

# VISUALIZATION FOR UNDERSTANDING REGRESSION MODELS

Thomas Torsney-Weir

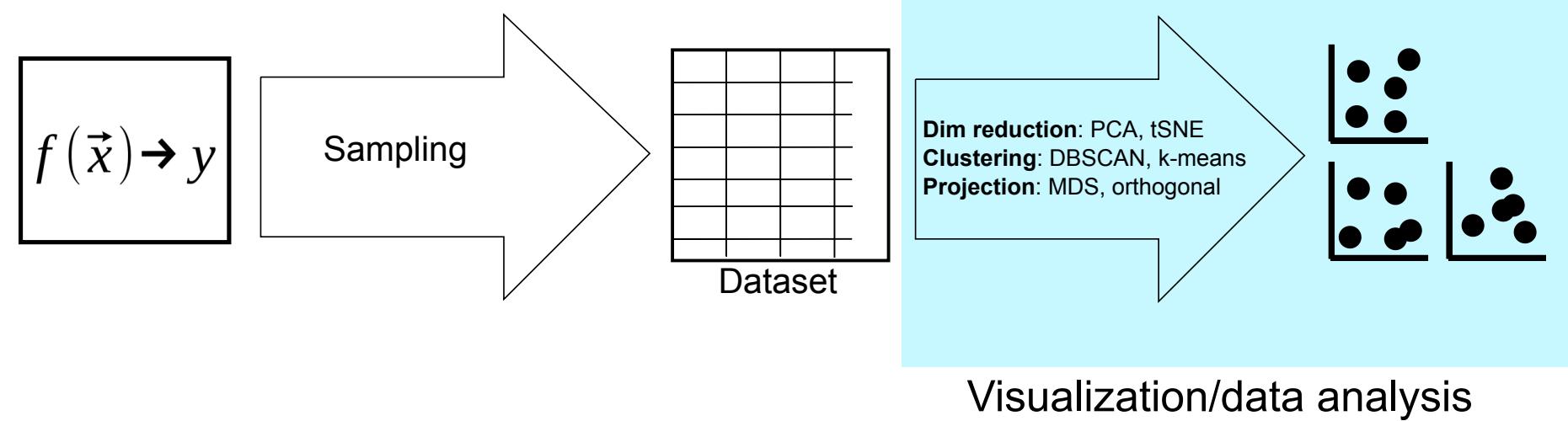
8 September, 2020



Swansea University  
Prifysgol Abertawe

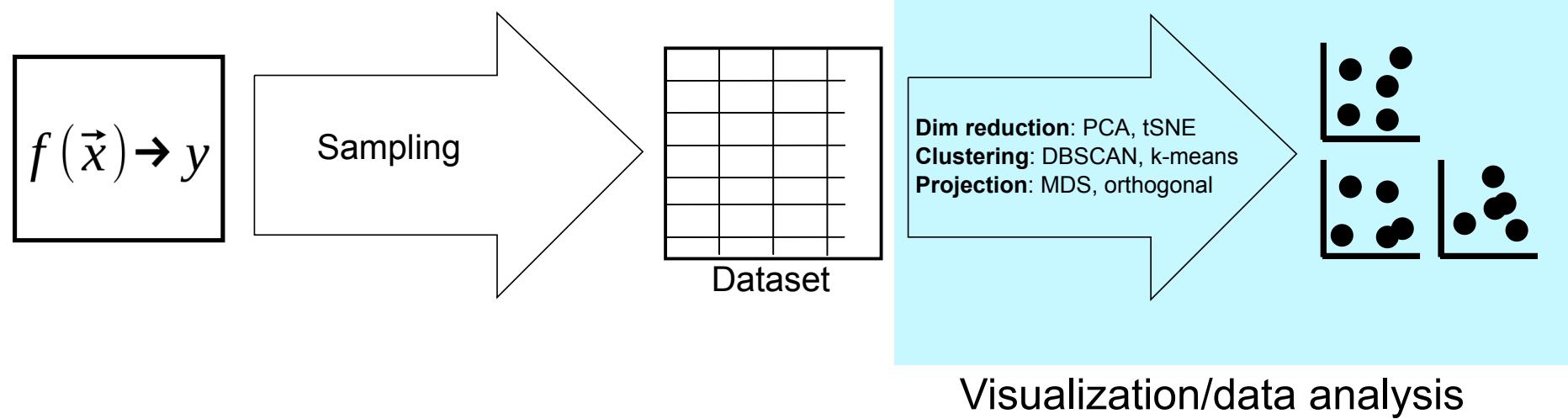
# VISUALIZATION PIPELINES

Discrete

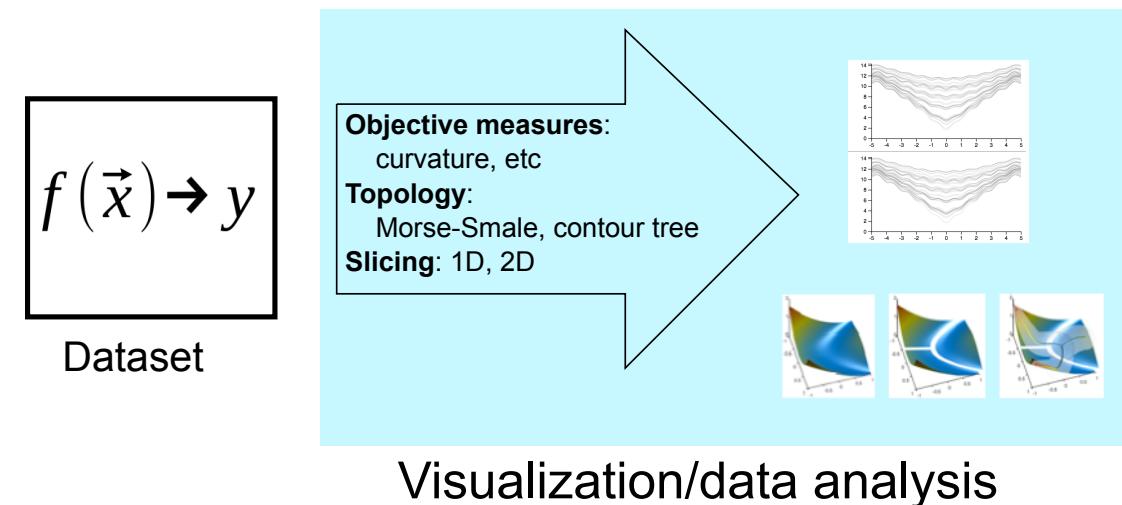


# VISUALIZATION PIPELINES

## Discrete



## Continuous



# AGENDA

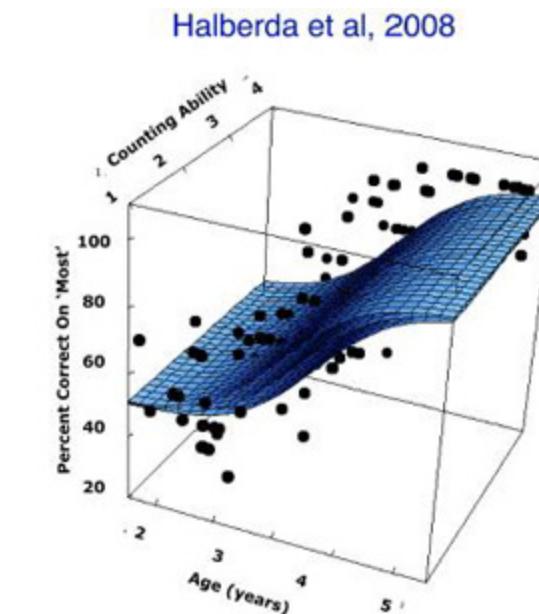
Benefits of treating a regression model itself as the “dataset” for visual data analysis

- What are regression algorithms?
- Overview of slicing
- Advantages of regression model as dataset

# WHAT ARE REGRESSION MODELS?

“predict the value of one or more *continuous* target variables given the value of a D-dimensional vector of input variables”<sup>(Bishop 2006)</sup>

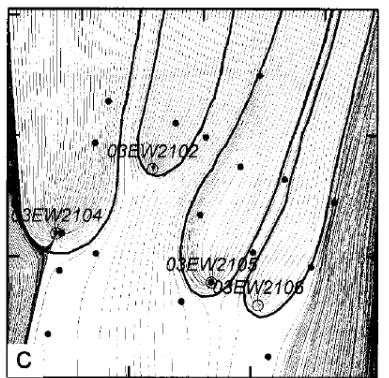
- Important bits:
  - Take a number of factors as input (often continuous)
  - Output is a scalar
  - Inputs are often meaningful
  - Conceptually a multi-dimensional surface (manifold)



**key issue:** how do we understand this multi-dimensional surface?

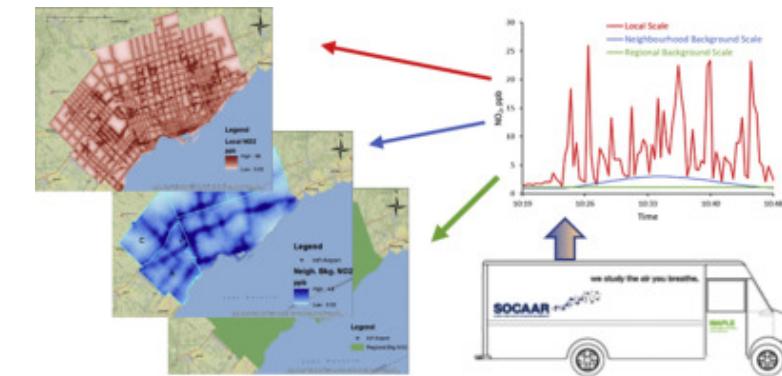
# APPLICATION AREAS

## Geostatistics



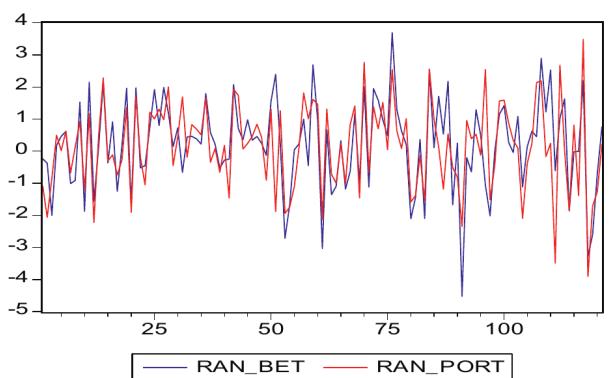
(Tonkin and Larson 2002)

