

Global Positioning Systems (GPS)

Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS)

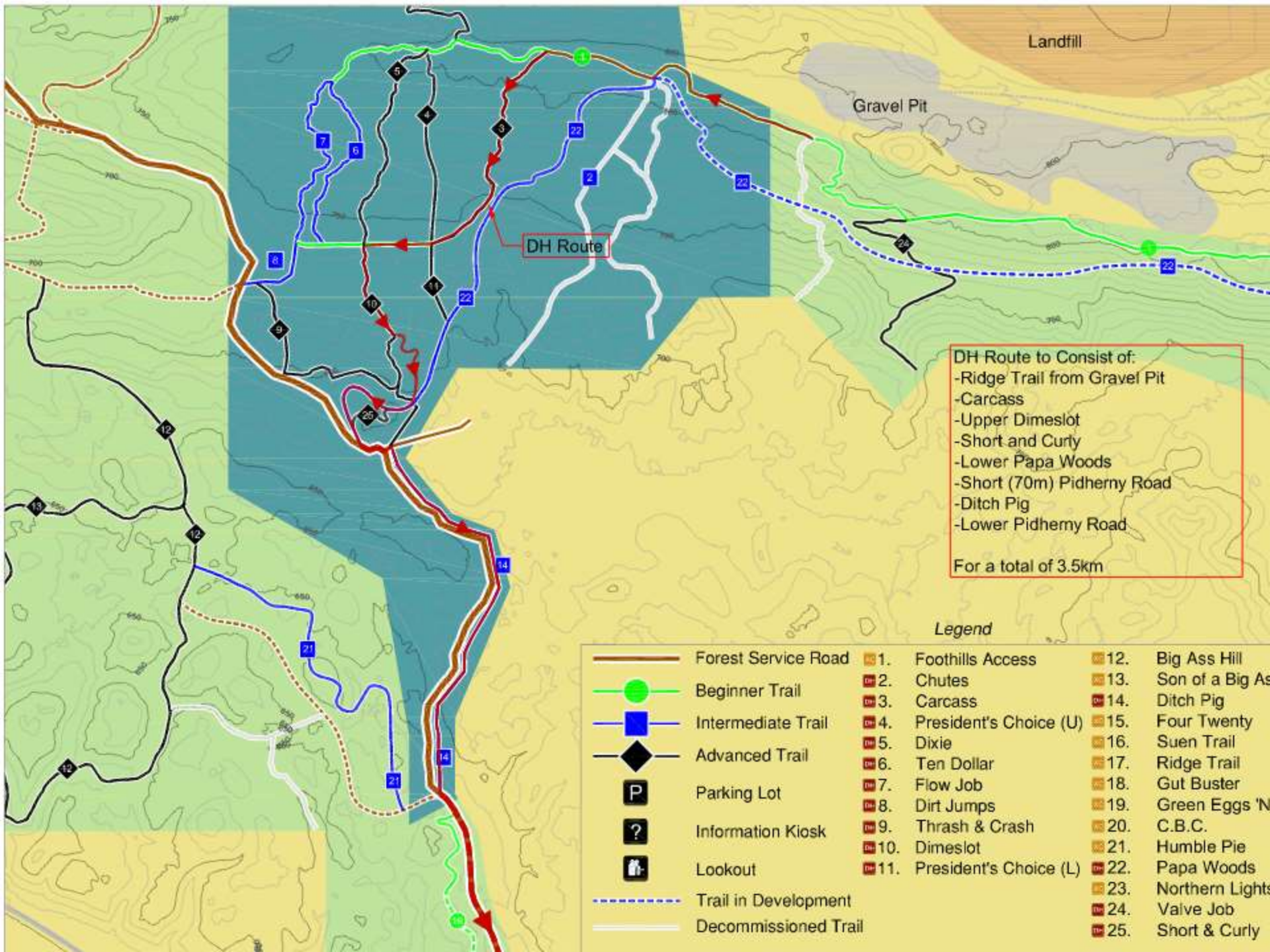


<https://Marinetraffic.com>

Trails: the achilles heel of
mapping from the air / satellites
- Even UAVs and LiDAR

Mapped and updated by local users using GPS





GPS applications – polygons



Northern Bear Awareness Society

GPS wildlife collars - point collection

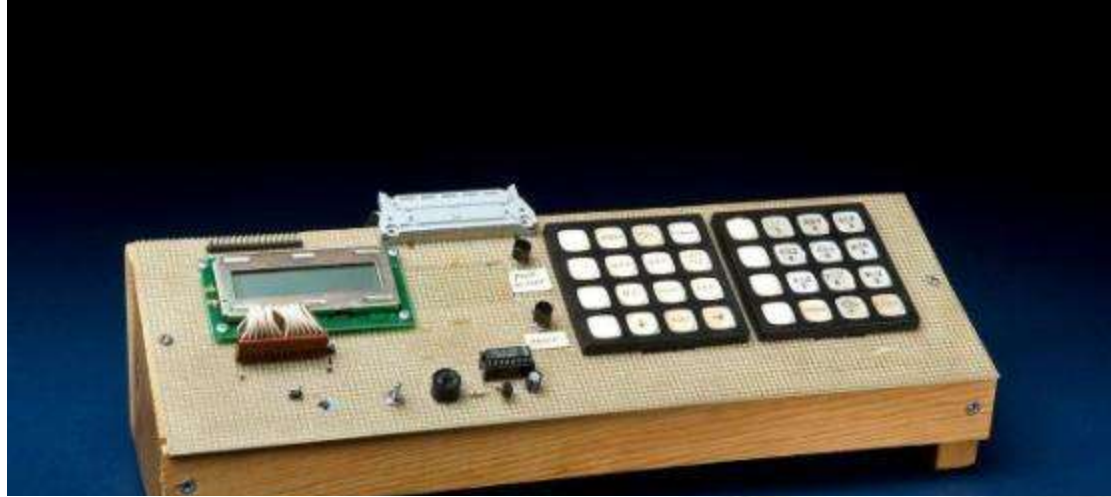
- monitor movements to minimise conflicts between predictable bears and unpredictable humans



Global Positioning Systems – GPS

- **How much do we need to know ?**
- **Turn it on, it gives your position ?**
- **You move, the position changes**
- **You don't move, the position changes - what ?**
- **Download the data for mapping e.g. .gpx**

GPS in the 1980s



What is GPS ?

The **Global Positioning System (GPS)** is a satellite system that provides locations anywhere on Earth where there is a clear line of sight to four or more GPS satellites. (wikipedia)

Satellites launched 1978->
System 'fully operational' 1995

list of satellites:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_GPS_satellites

