

# Internet GIS and Geospatial Web Services

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- Introduction
- Section 1 -- What is Internet GIS?
- Section 2 -- Internet GIS: state of practice
- Section 3 -- Future development of Internet GIS
- Section 4 -- Function comparisons of current Internet GIS programs
- Section 5 -- Internet GIS applications
- Section 6 – Issues in the Development of Internet GIS

These Internet GIS lecture slides for the MIT class 11.520/11.188 were originally developed by Prof. Joseph Ferreira (MIT) and Prof. Zhong-Ren Peng (UW-Milwaukee) and used as one part of the URISA Internet GIS Workshop (Vancouver, 2006). They were modified/augmented for Fall 2006-2008 for use at MIT by Professors Mike Flaxman and Joe Ferreira.

# Session Objectives

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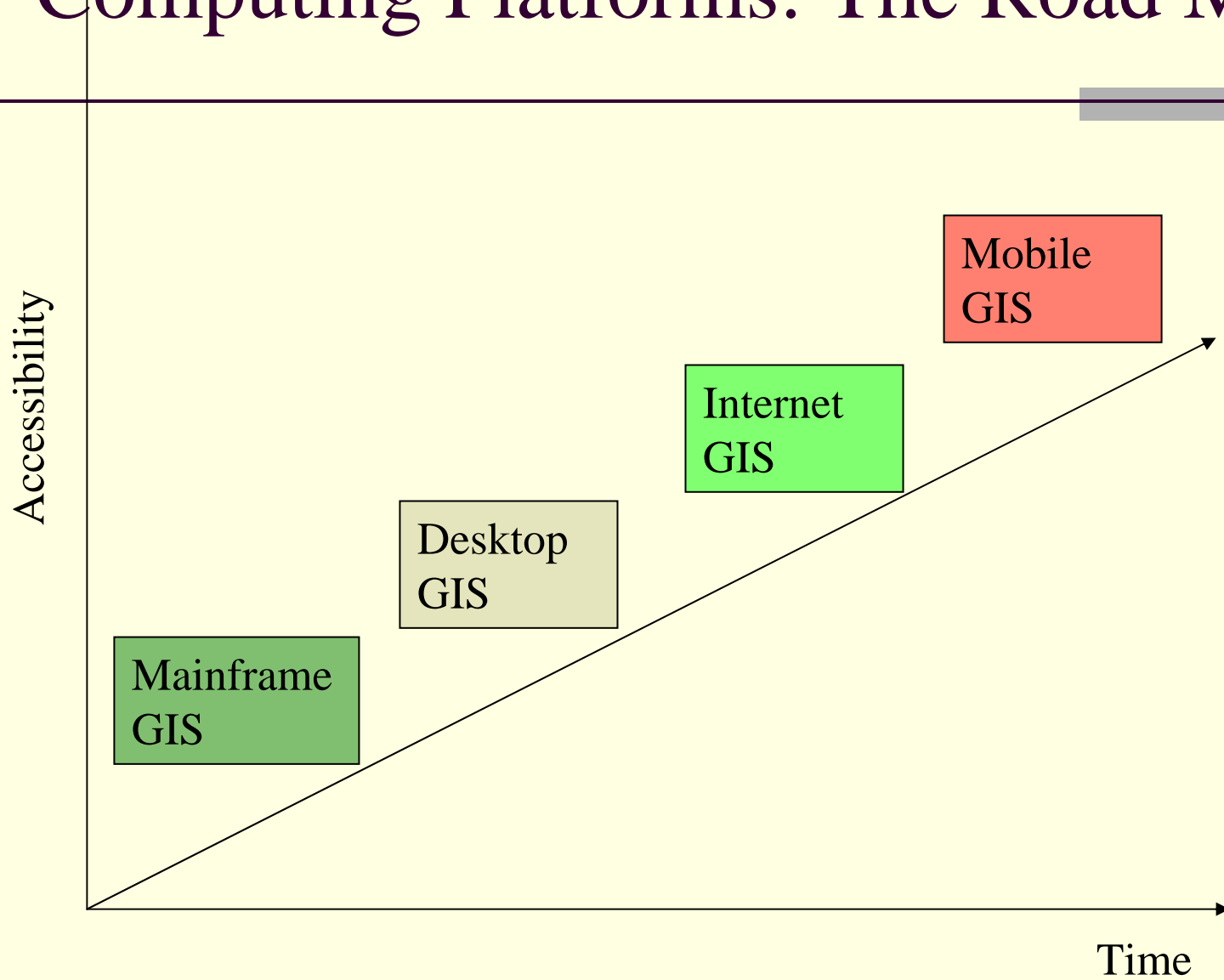
- Become familiar with some existing Internet GIS applications in city, county and state governments.
- Examine Some National & International GIS Services which provide useful “base data”
- Look critically at services/methods being proposed

# Types of Internet GIS Applications

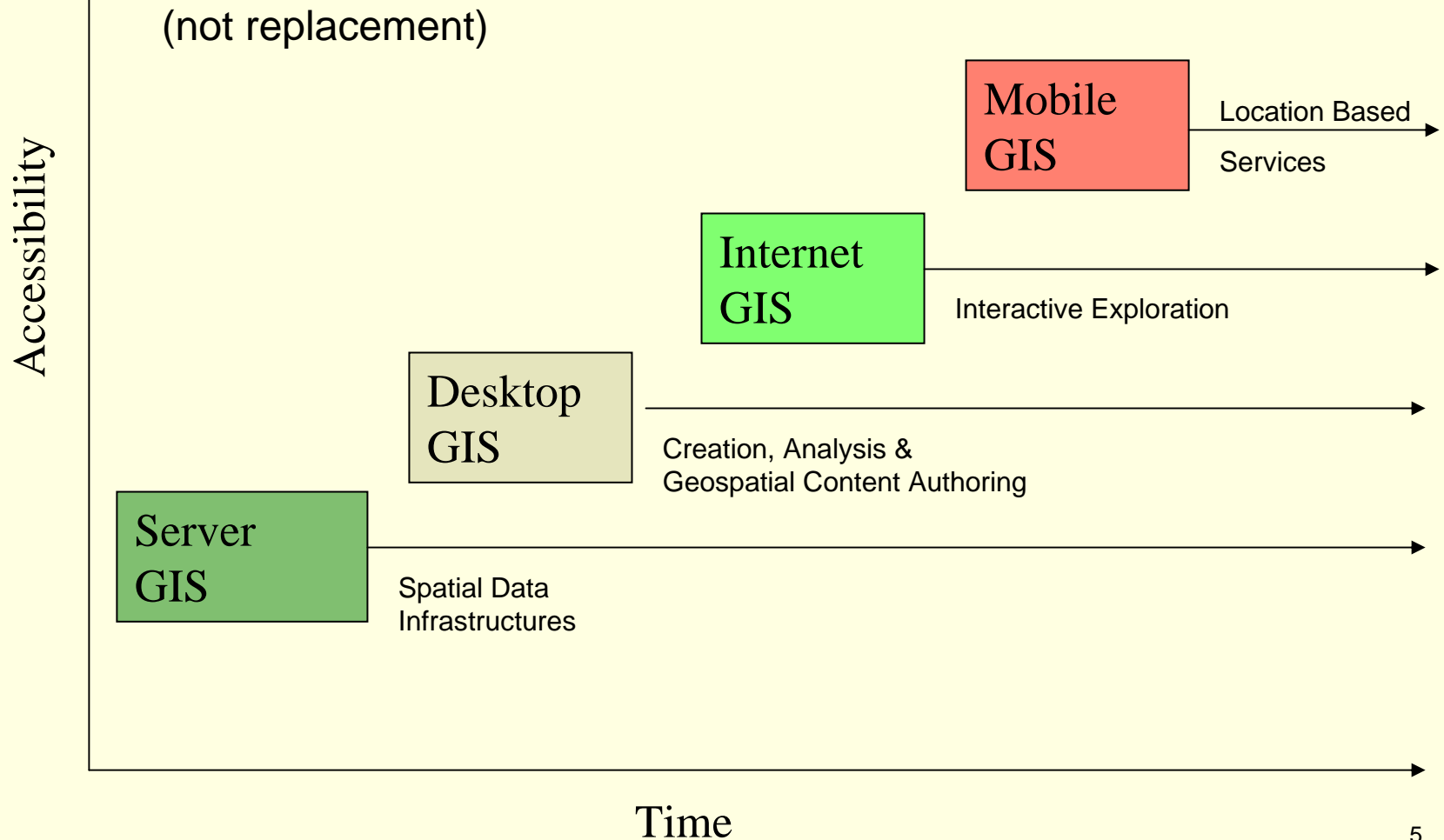
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- Data Sharing and disseminations;
  - Raw GIS data, requires installed software & expertise to use
- Geospatial Information Sharing and publishing
  - Often includes cartographic representations
  - Can produce single purpose human-readable images
- Web Data Services
  - Produce machine-readable geospatial information
- Distributed Analysis Functions (GIS Anywhere);
- Interoperable GIS Web Services (GIS Anyone Anywhere).

# Computing Platforms: The Road Map



# Computing Platforms: Layering & Market Share Shifts



# Computing Architecture Issues: Internet GIS Interfaces

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- Single User Interfaces
  - Isolated User
  - User as Part of Enterprise GIS
  - User as Part of Cybershere
  
- Groupware
  - Multiple users, one location
  - Multiple distributed users



# Computing Architecture Issues: Openness to...

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- Modification of System
- Use / Repurposing of Data
- Comment / Markup of Data
- Data Editing



# Computing Architecture Issues: Openness to...

- Modification of System
  - Closed / Proprietary
  - Semi-open / Public API
  - Open Source – noncommercial use only
  - Open Source – allowing commercial uses

The image shows two screenshots of the Google Maps API website. The top screenshot displays the 'Microsoft Service Agreement Last Update' section, which includes a 'THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING MICROSOFT!' message and a list of terms. The bottom screenshot shows the 'Google Maps API Terms of Use' section, which includes a 'Thank you for using the Google Maps API!' message and a list of terms.

**Microsoft Service Agreement Last Update**  
THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING MICROSOFT!

**1. What the Contract Covers.**  
This is a contract between you and the Micro "our". This contract applies to any Windows I contract is in force. All of the software, prod

**Please note that we do not provide warr sections 15 and 16 and we ask you to re**

**2. When You May Use the Service.**  
You may start using the service as soon as you

**3. How You May Use the Service.**  
In using the service, you will:

- obey the law;
- obey any codes of conduct or other notices we provide;
- obey the Microsoft Anti-trust Policy, which is available at <http://a.com.com/antitrustpolicy.aspx>;
- keep your service account information secure;
- promptly notify us if you become aware of any security vulnerabilities.

**4. How You May Not Use the Service.**  
In using the service, you may not:

- use the service in a way that is prohibited by applicable laws or regulations, or that infringes the rights of any third party (including a trademark or service mark of any third party) or any customer of a Microsoft service.

**Google Maps API**  
Put Google Maps on Your Own Web Site  
Sign up for a Google Maps API key

The Google Maps API lets you embed Google Maps in your own web pages with JavaScript. You can add overlays to the map (including markers and polylines) and display shadowed "info windows" just like Google Maps.

**Google Maps API Terms of Use**  
Thank you for using the Google Maps API! By using the Google Maps API (the "Service"), you ("You") accept and agree to be bound by the following terms and conditions (the "Terms of Use").

