

New CAD features, Gmsh 3.0 and API

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First, a little bit of history

- Gmsh was started in 1996, as a toy project by JF and myself
- First public release in 1998
- Open Source (GNU GPL) in 2003
- Gmsh 2.0 in 2006
- IJNME paper and switch to CMake in 2009
- Python wrappers in 2011
- Curvilinear meshing: 2012–
- Quad-Hex meshing: 2012–
- Homology: 2013–
- Parallel meshing: 2015–
- New CAD interface and switch to Git/Gitlab: 2017

First, a little bit of history

- Today, Gmsh represents about 400k lines of C++ code
 - still same 2 core developers; about 100 with ≥ 1 commit
 - about 1,000 people on mailing lists
 - about 10,000 downloads per month (75% Windows)
 - about 400 citations per year – the Gmsh paper is cited about 2,200 times
 - Gmsh probably one of the most popular open source finite element mesh generator in the world?

First, a little bit of history

First workshop held in Braives, September 15-16, 2011



<https://gitlab.onelab.info/gmsh/gmsh/wikis/FirstGmshWorkshop>

First, a little bit of history

Second workshop held in Moressée, May 23-24, 2013



<https://gitlab.onelab.info/gmsh/gmsh/wikis/SecondGmshWorkshop>

First, a little bit of history

Thursday, 23 November, 2000 10:22:48

New CAD features

- The whole internal CAD interface has been rewritten over the last 2 months
 - `GEO_Internals` interfaces all the legacy features of the built-in Gmsh CAD engine
 - `OCC_Internals` interfaces top-level OpenCASCADE features, including boolean operations
- All CAD operations are handled internally in these classes; the only function that interacts with `GModel` is `synchronize(GModel *)`
- The `.geo` file parser has been rewritten to only use the `GEO_Internal/OCC_Internal` API
- This API does not expose any structures or classes: only `int`, `double`, `string`, `pair` and `vector`

New CAD features

```
class GEO_Internals{
public:
    // add shapes
    bool addVertex(int num, double x, double y, double z, double lc);
    bool addLine(int num, int startTag, int endTag);
    bool addCircleArc(int num, int startTag, int centerTag, int EndTag,
                     double nx=0., double ny=0., double nz=0.);
    bool addBSpline(int num, const std::vector<int> &vertexTags);
    bool addLineLoop(int num, const std::vector<int> &edgeTags);
    bool addPlaneSurface(int num, const std::vector<int> &wireTags);
    ...
    // extrude and revolve
    bool extrude(const std::vector<std::pair<int, int> > &inDimTags,
                double dx, double dy, double dz,
                std::vector<std::pair<int, int> > &outDimTags);
    ...
    // apply transformations
    bool translate(const std::vector<std::pair<int, int> > &dimTags,
                  double dx, double dy, double dz);
    ...
    // remove
    bool remove(const std::vector<std::pair<int, int> > &dimTags, bool recursive=false);
    ...
    // synchronize internal CAD data with the given GModel
    void synchronize(GModel *model);
    ...
}
```


New CAD features

```
class OCC_Internals{
public:
    // add shapes
    bool addVertex(int tag, double x, double y, double z, double meshSize=MAX_LC);
    bool addLine(int tag, int startTag, int endTag);
    ...
    bool addSphere(int tag, double xc, double yc, double zc, double radius,
                  double angle1, double angle2, double angle3);
    bool addThruSections(int tag, const std::vector<int> &wireTags,
                        std::vector<std::pair<int, int> > &outDimTags,
                        bool makeSolid, bool makeRuled);
    ...
    // extrude and revolve
    bool extrude(const std::vector<std::pair<int, int> > &inDimTags,
                double dx, double dy, double dz,
                std::vector<std::pair<int, int> > &outDimTags);
    ...
    // apply boolean operator
    bool applyBooleanOperator(int tag, BooleanOperator op,
                             const std::vector<std::pair<int, int> > &objectDimTags,
                             const std::vector<std::pair<int, int> > &toolDimTags,
                             std::vector<std::pair<int, int> > &outDimTags,
                             bool removeObject, bool removeTool);
    ...
    // synchronize internal CAD data with the given GModel
    void synchronize(GModel *model);
}
```