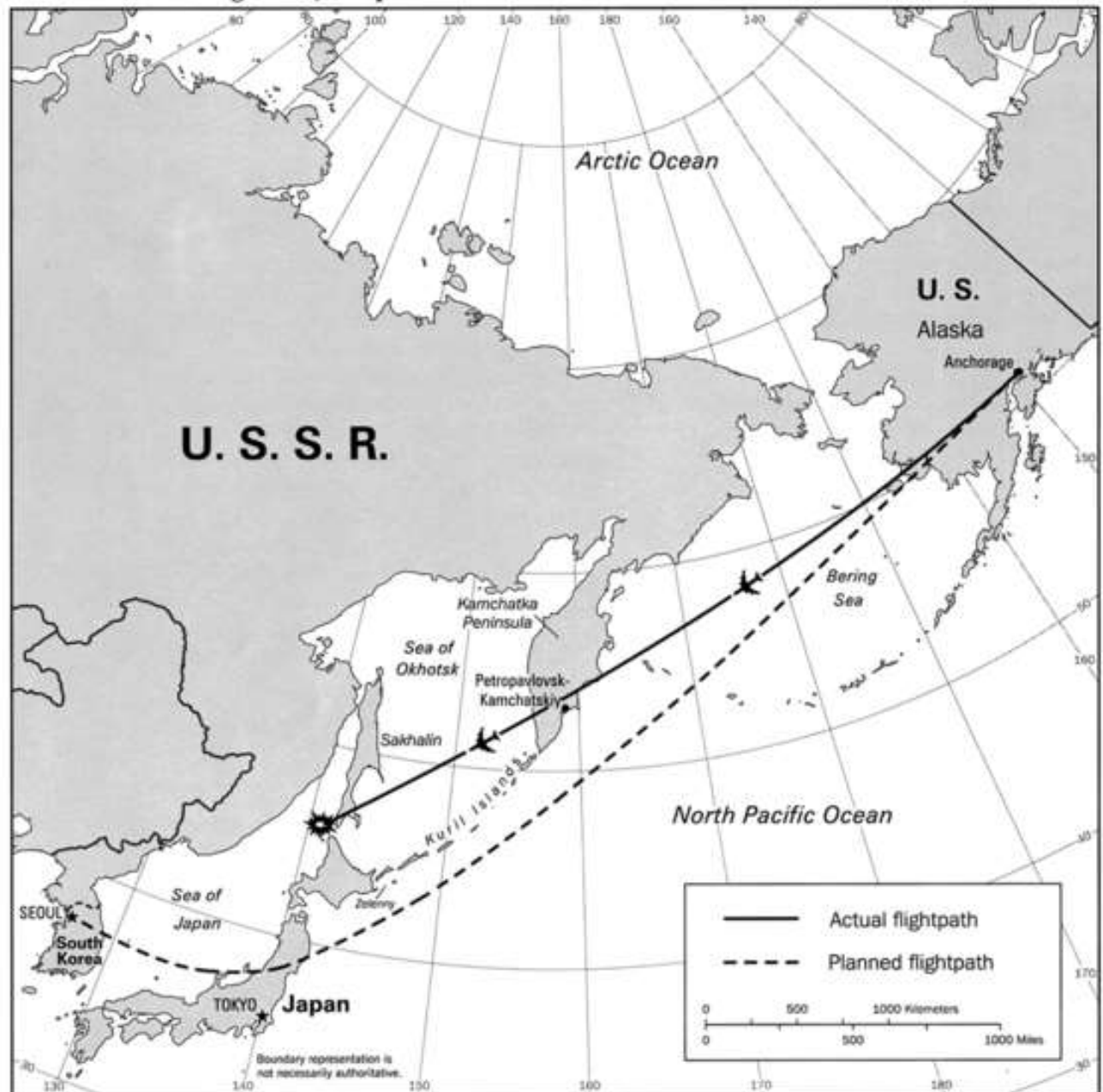
Do we need to know any more ? It just works

Satellites launched 1978- >

1983 President
Reagan insists
civilians must have
GPS technology
when it is ready

Initially designed to
pinpoint locations
and also reduce
civilian casualties

Korean Airlines Flight 007, 1 September 1983



The Global Positioning System (GPS)

... a satellite-based navigation system consisting of a network of 24 orbiting satellites that transmit radio signals to GPS receivers.

The system consist of 3 'segments'

- Space segment
- Control segment
- User segment

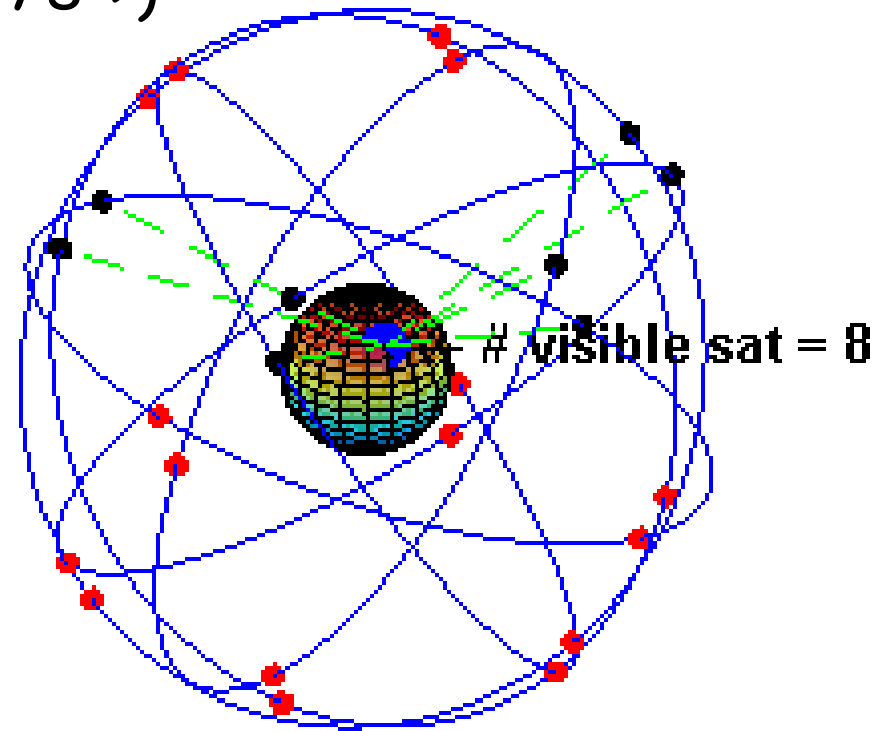


1. Space segment: Satellite Constellation

GPS is 'only' the USA system (1978-→)

Russia has GLONASS (1982-→)
"Global Navigation Satellite Systems"
Operational by 1995, Restored in 2011

Europe has Galileo (2011-→)



24 satellites at 20,000 km altitude, at 55° angle to equator

(Galileo is at 56 degrees, Glonass is at 65 degrees)

2. Control segment: ground stations

These 5 stations monitor the GPS satellites, check their operational health and exact position in space. The master station transmits corrections for the satellite's orbit and clock offsets back to the satellites



Ascension Island



Diego Garcia



In 1971, 2000 inhabitants were forcibly removed from **Diego Garcia** to Mauritius to enable a US military base; 1000 pet dogs gassed in a warehouse
Islanders were later denied compensation in 2003 by the Blair government

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/politics/2004/oct/02/foreignpolicy.comment>

3. User segment: GPS receivers/ antennas with relative accuracy

Handheld recreation units
Smartphones

5-15 m



Resource grade units

1-5 m

Survey grade units

1 cm



GPS track on Cranbrook Hill – out and back same trail, iPhone

Error: ~ average 5 metres



Pre-GPS: identification of point locations

Survey triangulation (3 points/angles)

