

Integrating Areal Interpolation and Dasymetric Refinement to Resolve Temporal Incompatibilities in Zoning Systems

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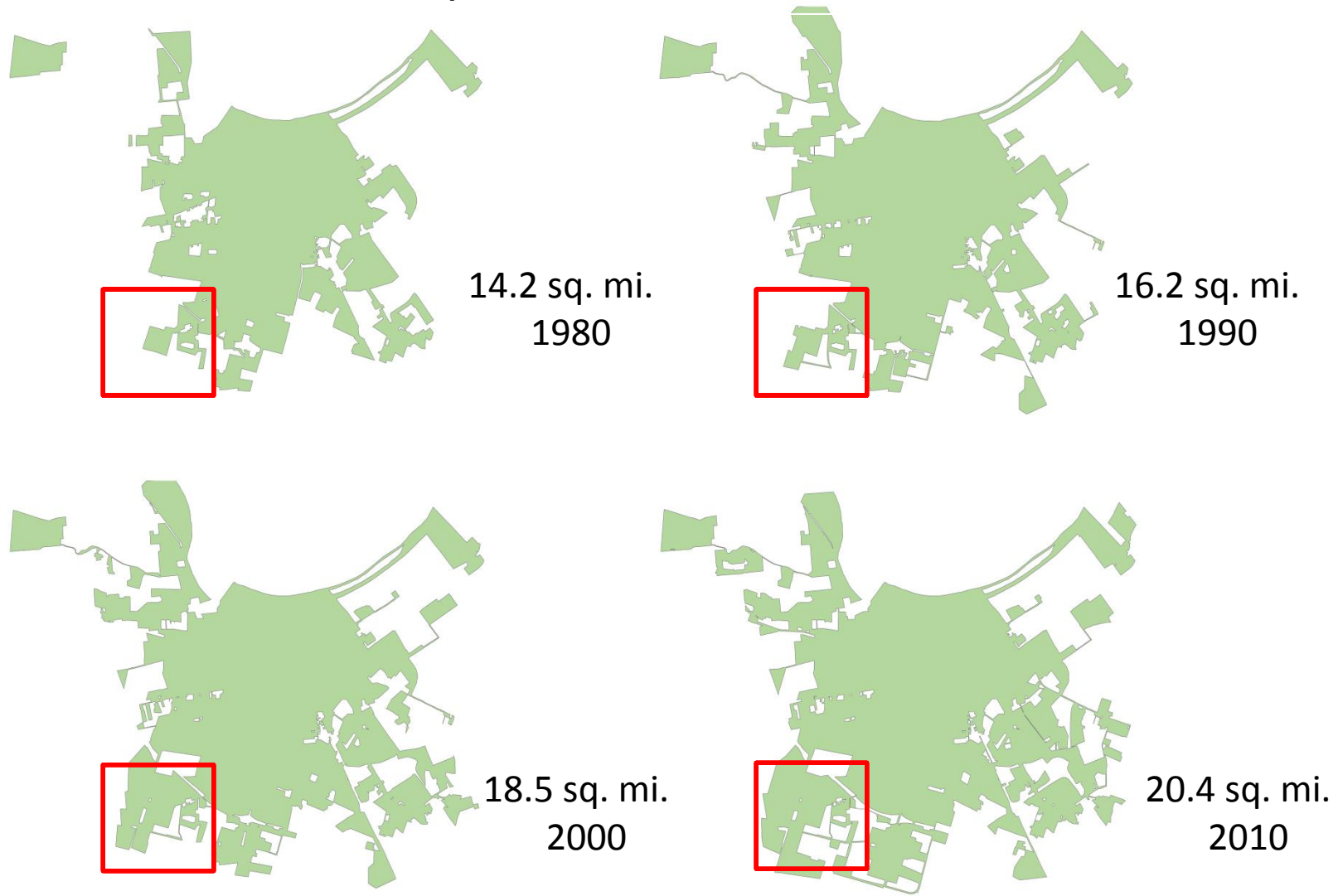
Kentucky State Data Center, University of Louisville

Temporal incompatibility in zoning systems

- Temporal analysis of Census (and other) data is limited by changing enumeration boundaries over time
- Difference between social/physical science data
- What do we want to do?
 - Estimate small area “populations” over time
 - Not just population....any data that is enumerated (school districts, poverty data, unemployment data)
- Accessible, generalizable, and accurate

Incompatible temporal boundaries

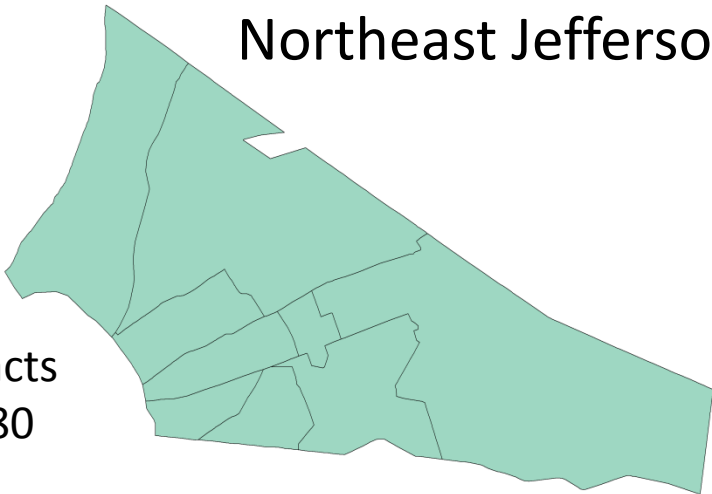
City of Owensboro



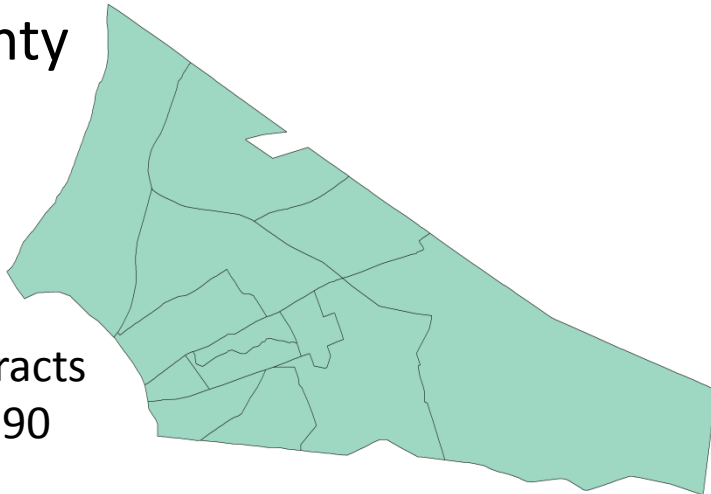
Incompatible temporal boundaries – Census tracts

