

# Introduction to spatial data



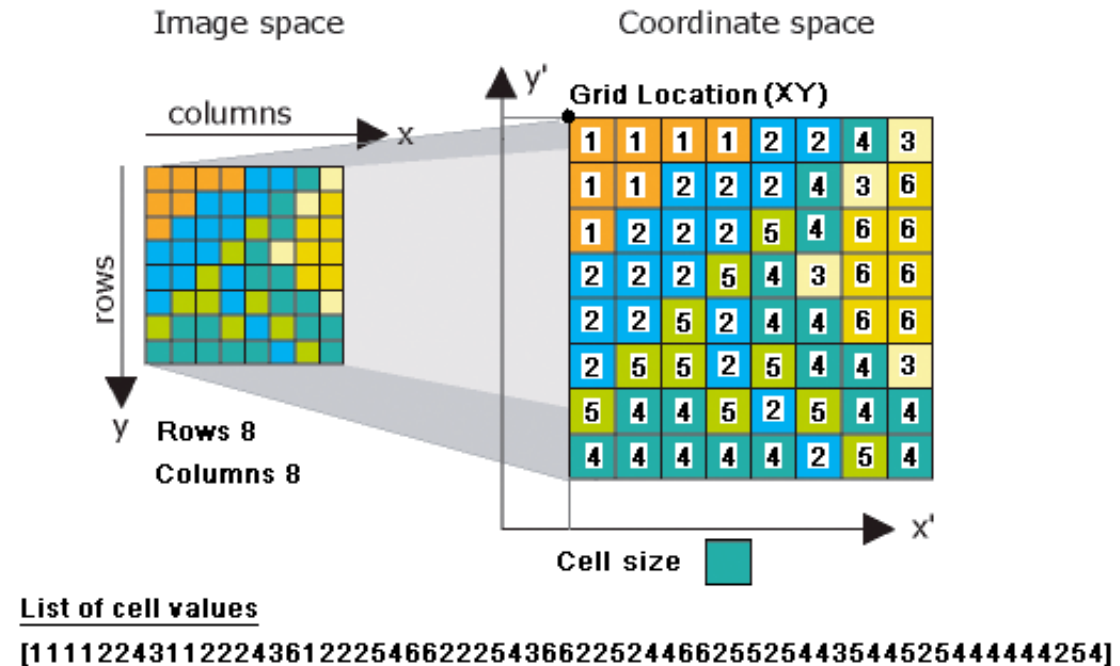
Copernicus Sentinel data for  
Mariposa County, 2015-2017

Christian John, Ph.D.

Postdoctoral scholar  
Burkepile lab, UCSB

# What is raster data?

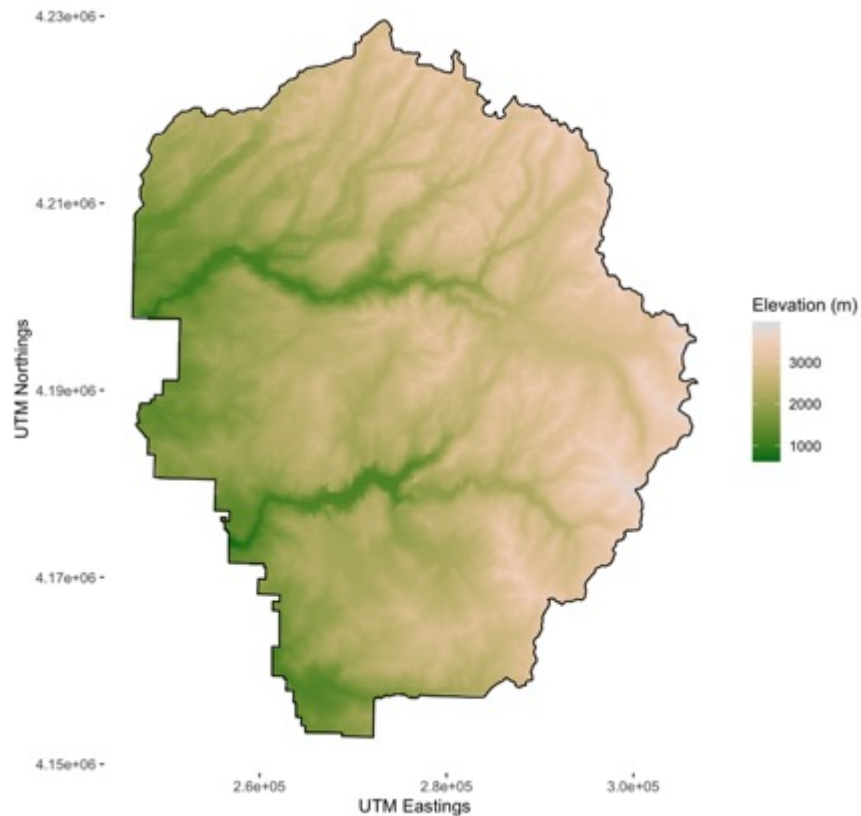
- A grid of values.



