

Oct 2024

R Shiny Masterclass Series - Introduction

Maps and spatial visualisation with Leaflet



EPI-interactive

Agenda

- **Session 1** | 30 September | Getting started with Posit Cloud and your first R Shiny app
- **Session 2** | 01 October | R Shiny core concepts and mobile ready layout
- **Session 3** | 03 October | R Shiny user interface components, reactivity and debugging
- **Session 4** | 07 October | Data sources and data processing in R Shiny
- **Session 5** | 08 October | Maps and spatial visualisation with Leaflet: adding map layers, annotations, pins, filters and legend
- **Session 6** | 10 October | Interactive charts with Plotly: chart types, customising hover boxes and chart styling
- **Session 7** | 14 October | Publishing R Shiny apps, design considerations and case study
- **Session 8** | 15 October | Case study, top 10 tips for data visualisation with R Shiny and wrap-up

Today

Recap: Session 4 challenge

Goals:

Understand leaflet capabilities – AIS Explorer

Create leaflet data visualization

Steps:

Add base map / markers to Shiny app

Add data to map

Add reactive behaviour to shapes on the map

Customise pop-ups

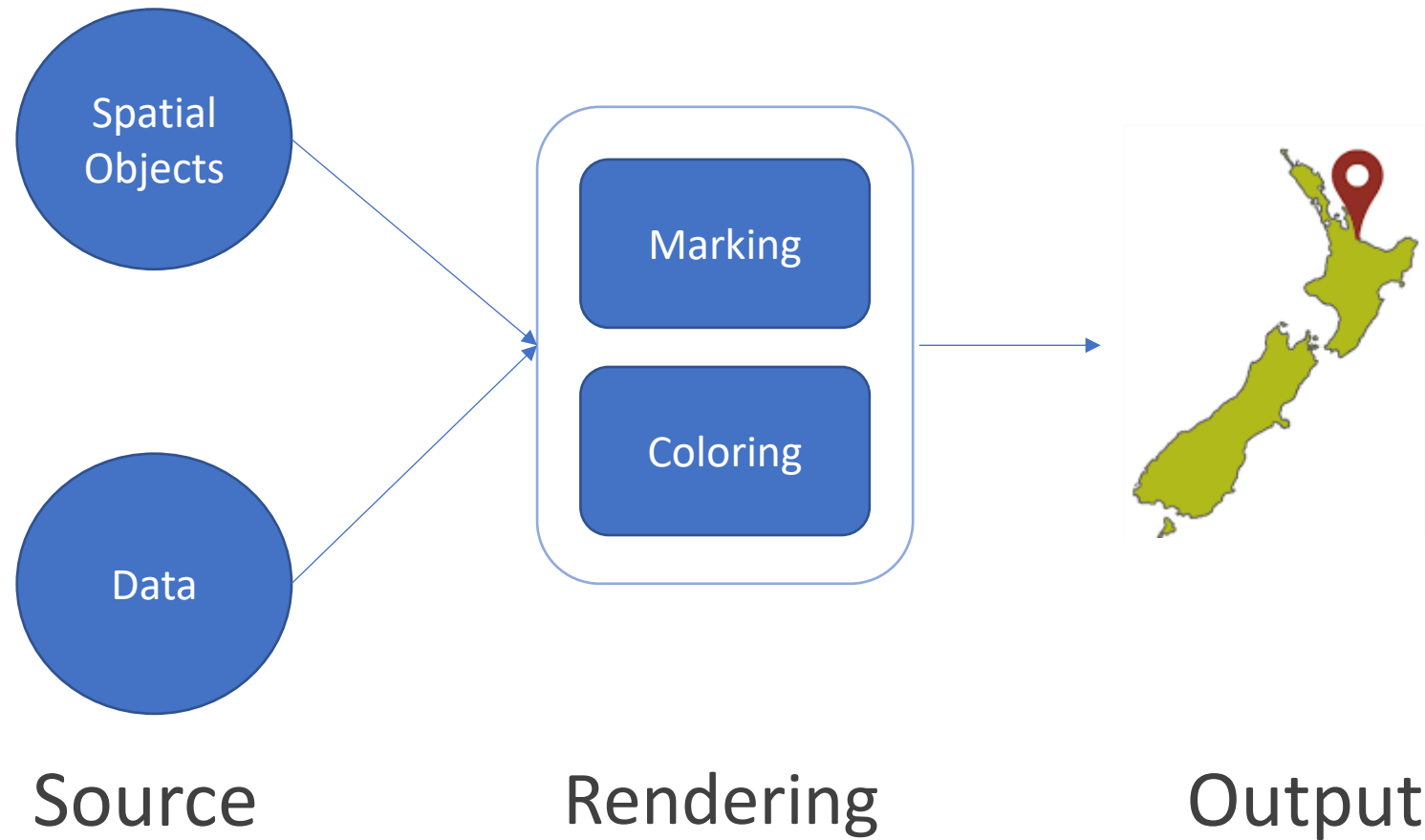
Introduction to Leaflet

Why Leaflet?

- A popular open-source JavaScript library
- Easy to integrate and control Leaflet maps in R
- Interactive panning/zooming
