A protocol for linking textual locality descriptions to high resolution spatial polygons data: a method for incorporating spatial uncertainty into biodiversity models



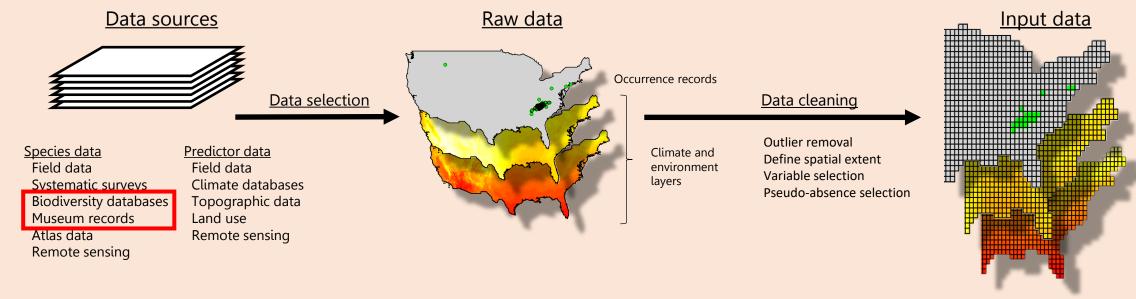
Stephen J. Murphy, PhD
Kelley Erickson and Adam B. Smith
Missouri Botanical Garden

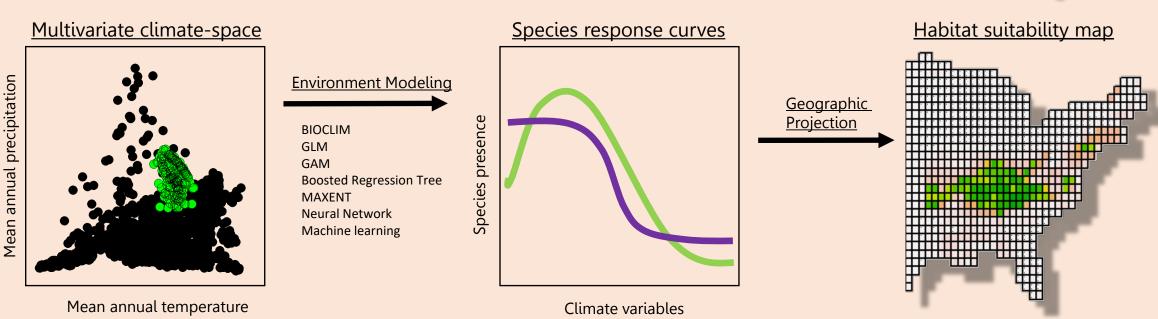


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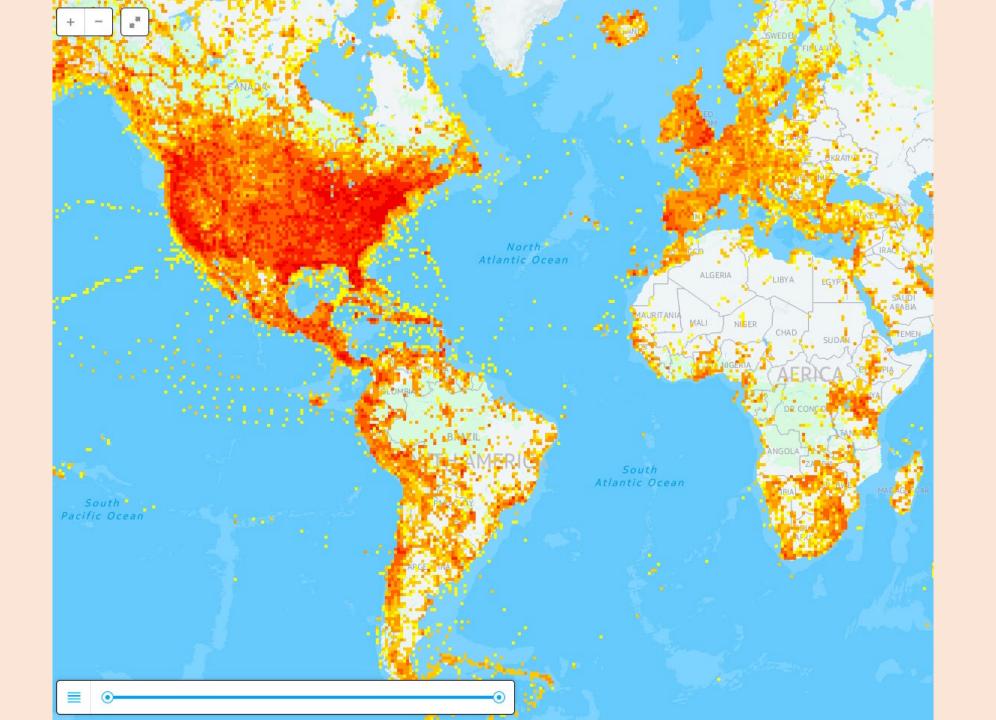








Murphy and Smith, in prep





MONTGOMERY COUNTY: along highway TT on N side of Interstate 70, 1 mi W of State Highway 161 (Danville) interchange; T48N R6W S26 NW $^{1}/_{2}$; elev. 780 ft; scattered along open, grassy roadside; stems to 1 m tall.



