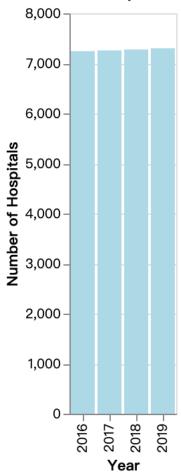
```
--- Jiaxuan Nie, Suyuan Fang
title: "PS4"
format:
 html: default
 pdf:
   keep-tex: true
   include-in-header:
     text:
       \usepackage{fvextra}
\DefineVerbatimEnvironment{Highlighting}{Verbatim}{breaklines,commandchars=\
\\{\}}
include-before-body:
 text:
   \RecustomVerbatimEnvironment{verbatim}{Verbatim}{
     showspaces = false,
     showtabs = false,
     breaksymbolleft={},
     breaklines
   }
**PS4:** Due Sat Nov 2 at 5:00PM Central. Worth 100 points.
We use (`*`) to indicate a problem that we think might be time consuming.
## Style Points (10 pts)
Please refer to the minilesson on code style
**[yes](https://uchicago.zoom.us/rec/share/pG_w0-pHT0rJTmqNn4rcrw5V194M2H2s-
2jdy8oVhWHkd yZt9o162IWurpA-fxU.BIOlSqZLRYctvzp-)**.
## Submission Steps (10 pts)
1. This problem set is a paired problem set.
2. Play paper, scissors, rock to determine who goes first. Call that person
*Partner 1*.
   - Partner 1 (name and cnet ID): Suyuan Fang - suyuanfang
   - Partner 2 (name and cnet ID): Jiaxuan nie - Jnie21
3. Partner 1 will accept the `ps4` and then share the link it creates with
their partner. You can only share it with one partner so you will not be
able to change it after your partner has accepted.
4. "This submission is our work alone and complies with the 30538 integrity
policy." Add your initials to indicate your agreement: \*\*\SF\*\*
\*\*\JN\*\*
5. "I have uploaded the names of anyone else other than my partner and I
```

worked with on the problem set 4

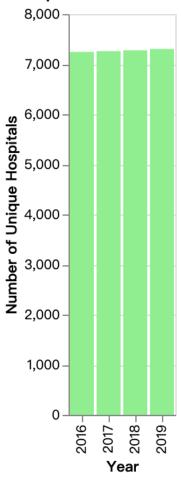
```
**[yes](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/185usrCRE0aUbvAXpWhChkjghdGgmAZXA3lP
WpXLLsts/edit)**" (1 point)
6. Late coins used this pset:1 Late coins left after submission:2
7. Knit your `ps4.qmd` to an PDF file to make `ps4.pdf`,
   * The PDF should not be more than 25 pages. Use `head()` and re-size
figures when appropriate.
8. (Partner 1): push `ps4.qmd` and `ps4.pdf` to your github repo.
9. (Partner 1): submit `ps4.pdf` via Gradescope. Add your partner on
Gradescope.
10. (Partner 1): tag your submission in Gradescope
**Important:** Repositories are for tracking code. **Do not commit the data
or shapefiles to your repo.** The best way to do this is with `.gitignore`,
which we have covered in class. If you do accidentally commit the data,
Github has a [guide](https://docs.github.com/en/repositories/working-with-
files/managing-large-files/about-large-files-on-github#removing-files-from-
a-repositorys-history). The best course of action depends on whether you
have pushed yet. This also means that both partners will have to download
the initial raw data and any data cleaning code will need to be re-run on
both partners' computers.
## Download and explore the Provider of Services (POS) file (10 pts)
1.
#Facility Name FAC_NAME
#short-term PRVDR_CTGRY_SBTYP_CD
#hospital PRVDR_CTGRY_CD
#CMS PRVDR NUM
#termination PGM_TRMNTN_CD
#termination CRTFCTN_ACTN_TYPE_CD
#zip code ZIP CD
2.
   a.Number of short-term hospitals in 2016: 7245
   b. The count of 7,245 short-term hospitals in 2016 may be higher than
   expected. Official sources such as the CMS or AHA typically report fewer
   facilities. Differences might result from data definitions or inclusion
   criteria in your dataset.
3.
```{python}
import pandas as pd
import altair as alt
def process_hospital_data(file_path):
 df = pd.read_csv(file_path, encoding='ISO-8859-1')
```

