

PRESENTED BY:

# GRID TO GROUND



**RICHARD P. WENZEL,  
P.S.  
SURVEY OPERATIONS  
MANAGER**

# State Plane Coordinates (SPCS)

- Specific system for each state
- Some States divided into multiple zones with different grid systems for each zone
- Ohio has two zones; north and south



# State Plane Coordinates – Units

NAD 27 – Coordinates in U.S. Survey Feet

NAD 83 – Coordinates Metric w/State Defined Foot  
Conversions

1 meter = 3.280833333 U.S. Survey Feet

1 meter = 3.280839895 International Feet

Difference is ~ 1:500,000

U.S. Survey foot used in Ohio

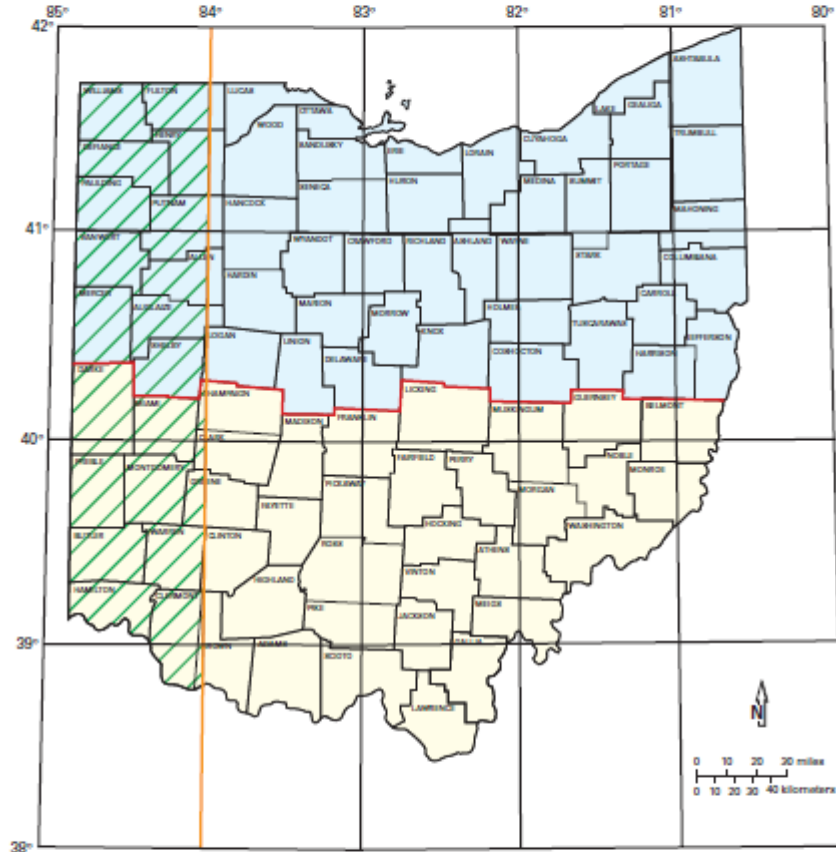


STATE OF OHIO  
Bob Taft, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
Samuel W. Speck, Director

DIVISION OF GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
Thomas M. Berg, Chief

### LATITUDE-LONGITUDE GRID, UTM ZONE BOUNDARY, AND STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM ZONE BOUNDARY



	UTM ZONE 16	UTM ZONE 17
STATE PLANE NORTH		
STATE PLANE SOUTH		



# NAD 27 to NAD 83 (1986) Position and Coordinate Shifts

## Geodetic vs State Plane

Clark 1928

### Geodetic Position

Datum	Latitude	Longitude
NAD 27	40° 03' 09.89400"	82° 58' 35.2650"
NAD 83	40° 03' 10.12158"	82° 58' 34.92303"
Difference	00° 00' 00.22758"	00° 00' 00.34197"

North 23.06 feet

East 25.17 feet

Overall position shift of 34.14 feet NE

### State Plane Coordinates

Datum	Northing (Y)	Easting (X)
NAD 27	748,005.80 ft.	1,866,612.19 ft.
NAD 83	748,034.32 ft.	1,835,142.41 ft.
Difference	+37.52 ft.	-31,469.78 ft.

*Overall shift is 6 miles East!*



# Datum Transformation Software

Federally produced datum transformation software is available free of charge for NOAA's National Geodetic Survey web site:

<http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/TOOLS/>

NADCON – NAD 83 vs NAD 27

VERTCON – NAVD 88 vs NGVD 29

HTDP – between a variety of reference frames

UTMS – UTM vs lat./long.

SPCS83 – State Plane 83 vs lat./long.

GPPCGP – State Plane 27 vs lat./long.



# State Plane Coordinates

What are they?

Where did they come from?

Why do we need them?

Who uses them?



# What are they?

Ohio Surveying Laws defines what we call State Plane Coordinates.

Ohio's State Plane Coordinate System is a means to report survey courses (Direction and Distances) and the resulting coordinate values on a single plane. This allows for conformity between surveys, preservation of data and a means of dealing with problems associated with the earth's curvature.





# Where did they come from?

The Coast and Geodetic Survey developed a projection system unique to each state.

These systems would allow cartesian coordinates, or conventional surveying methods (departures, latitudes, and elevations) to be expressed on a single flat plane. Each state's system was established using either the Transverse Mercator (Cylindrical) or the Lambert Conformal (Cone) projection. The choice of which system and the number of systems for each state dealt mainly with the shape and size of the state. Minimal differences between ground (cartesian) and grid distances was desirable. Maximum distortion was set at 1 in 10,000. Holding this proposed adjustment limit meant Ohio needed two Zones. Lambert was chosen and in 1933 the system was adopted into law. The System was later revised and created two new systems. The old system is now known as the Ohio Coordinate System of 1927 and the new as Ohio Coordinate System of 1983.



# Why do we need them?

Why we need State Plane Coordinate Systems today is seemingly no different from the needs of those whom envisioned, developed, and implemented the systems over 70 years ago. We reside and work almost entirely on the earth's surface but would like to deal mathematically with a flat surface when it comes to surveying.

