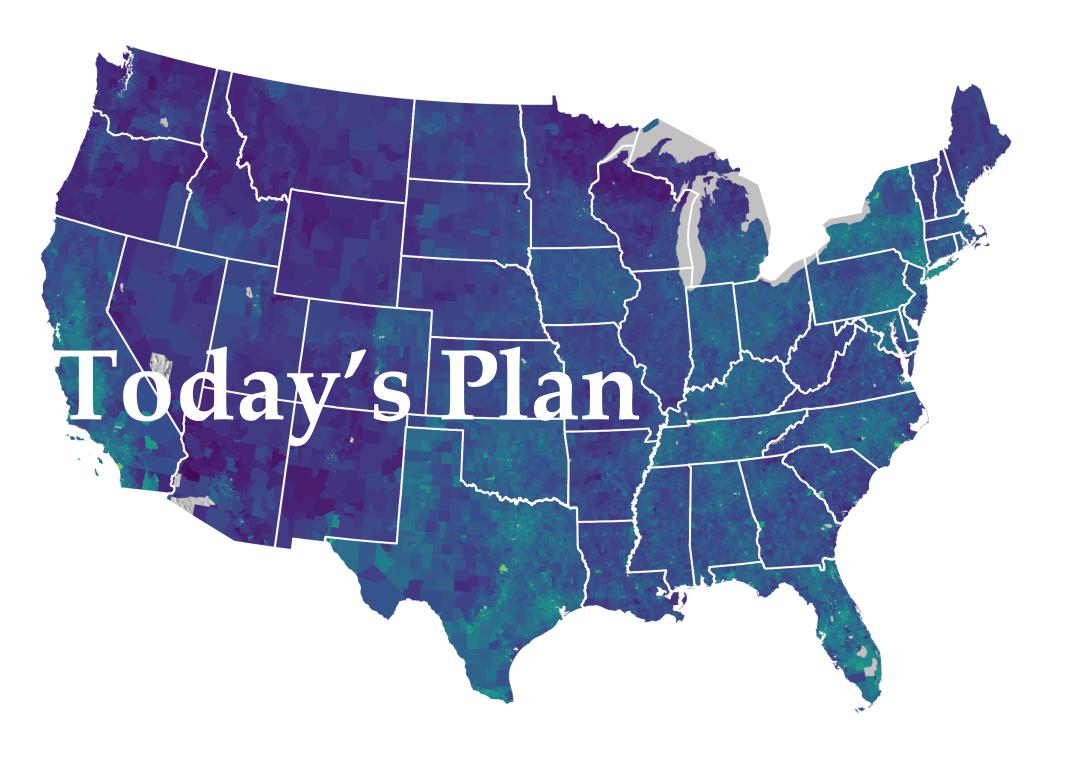
# Building Spatial Databases with Attributes

HES 505 Fall 2024: Session 14

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#### Suppor





#### **Objectives**

- By the end of today, you should be able to:
  - Define spatial analysis
  - Describe the steps in planning a spatial analysis
  - Understand the structure of relational databases
  - Begin building a database for spatial analysis

# What is spatial analysis?

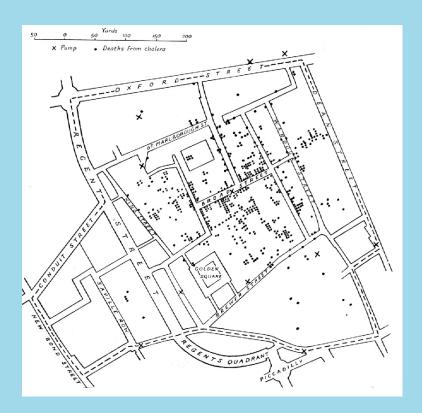
#### What is spatial analysis?

"The process of examining the locations, attributes, and relationships of features in spatial data through overlay and other analytical techniques in order to address a question or gain useful knowledge. Spatial analysis extracts or creates new information from spatial data".

