Geo 409-001

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Where Did You Go?

The problem I am seeking to address is a culturally relevant one. Regardless of all the social media sites and connectivity people have with each other in today’s modern age, we don’t have something to necessarily map, in a moment, the biggest things we do. Or maybe, rather, we don’t have a way to see the biggest things people are doing and where exactly they are. Facebook and Twitter allow you to see where you have checked in, a copy from other smaller social media sites. Snapchat has made a dent into this area with their newest updates allowing people to see the latest snap stories in a geographical area. But what if you had a glowing map of California, or the US, or the world? And each data point you looked into was a tweeted moment of your Spring Break? You would be able to see the latest places to be and craziest moments as they happened and where you want to be next.

The data I will use to perform this project will be from Twitter (or Instagram and Facebook if possible to access data). I will use the hashtags of #SB2015 and #SpringBreak to track the tweets and where they came from. People will be able to see this point data in a marker or through a feed (if this were to go live). I will access this through a twitter library of tweets from the hashtags mentioned at a given segment of time (March 6 - April 3).

The target audience of this map is mainly the college student. I would expect people to look up a place where they may be or looking to go to next in order to see that next big thing they don’t want to miss.

I need to know where exactly I will access my data from. I believe I will use data almost completely from the past, even if only from a few weeks ago. Nothing, then, would be live and the map can be relatively still. In my head the data is set as it is. But if this were live, I’d have this data update and show what is happening as it is happening, though that may be outside of my skillset at the present moment.