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Geospatial Data Analysis in Discrete Global Grid Systems

-- Progress & Perspectives

全球离散格网系统中的地理空间数据
分析 -- 进程与展望

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Calgary 2–4 November 2018 [edit]

Date	Place	Distance	Winner
3 November 2018	Olympic Oval	500m (1)	 Wu Dajing
4 November 2018	Olympic Oval	500m (2)	 Wu Dajing





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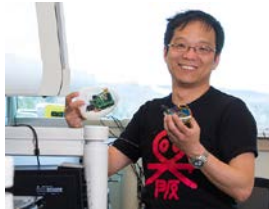
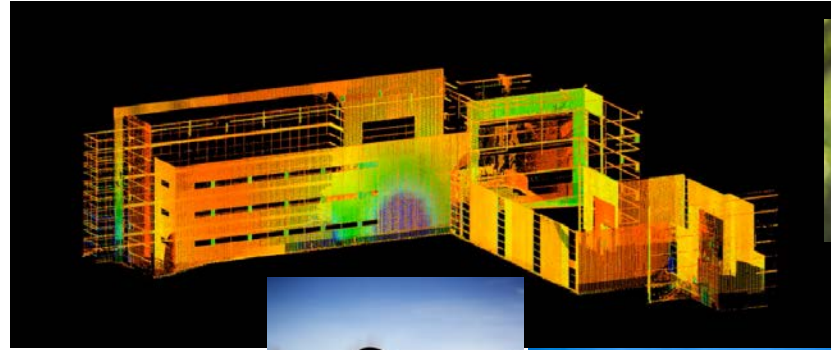
Department of Geomatics Engineering



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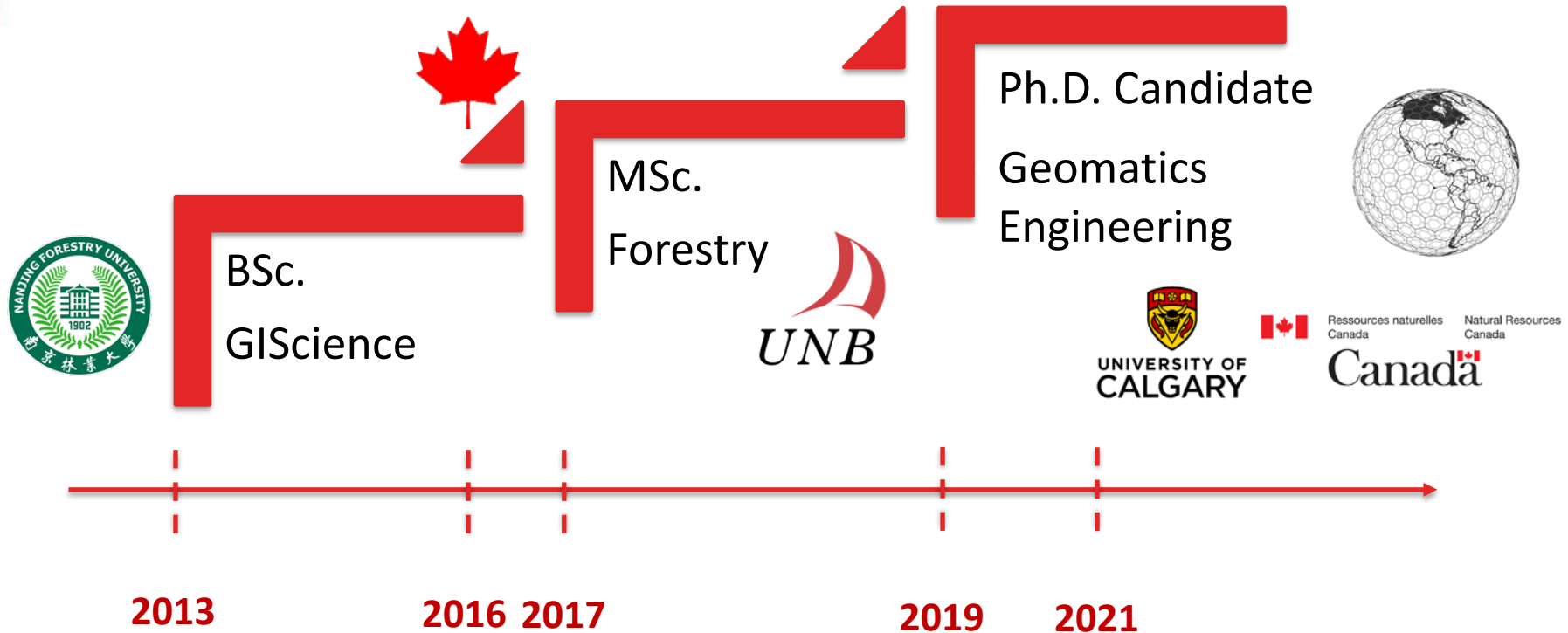
DEPARTMENT OF
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Founded in 1979