ESRI Dictionary

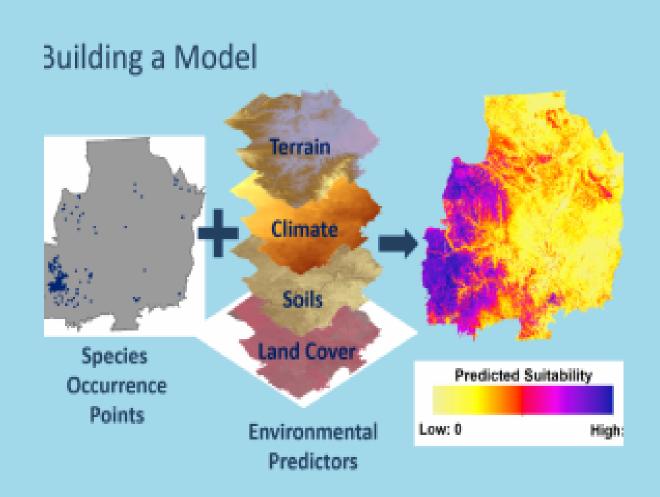
#### What is spatial analysis?

- The process of turning maps into information
- Any- or everything we do with GIS
- The use of computational and statistical algorithms to understand the relations between things that co-occur in space.



John Snow's cholera outbreak map

#### Common goals for spatial analysis



- Describe and visualize locations or events
- Quantify patterns
- Characterize 'suitability'
- Determine (statistical) relations

courtesy of NatureServe

#### Common pitfalls of spatial analysis

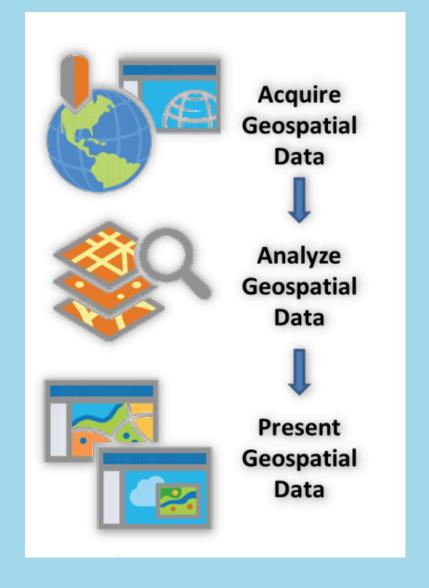
- Locational Fallacy: Error due to the spatial characterization chosen for elements of study
- Atomic Fallacy: Applying conclusions from individuals to entire spatial units
- Ecological Fallacy: Applying conclusions from aggregated information to individuals

Spatial analysis is an inherently complex endeavor and one that is advancing rapidly. So-called "best practices" for addressing many of these issues are still being developed and debated. This doesn't mean you shouldn't do spatial analysis, but you should keep these things in mind as you design, implement, and interpret your analyses

## Workflows for spatial analysis

#### Workflows for spatial analysis

- Acquisition (not really a focus, but see Resources)
- Geoprocessing
- Analysis
- Visualization



courtesy of University of Illinois

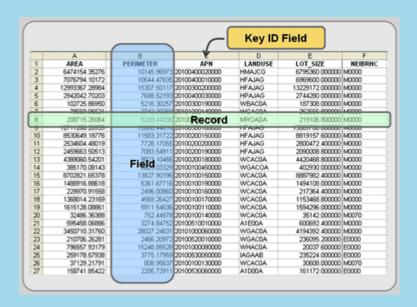
#### Geoprocessing

#### Manipulation of data for subsequent use

- Alignment
- Data cleaning and transformation
- Combination of multiple datasets
- Selection and subsetting

### Databases and attributes

#### Databases and attributes



courtesy of Giscommons

- Previous focus has been largely on *location*
- Geographic data often also includes nonspatial data
- Attributes: Non-spatial information that further describes a spatial feature
- Typically stored in tables where each row represents a spatial feature
  - Wide vs. long format

#### Common attribute operations

- sf designed to work with tidyverse
- Allows use of dplyr data manipulation verbs (e.g. filter, select, slice)
- Can use scales package for units
- Also allows %>% to chain together multiple steps
- geometries are "sticky"

#### Subsetting by Field

#### Subsetting by Features

- Features refer to the individual observations in the dataset
- Selecting features

```
world %>%
     filter(continent == "Asia") %>%
       dplyr::select(name long, conti
     st drop geometry() %>%
     head(.)
# A tibble: 6 × 2
 name long continent
 <chr> <chr>
1 Kazakhstan Asia
2 Uzbekistan Asia
3 Indonesia Asia
4 Timor-Leste Asia
5 Israel Asia
6 Lebanon Asia
```

