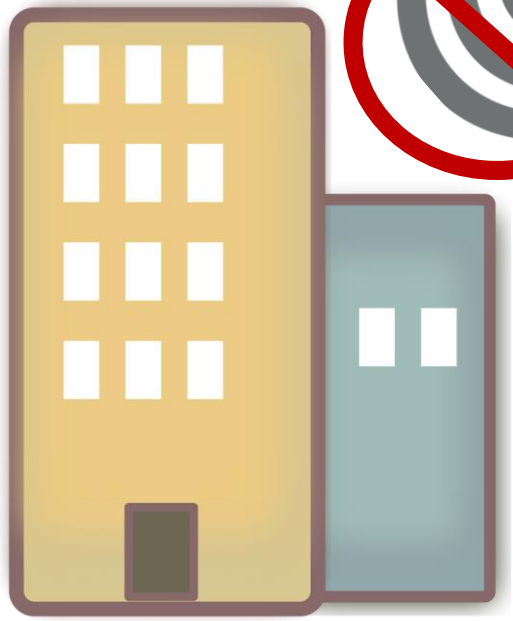


An aerial, top-down view of a city street grid. The streets are dark and run in a grid pattern, with yellow and white lane markings. Tall, multi-story buildings with many windows surround the streets. The overall tone is dark and somewhat desaturated. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

