

# Dynamic Choropleth Maps - Using Amalgamation to Increase Area Perceivability: SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

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## Algorithm 1 - Are polygons neighbors?

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*Input*–

$p_1$  : polygon one

$p_2$  : polygon two

```

1: procedure ISNEIGHBOR( $p_1, p_2$ )
2:   if isOverlapping(  $p_1$ .boundingBox(),
3:                    $p_2$ .boundingBox() ) then
4:     return commonVertices( $p_1, p_2$ )
5:   endif
6:   return FALSE

```

*Local Variables*–

*counter* : number of matching vertices

*MIN* = 2 : minimum number of matching vertices required to be neighbors

```

1: procedure COMMONVERTICES( $p_1, p_2$ )
2:   counter = 0
3:   for  $i = 0; i < p_1$ .length();  $i++$  do
4:     if  $p_2$ .intersects( $p_1[i]$ ) then
5:       counter++
6:       if counter  $\geq$  MIN then
7:         return TRUE
8:     endif
9:   endfor ( $i$ )
10:  return FALSE

```

**Desc:** Compares two polygons and tests for overlapping boundaries,  $p_1 \cap p_2$ . Returns true if the minimum number of common vertices are found.

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## Algorithm 2 Contiguous Regions

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*Input*–  $L_p$  : non-empty list of polygons

*Output*–  $L_{islands}$  : list of contiguous islands (or land masses)

*Local Variables*–

*island*: current island

*neighborFound*: flag designating if neighbor is part of existing island

```

1: procedure IDENTIFYCONTIGUOUSREGIONS( $L_p$ )
2:   // For each polygon
3:   while ! $L_p$ .isEmpty() do
4:     // Assume Island
5:      $island = L_p$ .popFirst()
6:     // For each island
7:     for  $i = 0; j < L_{islands}$ .length();  $i++$  do
8:       // For each polygon on each island
9:       for  $j = 0; j < L_{islands}[i]$ .length();  $j++$  do
10:        if isNeighbor( $island, L_{islands}[i][j]$ ) then
11:           $neighborFound = true$ 
12:          break
13:        endif
14:      endfor ( $j$ )
15:      if  $neighborFound$  then
16:         $island.appendList(L_{islands}[i])$ 
17:         $L_{islands}.removeIslandAt(i)$ 
18:         $i - -$ 
19:      endif
20:    endfor ( $i$ )
21:     $L_{islands}.append(island)$ 
22:  endwhile
23:  return  $L_{islands}$ 

```

**Desc:** Partitions a list of non-contiguous polygons into separate contiguous regions such as islands and land masses. A contiguous region has connected neighbors where no area is completely separated by water.

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**Algorithm 3** Identify Boundary Range

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*Input*–

*start* : starting index of shared boundary line

*end* : last index of shared boundary line

$V_c$  : current polygon vertices in clockwise order

$V_n$  : neighbor polygon vertices in clockwise order

*Local Variables*–

*longestC*: found by comparing distance between common vertices

*common* : list of found commonVertices

```
1: procedure IDENTIFYBOUNDARYRANGE(start, end,  $V_c$ ,  $V_n$ )
2:   for int i = 0; i <  $V_c$ .length(); ++i do
3:     if  $V_n$ .contains( $V_c$ [i]) then
4:       common.append(  $V_c$ [i] )
5:     endif
6:   endFor (i)
7:   longestC = longestSharedBoundaryChain( common,  $V_c$  )
8:   *end =  $V_c$ .indexOf(common[longestC])
9:   *start =  $V_c$ .indexOf(common[longestC.next()])
10:  return
```

**Desc:** Identifies  $b_s$  for  $V_c$  with  $V_n$  as a neighbor. Required for parent node.

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**Algorithm 4** Longest Shared Boundary Chain

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*Input*–

*common* : list of found commonVertices

$V_c$  : current polygon vertices in clockwise order

```
1: procedure LONGESTSHAREDBOUNDARYCHAIN( COMMON,  $V_c$  )
2:   if isLongestChain(  $V_c$ , &longest,  $V_c$ .indexOf(common.last()),
3:      $V_c$ .indexOf(common.first()) ) then
4:     longestIndex = common.length()-1
5:   endif
6:   for i = 1; i < common.length(); ++i do
7:     if isLongestChain(  $V_c$ , &longest,  $V_c$ .indexOf(common.at(i-1)),
8:        $V_c$ .indexOf(common.at(i)) ) then
9:       longestIndex = i
10:    endif
11:  endFor (i)
12:  return longestIndex
```

*New Input*–

*longestL*: The current longest distance between two common vertices

*currI*: current index to test

*nextI*: next index to test

*Local Variables*–

*length*: length of current chain

```
1: procedure ISLONGESTCHAIN( $V_c$ , LONGESTL, CURRI, NEXTI)
2:   length = nextI - currI
3:   if length > 0 then
4:     length = length + current.size() - 1
5:   endif
6:   if *longestL < length then
7:     *longestL = length
8:     return true
9:   else
10:    return false
11:  endif
```

**Desc:** Identifies the longest absence of a common vertex. We can assume that this signifies the beginning and end points of  $b_s$ .

