

UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL GEODETIC CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

MODERNISING GEOSPATIAL REFERENCE SYSTEM CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

Introduction to data standardisation, tools and registers

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Day 2, Session 2 [2_2_1]

Acknowledgements: Michael Craymer (CAN); Ivana Ivánová (AUS); Roger Lott (IOGP); Liubov Poshyvailo-Strube (UN-GGCE); Scott Simmons (OGC)

Summary

- Geodetic data needs to be Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable (FAIR) so that is can be applied by emerging user base including location-based services.
- Despite many geospatial and geodetic standards existing, geodetic data is not FAIR.
- Member States are encouraged to update the ISO Geodetic Register with metadata about their datums and transformation parameters as this is the authoritative source for a country's information.





Standards



UNGGES



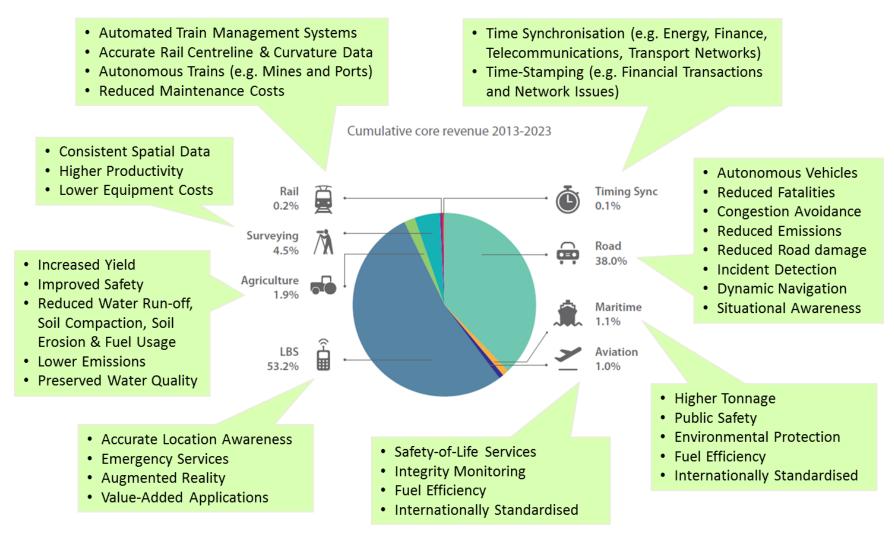
- Geodetic services (like IGS) provide data for an increasingly diverse community
- In the past, the user community was predominantly those from the geodesy and surveying industry, governments and academia
- More recently there has been widespread uptake across society of accurate and reliable positioning information in new markets





Changing world ...

Growing need for real-time data and interoperability

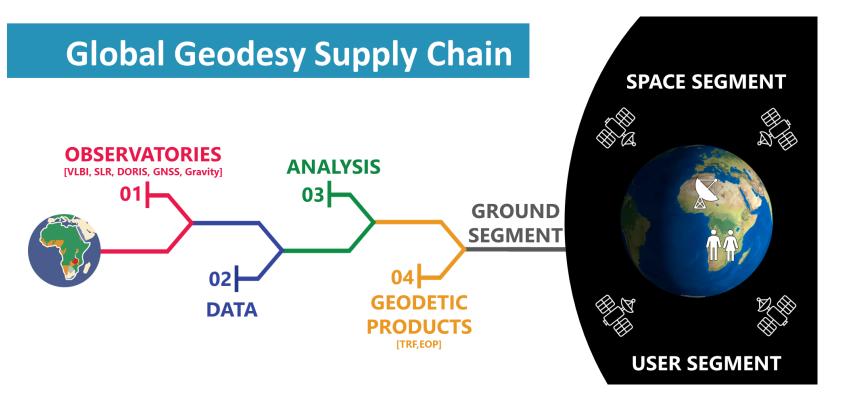




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Why do we need standards in geodesy?



- **Consistency** of raw observations from various ground and space-based stations
- **Consistency** of analysed data and geodetic products
- Observations and data quality assurance
- Interoperability of different geodetic techniques
- **Compatibility** of geodetic data with another geospatial information systems
- Seamless access to geodetic products for users





What do users expect from geodetic data?

