

GEOSPATIAL DATA SHARING/OVERLAY SYSTEM: CEReS Gaia

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Abstract

A geospatial data sharing/overlay system, CEReS Gaia, has been developed to promote land surface environmental studies. The system is a strong tool to analyze land surface by overlaying satellite images, multiple thematic maps and research products. It is also useful for collecting land cover ground truth and comparing different maps. The system has the following features: a) international cluster system, b) open source, c) multi-language capability, d) free access with/without user registration, e) data upload by registered users, f) capability to overlay user data on other registered data and images from Web Map Service (WMS), and g) the option of free or selective data distribution. The system was published in August 2012 first and has been continuously improved since then. Any researcher can use CEReS Gaia by accessing the site <<http://gaia.cr.chiba-u.jp/portal>>, and contribute as a system manager by contacting the author. The paper introduces characteristics of a newly developed system, CEReS Gaia.

Keywords— database, cluster system, land surface data, open source