PostGIS Cookbook

By Paolo Corti, Thomas J. Kraft, Stephen Vincent Mather, Bborie Park

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Over 80 taskbased recipes to store, organize, manipulate, and analyze spatial data in a PostGIS database

About This Book

- Integrate PostGIS with web frameworks and implement OGC standards such as WMS and WFS using MapServer and GeoServer
- Convert 2D and 3D vector data, raster data, and routing data into usable forms
- Visualize data from the PostGIS database using a desktop GIS program such as QGIS and OpenJUMP
- Easy-to-use recipes with advanced analyses of spatial data and practical applications

Who This Book Is For

If you are a web developer or a software architect, especially in location-based companies, and want to expand the range of techniques you are using with PostGIS, then this book is for you. You should have some prior experience with PostgreSQL database and spatial concepts.

What You Will Learn

- Import and export geographic data from the PostGIS database using the available tools
- Structure spatial data using the functionality provided by the combination of PostgreSQL and PostGIS
- Work with a set of PostGIS functions to perform basic and advanced vector analyses
- Connect PostGIS with Python
- Learn to use programming frameworks around PostGIS
- Maintain, optimize, and fine-tune spatial data for long-term viability
- Explore the 3D capabilities of PostGIS, including LiDAR point clouds and point clouds derived from Structure from Motion (SfM) techniques
- Distribute 3D models through the Web using the X3D standard

- Use PostGIS to develop powerful GIS web applications using Open Geospatial Consortium web standards
- Master PostGIS Raster

In Detail

PostGIS is a spatial database that integrates advanced storage and analysis of vector and raster data, and is remarkably flexible and powerful. PostGIS provides support for geographic objects to the PostgreSQL object-relational database and is currently the most popular open source spatial databases. If you want to explore the complete range of PostGIS techniques and expose the related extensions, this book is a must-have.

This book is a deep-dive into the full range of PostGIS topics, with practical applications of the concepts and code. It is a comprehensive guide on PostGIS tools and concepts which are required to manage, manipulate, and analyse spatial data in PostGIS. This book is packed with systematic instructions of hands-on examples and in-depth explanations. Even for experienced users, this book will serve as a great source of reference by providing new ways of working with PostGIS through the book's easy-to-follow approach.

This hands-on guide looks at key spatial data manipulation tasks, explaining not only how each task is performed, but also why. It provides practical guidance allowing you to safely take advantage of the advanced technology in PostGIS in order to simplify your spatial database administration tasks.

This practical book will help you take advantage of basic and advanced vector, raster, and routing approaches. You will learn to use the concepts of data maintenance, optimization, and performance, which will help you to integrate these into a large ecosystem of desktop and web tools.

With this comprehensive guide, you will be armed with all the tools and instructions you need to both manage the spatial database system and make better decisions as your project's requirements evolve.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Paolo Corti

Paolo Corti is based in Rome, Italy. He is an environmental engineer with more than 15 years of experience in the GIS sector. After working with proprietary solutions for some years, he has proudly switched to opensource technologies and Python for almost a decade. He has been working as a developer and analyst for organizations such as the EU Joint Research Center, UN World Food Program, and the Italian Government. Currently, he is working within the GeoNode project, for which he is a core developer, in the context of emergency preparedness and response. He is an OSGeo Charter member and writes a blog on opensource GIS at http://www.paolocorti.net/. He is the author of the book's chapters 1, 3, 8, and 9.

Thomas J. Kraft

Thomas J. Kraft is currently a Planning Technician at Cleveland Metroparks after beginning as a GIS intern in 2011. He graduated with Honors from Cleveland State University in 2012, majoring in Environmental Science with an emphasis on GIS. When not in front of a computer, he enjoys his weekends landscaping and the outdoors in general.

Stephen Vincent Mather

Stephen Vincent Mather has worked in the geospatial industry for 15 years, having always had a flair for geospatial analyses in general, especially those at the intersection of Geography and Ecology. His work in opensource geospatial databases started 5 years ago with PostGIS and he immediately began using PostGIS as an analytic tool, attempting a range of innovative and sometimes bleedingedge techniques (although he admittedly prefers the cutting edge). His geospatial career has spanned a variety of interesting and novel naturalresource projects, everything from the movement of ice sheets in Antarctica to hiking viewsheds and mobile trail applications to help park users find trails, picnic areas, and restrooms. Stephen is currently the GIS manager for Cleveland Metroparks in Cleveland, Ohio. He manages a small geospatial shop that specializes in highend cartography, crating and generating data, geospatial web development, and analyses for naturalresource management, largely with opensource software. Stephen is also a Mennonite technologist, aka a strawhat hacker, interested in creating fair and open data and infrastructure for better governance and humanitarian purposes. Stephen is heavily involved in the Cleveland Civic Hacking movement as he works with the public to help them get engaged with geospatial data. In his spare time, he builds guitars really, really slowly.

Bborie Park

Bborie Park has been breaking (and subsequently fixing) computers for most of his life. His primary interests involve developing endtoend pipelines for spatial datasets. He is an active contributor to the PostGIS project and is a member of the PostGIS Steering Committee. He happily resides with his wife Nicole in the San Francisco Bay Area.

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