

# **GEOG 205: update / labs**

- Syllabus, labs, lectures are posted on [www.gis.unbc.ca](http://www.gis.unbc.ca)
- Labs, quizzes and exams submitted on Moodle
- First week of labs – Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
- If you miss your lab or don't get all done, drop in on another lab section
- Labs are due before the next week's lab
- This week: Submit map / question as per directions – just checking, no grades
- Quiz #1: will be posted on Moodle after Thursday lecture
- Please see request on Moodle for note takers

# Where are the Los Angeles fires burning?



Source: Cal Fire (latest available data as of 06:30 GMT, 11 Jan)



See satellite image and fires on Google Maps



Source: Cal Fire (latest available data as of 06:00 GMT, 10 Jan)

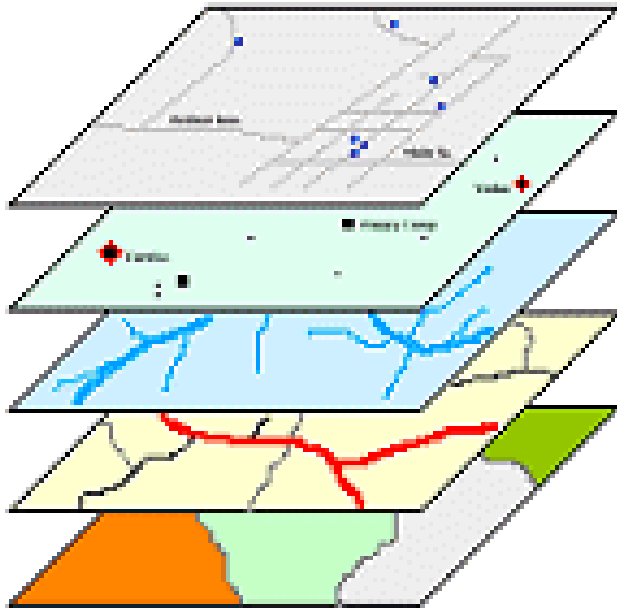
**BBC**

'Bigger than Manhattan'

'Would cover 2000 football fields'

1/3 of Saskatoon ?

