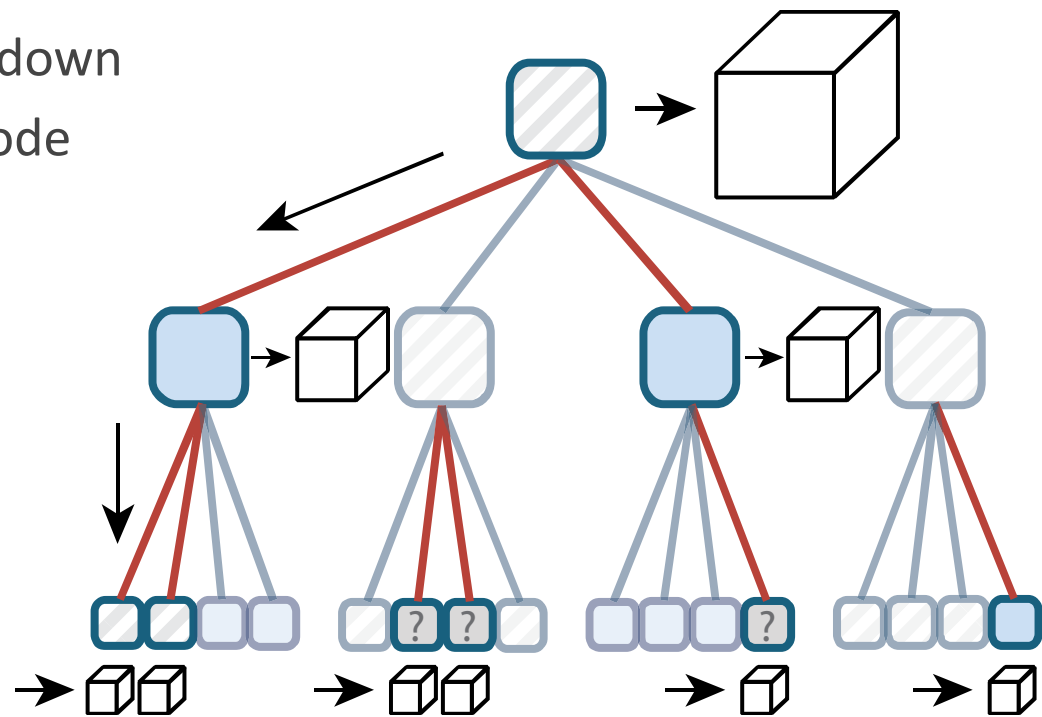
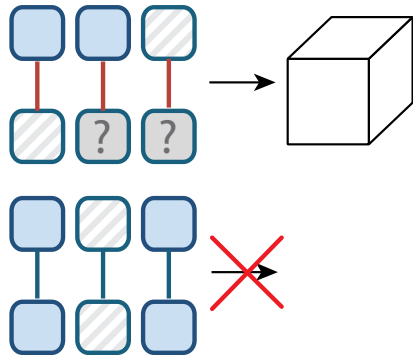
Emit box on class change



# OCCUPANCY GEOMETRY

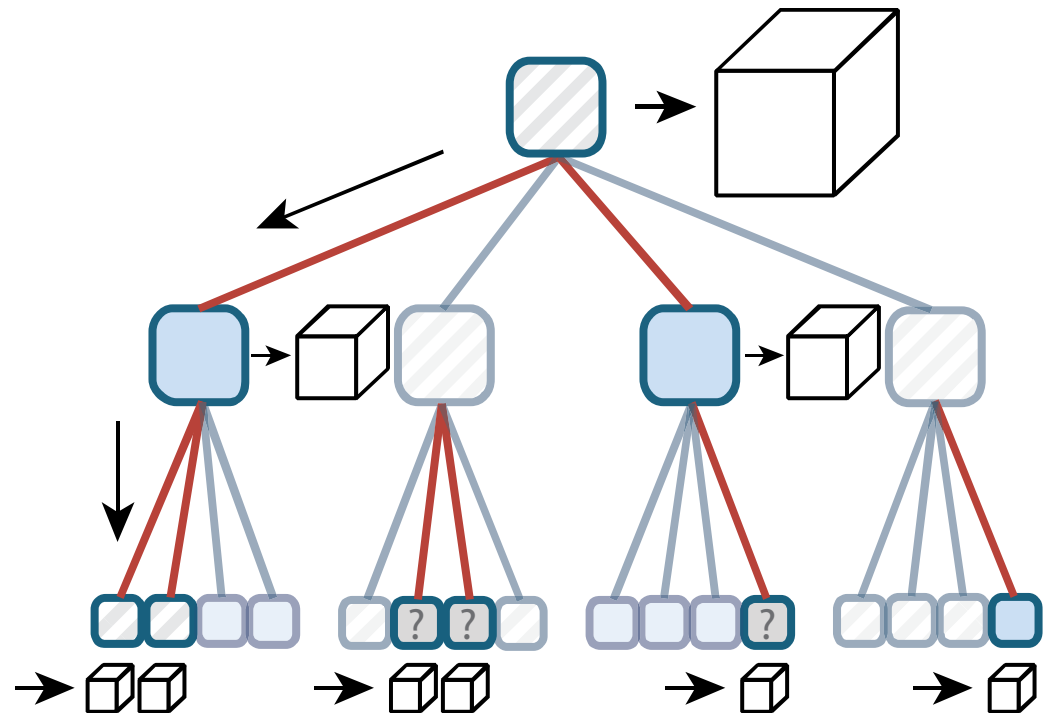
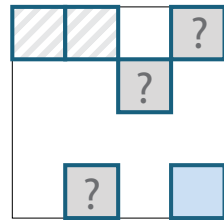
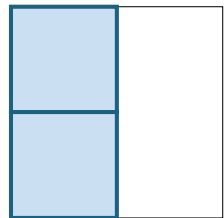
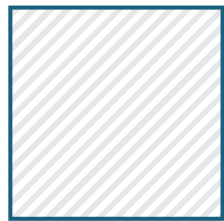
Traverse histogram tree top-down  
Pick majority class in each node

Emit box on class change



# OCCUPANCY GEOMETRY

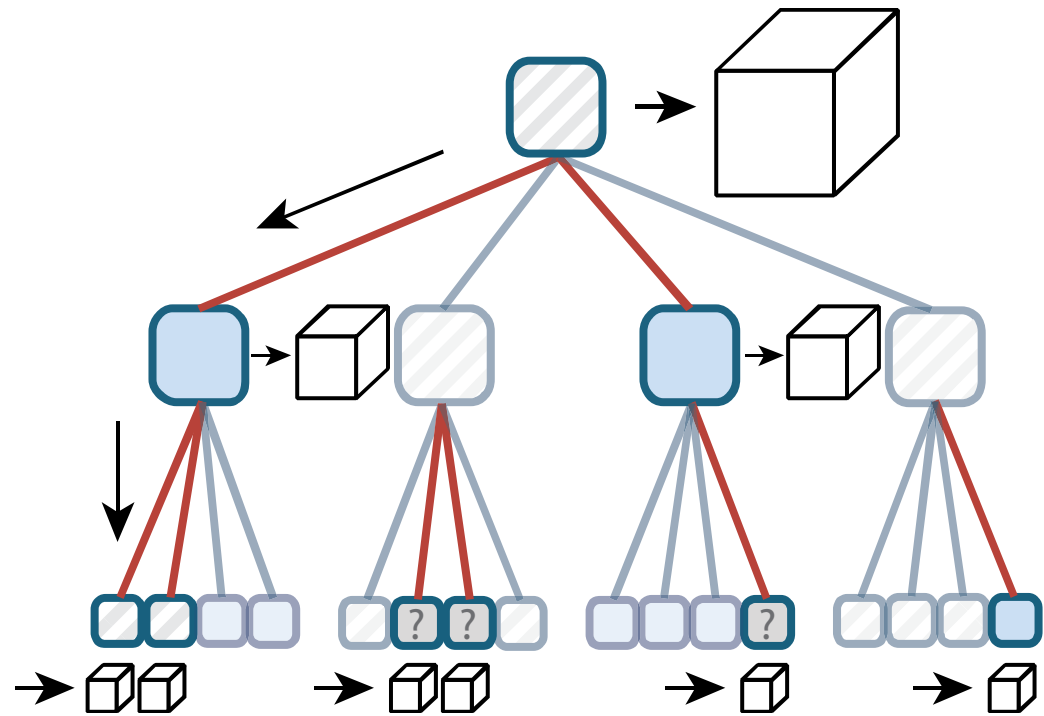
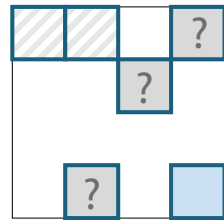
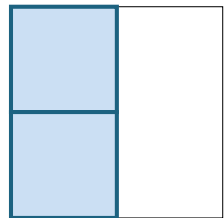
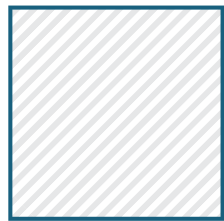
extracted  
geometry