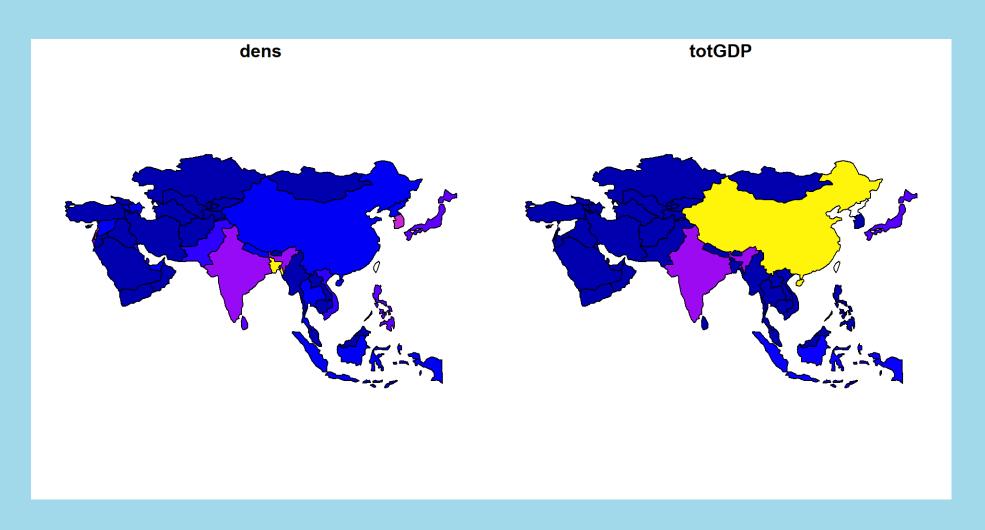
#### Revisiting the tidyverse

Creating new fields

```
world %>%
     filter(continent == "Asia") %>%
       dplyr::select(name long, continent, pop, gdpPercap, area km2) %>%
     mutate(., dens = pop/area km2,
 4
           totGDP = qdpPercap * pop) %>%
     st drop geometry() %>%
     head(.)
# A tibble: 6 × 7
 name long continent
                         pop gdpPercap area km2 dens totGDP
 <chr>
         <chr>
                         <dbl>
                                  <dbl>
                                          <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
1 Kazakhstan Asia 17288285 23587. 2729811. 6.33 4.08e11
2 Uzbekistan Asia 30757700 5371. 461410. 66.7 1.65e11
3 Indonesia Asia
                     255131116 10003. 1819251. 140. 2.55e12
4 Timor-Leste Asia
                       1212814 6263. 14715. 82.4 7.60e 9
5 Israel Asia
                       8215700 31702. 22991. 357. 2.60e11
                                13831. 10099. 555. 7.75e10
6 Lebanon Asia
                       5603279
```

#### Revisiting the tidyverse

Creating new fields



#### Revisiting the tidyverse

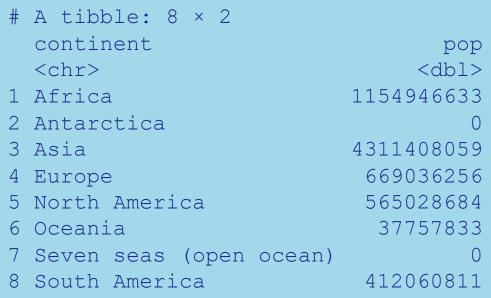
#### Aggregating data

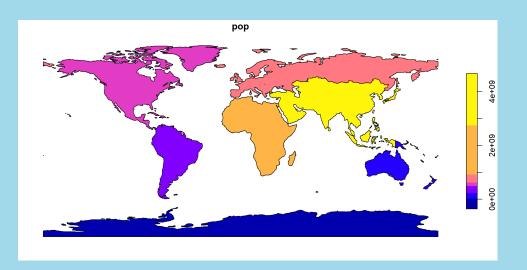
```
world %>%

st_drop_geometry(.) %>%

group_by(continent) %>%

summarize(pop = sum(pop, na.rm =
```

