

# Future Trends in Spatial Information Management: Suggestion to New Generation (Internet of Free-Open)

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**Abstract**—The use of spatial information is increasing rapidly. There is a growing recognition amongst both governments and the private sector that an understanding of location and place is a vital component of effective decision making. Citizens with no recognized expertise in spatial information and who are unlikely to even be familiar with the term, are also increasingly using and interacting with spatial information; indeed in some cases they are contributing to its collection – often in an involuntary way. Based on the contributions received, trends have been broken down into broad themes covering major aspects of the spatial information. They are as follows: trends in technology and the future direction of data creation, maintenance and management in spatial data provision and management.

**Index Terms**—IoT (internet of things), cloud computing, user participation, LBS, IoF (internet of free-open)

## I. INTRODUCTION

A number of important technology driven trends are likely to have a major impact in the coming years, creating previously-unimaginable amounts of location referenced information and questioning our very understanding of what constitutes spatial information. These developments offer significant opportunities but also present challenges, both in terms of policy and in terms of law. Meeting these challenges and ensuring that the potential benefits can be realized by all countries will be important in ensuring that the full value of spatial information can be maximized in the coming five to ten years. It is recognized that different countries are at very different stages in terms of the development, sophistication and use of their spatial information infrastructures. There is a risk, inevitably, that not all countries will be in a position to invest in and realize the full potential of spatial information for governments, businesses and citizens. International institutions such as the United Nations have an increasingly important role in

helping to minimize this risk, communicating the value and importance of investing in and developing an authoritative and maintained spatial information base and reducing the prospect of any ‘digital divide’ emerging.

Ensuring that the full value of spatial information is realized in the coming years will also rely on having the necessary training mechanisms in place. New and changing skills will be required to manage the increasing amount of spatial information that is likely to be created and to ensure that the maximum value is secured from it.

The number of actors involved in generating, managing and providing spatial information has increased significantly in the last ten years, and this proliferation will continue and indeed is likely to accelerate in the coming five to ten years. The private sector and the public will continue to play a significant role in providing the technologies and information required to maximize the opportunities available. They are likely to provide valuable, and in many cases unique, elements of spatial information and the technologies and services required to maximize it, in addition to offering a growing understanding of the end user base for spatial information. Governments will continue to have a key role in the provision of spatial information and be substantial users of spatial data; however, governments’ role in spatial information management may well change in the coming five to ten years. Nevertheless it will continue to be vital. Building bridges between organizations, collaborating with other areas of the spatial information community and, most importantly, providing complete spatial frameworks with trusted, authoritative and maintained spatial information, will be crucial to ensuring that users have access to reliable and trusted spatial information and have confidence when using it. This information is vital to inform decision making, from long term planning to emergency response, and to ensure that the potential benefit of a fully spatially enabled society are realized.

## II. TRENDS IN TECHNOLOGY, FUTURE OF DATA CREATION, MANAGEMENT

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### *A. New Wave of Data Creation*

We are witnessing an exponential growth in both the number of data capture methods and perhaps more significant, in the amount of data being generated and captured. Geography has long been 'mobile'; indeed, one of the most significant trends of the last five to ten years has been the number of devices in use that have Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) functionality and an Internet connection and that, as a result, both use and create location information. This trend will continue over the next five to ten years, we can envisage a scenario in which many objects will be, in some sense, a spatial beacon; referencing to or generating location information. The proliferation of low cost, low tech, network enabled sensor be it in mobile phones, computers, energy meters or any other everyday device will mean that previously unimaginable amounts of data will be created [1].

Data creation will be both active but also increasingly passive. Users of social media such as Twitter® and Facebook® are likely to generate vast amounts of spatially related information, without ever being particularly conscious of the fact they are doing so, as detailed information is collected as a product of everyday activities. Tweeting from a place where you have gathered with friends or posting a picture on Facebook from your phone may not be a conscious effort to create or provide spatial information but this is still, in essence, what it takes to place. New layers of data will increasingly be generated as a result of these activities, leading to what can be described as 'modelled spatial actor data, whereby information generated by individuals using websites and social media is overlaid on top of spatially accurate spatial information. The information generated through use of social media and the use of everyday devices will further enable the detection of patterns and the prediction of behavior. This is not a new trend many online companies and resources already analyze and interpret information in this way and the proliferation of LBS has been one of the major trends of the last five to ten years. But the extent to which this takes place is likely to continue to grow over the next five to ten years as yet more and more data is generated through such channels.

There is a diverse range of existing demonstrable benefits that suggest this trend will continue from life critical information in the aftermath of a disaster to lifestyle information such as finding a restaurant. In the coming five to ten years, more are likely to emerge, from lowering insurance premiums, to being able to see on a mobile device the nearest source of fresh water or the owner of a parcel of land. Individuals will continue to 'opt in' to a lifestyle that is enhanced by an ever growing number of spatial beacons and sensors, in turn providing 'analytical superfood' that can and will, if used effectively and appropriately, improve people's lives across the globe.

### *B. Managing of World Data*

The creation of such huge amounts of data will bring with it a requirement for the ability to make sense of this data, which, in and of itself, will drive demand for spatial

information as people look to location to help to make sense of and identify patterns within the sea of data that is being created. We are currently suffering from a data overload; our ability to create data is, in general, ahead of our ability to use that data effectively to solve problems. There is no doubt that there is a huge amount of value to be gained from the information contained within all this data that is being generated. However, the growth in the amount of data brings with it an ever growing requirement to be able to find the right information at the right time. The huge quantities of data now generated, and the increasing amounts of data that are likely to be created, will bring a requirement for enhanced data management systems. With approximately 2.5 quintillion bytes of data created every day, a significant amount of which will have some kind of location reference, the challenges of data management and data integration will be significant [1].