Technological advancements, accumulation of survey data and the need to interrelate data over ever larger and larger areas.

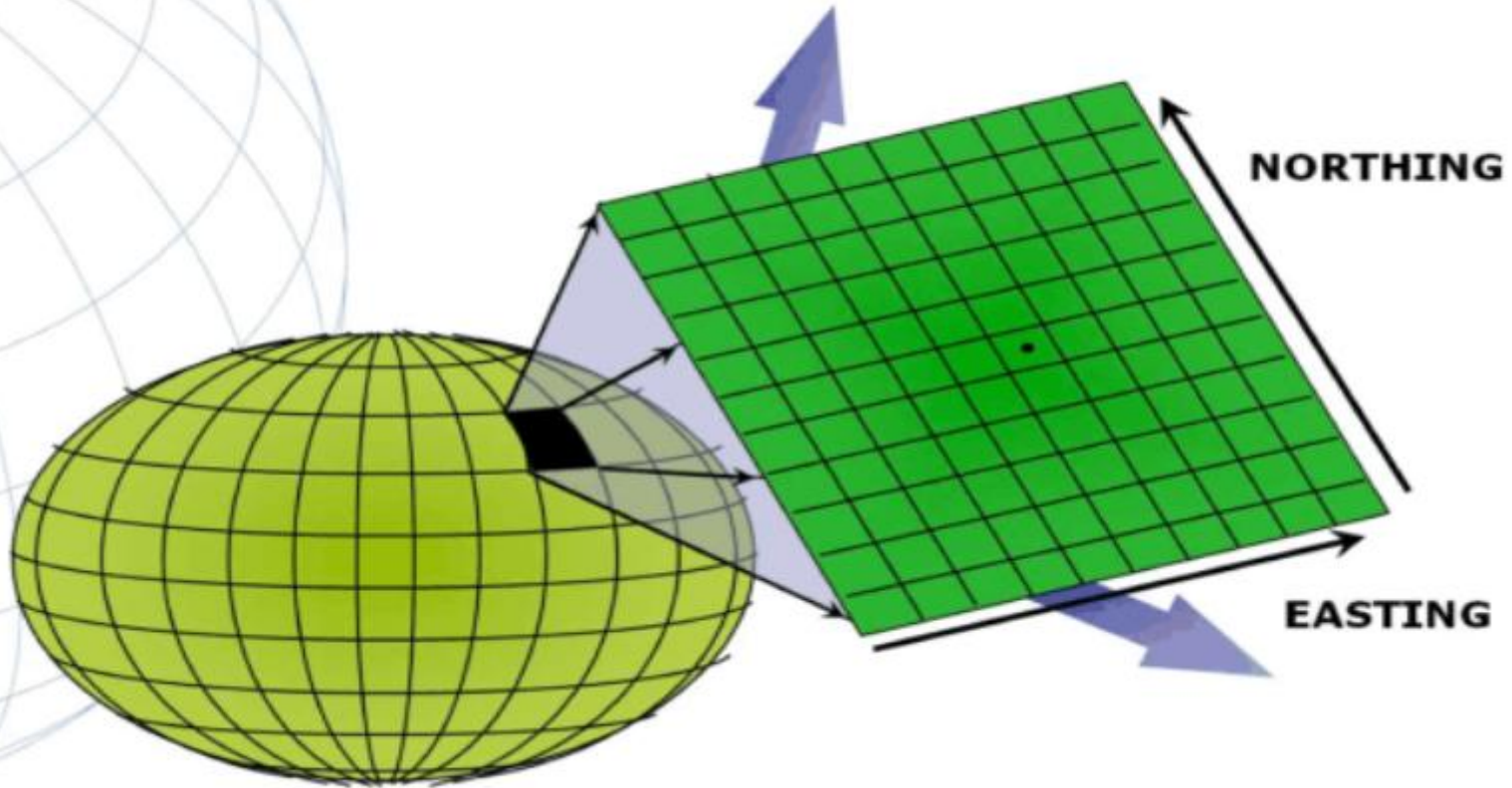


# Who uses them?

Everyone in the surveying profession. Well, at least in some way or another we all do. State Plane Coordinates are the basis for nearly all Government and Private GIS Systems. In the past the Geodetic values (Latitude, Longitude, and Elevation) was an acceptable means to report the position of a point or monument. Now, more and more governmental agencies require at least some reporting in State Plane Coordinates for construction projects, subdivisions, and boundary surveys. If you are not using the system now, you will likely need to in the near future.