```
df_filtered = df[(df['PRVDR_CTGRY_CD'] == 1) &
(df['PRVDR_CTGRY_SBTYP_CD'] == 1)].copy()
 year = file_path[-8:-4]
 df_filtered.loc[:, 'Year'] = year
 hospital_count = df_filtered.shape[0]
 print(f'Number of short-term hospitals in {year}: {hospital_count}')
 return df_filtered
pos2016 = process hospital data('/Users/suyuanfang/Desktop/Pyhton/problem-
set-4-nelly-alex/pos2016.csv')
pos2017 = process hospital data('/Users/suyuanfang/Desktop/Pyhton/problem-
set-4-nelly-alex/pos2017.csv')
pos2018 = process_hospital_data('/Users/suyuanfang/Desktop/Pyhton/problem-
set-4-nelly-alex/pos2018.csv')
pos2019 = process_hospital_data('/Users/suyuanfang/Desktop/Pyhton/problem-
set-4-nelly-alex/pos2019.csv')
data_combined = pd.concat([pos2016, pos2017, pos2018, pos2019])
output_path = '/Users/suyuanfang/Desktop/Pyhton/problem-set-4-nelly-
alex/combined pos.csv'
data_combined.to_csv(output_path, index=False)
plot_data = data_combined['Year'].value_counts().reset_index()
plot_data.columns = ['Year', 'Count']
plot_data = plot_data.sort_values('Year')
chart = alt.Chart(plot_data).mark_bar(color='lightblue').encode(
 x=alt.X('Year:N', title='Year'),
 y=alt.Y('Count:Q', title='Number of Hospitals')
).properties(
 title='Number of Short-Term Hospital Observations by Year'
chart.display()
Number of short-term hospitals in 2016: 7245
Number of short-term hospitals in 2017: 7260
Number of short-term hospitals in 2018: 7277
Number of short-term hospitals in 2019: 7303
```

## Number of Short-Term Hospital Observations by Year



## Number of Unique Short-Term Hospitals by Year



Unique hospital counts per year:

Year Unique Count

0	2016	7245
1	2017	7260
2	2018	7277
3	2019	7303

b. The two plots show that the total number of observations and unique hospitals per year are nearly identical, indicating that each hospital is consistently reported only once per year. This suggests the data structure is stable, with no significant duplication or variation across the years analyzed.

## ## Identify hospital closures in POS file (15 pts) (\*)

1. Use this definition to create a list of all hospitals that were active in 2016 that were suspected to have closed by 2019. Record the facility name and zip of each hospital as well as the year of suspected closure (when they become terminated or disappear from the data). How many hospitals are there that fit this definition?

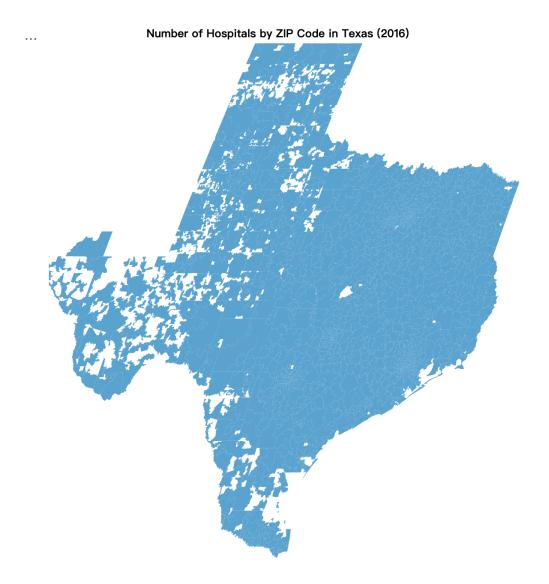
```
3. Number of hospitals in 2017: 7260
 4. Number of hospitals in 2018: 7277
 5. Number of hospitals in 2019: 7303
 6. Number of suspected closures: 174
```{python}
!pip install pandas
import pandas as pd
def hospital data(file path):
    return pd.read_csv(file_path, encoding='latin1')
pos2016 = hospital_data('/Users/jxn/Documents/GitHub/Alex-
Nelly/pos2016.csv')
pos2017 = hospital_data('/Users/jxn/Documents/GitHub/Alex-
Nelly/pos2017.csv')
pos2018 = hospital_data('/Users/jxn/Documents/GitHub/Alex-
Nelly/pos2018.csv')
pos2019 = hospital_data('/Users/jxn/Documents/GitHub/Alex-
Nelly/pos2019.csv')
print("Sample of active hospitals in 2016 (hospital_active):")
print(hospital_active.head())
print("Columns in closures_df:", closures_df.columns)
print("Columns in potential_mergers_df:", potential_mergers_df.columns)
hospital_active = pos2016[pos2016['PGM_TRMNTN_CD'] == '0']
data_years = {2017: pos2017, 2018: pos2018, 2019: pos2019}
print("List of hospitals active in 2016 and suspected to have closed by
2019:")
print(final closures df[['FAC NAME', 'ZIP CD', 'Year of Closure']])
num_suspected_closures = final_closures_df.shape[0]
print(f"Number of hospitals suspected to have closed by 2019:
{num_suspected_closures}")
num_suspected_closures = hospital_active.shape[0]
print(f"Number of hospitals suspected to have closed by 2019:
{num_suspected_closures}")
2. First 10 rows of the cleaned 2016 dataset:
   PRVDR_CTGRY_SBTYP_CD PRVDR_CTGRY_CD
                                                                 FAC_NAME \
0
                    1.0
                                      1 SOUTHEAST ALABAMA MEDICAL CENTER
1
                    1.0
                                      1
                                                   NORTH JACKSON HOSPITAL
2
                                            MARSHALL MEDICAL CENTER SOUTH
                    1.0
                                      1
3
                                           ELIZA COFFEE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
                    1.0
                                      1
```

