

Researching Datasets and Usability of Datasets

Background:

This document is for provenience tracking and referencing. It contains the research pathway taken to find usable data and includes links to all those data sources to be re-examined or used for future updates or application.

Body

Original plans were to use NSW traffic data as initially it was thought there was more readily available data. Upon looking into this it was found that there was an abundance of APIs and data but none that suited the needs and requirements of this project.

OpenData provides a dataset for traffic light locations here:

<https://opendata.transport.nsw.gov.au/dataset/traffic-lights-location>

OpenData NSW resources:

[https://opendata.transport.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/Live Traffic Data Developer Guide .pdf](https://opendata.transport.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/Live_Traffic_Data_Developer_Guide.pdf)

<https://opendata.transport.nsw.gov.au/node/340/exploreapi>

Outside of this however their API does not return values as we had hoped but just seems to return status of the website. This means that we need to download and store the data somewhere to perform manipulations to it. As such looking for a Victorian region dataset would be more suitable.

There was an equivalent kind of OpenData resource for Victoria found here:

<https://vicroadsopendata-vicroadsmaps.opendata.arcgis.com/>

The data that is displayed on this website when searched for is slightly outdated but visualised for the user to find easily.

The following dataset was last updated April 2019 but displays traffic signal locations:

<https://vicroadsopendata-vicroadsmaps.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/traffic-lights?geometry=131.146%2C-38.968%2C158.854%2C-32.741>

This dataset was updated May 25 2020 and shows traffic volume:

https://vicroadsopendata-vicroadsmaps.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/5512df2ff41e4941bacf868053dbfba9_0/data?geometry=131.269%2C-39.579%2C158.977%2C-33.402

Further digging into the sources of the data directs us here:

<https://discover.data.vic.gov.au/organization/vicroads>

Digging through the REST services directory allowed us to find the datasets we needed with current and up to date information for Victoria:

https://vicdata.vicroads.vic.gov.au/server/rest/services/Operations_Traffic/FeatureServer

Tracing these back leads to the final datasets located here:

These datasets have all been updated within one month of the current date.

<https://discover.data.vic.gov.au/dataset/traffic-lights>

<https://discover.data.vic.gov.au/dataset/traffic-volume>

<https://discover.data.vic.gov.au/dataset/homogenous-traffic-flow>

<https://discover.data.vic.gov.au/dataset/bluetooth-links>