

This article introduced spatial analysis as entities of the studies in spatial distributions and structures. This approach is true in the both physical and human geography. The taxonomy of spatial analysis mainly includes six categories:

1. Understanding where, such as locating historical heritage of a city on the map, or checking where is the greatest concentration of library distribution. This category of spatial analysis usually concerns about the coordinates of a type of subject or phenomenon.
2. Measuring size, shape and distribution, such as the area of a forest, or the center of contamination of a river. This category of spatial analysis further concerns about the spatial characteristics, which could be presented in individual feature or a collection of features.
3. Determining how places are related, such as the bus stops along the MRT routes, the summation of restaurant within a certain distance of school, the closed gas station along the routes, the best location to view the whole Taipei City. This category of spatial analysis focus on the relationship of places or routes, and the relationship could be dynamic in respect of other factors.
4. Finding the best locations and paths, such as the best location for an industrial area, the reasonable boundaries of jurisdiction between police offices, the shortest route from school to a restaurant, or the best location to set up a new MRT station considering the commuting network. This category of spatial analysis starts to make primary conclusion using statistics.
5. Detecting and quantifying patterns, such as the clusters of cram schools, the vegetation density in different scales, the districts where different races of people gathering in a city, or the temperature difference from January to July in different cities. This category of spatial analysis describes the phenomenon of spatial distribution.
6. Making predictions, such as the industrial area that could develop most successfully, the factors that contribute to higher education level of a village, the number of infected person if given the origin of infection, the interaction of different level of hospital and travel distance affects the

number of patients, the way in which the distribution of seats in a theater affect the volume, the blossom and wither of sakura in spring. This category of spatial analysis using the statistics and description above to illustrate the future trends or characteristics of spatial features.

This article also listed seven steps to do spatial analysis. Taking a realistic example for these steps in practice: If we are interested in “whether the density of book stores have any relationship with the education level?”, and this is the first step as “asking questions.” Then we explore the data, which could include the distribution of books stores and education levels in each village. After that, we analyze whether there exist any relationships between these two factors, using statistical model to calculate and predict. Interpreting the result and evaluate the rationality of it, so we can see whether there is necessity of repeating the procedure. If none, we can present the result and make decision depends on this result. If the answer to this question is yes, we could suggest people who would like to open a book store to select a location among a higher education levels of communities.