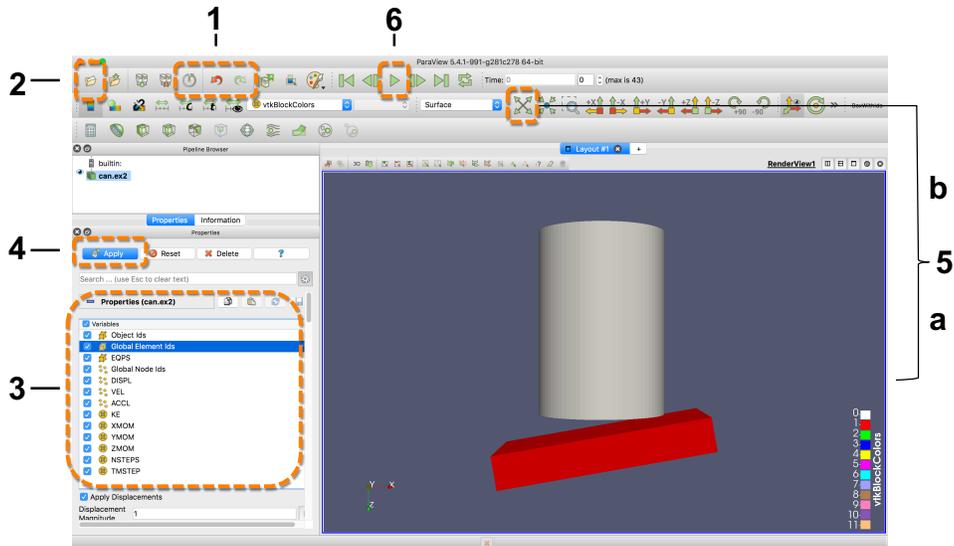# ParaView Getting Started Guide
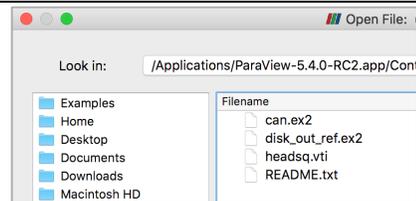

Reset Session

1 At any time, click ⟳ to reset ParaView to its initial state when the program is first started. The **Undo** and **Redo** buttons ↶ ↷ are also available to undo/redo individual changes.
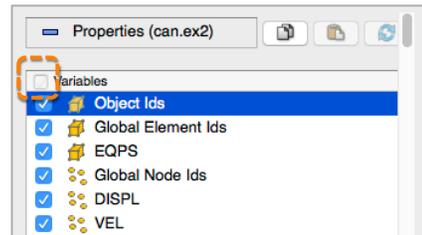
Open File

2 Click the folder icon 📂or choose **File -> Open**. From the **Examples** directory, open the file **can.ex2**. Doing so creates a **file reader** in the **Pipeline Browser**.
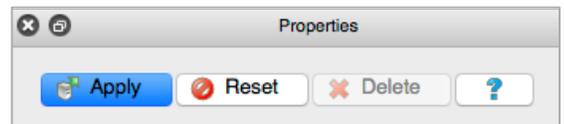

Select Data Variables

3 Before the data are loaded, you can choose which variables to load in the **Properties** panel (lower left, ParaView window). Click the checkbox next to **Variables** to load all variables. Note: many controls in ParaView are located in this panel.
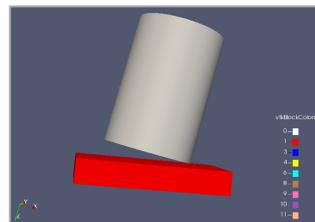