- Easily composing maps using combinations of Map tiles/ Markers / Polygons / Lines / Popups / GeoJSON
- Easily render spatial objects from the *sp* or *sf* packages, or data frames with latitude/longitude columns

Reference: <https://rstudio.github.io/leaflet/>

Leaflet working flow chart



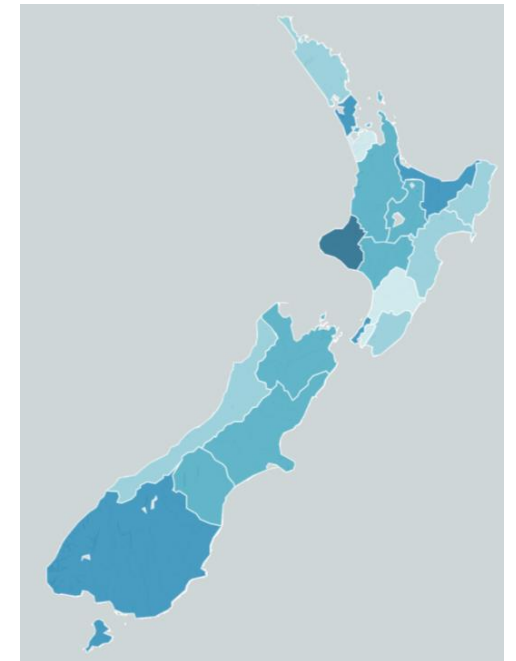
Leaflet object - a spatial vector

The sp/sf package:

To handle geographic vector data

An sf example: District Health Board, New Zealand

```
Simple feature collection with 20 features and 2 fields
geometry type:  MULTIPOLYGON
dimension:      XY
bbox:           xmin: 166.4293 ymin: -47.28706 xmax: 178.5497 ymax: -34.41455
epsg (SRID):    4326
proj4string:     +proj=longlat +datum=WGS84 +no_defs
First 10 features:
  DHB12  NAME                geometry
0      6  Lakes MULTIPOLYGON (((176.6977 -3...
1     10  Hawke's Bay MULTIPOLYGON (((177.1222 -3...
2      3  Auckland MULTIPOLYGON (((174.8427 -3...
3     18  Canterbury MULTIPOLYGON (((174.0488 -4...
4      2  Waitemata MULTIPOLYGON (((174.6907 -3...
5     16  Nelson Marlborough MULTIPOLYGON (((173.9564 -4...
6     17  West Coast MULTIPOLYGON (((172.479 -42...
7      5  Waikato MULTIPOLYGON (((175.9401 -3...
8      9  Taranaki MULTIPOLYGON (((174.6152 -3...
9     13  Hutt MULTIPOLYGON (((175.1509 -4...
```



File Structure

- UI:
`leafletOutput("map_id")`
- Server:

```
output$map_id <- renderLeaflet({  
  leaflet(...)  
})
```

