

# Zenful Maps with SQL

*Matthew Basanta*  
*Paul Vidal*



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**Stantec**

# Get out your smartphone



<http://goo.gl/LvNQL>

Just go to the website,  
don't do anything yet

## Introductions

- Matthew Basanta
- Paul Vidal

# Overview

- Designing for Simplicity
- ArcGIS for Server
- Alternative GIS servers
- Intro to the SQL spatial standards
- A Few Examples

# Frustrations

- GIS is data
- A map is part of the answer but it is not the answer
- Maps are charts. Charts are simply ways of displaying data. Maps are just one of those ways.
- We need to step out of our boxes and focus on results

# Solutions

- Better, Simpler Design
- Re-focus Products on Users
- User Interface and Experience That Functions as People Really Use Them
- More Accessible Infrastructure

# Simple

<http://twitter.com/>

<http://pinterest.com/>

<http://craigslist.com/>

<http://wikipedia.org/>

<http://www.messagesforjapan.com/messages/map/>

# Data

<http://www.digitalpodge.co.uk/2009/>

<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2009/03/10/us/20090310-immigration-explorer.html>

# Terms

Usability

User Experience

Choice Architects



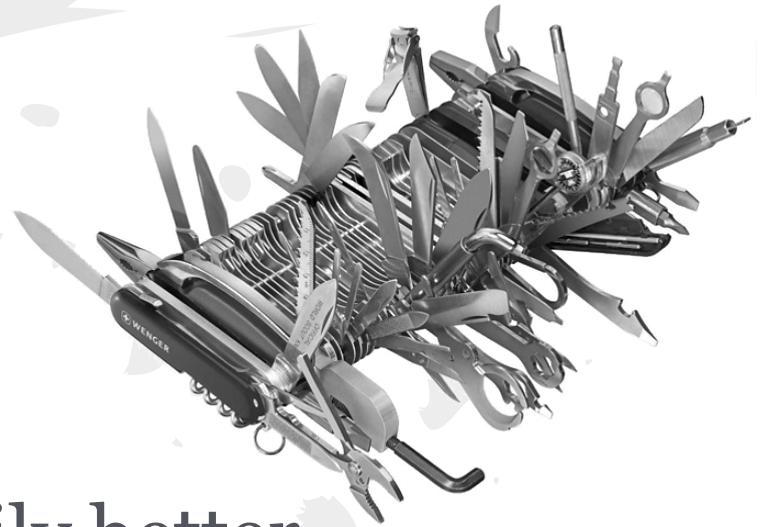
# Temptation:

We must have more..

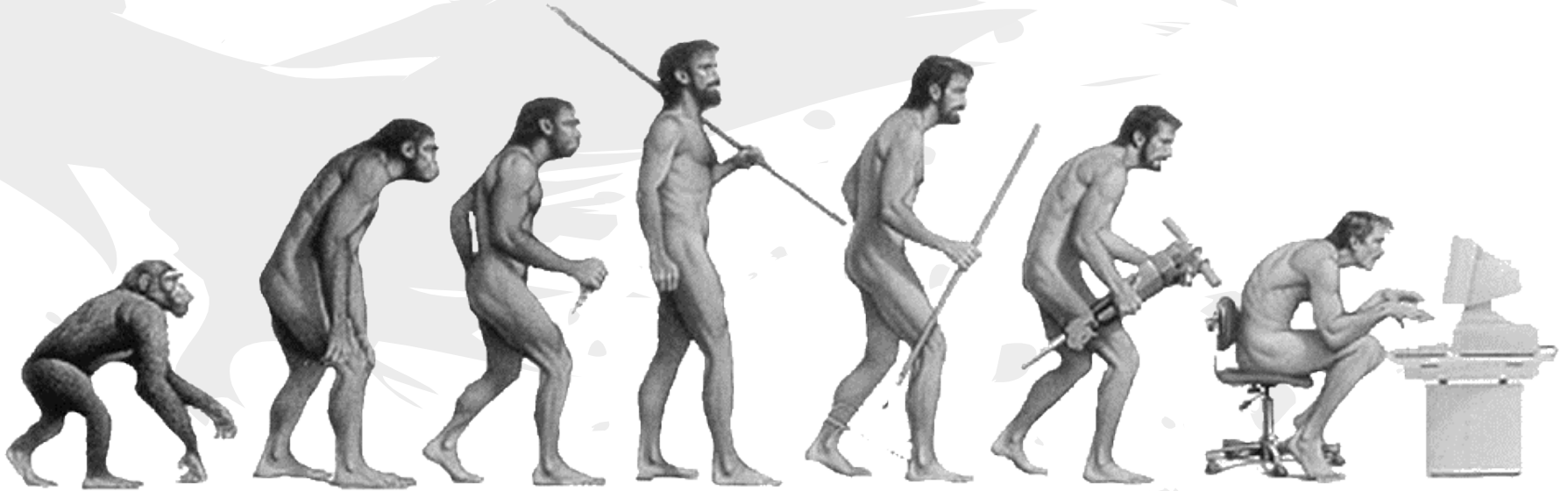
- One more button
- One more layer
- "It would be perfect if.."

