

Introduction to PostGIS

shortened version of

<http://postgis.net/workshops/postgis-intro>

(some slides omitted, no slides changed)

Attribute and License: see link

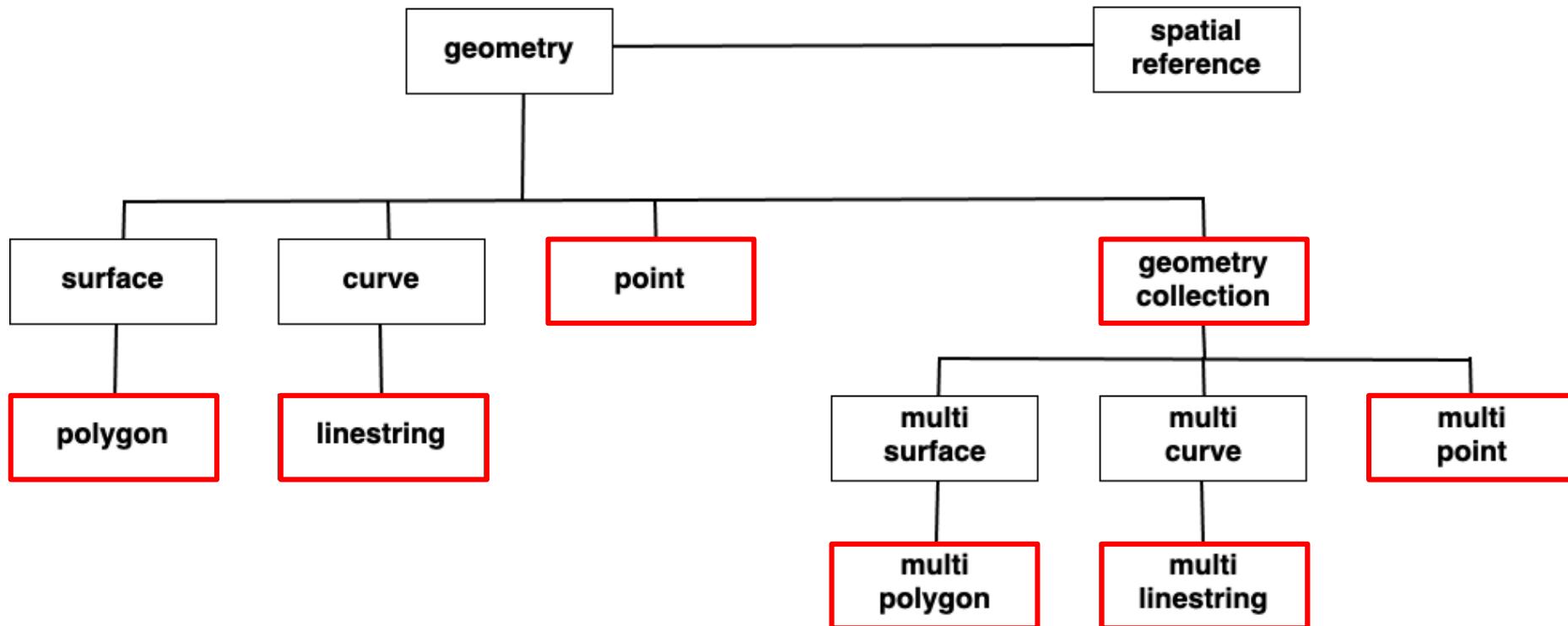
Section 2 - Introduction

What is a **spatial database**?

System for storage and random access of relationally (tables of rows and columns) structured data, providing the following capabilities for that data.

- **Data Types** including **Spatial Types**
 - number, date, string, **geometry**, **geography** and **raster**
- **Indexes** including **Spatial Indexes**
 - b-tree, hash, **rtree**, quadtree
- **Functions** including **Spatial Functions**
 - `strlen(string)`, `pow(float, float)`, `now()`, **ST_Area()**, **ST_Distance()**

Spatial Types



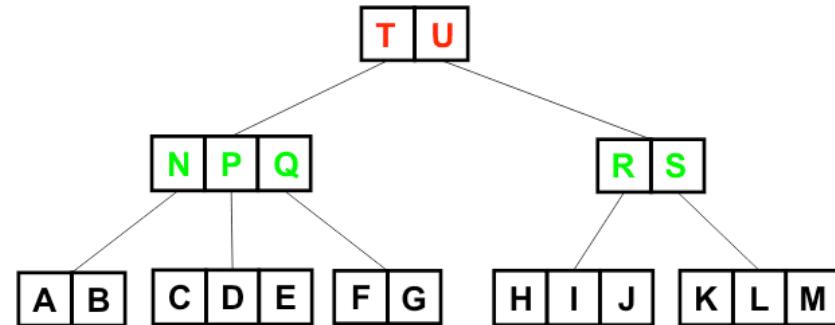
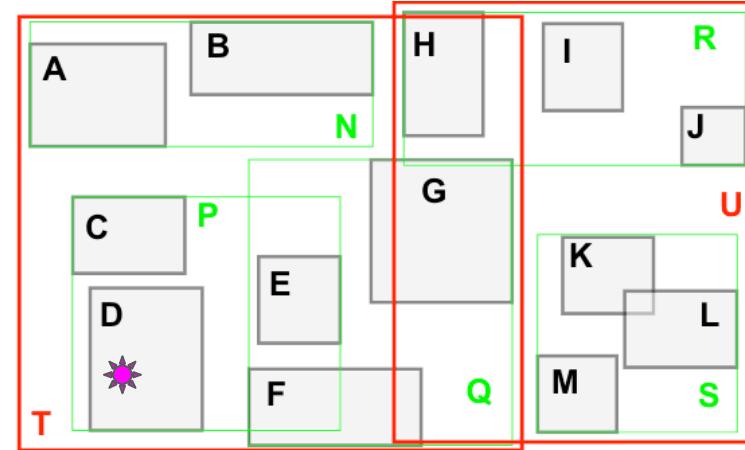
Spatial Indexes

This R-Tree organizes the spatial objects so that a spatial search is a quick walk through the tree.

To find what object contains  ?

- The system first checks if it is in **T** or **U** (**T**)
- Then it checks if it is in **N**, **P** or **Q** (**P**)
- Then it checks if it is in **C**, **D** or **E** (**D**)

Only 8 boxes have to be tested. A full table scan would require *all 13 boxes* to be tested. The larger the table, the *more powerful* the index is.

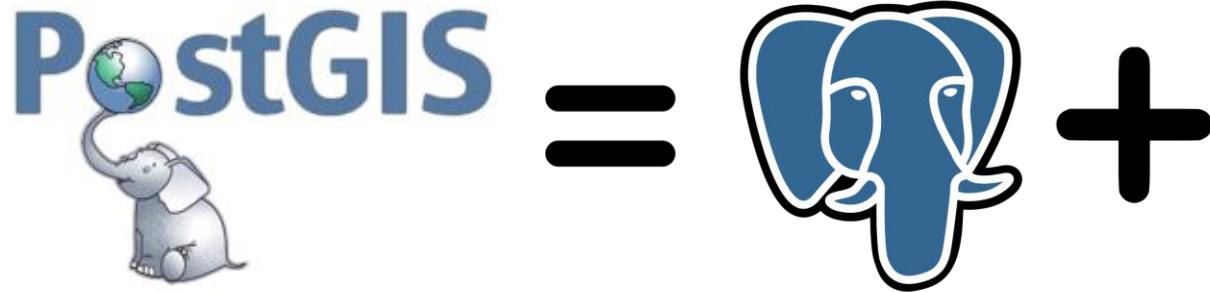


Spatial Functions

For example:

- ST_GeometryType(geometry) → text
- ST_Area(geometry) → float
- ST_Distance(geometry, geometry) → float
- ST_Buffer(geometry, radius) → geometry
- ST_Intersection(geometry, geometry) → geometry
- ST_Union([geometry]) → geometry

What is PostGIS?



CREATE
EXTENSION
`postgis;`

Section 9 - Geometries

Creating a table with geometry

```
CREATE TABLE geometries
(
    name varchar,
    geom geometry
);
```

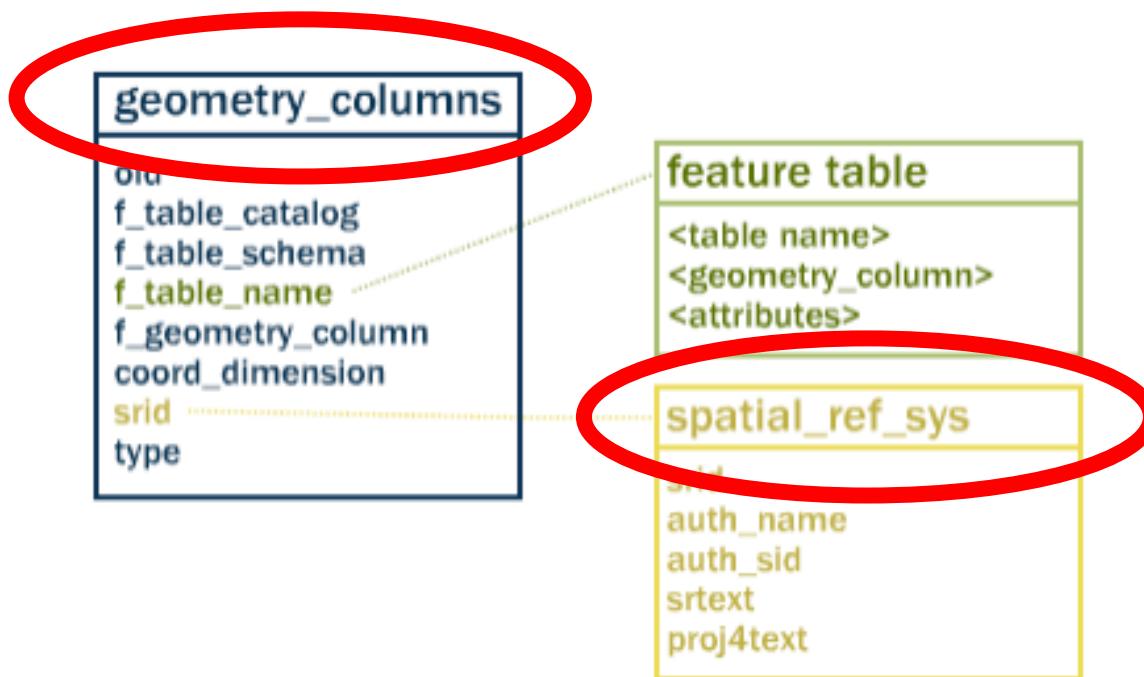
Creating a table with geometry

```
INSERT INTO geometries (name, geom) VALUES
('Point', 'POINT(0 0)'),
('Linestring', 'LINESTRING(0 0, 1 1, 2 1, 2 2)'),
('Polygon', 'POLYGON((0 0, 1 0, 1 1, 0 1, 0 0))'),
('PolygonWithHole', 'POLYGON((...))'),
('Collection', 'GEOMETRYCOLLECTION(...)');
```

Creating a table with geometry

```
SELECT name, ST_AsText(geom)  
FROM geometries;
```

Table Relationships



geometry_columns

```
SELECT *
FROM geometry_columns
```

geometry_columns

nyc/postgres@localhost ▾

Query Editor Query History Scratch Pad

1 `SELECT * FROM geometry_columns;`

Data Output Explain Messages Notifications

	f_table_catalog	f_table_schema	f_table_name	f_geometry_column	coord_dimension	srid	type
	character varying (256)	character varying	name	name	integer	integer	character varying (30)
1	nyc	public	nyc_census_blocks	geom	2	26918	MULTIPOLYGON
2	nyc	public	nyc_homicides	geom	2	26918	POINT
3	nyc	public	nyc_neighborhoods	geom	2	26918	MULTIPOLYGON
4	nyc	public	nyc_streets	geom	2	26918	MULTILINESTRING
5	nyc	public	nyc_subway_stati...	geom	2	26918	POINT

Metadata functions

SELECT

```
name,  
ST_GeometryType(geom),  
ST_NDims(geom),  
ST_SRID(geom)
```

FROM geometries;

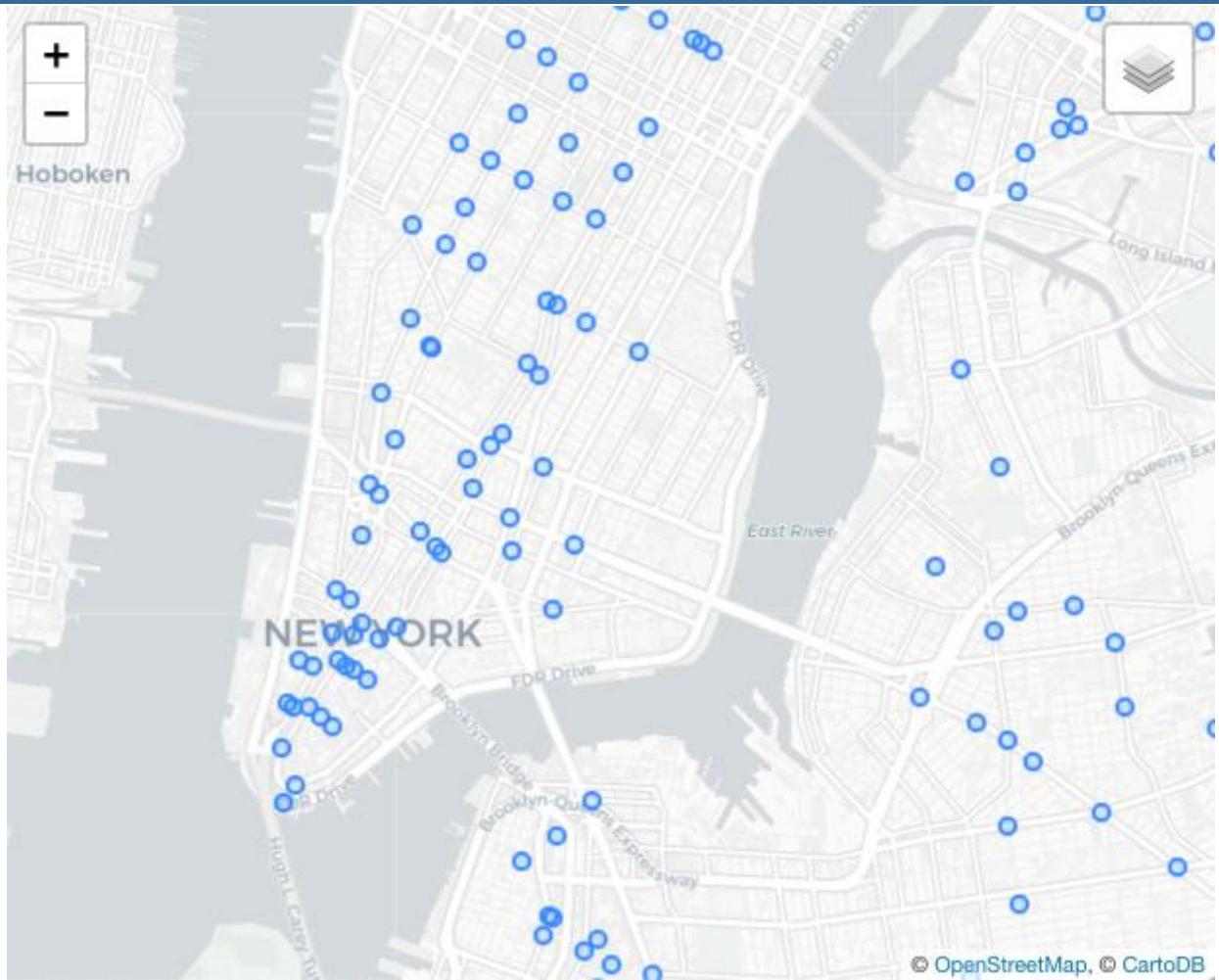
Metadata functions

name	st_geometrytype	st_ndims	st_srid
Point	ST_Point	2	0
Linestring	ST_LineString	2	0
Polygon	ST_Polygon	2	0
PolygonWithHole	ST_Polygon	2	0
Collection	ST_GeometryCollection	2	0

Points

“Point” or “MultiPoint”, representing one or more 0-dimensional locations.

New York city subway stations, stop signs, man holes, address points, current locations of vehicles, might all use a “Point” geometry type.



Points

```
SELECT ST_AsText(geom)  
FROM geometries  
WHERE name = 'Point';
```

POINT(0 0)

Points

```
SELECT
    ST_X(geom),
    ST_Y(geom)
FROM geometries
WHERE name = 'Point'
```

0 0

Points

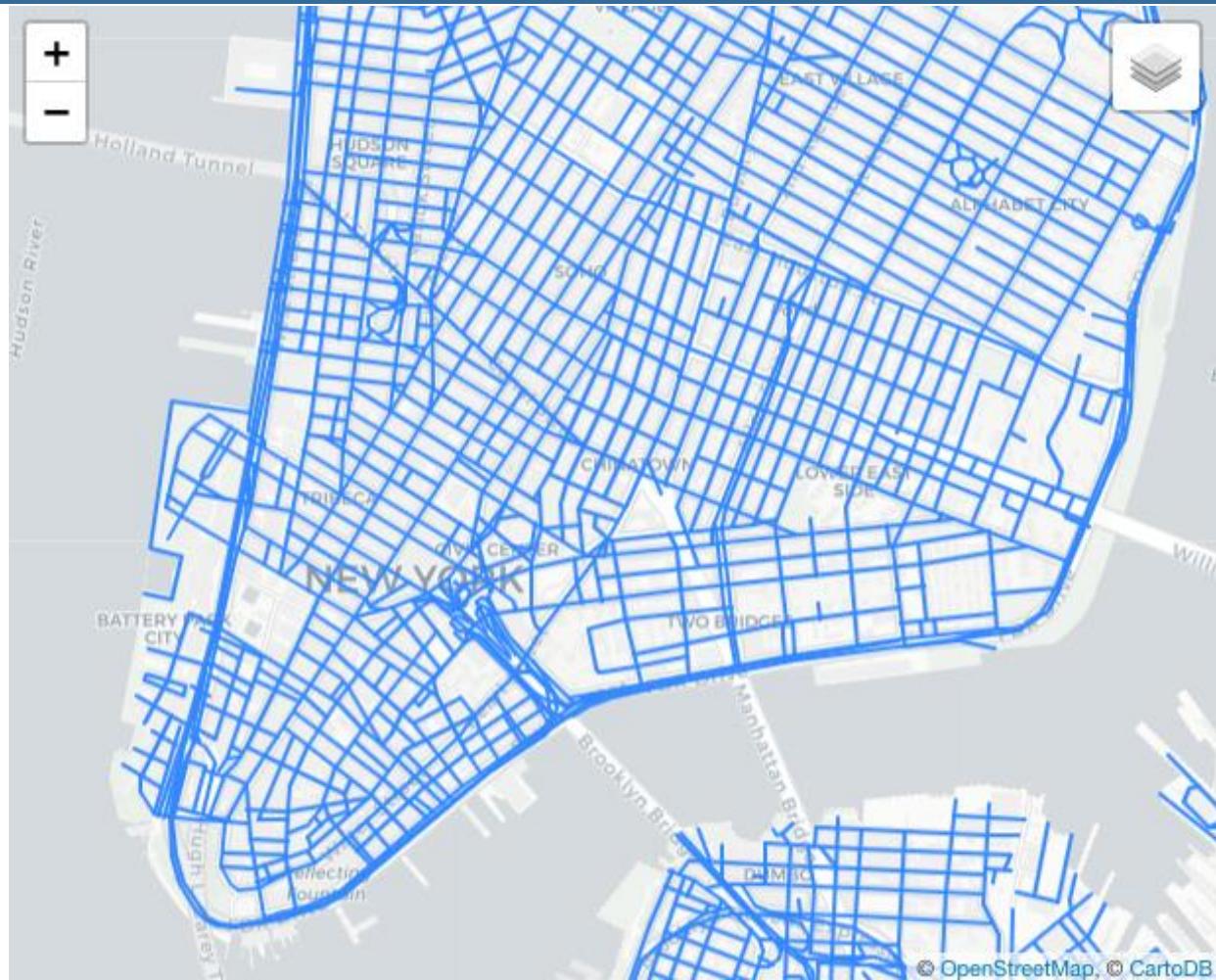
```
SELECT
    name,
    ST_AsText(geom)
FROM nyc_subway_stations
LIMIT 1;
```

Cortlandt St | POINT(583521 4507077)

LineStrings

“LineString” or
“MultiLineString”,
representing one or more 1-dimensional objects.

Streets, streams, bus routes, power lines, driven routes, highways, might all use a “LineString” geometry type.



