# Freedom in Geographical Information Systems

Ganesh

Trying to be an Independent Researcher, Hacker & Activist

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# Overview

Inspiration

What is GIS ?

Cartography & Maps

- Carto-Cube

Organized Diversity

- Modality
- Remixxxx...

Flow of Information

whaaaazzz up human ?

# Good or Bad or Neutral ?

**technology**

is

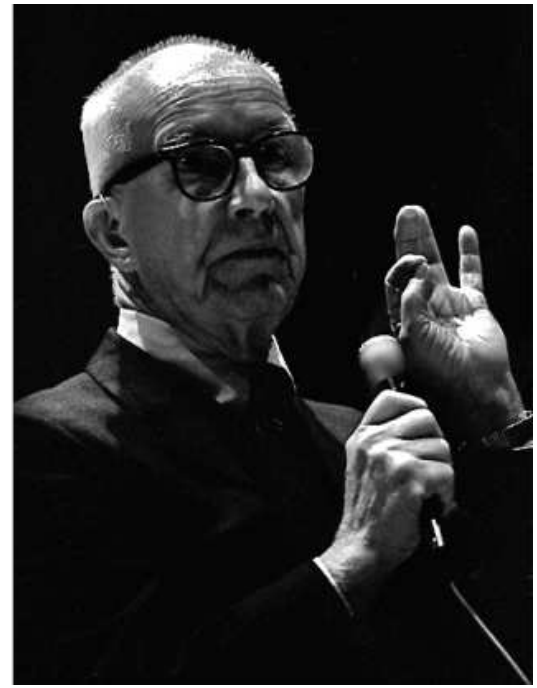
neither *Good*

nor *Bad*

not even *Neutral*

*Melvin Kranzberg*

# people inspire people



these ***dudes*** somehow inspired me to learn & do Geo(G/IS)

locally these folks continues to inspire me by their silent actions... :)

# ?

# what is gis anyway

one of the interesting ways

**"to look"**

at things happening in

Earth

*(present World)*

## GIS = Geo Systems + Information Systems

- - - - - -

which is a ***psychedelic*** mix of :

- theories
- tools
- information
- methods
- strategies

from both the domains

a collaborative scientific process associated with geographical systems to collect data, analyze, disseminate, share, distribute information adhereing to open standards

- - - - - - - -

gis proliferates and promulgates a democratic and romantic relationship between man, machine, and earth to reach a positive emergence

# So What ?

well !... we have limitations

- senses
- perception
- reliable data collection
- repetetive & concurrent analysis
- modeling & repetetive reporting

# Mapssssss !

# What are Maps ?

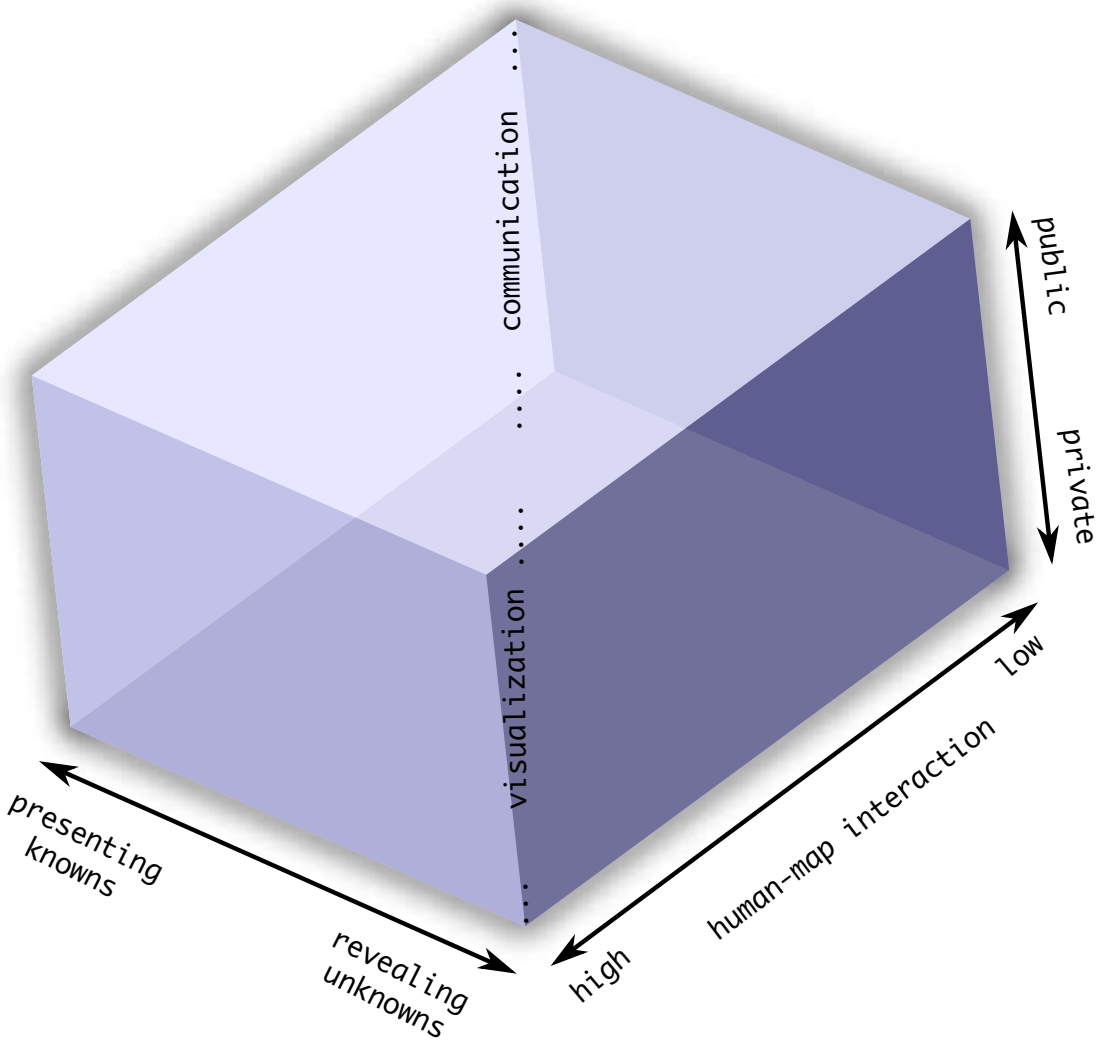
the **medium** through which geographically representable information is shared and disseminated

