

# Introduction to OpenDX

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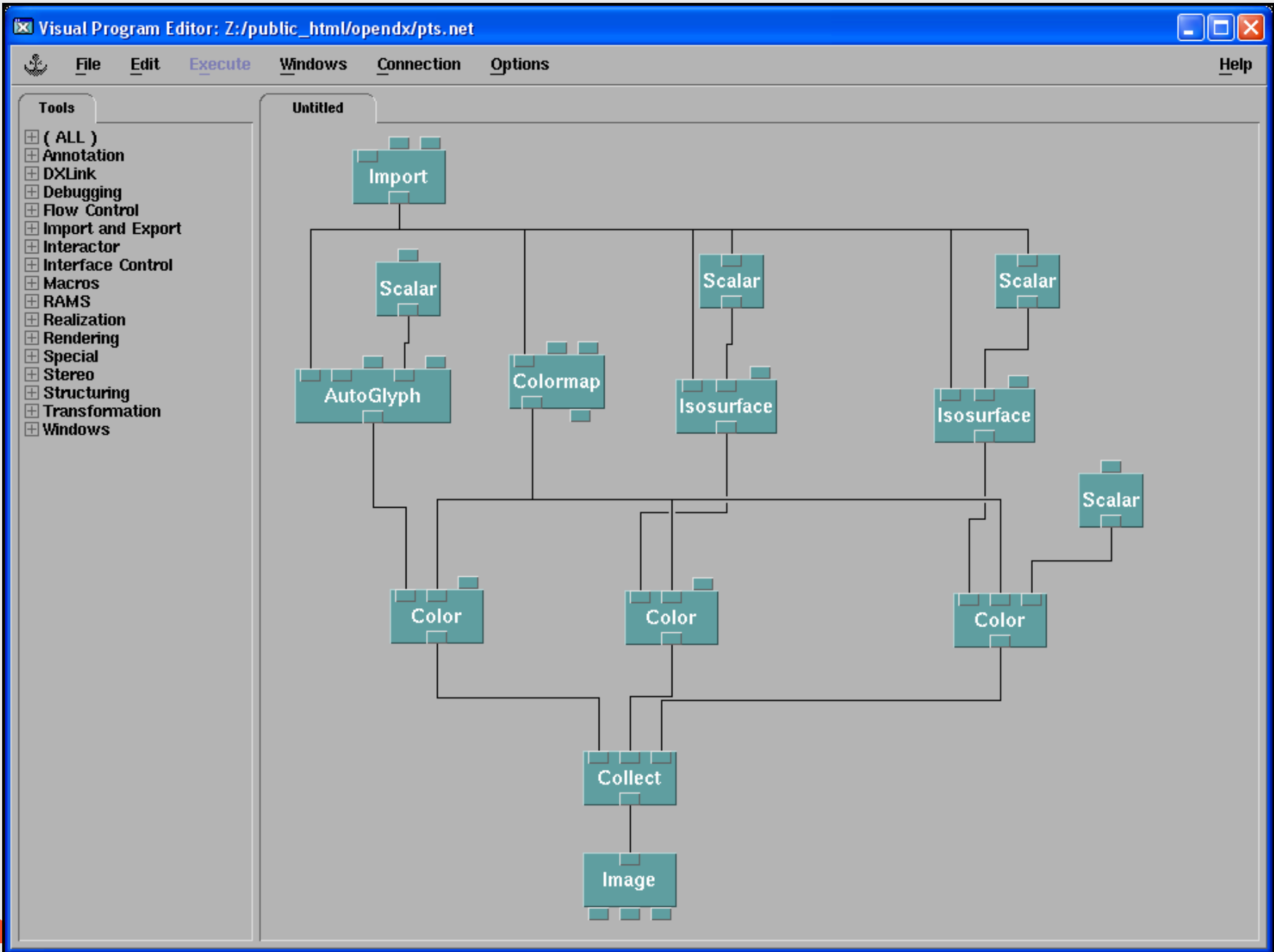
# OpenDX

- Started out life as *IBM Visualization Data Explorer*
- When the product was cancelled, IBM put it into Open Source and renamed it *OpenDX*
- Basic premise is a series of interconnected modules, living together in an environment called the Visual Program Editor (VPE)
- There are lots of provided modules
- You can also write your own

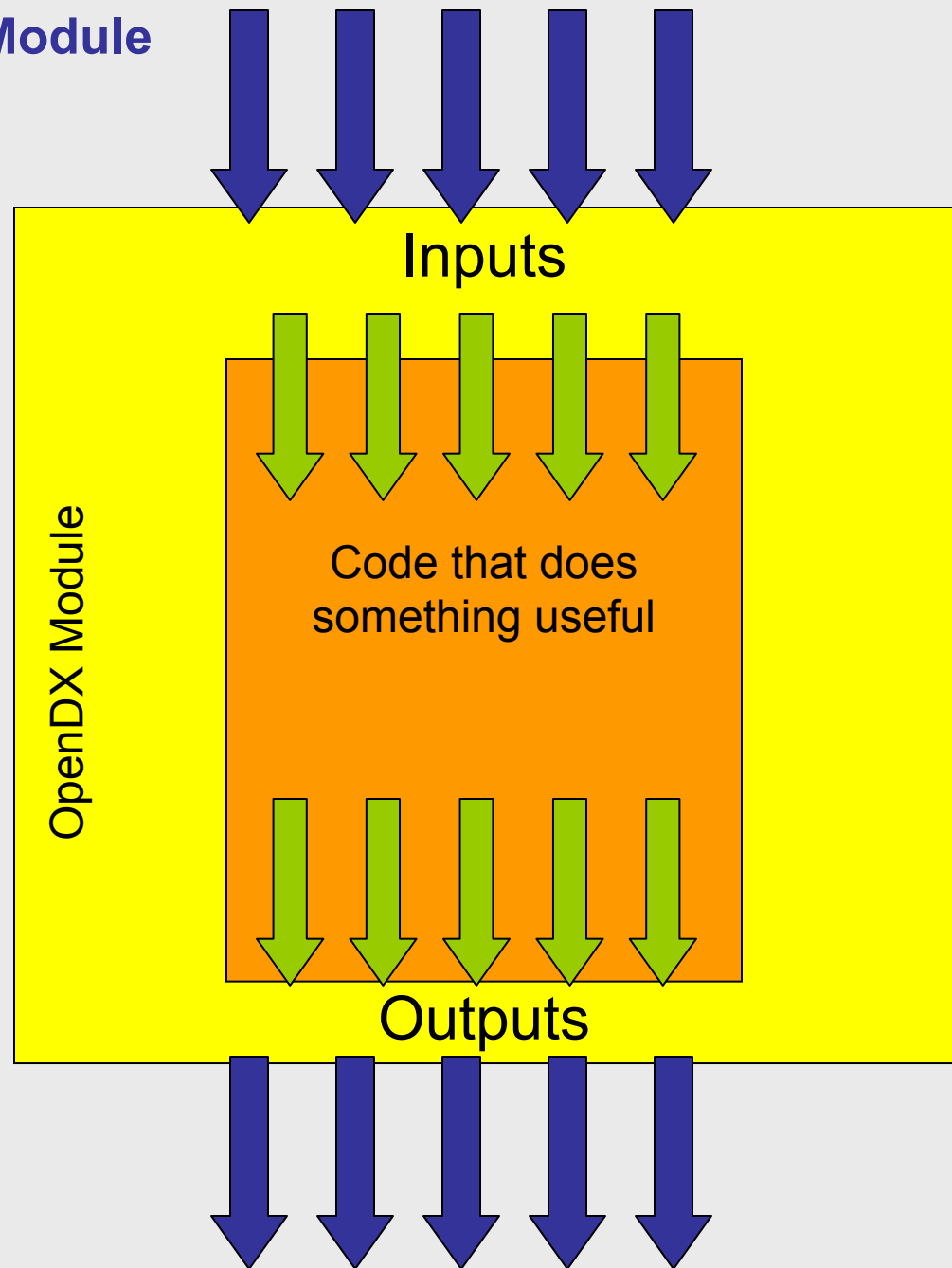
`http://www.opendx.org`

`http://www.vizsolutions.com`

`http://eecs.oregonstate.edu/~mjb/opendx`



# The Structure of an OpenDX Module



# Steps in Creating a Visualization

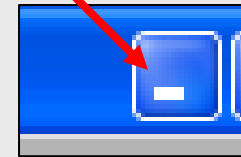
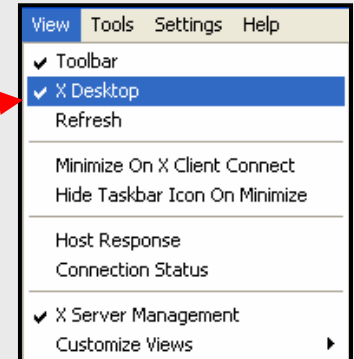
## Seven Steps to Creating a Visualization

1. **Get the data**
2. **Formulate a scientific strategy. What do you want to show?  
How do you want to show it?**
3. **Import the data**
4. **Create a *simple* OpenDX network**
5. **Incrementally embellish the network. Save it often!**
6. **Choose what quantities you want to interact with. Change the Interactor styles to match the quantities being modified.**
7. **Create the output.**

# Starting OpenDX in OSU's Computer Graphics Education Lab

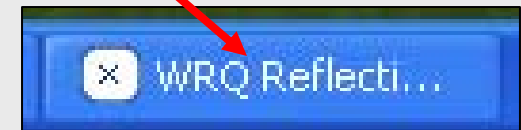
## Starting OpenDX on the OSU CGEL Systems

1. Start → All Programs → WRQ Reflection → Reflection X
2. In the *View* menu, click off *X Desktop*
3. Minimize the Reflection X window (the \_ in the upper right corner)
4. Start → All Programs → OpenDX → DX



## Quitting OpenDX on the OSU CGEL Systems

1. Select *Quit* from the OpenDX Main Menu
2. Maximize the Reflection X window by clicking here in the Task Bar
3. In the *File* menu, select *Exit*





# The OpenDX Main Menu and Categories of Modules

# The OpenDX Main Menu

The screenshot shows the 'Data Explorer' window with the following menu items and their corresponding descriptions:

- Import Data...**: Get into the Data Prompter program
- Run Visual Programs...**: Run an OpenDX network without seeing the network
- Edit Visual Programs...**: Run an OpenDX network and be able to edit the network
- New Visual Program...**: Create a new OpenDX network
- Run Tutorial...**: Run the internal OpenDX tutorial
- Samples...**: Load, and be able to edit, one of the OpenDX sample networks
- Quit**: Exit OpenDX
- Help**: (No description provided)

## Nine Categories of OpenDX Modules

**Annotation**

**Interactor**

**Special**

**Debugging**

**Realization**

**Structuring**

**Import & Export**

**Rendering**

**Transformation**

## Annotation OpenDX Modules

- AutoAxes – creates an axis box for whatever data you are plotting
- AutoGlyph – designs and produces glyphs for the data based on the data values
- Caption – creates caption text for an image
- ColorBar -- creates a colorbar to be displayed
- Format – creates a string from a number (used to create file names)
- Glyph – produces an identical glyph for every point in the data
- Legend – produces a legend to be displayed
- Plot – creates a 2D plot
- Ribbon – creates a flow field ribbon
- Text – displays text in 3D space
- Tube – creates a flowfield tube

## Debugging OpenDX Modules

- Describe – describes an object
- Print – prints information about a field to the Message Window

## Import & Export OpenDX Modules

- Export – writes data from OpenDX into a file
- Import – reads data into OpenDX from a file
- ImportSpreadsheet – reads data into OpenDX from a tabular file
- Include – includes or excludes points in a field based on their data values
- ReadImage – reads an image into OpenDX from a file
- Reduce – filters and resamples a field into a lower resolution
- Refine – interpolates a field into a higher resolution
- Slab – takes a positional subset of the data
- Slice – takes a positional slice through the data
- WriteImage – writes an image from OpenDX into a file

## Interactor OpenDX Modules

- FileSelector – presents a dialog box to let you select a file
- Integer – allows the user to input an integer number
- Scalar – allows the user to input a floating point number
- Selector – allows the user to select one of a number of options
- String – allows the user to input a string
- Toggle – allows the user to select one of two options
- Vector – allows the user to input a vector

## Realization OpenDX Modules

- AutoGrid – maps a set of scattered points onto a grid
- Band – divides a field into bands
- Connect – creates triangle connections for scattered data points in a field
- IsoSurface – creates surfaces or lines of constant data value
- MapToPlane – projects a data field onto an arbitrary plane
- RubberSheet – deforms a surface field by the amount of the data value at each point
- ShowBox – creates a bounding box for display
- ShowConnections – displays the outline of connectivity elements in a field
- ShowPositions – displays the positions in a field
- Streakline – computes an advection path through a changing flow field
- Streamline – computes a path through a non-changing flow field



## Rendering OpenDX Modules

- AmbientLight – specifies the ambient light
- Arrange – creates a single side-by-side image from a collection of images
- AutoCamera – selects a good camera view of the data
- Camera – specifies a camera view
- Display – a more elaborate image-rendering system than Image
- Image – renders and displays field data
- Light – specifies a distant (parallel) light source
- Normals – compute point or face normals for shading a surface
- Render – renders a field and creates an image
- Rotate – rotates field data
- Scale – scales field data
- Shade – specifies object-shading parameters
- Transform – performs a general matrix transform of an object
- Translate – translates field data

## Special OpenDX Modules

Colormap – presents an interactive tool for specifying color vs. data value

Receiver – receives the output of a Transmitter

Sequencer – creates an animation “VCR” display

Transmitter – “wirelessly” connects a network to a receiver

## Structuring OpenDX Modules

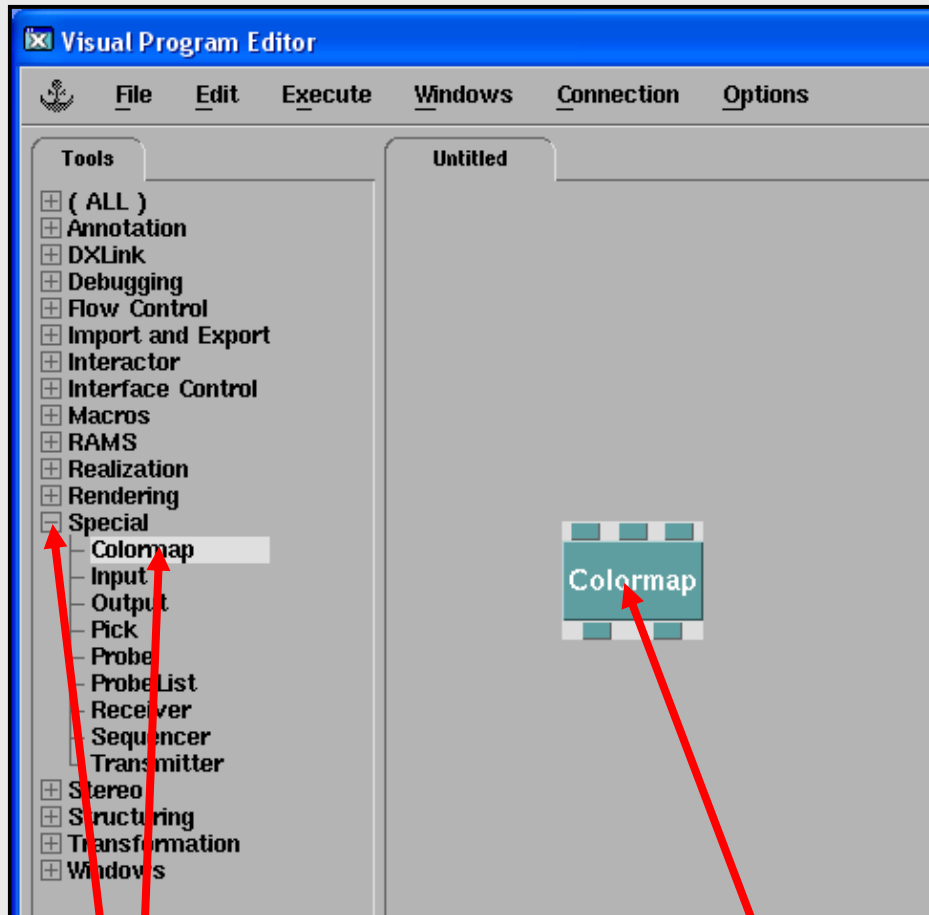
- Collect – collects objects into a group
- Inquire – returns information about a field
- Mark – marks a new field component as “data” (e.g., for Compute)
- Remove – removes a specified component from a field
- Rename – renames a specified component in a field
- Unmark – undoes the effects of Mark

## Transformation OpenDX Modules

- AutoColor – automatically color a data field (blue→green →red)
- Color – assign a color by name or by RGB values
- Compute – perform point-by-point arithmetic on a field's "data" component
- DivCurl – computes the divergence and curl of a flow field
- Equalize – apply histogram equalization to a field
- Gradient – computes the gradient of a scalar field
- Histogram – creates a histogram that can be rendered with Plot
- Map – projects one field's data onto another field's geometry
- Measure – calculates surface area and volume of a geometry (e.g., isosurface)
- SimplifySurface – reduces the size of the triangular mesh
- Statistics – computes the mean, standard deviation, variance, minimum, and maximum of a field's data

# Adding and Connecting Modules

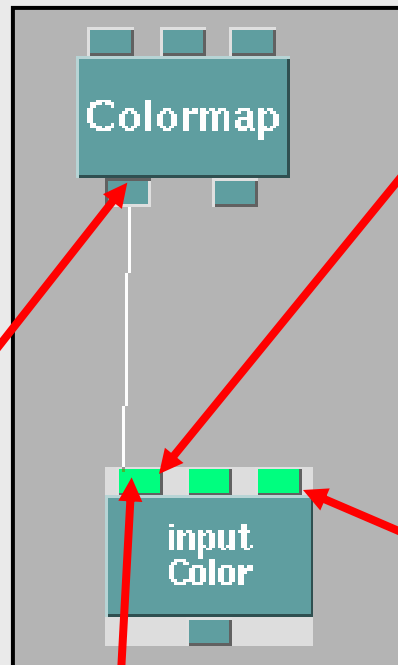
## Adding a Module into the Visual Editing Area



It's not drag-and-drop,  
it's click-and-click

1. Left-click on the module category to list its modules.
2. Left-click on the module you want to add
3. Move the cursor into the Editing Area and left-click

## Connecting Modules in the Visual Editing Area



If an input tab is in the "up" position, you are allowed to try to connect to it.

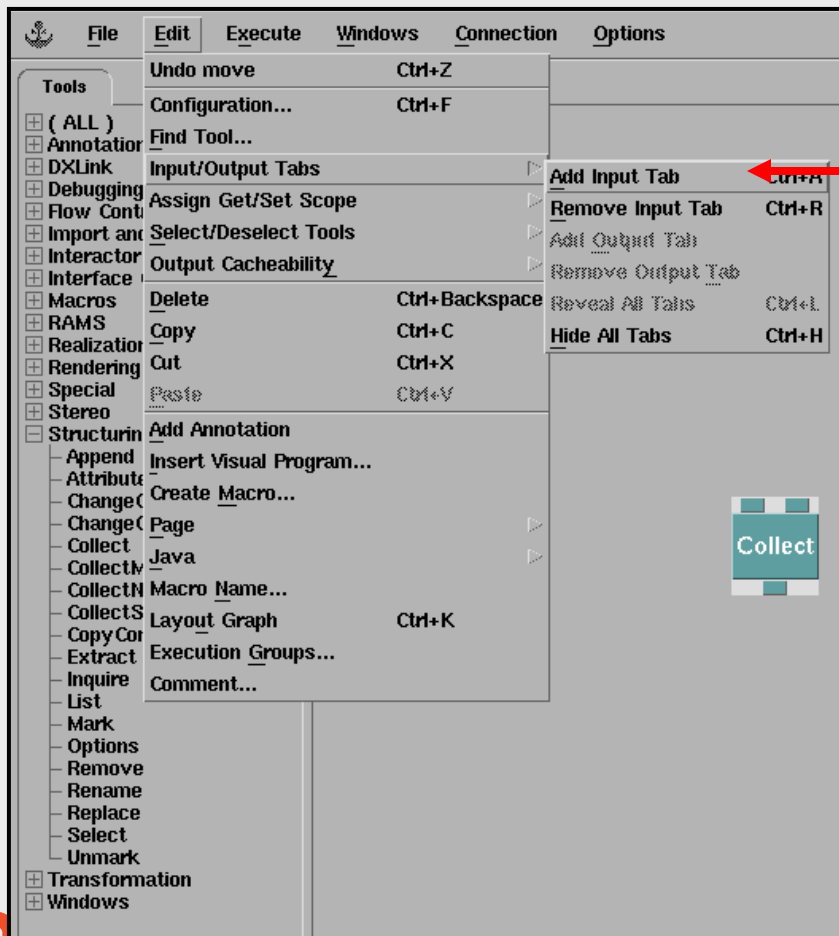
If an input tab is "down", then it has already been set to a constant within the module itself, and cannot take an external connection until that constant has been un-set.

Just because an input tab is up, however, doesn't mean that this input is data-compatible with the output you are trying to connect to it. Data-compatibility is indicated by the input tab(s) turning bright green.

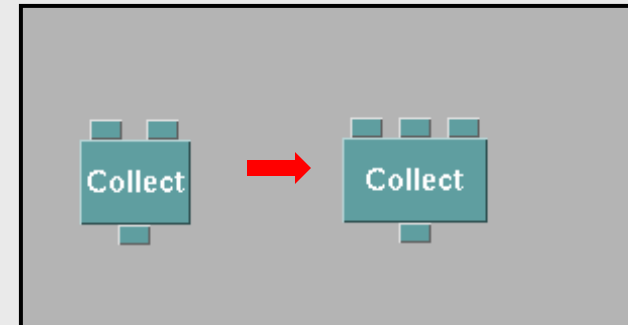
This, however, still doesn't imply that the connection makes logical sense. 😊

1. Left-click on the output tab of the module you are connecting from
2. Keeping the left button down, drag to the input tab of the module you are connecting to
3. When you get close, the tabs to which a connection make sense will highlight in green
4. Move the cursor on top of the tab you want to connect to, and release the left mouse button
5. To disconnect, reverse the process. Click on the input tab and drag back to the output tab.

## Some Modules Can Have Variable Numbers of Tabs



Edit -> Input/Output Tabs -> Add Input Tab

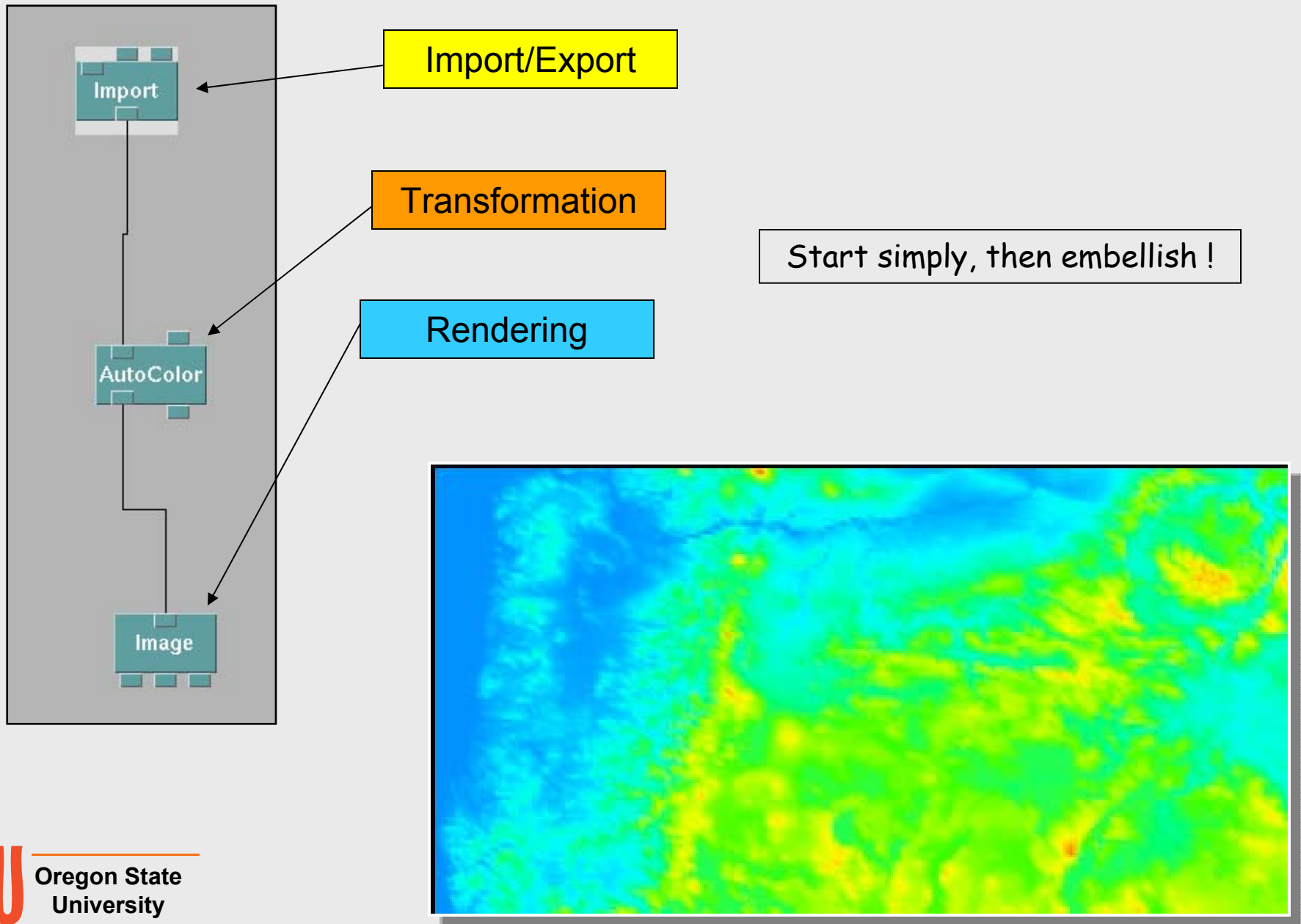


*Collect and Compute are two common modules that work this way*

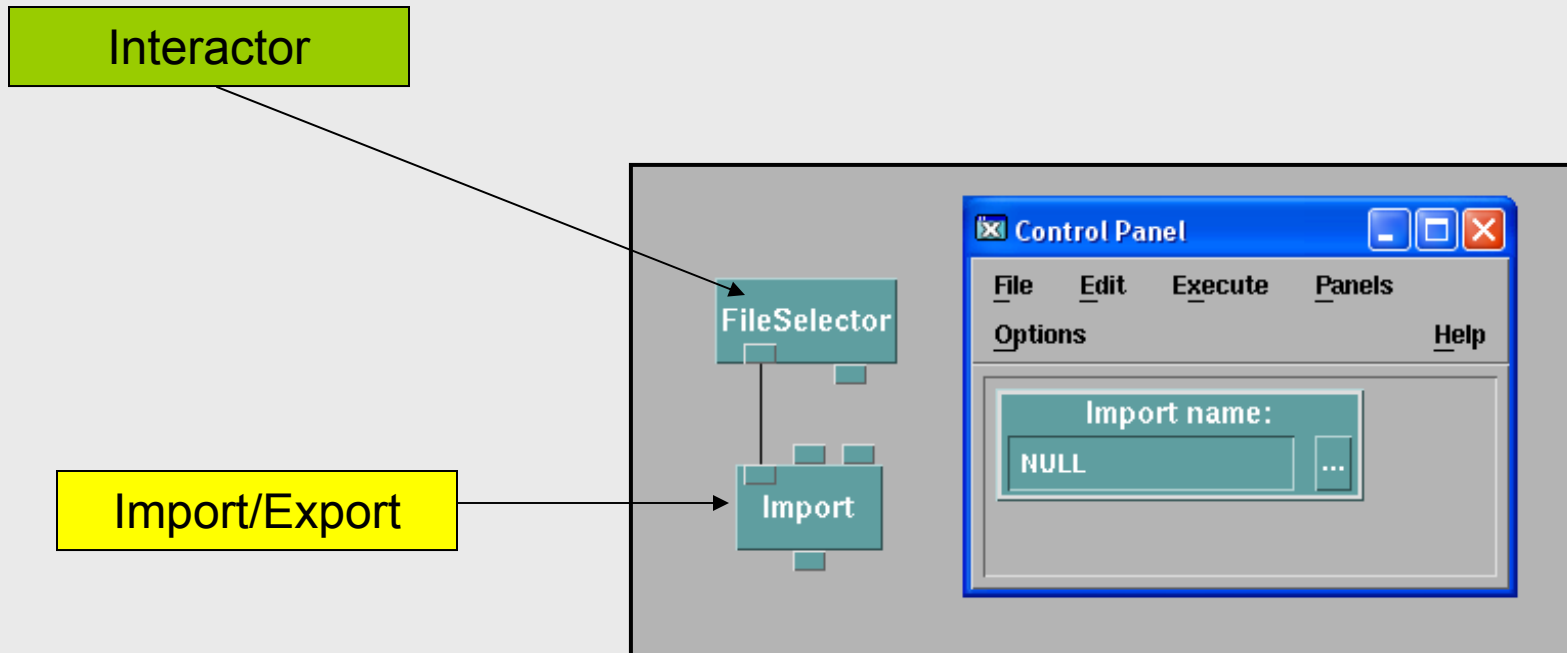


# Terrain Visualization

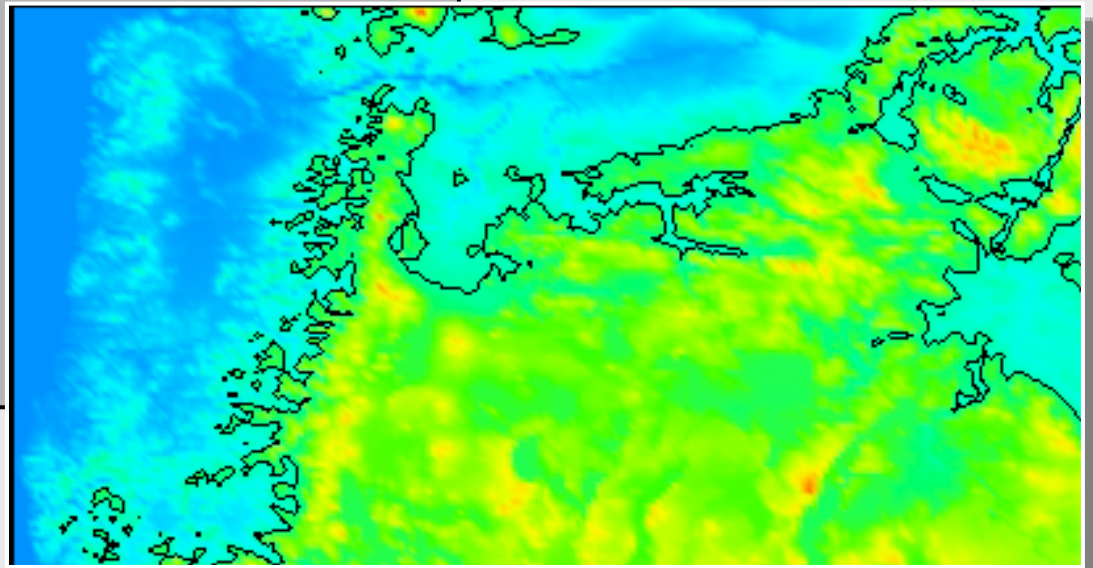
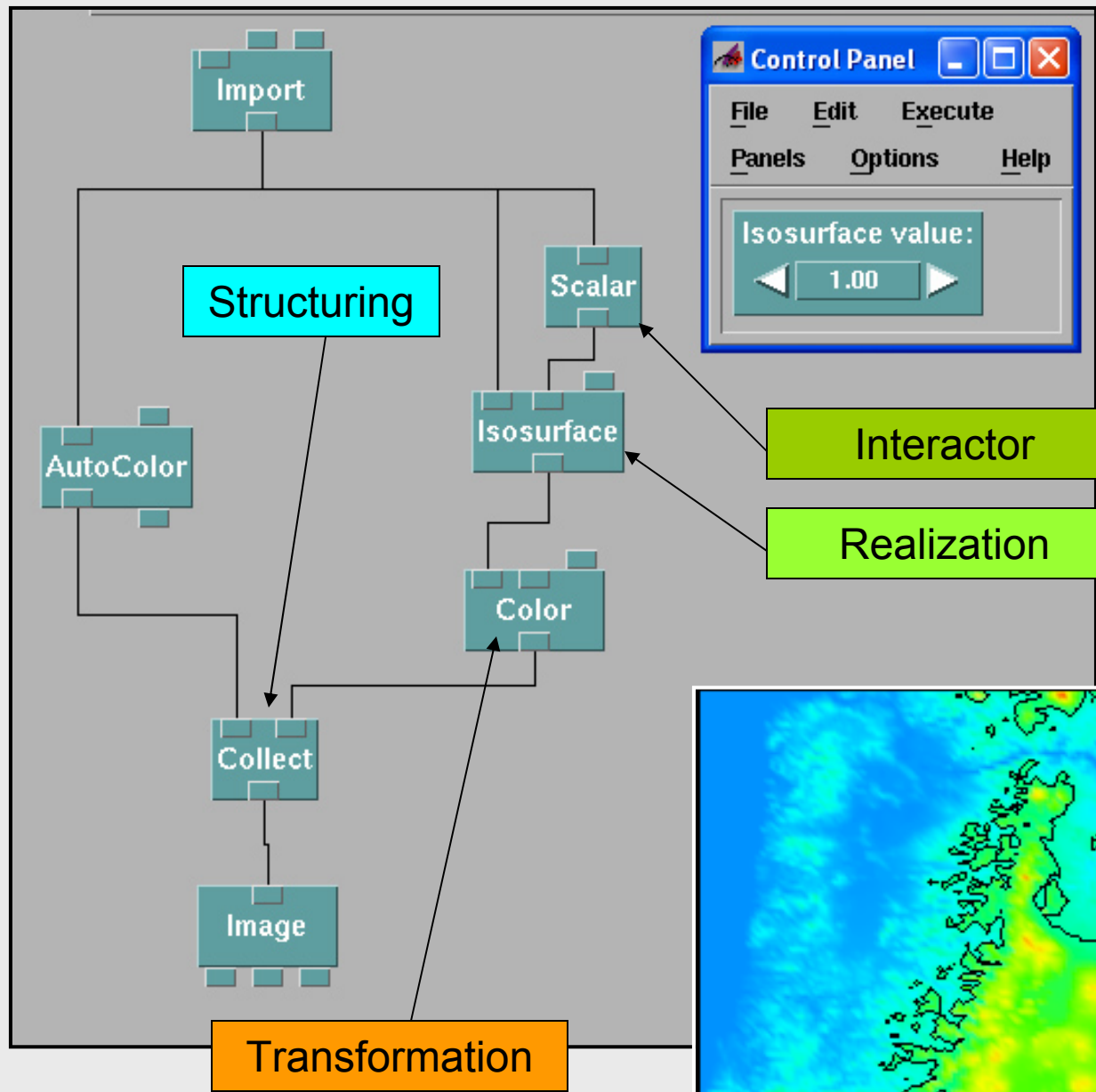
# Terrain Visualization



## The Import and FileSelector Modules

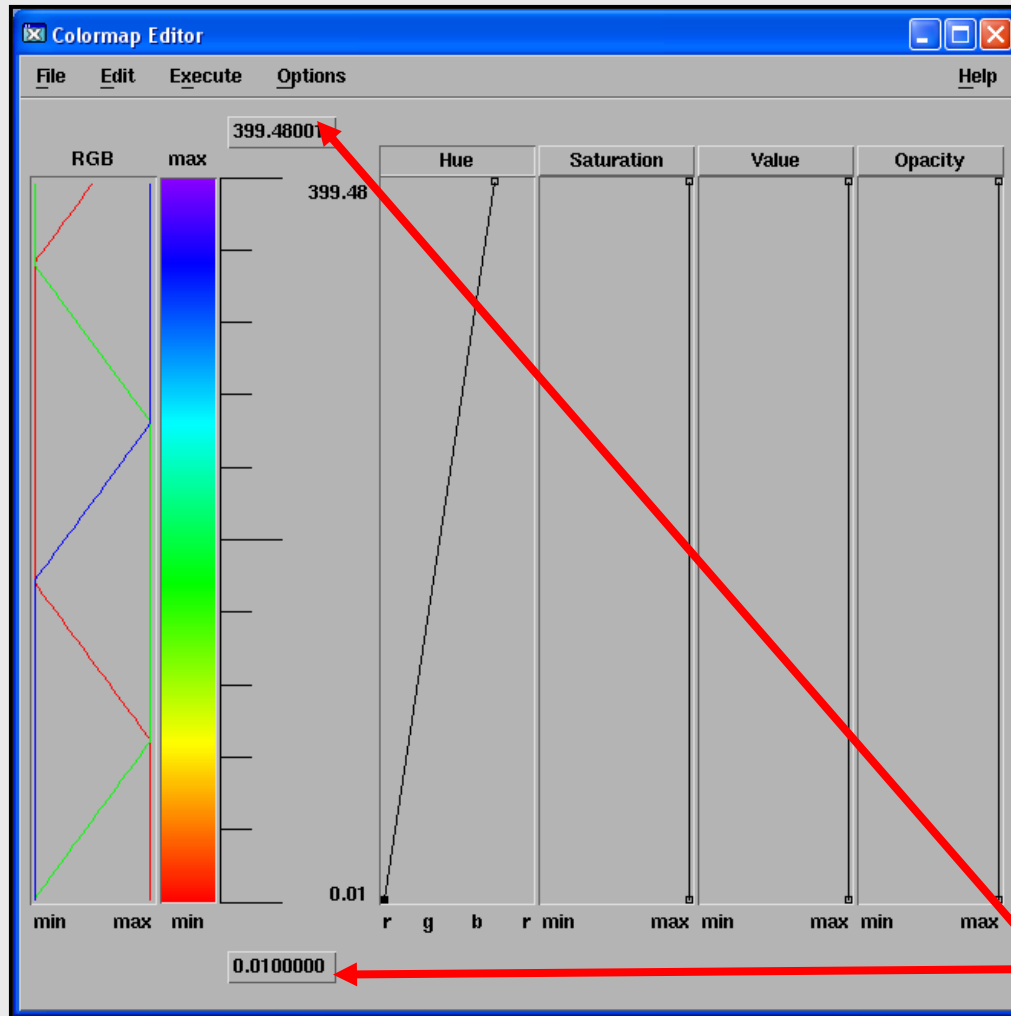
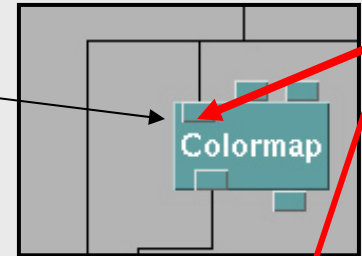


