

# ESMF Regridding

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## Context

- NEMS uses the Earth System Modeling Framework (ESMF), which provides:
  - Fundamental coupling operations such as fast parallel regridding of fields between models, parallel communication, and model time management
  - Parallel data structures for representing fields, grids, and model components in a standard way
- This talk is about the regridding part of ESMF
- Except where noted, the work presented here is finished and we expect it to come out in ESMF 7.1.0 due late spring/early summer 2017
- Also available before that as a development snapshot

## Basic Regridding Flow

- Setup grids to represent geometry
  - Cubed sphere for FV3
  - Tripole for MOM, Hycom, CICE
  - Gaussian for GSM
- Build Fields on grids to hold data



- Setup regriding matrix between grids
  - Chose regrid method
  - Chose other regrid options

OR

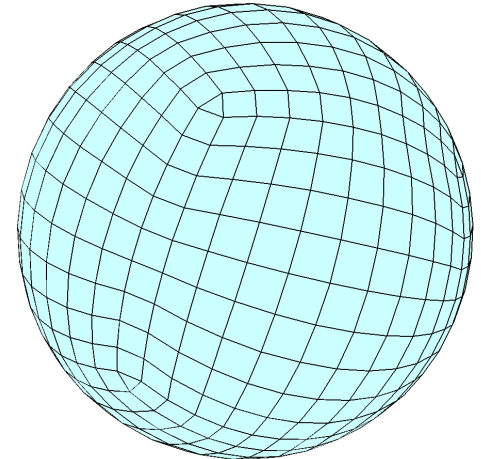
- Build Exchange grid between grids
- Setup regriding matrix using exchange grid



- Apply regriding matrix to move data from source to destination

## ESMF Cubed Sphere Support

- Two ways cubed spheres are supported in ESMF:
  1. Unstructured Mesh
    - Data fields are 1D
    - Somewhat more efficient for calculating regridding weights
  2. Multi-tile Grid:
    - Data fields are 2D which more naturally matches shape of tiles
- Both representations can be regridded to other ESMF geometry types (i.e. Grids, Meshes, and Location Streams)
- We have recently added **three new APIs** to allow easier creation of cubed spheres in ESMF



## Cubed Sphere Mesh Generation API

### **ESMF\_MeshCreateCubedSphere(tileSize, nx, ny, rc)**

Create a ESMF\_Mesh object for a cubed sphere grid using identical regular decomposition for every tile. The grid coordinates are generated based on the algorithm used by GEOS-5. The tile resolution is defined by tileSize. The total number of PETs has to be  $nx \times ny \times 6$  (i.e. the smallest number of PETS it can run on is 6). We expect this restriction to be lifted by February 2017.

**tilesize** - the number of elements on each side of the tile of the cubed sphere grid

**nx** - the number of processors on the horizontal size of each tile

**ny** - the number of processors on the vertical size of each tile

**[rc]** - return code; equals ESMF\_SUCCESS if there are no errors

```
! Calculate decomposition
```

```
nx = petCount/6
```

```
ny = 1
```

```
! Create Mesh
```

```
mesh = ESMF_MeshCreateCubedSphere(tileSize=45, nx=nx,ny=ny, rc=localrc)
```

## Cubed Sphere Grid Generation API

### ESMF\_GridCreateCubedSphere(tileSize, regDecompPTile, & decompflagPTile, deLabelList, delayout, name, rc)

Create a six-tile ESMF\_Grid for a Cubed Sphere grid using regular decomposition. Each tile can have different decomposition. The grid coordinates are generated based on the algorithm used by GEOS-5. The tile resolution is defined by tileSize.

**tileSize** - the number of elements on each side of the tile of the cubed sphere grid

**[regDecompPTile]** - list of DE counts for each dimension. The second index steps through the tiles.

**[decompflagPTile]** - list of decomposition flags indicating how each dimension of each tile is to be divided between the DEs.

**[deLabelList]** - list assigning DE labels to the default sequence of DEs.

**[delayout]** - optional ESMF\_DELayout object to be used. By default a new DELayout object will be created with as many DEs as there are PETs.