# What is Cartography ?

the art & way of designing maps effectively

$=$ science $+$ aesthetics $+$ technique

# Carto-Cube




**Reference** : *cartography cube*

# Organized Diversity

ontological, theoretical

$\Downarrow$

knowledge organization

$\Downarrow$

**modalities**

measurement & data collection

$\Downarrow$

processing, analysis

$\Downarrow$

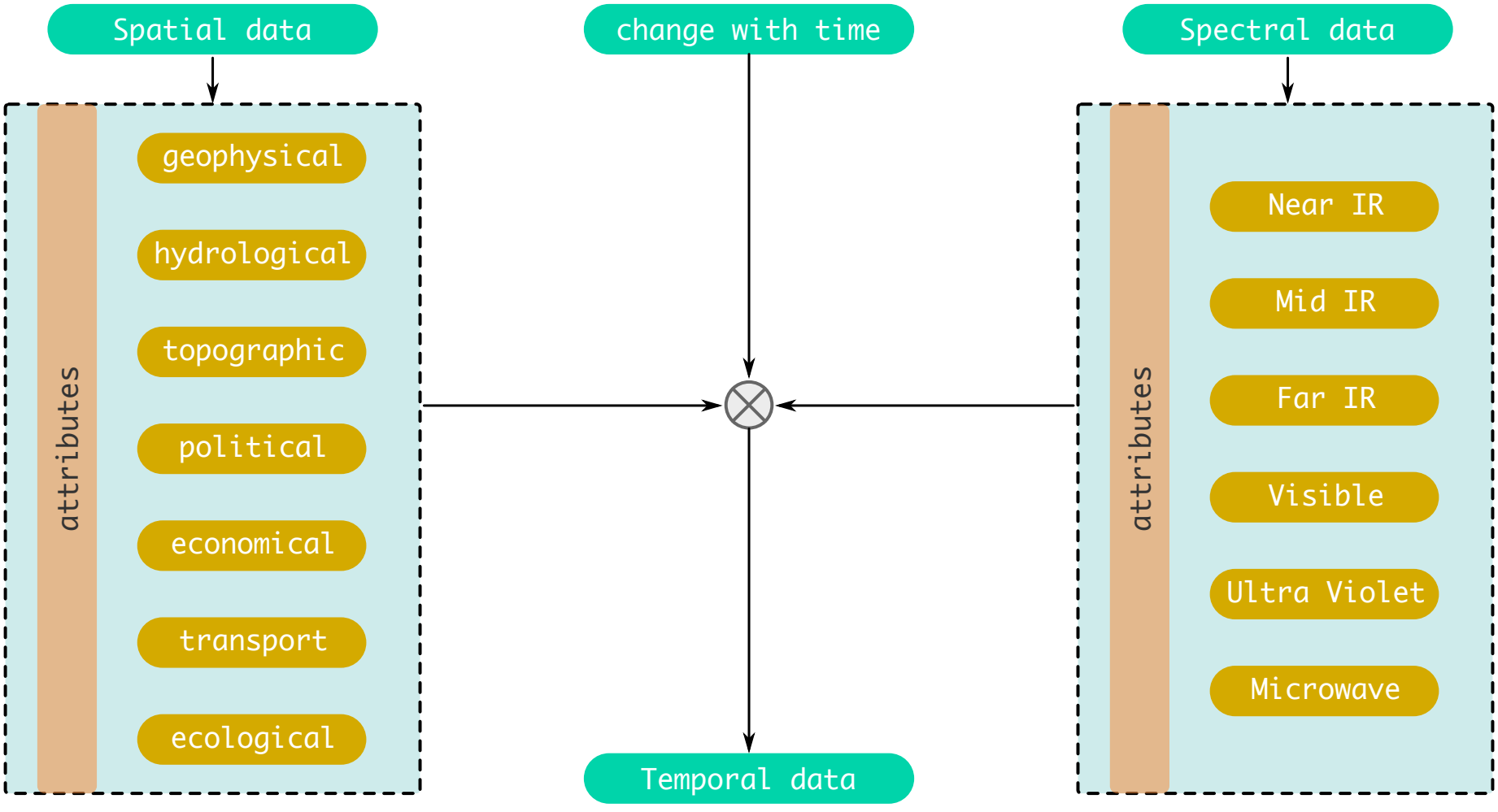
**attributes**

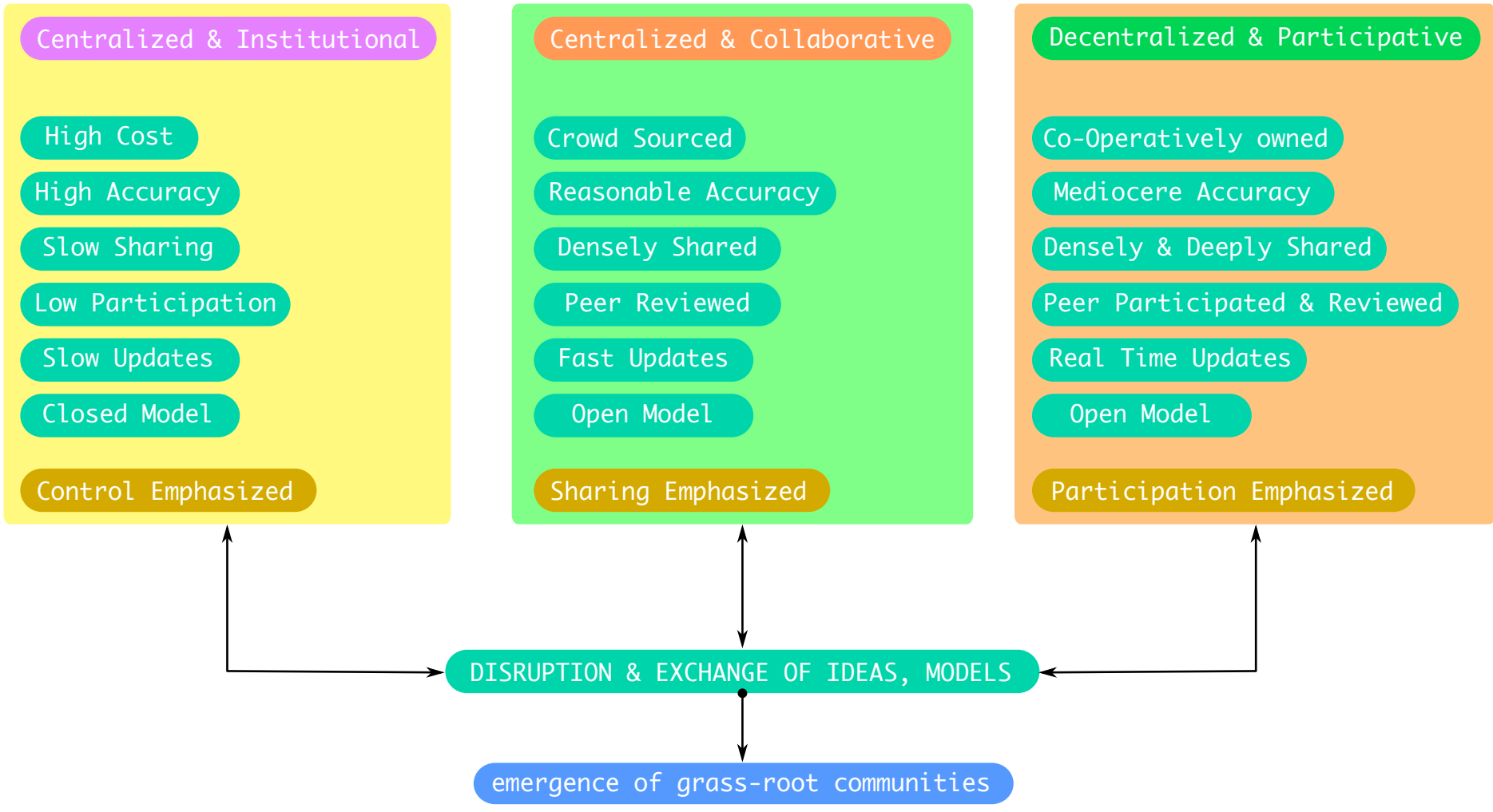
$\Downarrow$

dimensions

$\Downarrow$

visualization


Spatial data
change with time
Spectral data
attributes
geophysical
hydrological
topographic
political
economical
transport
ecological
attributes
