

# Coordinate systems, etc. primer

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*Tutorial notes*  
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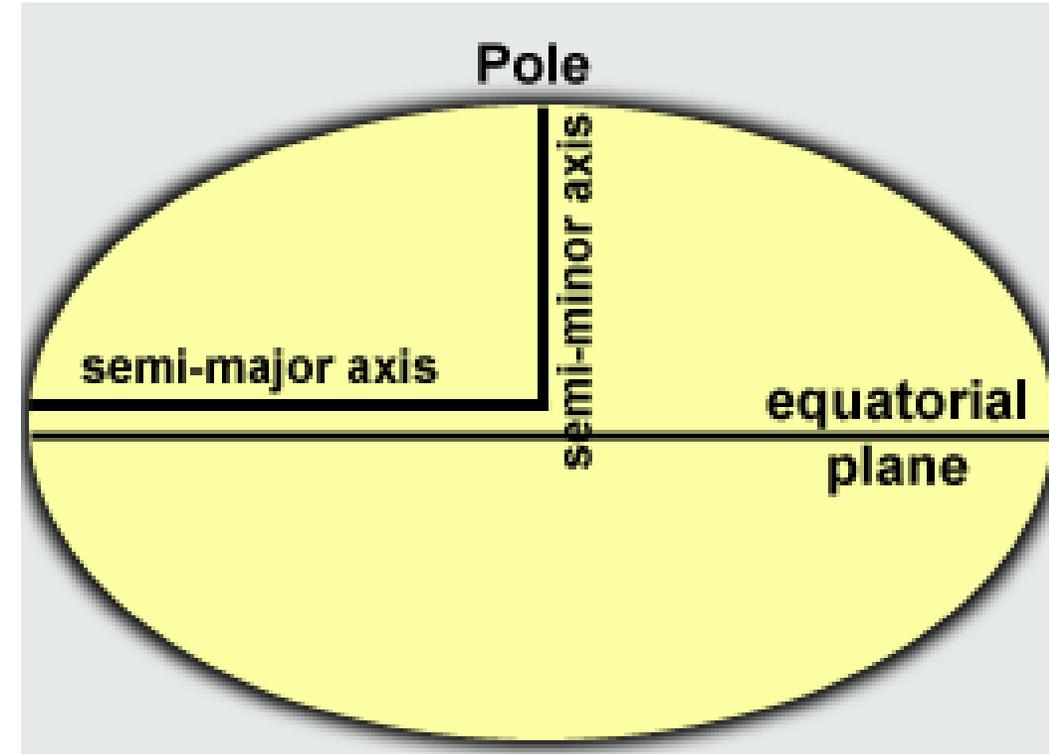


**OpenTopography**  
*High-Resolution Topography Data and Tools*

## Reference Datum

Represents the same surface or elevation at all points on the earth and that remains constant over time.

By using an oblate ellipsoid as a datum for the earth we have a shape that approximates the shape of the earth fairly well and provides a datum to which points all over the earth's surface can be referenced (hence the term 'reference datum').