2. Number of hospitals in 2016: 7245

```
1
                                                 MIZELL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
4
                    1.0
5
                                      1
                                              CRENSHAW COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
                    1.0
6
                    1.0
                                      1
                                                 HARTSELLE MEDICAL CENTER
7
                    1.0
                                      1
                                            MARSHALL MEDICAL CENTER NORTH
8
                    1.0
                                      1
                                                        ST VINCENT'S EAST
9
                    1.0
                                           DEKALB REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
3.
hospital closures = []
for _, row in hospital_active.iterrows():
    prvid = row['PRVDR NUM']
    facility_name = row['FAC_NAME']
    zip_code = row['ZIP_CD']
    closed = False
    for year, data in data years.items():
        if prvid in data['PRVDR_NUM'].values:
            status = data[data['PRVDR_NUM'] ==
prvid]['PGM_TRMNTN_CD'].values[0]
            if status != '0':
                hospital_closures.append((facility_name, zip_code, year))
                closed = True
                break
        else:
            hospital_closures.append((facility_name, zip_code, year))
            closed = True
            break
closures_df = pd.DataFrame(hospital_closures, columns=['FAC_NAME', 'ZIP_CD',
'Year_of_Closure']).drop_duplicates()
3.
    a. .Number of remaining closures after correcting for
mergers/acquisitions: 77
    b.Cleaned 2016 dataset saved as 'cleaned_2016_pos.csv' without suspected
closures
    C.
                                              FAC NAME ZIP CD \
62
                               ALLIANCE LAIRD HOSPITAL 39365.0
101
                              ALLIANCEHEALTH DEACONESS 73112.0
                         ANNE BATES LEACH EYE HOSPITAL 33136.0
26
                         BARIX CLINICS OF PENNSYLVANIA 19047.0
115
171
                       BAYLOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL CENTER 75087.0
166 BAYLOR SCOTT & WHITE EMERGENCY MEDICAL CENTER ... 78613.0
98
                            BELMONT COMMUNITY HOSPITAL 43906.0
```

```
BIG SKY MEDICAL CENTER 59716.0
67
65
                  BLACK RIVER COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTER 63901.0
142
                          CARE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER 78336.0
if not potential_mergers_df.empty:
    final_closures_df = pd.merge(
        closures_df,
        potential_mergers_df[['FAC_NAME', 'ZIP_CD', 'Year_of_Closure']],
        on=['FAC_NAME', 'ZIP_CD', 'Year_of_Closure'],
        how='left',
        indicator=True
    )
    final_closures_df = final_closures_df[final_closures_df['_merge'] ==
