

## Global Grid Systems

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### Message from the Guest Editors

Advances in data capturing technologies are causing an explosion in the quantity of geospatial data that is collected every day, all of which must be integrated together into a common reference model for meaningful analyses to be performed.

To foster a stronger understanding of the Earth, geospatial data may be assigned and retrieved using a 3D model of the Earth, rather than a 2D map. The use of discrete global grid systems (DGGs) is an emerging approach to the creation of such 3D models. DGGs are a discretization of the Earth into hierarchical sets of highly regular cells, each of which represents a distinct region of the Earth to which data may be assigned. In this model, each cell has a unique index that is used to reference geospatial information related to that cell. In order to support multiple spatial resolutions, cells are hierarchically subdivided using simple refinements. The open geospatial consortium (OGC) has developed an abstract specification of DGGs, for use by the geospatial community

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*Guest Editors*



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