

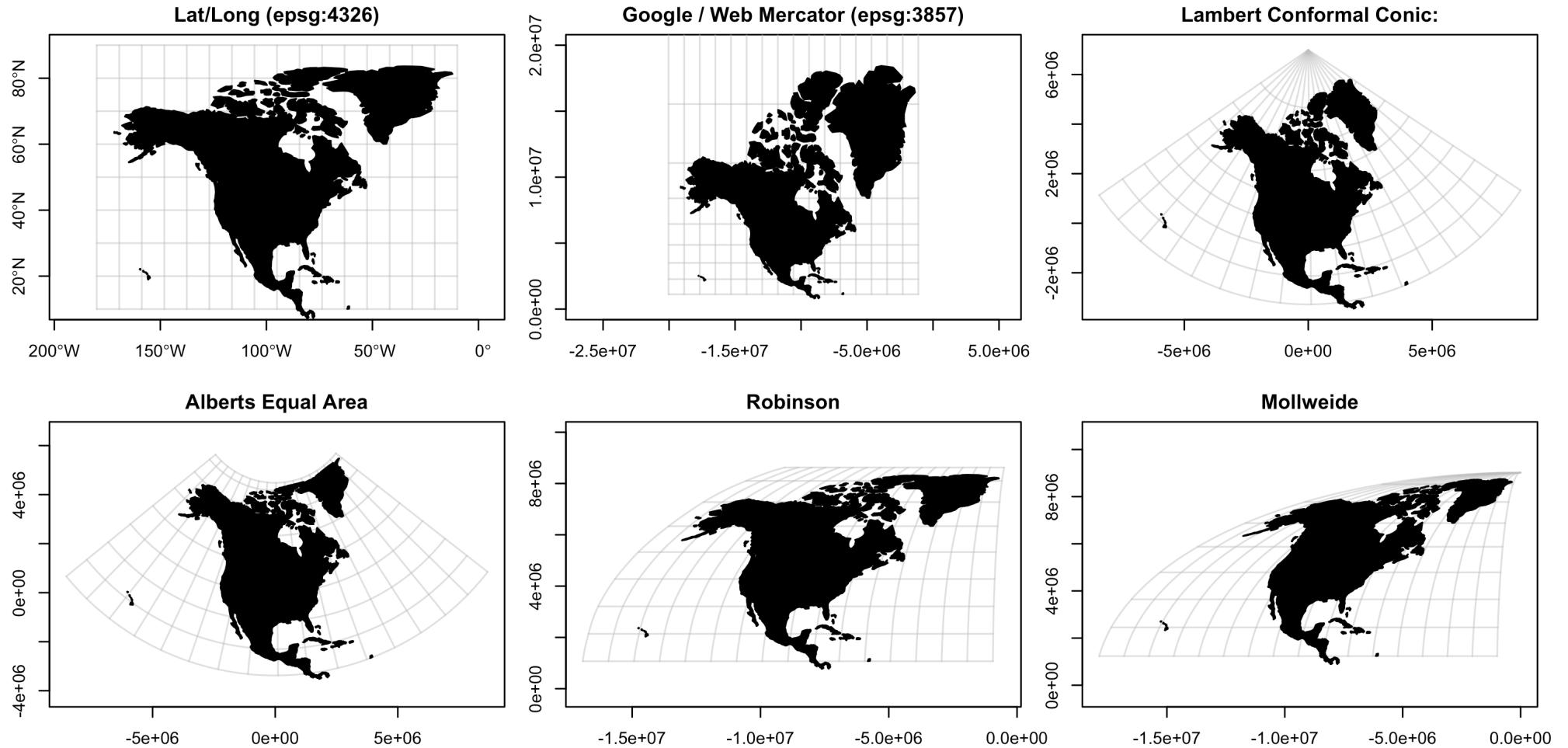
# Spatial data & GIS tools

Lecture 22

Dr. Colin Rundel

# **Geospatial stuff is hard**

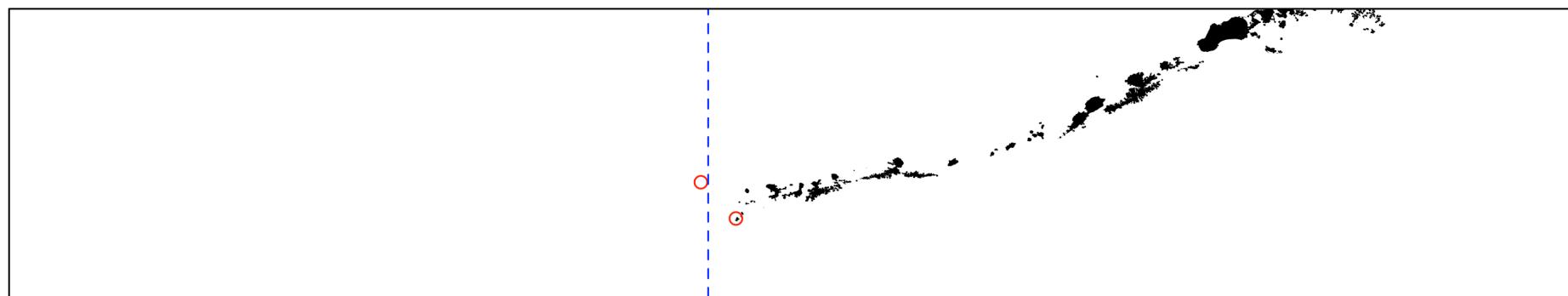
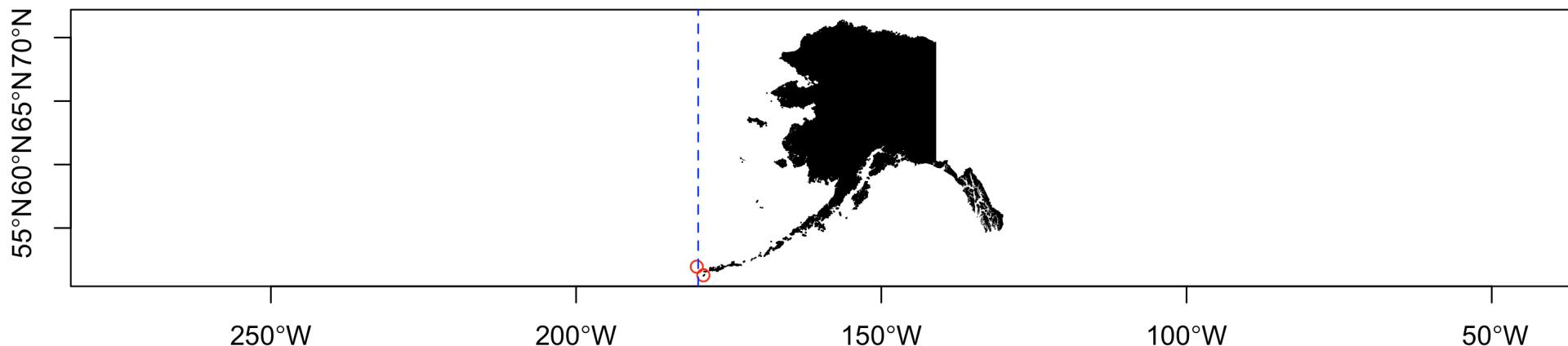
# Projections



EPSG is a public registry of coordinate reference systems and related data (name comes from the European Petroleum  
Sta 323 - Spring 2025

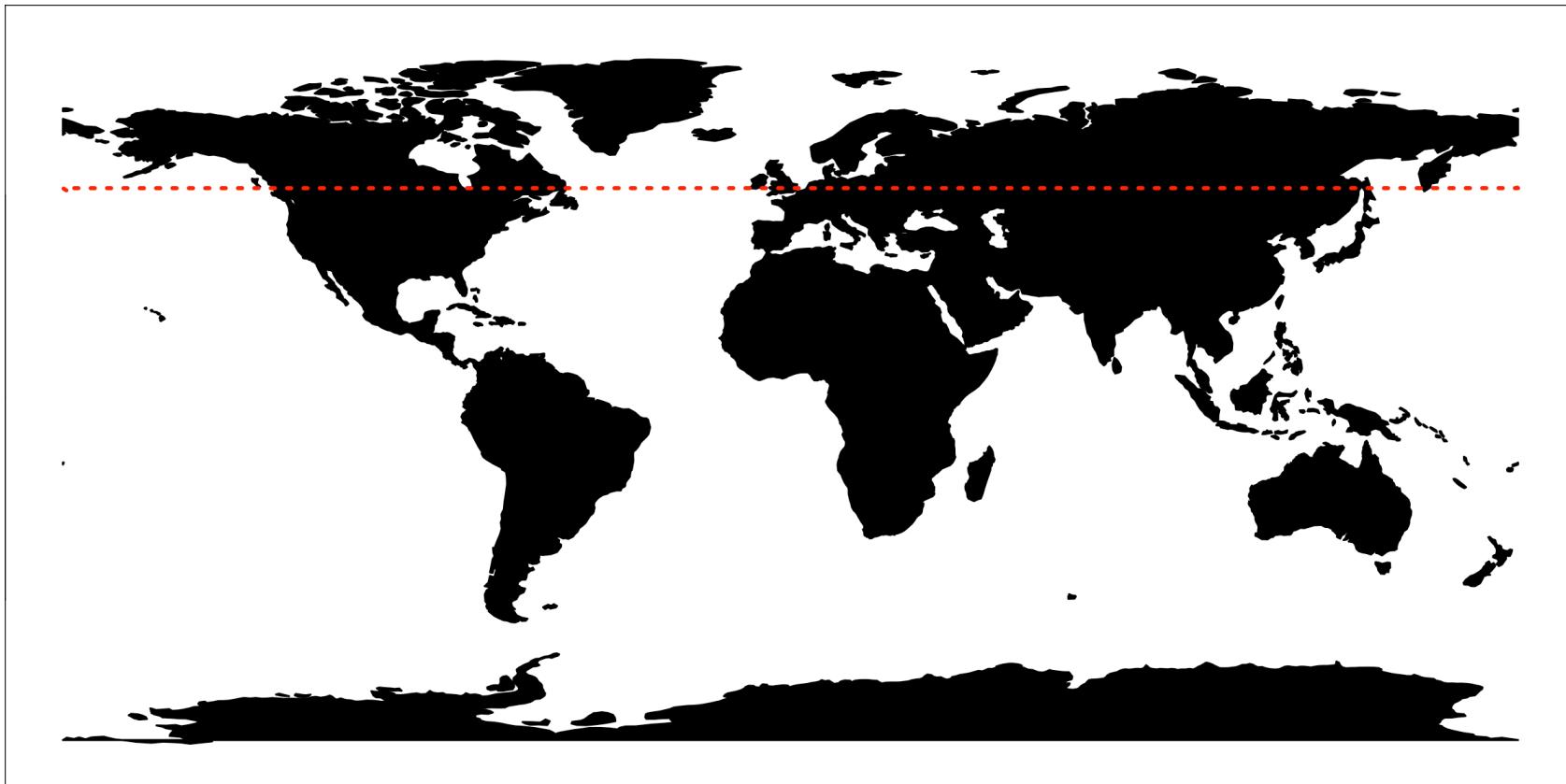
# Dateline

How long is the flight between the Western most and the Eastern most points in the US?



# Great circle distance

```
1 par(mar=c(0,0,0,0))
2 ak1 = c(179.776, 51.952)
3 ak2 = c(-179.146, 51.273)
4 inter = geosphere::gcIntermediate(ak1, ak2, n=50, addStartEnd=TRUE)
5 plot(st_geometry(world), col="black", ylim=c(-90,90), axes=TRUE)
6 lines(inter,col='red',lwd=2,lty=3)
```



# Relationships

# Geospatial Data and R

# Packages for geospatial data in R

R has a rich package ecosystem for read/writing, manipulating, and analyzing geospatial data. Some core packages:

- `sp` (**Deprecated**) - ~~core classes for handling spatial data, additional utility functions~~
- `rgdal` (**Deprecated**) - ~~R interface to `gdal` (Geospatial Data Abstraction Library) for reading and writing spatial data~~
- `rgeos` (**Deprecated**) - ~~R interface to `geos` (Geometry Engine Open Source) library for querying and manipulating spatial data. Reading and writing WKT.~~
- `sf` - Combines the functionality of `sp`, `rgdal`, and `rgeos` into a single package based on tidy simple features.
- `raster` - classes and tools for handling spatial raster data.
- `terra` - Methods for spatial data analysis with vector (points, lines, polygons) and raster (grid) data (replaces `raster`)
- `stars` - Reading, manipulating, writing and plotting spatiotemporal arrays (rasters)

See more - [Spatial task view](#)

# Installing `sf`

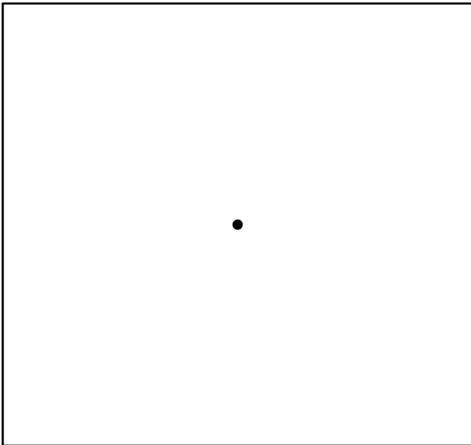
This is the hardest part of using the `sf` package, difficulty comes from its dependence on several external libraries (`geos`, `gdal`, and `proj`).

