

# LA-UR-23-30433

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**Title:** New Plotter Built into MCNP

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# New Plotter built into MCNP



**Presented by Cole Frederick**  
**Work by Sriram Swaminarayan**

MCNP User Symposium  
Sep 2023



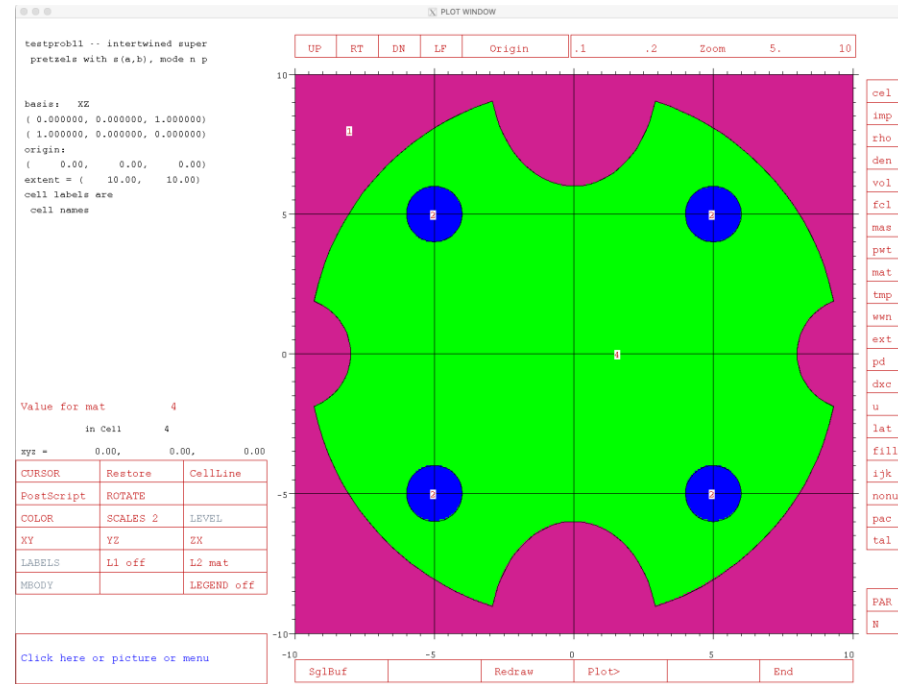
# Why update the plotter?

## Current interface uses a basic layout

- Buttons are modeled directly in MCNP, not using a UI framework
- Interaction with interface doesn't provide a modern look-and-feel