INT. J. GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SCIENCE VOL. 18, NO. 8, DECEMBER 2004, 745–767



Research Article

The point-radius method for georeferencing locality descriptions and calculating associated uncertainty

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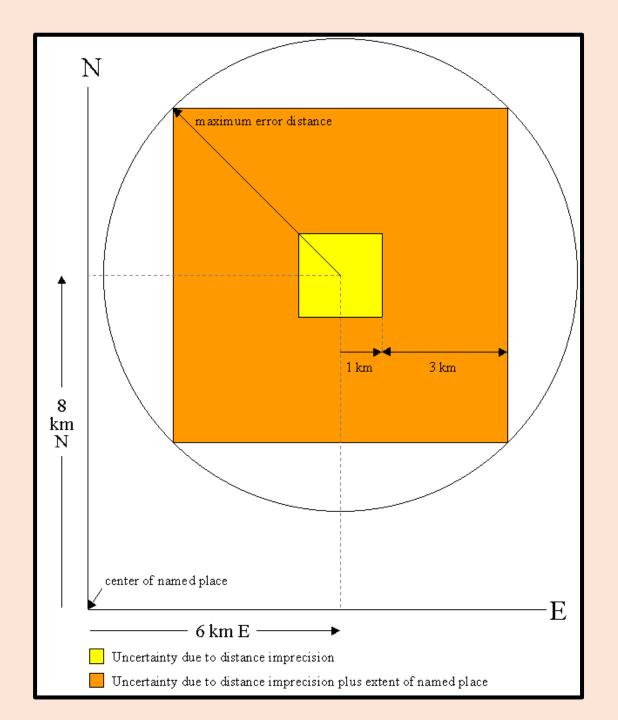
QINGHUA GUO

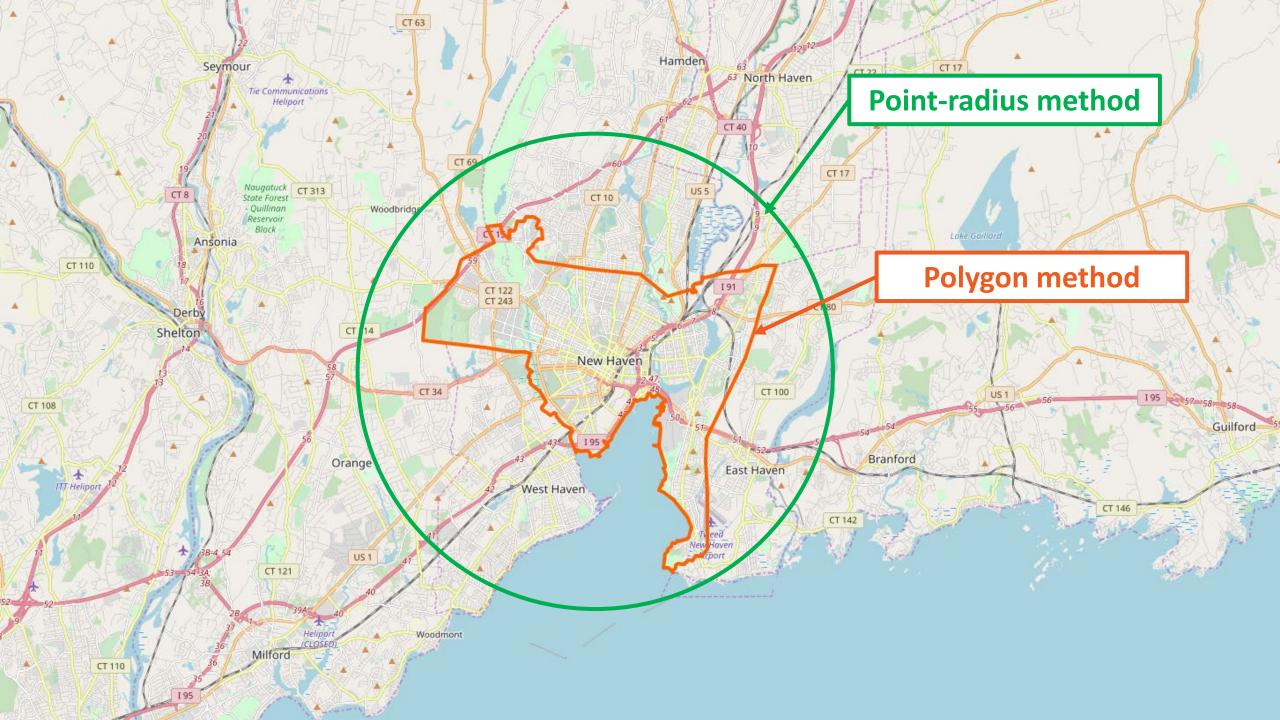
Department of Environmental Sciences, Policy & Management, 151 Hilgard Hall #3110, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720, USA

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Natural history museums store millions of specimens of geological, biological, and cultural entities. Data related to these objects are in increasing demand for investigations of biodiversity and its relationship to the environment and anthropogenic disturbance. A major barrier to the use of these data in GIS is that collecting localities have typically been recorded as textual descriptions, without geographic coordinates. We describe a method for georeferencing locality descriptions that accounts for the idiosyncrasies, sources of uncertainty, and practical maintenance requirements encountered when working with natural history collections. Each locality is described as a circle, with a point to mark the position most closely described by the locality description, and a radius to describe the maximum distance from that point within which the locality is expected to occur. The calculation of the radius takes into account aspects of the precision and specificity of the locality description, as well as the map scale, datum, precision and accuracy of the sources used to determine coordinates. This method minimizes the subjectivity involved in the georeferencing process. The resulting georeferences are consistent, reproducible, and allow for the use of uncertainty in analyses that use these data.