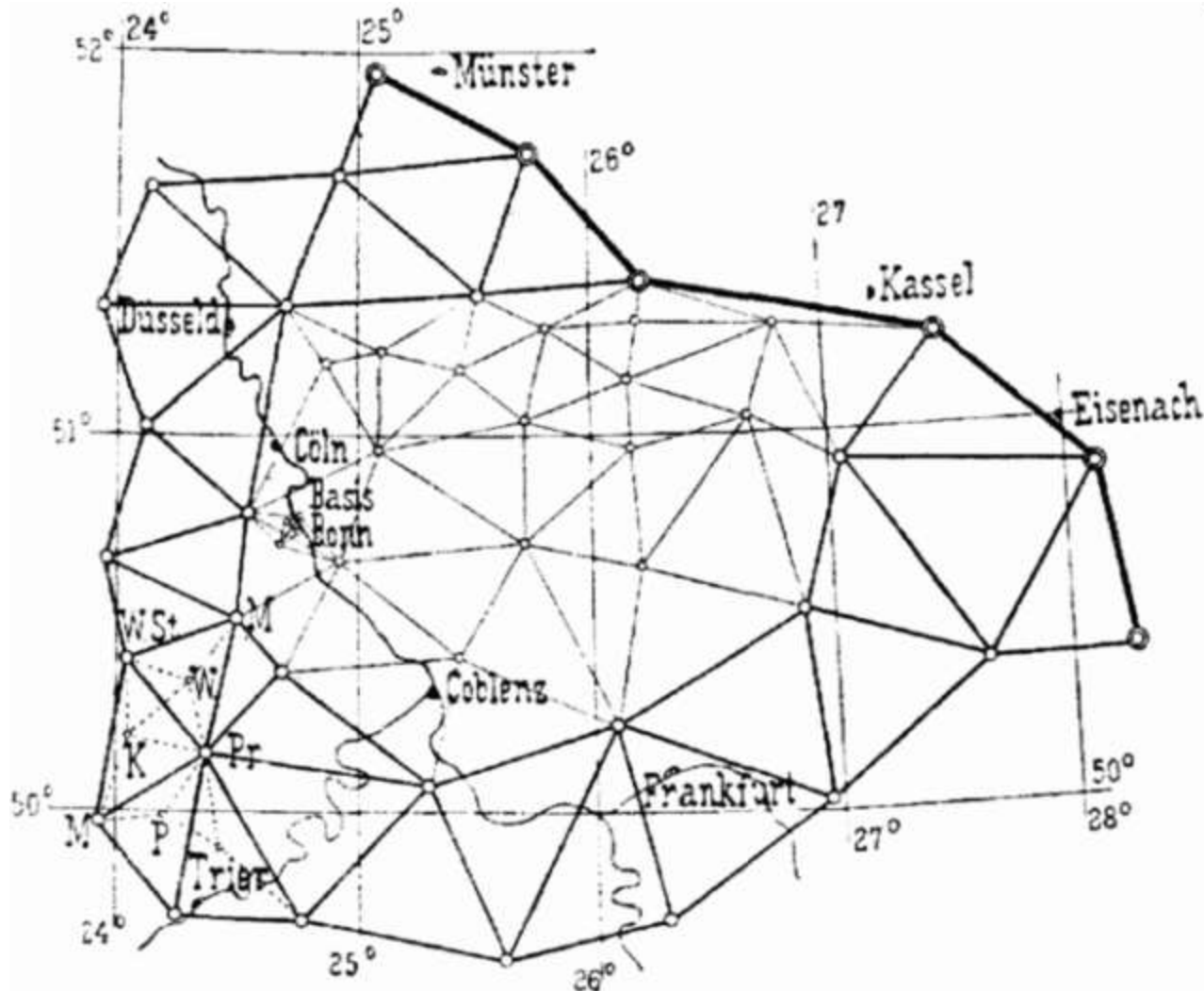
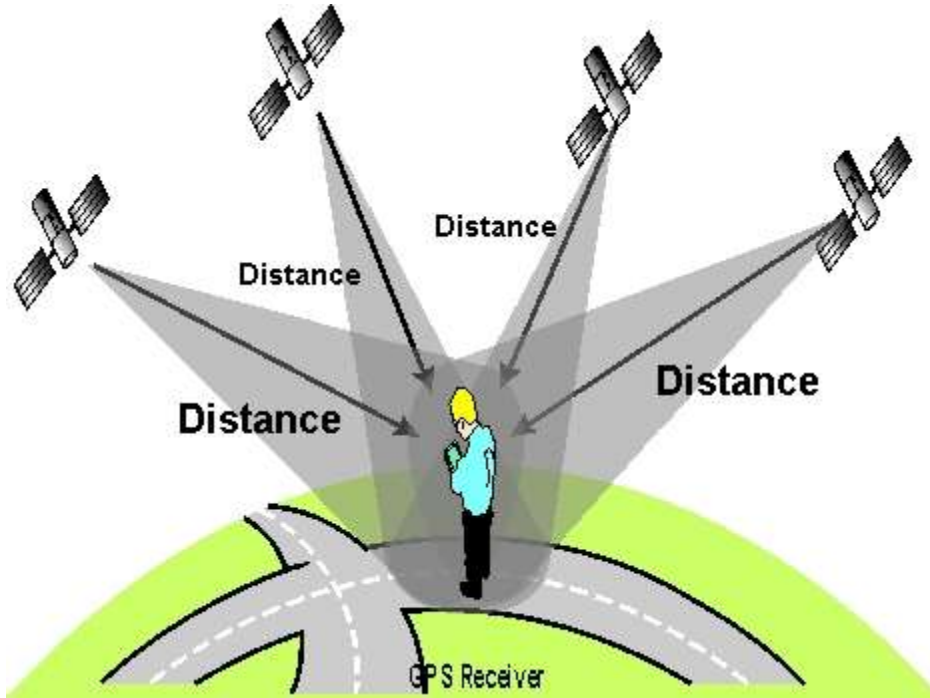


Fig. 4. Die rheinisch-hessische Kette und das nieder-rheinische Dreiecksnetz.

GPS Trilateration



$$\text{Distance} = \underline{\text{Time}} \times \text{Speed}$$

(Speed = 300,000 km/sec)

Code is transmitted many thousand times a second and includes

- Time
- Which satellite it is
- XYZ coordinates (ephemeris)

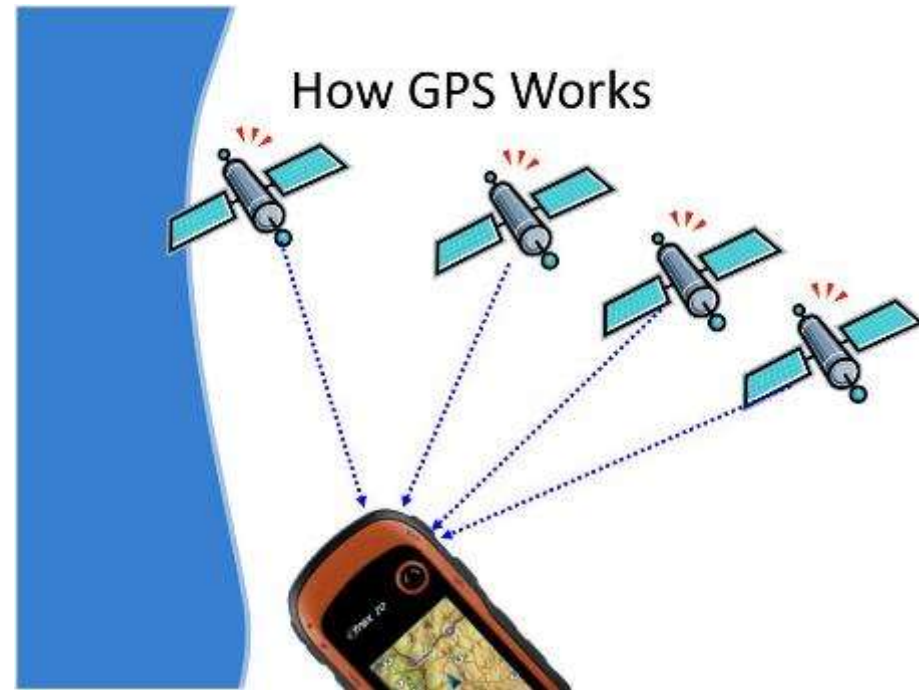
Atomic clocks measure time in seconds to 10 decimal places

Trilateration

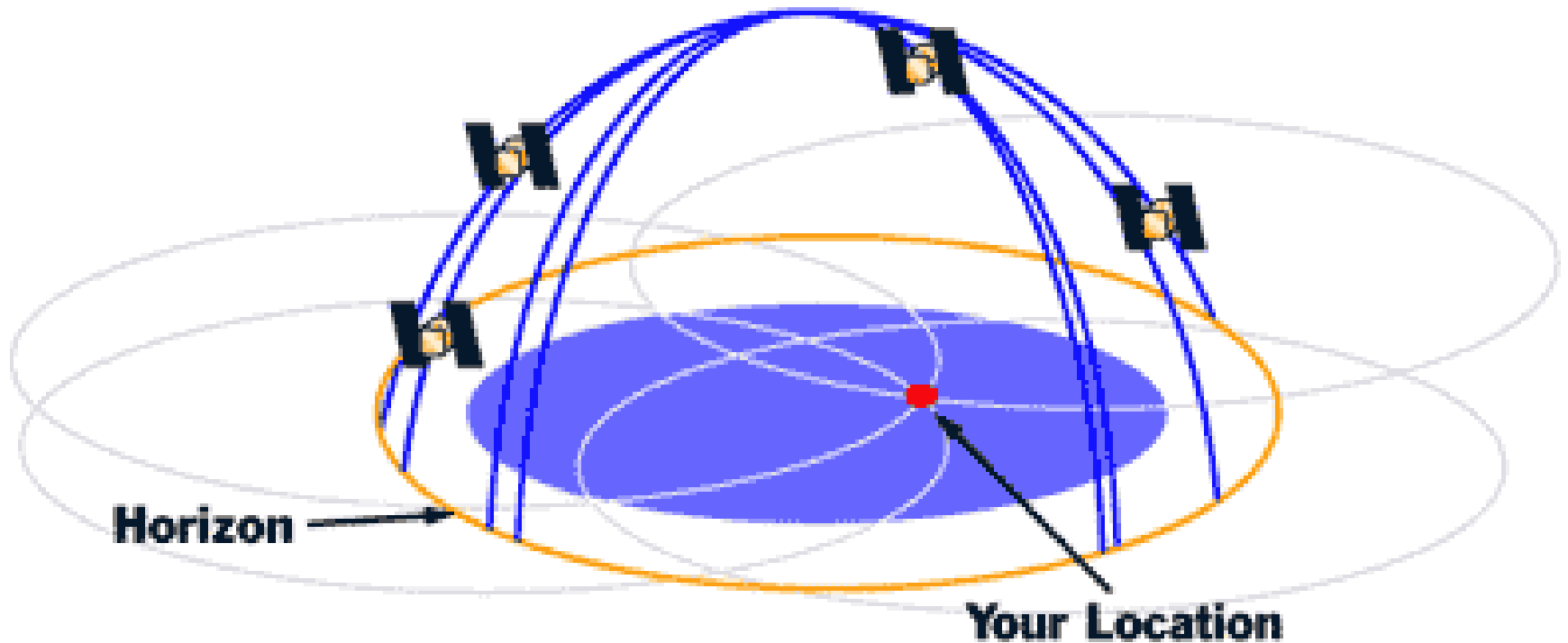
1. Satellite sends out signal/code
e.g. at midnight (with date stamp)
2. GPS units receives code at time
plus travel time (decimal seconds)
3. The delay or lag when the GPS
receives it is the signal's travel time.
4. GPS unit multiplies the time by the
speed of light to determine how far the signal travelled
= how far you are from that point in space
(Speed = 300,000 km/sec)