**[name]** - ESMF\_Grid name.

**[rc]** - Return code; equals ESMF\_SUCCESS if there are no errors.

#### ! Setup Decomposition

```
decompTile(:,1)=(/2,2/) ! Tile 1
```

```
decompTile(:,2)=(/2,2/) ! Tile 2
```

```
decompTile(:,3)=(/2,2/) ! Tile 3
```

```
decompTile(:,4)=(/1,3/) ! Tile 4
```

```
decompTile(:,5)=(/1,3/) ! Tile 5
```

```
decompTile(:,6)=(/1,3/) ! Tile 6
```

#### ! Create cubed sphere grid

```
grid = ESMF_GridCreateCubedSphere(tileSize=20, regDecompPTile=decomptile, rc=rc)
```

# Cubed Sphere Read From GridSpec File API

## **ESMF\_GridCreateMosaic(filename,regDecompPTile, decompflagPTile, & deLabelList, delayout, & name, tileFilePath, rc)**

Create a six-tile ESMF\_Grid for a cubed sphere grid using regular decomposition. Each tile can have different decomposition. The tile connections are defined in a GRIDSPEC format mosaic file.

**filename** - The name of the GRIDSPEC Mosaic file

**[regDecompPTile]** - List of DE counts for each dimension

**[decompflagPTile]** - List of decomposition flags indicating how dimension of each tile is to be divided between DEs

**[deLabelList]** - List assigning DE labels to the default sequence of DEs

**[delayout]** - Optional ESMF\_DELayout object to be used

**[name]** - ESMF\_Grid name

**[tileFilePath]** - Optional argument to define the path where the tile files reside

**[rc]** - Return code; equals ESMF\_SUCCESS if there are no errors.

```
! Create cubed sphere grid from file using default decomposition  
grid = ESMF_GridCreateMosaic(filename='data/C48_mosaic.nc', rc=rc)
```

## Periodic Grid Create (Tripole or Gaussian)

### **ESMF\_GridCreate1PeriDim(regDecomp, decompflag, & minIndex, maxIndex, & polekindflag, ....., rc)**

Create a grid with one periodic dimension using regular decomposition. The grid will consist of one tile. After creation the user needs to set the coordinates in the grid using `ESMF_GridAddCoord()` and then `ESMF_GridGetCoord()`.

**[regDecomp]** – DE counts for each dimension

**[decompflag]** – Decomposition flags indicating how each dimension is to be divided between the DEs

**[minIndex]** – The lowest index in the grid for each dimension.

**maxIndex**- The maximum index in the grid for each dimension.

**[polekindflag]** – flag specifying the type of connection that occurs at each pole. Defaults to monopole.

**[rc]** - Return code; equals `ESMF_SUCCESS` if there are no errors.

```
! Use defaults to create 100x100 spherical grid with a monopole at each pole  
! (e.g. for Gaussian)  
grid = ESMF_GridCreate1PeriDim(maxIndex=(/100,100/), rc=rc)
```

```
! Create 100x100 spherical grid with bipole and monopole  
! (e.g. for Tripole)  
grid = ESMF_GridCreate1PeriDim(maxIndex=(/100,100/), &  
    polekindflag=(/ESMF_POLEKIND_MONOPOLE, ESMF_POLEKIND_BIPOLE/), &  
    rc=rc)
```



# Creating a Field on a Grid

## An ESMF\_Field wraps model variables

Additional metadata is stored along with the field data, such as the associated grid, stagger, etc.

## Field options

- data types: int\*4, int\*8, real\*4, real\*8
- memory allocated by user or ESMF
- stagger locations: center, corner, edges
- local or global indexing
- ungridded dimensions
- halo region ("ghost" cells)

```

! create a grid
grid = ESMF_GridCreate1PeriDim(minIndex=(/1,1/), &
    maxIndex=(/10,20/), &
    regDecomp=(/2,2/), name="atmgrid", rc=rc)

! create a field from the grid and typekind
! this allocates memory for you
field1 = ESMF_FieldCreate(grid, &
    typekind=ESMF_TYPEKIND_R4, &
    indexflag=ESMF_INDEX_DELOCAL, &
    staggerloc=ESMF_STAGGERLOC_CENTER, &
    name="pressure", rc=rc)

! get local bounds, assuming one local DE
call ESMF_FieldGet(field1, localDe=0, farrayPtr=farray2d, &
    computationalLBound=clb, computationalUBound=cub, &
    totalCount=ftc)

do i = clb(1), cub(1)
  do j = clb(2), cub(2)
    farray2d(i,j) = ... ! computation over local DE
  enddo
enddo

```

Code that creates an ESMF\_Field on center stagger with local indexing. Memory is allocated by ESMF. The local bounds are retrieved.

