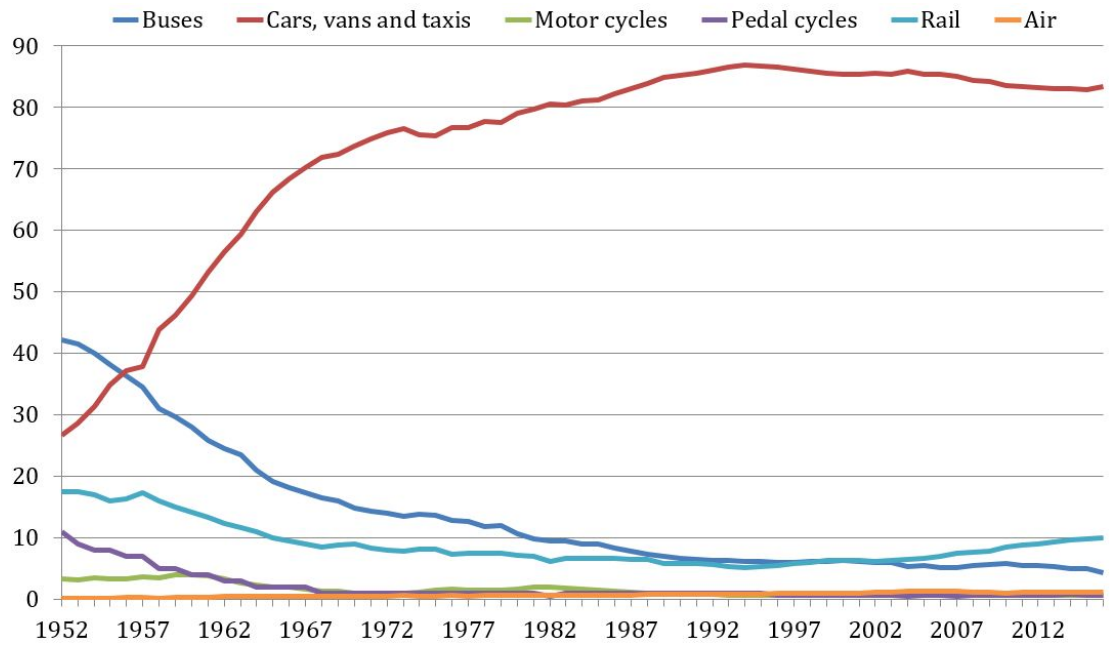
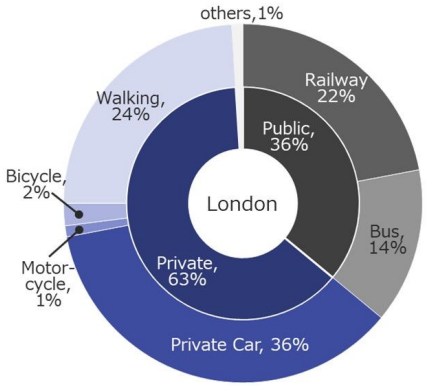
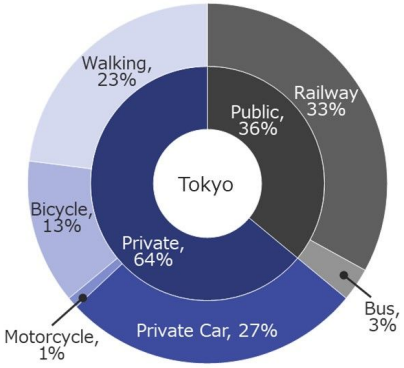
Key Terminology for Transit Analysis

Modal Share

The percentage of travelers using a particular type of transportation or number of trips using said type







Last Mile Connectivity

The gap from public transit to destination, for example the trip between a train station and a final location