## Urban studies



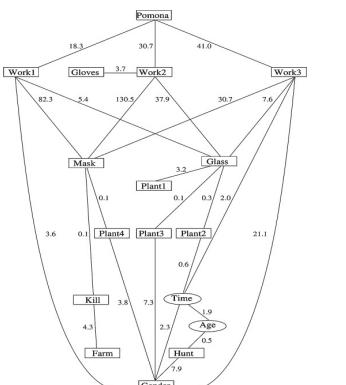
(Shairsingh et al. 2019)

## Finance



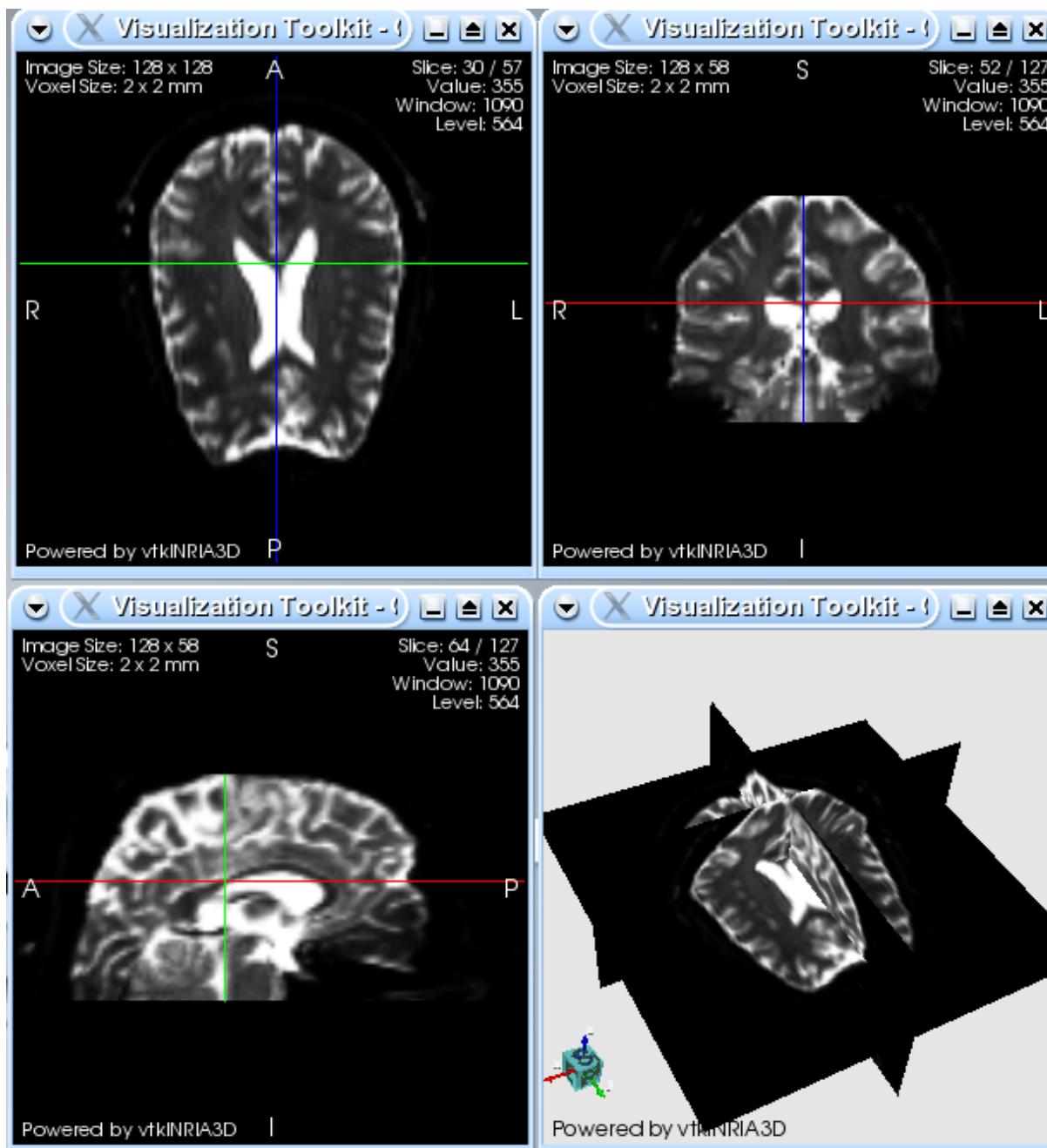
(Anghelache and Anghel 2014)

## Epidemiology



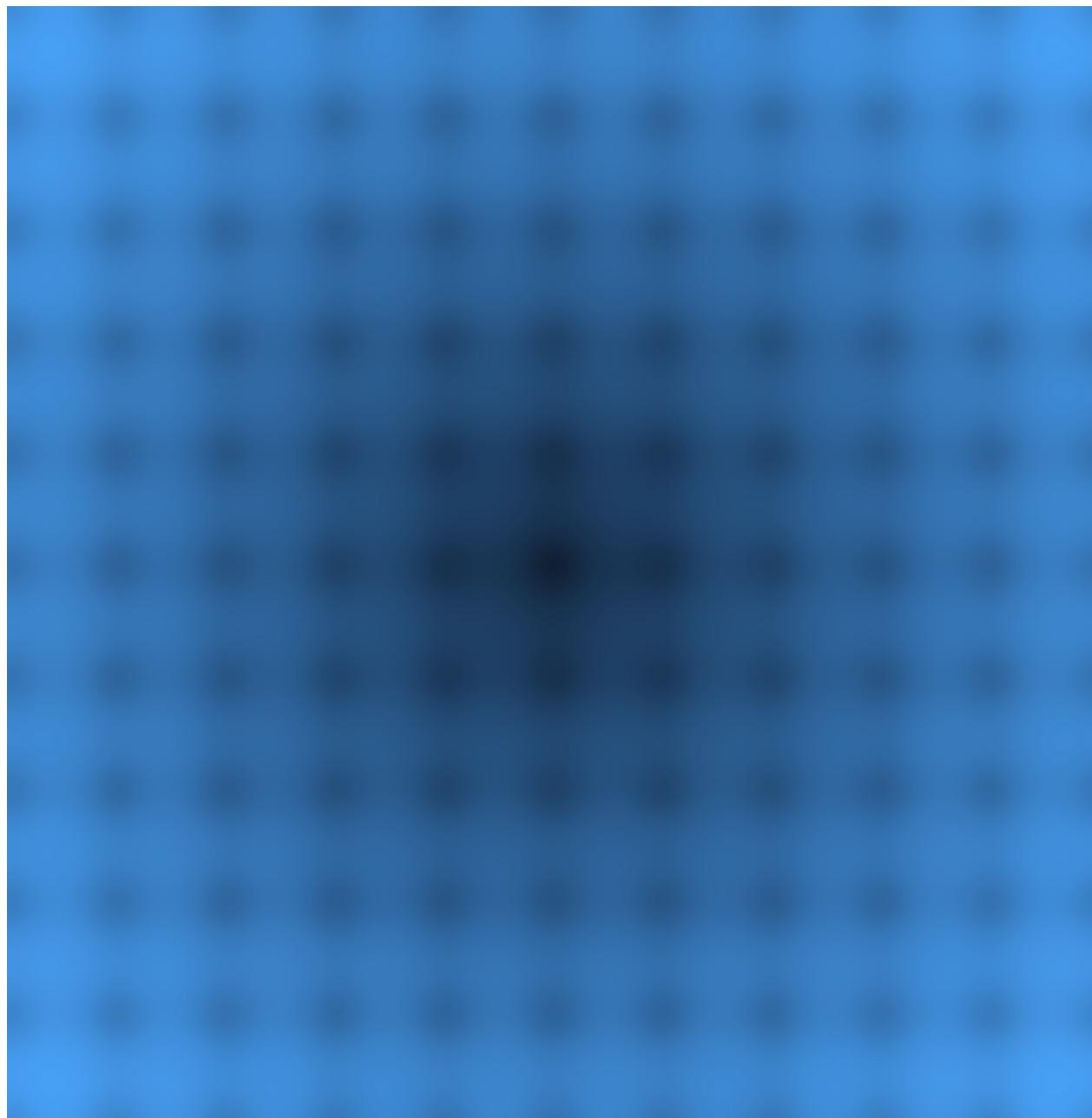
(Pittavino et al. 2017)