# Exploring Optimal GPS Signals for Autonomous Vehicles

Christopher Miller



# Overview

## I. Background

*I. Motivation*

*II. Autonomous Vehicle (AV) Requirements*

## II. Methodology

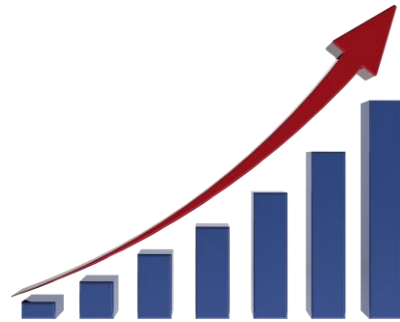
*I. Area of Concentration*

*II. Data Inputs*

*III. Workflow*

## III. Tentative Results

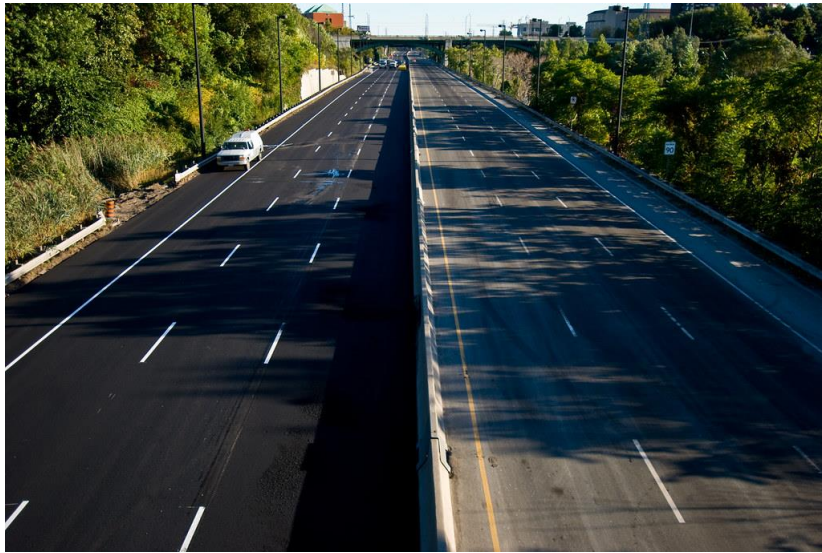
# Background: *Motivation*



1.3 billion currently to 2 billion in 2030



# Background: *Motivation*



**Safety first**



# Background: *AV Requirements*



## SAE J3016™ LEVELS OF DRIVING AUTOMATION

	SAE LEVEL 0	SAE LEVEL 1	SAE LEVEL 2	SAE LEVEL 3	SAE LEVEL 4	SAE LEVEL 5
What does the human in the driver's seat have to do?	You are driving whenever these driver support features are engaged – even if your feet are off the pedals and you are not steering			You are <b>not</b> driving when these automated driving features are engaged – even if you are seated in “the driver’s seat”		
	You must constantly supervise these support features; you must steer, brake or accelerate as needed to maintain safety			When the feature requests, you must drive	These automated driving features will not require you to take over driving	
	These are driver support features			These are automated driving features		
What do these features do?	These features are limited to providing warnings and momentary assistance	These features provide steering OR brake/acceleration support to the driver	These features provide steering AND brake/acceleration support to the driver	These features can drive the vehicle under limited conditions and will not operate unless all required conditions are met		This feature can drive the vehicle under all conditions
Example Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• automatic emergency braking</li> <li>• blind spot warning</li> <li>• lane departure warning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lane centering OR</li> <li>• adaptive cruise control</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lane centering AND</li> <li>• adaptive cruise control at the same time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• traffic jam chauffeur</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• local driverless taxi</li> <li>• pedals/steering wheel may or may not be installed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• same as level 4, but feature can drive everywhere in all conditions</li> </ul>

### Automated Driving System:

“hardware and software that are collectively [...] used specifically to describe a level 3, 4, or 5 driving automotive system” - SAE International, 2018a

# Background: *AV Requirements*



# Background: *AV Requirements*



“Provide high resolution and accurate 3D maps around the vehicle that allow obstacle detection and support safe navigation” - Filgueira, 2017



# Background: *AV Requirements*



“reduced contrast of the lanes (e.g. reflections, low light) or other disruptive factors such as snow or old lane markings” (Adali, 2018).

# Background: *AV Requirements*



# Background: *AV Requirements*



# Methodology: *Area of Concentration*

Washington, D.C.

Access to data – [opendata.dc.gov](https://opendata.dc.gov)

Infrastructure – future integration potential

Interest within the City –

- Need to improve

- Member of an initiative group

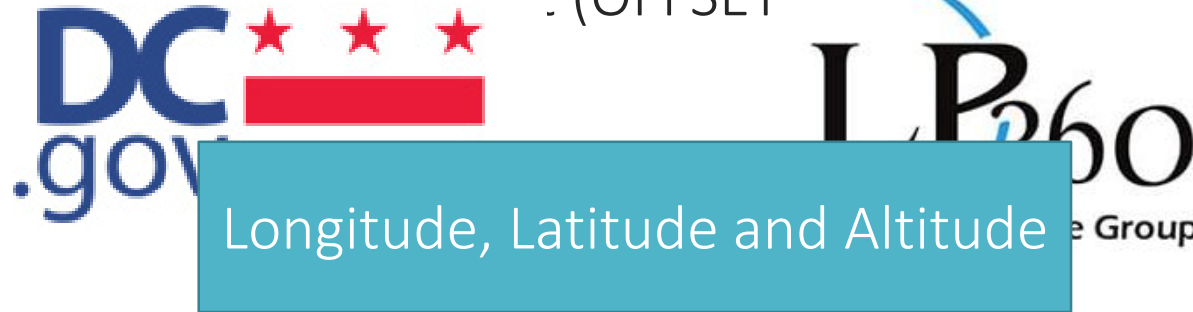


# Methodology: *Data Inputs*

Viewshed Tool in ArcMap

Surface elevation raster – digital surface model (DSM)

Point cloud data (OFFSET)      ions



Longitude, Latitude and Altitude

# Methodology: *Data Inputs*

Point data, including height (OFFSETA) – satellite locations

**Almanac** – easy to use .txt files, but less accuracy and additional calculations



emerides – more accurate but harder to use

merides – most accurate

```
***** Week 36 almanac for PRN-02 *****
*****YUCA FORMAT*****
ID:                02
Health:            000
Eccentricity:      0.1958465576E-001
Time of Applicability(s): 319488.0000
Orbital Inclination(rad): 0.9575060141
Rate of Right Ascen(r/s): -0.8137481816E-008
SQRT(A) (m 1/2):   5153.544434
Right Ascen at Week(rad): -0.4016685250E+000
Argument of Perigee(rad): -1.688363071
Mean Anom(rad):   0.8161043692E+000
Af0(s):           -0.3690719604E-003
Af1(s/s):         -0.7275957614E-011
week:             36
```

El-naggar's paper:  
*New method of GPS orbit determination from GCPS network for the purpose of DOP calculations*

