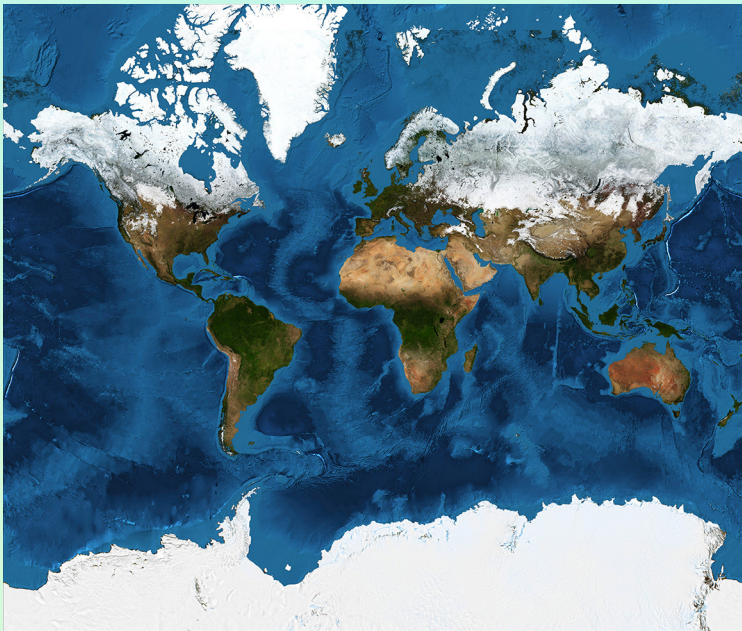


FLY FASTER? FLY SHORTER!

MERCATOR



Gerhard Kremer invented this chart during XVI century. By flying the airplane you will notice that its dimension will change but its shape will remain the same: this is because Mercator projection is conformal, a mathematical property which means that the angles measured on the chart are the same as the ones measured on the Earth. Invention of this map revolutionized navigation, because, at that time, naval routes followed paths called rhumb lines, that is, curves that form with meridians and parallels always the same angle. On a Mercator chart, these curves are simply straight lines.