



# **CS 247 – Scientific Visualization**

## **Lecture 23: Vector Field / Flow Visualization, Pt.5**

Markus Hadwiger, KAUST

# Reading Assignment #14++



## Read (required):

- Data Visualization book, Chapter 6.7
- J. van Wijk: *Image-Based Flow Visualization*, ACM SIGGRAPH 2002

<http://www.win.tue.nl/~vanwijk/ibfv/ibfv.pdf>

## Read (optional):

- T. Günther, A. Horvath, W. Bresky, J. Daniels, S. A. Buehler:  
*Lagrangian Coherent Structures and Vortex Formation in High Spatiotemporal-Resolution Satellite Winds of an Atmospheric Karman Vortex Street*, 2021

<https://www.essoar.org/doi/10.1002/essoar.10506682.2>

- H. Bhatia, G. Norgard, V. Pascucci, P.-T. Bremer:  
*The Helmholtz-Hodge Decomposition – A Survey*, TVCG 19(8), 2013

<https://doi.org/10.1109/TVCG.2012.316>

- Work through online tutorials of multi-variable partial derivatives, grad, div, curl, Laplacian:

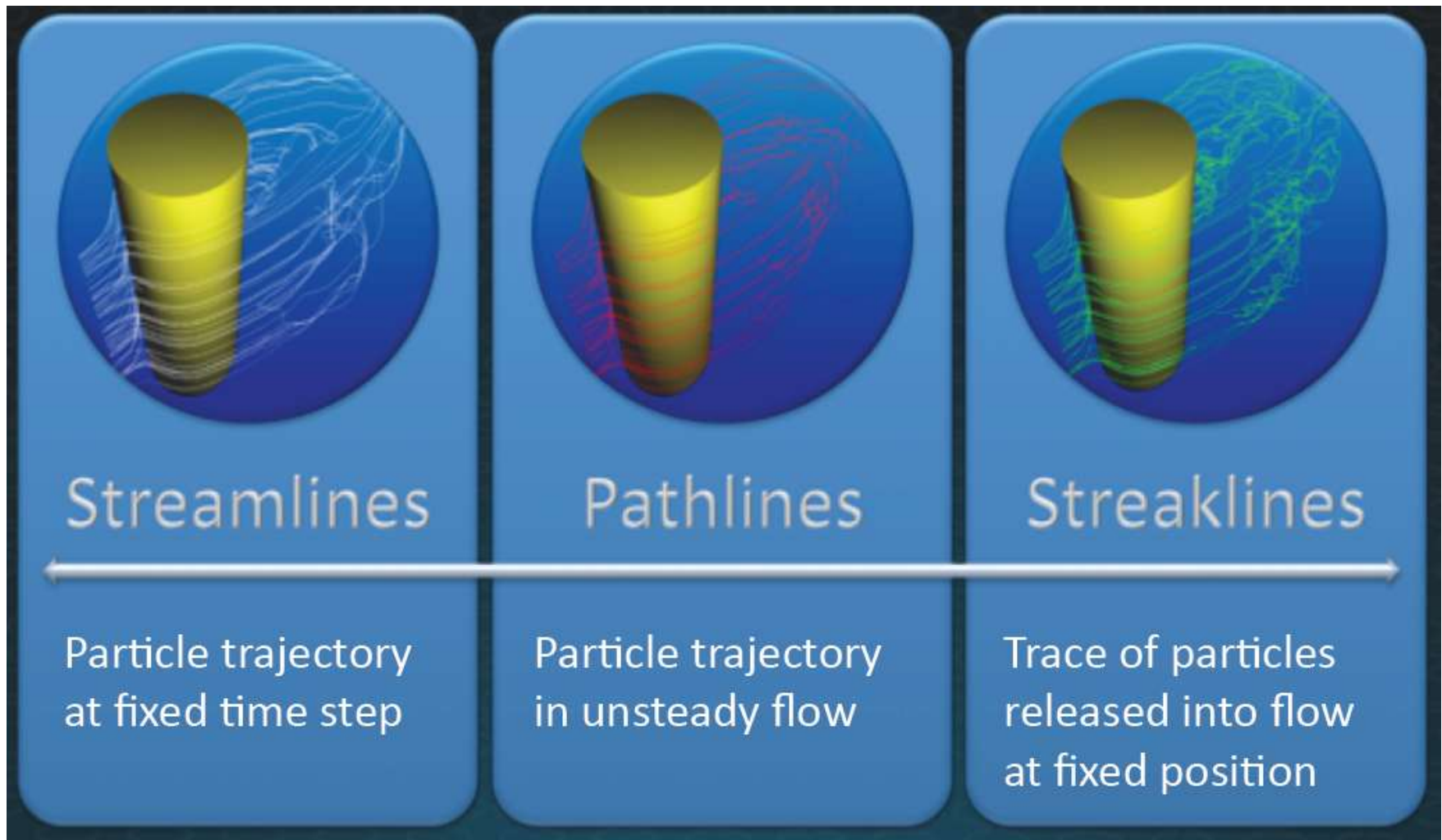
<https://www.khanacademy.org/math/multivariable-calculus/multivariable-derivatives>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rB83DpBJQsE> (3Blue1Brown)

- Matrix exponentials:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O85OWBJ2ayo> (3Blue1Brown)

# Integral Curves



## Streamline

- Curve parallel to the vector field in each point for a fixed time

## Pathline

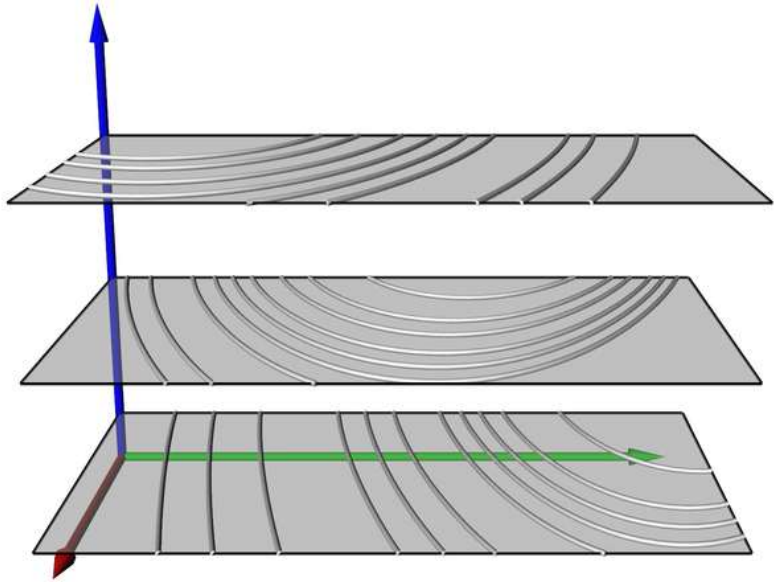
- Describes motion of a massless particle over time