# SLICING



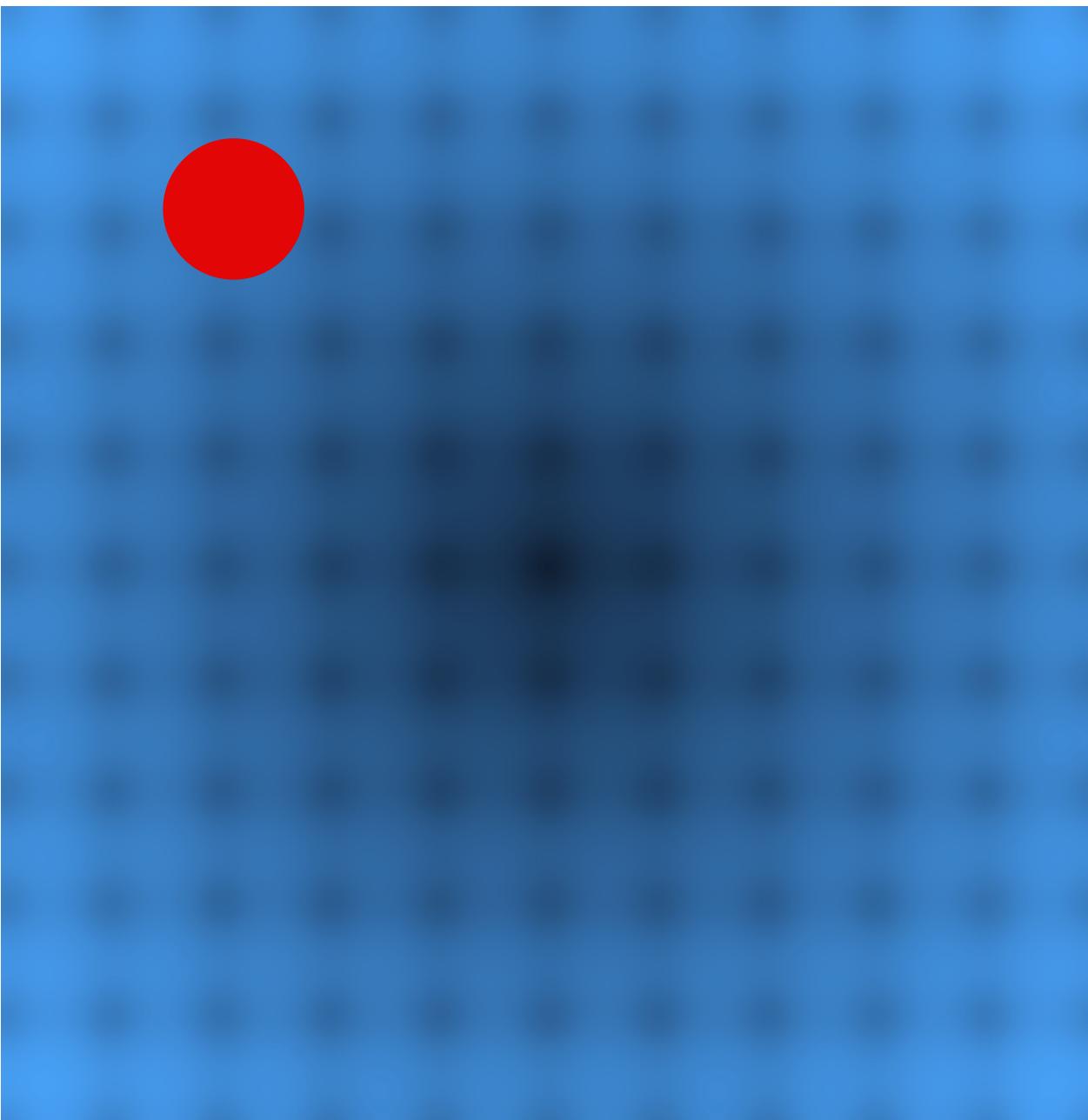
- Pros
  - Reduces dimensionality
  - Easy to understand metaphor
- Cons
  - Focus point selection important

# MULTI-D SLICING



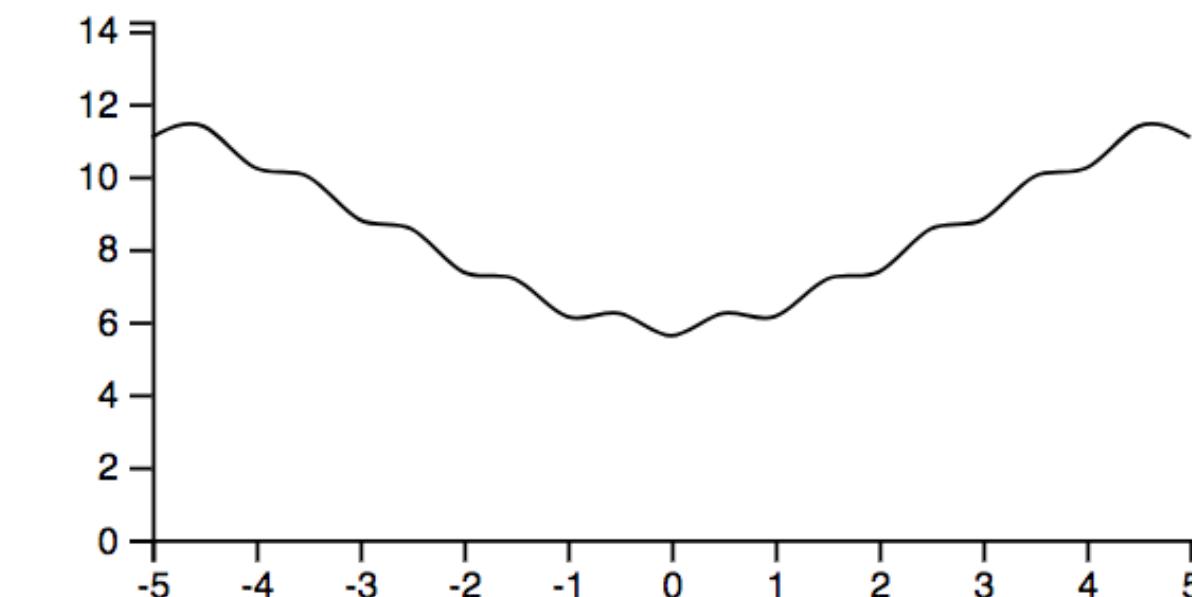
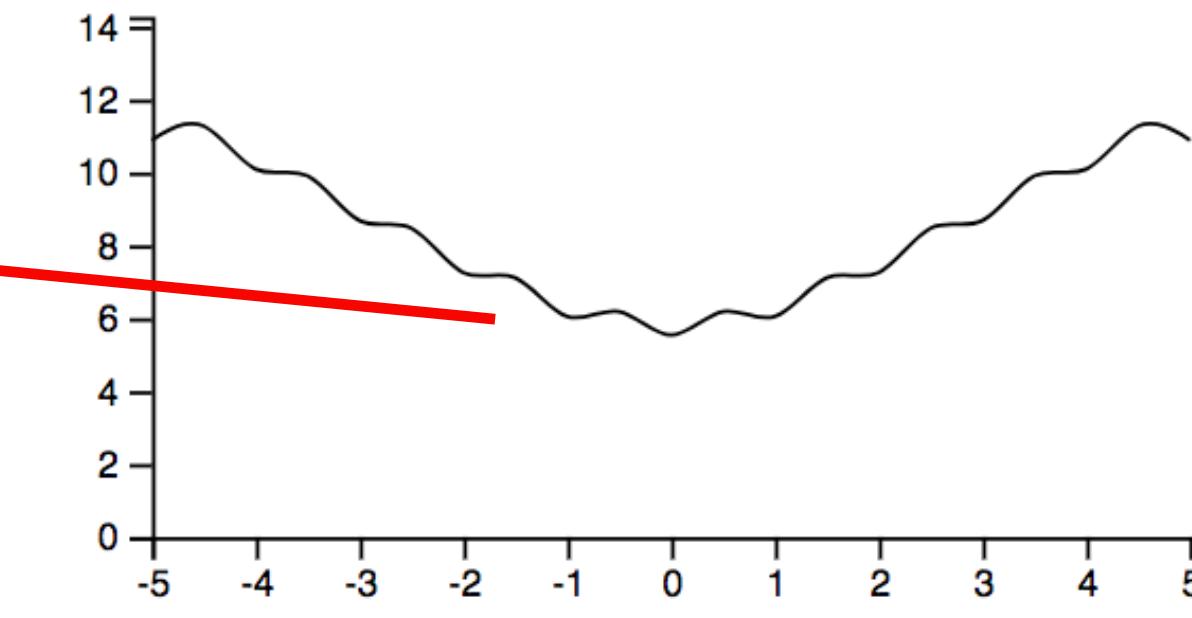
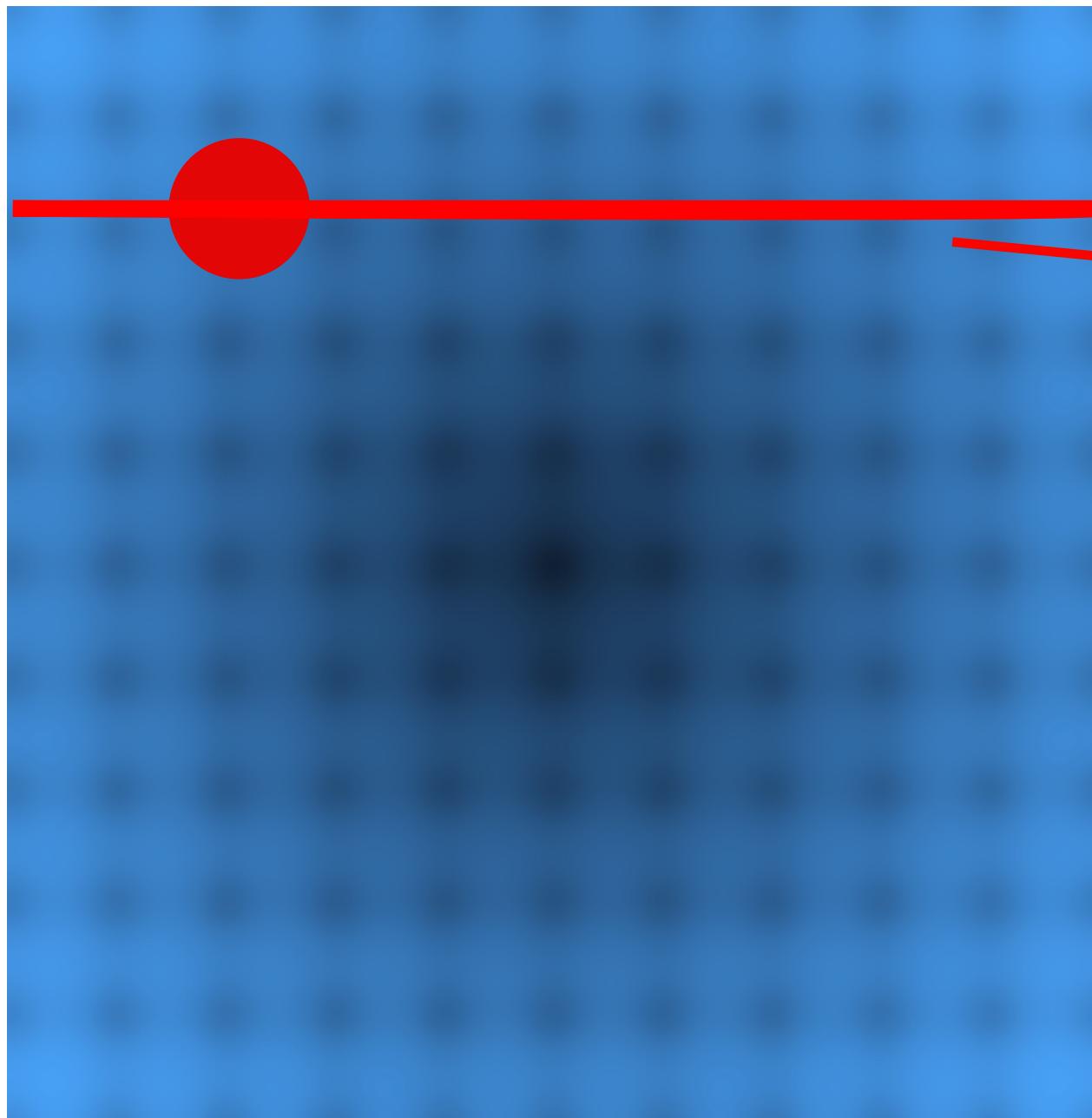


