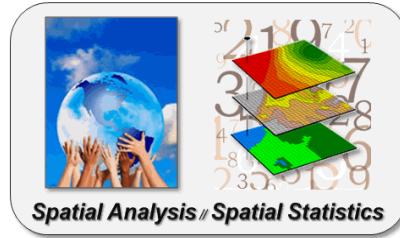


# Spatial/STEM:

## A Mathematical/Statistical Framework for Understanding and Communicating Map Analysis and Modeling



Part 4) **Future Directions.** Most GIS technology has deep roots in manual mapping and geo-query procedures involving discrete spatial objects— **continuous mapped data promises a future that moves well beyond mapping.** The current cycle of innovation is focused on hexagonal/dodecahedral grid representation and implementation of a latitude/longitude-based universal spatial database key which are poised to change how we conceptualize, visualize, process and analyze spatial data.

This PowerPoint with notes and online links to further reading is posted at  
[www.innovativegis.com/basis/Workshops/NGA2015/](http://www.innovativegis.com/basis/Workshops/NGA2015/)

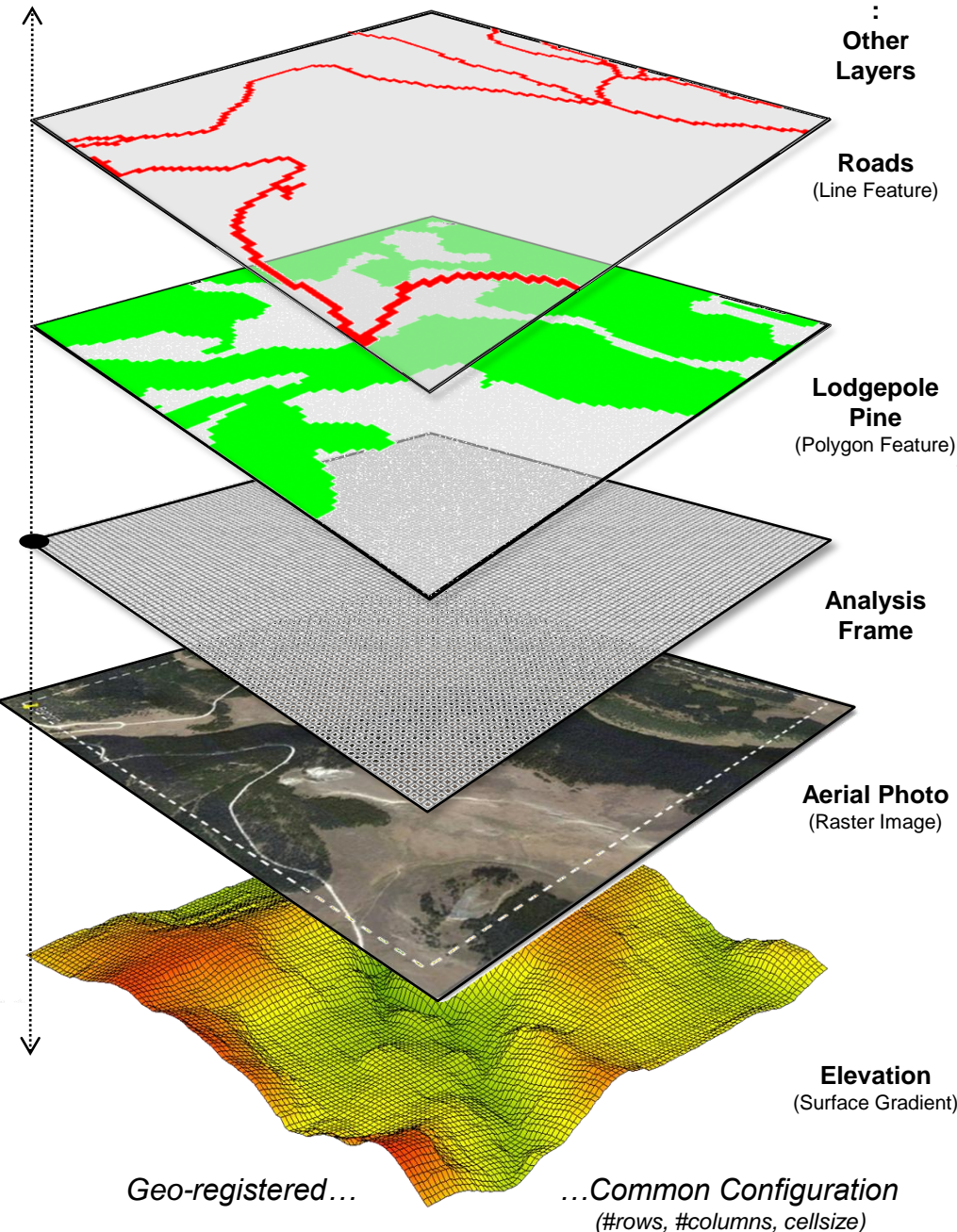
Presented by

**Joseph K. Berry**

Adjunct Faculty in Geosciences, Department of Geography, University of Denver  
Adjunct Faculty in Natural Resources, Warner College of Natural Resources, Colorado State University  
Principal, Berry & Associates // Spatial Information Systems