## Streakline

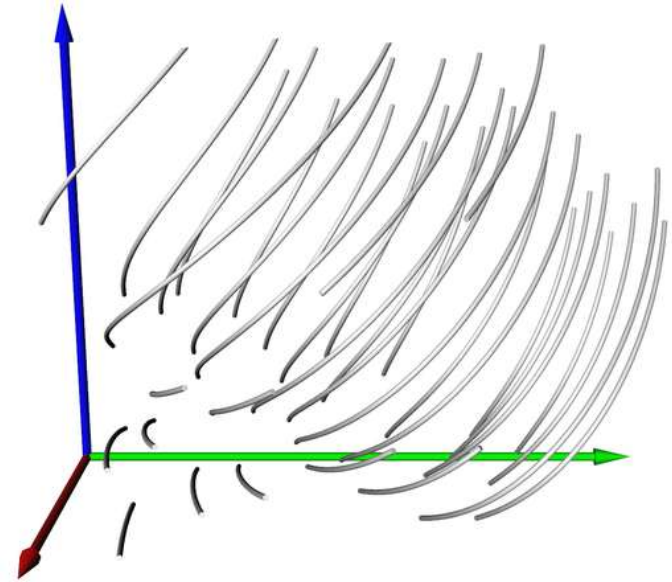
- Location of all particles released at a *fixed position* over time

## Timeline

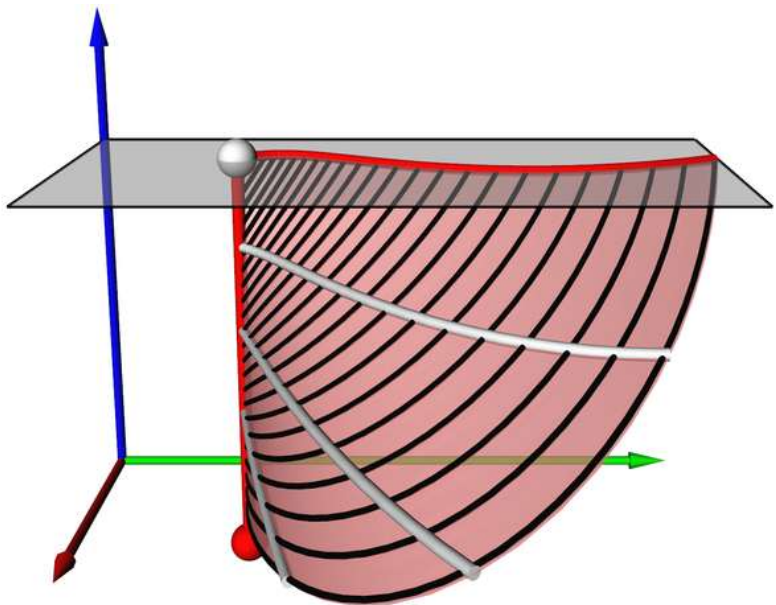
- Location of all particles released along a line at a *fixed time*



stream lines

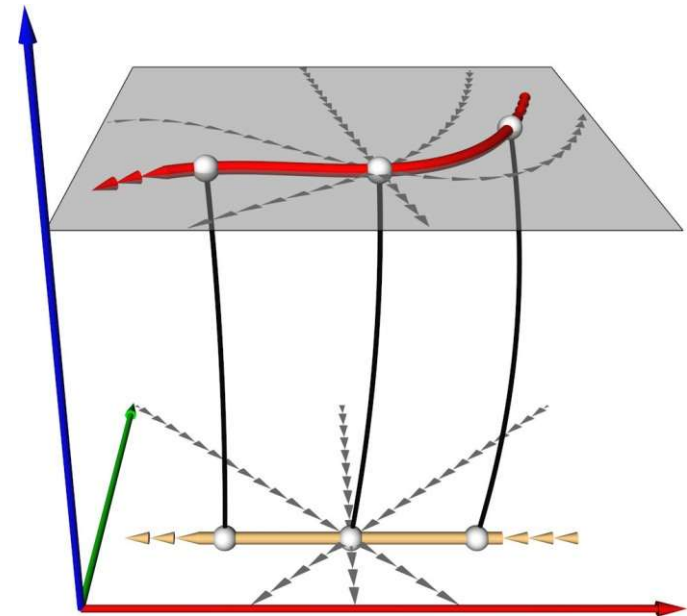


path lines



streak lines

time lines



## *Streamlines, pathlines, streaklines, timelines*

Comparison of techniques:

(1) Pathlines:

- are physically meaningful
- allow comparison with experiment (observe marked particles)
- are well suited for dynamic visualization (of particles)

(2) Streamlines:

- are only geometrically, not physically meaningful
- are easiest to compute (no temporal interpolation, single IVP)
- are better suited for static visualization (prints)
- don't intersect (under reasonable assumptions)

## *Streamlines, pathlines, streaklines, timelines*

### (3) Streaklines:

- are physically meaningful
- allow comparison with experiment (dye injection)
- are well suited for static and dynamic visualization
- good choice for fast moving vortices
- can be approximated by set of disconnected particles

### (4) Timelines:

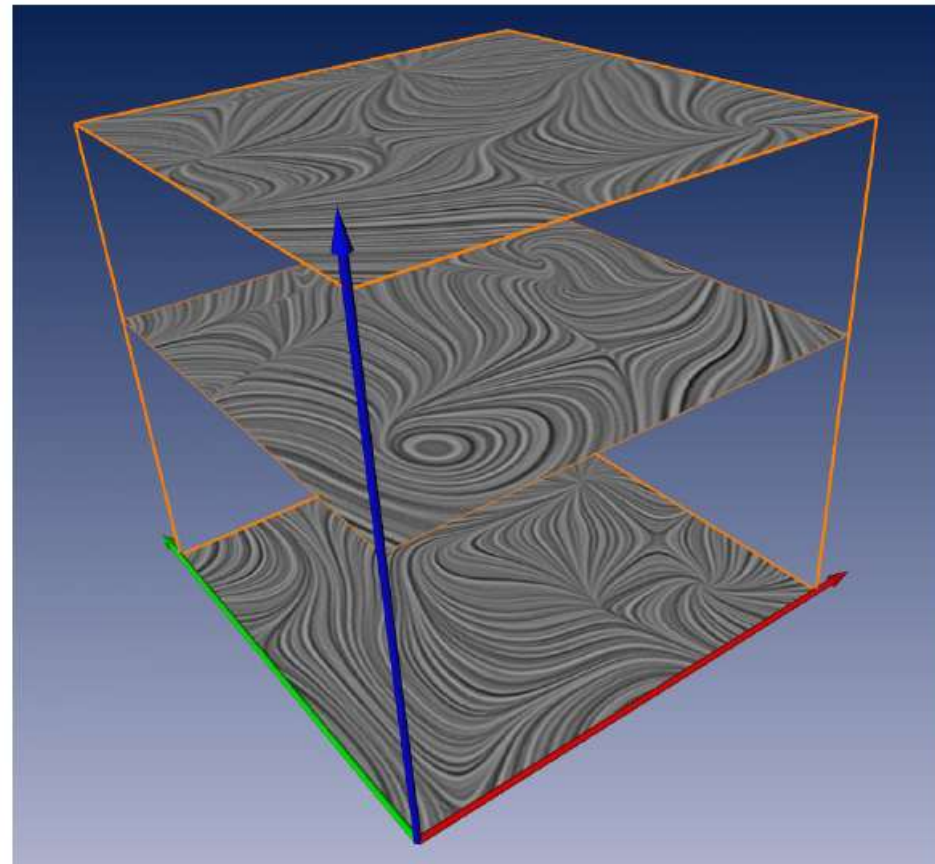
- are physically meaningful
- are well suited for static and dynamic visualization
- can be approximated by set of disconnected particles

