

# GIS PROGRAMMING FOR SPATIAL ANALYSIS

Class 07: Working with Raster Data in Python

## Some Updates

- Project group selection next Monday!
- Lab learning curve
- Schedule
- Exercise class 06 transect sampling
- Imagine: Create a systematic point sample along a polyline?

## Last Lecture / Last Week

- On the example of spatial sampling: How is everything coming together...?
  - use of complex data structures,
  - branching,
  - control flow,
  - logic elements and operations
  - Iterations, Looping
- Error search and Debugging
- Modularity: Working with modules and functions
- GP: How to work with **vector data** and **Geometry**

## Today 's Outline

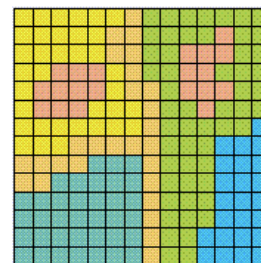
- We start with **raster data** and **raster operations**
- We will look into **raster data structure** and characteristics
- First steps in accessing and analyzing **raster datasets** for geoprocessing
- Understand how to develop **user-specified raster operators**
- numpy, scipy and gdal

# Learning Objectives

- Understanding how to access **raster datasets**
- **Implementing raster operations** using data structure and properties
- Understanding programming logic in raster analysis
- Moving windows, focal operations etc.
- Design your own solution in raster analysis

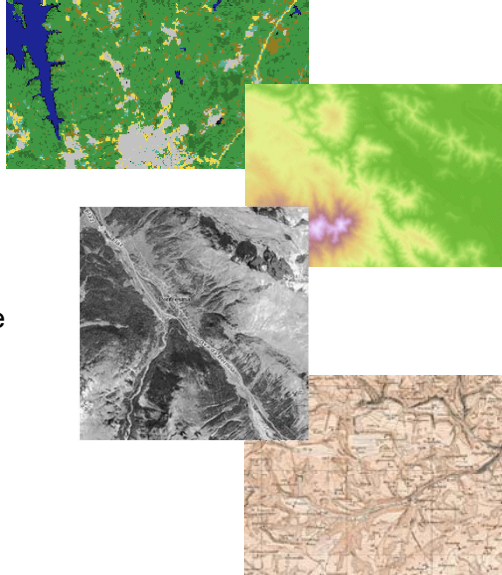
## Raster data

- **Matrix of cells** (pixels) organized into **rows and columns** (grid)
- Each cell contains a **value** representing information (e.g., spectral information)
- Digital aerial photographs, satellite images, digital pictures, or even scanned maps



# What can raster data tell us?

- **Thematic information**  
(discrete data):  
Land use, soil data
- **Continuous data:**  
Data regarding phenomena  
of changing degree over  
space on a continuous scale
- **Images / pictures**  
Pixel values represent  
reflectance of real world  
phenomena captured by the  
**sensor**



Raster .mxd

## Raster Analysis in arcpy

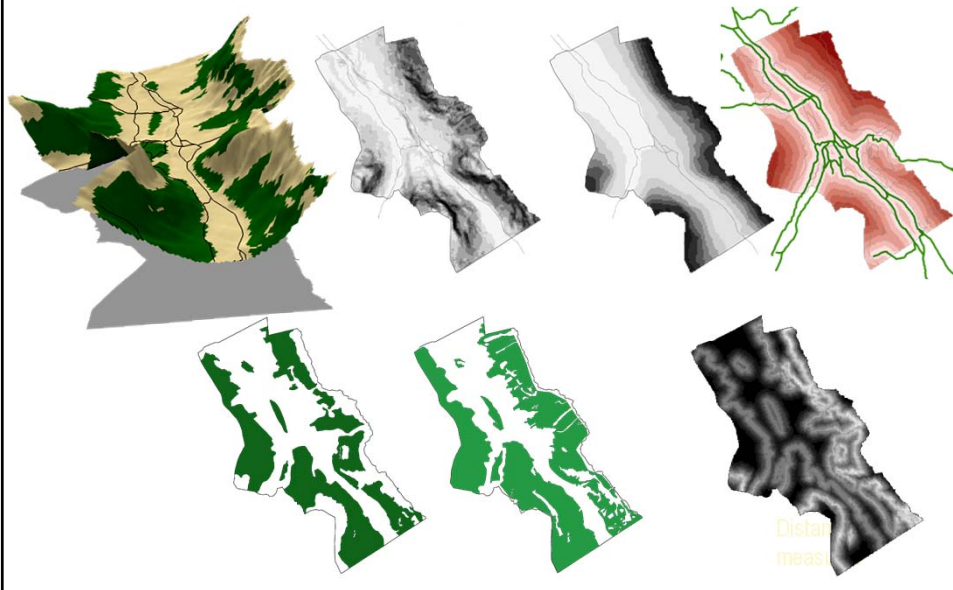
- **Native** raster analysis **methods** available (**SA, Management, 3D toolboxes**)
- Map algebra in a **workflow** (**ModelBuilder**) or via Scripting
- **Raster objects**
- For many cases we don't "re-invent the wheel":
  - Math and Conditions
  - Distance / Surface Analysis / Hydrology tools
  - Extraction
  - Filtering/Generalization
  - Reclassify
  - Statistical Analysis (Global, zonal, focal) and Geostatistics