**1. Service.**  
**1.1 Description of Service.** The API consists of Javascript that allows You to display Google map images on your website, subject to the limitations and conditions described below. The API is limited to allowing You to display map images only, and does not provide You with the ability to access the underlying map data, any services provided by Google in connection with its maps service (such as local search or directions), or any other Google service.

Subject to the limitations and conditions described below, You may use the API to display map images in conjunction with other information You provide to end users. The API may be used only for services that are generally accessible to consumers without charge.



# Computing Architecture Issues: Openness to

- Repurposing of Data
  - Flattened image or graphics (picture of a map)
  - Georeferenced Imagery
  - Layer visibility control
  - Layer symbolization control
- Examples
  - Re-use of Google Earth imagery (only allowed in their context)
  - Map layers with fixed opaque backgrounds



# Computing Architecture Issues: Types of Geospatial Data

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- Vector Features
- Raster (Gridded) Data
- Geo-associated Database Records
- Imagery
- Metadata
- Perspective Views
- Geotagged Photos
- Streaming Position Data

# Computing Architecture Issues: Standards for Geospatial Data

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- For many years, proprietary data formats most common
- Two issues
  - Vendor interest in capturing/maintaining users
  - Efficiency in operation
    - Often by having data formats mirror internal structuring
    - Vendors provide “value added” in software, but then need means to “persist” data associated with those features

# Computing Architecture Issues: Standards for Geospatial Data

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- Many government standards attempted
  - Some “de facto” such as USGS Digital Elevation Models (DEM), TIGER line files
  - Some more formal – National Spatial Data Transfer Standard
  - Generally ended up being either
    - Too specific
    - Too unweildy
- Lead to Public/Private Partnership Approach
  - Resulting in Federal Geographic Data Committee
  - Increased interest in open interoperability standards

# Computing Architecture Issues: Standards for Geospatial Data

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- Vector Features
  - “Simple Features” specification (2D points, lines, polys)
  - Geographic Markup Language (GML)
- Raster (Gridded) Data & Imagery
  - GeoTIFF (geographically tagged TIFF images)
  - JPEG2 (includes GML metadata)
- Geo-associated Database Records
  - SQL + Simple Features
- Metadata
  - Federal Geographic Data Committee Standards (FGDC)

# Computing Architecture Issues: Standards for GeoData Transfer

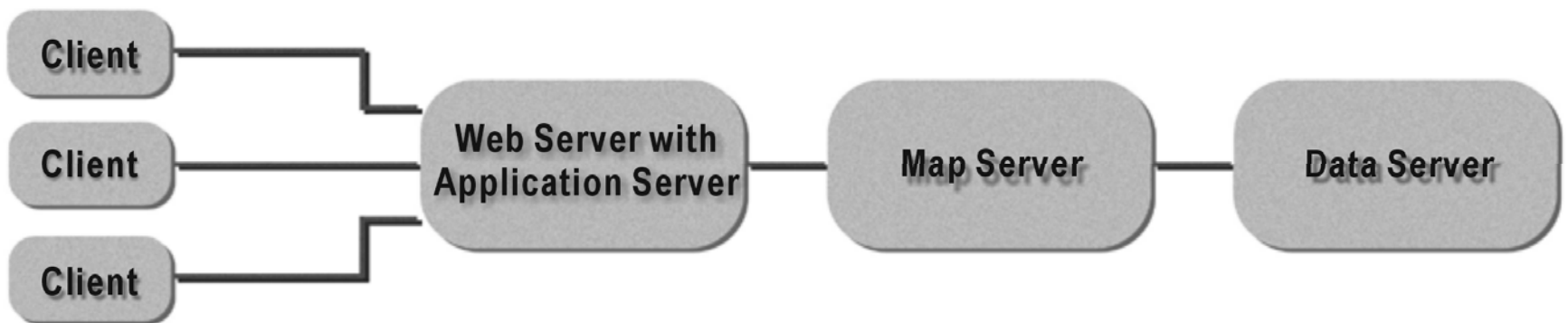
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- Rendered Maps
  - Web Mapping Service (WMS)
- Vector Features
  - Web Feature Service (WFS) for Read-Only
  - Web Feature Service – Transactional (WFS-T) for Read/Write
- Raster (Gridded) Data & Imagery
  - Web Coverage Service (WCS)
- Perspective View
  - Web Terrain Service (WTS) [– bad name!]

# Client/Server

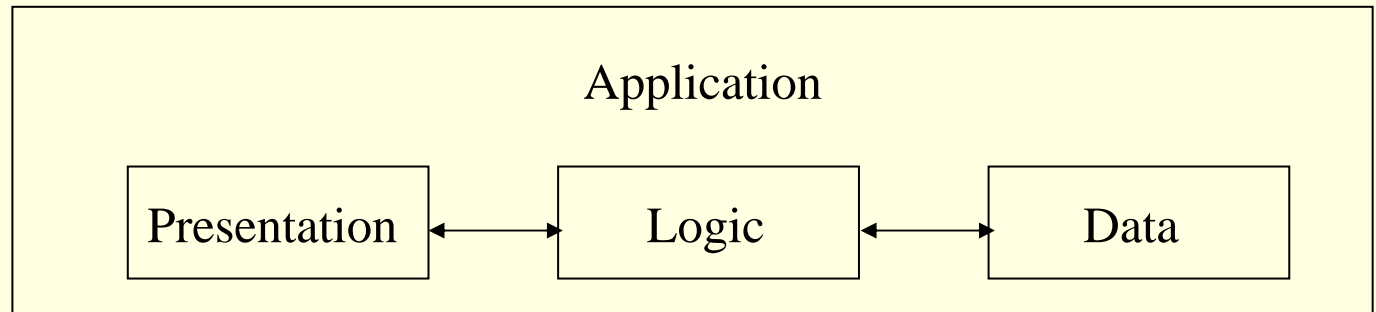
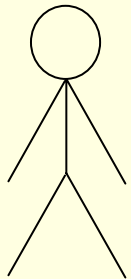
---

- System that divides processing between client (desktop) and server.
- Client (desktop) requests data, server only transmits the result of the request, not the entire file.



# Components of Client/Server Systems

- **Client,**
- **Middleware (optional - the glue)**
- **Server.**





# The Client

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The Client has three functions:

- Presents an interface to the user.
- Formats requests for data.
- Displays data it receives from the server.

# The Server

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- Provides shared resources, such as databases or applications, that can be connected to multiple clients.
- It has three functions:
  - receives the structured requests from the clients;
  - processes them;
  - sends the results back to the client;

# The Middleware

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- Middleware is software that connects dissimilar applications and enables them to communicate and exchange data.
- *Middleware* sometimes used to translate between different communication protocols
- Also used to enhance scalability (many more clients can be served simultaneously) through load balancing and other smart features
- WebLogic or TomCat are examples of middleware.

# Internet GIS Applications in Urban Planning

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- Planning information dissemination
  - Comprehensive planning information
  - Zoning information
  - Property and census data
- Public participation in the planning process
  - Scenario analysis
  - Online feedback
- Economic Development site selection

# Internet GIS Applications in Transportation

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- Real-time advanced traffic information system.
- Real-time traffic congestion management.
- Automatic trip planning.
- Transportation and land use integration.
- Public participation in transportation planning process.
- Real Time Traffic - <http://traffic.houstontranstar.org/layers/>

# **SmarTraveler**

## Traveler Information Services

Choose a city below

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sleep  number.  
by SELECT COMFORT

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Television and Radio on your computer one time download \$29.95  
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China Media Research Report covering all China's Media Market  
[interfax.cn/](http://interfax.cn/)

Ads by Google



*Smartraveler is a service from SmartRoute Systems, a Westwood One company. Westwood One is the leading supplier of local traffic reports in the U.S.. We provide traffic information to more than 100 million commuters daily through an affiliate network more than 2500 broadcast and digital media customers.*

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# Los Angeles Traffic

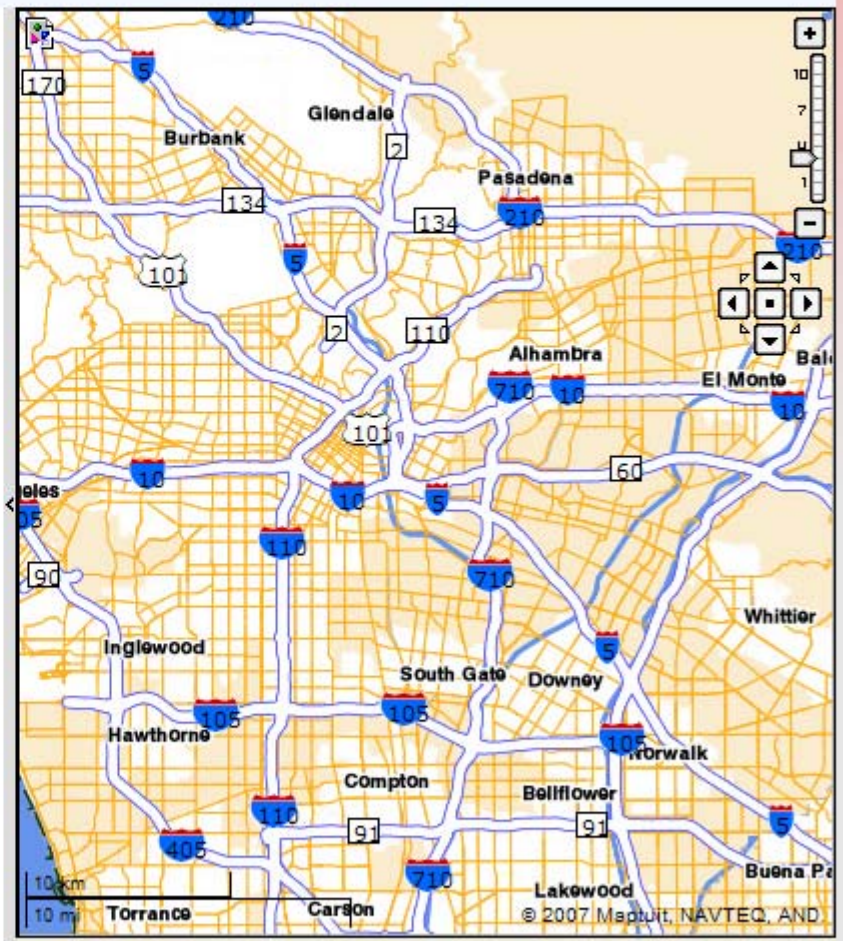
Save It 0

Wireless [signal icon]

- Home
- Local News
- U.S. & World
- Weather
- Traffic**
- Sports
- Business
- Consumer
- Politics
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- Seen on TV
- Links & Numbers
- Car Chases
- Think Blue
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- News Team
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- Gas Prices
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- INCIDENTS
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- DRIVING DIRECTIONS
- INCIDENT LIST



Advertisement

# CURRENT FORECASTS

ON YOUR WIRELESS PHONE



**SIGN UP NOW**

- INCIDENTS
- KEY ROUTES
- MY COMMUTE & ALERTS
- DRIVING DIRECTIONS
- INCIDENT LIST

9:21 PM 2007/7/31 605 FWY Both ways at SOUTH ST: Traffic flowing freely [Details..](#)

All Roads Time

Help  Only list incidents in map area.

