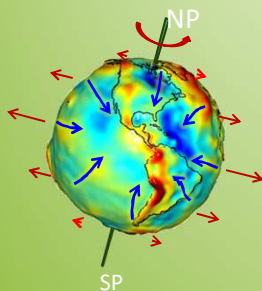


Ground↔Grid - Simple, Right?



Mentoring Mondays

10 March 2025

Jerry Mahun, PLS

Thrice-retired, but still too damn busy

jerry.mahun@gmail.com

<https://jerrymahun.com>

I. Earth Models

II. Spatial Systems

III. Distortions

IV. Creating a Grid

V. State and Regional Coordinate Systems

VI. Ground and Grid

Grid↔Ground - Simple, Right?



I. Earth Models

I. Earth Models

Mentoring
MONDAYS

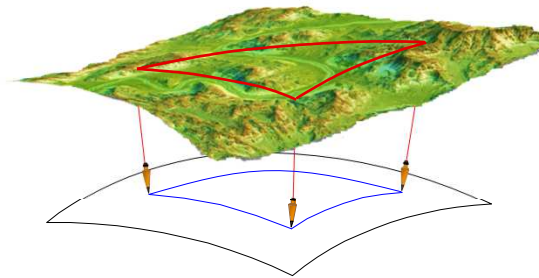
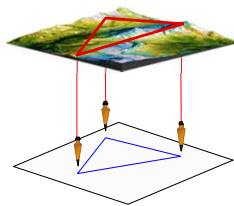
A. Physical Earth - Ground

The surface on which we measure.

Not mathematical.

Over small areas, we can assume a flat reference system - plane; simple grid

Over larger areas, must account for earth's shape and dynamics - curved reference



I. Earth Models

Mentoring
MONDAYS

B. Geoid

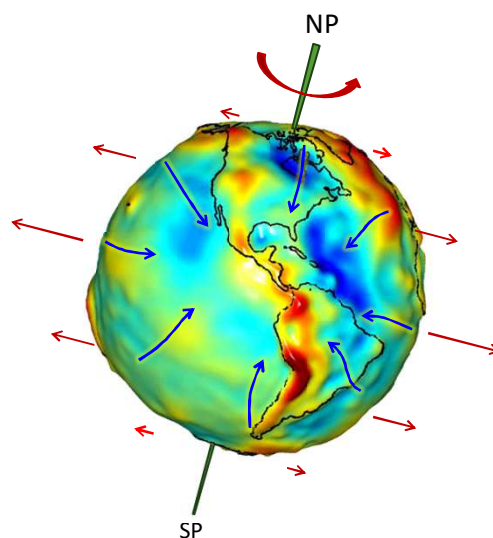
An equipotential surface defined by gravity (in) and centrifugal force (out).

Gravity = $f(\text{mass})$

Earth: non-homogeneous; mass anomalies

⇒ Lines of gravity are neither parallel nor straight.

Geoid is a lumpy and changing nonmathematical surface.



Slide 5/69

10 March 2025

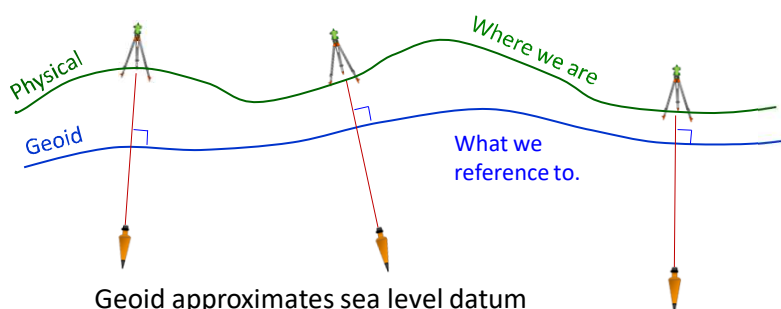
I. Earth Models

Mentoring
MONDAYS

B. Geoid

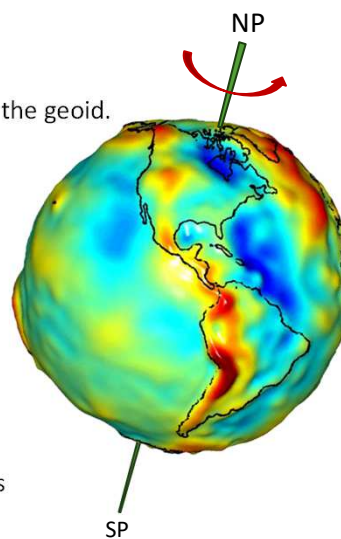
Gravity is perpendicular to the geoid

Centering a bubble or using a plumb bob orients equipment to the geoid.



Geoid approximates sea level datum

Connected to physical Earth by elevations - orthometric heights



Slide 6/69

10 March 2025

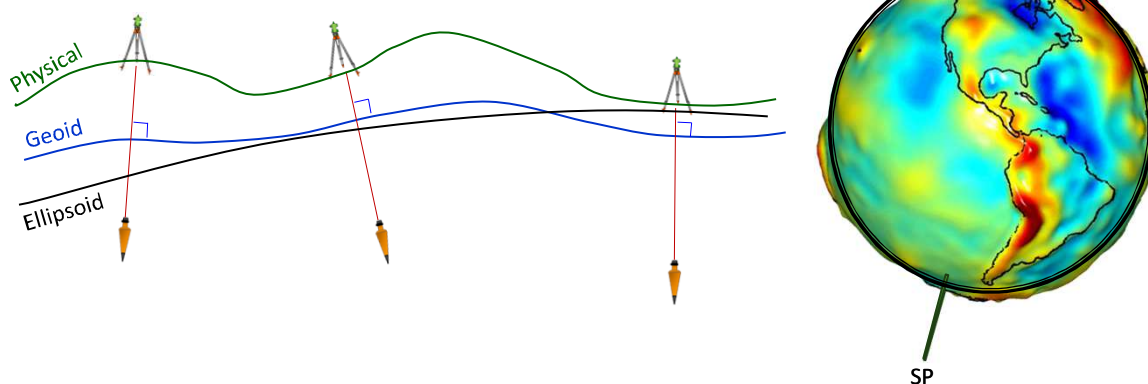
I. Earth Models

Mentoring
MONDAYS

C. Ellipsoid

Mathematical 3D surface that is fit to geoid

Doesn't fit exactly; compromises



Slide 7/69

10 March 2025

I. Earth Models

Mentoring
MONDAYS

C. Ellipsoid

Geoid - Ellipsoid fit at a point is a function of Skewness and Vertical separation.

Vertical separation

Heights between the surfaces

H - Orthometric: geoid to ground

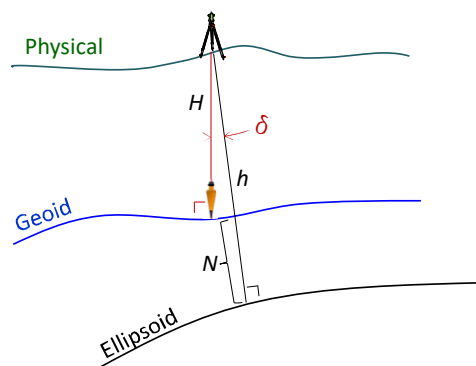
N - Geoid: ellipsoid to geoid

h - Ellipsoidal: ellipsoid to ground

$h = H + N$

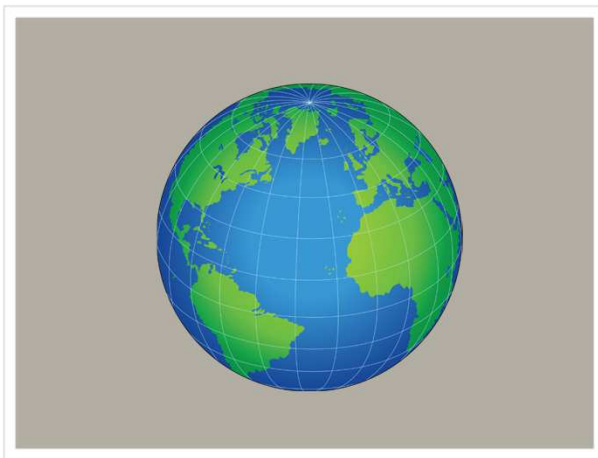
Skewness - Deflection of the vertical, δ

Angle between directions of gravity and ellipsoid normal.



