

Introduction to Critical Map Reading aka How to Lie with Maps

Chris Gist, MS GISP

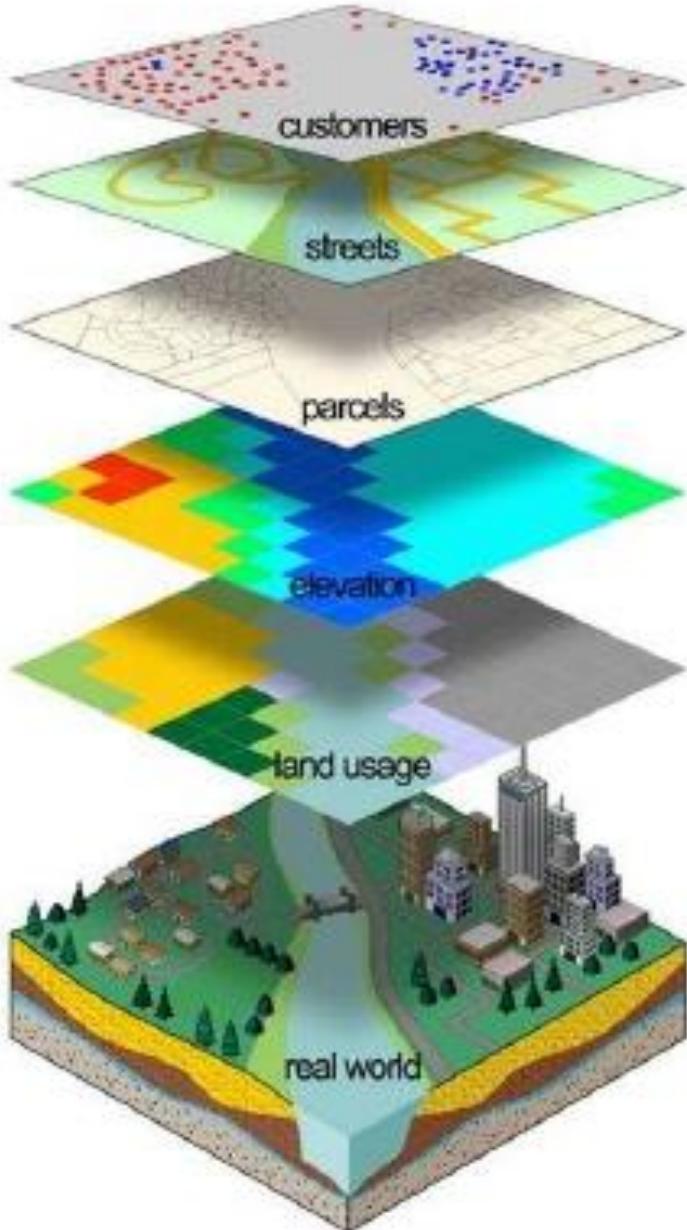
GIS Specialist

University of Virginia Library

cgist@virginia.edu

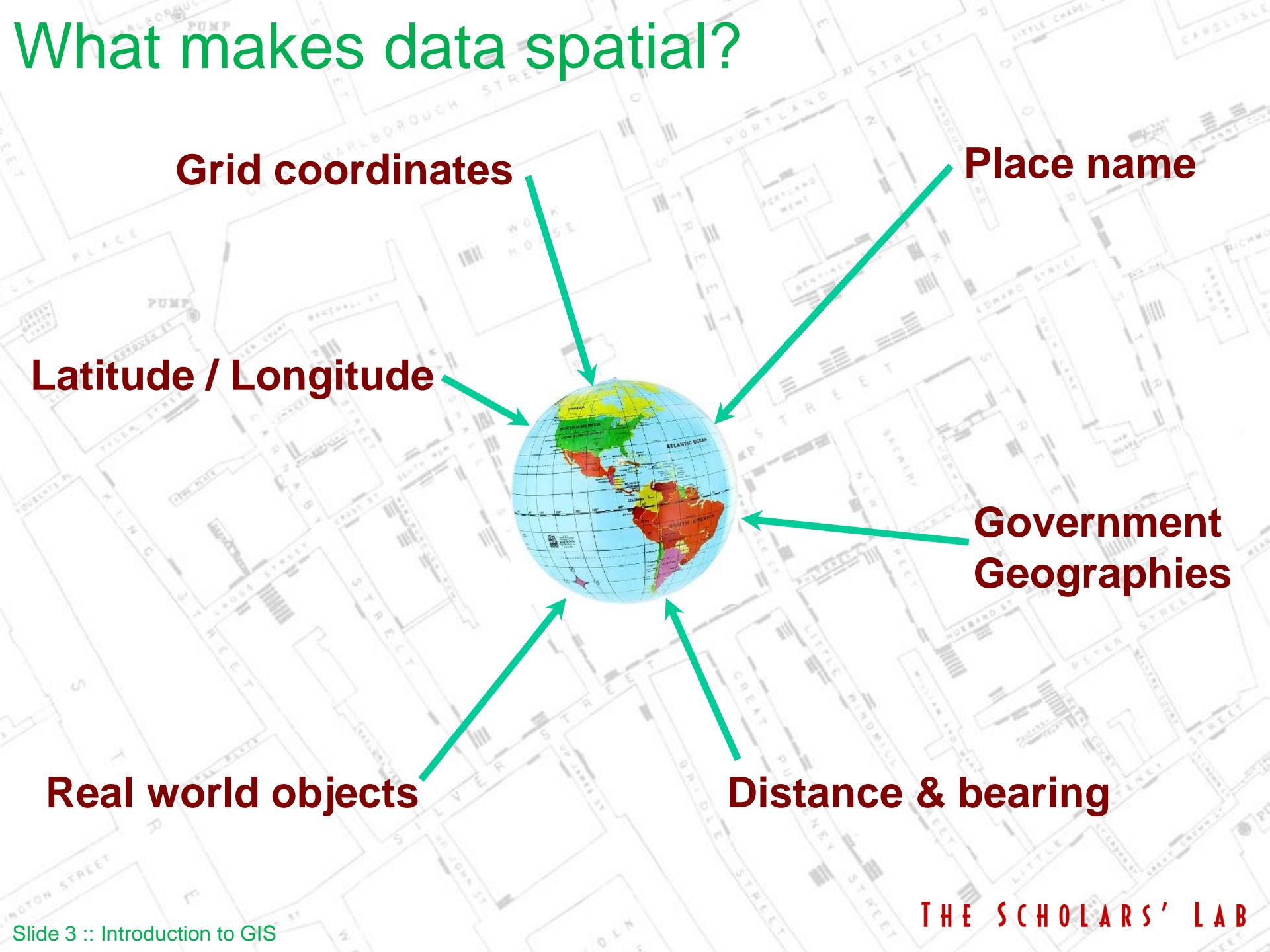
THE SCHOLARS' LAB

What is GIS?



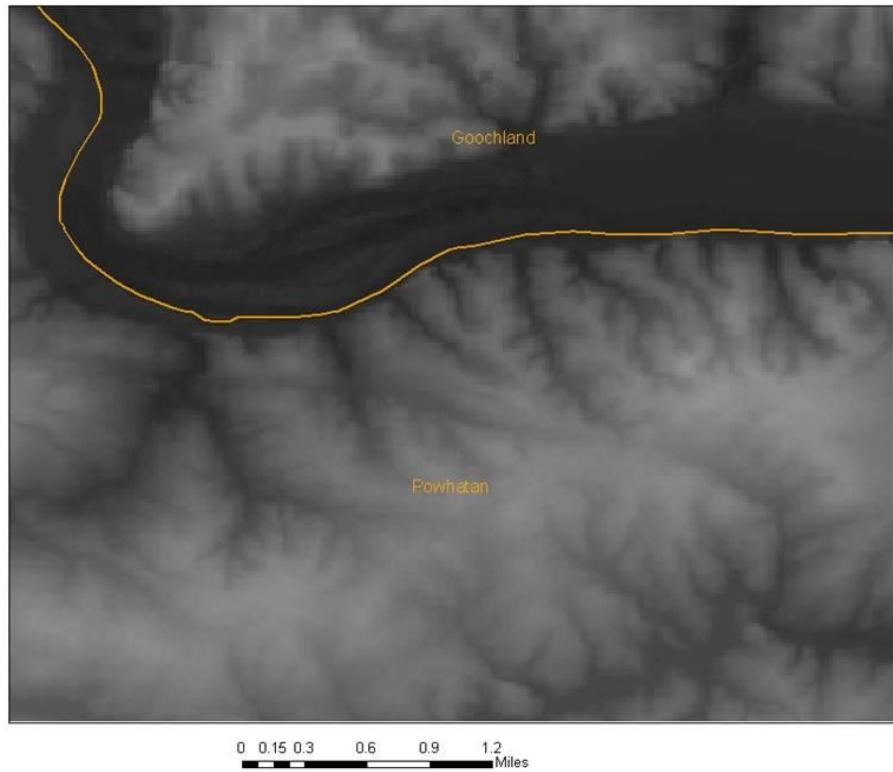
- A technology
Hardware, software & analysis tools
- An information handling strategy
- The objective: to improve overall decision making by visualizing data and seeing new patterns.

What makes data spatial?

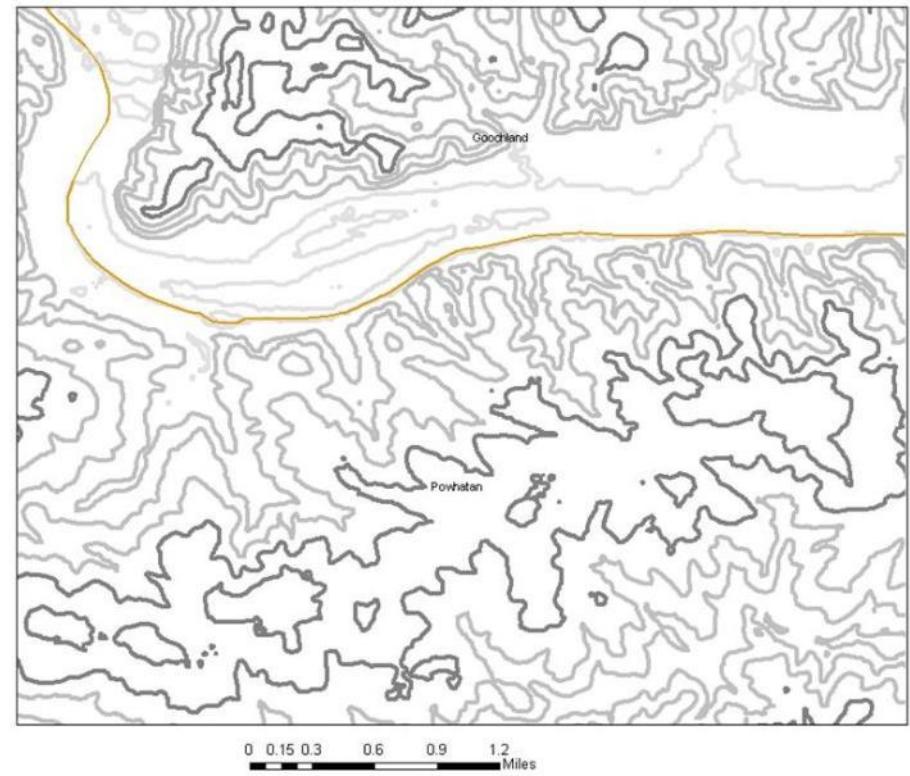


Types of Geographic Data

Raster



Vector



Date

- Lags between survey and production
- Cost of constant updates are still prohibitive
- Most GIS data has been produced within the last 20 years
- Historical data is not being created in significant amounts

Map Projection = 3D to 2D



Projection System

- Also known as “coordinate system”
- Dependent upon:
 - Local standards
 - Uses and needs
- Multiple data sources mean multiple projections



THE WORLD IS OUR CAMPUS

SEMESTER AT SEA®

Semester at Sea's worldwide itineraries offer rigorous coursework coupled with field assignments, service learning in 712 international destinations, and the skills necessary to compete in today's rapidly globalizing world. Credit earned is fully transferable by the University of Virginia.

Since 1963, Semester at Sea has launched more than 126 voyages, educated more than 35,000 alumni from 1,700 institutions, and traveled to more than 62 countries.



THE WORLD IS OUR CAMPUS

SEMESTER AT SEA®

Semester at Sea's worldwide itineraries offer rigorous coursework coupled with field assignments, service learning in 712 international destinations, and the skills necessary to compete in today's rapidly globalizing world. Credit earned is fully transferable by the University of Virginia.

Since 1963, Semester at Sea has launched more than 126 voyages, educated more than 35,000 alumni from 1,700 institutions, and traveled to more than 62 countries.



THE WORLD IS OUR CAMPUS

SEMESTER AT SEA®

Semester at Sea's worldwide itineraries offer rigorous coursework coupled with field assignments, service learning in 712 international destinations, and the skills necessary to compete in today's rapidly globalizing world. Credit earned is fully transferable by the University of Virginia.

Since 1963, Semester at Sea has launched more than 126 voyages, educated more than 35,000 alumni from 1,700 institutions, and traveled to more than 62 countries.



THE WORLD IS OUR CAMPUS

SEMESTER AT SEA®

Semester at Sea's worldwide itineraries offer rigorous coursework coupled with field assignments, service learning in 712 international destinations, and the skills necessary to compete in today's rapidly globalizing world. Credit earned is fully transferable by the University of Virginia.

Since 1963, Semester at Sea has launched more than 126 voyages, educated more than 35,000 alumni from 1,700 institutions, and traveled to more than 62 countries.