# MULTI-D SLICING



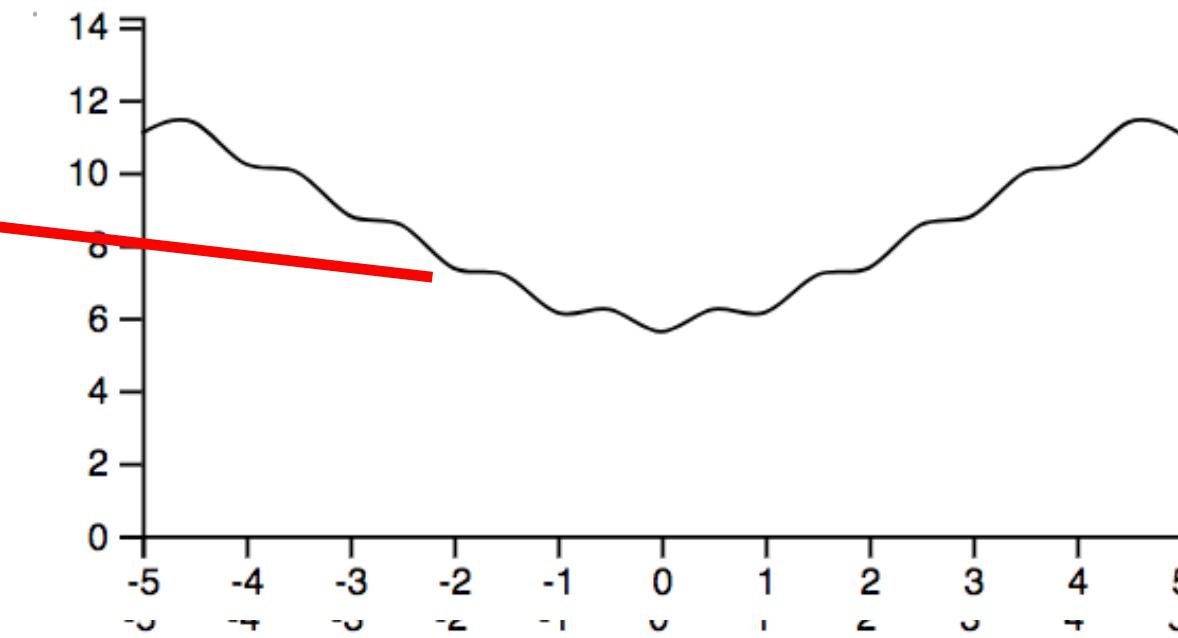
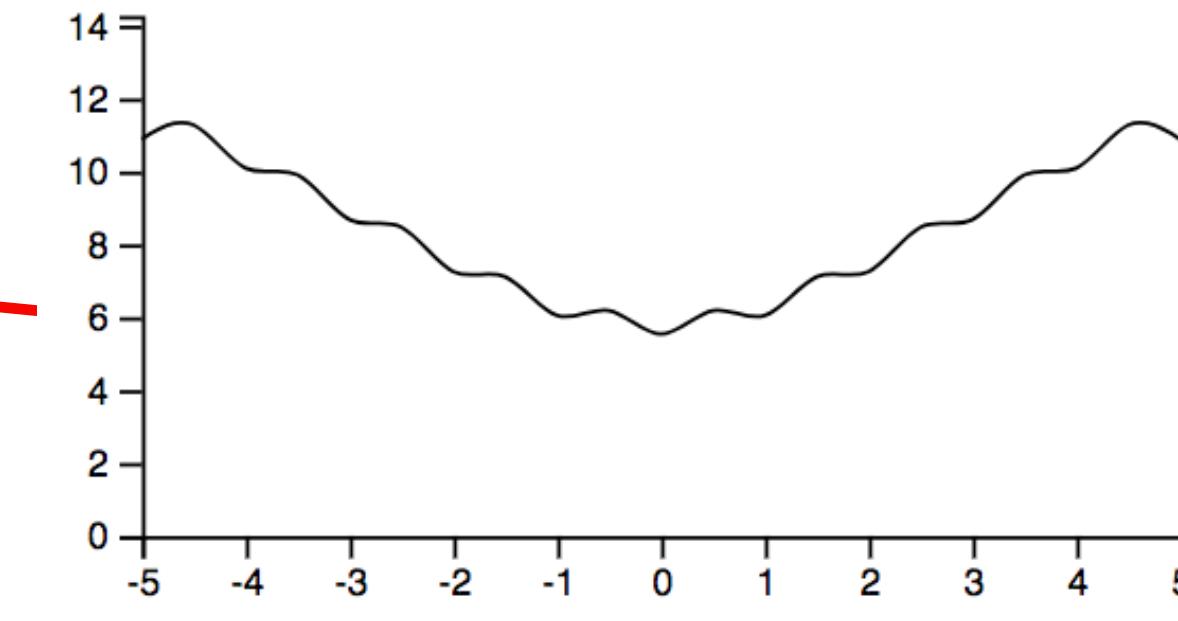
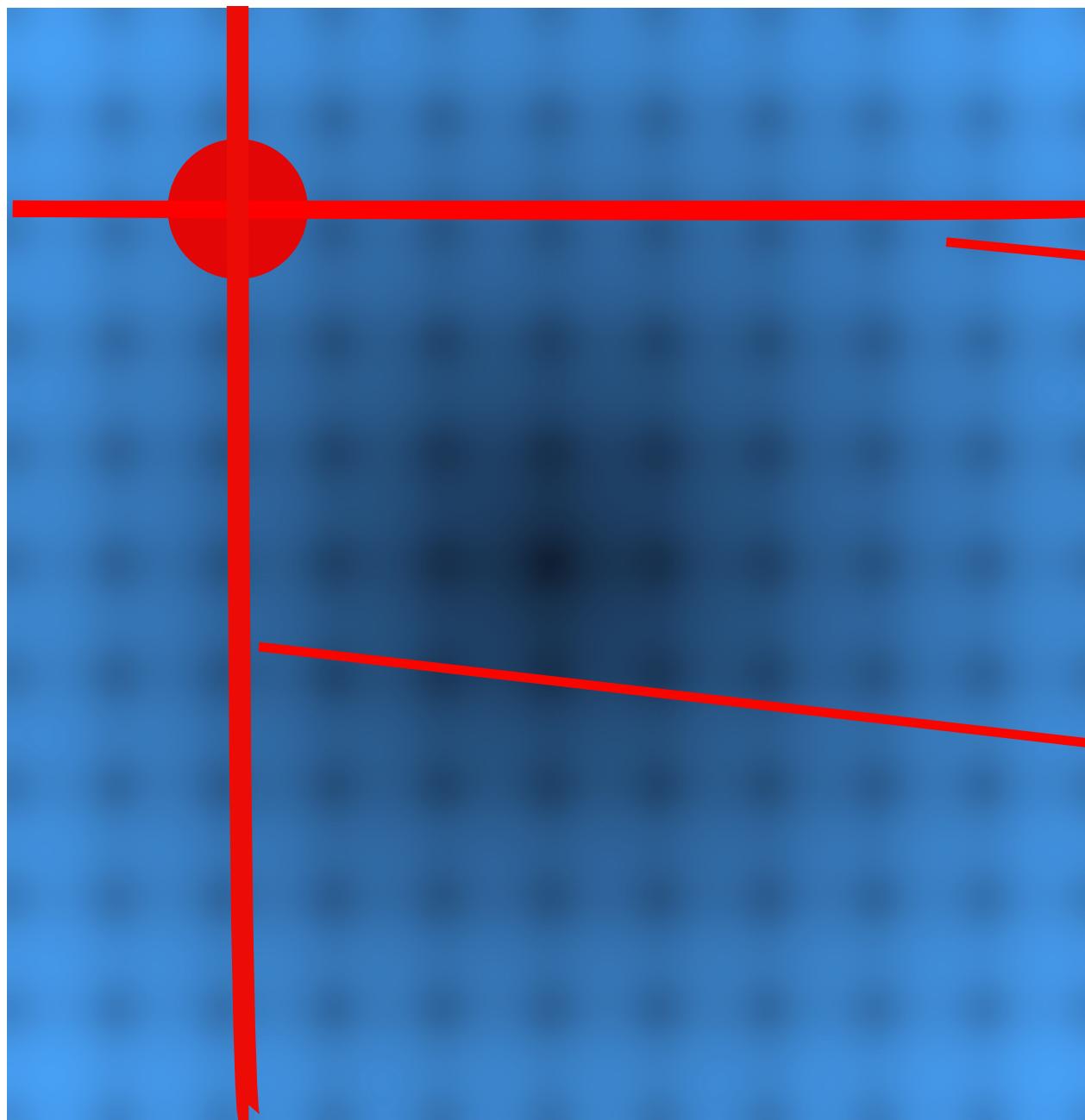


