

Shiny Happy People Sharing Geospatial Data

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Disclaimer

The opinions represented here are our own and do not reflect NYS policy.





Who we are

Melissa Albino Hegeman Bobby Sayers



- Map nerds
- Marine Biology/Fisheries
 Management
- Esri users
- R/Python/SQL users



Overview

- Challenges and limitations of viewing spatial data with your coworkers
- Potential solutions using open-source software to create custom apps
- App demo
- Summary and questions





Some Common Roadblocks

- Expensive servers and hosting solutions
- Proprietary software
- Complex installation processes **
- Ongoing maintenance













- Web application framework
- Available in both R and Python





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Web Assembly

- Enables code written in other languages to run in web browsers
- Allows near-native performance
- Runs in a secure sandbox
- Permits R and Python applications to run without a server





The Challenge

- Make an interactive map
- Compare two data sources
- Keep it private 6
- Keep it consistent





Free and Open-Source Options

- Prioritized free and open-source software
 - Reduces up front costs
- Acknowledge difficulties of using free and open-source software
 - Lack of local IT support
 - Lack of technical expertise





Shinylive

- Creates interactive applications
- Leverages WebAssembly technology
- Allows creation of lightweight, serverless apps
- Supports both R and Python





Requirements

- Runs entirely in the browser
- Supports file uploads
- Integrates with popular libraries (e.g., leaflet)





The App











Demo

WebR example

Pyodide example





Results

Pros

- Provide a consistent analytics environment
- Access advanced geospatial tools through a web browser
- Upload and analyze personal data securely
- Collaborate easily by sharing a single URL/file

Cons

- Can't access network resources (such as a SQL server)
- Dependent on internet connection to access Web Assembly components
- Dependent on the speed of your local machine

Next Steps

- Use public web feature services
- Export results as pdf or table
- Add additional files types (.csv, .shp, etc.)
- Calculate distance or create a buffer



Questions?

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Presentation slides:

https://github.com/mhegeman/2024_scgis_webr

