





The Prime Meridian

- Today the world has agreed the the Prime Meridian or 0° line of longitude runs through the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, England.
- Prior to the 1884 International Meridian Conference, most countries defined their own prime meridian running through their
- own capital city.
- The French did not abandon use of their prime meridian, which ran through the Paris Observatory, until 1911.



Longitude was difficult to measure at sea Your longitude is the time difference between high noon at a known longitude (A ship's home port for example.) and high noon at your current location. How many degrees does a one hour time difference represent?







If the history of navigation intrigues you, I'd suggest you read...

- Longitude: The true story of a lone genius who solved the greatest scientific problem of his time.
- By Dava Sobel
- Also as a PBS Nova show.
 On DVD, Netflix has it.



Degrees, Minutes, and Seconds

- Because measurement of latitude & longitude were so closely tied to time, it made sense to subdivide degrees into minutes and seconds.
- A degree is made up of 60 minutes
- A minute is made up of 60 seconds





DDD° MM' SS"

• A latitude / longitude coordinate would be written like...

N 37° 22' 30" W 122° 15' 45"

DDD° MM.MMM'

• It is now common place to write lat / lon coordinates in a "decimal minutes" format.

N 37° 22.5' W 122° 15.75'

DDD.DDDD°

• Many computer based systems report lat/lon in decimal degrees.

N 37.3750° W 122.2625°

Units Matter

- It is important to include all of the units and notation.
- It's N 37° 22' 30" W 122° 15' 45"

Not 372230 1221545

Where am I?

Using a GPS receiver to determine your location.



Global Positioning System

Geographic Coordinates

- A GPS receiver reports its position as numeric coordinate values.
- There are several common formats for the coordinates.

Geographic Coordinate Systems

- Latitude / Longitude
- Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM)
- US National Grid (USNG)
- Others
- -State Plane
- -Military Grid Reference System
- British Grid
- -Maidenhead
- and many, many more.

Communicating Geographic Coordinates

- You need to understand the most common coordinate formats.
- Units and symbols help. Don't just give sequences of numbers.
- Map datum matters if you need better than 2 football field accuracy.
- You can easily convert between formats with your GPS receiver.

Latitude / Longitude

DDD° MM' SS"

• A latitude / longitude coordinate would be written like...

N 37° 22' 30" W 122° 15' 45"

DDD° MM.MMM'

• It is now common place to write lat / lon coordinates in a "decimal minutes" format.

N 37° 22.5' W 122° 15.75'

DDD.DDDD°

• Many computer based systems report lat/lon in decimal degrees.

N 37.3750° W 122.2625°



Universal Transverse Mercator UTM











Printed Grid Reference Box







Basic GPS Operation • Different GPSrs will be

- a bit different...
- The concepts are similar
- The buttons and menus will all be a bit different.





























T	To enter a waypoint with a different
	coordinate format or map datum

N 37° 25.423' W 122° 12.541' WGS 84

Position Format hddd*mm.mmm*	1009 Note		lacatio	°			1009 Note
Nep Deturn WGS 84			Bevati	122.1	2.54	č,	
Map Spheroid WGS 84	Location N 37° W 122	23.158 16.002	1 4	2	3	·	lacation N 37°25.423' W 122°12.541'
	Elevation 14	851	7	8 0	9 +	·	Bevation 1485 [
	Мар	Done	-	:	110	•	Map Done

Position Format UTM UPS	006 (Saturday) 134m 60'	1009 Note
Nep Datum NAD27 CONUS	002 (11-DEC-14) 264m 47	
Nep Spheroid Clarke 1866	697m 278*	location 10 S 0570081 UTM 4141979
	769m 117"	Bevation 1485
	6.62cm 37	Map Go



GPS Field Exercise

- GPS Set Up & Basic Operation
- GPS Accuracy Check
- Place a new flag, and exchange coordinates with another team.
- Use the GPS to find flags
- -The waypoints are already stored in the GPS units. Labeled 100*
- -If you are using your own GPS, I can load the waypoints using the computer.



