

















June 2024

## **Movement Data**

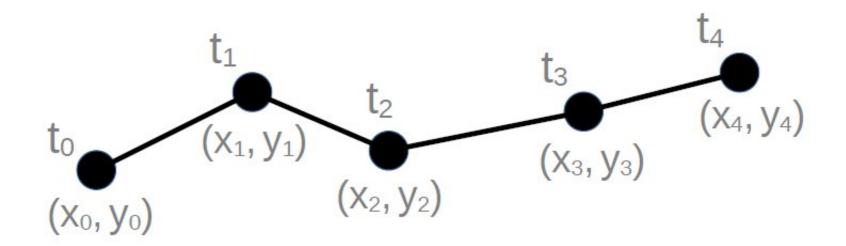
Defining movement, space and time



## Definition of Movement

Movement is defined as **location(s)** through time.

Movement is a spatio-temporal object, therefore **correct definition of space and time** is fundamental to manipulate the data in an appropriate way.

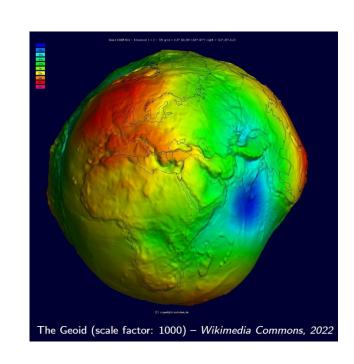




# Defining SPACE

How do we agree on where things are on Earth? We need to place them on a **reference system!** 

 Geoid: geometric shape of the Earth → approximated as a rotating sphere (ellipsoid)



### Geographical coordinate system

The Geographic Coordinate System (GCS) is spherical and uses angles to define a location on Earth:

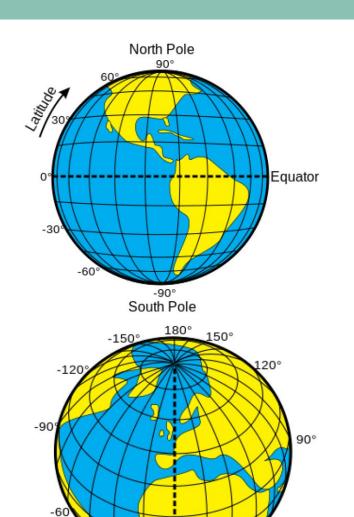
- **Equatorial plane**: simply derivable from the axis of rotation (natural)
- **Prime Meridian**: Artificially defined, Eastern and Western hemisphere
- Latitude: angle between equatorial plane and plane perpendicular of rotating sphere at the point
- **Longitude**: angle between Prime Meridian and a plane through North and South pole at point

The Geographic Coordinate System is using **360 longitudes and 180 latitudes** and uses the following systems:

DD Decimal Degrees (29.1000°,-113.3000°)

DM Degrees Decimal Minutes (39°33.0', -125°31.0')

DMS Degrees Minutes Seconds (e.g. 39°23'05" N, 113°27'01" W)