Common server functions

- **leaflet():** Base of the map; creates the overall map projection. Data can be provided to this
- **addTiles() / addProviderTiles:** Creates a base layer of information to be presented on the map. Different tiles can be selected for different mapping purposes
- **addMarkers / addCircles / addLines:** Renders simple features onto the map. Requires lat / long coordinates.
- **addPolygons():** Renders shape files onto the map as complex polygons. Details such as the border colour, fill colour, opacity and pop-up behaviours can be customised. Requires a spatial data frame.
- **clearGroup():** Removes a previously rendered group of data from the map

Basic Usage

1. Create a map object with the `leaflet()` function
2. Add layers (i.e., features) to the map by using layer functions (e.g. `addTiles`, `addMarkers`, `addPolygons`) to modify the map widget.
3. Repeat step 2 as desired.
4. Print the map widget to display it

```
library(leaflet)
# Add default OpenStreetMap map tiles
m <- leaflet() %>% addTiles() %>% addMarkers(lng=174.768, lat=-36.852, popup="The
birthplace of R")
# Print the map
m
```

Basic Usage

The screenshot displays the R console and RStudio interface. The console shows the R version (3.4.1) and the installation of the 'leaflet' package. The RStudio interface shows the 'Environment' pane with a 'List of 8' values, and the 'Plots' pane displaying a map of Auckland, New Zealand, created using the 'leaflet' package. The map shows major roads, parks, and landmarks like the University of Auckland and Albert Park.

```
R version 3.4.1 (2017-06-30) -- "Single Candle"
Copyright (C) 2017 The R Foundation for Statistical Computing
Platform: x86_64-w64-mingw32/x64 (64-bit)

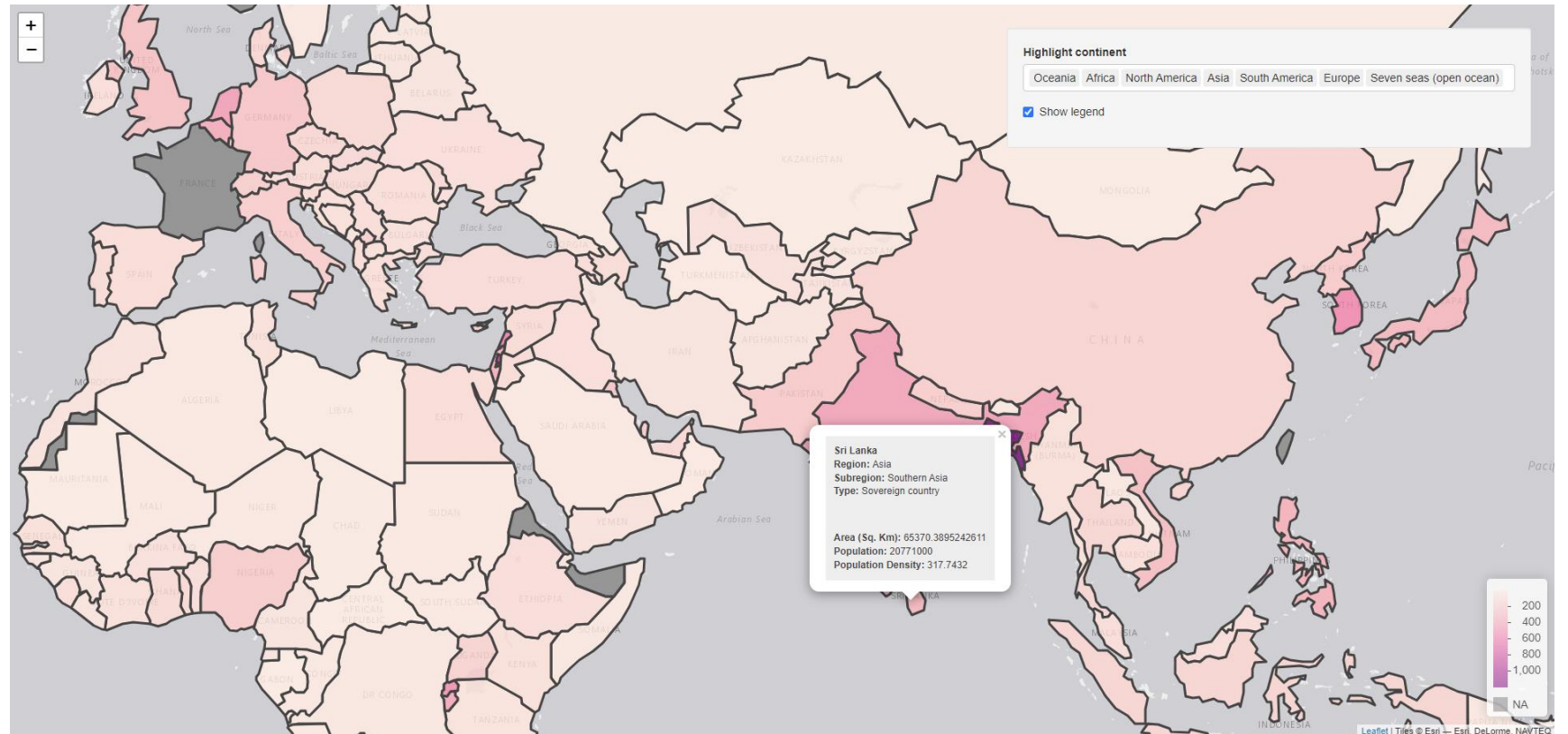
R is free software and comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY.
You are welcome to redistribute it under certain conditions.
Type 'license()' or 'licence()' for distribution details.

R is a collaborative project with many contributors.
Type 'contributors()' for more information and
'citation()' on how to cite R or R packages in publications.

Type 'demo()' for some demos, 'help()' for on-line help, or
'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.
Type 'q()' to quit R.

> library(leaflet)
warning message:
package 'leaflet' was built under R version 3.4.3
>
> m <- leaflet() %>%
+   addTiles() %>% # Add default openstreetmap map tiles
+   addMarkers(lng=174.768, lat=-36.852, popup="The birthplace of R")
> # Print the map
> |
```