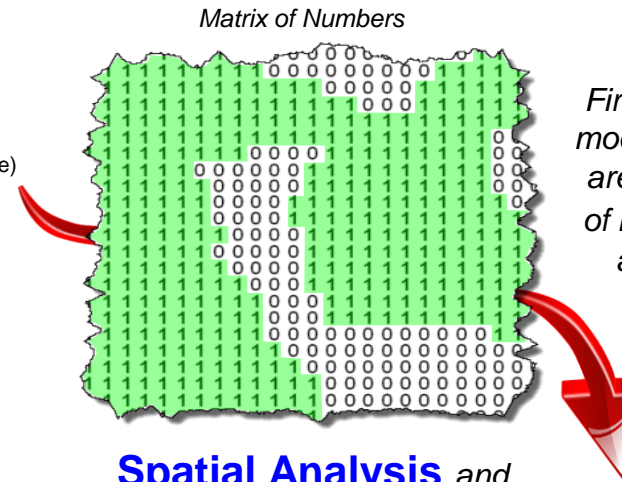
Email: [jberry@innovativegis.com](mailto:jberry@innovativegis.com) — Website: [www.innovativegis.com/basis](http://www.innovativegis.com/basis)

# Grid-based Data Organization *(for Contextual and Numerical analysis of mapped data)*



## Map Stack of Grid Map Layers

A **Grid Map Layer** consists of a matrix of numbers with a value indicating the characteristic or condition at each grid cell location—forming a geo-registered/configured **Map Stack**.



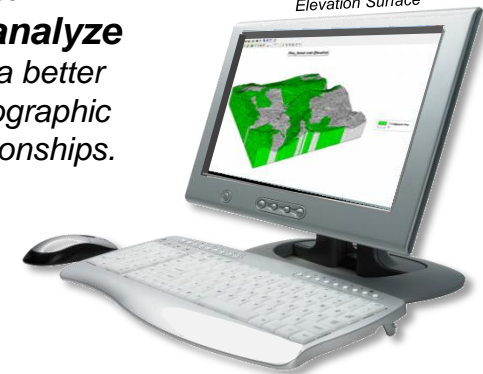
First and foremost, modern digital maps are organized sets of numbers (**data**) available for...

## Spatial Analysis and Spatial Statistics

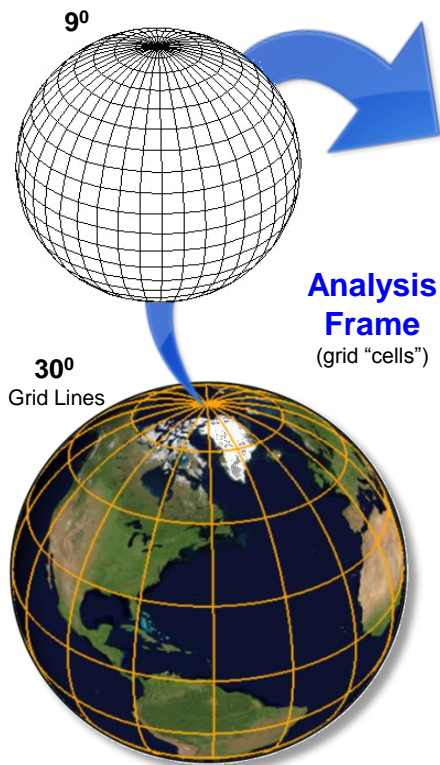
using “map-ematical” operations to **quantitatively analyze** mapped data for a better understand of geographic patterns and relationships.

...pictures later (**graphics**)

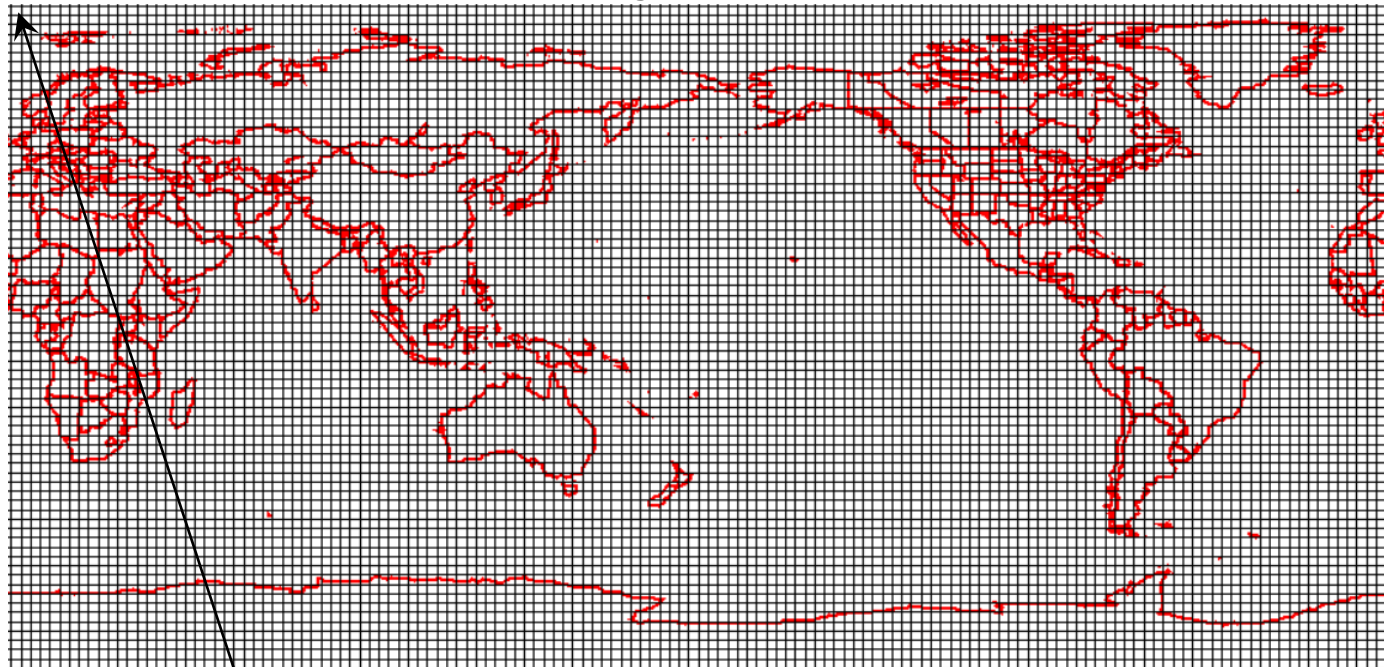
Pine Layer draped over 3D Elevation Surface