Near IR
Mid IR
Far IR
Visible
Ultra Violet
Microwave
Temporal data


Centralized & Institutional
High Cost
High Accuracy
Slow Sharing
Low Participation
Slow Updates
Closed Model
Control Emphasized
Centralized & Collaborative
Crowd Sourced
Reasonable Accuracy
Densely Shared
Peer Reviewed
Fast Updates
Open Model
Sharing Emphasized
Decentralized & Participative
Co-Operatively owned
Mediocere Accuracy
Densely & Deeply Shared
Peer Participated & Reviewed
Real Time Updates
Open Model
Participation Emphasized
DISRUPTION & EXCHANGE OF IDEAS, MODELS
emergence of grass-root communities

# How does Info. Flow ?

Once upon a time ...

# THE PICTORIAL MISSIONARY MAP OF THE WORLD

ENGLAND BEFORE THE INTRODUCTION OF CHRISTIANITY

THE SWINGING FESTIVAL

CRUELTY OF BUDHISM—INFANT BURYING IN CHINA

ENGLAND UNDER THE GOSPEL

CRUELTY OF HINDOO IDOLATRY

MISSIONARY PREACHING TO THE CHINESE

NEW ZEALAND CHIEF LYING IN STATE

TRAVELING IN CAFFRARIA

NORTH AMERICA BEFORE THE GOSPEL

SLAVERY

NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE GOSPEL

ESQUIMAUX

NEW ZEALAND WAR CANOES.

CONVERTED POLYNESIAN PREACHING TO HIS COUNTRYMEN

LIBERATED NEGROES IN SIERRALEONE

## EXPLANATION.

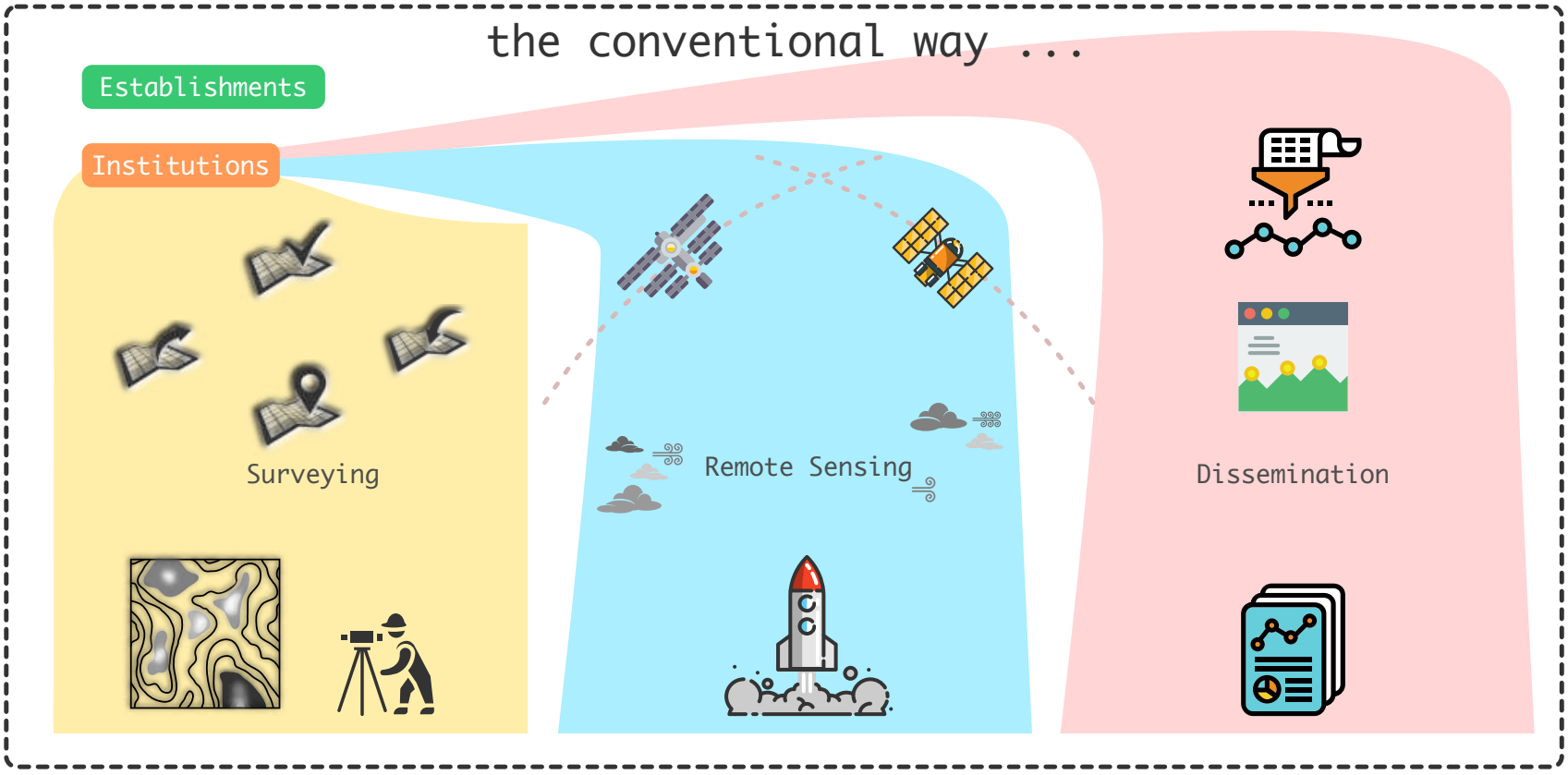
PROTESTANT
ROMAN CATHOLIC
GREEK CHURCH
MAHOMETAN
DECAYED CHRISTIAN CHURCHES
HEATHEN