Visualising world data with Leaflet



Creating the base map

Creating the base map

In Posit Cloud, open **Session-5**, then `/stage1`

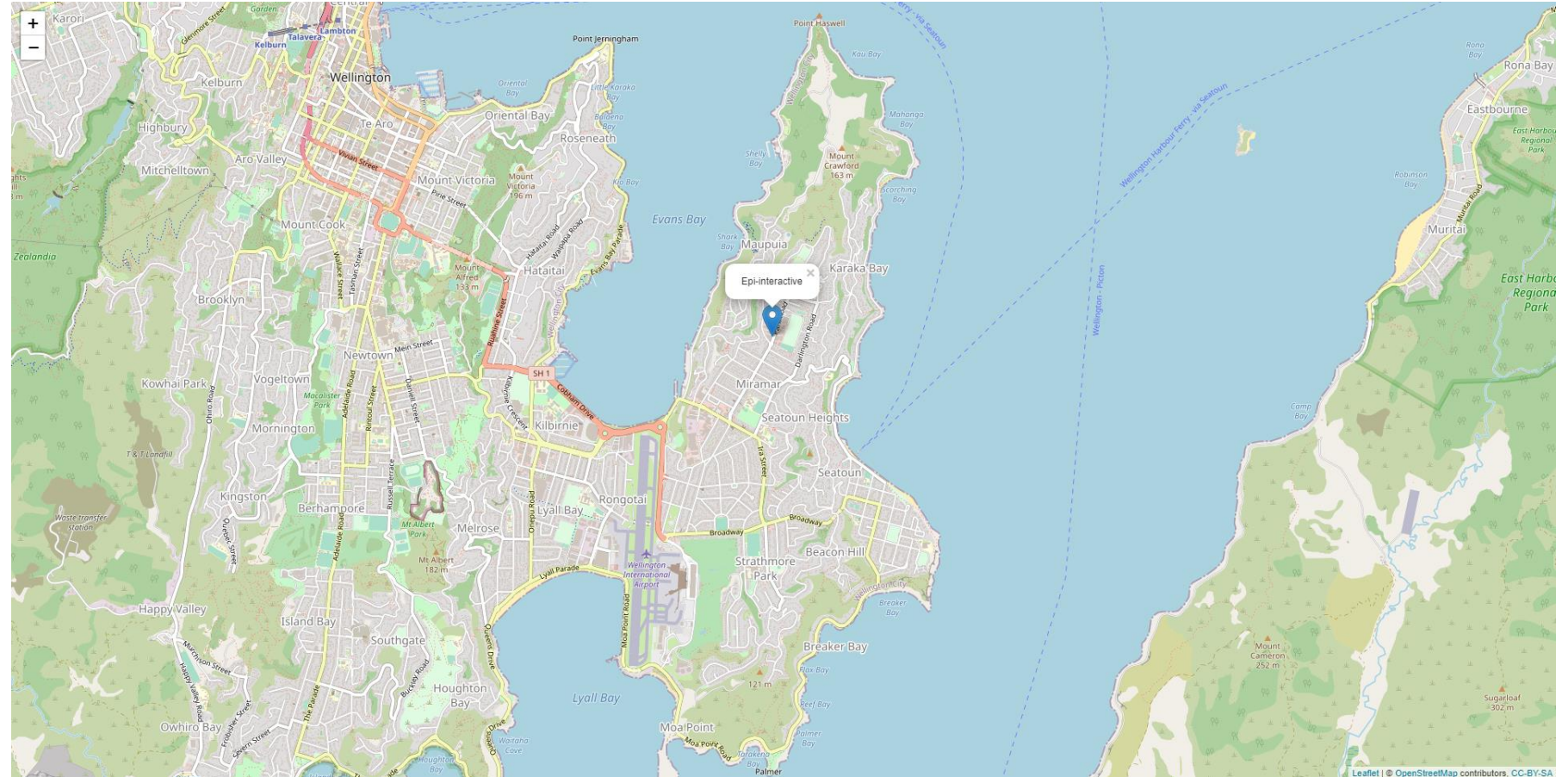
- Create a `leafletOutput` for our map:

```
leafletOutput("map", width = "100%", height = "100%")
```