LineStrings

```
SELECT ST_AsText(geom)  
FROM geometries  
WHERE name = 'Linestring';
```

LINESTRING(0 0,1 1,2 1,2 2)

LineStrings

```
SELECT ST_Length(geom)  
FROM geometries  
WHERE name = 'Linestring';
```

3.41421356237309

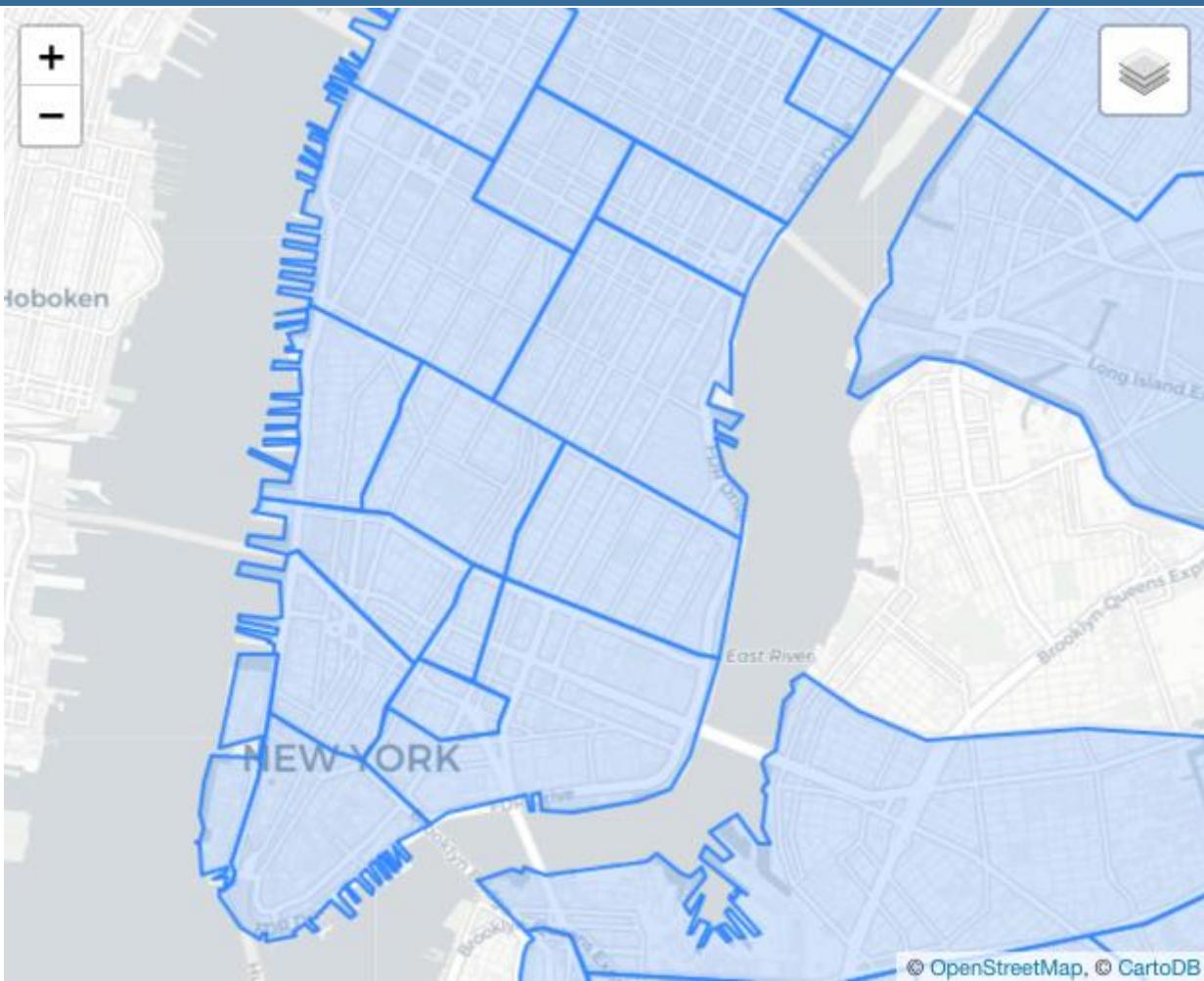
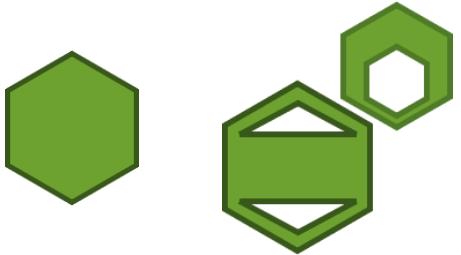
LineStrings

- ST_Length(linestring)
- ST_StartPoint(linestring)
- ST_EndPoint(linestring)
- ST_NumPoints(linestring)

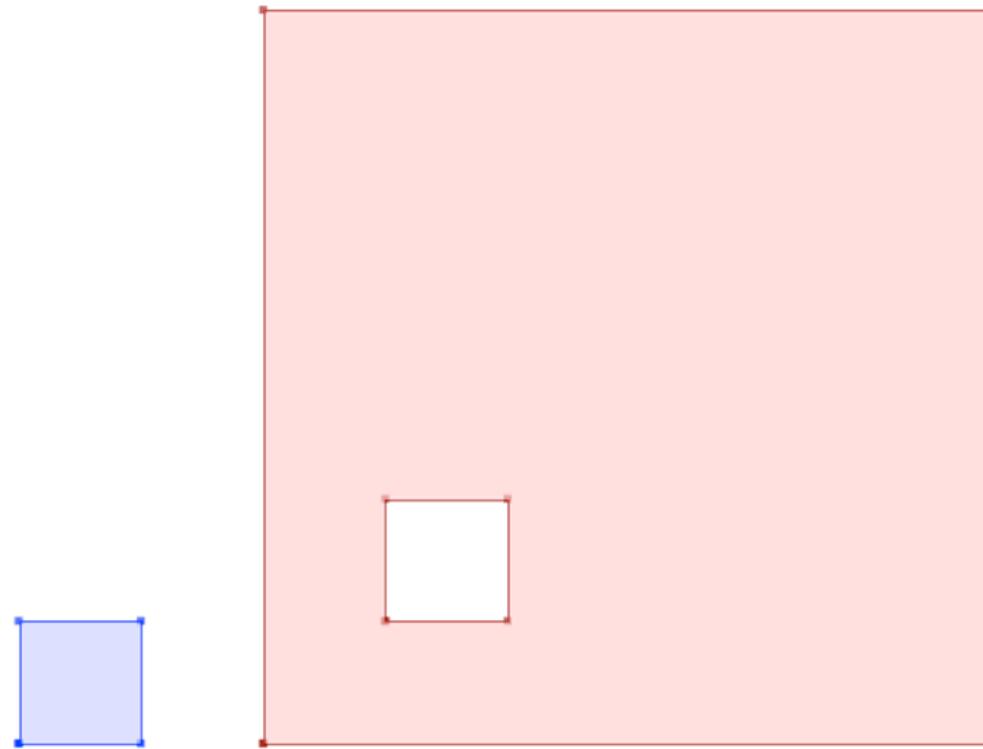
Polygons

“Polygon” or
“MultiPolygon”,
representing one or more 2-dimensional objects.

Census areas, parcels,
counties, countries,
neighborhoods, zoning
areas, watersheds, and
more.



Polygons



Polygons

```
SELECT ST_AsText(geom)
  FROM geometries
 WHERE name LIKE 'Polygon%';
```

POLYGON((0 0, 1 0, 1 1, 0 1, 0 0))

POLYGON((0 0, 10 0, 10 10, 0 10, 0 0),
 (1 1, 1 2, 2 2, 2 1, 1 1))

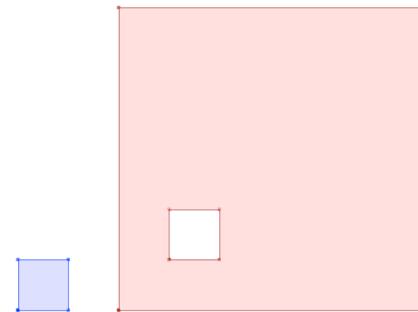
Polygons

- `ST_Area(polygon)`
- `ST_NumInteriorRings(polygon)`
- `ST_ExteriorRing(polygon)`
- `ST_InteriorRing(polygon,n)`
- `ST_Perimeter(polygon)`

Polygons

```
SELECT name, ST_Area(geom)  
FROM geometries  
WHERE name LIKE 'Polygon%';
```

Polygon		1
PolygonWithHole		99



Geometry Formats

ST_As...

Text, EWKT, GML, KML, SVG, GeoJSON,
Binary, EWKB

ST_GeomFrom...

Text, EWKT, GML, KML, GeoJSON,
Binary, EWKB

Geometry Formats

```
SELECT ST_AsText(  
    ST_GeometryFromText(  
        'LINESTRING(0 0 0,1 0 0,1 1 2)'  
    )  
) ;
```

LINESTRING Z (0 0 0,1 0 0,1 1 2)

Geometry Formats

```
SELECT ST_AsGeoJSON(  
    ST_GeomFromGML(  
        '<gml:Point>  
            <gml:coordinates>  
                1,1  
            </gml:coordinates>  
        </gml:Point>'  
    ));
```

```
{"type": "Point", "coordinates": [1,1]}
```

All roads lead to Rome ... (Geometry construction)

```
SELECT ST_AsEWKT(  
    ST_GeomFromText('POINT(1 1)', 4326)  
);
```

SRID=4326;POINT(1 1)

All roads lead to Rome ... (Geometry construction)

```
SELECT ST_AsEWKT(  
    ST_SetSRID(  
        ST_GeomFromText('POINT(1 1)'),  
        4326  
    )  
);
```

SRID=4326;POINT(1 1)

All roads lead to Rome ... (Geometry construction)

```
SELECT ST_AsEWKT(  
    ST_SetSRID(  
        ST_MakePoint(1, 1),  
        4326  
    )  
);
```

SRID=4326;POINT(1 1)

All roads lead to Rome ... (Geometry construction)

```
SELECT ST_AsEWKT(  
    ST_SetSRID(  
        'POINT(1 1)'::geometry,  
        4326  
    )  
);
```

SRID=4326;POINT(1 1)

All roads lead to Rome ... (Geometry construction)

```
SELECT ST_AsEWKT(  
    'SRID=4326;POINT(1 1)' ::geometry  
) ;
```

```
SRID=4326;POINT(1 1)
```

Section 11 - Spatial Relationships

Spatial Relationship Functions

- `ST_Intersects(A, B)`
- `ST_DWithin(A, B, d)`
- `ST_Distance(A, B)`
- `ST_Within, ST_Contains(A, B)`
- `ST_Equals(A, B)`
- `ST_Touches(A, B)`
- `ST_Disjoint, ST_Crosses, ST_Overlaps(A, B)`



ST_Equals(A, B)

ST_OrderingEquals(A, B)

Equals tests that A and B cover the same space, regardless of representation differences (extra vertices, order of vertices).

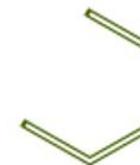
OrderingEquals insists on structural identity.



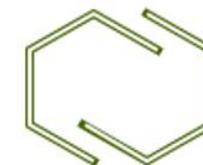
Point & Multipoint



Multipoint & Multipoint



Linestring & Linestring



Multilinestring & Multilinestring



Polygon & Polygon



Multipolygon & Multipolygon

What is geometry of Broad Street subway station?

```
SELECT name, geom  
FROM nyc_subway_stations  
WHERE name = 'Broad St';
```

0101000020266900000EEBD4CF27CF2141BC17D69516315141

What subway station record matches that geometry?

```
SELECT name  
FROM nyc_subway_stations  
WHERE ST_Equals(  
    geom,  
    '0101000020266900000EEBD4CF27CF2141BC17D69516315141'  
);
```

Broad St

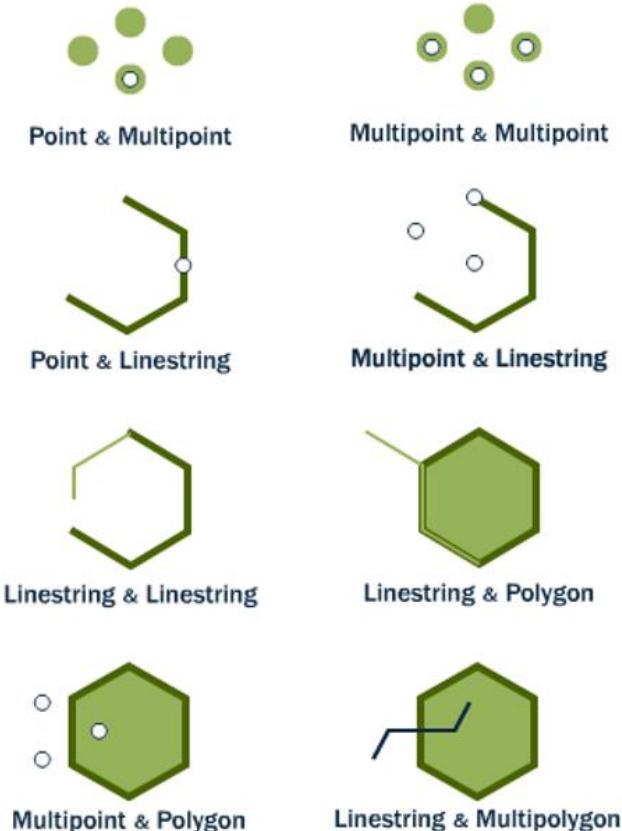
ST_Intersects(A, B)

ST_Disjoint(A, B)

Intersects and disjoint are opposites.
Any kind of interactions between two shapes is an intersection, and implies the pair are not disjoint, and vice versa.

A intersects B \Rightarrow A not disjoint B

A disjoint B \Rightarrow A not intersects B



What is the well-known text (WKT) of Broad Street subway station?

```
SELECT name, ST_AsText(geom, 0)
  FROM nyc_subway_stations
 WHERE name = 'Broad St';
```

POINT(583571 4506714)

What neighborhood intersects that subway station?

```
SELECT name, boroname
FROM nyc_neighborhoods
WHERE ST_Intersects(
    geom,
    ST_GeomFromText(
        'POINT(583571 4506714)' ,
        26918));
```

Financial District | Manhattan

ST_Crosses(A, B)

Mostly used to test linestrings, which can be said to cross when their interiors have interactions.

When linestrings cross polygon boundaries, the crosses condition is also true.

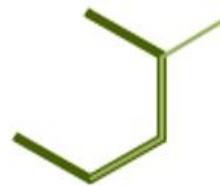


ST_Overlaps(A, B)

Shapes overlap when their interiors interact with each other and also with the exterior of the shape.
So objects that are contained or within do not overlap, overlaps is what normal people might call “partial overlap”.



Multipoint & Multipoint



Linestring & Linestring



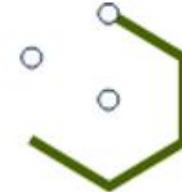
Polygon & Polygon

ST_Touches(A, B)

Shapes touch when their boundaries interact but their interiors do not. End points for lines, exterior rings for polygons. Usually used for testing that polygons have ring-touching only.



Point & Linestring



Multipoint & Linestring



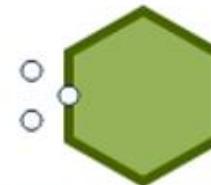
Linestring & Linestring



Linestring & Polygon



Point & Polygon



Multipoint & Polygon

ST_Within(A, B)

ST_Contains(B, A)

Within and contains are about objects being fully inside. One important caveat, for both functions an object on the **boundary** is not considered within. So a point on the outer ring of a polygon is not within the polygon.



Point & Multipoint



Multipoint & Multipoint



Point & Linestring



Multipoint & Linestring



Linestring & Linestring



Linestring & Polygon



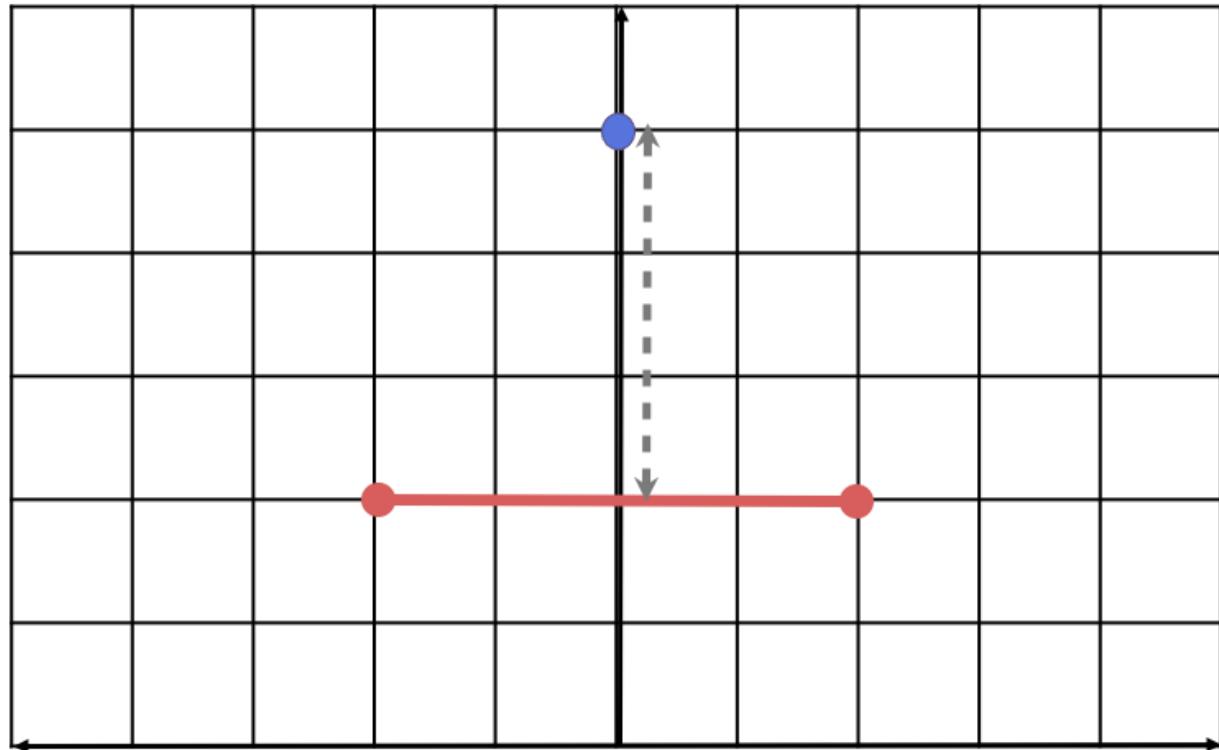
Point & Polygon



Multipoint & Polygon

ST_Distance(A, B)

Returns the **shortest** distance between the two geometries, in this case the distance from the point to the line mid-point.



ST_Distance(A, B)

```
SELECT ST_Distance(  
    'POINT(0 5)'::geometry,  
    'LINESTRING(-2 2, 2 2)'::geometry  
);
```

ST_DWithin(A, B, R)

Index-enabled radius search function. True when the distance from geometry A to geometry B is less than radius R. False otherwise.

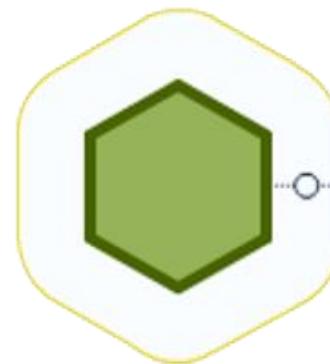
Use instead of
ST_Distance(A, B) < R, in
order to get benefit of spatial
index.



Point & Point (True)



Point & Point (False)



Polygon & Point (True)

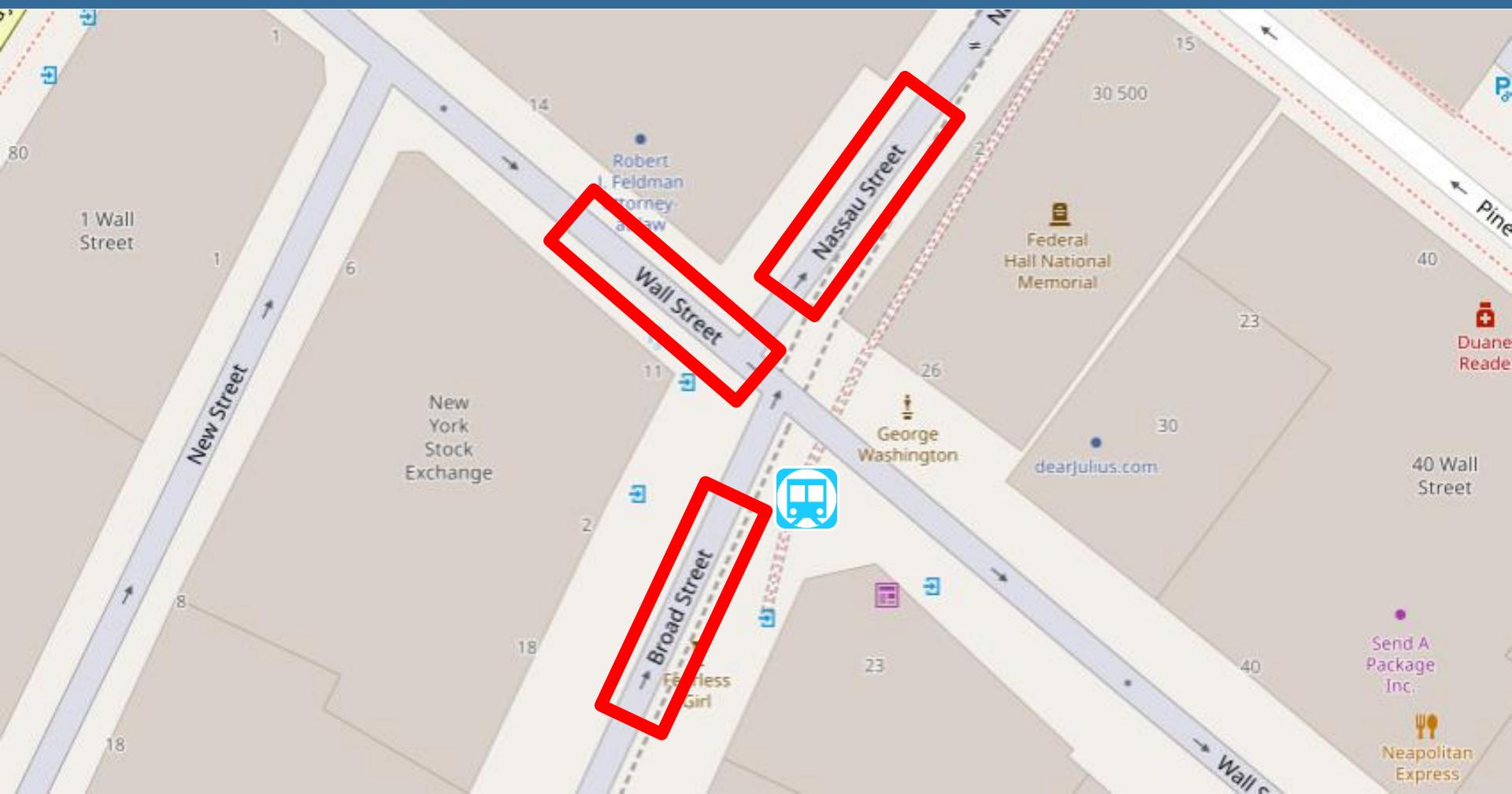


Polygon & Point (False)

What streets are within 10 meters of Broad Street subway station?

```
SELECT name
FROM nyc_streets
WHERE ST_DWithin(
    geom,
    ST_GeomFromText('POINT(583571 4506714)', 26918),
    10
);
```

Section 11 - Spatial Relationships



Section 13 - Spatial Joins

What neighborhood is the 'Broad St' station in?