# Streamlines Over Time



Defined only for steady flow or for a fixed time step (of unsteady flow)

Different tangent curves in every time step for time-dependent vector fields (unsteady flow)

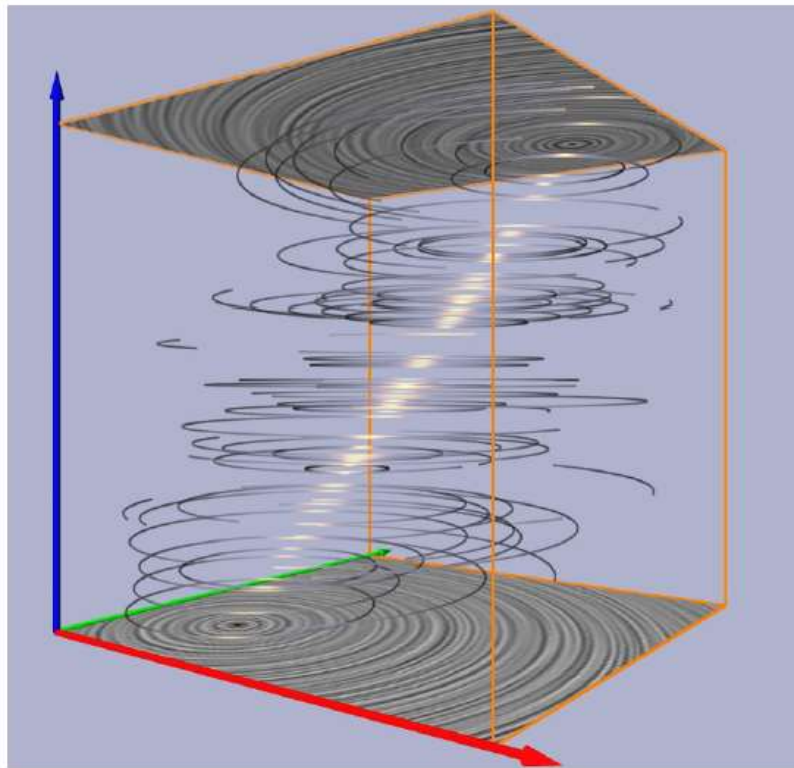


# Stream Lines vs. Path Lines Viewed Over Time

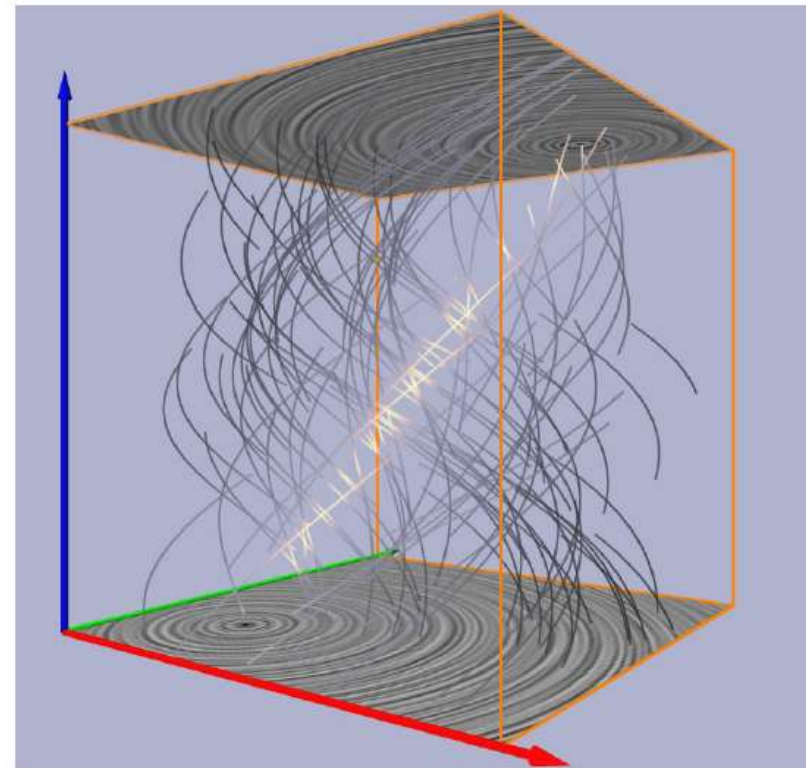


Plotted with time as third dimension

- Tangent curves to a  $(n + 1)$ -dimensional vector field



Stream Lines



Path Lines



**Time**



**streak line**

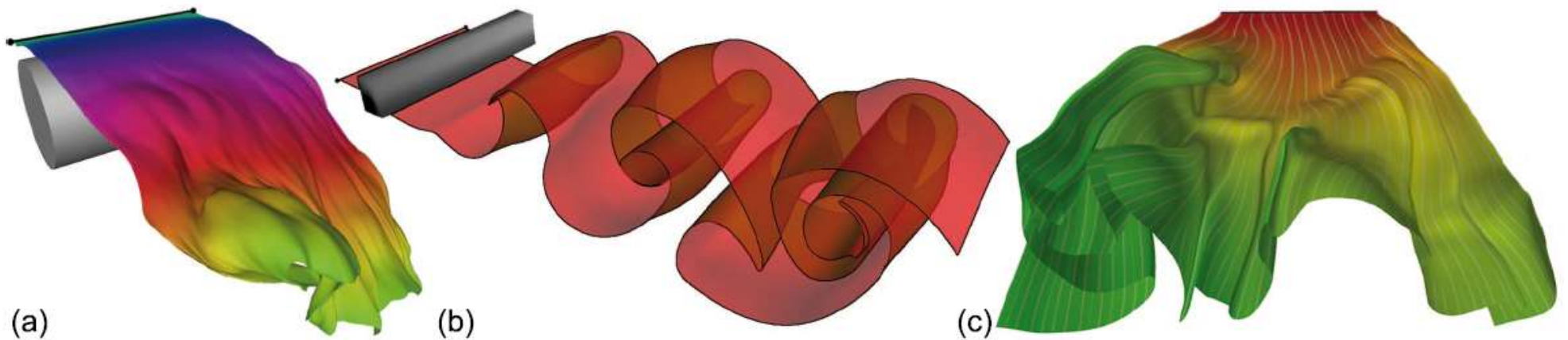
location of all particles set out at a fixed point at different times