- Use render function in the server side:

```
output$map <- renderLeaflet({  
  leaflet() %>% addTiles() %>%  
  addMarkers(lng=174.821029, lat=-41.309602, popup="Epi-interactive")  
})
```


Creating the base map



Creating the base map

- `addProviderTiles()` can be used instead of `addTiles()` to customise the background of leaflet maps.
- Change style and purpose of leaflet maps
- Many options available:
<http://leaflet-extras.github.io/leaflet-providers/preview/index.html>

```
output$map <- renderLeaflet({  
  leaflet() %>%  
    addProviderTiles(providers$Esri.WorldGrayCanvas) %>%  
    addMarkers(lng=174.821029, lat=-41.309602, popup="Epi-interactive")  
})
```

Rendering spatial data

Rendering spatial data

- For simple features:
 - `addCircles(lng, lat, radius, layerId, group, stroke, color, weight, ...)`
 - `addMarkers(lng, lat, layerId, group, popup, label, ...)`
 - `AddLines()`
- For more complex features:
 - `addPolygons()`
 - `addPolyLines`
 - `addRasterImage`

Rendering spatial data

- To remove layers:
 - `clearShapes()`
 - `clearGroup("group_name")`
 - `clearBounds()`
 - `clearTiles()`
- Common parameters
 - **lng / lat:** longitude and latitude of data
 - **layerId:** a unique identifier for objects in the layer (e.g. `iso_a2`)*
 - **group:** a named identifier for the current layer of data
 - **data:** which data should be used for this layer

AddPolygons

- Requires a *geom* (geometry) column in the provided data
- Customisations:
 - stroke, color, weight, opacity
 - fill, fillColor, fillOpacity
 - smoothFactor
 - popup