You can type a filename into the Import module, but hooking in a FileSelector module makes it way easier and friendlier



# The Colormap Editor Module

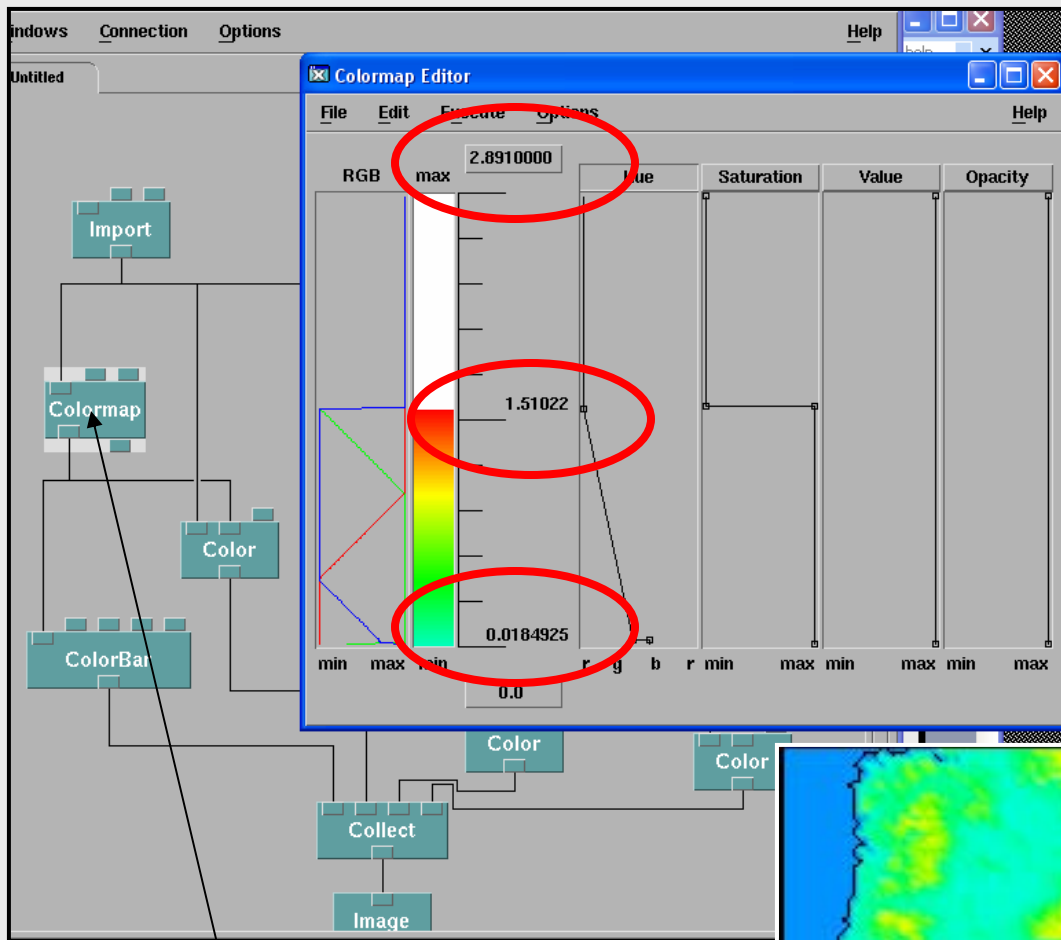
Special



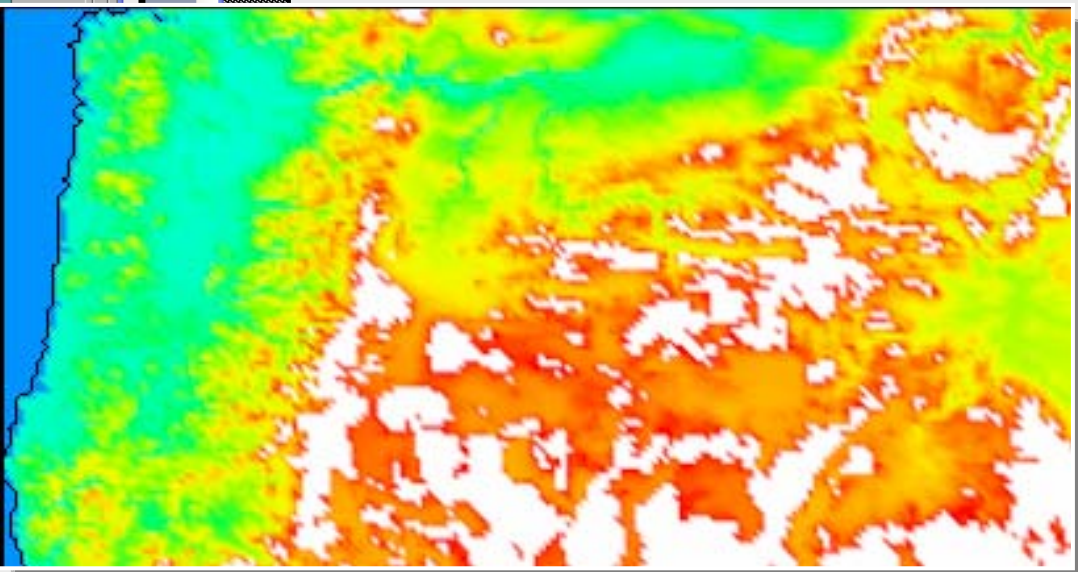
- The first input “tab” is the field input.
- Click on the Hue, Saturation, Value, or Opacity labels to edit that curve.
- Double-click on a line to add a control point there.
- Click on a control point to select it.
- Sweep a box over several control points to select them all.
- Hold down the left mouse button on a control point to move it. If several are currently selected, all will move together,
- Edit → Delete to remove selected control point(s).

The data value range over which the colors apply is determined by scanning the data itself.

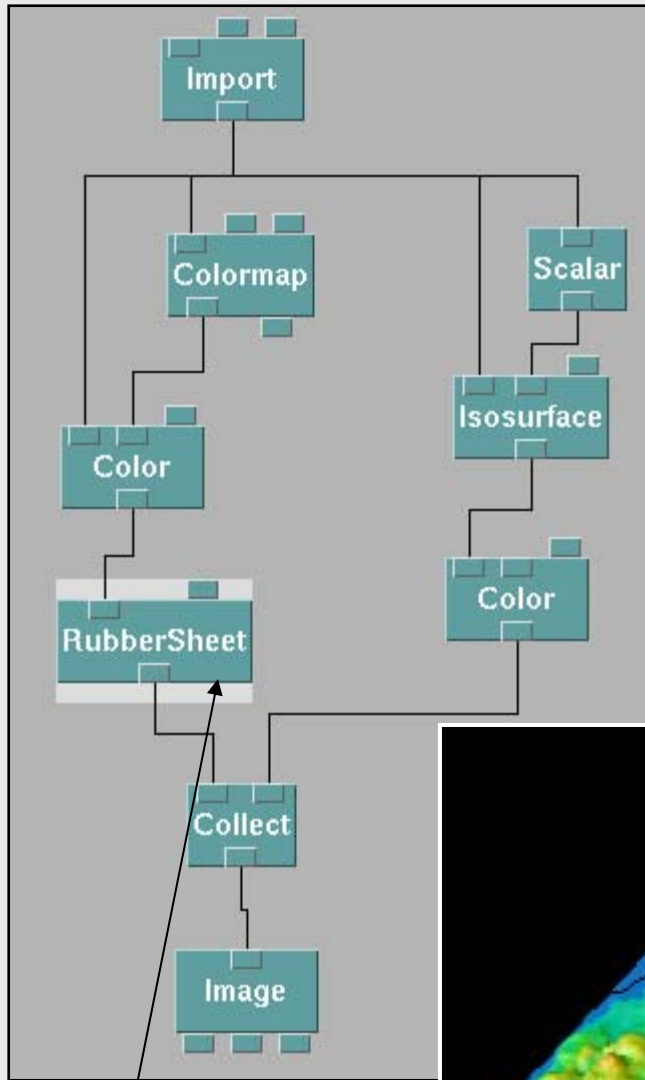
# The Colormap Editor in Action



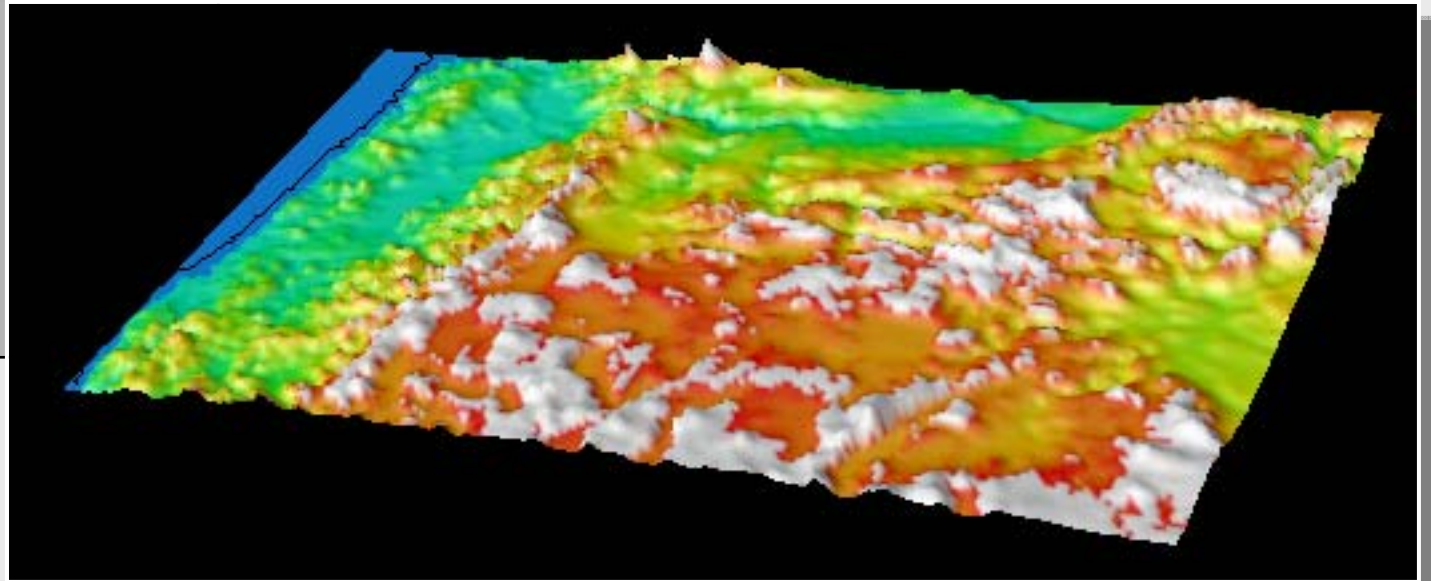
Special



# Rubbersheeting the Terrain Surface



Special



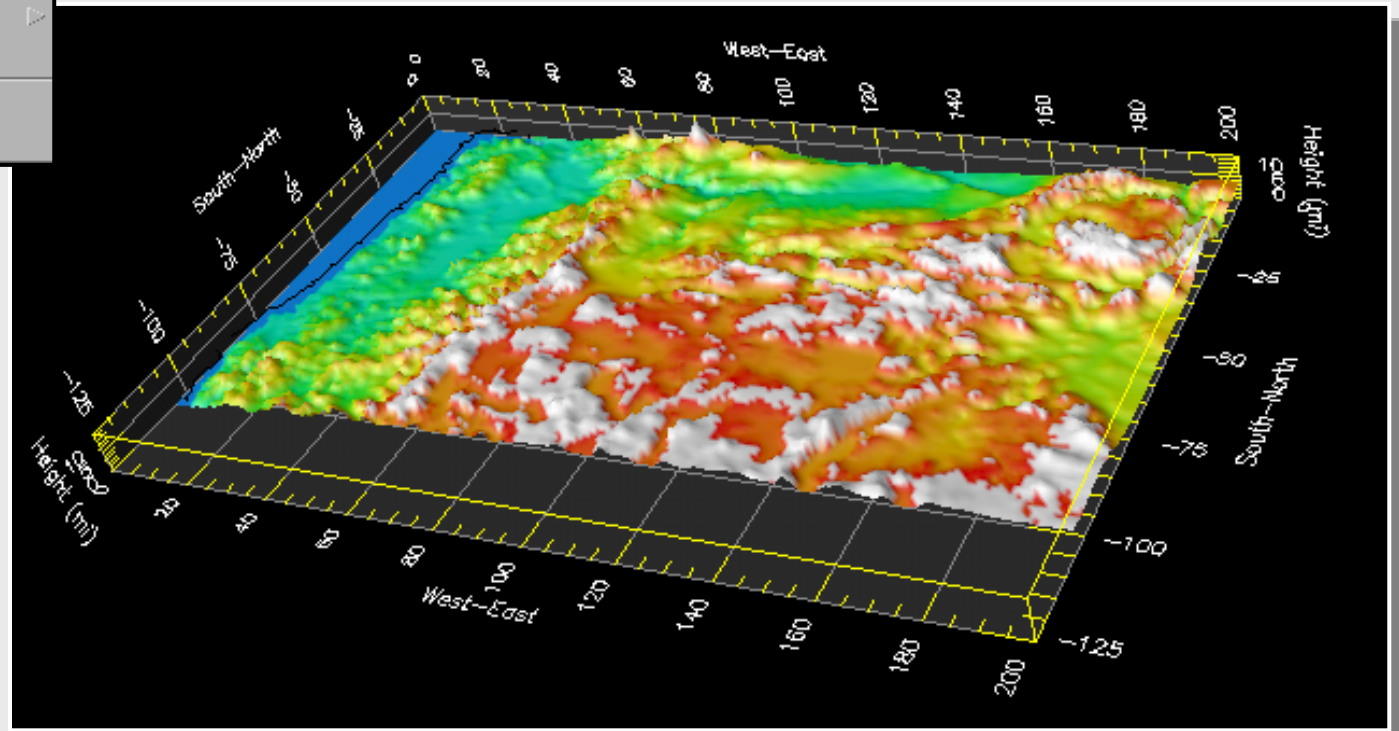
# The Image Window



## Image Window Options

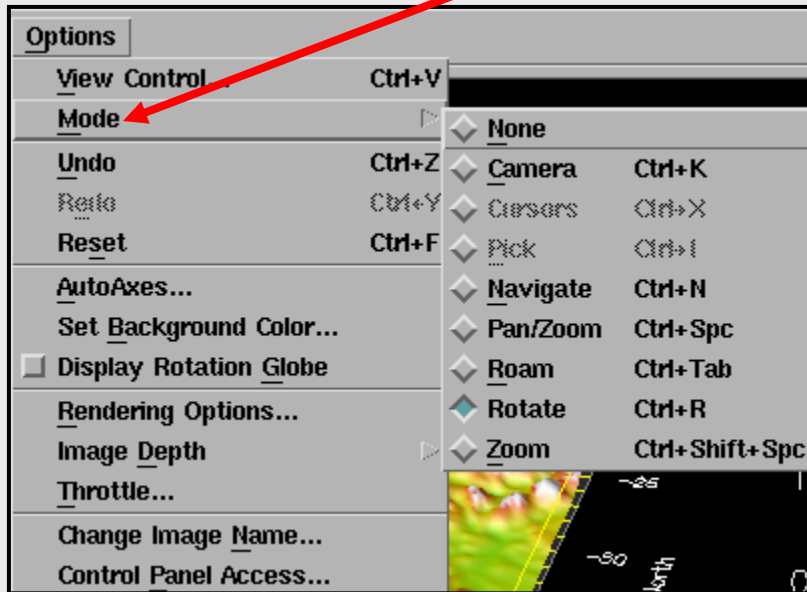
Options	
View Control...	Ctrl+V
Mode	▼
Undo	Ctrl+Z
Redo	Ctrl+Y
Reset	Ctrl+F
AutoAxes...	
Set Background Color...	
<input type="checkbox"/> Display Rotation Globe	
Rendering Options...	
Image Depth	▼
Throttle...	
Change Image Name...	
Control Panel Access...	

The *AutoAxes* option has many ways to embellish the visualization with axes, labels, grids, etc.

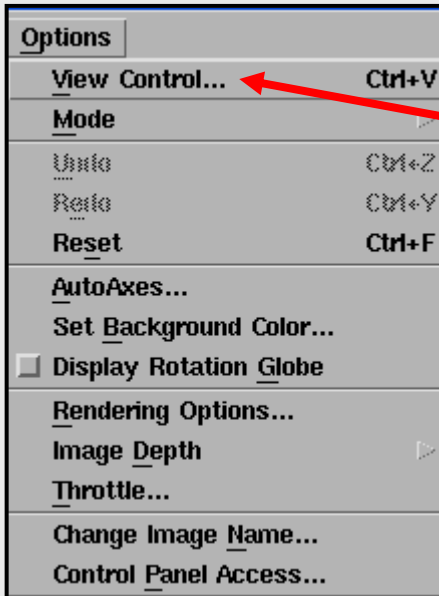


# Image Window Options

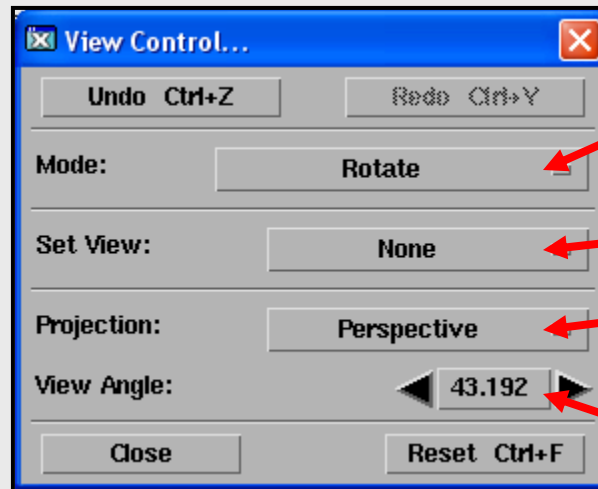
The *Mode* option lets you set what scene transformation the mouse will perform.



## Image Window Options



The *View Control* option lets you set various aspects of how the scene will appear.



Same as the *Mode* option

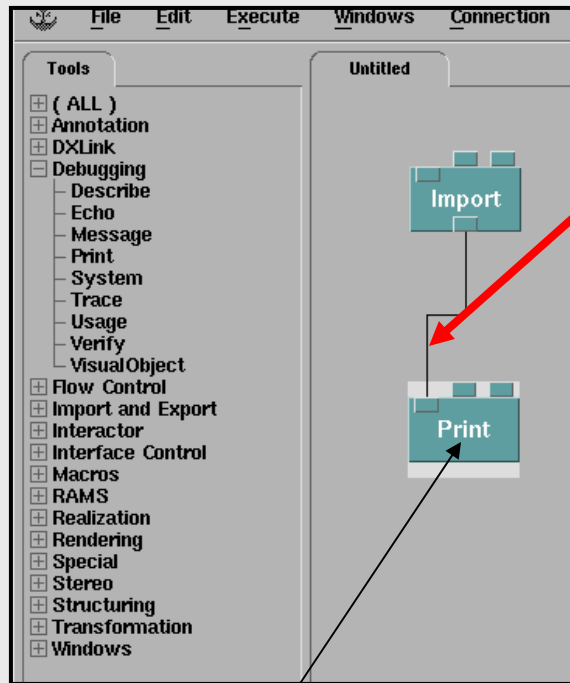
Set a pre-defined view

Specify Perspective or Orthographic 3D projection

If using Perspective, this specifies the field-of-view angle. The larger this number, the more severe the perspective will be.

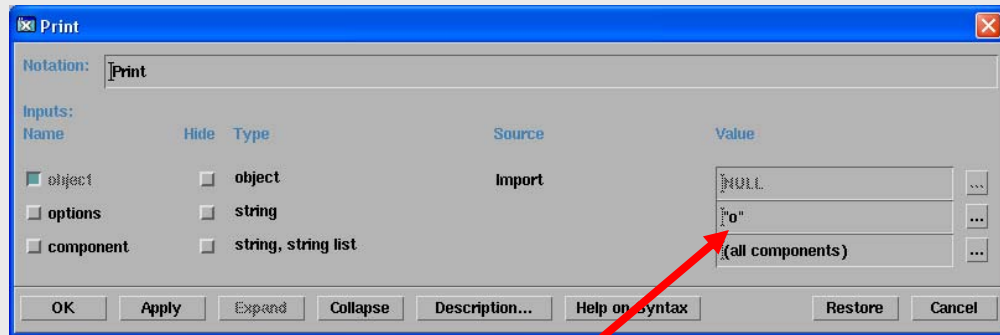
# Debugging

# The Print Module



Debugging

First argument is the field to print

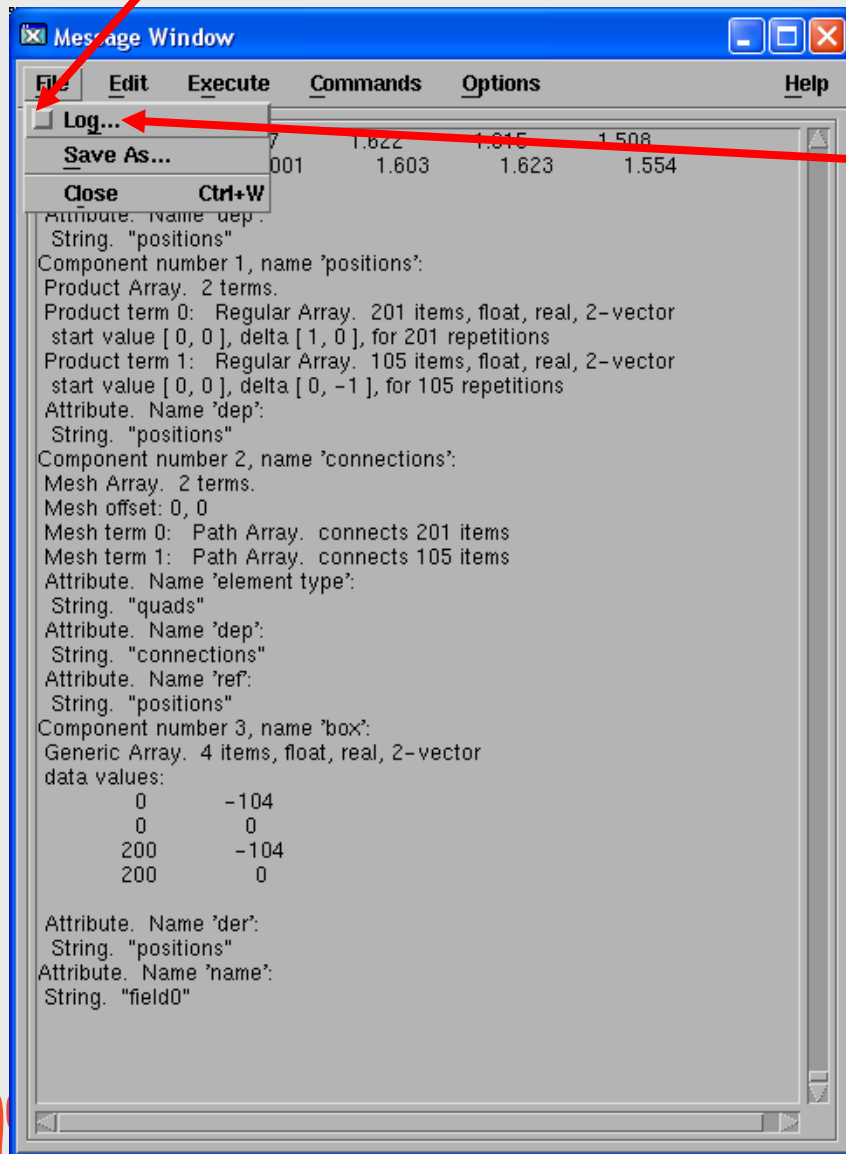


Second argument is a string with one or more characters:

- **r** recursively traverse the object
- **o** print only the top level of the object
- **d** print first and last 25 items in arrays, as well as headers
- **D** print all the items in arrays as well as headers
- **n** print object to **n** levels.

"rD" works well

# Printing to a File (“logging”)

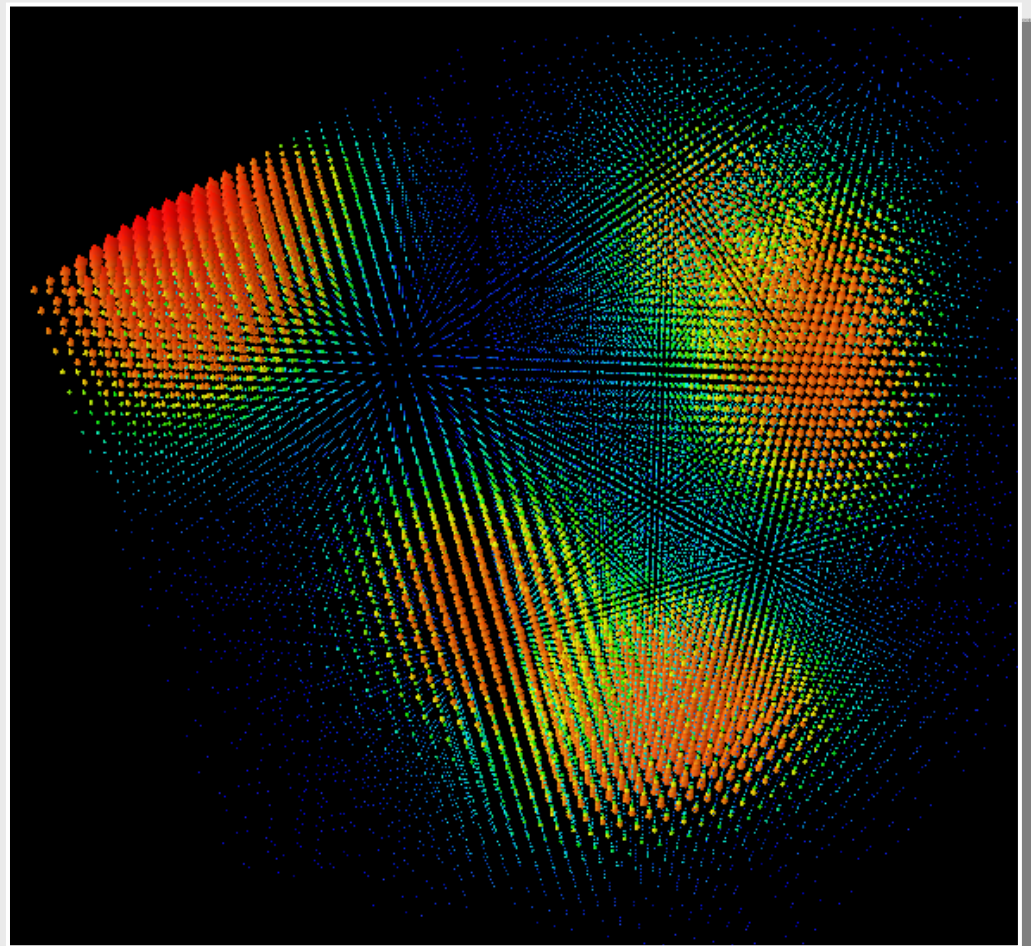
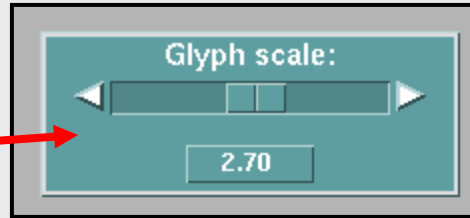
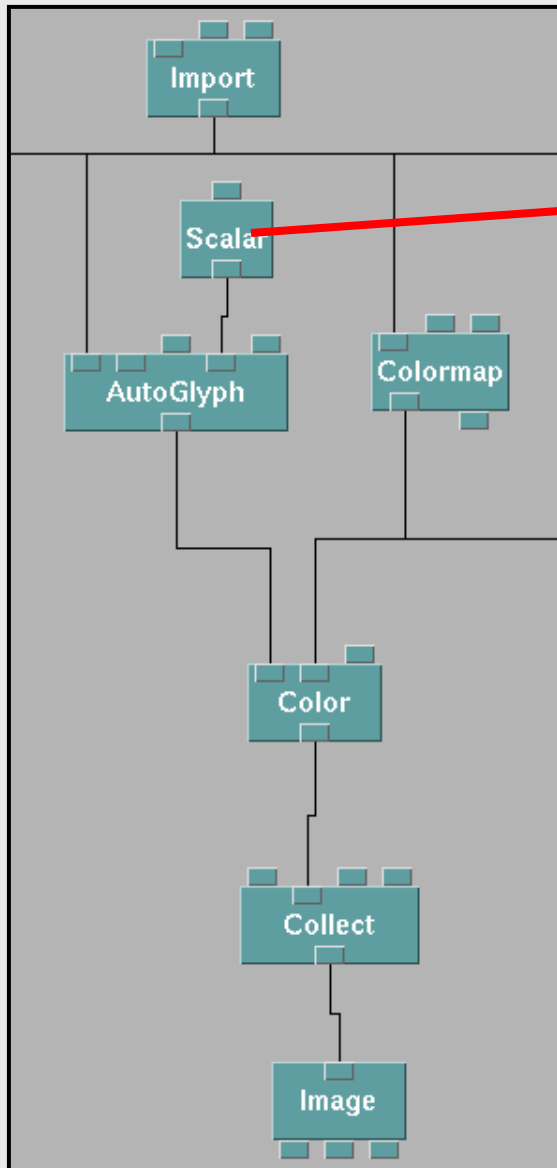


Checkbox to turn logging on/off

Specify the file to write to

# Scalar Visualization

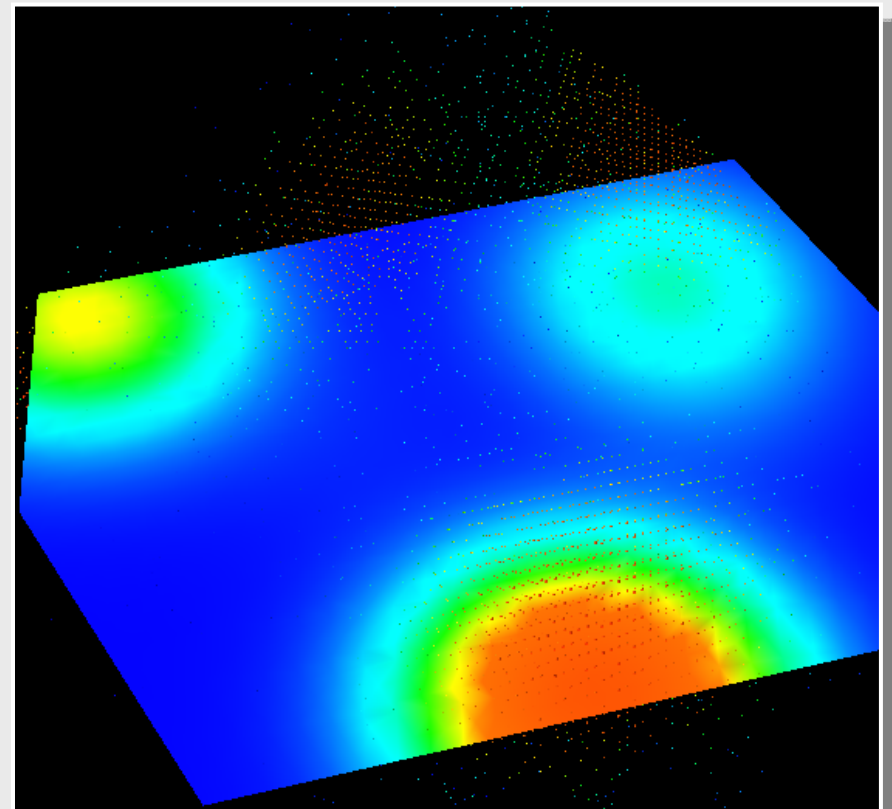
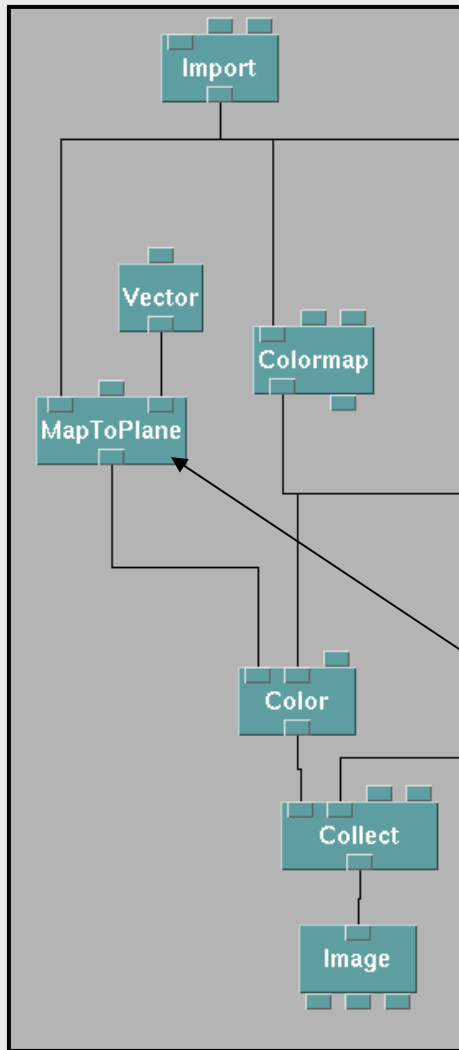
# Glyphs



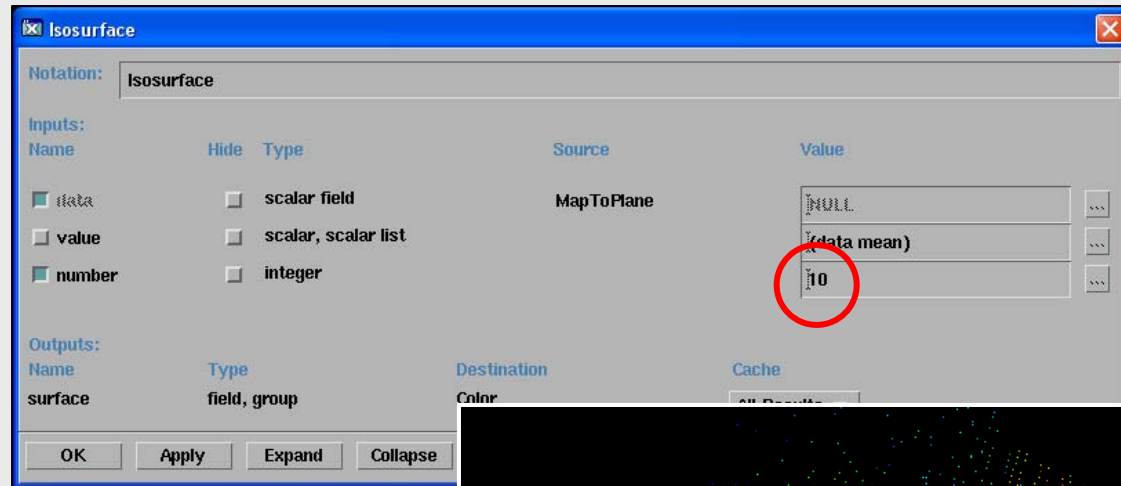
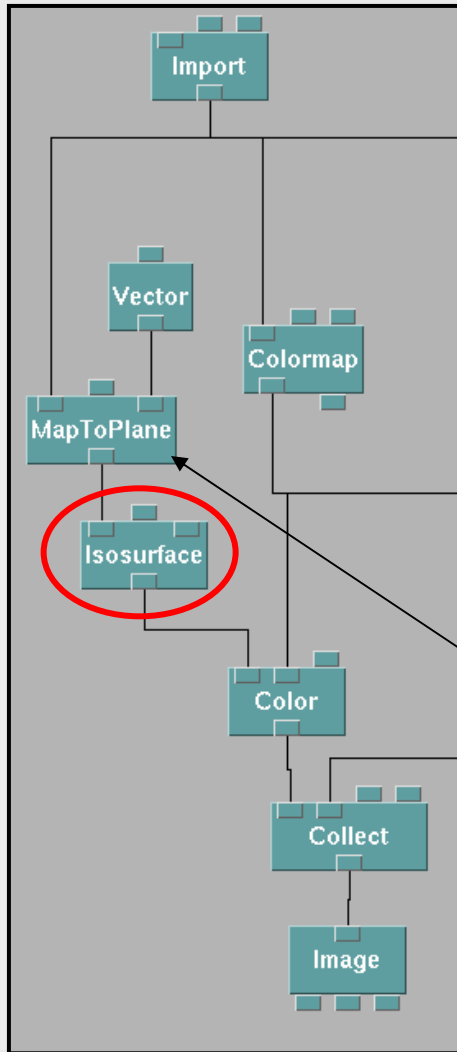


## 3D Cutting Plane – Interpolated Colors

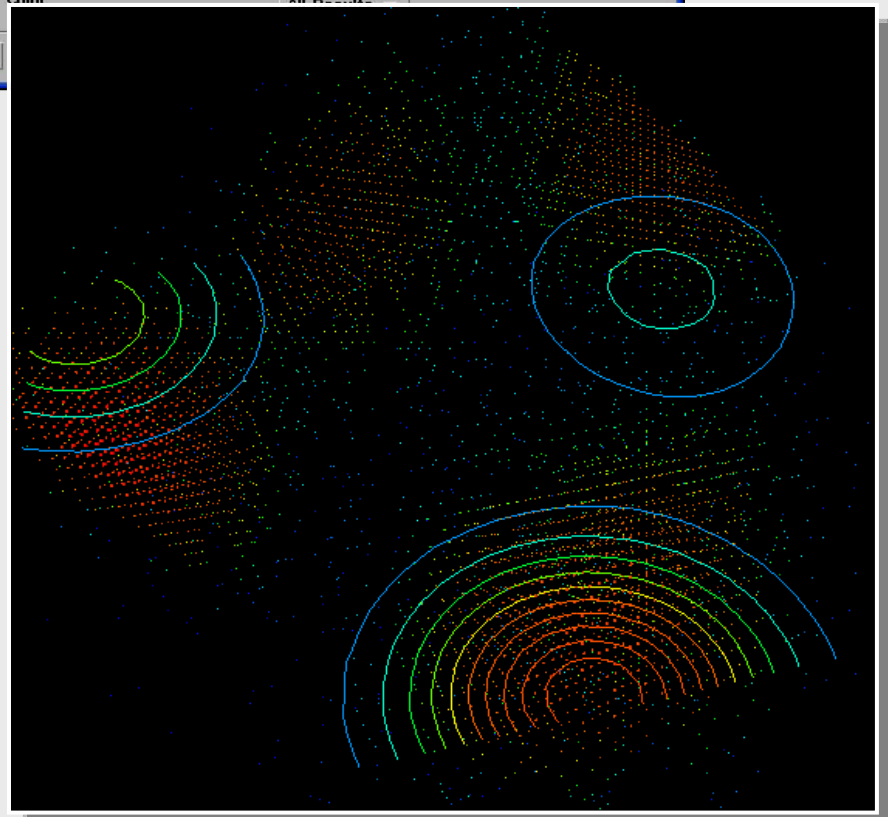
*MapToPlane* interpolates the 3D field onto the given plane. The first argument is the field, the second is a 3D point on the plane, and the third argument is a 3D normal to the plane.



