



# GDAL 2.3

**20 year already and heading to the  
cloud!**

Even Rouault  
*SPATIALYS*

# GDAL/OGR : Introduction

- GDAL? Geospatial Data Abstraction Library. The swiss army knife for geospatial.
- Read and write Raster (GDAL) and Vector (OGR) datasets
- 240 (mainly) geospatial formats and protocols.
- Widely used



(> 100 <http://trac.osgeo.org/gdal/wiki/SoftwareUsingGdal>)

- MIT/X Open Source license (permissive)

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# GDAL/OGR 2.3

- v2.3.0: May 4th 2018. V2.3.1: June 22nd 2018
- 3801 “commits” (total since 1998: 37988)
- 3 RFCs implemented during 2.3 cycle
  - Use (and build requirement) for C++11
  - Migration from Trac+Subversion to GitHub
    - Past tickets remain in Trac database
    - New tickets to be created on GitHub
  - Autodetection of output format from file extension
    - gdal\_translate my.tif my.png
    - ogr2ogr my.gpkg my.shp

# GDAL/OGR 2.3

- 2 new raster drivers
  - PDS4: Planetary Data System v4 (NASA format)
    - XML header for metadata + raw binary file for imagery
    - Read/Write
  - RDA: DigitalGlobe Raster Data Access. Read acces to images through REST API
- 2 new vector drivers:
  - MVT: MapBox Vector Tiles
  - WFS3
- ESRIJSON et TOPOJSON drivers split off from existing GeoJSON driver (unchanged functional scope)
- Gdal2tiles can be multi-threaded

# MVT driver (Mapbox Vector Tiles)

- Read/write
- Variants: tileset of files or MBTILES container

```
/metadata.json      ← List layers and attributes
/0/
  0/
    0.pbf
/1/
  0/
    0.pbf
    1.pbf
  1/
    0.pbf
    1.pbf
```

# MVT driver

- Read:
  - On-disk or HTTP accessible tiles

```
ogrinfo MVT:https://free.tilehosting.com/data/v3/1 -oo tile_extension="pbf.pict?key=${YOUR_KEY}" \
-oo metadata_file="https://free.tilehosting.com/data/v3.json?key=${YOUR_KEY}"
```

- Geometry clipping or not
- Write settings:
  - Zoom level
  - Resolution and buffer size
  - Geometry simplification
  - Layer assigning per zoom level

# WFS3 driver

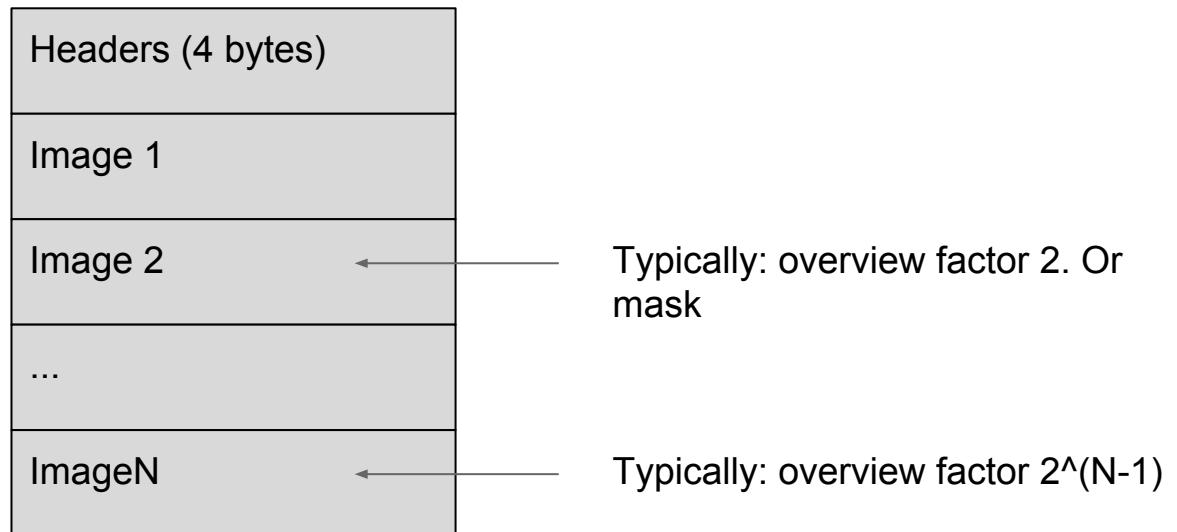
- EXPERIMENTAL! Specification is moving a lot (driver updated in GDAL 2.3.1)
- WFS v3:
  - Nice break w.r.t previous WFS versions
  - REST philosophy
    - GET /collections
    - GET /collections/{name}/items?bbox=160.6,-55.95,-170,-25.89
    - GET /collections/{name}/items/{id}
  - End of all-XML. Content negotiation
  - OpenAPI 3.0
  - Minimal core, easy to implement