Name	Type	Value
world_data\$geom	list [176] (S3: sfc_MULTIPOLYGON)	List of length 176
[[1]]	list [3] (S3: XY, MULTIPOLYGON)	List of length 3
[[2]]	list [1] (S3: XY, MULTIPOLYGON)	List of length 1
[[3]]	list [1] (S3: XY, MULTIPOLYGON)	List of length 1
[[4]]	list [30] (S3: XY, MULTIPOLYGON)	List of length 30
[[5]]	list [10] (S3: XY, MULTIPOLYGON)	List of length 10
[[6]]	list [1] (S3: XY, MULTIPOLYGON)	List of length 1
[[7]]	list [1] (S3: XY, MULTIPOLYGON)	List of length 1
[[8]]	list [1] (S3: XY, MULTIPOLYGON)	List of length 1

Rendering spatial data

If required, open [/stage2](#) to continue

- Use `addPolygons` to render the country shapes from `world_data` onto the map
- Modify the shape borders to have a weight of 1px
- Disable the shape fill so that only the outline is drawn

Rendering spatial data



Reactive controls

Leaflet Proxy

- Rendering data onto a map is expensive (takes a lot of resources)
- Shouldn't redraw entire map any time data changes
- Leaflet Proxy allows data to update without changing whole map.
- Need to decide when we draw certain elements

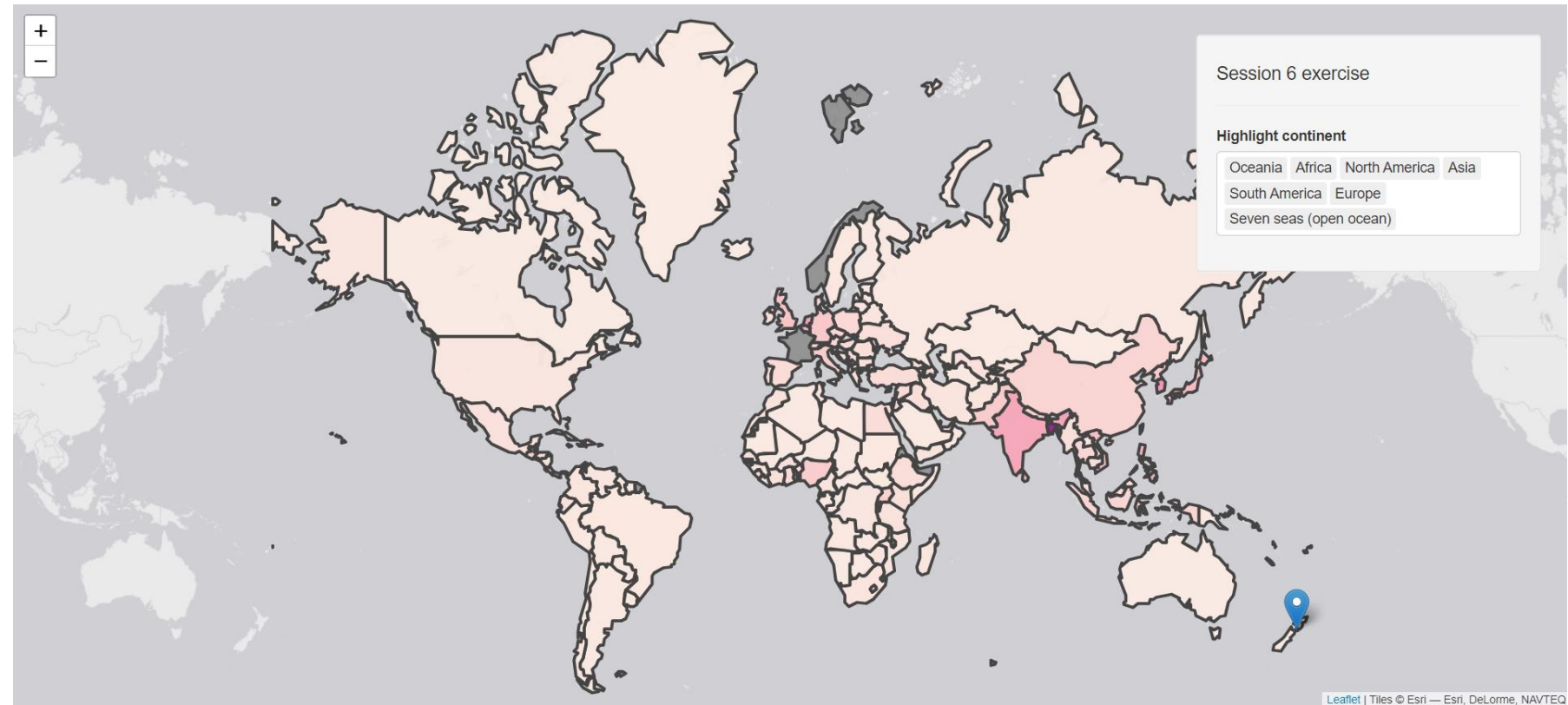
```
observe({  
  pal <- colorpal()  
  leafletProxy("map") %>%  
    clearGroup("highlight") %>%  
    addPolygons(data = continent_data(), group = "highlight", ...)  
})
```

