A Suggested Terminology for Point-Like Entities in a Bi-Temporal Representation of 2D and 3D Land Administration Data

**Rodney THOMPSON Peter VAN OOSTEROM** Oct 2019



# What is a Point?

"0-dimensional geometric primitive, representing a position" (ISO19107: Geographic Information - Spatial Schema Page 10)

Once we know where a point is, we know everything about it (?)

A point has no attributes apart from its position (?)



#### Points are not all Equal

Fence line is built according to the survey plan

It could be incorrectly placed!

The actual Cadastral corner is not visible

Survey mark is placed in the road kerbing, and helps fix the parcel \_ corner





# A Point

- Used to define the location of something more complex such as:
  - A real-world feature (e.g. the top of a mountain)
  - A vertex of a cadastral boundary
  - A place to place a text label
  - Etc.
- ISO 19103 defines a "Direct Position", which is used to quantify the location of a point (using coordinates in relation to a Coordinate Reference System).

# Point "Movement"

- It is easy to become confused between the adjustment of a point position, and the movement of a feature to a new point
- Is it an adjustment, or has the official property boundary been changed
- The result is different for the property owner
- So consider what can cause a change in the coordinates of a point

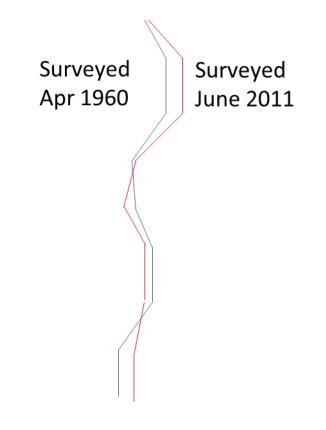




# Point "Movements"

- Tangible Movement:
- Correction:
- Natural Movement: (\*)
- Datum Change:
- Dynamic Datum:
- Local Deformation:

Is it a real-world change of position? Or a change to Database representation only?



Natural Movement



# But what does "Real World" mean?

- In most mapping it indicates a tangible object (like a river)
- Here it can be a fiat object that cannot be seen in the real world – like a property boundary
- In this discussion, "real world object" means both kinds.
- In the case of fiat boundaries it refers to the location in the real world where the boundary has been determined to be.





# **Datum Change**

- A direct position is related to a Coordinate Reference System. If it must translated to a different CRS, the coordinate values must be changed. This is not a tangible movement.
- A series of Spatial Reference IDs (SRID) have been defined, and ISO19107 indicates how the direct position may connect to a SRID.
- It is expected that if a point has coordinates (x,y,z) in SRID s, and (x',y',z') in SRID s', these map to the same point in the real world to within the accuracy of the data.

