

# Spatial SQL I

CASA0025: Building Spatial Applications  
with Big Data



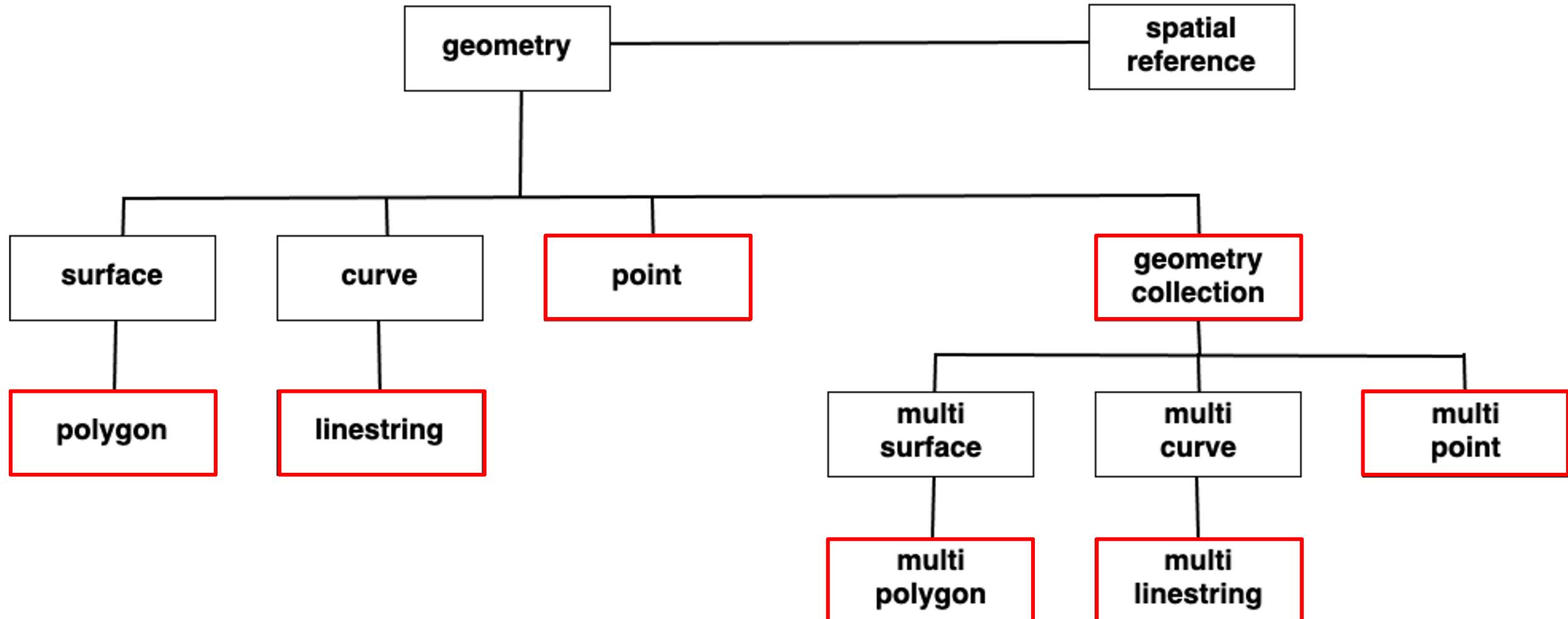
Ollie Ballinger

# Outline

1. SQL Recap
2. Geometries
3. Spatial Relationships

# Geometries

# Spatial Types



# Creating a table with geometry

```
CREATE TABLE geometries  
(  
    name varchar,  
    geom geometry  
);
```

# Creating a table with geometry

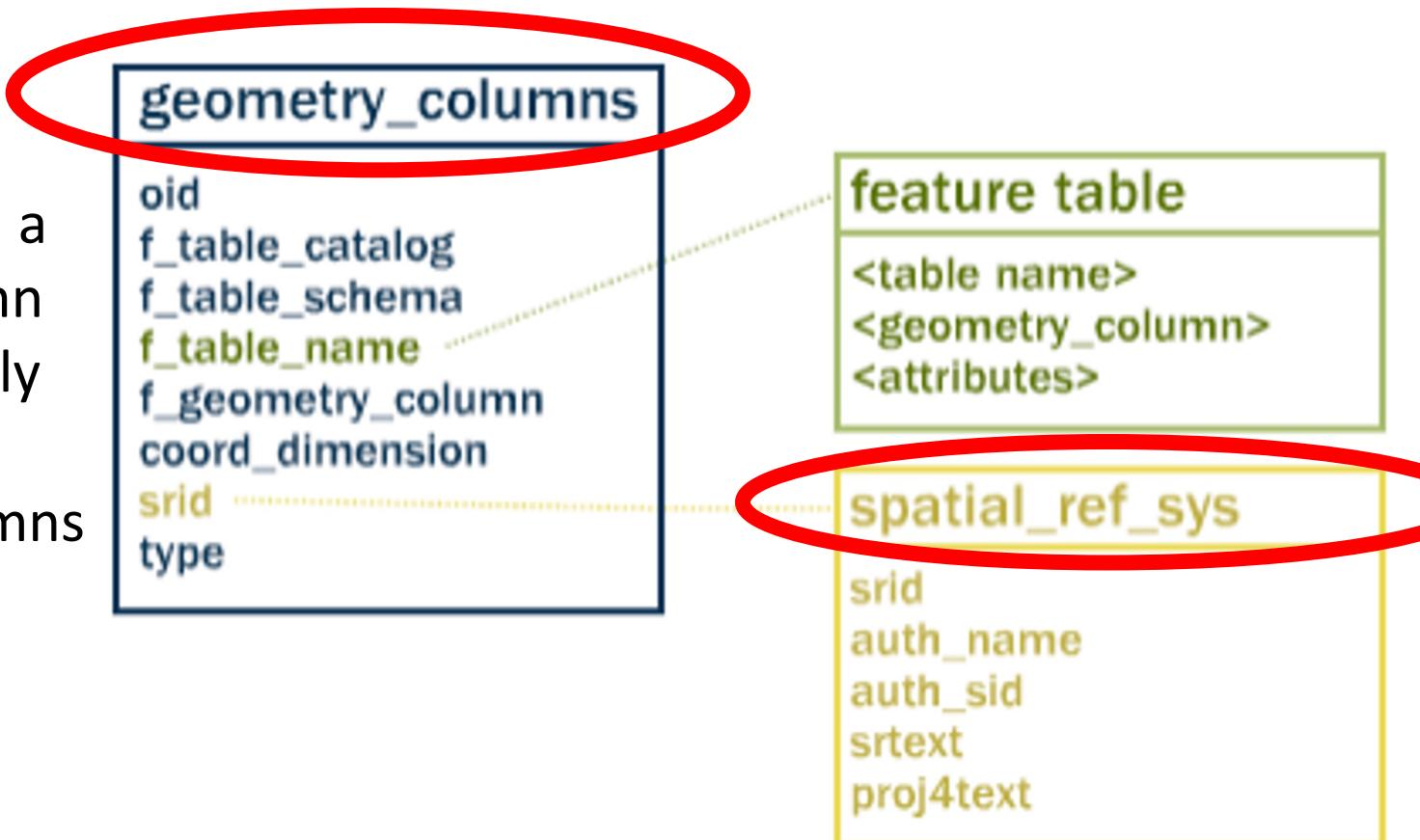
```
INSERT INTO geometries (name, geom) VALUES
('Point', 'POINT(0 0)'),
('Linestring', 'LINESTRING(0 0, 1 1, 2 1, 2 2)'),
('Polygon', 'POLYGON((0 0, 1 0, 1 1, 0 1, 0 0)))'),
('PolygonWithHole', 'POLYGON((...))'),
('Collection', 'GEOMETRYCOLLECTION(...)');
```

# Creating a table with geometry

```
SELECT name, ST_AsText(geom)  
FROM geometries;
```

# Table Relationships

Every table with a geometry column will automatically appear in the geometry\_columns view.



The SRID numbers on geometries and columns are converted into coordinate transforms using data from the spatial\_ref\_sys table.

# **geometry\_columns**

```
SELECT *  
FROM geometry_columns
```

# geometry\_columns

nyc/postgres@localhost ▾

Query Editor    Query History    Scratch Pad

1    `SELECT * FROM geometry_columns;`

Data Output    Explain    Messages    Notifications

|   | f_table_catalog<br>character varying (256) | f_table_schema<br>name | f_table_name<br>name | f_geometry_column<br>name | coord_dimension<br>integer | srid<br>integer | type<br>character varying (30) |
|---|--|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | nyc  | public                 | nyc_census_blocks    | geom                      | 2                          | 26918           | MULTIPOLYGON                   |
| 2 | nyc  | public                 | nyc_homicides        | geom                      | 2                          | 26918           | POINT                          |
| 3 | nyc  | public                 | nyc_neighborhoods    | geom                      | 2                          | 26918           | MULTIPOLYGON                   |
| 4 | nyc  | public                 | nyc_streets          | geom                      | 2                          | 26918           | MULTILINESTRING                |
| 5 | nyc  | public                 | nyc_subway_stati...  | geom                      | 2                          | 26918           | POINT                          |