# Calculate Regridding Weights and Apply Them

## Regrid operation computed in two phases

The first phase **computes an interpolation weight matrix** which is efficiently stored in an ESMF\_RouteHandle.

The weights **only need to be computed once**.

The second phase **applies the weight matrix** to a source field resulting in a destination field.

This same pattern is used for other operations such as **redistribution and halo**.

```

! create source and destination grids
srcGrid = ESMF_GridCreateCubedSphere(...)
dstGrid = ESMF_GridCreate1PeriDim(...)

! Create Fields to hold data
srcField = ESMF_FieldCreate(srcGrid,...)
dstField = ESMF_FieldCreate(dstGrid,...)

! compute regrid weight matrix
call ESMF_FieldRegridStore(srcField, dstField, routehandle, ...)

! loop over time
do t=1,...

    ! compute new srcField

    ! apply regrid weight matrix in parallel
    call ESMF_FieldRegrid(srcField, dstField, routehandle, ...)
enddo

! release resources
call ESMF_FieldRegridRelease(routehandle, ...)
    
```

Typical code pattern for executing an ESMF communications operations. Once computed, a RouteHandle can be reused for multiple calls.

## Regrid Methods

- Bilinear:
  - Destination is a linear combination of source cell corners
  - Weights based distance from corners
  - Typically used to regrid model state variables (e.g. temperature)
- Higher order patch recovery:
  - Multiple polynomial patches represent region around source cell
  - Destination is linear combination of patch values
  - Yields better derivatives/smoothier results than bilinear
  - Based on “patch recovery” used in finite element modeling [1][2]
- Nearest neighbor:
  - Destination is equal to closest source point (or vice versa)
  - Useful for extrapolating data outside of source grid, or categorical data

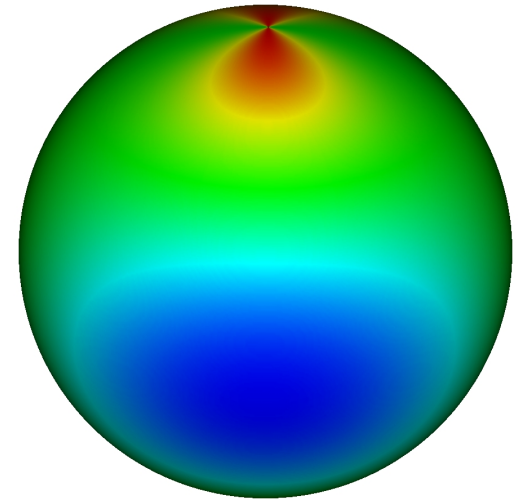
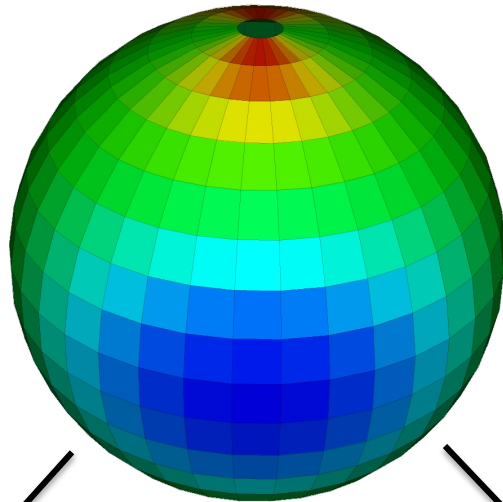
## Conservative Regrid Methods

- First-order conservative:
  - Destination is combination of intersecting source cells
  - Preserves integral of data across interpolation
- Higher-order conservative (**in progress**):
  - Destination is combination of intersection source cells modified to take into account source cell gradient
  - Requires a wider stencil and more computation, so more expensive in terms of memory and time than first-order
  - Preserves integral of field across interpolation, but gives smoother results than first-order (especially when going from coarser to finer grids)

# Conservative Methods Example

Source:

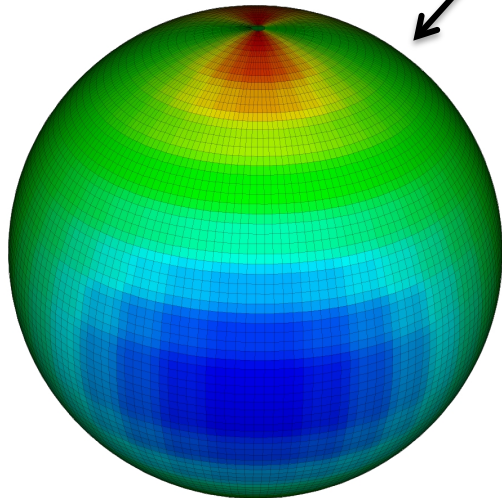
- 10 degree uniform global
- $F = 2 + \cos(\text{lon})^2 * \cos(2 * \text{lat})$