# Coordinate map systems and Georeferencing

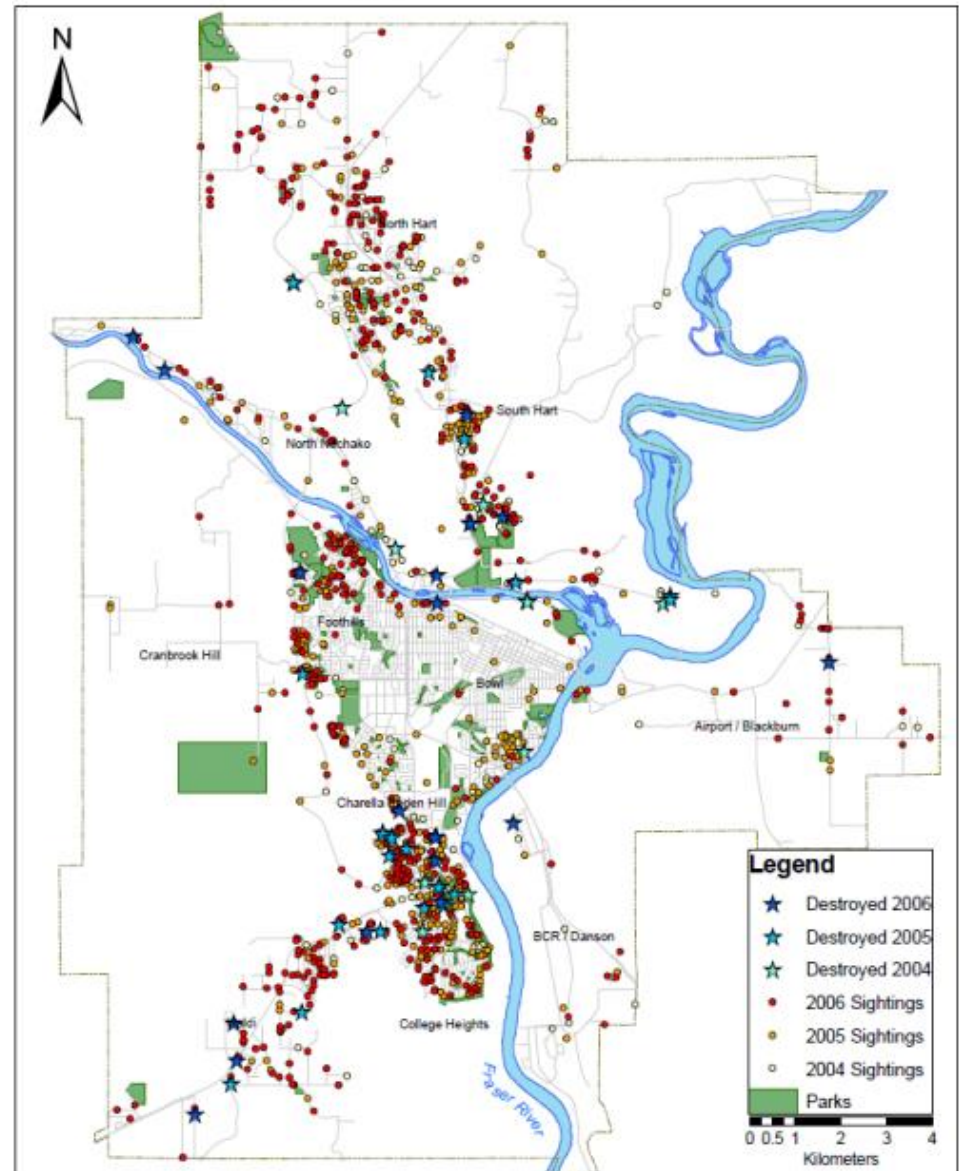


## Registered map layers

digital mapping needs coordinates

- local for local mapping
- global for global datasets

Bear Sightings, Prince George 2004-2006



# Registration vs Referencing

## Registration:

-lining up the layers together

## Georeferencing:

Linking layers to map coordinates

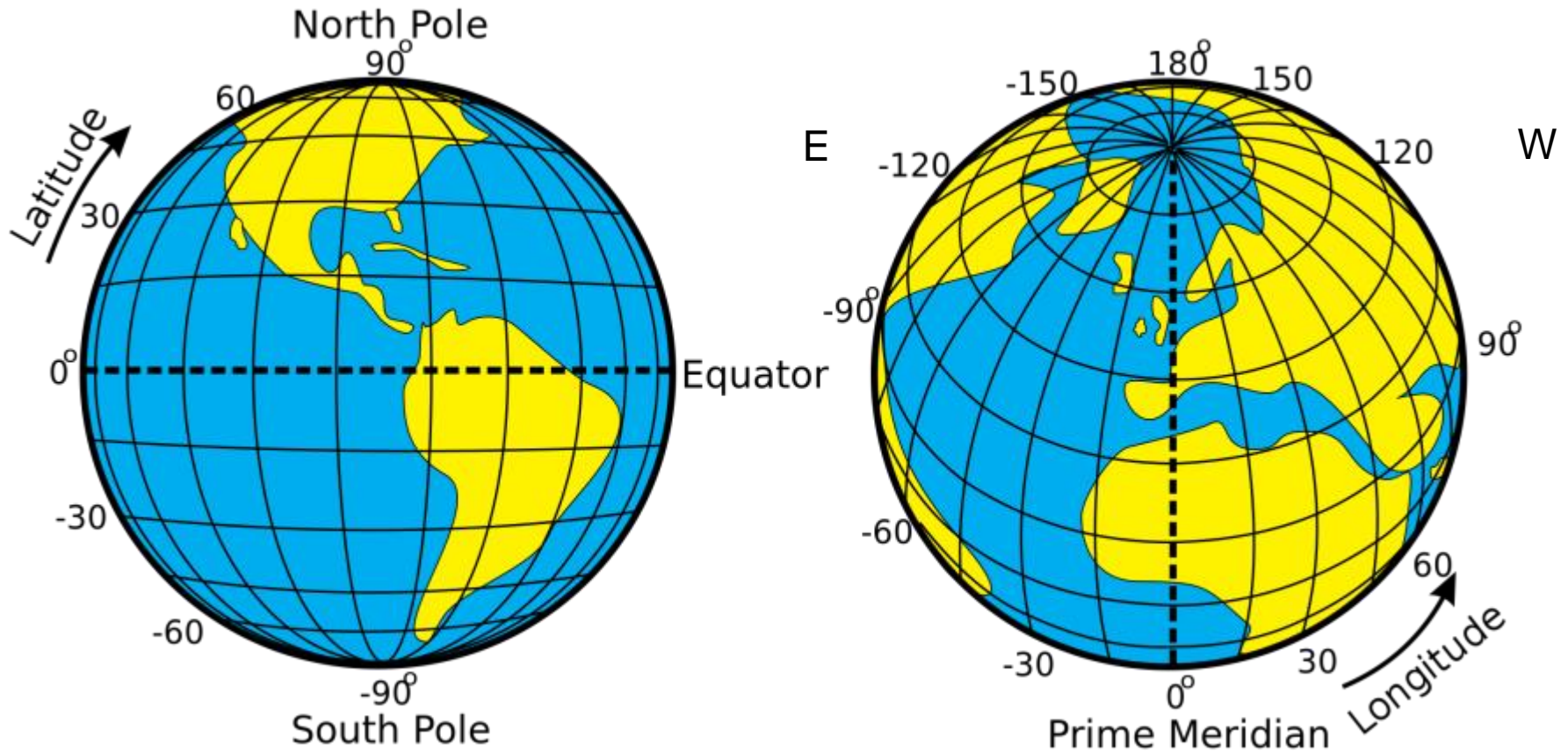


**Flat Earth options:– if only it was flat,  
this would be a very short lecture**

# Coordinate map systems

## 1. The Earth's Graticule: Latitude - Longitude

- The graticule is the imaginary grid of lines running east-west lines of latitude (parallels) and north-south lines of longitude (meridians)
- The system was first devised by Hipparchus (190-120 BC)



# 1a. 'Geographic Referencing'

We can identify locations by latitude, longitude

1 degree latitude = ~ 111km

1 degree = 60' (minutes)      1' = ~ 2km (111km / 60)

1' = 60" (seconds)      1" = ~ 30m (2km / 60)

**e.g. UNBC campus agora**

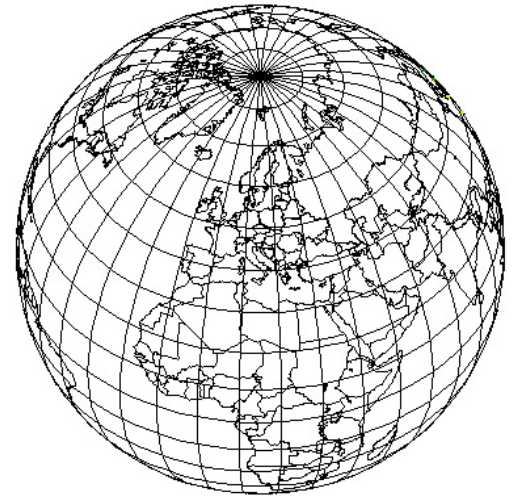
In degrees, minutes, seconds: (DMS)      **53° 53' 33" N    122° 48' 50" W**

In degrees and decimal minutes (DDM) **53° 53.54' N    122° 48.82' W (GPS)**

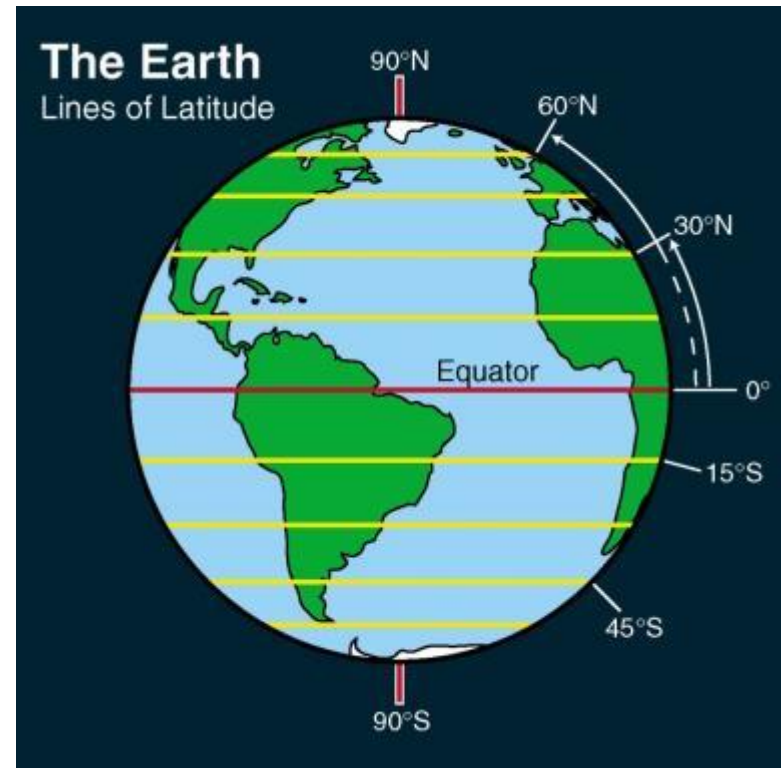
In decimal degrees:      53.892381, -122.813699 (N, W)

See: <http://maps.google.ca> (right-click)

# Latitude



- **Latitude** = the vertical angle from the centre of earth to the location
- e.g. Prince George is at  $54^{\circ}\text{N}$
- Quesnel is at  $53^{\circ}\text{N}$
- [ $1^{\circ} = \sim 111\text{km}$ ]
- Latitude is 0 on the equator



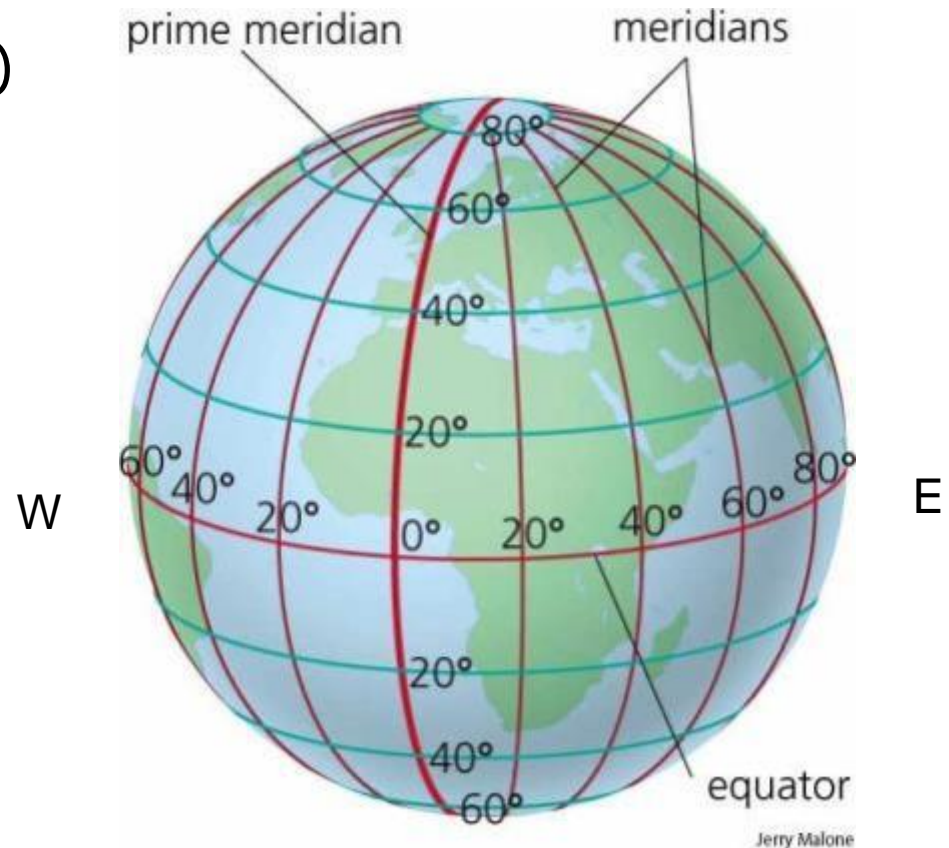
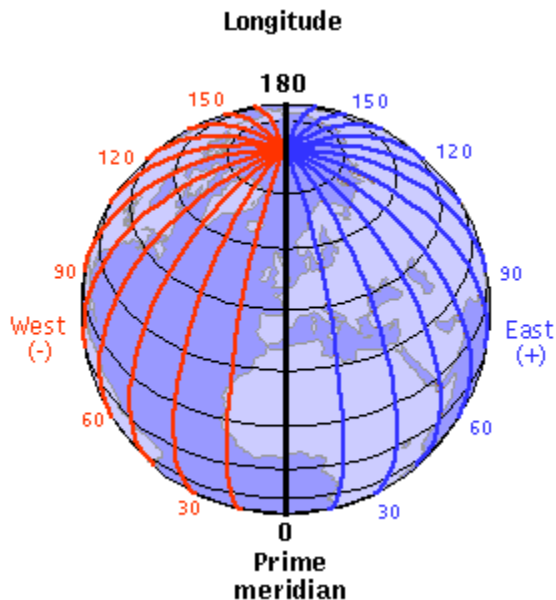