Northeast Jefferson County

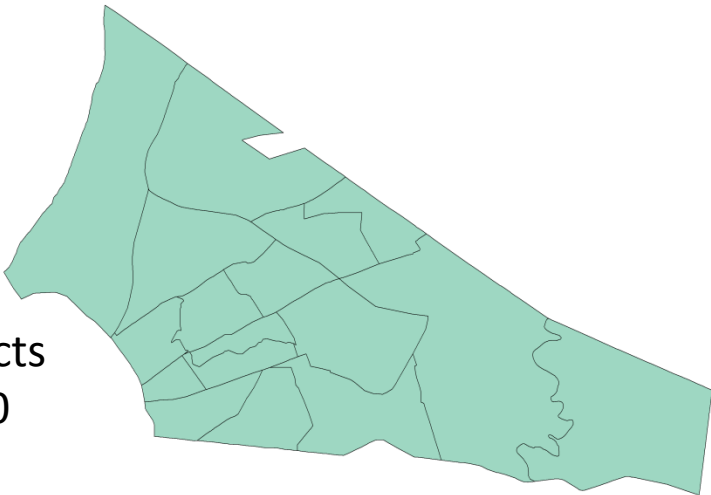
9 tracts
1980



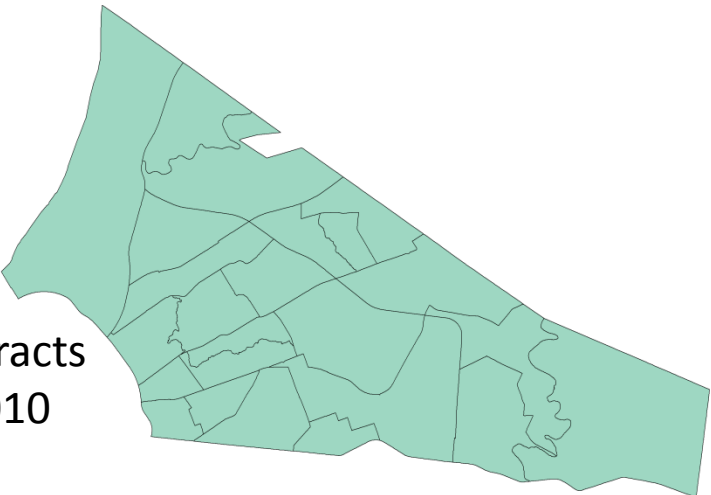
13 tracts
1990



17 tracts
2000



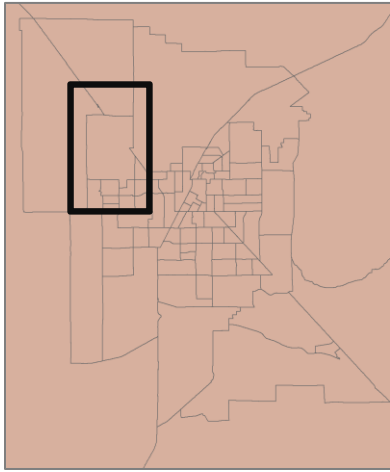
24 tracts
2010



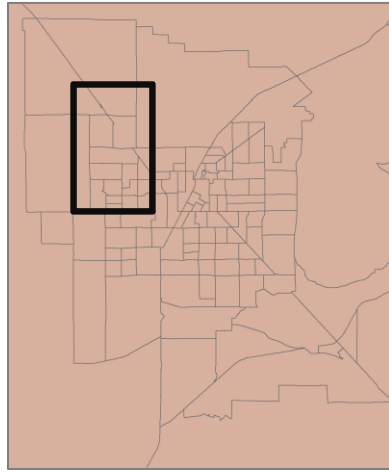
How to deal with changing Census tract boundaries?

- Commercial databases, such as the Neighborhood Change Database
 - \$\$\$
 - Inflexible
 - Rely on areal interpolation methods (DIY!)
- Generate minimum comparable areas
- Areal interpolation

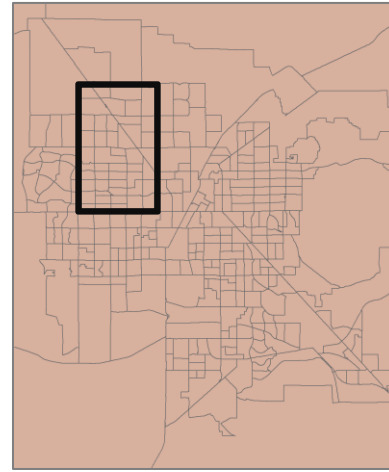
Minimum comparable areas



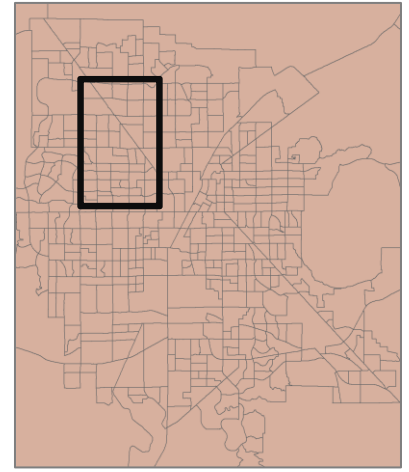
1980



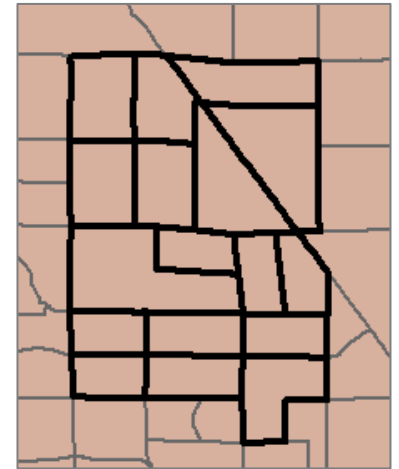
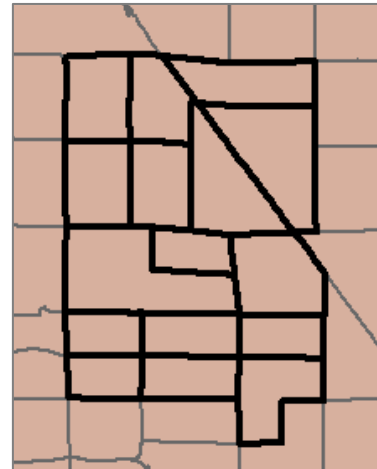
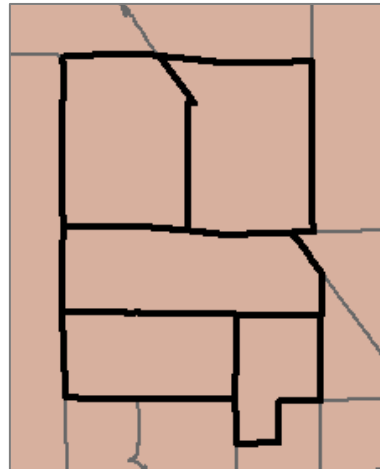
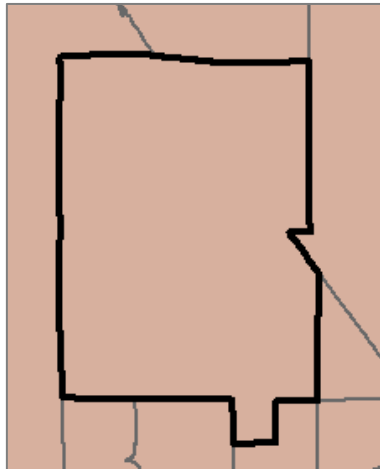
1990



