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On the Height Datum of Taiwan

Peter Tian-Yuan Shih, Jiu-Fu Huang National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan The Ministry of Interior August 16, 2017

Outline

- Introduction
- The reference tidal station and height origin
- First order levelling network
- Gravity and local geoid model
- The current progress
- Concluding remarks

Introduction

- The vertical dimension of a geodetic system is just as important as the horizontal, and even more complex.
- Height systems:
 - ◆dynamic height,
 - ◆orthometric height,
 - ◆normal height, and
 - ◆geometric height

Introduction ₋₂

- The Department of Land Administration, under Ministry of the Interior, is fully responsible for the definition and maintenance of national surveying datum in Taiwan.
- "Implementation Regulations of Fundamental Surveying" (基本測量實施規則, http://law.moj.gov.tw/LawClass/LawAll.aspx?PC ode=D0060096) published on November 15, 2007,

Introduction ₋₃

- In article 7, the vertical geodetic datum applied in Taiwan is officially defined as **TWVD 2001**.
- article 8 regulates the gravity survey
- article 9 regulates the depth datum
- National Land Surveying and Mapping Center (NLSC): regular maintenance of the national fundamental surveying infrastructure, including both horizontal and vertical, physical and geometric.

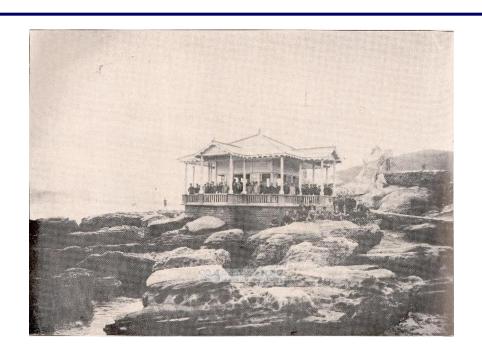
The reference tidal station and height origin

MOI (2011a):

"The height of Benchmarks in Taiwan adopted orthometric system. And, the height is referenced to the tide dated to **January 1, 1990**, under standard atmospheric condition. This tidal reference value is derived from the tidal observations collected from **1957 to 1991**. This height datum is named Taiwan Vertical Datum 2001, TWVD2001 in abbreviation."

Levelling History

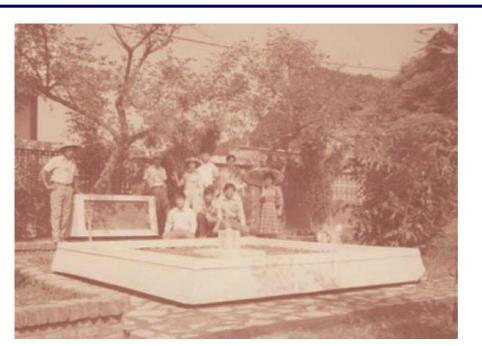
- 1902-1914: Japanese occupation era
- **1**975
- **1**984
- **2**001-2003





1902

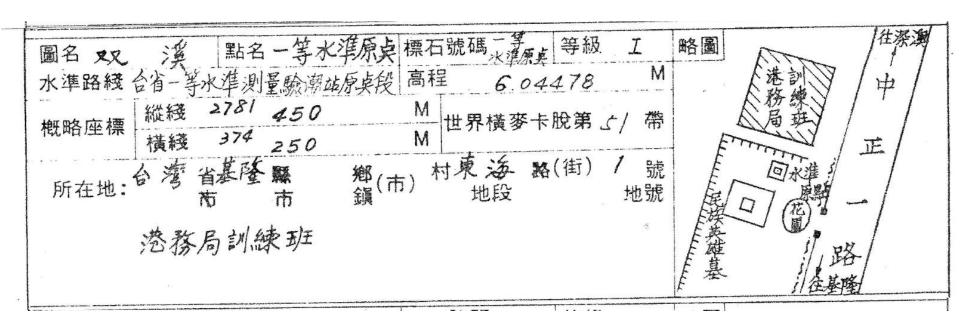
臨時臺灣總督府工事部基隆出張所社寮島驗潮所 (Photo archived in the library of National Taiwan University, digital image provided by MOI)





