

# Flow Visualization Research @ IDAV

Christoph Garth

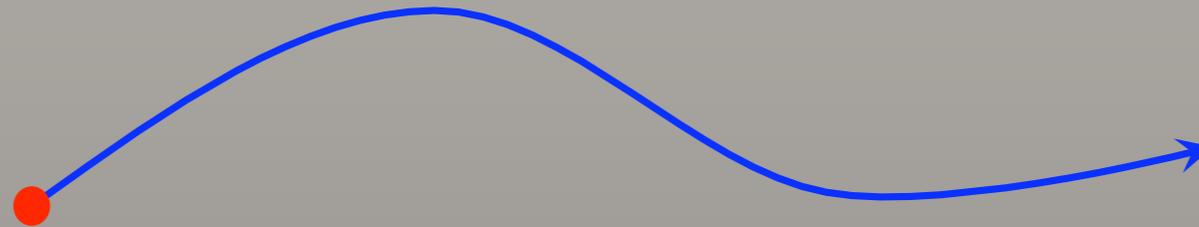
CScADS Workshop on  
Scientific Data Analysis and Visualization for Petascale Computing  
August 6, 2009

# Flow Illustration with Integral Surfaces

(with Hari Krishnan, Ken Joy)

# Integration-Based Flow Vis

## Integral Curve

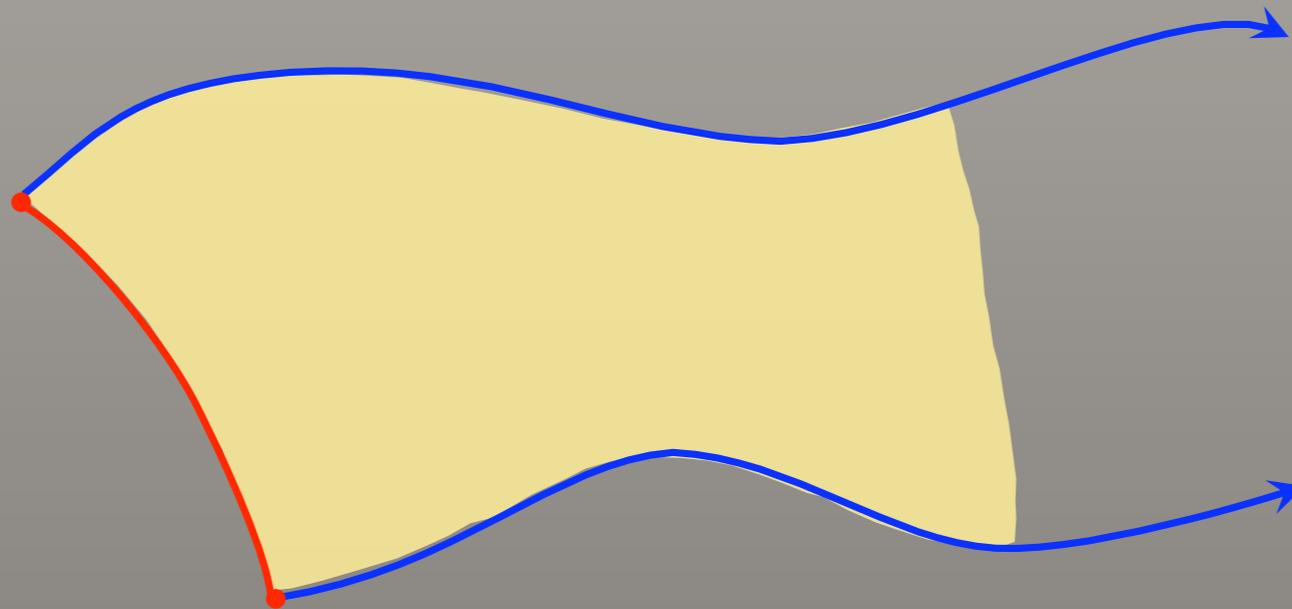


Intuitive interpretation: path of a massless particle

Computation in datasets: numerical integration

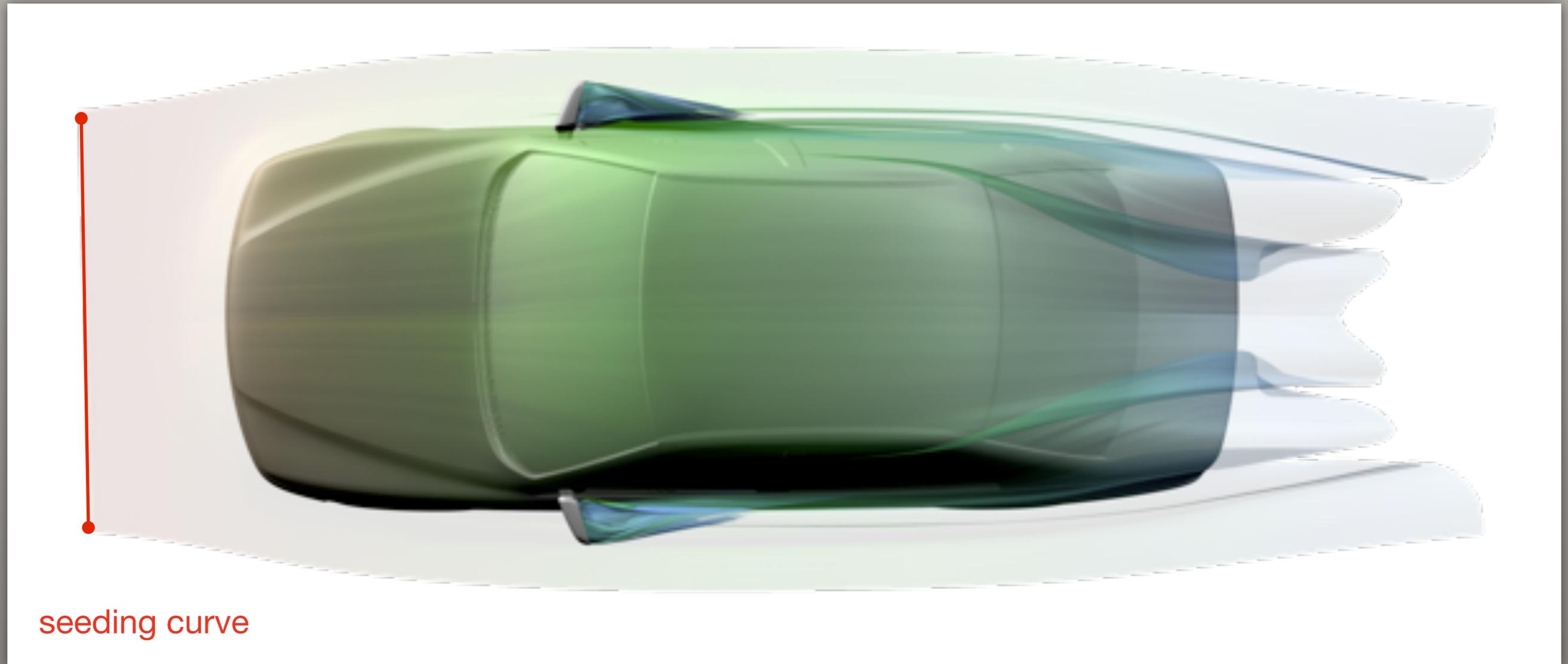
# Integral Surfaces

- Generalization: path surfaces
- Interpretation: surface spanned by a family of integral curves, originating from a common curve



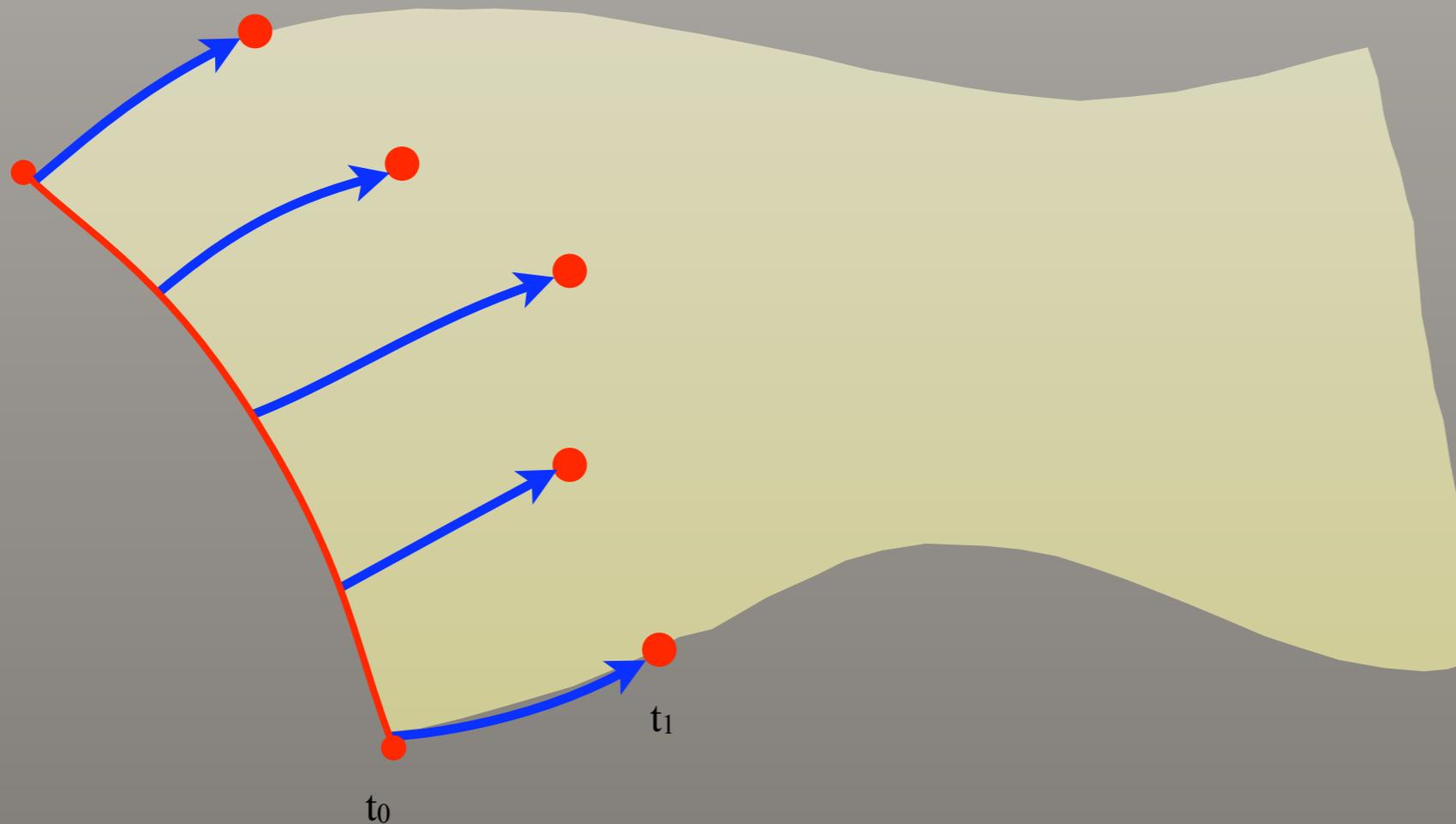
# Integral Surfaces

Flow over a car, 38M unstructured cells



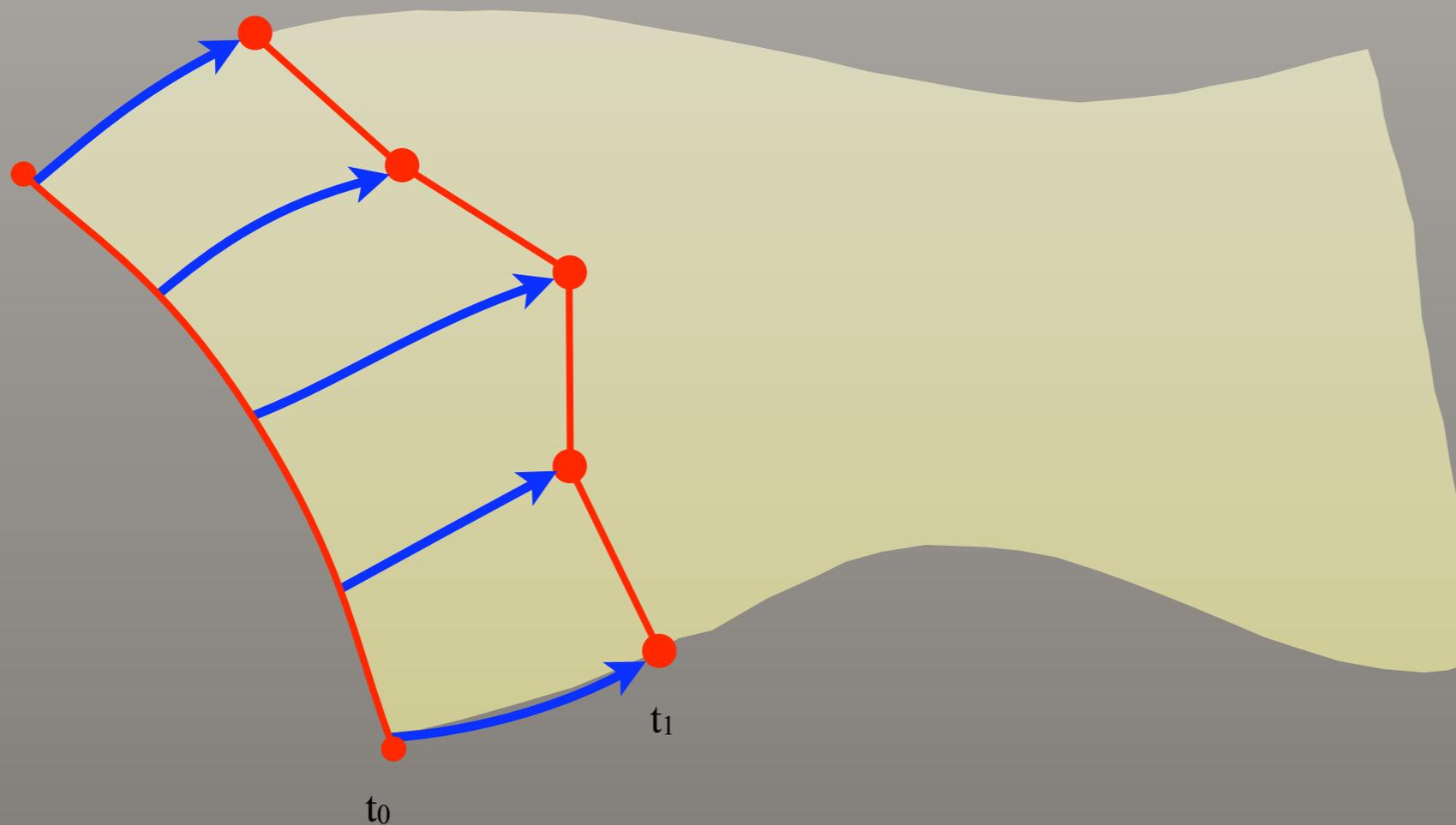
# Integral Surfaces

- Step 1: Compute initial approximation, points on  $t_1$  are advected from  $t_0$



# Integral Surfaces

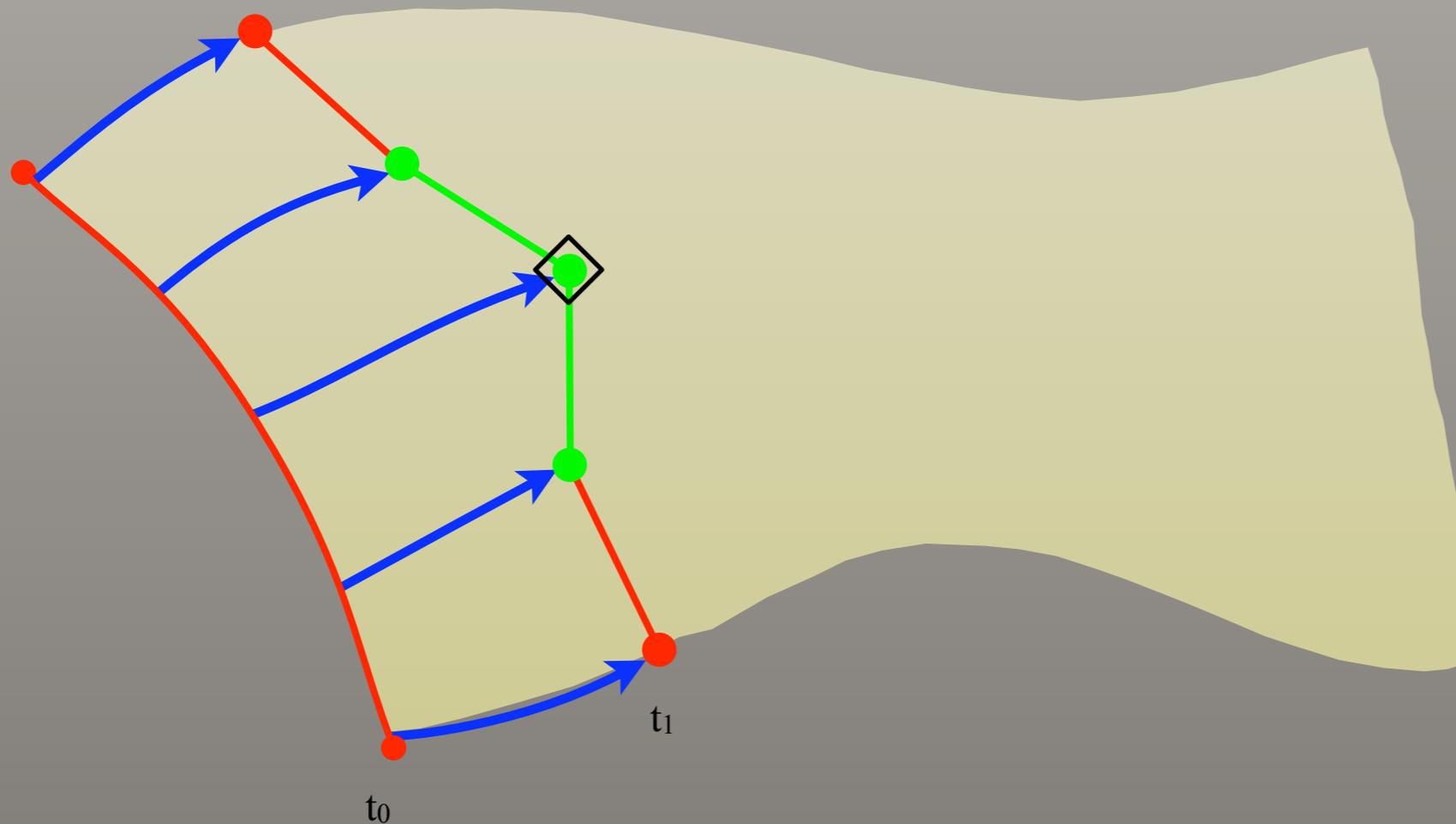
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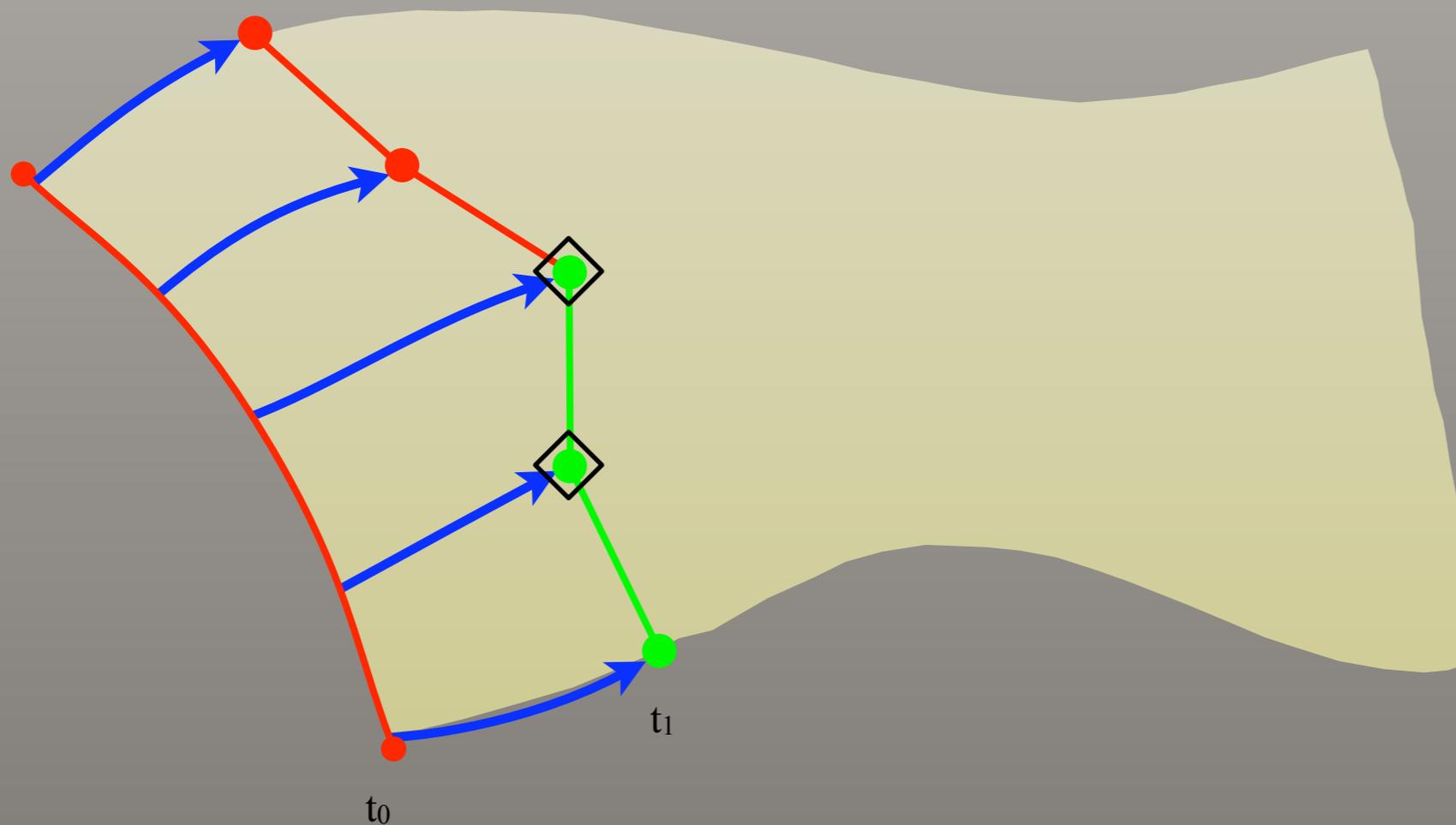
# Integral Surfaces