## Data Collection

- More data isn't necessarily better



# Evolution



**IMS Sites**



**WebADF**



(Widgets)

**Flex**

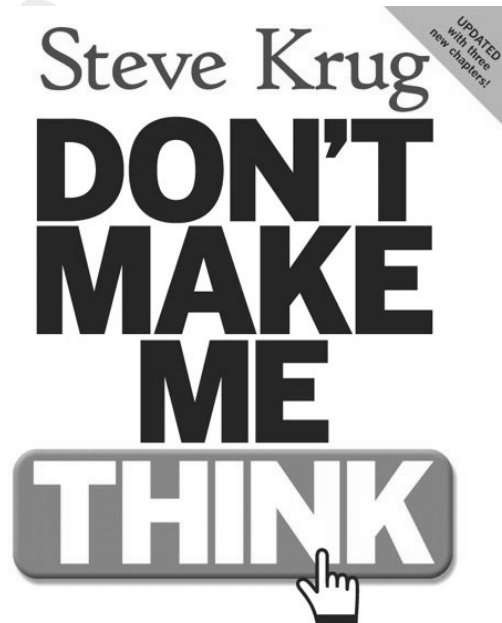


**JavaScript**

# Simplicity

Steve Krug

Don't Make Me Think



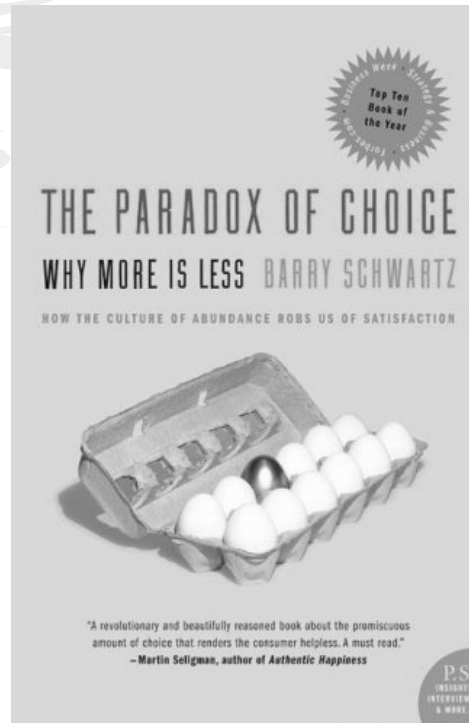
A Common Sense Approach to Web Usability

