

# CS 247 – Scientific Visualization

## Lecture 19: Vector / Flow Visualization, Pt. 1

Markus Hadwiger, KAUST

# Reading Assignment #11 (until Apr 12)



Read (required):

- Data Visualization book
  - Chapter 6 (Vector Visualization)
  - Beginning (before 6.1)
  - Chapters 6.2, 6.3, 6.5
- More general vector field basics (the book is not very precise on the basics)  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vector\\_field](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vector_field)

Read (optional):

- Paper:  
Bruno Jobard and Wilfrid Lefer  
*Creating Evenly-Spaced Streamlines of Arbitrary Density,*

<http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/summary?doi=10.1.1.29.9498>



# Online Demos and Info

Numerical ODE integration methods (Euler vs. Runge Kutta, etc.)

[https://demonstrations.wolfram.com/  
NumericalMethodsForDifferentialEquations/](https://demonstrations.wolfram.com/NumericalMethodsForDifferentialEquations/)

Flow visualization concepts

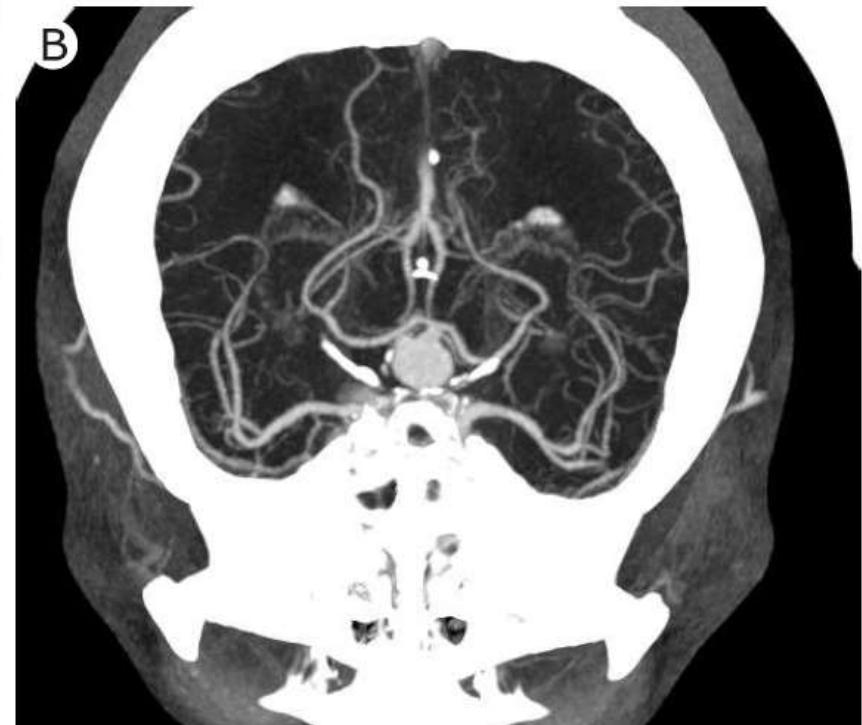
<https://www3.nd.edu/~cwang11/flowvis.html>



# Maximum Intensity Projection

Alternative compositing mode (no alpha blending)

Keeps structure of maximum intensity visible





# Volumetric Boundary Contours (1)

Based on view direction and gradient magnitude

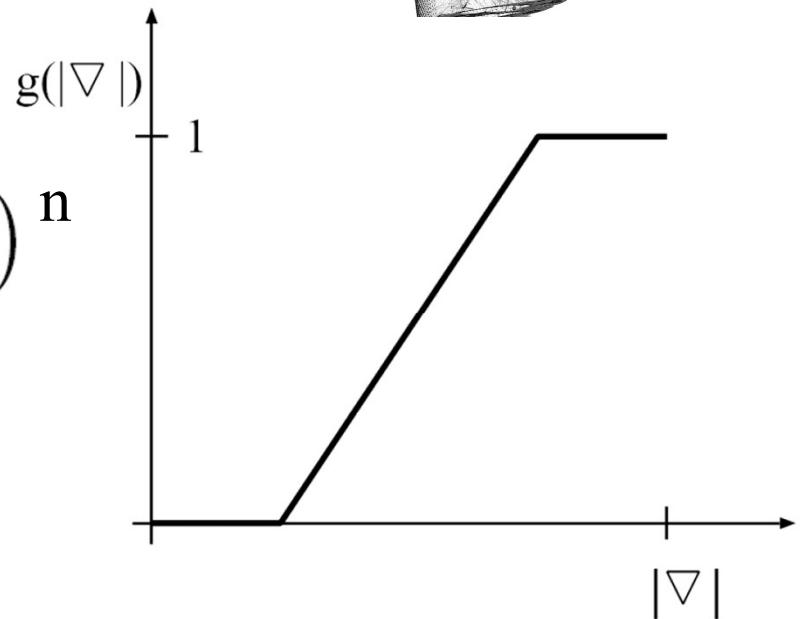
Global boundary detection  
instead of isosurface

Gradient magnitude window  $g(\cdot)$

$$\mathbf{I} = g(|\nabla f|) \cdot (1 - |\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}|)^n$$

Exponent determines silhouette range

Does not work for distance fields!

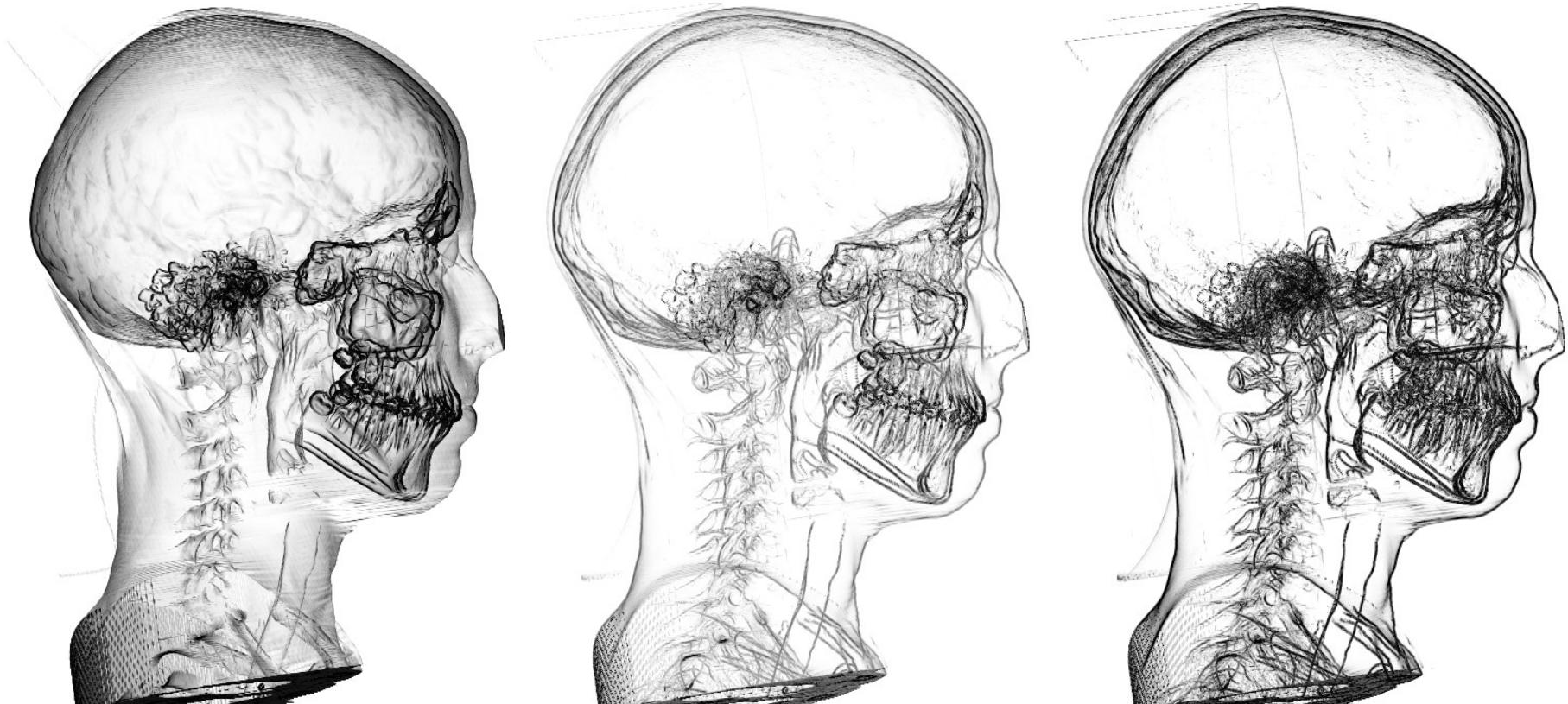


# Volumetric Boundary Contours (2)



Gradient magnitude window is main parameter

Exponent between 4 and 16 is good choice





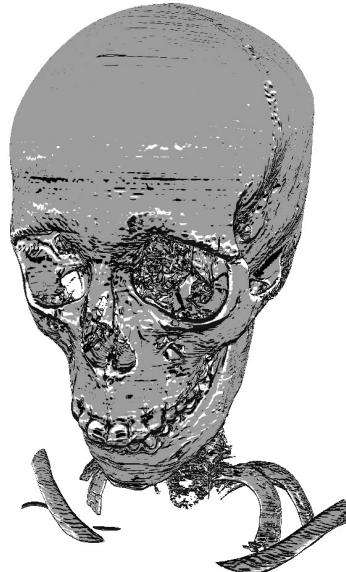
# **Curvature-Based Transfer Functions**

