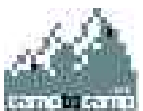


Public GeoData License

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Introduction

- OpenGIS, WorldWideWeb Consortium and other institutions like International Standard Organisation (for metadatas) released important normative specifications for GIS, like GML, WMS, SVG, JPEG2000, ...
- A new generation of GIS applications have appeared for advanced web-gis, cellphones, or pda.
- More and more institutions wish to promote their services by publishing their geographical data.
Furthermore, french laws and european rules invite them to do so.



Massive GIS

- A new challenge for GIS is massive GIS: I mean large client-server web applications, for a wide community of georeferenced information producers and users.
- With satellite positioning related to GIS, almost everybody could produce georeferenced data. The accuracy is about ten meters with a basic GPS.
- Communities of users dream of a wide panel of new kinds of GIS applications and wait for software, while free software producers often wait for geodata.

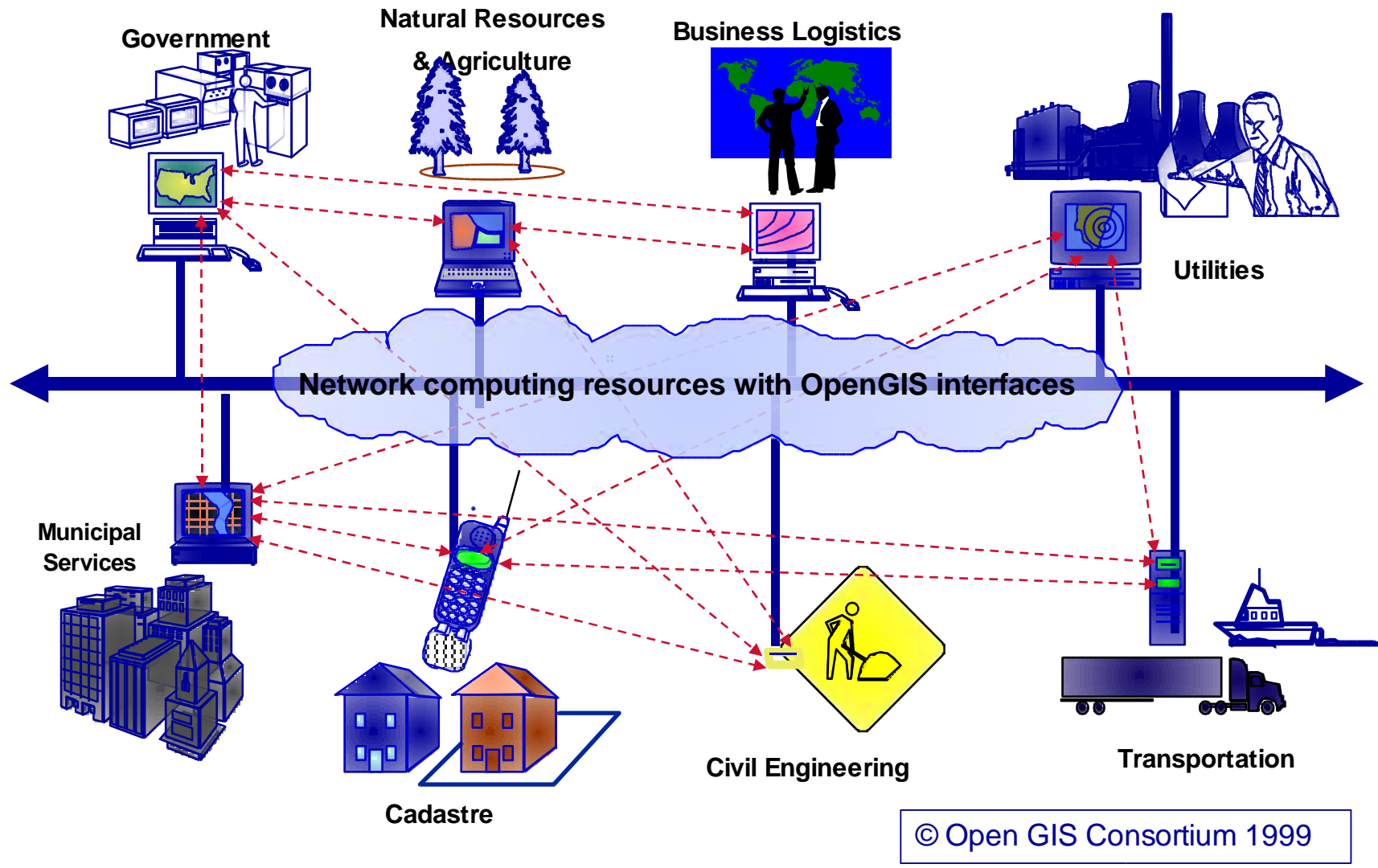


Massive GIS

- First experiences assimilated these facts to create cooperative Web-GIS, with public updating by web interfaces.
- Like for free software, we need a specific licence to trust massive-GIS projects enough to get people to contribute.