- Step 2:  
Apply refinement predicate on adjacent point triples to determine where better resolution is needed



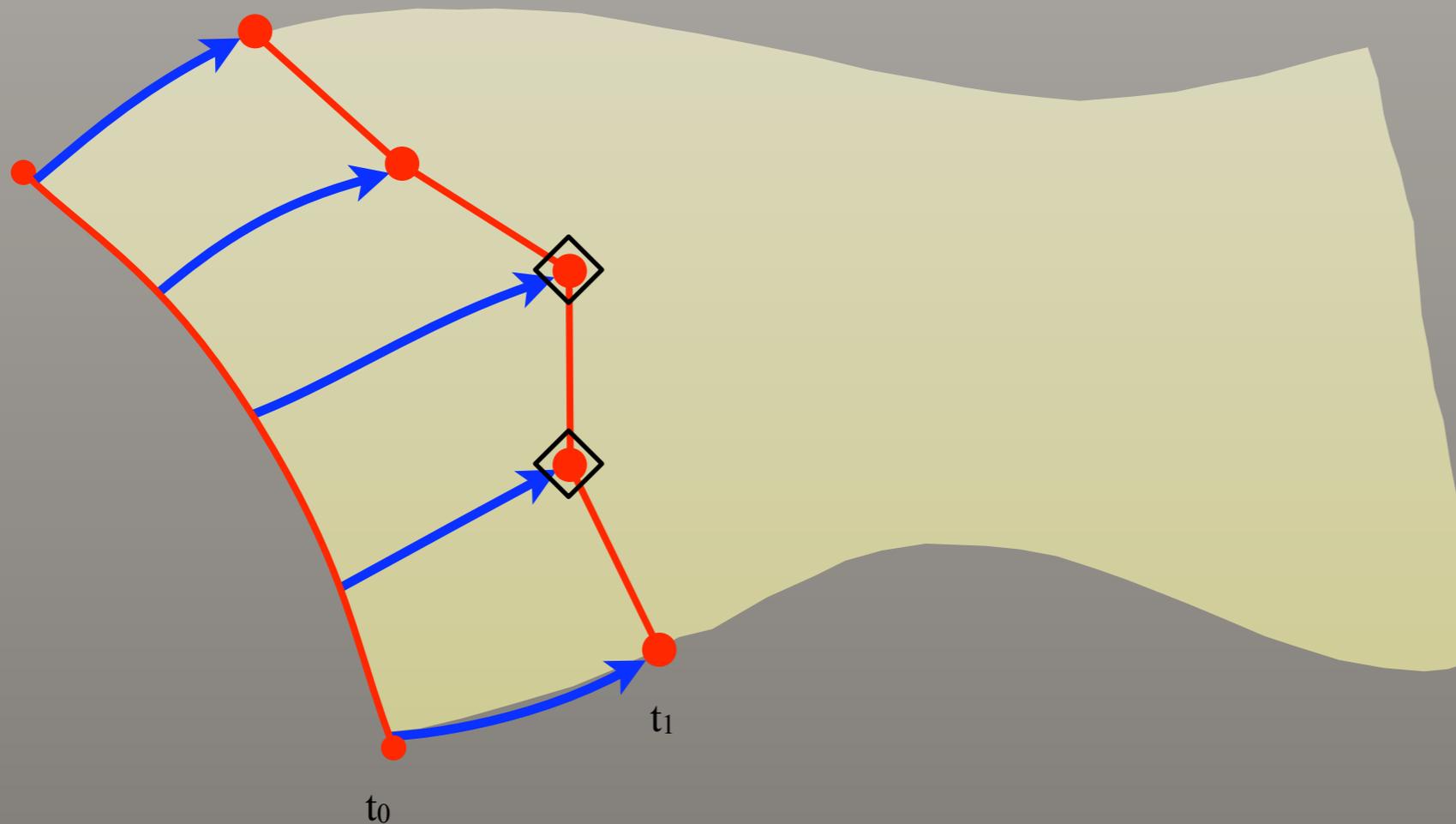
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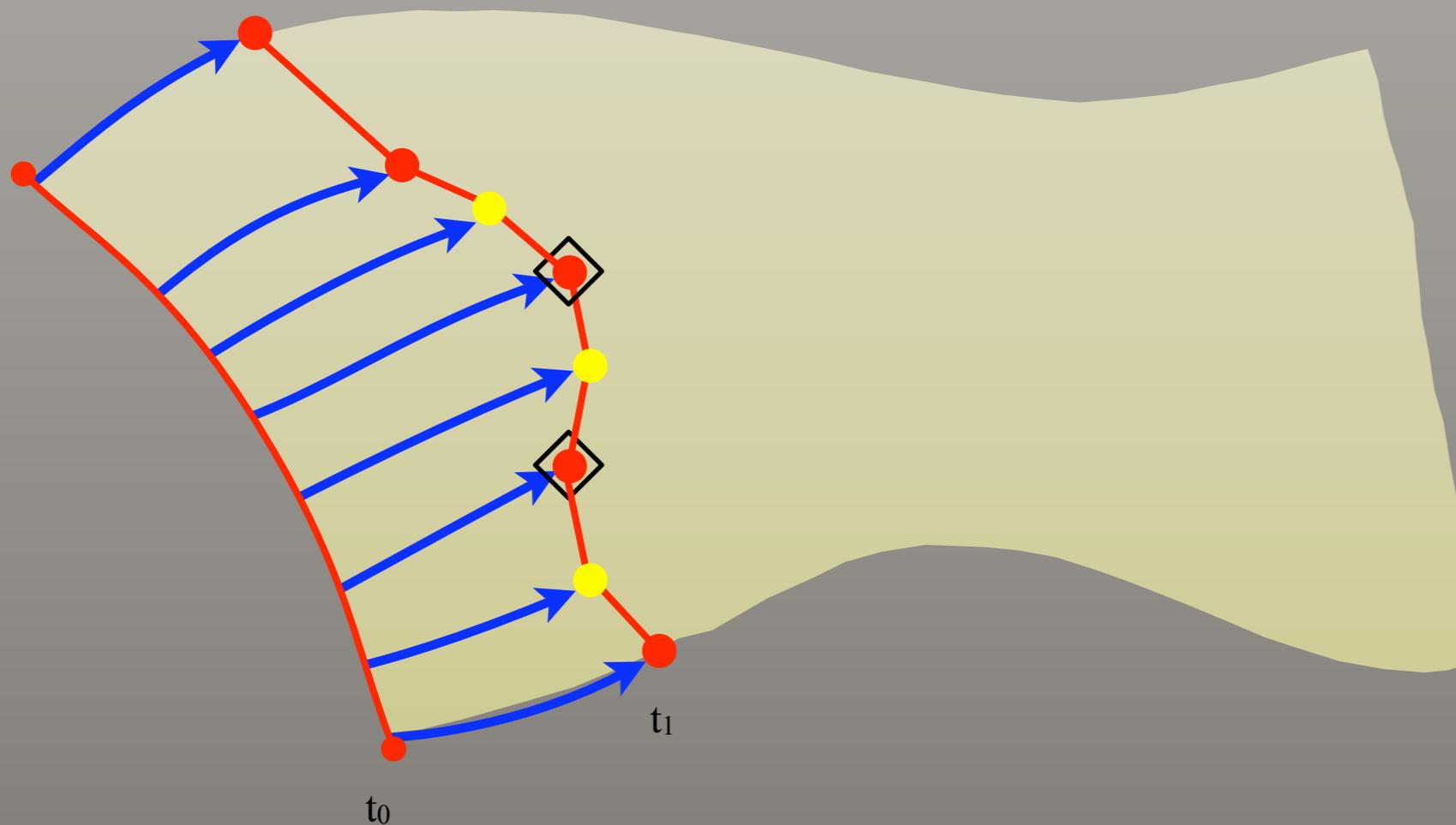
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- Step 2:  
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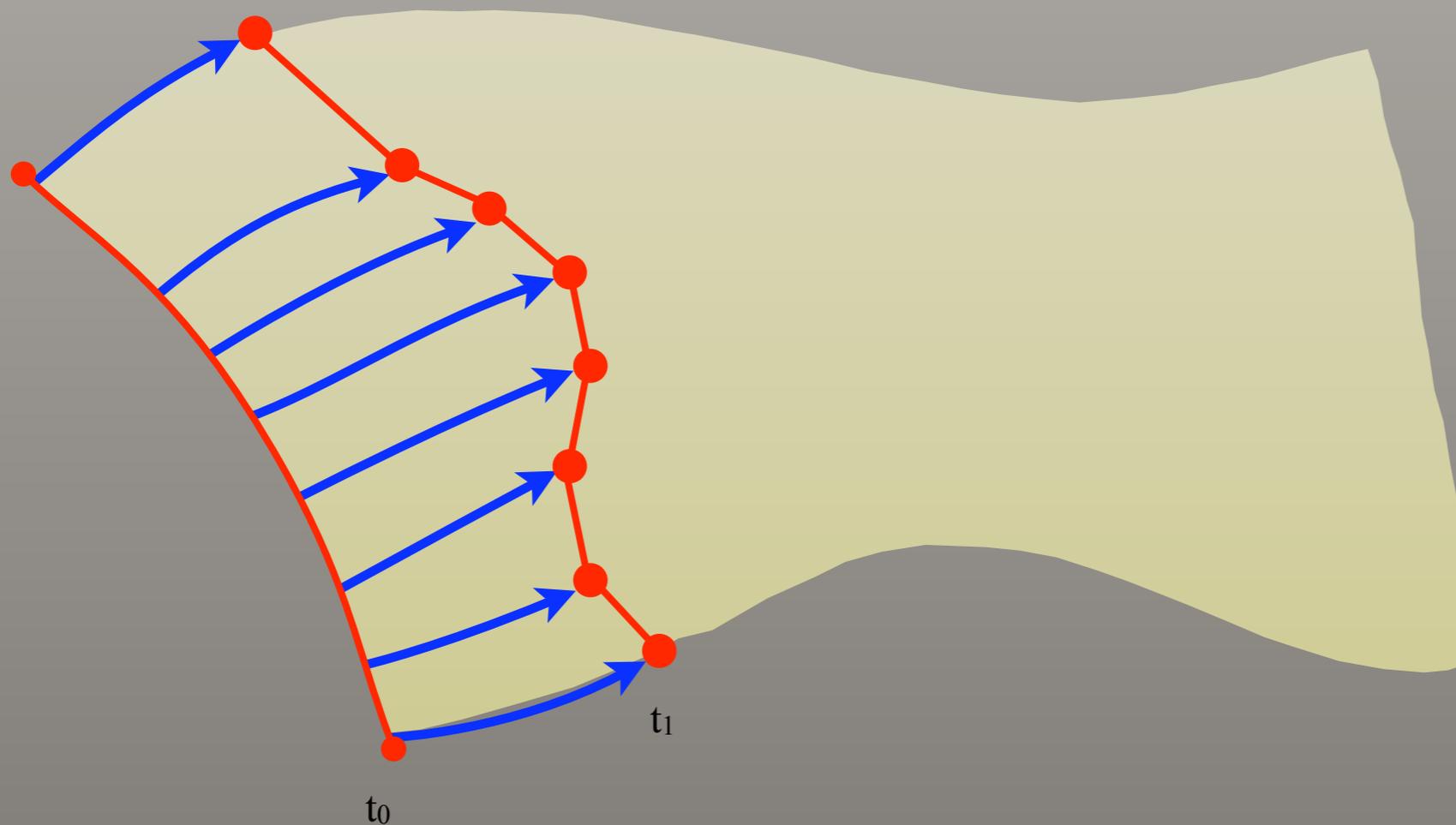
# Integral Surfaces