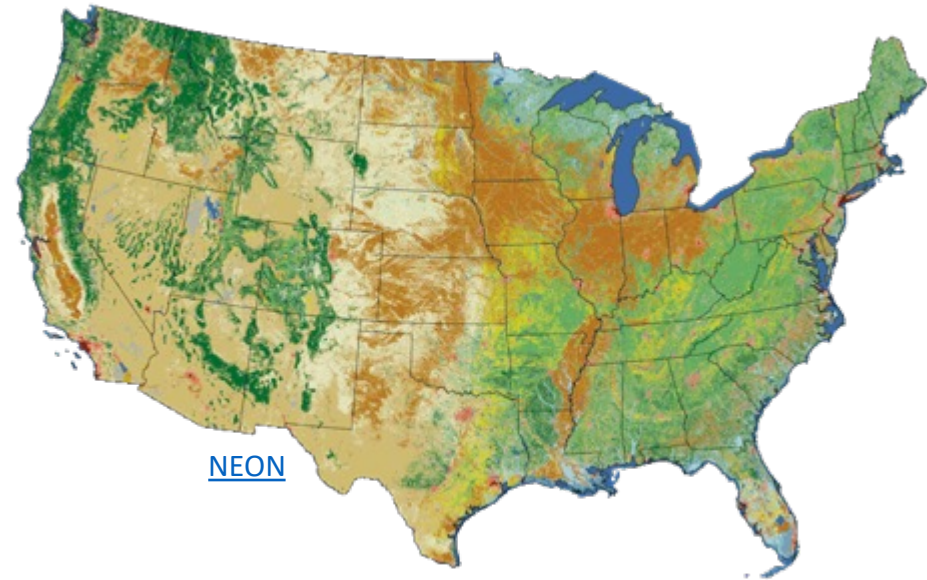
# What is raster data?

- A grid of values.