Methods in Ecology and Evolution



Methods in Ecology and Evolution 2015, 6, 424-438

doi: 10.1111/2041-210X.12242

SPECIAL FEATURE

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NEW OPPORTUNITIES AT THE INTERFACE BETWEEN ECOLOGY AND STATISTICS

Bias correction in species distribution models: pooling survey and collection data for multiple species

William Fithian^{1*}, Jane Elith², Trevor Hastie¹ and David A. Keith³

¹Stanford University, Department of Statistics, 390 Serra Mall, Stanford, CA, USA 94305, USA; ²School of Botany, University of Melbourne, Parkville, VIC 3010, Australia; and ³Centre for Ecosystem Science, University of New South Wales, Sydney 2052, NSW, Australia

PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS
OF
THE ROYAL
SOCIETY

Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B (2012) 367 doi:10.1098/rstb.

Review

Incorporating uncertainty in predictive species distribution modelling

Colin M. Beale^{1,*} and Jack J. Lennon²

¹Department of Biology, University of York, Wentworth Way, York YO10 5DD, UK ²The James Hutton Institute, Craigiebuckler, Aberdeen AB15 8QH, UK

Motivated by the need to solve ecological problems (climate change, habitat fragmentation and bi logical invasions), there has been increasing interest in species distribution models (SDM Predictions from these models inform conservation policy, invasive species management and dease-control measures. However, predictions are subject to uncertainty, the degree and source which is often unrecognized. Here, we review the SDM literature in the context of uncertain focusing on three main classes of SDM: niche-based models, demographic models and procebased models. We identify sources of uncertainty for each class and discuss how uncertainty c be minimized or included in the modelling process to give realistic measures of confiden around predictions. Because this has typically not been performed, we conclude that uncertaint in SDMs has often been underestimated and a false precision assigned to predictions of geographical distribution. We identify areas where development of new statistical tools will improve predictions from distribution models, notably the development of hierarchical models that link different types of distribution model and their attendant uncertainties across spatial scales. Finally, we discuss the need to develop more defensible methods for assessing predictive performance, quantifying model goodness-of-fit and for assessing the significance of model covariates.

Keywords: distribution model; bioclimate envelope; spatial analysis; niche model; process-based model; climate impacts

Methods in Ecology and Evolution



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Subject Editor: Miguel Araújo. Editor-in-Chief: Miguel Araújo. Accepted 8 April 201

Methods in Ecology and Evolution 2017, 8, 1566-1573

doi: 10.1111/2041-210X.12793

Bias correction of bounded location errors in presence-only data

Trevor J. Hefley*, D, Brian M. Brost D and Mevin B. Hooten³

¹Department of Statistics, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS, USA; ²Marine Mammal Laboratory, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Seattle, WA, USA; and ³U.S. Geological Survey, Colorado Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology, Department of Statistics, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, USA

Summary



- 1. Location teristics at th
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 2. We expla
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- 3. We illustr cana) using o with a simula
- 4. In our ar five-fold cha estimates that

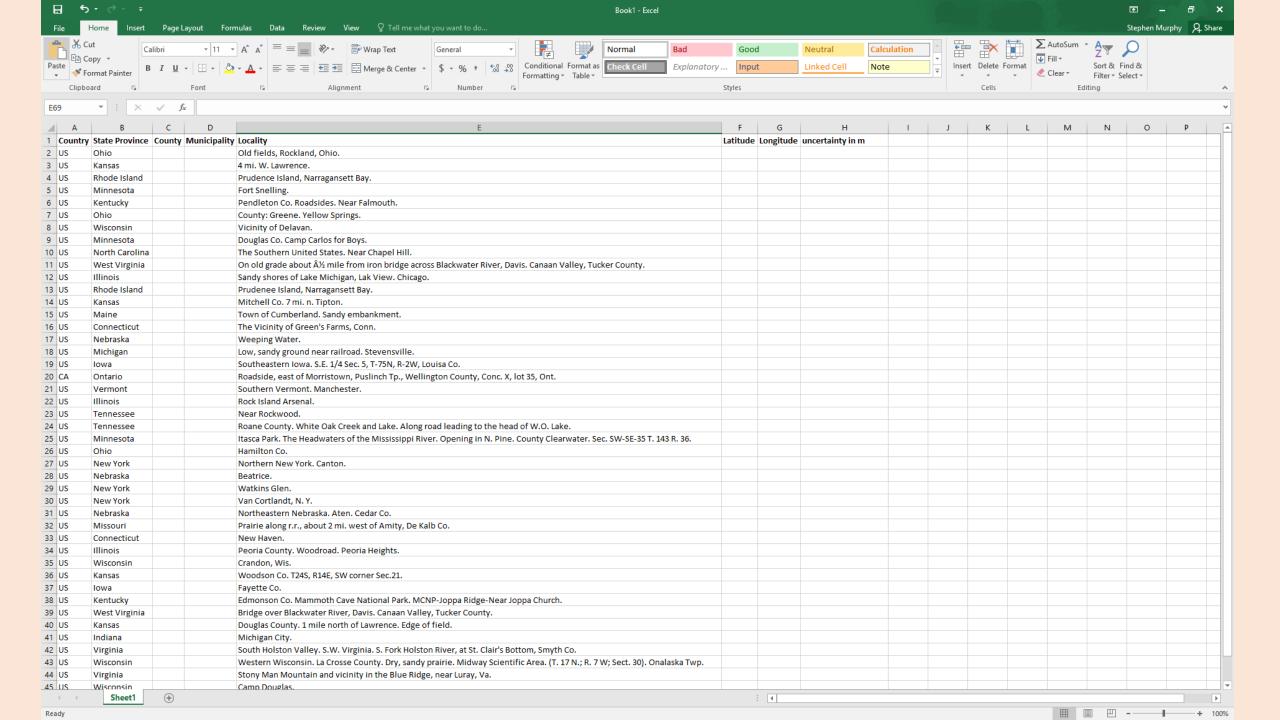
Key-word: Poisson poi

Using measurement error models to account for georeferencing error in species distribution models