# So What Is A Projection



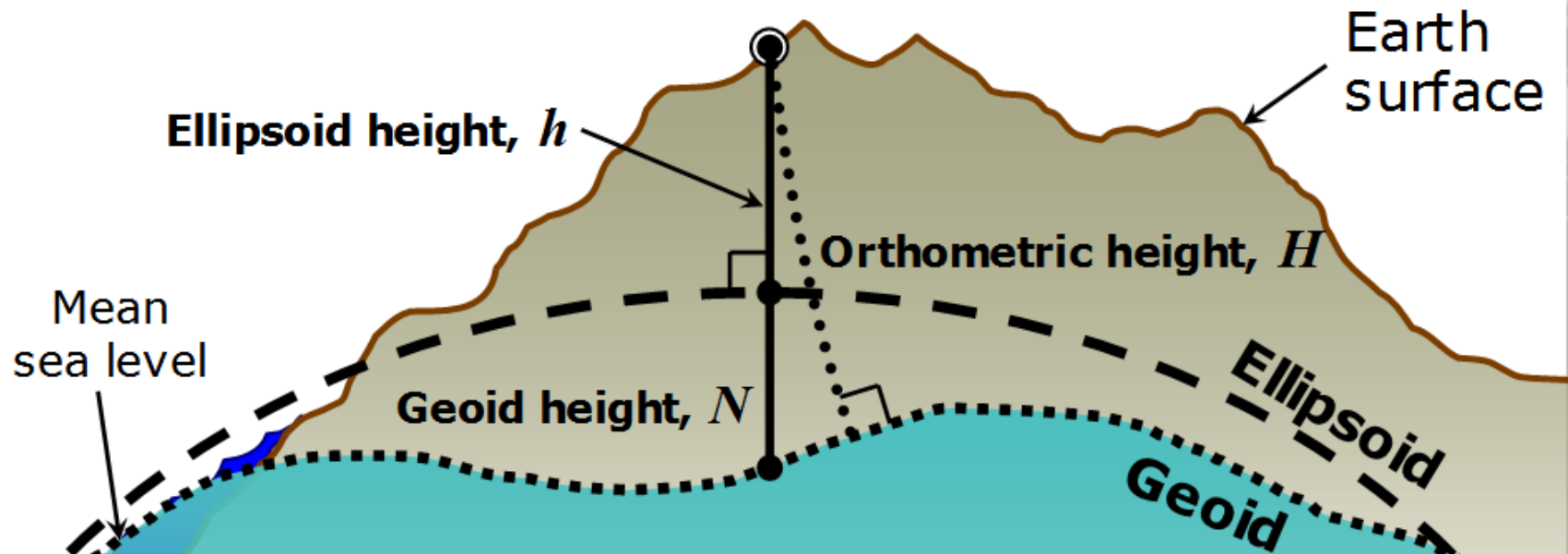
# Map Projection

A Map Projection converts the data associated with a given point by projecting from one surface to another. Measurements taken on the earth's surface called ground distances and surface coordinates are converted to ellipsoidal distances and coordinates. Ellipsoidal data is further converted (projected onto the flat surface) to grid distances and coordinates. Although the mathematics involved with these conversions can be completed using a scientific calculator the process from ground to grid is much easier than grid to ground. We will not cover the formulas, but instead refer you to published articles and books covering the topic. Here in Ohio, our Map projection system consist of two zones, North or South. Both zones are Lambert Conformal (Cone) projections, utilizing a submerged cone and the mathematical shape used to best represent the earth's surface (Ellipsoid). Two zones were required to limit distortion to less then the 1 in 10,000 originally proposed. However there are many people, businesses, and public agencies attempting to create an alternative system using a single zone. Agencies such as ODOT frequently have large scale projects located in both zones causing confusion. Also the maintenance of two zones creates problems for statewide GIS data. A single zone would alleviate some problems but of course, create others.



# Ground vs Geodetic vs Grid

$$H \approx h - N$$



Note: Geoid height is **negative** everywhere in the coterminous US

# Three Distances

“GROUND” DISTANCE = NORMAL TO GRAVITY BETWEEN TWO POINTS

“GEODETIC” DISTANCE = ALONG THE ELLIPSOID

“GRID” DISTANCE = ALONG THE MAP PROJECTION SURFACE

---

PROJECTED COORDINATES ARE ALWAYS DISTORTED!!!



# Definitions

**GRID SCALE Factor:** Multiplier to change geodetic distances based on the Earth model (ellipsoid) to the grid plane.

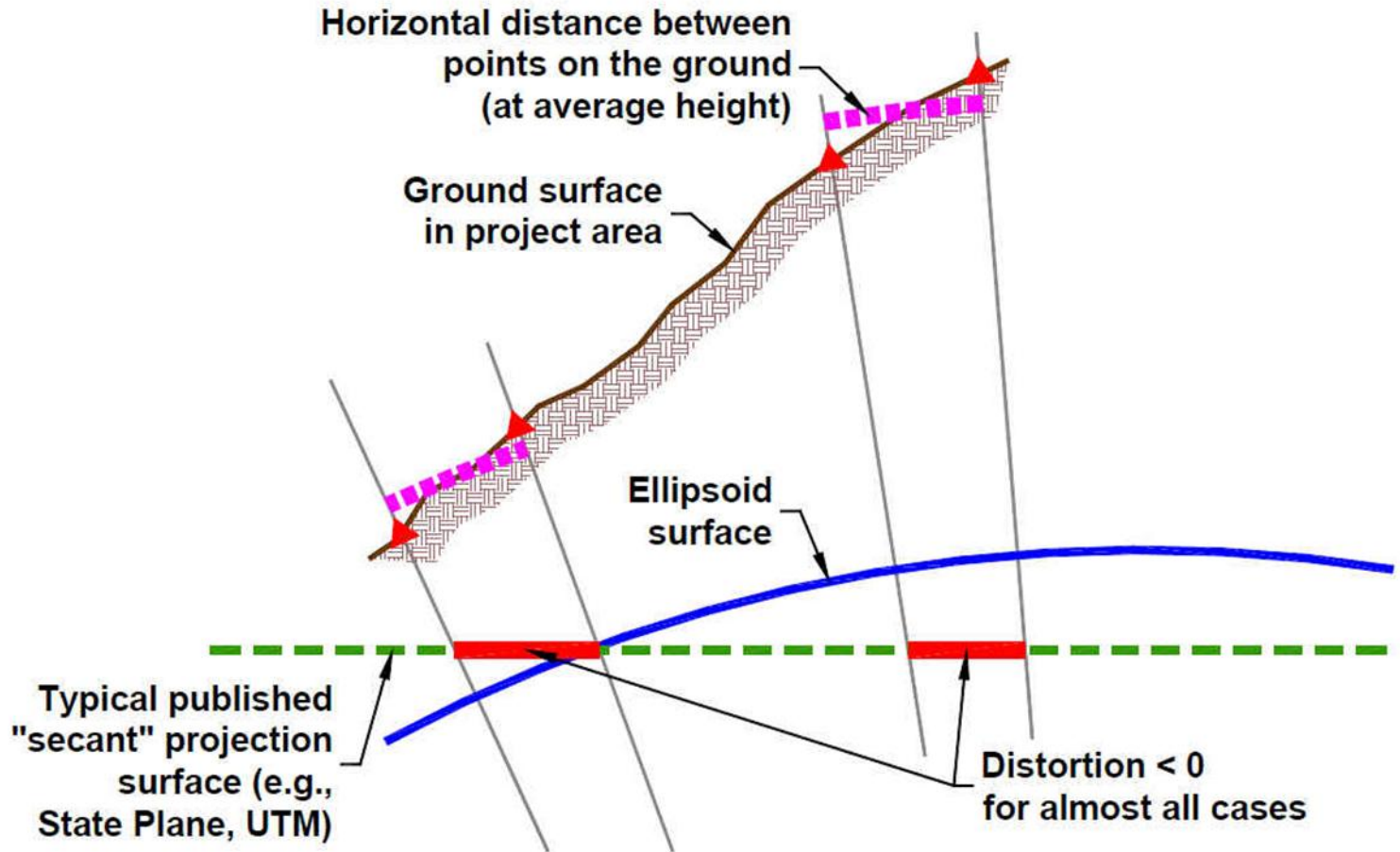
**ELEVATION Factor (a.k.a. Sea Level Reduction or Ellipsoid Reduction Factor):** Multiplier to change horizontal ground distances to geodetic (ellipsoid) distances

