ΕΙΣΑΓΩΓΗ ΣΤΟ GIS

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What is GIS?

- GIS Geographic Information Systems
- Software package that allows a user to:
 - Create maps
 - Organize, manipulate and analyze information contained in maps
- GIS packages vary in complexity and cost
- Specialized ag GIS packages now available

The nature of geographic problems

The structure of the real world Complex Dynamic Natural components Planned components



What does GIS enable us to do?

The 5 Ms of GIS (Longley et al., 2001)

1. Mapping

"A diagrammatic representation of features (e.g. woods) or phenomena (rainfall) that includes location, orientation and scale information".

- 2. Measurement "the act or process of measuring" (Dictionary definition)
 "involves a quantity, units and a measurement scale"
- 3. Monitoring

"intermittent surveillance (regular or irregular) to ascertain extent of compliance with pre-determined standard, or departure from expected norm" (Academic definition)

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4. Modelling

"cartographic modelling and map algebra (inherently 2D and static)"

"simulation modelling of physical processes, i.e. transport of material, energy, (3D and dynamic in time"

5. Management

"the technique, practice, or science of managing or controlling" (Dictionary definition)

"everybody agrees there is a need for better management of resources" ... "better management requires informed decisions" ... "informed by analysis of relevant data, i.e. need understanding"

Definition(s) of GIS

An organised collection of computer hardware, software and people for the input, storage, update, display, manipulation, analysis and combination of all forms of spatially referenced

Source: ESRI 1997

data

'A GIS is a system for capturing, storing, checking, integrating, manipulating, analysing and displaying data which are spatially referenced to the Earth' (Department of the Environment 1987). Department of the Environment, 1987. Handling Geographic Information. Report of the Committee of Enquiry chaired by Lord Chorley. HMSO, London.

Grimshaw (1994), Bringing GIS into Business, defined GIS as 'a group of procedures that provide data input, storage and retrieval, mapping and spatial analysis for both spatial and attribute data to support the decisionmaking activities of the organisation'.

Clark (1992), The GIS Survival Guide, GeoData Institute, Southampton, GIS is a complete approach to your operations, analysis and decision support. GIS as a tool



GIS as a science

Conceptual models of the "real world"

 Maps
 Tables of data
 Text based description
 Artistic images
 Mental Images
 Digital images







The Map

Selection
based on a set of rules
perception
Classification
Description
Representation



The building blocks – entity model

- Entity (or object)
 - feature that can be mapped
 - it has a spatial location
 - identifiable
 - characteristics



- Attribute (or characteristic)
 - data about entity
 - one entity can have many attribute
- Spatial Relations (through topology)
 - adjacency, connectivity, proximity, and coincidence

Models of the "real world"

 some phenomena are not well represented by the entity model
 elevation, crop yield, temperature and soil chemistry are good examples

- they exist everywhere i.e. are continuous within defined boundaries (every point has an elevation or temperature)
- they are not discrete entities

do not have discontinuities





The building blocks – field model

- bounded, e.g. agricultural field boundary, country boundary
- sample (based on proper spatial sampling design methodology) of results of a measurement process (magnitude, units, uncertainty) – analogous to attributes of entity model
- model (usually mathematical) for creating a continuous surface from sample observations
- pixel size means of approximating the continuum
- assessment of quality of modelled field (observed modelled)









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Systems Analysis of the information in farm office

Information Analysis of the KVL University Farm

Entity Relationship Diagram for KVL UF



Systems Analysis of the information in farm office Information design for the KVL University Farm





PDAs design and implementation



What are the components of GIS? 5 components of GIS A computer technology Some spatial Data A range of functions The implementing organisation A body of knowledge

What is unique about GIS?

Spatial = any data organised within a multidimensional frame Geo(graphic) = representing the surface of the earth Data are spatially referenced or are linked to spatially referenced objects Information is communicated to the user through maps or tabular data associated with maps GIS is a multi disciplinary tool

SPATIAL LOCATION OF ENTITIES: WHERE ON EARTH ARE WE?

Geographic coordinates
 Cartesian (projected) coordinates
 Postal codes
 Administrative regions







Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1974. Field checked 1975. Map edited 1980

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Texas coordinate system, central zone (Lambert conformal conic) 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 13 1927 North American datum To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 14 meters south and 41 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines

Spatial Data

Digital map dataAerial photographs

Field data

Remotely sensed images

Paper maps and plans

Socio-economic data

 DIGIMAP
 Local authorities/Cities Revealed
 GPS readings/field surveying
 NRSC (Landsat)

Field sketches, historical maps, plans
 Census of population, questionnaires

Spatial data - analogue vs. digital

Analogue

- paper maps
- printed aerial photographs
- tables of statistics
- Fixed scale
- Need to be converted to digital format

Digital

- digital data files
- remotely sensed images
- GPS output files
- Scale 'free'
- File format predetermined
- Download or copy

Functions

- Input manual or digital
- Display by object or attribute
- Simulation 3D
- Selection by multiple criteria
- Measurement
- Reclassification
- Overlay
- Connectivity
- Neighbourhood analysis
- Relational DBMS
- Output hardcopy or digital

A method to visualize, manipulate, analyze, and display spatial data

"Smart Maps" linking a database to the map

GIS Analysis

Includes functions for: storage and retrieval including presentation of data

constrained queries that allow the user to look at patterns in the data

modelling procedures or functions for the prediction of what data might be at a different time and place

GIS Analysis

Measurement

- distance, area, perimeter
- Query
 - spatial, attribute
- Buffering
 - inside, outside
- Neighbourhood operations
 - reclassification

Interpolation prediction Surface analysis slope, aspect, viewsheds

Network analysis

- routes
- supply and demand
- **Overlay**

GIS and Precision Ag

- GIS in Precision Ag is used to organize, manipulate and analyze data layers collected from fields
- Examples of data layers
 - Soil types
 - Soil nutrients
 - Soil pH
 - Elevation (topography)
 - Yield
 - Weed prone areas
 - Past insect infestations
 - Field boundaries
 - Management Zones

Important Data Parameters

- Data must have certain attributes to be used in GIS analyses
 - Most importantly, data must be geo-referenced
 - Geo-referenced means that each datum is associated with its own latitude and longitude

Base Maps

Aerial photographs
Road networks
Hydrography
Landcover
Many others



Most Used GIS

ArcView for spatial analyses

Packages ESRI Arc/Info or ERDAS Imagine for satellite image and aerial photo interpretation

GIS for Ag Applications

Farm Site
SSToolbox
JDOffice (John Deere)
Instant Yield Map (Case IH)
AgInfo GIS
SMS Basic (AgLeader)
Golden Software (Surfer)



Summary

Geo-spatial data provide increasingly important basis for decision making
 GIS is founded on 2 key abstractions of reality (object/entity and field based concepts)
 What does GIS enable us to do?
 What are the main components of GIS?
 What holds GIS together?