- Step 3:  
Insert new points



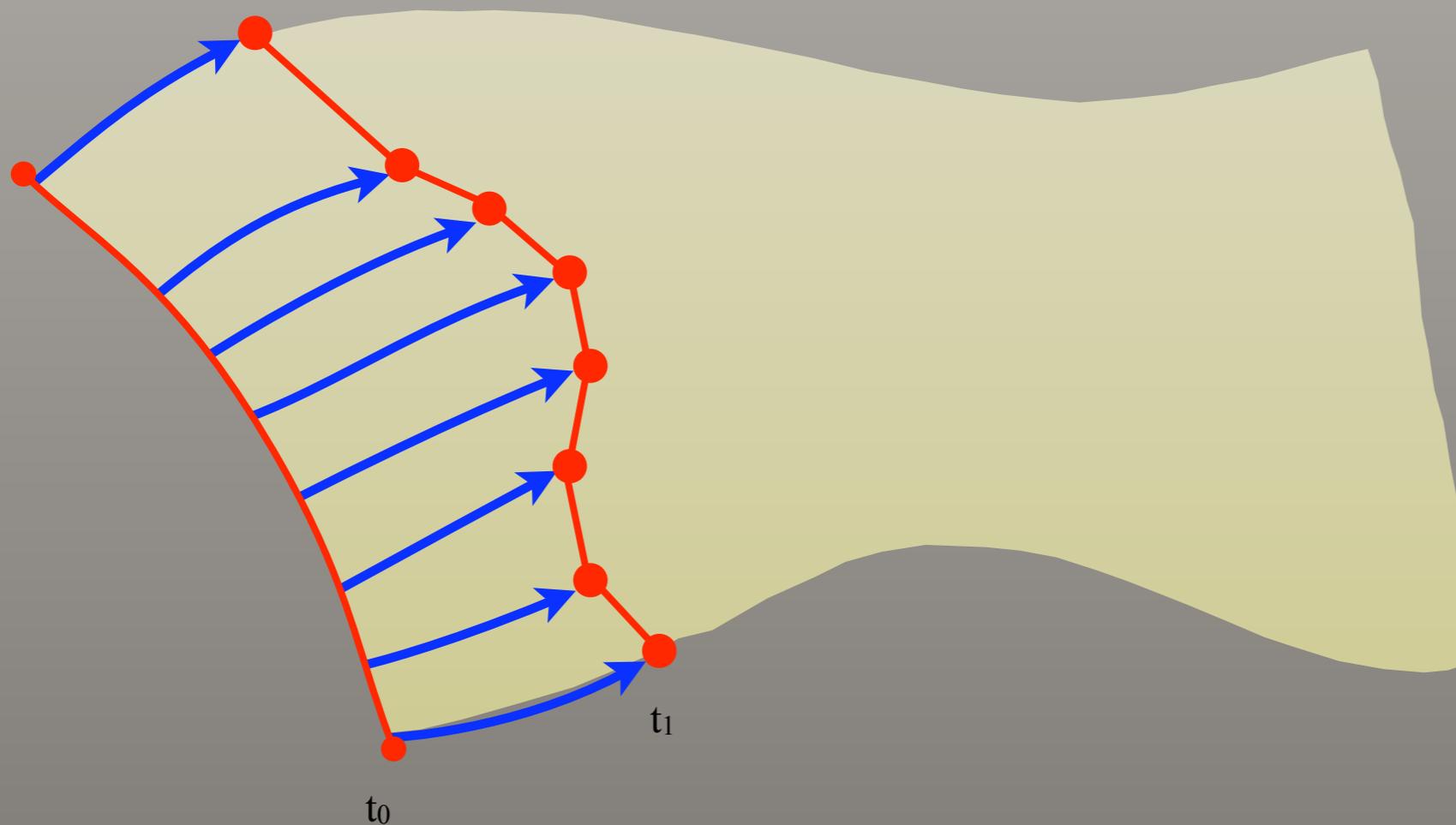
# Integral Surfaces

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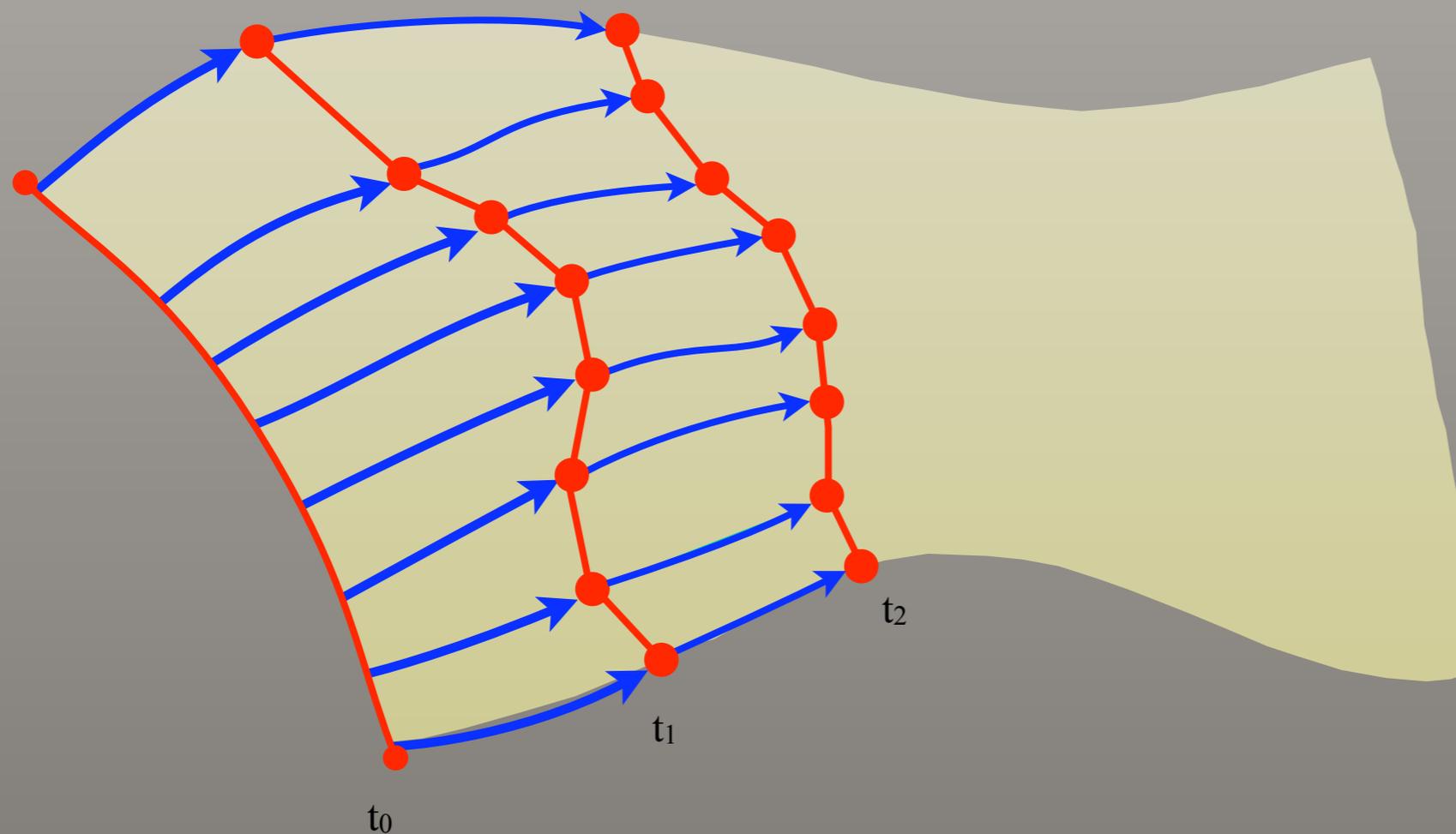
# Integral Surfaces

- Repeat at Steps 2 and 3 until no further refinement is needed



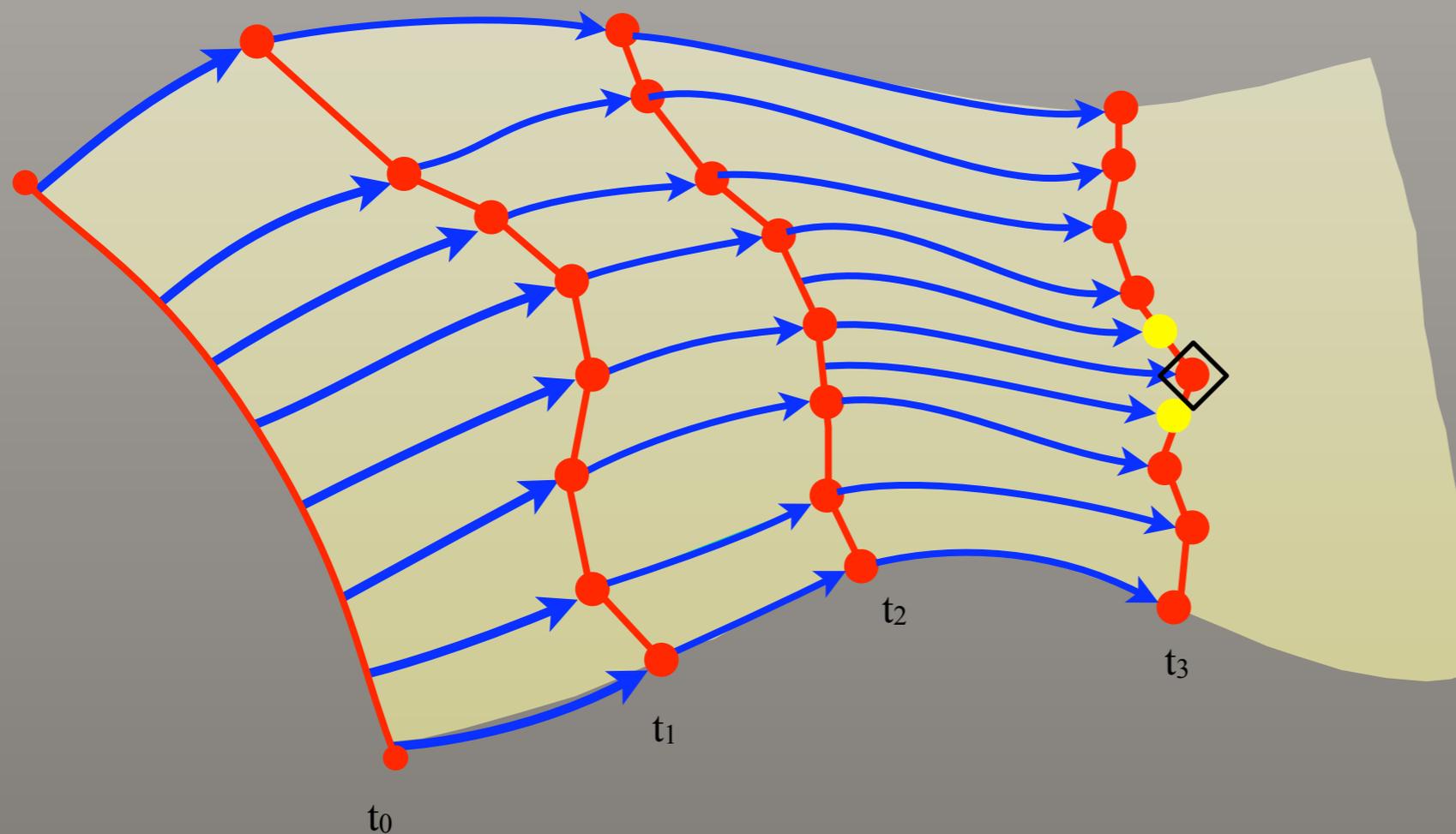
# Integral Surfaces

- Approximate sequence of timelines going from  $t_i$  to  $t_{i+1}$



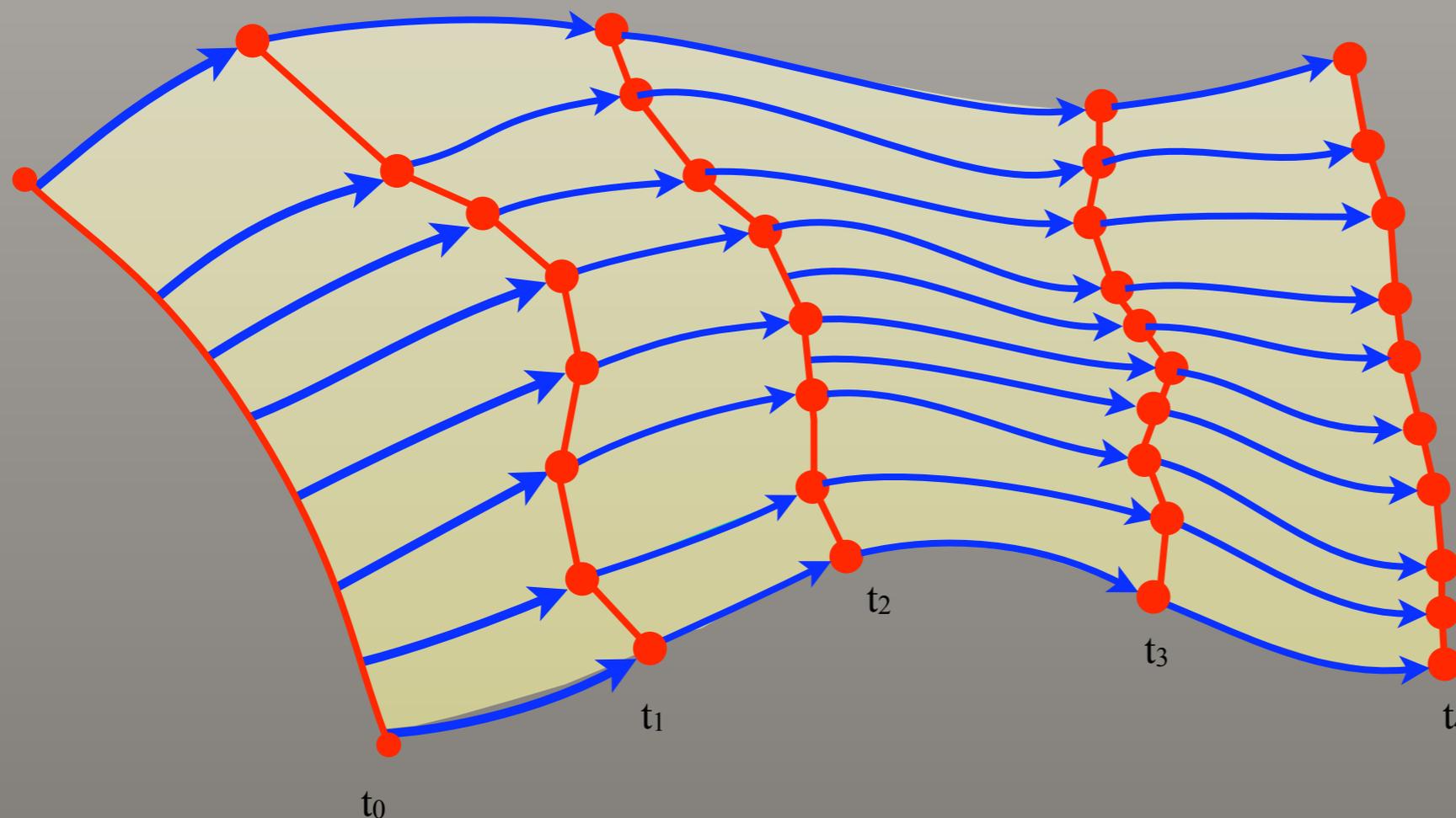
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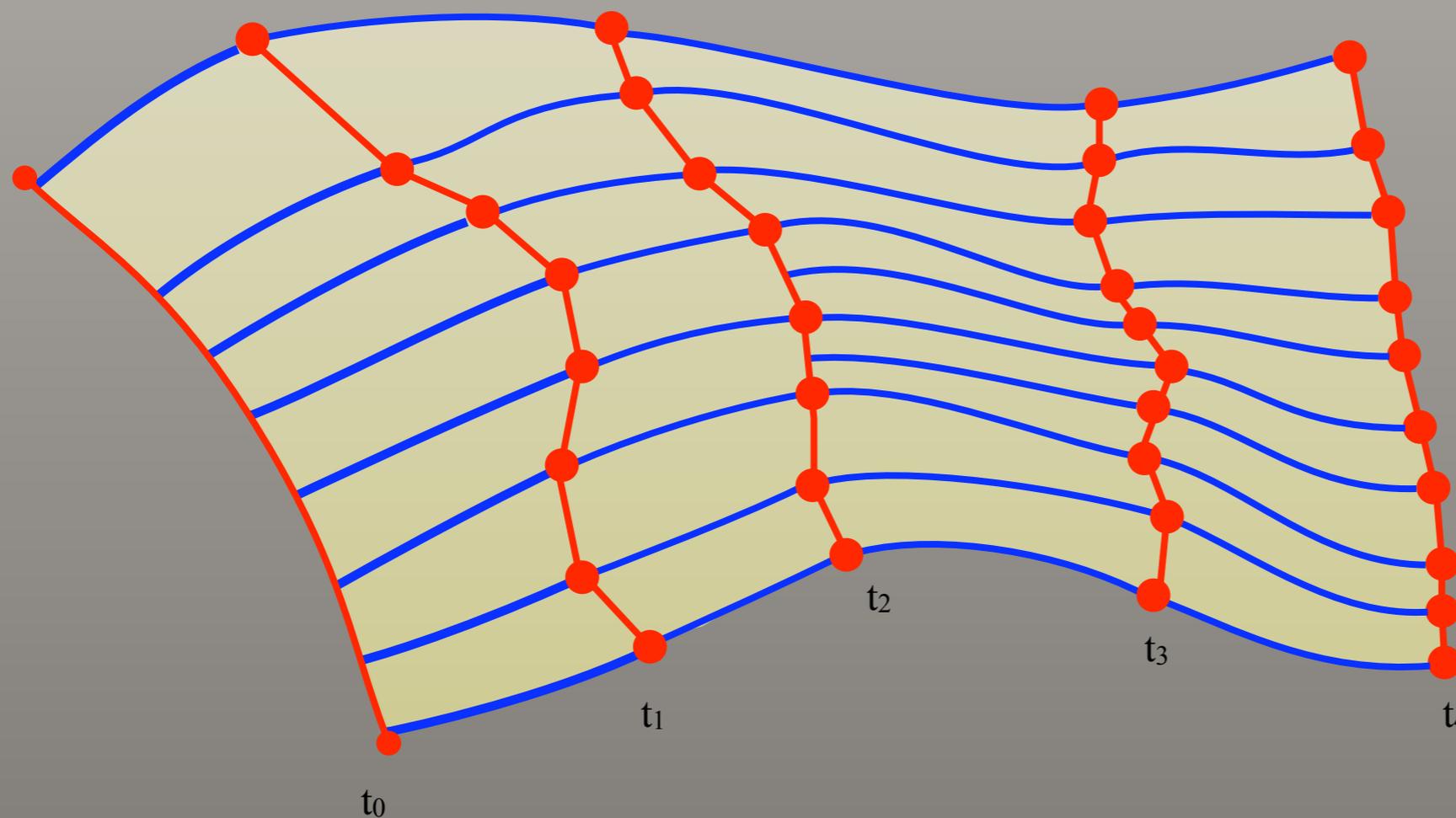
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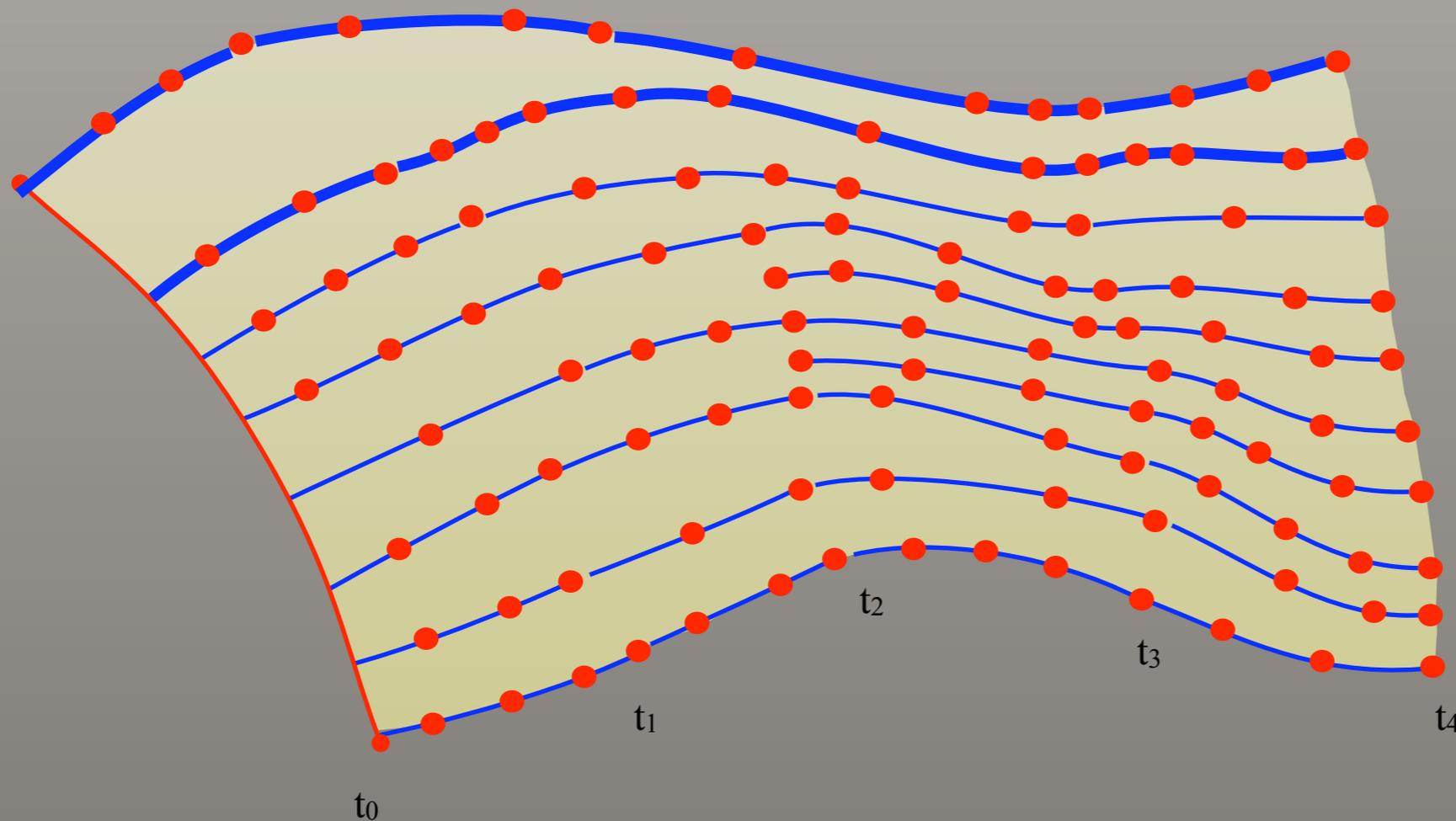
# Integral Surfaces