# MULTI-D SLICING





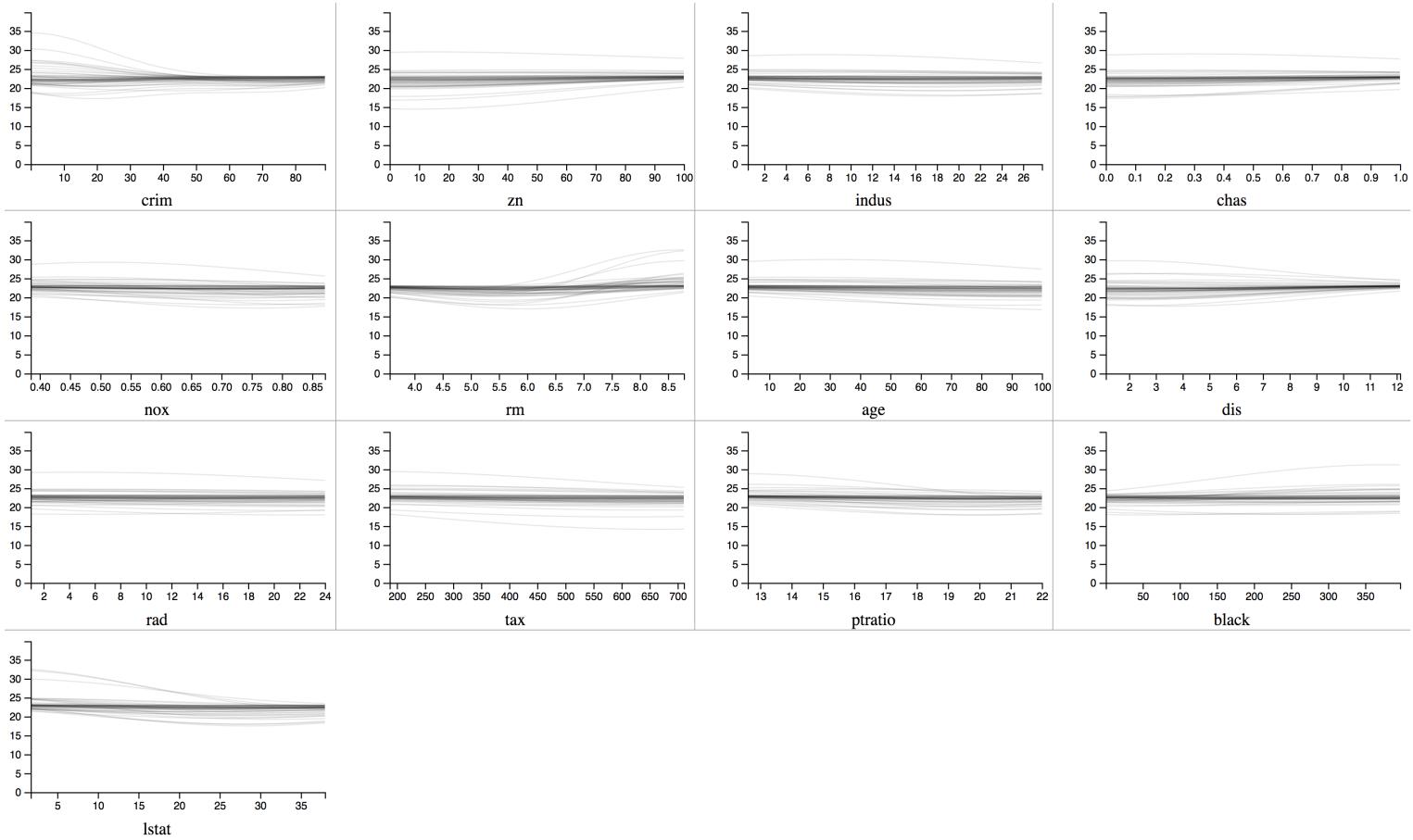
# MULTI-D SLICING



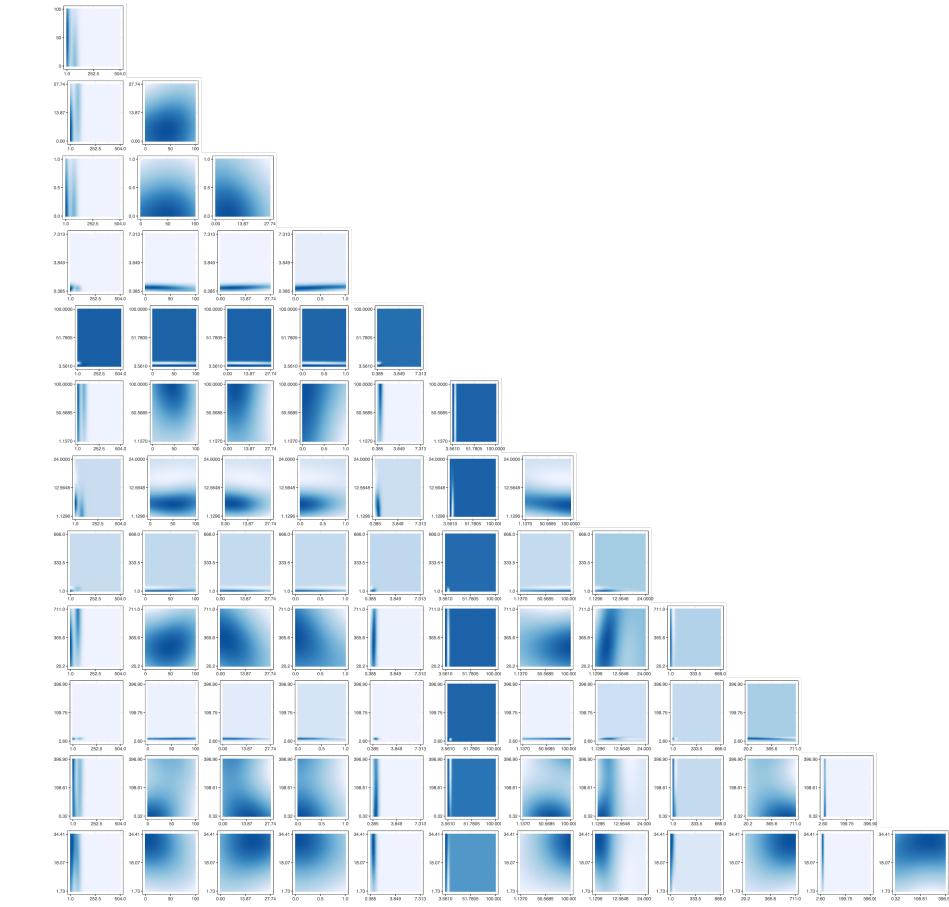


# SLICING

1D



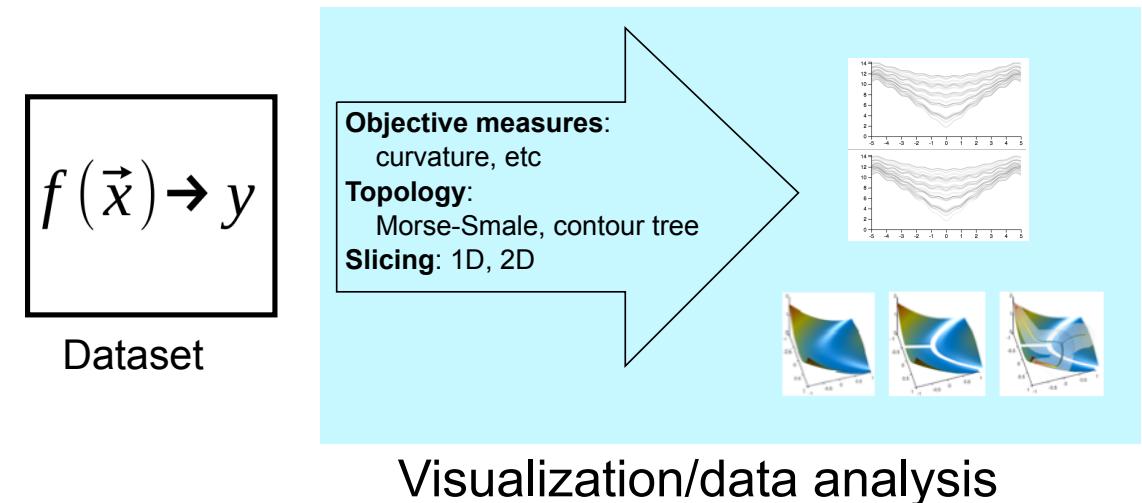
2D



Sliceplorer (Torsney-Weir, Sedlmair, and Möller 2017)

Hyperslice (Wijk and Liere 1993)

