



# Data Representation and Fundamental Algorithms

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Anders Hast



# Data Representation

- Cells
  - ✱ Linear
  - ✱ Non linear
- Topology vs. Geometry
- Attribute Data
  - ✱ Scalar
  - ✱ Vectors
  - ✱ Normals
  - ✱ Texture Coordinates
  - ✱ Tensors



# Cells

- A dataset consists of one or more *cells*
- They are the fundamental building block
- Cells are defined by specifying:
  - ✱ a type
  - ✱ an ordered list of points

# Linear Cell Types



VTK\_VERTEX (=1)



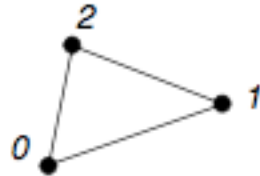
VTK\_POLY\_VERTEX (=2)



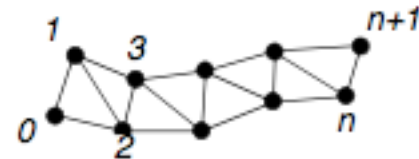
VTK\_LINE (=3)



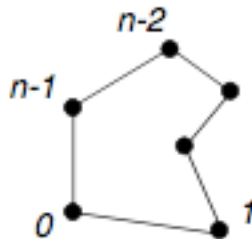
VTK\_POLY\_LINE (=4)



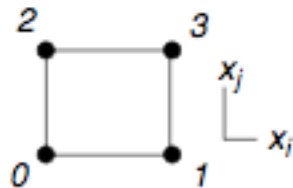
VTK\_TRIANGLE (=5)



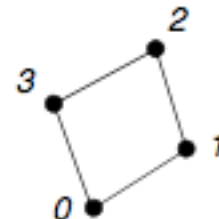
VTK\_TRIANGLE\_STRIP (=6)



VTK\_POLYGON (=7)



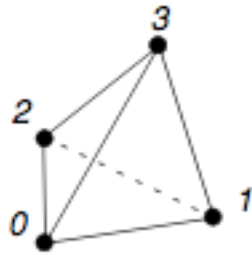
VTK\_PIXEL (=8)



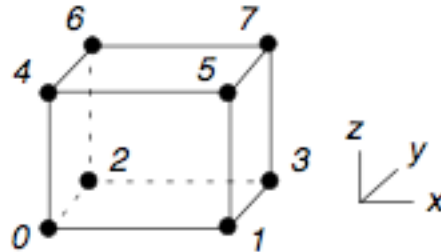
VTK\_QUAD (=9)



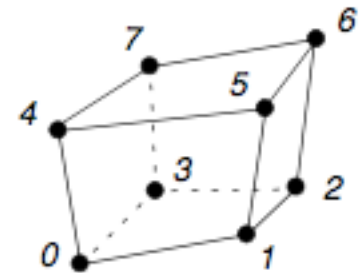
# More Linear Cell Types



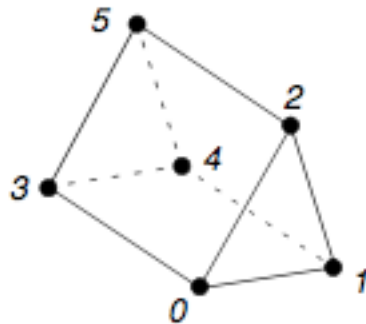
VTK\_TETRA (=10)



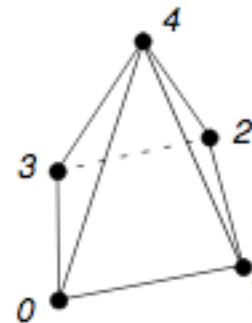
VTK\_VOXEL (=11)



VTK\_HEXAHEDRON (=12)

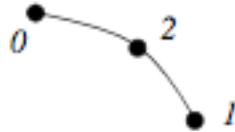


VTK\_WEDGE (=13)

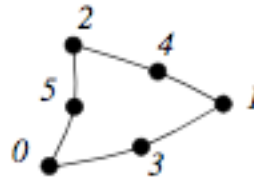


VTK\_PYRAMID (=14)

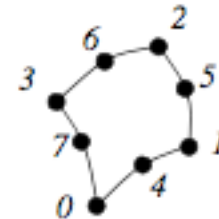
# Non Linear Types



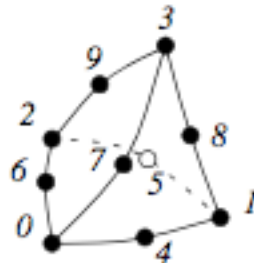
VTK\_QUADRATIC\_EDGE  
(=21)



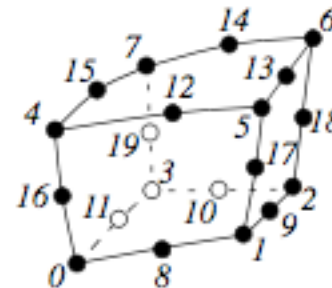
VTK\_QUADRATIC\_TRIANGLE  
(=22)



VTK\_QUADRATIC\_QUAD  
(=23)



VTK\_QUADRATIC\_TETRA  
(=24)

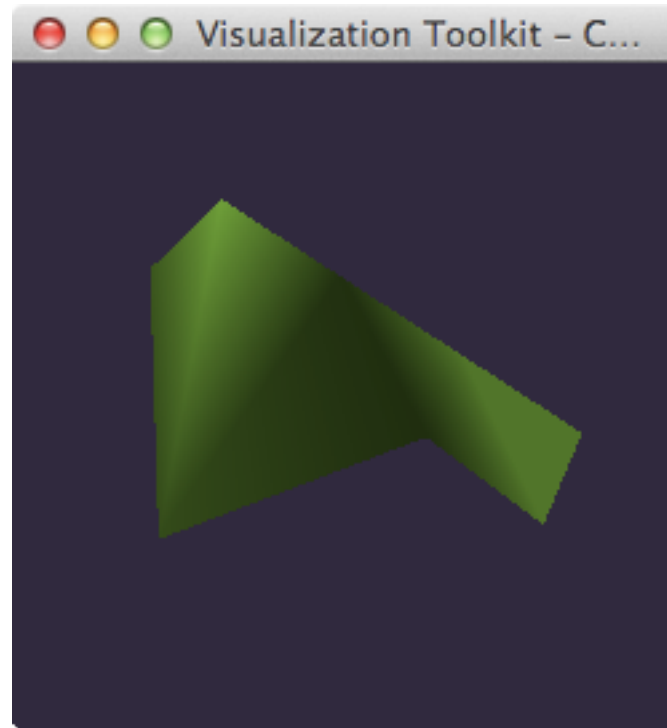


VTK\_QUADRATIC\_HEXAHEDRON  
(=25)



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# Strips





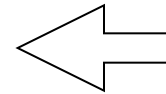
```
from vtk import *
```

```
points = vtkPoints()  
points.InsertPoint(0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0)  
points.InsertPoint(1, 0.0, 1.0, 0.0)  
points.InsertPoint(2, 1.0, 0.0, 0.0)  
points.InsertPoint(3, 1.0, 2.0, 1.0)  
points.InsertPoint(4, 2.0, 0.0, 0.0)  
points.InsertPoint(5, 2.0, 2.0, -1.0)  
points.InsertPoint(6, 3.0, 0.0, 0.0)  
points.InsertPoint(7, 3.0, 1.0, 0.0)
```





```
cells = vtkCellArray()  
cells.InsertNextCell(8) # number of points  
cells.InsertCellPoint(0)  
cells.InsertCellPoint(1)  
cells.InsertCellPoint(2)  
cells.InsertCellPoint(3)  
cells.InsertCellPoint(4)  
cells.InsertCellPoint(5)  
cells.InsertCellPoint(6)  
cells.InsertCellPoint(7)
```



Specifies connection order

```
strip = vtkPolyData()  
strip.SetPoints(points)  
strip.SetStrips(cells)
```

```
map = vtkPolyDataMapper()  
map.SetInput(strip)
```