# Cloud Optimized GeoTIFF (COG)

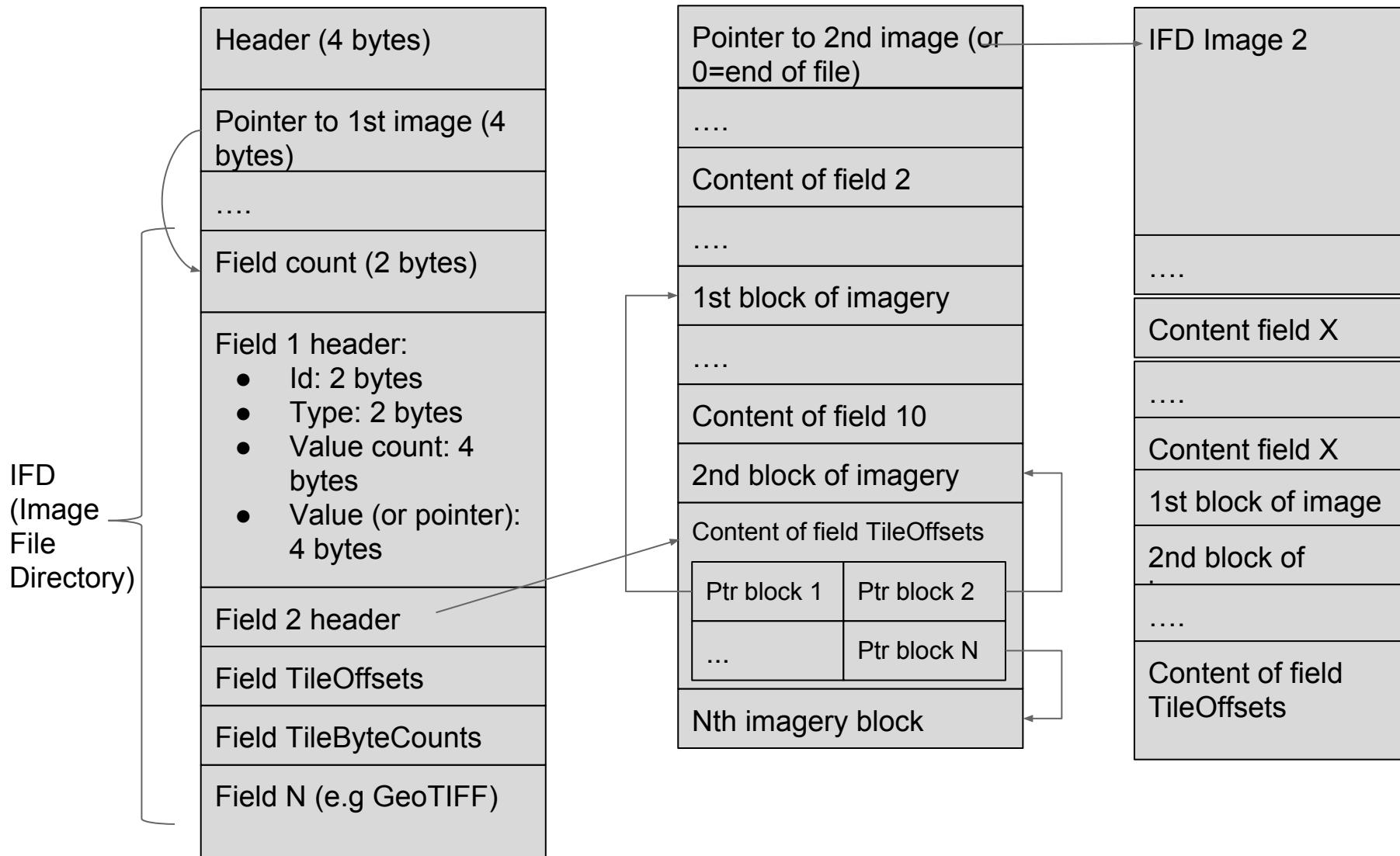
- “Profile” of TIFF format, optimized for reading through HTTP
- Goal: efficient access to subparts of the file without specialized server
- ~ WCS with only a file server
- Client-side: use of HTTP GET requests with Range header
- Increasing adoption by software and data providers



