



Geospatial Software Evolution, Usability, Implications

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Center

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<https://www.esri.com/education>



My Pathway and Approach for Today



Why discuss these issues?

- We believe that understanding is enhanced with the use of geospatial technologies and spatial thinking; hence, we use them in our research.
- We believe that teaching is enriched and students are engaged and empowered when using geospatial technologies and spatial thinking.
- We believe that research and teaching with GIS promotes the inclusive, critical, and open nature of our practice.
- As users of GIS, we must understand its evolution, usability, and implications.
- We are not simply users of geotechnologies, we are the leaders in GIScience and have influence on how it should be developed in the future.

Today's Presentation and Discussion

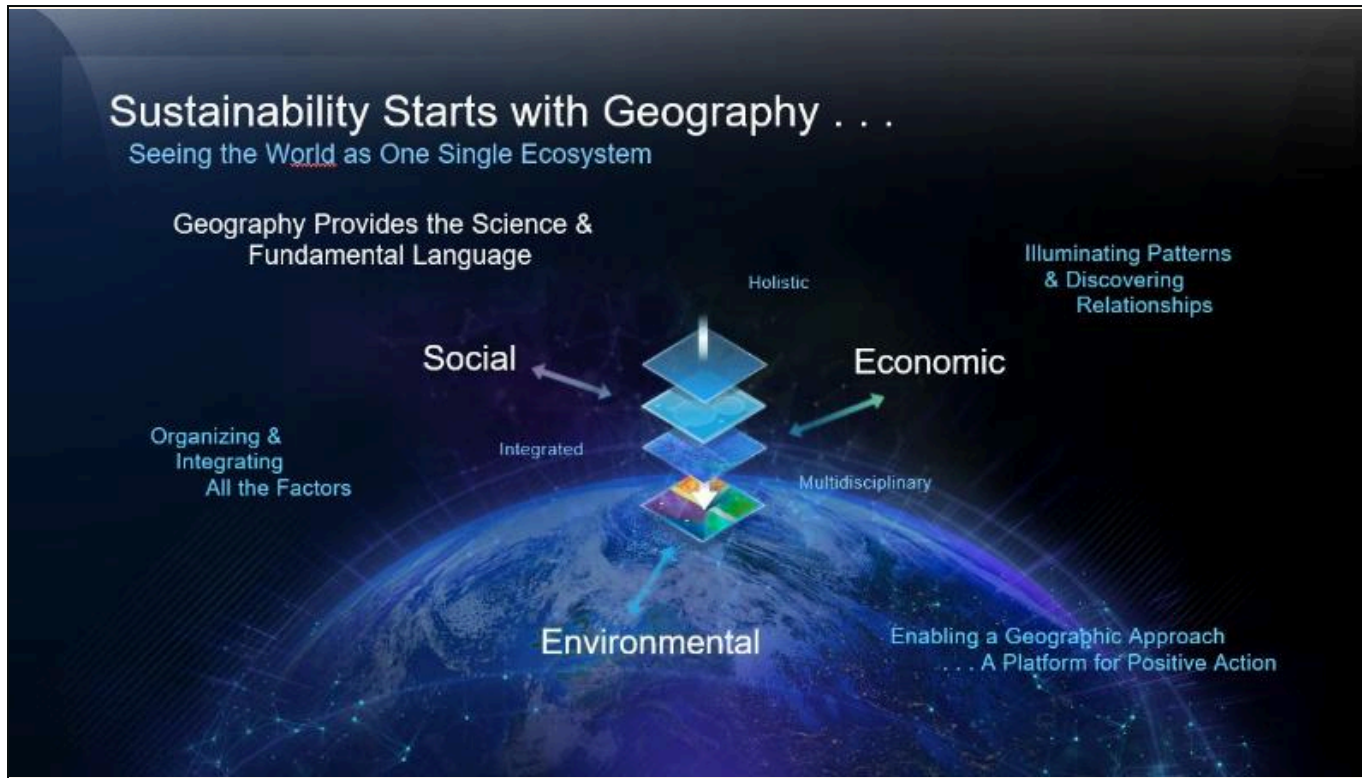
- Trends in the evolution of GIS.
- Societal forces influencing the evolution of GIS.
- The implications of GIS development on teaching, learning, and research with GIS and on geography.



Sustainability Starts with Geography . . .

Seeing the World as One Single Ecosystem







5 Forces Bringing us to a key time to reassess what we are doing with GIS



GIS evolution: The long and winding road? **Not.**





Implications for Teaching and Learning

- Who needs to know which GIS tools and approaches?
- What content should we teach?
- In which courses and programs should we teach it?
- Do we need to provide step-by-step instructions in our lessons/labs/curriculum?
- How do we assess student achievement?
- Web mapping applications open many new avenues for assessment. Emphasis on communication with maps also necessitates change in what and how we assess.

Dependability of GIS tools

- Despite gloomy forecasts about the demise of GIS, GIS remains a set of tools, an approach, a methodology, and a community.
- Concerns: Advancement of app types vs. the viewability and archival of those apps going forward; such as classic story maps.

Stability and Trust

--The Whys of Where will always be important.

--GIS has not only endured computing and societal paradigm shifts, it has **thrived** through them.

--Esri: 1969.

--ArcGIS platform - the interface has remained largely stable.

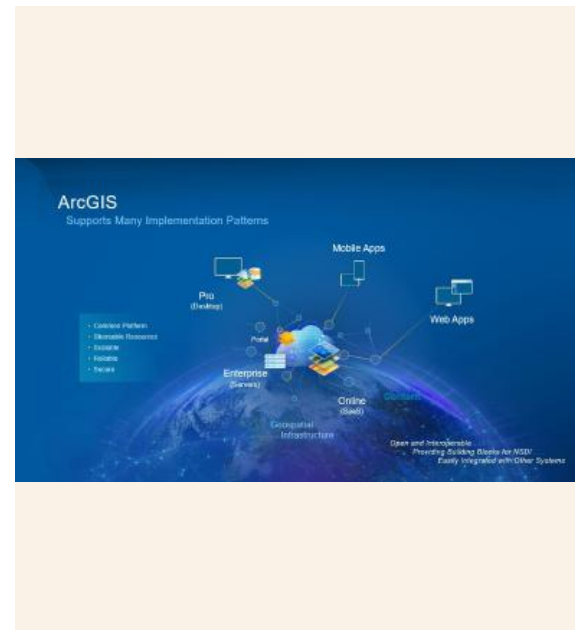
--Esri Trust site: Privacy, security, service and system reliability:

<https://trust.arcgis.com/en/>

--Our work with the K-12 community.

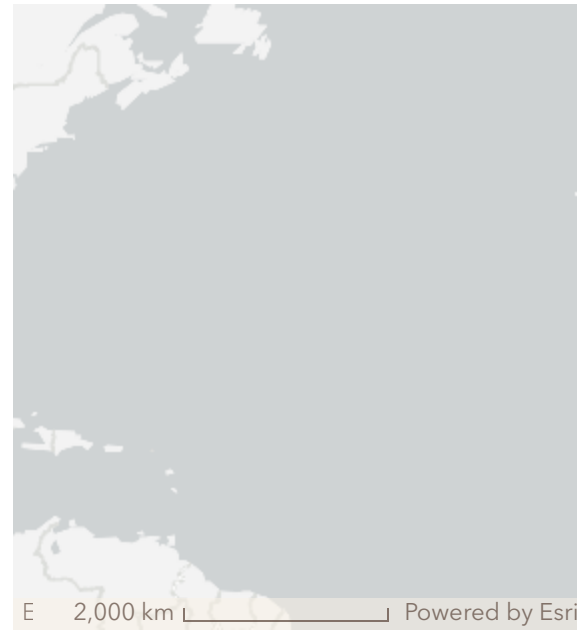
Desktop-Connected and Online SaaS GIS

- Which platform is most suitable for which courses and programs?
- The development in each platform: Current and future.



ArcGIS Online

60 million items, 14 million feature layers,
millions of users.







Dashboards Dynamic Visual Reporting

- Easy to Configure
- Ready-to-Use
- Interactive
- Highly Scalable
- Embeddable

Visualize Trends

Monitor Status

Manage Performance

New & Improved

- 3D Content
- Mobile Support
- Living Atlas Layers
- Selection Enhancements
- Accessibility

Coming

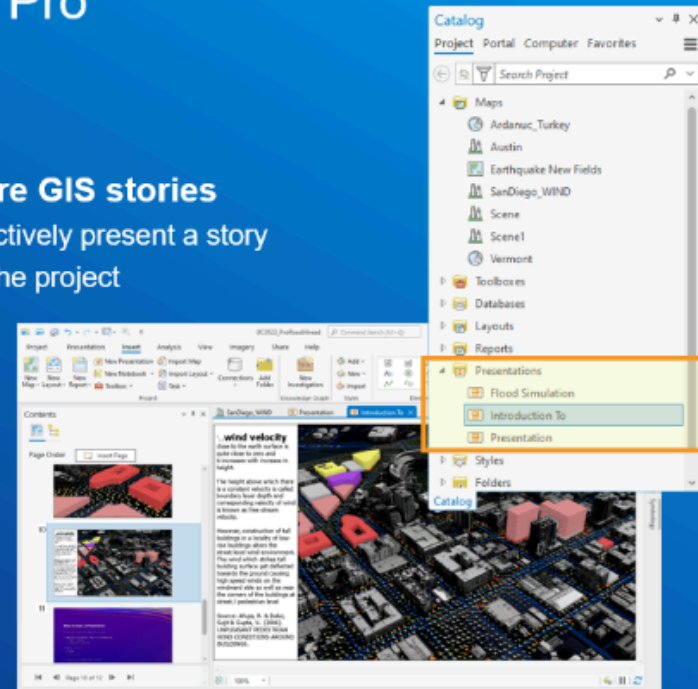
- Splash Screen
- Attribute Editing
- Time Zone Support
- Improved Map Tools
- Multi-Language
- Better Accessibility

Providing Relevant & Timely Information at a Glance

Presentations in ArcGIS Pro

Overview

- Ability to **author, present, and share GIS stories**
 - Use maps, scenes, and videos to interactively present a story
 - Managed as a **new document type** in the project
 - Show GIS content in **full-screen mode**
 - Augment pages with images and text
- **Examples**
 - Show a proposed urban development
 - Present ongoing investigations
 - Summarize an analytical process
 - *Anything* with a strong GIS component



Implications of GIS apps

- Spreading spatial thinking and use of GIS to other disciplines
- Increasing the audience for research results
- Expanding communications options for F2F and web based instruction
- Providing additional assessment options for faculty
- Providing pertinent content for students' professional portfolios
- Providing content for professors and administrators to highlight work from students and faculty.



Geospatial Infrastructure Is Enabling a New Scale of GIS

Distributed, Collaborative & Transformative

UN

Sustainability Reporting

UN Global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Minnesota, US

UNFPA

Guam, US

Geotagging & Mapping of Global Sustainable Goals

USGS

Conservation Planning

America the Beautiful Atlas

Analyzing & Mapping Highest Value for Conservation (30x30)

NOAA

Climate Resilience

Climate Mapping for Resilience and Adaptation

CMRA Portal

Mapping Climate Projections for Local Communities

Leveraging Our Best Science and Technology . . .
. . . Powering National & Global Applications

The geographic approach is spreading to additional disciplines: 2 focus areas

(1) **Deepening** the notion of GIS as a platform.

+ Do we teach coding? Enterprise?

+ Do we need to develop all curricular resources ourselves?

(2) **Widening** the notion of GIS and the geographic approach beyond its core disciplines.

+ In those disciplines, what do they need to know about GIS?