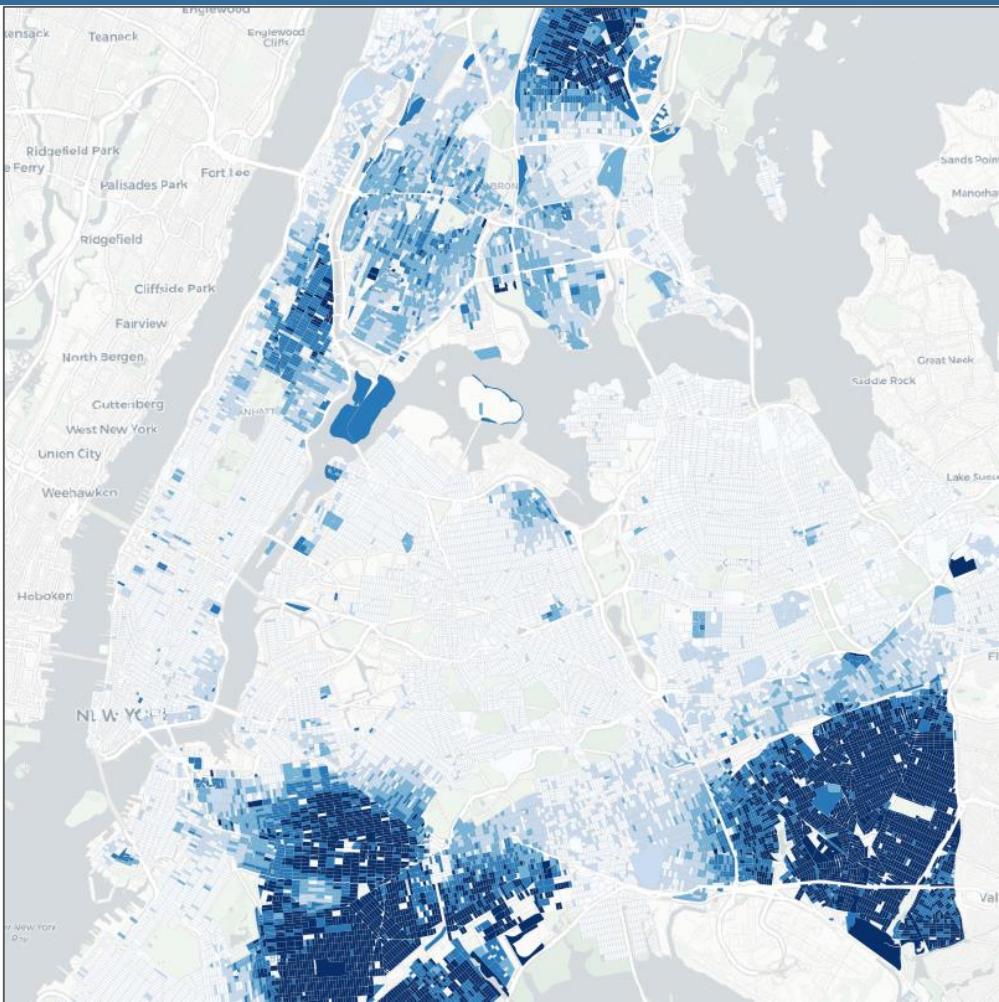
Remember...

```
SELECT name, boroname
FROM nyc_neighborhoods
WHERE
    ST_Intersects(
        geom,
        ST_GeomFromText(
            'POINT(583571 4506714)',
            26918));
```

Do it in one step, with a spatial join!

```
SELECT s.name, n.name, n.boroname  
FROM nyc_neighborhoods AS n  
JOIN nyc_subway_stations AS s  
ON ST_Contains(  
    n.geom,  
    s.geom  
)  
WHERE s.name = 'Broad St';
```

**What is the
population and racial
make-up of the
neighborhoods of
Manhattan?**



SELECT

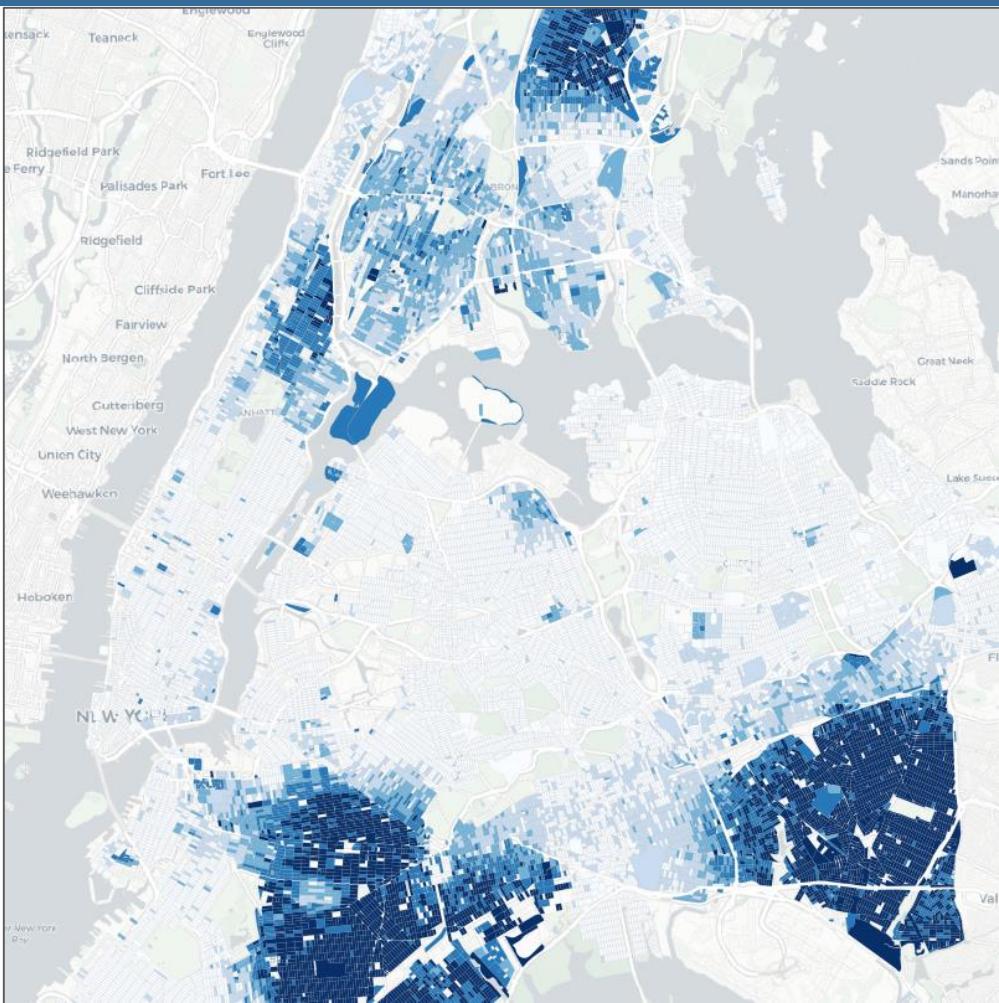
```
n.name AS neighborhood_name,  
SUM(c.popn_total) AS population,  
100*SUM(c.popn_white)/SUM(c.popn_total) AS white_pct,  
100*SUM(c.popn_black)/SUM(c.popn_total) AS black_pct  
FROM nyc_neighborhoods AS n  
JOIN nyc_census_blocks AS c  
ON ST_Intersects(  
    n.geom,  
    c.geom  
)  
WHERE n.boroname = 'Manhattan'  
GROUP BY n.name  
ORDER BY white_pct DESC;
```

Section 13 - Spatial Joins

neighborhood_name	popn	white %	black %
Carnegie Hill	18763	90.1	1.4
West Village	26718	87.6	2.2
North Sutton Area	22460	87.6	1.6
Upper East Side	203741	85.0	2.7
Soho	15436	84.6	2.2
Greenwich Village	57224	82.0	2.4
Central Park	46600	79.5	8.0
Tribeca	20908	79.1	3.5
Gramercy	104876	75.5	4.7
Murray Hill	29655	75.0	2.5
Chelsea	61340	74.8	6.4
Upper West Side	214761	74.6	9.2
Midtown	76840	72.6	5.2
Battery Park	17153	71.8	3.4

neighborhood_name	popn	white %	black %
Financial District	34807	69.9	3.8
Clinton	32201	65.3	7.9
East Village	82266	63.3	8.8
Garment District	10539	55.2	7.1
Morningside Heights	42844	52.7	19.4
Little Italy	12568	49.0	1.8
Yorkville	58450	35.6	29.7
Inwood	50047	35.2	16.8
Washington Heights	169013	34.9	16.8
Lower East Side	96156	33.5	9.1
East Harlem	60576	26.4	40.4
Hamilton Heights	67432	23.9	35.8
Chinatown	16209	15.2	3.8
Harlem	134955	15.1	67.1

**Let's explore the
racial geography
of New York City...**



Overall Racial Make-up of NYC

SELECT

```
100.0*SUM(popn_white)/SUM(popn_total) AS white_pct,  
100.0*SUM(popn_black)/SUM(popn_total) AS black_pct,  
SUM(popn_total) AS popn_total  
FROM nyc_census_blocks;
```

white_pct	black_pct	popn_total
44.00395007628105	25.546578900241613	8175032



You, must take
the A train.
To, go to Sugar
Hill way up in
Harlem.

**What is the racial make-up of
the areas served by the A train?**

First, we must determine where the A train stops.

Our routes are comma-separated strings!

```
SELECT DISTINCT routes  
FROM nyc_subway_stations;
```

4,5

N,Q,R,W

J

B,M,Q,R

D,F,N,Q

J,M

E,F

...

Postgres string function: **strpos()**

strpos(routes, 'A') returns a non-zero number if '**A**' is in the routes field

Check out <https://www.postgresql.org/docs/current/functions-string.html>

Find all routes with an “A”

```
SELECT DISTINCT routes  
FROM nyc_subway_stations AS subways  
WHERE strpos(subways.routes, 'A') > 0;
```

A,C

A,B,C,D

A,C,E,L

A,C,F

A,B,C

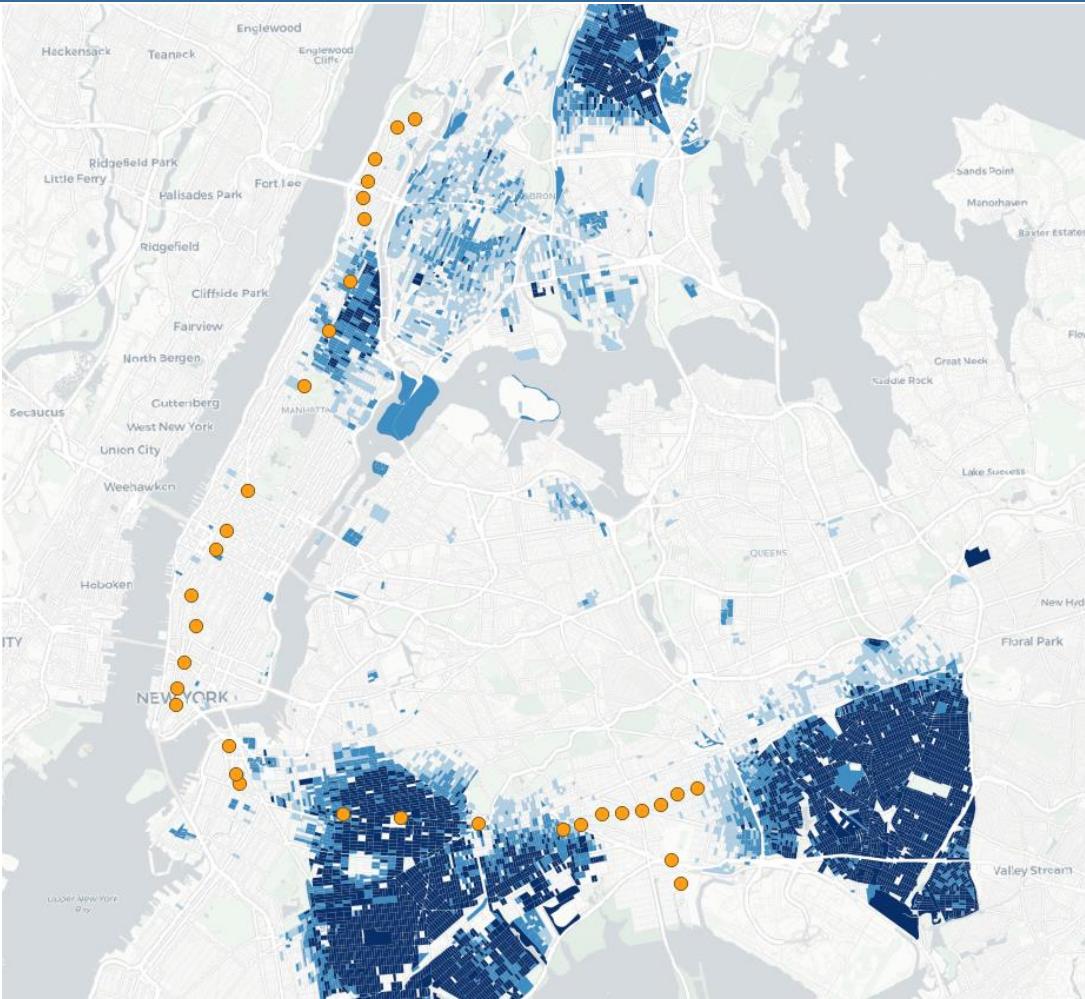
A,S

A,C,E

...

The route of the A train.

What is the racial makeup within 200 meters of each stop? Who is served by the A train?



Summarize population 200m from A train stops

SELECT

```
100*SUM(c.popn_white)/SUM(c.popn_total) AS white_pct,  
100*SUM(c.popn_black)/SUM(c.popn_total) AS black_pct,  
SUM(popn_total) AS popn_total
```

FROM nyc_census_blocks **AS** c

JOIN nyc_subway_stations **AS** s

ON ST_DWithin(

c.geom,

s.geom,

200

)

WHERE strpos(s.routes, 'A') > 0;

New York

44.00% white

25.55% black

A Train

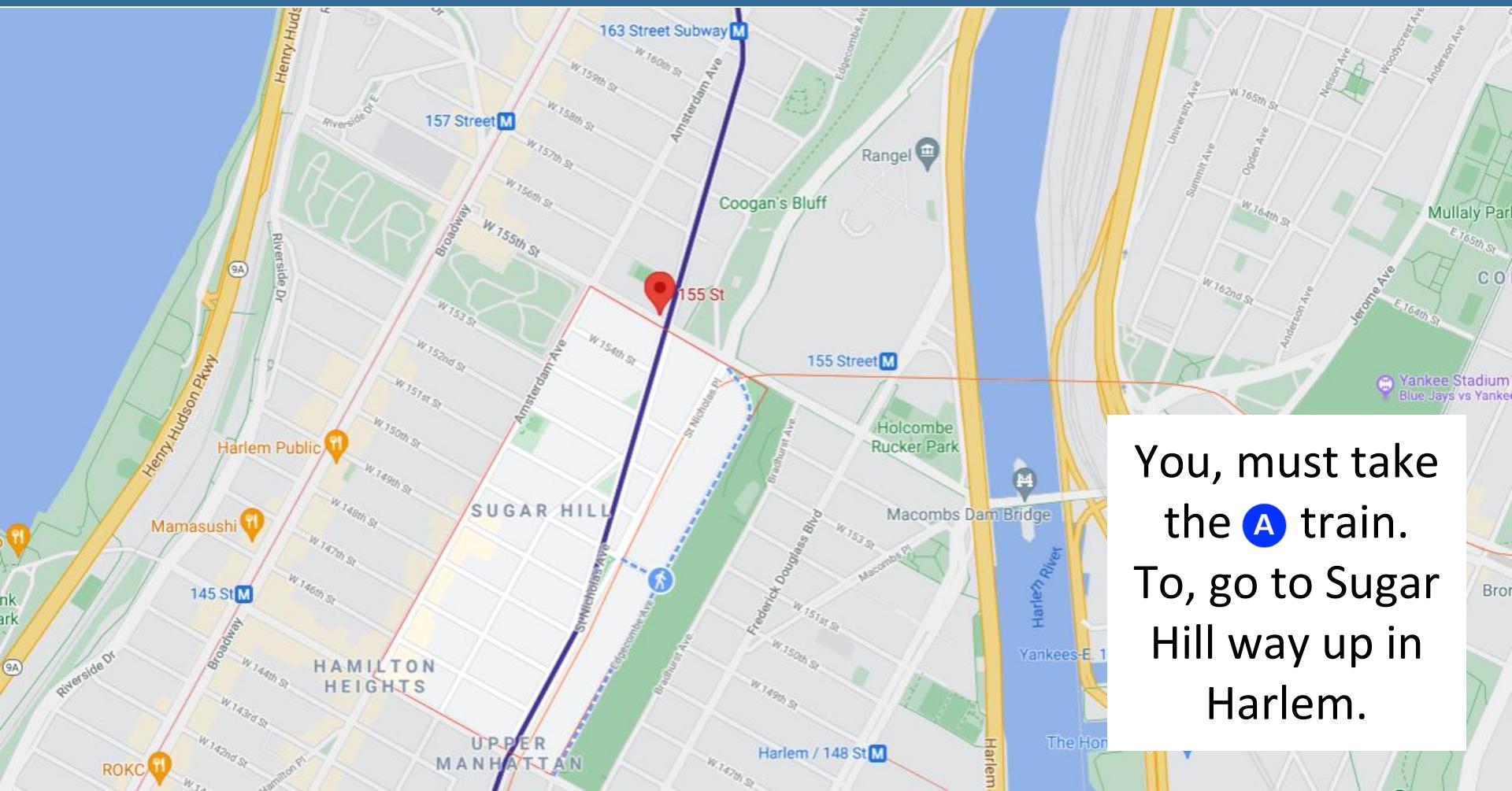
45.59% white

22.09% black

Section 13 - Spatial Joins



PostGIS



You, must take
the **A** train.
To, go to Sugar
Hill way up in
Harlem.

Section 15 - Spatial Indexing

A spatial database has...

- **Spatial Data Types**
 - geometry, geography
- **Spatial Indexes**
 - r-tree, quad-tree, kd-tree
- **Spatial Functions**
 - ST_Length(geometry), ST_X(geometry)

A spatial index speeds spatial query ...

- Join two tables of 10,000 records each

Without Index	With Index
$10,000 * 10,000 = \mathbf{100,000,000}$ comparisons	$10,000 + 10,000 = \mathbf{20,000}$ comparisons

To prove it... remove the index.

```
DROP INDEX nyc_census_blocks_geom_idx;
```

Run a spatial join.

```
SELECT b.blkid  
FROM nyc_census_blocks b  
JOIN nyc_subway_stations s  
ON ST_Contains(b.geom, s.geom)  
WHERE s.name LIKE 'B%';
```

~300 ms

Create the index again.

```
CREATE INDEX nyc_census_blocks_geom_idx  
ON nyc_census_blocks USING GIST (geom);
```

Run the join again.

```
SELECT blocks.blkid  
FROM nyc_census_blocks b  
JOIN nyc_subway_stations s  
  ON ST_Contains(b.geom, s.geom)  
WHERE s.name LIKE 'B%';
```

~90 ms

Spatial Index Cliff Notes

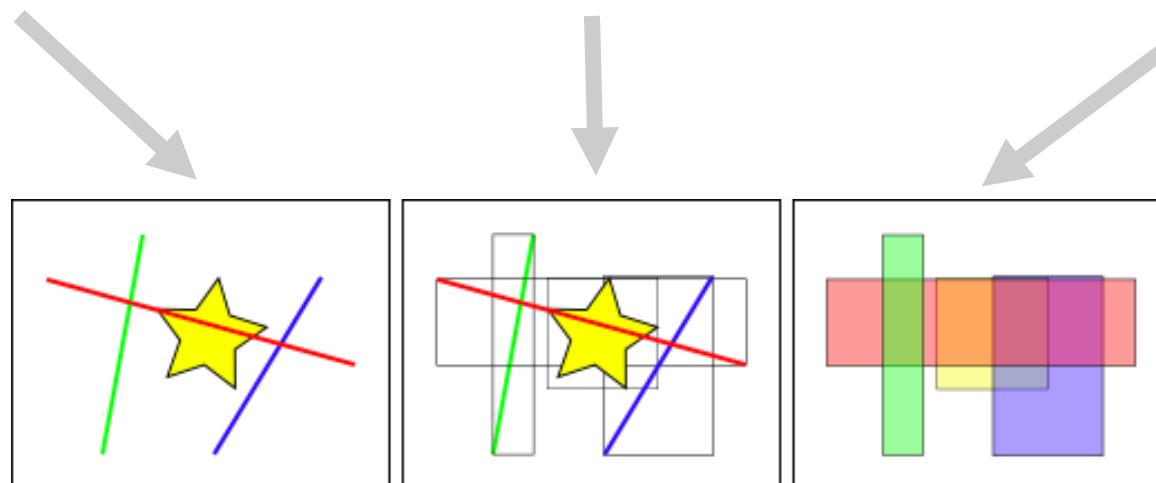
- **CREATE INDEX index_name ON table_name USING GIST (geom)**
- Use a “spatially indexed function” in **JOIN** or **WHERE** clause
 - **ST_Intersects(A, B), ST_Contains(A, B), ST_Within(A, B)**
 - **ST_DWithin(A, B, R)**

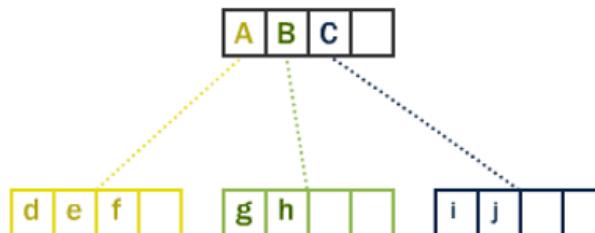
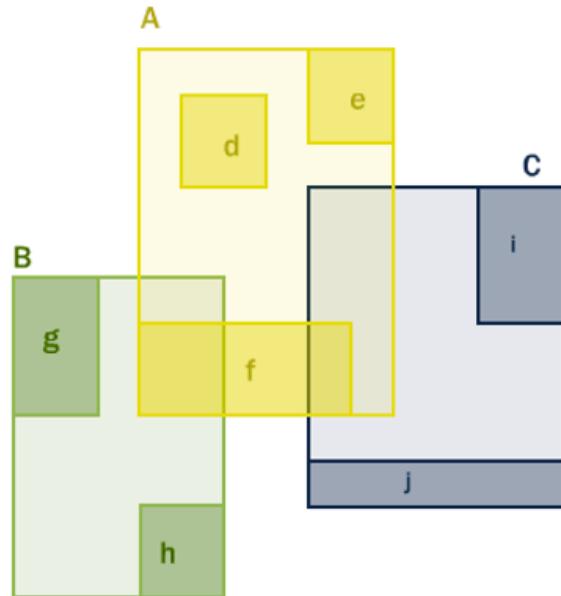
Spatial Index Internals

Some spatial objects (like the star) are quite large and complex. Comparing complex objects is expensive!

Instead of indexing objects directly, spatial indexes work on the bounding boxes of the objects.

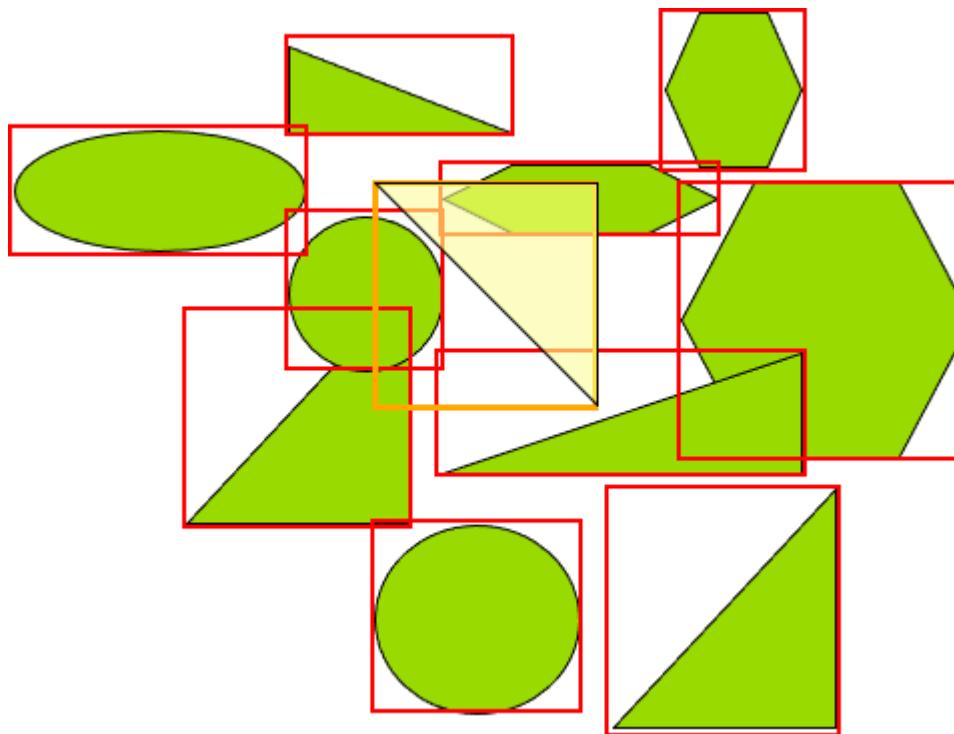
The boxes are of uniform size, and can be compared to determine spatial relationships very quickly.



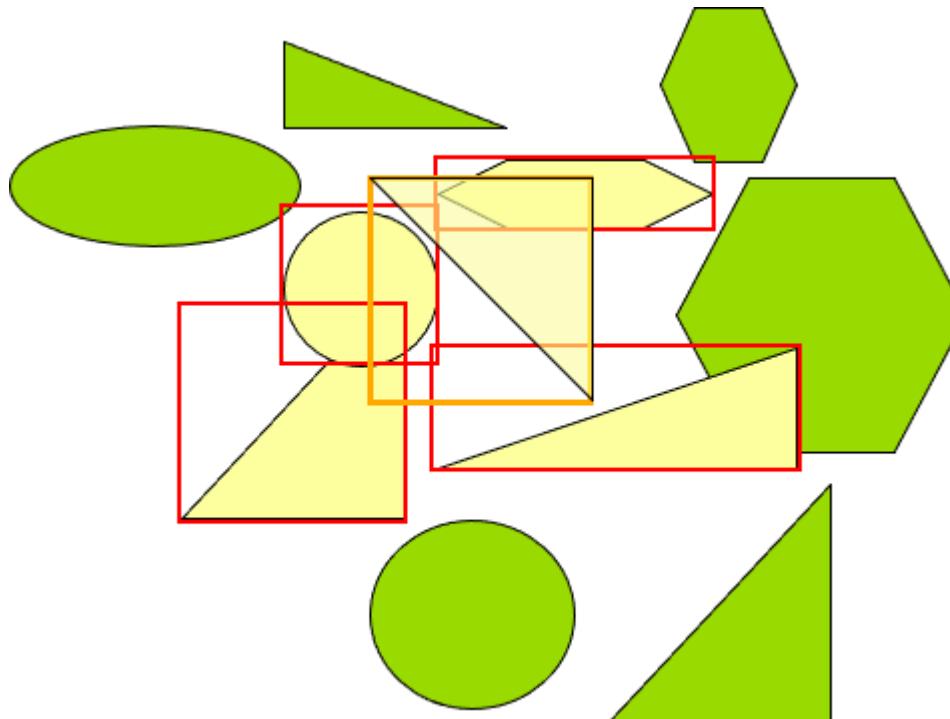


The boxes can be arranged in a hierarchy, so that a query can quickly discard portions of the search space that will not interact with a query box. Depending on the algorithm, different hierarchies can be built. PostGIS uses an “R*tree” algorithm.