**GRID-ELEVATION or COMBINED Factor:** Grid Scale Factor times the Elevation Factor. This factor changes horizontal ground distances to grid distances

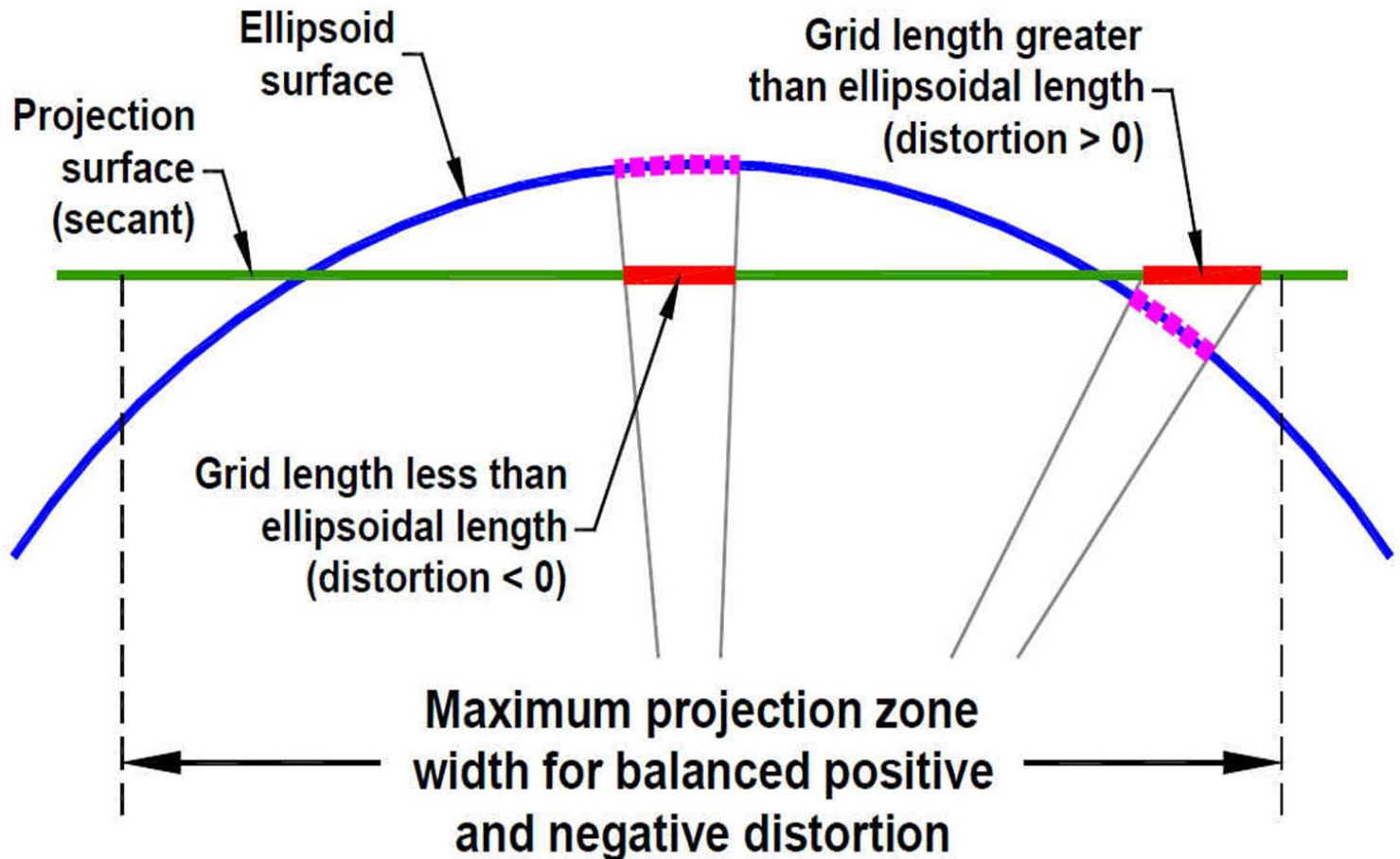




# Linear distortion due to ground height above ellipsoid

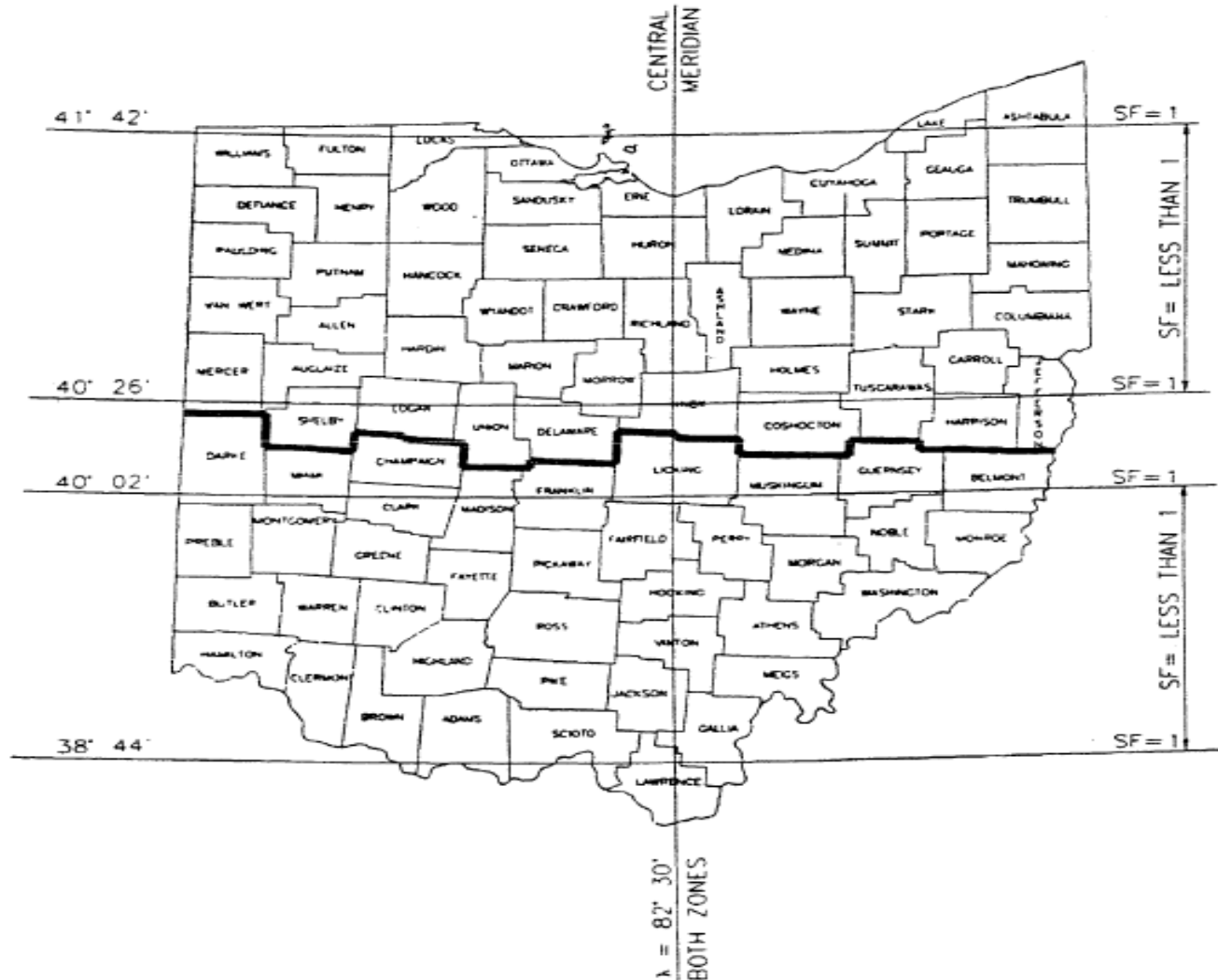


# Linear distortion due to Earth curvature

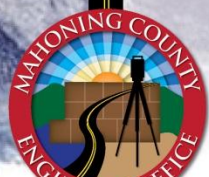