We typically use WGS84 as it is the basis of GPS

## Map Projections

Conical



Cylindrical



Oblique



Equatorial

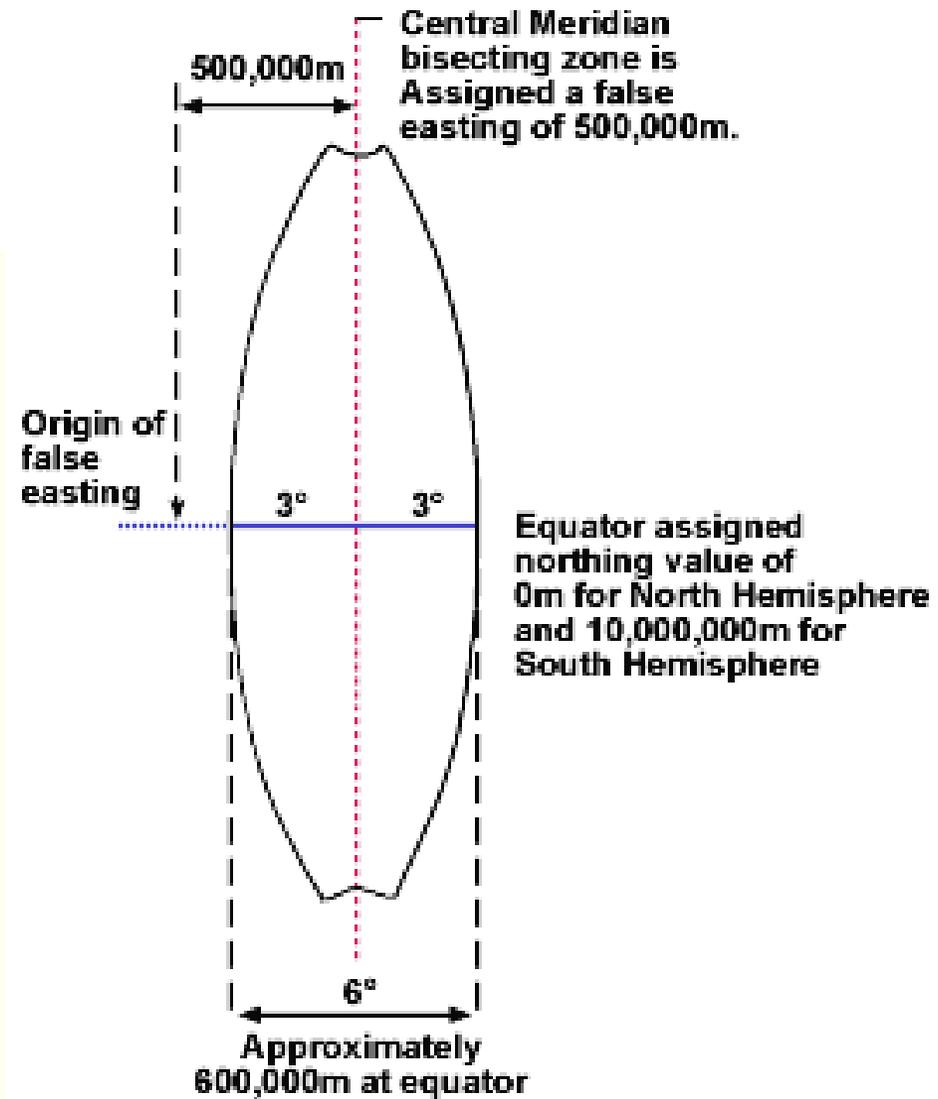
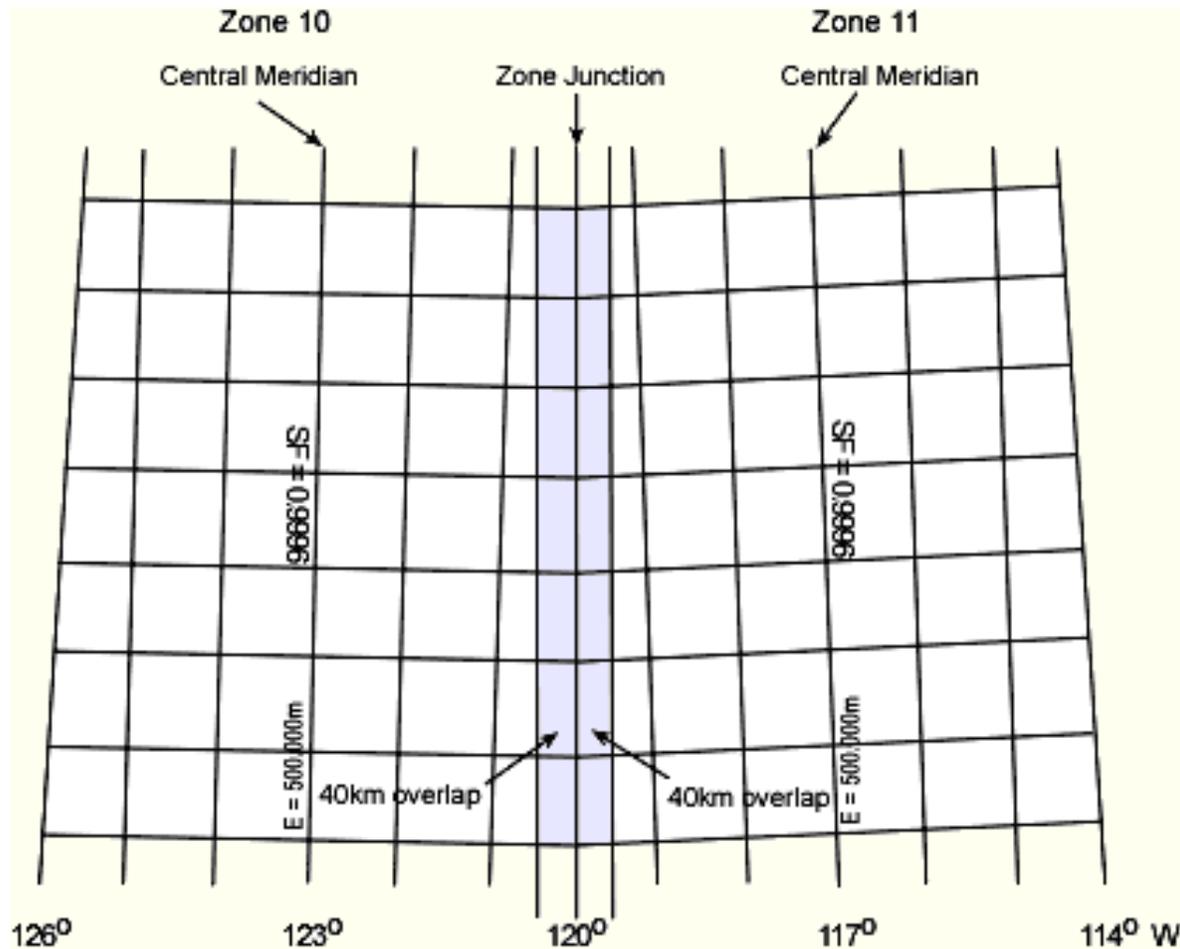