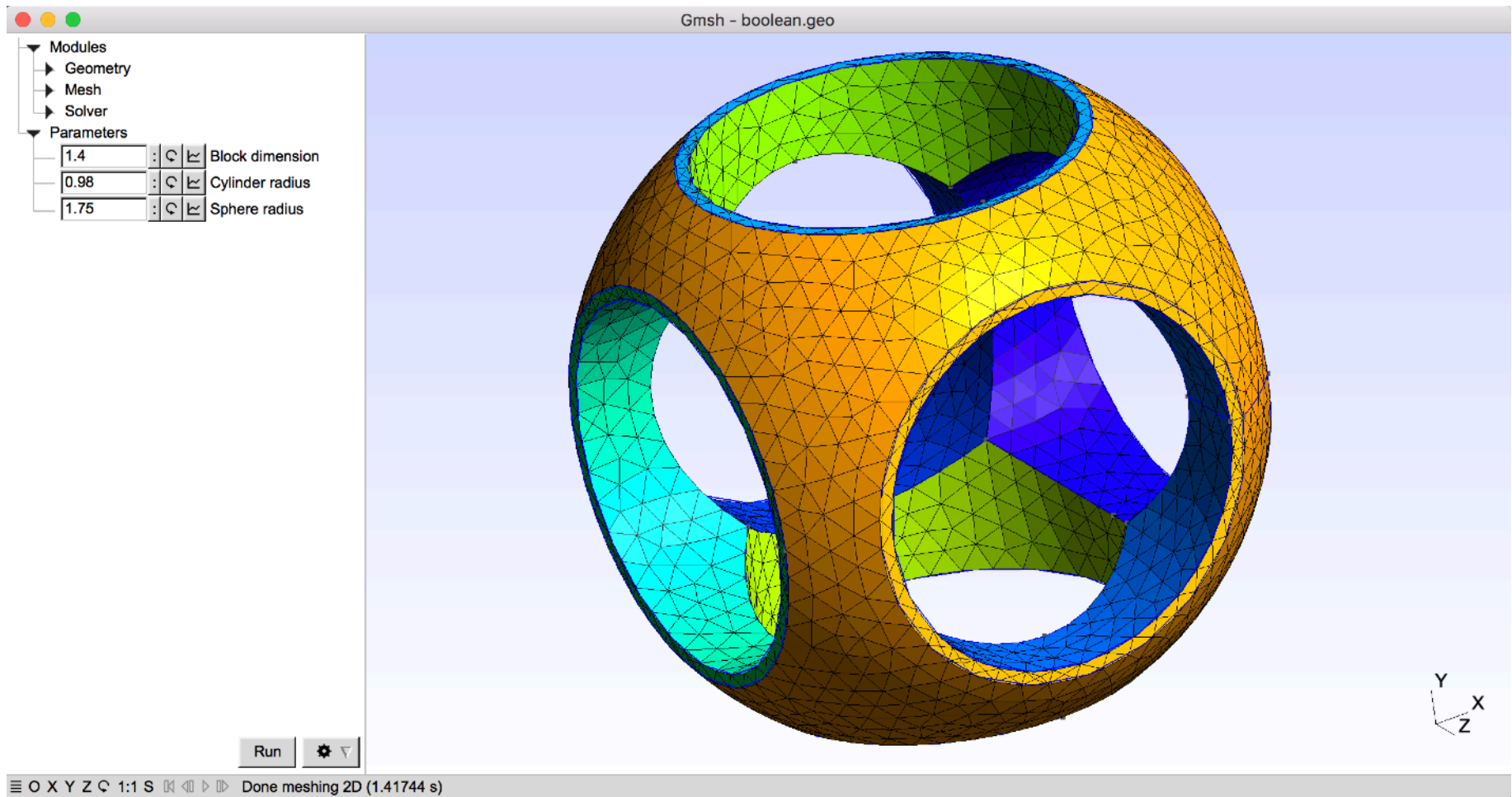
New CAD features

- Some meshing constraints are stored in `{GEO,OCC}_Internals` (they must can be copied around), but most have been moved directly to `GModel`
- `GEO_Internals` is always allocated; `OCC_Internals` is only created on-demand (even if Gmsh is compiled with OCC support)
- In `.geo` files
 - Switch between internal CAD modelers: `SetFactory("name")`
 - Currently: "Built-in" or "OpenCASCADE"
 - Force a synchronization: `SyncModel`
 - By default: "Built-in"
 - 99.99% backward compatible with existing `.geo` files

