

data

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this version: Wednesday 24th January, 2018 11:00

outline

ps2 Spring2016 comments

old ps2

regular (not gis) data

gis data (has shapes, can make a map from it)

the 'join'

Example: New Jersey Home Values

data management takes time! value your time!

- ◇ producing maps and spatial statistics is fast
- ◇ most time (i'd say 50-95%) is data management:
 - figuring out, cleaning, documenting, combining, etc
- ◇ so we start with data management
- ◇ but only about 20% of class is dat mgmt
 - but it'll be about 80% of your time
- ◇ spend it on data you care about and will use in your career!

data

◇ a lot of data here:

- <http://geocommons.com/search.html>
- just search for what you are interested in, say 'road'
- and see <https://www.policymap.com/maps>

open govt, especially city data

- ◇ just few examples
- ◇ trend is that more and more local, state, fed opens up
- ◇ <http://phlapi.com/> , <https://data.cityofchicago.org/> , <http://opencityapps.org/> ,
<https://www.metrochicagodata.org/> , <http://www.opendataphilly.org/> ,
<http://www.phila.gov/data/Pages/data.aspx>

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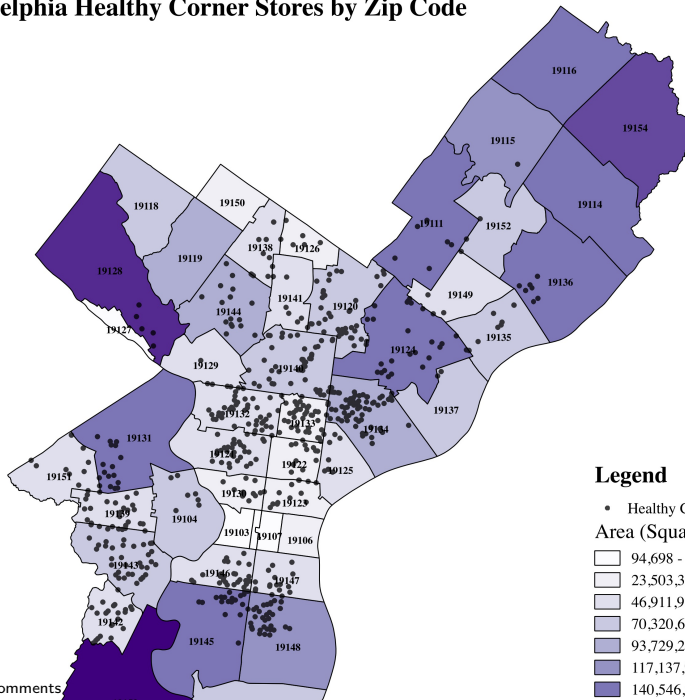
the 'join'

Example: New Jersey Home Values

general comments

- ◇ please no ms word! txt or pdf
- ◇ remember to specify u/a and num of obs
- ◇ need to email me *all* data you've used
 - (incl data you used for joining (toady's class))
 - eg do not assume i have NJ counties
- ◇ send me the whole thing! you can just zip the whole project folder
 - or share good drive, dropbox.com etc
 - if you just send me one .shp file, it won't run! (need .dbf .prj, etc)
- ◇ again, in journal you can ask me questions!

Philadelphia Healthy Corner Stores by Zip Code



Legend

- Healthy Corner Stores

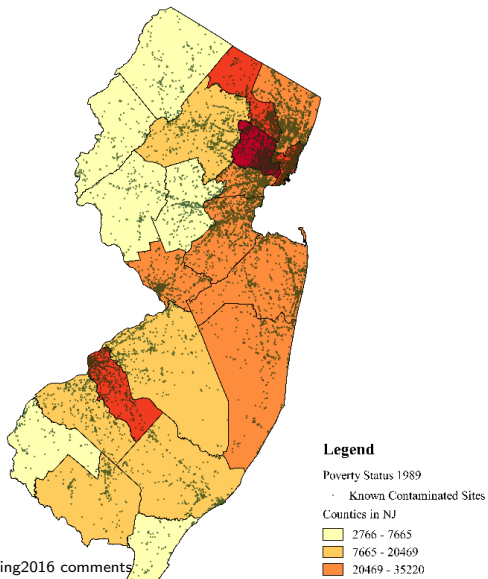
Area (Square Miles)



healthy corner stores

- ◇ makes sense to label zipcodes; right proportions
- ◇ these aren't sq miles! sq ft or meters!
 - colors denote polygon sizes—so same info twice
 - better could map educ, inc, age, bmi, etc
 - dots could be little smaller or hollow so they overlap less
- ◇ make goog map and zoom in: show more detail
 - see environ: other businesses, pub transpo, sch, etc
- ◇ wonder about big healthy stores like wholefoods
 - could denote big ones with big dots
- ◇ usually may want to put year on a map
 - (at very least in metadata/journal)

