

# **Professional Development Short Course On:**

Exploring Data: Accessing, Understanding  
and Visualizing Data To Gain Insight.

## **Instructor:**

Ted Meyer

Dr. Brand Fortner

**ATI Course Schedule:**

<http://www.ATCourses.com/schedule.htm>

**ATI's Exploring Data: Visualization course**

[http://www.atcourses.com/data\\_presentation\\_and\\_visualization.htm](http://www.atcourses.com/data_presentation_and_visualization.htm)

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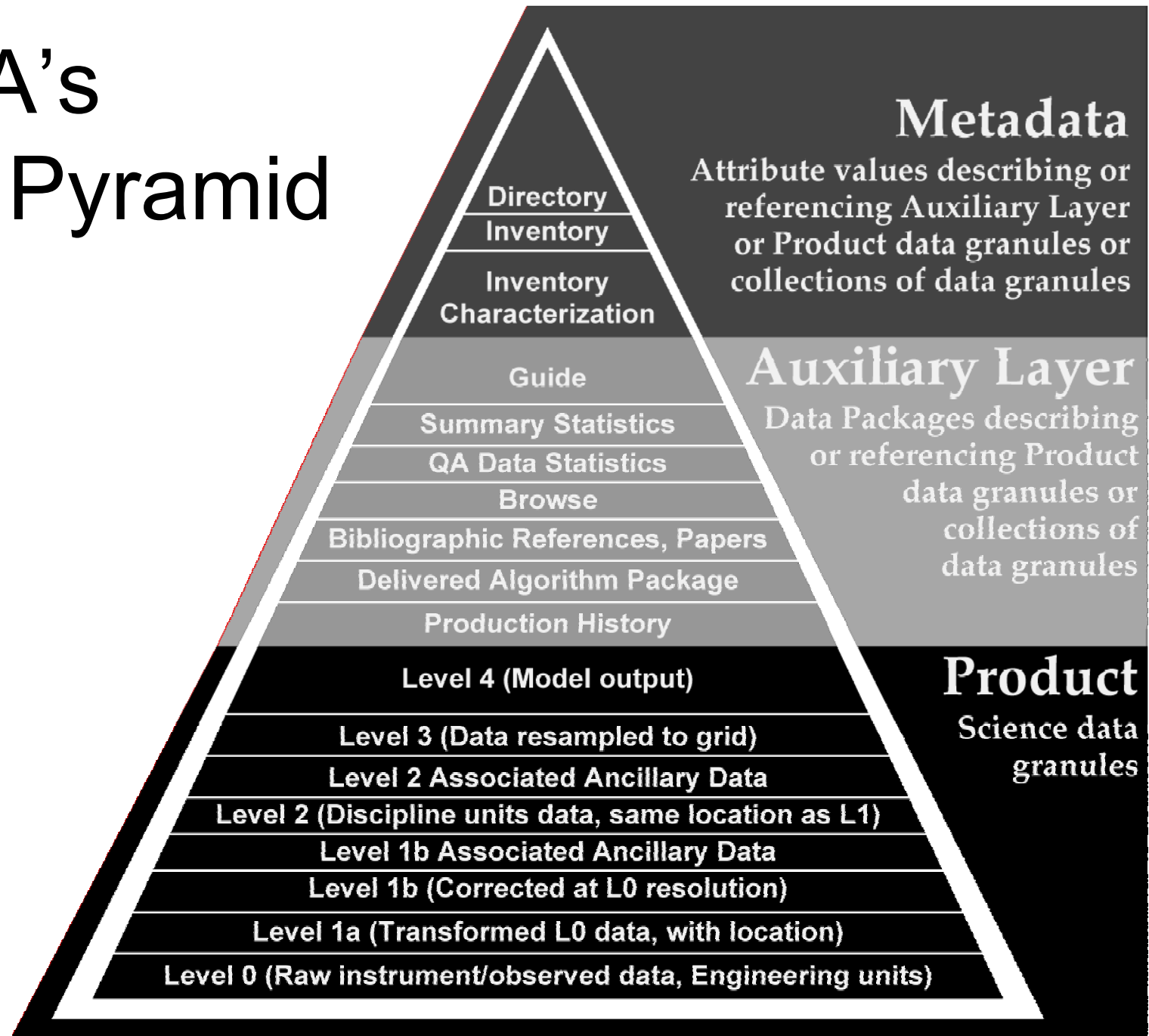
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# NASA's Data Pyramid



# Universe of Data

- Data Elements
- Data Structures (Objects)
- Data Collections
- Data Systems
  
- Metadata

# When Dealing with Data

- How are the numbers stored?
- How is the data Organized
- What is the dimensionality of the data?
- Is the data on a grid?
- What is the best way to analyze the data?

# Data Characteristics

- Numeric, symbolic (or mix)
- Scalar, vector, or complex structure
- Various units
- Discrete or continuous
- Spatial, quantity, category, temporal, relational, structural
- Accurate or approximate
- Dense or sparse
- Ordered or non-ordered
- Disjoint or overlapping
- Binary, enumerated, multilevel
- Independent or dependent
- Multidimensional
- Single or multiple sets
- May have similarity or distance metric
- May have intuitive graphical representation (e.g. temperature with color)
- Has semantics which may be crucial in graphical consideration

# Numbers in Computers

- Quantitative: Numeric vs. Non-numeric data
  - Categorical Data: Finite set
  - Text
- Number Types
  - Binary
    - Bytes, Integers, Floating point
    - Fixed precision
    - Not readable by humans
    - Storage and processing efficient
  - ASCII
    - Text, Characters
    - Variable precision
    - Human readable
    - Storage and processing inefficient