Slide 8/69

10 March 2025



II. Spatial Systems

II. Spatial Systems

Mentoring
MONDAYS

A. Three-Dimensional

1. Geodetic Coordinates

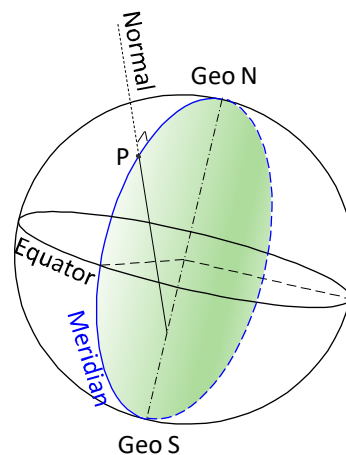
Reference defined by ellipsoid and fit.

NAD 83 - GRS 80 fit to Earth's mass center.

NAD 27 - Clarke 1866 fit to Meades Ranch, KS

Meridian An elliptical section containing the normal and semi-minor axes. Defines Geodetic N at a point.

Geodetic meridians converge.



II. Spatial Systems

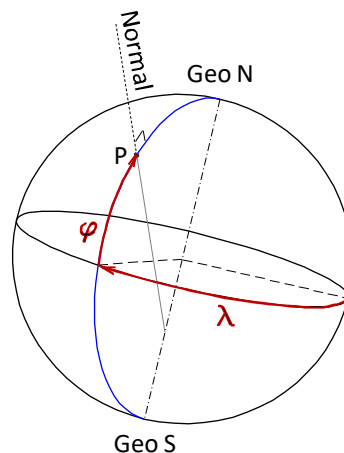
Mentoring
MONDAYS

A. Three-Dimensional

1. Geodetic Coordinates

Longitude (λ) - Angle in Equatorial plane
E or W from Greenwich Meridian
 0° - 180° W; 0° - 180° E

Latitude (Φ) - Angle in meridian N or S
of the Equator to the normal
 0° - 90° N; 0° - 90° S



Slide 11/69

10 March 2025

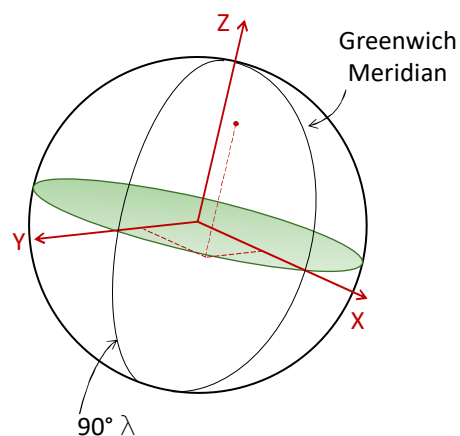
II. Spatial Systems

Mentoring
MONDAYS

A. Three-Dimensional

2. Terrestrial Coordinate System - TCS

Three axis rectangular system
Origin at Earth's mass center
Coordinates are linear values



Slide 12/69

10 March 2025

II. Spatial Systems

Mentoring
MONDAYS

B. Two Dimensional

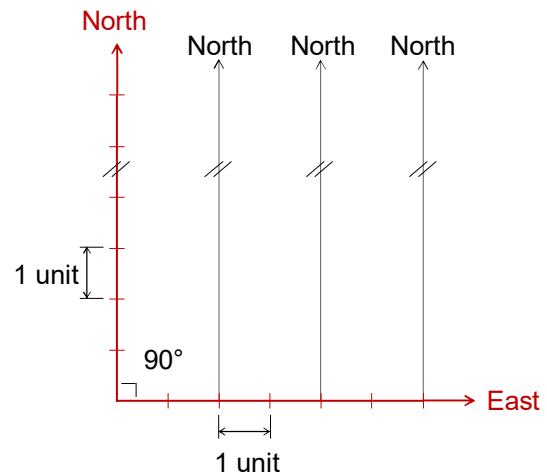
1. Planar

Characteristics

- Orthogonal
- Parallel north lines
- Uniform scale in both directions

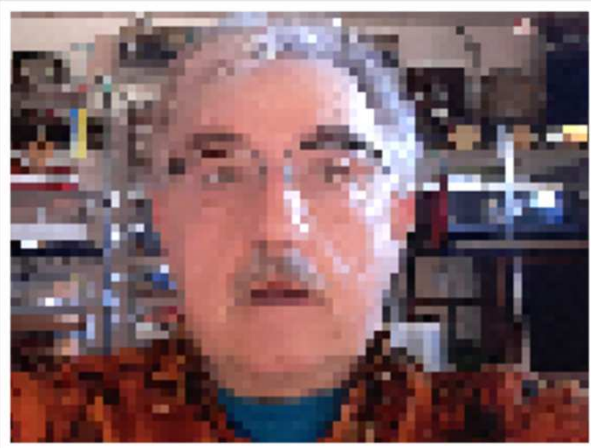
Comps are simple.

Disadvantage(s)?



Slide 13/69

10 March 2025



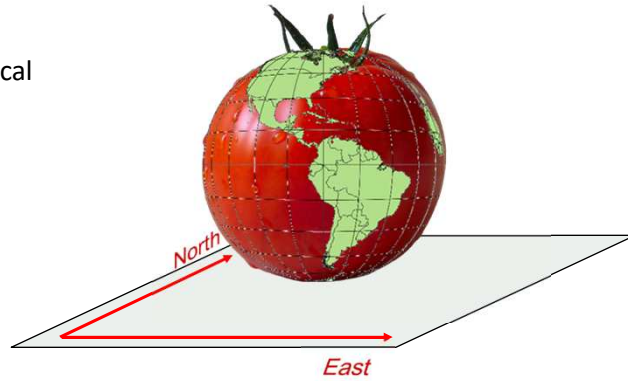
III. Distortions

III. Distortions

Mentoring
MONDAYS

A. 3D to 2D

We're on a 3D irregular earth
We want to put it in a 2D mathematical
system



Slide 15/69

10 March 2025

III. Distortions

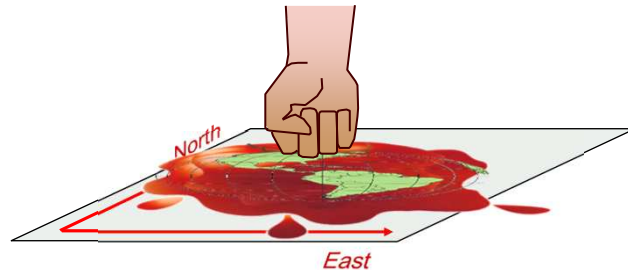
Mentoring
MONDAYS

A. 3D to 2D

We're on a 3D irregular earth
We want to put it in a 2D mathematical
system

With a direct projection we get a
distorted representation.