9:33 PM 2007/7/31 CROSTOWN FWY (HWY 30) WB at N H ST: Animals on roadway [Map..](#)

9:33 PM 2007/7/31 I 15 NB before OAK HILL RD: Disabled vehicle [Map..](#)

9:22 PM 2007/7/31 HWY 138 Both ways between ANGELES CREST HWY and LONE PINE CANYON RD: Closed [Map..](#)

9:22 PM 2007/7/31 I 5 SB at E AVENIDA PICO: Road construction [Map..](#)

9:21 PM 2007/7/31 605 FWY Both ways at SOUTH ST: Traffic flowing freely [Map..](#)

9:21 PM 2007/7/31 SANTA ANA FWY (I 5) SB at I 710: Accident [Map..](#)

9:21 PM 2007/7/31 SAN DIEGO FWY (I 405) SB at PALO VERDE AV: Vehicle on fire [Map..](#)

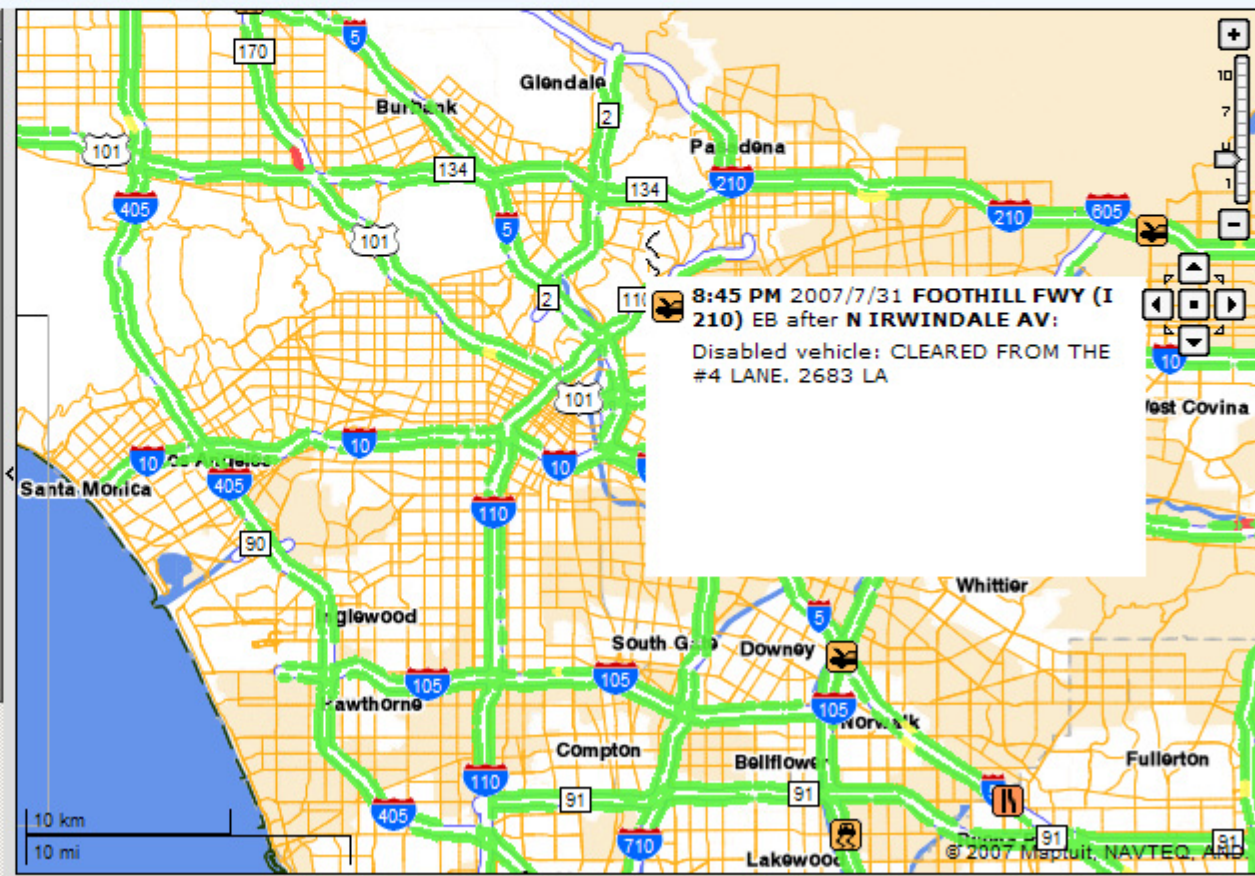
9:21 PM 2007/7/31 PACIFIC COAST HWY (HWY 1) SB at DEER CREEK RD: Injury accident [Map..](#)

9:20 PM 2007/7/31 I 10 EB before APACHE TR/MAIN ST: Injury accident [Map..](#)

8:48 PM 2007/7/31 605 FWY SB at FLORENCE AV: Disabled vehicle [Map..](#)

8:48 PM 2007/7/31 GOLDEN STATE FWY (I 5) SB at HWY 170: Accident cleared [Map..](#)

8:46 PM 2007/7/31 LONG BEACH FWY (I 710)





# Los Angeles – online traffic reporting

## Observations

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### Financing and Corporate Structure

- Website of local CBS TV/Radio station:  
<http://cbs2.com/traffic>
- Traffic data from **SmartRoute Systems** (formed in 1988)
  - Via Smartraveler Service:  
<http://www.smartraveler.com>
- Owned (since 2000) by **Westwood One**
  - A national radio *content* company
- Using **Maptuit** Corporation web services
  - Specializes in fleet tracking and management
- And **Navteq** road data
  - Road basemap data and navigation tools
- With various advertisements using Google services

# Los Angeles – online traffic reporting Observations (#2)

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- Various client traffic applications built from
  - Core set of data and tools
    - Road map, incident data, routing, advertising
  - Via realtime chaining of many services
    - To overlay new incidents or congestion icon on basemap
    - To display context and time-sensitive ads
- Complex layering of public/private services
- Complex partnerships and financing

# US EPA: Enviromapper

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- Online mapping website
  - <http://www.epa.gov/enviro/html/em>
  - Basic mapping via ArcIMS website
    - choose layers, zoom, identify
  - Overlay 'framework' layers and EPA administrative data
    - Roads, political boundaries, census data, ...
    - EPA's data: AIRS, TRI, Superfund, ...

EPA - EnviroMapper StoreFront - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

US EPA http://www.epa.gov/enviro/html/em/ Go epa enviomapper

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# EnviroMapper StoreFront

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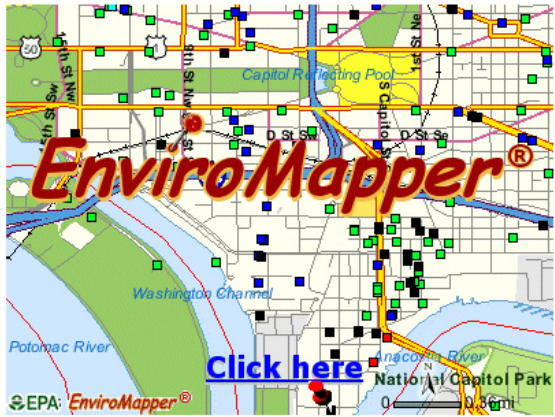
## EnviroMapper StoreFront

ZIP Code:

What to Map:  **GO**

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http://134.67.99.109/wme/myWindow.asp?xl=-71.217418&yt=42.386051&xr=-71.13! Go epa enviromapper

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# Window to My Environment


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Redraw Map

**Map Features**

- Regulated sites
- Places
- Transportation
- Water features
- Political boundaries
  - Congressional Districts
  - Demographics
  - City boundaries
  - ZIP Codes
  - Counties
  - States
- Air monitors
  - Air monitors
- USGS water monitor
  - Surface water
  - Ground water
  - Others
- EPA water monitors
  - Surface water
  - Ground water
  - Others
- Topographic feature
  - Special Flood Hazard Area

Redraw Map



**Your Window** | **Your Environment**

All features intersecting the map window will appear as part of the information contained in the fact sheet below.

Community (Town, State)	Watertown MA
County(s)	Middlesex MA, Suffolk MA
Congressional District(s) Urban area	04(MA), 07(MA), 08(MA) Boston MA
Watershed(s)	Charles, Massachusetts.
Waterbody(s)	Cambridge Reservoir, Charles River, Silver Lake
Area / Width of Window	<a href="#">Click Here to View</a>
Approx. population	<a href="#">Click Here to View</a>
No. of facilities reporting to EPA	454

Zoom In  
  Zoom Out  
  Recenter  
  Locator Map

Identify  
 Select a feature  
  Legend

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 Last updated on Friday, February 24, 2006  
 URL: <http://134.67.99.109/wme/myWindow.asp>


Done Location info

Window to My Environment - Mozilla Firefox

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http://134.67.99.109/wme/myWindow.asp?xl=-71.217418&yt=42.386051&xr=-71.131

EnviroMapper GeoConnections - Opport... Window to My Environ... Window to My Environment EPA - Envirofacts Wareho...

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# Window to My Environment

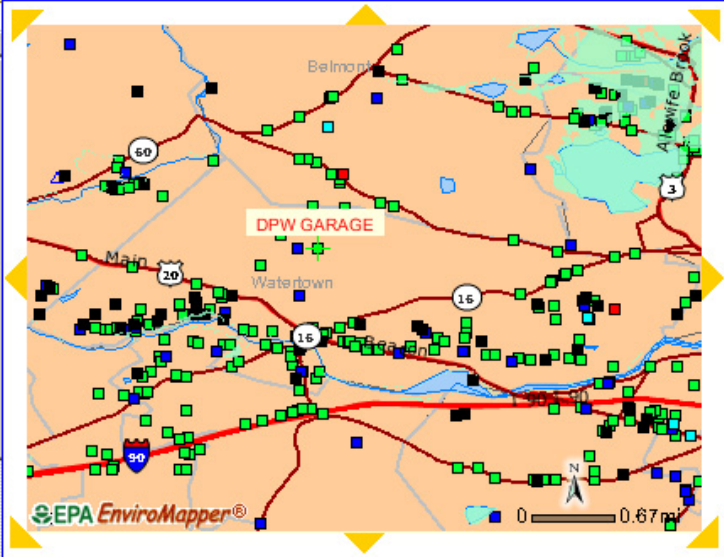
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Redraw Map

**Map Features**

- Regulated sites
  - Multi-activities
  - Superfund
  - Toxic releases
  - Water discharge
  - Air emissions
  - Hazardous waste
- Places
- Transportation
- Water features
- Political boundaries
  - Congressional Districts
  - Demographics
  - City boundaries
  - ZIP Codes
  - Counties
  - States
- Air monitors
  - Air monitors
- USGS water monitor
  - Surface water
  - Ground water
  - Others
- EPA water monitors

Redraw Map



Zoom In Zoom Out Recenter Locator Map

Identify Hazardous waste Legend

WME Help Add a background

**Your Window** | **Your Environment**

All features intersecting the map window will appear as part of the information contained in the fact sheet below.