# Longitude

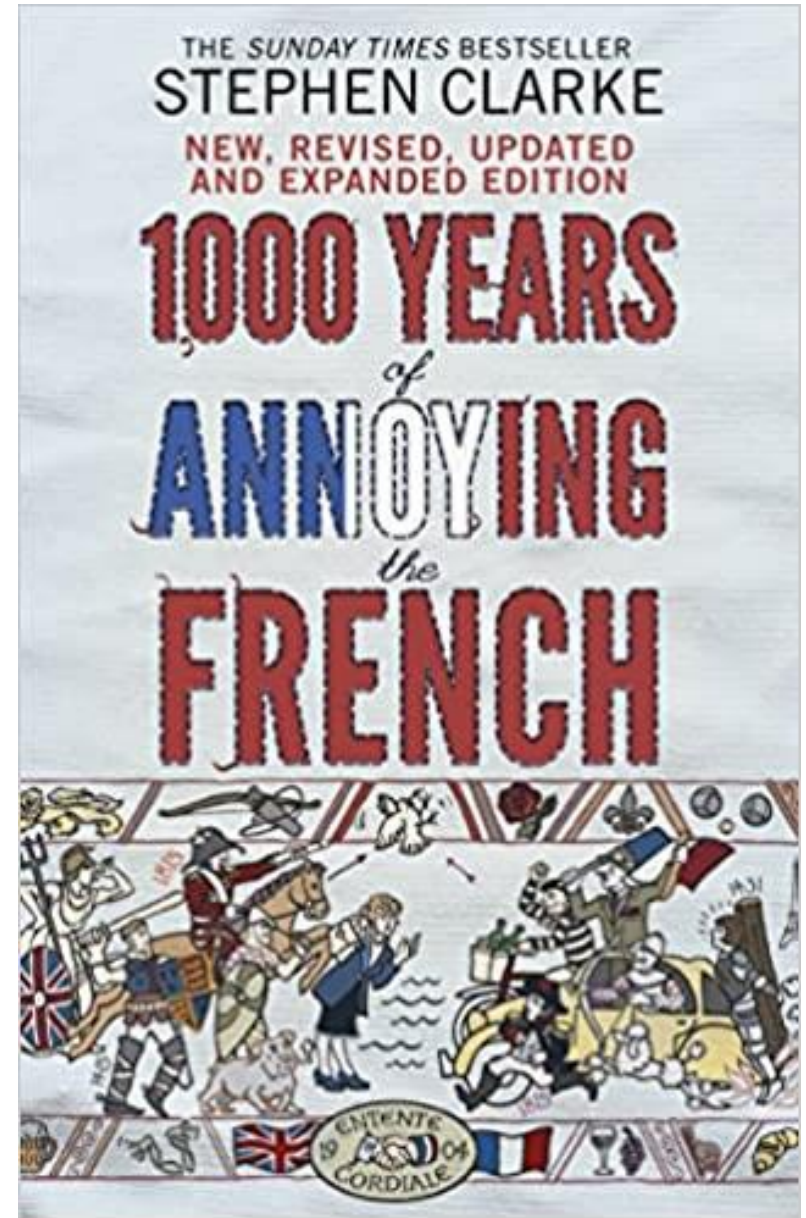
**Longitude** = the angle formed between line from centre of earth to the (arbitrary) 'prime meridian' running through Greenwich, England and the local meridian. The 0 location is arbitrary (established 1884)

Longitude ranges from 0 to 180 W / 180 E (the same line)

Prince George = 123°W



Meridian Room (or Cassini Room) at the Paris Observatory, The Paris meridian is traced on the floor. Established 1634.



# 'Geographic' (latitude/longitude) referencing issues

a. Geographic is not decimal, it is 'sexagesimal' (= base 60)  
Before computers we used Degrees, Minutes, Seconds (DMS)

b. It is suitable for storing global datasets, but ... with negative values south and west of 0, 0; e.g. in a digital system, PG = 54, -123

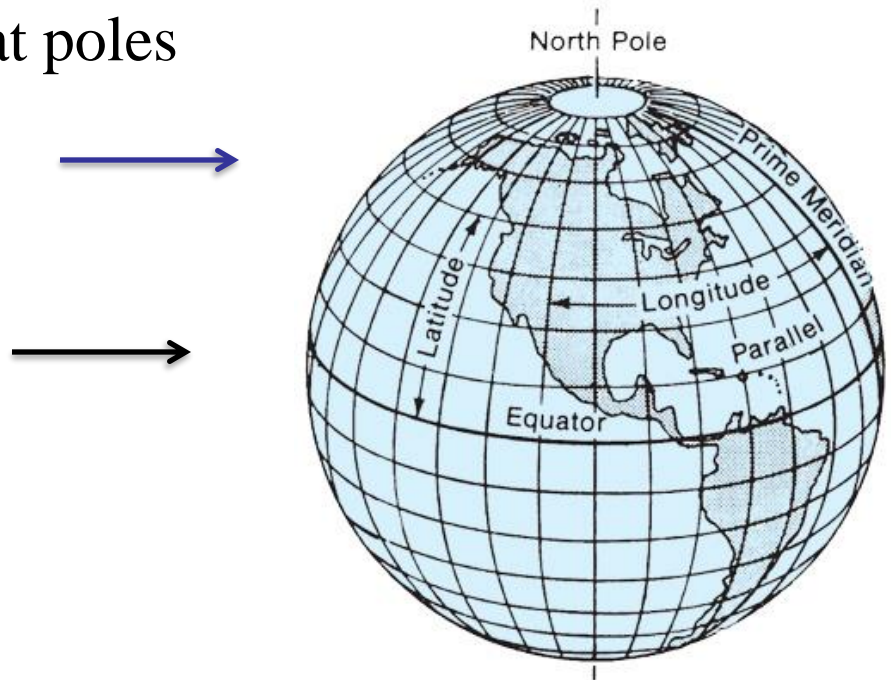
c. The main issue mapping with Longitude: it's not rectangular ...