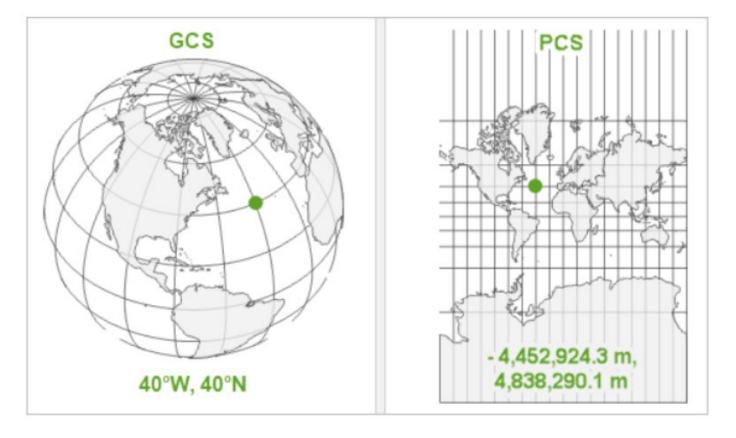




Prime Meridian

### Projected coordinate system

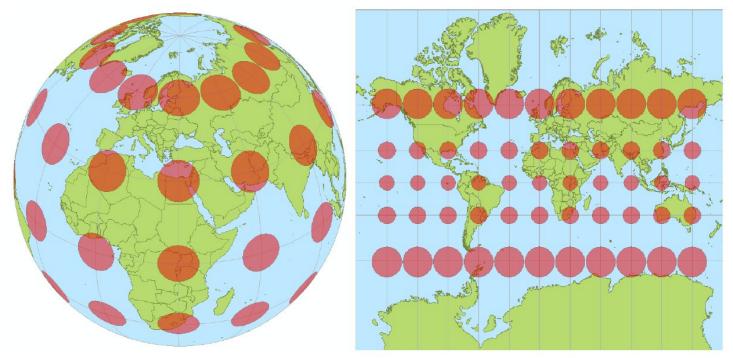
The Earth is approximately a sphere, but paper maps and computer screens are flat. A **projected coordinate system (PCS)** tells us how data located on this sphere can be drawn in 2D (metres).





### Projections and distortions

It is not possible to flatten the skin of a peeled orange on the table without crinkles and cuts, meaning..



Distortions visualized for the often-used Mercator projection: Direction and shapes are correct, but area and distance are distorted – Wikimedia Commons, 2022

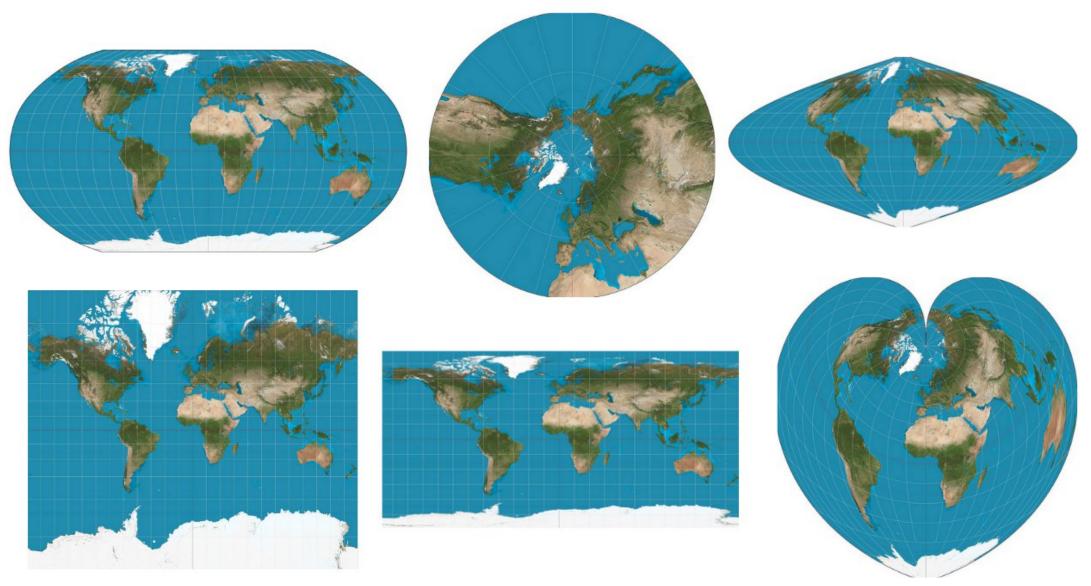


..we cannot map a geometric feature on a sphere in 2D without some degree of distortion in at least 2 of four fundamental geometric properties:

shape, area, distance and direction.



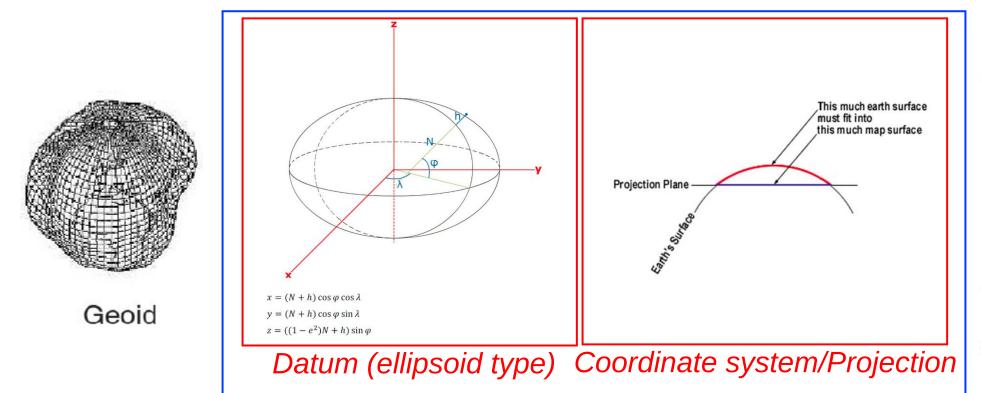
## Shapes of continents in different projections