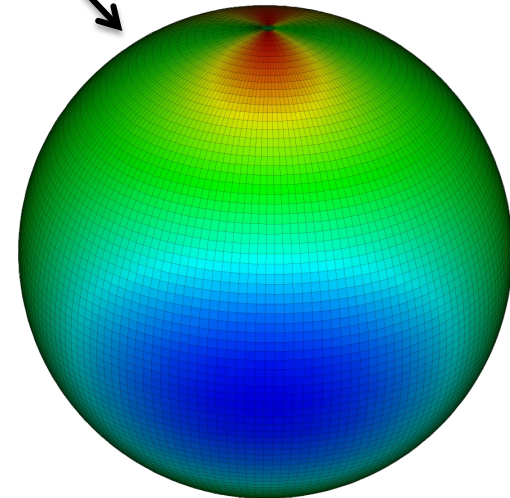
$$F = 2 + \cos(\text{lon})^2 * \cos(2 * \text{lat})$$

Destinations:

- 2 degree uniform global



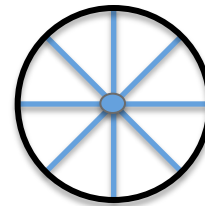
First-Order Conservative



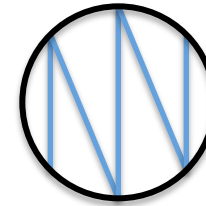
Higher-Order Conservative  
(Preliminary)

## Other Regrid Options

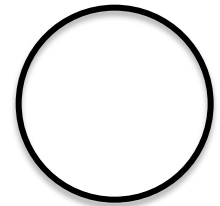
- Path between points in bilinear on a sphere:
  - Straight line
  - Great circle
- Options for extrapolating across pole region:
  - Full circle average
  - N-point average
  - Teeth
  - No pole



Full circle avg.  
N-point avg



Teeth



No Pole

- Others:
  - Source and Destination Masking
  - Information about what happened to each destination location during regridding (e.g. outside source grid, masked, etc.)
  - User area
  - Ignore unmapped, Ignore degenerate

# Exchange Grid

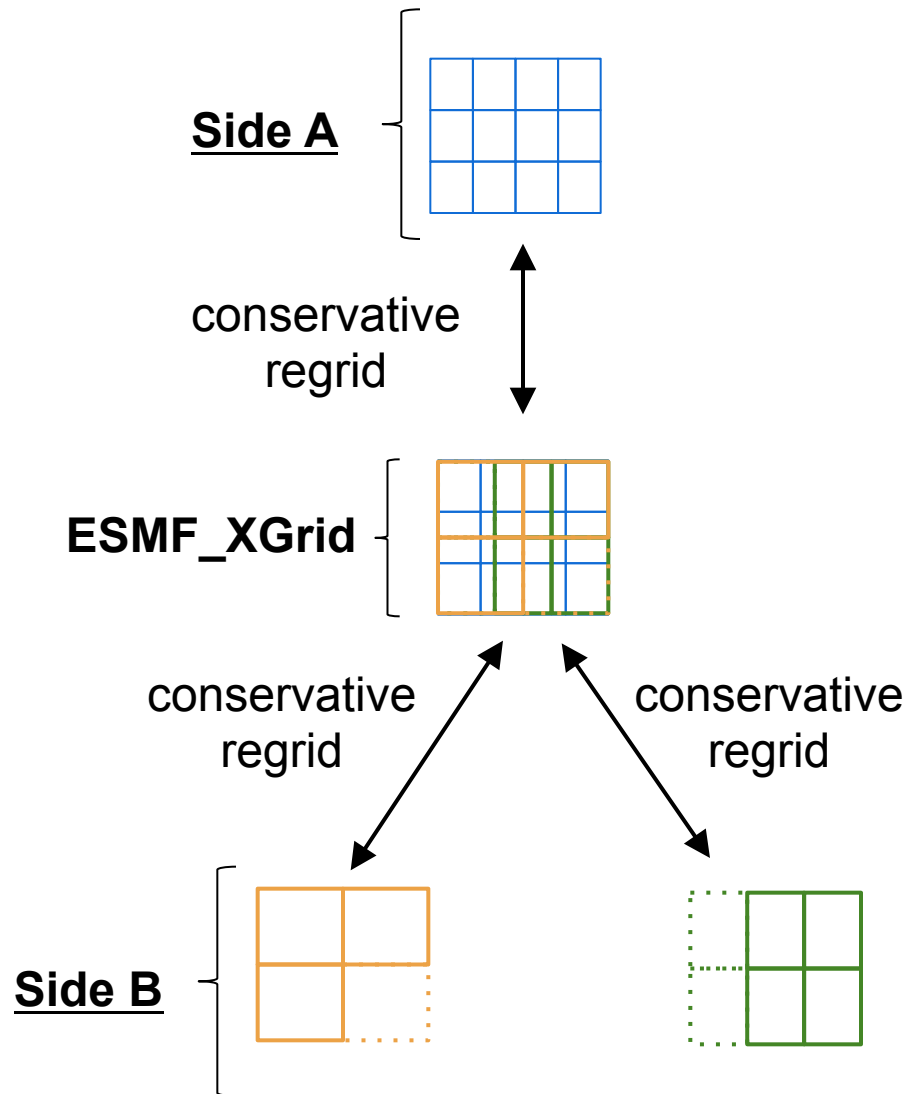
Modeled on GFDL Exchange Grid  
(V. Balaji et al. [3])

