

DIGITAL MAPPING TECHNIQUES 2023

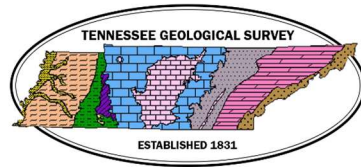
The following was presented at DMT'23

May 21 - 24, 2023

The contents of this document are provisional

See Presentations and Proceedings
from the DMT Meetings (1997-2023)

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Scripting and GeMS:

Extending the Functionality of the GeMS Toolbox

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DMT'23 Anchorage, AK

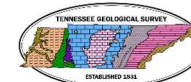
May 21-24, 2023

This lightning talk is going to briefly cover how I have extended the existing GeMS tools to improve functionality, save time, and hopefully help others do the same.

Extension by Modification

- Necessary modifications (GeMS schema extensions):
 - Updates to “my_GeMSDefinitions.py” in the myAttribDict and myEntryDict sections to reflect GeMS schema additions
 - Update list of “_ID” value prefixes in “GeMS_reID_AGP2.py” to prevent use of default values for undefined feature classes.

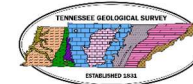
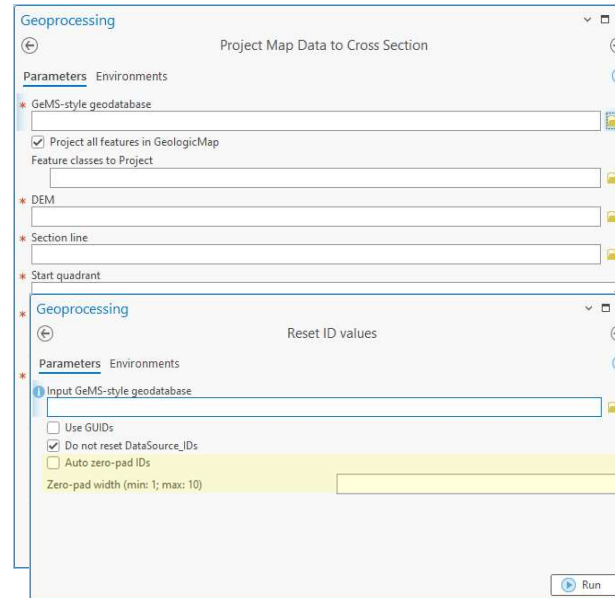
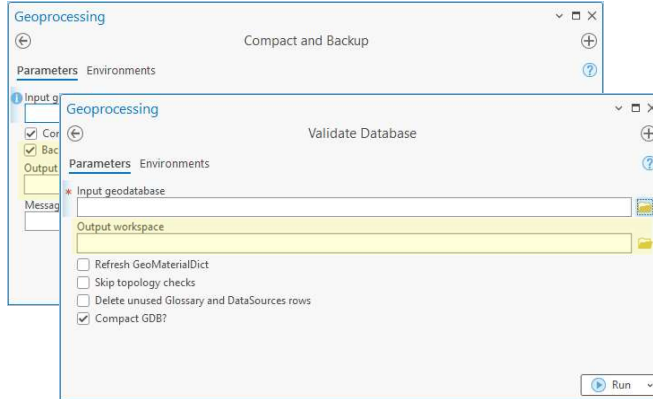
```
my_GeMSDefinitions.py | my_GeMSDefinitions.py | GeMS_reID_AGP2.py
22 # Add new table attribute definitions here
23 myAttribDict = {
24     'SamplePreTreatment': 'Procedure(s) by which
25     'AnalysisMethod': 'How carbon isotopes were a
26     'SampleElevationFt': 'Elevation at which samp
27     'delta_13C': 'Observed 13C : 12C ratio, repor
28     'CalibratedAge': '2-sigma age range determin
29     'Location': 'Brief text description of locale
30     'MaterialDated': 'Type of material dated. Val
31     'Lab_no': 'Laboratory Identifier for analyzed
32     'ConventionalAge': 'Age reported by laborator
33     'ReservoirCorrectedAge': 'The reservoir corre
34     'Significance': 'Brief discussion of signific
35     'StratigraphicContext': 'Stratigraphic horio
36     'Phase': 'Integer index number of time period
37     ## CUSTOM ENTRIES START HERE ##
38     'AFWellOrDrillID': 'Identifies oil/gas wells
39     'AquiferName': 'Records name of aquifer a wel
40     'CharacterPlainText': 'A plain text character
41     'ContactsAndFaultsID': 'Foreign key to symbol
42     'created_date': 'Records time and date featur
43     'created_user': 'Records user (OS user name)
44     'CSAFeatureID': 'Foreign key to labeled featu
45     'FieldID': 'Station number assigned by person
46     'FieldName': 'Records name of oil/gas field a
47     'FontName': 'Identifies the font used to gene
48     'FontSizeFts': 'Specifies the size in points
49
73 'SignificantDimensionMeters': 'Significant
74 'Subsurface': 'Indicates whether this featu
75 'TimeDate': 'Time and date of observation a
76 }
77
78 # Add new feature classes and feature datasets