# Metadata functions

**SELECT**

```
name,  
ST_GeometryType(geom),  
ST_NDims(geom),  
ST_SRID(geom)
```

**FROM** geometries;

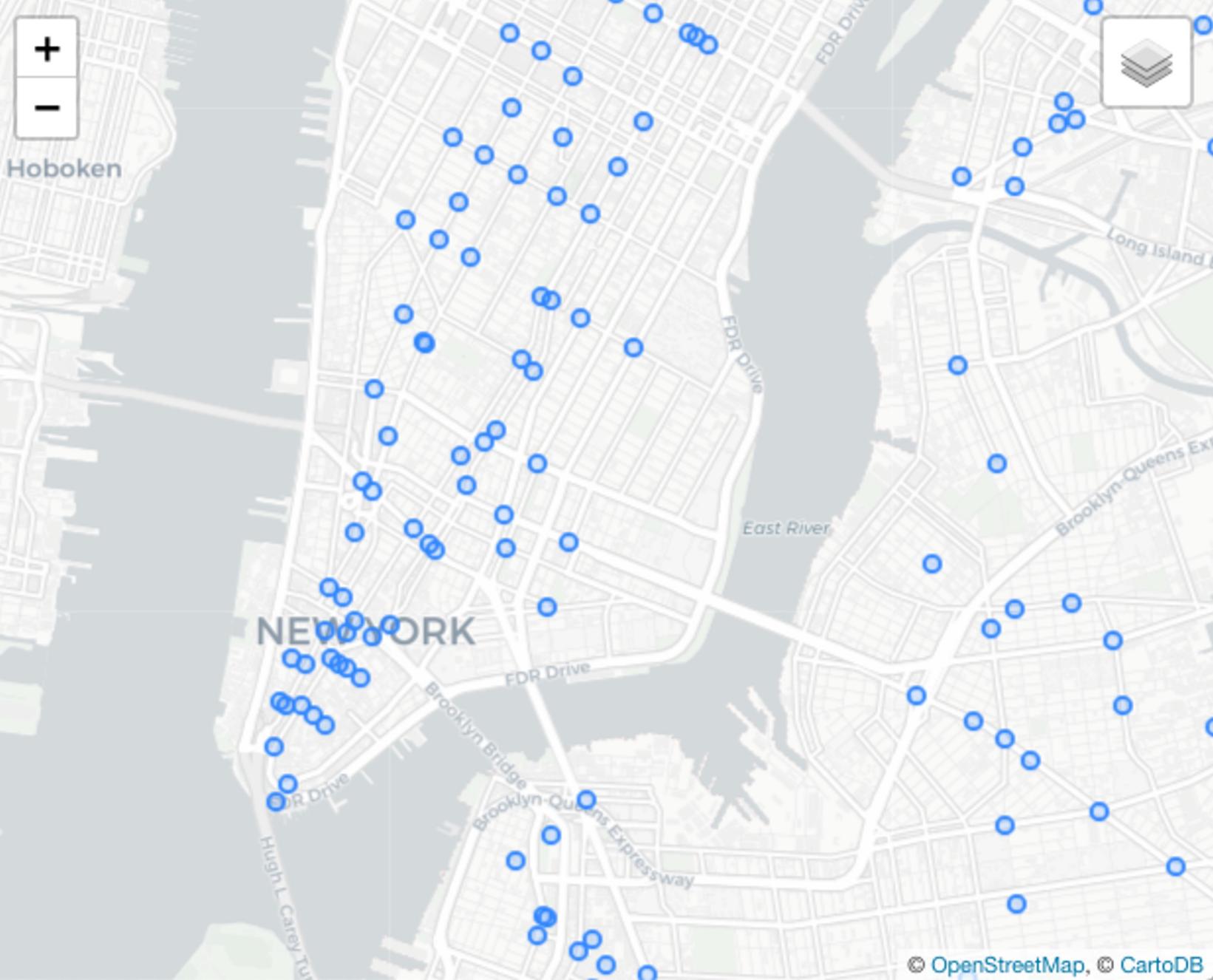
# Metadata functions

| <code>name</code>            | <code>st_geometrytype</code>       | <code>st_ndims</code> | <code>st_srid</code> |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| <code>Point</code>           | <code>ST_Point</code>              | 2                     | 0                    |
| <code>Linestring</code>      | <code>ST_LineString</code>         | 2                     | 0                    |
| <code>Polygon</code>         | <code>ST_Polygon</code>            | 2                     | 0                    |
| <code>PolygonWithHole</code> | <code>ST_Polygon</code>            | 2                     | 0                    |
| <code>Collection</code>      | <code>ST_GeometryCollection</code> | 2                     | 0                    |

# Points

“Point” or “MultiPoint”, representing one or more 0-dimensional locations.

New York city subway stations, stop signs, man holes, address points, current locations of vehicles, might all use a “Point” geometry type.



# Points

```
SELECT ST_AsText(geom)  
FROM geometries  
WHERE name = 'Point';
```

---

POINT(0 0)