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**Algorithm 5** Build Binary Tree

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*Input*–

$L_{contig}$  : contiguous list of polygon sorted by area

*Local Variables*–

*neighborI* : index of selected neighbor

*p* : parent node of two neighbor areas

```
1: procedure BUILDBINARYTREE( $L_{contig}$ )
2:   if  $L_{contig}$ .length() > 1 then
3:     //Neighbor Selection
4:     neighborI = selectNeighbor(list) //neighbor of list.first()
5:     //Create Parent Area
6:     p = new Node()
7:     p.identifyVertices( $L_{contig}$ .first(),  $L_{contig}$ .at(neighborI)))
8:     p.setLeftChild( $L_{contig}$ .first())
9:     p.setRightChild( $L_{contig}$ .at(neighborI))
10:     $L_{contig}$ .first().setParent(p)
11:     $L_{contig}$ .at(neighborI).setParent(p)
12:    //Update Sorted List with Parent
13:    updateList( $L_{contig}$ , p, i)
14:    return buildBinaryTree( $L_{contig}$ )
15:  endif
16:  // Base Case ->  $L_{contig}$  == 1
17:  return  $L_{contig}$ 
```

**Desc:** Builds hierarchy of polygons using a list of merge candidates recursively.

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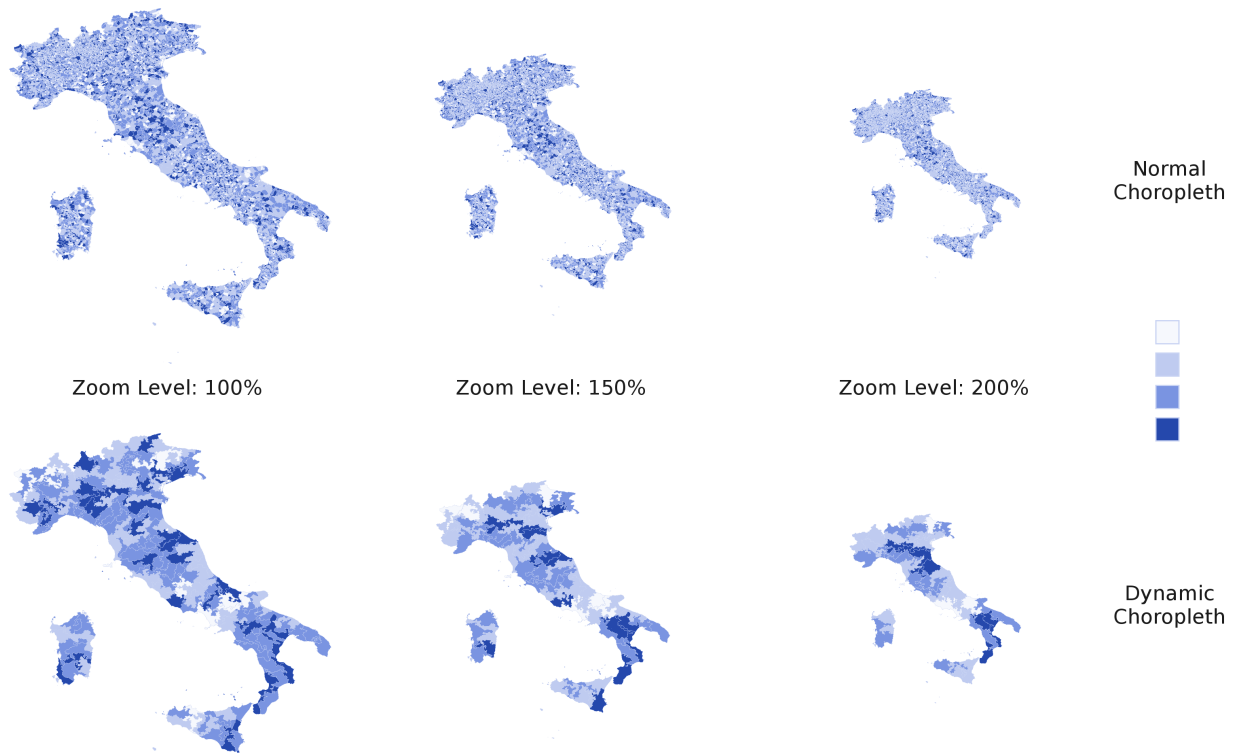


Fig. 1: An example of zooming out of Italy's administrative units where  $m = 1\%$ .

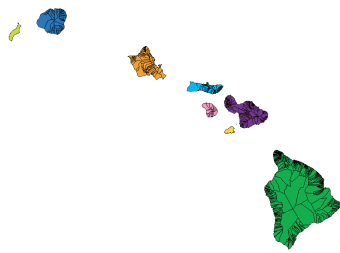


Fig. 2: Example of the contiguous regions procedure applied to the Ahupua'a boundaries of the state of Hawaii [2]. There are 10 visible contiguous islands each with their own color.

#### REFERENCES

- [1] C. A. Brewer, "Colorbrewer," 2017, accessed 2017/08/10. [Online]. Available: <http://colorbrewer2.org/>
- [2] Hawaii, *hawaii.gov - Ahupua'a Boundaries (Historic Land Divisions)*, State of Hawaii - Office of Planning, accessed: 2017-9-26. [Online]. Available: <http://planning.hawaii.gov/gis/download-gis-data/>
- [3] US-Texas, *Data.gov Texas, current county subdivision state-based*, US Census Bureau, Department of Commerce, accessed: 2017-09-26. [Online]. Available: <https://catalog.data.gov/dataset/>

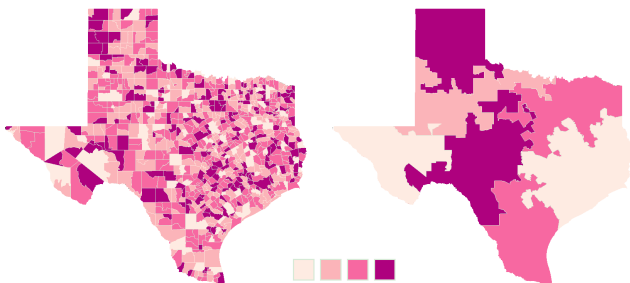


Fig. 3: Example of derived parent area's from original unit-areas. The example uses the State of Texas and shows multiple boundary merges [3] so that  $m$  is 15%. Our example uses a color palette from colorbrewer [1].