- *Windows* - installing from source works when Rtools is installed (system requirements are downloaded from rwinlib)
- *MacOS* - install dependencies via homebrew: `gdal`, `geos`, `proj`, `udunits`.
- *Linux* - Install development packages for GDAL ( $\geq 2.0.0$ ), GEOS ( $\geq 3.3.0$ ), Proj4 ( $\geq 4.8.0$ ), udunits2 from your package manager of choice.

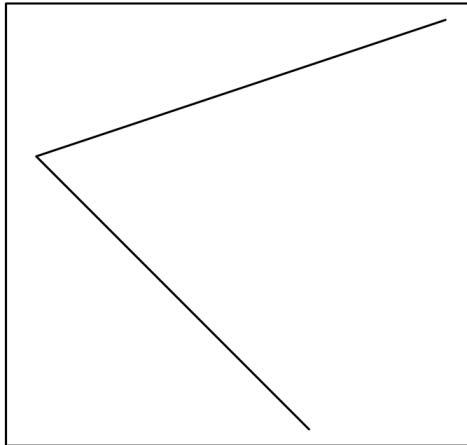
More specific details are included in the repo [README](#) on github.

# Simple Features

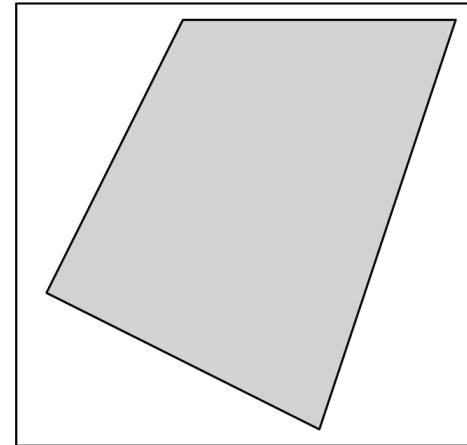
Point



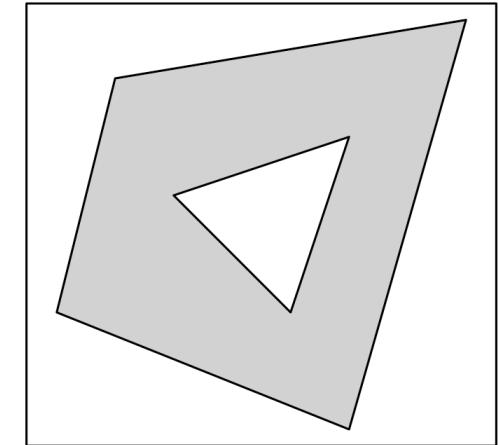
Linestring



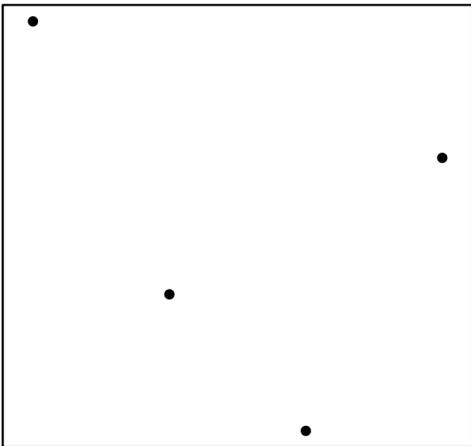
Polygon



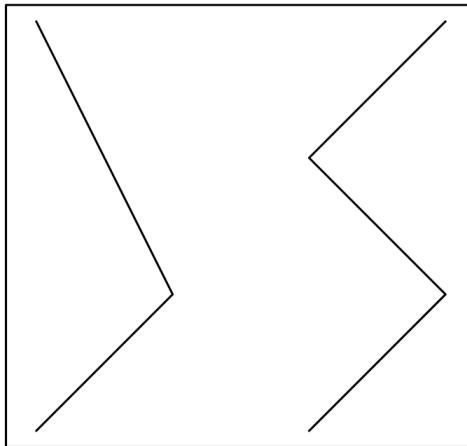
Polygon w/ Hole(s)



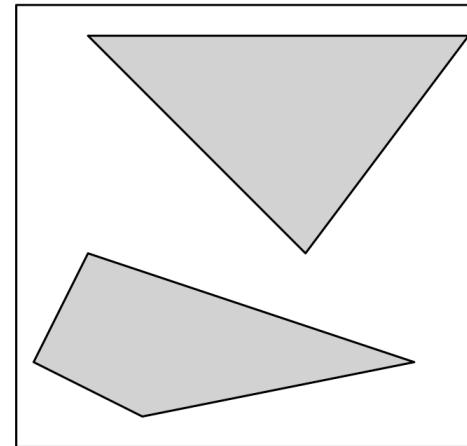
Multipoint



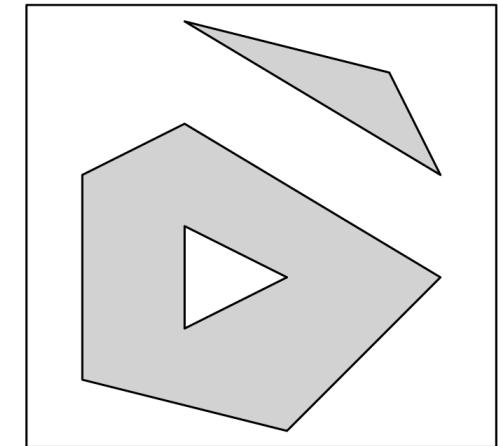
Multilinestring



Multipolygon



Multipolygon w/ Hole(s)



# Reading, writing, and converting simple features

- `st_read / st_write` - Shapefile, GeoJSON, KML, ...
- `read_sf / write_sf` - Same but returns tibbles
- `st_as_sfc / st_as_wkt` - WKT
- `st_as_sfc / st_as_binary` - WKB
- `st_as_sfc / as(x, "Spatial")` - sp

# Shapefiles

```
1 fs::dir_info("data/gis/nc_counties/") |> select(path:size)  
  
# A tibble: 4 × 3  
path                      type     size  
<fs::path>                <fct>   <fs::b>  
1 ...a/gis/nc_counties/nc_counties.dbf file      41K  
2 ...a/gis/nc_counties/nc_counties.prj file      165  
3 ...a/gis/nc_counties/nc_counties.shp file    1.41M  
4 ...a/gis/nc_counties/nc_counties.shx file      900
```

# NC Counties - sf + data.frame

```
1 (st_read("data/gis/nc_counties/", quiet=TRUE))
```

Simple feature collection with 100 features and 8 fields

Geometry type: MULTIPOLYGON

Dimension: XY

Bounding box: xmin: -84.32186 ymin: 33.84175 xmax: -75.46003 ymax: 36.58815

Geodetic CRS: NAD83

First 10 features:

	AREA	PERIMETER	COUNTY	TYPE010	STATE	COUNTY	FIPS	STATE_FIPS
1	0.11175964	1.610396	Ashe	1994	NC	County	37009	37
2	0.06159483	1.354829	Alleghany	1996	NC	County	37005	37
3	0.14023009	1.769388	Surry	1998	NC	County	37171	37
4	0.08912401	1.425249	Gates	1999	NC	County	37073	37
5	0.06865730	4.428217	Currituck	2000	NC	County	37053	37
6	0.11859434	1.404309	Stokes	2001	NC	County	37169	37
7	0.06259671	2.106357	Camden	2002	NC	County	37029	37
8	0.11542955	1.462524	Warren	2003	NC	County	37185	37
9	0.14220600	2.207202	Watauga	2004	NC	County	37121	37

# NC Counties - sf + tbl

```
1 nc = read_sf("data/gis/nc_counties/"))
```

Simple feature collection with 100 features and 8 fields									
Geometry type: MULTIPOLYGON									
Dimension: XY									
Bounding box: xmin: -84.32186 ymin: 33.84175 xmax: -75.46003 ymax: 36.58815									
Geodetic CRS: NAD83									
# A tibble: 100 × 9									
	AREA	PERIMETER	COUNTY	P010	STATE	COUNTY	FIPS	STATE_FIPS	SQUARE_MIL
	<dbl>	<dbl>	<dbl>	<chr>	<chr>		<chr>	<chr>	<dbl>
1	0.112	1.61	1994	NC	Ashe County		37009	37	429.
2	0.0616	1.35	1996	NC	Alleghany County		37005	37	236.
3	0.140	1.77	1998	NC	Surry County		37171	37	539.
4	0.0891	1.43	1999	NC	Gates County		37073	37	342.
5	0.0687	4.43	2000	NC	Currituck County		37053	37	264.
6	0.119	1.40	2001	NC	Stokes County		37169	37	456.
7	0.0626	2.11	2002	NC	Camden County		37029	37	241.
8	0.115	1.46	2003	NC	Watauga County		37105	37	444.

# sf classes

```
1 str(nc, max.level=1)
```

```
sf [100 x 9] (S3: sf/tbl_df/tbl/data.frame)
- attr(*, "sf_column")= chr "geometry"
- attr(*, "agr")= Factor w/ 3 levels "constant","aggregate",...: NA NA NA NA NA NA NA
NA
..- attr(*, "names")= chr [1:8] "AREA" "PERIMETER" "COUNTYP010" "STATE" ...
```

```
1 class(nc)
```

```
[1] "sf"          "tbl_df"       "tbl"         "data.frame"
```

```
1 class(nc)
```

```
[1] "sf"          "tbl_df"       "tbl"         "data.frame"
```

```
1 class(nc$geometry)
```

```
[1] "sfc_MULTIPOLYGON" "sfc"
```

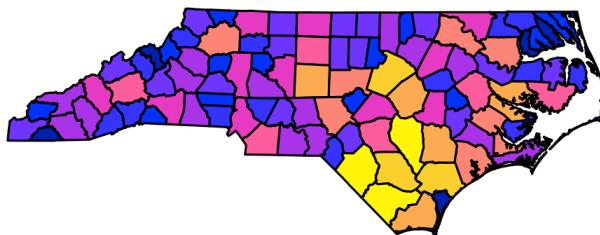
```
1 class(nc$geometry[[1]])
```

```
[1] "XY"           "MULTIPOLYGON" "sfg"
```