THE WEST WING



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n8zBC2dvERM>

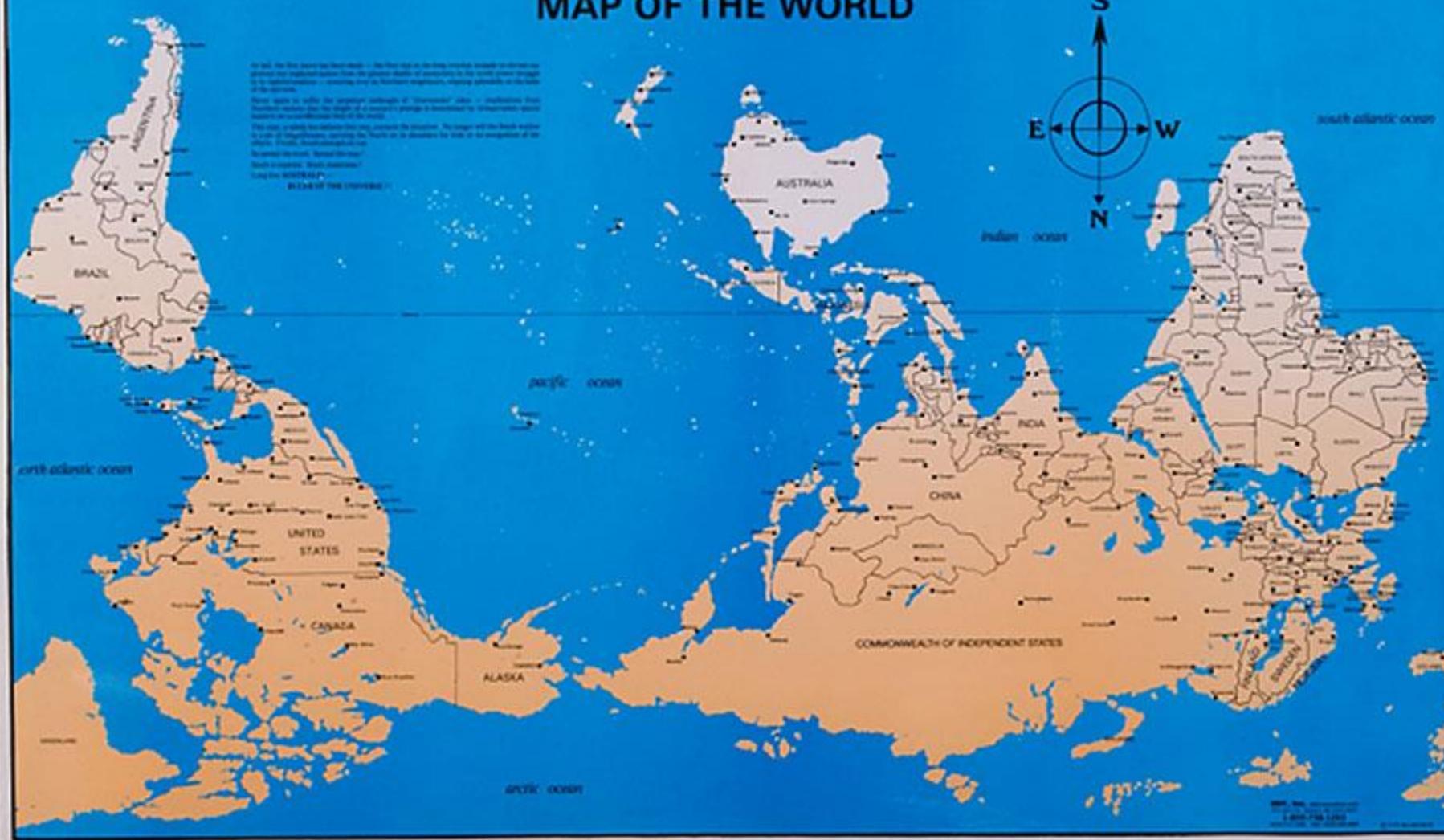
Aaron Sorkin

THE SCHOLARS' LAB



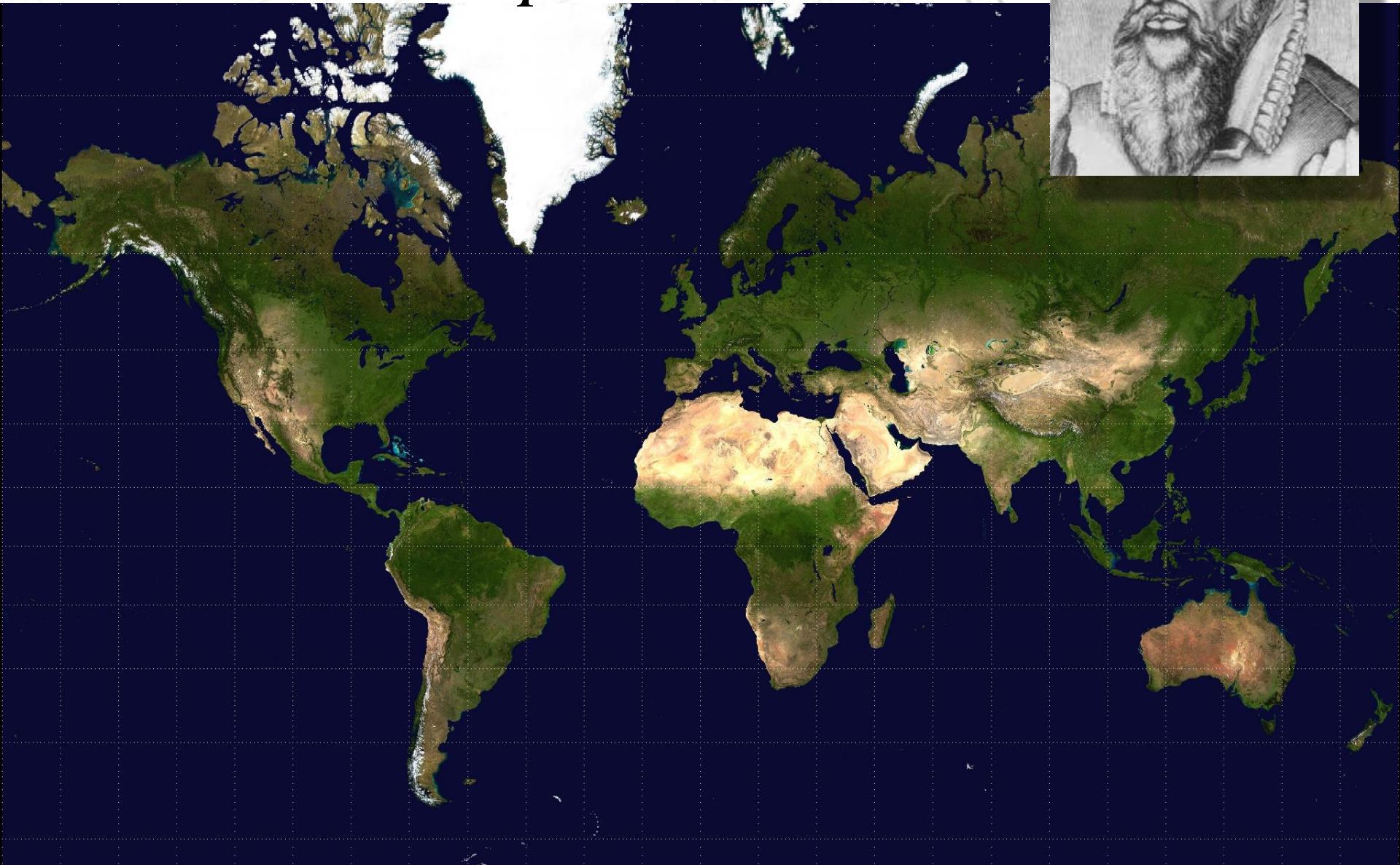
THE SCHOLARS' LAB

McARTHUR'S UNIVERSAL CORRECTIVE MAP OF THE WORLD



Mercator Projection

Preserves Shape & Direction

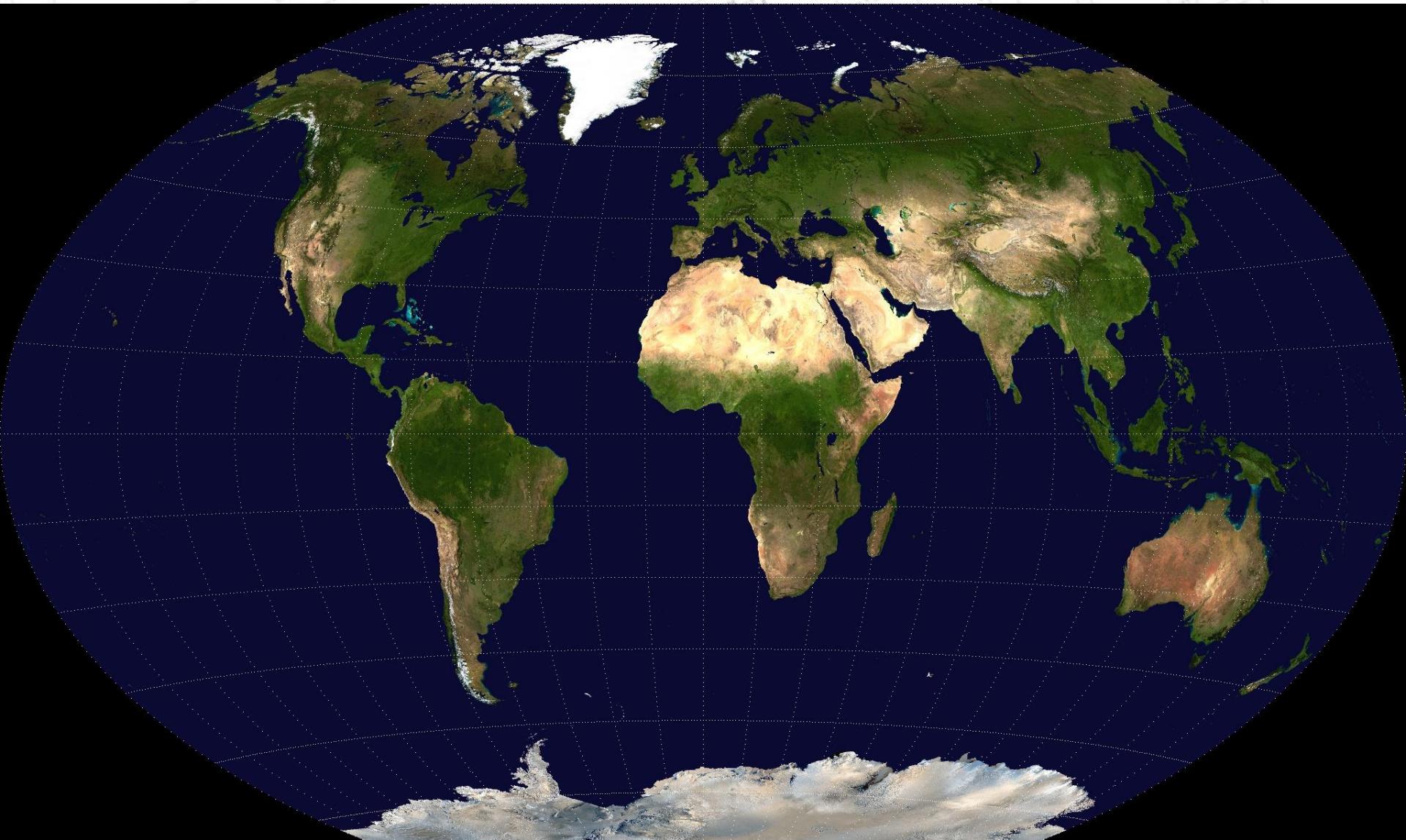


Peters Projection Preserves Area – Distorts Shape



Winkel Tripel Projection

Compromise Projection – Nat Geo



Dymaxion Projection Buckminster Fuller



Projections

Summary

● = Yes
○ = Partly

Projection	Type	Properties							Suitable for Mapping			General Use			
		Conformal	Equal area	Equidistant	True direction	Perspective	Compromise	Straight rhumbs	World	Hemisphere	Continent/Ocean	Region/Sea	Medium Scale	Large Scale	Topographic Maps
Globe	Sphere	● ● ● ●							●						● ●
Mercator	Cylindrical	●	○		●				○	●					● ● ●
Transverse Mercator	Cylindrical	●								● ● ● ●					● ● ●
Oblique Mercator	Cylindrical	●								● ● ● ●					● ● ●
Space Oblique Mercator	Cylindrical	●								●					● ● ●
Miller Cylindrical	Cylindrical				●				●						● ●
Robinson	Pseudocylindrical				●				●						● ● ●
Sinusoidal Equal Area	Pseudocylindrical	● ○							●	●					● ● ●
Orthographic	Azimuthal			○ ●					○						● ● ●
Stereographic	Azimuthal	●		○ ●					● ● ● ●						● ● ● ●
Gnomonic	Azimuthal			○ ●						○					● ● ●
Azimuthal Equidistant	Azimuthal		○ ○						○	● ● ● ●					● ● ●
Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area	Azimuthal	●	○						● ● ● ●						● ● ● ●
Albers Equal Area Conic	Conic		●						● ● ● ●						● ● ● ●
Lambert Conformal Conic	Conic	●		○					● ● ● ●						● ● ● ●
Equidistant Conic (Simple Conic)	Conic		○					●	● ●						● ● ●
Polyconic	Conic		○							○ ○					● ●
Bipolar Oblique Conic Conformal	Conic	●							●						● ● ●

All above projections (except Robinson) are explained in detail in *Map Projections—A Working Manual*, John P. Snyder, Geological Survey Professional Paper 1395 (Washington: USGPO, 1987, 383 pp.)