# BENEFITS OF PIPELINE

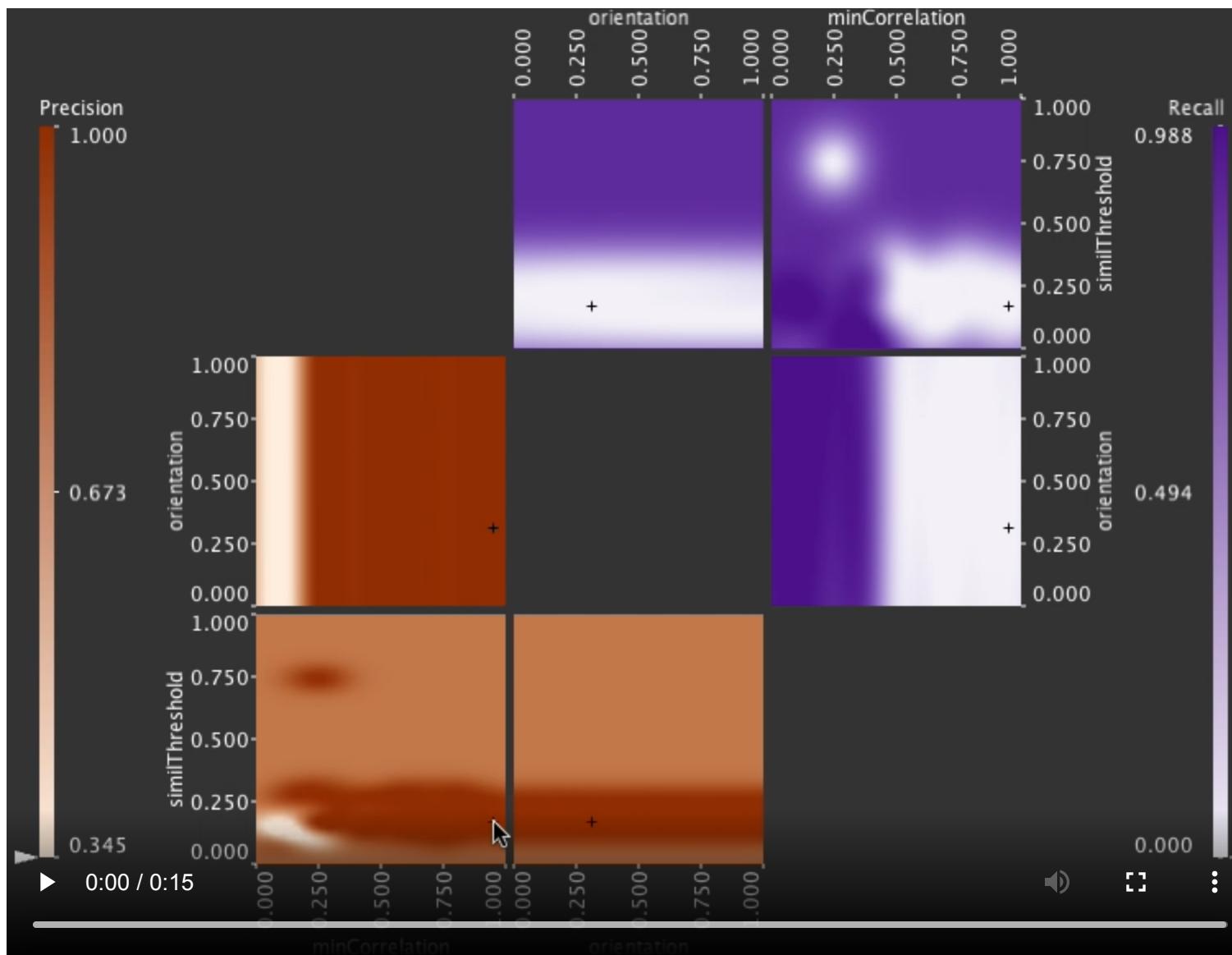


- Fast rendering
- Focus point selection

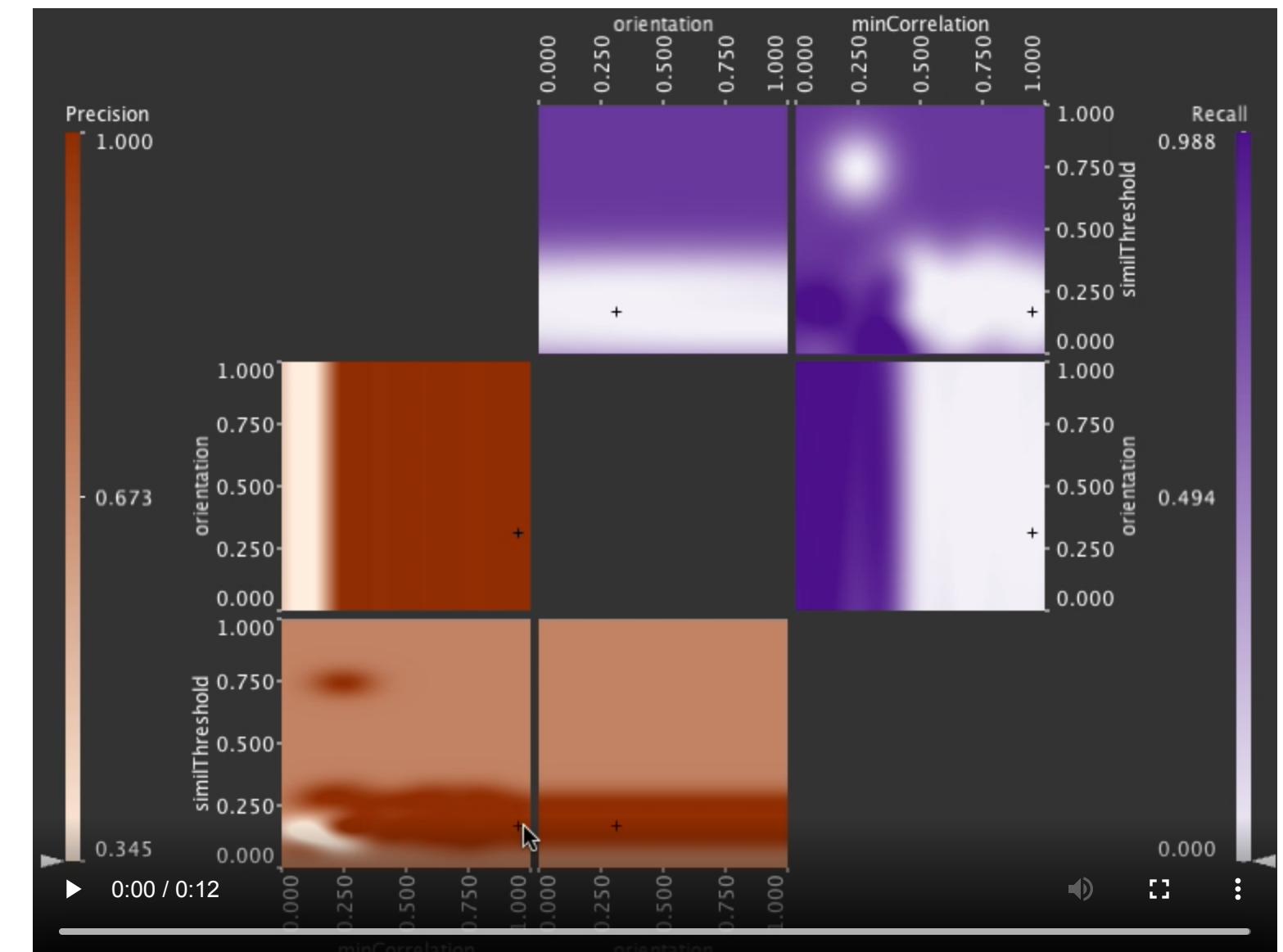
# FAST RENDERING

Because we know the details of the model, the visualization system can execute the regression model at any point

3 fps

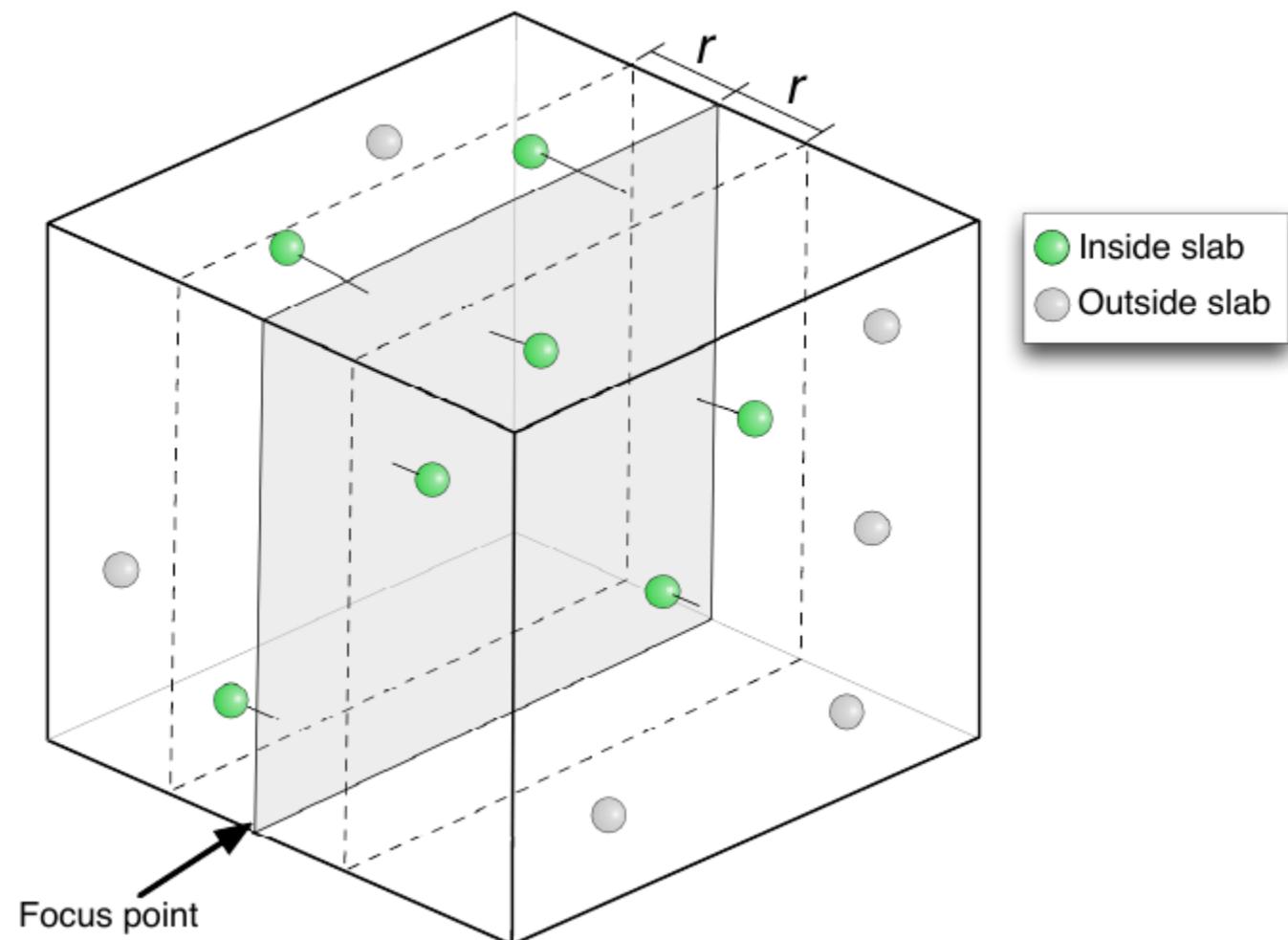
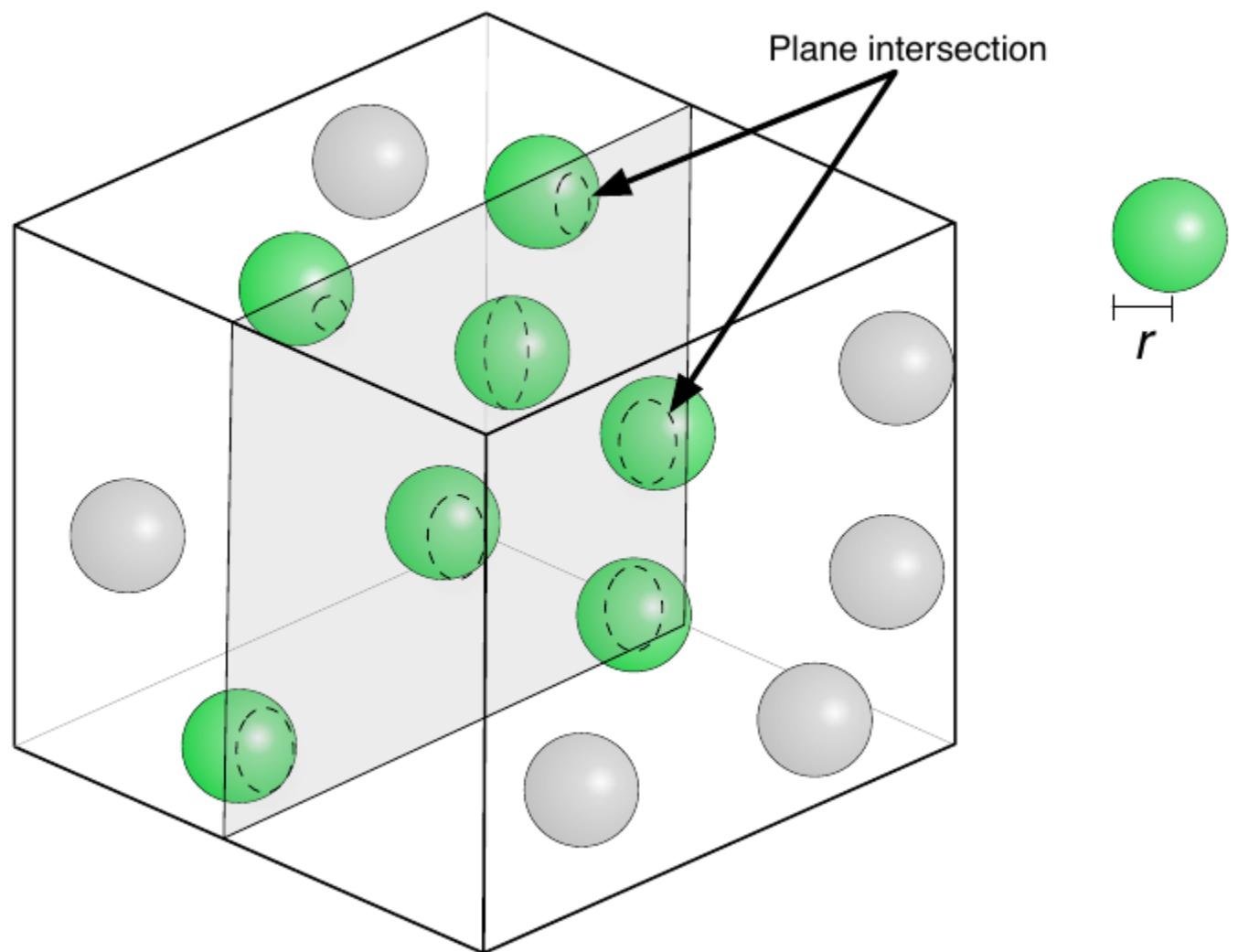