<https://schulich.ucalgary.ca/geomatics>

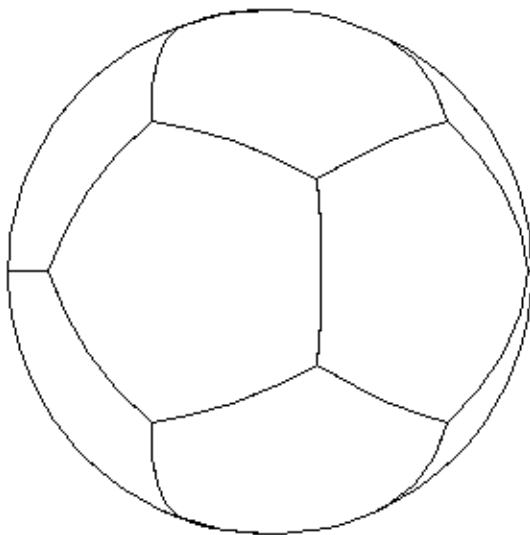
Education background



Geospatial Data Analysis in Discrete Global Grid Systems -- Progress & Perspectives

1. **Discrete Global Grid Systems (DGGS)**
2. Research Directions (Geo-Data Science Research Group)
3. Research Progress (ML)
4. Future Directions

Discrete Global Grid Systems



A **Spatial Reference System** that uses a
Hierarchical Tessellation of cells to
Partition and Address the **Globe**.

- ❖ <https://www.discreteglobalgrids.org/dggs-resolution/>
- ❖ Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC), 2017

DGGS – an International Standard



“DGGS infrastructures enable the integrated analysis of very large, multi-source, multi-resolution, multi-dimensional, distributed geospatial data.”

Open Geospatial Consortium - [Topic 21: Discrete Global Grid Systems Abstract Specification 15-104r5](#)



“All Discrete Global Grid Systems are structured for information as distinct from conventional coordinate reference systems originally designed for navigation.”

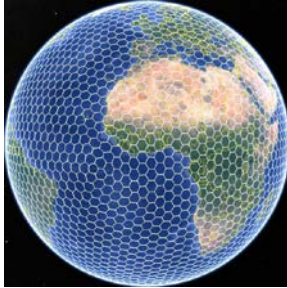
International Standard Organization – [ISO 19170-1: Discrete Global Grid Systems Specifications](#)



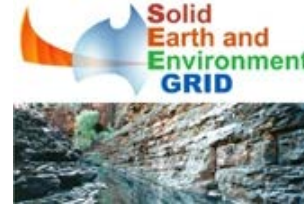
“DGGS as a Common Geography will ensure that all statistical data is consistently geospatially enabled and that users can discover, access, integrate, analyse and visualise statistical information seamlessly for geographies of interest.”

United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management - [The Global Statistical Geospatial Framework](#)

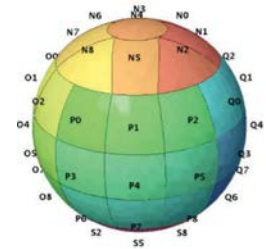
DGGS Implementations



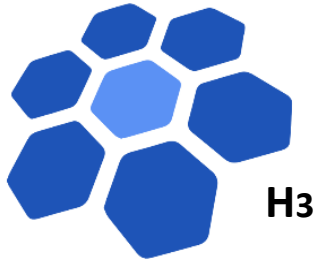
PlanetRisk



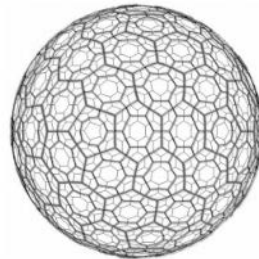
rHEALPix



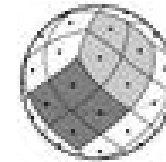
PYXIS



H3



DGGRID version 7.0
dggridR



HEALPix

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ISPRS WG IV/7 (Geo-Data Management) Webinar

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FWGI4ISrIYA>



<https://www2.isprs.org/commissions/comm4/wg7>

[Home](#) [Commissions](#) [Commission I](#) [Commission II](#) [Commission III](#) [Commission IV](#) [Commission V](#)

ISPRS WG IV/7

Geo-Data Management

Commissions

- Commission I
- Commission II
- Commission III
- Commission IV**
- Activities
- Events
- News & Archives
- Working Groups
- WG IV/1
- WG IV/2
- WG IV/3
- WG IV/4
- WG IV/5
- WG IV/6
- WG IV/7**
- Activities
- FOSS4G 2020
- Workshop 2019
- GRASG 2017
- ICA 2017

Our Mission

ISPRS working group IV/7 brings together interdisciplinary researchers and practitioners from all over the world to share knowledge and define new branches of research in geo-data management.

It enhances research including DBMS, OGC standards, multi-dimensional databases (cubes), streaming and sensor data management, point cloud databases, spatio-temporal data management, and BIM-GIS integration to support sophisticated applications such as Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, BIM, mobile and 3D/4D GIS, and last but not least smart and sustainable cities. The working group appreciates theoretical research as well as research and development results from industry and authorities.