Example curvature fct

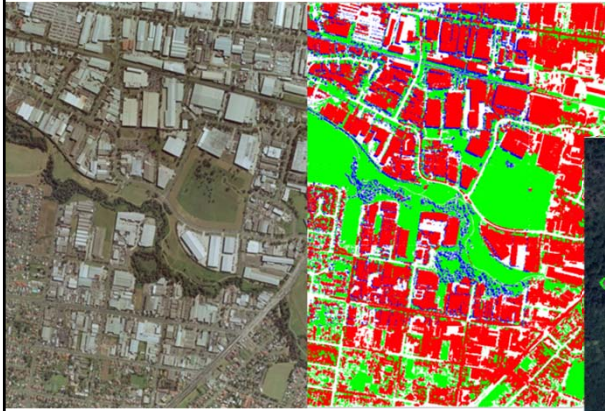
## Constraints of arcpy raster analysis

- Limited information **how** operators / tools work
- Difficult **modification** or **extension** of existing tools (only parameterization)
- **Limited access** to the raster data structure for developing customized operations (e.g., filtering)
- Specific needs (remember our project topics):
  - Spatial statistics
  - classification procedures
  - feature extraction
  - recognition/ detection in RS (AI)
  - **Map algebra, uncertainty** analysis
  - Some quick examples

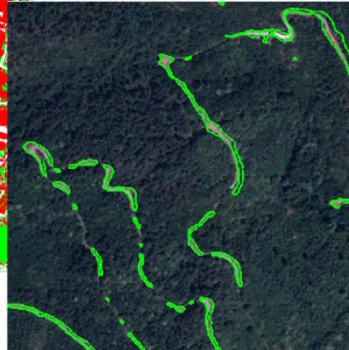
### Raster overlay and uncertainty analysis



## Information extraction and detection

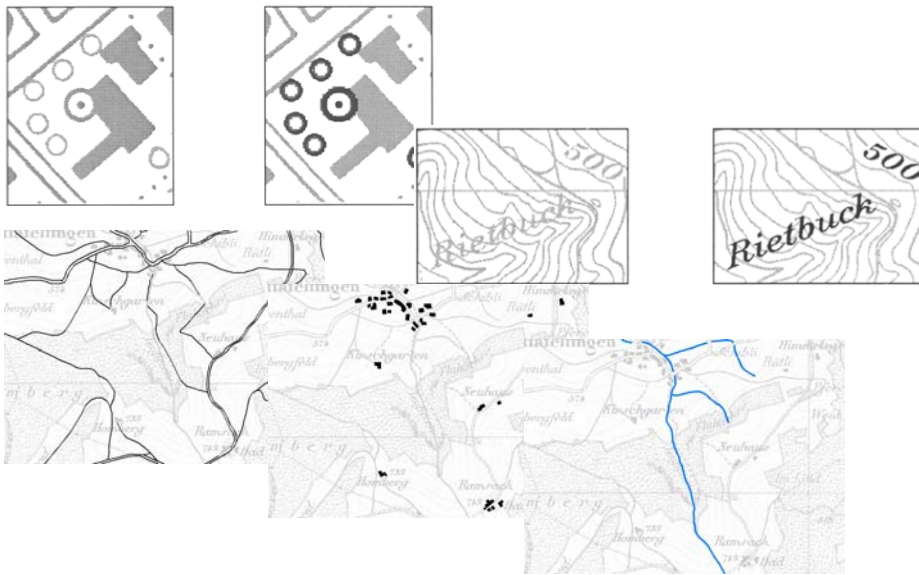


Building extraction (Shorter & Kasparis, 2009)



