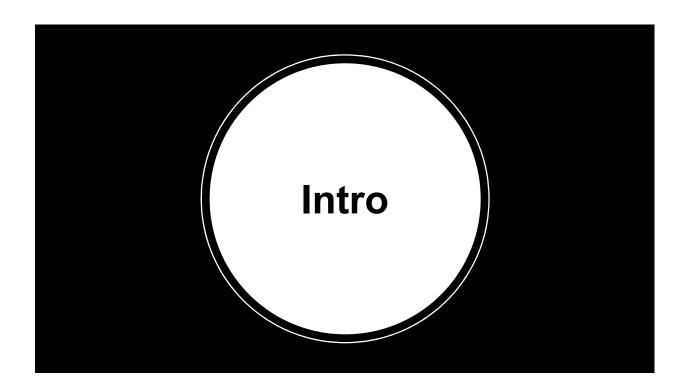
SPATIAL DATA IN R

RACHEL KUZMICH (not a developer)



About me

Before

- BSc in geography and biology at Trent University
- > thesis on time series analysis of forest disturbances in the Alberta oil sands
- > published papers about on too, and uav work for tree species discrimination

Now

- > pursuing a MSc in geography at Queen's University
- ➤ research project (and eventually thesis) on cerulean warbler habitat preferences using lidar and passive acoustic monitoring

About today's talk

- > what is gis and remote sensing
- > spatial data types:
 - o raster, vector, las, tabular
- > where spatial data comes from and how to find it
- > time series example:
 - o analysis and visualization basics in R



GIS

- > geographic information system/science
- > antecedents: cartography, navigation, epidemiology
- > grandfather of modern GIS is Roger Tomlinson
- > storage, analysis, editing, display, sharing of geographic information
- ➤ makes location the primary variable
- > can use a gis to make maps, but gis is not the same as cartography

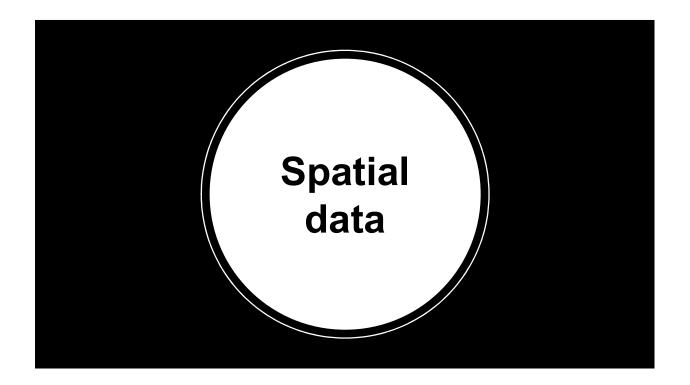
Remote sensing

science of acquiring information about the surface of, or objects on, the earth (or another planet) without coming in direct contact with them

- > antecedents: surveying, reconnaissance
- > earthrise image (Apollo 8, 1968), blue marble image (Apollo 17, 1972)
- > sensing and recording of reflected or emitted energy
- > reliant on the electromagnetic spectrum (visible and non visible wavelengths)
- involves a sensor (i.e., consumer grade camera, single band, multispectral...) mounted on a platform (i.e., ground-based, uav, aircraft, satellite...)

Why use R?

- ➤ language and environment (1993)
- ➤ based on S (1976)
- > open source
- > free to run, share, modify
- > versatile
- > customization
- > statistics
- ➤ integration with other languages (c, c++)
- > extended capacity via a whole bunch of packages
- > and a whole bunch of forums and communities
- download R: http://cran.utstat.utoronto.ca/
- download R Studio: https://www.rstudio.com/products/rstudio/download/



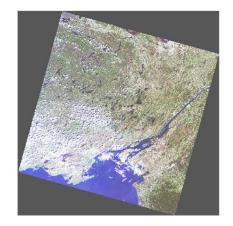
Spatial data standards

(geo)spatial data: data about geographic locations

- > instrumentation calibration
- ➤ data collection
- ➤ naming
- > reporting
- ➤ language
- > sharing
- > assessment
- ➤ metadata

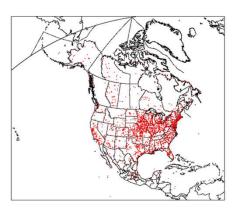
Raster

- ➤ matrix of cells
- > fundamental units are pixels
- → integer (discrete/categorical), floating point (continuous)
- pixel resolution related to real-world space
- ➤ in addition to location, each pixel has a single value of some attribute class



Vector

- > vertices and paths
- ➤ points: one set of coordinates (x, y, and sometimes z too)
- ➤ lines: connected ordered sets of coordinates
- polygons: closed line, first and final coordinates are the same
- organized as shapefile representing a single feature class with different attributes



LAS

- collected using lidar (aka als)
- involves a platform, laser scanner system, GPS, INS
- measures time it takes for pulse return after interacting with surface/object
- output is dense three dimensional spatially explicit point cloud
- each point has x, y, z coordinates and intensity values



Tabular

- often as attributes joined to other data
- sometimes standalone

What should you use?

