



# Cartograms

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# References

Dorling, D., 1994. Cartograms for Visualizing Human Geography. In: H.H.a.D.J. Unwin (Editor), Visualization in Geographical Information Systems. Wiley and Sons, Chichester, pp. 85-101.

Dorling, D., (1996): *Area Cartograms: Their Use and Creation, Concepts and Techniques in Modern Geography* (CATMOG), 59,

Tobler, Waldo. "Thirty Five Years of Computer Cartograms." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 94, no. 1 (2004): 58-73.



# References

- Herzog, Adrian (2003): "Developing Cartographic Applets for the Internet", in:  
[Michael P. Peterson \(ed.\): \*Maps and the Internet, Vol. 1\*](#), ISBN: 0-08-044201-3, 468pp., p. 115-128.
- Dykes, Jason and David Unwin (1996):  
[Maps of the Census: a Rough Guide](#).
- Dougenik, James. A., Nicholas R. Chrisman and Duane R. Niemeyer (1985): "An Algorithm to Construct Continuous Area Cartograms", *Professional Geographer*, 37 (1), 75-81.
- Jackel C.B. 1997 Using ArcView to Create Contiguous and Noncontiguous Area Cartograms," *Cartography and Geographic Information Systems*, vol. 24(2): 101-109



# References

- › Lots of related references at
- › [www.geog.ucsb.edu/~sara/html/mapping/election/background.html](http://www.geog.ucsb.edu/~sara/html/mapping/election/background.html)
- › Dorling, D., From Computer Cartography to /Spatial Visualization: A New Cartogram Algorithm. *Auto Carto 11 Proceedings*. Minneapolis: ACSM-ASPRS, 1993. 1: 208-217 .
- › Listen to Dan: [www.csiss.org/streaming\\_video/csiss/dorling\\_cartograms.htm](http://www.csiss.org/streaming_video/csiss/dorling_cartograms.htm)
  
- › Sara Fabrikant's work on cartographic variations on the presidential election 2000 theme: [www.geog.ucsb.edu/~sara/html/mapping/election/map.html](http://www.geog.ucsb.edu/~sara/html/mapping/election/map.html)



# Sources

- <http://spatial.ly/2013/05/visualising-human-geography/>
- <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/internet/8204092/Data-mapping-visualisations-the-best-on-the-web.html?image=2>
- <http://www.theguardian.com/news/datablog/2012/jul/24/danny-dorling-visualise-social-structure>
- <http://damiencummings.blogspot.co.uk/2010/12/facebook-relationships-visualised.html>
- Facebook
- Social graphs
- <http://about.yatedo.com/en/manage-your-digital-id/profile/>
- <http://www.digitalurban.org/2013/04/visualising-spatial-and-social-media-working-paper-190-from-the-centre-for-advanced-spatial-analysis.html>



# Types of Space

- Standard maps in Euclidean space
  - Metric space: Geometrical measures
- Other possible spaces to map:
  - Equal population density spaces- people, not land, the focus.
  - Topological spaces.
  - Cognitive spaces...
- Visualisation possibilities in comparing or superimposing alternative spaces on Euclidean space.



# Idea of distorting space to represent other variables....(Date: BE before easyjet)

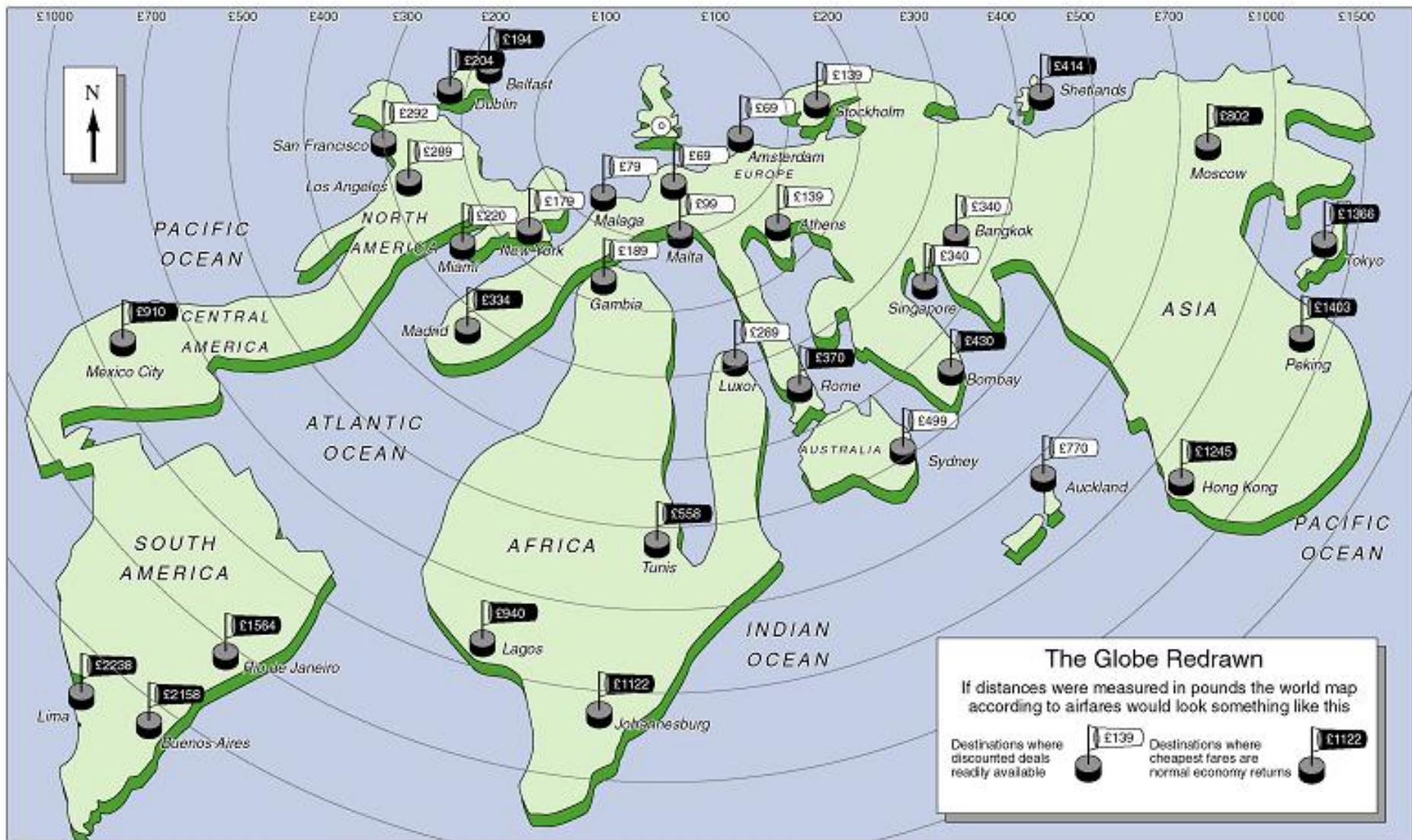
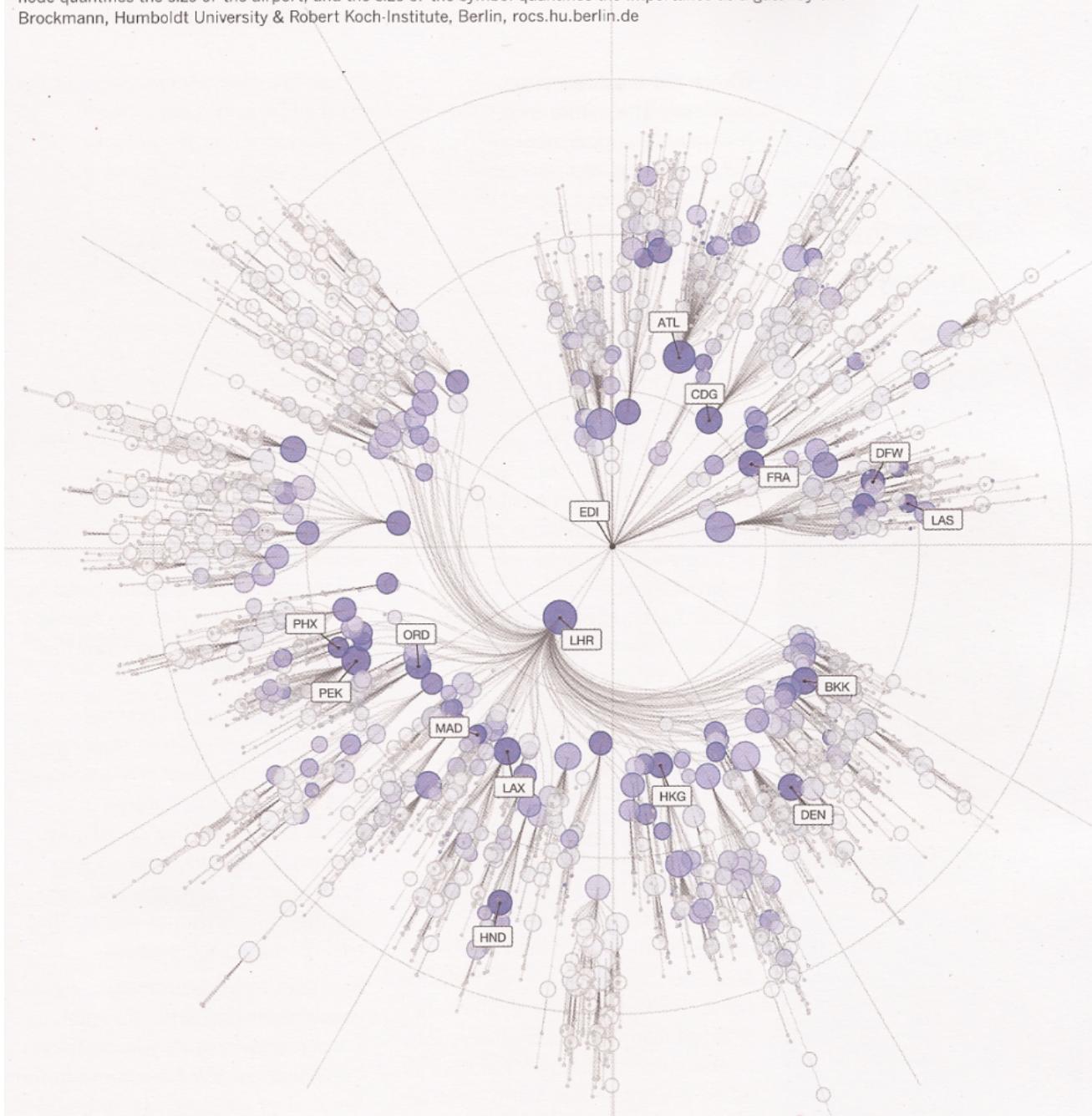
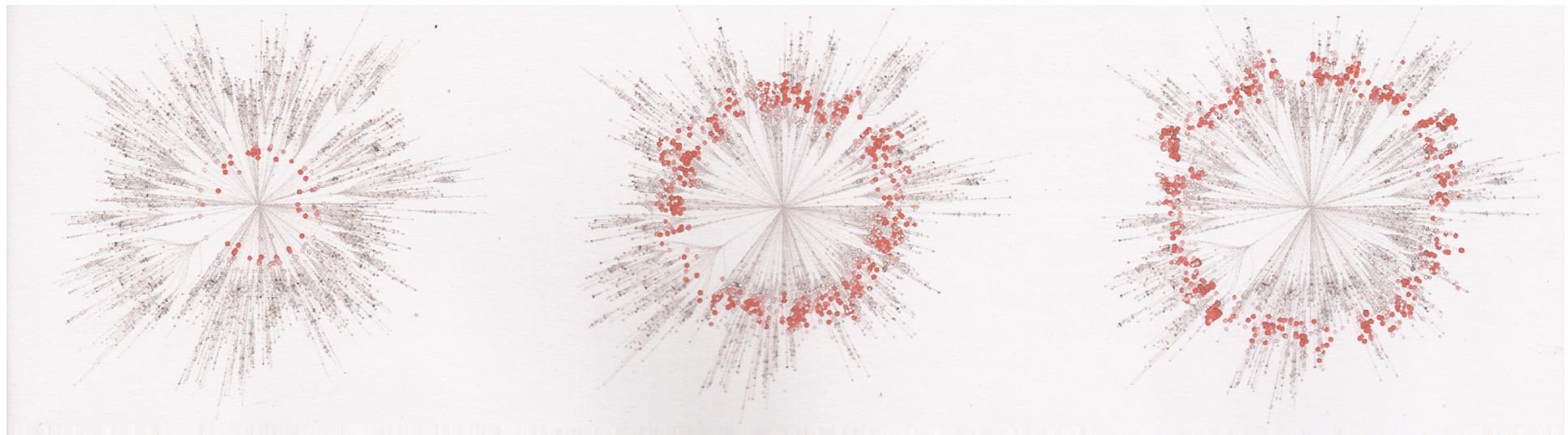