# Points

```
SELECT  
    ST_X(geom),  
    ST_Y(geom)  
FROM geometries  
WHERE name = 'Point'
```

---

θ θ

# Points

```
SELECT  
    name,  
    ST_AsText(geom)  
FROM nyc_subway_stations  
LIMIT 1;
```

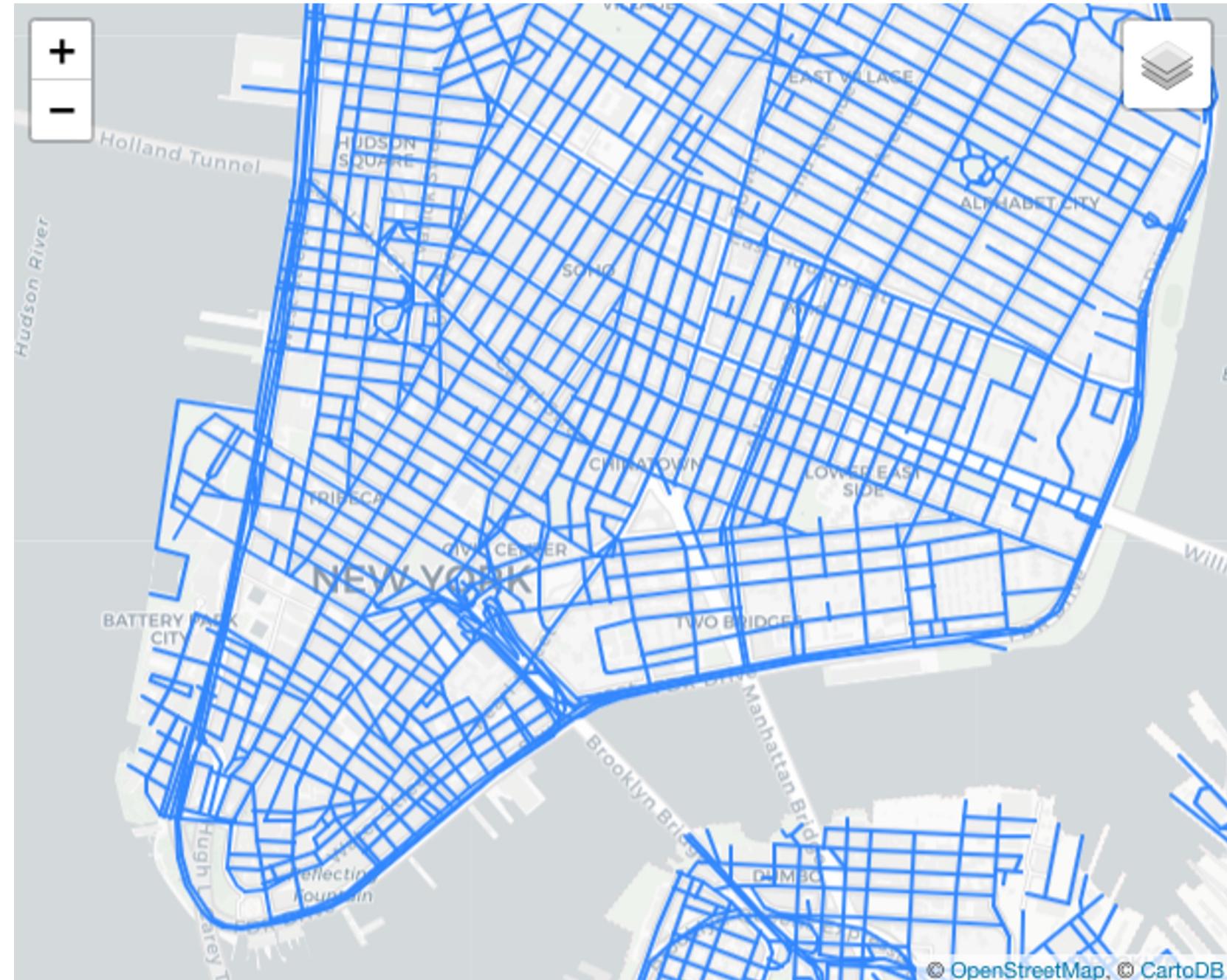
---

Cortlandt St | POINT(583521 4507077)

# LineStrings

“LineString” or  
“MultiLineString”,  
representing one or more 1-dimensional objects.