30 fps

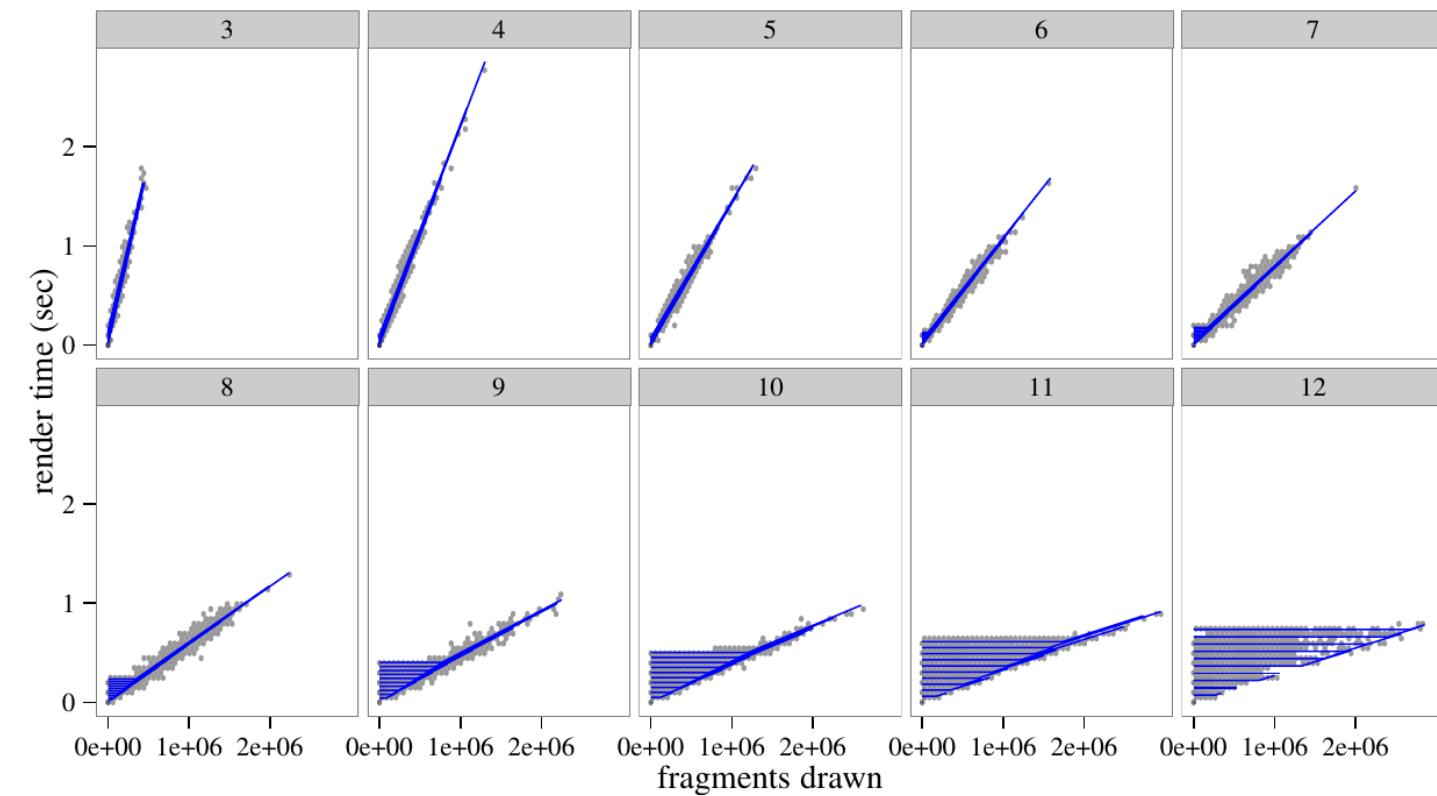
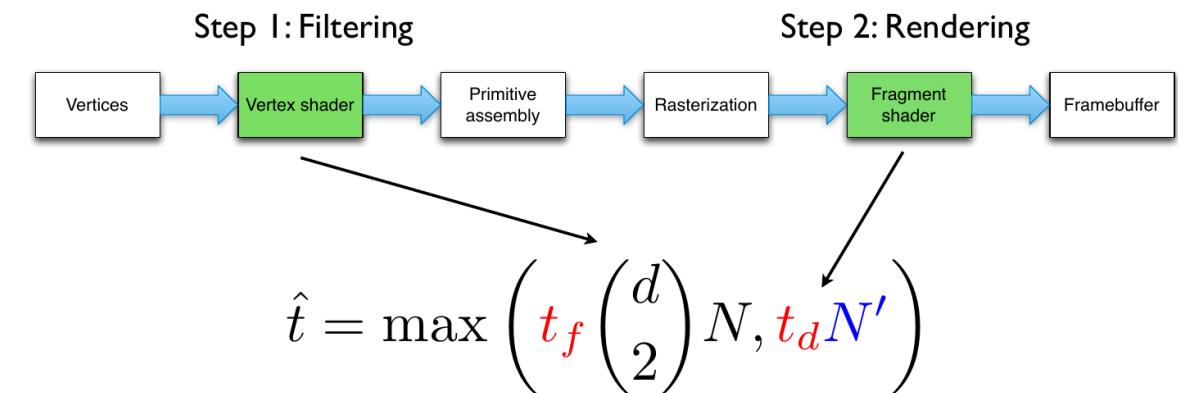


# FAST RENDERING

Knowing we were using Gaussian process models, we could analyze the geometry of the scene to figure out how to make it run faster