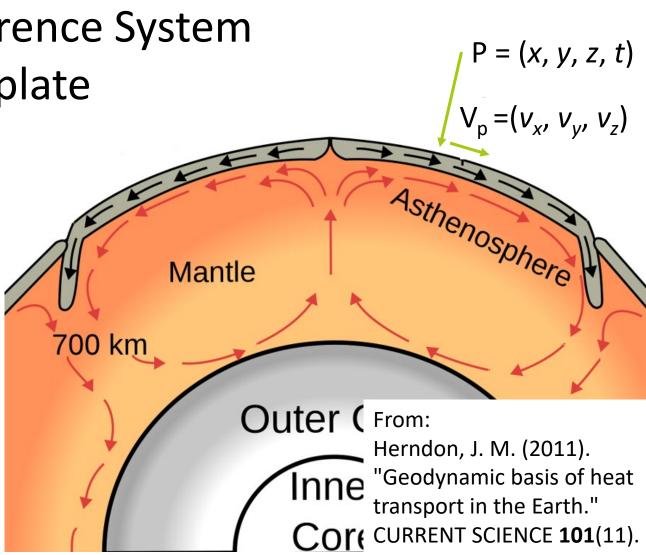


#### **Datum Change**

Coordinate Reference System moves with the plate

Periodically, a new SRID is allocated, and all the coordinates change

About every 30 years



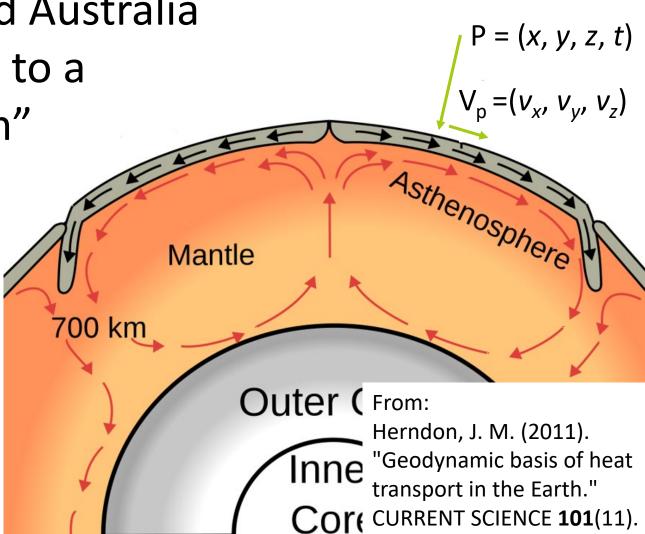


# **Dynamic Datum**

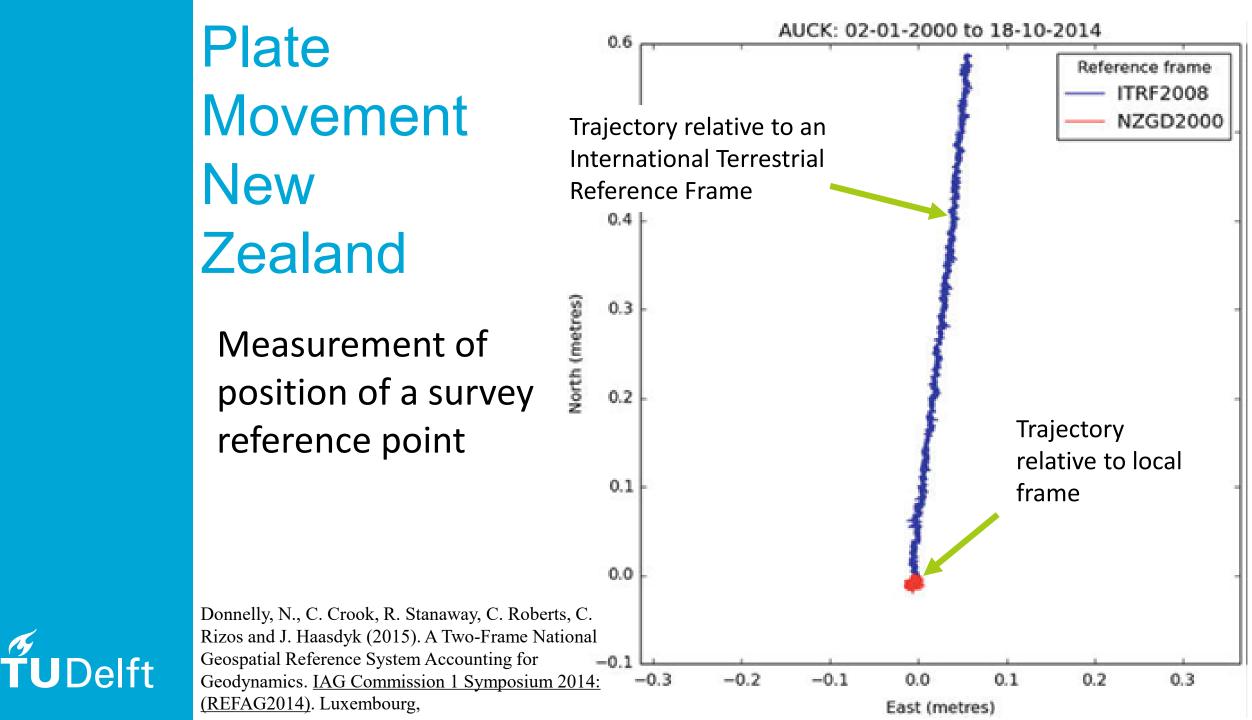
New Zealand and Australia are transitioning to a "Dynamic Datum"