All MISSIONARY STATIONS in this Type Thinsevelly
All places not Missionary Stations in this Type Pekin
N.B. Names of COUNTRIES, SEAS, RIVERS & have no reference to this rule.

DRAWN BY JOHN GILBERT

London: JAMES NISBET & Co., 21, Berners Street.—Price One Penny, or 7s. per 100, Plain; Twopence, or 14s. per 100, Coloured.

ENGRAVED AND PRINTED BY EDMUND EVANS.

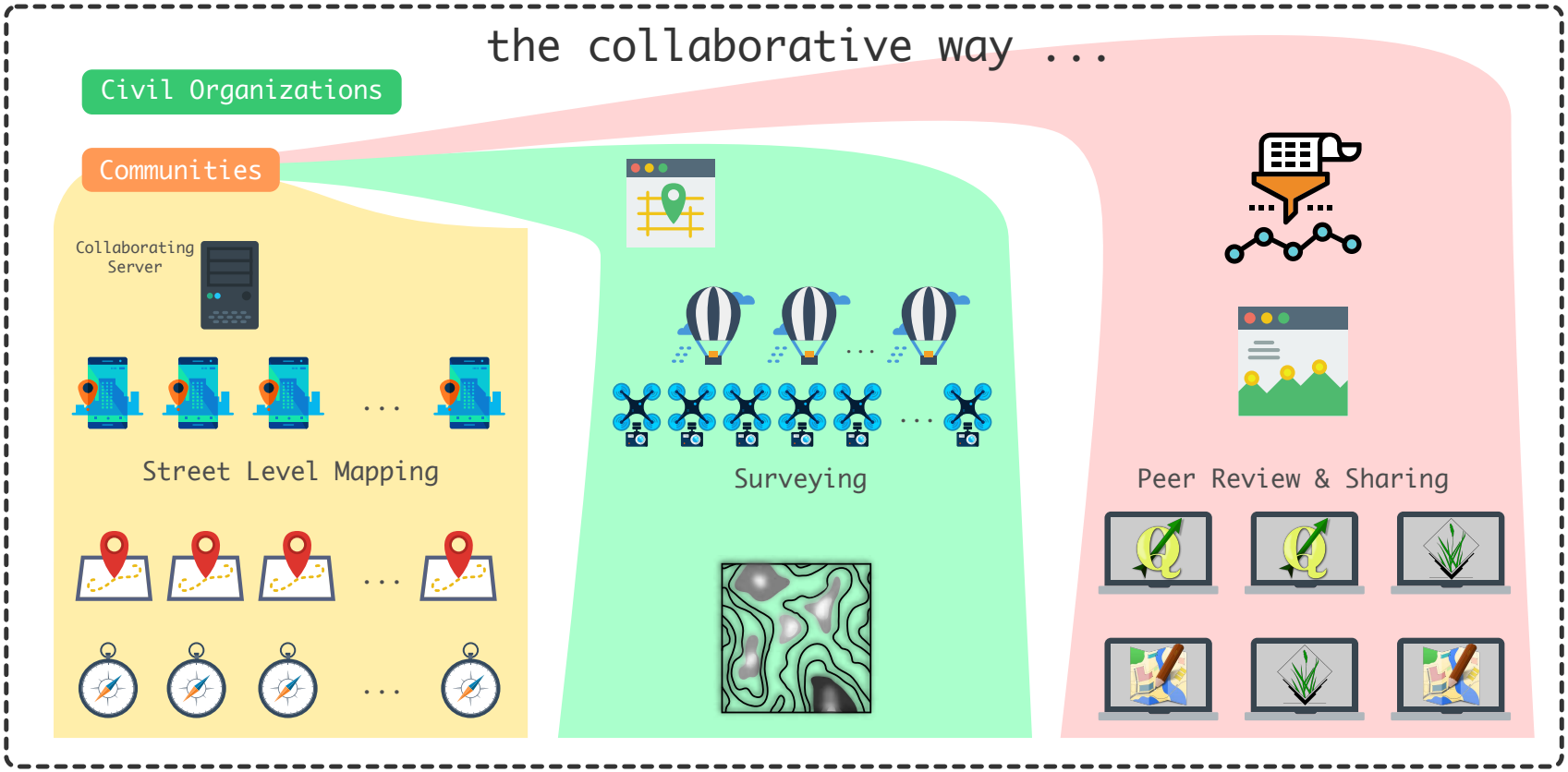



it is centralized too !

resulted in maps like these..... !

meanwhile, rise in ...

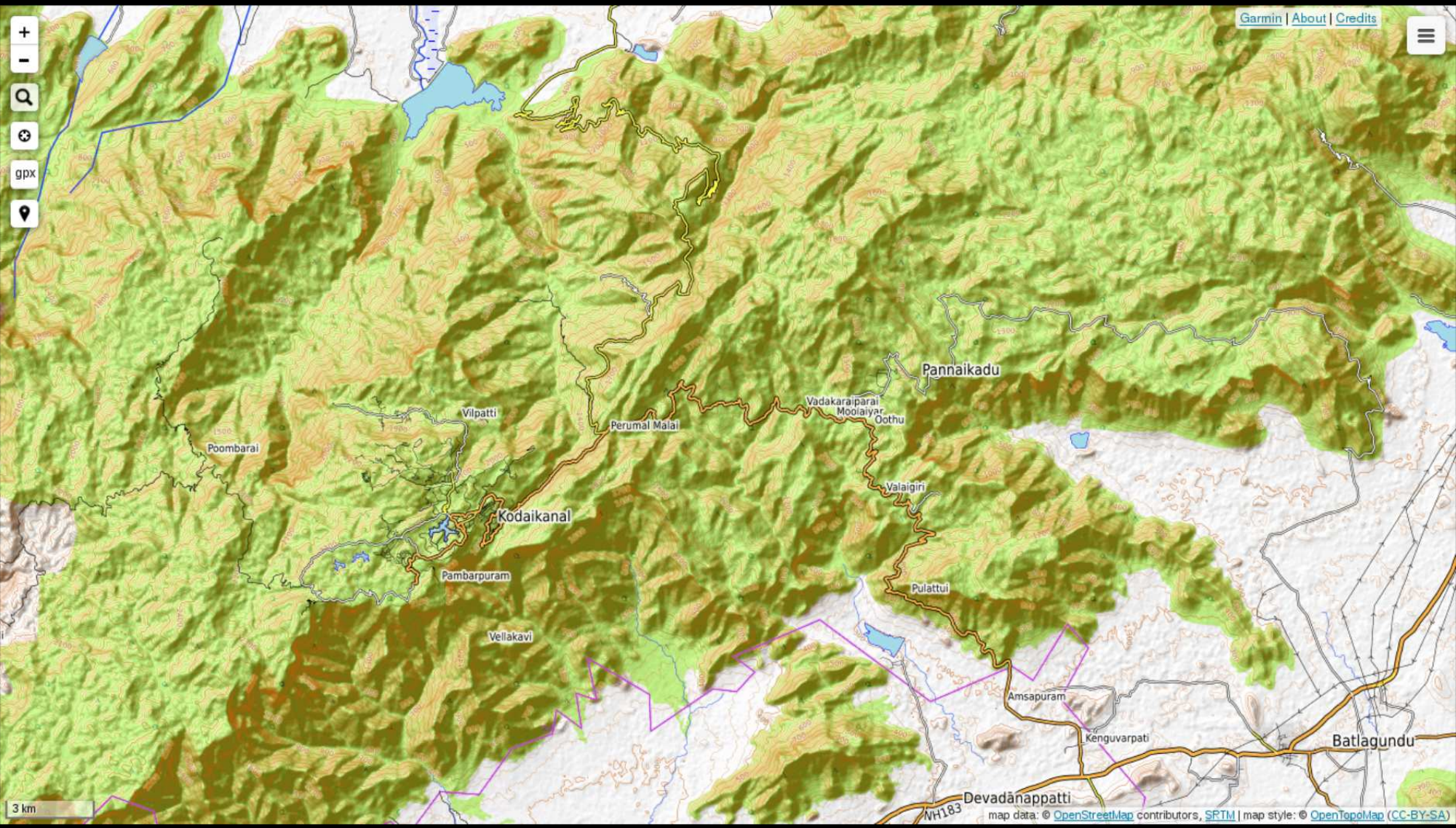
education, science, technology & creative commons ...