# Surfaces Instead of Lines



Seeding from a line instead of from a point

Example: streak surfaces



Volumes: seeding from a surface instead of a line

# Real “Streak Surfaces”



Artistic photographs of smoke





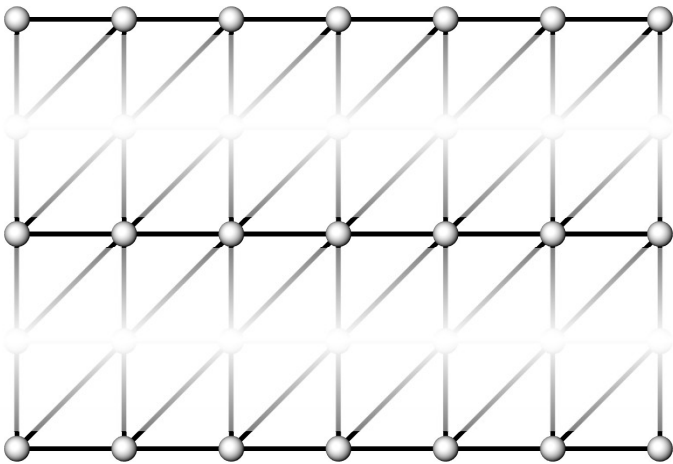
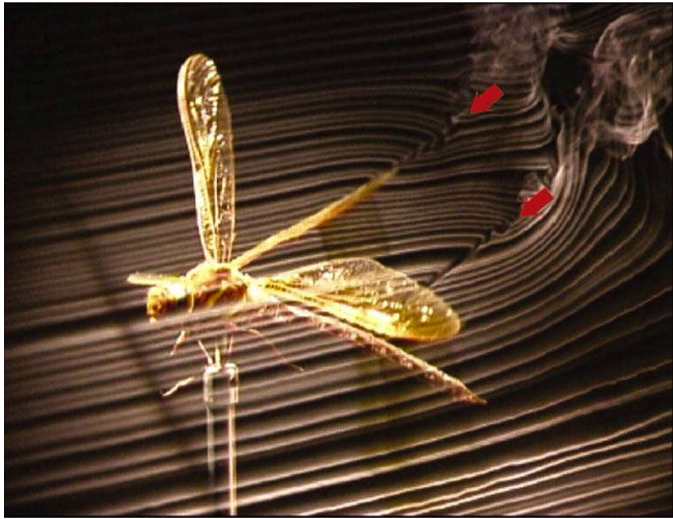
**Time**



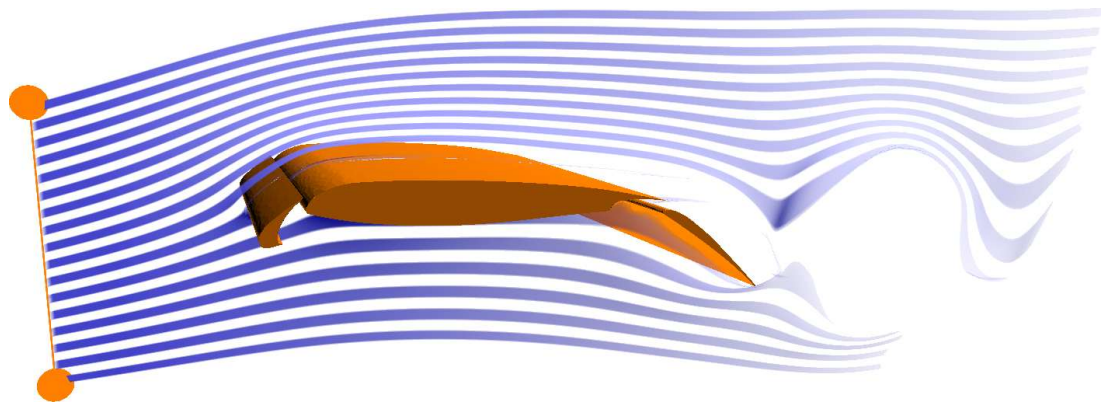
streak line

streak surface





fixed zero opacity rows



[Data courtesy of Günther (TU Berlin)]