# Figure 14

## OHIO COORDINATE ZONES AND SCALE FACTORS



Dark line along county lines divides N. and S. zones.  
Scale Factor is greater than 1 outside SF=1 lines.



# AZIMUTH RELATIONSHIP

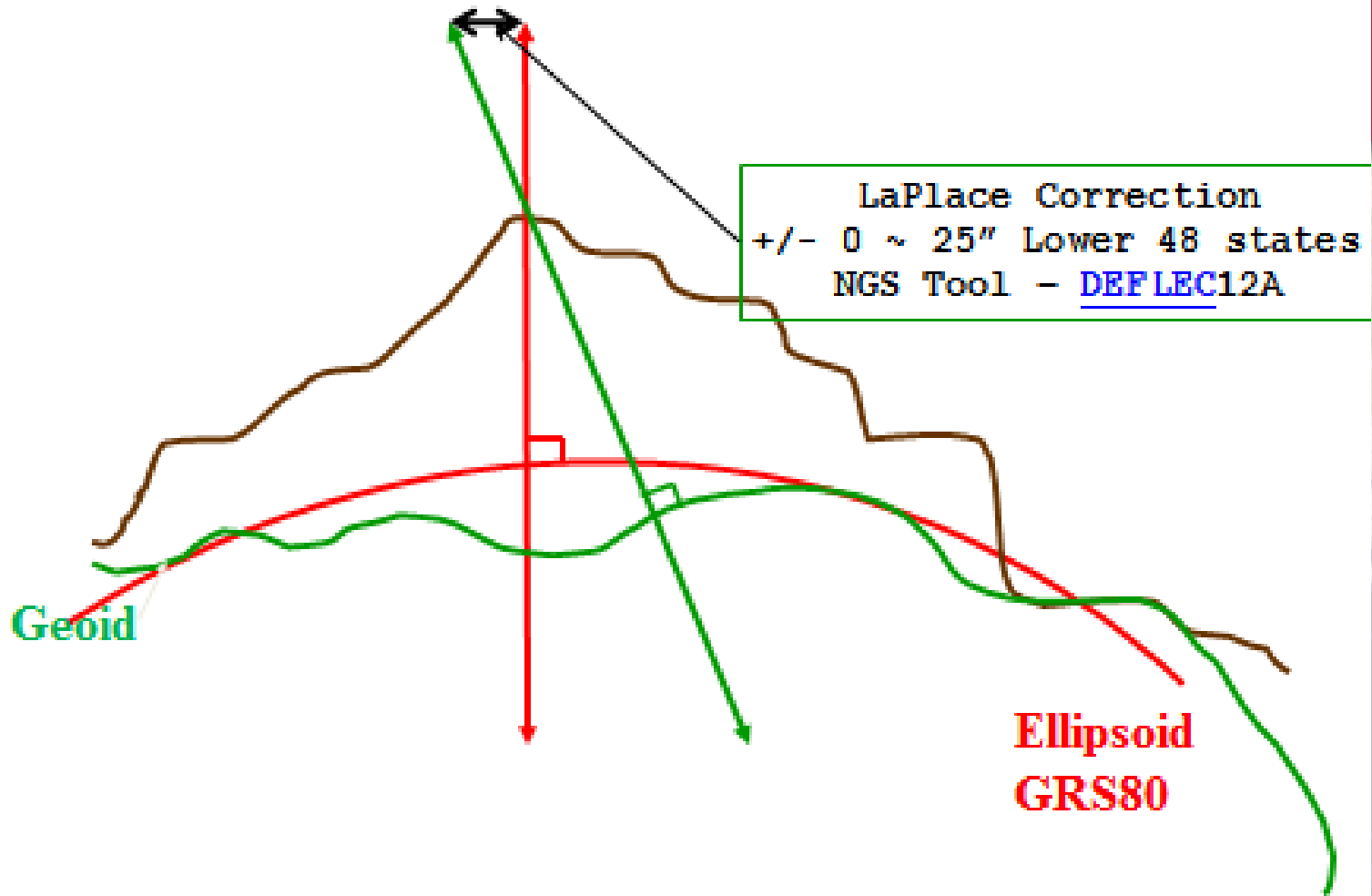
**“True” Azimuth** – Derived from astronomic observations (e.g. Solar/Polaris) –this can usually be considered the same as a geodetic azimuth.