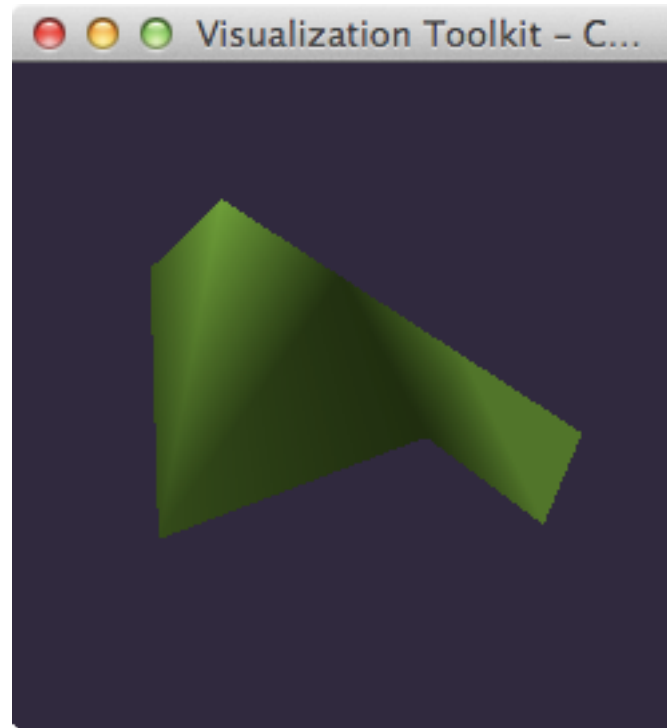
```
strip = vtkActor()  
strip.SetMapper(map)  
strip.GetProperty().SetColor(0.3800, 0.7000, 0.1600)
```

```
ren = vtkRenderer()  
ren.AddActor(strip)  
ren.SetBackground(0.2, 0.15, 0.25)
```

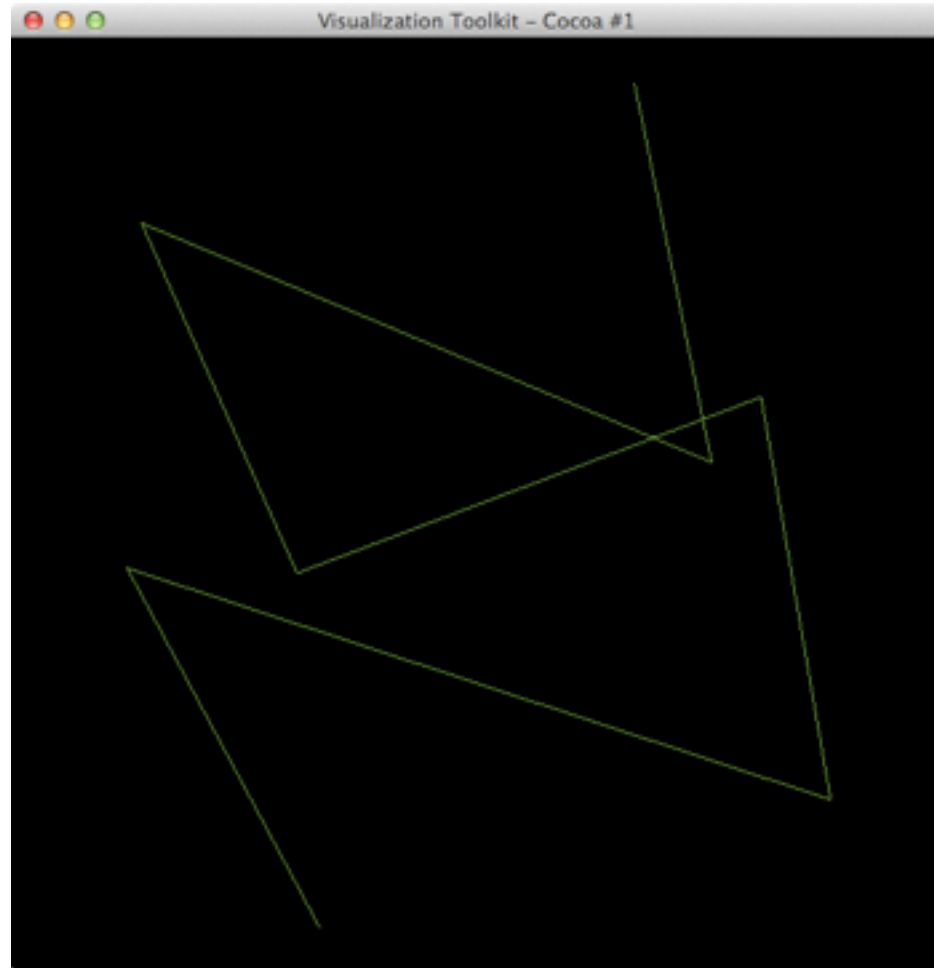
```
renWin = vtkRenderWindow()  
renWin.AddRenderer(ren)  
renWin.SetSize(250, 250)  
renWin.Render()
```

```
iren = vtkRenderWindowInteractor()  
iren.SetRenderWindow(renWin)  
iren.Initialize()  
iren.Start()
```

# Result



# PolyLine





```
# load VTK  
from vtk import *
```

```
lines = vtkPolyData()  
points = vtkPoints()  
cells = vtkCellArray()
```

```
points.InsertPoint(0,0,0,0)  
points.InsertNextPoint(0,0,1)  
points.InsertNextPoint(0,1,0)  
points.InsertNextPoint(0,1,1)  
points.InsertNextPoint(1,0,0)  
points.InsertNextPoint(1,0,1)  
points.InsertNextPoint(1,1,0)  
points.InsertNextPoint(1,1,1)
```

```
cells.InsertNextCell(8)  
cells.InsertCellPoint(0)  
cells.InsertCellPoint(1)  
cells.InsertCellPoint(2)  
cells.InsertCellPoint(3)  
cells.InsertCellPoint(4)  
cells.InsertCellPoint(5)  
cells.InsertCellPoint(6)  
cells.InsertCellPoint(7)
```

```
lines.SetPoints(points)  
lines.SetLines(cells)
```

```
lineMapper=vtkPolyDataMapper()  
lineMapper.SetInput(lines)  
lineActor=vtkActor()  
lineActor.SetMapper(lineMapper)  
lineActor.GetProperty().SetColor(0.3800, 0.7000, 0.1600)
```

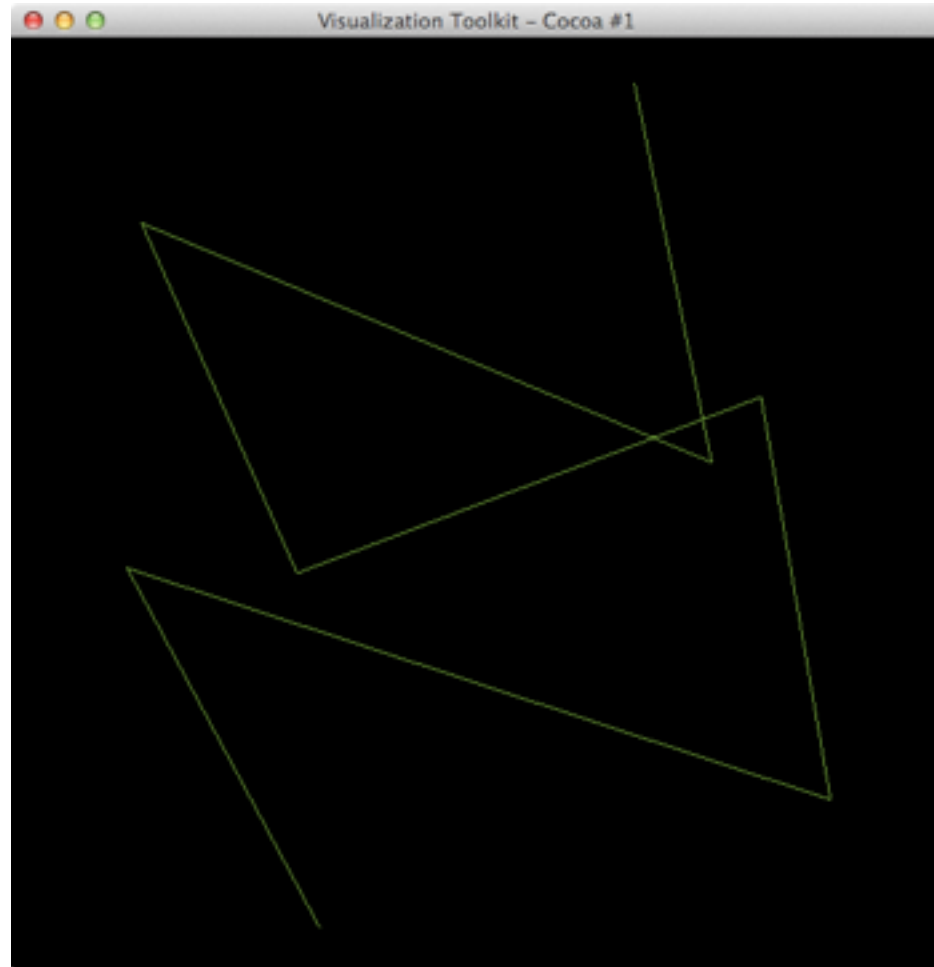


```
ren = vtk.vtkRenderer()  
ren.AddActor(lineActor)
```

```
renWin = vtk.vtkRenderWindow()  
renWin.AddRenderer(ren)  
renWin.SetWindowName("Line")  
renWin.SetSize(600,600)  
renWin.Render()
```

```
iren = vtk.vtkRenderWindowInteractor()  
iren.SetRenderWindow(renWin)  
iren.Initialize()  
iren.Start()
```