break connectivity



**Particle visualization**

**2D time-dependent flow around a cylinder**

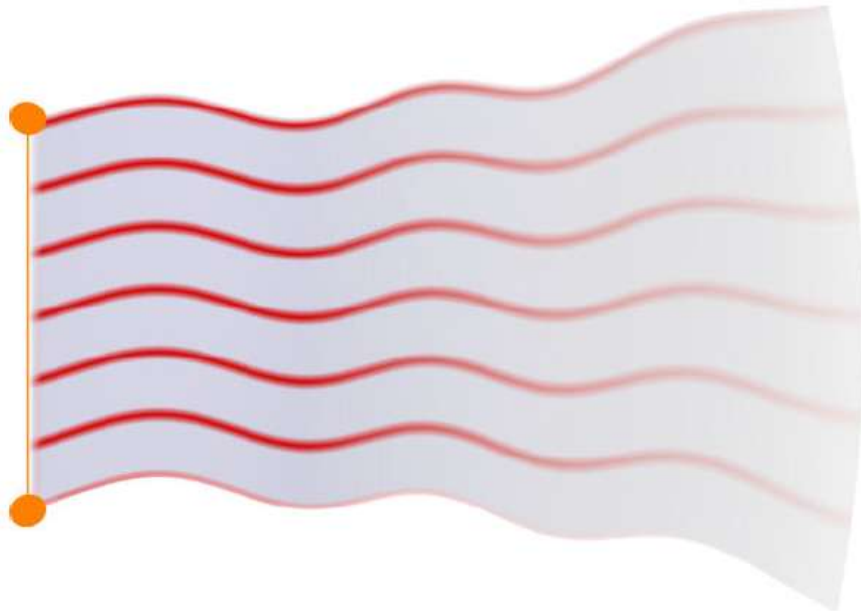
**time line**

location of all particles set out on a certain line at a fixed time

# Streak Lines vs. Time Lines



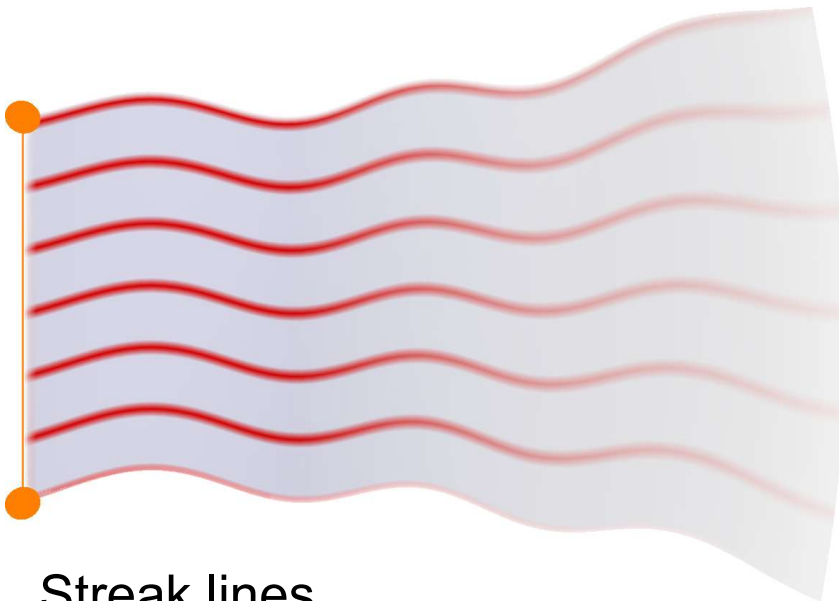
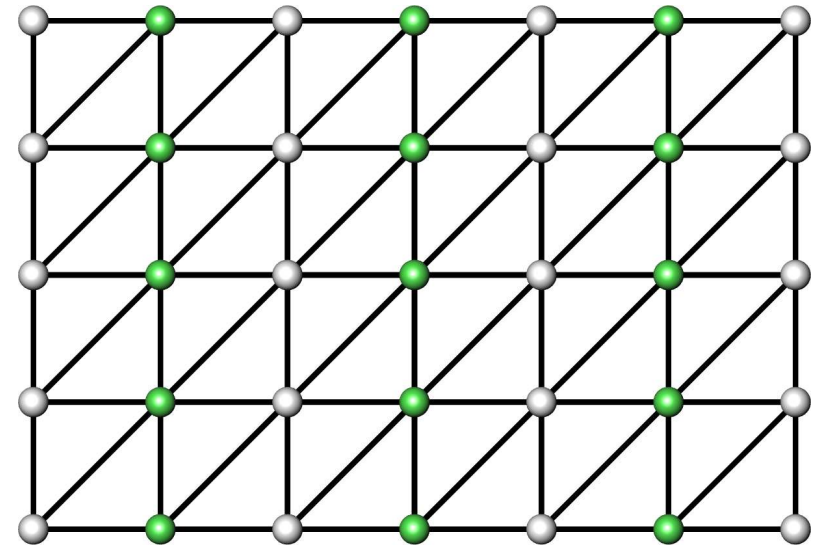
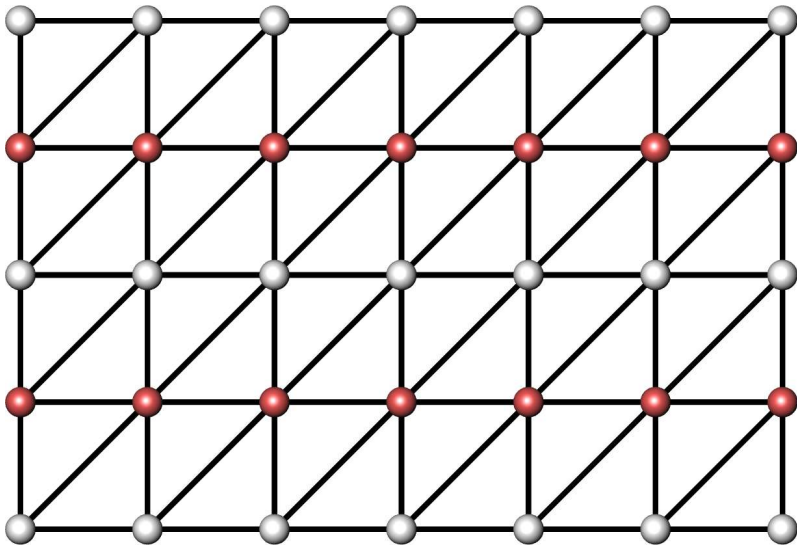
(on a streak surface)



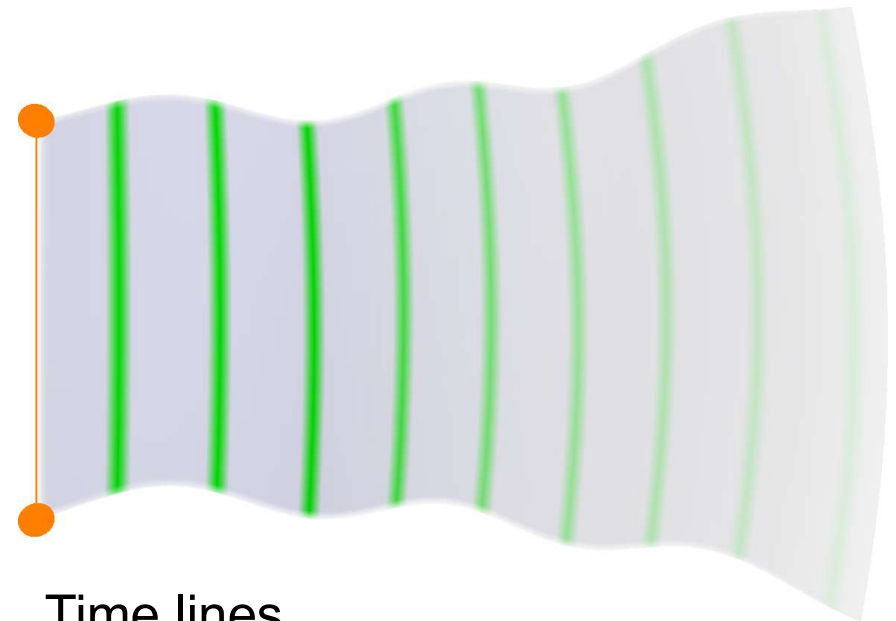
Streak Lines



Time Lines



Streak lines



Time lines

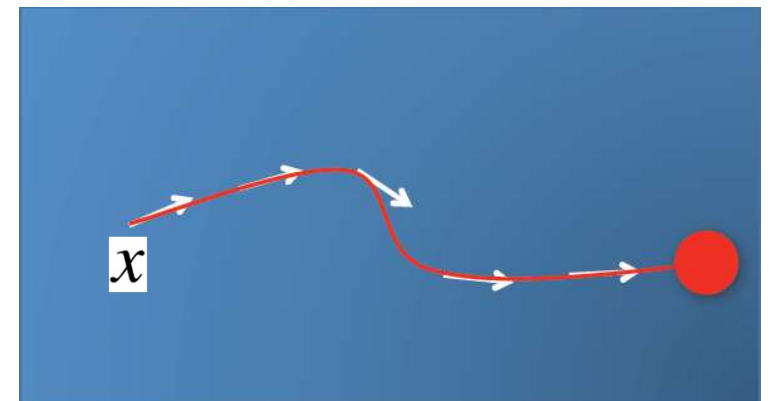
# The Flow / Flow Map of a Vector Field (1)