# Curvature-Based Isosurface Illustration

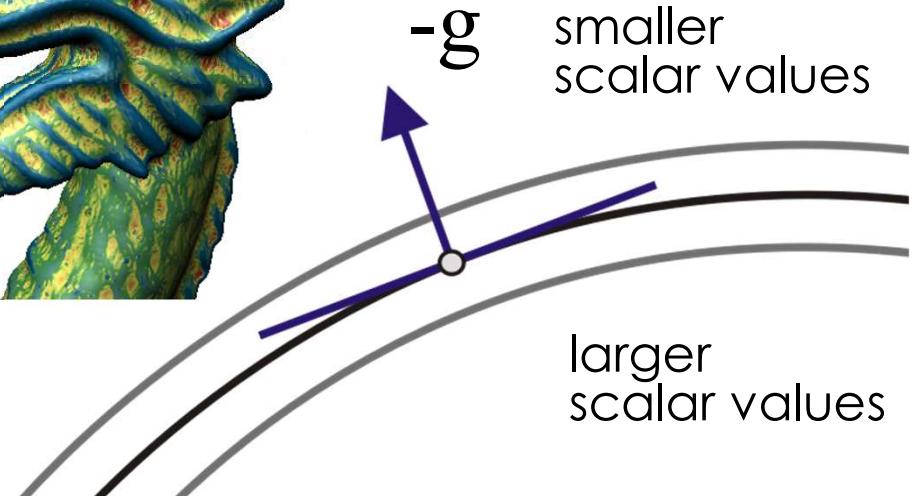


Curvature measure color mapping

Curvature directions; ridges and valleys



- Implicit surface curvature
- Isosurface through a point

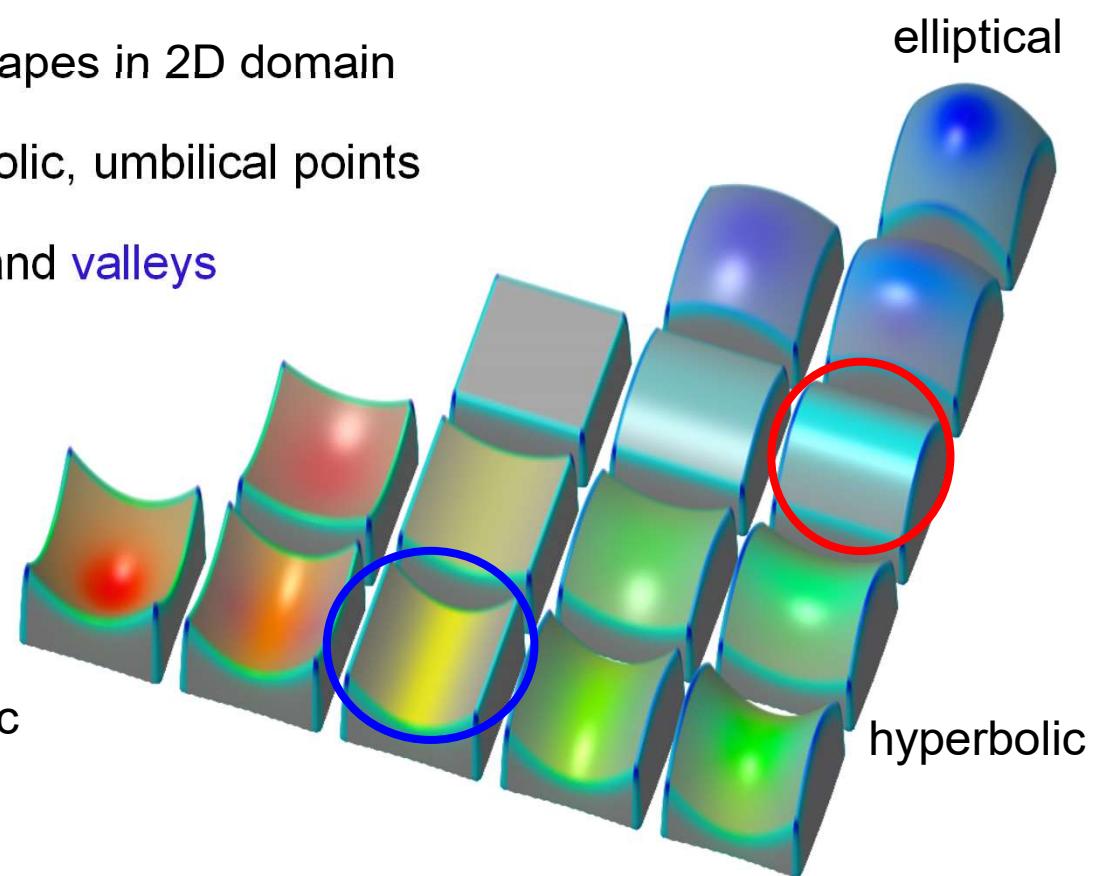
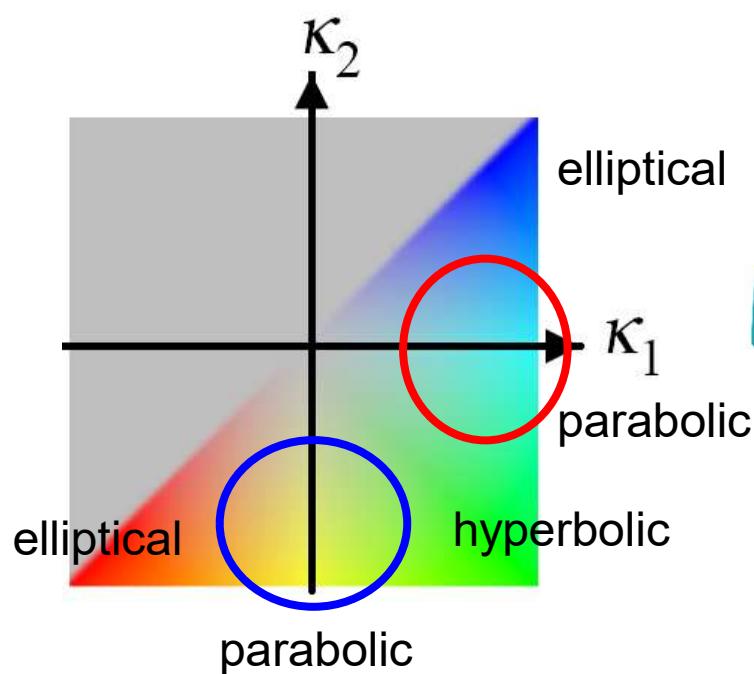




# The Principal Curvature Domain

Maximum/minimum principal curvature magnitude

- Identification of different shapes in 2D domain
- Elliptical, parabolic, hyperbolic, umbilical points
- Feature lines: e.g., **ridges** and **valleys**

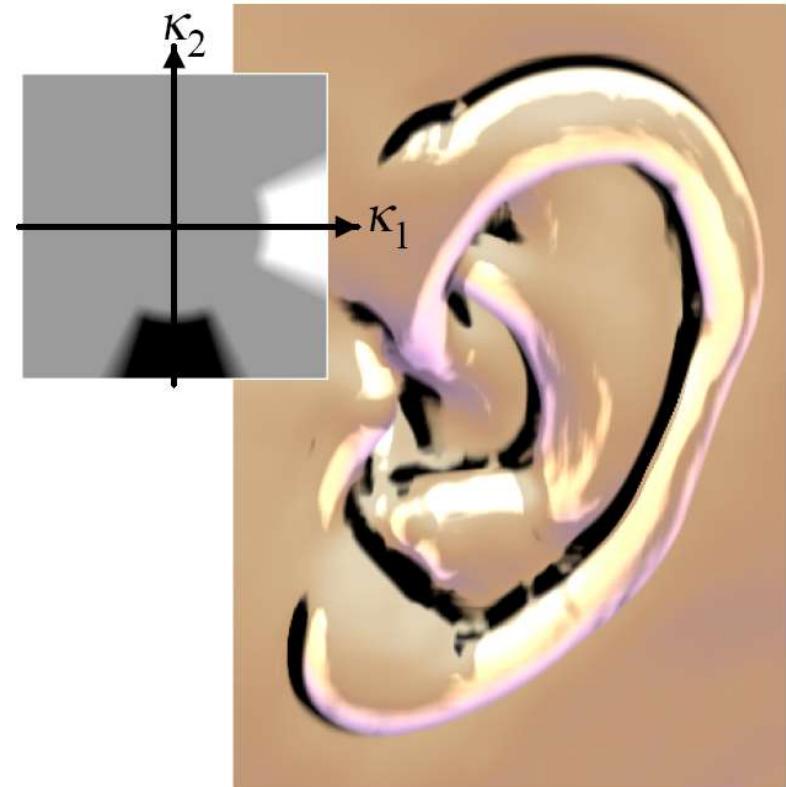
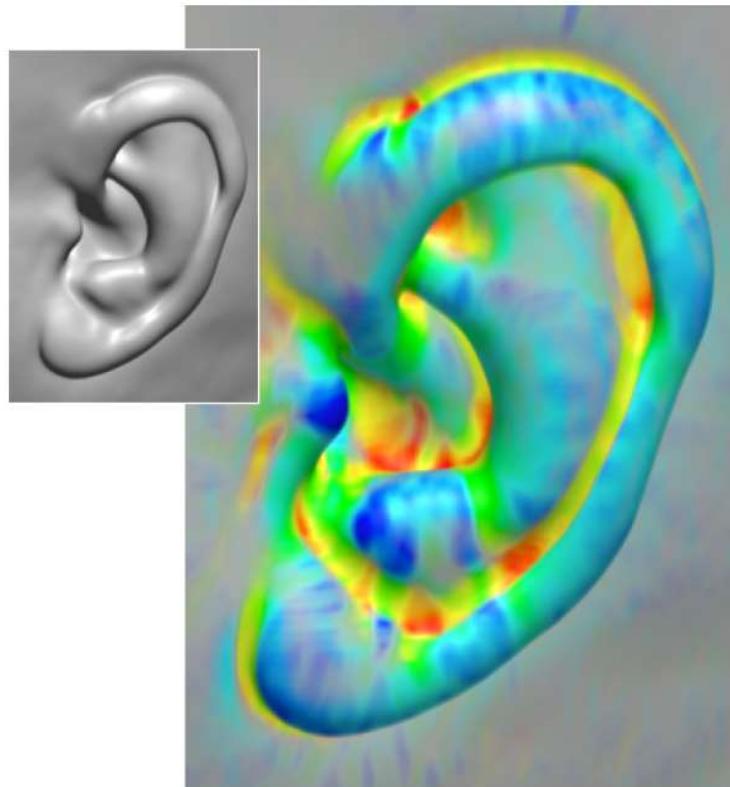


courtesy of Gordon Kindlmann



# Curvature Transfer Functions

- Color coding of curvature domain
- Paint features: ridge and valley lines



courtesy of Gordon Kindlmann

# Example





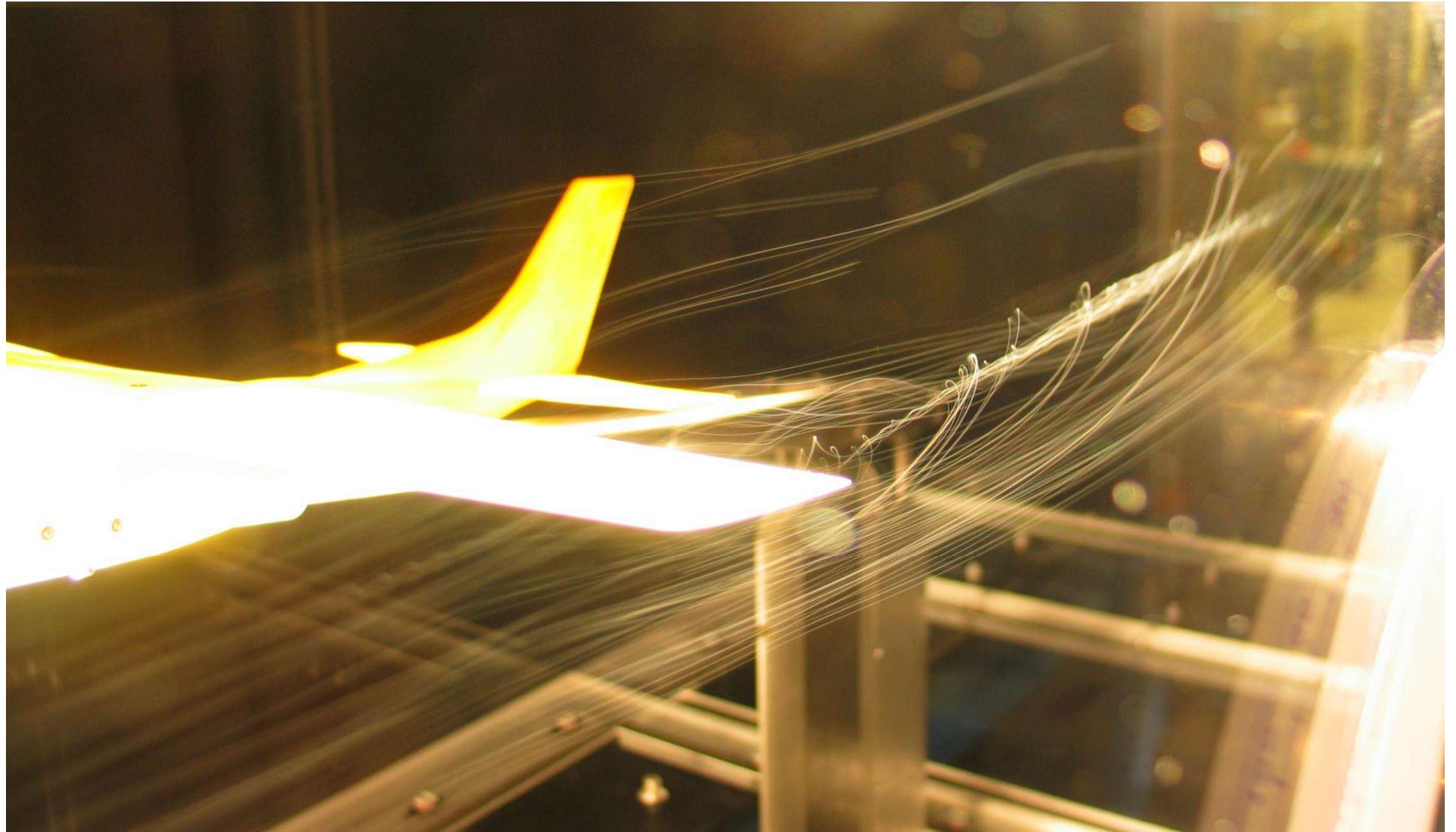
# **Vector Field / Flow Visualization**



### **Smoke angel**

A C-17 Globemaster III from the 14th Airlift Squadron, Charleston Air Force Base, S.C. flies off after releasing flares over the Atlantic Ocean near Charleston, S.C., during a training mission on Tuesday, May 16, 2006. The "smoke angel" is caused by the vortex from the engines.

(U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Russell E. Cooley IV)



A wind tunnel model of a Cessna 182 showing a wingtip vortex.  
Tested in the RPI (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute) Subsonic Wind Tunnel.