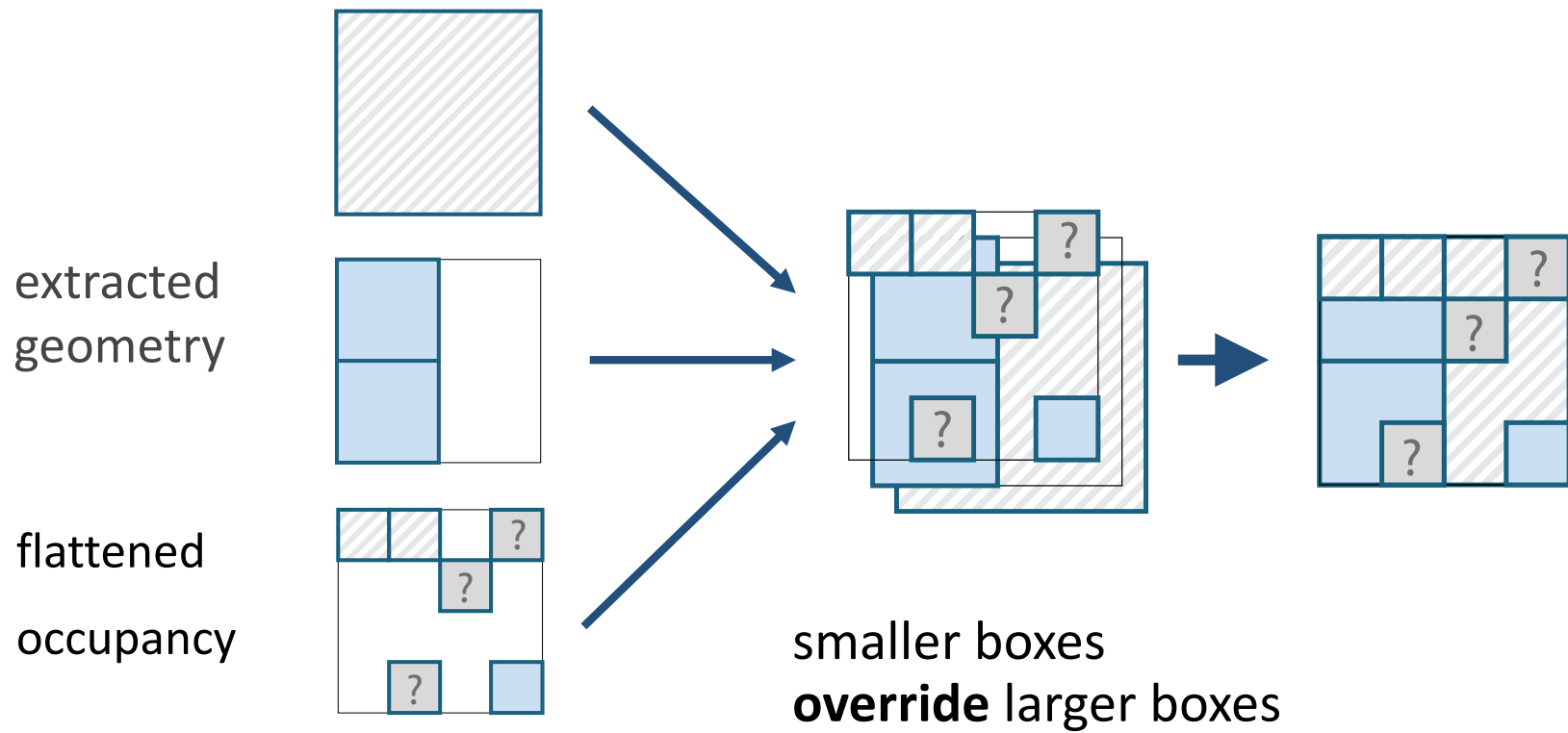


# OCCUPANCY GEOMETRY

extracted  
geometry



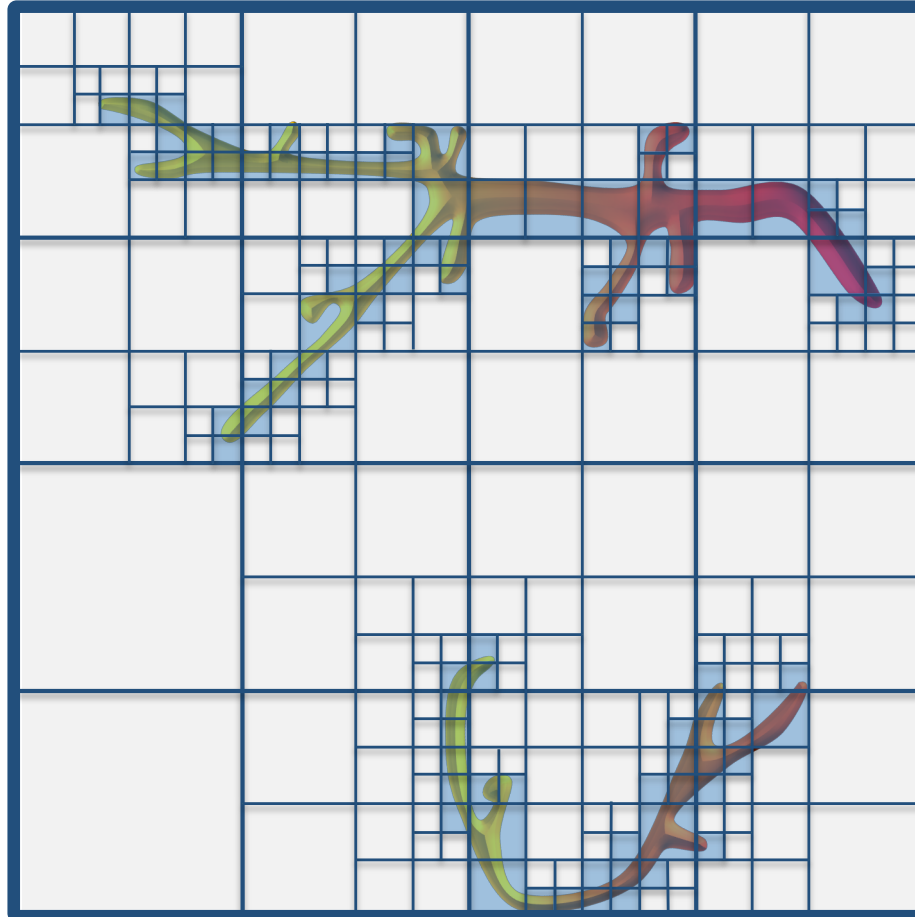
## OCCUPANCY GEOMETRY





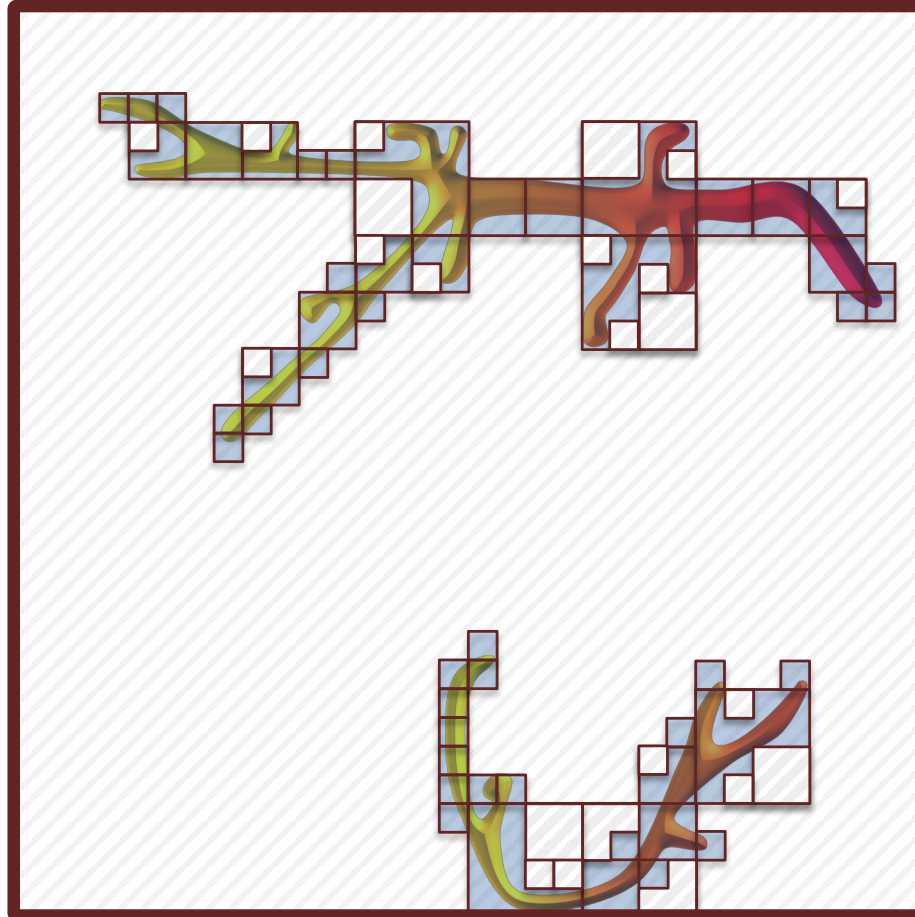
## COMPARISON

octree  
subdivision



## COMPARISON

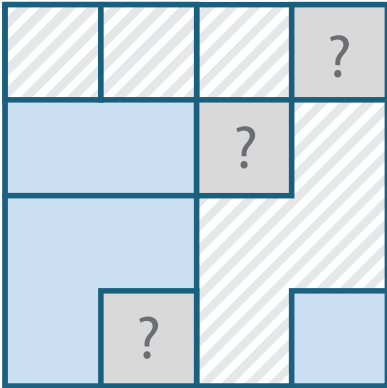
occupancy  
geometry





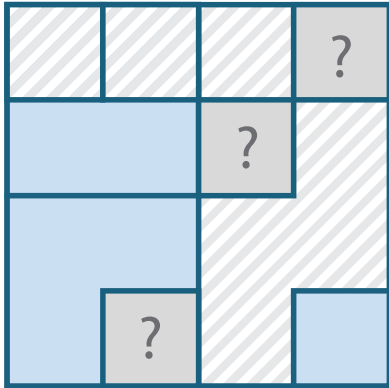
## RASTERIZATION: OVERVIEW

occupancy geometry

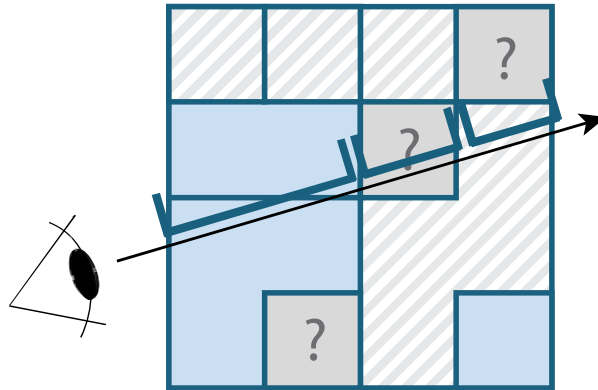


## RASTERIZATION: OVERVIEW

occupancy geometry



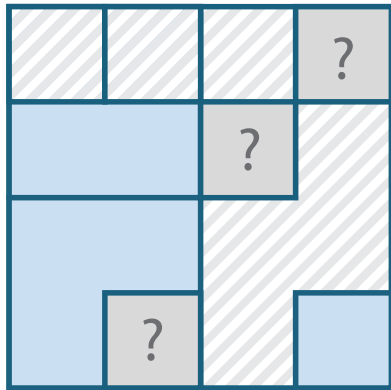
rasterize front-to-back



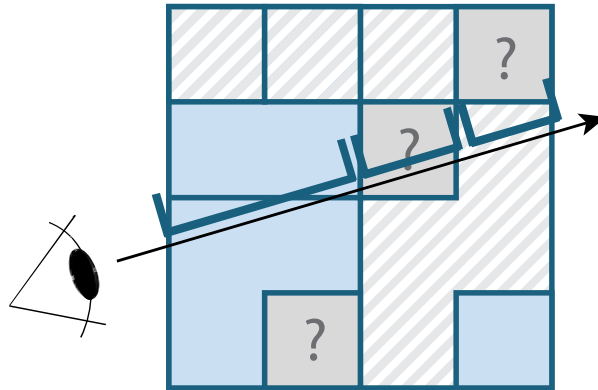
merge consecutive segments  
of same occupancy class

# RASTERIZATION: OVERVIEW

occupancy geometry

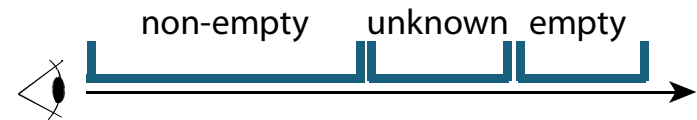
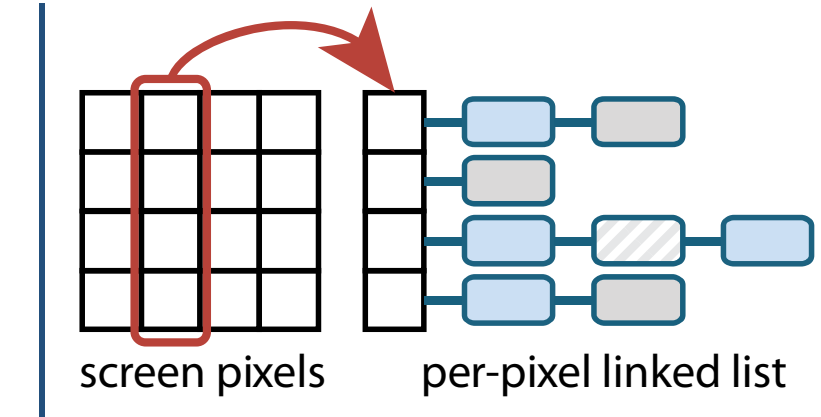


rasterize front-to-back



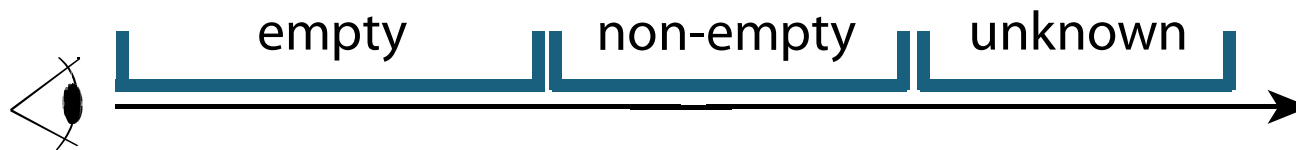
merge consecutive segments of same occupancy class

ray segment lists



## RAY-CASTING

### Linear traversal of ray segment list

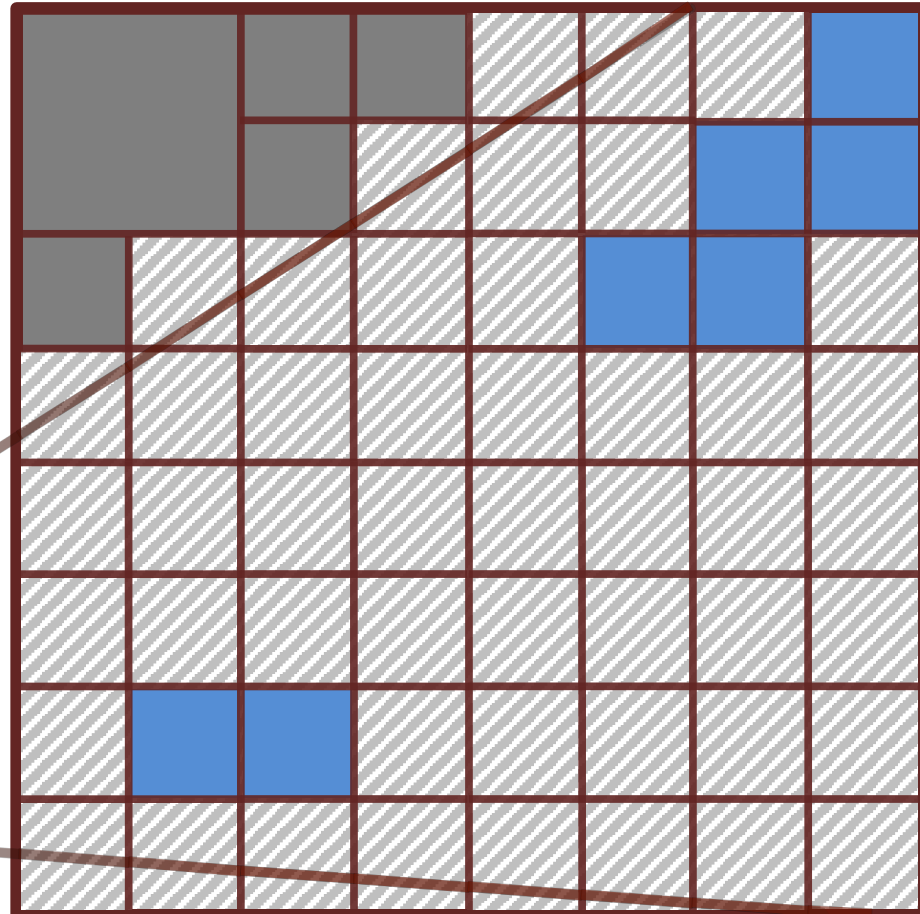
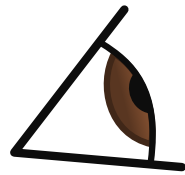
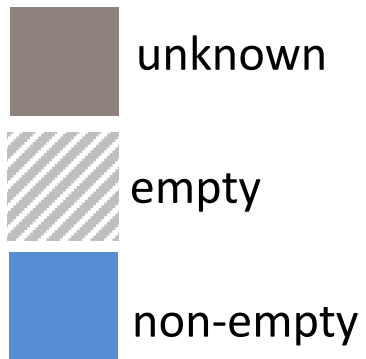


**Deferred culling** for large volumes:  
Occupancy class *unknown*

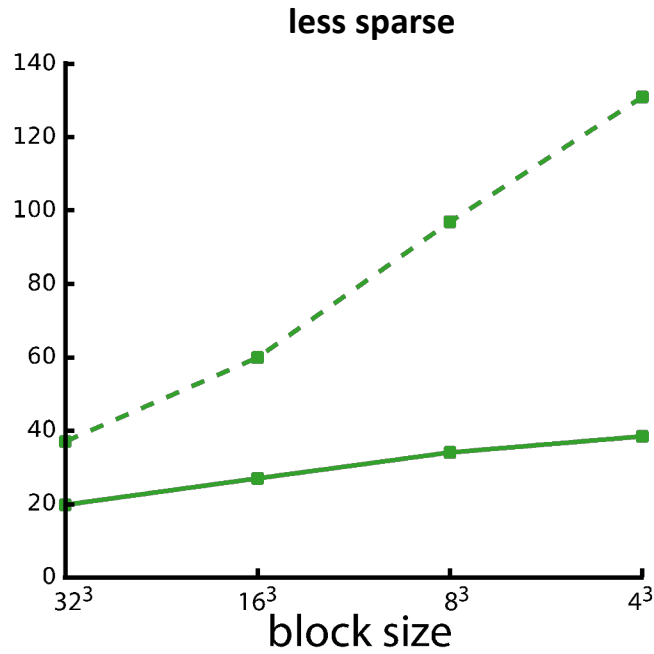
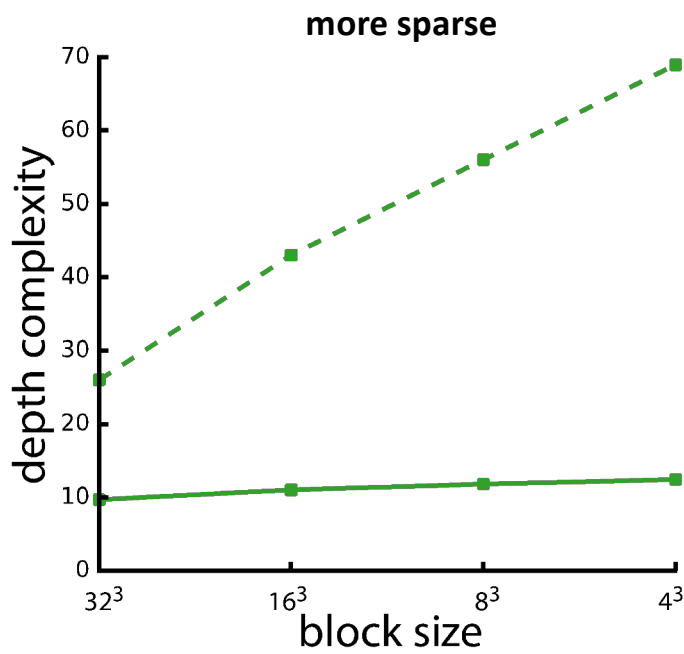