Transverse

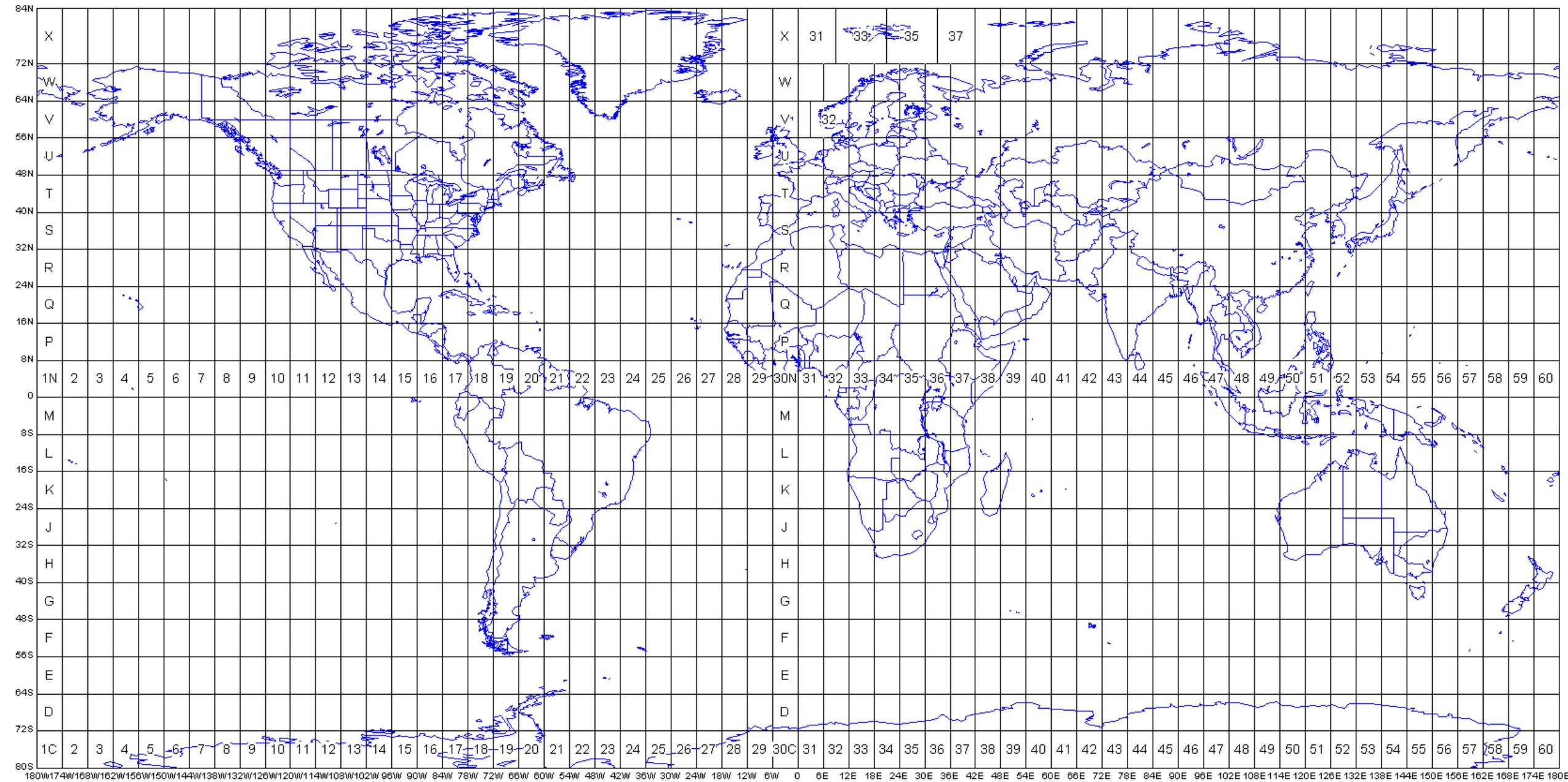


# Transverse

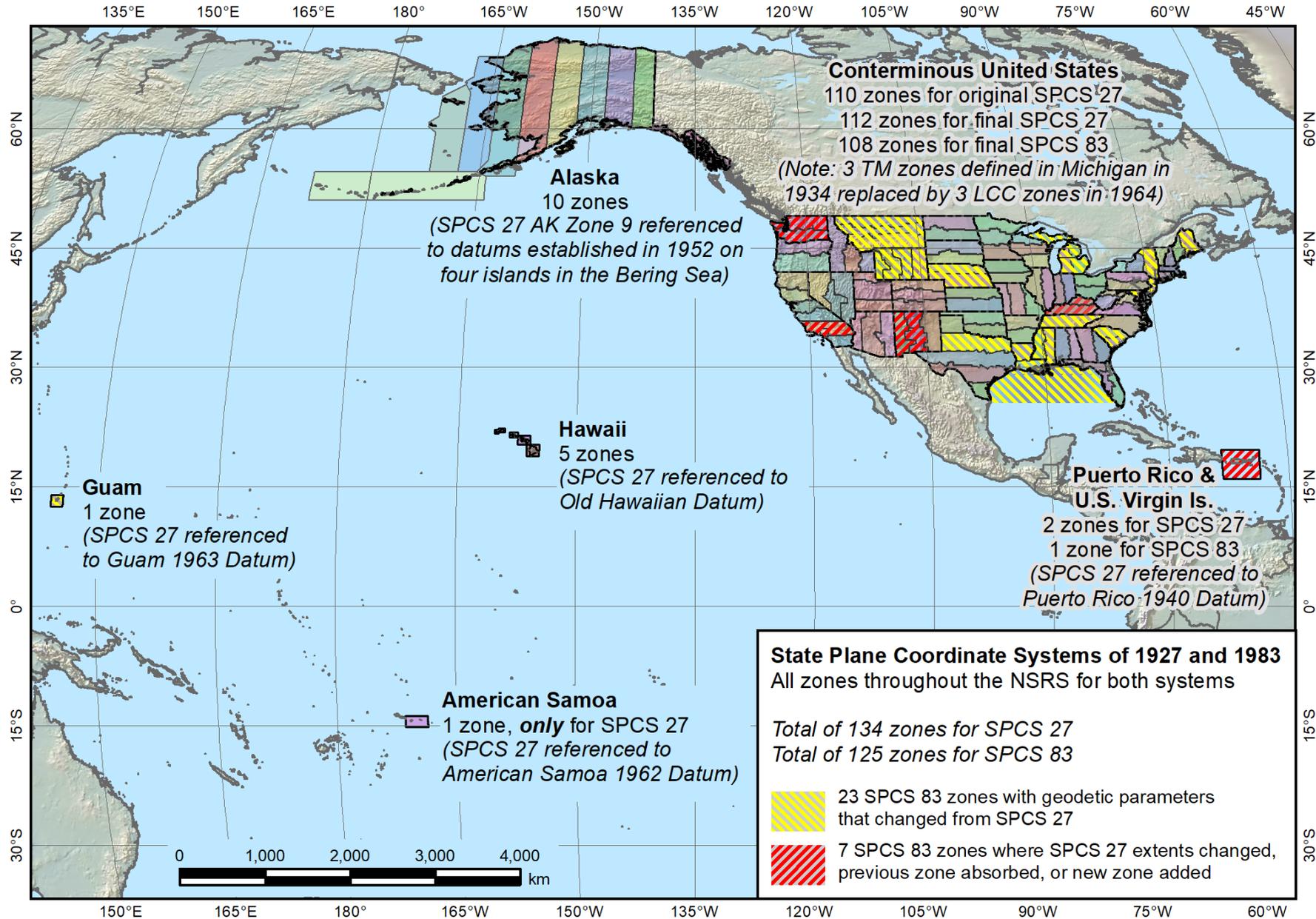
## UTM - Universal Transverse Mercator Geographic Coordinate System



# UTM Zones of the World



# State Plane Coordinate System (US-agencies...)



# The EPSG Geodetic Parameter Dataset is a structured dataset of Coordinate Reference Systems and Coordinate Transformations