Depends on what you are trying to do, what's important, relevant and meaningful to your analysis, where you got your data from and its nature, and how hard you want to make your life.

Raster Vector LAS

- continuous phenomena
- categorical data
- discrete locations
- extents of spatial objects
- 3d environments
- surfaces

Assumptions, pros and cons

Raster

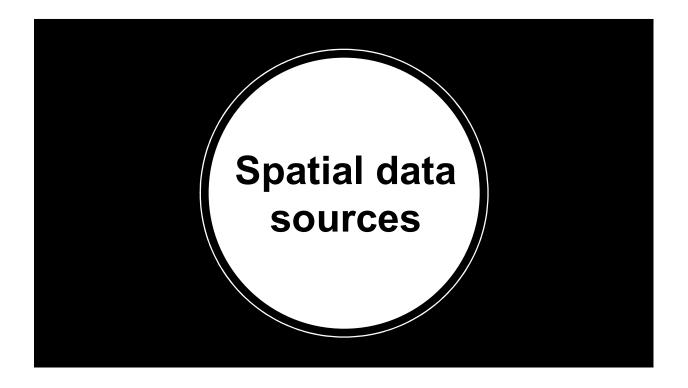
- data collected by remote sensing
- assumes the world is full, up to you to partition it
- display sensitive to resolution

Vector

- data collected by surveying
- assumes the world is empty, up to you to add elements
- simplification and data reduction

LAS

- data collected either by remote sensing or surveying
- assumes the world is 3d
- more point data than can be used



Spatial data sources

Conventional data collection

> typically done by (or with support from) government agencies

Crowdsourcing

> common in emergency situations, study of species occupying a wide area

"Volunteered geographic information"

> data collected through apps when you agree to the terms and conditions

Create your own

Accessing spatial data

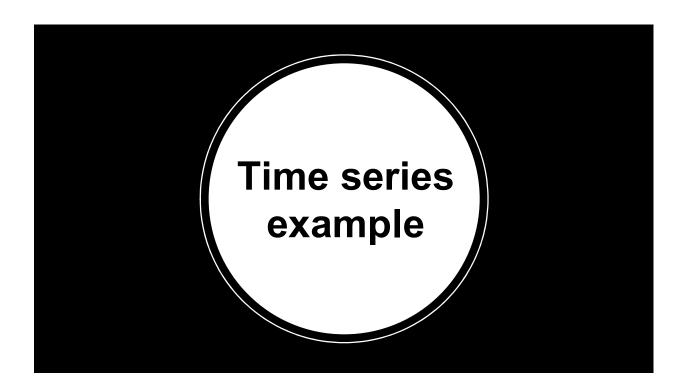
Landsat satellite archive: earthexplorer.usgs.gov

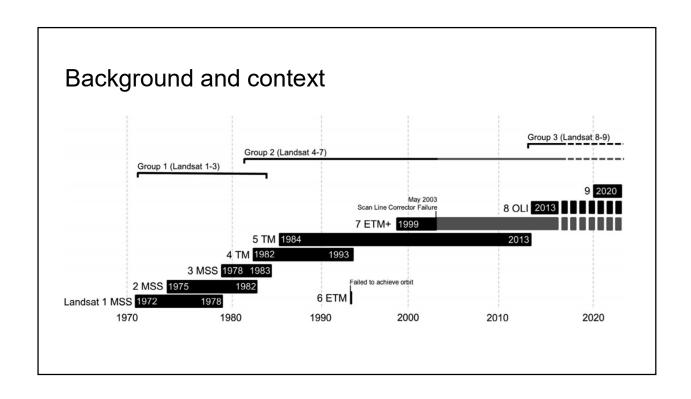
Government

- Canada: open.canada.ca/data/en/dataset
- > Ontario: ontario.ca/search/data-catalogue
- > Kingston: cityofkingston.ca/explore/data-catalogue

Other places

- ➤ agencies, libraries and repositories: fao, un, cec, usgs, statscan, conservation authorities, land inventory ontario, scholars geoportal, esri
- > private (paid): digital globe





Band	Name	Wavelength	Applications
1	Ultra blue	0.435 - 0.451	Coastal and aerosol studies
2	Blue	0.452 - 0.512	Bathymetric mapping, distinguishing soil from vegetation, and deciduous from coniferous vegetation
3	Green	0.533 - 0.590	Emphasizes peak vegetation, which is useful for assessing plant vigor
4	Red	0.636 - 0.673	Discriminates vegetation slopes
5	Near infrared	0.851 - 0.879	Emphasizes biomass content and shorelines
6	Shortwave infrared I	1.566 - 1.651	Discriminates moisture content of soil and vegetation; penetrates thin clouds
7	Shortwave infrared II	2.107 - 2.294	Improved moisture content of soil and vegetation and thin cloud penetration
8	Panchromatic	0.503 - 0.676	15 metre resolution, sharper image definition
9	Cirrus	1.363 - 1.384	Improved detection of cirrus cloud contamination
10	Thermal infrared I	10.60 - 11.19	100 metre resolution, thermal mapping and estimated soil moisture
11	Thermal infrared I	11.50 - 12.51	100 metre resolution, Improved thermal mapping and estimated soil moisture