'left_only'].drop(columns=['_merge'])
else:
    # If potential mergers df is empty, use closures df directly as
final_closures_df
    final_closures_df = closures_df.copy()
# Output the number of remaining closures after correcting for
mergers/acquisitions
num_final_closures = final_closures_df.shape[0]
print(f"Number of remaining closures after correcting for
mergers/acquisitions: {num_final_closures}")
cleaned_2016_pos = pos2016.merge(final_closures_df[['FAC_NAME', 'ZIP_CD']],
on=['FAC_NAME', 'ZIP_CD'], how='left', indicator=True)
cleaned_2016_pos = cleaned_2016_pos[cleaned_2016_pos['_merge'] ==
'left_only'].drop(columns=['_merge'])
cleaned_2016_pos.to_csv("cleaned_2016_pos.csv", index=False)
print("Cleaned 2016 dataset saved as 'cleaned_2016_pos.csv' without
suspected closures.")
print("First 10 rows of the cleaned 2016 dataset:")
print(cleaned_2016_pos.head(10))
## Download Census zip code shapefile (10 pt)
1.
   a.
   .shp (Shapefile): Holds geometric data (e.g., ZIP code boundaries).
   .shx (Index File): Provides quick access to the .shp data.
   .dbf (Database File): Contains attribute data for each shape (e.g., ZIP
codes).
   .prj (Projection File): Specifies the coordinate system and projection.
   .xml (Metadata File): Describes the dataset, including sources and
attributes.
```

```
b.
   .shp 837.5 MB
   .shx 265KB
   .dbf 6.4MB
   .prj 165B
   .xml 16KB
2.
```{python}
import pandas as pd
import geopandas as gpd
import altair as alt
cleaned_pos2016 = pd.read_csv('/Users/suyuanfang/Desktop/Pyhton/problem-set-
4-nelly-alex/cleaned_2016_pos.csv')
zip shapefile path = '/Users/suyuanfang/Desktop/Pyhton/problem-set-4-nelly-
alex/gz_2010_us_860_00_500k/gz_2010_us_860_00_500k.shp'
gdf = gpd.read_file(zip_shapefile_path)
print(gdf.columns)
gdf['ZIP_CODE'] = gdf['ZCTA5'].astype(str)
texas_prefixes = ['75', '76', '77', '78', '79']
gdf_texas = gdf[gdf['ZIP_CODE'].str[:2].isin(texas_prefixes)]
hospitals_per_zip = cleaned_pos2016['ZIP_CD'].value_counts().reset_index()
hospitals_per_zip.columns = ['ZIP_CODE', 'Hospital_Count']
hospitals_per_zip['ZIP_CODE'] = hospitals_per_zip['ZIP_CODE'].astype(str)
gdf_texas['ZIP_CODE'] = gdf_texas['ZIP_CODE'].astype(str)
gdf_texas = gdf_texas.merge(hospitals_per_zip, on='ZIP_CODE', how='left')
plot_data = gdf_texas[['ZIP_CODE', 'geometry', 'Hospital_Count']]
plot_data['Hospital_Count'] = plot_data['Hospital_Count'].fillna(0)
chart = alt.Chart(plot_data).mark_geoshape().encode(
 color=alt.Color('Hospital_Count:Q', scale=alt.Scale(scheme='blues'),
title='Hospital Count'),
 tooltip=['ZIP_CODE', 'Hospital_Count']
).properties(
 width=800,
 height=600,
 title='Number of Hospitals by ZIP Code in Texas (2016)'
)
chart.display()
```



## ## Calculate zip code's distance to the nearest hospital (20 pts) (\*)

1. (Partner 2) Create a GeoDataFrame for the centroid of each zip code
nationally: zips\_all\_centroids. What are the dimensions of the resulting
GeoDataFrame and what do each of the columns mean?

