

Recent Applications of GIS at the Alaska Satellite Facility

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MOVING SALE!

- 1995 Toyota 4Runner
- 1994 Toyota Pickup
- Nice black shelves
- Futon sofa
- Recliner
- Skis
- Doghouses

- Household stuff– ask!
- Large terrarium
- Washer & dryer
- Dining table & chairs
- Misc. garage chemicals
- Tire chains!



Summary

• GIS defined

• Lessons learned

• Examples of problems addressed using GIS

• What's next?







GIS: Definition

<u>Geographic Information System(s)</u> –

A computer system for capturing, storing, checking, integrating, manipulating, analyzing and displaying **data related to positions on the Earth's surface**. Typically, a GIS is used for **handling maps** of one kind or another.

(from the free dictionary.com)



Map layers

Raster data: images

rows and columns of pixels SAR data, DEMs, scanned maps "continuous" change, spatially GeoTIFF, JPEG, binary, etc. Vector data: points, lines, & polygons GPS points, satellite swath outline, lat/long grid "discrete" change shapefiles, coverages



EOS Data Gateway (EDG) = GIS

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EOS Data Gateway (EDG) = GIS



(also SPA, DESCW, etc.)



Lessons learned

- Get to know your data!
 - File format: geotiff, binary+header, etc.
 - Byte order: moving between Unix and Windows
 - Data type: float, integer, byte...
 - Projection, datum, ellipsoid



Lessons learned

- Get to know your software!
 - ESRI: ArcInfo, ArcView, ArcGIS
 - (Other vendors for GIS, too)
 - Multiple solutions
 - Image processing software, where Arc comes up short (filtering, format conversions, etc.), incl. ENVI, IMAGINE, LAS, PCI
- Get to know your System Administrator!



GIS at ASF: a <u>tool</u> for addressing spatial data challenges

- •Fairbanks DEM
- Tanana Crossing
- •MatSu DEM
- •Various user questions
- •N60 Tandem coverage
- •IceSAT
- •Texas corner reflectors



Fairbanks DEM input coverage

ERS orbit swaths

"deeper" input coverage improves results



Fewer input layers, more noise in results

GIS allows multiple layers, in any combination, to be viewed at once



AIRSAR with GCPs



•13 AIRSAR strips combined as DEM/AMP mosaic of Fairbanks area

•Ground control points chosen for distribution, dual use, and accessibility

•GIS allows scrutiny of individual raster inputs, potential GCP locations, and "big picture" coverage



DEM & GPS height comparison



•30,000+ GPS points
collected by DNR
•Diff. Corrected
•Compared to DEM
height using ArcInfo

- 1. .tif \rightarrow GRID
- 2. real \rightarrow integer
- 3. GRID \rightarrow polygon
- 4. Arc: identity point poly outcov

*Recent improvement: "Pixel Value to Point" ArcMap extension



Tanana Crossing Project

(a.k.a. "THE BLAIR LAKES PROJECT")



Blair Lakes

Harding Lake

•Support of UAF Geol. Eng. Dept.

•DoD plan to cross the Tanana River at Flag Hill by Harding Lake, to reach Blair Lakes training area

•Four AIRSAR DEM/AMP strips

•DEM "voids" were problematic for customer; filled with ArcView script

•GPS collected by customer



MatSu DEM Project

•ERS Tandem Mission DEM mosaic generated for the Matanuska-Susitna Borough

•11 input DEMs

•60,000+ DGPS points used to evaluate the output DEM (DEM raster to polygon vector, identity with GPS heights)

•ArcGIS enabled easy transformation of layers from various sources to a common map projection





User Questions



•ASF User reported misalignment between the RADARSAT Antarctic Mapping Project data and other GIS layers

•ArcGIS allowed comparison of the data with stock vector layers (lat/lon, coastline), reproducing User experience

•Error probably lies in polarstereographic projection definition, (latitude of true scale = 90?)

RAMP data

ESRI coast



User Questions



layer

RADARSAT data

•ASF User reported geocoding problem with ASF RADARSAT data, misalignment with vector coastline file

•Discussed post-processing of SAR by User; ASF tool versions

•SAR data and coastline file (.asc) sent to ASF

•MATLAB coastline converted to ESRI point vectors, then to lines

•Observed agreement between SAR data and coastline when compared at ASF



User Questions



•Observed agreement between SAR data and coastline when compared at ASF (within SAR geolocation spec)

•Error probably in User's generation of coastline file from ASCII data (State Plane?)



N60 Project: ERS DEM coverage to complement SRTM data



Challenge: How many ERS tandem pairs at a given point?



N60 Project: Tandem coverage



Tandem Pair Depth Bperp < 350m								
1	9 - 10							
2	11 - 12							
3 - 4	13 - 14							
5-6	15 - 16							
7 - 8	17 - 18							
	19 - 71							

•ArcInfo "regionpolycount" demonstrated by Dave Verbyla (UAF SALRM)

•Bona fide GIS analysis to reveal new info.



N60 Project: Tandem coverage





ICESat: vector to raster





ICESat: vector to raster





ICESat: vector to raster





Texas Corner Reflector Array





•Five ASF trihedral reflectors installed April 2004
•Dr. Ni-Bin Chang, Texas A&M Univ.- Kingsville
•RADARSAT ST1, Apr04 - May05
•Soil moisture modeling in watershed above Choke Canyon reservoir

•Array provides absolute and relative geolocation accuracy





Choke Canyon Reservoir Watershed







Corner reflector placed in area of relative dark SAR background



CCRW - North





CCRW - South









GIS at ASF: What's next?

- Operations QC– coastline overlay to reveal product anomalies
- Geotiffs from ASF, via tools or as image product format
- EDG2SHP





•ASF User Working Group recommendation to "improve users" ability to see what SAR data is available"; EDG "deemed not suitable"

•ASF Forum suggestion for shapefiles of frames



Customize EDG results

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File Edit Format Help									
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Table not GIS ready: At least 4 delimiters; corners in one row



Format table in Excel

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- Bring .dbf table into ArcView
- Add points as event theme
- Convert event theme to point shapefile
- Convert points to polylines
- Convert polylines to polygons
- Link to original table to recover attributes

A GIS-ready representation of your ASF frames!







- Very manual solution, useful for short list of frames
- Excel macro or shell script to format table to .dbf is helpful
- Better solution needed to serve all users, all data, all searches
- Use techniques developed for N60 swaths to create shapefiles for all ASF holdings



Polygon shapefiles for all ASF archive frames





Thanks!