Contour models (El Ghouli, A. 2011)

## Feature Extraction and Pattern Recognition



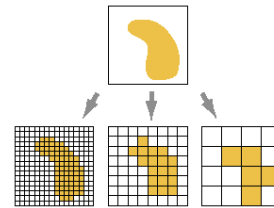




How to start working with raster data?

## Explore data characteristics

- Limitations in detection due to **cell size**
- Size of datasets depending on **resolution/cell size**
- Data type
- **Shape “approximations”** (RS data acquisition)
- **Whole** pixel = homogeneous entity (discrete vs. continuous)



## Explore data characteristics

- **Format:** File type (with specific properties)
- **Number of bands:** # spatially coincident layers (min 1)
- **Data type:** Pixel type - int or float
- **Data depth:** Bit depth - range of possible values in a band  
**8:**  $2^{**}8=256$  (0 to 255); **16:**  $2^{**}16=65536$  (0 to 65535)
- **Statistics**
- **Extents:** Left, right, top, bottom
- **Projection**
- **Size:** rows and columns  
(uncompressed)



Example raster properties ArcCat.

## Bit depth

Bit depth	Range of values that each cell can contain
1 bit	0 to 1
2 bit	0 to 3
4 bit	0 to 15
Unsigned 8 bit	0 to 255
Signed 8 bit	-128 to 127
Unsigned 16 bit	0 to 65535
Signed 16 bit	-32768 to 32767
Unsigned 32 bit	0 to 4294967295
Signed 32 bit	-2147483648 to 2147483647
Floating-point 32 bit	-3.402823466e+38 to 3.402823466e+38

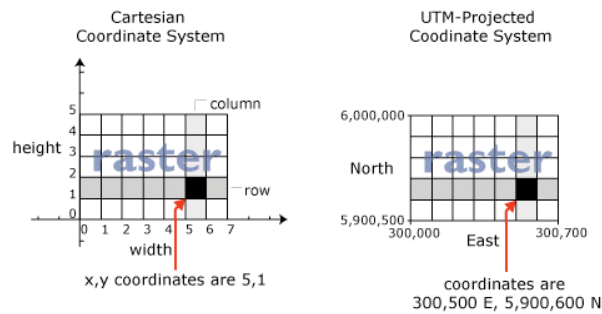


# Georeferencing in raster data

- **Cartesian vs projected** coordinate system representation: row || to x, col || to y
- Header of image file (grids, img, GeoTIFF)
- World (ASCII) files (.tfw)
- Origin of an image is the upper left corner (ul)
- Row values increase downward

```

output1.tif - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
ncols      5
nrows      5
xllcorner   672060.73272735
yllcorner   602601.37451827
cellsize    15
NODATA_value -9999
0.00 0.79 0.43 0.36 0.00
0.00 0.07 0.16 0.40 0.00
0.00 0.47 0.54 1.00 0.53
0.49 1.00 0.00 0.36 0.00
0.89 0.00 0.00 0.59 0.55
    
```



Array origin

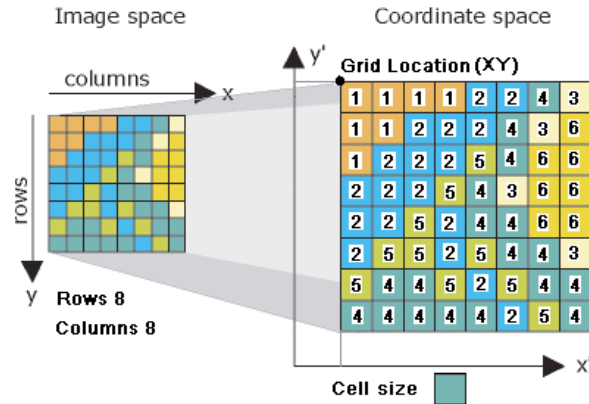
## Four Resolutions

50	45	40	35
35	40	35	25
20	25	30	20

- **Spatial:** pixel resolution
- **Temporal:** time till recapture
- **Spectral:** width of bands and how many bands or channels; which portions of the spectrum
- **Radiometric:** sensitivity/precision (pixel depth)
- How to make a decision...