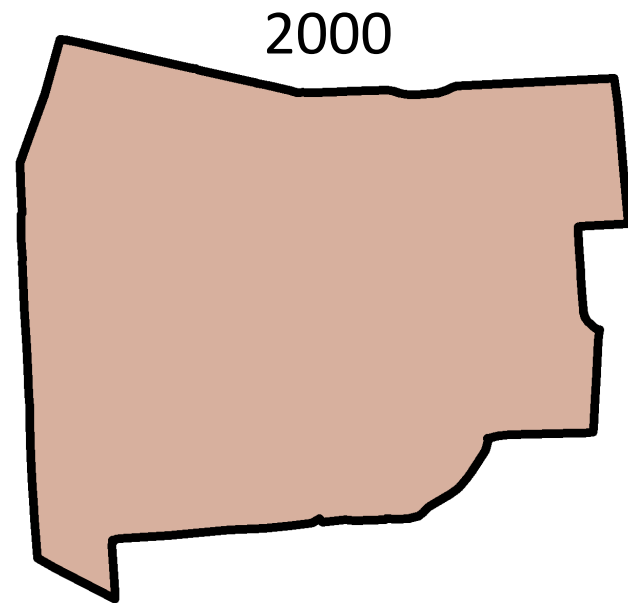
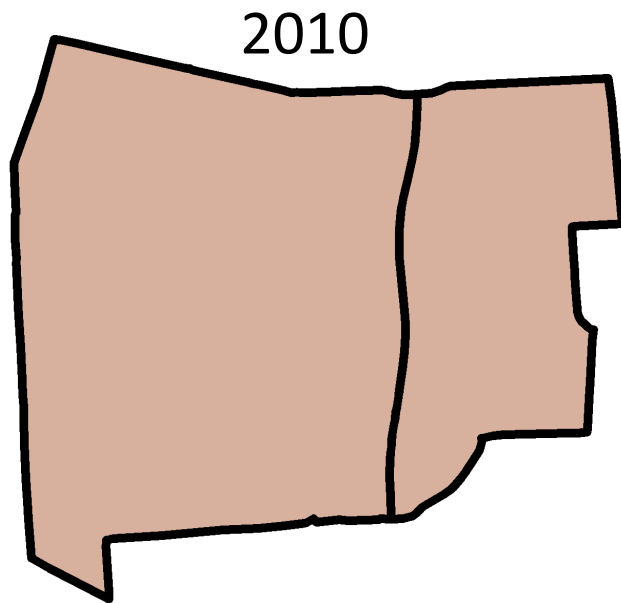
2000



2010

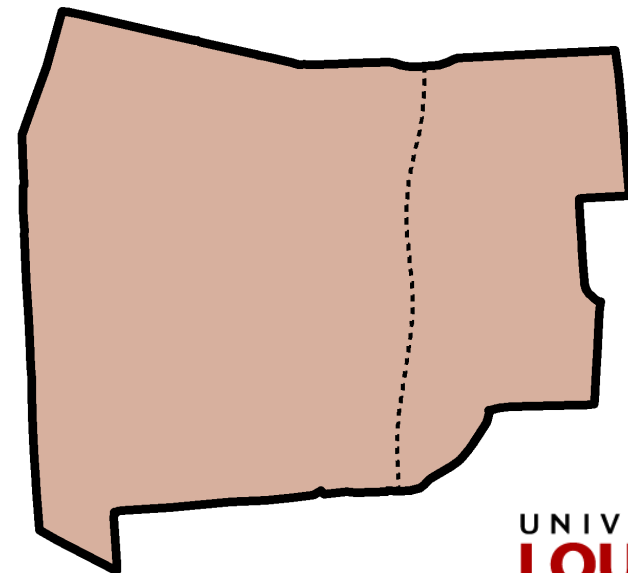


Areal interpolation methods



2000 data (e.g. population)
within 2010 boundaries

2010 = Target census
2000 = Source census



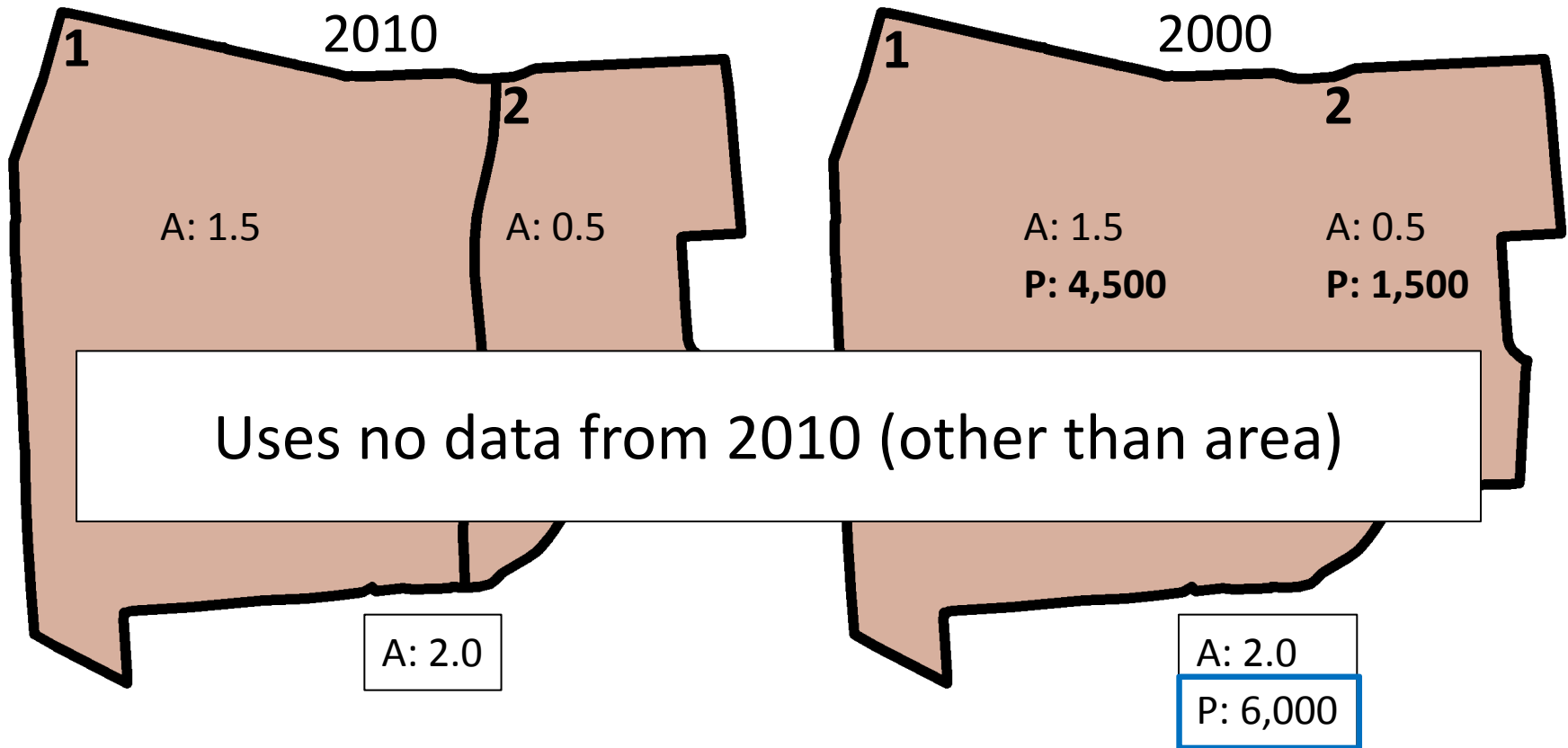
Method 1: Areal weighting

Estimation of source populations within target zones is based on the proportion of areal overlap between target zones and source zones...