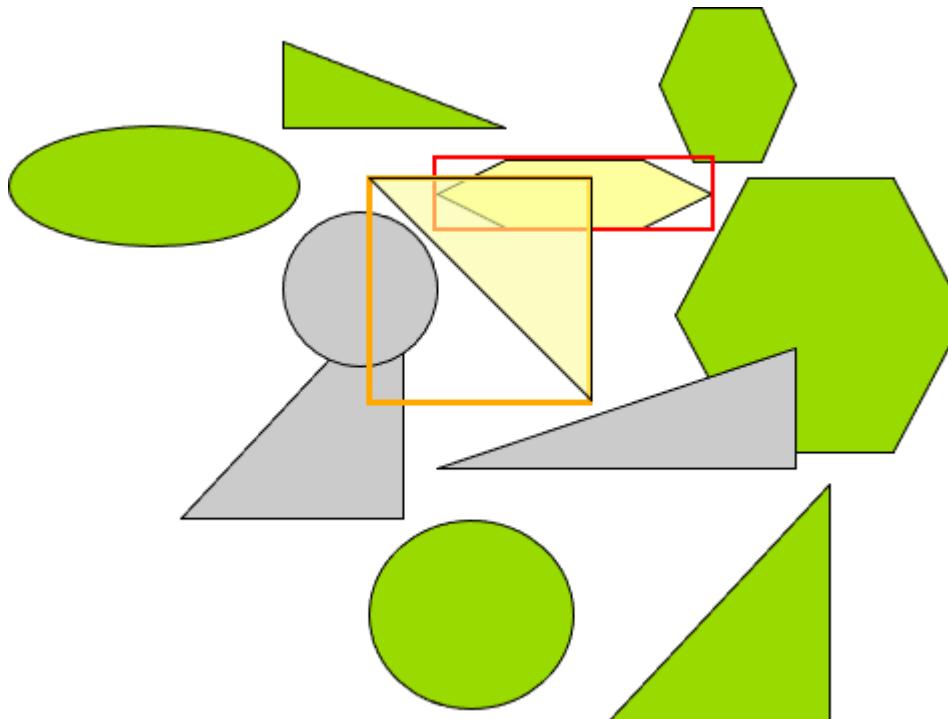
What green objects intersect the yellow query shape?



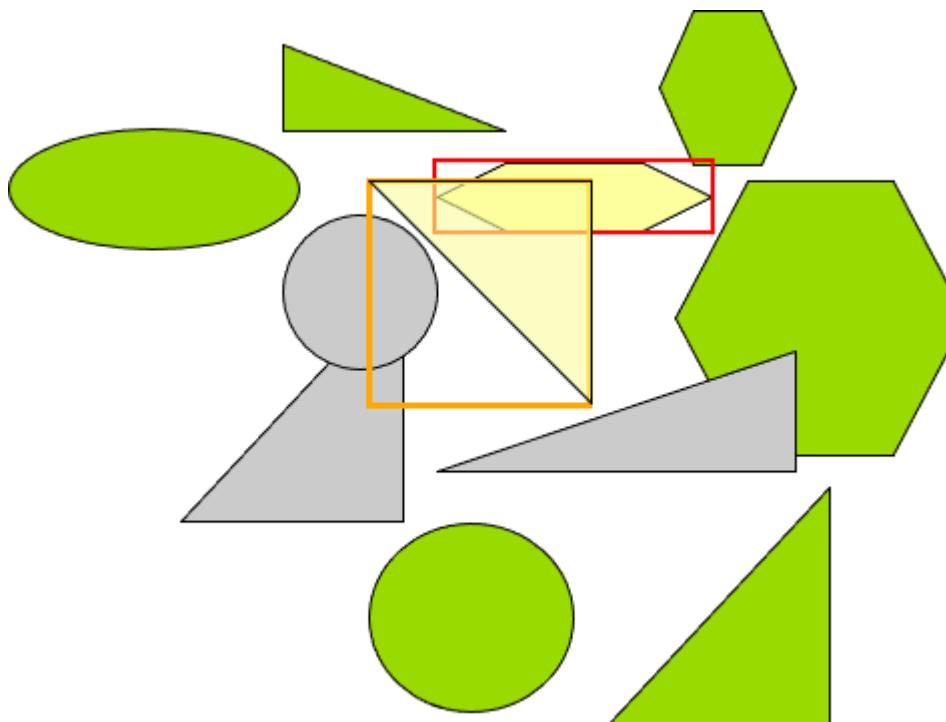
Use **index** to quickly finds the objects with **bounding box intersection**.



Exactly compute relationships in index result to find true intersection.



Index-only queries



Index-enabled Spatial Functions

- **ST_Intersects()**
- **ST_Contains()**
- **ST_Within()**
- **ST_DWithin()**
- ST_ContainsProperly()
- ST_CoveredBy()
- ST_Covers()
- ST_Overlaps()
- ST_Crosses()
- ST_DFullyWithin()
- ST_3DIntersects()
- ST_3DDWithin()
- ST_3DDFullyWithin()
- ST_LineCrossingDirection()
- ST_OrderingEquals()
- ST_Equals()

Index-only queries

geom_a && geom_b

The “&&” operator is the “bounding boxes overlap” operator.

It returns “true” when the bounds of the left and right arguments overlap.

Operators like “=” or “>” are symbols that express relationships between the left- and right-hand side arguments. “&&” is just another operator like any other.

What is the population of the West Village?

```
SELECT Sum(blk.opn_total)
FROM nyc_neighborhoods nh
JOIN nyc_census_blocks blk
ON nh.geom && blk.geom
WHERE nh.name = 'West Village';
```

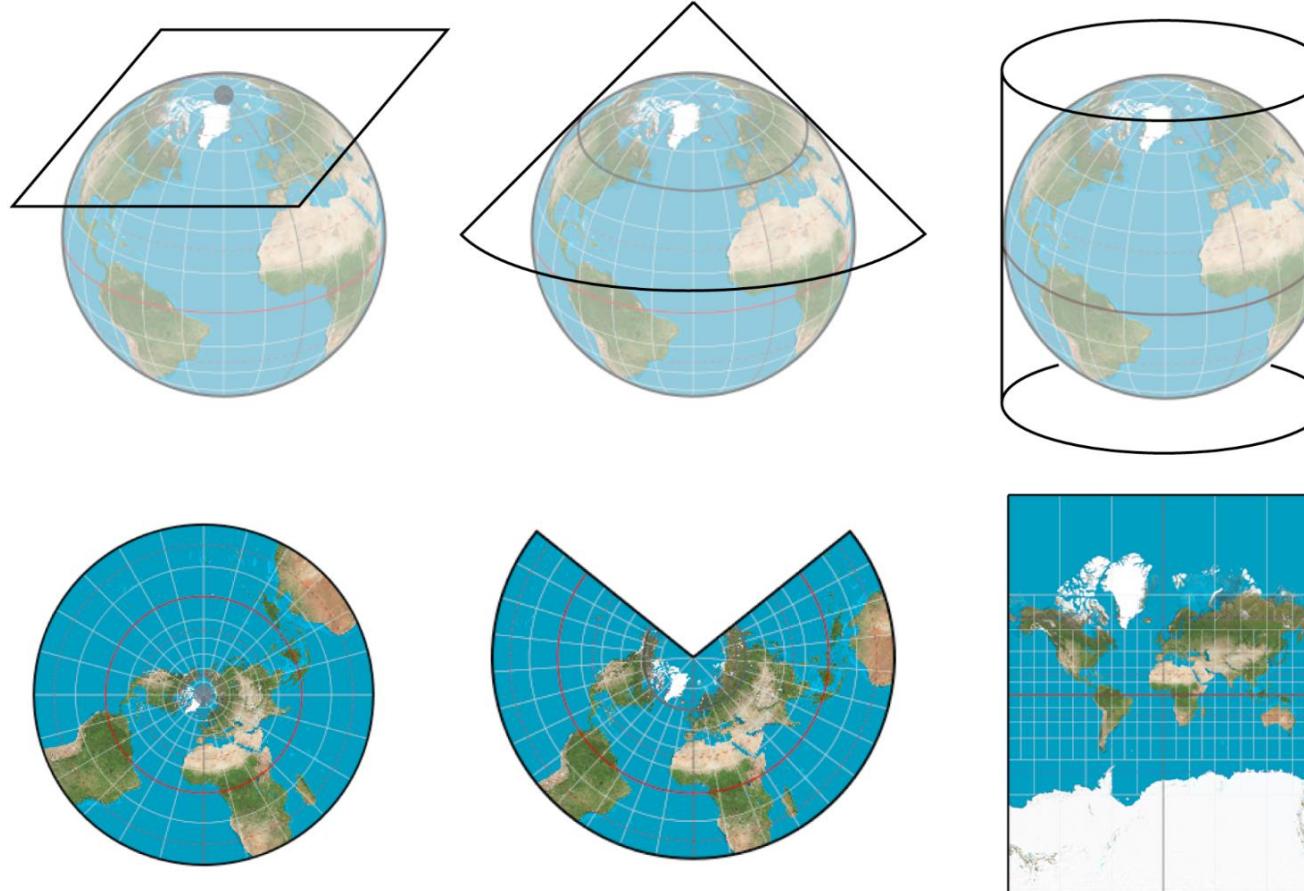
49821

What is the population of the West Village?

```
SELECT Sum(blk.opn_total)
FROM nyc_neighborhoods nh
JOIN nyc_census_blocks blk
ON ST_Intersects(nh.geom, blk.geom)
WHERE nh.name = 'West Village';
```

26718

Section 16 - Projecting Data



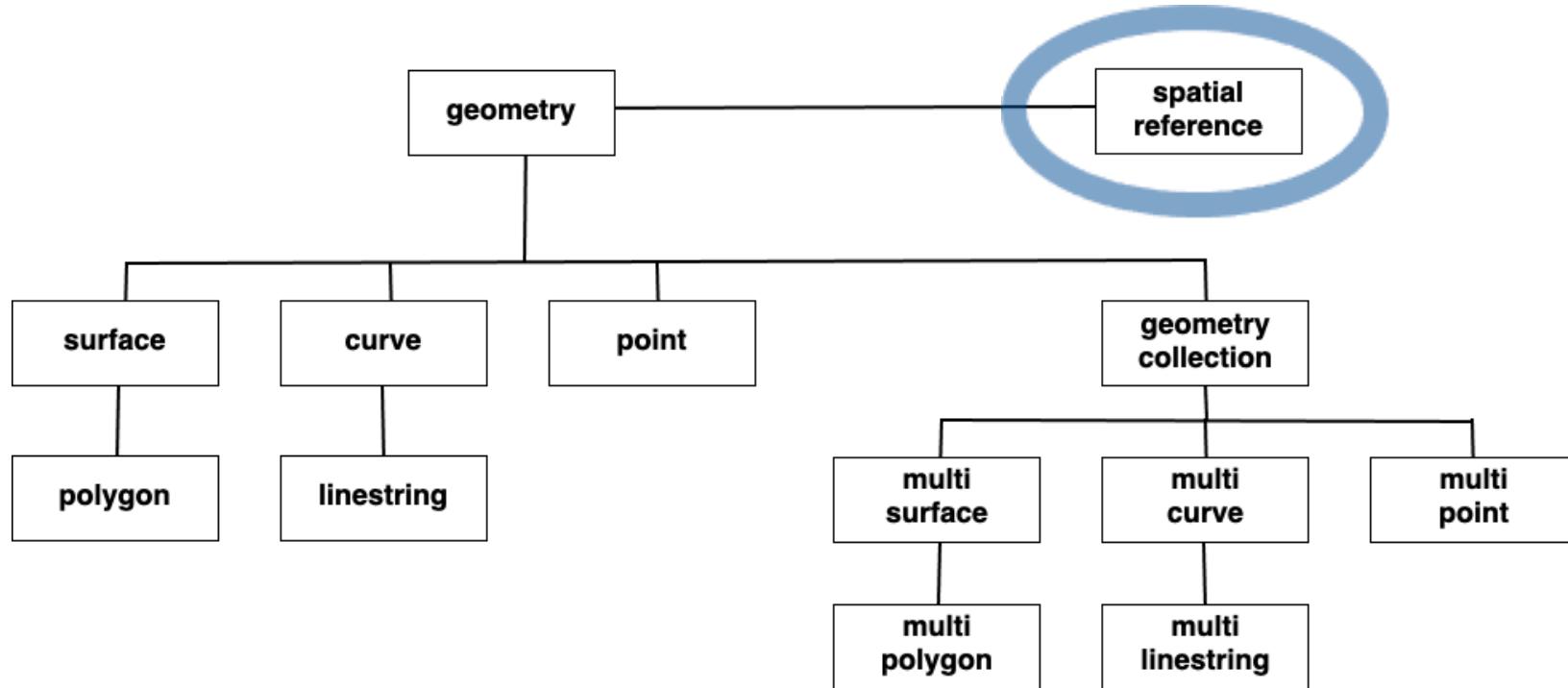
The earth is not flat, and there is no simple way of putting it down on a flat paper map (or computer screen), so people have come up with all sorts of ingenious solutions, each with pros and cons.

$$f(\theta, \Phi) \rightarrow (x, y)$$

Forward projection converts spherical coordinates (longitude, latitude) to cartesian coordinates (x and y)

$$f^{-1}(x, y) \rightarrow (\theta, \Phi)$$

Inverse projection converts cartesian coordinates (x, y) to spherical coordinates (longitude, latitude)

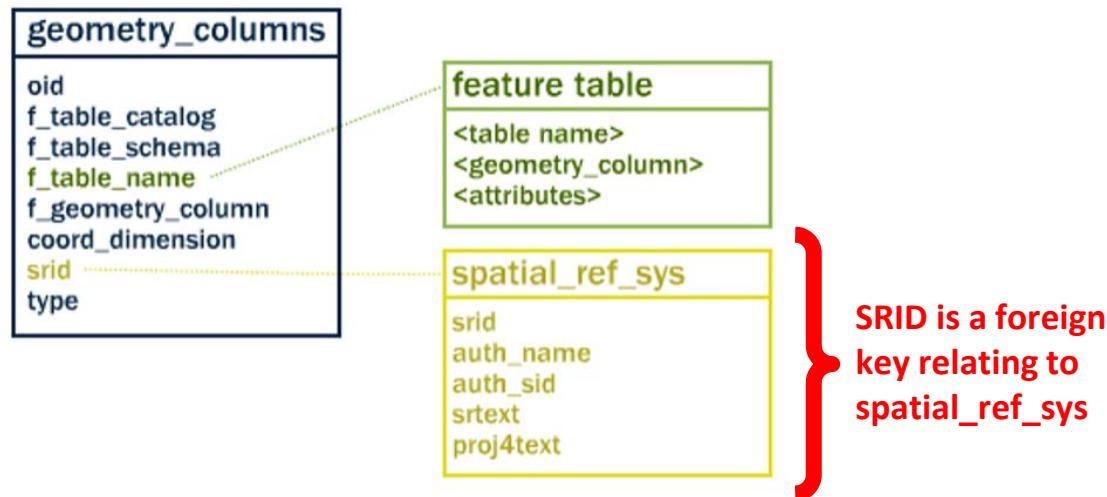


What is the SRID of our subways?

```
SELECT ST_SRID(geom)  
FROM nyc_subway_stations  
LIMIT 1;
```

26918

What does SRID 26918 mean though?



What does SRID 26918 mean though?

```
SELECT srtext  
FROM spatial_ref_sys  
WHERE srid = 26918;
```

Also, see: <https://epsg.io/26918>

What does SRID 26918 mean though?

```
PROJCS["NAD83 / UTM zone 18N",
  GEOGCS["NAD83",
    DATUM["North_American_Datum_1983",
      SPHEROID["GRS 1980",6378137,298.257222101],
      TOWGS84[0,0,0,0,0,0,0],
      AUTHORITY["EPSG","6269"]],
    PRIMEM["Greenwich",0],
    UNIT["degree",0.0174532925199433],
    AUTHORITY["EPSG","4269"]],
  PROJECTION["Transverse_Mercator"],
  PARAMETER["latitude_of_origin",0],
  PARAMETER["central_meridian",-75],
  PARAMETER["scale_factor",0.9996],
  PARAMETER["false_easting",500000],
  PARAMETER["false_northing",0],
  UNIT["metre",1],
  AXIS["Easting",EAST],
  AXIS["Northing",NORTH]]
```

What are coordinates of the “Broad St” subway station in geographic?

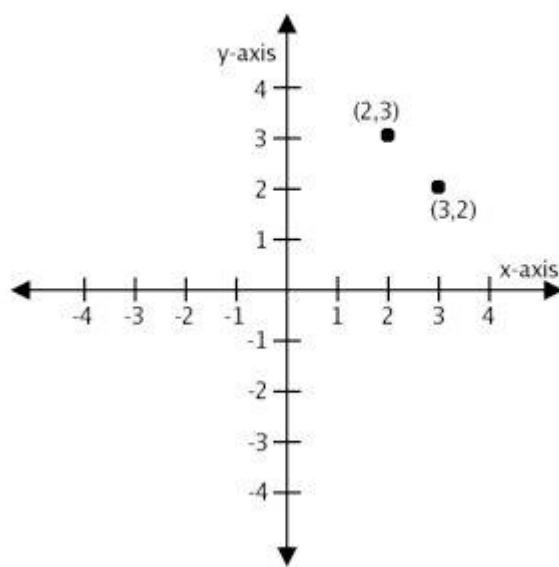
```
SELECT  
    ST_AsText(ST_Transform(geom,4326))  
FROM nyc_subway_stations  
WHERE name = 'Broad St';
```

POINT(-74.0106714 40.7071048)

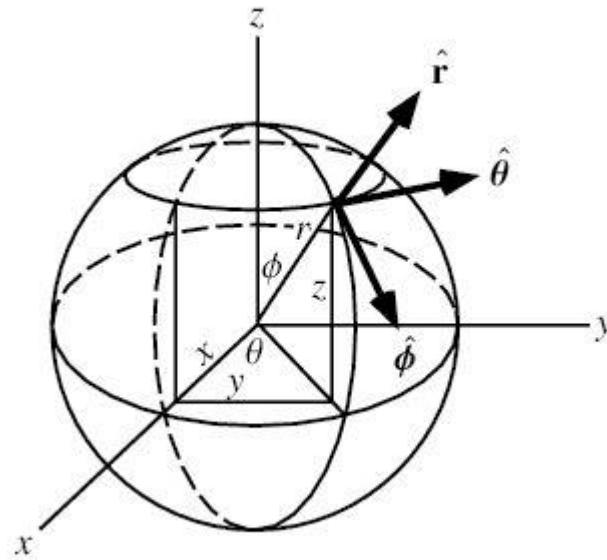
Section 18 - Geography

Geographic Coordinate Systems

Cartesian



Spherical



What is the distance between Los Angeles and Paris using **ST_Distance(geometry, geometry)**?

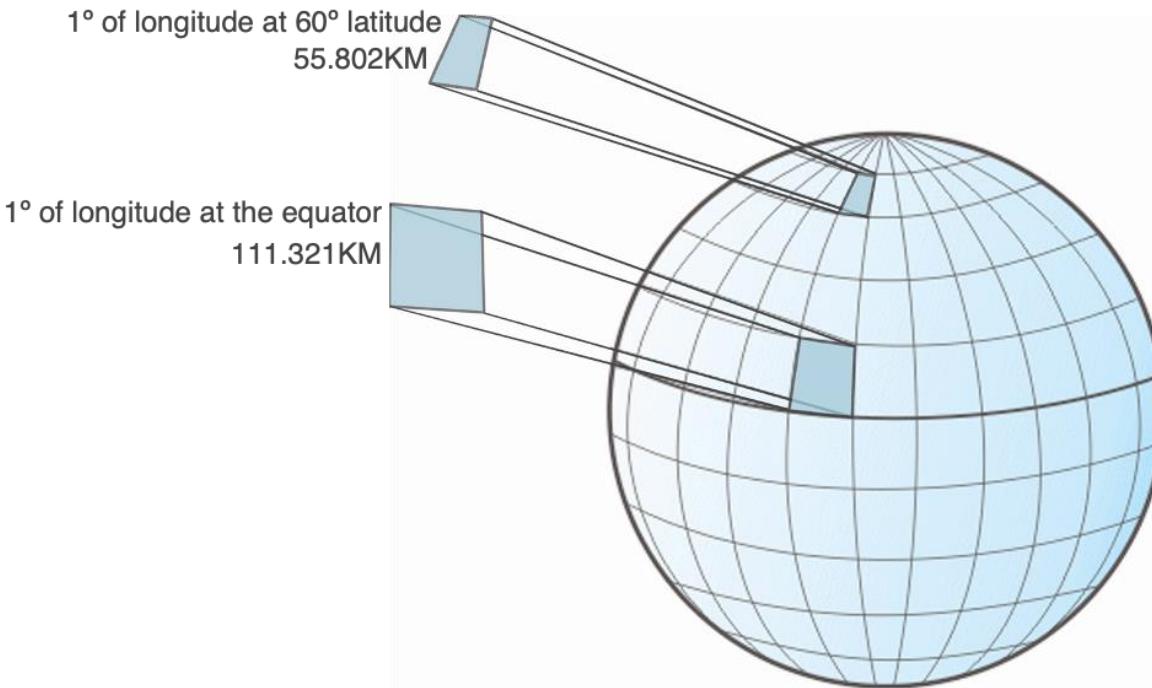
```
SELECT ST_Distance(  
    -- Los Angeles (LAX)  
    'SRID=4326;POINT(-118.4079 33.9434)' ::geometry,  
    -- Paris (CDG)  
    'SRID=4326;POINT(2.5559 49.0083)' ::geometry  
) ;
```

121.898285970107

Section 18 - Geography



Degrees are not units of distance
Degrees are not units of area



What is the distance between Los Angeles and Paris using **ST_Distance(geography, geography)**?

```
SELECT ST_Distance(  
    -- Los Angeles (LAX)  
    'SRID=4326;POINT(-118.4079 33.9434)' ::geography,  
    -- Paris (CDG)  
    'SRID=4326;POINT(2.5559 49.0083)' ::geography  
) ;
```

9124665.27317673

Section 18 - Geography



How close will a flight from Los Angeles to Paris come to Iceland?

```
SELECT ST_Distance(
    -- LAX-CDG
    'SRID=4326;LINESTRING(
        -118.4079 33.9434,
        2.5559 49.0083)'::geography,
    -- Iceland
    'SRID=4326;POINT(-21.8628 64.1286)'::geography
);
```