The need to address this problem will drive one of the main trends in the next five to ten years an increasing use of and reliance on 'big data' technologies technology that enable the analysis of vast quantities of information within useable and practical timeframes. Currently, many of the big data solutions being generated are custom crafted. Technology is already available to deal with big data, but the reliance on this kind of technology will grow in the next five to ten years.

The demand for real time information and real time modelling seems certain to increase in the coming years and presents major challenges. Nevertheless, techniques such as graphical processing units (GPUs), NoSQL and powerful in memory SQL databases are becoming available, which will meet the demand for integrated spatial and non-spatial analytics in orders of magnitude less elapsed time. Looking forward over the next five to ten years, new massively scalable, distributed systems for processing unstructured and semi structured data will emerge, and will become widely accepted and relied upon in the management and interpretation of spatial information. Use of these technologies will facilitate the effective use of the reams of raw data being generated by the increasing number of spatial sensors, eliminating 'the white noise of excessive data enabling us to locate the right information at the right time, thus driving effective and well informed decision making [1].

Whilst the proliferation of devices generating such information may reach most corners of the globe, the funds necessary to collate and manage such data in an effective way may not be so well distributed. There is, therefore, a risk of a digital spatial divide emerging. Technologies, and the financial resourcing required to access such technologies, are not available equally across the globe. Although many developing nations have leapfrogged in areas such as mobile communications, the lack of fibre optics and core processing power may inhibit some from taking advantage of the opportunities offered by some of these technologies. Whilst some of the technological developments highlighted have the potential to reduce costs and increase efficiencies, there is a danger that a lack of funds prevents some countries





One of the greatest policy challenges over the coming years in the global spatial community will be how countries can meet the increasing demand for free content that the internet and the presence of organizations, such as Google® and Microsoft®/Bing®, has brought. This may particularly affect those who still require significant funding to improve the quality of core spatial information in their country. However, in the next five years the drive for open data is likely to face two main counter pressures; funding, especially where making the data open carries a cost and/or where it is currently charged for; and security/privacy issues.

#### D. IoF (Internet of Free-Open)

Currently flow is latest information between users blogs and social networks that you can share the spotlight with the biggest issue is covers the nature of the service. Most of the IT services, the trend is utilized.

We supposed to make the upgrade of 'IoT'. So, this project name is 'IoF'. 'IoF' means 'Internet of Free-open'. 'IoT' is take advantage of anytime and anywhere, but separate management system is needed.

However, 'IoF' is we think that you can solve these problems. Because 'IoF' is maintenance free-open internet. So, Consumers may be managers or providers. This suggest to from user participation.

This is no longer a passive consumer of the information location means does not preferred activity.

Thus, the market related information in the map, in your role as a provider of essential being. Generating the user to date data that can provide the service needs of the growing spot became.

We think we know all the advance, we will provide the appropriate services. This is only 'IoF'.

#### V. EXTRACTING VALUE FROM A WORLD OF DATA

Although the use and availability of spatial information will be increasingly democratic, for reasons identified elsewhere in the paper, the proliferation of data, especially unstructured data, will place a premium on highly skilled data modelers. Even among the leading database companies and most advanced NMCAs, the number of experts who truly understand the interrelationships between data models and data flow is generally quite low for each organization.

Data models will need to continuously evolve to answer the range of questions and manage the rising volume of data. Hence the training of a cadre of data experts, who understand the additional complexities of spatial, non-spatial data and time based data, must be a priority if the potential benefits are to be realized. In the future this expertise is likely to reside in all sectors and hence it will be in the interest of all to sponsor appropriate education. As today, much of this will be in collaboration with the academic sector, but increasingly focused in the areas of mathematics and computer science, rather than in the more traditional geographical information systems (GIS) field.

There will of course continue to be a role for traditional GIS skills, as data outputs will still need

interpretation to create information for decision-makers. However, these experts will need to become more comfortable with interpreting fuzzy and unstructured data and will also need to find more effective channels for communicating their results.

There is still a tendency in many organizations to see GIS as a backroom function with little connection to policy or action; hence, as well as continuous development of technical skills, there is a need to focus on equipping spatial experts with softer skills in areas such as communication, presentation and influencing.

As mentioned previously, the development of robust open-source technologies will also gain further momentum over this period, and will increasingly sit alongside proprietary solutions, as has happened elsewhere in the software industry. Developers will need to be comfortable in both environments the option to specialize in one 'language' will no longer be sufficient.

This type of learning would be particularly enabled through building global networked communities to share experience and ideas, reducing the reliance on formal structures.

#### VI. THE FUTURE ROLE OF SPATIAL DATA MANAGEMENT

Many of the changes mentioned in this document will have a considerable impact on the role of governments in spatial data provision and management. However, despite the increasing number of organizations and entities collecting spatial information, NMCAs and indeed government and business users of spatial information are unlikely to be able to or wish to wholly rely on data from the private sector or other sources.

As such, governments will remain in a unique position to consider the requirements for spatial information for society as a whole and will continue to play a key role in providing a reliable, trusted and maintained spatial information base. The exact role a government chooses to take in spatial information management, the predominant challenges faced and the changes made will inevitably vary from country to country.

In some countries, a major trend will be to replace obsolete data collected many decades ago as the economic benefits of up to date data can now be quantified; in other countries a major trend will be adapting business models and access regimes to meet the changing expectations of an ever more demanding customer base accustomed to easy access to online mapping in a user friendly environment. Some countries will look increasingly to limit their activities to what may be seen as their core task whilst in others the focus may be on increased engagement and partnership with the private sector. Nevertheless, as in the previous ten years, government providers of spatial data are likely to witness significant change in the coming years. Fig. 3. We suggest that future of 'IoF', similarly to trends in collaboration.





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