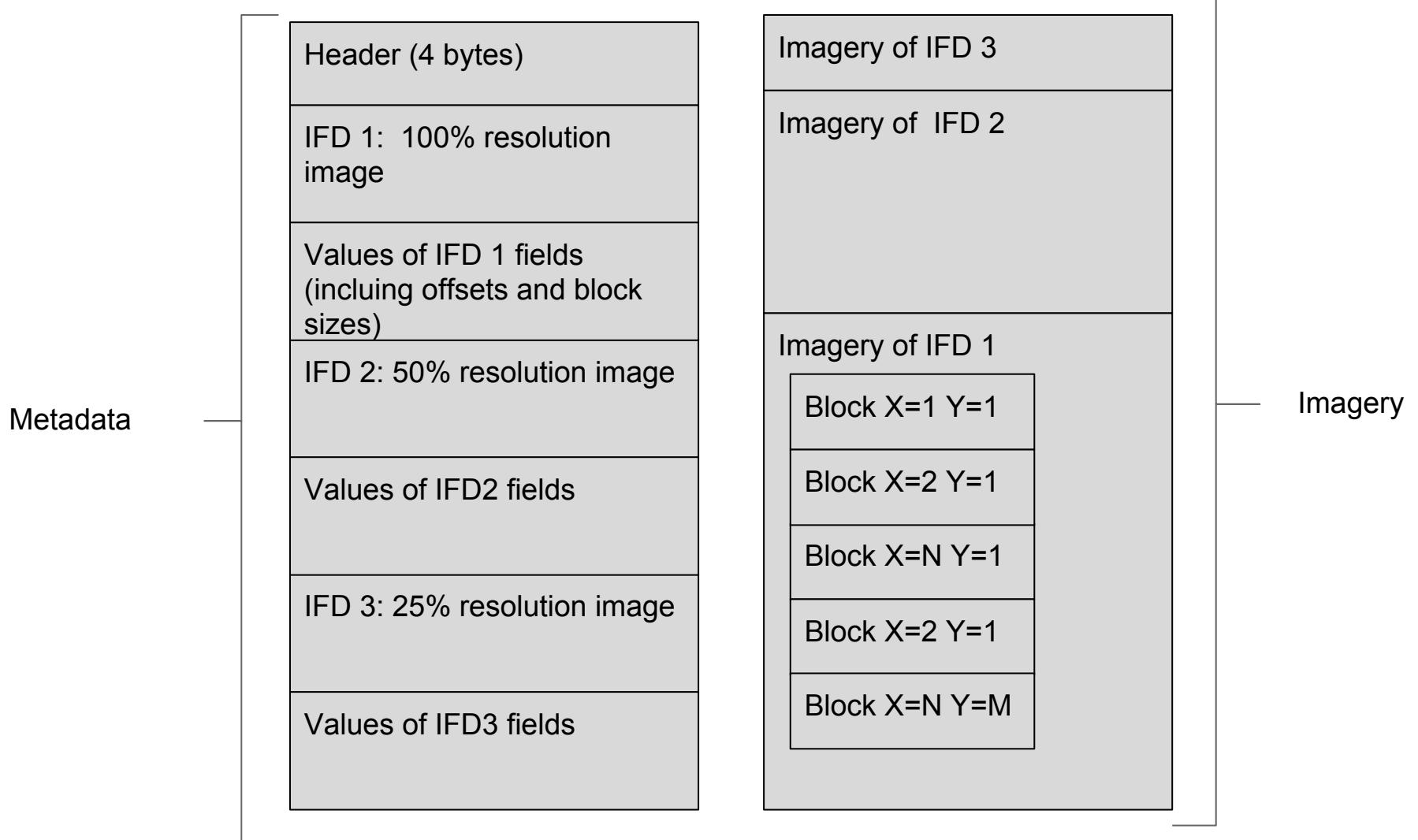
# TIFF format structure: high level



# TIFF format structure: low level



# COG file structure



# Creation of COG file

1. Creation of GeoTIFF file:
  - `gdal_translate source temp.tif`
2. Creation of its overviews:
  - `gdaladdo -r average temp.tif`
3. Creation of COG file:
  - `gdal_translate temp.tif cog.tif \`  
    `-co TILED=YES \`  
    `-co COMPRESS=DEFLATE \` (or JPEG -co PHOTOMETRIC=YCBCR)  
    `-co COPY_SRC_OVERVIEWS=YES`

# Network virtual file systems

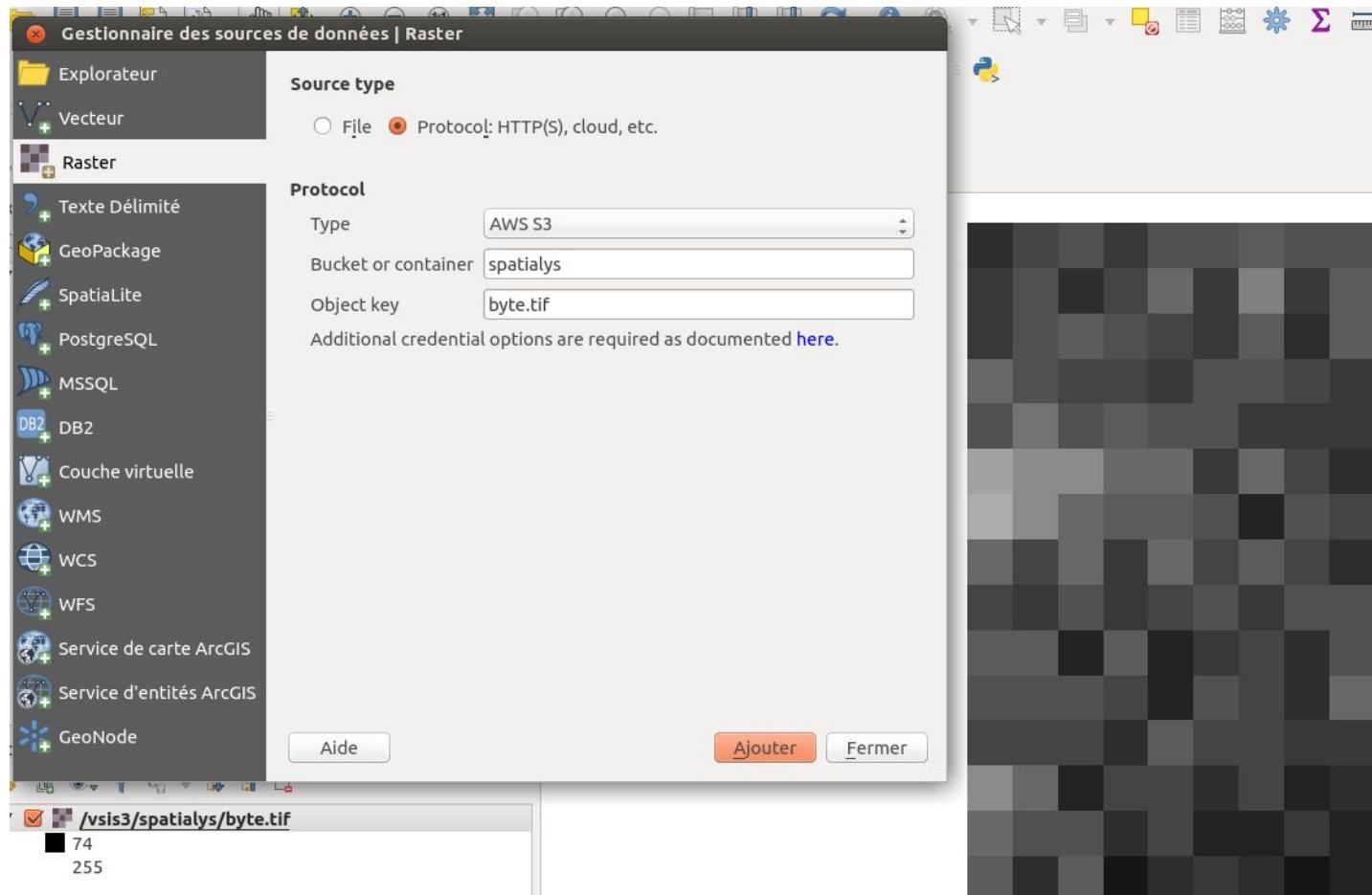
- /vsicurl/
  - gdalinfo  
/vsicurl/[http://landsat-pds.s3.amazonaws.com/L8/139/045/LC81390452014295LGN00/LC81390452014295LGN00\\_B1.TIF](http://landsat-pds.s3.amazonaws.com/L8/139/045/LC81390452014295LGN00/LC81390452014295LGN00_B1.TIF)
- /vsis3/ : Amazon AWS S3
- /vsigs/ : Google Cloud Storage
- /vsiaz/ : Microsoft Azure Blob storage
- /vsiswift/: OpenStack SWIFT
- /vsioss/: Alibaba Object Storage Service
- All available in (random) reading / (sequential) writing
- Streamed version for reading: /vsicurl\_streaming/,  
/vsis3\_streaming/ etc,...
- VSIGetSignedURL() function to get a signed URL