# Methodology: *Data Inputs*

Point data, including height (OFFSETA) – satellite locations

**Broadcast Ephemerides** – more accurate but harder to use



.sp3.z format –  
UNIX compressed ASCII

**El-naggar's paper:**  
*New method of GPS  
orbit determination  
from GCPS network  
for the purpose of  
DOP calculations*

# Methodology: *Data Inputs*

Point data, including height (OFFSETA) – satellite locations

Precise Ephemerides – most accurate



.sp3.z format –  
UNIX compressed ASCII

~~Erceg's paper:  
New method of GPS  
orbit determination  
from GPS network  
for the purpose of  
PPP calculation~~



# Methodology: *Data Inputs*

Point data, including height (OFFSETA) – satellite locations

**Almanac** – easy to use .txt files, but less accuracy and additional calculations

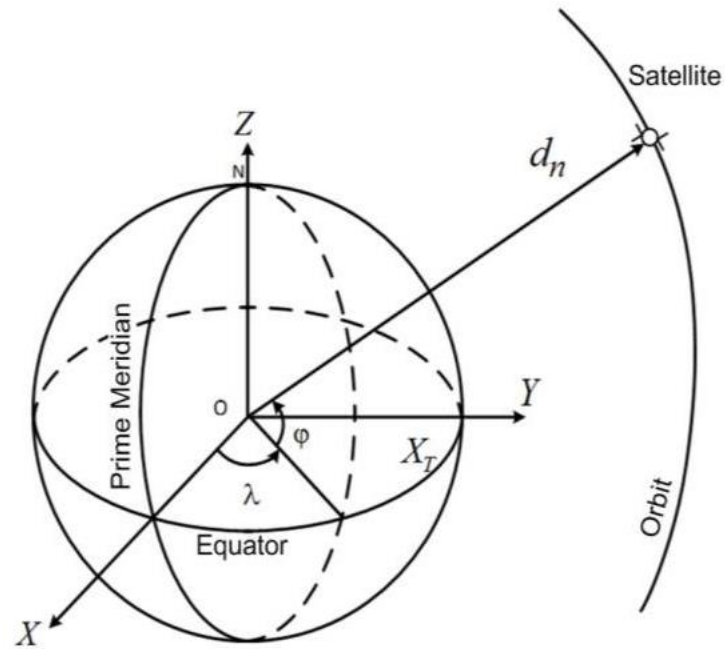
~~Broadcast Ephemerides~~ – more accurate but harder to use

