Data Bootcamp Final Project:

Education and Income Inequality in New York State

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Out[339]:



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In my time at NYU, I have deveoped an interest in emerging markets and economic mobility. Essentially, what are some of the factors that would contribute to overall economic growth in a way that does isolate lower earning communities? The topic of inclusive growth is vast for each individual community, however at a very basic level I had always believed the irradication of inequality would begin with education. However, it may not be that simple.In a study Economist, Jesse Rothstein from UC Berkely found 'little evidence to support [this] premise.' (refer to article below)

https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2017/09/education-and-economic-mobility/541041/ (https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2017/09/education-and-economic-mobility/541041/)

The overall question of inclusive growth would be too grand for the scope of this project. Instead, I aim to identify the correlation between education and income inequality, and how it may affect economic mobility.

Geography: New York is often associated with the American dream - the idea that anyone could become 'something' from 'nothing'.

Education: I have decided to focus on high school education for three major reasons. Firstly, higher eductaion institutes are more likely enroll students from all over the globe. Therefore, using them as samples may not be a true reflection of the local communities they exist in. Secondly, more people enroll in high school than college. Lastly, high schools allow for easier compariosn due to standard testing (SATs).

The project will go through the following stages:

- Importing relevant data on New York State education and income
- · Preparing and cleaning the data
- Discuss the tools, packages and methods used to clean and analyse the data
- · Mapping the data
- Summmarizing my findings

Data Report

The data used will be imported from two sites.

- The data on SAT scores by County will be imported from Syracuse.com: goo.gl/VumBfm (link)
- The data on income per family will be imported from Wikipedia : goo.gl/ctpqVt (link)

Unfortunately, there is no direct link to download the data from either site. Additionally, the data is mixed in with other content from the website. Therefore to extract the data, I will copy and paste the tables from the websites to an excel sheet on my local harddrive. From there, I can import the data using the pd.read_excel() tool. This method is limited however will work for this project as the databases are relatively small (there are only 62 County's in New York State). Had the databases been too large, the process may have been tedious.

Packages Used:

- Display package
- Display paskage
- Matplotlib package
- numpy
- Basemap
- statsmodels
- geopandas
- shapely

```
In [276]: from IPython.display import display, Image import pandas as pd import matplotlib.pyplot as plt import numpy as np from mpl_toolkits.basemap import Basemap import statsmodels.api as sm import statsmodels.formula.api as smf
from bokeh.io import output_notebook from bokeh.plotting import show, figure

from bokeh.models import (
    ColumnDataSource,
    HoverTool,
    LogColorMapper
)
output_notebook()
```

(https://www.essfully.loaded.

Step 1: Importing data on SAT scores

This data will be imported from Syracuse.com as mentioned above.

```
In [277]: url= "/Users/studentgovernment/Desktop/SAT_scores_county.xlsx"
scores= pd.read_excel(url)
```

In [278]: scores.head(10) #Done to check what the imported data looks like

Out[278]:

	Search again	Unnamed:	Unnamed: 2	Unnamed:	Unnamed:	Unnamed: 5	Unnamed: 6
0	Name	Number SAT test takers	SAT score (reading/math combined)	reading average	math average	Graduation rate	Number enrolled
1	Yorktown Central School District	253	1091	533	558	0.95	313
	Yorkshire-						

12/21/17, 7:58 PM Ramsay_Final_Project

2	Pioneer Central School District	56	1004	500	504	0.83	198
3	York Central School District	32	1053	515	538	0.9	50
4	Yonkers City School District	1489	799	402	397	0.78	1794
5	Wyandanch Union Free School District	56	778	397	381	0.7	154
6	Worcester Central School District	15	1041	549	492	0.8	25
7	Windsor Central School District	60	1058	528	530	0.86	144
8	Windham- Ashland- Jewett Central School District	22	1032	510	522	0.97	32
9	Wilson Central School District	58	1028	516	512	0.81	128

Data Cleaning

Before analyzing the information, the data must be prepared. From the table above, there are a number of issues that are apparent; namely:

- The Index does not represent anything
 The Column names are placed in the first row of the table and not as the actual headings
- The Data is arranged by district, this is not an imediate problem, however we will need to match the
- two datasets by County eventually.

 Not all the information is relevant for the scope of this project (ie. the breakdown of Math and Reading avergaes, the combined SAT score will be suffecient.