partially centralized but collaborative (decentralized):

existing infrastructure + creative commons + opendata + internet

resulted in maps like these..... !


Garmin | About | Credits
gpx
Pannaikadu
Vadakaraiparai
Moolaiyar
Oothu
Vilpatti
Perumal Malai
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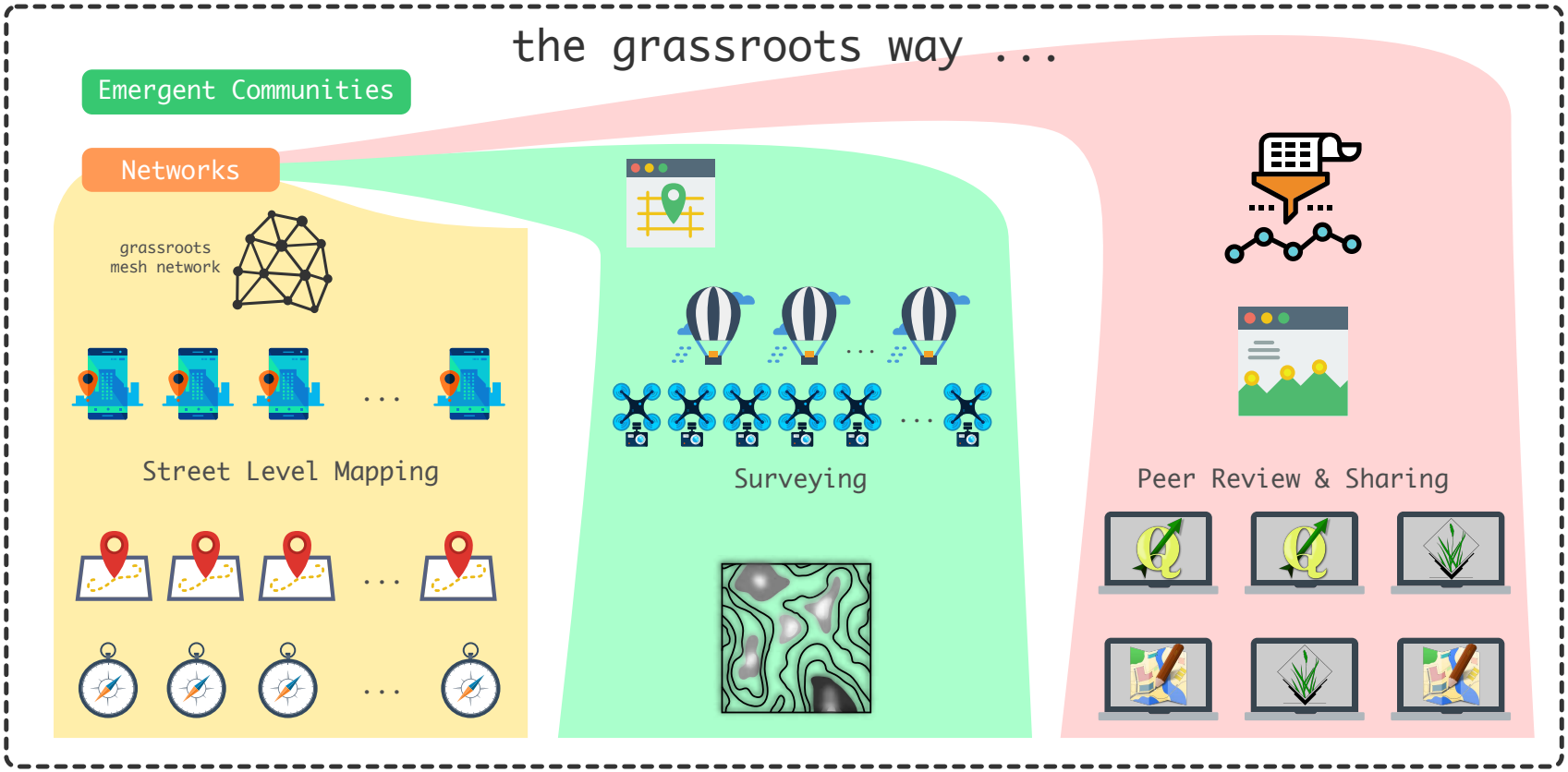
Valaigiri
Kodaikanal
Pambarpuram
Pulattui
Vellakavi
Amsapuram
Kenguvarpati
Batlagundu
Devadānappatti
NH183
3 km
map data: © OpenStreetMap contributors, SRTM | map style: © OpenTopoMap (CC-BY-SA)