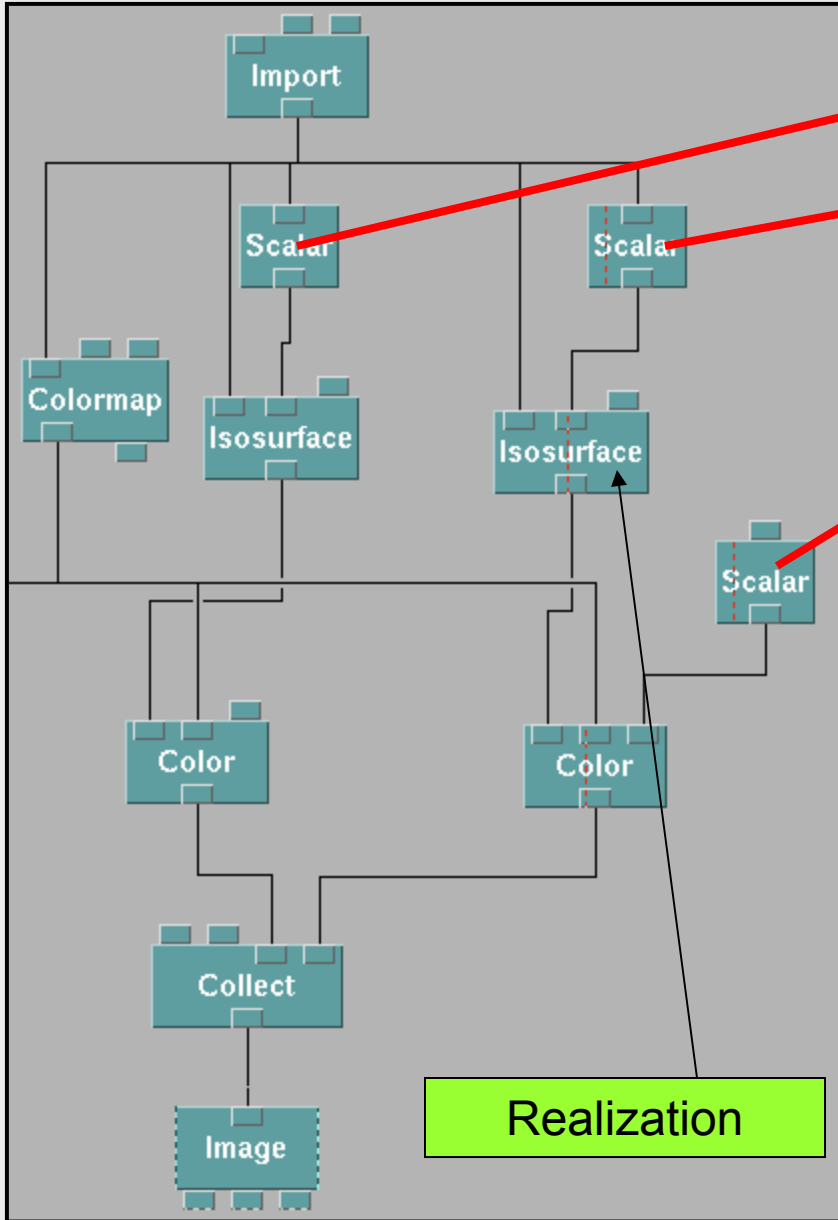
# 3D Cutting Plane – Contours



Realization



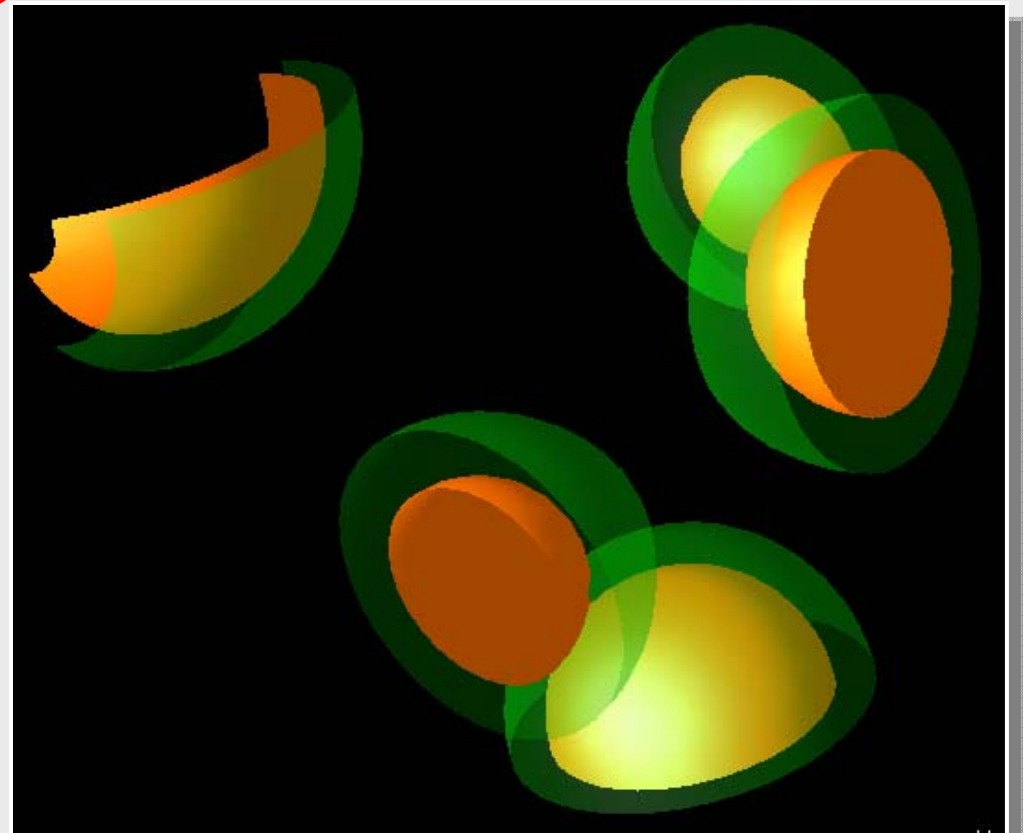
# Isosurfaces



Opaque Isovalue:

Translucent Isovalue:

Isosurface Opacity:

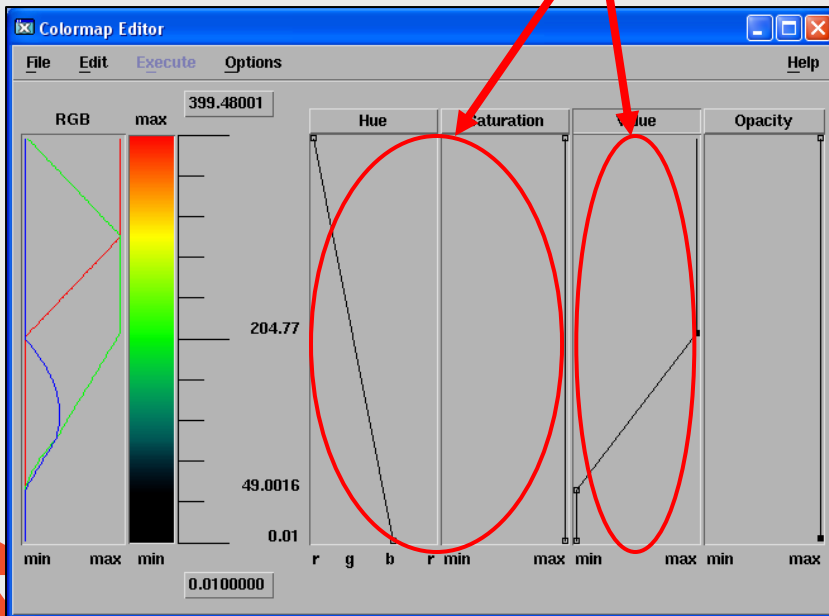
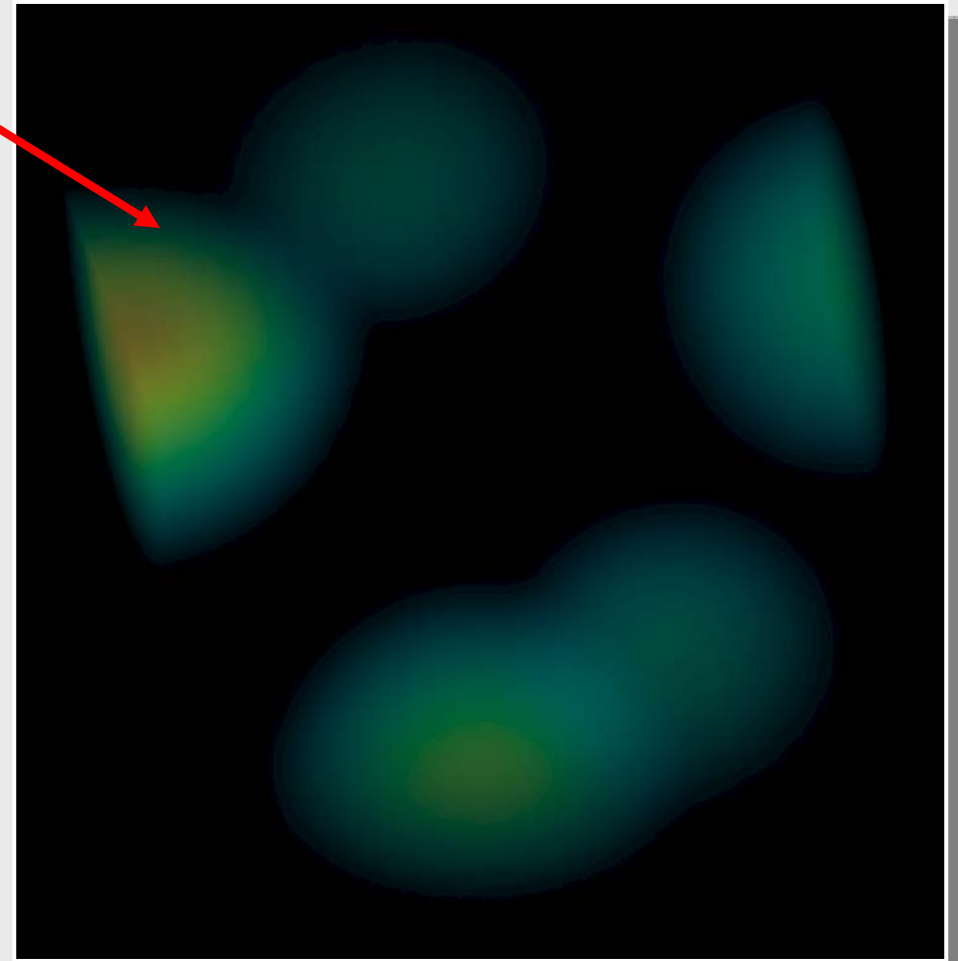
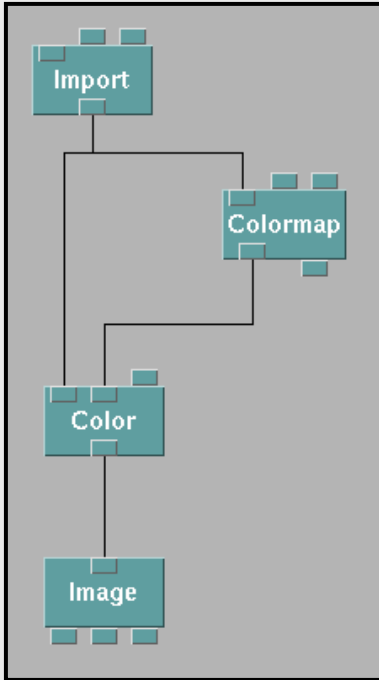


# Direct Volume Rendering

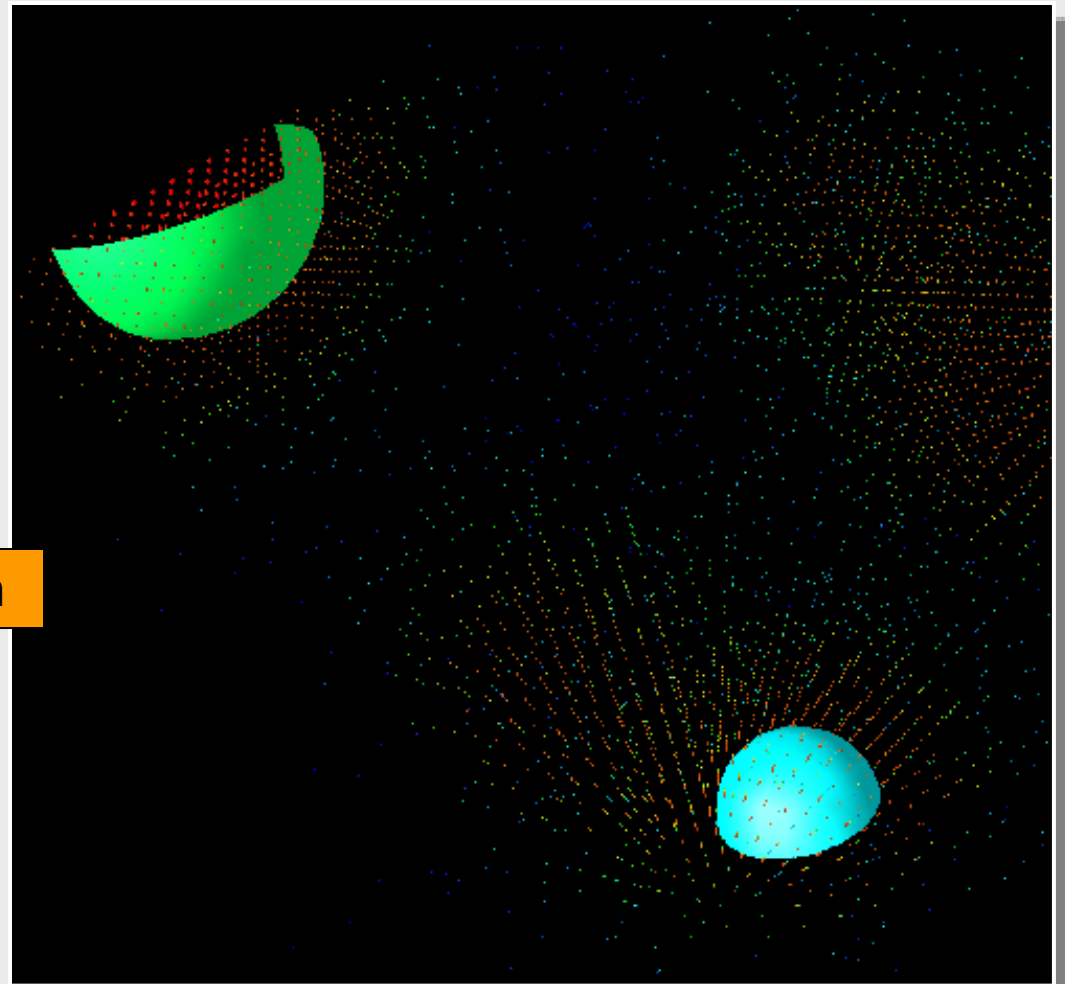
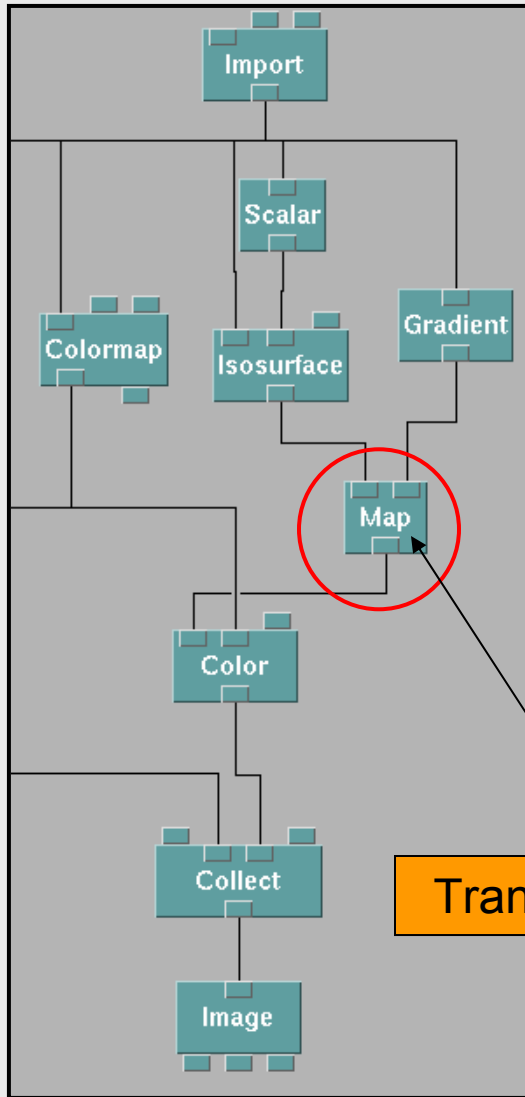
A Volume Rendering "Transfer Function" relates data scalar value to its corresponding color and opacity. For volume rendering, OpenDX uses the color *Value* as the opacity, not the color Opacity.

The direct volume rendering part of the Image module will only work in Orthographic projection.

These are the "Transfer Function"

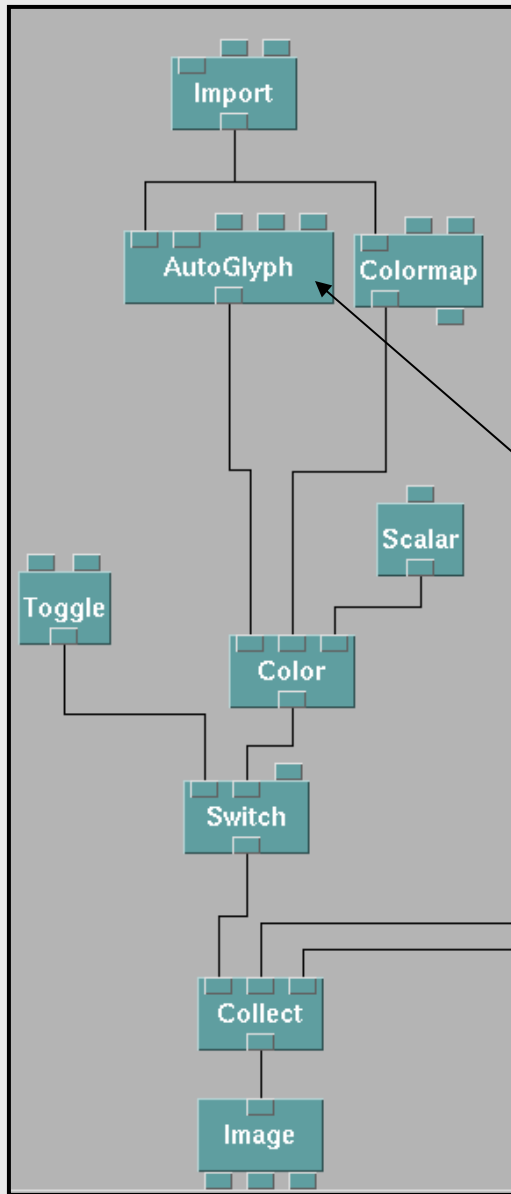


# Mapping Another Data Field onto Isosurfaces

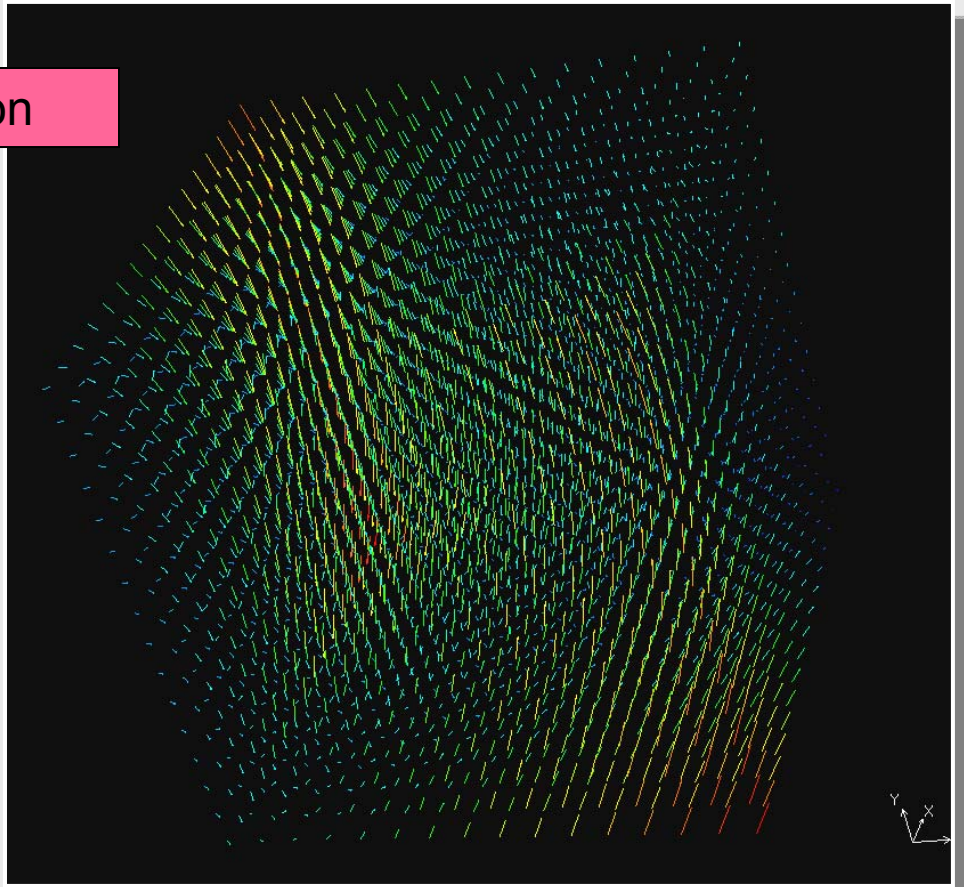


# Vector Visualization

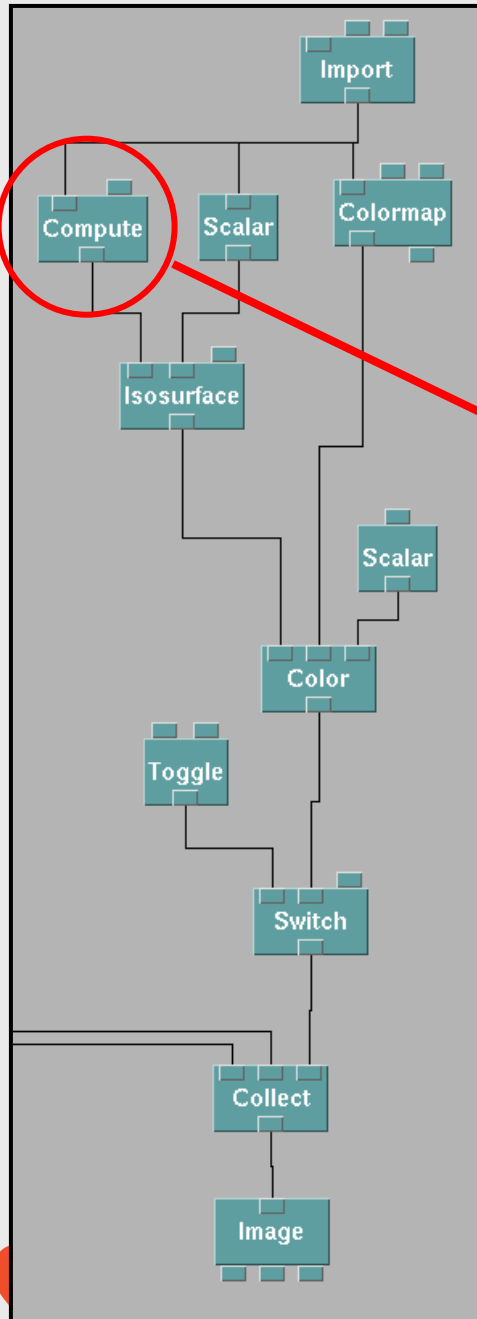
# Vector Cloud



Annotation



# Speed Isosurfaces



**Compute**

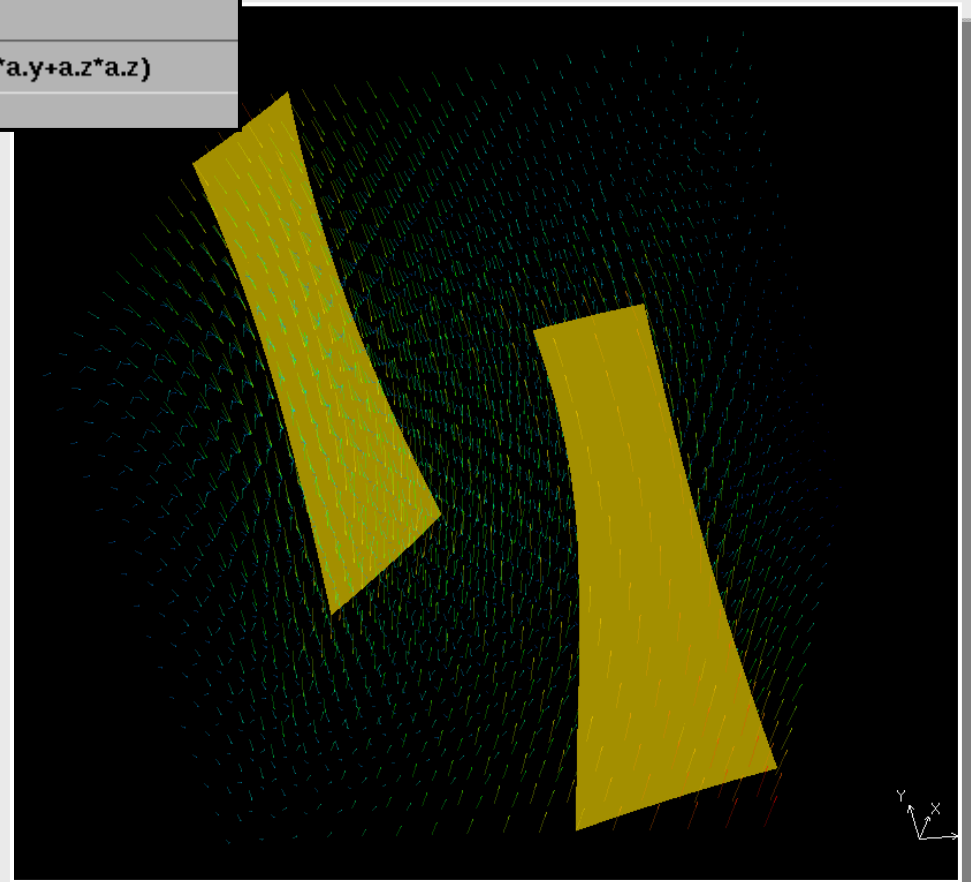
Notation: Compute

Inputs:

Name
a
b

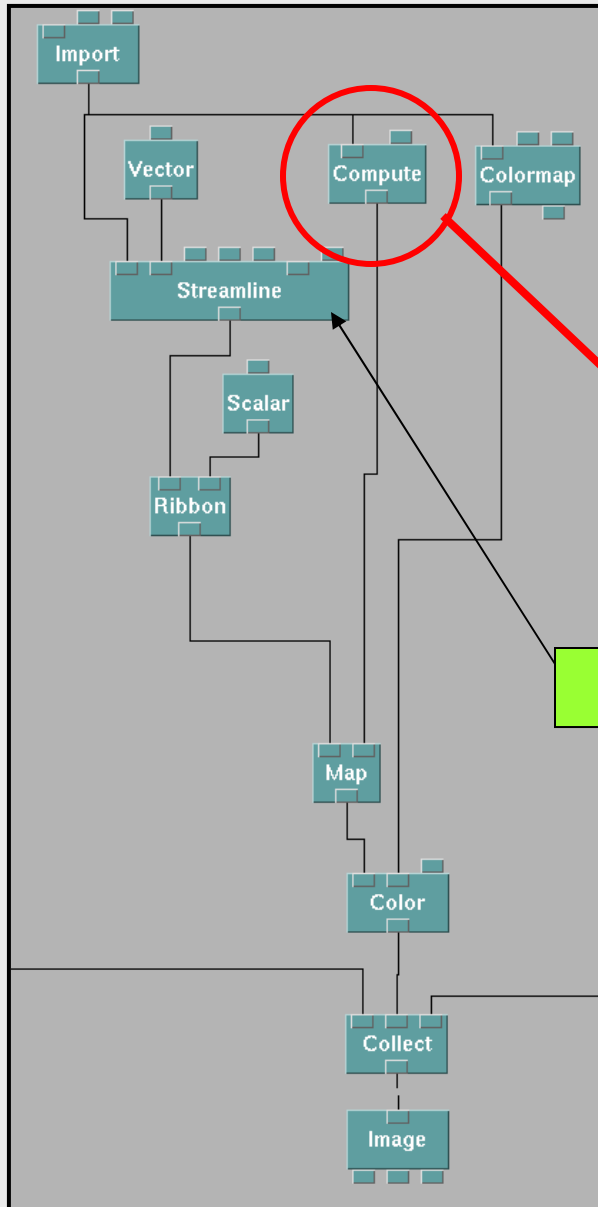
Expression:

```
sqrt(a.x*a.x+a.y*a.y+a.z*a.z)
```





# Streamline Ribbon



**Compute**

Notation: Compute

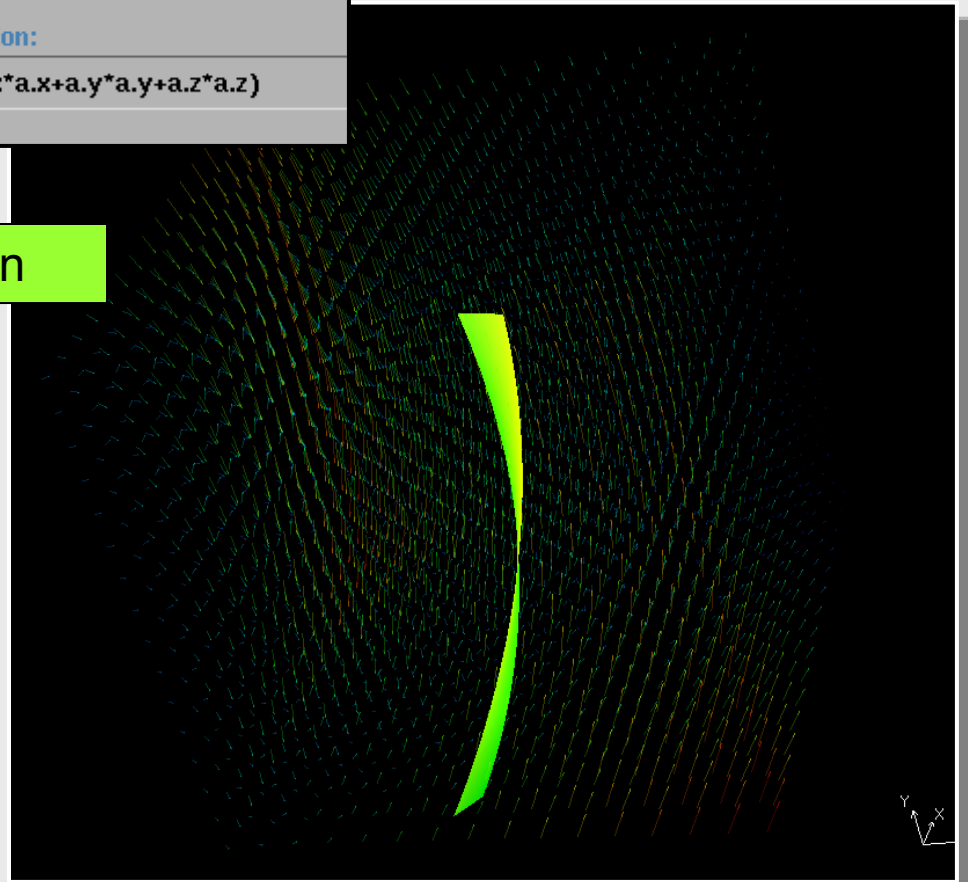
Inputs:

Name
$\mathbf{a}$
$\mathbf{b}$

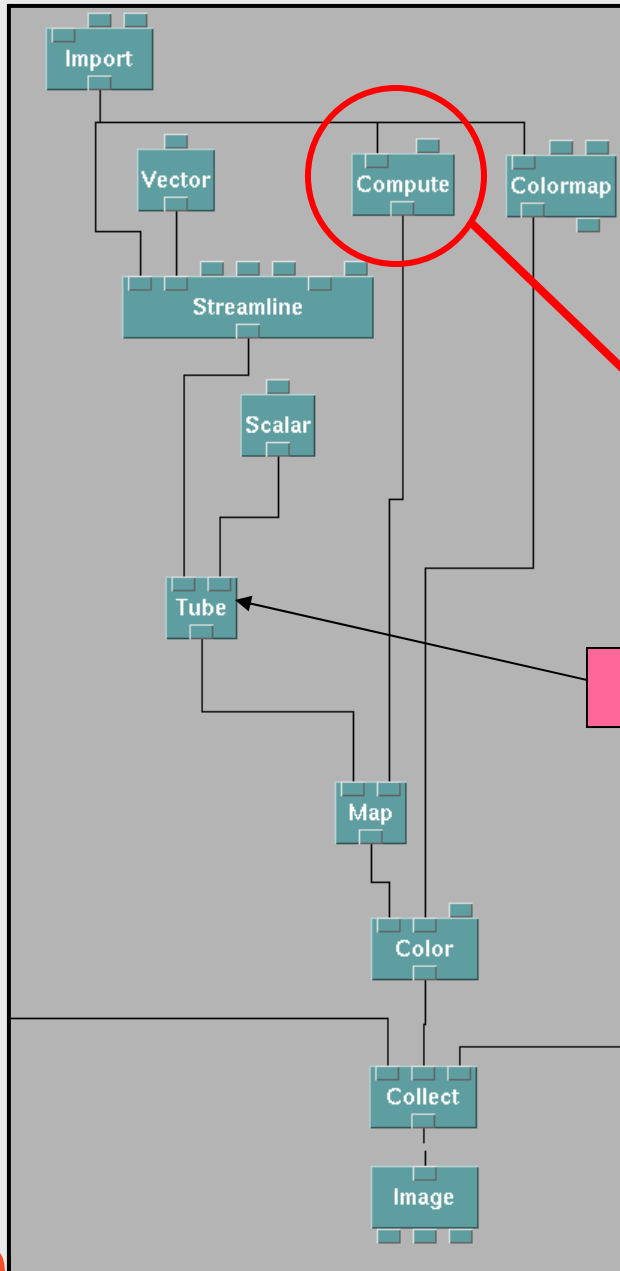
Expression:

```
sqrt(a.x*a.x+a.y*a.y+a.z*a.z)
```

Realization



# Streamline Tube



**Compute**

Notation: Compute

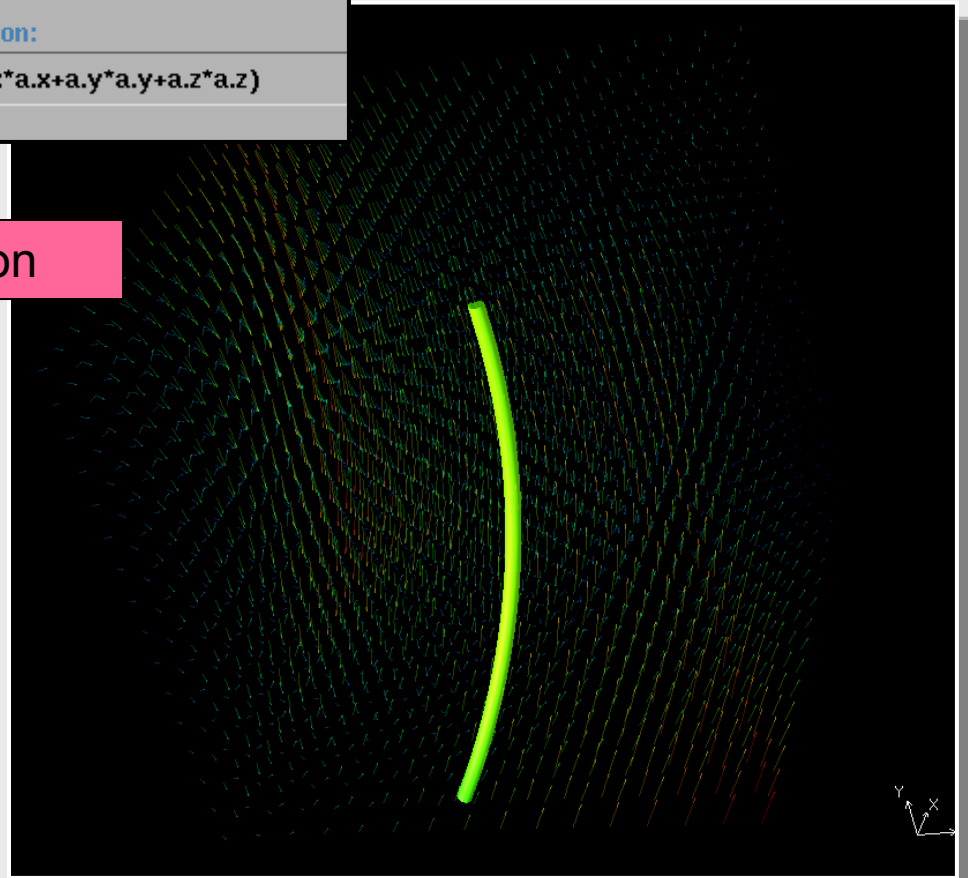
Inputs:

Name
$a$
$b$

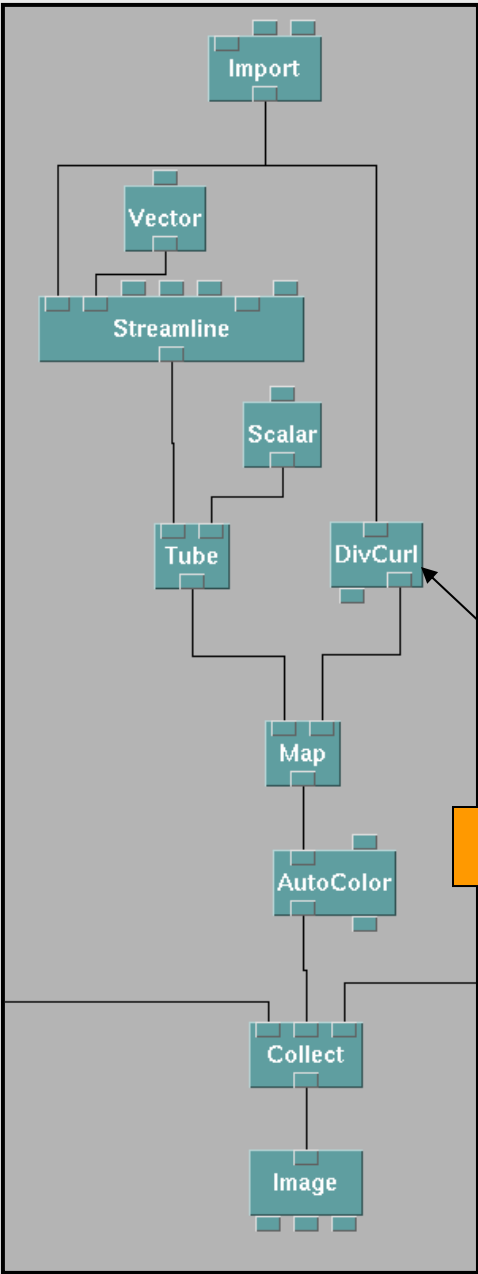
Expression:

```
sqrt(a.x*a.x+a.y*a.y+a.z*a.z)
```

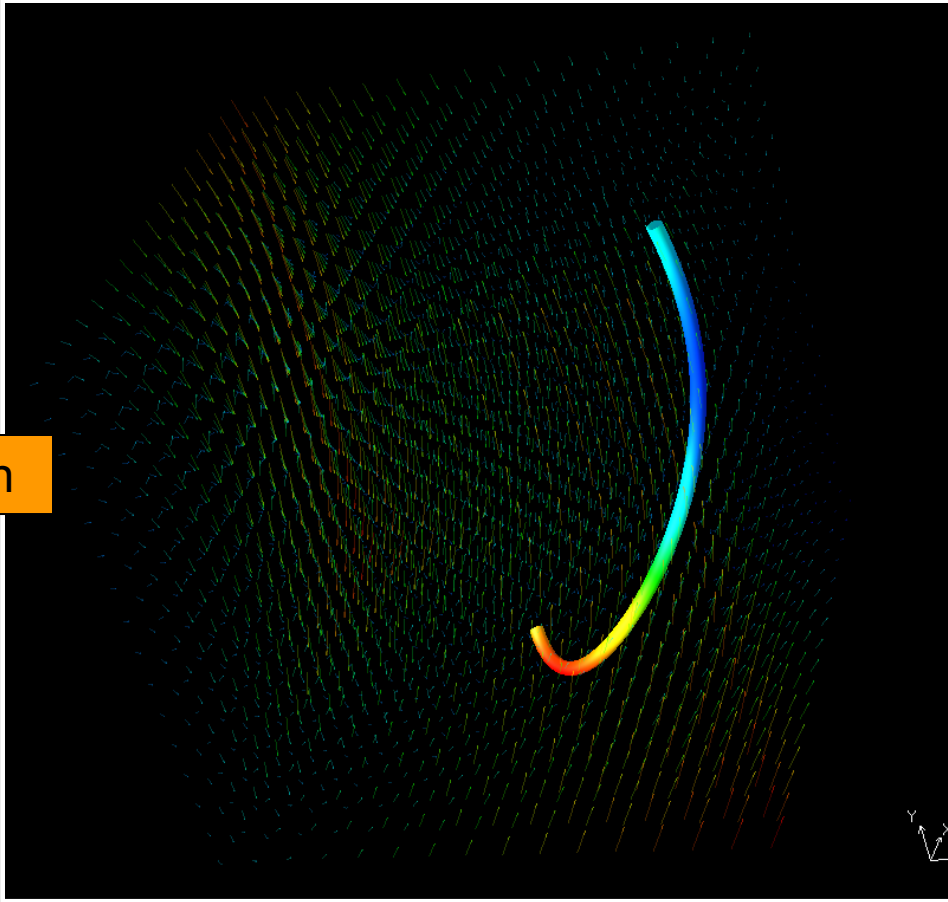
Annotation



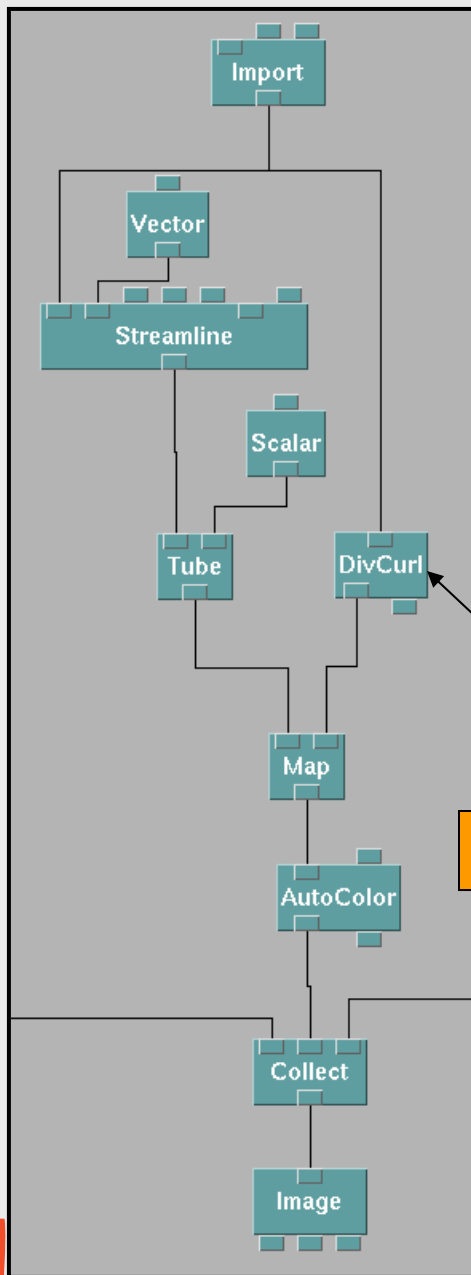
# Curl



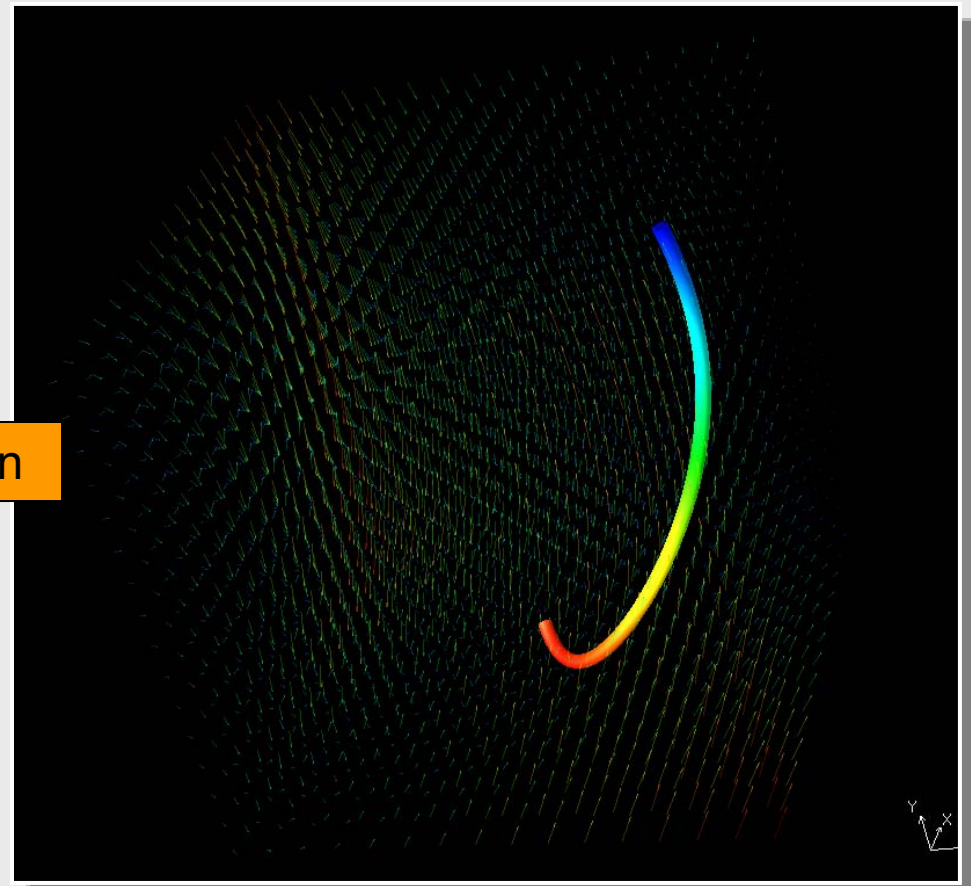
Transformation



# Divergence



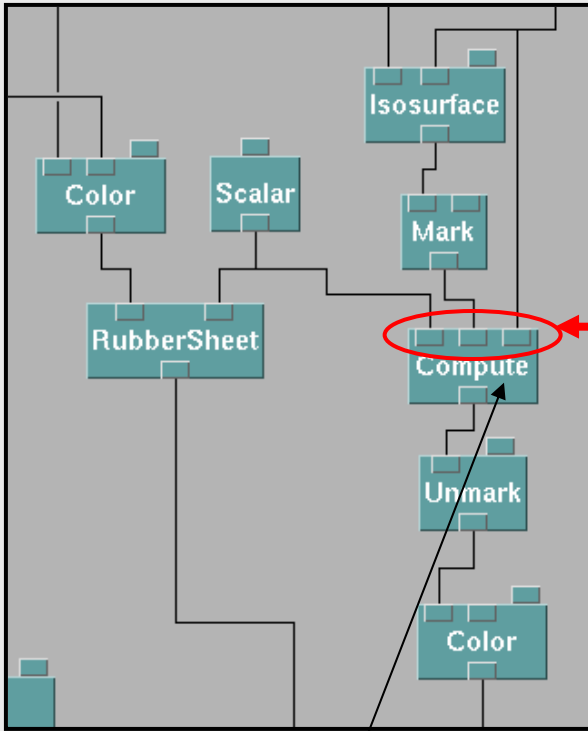
Transformation



# Animation

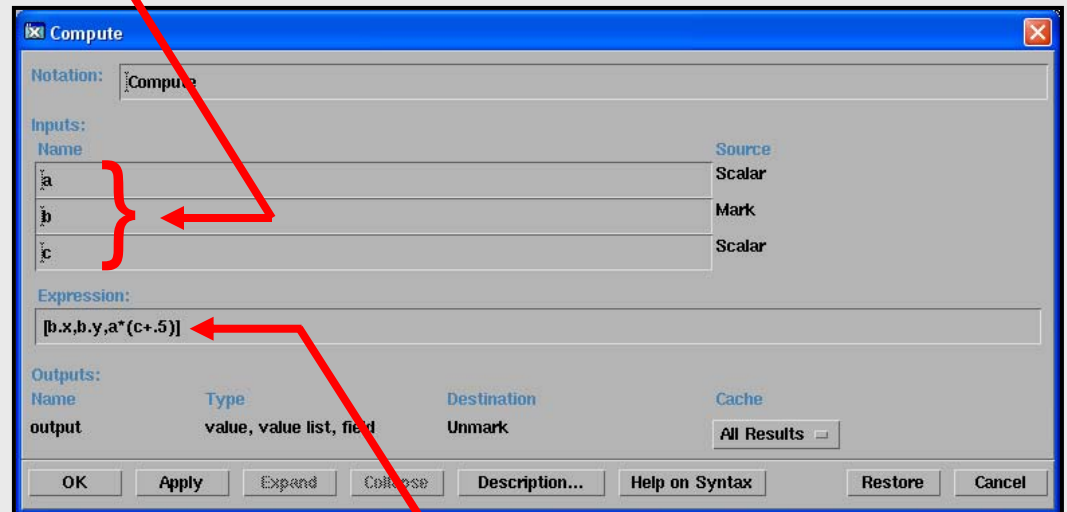
## The Compute Module

Does arithmetic on the point-by-point Data component of a field, and outputs the modified field



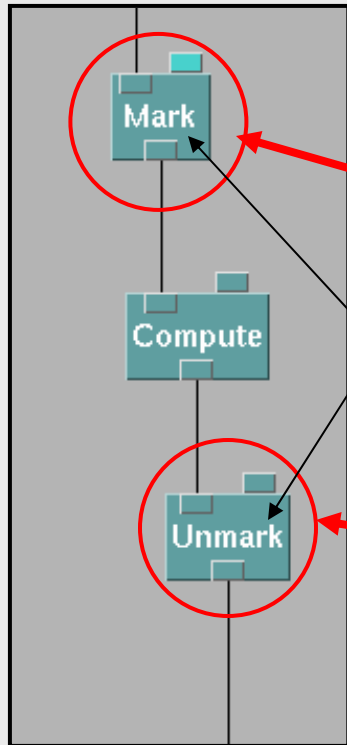
The 3 (in this case) inputs

Transformation



The output expression, in this case, a 3-vector with a newly-created Z value

## The Compute Module

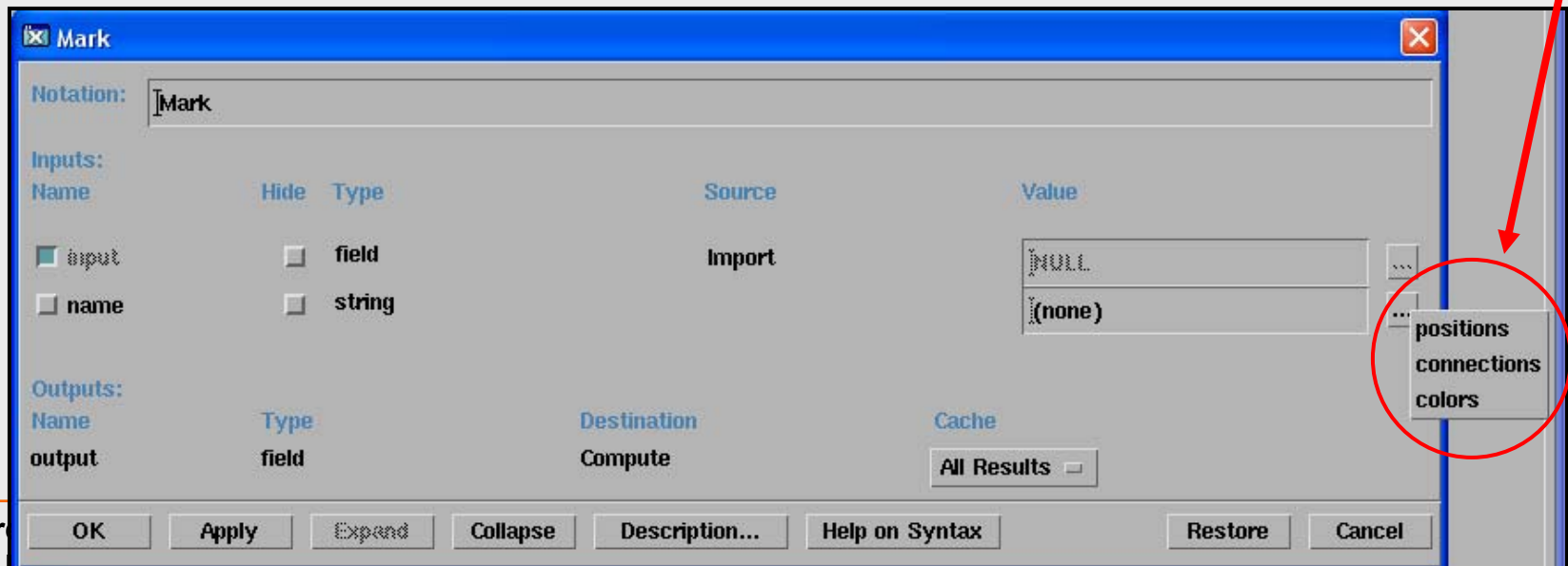


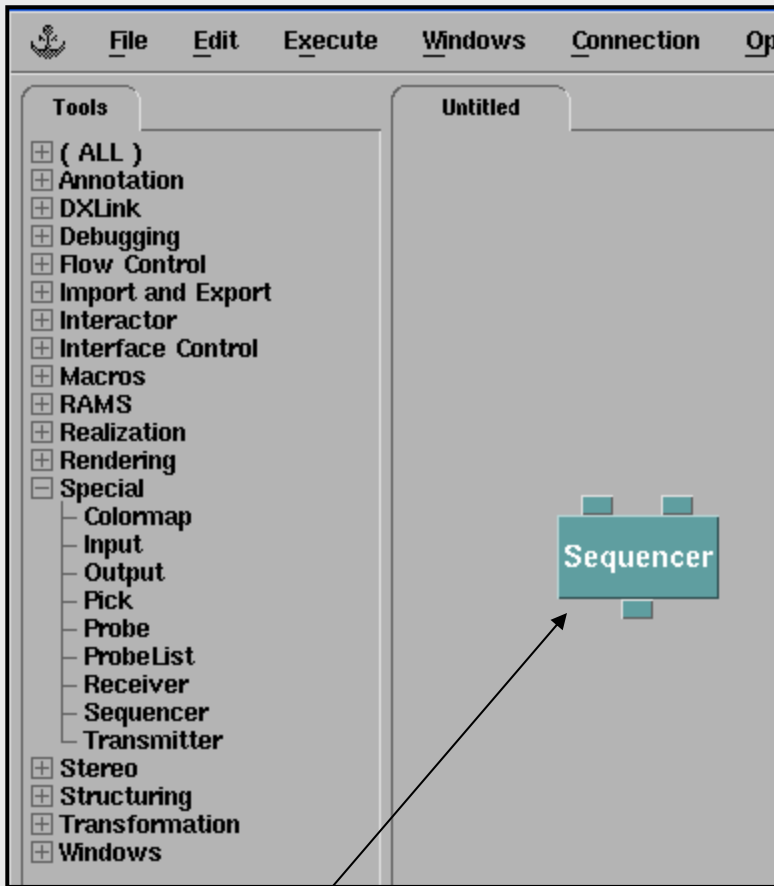
Structuring

Does arithmetic on the point-by-point Data component of a field, and outputs the modified field. But, what if you want to do arithmetic on a different component?

The *Mark* module renames the Data component to something temporary, and renames a component you select to "Data". *Compute* then acts on this component.

The *Unmark* module changes the component names back to what they were originally.

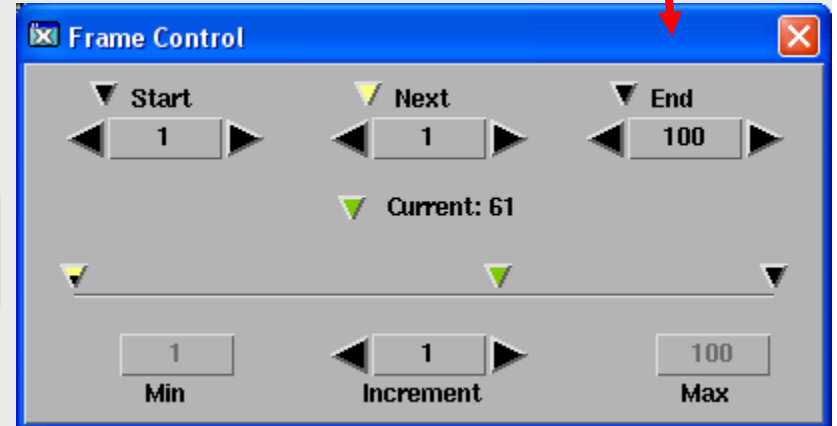
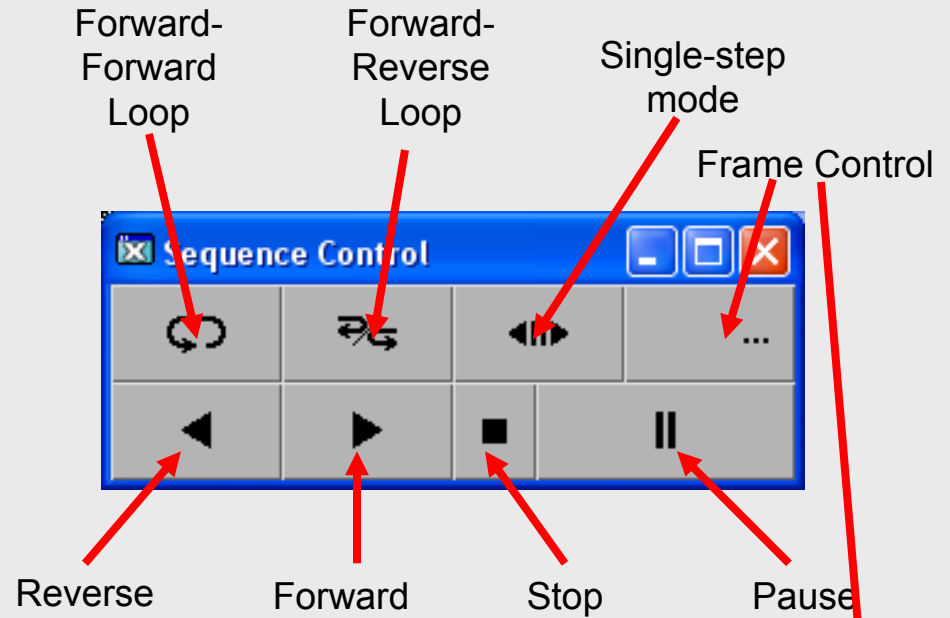




Special

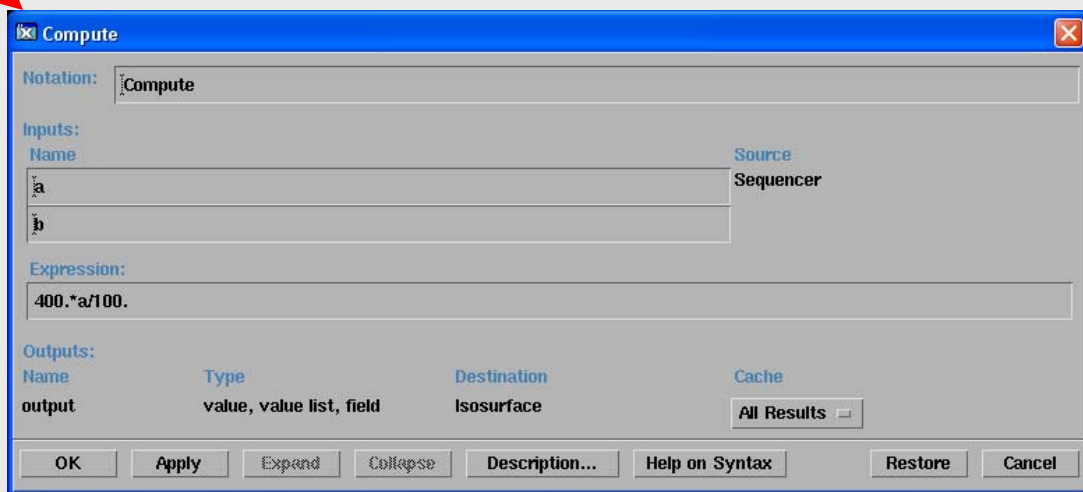
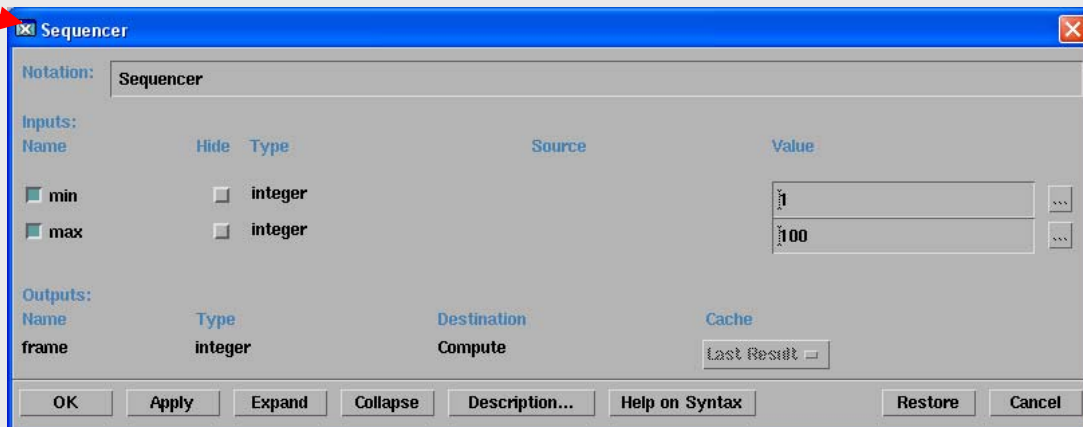
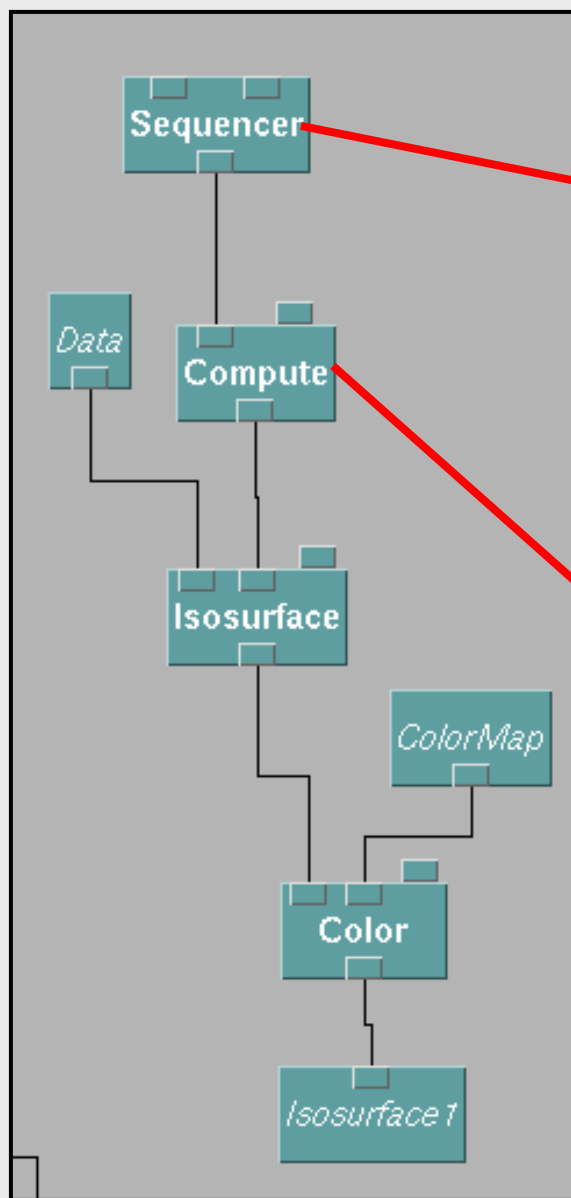
*Sequencer* outputs a series of integers. You set minimum, maximum, and delta using *Edit*→*Configuration*.

## Animation: The Sequencer Module



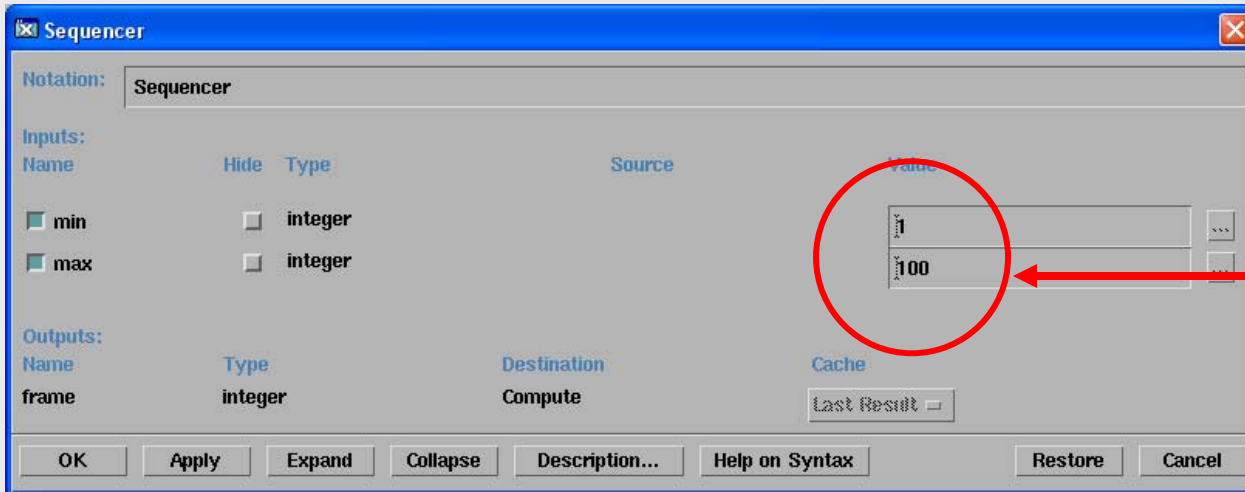


## The Sequencer Module: Usually Used with the Compute Module to turn the Integer into an Animation Parameter



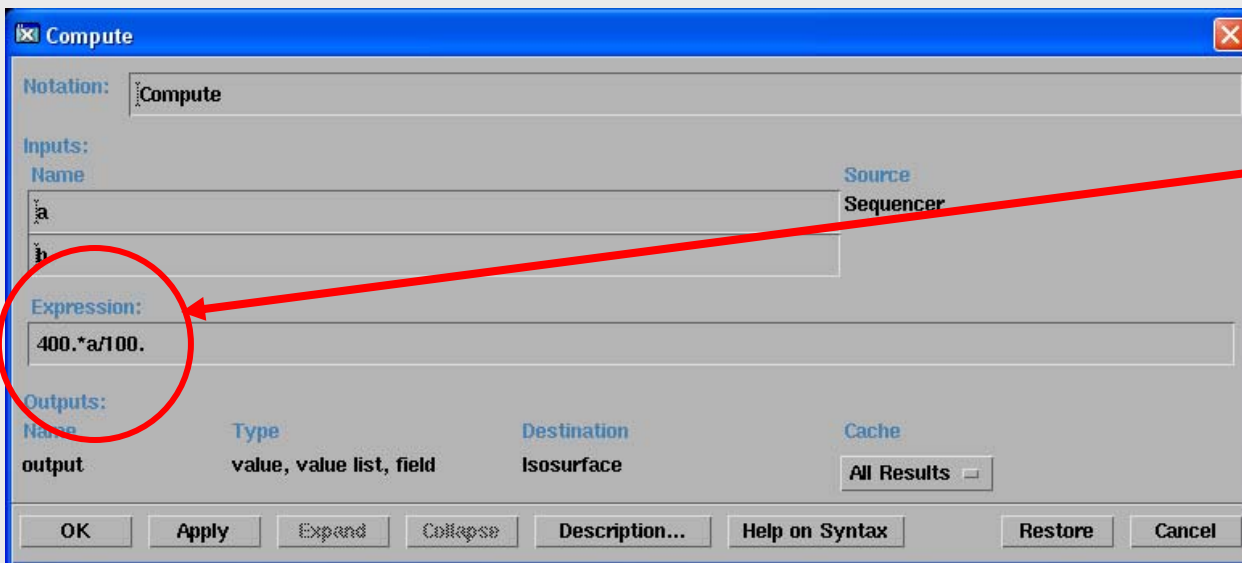
In this case, *Compute* turns an integer into a scalar to be used to animate an isovalue

## The Sequencer Module: "Percent Units Strategy"

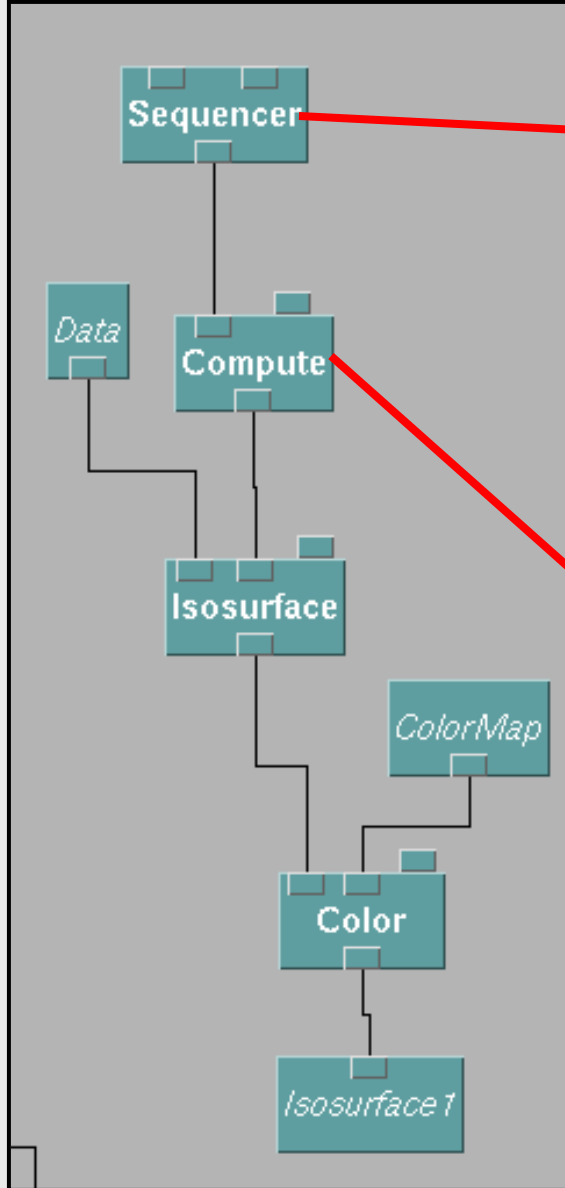


A good Sequencer Strategy:  
Run the sequence from 1-100  
(or 0-100).