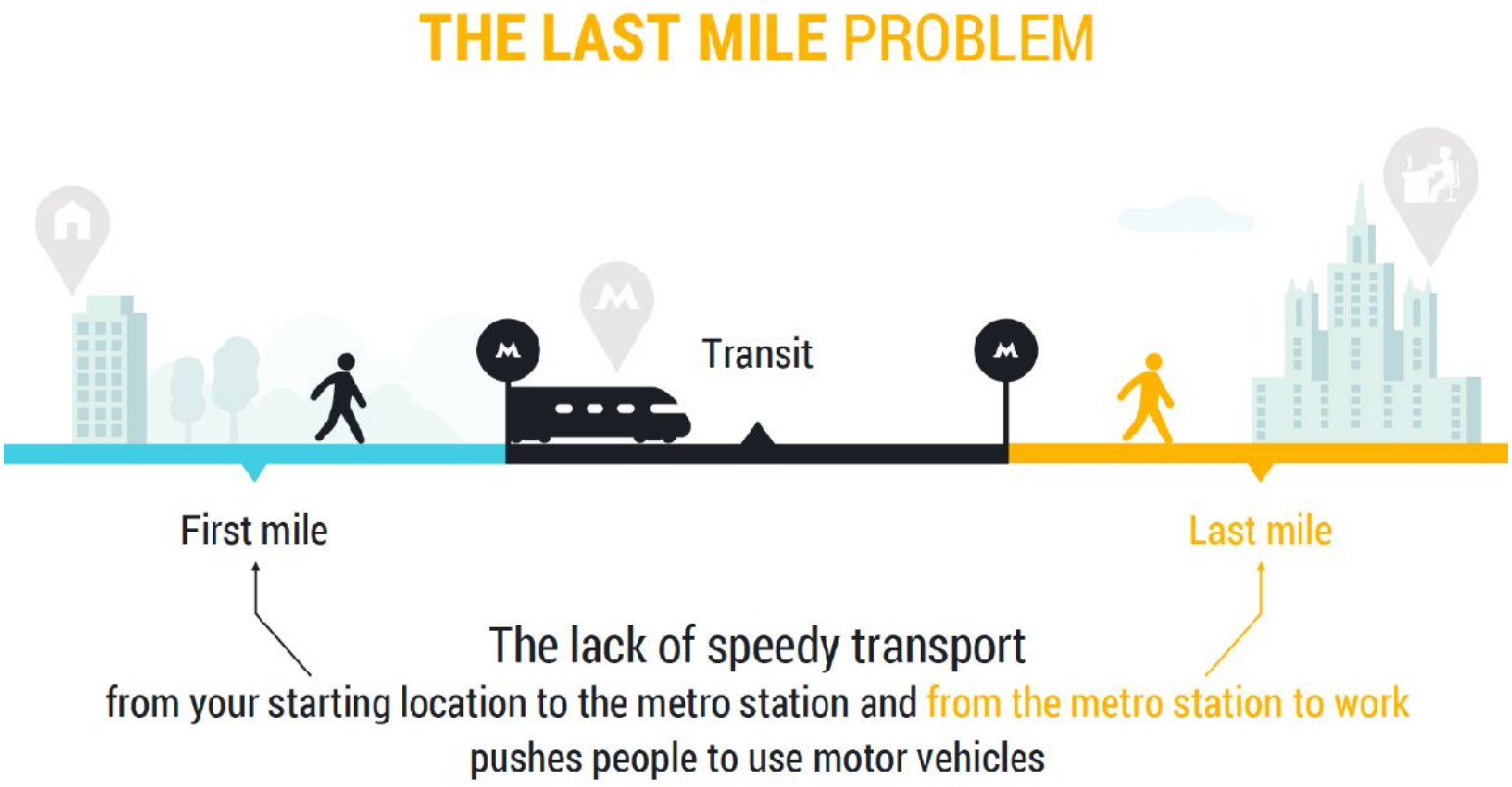
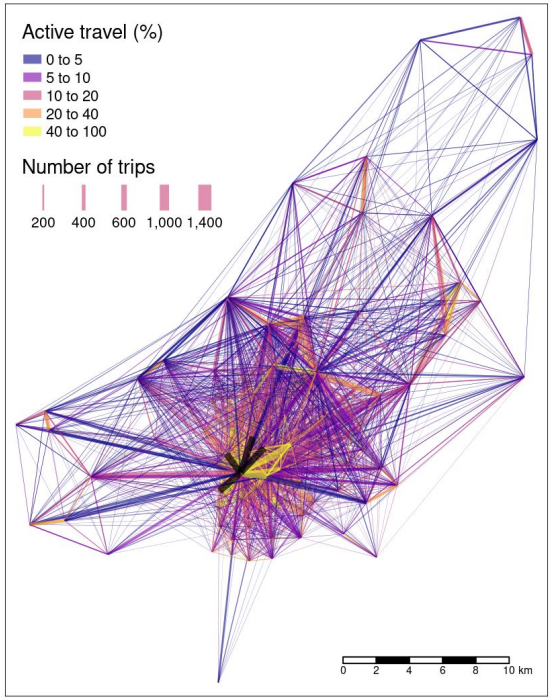