- Users want to determine whether data fits their purpose
- Users aren't native geodesists but have expectations on the quality of geodetic data, and they learned to use standard geodetic language for that.

Agriculture	Rail	Road	Maritime	Aviation	Location-Based Services	Time & Synchronisation	Surveying
Accuracy	Accuracy	Accuracy	Accuracy	Accuracy	Accuracy	Accuracy	Accuracy
Availability	Availability	Availability	Availability	Availability	Availability	Authentication	Availability
Integrity	Integrity	Integrity	Integrity	Integrity	Integrity		
Coverage	Coverage	Continuity	Coverage	Continuity	Authentication		
Reliability	Reliability	Reliability	Reliability				
	Robustness	Authentication	Coverage				
	Continuity	Interoperability					
	Authentication	. ,					





What are users getting today?

I want GNSS data from Albany station from 6 June 2019, where are the data?

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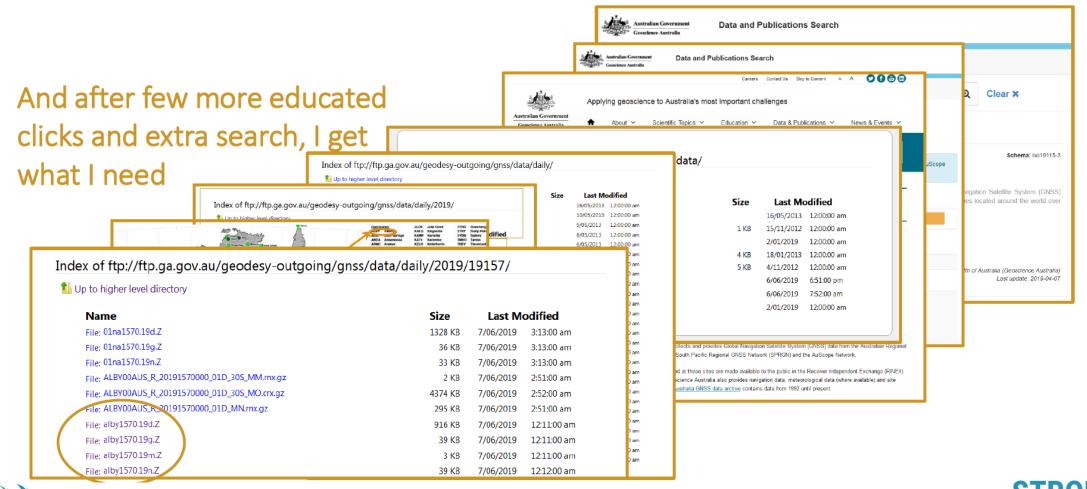
What are the data?

Oh, I know now, this is part of national network, so must be somewhere within the national data portal...

Datasets Organisations Community About Login	for you to find relevant open data. You can still <u>go back to the old site</u>	
albany gnssQ	Datasets Organisations Community About Login	in
Home > Results > Geodesy - Continuously Operating Geodesy - Continuously Operating Ask a question about this dataset Geoscience Australia / Created 01/01/1990 // Updated 01/01/1990 Data collected from the Australian Regional Global Navigation Satelite System (GNSS) network and other GNSS observatories located around the world over the last 15 OK, OK, butt years.	<u>Q</u>	
Linked Data Rating: **C*C*C* © Contact Point: Commonwealth of Australia (Geoscience Australia), <u>clientservices@ga.gov.au</u> Tags: dc2020_geodesy_geodetic data_cmss_gaps_land_published external_rinex		
Files and APIs Related Product(HTML) C Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International Licence	m (GNSS) Search attempt Nr.2	
Data Source what? where?		



What are the data?







But how fit for purpose is the data?

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User requirements

- To satisfy the user demands, our geodetic data and the associated metadata need to be standardized, discoverable, interoperable and authoritative
- Current standards for delivering geodetic data will not adequately serve the needs of new (non-geodetic) users, who will emerge on account of the rapid growth in precise positioning services.
- Broad, multi-domain, standards are important for combining geodetic data with data from other domains.