Then, base the *Compute*  
quantity on these "Percent  
Units".



## The Sequencer Module: Setting a Scalar Isovalue



**Sequencer**

Notation: Sequencer

Inputs:		Hide	Type	Source	Value
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	min	<input type="checkbox"/>	integer		1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	max	<input type="checkbox"/>	integer		100

Outputs:		Type	Destination	Cache
frame		integer	Compute	Last Result

OK Apply Expand Collapse Description... Help on Syntax Restore Cancel

**Compute**

Notation: Compute

Inputs:		Source
a		Sequencer
b		

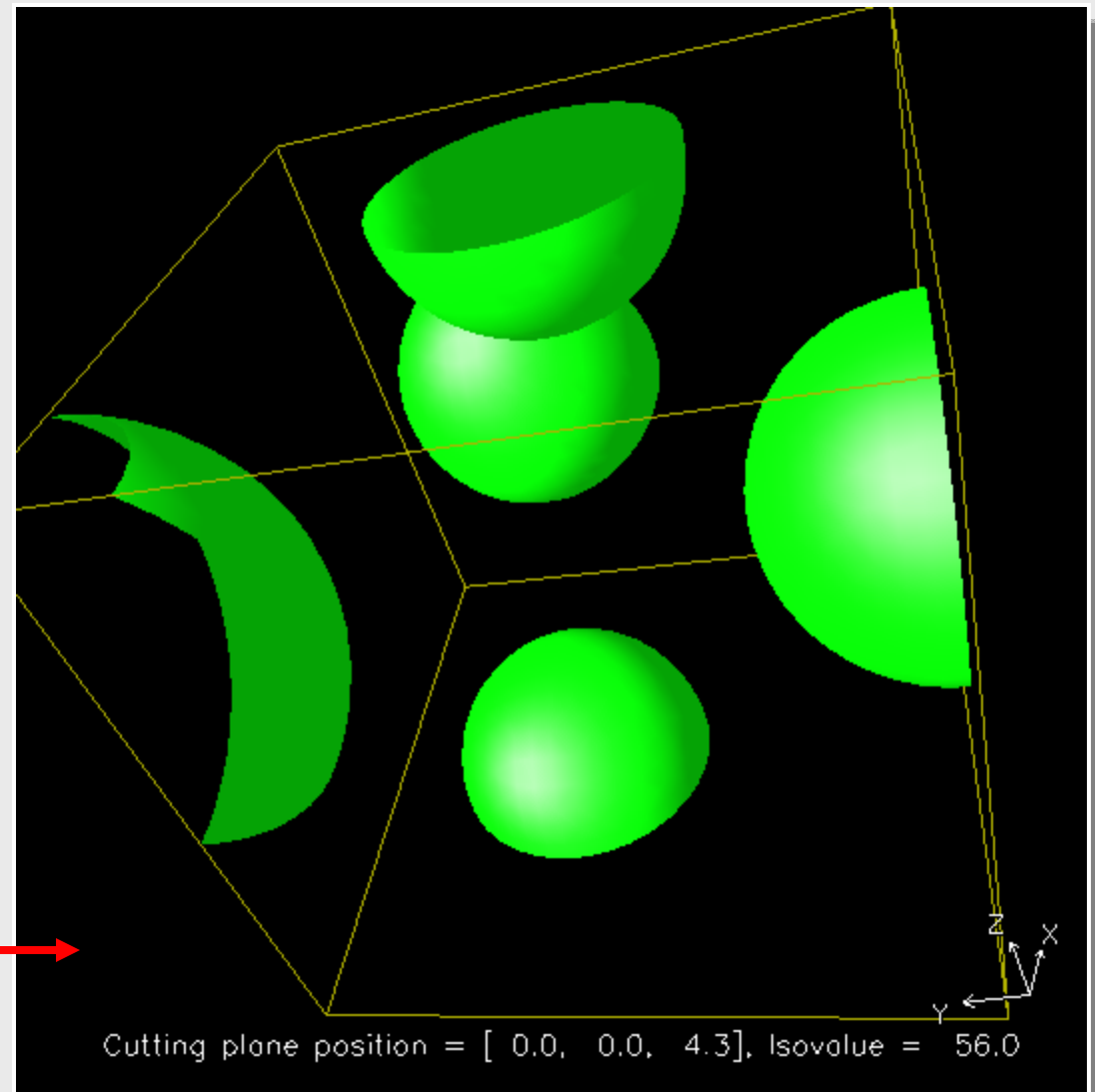
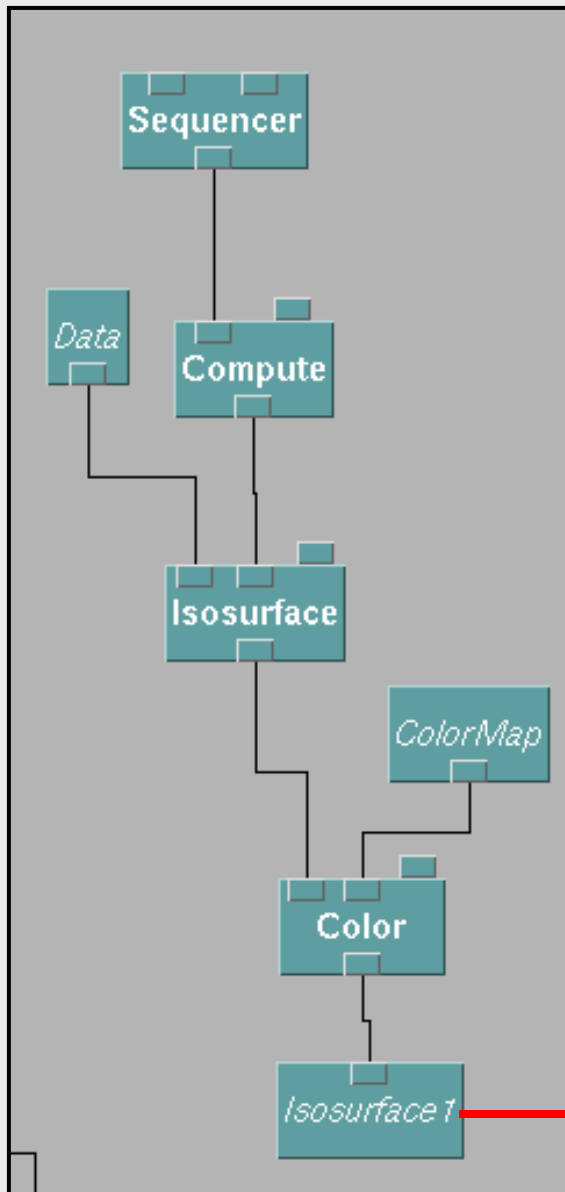
Expression:  
400.\*a/100.

Outputs:		Type	Destination	Cache
output		value, value list, field	Isosurface	All Results

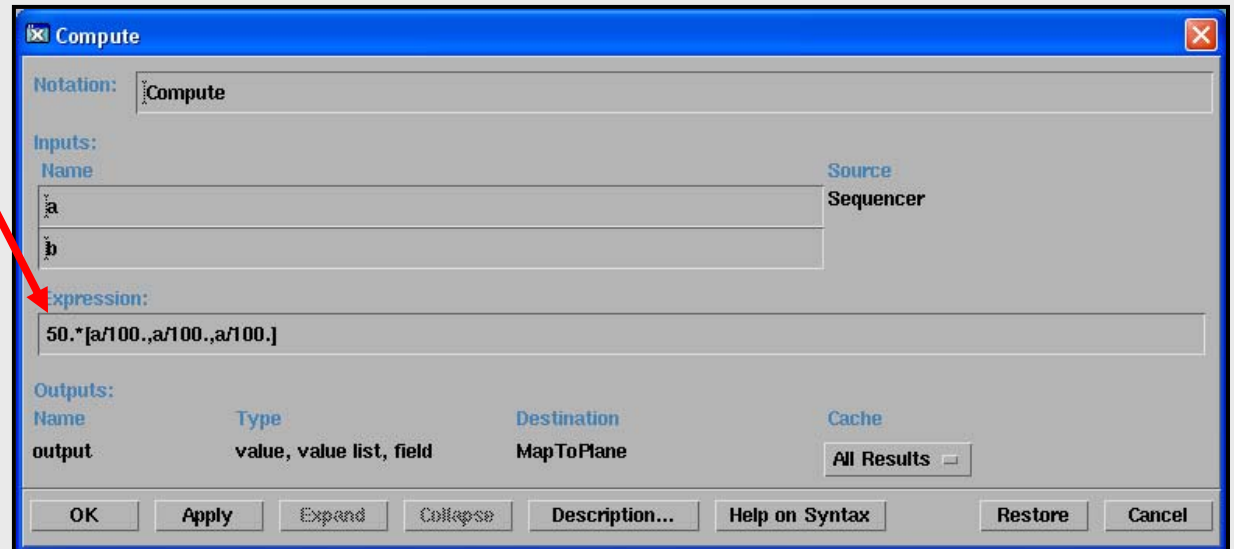
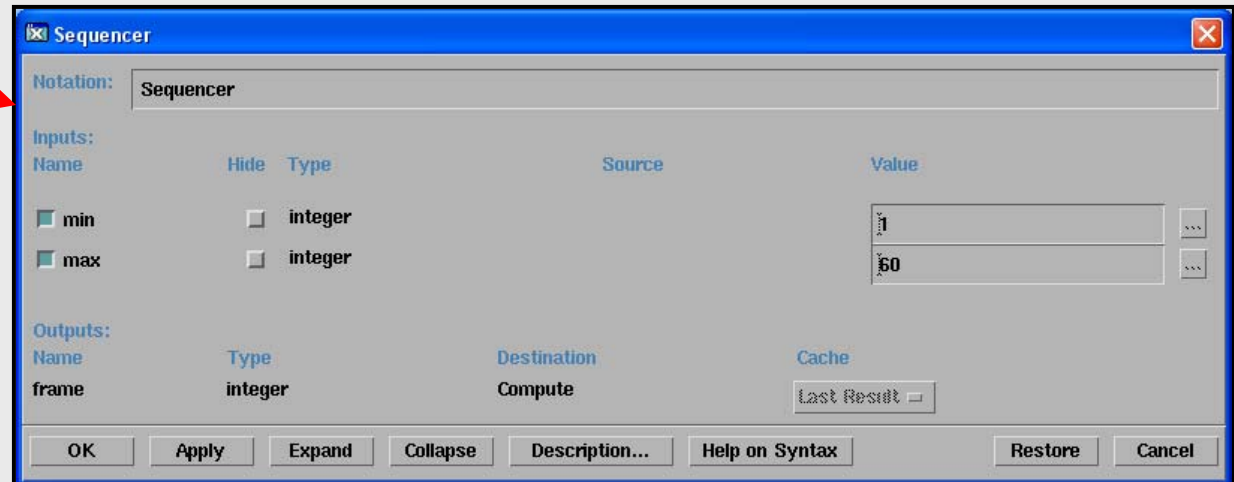
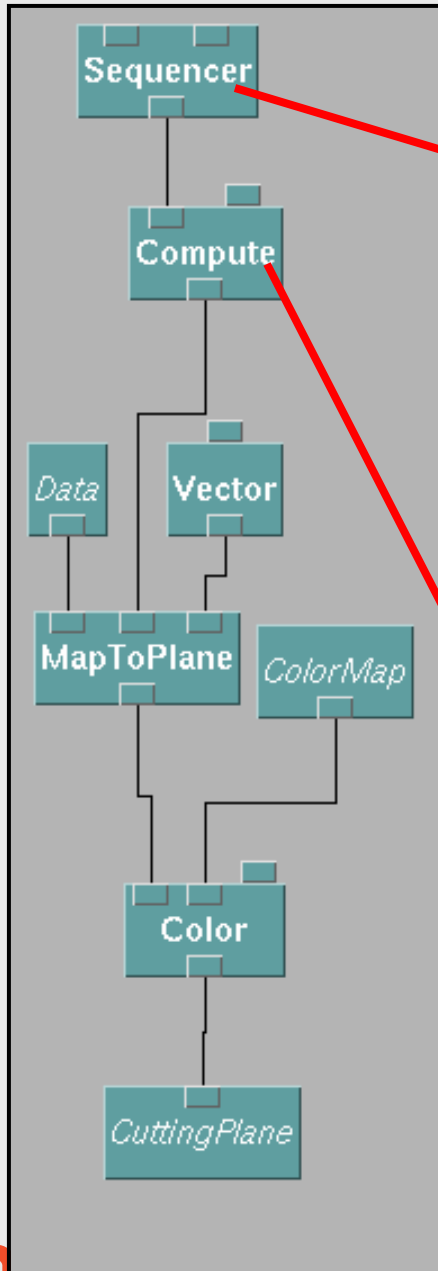
OK Apply Expand Collapse Description... Help on Syntax Restore Cancel

In this case, *Compute* turns an integer into a scalar to be used to animate the isovalue

## The Sequencer Module: Setting a Scalar Isovalue

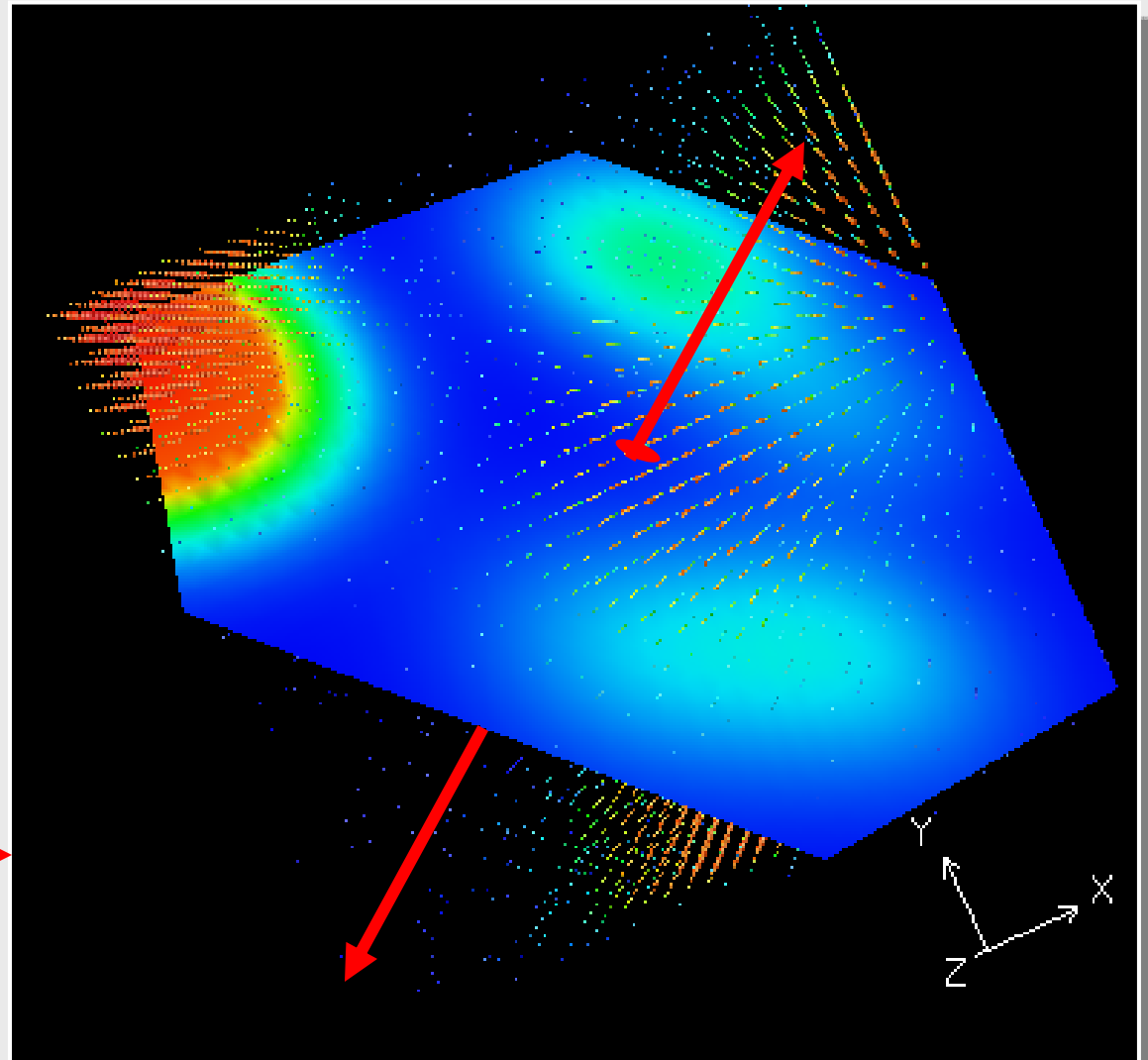
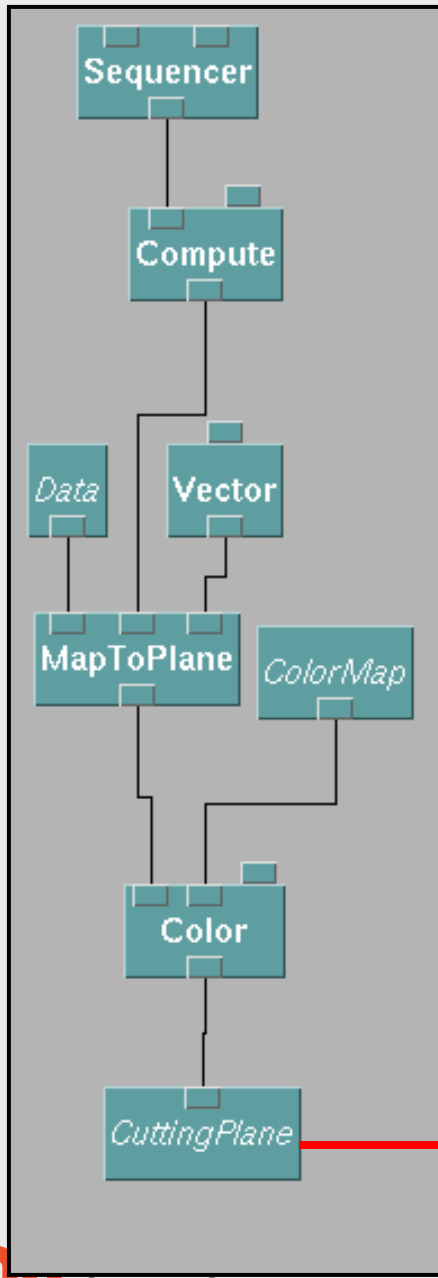


## The Sequencer Module: Setting a Vector to act as a Plane Location

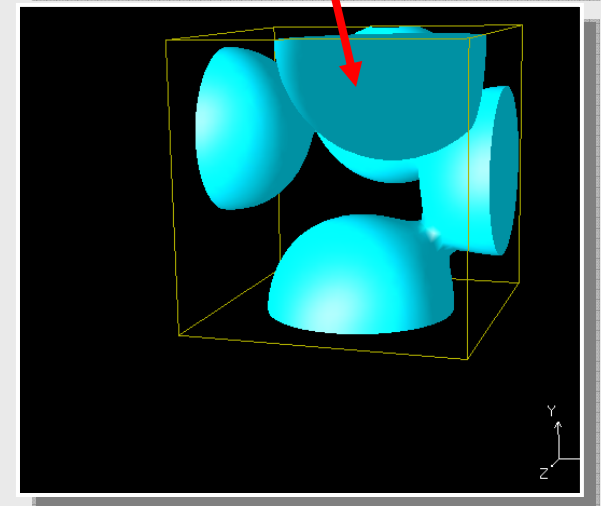
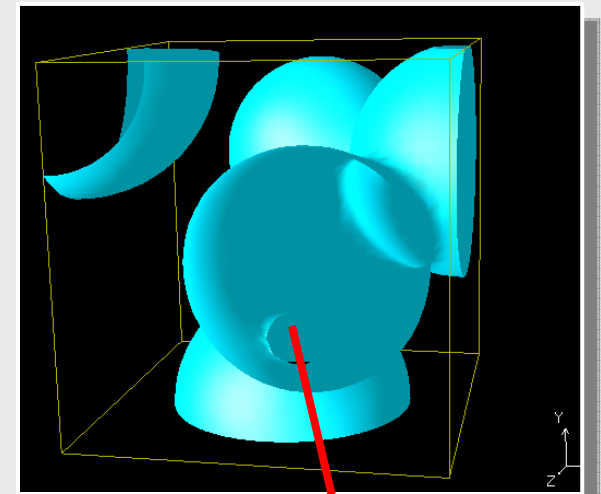
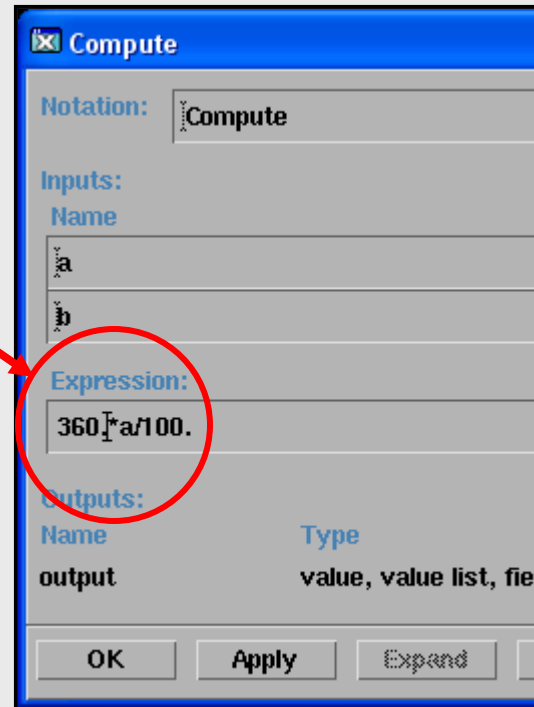
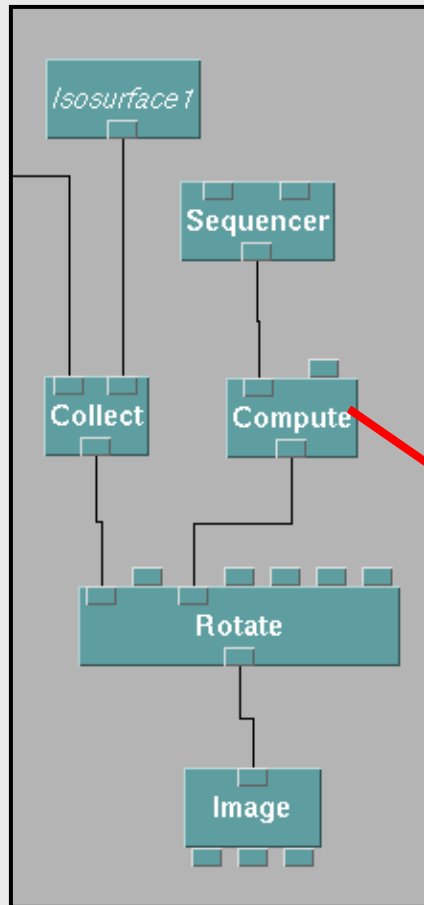


In this case, *Compute* turns an integer into a 3-element vector to be used to animate the position of the cutting plane

## The Sequencer Module: Setting a Vector to act as a Plane Location



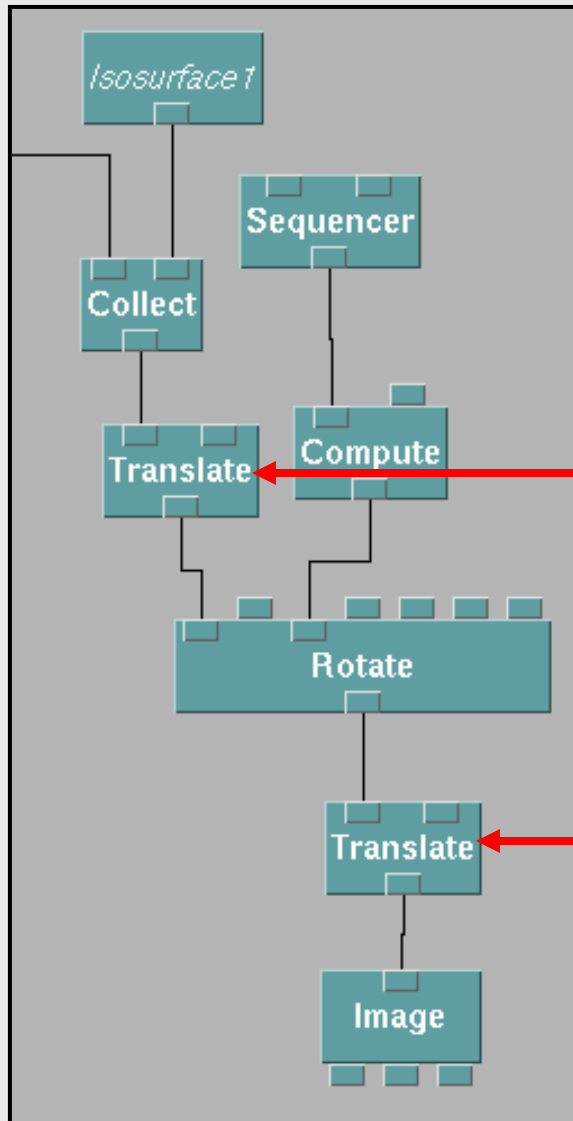
## The Sequencer Module: Setting a Transformation



In this case, *Compute* turns an integer into a rotation angle in *degrees*.

## Why Does the Rotation Occur around the Edge of the Cube, not about its Center?

Rotation and Scaling *always occur about the origin*. To change this to the center of the volume, translate the volume to the origin, perform the rotation or scale, and then translate it back.

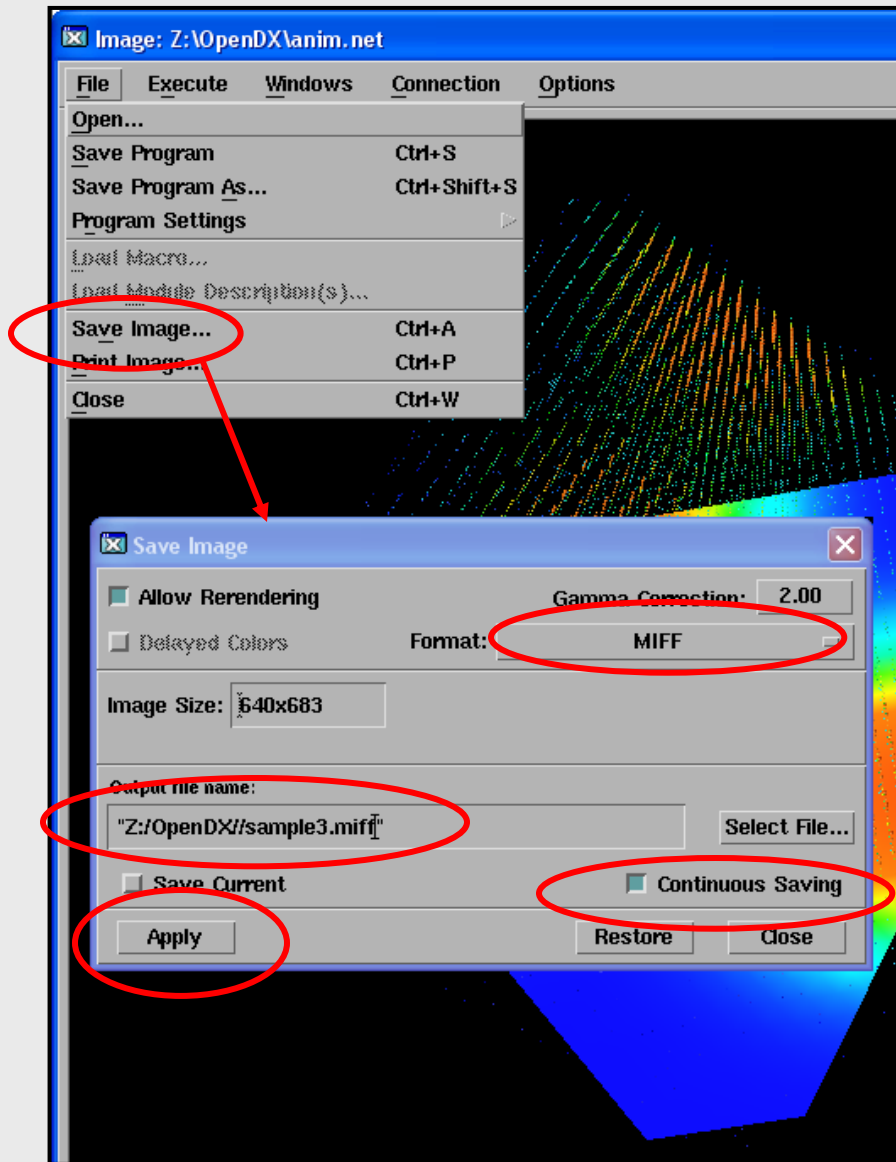


Translate by  $[-15,-15,-15]$

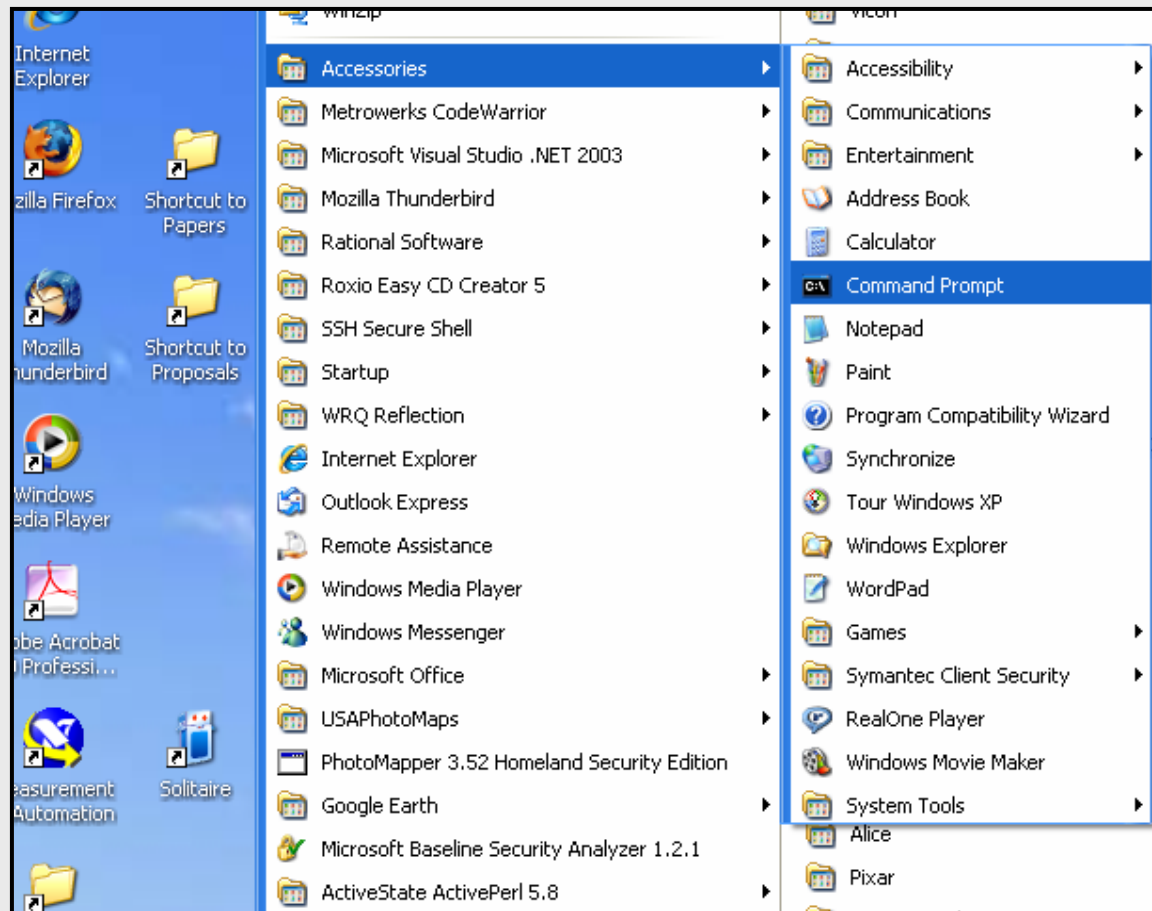
Translate by  $[15,15,15]$



## Writing Out a MIFF Animation File



# Converting a MIFF Animation File into an Animated GIF File using the ImageMagick Package

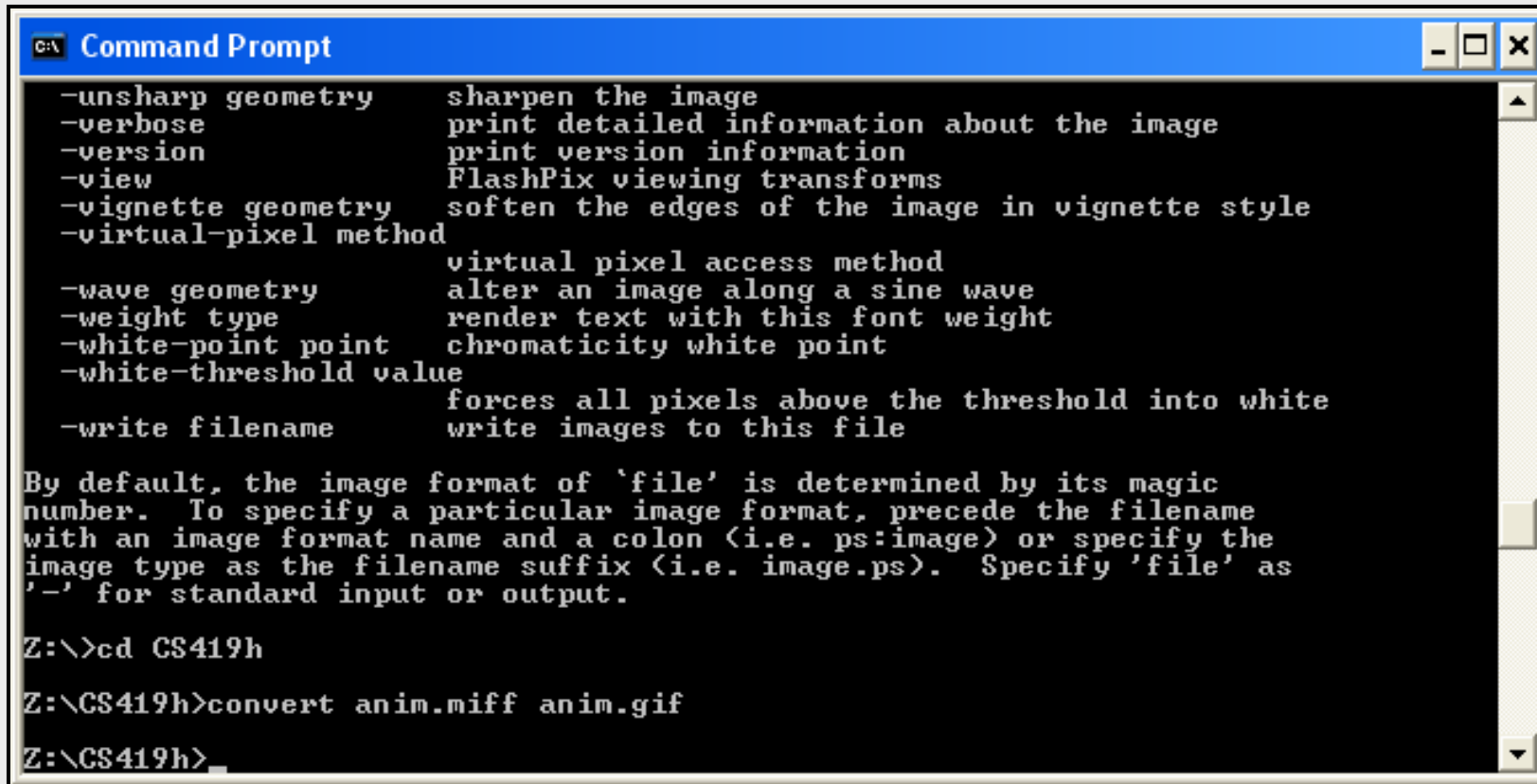


Click on: **Start** → **All Programs** → **Accessories** → **Command Prompt**

# Converting a MIFF Animation File into an Animated GIF File using the ImageMagick Package

Type: **convert anim.miff anim.gif**

(where anim is the name of your MIFF animation file written from the *Image* module)