# Grid-based Map Data Structure *(geo-registered matrix of map values)*



2.5° Latitude/Longitude Grid (140mi grid cell size)



Coordinate of first grid cell is 90° N 0° E

#Rows= 73 #Columns= 144 = 10,512 grid cells

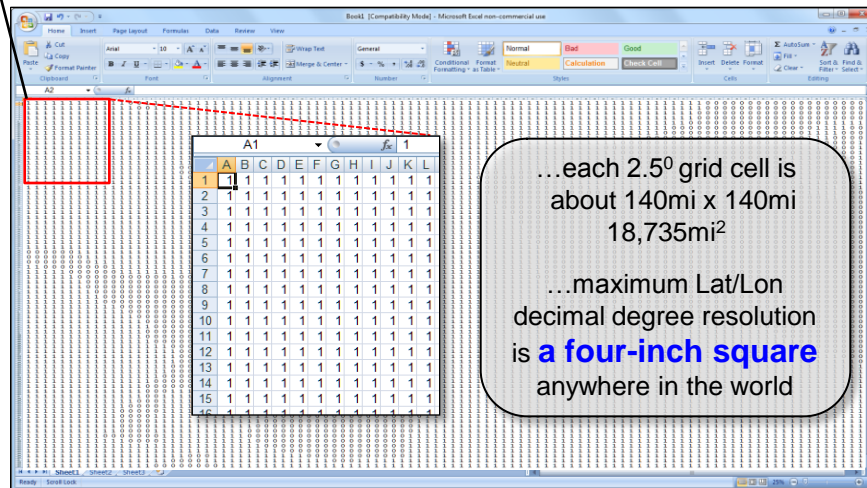
↑ The **Latitude/Longitude** grid forms a continuous surface for geographic referencing where each grid cell represents a given portion of the earth' surface.

The easiest way to conceptualize a grid map is as an Excel spreadsheet with each **cell** in the table corresponding to a Lat/Lon grid space (location) and each **value** in a cell representing the characteristic or condition (information) of a mapped variable occurring at that location. →

...the bottom line is that...

All **spatial topology** is *inherent in the grid.*

Conceptual Spreadsheet (73 x 144)



...each 2.5° grid cell is about 140mi x 140mi 18,735mi<sup>2</sup>  
 ...maximum Lat/Lon decimal degree resolution is a **four-inch square** anywhere in the world



Lat/Lon

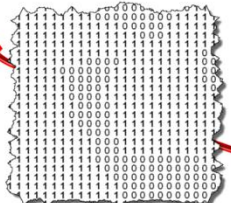
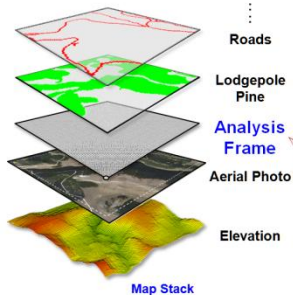
...from Lat/Lon **“crosshairs to grid cells”** that contain map **values** indicating characteristics or conditions at each grid location

# Universal Database Key *(moving Lat/Lon from crosshairs to grid cells)*



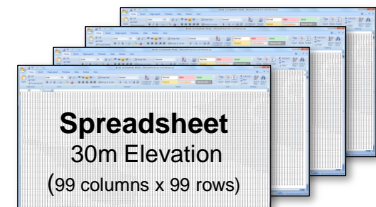
... **Spatially Keyed** data in the cloud are downloaded and configured to the **Analysis Frame** defining the **Map Stack**

**Spatially Keyed** data in the cloud



## Conceptual Organization

## RDBMS Organization



2D Matrix → 1D Field

**Keystone Concept**

Each of the conceptual grid map spreadsheets (matrices) can be converted to **interlaced RDBMS format** with a long string of numbers forming the **data field** (map layer) and the **records** (values) identifying the information at each of the individual grid cell locations.