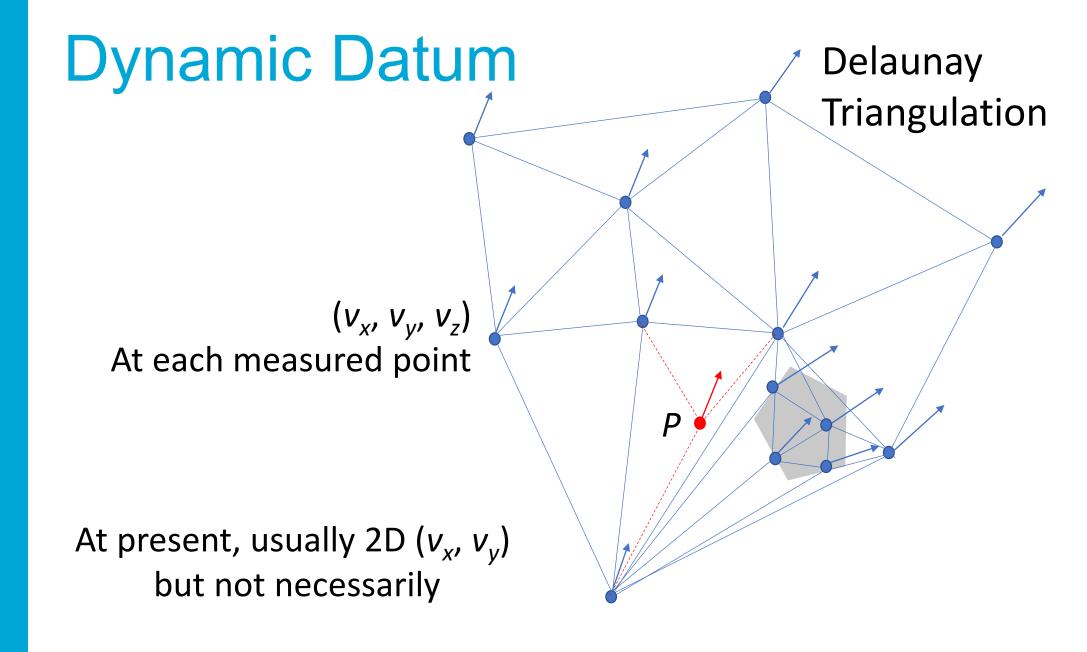
Point P carries location and velocity coordinates  $(x_0, y_0, z_0, v_x, v_y, v_z)$ 

(But the velocity will not be stored on every point)