Different mathematical projections
distort different ways.



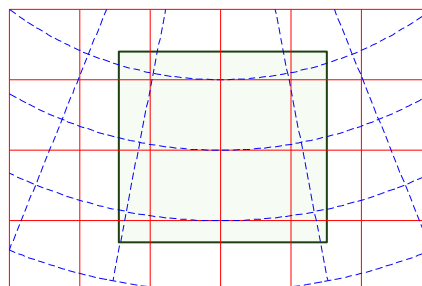
Slide 16/69

10 March 2025

III. Distortions

B. Projection Area

The smaller the area projected, the smaller the distortions.



Grid (2D) - Solid red
Geodetic (3D) - Dashed blue

Slide 17/69

10 March 2025

III. Distortions

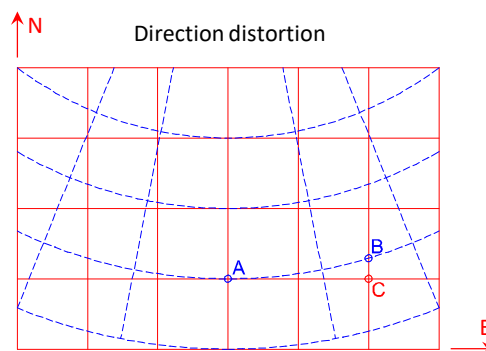
C. Distortion Types

1. Direction

3D meridians converge, 2D Grid do not.
3D E/W lines are curved, 2D Grid are straight.

No distortion at center of projection
Increases moving E & W of center

Direction distortion = $f(\text{longitude})$
Systematic error



Grid (2D) - Solid red
Geodetic (3D) - Dashed blue

Slide 18/69

10 March 2025

III. Distortions

C. Distortion Types

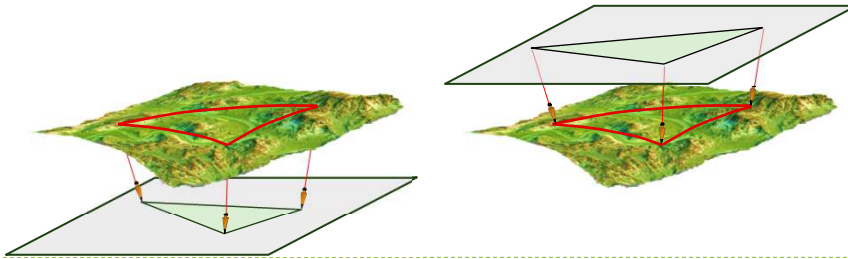
2. Distance

Ground points must be projected vertically to the 2D grid plane.

This moves them closer together or further apart, altering distance.

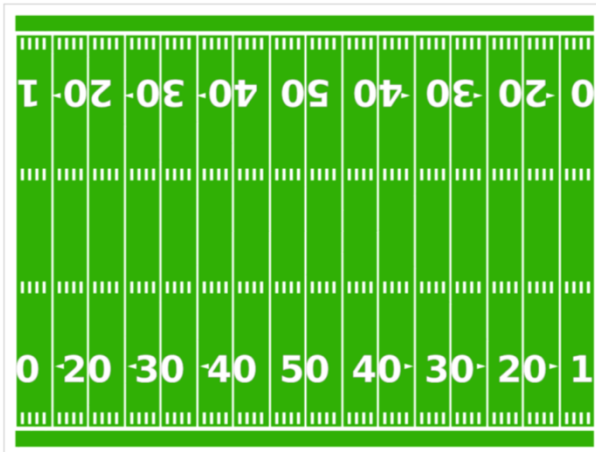
Distance distortion = $f(\text{heights, grid fit})$

Systematic error



Slide 19/69

10 March 2025



IV. Creating a Grid

IV. Creating a Grid

Mentoring
MONDAYS

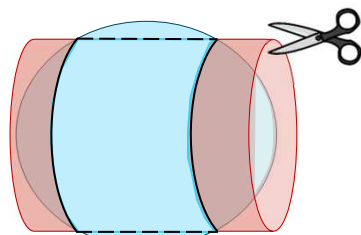
A. Projection Surfaces

Grid is based on a Projection Surface which is fit to Ellipsoid

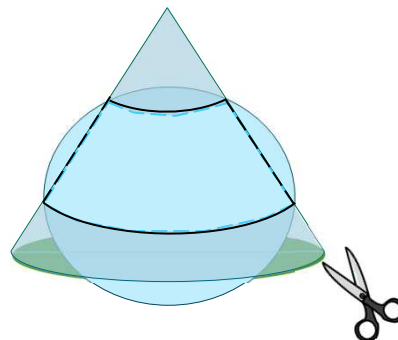
Points are projected from ellipsoid to surface