New CAD features

- All existing .geo commands are conserved
- New or modified .geo commands:
 - Shapes (with explicit numbering): Circle, Ellipse, Wire, Surface, Sphere, Block, Torus, Rectangle, Disk, Cylinder, Cone, Wedge, ThickSolid, ThruSections, Ruled ThruSections
 - Operations (implicit numbering): ThruSections, Ruled ThruSections, Fillet, Extrude
 - Boolean operations (explicit or implicit numbering): BooleanUnion, BooleanIntersection, BooleanDifference, BooleanFragments
 - Other: ShapeFromFile, Recursive Delete, In Surface, In Volume

New CAD features



<http://gitlab.onelab.info/gmsh/gmsh/tree/master/demos/boolean/boolean.geo>

New CAD features

Set OpenCASCADE internal CAD modeler

```
SetFactory("OpenCASCADE");
```

```
// from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constructive\_solid\_geometry
```

```
R = DefineNumber[ 1.4 , Min 0.1, Max 2, Step 0.01, Name "Parameters/Block dimension" ];  
Rs = DefineNumber[ R*.7 , Min 0.1, Max 2, Step 0.01, Name "Parameters/Cylinder radius" ];  
Rt = DefineNumber[ R*1.25, Min 0.1, Max 2, Step 0.01, Name "Parameters/Sphere radius" ];
```

```
Block(1) = {-R,-R,-R, R,R,R};
```

```
Sphere(2) = {0,0,0,Rt};
```

```
BooleanIntersection(3) = { Volume{1}; Delete; }{ Volume{2}; Delete; };
```

```
Cylinder(4) = {-2*R,0,0, 2*R,0,0, Rs};
```

```
Cylinder(5) = {0,-2*R,0, 0,2*R,0, Rs};
```

```
Cylinder(6) = {0,0,-2*R, 0,0,2*R, Rs};
```

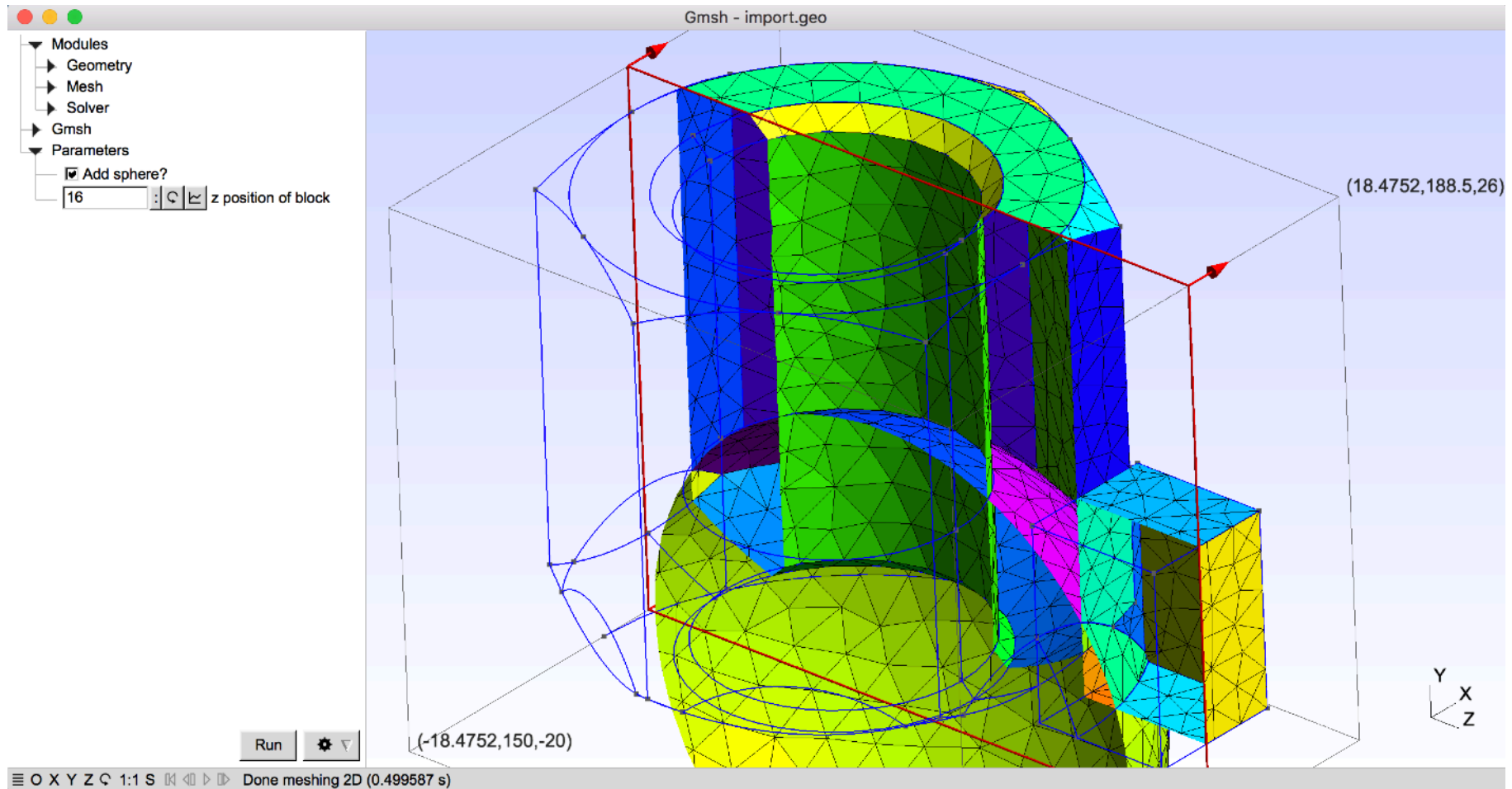
```
BooleanUnion(7) = { Volume{4}; Delete; }{ Volume{5,6}; Delete; };
```

```
BooleanDifference(8) = { Volume{3}; Delete; }{ Volume{7}; Delete; };
```