Column Removal

```
In [279]: del scores['Unnamed: 1']
del scores['Unnamed: 3']
del scores['Unnamed: 4']
del scores['Unnamed: 5']
del scores['Unnamed: 6']
```

In [280]: scores.head()

Out[280]:

	Search again	Unnamed: 2	Unnamed:
0	Name	SAT score (reading/math combined)	County
1	Yorktown Central School District	1091	Westchester
2	Yorkshire-Pioneer Central School District	1004	Cattaraugus
3	York Central School District	1053	Livingston
4	Yonkers City School District	799	Westchester

```
In [281]: type(scores)
Out[281]: pandas.core.frame.DataFrame
```

Renaming Columns

Out[282]:

	District	SAT Combined Score	County
0	Name	SAT score (reading/math combined)	County
1	Yorktown Central School District	1091	Westchester
2	Yorkshire-Pioneer Central School District	1004	Cattaraugus
3	York Central School District	1053	Livingston
4	Yonkers City School District	799	Westchester

```
In [283]: type(scores)
```

Out[283]: pandas.core.frame.DataFrame

Setting the Index

```
In [284]: scores = scores.set_index(['County'])
scores.head() #Check
```

Out[284]:

	District	SAT Combined Score
County		
County	Name	SAT score (reading/math combined)
Westchester	Yorktown Central School District	1091
Cattaraugus	Yorkshire-Pioneer Central School District	1004
Livingston	York Central School District	1053
Westchester	Yonkers City School District	799

Removing the first row

In [285]: scores = scores.drop(scores.index[0])
scores.head() #Check

Out[285]:

	District	SAT Combined Score
County		
Westchester	Yorktown Central School District	1091
Cattaraugus	Yorkshire-Pioneer Central School District	1004
Livingston	York Central School District	1053
Westchester	Yonkers City School District	799
Suffolk	Wyandanch Union Free School District	778

In [286]: scores.shape

Out[286]: (623, 2)

In [287]: scores.head(50)

Out[287]:

	District	SAT Combined Score
County		
Westchester	Yorktown Central School District	1091
Cattaraugus	Yorkshire-Pioneer Central School District	1004
Livingston	York Central School District	1053
Westchester	Yonkers City School District	799
Suffolk	Wyandanch Union Free School District	778
Otsego	Worcester Central School District	1041
Broome	Windsor Central School District	1058
Greene	Windham-Ashland-Jewett Central School District	1032
Niagara	Wilson Central School District	1028
Essex	Willsboro Central School District	978
Erie	Williamsville Central School District	1094
Wayne	Williamson Central School District	1032
Suffolk	William Floyd Union Free School District	939

Broome	Whitney Point Central School District	985
Allegany	Whitesville Central School District	875
Oneida	Whitesboro Central School District	1031
Washington	Whitehall Central School District	928
Westchester	White Plains City School District	978
Monroe	Wheatland-Chili Central School District	1053
Essex	Westport Central School District	999
Oneida	Westmoreland Central School District	984
Onondaga	Westhill Central School District	1073
Suffolk	Westhampton Beach Union Free School District	1077
Chautauqua	Westfield Central School District	1014
Nassau	Westbury Union Free School District	812
Cattaraugus	West Valley Central School District	928
Erie	West Seneca Central School District	993
Suffolk	West Islip Union Free School District	1022
Monroe	West Irondequoit Central School District	1071
Onondaga	West Genesee Central School District	1048
Herkimer	West Canada Valley Central School District	1016
Suffolk	West Babylon Union Free School District	972
Allegany	Wellsville Central School District	985
Hamilton	Wells Central School District	981
Cayuga	Weedsport Central School District	1057
Monroe	Webster Central School District	1086
Wayne	Wayne Central School District	1040
Steuben	Wayland-Cohocton Central School District	1001
Tioga	Waverly Central School District	994
Schuyler	Watkins Glen Central School District	1035
Albany	Watervliet City School District	898
Oneida	Waterville Central School District	1012
Jefferson	Watertown City School District	1012
Seneca	Waterloo Central School District	969
Saratoga	Waterford-Halfmoon Union Free School District	967
Orange	Washingtonville Central School District	1009
Orange	Warwick Valley Central School District	1050
Wyoming	Warsaw Central School District	1056
Warren	Warrensburg Central School District	916
Dutchess	Wappingers Central School District	1027