North Korea's missile threat

Type	Maximum range	Payload	Status
Nodong	1,300 km (810 miles)	700 kg (1,550 pounds)	Currently deployed
Taepodong-1	Up to 10,000 km	Several hundred kg	Test failed 1998, not yet operational
Taepodong-2	10,000-15,000 km	Several hundred kg	Not yet tested

Source: Task Force for US-Korea Policy, Centre for International Policy



North Korea's missile threat

Type	Maximum range	Payload	Status
Nodong	1,300 km (810 miles)	700 kg (1,550 pounds)	Currently deployed
Taepodong-1	Up to 10,000 km	Several hundred kg	Test failed 1998, not yet operational
Taepodong-2	10,000-15,000 km	Several hundred kg	Not yet tested

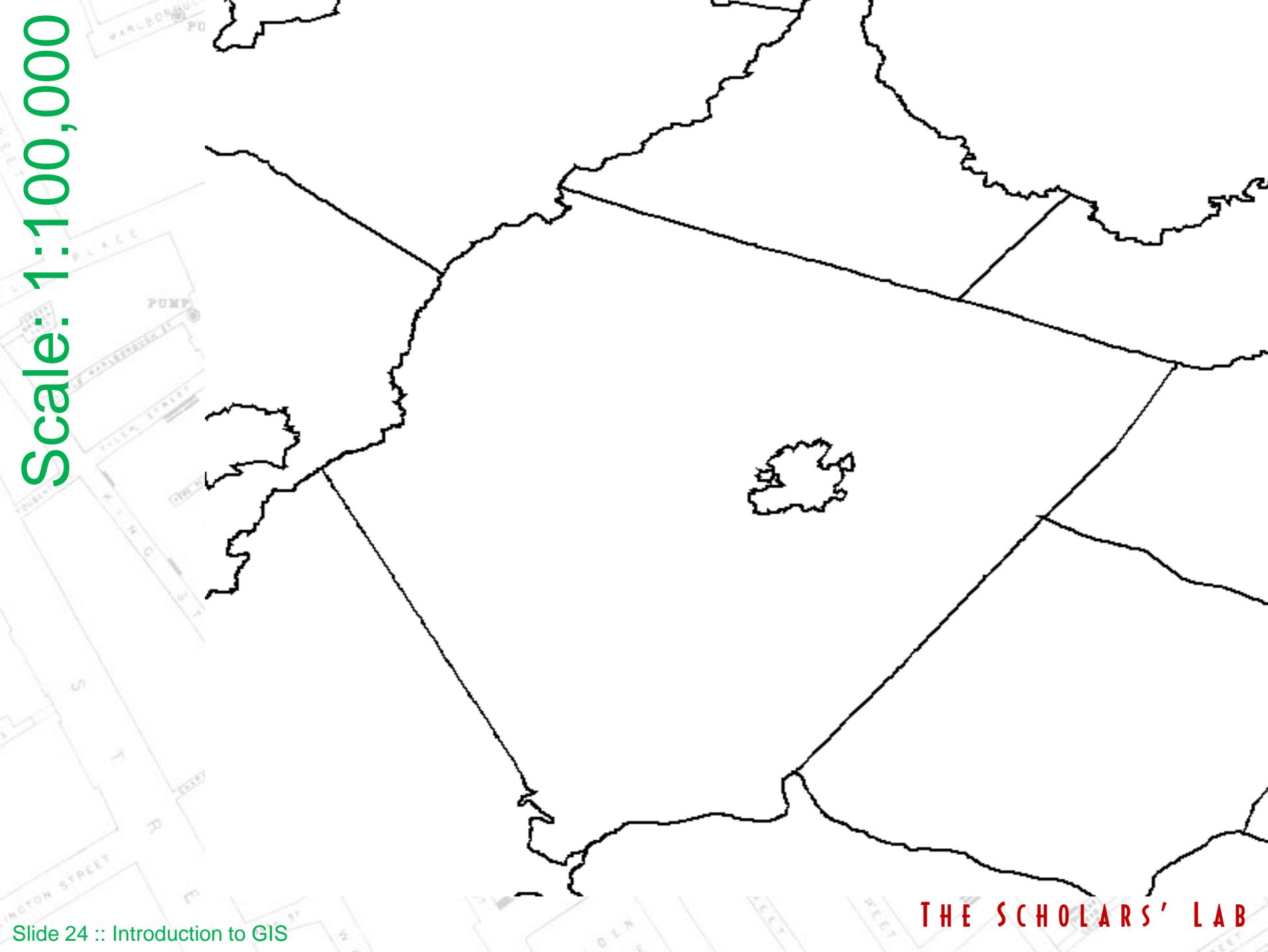
Source: Task Force for US Korea Policy, Centre for International Policy