## Flow of a *steady (time-independent)* vector field

- Map source position  $x$  “forward” ( $t > 0$ ) or “backward” ( $t < 0$ ) by time  $t$

$$\boxed{\phi(x, t)} \quad \boxed{\phi_t(x)} \quad \text{with} \quad \phi_0(x) = x$$
$$\phi_s(\phi_t(x)) = \phi_{s+t}(x)$$
$$\phi: \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, \quad \phi_t: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n,$$
$$(x, t) \mapsto \phi(x, t), \quad x \mapsto \phi_t(x).$$



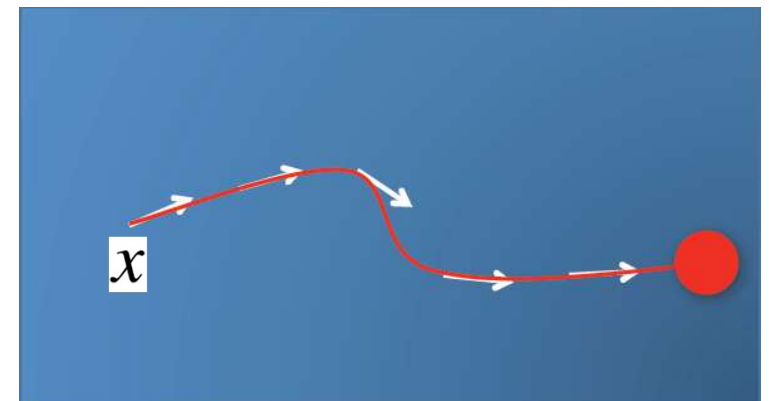
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$$\phi_s(\phi_t(x)) = \phi_{s+t}(x)$$
$$\phi : M \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M, \quad \phi_t : M \rightarrow M,$$
$$(x, t) \mapsto \phi(x, t), \quad x \mapsto \phi_t(x).$$



# The Flow / Flow Map of a Vector Field (1)



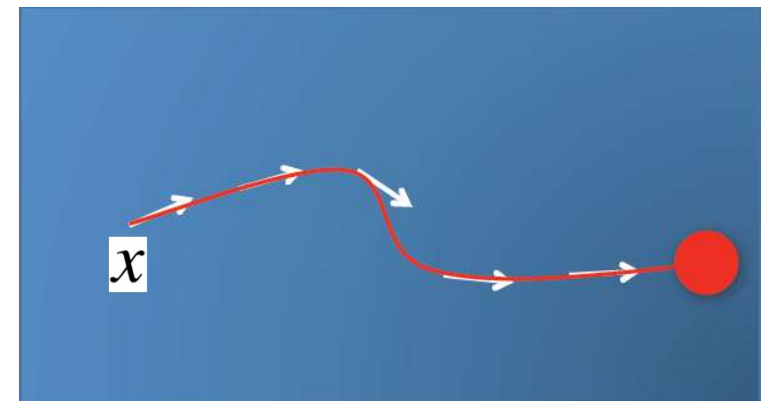
## Flow of a *steady (time-independent)* vector field

- Map source position  $x$  “forward” ( $t > 0$ ) or “backward” ( $t < 0$ ) by time  $t$

$$\boxed{\phi(x, t)} \quad \boxed{\phi_t(x)} \quad \text{with} \quad \phi_0(x) = x$$
$$\phi_s(\phi_t(x)) = \phi_{s+t}(x)$$
$$\phi : M \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M, \quad \phi_t : M \rightarrow M,$$
$$(x, t) \mapsto \phi(x, t), \quad x \mapsto \phi_t(x).$$

$$\phi(x, t) = x + \int_0^t \mathbf{v}(\phi(x, \tau)) \, d\tau$$

(on a general manifold  $M$ , integration is performed in coordinate charts)



# The Flow / Flow Map of a Vector Field (1)



## Flow of a *steady (time-independent)* vector field

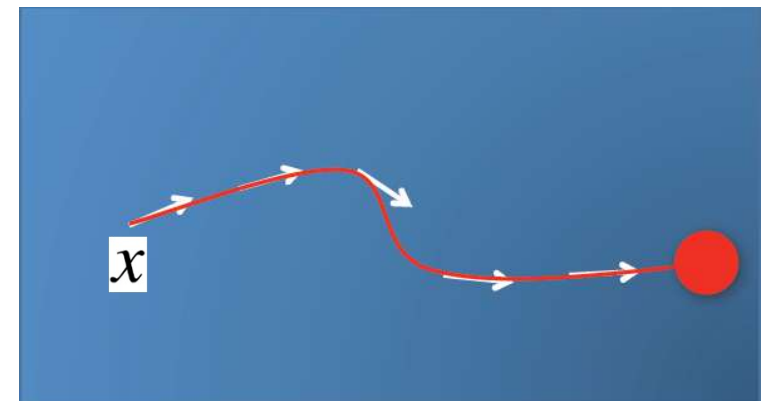
- Map source position  $x$  “forward” ( $t > 0$ ) or “backward” ( $t < 0$ ) by time  $t$

$$\boxed{\phi(x, t)} \quad \boxed{\phi_t(x)} \quad \text{with} \quad \phi_0(x) = x$$
$$\phi_s(\phi_t(x)) = \phi_{s+t}(x)$$
$$\phi : M \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M, \quad \phi_t : M \rightarrow M,$$
$$(x, t) \mapsto \phi(x, t), \quad x \mapsto \phi_t(x).$$

- Unsteady flow? Just fix arbitrary time  $T$

$$\phi(x, t) = x + \int_0^t \mathbf{v}(\phi(x, \tau), T) d\tau$$

(on a general manifold  $M$ , integration is performed in coordinate charts)



