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Development of Geoid Model-A case study on Western India

by

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Height ?

- The word 'height' has no singular meaning.
- Height may be defined as the distance measured along normal, between a point and the base (reference surface).
- We need a **reference surface** which is associated to gravity field of the earth.
- For practical purposes, the heights should fulfill water flow criteria i.e. Water flow from higher to lower level.

Ellipsoid as height Datum ?

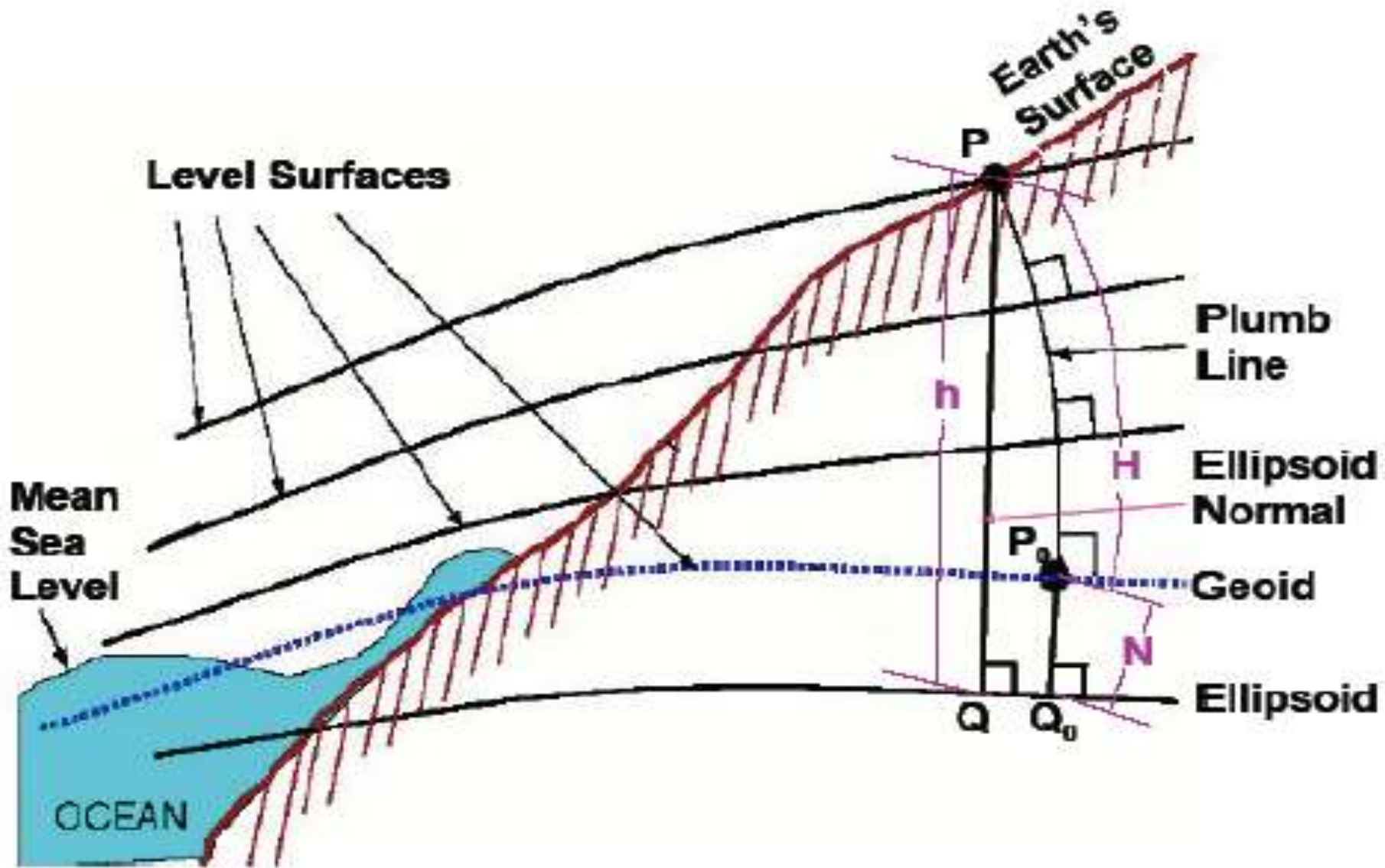
- Ellipsoid is a mathematical or geometrical surface with **NO** practical association to actual gravity of the earth.
- Height above ellipsoid are only geometrical.
- Not necessarily fulfill the criteria of water flow.
- Water flow criteria is satisfied by **Geoid** referenced heights.