Accuracy: Census Streets Data



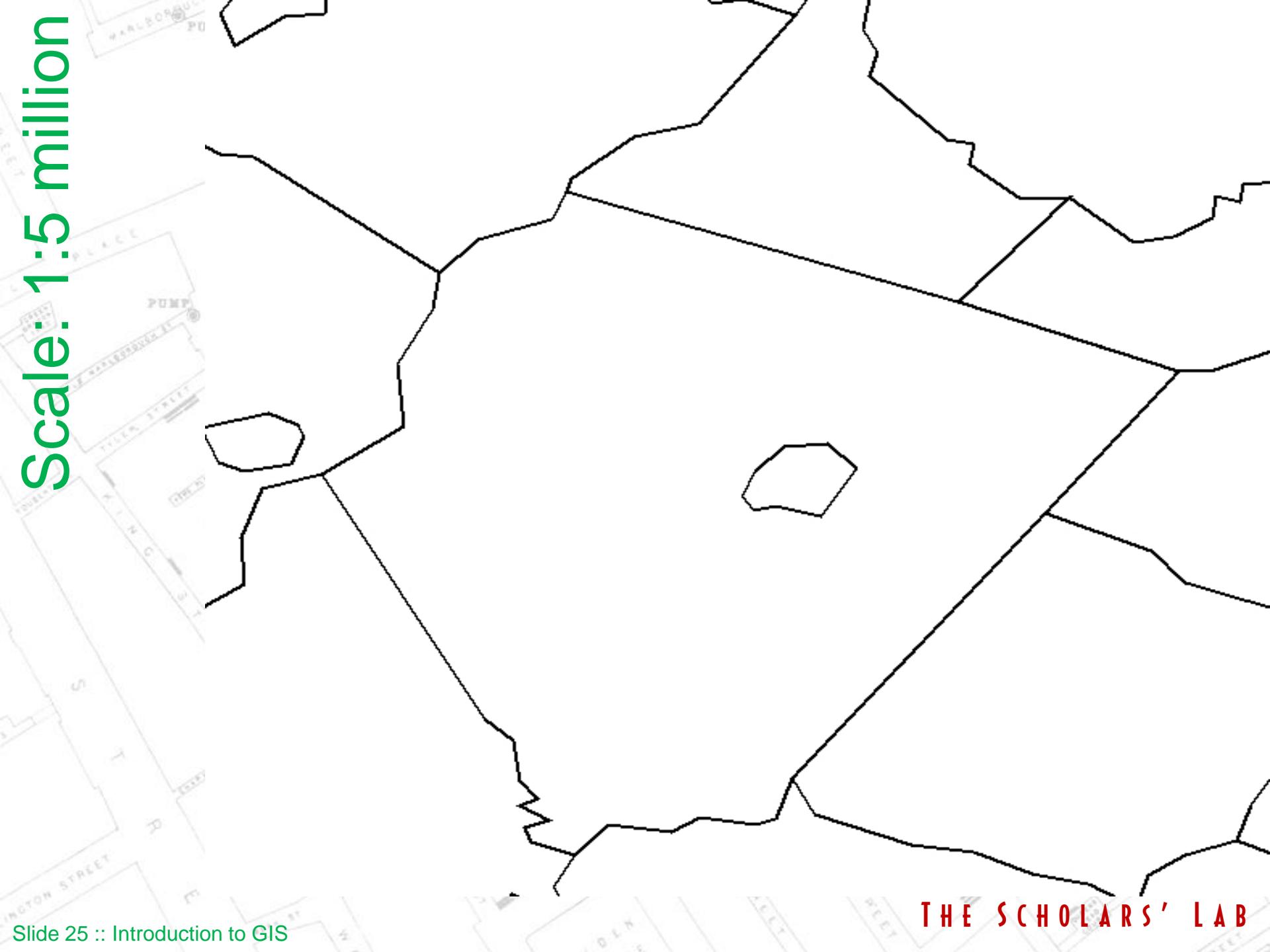
Accuracy: City Planning Data



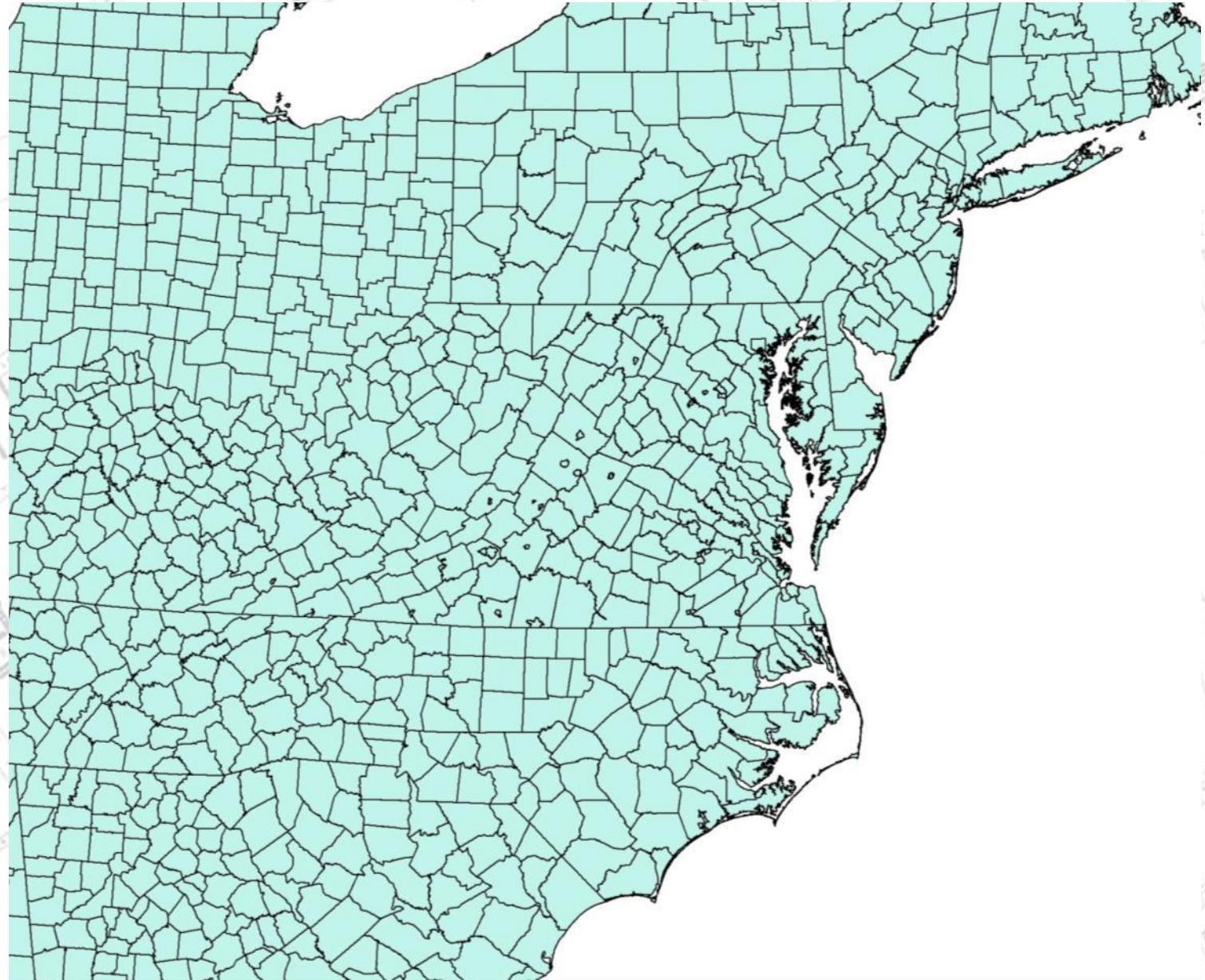


Scale: 1:100,000

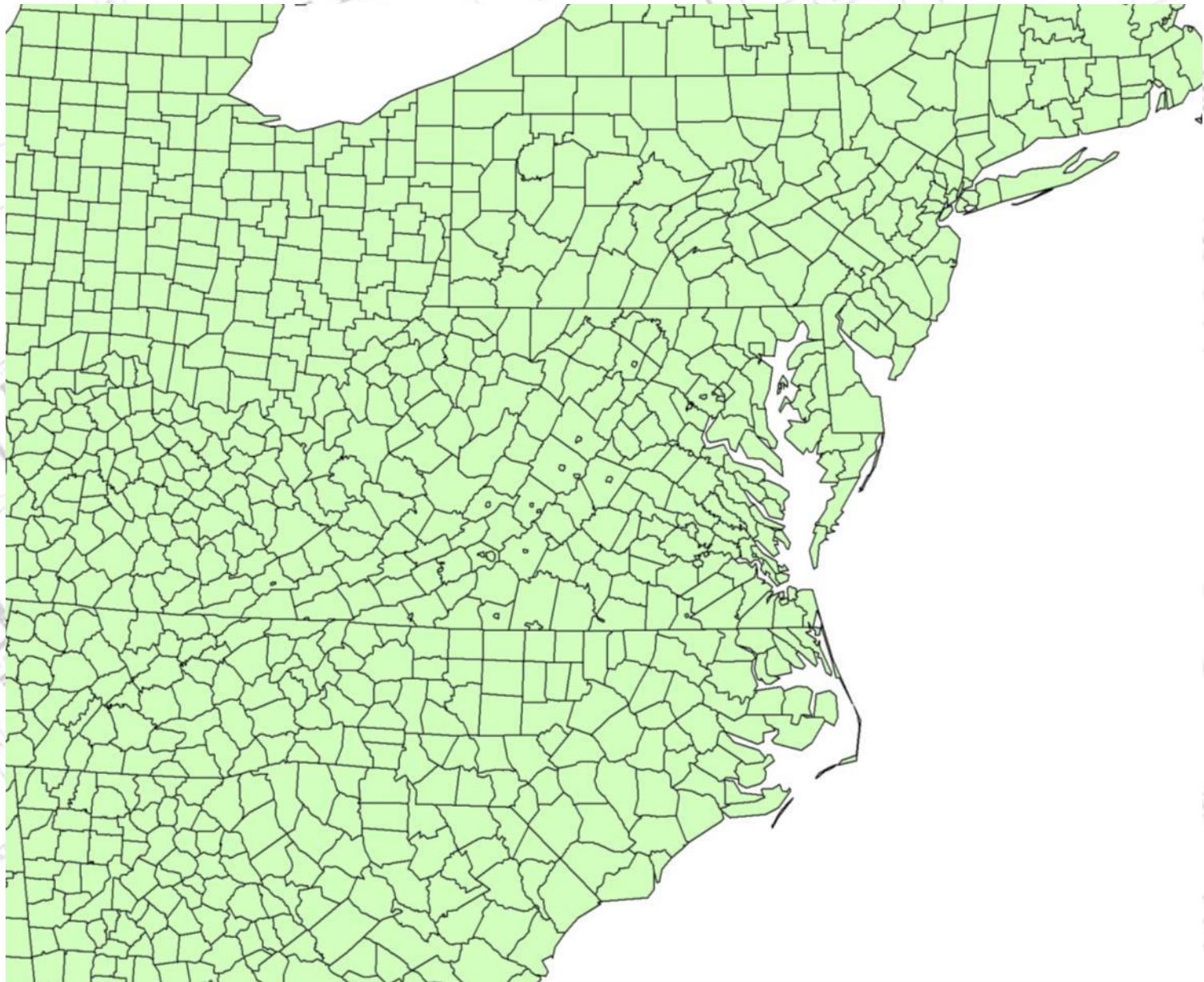
THE SCHOLARS' LAB



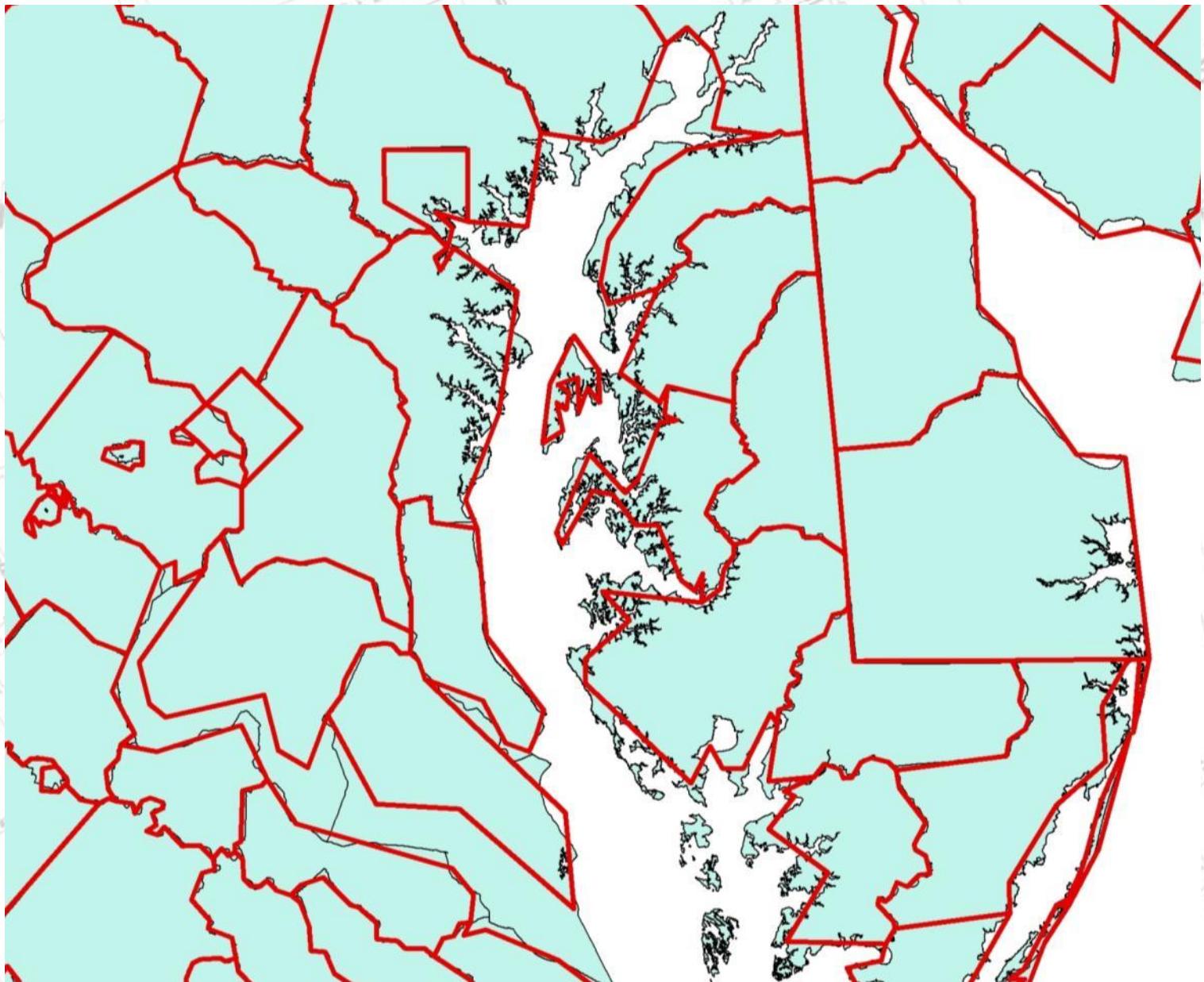
THE SCHOLARS' LAB



THE SCHOLARS' LAB



THE SCHOLARS' LAB



THE SCHOLARS' LAB

Resolution: 1-foot/pixel



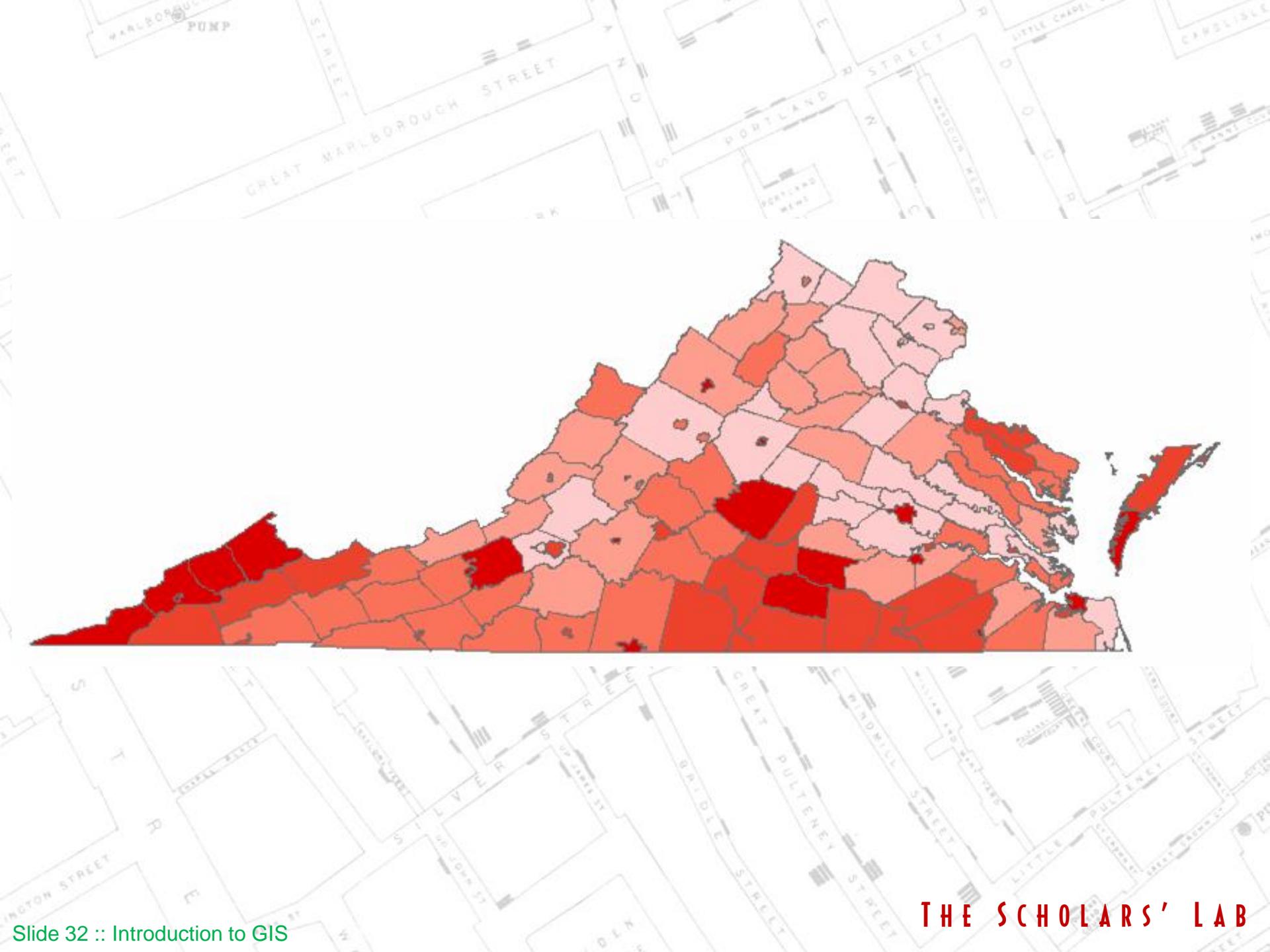
THE SCHOLARS' LAB

Resolution: 1-meter/pixel



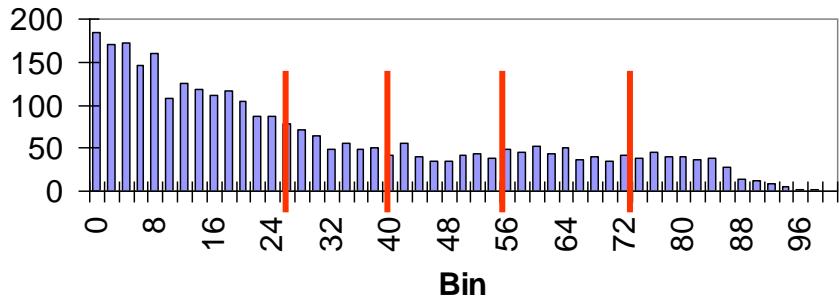


THE SCHOLARS' LAB



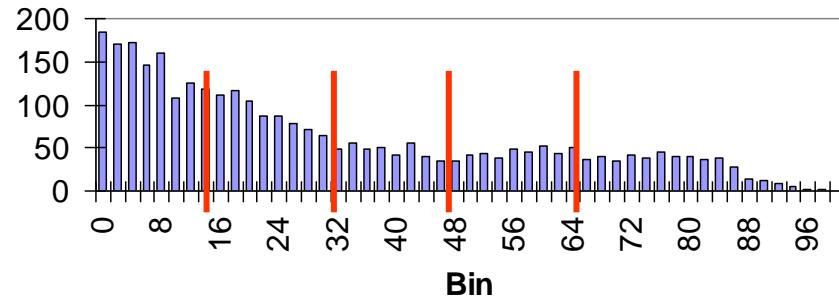
Playing with the numbers...