Figure 1. The last mile problem

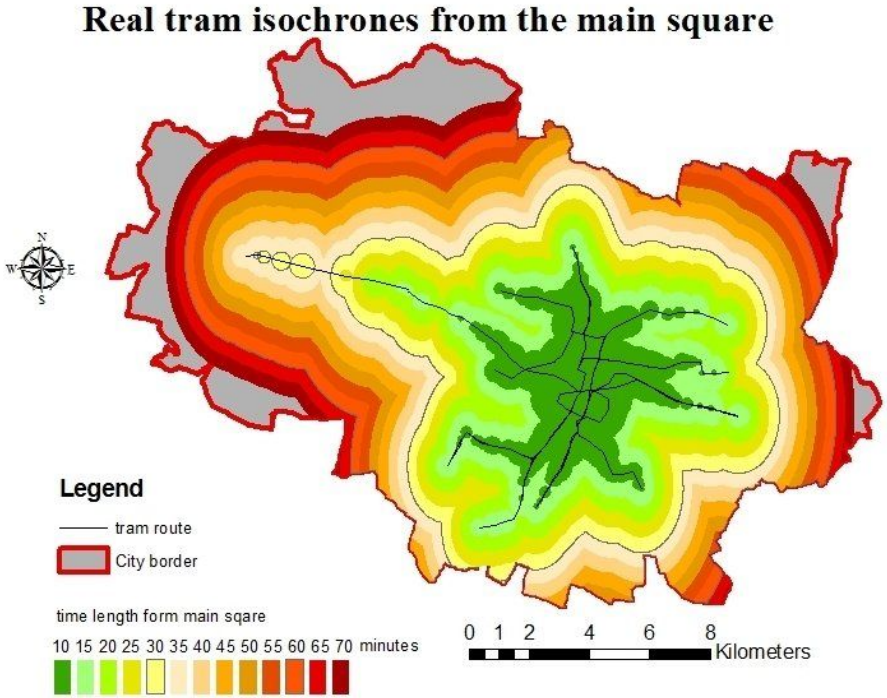
Desire Line

The preferred route a person will take in order to travel from A-to-B, represented as a straight line



Isochrone

Areas on a map where something occurs or arrives at the same time, for distances traveled in the same time



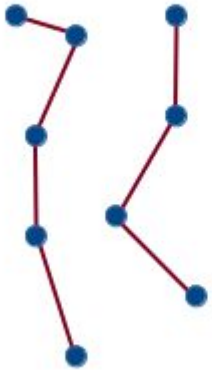
Types of Geospatial Data

Geospatial data has two formats: vector (represented by coordinates) and raster data (represented as a grid)