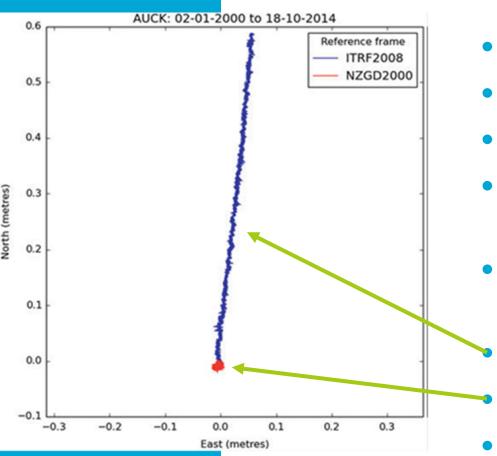








# Suggested Terminology



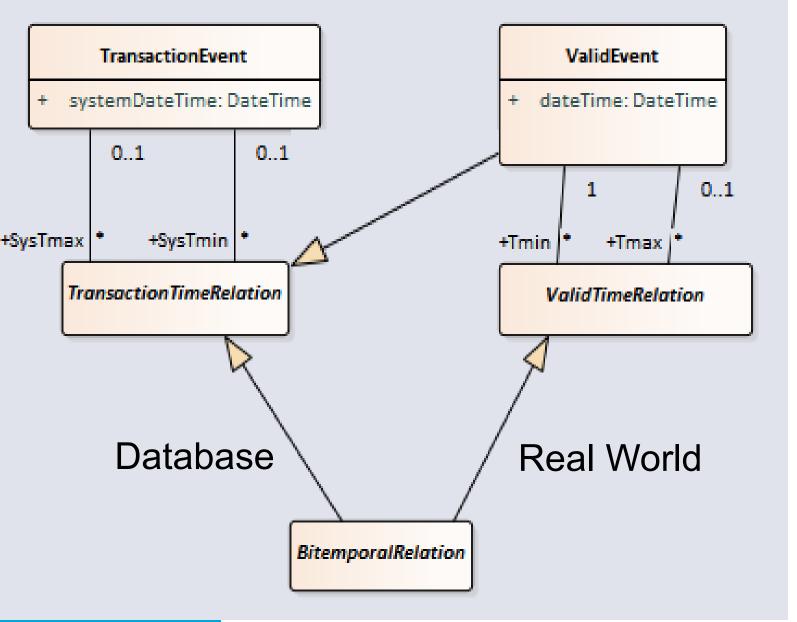


- EarthFixedLocation: (real-world)
- PlateFixedLocation: (real-world)
- PointInstant: (*x*, *y*, *z*, *t*) and SRS
- DirectEarthPosition: (not very useful in cadastre)
  - DirectPlatePosition: (*x*, *y*, *z*) and SRS (virtually all cadastral points)
    - DirectPlateTrajectory:
    - PlateFixedPoint: (real-world)
  - EarthFixedPoint: (real-world)
- Point: (in this paper = PlateFixedPoint)

#### PlateFixedPoints

- The corner of the official property boundaries, \_\_\_\_\_
- The fence corner itself and
- The survey mark Are all PlateFixedPoints.

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## **Bitemporal Data**

**Temporal query:** What was the pattern of subdivision in 1975

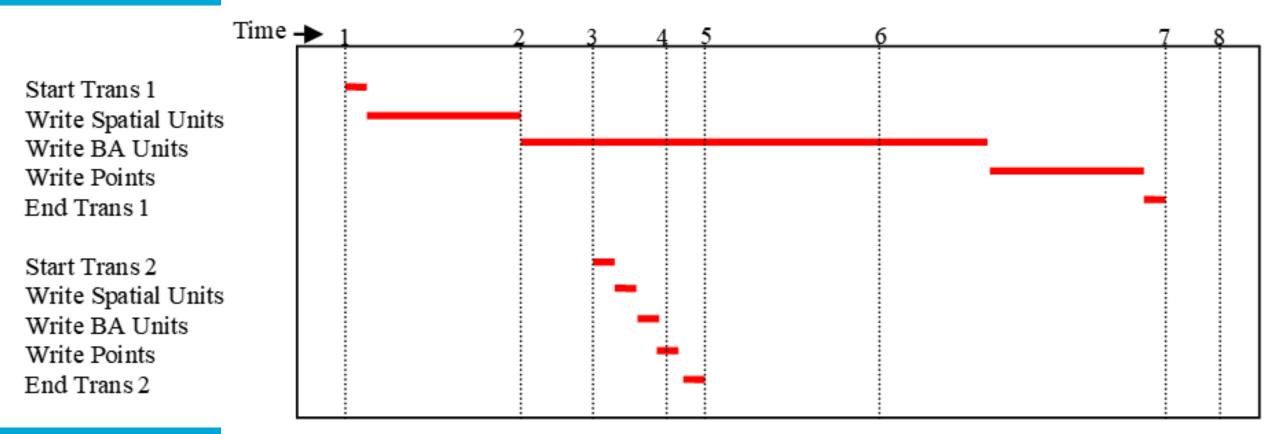
#### **Bitemporal Query:**

What did we think in 2018 the pattern of subdivision was in 1975



**Terminology from**: Snodgrass, R. T., M. H. Böhlen, C. S. Jensen and A. Steiner. (1998). "Transitioning temporal support in TSQL2 to SQL3."