# Network virtual file systems

- Several authentication methods
  - /vsis3:
    - AWS\_SECRET\_ACCESS\_KEY + AWS\_ACCESS\_KEY\_ID
    - ~/.aws/credentials (AWS\_PROFILE)
    - ~/.aws/config
    - Automatic identification when running on AWS EC2
  - /vsigs:
    - GS\_SECRET\_ACCESS\_KEY + GS\_ACCESS\_KEY\_ID
    - GDAL\_HTTP\_HEADER\_FILE
    - GS\_OAUTH2\_REFRESH\_TOKEN
    - GS\_OAUTH2\_PRIVATE\_KEY + GS\_OAUTH2\_CLIENT\_EMAIL
    - ~/.boto
    - Automatic identification when running on Google Compute Engine
- Utilities:
  - <https://github.com/OSGeo/gdal/tree/master/gdal/swig/python/samples>
    - gdal\_ls.py
    - gdal\_cp.py
    - gdal\_rm.py

# Network virtual file systems

- Easy reading in QGIS 3.2 (*Mathieu Pellerin, iMHere Asia*)



# Network virtual file systems

GeoTIFF driver improvements for more efficient HTTP requests

Block X=1 Y=1	Block X=2 Y=1	Block X=3 Y=1
Block X=1 Y=2	Block X=2 Y=2	Block X=3 Y=2
Block X=1 Y=3	Block X=2 Y=3	Block X=3 Y=3

Block X=N Y=1
Block X=N Y=2
Block X=N Y=3

Block X=1 Y=M	Block X=2 Y=M	Block X=3 Y=M
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Block X=N Y=M
---------------