Geoid / MSL

- Geoid is an equi-potential surface of Earth's gravity field. It is closely approximated by MSL (Mean Sea Level) neglecting long term effect of sea surface topography (SST).
- MSL heights are provided by spirit levelling which is tedious, time consuming & expensive.

Geoid Model

$$h = N + H.$$



Why do we need a geoid model?

- It will save **time & money** of spirit levelling.
- Help in Reducing the time of completion of Engineering & Development projects.
- Will also help scientific community.

DATA REQUIREMENT

- Free air gravity anomaly (FA) in and around the area of interest.
- A suitable Global Geo-potential Model (GGM) like EGM96 etc.
- A high-resolution digital elevation model (DEM) like SRTM etc. for computation of terrain effects.
- Well distributed data of **N** i.e. GNSS observations on Bench Marks in the area.

Overview of Methodology

- Widely adopted RCR (Remove-Compute-Restore) method has been used to develop Geoid Model

REMOVE STEPS

$$\text{Residual FA, } \Delta g_{\text{res}} = \Delta g_{\text{FA}} - \Delta g_{\text{TC/RTM}} - \Delta g_{\text{GGM}}$$

COMPUTE STEPS

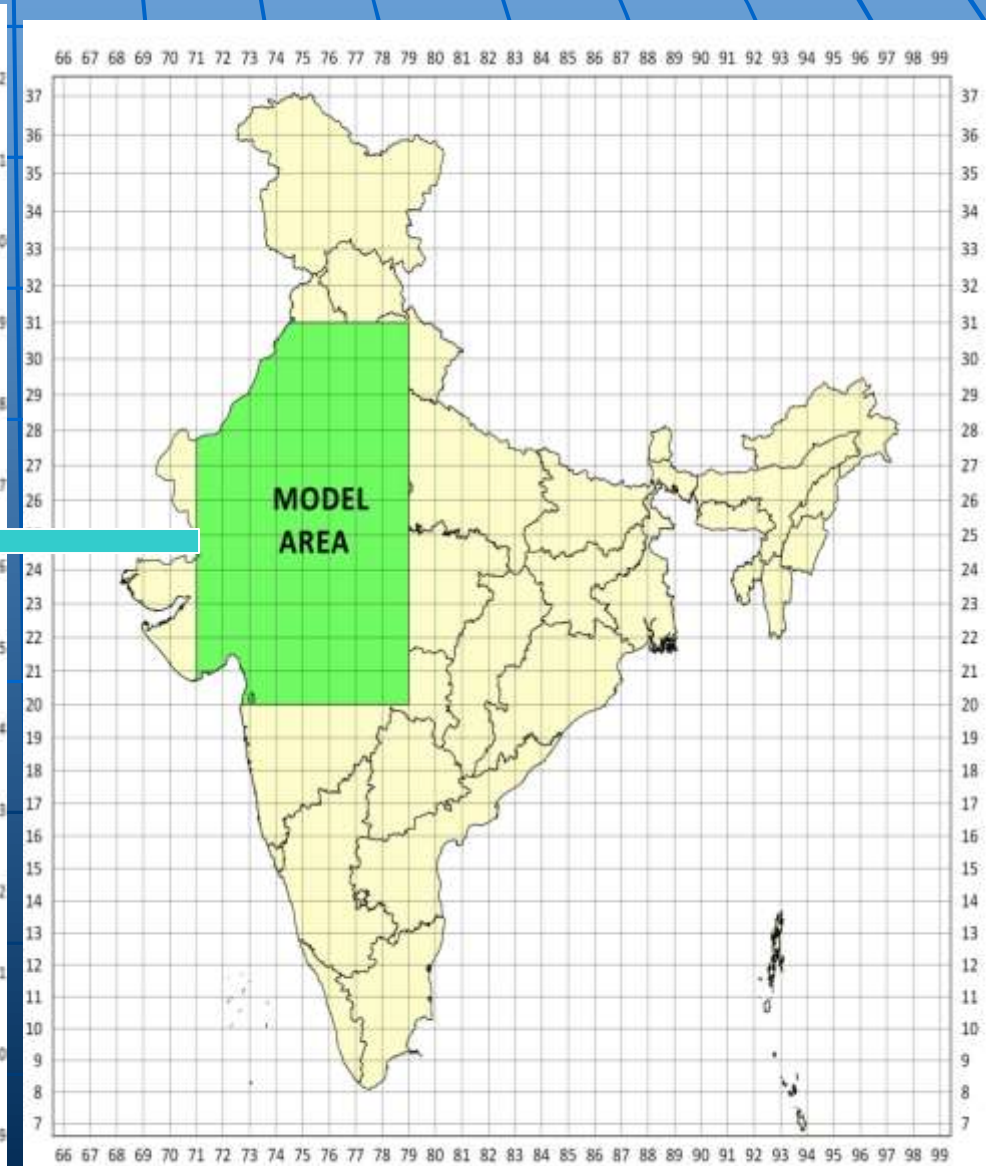
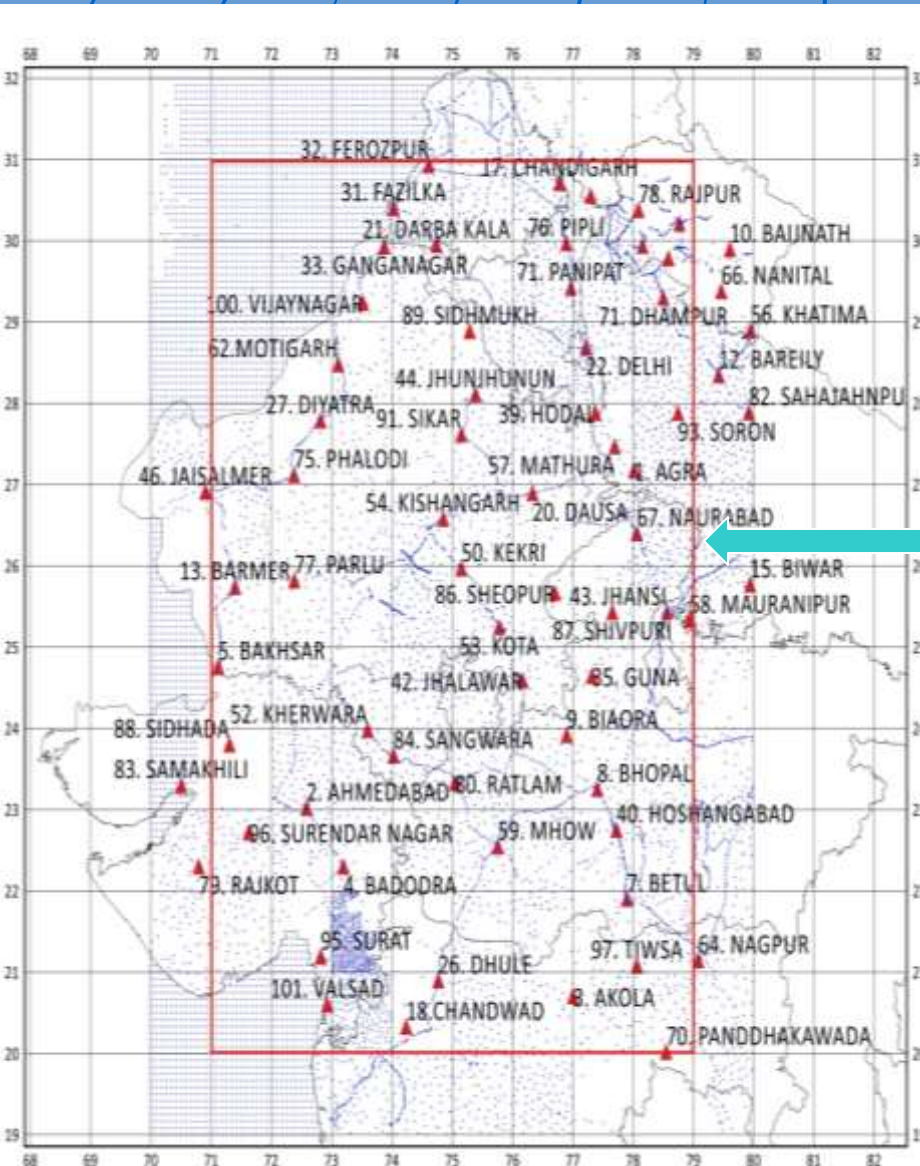
$$\mathbf{N}_{\text{res}} = \frac{R}{4\pi\gamma} \iint_{\sigma} \Delta g_{\text{res}} S(\psi) d\sigma$$