SECOND EDITION

# Simplicity

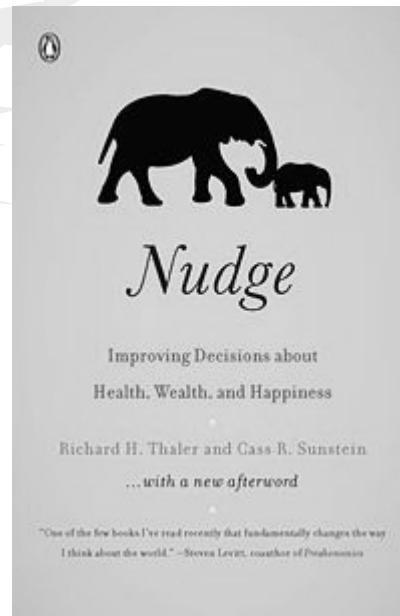
Barry Schwartz

The Paradox of Choice



# Simplicity

Cass Sunstein and Richard Thaler  
Nudge



# Simplicity

Gerald Edelman

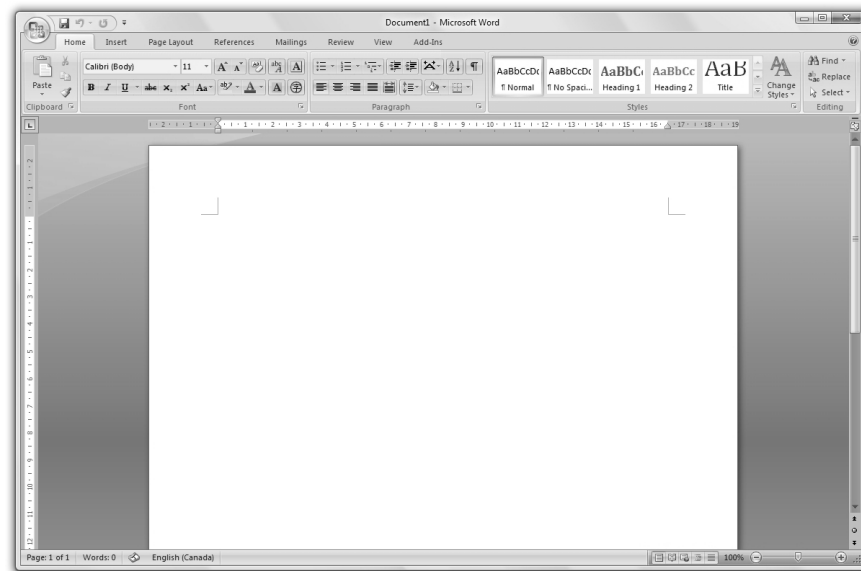
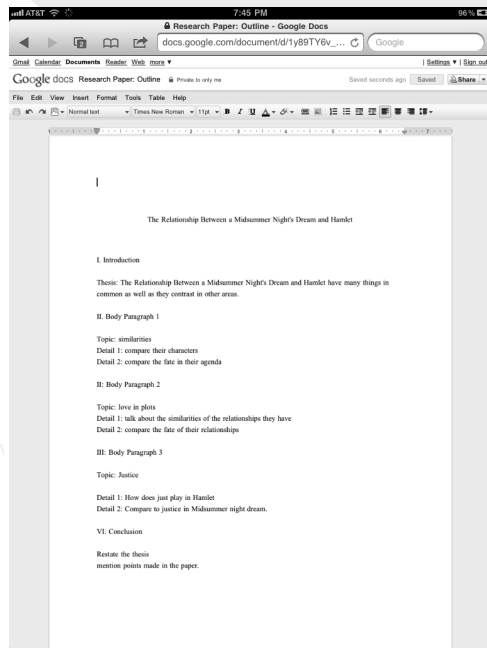
Wider than the Sky



# Familiar

## Familiar Design is Smart Design

- Imitation is Good for Everyone
  - Also known as, it's ok to steal.. a little bit.



# Concepts

Simple

Intuitive

Logical

Practical

Focused

Call to Action

Provides Feedback

Forgiving



# Take Home's

1. Focus on Purpose
  - a. Navigation
  - b. Spatial Relationships
  - c. Points of Interest
2. Drop the Legend
3. Show Temporal Data (when possible)

# How

## Web Application's Goals and Purpose

- This should drive everything

## Barriers to Production

- Cost
- Effort
- Time

# ArcGIS for Server

- PROs

- Highly abstracted
- Ubiquitous
- Easy to use for basic application
- Powerful
- Interface with ArcGIS for desktop
- Paid support

- CONs

- Resource intensive
- Expensive
- Difficult to customize
- Slow
- Use restricted
- Must use with ArcGIS products

# Alternatives

- Database server
  - Microsoft SQL Server (Free -- \$\$\$\$)
    - Simple
  - PostgreSQL with PostGIS (Free)
    - Very Powerful
    - Complex
  - MySQL Spatial (Free)
    - Simple
    - Low featured (data collection/display only)
  - Many others

# So what can we do?

- Shapes

- Point
- LineString
- Polygon
- MultiPoint
- MultiLineString
- MultiPolygon
- *GeometryCollection*

- Actions

- Intersect
- Union
- Difference
- Buffer
- Distance
- Count
- Measure
- Envelope

# How can we do it?

- Requires a little more thinking
- Not as abstracted
  - Stored as binary
  - Manipulated as text
- All the tools are there
  - Just takes a little more thought
- May take more than one function