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County(s)	Middlesex MA, Suffolk MA
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Urban area	Boston MA
Watershed(s)	Charles, Massachusetts.
Waterbody(s)	Cambridge Reservoir, Charles River, Silver Lake
Area / Width of Window	<a href="#">Click Here to View</a>
Approx. population	<a href="#">Click Here to View</a>
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**DPW GARAGE**

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EPA - Envirofacts Warehouse - RCRAINFO - Mozilla Firefox

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http://iaspub.epa.gov/enviro/rcris\_web.report?PGM\_SYS\_ID=MAD982756207

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## Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRAInfo)

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### Query Results



**Handler ID:** Equal To: MAD982756207

Results are based on data extracted on JUN-06-2006

**Note:** Click on the underlined CORPORATE LINK value for links to that company's environmental web pages.  
Click on the underlined MAPPING INFO value to obtain mapping information for the facility.

[Go To Bottom Of The Page](#)

**HANDLER NAME:** DPW GARAGE    **HANDLER ID:** MAD982756207  
**STREET:** 124 ORCHARD ST    **FACILITY INFORMATION:** [View Facility Information](#)  
**CITY:** WATERTOWN    **CORPORATE LINK:** No  
**STATE:** MA    **COUNTY:** MIDDLESEX  
**ZIP CODE:** 02472    **MAPPING INFO:** [MAP](#)  
**EPA REGION:** 1

[CONTACT INFORMATION](#)

<a href="#">NAME</a>	<a href="#">STREET</a>	<a href="#">CITY</a>	<a href="#">STATE</a>	<a href="#">ZIP CODE</a>	<a href="#">PHONE</a>	<a href="#">TYPE OF CONTACT</a>
LOUIS PAPANDEA	124 ORCHARD ST	WATERTOWN	MA	02172	6179726420	Public

**HANDLER / FACILITY CLASSIFICATION**

Done Location info

# Accessing Data and Geospatial Services Behind the Scenes

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- Enviromapper is very useful, but ‘read only’
- AIRS, TRI... data already in Oracle
  - So are Census, USGS, and other datasets
  - Data could be accessed via other protocols and tools
- If site is built from chained web services
  - Can focus on data **services** instead of **datasets**
  - Use OGC’s WMS and WFS protocols for interoperability
  - Then, many customized client applications **could share the same data sets** without duplication



# First, a Simple Example – MIT OrthoTools

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- Orthophotos via plain vanilla web browser
  - MIT Ortho Server (12 years old! 1995-2007)
    - Main page: <http://ortho.mit.edu>
    - ‘Seamless’ interface:
      - <http://ortho.mit.edu/nsdi/seamless6.cgi>
      - Server-side perl scripts slice and dice orthos to fit size/scale of view window
    - Requesting only the ortho snippet:
      - <http://ortho.mit.edu/nsdi/seamless8.cgi?zoom=8&x0=237000&y0=902000&action=pan&pwidth=400&pheight=300&x=123&y=169>

MIT/MassGIS orthophoto server: 8 m/pixel, center (x,y)=(237000,902000) - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

http://ortho.mit.edu/nsdi/seamless6.cgi

OGC Cookbooks | OGC® MIT/MassGIS orthophoto server: 8 ...

## MIT/MassGIS orthophoto server: 8 m/pixel, center (x,y) = (237000,902000)

[Project Homepage](#) [FGDC Metadata](#) [Download Options](#)

<a href="#">NW</a>	<a href="#">N</a>	<a href="#">NE</a>
<a href="#">W</a>		<a href="#">E</a>
<a href="#">SW</a>	<a href="#">S</a>	<a href="#">SE</a>

**Click on the image to**

- Recenter image
- Zoom IN
- Zoom OUT

**or to set a scale of**

- 200m pixels
- 40m pixels
- 8m pixels \*
- 2m pixels
- 0.5m pixels

(\* Current zoom level)

View Width:  Height:   
pixels pixels

0 200 500m 1km  
 0 1/4 1/2 1mi.

---

This Topographic Map view measures width=3200 and height=2400 meters on the ground, with 8m pixels. The view is centered on X=237000, Y=902000 (Massachusetts State Plane meters, Mainland Zone, NAD 83).

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Copyright © 1999 Massachusetts Institute of Technology.  
 Authors: John D. Evans  
 Last Modified February 22, 1999 by John Evans.

Done Location info

MIT/MassGIS orthophoto server: 8 m/pixel, center (x,y)=(237000,902000) - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

http://ortho.mit.edu/nsdi/seamless6.cgi?zoom=8&x0=237000&y0=902000&action=par

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### MIT/MassGIS orthophoto server: 8 m/pixel, center (x,y) = (237000,902000)

[Project Homepage](#) [FGDC Metadata](#) [Download Options](#)

<a href="#">NW</a>	<a href="#">N</a>	<a href="#">NE</a>
<a href="#">W</a>		<a href="#">E</a>
<a href="#">SW</a>	<a href="#">S</a>	<a href="#">SE</a>

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(\* Current zoom level)