Once a set of mapped data is stamped with its Lat/Lon "**Spatial Key**," it can be **linked to any other database table with spatially tagged records** without the explicit storage of a fully expanded grid layer— all of the spatial relationships are implicit in the relative Lat/Lon positioning.

**"Where"**

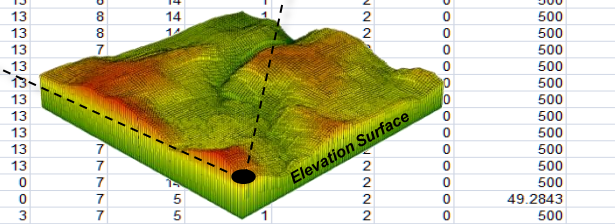
**Geographic Space**

**Grid Space**

**Database Table**

| Lat         | Lon         | Col | Row | Elevation | Slope   | Veg_type | Bedrock | Covertype | Rock_type | Surf_geology | Locations | CostDist_prox | Euclidean_p |
|-------------|-------------|-----|-----|-----------|---------|----------|---------|-----------|-----------|--------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|
| 0.000134989 | 0.000134989 | 1   | 1   | 2492      | 6.42575 | 13       | 8       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 53.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.000404968 | 1   | 2   | 2490      | 10.065  | 13       | 8       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 52.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.000674946 | 1   | 3   | 2489      | 8.74816 | 13       | 8       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 51.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.000944924 | 1   | 4   | 2487      | 8.57436 | 13       | 8       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 50.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.001214903 | 1   | 5   | 2487      | 6.94267 | 13       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 49.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.001484881 | 1   | 6   | 2484      | 8.24707 | 13       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 48.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.001754860 | 1   | 7   | 2481      | 8.83946 | 13       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 47.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.002024838 | 1   | 8   | 2479      | 7.89355 | 13       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 46.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.002294816 | 1   | 9   | 2472      | 10.7096 | 13       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 45.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.002564794 | 1   | 10  | 2467      | 9.73483 | 13       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 44.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.002834772 | 1   | 11  | 2459      | 11.6533 | 13       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 43.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.003104750 | 1   | 12  | 2453      | 11.451  | 13       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 42.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.003374728 | 1   | 13  | 2442      | 13.4447 | 0        | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 41.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.003644706 | 1   | 14  | 2437      | 9.6861  | 0        | 7       | 5         | 1         | 2            | 0         | 49.2843       | 40.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.003914684 | 1   | 15  | 2428      | 11.1091 | 3        | 7       | 5         | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 39.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.004184662 | 1   | 16  | 2421      | 9.01929 | 3        | 7       | 5         | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 38.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.004454640 | 1   | 17  | 2415      | 8.63434 | 3        | 7       | 5         | 1         | 2            | 0         | 42.6274       | 37.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.004724618 | 1   | 18  | 2407      | 8.06603 | 3        | 7       | 5         | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 36.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.004994596 | 1   | 19  | 2406      | 3.06676 | 16       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 35.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.005264574 | 1   | 20  | 2403      | 3.048   | 16       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 34.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.005534552 | 1   | 21  | 2400      | 2.42448 | 16       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 33.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.005804530 | 1   | 22  | 2404      | 4.58453 | 16       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 32.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.006074508 | 1   | 23  | 2409      | 3.80529 | 16       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 31.1        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.006344486 | 1   | 24  | 2415      | 6.10775 | 16       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 500           | 30.6        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.006614464 | 1   | 25  | 2422      | 10.3792 | 16       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 33.799        | 30.2        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.006884442 | 1   | 26  | 2430      | 9.36706 | 16       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 32.799        | 29.8        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.007154420 | 1   | 27  | 2432      | 4.84897 | 16       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 29.799        | 29.4        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.007424398 | 1   | 28  | 2432      | 4.064   | 16       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 28.799        | 29.0        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.007694376 | 1   | 29  | 2432      | 4.064   | 16       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 29.799        | 28.6        |
| 0.000134989 | 0.007964354 | 1   | 30  | 2432      | 4.43188 | 16       | 7       | 14        | 1         | 2            | 0         | 28.799        | 28.2        |