Stokes formula with optimized Kernel

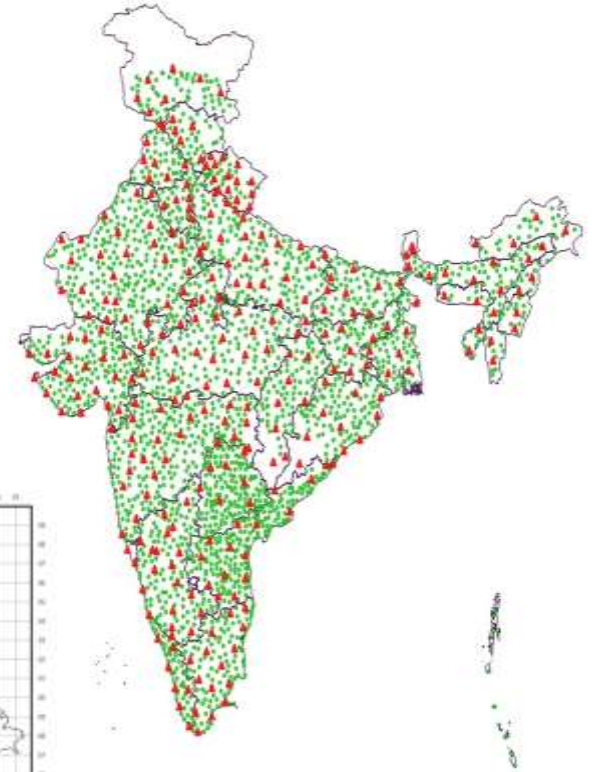
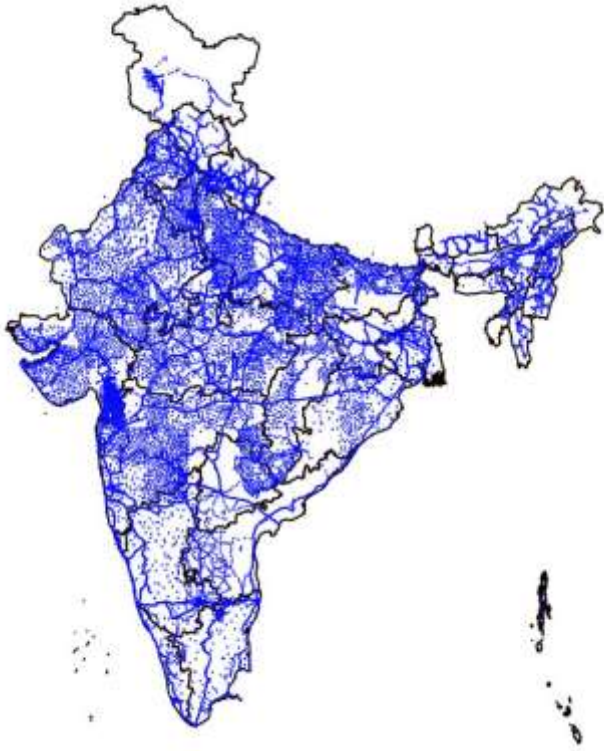
RESTORE STEPS