- Result: Surface skeleton of integral curves + time lines



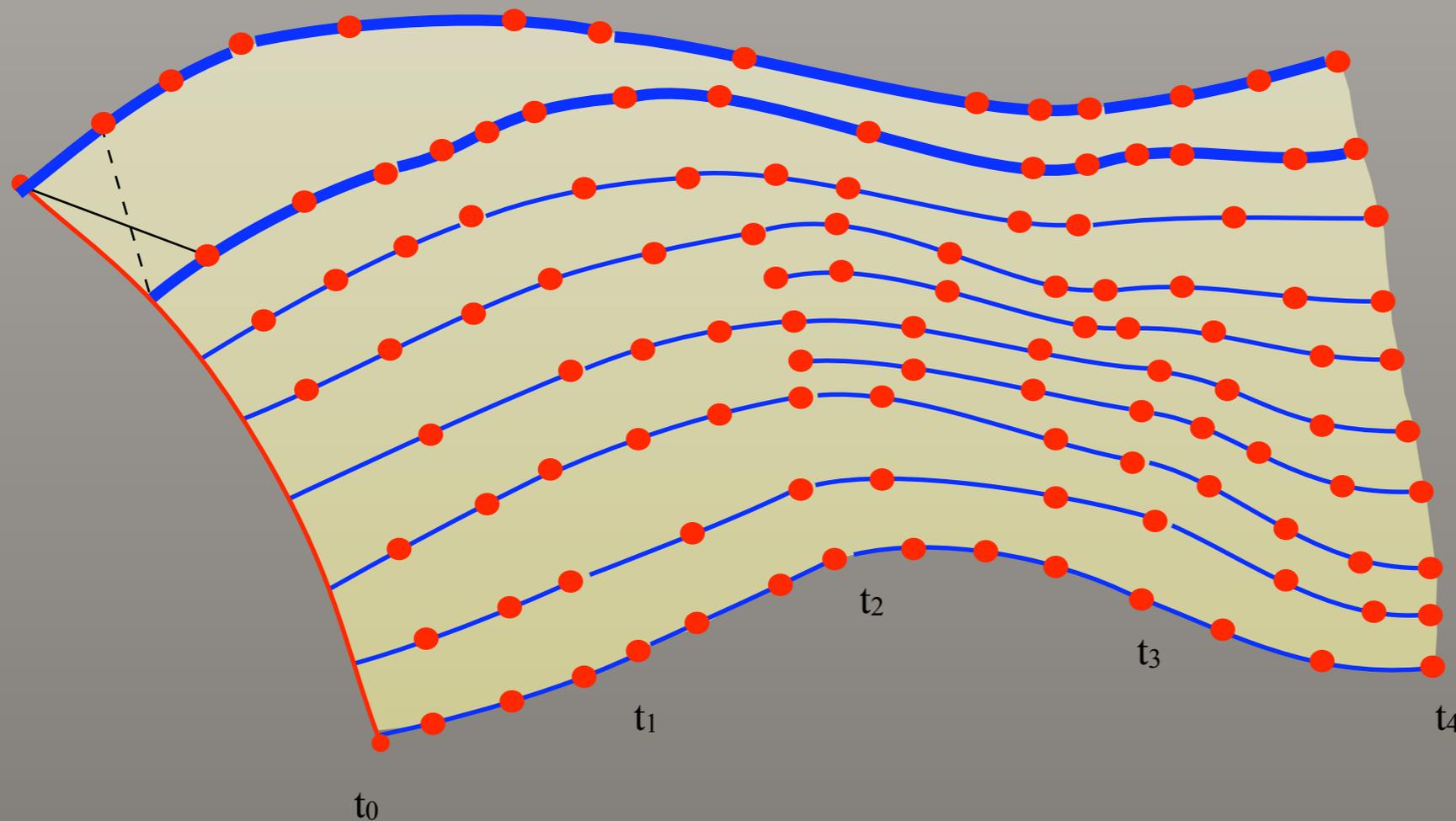
# Integral Surfaces

- Use adjacent integral curves and triangulate heuristically with shortest diagonals.



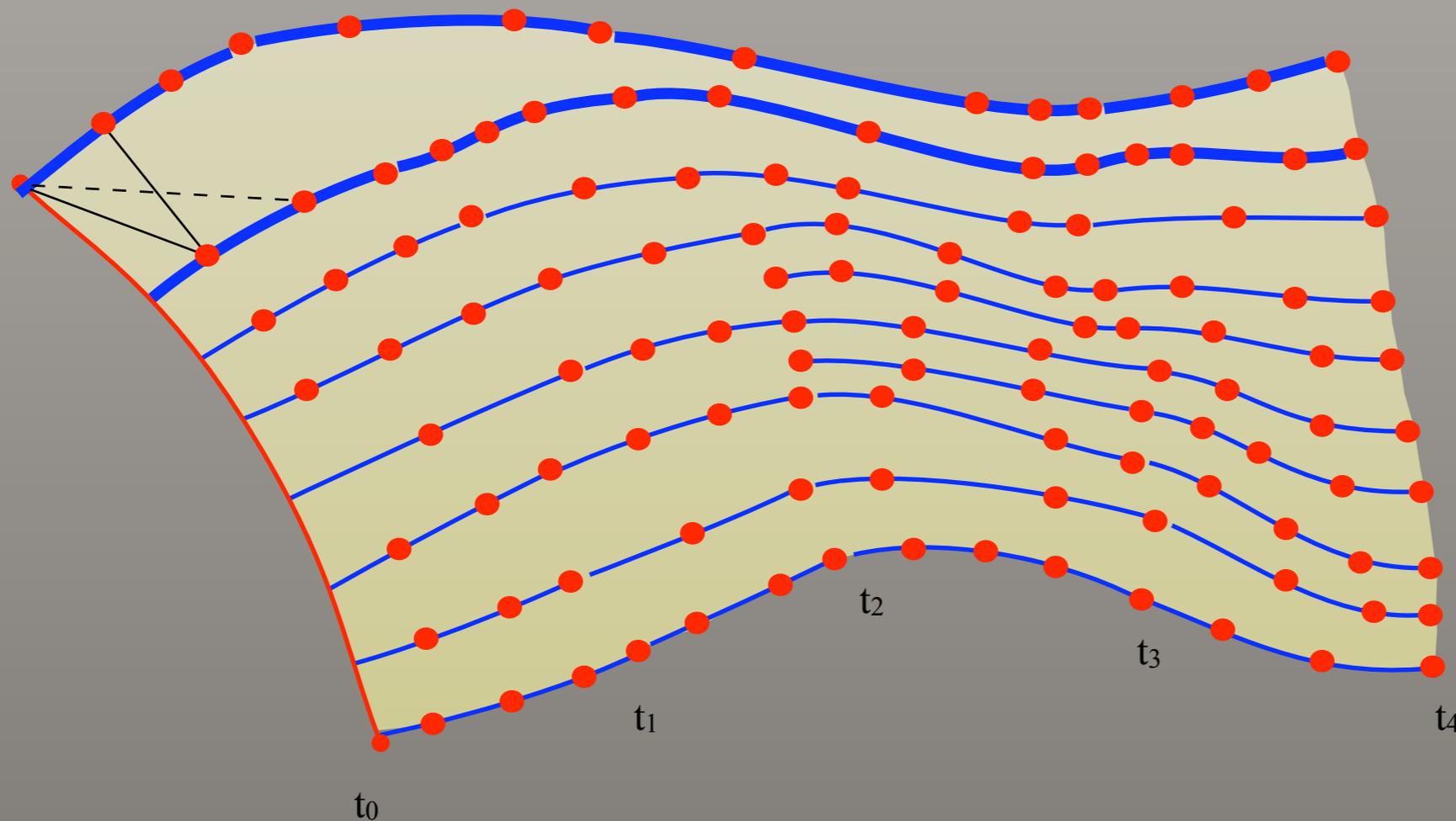
# Phase 2: Surface Triangulation

- Use adjacent integral curves and triangulate heuristically with shortest diagonals.



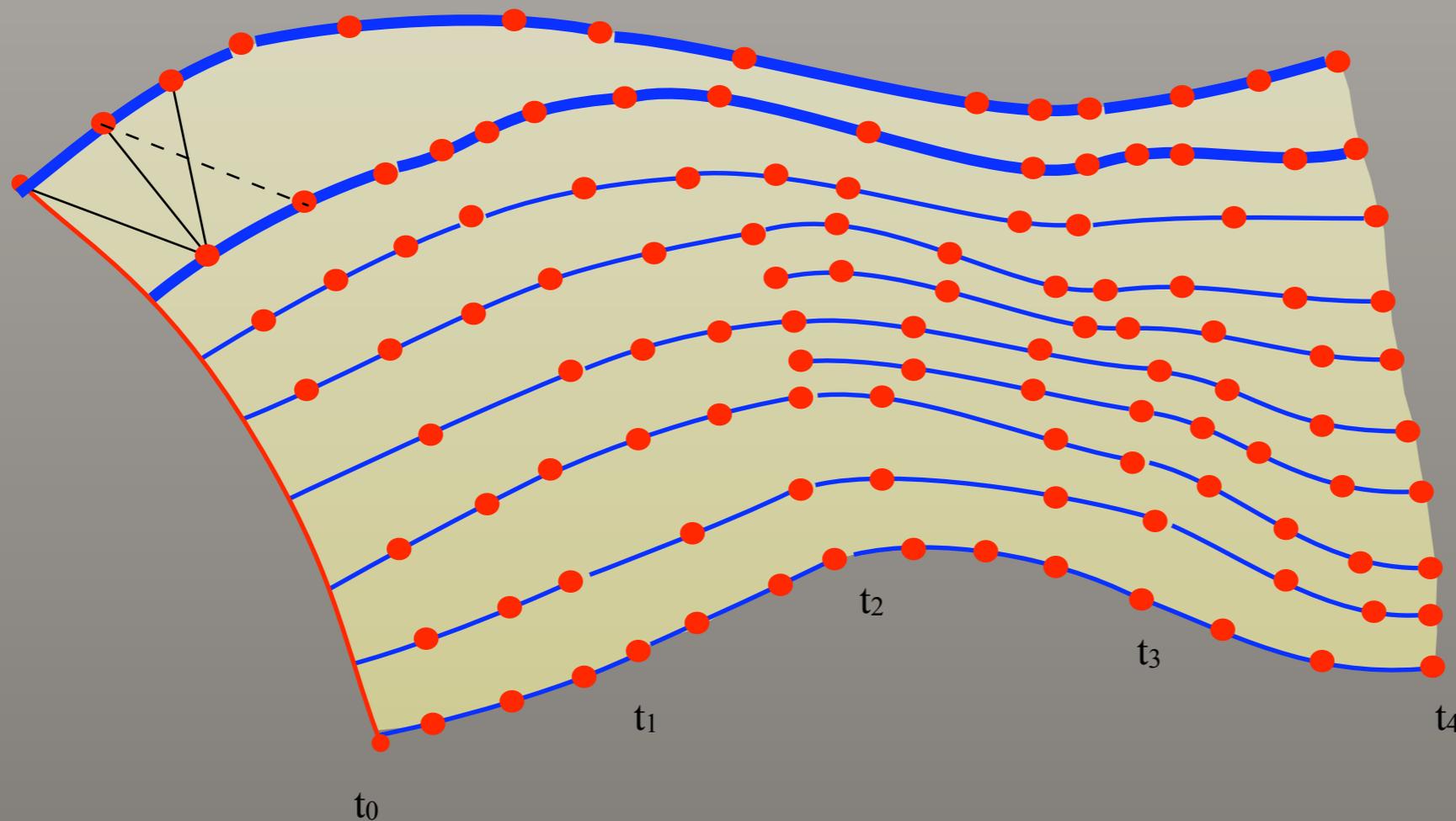
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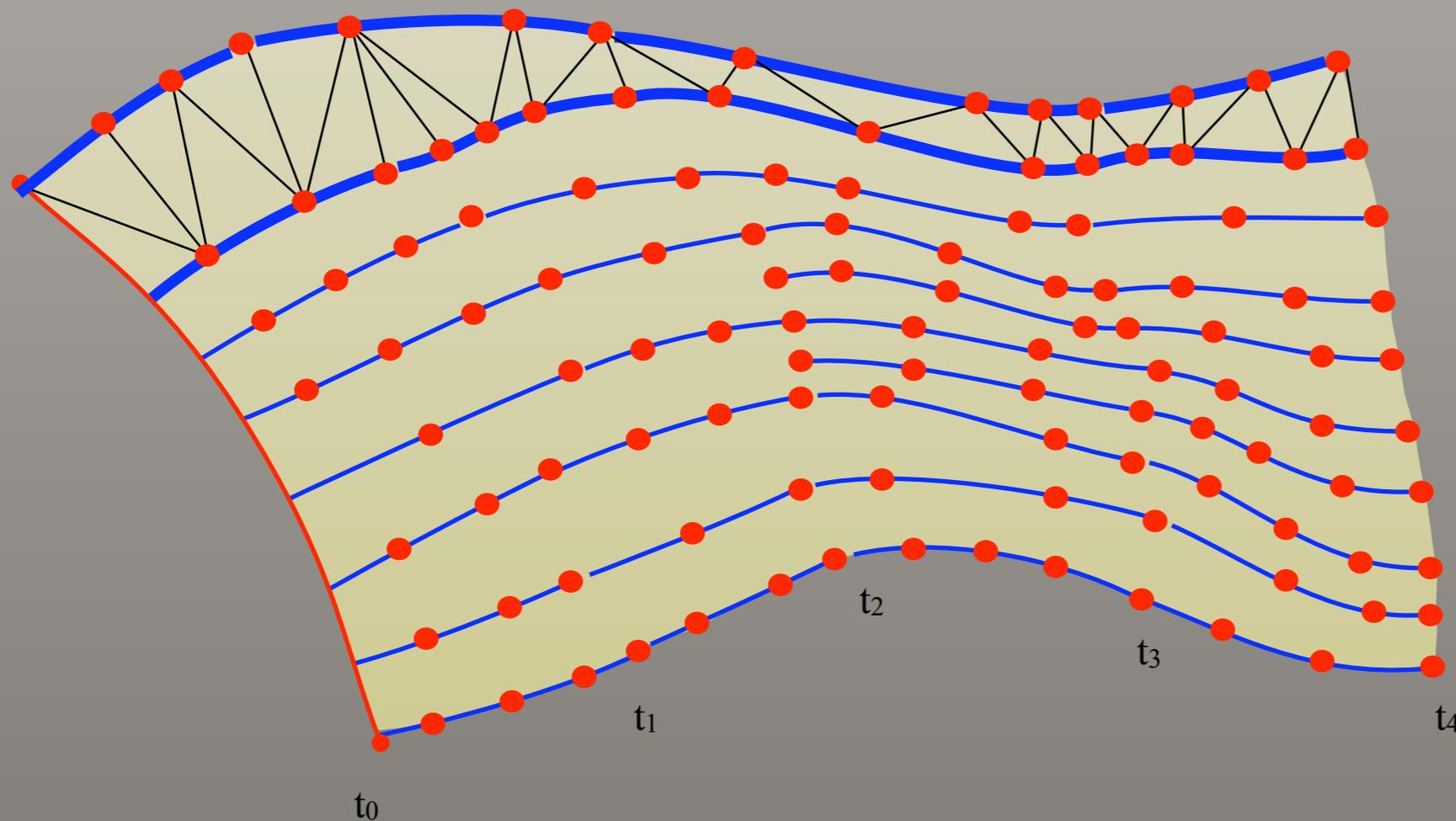
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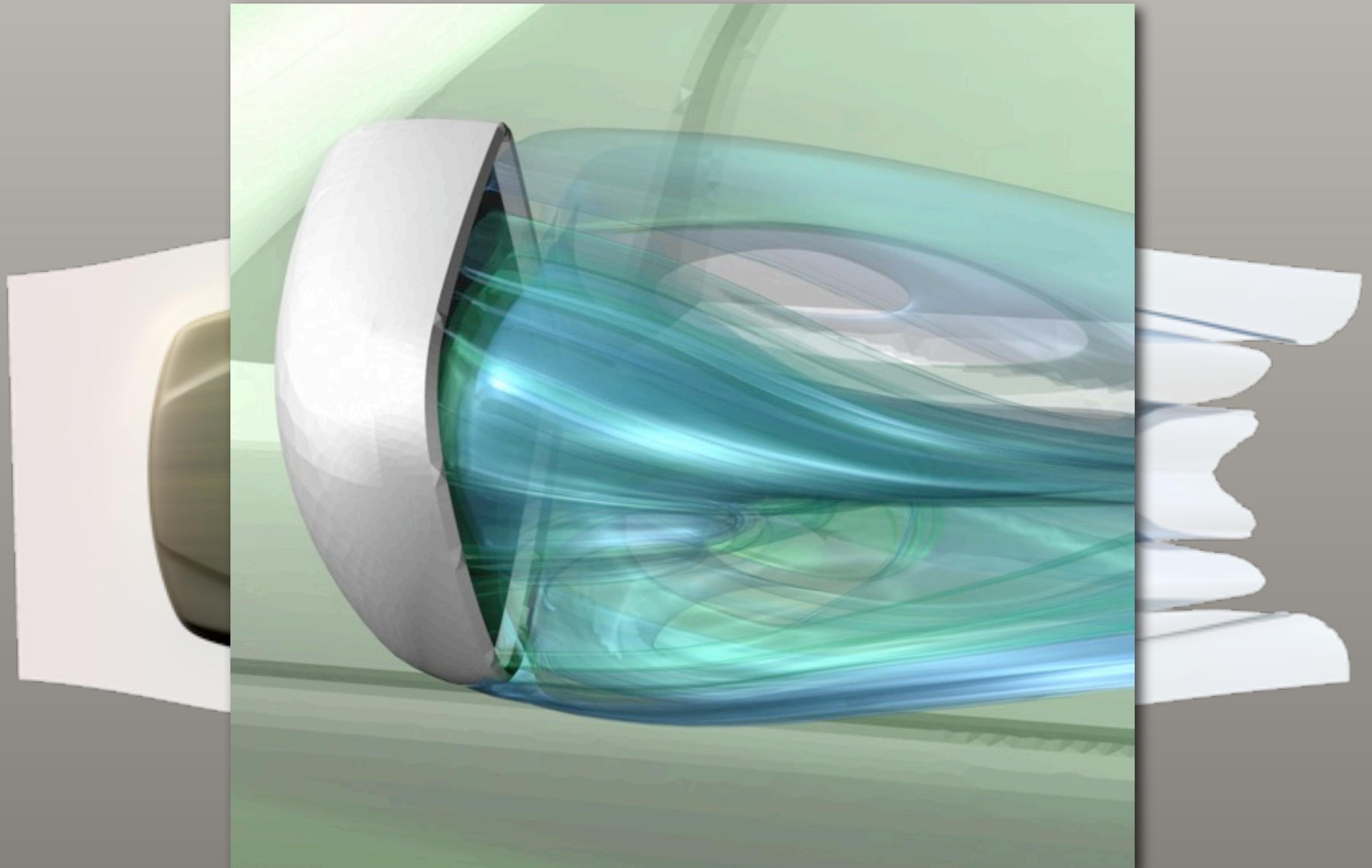