ESMF\_XGrid **generated from two sets of source grids/meshes**  
(sideA & sideB).

- **merge** process in which higher priority grids clip into lower priority grids
- **masks** are respected

XGrid supports **first-order conservative regridding** - will support higher-order conservative method next release

**ESMF\_Field** is constructed on the XGrid mesh and used as source/destination of regridding operations.



## Exchange Grid Create API

**ESMF\_XGridCreate(sideAGrid, sideAMesh, sideBGrid, sideBMesh, & ..., sideAMaskValues, sideBMaskValues, ..., rc)**

Create an exchange grid between a set of Grids and Meshes on one side with a set of Grids and Meshes on another. Once the exchange grid has been created data can be interpolated between the two sides and the center using ESMF\_FieldRegridStore().

**[sideAGrid]** - List of Grids on side A of the exchange grid.

**[sideAMesh]** – List of Meshes on side A of the exchange grid.

**[sideBGrid]** - List of Grids on side B of the exchange grid.

**[sideBMesh]** – List of Meshes on side B of the exchange grid.

**[sideAMaskValues]** – List of values which indicates a cell should be masked on side A.

**[sideBMaskValues]** – List of values which indicates a cell should be masked on side B.

**! Create a Mesh for side A**

```
atmMesh=ESMF_MeshCreateCubedSphere(...)
```

**! Create two Grids for side B**

```
landGrid=ESMF_GridCreate1PeriDim(...)
```

```
oceanGrid=ESMF_GridCreate1PeriDim(...)
```

**! Create an exchange grid between the atmosphere Mesh and both land and ocean Grids.**

**! Mask out any cells in the land and ocean grids with a mask value of 1.**

```
xgrid = ESMF_XGridCreate(sideAMesh=(/atmmesh), sideBGrid=(/landGrid, oceanGrid/),
                        sideBMaskValues=(/1/), rc=rc)
```



## Regridding Using an Exchange Grid

```
! Start with atmMesh, landGrid, and oceanGrid
```

```
! Create exchange grid
```

```
xgrid = ESMF_XGridCreate(sideAMesh=(/atmmesh), sideBGrid=(/landGrid, oceanGrid/), ....)
```

```
! Create Fields to hold data
```

```
atmField = ESMF_FieldCreate(atmMesh,...)
```

```
landField = ESMF_FieldCreate(landGrid,...)
```

```
oceanField = ESMF_FieldCreate(oceanGrid,...)
```

```
xField = ESMF_FieldCreate(xgrid,...)
```

```
! compute regrid weight matrix from atm to xgrid
```

```
call ESMF_FieldRegridStore(xgrid, atmField, xField, a2x_rhandle, ...)
```

```
! compute regrid weight matrix from xgrid to ocean
```

```
call ESMF_FieldRegridStore(xgrid, xField, oceanField, x2o_rhandle, ...)
```

```
! loop over time moving data from atm to ocean through xgrid
```

```
do t=1,...
```

```
! compute new atmField
```

```
! apply regrid weight matrix moving data from atm to xgrid
```

```
call ESMF_FieldRegrid(atmField, xField, a2x_rhandle, ...)
```

```
! apply regrid weight matrix moving data from xgrid to ocean
```

```
call ESMF_FieldRegrid(xField, oceanField, x2o_rhandle, ...)
```

```
enddo
```