Elevation of Yosemite National Park



National land cover dataset



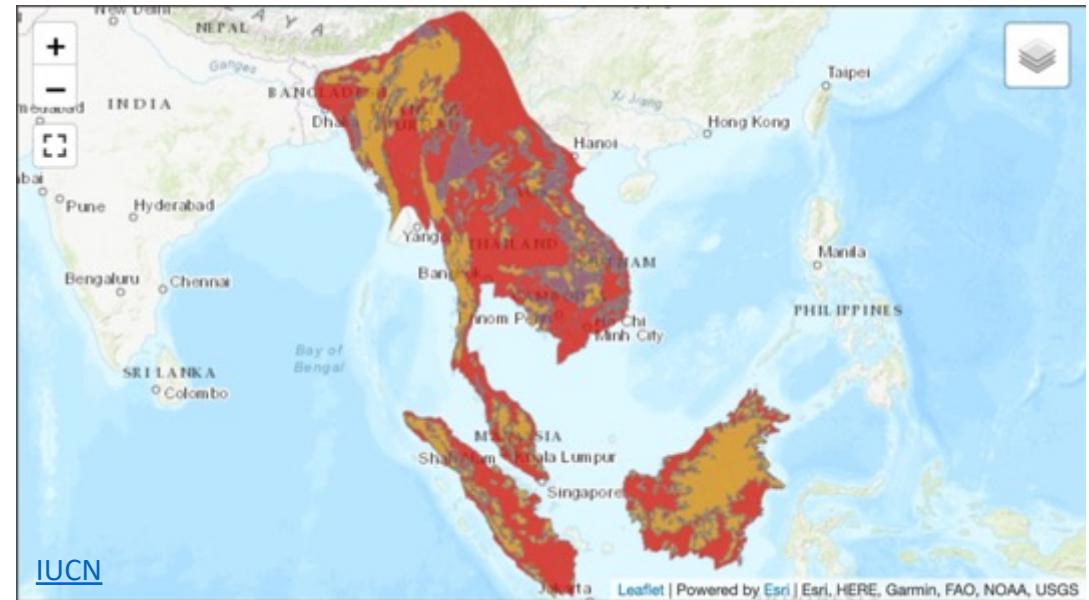


... as opposed to **vector data**

- Points, lines, and polygons

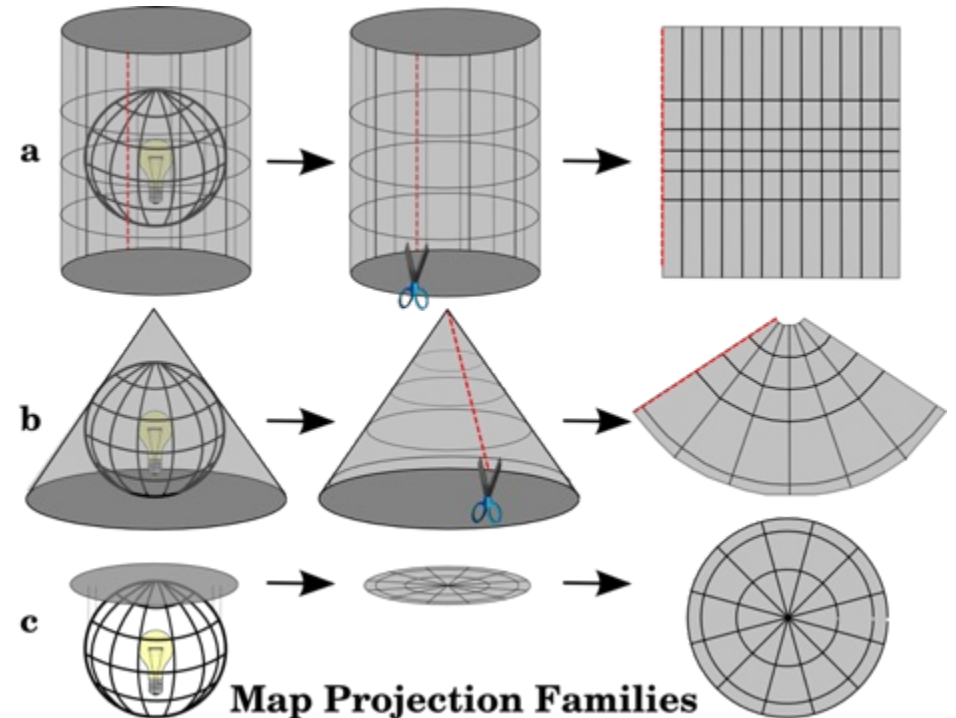


