Introduction to GIS

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Overview

- Introduction to GIS Presentation (30mins)
- Introduction to GIS with QGIS Practical session (3 hours)
- Spatial analysis without a GIS Presentation (30 minutes)

My background

- GIS in transport
 - 5 years with Greater Manchester Transportation Unit,
 6 months with Transport for the North
- Academia
 - Teach GIS up to Master's level ArcGIS, QGIS, Python
 - Research
- Specialism GI technologies
 - Spatial databases
 - Spatial programming
 - Web mapping



Geographic Information Systems

- A tool to manage, visualise, and analyse spatial data
- General purpose GIS
 - ESRI ArcGIS
 - QGIS
- Specialised
 - GeoDa





Representing spatial data: raster



Land cover – scale 1:140000

Representing spatial data: raster



Land cover – scale 1:4000



scale 1:6000



scale 1:600

0



Vector features can have multiple attributes

Building as polygon and point



The same feature can be represented by multiple geometries



The same feature can be represented by multiple geometries

Representing spatial data: tools

- Vector
 - Select by attribute
 - Select by location
 - Count points in polygon
 - Nearest neighbour
 - K-means clustering

- Raster
 - Raster calculator
 - Aspect
 - Slope
 - Terrain profile

Point pattern analysis

Point pattern analysis: Nearest neighbour

Observed mean distance: 16.5m Expected mean distance: 36.2m Nearest neighbour index: 0.455 Number of points: 266 Z-Score: -16.99

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Point pattern analysis – K-means



- Tobler's first law of geography
 - "Everything is related to everything else, but near things are more related than distant things."







Defining "nearness" using neighbours







Projections



Projections





Data sources

- Ordnance Survey Open Data
 - Backdrop mapping (raster)
 - Vector data sources green spaces, postcodes, roads, rivers
- Data.gov.uk
 - Boundaries, social data

Data formats

- File
 - Shapefile
 - Geodatabase
 - Geopackage
 - CSV
- Database tables

PostgreSQL/PostGIS, MS SQL, Oracle

- Web services
 - Geoserver



Clustering of road accidents



Heat map of road accidents



Point in polygon



Multiple layers



- Google Maps
 - Free but not open source
 - Changing Terms and Conditions
- Open source libraries
 - Leaflet
 - Open Layers
- Data

- GeoJSON files exported from Shapefile using QGIS



Anonymising data



Anonymisation via aggregation

 "Scale or level of geographic detail is an essential property of any GIS project"

Longley, P.A., Goodchild, M.F., Maguire, D.J. and Rhind, D.W., 2005. *Geographic information systems and science*. John Wiley & Sons.







Arable	Broadleaf Woodland	Improved Grassland
Arable	Arable	Improved Grassland







Census Lower level Super Output Area - average population = 1614



Census Medium level Super Output Area - average population = 7787

A GIS is just a model...



"A message to mapmakers: highways are not painted red, rivers don't have county lines running down the middle, and you can't see contour lines on a mountain."

William Kent, Data and Reality (2000)

Source: www.cachecounty.org/gis/

Introduction to the practical

- File formats
 - Shapefile multiple files
- Projections
 - Coordinate Reference System
- Website

– www.ondemandmapping.org.uk/igis/