1977

The Keelung First Order Levelling Origin, 1977 (Provided by MOI)



Height published in 1979 in the amendment of 1977 National Levelling Report

2002









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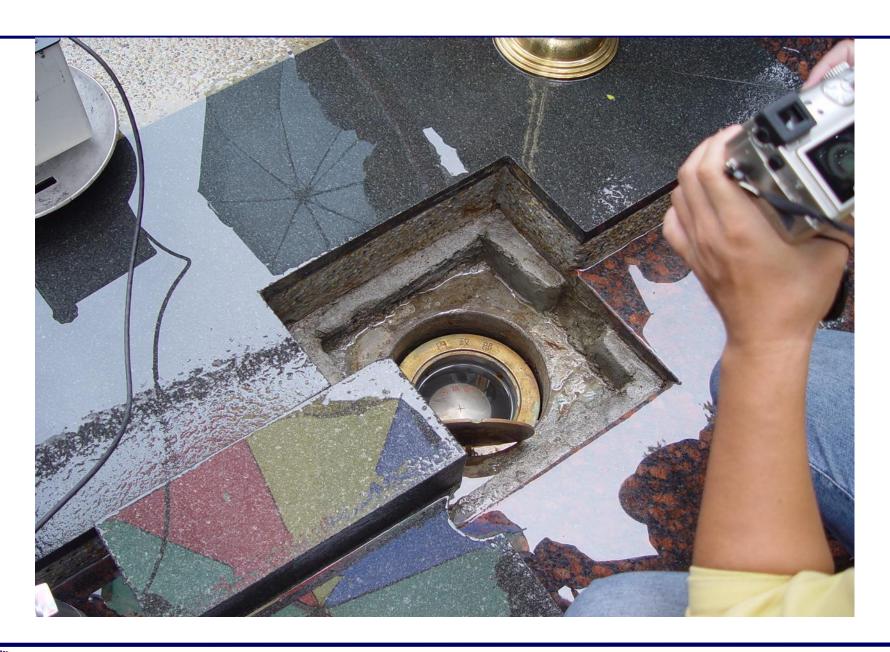








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新站位置











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Datum Benchmark

Datum Benchmark is the legally defined national vertical reference to serve as the geodetic datum The earliest geodetic vertical system associated with island-wide leveling network in Taiwan was established in 1914. After the regime change in 1945, the Ministry of the Interior set up the datum benchmark in the Haimen Park which pertains to the mean sea level observed by Keelung tide gauge. In compliance with the development of local community, the datum benchmark is re-located here to continue the service henceforth. Ministry of the Interior December, 2013



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水準原點

企业大水準原點 係國土測繪法規定地表高程(俗稱海拔高)之起算點 企與高程意象進行美化設置;鄰近另設有水準原點主點K997採不 第一個棒植入深達14公尺之岩盤,以力求穩固,用昭來茲。

Datem Benchmark

Datum Benchmark is the legally defined national vertical reference to serve as the geodetic datum. This associate turn benchmark K996 is designed and built in the form of a traditional stone carving pillar with its artistic images to symbolize the concept of geodetic orientation and elevation. The printary datum benchmark K997 located nearby is exclusively set on a stainless steel rod bored in the printary deep to ensure the mark is as sturdy as possible.





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First order levelling network

- Dated to the end of 2015, there are 2140 first order benchmarks distributed in Taiwan. Considering the total land area of Taiwan, 36,193 km², the density is quite high. These benchmarks are all linked into a network.
- The major part of the survey was conducted in 2001-2003, and maintained by NLSC annually.