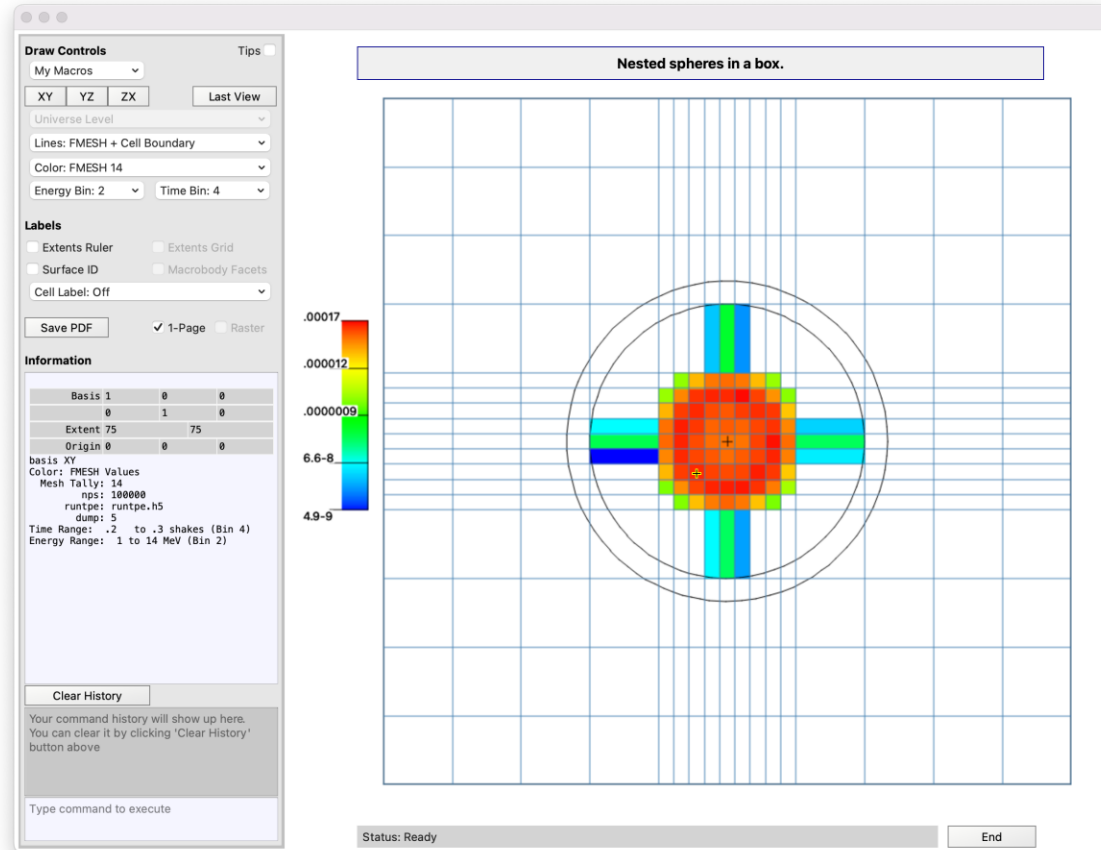
## Performance is less than optimal

- No platform specific optimizations
- Host code runs the main event loop



# Modern Controls

- Reactive buttons, checkboxes