~~Precise Ephemerides~~ – most accurate

# Methodology: *Workflow*

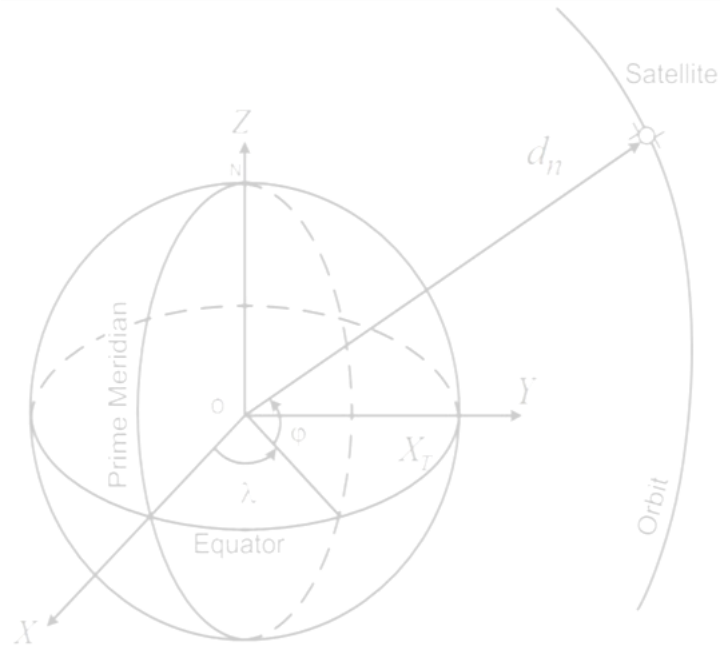
Precise Ephemerides –

XYZ geocentric coordinates of satellites



# Methodology: Workflow

Precise Ephemerides –  
XYZ geocentric coordinates of satellites



Conversion into geodetic –  
Latitude and Longitude: NGS's NCAT

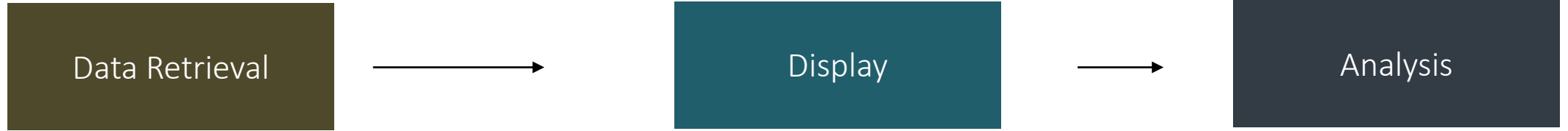


Altitude:

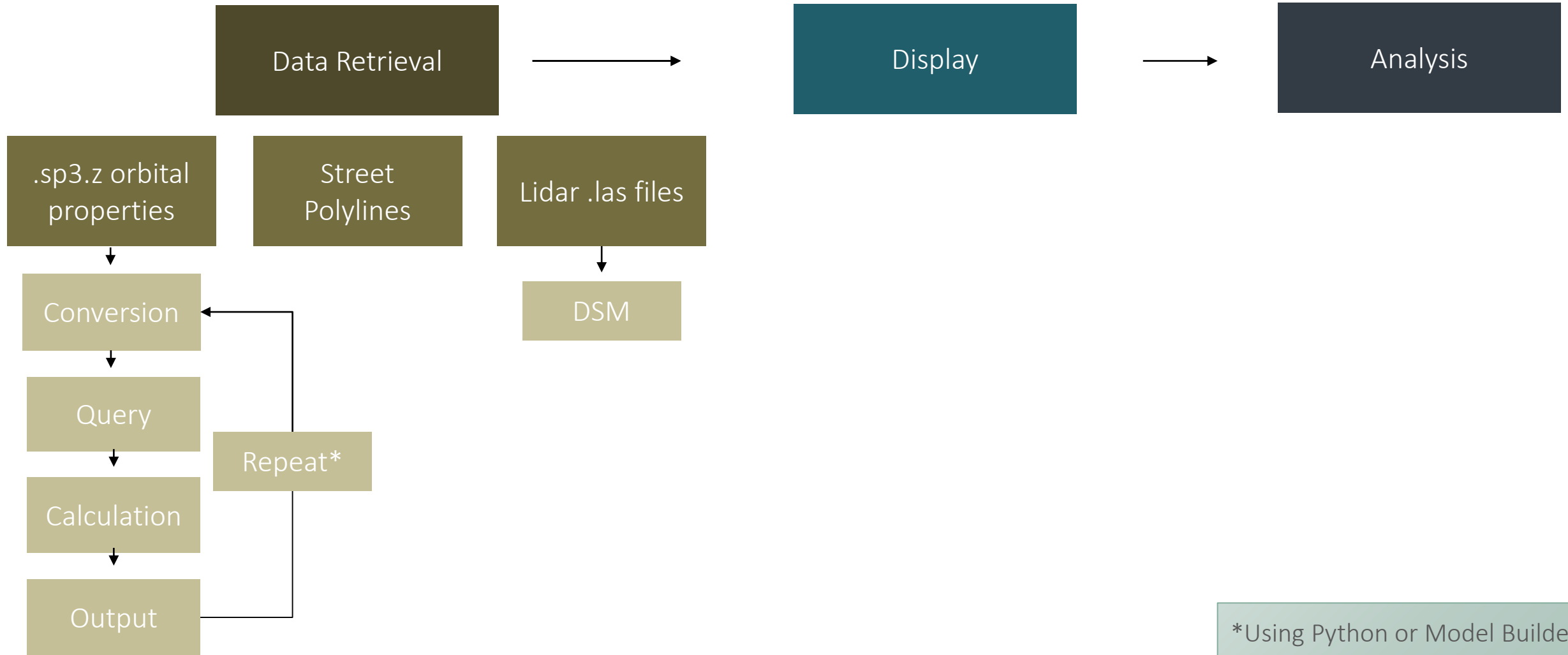
$$h = s \cos \mu + (p z + e^2 N \sin \mu) \sin \mu - N$$

where the radius of curvature in the vertical prime ( $\overline{N}$ ) is given by  
 $N = R G \frac{1 - e^2}{(\sin \mu)^2}$