Coordinate Exchange Exercise

- Coordinate Card and Flagging Tape
- Exchange cell phone #'s with another group
- Place the flagging tape, get its coordinates
- Exchange coordinates and map datum
- Find the other group's flagging tape

Coordinate Format	GPS Format Name	Example Coordinate
UTM	UTM/UPS	10S 0587905m E 4124393m N
Latitude / Longitude Degrees, Minutes, Seconds	hddd° mm' ss.s"	N 37° 22' 30.0" W 122° 15' 45.0"
Latitude / Longitude Degrees, Decimal Minutes	hddd° mm.mmmm'	N 37° 22.5000' W 122° 15.7500'
Latitude / Longitude Decimal Degrees	hddd.dddd°	N 37.37400° W 122.26250°
United States National Grid USNG	US National Grid	10S ES 87040 24516
Military Grid Reference System MGRS	MGRS	10S ES 87040 24516













USGS Topographic Maps

The map series that covers the entire United States







Around the edges of the map...

there is lots of useful information

1000 CERT
321000mE MONO HOT SPRINGS 6 ML 119000'
ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, Light-duty road, hard or hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface Unimproved road
🔵 Interstate Route 🛛 Ü. S. Route 🔵 State Route
SHARKTOOTH PEAK, CALIF.
NE/4 KAISER PEAK 15' QUADRANGLE
N3722.5=W11900/7.5
1982
DMA 2158 I NE-SERIES V895























USGS Topographic Map Symbols

CONTOURS	
Topographic	
Index	60 00-
Approximate or indefinite	
Intermediate	
Approximate or indefinite	
Supplementary	
Depression	Ø
Cut	
Fill	A A
Continental divide	

EGETATION	
Woodland	
Shrubland	
Orchard	
Vineyard	
Mangrove	Mongrove

Perennial stream	$\sim \sim$
Perennial river	\sim
Intermittent stream	
Intermittent river	
Disappearing stream	
Falls, small	~+~ ~+~
Falls, large	一角角
Rapids, small	
Rapids, large	

IVERS, LAKES, AND CANALS – <i>continued</i>		
Perennial lake/pond		
Intermittent lake/pond		
Dry lake/pond	000	
Narrow wash		
Wide wash		
Canal, flume, or aqueduct with lock		
Elevated aqueduct, flume, or conduit	\rightarrow	
Aqueduct tunnel	$\rightarrow = = = \leftarrow \rightarrow = = = \leftarrow$	
Water well, geyser, fumarole, or mud pot	0.0	
Spring or seep	• 3	

s primary, secondary, or light duty. These road nproved roads and are symbolized the same a	s are all classified as is light duty roads.
Primary highway	
Secondary highway	
Light duty road	
Light duty road, paved*	
Light duty road, gravel*	
Light duty road, dirt"	
Light duty road, unspecified	
Unimproved road*	
4WD road 4WD road*	
Trail	
Highway or road with median strip	
Highway or road under construction	Under Const
Highway or road underpass; overpass	
Highway or road bridge; drawbridge	
Highway or road tunnel	
Road block, berm, or barrier*	
Gate on road*	













Topography

- How maps show topography
- -Hachure
- -Isopleths
- -Hypsography (water flows)
- Shading
- -Contours













Contour Lines

- All points along a contour line are the same elevation.
- *Contour Interval* is the elevation change between adjacent contour lines.
- Most maps have *major* contour lines at a regular interval that are labeled with their elevation.

Contour Properties

- The closer together the contour lines, the steeper the slope.
- The *fall line*, or "straight down the hill" is perpendicular to the contour lines. This is the direction water would flow.
- Water flows downhill and is a major force in shaping the topography.

Understanding Contour Lines

- The key to making contour lines useful is learning how to translate from the "bird eye view" on the map, to what you see and experience as you hike through the terrain. – What will you see?
- Will you be going uphill or down?
- -How steep will it be?
- How will these things change as you move along your path?





The Wild A8 stereonlotter



The Kelsh stereoplotters were used in areas of moderate to high relief, but low relief areas, such as along the coasts and large parts of the Great Plains, required the capabilities of the "heavy" stereoplotters that used projection by mechanical rods.

> These stereoplotters included the Wild A8, B8, the Kern PG-2, and others of German, Swiss, and Italian manufacture.