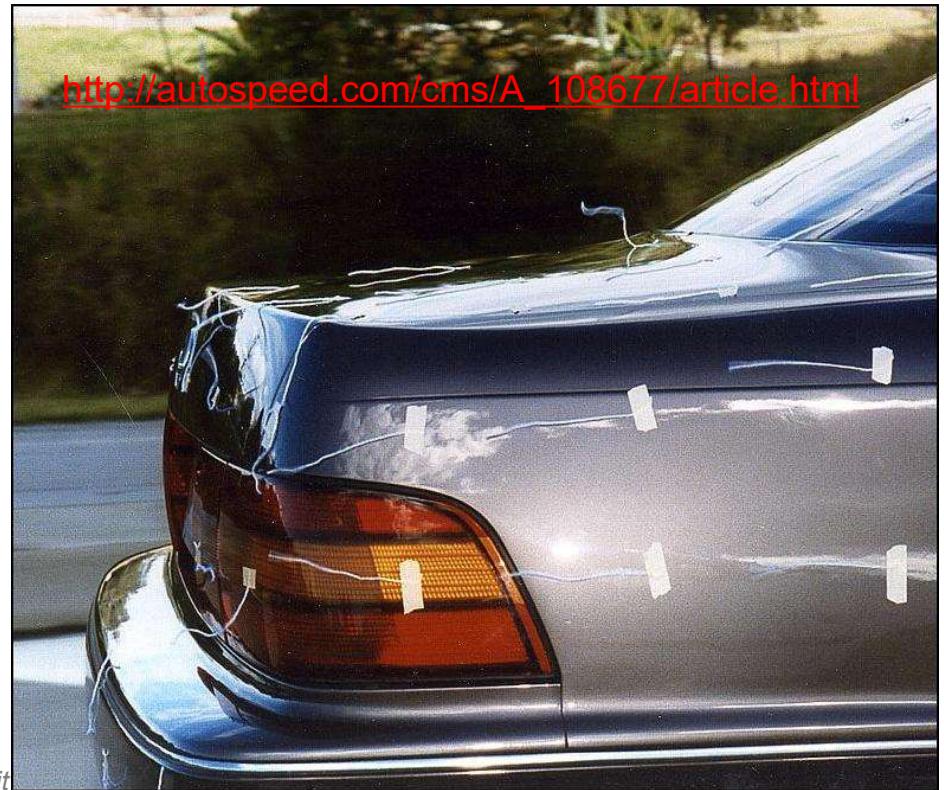
By Ben FrantzDale (2007).

*Flow Visualization: Problems and Concepts*



[http://autospeed.com/cms/A\\_108677/article.html](http://autospeed.com/cms/A_108677/article.html)

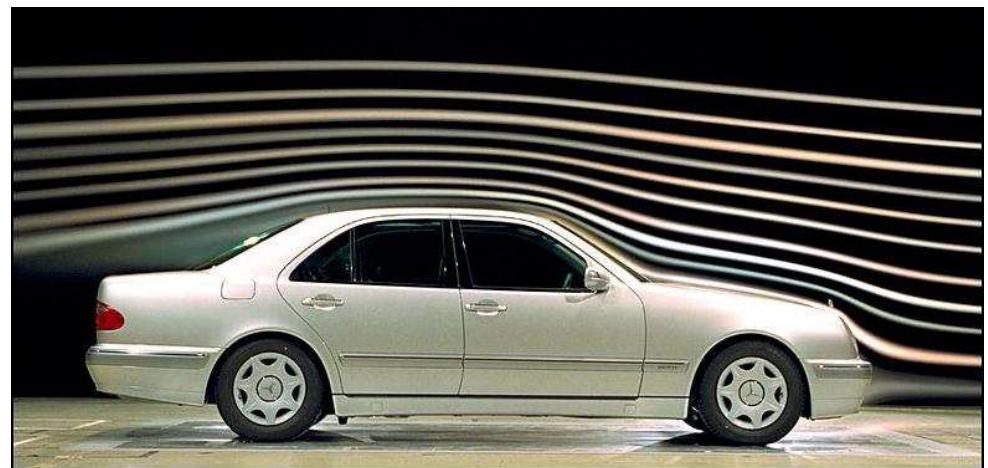
wool tufts



[http://autospeed.com/cms/A\\_108677/article.html](http://autospeed.com/cms/A_108677/article.html)



smoke injection



[http://autospeed.com/cms/A\\_108677/article.html](http://autospeed.com/cms/A_108677/article.html)

smoke nozzles



[NASA, J. Exp. Biol.]



[http://autospeed.com/cms/A\\_108677/article.html](http://autospeed.com/cms/A_108677/article.html)

smoke nozzles

## Smoke injection

A. L. R. Thomas, G. K. Taylor, R. B. Srygley, R. L. Nudds, and R. J. Bomphrey. Dragonfly flight: free-flight and tethered flow visualizations reveal a diverse array of unsteady lift-generating mechanisms, controlled primarily via angle of attack. *J Exp Biol*, 207(24):4299–4323, 2004.



[http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bild:Airplane\\_vortex\\_edit.jpg](http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bild:Airplane_vortex_edit.jpg)

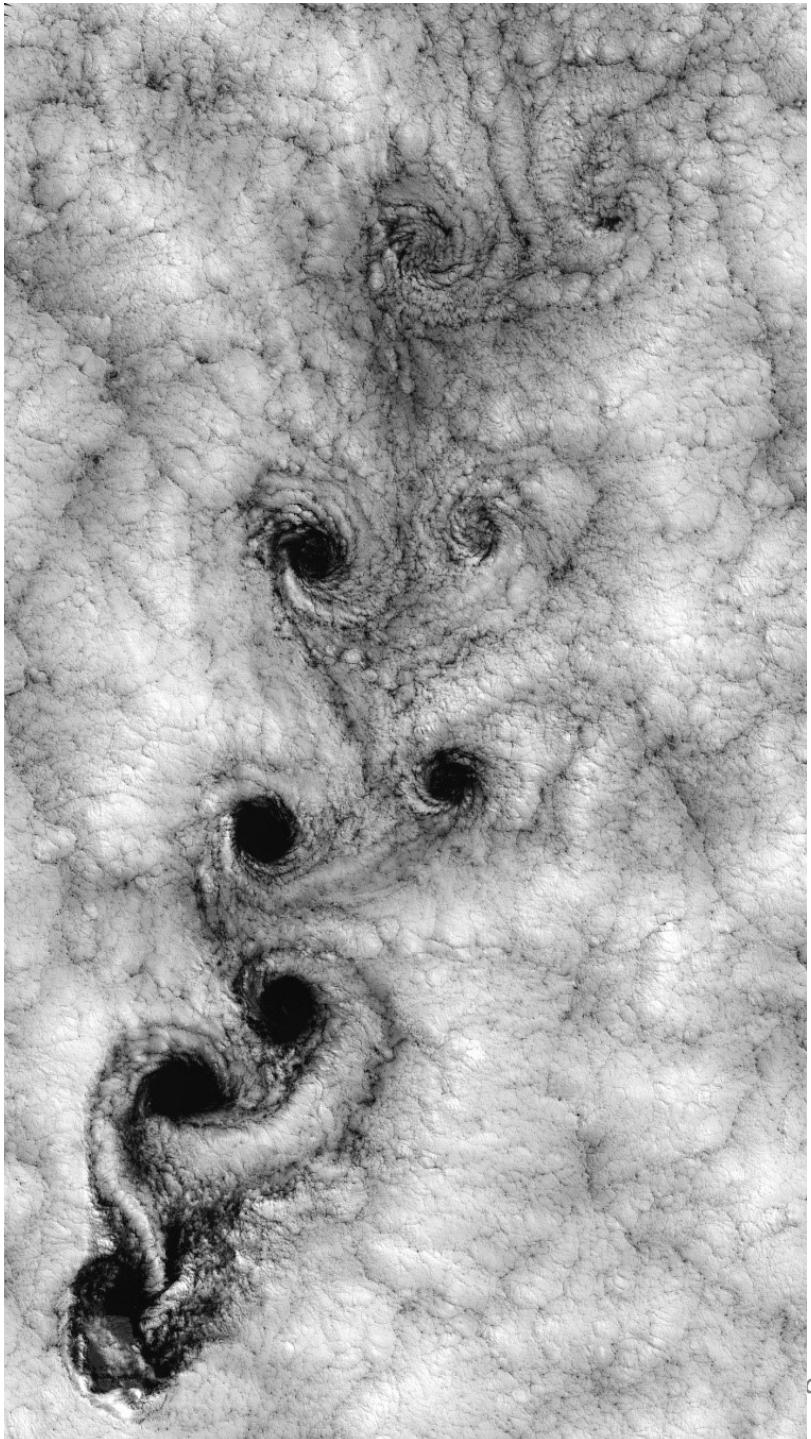
*Flow Visualization: Problems and Concepts*





## Smoke injection

<http://www-me.ccny.cuny.edu/research/aerolab/facilities/images/wt2.jpg>



***Flow Visualization: Problems and Concepts***

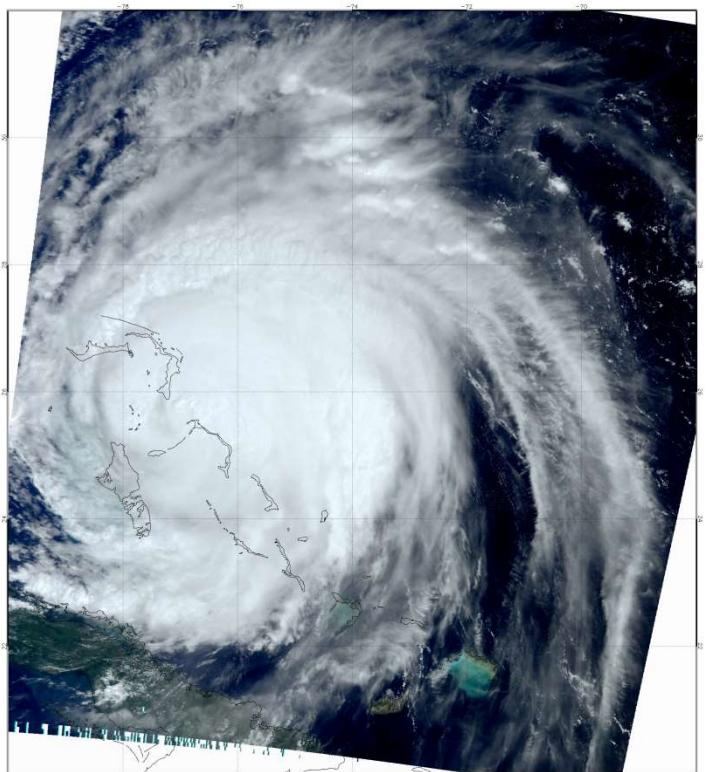
Clouds (satellite image)

*Juan Fernandez Islands*

<http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bild:Vortex-street-1.jpg>  
University, Winter 2011/12

## Clouds (satellite image)

<http://daac.gsfc.nasa.gov/gallery/frances/>



- **Vortex/ Vortex core lines**

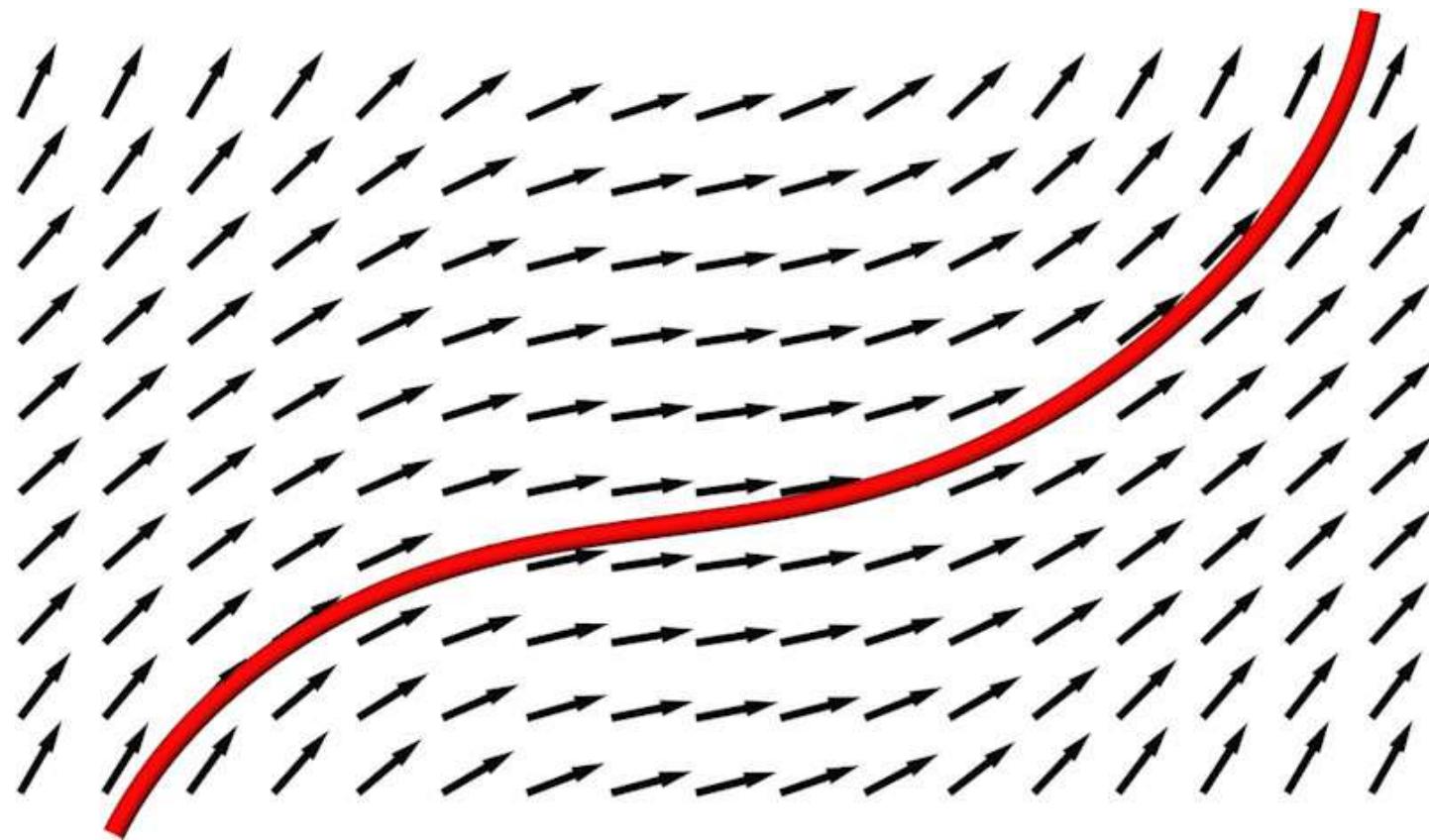
- There is no exact definition of vortices
- capturing some swirling behavior