1 degree longitude varies widely from  
~111 km at the equator to 0 km at poles

half the distance at 60 ° N/S

Equator

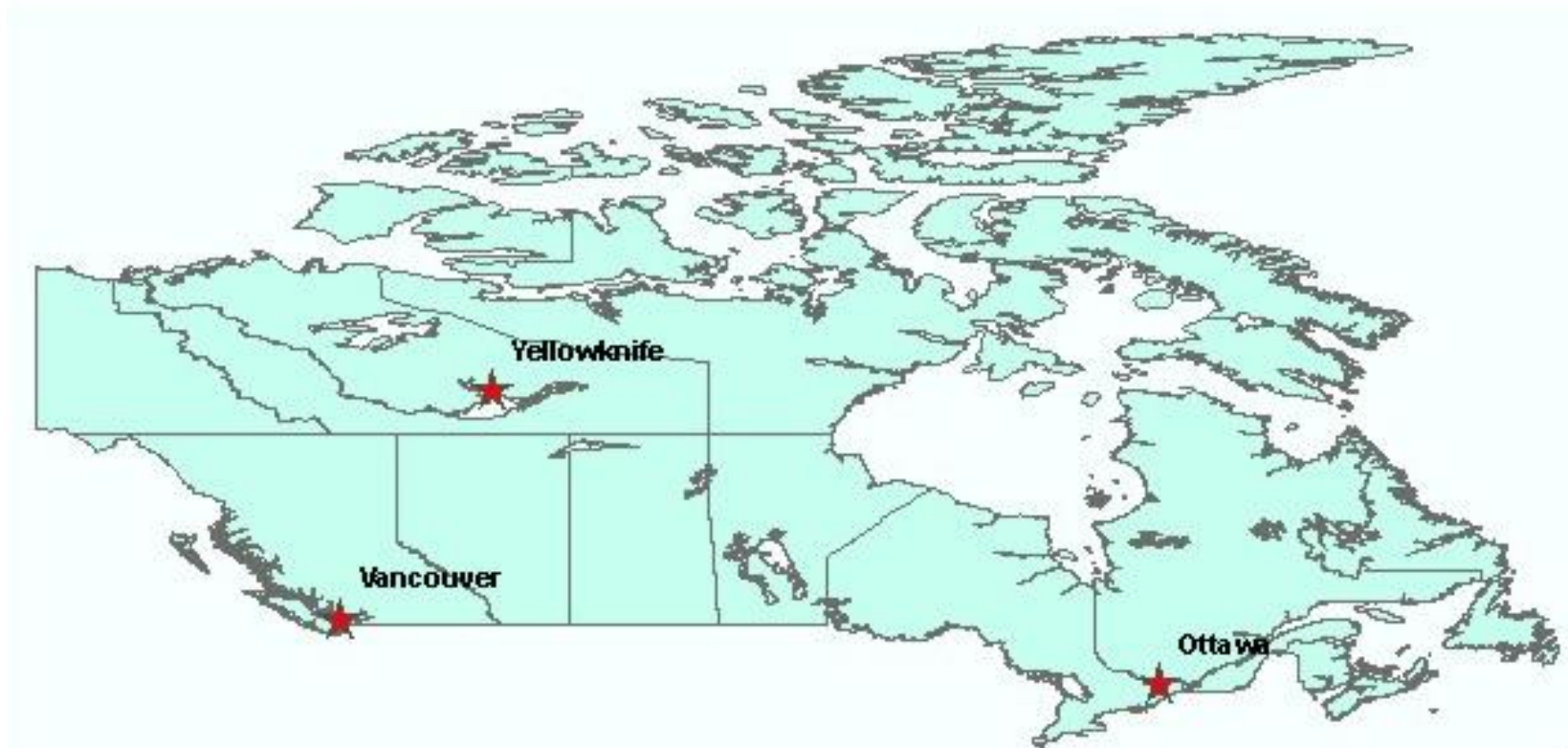
i.e. 1 degree has no fixed length



-1 degree longitude varies from 0 -> 111 km

-> East-west stretching away from equator  
(as a degree is treated uniformly)

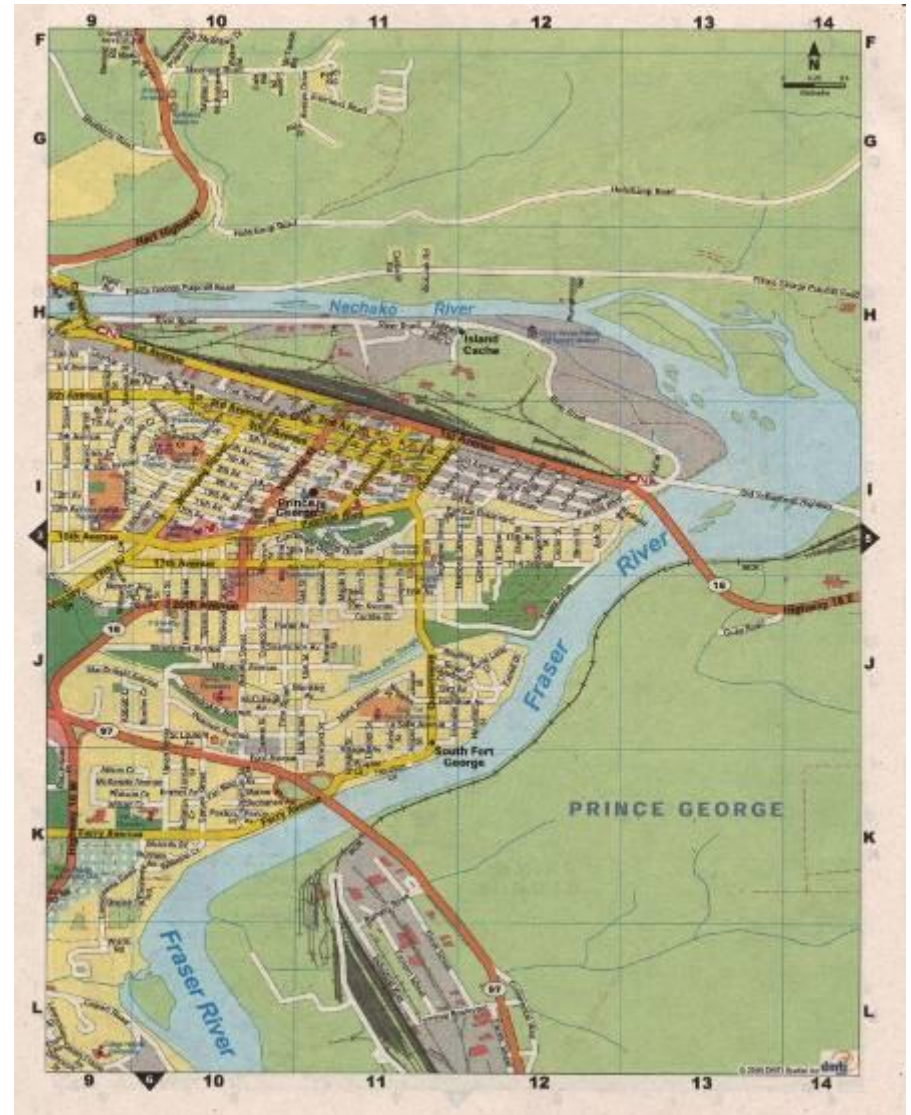
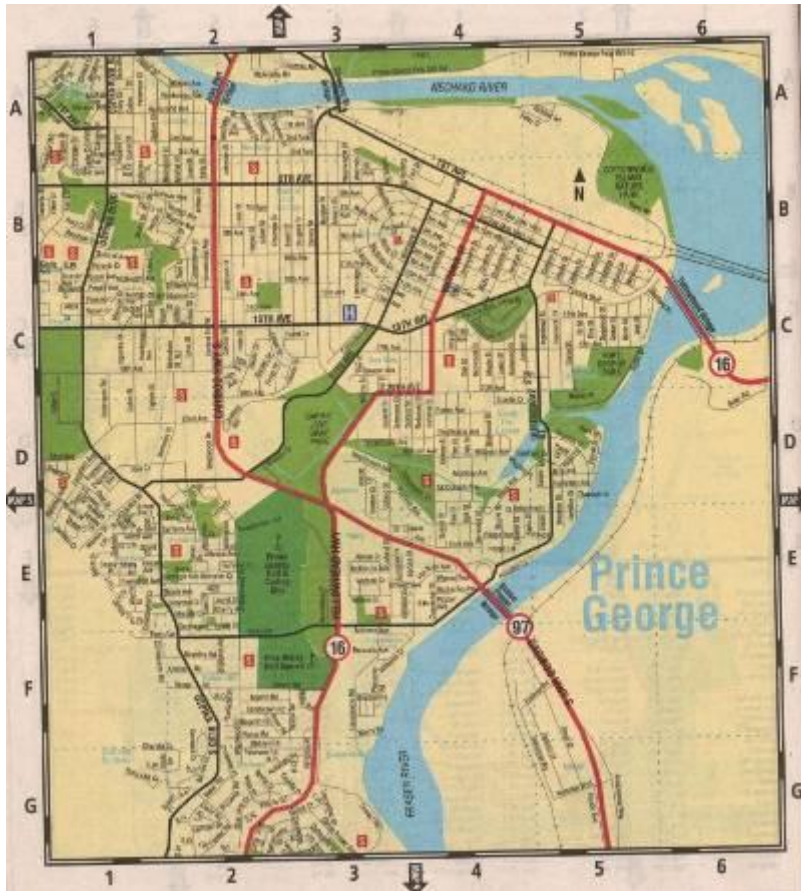
OK for data storage, not for display