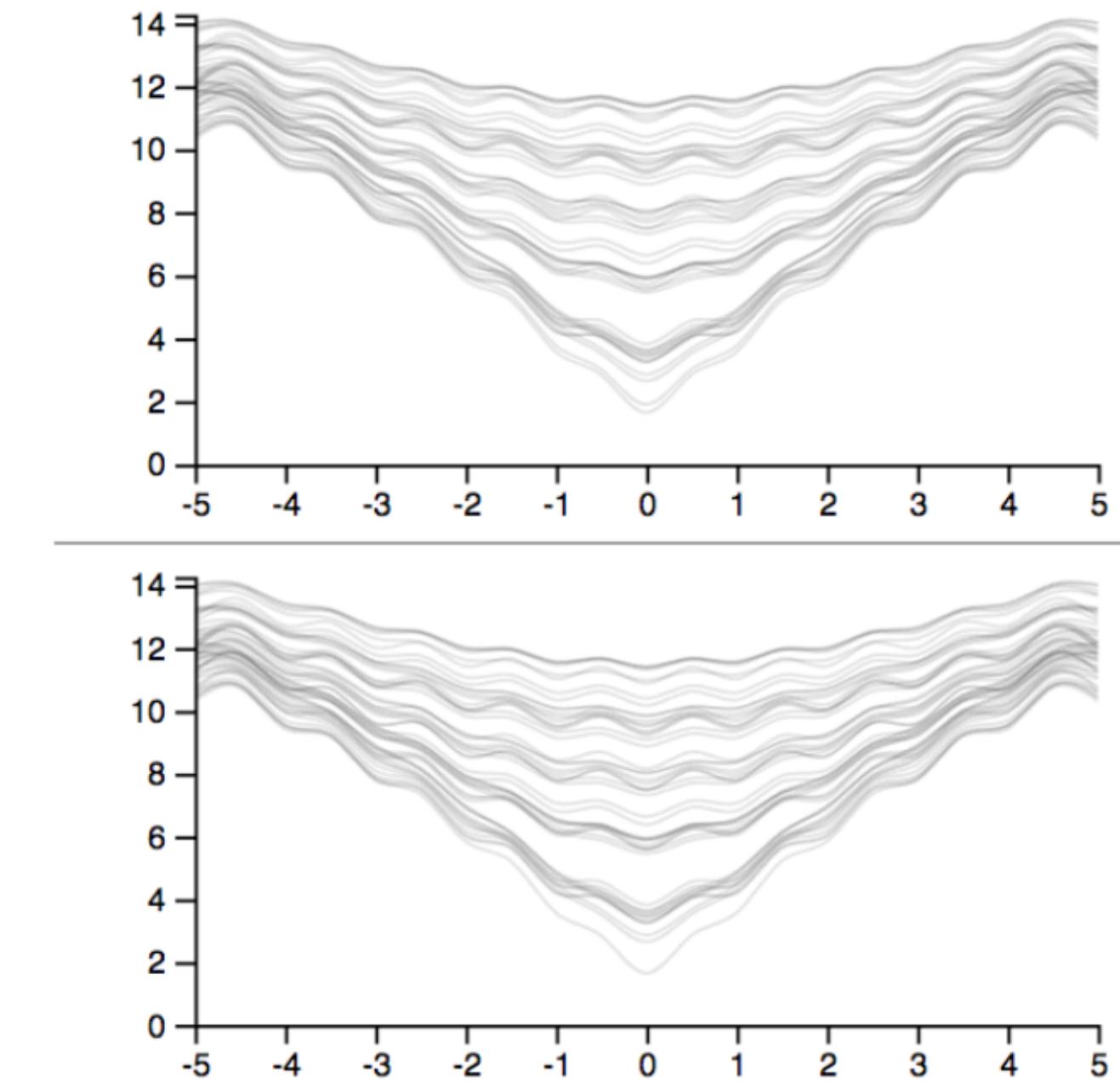
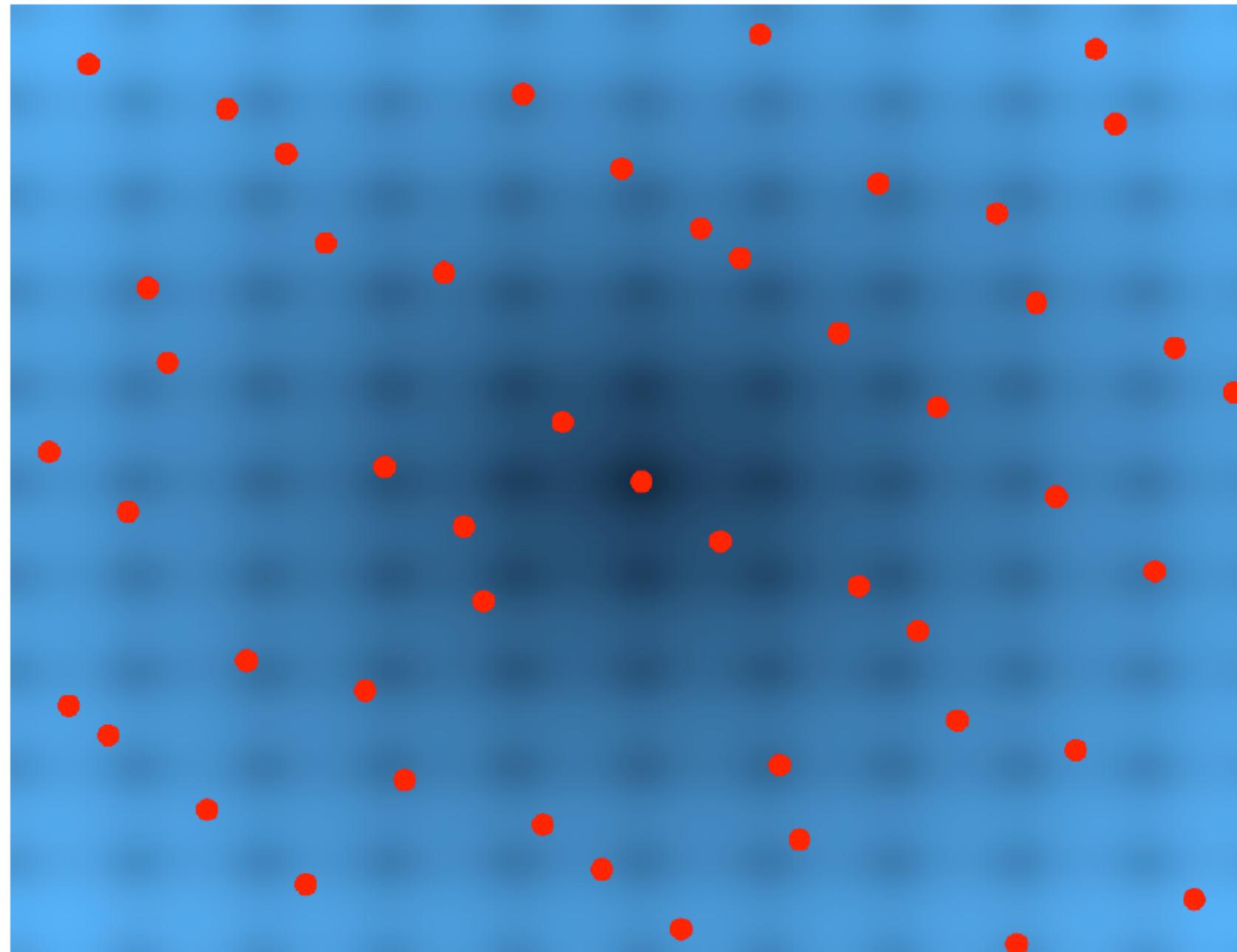


# FAST RENDERING



(Torsney-Weir et al. 2017)

# FOCUS POINT SELECTION



Focus point sampling using space-filling design (Torsney-Weir, Sedlmair, and Möller 2017)

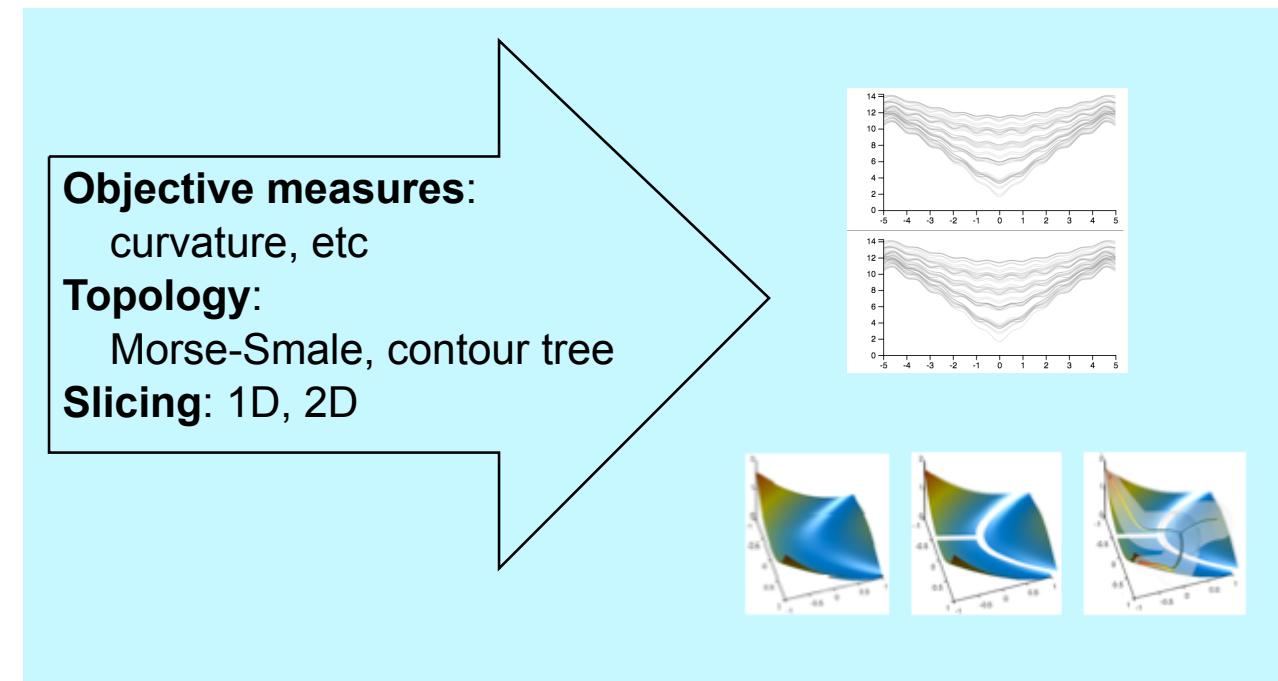
# CONCLUSION

Treating the regression model itself as the datatype allows us to analyze the model more efficiently.

- Slice-based visualization
- Efficient rendering
- Control of sampling

$$f(\vec{x}) \rightarrow y$$

Dataset



Visualization/data analysis

# THANKS!

Questions?

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