Lat/Lon as a **Universal Spatial Key**

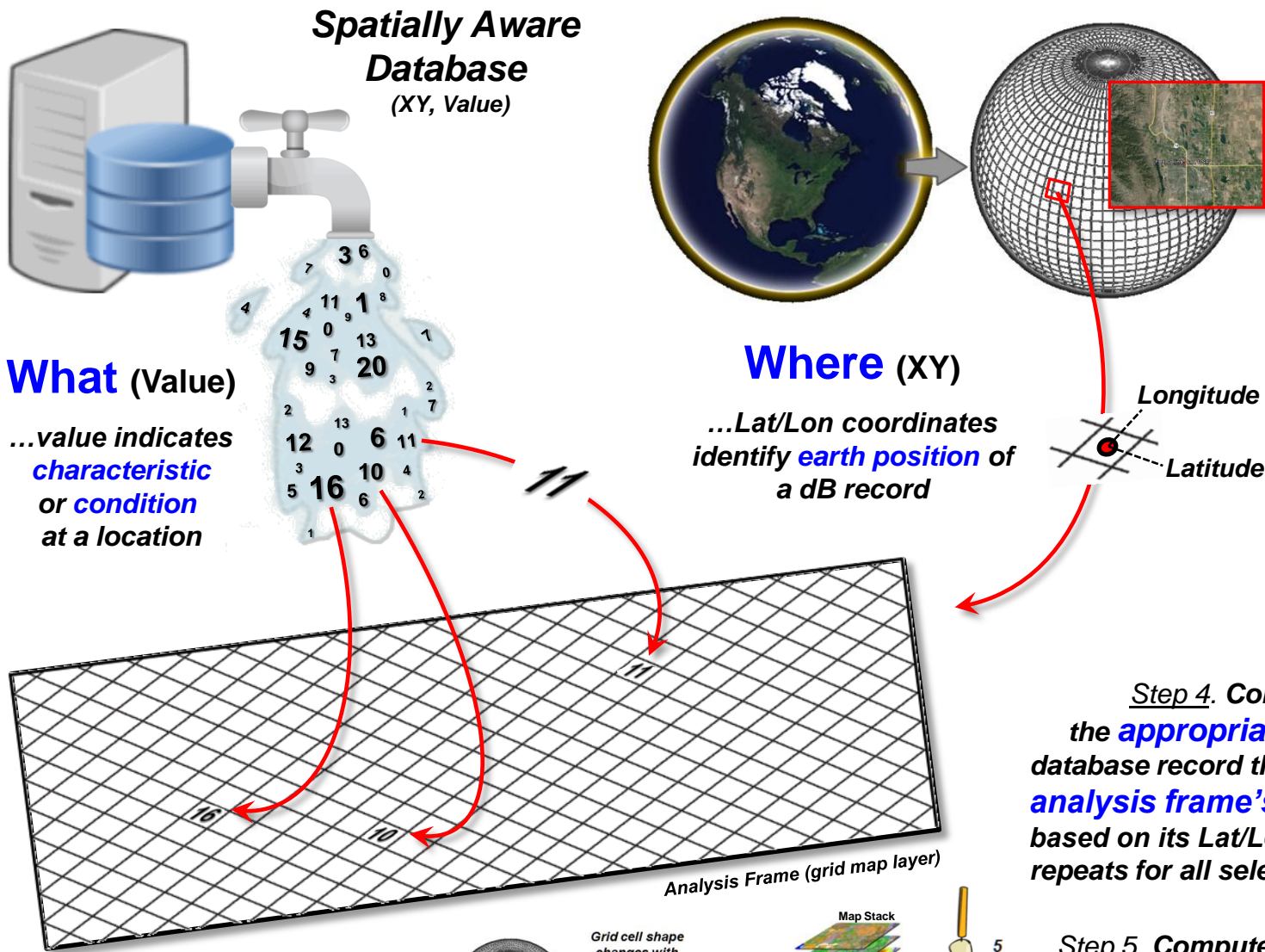


**Data Space**

Each column (**field**) represents a single map layer with the values in the rows indicating the **characteristic or condition** at each grid cell location (**record**).

**"What"**

# 5-step Process for **Unlocking the Universal Spatial Db Key**



**What (Value)**  
 ...value indicates characteristic or condition at a location

**Where (XY)**  
 ...Lat/Lon coordinates identify earth position of a dB record

Step 1. User identifies the **geographic extent** of the analysis window.

Step 2. User specifies the **cell size** of the analysis window. ...e.g., 100m

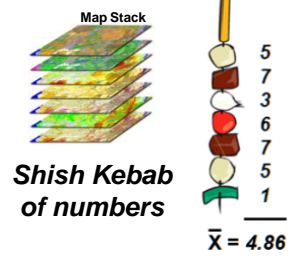
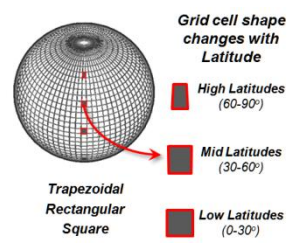
Step 3. Computer determines the Lat/Lon ranges defining each grid cell (**cutoffs**) and the **centroid location**. ...defines the Analysis Frame

Step 4. Computer determines the **appropriate grid cell** for each database record that falls within the **analysis frame's** geographic extent based on its Lat/Lon coordinates... then repeats for all selected dB records.