# The Flow / Flow Map of a Vector Field (1)



Flow of a *steady (time-independent)* vector field

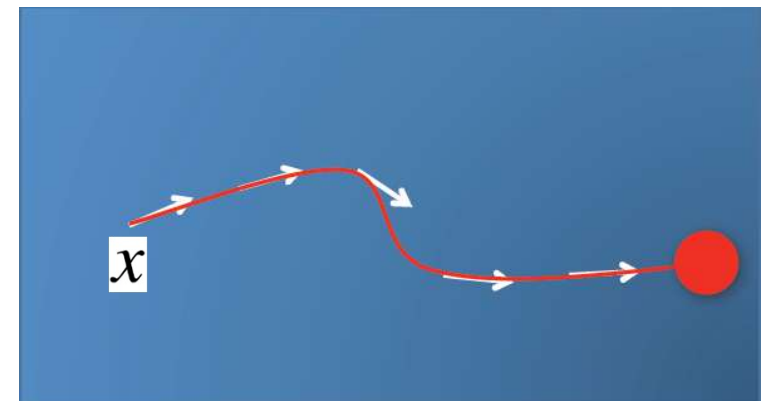
- Map source position  $x$  “forward” ( $t > 0$ ) or “backward” ( $t < 0$ ) by time  $t$

$$\boxed{\phi(x, t)} \quad \boxed{\phi_t(x)} \quad \text{with} \quad \phi_0(x) = x$$
$$\phi_s(\phi_t(x)) = \phi_{s+t}(x)$$
$$\phi : M \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M, \quad \phi_t : M \rightarrow M,$$
$$(x, t) \mapsto \phi(x, t), \quad x \mapsto \phi_t(x).$$

Can write explicitly as function of independent variable  $t$ , with *position  $x$  fixed*

$$t \mapsto \phi(x, t) \quad t \mapsto \phi_t(x)$$

= **stream line** going through point  $x$



# The Flow / Flow Map of a Vector Field (2)



## Flow of an *unsteady (time-dependent)* vector field

- Map source position  $x$  from time  $s$  to destination position at time  $t$  ( $t < s$  is allowed: map forward or backward in time)

$$\boxed{\psi_{t,s}(x)}$$

with

$$\psi_{t,s}(x) = x + \int_s^t \mathbf{v}(\psi_{\tau,s}(x), \tau) d\tau$$

$$\psi_{s,s}(x) = x$$

$$\psi_{t,r}(\psi_{r,s}(x)) = \psi_{t,s}(x)$$

# The Flow / Flow Map of a Vector Field (3)



Flow of an *unsteady (time-dependent)* vector field

- Map source position  $x$  from time  $s$  to destination position at time  $t$  ( $t < s$  is allowed: map forward or backward in time)

$$\boxed{\Psi_{t,s}(x)} \quad \Psi_{t,s}(x) = x + \int_s^t \mathbf{v}(\Psi_{\tau,s}(x), \tau) d\tau$$

Can write explicitly as function of  $t$ , *with  $s$  and  $x$  fixed*

$$t \mapsto \Psi_{t,s}(x) \quad \rightarrow \text{path line}$$

Can write explicitly as function of  $s$ , *with  $t$  and  $x$  fixed*

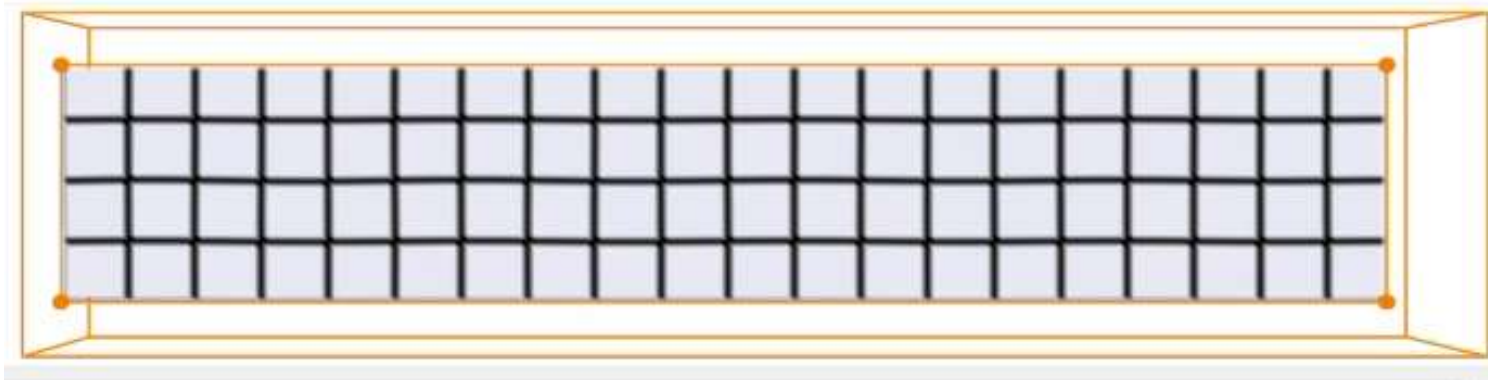
$$s \mapsto \Psi_{t,s}(x) \quad \rightarrow \text{streak line}$$

$\Psi_{t,s}(x)$  is also often written as **flow map**  $\phi_t^\tau(x)$  (with  $t:=s$  and either  $\tau:=t$  or  $\tau:=t-s$ )

# The Flow / Flow Map of a Vector Field (4)



Can map a whole set of points (or the entire domain) through the flow map (this map is a *diffeomorphism*):  $t \mapsto \psi_{t,s}(U)$