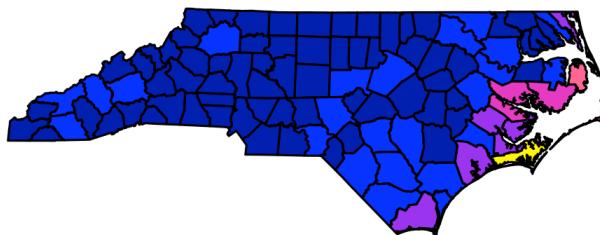
# Plotting

```
1 plot(nc)
```

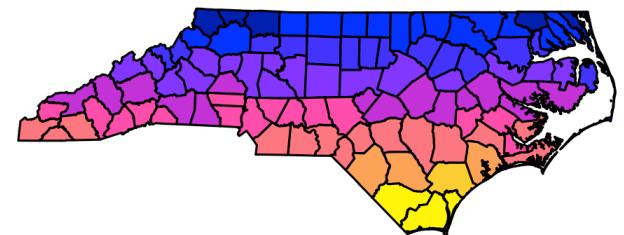
AREA



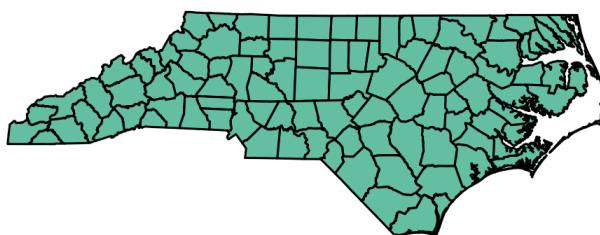
PERIMETER



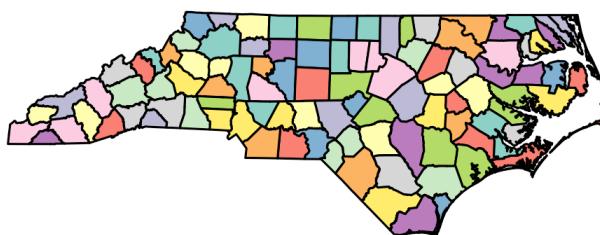
COUNTYP010



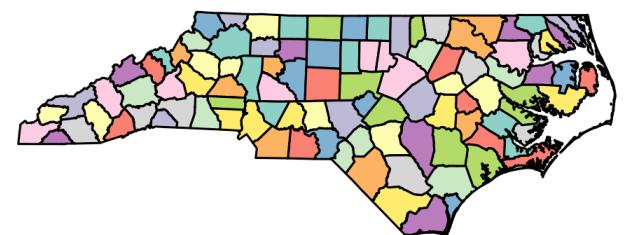
STATE



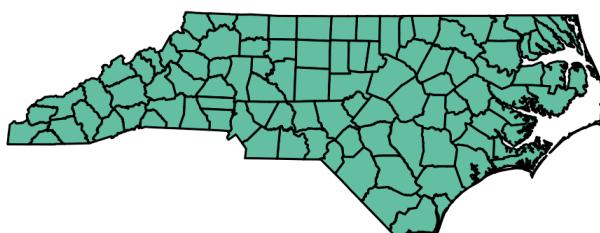
COUNTY



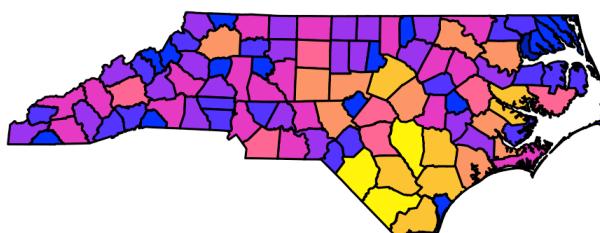
FIPS



STATE\_FIPS

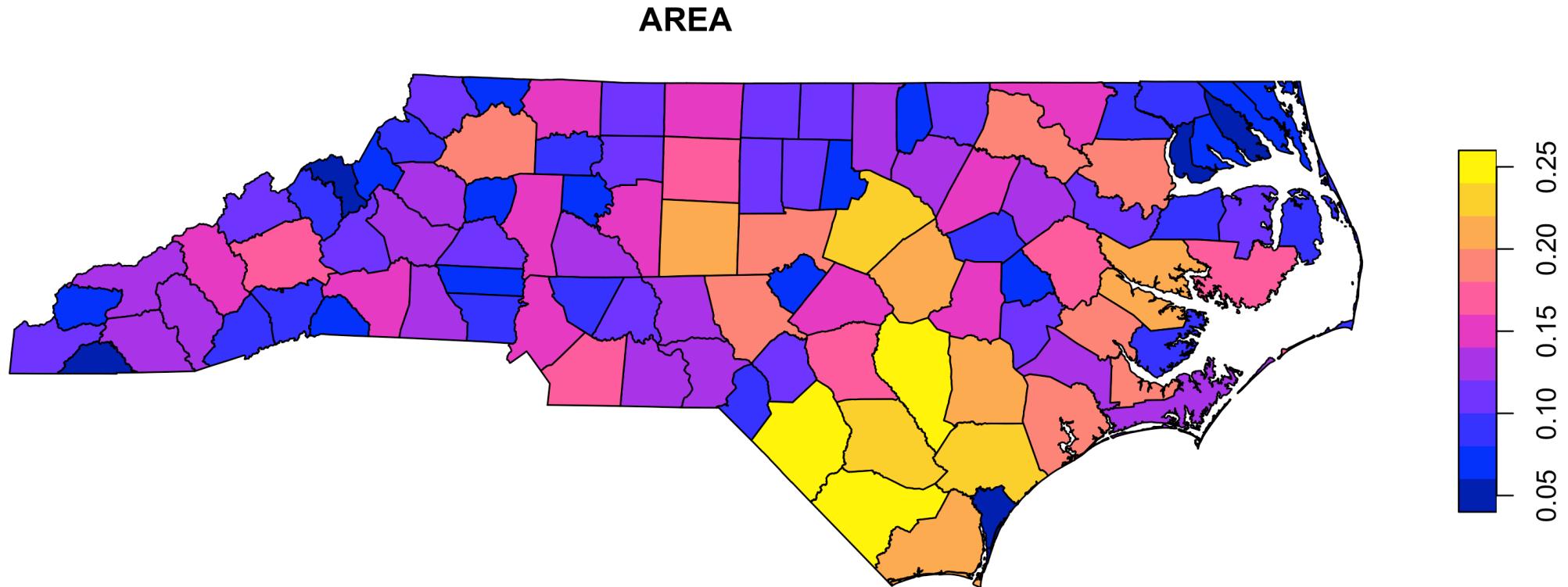


SQUARE\_MIL



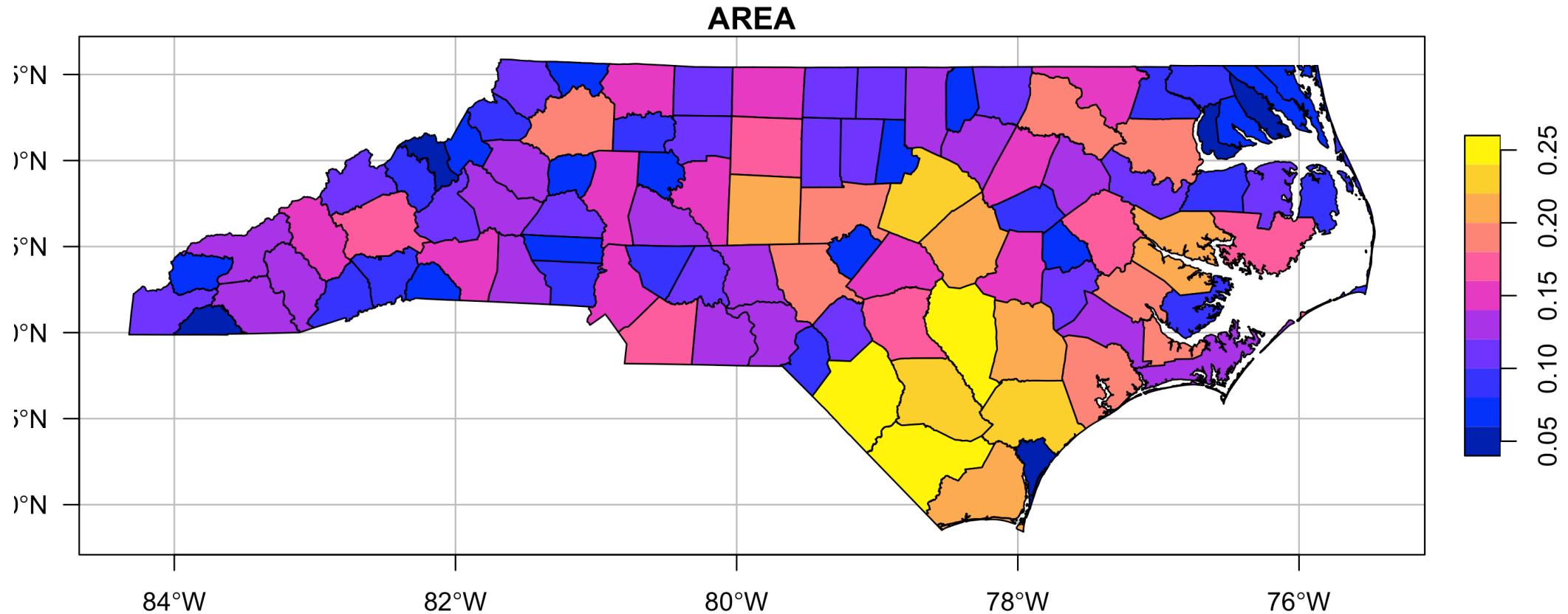
# More Plotting

```
1 plot(nc["AREA"] )
```



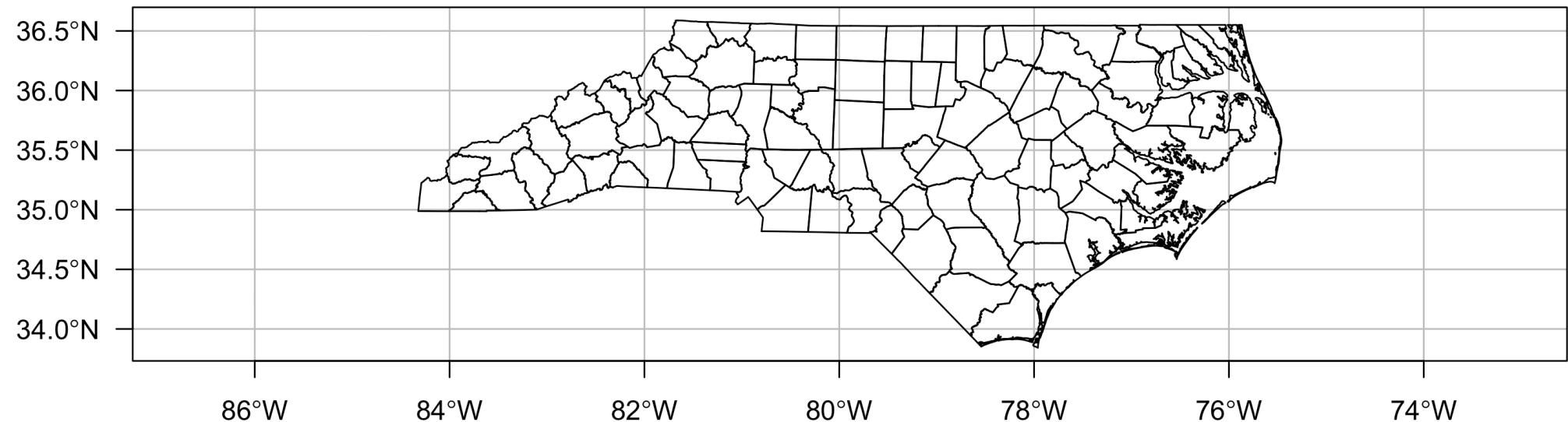
# Graticules

```
1 plot(nc["AREA"], graticule=TRUE, axes=TRUE, las=1)
```



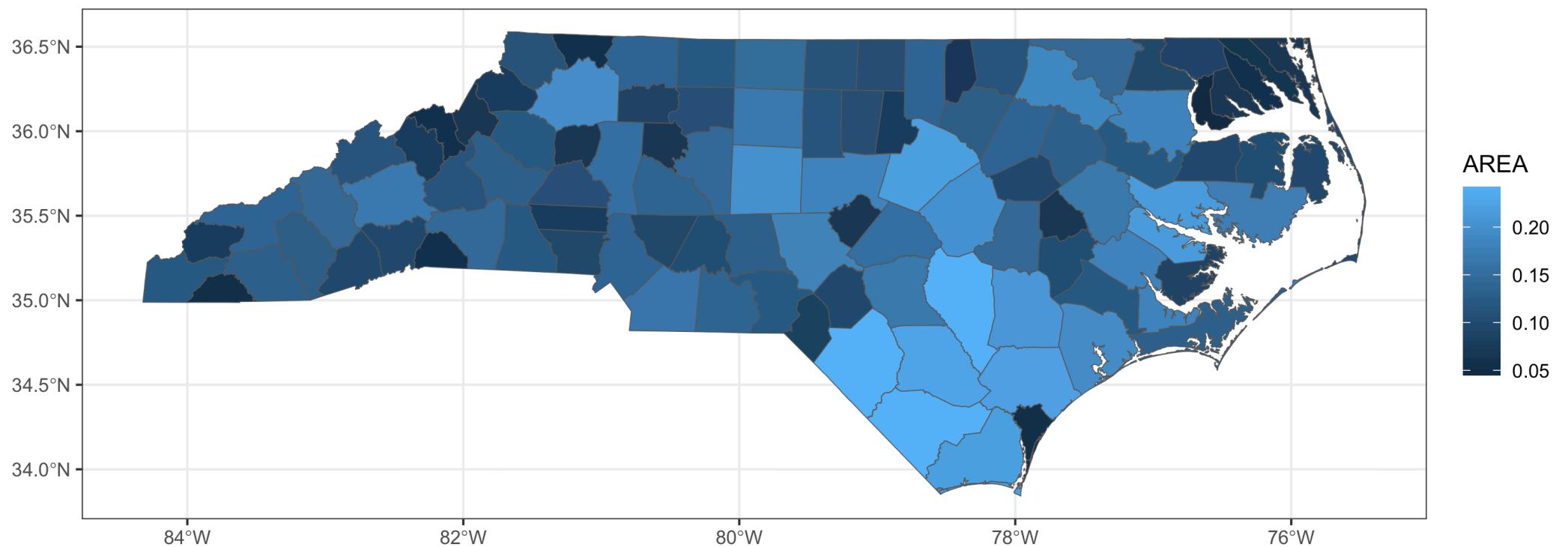
# Geometries

```
1 plot(st_geometry(nc), graticule=TRUE, axes=TRUE, las=1)
```



