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4/2/2020

Peer Review of Akuto Konou’s *Web Mapping with Carto*

I found Akuto’s technology report on mapping with CARTO to be very successful. Akuto’s homepage is clearly sorted out and full of interactive information. Overall, the homepage is enjoyable to look at with the inclusion of the two data visualizations, a clear table of contents and the aerial image. The first map evidently displays how the technology can be used and why it could be useful. The second map is just as interactive as it shows comparable data represented for the country of Kenya. I enjoy how the homepage is not overcrowded with words and directly shows the viewer an insight on what CARTO is. The delivery through the slides of Akuto’s presentation is just as successful, as it flows well with just enough information for a viewer to get a basic understanding of what the technology accomplishes. Akuto’s example project is not overly complex, but it clearly shows what the technology provides in an easy to comprehend example. Furthermore, there is an abundance of extra information linked on the homepage such as an intro video, for a more in-depth look at the technology for those who wish to learn more. Lastly, I enjoy how Akuto included the process it took for her to sign up, gather information and use the technology. This process showed the ease of access for the technology and the availability of the service for students.

The report did a good job at covering the basics of what CARTO is capable of. However, for more in-depth information on the service, the report only linked videos and exterior information. I wish the report would list more of what the technology provides with web mapping. These lists could be helpful in deciding on if the technology would be useful for some projects or not. I see through the example that CARTO can sort polygons by values, provide bar graphs and percentages, but what else can it do? I wish the section on “why” the technology was used would be a little more specific in relation to the tools that the technology has. There are many uses for the technology in other case studies. I think any project could benefit from the analytical tools included with CARTO.

CARTO seems to be a visualization tool that does a great job at a lot of things. In my final project, I could use this technology to create a quick choropleth map that includes a bar chart for even more visual information. In a pinch, I think this resource would be very useful in creating a quick map that is readily available to students and easy to embed in code.