

Version 1 of the SRTM data consists of the original Digital Elevation Models produced by the SRTM project with data from the STS-99 mission in Feb., 2000, and delivered to the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA.) These data are unedited and contain spurious data points in area of low radar backscatter such as water bodies.

Version 2 was the results of a substantial editing effort by the NGA and exhibited well defined water bodies and coastlines and the absence of spikes and wells (single pixel errors), although some areas of missing data ('voids') were still present. The Version 2 directory also contains the vectorized coastline mask used by NGA in the editing, called SRTM Water Body Data (SWBD), in shapefile format.

Version 2.1 is a recalculation of the SRTM3 (nominal 90 meter sample spacing) version made by 3x3 averaging of the full resolution edited data. Version 2 had been generated by masking in edited samples from the lower-resolution publicly released by the NGA, and contained occasional artifacts, and in particular a slight vertical "banding" in data beyond 50° latitude. These have been eliminated in Version 2.1