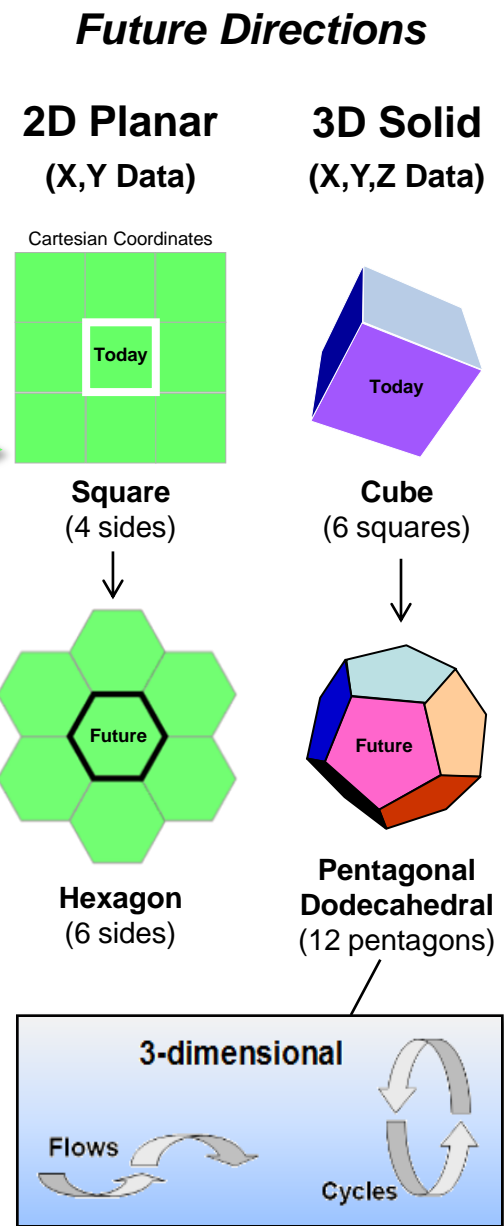
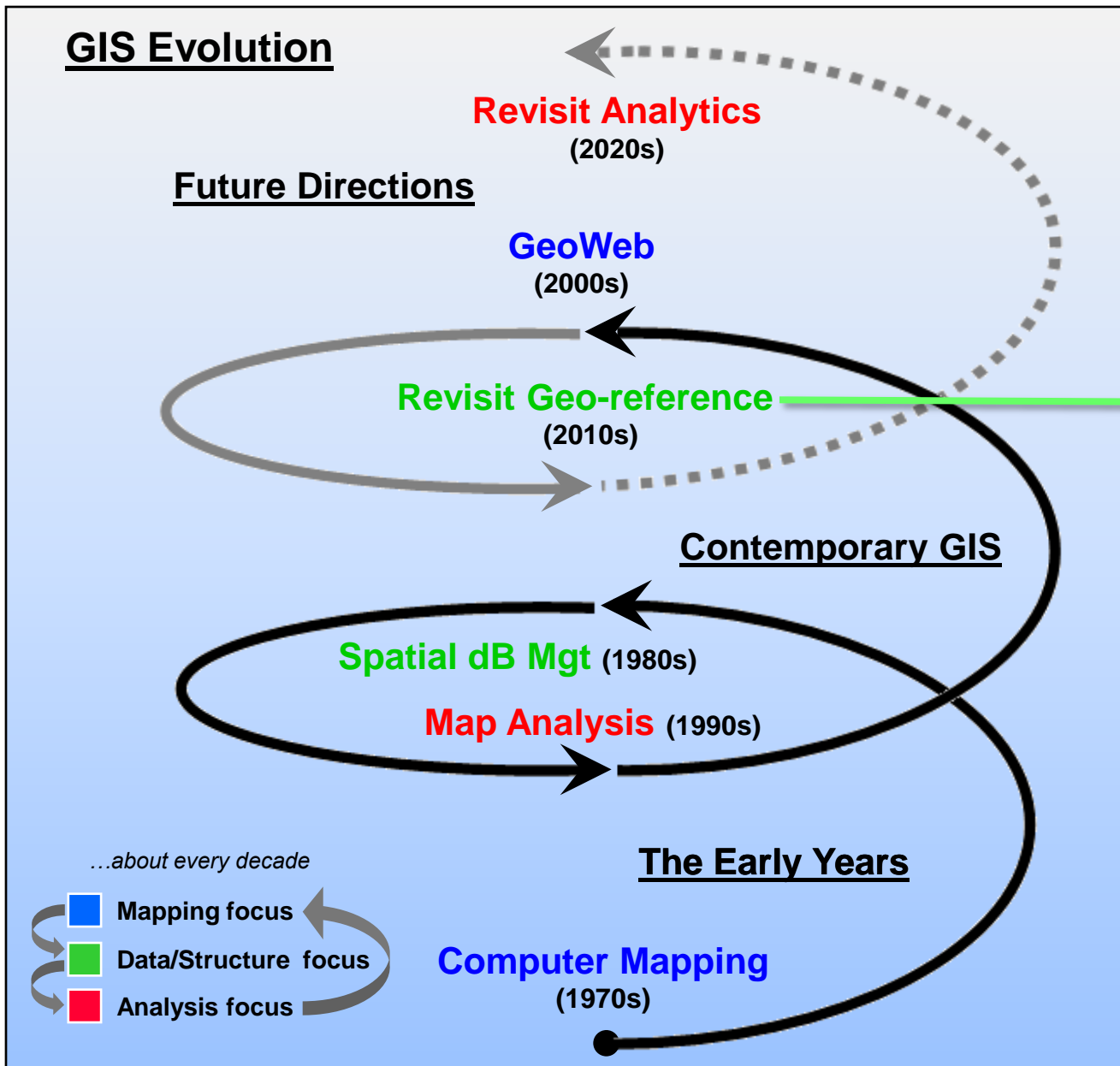
Step 5. Computer **summarizes** the values if more than one value "falls" into an individual grid cell-- result is a "**Grid Map Layer**" for inclusion in a map stack for subsequent map analysis.