Based only on geometry!

$$\hat{y}_t = \sum_s \frac{A_{st}}{A_s} y_s$$

Method 1: Areal weighting



Sector 1: $1.5/2.0 = 0.75$

$0.75 \times 6000 = 4500$

Sector 2: $0.5/2.0 = 0.25$

$0.25 \times 6000 = 1500$

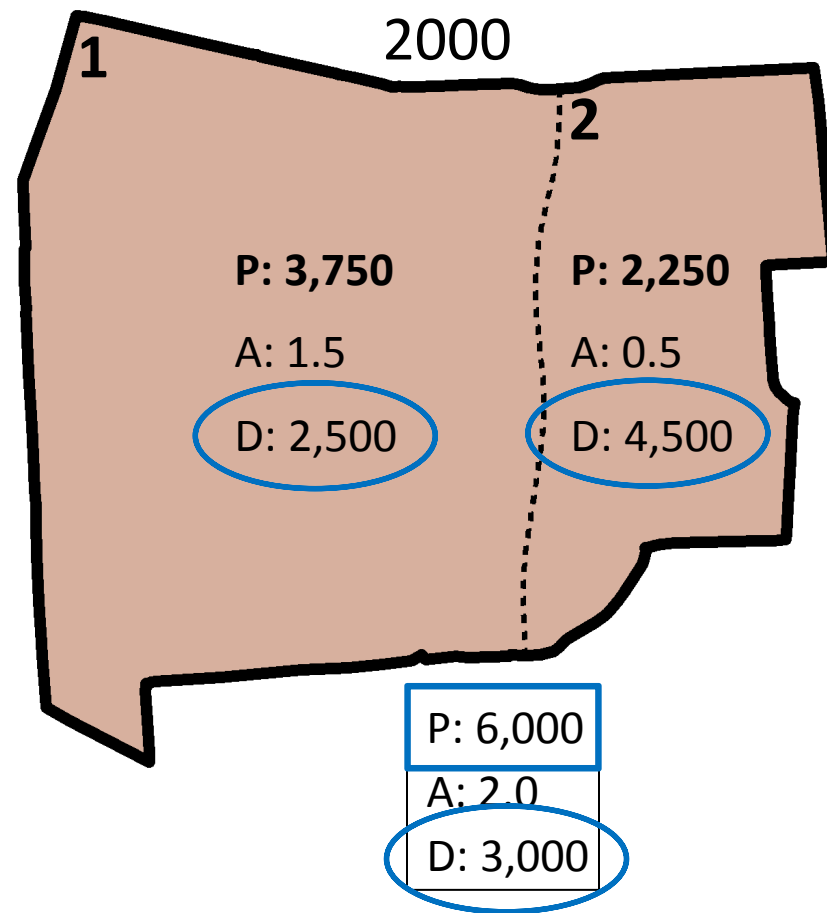
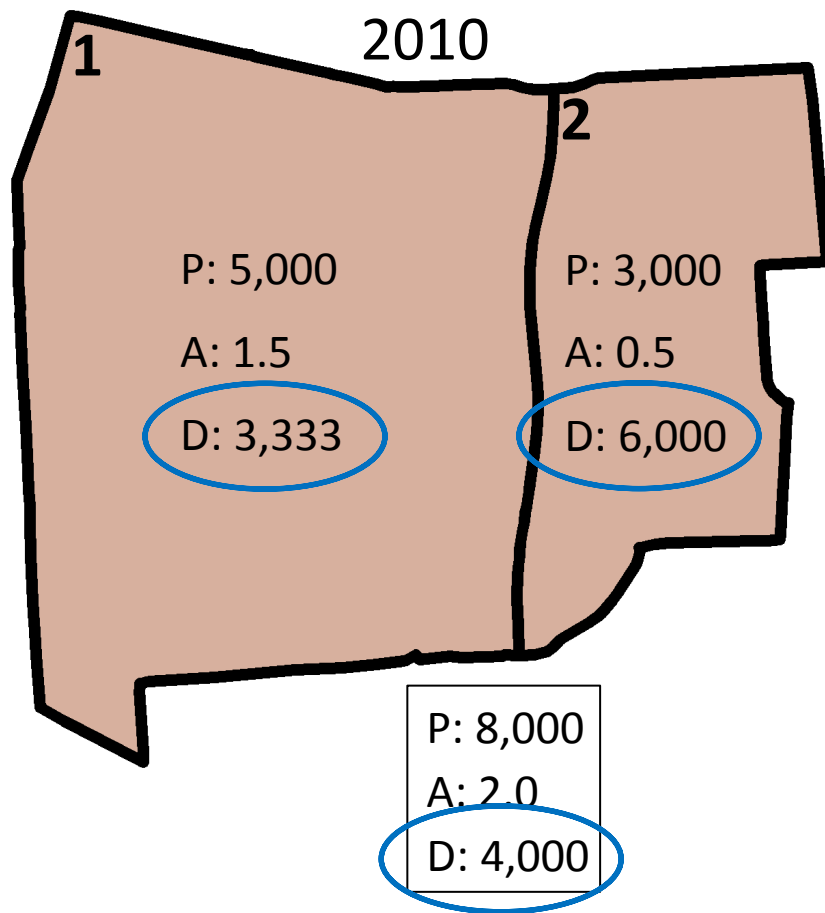
Method 2: Target density weighting

Estimation of source populations within target zones is based on the ratio of densities of target populations (or some other ancillary variable) within target zones

Ratio of densities in source year is set equal to ratio of densities in target year

$$\hat{y}_t = \sum_s \frac{\left(\frac{A_{st}}{A_t}\right)^{z_t}}{\sum_{\tau} \left(\frac{A_{s\tau}}{A_{\tau}}\right)^{z_{\tau}}} y_s$$

Method 2: Target density weighting



Sector 1: $\frac{3333}{4000} = \frac{D}{3000}$

$D = 2500$

$2500 \times 1.5 = \mathbf{3750}$

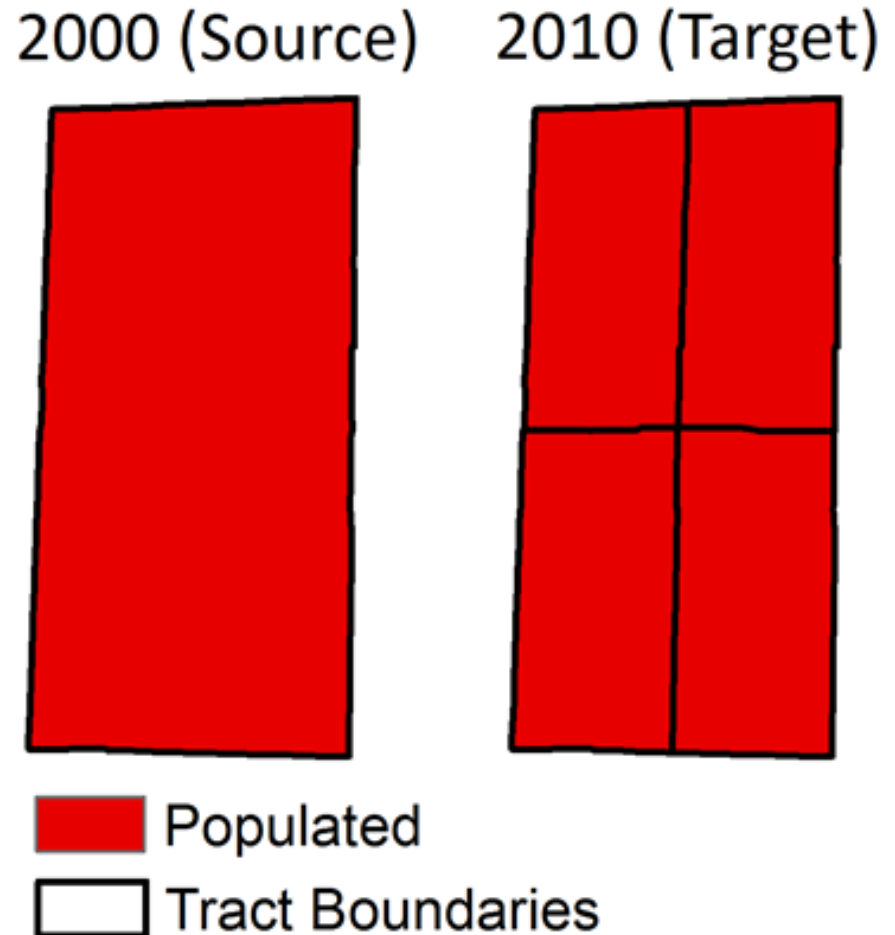
Sector 2: $\frac{6000}{4000} = \frac{D}{3000}$

$D = 4500$

$4500 \times 0.5 = \mathbf{2250}$

How can these methods be improved?

