Humanizing Technology

Critical Cartography and Civil Society

Lab 1.5

Lecture

Wrap-up

Group Time

Join at
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#ucla

Albert Kochaphum
Lab 1.5 + Lecture 2 | July 1st, 2024

Active poll

13

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Week 2! How are you feeling?

Active poll

13

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Thoughts on the Critical Cartography reading?

I haven't gotten to read all of it but this far, very insightful

concise but really informational

insightful

interesting

Woah

good

really interesting

A lot

pretty interesting

I found it interesting!

informative

It was really interesting and insightful

Active poll

13

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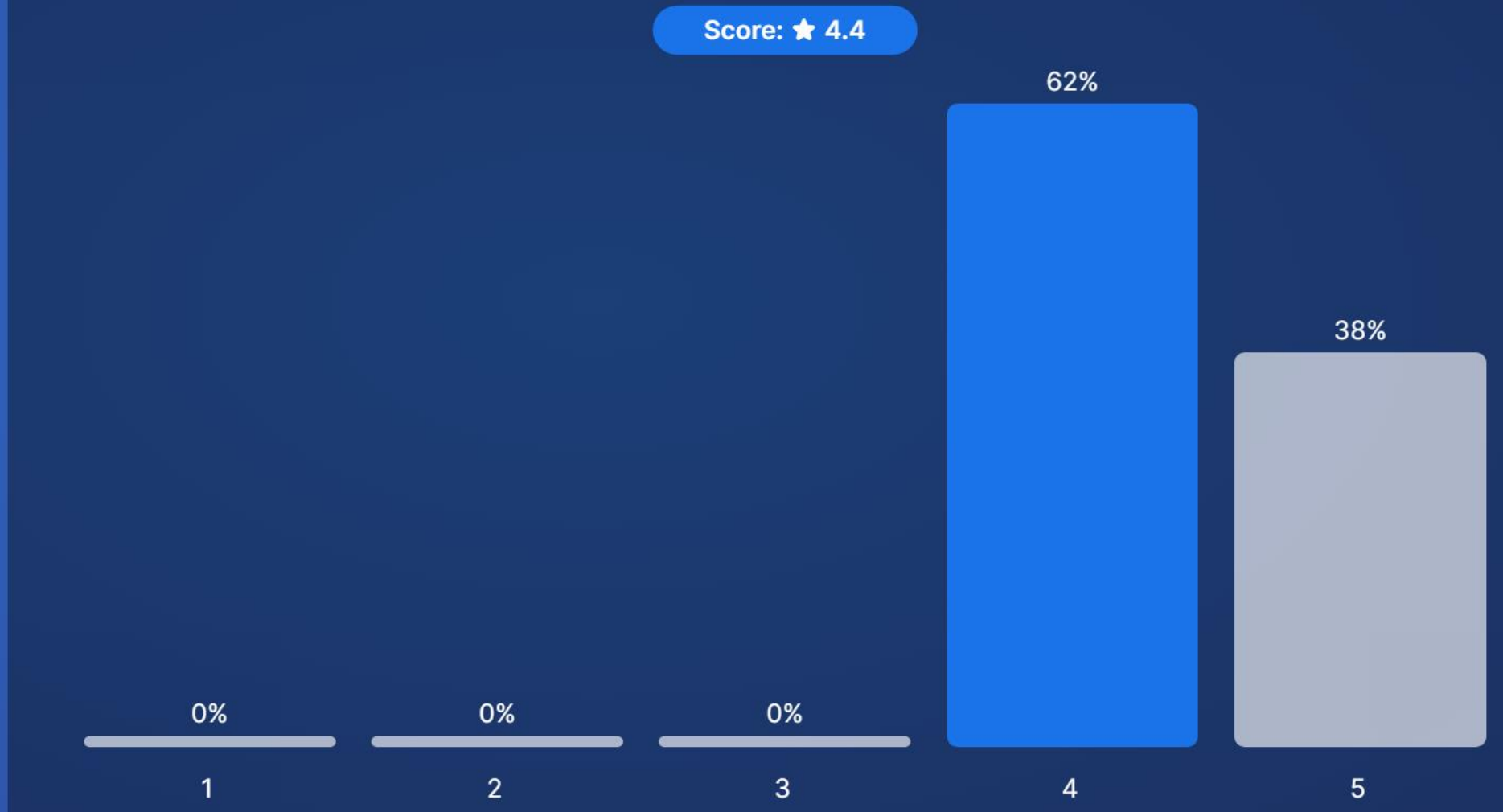
How meaningful was the Critical Cartography reading?

1 - Not meaningful 5 - Extremely meaningful



Active poll

13

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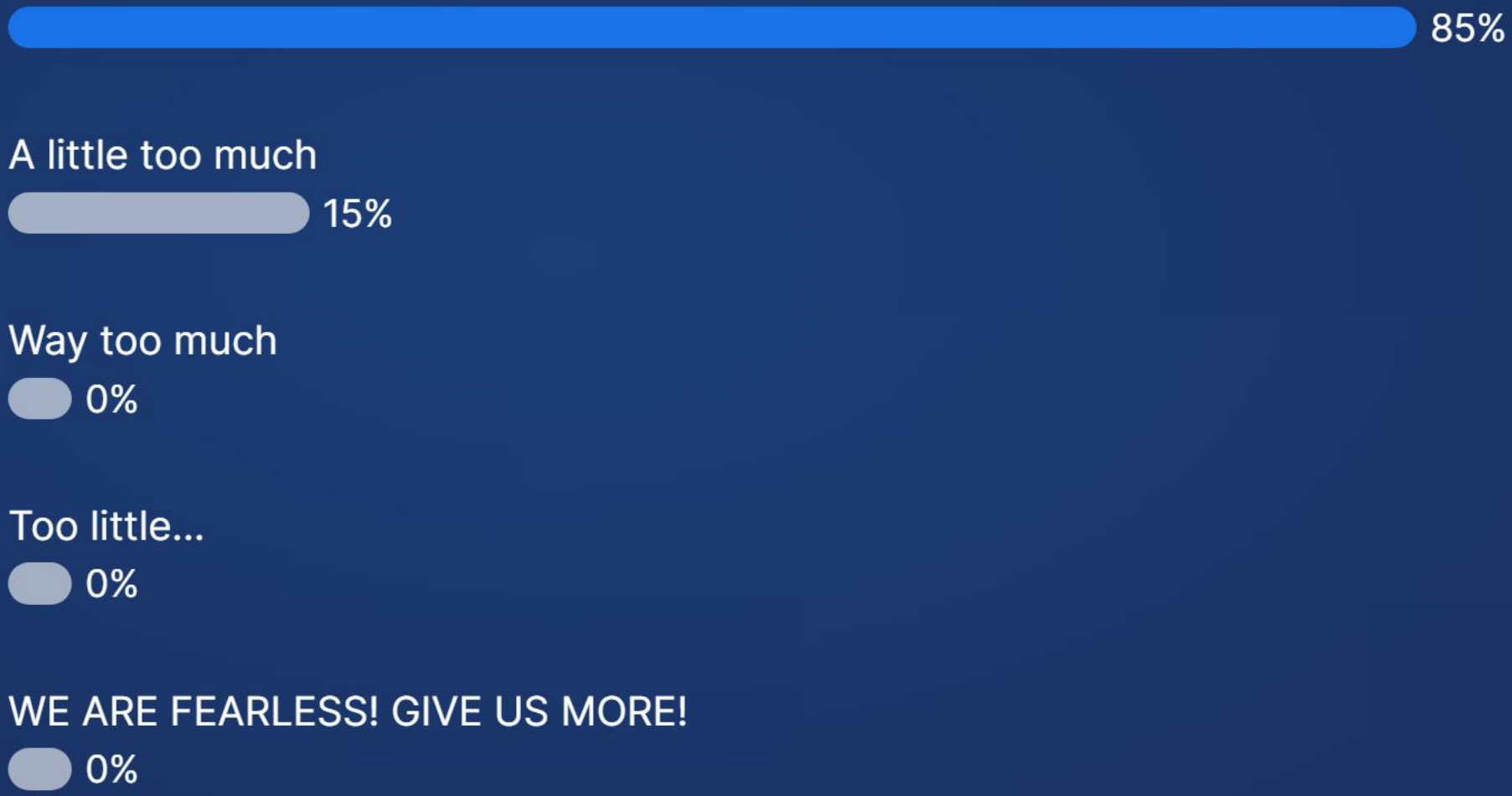
How was the work load for week 1?



Active poll

13

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MapLibre OK?

Yes

69%

Doesn't matter!