⇒ 3 parallel GET Range requests

- HTTP/1.1 parallel connections
- HTTP/2 multiplexing

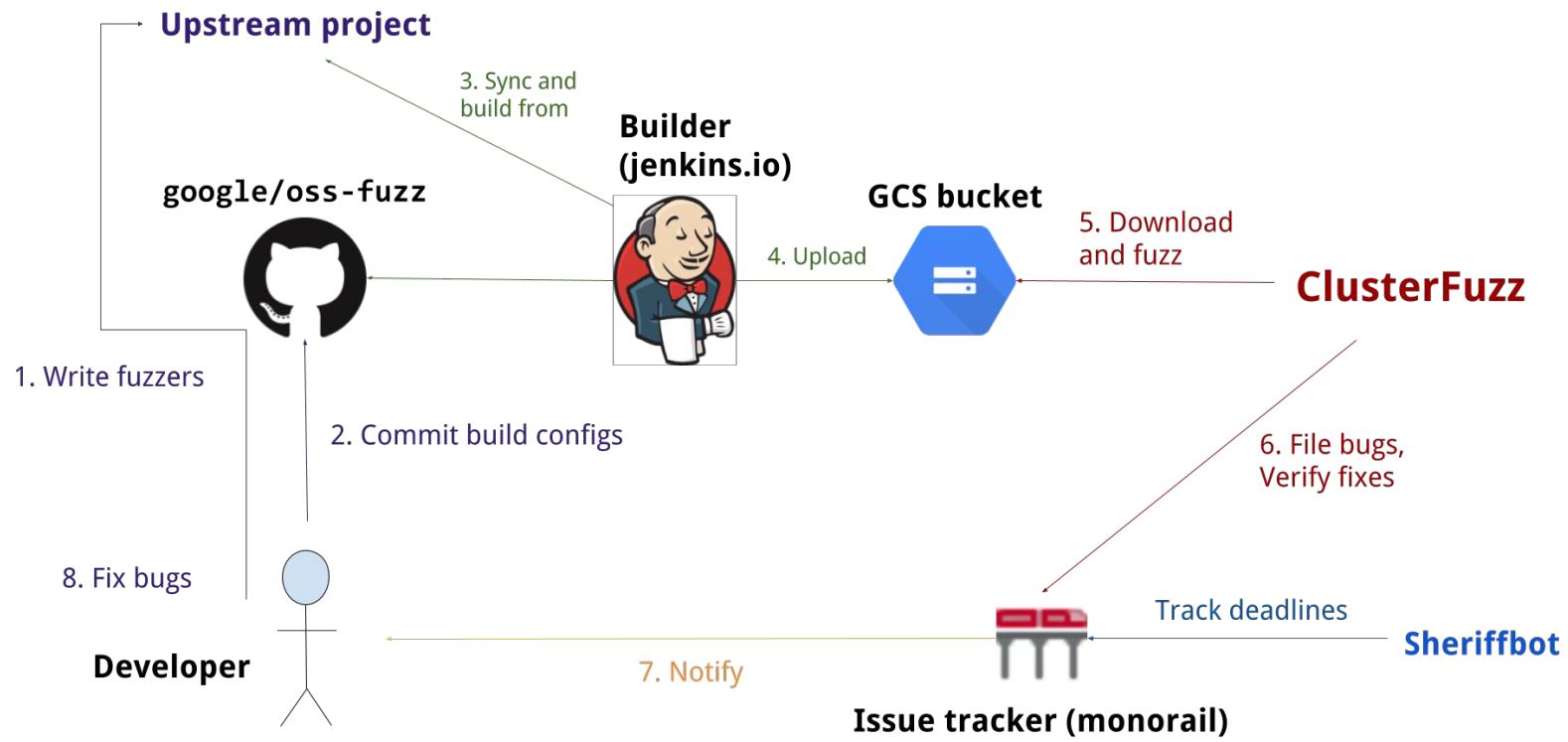
# **COG and virtual file systems**

- General documentation
  - <http://www.cogeo.org>
  - <https://github.com/cogeotiff/cog-spec/blob/master/spec.md>
- Javascript clients
  - <https://geotiffjs.github.io/cog-explorer> (EOX)
  - <http://www.cogeo.org/map/> (Radiant Earth) + tiles.rdn.tio (server)
- Validation:
  - <http://cog-validate.radiant.earth/html>
  - [https://github.com/rouault/cog\\_validator](https://github.com/rouault/cog_validator)
- GDAL GeoTIFF driver documentation:
  - [http://gdal.org/frmt\\_gtiff.html](http://gdal.org/frmt_gtiff.html)
- GDAL virtual file system documentation:
  - [http://gdal.org/gdal\\_virtual\\_file\\_systems.html](http://gdal.org/gdal_virtual_file_systems.html)

# GDAL/OGR 2.3: other changes

- PROJ v5 support
- Upgrade SRS database to EPSG v9.2
- Better identification of EPSG codes for shapefiles
- Improvements in following drivers:
  - GeoJSON: arbitrary large file reading
  - GRIB2 write support
  - WCS:
    - WCS 2.0 protocol (*Ari Jolma*)
    - Metadata disk cache
    - Various options to handle server non-conformities
  - DXF: many improvements (*Alan Thomas / ThinkSpatial thinkspatial.com.au*): LEADER, DIMENSION, BLOCK, ...

