

# GORDON MCLACHLAN

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GIS Consultant and Developer

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An inventive and creative GIS consultant specialising in visualisation, automation, and the geospatial web.

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## Skills

- Highly skilled in GIS analysis using **ArcGIS, ArcGIS Pro, ArcGIS Portal, QGIS, MapInfo**, and **FME**.
  - Strong coding skill in **Python, SQL, VBA**, and **JavaScript**.
  - Passionate about **Automation, Cartography**, and **Web GIS**
  - Proficient at **Report writing, Project Management, Data Management**, and **Data Analytics**
  - Worked in sectors **Onshore Wind, Offshore Wind, Environmental impact assessment, Landscape and visual, Infrastructure, Oil and Gas, Location Planning**.
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## Experience

### Senior Geospatial Data Manager

bp, Aberdeen/Edinburgh/Remote (UK)

May 2023 - present

- Lead GIS for the Morven Offshore Wind Farm, developing procedures, processes, task management workflows, and managing team workload to ensure project efficiency.
- Played a key role in migrating the Offshore Wind GIS Enterprise Platform to a new system, overseeing its maintenance, upkeep, and successful implementation.
- Create Python-based tools and workflows to automate spatial data processing, improving efficiency and ensuring metadata compliance.
- Develop dashboards and web applications for data collection, sharing, and visualisation using ArcGIS Online, Enterprise, Survey123, and JavaScript APIs.
- Provide GIS support across alternative energy and oil and gas projects, managing datasets at regional and global scales.
- Deliver GIS training sessions to enhance organisational capabilities in scripting, data management, and visualisation tools.
- Participate in BP's Geospatial Community of Practice (CoP) to promote best practices, knowledge-sharing, and the standardisation of geospatial processes.

### Lead GIS Specialist

Orsted, Edinburgh (UK)

October 2022 - May 2023

- Led a team GIS professionals, setting clear objectives, managing workloads, and ensuring delivery of high-quality geospatial outputs to meet project requirements.
- Built and managed an enterprise GIS platform from the ground up to support onshore renewable energy projects, ensuring reliable and up-to-date data for planning and analysis.

- Established workflows for automatic data ingestion, including regular updates of Land Parcel Information and utilities datasets, enhancing data accessibility and accuracy.
- Provided spatial analysis support, including visibility modelling, land profiling, and digital terrain analysis, to inform project development and decision-making.
- Automated geospatial processes using Python to streamline workflows, reduce manual effort, and improve accuracy.
- Supported the GB Development Team in identifying new project opportunities and managing land resources.
- Delivered training and mentoring to team members, ensuring alignment with GIS best practices and supporting their professional development.

## **GIS Specialist**

Prosource IT, Remote (contracted to bp) (UK)

January 2021 - October 2022

- Supported GIS activities across the UK, Europe, and North Africa, managing spatial datasets and ensuring accurate data integration.
- Designed and implemented web applications for data collection and reporting using ArcGIS Online.
- Created automated workflows with Python to optimise data processing and minimise manual effort.
- Conducted GIS training sessions to enhance team proficiency in geospatial tools and processes.

## **Senior GIS Consultant**

Ramboll, Edinburgh (UK)

March 2018 - January 2021

- Provided GIS expertise for multidisciplinary infrastructure and renewable energy projects, including Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) for onshore wind farms, HS2, and transmission networks.
- Designed and implemented automated workflows for visibility analyses, including cumulative impact assessments, to support landscape and visual evaluations..
- Created and maintained geospatial data workflows for utility mapping and land development, ensuring consistency and quality.
- Developed and prototyped digital EIA Technical Summary reports to improve accessibility for public consultations
- Delivered geospatial solutions for large-scale projects by collaborating with stakeholders and multidisciplinary teams.

## **Senior Spatial Analyst**

Callcredit Information Group (now TradeUnion), Leeds (UK)

Aug 2012 - March 2018

- Supported location planning for retail and automotive clients through spatial analysis and detailed reporting.
- Managed a team of analysts, overseeing workload distribution and ensuring high-quality outputs.
- Designed spatial models and automated data workflows using SQL and VBA to improve efficiency and accuracy.
- • Produced maps and geospatial reports to support strategic decision-making on site selection and resource allocation.

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## **Education**

### **MSc, GIS - Distinction**

University of Leeds

2017

Studied Geographical Information Systems (GIS) with particular reference to the socioeconomic and environmental sciences.

Dissertation title: Quantifying Socio-Economic Change: A Longitudinal Geodemographic Study

## **BSc, Geography (Hons) - 2:1**

University of Edinburgh

2008 - 2012

Studies geography with a slant to physical and environmental sciences.

Honours Dissertation Title: Winds of Change: Can attitudes to a wind farm change over time?

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## **Awards**

### **Royal Geographical Society Best Postgraduate Dissertation Prize**

February 2019

For my MSc dissertation "Quantifying Socio-Economic Change: A Longitudinal Geodemographic Study"

### **British Society of Population Study Best Postgraduate Dissertation Prize**

September 2018

For my MSc dissertation "Quantifying Socio-Economic Change: A Longitudinal Geodemographic Study"

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## **Publications**

### **Analysing Socio-Economic Change Using a Time Comparable Geodemographic Classification: England and Wales, 1991–2011**

Applied Spatial Analysis and Policy

2020

Geodemographic classifications are used to understand social phenomena. Within the private sector, for business planning accounting for underlying spatial differences in economic, social and demographic composition of geographical areas. In the public sector geodemographics is used in health, local governance and social research. Bespoke geodemographic systems help public health authorities to target neighbourhoods most at need of health campaigns. Geodemographic classifications are invariably cross-sectional and static. Having comparable geodemographic classifications over a period of time will help demonstrate changes in socio-economic and demographic structures. A time-comparable geodemographic scheme can bring out changes in multivariable compositional characteristics which are otherwise hidden by cross-sectional measures. This paper reports on variable selection, the conversion of inputs to a consistent geography and the creation of directly comparable geodemographic classifications of small areas across England and Wales for 1991, 2001 and 2011. Changes and stability in area characteristics are then analysed. The results show that most neighbourhoods are allocated into the same area type over time. Where there is change, this can be themed as: Socio-economic polarisation, characterised by a decrease in neighbourhoods found in the middle of the socio-economic spectrum, with an increase in number of areas at either end; Growth in the number of neighbourhoods with non-White ethnic residents, mainly Black ethnic minorities and Asian based communities and; Reorganisation and increase in classifications relating to urban areas, signalling development or growth of metropolitan areas.

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**G. McLachlan**

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