# Well known text

```
POINT(-83.39 38.19)
```

```
LINESTRING(-88.63 37.23, -82.41 37.34, -82.18 37.65)
```

```
POLYGON((-84.64 38.59, -84.09 38.99, -84.12 39.36, -83.41 38.91,  
-84.64 38.59))
```

```
MULTIPOINT((-88.63 37.23)(-82.41 37.34))
```

```
MULTILINESTRING((-88.63 37.23, -82.41 37.34), (-82.18 37.65,  
-83.41 38.91))
```

```
MULTIPOLYGON((-84.64 38.59, -84.09 38.99, -84.12 39.36, -83.41  
38.91, -84.64 38.59))
```

# Identify example



- Create temporary point at selected lat/long
- Measure distance from point to features
- If distance equals zero, that's the one!

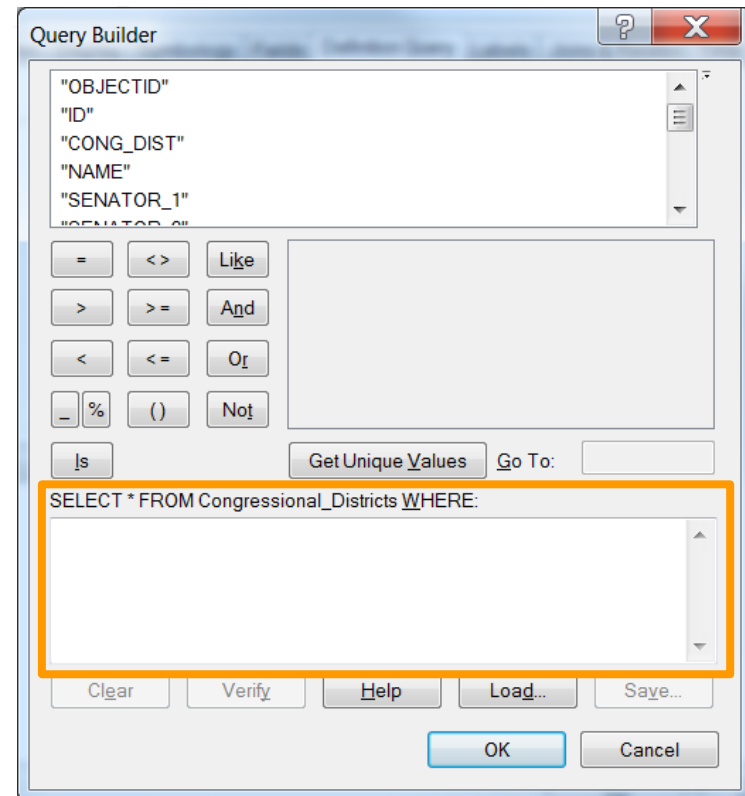
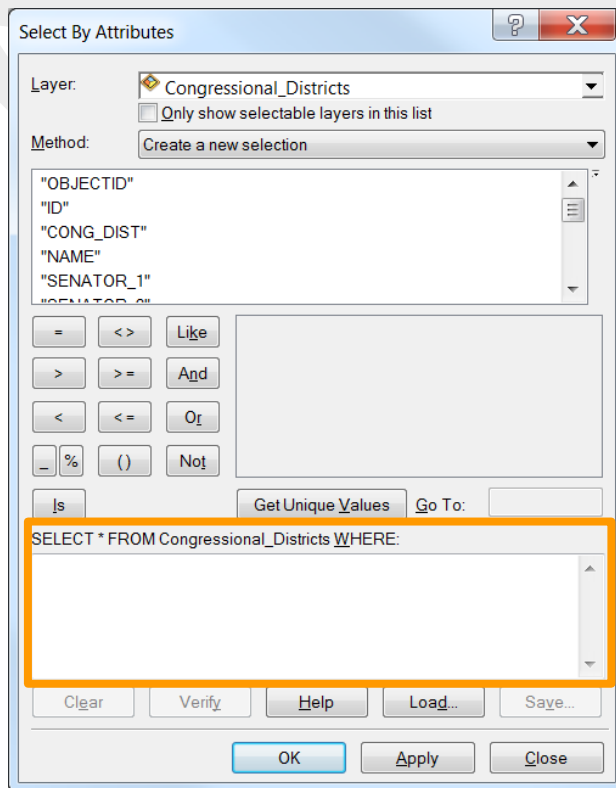
```
CREATE PROCEDURE [dbo].[identify] (  
    @lat float,  
    @lng float  
)  
AS  
BEGIN  
    DECLARE @g GEOGRAPHY;  
    SET @g = geography::STGeomFromText('POINT(' + @lng + ' ' + @lat + ')', 4326);  
  
    SELECT * FROM geotest  
    WHERE [dbo].[geotest].[geo].STDistance(@g) = 0;  
END
```