**Geodetic Azimuth** – Derived from the inverse between two points of known latitude and longitude, or from a LaPlace corrected astronomic azimuth or a grid azimuth with the mapping angle ( $\alpha$ ) applied

**Grid Azimuth** – Derived from the inverse between two points defined in northing & easting, or from a geodetic azimuth - the mapping angle (e.g. State Plane, UTM, local grid coordinates)

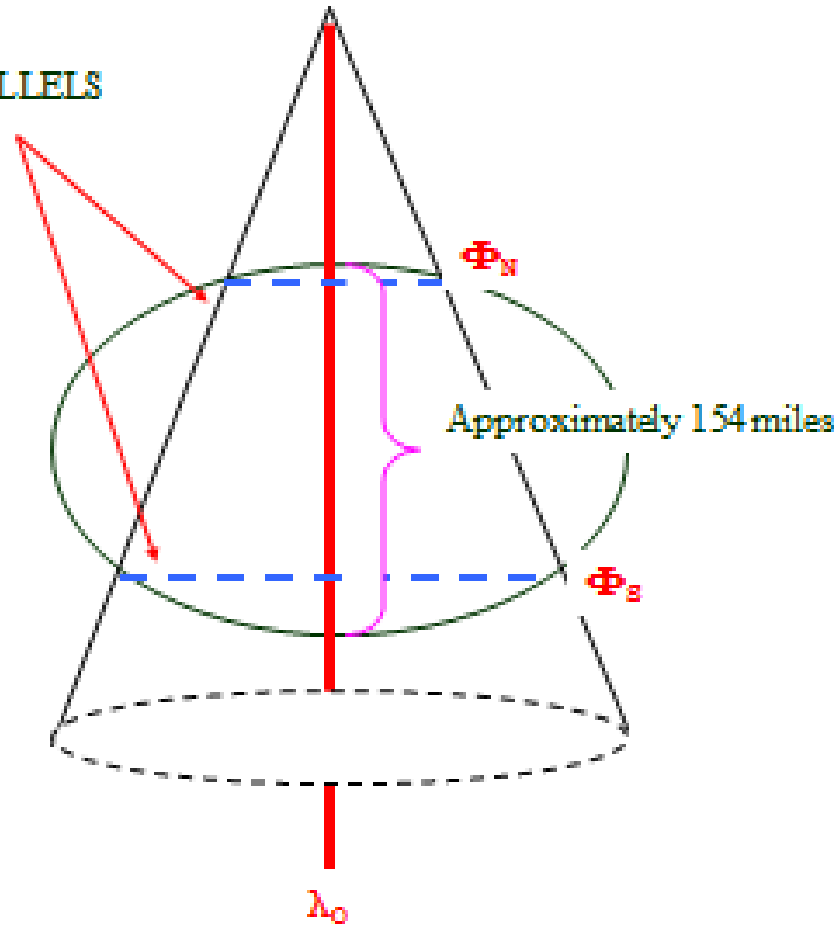


# ELLIPSOID - GEOID RELATIONSHIP



# LAMBERT CONFORMAL CONIC WITH 2 STANDARD PARALLELS

STANDARD PARALLELS

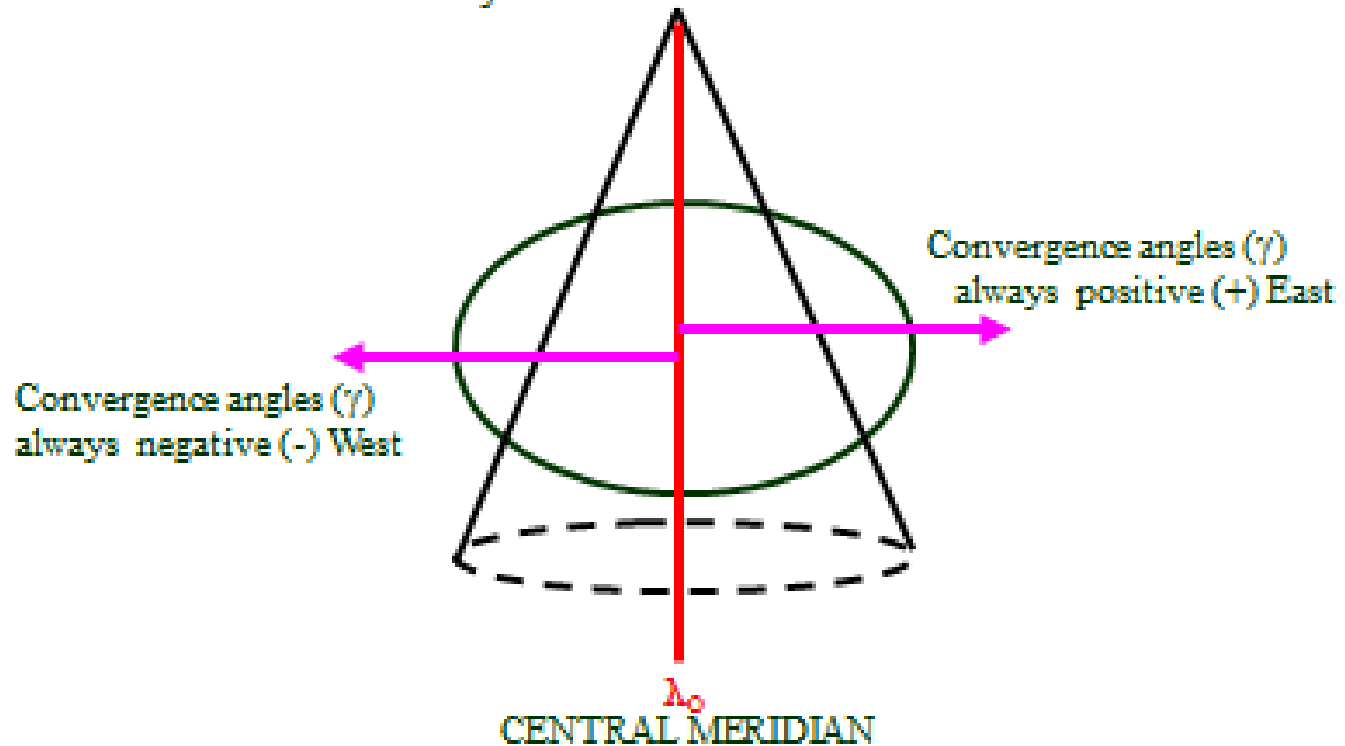


CENTRAL MERIDIAN



# CONVERGENCE ANGLE (Mapping Angle)

The Convention of the Sign of the Convergence Angle  
is Always From Grid To Geodetic



# STATE PLANE COORDINATE COMPUTATION

STRAUSS (pid KW0527)

N = 428,395.86 U.S. Survey Feet

E = 2,401,859.97 U.S. Survey Feet

Orthometric Height (H) = 642.24 Feet

Geoid Height (N) = - 113.32 Feet

Laplace Correction = - 2.6"

Grid Scale Factor (k) = 0.99995985