Streets, streams, bus routes, power lines, driven routes, highways, might all use a “LineString” geometry type.



# LineStrings

```
SELECT ST_AsText(geom)  
FROM geometries  
WHERE name = 'Linestring';
```

---

LINESTRING(0 0, 1 1, 2 1, 2 2)

# LineStrings

```
SELECT ST_Length(geom)  
FROM geometries  
WHERE name = 'Linestring';
```

---

3.41421356237309

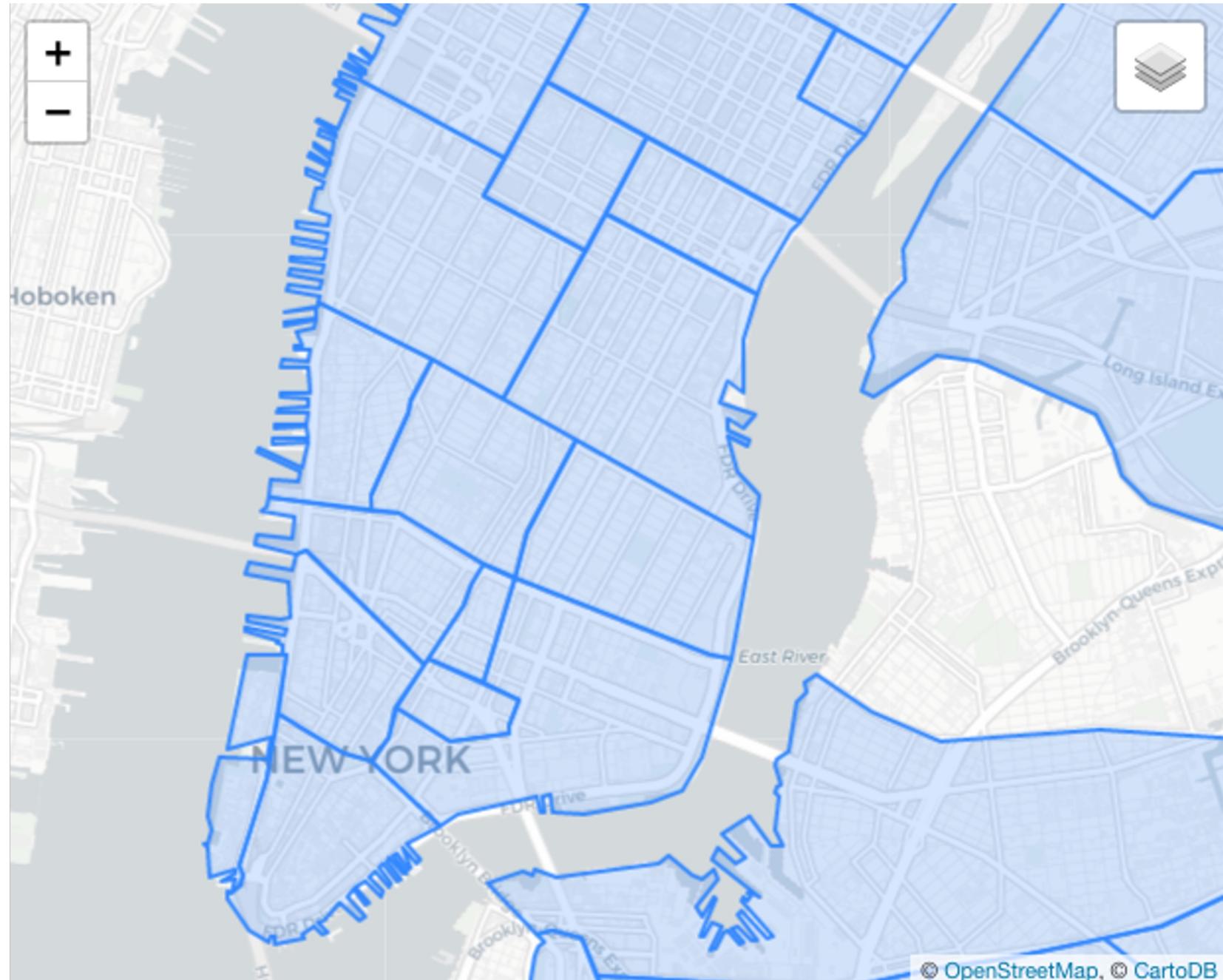
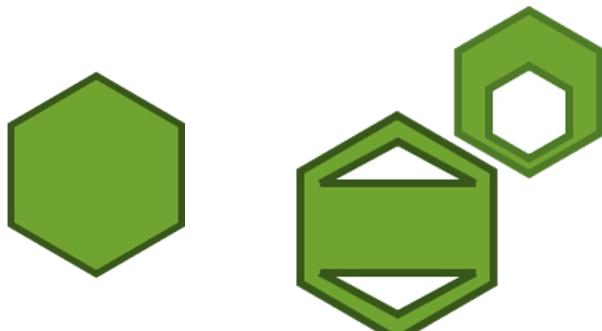
# LineStrings