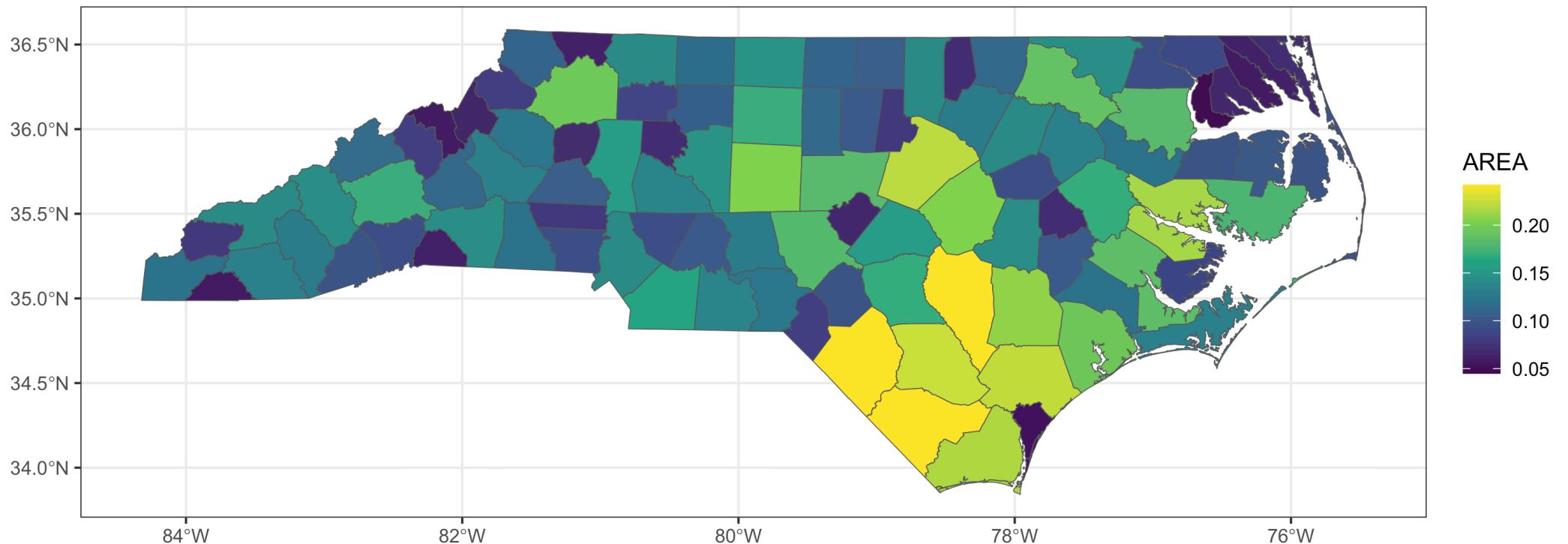
# ggplot2

```
1 ggplot(nc, aes(fill=AREA)) +  
2   geom_sf()
```



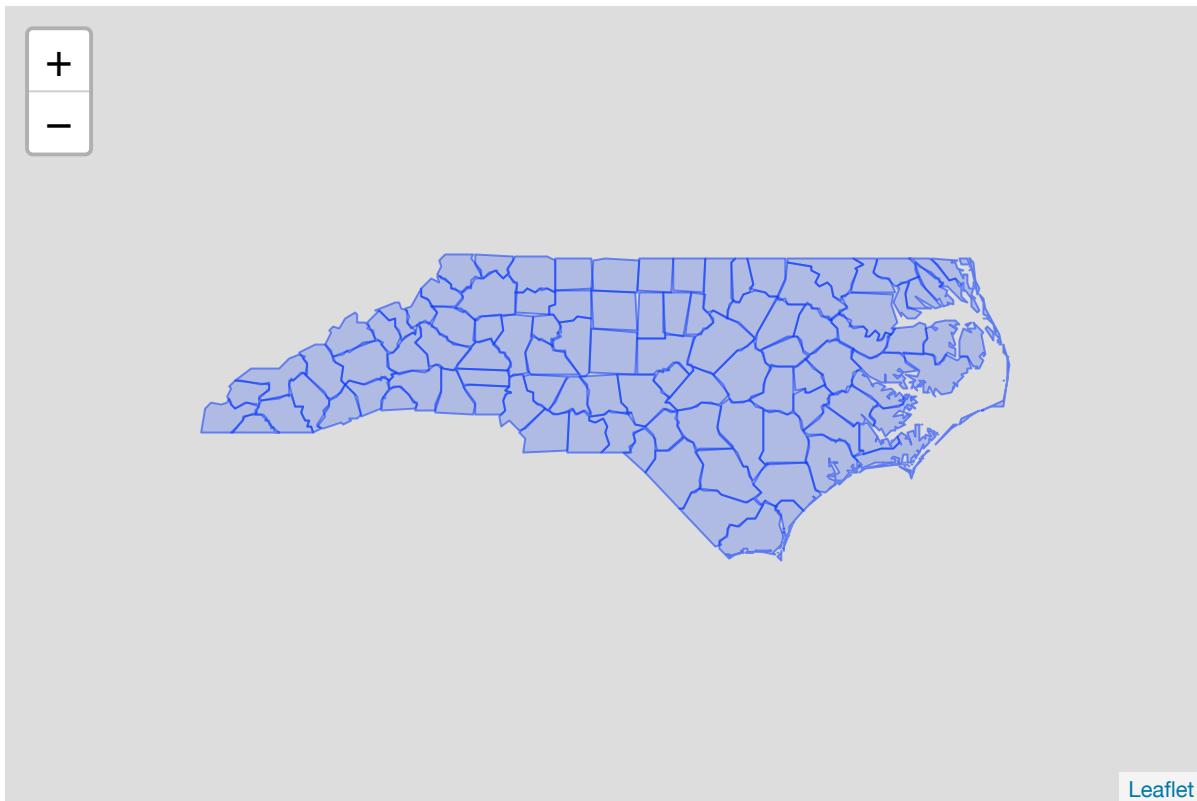
# ggplot2 + palettes

```
1 ggplot(nc, aes(fill=AREA)) +  
2   geom_sf() +  
3   scale_fill_viridis_c()
```



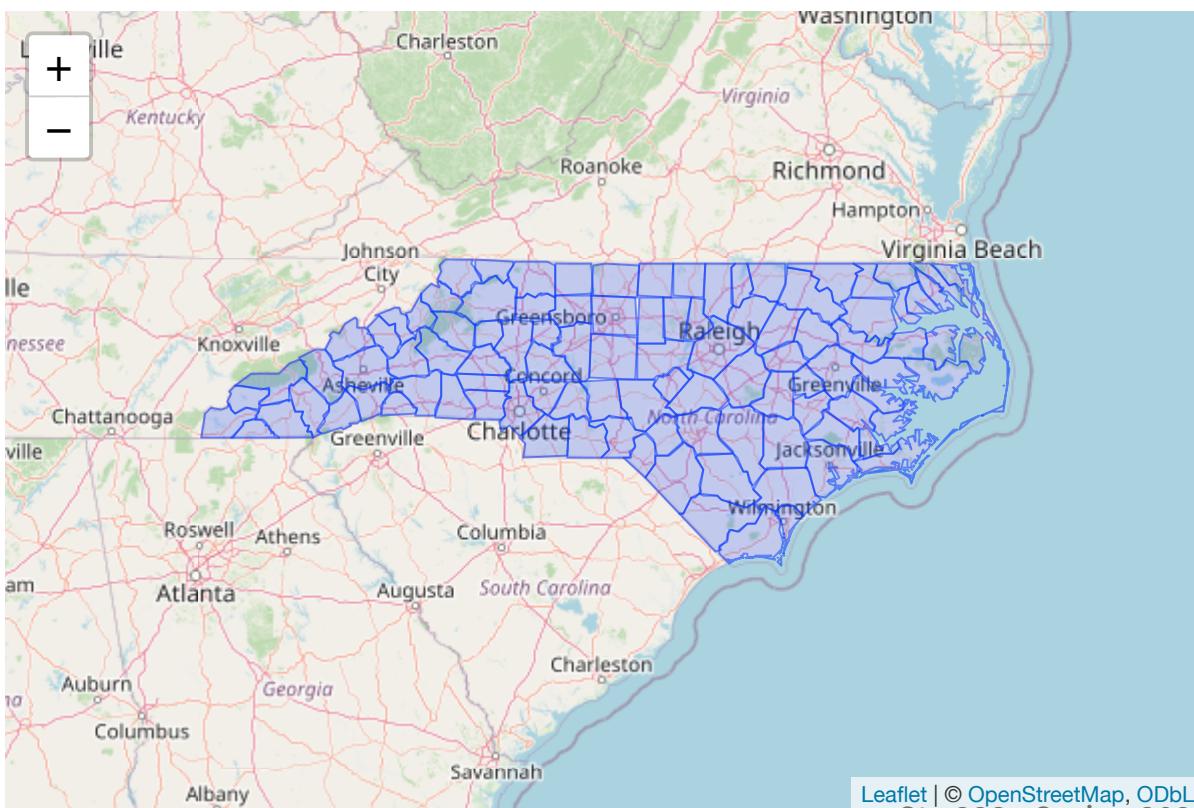
# leaflet

```
1 st_transform(nc, "+proj=longlat +datum=WGS84") |>  
2 leaflet::leaflet(width = 600, height = 400) |>  
3 leaflet::addPolygons(  
4   weight = 1, popup = ~COUNTY,  
5   highlightOptions = leaflet::highlightOptions(color = "red", weight = 2, bringToFront = TRUE))  
6 )
```



# leaflet + tiles

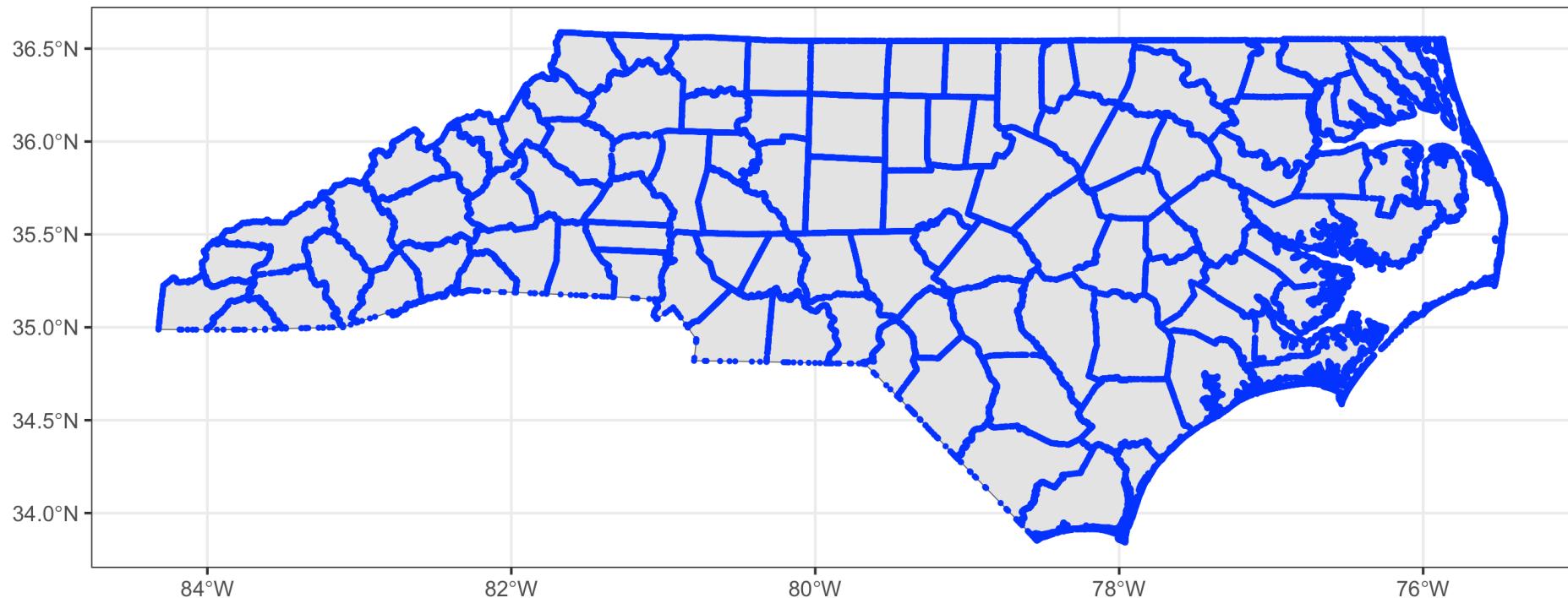
```
1 st_transform(nc, "+proj=longlat +datum=WGS84") |>
2 leaflet::leaflet(width = 600, height = 400) |>
3 leaflet::addPolygons(
4   weight = 1,
5   popup = ~COUNTY,
6   highlightOptions = leaflet::highlightOptions(color = "red", weight = 2, bringToFront = TRUE)
7 ) |>
8 leaflet::addTiles()
```



# GIS in R

# Geometry casting

```
1 nc_pts = st_cast(nc, "MULTIPOINT")
2 ggplot() +
3   geom_sf(data=nc) +
4   geom_sf(data=nc_pts, size=0.5, color="blue")
```