Histogram



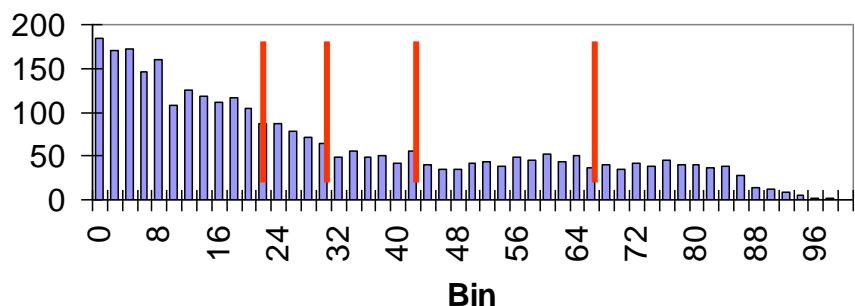
Natural breaks

Histogram



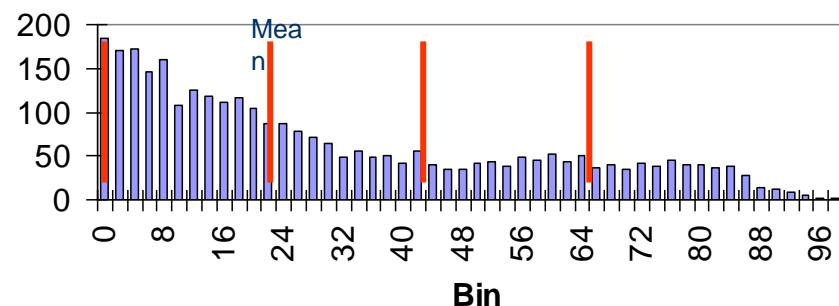
Equal interval

Histogram



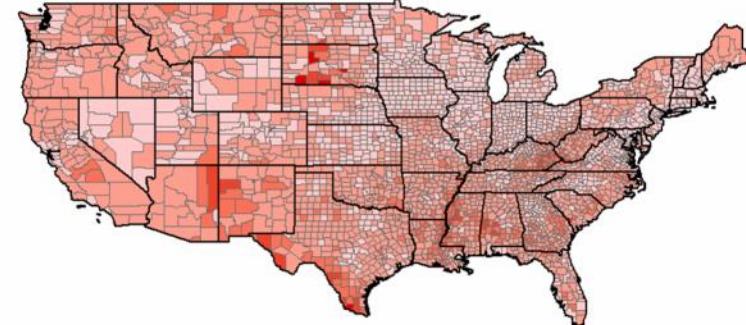
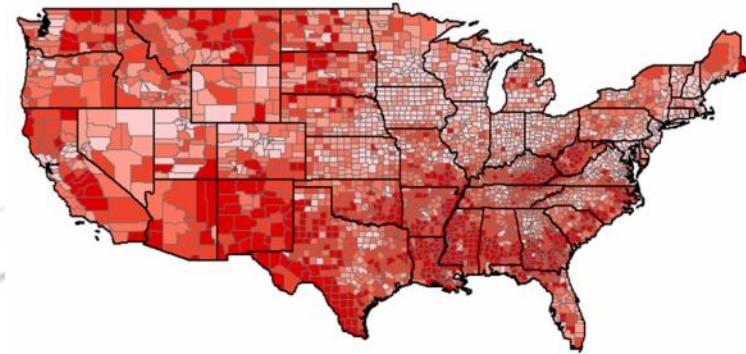
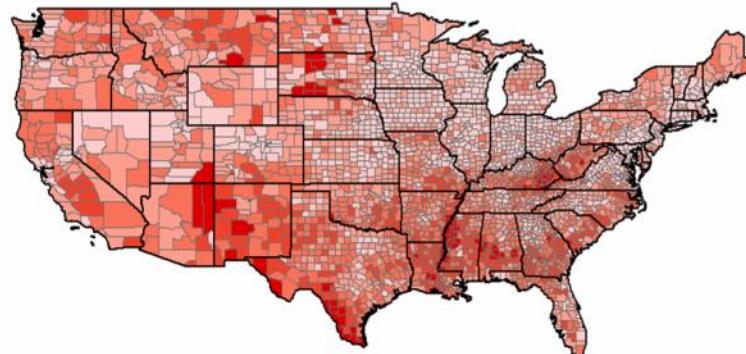
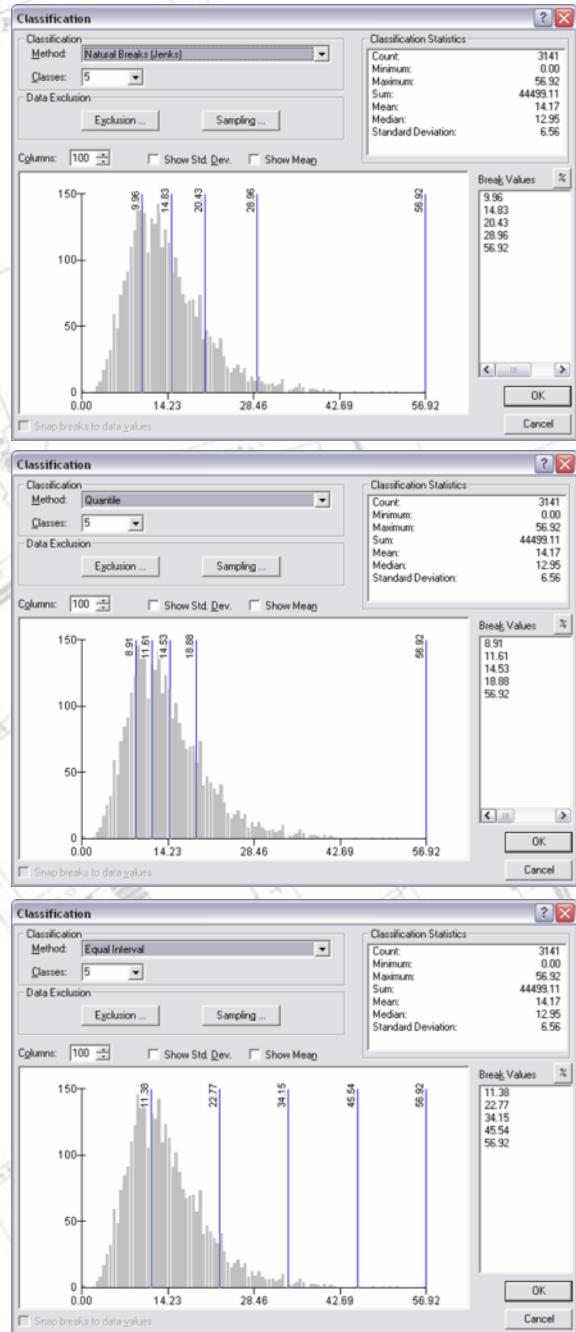
Quantile

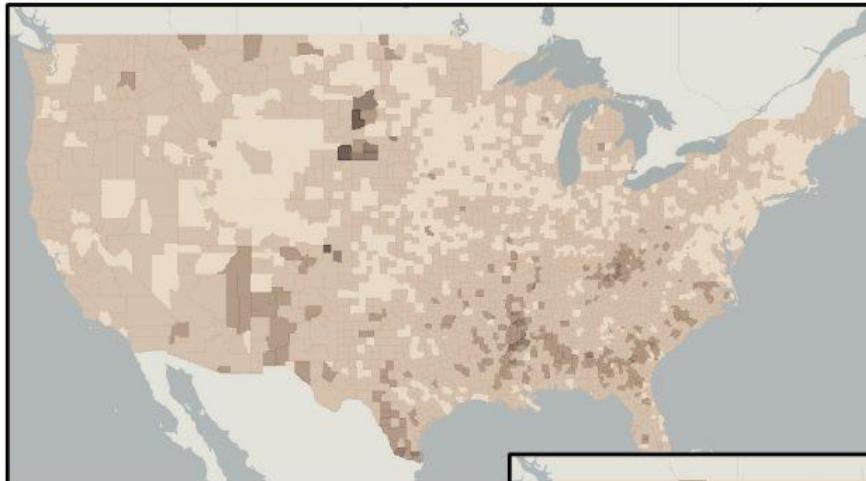
Histogram



Standard Deviation

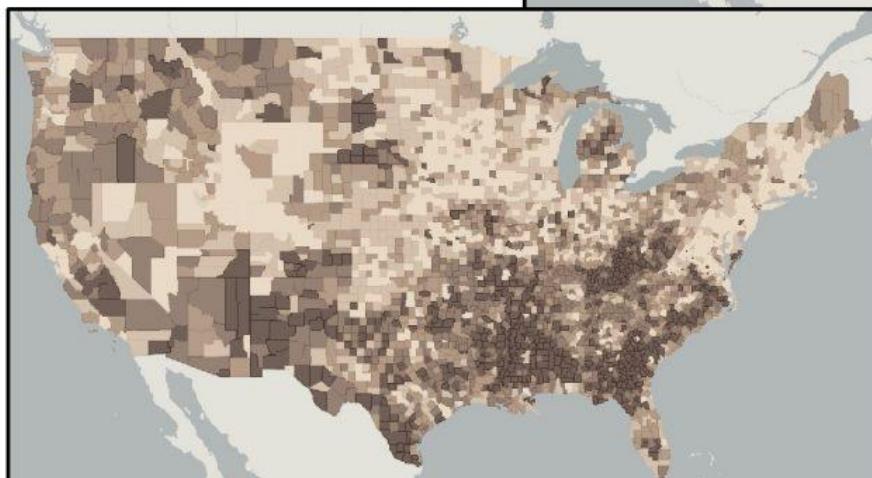
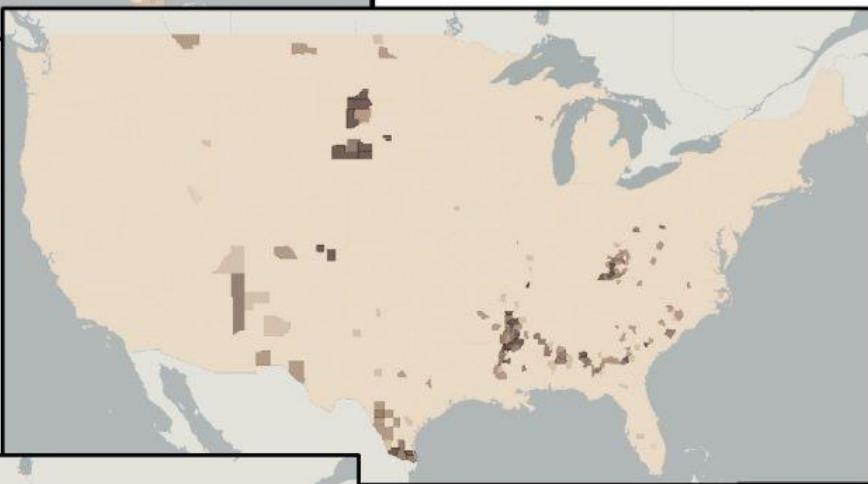
Playing with the numbers...