5. Software combines the > 4 readings to generate a
ground location (with some degree of error)

Solves for x , y , z and 'time' - uncertainty of ground clock



4 satellites are needed for accurate location (*3 if only 2D*)



4 time measurements correspond with 4 'pseudo-ranges' (distances)
The intersection of 4 overlapping 'spheres' gives the location

Location coordinates can be recorded by the GPS as:

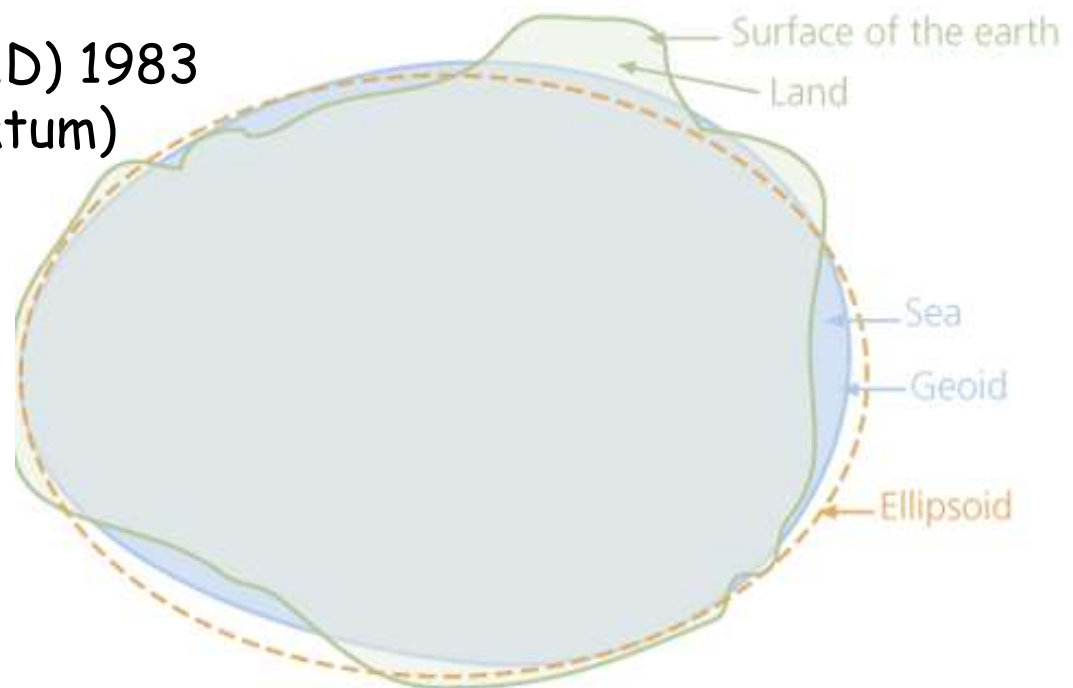
- Latitude / Longitude - D/M/S or decimal degrees OR
- UTM eastings and northings, with zone (in metres)

And relative to the most current measured shape of the earth (ellipsoid):

- WGS (World Geodetic System) 1984

Model of the Earth

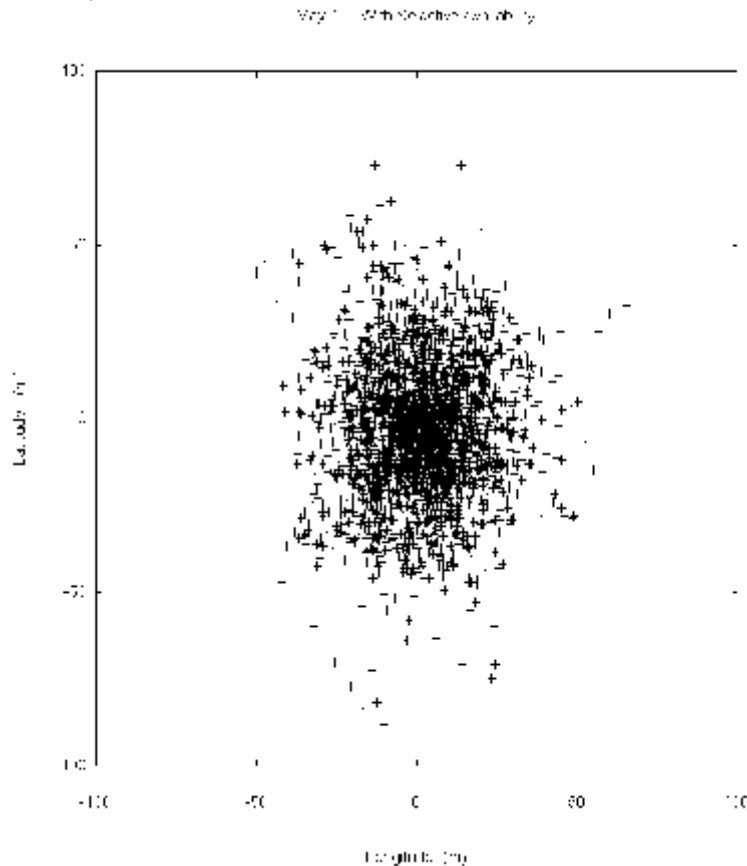
- North American Datum (NAD) 1983
(local mapping reference datum)



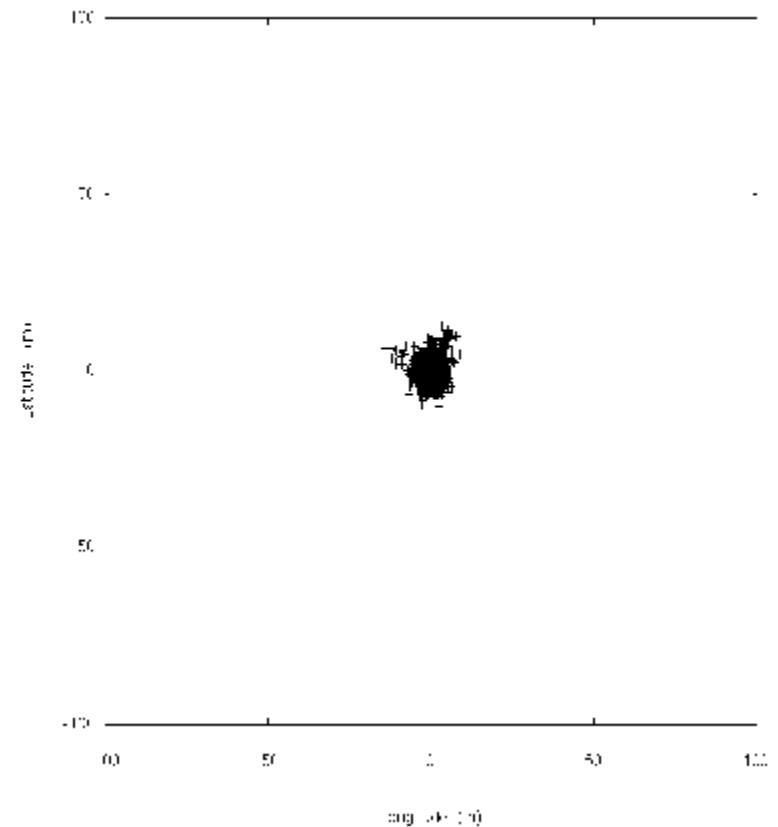
GPS terms: 1. Selective Availability (SA)