Points

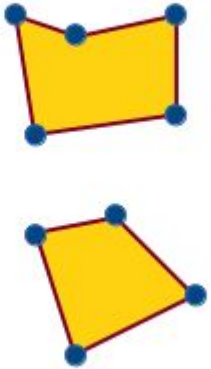
E.g. Stops

Lines



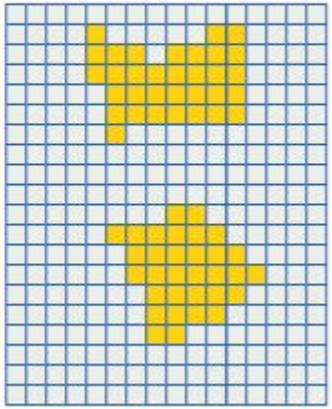
E.g. Routes

Polygons



E.g. Service areas

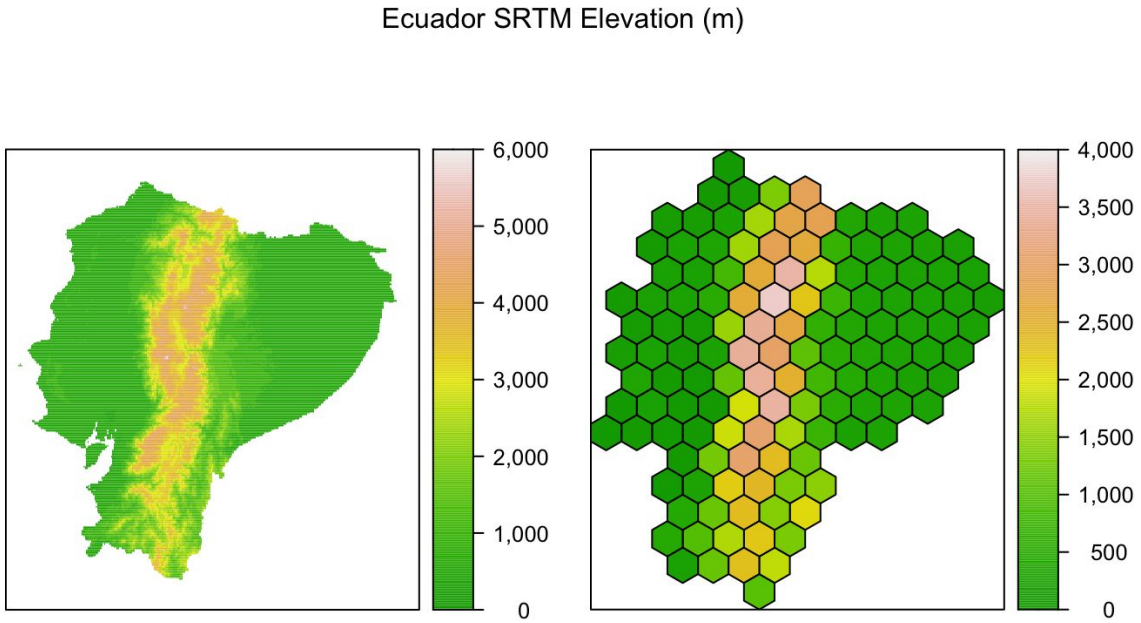
Raster



E.g. Population

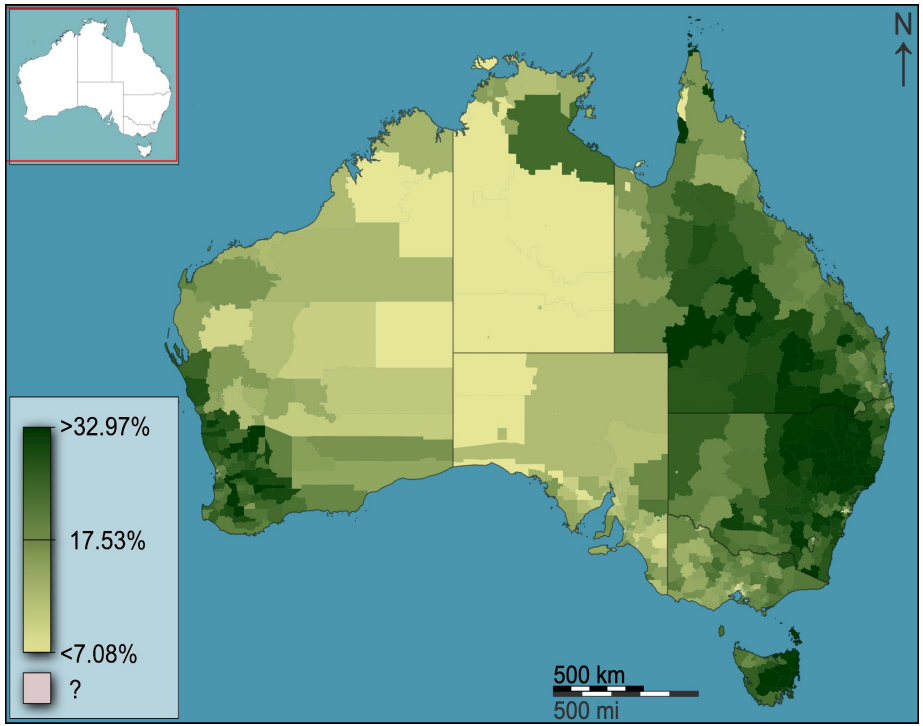
Hexagonal Grid