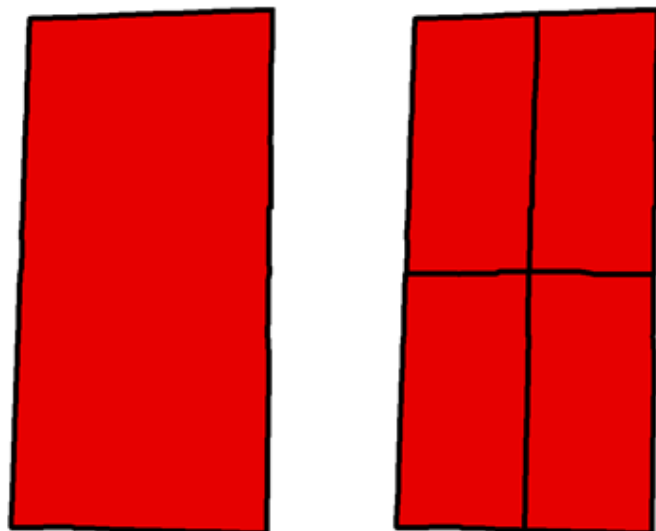
Both AW and TDW assume that the population is evenly distributed – this assumption is likely inaccurate!





Improvement through dasymetric refinement

No Refinement

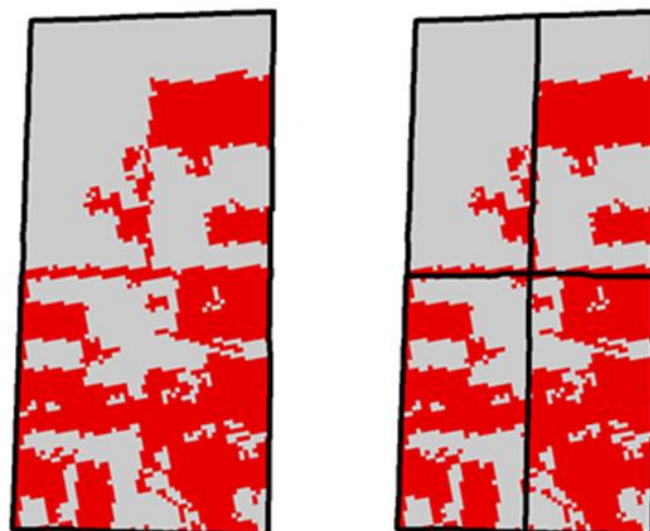
2000 (Source) 2010 (Target)



 Populated
 Tract Boundaries

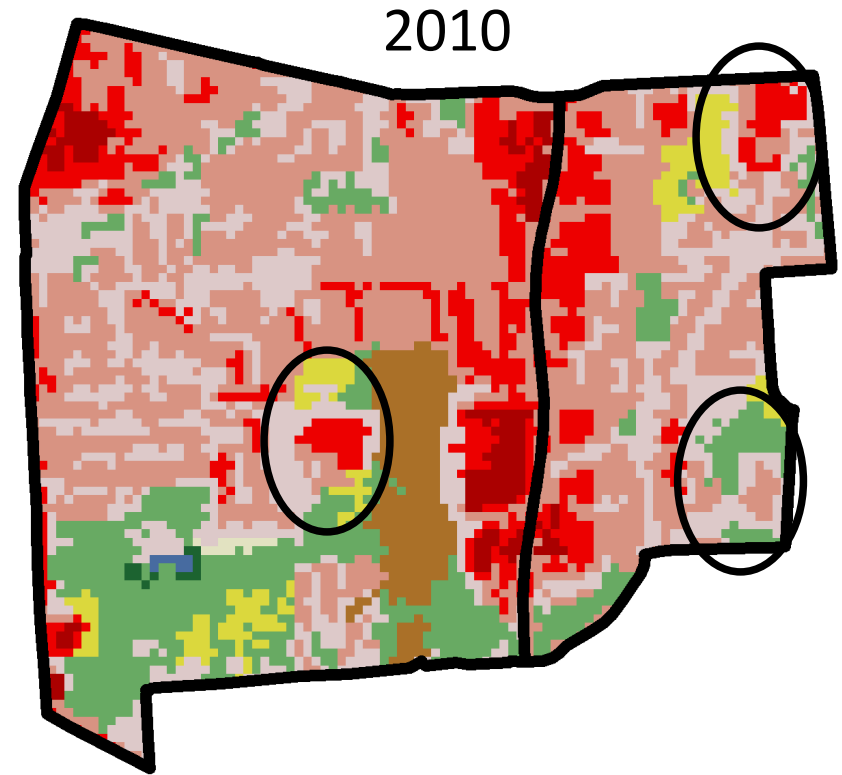
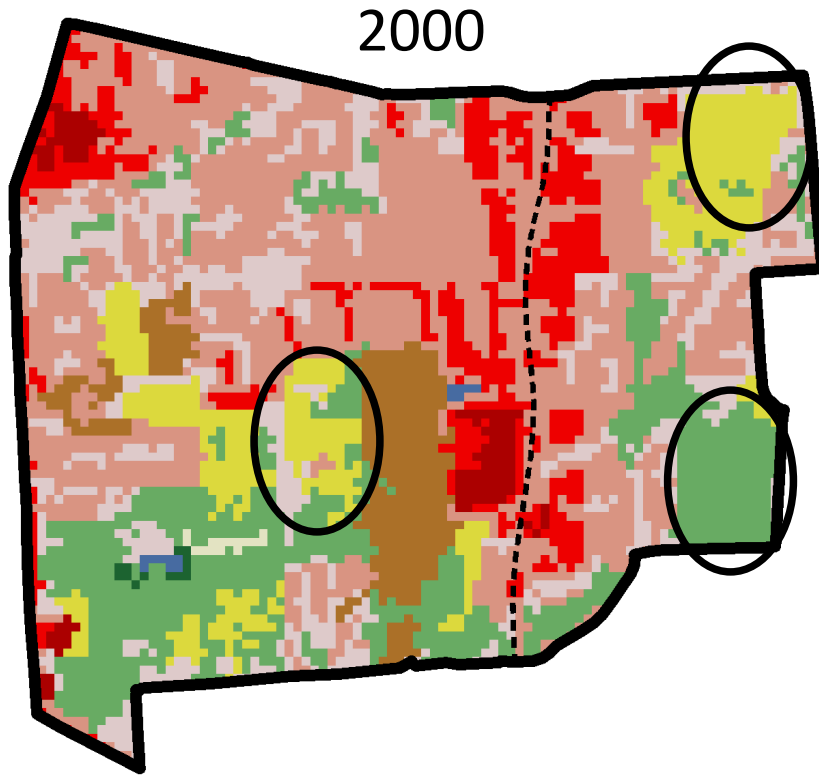
Dasymetric Refinement

2000 (Source) 2010 (Target)



 Populated --
Developed in NLCD 2001
 Unpopulated --
Non-Developed in NLCD 2001
 Tract Boundaries

Identifying development with NLCD



Method 3: Expectation-maximization algorithm

A third method, the expectation maximization algorithm, uses an iterative likelihood process to determine the different population densities for each NLCD class within a county.