```
import geopandas as gpd
!pip install matplotlib
import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

```{python}

. . .

Dimensions of zips_all_centroids: (33120, 7):there are 33,120 rows and 7 columns. Each row represents a ZIP code area across the U.S., and each column contains geographic or identifying information.

Columns in zips_all_centroids:

GEO_ID: A unique identifier for each ZIP code area in the dataset.

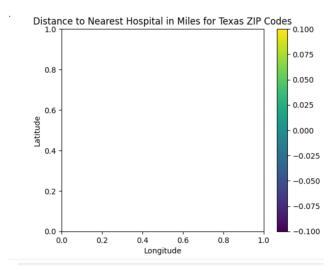
```
approximates the U.S. Postal Service ZIP code.
ZCTA5:
NAME: Another identifier
LSAD: which can indicate the type or classification of the area.
CENSUSAREA: the geographic area (likely in square miles or square
kilometers) of each ZIP code region.
geometry: The original polygon geometry that outlines each ZIP code
boundary.
centroid: A point geometry representing the centroid (center) of each ZIP
code area, calculated from the polygon in the geometry column.
zips all = gpd.read file('/Users/jxn/Desktop/gz 2010 us 860 00 500k')
zips_all_centroids = zips_all.copy()
zips_all_centroids['centroid'] = zips_all.geometry.centroid
zips_all_centroids = zips_all_centroids.set_geometry('centroid')
(Partner 2) Create two GeoDataFrames as subsets of zips_all_centroids.
First, create all zip codes in Texas: zips_texas_centroids. Then, create all
zip codes in Texas or a bordering state: zips_texas_borderstates_centroids,
using the zip code prefixes to make these subsets. How many unique zip codes
are in each of these subsets?
Unique ZIP codes in Texas: 1935
Unique ZIP codes in Texas and bordering states: 3486
Number of ZIP codes with at least one hospital in 2016: 0
texas_and_border_prefixes = ['75', '76', '77', '78', '79', '73', '88', '89',
'84', '85', '86', '87']
pos2016_with_hospitals = pos2016[pos2016['PGM_TRMNTN_CD'] == '0']
pos2016_with_hospitals['ZIP_CD'] =
pos2016_with_hospitals['ZIP_CD'].astype(str).str.zfill(5)
pos2016_with_hospitals =
pos2016_with_hospitals[pos2016_with_hospitals['ZIP_CD'].str[:2].isin(texas_a
nd_border_prefixes)]
pos2016_with_hospitals =
pos2016_with_hospitals[['ZIP_CD']].drop_duplicates()
pos2016_with_hospitals.columns = ['ZCTA5']
print("Unique ZIP codes in Texas:", zips texas centroids['ZCTA5'].nunique())
print("Unique ZIP codes in Texas and bordering states:",
zips_texas_borderstates_centroids['ZCTA5'].nunique())
```

3. (Partner 2) Then create a subset of zips_texas_borderstates_centroids that con- tains only the zip codes with at least 1 hospital in 2016. Call the resulting Geo- DataFrame zips_withhospital_centroids What kind of merge did you decide to do, and what variable are you merging on? I decided to merge on zipcodes since it is one of the major variable we display in 2016 hospital data. In this case, we merge on ZATC5. pos2016 with hospitals = pos2016[pos2016['PGM TRMNTN CD'] == '0'][['ZIP_CD']].drop_duplicates() pos2016 with hospitals.columns = ['ZCTA5'] zips_withhospital_centroids = zips_texas_borderstates_centroids.merge(pos2016_with_hospitals, on='ZCTA5', how='inner') print("Number of ZIP codes with at least one hospital in 2016:", zips withhospital centroids['ZCTA5'].nunique()) 4. (Partner 2) For each zip code in zips_texas_centroids, calculate the distance to the nearest zip code with at least one hospital in zips_withhospital_centroids. zips_all_centroids['centroid'] = zips_all.geometry.centroid Unique ZIP codes in Texas: 1935 Unique ZIP codes in Texas and bordering states: 3486 Number of ZIP codes with at least one hospital in 2016: 0 Average distance to nearest hospital (in miles): nan zips_texas_centroids = zips_texas_centroids.to_crs(epsg=5070) zips_withhospital_centroids = zips_withhospital_centroids.to_crs(epsg=5070) zips_texas_centroids['nearest_hospital_distance'] = zips_texas_centroids.geometry.apply(lambda x: zips_withhospital_centroids.distance(x).min()) zips_texas_centroids['nearest_hospital_distance_miles'] = zips texas centroids['nearest hospital distance'] * 0.000621371 print("Average distance to nearest hospital (in miles):", zips_texas_centroids['nearest_hospital_distance_miles'].mean()) test_zips = zips_texas_centroids.sample(10) start_time = time.time() test_zips['nearest_hospital_distance'] = test_zips.geometry.apply(