Surface is rolled out flat

Coordinate axes overlaid



Cylinder



Cone

Slide 21/69

10 March 2025

IV. Creating a Grid

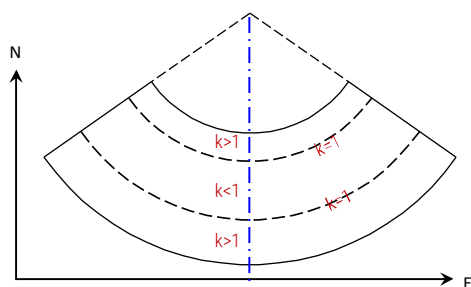
Mentoring
MONDAYS

B. Lambert Conic Conformal

Distance distortion

Scale, k , is constant E/W; varies N/S

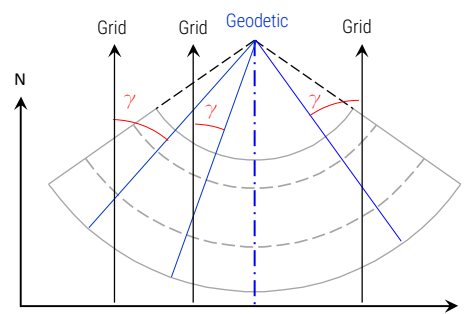
$k=f(\text{Latitude})$



Direction distortion

Conv, γ , angle between Grid & Geodetic N

$\gamma=f(\text{Longitude})$



Slide 22/69

10 March 2025

IV. Creating a Grid

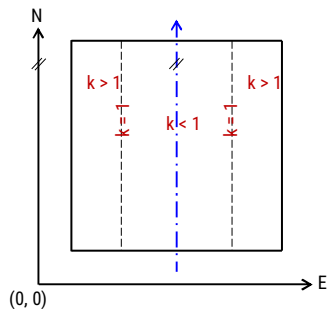


C. Mercator Transverse Cylindric

Distance distortion

Scale, k , is constant N/S; varies E/W

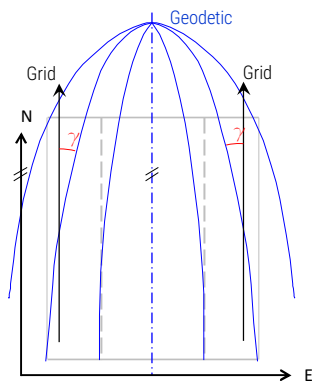
$$k=f(\text{Longitude})$$



Direction distortion

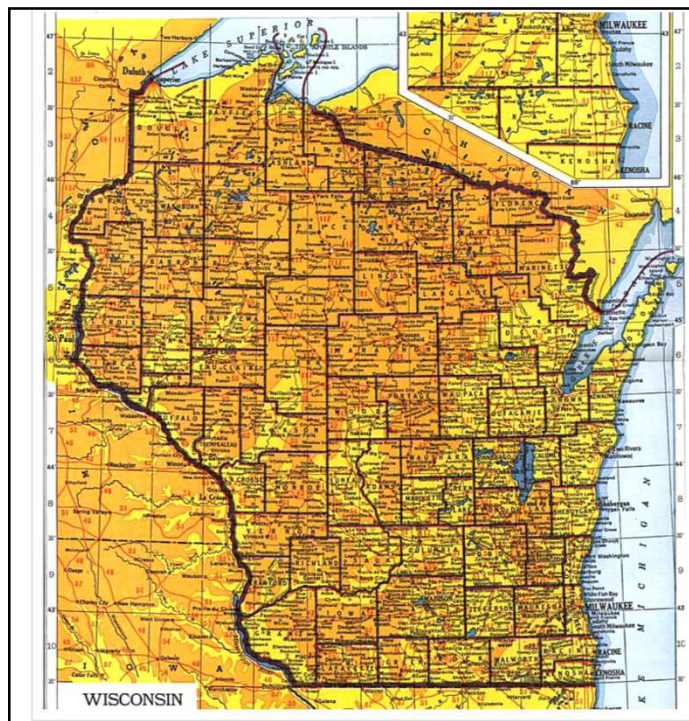
Conv, γ , angle between Grid & Geodetic N

$$\gamma=f(\text{Longitude})$$



Slide 23/69

10 March 2025



V. State and Regional Coordinate Systems

V. State and Regional Coordinate Systems



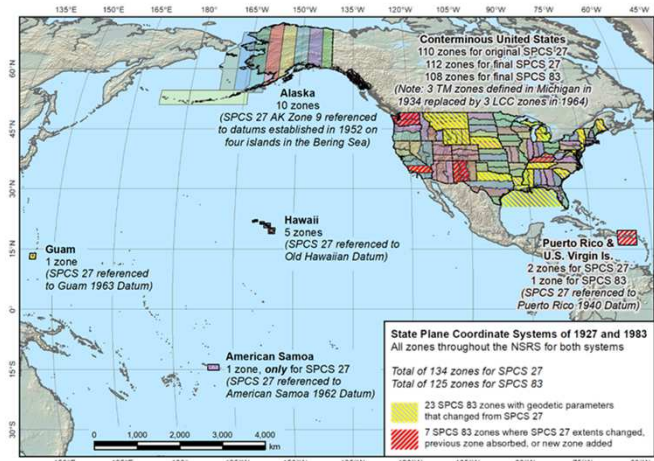
A. Traditional

1. State Plane Coordinate (SPC) system

Developed by C&GS in 1934

Max distortion: 1/10,000
ellipsoid to grid

Updated on NAD 83



Slide 25/69

10 March 2025

V. State and Regional Coordinate Systems



A. Traditional

2. Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) system

Developed by DMA

6° wide zones - global coverage

Max distortion: 1/2,500
ellipsoid to grid

Updated on NAD 83



Slide 26/69

10 March 2025

V. State and Regional Coordinate Systems

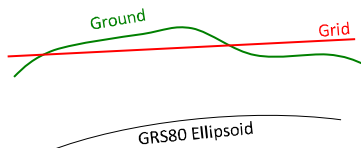


B. Low Distortion Projection (LDP)

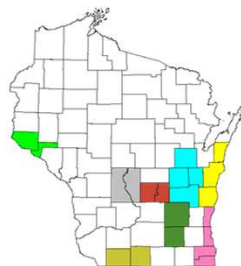
Minimizes distortions by

Fitting grid closed to ground

Covering smaller area



How low are distortions?



Projection	Cylindric & Conic
Zones	58
Max Distortion (ground to grid)	urban: 1/50,000 rural: 1/30,000

Slide 27/69

10 March 2025

V. State and Regional Coordinate Systems



B. Low Distortion Projection (LDP)

NAD 83 - based

IL is developing County Systems

Most States will have LDPs when new datum is adopted.

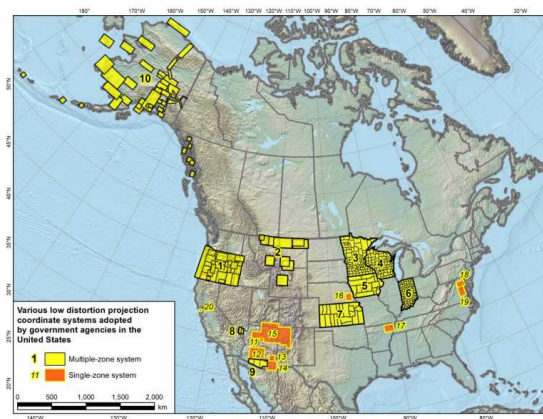


Figure 7. Examples of U.S. LDP coordinate systems (see Table 2 for additional information).

Slide 28/69

10 March 2025



VI. Ground and Grid

What's the beef?

VI. Ground and Grid

Mentoring
MONDAYS

A. Distortion Compensation

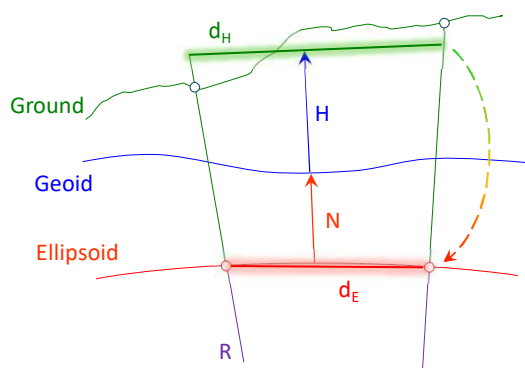
1. Distance - Two steps

a. Ground to ellipsoid: EF

$$EF = \frac{R}{R + H + N}$$

$$d_E = d_H \times EF$$

- d_H Horizontal ground distance
- d_E Ellipsoidal (geodetic) distance
- EF Elevation Factor
- R Mean earth radius
- H Orthometric ht (elev)
- N Geoid height
- k Scale factor