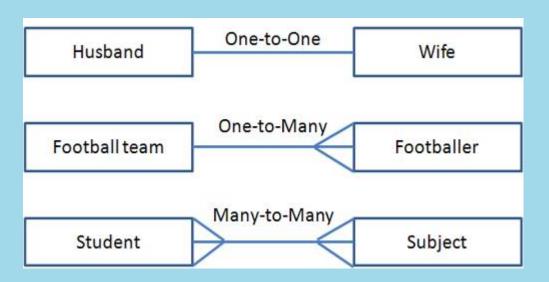




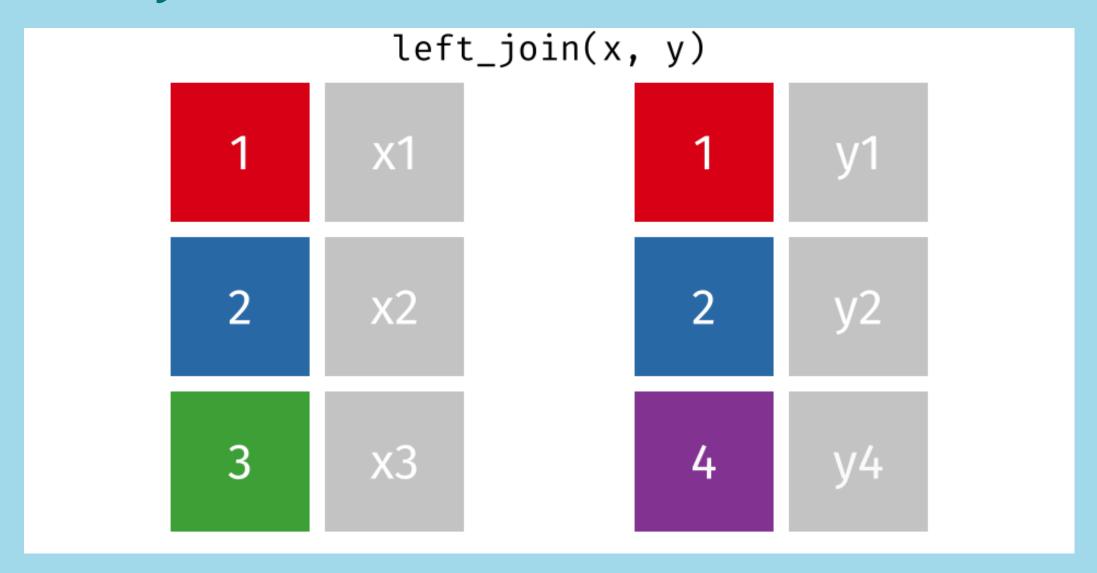
### Joining (a) spatial data

#### Joining (a) spatial data

- Requires a "key" field
- Multiple outcomes possible
- Think about your final data form

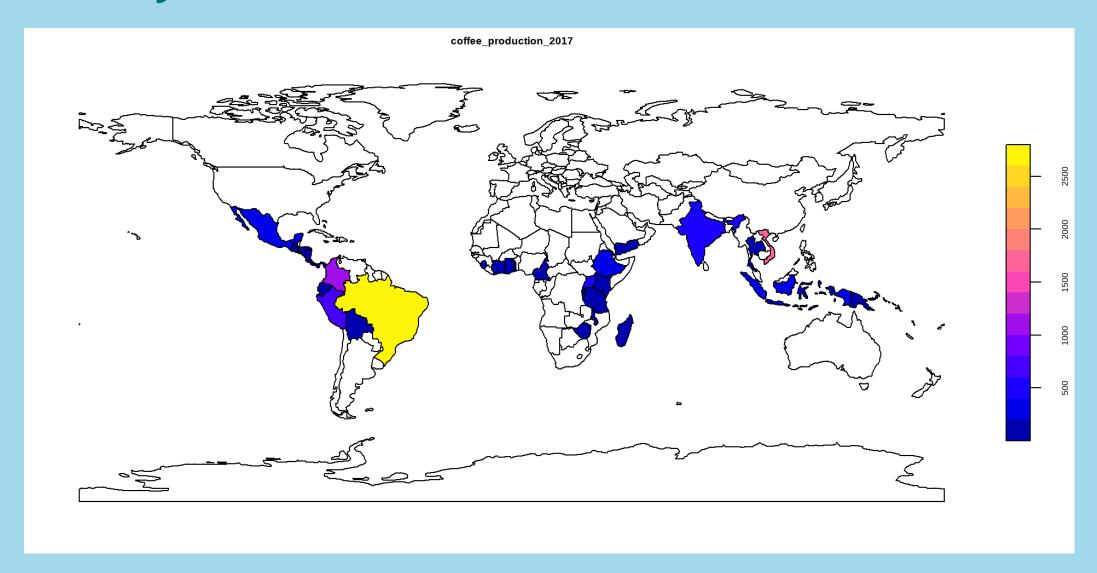


- Useful for adding other attributes not in your spatial data
- Returns all of the records in x attributed with y
- Pay attention to the number of rows!