Figure 1: The world as seen from Edinburgh. The radial separation from the central node reflects the effective distance. The tree structure represents the effectively shortest routes from the root node to other nodes in the network. The colour of each node quantifies the size of the airport, and the size of the symbol quantifies the importance as a gateway to the world. © Dirk Brockmann, Humboldt University & Robert Koch-Institute, Berlin, rocs.hu.berlin.de

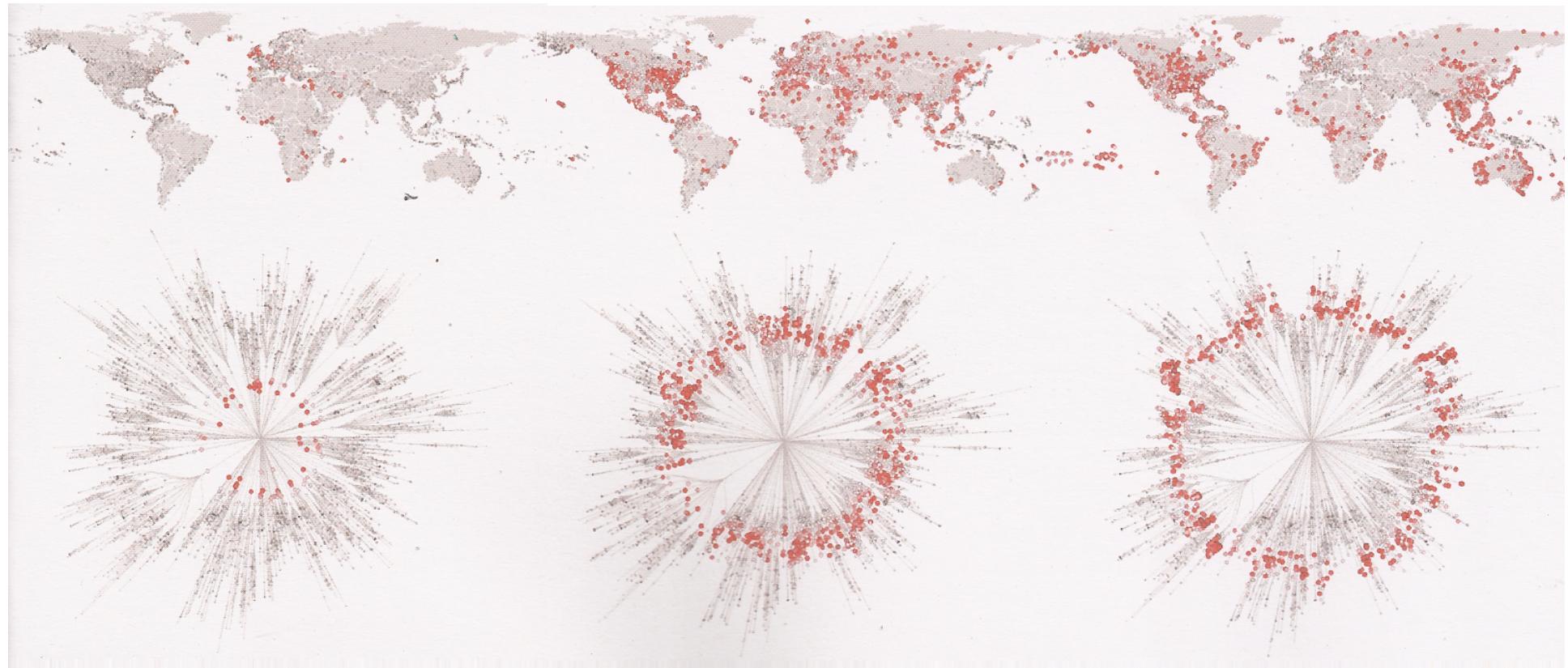


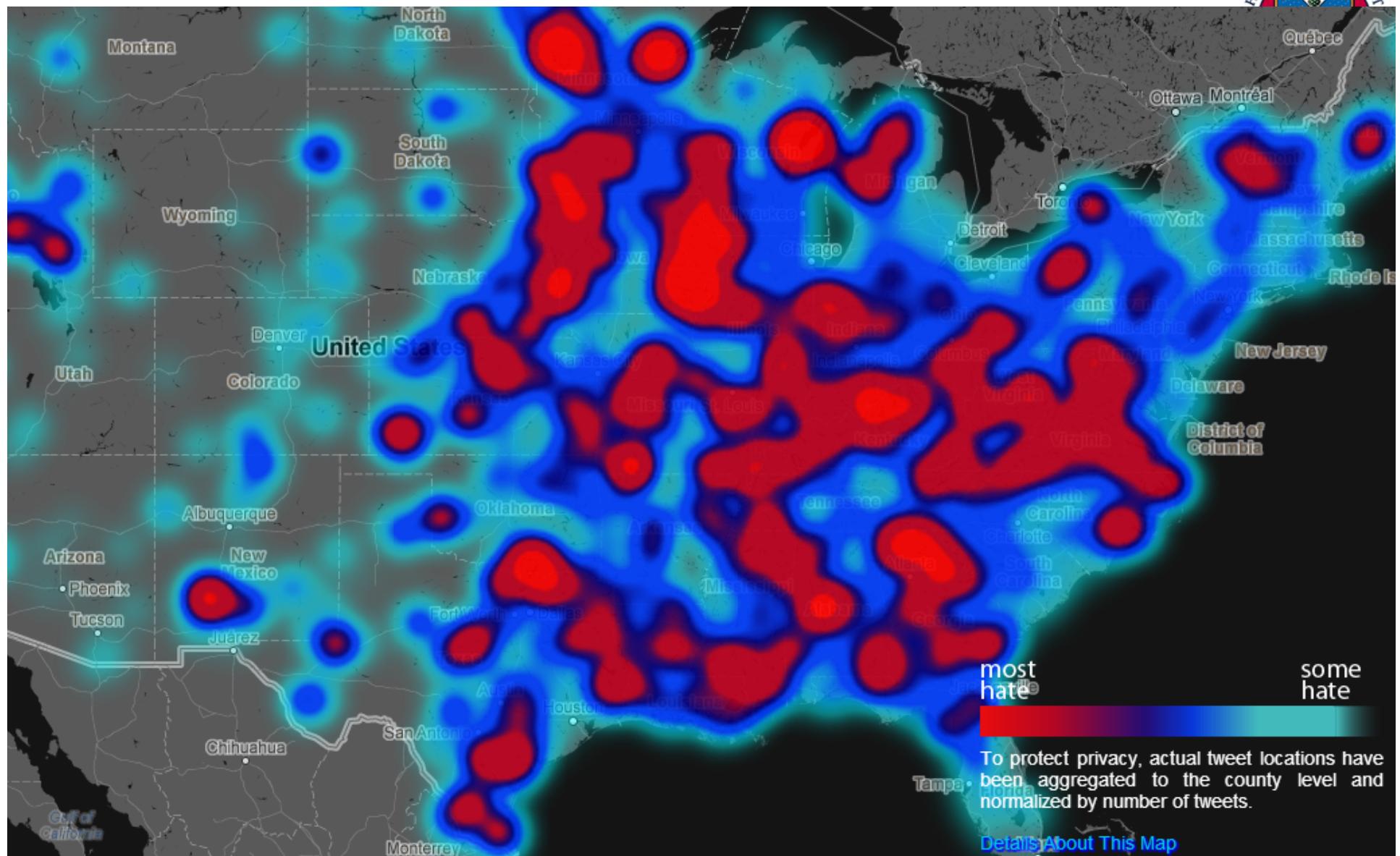




Feb 2014

10 of 39

