

Script for HKGCode Video

Hi everyone!

LandsB., do you know what the “Hong Kong GeoCode” is?

To explain the Hong Kong GeoCode, let’s start with the “Hong Kong 1980 Grid Coordinate System”.

Although the Hong Kong 1980 Grid Coordinate System can accurately represent locations, it is difficult to communicate a 12-digit coordinate string verbally or in writing. Therefore, the Lands Department developed the Hong Kong GeoCode based on this system, transforming complex and lengthy coordinates into short and easy-to-read alphanumeric codes that can also precisely pinpoint geographic locations.

Whether for hiking or slope management, target locations can be easily identified!

We first divide Hong Kong into 32×24 large grids, each representing an area of $2 \text{ km} \times 2 \text{ km}$. These grids are numbered sequentially using 0, 1, 2, 3... A, B, C, D... but the letters “I, L, O, U” are excluded to avoid confusion with 1 and 0. This makes it easy to distinguish different regions. For example: Kai Tak is KA, Sai Wan in Sai Kung is WE, and Ping Chau (also known as “Tung Ping Chau”) is ZP.

Such a large grid! If I want to indicate a very small place, wouldn’t it be impossible?

I knew you would ask that! Each large grid can be further divided into 20×20 medium grids, each representing $100 \text{ m} \times 100 \text{ m}$. These grids are also numbered sequentially with 0, 1, 2, 3... A, B, C, D... Just four characters are enough to denote a smaller subdivision. For example: the Hong Kong Space Museum is H8HC, the Hung Hom Ferry Pier is J8FK, and the Sai Kung District Community Centre is QD2C.

How about an even smaller area? Should each medium grid be subdivided further?

Exactly! Each medium grid can be further divided into 20×20 small grids, each representing $5 \text{ m} \times 5 \text{ m}$. With six characters, you can pinpoint a location very precisely. For example: the Tsing Yi Aviation Warning Light is EA4K4H, the Sharp Peak Trigonometrical Station is WG73JD, and the Reservoir Islands Viewpoint is AD5K8F.

Now I get it! With just a few simple characters, the Hong Kong GeoCode can pinpoint any location across Hong Kong. It is very useful for positioning, communication and accessing spatial data!

Let's make good use of the Hong Kong GeoCode to accurately express geographic locations!