# Integration to oss-fuzz initiative



(source: <https://github.com/google/oss-fuzz>)

⇒ > 1000 bugs fixed

# Community activity

- 19 developers with direct GitHub push rights
- 95 contributors during 2.3.0 cycle
- 2295 subscribers to gdal-dev.  
1924 messages may 2017 → may 2018
- ~470 tickets opened / 12 last months (total: 7310). ~480 opened

# **What's next ?**



***gdalbarn.com***



# “GDAL SRS barn”: [gdalbarn.com](http://gdalbarn.com)

- Modernization and rework of spatial reference system management in GDAL, libgeotiff and PROJ
- Opportunity linked to PROJ 5.0 release
- Adoption of OGC WKTv2 standard (12-063r5) / ISO 19162
  - Solves interoperability issues
  - Temporal dimension management
  - Better handling of vertical component



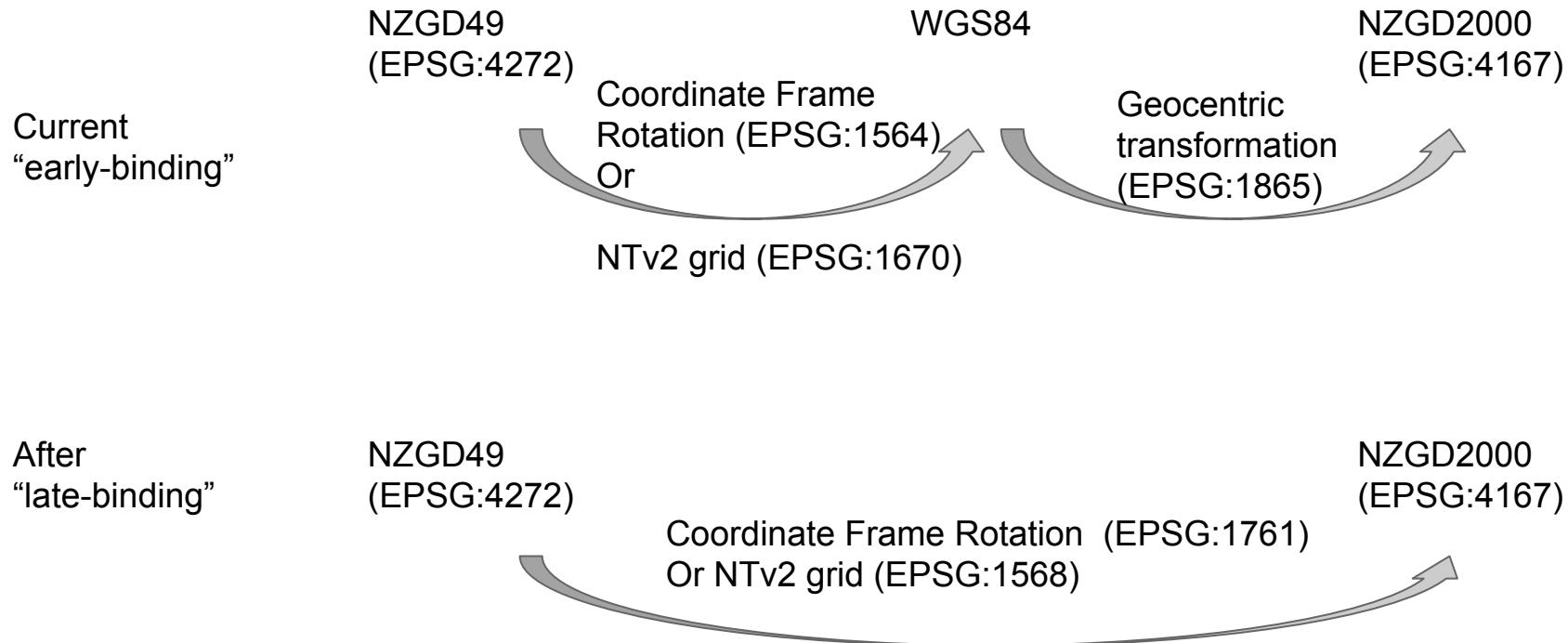
# “GDAL SRS barn”: [gdalbarn.com](http://gdalbarn.com)

- SQLite database to store SRS definition
  - No longer CSV files duplicated among software
  - Better query capabilities
- Use of area of uses
- Temporal component handling
  - Helmert transformation with derived terms
  - Transformations with deformation models



