

Discussion group: “generalisation ontology for on-demand, thematic mapping”

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What information needs to be formalised to support on-demand mapping/thematic mapping ?

- Domain ontologies related to the thematic maps (hydrology, tourism, navigation, orientation) => by tasks (analysis, navigation...)? domains of expertise (hydrology, accidentology, etc.)? themes? All of them?
- Degree of generalisation (per theme/groups of themes/ “kind of theme”: network...) – relation to tasks?
- Algorithms and their abilities/effects =>
 - taxonomy of effects, described with attributes (“merges buildings within a certain distance”)
 - pre-conditions, post-conditions: formalised how? Expectedly improved constraints? Performed operation? Both?
- Implicit constraints behind a particular... task? theme?

What is an on-demand map? How is it described?

- Spatial extent
 - Content
 - Intended task (flood analysis) => which will imply themes/layers that should appear
 - Layers you want to see in (more water, less roads) if the user knows them
- By the way: what the user wants vs what he needs.... iterations to converge
- Less parameters exposed to the user
 - Entries for on-demand map:
 - Blank sheet + a need “map of the longest rivers...”
 - Thematic data brought by the user (meta data?) that you can overlay on existing backdrop data

What tools to express the needs / interact with the map user construction ?

Sliders to tune the level of generalisation/selection of layers: more water, less road.

Should the system guide the user towards what it is able to do? How?

Tool to help the user identify what he needs (from what he says he wants). Acceptability of such tools?

Ask the user as few questions as possible. (different types of user)

How to commonly build such knowledge?

- Choose several use cases
 - One person/group, one use case => study convergence points
 - Collect a few use cases first, then analyse what knowledge could be organised (and how) so that a system would be able to handle at least those ones.