...**but** Lat/Lon grid cells are only square at the equator—  
 so is the entire idea a bust?

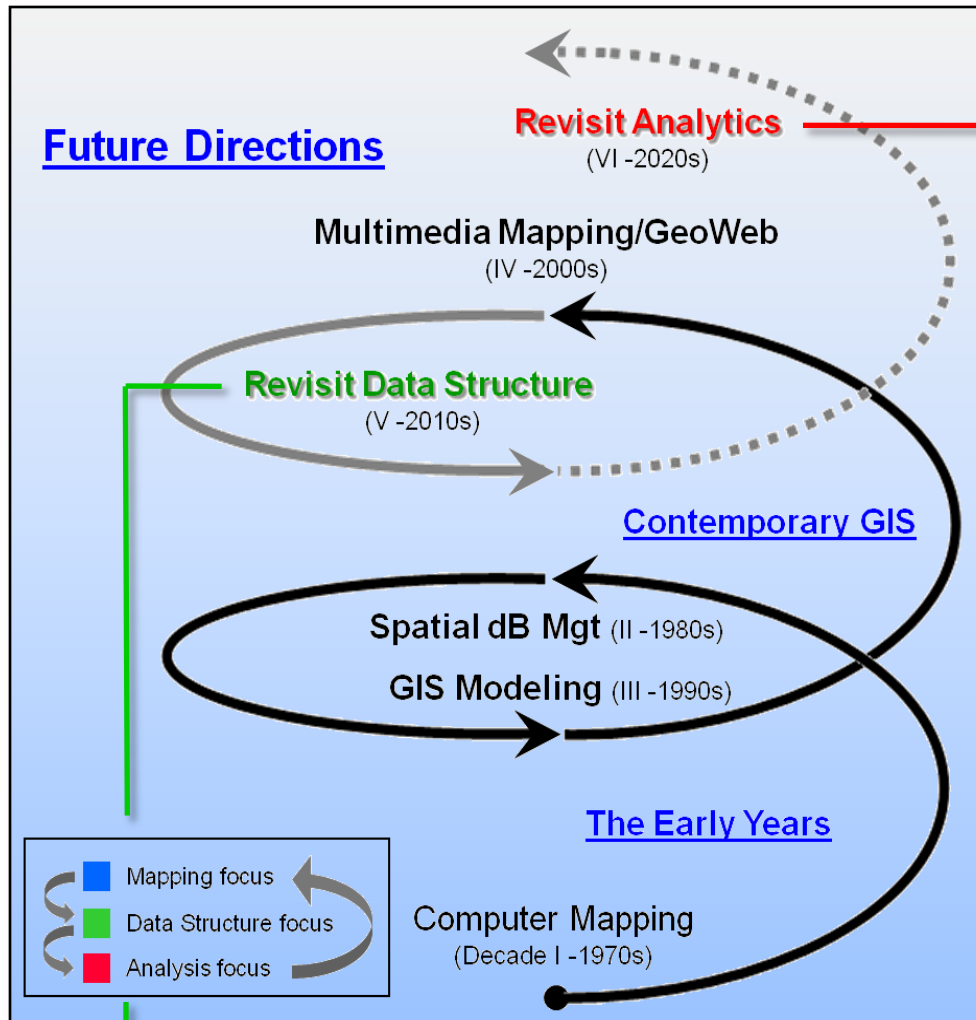
Hint: spatial resolution of the analysis frame is key



# GIS Development Cycle *(...where we're heading)*



# Overview of Map Analysis Approaches



## Future Directions

**Revisit Analytics**  
(VI - 2020s)

**Multimedia Mapping/GeoWeb**  
(IV - 2000s)

**Revisit Data Structure**  
(V - 2010s)

**Contemporary GIS**

**Spatial dB Mgt** (II - 1980s)

**GIS Modeling** (III - 1990s)

**The Early Years**

**Computer Mapping**  
(Decade I - 1970s)

## Data Structure

Advances in **Data Storage** (*Universal Database Key*) and **Geo-referencing** (*solid Dodecahedral cells*) will revise existing analytical operations and spawn new ones that will radically change our paradigm of what maps are and how they are utilized— *moving well beyond traditional mapping and geo-query.*

## Map Analysis and Modeling

### Spatial Analysis —

- 1) **recoding** of all operations to take advantage of increased precision/accuracy in the new geo-referencing and data structures;
- 2) incorporate **dynamic influences** on effective movement/connectivity (e.g., direction, accumulation, momentum); and
- 3) **uncertainty and error propagation** handling for all analytical processing.

...emphasis on **Data Accuracy** (correct WHAT characterization)  
vs.