Reactive controls

*If required, open **/stage3** to continue:*

- In ui.R, add to the absolutePanel a selectInput to choose **multiple** continents (all selected by default)
- In server.R, create a reactive to filter world_data by your continent input
- Create an observe() and use leafletProxy with addPolygons to render the selected continent shapes with a thicker border

Reactive controls



Legends and Popups

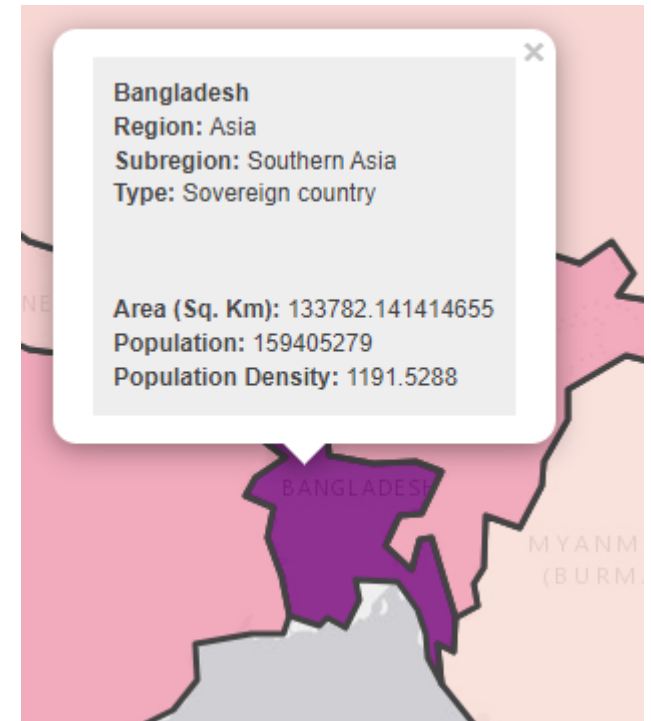
Legends

- Leaflet legends require some manual set-up
 - `addLegend(map, position, pal, values)`
 - `clearControls()`

```
observe({  
  proxy <- leafletProxy("map", data = filteredData())  
  
  pal <- colorpal() #colorpal() is the colour palette to render map  
  proxy %>% addLegend(position = "bottomright",  
    pal = pal, values = ~world_data$popDensity )  
}  
})
```

Popups

- We can create HTML formatted pop-up text for each shape
- Use `dplyr::mutate` to create a `popupText` column
- Use `paste` / `paste0` / `sprintf` to construct the text