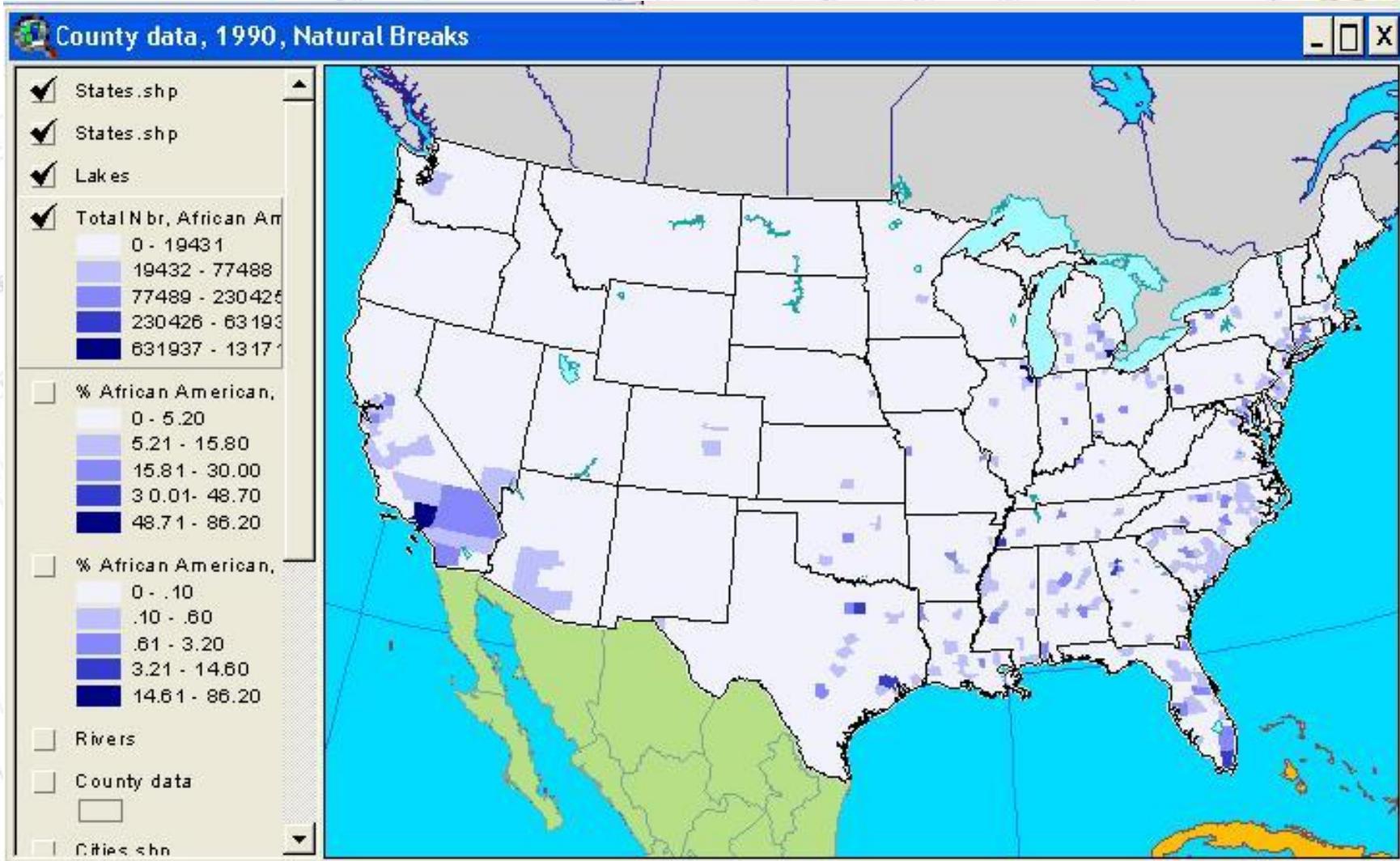
Equal
Interval

Natural
Breaks

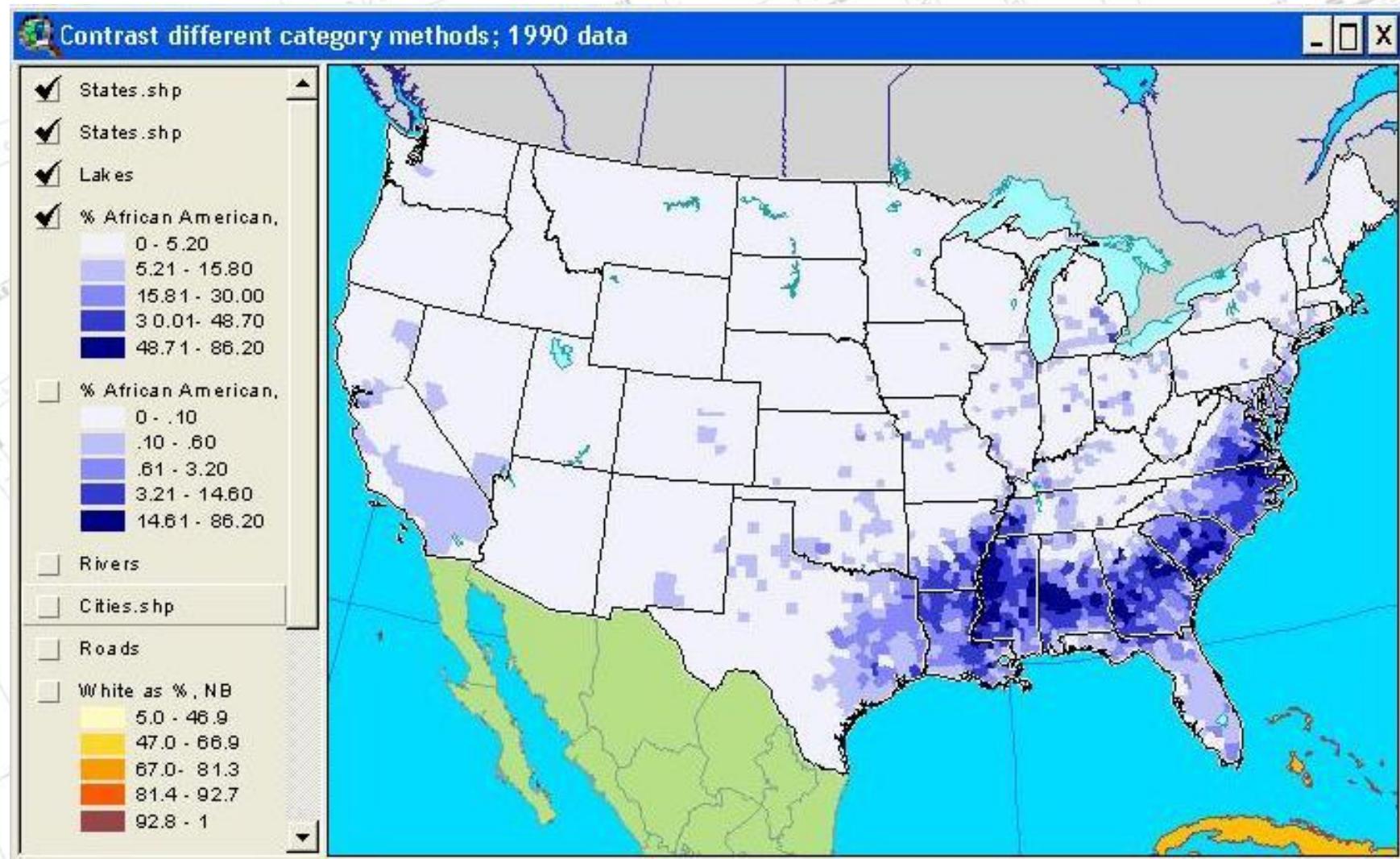


Quantile

Normalization

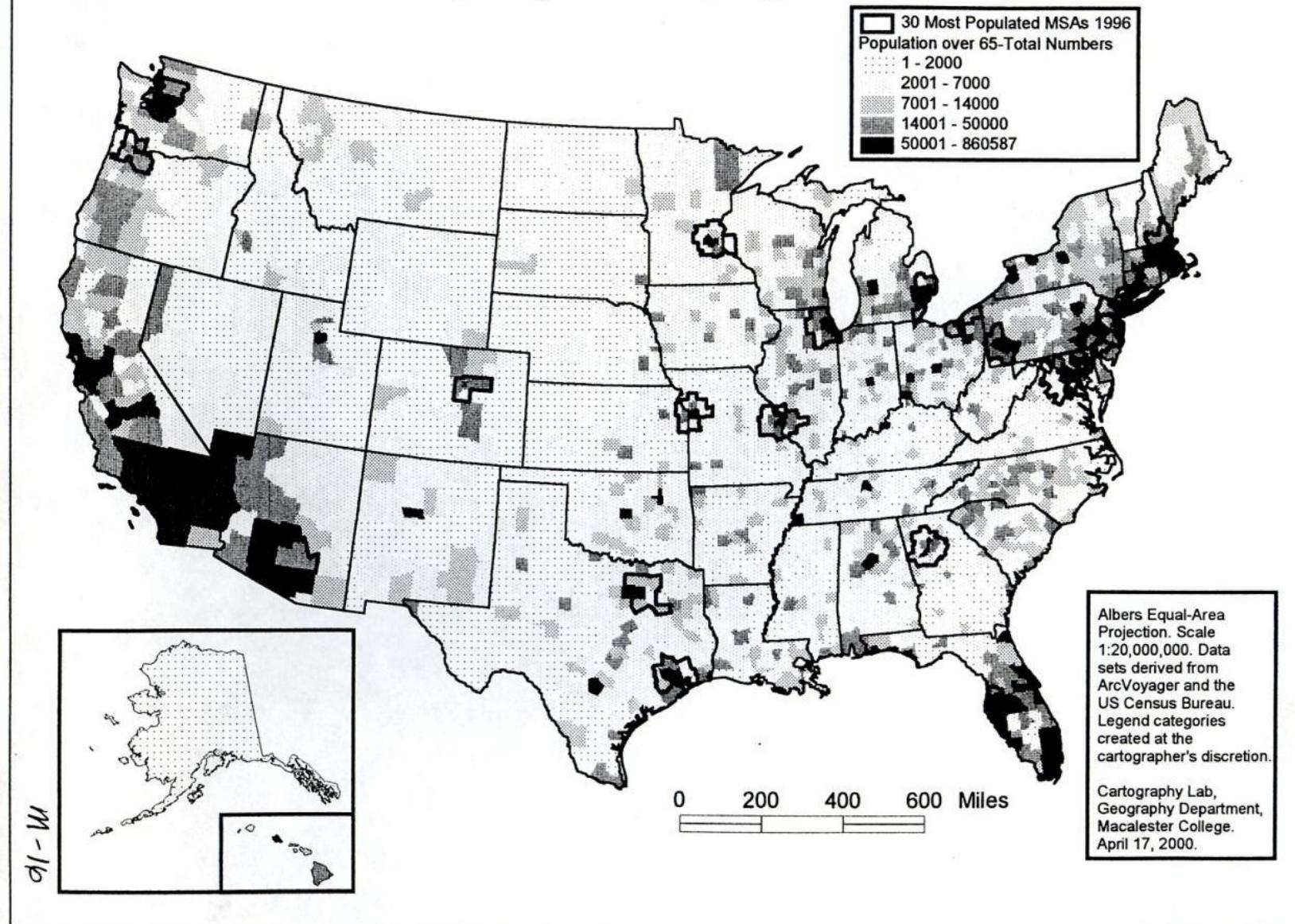


Normalization



Normalization

United States County Population, Ages 65+

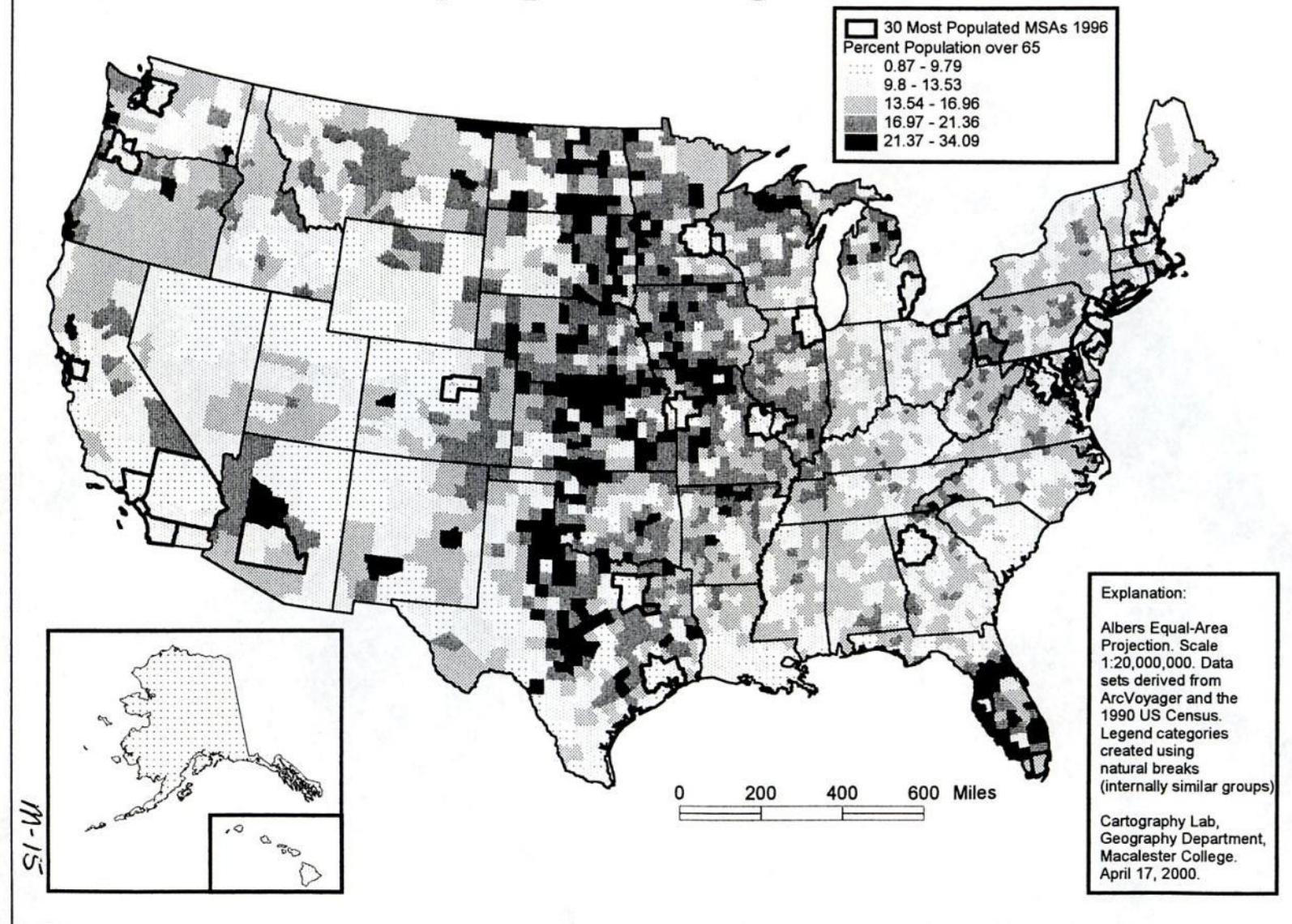


Is this map telling the whole truth about elderly population in the U.S.?

THE SCHOLARS' LAB

Normalization

United States County Population, Ages 65+

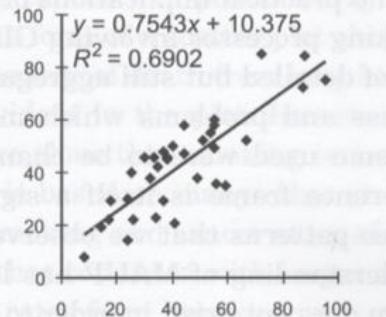


Modifiable Areal Unit Problem (MAUP)

Independent variable Dependent variable

87	95	72	37	44	24
40	55	55	38	88	34
41	30	26	35	38	24
14	56	37	34	8	18
49	44	51	67	17	37
55	25	33	32	59	54

72	75	85	29	58	30
50	60	49	46	84	23
21	46	22	42	45	14
19	36	48	23	8	29
38	47	52	52	22	48
58	40	46	38	35	55



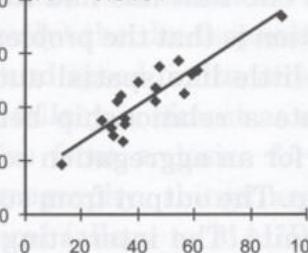
Aggregation scheme 1

91	54.5	34
47.5	46.5	61
35.5	30.5	31
35	35.5	13
46.5	59	27
40	32.5	56.5

73.5	57	44
55	47.5	53.5
33.5	32	29.5
27.5	35.5	18.5
42.5	52	35
49	42	45

$$y = 0.6798x + 13.59$$

$R^2 = 0.8151$



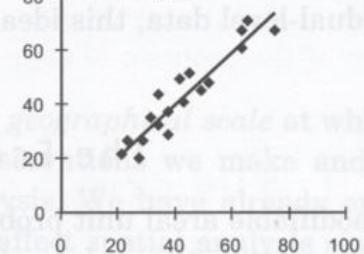
Aggregation scheme 2

52	27.5	63.5
34.5	43	75
42	31.5	63.5
49.5	34.5	37.5
38	23	66
45.5	21	29

48	20	61
43.5	41	67.5
49	35	67
45	32.5	37.5
28.5	26.5	71
51.5	21.5	26.5

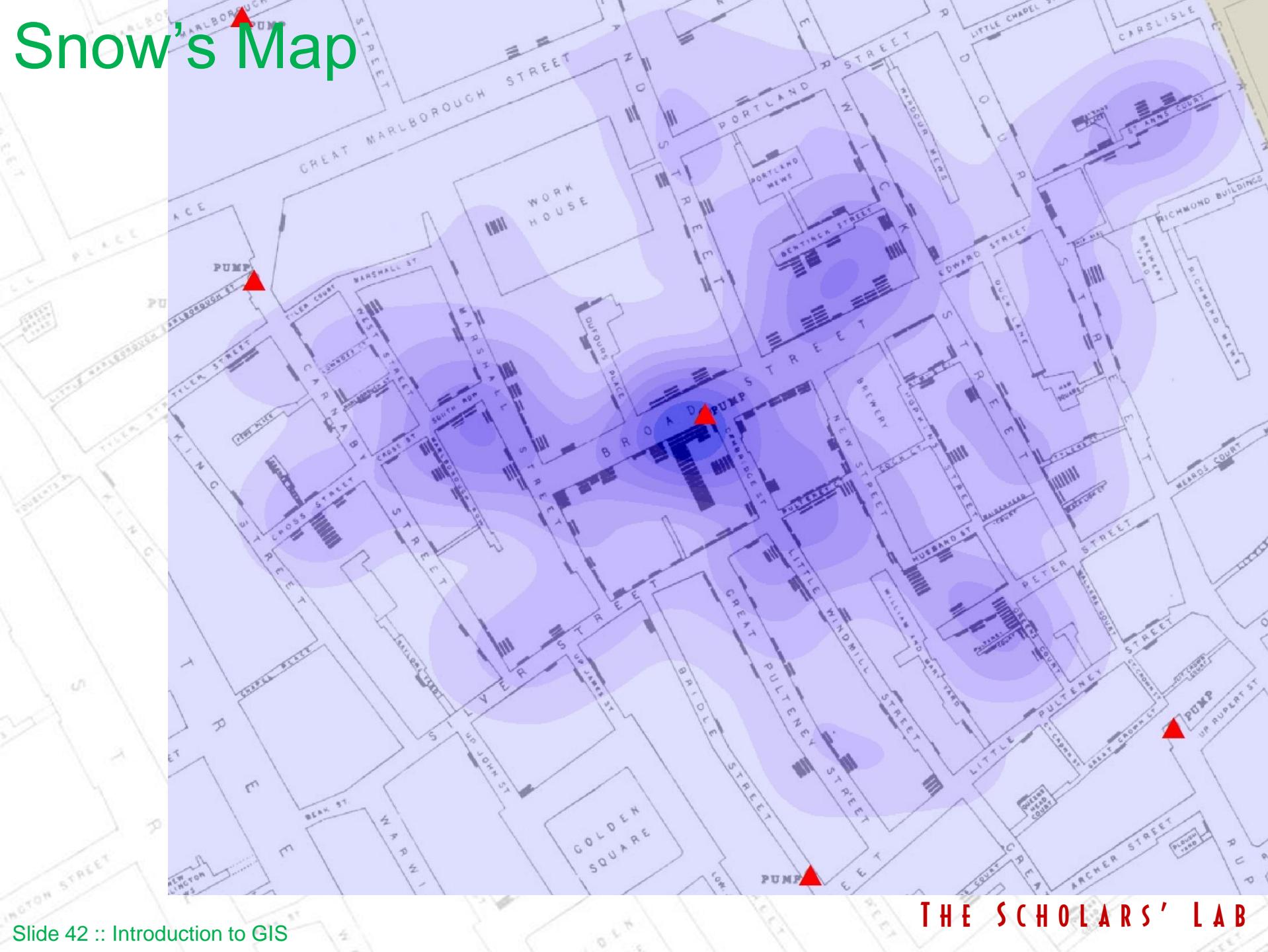
$$y = 0.9657x + 1.257$$

$R^2 = 0.8899$

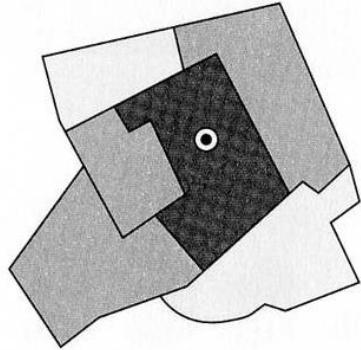


Aggregation units are arbitrary with respect to the underlying data, yet the units used will affect statistics determined by those aggregations.