Contaminations Sites in New Jersey 1992



contaminations

- ◇ perfect size and color for contaminated sites!
 - doesn't overlap much but big enough to see
 - and grayish good for contamination
- ◇ informative— NYC and Philly the worst
- ◇ excellent idea to relate poverty to contamination
 - there is lit linking them! so nice test! [also can do race]
 - could do poverty at municipal or census tract levels
- ◇ use space better! NJ should be bigger like Philly stores map
- ◇ thousands must be set off by commas in legend
- ◇ very good to match contaminations and poverty by year!
- ◇ “poverty status”—guess counts; better %
- ◇ as in Philly map: zoom to Camden or Newark, have goog

contaminations

- ◇ http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/07/08/us/census-race-map.html?_r=0
- ◇ in couple classes we'll be making online maps like this
- ◇ but already now you can do sth similar
 - see footnote: census and socialexplorer.com: download data
- ◇ map in qgis and bring in background from googmaps
 - with openlayers plugin

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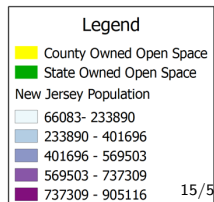
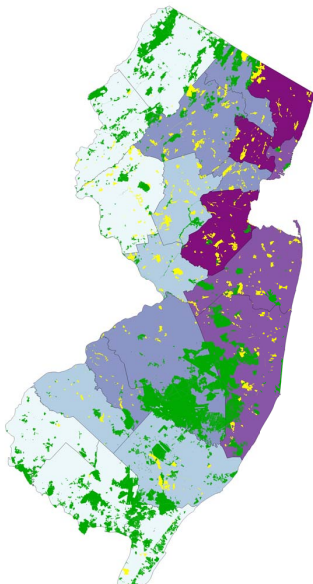
the 'join'

Example: New Jersey Home Values

ps2: open space



New Jersey Preserved Open Space



ps2

- ◇ excellent idea for map—open space related to population
- ◇ great use of multiple layers
- ◇ great non-cluttered borders
- ◇ can use space better—portrait orientation, bigger NJ
- ◇ use commas for population
- ◇ say for which year it is
- ◇ pop den probably more meaningful
 - on the other hand, we already see size from map
 - and so we can sort out density

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Example: New Jersey Home Values

files

- ◇ .xls(x)
- ◇ .csv
- ◇ etc etc
- ◇ but also .dbf! (part of shapefile)

what are data?

- ◇ u/a: unit of analysis: what do you study?
- ◇ u/a=# of obs=# of rows=sample size
 - dataset has variables, which are the attributes of u/as
- ◇ say students: age; counties: water area
- ◇ if several layers: may have several u/as
- ◇ eg counties: #18; hospitals:#700
- ◇ dataset is a matrix/spreadsheet/2D object
- ◇ cols are vars, rows are obs
- ◇ vars are characteristics of obs
- ◇ eg: edu, age, inc are vars
 - and persons are obs—each row is a different person

storage type: numeric v string

- ◇ string format is characters, eg “Camden”
- ◇ numeric is a number, eg “22”
 - real (can have decimals), eg “22.01”
 - integer (no decimals), eg “22”
- ◇ cannot do any math with strings; eg no thematic map
- ◇ it is a storage format, not data recognition
 - storage type=how computer sees it, not you (human)
 - numbers can be stored as strings; strings cannot be stored as numbers (this is how computer sees it)

storage type: numeric v string

- ◇ strings are safer; eg string “0821” made into a number results in “821”, which is a mistake !
- that’s why many software packages, incl qgis often store numbers as strings
- but then we often need to make them into numeric to do the math or mapping
- ◇ be careful about it, triple check, there are often problems and it’s non-intuitive

metadata

- ◇ it's data about data, ie documentation of data
- ◇ have it, use it
 - most basic and important: u/a, # of obs, source/url
 - all ps require you have these “metadata”
- ◇ but there's also other metadata
 - eg codebook and variable definitions
 - it's important stuff for science:
- ◇ critical to have thorough and organized documentation of data

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files

- ◇ .shp
- ◇ .kml
- ◇ etc etc

shapefiles

- ◇ probably most popular
- ◇ actually 3 (or more) files:
 - .shp spatial data/coordinates (“main one” load this one)
 - .dbf attribute data
 - .shx other stuff
 - .prj projection
- just manage it with gis soft, eg qgis

kml

- ◇ another popular format: google .kml
- ◇ this is Google Maps format
- ◇ will cover it later

other gis data

- ◇ there's much more
- ◇ we'll cover them on “as is” basis
- if you bump into something else—let me know—we'll cover it

spatial and attribute data

◇ spatial=location: where ?