# Result

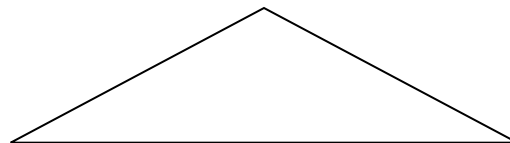
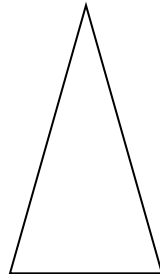






# Topology vs. Geometry

- Each type has its topology
- Example:
  - ✱ A triangle has three vertices but a line has only two, etc
- Geometry
  - ✱ Can differ within the same type



# Dataset Types

## ■ Uniform Grid

- Regular Topology
- regular Geometry

## ■ Rectilinear Grid

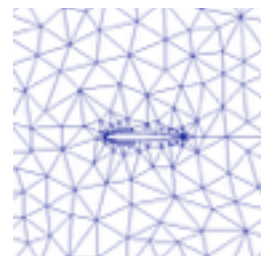
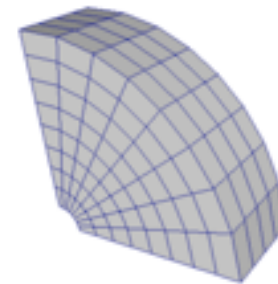
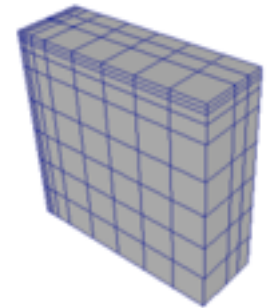
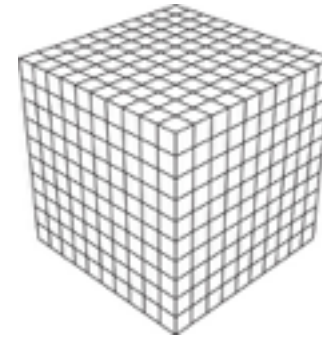
- Regular Topology
- Partially Regular Geometry

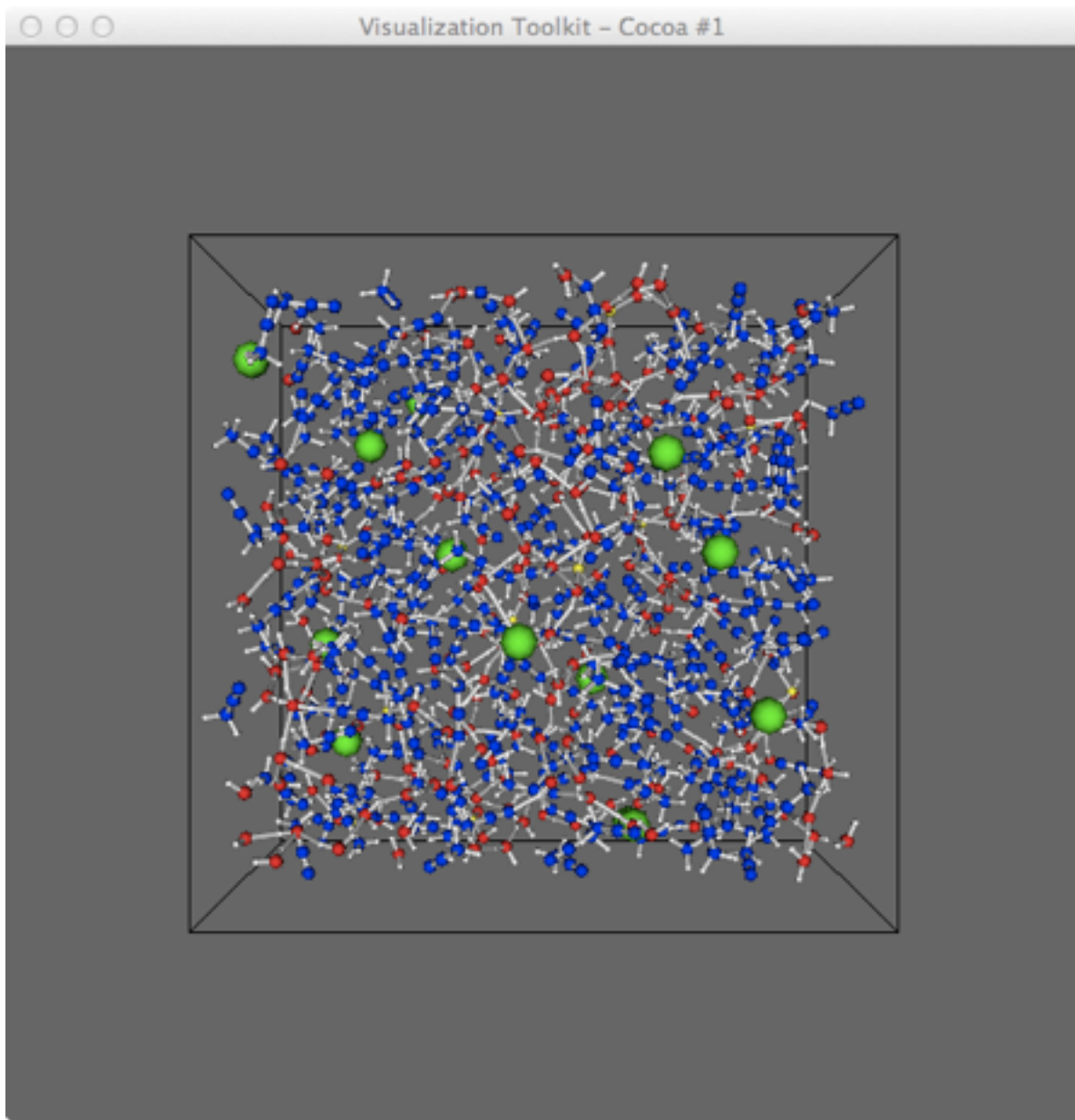
## ■ Structured grids

- Regular Topology
- Irregular Geometry

## ■ Unstructured grids

- Irregular Geometry
- No Structure







# Example

```
from vtk import *
from ReadAtoms import *

# Read the data into a vtkPolyData using the functions
# in ReadPoints.py
data = vtk.vtkPolyData()
data.SetPoints(readPoints("coordinates.txt"))
data.GetPointData().SetScalars(readScalars("radii.txt"))
data.SetLines(readConnections("connections.txt"))

.
```



# Reading Atom data

# ReadAtoms

```
import string
import vtk
```

```
def readPoints(filename):
    points = vtk.vtkPoints()
    file = open(filename)

    line = file.readline()
    while line:
        data = string.split(line)

        if data and data[0] != '#':
            x, y, z = float(data[0]), float(data[1]), float(data[2])
            points.InsertNextPoint(x, y, z)
        line = file.readline()
    return points
```



```
def readScalars(filename):  
    scalars = vtk.vtkFloatArray()  
    file = open(filename)  
  
    line = file.readline()  
    while line:  
        data = string.split(line)  
        if data and data[0] != '#':  
            x= float(data[0])  
            scalars.InsertNextValue(x)  
        line = file.readline()  
    return scalars
```

```
def readConnections(filename):  
    connections=vtk.vtkCellArray()  
    file = open(filename)
```

```
    line = file.readline()
```

```
    while line:
```

```
        data = string.split(line)
```

```
        if data and data[0] != '#':
```

```
            a, b = int(data[0]), int(data[1])
```