# Evaluating Number Types

- Storage and processing efficiency
- Data range required
- Numeric precision required
- Calculation issues
- Portability



# Bytes

- 8 bits represents  $2^8$  (256) distinct values
- Unsigned and Signed
  - Twos-complement
- Representation
  - Hexadecimal, Octal, Decimal, Binary

# Integers

- Short and long integers
  - Signed and unsigned
  - Fixed point numbers
    - Scale and Offset
- $\text{number} = \text{scale} \times (\text{value} + \text{offset})$

# Floating Point Numbers

- Single precision (4-byte)

- $9.10956 \times 10^{-28}$

- sign            exponent            mantissa

- 0                -28                910956                decimal

- 0                -1011010                1001000001011000110001

- binary

- IEEE Standard 754

- Double precision (8-byte)

- Zero, NaN, INF, Complex numbers, Extended

# ASCII Text Numbers

- ASCII Characters
- Numbers
  - Exponential notation
  - Delimiters - space, comma, tab
  - Line separators
  - Position formats
- Unicode (16-bit characters)

# Storage and Processing Efficiency

- Bytes - efficient use of disk space and CPU cycles
- Integers - efficient use of disk space and CPU cycles, especially if no FPU
- Floating point - less disk efficient, needs FPU to be processing efficient
- ASCII Text - disk and processing hog, no direct access unless position formatted, processing requires translation

# Data Range

- Bytes - 0 to 255 unsigned or -128 to 127 signed, easy to exceed range
- Integers - depends on size, -32768 to 32767 for 2-byte integers, easy to exceed range
- Floating point - very large, but user needs to know when to use double precision
- ASCII Text - limited only by capabilities of reading software (most software is limited to integer or floating point ranges)

# Numeric Precision

- Bytes - always one
- Integers - precision is always one for integers,  $1/\text{scale}$  for fixed point
- Floating point - can vary depending upon a variety of numerical factors, but the maximum is about 7 and 15 decimal digits for single and double precision numbers
- ASCII Text - limited only by capabilities of reading software (most software is limited to integer or floating point precision)

# Calculation Issues

- Bytes - dangerous because of likely overflow
- Integers - dangerous because of likely overflow
- Floating point - Usually easy, but be aware of problems: roundoff, differencing similar numbers, comparisons
- ASCII Text - must first convert to integers or floating point and then subject to same limitations as those types



# Portability

- Bytes - Most computers store bytes the same way
- Integers - byte ordering problems: little vs. big endian, fixed point problematic because of scale and offset
- Floating point - IEEE standard is most common, but heritage data may be in other forms
- ASCII Text - extremely portable and human readable on most platforms, with minor problems associated with delimiters, line end characters, and file transfer

# Scientific Data Storage

- Text vs. Binary, Public vs. Private
- Issues: Numerical Precision
  - Numerical Range
  - Portability
  - Efficiency
  - Self-Documenting
  - Power & Extensibility
- How do the Various Formats Rate?

## How do the Various Formats Rate?

---

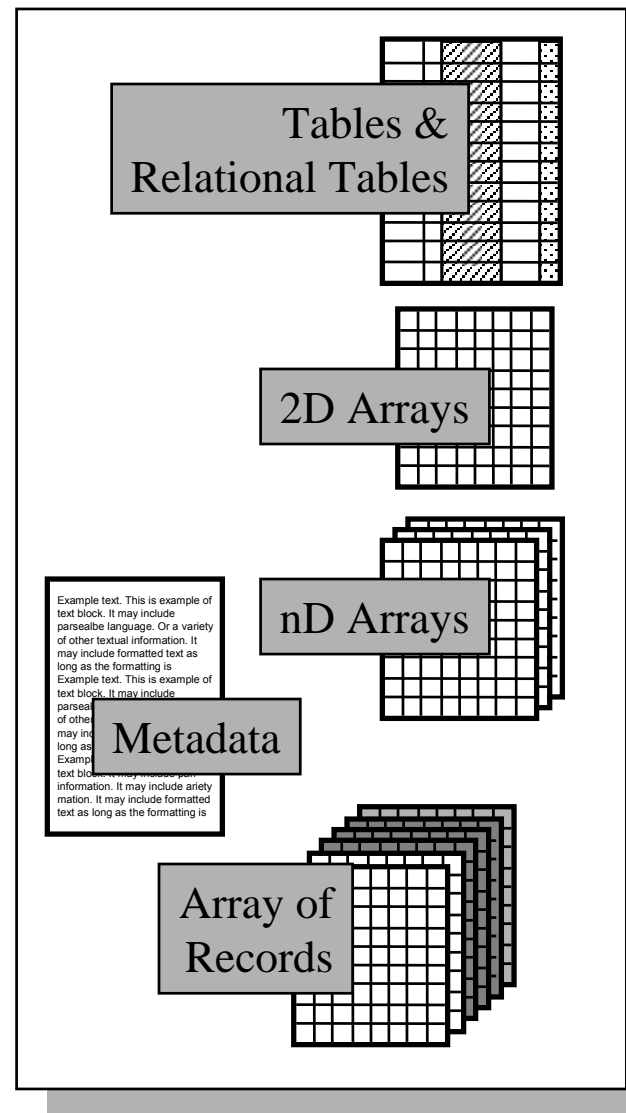
	<b>Text</b>	<b>Binary Integer</b>	<b>Binary Float</b>
<b>Precision</b>	Variable	Fair	Good
<b>Range</b>	Infinite	Poor	Excellent
<b>Portability</b>	Excellent	Fair	Poor
<b>Efficiency</b>	Poor	Excellent	Excellent