```
lambda x: zips_withhospital_centroids.distance(x).min()
)
end_time = time.time()
print("Time taken for 10 ZIP codes:", end_time - start_time, "seconds")
estimated_time = (end_time - start_time) * (len(zips_texas_centroids) / 10)
print("Estimated time for full dataset:", estimated_time, "seconds")
```

- 5. (Partner 2) Calculate the average distance to the nearest hospital for each zip code in Texas.
- a. What unit is this in?
- b. Report the average distance in miles. Does this value make sense?
- c. Map the value for each zip code.

```
zips_all_centroids['centroid'] = zips_all.geometry.centroid
Unique ZIP codes in Texas: 1935
Unique ZIP codes in Texas and bordering states: 3486
Number of ZIP codes with at least one hospital in 2016: 0
Time taken for 10 ZIP codes: 0.0007429122924804688 seconds
Estimated time for full dataset: 0.1437535285949707 seconds
Actual time for full calculation: 0.07631802558898926 seconds
```

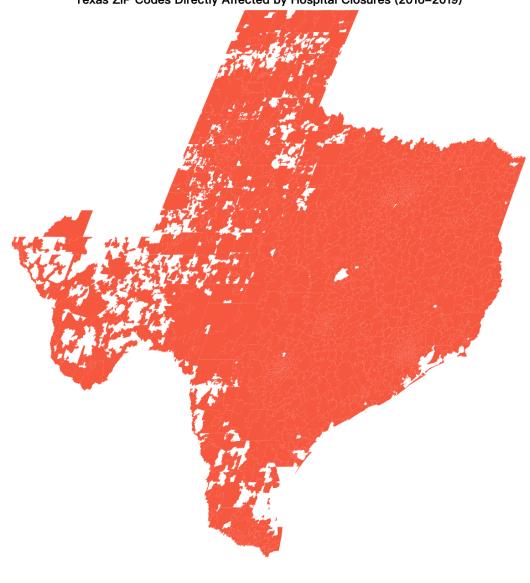


```
start_time_full = time.time()
zips_texas_centroids['nearest_hospital_distance'] =
zips_texas_centroids.geometry.apply(
    lambda x: zips_withhospital_centroids.distance(x).min()
)
end_time_full = time.time()
print("Actual time for full calculation:", end_time_full - start_time_full,
"seconds")
zips_texas_centroids.plot(column='nearest_hospital_distance_miles',
legend=True, cmap='viridis')
plt.title("Distance to Nearest Hospital in Miles for Texas ZIP Codes")
```

```
plt.xlabel("Longitude")
plt.ylabel("Latitude")
plt.show()
## Effects of closures on access in Texas (15 pts)
1.
```{python}
import pandas as pd
closures_df = pd.read_csv('/Users/suyuanfang/Desktop/Pyhton/problem-set-4-
nelly-alex/closed_Data.csv')
print(closures_df.columns)
closures_df['ZIP_CD'] = closures_df['ZIP_CD'].astype(str)
texas_prefixes = ['75', '76', '77', '78', '79']
closures texas =
closures_df[closures_df['ZIP_CD'].str[:2].isin(texas_prefixes)]
closures_count = closures_texas['ZIP_CD'].value_counts().reset_index()
closures_count.columns = ['ZIP_CD', 'Number_of_Closures']
print(closures_count)
. . .
Index(['FAC_NAME', 'ZIP_CD', 'Year_of_Closure'], dtype='object')
 ZIP_CD Number_of_Closures
0 76645.0
1 79520.0
 1
2 78336.0
 1
3 77065.0
 1
4 79529.0
 1
5 76531.0
 1
6 75390.0
 1
7 79902.0
 1
8 75235.0
 1
9 75051.0
 1
10 78613.0
 1
11 76520.0
 1
12 75087.0
 1
13 75140.0
 1
```{python}
import pandas as pd
import geopandas as gpd
import altair as alt
```