Meridian Convergence ( $\gamma$ ) = + 1° 00' 39.8"

Observed Astro Azimuth ( $\alpha_A$ ) = 253° 26' 14.9"

Horizontal Distance (D) = 3,314.91 Feet





# STATE PLANE COORDINATE COMPUTATION

$$N_1 = N + (S_g \times \cos \alpha_g)$$
$$E_1 = E + (S_g \times \sin \alpha_g)$$

Where:

N = Starting Northing Coordinate

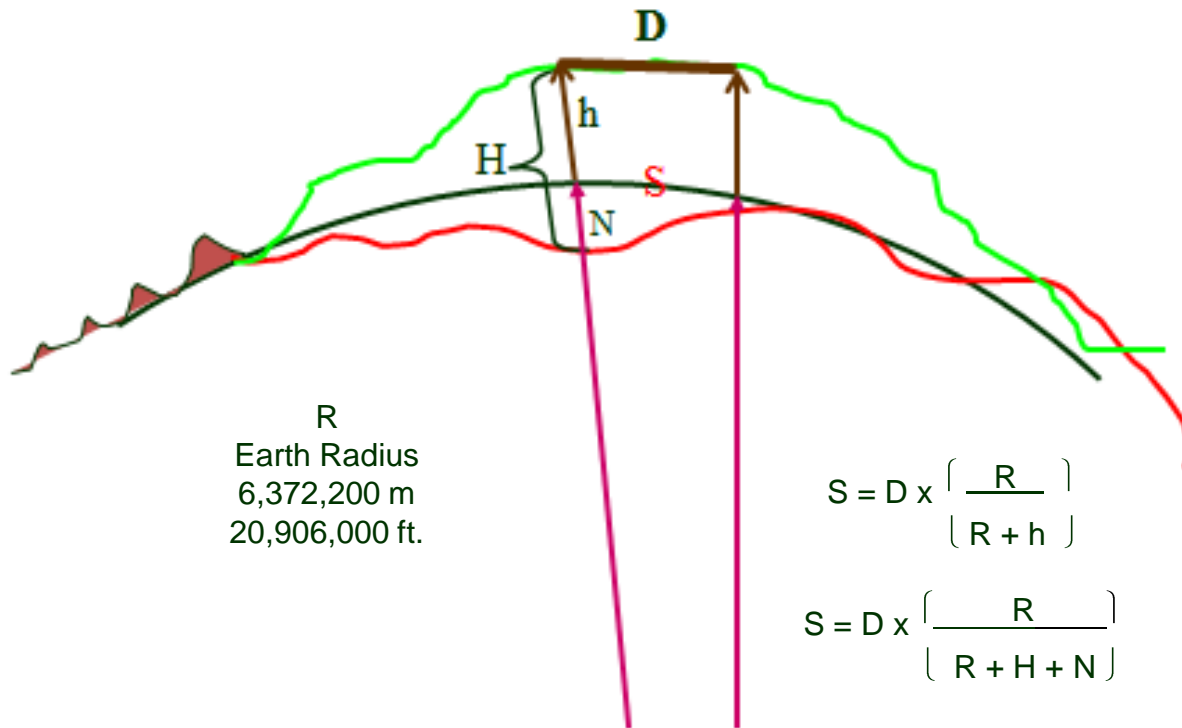
E = Starting Easting Coordinates

$S_g$  = Grid Distance

$\alpha_g$  = Grid Azimuth



# REDUCTION TO ELLIPSOID



R  
Earth Radius  
6,372,200 m  
20,906,000 ft.

$$S = D \times \left[ \frac{R}{R+h} \right]$$

$$S = D \times \left[ \frac{R}{R+H+N} \right]$$



# REDUCTION TO ELLIPSOID

## The correct method

$$R = \frac{N}{1 - e'^2 \cos^2 \phi \cos^2 \alpha}$$

**WHERE:**

$$N = \frac{a}{(1 - e'^2 \cos^2 \phi)^{1/2}}$$

$$e'^2 = (a^2 - b^2) / b^2$$

N = Radius of Curvature in Azimuth  
a = Ellipsoid semi-major axis  
b = Ellipsoid semi-minor axis  
 $\alpha$  = Azimuth of the line  
 $\phi$  = Latitude of the Station



