



1. **Justification of your flow map design.** Please refer to the references to justify your choice of flow map symbology, including the point symbols, flow symbols, and the background choropleth map. Justify the choice of your node, flow and choropleth symbology, which should be different than the maps published in FlowMapper article and the tutorial video.

For the color scheme of the choropleth section, I just chose a simple “blues-purples” color scheme, even though I don’t really see any purple in there. I thought that this light to darker color scheme would make for easy interpretation of the net flow of bananas for each country, given that it’s just a scale from net loss to net gain. I made the nodes all black for easy visibility and made it so there were only a few different sizes so that they would be easily distinguishable from one another. For the flow symbology, I also used a simple light to dark color gradient with not that many classes so it would be easy to distinguish which flow arrows belonged to which class. I reduced the number of flow arrows shown because there were a ton of tiny flow arrows that crossed through nodes and made the map confusing to interpret.

2. **Interpretation of flow patterns. Discuss:**

In general, the Western areas in South America seem to receive the most flows. Even further, the South is comprised of uninterrupted areas receiving the highest level of banana flows. The flows seem to primarily flow from North to South, which is probably due to regions in the North closer to the tropical zone/equator being more climatically conducive to banana farming. Since the variables are all related (net imports/exports of bananas, amount of bananas being transported, and the total flow of bananas), the arrows, nodes, and choropleth maps all work collectively and affirm the patterns shown by each individual part. Ecuador is by far the biggest exporter of bananas, whereas Chile and Argentina are the biggest importers of bananas in the continent overall, but the biggest fluxes on the map are also from Ecuador to Chile and Argentina.