Vector Operations Part 1

HES 505 Fall 2022: Session 8

Matt Williamson

Today's Plan

47th Street (Kenwood)
E 47th St
47th
South Michigan Avenue
S Indiana Avenue
S State St
Beethoven Elementary School
Overton Elementary School
DuSable High School
Willard School
Hales Franciscan High School
Harvard Elementary School
Hyde Park Athletic Club
Ancona School
Shoesmith Elementary School
Kenwood Academy
Urban Life Center
Jessie "Ma" Houston Playlot Park
Dr Lena Day School
Isaiah School Israel Elementary School
E Hyde Park Blvd
51st
E 51st St
51st / 53rd Street (Hyde Park)
Solomon Schechter Day School
Walter H Dyett Middle School
Sycamore Playlot
E 53rd St
Butternut Playlot
Murray Language Academy
Burke Elementary School
Willow Park
Playlot 291
Saint Thomas the Apostle Grade School
Cornell Park
Garfield
E Garfield Blvd
Washington Park
Morgan Dr
E 55th St
Anderson Baseball Diamond
Haydon Track
55th - 56th - 57th Street
The Phoenix School
E 57th St
Meadville Theological School
Chicago Theological Seminary
Carter Elementary School
Sunny Gymnasium
University High School
McLean Institute
59th Street, University of Chicago
Midway Plaisance

Objectives

By the end of today, you should be able to:

- Understand `predicates` and `measures` in the context of spatial operations in `sf`
- Define valid geometries and approaches for assessing geometries in `R`
- Use `st_*` and `sf_*` to evaluate attributes of geometries and calculate measurements

Understanding the language

Revisiting Simple Features

- The `sf` package relies on a simple feature data model to represent geometries
  - hierarchical
  - standardized methods
  - complementary binary and human-readable encoding

type	description
`POINT`	single point geometry
`MULTIPOINT`	set of points
`LINESTRING`	single linestring (two or more points connected by straight lines)
`MULTILINESTRING`	set of linestrings
`POLYGON`	exterior ring with zero or more inner rings, denoting holes
`MULTIPOLYGON`	set of polygons
`GEOMETRYCOLLECTION`	set of the geometries above

Standaridized Methods

We can categorize `sf` operations based on what they return and/or how many geometries they accept as input.

- *Output Categories*
  - **Predicates**: evaluate a logical statement asserting that a property is `TRUE`
  - **Measures**: return a numeric value with units based on the units of the CRS
  - **Transformations**: create new geometries based on input geometries.
- *Input Geometries*
  - **Unary**: operate on a single geometry at a time (meaning that if you have a `MULTI*` object the function works on each geometry individually)
  - **Binary**: operate on pairs of geometries
  - **n-ary**: operate on sets of geometries

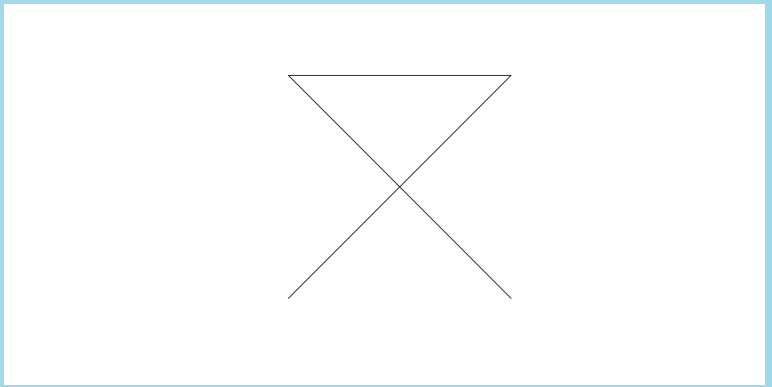
Unary Predicates and Valid Geometries

Remembering Valid Geometries

- A `linestring` is *simple* if it does not intersect

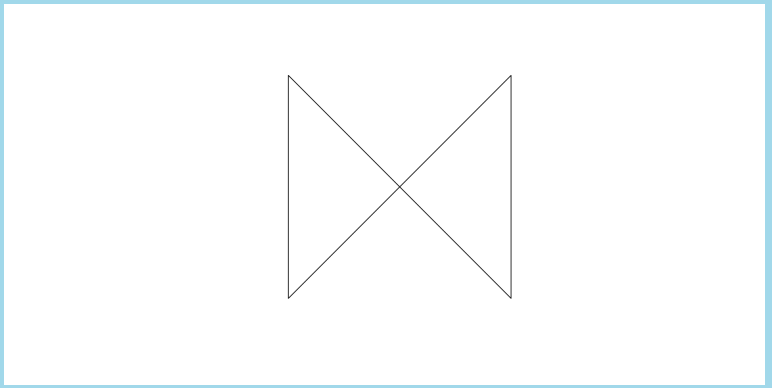
```
1  library(sf)
2  (ls = st_linestring(rbind(c(0,0), c(1,1),
3                            c(2,2), c(0,2),
4                            c(1,1), c(2,0))))
5  c(is_simple = st_is_simple(ls))
```

```
is_simple
    FALSE
```



Remembering Valid Geometries

- Valid polygons
  - Are closed (i.e., the last vertex equals the first)
  - Have holes (inner rings) that inside the the exterior boundary
  - Have holes that touch the exterior at no more than one vertex (they don't extend across a line)
    - For multipolygons, adjacent polygons touch only at points
  - Do not repeat their own path