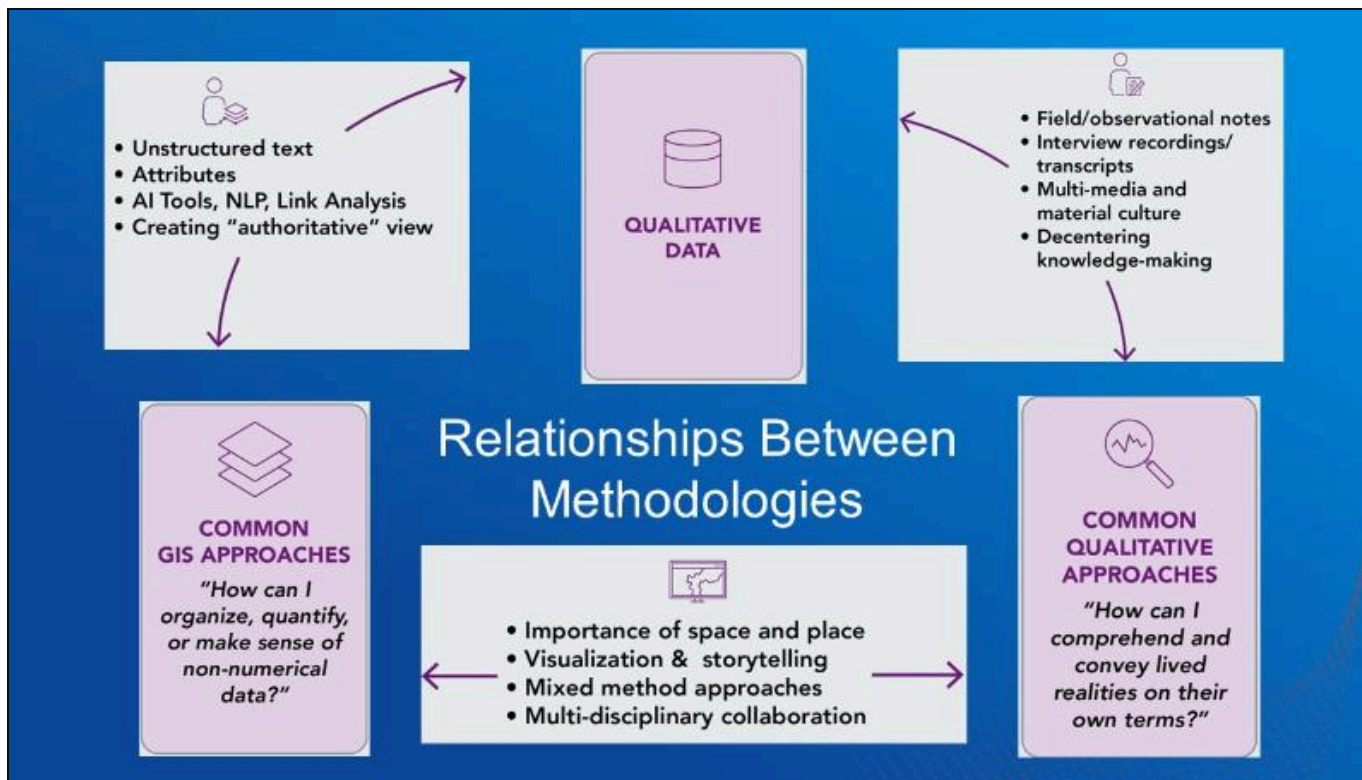
+ An opportunity for the geography and GISc community to provide leadership to other disciplines.

#EsriSocSci

“Enhancing social science with *GIS strengthens how qualitative and quantitative data and methods work together*. It supports this interplay by providing an *organizing context* that makes the information *more accessible and usable—insights for hard problems* like racial equity, climate-driven migration and other impacts, global health challenges and more.”

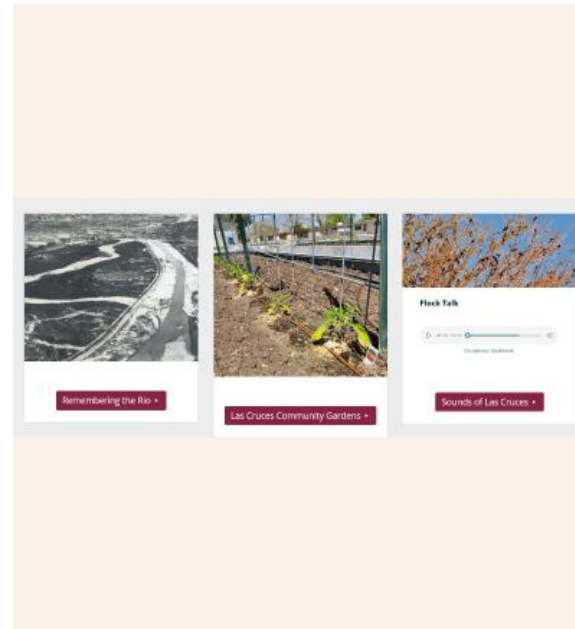
--Esri Social Science Collaborative





GIS use outside of GIScience and geography is expanding

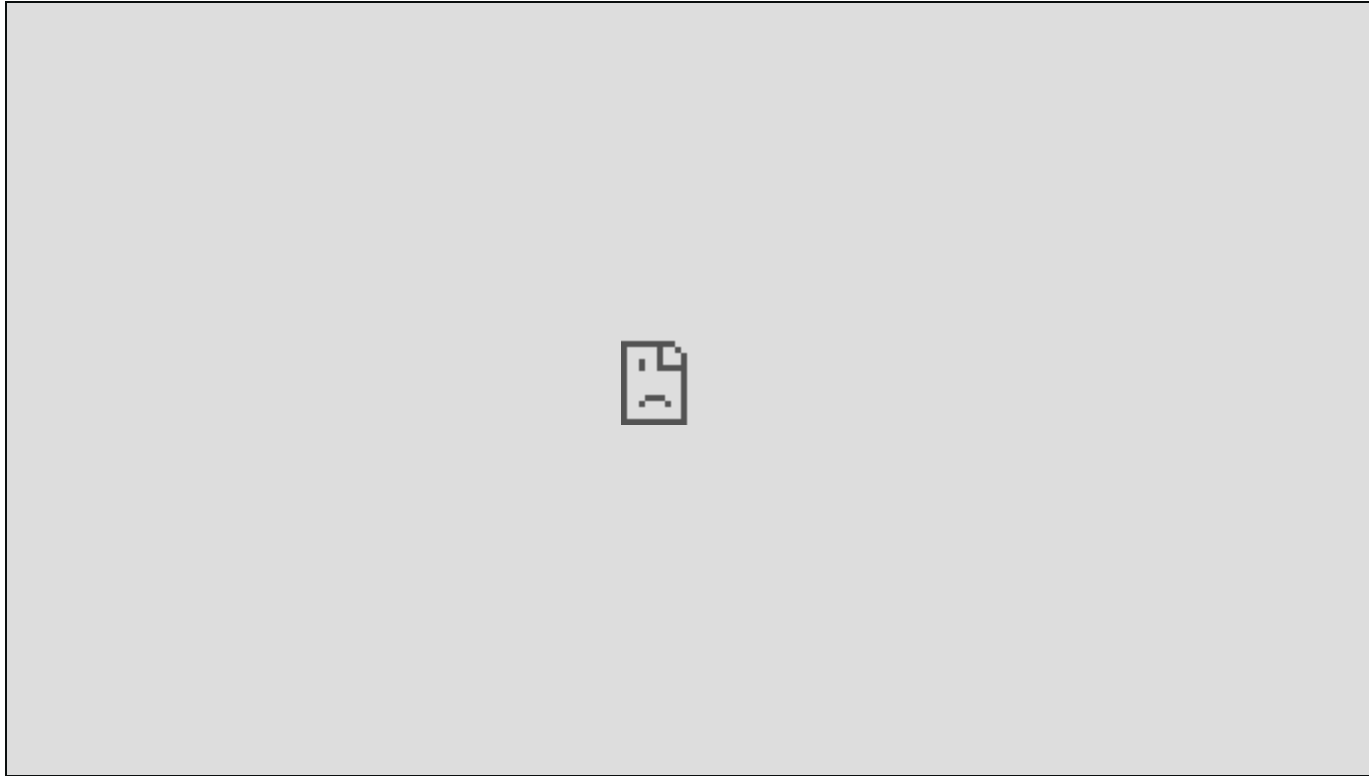
Innovative Critical Approaches to Place:
Teaching Narrative Mapping in Southern
New Mexico Brings GIS to an Expanded
Array of Disciplines



Through Narrative, Qualitative Data is Supported and Told

Understanding the Night Sky





The impact of freeways on urban neighborhoods (Kerski)

Examining the social, environmental, and economic impact: [Article here](#).



Teaching Mathematics using Interactive Maps

Book from Taylor & Francis, Arlinghaus, Kerski, Arlinghaus



Using these perspectives in a GIS activity

Locating an Art-o-Mat in a neighborhood

<https://www.esri.com/en-us/industries/higher-education/roles/business-education>

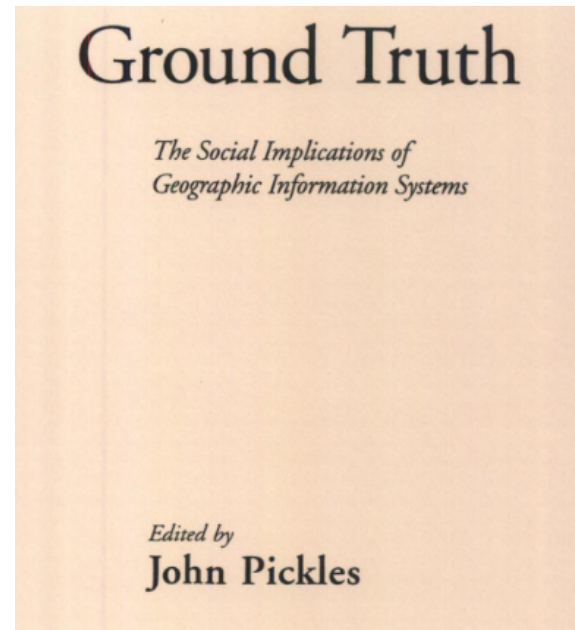
Criteria: In the past 12 months:

1. Ordered from Etsy website.
2. Went to museum.
3. Went to art gallery.
4. Did any painting or drawing.



The Social Implications of GIS

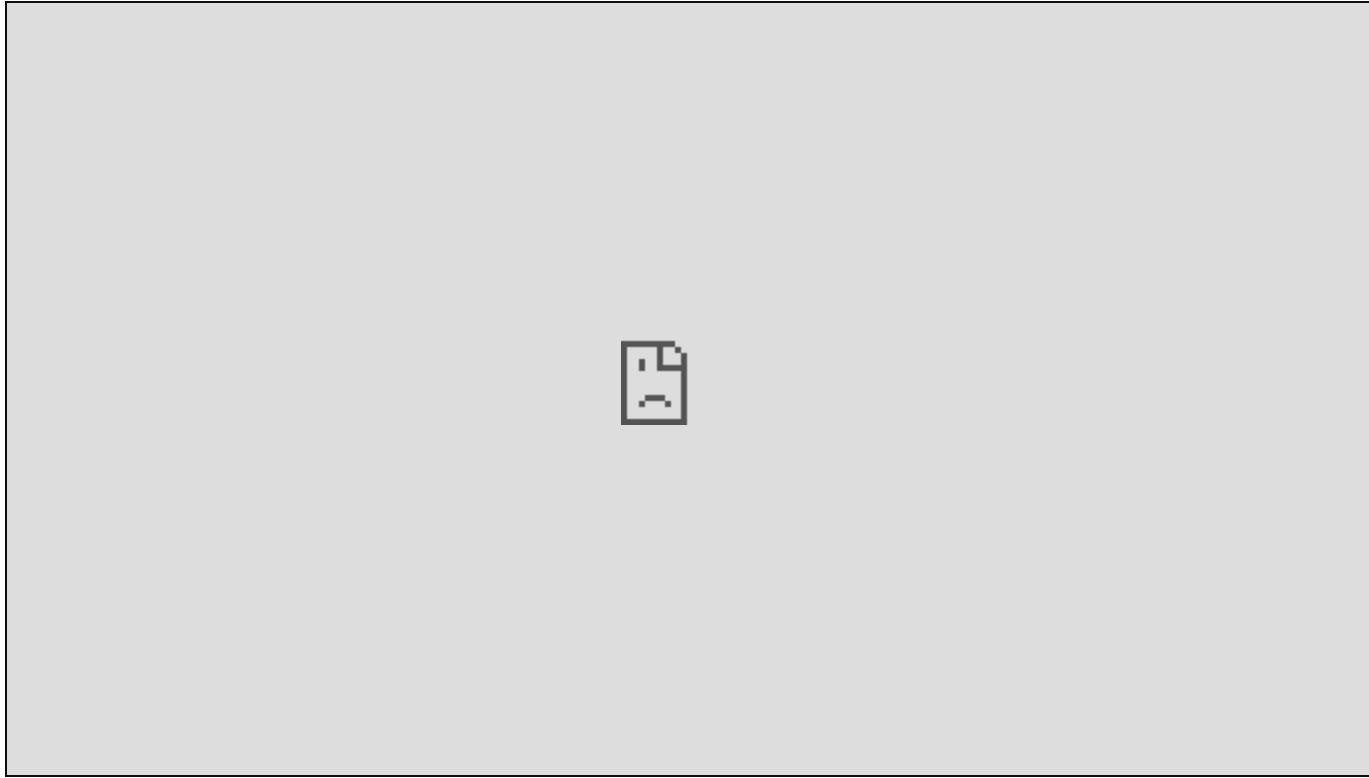
Ground Truth, John Pickles, 1995



2 social science examples

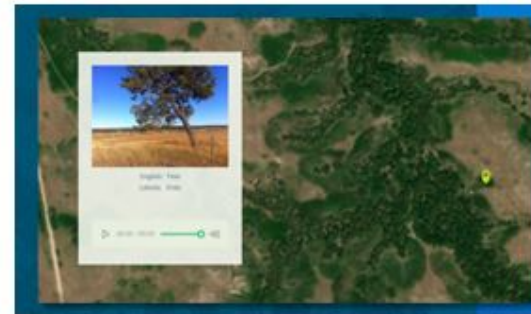
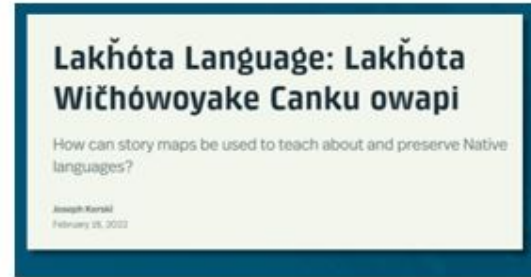
Voices of the Grand Canyon
and
Attitudes and experiences with Electric Vehicles





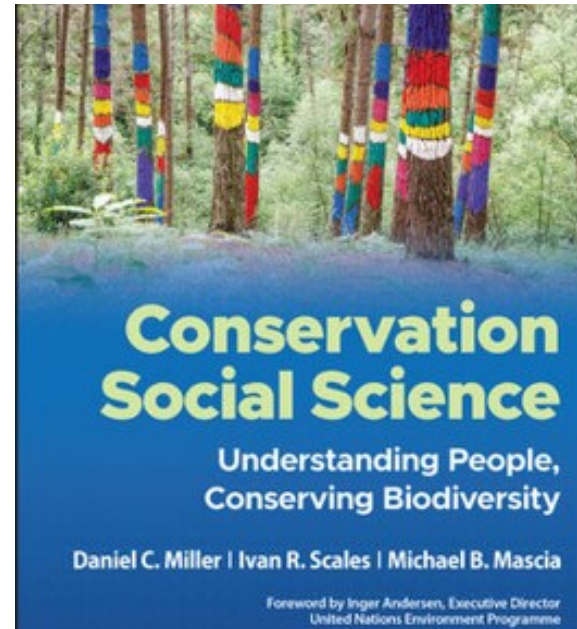
There is usually a higher goal in using GIS in research and instruction

The Lakota Language Story Map



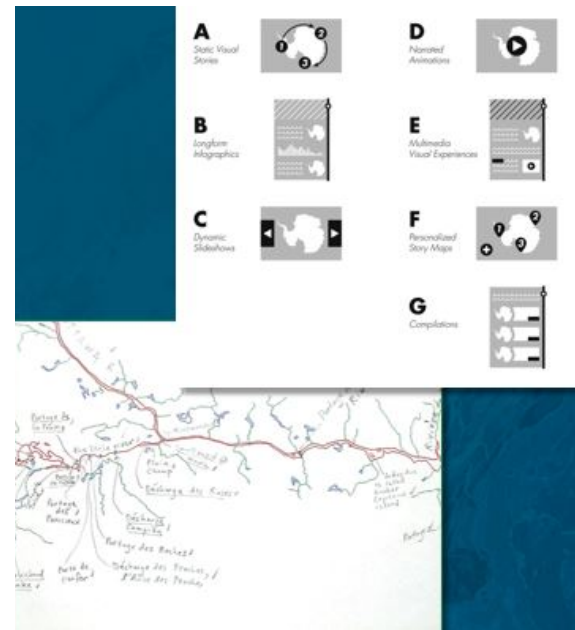
Social Science perspectives are increasingly integral in "standard texts"

Conservation Social Science:
Understanding People, Conserving
Biodiversity



Visual Storytelling research and methods

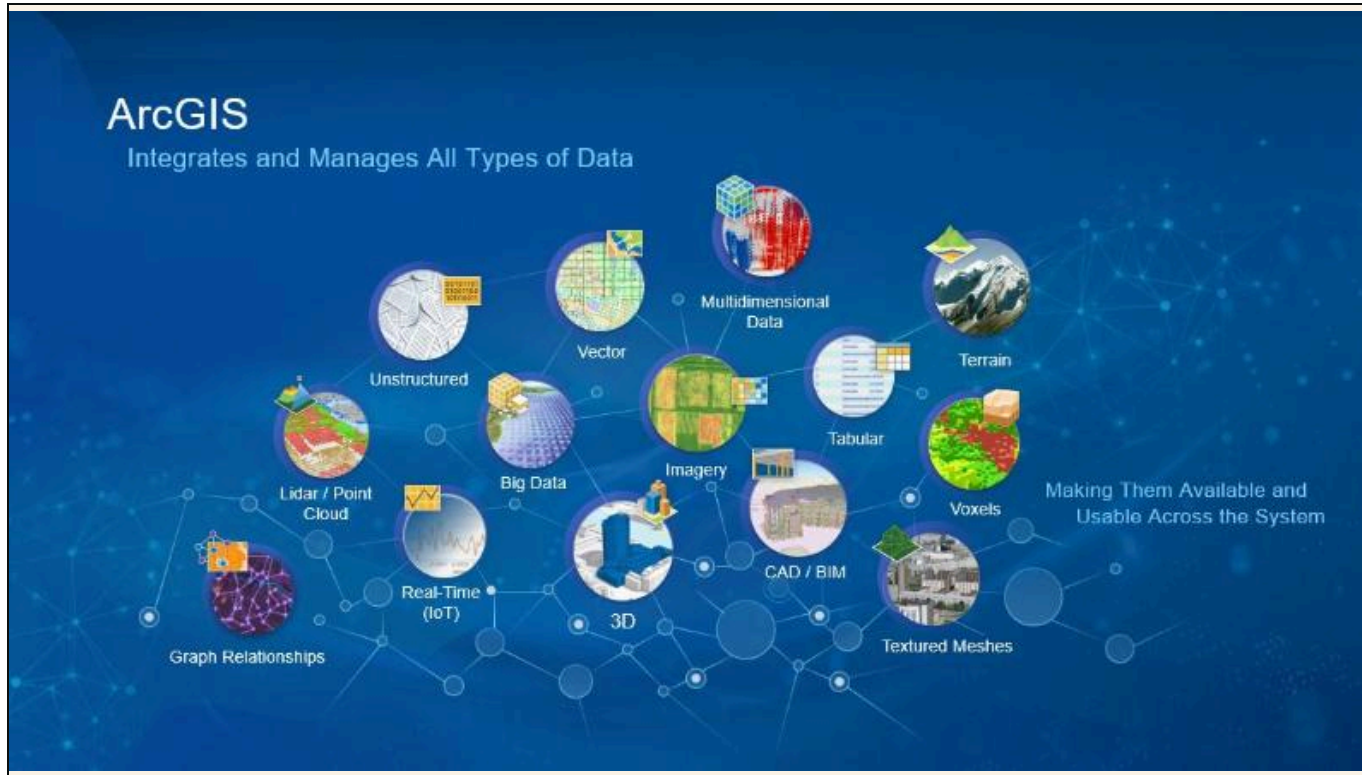
*Cartographic Design as Visual Storytelling:
Synthesis and Review of Map-Based
Narratives, Genres, and Tropes*
and
*Framing the Days: Place and Narrative in
Geography – Margaret Wickens Pearce,
Cartography and GIScience and Sensory
Maps*



Geospatial Data

--Volume, Variety, Scales, Formats, Portal
Types--all increasing





ArcGIS Creates & Manages Geospatial Data

Integrating with Leading Data Technologies

- Cloud Storage & Cloud Data Warehouses
- Database Services (DBaaS)
- NrSQL
- RDBMS

Modern Industry Models (Services Based)

- Utility & Telco Networks
- Transportation
- Parcels
- Hydrology

Editing Enhancements

- Nonversioned Editing
- 3D Features & Meshes
- COGO & Alignment Tools
- Linear Referencing
- QA / QC Tools
- Web Editing App (Coming)

Web Data Import (Data Pipelines) **new**

- ArcGIS Online
- Extracts Data from Cloud Sources
- Processes, Enriches and Cleans Data
- Creates Hosted Feature Layer

Geodatabase Advancements

- Mobile Geodatabases
- 64-Bit Identifiers
- New Date / Time Fields
- Schema Reporting

Major Focus on Performance, Scalability and Quality

Spatial Analysis and Data Science

Many New Tools & Methods

Analytics (Vector, Raster & Graph)

- Geosrption
- Analysis in Map Viewer
- Suitability Model Evaluation
- Knowledge Graph

Spatial Statistics

- Neighborhood Explorer
- Causal Inference
- 3D Inverse Distance Weighting

GeoAI

- Many Pretrained Models
- Multiscale GWR
- XGBoost

Visualization & Exploration

- Multi-series Grids
- Charts in Map Viewer

Modeling & Scripting

- Notebooks Drag and Drop
- Python Environment Upgrades
- ModelBuilder Iterate Time Slices

Big Data Analytics

- Network Analysis & Geocoding
- Cloud-Native Tools and Functions
- GeoAnalytics Engine (Spark)

New & Improved

- 60+ New Tools
- GeoAI Models
- Analysis in Map Viewer
- Time Series Forecasting
- Predictive Modeling
- Causal Analysis
- Composite Indices
- Multi-series Grids
- Big Data Tools
- Quality, Performance & Productivity

Coming

- ModelBuilder on the Web
- R Location Services Package
- New Spatiotemporal Algorithms

*Enabling Insights . . .
... Supporting Decision-Making*

ArcGIS Includes the Living Atlas of the World

Ready-to-Use Basemaps & Layers

Massive (10,000 items) . . .
Rapidly Growing . . .
Curated . . .
Authoritative

Demographics
Habitats Landscape

Basemaps Land Cover
Environment Transportation
Infrastructure Hydro Movement Business
Traffic

Imagery Biodiversity
POI Boundaries Elevation
Weather Oceans
Soils Hazards

NGDA Layers

3D Basemap

new

Global	US
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3D Basemaps & Layers• Land Use (2017–2021)• Places (POIs) Layers• OpenStreetMap Layers• Analysis-Ready Imagery• Climate Layers• World Pop. 2000–2020• Air Quality• Premium Location Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Hydrology (NHDPlus)- Census ACS (2017–2021)- DOT National Addresses- FCC Broadband Data- NAIP Imagery (2021)- iNaturalist (Coming)

Built from Best Available Commercial and Community Sources

Connection to Ethics

Instruction and Research considerations:

Choice of symbology, projection, classification. Location Privacy.