- `ST_Length(linestring)`
- `ST_StartPoint(linestring)`
- `ST_EndPoint(linestring)`
- `ST_NumPoints(linestring)`

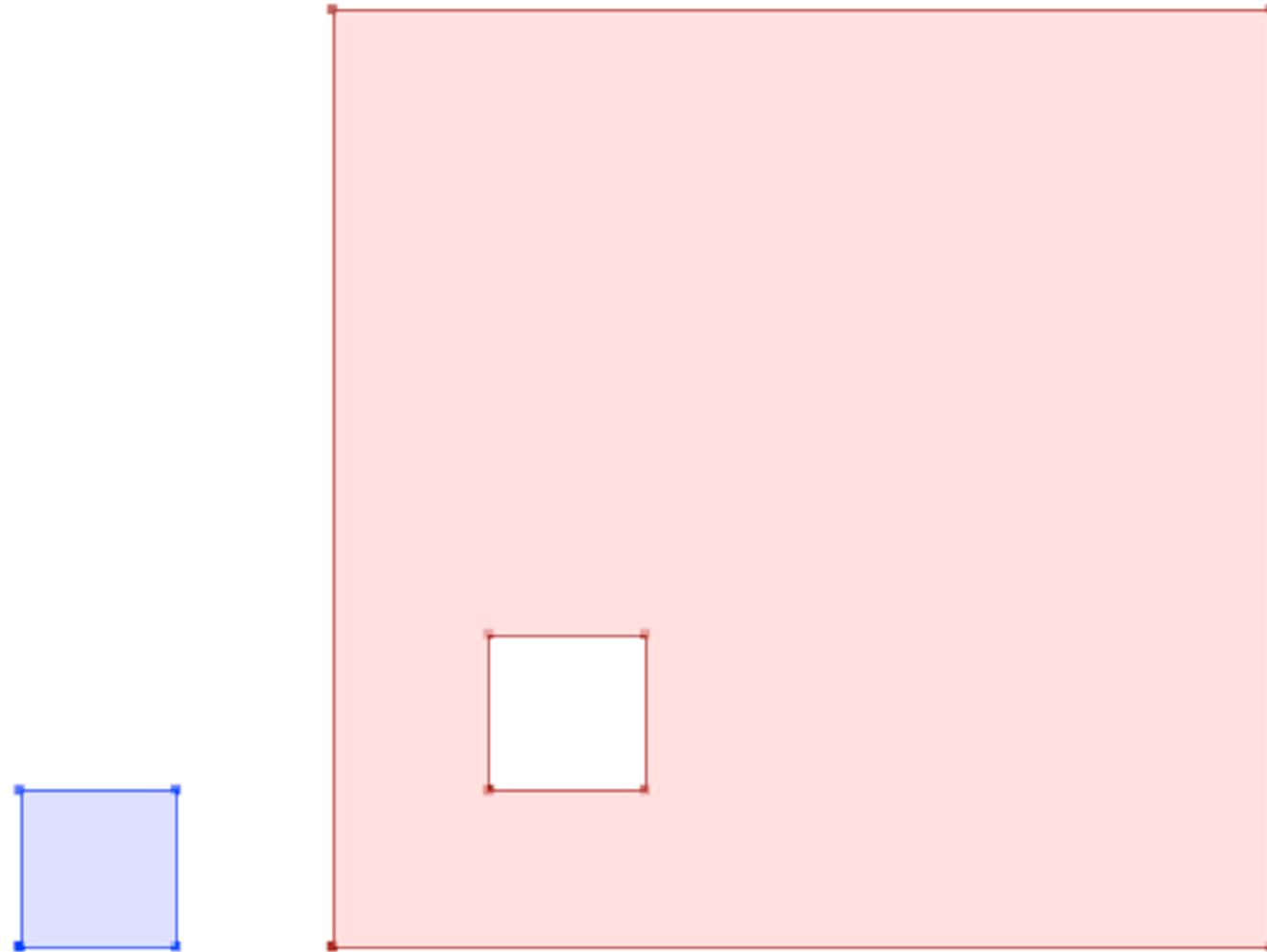
# Polygons

“Polygon” or  
“MultiPolygon”,  
representing one or more 2-dimensional objects.

Census areas, parcels,  
counties, countries,  
neighborhoods, zoning  
areas, watersheds, and  
more.