The Kelsh and the heavy plotters were used until completion of the 7.5-minute topographic map series in 1991





• How many names can we come up with for a natural water course?



There are distinctions but...

- Don't get hung up on exact definitions
- There are regional and cultural differences
- Usage differences abound
- And not just for water features



The skills you need to know...

- Learn a few rules about contour lines.
- Learn to recognize a small set of "contour line signatures" and what they mean.
- Learn to visualize the cross section of a line or path across a short section of terrain.

Contour Lines

- A contour line joins points of equal elevation.
- Two adjacent contour lines represent a change in elevation.
- The amount of change is called the "contour interval" and is usually the same across the whole map.
- Typically every fifth contour line is thicker and labeled with its elevation.
- These are called "index lines."



Contour Lines

- Contour lines never cross each other.
- The closer the spacing between contour lines, the steeper the slope.
- When they touch it represents a vertical or nearly vertical slope. They do not have the ability to depict an overhang.



Terrain Breaks • Points or lines where *important* changes in slope occur.

- changes between uphill and downhill travel.
- changes between gentle and steep slopes
- Some examples: hilltops, ridge lines, spurs, drainages, valleys, cliffs,...

















- Using your handout...
- On each red line, add an arrow pointing uphill.
- On each purple line, add marks for terrain breaks, and uphill arrows for each segment.















Instructions

- We will be hiking on the Sharktooth Peak map
- Work with a partner
- I will come around and mark a start and end point on your map.
- You need to come up with a brief verbal route description. It can be on or off trail. Avoid hazards and unpleasant hiking.
- You will be describing your route to the class, as they follow along on their maps.
- The class will ask for clarification if we get lost.

• Use

- The 16 cardinal directions N, NE, NNE
- Linear and point topographic features
- Uphill and downhill
- Approximate distance in kilometers
- Spot elevations
- Avoid
- Travel along a contour line
- GPS coordinates
- Straight line bearing and distance directions
- Vegetation boundaries
- Lettering on the map
- Note: There are 2 different versions of the map
- There are differences in the roads, trails, and camps



Field Exercise

Let's use the campus map and the GPS to locate some more flags.

Most of the points are loaded into the GPSrs already.

You will need to enter the first point.



Let's take a virtual





Perils of straight line routes



Straight Line v.s. Terrain Based Route

700+ ft Elevation Gain, Rock Gear, & Boat v.s.
80 ft Elevation Gain, Paved Road

To store a location in your gps...

- Mark your current position
- Before you save it, change it to the desired coordinates.
- Now you can save it.













The Prime Meridian

- $\bullet\,$ Today the world has agreed the the Prime Meridian or $0^\circ\,$ line of longitude runs through the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, England.
- Prior to the 1884 International Meridian Conference, most countries defined their own prime meridian running through their own capital city.
- The French did not abandon use of their prime meridian, which ran through the Paris Observatory, until 1911.



Longitude was difficult to measure at sea

- Your longitude is the time difference between high noon at a known longitude (A ship's home port for example.) and high noon at your current location.
- How many degrees does a one hour time difference represent?









- Longitude: The true story of a lone genius who solved the greatest scientific problem of his time.
- By Dava Sobel
- Also as a PBS Nova show.
 On DVD, Netflix has it.



Degrees, Minutes, and Seconds

- Because measurement of latitude & longitude were so closely tied to time, it made sense to subdivide degrees into minutes and seconds.
- A degree is made up of 60 minutes
- A minute is made up of 60 seconds

DDD° MM' SS"

• A latitude / longitude coordinate would be written like...

N 37° 22' 30" W 122° 15' 45"



DDD° MM' SS"

• A latitude / longitude coordinate would be written like...

N 37° 22' 30" W 122° 15' 45"

DDD° MM.MMM'

• It is now common place to write lat / lon coordinates in a "decimal minutes" format.

N 37° 22.5' W 122° 15.75'

DDD.DDDD°

• Many computer based systems report lat/lon in decimal degrees.

N 37.3750° W 122.2625°

Units Matter

- It is important to include all of the units and notation.
- It's N 37° 22' 30" W 122° 15' 45"

Not 372230 1221545

Where am I?

Using a GPS receiver to determine your location.