The need for modern standards

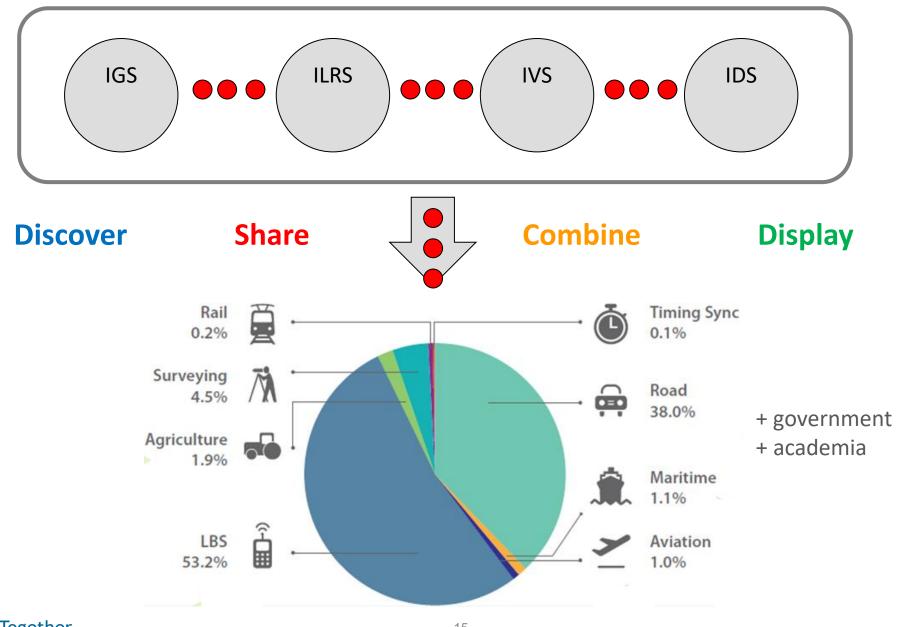
- Well known standards are available for encoding fundamental geodetic data (e.g., SINEX, RINEX, ANTEX, SP3 etc.)
- But not all users know where or how to look for information (e.g., coordinates in a SINEX file) to fit their requirements
- Users need to be able to query, access and retrieve data in near real-time without knowing how (e.g., format) or where (e.g., data center) the information is stored
- No international standard is available which makes geodetic data and metadata openly accessible, machine-to-machine readable and interoperable for these emerging markets
- There is a need to modernize standards to encode and exchange geodetic data and metadata





Imagine ... **IGS Regional** Data Centers **IGS** Data Centers IGS Analysis IGS Analysis Centers Center Coordinator **Global Data** Centers **STRONGER**. **TOGETHER.**

Reference Frame



UNCCC

Stronger. Together.

GeodesyML

is <u>a</u> solution for efficient positioning data (and metadata) delivery





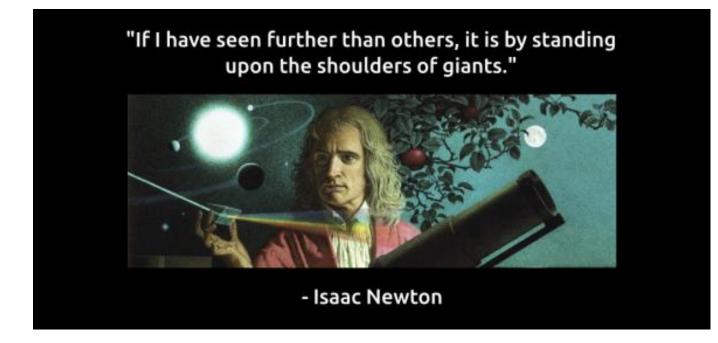
Extending Geography Markup Language (GML)

- GML provides a rich set of primitive objects like, geometry, coordinate reference system, time etc.
- But not detailed / specific standards. For example, GML can not be used to describe everything about a GNSS, VLBI, SLR, DORIS sites.
- The geodetic standard needs objects like antenna, receiver, cable, adjustments etc.
- GML Application Schemas <u>extend</u> GML to meet the needs of a specific community of interest (e.g. SensorML, GeoSciML, GeodesyML)