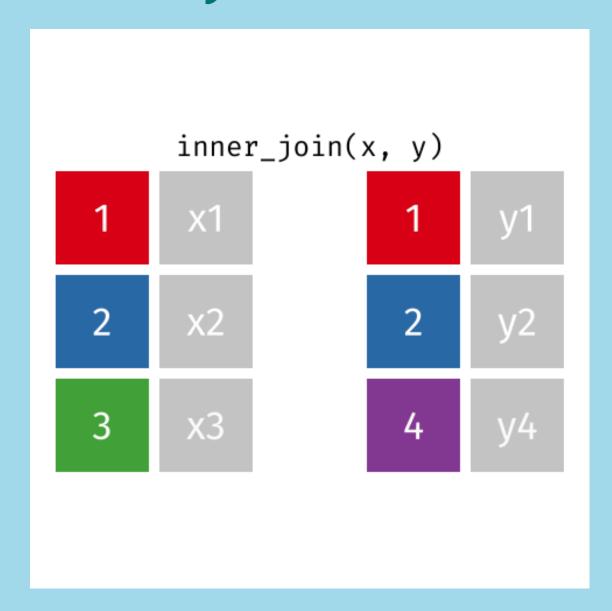


```
1 head(coffee data)
\# A tibble: 6 \times 3
  name long
coffee production 2016
coffee production 2017
  <chr>
<int>
                         <int>
1 Angola
NA
                         NA
2 Bolivia
                         4
3 Brazil
3277
                         2786
4 Burundi
37
                         38
5 Cameroon
```

```
1 world_coffee = left_join(world, cc
2 nrow(world_coffee)
[1] 177
```

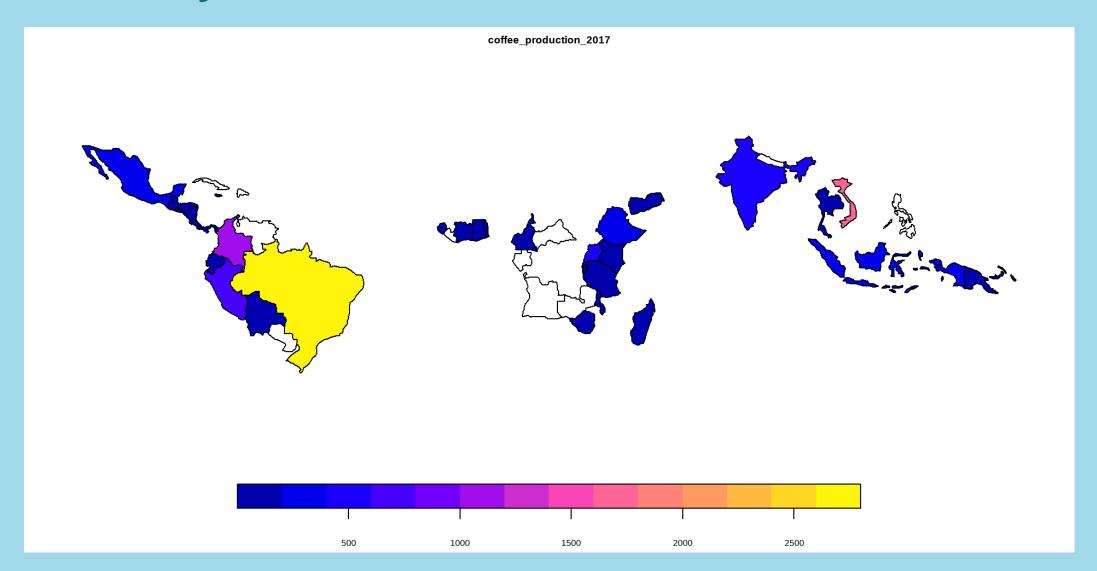


- Useful for subsetting to "complete" records
- Returns all of the records in x with matching y
- Pay attention to the number of rows!



```
1 world_coffee_inner = inner_join(wd
2 nrow(world_coffee_inner)
[1] 45
```

```
1 setdiff(coffee_data$name_long, wor
[1] "Congo, Dem. Rep. of" "Others"
```



### Other Joins

- right\_, outer\_, and anti\_
- Spatial Joins (Wednesday)