Copyright. Data Quality. Metadata (and lack of it).

The Spatial Reserves book and long-running blog.



A Data, GIS, and Society course

Readings, activities, discussions, final project, and quizzes.

<https://community.esri.com/t5/education-blog/a-new-complete-course-in-data-gis-and-society/ba-p/1402213>

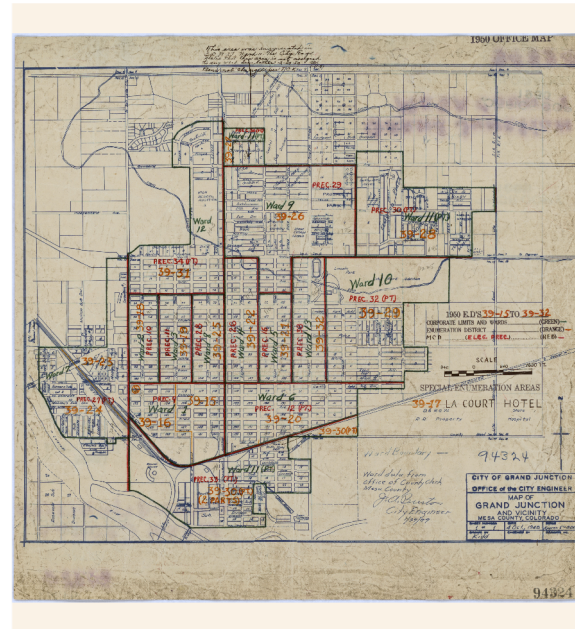
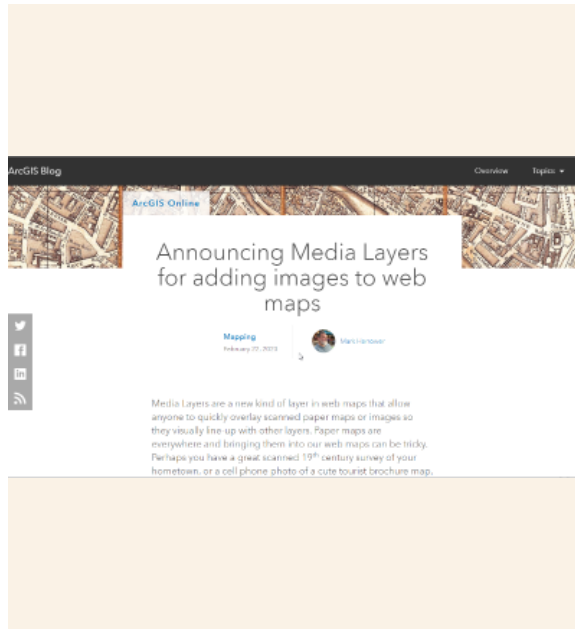


Modern Strategies for Finding Geospatial Data

1980-2010: Where can I find data ? >>> (Today): I have so much data; how can I filter to just what I need, what format(s) are best for me to use; how can I know whether I can trust the data; what are the ethical considerations with Data Set A vs Data Set B?

<https://spatialreserves.wordpress.com/2024/01/22/modern-strategies-for-finding-geospatial-data-updated/>

Plus, now I can generate my own data if none already exists: Field tools, surveys, feature extraction, geo-registration, and other methods.



Haven't all the maps been made?

No!

1. People want to map things that have never before been mapped: Mars, the Human Brain, chemistry of the Marianas Trench, etc.
2. People want to map things at higher resolution than before: The invasive plant species in a specific field, changes in human behavior by neighborhood over time; etc.
3. People increasingly want data as close to NOW as possible: near-real time and real-time feeds; updating feature services and dashboards.
4. People want to embed maps in an expanding array of tools (SalesForce, R), and an expanding array of multimedia.

Real-Time Visualization and Analytics

Integrating Sensors & IoT with ArcGIS

GeoEvent Server

- Integration
- Configurability
- Performance

Velocity (SaaS)

- Visualization
- Analytic Authoring
- IoT Ingestion

Analysis

Visualization

Alerting & Actuation

Data Management

Integration & Ingestion

Supporting Operations & Improving Decision-Making

GIS has always been data science!

- How to use data.
- How to turn data into *actionable information*.
- How to filter, classify, generalize data to *make sense of it*.
- The societal implications of using geospatial data.
- How to find, use, and consider the implications of geospatial data book and blog:
<https://spatialreserves.wordpress.com>
- Data fluency: Understanding the digital generation, book:
<https://www.amazon.com/Understanding-Digital-Generation-Teaching-Landscape/dp/1412938449>
- Approach for selected disciplines: GIS as a component of data science, location analytics, location intelligence, etc.

The users of GIS will continue to have a key role!

Understanding the situation, explaining it to others, determining what is needed and wanted, choosing which tools to use and where to apply them, creating holistic solutions, collaborating and sharing, maintaining public trust...

The Research Cycle

Formulating Questions | Gathering Data |
Conducting analysis | Mapping | Synthesis
| Communicating Results



Rodin's The Thinker.

Source: Jean-David & Anne-Laure via Wikimedia Commons

Tools supporting research steps I

Data access

Contextual data such as satellite imagery or population statistics

-  ArcGIS Online
-  ArcGIS Living Atlas of the World
-  ArcGIS Earth
-  ArcGIS Community Analyst








Collaboration

Leverage web GIS to work on shared projects; build a hub to engage participants

-  ArcGIS Online
-  ArcGIS Enterprise
-  ArcGIS Hub

Data collection & creation

Surveys; locational, contextual, photo/video, participant-generated data

-  ArcGIS StoryMaps
-  ArcGIS Online
-  Site Scan for ArcGIS
-  ArcGIS Pro
-  ArcGIS Survey123
-  ArcGIS Field Maps
-  ArcGIS QuickCapture

Tools supporting research steps II

Analysis & visualization

Identify spatial patterns and relationships; triangulate or validate qualitative and geospatial data



ArcGIS Online



ArcGIS Pro



ArcGIS Knowledge



ArcGIS Maps for Adobe
Creative Cloud

Dissemination

Create engaging stories and interactive digital media; speak to public audiences



ArcGIS Hub



ArcGIS StoryMaps

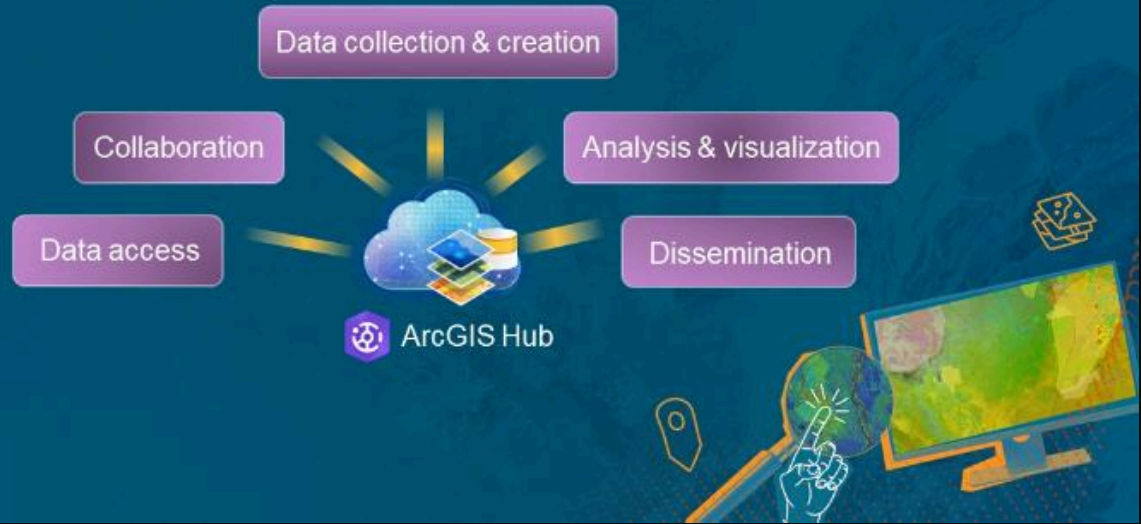


ArcGIS Experience Builder



ArcGIS Dashboards

Organizing Research Activities



Usability I

While many things in GIS are vastly easier than X years ago, there is still, and more so than ever, a mountain of tools and ArcGIS <product > many other tools as well outside of Pro, that is daunting to many users.

The world is complex, and GIS to understand the world is also understandably complex.



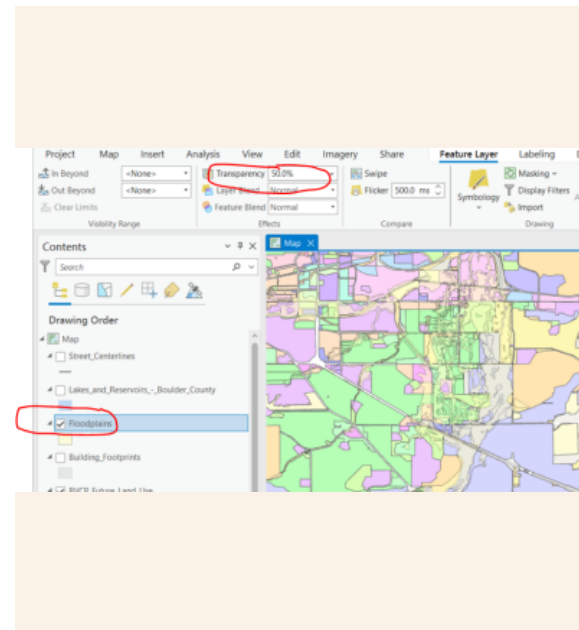
Computer Graphics: GIS Geographic Information System (database, mapping, ARCInfo, ARCview) 1988

Usability II

Consider the many things you have to do with data as just 1 example to get it into a usable format: Rename fields, join fields, project data, etc.

I'm grateful to choices AND for modern GIS where a person doesn't have to learn ALL of GIS to accomplish something; they can use "pieces" – but for them to determine which pieces they need is sometimes daunting too.

Does GenAI have the potential for us to get past some of the need to assemble knowledge about using a set of specific tools to accomplish a job? Some 'solutions templates' meet some of this need – i.e. wastewater - but we still need a paradigm shift in accomplishing the day-to-day GIS work so we can get to the analysis point more quickly.



UX practices that inform product design and usability at Esri

1. Esri has a dedicated UX research team embedded within design teams for Pro, Online and other products. UX research helps understand user problem spaces via conference interviews, surveys, and other means. Usability studies are conducted to ensure the user experience matches needs. <https://www.esri.com/en-us/user-research-testing/experience-research>
2. The research team identifies key capabilities used and core workflows to benchmark usability within and across these products so that we can measure the user experience *over time*.
3. We have greatly expanded the number of product designers adding dedicated usability and design support to Dashboards, Survey123, Business Analyst, SiteScan, Drone2Map and others.

Mobile GIS

GIS developers need to develop everything to be mobile ready. Example: Dashboards - add a view if person opens on phone. Hub does this too. Story Maps auto-configure for tablet and phone: <https://www.esri.com/arcgis-blog/products/ops-dashboard/decision-support/getting-started-with-dashboard-mobile-views/>

But not Experience Builder: Choice is good, but...