Communicating **Geographic Coordinates** Geographic Coordinate Systems Geographic Coordinates • You need to understand the most common • Latitude / Longitude A GPS receiver reports its position coordinate formats. • Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) as numeric coordinate values. • US National Grid (USNG) • Units and symbols help. Don't just give sequences of numbers. There are several common formats • Others for the coordinates. -State Plane • Map datum matters if you need better than 2 -Military Grid Reference System football field accuracy. -British Grid · You can easily convert between formats with -Maidenhead your GPS receiver. - and many, many more.

Latitude / Longitude

DDD° MM' SS"

· A latitude / longitude coordinate would be written like...

> N 37° 22' 30" W 122° 15' 45"

DDD° MM.MMM'

• It is now common place to write lat / lon coordinates in a "decimal minutes" format.

> N 37° 22.5' W 122° 15.75'

DDD.DDDD°

• Many computer based systems report lat/lon in decimal degrees.

> N 37.3750° W 122.2625°

Units Matter

• It is important to include all of the units and notation.

N 37° 22' 30" W 122° 15' 45" • It's

372230 1221545 Not

Universal Transverse Mercator UTM







































Saving your position

- Most GPS units have a button or menu for saving your current position. (Often labeled Mark)
- Garmin calls these saved positions "waypoints", Magellan calls them "landmarks".
- Usually the GPS will assign the next number in a sequence as the default name.













Coordinate Exchange Exercise

- Coordinate Card and Flagging Tape
- Exchange cell phone #'s with another group
- Place the flagging tape, get its coordinates
- Exchange coordinates and map datum
- Find the other group's flagging tape

Coordinate Format	GPS Format Name	Example Coordinate
UTM	UTM/UPS	10S 0587905m E 4124393m N
Latitude / Longitude Degrees, Minutes, Seconds	hddd° mm' ss.s"	N 37° 22' 30.0" W 122° 15' 45.0"
Latitude / Longitude Degrees, Decimal Minutes	hddd° mm.mmmm'	N 37° 22.5000' W 122° 15.7500'
Latitude / Longitude Decimal Degrees	hddd.dddd°	N 37.37400° W 122.26250°
United States National Grid USNG	US National Grid	10S ES 87040 24516
Military Grid Reference System MGRS	MGRS	10S ES 87040 24516

















Around the edges of the map... there is lots of useful information

















Obtain permission before entering private lands









USGS Topographic Map Symbols

CONTOURS	
Topographic	
Index	6000
Approximate or indefinite	
Intermediate	
Approximate or indefinite	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Supplementary	
Depression	0
Cut	@
Fill	
Continental divide	

COLTATION	
EGETATION	
Woodland	
Shrubland	
Orchard	
Vineyard	
Mangrove	Mongrove

VERS, LAKES, AND CANALS	
Perennial stream	$\sim \sim$
Perennial river	\sim
Intermittent stream	
Intermittent river	
Disappearing stream	
Falls, small	
Falls, large	T
Rapids, small	
Rapids, large	

VERS, LAKES, AND CANALS – <i>continued</i>			
Perennial lake/pond			
Intermittent lake/pond	\bigcirc		
Dry lake/pond	🚫 📿 📿		
Narrow wash			
Wide wash			
Canal, flume, or aqueduct with lock	\longrightarrow		
Elevated aqueduct, flume, or conduit	$\rightarrow \leftarrow \rightarrow \leftarrow$		
Aqueduct tunnel	$\rightarrow = = = \rightarrow \rightarrow = = = \rightarrow \leftarrow$		
Water well, geyser, fumarole, or mud po	t 00		
Spring or seep	• 8		

Please note: Hoads on Provisional-edition m as primary, secondary, or light duty. These re improved roads and are symbolized the sam	iaps are not clas oads are all clas ie as light duty ro	sified as iads.
Primary highway		
Secondary highway		
Light duty road		
Light duty road, paved*		
Light duty road, gravel*		
Light duty road, dirt*		
Light duty road, unspecified		
Unimproved road		
AWD road		
4WD road*		
Trail		
Highway or road with median strip		
Highway or road under construction		Under Const
Highway or road underpass; overpas	ss 🗕	┥┽╸
Highway or road bridge; drawbridge	=	
Highway or road tunnel		
Road block, berm, or barrier*		
Gate on road*		

Classroom Exercise

• Find and identify features on topographic maps.



