## DEFERRED CULLING

The occupancy class  
**unknown** causes  
**occupancy miss**

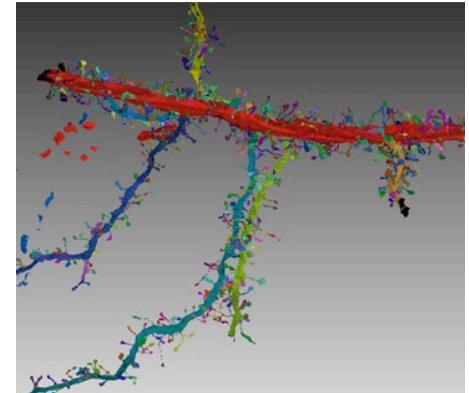


# RESULTS: DEPTH COMPLEXITY

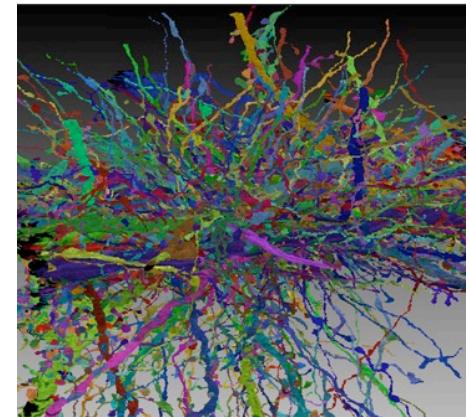


—●— Octree avg  
- - -■- Octree max

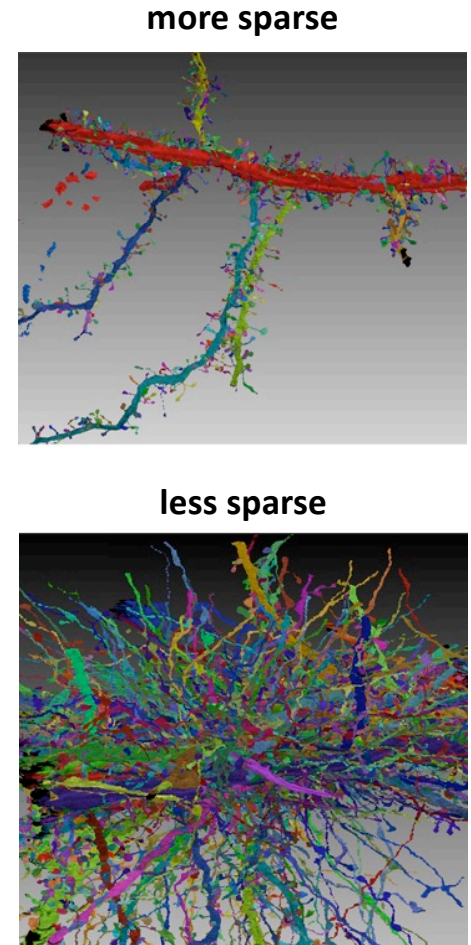
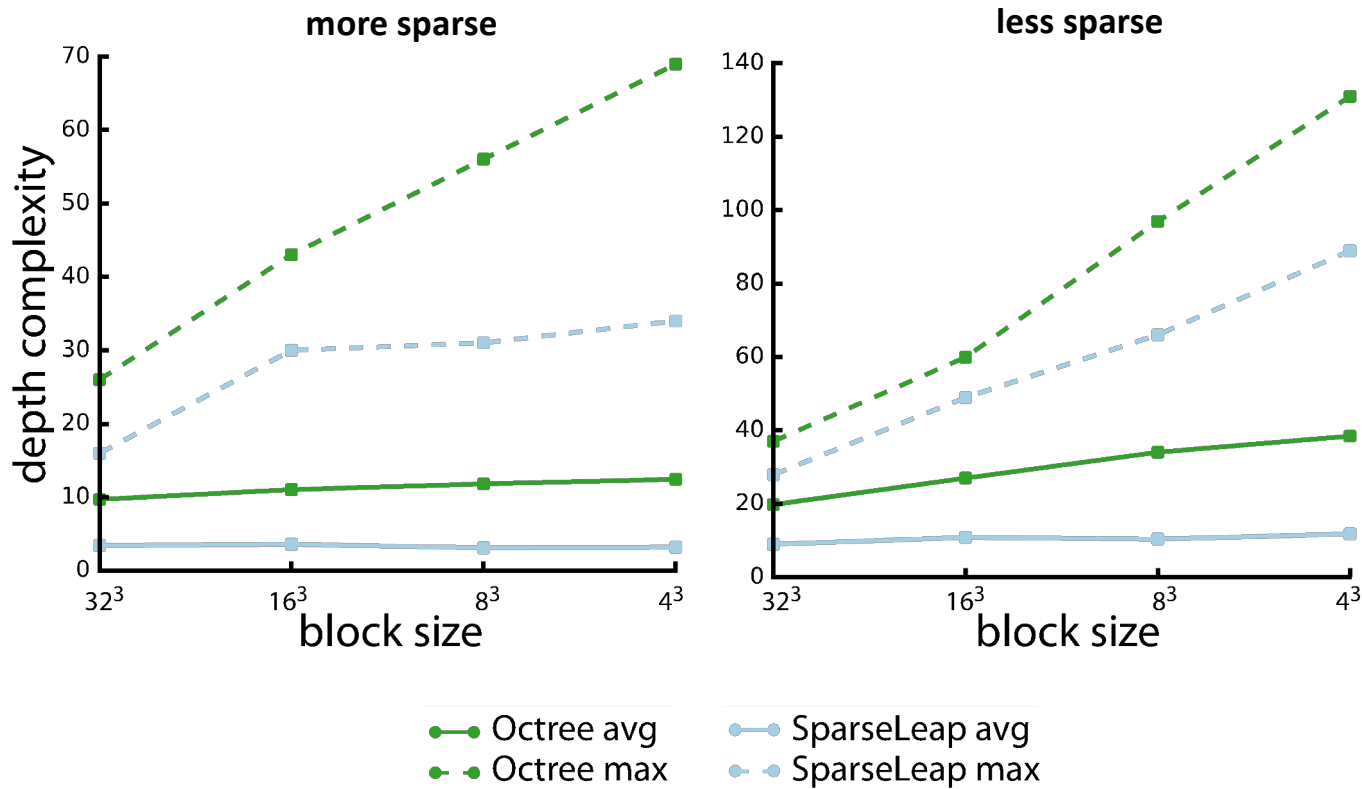
**more sparse**



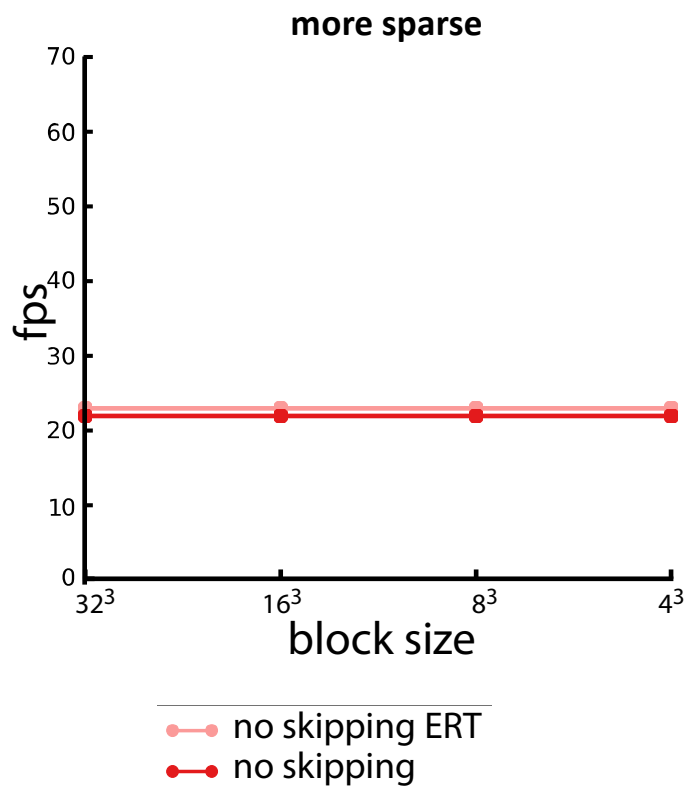
**less sparse**



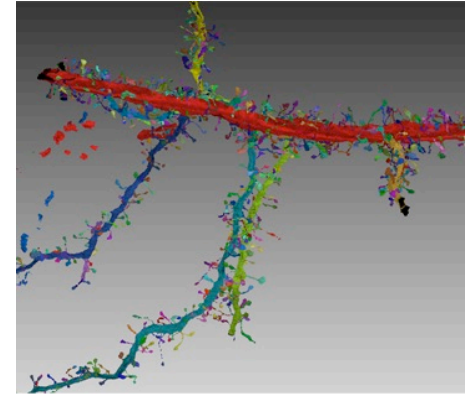
# RESULTS: DEPTH COMPLEXITY



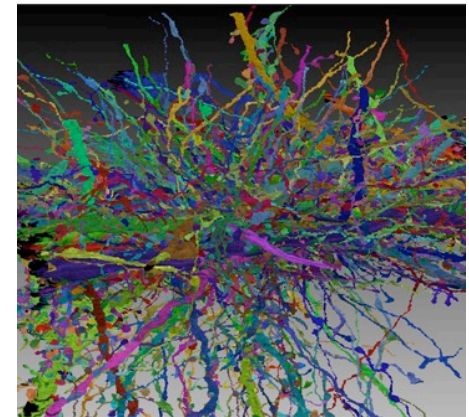
## RESULTS: PERFORMANCE



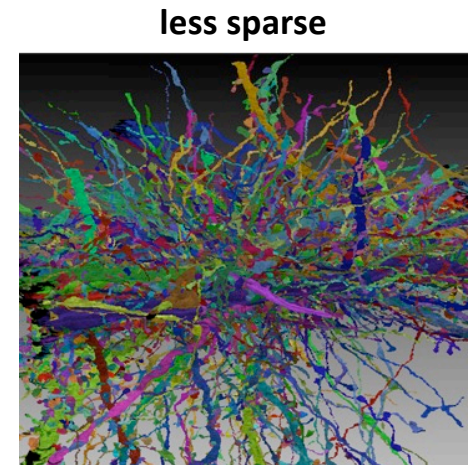
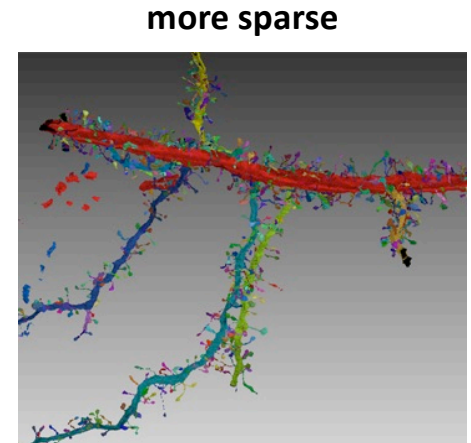
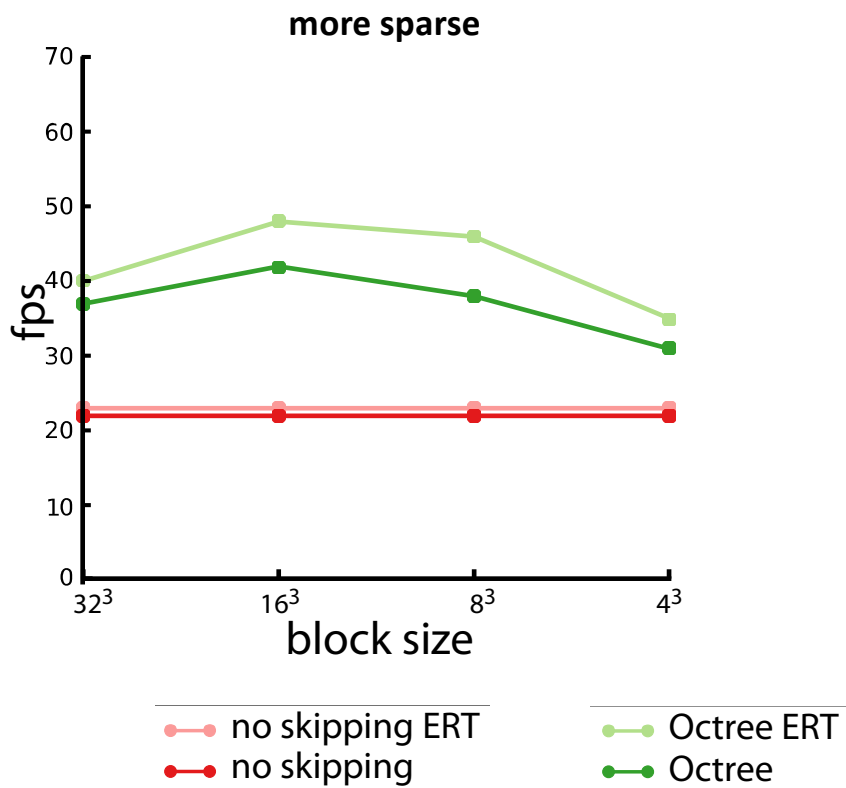
more sparse