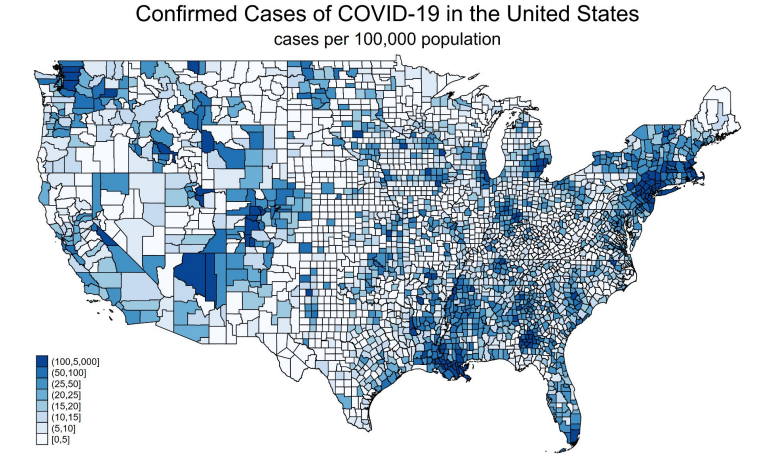
A method of breaking complicated maps into zones of equal sizes, useful for visual or statistical analysis

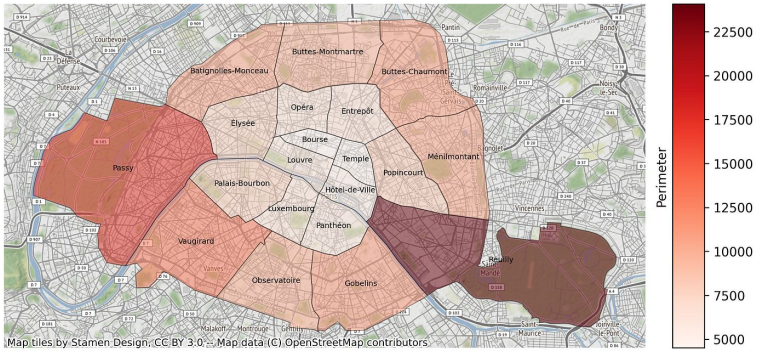


Choropleth

A map that shows divided geographical areas or regions as coloured in relation to a data variable