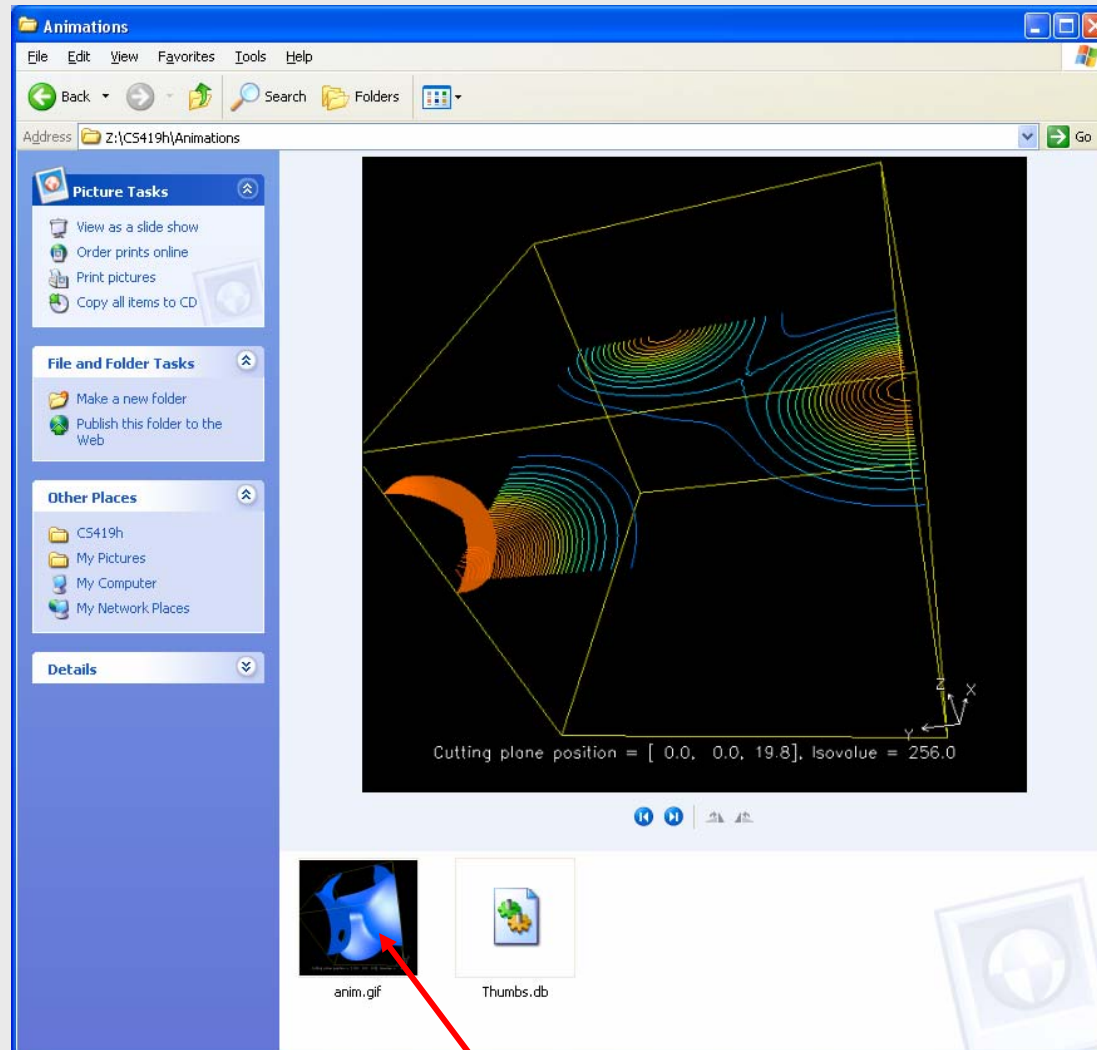
```
C:\> Command Prompt
-unsharp geometry      sharpen the image
-verbose               print detailed information about the image
-version               print version information
-view                  FlashPix viewing transforms
-vignette geometry    soften the edges of the image in vignette style
-virtual-pixel method virtual pixel access method
-wave geometry        alter an image along a sine wave
-weight type          render text with this font weight
-white-point point    chromaticity white point
-white-threshold value forces all pixels above the threshold into white
-write filename      write images to this file

By default, the image format of 'file' is determined by its magic
number.  To specify a particular image format, precede the filename
with an image format name and a colon (i.e. ps:image) or specify the
image type as the filename suffix (i.e. image.ps).  Specify 'file' as
'-' for standard input or output.

Z:\>cd CS419h
Z:\CS419h>convert anim.miff anim.gif
Z:\CS419h>
```

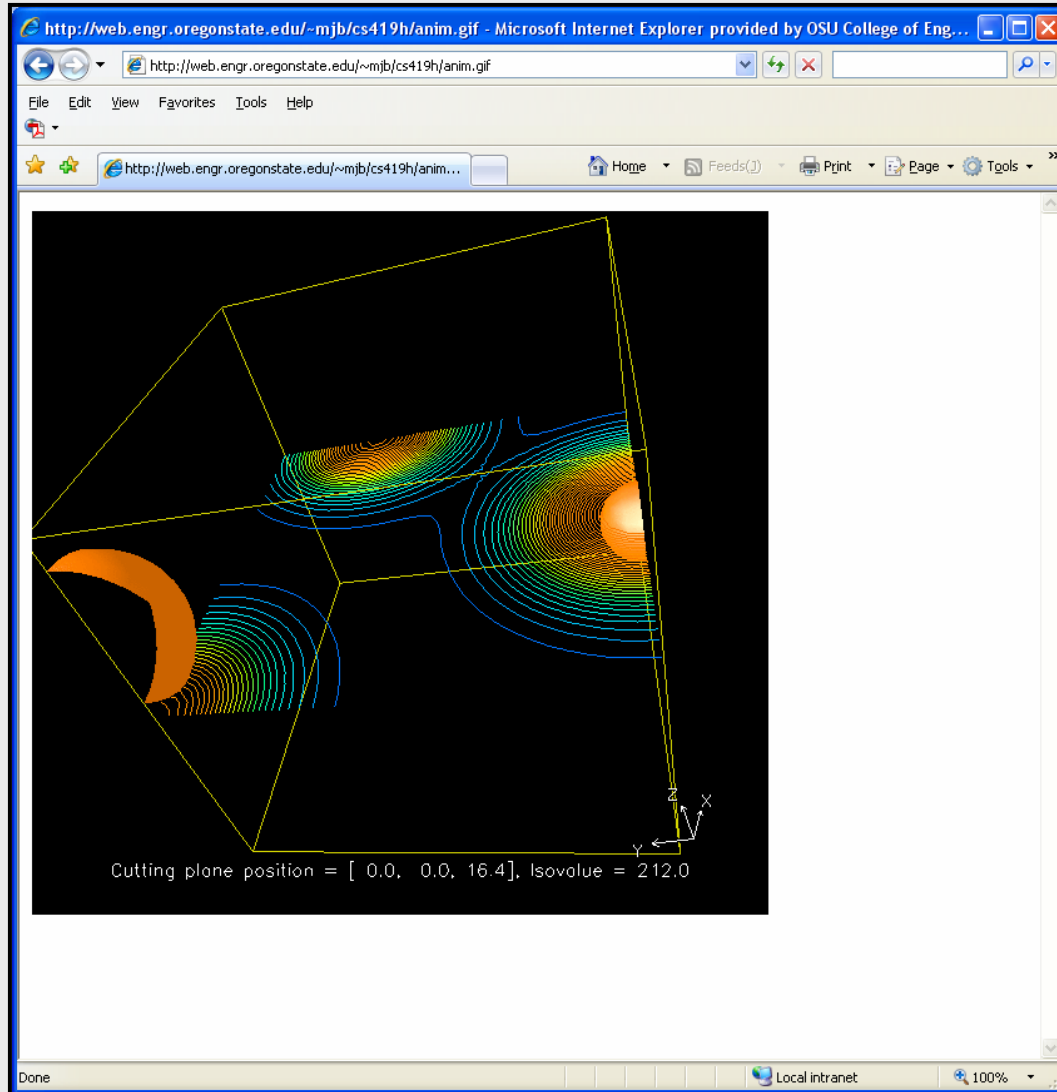
<http://www.imagemagick.org>

# Animated GIF Files work in Windows Explorer



Double-click on the animated GIF file

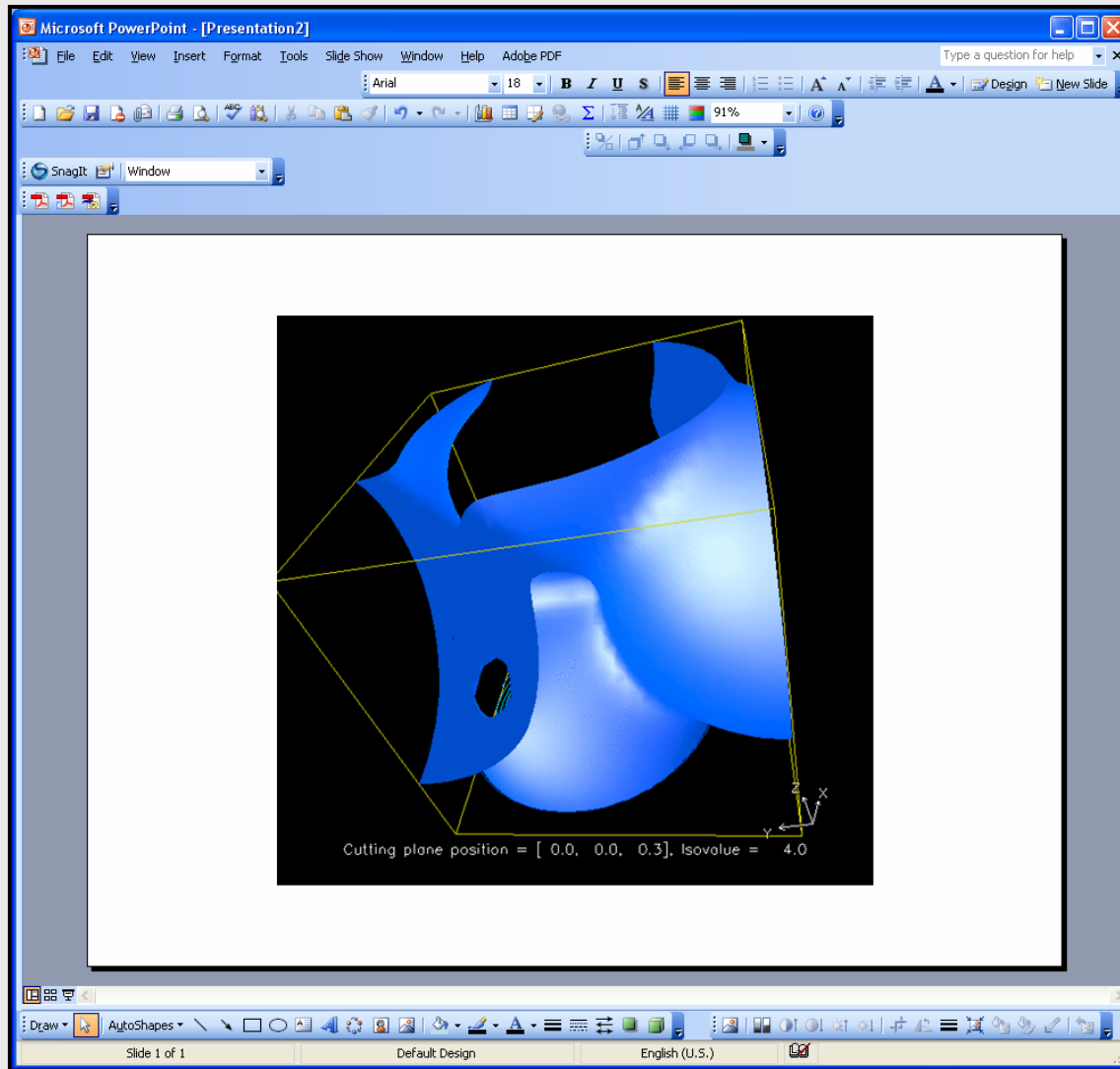
# Animated GIF Files work in Web Pages



```

```

# Animated GIF Files work in PowerPoint



Insert → Picture → From File...

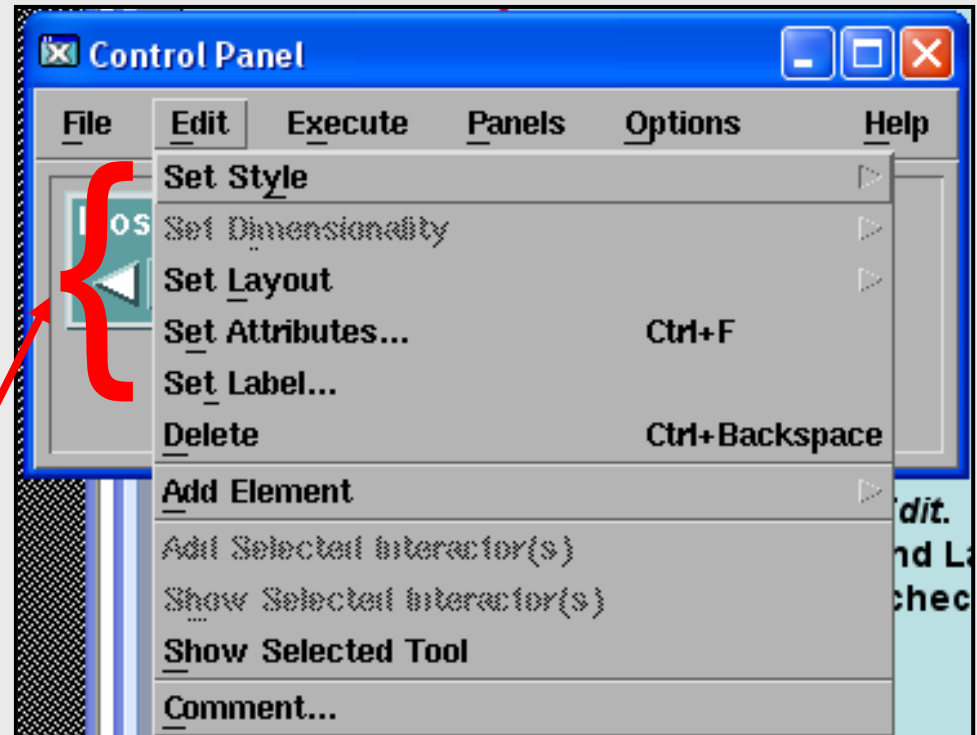
In a presentation, the image will start animating when this slide becomes active

# Interactors

## Editing Interactor Attributes



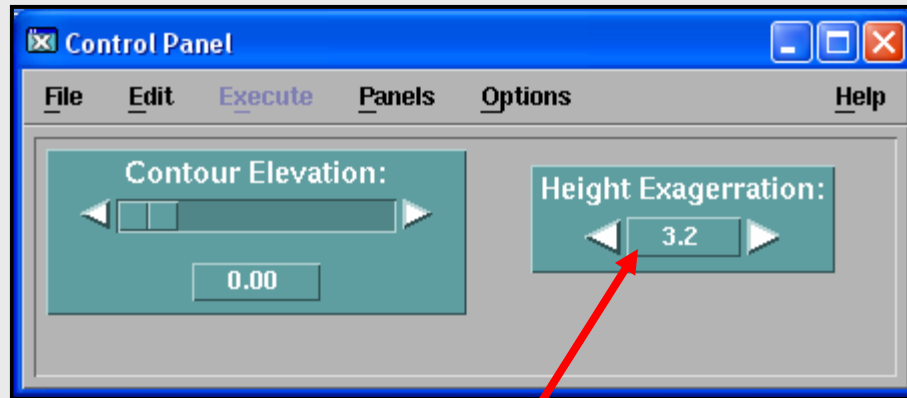
Select an Interactor by *Left-Clicking* its Label.



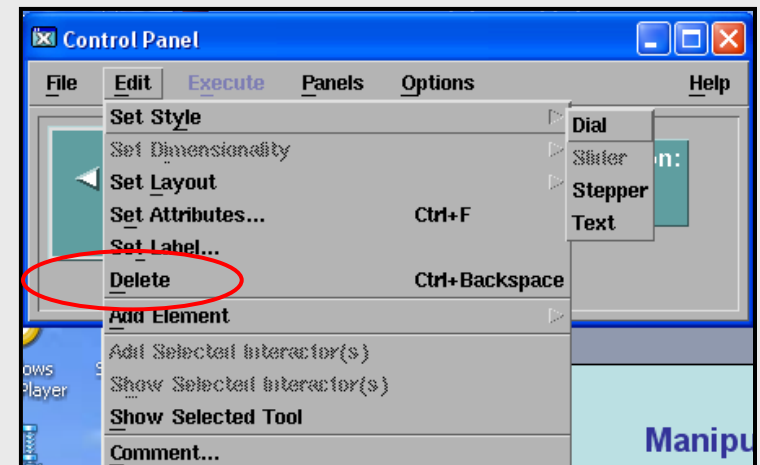
Then, click *Edit*. You can change the Interactor's Style, Layout, Attributes, and Label. Under *Set Attributes*, clicking on the *Continuous* checkbox is usually a good thing.



## Ganging Interactors

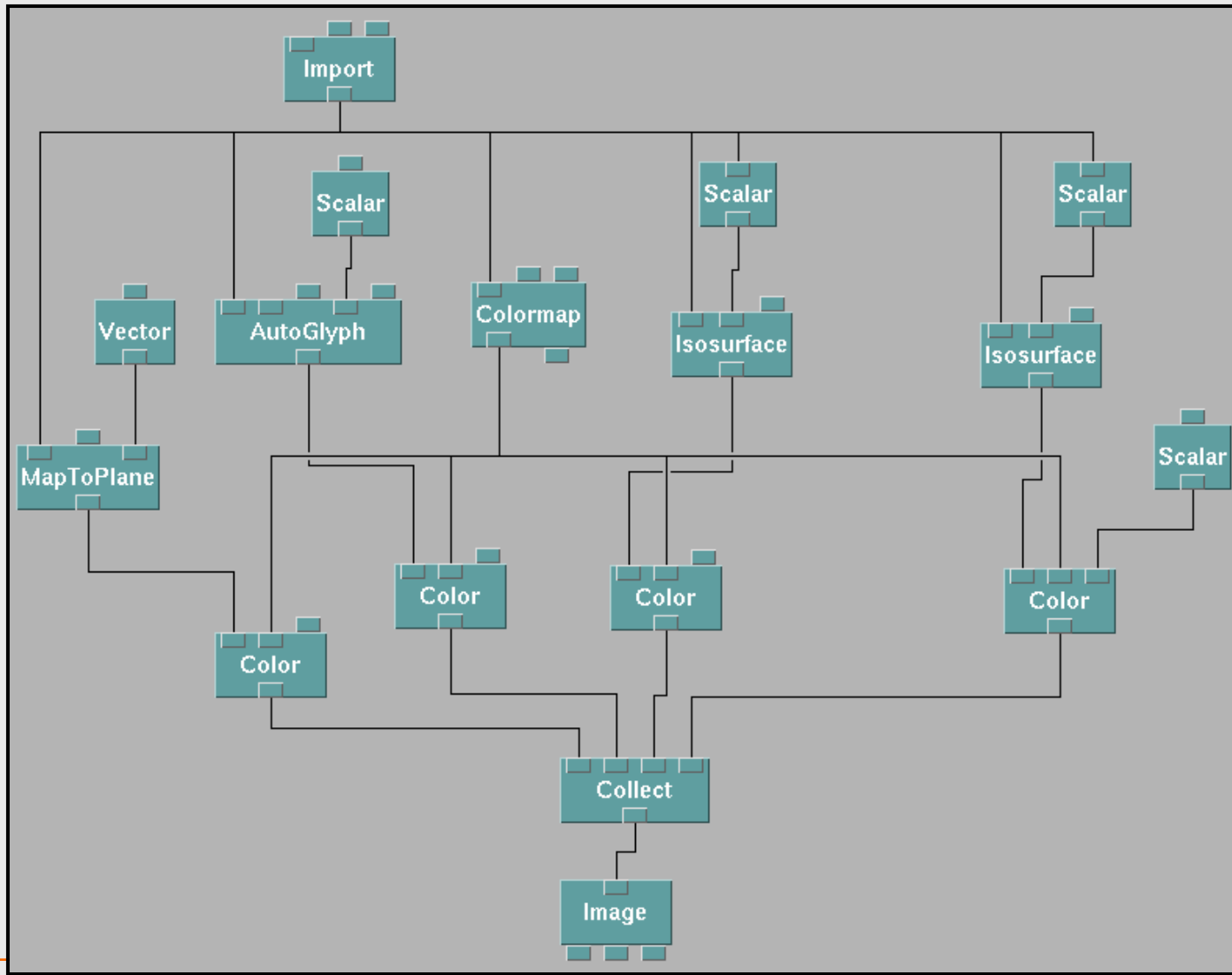


You can place all Interactors in a single window by using the **middle mouse button** to drag them over. This copies them, not moves them. Then select the original Interactor in its original window and *Edit-Delete* it.

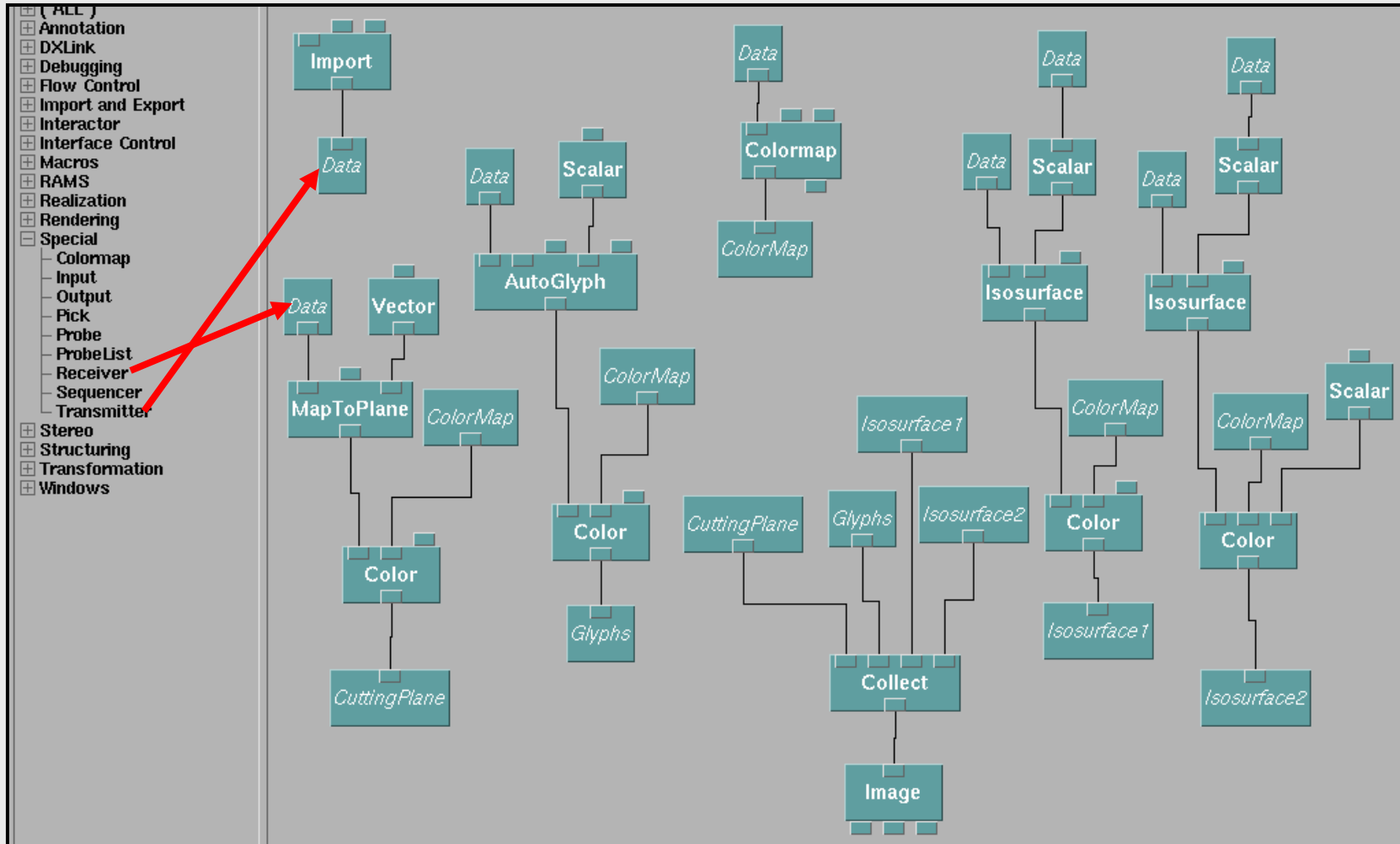


# Transmitters and Receivers

# It's Easy to Get Cluttered, Especially Around *Import* and *ColorMap*!



## It's Also Easy to Get Un-cluttered with *Transmitter* and *Receiver*



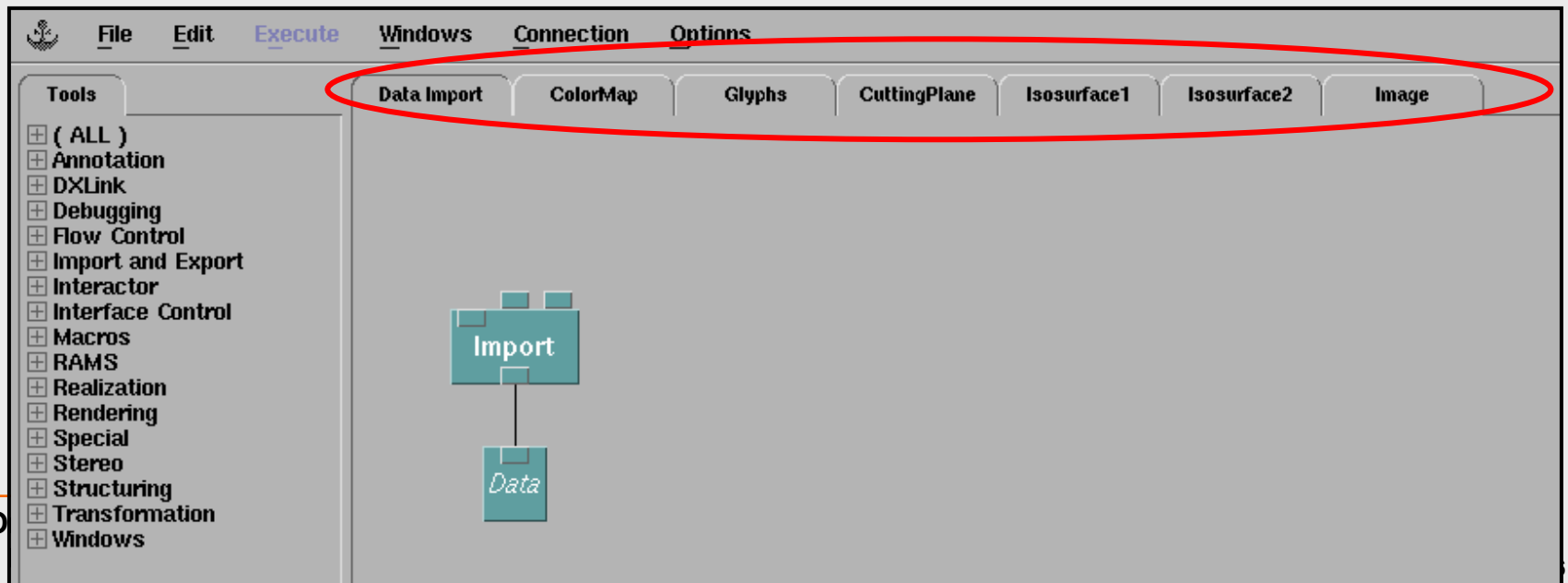
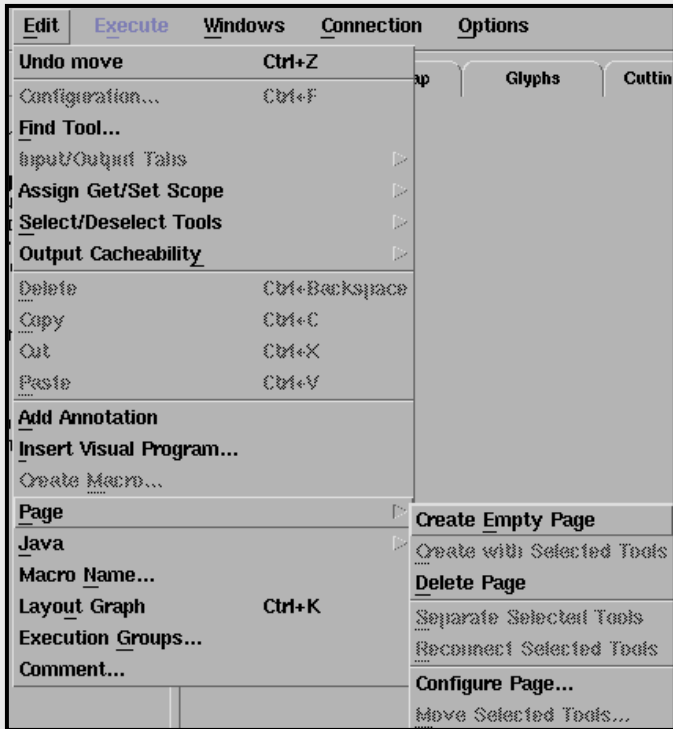
Notice how this lets you create separate "regions" for different functions. Wouldn't it be nice if you could put each region on its own page?

## Using *Transmitter* and *Receiver*, You Can Also Spread the Network Out on Multiple “Pages”

Click *Edit*→*Page* →*Create Empty Page* to make a new page

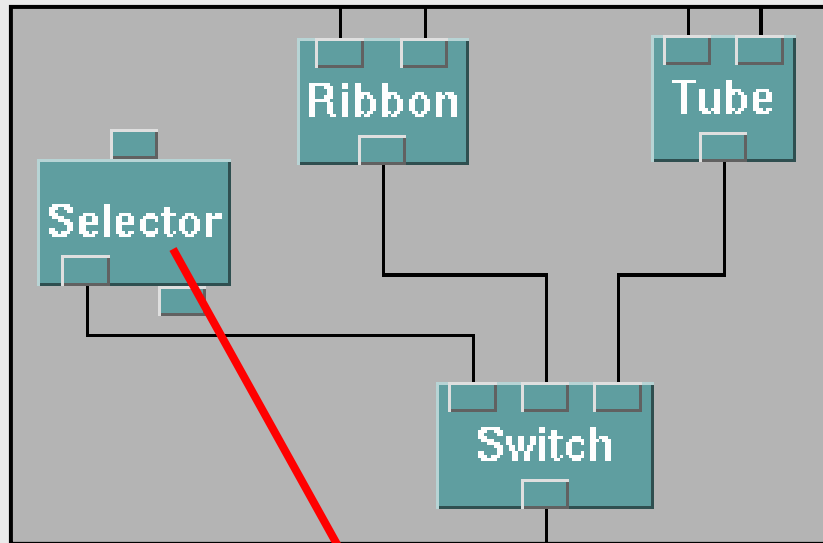
Double-click on the page's tab, type in the page's name, and hit Enter

You can create from scratch in the other pages, or cut-and-paste from where you started

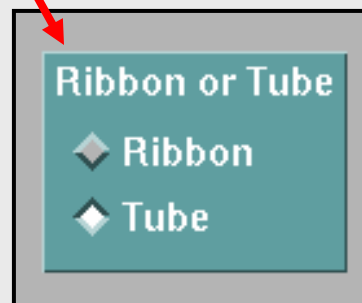


# Switching, Selecting, and Toggling

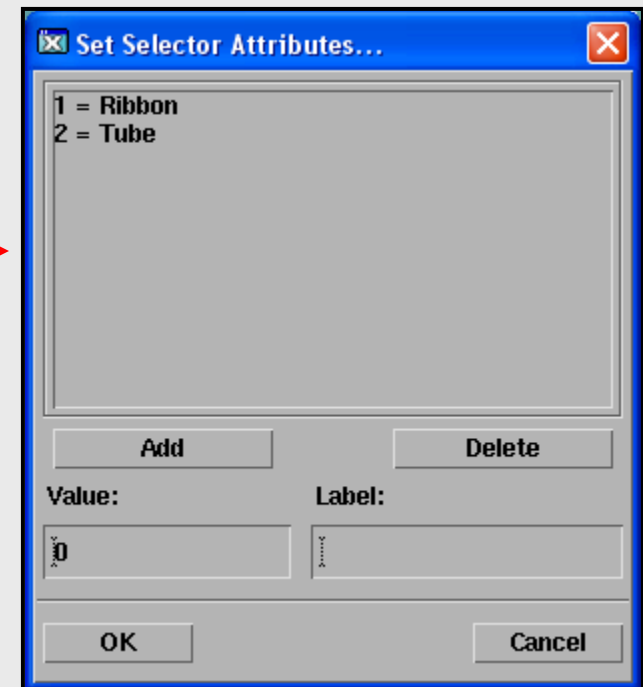
## Selecting from Multiple Objects: *Selector* and *Switch*



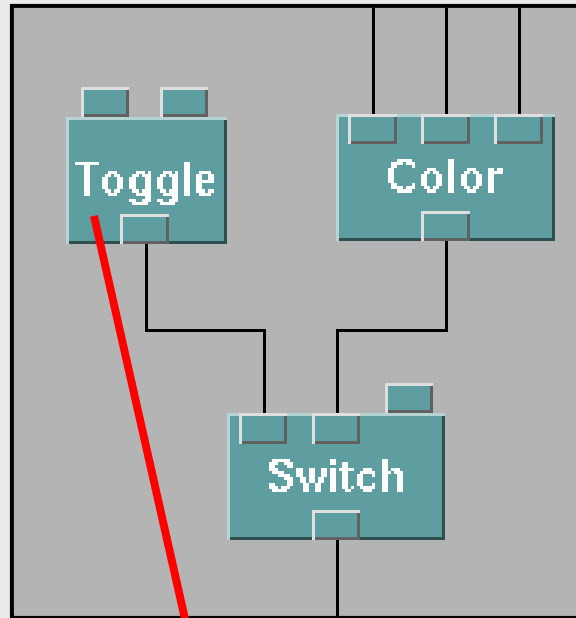
The *Switch* module sends nothing through when its first input is 0. It sends the second input through when the first input is 1. It sends the third input through when the first input is 2, etc.



Edit → Set Attributes



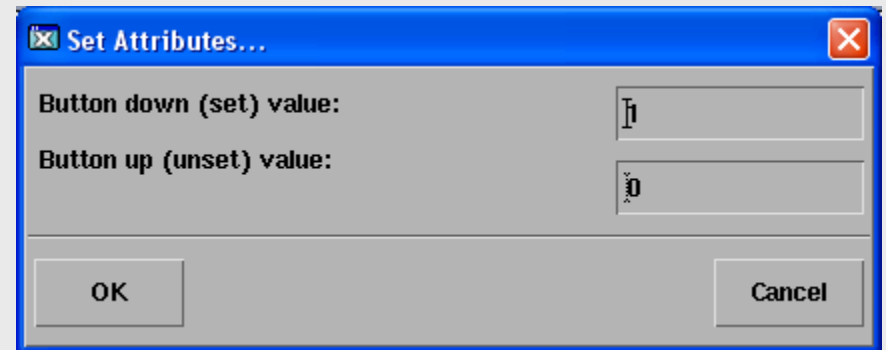
## Toggling Objects On and Off : *Toggle* and *Switch*



The Switch module sends nothing through when its first input is 0. It sends the second input through when the first input is 1. It sends the third input through when the first input is 2, etc.