# Local example from the phone book

2007-scale is consistent

2008: horizontal scale is almost double



# Latitude and Longitude

| Length of One Degree of Longitude |               |              | Length of a Degree of Latitude |            |       |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------------|------------|-------|
| Latitude                          | Kilometres    | Miles        | Latitude                       | Kilometres | Miles |
| <b>0°</b>                         | <b>111.32</b> | <b>69.17</b> | 0°                             | 110.57     | 68.71 |
| 10°                               | 109.64        | 68.13        | 10°                            | 110.61     | 68.73 |
| 20°                               | 104.65        | 65.03        | 20°                            | 110.70     | 68.79 |
| 30°                               | 96.49         | 59.95        | 30°                            | 110.85     | 68.88 |
| 40°                               | 85.39         | 53.06        | 40°                            | 111.04     | 68.99 |
| 50°                               | 71.70         | 44.55        | 50°                            | 111.23     | 69.12 |
| <b>60°</b>                        | <b>55.80</b>  | <b>34.67</b> | 60°                            | 111.41     | 69.23 |
| 70°                               | 38.19         | 23.73        | 70°                            | 111.56     | 69.32 |
| 80°                               | 19.39         | 12.05        | 80°                            | 111.66     | 69.38 |
| 90°                               | 0.00          | 0.00         | 90°                            | 111.69     | 69.40 |

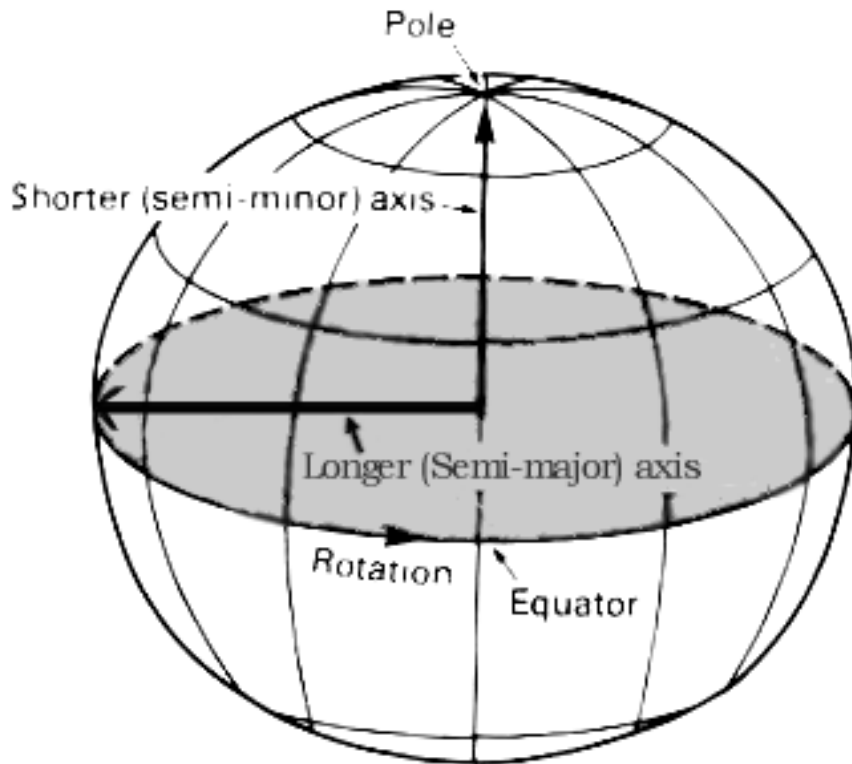


But is 45° North halfway ?

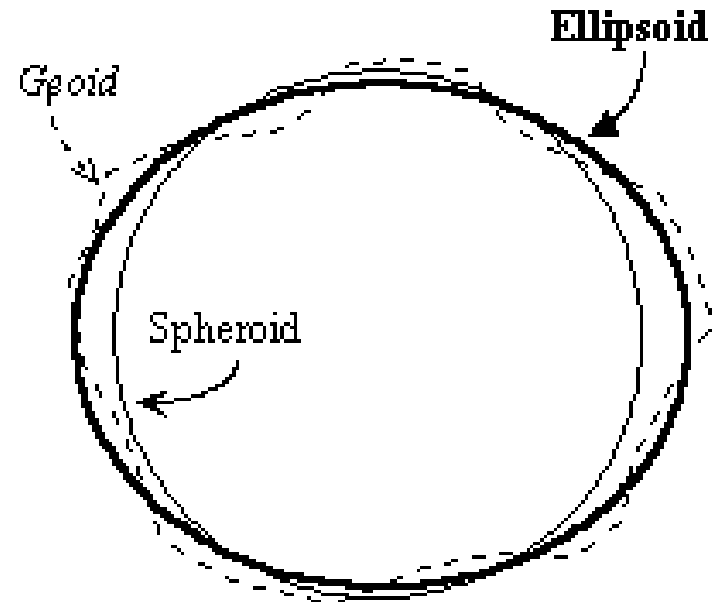
# 1b. The Geoid

Earth is not a perfect sphere, it is ellipsoidal ..

The difference between the length of the two axes = the amount of 'polar flattening' is about 1/300 (0.3%)



An ellipsoid is formed by rotating an ellipse on its shorter axis



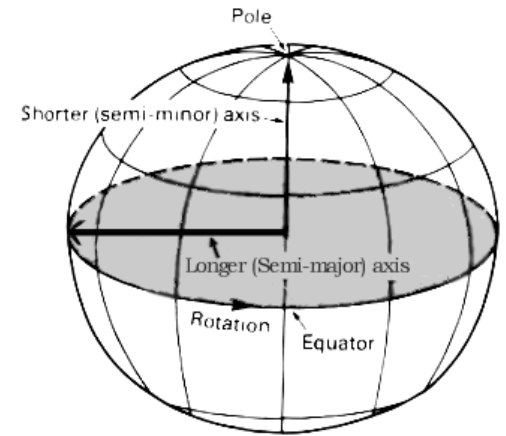
99.7% soccer ball  
0.3% 'football'



# Official Ellipsoids

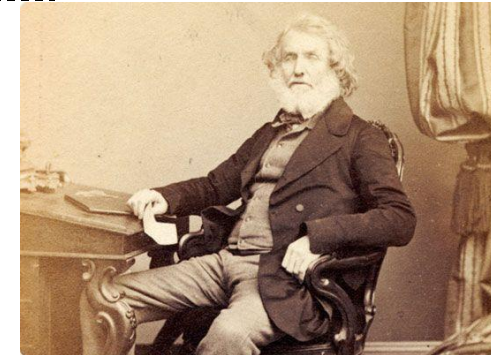
(part of the study of *Geodesy*)

(from J. Snyder, *Map Projections--A Working Manual*)