- Random error, added to GPS signals before 2000
- .. up to 100 metres error by scrambling last 3 decimals of time signal
- Turned off May 1, 2000 at midnight; No intent to ever use it again
- e.g. Time = 3.1234567890 = 2.1234567000

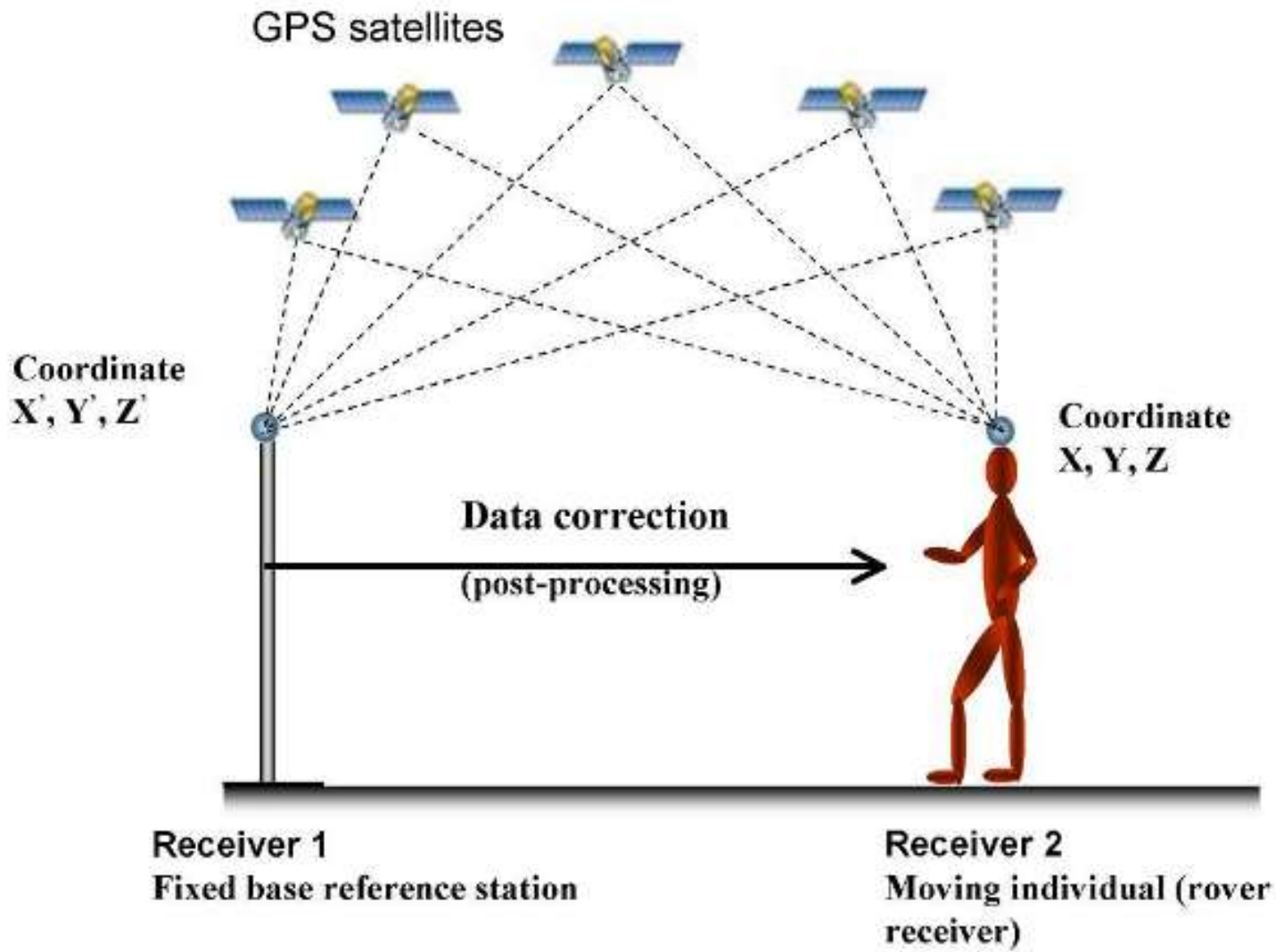
May 1, 2000 - Selective Availability on



May 3, 2000 - Selective Availability Off



2. Differential Correction (DGPS) -industry solved SA problem



Base station, Coast Mountains, Mt. Waddington - real-time DGPS



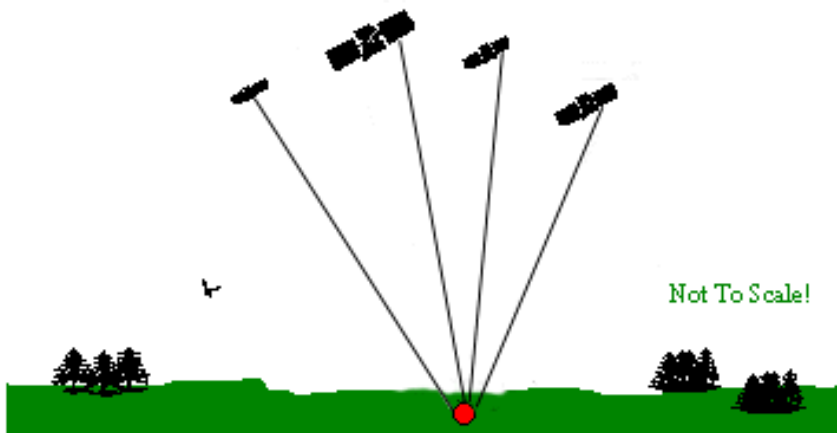
3. (Percent) Dilution of Precision

- PDOP is an indicator of the quality of the geometry of the satellites
- Well spread out, and not too low in the sky

BC standard: PDOP < 8.0 acceptable

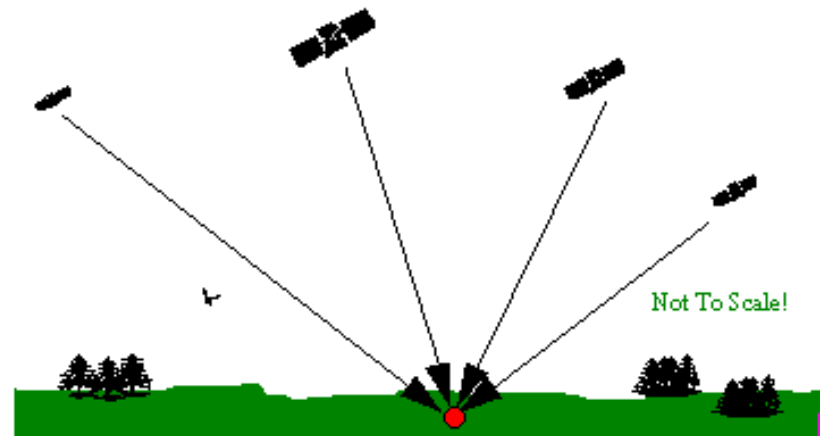
PDOP < 4.0 : excellent

Poor Dilution of Precision



High DOP (poor)