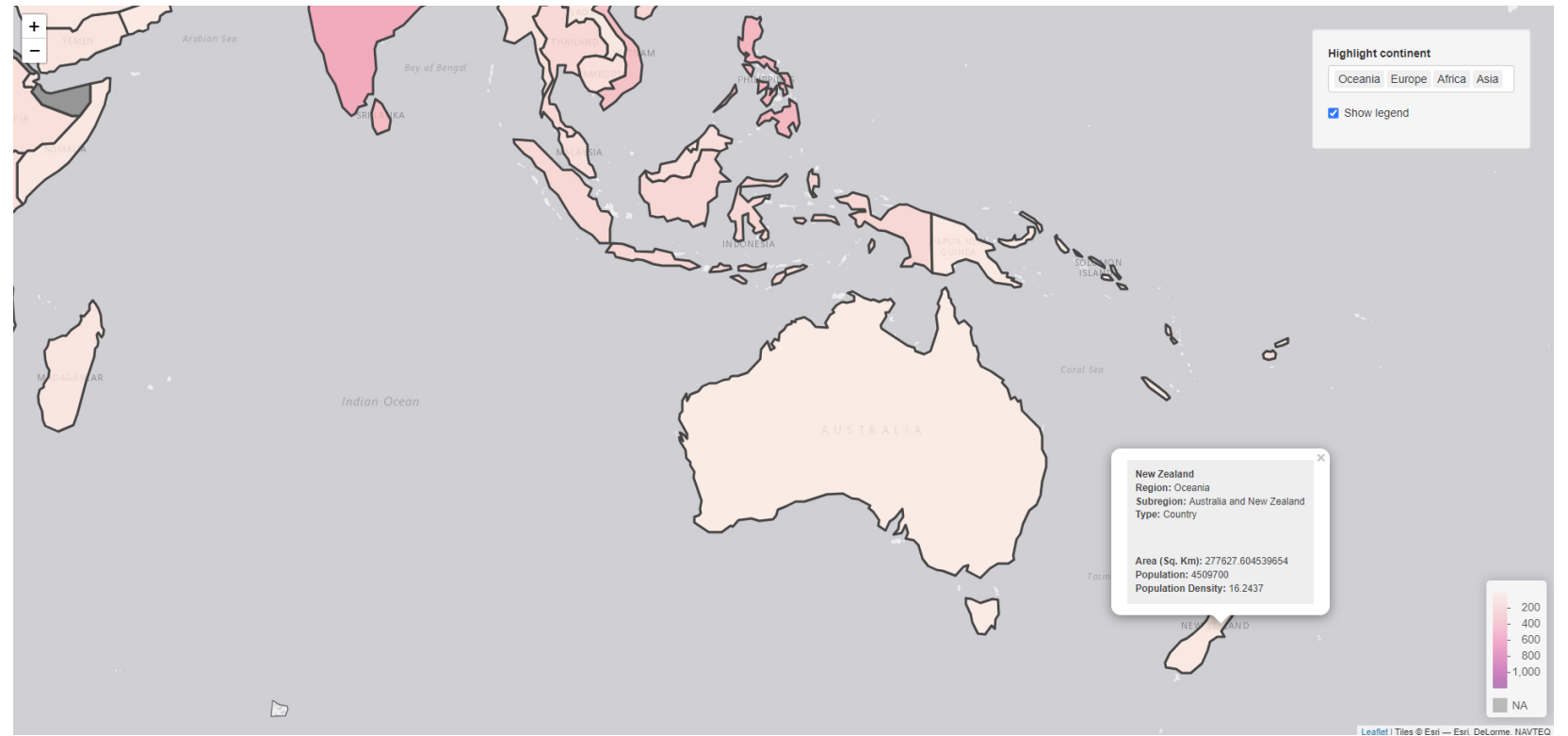


Legends and Popups

*If required, open **/stage4** to continue:*

- Add to ui.R a checkboxInput to show / hide the legend
- Add to server.R an observe() which uses a leafletProxy to add / remove the legend from the map

Legends and Popups



Recap

1. Use *leaflet* to create base map
2. Customise look and purpose of map with provider tiles
3. Render shapes onto the map with `addPolygons`.
4. Reactively modify existing maps with *leafletProxy*. Filter data with Shiny inputs and reactivity
5. Customise extra information such as colours, legend, popups

Next time

- Data visualisation with Plotly
- **Challenge: using your existing project (or the /result folder):**
- Create a new selectInput and use this to change the category variable
- Create a new selectInput to change the providerTiles and colours used to fill the shapes on the map
- Customise the shapes to have a highlight effect when you hover with your mouse
 - Hint: see <https://rstudio.github.io/leaflet/articles/choropleths.html> for an example
- Change the shape popup text into a label that appears on hover (check the 'label' attribute)
- Add a downloadHandler to export the data currently shown on the map
- Share your results on the session 6 forum.