31%

Nah, give me Leaflet...plzzz

0%

Active poll

13

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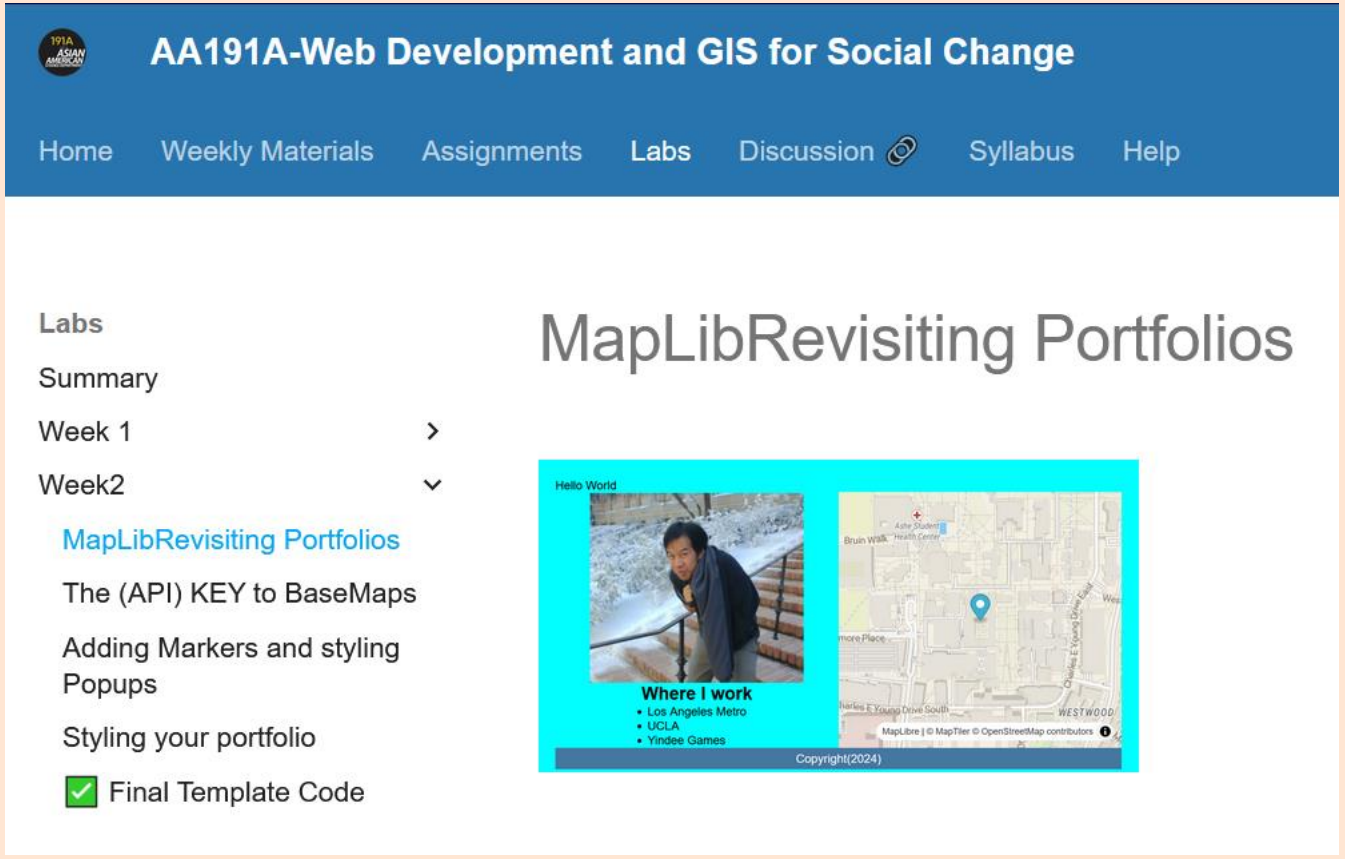
What do you want to focus on today?

Humanizing Technology

MapLibRevisiting Portfolios

- Lab 1.5
- Lecture
- Wrap-up
- Group Time

Objective: More portfolio additions



https://albertkun.github.io/24SU-ASIAAM-191A/labs/week2/lab1more/

Humanizing Technology

Lecture

- Lab 1.5
- **Lecture**
- Wrap-up
- Group Time

Lecture

???

Lab 1.5

???

Lecture

Discussion

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Albert Kochaphum
Lecture 2 | July 1st, 2024

Week 1 ALwards

Refreshing ComMINTs ALwards

NICE EMPHASIS ON

NATIVE REPRESENTATION

Kiana Tran

To elaborate, **depending on how data** is organized, the results can be skewed and lead to misrepresentation. Many Asian American health data have this problem as **all Asian groups (Southeast, South, East, etc.)** are **aggregated**, which leads to many **group health problems** being overlooked.

https://github.com/albertkun/24SU-ASIAAM-191A/discussions/25#discussioncomment-9879227

Great connection

ween the reading and response

Justine Lim

...data and GIS, like any technology, it **can be misused or cause more problems than it fixes**... As mentioned in Crampton and Krygier's article, it can **exacerbate existing social inequalities**... In using data and GIS, **I agree with Crampton and Krygier's** point that it **is just as important** to also **study how technology works with society** to unlock its full potential.

https://github.com/albertkun/24SU-ASIAAM-191A/discussions/25#discussioncomment-9889578

Great Ricolanection
An Specific Example

Chris Sanrow

"GIS and data as a whole are often treated as **sterile, scientific,** and **objective**. However, these technologies are inherently highly **politicized and easily misused.** Take, for instance, the WordNet database...**Implicit biases** can be found in the database's subclasses, such as the term "**hermaphrodite**" being located under the branch **Person > Sensualist > Bisexual.**

https://github.com/albertkun/24SU-ASIAAM-191A/discussions/25#discussioncomment-9892738

Excellent com

Sadhana Jeyakumar

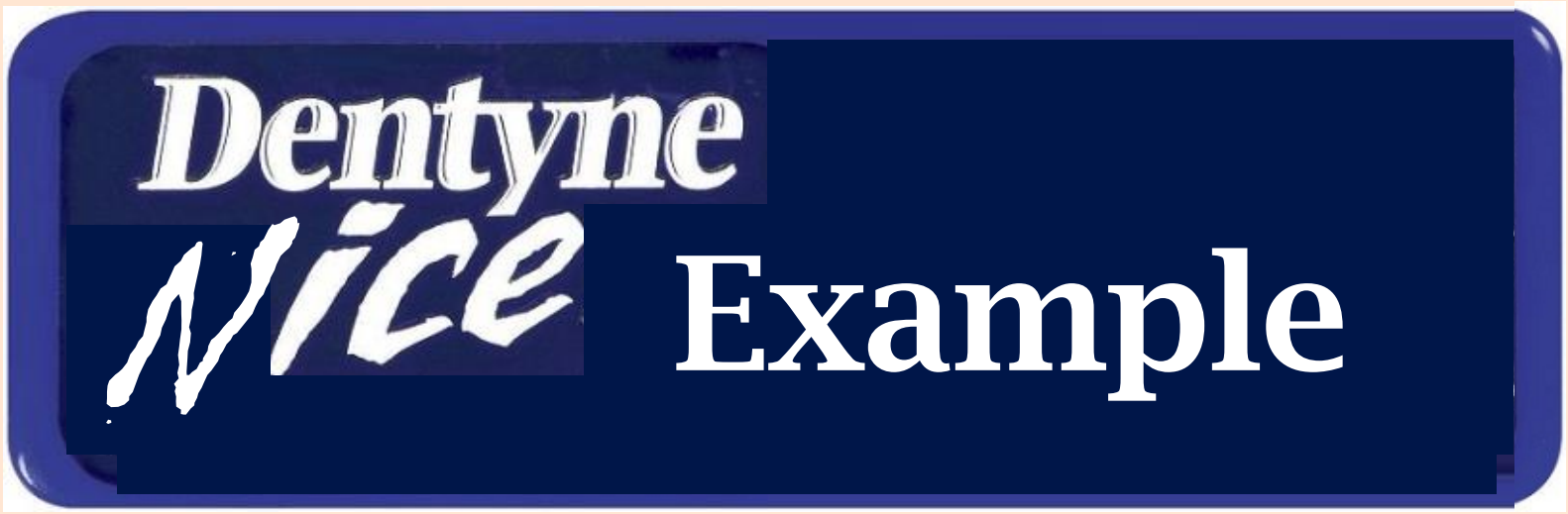
"I had never heard of **that case** before but it definitely **highlights** how programs are **built by people who have biases**, and how those biases can easily **reveal themselves** in the **organization**, **performance**, and **functions** of those programs… also wonder if there is a limit to this, especially when the data includes **sensitive information** about vulnerable populations…"

https://github.com/albertkun/24SU-ASIAAM-191A/discussions/25#discussioncomment-9899538

Kienna Chhoeu

"I have never heard of WordNet database, that seems very focused on the **classification of people** that it really does not realize the importance of the nuances of each individual in a community… **bring in a lot more negatives** in terms of how the data can be used… keep **cartographical tools inaccessible** has to deal with the fact that a lot of the **people in charge of these systems** and how it is used **do not come from a minority background**, kind of like a way to **silence those** who **do not participate directly**…"

https://github.com/albertkun/24SU-ASIAAM-191A/discussions/25#discussioncomment-9900568



Keiya Wada

"GIS, similar to other technology**, fails to capture the whole story of whatever it is that we are trying to address**...other tech is **cameras**. Similarly to GIS, it might serve as good **evidence** or data, but it is **simply one frame**, one shot of time taken out of the context of the whole story...it needs careful background check of **where the data came from**, **who gathered** the data, etc...

https://github.com/albertkun/24SU-ASIAAM-191A/discussions/25#discussioncomment-9914278

On Topic!