Language

Support for other languages is accelerating. 1 example: Multilingual surveys:

<https://community.esri.com/t5/arcgis-survey123-blog/survey123-tricks-of-the-trade-introducing/ba-p/894919>



Beyond my workstation or server environment

- Leveraging big data
- Leveraging big computing power
- Spatial Analytics in Planetary Computer and Microsoft Fabric:
<https://spatialreserves.wordpress.com/2024/02/19/rethinking-how-gis-users-work-with-data-spatial-analytics-in-microsoft-fabric/>

Spatial Analysis of Big Data

Leveraging Spark Environments

Capabilities

- 160+ Spatial Functions / Tools
- Scalable
- Cloud Agnostic
- Scriptable (Python & SQL)
- Results Usable Anywhere

Platforms

- Databricks
- Amazon EMR
- Azure Synapse Analytics
- Google Cloud DataProc
- Microsoft Fabric (Coming)

ArcGIS GeoAnalytics Engine

New

- Geocoding
- Network Analysis



*Processes Millions to Billions of Records . . .
With Advanced Spatial Tools*

5 Key Trends in GIS

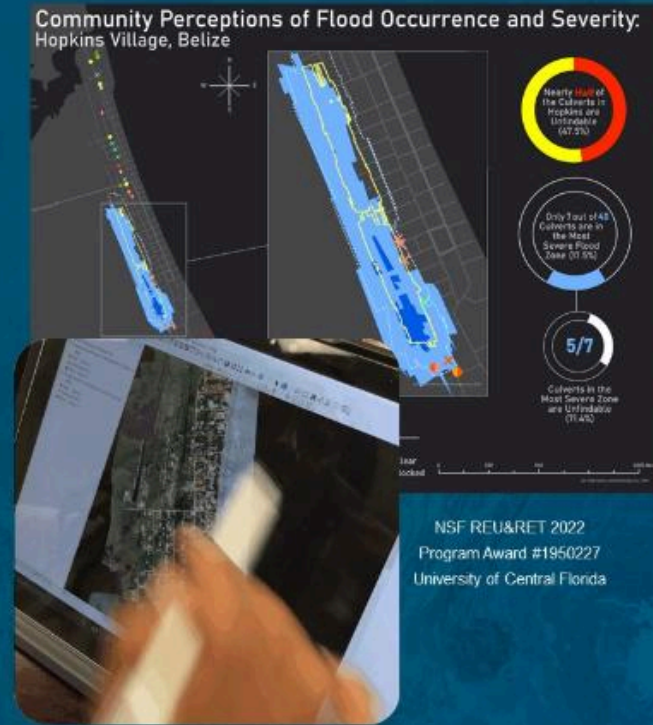
1. 3D.
2. BIM – CAD – AEC.
3. Real-time data and analytics, big data, the IoT.
4. Enterprise and Web GIS.
5. AI and Machine Learning.



5 Key trends in GIS (Kerski).

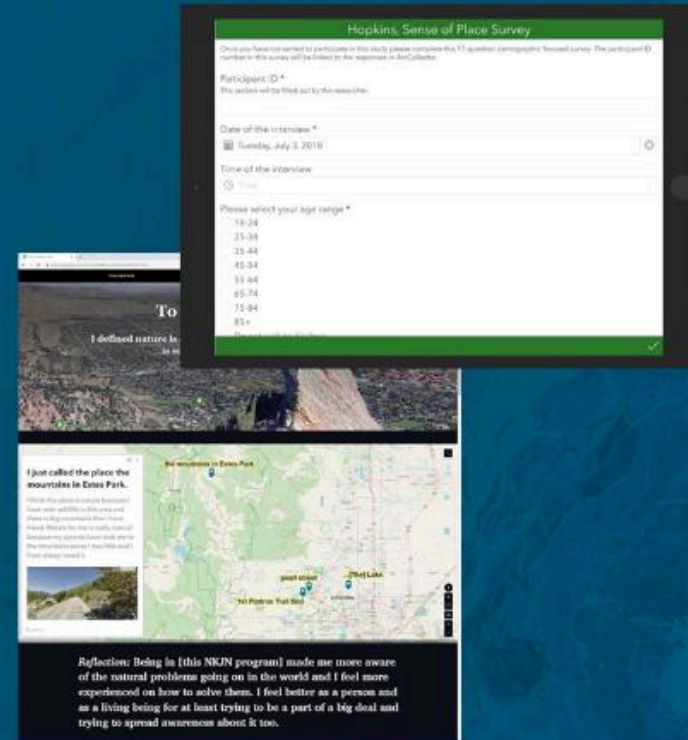
Data collection & creation I

- Using **ArcGIS Field Maps** mobile app to record spatial data, fieldnote jottings, and photos during **participant-observation** and **go-along interviews** (Singer, 2020; see also Kamstra et al, 2019)
- Engaging participants to use **ArcGIS Field Maps** to record everyday experiences of place in cities (Wee et al, forthcoming)
- Longitudinal participatory study combining **drone imagery and manual mapping/digitization** (e.g., **Site Scan for ArcGIS**) with **digital sketch mapping** and **interviewing** with **ArcGIS Pro** (formerly ArcMap) (Brandt et al, 2019)



Data collection & creation II

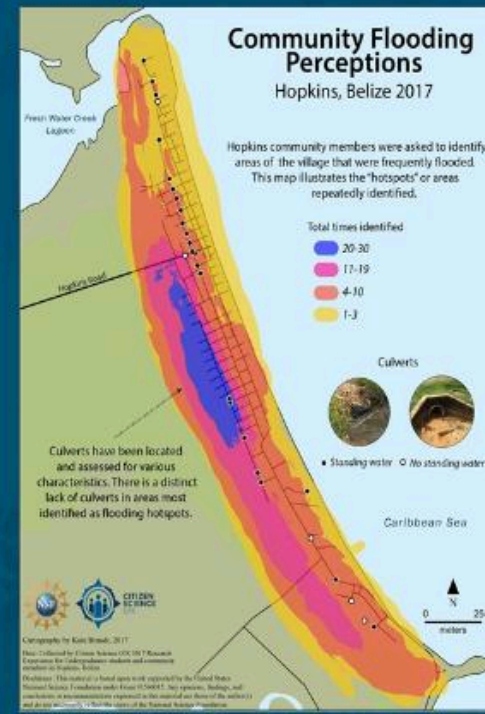
- Creating a public **questionnaire** with **ArcGIS Survey123** to collect locational and qualitative data (Chivite, 2016)
- **Map elicitation** – using digital maps (e.g., **ArcGIS Online**) or other GIS outputs as an interviewing tool to prompt discussion and reflection (Moore-Cherry et al, 2014, Coleman (Tate), 2018)
- Engaging participants to use **ArcGIS Survey123** and **ArcGIS StoryMaps** to document **narratives** and support **interviews** about relationships with place (Martz et al, 2020) and nature (Martz et al, 2022)



Analysis & visualization

3 main approaches to integrating geospatial and qualitative analysis identified by Jung and Elwood (2010):

- Attaching or hyperlinking qualitative data within a GIS, such as including a quote, photo, or video within a point or area on a map (e.g., Szukalski, 2019)
- Geovisualizing qualitative data through classification, symbolization, or other manual cartographic processes, such as extracting placenames and movement patterns from interview transcripts (Orford and Webb, 2017) or delimiting areas of concern from sketch maps (Curtis et al, 2014)



Don't stop at mapping: Spatial Analysis

This hazards analysis includes an enrichment activity that considers population (total, age, and those living in group quarters).



Dissemination with ArcGIS Hub

1. Provide 1-stop—shop for research participants to access everything they need to participate in a study.
2. Include community accounts for researchers to provide research participants with access to ArcGIS tools to generate data.
3. Organize participants and configure Hub in ways that protects the privacy of participants and the data they share.

University of Denver campus-city partnership.

and Connect Ocean.

ArcGIS
Supports Enterprise Field Operations

Data Collection
Situational Awareness
Enterprise Data Access

Survey123

Field Maps

Connected & Disconnected

QuickCapture

New & Improved

- Location Sharing
- AI Assistants
- Sensor Support
- Security (Smart Cards)
- Geofencing / Alerts
- Calculations (Arcade)
- Windows 11 Support
- Oriented Imagery

Synchronizing Office & Field Activities

Dashboards

Plan, Optimize & Coordinate

Includes Task Management & Navigation . . .

... Transforming Mobile Workflows
Connecting Field to the Enterprise . . .

The slide features a central cloud icon with a play button, surrounded by various mobile devices displaying ArcGIS applications. A person in a hard hat and safety vest is shown in the upper right corner, holding a tablet. The background is a dark blue gradient with a grid pattern.

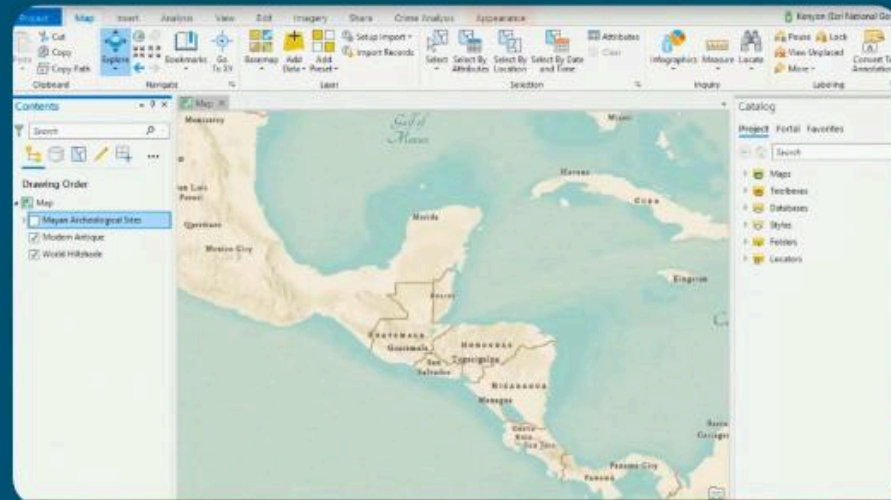
How walkable is your community?

Links 4 components of the ArcGIS Platform: Survey, map, dashboard, story map.



Analysis & visualization of 'big' qualitative datasets I

- **Exploratory text analysis** of large-scale survey data using **ArcGIS API for Python** (Majumdar, 2020)
- Perform **unstructured data analysis** using **ArcGIS LocateXT** to automatically identify, extract, and map locational data from large amounts of unstructured text data (Fotheringham, 2020)



Participatory Field Sketching

Smart sketching in ArcGIS Survey123.

Sample survey: What do you consider to be the wetland area of our campus?

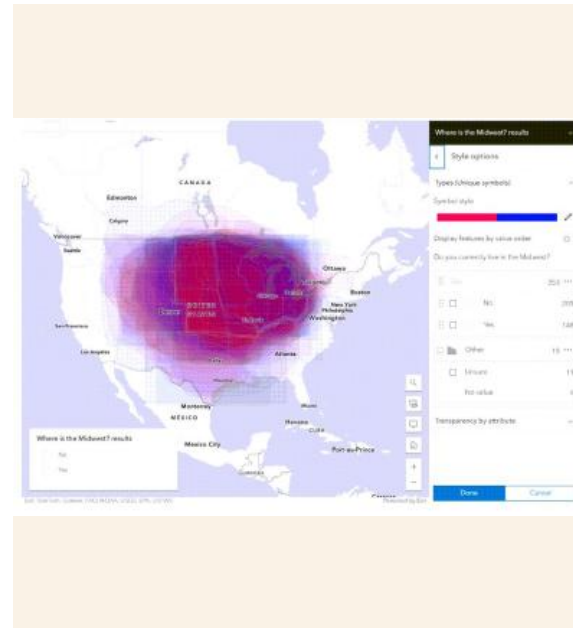
<https://arcg.is/1my1Py>

Sample survey result in a map:

[https://www.arcgis.com/apps/mapviewer/index.html?
webmap = b8fd08391cdc4dcfa47eb65fed92fabf](https://www.arcgis.com/apps/mapviewer/index.html?webmap=b8fd08391cdc4dcfa47eb65fed92fabf)

Visualize, Combine, and Analyze Responses from Participatory Mapping

Where is the Midwest? This uses ArcGIS Survey123, ArcGIS Online (Merge), ArcGIS Pro (count Overlapping Polygons). Extensions: Where is the "rust belt/Steppe regions of the world/where you feel safe on your campus?"