531773.7571106

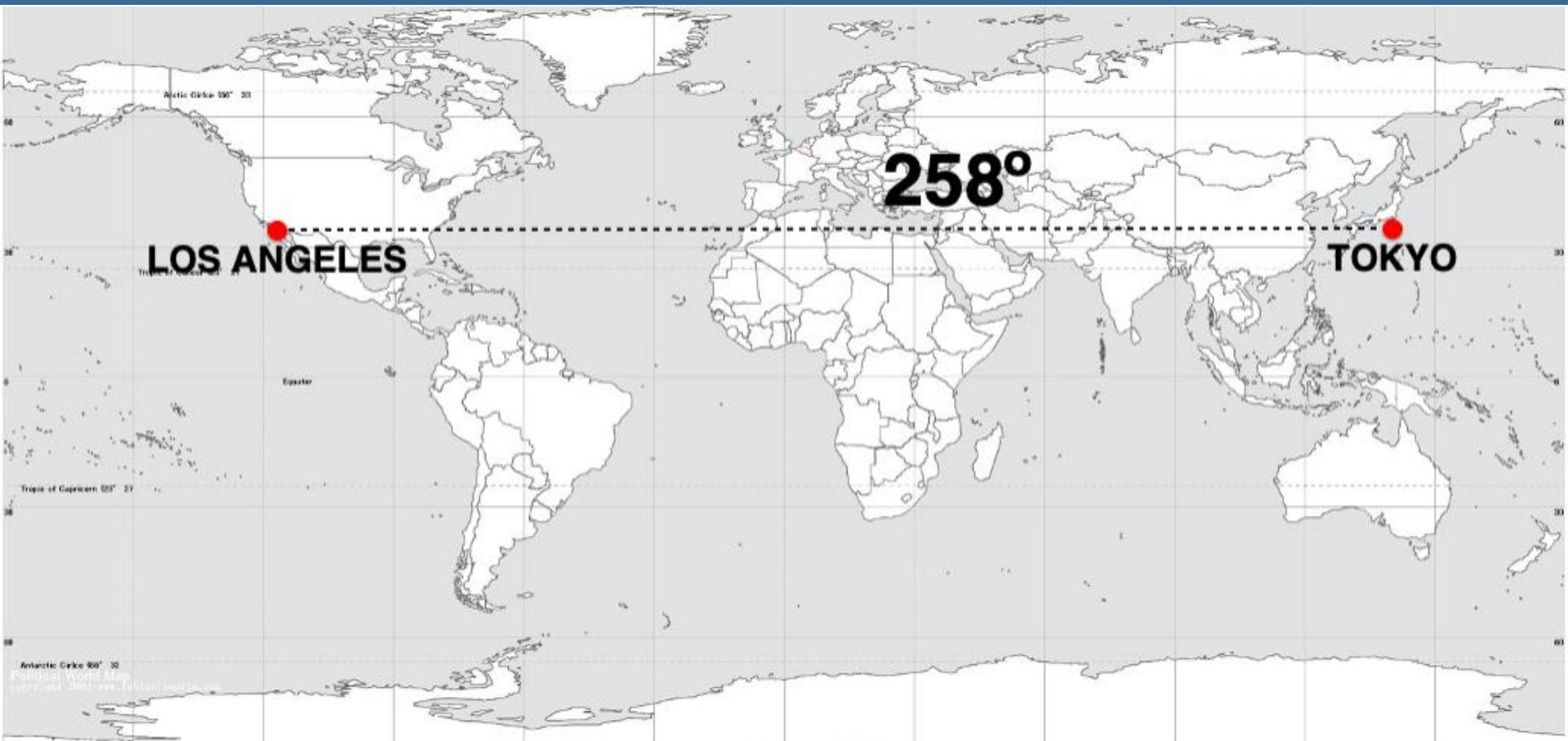
Section 18 - Geography



What is the shortest great-circle route from Los Angeles to Tokyo?

```
SELECT ST_Distance(  
    'SRID=4326;POINT(-118.408 33.943)'::geometry, -- LAX  
    'SRID=4326;POINT( 139.733 35.567)'::geometry) -- NRT  
        AS geometry_distance,  
ST_Distance(  
    'POINT(-118.408 33.943)'::geography, -- LAX  
    'POINT( 139.733 35.567)'::geography) -- NRT  
        AS geography_distance;
```

geometry_distance: 258.14610835
geography_distance: 8833973.30246194



Geometry Distance



Using Geography - Casting

```
CREATE TABLE nyc_subway_stations_geog AS
SELECT
    ST_Transform(geom, 4326)::geography AS geog,
    name,
    routes
FROM nyc_subway_stations;
```

Using Geography - Indexing

```
CREATE INDEX nyc_subway_stations_geog_gix  
ON nyc_subway_stations_geog  
USING GIST (geog);
```

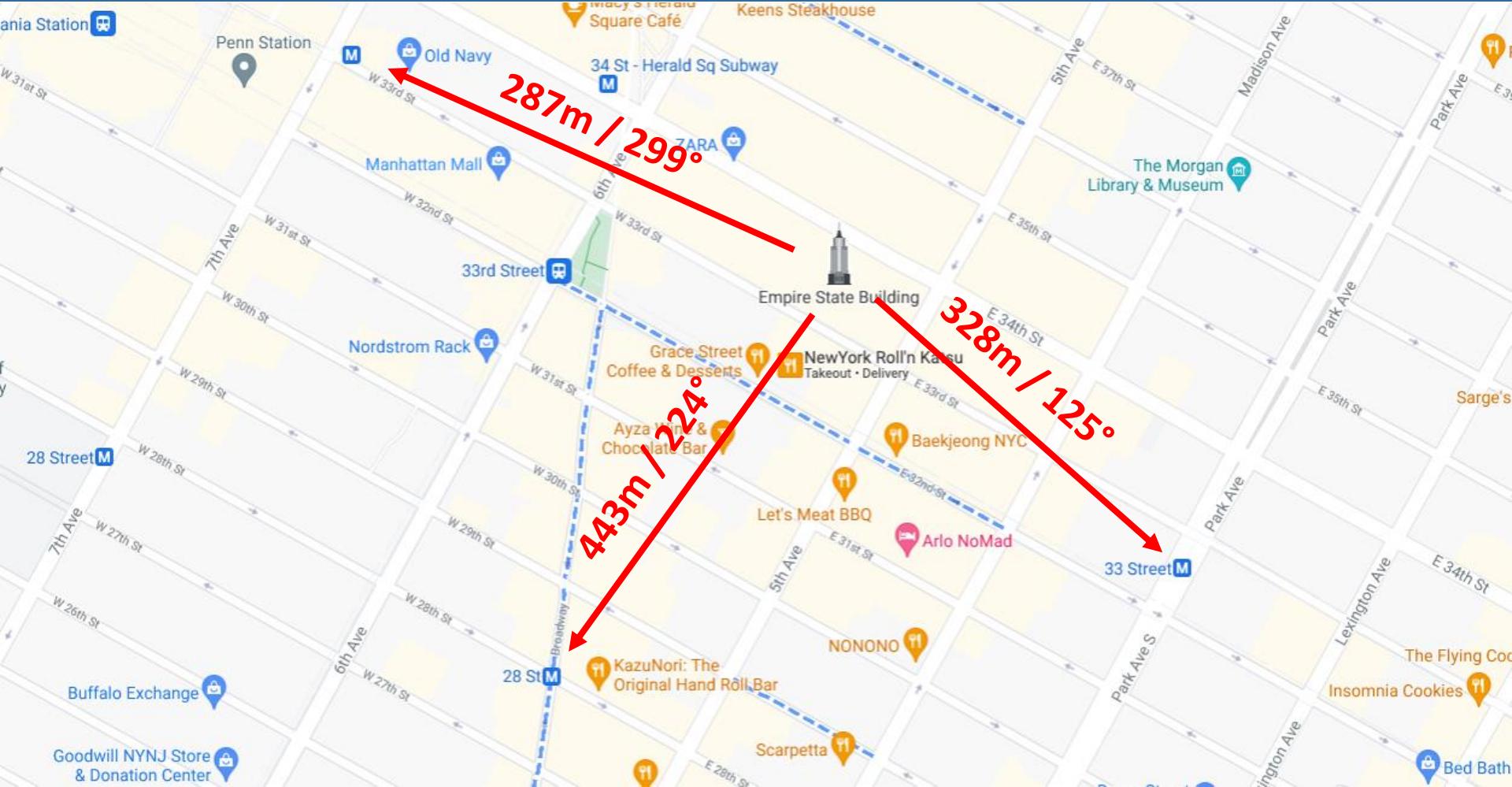
Using Geography - Querying

```
WITH empire_state_building AS (
    SELECT 'POINT(-73.98501 40.74812)'::geography AS geom
)
SELECT name,
    ST_Distance(esb.geom, ss.geom) AS distance,
    degrees(ST_Azimuth(esb.geom, ss.geom)) AS direction
FROM nyc_subway_stations_geog ss,
    empire_state_building esb
WHERE ST_DWithin(ss.geom, esb.geom, 500);
```

Section 18 - Geography



PostGIS



Using Geography - From Scratch

```
CREATE TABLE airports (
    code VARCHAR(3),
    geog GEOGRAPHY(Point)
);
```

```
INSERT INTO airports
VALUES ('LAX', 'POINT(-118.4079 33.9434)');
INSERT INTO airports
VALUES ('CDG', 'POINT(2.5559 49.0083)');
INSERT INTO airports
VALUES ('KEF', 'POINT(-22.6056 63.9850)');
```

Using Geography - From Scratch

```
SELECT * FROM geography_columns;
```

f_table_name	f_geography_column	srid	type
nyc_subway_stations_geog	geog	0	Geometry
airports	geog	4326	Point

Casting to Geometry

```
SELECT
  code,
  ST_X(geog::geometry) AS longitude
FROM airports;
```



The “::” syntax tells PostgreSQL to attempt to coerce the data into the new data type, if there is an available path.

Geography Native Functions

- ST_Distance(G1, G2)
- ST_DWithin(G1, G2, R)
- ST_Area(geog)
- ST_Length(geography)
- ST_Covers(G1, G2)
- ST_CoveredBy(G1, G2)
- ST_Intersects(G1, G2)
- ST_AsText(G1)
- ST_AsBinary(G1)
- ST_AsSVG(G1)
- ST_AsGML(G1)
- ST_AsKML(G1)
- ST_AsGeoJson(G1)
- ST_Buffer(G1, R)
- ST_Intersection(G1, G2)

Geography is the Magic Solution?



The complexity of dealing with planar projections (choosing one, getting used to it) drives some users to fixate on the **geography** type as a simple cure-all.

However:

- Not all functions in geography have native on-the-sphere implementations yet.
- The computational cost of geography compared to geometry is quite high.

geography distance

```
double R = 6371000; /* meters */
double d_lat = lat2-lat1; /* radians */
double d_lon = lon2-lon1; /* radians */
double sin_lat = sin(d_lat/2);
double sin_lon = sin(d_lon/2);
double a = sin_lat * sin_lat +
           cos(lat1) * cos(lat2) *
           sin_lon * sin_lon;
double c = 2 * atan2(sqrt(a),
                     sqrt(1-a));
double d = R * c;
```

geometry distance

```
double dx = x2 - x1;
double dy = y2 - y1;
double d2 = dx * dx +
            dy * dy;
double d = sqrt(d2);
```

Section 20 - Geometry Constructing Functions

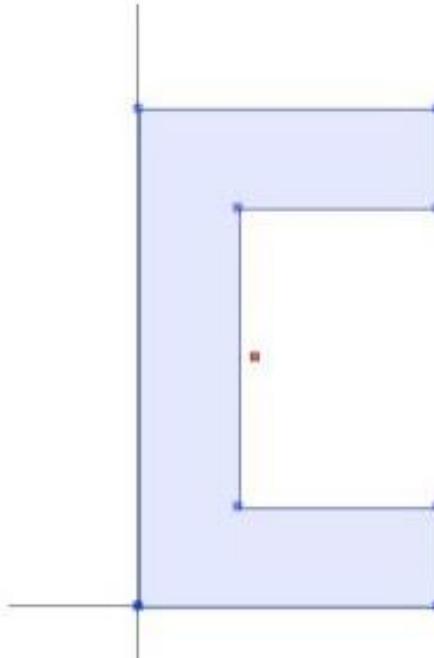
Functions so far...

- Analysis
 - `ST_Length(geometry)` → float
 - `ST_Area(geometry)` → float
- Conversion
 - `ST_AsText(geometry)` → text
 - `ST_AsGML(geometry)` → text
- Retrieval
 - `ST_RingN(geometry,n)` → geometry
- Comparison
 - `ST_Contains(geometry,geometry)` → boolean

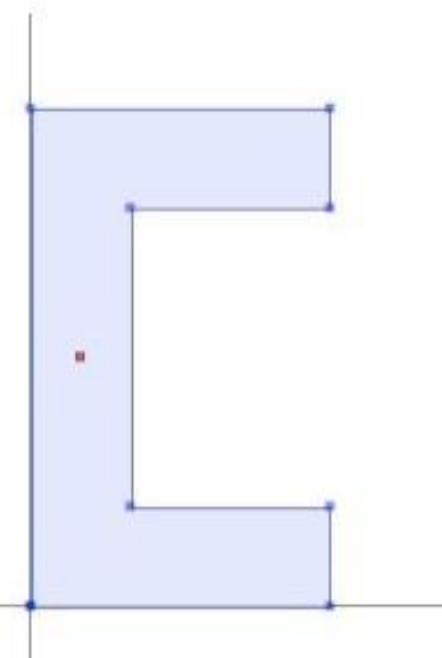
Geometry constructing functions!

- **ST_Buffer(geometry)** → geometry
- **ST_Centroid(geometry)** → geometry
- **ST_Intersection(geometry, geometry)** → geometry
- **ST_Union(geometry[])** → geometry
- **ST_Collect(geometry[])** → geometry

ST_Centroid



ST_PointOnSurface



ST_Buffer



Buffering a point



Buffering a multipoint

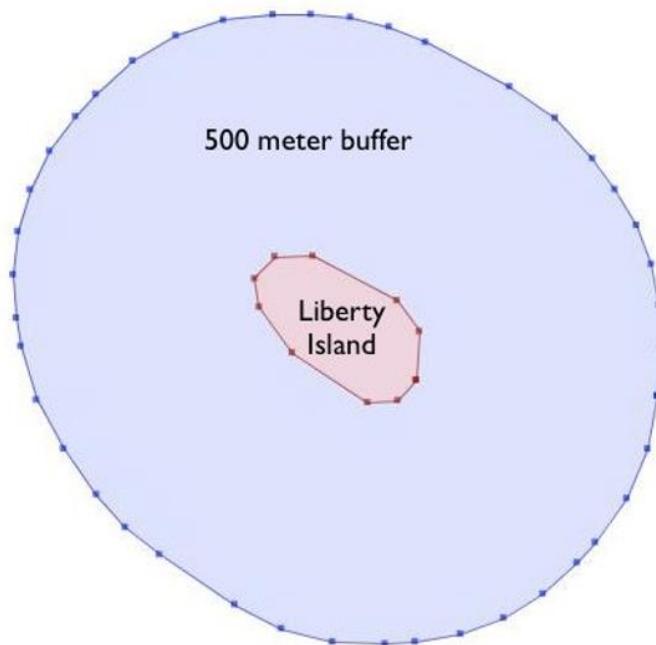


Buffering a linestring



Buffering a polygon
with one interior ring

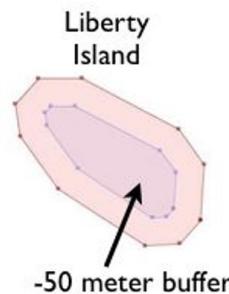
“What would a **500 meter marine traffic zone around **Liberty Island** look like?”**



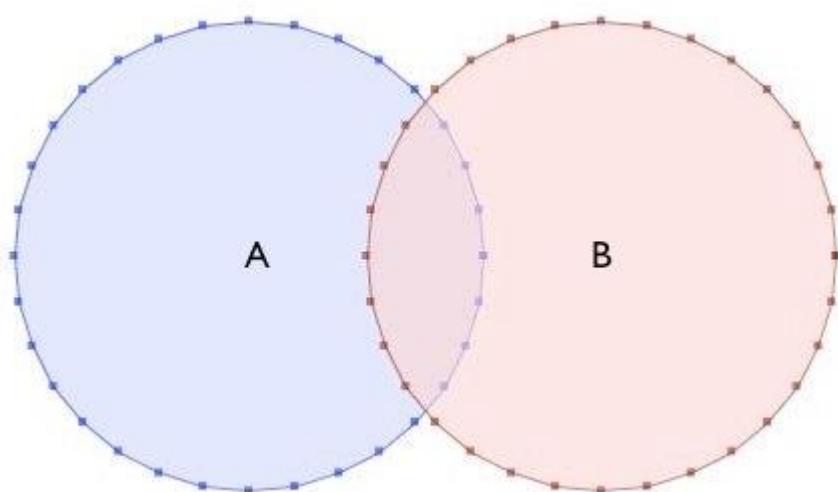
“What would a **500 meter marine traffic zone around **Liberty Island** look like?”**

```
-- New table with a Liberty Island
-- 500m buffer zone
CREATE TABLE liberty_island_zone AS
SELECT
    ST_Buffer(geom, 500)::Geometry(Polygon,26918)
AS geom
FROM nyc_census_blocks
WHERE blkid = '360610001001001';
```

“What would a **negative 50 meter marine traffic zone around **Liberty Island** look like?”**



ST_Intersection(A, B)

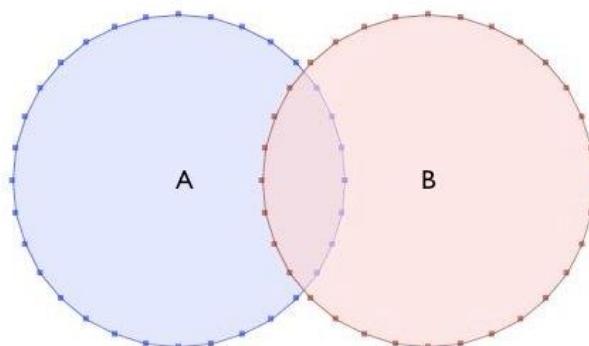


ST_Intersection(A,B)



“What is the area these two circles have in common?”

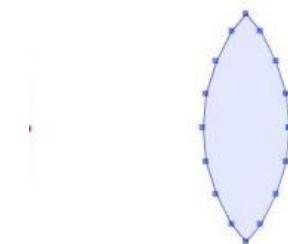
```
SELECT ST_AsText(ST_Intersection(  
    ST_Buffer('POINT(0 0)', 2),  
    ST_Buffer('POINT(3 0)', 2)  
));
```



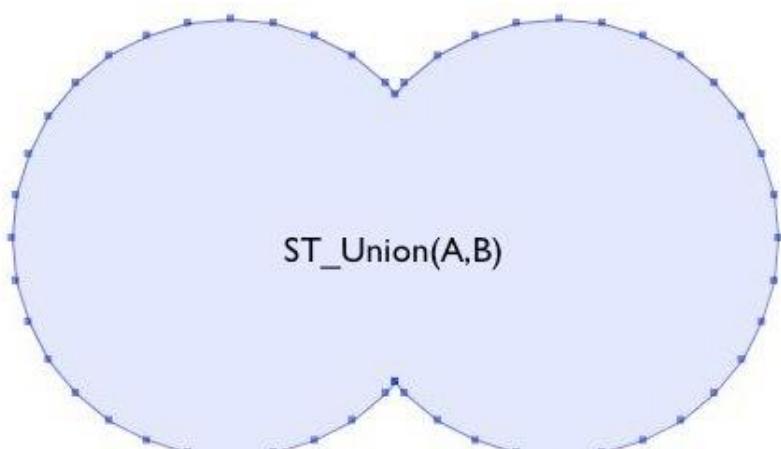
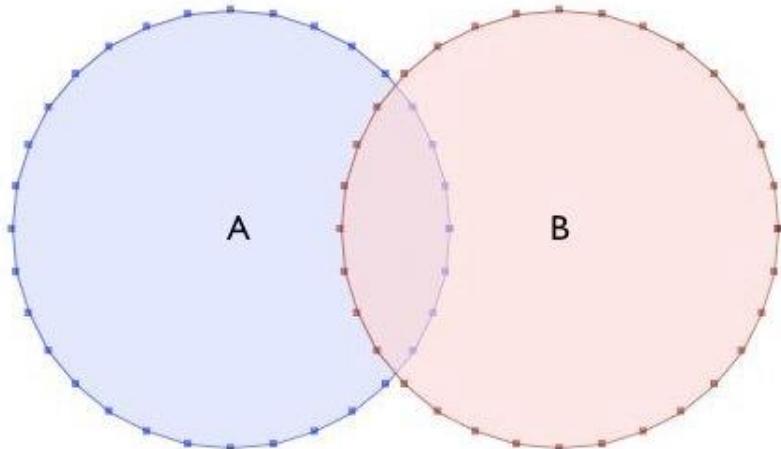
“What is the area these two circles have in common?”

```
POLYGON((  
    2 0,  
    1.96157056080646 -0.390180644032256,  
    1.84775906502257 -0.765366864730179,  
    1.66293922460509 -1.1111404660392,  
    1.5 -1.30968248567708,  
    1.33706077539491 -1.11114046603921,  
    1.15224093497743 -0.765366864730185,  
    1.03842943919354 -0.390180644032262,  
    1 -6.46217829773035e-15,  
    1.03842943919354 0.39018064403225,  
    1.15224093497742 0.765366864730173,  
    1.33706077539491 1.1111404660392,  
    1.5 1.30968248567708,  
    1.66293922460509 1.11114046603921,  
    1.84775906502257 0.765366864730184,  
    1.96157056080646 0.390180644032261,  
    2 0))
```

ST_Intersection(A,B)



ST_Union(A, B)



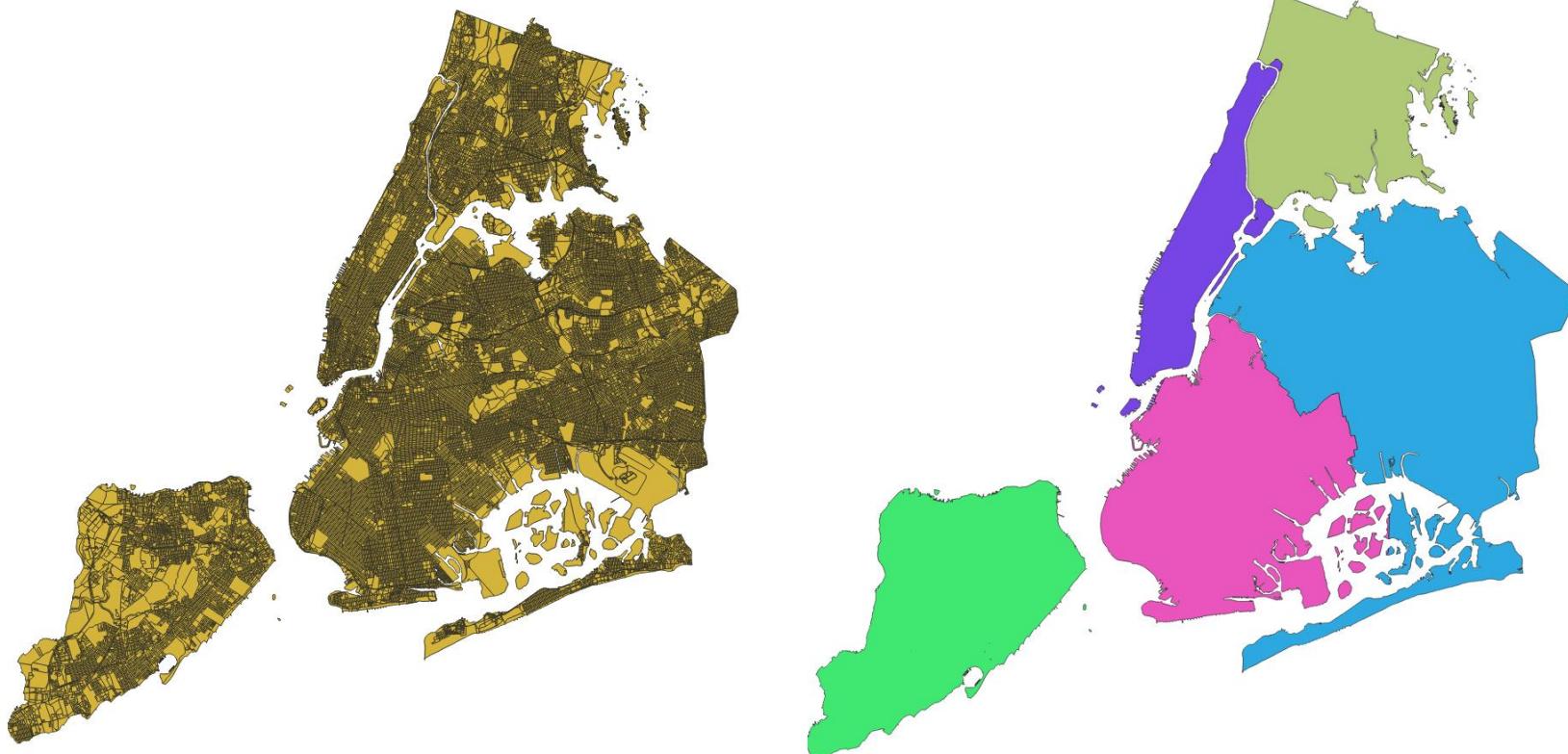
Terminology

- Esri “dissolve” == PostGIS “union”
 - Melt together small things into larger things.
- Esri “union” == PostGIS “overlay”
 - Cookie cut larger things into smaller things.