# Integral Curves / Stream Objects



Integrating velocity over time yields spatial motion

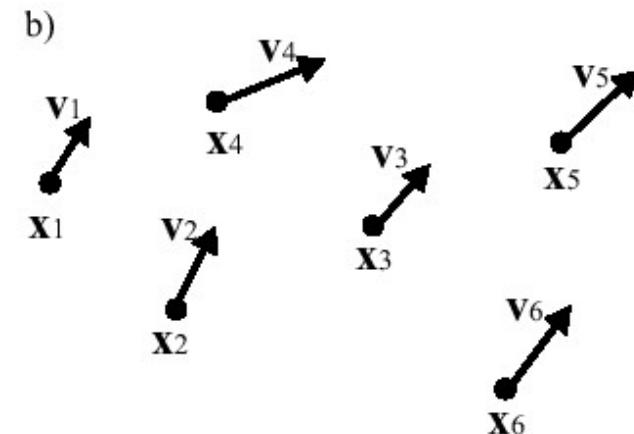
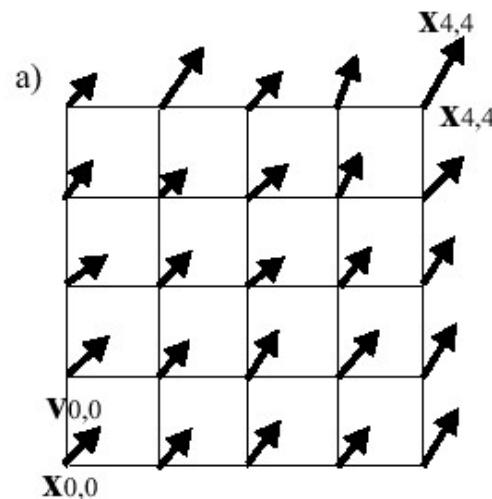


# Vector Fields



Each vector is usually thought of as a velocity vector

- Example for actual velocity: fluid flow
- But also force fields, etc. (e.g., electrostatic field)

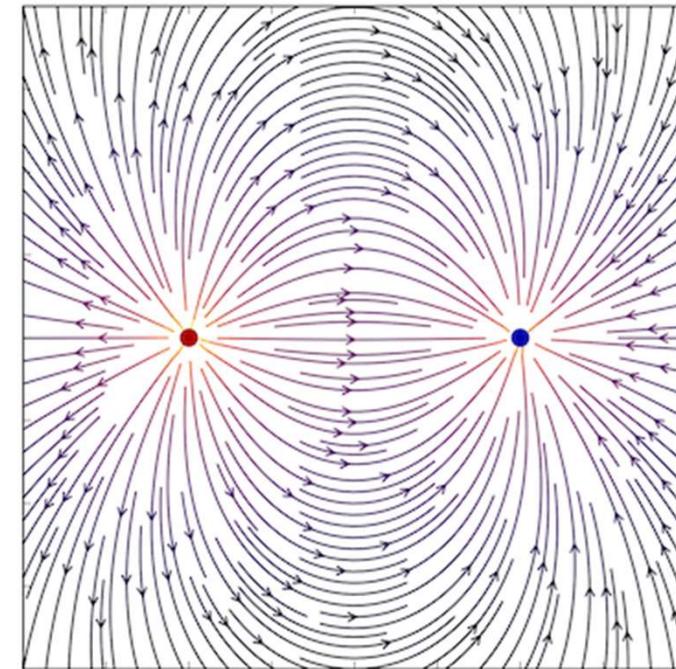
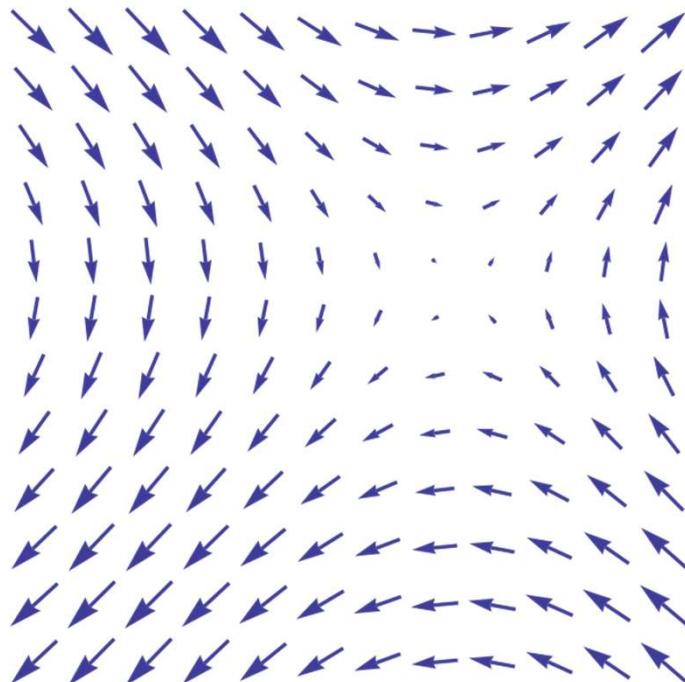


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images from wikipedia

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Each vector in a vector field  
lives in the **tangent space**  
of the manifold at that point:

Each vector is a **tangent vector**

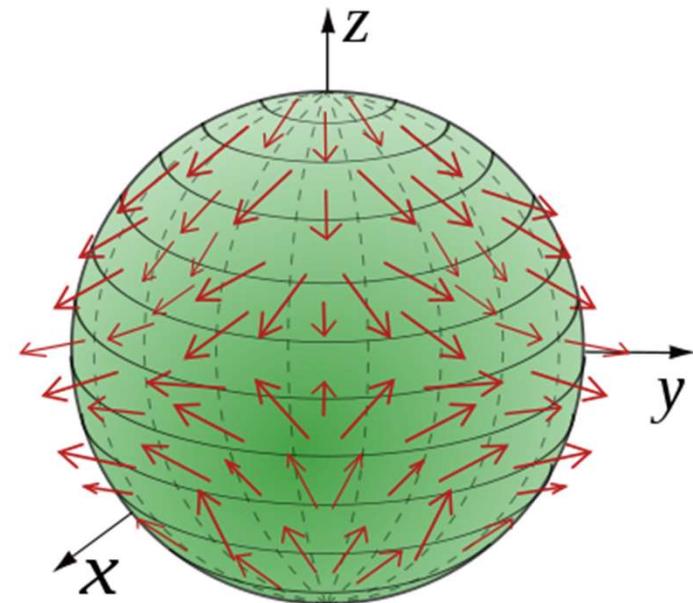
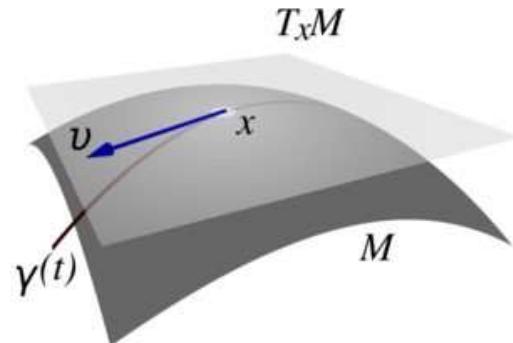


image from wikipedia

# Vector Fields



Vector fields on general manifolds  $M$  (not just Euclidean space)

*Tangent space at a point  $x \in M$ :*

$$T_x M$$

*Tangent bundle:* Manifold of all tangent spaces over base manifold

$$\pi: TM \rightarrow M$$

Vector field: *Section of tangent bundle*

$$s: M \rightarrow TM,$$

$$x \mapsto s(x). \quad \pi(s(x)) = x$$

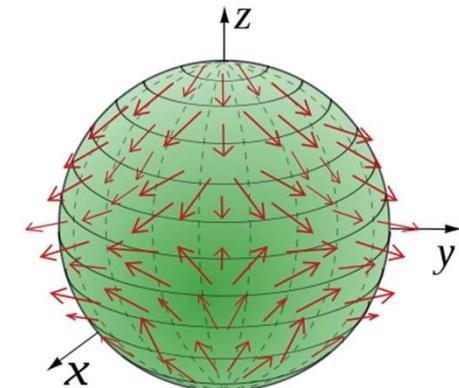
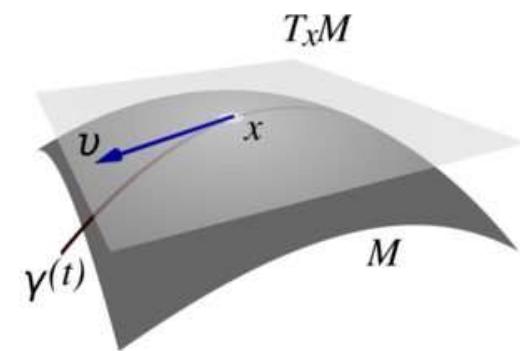


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Vector field: *Section of tangent bundle*

$$\mathbf{v}: M \rightarrow TM,$$

$$x \mapsto \mathbf{v}(x).$$

$$\mathbf{v}(x) \in T_x M$$

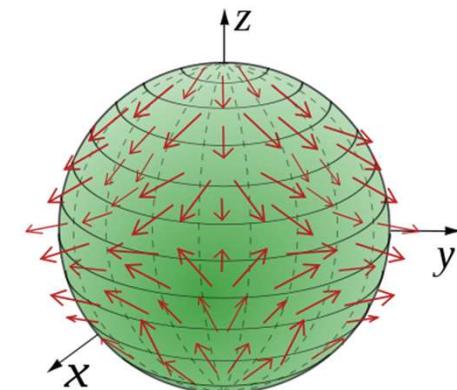
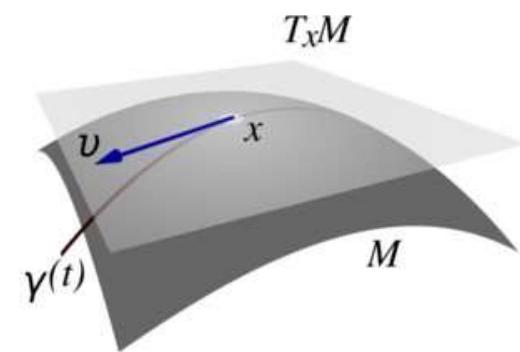