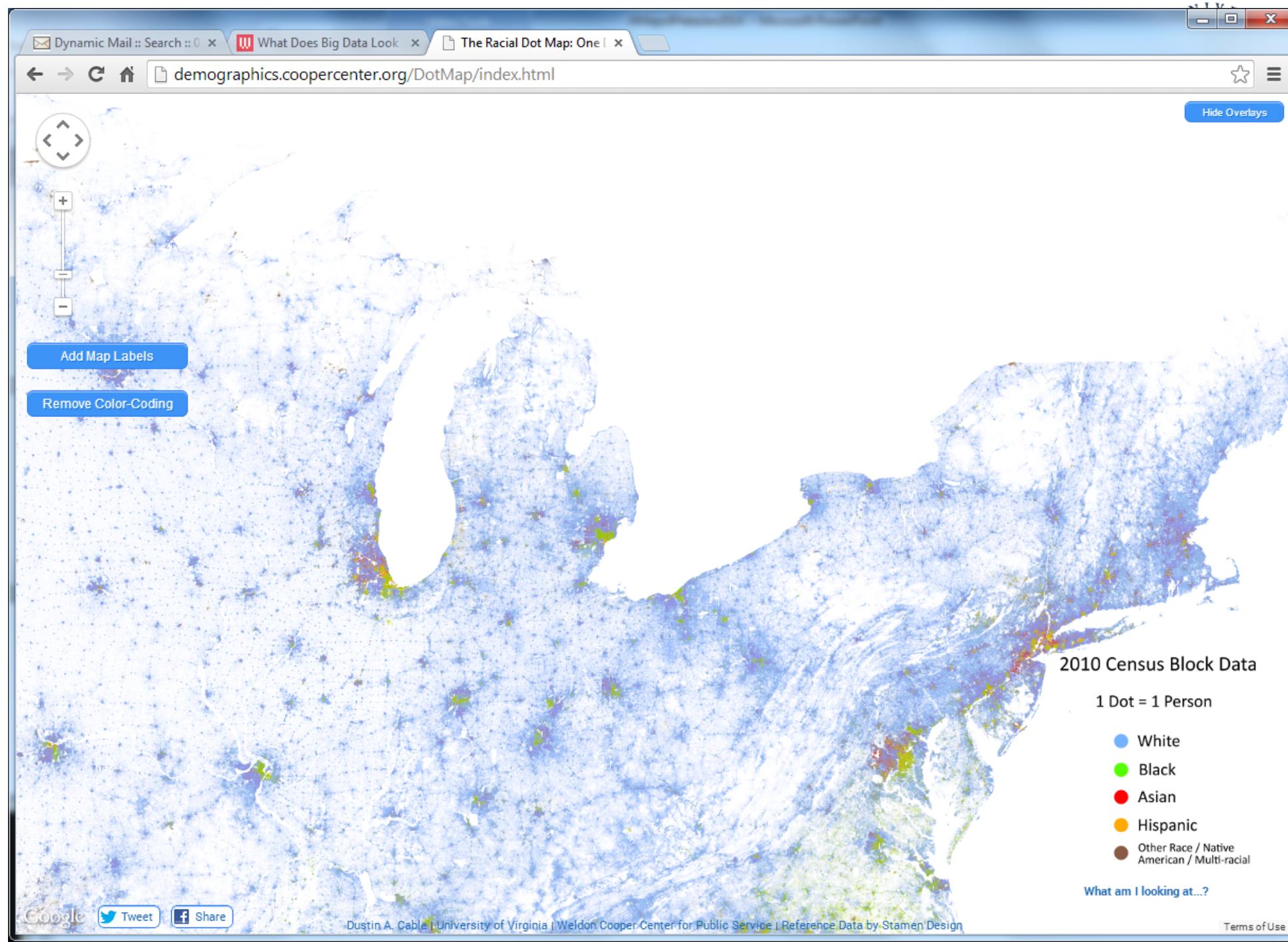


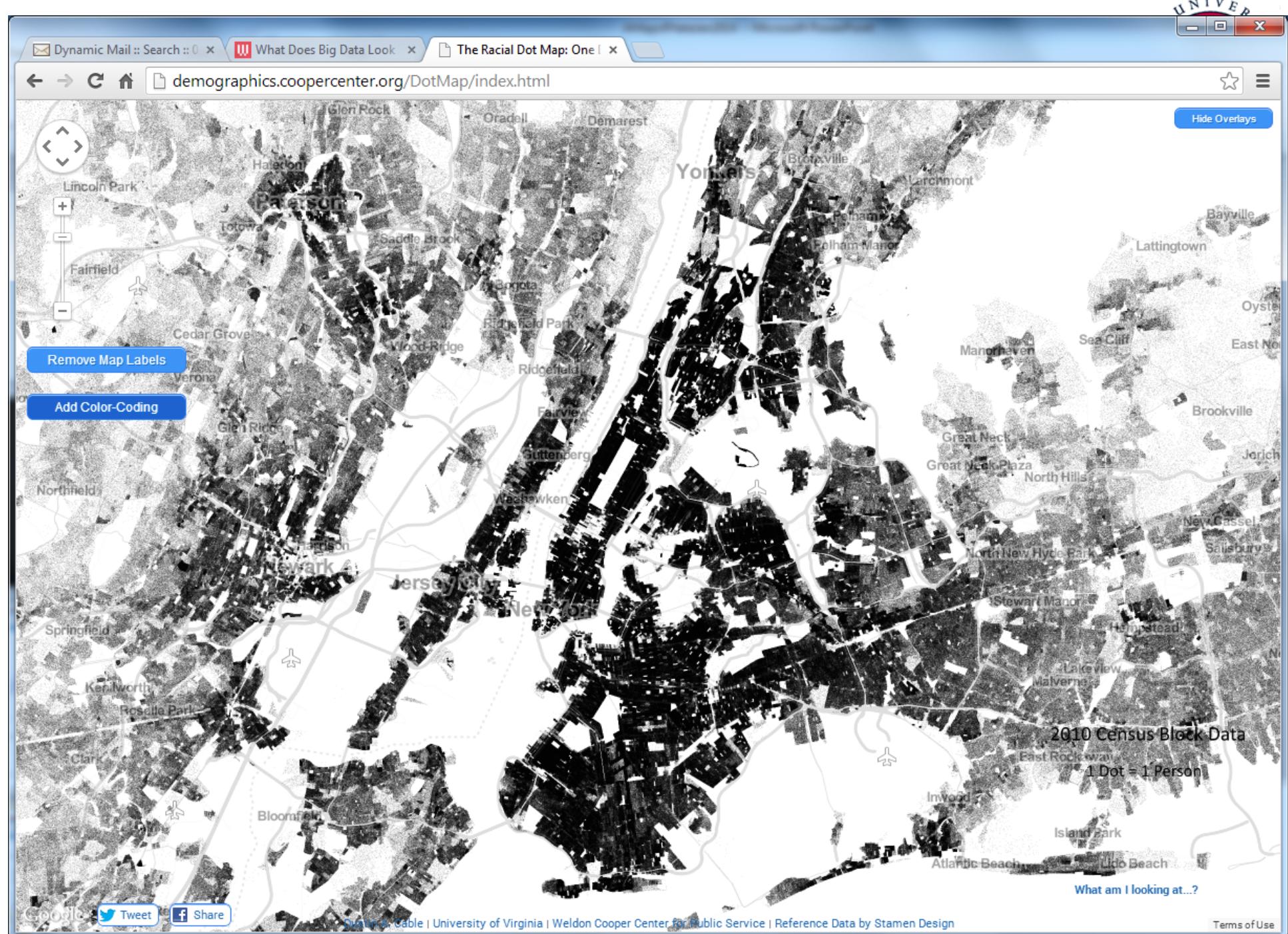




Feb 2014

13 of 39







# Our focus..



# Choropleth map vs. Cartogram

Percentage of the Male Population of Working Age (1881)



Source: Dorling, D (1996).

Feb 2014

17 of 39



# The Concept of the Cartogram

- ‘Suppose that one could stretch a geographical map so that areas containing many people would appear large, and areas containing few people would appear small’

Tobler 1973 p215

# Total Population



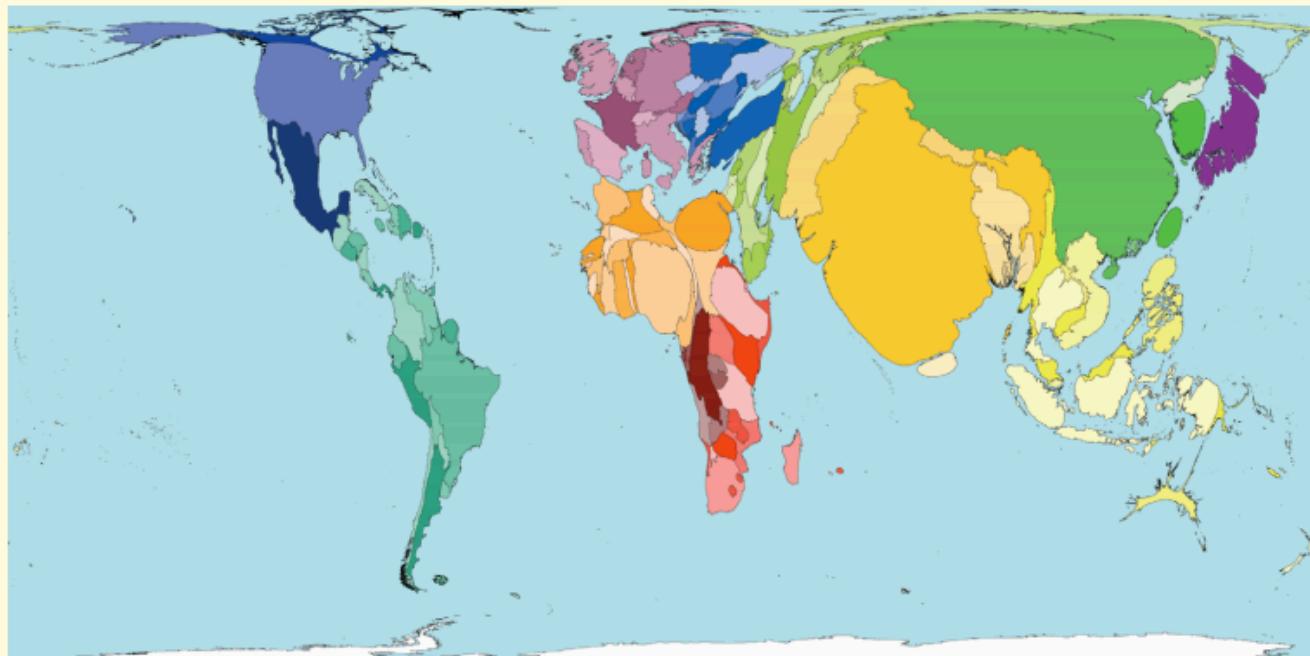
The  
University  
Of  
Sheffield.