	<b>Private Binary</b>	<b>Private Text</b>	<b>Standard Binary</b>
<b>Portability</b>	Poor	Excellent	Excellent
<b>Efficiency</b>	Excellent	Poor	Excellent
<b>Self-Document</b>	Poor	Good	Excellent
<b>Power &amp; Extensibility</b>	Good	Good	Varies

- *What the World Needs is a Powerful, Extensible, Self-Documenting, Standard Binary Floating Point File Format for Technical Data*

# Kinds of Science Data

- Science Data Types
- Metadata
- Images
- Atomic Types
  - Integers
  - Floating Point
  - ASCII Text



# How are my Numbers Organized?

---

- Dimensionality, Data Locations, and Data Values

- Column Data: *List of Data Locations and Values*

X	Y	Velocity
0.5	0.5	0.0350
0.5	1.0	0.0714
0.5	1.5	0.3853
1.0	0.5	0.4911
1.0	1.0	0.2422
1.0	1.5	0.9207
1.5	0.5	0.5744
1.5	1.0	0.3305
1.5	1.5	0.8485

- 2D Matrix Data: *Locations Implicit in Matrix*

		X		
		0.5	1.0	1.5
Y	0.5	0.0350	0.4911	0.5744
	1.0	0.0714	0.2422	0.3305
	1.5	0.3853	0.9207	0.8485

- 3D Matrix Data: *Same as 2D*

		Z=6.0			
		0.5	1.0	1.5	
Z=0.0	Z=3.0	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.4064
	0.5	0.0350	0.4911	0.5744	1.7672
	1.0	0.0714	0.2422	0.3305	1.7253
	1.5	0.3853	0.9207	0.8485	1.7757
					2.5157
					2.7190

- Polygonal Data: *List of Objects*

Polygon Name	Polygon Position	Vertices	Temp.	Stress
A	(0.5, 0.5, 0.0)	(vertex info)	72.2	0.034
B	(0.5, 1.0, 0.5)	•	74.8	0.056
C	(1.0, 0.5, 0.5)	•	71.3	0.089
•	•	•	•	•

# Column Data

- Column, Record, Flat File or Table Data
  - Records, fields

Time	Free_Response	Controlled_Response
0.00	0.000	0.0000
0.02	-0.0001	-0.0001
0.04	-0.0012	-0.0012
0.06	-0.0039	-0.0039
0.08	-0.0081	-0.0081
0.1	-0.0137	-0.0137
0.12	-0.0211	-0.0211
0.14	-0.0305	-0.0305
0.16	-0.042	-0.042
0.18	-0.0554	-0.0553
0.2	-0.0702	-0.07
0.22	-0.0863	-0.0856
0.24	-0.1038	-0.1022
0.26	-0.1232	-0.12
0.28	-0.1447	-0.1387
0.3	-0.1675	-0.1577
0.32	-0.1909	-0.1758
0.34	-0.2139	-0.1924
0.36	-0.2356	-0.2067
0.38	-0.255	-0.2182
0.4	-0.2719	-0.227

Column1	Column2	Column3
4727	1097	0
4470	1064	1
4470	1047	1
4501	1014	1
4501	964	1
4449	931	1
4464	948	1
4438	1031	1
4433	948	1
4407	956	1
4396	1014	1
4381	1196	1
4349	1717	1

```
# Data recorded on 01/02/91 at 694 stations. -99 means data not avail.
# X and Y is Lat-Long mapped onto polar stereographic projection
  X-coord      Y-coord      Temp(F)  Dewpt(F)  Press(Mb)  U(m/s)  V(m/s)
4158095.30    2769728.30    15.00    5.00    1020.60    -0.31    2.55
4206175.00    2711076.00    17.00    5.00    1022.30    -0.52    4.09
4157729.80    2479427.00    24.00    7.00    1025.70    -1.21    4.47
3925337.00    2395113.80    27.00    11.00    1026.70    -1.06    5.04
3975751.30    2386686.80    22.00    7.00    1025.40    -0.89    4.02
4151424.80    2401246.50    25.00    10.00    1026.70    0.68    2.48
4089275.00    2322289.50    27.00    4.00    1027.10    2.24    2.13
4105378.00    2298648.30    30.00    14.00    1027.80    3.60    0.22
4102765.80    2221281.00    25.00    4.00    1026.40    4.26    1.82
4157063.30    2257515.30    32.00    8.00    1029.10    3.03    4.16
4135176.50    2259278.80    30.00    10.00    1028.40    4.71    2.07
```

1989	1703	1
1988	1923	1
1993	1932	1

# Column Data

- Univariate
  - One Parameter
- Bivariate
- Trivariate
- Hypervariate
  - Multi-parameter

Univariate

Temperature  
Variation

53.379  
56.132  
58.803  
74.001  
100.896  
105.082  
74.425  
61.110  
90.954  
74.488  
50.073  
52.929  
73.256  
68.178  
82.253  
102.230  
69.395  
82.663  
103.075  
70.152  
101.360  
66.188

Hypervariate

Alpha Channel	Data Age	z-fact	Temperature Bias	Temperature Drift	Temperature Aging
0.9950	0.1987	0.1297	107.289	57.677	53.379
0.9801	0.3894	0.1739	106.358	69.561	56.132
0.9553	0.5646	0.2167	104.817	80.477	58.803
0.9211	0.7174	0.4607	102.682	89.991	74.001
0.8776	0.8415	0.8924	99.973	97.724	100.896
0.8253	0.9320	0.9596	96.718	103.366	105.082
0.7648	0.9854	0.4675	92.950	106.694	74.425
0.6967	0.9996	0.2538	88.705	107.573	61.110
0.6216	0.9738	0.7328	84.026	105.971	90.954
0.5403	0.9093	0.4685	78.961	101.949	74.488