# Integral Surfaces

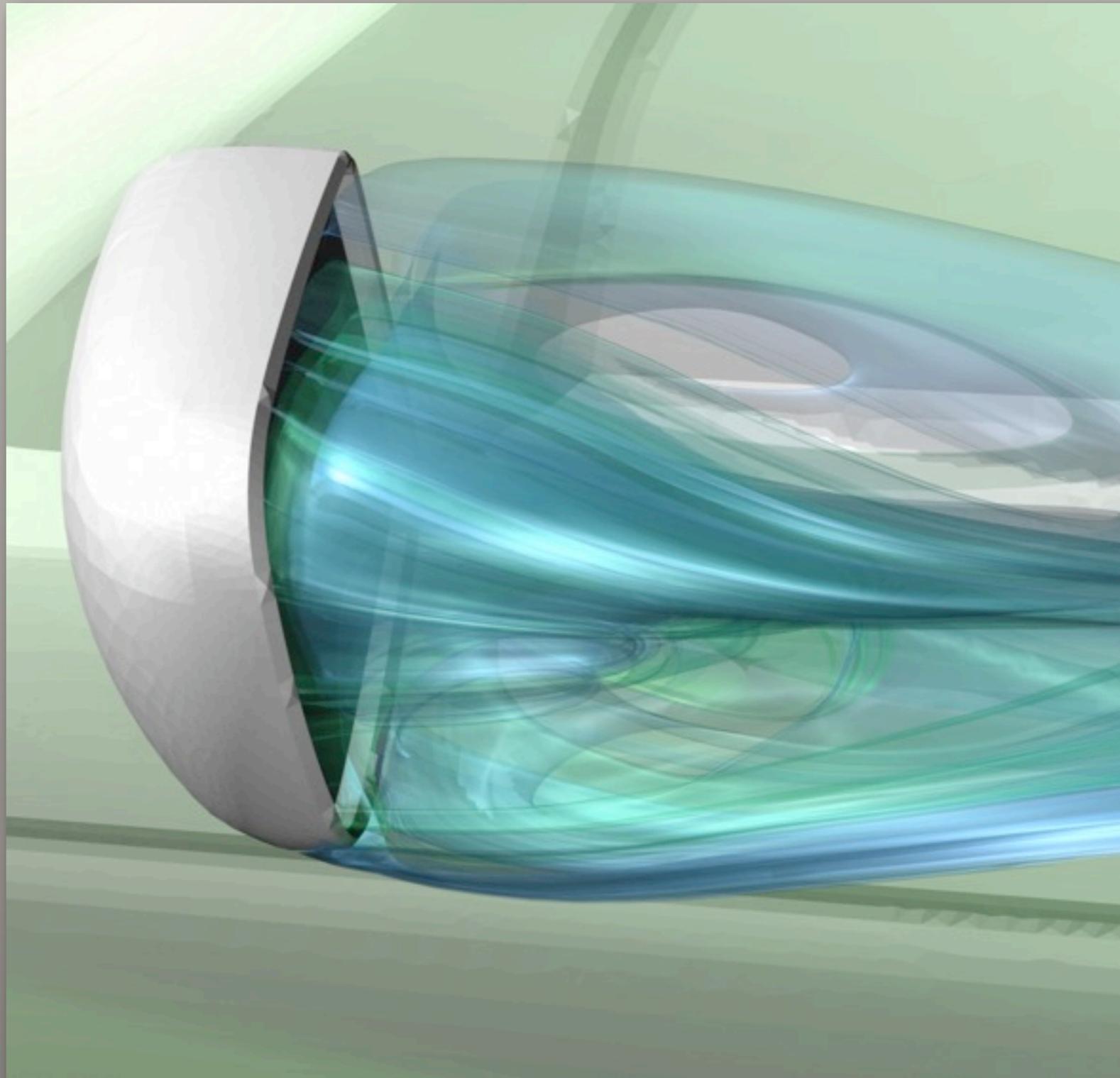
Proposed method: (Vis 08)

- adaptive approximation
  - integral curve divergence/convergence
  - surface deformation (folding, shearing)
- temporal locality
  - allows streaming of large time-varying vector fields
- spatial locality
  - only considers neighboring curves, allows parallelization

# Integral Surfaces



# Integral Surfaces

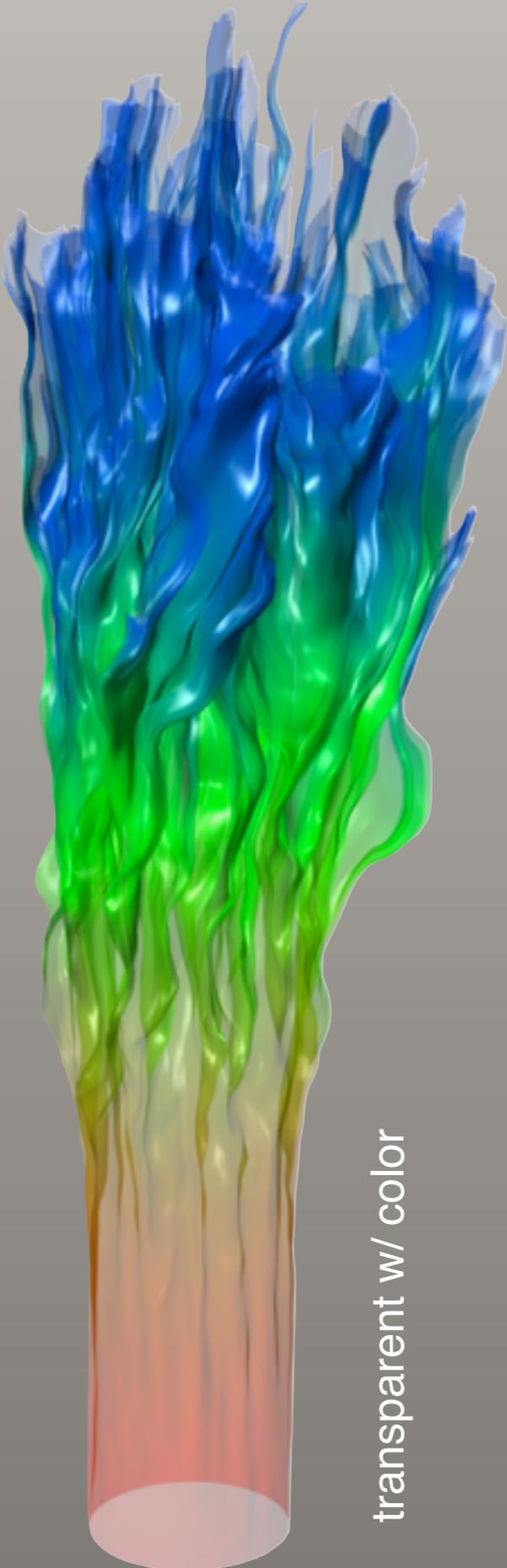


# Turbulent CFD simulation, 200M unstructured cells

Visualization / Rendering options



transparent



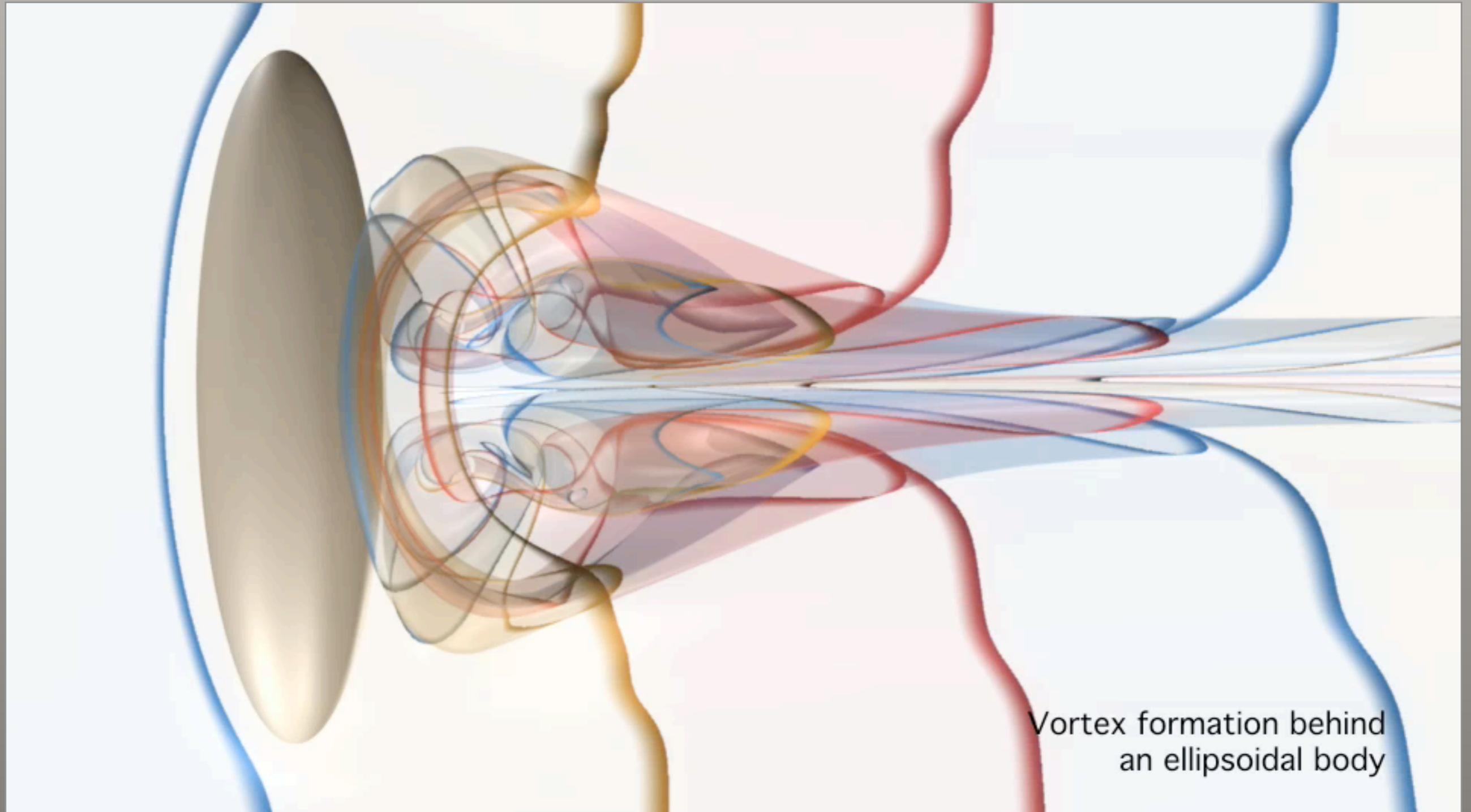
transparent w/ color



ambient occlusion

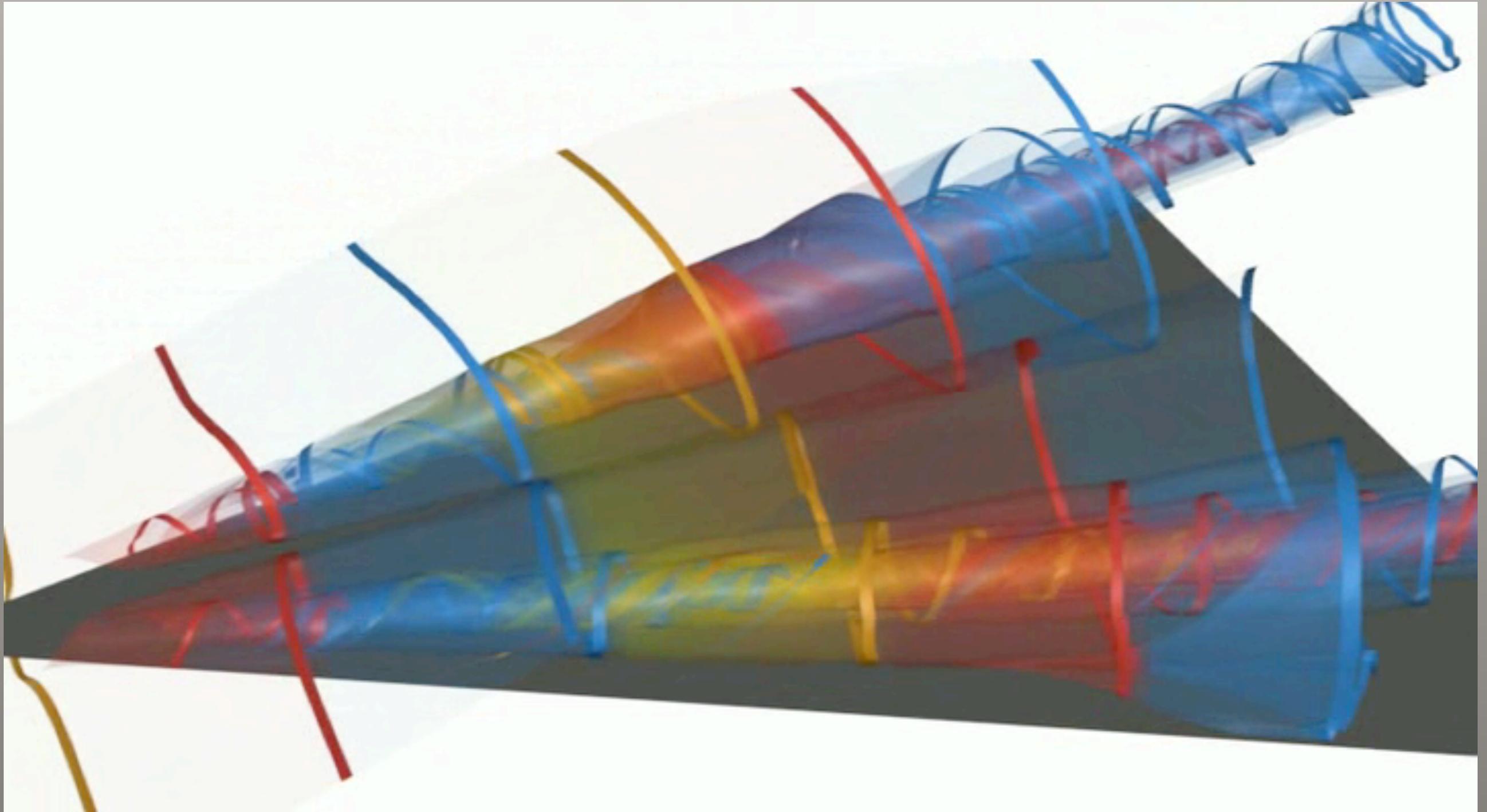
# Integral Surfaces

Flow past an ellipsoid, 2.6M unstructured cells x 1000 timesteps



# Integral Surfaces

Flow over a delta wing, 18M unstructured cells x 500 timesteps

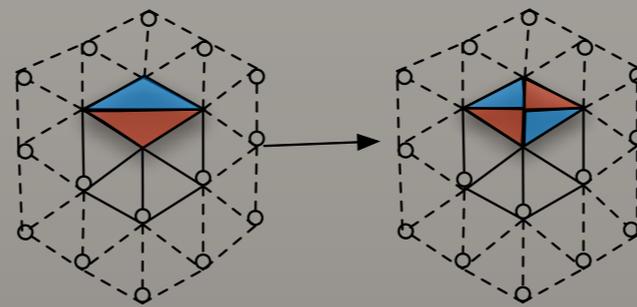
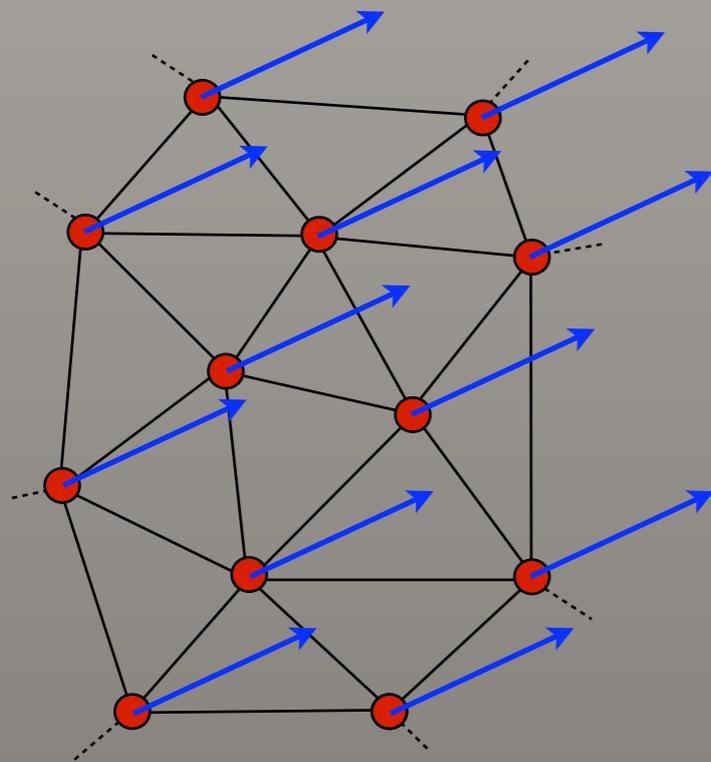


# Integral Surfaces

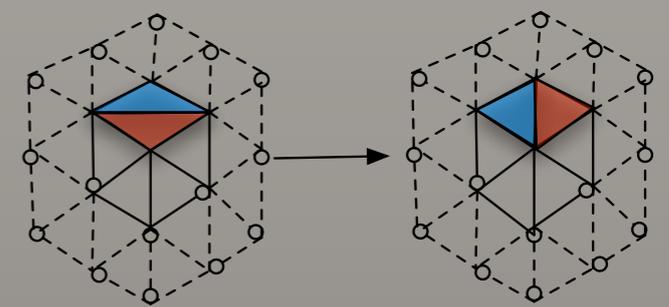
Ongoing work (Vis 09):

Time Surfaces (seed surface)

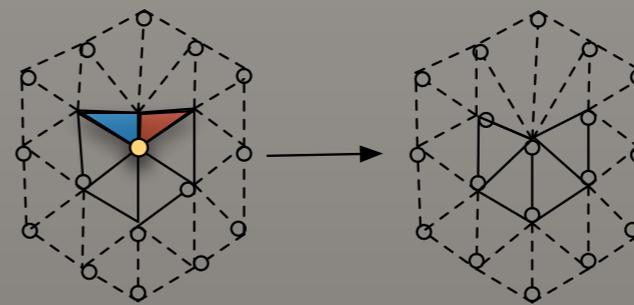
Streak Surfaces (continuous seeding from a curve)