The Leverhulme Trust



Produced by the SASI group (Sheffield) and Mark Newman (Michigan)



In Spring 2000 world population estimates reached 6 billion; that is 6 thousand million. The distribution of the earth's population is shown in this map.

India, China and Japan appear large on the map because they have large populations. Panama, Namibia and Guinea-Bissau have small populations so are barely visible on the map.

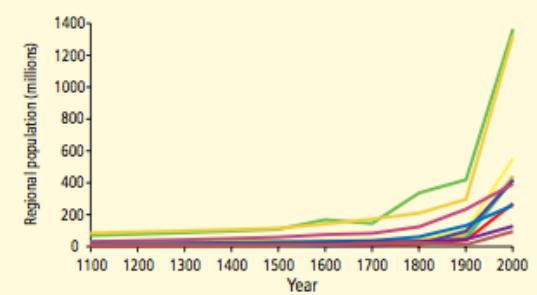
Population is very weakly related to land area. However, Sudan, which is geographically the largest country in Africa, has a smaller population than Nigeria, Egypt, Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of Congo, South Africa or Tanzania.

The size of each territory shows the relative proportion of the world's population living there.

## MOST AND FEWEST PEOPLE

Rank	Territory	Value	Rank	Territory	Value
1	China	1295	191	Saint Kitts & Nevis	42
2	India	1050	192	Monaco	34
3	United States	291	193	Liechtenstein	33
4	Indonesia	217	194	San Marino	27
5	Brazil	176	195	Palau	20
6	Pakistan	150	196	Cook Islands	18
7	Russian Federation	144	197	Nauru	13
8	Bangladesh	144	198	Tuvalu	10
9	Japan	128	199	Niue	2
10	Nigeria	121	200	Holy See	1

## WORLD POPULATION BY REGION



*“Out of every 100 persons added to the population in the coming decade, 97 will live in developing countries.”*

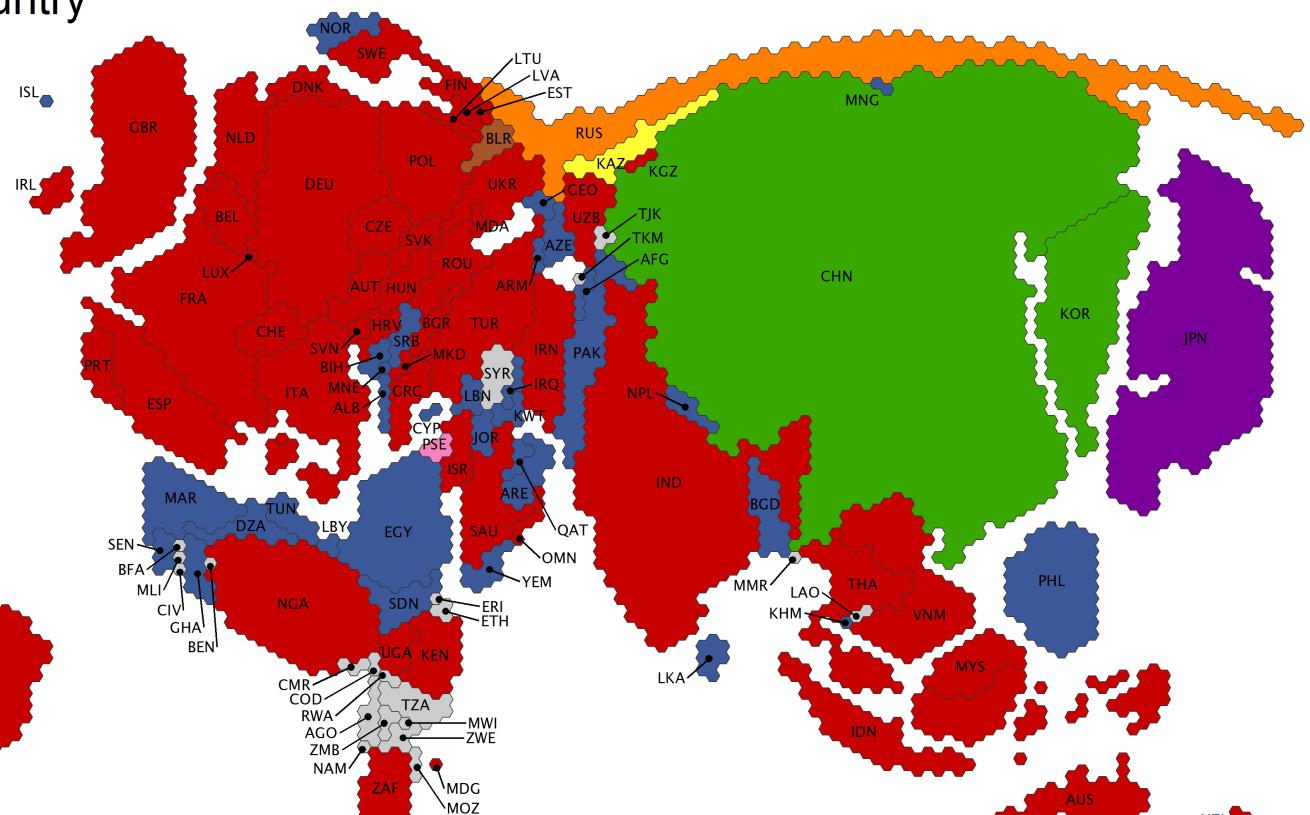
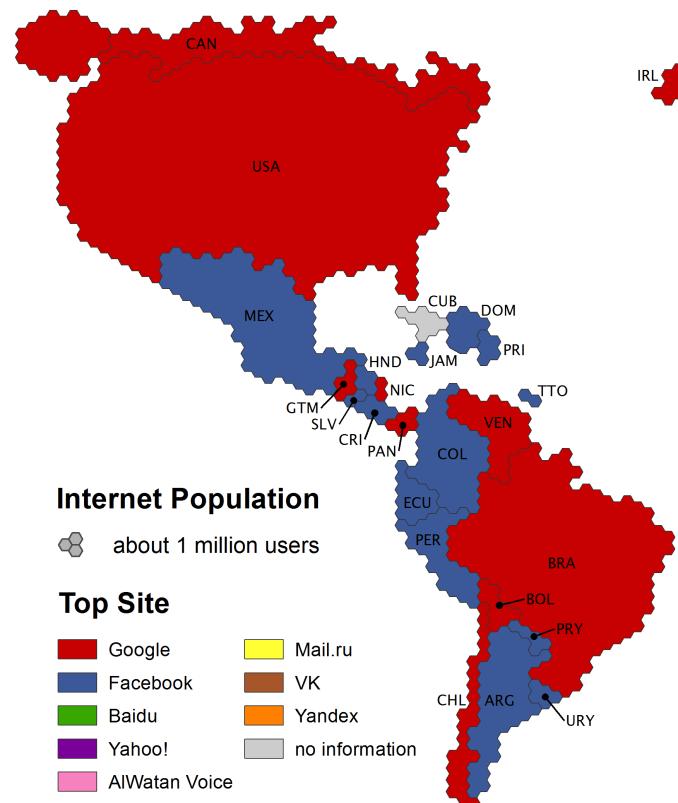
Hania Zlotnik, 2005

Map 002



## Most visited website per Country

weighted by Internet Population



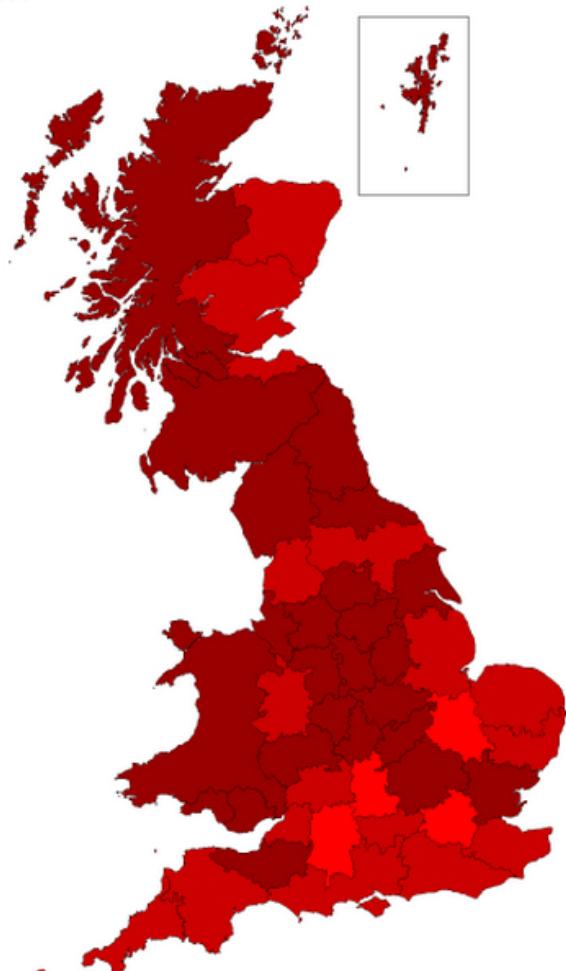
by Mark Graham (@geoplace) and Stefano De Sabbata (@maps4thought)  
 Internet Geographies at the Oxford Internet Institute  
 August 2013 • [geography.oiil.ox.ac.uk](http://geography.oiil.ox.ac.uk)

data source: Alexa 2013  
[www.alexa.com](http://www.alexa.com)