- coordinates, lat/lon

◇ attribute

- what, how much, when
- these are characteristics of a location
- so the unit of analysis (U/A) is a location

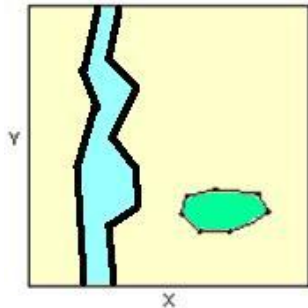
raster and vector

- ◇ raster (has resolution)
 - area covered by cells/pixels
 - each cell/pixel have values/colors
- ◇ vector (no resolution): all real world features:
 - points (dots/nodes): airports, cities, trees
 - lines (arcs): rivers, roads
 - polygons (areas): counties, cities

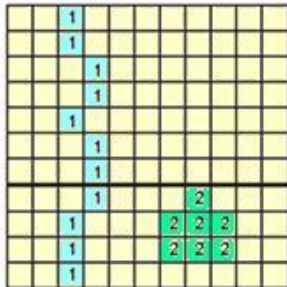
raster and vector



VECTORIAL



RASTER



gis or spatial data

- ◇ point: X,Y
- ◇ line: at least 2 X,Y
- ◇ polygon: at least 3 X,Y
- ◇ draw

layers

- ◇ data is organized by **layers** covering themes, eg roads, admin boundaries, etc etc
- ◇ show example/draw a picture

data, layers

- ◇ gis data is (always) location info (lat/long)+(usually) some regular data
- ◇ there always must be a data table with location info/shapes that underlies a map (and the data table usually contains some regular data, too)
- ◇ most of the time you want to superimpose different layers of gis data
eg roads, cities, state boundaries, schools
- ◇ often you want to produce thematic (choropleth) maps
thematic maps use different symbols/colors to show variation in data

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some real skills

- ◇ anybody can load a shapefile and make a map
- ◇ dealing with real data, you'll typically have to do a join
- ◇ again, you'll spend most time on data management
 - even say over 90% of the time
- ◇ this is where the real value come from:
 - to bring different vars together to produce new insight
- ◇ if you just map one or few similar vars from same or similar data,
 - it has probably been already done!
 - just goog: "what you study, map" and see images;
- ◇ but combining creatively variety of vars:
 - there is no such map in the world!

howto map it

- ◇ ok you have some data—it would likely have geo id:
 - ISD name/code, county name/id, etc
 - codes/ids are great: unique! (as opposed to names)
 - then google a shapefile that you can join with your data
- ◇ google “geo in you data, shapefile” eg “NJ counties, shapefile”
- ◇ and then join the two to produce a map
- ◇ beware of representativeness of your data for areas
 - i spent months coding provinces from WVS
 - then emailed them and found out that they are not representative...

the “merging” problems; some examples

- ◇ “Camden county” \neq “Camden”
- ◇ “Congo” \neq “Congo, Republic of”
- ◇ “Great Britain” \neq “United Kingdom”
- ◇ “Camden” \neq “CAMDEN”
- ◇ “Camden ” \neq “Camden” (space is a character !)
- ◇ “08012” \neq “8012”
- ◇ be very careful; check the tables to see if it merged right
- ◇ does it make sense? eg Camden richer than Cherry Hill?

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figuring things out

- ◇ you got housing prices for NJ counties
- ◇ and we've found matching gis data (shapefile) with NJ counties
- ◇ both have county variable so you can join
- ◇ but both keys/ids need to be coded in exactly the same way
 - characters and storage!
- ◇ and you need to figure this out