Recommendations & considerations:

- For qualitative researchers, GIS can be another tool in your kit.
- For GIS practitioners, qualitative data and methodologies can provide context and grounding.
- Different GIS tools can be used throughout project lifecycle.
- How might you need to adapt your informed consent and data use policies?

Challenges still exist:

- Many kinds of qualitative data are still not well supported in GIS tools.
- Easy to get stuck in tools or lost in the terminology.
- Sometimes a time-consuming manual process.
- Lack of integration between GIS-CAQDAS (computer-aided qualitative data analysis) tools: <https://lumivero.com/products/nvivo/> NVIVO qualitative data analysis.

How can you continue moving forward in this area?

Map meaningful places in your community: <https://learn.arcgis.com/en/projects/map-meaningful-places-in-your-community/>

Crowdsource student hangouts: <https://learn.arcgis.com/en/projects/crowdsource-student-hangouts/>

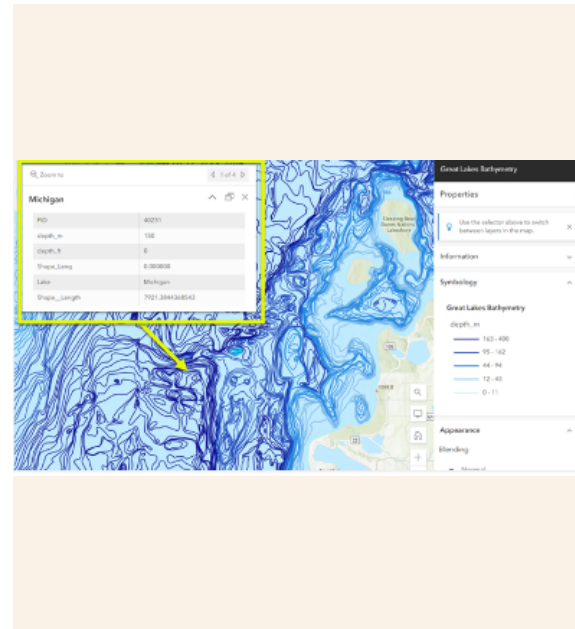
Integrating Survey123 and StoryMaps - <https://arcg.is/1f8byX>

Create a layer, add features: <https://learn.arcgis.com/en/projects/create-a-layer-and-add-features/>

Manage data: Use hosted feature layers to provide relevant data to city employees managing interactions between citizens and wildlife.

- <https://learn.arcgis.com/en/projects/manage-data/arcgis-online/>

Cartography



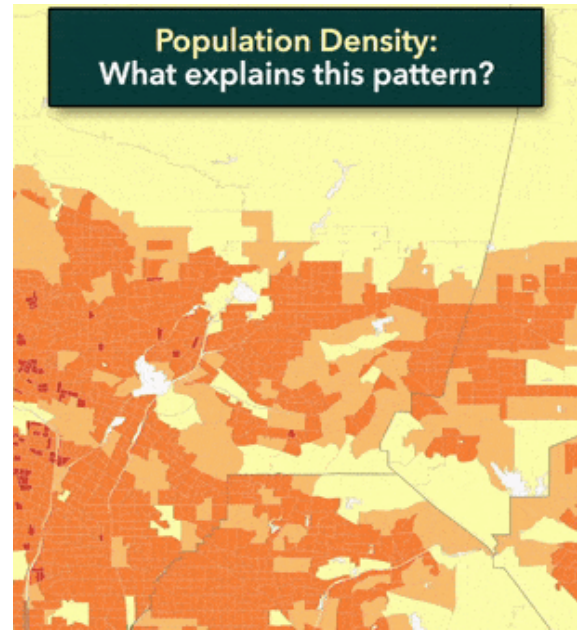
Animated Symbols

Animation is part of the marker symbol layer of a symbol. NFL animated symbols:

<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=6028b54ca9e34533ad639ea59a9edaa3>

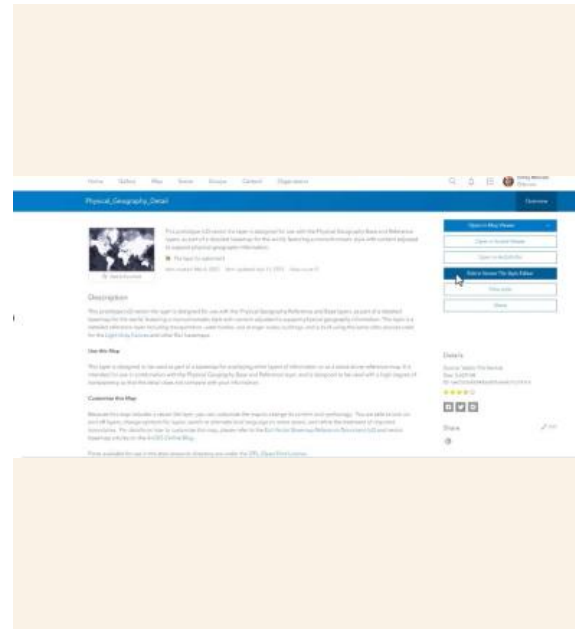


Blending



Customizing your own basemaps

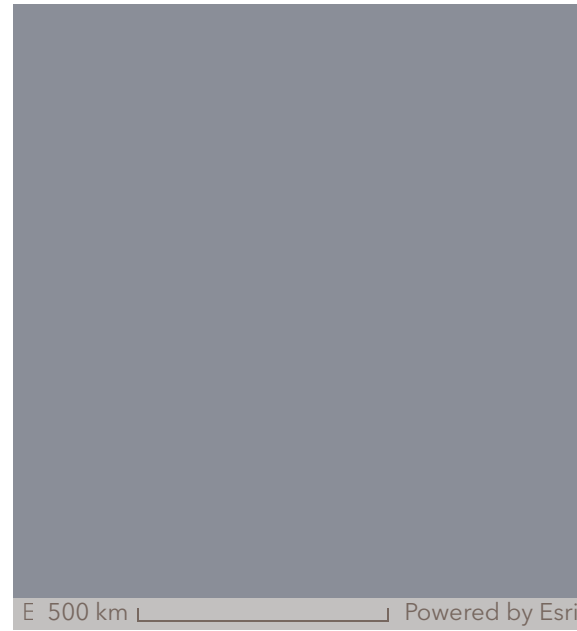
Vector Tile Style Editor

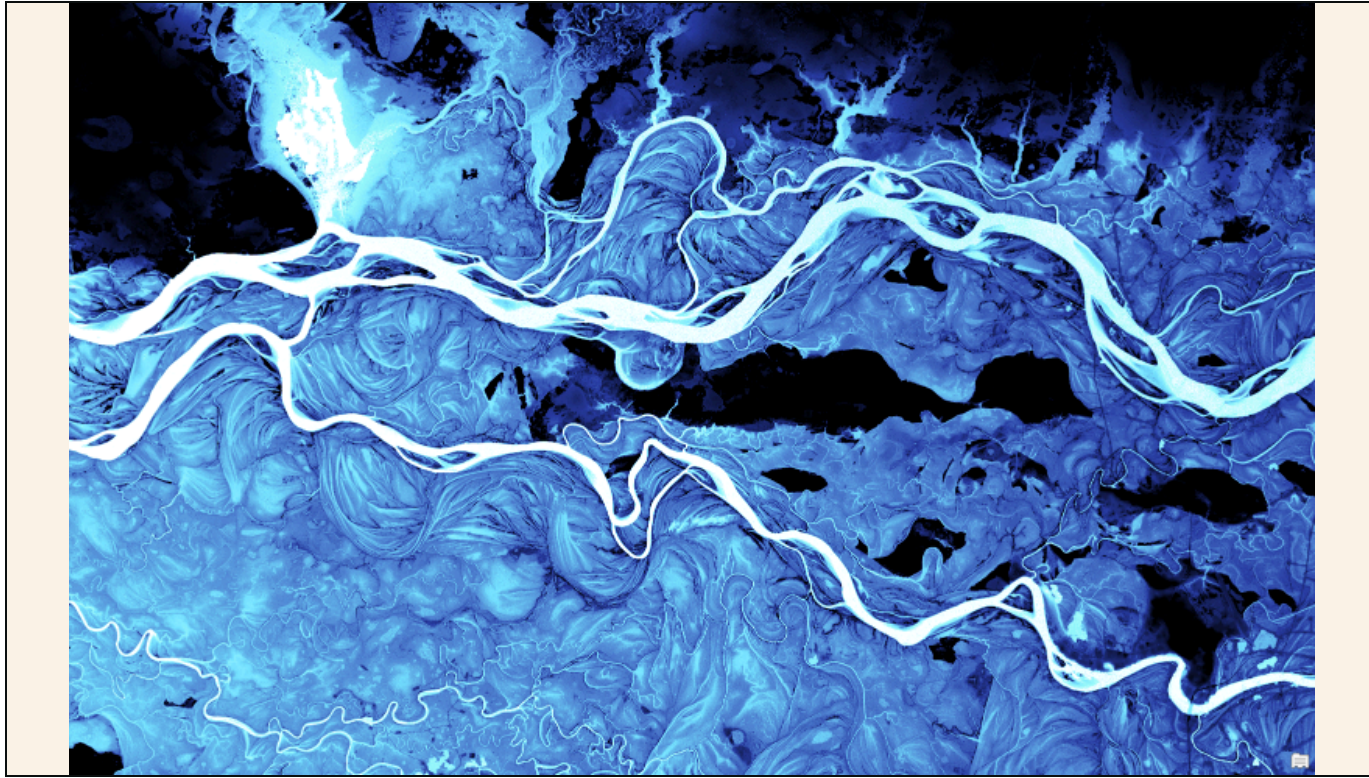


Animated Flow Renderer

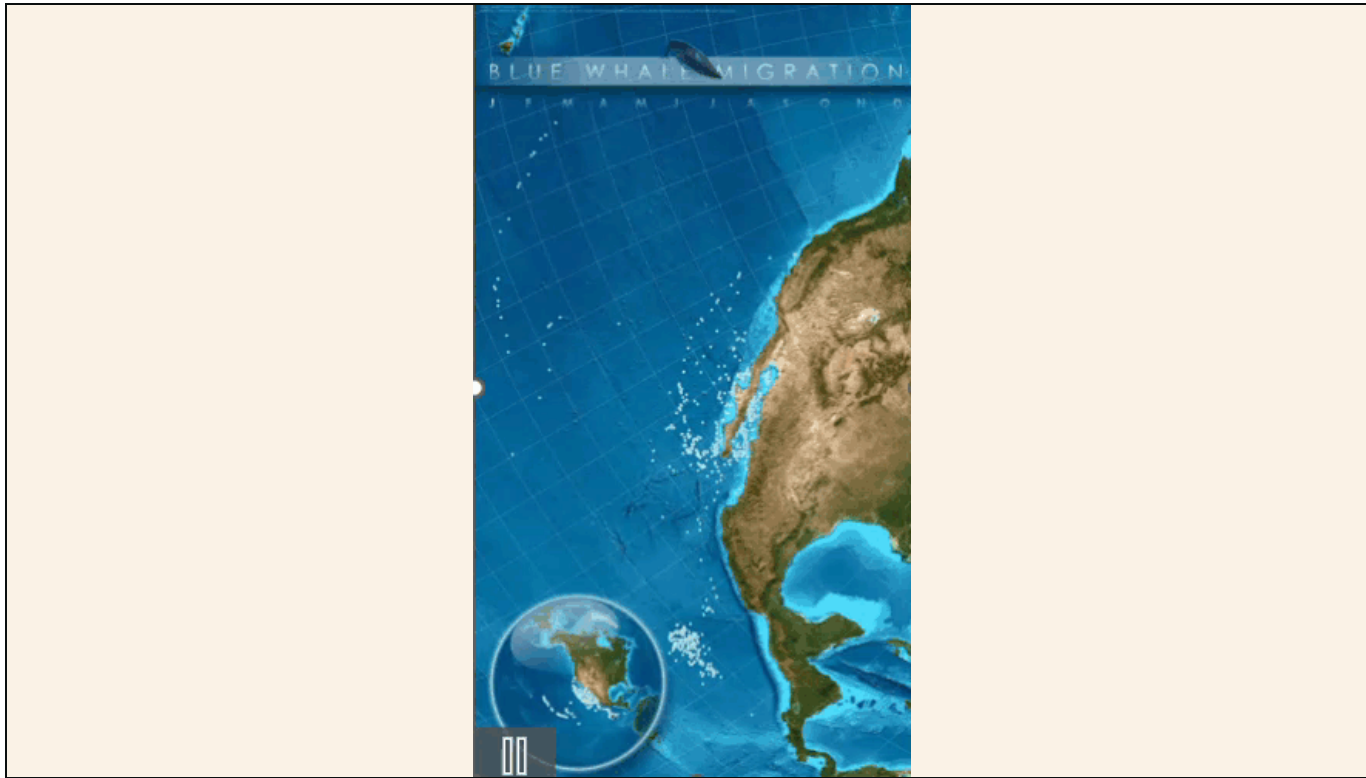
How to do this? See:

<https://www.esri.com/arcgis-blog/products/arcgis-online/mapping/flow-renderer/>









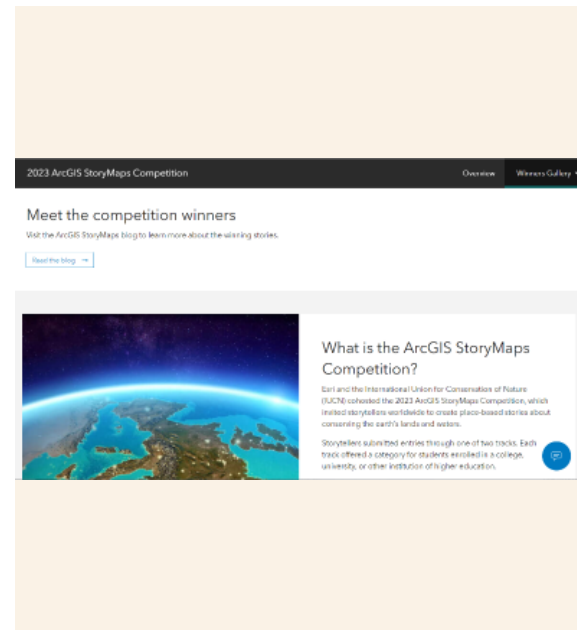
Esri Map Gallery and Annual Map Books

<https://www.esri.com/en-us/esri-map-book/maps#/list> and
<https://mapgallery.esri.com/>

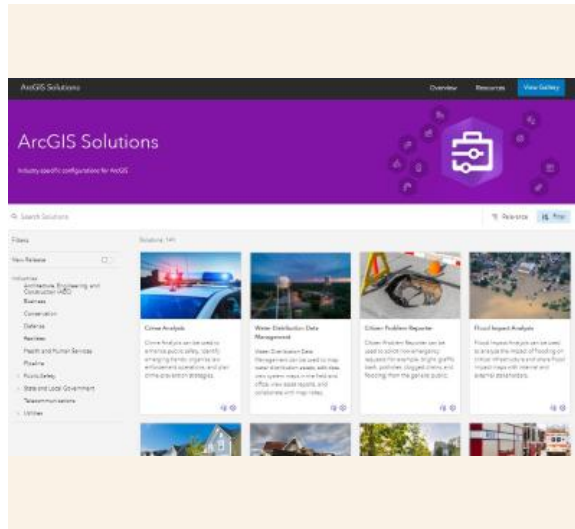


The ArcGIS Story Maps Competition

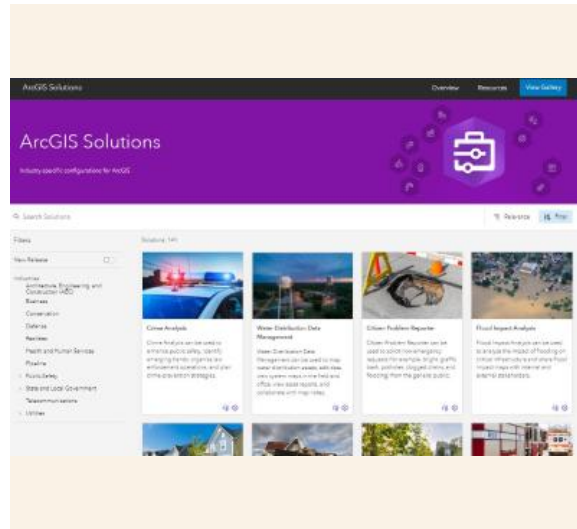
<https://www.esri.com/en-us/arcgis/products/arcgis-storymaps/contest/gallery/archive>



GIS for specific needs



GIS inside other applications



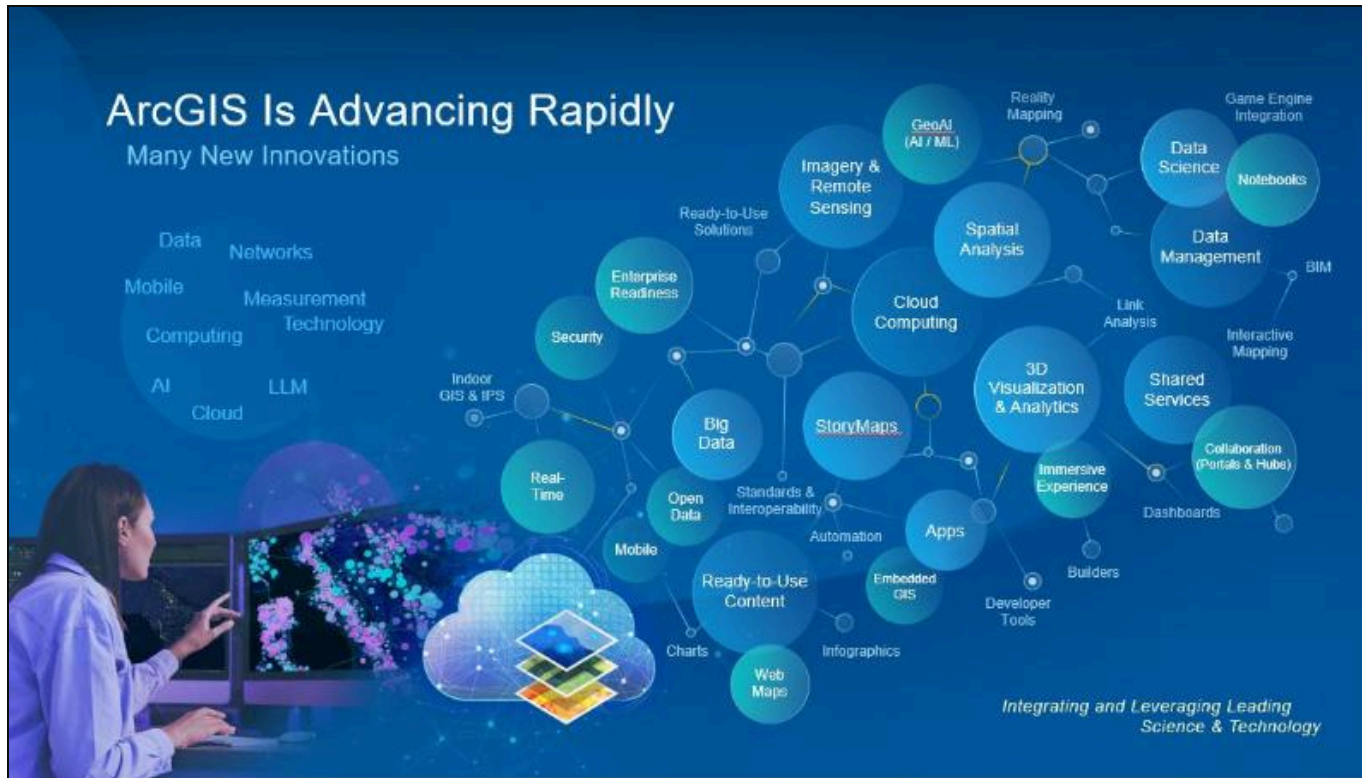
Maps, Visualizations, Infographics, Dashboards

--A blurring of the lines between these.

--Implications for instruction methods and assessing student work

Flowing Data: <https://flowingdata.com/>

Andy Woodruff's Maps: <https://andywoodruff.com/>



Integrating AI Into ArcGIS – GeoAI

Tools & Models for Feature Extraction & Analytics

New & Improved

- 16 New Pretrained Models
- New Model Types
- Foundation Models (SAM, Prithvi)
- AI-Assisted Labeling
- AutoML / AutoDL
- Point Cloud Feature Detection
- Fairness & Multimodal Input in ML

Coming

- Model Explainability
- Visualize & Compare Model Metrics
- Text Prompts for Labelling
- New Models (SuperRes)
- LLM Support for Text Analysis

Imagery & Remote Sensing

- Point Cloud Classification
- Object Classification
- Road Extraction
- Crop Classification

Vector & Tabular Data

- Time-Series Forecasting
- Classification
- Regression
- Prediction
- Causal Inference

Text

- Text Classification
- Text Transformation
- Entity Extraction

Automating, Processing & Accelerating Data Analytics

The Rise of AI meets the Golden Age of Geography

Article in Forbes

+ 40% of goods produced in USA are distributed via waterways. US Army Corps monitors 25,000 mi of waterways and 400 ports, using spatial analysis and AI, and save \$100M / year by improving the ability to predict water depth: Ask and answer key Qs. Automate tasks, repeat quickly at scale, make predictions based on past patterns using imagery including 3D. Not only where but *where now* and *where in the future*? Where are my assets or operational locations in danger from ___?