Nellie Ngyuen

utilize data and GIS is that it can easily be **skewed to favor a specific perspective or vision**...Another factor that connects with **limited data collection** is the "silent" population that cannot **communicate their voices** due to simply not knowing how and where to report their ideas or statements... It seems that our natural instinct is to **trust sources** and information that have typical statistics and data because... the **more specific information** is, the more 'plausible' it may be

https://github.com/albertkun/24SU-ASIAAM-191A/discussions/25#discussioncomment-9919190

Amazing Critical Framework Application

Gia Kim

"information and data is **biased at every step of the collection and gathering** process.... is a **reflection of the society** that we exist in and in turn **harbors the same systemic issues** we face and perpetuate...if a **medical study** is being completed, the participants would likely be **disproportionately white** because medical researchers have a history of e**xperimenting on people of color, and especially black people**, which facilitates a justified mistrust on medical research... if they do not approach it with a critical framework, it **misrepresents "truths"** because a lot of data is presented as objective when there is **much more subjectivity** than is typically considered.

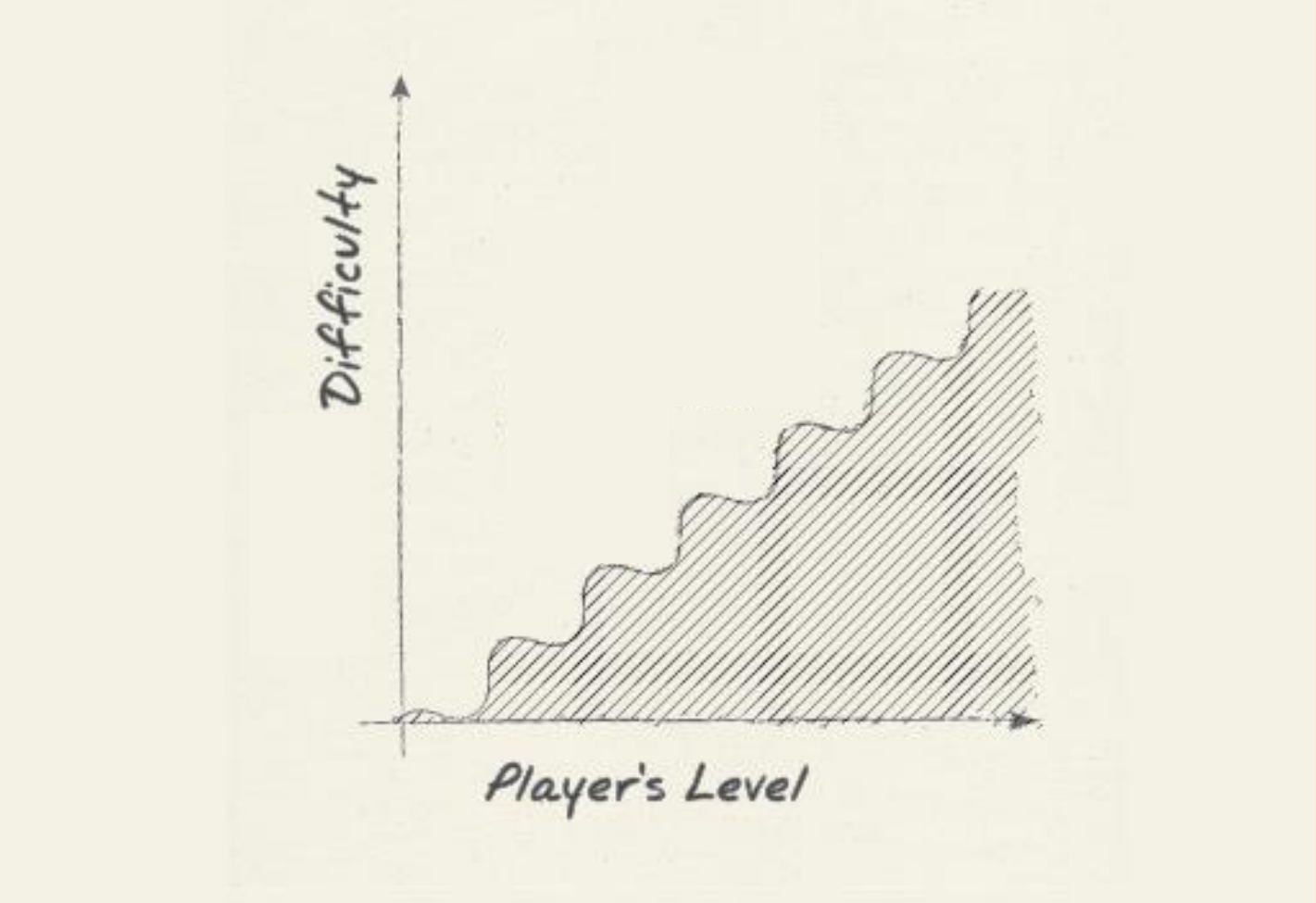
https://github.com/albertkun/24SU-ASIAAM-191A/discussions/25#discussioncomment-9886978

Michelle Zhao

"... examples of **AI failing to overcome** the same biases our **current power structure exhibits** (e.g. facial recognition not being able to accurately identify non-white faces despite the widespread usage of such technology for security already), many people I know...believe that **one day**, with enough **data and technical developments**, these problems will just **all go away** by themselves...I believe that is the problem with our approach to **using data for digital tools**... is greatly limited by **what roles and positions one holds** in **society**, and technological tools like GIS can only create a picture ... that... **ignoring the views of those people that aren't part of "us**." This becomes increasingly problematic when the creators or users of some technology **represent the dominant class** as it only **reinforces current power structures**.

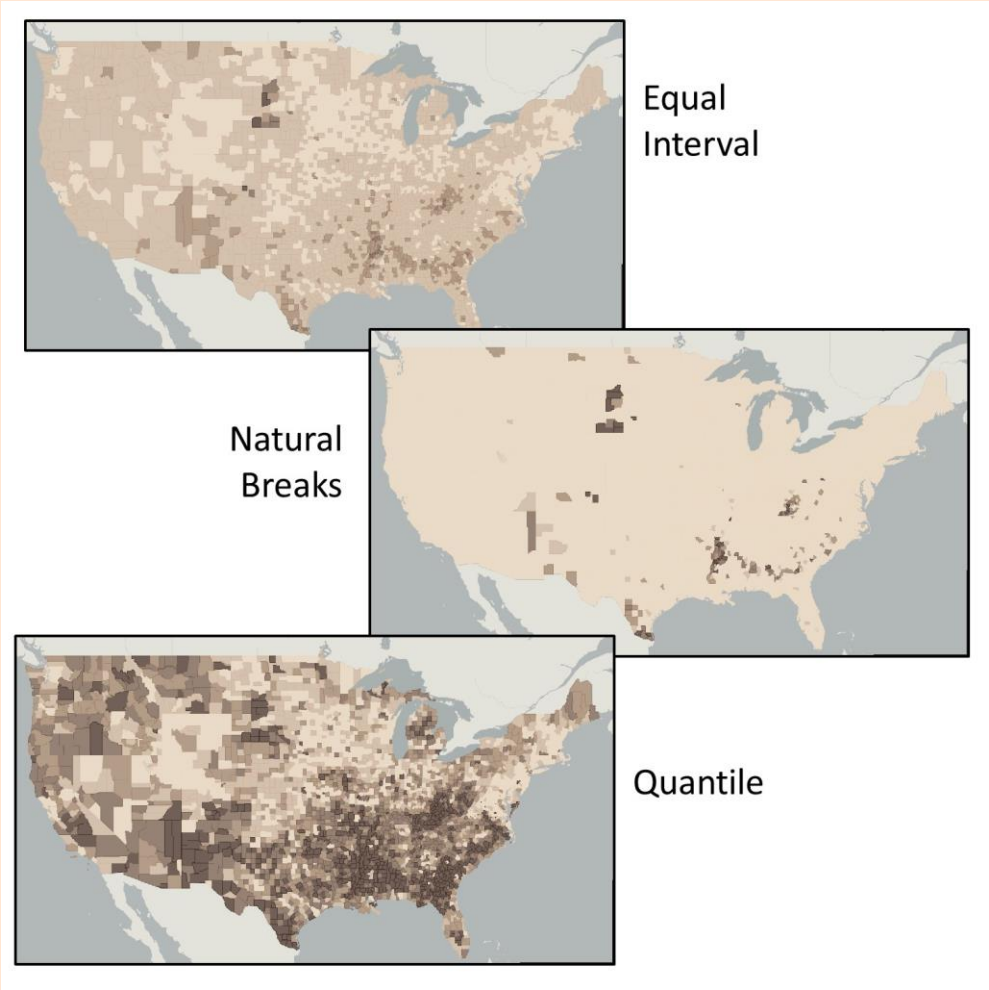
https://github.com/albertkun/24SU-ASIAAM-191A/discussions/25#discussioncomment-9917078