An ellipsoid is formed by rotating an ellipse on its shorter axis

| Name          | Date        | Equatorial                  | Polar                       | Polar Flattening |
|---------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
|               |             | Radius <i>a</i><br>(metres) | Radius <i>b</i><br>(metres) |                  |
| <b>WGS 84</b> | <b>1984</b> | <b>6,378,137</b>            | <b>6,356,752</b>            | <b>1/298</b>     |
| GRS 80        | 1980        | 6,378,137                   | 6,356,752                   | 1/298            |
| WGS 72        | 1972        | 6,378,135                   | 6,356,750                   | 1/298            |
| International | 1924        | 6,378,388                   | 6,356,912                   | 1/297            |
| <b>Clarke</b> | <b>1866</b> | <b>6,378,206</b>            | <b>6,356,584</b>            | <b>1/295</b>     |
| Everest       | 1830        | 6,377,276                   | 6,356,075                   | 1/301            |



# Datums (do we need to know this?)

'Datum' = "a set of values that serve as a base for mapping"

a. *North American Datum, NAD27 (1927) based on Clarke 1866*

b. *North American Datum, NAD83 based on GRS80/WGS 1984*

-> NAD27 was the datum for mapping in most of the 20th century

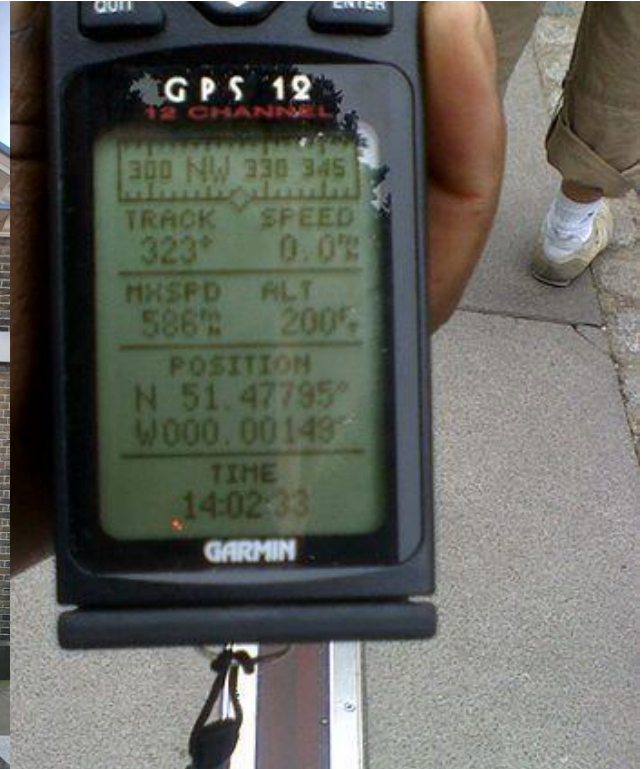
-> NAD83 is the current datum for digital mapping / GIS data

-> The two can differ by ~ **70 metres** (x) and **170 metres** (y)

*New millennium: you can 'almost' forget about NAD27 ....*

*but when UNBC opened in 1994, we still had a lot of NAD27 mapping*

# The datum shift: e.g. Greenwich prime meridian 1884 - 1984 W000.00149°



1 of 15 - Royal Observatory: Meridian Building

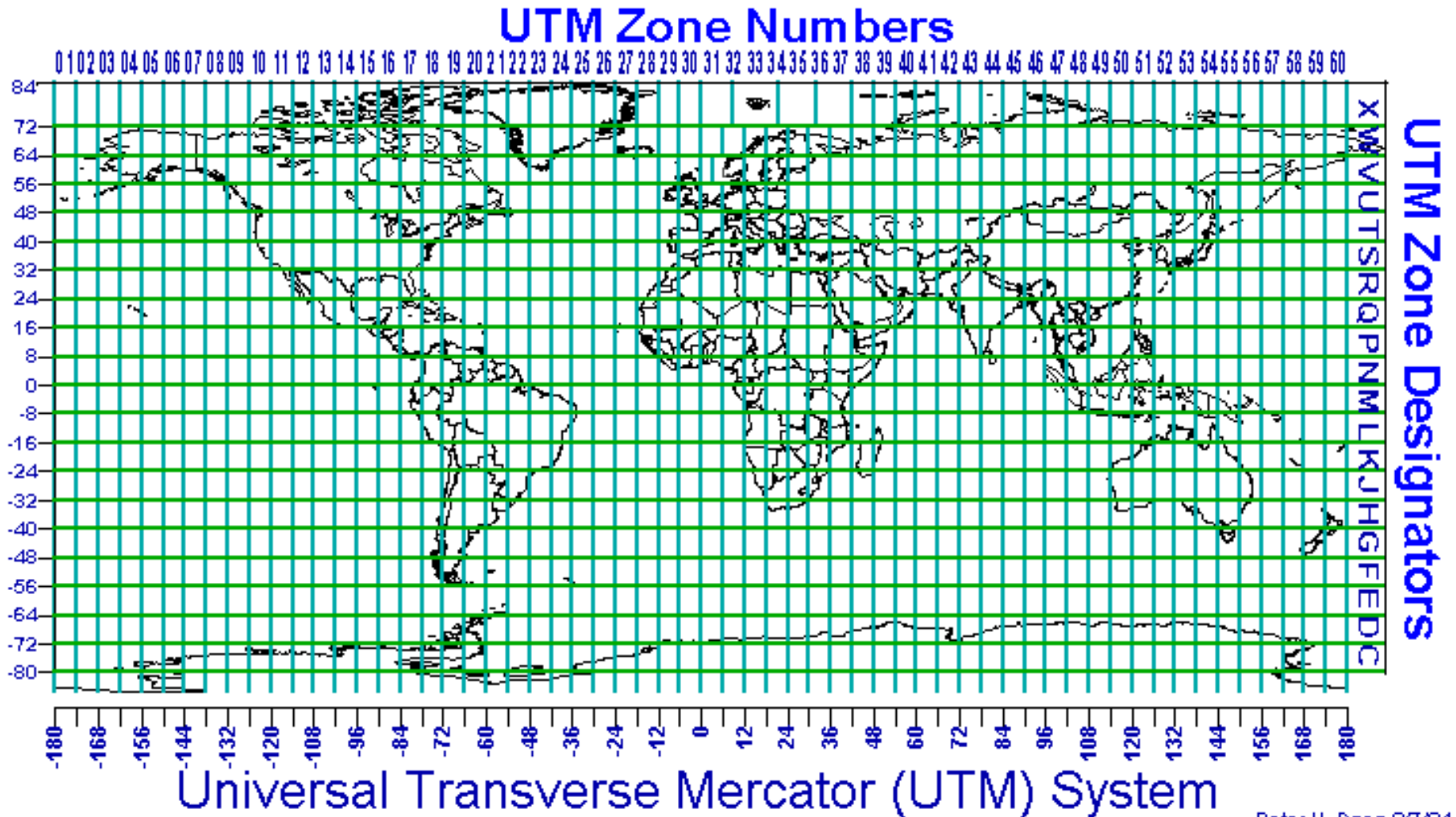


The Meridian switch is a minor conversion

## 2. Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) System Coordinates

this bit is harder so pay attention ...