View Width:  Height:   
pixels pixels

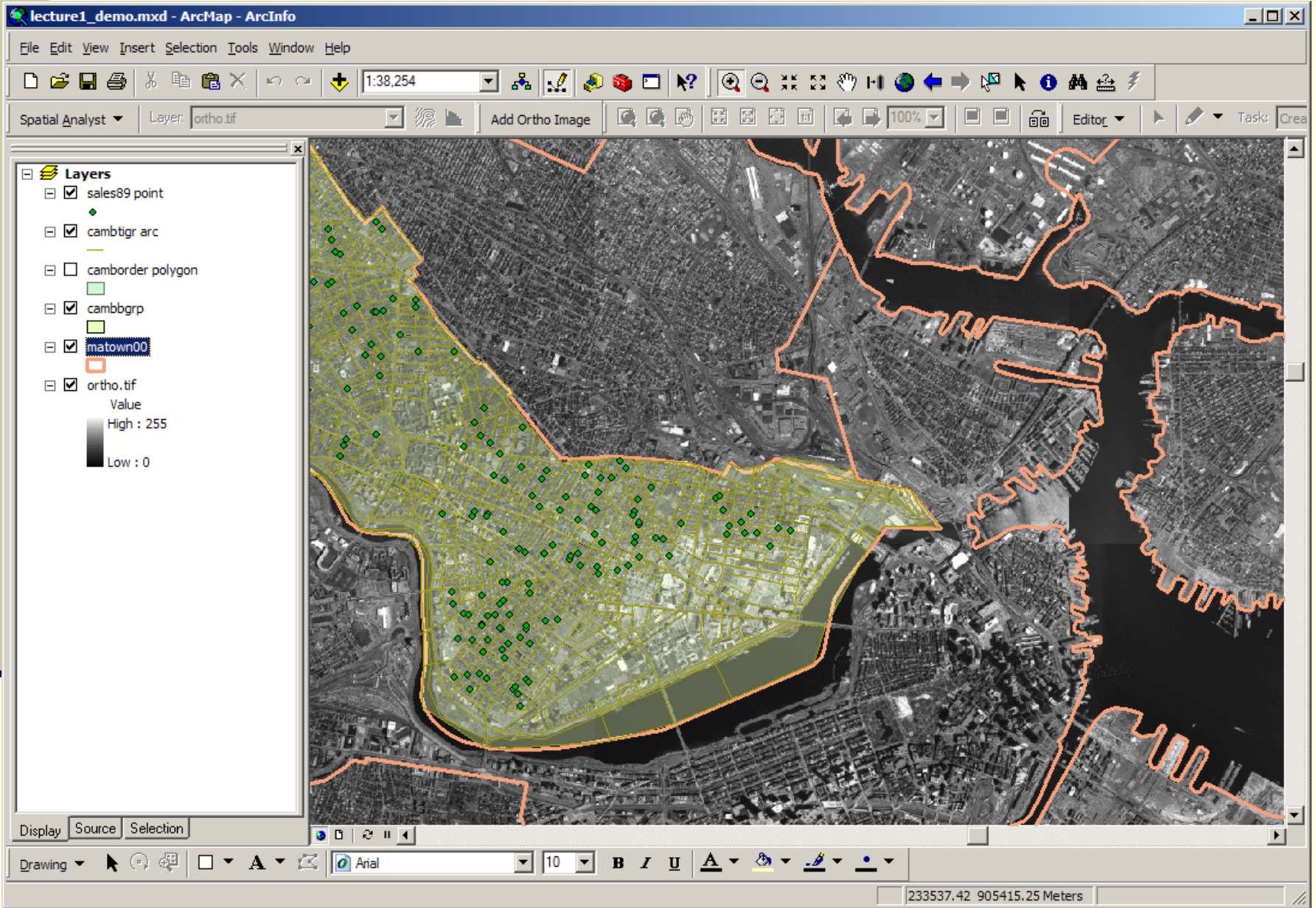


Done Location info

# Accessing MIT OrthoServer from ArcMap

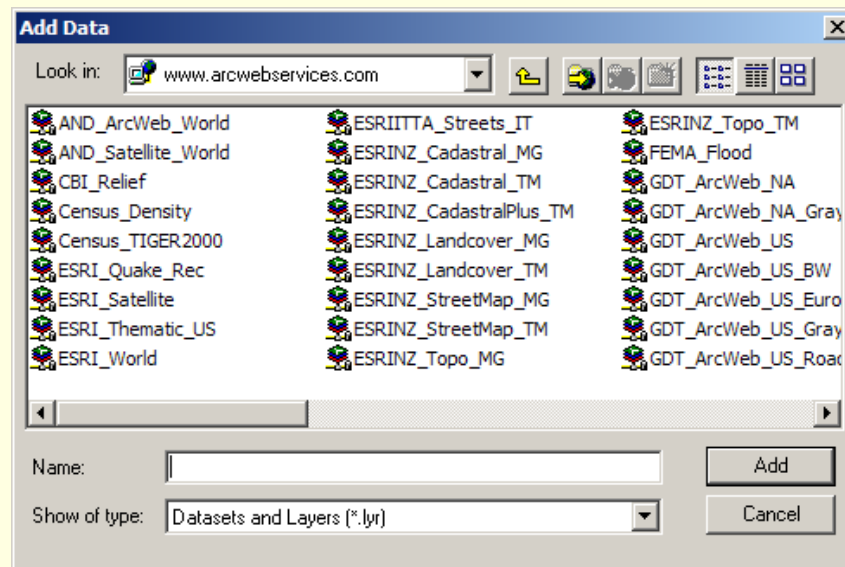
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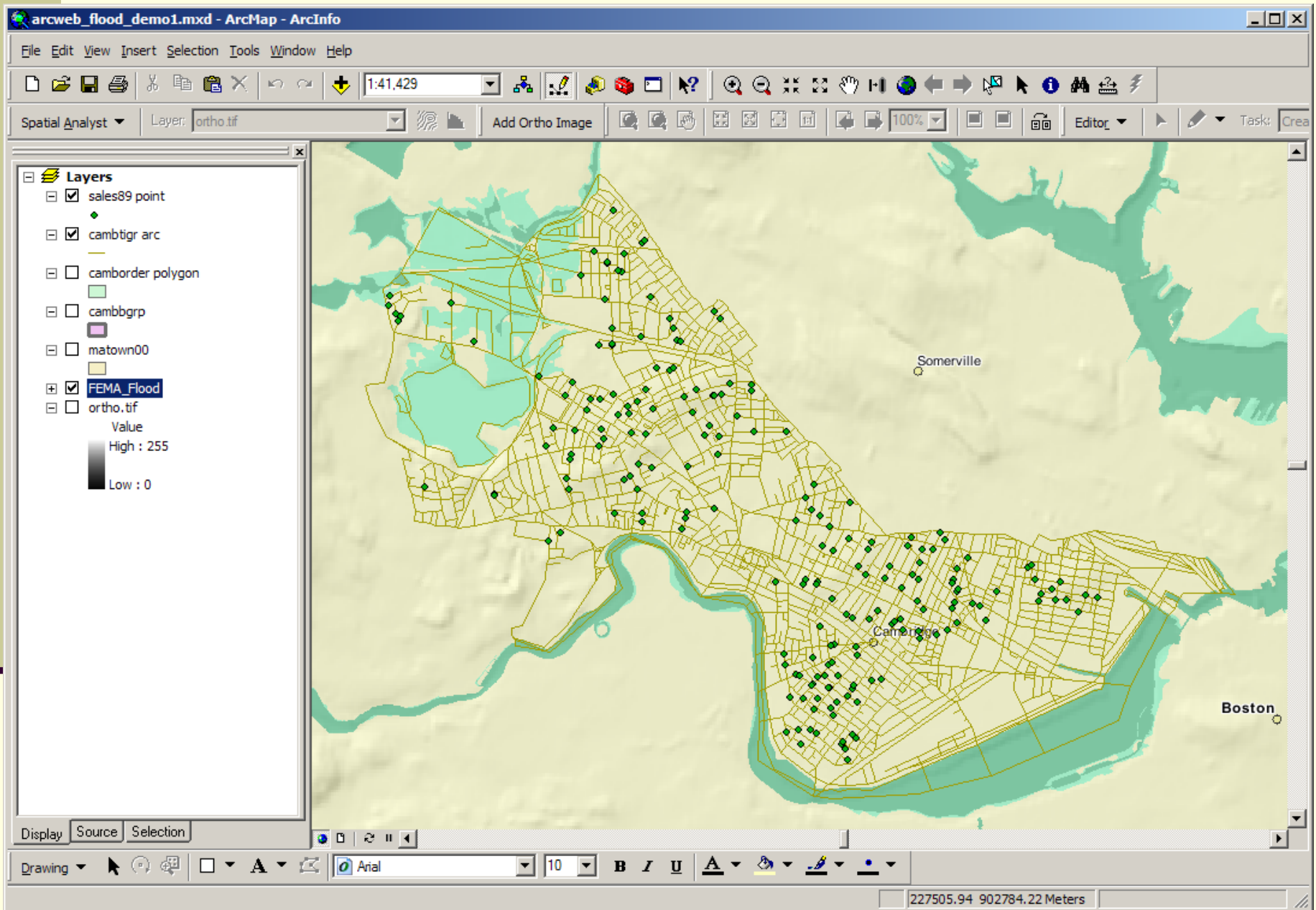
- MIT OrthoServer as a web service
  - Send URL with parameters
  - Receive PNG, JPG, or Tiff image for desired location
- Write ArcMap extension 'dll' that
  - Adds ortho 'button' to ArcMap menu
  - Sends appropriate URL based on ArcMap view
  - Slips returned JPG under ArcMap view window
- Idea: Preserve only one copy of orthos - on server
  - Throw away local copy
  - Can always retrieve and use when needed



# Next: add in ArcWeb Services

- ESRI offers many proprietary web services...
- Must be registered for ArcWeb Services from ESRI:
  - Sign up for trial evaluation
  - <http://www.arcwebservices.com>
- In ArcMap (or ArcExplorer) click 'Add Data' select GIS Servers, then ArcIMS servers, then log in
- Select FEMA\_Flood service from the menu





# Using ArcWeb Services

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- Requires user registration with ESRI
- Accessible from clients that use ArcIMS protocols (ESRI's flavor of XML = AXL)
- Free ArcExplorer 9.1 can access ArcWeb services
  - Save from ArcExplorer into arcexplorer\_flood1.axl
  - Saved file is AXL text file
- At 9.1 ArcGIS has WMS connector built-in
  - Can turn sublayers on/off, but no legend color or transparency control
  - No WFS support