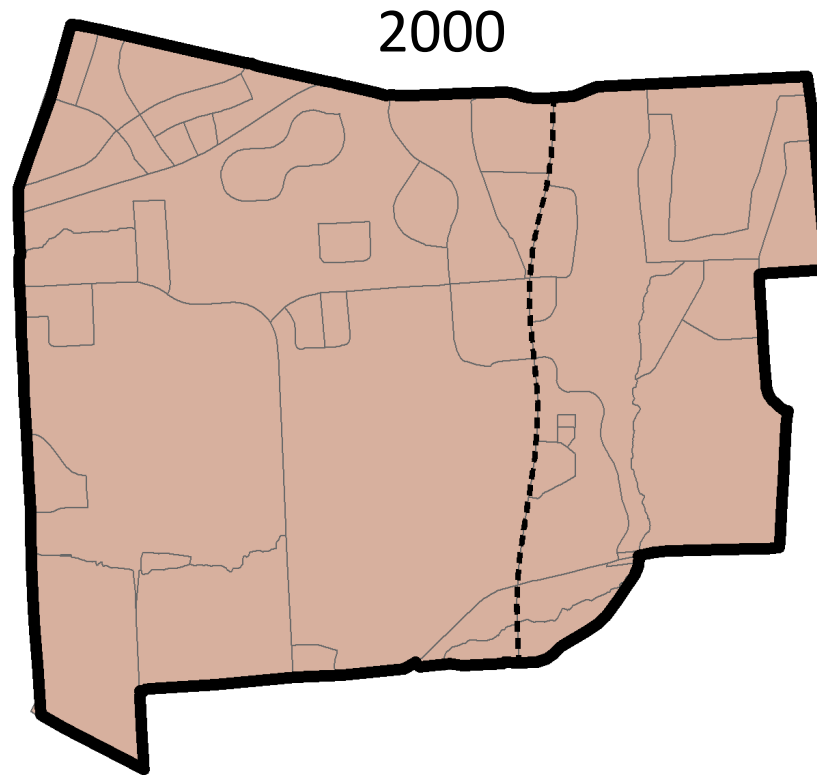
Once the appropriate population density in each NLCD class is determined, the population in the source year is distributed to the target zones based on the land cover within each target zone.

Goals of the project

- Areal interpolation is not a new idea but integrating it with spatial refinement over time has not been studied thoroughly
 - Which method (AW, TDW, EM) performs best?
 - How does the spatial refinement affect accuracy?
 - Does the time between Censuses matter?
- Create state-wide dataset of temporally consistent population and housing estimates at the neighborhood level

Results

Validating the results for Census tracts

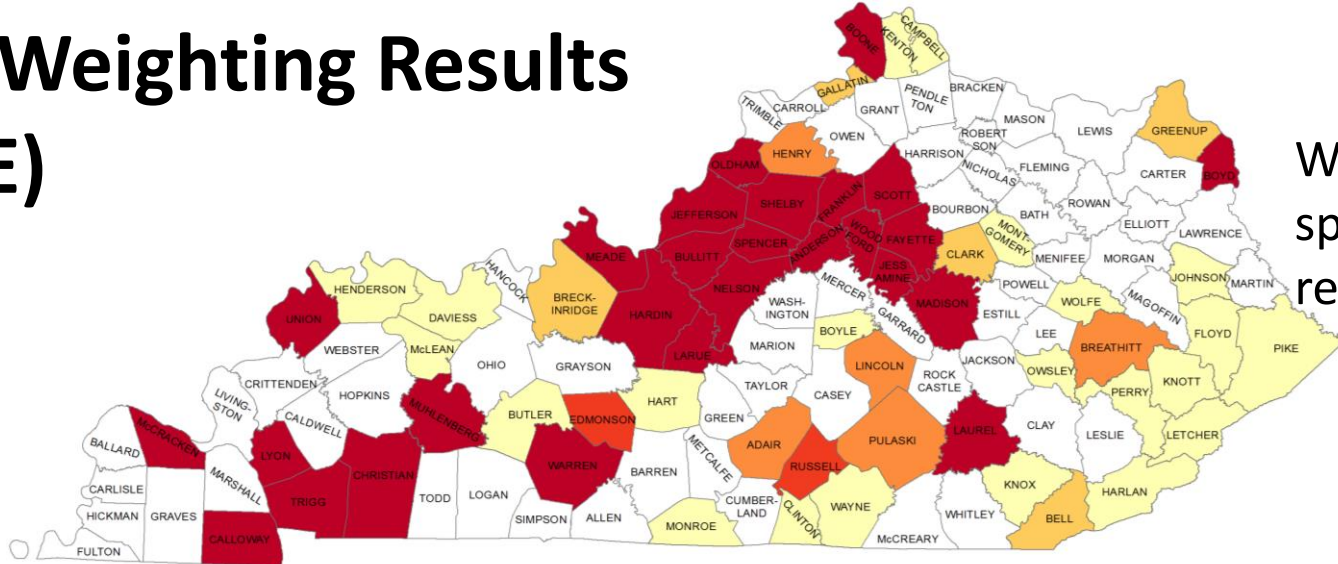


Blocks sometimes do not align *exactly* with tract boundaries

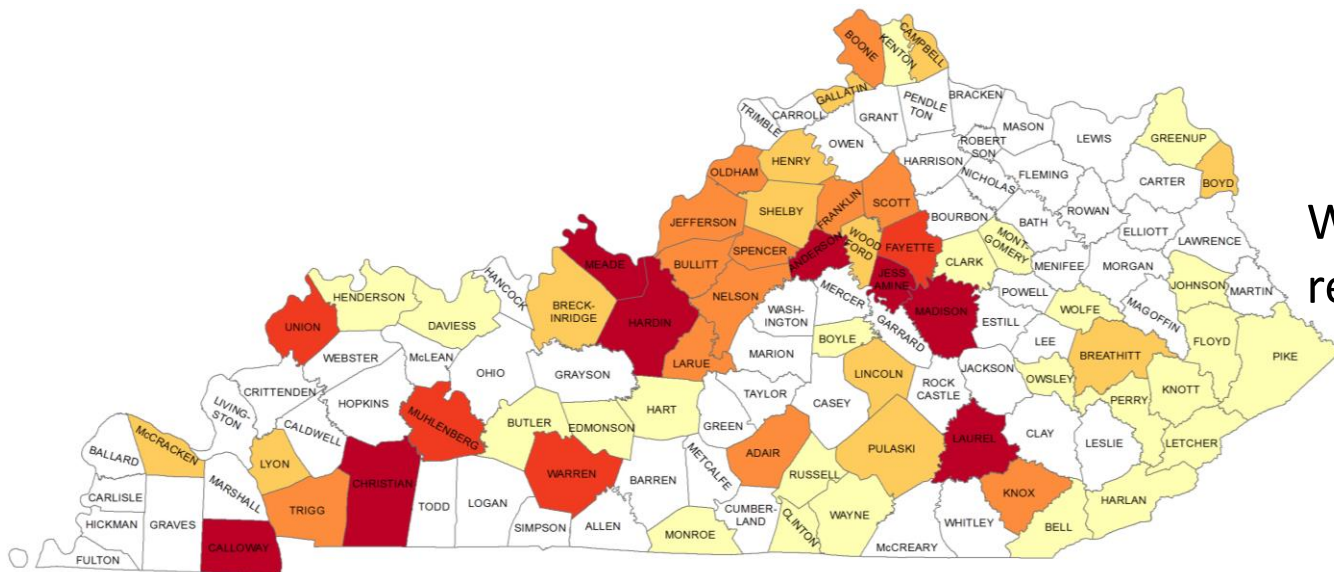
Want a method that is generalizable to any geography

Block data is only available for a few variables

Areal Weighting Results (RMSE)



