CSE 442 - Data Visualization

Mapping & Cartography

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(with significant material from Michal Migurski)
Ptolemy’s Geographica
Original ~150AD, This Map ~1300AD
Rail Passengers and Freight from Paris 1884
Casualties of War

Use the slider below to investigate the demographics and military status of U.S. service members who died during the war in Iraq.

MARCH 16, 2003 JULY 5, 2008 (277 WEEKS)

4,097 deaths

Age
- 18-24: 54%
- 25-34: 33%
- 35-44: 10%
- 45+: 2%

Branch of Military
- Air Force: 1%
- Army: 72%
- Marine Corps: 24%
- Navy: 2%

Race
- Black: 9%
- Hispanic: 10%
- White: 71%
- Other: 5%
- Unknown: 5%

Type of Duty
- National Guard: 11%
- Regular: 77%
- Reserve: 7%
- Unknown: 5%

Location of death
Circles sized according to percentage of deaths in each Iraqi province.

Show home
Texas oil boom is visible from space

Lighting and natural gas flares from drilling on the 400-mile-long Eagle Ford shale formation can be seen from space in this image.

The new formation has helped make Texas the No. 1 oil-producing state in the nation.

Oil production from different U.S. regions (in thousands of barrels per day)

- Texas
- Alaska
- California
- Gulf of Mexico
- North Dakota

Source: Energy Information Administration

Nov. 2013: 2,797

Matt Moody Los Angeles Times
Tensions between this city's residents, who are mostly Sunni, and the central government had been brewing here for at least a year. Then in December, Iraq's prime minister, Nuri Kamal al-Maliki, ordered security forces to dismantle a protest camp — an outlet for disenchanted Sunnis angered at their treatment by the Shiite-dominated government. The action ignited days of violence and created the opening ISIS needed to seize parts of the city, the provincial capital.

Just days after the raid on the camp in Ramadi, ISIS fighters destroyed the Police Headquarters and mayor's office here, planted their flag on government buildings and decreed the city to be theirs. Ten years earlier, American forces had captured this city from Qaeda-style insurgents at a considerable cost of American lives.
Cartography
The Making of Maps
Projections
Latitude, Longitude

P = 40°N, 60°W
A sphere tears when you flatten it.
Exploring Projections…

https://vega.github.io/vega/examples/world-map/
We can categorize projections by what they preserve...
Distance

Preserve direction / distance from center
The azimuthal equidistant projection is available as d3.geo.azimuthalEquidistant.
The Albers equal-area conic projection is available as d3.geo.albers. See also the interactive version.
Conformal
Preserve local angles ("shape")
Spherical Mercator

Rhumb Line
Tissot’s Indicatrix
Spherical Mercator is ubiquitous on the web—why?
Web Mercator

\[
x = \frac{128}{\pi} 2^{\text{zoom level}} (\lambda + \pi) \text{ pixels}
\]

\[
y = \frac{128}{\pi} 2^{\text{zoom level}} (\pi - \ln \left[ \tan \left( \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{\varphi}{2} \right) \right]) \text{ pixels}
\]

World coordinates adjusted to map to 256 x 256 pixels.  
**Latitude cut-offs** at 85.051129 degrees: the exact point at which the projection frames the world in a square.
The Peirce quincuncial projection is implemented as `d3.geo.peirceQuincuncial` in the `geo.projection` D3 plugin. It is derived from the Guyou projection.
Projections usually have a home
Increased Border Enforcement, With Varying Results

There are now more agents along the 1,954 mile-long border than ever before...

Border agents per sector.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>'00</th>
<th>'02</th>
<th>'12</th>
<th>'12</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SAN DIEGO</td>
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<tr>
<td>EL CENTRO</td>
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<td>YUMA</td>
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<td>TUCSON</td>
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<td>BIG BEND</td>
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<td>DEL RIO</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAREDO</td>
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<tr>
<td>RIO GRANDE VALLEY</td>
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</table>

Satellite Projection, NY Times
WHAT YOUR FAVORITE MAP PROJECTION SAYS ABOUT YOU

MERCATOR

YOU'RE NOT REALLY INTO MAPS.

Van der Grinten

YOU'RE NOT A COMPLICATED PERSON. YOU LOVE THE MERCATOR PROJECTION; YOU JUST WISH IT WEREN'T SQUARE. THE EARTH'S NOT A SQUARE, IT'S A CIRCLE. YOU LIKE CIRCLES. TODAY IS GONNA BE A GOOD DAY!
You think that when we look at a map, what we really see is ourselves. After you first saw Inception, you sat silent in the theater for six hours. It freaks you out to realize that everyone around you has a skeleton inside them. You have really looked at your hands.
There are interesting ways to tear spheres
One notable interesting way to tear a sphere
ADAPTIVE COMPOSITE MAP PROJECTIONS
Scale
This is not “scale”
Scale is an idea imported from print

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Mapping Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:1,000,000</td>
<td>Richmond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:625,000</td>
<td>Westminster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:250,000</td>
<td>Charing</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:50,000</td>
<td>Govt Offices</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:25,000</td>
<td>House of Parliament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:10,000</td>
<td>Palace Yard</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Choose the right content at different scales
Four maps, same area
What shows at different scales?
Shapes change at different scales

Figure 11. Fragmentation of a river into polygons and lines with different thresholds leading to different results (c, d, e).
Mapping
Visualizing Geospatial Data
Symbol Maps
Dots can be symbols
Guess the crime
Dots can be good symbols
Dots can include data
Dots are ubiquitous
“Red Dot Fever”
Some statistics can be so unbelievable, or deal with concepts so vast, that it’s impossible to wrap our heads around them. The human mind can only do so much to visualize an abstract idea, and often misses much of its impact in the process.
Mapping America: Every City, Every Block

Browse local data from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey, based on samples from 2005 to 2009. Because these figures are based on samples, they are subject to a margin of error, particularly in places with a low population, and are best regarded as estimates.