ALward Notes



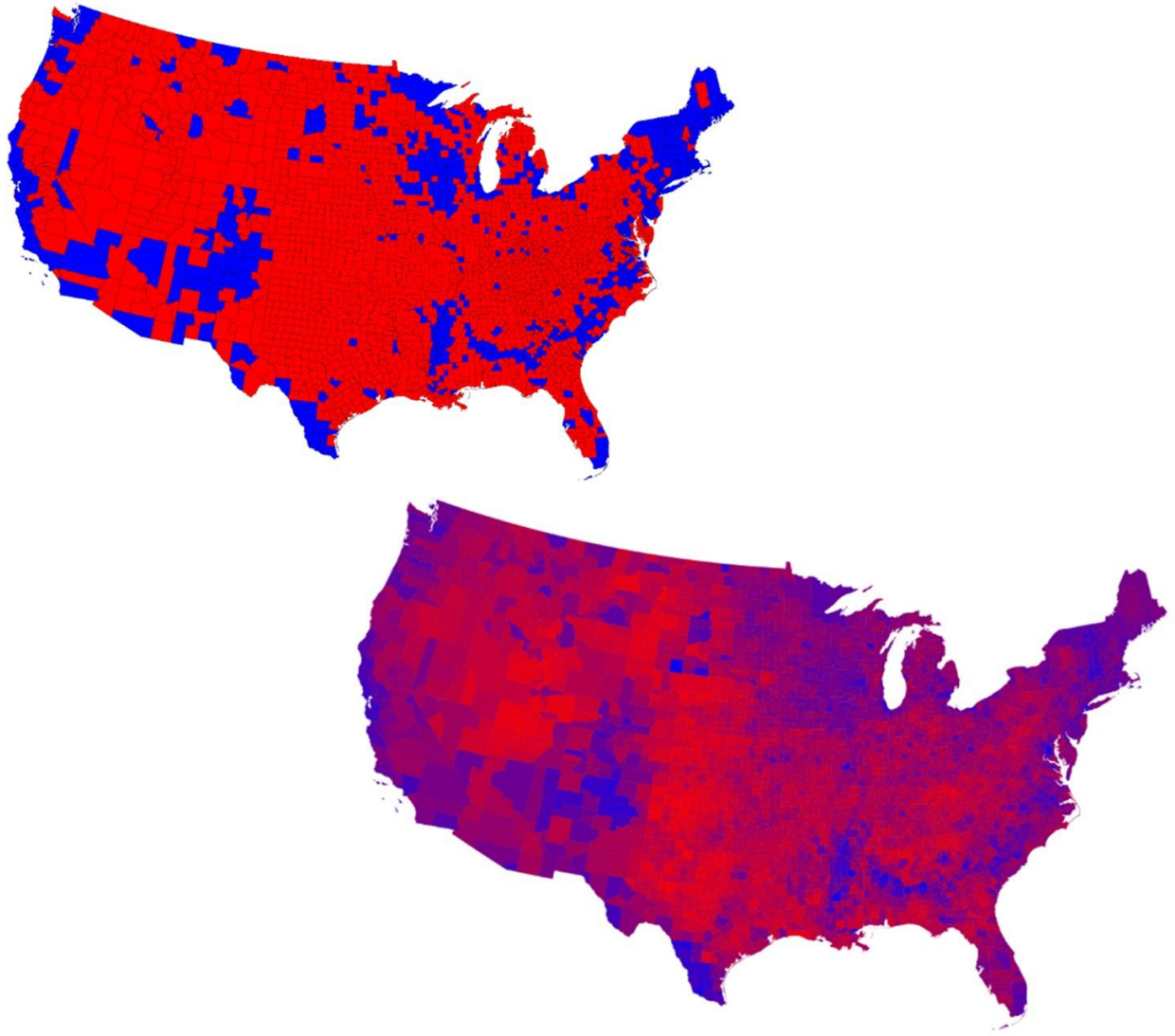
Harder to get awards next time!

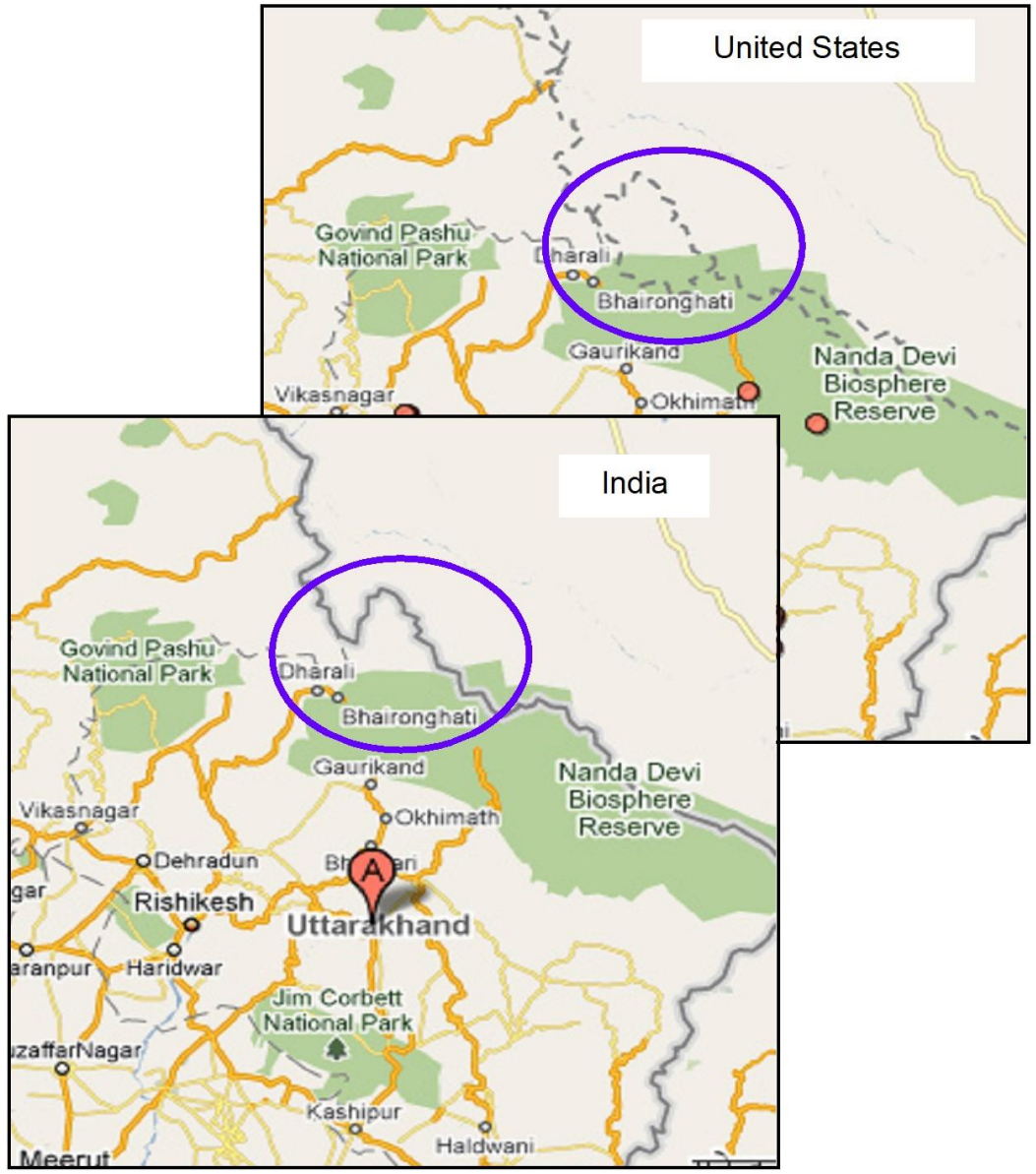
ALward Notes: Lying with maps



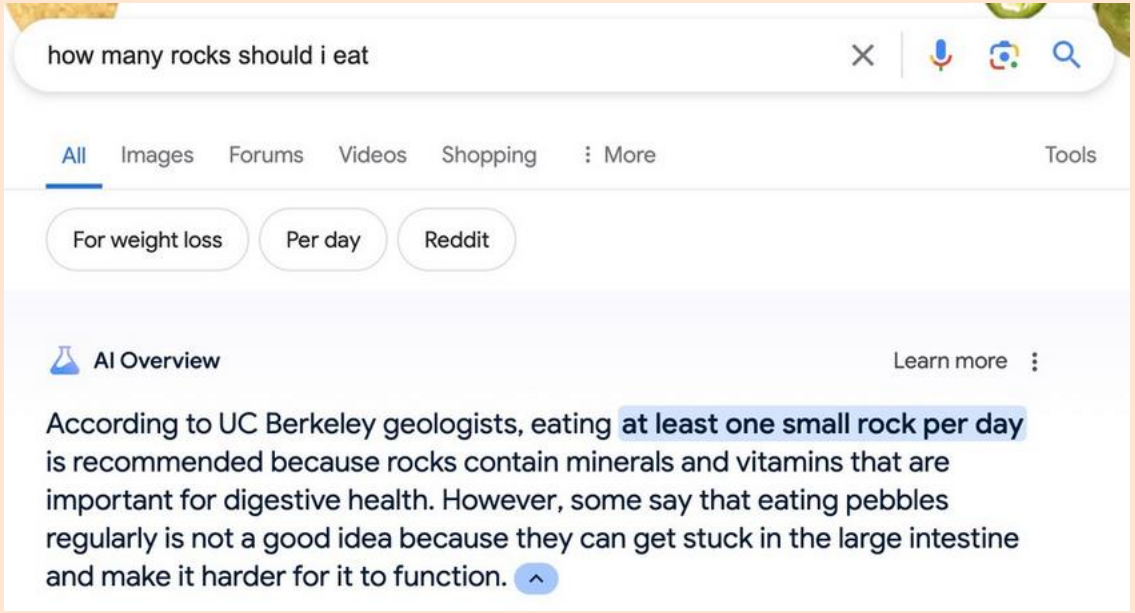
https://open.lib.umn.edu/mapping/chapter/7-lying-with-maps/

US Presidential Election Results by County (2012)




United States
Govind Pashu
National Park
Dharali
Bhaironghati
Gaurikand
Okhimath
Nanda Devi
Biosphere
Reserve
Vikasnagar
India
Govind Pashu
National Park
Dharali
Bhaironghati
Gaurikand
Okhimath
Nanda Devi
Biosphere
Reserve
Vikasnagar
Dehradun
A
Rishikesh
Uttarakhand
Haridwar
Jim Corbett
National Park
Kashipur
Haldwani
Meerut

https://open.lib.umn.edu/mapping/chapter/7-lying-with-maps/

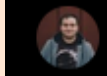


In one baffling example, a reporter Googling whether they could use gasoline to cook spaghetti faster was told "no... but you can use gasoline to make a spicy spaghetti dish" and given a recipe.

https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cd11gzejgz4o

https://9to5google.com/2024/05/23/google-search-ai-how-to-turn-off/

How to avoid AI in Google Search since you can't turn it off



Ben Schoon | May 23 2024 - 5:30 am PT 2 Comments

Google is rolling out AI Overviews to all Search users in the US and you cannot turn it off. However, you can avoid it. Here's how.