<http://www.epsg-registry.org/>

← → ↻ ⓘ Not secure | spatialreference.org/ref/epsg/?page=6



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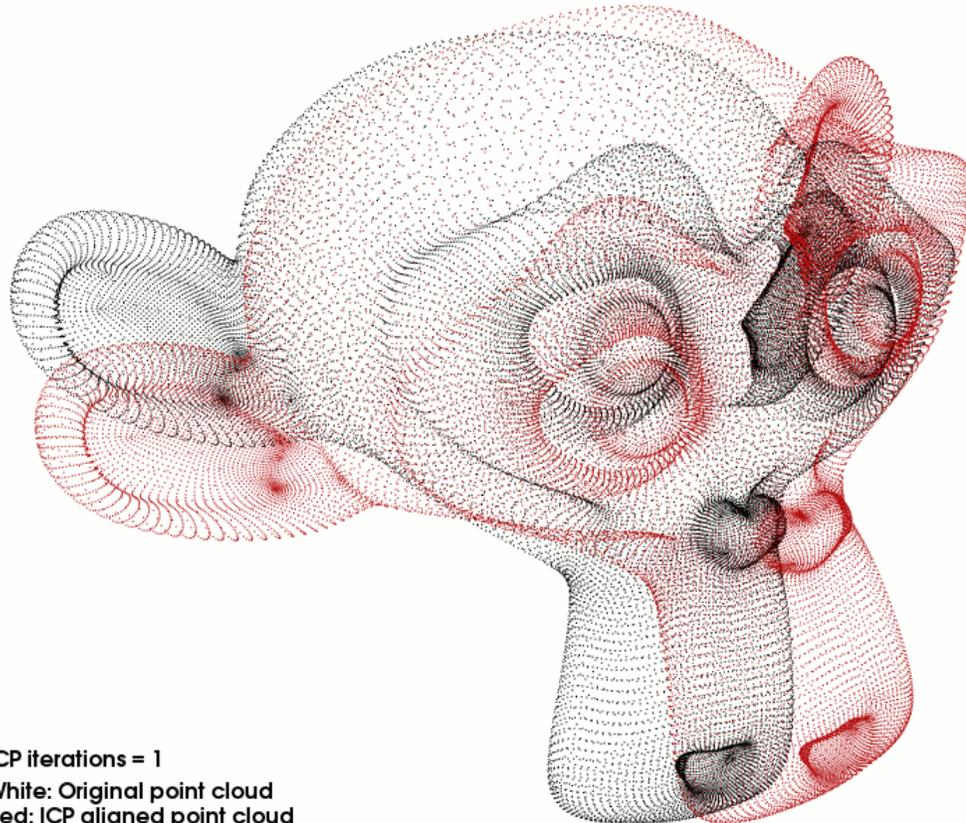
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- [EPSG:2257](#): NAD83 / New Mexico East (ftUS)
- [EPSG:2258](#): NAD83 / New Mexico Central (ftUS)
- [EPSG:2259](#): NAD83 / New Mexico West (ftUS)
- [EPSG:2260](#): NAD83 / New York East (ftUS)
- [EPSG:2261](#): NAD83 / New York Central (ftUS)
- [EPSG:2262](#): NAD83 / New York West (ftUS)
- [EPSG:2263](#): NAD83 / New York Long Island (ftUS)
- [EPSG:2264](#): NAD83 / North Carolina (ftUS)
- [EPSG:2265](#): NAD83 / North Dakota North (ft)
- [EPSG:2266](#): NAD83 / North Dakota South (ft)
- [EPSG:2267](#): NAD83 / Oklahoma North (ftUS)
- [EPSG:2268](#): NAD83 / Oklahoma South (ftUS)
- [EPSG:2269](#): NAD83 / Oregon North (ft)
- [EPSG:2270](#): NAD83 / Oregon South (ft)
- [EPSG:2271](#): NAD83 / Pennsylvania North (ftUS)
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- [EPSG:2274](#): NAD83 / Tennessee (ftUS)
- [EPSG:2275](#): NAD83 / Texas North (ftUS)
- [EPSG:2276](#): NAD83 / Texas North Central (ftUS)
- [EPSG:2277](#): NAD83 / Texas Central (ftUS)
- [EPSG:2278](#): NAD83 / Texas South Central (ftUS)
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- [EPSG:2291](#): NAD83(CSR98) / Prince Edward Isl. Stereographic (NAD83)
- [EPSG:2292](#): NAD83(CSR98) / Prince Edward Isl. Stereographic (NAD83)
- [EPSG:2294](#): ATS77 / MTM Nova Scotia zone 4
- [EPSG:2295](#): ATS77 / MTM Nova Scotia zone 5
- [EPSG:2296](#): Ammassalik 1958 / Greenland zone 7 east
- [EPSG:2297](#): Qornoq 1927 / Greenland zone 1 east
- [EPSG:2298](#): Qornoq 1927 / Greenland zone 2 east
- [EPSG:2299](#): Qornoq 1927 / Greenland zone 2 west
- [EPSG:2300](#): Qornoq 1927 / Greenland zone 3 east
- [EPSG:2301](#): Qornoq 1927 / Greenland zone 3 west
- [EPSG:2302](#): Qornoq 1927 / Greenland zone 4 east
- [EPSG:2303](#): Qornoq 1927 / Greenland zone 4 west
- [EPSG:2304](#): Qornoq 1927 / Greenland zone 5 west
- [EPSG:2305](#): Qornoq 1927 / Greenland zone 6 west
- [EPSG:2306](#): Qornoq 1927 / Greenland zone 7 west
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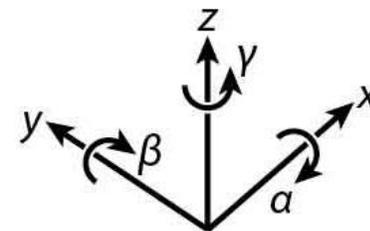
## Aligning point clouds—Manual or ICP