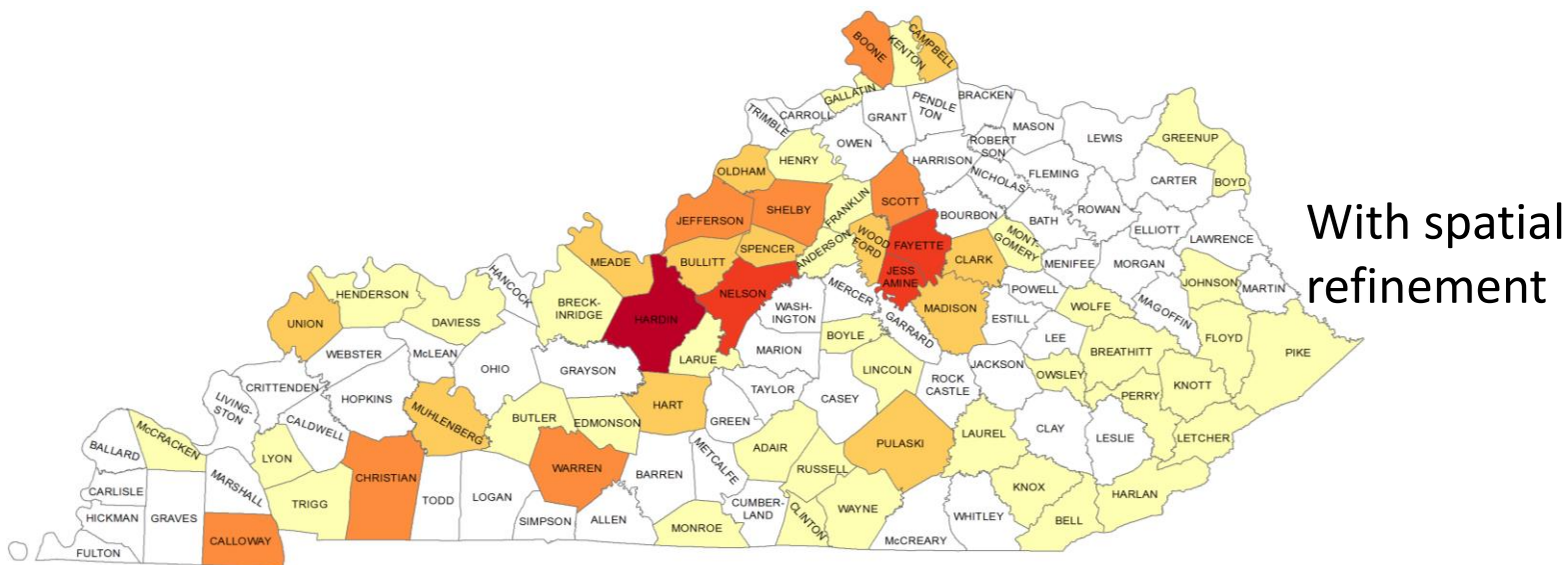
Without
spatial
refinement



With spatial
refinement

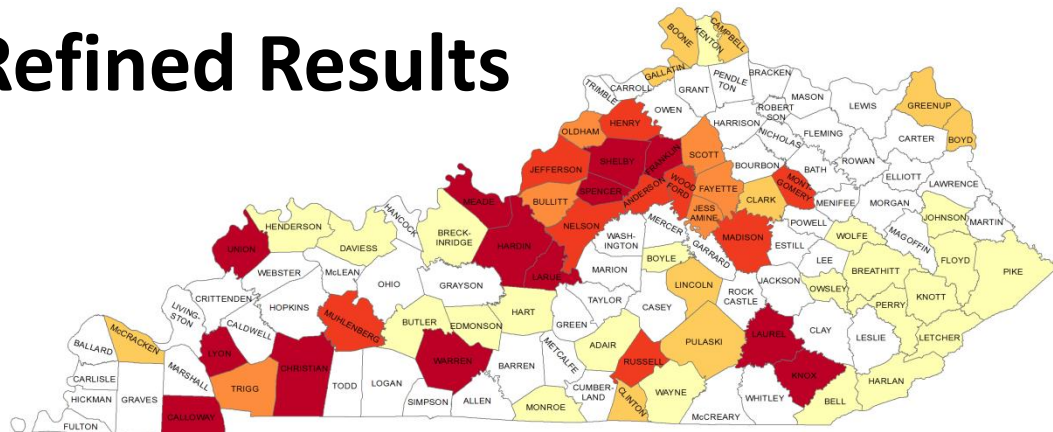


Target Density Weighting Results (RMSE)

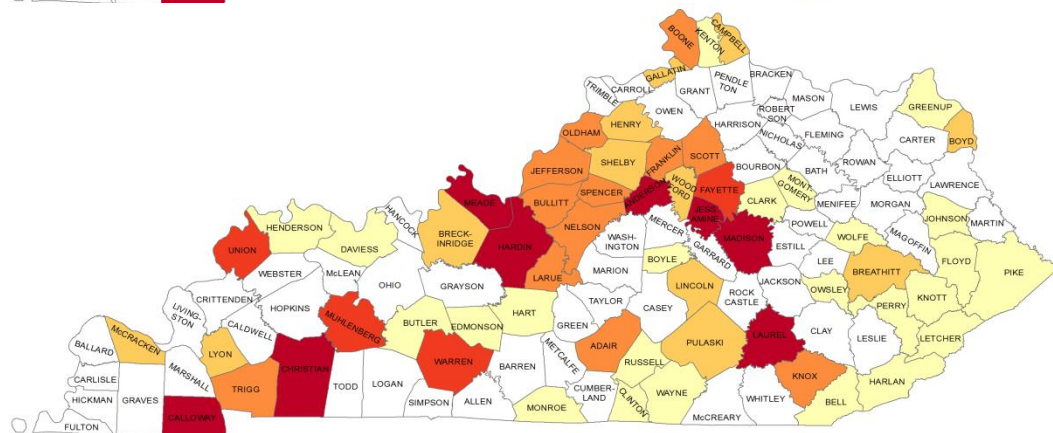
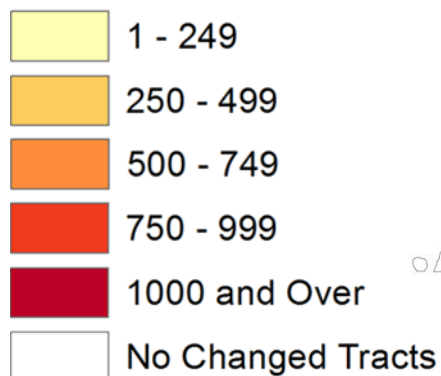


Spatially Refined Results (RMSE)