You can't turn off AI Overviews in Google Search

If you're reading this article (or the regurgitated version in an AI Overview) because you searched for "how to turn off AI in Google Search," there's some bad news. Google has already confirmed that AI Overviews cannot be turned off.

https://9to5google.com/2024/05/23/google-search-ai-how-to-turn-off/

ALward Tips

- **Here to learn from each other: connect your own experiences!**
- **Always a good idea: referencing what was covered in the reading!**

Humanizing Technology

Lecture

Lab 1.5

ALwards

Lecture

Discussion

Join at
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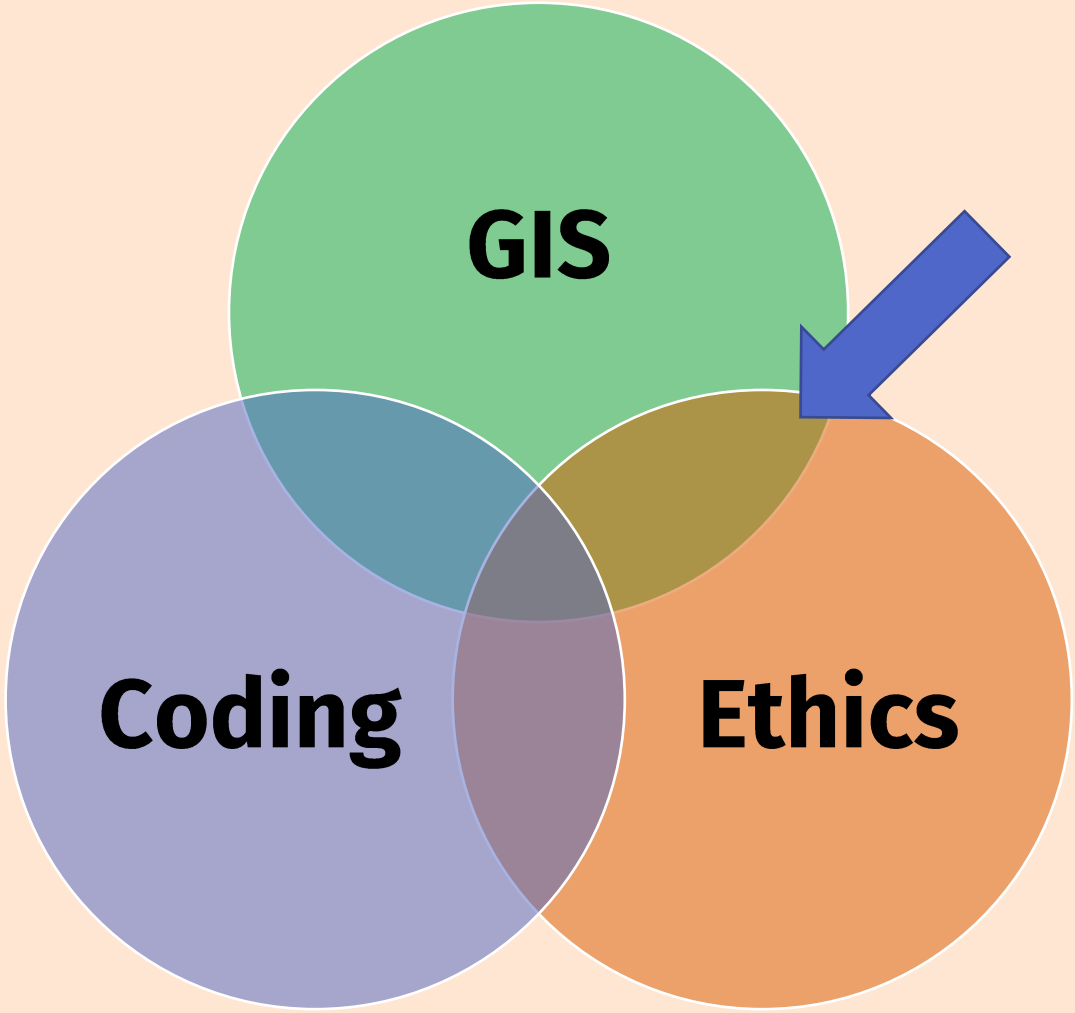
Albert Kochaphum
Lecture 2 | April 11th, 2023

Theme of the week

Balancing critical tools with critical thinking

Remember this?



Where was Critical Cartography?

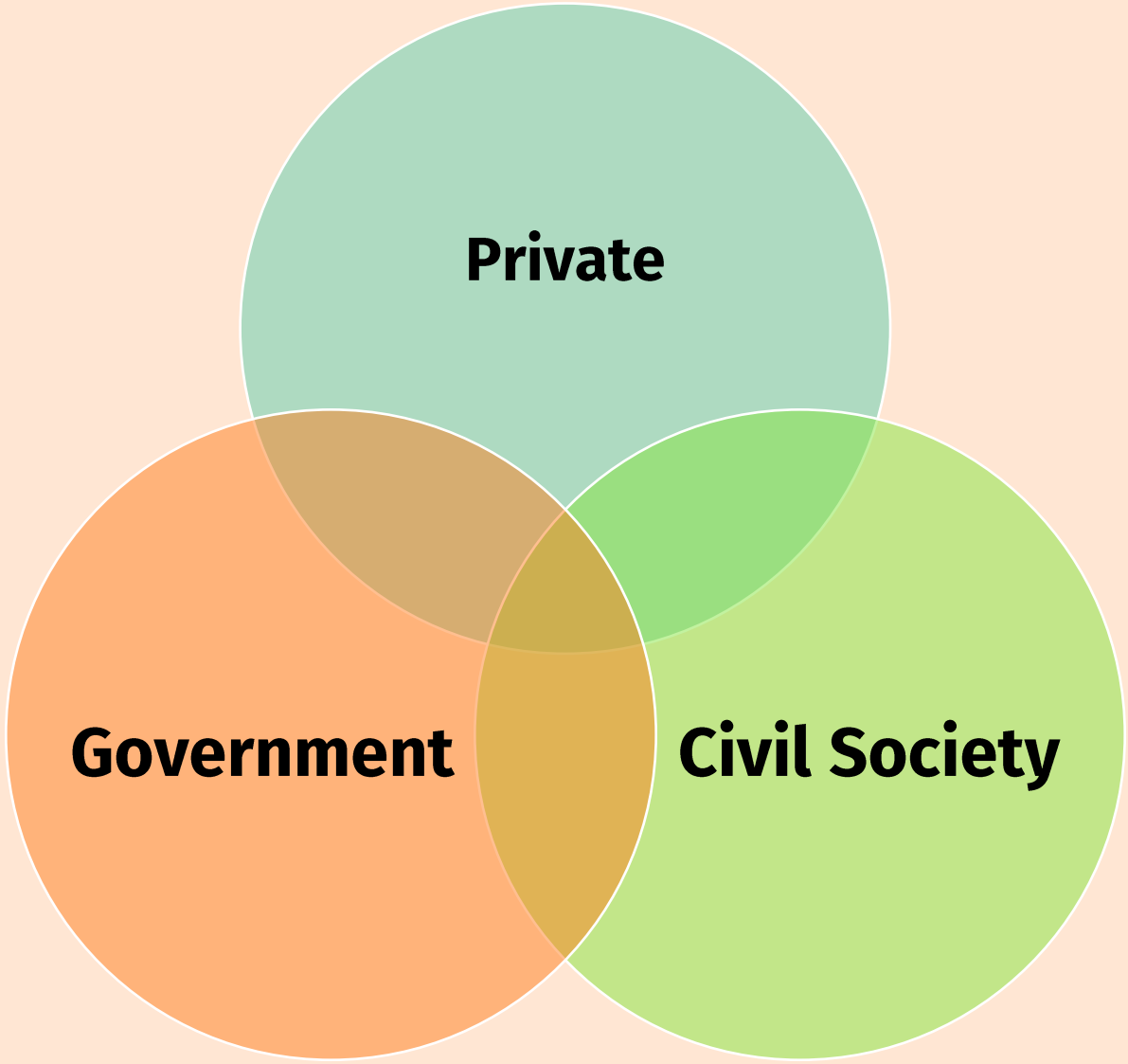
Venn will you ever stop showing diagrams?