First order levelling network ₋₂

■ In the specification documented in the appendix number 5 of "Implementation Regulations of Fundamental Surveying", the accuracy of the levelling is $\pm 2.5 \text{mm} \sqrt{k}$, where k is the number of levelling route length in km..

First order levelling network _3

- The first order levelling network is not limited to Taiwan island only, but also on other surrounding islands, including Kinmen, Hsiao Kinmen, Penghu, Qimei, WangAn, Luedao (Green island), Lanyu, Xiaoliuqiu, Nangan, Peigan, Dongsha, and others.
- The zero height reference is all referred to the MSL of local tidal stations.

Gravity and local geoid model

- Ministry of the Interior announced a version of digital geoid undulation model in 2002.
- The current model is TWHYGEO2014.
- The coverage is between latitude north 21 to 26 degree, longitude east 119 to 123 degree. The spatial resolution of TWHYGEO2014 is 30x30 arc second and is a hybrid model derived with merging gravity datasets referenced on the global gravity model EGM2008

The current progress

- **■** Height modernization
- **■** Depth datum
- **■** Dynamic vertical datum

Height modernization

- Could the first order benchmark be maintained with GNSS?
- How reliable would it be?
- How well would the CORS (Continuously Operated Reference Stations) be able to serve as a height frame?

Depth datum

- The nature of depth datum is that it is completely linked to the tide at that site.
- The geoid is the shape that the surface of the oceans would take under the influence of Earth's gravity and rotation alone, in the absence of other influences such as winds and tides" (Wikipedia, 2017)

Depth datum ₋₂

■ The geoid deviates from the MSL (Mean Sea Level). And, the offset between LAT (Lowest Astronomic Tide) and MSL varies from location to location. LAT is the reference surface for depth datum recommended by IHO (IHO, 2012).

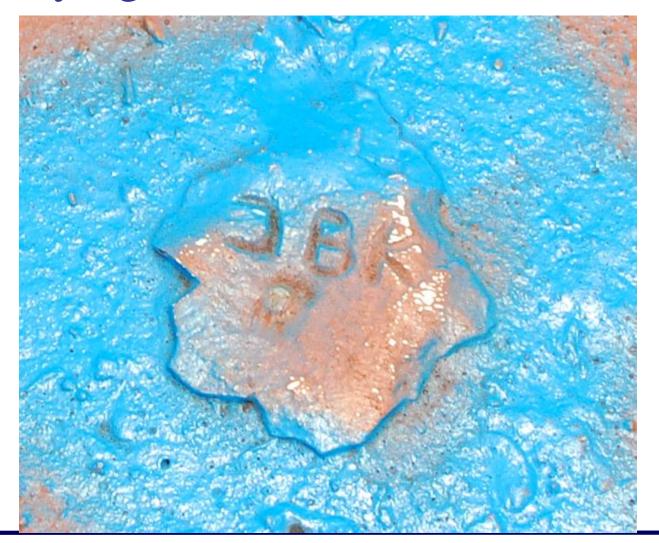
Dynamic vertical datum

- Earthquakes, typhoon and intensive rainfalls, volcano activities, ground water consumption, etc.
- All these factors together mean that a dynamic model for the vertical dimension would be ideal.

GDBD2009

- A new geocentric datum for Brunei Darussalam 2009 (GDBD2009) was established using GPS space geodetic technology based on the ITRF2005 reference frame.
- The GDBD2009 is related to ITRF2005 through the inclusion of the 8 GPS stations of the Brunei Darussalam Zero Order Network and have been processed together with more than fifty IGS stations around the world.

Surveying Marks in Brunei Darussalam



Jambatan Pehin dato Haji Awang Mohd Noor





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Welcome to Taiwan

■ ASEAN- Taiwan Forum on Land Surveying and Geomatics on 10 July 2017



Welcome to Taiwan

■ Taiwan is also looking forward to hosting ASEAN-FLAG meetings and conferences such as SEASC in the future.



Thank you for your attention!