GML Application Schemas



- Coordinate Reference System, Time, Unit of measures
- Many proprietary and open-source software vendors and database technology providers support GML





GeodesyML

- GeodesyML enables machine-readable access via the internet, i.e. for more than dedicated (geodetic) equipment.
- Australia and New Zealand have created the Geodesy Markup Language (GeodesyML)
- **GeodesyML** is a standard way of describing (encoding) and sharing geodetic data and metadata in XML format
- **GeodesyML** harmonizes language of geodesy allows mapping of geodetic database into a common language to exchange data with others.
- GeodesyML is proposed Application Schema of the Geography Markup Language (ISO Standard)

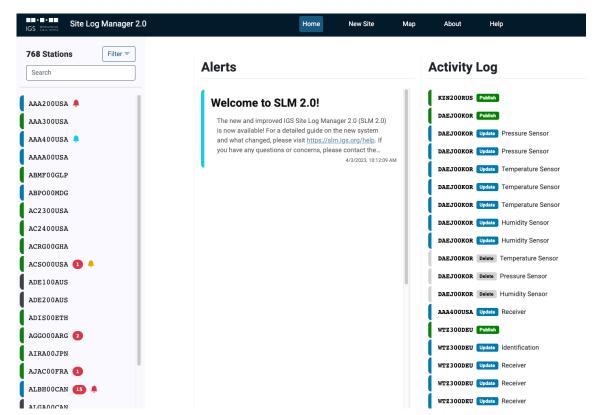




IGS Site Log Manager

<u>https://github.com/International-GNSS-Service/SLM</u>

 The Site Log Manager (SLM) is a web framework for managing GNSS ground station meta data. SLM is maintained by the International GNSS Service and is freely licensed for general use under the MIT License. The SLM is implemented in Python and JavaScript using the Django web framework.







OUTLINE

1. Introduction and key definitions

2. ISO standards

- 3. OGC standards
- 4. Other standardisation practices
- 5. Summary and conclusions

2.1 What is ISO?

2.2 Geographic locations and coordinates (ISO 6709, ISO 19111, ISO 19161)
2.4 Metadata (ISO 19115)
2.5 Data registry (ISO 19127, ISO 19135)



What is ISO?

- International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is an independent, non-governmental international organization founded in 1947, which now links 169 national standards bodies (as of 2023)¹
- **ISO standards** are internationally recognised guidelines and specifications developed by ISO. They are "the formula that describes the best way of doing something"¹
- ISO Technical Committee 211 (ISO/TC 211)²
 - Develops standards for geographic information and geomatics
 - Specifies methods, tools, and services for data management, including acquisition, processing, analysis, access, publishing and transferring of data between different users and systems
 - Links to appropriate standards for information technology and data
 - Provides a framework for the development of sector-specific applications using geographic data
 - Under the direct responsibility of ISO/TC 211³⁴
 - 100 standards published⁵
 - 28 are under development⁵



- 1. International Organization for Standardization. "ISO International Organization for Standardization." ISO, https://www.iso.org/home.html. Accessed 9 January 2025.
- 2. ISO/TC 211. "ISO/TC 211 Geographic information/Geomatics" ISO, https://committee.iso.org/home/tc211. Accessed 9 January 2025.
- 3. ISO/TC 211. "ISO/TC 211 Geographic Information/Geomatics. Projects" ISO, https://committee.iso.org/sites/tc211/home/projects.html. Accessed 21 January 2025.
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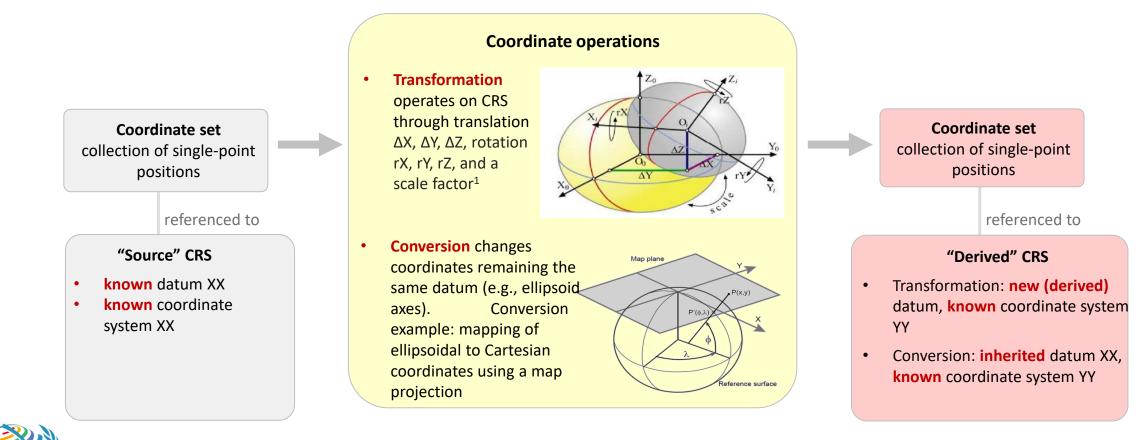
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ISO19111 for coordinate referencing