# Polygons



# Polygons

```
SELECT ST_AsText(geom)
  FROM geometries
 WHERE name LIKE 'Polygon%' ;
```

---

```
POLYGON((0 0, 1 0, 1 1, 0 1, 0 0))
POLYGON((0 0, 10 0, 10 10, 0 10, 0 0),
         (1 1, 1 2, 2 2, 2 1, 1 1))
```

# Polygons

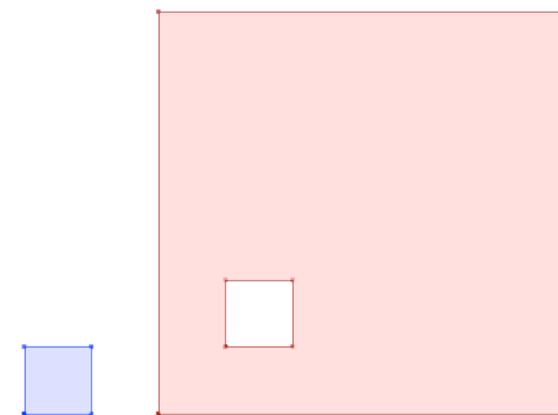
- `ST_Area(polygon)`
- `ST_NumInteriorRings(polygon)`
- `ST_ExteriorRing(polygon)`
- `ST_InteriorRing(polygon,n)`
- `ST_Perimeter(polygon)`

# Polygons

```
SELECT name, ST_Area(geom)  
FROM geometries  
WHERE name LIKE 'Polygon%' ;
```

---

|                 |  |    |
|-----------------|--|----|
| Polygon         |  | 1  |
| PolygonWithHole |  | 99 |



# All roads lead to Rome ... (Geometry construction)

```
SELECT ST_AsEWKT(  
    ST_GeomFromText('POINT(1 1)', 4326)  
);
```

---

**SRID=4326;POINT(1 1)**

# All roads lead to Rome ... (Geometry construction)

```
SELECT ST_AsEWKT(  
    ST_SetSRID(  
        ST_GeomFromText('POINT(1 1)'),  
        4326  
    )  
);
```

---

**SRID=4326;POINT(1 1)**

# All roads lead to Rome ... (Geometry construction)

```
SELECT ST_AsEWKT(  
    ST_SetSRID(  
        ST_MakePoint(1, 1),  
        4326  
    )  
);
```

SRID=4326;POINT(1 1)

# All roads lead to Rome ... (Geometry construction)

```
SELECT ST_AsEWKT(  
    ST_SetSRID(  
        'POINT(1 1)'::geometry,  
        4326  
    )  
)
```

---

**SRID=4326;POINT(1 1)**

# All roads lead to Rome ... (Geometry construction)

```
SELECT ST_AsEWKT(  
    'SRID=4326;POINT(1 1)' ::geometry  
) ;
```

---

**SRID=4326;POINT(1 1)**

# All roads lead to Rome ... (Geometry construction)

```
SELECT ST_AsEWKT(  
    ST_Point(1, 1, 4326)  
)
```

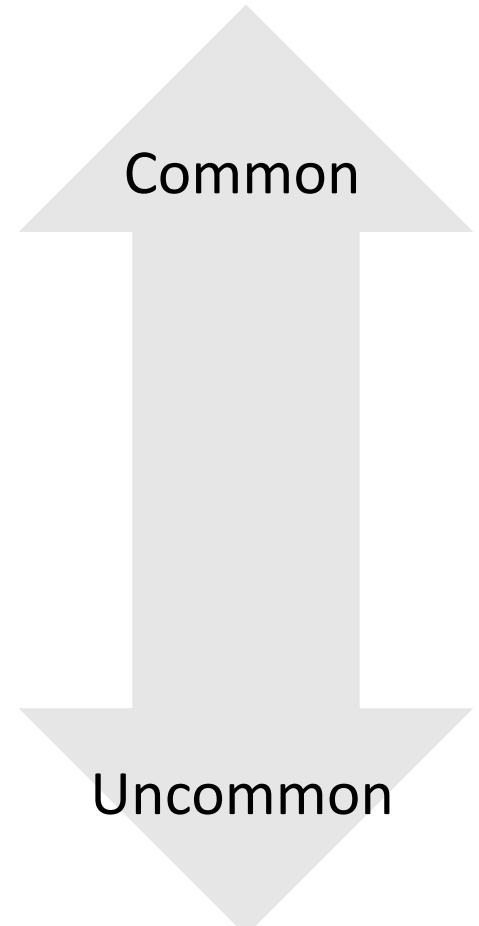
---

**SRID=4326;POINT(1 1)**

# Spatial Relationships

# Spatial Relationship Functions

- `ST_Intersects(A, B)`
- `ST_DWithin(A, B, d)`
- `ST_Distance(A, B)`
- `ST_Within, ST_Contains(A, B)`
- `ST_Equals(A, B)`
- `ST_Touches(A, B)`
- `ST_Disjoint, ST_Crosses, ST_Overlaps(A, B)`



## **ST\_Equals(A, B)**

## **ST\_OrderingEquals(A, B)**

Equals tests that A and B cover the same space, regardless of representation differences (extra vertices, order of vertices).

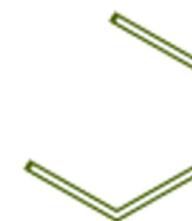
OrderingEquals insists on structural identity.