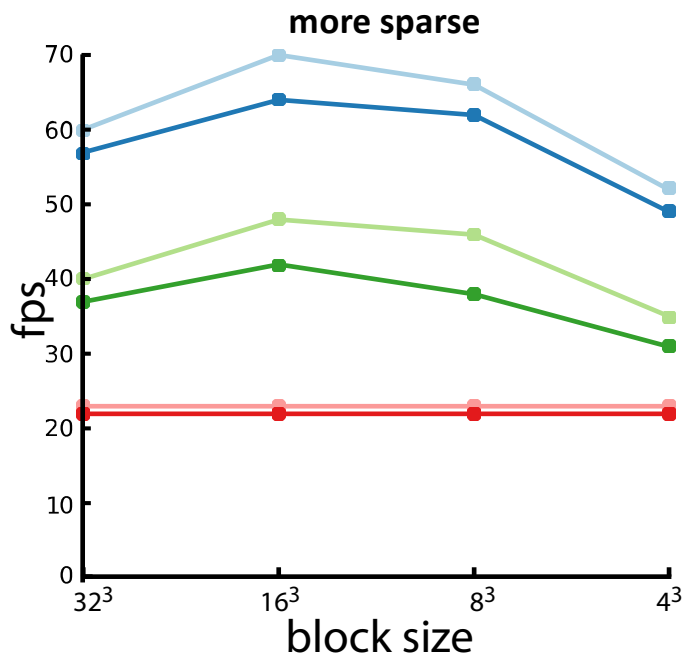
less sparse



# RESULTS: PERFORMANCE



# RESULTS: PERFORMANCE

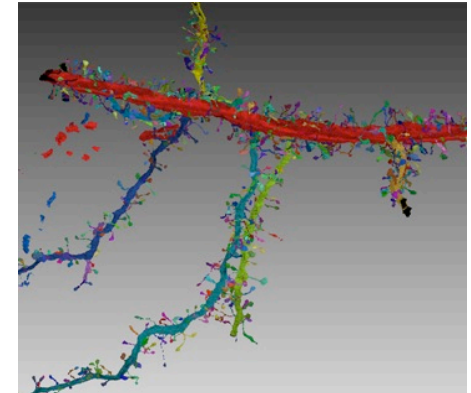


no skipping ERT  
no skipping

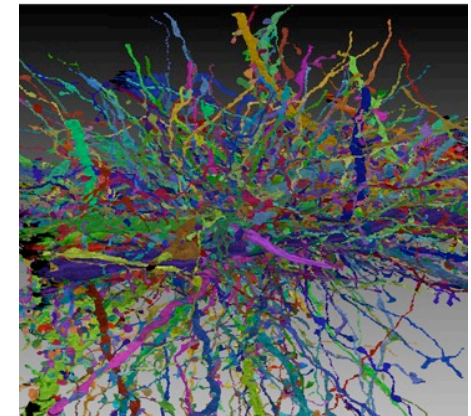
Octree ERT  
Octree

SparseLeap ERT  
SparseLeap

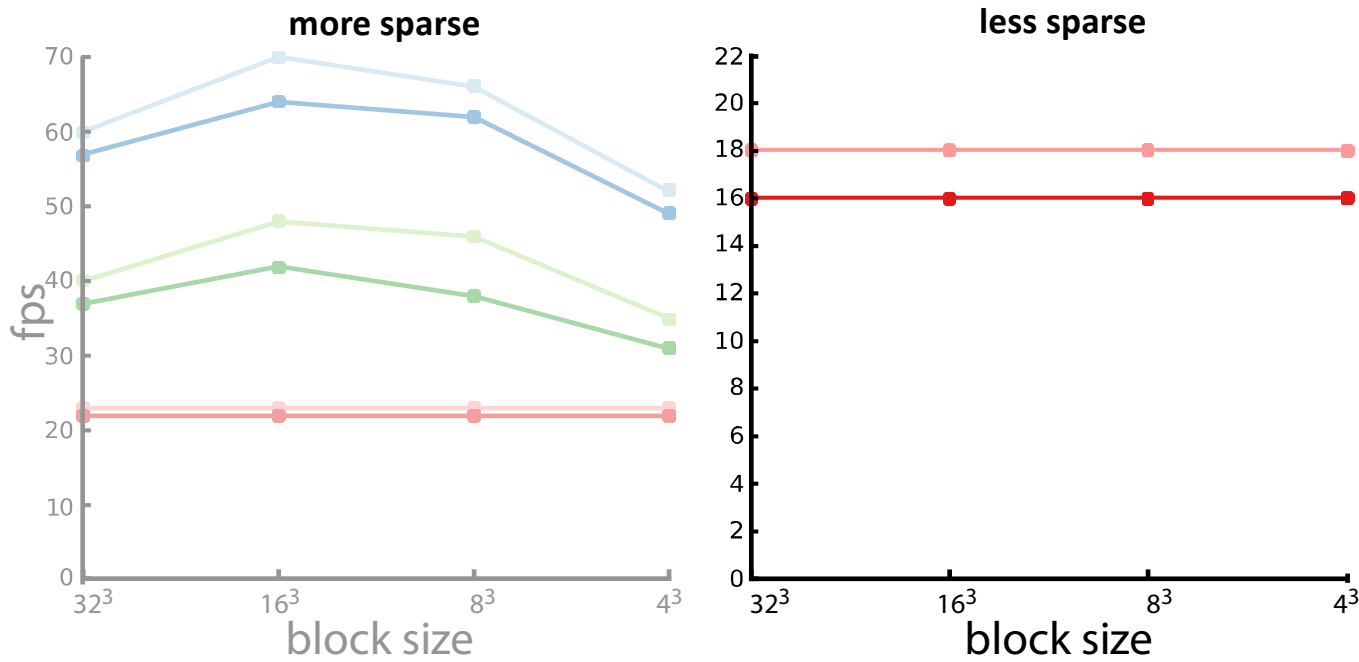
more sparse



less sparse



# RESULTS: PERFORMANCE

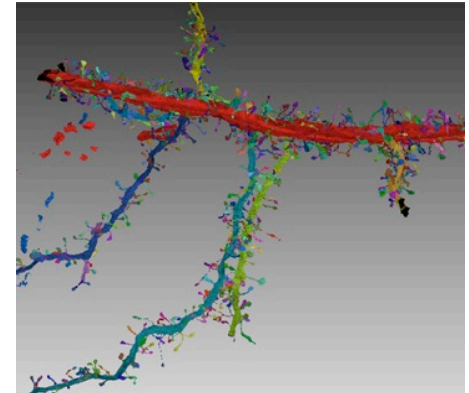


no skipping ERT  
no skipping

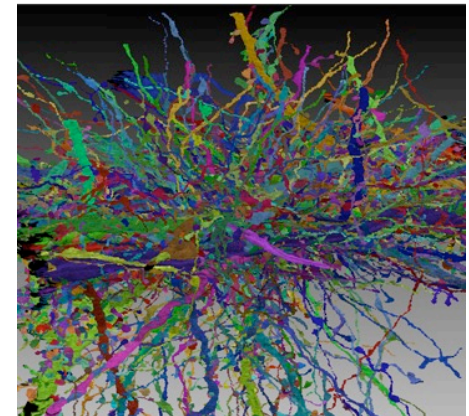
Octree ERT  
Octree

SparseLeap ERT  
SparseLeap

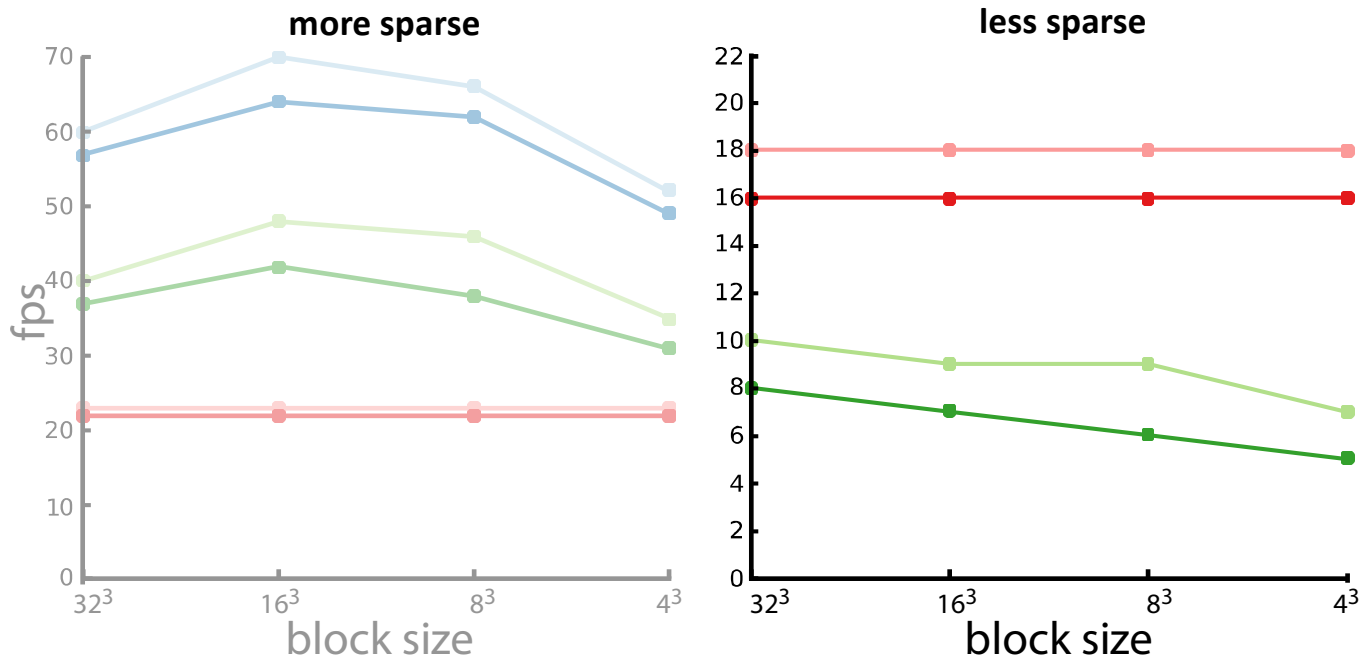
more sparse



less sparse



# RESULTS: PERFORMANCE

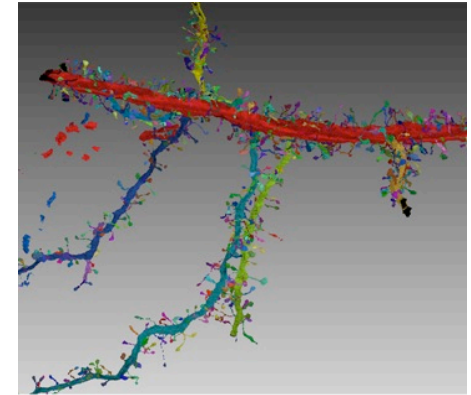


no skipping ERT  
no skipping

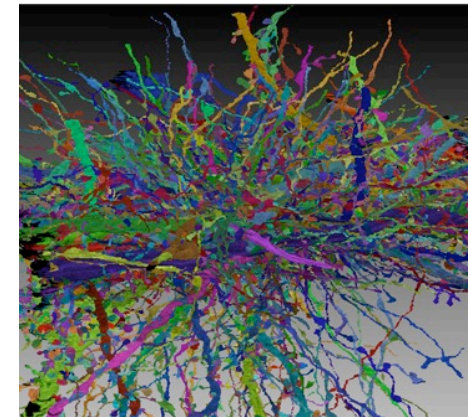
Octree ERT  
Octree

SparseLeap ERT  
SparseLeap

more sparse

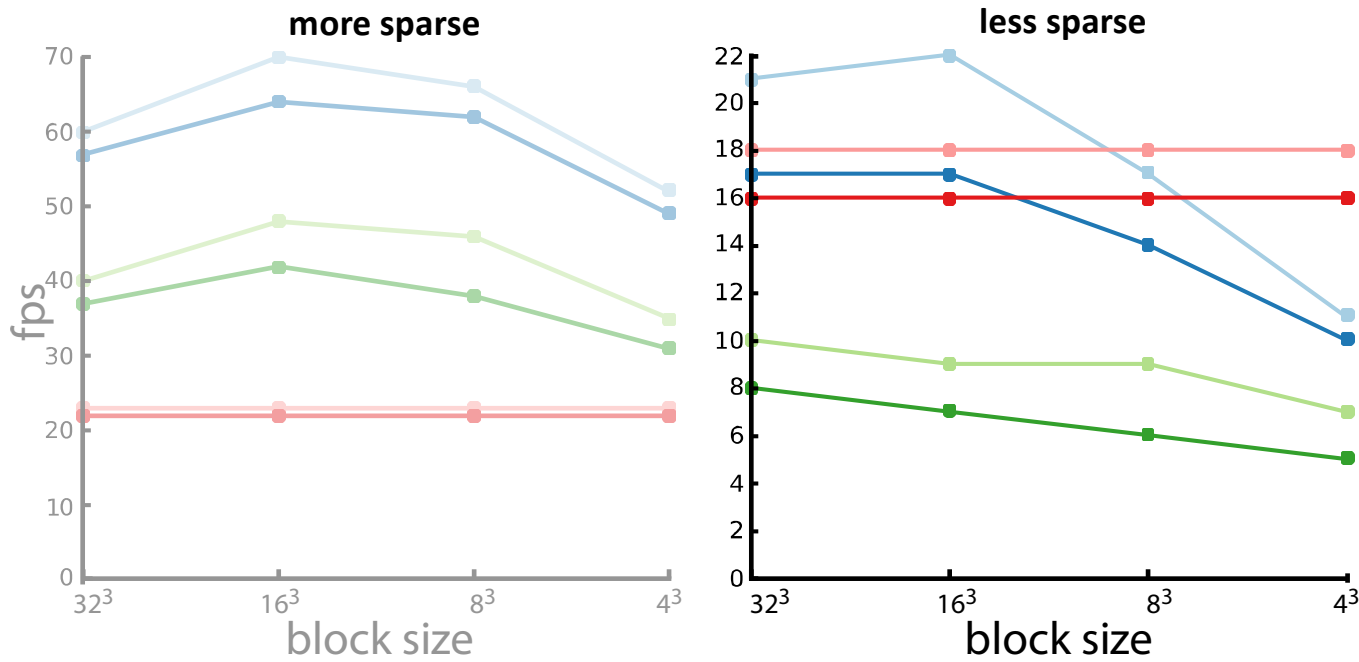


less sparse





# RESULTS: PERFORMANCE

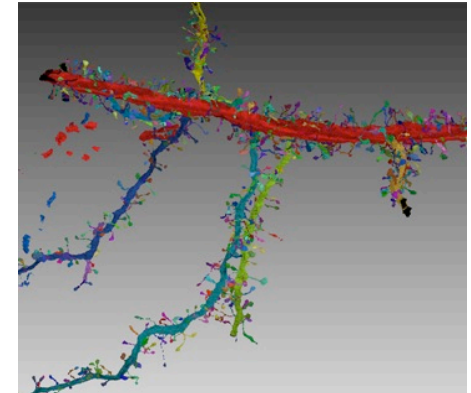


no skipping ERT  
no skipping

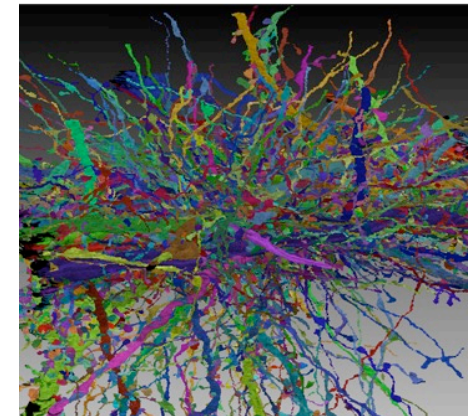
Octree ERT  
Octree

SparseLeap ERT  
SparseLeap

more sparse



less sparse

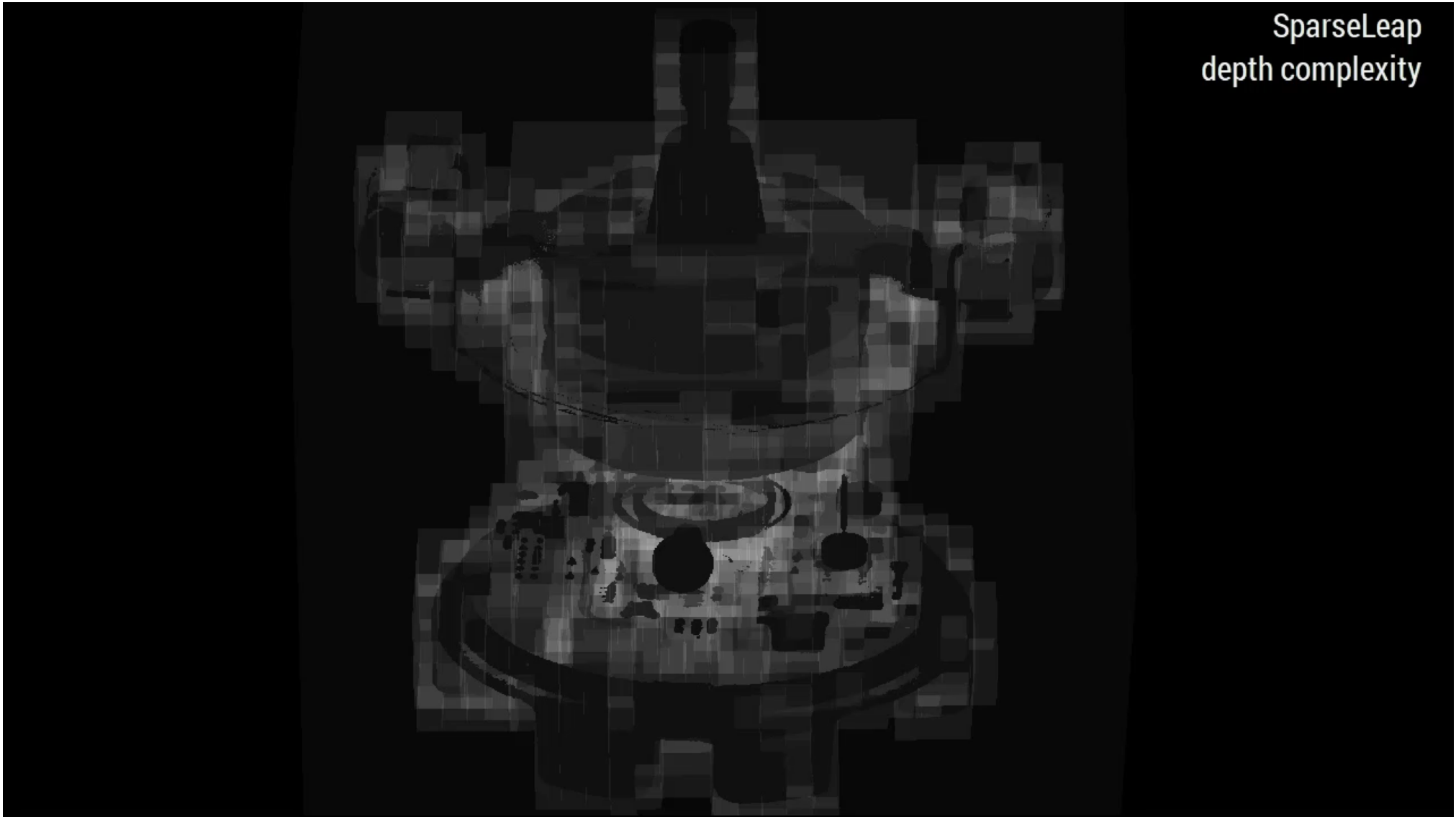




Dreh Sensor data set:  $2,048 \times 2,048 \times 2,048$   
85 segmented objects