# Categorical Data

- Non-numeric
  - Data broken into groups
  - Examples: color, educational level, race, station, age group
- Numeric data can be divided into categories:
  - Low
  - Medium
  - High
- Often tabular column data with relations to numeric parameters

Test Site	Source	z-fact
alpha	red	0.1297
gamma	blue	0.1739
epsilon	blue	0.2167
delta	blue	0.4607
nu	blue	0.8924
omicron	blue	0.9596
lambda	blue	0.4675
kappa	blue	0.2538
delta	red	0.7328
nu	red	0.4685
omicron	red	0.0766
pi	red	0.1224
sigma	red	0.4487
tau	green	0.3672
gamma	red	0.5931
kappa	red	0.9138
delta	blue	0.3868
nu	blue	0.5997
omicron	green	0.9274



# Arrays of Data

- Scales and Grids
- Numeric Types

5.444	7.323	9.629	11.170	12.655	13.687	14.453
5.119	7.170	8.985	10.786	12.467	13.742	14.693
4.458	6.180	8.355	10.584	12.381	13.777	14.852
4.144	5.485	7.459	9.768	11.900	13.605	14.910
3.706	4.821	6.489	8.466	10.817	13.017	14.750
3.457	4.145	5.637	7.342	9.451	11.882	14.166
3.044	3.397	4.697	6.352	8.182	10.364	12.903
2.763	2.790	3.698	5.181	6.960	8.863	11.123
3.049	2.520	2.905	3.994	5.607	7.395	9.330

# Grids

- Uniform grids and no grids

	0.5	1	1.5
0.5	0.0350	0.4911	0.5744
1.0	0.0714	0.7477	0.3305
1.5	0.3853	0.9207	0.8485

- Non-uniform grids

	0.5	0.7	1.8
0.5	0.0350	0.4911	0.5744
1.0	0.0714	0.7477	0.3305
1.1	0.3853	0.9207	0.8485

- Warped grids

0.0350 (0.5, 0.5)	0.4911 (1.0, 0.7)	0.5744 (1.5, 0.5)
0.0714 (0.7, 1.0)	0.7477 (1.0, 1.0)	0.3305 (1.3, 1.0)
0.3853 (0.5, 1.5)	0.9207 (1.0, 1.2)	0.8485 (1.5, 1.5)

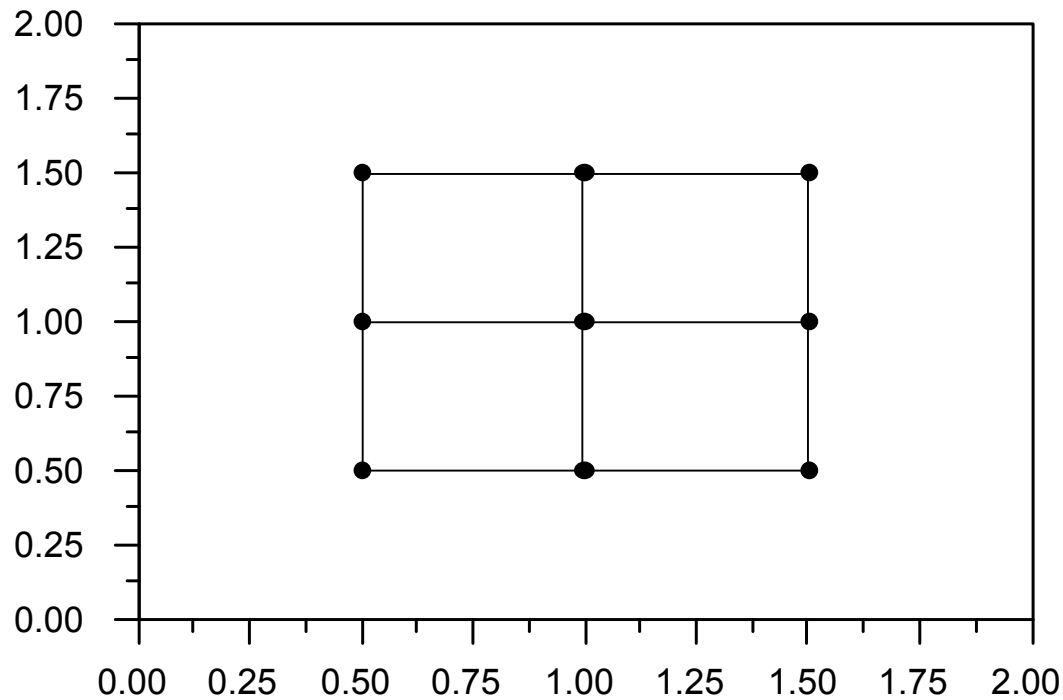
- Sparse grids

	0.5	1	1.5
0.5	NaN	0.4911	0.5744
1.0	0.0714	0.7477	NaN
1.5	0.3853	NaN	0.8485

# Grids

- Uniform grids and no grids

	0.5	1	1.5
0.5	0.0350	0.4911	0.5744
1.0	0.0714	0.7477	0.3305
1.5	0.3853	0.9207	0.8485