Never, so let me...

venone mo Diagram

to you

Sectors of Society

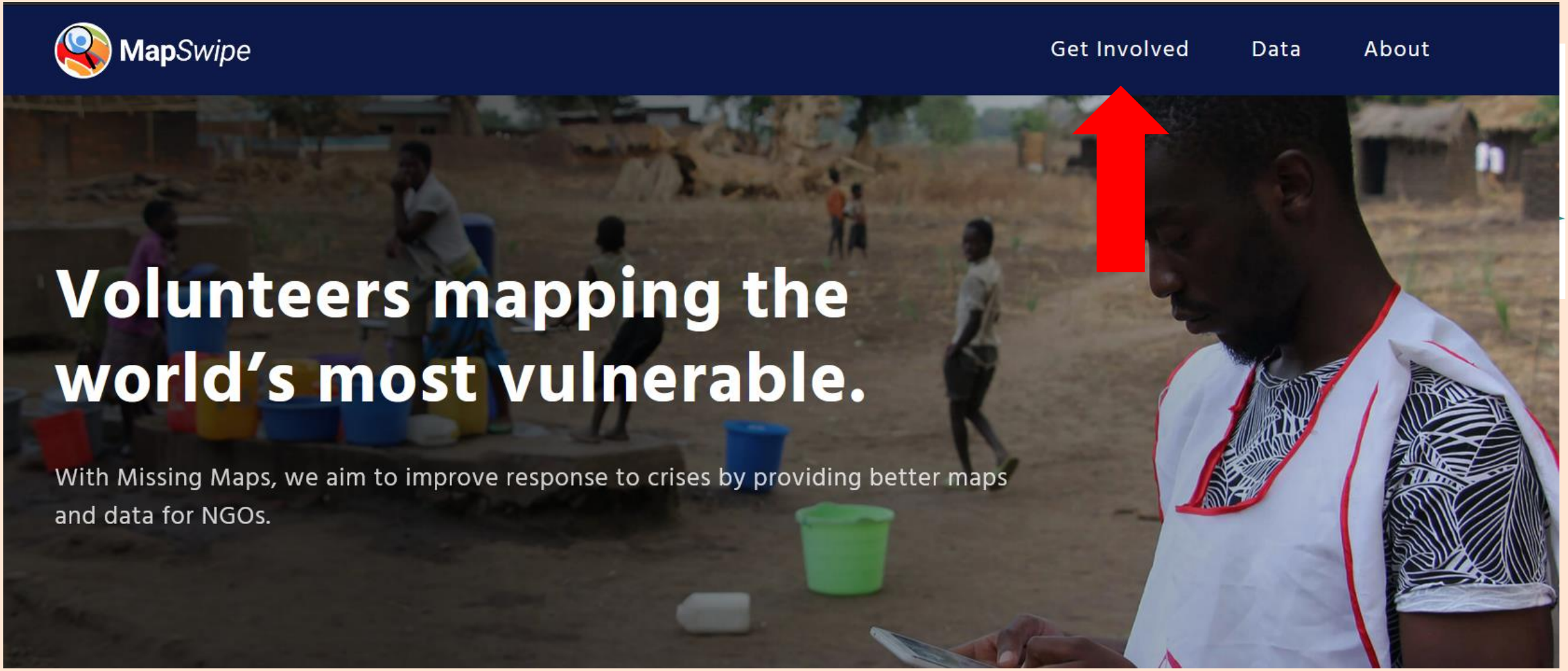


Civil Society's control over GIS data has been limited.

Civil Society

Civil Society in mapping

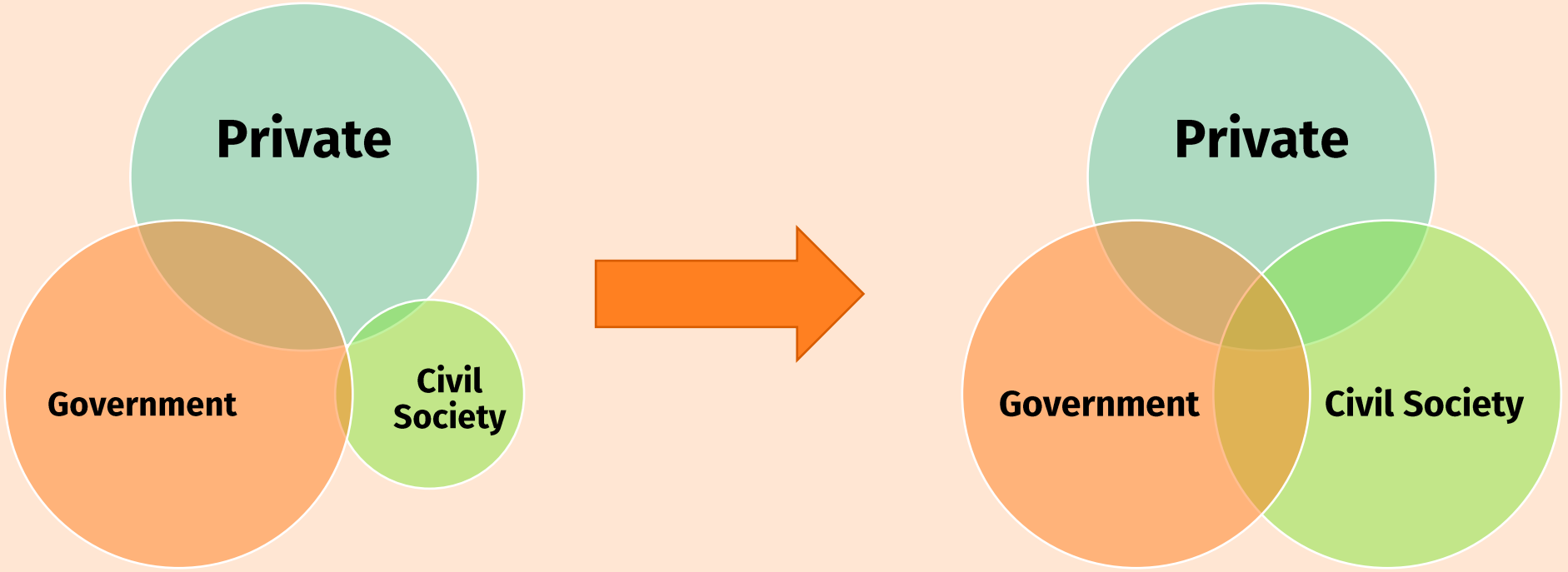
Civil Society and Critical Cartography



Undisciplining Cartography

“Critique is about the politics of knowledge”

Undisciplining Cartography



Re-aligning the power behind a map to civil society.

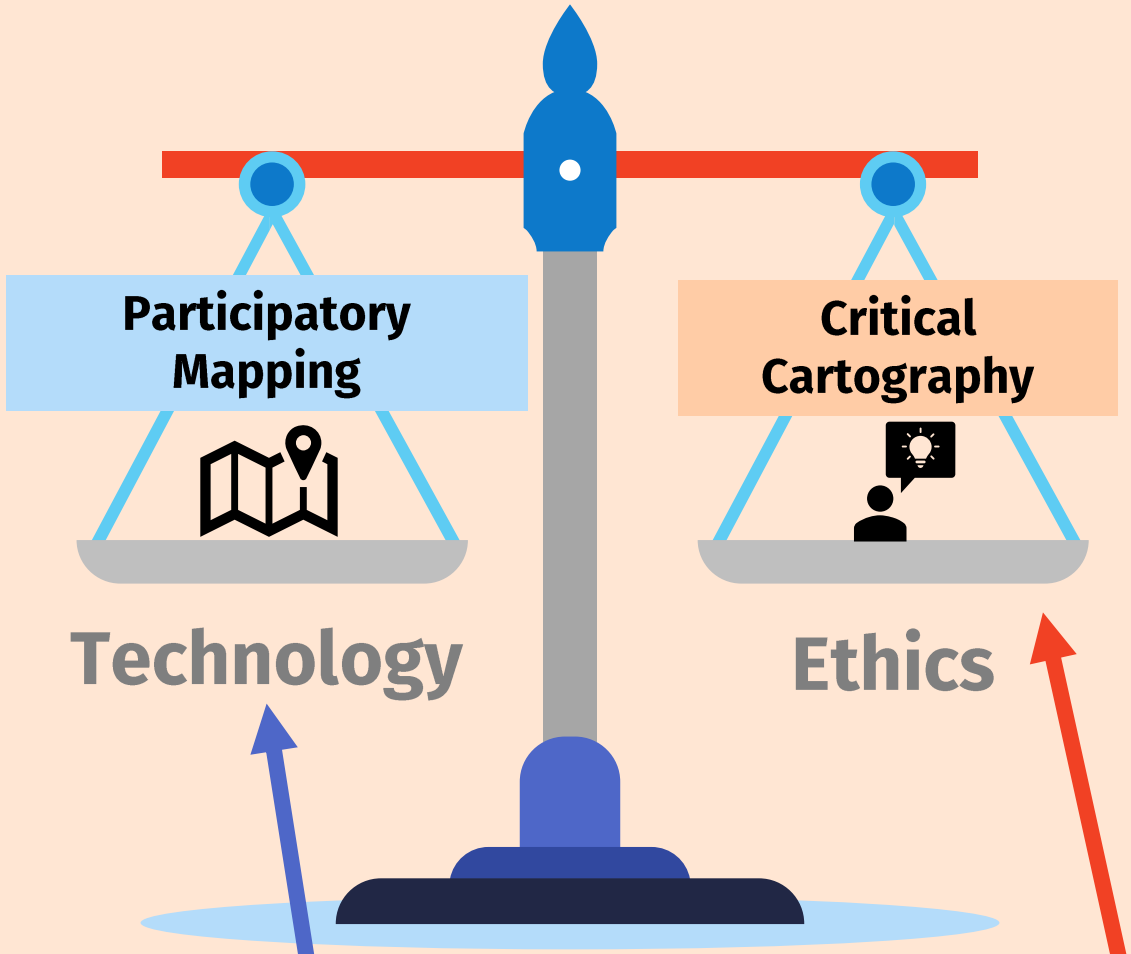
Undisciplining Cartography

Not about “mapping accuracy” but understanding WHO’s mapped and WHO’s map is it for.