$U$

$= \psi_{s,s}(U)$



$\psi_{t,s}(U)$

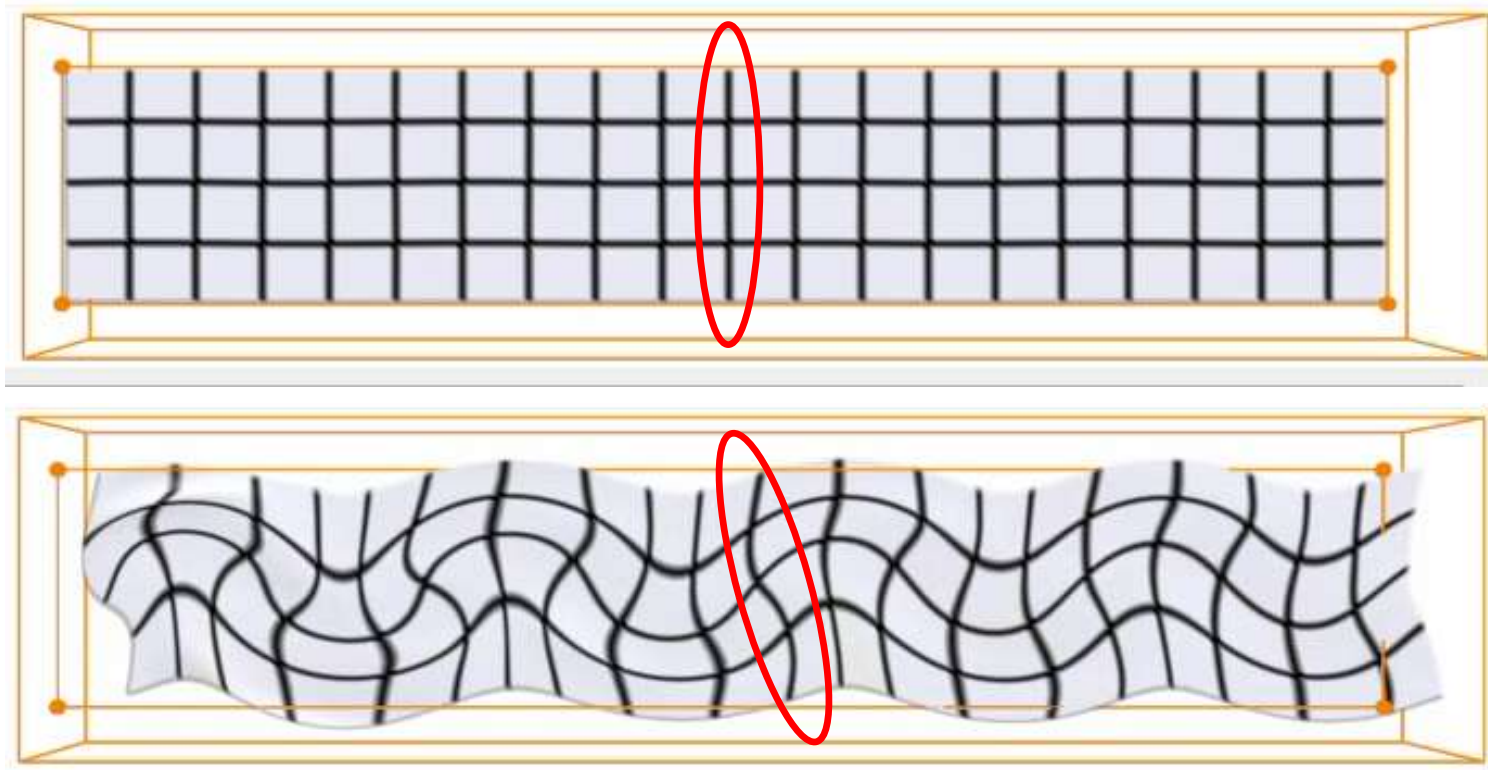
(this is a *time surface!*)

# The Flow / Flow Map of a Vector Field (5)



Time line: Map a whole curve from one fixed time (s) to another time (t)

$$t \mapsto \psi_{t,s}(c(\lambda))$$



$$c(\lambda) \\ = \psi_{s,s}(c(\lambda))$$

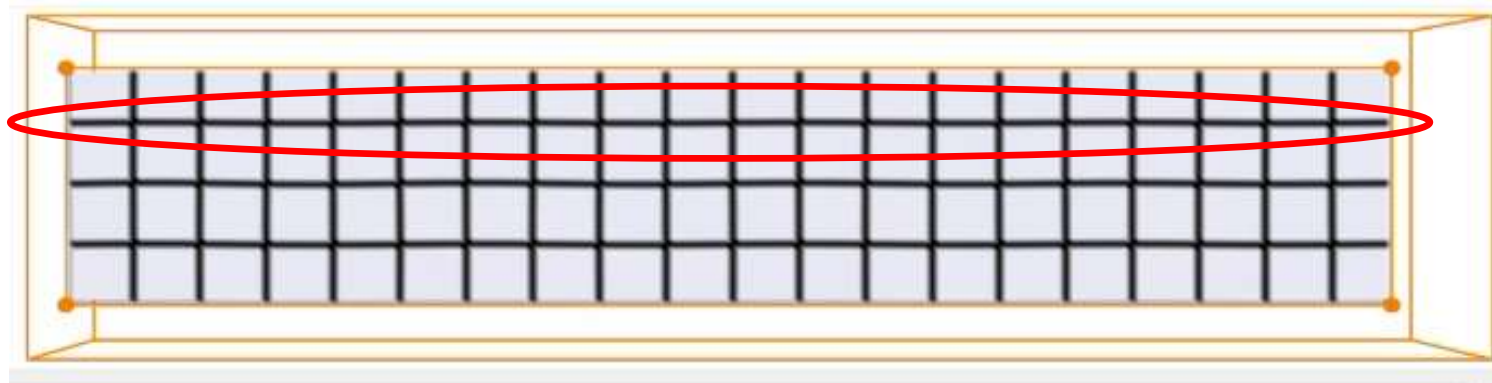
$$\psi_{t,s}(c(\lambda))$$

# The Flow / Flow Map of a Vector Field (5)

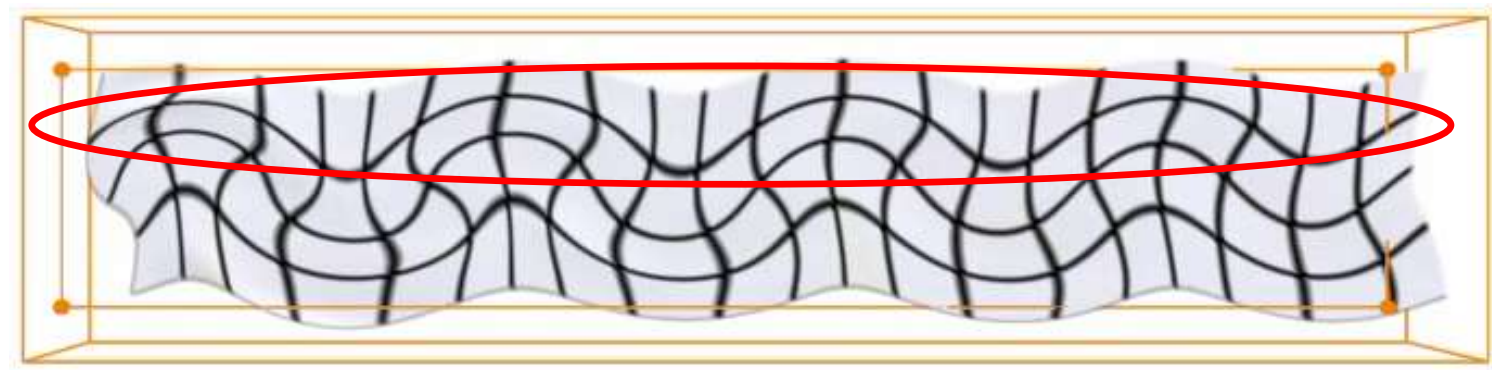


Time line: Map a whole curve from one fixed time (s) to another time (t)

$$t \mapsto \psi_{t,s}(c(\lambda))$$



$$c(\lambda) \\ = \psi_{s,s}(c(\lambda))$$



$$\psi_{t,s}(c(\lambda))$$

# Thank you.

## Thanks for material

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