Zillow housing prices

- ◇ the “traditional” (non-gis) data in excel from
<http://www.zillow.com/research/data/>
- ◇ i reposted on my website
https://sites.google.com/site/adamokuliczkozaryn/gis_int/NJ-counties-Zillow-Home-Value-Index-TimeSeries.xls
- ◇ and cleaned up: dropped first row, excessive columns,\$ and “,”; cnty names upcase, saved as csv (first sheet)
- ◇ https://sites.google.com/site/adamokuliczkozaryn/gis_int/all_homes.csv
- note missing val for Morris; think abt missing data!
- ◇ nj counties data (same as alaways)
<https://docs.google.com/uc?id=1xJDhcRCkgv7k4tNCa720og5bohV6dTB2&export=download>

adjusting and cleaning up spreadsheets

- ◇ adjust ID: make counties uppercase
 - (or could drop 'County' from COUNTY LABEL variable)
- ◇ always clean up the spreadsheet:
 - one row header (I dropped first row)
 - make col (variable) names brief: say <5 alphanumeric chars
 - drop excessive columns you wont need, keep it clean
 - important! leave only plain numbers!
 - drop all special chars from vals: “#” “\$” “,” etc
- ◇ save as csv (just one sheet); reposted:
https://sites.google.com/site/adamokuliczkozaryn/gis_int/all_homes.csv
 - note missing value! and save in project folder

install MMQGIS (just once) if not there already

- ◇ Plugins-Manage and Install Plugins:
 - Search: MMQGIS
 - and install
- ◇ now we can use MMQGIS to join and fix the data!
 - [another way to do joins:
http://www.qgistutorials.com/en/docs/performing_table_joins.html]

MMQGIS: join; and text to float

- ◇ MMQGIS-Combine-Attributes Join From CSV File
- ◇ Input CSV: all_homes.csv
- ◇ CSV File Field: UPPER
- ◇ Join Layer: nj_counties
- ◇ Join Layer Attribute: COUNTY
- ◇ make sure notfound.csv is where you want it
- ◇ check notfound.csv: header and 'NEW JERSEY': makes sense!
- check the tables to see if it joined right; be very careful!
- ◇ MMQGIS-Modify-Text to Float (almost always need this!)
- ◇ highlight "Dec 2012" only (others are not clean: "\$", ",", ",")

missing value

- ◇ right click layer-Open Attribute Table
- ◇ note that now MORRIS has 0 for “Dec 2012”
- ◇ this is incorrect!
- ◇ hit pen icon at top left: “Toggle Editing Mode”
 - and remove zero from that cell
- ◇ hit “Toggle Editing Mode” again and Save

and the thematic map

- ◇ nj_counties-Properties-Style and from drop-down: “Graduated”
- ◇ Column: “Dec 2012”
- ◇ Color ramp: can just leave Blues
- ◇ many ways to classify [if time, discuss later]
- ◇ usually good: ‘natural breaks/jenks’ say 3-7
- ◇ and hit “Classify” button
- ◇ and hit “OK” to see the map—viola!
- ◇ zoom in as much as needed

print a map: Print Composer

- ◇ Project-New Print Composer
- ◇ NJ is tall: on the right “Composition” and do “portrait”
- ◇ left: blank icon “Add New Map” and draw a rectangle
- ◇ left: icon with arrows “Move Item Content” to adjust view
- ◇ right: “Item properties” change scale to adjust zoom
- ◇ left: legend button “Add new legend”
 - normally legend requires lots of editing
 - right: **uncheck** auto-update and beautify it:
 - drop items with minus sign
 - and edit by double clicking it
- ◇ top: on the left: Composer-Export as Image
 - probably jpg is fine, just increase resolution to say 600dpi

• http://www.qgistutorials.com/en/docs/making_a_map.html and
Example: New Jersey Home Values

don't trust anybody!

- ◇ remember, always be critical
- ◇ triangulate your results: compare with other source
 - just goog picture, eg 'nj counties property values map'
 - http://www.trulia.com/home_prices/New_Jersey/
- ◇ looks about right (they have some other definition of the prices, but correlation is important)
- ◇ show to others, ask for comments, present locally or at a conference
- ◇ i mistakengly thought a lot of aclohol problems in Cape May
 - but it is just tourists!

tip1

- ◇ merging (joining) data is tedious and tricky
- ◇ be careful, double, triple check
- ◇ easy to make mistake

tip2: missing vals

- ◇ tricky! pay extra attention to it!
- ◇ sometimes qgis makes " to 0! esp MMQGIS: str to float
- ◇ sometimes qgis colors it yellow sometimes transparent:
 - (i guess: " = transparent, 'NULL' = yellow)
- ◇ to make it stand out can change color ramp
 - eg if NULL is white, make even number of classes on 2 color ramp (say BlueRed)

tip3: what if traditional data is in weird format

◇ same as with gis data

- if you see something else than .shp or .kml, email me!
- there are many data formats, and we cannot cover them all
- we'll do them if we bump into them—do let us know what you've found!