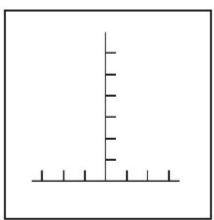




## Coordinate Reference System (CRS)

A CRS describes a projection, mathematical warping/transformation of the spherical data (3D) into a planar system (2D).





Planar map with coordinate system

Coordinate Reference System (CRS)



## Defining the Coordinate Reference System (CRS)

A CRS describes a projection, mathematical warping/transformation of the spherical data (3D) into a planar system (2D). It consists of:

- Datum: defines the type of ellipsoid approximating the sphere and how it is placed (e.g. the popular WGS84)
- Coordinate System: projecting a coordinate grid of some sort onto the geodetic datum
- Units: spatial measure used by the CRS, e.g. meters, feets, degrees.

#### Human-readble CRS designation:

Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS84) Zone 32N

#### **Authority ID:**

EPSG:32632

#### Proj4 string:

+proj=utm +zone=32 +datum=WGS84 +units=m +no\_defs

Helpful webpages to find **projections definitions** for R: *https://epsg.io/* and *http://spatialreference.org/* 

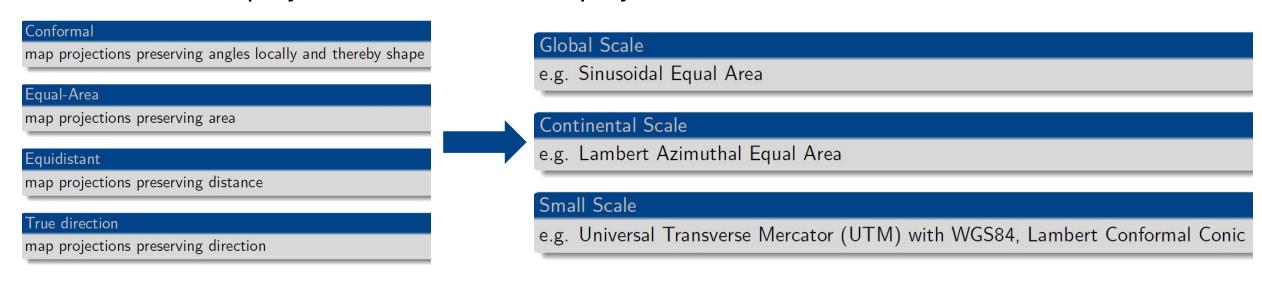
#### Well-known text (WKT)

```
PROJCRS ["WGS 84 / UTM zone 32N",
    BASEGEOGCRS["WGS 84",
        DATUM["World Geodetic System 1984",
            ELLIPSOID ["WGS 84",6378137,298.257223563,
                LENGTHUNIT["metre",1]],
        PRIMEM["Greenwich",0,
            ANGLEUNIT ["degree", 0.0174532925199433]],
        ID ["EPSG", 4326]],
    CONVERSION ["UTM zone 32N",
        METHOD["Transverse Mercator",
            ID["EPSG",9807]],
        PARAMETER["Latitude of natural origin",0,
            ANGLEUNIT ["degree", 0.0174532925199433],
            ID ["EPSG", 8801]],
        PARAMETER["Longitude of natural origin",9,
            ANGLEUNIT ["degree", 0.0174532925199433],
            ID["EPSG",8802]].
        PARAMETER["Scale factor at natural origin", 0.9996,
            SCALEUNIT ["unity",1],
            ID["EPSG",8805]].
```



### Which projection to choose

It depends on **scale**, **purpose** of analysis, CRS of **other spatial data** that we need to work with. Correctly defining the CRS is fundamental to **minimise the distortion** in the measures we are interested in (not more than 2), and to be able to **use data from different sources** and reproject them to a uniform projection.