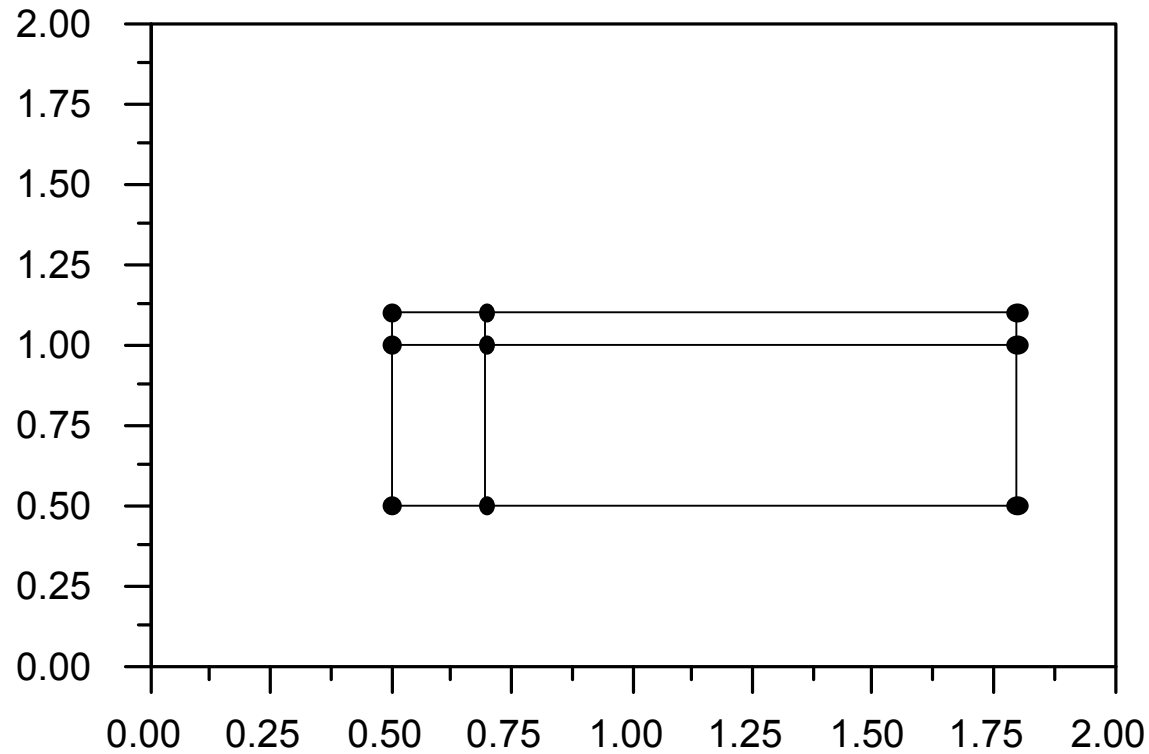


X	Y	
0.5	0.5	0.0350
0.5	1	0.4911
0.5	1.5	0.5744
1	0.5	0.0714
1	1	0.7477
1	1.5	0.3305
1.5	0.5	0.3853
1.5	1	0.9207
1.5	1.5	0.8485

# Grids

- Non-uniform grids

	0.5	0.7	1.8
0.5	0.0350	0.4911	0.5744
1.0	0.0714	0.7477	0.3305
1.1	0.3853	0.9207	0.8485

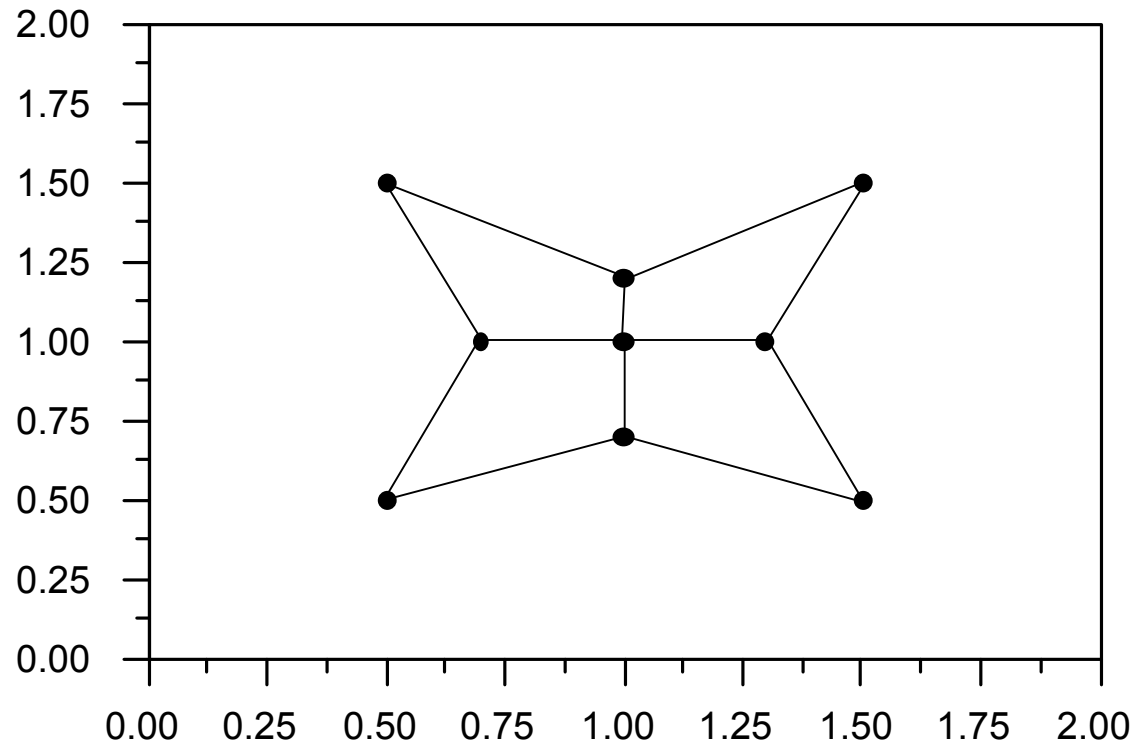


X	Y	
0.5	0.5	0.0350
0.5	1	0.4911
0.5	1.1	0.5744
0.7	0.5	0.0714
0.7	1	0.7477
0.7	1.1	0.3305
1.8	0.5	0.3853
1.8	1	0.9207
1.8	1.1	0.8485