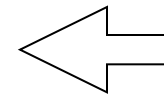
```
            connections.InsertNextCell(2)
```

```
            connections.InsertCellPoint(a)
```

```
            connections.InsertCellPoint(b)
```

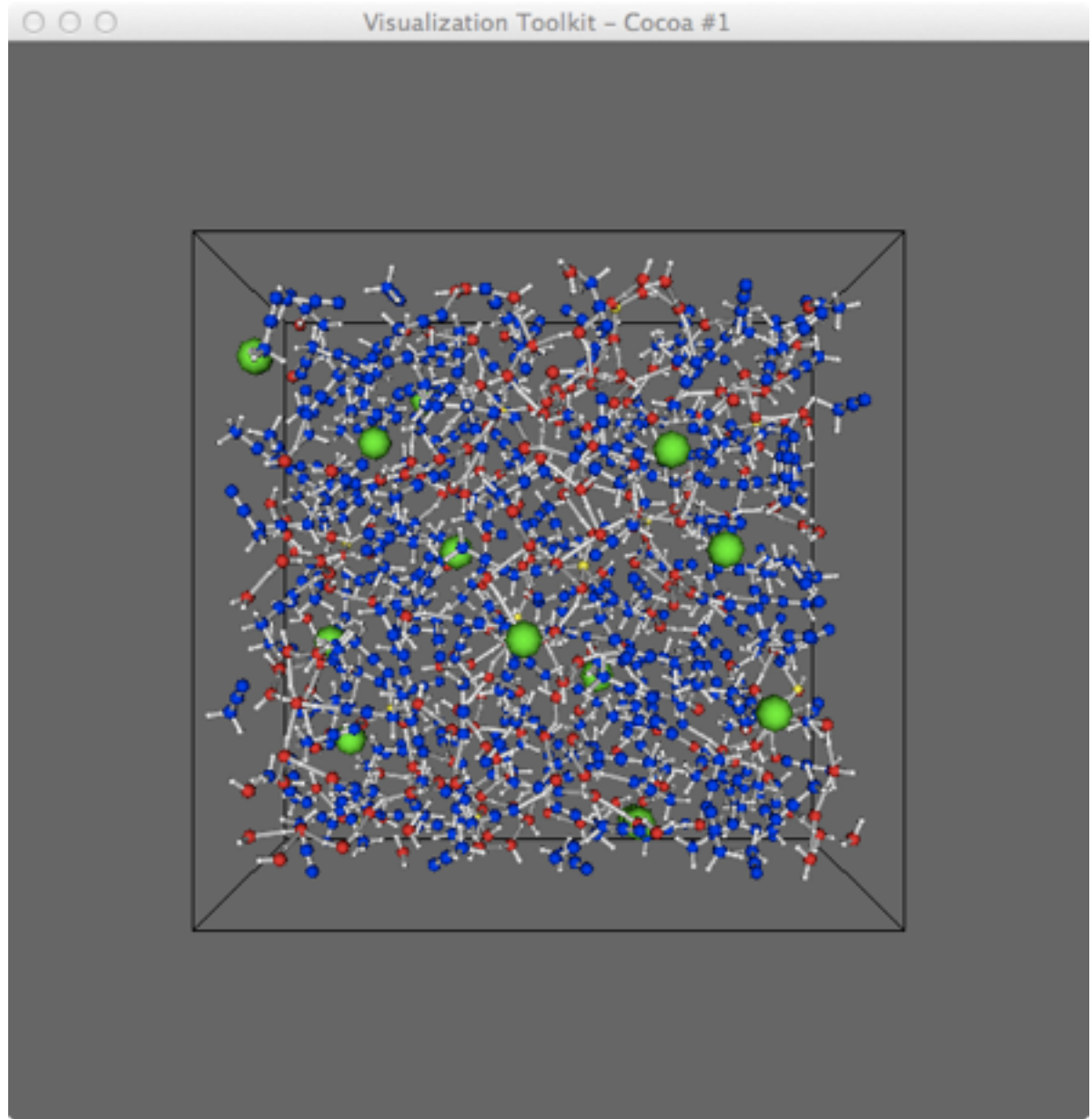
```
        line = file.readline()
```

```
    return connections
```



Specifies the  
connection

# Result







# Summary

- A dataset consists of one or more *cells*
- Cells are defined by specifying:
  - ✱ a type
  - ✱ an ordered list of points
- The Topology describes the object
- The Geometry is defined by the coordinates of the object with a certain topology
- The Dataset types are defined by regular or irregular Topology and Geometry



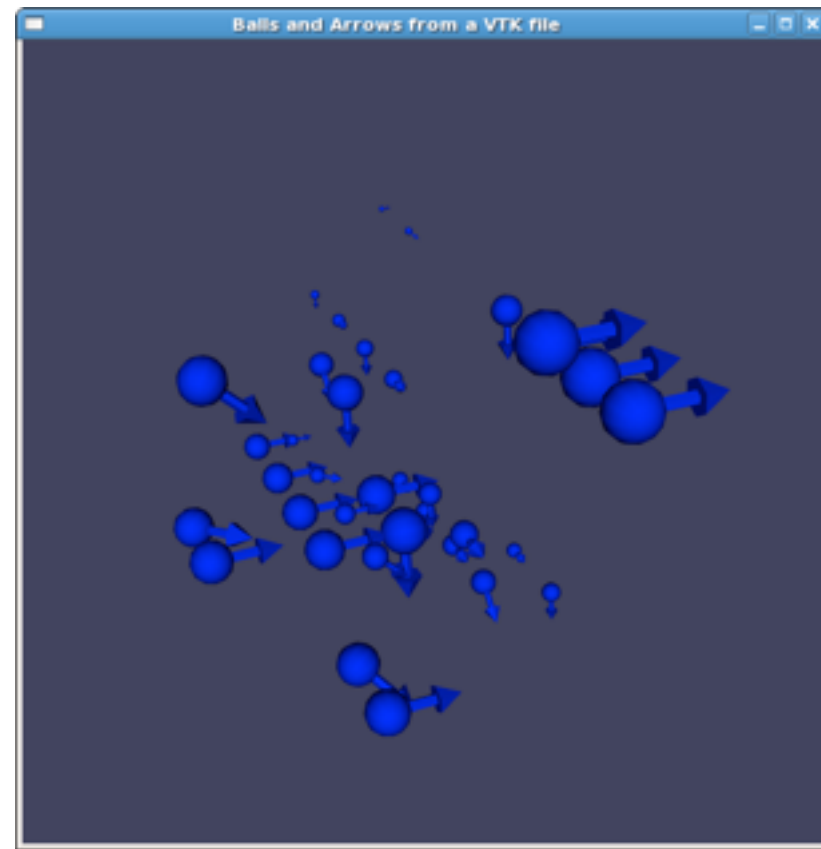
# Fundamental Algorithms

- Colour Mapping
- Streamlines
- Cut Planes
- Glyphs
- Contouring
- Marching Cubes
- Hedgehogs



# Glyphs

- Arrows
- Spheres
- etc



- How many attributes can be encoded here?

# Attributes

## ■ Ball

- ✱ Radius
- ✱ Colour/texture

## ■ Arrow

- ✱ Length of shaft
- ✱ radius of tip
- ✱ Colour/texture
  - Shaft
  - tip

## ■ Etc... But don't use too many!!



# Glyphs

- vtkGlyph3D is a filter that copies a geometric representation (called a glyph) to every point in the input dataset. The glyph is defined with polygonal data from a source filter input.
- The glyph may be oriented along the input vectors or normals, and it may be scaled according to scalar data or vector magnitude.