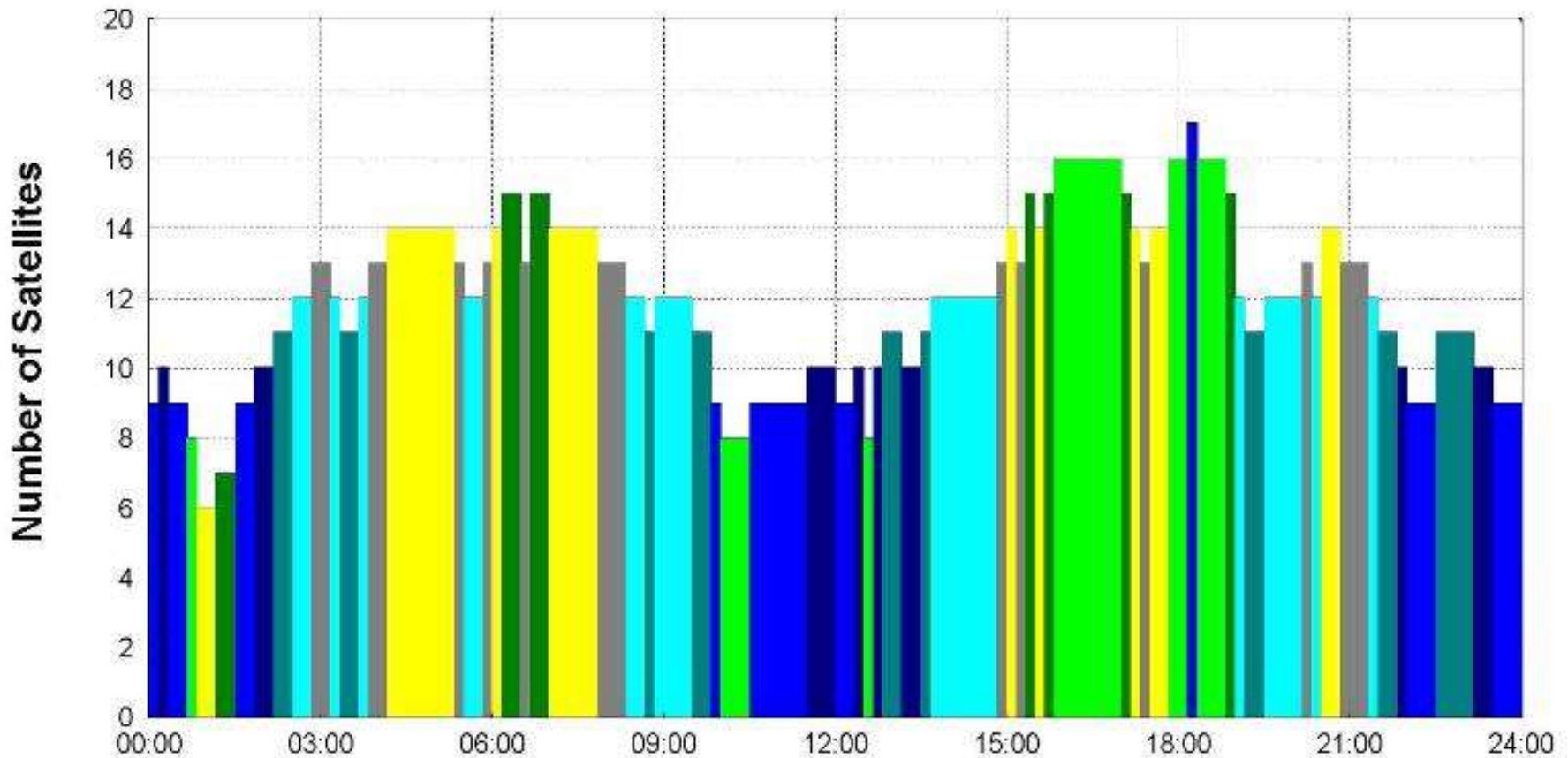
Good Dilution of Precision



Low DOP (good)

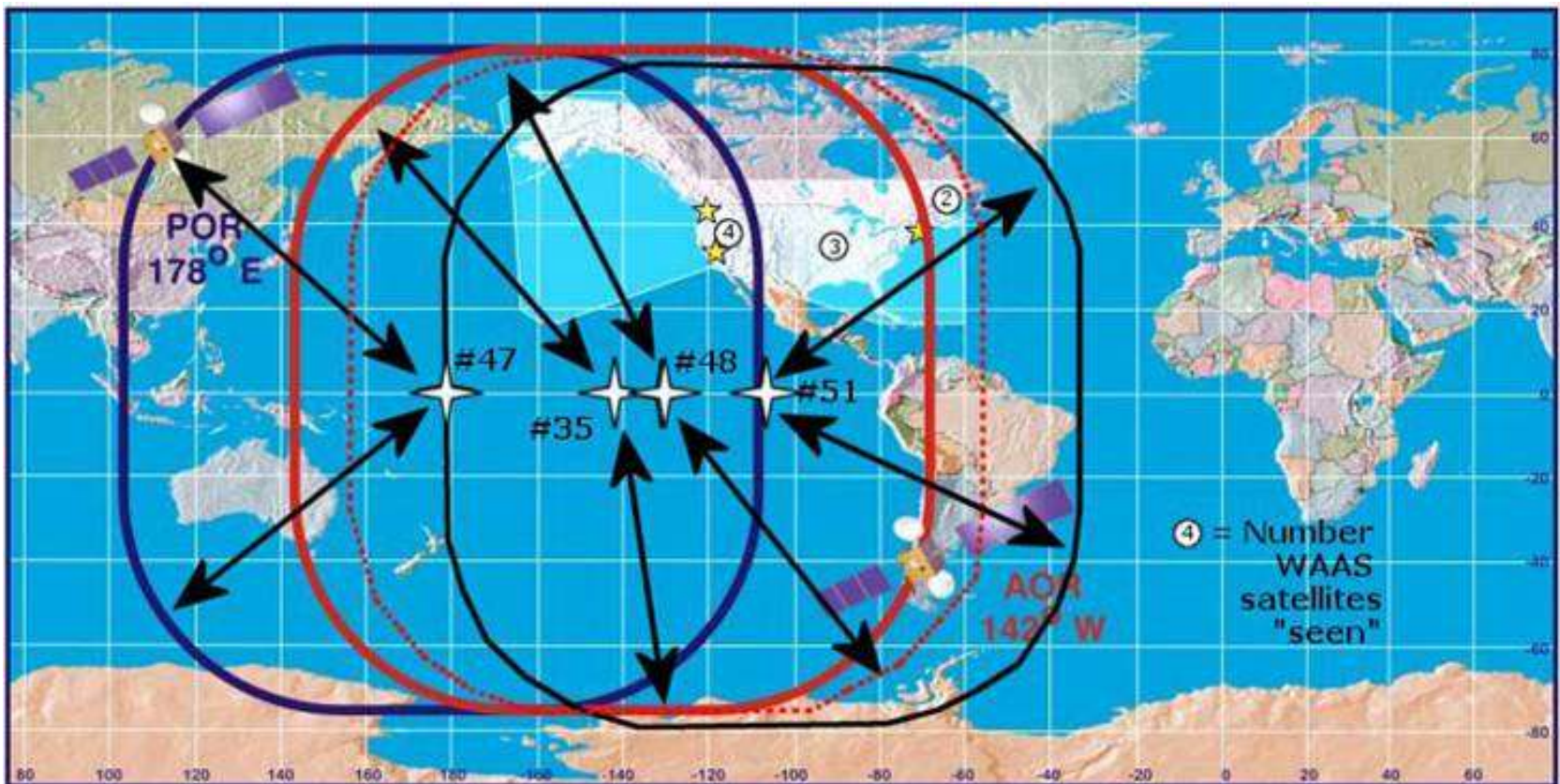
of satellites (affects PDOP)