As is, the data seems fine except for one issue. The average combined SAT scores are still divided by school distrcit. In order to proceed, it would be ideal to consolidate these scores and allocate them by district. In order to do so, I will use a groupby operation

GroupBy

In [145]: scores_by_county = scores.groupby('County')
In [146]: scores_by_county= scores_by_county.sum()

In [147]: scores_by_county.head()

Out[147]:

	District	SAT Combined Score
County		
Albany	Watervliet City School District Voorheesville	11191
Allegany	Whitesville Central School District Wellsvill	10987
Broome	Broome Windsor Central School District Whitney Point	
Cattaraugus	Yorkshire-Pioneer Central School District Wes	11846
Cayuga	Weedsport Central School District Union Sprin	7311

In [148]: scores_by_county.shape

Out[148]: (58, 2)

ISSUE:

- Based of the shape, there seem to be 4 counties missing from the table(there should be 62 Counties). This may be and issue with the original dataset.
- The SAT scores have been consolidated to the County's however, they have not been averaged out. looking at the values in the 'SAT Combined Column', we can see that the values are too large (the maximum score someone can obtain in the SAT's is 2400).

Taking a closer look at the data:

Taking a Cios	aking a closer look at the data.			
In [149]:	scores_by_county	y.dtype	s	
Out[149]:	District SAT Combined Sco dtype: object		object int64	
Tn (150).	scores_by_county	descr	iha	
In [150]:				
Out[150]:	<pre><bound \="" county<="" district="" method="" ni="" pre=""></bound></pre>			
	Albany Allegany		liet City School District Voorheesville ville Central School District Wellsvill	
	Broome		r Central School District Whitney Point	
	Cattaraugus Cayuga		ire-Pioneer Central School District Wes ort Central School District Union Sprin	
	Chautauqua	Westfi	eld Central School District Southwester	
	Chemung		eads Central School District Elmira Hei	
	Chenango Clinton		la Valley Central School District Sherb c Central School District Plattsburgh C	
	Columbia		c Hills Central School District New Leb	
	Cortland Delaware		Central School District Marathon Centr Central School District Stamford Centr	
	Dutchess		gers Central School District Spackenkil	
	Erie		msville Central School District West Se	
	Essex Franklin		oro Central School District Westport Ce Lake Central School District Saranac L	
	Fulton	Northv	ille Central School District Mayfield C	
	Genesee Greene		ke Central School District Pavilion Cen m-Ashland-Jewett Central School District	
	Hamilton	WIIIGIIA	Wells Central School District	
	Herkimer		anada Valley Central School District Va	
	Jefferson Lewis		own City School District Thousand Islan Lewis Central School District Lowville	
	Livingston	York C	entral School District Mount Morris Cen	
	Madison Monroe		ridge Valley Central School District On	
	Montgomery		and-Chili Central School District West eim-Ephratah-St. Johnsville Csd Fort Pl	
	Nassau		ry Union Free School District Wantagh U	
	New York Niagara	Wilson	New York City Department of Education Central School District Starpoint Cent	
	Oneida	Whites	boro Central School District Westmorela	
	Onondaga		ll Central School District West Genesee	
	Ontario Orange		Central School District Phelps-Clifton gtonville Central School District Warwi	
	Orleans	Medina	Central School District Lyndonville Ce	
	Oswego Otsego		Creek Central School District Pulaski C ter Central School District Schenevus C	
	Putnam		Valley Central School District Mahopac	
	Rensselaer Rockland		ity School District Schodack Central Sc Orangetown Central School District Rama	
			m Central School District Parishville-H	
	Saratoga		ord-Halfmoon Union Free School District	
	Schenectady Schoharie		-Glenville Central School District Sche Springs Central School District Schoha	
	Schuyler	Watkin	s Glen Central School District Odessa-M	
	Seneca Steuben		oo Central School District South Seneca d-Cohocton Central School District Prat	
	Suffolk		nch Union Free School District William	
	Sullivan		lley Central School District Sullivan W	
	Tioga Tompkins		y Central School District Tioga Central sburg Central School District Newfield	
	Ulster		ll Central School District Saugerties C	
	Warren Washington		sburg Central School District Queensbur all Central School District Salem Centr	
	Wayne	Willia	mson Central School District Wayne Cent	
			wn Central School District Yonkers City Central School District Perry Central	
		Penn Y	an Central School District Dundee Centr	
	County	SAT Co	mbined Score	
	Albany		11191	
	Allegany Broome		10987 12361	
	Cattaraugus		11846	
	Cayuga		7311	
	Chautauqua Chemung		16986 3040	
	Chenango		7797	
	Clinton Columbia		8232 6129	
	Cortland		5212	
	Delaware		10433	
	Dutchess Erie		13389 28230	
	Essex		9984	
	Franklin Fulton		6939 4067	