Edit → Set Attributes





# Captions

# Placing a Caption on a Visualization

The image illustrates the process of adding a caption to a visualization. It is divided into three main sections:

- Data Flow Diagram (Left):** A network of interconnected blocks. The flow starts with 'Data' blocks, goes through 'Scalar', 'Isosurface', and 'ColorMap' blocks, then through 'Color' blocks, a 'Collect' block, and finally an 'Image' block. A red circle highlights the 'Caption' block, which is connected to the 'Color' block.
- 'Caption' Dialog Box (Top Right):** A window titled 'Caption' with a 'Notation' field containing '[Caption]'. It features two tables:
  - Inputs:**

Name	Hide	Type	Source	Value
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> string	<input type="checkbox"/>	string, string list		"Isosurface"
<input type="checkbox"/> position	<input type="checkbox"/>	vector		[.5 .05]
  - Outputs:**

Name	Type	Destination	Cache
caption	color field	Color	<input type="checkbox"/> All Results
- 3D Visualization (Bottom Right):** A 3D scene showing several glowing cyan isosurfaces on a black background. A red arrow points from the 'Isosurface' value in the dialog box to the visualization. A yellow label 'Isosurface' is placed at the bottom of the scene, with a red arrow pointing to it. A 3D coordinate system (x, y, z) is visible in the bottom right corner.

# Setting the Color of the Caption

Click here to get a list of simple colors, or type the name of a color here

Notation: [Color]

Inputs:

Name	Hide	Type
<input type="checkbox"/> input	<input type="checkbox"/>	field
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> color	<input type="checkbox"/>	field, vector, string
<input type="checkbox"/> opacity	<input type="checkbox"/>	field, scalar

Outputs:

Name	Type	Destination	Cache
colored	color field		All Results <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Value list:

- (none)
- "orange"
- (input dependent)

Buttons: OK, Apply, Expand, Collapse, Description..., Help on Syntax, Restore, Cancel

## Color Names you can use in the Color Module

aquamarine	darkturquoise	lightgrey	midnightblue	springgreen
black	dimgray	lightsteelblue	navy	steelblue
blue	dimgrey	limegreen	navyblue	tan
blueviolet	firebrick	magenta	orange	thistle
brown	forestgreen	maroon	orangered	turquoise
cadetblue	gold	mediumaquamarine	orchid	violet
coral	goldenrod	mediumblue	palegreen	violetred
cornflowerblue	gray	mediumforestgreen	pink	wheat
cyan	green	mediumgoldenrod	plum	white
darkgreen	greenyellow	mediumorchid	red	yellow
darkolivegreen	grey	mediumseagreen	salmon	yellowgreen
darkorchid	indianred	mediumslateblue	seagreen	
darkslateblue	khaki	mediumspringgreen	sienna	
darkslategray	lightblue	mediumturquoise	skyblue	
darkslategrey	lightgray	mediumvioletred	slateblue	

# Placing a Data-formatted Caption on a Visualization

The image illustrates the process of placing a data-formatted caption on a visualization. It is divided into three main sections:

- Data Flow Diagram (Left):** A hierarchical tree of nodes. At the top is 'Data', which connects to 'Data' and 'Scalar'. 'Data' connects to 'Isosurface' and 'ColorMap'. 'Scalar' connects to 'Format' (circled in red). 'Isosurface' connects to 'Color'. 'ColorMap' connects to 'Caption'. 'Color' connects to 'Caption'. 'Caption' connects to another 'Color' node, which then connects to 'Collect', and finally to 'Image'.
- Format Dialog Box (Middle):** A window titled 'Format' with a 'Notation' field set to 'Format'. It has two sections: 'Inputs' and 'Outputs'.
  - Inputs:** A table with columns 'Name', 'Hide', 'Type', 'Source', and 'Value'.

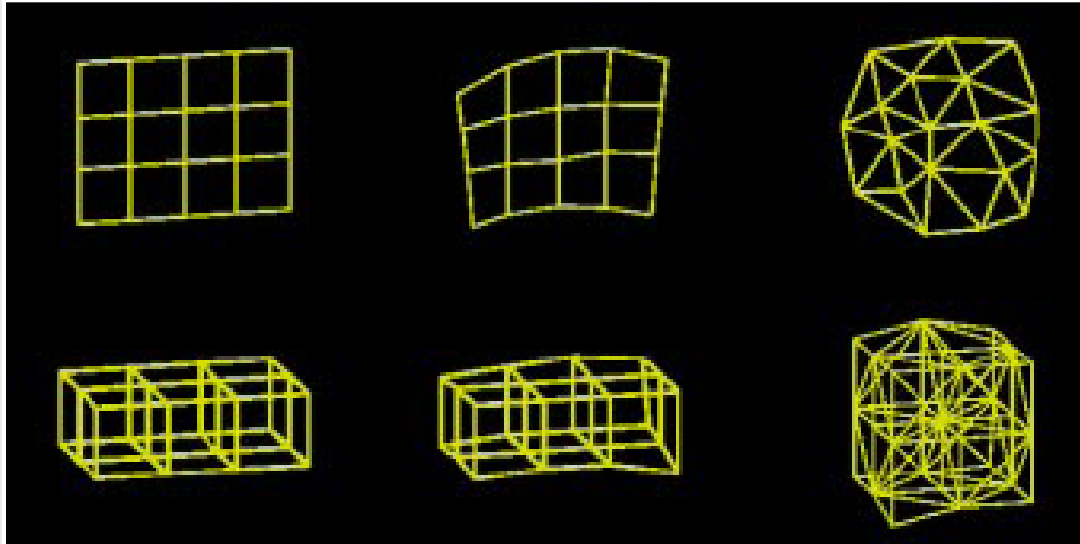
Name	Hide	Type	Source	Value
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> template	<input type="checkbox"/>	string		Isovalue = %8.2f"
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> value	<input type="checkbox"/>	value list, string	Scalar	40.0
<input type="checkbox"/> value1	<input type="checkbox"/>	value list, string		(no default)
  - Outputs:** A table with columns 'Name', 'Type', 'Destination', and 'Cache'.

Name	Type	Destination	Cache
string	string		
- 3D Visualization (Right):** A 3D scene showing a sphere and a curved surface. A yellow caption 'Isovalue = 40.00' is placed at the bottom of the sphere. A red arrow points from the 'Value' field '40.0' in the dialog box to the caption.

# Importing Your Own Data

# OpenDX Data Grid Types

**Surfaces**



**Volumes**

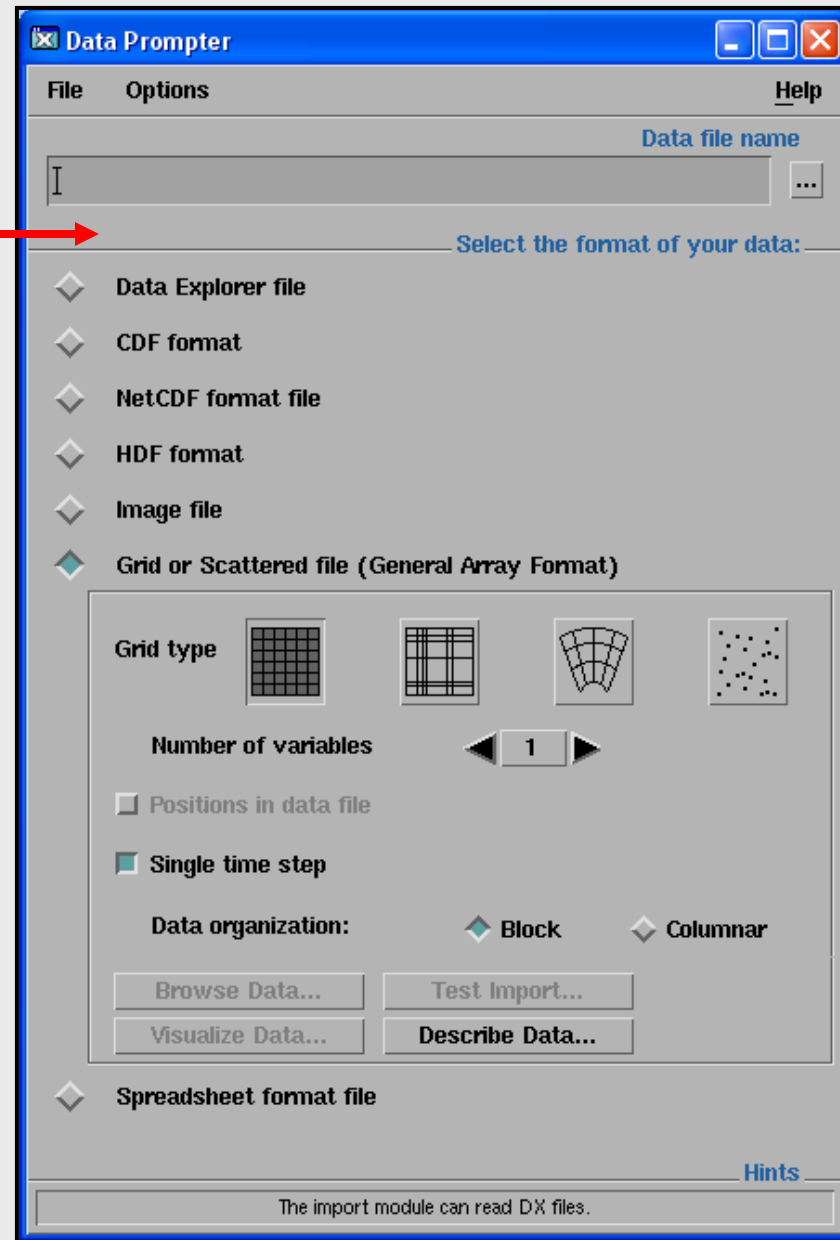
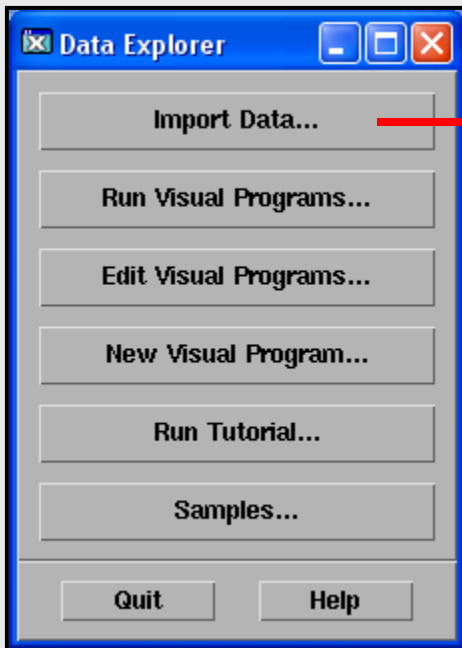
**Regular:**  
R positions,  
R connections

**Deformed Regular:**  
IR positions,  
R connections

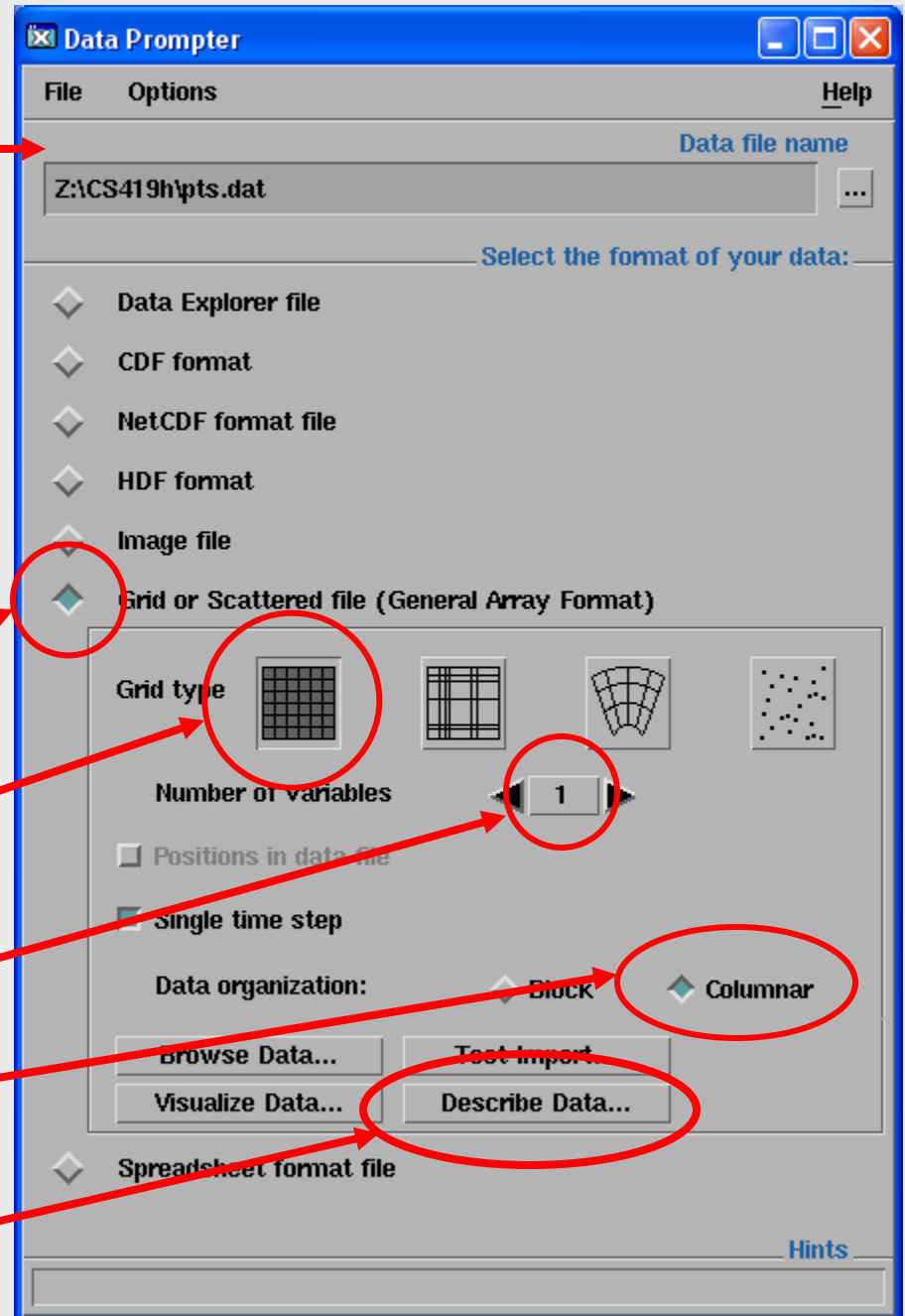
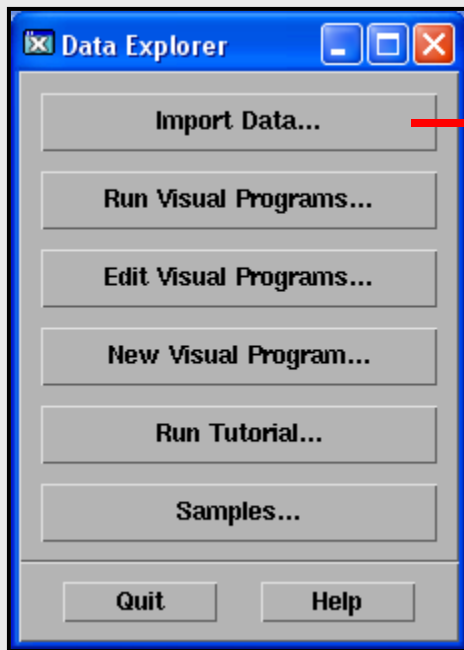
**Irregular:**  
IR positions,  
IR connections

R = "regular"  
IR = "irregular"

# Creating an OpenDX Data Descriptor File using the Data Prompter







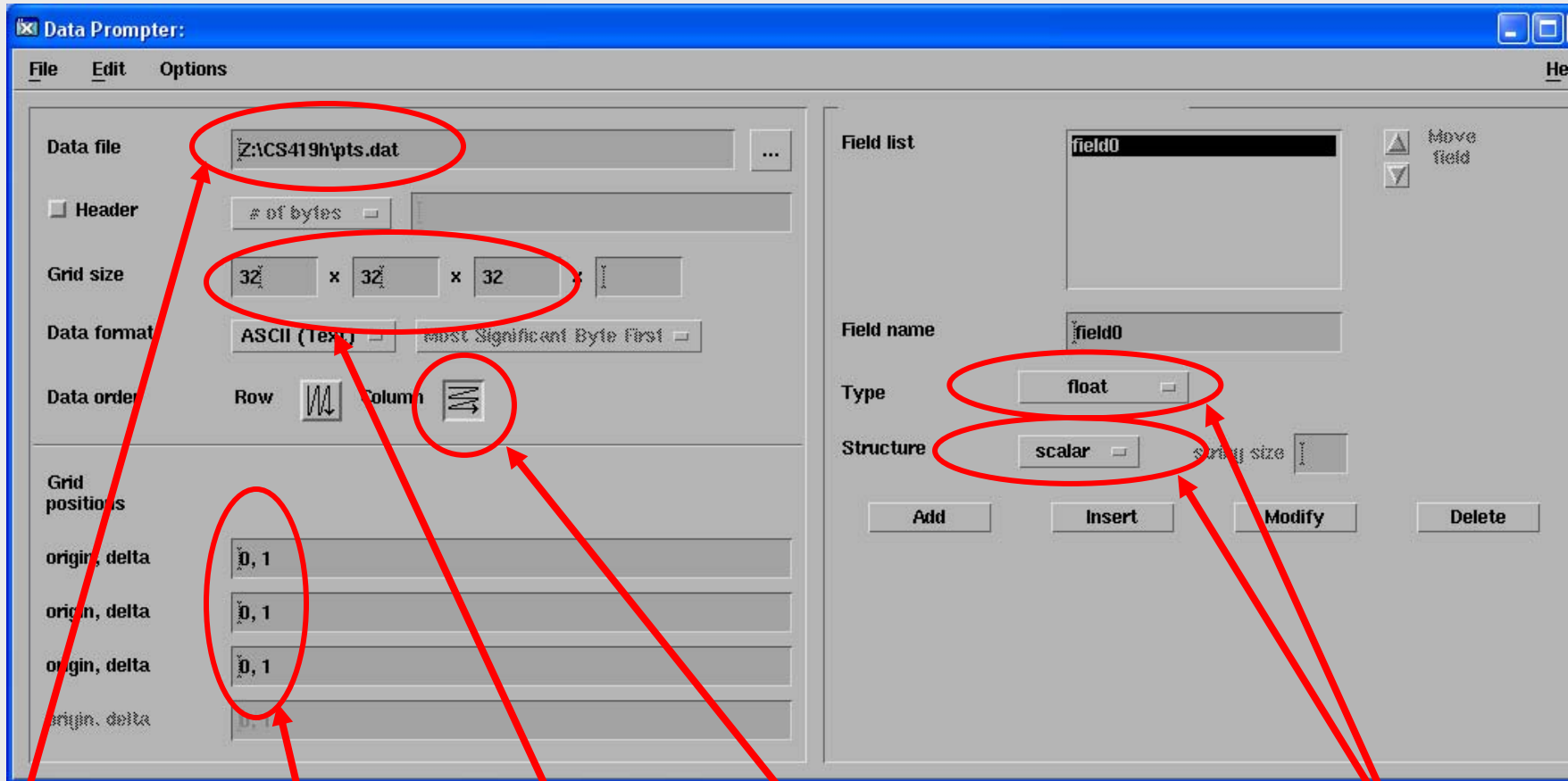
Most of the time, this is what you want

Regular positions, regular connections

One scalar value at each point

Doesn't matter here, but a good value for other data

See next page



Enter the data filename

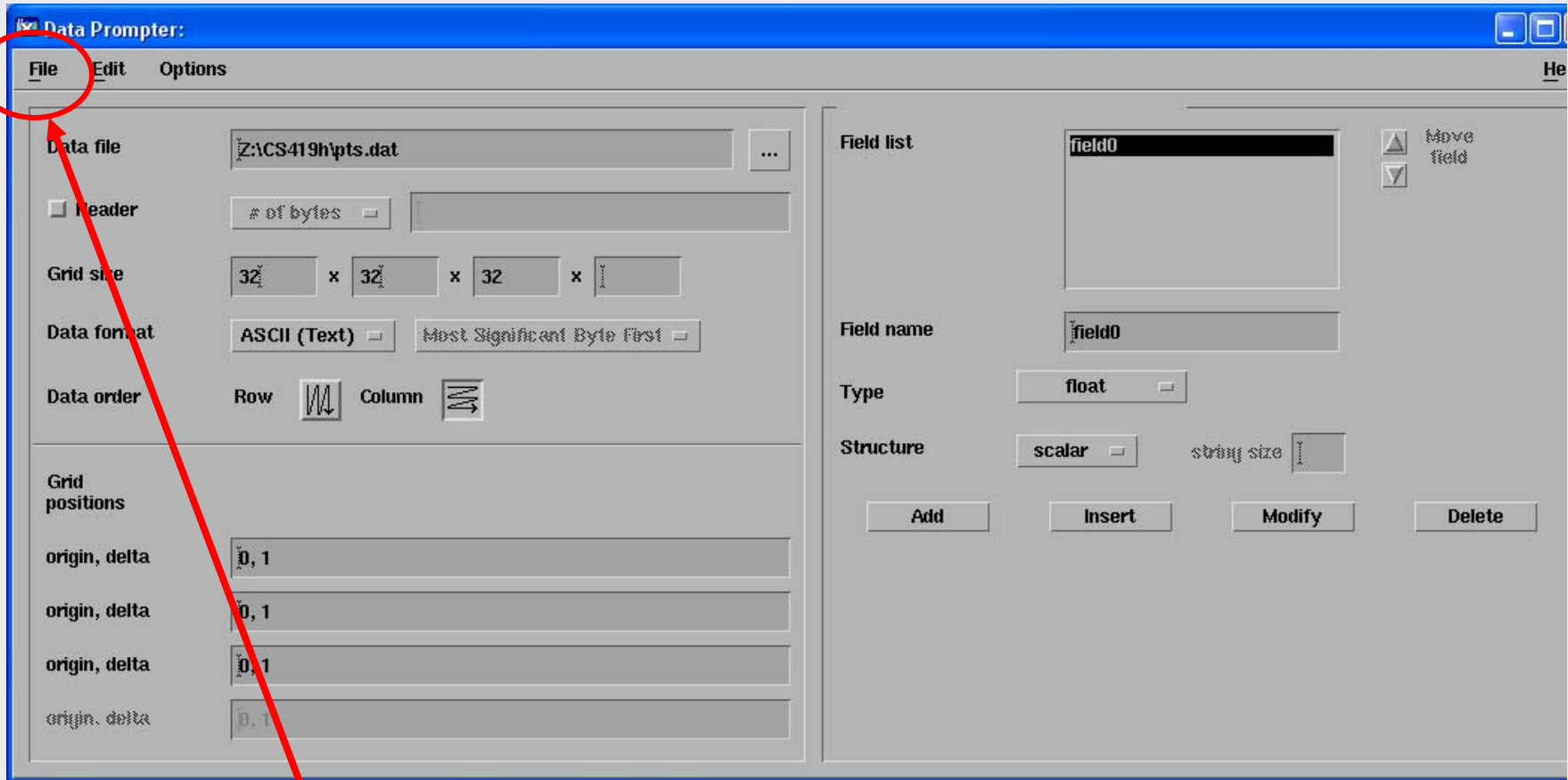
These get filled in for you when you enter the data dimensions – change them

if you want  
University

Doesn't matter here, but a good value for other data

Enter the spatial dimensions

Describe the data at each point (type and data dimension)



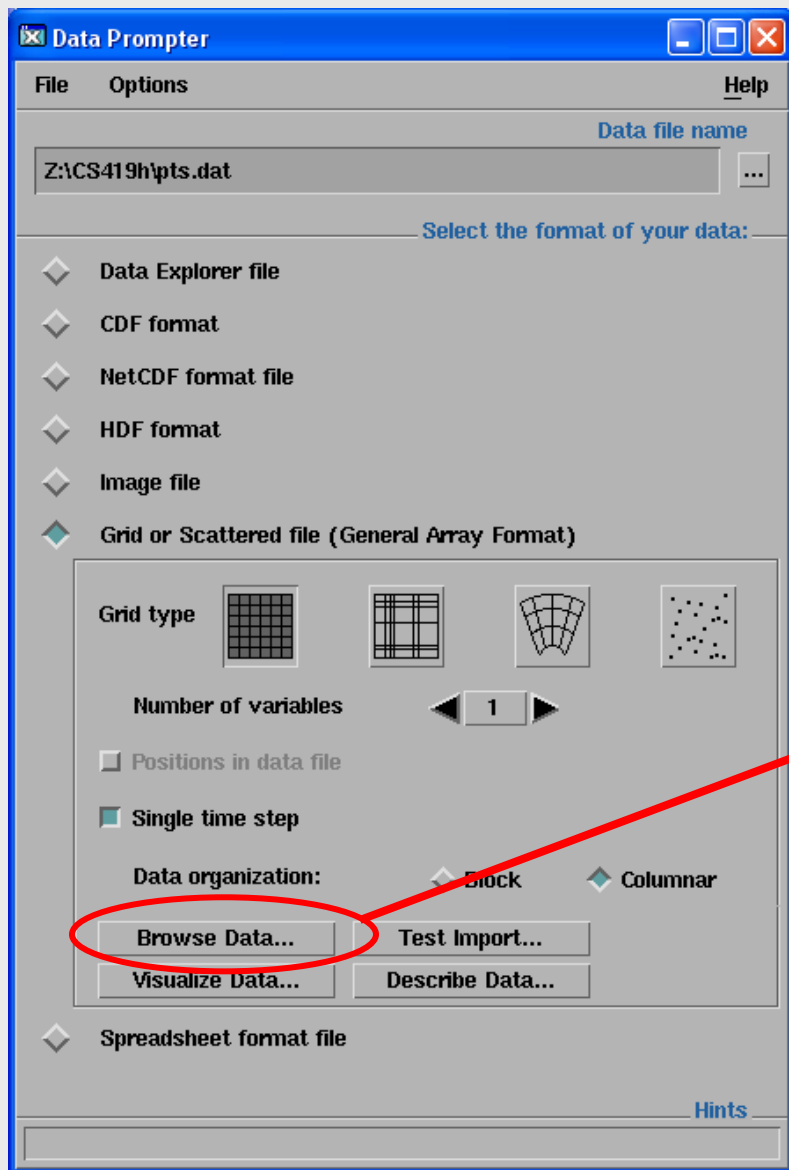
File → Save As ...

This saves the .general file, which will eventually tell OpenDX where to find the data and how to handle it.

## The OpenDX .general File for a 3D Scalar Dataset

```
file = Z:\CS419h\pts.dat
grid = 32 x 32 x 32 ← 3D
format = ascii
interleaving = field
majority = row
field = field0
structure = scalar ← Scalar
type = float
dependency = positions
positions = regular, regular, regular, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1
end
```

Regular positions



**File Browser: Z:\ACS419h\pts.dat**

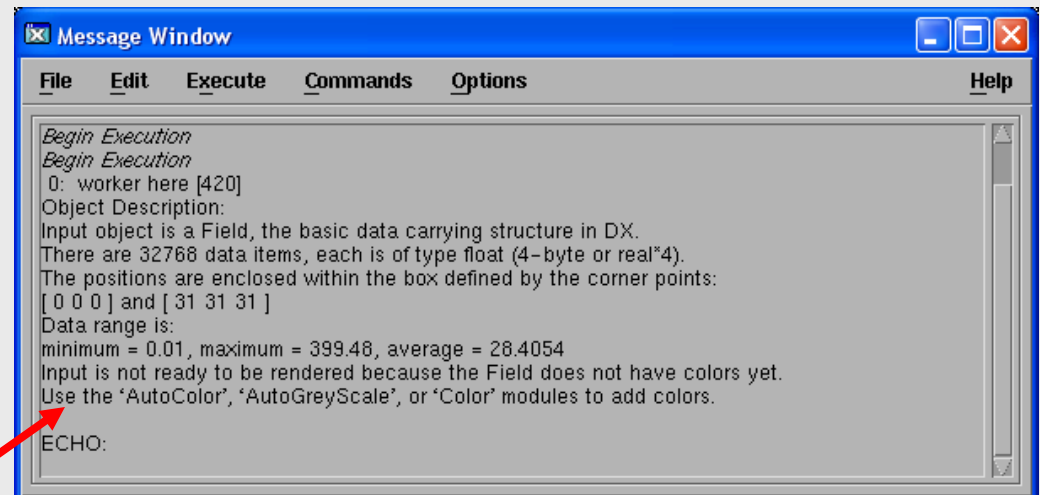
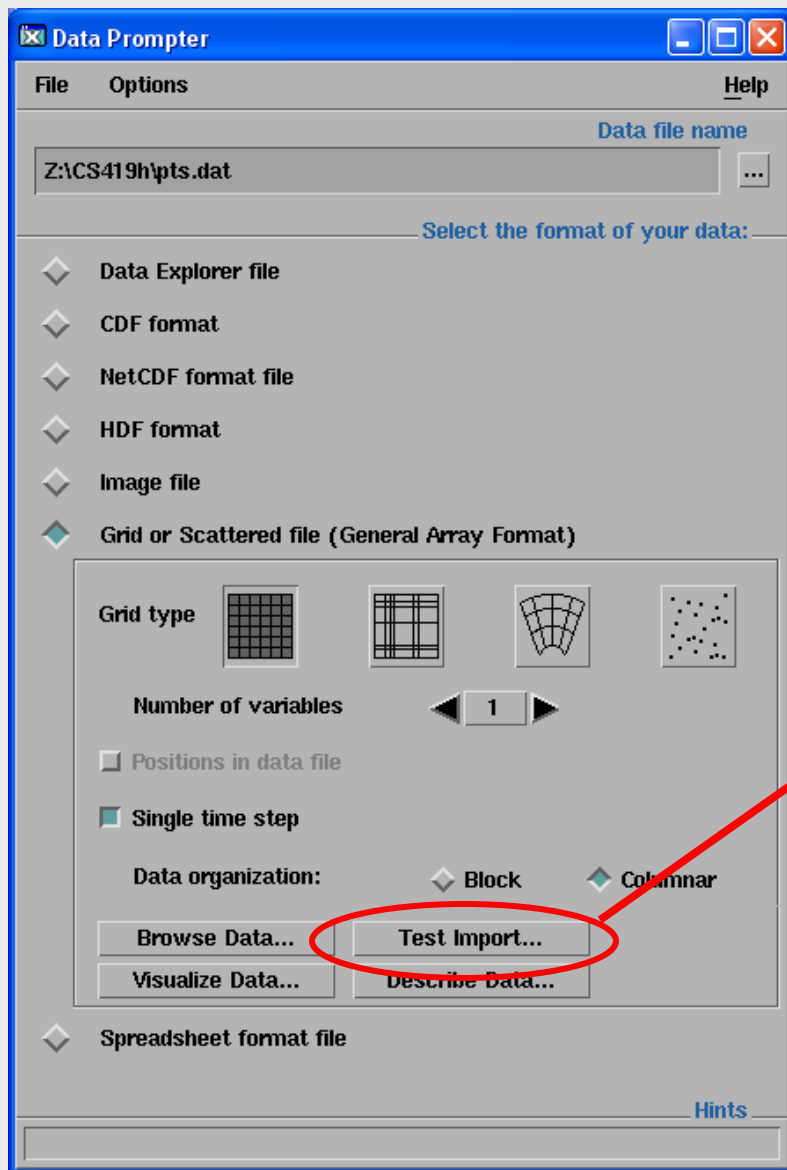
File	Mark	Page	Search							Help
0.01	0.02	0.04	0.07	0.11	0.17	0.26	0.38	0.53	0.71	
0.01	0.02	0.04	0.07	0.11	0.17	0.26	0.38	0.53	0.71	
0.01	0.02	0.04	0.07	0.11	0.17	0.26	0.38	0.53	0.71	
0.01	0.02	0.04	0.07	0.11	0.17	0.26	0.38	0.54	0.72	
0.01	0.02	0.04	0.07	0.12	0.19	0.29	0.41	0.58	0.77	
0.02	0.03	0.05	0.09	0.14	0.23	0.35	0.50	0.70	0.94	
0.02	0.04	0.07	0.12	0.20	0.31	0.48	0.69	0.97	1.30	
0.03	0.06	0.11	0.18	0.30	0.47	0.72	1.05	1.46	1.96	
0.05	0.09	0.17	0.29	0.47	0.75	1.13	1.64	2.29	3.07	
0.08	0.15	0.26	0.45	0.74	1.17	1.77	2.58	3.60	4.81	
0.12	0.22	0.40	0.69	1.13	1.79	2.72	3.95	5.52	7.38	
0.18	0.33	0.59	1.02	1.68	2.66	4.04	5.87	8.19	10.96	
0.25	0.47	0.85	1.46	2.41	3.80	5.77	8.39	11.70	15.66	
0.35	0.65	1.17	2.01	3.30	5.22	7.92	11.52	16.07	21.51	
0.46	0.86	1.54	2.64	4.36	6.89	10.44	15.18	21.18	28.35	
0.58	1.09	1.95	3.34	5.51	8.71	13.20	19.21	26.79	35.86	

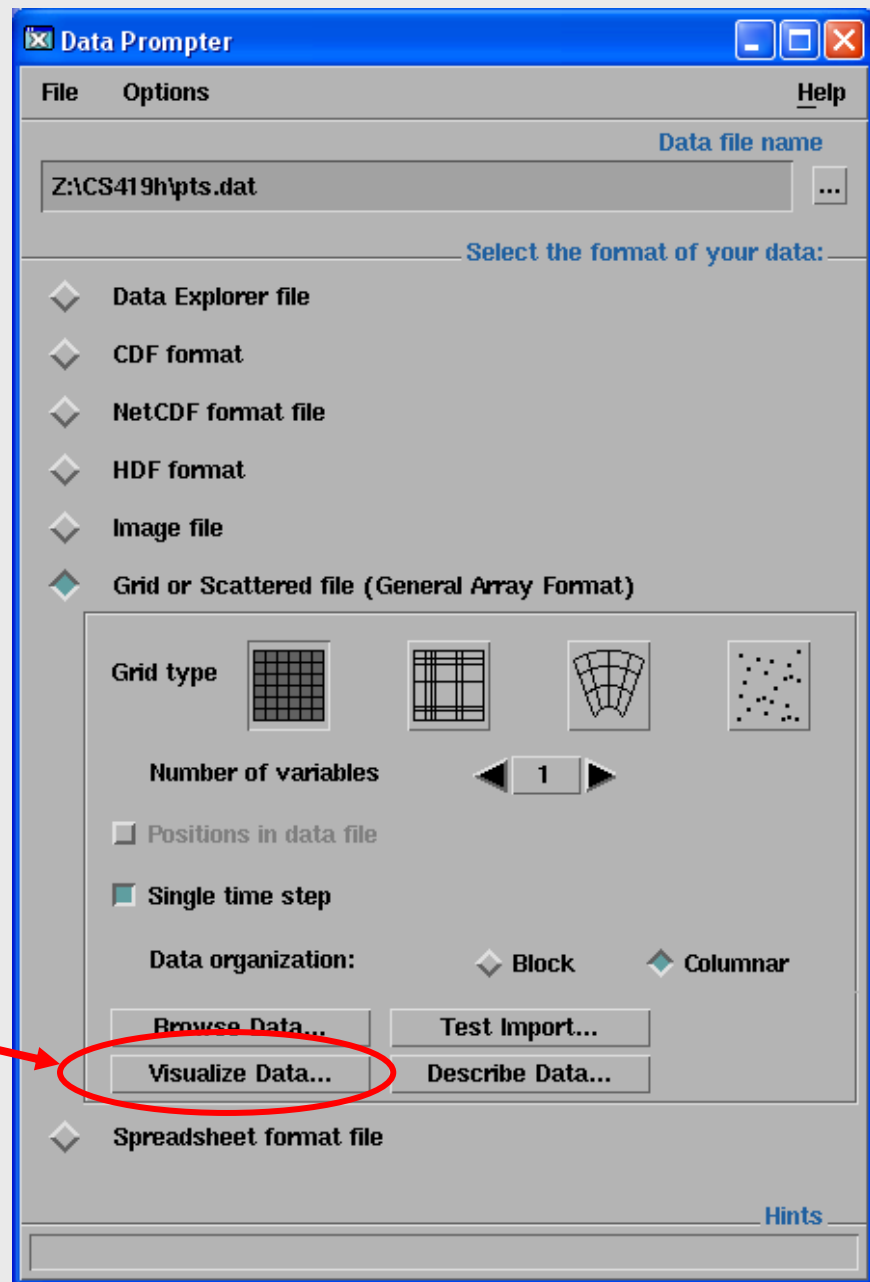
Byte Offsets:

From top of file: [input]  
From start of line: [input]  
From mark: [input]

Line Offsets:

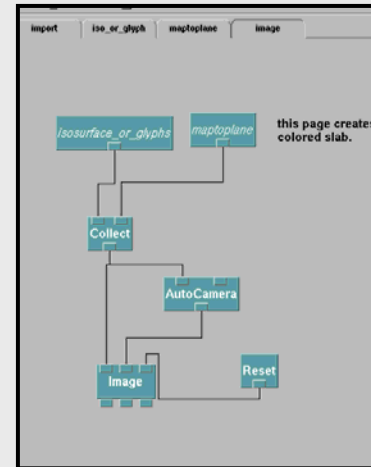
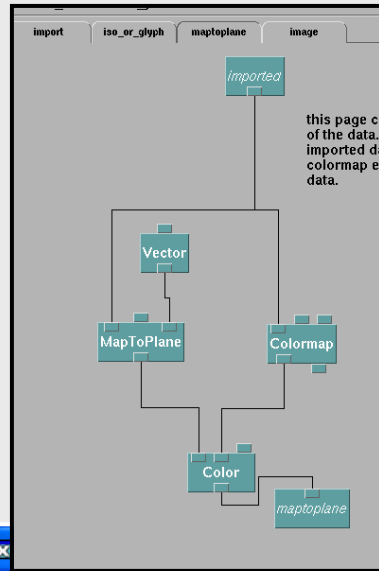
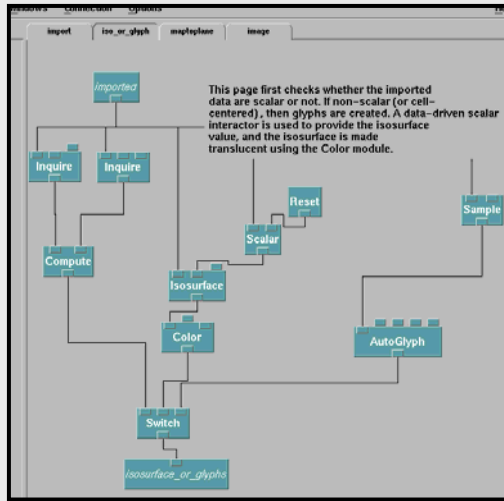
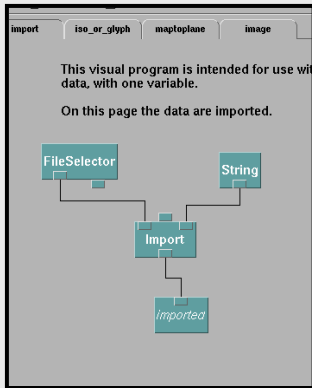
From top of file: [input]  
From mark: [input]





See next page





**Control Panel**

File Edit Execute Panels Options Help

Isosurface value  
(for scalar, position-dependent data):

◀ 199.7 ▶

MapToPlane normal:

◀ 0.40000 ▶

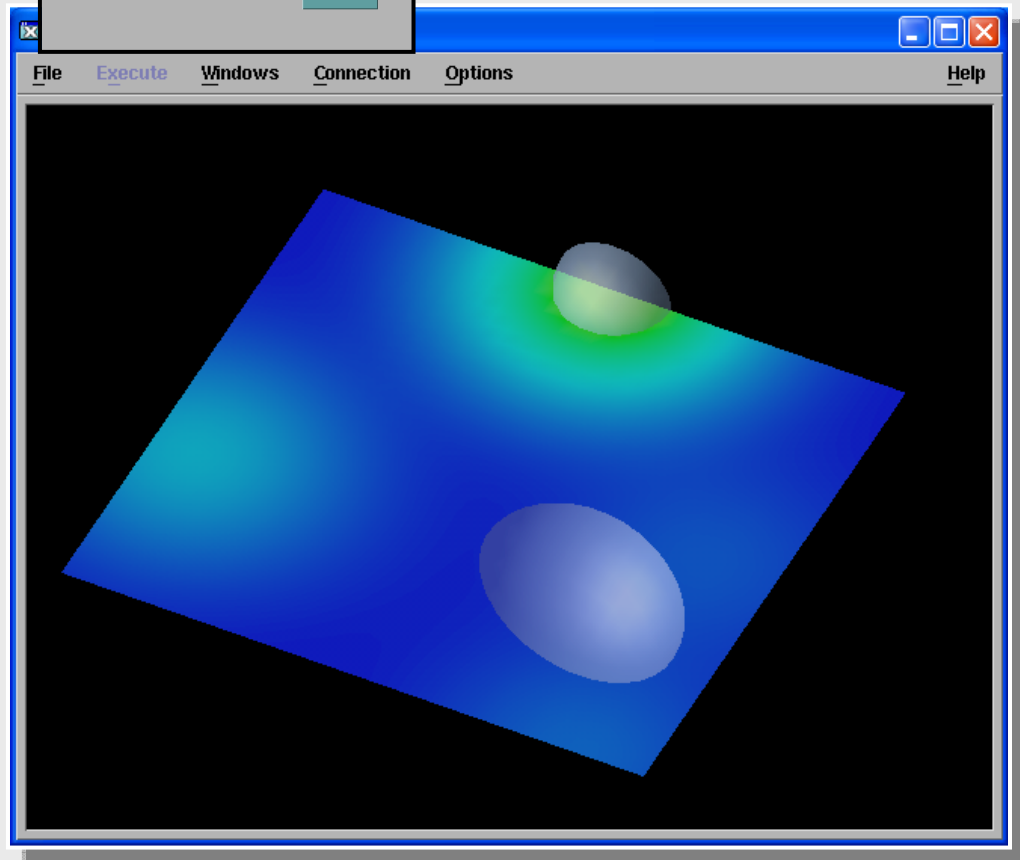
◀ 0.00000 ▶

◀ 1.00000 ▶

reset isosurface value

reset image camera

This all gets created automatically!  
Pretty amazing, huh?