SparseLeap  
depth complexity







## SUMMARY

Cost of empty space skipping moved out of ray-casting loop

Attractive alternative for complex volumes

Memory consumption (GPU)

- Occupancy geometry: very low; much lower than octree storage
- Lists: depends on screen resolution and average depth complexity



# Scalable Culling for Large Segmentation Volumes

## LARGE SEGMENTATION VOLUMES

Raw image volume

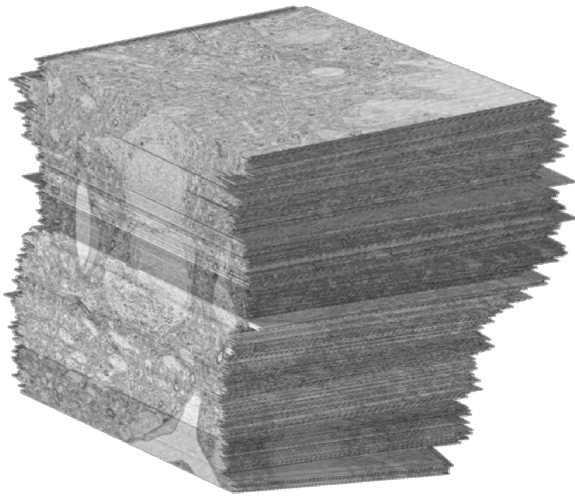
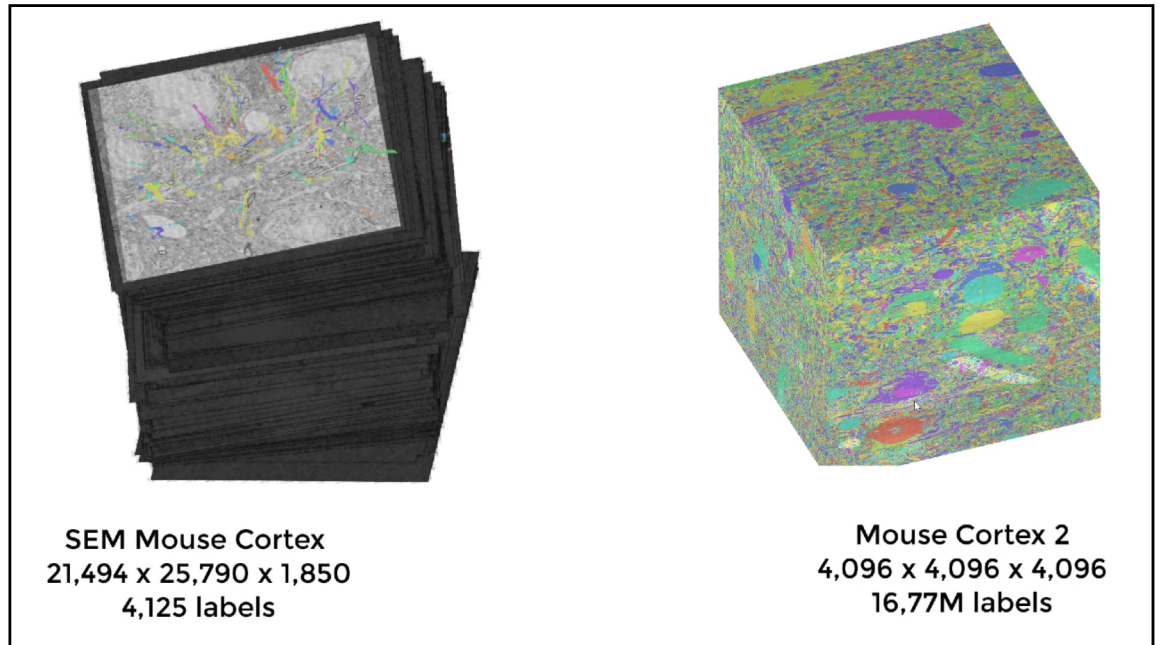


Image + Label volumes

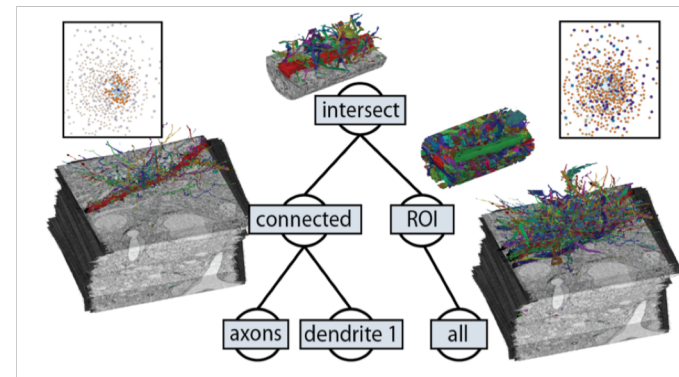




## MOTIVATION – INTERACTIVE VIS APPLICATIONS

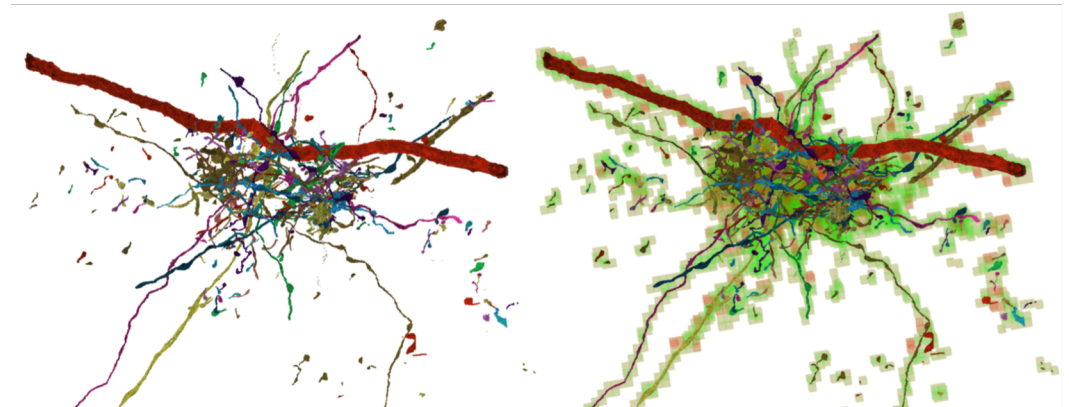
### Visual Queries

[ConnectomeExplorer.  
Beyer et al., SciVis 2013]

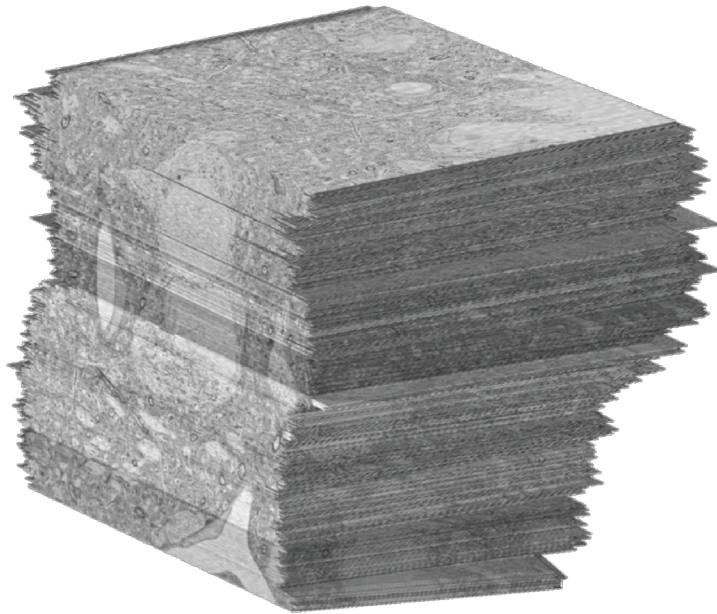


### Fast Volume Rendering

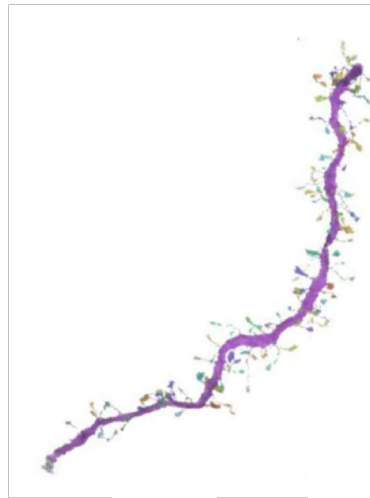
[SparseLeap.  
Hadwiger et al., SciVis 2018]



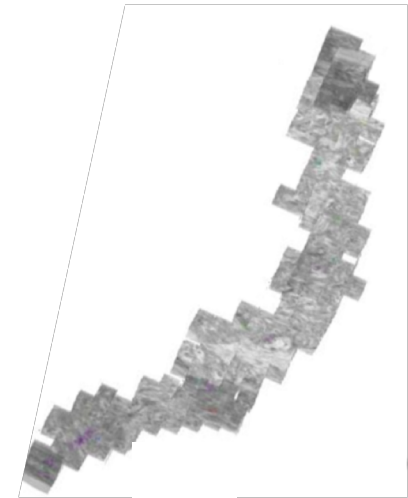
## EXAMPLE: CULLING FOR EMPTY SPACE SKIPPING



Raw image  
volume



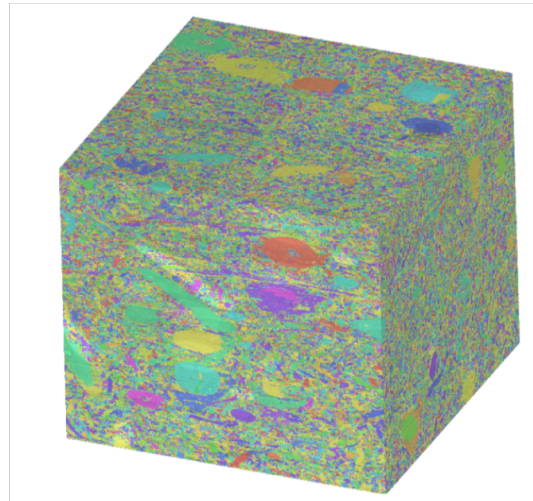
Single label  
within volume



Volume blocks  
after culling  
( $<0.1\%$  of volume blocks)

## CHALLENGES

Large label volumes stored as up to 64-bit integer data.