# Saved AXL File

## Using ArcExplorer to access FEMA\_Flood web services

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>

<ARXML version="1.1">
  <CONFIG>
    <ENVIRONMENT>
      <LOCALE country="CA" language="en" variant="" />
      <UIFONT color="0,0,0" name="SansSerif" size="12" style="regular" />
      <SCREEN dpi="96" />
    </ENVIRONMENT>
    <MAP>
      <PROPERTIES>
        <ENVELOPE minx="-71.24827637959767" miny="42.25863121969604" maxx="-70.98993634926948" maxy="42.45238624244218"
          name="Initial_Extent" />
        <MAPUNITS units="decimal_degrees" />
      </PROPERTIES>
      <WORKSPACES>
        <IMAGESERVERWORKSPACE name="mapper_ws-0" url="http://www.arcwebservices.com/servlet/com.esri.esrimap.Esrimap"
          service="FEMA_Flood" />
      </WORKSPACES>
      <LAYER type="image" name="FEMA_Flood" visible="true" id="0">
        <DATASET name="FEMA_Flood" type="image" workspace="mapper_ws-0" />
      </LAYER>
    </MAP>
  </CONFIG>
</ARXML>
```

# Generalizing this *Web Service* Idea

---

- Make service interoperable using Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) standards
  - Standard URL request parameters
  - Standard XML response (using GML)
  - WMS and WFS protocols
- We will examine several current examples
  - MassGIS
  - Google mashups
  - Middleware tools to tweak and chain services

# MassGIS – Web Service Example

- ‘End User’ websites
  - Home page for MassGIS: <http://mass.gov/mgis/>
  - Data layers and download info: <http://mass.gov/mgis/database.htm>
  - ‘Oliver’ online mapping java application:  
<http://mass.gov/mgis/mapping.htm>
- Web Services underneath: <http://mass.gov/mgis/websrv.htm>
  - Winner of 2005 URISA ESIG award
  - Access via WMS and WFS protocols:  
<http://www.opengeospatial.org/resource/cookbooks>
  - ArcMap and ArcExplorer example (in exercise)
  - Example URL requesting WMS image (street map):  
<http://maps.massgis.state.ma.us/mapaccess/main.jsp?dpi=120&request=GetMap&layers=MHD+Roads&styles=Class&srs=EPSG:26986&bbox=233500,900000,236500,902500&width=640&height=480&format=image/png&service=wms>



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs



MassGIS is the Commonwealth's Office of Geographic and Environmental Information



GIS Events

MGIC Seminar Series

Next Meeting: Thu., September 28 "The FEMA Flood Map Modernization Program" \*\*\* Save the Date! \*\*\*

GIS Day 2005 Recap

GIS Day 2006 at the State House: Nov. 16, 10 AM - 2 PM

What's New

August GISette Newsletter

Read and sign up

2005 Ortho Imagery

Download MrSID and JPEG 2000 Order MrSID mosaics

Massachusetts Conservation Mapping Assistance Partnership Program (MACMAPP)

Discounted software and training for conservation organizations

GIS and Public Records Law

Massachusetts' Master Service



MassGIS - Datalayers/GIS Database - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

http://mass.gov/mgis/database.htm

MassGIS - Online Mapping Parcel Boundaries Viewer MassGIS - Web Mapping S... MassGIS - Using MassGIS'... MassGIS - Datalayers/...

Mass.gov • mass.gov home • online services • state agencies SEARCH MASS.GOV

Home | About MassGIS | What's New | **MassGIS Data** | Download Free Data | Order Maps & Data | Online Mapping | Data Viewer | Municipal GIS | GIS Education | Standards | GIS Resources | Site Contents | Search

~ MassGIS ~

## Datalayers/GIS Database

- ◆ [Overview](#) - Description of how MassGIS Data is organized, and a general introduction of the broad categories the database - Base Map, Environmental, and Census. Includes details on the Massachusetts State Plane coordinate system and a brief overview on understanding map scale.
- ◆ [Available Datalayers](#) - A complete list of all datalayers distributed by MassGIS, each with a link to each individual layer's complete description page. Organized into the following categories:
  - ◇ Image Data
  - ◇ Political/Regional Boundaries
  - ◇ Indexes
  - ◇ Infrastructure
  - ◇ Demographics (Population)
  - ◇ Topography
  - ◇ Physical Resources
  - ◇ Hydrographic (water-related) Features
  - ◇ Conservation/Recreation
  - ◇ Regulated Areas
  - ◇ Environmental Monitoring
  - ◇ Coastal and Marine Features
  - ◇ Miscellaneous
- ◆ [ArcSDE Layer Names and Descriptions](#) **NEW!**

Done Location info

MassGIS 2001 Color Ortho Imagery Viewer - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

http://maps.massgis.state.ma.us/MassGISColorOrthos/viewer.htm

MassGIS - Online M... Parcel Boundaries Vi... MassGIS - Web Map... MassGIS - Using Ma... MassGIS - Datalaye... MassGIS 2001 Col...

# MASS GIS MassGIS 2001 Color Ortho Imagery Viewer

.5m orthophotos appear when zoomed in [Order a poster!](#) [About the Photos](#)

Choose a Town

Tools to Use with the Map

Click on an icon below, then perform action with mouse on map. Red square indicates active tool.

- Click the map or draw a box to zoom in
- Click the map or draw a box to zoom out
- Drag the map to pan
- Click on the map to get latitude and longitude
- Click on the map to get UTM meters

Next 9 icons: action happens when icon is clicked.

- Zoom all the way out
- Move the map North
- Move the map South
- Move the map West
- Move the map East
- Clear the address marker

Done Location info

main.jsp (PNG Image, 640x480 pixels) - Mozilla Firefox

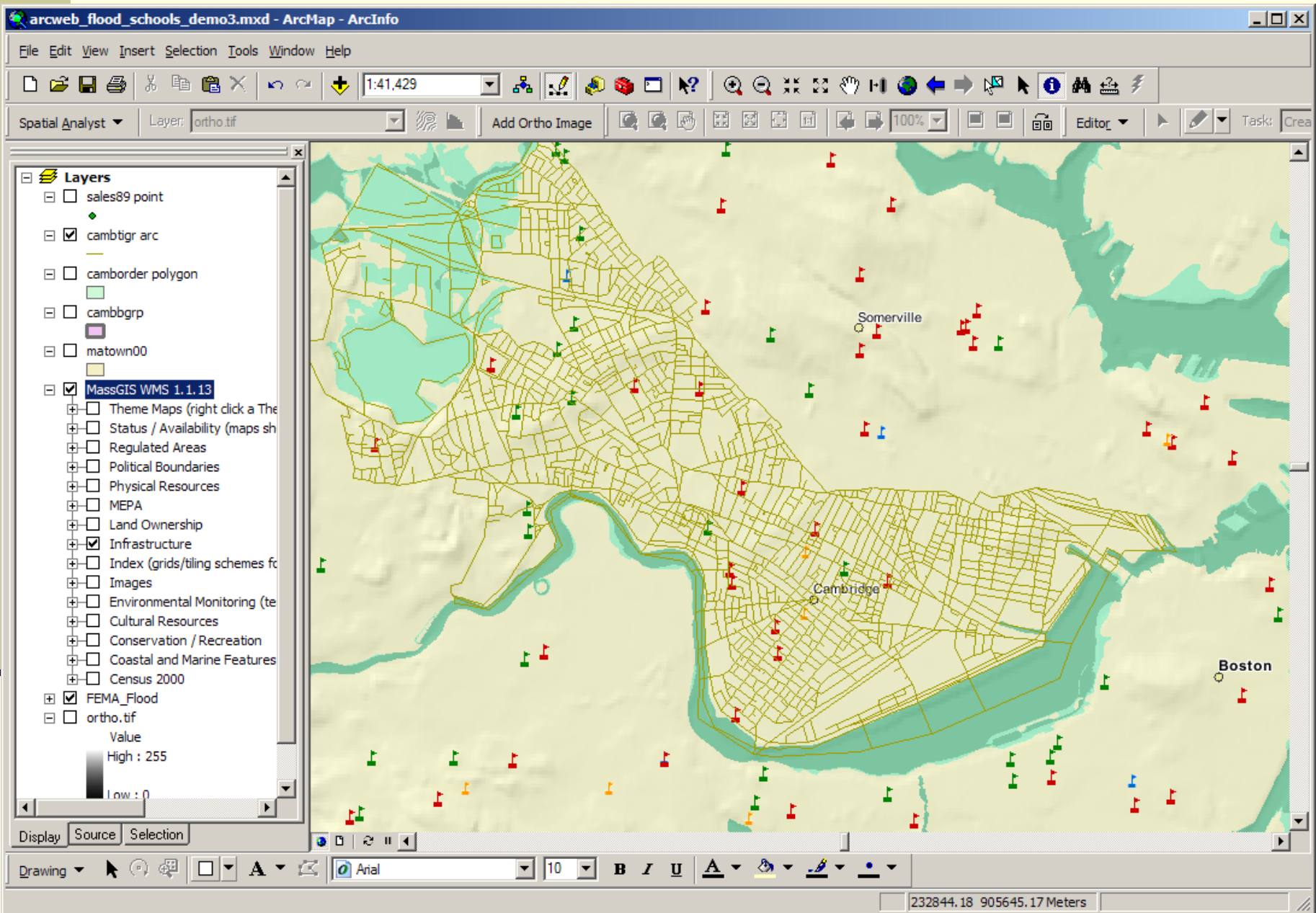
File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

http://maps.massgis.state.ma.us/mapaccess/main.js

OGC Cookbooks | ... MIT/MassGIS ortho... main.jsp (PNG Ima... main.jsp (PNG Ima... main.jsp (PNG I...

YORK STREET  
HAMPSHIRE STREET  
PORTLAND STREET  
VASSAR STREET  
AMES STREET  
MEMORIAL DRIVE  
MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE  
CAMBRIDGE STREET  
OTIS STREET  
THORNDIKE STREET  
SPRING STREET  
HURLEY STREET  
SIXTH STREET  
FIFTH STREET  
THIRD STREET  
SECOND STREET  
FIRST STREET  
LAND BOULEVARD  
CAMBRIDGE PARKWAY  
EAST STREET  
EMBANKMENT ROAD  
MERRIMAC STREET  
JOHN F. FITZGERALD EXPRESSWAY  
LEVEITT CONNECTOR  
NORTH WASHINGTON STREET  
SALEM STREET  
CONGRESS STREET  
FEDERAL STREET  
CAMBRIDGE STREET  
PHILLIPS STREET  
REVERE STREET  
PINCKNEY STREET  
JOY STREET  
TREMONT STREET  
SUMMER STREET  
ESSEX STREET  
BEACH STREET  
KNEELAND STREET  
STUART STREET  
CHARLES STREET  
CHESTNUT STREET  
EMBANKMENT ROAD  
ARLINGTON STREET  
STORROW DRIVE  
BACK STREET  
BEACON STREET  
MARLBOROUGH STREET  
COMMONWEALTH AVENUE  
NEWBURY STREET  
BOYLSTON STREET

Done Location info





# Boston Globe Article: Mashup of Election Campaign Contributions

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- Website on Boston.com
  - [http://www.boston.com/news/special/bigarticles/campaign\\_finance/page2.html?p1=email to a friend](http://www.boston.com/news/special/bigarticles/campaign_finance/page2.html?p1=email%20to%20a%20friend)
- Live Google 'mashup' webpage (for Back Bay):
  - [http://boston.faneuilmedia2.com/gov/detail\\_map.html?from=top&zip=02116&zip=13](http://boston.faneuilmedia2.com/gov/detail_map.html?from=top&zip=02116&zip=13)
  - View source and look for:
    - <http://maps.google.com/maps?file=api&v=2.60&key=AB...>
    - Rest is javascript to interact with Google maps and overlay/identify entries in local election contribution database maintained by consultant (Faneuil Media, Inc.)
    - Note: you can 'pan' the map or click on dots for further info
- Google mashup protocols are proprietary but open