Open GIS Consortium



Geographical information

- In any database, on average, **80% of information is geographical.**
- The observation of the Earth in itself is not subjected to copyright: only the legislations on military secrecy, the respect of privacy, the statistical confidentiality, and the royalty may limit the right to publish geographical information: it is supposed that there is a basic right to the knowledge of the Earth, a kind of « *right to do geography* ». ;-)



Geographical data

- GIS place cartography between art and computing: maps are very generally subjected to copyright(s).
- Legal specificities of geographical information concern at the same time arts, sciences, and people's rights.
- Geographical data have a double legal status: in France:
- In databases as in cartography, they must respect legislation resulting from the French law known as « Informatique et libertés » (data-processing and freedom), such as statistical confidentiality, but also intellectual property rights, like any work of creation.



The need for a specific license

- Thus although licenses like GPL, LGPL, free art, or other free licenses can be used for software and other works of creation, it seems useful to make a license available to the community of users and producers of geographical information adapted to their needs, with the spirit which has proved successful for free software.
- Many free licenses exist, for many purposes. Why not use one for geographical data ?
- A specific licence has two advantages:
 - Metadata are included as part of the license .
 - Responsibilities are legally limited by the license terms.



Metadata

- The Public Geodata License must be included in metadata as much as the metadata standard used permit that, or must be bundled with geodata otherwise.
- Metadata are very important to guarantee legal safety to a producer, particularly according to French laws.
- Metadata should at least include information about data creation, authors, license(s), geographical and semantical accuracy, ...
- ***I recommend the use of the new ISO metadata standard (ISO 19115:2003).***



Freedom

Free geographical data must give 4 liberties:

- The liberty to **use data for all purposes** (0)
- The liberty to **study data and adapt them** to your needs (1).
- The liberty to **distribute copies** (2).
- The liberty to **enhance data and publish** the enhancements (3)

**Free access to data, attributes,
and metadata is required.**



Public Geodata licence (french release)

- In France (and elsewhere, but subject to other legal analyses), it seems possible to propose a licence likely to:
- Guarantee the rights of the users and legal safety to the authors.
- Facilitate the creation and the publication of geographical data as « composite works » with multiple contributors.
- The DGL license is the French version of the Public Geodata Licence concept (PGL). It is made from a free adaptation of the GPL license.
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- The DGL license is the French version of the Public Geodata Licence concept (PGL). It is made from a free adaptation of the GPL license.
 - A French « beta version » 0.1 is open to improvements at

<http://sig.cwriter.org>



PGL worldwide

- Free geographical data is a worldwide need. As is free license for such data. So the Public Geodata License initiative should be developed worldwide, in many languages and for many different local laws.
- It's a new challenge which needs contributions from geomaticians and lawyers worldwide.



Long term purposes

- The long term purposes are:

To attract **more contributors**.

To **release** a 1.0 French version release as soon as possible.

To **internationalize** the PGL project.

To develop **communication** around PGL.



Economic model

- Like for free software, free geographical data are not always available for free: enterprises could use the PGL license as a commercial asset.
- We assume that new kinds of enterprises will appear: Free Geographical Data producers, distributors, and integrators, as was done for free software.
- Like some make money with free software distribution, service companies could make money with free geographical data distribution and integration.

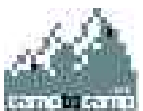


PGL challenge

- Very few geographical data are really free. Even in the most advanced experiences, licenses generally prohibit free web uses and downloads.
- Free licenses have created the required spirit for massive free software development.

*The PGL challenge is
to do the same for geodata.*

PUBLIC GEODATA LICENSE



French PGL License

- As the PGL initiative is issued from a small kernel of French geomaticians, and as it is transposed from an adaptation of the General Public License to geographical data, I do not wish to translate it back into English language.
- Other localized versions, including the English one, will need not only translations but also legal analysis to really transpose the PGL concept to other national contexts.
- To get the last version of the PGL license (French language), connect to <http://sig.cwriter.org/index.php/PGL>
- Current version is 0.1



Questions ?