$$R = 20,902,000 \text{ ft} = 6,371,000 \text{ m (approx.)}$$

VI. Ground and Grid

Mentoring
MONDAYS

A. Distortion Compensation

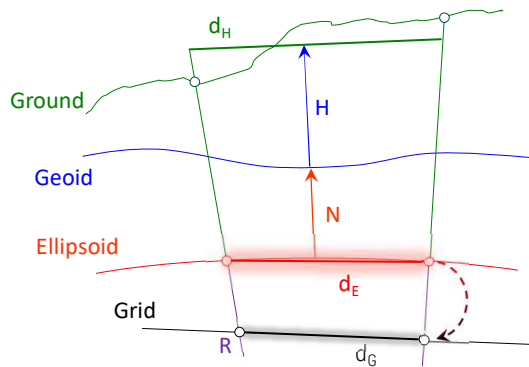
1. Distance - Two steps

a. Ground to ellipsoid: EF

b. Ellipsoidal to grid: k

$$d_G = d_E \times k$$

d_G Grid distance
 d_E Ellipsoidal (geodetic) distance
 k Grid scale factor



Slide 31/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid

Mentoring
MONDAYS

A. Distortion Compensation

1. Distance - Two steps

a. Ground to ellipsoid: EF

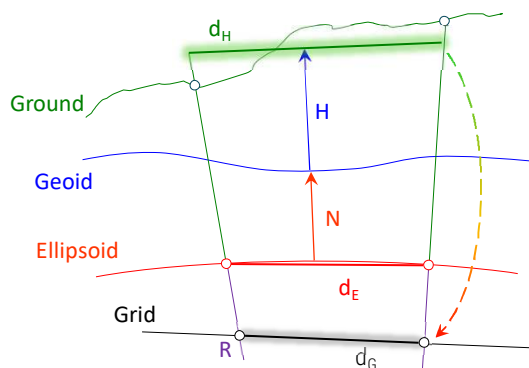
b. Ellipsoidal to grid: k

or

c. Combined factor: CF

$$CF = EF \times k$$

$$d_G = d_H \times CF$$



Slide 32/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid

Mentoring
MONDAYS

A. Distortion Compensation

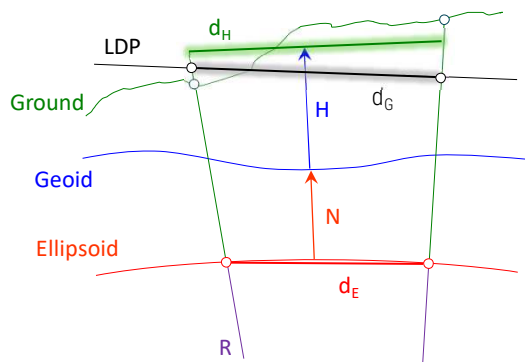
1. Distance

c. LDP

Because a LDP grid is near-ground level, there may be no discernible difference between ground and grid distances.

Most of the time, this reduction can be ignored for LDP grids.

$$CF = EF \times k \approx 1.0$$



Slide 33/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid

Mentoring
MONDAYS

A. Distortion Compensation

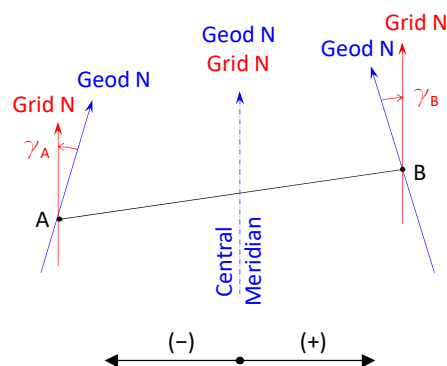
2. Direction

The convergence angle, γ , is **from**
Geodetic N **to** Grid N

It is positive (cw) East of the CM, negative
(ccw) West of the CM

To convert Geodetic direction to Grid:

$$\text{Grid Az} = \text{Geodetic Az} - \gamma$$



Slide 34/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid



B. Reduction Elements

Where do we get the ortho and geoid heights, scale, & conv angle?

NGS software (*Geodetic Tool Kit*):

NCAT¹

GEOIDXX

Ortho heights from USGS topoquads

¹NCAT does not currently support local LDPs. When NATRF2022 is adopted, NCAT will include NGS-accepted LDPs.

Slide 35/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid



B. Reduction Elements

NSRS
Datasheet

DESIGNATION	-	JERRY						
PID	-	NH0936						
* NAD 83(2011) POSITION-	42 54 24.02215 (N)	089 43 53.76413 (W)						ADJUSTED
* NAD 83(2011) ELLIP HT-	324.836 (meters)							(06/27/12) ADJUSTED
* NAD 83(2011) EPOCH	-	2010.00						
* NAVD 88 ORTHO HEIGHT	-	358.6 (meters)		1177.				(feet) VERTCON
GEOID HEIGHT	-	-33.902 (meters)						GEOID18
NAD 83(2011) X	-	21,919.631 (meters)						COMP
NAD 83(2011) Y	-	-4,679,204.603 (meters)						COMP
NAD 83(2011) Z	-	4,320,134.562 (meters)						COMP
LAPLACE CORR	-	-0.36 (seconds)						DEFLEC18
		North	East	Units	Scale Factor	Converg.		
SPC WI S	-	100,758.292	621,917.891	MT	0.99996957	+0 11 03.9		
SPC WI S	-	330,571.16	2,040,408.95	sFT	0.99996957	+0 11 03.9		
UTM 16	-	4,754,071.382	277,008.712	MT	1.00021177	-1 51 37.6		
		Elev Factor	x	Scale Factor	=	Combined Factor		
SPC WI S	-	0.99994906	x	0.99996957	=	0.99991863		} At Jerry's elevation
UTM 16	-	0.99994906	x	1.00021177	=	1.00016082		

Slide 36/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid



C. Variations

1. Elevation factor, EF

$$EF = \frac{R}{R + H + N}$$

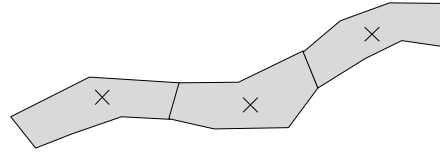
N doesn't change much so can generally use a single value over the project area.

Depending on terrain, H can be:
 project area average – use for all lines
 computed average for each line

2. Grid scale, k

For relatively small projects, a single value at project center could be used.

Larger/longer projects would require applying different k in different areas.



SPC/UTM - use approx. lat & long with NCAT to determine k.

Slide 37/69

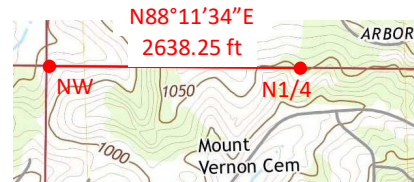
10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid



D. SPC Example

N Quarter line NW1/4 of S34 T5N R7E 4PM
 Determine WI SPC South zone grid dist
 & brng from NW to N1/4



From topoquad

NW elev: 960 ft

N1/4 elev: 1050 ft

Approx position of NW corner is:

42°57.5' Lat

89°39.75' Long

Slide 38/69

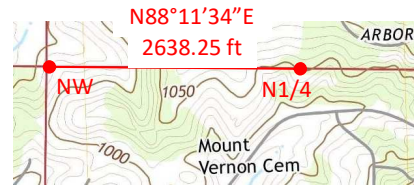
10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid



D. SPC Example

N Quarter line NW1/4 of S34 T5N R7E 4PM
Determine WI SPC South zone grid dist
& brng from NW to N1/4



From topoquad

NW elev: 960 ft

N1/4 elev: 1050 ft

Approx position of NW corner is:

42°57.5' Lat

89°39.75' Long

From NCAT

$k = 0.99996\ 224$

$\gamma = +0^\circ13'54.8''$

From GEOID18

$N = -34.046\ m$

Slide 39/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid



D. SPC Example

1. Distance

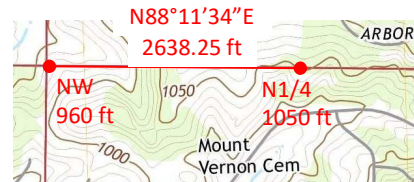
a. Ground to ellipsoid

$$H = \frac{960 + 1050}{2} = 1005$$

$$EF = \frac{20,902,000}{20,902,000 + 1005 + (-111.7)}$$

$$= 0.99995\ 7264$$

$$d_E = 2638.25\ ft \times 0.99995\ 7264 = 2638.137\ ft$$



$R = 20,902,000\ ft$

From NCAT

$k = 0.99996\ 224$

$\gamma = +0^\circ13'54.8''$

From GEOID18

$N = -34.046\ m = -111.7\ ft$

Slide 40/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid



D. SPC Example

1. Distance

a. Ground to ellipsoid

$$H = \frac{960 + 1050}{2} = 1005$$

$$EF = \frac{20,902,000}{20,902,000 + 1005 + (-111.7)}$$

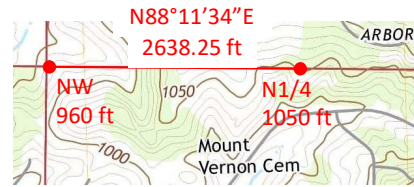
$$= 0.999957264$$

$$d_E = 2638.25 \text{ ft} \times 0.999957264 = 2638.137 \text{ ft}$$

b. Ellipsoid to grid

$$d_G = d_E \times k$$

$$d_G = 2638.137 \text{ ft} \times 0.99996224 = \underline{2638.037 \text{ ft}}$$



$$R = 20,902,000 \text{ ft}$$

From NCAT

$$k = 0.99996224$$

$$\gamma = +0^\circ 13' 54.8''$$

From GEOID18

$$N = -34.046 \text{ m} = -111.7 \text{ ft}$$

Slide 41/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid



D. SPC Example

1. Distance

a. Ground to ellipsoid

$$H = \frac{960 + 1050}{2} = 1005$$

$$EF = \frac{20,902,000}{20,902,000 + 1005 + (-111.7)}$$

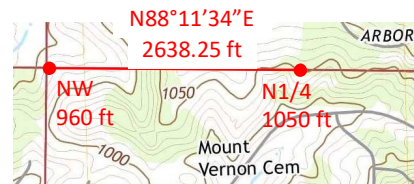
$$= 0.999957264$$

$$d_E = 2638.25 \text{ ft} \times 0.999957264 = 2638.137 \text{ ft}$$

b. Ellipsoid to grid

$$d_G = d_E \times k$$

$$d_G = 2638.137 \text{ ft} \times 0.99996224 = \underline{2638.037 \text{ ft}}$$



Distortion

$$\text{diff} = 2638.25 - 2638.037 = 0.213$$

$$2638.25 / 0.213 = 12386.2$$

$$\text{distortion: } 1/12,400$$

Slide 42/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid

Mentoring
MONDAYS

D. SPC Example

2. Direction

Convert bearing to azimuth

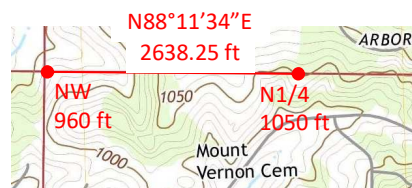
$$Az = 88^{\circ}11'34''$$

Convert to Grid Az

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Grid Az} &= 88^{\circ}11'34'' - (+0^{\circ}13'55'') \\ &= 87^{\circ}57'39'' \end{aligned}$$

Convert to bearing

$$\text{Grid Brg} = \underline{N87^{\circ}57'39''E}$$



From NCAT

$$k = 0.99996\ 224$$

$$\gamma = +0^{\circ}13'54.8''$$

Slide 43/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid

Mentoring
MONDAYS

E. Low Distortion Projections

1. Reduction Elements

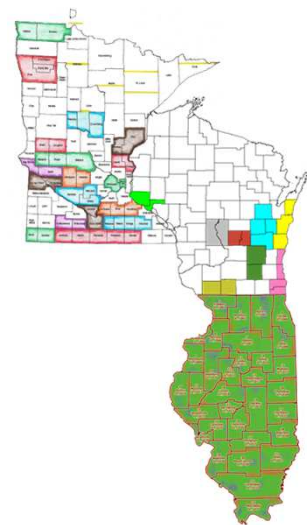
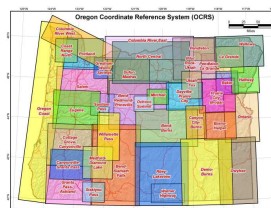
LDPs are not supported by *NCAT*, how to get N, convergence, and scale?

N: Use *GEOIDXX*, but need geodetic coordinates.

γ and k: ?

Need LDP-specific software.

Some surveying and mapping software have support for LDPs, including Wisconsin's.



Slide 44/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid



E. Low Distortion Projections

2. WisCRS: ConCoord v0.95

At <https://jerrymahun.com>

Slide 45/69

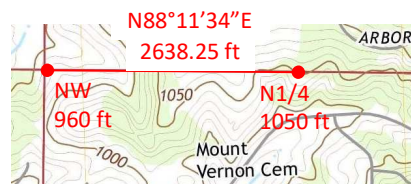
10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid



F. WisCRS Example

N Quarter line NW1/4 of S34 T5N R7E 4PM
Determine Dane Co Coord Sys grid dist &
brng from NW to N1/4



From topoquad

NW elev: 960 ft

N1/4 elev: 1050 ft

Approx position of NW corner is:

42°57.5' Lat

89°39.75' Long

$R = 20,902,000$ ft

From *ConCoord*

$k = 1.00004\ 03535$

$\gamma = -0^{\circ}09'50.7''$

From *GEOID18*

$N = -34.046$ m = -111.7 ft

Slide 46/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid



F. WisCRS Example

1. Distance

$$H = \frac{1177 + 1050}{2} = 1113.5$$

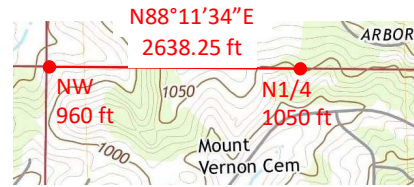
$$EF = \frac{20902000}{20902000 + 1113.5 + (-111.2)}$$

$$= 0.999952050$$

$$CF = 0.999952050 \times 1.0000403535$$

$$= 0.999992401$$

$$d_g = 2638.25 \text{ ft} \times 0.999992401 = 2638.230 \text{ ft}$$



Distance distortion?

$$\text{diff} = 2638.25 - 2638.230 = 0.02$$

$$2638.25 / 0.02 = 131913$$

$$\text{distortion: } 1/131,900$$

Slide 47/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid



F. WisCRS Example

2. Direction

Convert bearing to azimuth

$$Az = 88^\circ 11' 34''$$

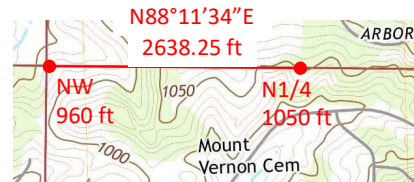
Convert to Grid Az

$$\text{Grid Az} = 88^\circ 11' 34'' - (-0^\circ 09' 51'')$$

$$= 88^\circ 21' 25''$$

Convert to bearing

$$\text{Grid Brg} = \underline{N88^\circ 21' 25'' E}$$



$$R = 20,902,000 \text{ ft}$$

From *ConCoord*

$$k = 1.0000403535$$

$$\gamma = -0^\circ 09' 50.7''$$

From *GEOD18*

$$N = -34.046 \text{ m} = -111.7 \text{ ft}$$

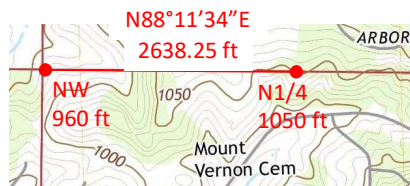
Slide 48/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid



G. SPC vs WicRS Example



	Dist	Brng
Ground	2638.25	N 88°11'34"E
SPC	2638.037	N 87°57'39"E
WicRS	2638.230	N 88°21'25"E

Slide 49/69

10 March 2025

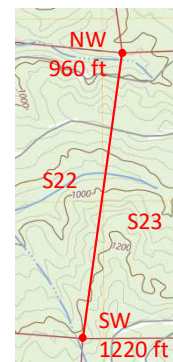
VI. Ground and Grid



H. Inverse Calculation

NW and SW corners of
S23 T5N R6W Willamette Mer, Oregon

Oregon N SPC coordinates
Compute ground distance and geodetic
bearing from SW to NW cor.