# Grids

- Warped grids

<b>0.0350</b> <b>(0.5, 0.5)</b>	<b>0.4911</b> <b>(1.0, 0.7)</b>	<b>0.5744</b> <b>(1.5, 0.5)</b>
<b>0.0714</b> <b>(0.7, 1.0)</b>	<b>0.7477</b> <b>(1.0, 1.0)</b>	<b>0.3305</b> <b>(1.3, 1.0)</b>
<b>0.3853</b> <b>(0.5, 1.5)</b>	<b>0.9207</b> <b>(1.0, 1.2)</b>	<b>0.8485</b> <b>(1.5, 1.5)</b>

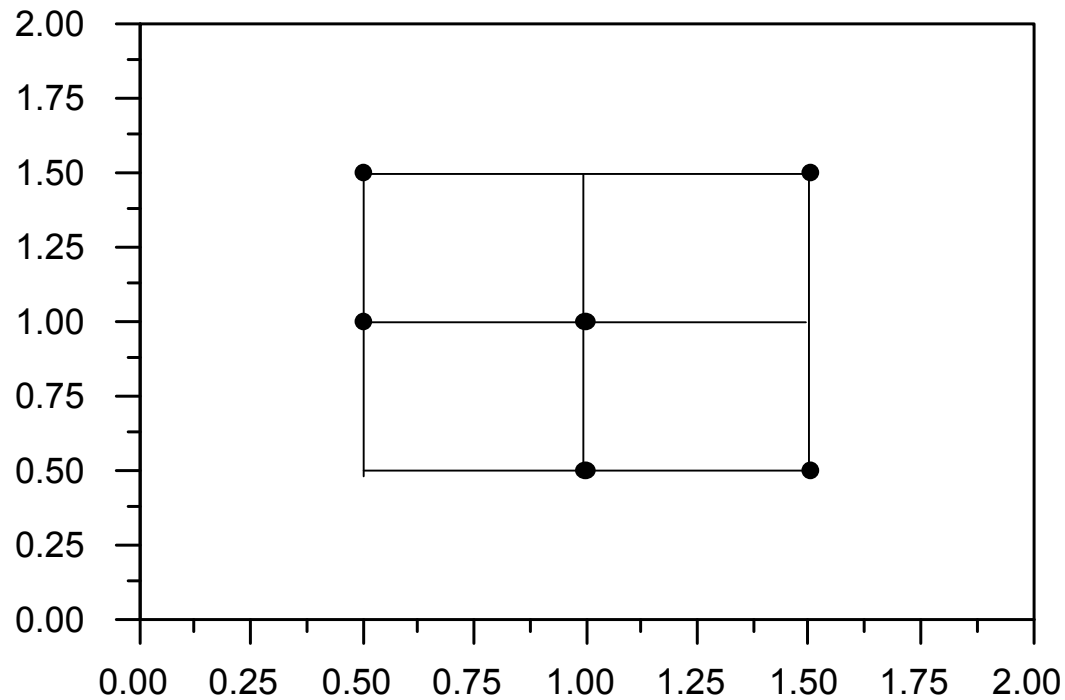


<b>X</b>	<b>Y</b>	
<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.0350</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.4911</b>
<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.5744</b>
<b>0.7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.0714</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.7477</b>
<b>1.3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.3305</b>
<b>0.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.3853</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0.9207</b>
<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.8485</b>

# Grids

- Sparse grids

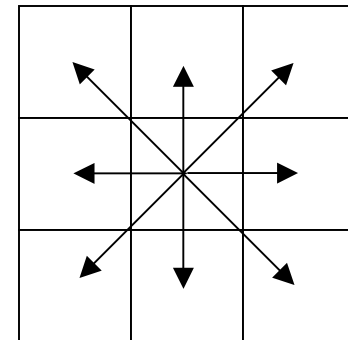
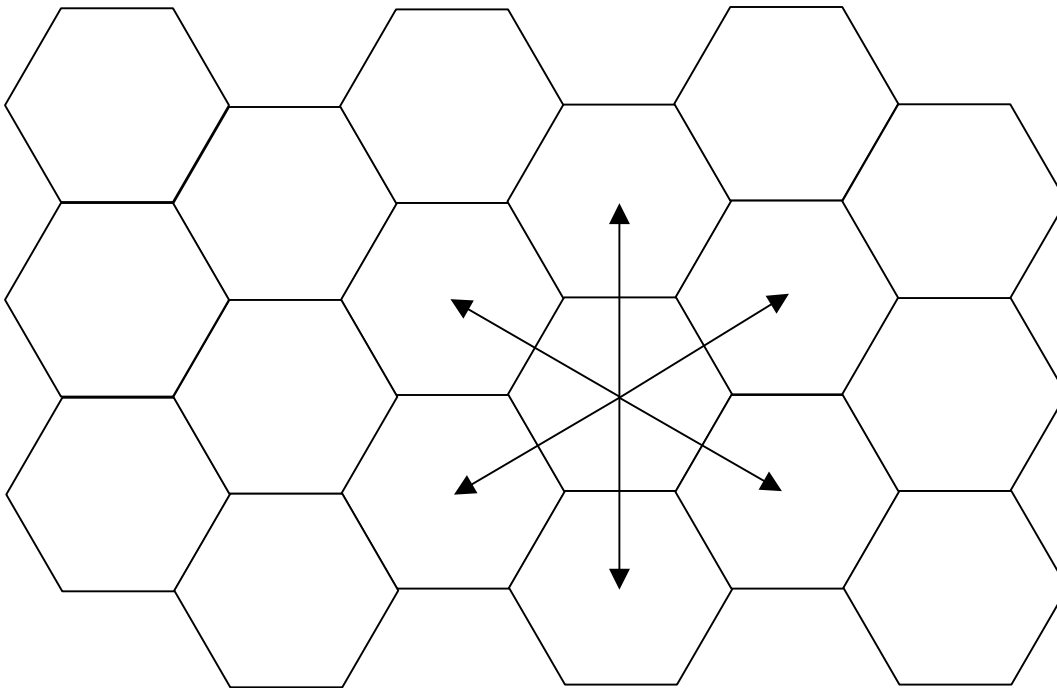
	0.5	1	1.5
0.5	NaN	0.4911	0.5744
1.0	0.0714	0.7477	NaN
1.5	0.3853	NaN	0.8485