- The **iterative closest point** algorithm (ICP) is a method for registering (aligning) irregular point clouds, well known in computer vision and medical imaging
- ICP minimizes closest point pair distances using iterative **rigid-body transformations**, each one comprising a **translation**  $[ t_x t_y t_z ]$  and a **rotation**  $[ \alpha \beta \gamma ]$



ICP iterations = 1  
White: Original point cloud  
Red: ICP aligned point cloud

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\gamma & \beta & t_x \\ \gamma & 1 & -\alpha & t_y \\ -\beta & \alpha & 1 & t_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Digital Elevation Models

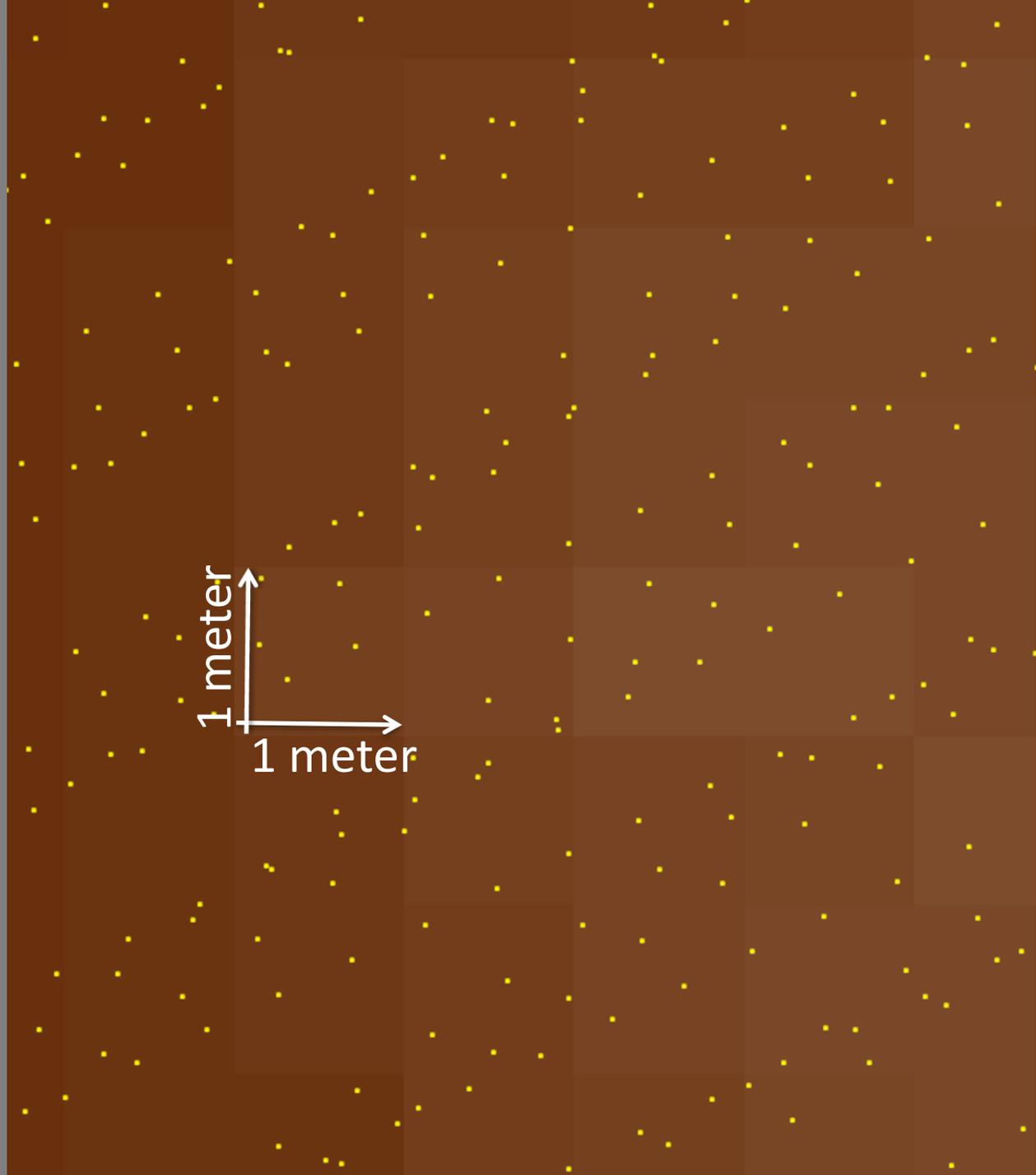
- Digital representation of topography / terrain
  - “Raster” format – a grid of squares or “pixels”
  - Continuous surface where Z (elevation) is estimated on a regular X,Y grid
  - “2.5D”