Visibility

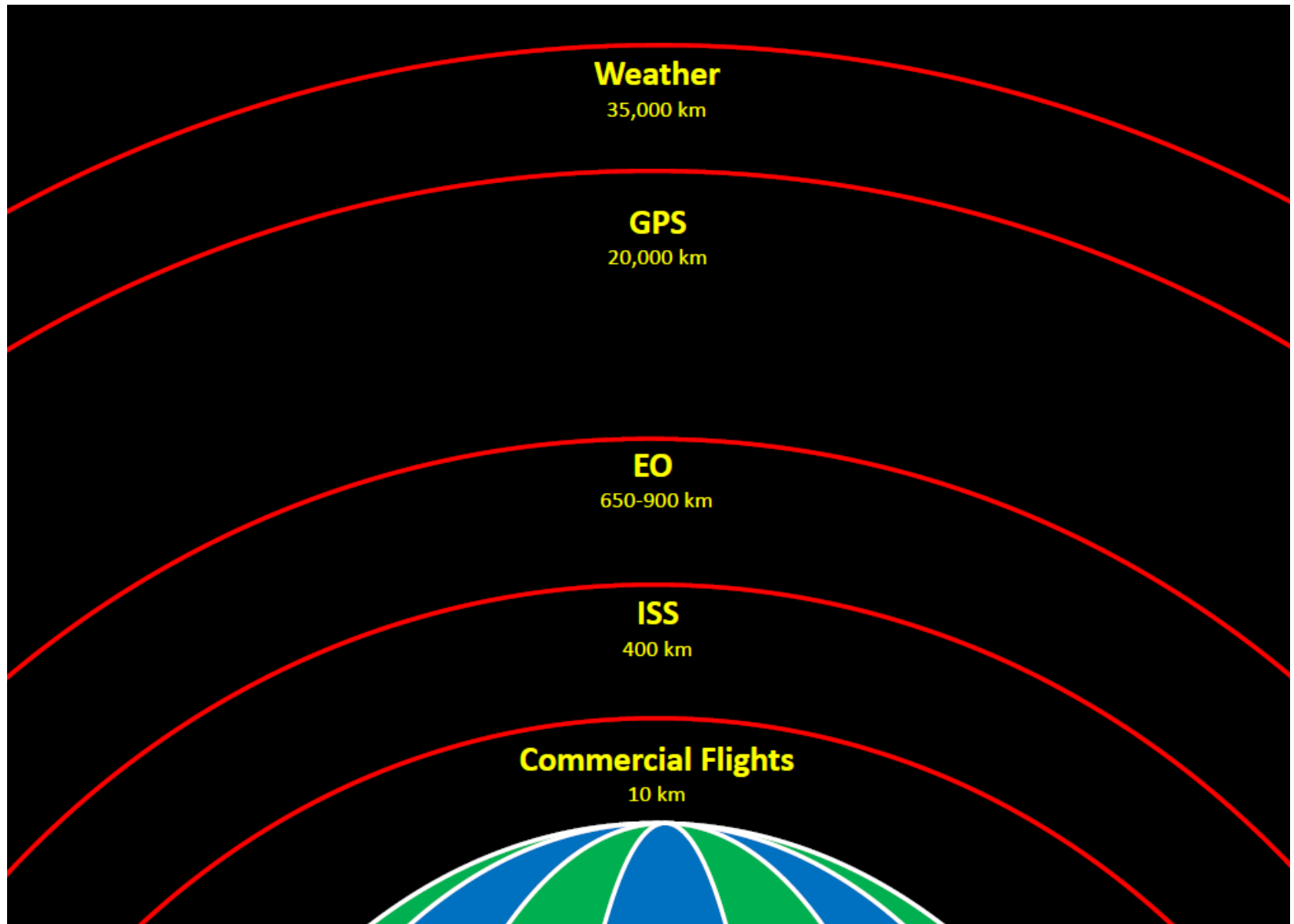


WAAS (Wide Area Augmentation System) Geostationary Satellites

POR	#47	3F3	Pacific Ocean at 178.0°E@
AOR-W	#35	3F4	Pacific Ocean at 142.0°W@
PanAm	#48	Galaxy 15	Pacific Ocean at 133.0°W*
Anik	#51	F1R	Pacific Ocean at 107.3°W*



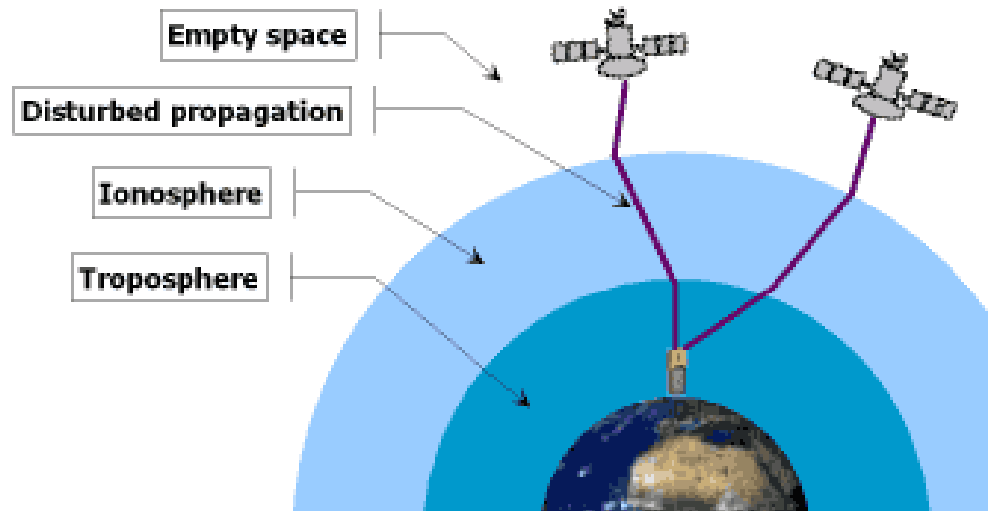
Earth from Space: Earth Observation (EO) satellites



What are the remaining sources of error? (after SA removed and good PDOP)

Potential Error

Ionosphere	4.0 metres
Clock	2.1 m
Ephemeris	2.1 m
Troposphere	0.7 m
Receiver	0.5 m
Multipath	1.0 m
Total	10.4 m



This is why your reading can change even when you don't move

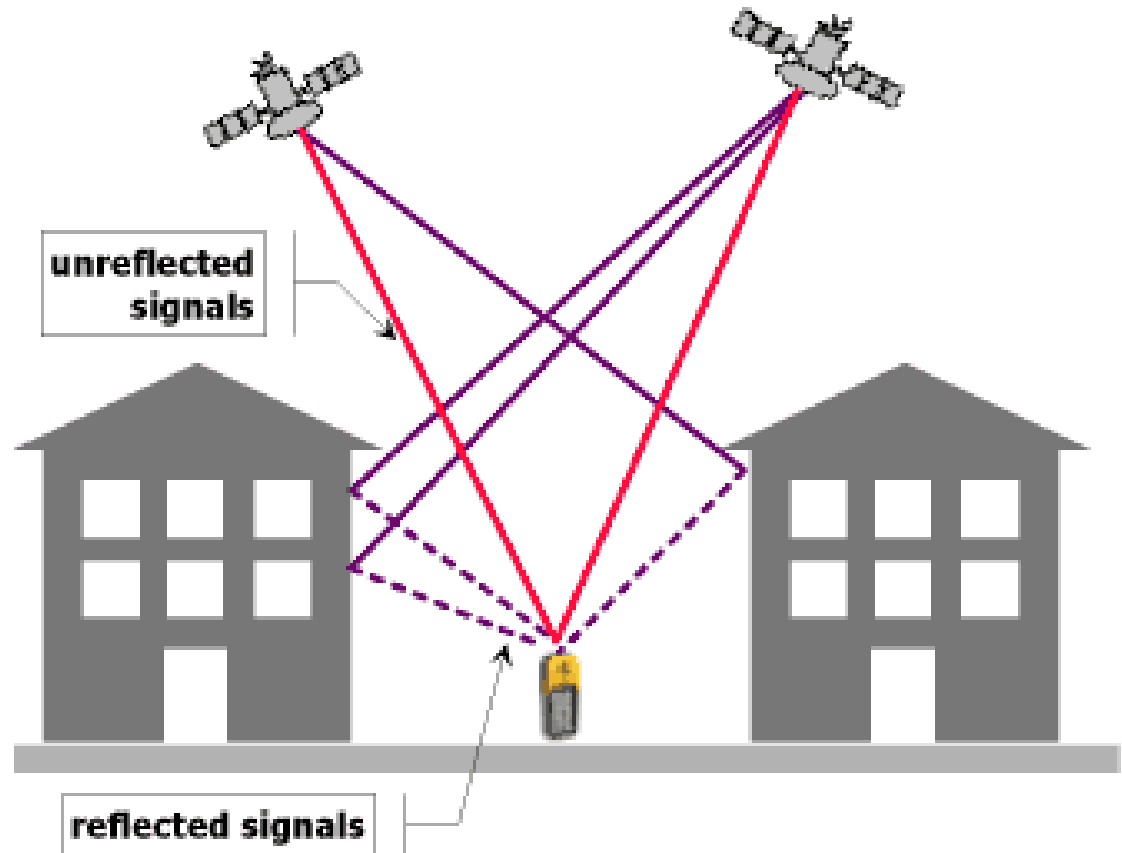
We use DGPS to help remove these errors ...

Uncorrected GPS ~10m

Corrected (DGPS) ~1m

You can reduce error by taking the average of many readings e.g. at trail junctions

Multipath: GPS is line of sight



In the way: e.g. buildings, mountains, solid canopy ..

High latitude, E-W valleys, e.g. Norway

the valley sides may block good GPS reception ...