Forms

- `ST_Union(geom1, geom2)`
 - Melt together two geometries.
- `ST_Union(geometry[])`
 - Melt together a set of geometries. “Aggregate” function like `Sum()` or `Average()`. Use with `GROUP BY`.

“How would you make a county map from census blocks?”



Census Block ID

US Census Block IDs encode the *geographic hierarchy* used by the census.

`360610001001001` = 36 061 000100 1 001

36 = State of New York

061 = New York County (Manhattan)

000100 = Census Tract

1 = Census Block Group

001 = Census Block

“How would you make a county map from census blocks?”

```
-- An nyc_census_counties table  
-- by merging census blocks
```

```
CREATE TABLE nyc_census_counties AS  
SELECT  
    ST_Union(geom) AS geom,  
    SubStr(blkid,1,5) AS countyid  
FROM nyc_census_blocks  
GROUP BY countyid;
```

Section 22 - More Spatial Joins!

Load the nyc_census_sociodata.sql table

1. Open the **Query Tool**  in pgAdmin
2. Select **Open File** 
3. Browse to the nyc_census_sociodata.sql file
4. Run query 

```
-- 2167
SELECT
    Count(*)
FROM nyc_census_sociodata;
```

**How would you make
a census tract map
from census blocks?**

Recall...

Liberty Island blkid

360610001001001 = 36 061 000100 1 001

36 = State of New York

061 = New York County (Manhattan)

000100 = Census Tract

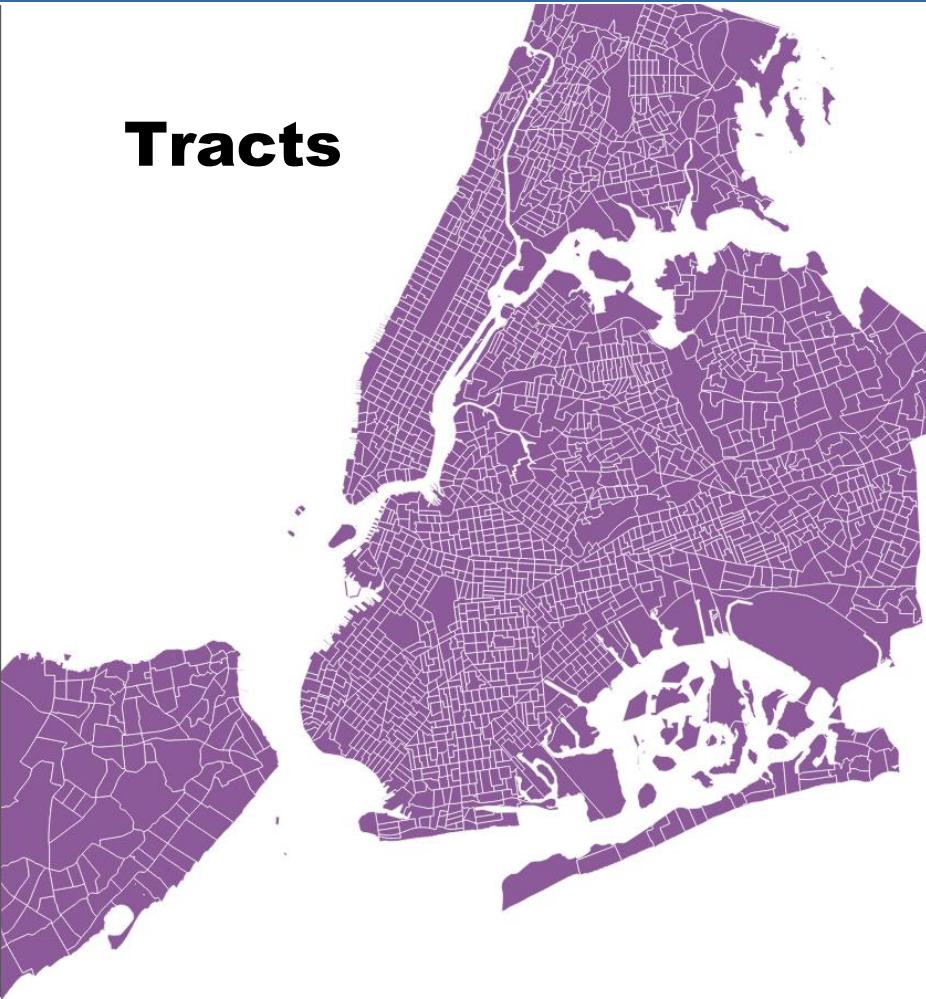
1 = Census Block Group

001 = Census Block

Blocks



Tracts



ST_Union() Blocks into Tracts

-- Make the tracts table

```
CREATE TABLE nyc_census_tract_geoms AS
SELECT
    ST_Union(geom) AS geom,
    substr(blkid,1,11) AS tractid
FROM nyc_census_blocks
GROUP BY tractid;
```

-- Index the tractid

```
CREATE INDEX nyc_census_tract_geoms_tractid_idx
ON nyc_census_tract_geoms (tractid);
```

**How can you associate census data with your
census tract map?**

ST_Union() Blocks into Tracts

-- Make the tracts table

```
CREATE TABLE nyc_census_tracts AS
SELECT g.geom, a.*
FROM nyc_census_tract_geoms g
JOIN nyc_census_sociodata a
ON g.tractid = a.tractid;
```

-- Index the geometries

```
CREATE INDEX nyc_census_tract_gidx
ON nyc_census_tracts USING GIST (geom);
```

**“List top 10 New York neighborhoods ordered by
the proportion of people who have graduate
degrees?”**

Graduate Degree Population %

SELECT

```
100.0 * Sum(t.edu_graduate_dipl) /  
      Sum(t.edu_total) AS graduate_pct,  
      n.name, n.boroname
```

FROM nyc_neighborhoods n

JOIN nyc_census_tracts t

ON ST_Intersects(n.geom, t.geom)

WHERE t.edu_total > 0

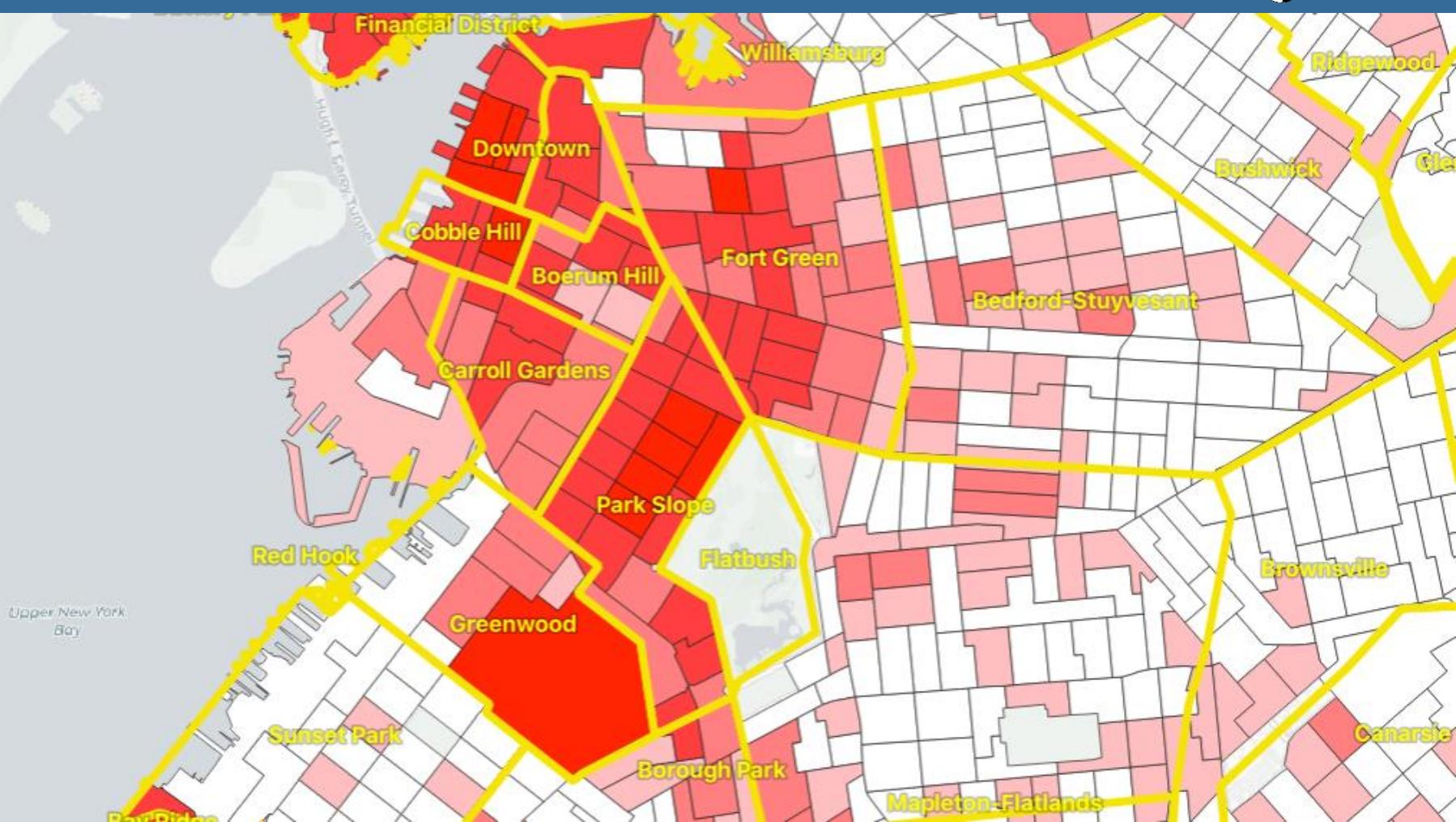
GROUP BY n.name, n.boroname

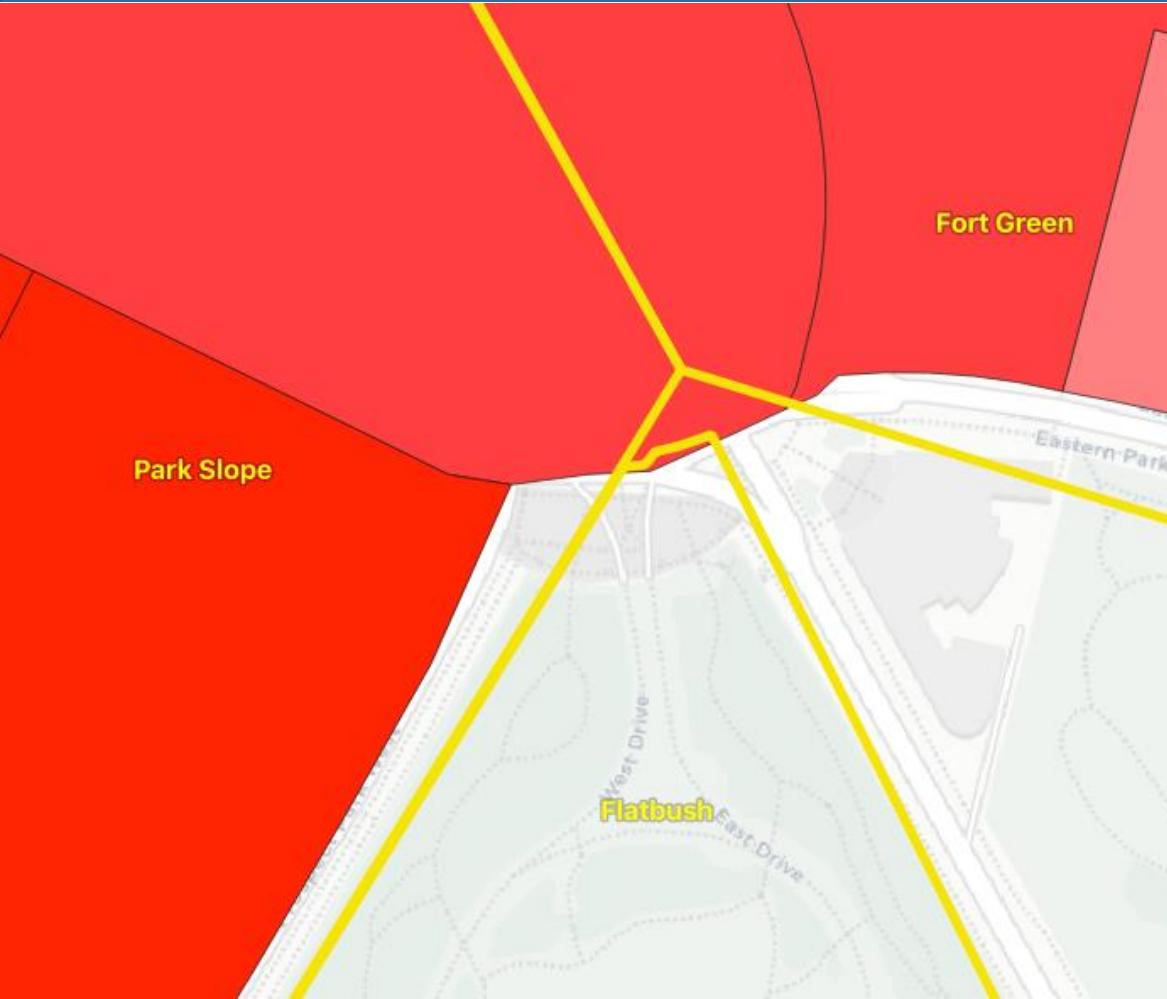
ORDER BY graduate_pct DESC

LIMIT 10;

Graduate Degree Population %

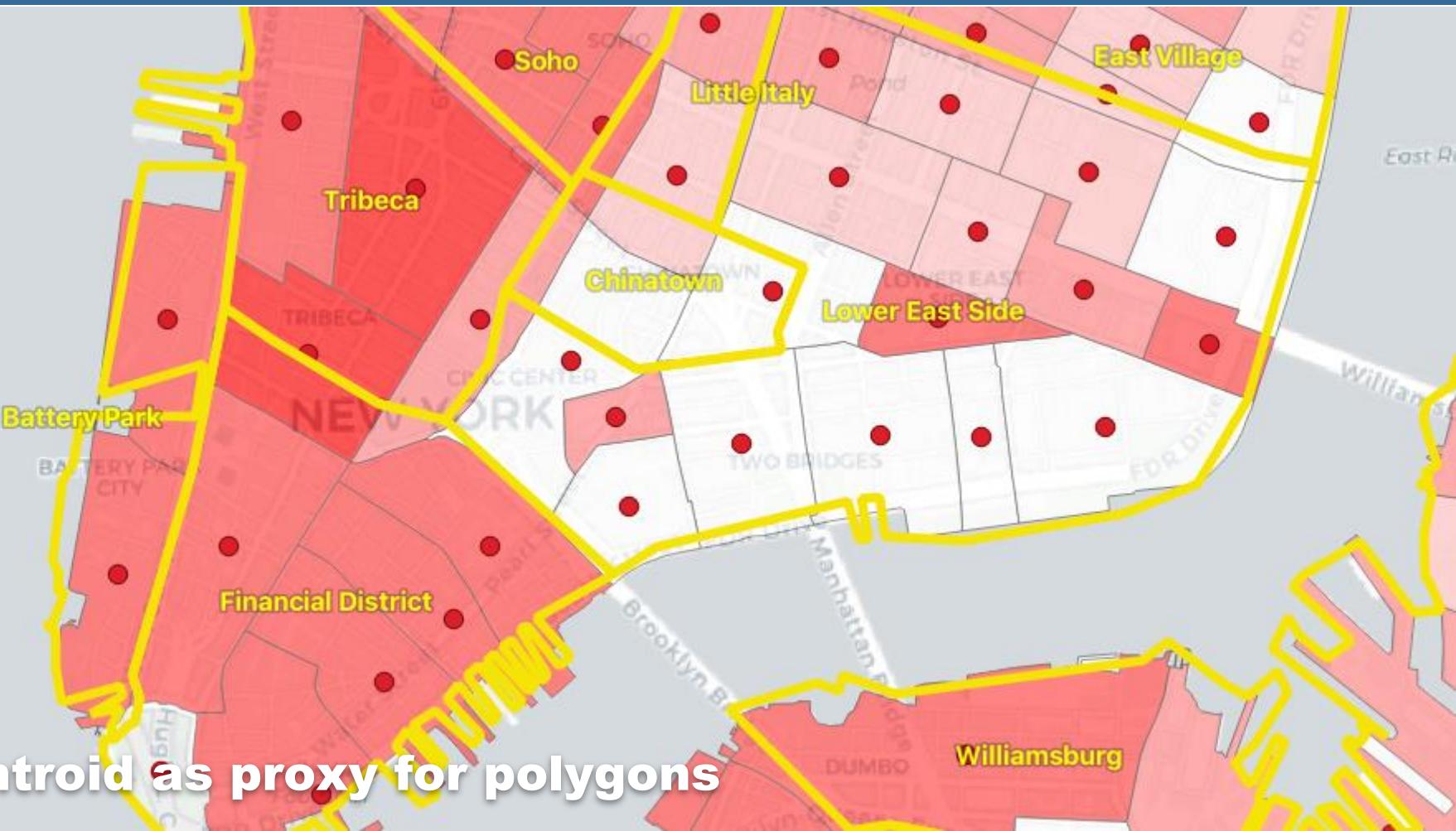
graduate_pct	name	boroname
47.6469321851453175	Carnegie Hill	Manhattan
42.1632365492235696	Upper West Side	Manhattan
41.0656645950763598	Battery Park	Manhattan
39.5611557679774060	Flatbush	Brooklyn
39.3409549428379287	Tribeca	Manhattan
39.2188240872451399	North Sutton Area	Manhattan
38.6922550118291620	Greenwich Village	Manhattan
38.6054942073575506	Upper East Side	Manhattan
37.8834795573140662	Murray Hill	Manhattan
37.3714416181491744	Central Park	Manhattan





The otherwise-empty “Flatbush” neighborhood polygon (which mostly covers Prospect Park) just grazes one high-education tract polygon, resulting in a spurious high measurement for the neighborhood.

What if a tract falls on the border between two neighborhoods?



Join on ST_Centroid

SELECT

```
100.0 * Sum(t.edu_graduate_dipl) /  
        Sum(t.edu_total) AS graduate_pct,  
n.name,  
n.boroname  
FROM nyc_neighborhoods n  
JOIN nyc_census_tracts t  
ON ST_Contains(n.geom, ST_Centroid(t.geom))  
WHERE t.edu_total > 0  
GROUP BY n.name, n.boroname  
ORDER BY graduate_pct DESC  
LIMIT 10;
```

Join on intersects vs centroid

ST_Intersects()

graduate_pct	name	boroname
47.6	Carnegie Hill	Manhattan
42.2	Upper West Side	Manhattan
41.1	Battery Park	Manhattan
39.6	Flatbush	Brooklyn
39.3	Tribeca	Manhattan
39.2	North Sutton Area	Manhattan
38.7	Greenwich Village	Manhattan
38.6	Upper East Side	Manhattan
37.9	Murray Hill	Manhattan
37.4	Central Park	Manhattan

ST_Centroid()

graduate_pct	name	boroname
48.0	Carnegie Hill	Manhattan
44.2	Morningside Heights	Manhattan
42.1	Greenwich Village	Manhattan
42.0	Upper West Side	Manhattan
41.4	Tribeca	Manhattan
40.7	Battery Park	Manhattan
39.5	Upper East Side	Manhattan
39.3	North Sutton Area	Manhattan
37.4	Cobble Hill	Brooklyn
37.4	Murray Hill	Manhattan

How many people live within 500m of a subway station?

ST_Centroid

How many people in New York?

SELECT

```
Sum(popn_total)  
FROM nyc_census_blocks;
```

ST_Centroid

How many people 500m from a subway station?

SELECT

```
Sum(popn_total)
FROM nyc_census_blocks census
JOIN nyc_subway_stations subway
ON ST_DWithin(
    census.geom,
    subway.geom,
    500
);
```

ST_Centroid

How many people in New York?

8,175,032

How many people 500m from a subway station?

10,855,873 ?!?!?

Overlapping query areas



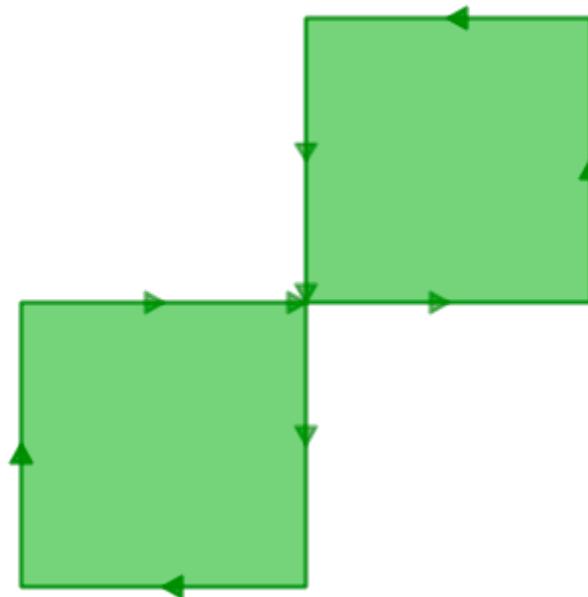
Overlapping query areas

How many people 500m from a subway station?

```
WITH distinct_blocks AS (
  SELECT DISTINCT ON (blkid) popn_total
  FROM nyc_census_blocks census
  JOIN nyc_subway_stations subway
  ON ST_DWithin(
    census.geom,
    subway.geom,
    500)
)
SELECT Sum(popn_total)
FROM distinct_blocks;
```

Section 23 - Validity

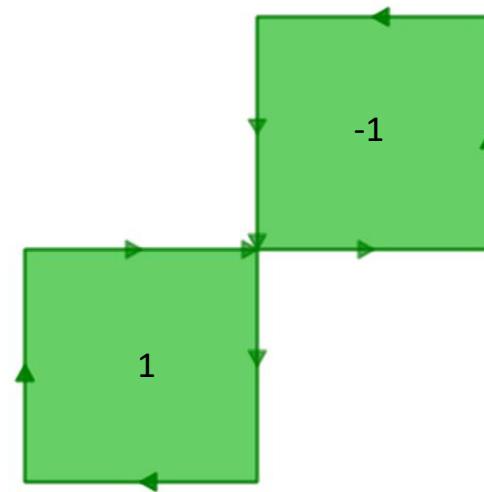
POLYGON((0 0, 0 1, 2 1, 2 2, 1 2, 1 0, 0 0))



Why does validity matter?

