Assignment 8: Mapping

Student Name

OVERVIEW

This exercise accompanies the lessons in Hydrologic Data Analysis on mapping

Directions

1. Change "Student Name" on line 3 (above) with your name.
2. Work through the steps, **creating code and output** that fulfill each instruction.
3. Be sure to **answer the questions** in this assignment document.
4. When you have completed the assignment, **Knit** the text and code into a single pdf file.
5. After Knitting, submit the completed exercise (pdf file) to the dropbox in Sakai. Add your last name into the file name (e.g., "A08_Salk.html") prior to submission.

The completed exercise is due on 23 October 2019 at 9:00 am.

Setup

1. Verify your working directory is set to the R project file,
2. Load the tidyverse, lubridate, cowplot, LAGOSNE, sf, maps, and viridis packages.
3. Set your ggplot theme (can be theme_classic or something else)
4. Load the lagos database, the USA rivers water features shape file, and the HUC6 watershed shape file.

Mapping water quality in lakes

Complete the in-class exercise from lesson 15, to map average secchi depth measurements across states in Maine, considering lake area and lake depth as predictors for water clarity. Steps here are identical to the lesson, with the following edits:

- Make sure all your wrangling is done in this document (this includes basic wrangling of the LAGOS database)
- In your cowplot, do not adjust the legend items (even though they look ugly). Rather, reflect on how you would improve them with additional coding.
- For item 9, **do** run a regression on secchi depth by lake area and a separate regression on secchi depth by lake depth. Make scatterplots of these relationships. Note that log-transforming one of these items may be necessary.

5. Filter the states and secchi depth datasets so that they contain Maine only. For the secchi depth dataset, create a summary dataset with just the mean secchi depth.
6. Create a plot of mean secchi depth for lakes in Maine, with mean secchi depth designated as color and the lake area as the size of the dot. Remember that you are using size in the aesthetics and should remove the size = 1 from the other part of the code. Adjust the transparency of points as needed.
7. Create a second plot, but this time use maximum depth of the lake as the size of the dot.
8. Plot these maps in the same plot with the `plot_grid` function. Don't worry about adjusting the legends (if you have extra time this would be a good bonus task).

What would you change about the legend to make it a more effective visualization?

9. What relationships do you see between secchi depth, lake area, and lake depth? Which of the two lake variables seems to be a stronger determinant of secchi depth? (make a scatterplot and run a regression to test this)

Note: consider log-transforming a predictor variable if appropriate

Mapping water features and watershed boundaries

10. Wrangle the USA rivers and HUC6 watershed boundaries dataset so that they include only the features present in Florida (FL). Adjust the coordinate reference systems if necessary to ensure they use the same projection.
11. Create a map of watershed boundaries in Florida, with the layer of water features on top. Color the watersheds gray (make sure the lines separating watersheds are still visible) and color the water features by type.
12. What are the dominant water features in Florida? How does this distribution differ (or not) compared to North Carolina?

Reflection

13. What are 2-3 conclusions or summary points about mapping you learned through your analysis?

14. What data, visualizations, and/or models supported your conclusions from 13?

15. Did hands-on data analysis impact your learning about mapping relative to a theory-based lesson? If so, how?

16. How did the real-world data compare with your expectations from theory?