# Your own Files (Unstructured Grid)

data1.txt

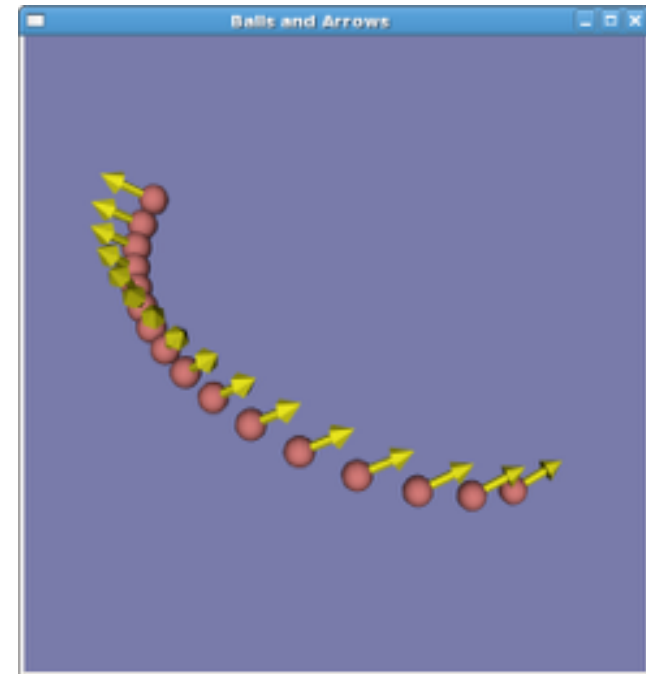
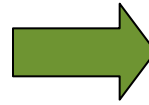
# nb =

0.6744	0.1113	0.7300
0.5362	0.2407	0.8091
0.3671	0.3744	0.8515
0.1866	0.4948	0.8487
0.0175	0.5904	0.8069
-0.1259	0.6597	0.7409
-0.2399	0.7078	0.6644
-0.3273	0.7412	0.5860
-0.3929	0.7654	0.5096
-0.4409	0.7843	0.4364
-0.4746	0.8005	0.3661
-0.4958	0.8159	0.2973
-0.5053	0.8321	0.2287
-0.5023	0.8501	0.1581
-0.4845	0.8708	0.0830
-0.4472	0.8944	0.0000

data2.txt

# c =

0.8798	0.0573	-0.4718
0.9105	0.1226	-0.3950
0.9299	0.1968	-0.3107
0.9345	0.2806	-0.2189
0.9194	0.3746	-0.1200
0.8781	0.4783	-0.0154
0.8029	0.5890	0.0916
0.6864	0.7007	0.1944
0.5248	0.8028	0.2831
0.3230	0.8813	0.3449
0.0976	0.9243	0.3690
-0.1271	0.9275	0.3515
-0.3287	0.8966	0.2968
-0.4943	0.8425	0.2141
-0.6198	0.7766	0.1128
-0.7071	0.7071	-0.0000





```
import sys
from vtk import *
```

```
# This import style makes it possible to write just readPoints
from ReadPoints import *
```

```
# Read the data into a vtkPolyData using the functions in ReadPoints.py
data=vtkUnstructuredGrid()
```

```
data.SetPoints(readPoints(sys.argv[1]))
data.GetPointData().SetVectors(readVectors(sys.argv[2]))
```

```
# Put spheres at each point in the dataset.
ball = vtkSphereSource()
ball.SetRadius(0.05)
ball.SetThetaResolution(12)
ball.SetPhiResolution(12)
```

```
ballGlyph = vtkGlyph3D()
ballGlyph.SetInput(data) ←
ballGlyph.SetSourceConnection(ball.GetOutputPort())
```

```
ballMapper = vtkPolyDataMapper()  
ballMapper.SetInputConnection(ballGlyph.GetOutputPort())
```

```
ballActor = vtkActor()  
ballActor.SetMapper(ballMapper)  
ballActor.GetProperty().SetColor(0.8,0.4,0.4)
```

```
arrow = vtkArrowSource()  
arrow.SetTipRadius(0.2)  
arrow.SetShaftRadius(0.075)
```

```
arrowGlyph = vtkGlyph3D()  
arrowGlyph.SetInput(data) ←  
arrowGlyph.SetSourceConnection(arrow.GetOutputPort())  
arrowGlyph.SetScaleFactor(0.2)
```

```
arrowMapper = vtkPolyDataMapper()  
arrowMapper.SetInputConnection(arrowGlyph.GetOutputPort())
```

```
arrowActor = vtkActor()  
arrowActor.SetMapper(arrowMapper)  
arrowActor.GetProperty().SetColor(0.9,0.9,0.1)
```





```
ren = vtkRenderer()  
ren.AddActor(ballActor)  
ren.AddActor(arrowActor)  
ren.SetBackground(0.4, 0.4, 0.6)
```

```
renWin = vtkRenderWindow()  
renWin.AddRenderer(ren)  
renWin.SetWindowName("Balls and Arrows")  
renWin.SetSize(500,500)
```

```
iren = vtkRenderWindowInteractor()  
iren.SetRenderWindow(renWin)  
iren.Initialize()  
iren.Start()
```



```
import string
#Read Points
def readPoints(file):
```

# ReadPoints

```
    # Create an array of Points
    points = vtkPoints()
```

```
    #Open the file
    file = open(file)
    # Read one line
    line = file.readline()
    # Loop through lines
    while line:
        # Split the line into data
        data = string.split(line)

        # Skip the commented lines
        if data and data[0] != '#':
```

```
            # Convert data into floats
            x, y, z = float(data[0]), float(data[1]), float(data[2])
```

```
            # Insert floats into the point array
            points.InsertNextPoint(x, y, z)
```

```
        # read next line
        line = file.readline()
```

```
    return points;
```



# Read Vectors

# Read Vectors.

# This method works in the same way as readPoints but returns a different type of array

def readVectors(file):

```
# Create a Double array which represents the vectors  
vectors = vtkDoubleArray()
```

```
# Define number of elements  
vectors.SetNumberOfComponents(3)
```

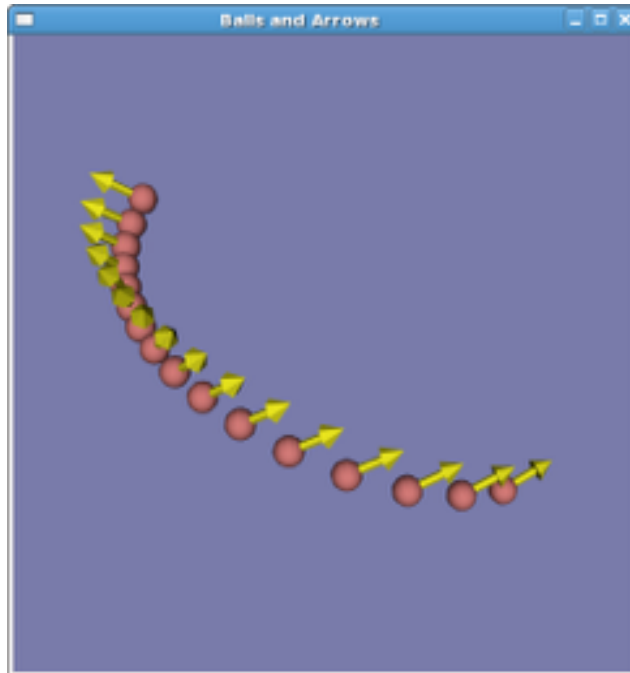
```
file = open(file)  
line = file.readline()  
while line:
```

```
    data = string.split(line)  
    if data and data[0] != '#':
```