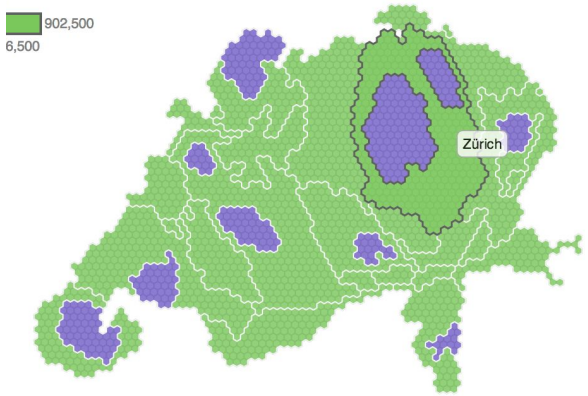


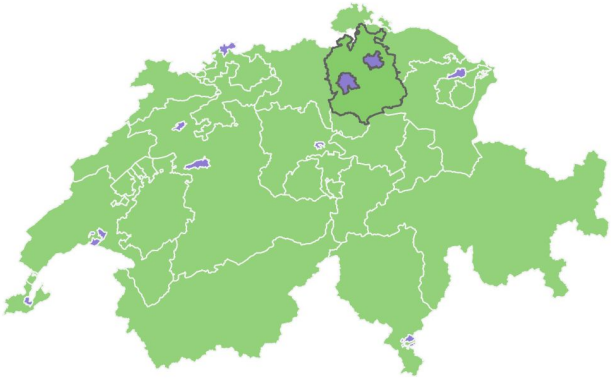


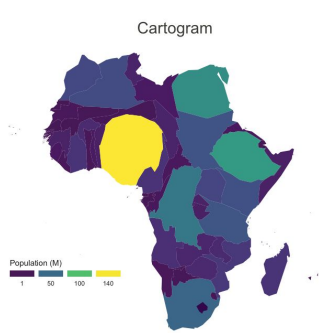


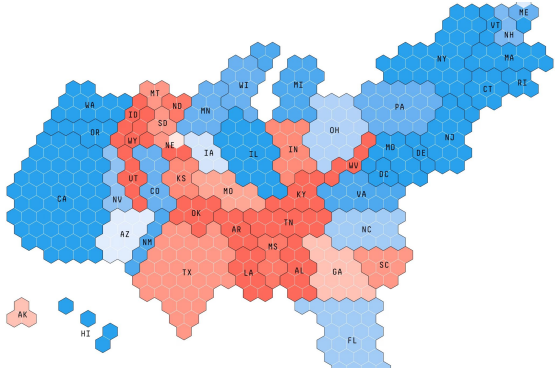
Cartogram

A map where the geometry of regions is distorted in order to convey the information of an alternate variable



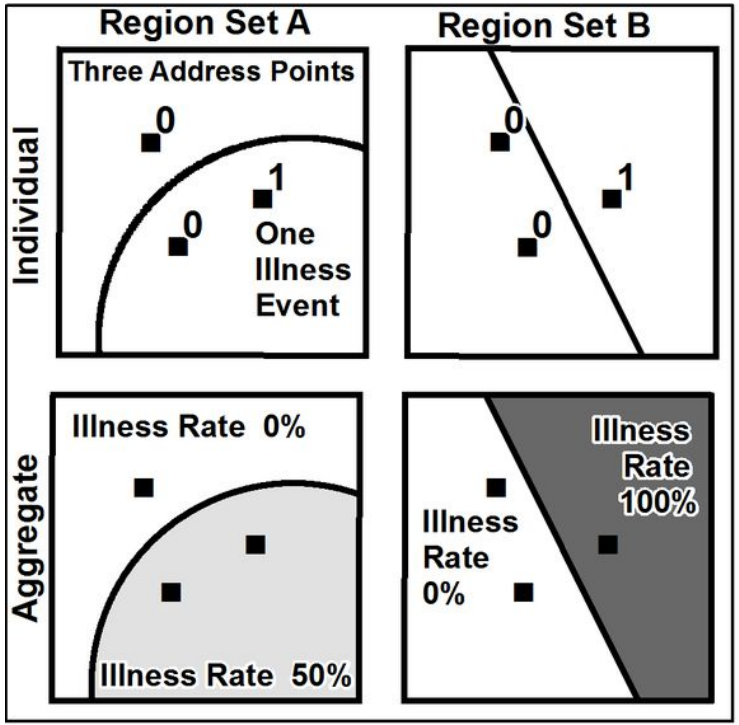






Modifiable Areal Unit Problem

When point-based measures of spatial phenomena are aggregated into spatial areas which affect averages



An example of the modifiable areal unit problem and the distortion of rate calculations