ISO 19111:2019 "Geographic information – Referencing by coordinates", https://www.iso.org/standard/74039.html.

This standard includes conceptual schema (i.e., a structured framework or a technical drawing) to describe referencing by coordinates. It defines the elements necessary to determine coordinate reference systems (CRS)¹, including a datum² and a coordinate system and provides description of operations, such as transformation or conversion, between two different CRSs.



Coordinate reference system (CRS) is a coordinate system that is related to an object (e.g., the Earth) by a datum or a reference frame. In other words, it is a framework for mapping Earth's geographic locations and vice versa, for relating maps to real-world locations on the Earth's surface. It encompasses a coordinate system, datum or reference frame, units, and coordinate operations. References: "Introduction to Coordinate Reference Systems", https://www.earthdatascience.org/courses/earth-analytics/spatial-data-r/intro-to-coordinate-reference-systems/; ISO 19111:2019 "Geographic information – Referencing by coordinates", https://www.iso.org/standard/74039.html.
 Datum and reference frame is used interchaneably according to the modern ISO notations. For details see ISO 19111:2019 "Geographic information – Referencing by coordinates", https://www.iso.org/standard/74039.html.

Other references used

^{1.} The schematic is adopted from: National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. "Department of Defense, World Geodetic System 1984, Its Definition and Relationships with Local Geodetic Systems." National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, https://earth-info.nga.mil/php/download.php?file=coord-wgs84. Accessed 25 January 2025. GIS Coordinate Reference Systems, https://earth-info.nga.mil/php/download.php?file=coord-wgs84. Accessed 25 January 2025. GIS Coordinate Reference Systems, https://earth-info.nga.mil/php/download.php?file=coord-wgs84. Accessed 25 January 2025.

Nedel(kovi /2, and Sekulić A.: Concept of spatial coordinate systems, their defining and implementation as a precondition in geospatial applications. Glasnik Srpskog geografskog drustva, 95(4), pp. 77-102, https://doi.org/10.2298/GSGD1504077N, 2015
 ITC "Map Protections" Geometric Aspects of Manoniae https://doi.org/10.2298/GSGD1504077N, 2015

ISO 19161-1, 19161-2 for ITRS and ground stations identification

ISO 19161-1:2020 "Geographic information – Geodetic references – Part 1: International terrestrial reference system (ITRS)", https://www.iso.org/standard/70655.html.

 Sets standards on how to "realise" the ITRS according to different categories (e.g., general, primary, secondary) and intended purposes.

(under development, approved)

ISO 19161-2 "Geographic information – Geodetic references – Part 2: Unique identification of geodetic ground stations",

https://www.iso.org/standard/89134.html#lifecycle.

- Modernises the method for unique identification of ground geodetic stations by replacing the existing Directory Of MERIT¹ Sites (DOMES) numbering system.
- Contributes to interoperability among various Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS).
- Supports the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) actions on global geodetic reference frame.



