

# Generation of a 3D object from a Digital Elevation Model (DEM)

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## 1 Abstract

Digital Elevation Models (DEMs) are 2D maps in which each point is associated with its height. They can be obtained through techniques such as *photogrammetry*<sup>1</sup>, *lidar*<sup>2</sup>, *land*<sup>3</sup>, *surveying*<sup>4</sup>, *etc*<sup>5</sup>. They represent the elevation of a terrain map.

## 2 Bibliography

For this project, the first thing to do is to do a state-of-the-art of DEMs, that is, to try to *classify DEMs models (stereography, satellite, etc.)* and to *identify the different formats*<sup>6</sup>. The Project will be implemented in *C++/ Qt framework*<sup>7</sup> and a visualisation in *OpenGL*<sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup><https://somesite.net>

<sup>2</sup><http://somesite.net>

<sup>3</sup><http://somesite.net>

<sup>4</sup><http://somesite.net>

<sup>5</sup><http://somesite.net>

<sup>6</sup><http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/dem/>

<sup>7</sup><http://http://www.qt.io/ide/>

<sup>8</sup>[opengl-superbible-comprehensive-tutorial-and-reference-5th-edition-2010](#)

## **2.1 What is digital elevation model (DEM)?**

A digital elevation model (DEM) is a digital model or 3D representation of a terrain's surface commonly for a planet (including Earth), moon, or asteroid created from terrain elevation data

## **2.2 Types of DEM models**

- A raster: grid of squares, also known as a heightmap when representing elevation
- A vector-based triangular irregular network (TIN)

## **2.3 DEM file formats**

- USGS DEM
- SDTS DEM
- DTED
- DIMAP