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                                shape_to_data
function data_array = shape_to_data(X,Y,Z)

    %takes in a shape defined by three equally sized, seperate vectors, and returns an
    array of those data points as consolidated 3-space vectors

    [num_rows num_columns] = size(X);
    cnt = 1;

    for i = 1 : num_rows

        for j = 1 : num_columns

            temp_vector(1) = X(i,j);
            temp_vector(2) = Y(i,j);
            temp_vector(3) = Z(i,j);

            if(sum(isnan(temp_vector(:))) == 0)

                data_array{cnt} = temp_vector;
                cnt = cnt + 1;

            endif

        endfor

    endfor

endfunction

```