```
closures_df = pd.read_csv('/Users/suyuanfang/Desktop/Pyhton/problem-set-4-
nelly-alex/closed_Data.csv')
print(closures df.columns)
closures_df['ZIP_CD'] = closures_df['ZIP_CD'].astype(str)
texas_prefixes = ['75', '76', '77', '78', '79']
closures_texas =
closures_df[closures_df['ZIP_CD'].str[:2].isin(texas_prefixes)]
closures count = closures texas['ZIP CD'].value counts().reset index()
closures_count.columns = ['ZIP_CD', 'Number_of_Closures']
directly affected zips = closures count.shape[0]
print(f'Number of directly affected ZIP codes in Texas:
{directly_affected_zips}')
zip_shapefile_path = '/Users/suyuanfang/Desktop/Pyhton/problem-set-4-nelly-
alex/gz_2010_us_860_00_500k/gz_2010_us_860_00_500k.shp'
gdf = gpd.read file(zip shapefile path)
gdf['ZIP_CODE'] = gdf['ZCTA5'].astype(str)
gdf_texas = gdf[gdf['ZIP_CODE'].str[:2].isin(texas_prefixes)]
gdf_texas = gdf_texas.merge(closures_count, left_on='ZIP_CODE',
right_on='ZIP_CD', how='left')
gdf_texas['Number_of_Closures'] = gdf_texas['Number_of_Closures'].fillna(0)
plot_data = gdf_texas[['ZIP_CODE', 'geometry', 'Number_of_Closures']]
chart = alt.Chart(plot_data).mark_geoshape().encode(
   color=alt.Color('Number_of_Closures:Q', scale=alt.Scale(scheme='reds'),
title='Number of Closures'),
   tooltip=['ZIP_CODE', 'Number_of_Closures']
).properties(
   width=800,
   height=600,
   title='Texas ZIP Codes Directly Affected by Hospital Closures (2016-
2019)'
chart.display()
Index(['FAC_NAME', 'ZIP_CD', 'Year_of_Closure'], dtype='object')
Number of directly affected ZIP codes in Texas: 14
```

Texas ZIP Codes Directly Affected by Hospital Closures (2016–2019)



```
3.
```{python}
gdf_texas = gdf_texas.set_geometry('geometry')
gdf_texas = gdf_texas.to_crs(epsg=32614)
directly_affected_gdf = gdf_texas[gdf_texas['Number_of_Closures'] > 0]

directly_affected_gdf['buffer'] =
directly_affected_gdf.geometry.buffer(16093.4)
directly_affected_gdf = directly_affected_gdf.set_geometry('buffer')
indirectly_affected_gdf = gpd.sjoin(gdf_texas,
directly_affected_gdf[['buffer']], how='inner', predicate='intersects')
indirectly_affected_zips = indirectly_affected_gdf['ZIP_CODE'].nunique()
print(f'Number of indirectly affected ZIP codes in Texas:
{indirectly_affected_zips}')
plot_data = indirectly_affected_gdf[['ZIP_CODE', 'geometry']]
plot_data['Affected Type'] = 'Indirectly Affected'
```

1.

To improve the identification of hospital closures, consider issues like data gaps, temporary shutdowns being mistaken for permanent closures, and name changes that might not reflect true closures. Improvements could include cross-checking with external data sources, using more comprehensive data on hospital operations, and integrating longitudinal analysis for more accurate closure verification.

2. Our current method is a good place to start, but we could get a more complete picture of ZIP-code-level hospital access by adding factors like distance, population, area demand, and capacity. This more detailed study would help us get a better picture of how real changes in access are caused by hospital closings. We could get a more complete picture of ZIP-code-level hospital access by adding factors like distance, population, area demand, and capacity.