Helpful webpages to understand and choose projections:

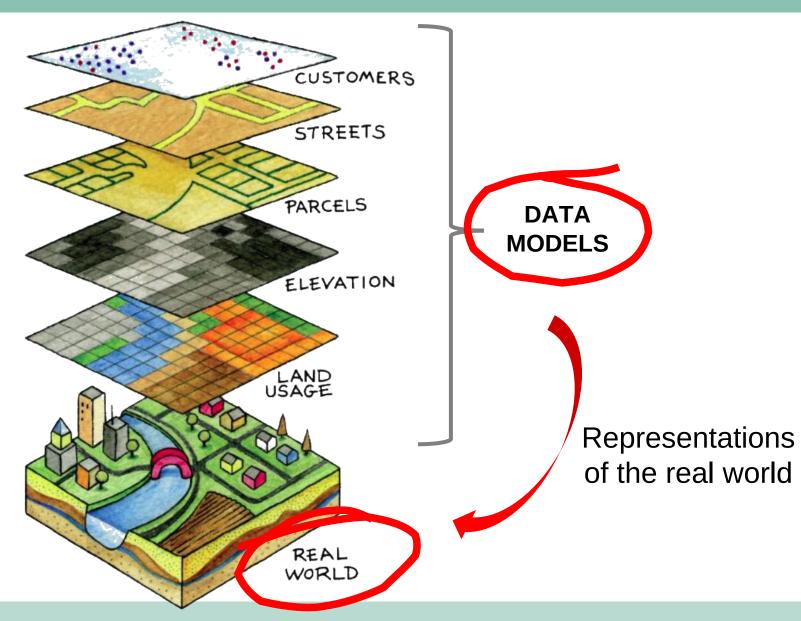
https://www.geo-projections.com/

https://www.esri.com/arcgis-blog/products/arcgis-pro/mapping/gcs\_vs\_pcs/

https://learn.arcgis.com/en/projects/choose-the-right-projection/

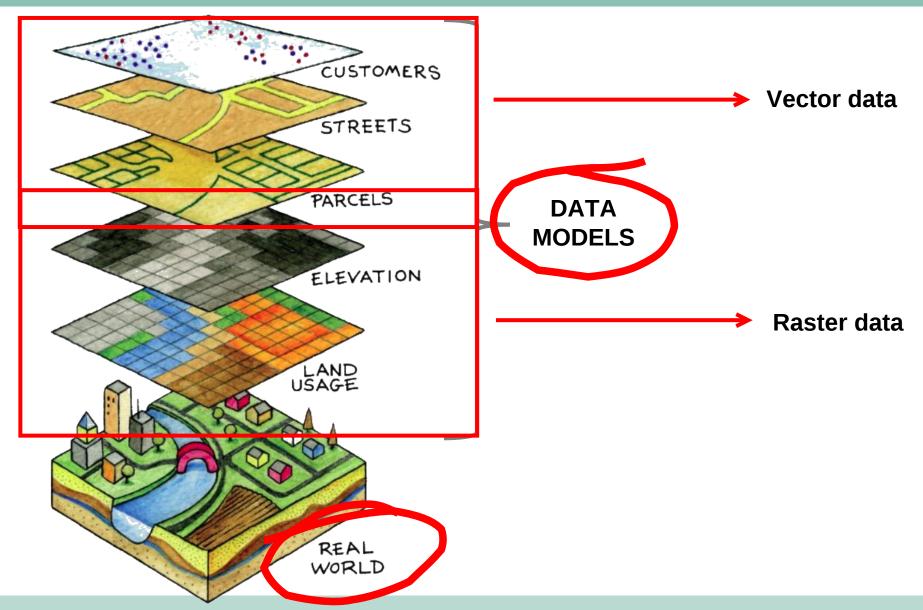


# Spatial data models



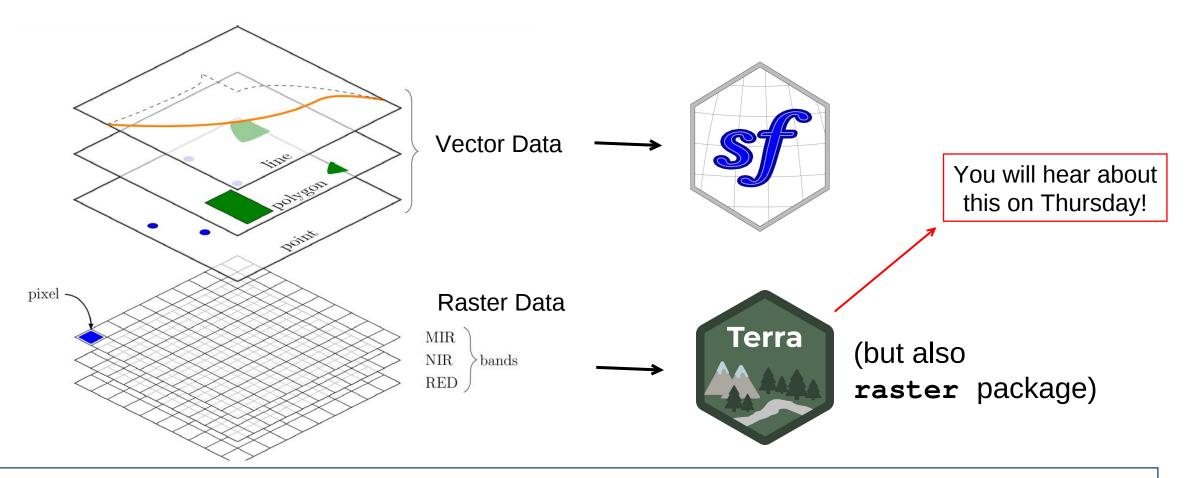


# Spatial data models





# Spatial data in R



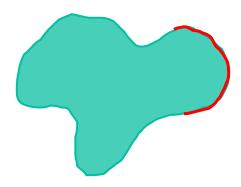
#### **Learning sources:**

Tutorial about the use of the sf package (for vectors): <a href="https://r-spatial.github.io/sf/articles/sf1.html">https://r-spatial.github.io/sf/articles/sf1.html</a>