## REDUCTION TO ELLIPSOID Ellipsoid Ht /Orthometric Ht

$$S_{\text{geodetic}} = D \times [R / (R + h)]$$

$D = 3,314.91$  ft. (Measured Horizontal Distance)  
 $R = 20,906,000$  ft. (Mean Radius of the Earth)  
 $h = H + N$  ( $H = 642$  ft.,  $N = -113$  ft.)  
 $= 529$  ft (Ellipsoid Height)

$$S = 3,314.91 [20,906,000 / 20,906,000 + 529]$$
$$S = 3,314.91 \times 0.99997470$$

$S = 3,314.83$  ft.

$$S_{\text{geodetic}} = 3,314.91 [20,906,000 / 20,906,000 + 642]$$
$$S_{\text{geodetic}} = 3,314.91 \times 0.99996929$$

$S_{\text{geodetic}} = 3,314.81$  ft.

Difference = 0.02 ft. or ~ 1:166,000



# REDUCTION TO ELLIPSOID

## Mean Radius vs. Computed Earth Radius

$$S_{\text{geodetic}} = D \times [R / (R + h)]$$

D = 3,314.91 ft. (Measured Horizontal Distance)

R = 20,906,000 ft. (Mean Radius of the Earth)

R = 20,936,382 ft. (Computed Radius of the Earth)

h = 529

$$S_{\text{geodetic}} = 3,314.91 \text{ ft. } [20,906,000 / 20,906,000 + 529]$$

$$S_{\text{geodetic}} = 3,314.91 \text{ ft. } \times 0.99997470$$

$$S_{\text{geodetic}} = 3,314.83 \text{ ft.}$$

$$S_{\text{geodetic}} = 3,314.91 [20,936,382 / 20,936,282 + 529]$$

$$S_{\text{geodetic}} = 3,314.91 \times 0.99997473$$

$$S_{\text{geodetic}} = 3,314.83 \text{ ft.}$$

Diff = 0.00 ft



GRID SCALE FACTOR ( $k$ ) OF A POINT  
GRID CONVERGENCE ANGLE ( $\gamma$ ) OF A POINT

**Easiest to obtain by using**

**NGS SPCs tool kit utility**

**or**

**CORPSCON**



# GRID SCALE FACTOR (k) OF A LINE

$$k_{12} = (k_1 + 4k_m + k_2) / 6$$

(m = mean of  $k_1$  &  $k_2$ )

Typically the Average Value Works Fine

$$k_{12} = (k_1 + k_2) / 2$$



# REDUCTION TO GRID

$$S_{\text{grid}} = S_{\text{geodetic}} * k \text{ (Grid Scale Factor)}$$

$$S_{\text{grid}} = 3,314.83 \times 0.99995985$$

$$S_{\text{grid}} = 3,314.70 \text{ ft.}$$





# COMBINED FACTOR (CF)

CF = Ellipsoidal Reduction x Grid Scale Factor (k)

$$= 0.000002530 \times 0.999995985$$

$$= 0.999993455$$

$$CF \times D = S_{\text{grid}}$$

$$0.999993455 \times 3,314.91 \text{ ft.} = 3,314.69 \text{ ft.}$$



# GRID AZIMUTH COMPUTATION

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_{\text{grid}} &= \alpha_{\text{astro}} + \text{Laplace Correction} - \text{Convergence Angle } (\gamma) \\ &= 253^{\circ} 26' 14.9'' \text{ (Observed Astro Azimuth)} \\ &\quad - 2.6'' \text{ (Laplace Correction)} \\ &= 253^{\circ} 26' 12.3'' \text{ (Geodetic Azimuth)} \\ &\quad - 1^{\circ} 00' 39.8'' \text{ (Convergence Angle)} \\ &= 252^{\circ} 25' 32.5'' \text{ (Grid Azimuth)}\end{aligned}$$

The convention of the sign of the convergence angle is always from Grid to Geodetic



# STATE PLANE COORDINATE COMPUTATION

$$N1 = N + (S_{\text{grid}} \times \cos \alpha_{\text{grid}})$$

$$E1 = E + (S_{\text{grid}} \times \sin \alpha_{\text{grid}})$$

$$\begin{aligned} N1 &= 428,395.86 + (3,314.70 \times \text{Cos } 252^\circ 25' 32.5'') \\ &= 428,395.86 + (3,314.70 \times -0.301942400) \\ &= 428,395.86 + (-1,000.85) \\ &= 427,395.01 \text{ U.S. Survey Feet} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E1 &= 2,401,859.97 + (3,314.70 \times \text{Sin } 252^\circ 25' 32.5'') \\ &= 2,401,859.97 + (3,314.70 \times -0.953326170) \\ &= 2,401,859.97 + (-3,159.99) \\ &= 2,398,699.98 \text{ U.S. Survey Feet} \end{aligned}$$



A satellite view of Earth's surface, showing continents and oceans. A red horizontal band is overlaid across the top half of the image.

GROUND LEVEL COORDINATES  
SURFACE LEVEL COORDINATES  
PROJECT DATUM COORDINATES  
LOW DISTORTION PROJECTIONS

“I WANT STATE PLANE COORDINATES RAISED  
TO GROUND LEVEL”

GROUND LEVEL COORDINATES ARE **NOT** STATE  
PLANE COORDINATES!!!!!!



# GROUND LEVEL COORDINATE NUISANCES

RAPID DISTORTIONS\*

PROJECTS DIFFICULT TO TIE TOGETHER\*

CONFUSION OF COORDINATE SYSTEMS

LACK OF DOCUMENTATION\*

\*Can be minimized with LDP



A satellite-style map of the world is shown in the background, with a red banner at the top. The banner contains the title text. The map shows the Americas, Europe, and Africa.

# GROUND LEVEL COORDINATES “IF YOU DO”

TRUNCATE COORDINATE VALUES  
SUCH AS:

N = 404,648.89 ft. becomes 4,648.89

E = 26,341,246.75 ft. becomes 1,246.75

and

**DOCUMENT!!!**