## Scheduled for Next Release

- Cubed sphere creation interfaces (7.1.0) ← already working
- Higher-order conservative regridding (7.1.0) ← in progress
- Extrapolation of points that lie outside the source grid (7.1.0)
- Dynamic masking during sparse matrix multiply (7.1.0)

## References

1. Khoei S.A., Gharehbaghi A. R. The superconvergent patch recovery technique and data transfer operators in 3d plasticity problems. *Finite Elements in Analysis and Design*, 43(8), 2007.
2. Hung K.C, Gu H., Zong Z. A modified superconvergent patch recovery method and its application to large deformation problems. *Finite Elements in Analysis and Design*, 40(5-6), 2004.
3. Balaji, V., Anderson, J., Held, I. Winton, M. Malyshev, S., Souffer, R. The FMS Exchange Grid: a mechanism for data exchange between Earth System components on independent grids. 2007.

If you have questions or requests,  
come talk to me, or email:  
[esmf\\_support@list.woc.noaa.gov](mailto:esmf_support@list.woc.noaa.gov)

End of Presentation

## F95 Regridding Example

! Create Geometry Classes

```
srcGrid= ESMF_GridCreateCubedSphere(...)
```

```
dstMesh=ESMF_MeshCreate(...)
```

! Create Fields

```
srcField=ESMF_FieldCreate(srcGrid, ...)
```

```
dstField=ESMF_FieldCreate(dstMesh, ...)
```

! Calc regrid sparse matrix (routeHandle)

```
ESMF_FieldRegridStore(srcField, dstField, ...routeHandle, ...)
```

! Loop applying regrid sparse matrix (routeHandle) whenever source data changes  
do i=1,...

```
    ! Compute new srcField
```

```
    ....
```

```
    ! Apply regrid sparse matrix (routeHandle)
```

```
    ESMF_FieldRegrid(srcField, dstField, ...routeHandle, ...)
```

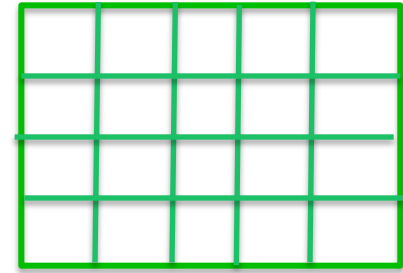
```
    ! dstField contains regridded data here
```

```
enddo
```

## Supported Geometry Types

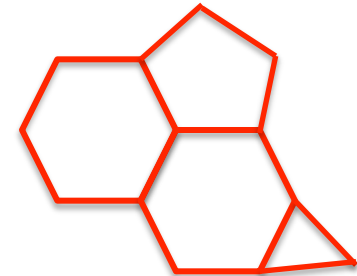
- Grid:

- Structured representation of a region
- Consists of one or more logically rectangular tiles (e.g. a uniform global grid or a cubed sphere grid)



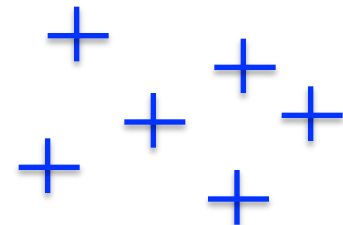
- Mesh:

- Unstructured representation of a region
- In 2D: polygons with any number of sides
  - A single mesh cell can consist of multiple pieces (e.g. Hawaii)
- In 3D: tetrahedrons & hexahedrons



- LocStream (Location Stream):

- Set of disconnected points
  - E.g. locations of observations
- Very flexible and efficient
- Can't be used with every regrid method