Environmental Factors

- Generally, GPS is unaffected by weather
- Heavy rain can weaken the signal
- Wet foliage deflects more than dry foliage
- General Humidity and Temperature - no effect
- Wind may have positive effect under forest canopy

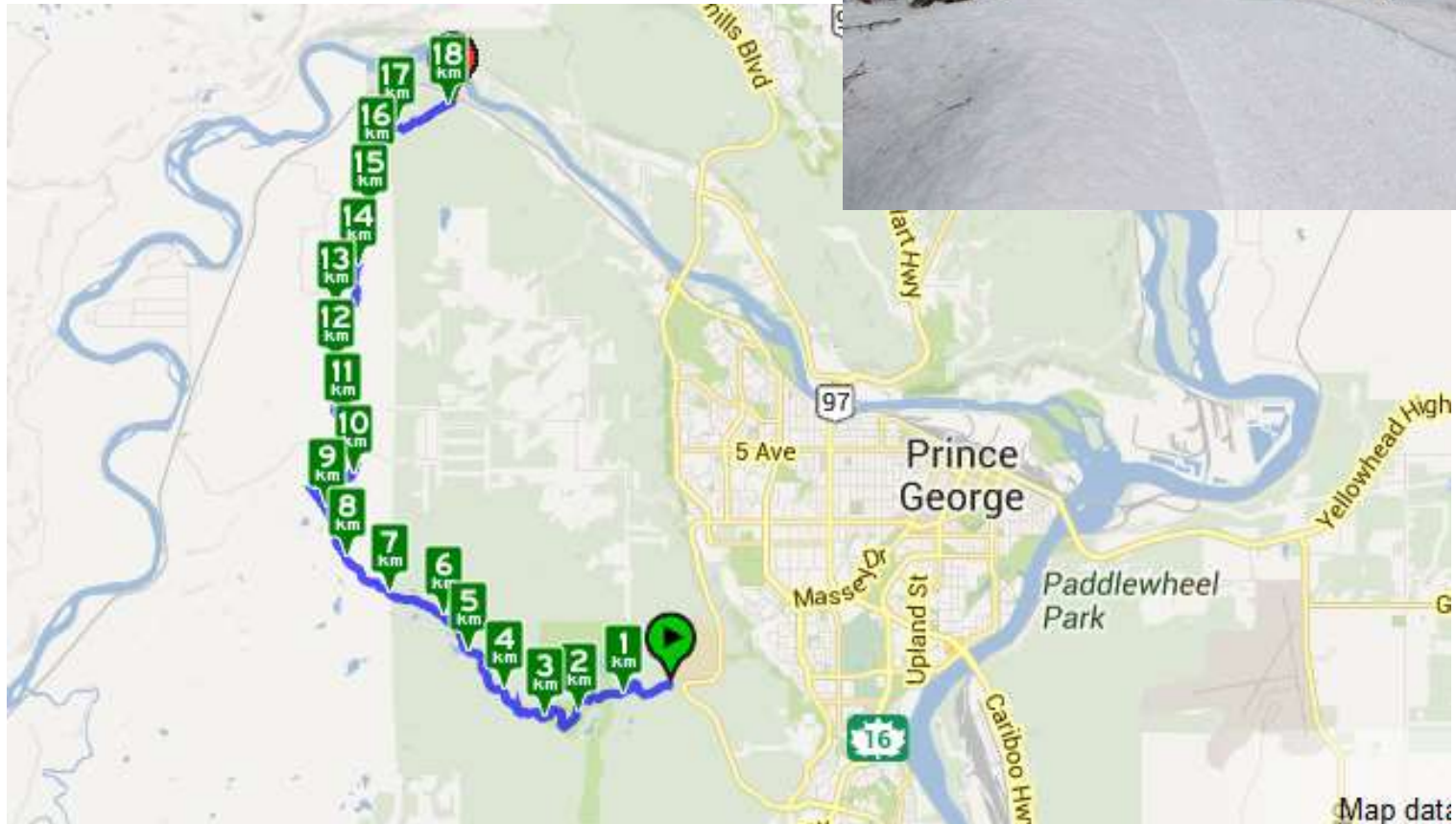
GPS data input:

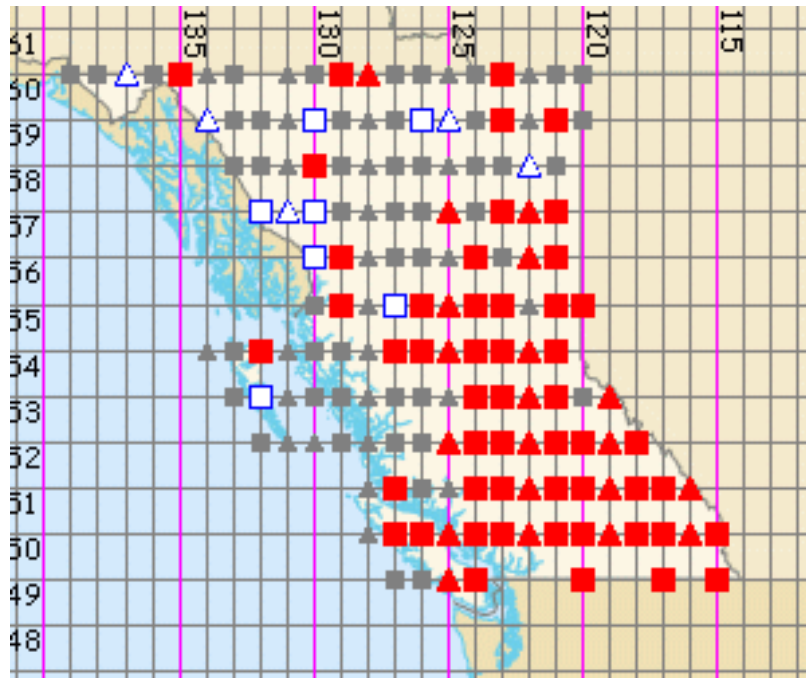
<http://openstreetmap.org>

<http://www.mapmyrun.com>

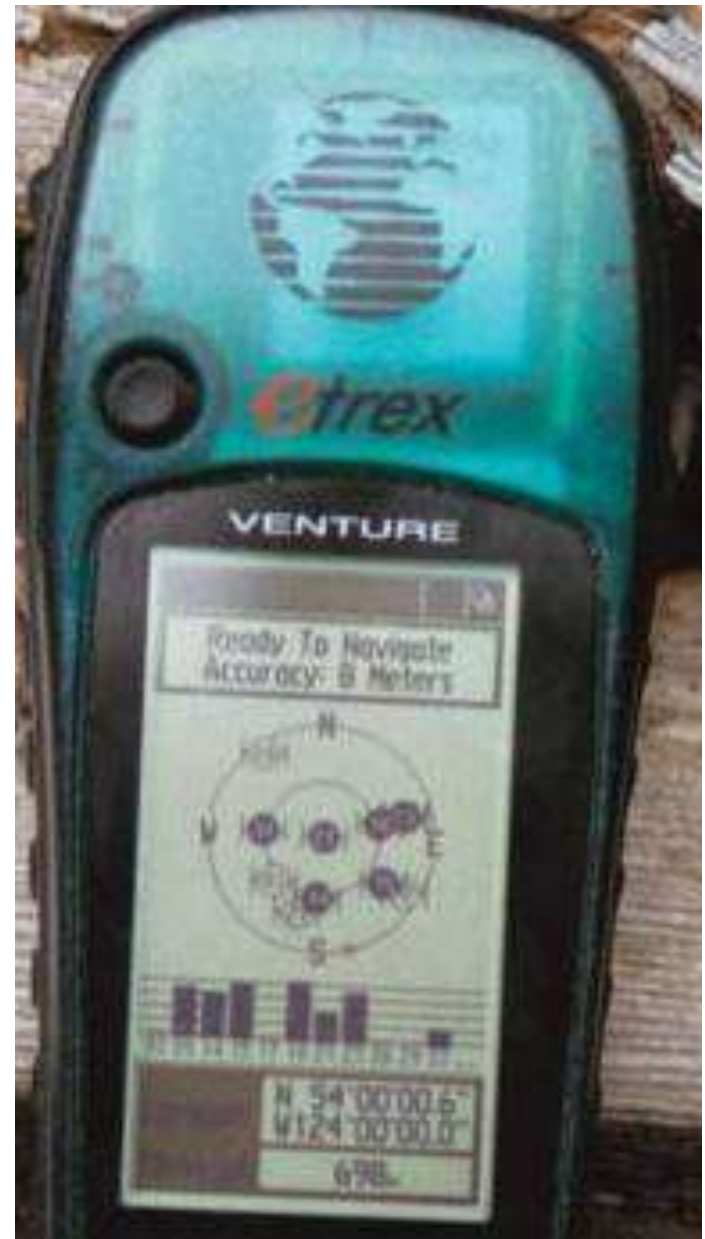
<https://www.geocaching.com>

<https://www.trailforks.com/trails/map/>





54N, 124W: 1.8 km (1.1 miles) SSE of Vanderhoof, BC, altitude: 695 m (2280 ft)



Public mapping every degree intersection:

<http://confluence.org>