To this purpose, the WG organises workshops as an open forum to exchange latest research results in theory and practice of geo-data management.

The WG will cooperate with WG IV/1 on Multi-Dimensional Modelling (7D), WG IV/2 on Ontology, Semantics and Knowledge Representation, and has direct interfaces to WG IV/8 on Geocomputation, WG IV/9 on GeoVisualization, and WG IV/3 on Point cloud processing. The WG will disseminate research results through ISPRS Journal, Annals, and Archives.

Working Group Officers

Co-Chair



Emmanuel Stefanakis

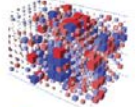
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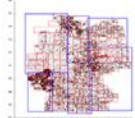
emmanuel.stefanakis@ucalgary.ca

[home page](#)

WG IV/7

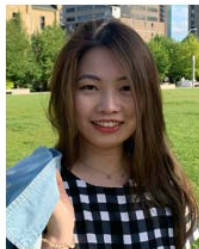








Geo-Data Science Research Group



ISPRS WG IV/7 (Geo-Data Management) Webinar

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FWGI4ISrlyA>

- rHEALPix DGGS (D.B.)
 - Orientation to suit local scale
 - Latitudinal data analysis (population/CO2 emission/GDP etc.)
 - Mobility networks at the urban scale
- PYXIS DGGS (P.P. & M.R.)
 - OGC pilot project
 - Marine data management
- DGGRID/dggridR (M.L.)
 - Terrain modeling
 - Flood susceptibility

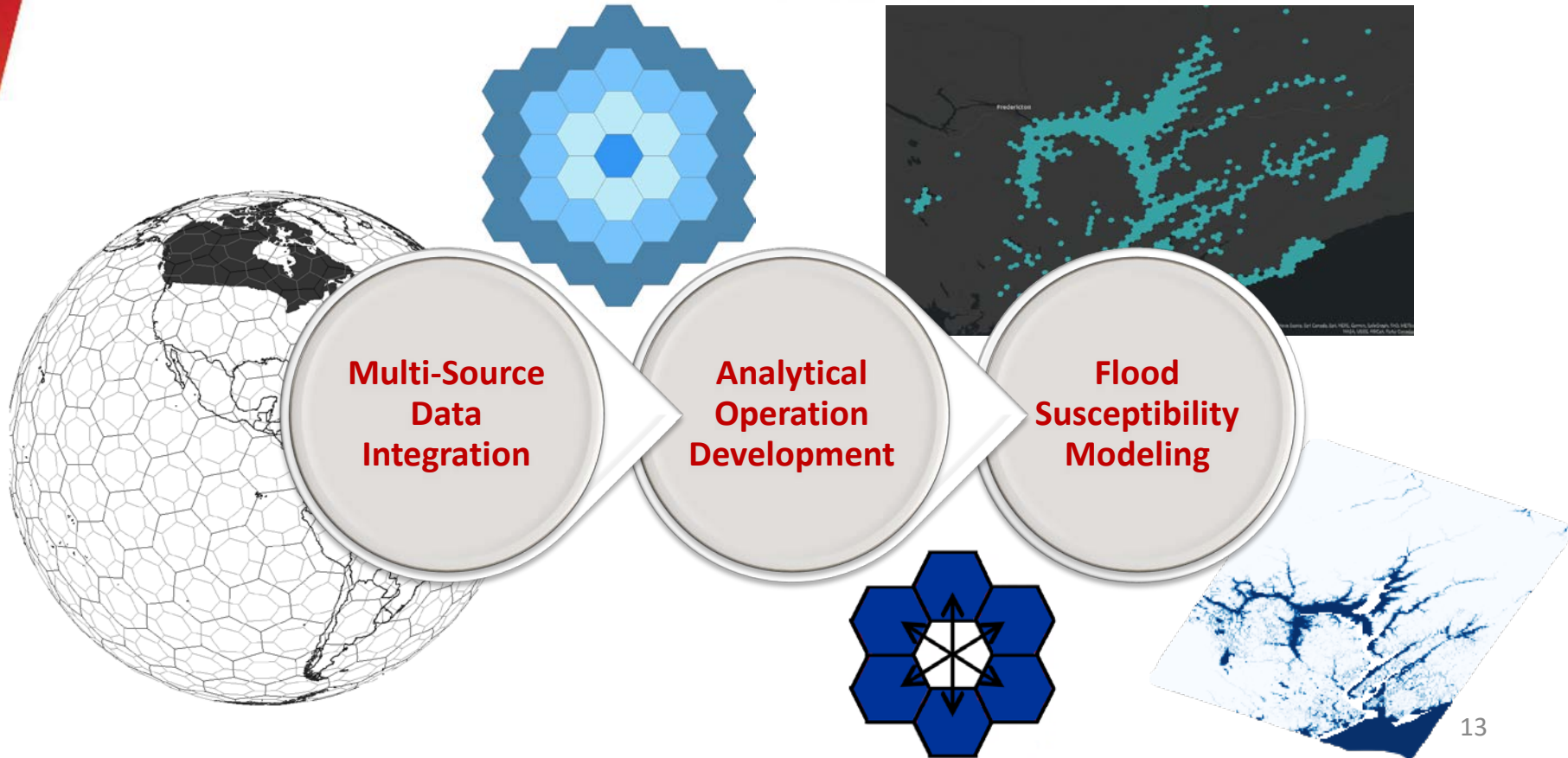
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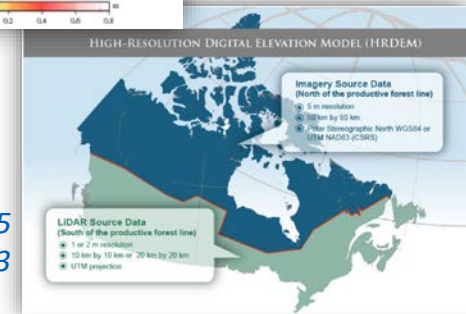
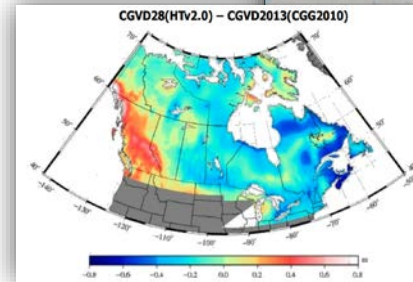
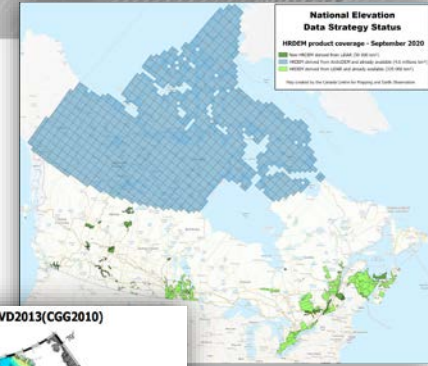
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Research Phases



