Processing Geospatial Data

Python Libraries for Geospatial Data Types





Geospatial Data in the Wild



Geospatial data: Any form of geographically-referenced data. In addition to its geographic component, the data may contain non-geographic information.

- Many real-world problems involve geospatial data
 - Ex: GPS, mapping, transportation planning, collision avoidance, terrain assessment, etc.
 - Often, various geographically-referenced data sources must be processed, combined and analyzed
- **DFO Use Case**: Teams are tasked with the design of a model to capture the risk of harmful interactions between ships and whales

Data Source	Format	
Historical ship track data	Tabular (geo-referenced)	
Whale habitat suitability data	Raster	
Designated slow zones	Vector	
Marine protected areas	Vector	

Workshop Topics

- The purpose of the workshop is to cover libraries that will allow for quick and easy processing of geospatial data sources
 - All content will use Python as the programming language

Topic	Library
Processing tabular data	Pandas
Processing vector data	Shapely
Processing raster data	Rasterio
Visualizing geospatial data	HoloViews

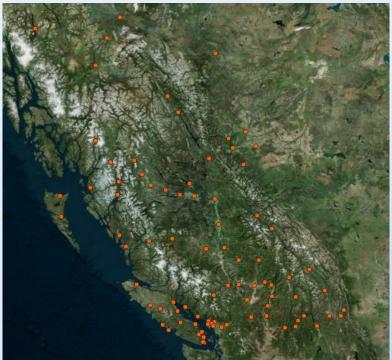
Processing Tabular Data — Pandas



Tabular data: Structured data over a fixed set of fields (columns) where each record (row) contains a value (possibly null) for each field.

- 1. Load a CSV file into a DataFrame
- 2. View the structure of the data
- 3. Access the data by columns or by rows
- 4. Access the data based on query conditions

Placemark_name	Latitude	Longitude
CAMPBELL RIVER LAW COURTS	50.027912	-125.247125
COURTENAY LAW COURTS	49.689531	-124.999417
DUNCAN LAW COURTS	48.777968	-123.711027
GANGES	48.859991	-123.509222
GOLD RIVER	49.781045	-126.047610



Court locations in British Columbia

Alternative Libraries:

NumPy

Processing Vector Data – Shapely



Vector data: Geographic data represented as collections of points, lines and polygons, each of which are broken down into ordered lists of vertices.

- 1. Load GeoJSON files
- 2. Access geographic features (points, lines, polygons)
- 3. Check relations between of geographic features
- 4. Calculate the distance between geographic features

Alternative Libraries:

- Fiona
- GeoPandas





Polygon boundaries of counties in New Brunswick

Processing Raster Data — Rasterio



Raster data: Geographic data represented as a grid of equal-sized cells in which each cell is assigned a value pertaining to the area it covers.

- 1. Load raster files
- 2. Look up raster indices for coordinates
- 3. Query raster values
- 4. Perform raster arithmetic

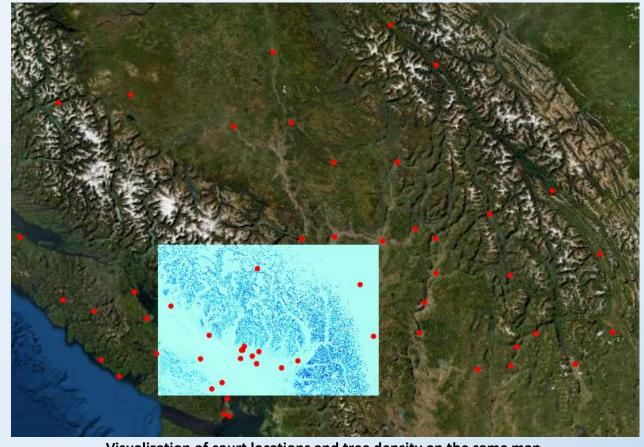


Raster of tree density in British Columbia

Alternative Libraries:

Visualizing Geospatial Data — HoloViews

- 1. Load and view basemaps
- 2. Re-project and plot vector data
- 3. Re-project and plot raster data
- 4. Apply basic styling to plotted data



Visualization of court locations and tree density on the same map

Alternative Libraries:

- Cartopy
- Power BI