with emergent grass root infrastructure

&

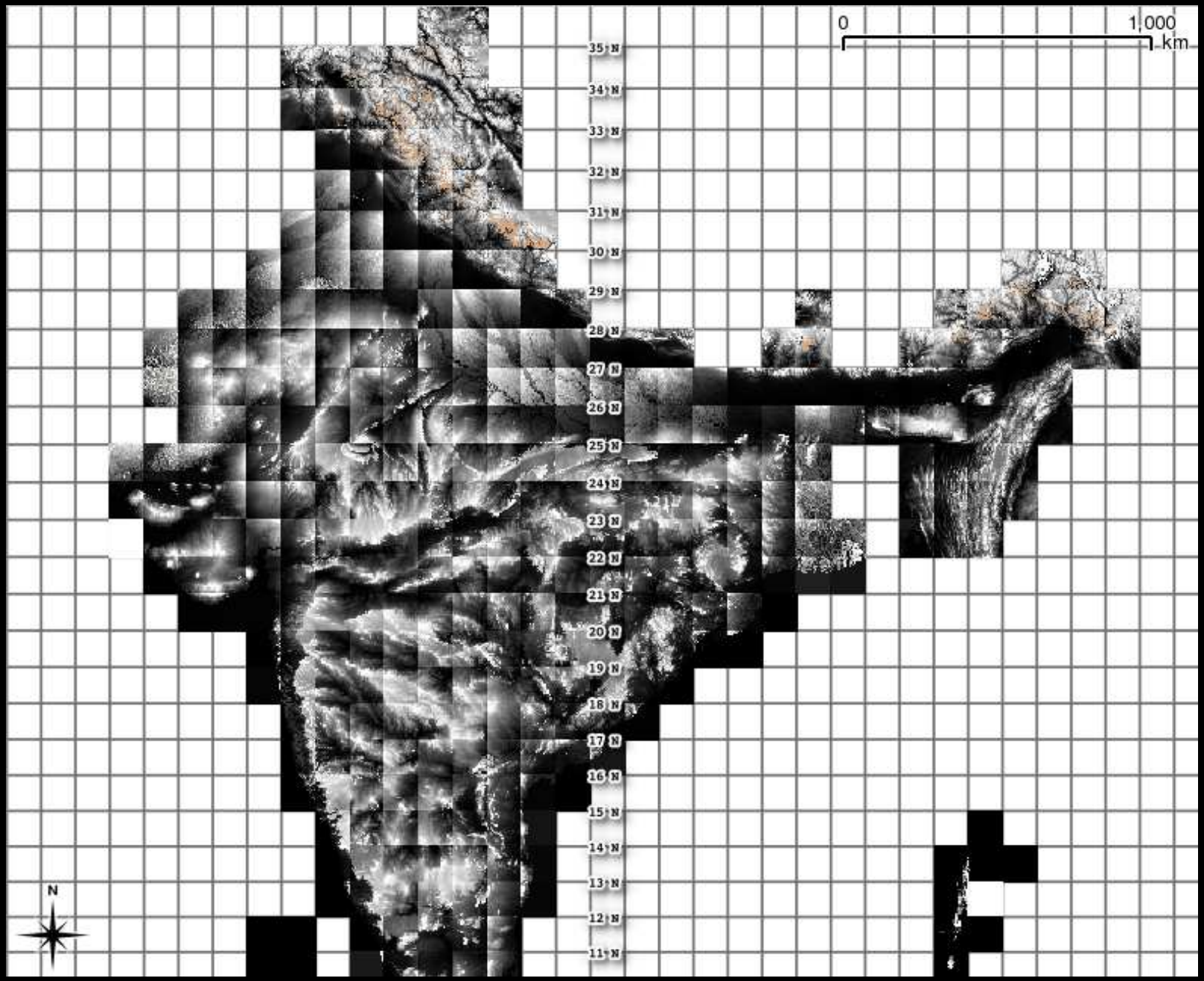
commons based peer production ...




partially centralized but collaborative (decentralized):

existing infrastructure + creative commons + opendata + internet

will create more than these..... !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think !