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
0	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	0		
0	50	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	50	0		
0	50	100	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	100	50	0	
0	50	100	150	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	150	100	50	0
0	50	100	150	200	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	200	150	100	50	0	
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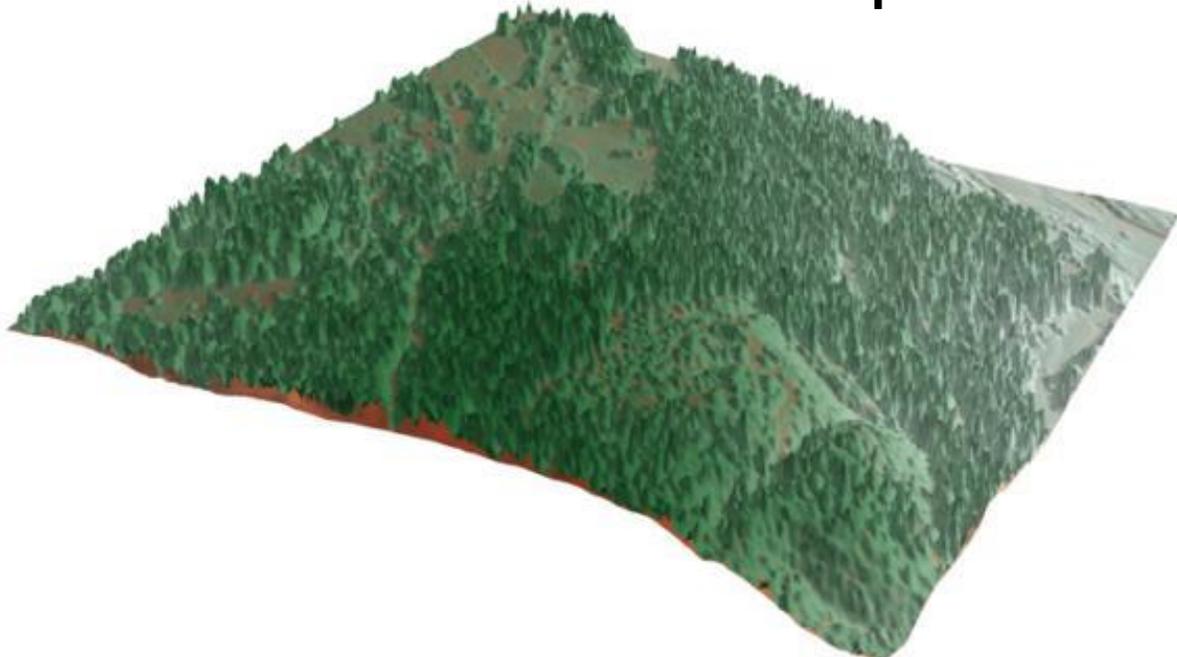
Source: <http://www.ncgia.ucsb.edu/giscc/extra/e001/e001.html>

- Grid resolution is defined by the size in the horizontal dimension of the pixel
  - 1 meter DEM has pixels 1 m x 1m assigned a single elevation value.

- 1 meter grid
- LiDAR returns from EarthScope data collection
- Example from flat area with little or no vegetation so ground is sampled approx. 5+ times per square meter
- How do we best fit a continuous surface to these points?
- Ultimately wish to represent irregularly sampled data on a regularized grid.



