

Generalization Software

◆ Problems

- Reimplementing code
- Don't know who is doing what

◆ (Didn't we discuss this at Beijing last year)

Base Platform

- ◆ Generally a base platform is needed for many of these projects
- ◆ Incompatibility between base platforms is a source of difficulty
- ◆ Arc/Info, LaserScan, etc are expensive – but there are alternatives
- ◆ Grass, Manifold, PostGIS, CGAL, LEDA, Triangle, JTS
- ◆ - but no one alternative leaped out as best
- ◆ (another possible solution – a common API)

Some suggestions

- ◆ Use the OGC standards
- ◆ As OGC continues, more standards – especially API standards may appear, which will help
- ◆ The movement towards open systems will help

Problems with code sharing

- ◆ Who has the resources to do a general solution?
- ◆ Who has the resources to provide robustness? Vast differences between Student and production use.
- ◆ Many projects are subject to restrictions from funding sources or commercial partners

Code Sharing benefits anyway

- ◆ BUT – there was general agreement that some code even not robust or on another platform, was helpful
- ◆ So – code sharing is beneficial

Not a huge \$\$ loss

- ◆ Universities are not making vast \$\$ from royalties
- ◆ Publication is paramount in the research environment
- ◆ So, not too many objections to releasing code from here
- ◆ Key is to get this in the funding agreements at the start

Action Items

- ◆ Rob and Martin were very ambitious
 - Will put together a list of links to projects on their web site
 - Will put together a survey, on projects people are doing and code they might share and send it out.
- ◆ Everyone will check at their own institutions for what code exists and what restrictions it may be under.