- MERIT an international program to Monitor Earth Rotation and Intercompare the Techniques (MERIT) of observation and analysis. For further details see
 Wilkins, G. A., and I. I. Mueller (1986), Rotation of the Earth and the Terrestrial Reference System, Eos Trans. AGU, 67(31), 601-605, doi:10.1029/E0067i031p00601.
 - Wilkins, G.A., Mueller, I.I. (1986), On the rotation of the Earth and the terrestrial reference system. Bull. Géodésique 60, 85-100, https://doi.org/10.1007/BF02519356.
- ITRF. "Description of the DOMES Numbering System." ITRF Network, https://itrf.ign.fr/en/network/domes/description. Accessed January 26, 2025.

DOMES number²: **10002M006**

- The first 3 digits indicate the area, usually the country 100=France
- The next 2 digits indicate the site number within the country **02=Grasse**
- The next letter indicates the tracking point "M" for monuments
- the last 3 digits represent a sequential point number
 006 is GPS
 Pillar/brass mark



ISO Geodetic Registry (ISOGR)

TC 211

https://geodetic.isotc211.org

- Maintained by the ISO Technical Committee on geographic information/ geomatics (ISO/TC 211)
- Main purpose is to serve as the authoritative source for reference frames and transformation parameters
 - Information in the ISOGR has been either directly entered or approved by the agencies responsible for defining and maintaining the reference systems and transformations
 - Serves as an authoritative source for other registers (e.g., EPSG)
 - $_{\odot}\,$ Not meant to compete with other registries but complement them



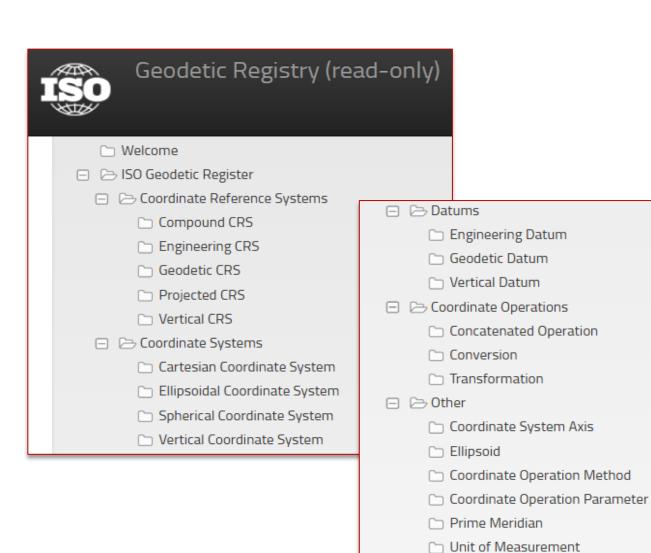


ISO 19127 Geodetic Register

ISO 19127:2019 "Geographic information – Geodetic register",

https://www.iso.org/standard/67252.html

- Specifying the data elements required within the geodetic register, in accordance with ISO 19111:2007 "Spatial referencing by coordinates" and ISO 19135-1:2015 "Procedures for item registration".
- Defines the management and operations of the ISO geodetic register, including roles, responsibilities, rules, and procedures.
 - Example of a geodetic registry: ISO Geodetic Registry (ISOGR), <u>https://geodetic-v1.isotc211.org</u>
 - Structured database of coordinate reference systems (CRS) and their transformations



EPSG registry

https://epsg.org/

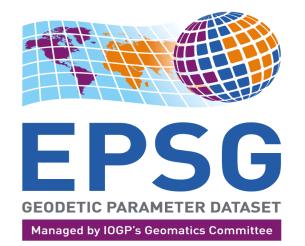
- European Petroleum Survey Group (EPSG)
 - Online registry
 - Holds data, has a graphic user interface (GUI) and application programming interface (API)
 - $_{\odot}$ $\,$ Data is stored in a data model which implements ISO 19111 $\,$

• EPSG Database

- EPSG Geodetic Parameter Dataset the data in the EPSG registry
- The Dataset contains definitions of coordinate reference systems and coordinate transformations which may be global, regional, national or local
- $\circ~$ One of the Dataset export options, MS Access used as carrier
- Dataset export also available as MySQL, Oracle or PostgreSQL scripts



The Dataset is maintained by the Geodesy Subcommittee of the IOGP Geomatics Committee