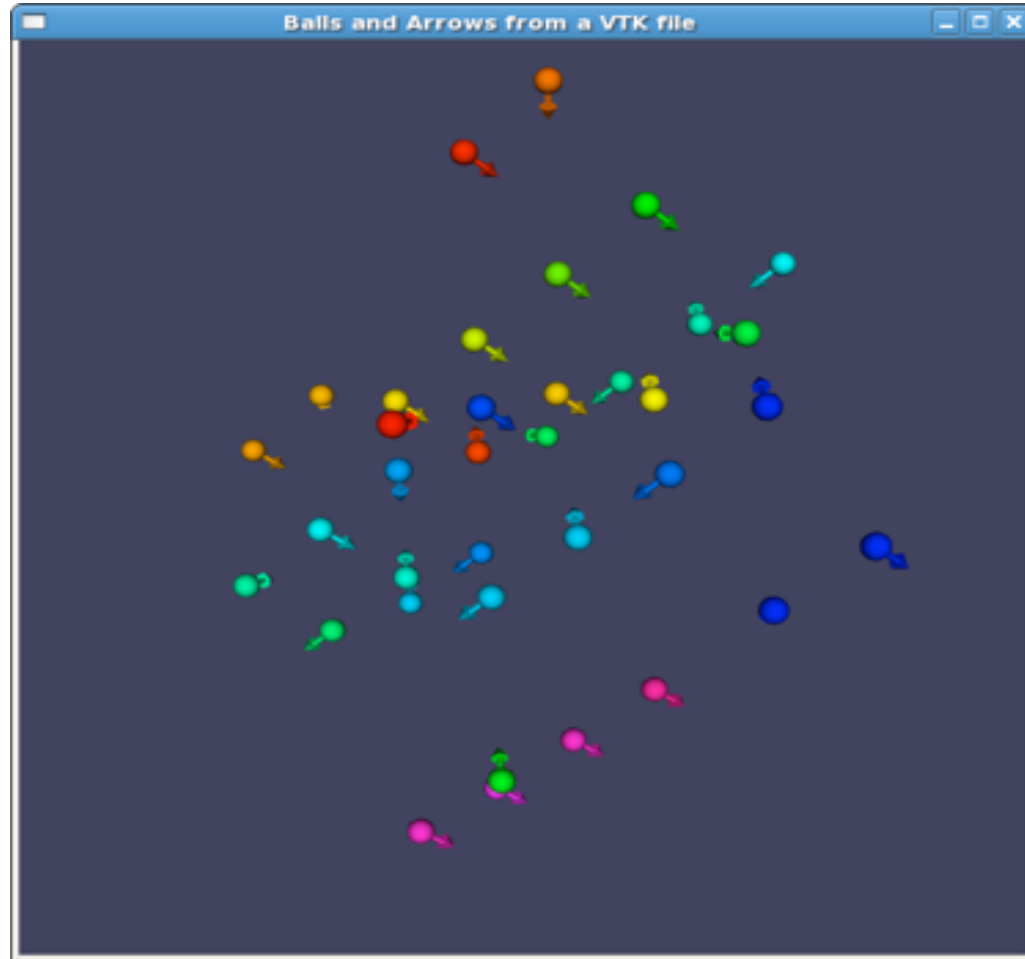
```
        x, y, z = float(data[0]), float(data[1]), float(data[2])  
        vectors.InsertNextTuple3(x, y, z)
```

```
    line = file.readline()  
return vectors
```

# Result



# Colour Mapping and Colour Transfer Functions





```
import sys
from vtk import *
```

```
# Use the VTK reader to read the vtk file
reader = vtkUnstructuredGridReader()
```

```
# Don't forget to give the file name as an argument: "python Vectors.py data.vtk"
reader.SetFileName(sys.argv[1])
```

```
# Put spheres at each point in the dataset
ball = vtkSphereSource()
ball.SetRadius(0.12)
ball.SetThetaResolution(12)
ball.SetPhiResolution(12)
```

```
ballGlyph = vtkGlyph3D()
ballGlyph.SetSourceConnection(ball.GetOutputPort())
ballGlyph.SetInputConnection(reader.GetOutputPort())
```

```
# We do not want the Ball to have the size depending on the Scalar
ballGlyph.SetScaleModeToDataScalingOff()
```

```
ballMapper = vtkPolyDataMapper()
ballMapper.SetInputConnection(ballGlyph.GetOutputPort())
```

# Colour Transfer Function

```
# Create a color transfer function to be used for both the balls and arrows.
colorTransferFunction = vtkColorTransferFunction()
colorTransferFunction.AddRGBPoint(5.0 , 0.0, 0.0, 1.0)
colorTransferFunction.AddRGBPoint(10.0, 0.0, 1.0, 1.0)
colorTransferFunction.AddRGBPoint(15.0, 0.0, 1.0, 0.0)
colorTransferFunction.AddRGBPoint(20.0, 1.0, 1.0, 0.0)
colorTransferFunction.AddRGBPoint(25.0, 1.0, 0.0, 0.0)
colorTransferFunction.AddRGBPoint(30.0, 1.0, 0.0, 1.0)

# Set colors depending on the color transfer functions
ballMapper.SetLookupTable(colorTransferFunction)
```

```
ballActor = vtkActor()
ballActor.SetMapper(ballMapper)
```



```
#Put an arrow (vector) at each ball
```

```
arrow = vtkArrowSource()
```

```
arrow.SetTipRadius(0.2)
```

```
arrow.SetShaftRadius(0.075)
```

```
arrowGlyph = vtkGlyph3D()
```

```
arrowGlyph.SetInputConnection(reader.GetOutputPort())
```

```
arrowGlyph.SetSourceConnection(arrow.GetOutputPort())
```

```
arrowGlyph.SetScaleFactor(0.4)
```

```
# We do not want the Arrow's size to depend on the Scalar
```

```
arrowGlyph.SetScaleModeToDataScalingOff()
```

```
arrowMapper = vtkPolyDataMapper()
```

```
arrowMapper.SetInputConnection(arrowGlyph.GetOutputPort())
```

```
# Set colors depending on the color transfer functions
```

```
arrowMapper.SetLookupTable(colorTransferFunction)
```

```
arrowActor = vtkActor()
```

```
arrowActor.SetMapper(arrowMapper)
```





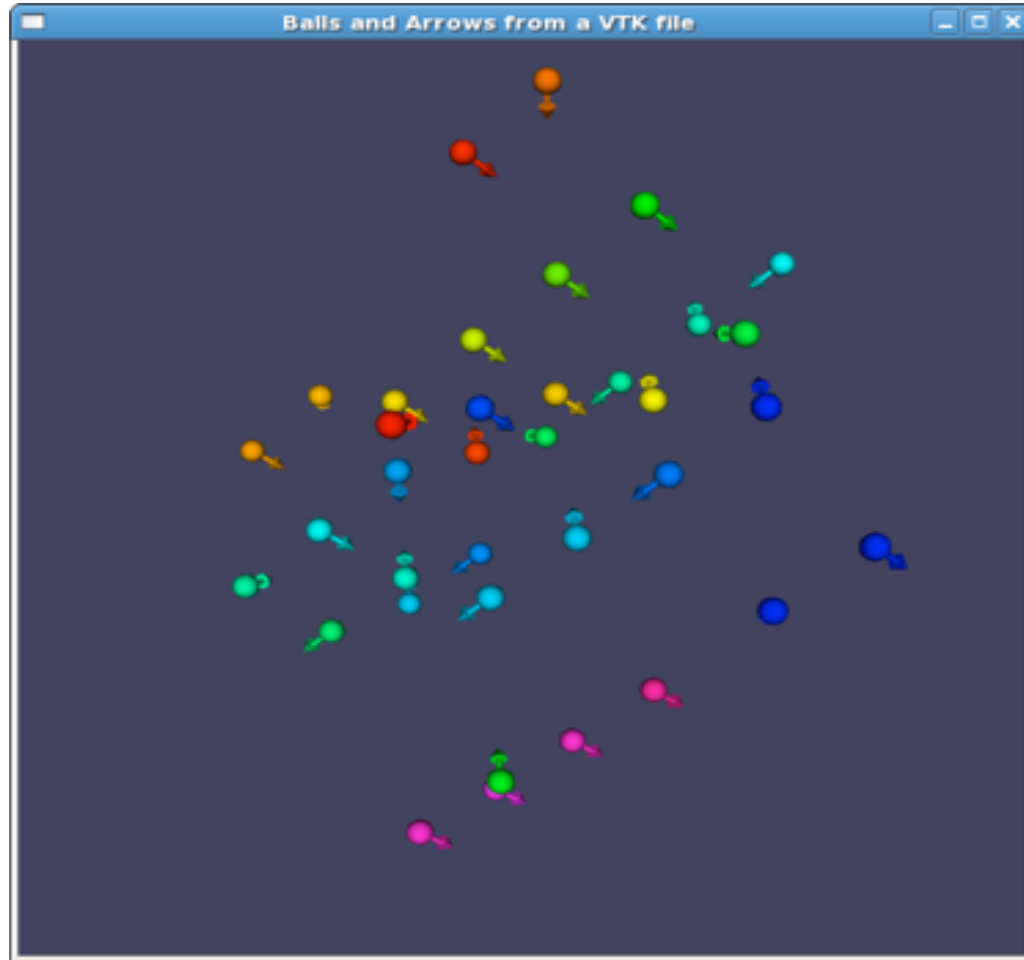
# As usual...

```
# Create the RenderWindow, Renderer and Interactor
ren = vtkRenderer()
ren.AddActor(ballActor)
ren.AddActor(arrowActor)
ren.SetBackground(0.2, 0.2, 0.3)

renWin = vtkRenderWindow()
renWin.AddRenderer(ren)
renWin.SetWindowName("Balls and Arrows from a VTK file")
renWin.SetSize(600,600)

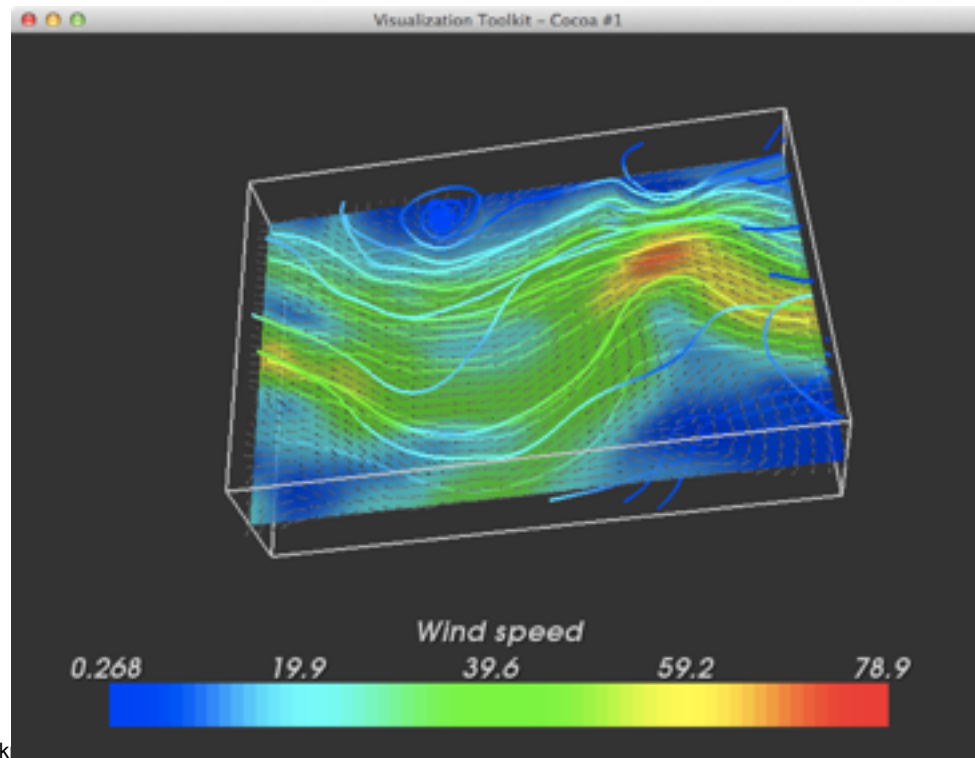
iren = vtkRenderWindowInteractor()
iren.SetRenderWindow(renWin)
iren.Initialize()
iren.Start()
```

