Digital Mapping of Resource Boundaries

Global Positioning System (GPS) Limitations and Solutions

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GPS Accuracy

Accuracy is the twin brother of honesty; inaccuracy, of dishonesty. -Nathaniel Hawthorne



Universalis Cosmographia, Waldseemüller's 1507 world map Digital Mapping of Resource Boundaries: Global Positioning System (GPS) Limitations and Solutions May 20, 2014



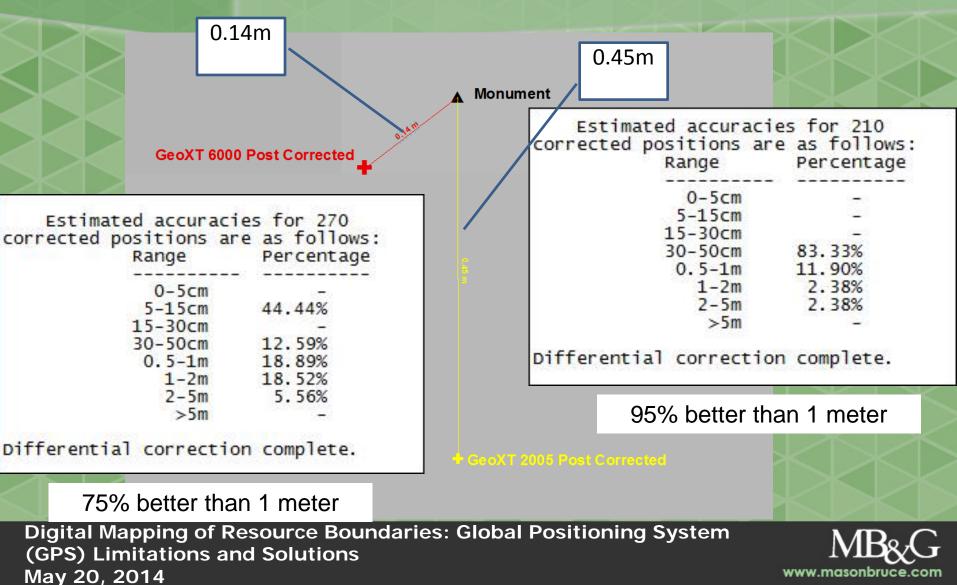
Accuracy vs. Precision

Precise but not accurate

Precise and accurate



The Problem



Accuracy Outputs

= Precision

Estimated accuracies for 270 corrected positions are as follows: Range Percentage

0-5cm	11 12 11
5-15cm	44.44%
15-30cm	-
30-50cm	12.59%
0.5-1m	18.89%
1-2m	18.52%
2-5m	5.56%
>5m	

Differential correction complete.



Measured Accuracy





GPS Accuracy

Accuracy is limited by:

- Equipment
- Site and satellite constraints
- Pre-field, field, and post-processing methods



GPS Accuracy Equipment

- 3 grades:
- Consumer >3 meters
- Mapping 1-3 meters



Garmin



Magellan



GPS Accuracy Equipment

3 grades:

Professional (sub-meter) < 1 meter



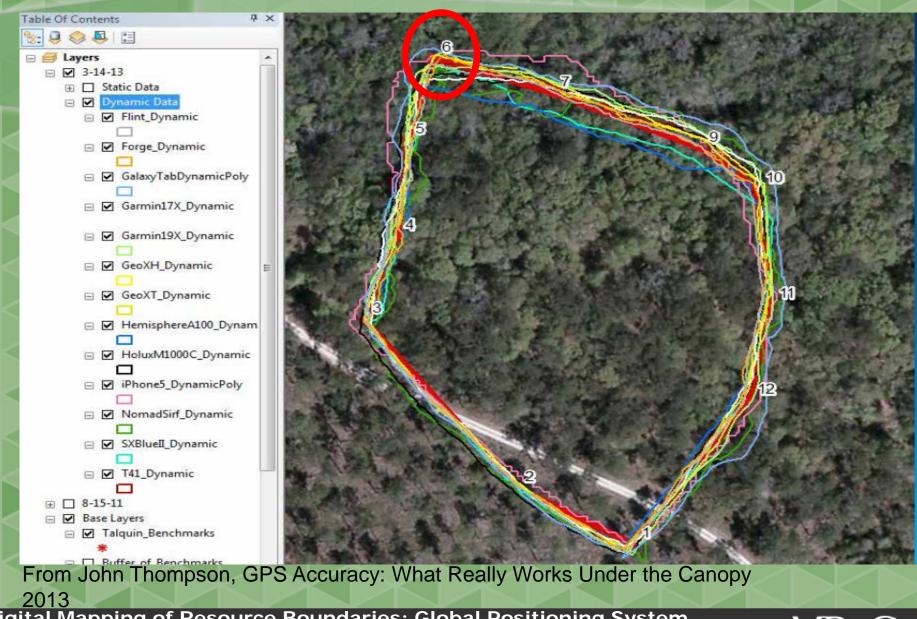


GPS Accuracy Site and Satellite Constraints

• Site Constraints:

- Steep topography
- Buildings
- Dense vegetation cover
- Satellite Constraints:
 - Satellite geometry
 - Multipath







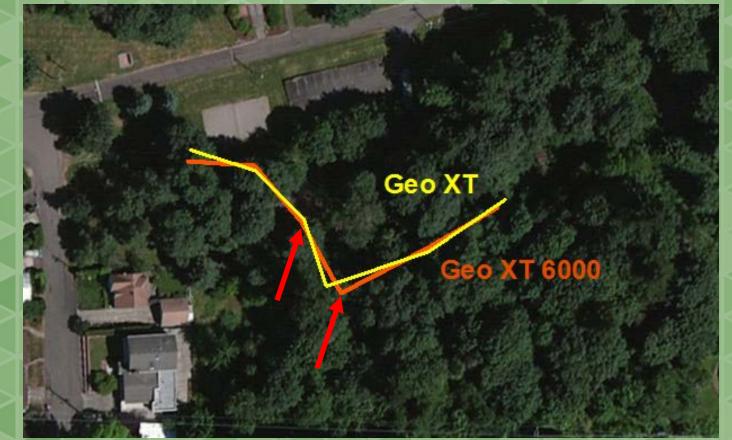
GPS	Avg Error (m)	Rank
Post Processed GeoXH 6000 GLONASS	0.75	1
Garmin_19X	1.63	2
Flint_Internal	1.85	3
Post Processed GeoXT 6000 WAAS	1.87	4
Holux_M1000C	1.99	5
Hemisphere_A100	2.66	6
GeoXH 6000 GLONASS	3.97	7
Trimble T41	4.02	8
GeoXT 6000 WAAS	4.36	9
Forge_Internal	5.73	10
SX_Blue II	6.18	11
iPhone5	10.57	12
GalaxyTab	15.60	13
Nomad_800_Internal	16.08	14
Joh Thompson, GPS Accuracy: What Really Works Under the Canopy 2013		

From Joh Thompson, GPS Accuracy: What Really Works Under the Canopy Digital Mapping of Resource Boundaries: Global Positioning System (GPS) Limitations and Solutions May 20, 2014



GPS Accuracy Equipment

Differences between two professional-grade units





GPS Accuracy Methodology

Pre-field Methodology

- GPS settings ("Smart Settings")
- Pathfinder trip planning



GPS Accuracy Methodology

Field Methodology

- Back to the north
- Hold unit with receiver pointing directly up
- Hold still with unit at the same vertical and horizontal position
- Collect at least one surveyed monument/day



GPS Accuracy Methodology

Post-processing Methodology

- Office processing ensures best results
- Compares monument locations to select the best basestation



Project Management Implications

Fast is fine, but accuracy is everything. -Wyatt Earp

Quality of other project data collected by:

- Other entities
- Different equipment
- High standards and protocols necessary



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