	North, ift	East, ift
NW	830,037.35	7,464,463.50
SW	824,978.10	7,463,529.96
Elevations from topoquad		

Slide 50/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid

Measuring
MONDAYS

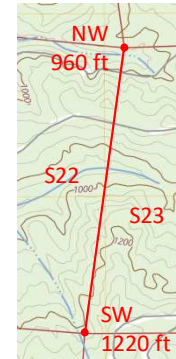
H. Inverse Calculation

NW and SW corners of
S23 T5N R6W Willamette Mer, Oregon

Oregon N SPC coordinates
Compute ground distance and geodetic
bearing from SW to NW cor.

From NCAT & Geoid18

	Conv, g	Scale, k	N, ft
NW	-02°03'19.5"	0.99997 7693	-21.010
SW	-02°03'27.0"	0.99997 4573	-21.021



	North, ift	East, ift
NW	830,037.35	7,464,463.50
SW	824,978.10	7,463,529.96

Elevations from topoquad

Slide 51/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid

Measuring
MONDAYS

H. Inverse Calculation

Grid comps

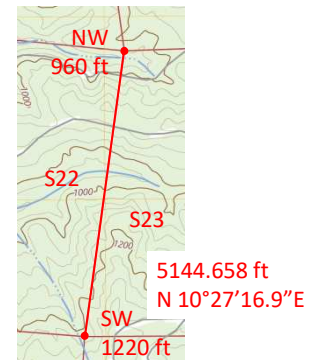
$$dN = 830,037.35 - 824,978.10 = 5059.250$$

$$dE = 7,464,463.50 - 7,463,529.96 = 933.540$$

$$d_{Grid} = \sqrt{5059.25^2 + 933.54^2} = 5144.658 \text{ ift}$$

$$\alpha = \tan^{-1} \left[\frac{933.540}{5059.250} \right] = 10^\circ 27' 16.9''$$

$$Brng_{Grid} = N10^\circ 27' 16.9'' E$$



	North, ift	East, ift
NW	830,037.35	7,464,463.50
SW	824,978.10	7,463,529.96

Elevations from topoquad

Slide 52/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid

Mentoring
MONDAYS

H. Inverse Calculation

Distance

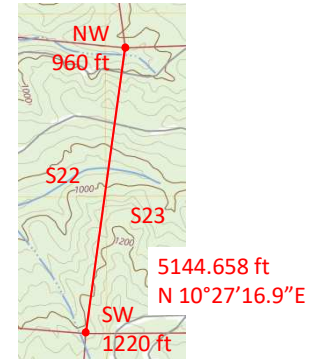
1. Grid to ellipsoid

use average scale factor

$$k = \frac{0.99997\ 7693 + 0.99997\ 4573}{2} = 0.99997\ 6133$$

$$d_G = d_E \times k \Rightarrow d_E = \frac{d_G}{k} = \frac{5144.658}{0.99997\ 6133}$$

$$d_E = 5144.7071$$



	Conv, g	Scale, k	N, ft
NW	-02°03'19.5"	0.99997 7693	-21.010
SW	-02°03'27.0"	0.99997 4573	-21.021

Slide 53/69

10 March 2025

VI. Ground and Grid

Mentoring
MONDAYS

H. Inverse Calculation

Distance

2. Ellipsoid to Ground

use average geoid height.

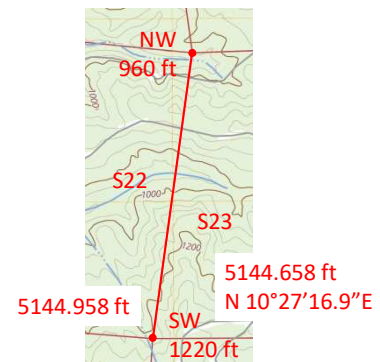
$$N = \frac{-21.010m + (-21.021m)}{2} \times \frac{39.37\ in}{1\ m} \times \frac{1\ ft}{12\ in} = -68.9\ ft$$

$$H = \frac{960\ ft + 1220\ ft}{2} = 1090\ ft$$

$$d_E = d_H \times CF \Rightarrow d_H = \frac{d_E}{CF}$$

$$= 5144.7071 \times \frac{20,902,000 + 1090 - 68.9}{20,902,000}$$

$$= 5144.958\ ft$$



	Conv, g	Scale, k	N, ft
NW	-02°03'19.5"	0.99997 7693	-21.010
SW	-02°03'27.0"	0.99997 4573	-21.021

Slide 54/69

10 March 2025

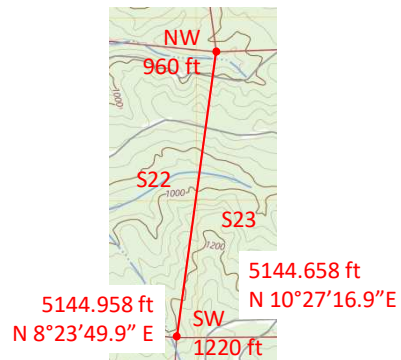
VI. Ground and Grid



H. Inverse Calculation

Direction

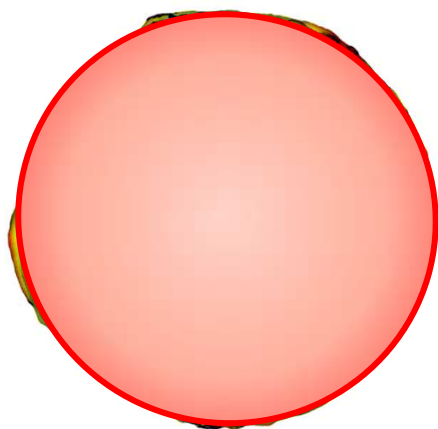
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Grid Az} &= \text{Geodetic Az} - \gamma \\ \Rightarrow \text{Geodetic Az} &= \text{Grid Az} + \gamma \\ &= 10^\circ 27' 16.9'' - (-2^\circ 03' 27.0'') \\ &= 8^\circ 23' 49.9'' \end{aligned}$$



	Conv, g	Scale, k	N, ft
NW	-02°03'19.5"	0.99997 7693	-21.010
SW	-02°03'27.0"	0.99997 4573	-21.021

Slide 55/69

10 March 2025



VII. Geodetic and True

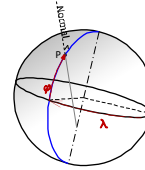
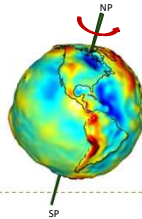
VII. Geodetic and True



A. True Direction

Manual of Surveying Instructions 2009

2-3 The direction of each line of the public land surveys is determined with reference to the **true meridian as defined by the axis of the earth's rotation**. The true meridian is a line along a meridian of longitude. **Historically, determination of the true meridian has been based upon direct astronomic observation at the point of record and, thus, an astronomic meridian**. The value of the angular difference between the astronomic and geodetic direction, caused by **the deflection of the vertical**, relates the **astronomic meridian to the geodetic meridian**, as properly aligned with the axis of the earth's rotation.