# Result



# Colour Mapping

- Maps scalar data to colour
- Can be done by a colour look up table





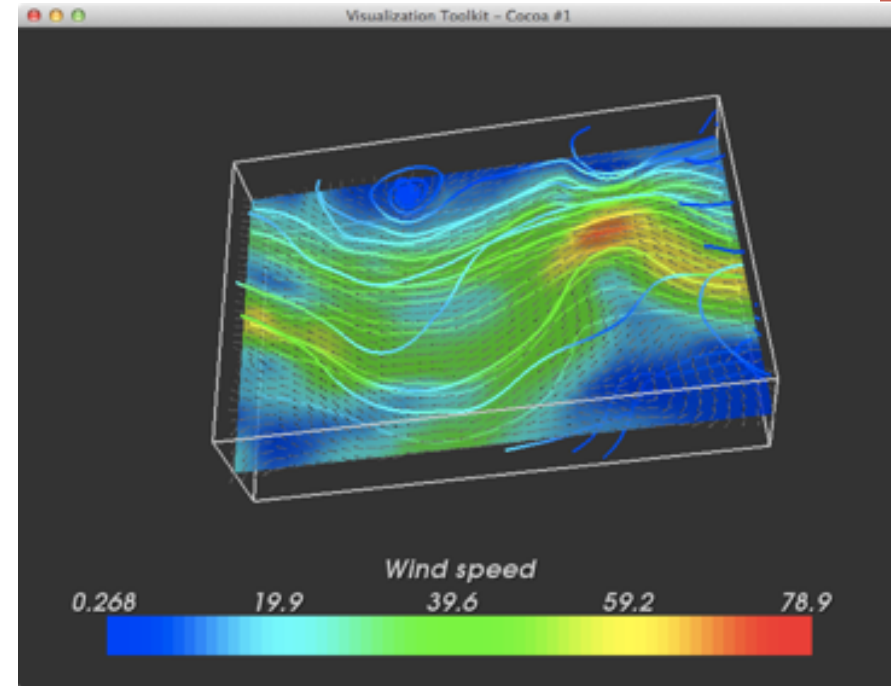
```
from vtk import *
```

```
reader = vtkStructuredPointsReader()  
reader.SetFileName("wind.vtk")  
reader.Update()
```

```
a,b = reader.GetOutput().GetScalarRange()  
W,H,D = reader.GetOutput().GetDimensions()
```

```
lut = vtkLookupTable()  
lut.SetHueRange(0.667, 0.0)  
lut.SetTableRange(a,b)
```

# Streamlines



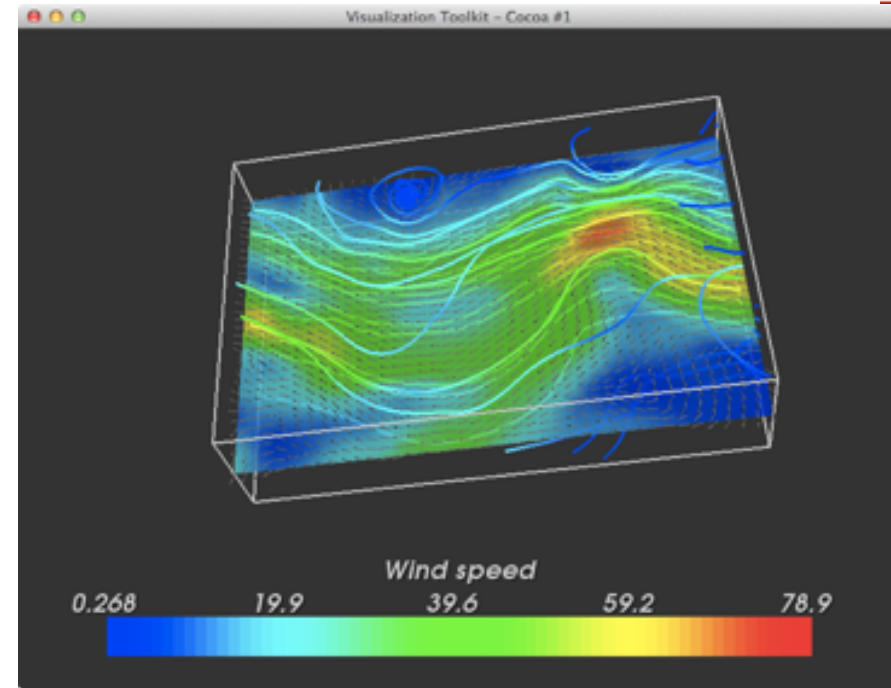
- Like driving a car by following the GPS
- If you do not turn when the GPS tells you to turn, you'll get out of course.
- Hence, it is important to check direction often = short sample step



# Streamlines

```
streamer = vtkStreamLine()  
plane = vtk.vtkPlaneSource()  
  
.  
.  
.  
  
streamer.SetSource(plane.GetOutput())  
streamer.SetInput(reader.GetOutput())  
streamer.SetIntegrationDirectionToForward()  
streamer.SetIntegrator(vtk.vtkRungeKutta4())  
streamer.SetStepLength(0.05)  
  
# Connect to streamer to a mapper etc...
```

# Cut Plane



```
sliceplane = vtkImageDataGeometryFilter()  
sliceplane.SetInput(reader.GetOutput())  
sliceplane.SetExtent(0,W,0,H,D/2,D/2)  
sliceplaneMapper = vtkPolyDataMapper()  
sliceplaneMapper.SetLookupTable(lut)  
sliceplaneMapper.SetInput( sliceplane.GetOutput() )  
sliceplaneMapper.SetScalarRange(a,b)
```