Pretrained GeoAI Models

Included with ArcGIS

- Cars
- License Plate Blurring
- Parking Lots
- Parking Spots
- Humans
- Crowd Counting
- Face Blurring
- Land Cover
- Buildings
- Roads
- Parcels
- Aq Fields
- Swimming Pools
- Well Pads
- Cooling Towers
- Power Lines
- Pylons
- Transmission Towers
- Insulator Defects
- Wind Turbines
- Solar Arrays
- Solar Panels

- Ships
- Shipwrecks
- Oil Spills
- Oil Tanks
- Cloud Masking
- Water Bodies
- Pavement Cracks
- Arctic Seals
- Elephants
- Seabirds
- Mangroves
- Palm Trees
- Trees
- Plant Leaf Disease
- Common Object Detection
- Optical Character Recognition
- Text Parsing from Photo
- Object Tracking
- Segment Anything Model (SAM)
- Pythivi (Crops, Burn Scars, Floods)

and Many More

State & Local Government
Public Safety
Natural Resources
Commercial Business
National Security
Insurance
Conservation
Transportation
Utilities

Road Extraction (Global)

Elephant Detection

Wind Turbine Detection

Cloud Mask Generation

Building Footprints

Parking Spot Detection

Solar Park Classification

Land-Cover Classification

Generative AI

--"1001 gen AI assistance in every corner of the ArcGIS ecosystem." --In ArcGIS Survey123, ArcGIS Hub, Pro help, Spatial Analysis, and elsewhere.

https://mediaspace.esri.com/media/t/1_opret32t



ArcGIS and Generative AI Assistants

Link Analysis and Visualization

Integrating Knowledge Graphs (Entity-Relationship Networks)

Supports

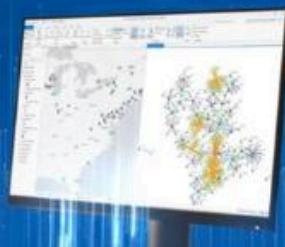
- Visualization & Mapping
- Data Fusion & Provenance
- Link Analysis
- Editing & Sharing
- Graph Analysis & Query
- Python & Neo4j Support

ArcGIS Knowledge

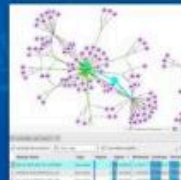
Knowledge Graphs



Spatially Enriching & Integrating



Intelligence & Crime



Supply Chain



Coming

- Web App
- Sharing (Desktop and Web)
- Time-Based Path Finding
- Enhanced Pop-Ups

Facility & Asset Management



Applications

- Social Networks
- Supply Chains
- Intelligence
- Communications
- Crime
- Risk Analysis

Enriching ArcGIS with Graph Analytics

3D Capabilities Are Advancing Across ArcGIS

Visualization

- High-Quality Visual Effects
- Global (Earth)
- 3D Heat Maps

Analysis

- Point Cloud Classification (Deep Learning)
- Flood Simulation
- 3D Interpolation (Voxels)

Immersive Experiences

- Game Engine Integration (Unity, Unreal)
- AR Scene Viewing
- Virtual Reality

Editing

- Updating 3D Models
- Authoring Voxel Layers

Formats & Content

- 3D Mesh
- 3D Feature Layers
- 3D Basemap

New & Improved

- 3D Basemap
- Animated Symbols
- Line of Sight
- Visual & Weather Effects
- Floor Awareness
- GeoJSON Support
- Clip & Ship
- Voxel Layers on the Web
- Game Engines (Maps SDK)
- Heat Maps
- 3D Tiles

Coming

- Flood Simulation
- Transportation Analysis
- Improved Web Editing

A Foundation for Living Digital Twins







Implications for Remote Sensing with GIS

--Integrate RS into GIS? --Separate courses/majors/certificates for RS?



Reality Mapping

Creating Accurate 3D Representations . . . Using Imagery



ArcGIS Reality

- Pro Extension
- Studio App

Outputs

- 3D Meshes
- True Orthos
- Orthomosaics
- Digital Surface Models
- Point Clouds

Fast and Massively Scalable . . .
Modernizing Photogrammetry and Map Production

Data Courtesy of Airbus **Satellite Mesh - Barcelona**

Data Courtesy of Esri/Info **Aerial Imagery Mesh - Boston**

Data Courtesy of Esri/Info **Drone Mesh - Fort McDowell**



Interoperability

--Implications for society *and* for what and how we teach and conduct research.



Reproducibility

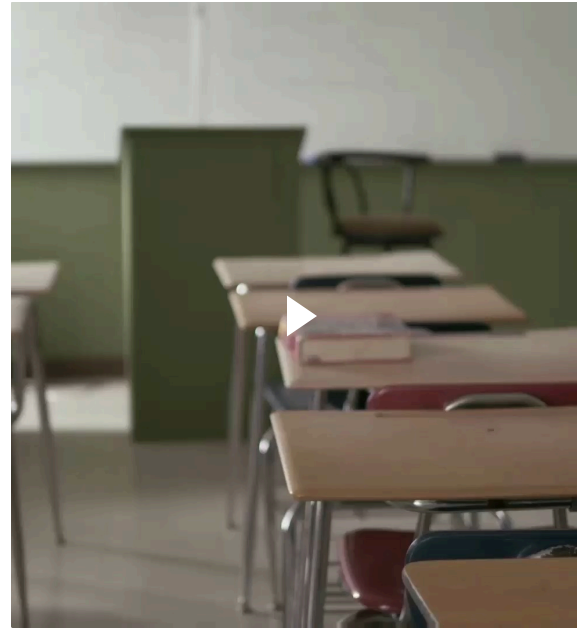
--sustainability goals of accessing files, models, and methods.

--licensing and access

--Preservation: 3D/VR in the Academic Library: Emerging Practices and Trends.

--Beyond Data: Reproducibility in Scientific Software and the Role of Digital Preservation, Council on Library and Information Resources.

--Emulation practices for software preservation in libraries, archives, and museums.



Transparency I

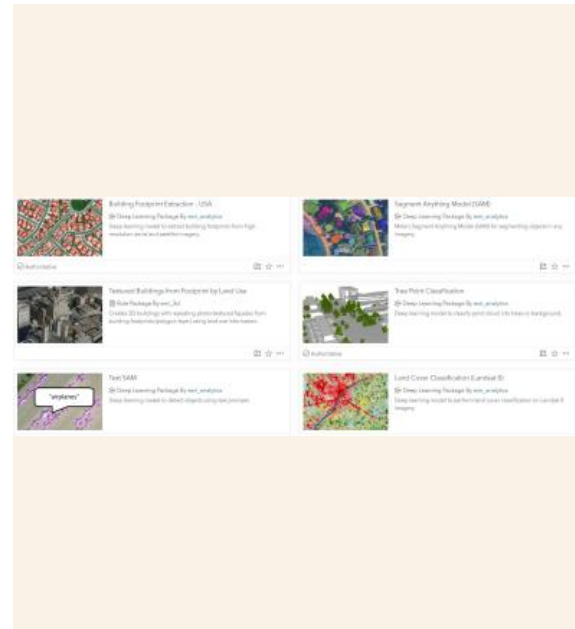
--Of the data and the analysis. 1. Geoprocessing history in ArcGIS Pro *and* ArcGIS Online (2023). 2. At end of [Geoprocessing history—ArcGIS Pro | Documentation](#), > > you can also write those operations out either to a log file or right into the dataset's metadata.

--Esri is exploring and developing Geo blockchain technology (pending patents) that stores all the transactions of a dataset in a sort of wiki-ledger. See [The Business Benefits of Blockchain and Geoblockchain Explained at Esri.com](#).

--Transparency implications of GeoAI?

Transparency II

--One ArcGIS Living Atlas of the World's focus areas is developing those apps to make it easier for people to find and use the Living Atlas data. --There are some already-developed tools on the Living Atlas: For example, the deep learning packages: Living Atlas >> Browse >> on left, change Content type to Tools.



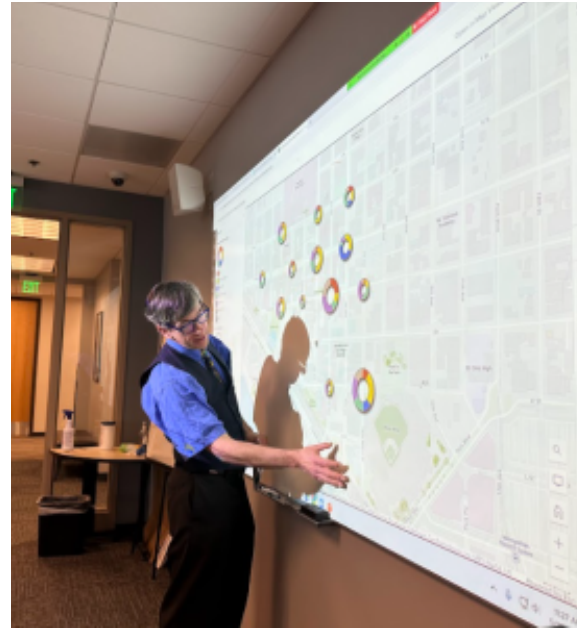
Accessibility and Neurodiversity

Accessibility -

<https://www.esri.com/about/newsroom/arcuser/accessibility/>

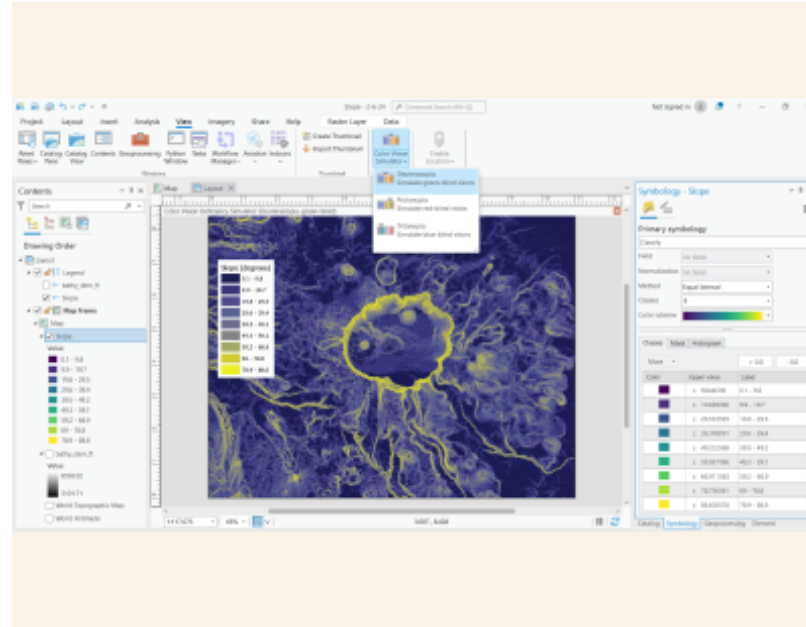
Neurodiversity -

<https://www.esri.com/about/newsroom/arcnews/neurodiversity-in-the-gis-workplace/>



Color Vision

Simulators in ArcGIS Pro.






What remains the same?


- Maps will continue to be useful tools for decision making.
 - Maps are representations of reality.
 - Scale, patterns, data quality, all still matter.
 - Education, GIS, and society will continue to rapidly simultaneously evolve.
 - IT and societal forces will continue to impact GIS, particularly AI.
 - GIS can be taught as a discipline and as a tool and perspective for other disciplines.
- This community has a leadership role in charting the future!






Maps Matter!

The Relevance of Cartography
Winter 2024



Dr. Georg Gartner

Today, there is more geospatial data being produced than ever before. Countless sensors of all kinds measure values that are stored in databases, which are linked to other databases and embedded in spatial data infrastructures that follow standards and accepted rules. There is also no shortage of other modern data collection technologies, such as unpiloted aerial vehicles; data modeling products, from service-oriented architectures to cloud computing systems; and tools for visualizing and disseminating data, including augmented reality.



Today, any individual who has even modest computing skills can create and use maps anywhere, for almost any purpose. Often, people produce and use maps to address needs that arise instantaneously when they are in a particular location. Think about searching for a restaurant to go to or analyzing, from the field, where a wildfire is headed next. In these instances, cartographic data in its finalized form is usually delivered to users digitally—sometimes even in real time, as the data is collected.

While these and other advances during the past decade have enabled mapmakers to significantly improve how maps are designed, produced, and implemented, many cartographic principles remain unchanged. The most important one is that maps are an abstraction of reality. Visualizing data means that some features of reality are depicted more prominently than others, while many features might not even be depicted at all. Abstracting reality is a necessary part of making powerful maps, as it helps users efficiently understand and interpret complex situations.

Blah, blah, blah...

6 skills important for students as they work with GIS:

1. **Be curious!** > Tenacity. Ask Good questions! A key part of the Inquiry Process.
2. **Be able to work with data and be critical of it!** Geospatial data book and blog: <https://spatialreserves.wordpress.com>
3. **Know Geographic and Geotechnical Foundations:** Skills (spatial stats, coding, web, projections, analysis, classification, etc.), + content knowledge + the geographic perspective (scale, systems thinking). Use GTCM to ID gaps and make plans to fill gaps!
4. **Be adaptable and flexible.** Go int'l; or outside your "disciplinary comfort zone"! Ikigai diagram.
5. **READ.** Even outside your own discipline.
6. **Cultivate your communications skills.** Do you have an elevator speech?

Geospatial Software Evolution, Usability, and Implications

16 April 2024 | 323C, 3rd
Floor, Hawai'i
Convention Center
Joseph Kerski PhD GISP,
Education Manager and
Geographer, Esri
jkerski@esri.com