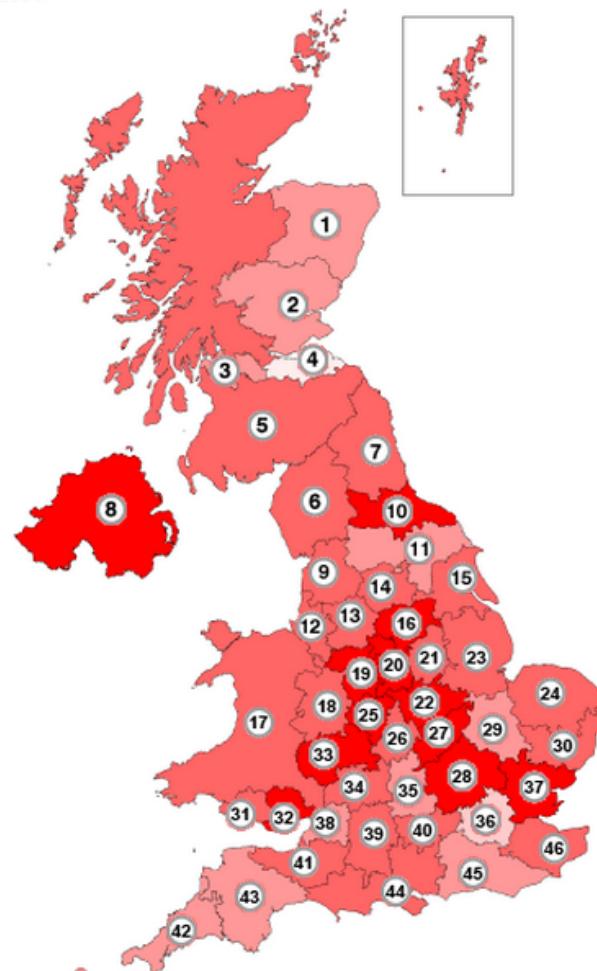
Magazine  
In Pictures  
Country Profiles  
Special Reports

Related BBC sites  
Sport  
Weather  
Democracy Live  
Radio 1 Newsbeat  
CBBC Newsround  
On This Day  
Editors' Blog

Languages  
**NEWYDDION**



No 1971 data available for Northern Ireland



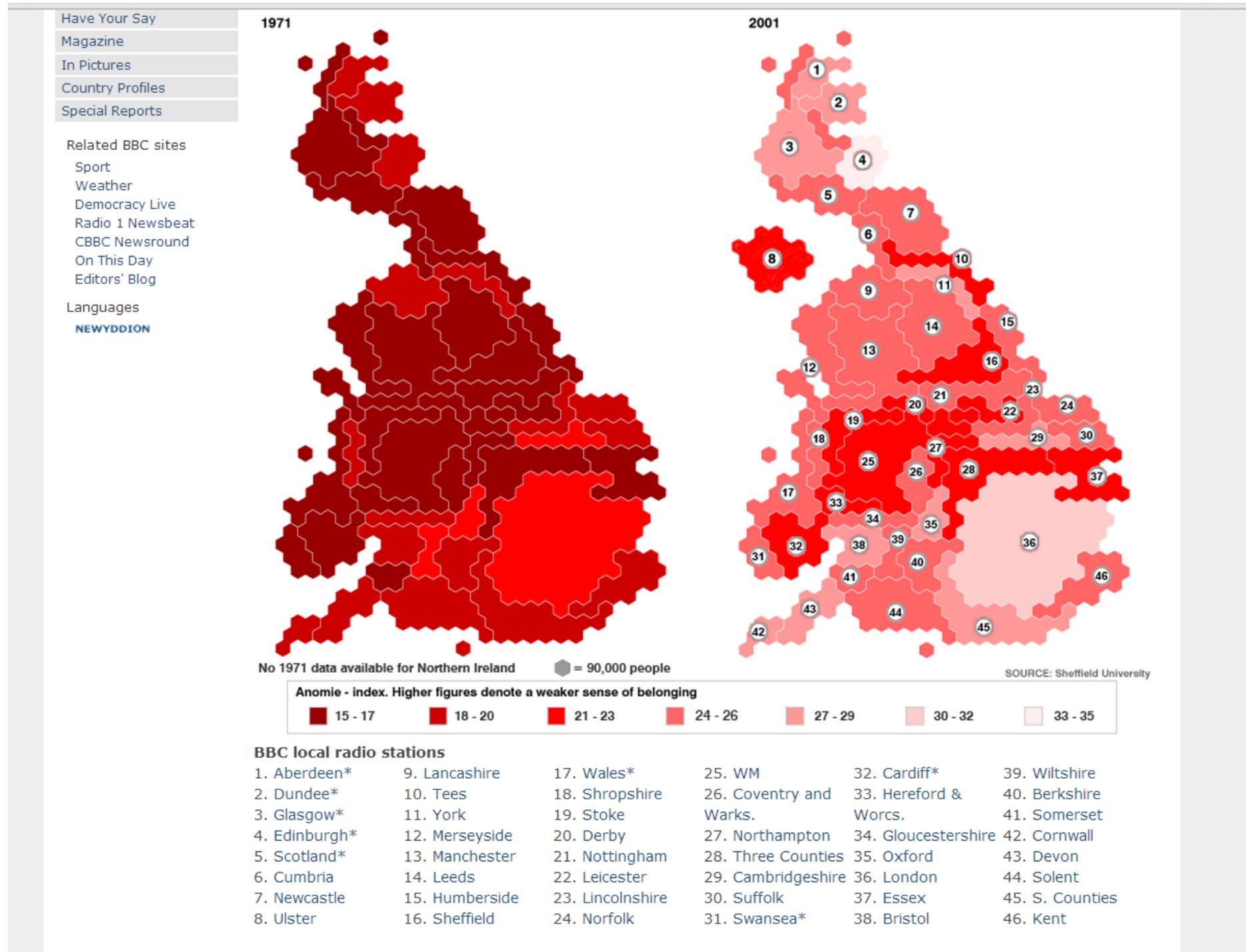
SOURCE: Sheffield University

Anomie - Index. Higher figures denote a weaker sense of belonging

■ 15 - 17 ■ 18 - 20 ■ 21 - 23 ■ 24 - 26 ■ 27 - 29 ■ 30 - 32 ■ 33 - 35

#### BBC local radio stations

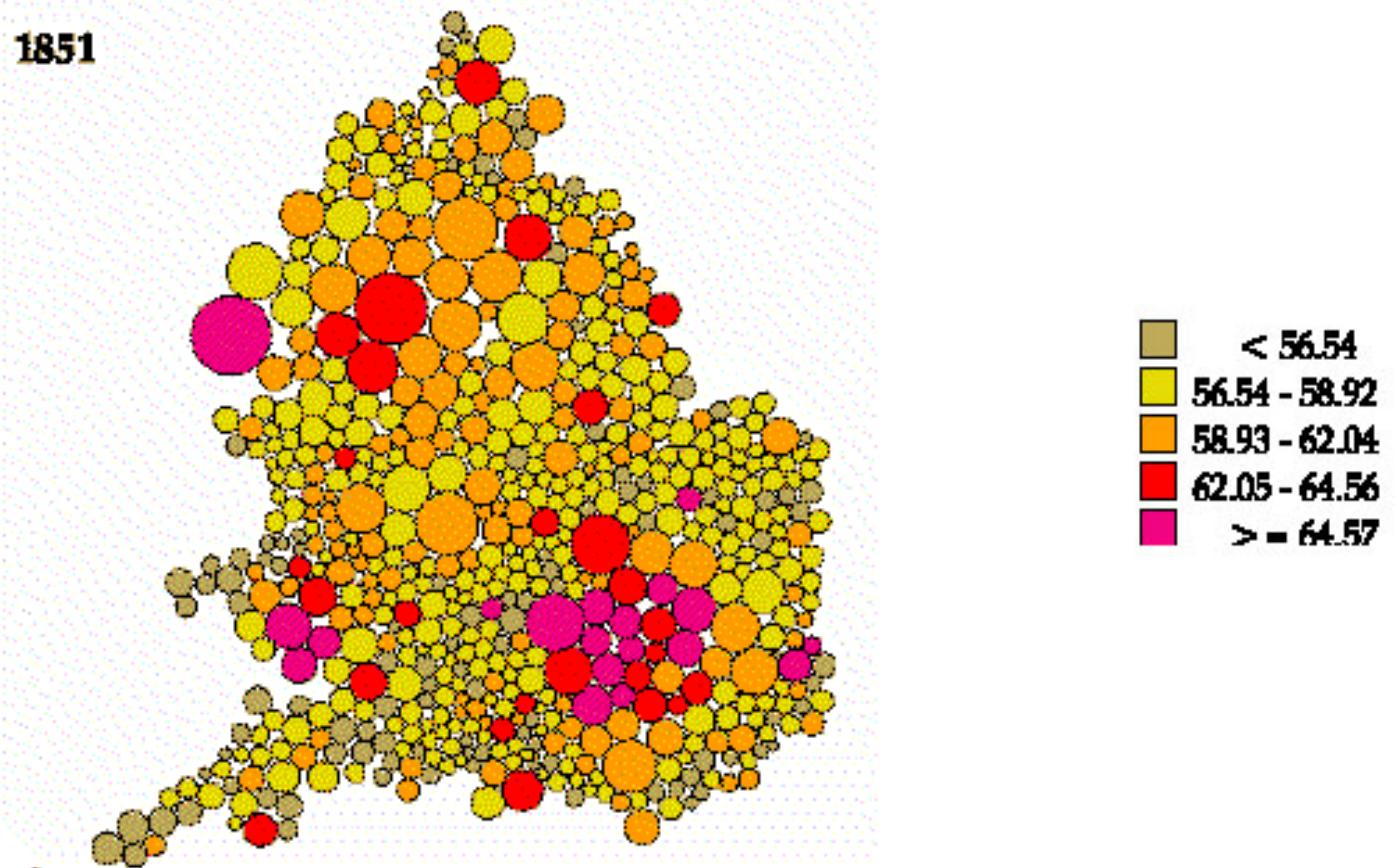
- |               |                |                  |                            |                          |                 |
|---------------|----------------|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Aberdeen*  | 9. Lancashire  | 17. Wales*       | 25. WM                     | 32. Cardiff*             | 39. Wiltshire   |
| 2. Dundee*    | 10. Tees       | 18. Shropshire   | 26. Coventry and<br>Warks. | 33. Hereford &<br>Worcs. | 40. Berkshire   |
| 3. Glasgow*   | 11. York       | 19. Stoke        | 27. Northampton            | 34. Gloucestershire      | 41. Somerset    |
| 4. Edinburgh* | 12. Merseyside | 20. Derby        | 28. Three Counties         | 35. Oxford               | 42. Cornwall    |
| 5. Scotland*  | 13. Manchester | 21. Nottingham   | 29. Cambridgeshire         | 36. London               | 43. Devon       |
| 6. Cumbria    | 14. Leeds      | 22. Leicester    | 30. Suffolk                | 37. Essex                | 44. Solent      |
| 7. Newcastle  | 15. Humberside | 23. Lincolnshire | 31. Swansea*               | 38. Bristol              | 45. S. Counties |
| 8. Ulster     | 16. Sheffield  | 24. Norfolk      |                            |                          | 46. Kent        |