Tutorial about the use of the terra package (for rasters): <a href="https://rspatial.org/pkg/index.html">https://rspatial.org/pkg/index.html</a>



## Vector data

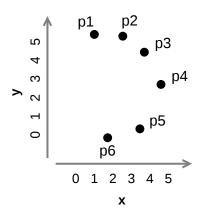
- Points A coordinate pair
- **Lines** Ordered set of coordinate pairs that begin and end with a node (point).
- Polygons (feature with area) Ordered set of connected lines.



An AREA consists of...



LINES which consist of...



COORDINATES

p1 = 0,5 p2 = 1,4.5 p3 = 3,4 p4 = 5,2.5 p5 = 3,1 p6 = 2,0

#### **Existing vector formats:**

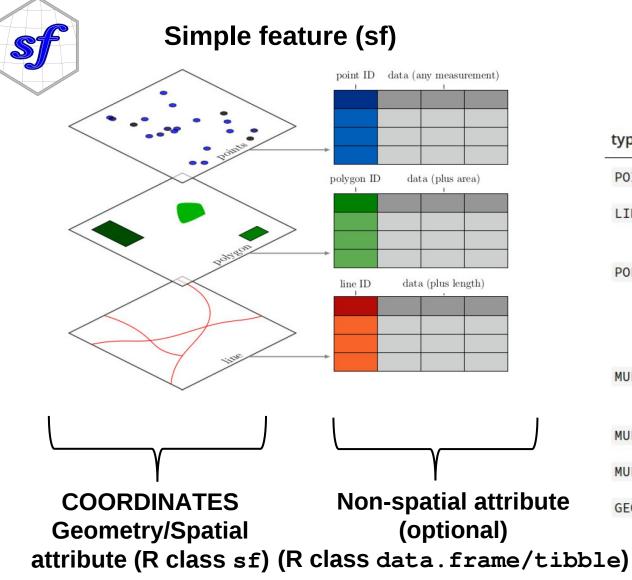
- \*.GeoPackage (easier handling)
- \*.gpx
- \*.shp (widely used)
- \*.kml

POINTS which consist of...