Distribution of racial and ethnic groups

By MATTHEW BLOCH, SHAN CARTER and ALAN MCLEAN | Source: 2005-9 American Community Survey, Census Bureau; sociablexplorer.com

Note: Dots are evenly distributed across each Census tract or county. Dollar amounts are adjusted for inflation.
This map is counting many small things. The black lines show Chicago's official community areas. Each dot represents twenty-five people. Here, Hispanic is exclusive of other categories. Block-level data from the U.S. census. Scale 1:200,000.
Clustering, grouping
Let patterns emerge
Continuous Data
Binning
Don’t hide the context
Uber Wait Times, 2011

http://sta.mn/6x27
Break data into buckets

The brazen 2007 murder of journalist Chauncey Bailey in Oakland, California, led Stamen partner Mike Migurski to make the city’s crime data more accessible. This heat map of downtown uses data from CrimeTools, a community website, to show the gaps between crimes at a given intersection: white is high-crime; darker areas are safe. stamen.com

**KEY**
Colours show how many crimes were reported in a given part of Oakland.

- Orange (A week ago)
- Green (Two weeks ago)
- Light green (A month ago)
- Yellow (Two months ago)
- Dark green (Three months ago)
- Blue (Four months ago)
- Dark blue (Five months ago)
Meaningful buckets
“Iso” means “same”

Isolines for elevation
Isochrones are isolines for time.
Choropleth Maps
1826(?) Illiteracy in France, Pierre Charles Dupin
Five quantiles
Choose colors well
Focus on the foreground
What is obscured?
Regions -> Symbols
Cartograms
New York Times ratings

- **198** Safe Dem.
- **16** Leaning Dem.
- **17** Toss up
- **24** Leaning Rep.
- **180** Safe Rep.

Click on a district below to learn more.

Each box represents a House district.
Obesity Map (Dorling Cartogram)  Vadim Ogievetsky
China Still Dominates, but Some Manufacturers Look Elsewhere

While China maintains its overwhelming dominance in manufacturing, multinational companies are looking for ways to limit their reliance on factories there. Related Article »

Economic Output

In this map, geography is distorted so that each country is sized according to its economic output in 2012. The countries are colored by their rate of growth; more established economies tend to grow more slowly.

China is both highly productive and growing rapidly. Considering individual provinces conveys its impressive scale: Guangdong, just one of 31 Chinese provinces, has an economic output greater than Indonesia.

Japan and South Korea have large economic output, but growth has slowed as they have caught up with the West and innovation becomes more difficult.

Rising wages and risk in China are encouraging businesses to consider alternatives, including Cambodia, Vietnam and the Philippines.

New York shown for comparison.
Major distortions can stay recognizable
Flow Maps
1864 British Coal Exports, Charles Minard
Flow Map Layout
Phan et al. 2005
Migration from California, 95-00

- Tobler 1987
- Phan et al. 2005
- Verbeek et al. 2011
- Cui et al. 2008
- Holten & van Wijk 2009
wind map

February 19, 2014
11:55 am EST
(time of forecast download)

top speed: 35.3 mph
average: 11.6 mph
Romney’s Shift Wasn’t Enough

Most of the nation shifted to the right in Tuesday’s vote, but not far enough to secure a win for Mitt Romney.
Generalization
1864 British Coal Exports, Charles Minard
London Underground [Beck 33]  
Geographic version of map

Principle: Straighten lines to emphasize stop sequence
Technique used to emphasize/de-emphasize information
People *love* the tube map

[Map of Wisconsin with various cities and towns labeled, including Winona, La Crosse, and Milwaukee.]
Tube map + isochorones

Time to Travel from Arnos Grove
Route Maps: Bellevue to Seattle
Map Design via Optimization [Agrawala ‘01]

Set of graphic elements
  Roads, labels, cross-streets, ...

Choose visual attributes
  Position, orientation, size, ...
  Distortions increase flexibility

Develop constraints based on design principles

Simulated annealing
  Perturb: Form a layout
  Score: Evaluate quality
  Minimize score
Tools
Software Tools

Web Tools

d3.geo: projections, paths and more
GeoJSON: JSON format for geo data
TopoJSON: topology -> compressed GeoJSON
Leaflet: open-source, customizable map tile system

Other

PostGIS: Postgres DB extensions for geo data
Mapnik: Render your own map tiles!
Data Resources

Natural Earth Data
naturalearthdata.com

OpenStreetMap
openstreetmap.org

U.S. Government
nationalatlas.gov, census.gov, usgs.gov
Tutorials

Command Line Cartography
https://medium.com/@mbostock/command-line-cartography-part-1-897aa8f8ca2c

How to Infer Topology
http://bost.ocks.org/mike/topology/