Jorge Velásquez-Tibatá, Catherine H. Graham and Stephan B. Munch

J. Velásquez-Tibatá (jivelasquezt@gmail.com) and C. H. Graham, Dept of Ecology and Evolution, Stony Brook Univ., Stony Brook, NY 1179-USA. Present address of JV-T: Inst. de Investigación de Recursos Biológicos Alexander von Humboldt, Bogotá, Colombia. – S. B. Munch, Southwe Fisheries Science Center, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 110 Shaffer Road, Santa Cruz, CA 95060, USA.

Georeferencing error is prevalent in datasets used to model species distributions, inducing uncertainty in covariate values associated with species occurrences that result in biased probability of occurrence estimates. Traditionally, this error has been dealt with at the data-level by using only records with an acceptable level of error (filtering) or by summarizing covariates at sampling units by using measures of central tendency (averaging). Here we compare those previous approaches to a novel implementation of a Bayesian logistic regression with measurement error (ME), a seldom used method in species distribution modeling. We show that the ME model outperforms data-level approaches on 1) specialist species and 2) when either sample sizes are small, the georeferencing error is large or when all georeferenced occurrences have a fixed level of error. Thus, for certain types of species and datasets the ME model is an effective method to reduce biases in probability of occurrence estimates and account for the uncertainty generated by georeferencing error. Our approach may be expanded for its use with presence-only data as well as to include other sources of uncertainty in species distribution models.





A Platform for Georeferencing Natural History Collections Data

For Users:

- Overview
- · GEOLocate Web Clients
- Collaborative Georeferencing
- · Education & Outreach

For Developers:

- · Web Services
- · Embeddable Web Client

Brief overview (video) of the GEOLocate Project.











Web Applications

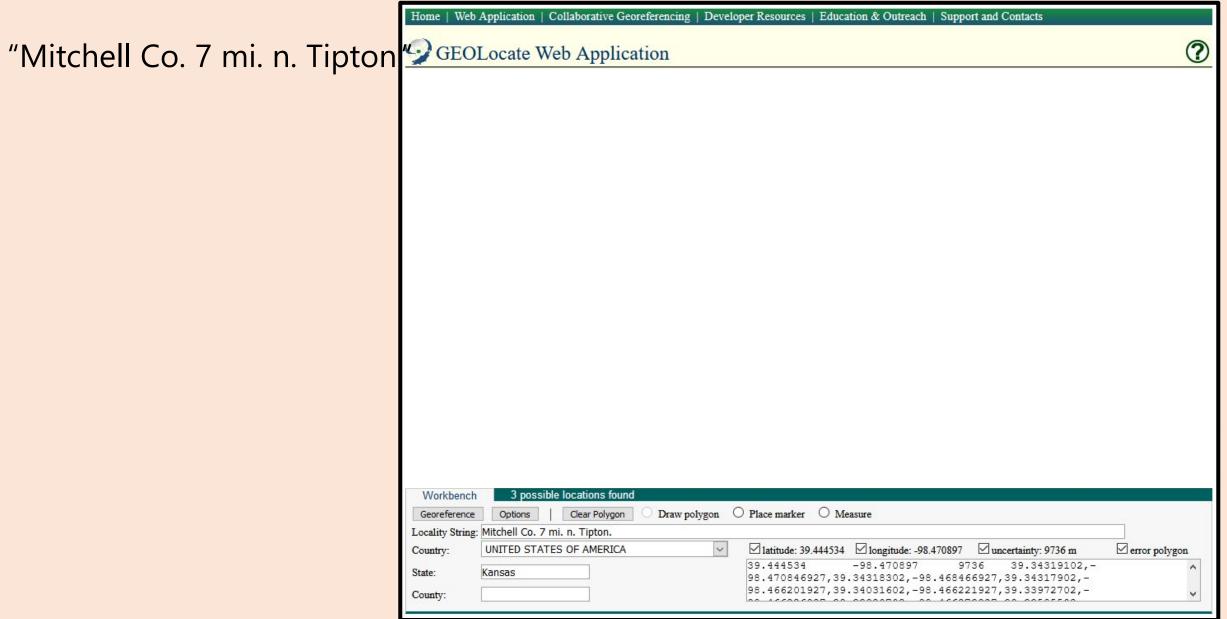
Georeference collections data using your web browser. Quick and easy georeferencing.

Web Services

Integrate georeferencing into your own databases and applications using GEOLocate webservices.

Collaborative Georeferencing

Build communities, share data, relate records across collections and improve verification efficiency.



"Prudence Island, Narragansett Bay."