Overview of ISO standardisation

Benefits

- Globally recognised
- Compliant with legal regulatory requirements
- Enhances operational efficiency
- Reduces risks and operational cost
- Improves geodetic product and service quality
- Enhances system compatibility with other sectors
- Improves data discoverability
- Enhances system sustainability

Deficits

- High implementation and maintenance cost
- Time-consuming implementation
 process
- Heavy bureaucracy
- Requires special expertise
- Requires continuous commitment to sustain the standards





OUTLINE

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- 4. Other standardisation practices
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3.1 What is OGC?3.2 Types of OGC standards3.3 OGC and ISO standards compatibility





- **Open Geospatial Consortium** (OGC) is a non-profit international voluntary open-membership consensus standards organisation founded in 1994
- **OGC mission** is to develop open **free of charge** standards that "enable interoperability¹ and seamless integration of geospatial information, geoprocessing software, and geospatial services"²
- **OGC standards** are internationally recognized technical documents, developed by OGC, that describe specifications and protocols to ensure optimal interoperability of different geospatial systems²
- OGC has
 - 500+ members including vendors, government agencies, universities and research institutions (as of 2017)³
 - \circ **50+ standards**^{4 5}
- **OGC** closely cooperates with **ISO** and other standards developing organisations



- 1. Interoperability is the ability of two or more components or services to exchange and mutually utilize information without affecting their functionality or performance. Interoperability implies the integration and compatibility of those components or services (e.g., geodetic devices, data formats, standards). Source: International Organization for Standardization. "ISO/IEC TR 15944-14:2020 Information technology Business operational view Part 14: Open-edi reference model and cloud computing architecture." 1st ed., https://www.iso.org/standard/73177.html. Accessed 4 February 2025.
- 2. Open Geospatial Consortium. "OGC Open Geospatial Consortium.", https://www.ogc.org/. Accessed 9 January 2025.
- 3. Bermudez, L. "New frontiers on open standards for geo-spatial science.", Geo-Spatial Information Science, 20(2), 126-133. <u>https://doi.org/10.1080/10095020.2017.1325613</u>, 2017.
- 4. Simmons, S. "OGC and the Relevance of Standards for Environmental Matters." Open Geospatial Consortium. https://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/assets/Events/Link-series/OGC_relevance_standards_environmental_matters.pdf, 2017.
- 5. Open Geospatial Consortium. "Progress of Official OGC Standards", <u>https://portal.ogc.org/public_ogc/standards/standards_workflow.php?bg=1</u>. Accessed February 7, 2025.



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4.1 Geodetic Formats
4.2 INSPIRE
4.3 SI and physical constants
4.4 FAIR principles for data management
4.5 Resolutions and conventions

Selection of GNSS Data and Metadata Formats

Format/Standard	Information
SSR v1.0	The IGS State Space Representation (SSR) format is an open standard for dissemination of real-time products to support the IGS Real-Time Service and the wider community. The messages support multi-GNSS and include corrections for orbits, clocks, DCBs, phase-biases and ionospheric delays.
RINEX v. 4.02	RINEX 4.02 (2024) is an upgrade of the format document that introduces the pico-second resolution to the observations time tagging, as well as new navigation messages for NavIC L1 and GLONASS L1 and L3 CDMA. In addition, navigation messages subtypes have been introduced, to support dual ION models available for the QZSS and NavIC systems. Additional editorial changes have been introduced to improve clarity.
SINEX	station position and velocity solutions
sp3 version d	GNSS and SBAS orbit solutions
sp3 version c	GPS and GLONASS orbit solutions
erp	Earth rotation parameter files
clock RINEX 3.04	station and satellite clock solutions
Bias-SINEX V1.00	GNSS code and phase biases for satellites and stations
IONEX V1.00	ionospheric TEC grid products
Tropo SINEX v2.00	Solution (Software/Technique) Independent Exchange (SINEX) format for TROpospheric and meteorological parameters
Tropo SINEX	Zenith path delay products
site log v2.0	History of site installation
ANTEX Format	ANTEX: The Antenna Exchange Format, Version 1.4