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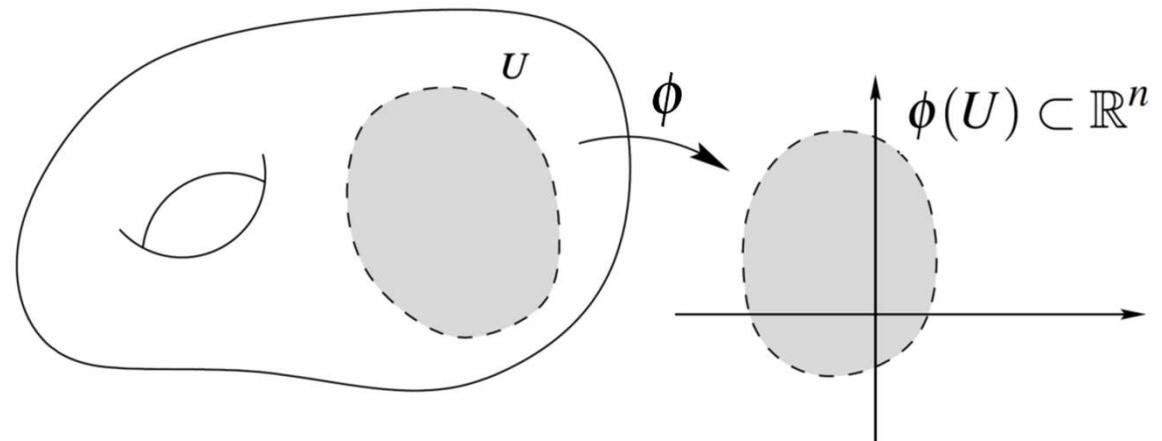
# Interlude: Coordinate Charts



Coordinate chart

$$\phi: U \subset M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n,$$

$$x \mapsto (x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n).$$





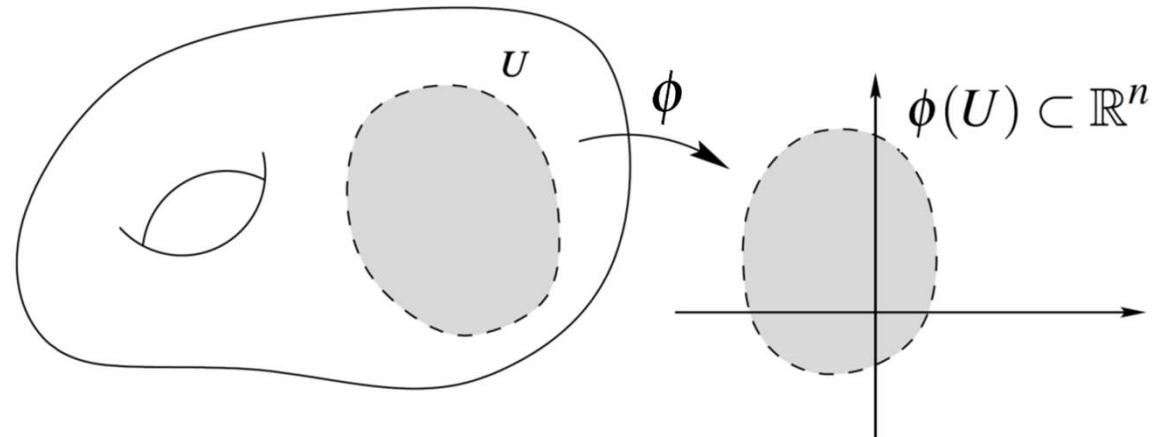
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Coordinate chart

$$\begin{aligned}\phi: U \subset M &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, \\ x &\mapsto (x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n).\end{aligned}$$

Coordinate functions

$$\begin{aligned}x^i: U \subset M &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \\ x &\mapsto x^i(x).\end{aligned}$$



# Interlude: Coordinate Charts

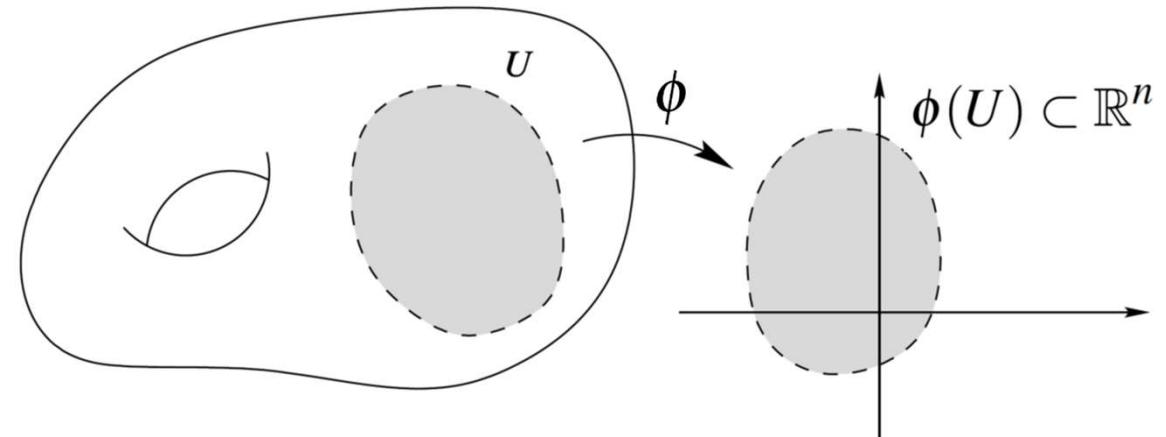


Coordinate charts

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_\alpha: U_\alpha \subset M &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, \\ x &\mapsto (x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n).\end{aligned}$$

Atlas

$$\{(U_\alpha, \phi_\alpha)\}_{\alpha \in I}$$





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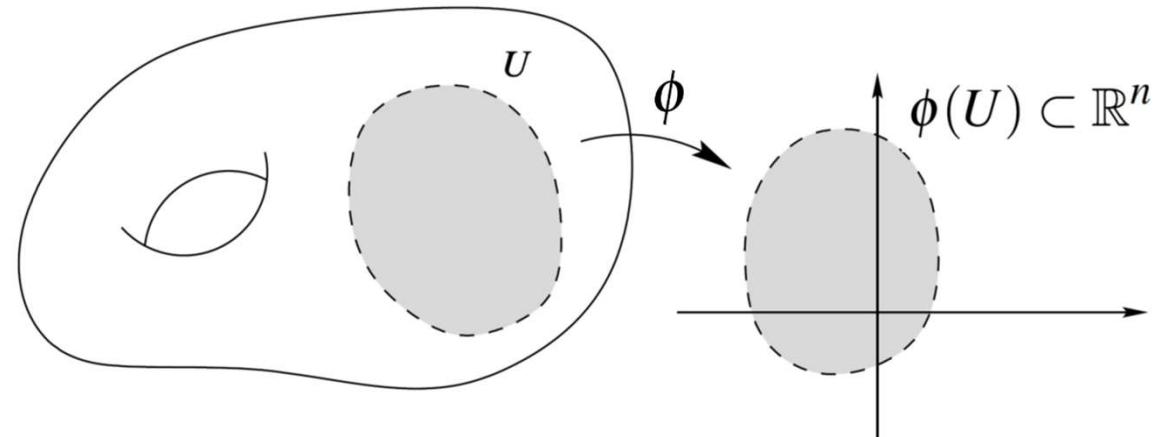
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Atlas

$$\{(U_\alpha, \phi_\alpha)\}_{\alpha \in I}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_\alpha: U_\alpha \subset M &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, \\ x &\mapsto (x^1(x), x^2(x), \dots, x^n(x)).\end{aligned}$$





# Vector Fields vs. Vectors in Components

Because Euclidean space is most common, often slightly sloppy notation

$$\mathbf{v}: U \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2,$$

$$(x, y) \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix}.$$



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$$(x, y, z) \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \\ w \end{bmatrix}.$$

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# Vector Fields vs. Vectors in Components

$\mathbf{v}: U \subset \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n,$

$$(x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n) \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} v^1 \\ v^2 \\ \vdots \\ v^n \end{bmatrix}.$$

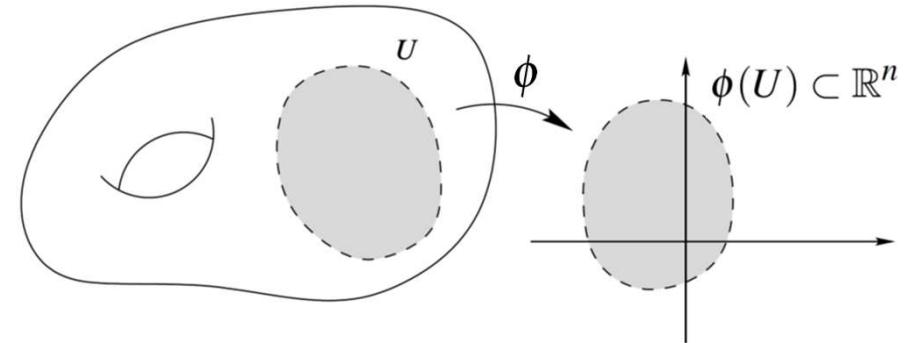
$\mathbf{v}: U \subset \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n,$

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$$\mathbf{v}|_U: \phi(U) \subset \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n,$$
$$(x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n) \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} v^1 \\ v^2 \\ \vdots \\ v^n \end{bmatrix}.$$



# Vector Fields vs. Vectors in Components

Need basis vector fields

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{e}_i : U \subset M &\rightarrow TM, \\ x &\mapsto \mathbf{e}_i(x)\end{aligned}\quad \left\{\mathbf{e}_i(x)\right\}_{i=1}^n \text{ basis for } T_x M$$



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$$\mathbf{v} : U \subset M \rightarrow TM, \quad \begin{aligned} & x \mapsto v^1 \mathbf{e}_1 + v^2 \mathbf{e}_2 + \dots + v^n \mathbf{e}_n. \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{v} : U \subset M \rightarrow TM, \quad \begin{aligned} & x \mapsto v^1(x) \mathbf{e}_1(x) + v^2(x) \mathbf{e}_2(x) + \dots + v^n(x) \mathbf{e}_n(x). \end{aligned}$$



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$$\mathbf{e}_i : U \subset M \rightarrow TM, \quad x \mapsto \mathbf{e}_i(x) \quad \{\mathbf{e}_i(x)\}_{i=1}^n \text{ basis for } T_x M$$

Coordinate basis:  
 $\mathbf{e}_i := \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$

$$\mathbf{v} : U \subset M \rightarrow TM, \quad x \mapsto v^1 \mathbf{e}_1 + v^2 \mathbf{e}_2 + \dots + v^n \mathbf{e}_n.$$

$$\mathbf{v} : U \subset M \rightarrow TM, \quad x \mapsto v^1(x) \mathbf{e}_1(x) + v^2(x) \mathbf{e}_2(x) + \dots + v^n(x) \mathbf{e}_n(x).$$

# Examples of Coordinate Curves and Bases



Coordinate functions, coordinate curves, bases

- Coordinate functions are real-valued (“scalar”) functions on the domain
- On each coordinate curve, *one* coordinate changes, *all others stay constant*
- Basis: n linearly independent vectors at each point of domain

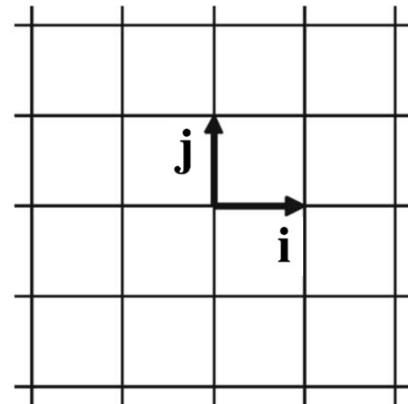
Cartesian coordinates

$$x^1 = x$$

$$x^2 = y$$

$$\mathbf{e}_1 = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \mathbf{i}$$

$$\mathbf{e}_2 = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} = \mathbf{j}$$



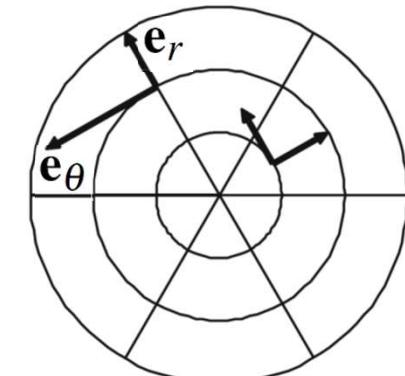
polar coordinates

$$x^1 = r$$

$$x^2 = \theta$$

$$\mathbf{e}_1 = \frac{\partial}{\partial r} = \mathbf{e}_r$$

$$\mathbf{e}_2 = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} = \mathbf{e}_\theta$$







[bonus slides:]

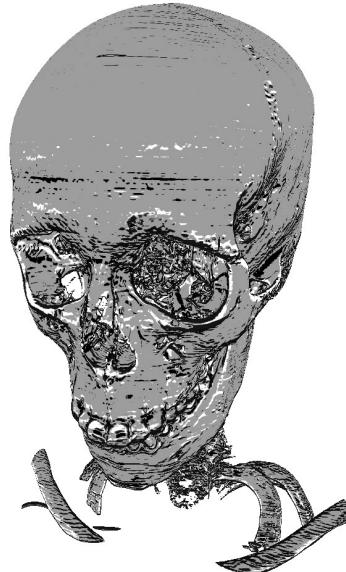
# **Curvature-Based Transfer Functions**

