A Distributed GIS for Managing Shanghai Landscape Resources

Yue Zhu^{1,2}, Chaowei Yang¹, David W. Wong¹, Menas Kafatos¹

¹Earth Systems and GeoInformation Sciences, School of Computational Sciences, George Mason University E-mail:{yzhu, cyang3, dwong2, mkafatos}@gmu.edu ²Shanghai CityGIS Developing Corp., 75 Wanping Nan Road, Xuhui District, Shanghai, China

Abstract

Given the decentralized computing environment for managing landscape resources in Shanghai, China, this paper introduces a Distributed GIS application to support a more efficient and effective approach for resource management. Four critical computing issues related to such a Distributed GIS are addressed: (1) large image management, (2) time dimension management, (3) network communication of geospatial information within the computer network, and (4) spatial data access through a spatial data engine. This paper suggests possible solutions to these four issues and illustrates how general landscape management functions are implemented through a Distributed GIS. This paper also offers some insights on the design and development of a Distributed GIS. **Keywords**

distributed GIS, time scaled spatial data model, image library, landscape

1082-4006/05/1101-29\$5.00 ©2005 The International Association of Chinese Professionals in Geographic Information Science (CPGIS)