# Joining

```
1 nc_state = st_union(nc))
```

Geometry set for 1 feature

Geometry type: MULTIPOLYGON

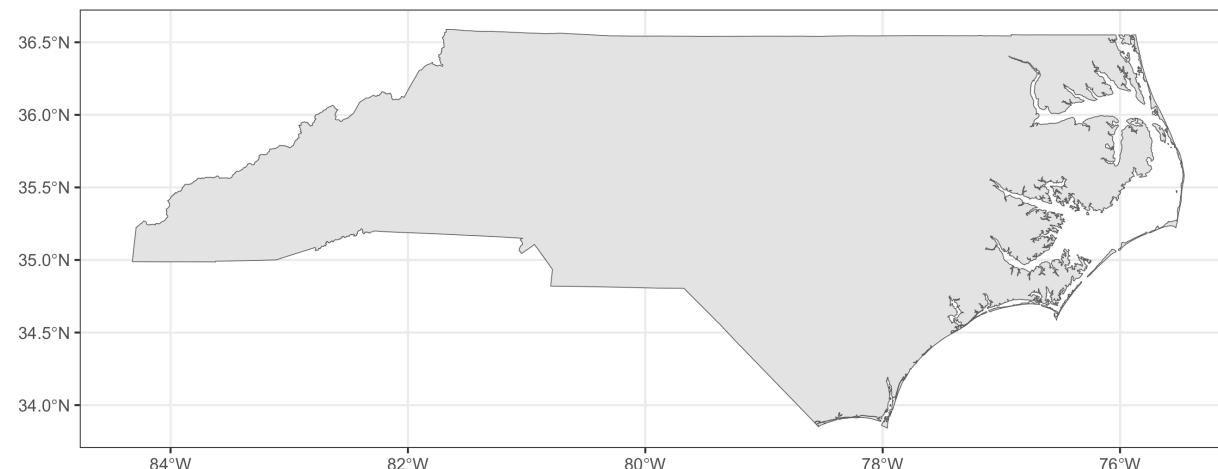
Dimension: XY

Bounding box: xmin: -84.32186 ymin: 33.84175 xmax: -75.46003 ymax: 36.58815

Geodetic CRS: NAD83

MULTIPOLYGON ((((-75.82791 36.19327, -75.82931 3...

```
1 ggplot() + geom_sf(data=nc_state)
```

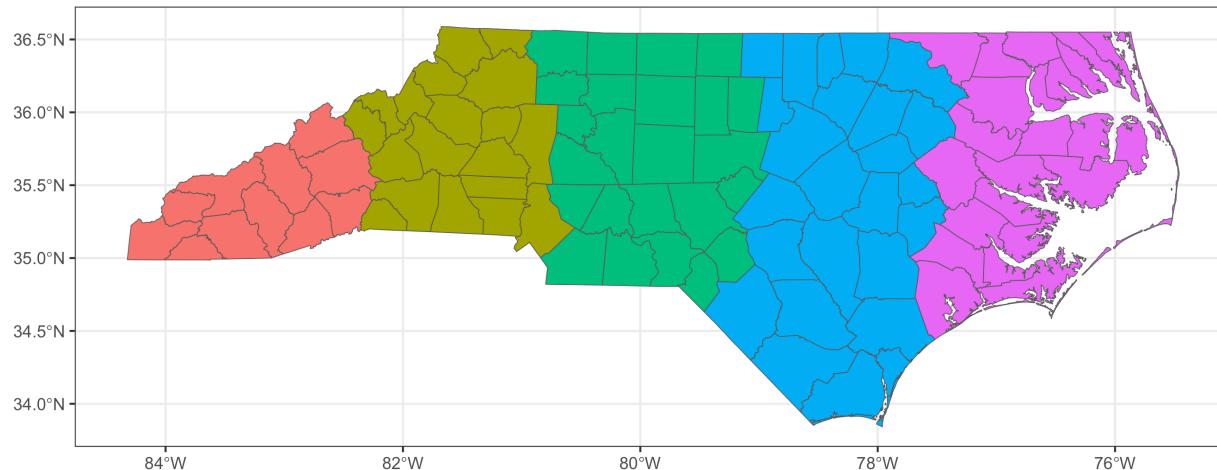


# sf & dplyr

```
1 nc_cut = nc |>
2   mutate(
3     ctr_x = st_centroid(nc) |> st_coordinates() |> (\(x) x[,1])(),
4     region = cut(ctr_x, breaks = 5)
5   )
```

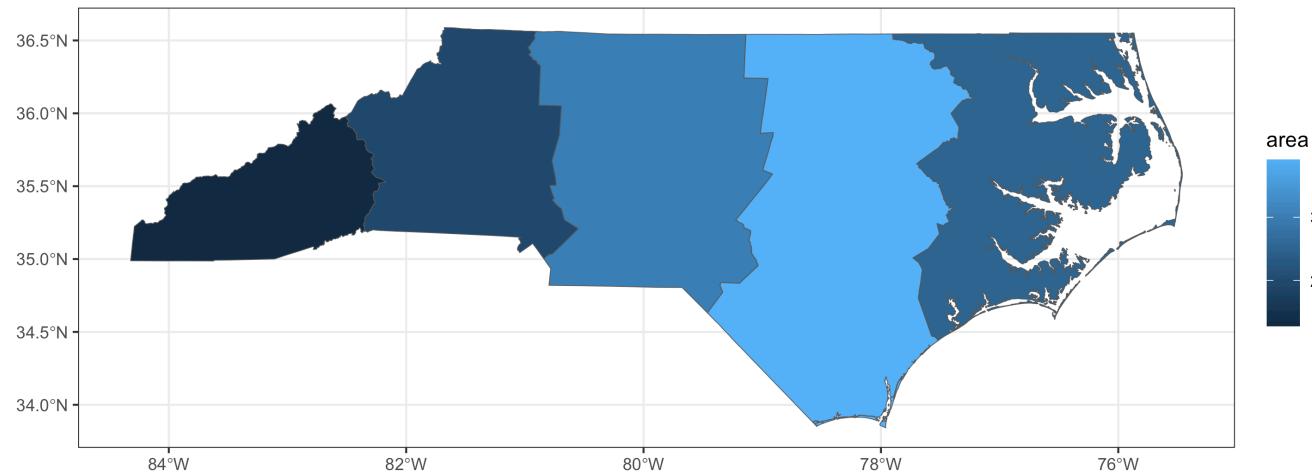
Warning: There was 1 warning in `stopifnot()`.  
i In argument: `ctr\_x = (function(x) x[, 1])(st\_coordinates(st\_centroid(nc)))`.  
Caused by warning:  
! st\_centroid assumes attributes are constant over geometries

```
1 ggplot(nc_cut) +
2   geom_sf(aes(fill=region)) +
3   guides(fill = "none")
```



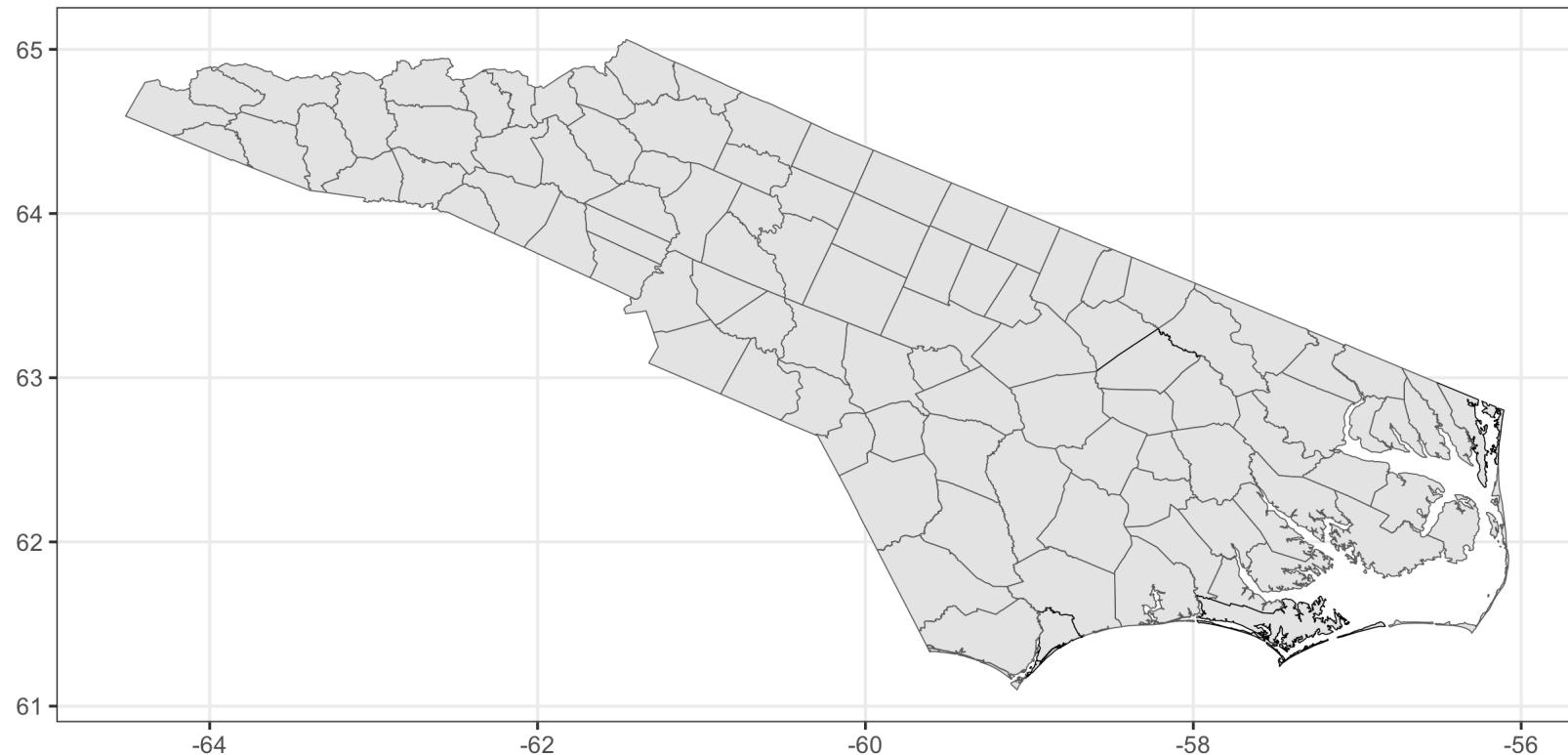
# sf & dplyr (cont.)

```
1 nc_cut2 = nc_cut |>
2   group_by(region) |>
3   summarize(
4     area = sum(AREA)
5   )
6
7 ggplot() + geom_sf(data=nc_cut2, aes(fill=area))
```



# Affine Transformations

```
1 rotate = function(a) matrix(c(cos(a), sin(a), -sin(a), cos(a)), 2, 2)
2
3 state_rotate = (st_geometry(nc) * rotate(pi/8)) |> lwgeom::lwgeom_make_valid()
4 ggplot() + geom_sf(data=state_rotate)
```



# Scaling + Translations

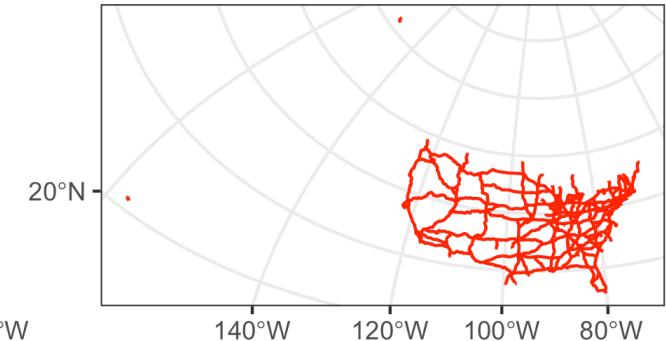
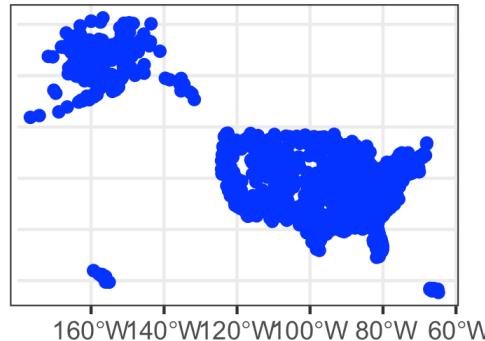
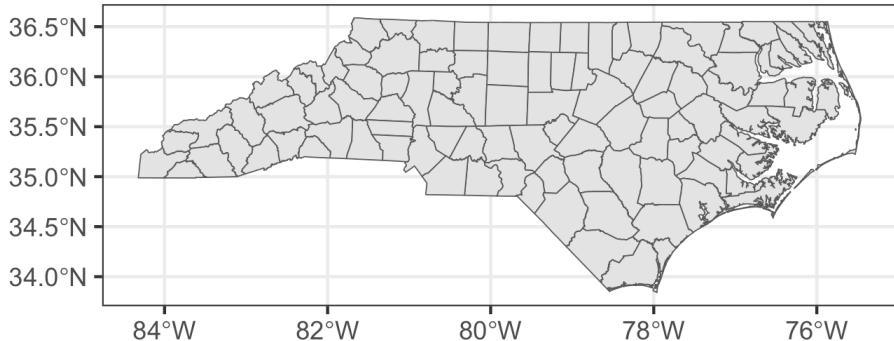
```
1 ctrd = st_centroid(st_geometry(nc))
2 nc_scaled = (st_geometry(nc) - ctrd) * 0.66 + ctrd
3
4 ggplot() + geom_sf(data=nc_scaled)
```