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Research Article

The point-radius method for georeferencing locality descriptions and calculating associated uncertainty

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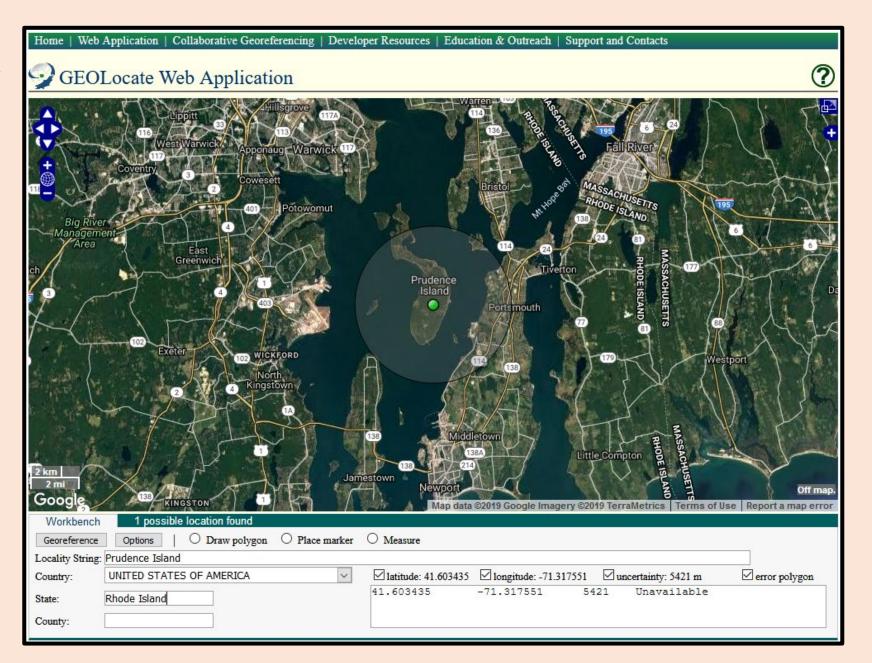
OINGHUA GUO

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How do we achieve accuracy in uncertainty?



Identify the feature of minimal area and generate a spatial polygon defining its boundary

"Prudence Island, Narangaset Bay"



- Parsing of textual information into discrete geolocational features
- Identify minimum area feature
- Geo-validation of parsed components
- Assign spatial polygon to minimum area features



- Parsing of textual information into discrete geolocational features
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New R package in development

- 'GeoParse' function
 - Admin level 0 name (Country)
 - Admin level 1 name (State or province)
 - Admin level 2 name (County, Municipality)
 - Admin level 3 name (Town or city)
 - Street name
 - Address number
 - Zip or other postal code
 - Place names and other features
 - Elevation data

Basic Regular Expressions in R

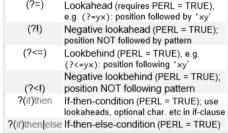
Cheat Sheet

Character Classes [[:digit:]] or \\d Digits; [0-9] \\D Non-digits; [^0-9] [[:lower:]] Lower-case letters; [a-z] [[:upper:]] Upper-case letters; [A-Z] Alphabetic characters; [A-z] [[:alpha:]] [[:alnum:]] Alphanumeric characters [A-z0-9] \\w Word characters; [A-z0-9_] \\W Non-word characters [[:xdigit:]] or \x Hexadec. digits; [0-9A-Fa-f] [[:blank:]] Space and tab [[:space:]] or \\s Space, tab, vertical tab, newline, form feed, carriage return Not space; [^[:space:]] [[:punct:]] Punctuation characters: !"#\$%&'()*+,-./:;<=>?@[]^_`{|}~ Graphical char.: [[:graph:]] [[:alnum:][:punct:]] Printable characters: [[:print:]] [[:alnum:][:punct:]\\s] [[:cntrl:]] or \c Control characters; \n, \r etc.

Special Metacharacters

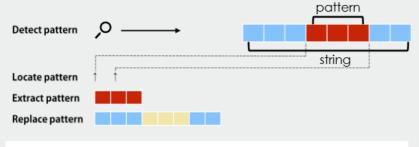
| \n | New line |
|----|-----------------|
| \r | Carriage return |
| \t | Tab |
| \v | Vertical tab |
| \f | Form feed |

Lookaraounds and Conditionals*



*see, e.g. http://www.regular-expressions.info/lookaround.html http://www.regular-expressions.info/conditional.html

Functions for Pattern Matching



> string <- c("Hiphopopotamus", "Rhymenoceros", "time for bottomless lyrics") > pattern <- "t.m"

Detect Patterns

grep(pattern, string) [1] 1 3

grep(pattern, string, value = TRUE)

[1] "Hiphopopotamus"

[2] "time for bottomless lyrics"

grepl(pattern, string)

[1] TRUE FALSE TRUE

stringr::str_detect(string, pattern)

Split a String using a Pattern

[1] TRUE FALSE TRUE

Locate Patterns

find starting position and length of first match

gregexpr(pattern, string)

find starting position and length of all matches

stringr::str_locate(string, pattern)

find starting and end position of first match

stringr::str_locate_all(string, pattern) find starting and end position of all matches

regexpr(pattern, string)

Replace Patterns

Extract Patterns

extract first match

extract first match

regmatches(string, regexpr(pattern, string))

regmatches(string, gregexpr(pattern, string)) extracts all matches, outputs a list

stringr::str extract(string, pattern)

stringr::str extract all(string, pattern) extract all matches, outputs a list

extract all matches, outputs a matrix

stringr::str_match_all(string, pattern)

stringr::str_match(string, pattern)

[1] "tam" "tim"

[1] "tam" NA "tim"