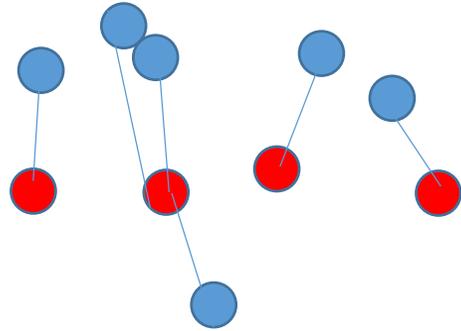
# Gridded products



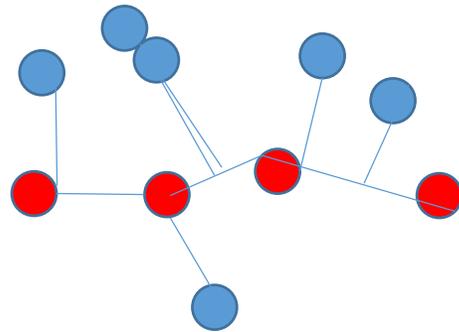
Digital surface model—Mostly what we are getting in SfM



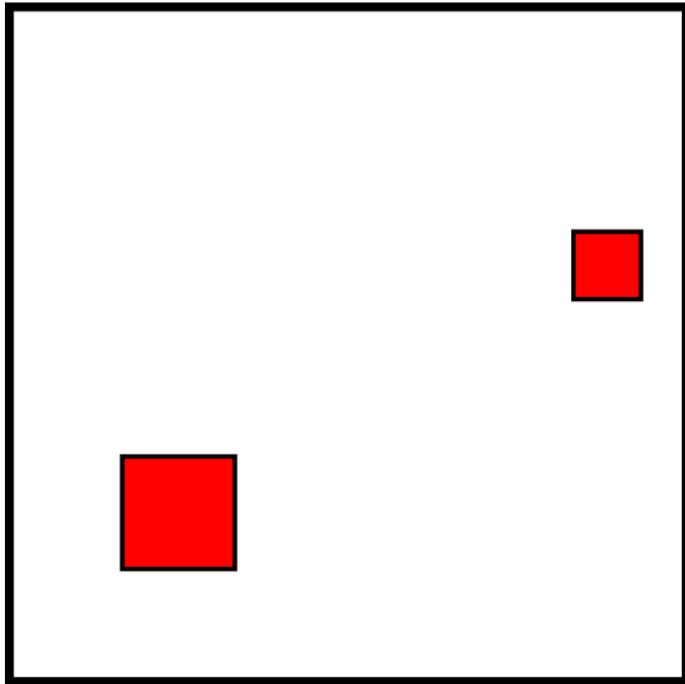
Digital terrain model



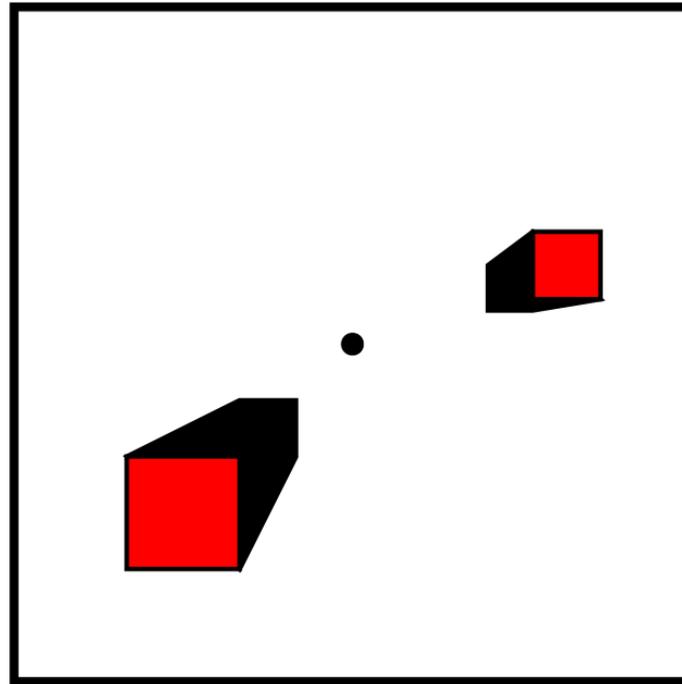
Attempt to explain cloud  
to cloud and cloud to  
plane



Orthographic view



Perspective view



An orthophoto, orthophotograph or orthoimage is an aerial photograph or satellite imagery geometrically corrected ("orthorectified") such that the scale is uniform: the photo or image has follows a given map projection. Unlike an uncorrected aerial photograph, an orthophoto can be used to measure true distances, because it is an accurate representation of the Earth's surface, having been adjusted for topographic relief,[1] lens distortion, and camera tilt.

Datum plane