# Some other data

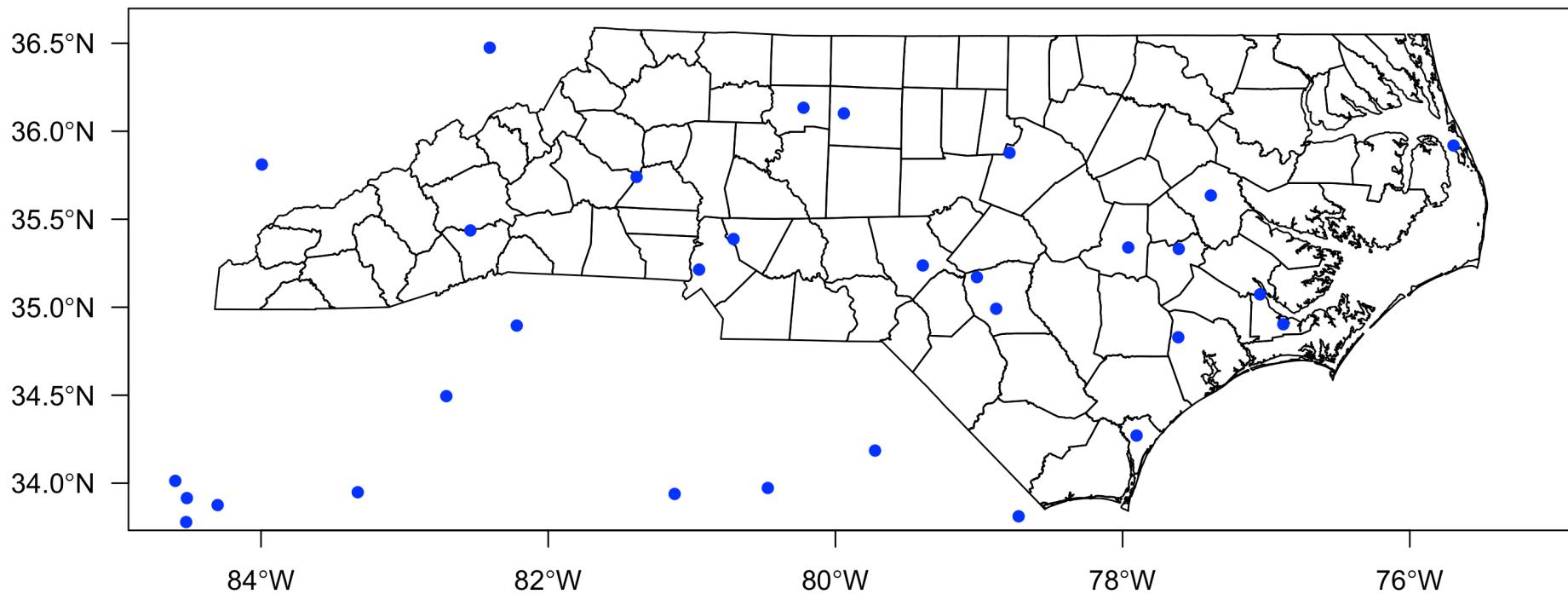
```
1 air = read_sf("data/gis/airports/", quiet=TRUE)
2 hwy = read_sf("data/gis/us_interstates/", quiet=TRUE)
```

```
1 (ggplot(nc) + geom_sf()) +
2 (ggplot(air) + geom_sf(color = "blue")) +
3 (ggplot(hwy) + geom_sf(color = "red"))
```



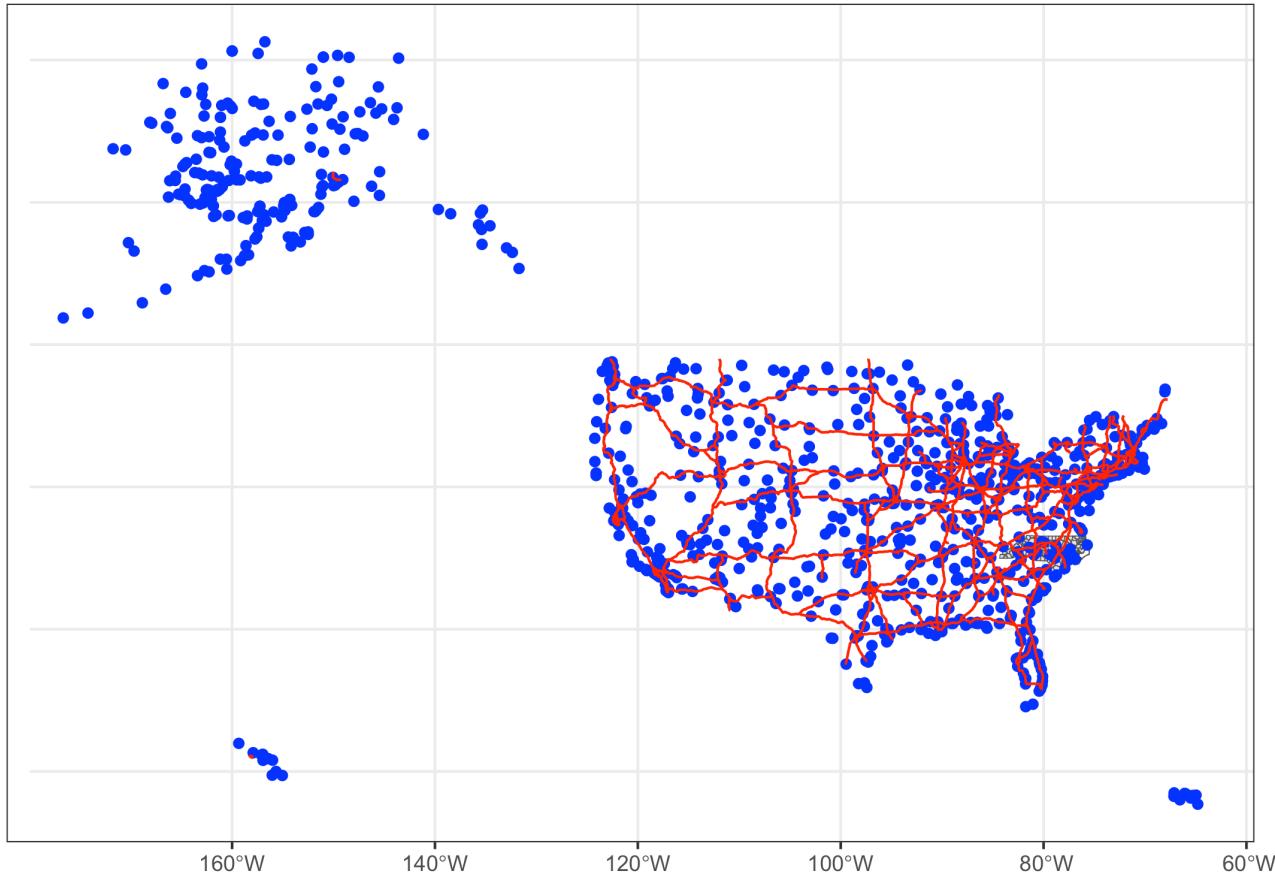
# Overlays w/ base plots

```
1 plot(st_geometry(nc), axes=TRUE, las=1)
2 plot(st_geometry(air), axes=TRUE, pch=16, col="blue", main="air")
3 plot(st_geometry(hwy), axes=TRUE, col="red", add=TRUE)
```



# Overlays w/ ggplot

```
1 ggplot() +  
2   geom_sf(data=nc) +  
3   geom_sf(data=air, color="blue") +  
4   geom_sf(data=hwy, color="red")
```



# Projections

```
1 st_crs(nc)
```

Coordinate Reference System:

User input: NAD83

wkt:

```
GEOGCRS["NAD83",
    DATUM["North American Datum 1983",
        ELLIPSOID["GRS
1980", 6378137, 298.257222101,
        LENGTHUNIT["metre",1]],
    PRIMEM["Greenwich", 0,
    ANGLEUNIT["degree", 0.0174532925199433]],
    CS[ellipsoidal, 2],
    AXIS["latitude", north,
    ORDER[1],  
METER UNIT "metre" 0.0174532925199433]
```

```
1 st_crs(hwy)
```

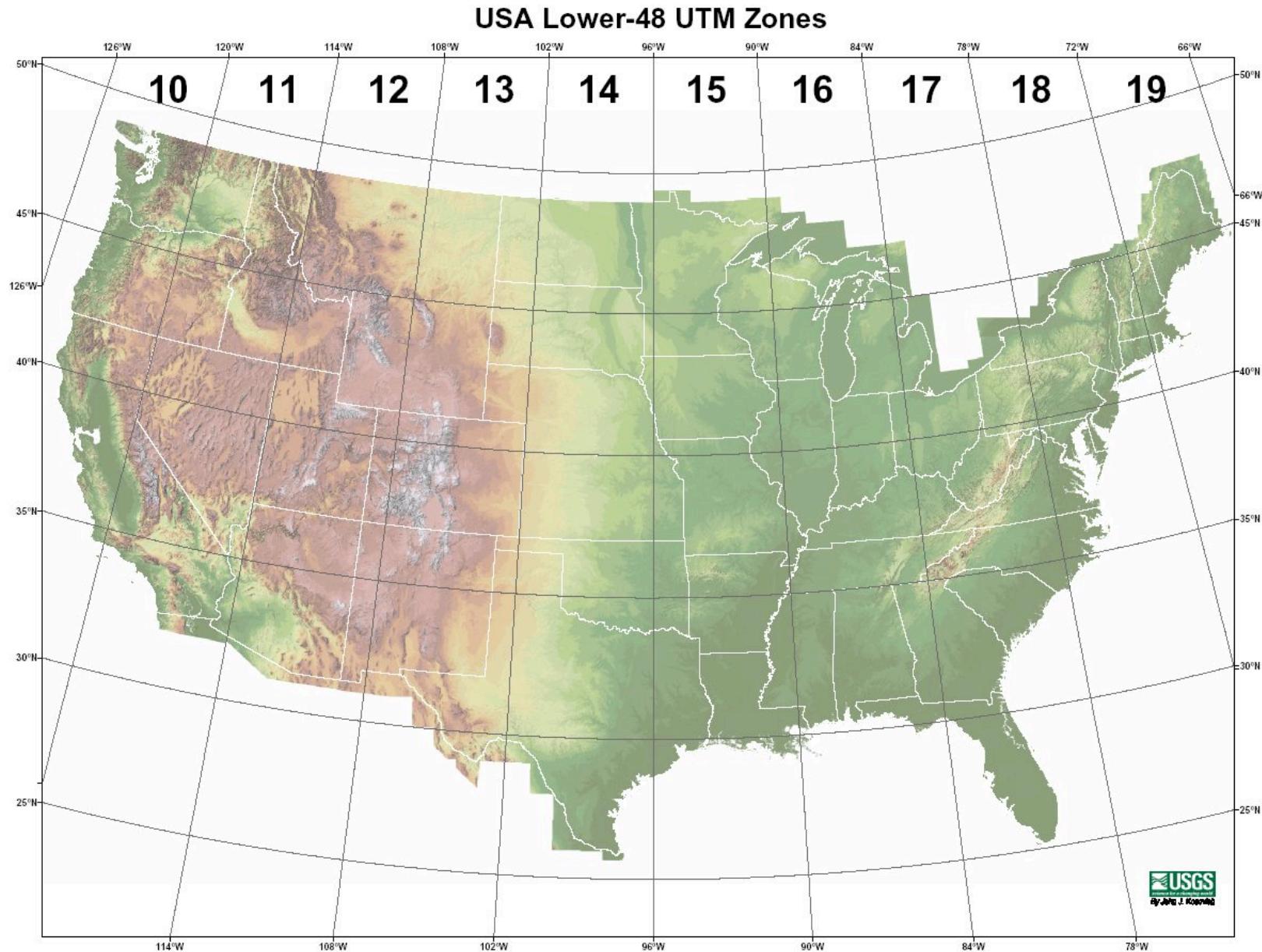
Coordinate Reference System:

User input: NAD83 / UTM zone 15N

wkt:

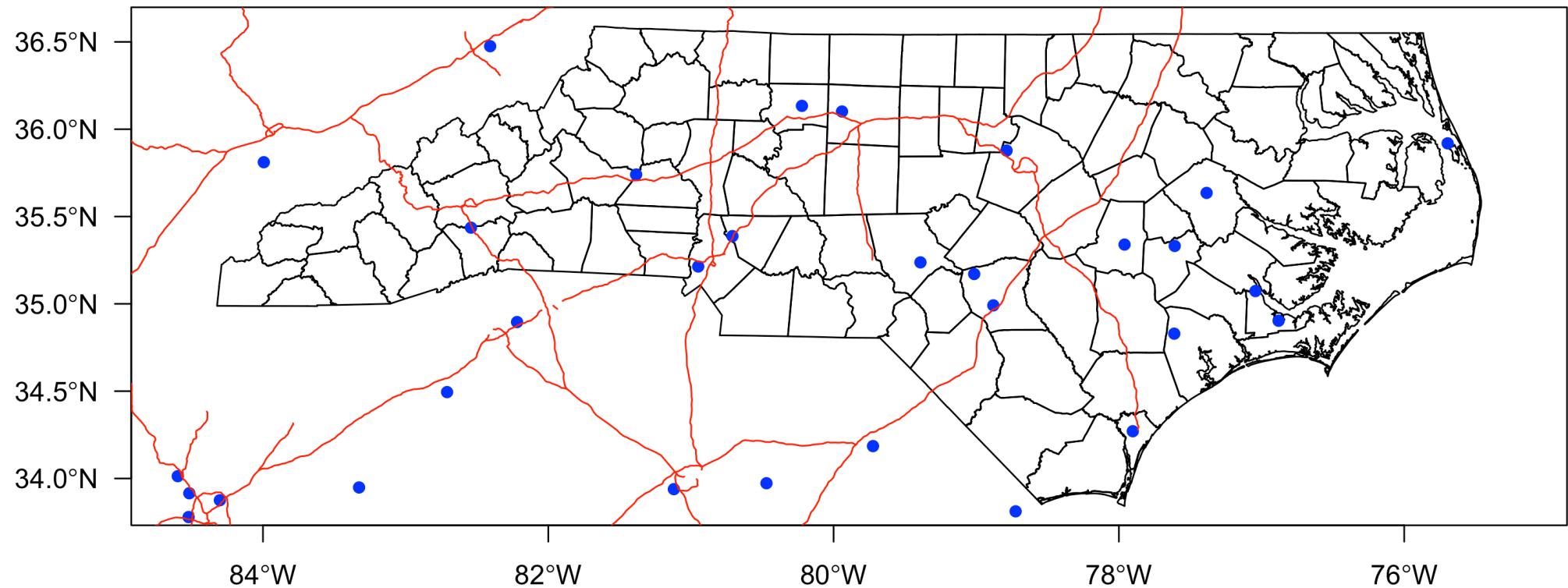
```
PROJCRS["NAD83 / UTM zone 15N",
    BASEGEOGCRS["NAD83",
        DATUM["North American Datum
1983",
        ELLIPSOID["GRS
1980", 6378137, 298.257222101,
        LENGTHUNIT["metre",1]],
    PRIMEM["Greenwich", 0,
    ANGLEUNIT["degree", 0.0174532925199433]],
    ID["EPSG", 4269],
    CONVERSION["UTM zone 15N",
    METER UNIT "metre" 0.0174532925199433]]
```

# Aside - UTM Zones



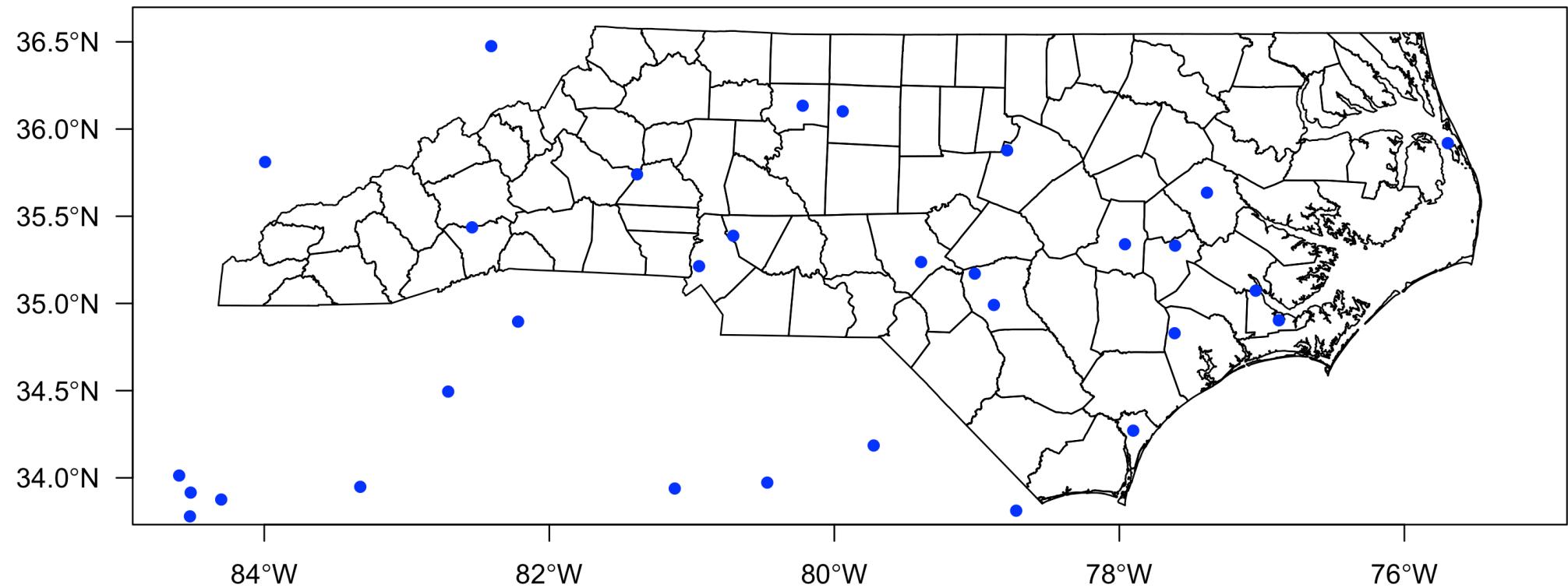
# hwy -> Lat/Long

```
1 hwy = st_transform(hwy, st_crs(nc))
```



# Airport Example

# NC Airports



# Sparse Insections

```
1 st_intersects(nc[20:30,], air) |> str()
```

List of 11

```
$ : int(0)
$ : int 268
$ : int 717
$ : int(0)
$ : int(0)
$ : int(0)
$ : int(0)
- attr(*, "predicate")= chr "intersects"
- attr(*, "region.id")= chr [1:11] "1" "2" "3" "4" ...
- attr(*, "remove_self")= logi FALSE
  .."- attr(*, "remove_self")= logi FALSE"
```

# Dense Insections

```
1 st_intersects(nc, air, sparse=FALSE) |> str()
```

```
logi [1:100, 1:940] FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE ...
```

```
1 st_intersects(nc, air, sparse=FALSE) |> (\(x) x[20:30, 260:270])()
```

```
 [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6] [,7] [,8] [,9] [,10] [,11]
[1,] FALSE FALSE
[2,] FALSE FALSE
[3,] FALSE FALSE
[4,] FALSE FALSE
[5,] FALSE FALSE
[6,] FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE TRUE FALSE FALSE
[7,] FALSE FALSE
[8,] FALSE FALSE
[9,] FALSE FALSE
[10,] FALSE FALSE
[11,] FALSE FALSE
```

# Which counties have airports?

```
1 nc_air = nc |>
2   mutate(
3     n_air = map_int(
4       st_intersects(nc, air),
5       length
6     )
7   ) |>
8   filter(n_air > 0)
9
10 nc_air |> pull(COUNTY)
```

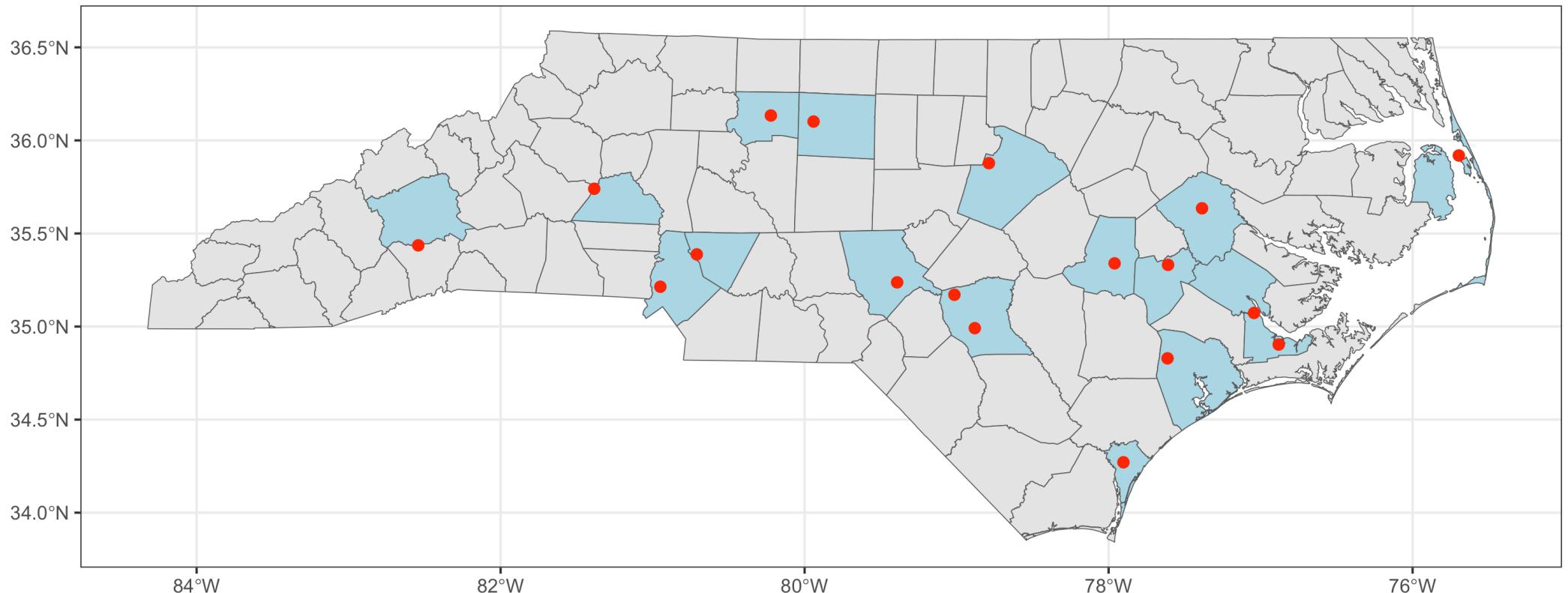
```
[1] "Forsyth County"      "Guilford
County"
[3] "Dare County"         "Wake County"
[5] "Pitt County"          "Catawba
County"
[7] "Buncombe County"      "Wayne County"
[9] "Mecklenburg County"    "Moore County"
[11] "Cabarrus County"      "Lenoir County"
[13] "Craven County"        "Cumberland
County"
[15] "Onslow County"        "New Hanover
County"
```

```
1 air_nc = air |>
2   slice(
3     st_intersects(nc, air) |>
4       unlist() |>
5       unique()
6   )
7 air_nc |> pull(AIRPT_NAME)
```

```
[1] "SMITH REYNOLDS AIRPORT"
[2] "PIEDMONT TRIAD INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT"
[3] "DARE COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT"
[4] "RALEIGH-DURHAM INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT"
[5] "PITT-GREENVILLE AIRPORT"
[6] "HICKORY REGIONAL AIRPORT"
[7] "ASHEVILLE REGIONAL AIRPORT"
[8] "SEYMOUR JOHNSON AIR FORCE BASE"
[9] "CHARLOTTE/DOUGLAS INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT"
[10] "MOORE COUNTY AIRPORT"
[11] "CONCORD REGIONAL AIRPORT"
[12] "KINSTON REGIONAL JETPORT AT
STALLINGS STATE PARK"
```

# Results

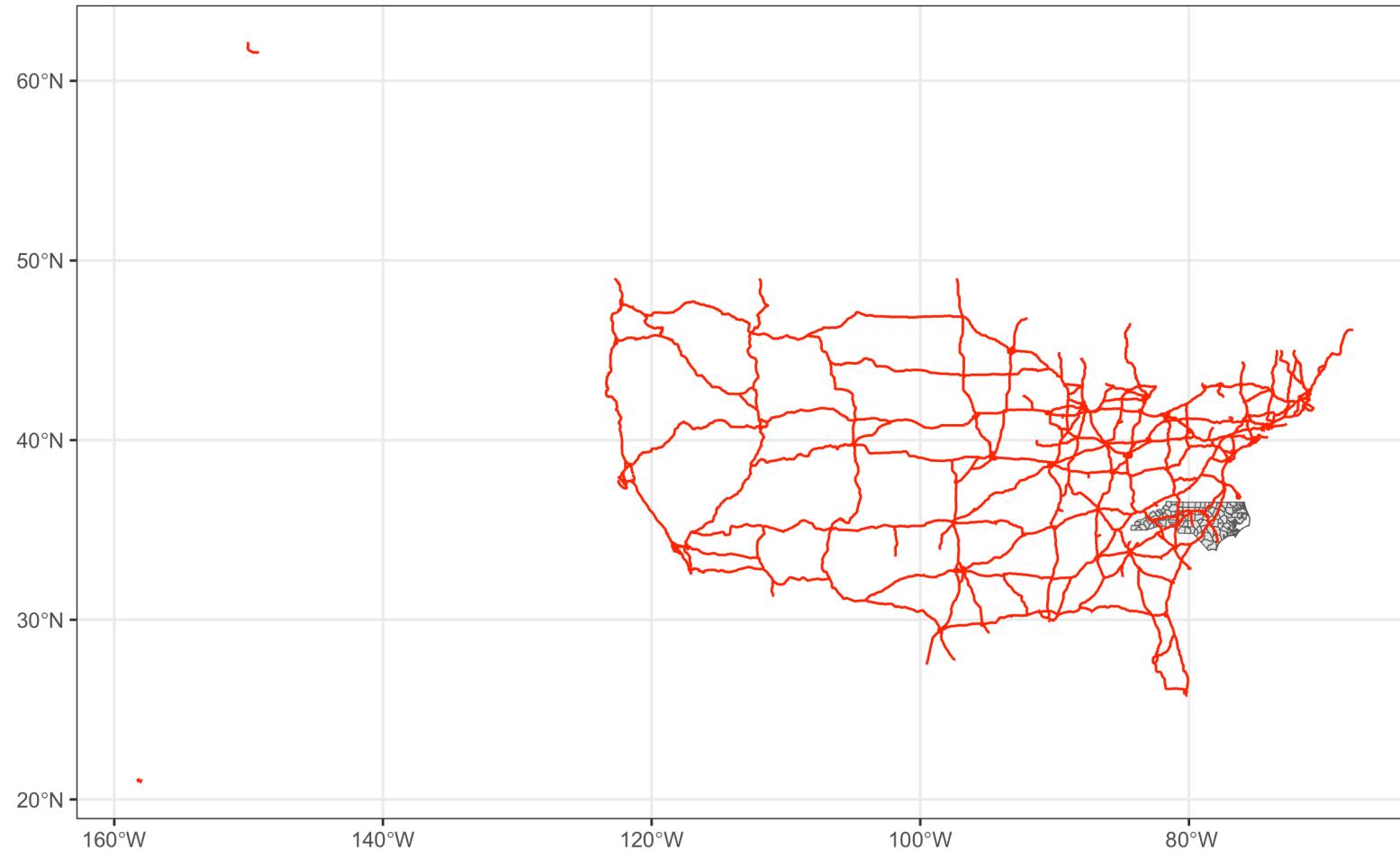
```
1 ggplot() +  
2   geom_sf(data=nc) +  
3   geom_sf(data = nc_air, fill = "lightblue") +  
4   geom_sf(data = air_nc, color = "red", size=2)
```