[[1]] "tam" [[2]] character(0) [[3]] "tim" "tom"

stringr::str_extract_all(string, pattern, simplify = TRUE)

extract first match + individual character groups

extract all matches + individual character groups

sub(pattern, replacement, string) replace first match

gsub(pattern, replacement, string) replace all matches

stringr::str replace(string, pattern, replacement) replace first match

stringr::str_replace_all(string, pattern, replacement) replace all matches

Character Classes and Groups

strsplit(string, pattern) or stringr::str_split(string, pattern)

Any character except \n

Or, e.g. (a|b)

List permitted characters, e.g. [abc]

Specify character ranges [a-z]

List excluded characters

Grouping, enables back referencing using \\N where N is an integer

Anchors

- Start of the string
- End of the string
- Empty string at either edge of a word
- NOT the edge of a word
- Beginning of a word
- \\> End of a word

Quantifiers

- Matches at least 0 times
- Matches at least 1 time
- Matches at most 1 time; optional string
- Matches exactly n times
- $\{n,\}$ Matches at least n times
- Matches at most n times
- {n,m} Matches between n and m times

General Modes

By default R uses POSIX extended regular expressions. You can switch to PCRE regular expressions using PERL = TRUE for base or by wrapping patterns with perl() for stringr.

All functions can be used with literal searches using fixed = TRUE for base or by wrapping patterns with fixed() for stringr.

All base functions can be made case insensitive by specifying ignore.cases = TRUE.

Escaping Characters

Metacharacters (. * + etc.) can be used as literal characters by escaping them. Characters can be escaped using \\ or by enclosing them in \\Q...\\E.

Case Conversions

Regular expressions can be made case insensitive using (?i). In backreferences, the strings can be converted to lower or upper case using \\L or \\U (e.g. \\L\\1). This requires PERL = TRUE.