Geographic range of Sun Bear



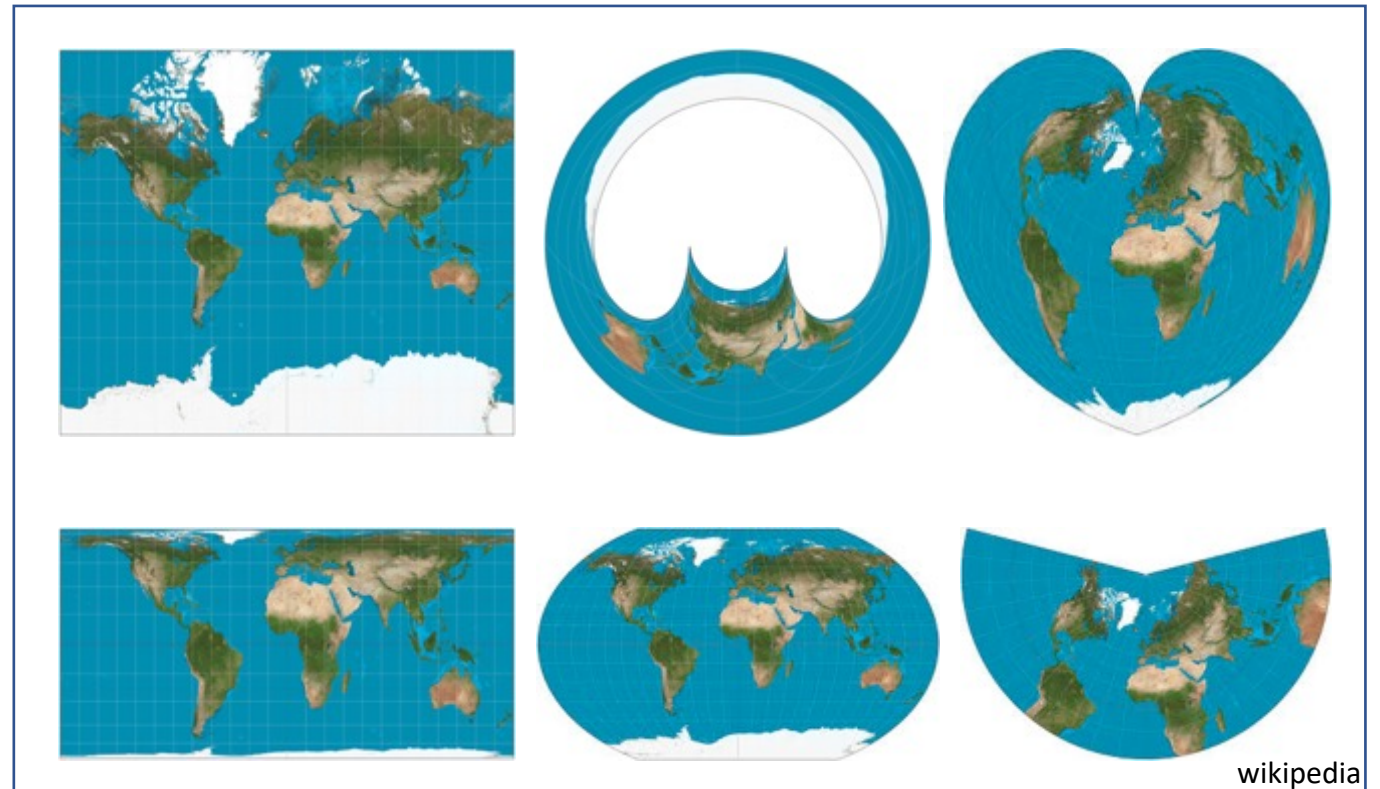
# Coordinate reference system

- Mathematical “flattening” of earth’s surface to 2 dimensions
- Many ways to do this!
- Pros and cons to every way