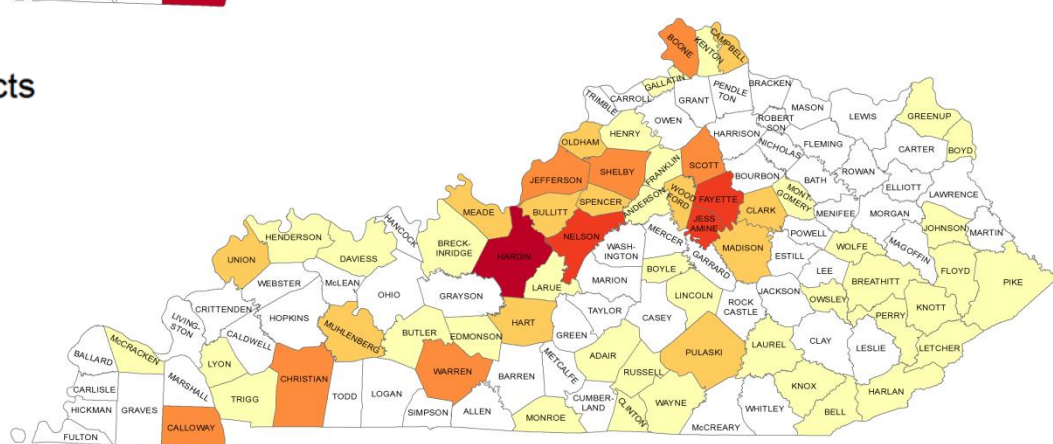
Expectation
maximization



Areal
weighting

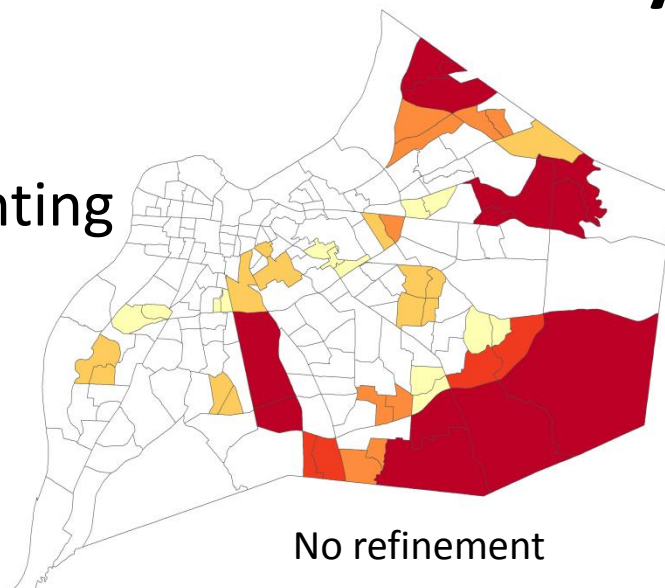


Target density
weighting

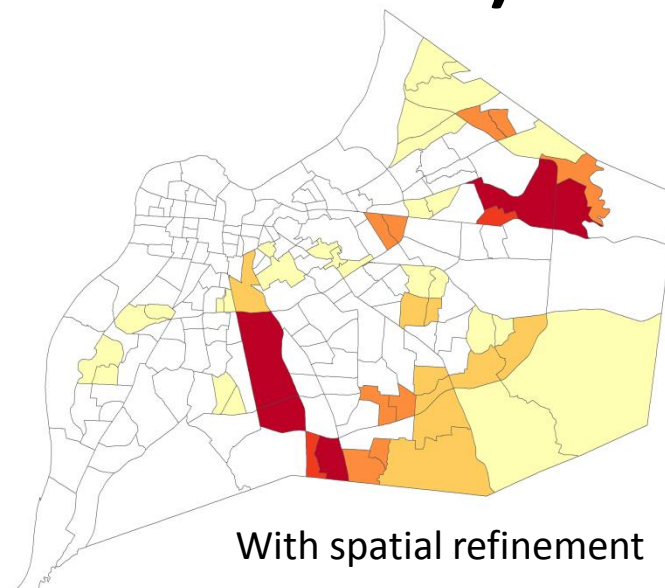


Results for Jefferson County (Absolute Error)

Areal weighting



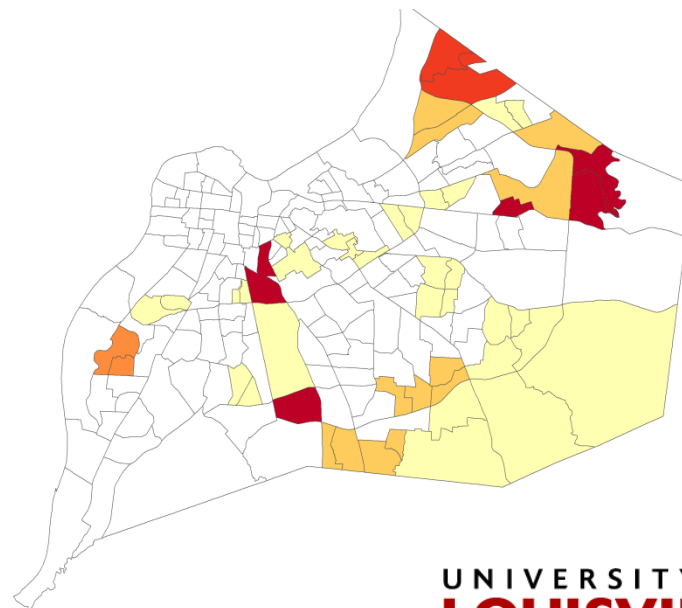
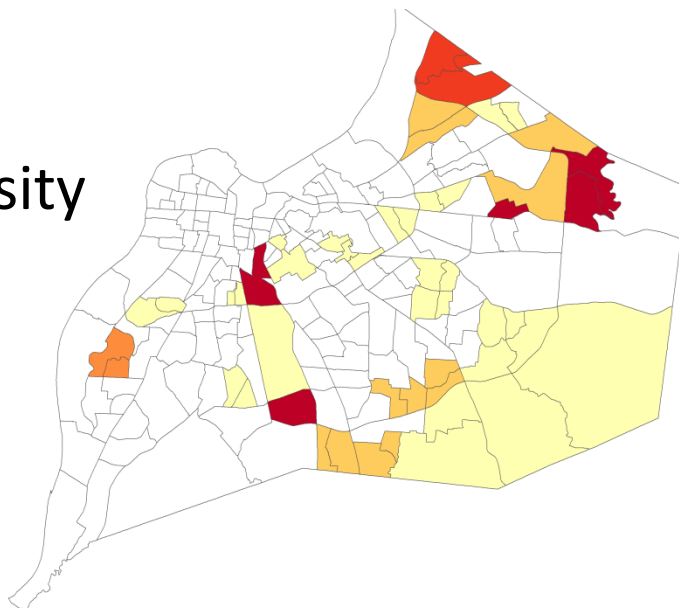
No refinement



With spatial refinement



Target density
weighting



Results for Kentucky

2000

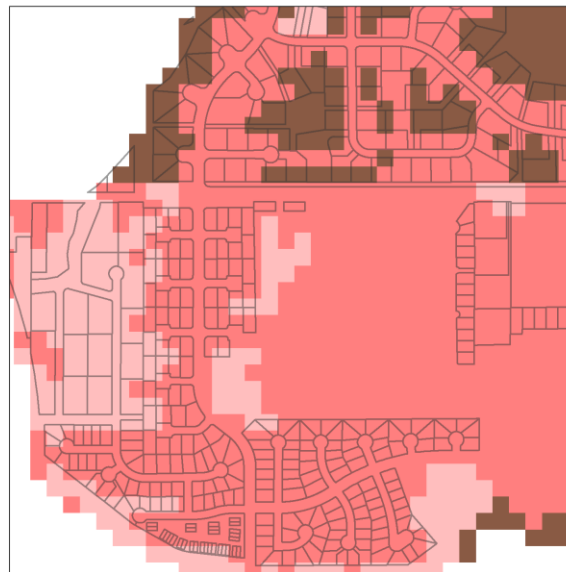
	AW	AW-Refined	TDW	TDW-Refined	EM
Mean Error	1046	537	346	337	552
Median Error	645	330	181	171	333
RMSE	1663	933	546	542	865
n=319					

1990

	AW	AW-Refined	TDW	TDW-Refined	EM
Mean Error	783	353	426	393	355
Median Error	364	224	219	198	198
RMSE	1390	569	730	713	559
n=435					

Limitations and Future Directions

- Results depend on the accuracy of ancillary information
 - Developed land in rural areas may be under-estimated
 - Temporal instability
 - Questionable using NLCD at small resolution
- Other ancillary information could be integrated
 - Parcel data(?)



NLCD 2011

- Open Space Developed (21)
- Low/Medium Intensity Developed (22/23)
- All Other Classes

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