Slide 57/69

10 March 2025

VII. Geodetic and True



B. Deflection of the Vertical

1. Definition

Angle between gravity and ellipsoidal normal

Normal: perpendicular to ellipsoid

Can be divided into N-S and E-W components.

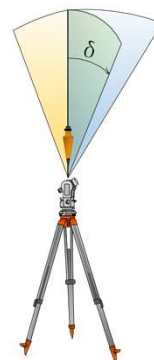
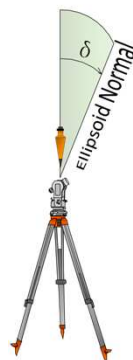
Affect Latitude and Longitude

Astronomic Lat/Long

vs

Geodetic Lat/Long

Relates measurement setup to ellipsoid.



Slide 58/69

10 March 2025

VII. Geodetic and True



B. Deflection of the Vertical

2. LaPlace Correction

Deflection of the vertical defines the Astronomic meridian.

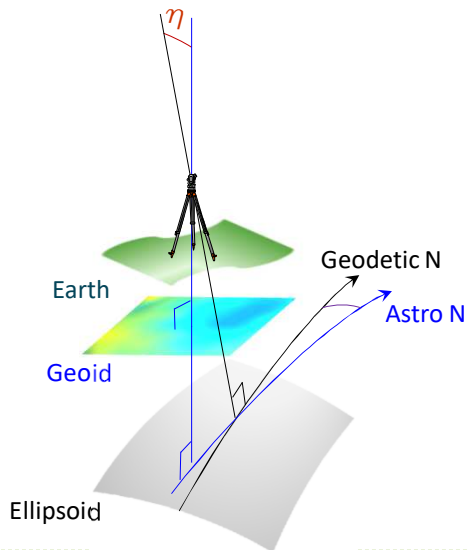
LaPlace correction: angle between Geodetic and Astronomic meridians at a measurement location.

$$Az_G = Az_A + \eta \tan(\phi_G)$$

LaPlace corr'n: $\eta \tan(\phi_G)$

How big is the LaPlace corr'n?

Where do we get it?



Slide 59/69

10 March 2025

VII. Geodetic and True



B. Deflection of the Vertical

2. LaPlace Correction

NSRS Datasheet

DESIGNATION	-	JERRY	
PID	-	NH0936	
* NAD 83 (2011) POSITION-	42 54 24.02215 (N)	089 43 53.76413 (W)	ADJUSTED
* NAD 83 (2011) ELLIP HT-	324.836 (meters)		(06/27/12) ADJUSTED
* NAD 83 (2011) EPOCH	-	2010.00	
* NAVD 88 ORTHO HEIGHT	-	358.6 (meters)	1177. (feet) VERTCON
GEOID HEIGHT	-	-33.902 (meters)	GEOID18
NAD 83 (2011) X	-	21,919.631 (meters)	COMP
NAD 83 (2011) Y	-	-4,679,204.603 (meters)	COMP
NAD 83 (2011) Z	-	4,320,134.562 (meters)	COMP
LAPLACE CORR	-	-0.36 (seconds)	DEFLEC18

Not very much, huh?

Slide 60/69

10 March 2025

VII. Geodetic and True



B. Deflection of the Vertical

2. LaPlace Correction

NSRS Datasheet

Located in SW Utah

FBN	-	This is a Federal Base Network Control Station.		
DESIGNATION	-	MONROE		
PID	-	AA3697		
<hr/>				
* NAD 83 (2011) POSITION-	38 37 44.99765 (N)	112 07 45.20549 (W)	ADJUSTED	
* NAD 83 (2011) ELLIP HT-	1618.966 (meters)	(06/27/12)	ADJUSTED	
* NAD 83 (2011) EPOCH	-	2010.00		
* NAVD 88 ORTHO HEIGHT	-	1637.9 (meters)	5374. (feet)	GPS OBS
<hr/>				
NAVD 88 orthometric height was determined with geoid model			GEOID09	
GEOID HEIGHT	-	-18.898 (meters)	GEOID09	
GEOID HEIGHT	-	-18.881 (meters)	GEOID18	
NAD 83 (2011) X	-	-1,879,866.007 (meters)	COMP	
NAD 83 (2011) Y	-	-4,622,786.178 (meters)	COMP	
NAD 83 (2011) Z	-	3,961,251.322 (meters)	COMP	
LAPLACE CORR	-	8.73 (seconds)	DEFLEC18	

How about now?

Slide 61/69

10 March 2025

VII. Geodetic and True



A. Determining True Direction

2. LaPlace Correction

NGS DEFLEC18 online program.

Computation of DEFLEC18 deflection of the vertical

A DEFLEC18 deflection of the vertical can be computed for a specific geographic location or for a file of input points. Position coordinates should be in the appropriate North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) reference frame.

DEFLEC18 will compute deflections for the following geographic areas:

Area	Ellipsoid Reference Frame	Vertical Datum	Latitude		Longitude	
			Min	Max	Min	Max
Conterminous United States	NAD83 (2011)	NAVD88	24N	58N	60W	130W
Puerto Rico/U.S. Virgin Islands	NAD83 (2011)	PRVD02 and VIVD09	15N	21N	64W	69W

Compute a DEFLEC18 deflection of the vertical for a single location:

The formats below may be used for entering latitude and longitude. Degrees, minutes, and seconds must be separated by spaces. (Note that commas are not valid for DEFLEC18 computations.)

Degrees, minutes, and decimal seconds Latitude Example: 35 55 19.8221	Degrees, minutes, and integer seconds Latitude Example: 35 55 19
Longitude Example: 97 55 40.2351	Longitude Example: 97 55 40
Degrees and decimal minutes Latitude Example: 35 55.3453	Degrees and integer minutes Latitude Example: 35 55
Decimal degrees Latitude Example: 35.9320	Integer degrees Latitude Example: 35

Enter Latitude:

Enter Longitude: West East

Slide 62/69

10 March 2025

VII. Geodetic and True



A. Determining True Direction

2. LaPlace Correction

NGS DEFLEC18 online program.

Computation of DEFLEC18 deflection of the vertical

A DEFLEC18 deflection of the vertical can be computed for a specific geographic location or for a file of input points. Position coordinates should be in the appropriate North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) reference frame.

DEFLEC18 will compute deflections for the following geographic areas:

Area	Ellipsoid Reference Frame	Vertical Datum	Latitude		Longitude	
			Min	Max	Min	Max

Output from DEFLEC18

Station Name	latitude	longitude	Xi	Eta	Hor_Lap
	dd mm ss.sssss	ddd mm ss.sssss	arc-sec	arc-sec	arc-sec
USER LOCATION	45 55 10.00000	103 05 30.00000	0.64	6.31	-6.51

Degrees, minutes, and decimal seconds
Latitude Example: 35 55 19.0221
Longitude Example: 97 55 40.2351

Degrees, minutes, and integer seconds
Latitude Example: 35 55 19
Longitude Example: 97 55 40

Degrees and integer minutes
Latitude Example: 35 55

Integer degrees
Latitude Example: 35

Remember:

PLSS proportioning based on true meridian.

Surveyor:

May need to apply LaPlace corr'n.

Enter Longitude: West East

Slide 63/69

10 March 2025

I. Earth Models

II. Spatial Systems

III. Distortions

IV. Creating a Grid

V. State and Regional Coordinate Systems

VI. Ground and Grid

VII. Geodetic and True

Grid ↔ Ground - Simple, Right?