Explicit tags

Delete object and tool

New CAD features



<http://gitlab.onelab.info/gmsh/gmsh/tree/master/demos/boolean/import.geo>

New CAD features

```
SetFactory("OpenCASCADE");
```

```
DefineConstant[  
  z = {16, Name "Parameters/z position of block"}  
  sph = {0, Choices{0,1}, Name "Parameters/Add sphere?"}  
];
```

```
a() = ShapeFromFile("component8.step");  
b() = 2;  
Block(b(0)) = {0,156,z, 10,170,z+10};
```

← Import (highest dim) shapes from STEP or BREP

```
If(sph)  
  b() += 3;  
  Sphere(b(1)) = {0,150,0, 20};  
EndIf
```

BooleanFragments intersects everything

```
r() = BooleanFragments{ Volume{a()}; Delete; }{ Volume{b()}; Delete; };  
Save "merged.brep";
```

```
Physical Volume("Combined volume", 1) = {r()};  
Physical Surface("Combined boundary", 2) = CombinedBoundary{ Volume{r()}; }
```

Implicit tags

New CAD features

- More examples on <http://gitlab.onelab.info/gmsh/gmsh/tree/master/demos/boolean>
- OpenCASCADE features require OCCT ≥ 6.9
 - Recommended: OCCT 7.1
 - Multi-threaded 2D mesh generation OK (configure Gmsh with `-DENABLE_OPENMP=1`)
 - Multi-threaded boolean operations (test with `Geometry.OCCParallel=1;`)
 - Fuzzy boolean operations (`Geometry.ToleranceBoolean`)
- Let's use the Git+Debug session this afternoon to get everyone up-to-date

New CAD features

- Other recent features in .geo files:
 - structures (contributed by Patrick); still experimental, but examples available on <http://gitlab.onelab.info/gmsh/gmsh/tree/master/demos/struct>
 - Unique operator
 - Ruled Surface -> Surface
- Other recent changes pushed in the master branch
 - Faster 3D tetrahedral mesh optimization enabled by default

Gmsh 3.0

- I would like to release Gmsh 3.0 with these new features right after the workshop
- Intensive debug session this afternoon!
- ... and introduction to Git by Jon right after this talk
- I would wait for Gmsh 3.1 (or 4.0) to break things:
 - new reparametrization code from Pierre-Alexandre (cf. his talk tomorrow)... and removal of the old one
 - new initial 3D mesher (collaboration with Hang Si): still some small bugs: please test with `Mesh.Algorithm3D=2;`
 - new 3D refinement code: still some bugs... but much faster: please test with `Mesh.OldRefinement=0;`

API

- I would like to export a C-type API for the new CAD interface, the meshing algorithms (and combine this with HXT) and the post-pro
 - should be purely functional (we should decide on a naming convention)
 - should only use standard types (int, double, vector, pair, map) — no pointers, no classes, no structs
 - should be documented and could be wrapped in *whatever* (Python, Java, Julia, ...)
 - dynamic libraries exposing this API should be made available
- The current Python/Java wrappers should be reserved for Gmsh developers, and clearly marked as such; they should not be distributed by default (e.g. in Debian)

Thank you!