Introduction – Problem statement

- Main open-sourced terrain datasets in Canada
 - Canadian Digital Elevation Model – **CDEM**
 - High Resolution Digital Elevation Model – **HRDEM**
- Main differences (CDEM vs. HRDEM)
 - Coverage
 - Vertical / Horizontal datum
 - Resolution
 - Waterbodies
 - Accuracy



- ❖ <https://open.canada.ca/data/en/dataset/957782bf-847c-4644-a757-e383c0057995>
- ❖ <https://open.canada.ca/data/en/dataset/7f245e4d-76c2-4caa-951a-45d1d2051333>

Introduction – Problem statement

From the perspective of Canadian terrain data management

- Dataset selection (coverage; resolution)
- Heavy pre-processing
- Inconsistent results

From the perspective of DGGS applicability

- Limited development of analytical algorithms
- Nascent period of supporting decision-making

DGGS Configuration



Icosahedron

- Smallest face area
- Smallest interior angles
- Less angular distortion
- ❖ *Mahdavi-Amiri et al., 2015*

Orientation

- Latitude of the pole (λ) = 37.6895°
- Longitude of the pole (ϕ) = -51.6218°
- Azimuth (α) = -72.6482°
- ❖ *Zhou et al., 2020*



ISEA3H

Snyder Equal Area projection

- Less area and shape distortion
- ❖ *Snyder, 1992*
- ❖ *White et al., 1998*

Hexagon

- Greatest angular resolution
- Optimally compact
- Uniform adjacency
- ❖ *Luczak and Rosenfeld, 1976*
- ❖ *Sahr, 2011*

Aperture 3

- Smoother transition
- Monotonical convergence
- ❖ *Sahr et al., 2003*
- ❖ *Mahdavi-Amiri et al., 2015*



Study 1: Integration of multi-source terrain data in Discrete Global Grid Systems

- Standardize Canadian terrain data at multiple resolutions by using DGGS

Study 2: Analytical functions of terrain data modeled in Discrete Global Grids

- Develop topographical and hydrological functions in a pure DGGS environment
- Extend Tomlin's theory regarding map algebra in 1990s into a DGGS context

Study 3: Flood susceptibility mapping in Discrete Global Grid Systems

- Model flood susceptibility by machine learning in DGGS at multiple resolutions
- Predictor variables: quantized raster data (Study 1), quantized vector data, results of topographical and hydrological analysis (Study 2), climate data, etc.