### ACID (Atomicity, Consistency, Isolation and Durability) in History

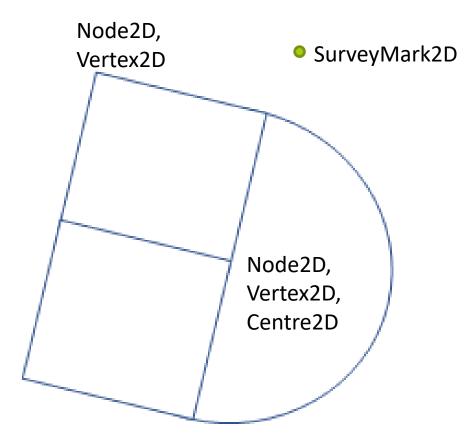




#### Real-world Point-like Objects in 2D

A corner of a 2D cadastral spatial unit is a:

Vertex2D and possibly a Node2D, which is a PlateFixedPoint (or simply a Point) located at a PlateFixedLocation, with coordinates specified in a PlateFixedPosition (*x*, *y*, *z*, SRID)

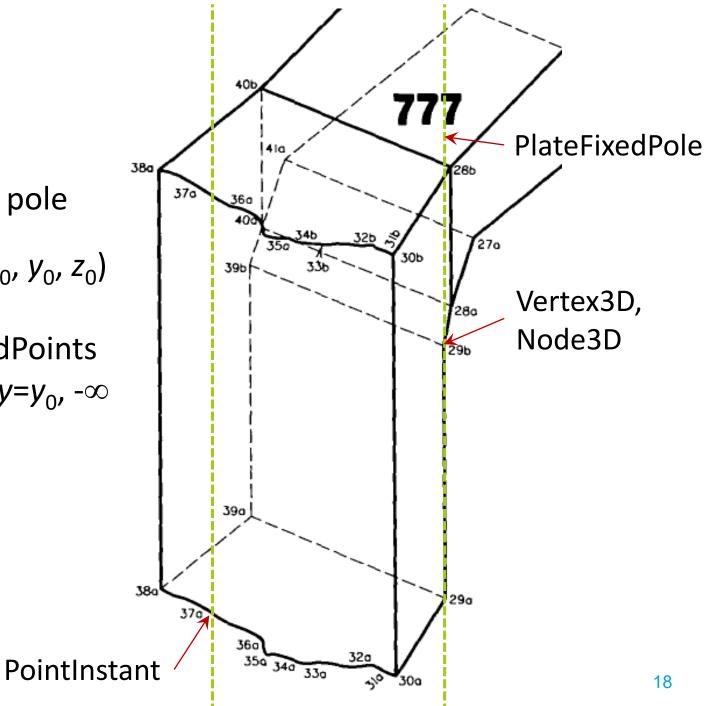


# In 3D

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 PlateFixedPole: The pole defined by a PlateFixedPoint (x<sub>0</sub>, y<sub>0</sub>, z<sub>0</sub>)

Defined as all PlateFixedPoints (x, y, z) such that  $x=x_0, y=y_0, -\infty < z < \infty$ .



# Conclusions – Point-like Objects

- The concept of "Point" has been explored in terms of spatial dimensions, temporality, and mobility – leading to a significant number of concepts and terms for point-like objects (mostly from other sources, but some invented):
- Instant, Direct Position, EarthFixedLocation, PlateFixedLocation, PointInstant, DirectEarthPosition, DirectPlatePosition, DirectPlateTrajectory, PlateFixedPoint, EarthFixedPoint, Point (!), Vertex2D, Node2D, Knot2D, Centre2D, Focus2D, TraversePoint2D, SurveyMark2D, PlateFixedPole, Vertex3D, Node3D, Knot3D, Centre3D, Focus3D, TraversePoint3D, SurveyMark3D,



# Conclusions – Bi-temporal History

Bi-temporal history has been reviewed, with the identification of concepts:

- Transaction Time (System Time), Valid Time (Application Time), Instant, TransactionEvent, ValidTimeEvent, ValidTimeRelation, TransactionTimeRelation, BitemporalRelation, VersionedObject.
- These are not necessarily the most appropriate terms.



#### **Conclusions - Variations of Location**

Various events have been identified that cause changes in the recorded position of point-like objects, and the historical outcomes of these changes investigated:

 Tangible Movement, Correction, Natural Movement, Datum Change, Dynamic Datum, Local Deformation, Unanticipated Deformation



#### **Further Research**

 This paper is limited to point-like objects – it needs to be extended to 1, 2, and 3 dimensional objects.

 There are subtleties that occur in bitemporal relations that need further investigation – especially where corrections to the valid time historic record can be made.



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