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INSPIRE

- The European INSPIRE (Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe) program is an initiative aimed at creating a unified spatial data infrastructure across Europe. This program is designed to facilitate the sharing of environmental spatial information among public sector organizations and improve public access to spatial information across Europe. The INSPIRE Directive, which was established in 2007, sets the legal framework for this initiative.
- The main objectives of the INSPIRE program include:
 - Interoperability: Ensuring that spatial data from different sources across Europe can be combined and used seamlessly.
 - Accessibility: Making spatial data more accessible to the public and various stakeholders.
 - Harmonization: Standardizing spatial data to ensure consistency and compatibility across different regions and sectors.
 - **Support for Environmental Policies:** Providing reliable spatial data to support environmental policies and decision-making processes.

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• The INSPIRE program covers a wide range of spatial data themes, including land use, transportation networks, hydrography, and protected sites, among others. It aims to create a more efficient and effective way of managing and using spatial data to address environmental and societal challeng



Content of the INSPIRE directive

INSPIRE Directive

The INSPIRE Directive establishes an infrastructure for spatial information in Europe to support Community environmental policies, and policies or activities which may have an impact on the environment.

Implementing Rules (IR) are adopted in a number of specific areas:

- Metadata,
- Data Specifications,
- Network Services,
- Data and Service Sharing
- Monitoring and Reporting

The Directive addresses	<u>34 spatial data themes</u>
ANNEX: 1AddressesAddressesCadastral parcelsCadastral parcels <td>Administrative units Coordinate reference systems Coordinate reference systems Coordinate reference systems Coordinate reference systems Coordinate reference systems Coordinate reference systems Coordinate reference systems</td>	Administrative units Coordinate reference systems Coordinate reference systems Coordinate reference systems Coordinate reference systems Coordinate reference systems Coordinate reference systems Coordinate reference systems
ANNEX: 2	Geology Orthoimagery

ANNEX: 3 0-Area management / restriction / regulation Agricultural and aquaculture facilities zones & reporting units Bio-geographical regions Atmospheric conditions Buildings Energy Resources Habitats and biotopes Environmental monitoring Facilities Human health and safety Land use Meteorological geographical features Mineral Resources Natural risk zones Oceanographic geographical features Population distribution and demography Production and industrial facilities Sea regions Species distribution Statistical units Utility and governmental services

1. GO FAIR. "FAIR Principles", https://www.go-fair.org/fair-principles. Accessed February 13, 2025.

2. Wilkinson, M., Dumontier, M., Aalbersberg, I. J., et al. (2016). The FAIR guiding principles for scientific data and stewardship. Scientific Data, 3, 160018. <u>https://doi.org/10.1038/sdata.2016.18</u>.

FAIR¹² principles for data management

Concise and measurable set of principles to increase reusability of digital assets

Findability

- (Meta)data are assigned a globally unique and persistent identifier
- Data are described with rich metadata (see "Reusable")
- Metadata clearly and explicitly include the identifier of the data they describe
- (Meta)data are registered or indexed in a searchable resource

Accessibility

- (Meta)data are retrievable by their identifier using a standardised communications protocol
- The protocol is open, free, and universally implementable
- The protocol allows for an authentication and authorisation procedure, where necessary
- Metadata are accessible, even when the data are no longer available

Interoperability

- (Meta)data use a formal, accessible, shared, and broadly applicable language for knowledge representation.
- (Meta)data use vocabularies that follow FAIR principles
- (Meta)data include qualified references to other (meta)data

<u>R</u>euse

- (Meta)data are richly described with a plurality of accurate and relevant attributes
- (Meta)data are released with a clear and accessible data usage license
- (Meta)data are associated with detailed provenance
- (Meta)data meet
 domain-relevant
 community
 standards



Summary

Explored standardisation practices throughout the data lifecycle in geodesy

- ISO standards (ISO 6709, ISO 19111, ISO 19115, ISO 19161, ISO 19127, ISO 19135)
- Types of OGC standards
- ISO and OGC compatibility
- International System of Unites (SI) and fundamental physical constants
- Resolutions and conventions
- FAIR principles for data management

Learnt definitions

- Standard
- Standardisation
- Metadata
- Identifier
- Register
- Registry
- Registration



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