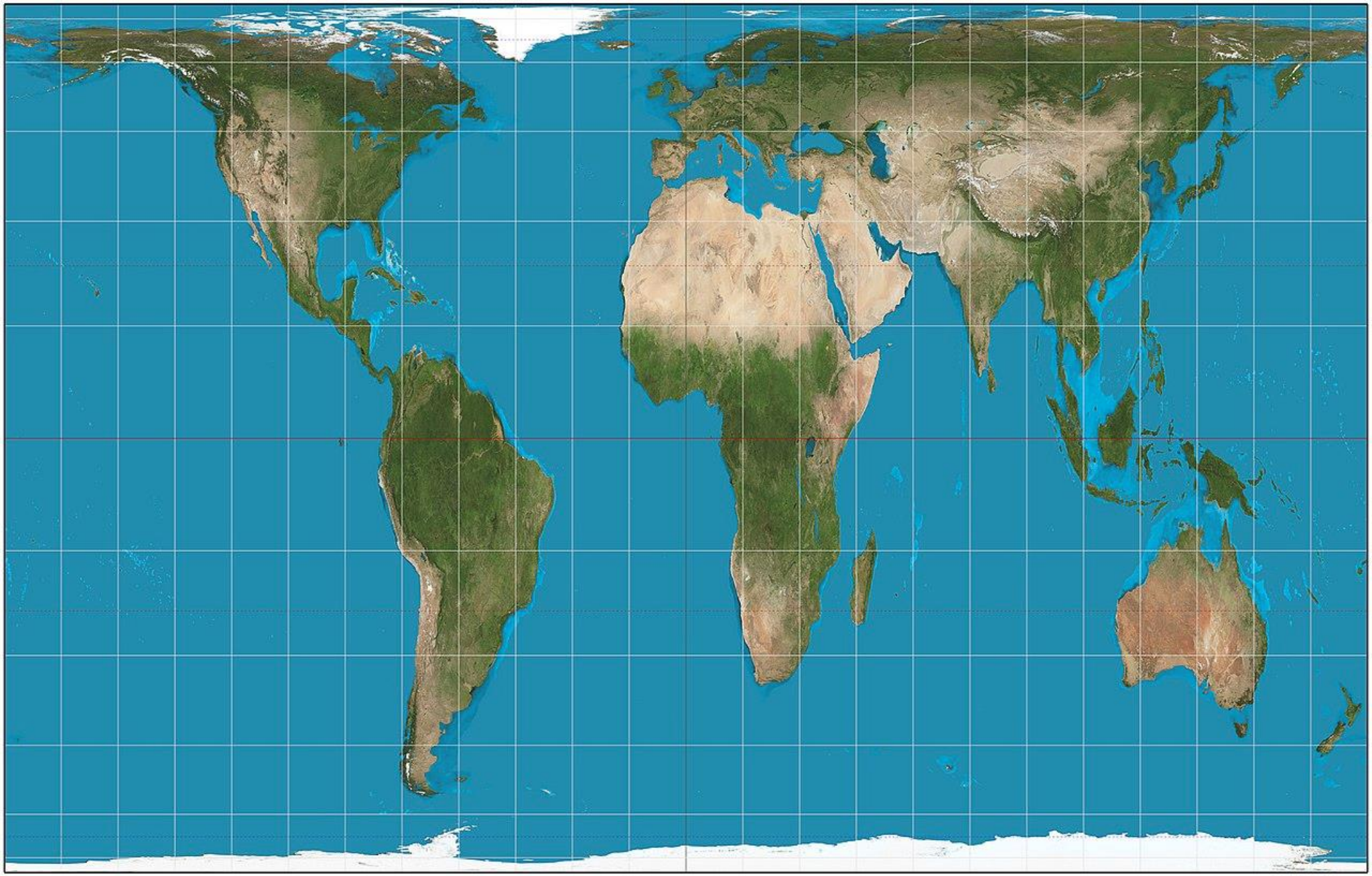
Undisciplining Cartography

Nor is it about “perfect maps or data”: It is about acknowledging and critiquing the power dynamics behind mapping.

