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Module 2: Types of Visualization Tools: Basic and Specialized >

Reading: Describe Creating Maps and Visualizing Geospatial Data

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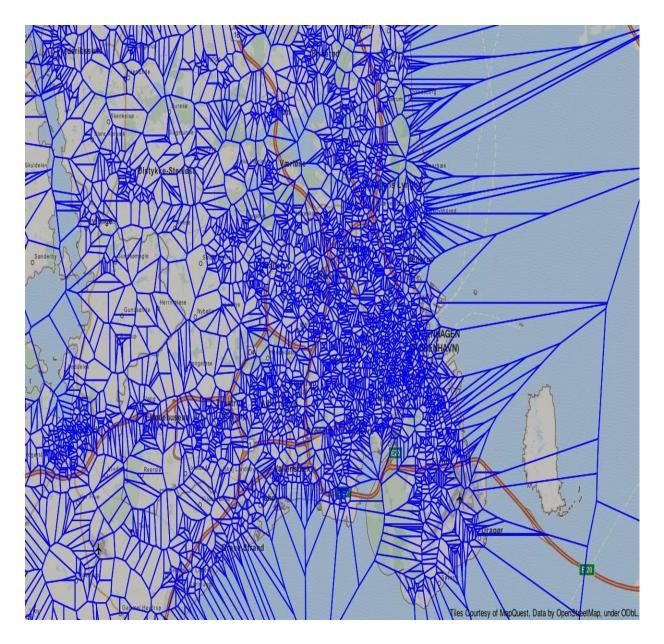
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In this next section, we will describe creating maps and visualizing geospatial data. To do this we will look at geoplotlib.

As you work in data visualization, you will come across the need to represent your data on a map. There are specialized tools available to assist with building this type of visualization along with many different chart types available.

geoplotlib is an open-source Python toolbox for visualizing geographical data. According to Andrea Cuttone, et al., the creator of the software, "geoplotlib supports the development of hardware-accelerated interactive visualizations in pure python, and provides implementations of dot maps, kernel density estimation, spatial graphs, Voronoi tesselation, shapefiles and many more common spatial visualizations."

geoplotlib can create a dot map, 2D histogram, heatmap, map with markers, spatial graph, Voronoi tessellation, Delaunay triangulation, convex hull, shapefiles, and GeoJSON. An example of a Voronoi tessalation is pictured below:



Click here to learn more about geoplotlib.

Now that we've covered the foundations of data visualization, in the next module, we will move onto actually building some visualizations using sample data.

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