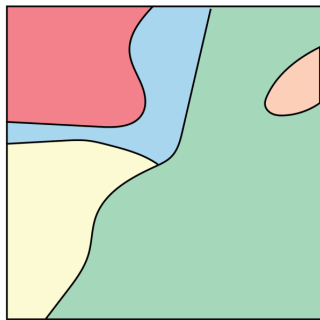
> 250 GB

discrete labels

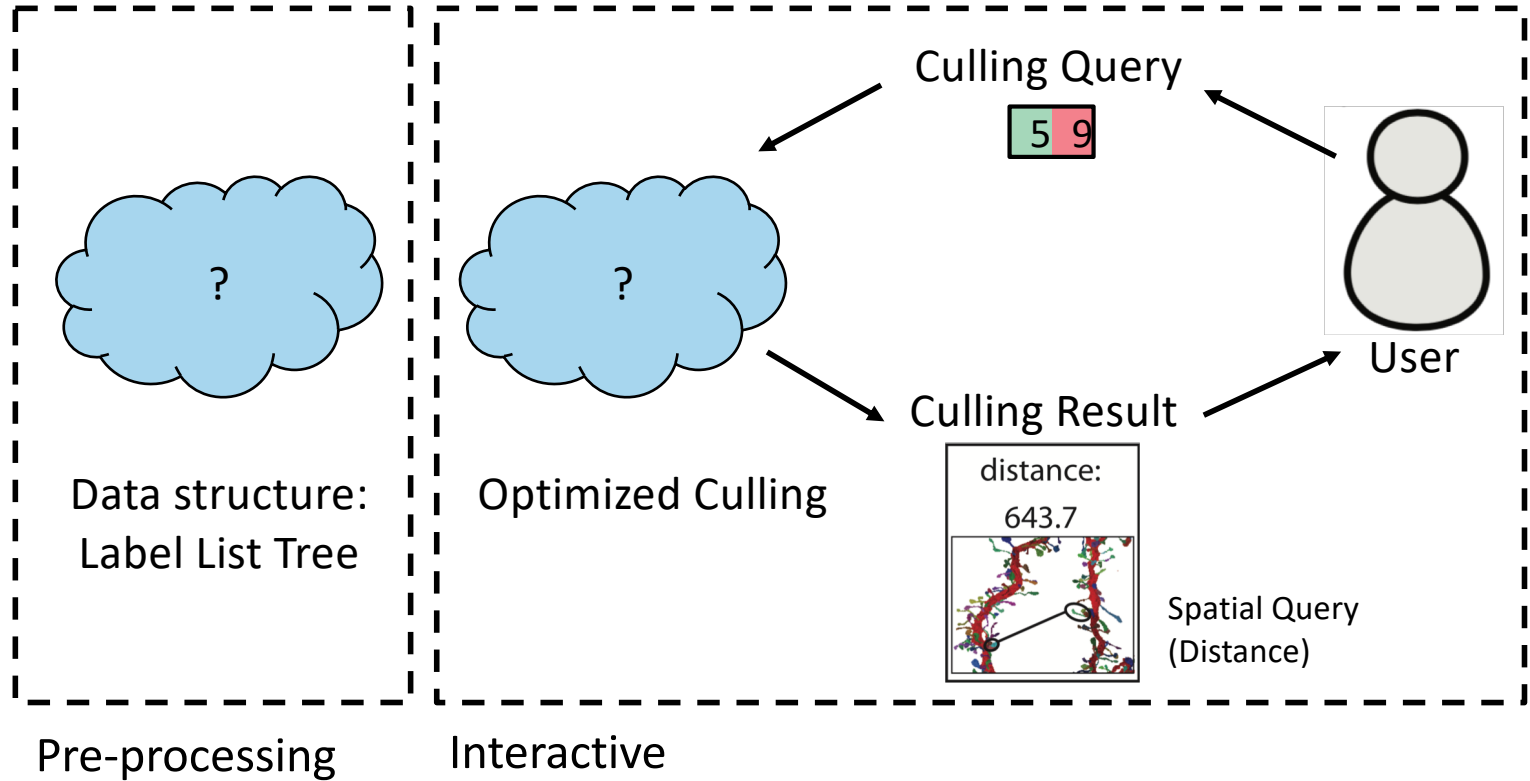
> 13 million  
labels

(24 bit data)

## OUR APPROACH FOR SCALABLE CULLING



Label volume

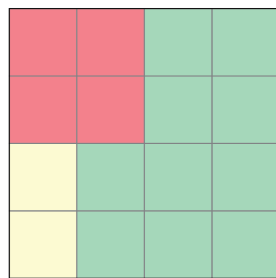




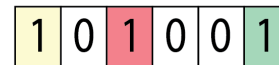
# Data Structure: Label List Tree

## LABEL LISTS

- Which labels are present in a volume block?
- Store a list (or set) of labels per volume block



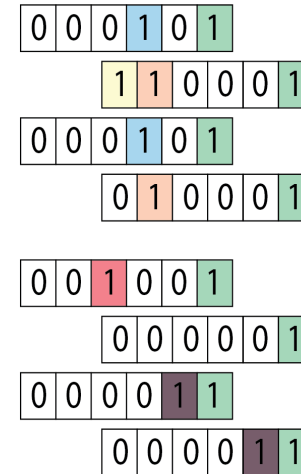
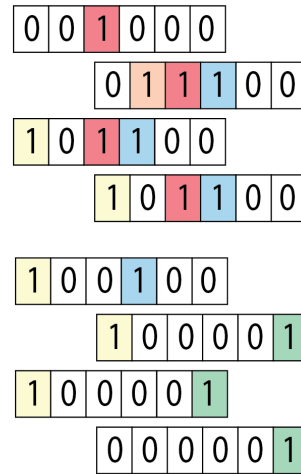
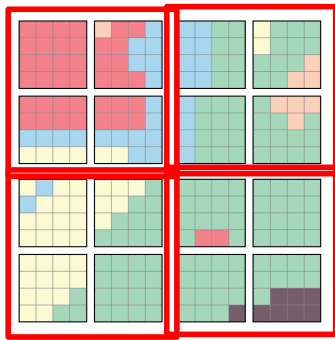
Volume Block



Label List

# LABEL LISTS

Label  
Volume





## HYBRID LABEL LIST ENCODING

	Data Structure	Data Access Time	Culling
Deterministic	Roaring Bitmap [1]	Logarithmic	Exact
Probabilistic	Bloom Filter [2]	Constant	Conservative

Best representation chosen based on:

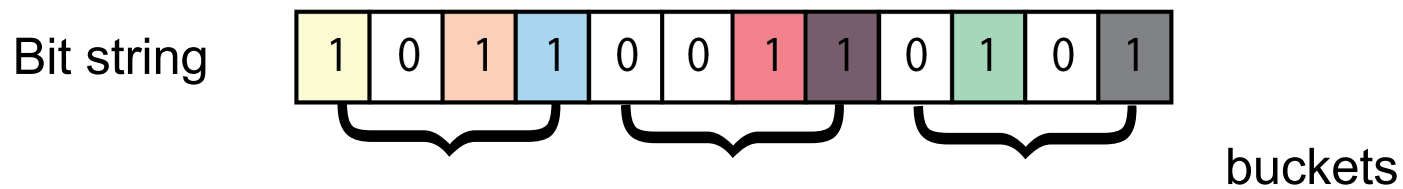
- Memory size
- Expected run time query performance
- User preferences

[1] Better bitmap performance with roaring bitmaps. Chambi et al., 2016.

[2] Space/time trade-offs in hash coding with allowable errors. Bloom, 1970.



## LABEL LIST ENCODING - DETERMINISTIC

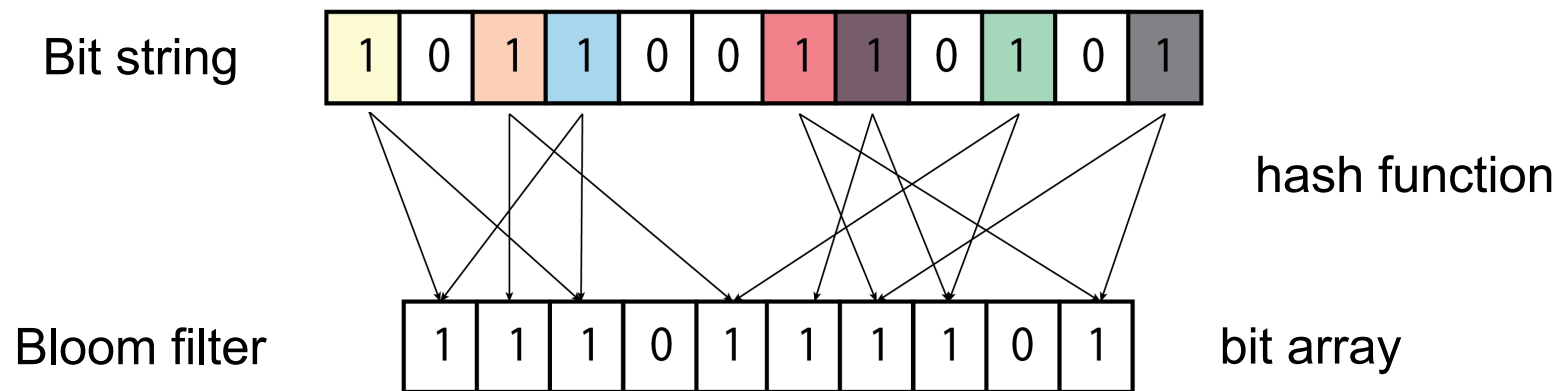


Bitmap  
(dense)

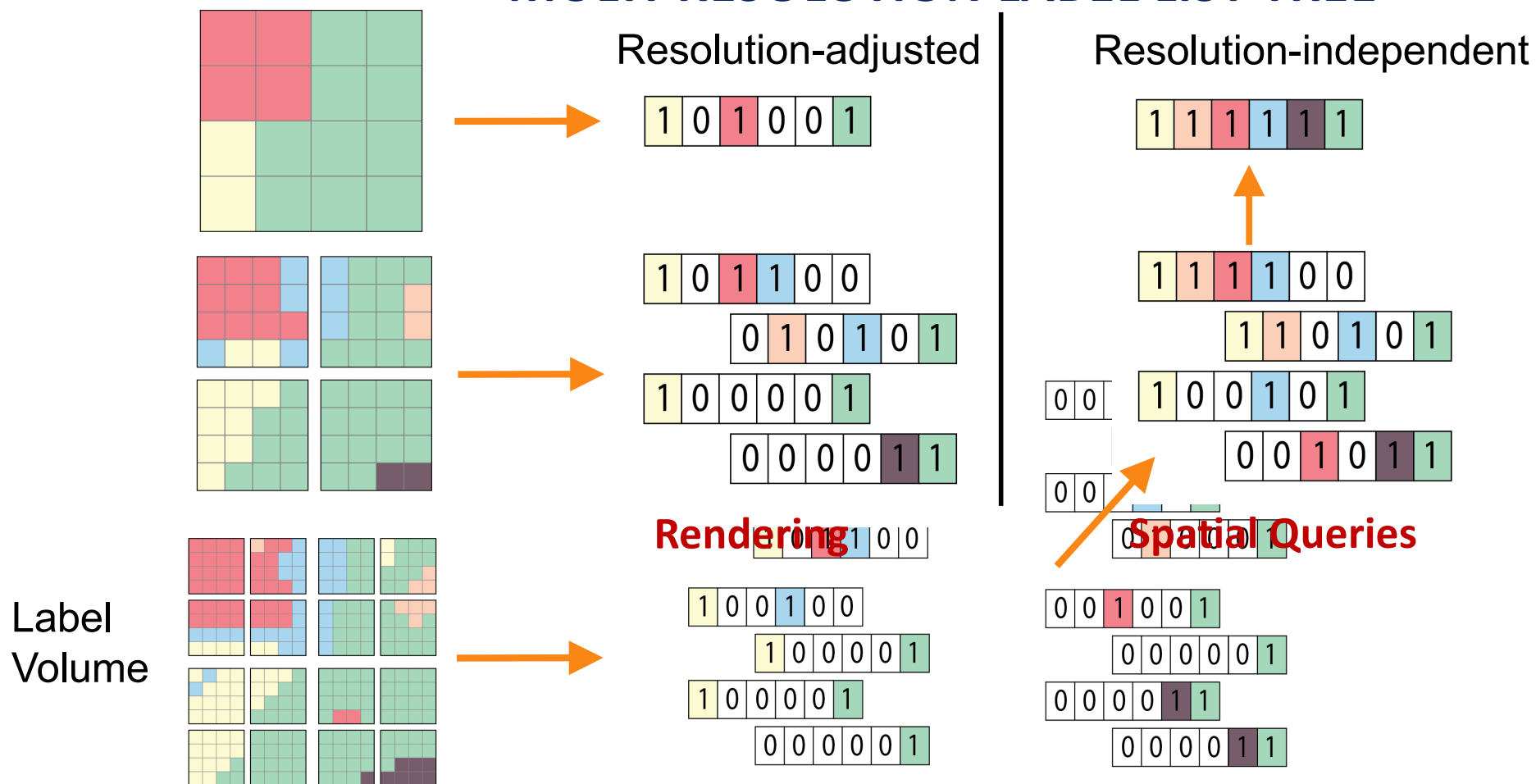
RLE  
(runs)

Sorted list  
(sparse)

# Label List Encoding - Probabilistic



# MULTI-RESOLUTION LABEL LIST TREE





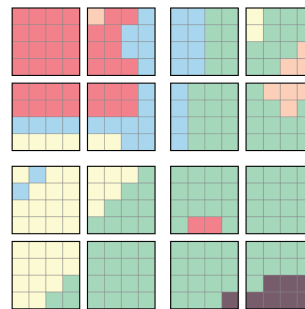
# Optimized Culling

# CULLING

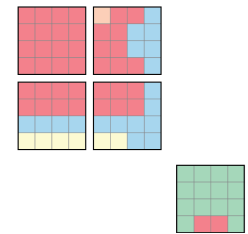
- Culling input: Culling Query, set of labels we are interested in
- Culling output: List of volume blocks that contain labels from query

0	0	1	0	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

Culling query

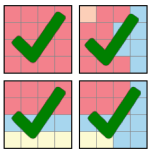
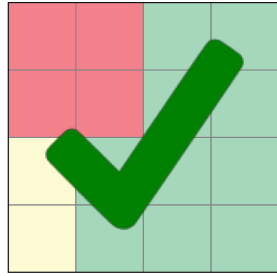