# Percentage of the Male Population of Working Age 1851-1911



1851



# Cartogram Types

Maintenance of spatial contiguity  
(Dougenik et al. 1985), and non  
continuous (Dorling & Demers)

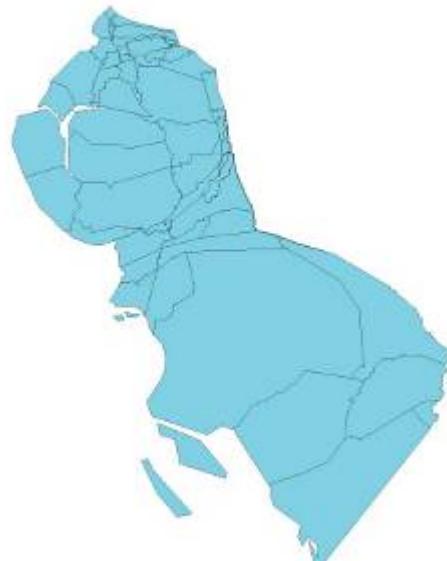
Non-Contiguous Cartograms

Overlapping

Non-Overlapping



Contiguous Cartogram

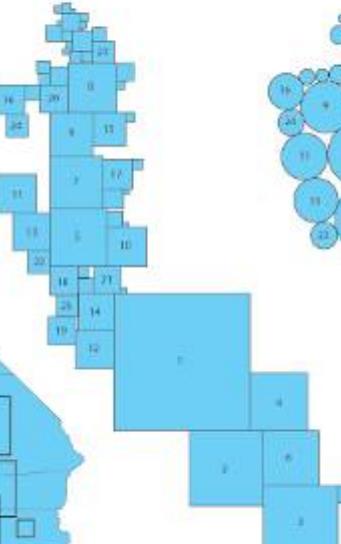


Dorling and Dorling-like Cartograms

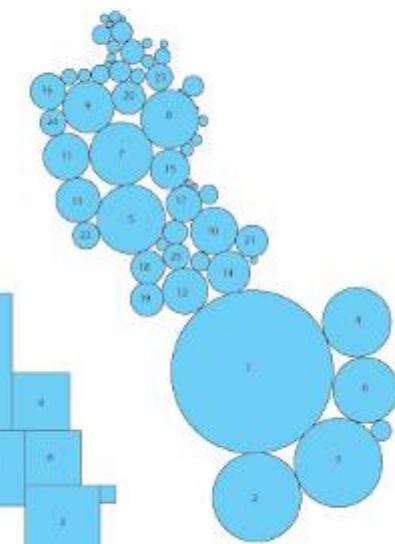
Graduated Symbol Map



Demers Cartogram



Dorling Cartogram





# Continuous: Algorithm

- Models the forces exerted among polygons.
- Combination of force field concepts and a distance decay function.
- Each polygon exerts a force on the adjacent boundary nodes – producing a vector result.
- A distance decay function is applied to reduce the effect of polygon boundaries further away from a given node for which the vector is being calculated (Following Tobler's first law).
- When summed for all the adjacent polygons, the node is displaced by the resultant vector
- The force is proportional to the sqrt of the difference between the current and desired area.
- Acting on each boundary coordinate, in inverse proportion to distance.
- Iterative



$$F_{ij} = (P_j - q_j) p_j / d_{ij}$$

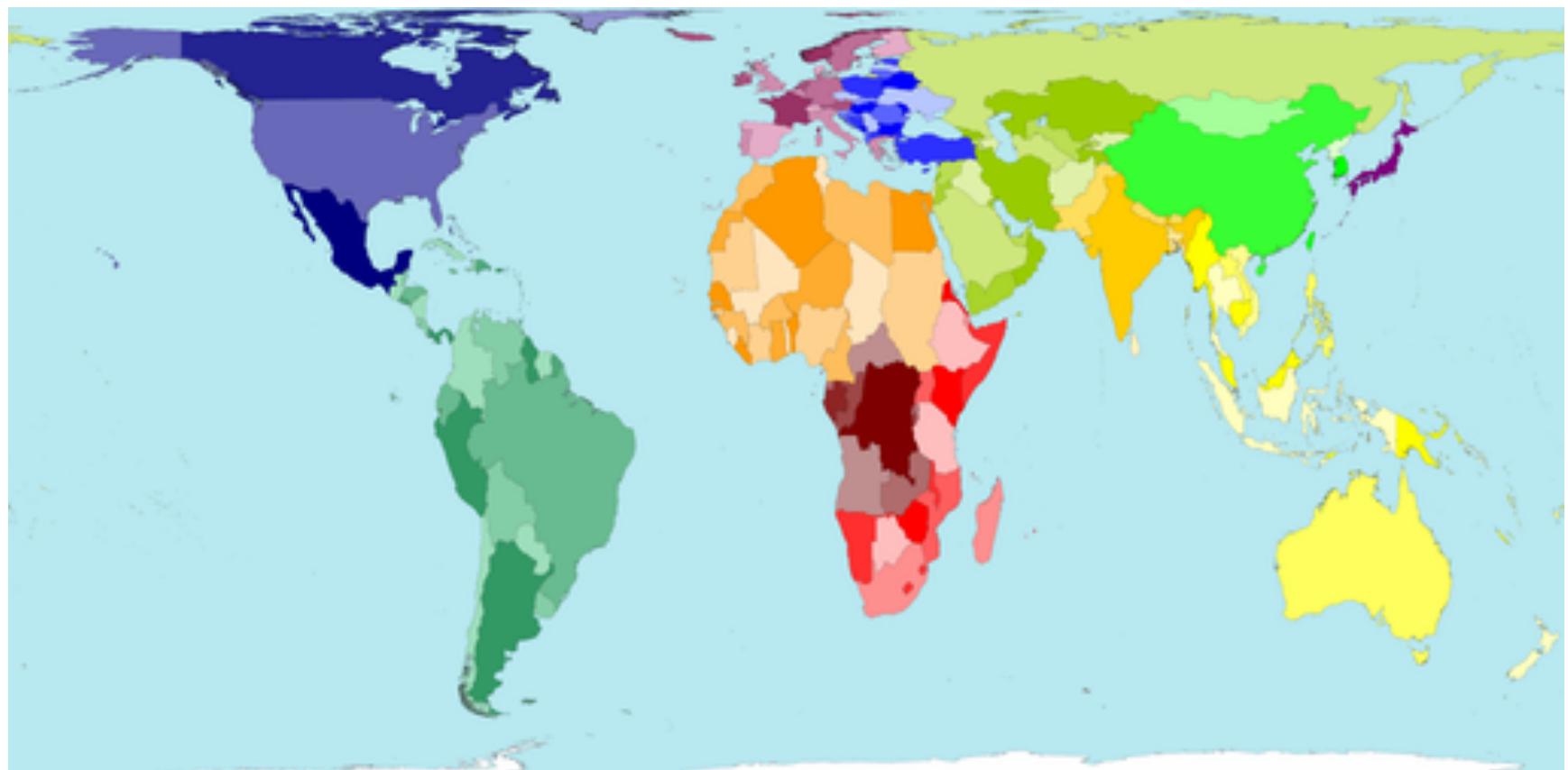
- Where  $F_{ij}$  = force exerted by polygon j on vertex i
- $P_j$  =  $\text{sqrt}(\text{actual area}) / \text{sqrt}(\pi)$
- $q_j$  =  $\text{sqrt}(\text{desired area}) / \text{sqrt}(\pi)$
- $d_{ij}$  = distance from centroid of polygon j to vertex i
- A positive value of the force pushes the vertex away from the centroid, while a negative force pulls it towards the centroid.
- For each boundary node, the resulting vector is the sum of forces from all polygons.
- The greater the difference between actual and desired area, the greater the vector.
- In each iteration, the sum of the forces from all polygons exerted on every vertex is calculated to displace the vertex.
- Iteration stops when the difference between the actual and desired area is beneath a defined threshold.

Du & Liu

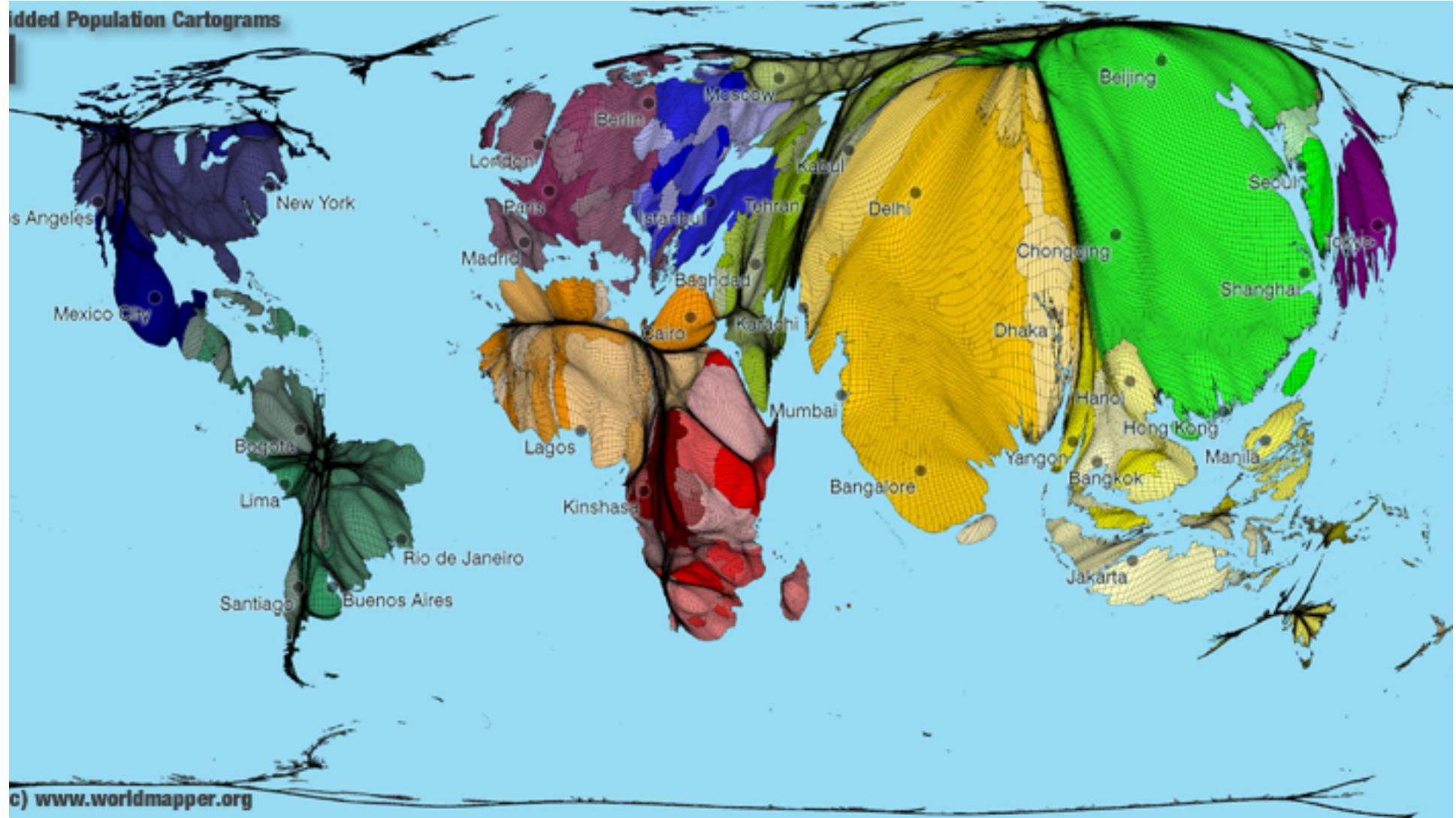
<http://gis.esri.com/library/userconf/proc99/proceed/papers/pap489/p489.htm>