Study 1: Integration – Workflow

Data Acquisition

- CDEM: Geospatial-Data Extraction tool / STAC API
- HRDEM: Download directory / HRDEM Mosaic

Pre-processing

- Standardize horizontal datum: NAD83 CSRS
- Standardize vertical datum: CGVD2013

Quantization

- Cell centroids at various levels
- Resample with interpolation; integration

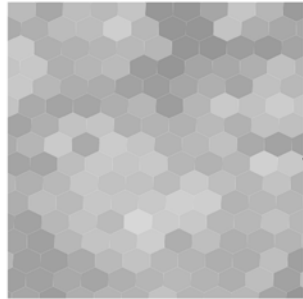
Aggregation

- Mean / max / min

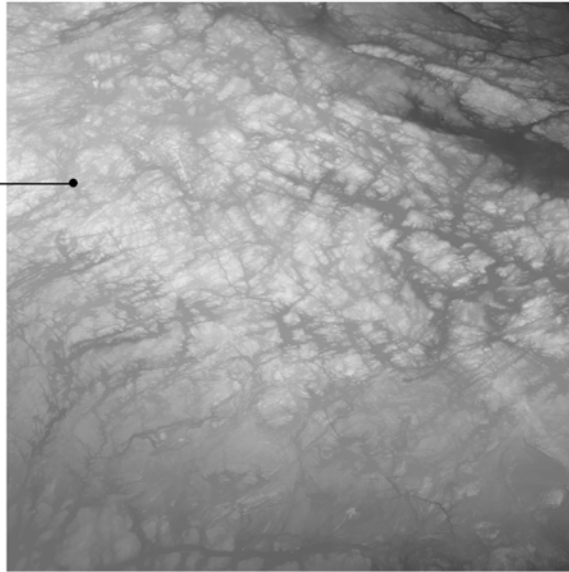
Quality Control

- GCP vs. Pre-DGGS elevations
- GCP vs. Post-DGGS elevations
- Pre-DGGS elevations vs. Post-DGGS elevations

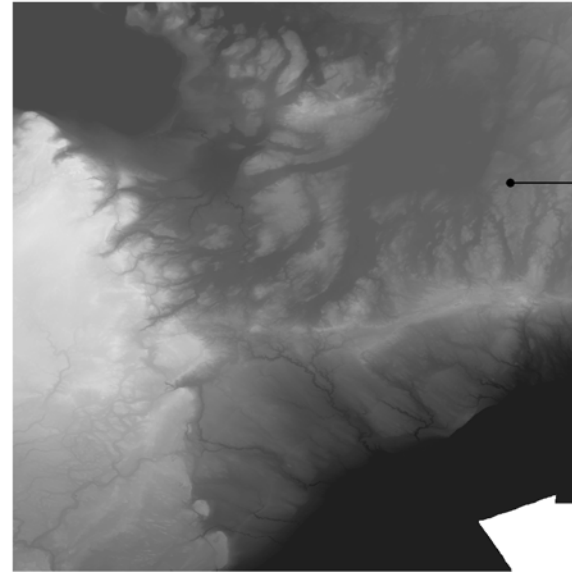
Study 1: Integration – Visualization



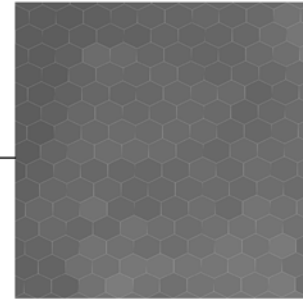
**ISEA3H
Level 29**



a. Vegetation region



b. Urban region



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Study 2: Analytical functions of terrain data modeled in Discrete Global Grids

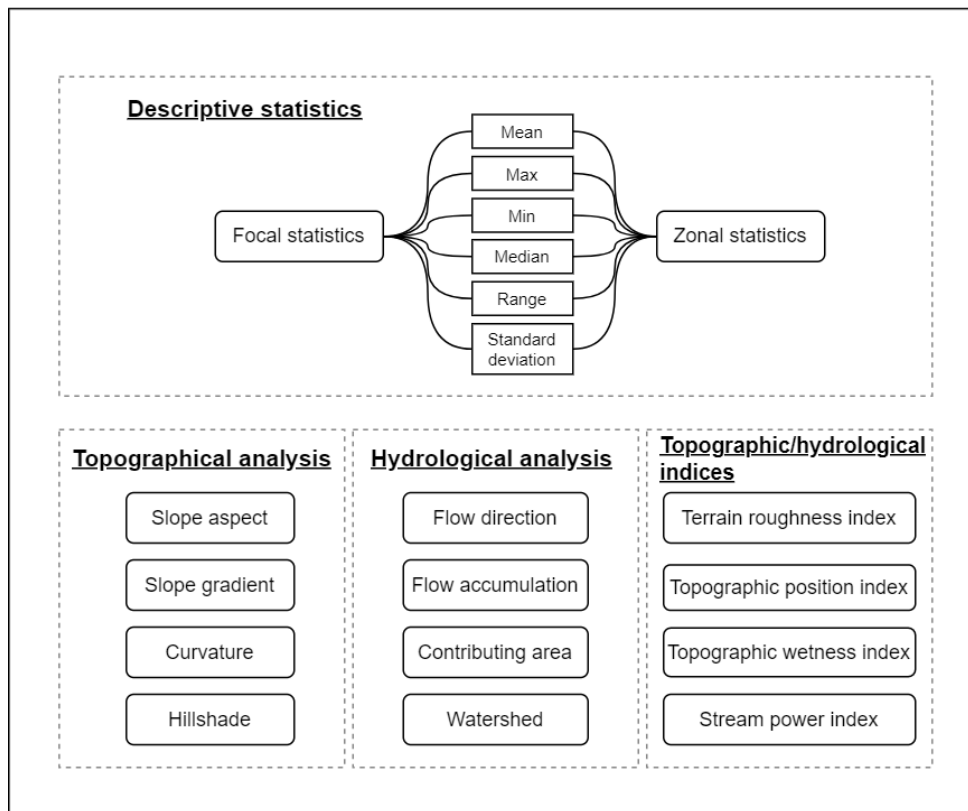
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Study 2: Analytical Functions – Classification

