Global Multi-Resolution Topography (GMRT)

Vicki Ferrini, PhD

Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University



COLUMBIA CLIMATE SCHOOL LAMONT-DOHERTY EARTH OBSERVATORY

GMRT is supported by the US National Science Foundation.



GMRT is...

- a Global Multi-Resolution Topography data synthesis
- an infrastructure for delivering elevation data as grids, images, profiles and points at user-defined locations/elevations & full access to source data
- a **tiling scheme** for efficiently storing and delivering multiresolution data, maintained simultaneously in 3 projections
- a scalable methodology for QA/QC'ing multibeam sonar data that is very well-suited for integrating multibeam data acquired during transits

GMRT: Goals

- Provide users with access to seamlessly integrated bathymetry and land elevation data at the best resolution available for a particular area of interest
- Support broad accessibility by specialists and non-specialists alike through multiple user interfaces, services, and output formats
- Continuously expand bathymetry coverage by integrating new data and highlighting data gaps
- Strive for scalability and efficiency in all aspects of data stewardship continuum





GMRT: Overview

- Multi-resolution tiled synthesis
 - Topography and bathymetry
- Comprehensive metadata
 - Full attribution to sources & access to source data
- Simultaneously maintained in 3 projections
- Data accessible in multiple formats
 - Grids, Images, Points, Profiles
- Multiple tools/interfaces:
 - GMRT MapTool Web App
 - GeoMapApp Desktop App
 - GMRT Web Services









GMRT Grid Composer

- Maintain input raster data at native resolution
- Curate four discrete tiled elevation components
 - update components independently and on different schedules
- Raster data merged on-the-fly to create custom products for users







GMRT: Distributable Data Processing and Curation





GMRT MBS Data Curation – Strategy & Rationale

- Create clean swath files and review them as rasterized tiles in the context of existing GMRT MB Synthesis
- Grid at best resolution data can support = *at least* 100m resolution
 - Tiled rasters optimize disk space
- Maintain processed source data as compressed swath files that can be reaccessed and re-processed
- Rasters for each cruise blended with tiled rasters from other cruises and then consumed by GMRT grid composer
- Rasters for each cruise are maintained on back-end to facilitate removal/updating and/or custom grid composition



Data Preservation and Accessibility

Swath Files



Point Clouds

Grids



Images



Specialized tools, skills, knowledge



Conclusions

- Data stewardship approach delivers multiple products to ensure ease of access *and* future ready data
 - Easily accessible images and grids
 - Processed swath files (strongly recommend GSF!)
- GMRT data curation focuses on processing swath data from US Academic Fleet (ARF)
- Complements role of NCEI MB archive
 - Source of raw multibeam data (also cataloged within R2R)
 - Destination for processed MB data (also cataloged within MGDS)
- Questions of where to submit/discover data can be addressed through interoperability and collaboration between repositories and synthesis efforts
 - Multiple mechanisms for data discovery are a good thing!