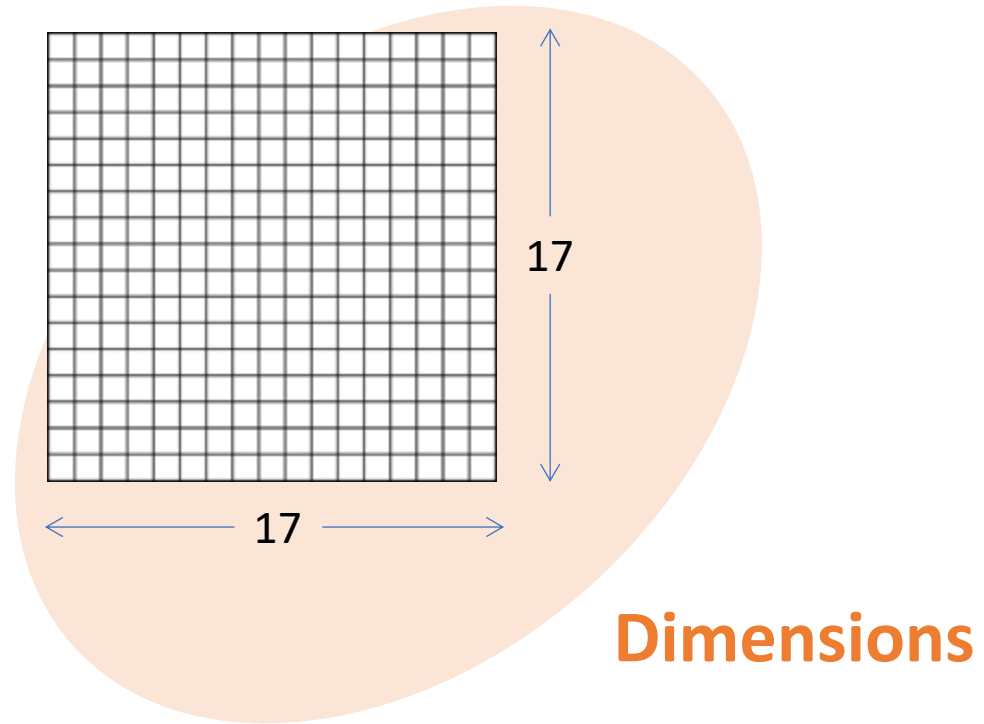


# Coordinate reference system

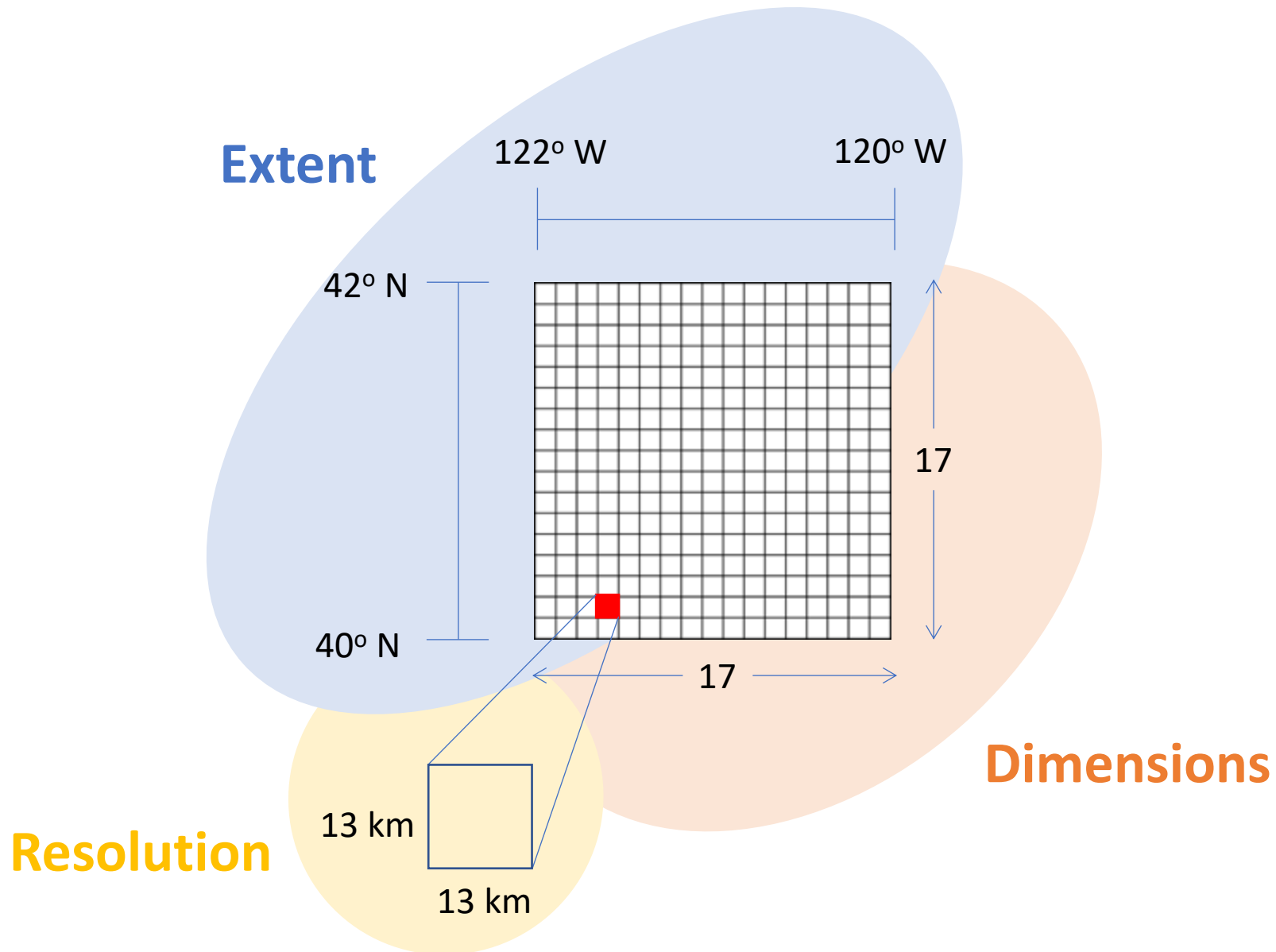
- Mathematical “flattening” of earth’s surface to 2 dimensions
- Many ways to do this!
- Pros and cons to every way