(a) Edge split

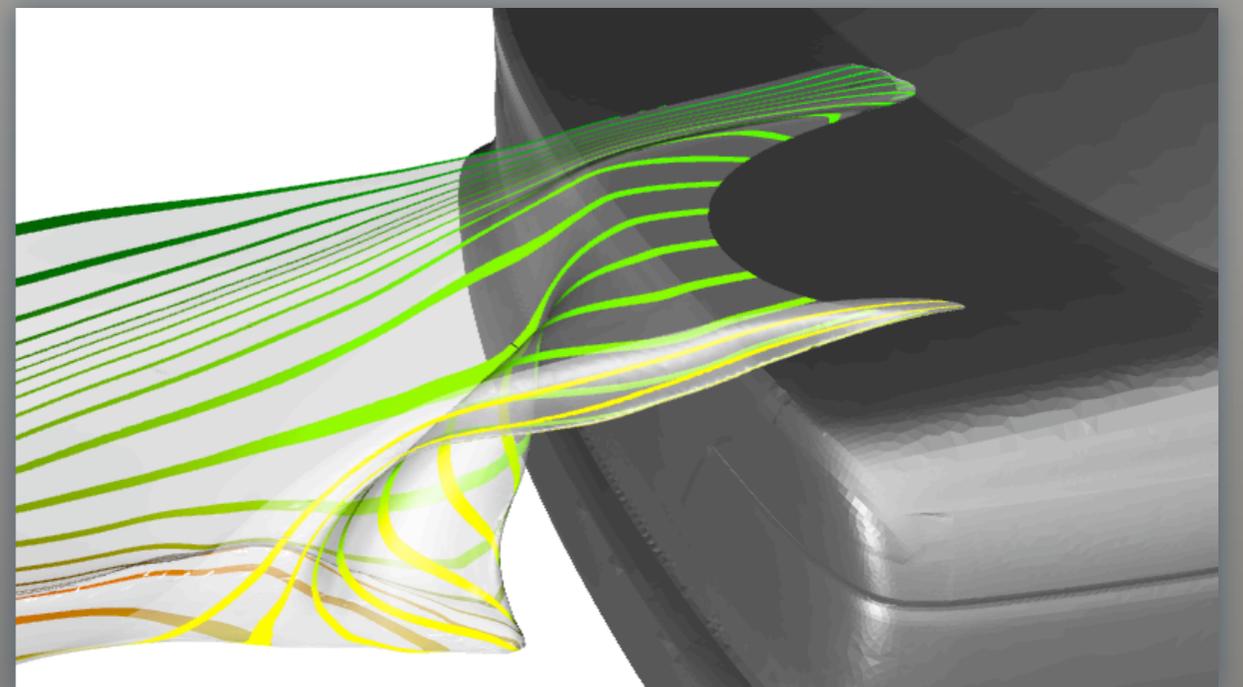
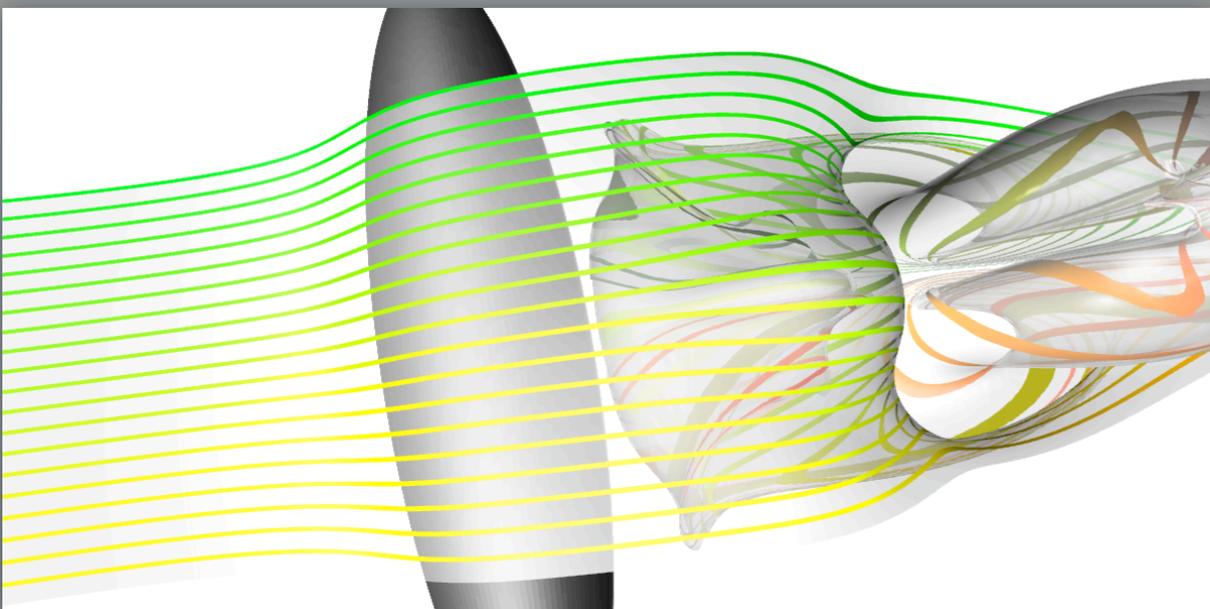
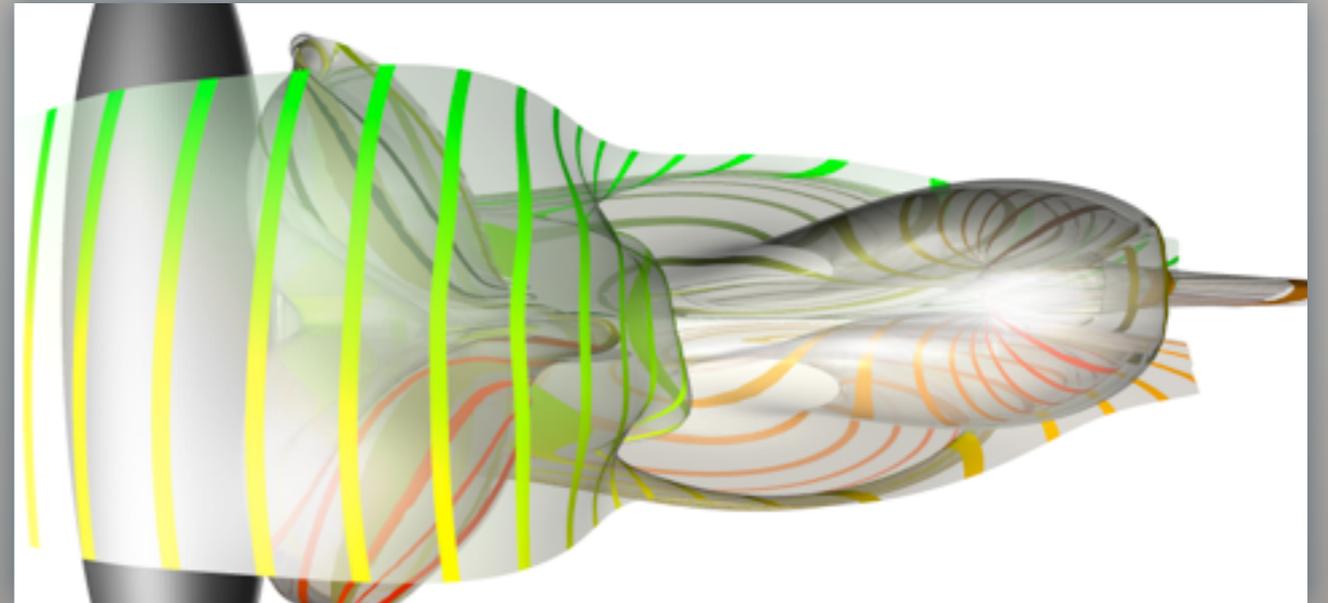
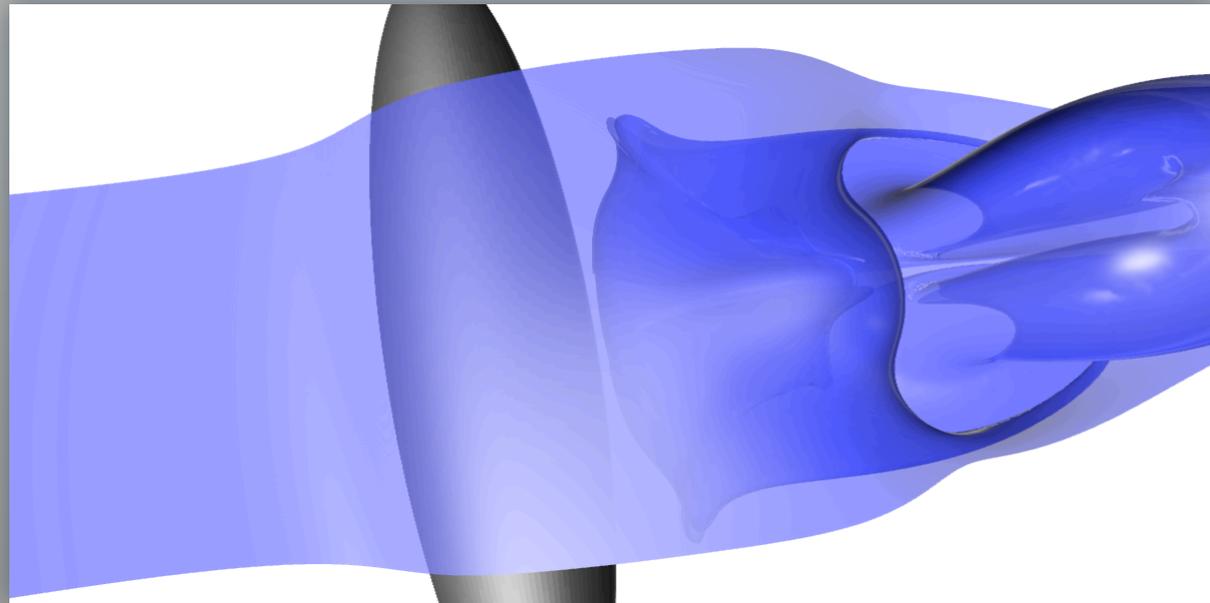


(b) Edge flip

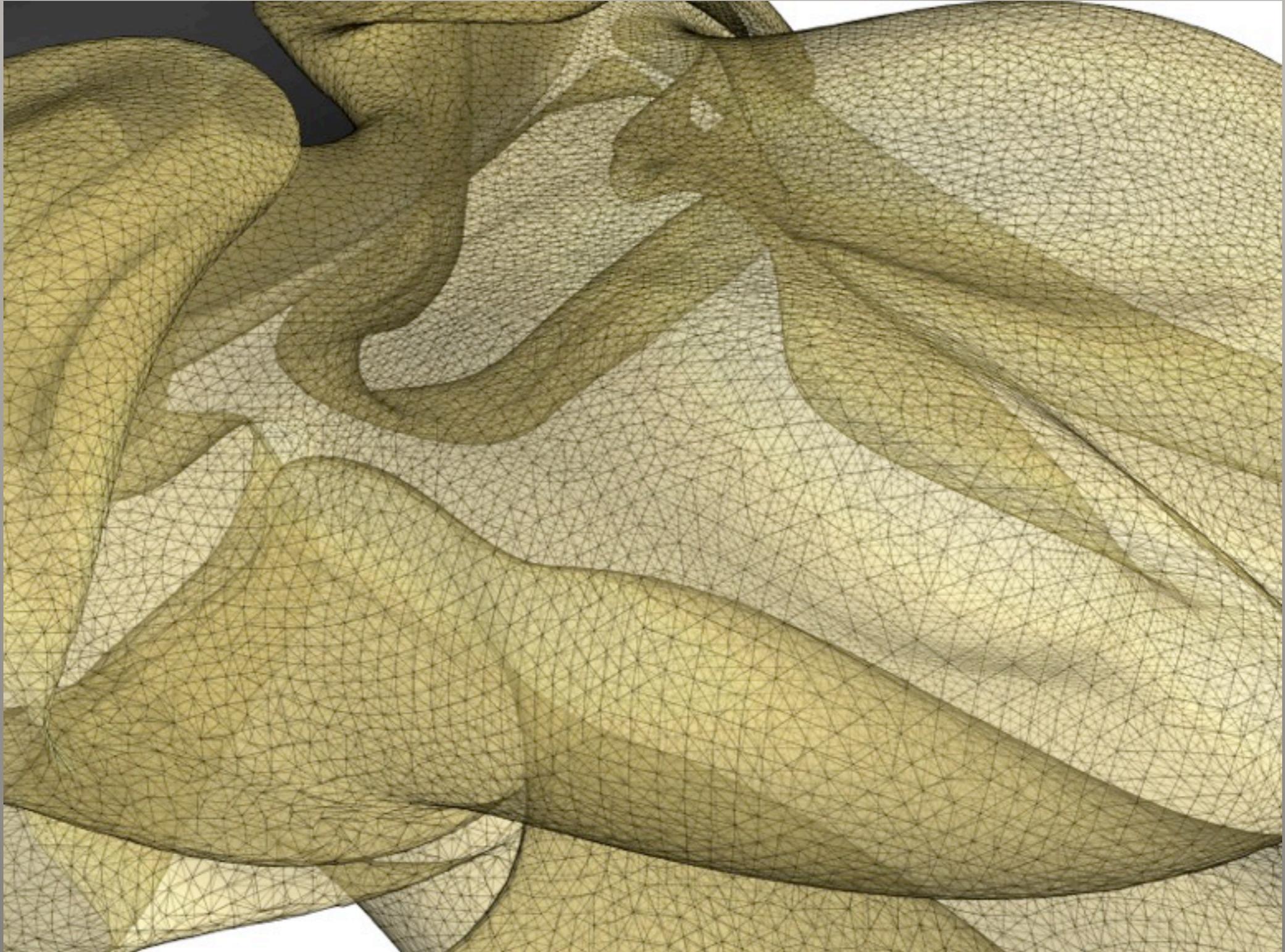


(c) Edge collapse

# Integral Surfaces



# Integral Surfaces



# Integral Surfaces

## Performance:

- require 100 - 100,000 pathlines, depending on complexity of data and surface
- computation times (1 CPU) can range up to hours for very complex surfaces
- time spent integrating pathlines > 90%
- parallelization is in the works

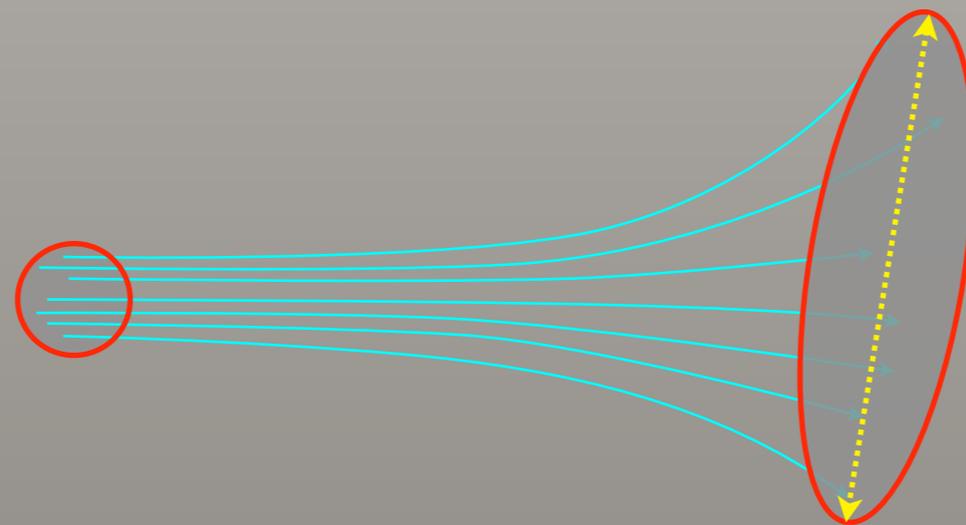
We provide tools for interactive viewing, spatial + temporal navigation

# Lagrangian Flow Visualization

(with Xavier Tricoche, Mario Hlawitschka, Ken Joy)

# Lagrangian Flow Visualization

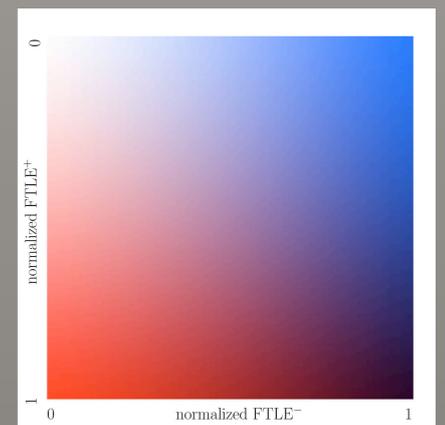
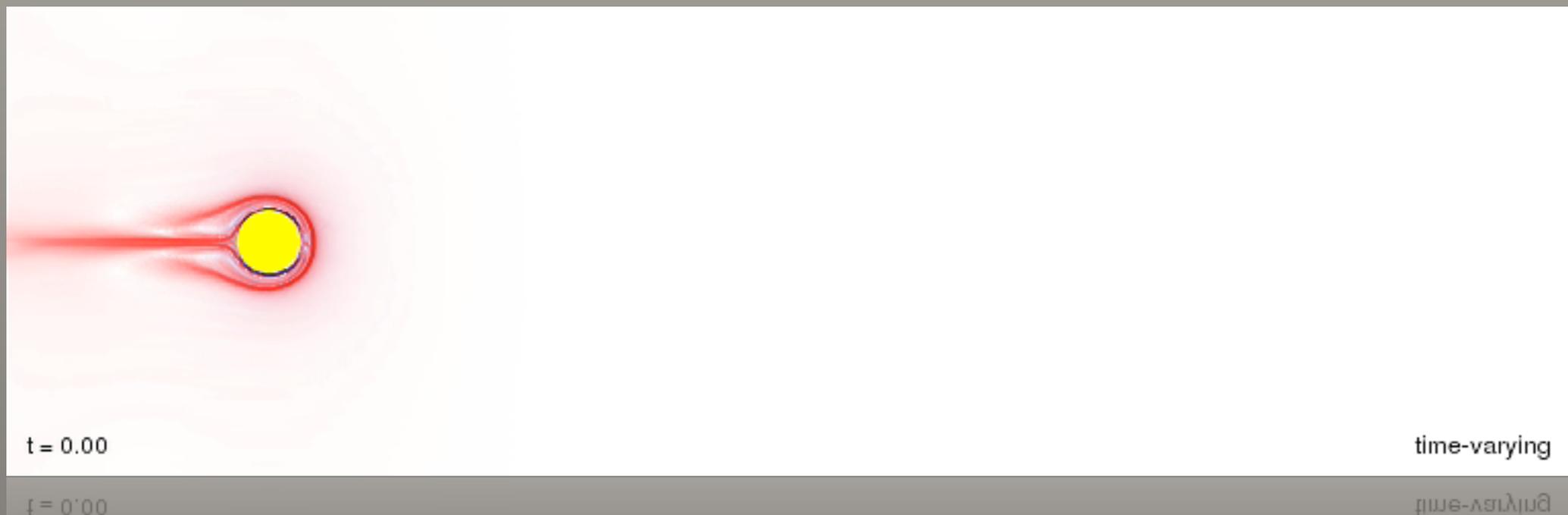
- Lagrangian Flow Vis - look at what particles do
- Finite-Time Lyapunov Exponent



- Measures exponential separation rate between neighboring particles
- Identifies Lagrangian Coherent Structures