Genesee	8134
Greene	6144
Hamilton	981
Herkimer	7793
Jefferson	11234
Lewis	5057
Livingston	8288
Madison	10189
Monroe	18936
Montgomery	4203
Nassau	44540
New York	907
Niagara	10096
Oneida	15169
Onondaga	17510
Ontario	7578
Orange	15089
Orleans	5033
Oswego	8913
Otsego	12362
Putnam	5210
Rensselaer	10107
Rockland	8395
Saint Lawrence	17019
Saratoga	10312
Schenectady	5272
Schoharie	6139
Schuyler	2021
Seneca	4014
Steuben	12345
Suffolk	55858
Sullivan	7925
Tioga	5980
Tompkins	6492
Ulster	9370
Warren	7117
Washington	10383
Wayne	11331
Westchester	42846
Wyoming	4198
Yates	2024

Solution

As seen in the cell above, the districts have been consolidated to their respective districts. In doing so, the scores from the districts that make up a county were accummulated without being averaged out.

Moving forward, I would need to divide the 'SAT Combined Scores' by the number of districts in each county. Unfortunately, I do not know any shortcuts to solve the problem. I could not just apply a divisin on each column as this would not consider for the variation in how many districts there are in each county.

In order resolve the issue, I will take the original data, create a new table where the District names are replaced with their count. From there, I will merge the new data set with the current one and conduct the relevant arithmetic to find the mean SAT scores by county.

Creating the new data set: Number of Districts in each County.

```
In [151]: scores_new = scores.groupby('County')
In [152]: scores_new= scores_new.count()
In [153]: scores_new.head() #check
Out[153]:
```

	District	SAT Combined Score
County		
Albany	11	11
Allegany	11	11
Broome	12	12
Cattaraugus	12	12
Cayuga	7	7

Out[154]:

	District Count
County	
Albany	11
Allegany	11
Broome	12
Cattaraugus	12
Cayuga	7

Now that the new data set has been created, it can be merged with the previous one. This can be done as they have a common identifier 'County'.

Merging the two data sets

Out[155]:

	District Count	District	SAT Combined Score
County			
Albany	11	Watervliet City School District Voorheesville	11191
Allegany	11	Whitesville Central School District Wellsvill	10987
Broome	12	Windsor Central School District Whitney Point	12361
Cattaraugus	12	Yorkshire-Pioneer Central School District Wes	11846
Cayuga	7	Weedsport Central School District Union Sprin	7311

Now that I have a count of districts and the accumulated SAT scores, I can create a new column with simple math to generate the average SAT score by county (SAT Combined Score/District Count).

```
In [157]: merged_SAT_score.head()
```

Out[157]:

	District Count	District	SAT Combined Score	SAT Combined Average Score
County				
Albany	11	Watervliet City School District Voorheesville	11191	1017.363636
Allegany	11	Whitesville Central School District Wellsvill	10987	998.818182
Broome	12	Windsor Central School District Whitney Point	12361	1030.083333
Cattaraugus	12	Yorkshire-Pioneer Central School District Wes	11846	987.166667
Cayuga	7	Weedsport Central School District Union Sprin	7311	1044.428571

Data Cleaning (removing unneccessary columns)

```
In [158]:
del merged_SAT_score['District']
del merged_SAT_score['SAT Combined Score']
del merged_SAT_score['District Count']
```

In [159]: merged_SAT_score.head() #check

Out[159]:

	SAT Combined Average Score
County	
Albany	1017.363636
Allegany	998.818182
Broome	1030.083333
Cattaraugus	987.166667
Cayuga	1044.428571

This data set is ready. The next step will be to import and prepare the income data.