# Curvature-Based Isosurface Illustration

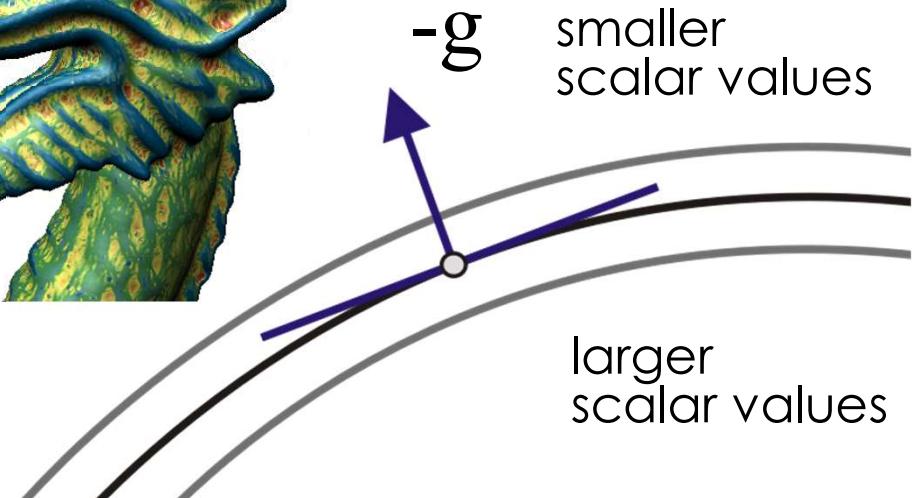


Curvature measure color mapping

Curvature directions; ridges and valleys



- Implicit surface curvature
- Isosurface through a point



# (Extrinsic) Curvature



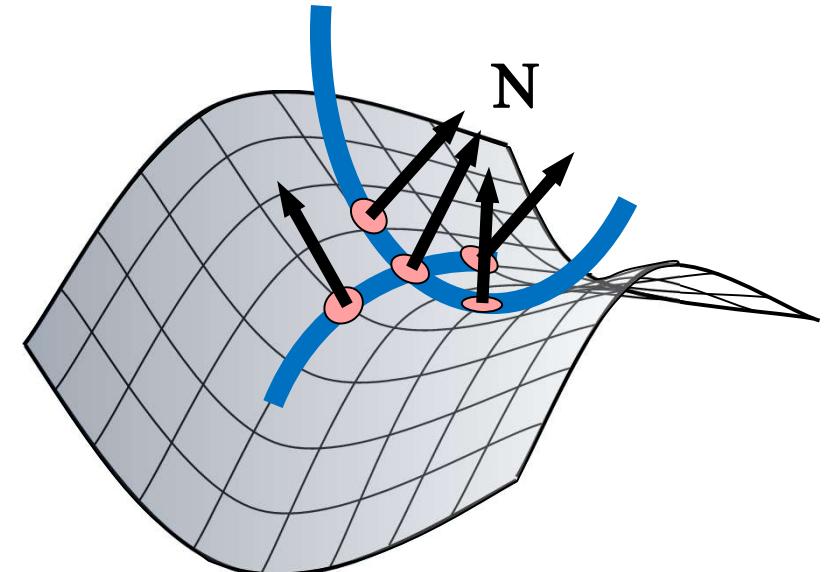
How fast do positional changes (in different directions) on the surface change the normal vector?

- Gauss map: assigns normal to each point

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{N}: M &\rightarrow \mathbb{S}^2, \\ x &\mapsto \mathbf{N}(x).\end{aligned}$$

- Differential of Gauss map:  
Shape operator / Weingarten map

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{d}\mathbf{N}: T_x M &\rightarrow T_{\mathbf{N}(x)} \mathbb{S}^2, \\ \mathbf{v} &\mapsto \mathrm{d}\mathbf{N}(\mathbf{v}).\end{aligned}$$



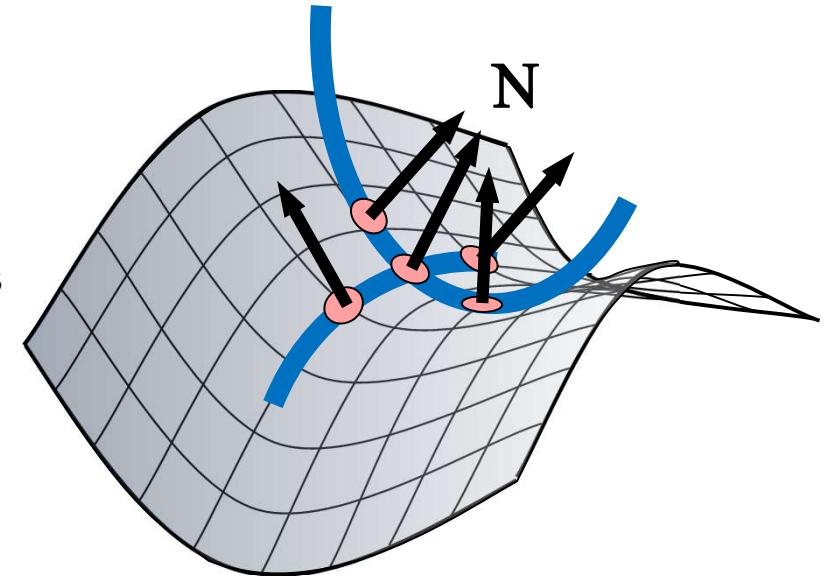
courtesy of Gordon Kindlmann

# (Extrinsic) Curvature



Analyze shape operator  $S$

- Eigenvalues: principal curvatures (magnitudes)
  - First and second principal curvature
  - Maximum:  $K_1$
  - Minimum:  $K_2$
- Eigenvectors: principal curv. directions
- Gaussian curvature (intrinsic!):  $K_1 K_2$



courtesy of Gordon Kindlmann

# (Extrinsic) Curvature Computation



Simple recipe for implicit isosurfaces in volume

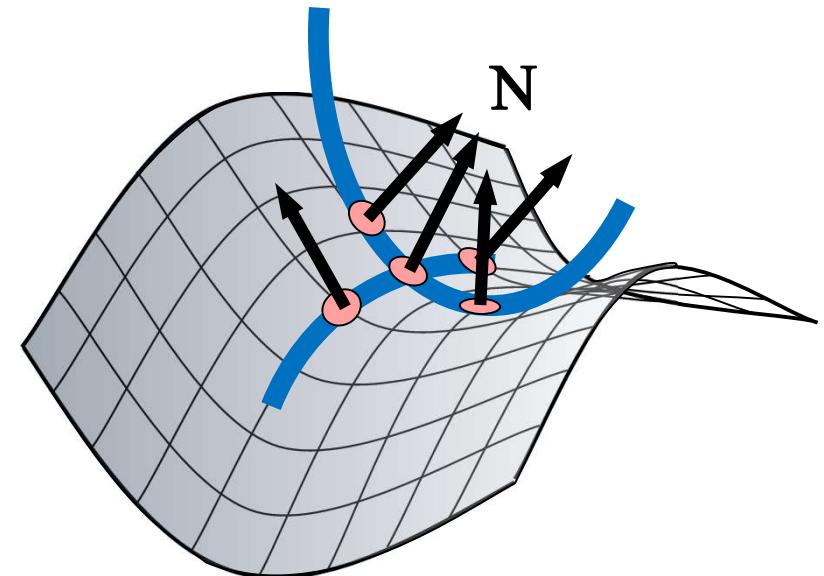
- Build on gradient and Hessian matrix
- Hessian contains curvature information

Transform Hessian into tangent space

- Curvature magnitudes:  
Eigenvalues of  $2 \times 2$  matrix
- Curvature directions:  
Eigenvectors of  $2 \times 2$  matrix

Alternative:

- Compute in 3D (see Real-Time Volume Graphics, 14.4.4)



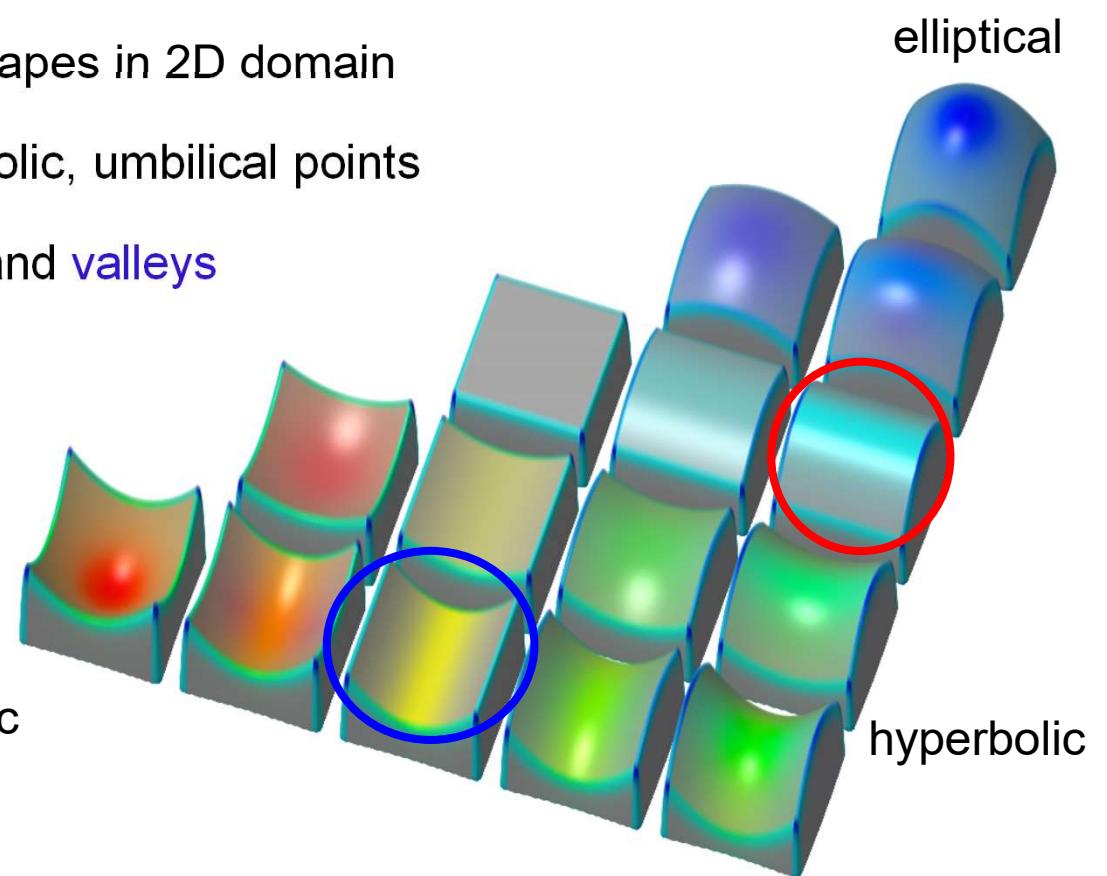
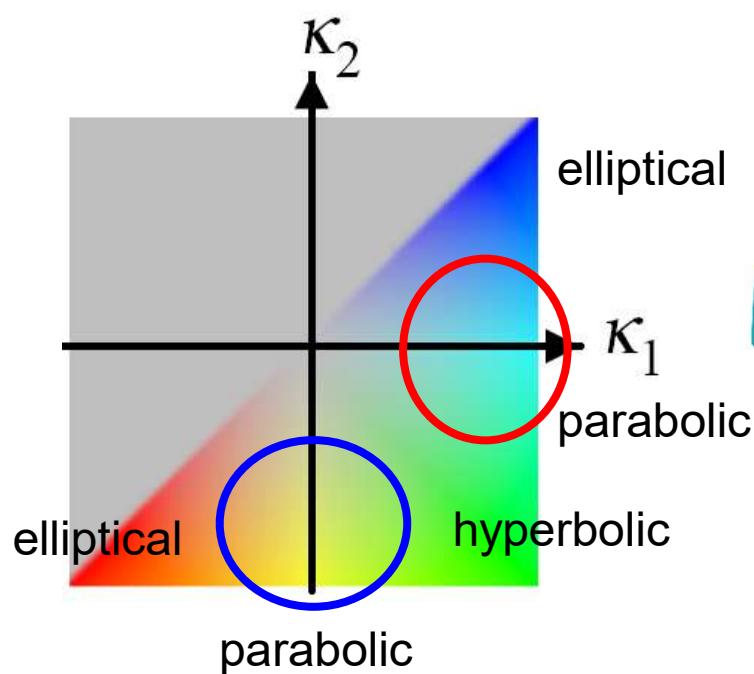
courtesy of Gordon Kindlmann