The world is divided into  $60 \times 6^\circ$  longitude (vertical) strips numbered 1 - 60 from 180 degrees West to 180 degrees East



# Canada: UTM zones - adopted in 1947 for mapping

the system was either developed by the United States Army Corps of Engineers or the German Wehrmacht

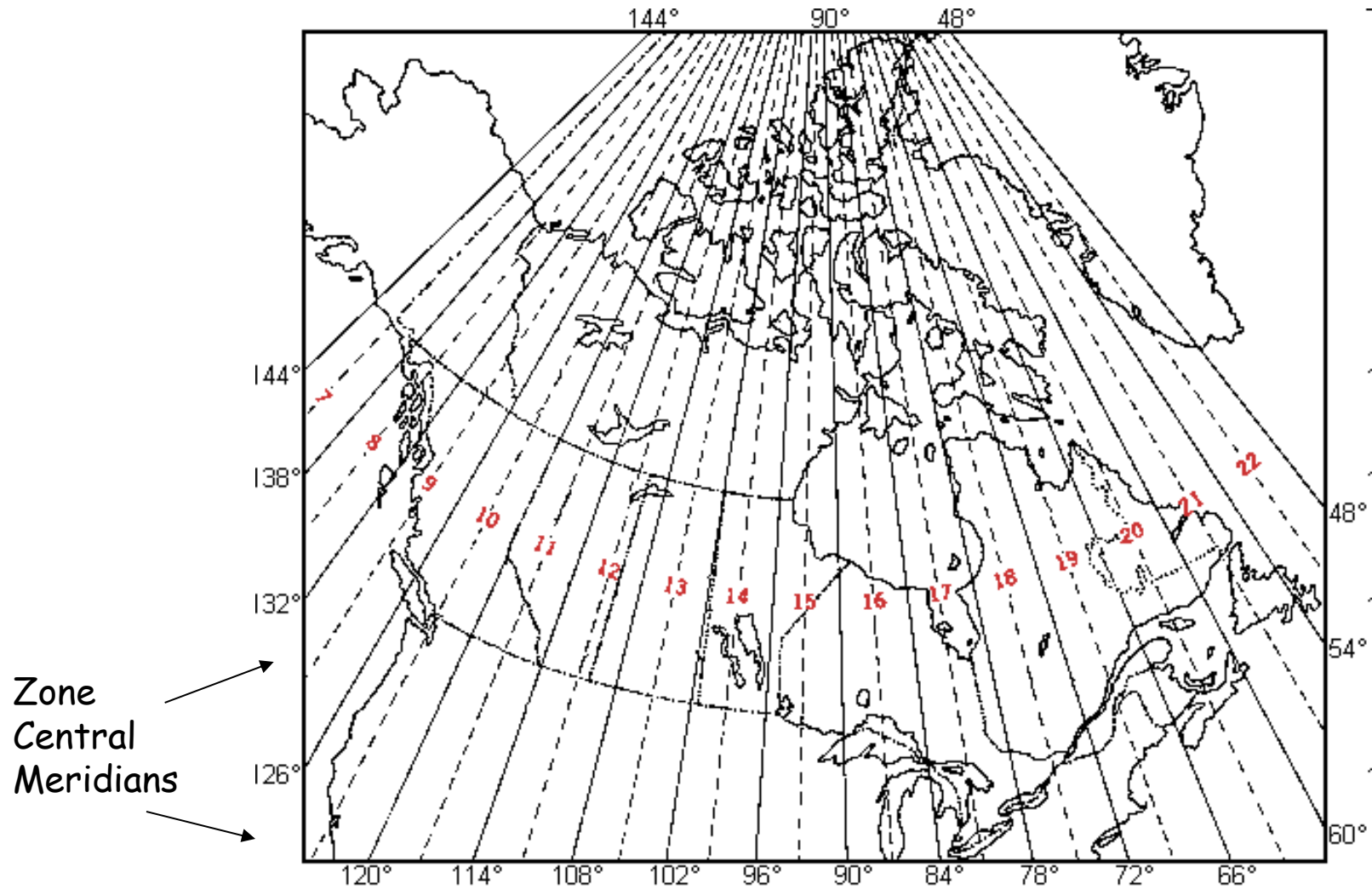


Figure 2 - Zones UTM

- the width of each zone varies from 666 km (6 x 111km) at the equator ...to ~338 km (6 x 55.8 km) at 60° N/S, with a 'central meridian' in the middle

# UTM coordinates

within each zone ...

The 'Y' coordinate Northings (N):

is measured from the Equator (0) –  
to the north pole (10,000,000) ...  
in metres

[this is the metric system]

e.g. UNBC ~ 5,972,000

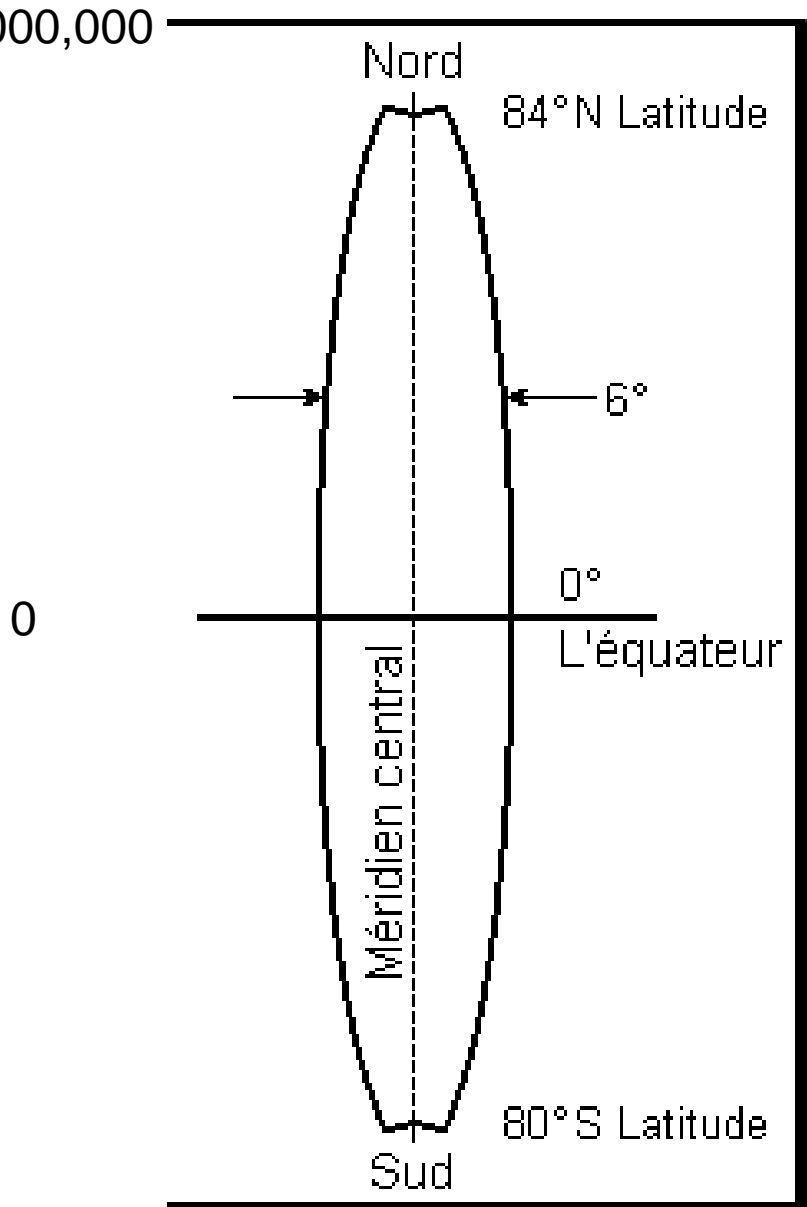
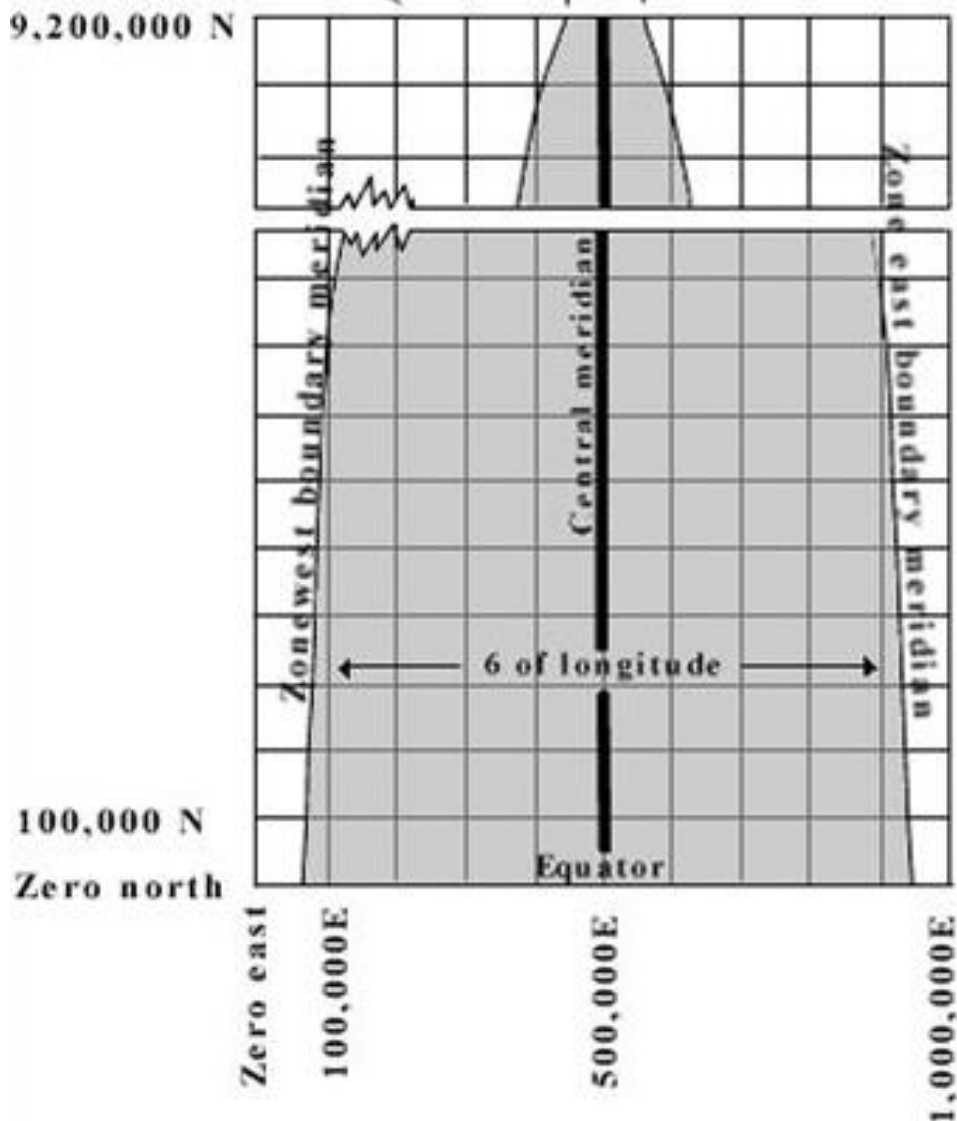


