Global Dam Tracker[1]

February 2023

This file contains a description of all files in the GDAT_data folder. The folder consists of two shapefiles and one Excel codebook. The shapefiles require GIS software to read.

Data Files

- **GDAT_v1_dams.shp** and all its accompanying files (.cpg, .dbf, .prj, .shx) contains all GDAT dams and their attributes. This is the "raw" GDAT data that have not undergone the algorithm as described in Zhang and Gu (2023). There are a total of 35,140 features (dams) in the database and 31,780 points representing geocoded dams. The coordinate reference system of the database is EPSG:4326 - WGS 84.

- **GDAT_v1_catchments.shp** and all its accompanying files (.cpg, .dbf, .prj, .shx) contains all GDAT catchment areas and the attributes of the dams to which the catchment areas belong. For a description of how this database is generated, please refer to codes 01-03 in the README_code documentation. There are a total of 31,692 features (catchments) in the database. Each of these features is a polygon that covers the area drained directly by its corresponding dam, and does not include areas drained by dams located further upstream.

- **GDAT_v1_documentation.xlsx** is a codebook that describes all attributes that are provided by the GDAT database. These attributes include the names and alternative names of each dam, the name of river basin that the dam drains, the administrative regions in which the dam is located, data on completion year, dam length and height, reservoir capacity, reservoir area, reservoir depth and sedimentation rate, main and alternate purposes of the dam, the coordinates of the dam, and data sources used to obtain information about the dam. The availability of these attributes for each dam depends on whether information about these attributes is readily available in the databases and sources consulted by the GDAT team during the data collection and cleaning process. Not all attributes are available for each dam.

Citations, Disclaimers, and Restrictions

Citation

Zhang, Alice Tianbo, and Vincent Xinyi Gu. 2023. "Global Dam Tracker: A Database of More than 35,000 Dams with Location, Catchment, and Attribute Information." *Sci Data*.

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[1] Zhang, Alice Tianbo, and Vincent Xinyi Gu. 2023. "Global Dam Tracker: A Database of More than 35,000 Dams with Location, Catchment, and Attribute Information." *Sci Data*. Corresponding Author: Alice Tianbo Zhang (alice.tianbo.zhang@gmail.com)

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