## Spherical Regrid Support

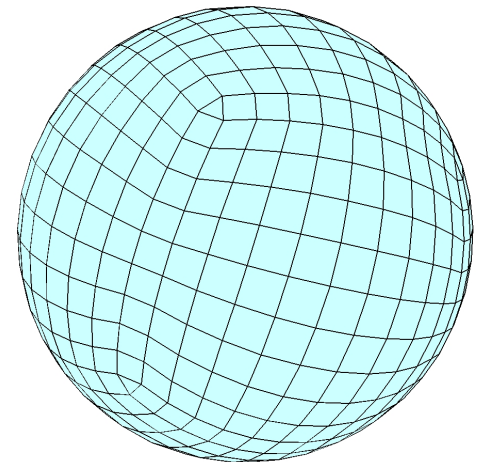
- Regrid works with spherical (lon, lat, radius) coordinates
- All regrid methods supported between any pair of:
  - 2D Global or 2D regional logically rectangular Grids
  - 2D Unstructured Meshes composed of polygons with any number of sides
  - 2D Multi-tile grids (e.g. cubed spheres)
- Bilinear supported between any pair of:
  - 3D Meshes composed of hexahedrons
  - 3D Global or regional logically rectangular Grids
- LocStreams supported for above depending on regrid method



3D Global Spherical Grid



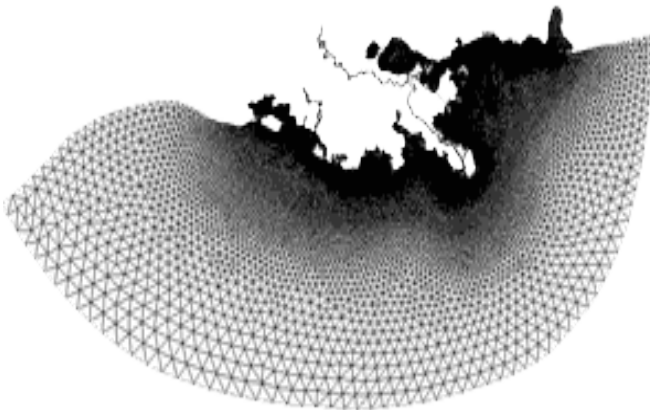
Unstructured Grid



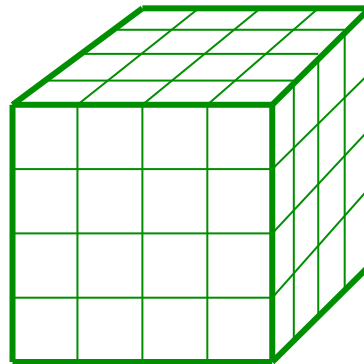
Multi-tile Grid

## Cartesian Regrid Support

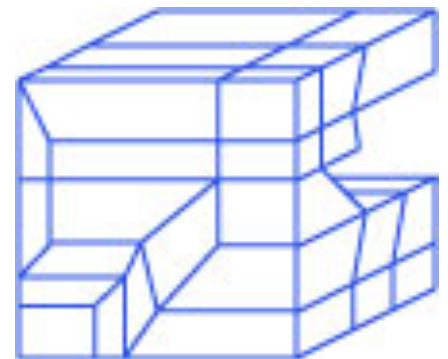
- Regrid works with Cartesian (x,y,z) coordinates
- All regrid methods between any pair of:
  - 2D Meshes composed of polygons with any number of sides
  - 2D logically rectangular Grids
- Bilinear, conservative, or nearest neighbor between any pair of:
  - 3D Meshes composed of hexahedrons
  - 3D logically rectangular Grids
- LocStreams supported for above depending on regrid method



2D Unstructured Mesh  
From [www.ngdc.noaa.gov](http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov)



3D Grid



3D Unstructured Mesh



# Interfaces

- Complete F95 API:
  - use ESMF
  - Derived types and methods
  - Investigating moving to Fortran 2003
- C API:
  - #include “ESMC.h”
  - Structs and methods
- Python API:
  - Import ESMPy
  - Classes with methods
- Applications:
  - File-based regrid weight generation:  
mpirun -np <N> ESMF\_RegridWeightGen -s ....
  - File-based weight generation AND application of weights:  
mpirun -np <N> ESMF\_Regrid -s...