Empty Geometries

- Empty geometries arise when an operation produces `NULL` outcomes (like looking for the intersection between two non-intersecting polygons)
- `sf` allows empty geometries to make sure that information about the data type is retained
- Similar to a `data.frame` with no rows or a `list` with `NULL` values
- Most vector operations require simple, valid geometries

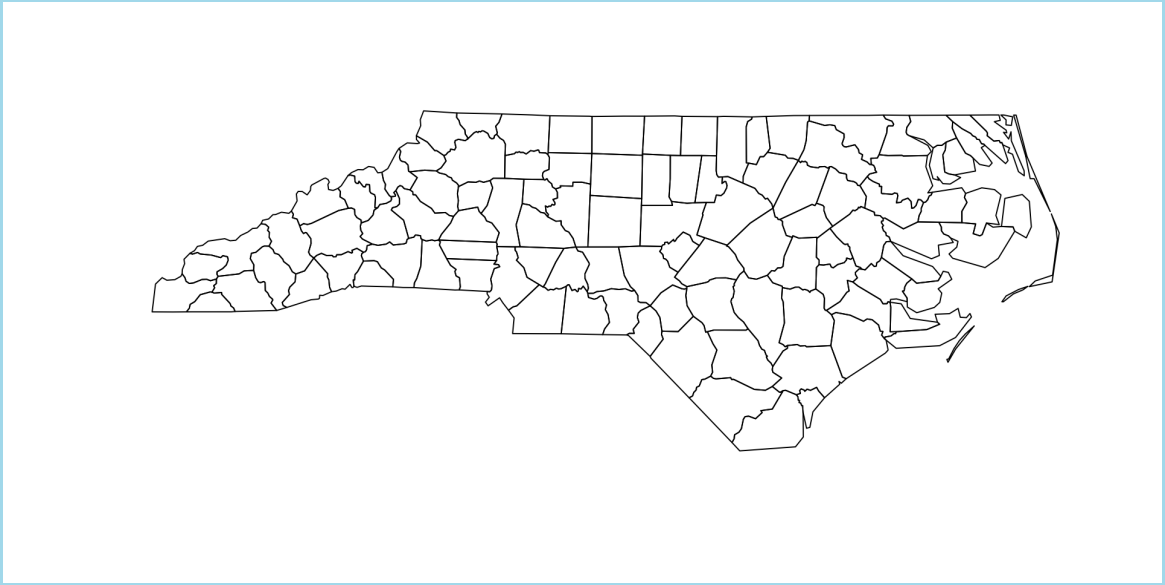
Using Unary Predicates

- Unary predicates accept single geometries (or geometry collections)
- Provide helpful ways to check whether your data is ready to analyze
- Use the `st_` prefix and return `TRUE/FALSE`

predicate	asks...
`is_simple`	is the geometry self-intersecting (i.e., simple)?
`is_valid`	is the geometry valid?
`is_empty`	is the geometry column of an object empty?
`is_longlat`	does the object have geographic coordinates? (`FALSE` if coords are projected, `NA` if no `crs`)
`is(geometry, class)`	is the geometry of a particular class?

Using Unary Predicates

```
1 nc <- st_read(
2   system.file("shape/nc.shp", package="sf"
3   quiet=TRUE)
4 plot(st_geometry(nc))
```



```
1 st_is_longlat(nc)
```

```
[1] TRUE
```

```
1 any(is.na(st_is_valid(nc)))
```

```
[1] FALSE
```

Checking Geometries With Unary Predicates

- Before conducting costly analyses, it's worth checking for:

1. empty geometries, using `any(is.na(st_dimension(x)))`
2. corrupt geometries, using `any(is.na(st_is_valid(x)))`
3. invalid geometries, using `any(na.omit(st_is_valid(x)) == FALSE)`; in case of corrupt and/or invalid geometries,
4. in case of invalid geometries, query the reason for invalidity by `st_is_valid(x, reason = TRUE)`

Invalid geometries will require **transformation** (next week!)

Binary Predicates

Binary Predicates

- Accept exactly two geometries (or collections)
- Also return `logical` outcomes
- Based on the Dimensionally Extended 9-Intersection Model (DE-9IM)

predicate	meaning	inverse of
`contains`	None of the points of A are outside B	`within`
`contains_properly`	A contains B and B has no points in common with the boundary of A	
`covers`	No points of B lie in the exterior of A	`covered_by`
`covered_by`	Inverse of `covers`	
`crosses`	A and B have some but not all interior points in common	
`disjoint`	A and B have no points in common	`intersects`
`equals`	A and B are topologically equal: node order or number of nodes may differ; identical to A contains B AND A within B	
`equals_exact`	A and B are geometrically equal, and have identical node order	
`intersects`	A and B are not disjoint	`disjoint`
`is_within_distance`	A is closer to B than a given distance	
`within`	None of the points of B are outside A	`contains`
`touches`	A and B have at least one boundary point in common, but no interior points	
`overlaps`	A and B have some points in common; the dimension of these is identical to that of A and B	
`relate`	given a mask pattern, return whether A and B adhere to this pattern	

Measures

Measures

Unary Measures

- Return quantities of individual geometries

measure	returns
`dimension`	0 for points, 1 for linear, 2 for polygons, possibly `NA` for empty geometries
`area`	the area of a geometry
`length`	the length of a linear geometry

Binary Measures

- `st_distance` returns the distance between pairs of geometries