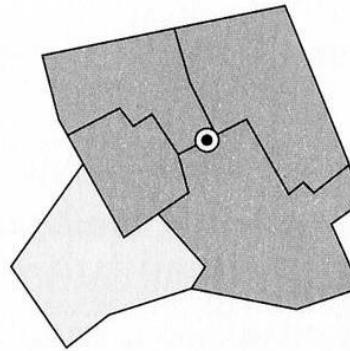




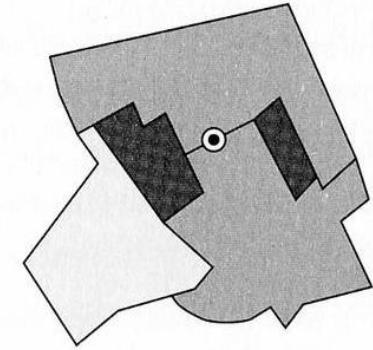
Modifiable Areal Unit Problem (MAUP)



In this aggregation of individual deaths into six areas, the greatest number is concentrated at the Broad Street pump.

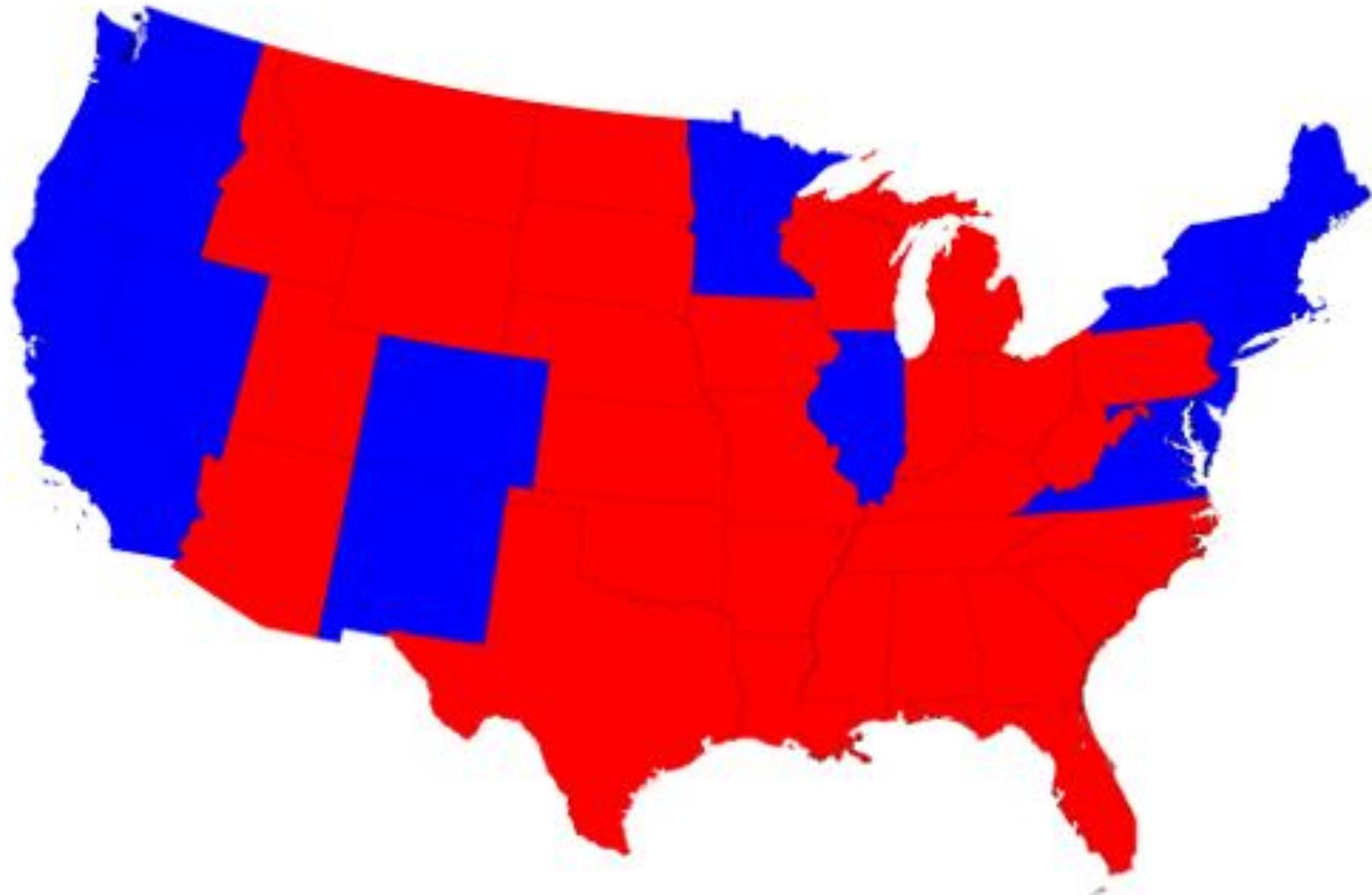


Using different geographic subdivisions, the cholera numbers are nearly the same in four of the five areas.



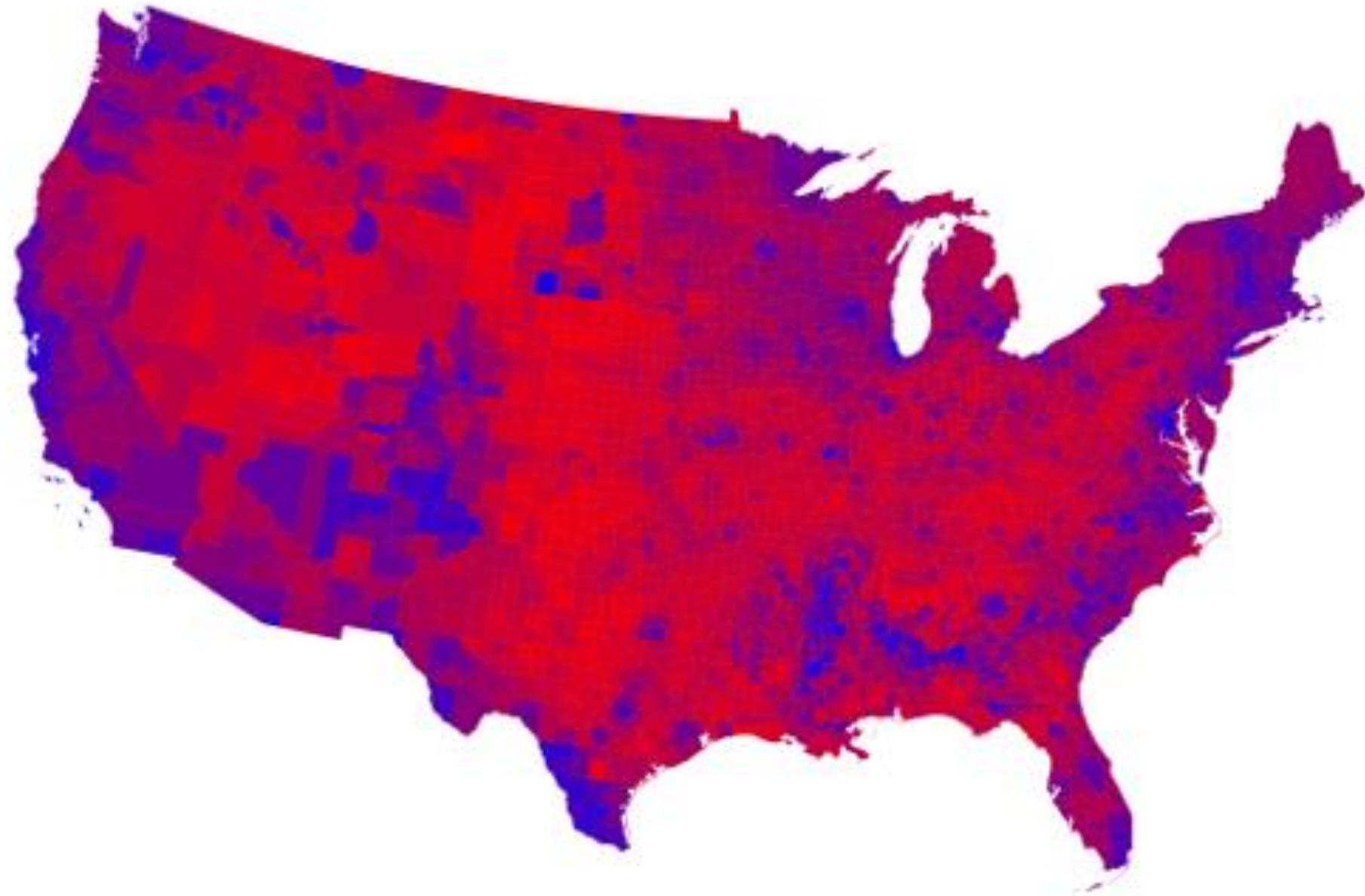
In this aggregation of the deaths, the two areas with the most deaths do not even include the infected pump!