Apply Data

4 Click the **Apply** button to load the data. If you change any file reader properties, click **Apply** to update the visualization.
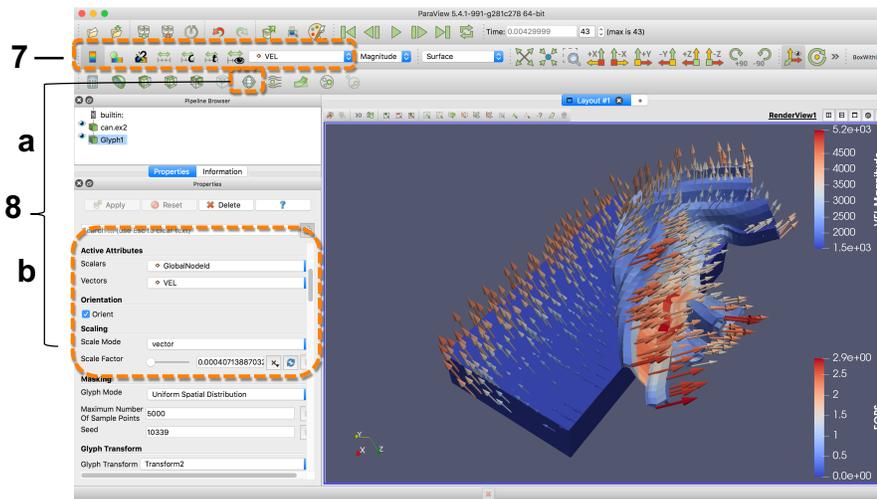

Interact with 3D View

5 **a.** Click the left mouse button and drag to rotate, the middle mouse button to translate, and the scroll wheel or right mouse button to zoom. For one- or two-button mice, hold down Shift and Control keys while clicking and dragging to tilt, translate, and zoom.
b. To re-center the data in the view, click ⊡.

Animate the Data

6 Press the play button and watch the can get crushed. Other buttons enable moving to different timesteps.
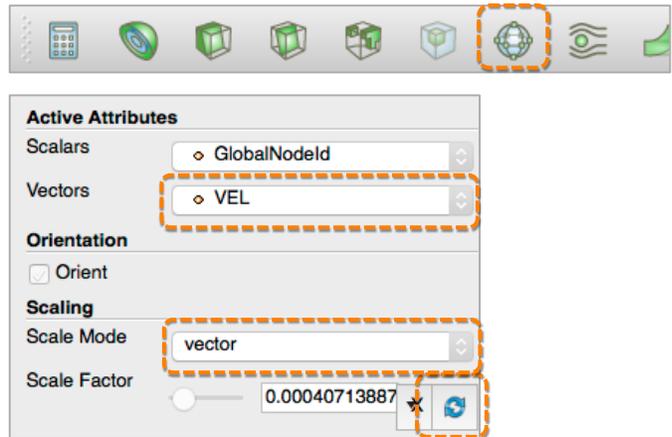

7

Apply a Color Map to a Variable
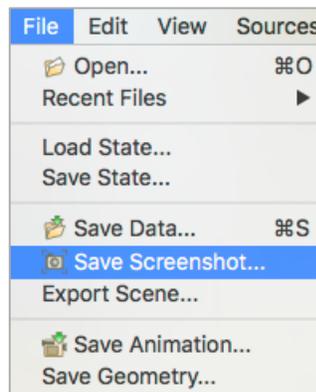Click on the drop-down menu in the variables toolbar and select the **EQPS** variable.

Add Vector Glyphs
a. Ensure **can.ex2** is selected in the **Pipeline Browser**. Click the **Glyph** filter icon 🌐 in the toolbar to add a **filter** to the pipeline that will add arrow glyphs to the visualization.

8

b. In the **Properties** panel under **Active Attributes**, choose **VEL** from the **Vectors** property menu. Change the **Scale Mode** to **vector**. Click 🔄 to rescale the vectors to an appropriate length. Click **Apply** to update the visualization. Use the variables toolbar to color the glyphs by **VEL** (see previous step).

Save Screenshot
Save an image for presentation or publication by choosing **File -> Save Screenshot…**

Get Additional Help
Additional resources for learning about **ParaView** are available in the **Help** menu.

- **ParaView Guide** – comprehensive user guide for ParaView
- **Help** – online help for file readers and filters
- **Online Tutorials** – in-depth tutorials for ParaView
- **Online Blogs** – informative blog posts on new features in ParaView