- Google earth protocols use 'KML' – a variation of OGC's GML

Campaign 2006: Contributions to the Massachusetts gubernatorial candidates - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Address [http://www.boston.com/news/special/bigartides/campaign\\_finance/page1.html](http://www.boston.com/news/special/bigartides/campaign_finance/page1.html)

The Boston Globe boston.com

E-mail to a friend

## Campaign 2006: Contributions to the Massachusetts gubernatorial candidates

Thousands of Massachusetts residents have donated millions of dollars to the 6 candidates for governor: Democrats Christopher Gabrieli, Deval Patrick, and Thomas F. Reilly; Republican Kerry Healey; Independent Christy Mihos, and Green-Rainbow candidate Grace Ross.

We have placed all contributions since Jan. 1, 2003 on maps according to the addresses of the donors (the large map below is the Back Bay section of Boston). We will update these maps when the candidates file new reports twice a month.

Each county, town, and zip code is tinted according to which candidate received the most contributions (see the legend below).

Out-of-state contributions are on a clickable map of the United States lower on the page.

(Editor's note: The maps may take a few minutes to load.)

Enter Zip:   [▶ Top 10 zip codes](#)

**HOW TO USE THE MAPS**

Click a flag on any county above to see a summary of all contributions made in that county.

Internet

United States > Massachusetts > Suffolk County > Boston > 02116 (Back Bay)



**View contributions in:**

- [The City of Boston](#)
- [Suffolk County](#)
- [All Mass. counties](#)
- [Other states in the U.S.](#)

**Search by zip code**

[Top 10 zip codes](#)

Enter a zip code

**Total contributions in:**

02116 (Back Bay)  
Jan. 1, 2003 - Sep. 20, 2006

Reilly	\$91,288.59
Patrick	\$79,184.99
Healey	\$61,873.00
Gabrieli	\$10,205.00
Mihos	\$5,310.00
Ross	\$35.00

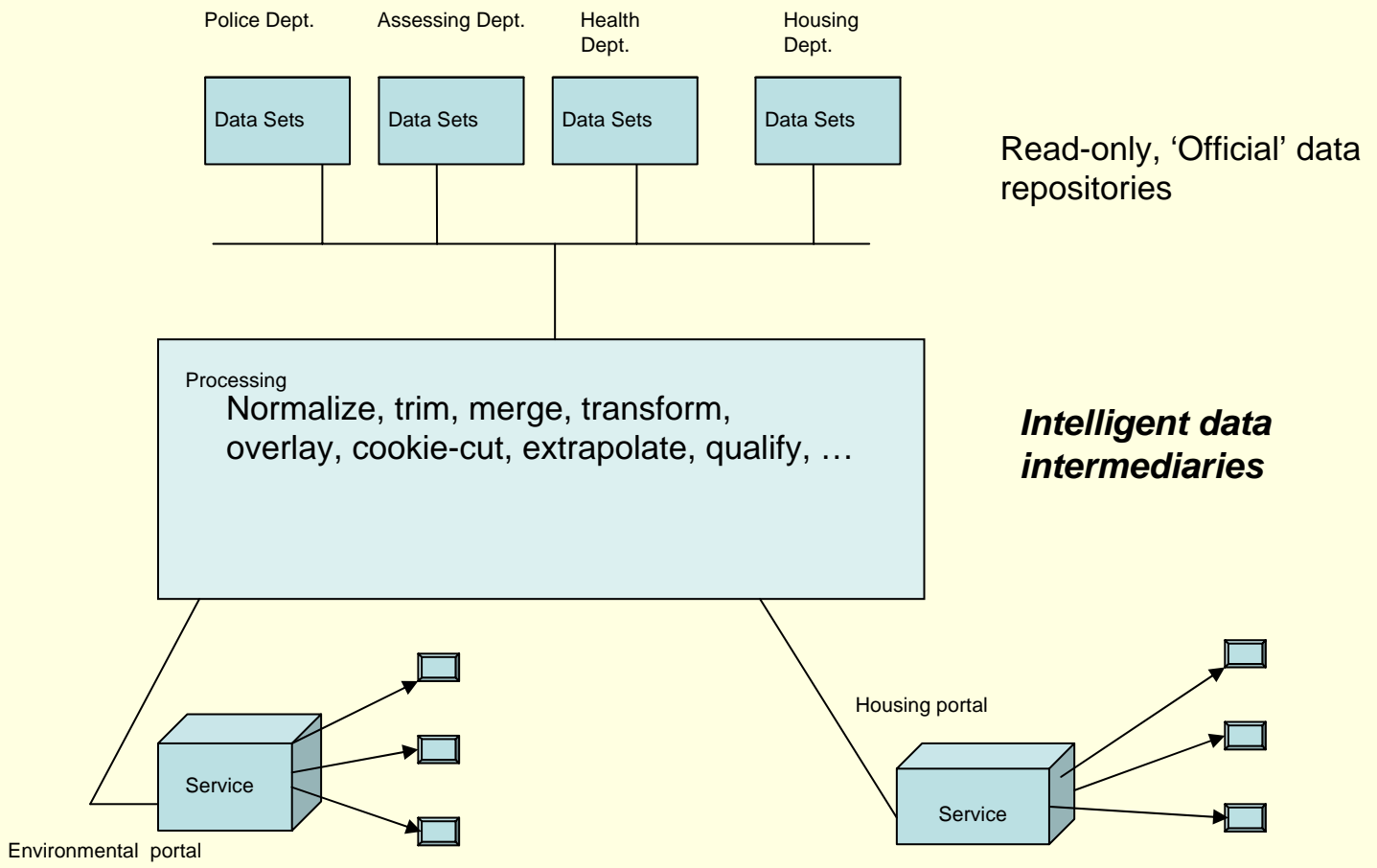
# Web Service Chaining using Open Source Tools and Middleware for Customization

---

- Effort by MIT Urban Information Systems group (with local partners and with Brookings support)
- Goals:
  - Deliver maps/analyzes onto desktop
  - Utilize Google, Excel, ... client-side capabilities
  - Allow user-customizable editing to
    - Accumulate and use 'local knowledge'
    - Share interpretations of 'official' data
  - Prototype use open source tools and open standards for web service interoperability
    - Linux, Apache, PHP, Postgres/postgis, MapServer
    - OGC protocols and AJAX clients

# Intelligent Middleware for Understanding Neighborhood Markets

A collaborative effort by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, Boston's Department of Neighborhood Development, and The Boston Foundation with support from the Urban Markets Initiative of The Brookings Institution.



# Examples from MIT 'Middleware' Project

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- Community Development Corporation webpage showing owned properties
- Spreadsheet showing 'top-10' landowners – before and after standardizing owner names
- Middleware management tools for editing/publishing Reports, Maps, and 'Facades'
- ArcMap GIS session with
  - Local shapefiles
  - Roads via WMS layer from MassGIS
  - DSNi properties via WMS layer from MIT middleware

**Boston DNI Properties - Mozilla Firefox**

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

file:///D:/jurisaims06/urisashare/demos/middleware/dni\_mashup\_v2.htm


CNN.com - Breaking News, U.S., World, W... NASA World Wind Boston DNI Properties




[Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative](#)

Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Department of Urban Studies and Planning

Development in the Dudley Neighborhood



MIT UIS  
MIT Urban Information Systems  
[Intelligent Middleware Project](#)



DUDLEY NEIGHBORS INCORPORATED  
The Community Land Trust

**Dudley Neighbors, Inc.** is a Community Land Trust that implements the community revitalization plans of the [Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative \(DSNI\)](#), which espouses development without displacement and includes affordable housing, economic development, open space, and other amenities of the Urban Village.

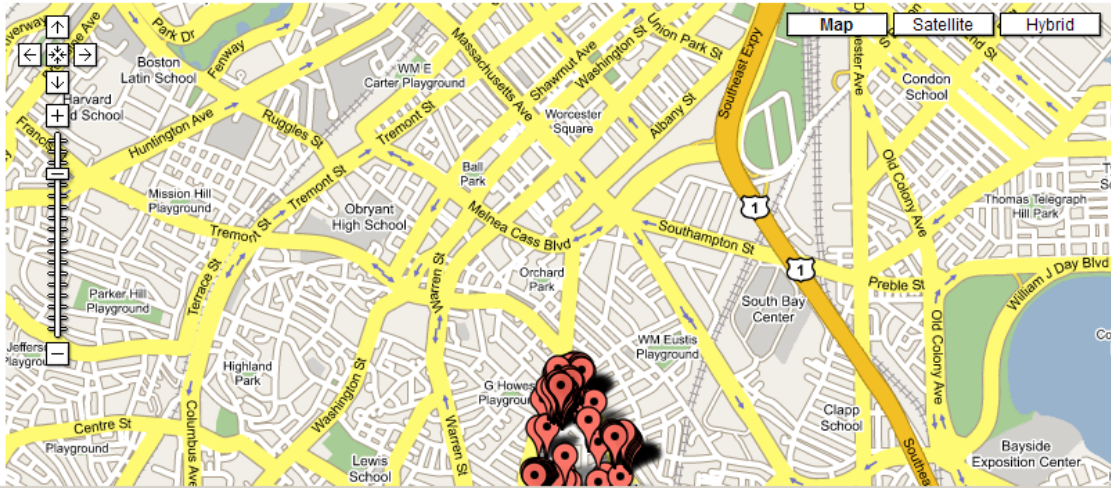
The **table to the right** shows the number of parcels and total acreage purchased by DNI by year of purchase.

The **pinmap (below)** displays the location of the DNI parcels on top of a Google (tm) map. Click on the pins to see additional information about each property.

This web page is part of a larger MIT project that is prototyping and testing an 'intelligent middleware' approach for sharing data within a metropolitan area in a manner that permits accumulating and utilizing local knowledge about neighborhood-scale land use, ownership, and market potential.

**DNI Parcels by Year Purchased**

year_purch	parcels	acres
In Progress	14	0.719
2004	23	1.451
2000	11	1.186
1999	9	0.876
1998	2	0.377
1997	1	0.108
1996	52	5.895
1995	3	0.330
1994	26	2.206
1993	46	3.332



### TOP-10 Landowners in Boston Neighborhoods

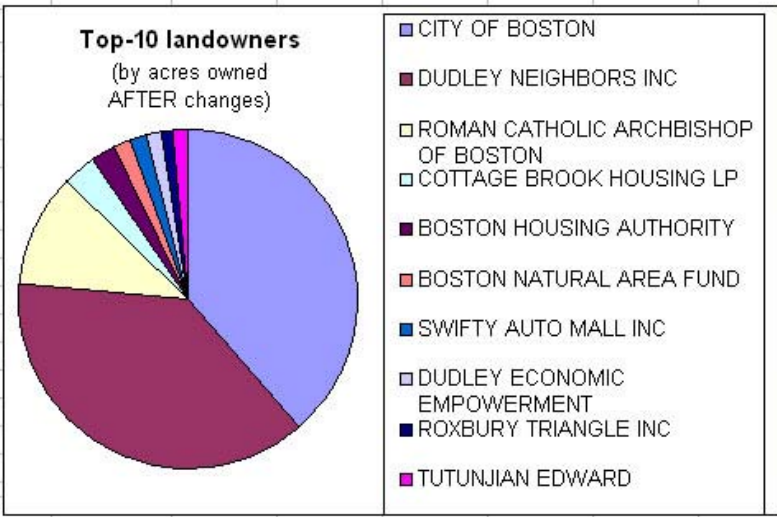
Step 1: Select a study area ==>> **triangle**

Step 2: Click Button to Refresh ==>> **Refresh Data**

#### Results AFTER Standardizing Owner Names:

Using Façade: DM\_OWNER05

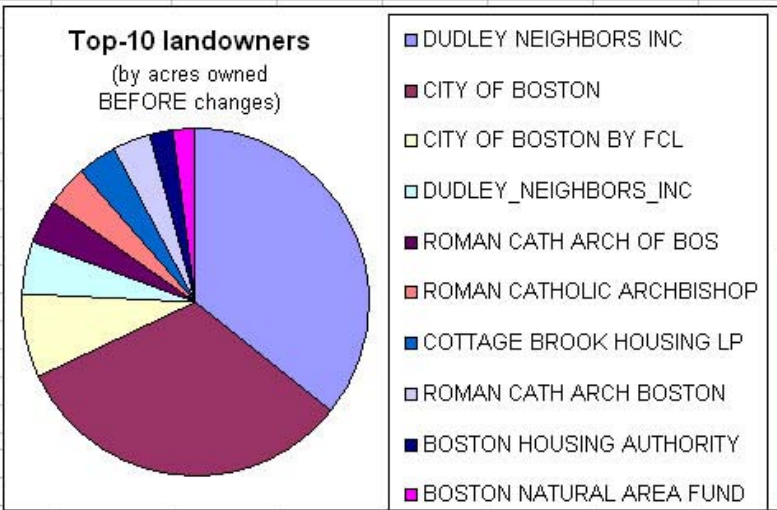
owner	parcels	acres
CITY OF BOSTON	137	14.27631
DUDLEY NEIGHBORS INC	144	13.94128
ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP OF BOSTON	6	4.039118
COTTAGE BROOK HOUSING LP	26	1.245087
BOSTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	4	0.803352
BOSTON NATURAL AREA FUND	7	0.6295
SWIFTY AUTO MALL INC	5	0.611593
DUDLEY ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT	2	0.484137
ROXBURY TRIANGLE INC	3	0.470409
TUTUNJIAN EDWARD	3	0.468251
<b>Total Parcels/Acres owned by largest owners</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>36.97</b>



#### Results BEFORE Standardizing Owner Names

Using Façade: DM\_OWNER05\_ORIGINAL

owner	parcels	acres
DUDLEY NEIGHBORS INC	120	12.01876
CITY OF BOSTON	83	10.75567
CITY OF BOSTON BY FCL	41	2.63921
DUDLEY_NEIGHBORS_INC	21	1.682415
ROMAN CATH ARCH OF BOS	1	1.422957
ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP	1	1.291552
COTTAGE BROOK HOUSING LP	26	1.245087
ROMAN CATH ARCH BOSTON	3	1.151722
BOSTON HOUSING AUTHORITY	4	0.803352
BOSTON NATURAL AREA FUND	7	0.6295
<b>Total Parcels/Acres owned by largest owners</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>33.64</b>







### Intelligent Middleware for Understanding Neighborhood Markets

This Brookings Institution-sponsored Urban Markets Initiative project is prototyping and testing an 'intelligent middleware' approach for sharing data within a metropolitan area in a manner that is intended to be more effective, scalable, and sustainable than the traditional 'data center' approach. The proposed tools and methods provide a mechanism for accumulating and utilizing local knowledge about neighborhood-scale land use, ownership, and market potential.

The basic idea is to isolate and codify the local knowledge from both the official datasets and from the definition of maps and reports that build useful community indicators. The local knowledge is codified as 'business **rules**' that produce virtual tables (called **facades**) when applied to the read-only official data (called **basetables**). **Reports** and Thematic **maps** that use these facades can be defined and saved as if the facades were permanent tables. However, the facade rules can be changed independently of running the maps and reports, or swapping in new versions of the basetables.