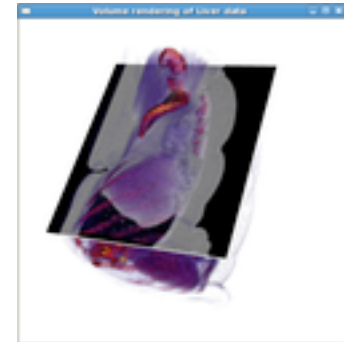
# Cut Plane

```
plane=vtkImagePlaneWidget()  
plane.SetInput(reader.GetOutput())  
plane.SetSliceIndex(20)
```

```
plane.SetInteractor(iren)
```

```
plane.EnabledOn()
```

```
plane.SetPlaneOrientationToXAxes()  
#plane.SetPlaneOrientationToYAxes()  
#plane.SetPlaneOrientationToZAxes()
```

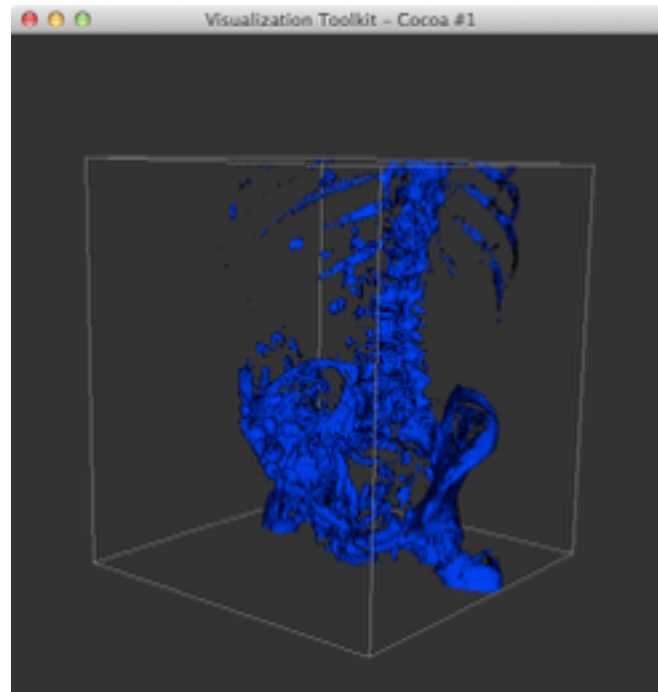






# Contouring

- Creates an Isosurface
- That is: a surface where the volume data has the same value (iso = same)





# Surface Rendering

- Use Computer Graphics Techniques to render the surface (polygons)
- If triangles are used the surface is "triangulated"
- These triangles are computed from the volume data using Marching Cubes



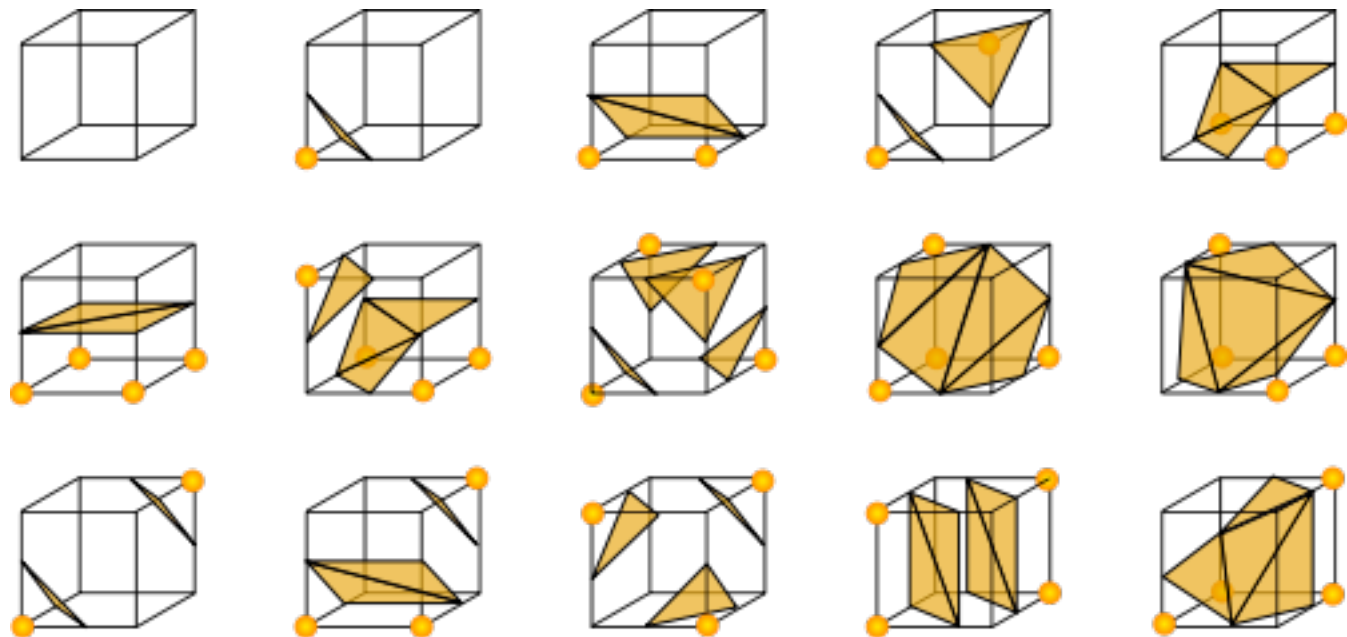
# Isosurfaces

```
from vtk import *  
  
# Read the volume  
reader = vtkStructuredPointsReader()  
reader.SetFileName("liver.vtk")  
  
# Isosurface  
isoSurface = vtkContourFilter()  
isoSurface.SetInputConnection(reader.GetOutputPort())  
isoSurface.SetValue(0, 160)
```



# Marching Cubes

- 8 neighbouring voxels can be intersected in several ways.



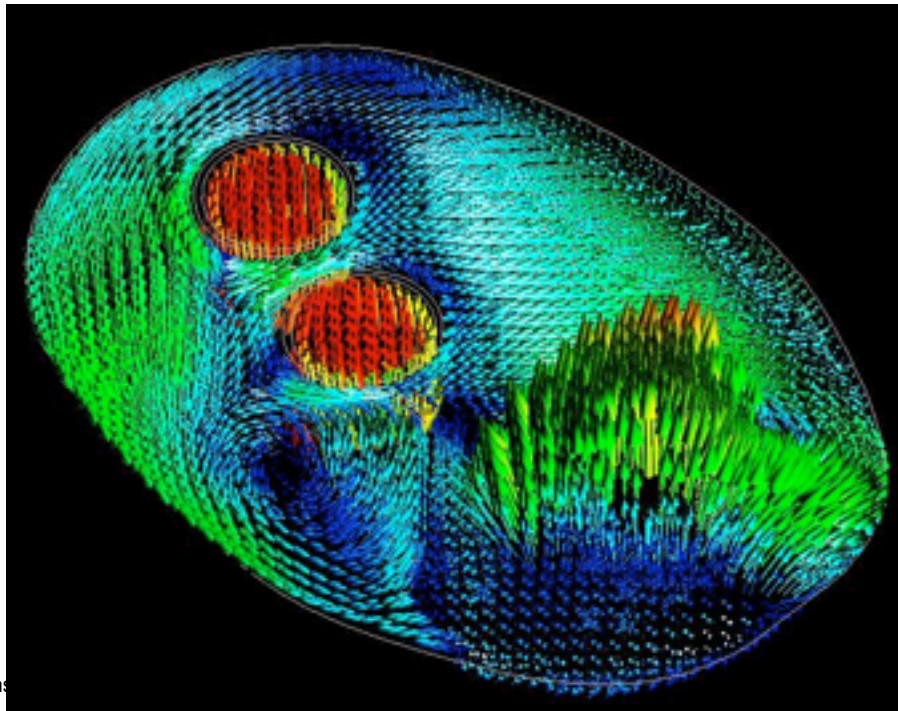


# Marching Cubes

- These polygons must be stitched together.
- Lorensen et al. 1987
  - ✱ Ambiguities
- Similar techniques
  - ✱ Marching Squares 2D
  - ✱ Marching Tetrahedrons
    - No ambiguities

# Hedgehogs

- Vector data is visualized as arrows at the point where they exist (looks like a hedgehog = sv. igelkott)





# Conclusions

- Fundamental Algorithms
  - ✱ Colour Mapping
  - ✱ Streamlines
  - ✱ Cut Planes
  - ✱ Glyphs
  - ✱ Hedgehogs
  - ✱ Contouring
  - ✱ Marching Cubes