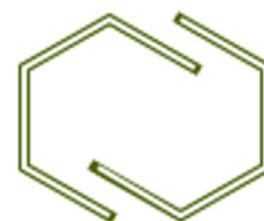
Point & Multipoint



Multipoint & Multipoint



Linestring & Linestring



Multilinestring & Multilinestring



Polygon & Polygon



Multipolygon & Multipolygon

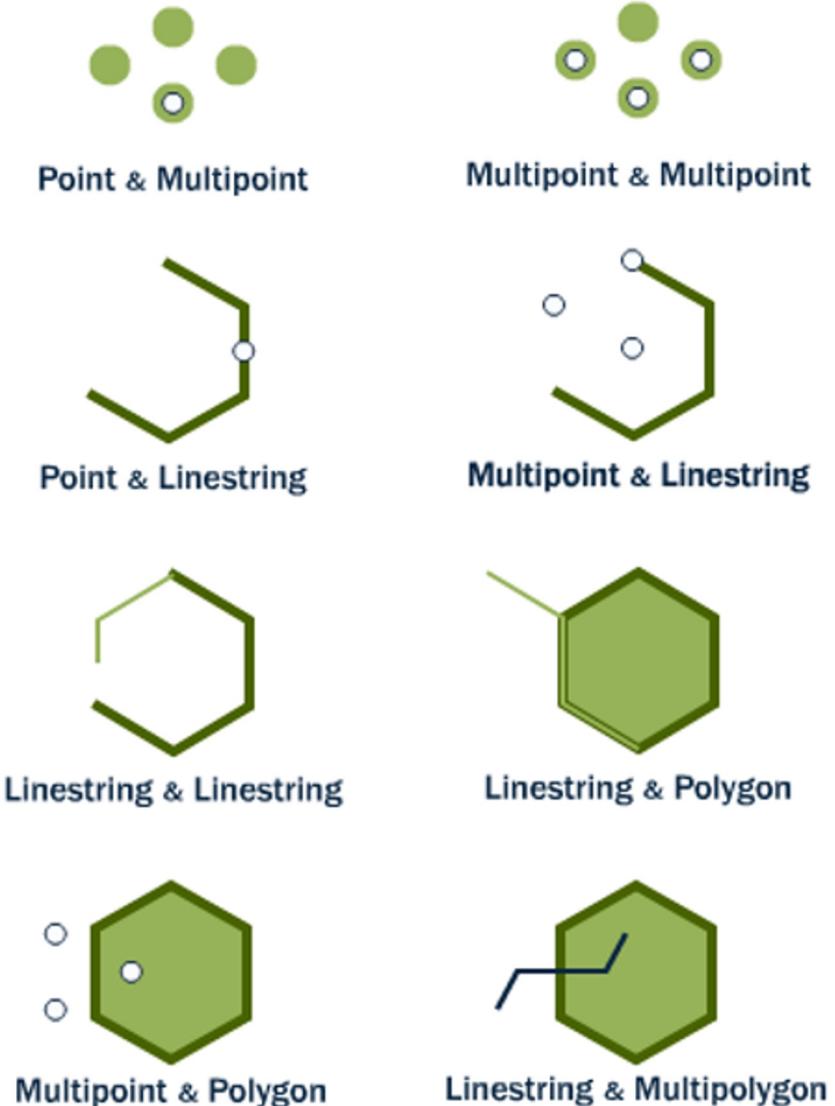
# **ST\_Intersects(A, B)**

# **ST\_Disjoint(A, B)**

Intersects and disjoint are opposites.  
Any kind of interactions between two shapes is an intersection, and implies the pair are not disjoint, and vice versa.

A intersects B  $\Rightarrow$  A not disjoint B

A disjoint B  $\Rightarrow$  A not intersects B



# What is the well-known text (WKT) of Broad Street subway station?

```
SELECT name, ST_AsText(geom, 0)
  FROM nyc_subway_stations
 WHERE name = 'Broad St';
```

---

POINT(583571 4506714)

# What neighborhood intersects that subway station?

```
SELECT name, boroname  
FROM nyc_neighborhoods  
WHERE ST_Intersects(  
    geom,  
    ST_GeomFromText(  
        'POINT(583571 4506714)',  
        26918));
```

---

Financial District | Manhattan

## **ST\_Crosses(A, B)**

Mostly used to test linestrings, which can be said to cross when their interiors have interactions.

When linestrings cross polygon boundaries, the crosses condition is also true.



Multipoint & Linestring



Linestring & Linestring



Multipoint & Polygon



Linestring & Multipolygon

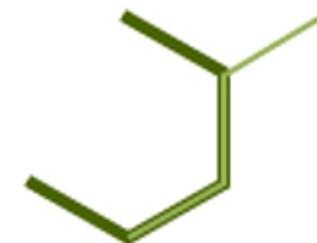
# **ST\_Overlaps(A, B)**

Shapes overlap when their interiors interact with each other and also with the exterior of the shape.

So objects that are contained or within do not overlap, overlaps is what normal people might call “partial overlap”.



Multipoint & Multipoint



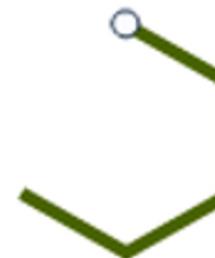
Linestring & Linestring



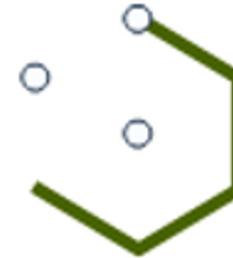
Polygon & Polygon

## **ST\_Touches(A, B)**

Shapes touch when their boundaries interact but their interiors do not. End points for lines, exterior rings for polygons. Usually used for testing that polygons have ring-touching only.



Point & Linestring



Multipoint & Linestring



Linestring & Linestring



Linestring & Polygon



Point & Polygon



Multipoint & Polygon

# **ST\_Within(A, B)**

# **ST\_Contains(B, A)**

Within and contains are about objects being fully inside. One important caveat, for both functions an object on the **boundary** is not considered within. So a point on the outer ring of a polygon is not within the polygon.