The system is implemented using web services and open source software on a linux server with access control for users and groups at the level of individual facades and reports. Use of web services with XML messaging and Open Geospatial Consortium protocols enables distributed access from a variety of desktop applications including MS-Excel, Google maps, ArcGIS, and ordinary browsers. Login via this page provides access to a suite of facade and report management tools that utilize the web services from an ordinary web browser using javascript and so-called AJAX (asymmetric javascript and XML) programming.

### MIT Urban Information Systems

#### Log in

Username: Password: 

To register for an account, send email to [metro@mit.edu](mailto:metro@mit.edu).

UMI Report Listing - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

http://uis.mit.edu/umi/client/application/report/reportlist.php

BCIT Distance & Distr... BCIT Home Page BCIT Lab Support Change Password myBCIT

MIT Webmail UMI Report Listing

Report Table

pid_long	lotsize	owner_fy05	totalval_fy05	units
0802878050	354	DUDLEY NEIGHBORS INC	500	1
0802880000	1208	DUDLEY NEIGHBORS INC	286600	1
0802879000	1223	DUDLEY NEIGHBORS INC	4600	1
0803098010	1301	DUDLEY NEIGHBORS INC	251200	1
0802881000	1476	DUDLEY NEIGHBORS INC	288600	1

Intelligent Middleware for Understanding Neighbors  
**MIT UIS**  
 Thematic Maps Reports Facades

### Report List

REPORTS summarize a FACADE by categorizing its data into groups based on one field (much like SQL 'GROUP BY' queries). Other property fields from the source data set can be included in the resulting Report. Reports can also optionally be constrained to a geographic region.

V	E	P	ID	Report Name	Facade	Description
				bos96_05_condo_report	bos96_05_condo	Comparison of unit before and after conversion
				bos96_condo_report	bos96_condo	Residential peopert landuse type 1996
				dni_jason_lotsize	dni_jason	DNI properties showing lotsize

javascript:openedit('315')

http://uis.mit.edu - Edit Report - Mozilla Firefox

### Edit Report

Report Name:   
name of the Report (no spaces and start with a letter)

Brief Description:   
explain usage and/or summary stats creation

Facade:   
source data set

SQL:   
SQL code that generates the Report

Full Description:   
expand on brief description

Publish:   
not ready: only you see it; publish: others see it; publish for re-use: no deletion without changing publish level

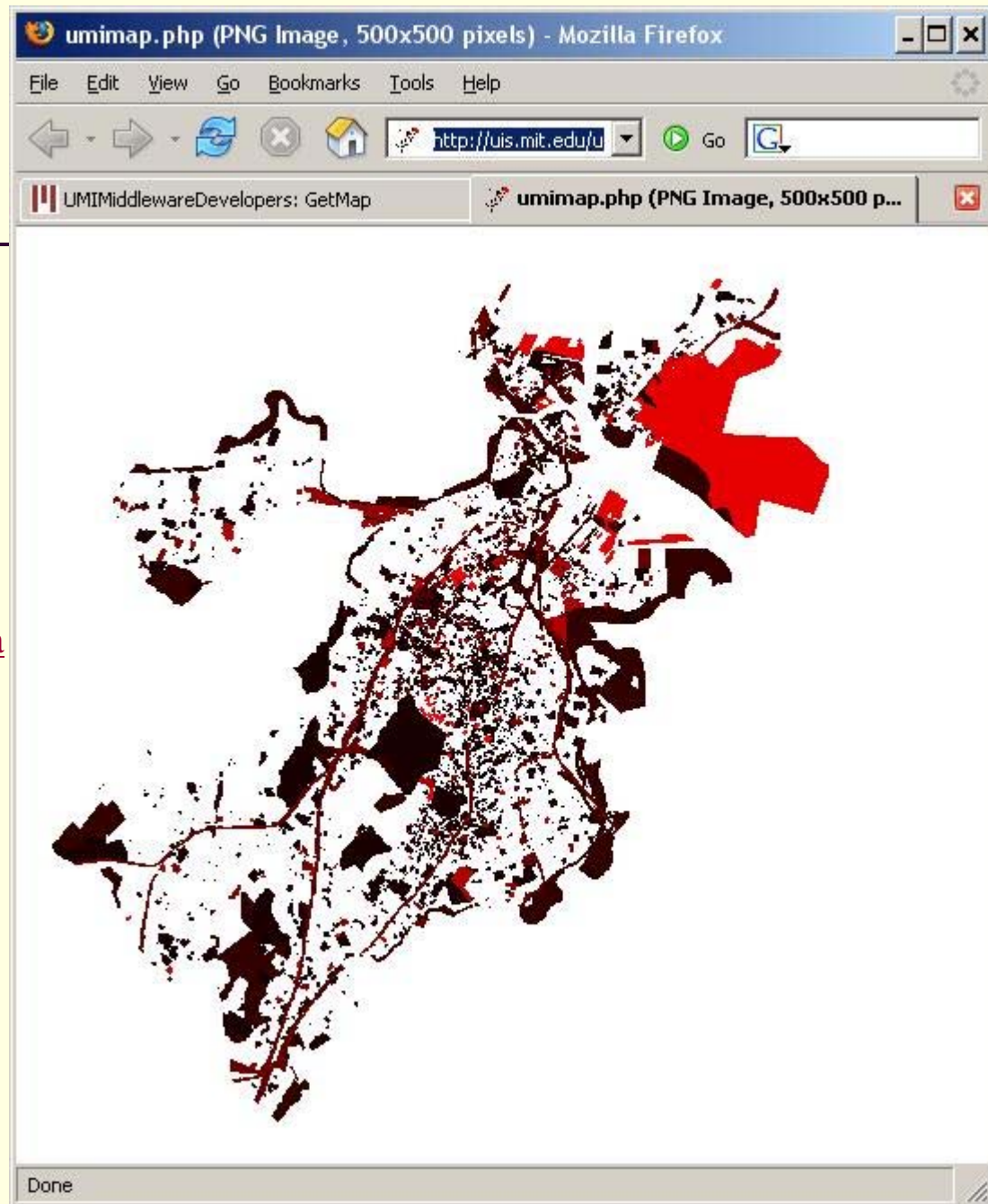
Only fields in yellow are required.

Done

A WMS call to the  
middleware services  
yields a thematic map  
of the properties owned  
by Boston's top-10  
landowners

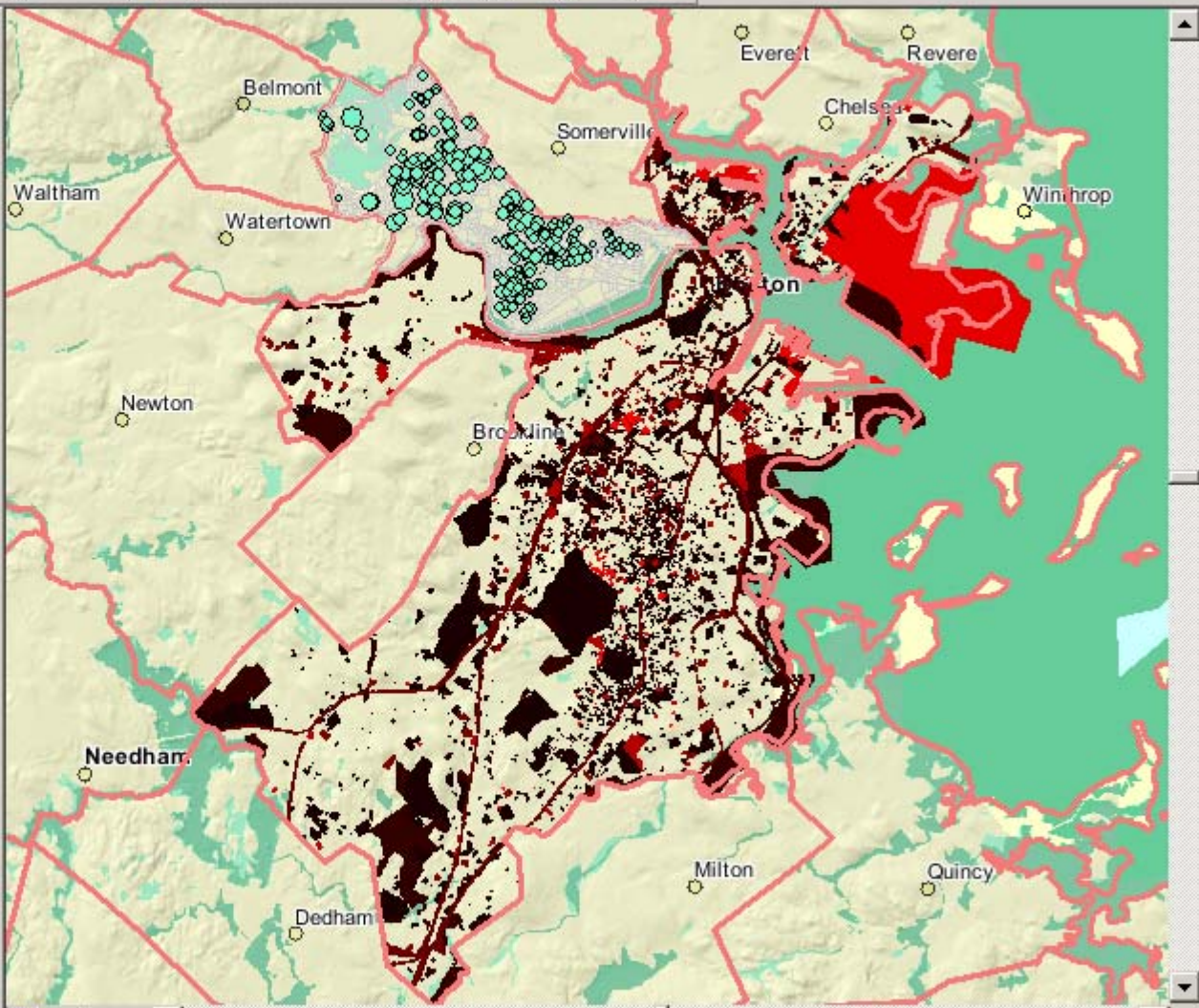
The URL:

<http://uis.mit.edu/umi/mapservice/umimap.php?request=GetMap&layers=testjf0004>



**Layers**

- sales89 point  
REALPRICE
  - 20076.29 - 165629.3
  - 165629.40 - 281896.
  - 281896.23 - 506380.
  - 506380.40 - 903078.
  - 903078.80 - 1430435
- cambtgr arc
- matown00
- cambbgrp
- Boston
  - Boston
- MassGIS WMS 1.1.13
- FEMA\_Flood



# Workshop Sections

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- Introduction
- Section 1 -- What is Internet GIS?
- Section 2 -- Internet GIS: state of practice
- Section 3 -- Future development of Internet GIS
- Section 4 -- Function comparisons of current Internet GIS programs
- Section 5 -- Internet GIS applications
- Section 6 – Issues in the Development of Internet GIS

# Section 6

---

## Issues in the Development of Internet GIS

# *Section Objective*

---

Familiar with issues involved in the development of Internet GIS, including

- performance,
- data access,
- security,
- interoperability, etc.

# Performance

---

- Server performance
  - Speed of the server
  - Multi-threaded functionality
  - Scalability
- Client performance
  - Local computer power
  - Thin or thick client?
- Network performance
  - Increase the speed of Internet connection
  - Stream data to the client in an intelligent fashion



# Interoperability

---

## ■ Technical issues

- what standards are needed for spatial data representation and for application programming interfaces for spatial data processing?

## ■ Semantic issues

- what metadata, domain-specific vocabulary, etc. are needed for data to be appropriately interpreted?

## ■ Institutional issues

- what agreements, trust, skills, reorganization, etc. is needed for organizations to coordinate effectively in the generation and use of spatial information.

# Interoperability (II)

- Online references concerning interoperability
- Technical issues: ORM – OGC Reference Model (<http://www.opengeospatial.org/specs/?page=orm>)
- Research issues: A summary report of the NCGIA's specialist meeting on "Interoperability of GIS":  
[http://www.ncgia.ucsb.edu/conf/interop97/interop\\_toc.html](http://www.ncgia.ucsb.edu/conf/interop97/interop_toc.html),  
and the University Consortium on GIS (UCGIS) white paper on interoperability research issues:  
[http://www.ncgia.ucsb.edu/other/ucgis/research\\_priorities/paper5.html](http://www.ncgia.ucsb.edu/other/ucgis/research_priorities/paper5.html)

# Cost Recovery

---

- Should the Internet GIS user be charged?
- How much?
  - Everyone the same or depending on use?
- Under what conditions?
  - Does “fair use” imply freedom to “mash up”?
  - Should and will governments continue to invest in expensive data acquisition when advertising-sponsored data are “free”

# Other Issues

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- Data Sharing- will you allow downloads of your Internet GIS data?
- Data security- are you protecting your data? Firewalls, DMZs (*demilitarized zone*).
- Updates- how difficult is it to update your data? Is your data getting static, even though it is in an interactive Internet environment?
- How much support can you count on from your IT department? Internet GIS requires a lot of IT support.

# Summary and Conclusions

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- Internet GIS will make it easier for data sharing and dissemination within and among organizations.
- Internet GIS will help facilitate planning integration and public involvement.
- Internet GIS will continue to evolve. Four directions:
  - Distributed GIS Components;
  - Web Services;
  - Open and Standards-based;
  - Open Source Software.
  - Watch the commercial companies like Google and Microsoft; they may lead the way.
    - But watch them closely, less they lock you into proprietary dead-ends...

# References

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- Zhong-Ren Peng and Ming-Hsiang Tsou, *Internet GIS: Distributed Geographic Information Services for the Internet and Wireless Networks*, John Wiley & Sons, March 2003  
(<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0471359238.html>)
- Longley, Goodchild, Maguire and Rhind, *Geographic Information Systems and Science*, 2001. ISBN: 0-471-89275-0. (available at <http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0471892750.html>)
- Plewe, Brandon, 1997, *GIS Online: Information Retrieval, Mapping, and the Internet*, OnWord Press (available at <http://www.amazon.com>)