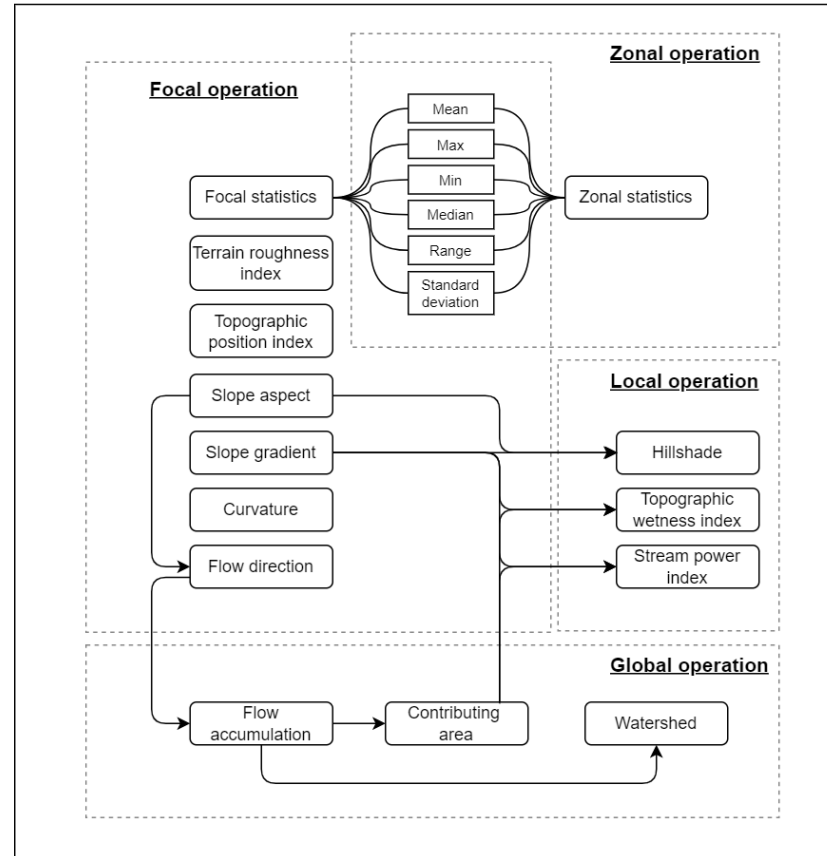
- **Based on applications**
 - Descriptive statistics
 - Topographical analysis
 - Hydrological analysis
 - Topographic/hydrological indices
- **Based on Tomlin's model in 1990s**
 - Focal / zonal / local
 - Global



Study 2: Analytical Functions – Classification

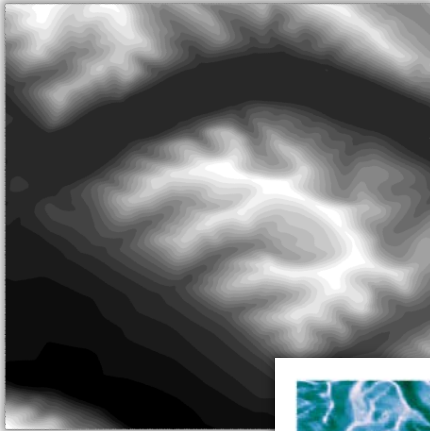
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 - Descriptive statistics
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 - Focal / zonal / local
 - Global