Geometry algorithms rely on properties enforced by validity: ring orientation, self-crossing, self-touching. All can confuse different algorithms.

```
SELECT ST_Area(ST_GeomFromText(  
    'POLYGON((0 0, 0 1, 1 1,  
             2 1, 2 2, 1 2,  
             1 1, 1 0, 0 0))'  
));
```



0

Can we test validity?

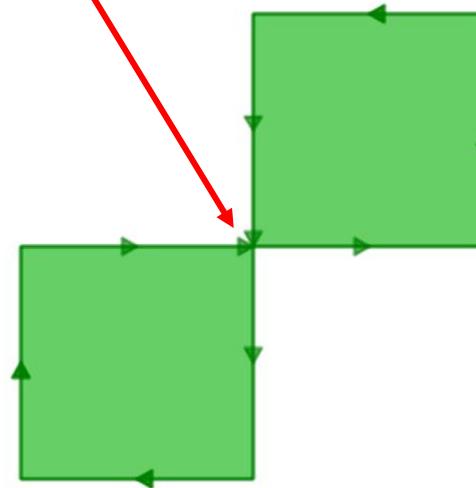
`ST_IsValid()` returns a boolean for validity, and `ST_IsValidReason()` returns a coordinate of where the error is, and a textual reason.

```
SELECT ST_IsValid(ST_GeomFromText(  
    'POLYGON((0 0, 0 1, 1 1,  
             2 1, 2 2, 1 2,  
             1 1, 1 0, 0 0))'  
));
```

false

Self-intersection[1]

1



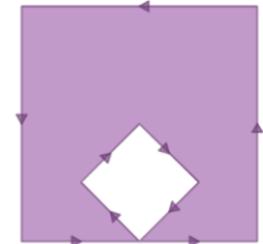
Can we test validity in bulk?

```
SELECT name, boroname,  
       ST_IsValidReason(geom)  
FROM nyc_neighborhoods  
WHERE NOT ST_IsValid(geom);
```

Howard Beach	Queens	Self-intersection[596394 4500899]
Corona	Queens	Self-intersection[595483 4513817]
Red Hook	Brooklyn	Self-intersection[582655 4500908]
Steinway	Queens	Self-intersection[593198 4515125]

Can we fix validity in bulk?

The “banana polygon” is a polygon with a hole, formed by a ring that touches itself at a single point.



```
SELECT ST_AsText(ST_MakeValid(  
    'POLYGON((0 0, 2 0, 1 1, 2 2, 3 1, 2 0, 4 0, 4 4, 0 4, 0 0))'))
```

ST_MakeValid() juggles the components of an invalid polygon to form a “best guess” valid interpretation of the rings. The “banana polygon” gets turns into a traditional exterior/interior ring polygon.

```
POLYGON((0 0,0 4,4 4,4 0,2 0,0 0),(3 1,2 2,1 1,2 0,3 1))
```

Can we fix validity in bulk?

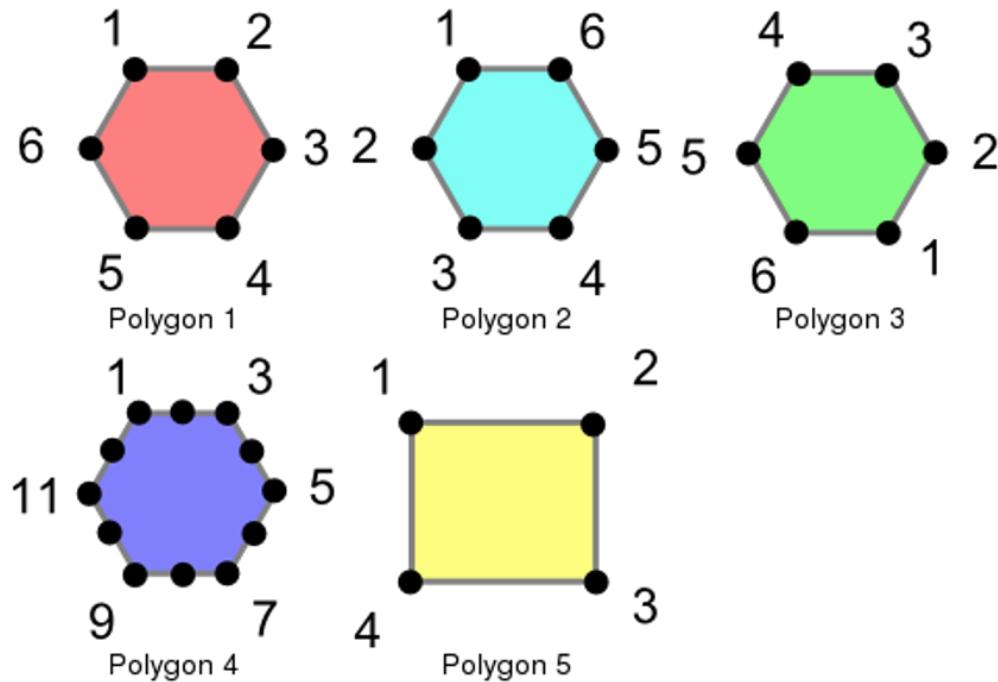
```
UPDATE nyc_neighborhoods  
SET geom = ST_MakeValid(geom)  
WHERE NOT ST_IsValid(geom);
```

ST_MakeValid(geom, options)

PostGIS 3.2+ includes text options to change the repair algorithm.

```
'method=linework'  
'method=structure keepcollapsed=false'
```

Section 24 - Equality



Create the test polygons

```
CREATE TABLE polygons (id integer, name varchar, poly geometry);
```

```
INSERT INTO polygons VALUES
```

```
(1, 'Polygon 1', 'POLYGON((-1 1.732,1 1.732,2 0,1 -1.732,  
-1 -1.732,-2 0,-1 1.732))'),  
(2, 'Polygon 2', 'POLYGON((-1 1.732,-2 0,-1 -1.732,1 -1.732,  
2 0,1 1.732,-1 1.732))'),  
(3, 'Polygon 3', 'POLYGON((1 -1.732,2 0,1 1.732,-1 1.732,  
-2 0,-1 -1.732,1 -1.732))'),  
(4, 'Polygon 4', 'POLYGON((-1 1.732,0 1.732, 1 1.732,1.5 0.866,  
2 0,1.5 -0.866,1 -1.732,0 -1.732,-1 -1.732,-1.5 -0.866,  
-2 0,-1.5 0.866,-1 1.732))'),  
(5, 'Polygon 5', 'POLYGON((-2 -1.732,2 -1.732,2 1.732,  
-2 1.732,-2 -1.732))');
```

Ways of testing equality!

`ST_OrderingEquals(A, B)`

`ST_Equals(A, B)`

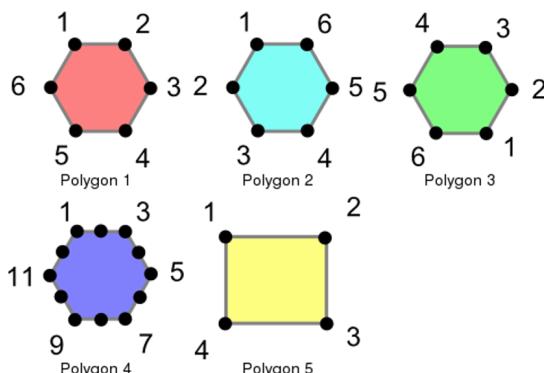
`A = B`

`A ~= B`

```

SELECT a.name, b.name,
CASE WHEN
    ST_OrderingEquals(a.poly, b.poly)
    THEN 'Exactly Equal'
    ELSE 'Not Exactly Equal' END
FROM polygons AS a,
polygons AS b;

```

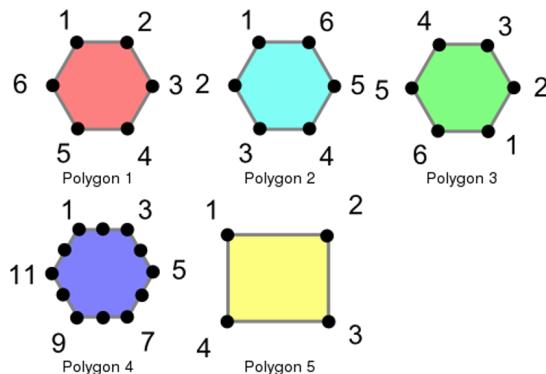


Polygon 1	Polygon 1	Exactly Equal
Polygon 1	Polygon 2	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 1	Polygon 3	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 1	Polygon 4	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 1	Polygon 5	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 2	Polygon 1	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 2	Polygon 2	Exactly Equal
Polygon 2	Polygon 3	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 2	Polygon 4	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 2	Polygon 5	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 3	Polygon 1	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 3	Polygon 2	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 3	Polygon 3	Exactly Equal
Polygon 3	Polygon 4	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 3	Polygon 5	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 4	Polygon 1	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 4	Polygon 2	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 4	Polygon 3	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 4	Polygon 4	Exactly Equal
Polygon 4	Polygon 5	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 5	Polygon 1	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 5	Polygon 2	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 5	Polygon 3	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 5	Polygon 4	Not Exactly Equal
Polygon 5	Polygon 5	Exactly Equal

```

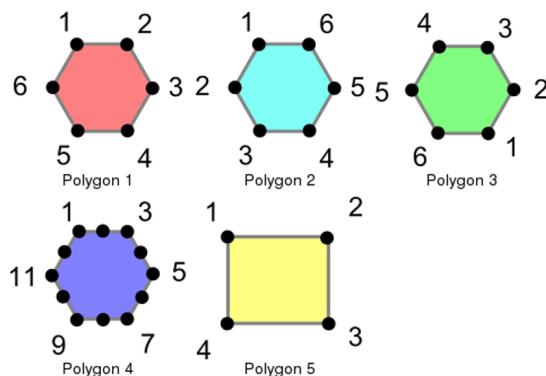
SELECT a.name, b.name,
CASE WHEN ST_Equals(a.poly, b.poly)
    THEN 'Spatially Equal'
    ELSE 'Not Equal' END
FROM polygons AS a,
polygons AS b;

```



Polygon 1	Polygon 1	Spatially Equal
Polygon 1	Polygon 2	Spatially Equal
Polygon 1	Polygon 3	Spatially Equal
Polygon 1	Polygon 4	Spatially Equal
Polygon 1	Polygon 5	Not Equal
Polygon 2	Polygon 1	Spatially Equal
Polygon 2	Polygon 2	Spatially Equal
Polygon 2	Polygon 3	Spatially Equal
Polygon 2	Polygon 4	Spatially Equal
Polygon 2	Polygon 5	Not Equal
Polygon 3	Polygon 1	Spatially Equal
Polygon 3	Polygon 2	Spatially Equal
Polygon 3	Polygon 3	Spatially Equal
Polygon 3	Polygon 4	Spatially Equal
Polygon 3	Polygon 5	Not Equal
Polygon 4	Polygon 1	Spatially Equal
Polygon 4	Polygon 2	Spatially Equal
Polygon 4	Polygon 3	Spatially Equal
Polygon 4	Polygon 4	Spatially Equal
Polygon 4	Polygon 5	Not Equal
Polygon 5	Polygon 1	Not Equal
Polygon 5	Polygon 2	Not Equal
Polygon 5	Polygon 3	Not Equal
Polygon 5	Polygon 4	Not Equal
Polygon 5	Polygon 5	Spatially Equal

```
SELECT a.name, b.name,
CASE WHEN a.poly = b.poly
    THEN 'Spatially ='
    ELSE 'Not =' END
FROM polygons AS a,
polygons AS b;
```

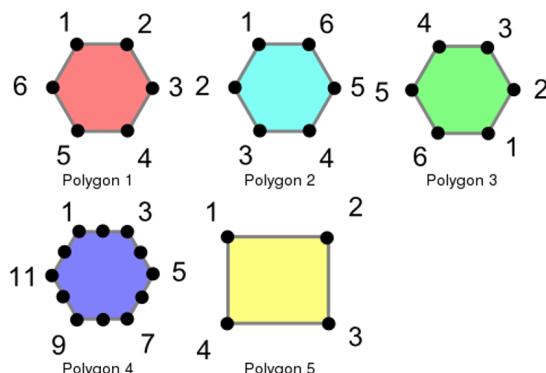


Polygon 1	Polygon 1	Spatially =
Polygon 1	Polygon 2	Not =
Polygon 1	Polygon 3	Not =
Polygon 1	Polygon 4	Not =
Polygon 1	Polygon 5	Not =
Polygon 2	Polygon 1	Not =
Polygon 2	Polygon 2	Spatially =
Polygon 2	Polygon 3	Not =
Polygon 2	Polygon 4	Not =
Polygon 2	Polygon 5	Not =
Polygon 3	Polygon 1	Not =
Polygon 3	Polygon 2	Not =
Polygon 3	Polygon 3	Spatially =
Polygon 3	Polygon 4	Not =
Polygon 3	Polygon 5	Not =
Polygon 4	Polygon 1	Not =
Polygon 4	Polygon 2	Not =
Polygon 4	Polygon 3	Not =
Polygon 4	Polygon 4	Spatially =
Polygon 4	Polygon 5	Not =
Polygon 5	Polygon 1	Not =
Polygon 5	Polygon 2	Not =
Polygon 5	Polygon 3	Not =
Polygon 5	Polygon 4	Not =
Polygon 5	Polygon 5	Spatially =

```

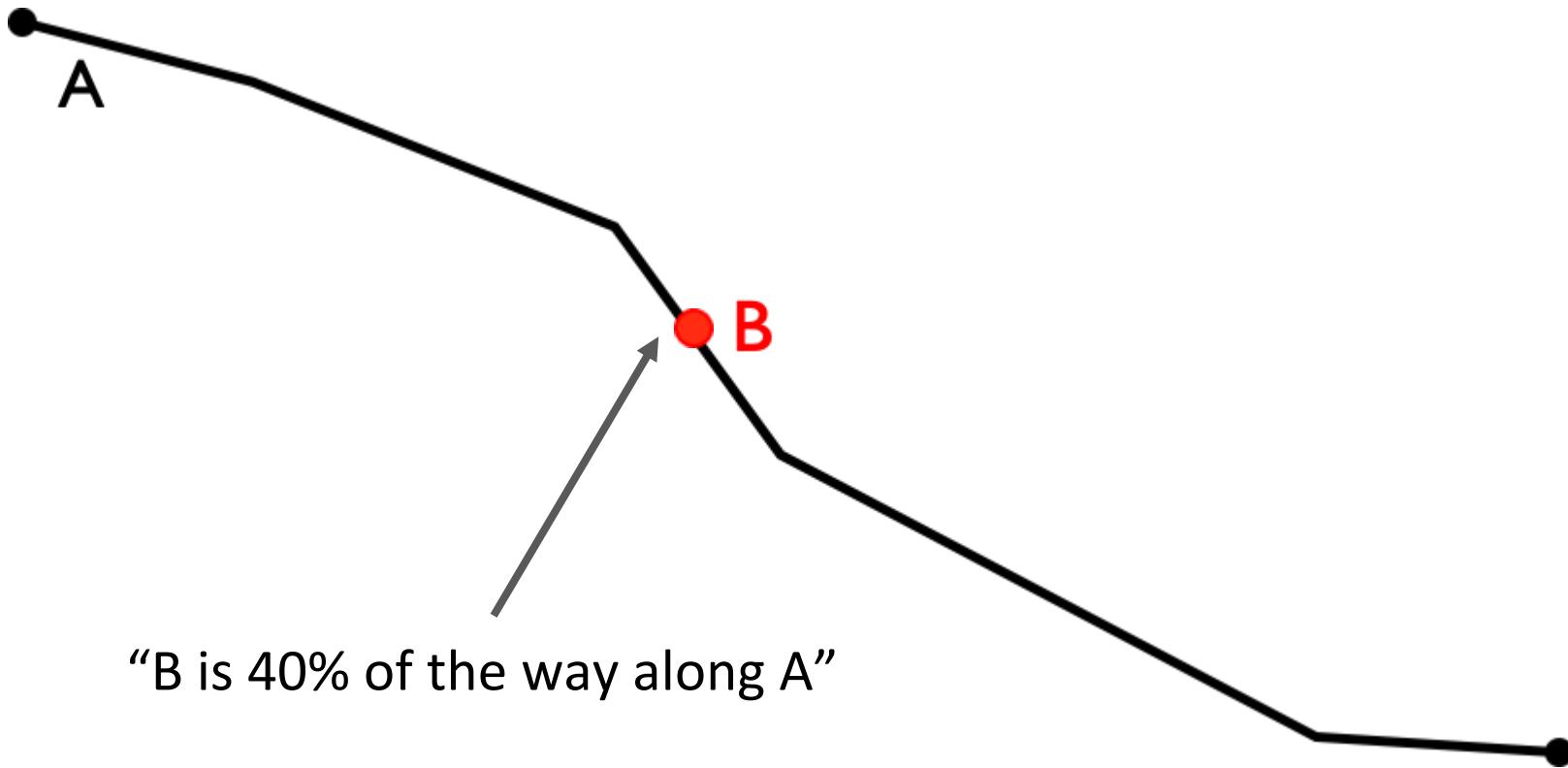
SELECT a.name, b.name,
CASE WHEN a.poly ~= b.poly
    THEN 'Bounds Equal'
    ELSE 'Bounds Not Equal' END
FROM polygons AS a,
polygons AS b;

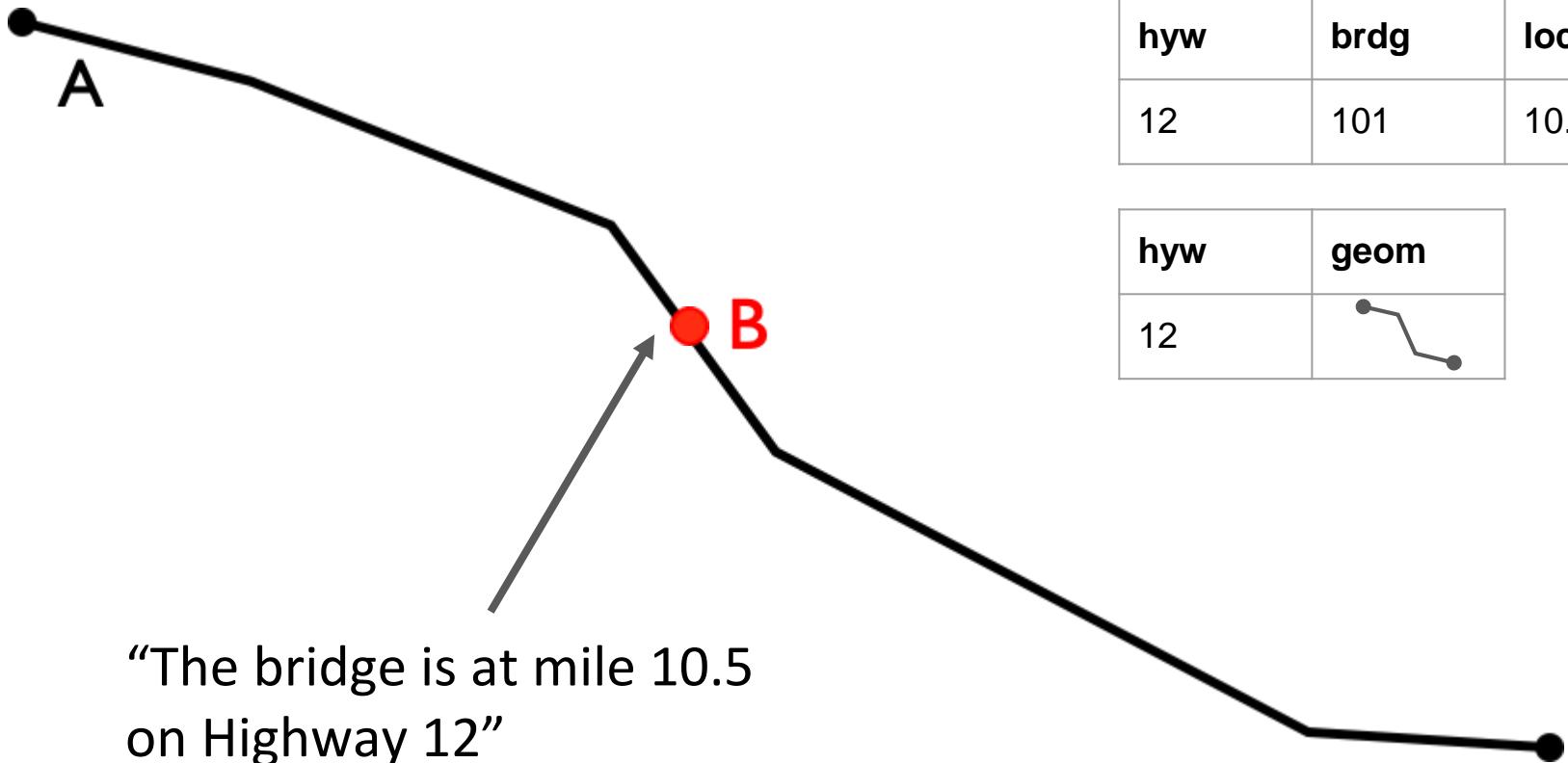
```