# “GDAL SRS barn”: [gdalbarn.com](http://gdalbarn.com)

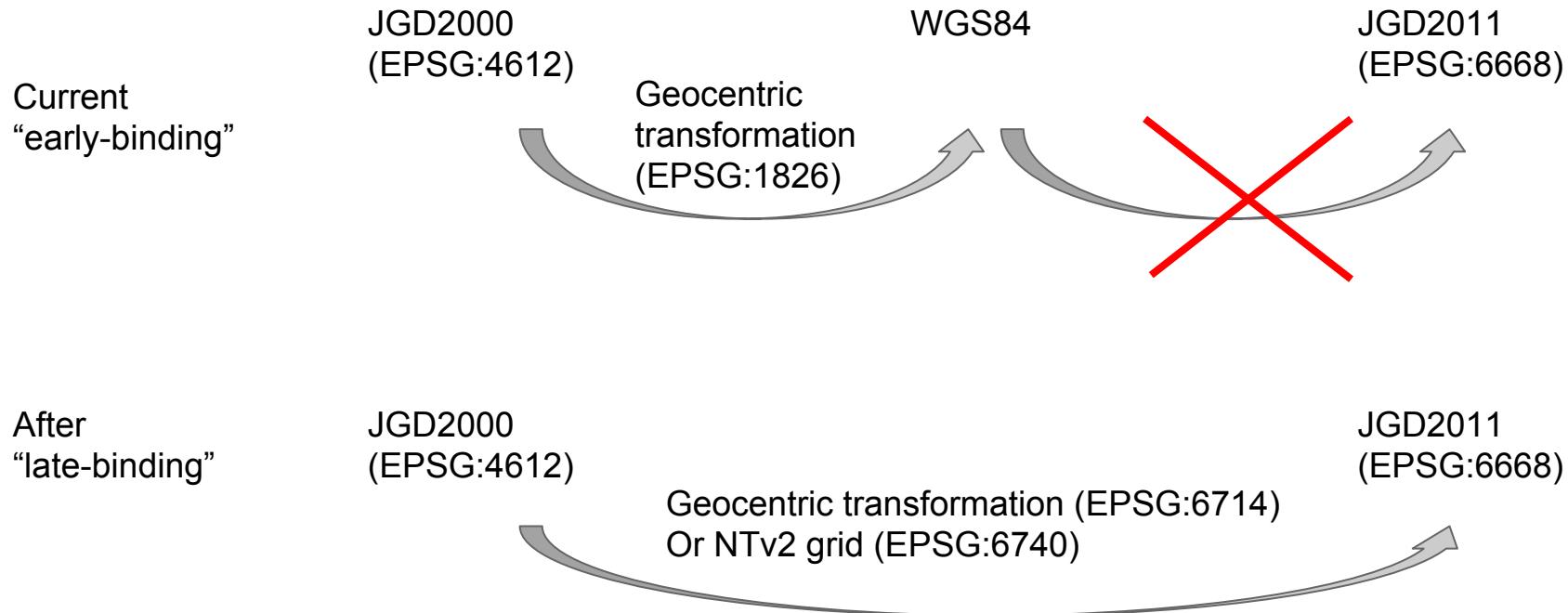
- WGS84 no longer as pivot system for datum transformation





# “GDAL SRS barn”: [gdalbarn.com](http://gdalbarn.com)

- WGS84 no longer as pivot system for datum transformation



# Thanks to the sponsors of GDAL barn !



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# Questions?

## Links:

<http://www.gdal.org/>

<https://trac.osgeo.org/gdal/wiki/Release/2.3.0-News>

<https://trac.osgeo.org/gdal/wiki/RfcList>

Contact: [even.rouault@spatialys.com](mailto:even.rouault@spatialys.com)



# GDAL/OGR 2.2 in a nutshell

- V2.2.0: may 2017 → V2.2.4: march 2018
- 4 RFCs during 2.2 cycle including:
  - Sparse dataset improvements for GeoTIFF and VRT
  - New geometry types: polyhedral surfaces, triangulated irregular networks (TIN)
  - Null field vs empty field (JJson and GML)
- 7 new drivers including:
  - CAD: read DWG R2000
  - DGNv8: read/write DGN v8 proprietary format (through proprietary SDK)
  - GMLAS: read/write XML/GML driven by application schemas (“Complex features”)