- Menus (drop down or tear away)
- Tool tips on mouse hover
- Mouse controls for pan, rotate, zoom
- Faster rendering



# Features

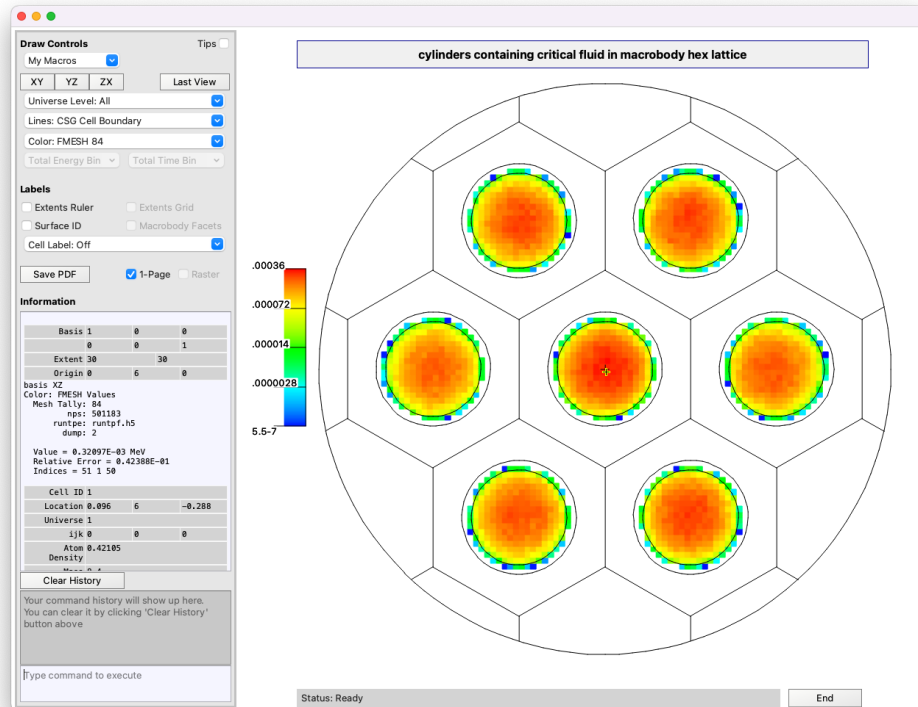
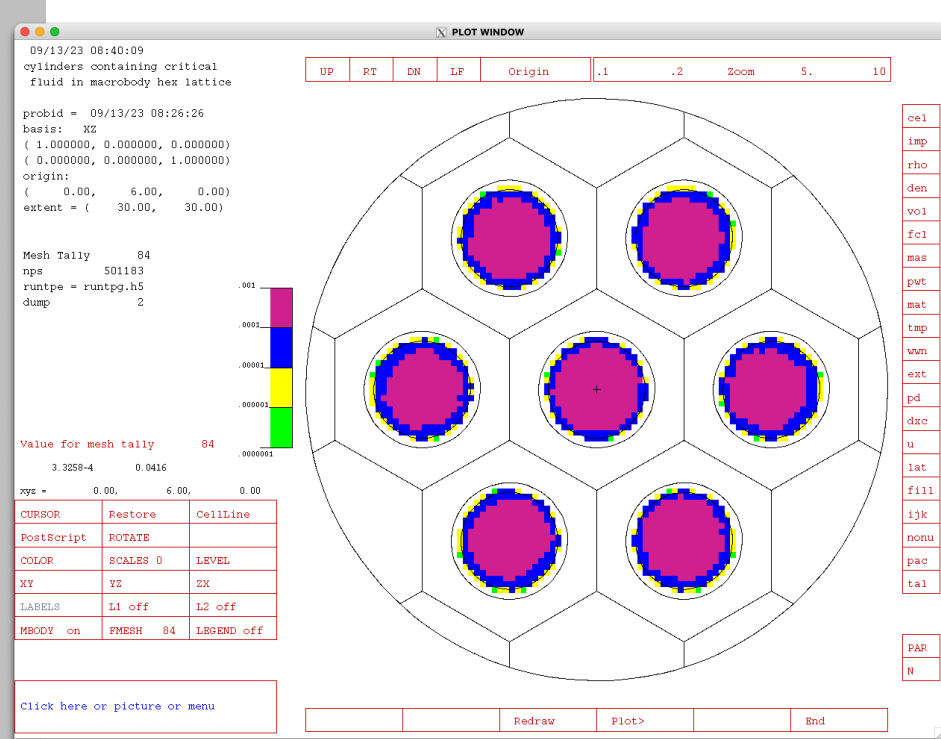
## Retains:

- Text command interface for scripts and power users
- All drawing capabilities offered by previous plotter

## Adds (so far):

- Export directly to PDF
- Cell information at a glance
- Mouse pan/rotate/zoom
- Save/restore views
  - Easily shared with colleagues
- Etc

# Side by Side



# Control Panel Detail

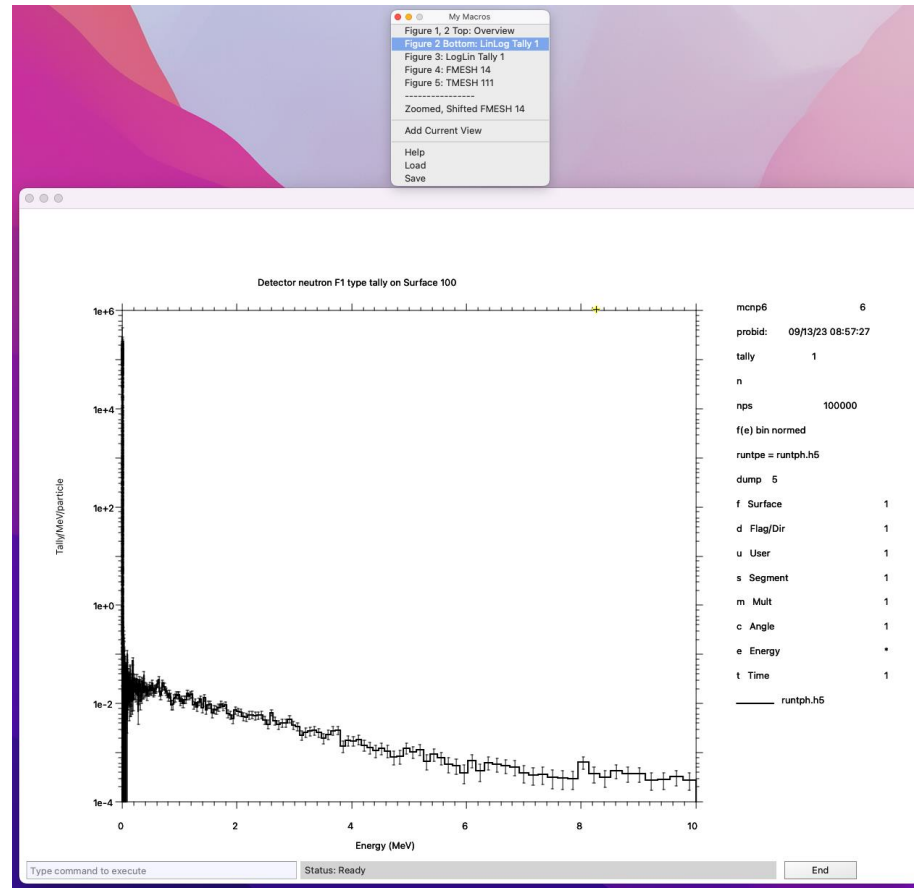
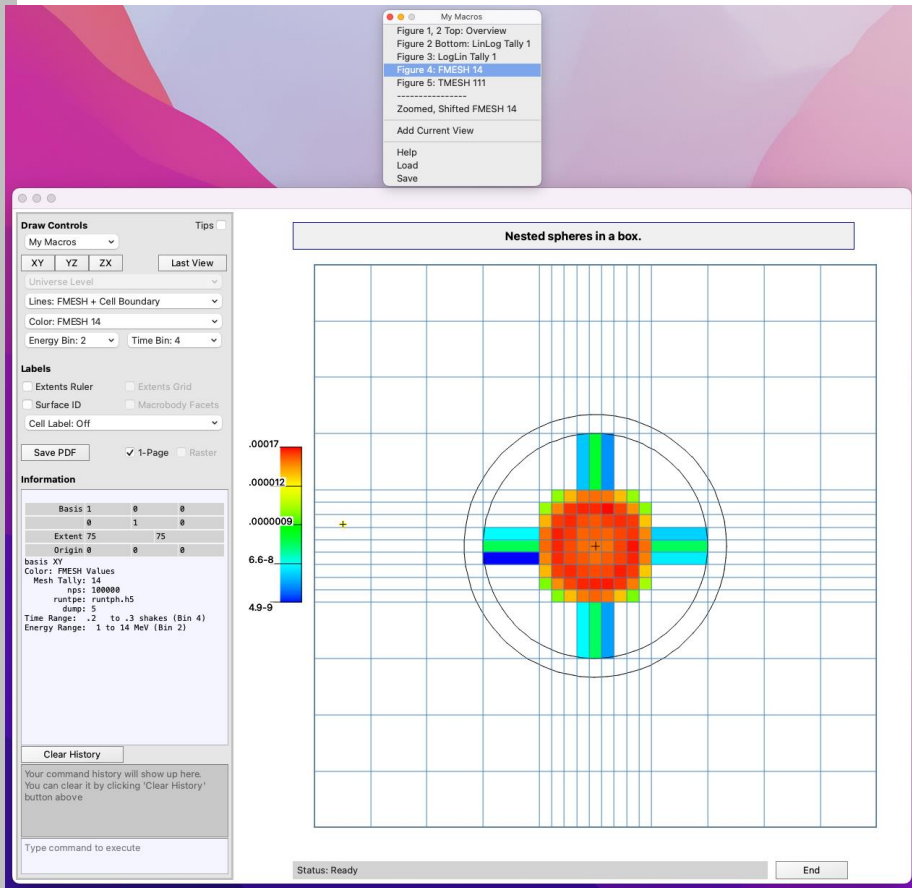
The image shows a software control panel titled "Draw Controls" with various settings and options. Callouts provide detailed explanations for several key features:

- My Macros:** A dropdown menu for user-defined view selectors.
- Views:** Direct access to *z*, *x*, and *y* views via buttons labeled XY, YZ, and ZX.
- Universe Level:** A menu for selecting the level for repeated structure geometries.
- Color menu:** Controls the filling of cells.
- FMesh Tally:** Includes an energy bin selector and an FMESH tally time bin selector.
- Labels:** A section with checkboxes for Extents Ruler, Extents Grid, Surface ID, and Macrobody Facets. A dropdown for Cell Label is set to "Off".
- PDF Options:** Includes a "Save PDF" button, a checked "1-Page" option, and an unchecked "Raster" option.
- Tips:** A checkbox to show tool tips by hovering the mouse over graphics elements.
- Last View:** A button to toggle between the current and previous view.
- Line menu:** Determines outlines on the graph.
- Draw grid:** A checkbox to draw a grid (active with ruler).
- Surface labels:** A checkbox to toggle the drawing of surface labels.
- Cell label menu:** A dropdown for cell values.
- Save current view:** A button to save the current view to a PDF file.

A general note at the bottom states: "All drop-down menus can be 'torn off' with the dotted line at the top."



# Saved Views



# Demo

# Looking forward

## **Distributed with 6.3.0, ready to try today**

- Looking for feedback as we prioritize future work

## **Integrated directly with MCNP, not a sidecar project**

- Used by the development team

## **Planned next steps**

- Multiple windows (showing multiple views into the same geometry)
- 3D rendering (ray tracing) directly reflecting the physics engine
- Interactive/live editing of the geometry

# Questions?

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