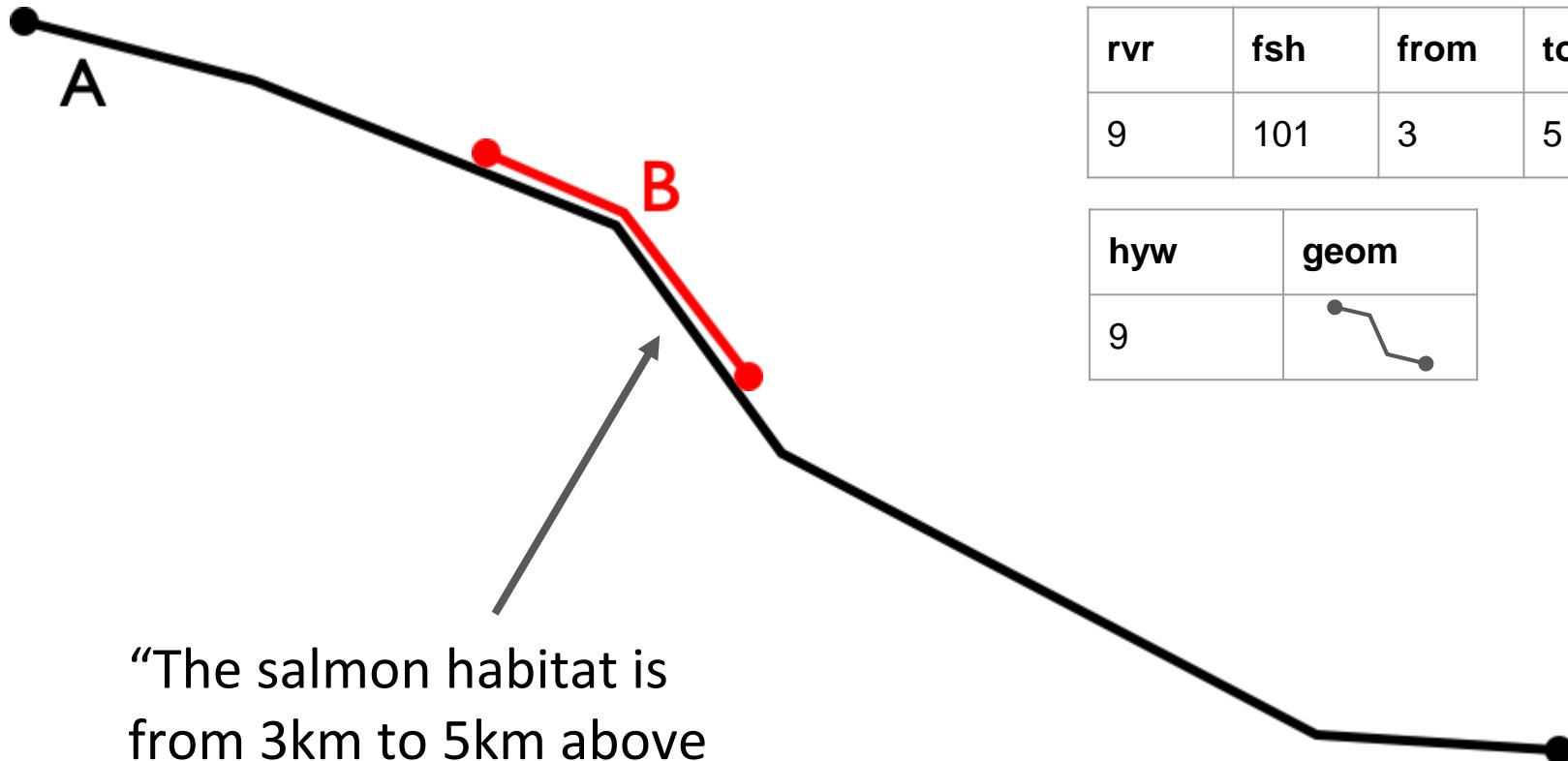


Polygon 1	Polygon 1	Bounds Equal
Polygon 1	Polygon 2	Bounds Equal
Polygon 1	Polygon 3	Bounds Equal
Polygon 1	Polygon 4	Bounds Equal
Polygon 1	Polygon 5	Bounds Equal
Polygon 2	Polygon 1	Bounds Equal
Polygon 2	Polygon 2	Bounds Equal
Polygon 2	Polygon 3	Bounds Equal
Polygon 2	Polygon 4	Bounds Equal
Polygon 2	Polygon 5	Bounds Equal
Polygon 3	Polygon 1	Bounds Equal
Polygon 3	Polygon 2	Bounds Equal
Polygon 3	Polygon 3	Bounds Equal
Polygon 3	Polygon 4	Bounds Equal
Polygon 3	Polygon 5	Bounds Equal
Polygon 4	Polygon 1	Bounds Equal
Polygon 4	Polygon 2	Bounds Equal
Polygon 4	Polygon 3	Bounds Equal
Polygon 4	Polygon 4	Bounds Equal
Polygon 4	Polygon 5	Bounds Equal
Polygon 5	Polygon 1	Bounds Equal
Polygon 5	Polygon 2	Bounds Equal
Polygon 5	Polygon 3	Bounds Equal
Polygon 5	Polygon 4	Bounds Equal
Polygon 5	Polygon 5	Bounds Equal

Section 25 - Linear Referencing



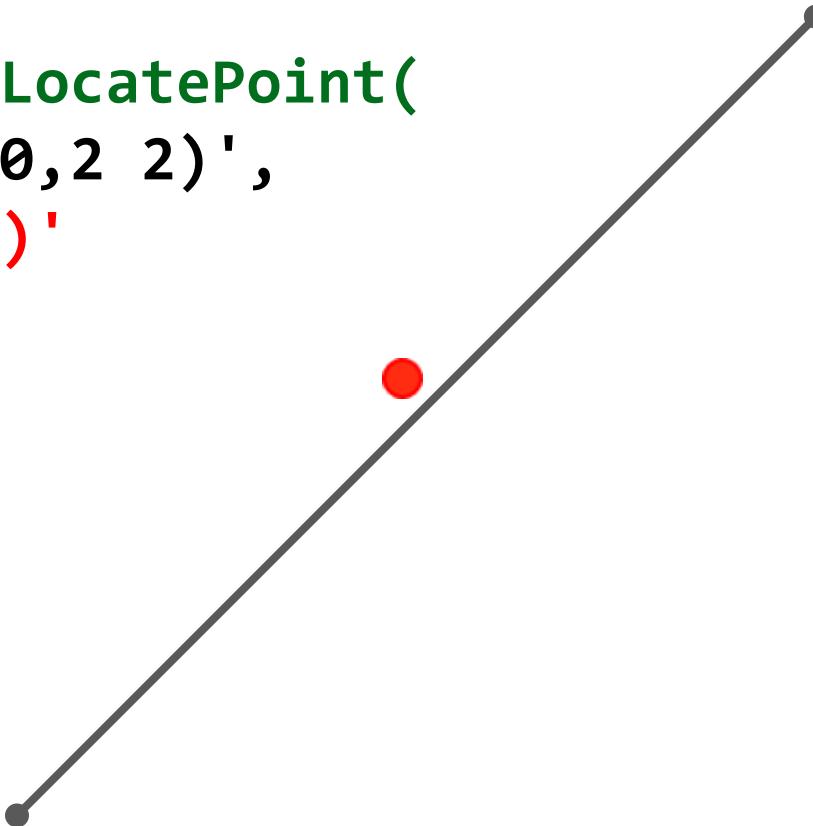




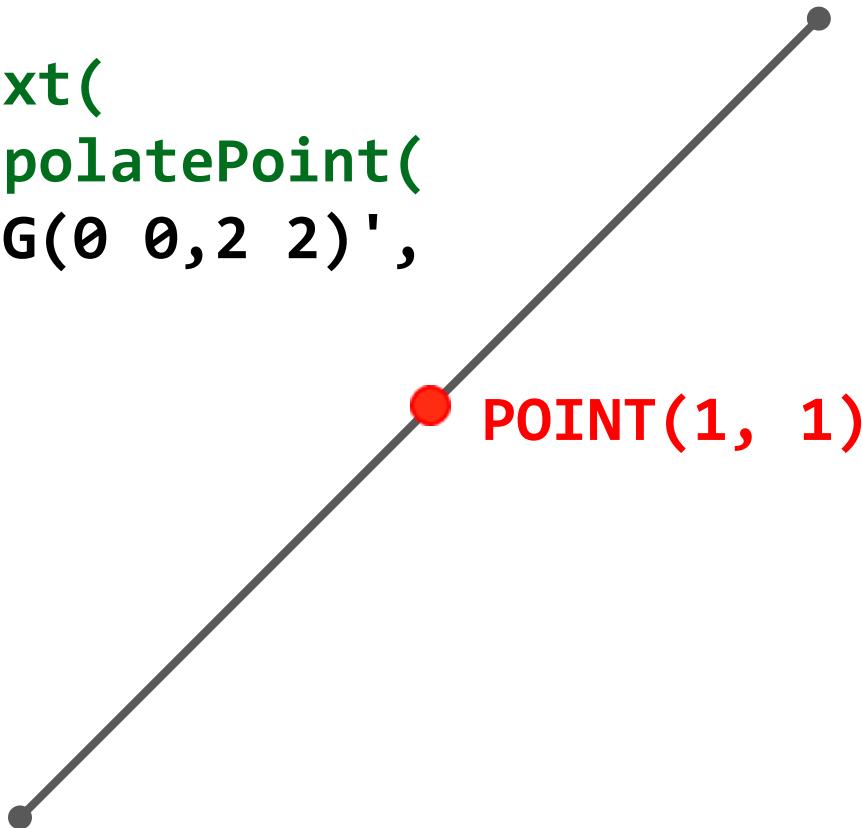
“The salmon habitat is
from 3km to 5km above
the confluence”

```
SELECT ST_LineLocatePoint(  
    'LINESTRING(0 0,2 2)',  
    'POINT(0.9 1.1)'  
)
```

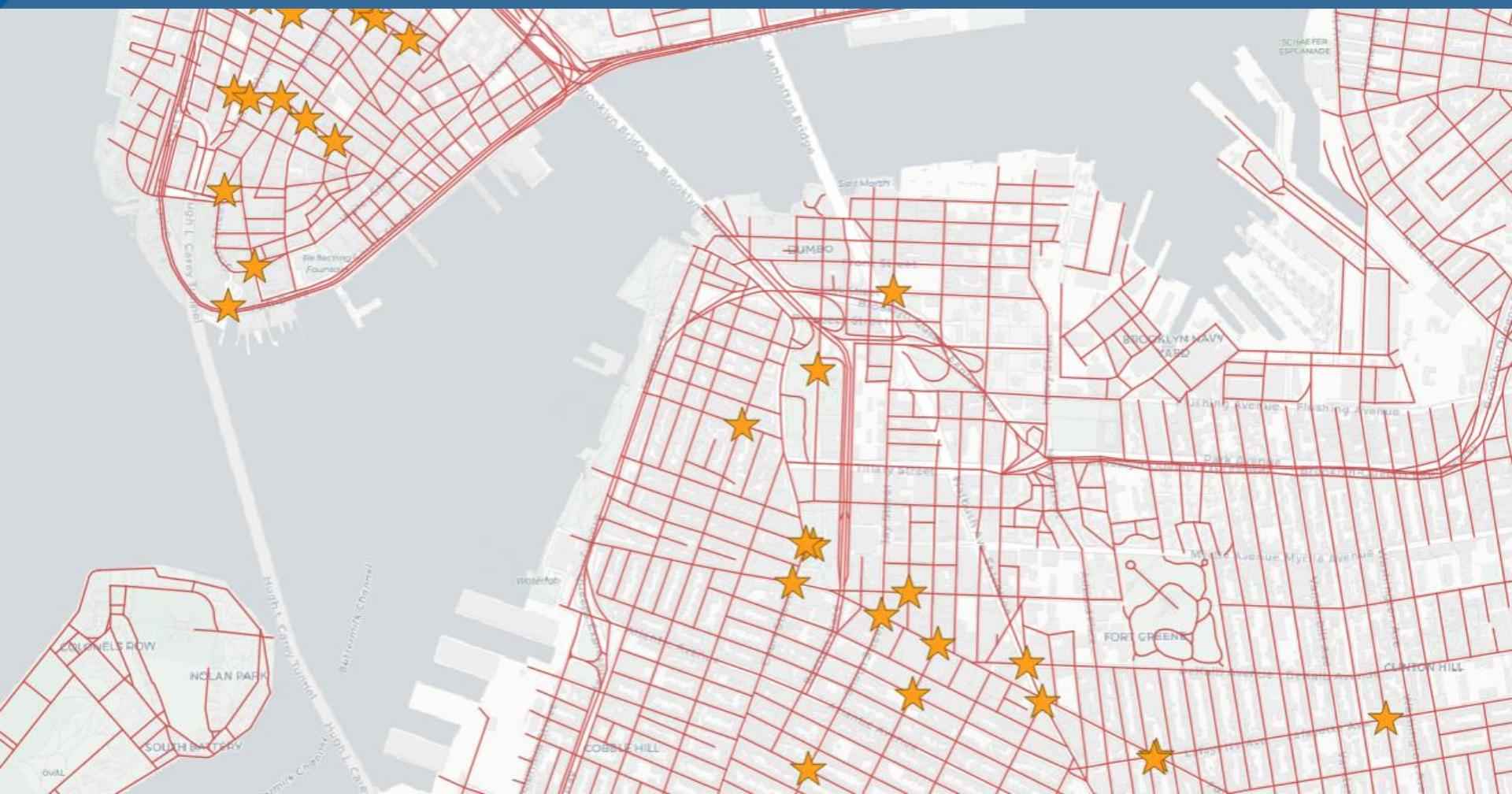
0.5



```
SELECT ST_AsText(  
    ST_LineInterpolatePoint(  
        'LINESTRING(0 0,2 2)',  
        0.5  
));
```



Section 25 - Linear Referencing



Find nearest street to each subway station

```
WITH ordered_nearest AS (
  SELECT
    ST_GeometryN(str.geom,1) AS streets_geom,
    str.gid AS str_gid,
    sub.geom AS subways_geom,
    sub.gid AS subways_gid,
    ST_Distance(str.geom, sub.geom) AS distance
  FROM nyc_streets str
  JOIN nyc_subway_stations sub
    ON ST_DWithin(str.geom, sub.geom, 200)
  ORDER BY subways_gid, distance ASC
)
```

Find measure of station on nearest street

```
SELECT
  DISTINCT ON (subways_gid)
    subways_gid,
    streets_gid,
    distance,
    ST_LineLocatePoint(
      streets_geom,
      subways_geom) AS measure
  FROM ordered_nearest;
```

Find measure of station on nearest street

subways_gid	streets_gid	measure
1	17404	0.0023154983819572554
2	17318	0.6354078182846773
3	19086	0.24946227178552738
4	1924	0.11187222763997673
5	2067	0.9261874246426975
6	1934	0.33457647816803476
7	2024	0.5549461001845787
8	2469	0.2296616075093935
9	2024	0.9069811058590412
10	2067	0.6202998183141508

How to visualize events? Turn them back into points.

-- New view that turns events back
-- into spatial objects

CREATE OR REPLACE

VIEW nyc_subway_stations_lrs **AS**

SELECT

events.subways_gid,

ST_LineInterpolatePoint(

ST_GeometryN(streets.geom, 1),

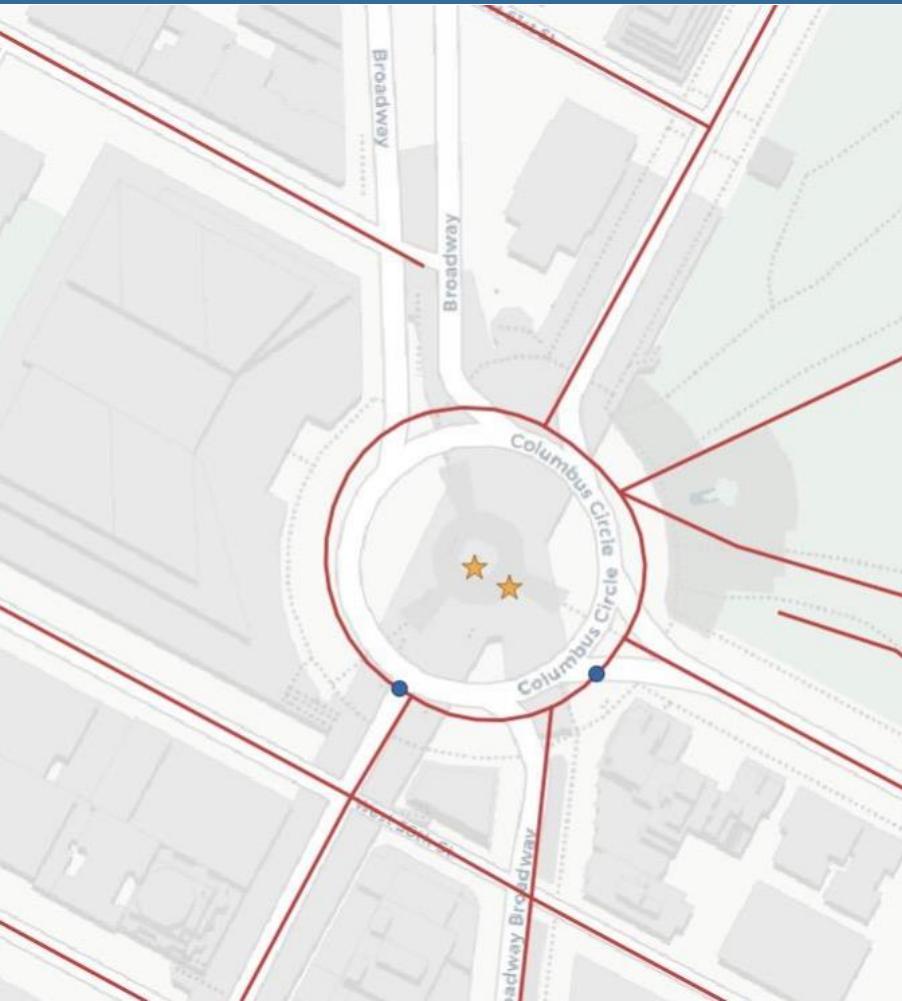
events.measure) **AS** geom,

events.streets_gid

FROM nyc_subway_station_events events

JOIN nyc_streets streets

ON (streets.gid = events.streets_gid);



Original subway stations (orange stars) on Columbus Circle have been snapped over to the nearby roadways in the LRS view (blue circles)

Shows how LRS functions can be used to snap points to a network, as well as to manage actual LRS data.

Section 29 - Nearest Neighbor Searching

Nearest Neighbor Search

“What is the nearest fire station to this address?”

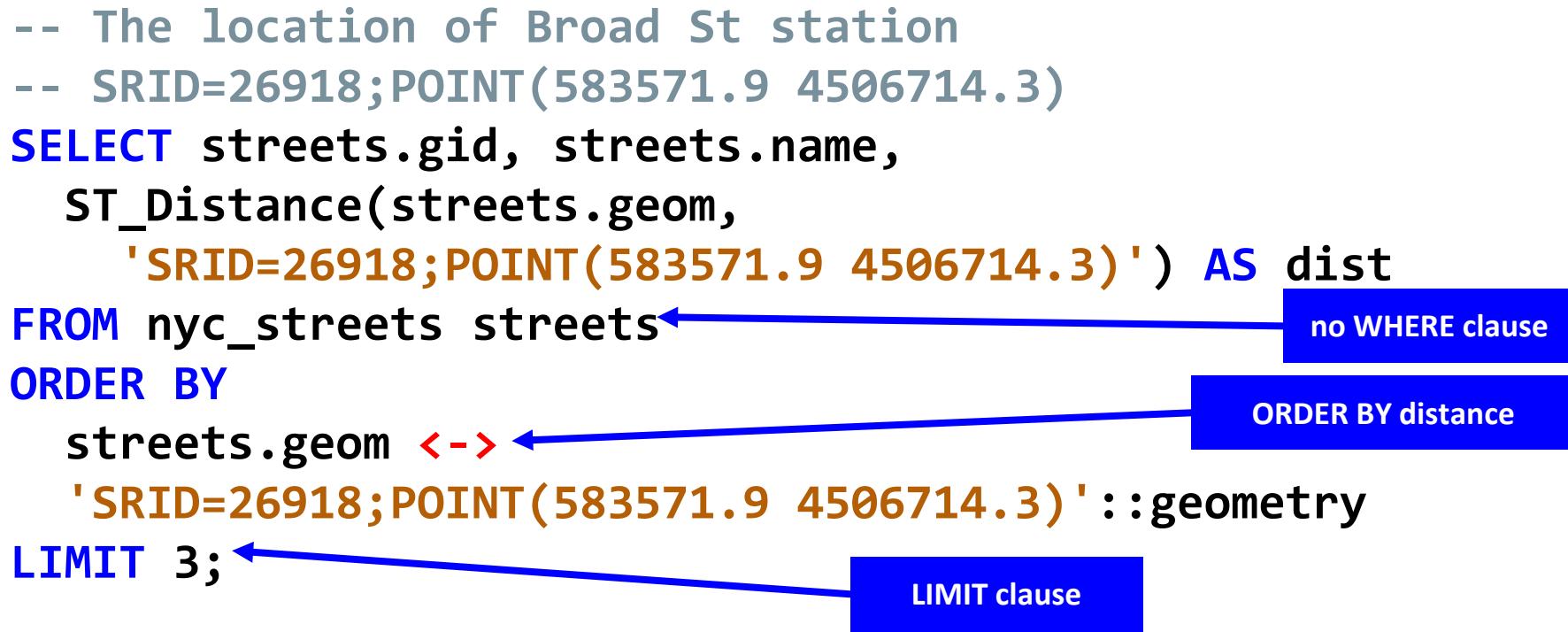
“What are the 10 nearest gas stations to the current locations?”

Nearest Neighbor Join

“Add the nearest fire station to every parcel in the table.”

Nearest Neighbor Search

```
-- The location of Broad St station  
-- SRID=26918;POINT(583571.9 4506714.3)  
SELECT streets.gid, streets.name,  
    ST_Distance(streets.geom,  
        'SRID=26918;POINT(583571.9 4506714.3)') AS dist  
FROM nyc_streets streets  
ORDER BY  
    streets.geom <->  
    'SRID=26918;POINT(583571.9 4506714.3)::geometry'  
LIMIT 3;
```

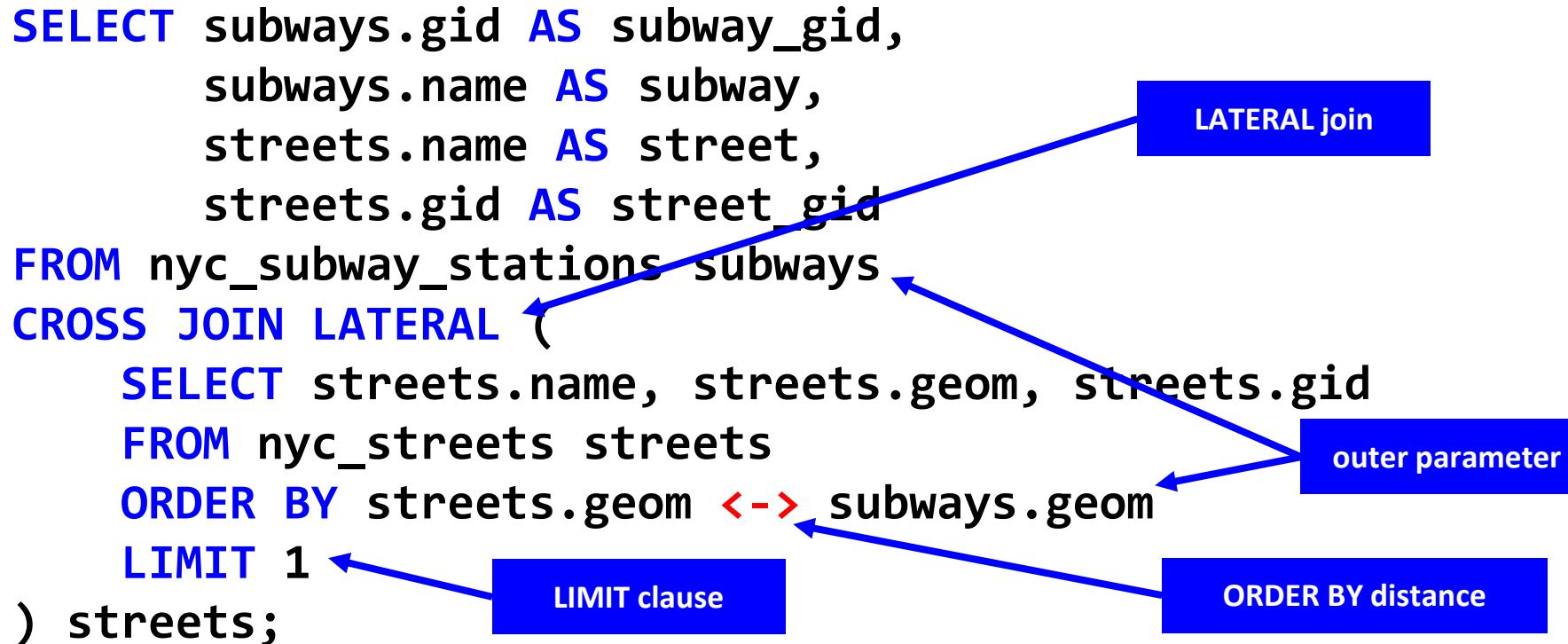


Section 29 - Nearest Neighbor Searching



Nearest Neighbor Join

```
SELECT subways.gid AS subway_gid,  
       subways.name AS subway,  
       streets.name AS street,  
       streets.gid AS street_gid  
  FROM nyc_subway_stations subways  
CROSS JOIN LATERAL (  
    SELECT streets.name, streets.geom, streets.gid  
      FROM nyc_streets streets  
     ORDER BY streets.geom <-> subways.geom  
    LIMIT 1  
) streets;
```



LATERAL join

outer parameter

LIMIT clause

ORDER BY distance

Section 29 - Nearest Neighbor Searching



PostGIS