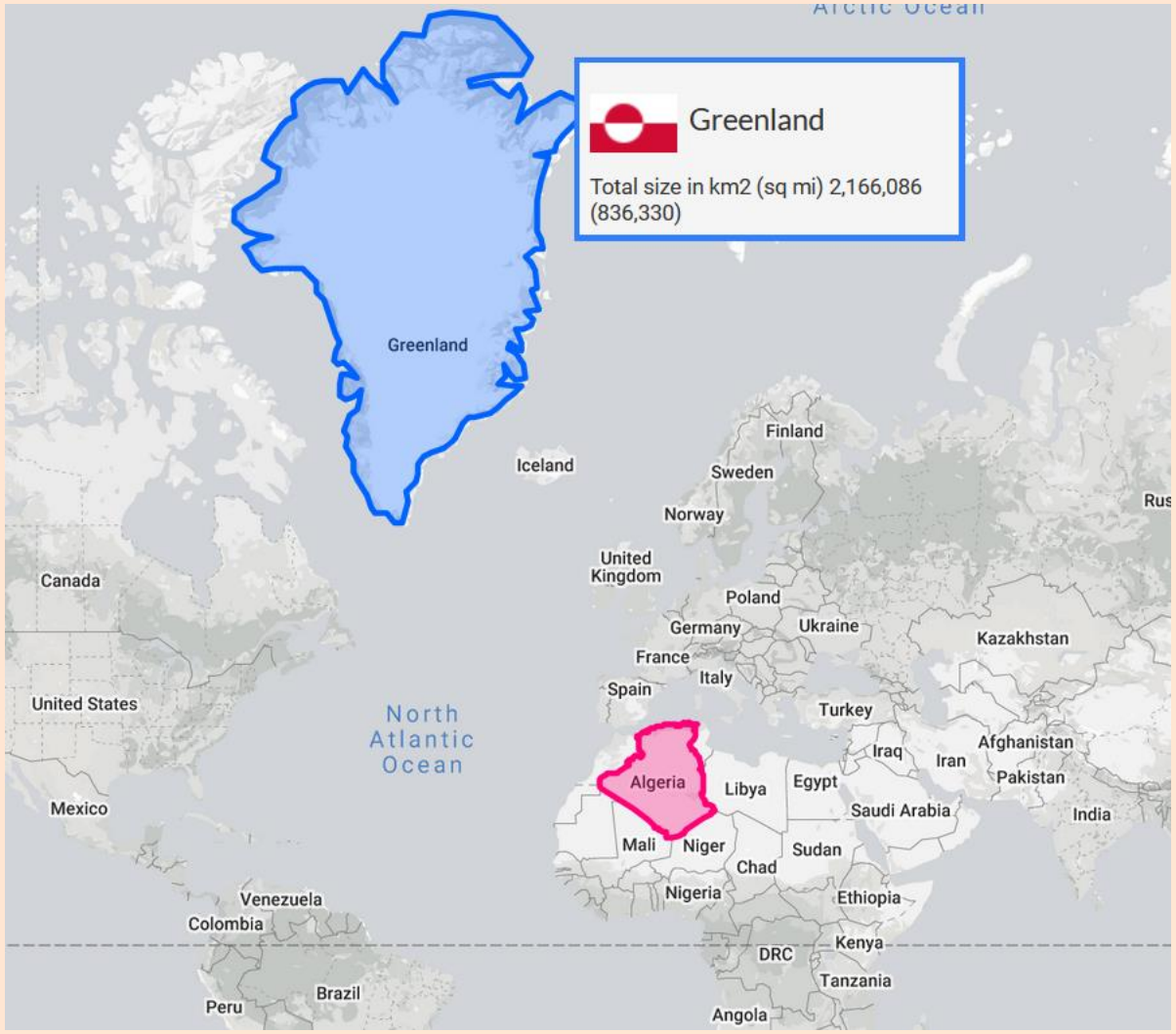
Theme of the week



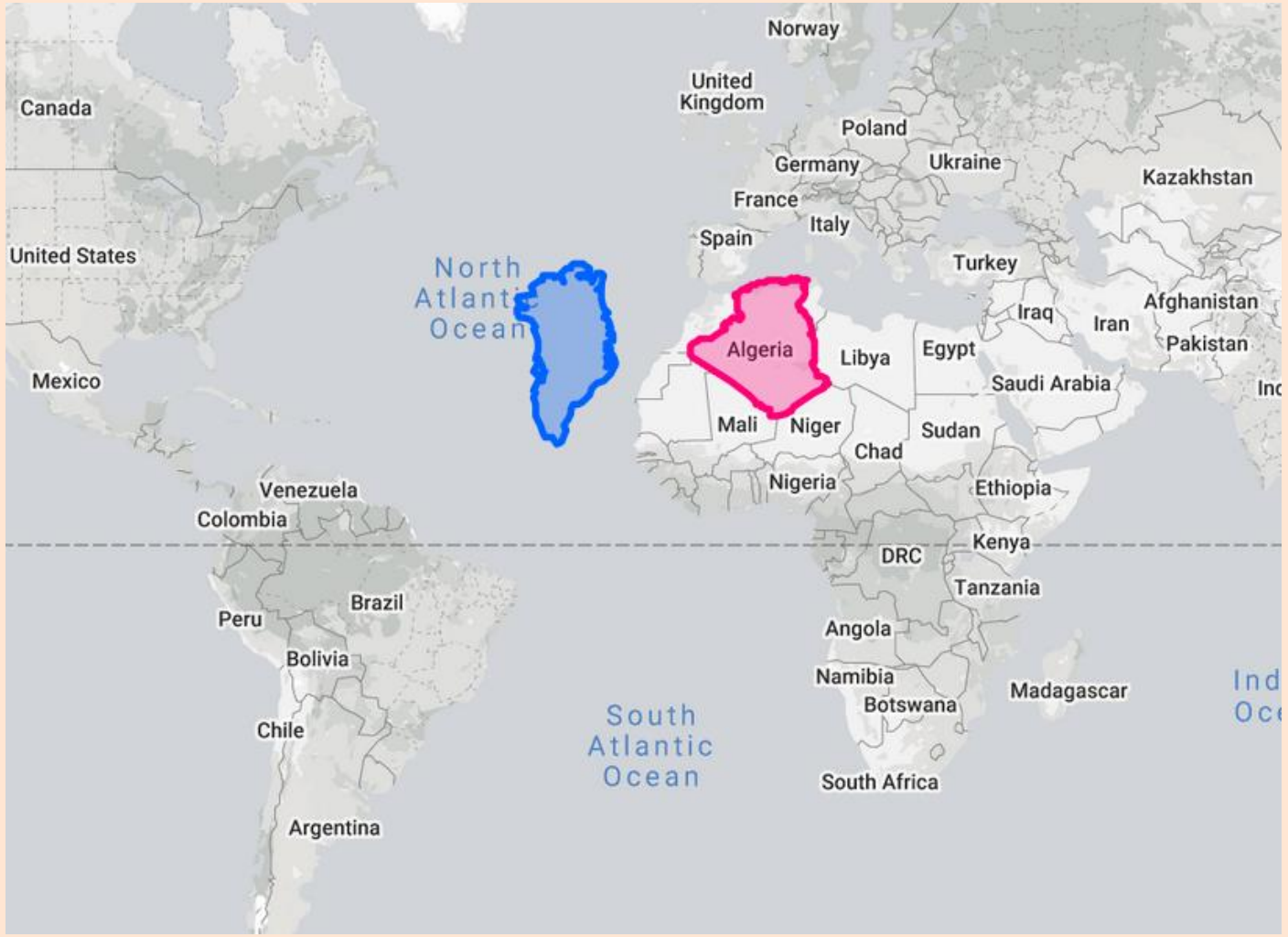
Balancing critical tools with critical thinking



Undisciplining Cartography



Undisciplining Cartography



https://thetruesize.com

Undisciplining Cartography

Humanizing Technology

Discussion

- Lab 1.5
- Lecture
- **Discussion**
- Group Time

Discussion Rooms

Room #			
1	Chris	Ness	Sachi
2	Jasmine	Kienna	Paige
3	Keiya	Sadhana	Leila
4	Caitlynn	Justine	Kaila
5	Gia	Kiana	Michelle

Discussion #1

1. Breakout rooms of 3 people each

2. Click on your breakout room in this Google Doc: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tXo4IxvNluae4v56ofPdzpmuhVLnJGOVSp8BGAzvOgE

3. Discuss the questions together

4. Take notes

5. Pick 1-2 representatives to share back to the larger group

Q1. How do we increase awareness of critical cartography? Should we?

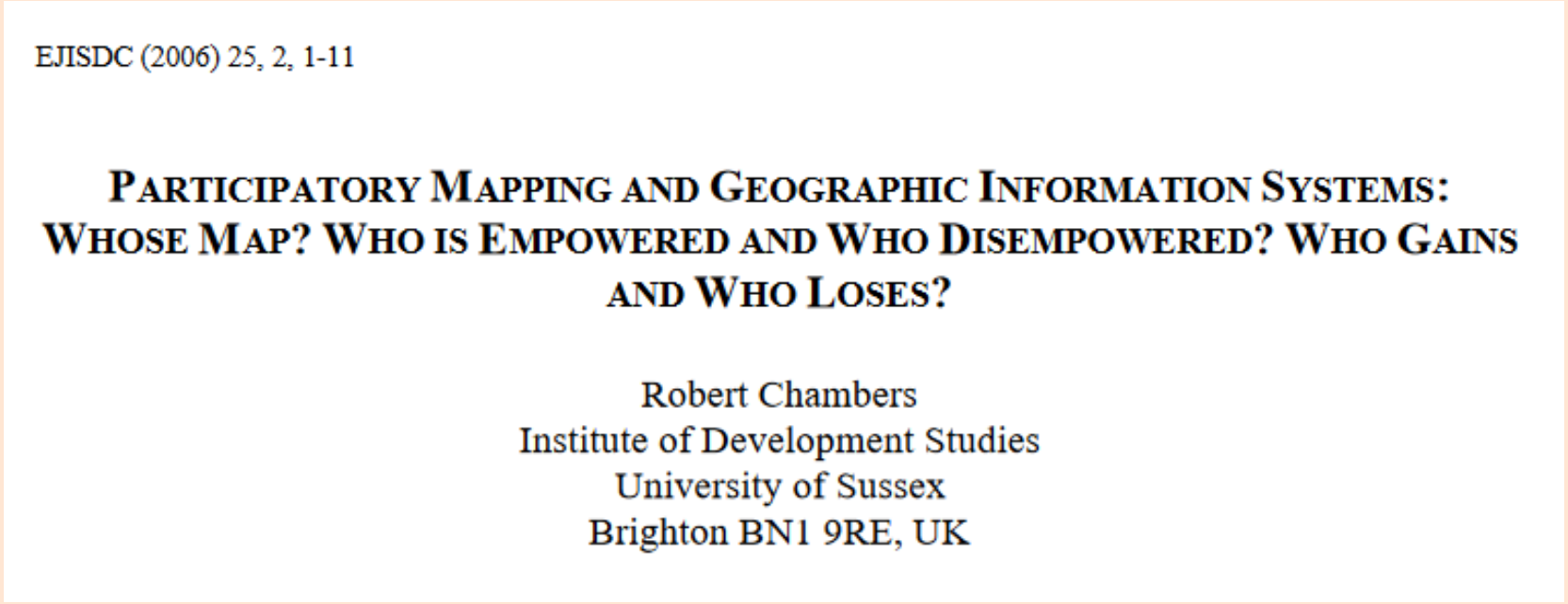
Q2. “Oppression” seems to be a running theme of cartography, how do we avoid it?

Q3. We will be “map hacking” ourselves, but what about the role of “map artists”?

Thinking Cap for the week

How can participatory mapping and critical cartography be improved?

Weekly Reading



EJISDC (2006) 25, 2, 1-11

PARTICIPATORY MAPPING AND GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS: WHOSE MAP? WHO IS EMPOWERED AND WHO DISEMPOWERED? WHO GAINS AND WHO LOSES?

Robert Chambers
Institute of Development Studies
University of Sussex
Brighton BN1 9RE, UK

https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1002/j.1681-4835.2006.tb00163.x

Assignments

Due Thursday 7/3:

1. Lab Assignment #1 –Your Map Portfolio
2. Group Assignment #1 – Group Repository
3. Pre-Lab – JavaScript and Web mapping

Humanizing Technology

Group Time

- Lab 1.5
- Lecture
- Discussion
- **Group Time**

Group Spreadsheet

Tenative Theme	Health Care	LGTBQ+ Intl'	Japanese	Palestine Encampment	Incarcerated/formerly-incarcerated	Transportation	Urban Planning	Health Care
Member 1	Sachi	Chris	Keiya	Justine	Caitlynn	Leila	Michelle	Kiana
Member 2		Kienna	Kaila	Gia	Jasmine	Ness	Sadhana	Paige
Member 3								Nellie

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1z8Wi2X4Qu1pp10-ArU6qgb9aINBtdKnSybHFJvTTRwE/edit?gid=0#gid=0

During group time, feel free to:

- Change topics
- Move yourself around*
- Ask me questions
- Work on group assignment #1

***Note: Each group must have 2-3 people, so you may need to swap with another member to change groups.**

Group Assignment #1

1. Have one person **create a new repo** for the group and invite everyone as collaborators.

2. **Add a `readme.md`** to the repository that briefly describes the following in 1-2 sentences:
   - What social problem is being addressed?
   - Who is being empowered by your mapplication?
   - What technical and ethical problems could there be in developing this tool?

3. **Post your group members and repository on the discussion board!**

https://albertkun.github.io/24SU-ASIAAM-191A/assignments/week1/group_assignment/