Volume blocks



Culling result

# HIERARCHICAL CULLING



Label lists

1 1 1 1 1 1

1 1 1 1 0 0

1 1 0 1 0 1

1 0 0 1 0 1

0 0 1 0 1 1

0 0 1 0 0 0

0 1 1 1 0 0

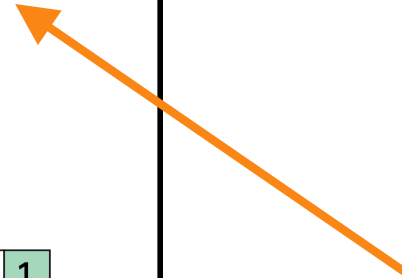
1 0 1 1 0 0

1 0 1 1 0 0

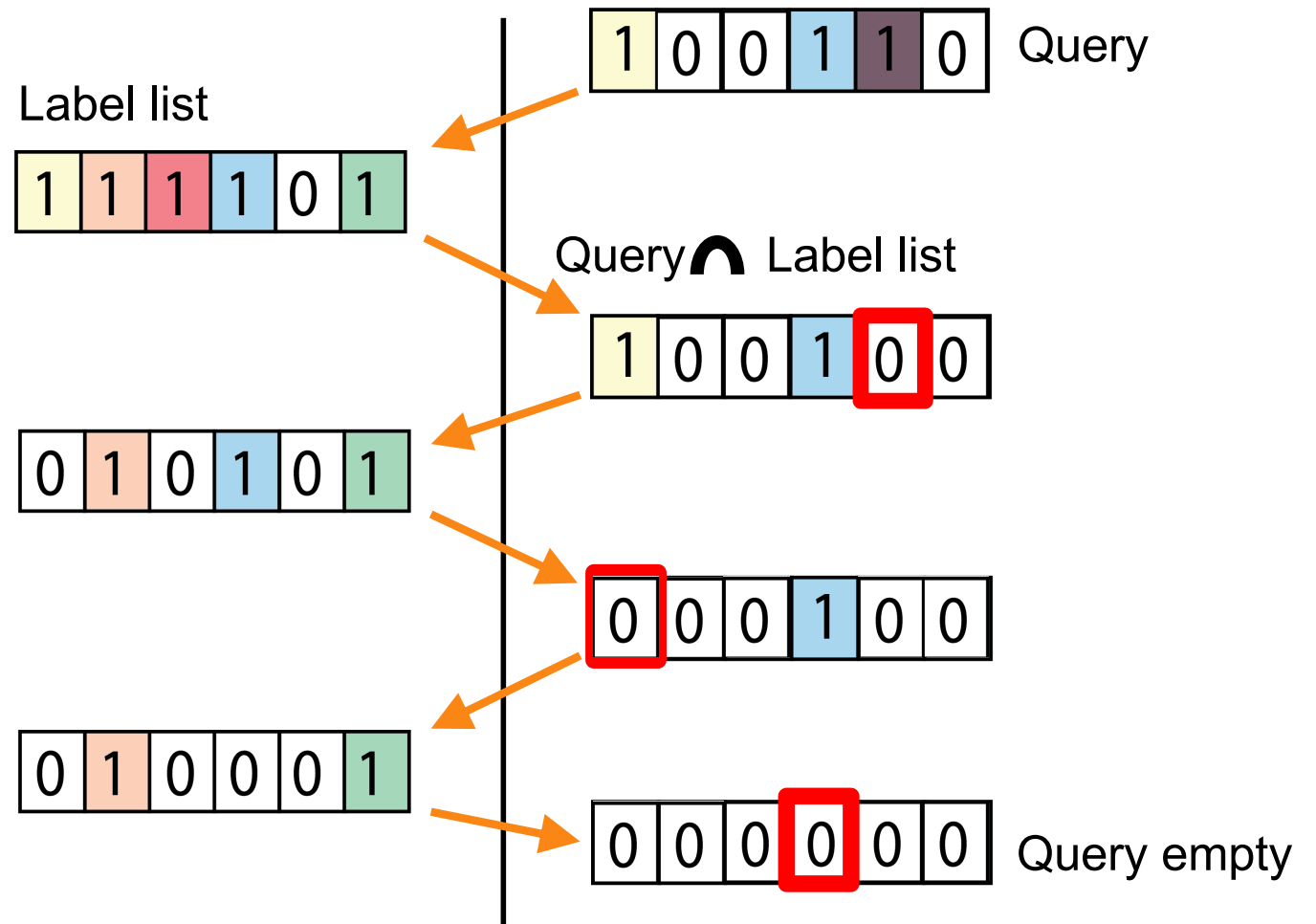
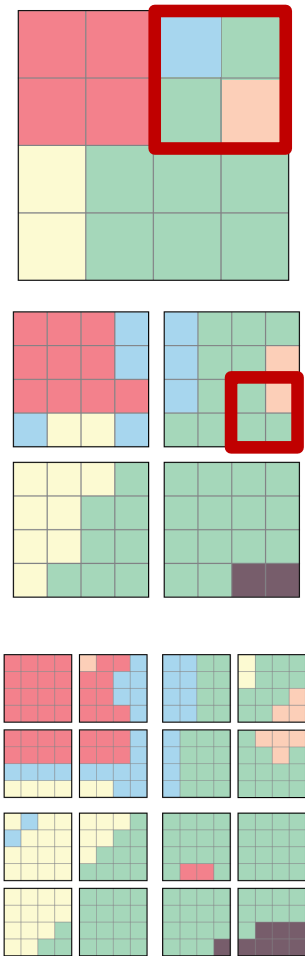
0 0 1 0 0 1

Culling query

0 0 1 0 0 0



# HIERARCHICAL QUERY PRUNING



## HIERARCHICAL QUERY PRUNING

Label list

1	1	1	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---

0	1	0	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---

0	1	0	0	0	1
---	---	---	---	---	---

1	0	0	1	1	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

 Query

1	0	0	1	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

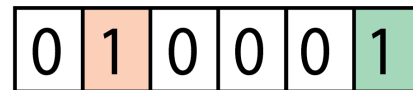
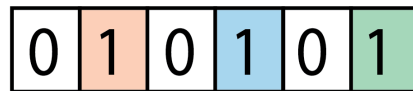
0	0	0	1	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

0	0	0	0	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---



## QUERY-ADAPTIVE LABEL LIST REQUESTS

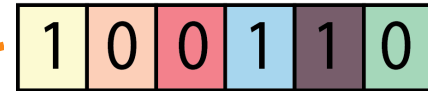
Label list



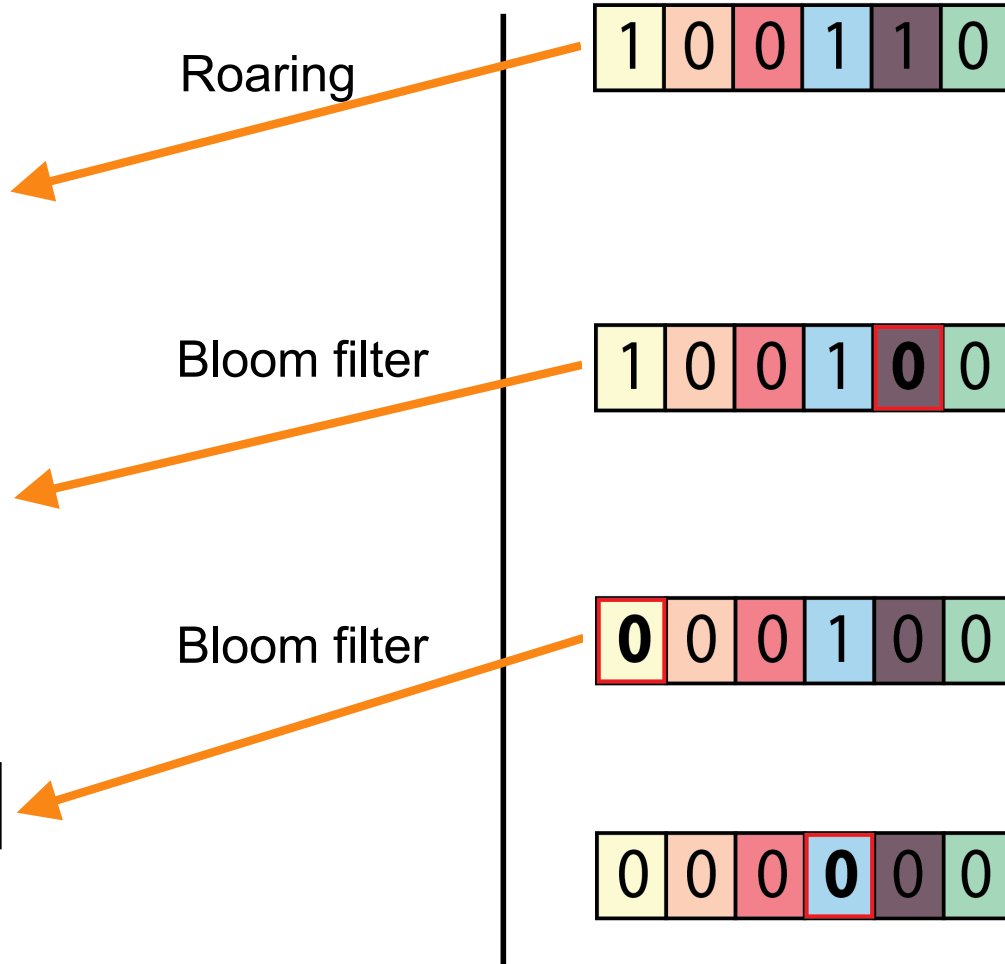
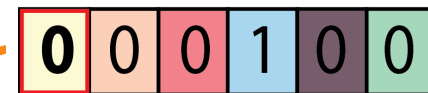
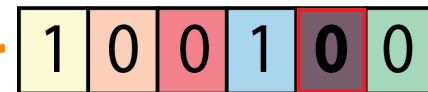
Roaring

Bloom filter

Bloom filter

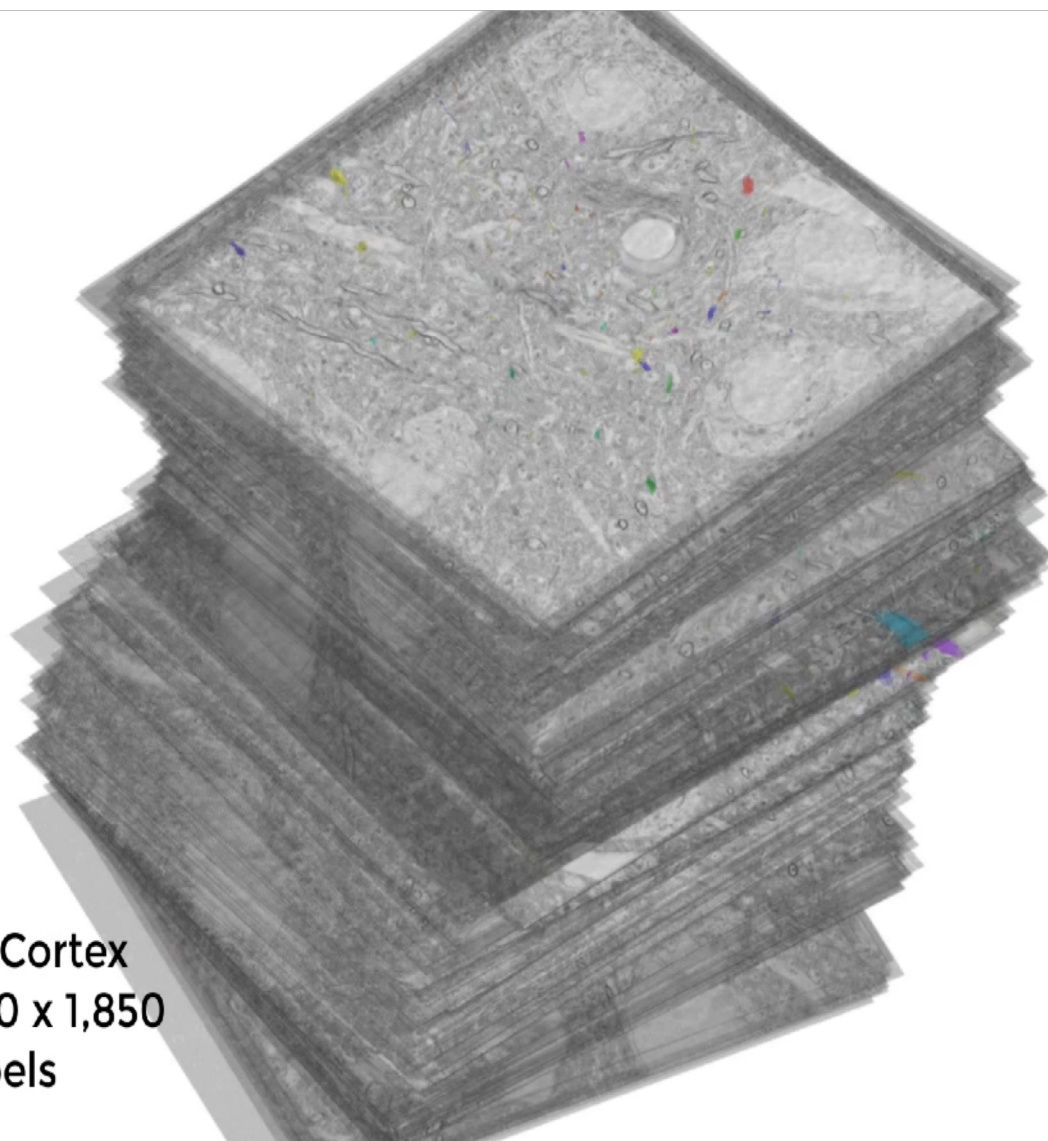


Query





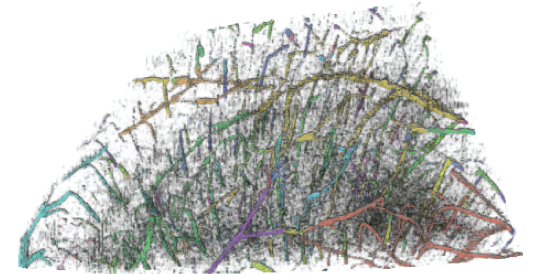
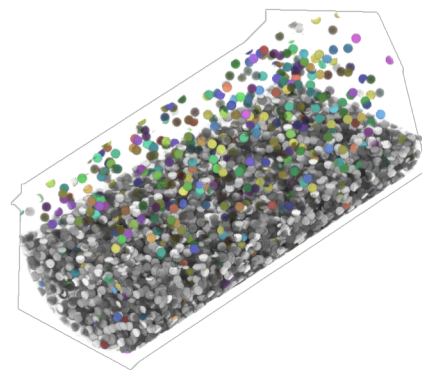
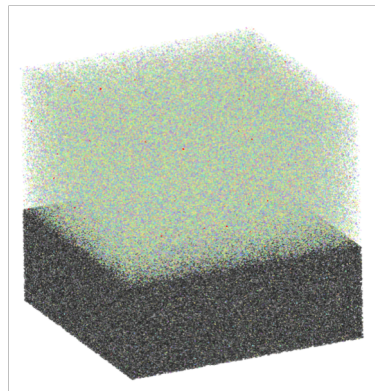
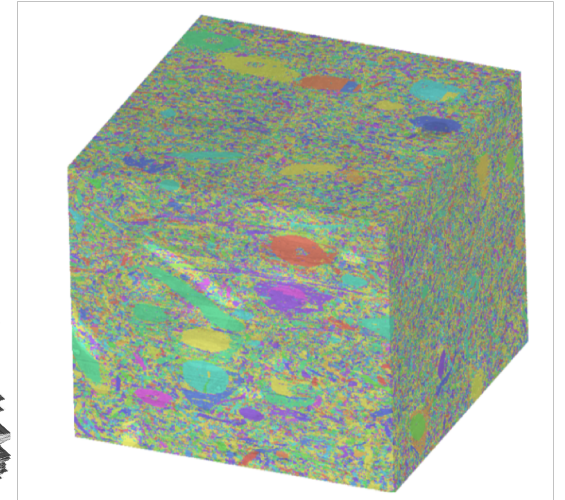
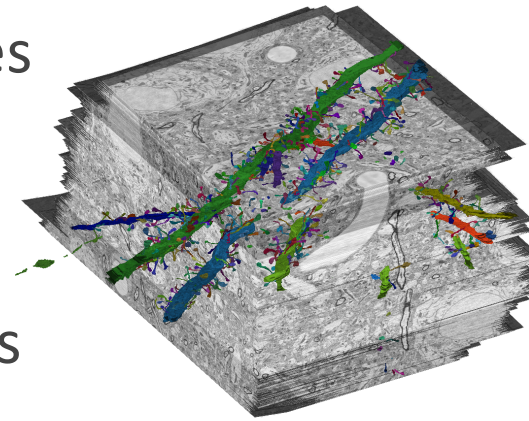
# Results