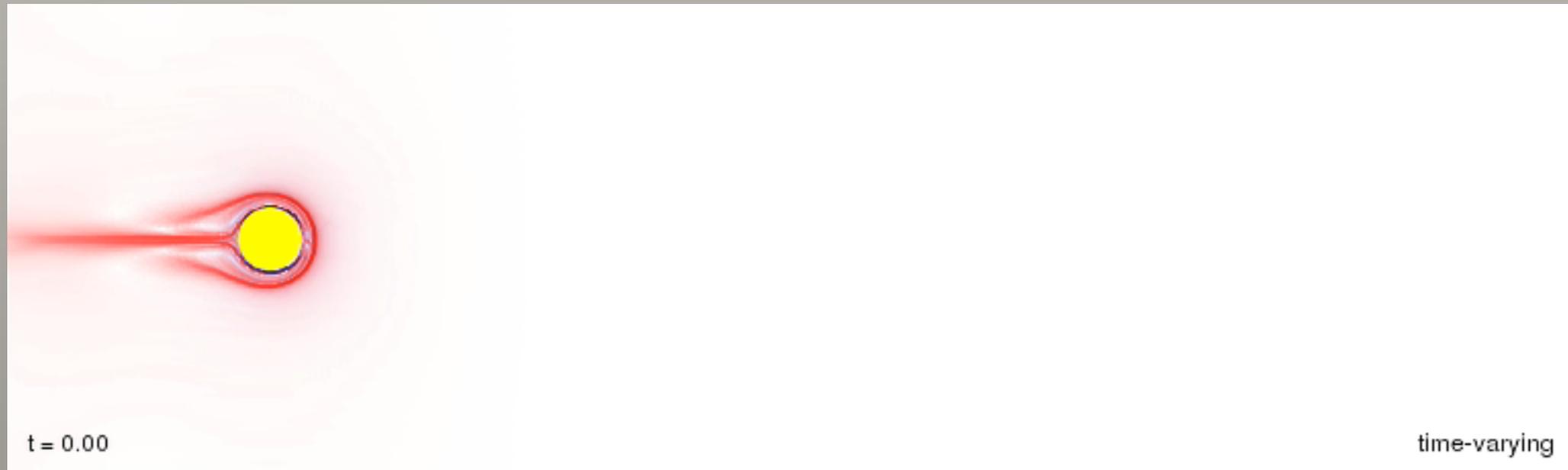
# Lagrangian Flow Visualization

- Computation: dense particles + derivatives
- Interpretation of FTLE:
  - separation forward in time: indicates **divergence**
  - separation backward in time: indicates **convergence**



# Lagrangian Flow Visualization

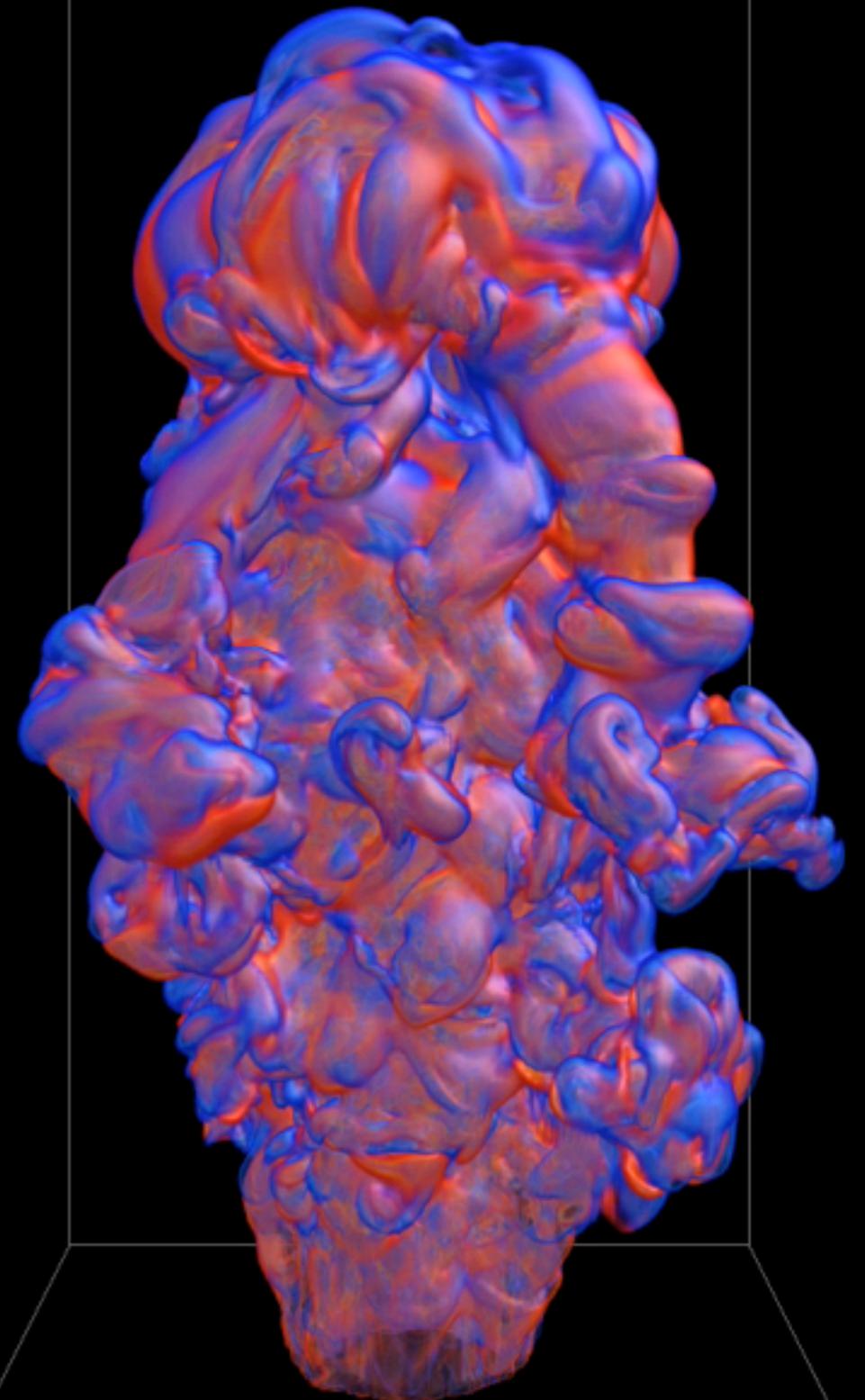
Time-dependent vs. time-independent FTLE fields



# Lagrangian Flow Visualization

3D Visualization:  
DVR of FTLE fields  
using a 2D transfer  
function

Computation is  
extensive, but we use  
GPUs for small data,  
and adaptive  
computation for  
medium-sized data.

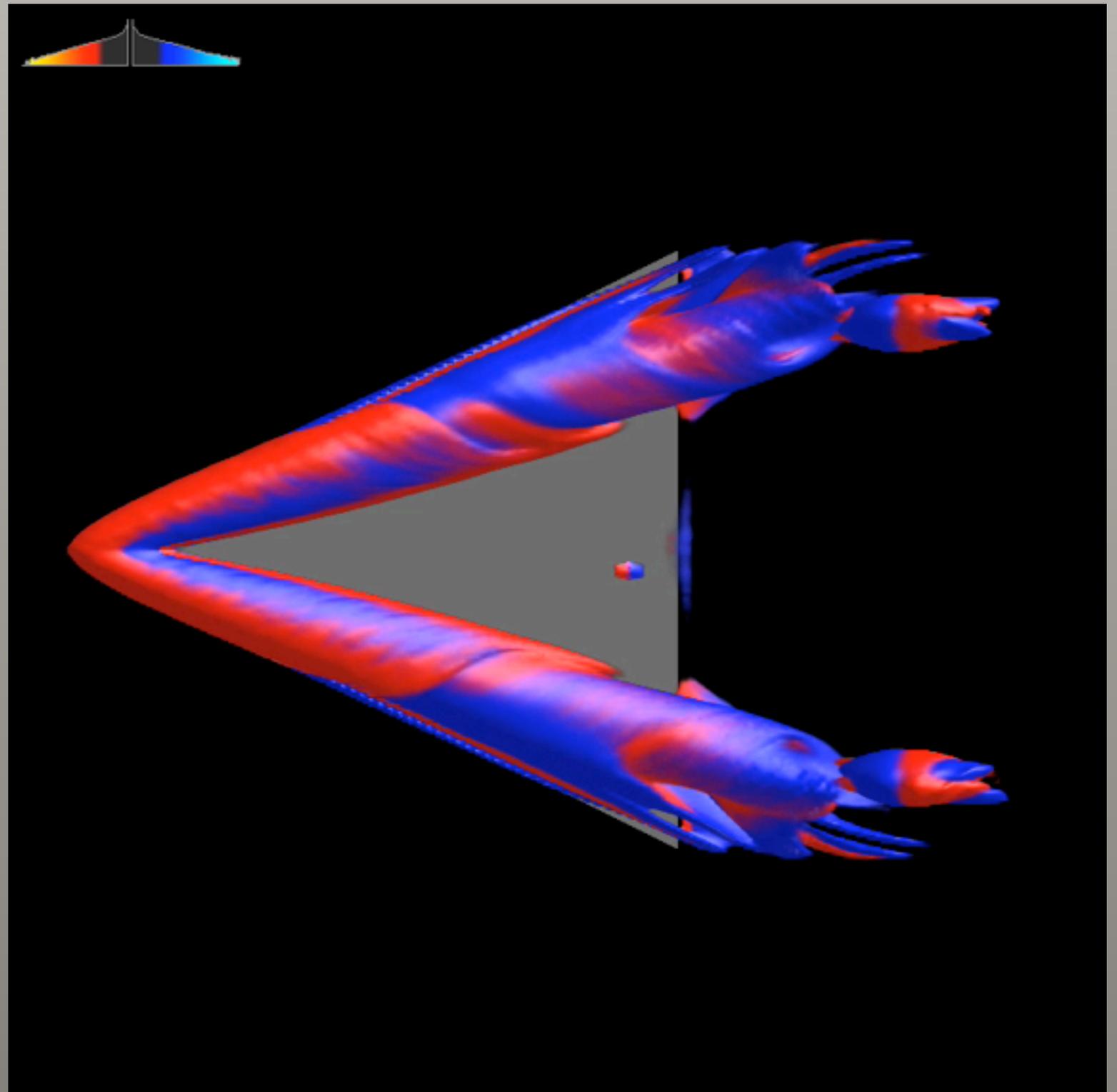


# Lagrangian Flow Visualization

Often effective visualizations with relatively little application knowledge.

Wish list:

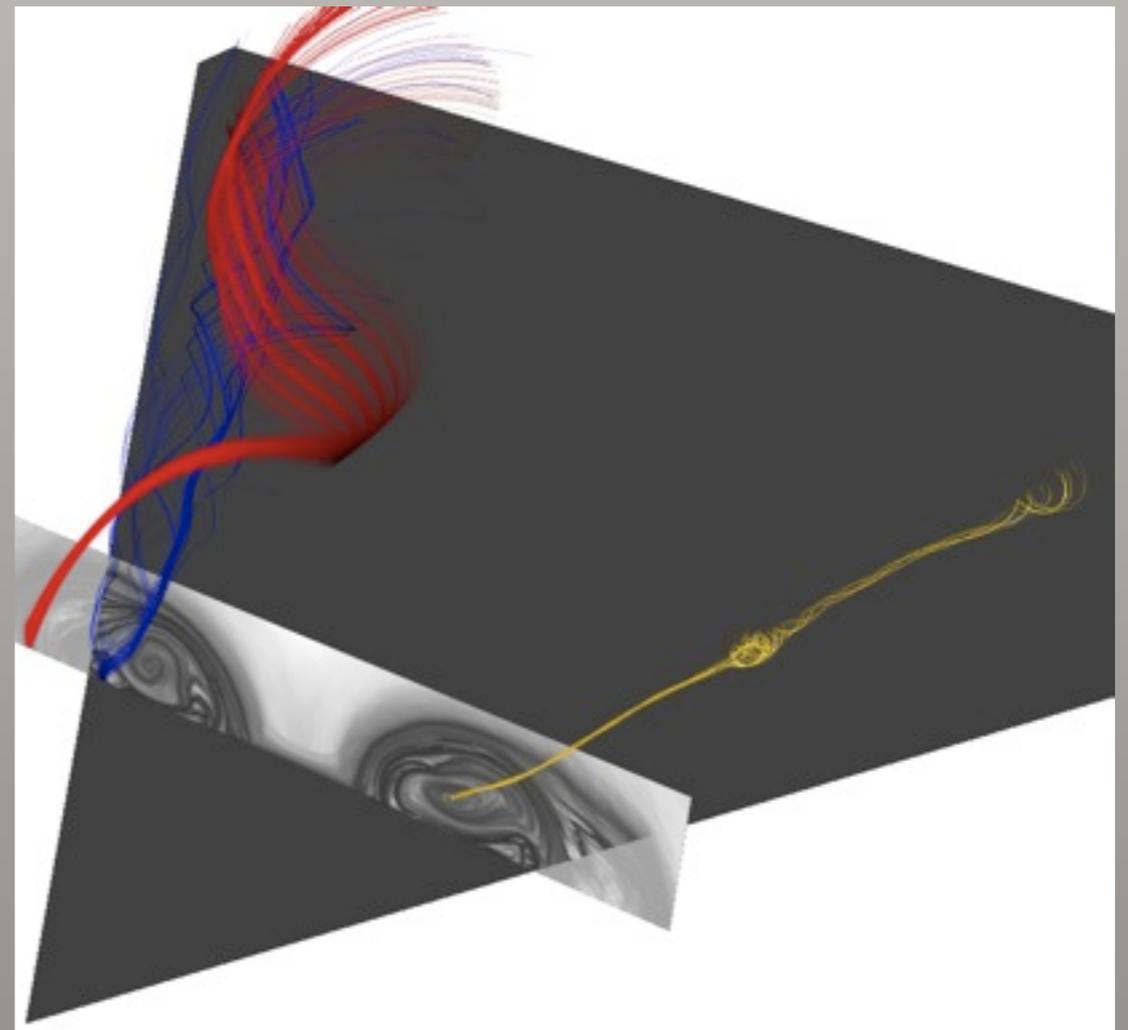
- feature identification
- feature tracking



# Lagrangian Flow Visualization

Visualization tool:  
section plane FTLE +  
user interaction

Pathlines seeded  
according user brushing



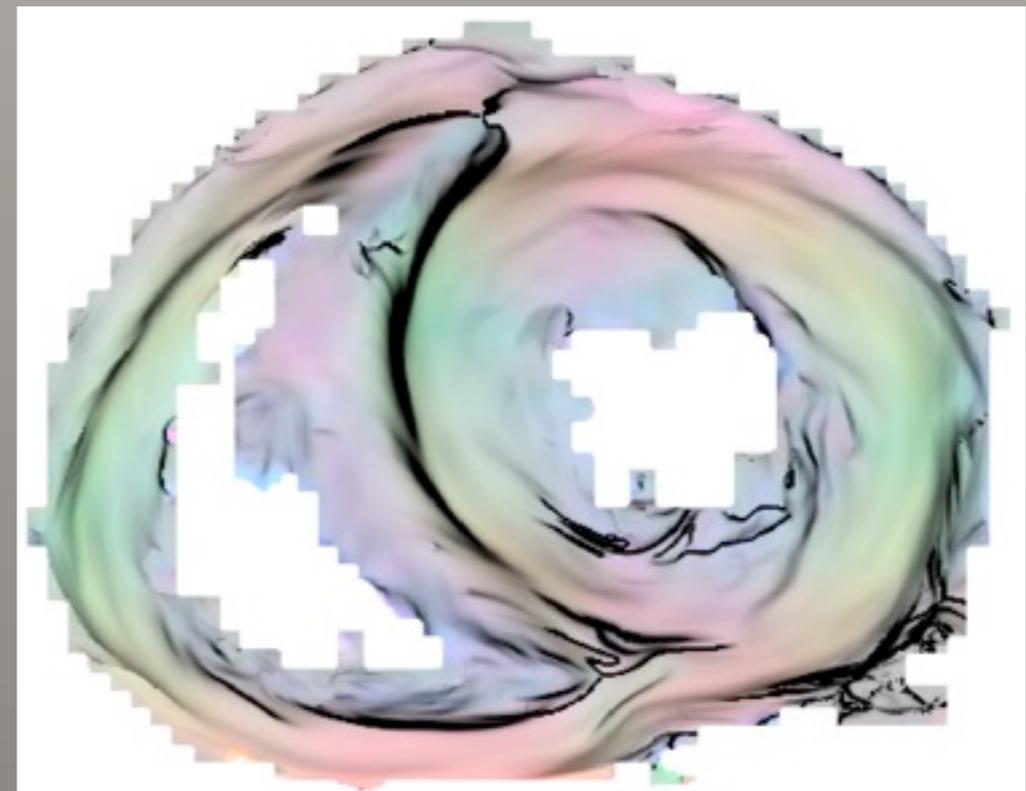
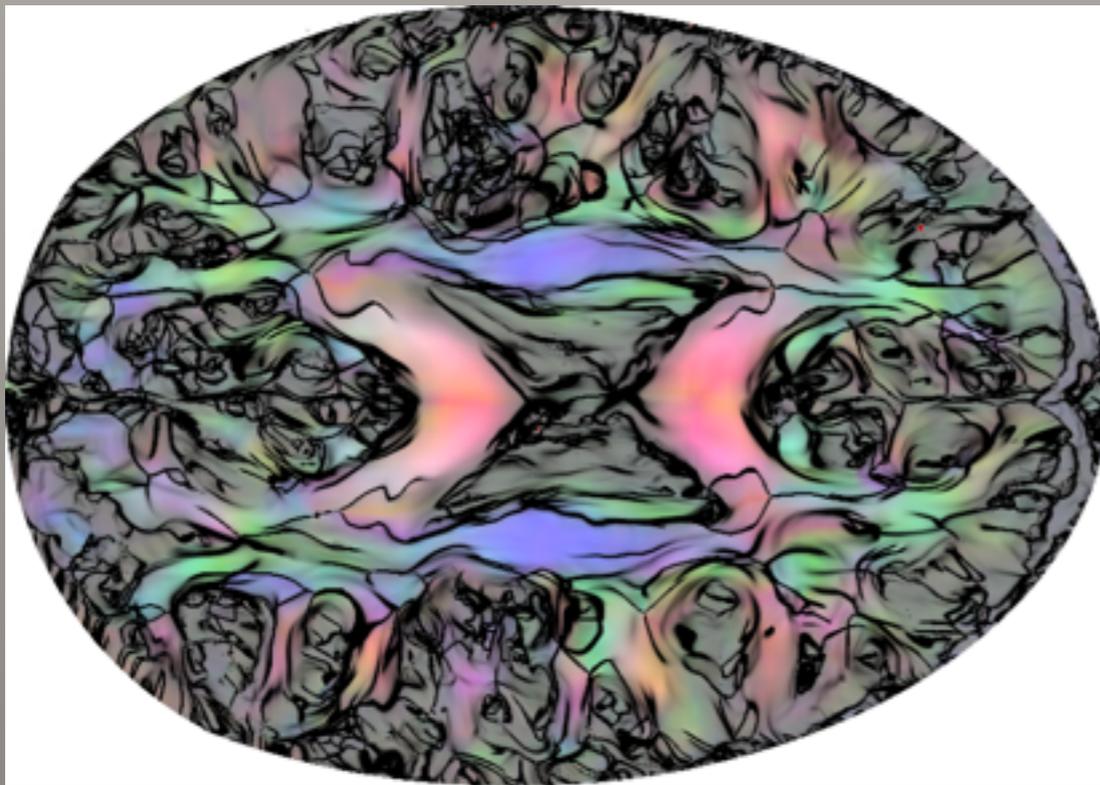
Delta Wing

