Conversion tool for solid Earth science digital data to KML format

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We have developed a software which converts various types of geophysical data to KML format so that the data can be viewed by using the Google Earth. Google Earth enables us to view satellite image data for any regions of the Earth’s surface. It also has a feature to visualize local data, which exists on user’s PC, on top of the satellite images. This can be realized by converting user’s data to KML (Keyhole Markup Language), which is an XML-based language. Many geophysical data are expressed by its location (latitude and longitude) and its value, such as gravity anomaly, geomagnetic anomaly, elevation, rock types etc. Thus, the Google Earth should become a useful tool to handle geophysical data and compare various kinds of data. Here we take an example from digital data for Japan Engineering Geomorphologic Classification Map (2005). We have developed a software to convert these digital data into KML format and verified that the data can be viewed successfully by the Google Earth. This conversion tool is written in Japa and should be able to run on various platforms.