

intro

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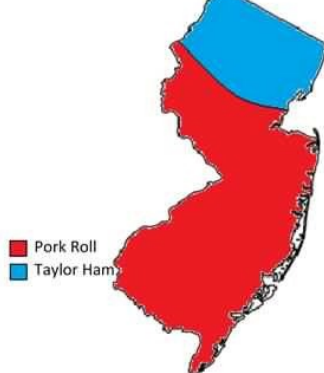
outline

general overview; approach and policies

why?

what is GIS?





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what is GIS?

before we start: extra credit opportunities

- present sth not covered (has to be GIS, of course)
- present alternative way of doing sth that we have covered
- civic engagement: Michael D'Italia
michael.ditalia@camden.rutgers.edu

introductions (see if others overlap: can collaborate!)

- about myself <http://theaok.github.io>
-
- what do you research?
 - using any data or want to find any data?
- what do you expect from this class?

weekly labs; do we need that?

- find out good time for weekly labs, say Wed 4-5?
- or just 30min before the class

2 keys to success

- start early on ps
- ask questions

approach

- you are encouraged to collaborate (prep for class, ps, paper)
- software class! applied, data-driven
- free to choose data/topics as long as relevant to the class
- bring your own data; kill 2 birds with one stone
- you need to have some data for this class
- don't worry, as long as you have any interest, you are likely to find data about it
- we'll go over data sources in few classes

before and after the midterm

- 1st half basics, go fast
- 2nd half more extras, relax with pace of material but work on paper (final ps/presentation)
- before: basics, data, theory, general
- after: more specific and advanced topics; research oriented

communication

- email is a preferred mode of communication; just email `gis_int@googlegroups.com`
- and everybody in the class
- including me and GA will get it
- messages will be marked with “[gis_int]” in the subject
- you can easily filter them to a specific folder, e.g. in gmail:
`http://support.google.com/mail/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=6579`
- during the class interrupt me as often as necessary
- after the class email me if you have questions – i check email frequently
- everyone got welcome email? no? email me
- stop by my office!

ps tips

- **important**: people never follow it
- start early
- late ps *not* accepted
- ask questions early!
- do not hesitate to ask questions
- there are no “silly” questions
- it is normal to get stuck and ask questions when learning new software
- in class: ask questions / tell me to go slower if needed (i have an impression that i go too fast sometimes)

class website=syllabus

- slides are linked from the syllabus
- i try to post about a week ahead, but tentative only
- print, if you like, right before the class—i am updating continuously
- let's see ps directions and esp wiki

the difference

- this class is different from other classes
- fundamentally this class is about software
 - and hands-on, applied, usage of it
- it is impossible for me to cover everything that you may bump into
- that's why it is key for us to communicate well
 - don't hesitate asking the questions
 - use email extensively (eg couple times per day)

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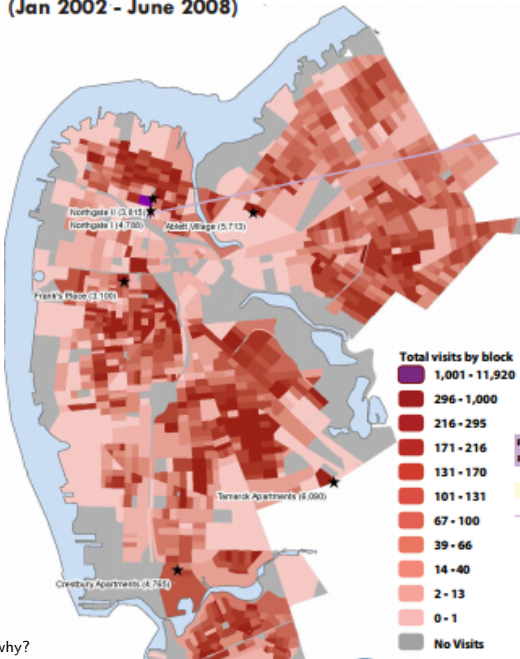
a general thought about maps

- maps are always useful
- no matter what you study it always takes place somewhere and place matters
- so you should use maps for whatever you study in *all* other classes
- and all other projects outside of school
- it will always help with understanding of what is going on

so what? geography matters!

- with maps you get insight you won't get otherwise
- oftentimes all you have to do is to map it
 - and think **a lot** about what you have mapped
 - and what it really means
 - eg Dick De Veaux: faulty devices around Rocky Mountains
 - eg Cooper's Hospital dr Brenner: ER visits home addr
 - send nurses to homes and cut costs dramatically and improve health

Inpatient and Emergency Room Visits in Camden, NJ (Jan 2002 - June 2008)

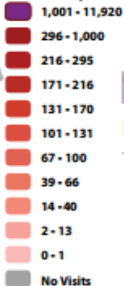


Northgate I Public Housing



	Visits	Patients	Charges	Receipts	Collected
Cooper	3,172	749	\$42,144,897	\$4,994,658	12%
Lourees	811	337	\$7,848,809	\$1,028,611	13%
Virtua	805	331	\$1,742,467	\$345,092	20%
2005	838	370	\$10,834,420	\$1,268,373	12%
2006	738	355	\$6,867,995	\$883,549	13%
2007	790	369	\$7,979,262	\$903,181	11%
ED	3882	978	\$6,150,592	\$664,019	14%
Inpatient	906	408	\$45,584,781	\$5,504,362	12%
Total	4,788	1,070	\$51,735,374	\$6,368,361	12%

Total visits by block



Primary Diagnosis

Rank	ED	Inpatient
1	abdominal pain (789.0)	live birth (V3X.0)
2	acute URI NOS (465.9)	chest pain (786.5)
3	chest pain (786.5)	congestive heart failure NOS (428.0)



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what is GIS?

what is there?

- GIS Geographic Information Systems
 - Geographic: Cities, Roads, Rivers, Countries, etc
 - Information Systems: data, software, programming,
 - like MIS (Management Information Systems) or IT
- GIS=CS(graphics, database/sys adm, coding)+geography
- really, much of the GIS is data management
- geographic=geospatial=spatial (synonymous)

past and future

- much of the gis has been (still is) done with ArcGIS/ArcMap
- this is more of a dinosaur, however
- the future is open source software like QGIS
- and internet companies like Google

what we'll be doing

- obtain (download, but also eg smartphone/gps), manage and display data
 - a display is usually a map
 - really, this class is mostly about producing maps
- there is much more to the GIS, of course
- this class is just applied mapping

maps

- keep in mind that a map is visual representation of data
- there is always a database behind a map
- (database is like spreadsheet, but bigger and fancier)
- or more precisely:
- there is sometimes a map on the top of the database
- so maps is just data in the picture
- the bottom line is data !

why GIS in social science?

- local government
 - zoning, public works (streets, water supply, sewers), garbage collection, land ownership and valuation, public safety (fire and police)
- federal/state
 - natural resource management
 - highways and transportation
- any academics: “no matter what you study it takes place somewhere” (place always matter)
- perhaps esp public health/epidemiology and criminology

why GIS?

- businesses
 - retail site selection & customer analysis
 - logistics: vehicle tracking & routing
 - natural resource exploration (petroleum, etc.)
 - civil engineering/construction
- so you see that you can do a lot with GIS
- yes, it gives you specific, marketable job skills

maps are fun!

- let's look at some interesting maps
- see patterns that cannot see otherwise
- absorb easily lots of information
- compare easily

the big sort

- “The big sort
why clustering of like-minded America is tearing us apart”
- America polarizes by county
(counties are becoming either R or D)
- <http://www.thebigsort.com/maps.php>

who is your city

- http://www.creativeclass.com/_v3/whos_your_city/maps