## Terrain Visualization .general File

```
file = Z:\OpenDX\or.dat
grid = 201 x 105 ← 2D
format = ascii
interleaving = record
majority = column
field = field0
structure = scalar ← Scalar
type = float
dependency = positions
positions = regular, regular, 0, 1, 0, -1
end
```

Regular positions

## Vector Field Visualization .general File

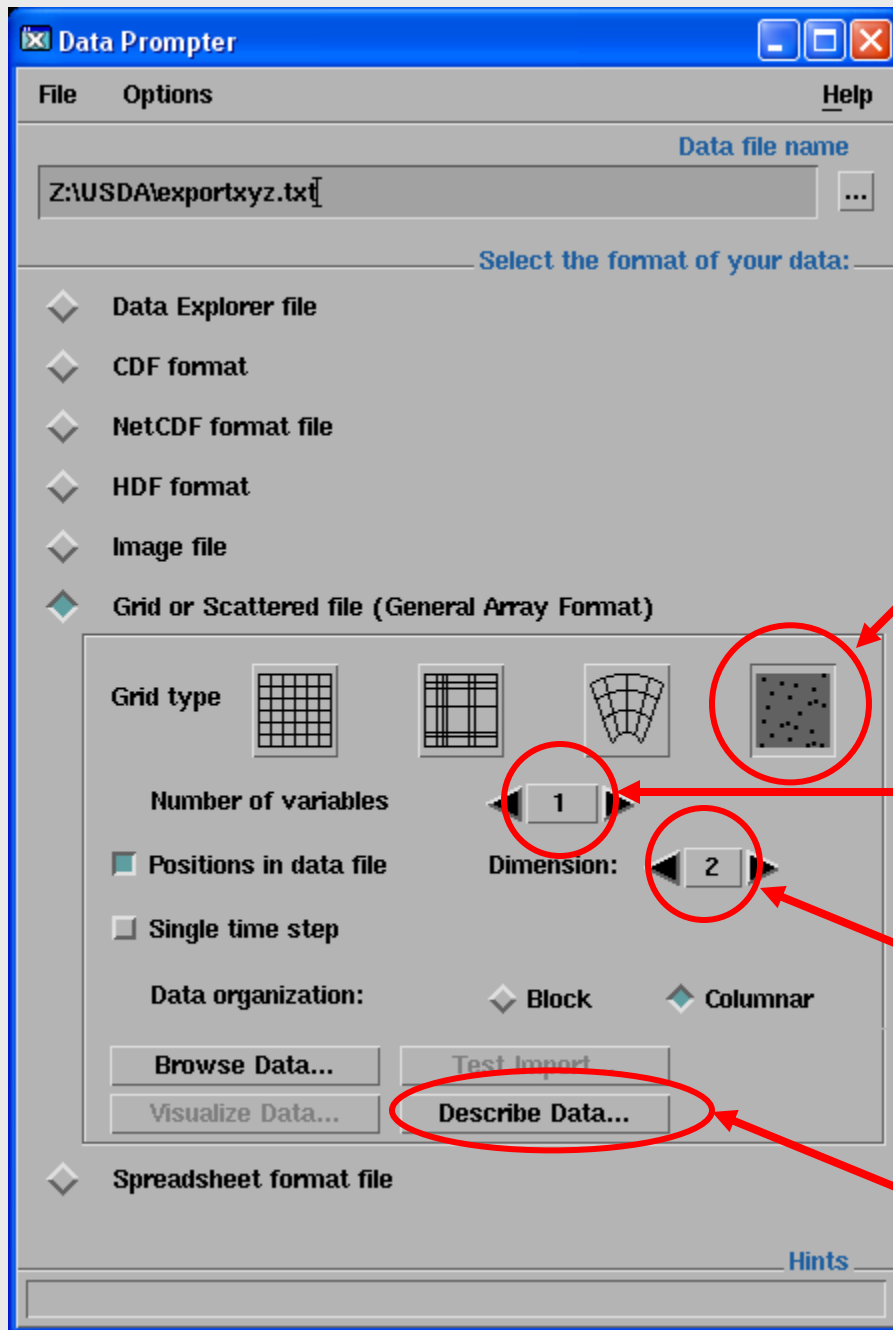
```
file = Z:\OpenDX\vecs.dat
grid = 16 x 16 x 16 ← 3D
format = ascii
interleaving = record-vector
majority = column
field = velocity
structure = 3-vector ← 3-element Vector
type = float
dependency = positions
positions = regular, regular, regular, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1
end
```

Regular positions

## Visualizing Points on a Scattered Grid (e.g., Digital Elevation Mapping)

**West→East South→North Elevation**

-360.78	128.438	2.25
-360.75	128.428	2.31
-360.80	128.405	2.20
-360.81	128.370	1.99
-360.91	128.369	1.75
-361.00	128.359	1.65
-361.16	128.354	1.77
-361.21	128.344	1.70
-361.25	128.344	1.76
. . .		

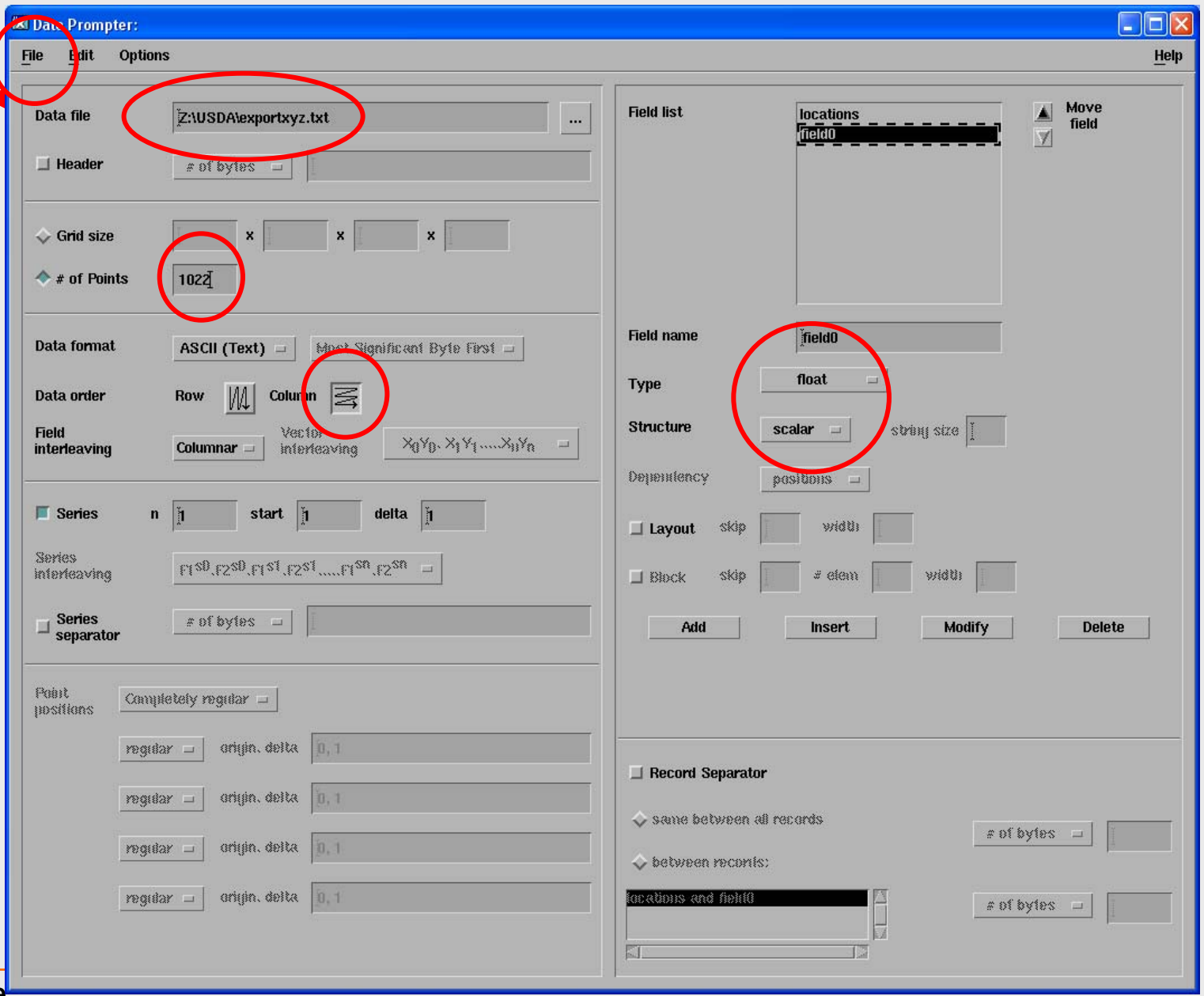


**Scattered Data**  
(irregular positions,  
irregular connections)

**Data Dimension: a scalar value**  
at each position

**Spatial Dimension: 2D**

**See next page**



File → Save as...

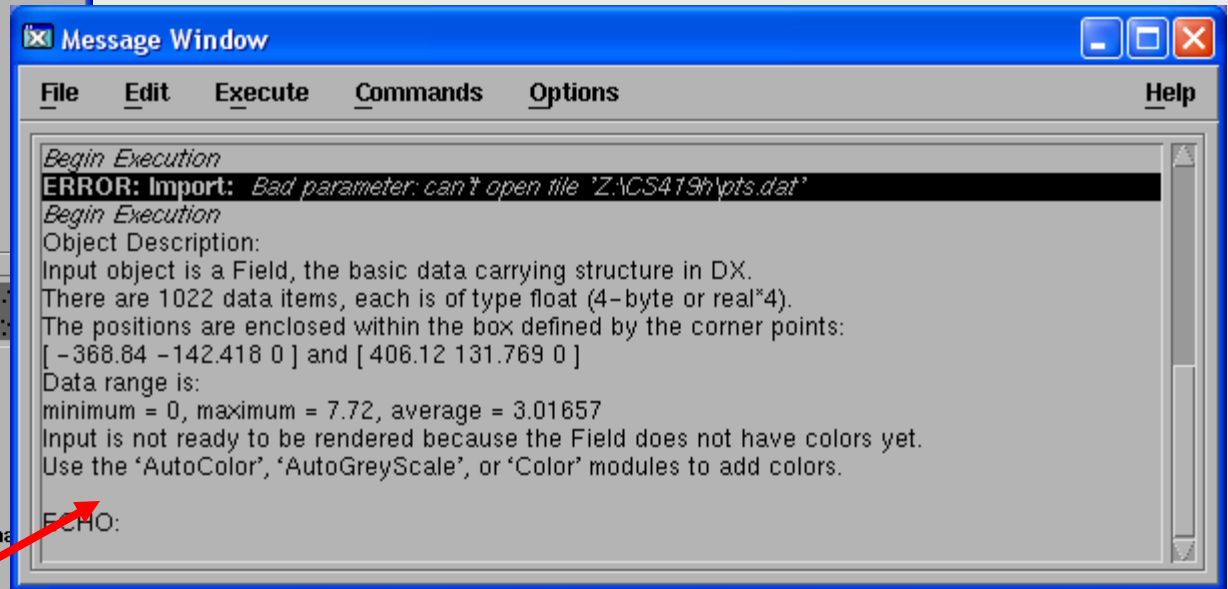
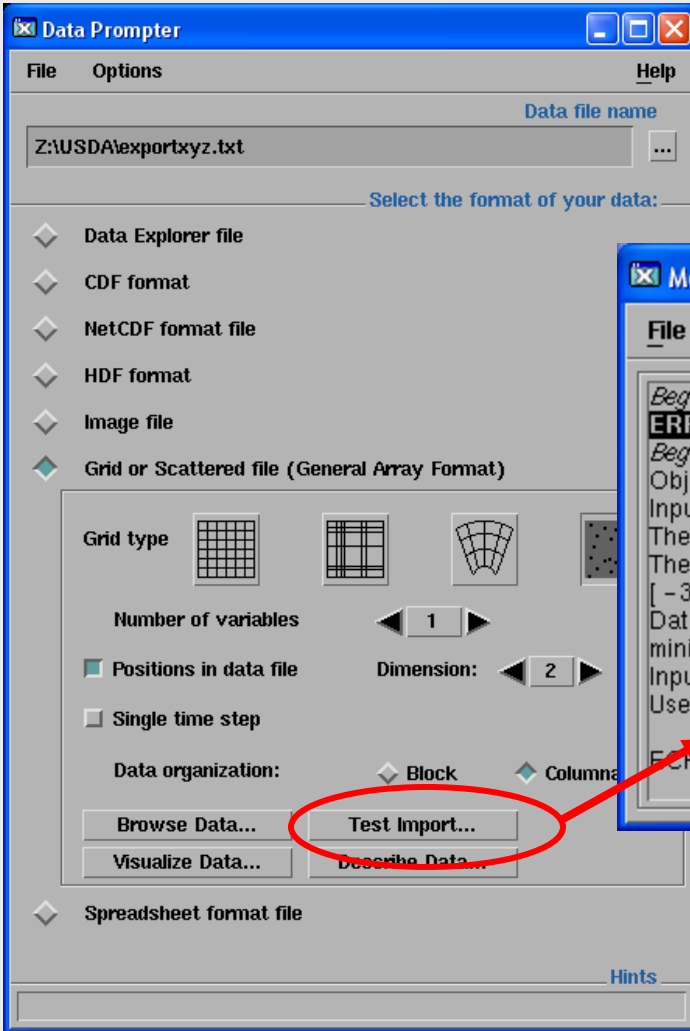
## A Scattered Grid .general File

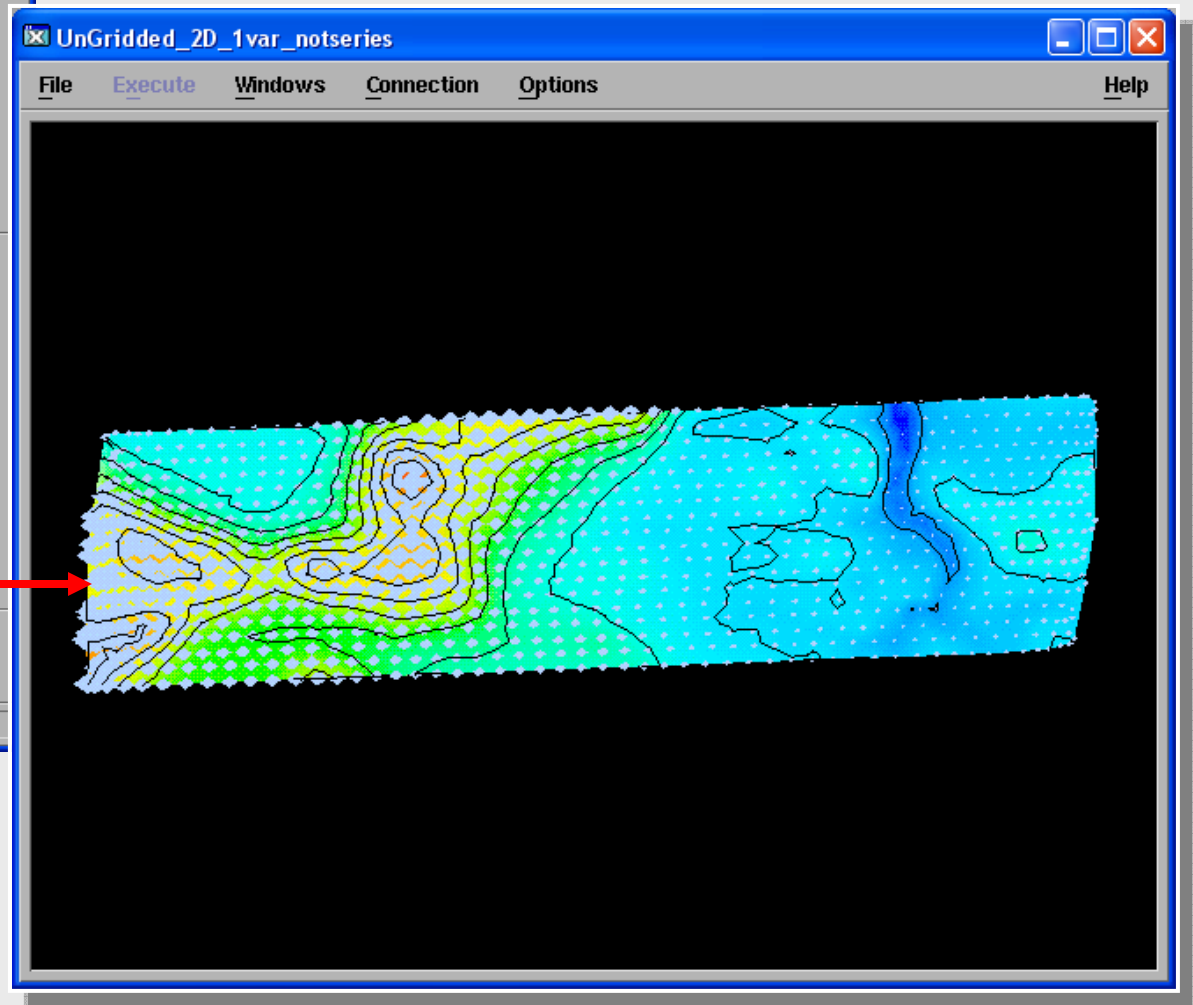
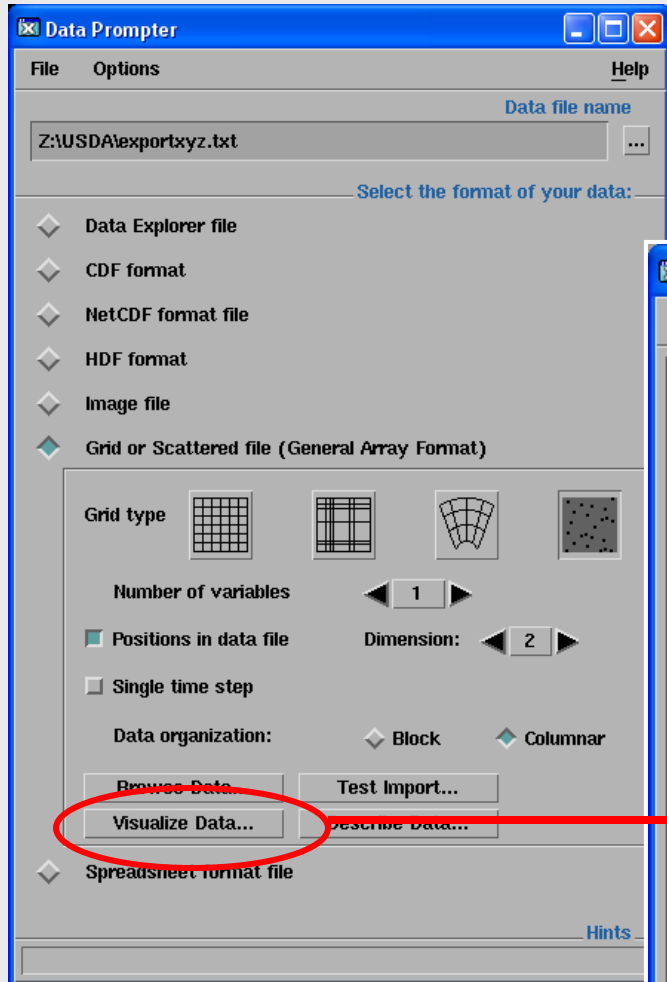
```
file = Z:\OpenDX\exportxyz.dat
points = 1022
format = ascii
interleaving = field
field = locations, field0
structure = 2-vector, scalar
type = float, float
end
```

A 1D list

Each entry has a location and data values

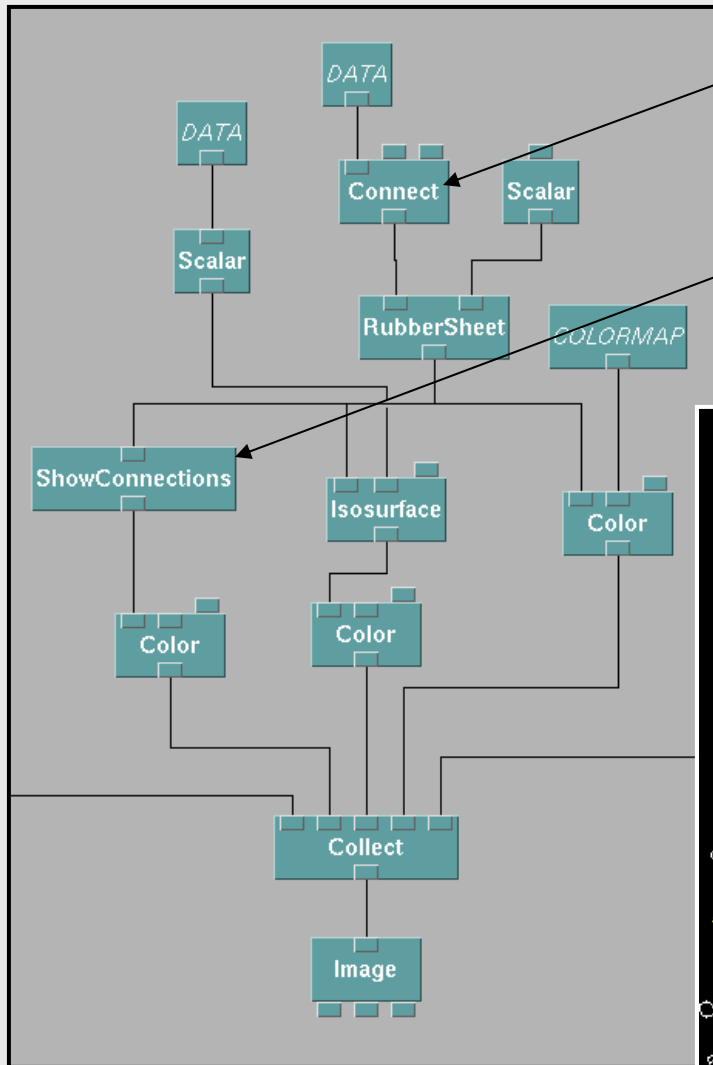
Each location has 2 values (X,Y). Each data is a single value (scalar).







# Visualizing Points from a Scattered Grid (e.g., Digital Elevation Mapping)

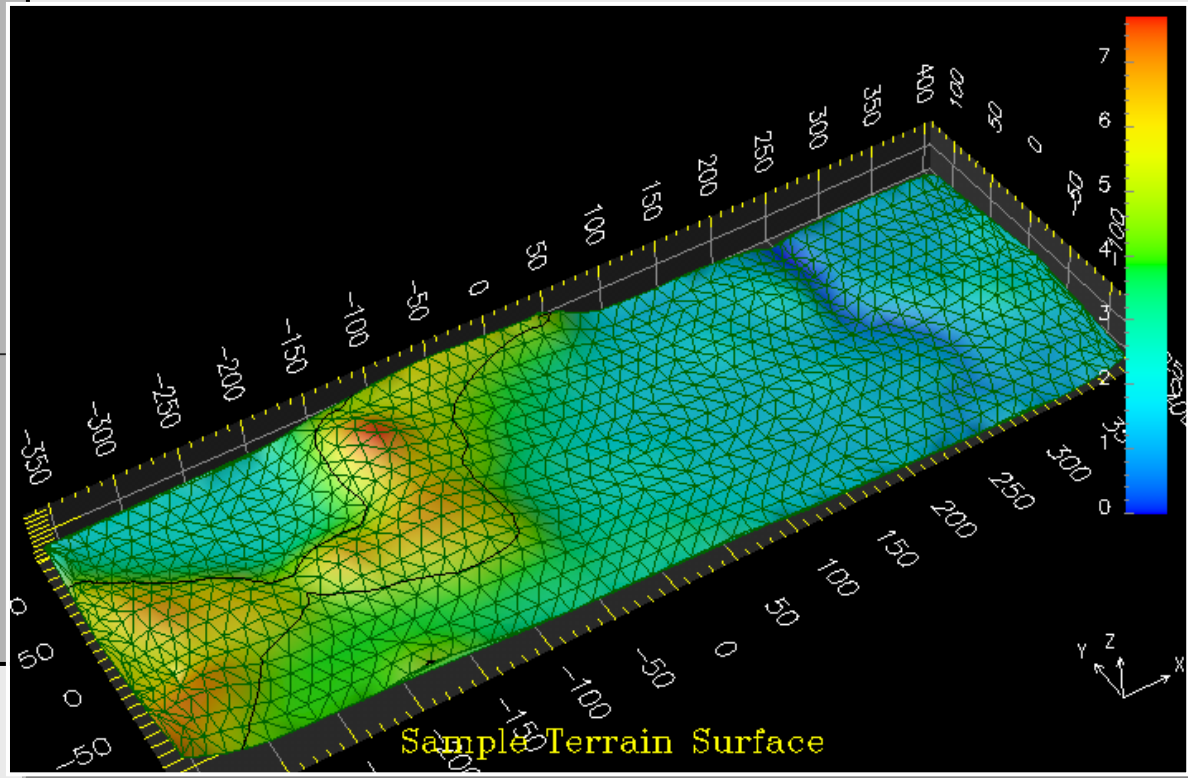


Realization

*Connect* creates triangles from scattered points.

Realization

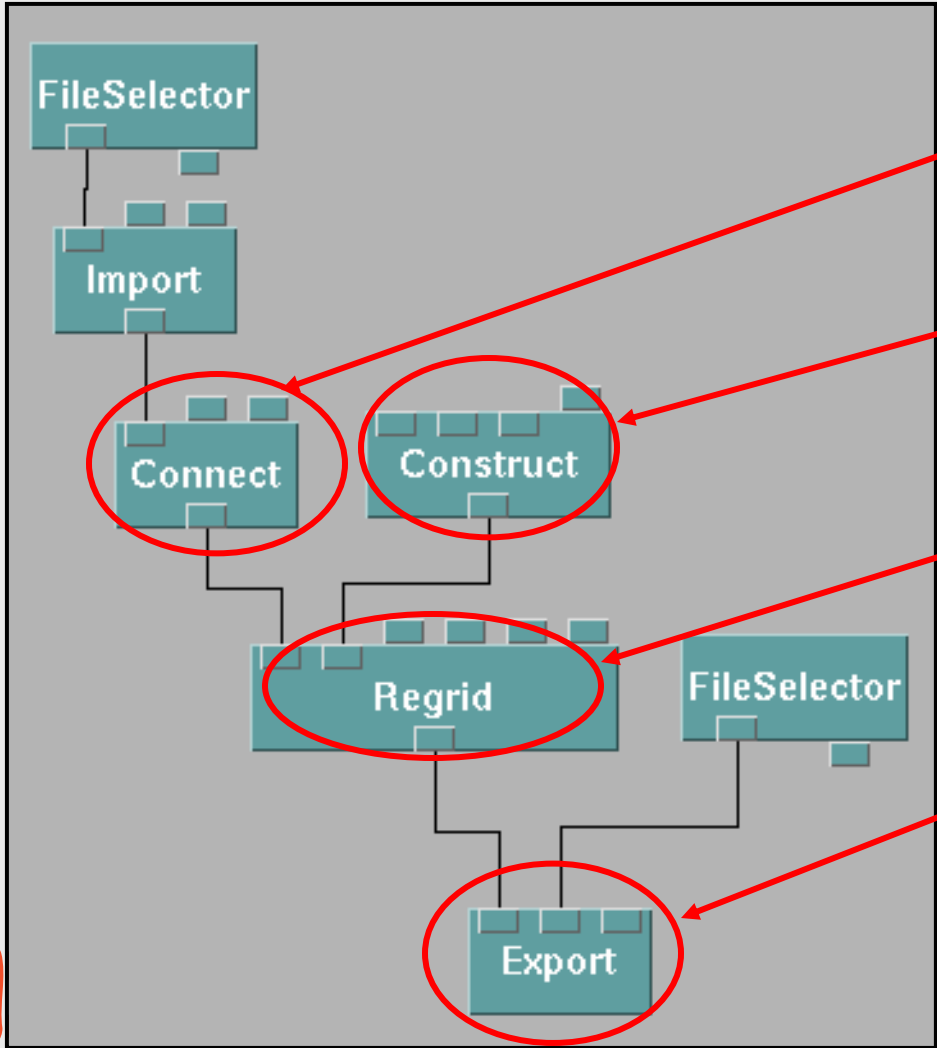
*ShowConnections* creates graphics to show how the scattered point connections were made.



# Regridding a Dataset

(especially good for writing out a Connect'ed Scattered Grid as a Rectangular Array)

You might be doing this to downsize a dataset or to create a regular grid from a scattered grid



If Scattered data, route through Connect first.

Creates a new grid to project the data onto

Projects the original data onto the new grid

Writes out the new grid data file



## Regridding a Dataset

Name	Hide	Type	Source	Value
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> origin	<input type="checkbox"/>	vector list		[-130, 40 ]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deltas	<input type="checkbox"/>	vector list		[.05 .05]
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> counts	<input type="checkbox"/>	integer, vector		320 200 ]
<input type="checkbox"/> data	<input type="checkbox"/>	value list, string list		(no default)

Name	Type	Destination	Cache
output	field	Regrid, Export	All Results <input type="checkbox"/>

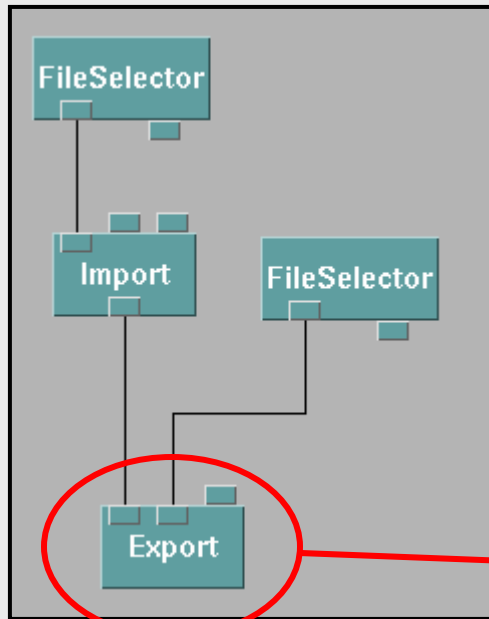
Coordinates at the lower corner of the dataset

Step size in each dimension

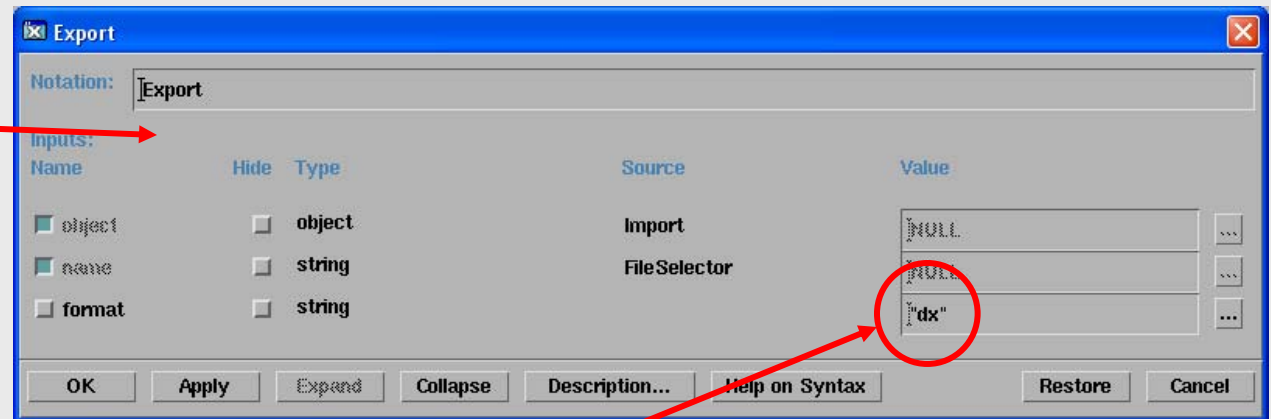
How many steps to make in the grid

Note: the upper corner coordinates will be  
"origin + (counts-1)\*delta"

## Writing a .general Dataset as a Native OpenDX .dx Dataset



The .dx file format embeds the data description information, the positions, and the data values in one file. This makes it easier to keep track of and easier to give to other people.



Says that you want to Export the data in a native OpenDX .dx file form.

Send comments and suggestions on these notes to:

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541-737-2542  
FAX: 541-737-1300  
mjb@cs.oregonstate.edu  
<http://eecs.oregonstate.edu/~mjb>