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Alexander Zipf is chair of GIScience (Geoinformatics) at Heidelberg University (Department of Geography) since late 2009. He is member of the Centre for Scientific Computing (IWR) and founding member of the Heidelberg Center for the Environment (HCE).

From 2012–2014 Zipf was Managing Director of the Department of Geography, Heidelberg University. In 2011–2012 he acted as Vice Dean of the Faculty for Chemistry and Geosciences, Heidelberg University. Currently he is busy establishing the Heidelberg Institute for Geoinformation Technology (HeiGIT).

2012–2018 he was speaker of the graduate school “CrowdAnalyser—Spatio-temporal Analysis of User-generated Content.” He is also member of the editorial board of several journals and organized a set of conferences and workshops. 2012–2015 he was regional editor of the *ISI Journal Transactions in GIS* (Wiley). Currently he is associated editor of the international journal *Geo-spatial Information Science* (GSIS) by Taylor & Francis (open access).

Before going to Heidelberg Zipf held the Chair of Cartography at Bonn University and earlier was Professor for Applied Computer Science and Geoinformatics at the University of Applied Sciences in Mainz, Germany. He has a background in Mathematics and Geography from Heidelberg University and finished his Ph.D. at the European Media Laboratory EML in Heidelberg, where he was the first Ph.D. student. There he also conducted further research as a PostDoc for 3 years.