X	Y	
0.5	0.5	NaN
0.5	1	0.4911
0.5	1.5	0.5744
1	0.5	0.0714
1	1	0.7477
1	1.5	NaN
1.5	0.5	0.3853
1.5	1	NaN
1.5	1.5	0.8485

# Grids

- Hex grids



# Grids & Scales

- Scales Support Gridding

Indices

Uniform Gridding

Etc...

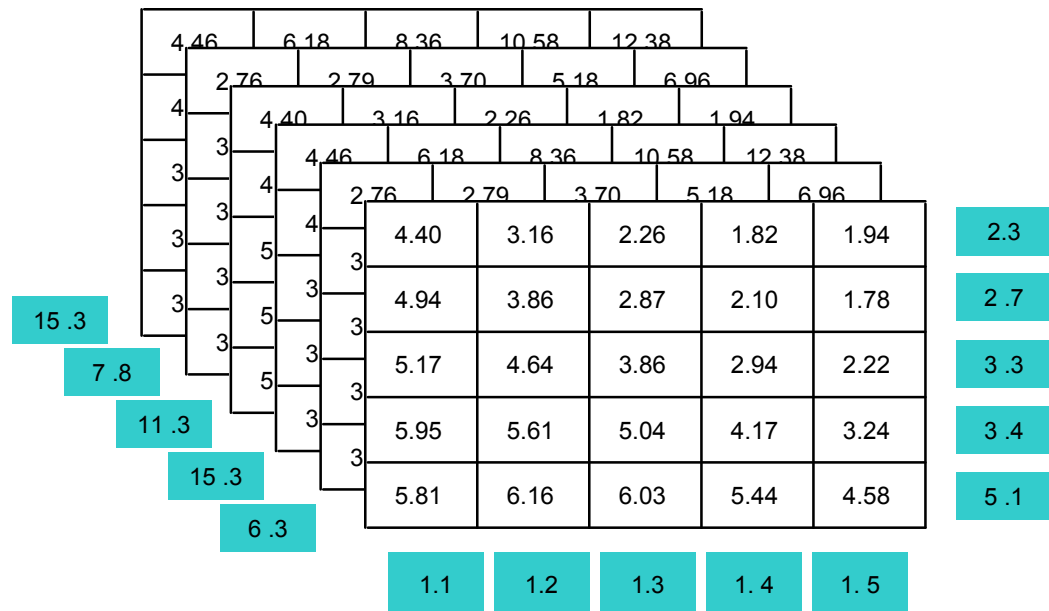
	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7
2.3	5.444	7.323	9.629	11.170	12.655	13.687	14.453
2.7	5.119	7.170	8.985	10.786	12.467	13.742	14.693
3.3	4.458	6.180	8.355	10.584	12.381	13.777	14.852
3.4	4.144	5.485	7.459	9.768	11.900	13.605	14.910
5.1	3.706	4.821	6.489	8.466	10.817	13.017	14.750
6.3	3.457	4.145	5.637	7.342	9.451	11.882	14.166
7.8	3.044	3.397	4.697	6.352	8.182	10.364	12.903
11.3	2.763	2.790	3.698	5.181	6.960	8.863	11.123
15.3	3.049	2.520	2.905	3.994	5.607	7.395	9.330



# Volumes of Data

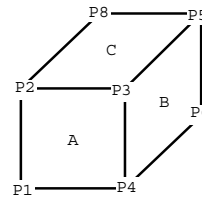
- Large I/O and processing requirements
- Specialized Visualization

## And Scales



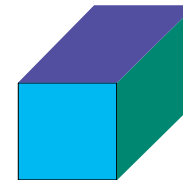
# Visualization Polygonal Data

- Positioning of polygons in 3-space



Polygon Name	Nodes	Nearest Neighbors	Temperature	Stress
A	P1, P2, P3, P4	B, C, D, E	34.7	.023
B	P4, P3, P5, P6	A, C, E, F	23.1	.028
C	P2, P3, P5, P8	A, B, D, F	24.5	.024
D	P1, P2, P7, P8	A, C, E, F	29.4	.033
E	P1, P4, P6, P7	A, B, D, F	28.6	.023
F	P5, P6, P7, P8	B, C, D, E	31.9	.031

- Polygons may be colored according to data value



- Requires significant computational resources
- Animation



# Files of Data

- Proprietary Formats
- Images Files
- Science Data Formats
- Multi-object files
- Linking Metadata to Data

# Collections of Data

- Databases
- Files and Directory Structures
- Tapes
- Hybrid Systems
- Boxes in Corners

# Metadata

- Metadata is Data
- One person's metadata is another person's data
- Types of Metadata
  - Structural
  - Attribute - Search and Labeling
  - Descriptive
- XML

# Metadata Example

## Human Readable

...Image of object GL 388 taken on April 18, 1990 with the IRTF telescope, using the ProtoCAM. The image is centered on 10 degrees, 16 minutes, 53 seconds right ascension, 20 degrees, 7 minutes, 21 seconds declination, using the 1950 epoch...