❖ *Tomlin, 1990*

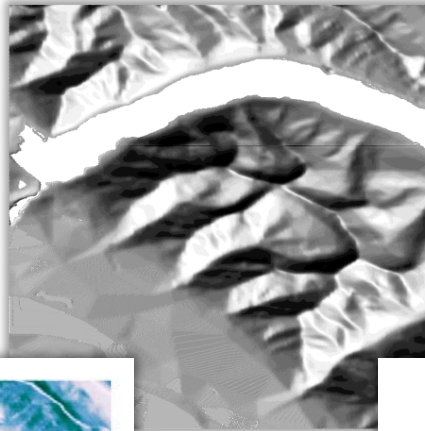


Study 2: Analytical Functions – Visualization

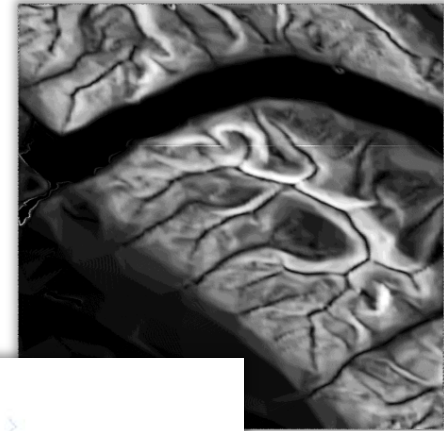
Elevation



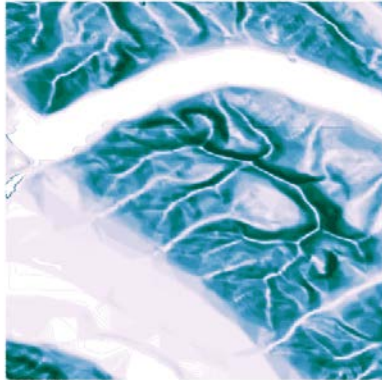
Hill shade



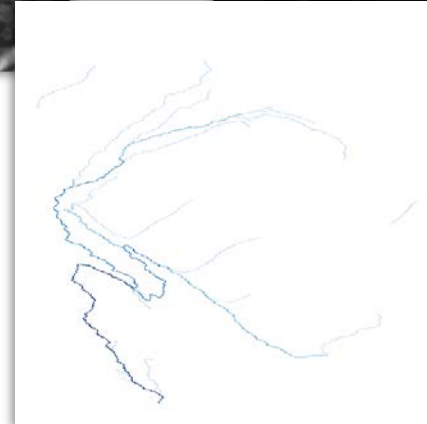
Std. elevation



Canmore area
Level 24



Slope gradient



Flow accumulation

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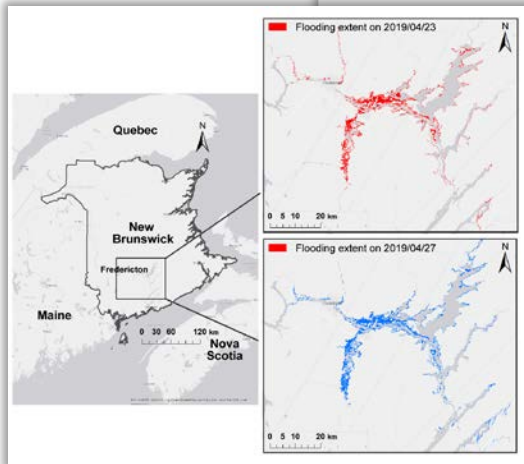
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- Model flood susceptibility by machine learning in DGGS at multiple resolutions
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Study 3: Flood mapping – Workflow (on-going)



2000 pts
Flooding events in four years
70% training + 30% testing



Topographical/Geomorphologic factors
Elevation, slope, aspect, roughness,
Soil types, land use, NDVI,
TRI, TPI, etc.

Hydrological factors
Flow direction/accumulation
Proximity to river
TWI, SPI

Meteorological factors
Precipitation, temperature,
Snow depth, wind speed, etc.

Anthropogenic factors
Proximity to road
Impervious areas

Analysis scale
ISEA3H level 23 (~542 m²)
ISEA3H level 21 (~4876 m²)
ISEA3H level 19 (~43886 m²)

Machine learning methods
Random forest (RF)
Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)
Multilayer Perceptron (MLP)
Adaptive Neuro-Fuzzy Inference
System (ANFIS)
Support Vector Machine (SVM)

Parallel analysis
ABM

Spatial-temporal mapping
Forecasts under different
climate change scenarios
Multiple scales



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Future research directions

- Uncertainties of data modeling
- Topology b'w spatial objects / DGGs cells
- Data I/O, storage, interoperability, etc.

BIG EARTH DATA
<https://doi.org/10.1080/20964471.2021.2012912>



OPEN ACCESS [Check for updates](#)

GIScience research challenges for realizing discrete global grid systems as a Digital Earth