Step 2: Importing data on household income

The data will be imported from Wikipedia.

```
In [160]: url= "/Users/studentgovernment/Desktop/Income_County.xlsx"
    income_data= pd.read_excel(url)
    income_data.head()
```

Out[160]:

	County	Per Capita Income	Median Household Income	Median Family income	Population	Number of Households
1.0	New York County	111386	64971	75629	1585873	763846
2.0	Westchester	73159	79619	100863	949113	347232
3.0	Nassau	41387	93613	107934	1339532	448528
4.0	Putnam	37915	89218	101576	99710	35041
5.0	Suffolk	35755	84506	96220	1493350	499922

Data Cleaning

Similar to the data imported on SAT scores, this data will need to be 'cleaned'. Less work will need to be done with this dataset. It will require two things:

- Setting the Index
- Removal of unneccessary information

Setting Index

Out[161]:

	Per Capita Income	Median Household Income	Median Family income	Population	Number of Households
County					
New York County	111386	64971	75629	1585873	763846
Westchester	73159	79619	100863	949113	347232
Nassau	41387	93613	107934	1339532	448528
Putnam	37915	89218	101576	99710	35041
Suffolk	35755	84506	96220	1493350	499922

Removal of Unneccessary Columns

```
In [162]: del income_data['Per Capita Income']
    del income_data['Median Household Income']
    del income_data['Population']
    del income_data['Number of Households']
    income_data.head()
```

Out[162]:

	Median Family income
County	
New York County	75629
Westchester	100863
Nassau	107934
Putnam	101576
Suffolk	96220

This dataset is ready. From here, I can begging merging and correlating the data.

Step 3: Merging Income and SAT scores

Similar to the previous merging done in this project, the two datasets can be merged on the common identifier ('County').

Out[170]:

	SAT Combined Average Score	Median Family income
Albany	1017.363636	76159.0
Allegany	998.818182	49864.0
Bronx	NaN	38431.0
Broome	1030.083333	57545.0
Cattaraugus	987.166667	51227.0

```
In [292]: merged_data.head(20) #checking of larger sample
```

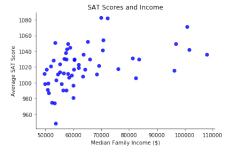
Out[292]:

	SAT Combined Average Score	Median Family income
Albany	1017.363636	76159.0
Allegany	998.818182	49864.0
Bronx	NaN	38431.0
Broome	1030.083333	57545.0
Cattaraugus	987.166667	51227.0
Cayuga	1044.428571	58761.0
Chautauqua	999.176471	51031.0
Chemung	1013.333333	55246.0
Chenango	974.625000	52229.0
Clinton	1029.000000	60280.0
Columbia	1021.500000	69132.0
Cortland	1042.400000	57743.0
Delaware	948.454545	53590.0
Dutchess	1029.923077	83599.0
Erie	1008.214286	63404.0
Essex	998.400000	55781.0
Franklin	991.285714	50816.0
Fulton	1016.750000	50425.0
Genesee	1016.750000	60127.0
Greene	1024.000000	55260.0

Mapping

I will use a scatter diagram to map the correlation between the median family income and average SAT scores.

```
In [335]: #Importing the relevant packages
                 import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import plotly.plotly as py
import plotly.graph_objs as go
import statsmodels.api as sm
                  #Creating the Scatter Plot
                  fig,ax = plt.subplots()
                  y = merged_data['SAT Combined Average Score']
x = merged_data['Median Family income']
                  plt.scatter(x, y, color = 'b', alpha=0.8)
                  #Labelling
                  plt.title('SAT Scores and Income')
                  plt.ylabel('Average SAT Score')
plt.xlabel('Median Family Income ($)')
                  #Line of Best Fit: I had tried to do this a number of ways, unfortunat
ely it was not working out for some reason.
# Below is one of the codes i tried to use to make th
                  #
e plot.
                 #from pylab import*
#(m,b) = polyfit(x,y,1)
#print(b)
#print(m)
                  #yp = polyval([m,b],1)
#plot(x,yp)
                  #grid(True)
                  #Aesthetic
                  #Aestnetic
ax.spines["right"].set_visible(False)
ax.spines["top"].set_visible(False)
                  plt.show()
```



Observations

From the table above there is a clear correction between the Median Family income and the average SAT score. As a family's income increases, the likelyhood of a higher SAT score increases.

