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Steven Dale Cutkosky* (cutkoskys@missouri.edu), Dept. Math., Univ. Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211. *The Stellar Vault*.

We consider Hironaka's concept of La Voute Étoilée (The Stellar Vault) in the study of germs of complex analytic spaces. An étoile is the analogue of a valuation in algebraic geometry. An étoile on X picks out a unique point on any local blow up of X .

We discuss some of the interesting properties of an étoile, and prove a local monomialization theorem for a germ of a morphism of complex analytic spaces $\phi : X \rightarrow Y$, with the condition that $\dim \phi(X) = \dim X$ (dimension means "complex dimension"). (Received February 11, 2012)