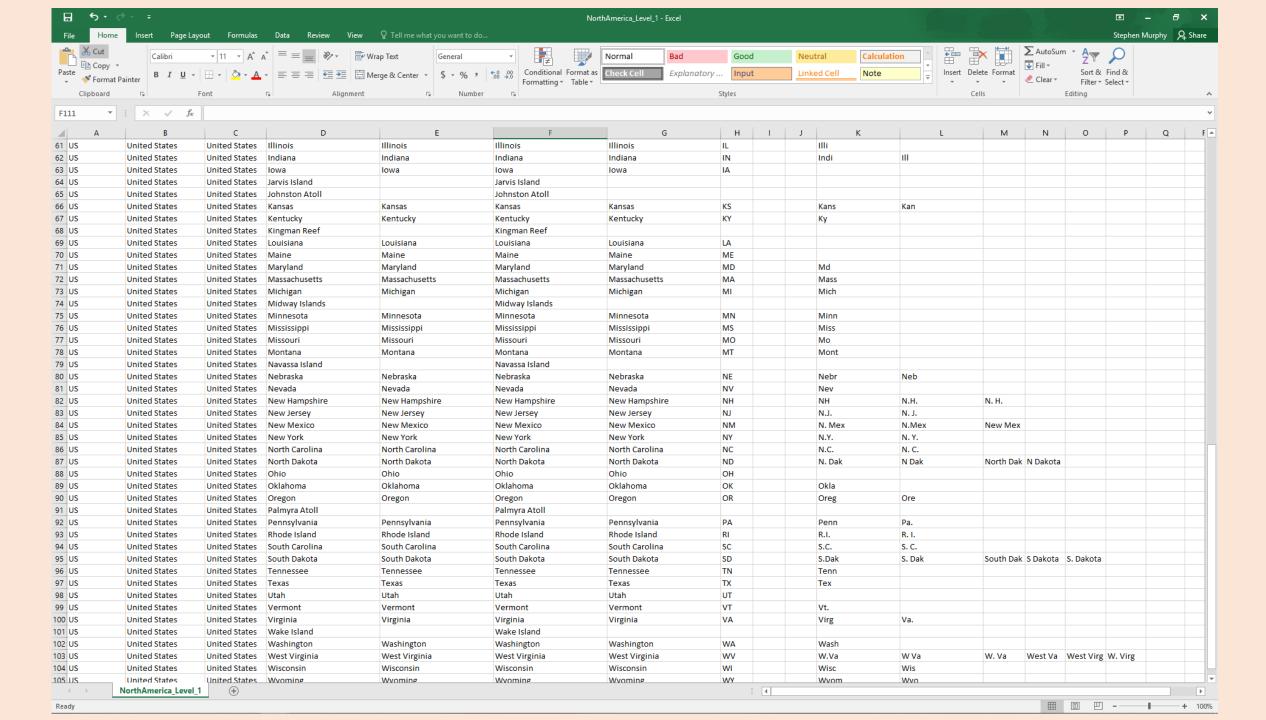
Greedy Matching

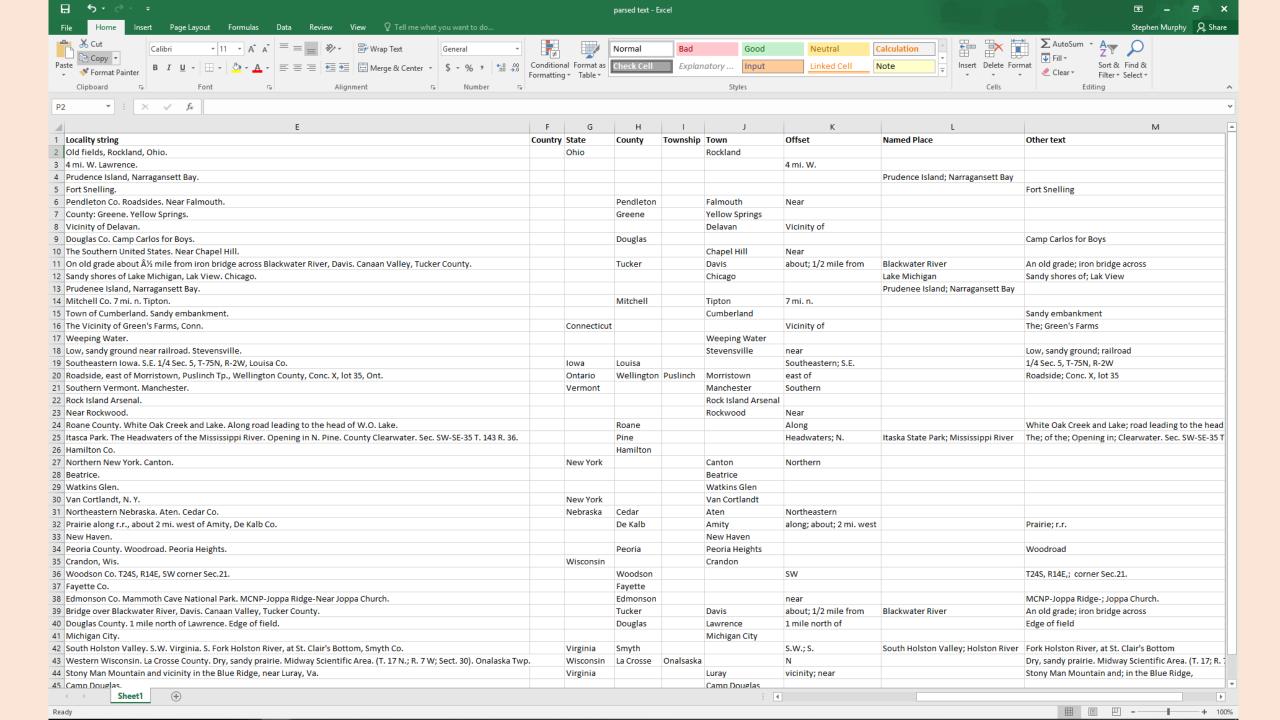
By default the asterisk * is greedy, i.e. it always matches the longest possible string. It can be used in lazy mode by adding ?, i.e. *?.

Greedy mode can be turned off using (?U). This switches the syntax, so that (?U)a* is lazy and (?U)a*? is greedy.

Note

Regular expressions can conveniently be created using rextrex().





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- Identify minimum area feature
- Geo-validation of parsed components
- Assign spatial polygon to minimum area features