Now you know that these will be different depending on the CRS



## Vector data in R



A **feature** is an object (a tree, a building), and a feature can be made of many features:

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type	description	
POINT	zero-dimensional geometry containing a single point	
LINESTRING	sequence of points connected by straight, non-self intersecting line pieces; one-dimensional geometry	
POLYGON	geometry with a positive area (two-dimensional); sequence of points form a closed, non-self intersecting ring; the first ring denotes the exterior ring, zero or more subsequent rings denote holes in this exterior ring	
MULTIPOINT	set of points; a MULTIPOINT is simple if no two Points in the MULTIPOINT are equal	
MULTILINESTRING	set of linestrings	
MULTIPOLYGON	set of polygons	
GEOMETRYCOLLECTION	set of geometries of any type except GEOMETRYCOLLECTION	

## Vector data in R

### **Declaring a CRS vs reprojecting:**

In R we can do that by working with proper spatial objects. But careful, **declaring** a projection:

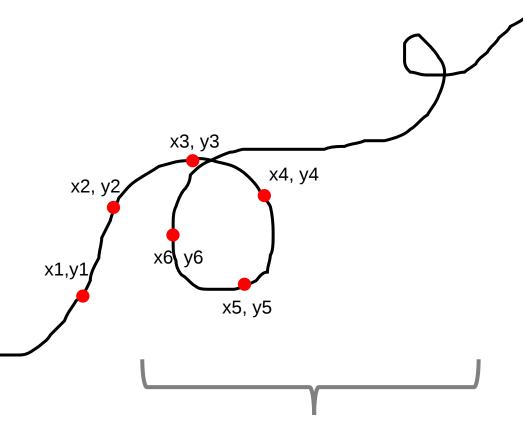
```
> library(sf)
> YourData <- st_as_sf(YourData,
coords = c("location.long", "location.lat"), crs = "EPSG:4326")
> class(YourData)
[1] "sf" "data.frame"
> st_crs(YourData)
Coordinate Reference System:
User input: EPSG:4326
```

Is different from **reprojecting**, i.e. changing the coordinate system:

```
> YourDataProj <- st_transform(YourData, crs = "EPSG:32622")
```



## Movement data are vector data... + TIME!



Event ID	Animal ID	Species
1	Leo	Turkey
		vulture
2	Leo	Turkey
		vulture

TIMESTAMP

2024-06-17 09:00:00

2024-06-17 09:10:00

COORDINATES
Geometry/Spatial attribute
(R class sf)

Non-spatial attribute (R class data.frame/tibble)



TIME!

# **Defining Time**

### Time zones and light saving switches

**Time settings are crucial**. You have to know what your device used as time. Many GPS devices use and report local time, some report UTC!

Helpful questions you have to ask yourself before exploring/analysing your data are:

- In which time zone does your device report time?
- Did you track over the day light saving switches? Does your animal cross time zones?
- Did you set/declare the time zone in R?



### Setting vs converting timezones

Time format in R is not a real problem, but the names of the time zones are specific to each operating system (check the names recognised by your OS typing *OlsonNames()*).

The default time zone of your OS will also differ between computers, you can check it by typing Sys.timezone()

Basically time zones are likely to be a pain in the neck, no matter how experienced you are..

**Before** doing anything with times, remember to always **define the time zone in which your data were collected**. **POSIXct** is our object of choice to deal with time in R:

```
>(t <- as.POSIXct("2024-06-17 14:00:00", "%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S", tz="UTC"))
[1] "2024-06-17 14:00:00 UTC"
```

(Universal Time Coordinated)

Only **after** the time zone is set, time can be **converted to different time zones**:

```
> format(t, tz="Europe/Berlin") # or:
> lubridate::with_tz(t, tz="Europe/Berlin")
[1] "2024-06-17 16:00:00 CEST"
```



# The move2 package

The move2 package provides a series of functions to import, visualize and analyse animal movement data and offers direct connection to Movebank.

The move object extends the properties of the sf spatial object by making time a mandatory component (movement = location + time).

The move2 package is designed as a successor of the move package (based on the spatial packages sp and rgdal, now deprecated). move2, based on sf, also improves in speed and functionality, but for some functions we will still rely on its predecessor move.

For detailed information about these packages see:

https://bartk.gitlab.io/move/articles/move.html (for move)

https://bartk.gitlab.io/move2/ (for move2)



+ TIME = move2

## Hands on