# The Principal Curvature Domain

Maximum/minimum principal curvature magnitude

- Identification of different shapes in 2D domain
- Elliptical, parabolic, hyperbolic, umbilical points
- Feature lines: e.g., **ridges** and **valleys**

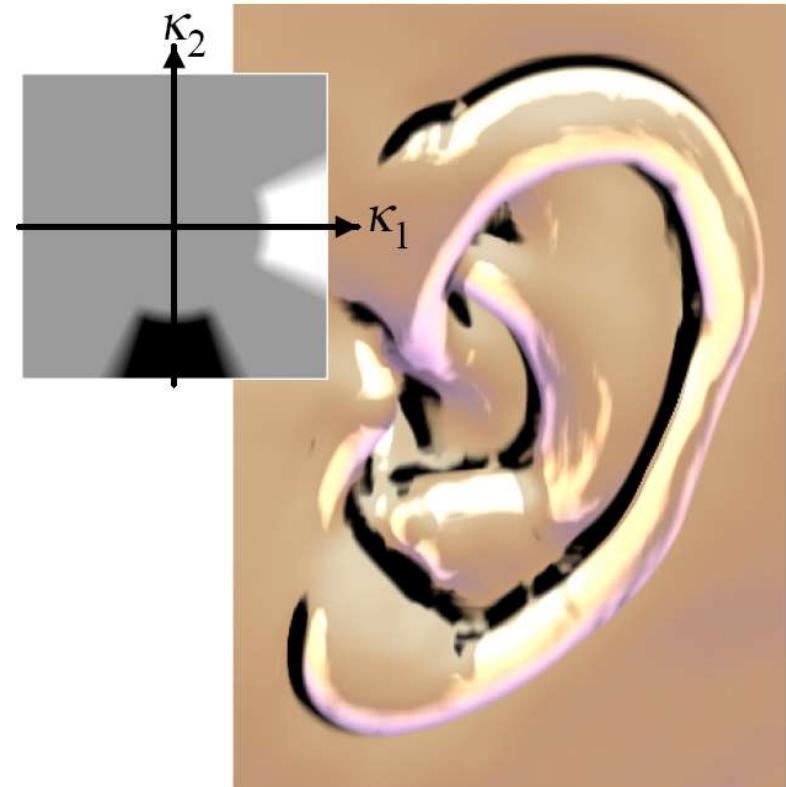
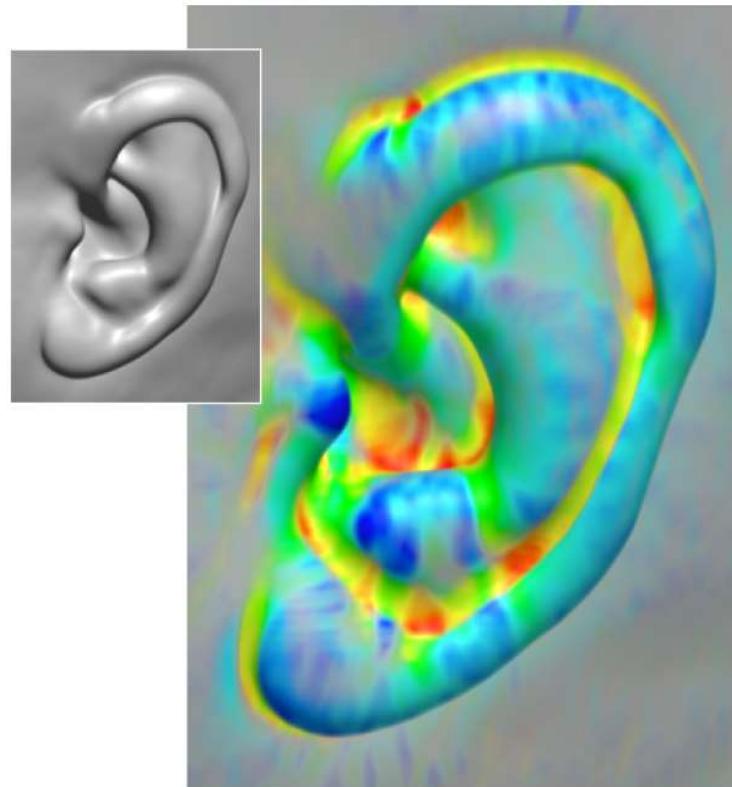


courtesy of Gordon Kindlmann

# Curvature Transfer Functions



- Color coding of curvature domain
- Paint features: ridge and valley lines

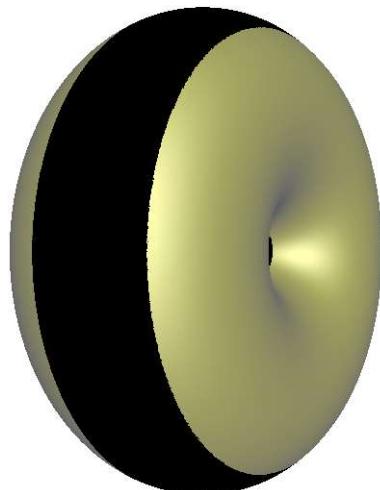
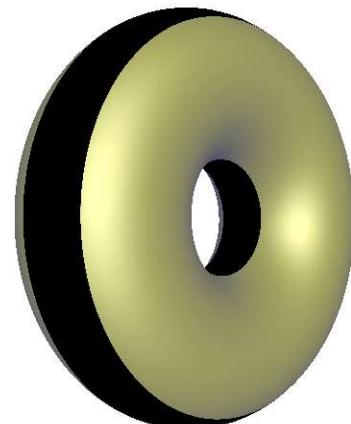
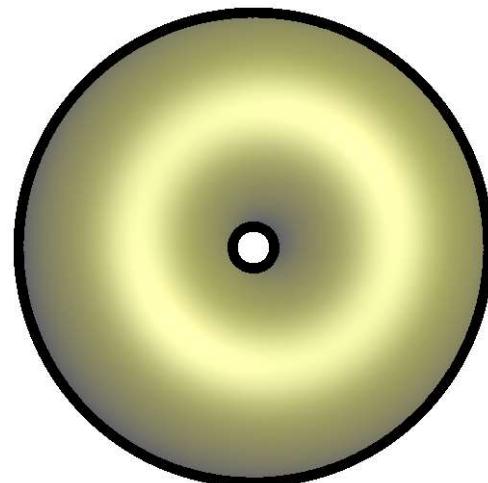
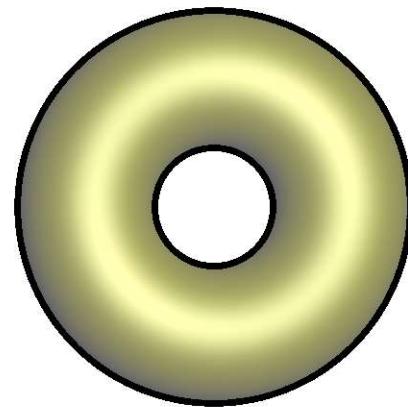
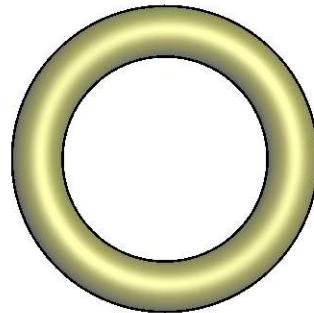


courtesy of Gordon Kindlmann

# Problems of Implicit Surface Contours



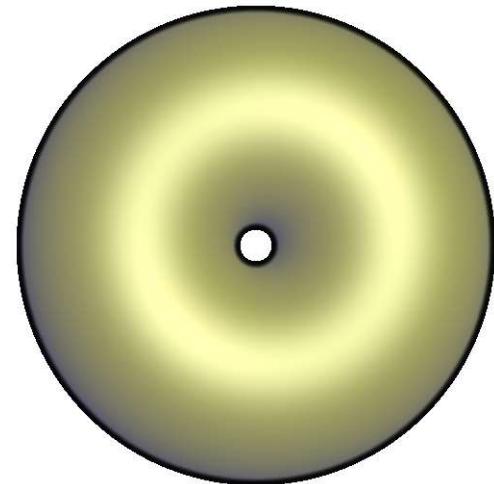
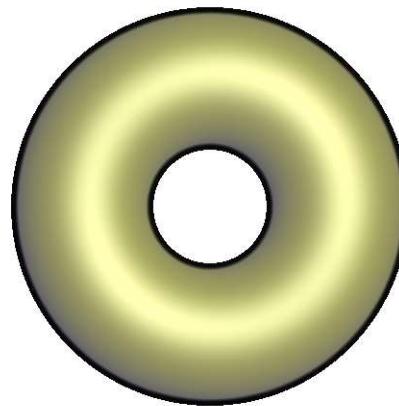
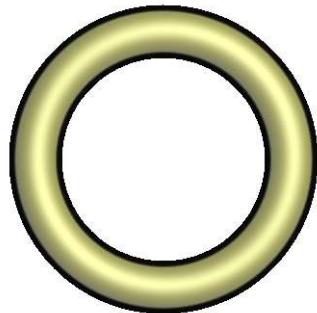
Constant threshold on  $|\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}|$



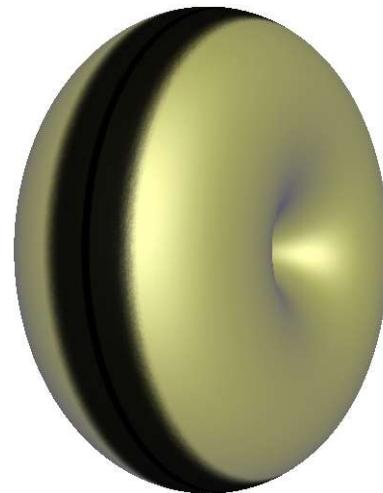
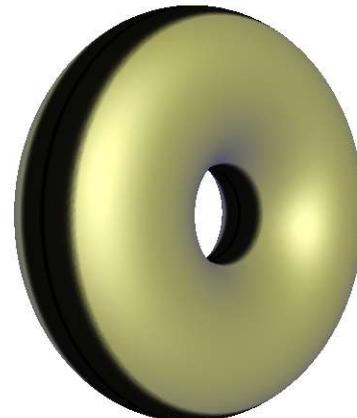
# Curvature-Based Contour Threshold (1)



Threshold dependent on curvature in view direction

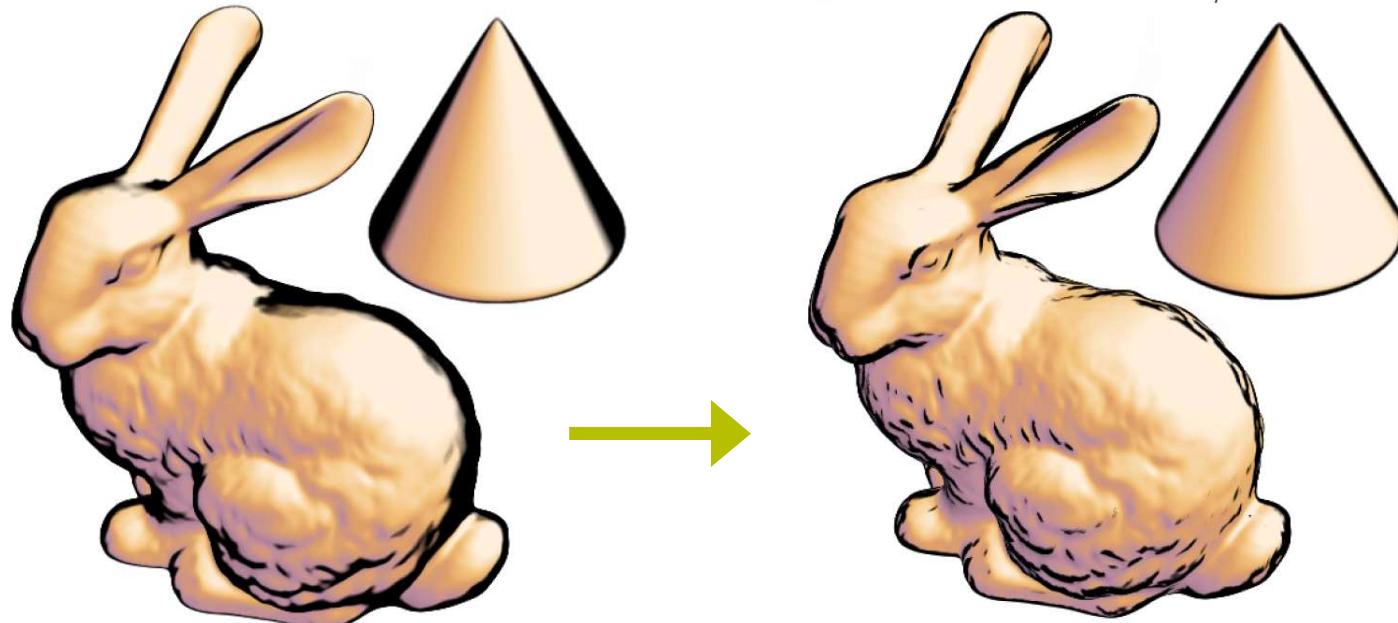
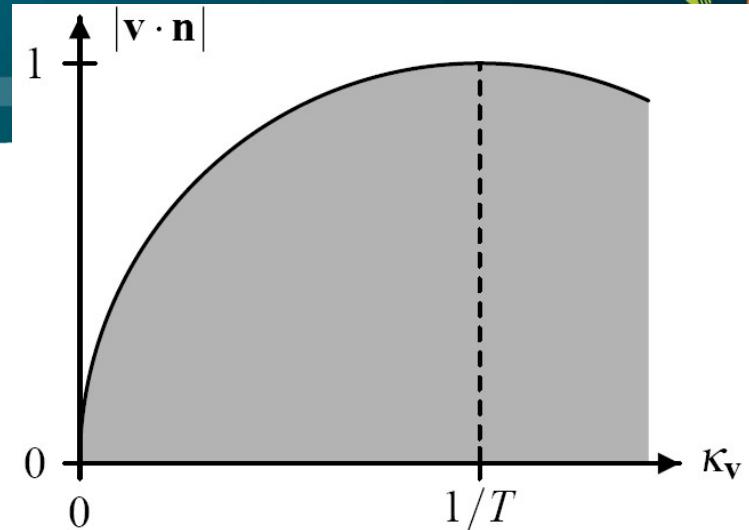


Thickness constant!



