West Nile Virus

# Objective:

In 2002, the first human cases of West Nile virus were reported in Chicago. By 2004 the City of Chicago and the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) had established a comprehensive surveillance and control program that is still in effect today.

Every week from late spring through the fall, mosquitos in traps across the city are tested for the virus. The results of these tests influence when and where the city will spray airborne pesticides to control adult mosquito populations.

Given weather, location, testing, and spraying data, this competition asks you to predict when and where different species of mosquitos will test positive for West Nile virus.

Every year from late-May to early-October, public health workers in Chicago setup mosquito traps scattered across the city. Every week from Monday through Wednesday, these traps collect mosquitos, and the mosquitos are tested for the presence of West Nile virus before the end of the week. The test results include the number of mosquitos, the mosquito’s species, and whether or not West Nile virus is present in the cohort.

### **Main dataset**

These test results are organized in such a way that when the number of mosquitos exceed 50, they are split into another record (another row in the dataset), such that the number of mosquitos are capped at 50.

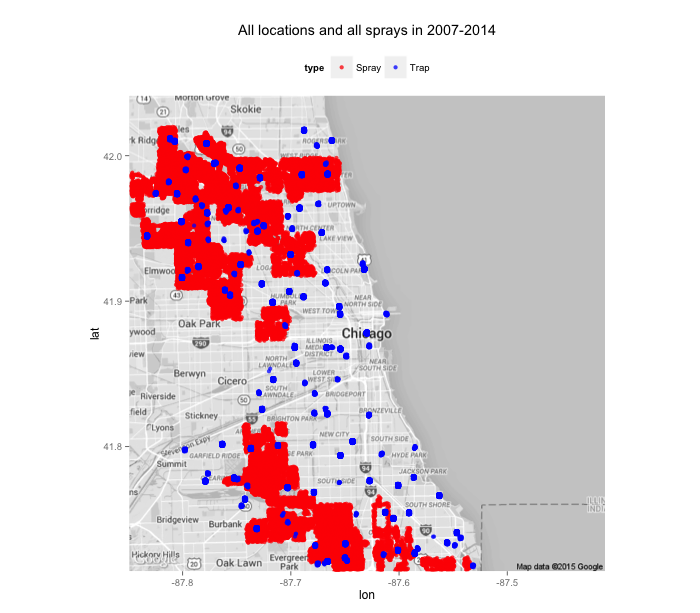
The location of the traps are described by the block number and street name. For your convenience, we have mapped these attributes into Longitude and Latitude in the dataset. Please note that these are derived locations. For example, Block=79, and Street= "W FOSTER AVE" gives us an approximate address of "7900 W FOSTER AVE, Chicago, IL", which translates to [(41.974089,-87.824812) on the map](https://www.google.com/maps/place/41%C2%B058'26.7%22N+87%C2%B049'29.3%22W/@41.9749544,-87.8071845,12z/).

Some traps are "satellite traps". These are traps that are set up near (usually within 6 blocks) an established trap to enhance surveillance efforts. Satellite traps are postfixed with letters. For example, T220A is a satellite trap to T220.

Please note that not all the locations are tested at all times. Also, records exist only when a particular species of mosquitos is found at a certain trap at a certain time. In the test set, we ask you for all combinations/permutations of possible predictions and are only scoring the observed ones.

### **Spray Data**

The City of Chicago also does spraying to kill mosquitos. You are given the GIS data for their spray efforts in 2011 and 2013. Spraying can reduce the number of mosquitos in the area, and therefore might eliminate the appearance of West Nile virus.



### **Weather Data**

It is believed that hot and dry conditions are more favorable for West Nile virus than cold and wet. We provide you with the dataset from [NOAA](http://cdo.ncdc.noaa.gov/qclcd/QCLCD?prior=N) of the weather conditions of 2007 to 2014, during the months of the tests.

Station 1: CHICAGO O'HARE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT Lat: 41.995 Lon: -87.933 Elev: 662 ft. above sea level  
Station 2: CHICAGO MIDWAY INTL ARPT Lat: 41.786 Lon: -87.752 Elev: 612 ft. above sea level

# About the dataset:

* + train.csv, test.csv - the training and test set of the main dataset. The training set consists of data from 2007, 2009, 2011, and 2013, while in the test set you are requested to predict the test results for 2008, 2010, 2012, and 2014.
* Id: the id of the record
* Date: date that the WNV test is performed
* Address: approximate address of the location of trap. This is used to send to the GeoCoder.
* Species: the species of mosquitos
* Block: block number of address
* Street: street name
* Trap: Id of the trap
* AddressNumberAndStreet: approximate address returned from GeoCoder
* Latitude, Longitude: Latitude and Longitude returned from GeoCoder
* AddressAccuracy: accuracy returned from GeoCoder
* NumMosquitos: number of mosquitoes caught in this trap
* WnvPresent: whether West Nile Virus was present in these mosquitos. 1 means WNV is present, and 0 means not present.
  + spray.csv - GIS data of spraying efforts in 2011 and 2013
* Date, Time: the date and time of the spray
* Latitude, Longitude: the Latitude and Longitude of the spray
  + weather.csv - weather data from 2007 to 2014. Column descriptions in noaa\_weather\_qclcd\_documentation.pdf.
  + sampleSubmission.csv - a sample submission file in the correct format