Tufte's example using Snow's cholera area of London

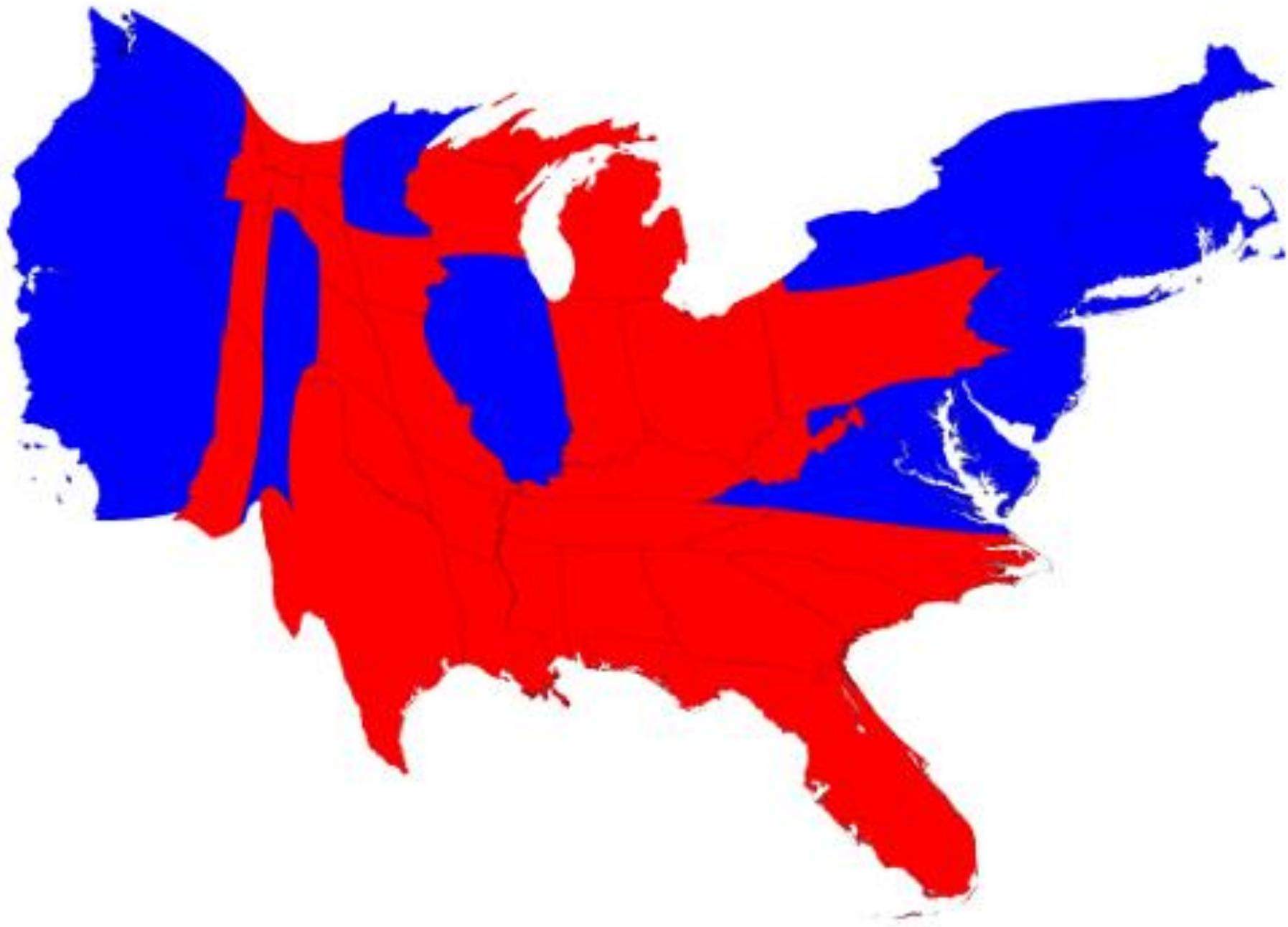


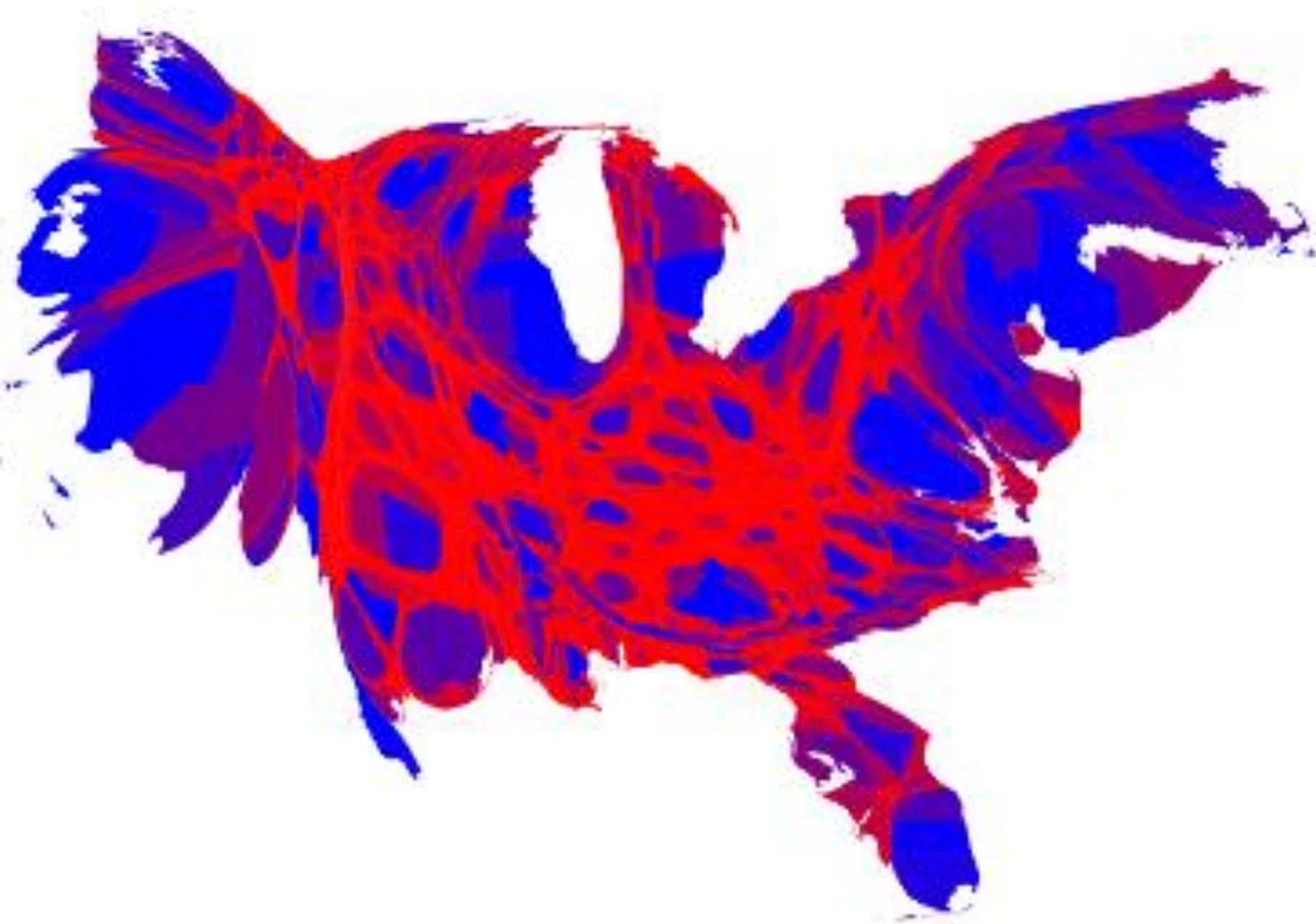
THE SCHOLARS' LAB

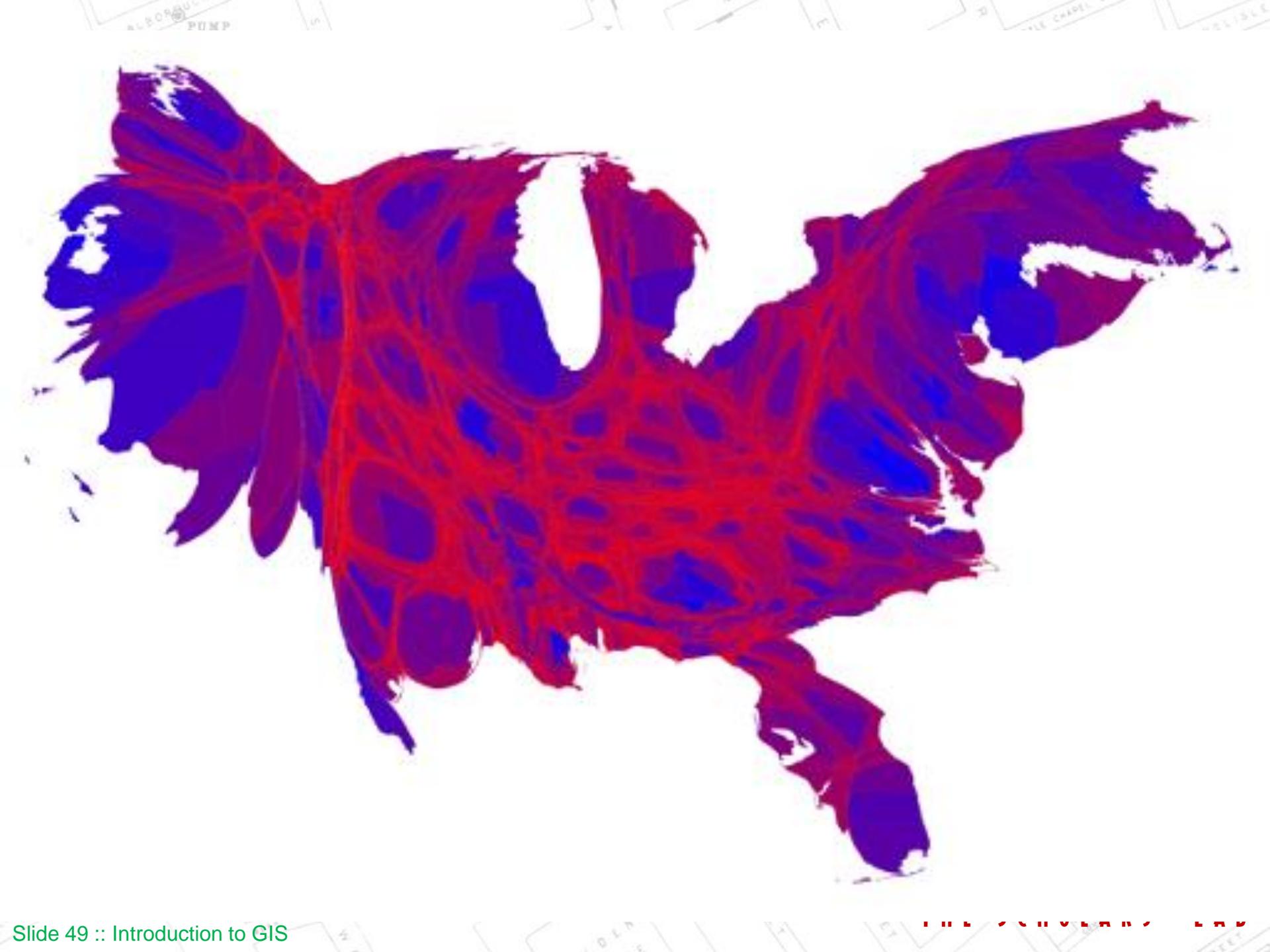




THE SCHOLARS' LAB



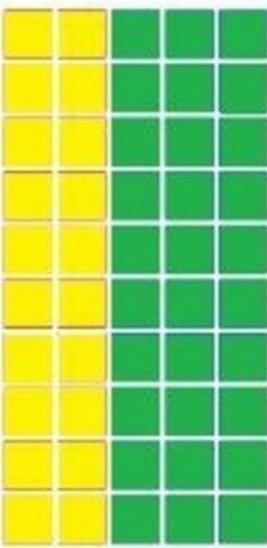






RS' LAB

50 Precincts



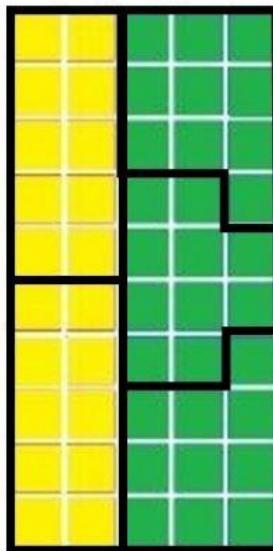
60% of
voters

40% of
voters

Green has
small majority

5 Districts

Districting A

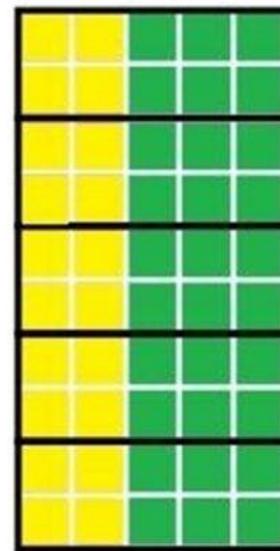


3 districts
60%

2 districts
40%

Green wins
as expected

Districting B

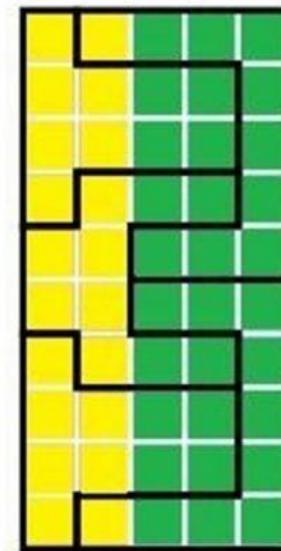


5 districts
100%

0 districts
0%

Green
dominates

Districting C

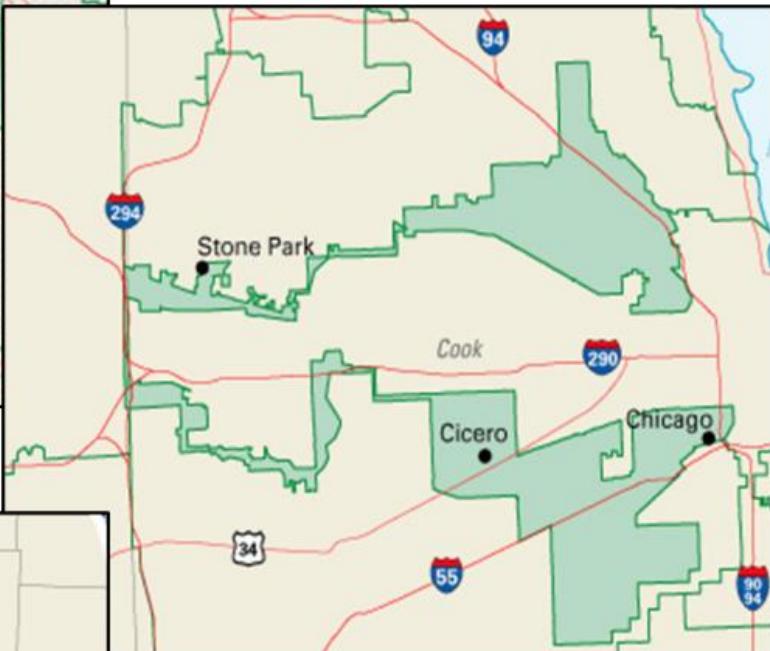
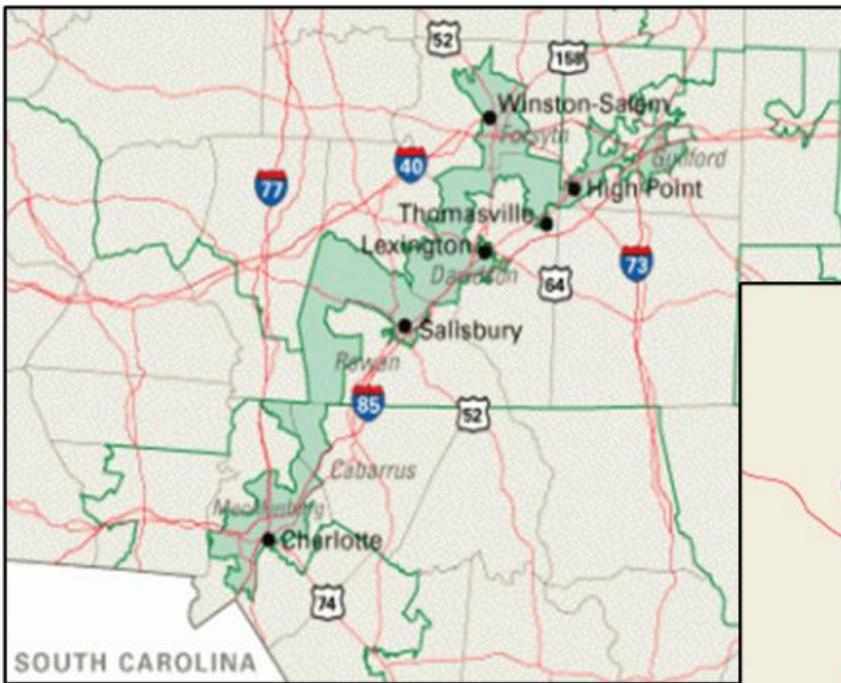


2 districts
40%

3 districts
60%

Yellow wins
unexpectedly

North Carolina District 12



Illinois District 4



Ohio District 7