$$\mathbf{N}_{\text{gravimetric}} = \mathbf{N}_{\text{res}} + \mathbf{N}_{\text{GGM}} + \mathbf{N}_{\text{terrain}}$$

Study Area



Data Available with Survey of India



Gravity coverage

Ground Control Points

Spirit Levelling data

Selection of GGM

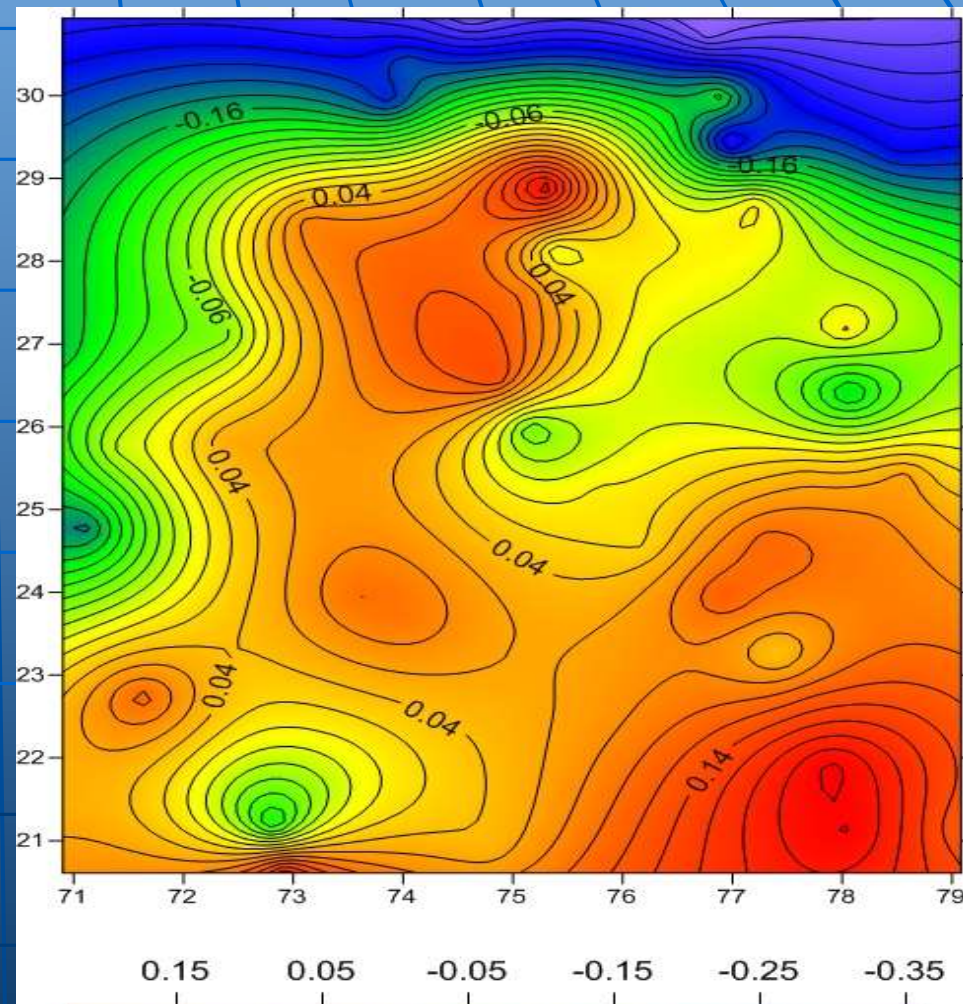
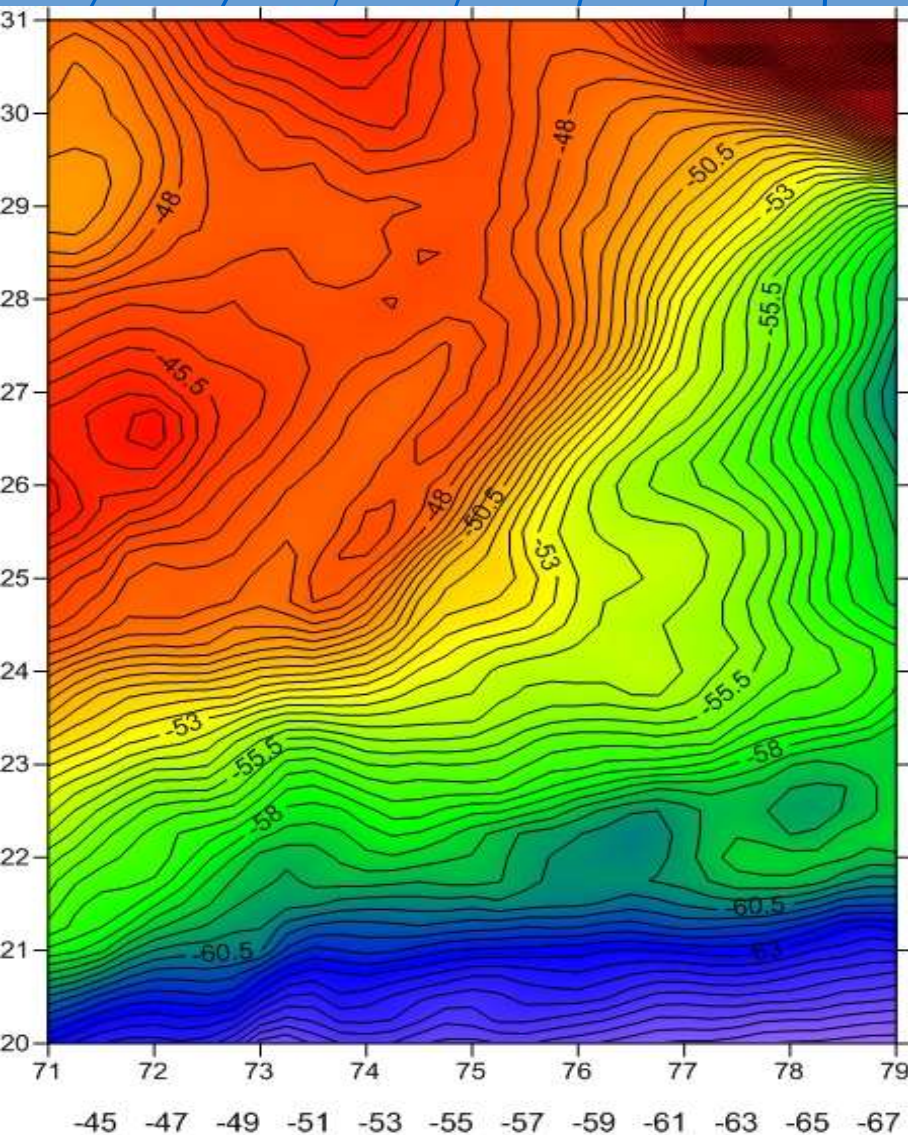
Global geo-potential model plays a very important role in development of regional geoid.

Sl. No.	Global Gravity Model	Min	Max	Mean	RMSE
1	XGM 2016 (degree 719)	-0.730	2.185	0.858	0.928
2	GOCO05C (degree 720)	-0.808	2.232	0.846	0.924
3	GGM05C (degree 360)	-0.737	2.225	0.832	0.914
4	GECO (degree 720)	-0.699	2.246	0.859	0.931
5	EIGEN6C4 (degree 720)	-0.696	2.260	0.871	0.939
6	EIGEN6C3STAT (degree 720)	-0.678	2.227	0.879	0.947
7	EGM08 (degree 720)	-0.828	2.248	0.894	0.968
8	EGM08GOCE5 (degree 720)	-0.797	2.331	0.868	0.957

‘GGM05C’, the best fitting model in the area of interest, has been selected for considering the effect of long wavelength.