## Computer Readable

```
DATE = '26-04-90' /
ORIGIN = 'UH IFA' / INSTITUTE WRITING THE DATA
TELESCOP= 'NASA IRTF' / DATA ACQUISITION TELESCOPE
INSTRUME= 'ProtoCAM' / DATA ACQUISITION INSTRUMENT
OBSERVER= 'BBLW' / OBSERVER NAME/IDENTIFICATION
DATE_OBS= '18/04/90' / DATE OF ACQUISITION ('dd/mm/yy')
TIME_OBS= '20:33:26.77' / TIME OF ACQUISITION (hh:mm:ss.ss)
ITIME = 20.00 / INTEGRATION TIME IN SECONDS
FILTER = 0 / 0=BROADBAND 1=CVF
WAVE_LEN= 2.20 / WAVELENGTH IN MICRONS
PLATE_SC= 0.25 / PLATESCALE
RA = '10:16:53.92' / RIGHT ASCENSION in degree
DEC = '20:07:21.8' / DECLINATION in degree
EPOCH = 1950.0 / EPOCH
AIRMASS = 1.003 / AIRMASS
OBJECT = 'GL 388'
COMMENT = 'k=4.6 l=4.6'
VGATE = -2.30 / SBRC ARRAY GATE VOLTAGE
```

XML

# Case Studies: ASCI and EOSDIS



# ASCI

- Accelerated Strategic Computing Initiative
- Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, 1992
- ASCI's vision:
  - “to shift promptly from nuclear test-based methods to computational-based methods of ensuring the safety, reliability, and performance of our nuclear weapons stockpile.”

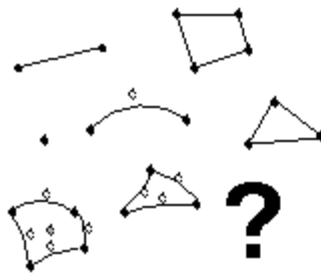
# ASCI Data Requirements

- Computational mechanics: meshes & fields
- Sound data model w. robust data abstractions
- Common format allows
  - common tools
  - sharing
- Common appl'n programming interface (API)
  - shield apps from model complexities
  - standardize data organization and semantics

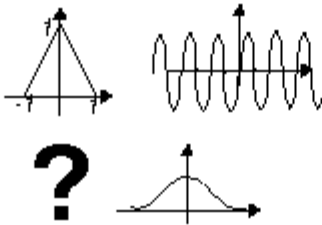
# ASCII Datatypes

## Describing Data Is Challenging

*Element Types*



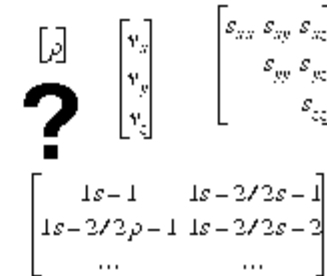
*Basis Functions and Interpolation Schemes*



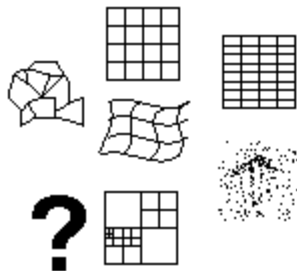
*sparse and dense fields*



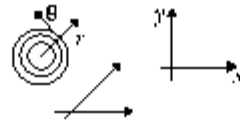
*Field value types*



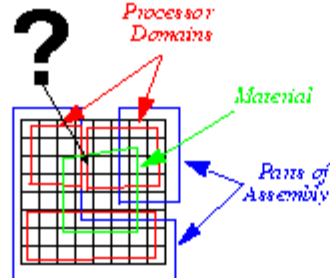
*Mesh Types*



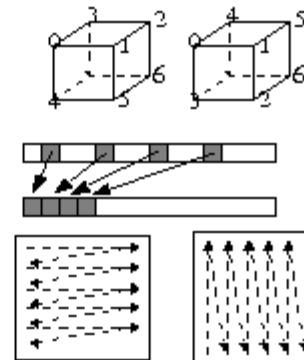
*Coordinate Systems*



*Mesh Decompositions*



*Storage Conventions And Data Structures*



*Compression*



# EOSDIS: Understanding Global Climate Change

# EOSDIS Processing Levels

# EOSDIS Example: Library Analogy

# Example Categories for Granule- and Collection-Level Metadata

## **Granule**

**Platform, Instrument, Sensor**

**Spatial and Temporal**

**Orbit Parameters**

**Browse**

**QA Data Statistics**

**Production History**

## **Collection**

**Platform, Instrument, Sensor**

**Delivered Algorithm Package**

**Guide**

**Bibliographic Reference**

**Papers/Documents**

**Keyword**

# Biases

- Disciplines
  - Geospatial, simulation
- Data structures
  - large multidimensional structures, multi-layered structures, meshes, some indexed structures
- Geometry
  - space and time
- Operations
  - visualization, partial access, filtering, integration



**What is Scientific Data?**

# What is scientific data?

- A variety of data types and structures
- Large data structures
- Many objects
- Metadata: parameters, variables, legacy in a variety of forms