## Regridding Application Examples

- Regrid weight generation:

```
mpirun -np 16 ESMF_RegridWeightGen -s src_grid_file.nc -d dst_grid_file.nc  
                                         -m regrid method ... Other options ....  
                                         -w weight_file.nc
```

- src\_grid\_file.nc – file describing source grid
- dst\_grid\_file.nc – file describing destination grid
- regrid\_method – the regrid method used to calculate the weights
- weight\_file.nc – after running contains the regrid sparse matrix

- Regridding data between variables in two files:

```
mpirun -np 16 ESMF_Regrid -s src_file.nc -d dst_file.nc  
                                         -m regrid method ... Other options ....
```

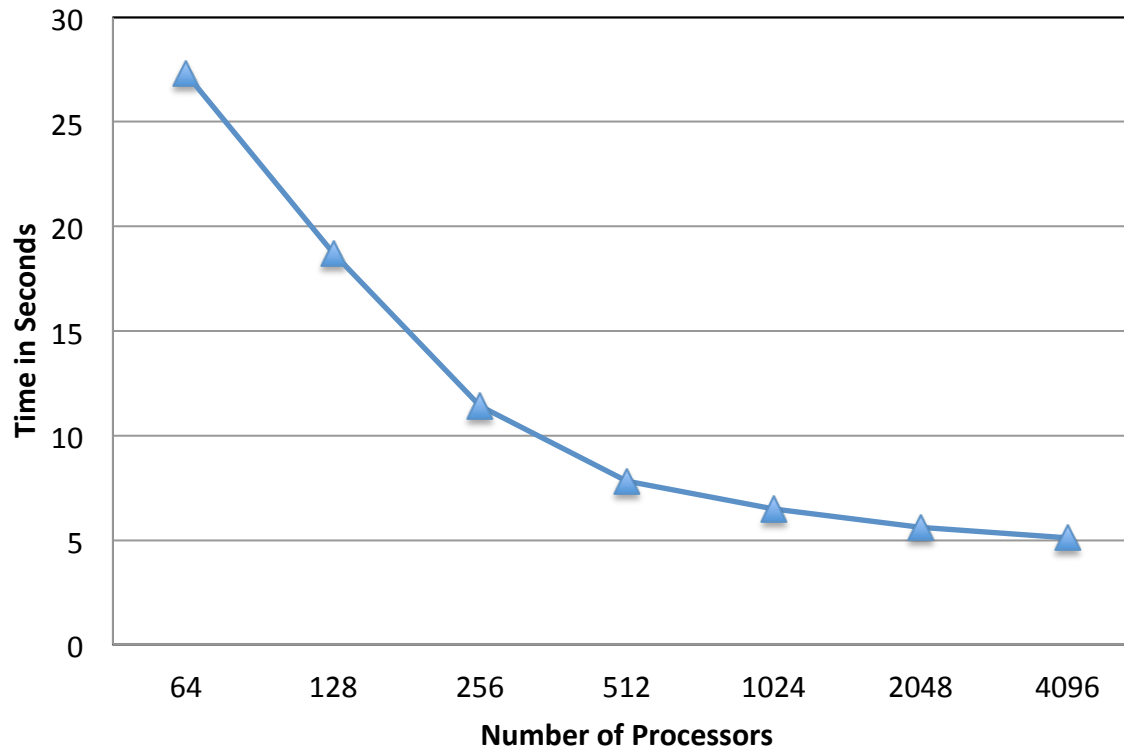
- src\_file.nc – file containing source grid and data
- dst\_file.nc - file containing destination grid
- regrid\_method – the regrid method to use

## Supported Grid File Formats

- **SCRIP:**
  - Format used by SCRIP regridding tool
  - 2D spherical logically rectangular Grids or unstructured Meshes
- **ESMF unstructured:**
  - Custom ESMF format
  - 2D or 3D / spherical or Cartesian unstructured Meshes
- **UGRID:**
  - Proposed CF convention
  - 2D or 3D / spherical or Cartesian unstructured Meshes
- **CF Grid:**
  - CF convention
  - 2D spherical logically rectangular Grid
- **GRIDSPEC mosaic:**
  - Format from GFDL
  - 2D spherical set of logically rectangular tiles with connections between them

# Regrid Weight Calculation Performance

**First-Order Conservative Interpolation Weight Calculation**  
(2km unstructured land only grid to 1/8 degree global grid)



Platform: IBM IDataPlex cluster (Yellowstone at NCAR)

Grid size: ~30 million cells and ~4 millions cells

## Other Tools Using ESMF Regrid

- Ultrascale Visualization Climate Data Analysis Tool (UV-CDAT):
  - Package designed for analyzing large climate data sets
  - Uses ESMF regriding via ESMPy
  - Won Federal Laboratory Consortium technology transfer award
- Cf-python:
  - Python package for manipulating cf data and files
  - Uses ESMF regriding via ESMPy
- NCAR Command Language (NCL):
  - Language for scientific data analysis and visualization
  - Uses ESMF regriding via ESMF\_RegridWeightGen application