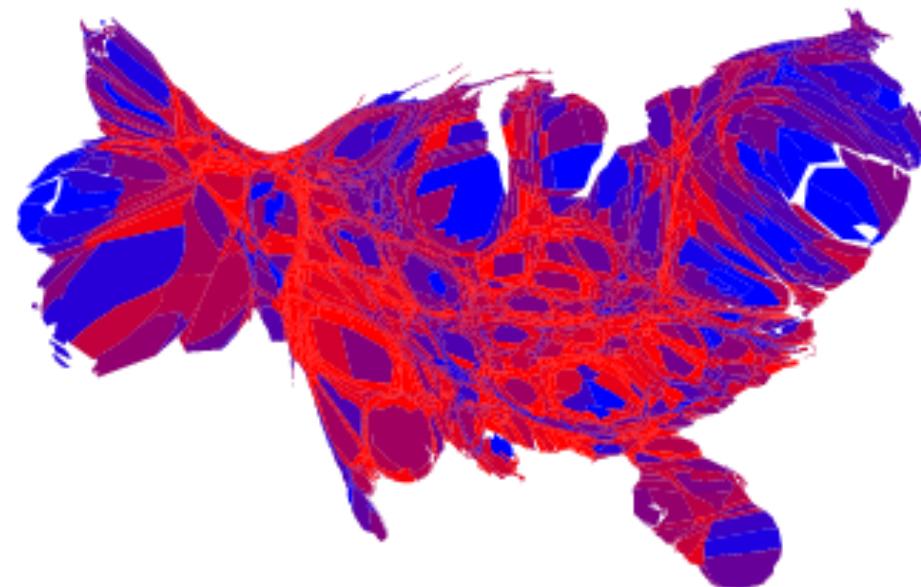
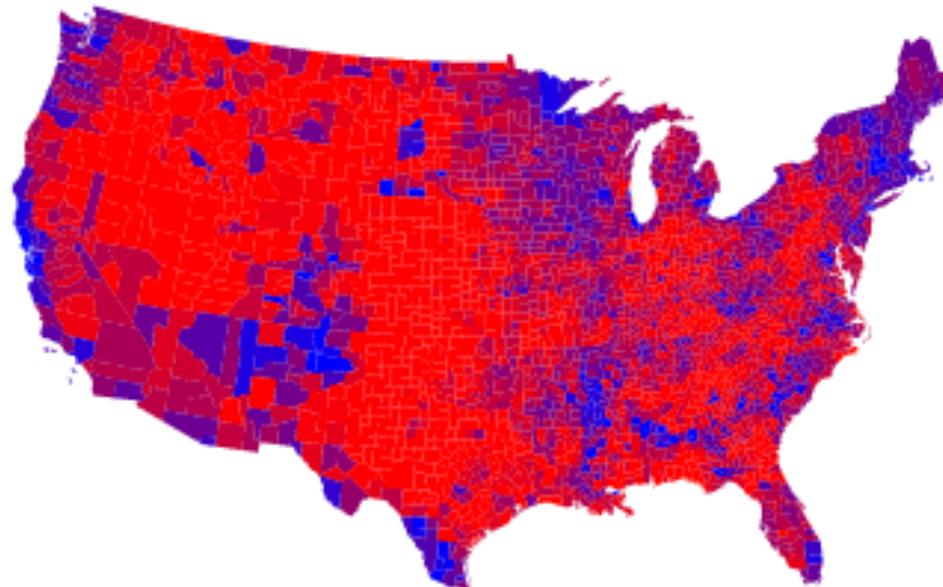


# Land Area



# Total Population

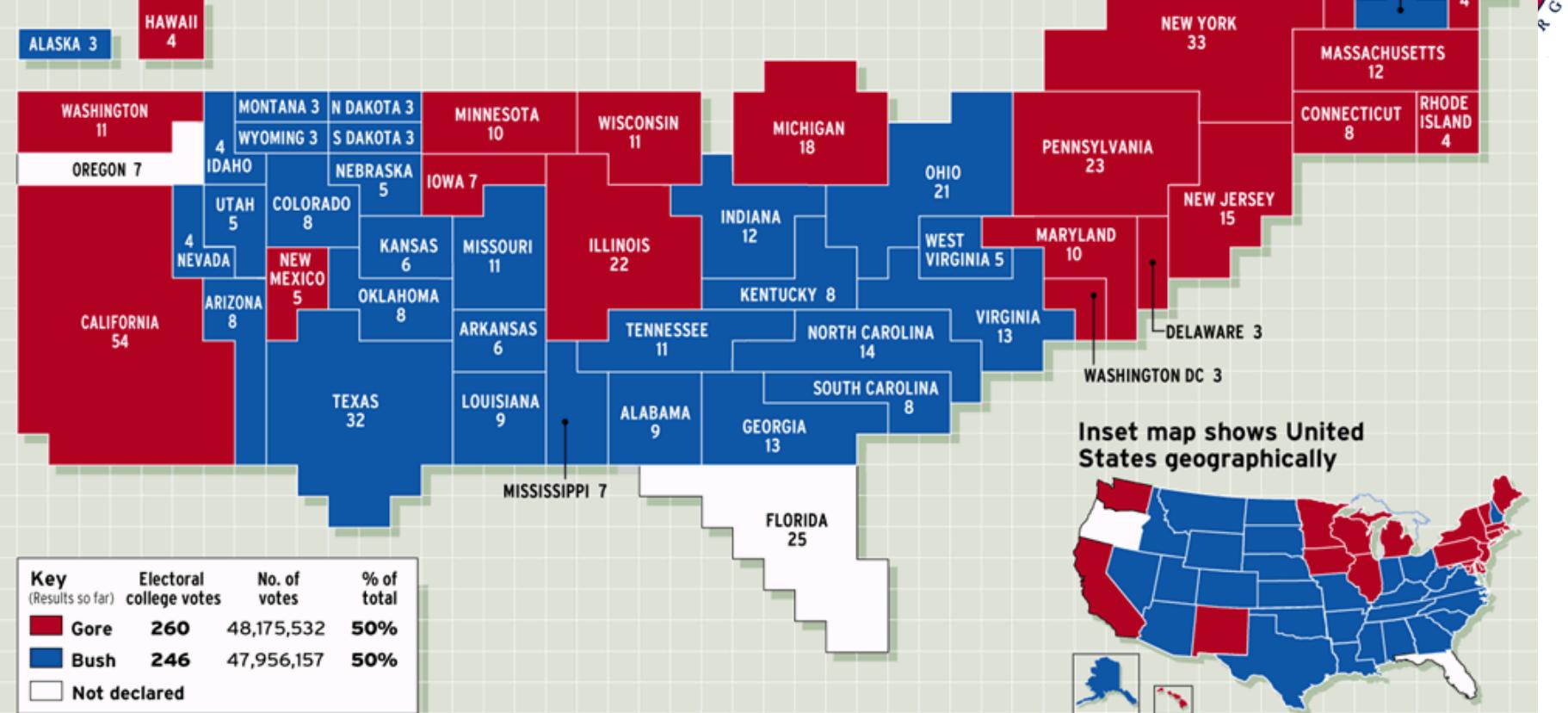




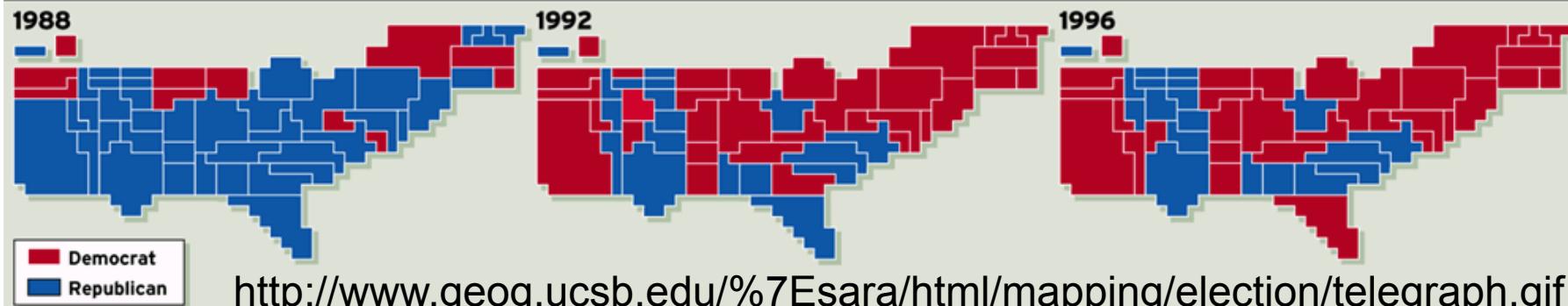
**Election  
Results by  
County Using  
a Non Linear  
Color Scale**  
**Red--70%**  
**GOP**  
**Blue--70%**  
**Dem.**

## America: the election for president

In this map, the area of each state is directly proportional to the number of electoral college votes in that state. 270 votes are needed to win the Presidency