## Curvature-Based Contour Threshold (2)

Higher curvature in view direction needs higher threshold



courtesy of Gordon Kindlmann

# Example





# Deferred Isosurface Shading

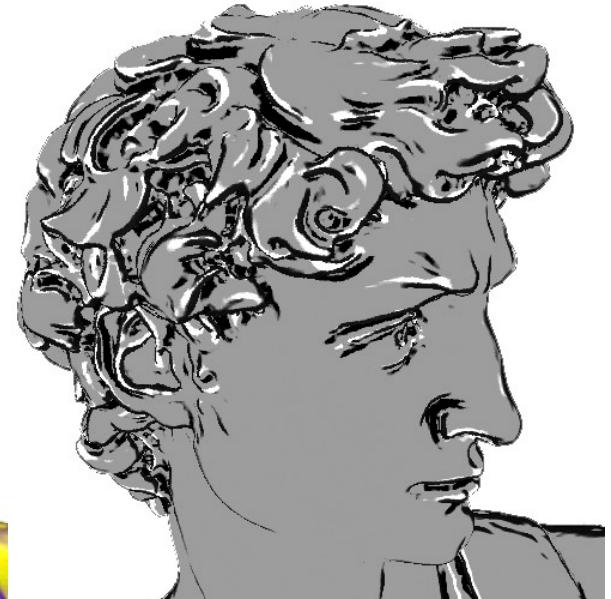
- Shading is expensive
- Compute surface intersection image from volume
- Compute derivatives and shading in image space



intersection image



curvature color coding



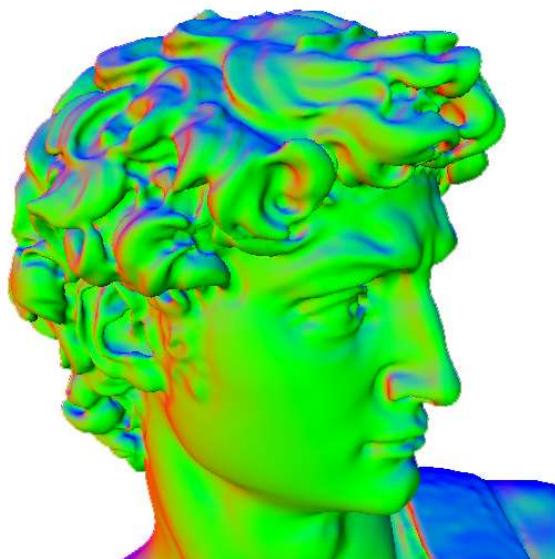
ridges and valleys

# Implicit Curvature via Convolution



Computed from first and second derivatives

- Can use fast texture-based tri-cubic filters in shader
- Can use **deferred** computation and shading



first derivative



maximum curvature

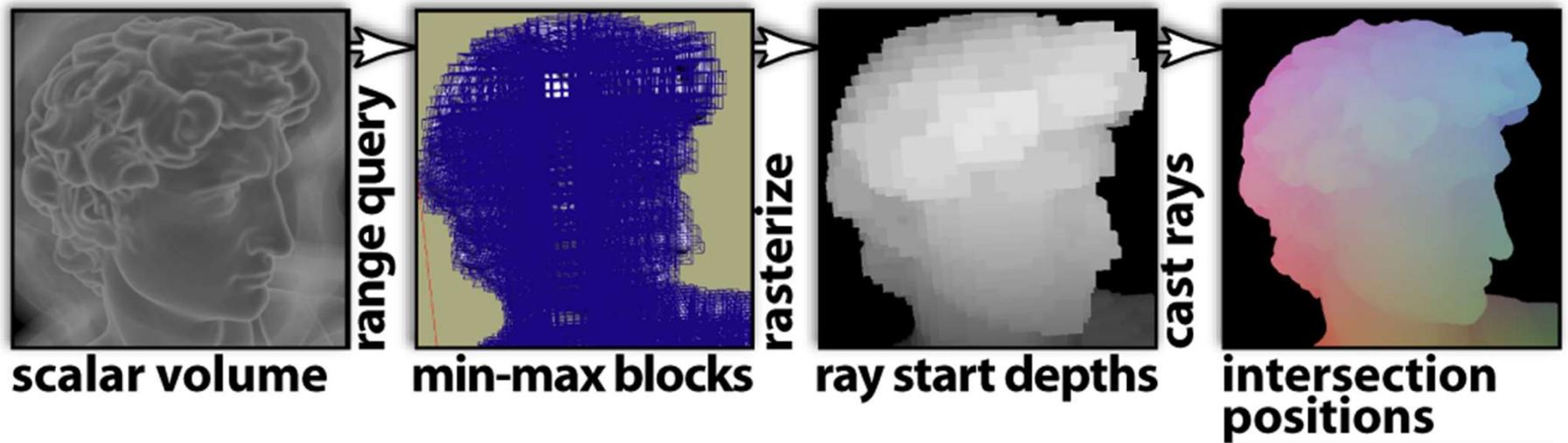


minimum curvature

# Pipeline Stage #1: Ray-Casting



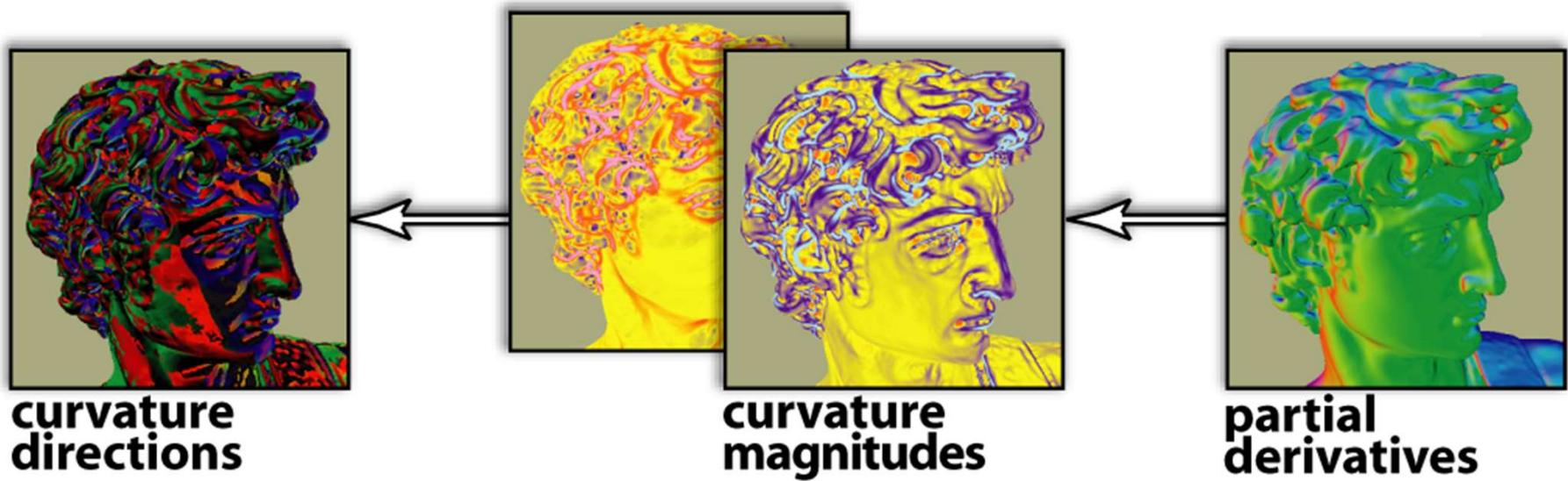
- Rasterize faces of active min-max blocks
- Cast into the volume; stop when isosurface hit
- Refine isosurface hit positions (root search)



# Pipeline Stage #2: Differential Properties



- Basis for visualization of surface shape
- First and second derivatives (gradient, Hessian)
- From these: curvature information, ...

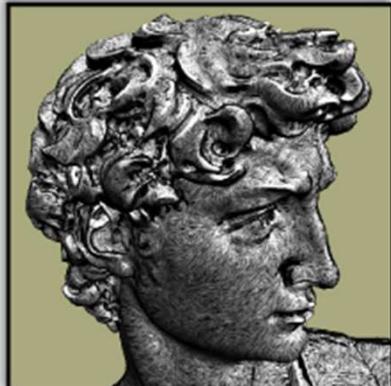


# Pipeline Stage #3: Shading



Build on previous images

- Position in object space
- Gradient
- Principal curvature magnitudes and directions



**curvature flow**



**ridges+valleys**



**curvature mapping**



**tone shading**

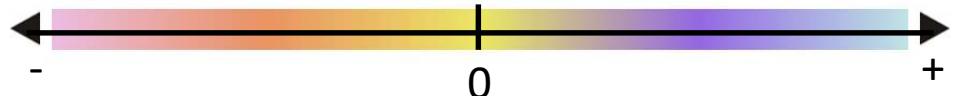
# Color Coding Scalar Curvature Measures



- 1D color lookup table



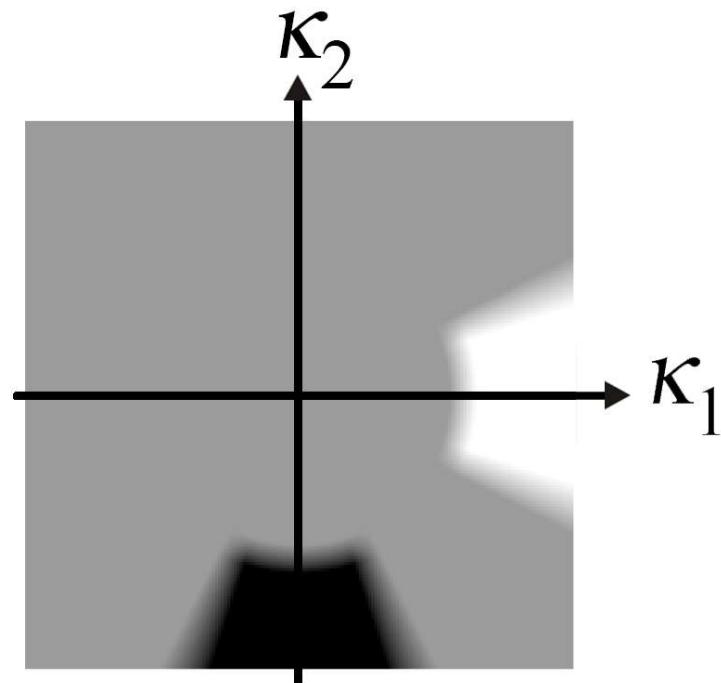
maximum principal curvature



# 2D Curvature Transfer Functions



- 2D lookup table in domain of principal curvatures



ridges and valleys, plus contours:





# Visualizing Curvature Directions (1)

- Use 3D vector field visualization on curved surfaces  
[van Wijk, 2003], [Laramee et al., 2003]
- Project 3D vectors to screen space
- Advect dense noise textures in screen space



# Visualizing Curvature Directions (2)



# Thank you.

Thanks for material

- Helwig Hauser
- Eduard Gröller
- Daniel Weiskopf
- Torsten Möller
- Ronny Peikert
- Philipp Muigg
- Christof Rezk-Salama