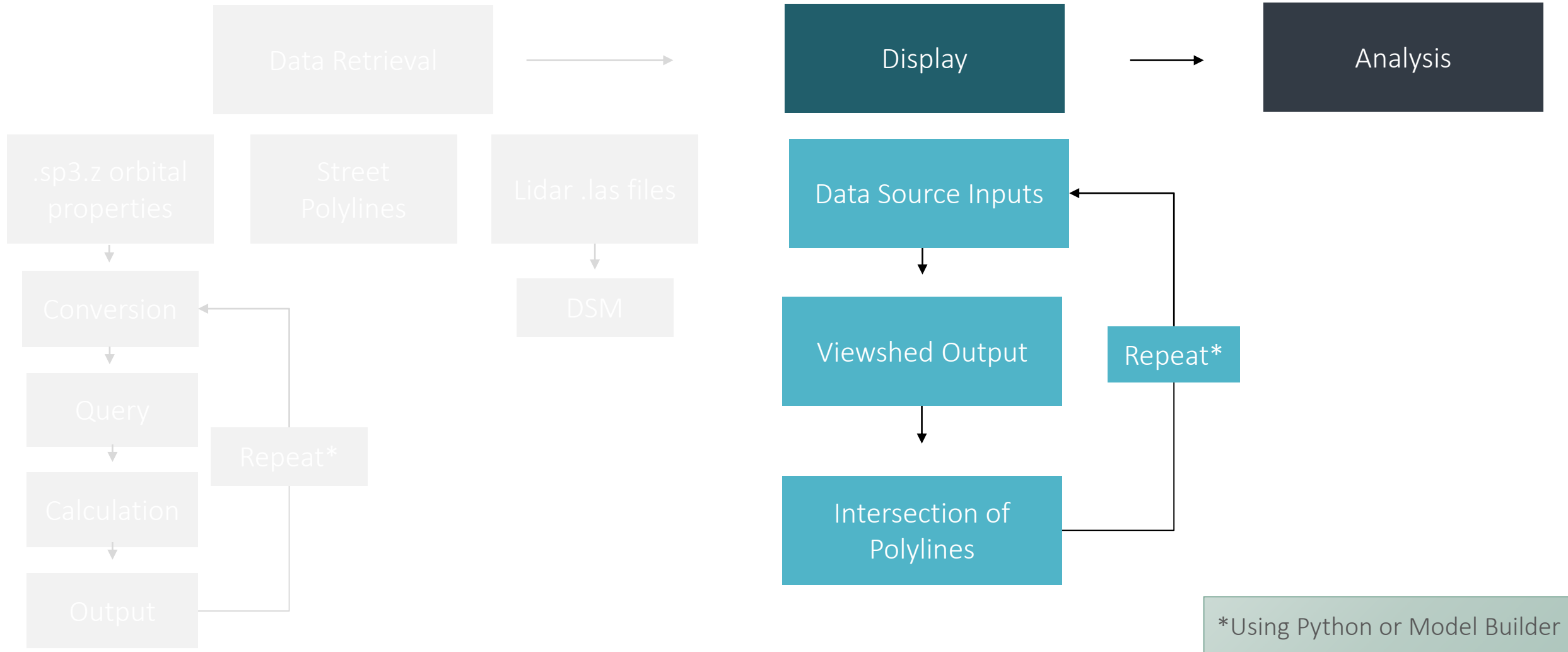
# Methodology: *Workflow*



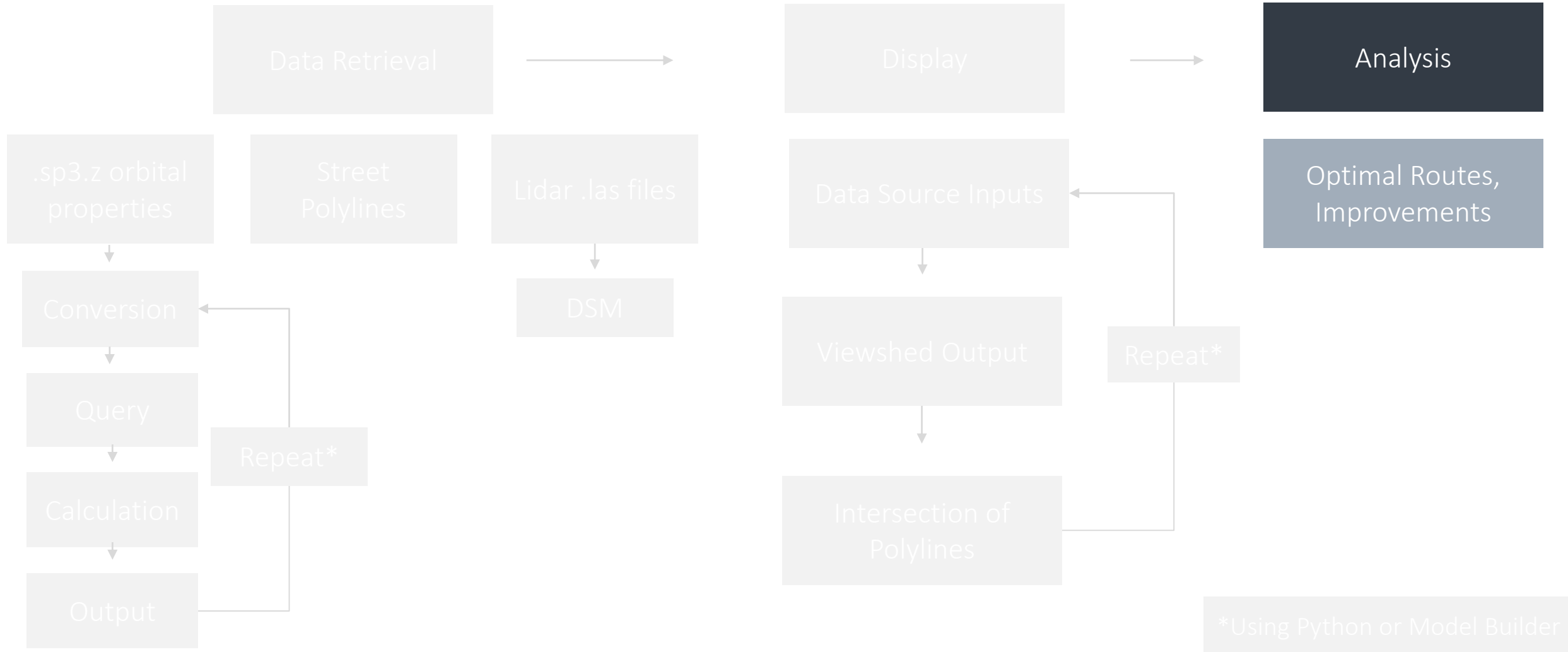
# Methodology: *Workflow*



# Methodology: *Workflow*



# Methodology: *Workflow*



# Tentative Results

Obstacle when obtaining .sp3.z files

Hypothesis:

Conversion still possible

Line of sight will be present for the majority of the city

Building height and street width increase visibility

Forest canopies in northwest may be only areas of limitation



ID	DESCRIPTION	ESTIMATED COMPLETION
1	Download lidar point cloud files from opendata.gov	Dec-19
2	Import to LP360	Jan-20
3	Create a DSM from point cloud	Jan-20
4	Import raster DSM to ArcMap	Jan-20
5	Determine calculation necessary for satellite locations	Jan-20
6	Submit Abstract	Feb-20
7	Assess ephemerides and Almanac data source parameters	Mar-20
8	Calculate satellite locations coordinates	Apr-20
9	Convert XYZ coordinates to geodetic latitude, longitude and altitude	May-20
10	Use Viewshed to determine visible areas across DC area	May-20
11	Replicate using for multiple satellites, dates and times – potential to use model builder or Python	Jun-20
12	Use polyline road features from open data DC or lidar classified road points as intersection against viewshed	Jun-20
13	Display areas of visibility from least to the greatest obstruction	Jun-20
14	Analyze areas including city street routes of optimal visibility	Jul-20
15	Draft Report	Sep-20
16	Draft Presentation	Sep-20
17	Present Findings	Oct-20
18	Finalize Report	Dec-20

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An aerial, top-down view of a city street grid. The streets are dark and run in a grid pattern, with yellow and white lane markings. Tall, multi-story buildings with many windows surround the streets. The overall tone is dark and somewhat desaturated. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

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