

# Geocoding and Reverse Geocoding

Geocoding and reverse geocoding are essential processes in geographic information systems (GIS) that are used to convert between addresses and spatial data.

## 1.1 Geocoding

Geocoding is the process of converting addresses (like "1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA") into geographic coordinates (like latitude 37.423021 and longitude -122.083739), which you can use to place markers on a map, or position the map. The resulting latitude and longitude are often used as a key index in merging datasets based on location.

Here is an example of using Google's Geocoding service to get the longitude and latitude of the Dallas County Administration Building:

```
import requests
import json

# Encode the parameters
parameters = {"address": "411 Elm St, Dallas, TX 75202", "key": "YOUR_API_KEY"}
base_url = "https://maps.googleapis.com/maps/api/geocode/json?"

# Send the GET request
response = requests.get(base_url, params=parameters)

# Convert the response to json
data = response.json()

# Extract the latitude and longitude
if len(data["results"]) > 0:
    latitude = data["results"][0]["geometry"]["location"]["lat"]
    longitude = data["results"][0]["geometry"]["location"]["lng"]
    print(latitude, longitude)
else:
    print(f"Could not find the latitude and longitude .")
```

## 1.2 Reverse Geocoding

Reverse geocoding, as the name implies, is the opposite process of geocoding. It involves converting geographic coordinates into a human-readable address. This can be useful in applications where you need to display an actual address to a user instead of latitude and longitude coordinates.

Here is an example of using Google's reverse geocoding API<sup>1</sup> to find the address at latitude = 33.9474096, longitude = -118.1179069

```
import requests
import json

api_key = "YOUR_API_KEY"
latitude = 33.9474096
longitude = -118.1179069

# Encode the parameters
parameters = {"latlng": f"{latitude},{longitude}", "key": api_key}
base_url = "https://maps.googleapis.com/maps/api/geocode/json?"

# Send the GET request
response = requests.get(base_url, params=parameters)

# Convert the response to json
data = response.json()

# Extract the address
if len(data["results"]) > 0:
    address = data["results"][0]["formatted_address"]
    print(address)
else:
    print(f"Could not find the address")
```

---

*This is a draft chapter from the Kontinua Project. Please see our website (<https://kontinua.org/>) for more details.*

---

<sup>1</sup>Note that the API key is something you obtain on your own. People do not share API keys for privacy and security reasons.

# Answers to Exercises





---

# INDEX

geocoding, [1](#)

reverse geocoding, [2](#)