Section plane orthogonal to main flow direction

# Lagrangian Flow Visualization

- Application to DT-MRI / tensor data
- Interest in coherent fiber bundles / bundle separation

Brain Scan

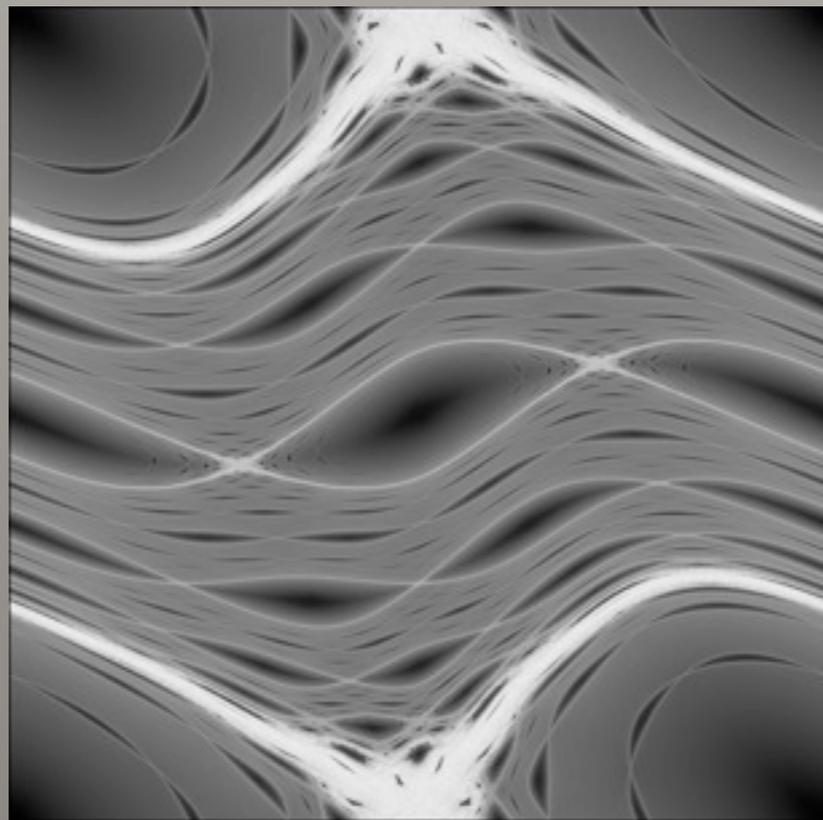


Canine Heart

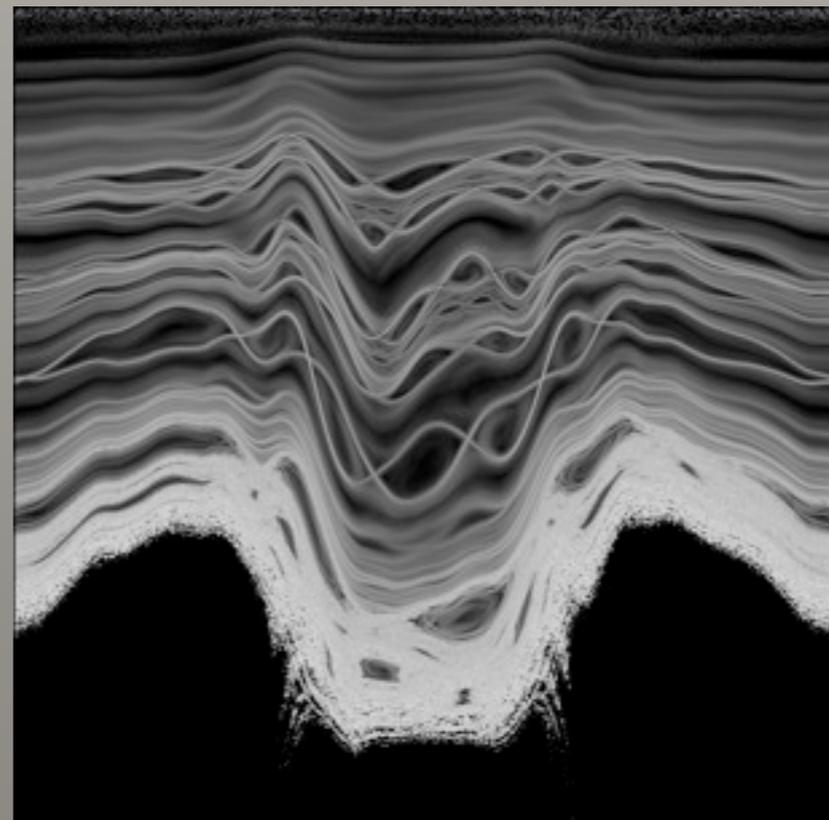
joint work with X. Tricoche (Purdue), M. Hlawitschka

# Lagrangian Flow Visualization

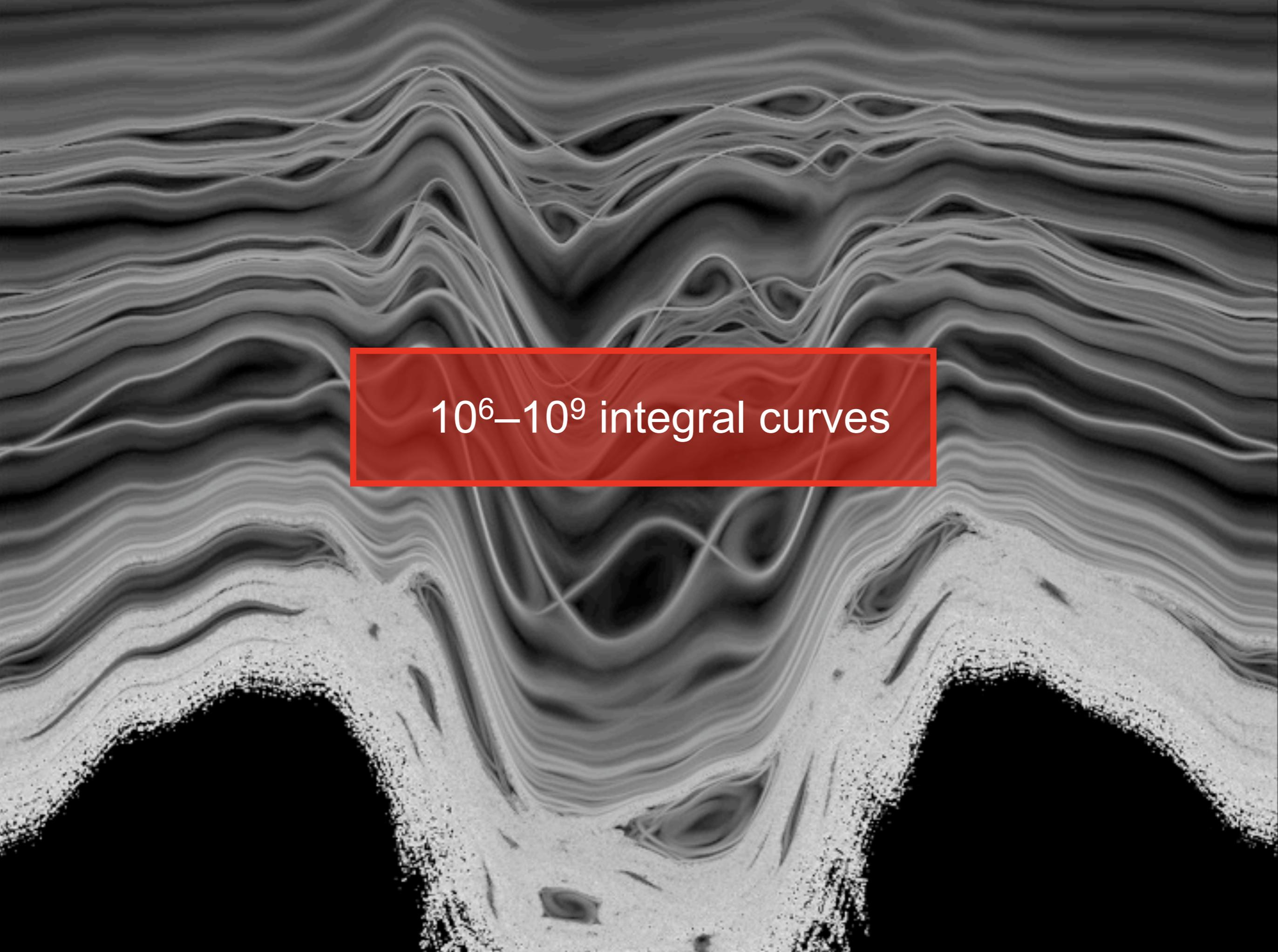
- Hamiltonian Systems (Fusion, Astrophysics, ...)
- Coherent Structures: Island Chain Boundaries



Standard Map



Tokamak Simulation



$10^6$ – $10^9$  integral curves

# Improved Integration

(with Dave Pugmire, Sean Ahern, Hank Childs,  
Gunther Weber, Eduard Deines)

# Improved Integration

- Integrating many curves is a hard problem
  - non-linear
  - data-dependent
  - requires fast interpolation in arbitrary meshes
- Strong need for parallelization
  - large data (petascale)
  - large seed set (millions of integral curves)
  - correct handling difficult mesh types (e.g. AMR)

# Improved Integration

- Wish list for improved integration:
  - parallelize over both data and seed point set
  - avoid bad performance in corner cases
    - large data, small seed set
    - small data, large seed set
    - precludes any kind of static partitioning
  - handle data in existing format, no repartitioning or expensive up-front analysis, general use case
- Ongoing work: adaptive load balancing using a master-slave approach and distribution heuristics (SC09 paper: comparison of different approaches)

# Improved Integration

Ongoing: Correct handling of AMR meshes

- Problem 1: cell-centered data
  - need good interpolation scheme
  - cell-node averaging is **not** the right thing (too much smoothing)
  - dual mesh interpolation behaves much better

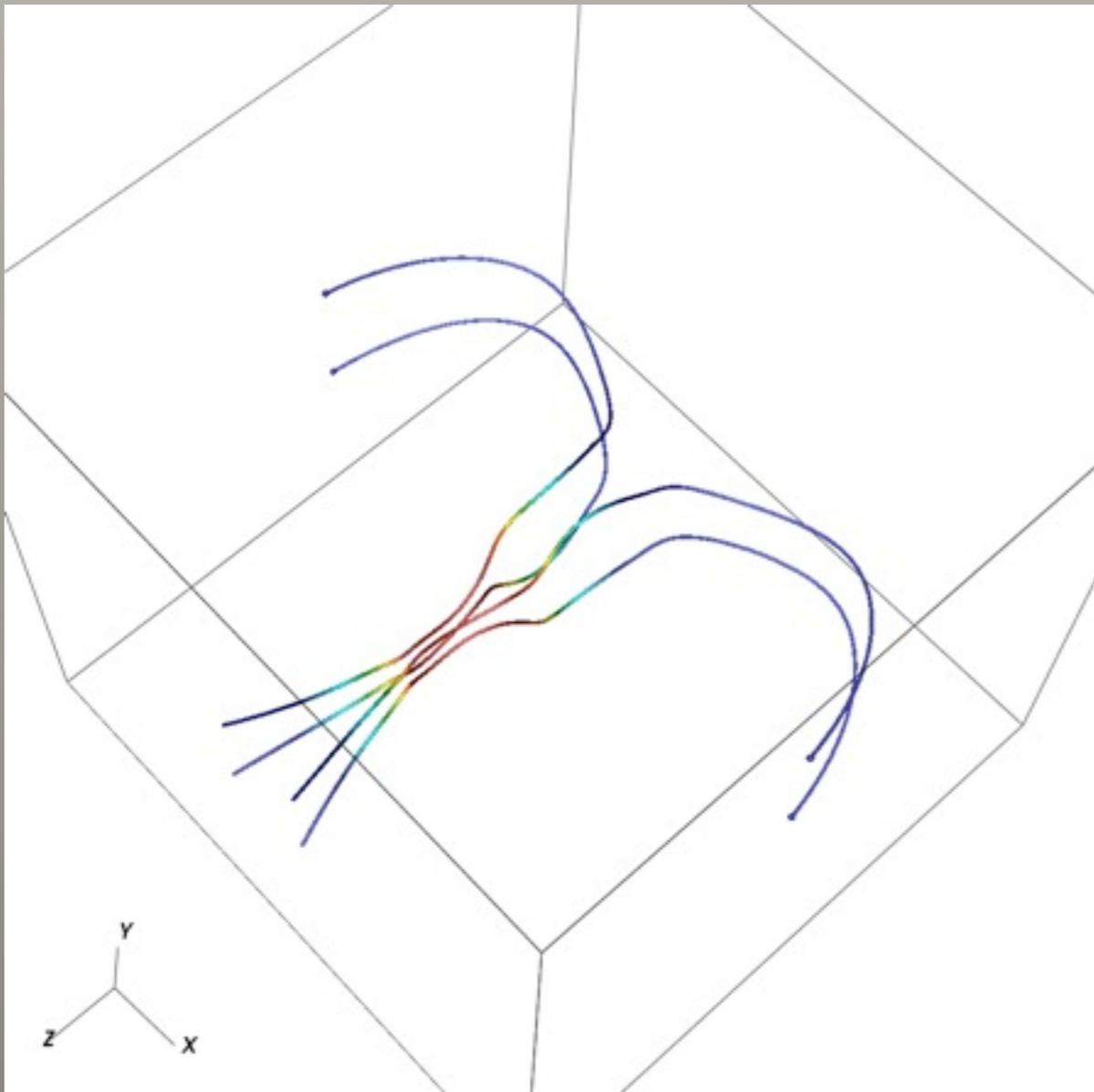
# Improved Integration

Correct handling of AMR meshes:

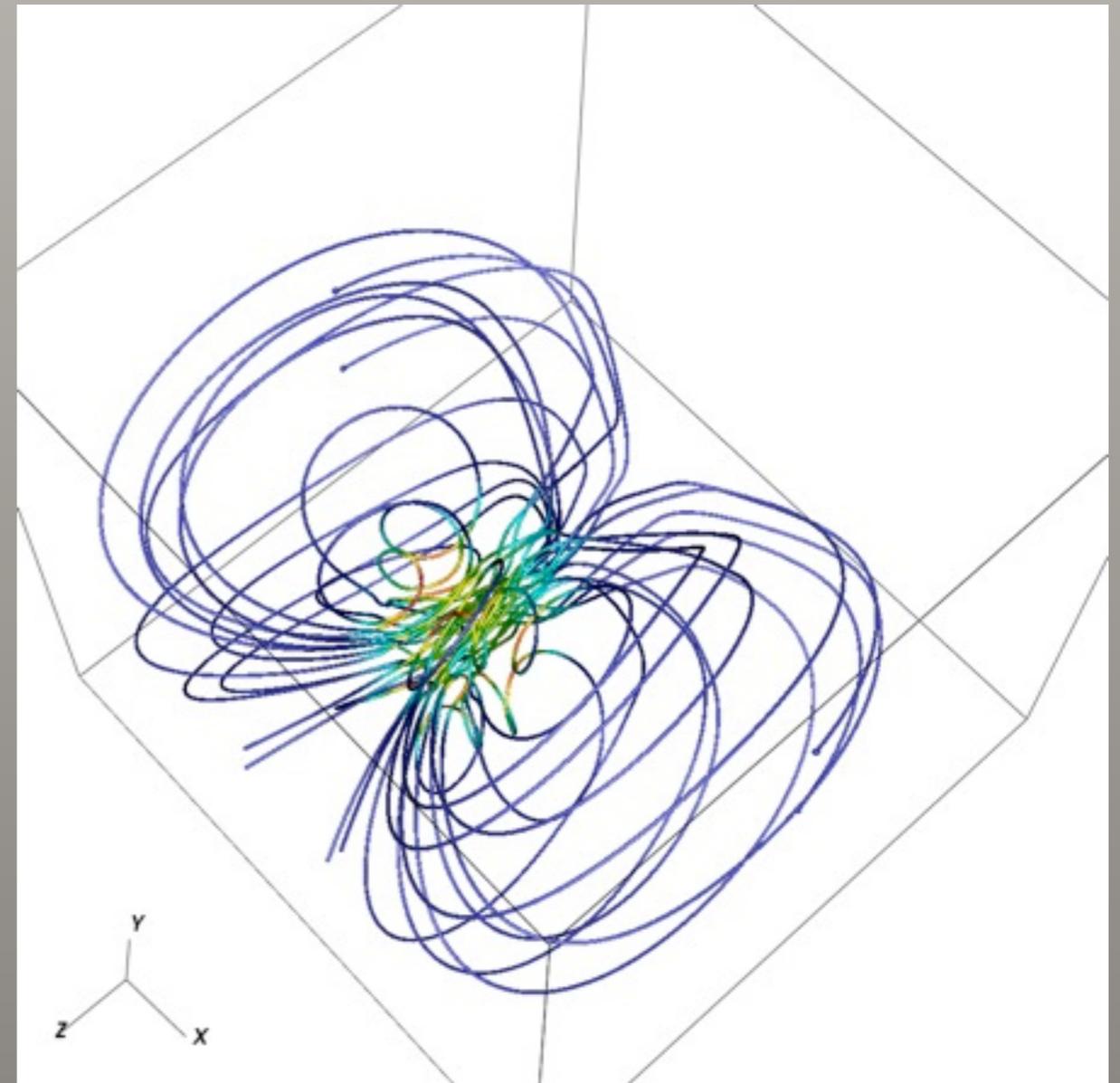
- Problem 2:  
discontinuities across AMR resolution boundaries
  - adaptive integration cannot handle this smoothly, or fails outright
  - “stopping” integration across boundary results in decreased numerical error

Integration should work out-of-the-box, without a user worrying about the details.

# Improved Integration



ignored discontinuities + averaging



explicit disc. handling + dual mesh

- Where can I download this?
  - Nowhere, yet :-)
- Integration into Visit is underway
  - Improved integration in Visit very soon
  - Integral Surfaces + FTLE visualization are being incorporated

# Acknowledgements

John Anderson,  
Luke Gosink,  
Hari Krishnan,  
Alexy Agranovski,  
Mauricio Hess-Flores,  
Eduard Deines,  
Ken Joy,  
Markus Rütten,  
SciDAC VACET,  
Purdue University,  
University of Kaiserslautern,  
University of Leipzig,  
DLR Germany,  
German Research Foundation,  
LBNL  
LLNL  
ORNL

Thanks!

Questions?