Figure 1 - Zone UTM



## UTM coordinates

The 'x' coordinate

- this is the hardest part ...

Eastings (E) for each zone

- based on the zone

Central Meridian at 500,000

the easting value increases to the east, but not > 1,000,000

the easting value decreases to the west but not below zero

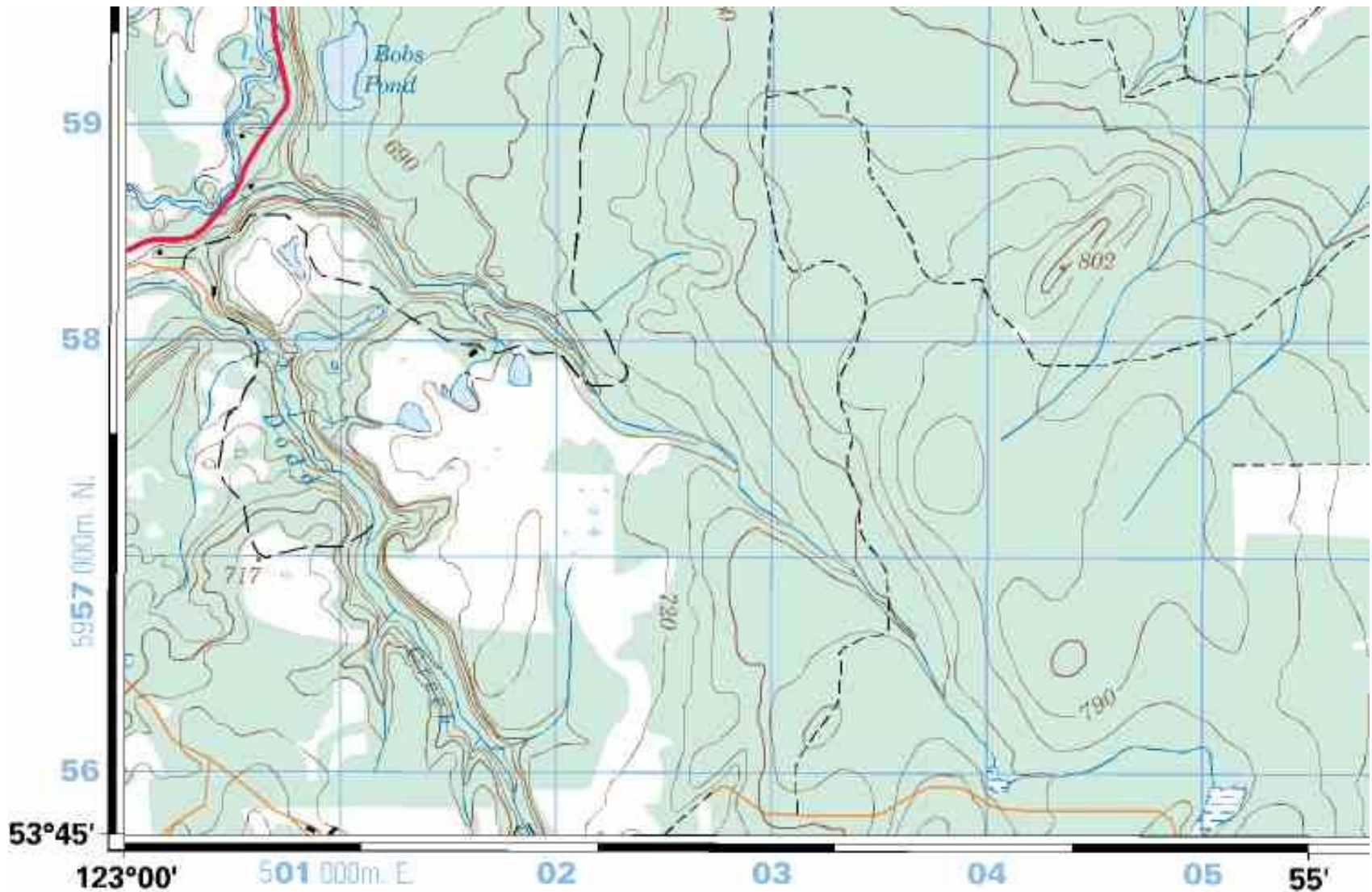
e.g. UNBC ~ 512,000

BC range= ~300,000-700,000

Zone must also be given as Coordinates repeat for each zone- 10 for PG  
Grrrr ... who came up with this crazy scheme !?

# UTM map coordinates - a rectangular system

UTM : Eastings are 6-digit, Northings are 7-digit (in Canada)



Blue grid squares in this map are 1000m = 1km



It may make more sense here : - view these also in the lab

PGMAP: <https://pgmap.princegeorge.ca/Html5Viewer/index.html?viewer=PGMap>

UTM coordinates – or lat/long (geographic)

.. the same in ArcGIS in Lab 1, and Google Earth

Natural Resources Canada and BC Forestry– UTM grid

<https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/earth-sciences/geography/topographic-information/maps/9779>

Coordinates quiz on Moodle end of week, based on this lecture

# The last 3 words on coordinates

<https://what3words.com>



**What3words: The app that can save your life:**

Canada

<https://what3words.com/news/emergency/three-words-to-tell-canadian-emergency-services-exactly-where-you-are>

Lonely Planet

<https://venturebeat.com/mobile/lonely-planet-adopts-what3words-geocoded-navigation-system-to-find-places-using-just-3-words/>