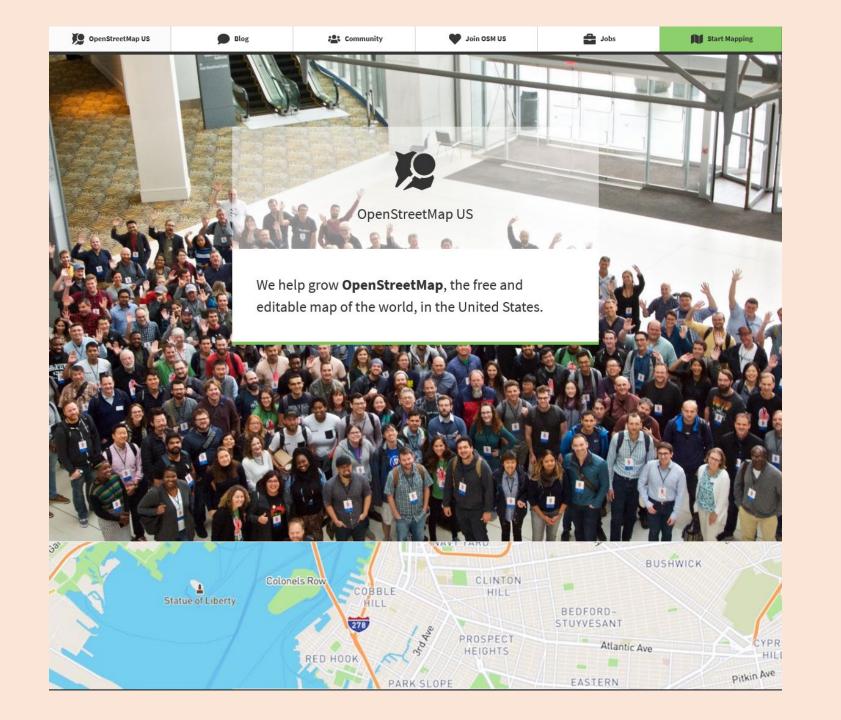


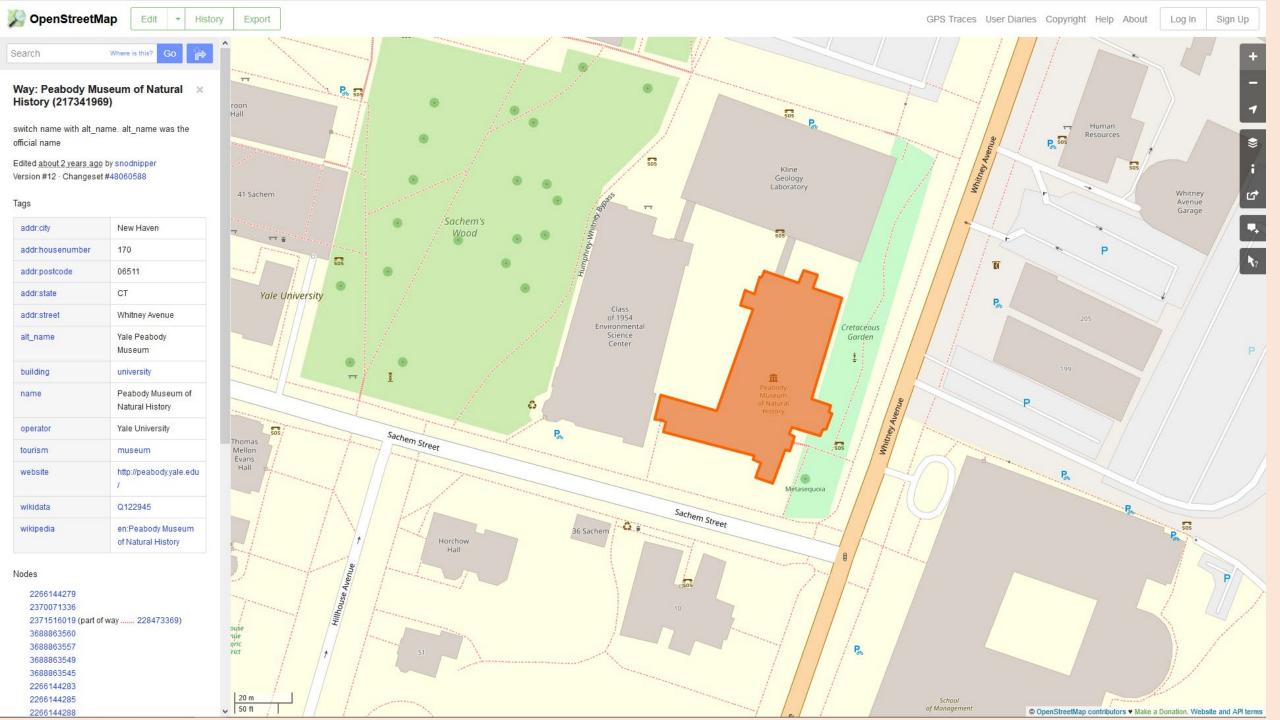
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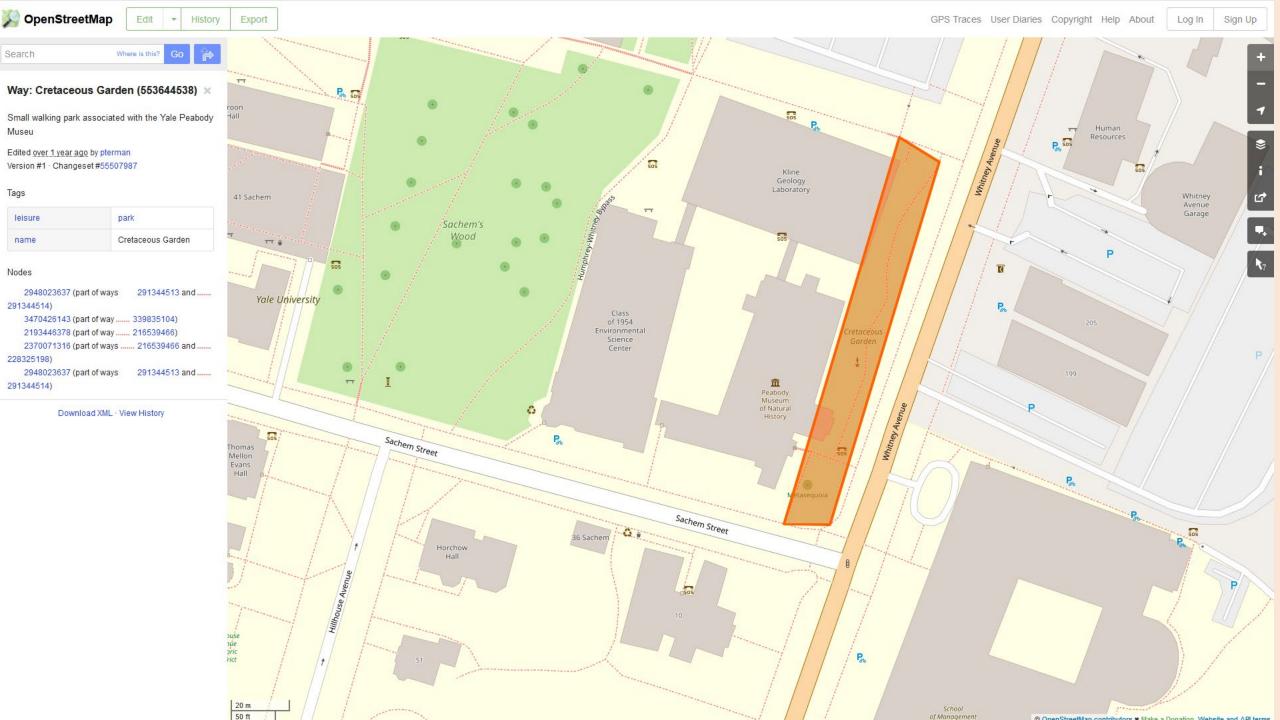


- Parsing of textual information into discrete geolocational features
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Alternate spellings and phrasings

Fort Snelling

Fort Snelling State Park (Dakota County)

Fort Snelling State Park (Hennepin County)

Fort Snelling Unorganized Territory

Unorganized Territory of Fort Snelling

Fort Snelling National Cemetery

Fort Snelling Golf Course

"Ft. Snelling"