## The last three presidential elections, how the states have changed allegiance





# Alternatively....non continuous



# Non continuous circle cartograms

- Each circle proportional to region's population
- Each circle borders as many of the place's correct geographical neighbours as possible
- Generate a contiguity matrix – neighbourhood index, the strength of the link proportional to the length of shared boundary.
- Position circle at centre of region, proportionate to value of region.
- All overlapping circles are repelled, while attracting those with which they share a common border



**Figure 11.1** Illustration of a cartogram of British county populations evolving

Feb 2014

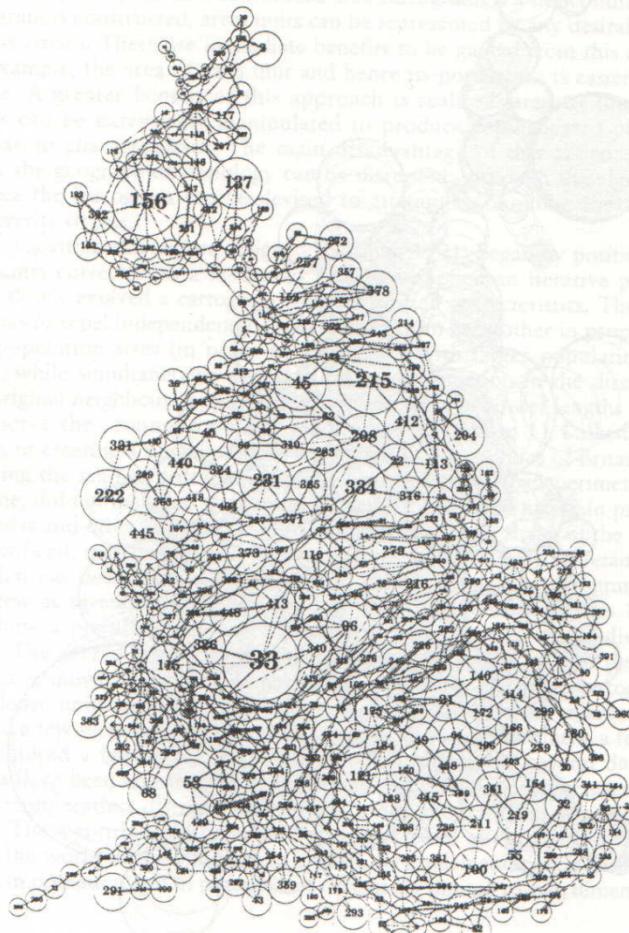
designed to maximise local ‘‘proximity’’. The early work of Tobler (1970) was not colour-blind and defined the rules for this rigorously than it is done now; such a representation is very useful for some geographical applications, as the mapping of discrete incidents (for example incidents of a possibly contagious disease), see Beaman and Hadfield (1965).

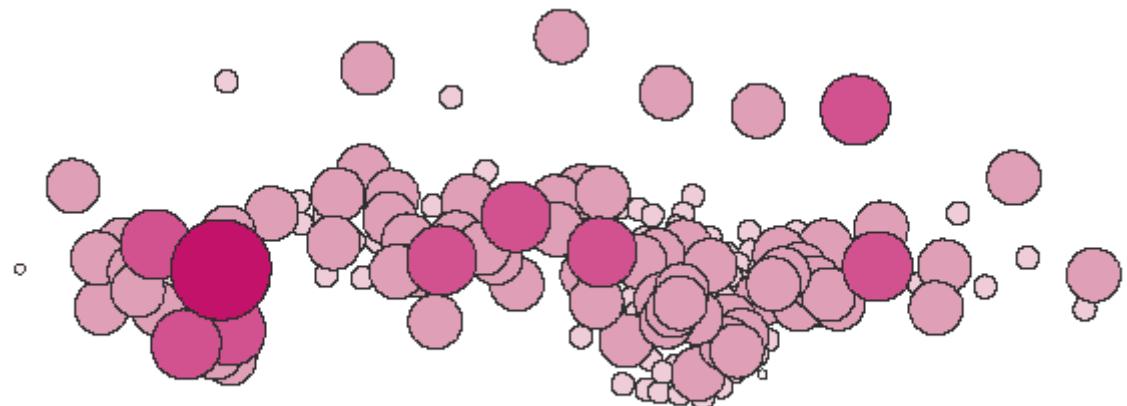
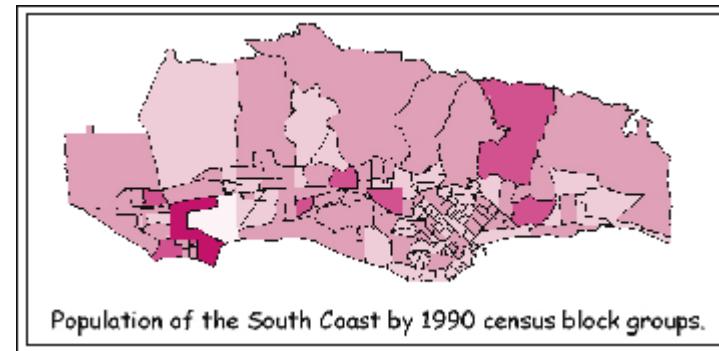
For mapping the spatial distribution of population, however, then a norm in defining the boundaries of contiguous administrative units which have relatively simple shape, such as a rectangle, which becomes very complex as a polygon and which is non-contiguous or disconnected, are often better represented using a suitable shape of polygon. There are also benefits to be gained from this approach. For example, the area and hence population is easier to gauge as the area is greater. A major benefit of this approach is that the boundaries can be easily calculated to produce a detailed picture of population distribution.

The problem with this approach is that the area of a polygon which is not rectangular is not necessarily proportional to the area of the polygon. The area of a polygon is proportional to the area of a rectangle with the same width and height. The relationship between the two areas depends on the shape of the polygon. If the polygon is roughly rectangular, then the ratio of the areas will be close to one. However, if the polygon is highly irregular, then the ratio will be much smaller. This is because the area of a polygon is calculated by summing the areas of small triangles formed by connecting the vertices of the polygon to a central point. The area of each triangle is proportional to the area of the rectangle with the same width and height. The area of a triangle is given by the formula  $A = \frac{1}{2}bh$ , where  $b$  is the base and  $h$  is the height. The area of a rectangle is given by the formula  $A = bh$ . Therefore, the ratio of the areas of a polygon and a rectangle with the same width and height is given by the formula  $\frac{A_{\text{poly}}}{A_{\text{rect}}} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}bh}{bh} = \frac{1}{2}$ . This means that the area of a polygon is half the area of a rectangle with the same width and height. This is why the area of a polygon is not necessarily proportional to the area of a rectangle with the same width and height.

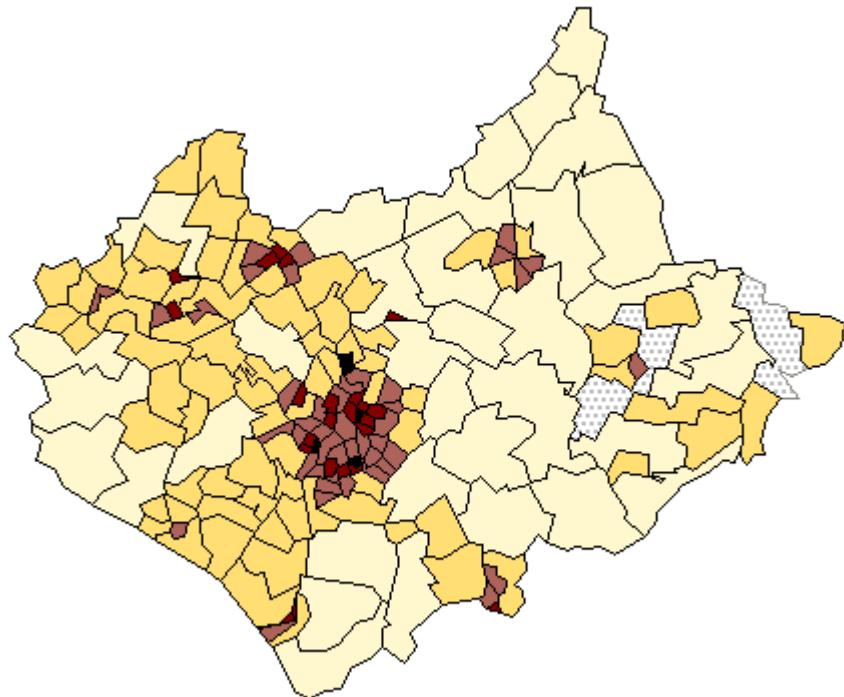
#### PACKING IN POPULATION SPACE

**Figure 11.2** Contiguity on the local authority districts population cartogram



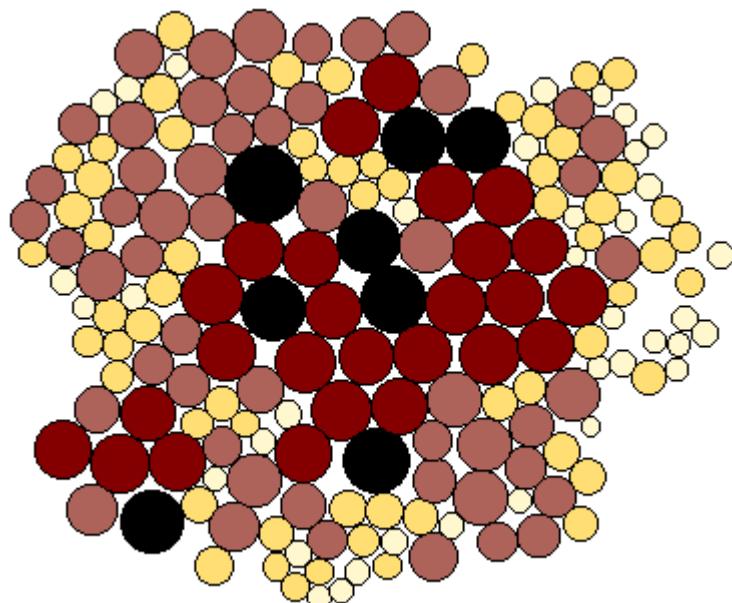


<http://www.geog.ucsb.edu/~kclarke/G118/Site-images/assign4.htm>



Enumeration districts designed to contain roughly equal numbers of people.

Shaded – inversely proportional to size



Circle size and shade proportional to zone population.

Cartogram highlights the relatively small numbers of people in the identified commuter belt which is over-represented by the land area map due to the large areas which the commuters occupy.

A fairer yet more distorted picture?



end