On the left side of the graph, there is much more clustering of the data. At the lower income levels, the avergae SAT scores have much greater variance, however they do not seem to completely eliminate the possibility of achieving a score comporable to that of the middle/higher earning populations.

On the right side, there is much less clustering. This may be a reflection of the less number of families to be found at the higher income levels. The overall average SAT score is higher than that of lower income families. Above ~65,000 the average score does not fall below 1000 points. The likelyhood of getting a higher score increases.

Conclusion

At higher income levels, the likelyhood of scoring better in the SAT's is much greater. With that, students are more likley to end up in better higher learning institutions, and in that achieve greater access to improve their economic standing. However, the difference observed is not substantial. As seen in the graph, there is hardly a difference between earning 50,000 and 60,000 overall. With regard to upper limits, the graph does not reflect a considerable difference between a family making 50,000 versus 80,000. So while there is a positive correlation, the actual income level seems to have little impact on SAT scores.

Limitations

In a study Mckiney and Company, New York State only ranks 19/50 by with regard to quality of education. Therefore this may be an underlying issue with the study. Although the income level may increase, the actual quality of education may not increase as dramatically, unless someone goes to an elite school at the far right of the spectrum.

To lean closer to the truth, the scope of this project would have to broaden. By adding in more locations, the question of overall low quality education with New York State would be somewhat mitigated. Additionally this study does not relfect all the other differences that may come into play with regard to addressing inequality, such as geography, transport, health, access to financial support, institutions etc. This project also does not consider the actual make up of the students. For instance, what is the difference by race, gender, ethnicity.

Finally, having a high SAT score is not a good enough determinate of getting into a high quality tetiary leaning instituion. It does not consider the impact of extra-curriculars, financial aid (whether at state level, school level or pell grant).

END

In [340]:

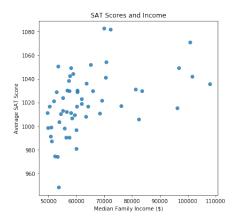
##Below is an additional step I would have like to take in the project
#I would have liked to take the information gathered and plotted it on
a map of new york state.

a map of new york state. #In doing so, I may have been able to identify other pieces to the puz zle

#Such as, where clustering of good education may happen - the city vs more rural areas.

#Unfortunately, I was not able to combine the two pieces of code.

```
In [341]: plt.figure(figsize=(6,6))
           my_map = Basemap(projection='merc', # This is a simple one...some opti
           ons require more input
                             resolution = 'l', area_thresh = 1000.0, # Same as abo
                             llcrnrlon=-80, llcrnrlat=40, # This says "lower left
           hand cornoer lon, lower left hand corner lat
urcrnrlon=-71, urcrnrlat=46) # This says upper right
           hand corner lon, upper right corner lat
                                                             # Then it will draw a bo
           x given these specifications.
           \# Note given my starting point, I played alot with to find what I was
           # Hor my Latin American friends, if you flip this the right way you ca
           n get the updside down
           # perspective.
           y = merged_data['SAT Combined Average Score']
           x = merged_data['Median Family income']
           plt.scatter(x, y,alpha=0.8)
plt.title('SAT Scores and Income')
           plt.ylabel('Average SAT Score')
           plt.xlabel('Median Family Income ($)')
           #Aesthetic
ax.spines["right"].set_visible(False)
ax.spines["top"].set_visible(False)
           my map.drawcoastlines()
           my_map.drawcountries(linewidth=1.5) # Make the country lines bolder
my_map.fillcontinents(color='grey',alpha = 0.25,lake_color='aqua') # F
           ill in the lakes
           my_map.drawmapboundary()
my_map.drawstates(linewidth=1.5)
           plt.show()
```



/Users/studentgovernment/anaconda3/lib/python3.6/site-packages/mpl_toolkits/basemap/__init__.py:1708: MatplotlibDeprecationWarning:

The axesPatch function was deprecated in version 2.1. Use $\ensuremath{\mathtt{Axes.patch}}$ instead.

/Users/studentgovernment/anaconda3/lib/python3.6/site-packages/mpl_toolkits/basemap/__init__.py:1711: MatplotlibDeprecationWarning:

The axesPatch function was deprecated in version 2.1. Use Axes.patch instead.