Contour Lines

- All points along a contour line are the same elevation.
- *Contour Interval* is the elevation change between adjacent contour lines.
- Most maps have *major* contour lines at a regular interval that are labeled with their elevation.

Contour Properties

- The closer together the contour lines, the steeper the slope.
- The *fall line*, or "straight down the hill" is perpendicular to the contour lines. This is the direction water would flow.
- Water flows downhill and is a major force in shaping the topography.

Understanding Contour Lines

- The key to making contour lines useful is learning how to translate from the "bird eye view" on the map, to what you see and experience as you hike through the terrain. – What will you see?
- Will you be going uphill or down?
- -How steep will it be?
- How will these things change as you move along your path?

the Kelsh stereoplotter, invented by Harry T. Kelsh of the USGS



A USGS topographer engraves topographic map information

onto a copper plate for map reproduction.



The Kelsh stereoplotters were used in areas of moderate to high relief, but low relief areas, such as along the coasts and large parts of the Great Plains, required the capabilities of the "heavy" stereoplotters that used projection by mechanical rods. These stereoplotters included the Wild A8, B8, the Kern PG-2, and others of German, Swiss, and Italian manufacture. The Kelsh and the heavy plotters were used until completion of the 7.5-minute topographic map series in 1991.

Many names, similar feature

• How many names can we come up with for a natural water course?

46 course tributary run stream arroyo estuary rill firth _{swamp} bayou gully burn river allt gulch arm falls seep kill brooklet fjord wadi crick inlet brook syke marsh branch spring beck tidewater bourne drainage runnel creek watercourse fork rambla coulee prong streamlet rindle ditch rivulet bog nant

There are distinctions but...

- Don't get hung up on exact definitions
- There are regional and cultural differences
- Usage differences abound
- And not just for water features

Using Contour Lines to Visualize Topography

The skills you need to know...

- · Learn a few rules about contour lines.
- Learn to recognize a small set of "contour line signatures" and what they mean.
- Learn to visualize the cross section of a line or path across a short section of terrain.

Contour Lines

- · A contour line joins points of equal elevation.
- Two adjacent contour lines represent a change in elevation.
 - The amount of change is called the "contour interval" and is usually the same across the whole map.
- Typically every fifth contour line is thicker and labeled with its elevation.
- These are called "index lines."





- Contour lines never cross each other.
- The closer the spacing between contour lines, the steeper the slope.
- When they touch it represents a vertical or nearly vertical slope. They do not have the ability to depict an overhang.



Foints or lines where *important* changes in slope occur. changes between uphill and downhill travel. changes between gentle and steep slopes Some examples: hilltops, ridge lines, spurs, drainages, valleys, cliffs,...



































Let's take a virtual backpacking trip





Instructions

- We will be hiking on the Sharktooth Peak map
- Work with a partner
- I will come around and mark a start and end point on your map.
- You need to come up with a brief verbal route description. It can be on or off trail. Avoid hazards and unpleasant hiking.
- You will be describing your route to the class, as they follow along on their maps.
- The class will ask for clarification if we get lost.

• Use

- The 16 cardinal directions N, NE, NNE
- Linear and point topographic features
- Uphill and downhill
- Approximate distance in kilometers
- Spot elevations
- Avoid
 Travel along a contour line
- GPS coordinates
- Straight line bearing and distance directions
- Vegetation boundaries
- Lettering on the map
- Note: There are 2 different versions of the map
- There are differences in the roads, trails, and camps





Field Exercise

Let's use the campus map and the GPS to locate some more flags.

Most of the points are loaded into the GPSrs already.

You will need to enter the first point.

Plot your destination on your map.

Use your map to determine the best route.

Don't let your GPS determine the route. It will be a straight line from your current location to your destination.



Perils of straight line routes



Straight Line v.s. Terrain Based Route

700+ ft Elevation Gain, Rock Gear, & Boat v.s.
80 ft Elevation Gain, Paved Road

To store a location in your gps...

- Mark your current position
- Before you save it, change it to the desired coordinates.
- Now you can save it.