Show RS data - res

# Addressing the locations



List of cell values

[111122224361222546622254366225244662552544354452544444254]

A good way to access raster information? Time for numpy...

***myArray[rows,cols]***

# Scientific Computing with numpy (& scipy)



NumPy



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[Documentation](#)



[Report Bugs](#)



[Read the Blog](#)

NumPy is the fundamental package for scientific computing with Python. It contains among other things:

- a powerful N-dimensional array object
- sophisticated (broadcasting) functions
- tools for integrating C/C++ and Fortran code
- useful linear algebra, Fourier transform, and random number capabilities

Besides its obvious scientific uses, NumPy can also be used as an efficient multi-dimensional container of generic data. Arbitrary data-types can be defined. This allows NumPy to seamlessly and speedily integrate with a wide variety of databases.

NumPy is licensed under the [BSD license](#), enabling reuse with few restrictions.

## What Numpy Brings In

- Multidimensional array language for Python
- The numpy module defines the **array object** (**multiarray** object)
- ... and a **set of universal functions** for manipulating and converting these objects
- Translating (any kind of) **raster data** into Numpy arrays and back (also arc grids)
- See some examples

Class07\_numpy create array ... class07\_rstobj for DEM

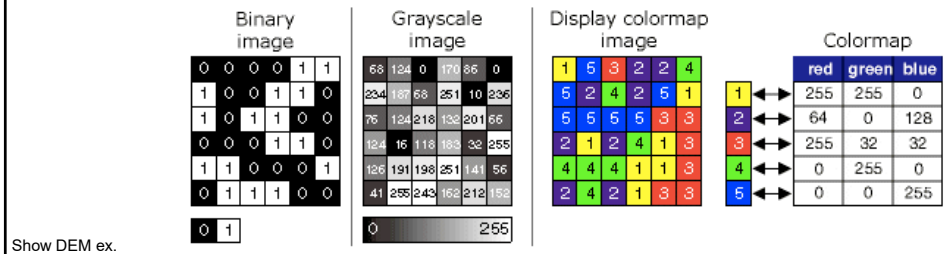
## About Numpy Arrays

- Python-style **slicing/indexing**: access individual locations and **subregions**
- **Collections** of large **amounts of numbers** – all of the **same kind**
- Array objects must be **full** (**no empty cells**)
- Array **size is immutable**; Values **can change**
- Mathematical operations on arrays return **new arrays**
- **Element-wise** performance: *myArray[rows,cols]*

Class07\_numpy – op. examples: univ. fct vs. pix-wise analysis

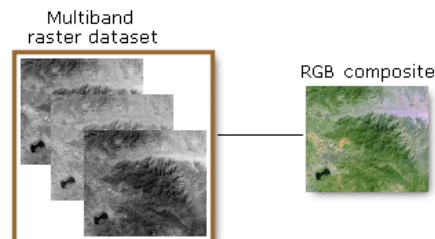
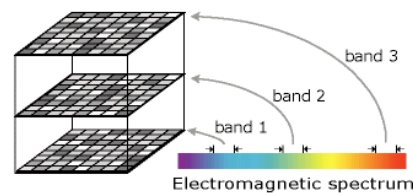
## Single-band raster

- DEM (each cell with only one value)
- Areal photographs (e.g., 8 bit)
- **Binary** images (parcel maps, query results)
- **Color map** images



## Multiple bands

- N single 2D matrices of cell values
- **Spatially coincident matrices** of cell values (same area)
- Several values at each **cell location**
- **Band** = Segment of the **electromagnetic spectrum**
- **Satellite** imagery



Show NDVI ex.

## Critical in working with raster data

- Map Algebra (e.g., focal functions)
- Segmentation: Object identification
- Classification
- Detection: Edges, contours, transitions between objects

gdal: <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/GDAL/>  
scipy: <https://scipy.org/>

Show mean filter

## Summary

- Raster datasets have a very simple structure and yet are powerful in representing, analyzing and modeling
- You have to understand some basic properties to work effectively with them
- Experience in programming on raster datasets gives you a basic skill in many professional/scientific fields