Majid Hojati^a, Colin Robertson^a, Steven Roberts^a and Chiranji Chaudhuri^b

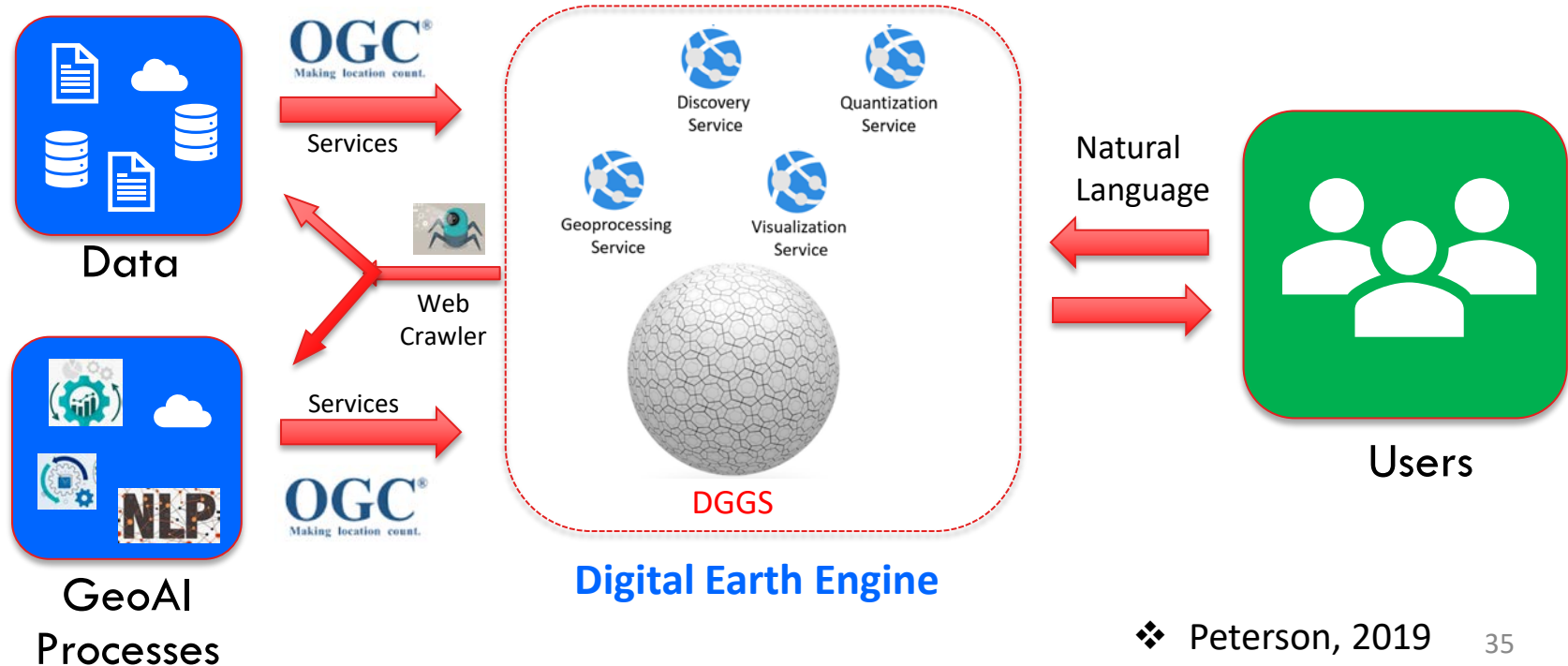
^aDepartment of Geography and Environmental Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON, Canada;

^bColdwater Laboratory, University of Saskatchewan, Canmore, AB, Canada

- DGGs-powered datacubes
- Big data management through DGGs and cloud computing
- Application of DGGs to sensor networks / IoT
- Handling point clouds by DGGs

Vision: Discovery-based analysis

- Digital Earth can serve as an **agnostic data & processing** engine
- **Non-GIS experts** are unable to apply sophisticated data analytics



- ❖ Barnes, Richard, Clarence Lehman, and David Mulla (2014). Priority-Flood: An Optimal Depression-Filling and Watershed-Labeling Algorithm for Digital Elevation Models. *Computers & Geosciences* 62: 117-27.
- ❖ Barnes, R., Sahr, K (2017). dggridR: Discrete Global Grids for R. R package version 2.0.4.
- ❖ Barnes, Richard (2018). Richdem: High-Performance Terrain Analysis. *PeerJ Preprints* 6 : e27099v1.
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- ❖ Li, M., Stefanakis, E (2020). Geospatial operations of discrete global grid systems—a comparison with traditional GIS. *Journal of Geovisualization and Spatial Analysis*, 4, 26.
- ❖ Liao, Chang, Teklu Tesfa, Zhuoran Duan, and L. Ruby Leung (2020). Watershed Delineation on a Hexagonal Mesh Grid. *Environmental Modelling & Software* 128: 104702.
- ❖ Liao, Chang, Tian Zhou, Donghui Xu, Richard Barnes, Gautam Bisht, Hong-Yi Li, Zeli Tan, et al (2022). Advances in Hexagon Mesh-Based Flow Direction Modeling. *Advances in Water Resources* 160.
- ❖ Luczak, E., Rosenfeld, A (1976). Distance on a hexagonal grid. *IEEE Transactions on Computers*, 25(5), 532-533.
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- ❖ Sahr K (2011). Hexagonal Discrete Global Grid System for geospatial computing. *Arch Photogramm Cartogr Remote Sens* 22:363-376
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- ❖ Tomlin, C. Dana (1990). *Geographic Information Systems and Cartographic Modeling*. California, USA: Prentice Hall College Div.
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- ❖ Zhou J, Ben J, Wang R, Zheng M, Yao X, Du L (2020). A novel method of determining the optimal polyhedral orientation for discrete global grid systems applicable to regional-scale areas of interest. *Int J Digit Earth*:1-17.



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Q & A

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