# Properties of a raster dataset



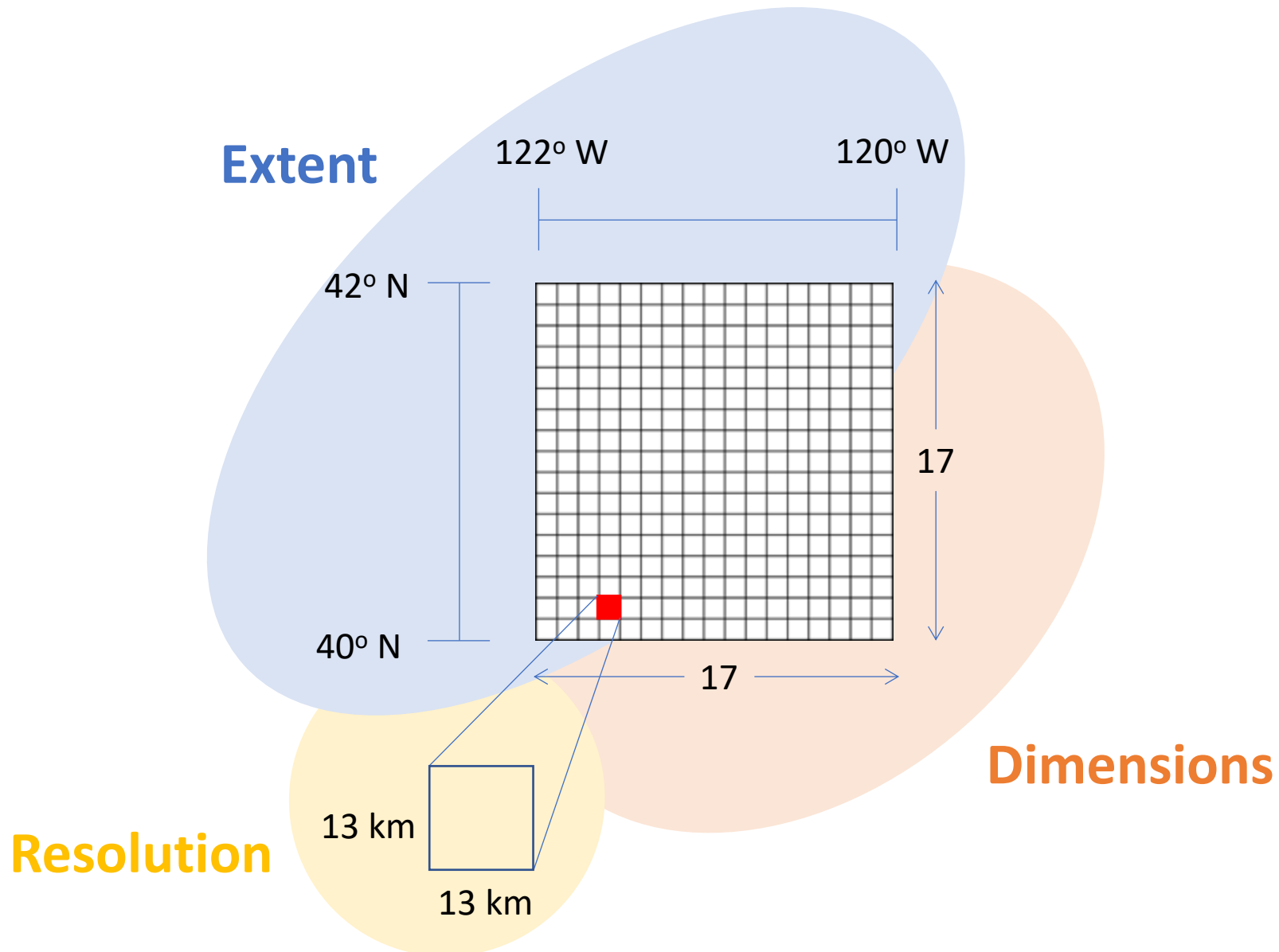
# Properties of a raster dataset



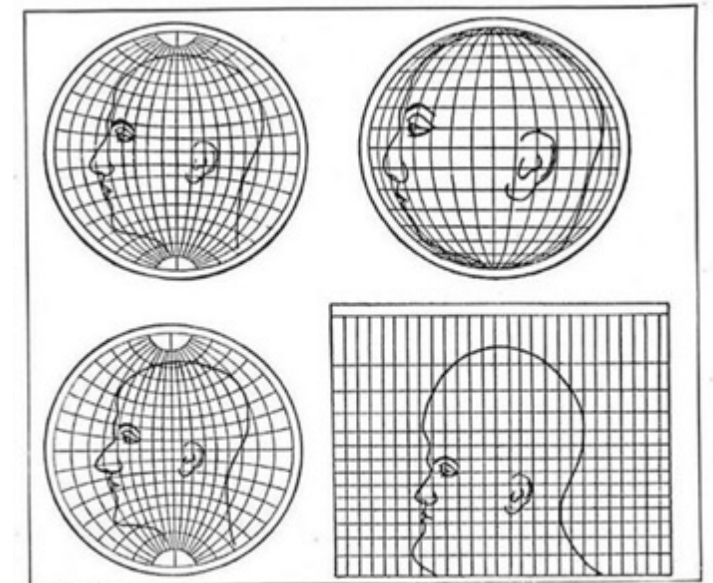
\*With any two of these, you can calculate the 3<sup>rd</sup>.



# Properties of a raster dataset



## Reference system



Upper left: Globular. Upper right: Orthographic. Lower left: Stereographic.  
Lower right: Mercator

What four commonly used projections do, as shown on a human head

[EarthDataScience](https://earthdata.nasa.gov/earth-data-stories/earth-data-science)

# Today we'll learn to:

- Import spatial data into R
- Identify components of spatial datasets
- Perform basic operations with raster and vector data
- Visualize spatial data