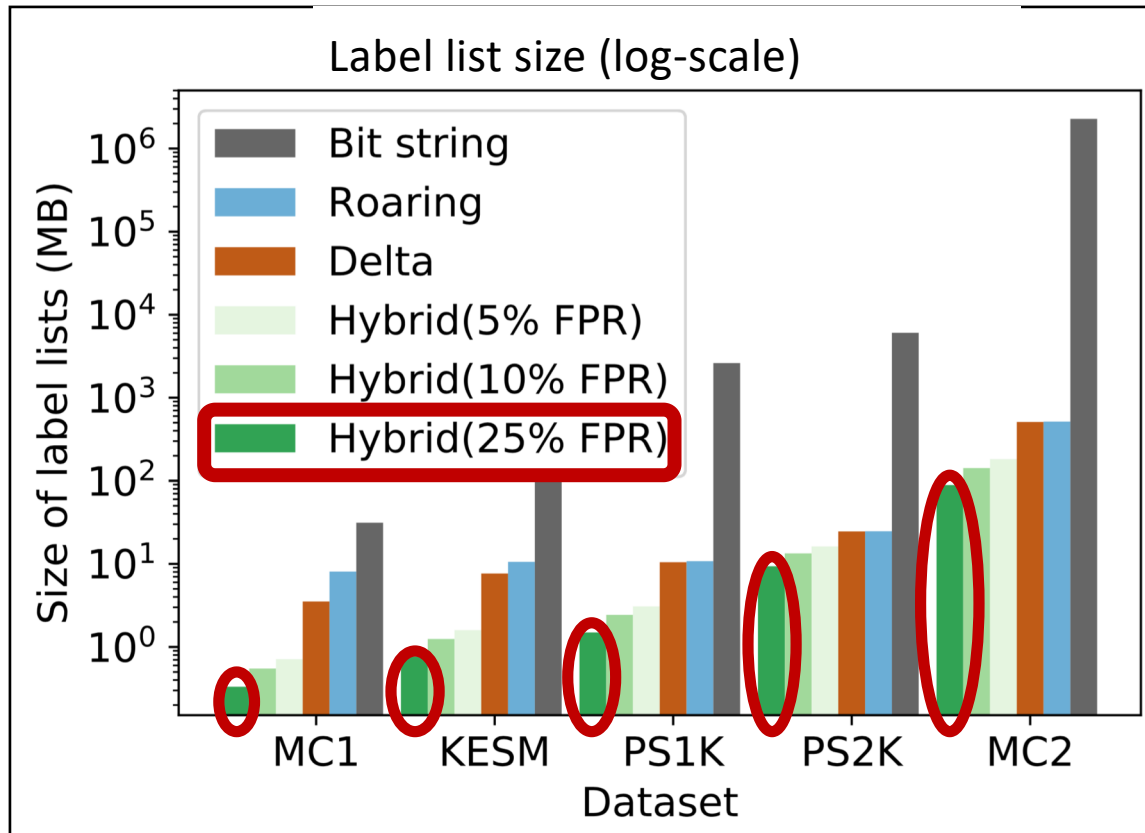
**SEM Mouse Cortex**  
21,494 x 25,790 x 1,850  
4,125 labels

## RESULTS - DATASETS

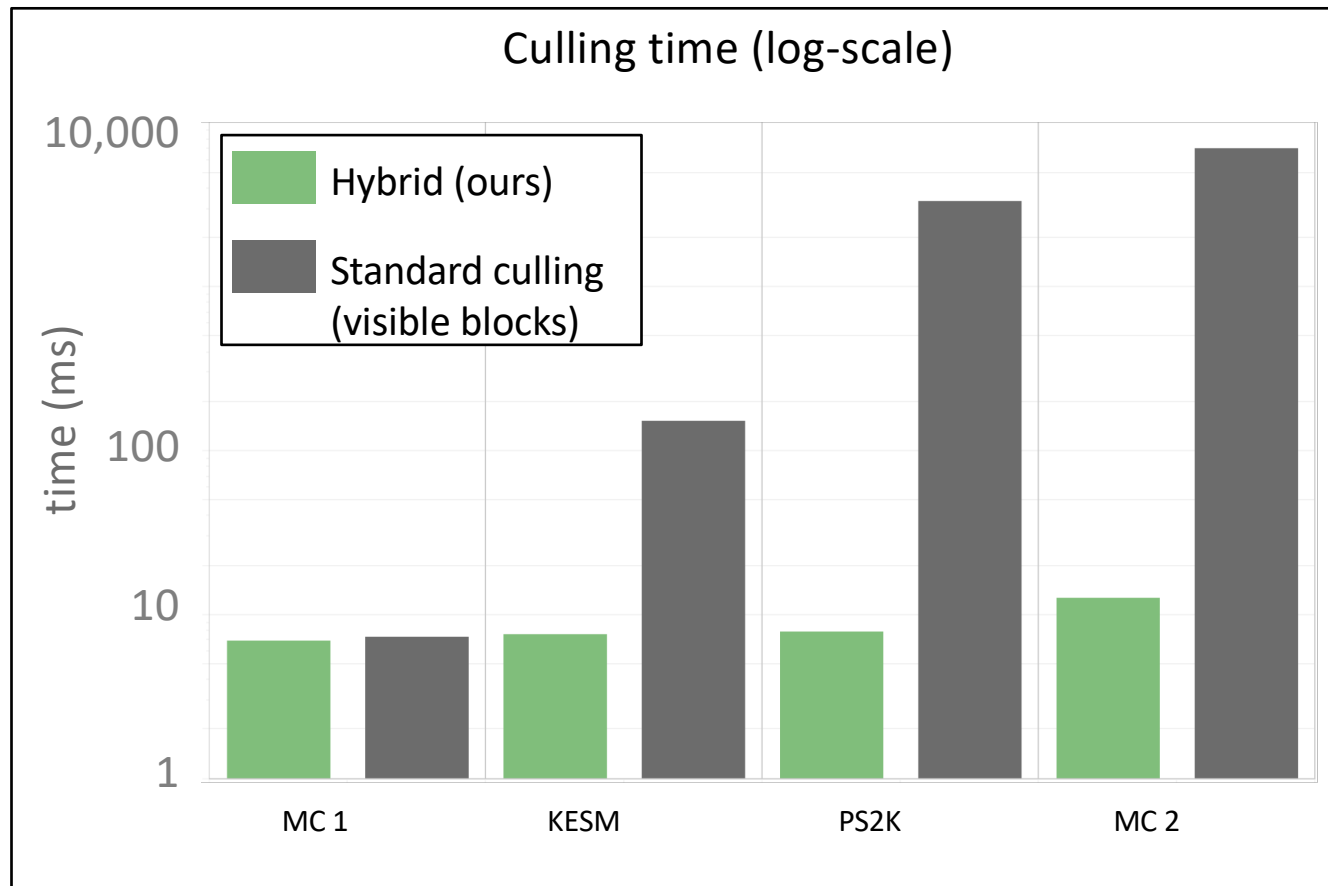
- 3 neuroscience volumes
- 2 phantom datasets
- 16 - 24 bit label data
- 4,000 - 13 million labels
- 4 GB - 1.5 TB data size



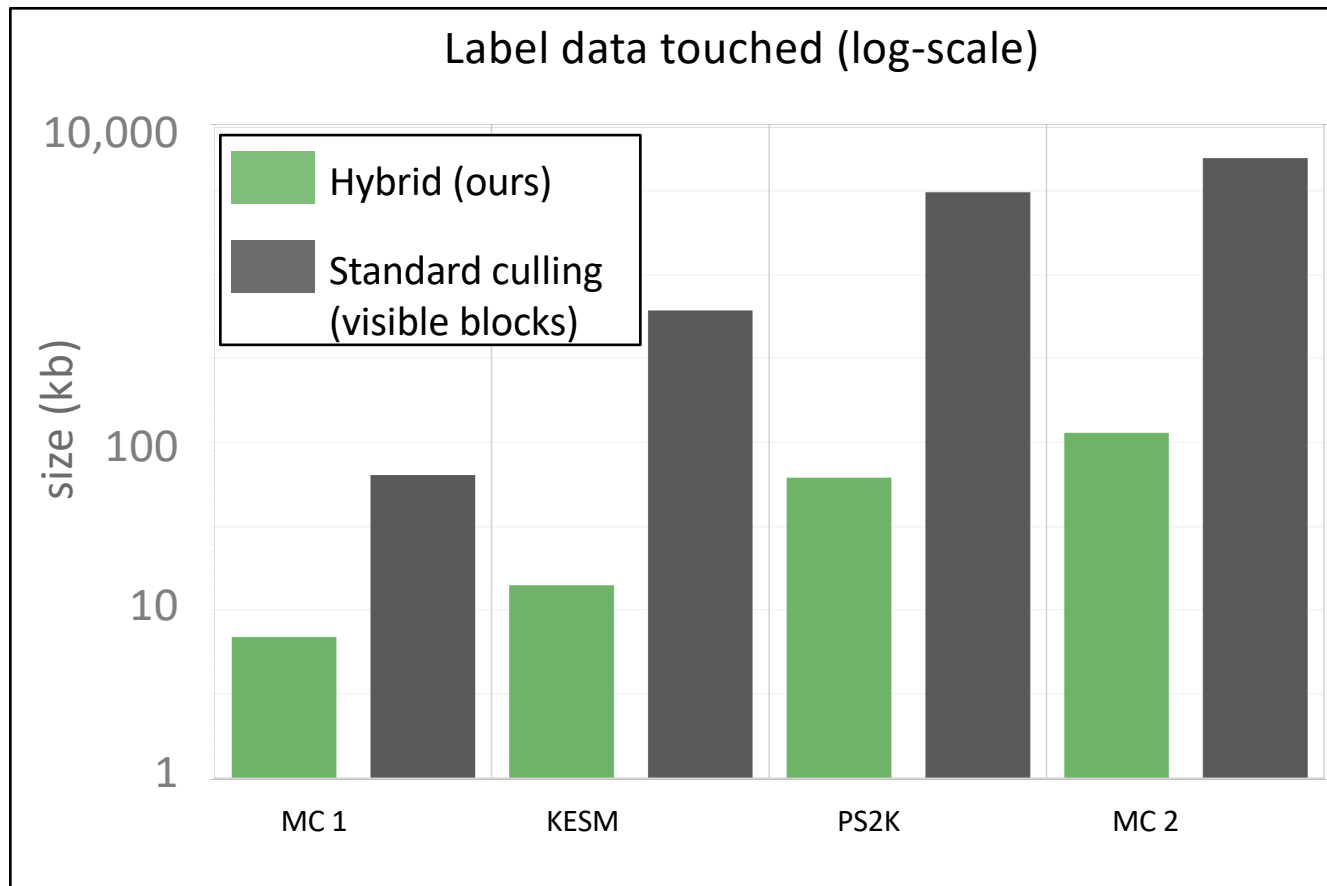
## RESULTS – MEMORY CONSUMPTION OF LABEL LISTS



## RESULTS – CULLING PERFORMANCE





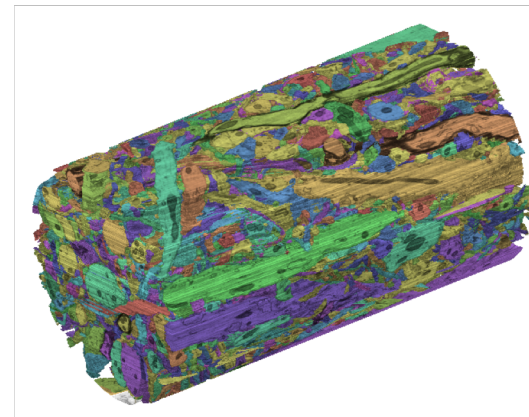
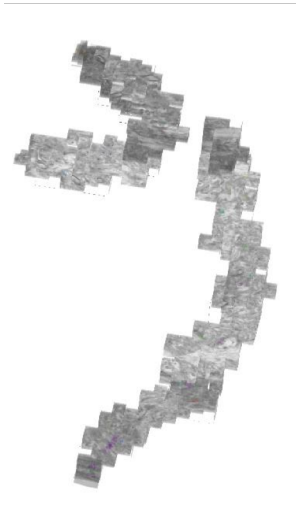
## RESULTS – CULLING PERFORMANCE



## SUMMARY

### Our method

1. Novel hybrid data structure  compact storage of integer label lists
2. Hierarchical culling algorithm  fast, memory efficient culling







**Questions?**



CONFERENCE 4 – 7 December 2018  
EXHIBITION 5 – 7 December 2018  
Tokyo International Forum, Japan  
SA2018.SIGGRAPH.ORG

Sponsored by



# GPU-Based Large-Scale Scientific Visualization

Johanna Beyer, Harvard University

Markus Hadwiger, KAUST

Course Website:

<http://johanna-b.github.io/LargeSciVis2018/index.html>