# SQL is not scary

Definition query  
Select by attributes

Both use SQL



# What does it look like?

	Shape	GeoText	Major	Acres	Name
1	0xE610000001048401000000...	POLYGON ((-84.412756526842713 37...	East Hickman	5543.53289322	East Hickman PS
2	0xE610000001046D01000000...	POLYGON ((-84.490293190814555 37...	West Hickman	812.449818392	WH5_5
3	0xE6100000010467121666064486 37...	POLYGON ((-84.467121666064486 37...	East Hickman	219.431102862	EH3_90
4	0xE61000000104E200000000...	POLYGON ((-84.452666799072176 37...	East Hickman	368.125440917	Armstrong Mill PS
5	0xE61000000104B200000000...	POLYGON ((-84.461360105779022 37...	East Hickman	260.896788721	East Lake PS
6	0xE610000001043201000000...	POLYGON ((-84.520888882223517 37...	Wolf Run	722.980995393	WR7_47
7	0xE610000001045701000000...	POLYGON ((-84.537790180183947 38...	Wolf Run	1313.20367302	WR2_101A
8	0xE610000001048D00000000...	POLYGON ((-84.521303372923285 38...	Wolf Run	281.009139939	WR4_9
9	0xE61000000104D101000000...	POLYGON ((-84.445205356925726 38...	West Hickman	1535.54761717	WH7_35A
10	0xE610000001049801000000...	POLYGON ((-84.462667626328766 37...	West Hickman	1540.42349545	WH6_98
11	0xE61000000104C901000000...	POLYGON ((-84.467947205528617 37...	West Hickman	4535.29164218	WH WWTP
12	0xE610000001045401000000...	POLYGON ((-84.495911883190274 37...	West Hickman	1233.84357661	WH3_55A
13	0xE610000001043D01000000...	POLYGON ((-84.503979588858783 37...	West Hickman	786.835334609	WH2_179
14	0xE610000001044400000000...	POLYGON ((-84.46894190995954 37....	East Hickman	143.77982115	Hartland 1 PS
15	0xE610000001043B00000000...	POLYGON ((-84.473560048965737 37...	East Hickman	186.68473285	Hartland 3 PS
16	0xE61000000104C500000000...	POLYGON ((-84.511214895173907 38...	Wolf Run	476.075124947	WR4_25
17	0xE61000000104B100000000...	POLYGON ((-84.551339214667678 38...	Wolf Run	764.156149536	Wolf Run PS
18	0xE610000001044200000000...	POLYGON ((-84.40441054594703 38....	East Hickman	171.609483638	Man O War PS
19	0xE610000001044E00000000...	POLYGON ((-84.456763486843556 38...	Cane Run	267.729832968	Sharon Village ...
20	0xE610000001040202000000...	POLYGON ((-84.387020034715533 38...	North Elkhorn	4834.55478451	North Elkhorn PS

# Examples

- Microsoft SQL Server 2010 Express (free)
  - Open source alternative -- PostgreSQL/PostGIS
- Google Maps Javascript API
  - Open source alternative -- Open Street Maps
- Microsoft IIS/.NET (server)
  - Open source alternative -- Apache/PHP

# Data display/Identification

Kentucky Counties

Draw shapes



# View in ArcMap

Who didn't follow directions?

# Let's go to this website



<http://goo.gl/LvNQL>

- Click or tap the screen to add points
- Add two or three points around Kentucky



View our crowdsourced data



A working example

The background features a light gray, stylized illustration of a hand holding a pen, positioned as if writing. The hand and pen are rendered in a soft, painterly style. Scattered throughout the background are various ink splatters and blotches of different sizes and shapes. In the bottom right corner, there is a faint, circular stamp-like shape, possibly representing a seal or a mark on a document.

# Wrapping up

- We hope this has created interest in alternatives for web based mapping applications
- Any Questions?