# Highway Example

# Highways

```
1 ggplot() +  
2   geom_sf(data=nc) +  
3   geom_sf(data=hwy, col='red')
```

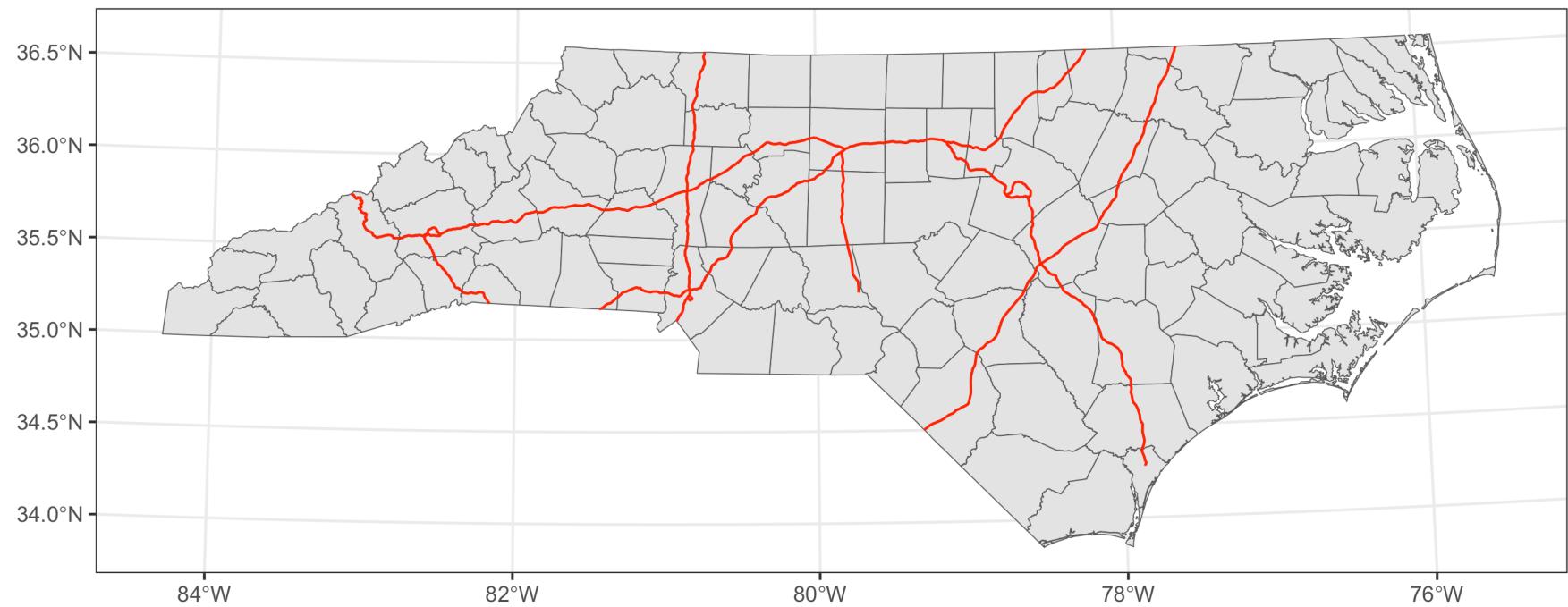


# Intersection

```
1 nc_utm = st_transform(nc, "+proj=utm +zone=17 +datum=NAD83 +units=m +no_defs")
2 hwy_utm = st_transform(hwy, "+proj=utm +zone=17 +datum=NAD83 +units=m +no_defs")
3
4 hwy_nc = st_intersection(hwy_utm, nc_utm)
```

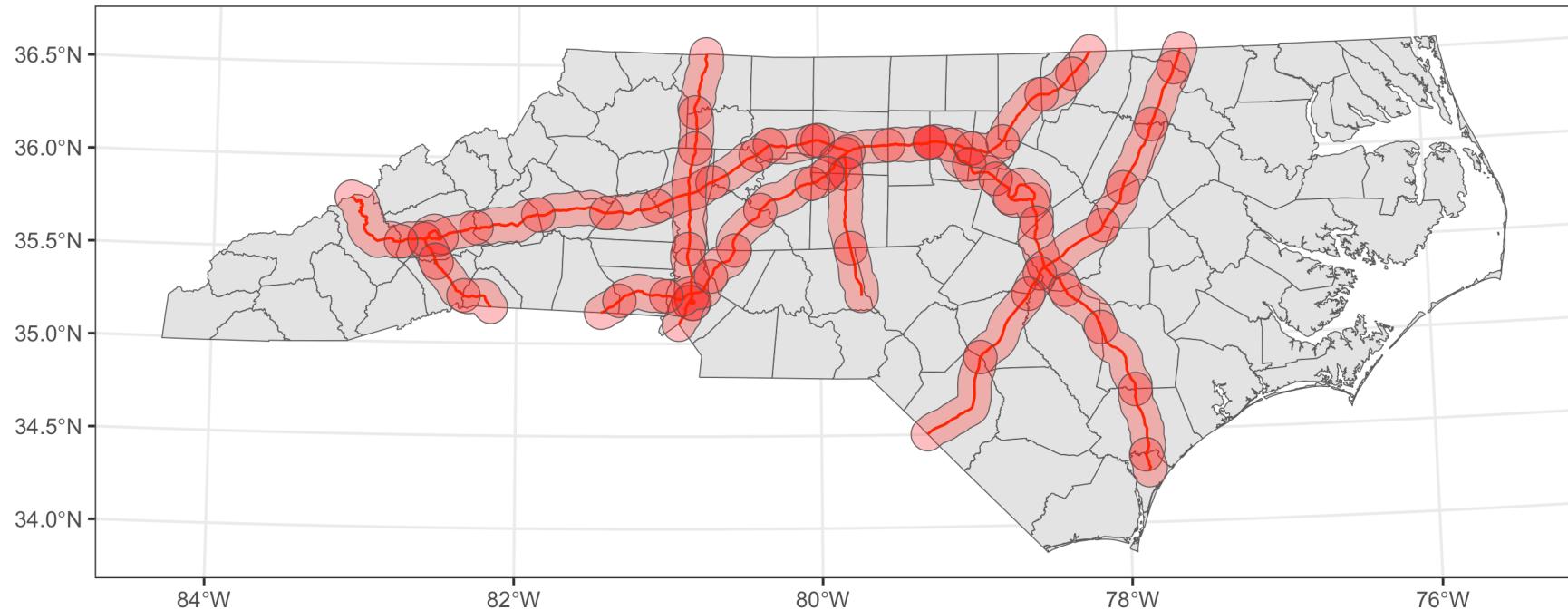
Warning: attribute variables are assumed to be spatially constant throughout all geometries

```
1 ggplot() +
2   geom_sf(data=nc_utm) +
3   geom_sf(data=hwy_nc, col='red')
```



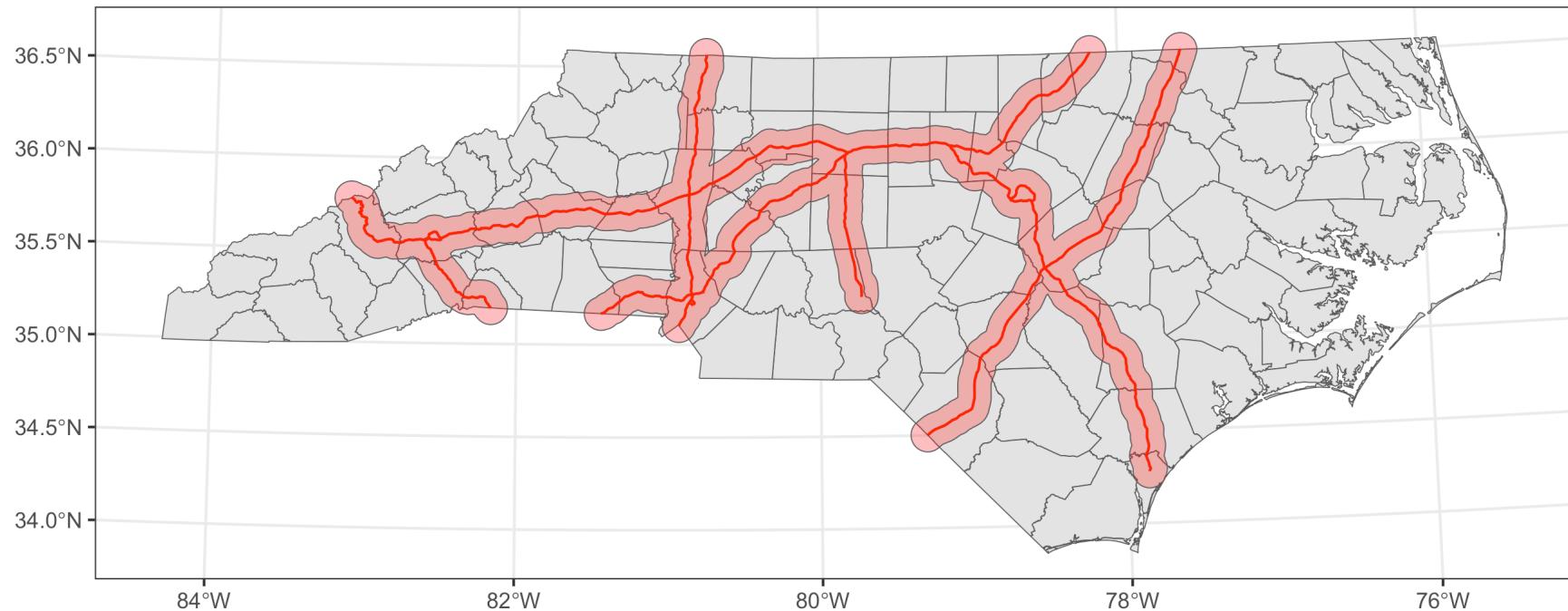
# Buffering

```
1 hwy_nc_buffer = hwy_nc |>  
2   st_buffer(10000)  
3  
4 ggplot() +  
5   geom_sf(data=nc_utm) +  
6   geom_sf(data=hwy_nc, color='red') +  
7   geom_sf(data=hwy_nc_buffer, fill='red', alpha=0.3)
```



# Buffering + Union

```
1 hwy_nc_buffer = hwy_nc |>
2   st_buffer(10000) |>
3   st_union() |>
4   st_sf()
5
6 ggplot() +
7   geom_sf(data=nc_utm) +
8   geom_sf(data=hwy_nc, color='red') +
9   geom_sf(data=hwy_nc_buffer, fill='red', alpha=0.3)
```



# Counties near the interstate (Buffering + Union)

```
1 hwy_nc_buffer = hwy_nc |>
2   st_buffer(10000) |>
3   st_union() |>
4   st_sf()
5
6 hwy_cty = nc_utm |>
7   slice(
8     st_intersects(hwy_nc_buffer, nc_utm) |>
9       unlist() |>
10      unique()
11    )
12
13 ggplot() +
14   geom_sf(data=nc_utm) +
15   geom_sf(data=hwy_nc, color='red') +
16   geom_sf(data=hwy_cty, fill='lightblue') +
17   geom_sf(data=hwy_nc_buffer, fill='red', alpha=0.3)
```

# Counties near the interstate (Buffering + Union)