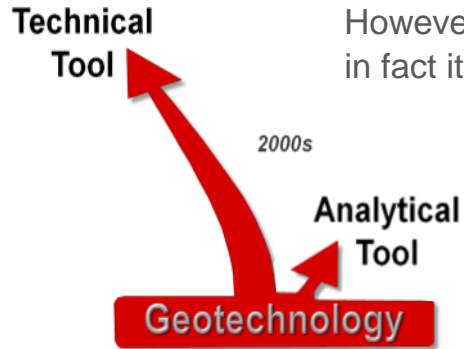
**Precision** (proper WHERE placement)

### Spatial Statistics —

- 1) **uncertainty and error propagation** handling for all analytical processing;
- 2) **localized expression** of most statistical metrics will be employed; and
- 3) **CART, Induction and Neural Networks** techniques requiring large N will replace traditional multivariate data analysis

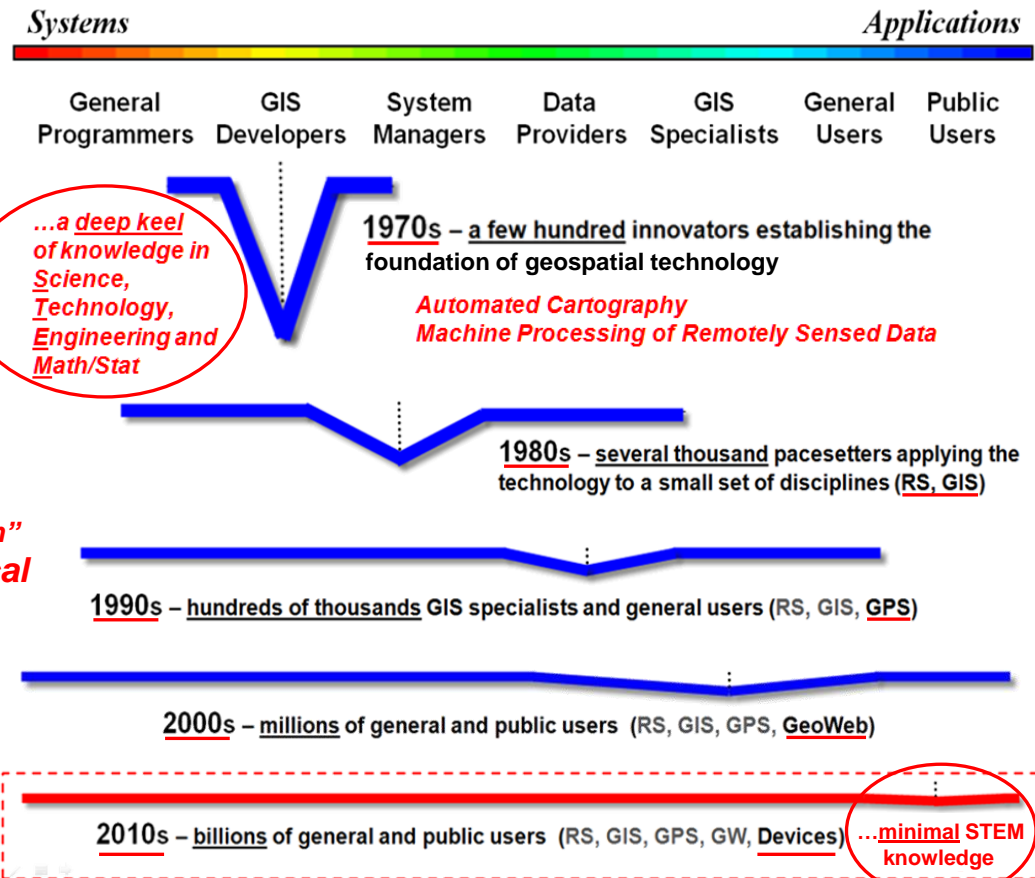
# Evolving Geospatial Understanding *(extending mindsets from Technological to Analytical)*

The lion's share of the growth has been GIS's ever expanding capabilities as a **"technical tool"** for **corralling vast amounts of spatial data** and providing near instantaneous access to remote sensing images, GPS navigation, interactive maps, asset management records, geo-queries and awesome displays.



However, GIS as an **"analytical tool"** hasn't experienced the same meteoric rise— in fact it can be argued that the analytic side of GIS has somewhat stalled... partly **because** of...

## The Enlarging GIS Community *(evolution)*



...but recognition that modern digital **"maps are numbers first, pictures later"** and we do mathematical and statistical things to map variables that moves Geospatial Technology from—

**"Where is What"**

graphical inventories, to a

**"Why, So What and What If"**

problem solving environment—

**"thinking analytically with maps"**

within a

**SpatialSTEM Framework**

...increasingly thought of as a **"market-driven" Technological Tool**

...**minimal STEM knowledge**



# Where are we headed?

The STEM community will revolutionize how we conceptualize, utilize and visualize spatial relationships...

...but will Geospatial Technology lead or follow?

1) Solutions to complex spatial problems need to **engage “domain expertise”** through map analysis/modeling – outreach to other disciplines to establish **spatial reasoning skills** needed for effective solutions that integrate a **multitude of disciplinary and general public perspectives.**

2) Grid-based map analysis and modeling involving **Spatial Analysis** and **Spatial Statistics** are in large part simply **spatial extensions of traditional mathematical and statistical** concepts and procedures.

3) The recognition by the **Geospatial community** that **quantitative analysis of maps is a reality** and the recognition by the **STEM community** that **spatial relationships exist and are quantifiable** should be the glue that binds the two perspectives – through a common coherent and comprehensive SpatialSTEM approach.

The Bottom Line

“...**map analysis → quantitative analysis of mapped data**”  
— not your grandfather’s map ...nor his math/stat

**THANK YOU** for your kind attention – any final thoughts or questions?