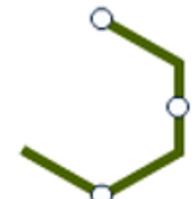
Point & Multipoint



Multipoint & Multipoint



Point & Linestring



Multipoint & Linestring



Linestring & Linestring



Linestring & Polygon



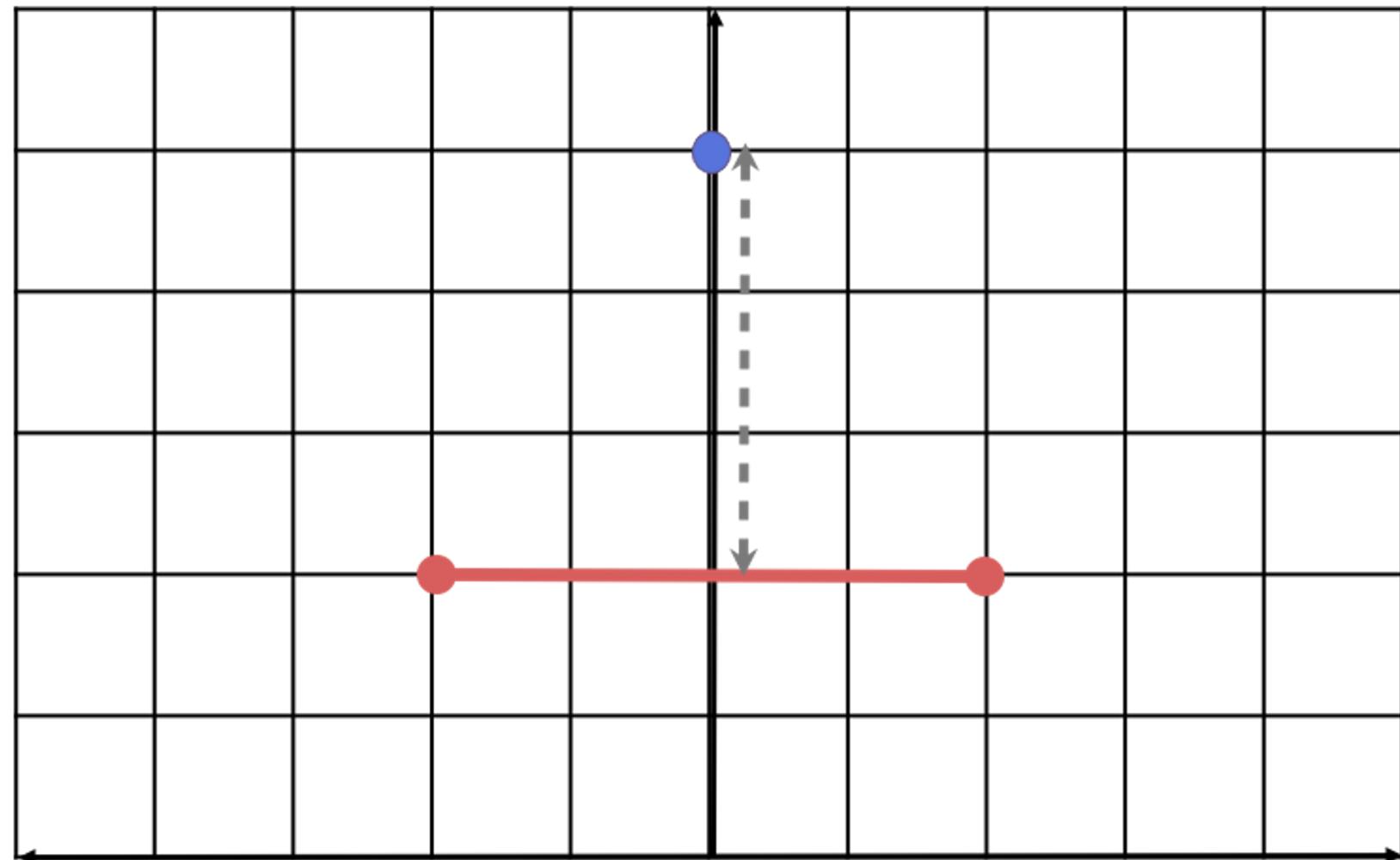
Point & Polygon



Multipoint & Polygon

## **ST\_Distance(A, B)**

Returns the **shortest** distance between the two geometries, in this case the distance from the point to the line mid-point.



## **ST\_Distance(A, B)**

```
SELECT ST_Distance(  
    'POINT(0 5)'::geometry,  
    'LINESTRING(-2 2, 2 2)'::geometry  
)
```

---

3

## **ST\_DWithin(A, B, R)**

Index-enabled radius search function. True when the distance from geometry A to geometry B is less than radius R. False otherwise.

Use instead of  
**ST\_Distance(A, B) < R**, in  
order to get benefit of spatial  
index.



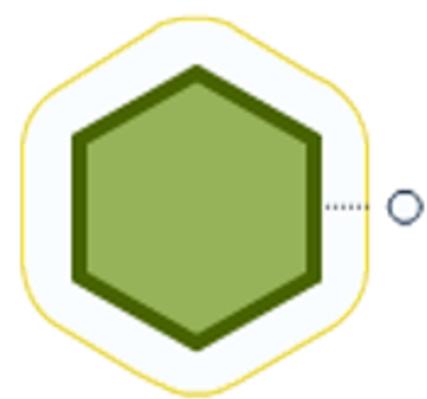
Point & Point (True)



Point & Point (False)



Polygon & Point (True)



Polygon & Point (False)

# What streets are within 10 meters of Broad Street subway station?

```
SELECT name
FROM nyc_streets
WHERE ST_DWithin(
    geom,
    ST_GeomFromText('POINT(583571 4506714)', 26918),
    10
);
```