Gravimetric Geoid

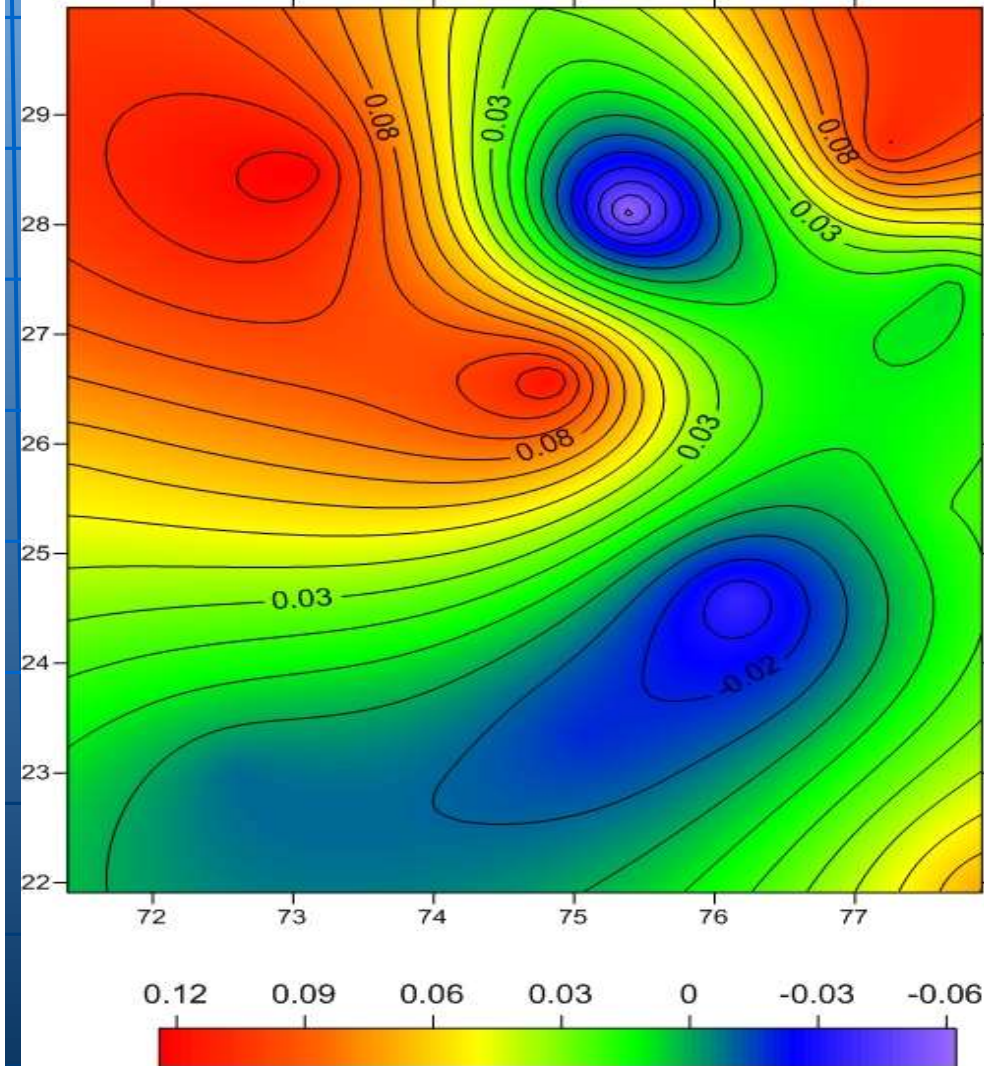
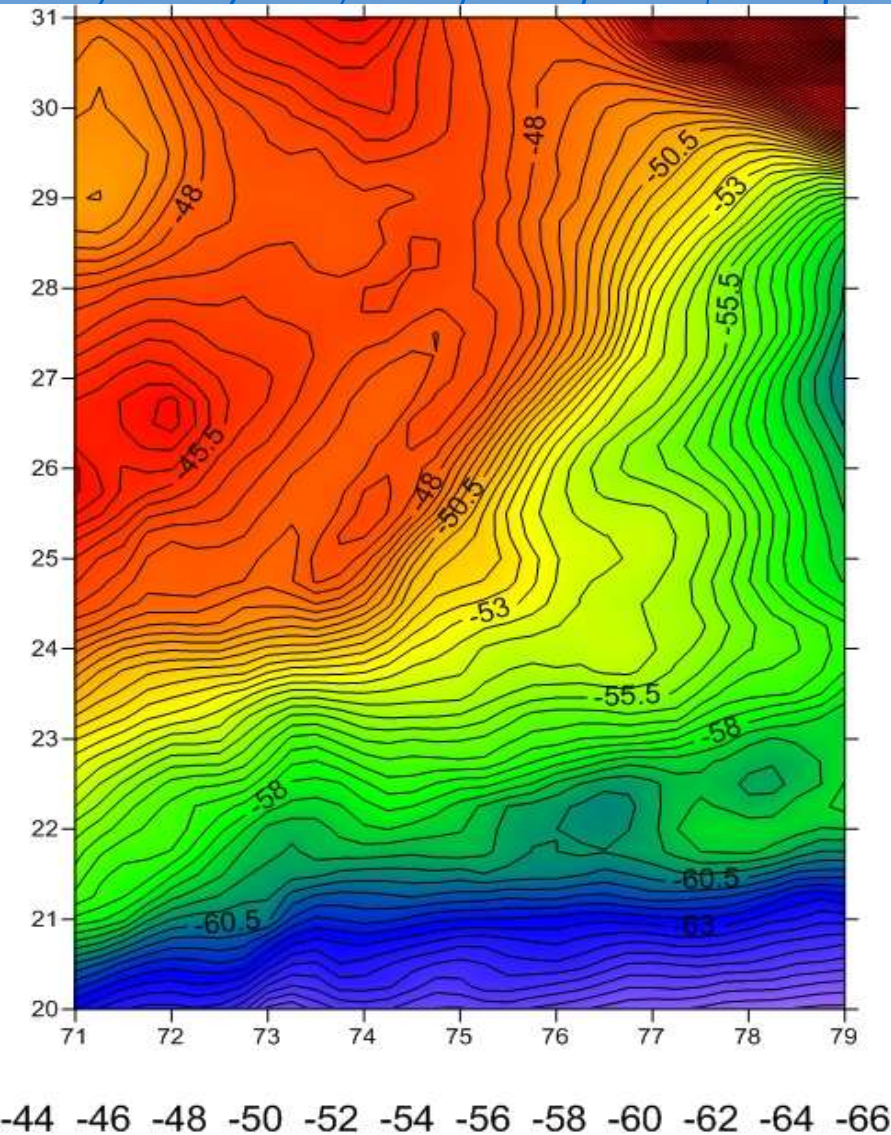
Residual of Gravimetric N & GNSSBMs



Minimum Difference	Maximum Difference	Mean	RMSE
-0.346	0.226	-0.005	0.136

Final Hybrid Geoid

Residual of Hybrid N & test points



Minimum Difference	Maximum Difference	Mean	RMSE
-0.064	0.125	0.039	0.072

Conclusion

- It will definitely facilitate GNSS user of any community to derive faster & cheaper MSL heights.
- It will help in connecting the vertical datum of island like Andaman etc. with main land.
- More data collection for development of precise Geoid Model is already under way.
- The Survey of India is releasing **beta version Geoid Model** for entire India very shortly.



Thanks