79 myEntryDict = {
80     'C14Points': 'Table that documents locales,
81     ## CUSTOM ENTRIES START HERE ##
82     'CartographicElements': 'Feature dataset th
83     'CartographicPoints': 'Stores point featur
84     'CSACartographicPoints': 'Stores line featur
85     'CSACartographicPoints': 'Stores point featur
86     'CSALabelLeaderLines': 'Stores leader lines
87     'CSALabelPoints': 'Stores point features us
88     'CSASymbolPoints': 'Stores a point for each
89     'GMContactsAndFaultsSymbolPoints': 'Stores
90     'GMGeologicLinesLabelPoints': 'Stores a poi
91     'GMIsosValueLinesLabelPoints': 'Stores a poi
92     'GMLabelLeaderLines': 'Stores leader lines
93     'GMMapUnitLinesLabelPoints': 'Stores a point
94     'GMMapUnitOverlayPolys_Anno': 'Stores annot
95     'GMMapUnitOverlayPolysLabelPoints': 'Stores
96     'GMMapUnitPoly_Anno': 'Stores annotation f
97     'GMMapUnitPolyLabelPoints': 'Stores a point
98     'GMNaturalResourceLines_Anno': 'Stores anno
99     'GMNaturalResourceLinesSymbolPoints': 'Stor
100
40 # Add any custom GeMS tables/abbreviations here
41 IdRootDict = {
42     'CartographicLines': 'CAL',
43     'CartographicPoints': 'CAP',
44     'CMLLines': 'CML',
45     'CMMMapUnitPolys': 'CMMUP',
46     'CMLPoints': 'CMLPT',
47     'ContactsAndFaults': 'CAF',
48     'CSACartographicLines': 'CSACL',
49     'CSACartographicPoints': 'CSACP',
50     'CSAContactsAndFaults': 'CSACAF',
51     'CSAGeologicLines': 'CSAGEL',
52     'CSALabelLeaderLines': 'CSALLL',
53     'CSALabelPoints': 'CSALAP',
54     'CSAMapUnitPolys': 'CSAMP',
55     'CSAOrientationPoints': 'CSAORP',
56     'CSASymbolPoints': 'CSASYP',
57     'DataSources': 'DAS',
58     'DescriptionMapDitics': 'DMO',
59     'FossilPoints': 'FSP',
60     'GenericPoints': 'GXP',
61     'GeochronPoints': 'GCR',
62     'GeologicLines': 'GEL',
63     'Glossary': 'GLO',
64     'GMCAFSymbolPoints': 'GMCAFSYP',
```



When discussing “extension” or “extending” the tools, there are two ways that this is accomplished: (1) modifying existing tools and (2) creating new tools that “dovetail” into the existing toolbox (discussed later). Within modification, there are two categories of modifications to briefly go over here: the first being the most basic, necessary mods to use the tools (editing lists of constants within scripts). Modifications like this are encouraged and often required, as several of the tools don’t behave very well if you do not maintain these ancillary files.

Extension by Modification

- Convenience modifications:
 - Allow user to specify location of script output(s)
 - Allow user to set adjustable inputs in toolbox interface



The second type of modifications are referred to as “convenience” modifications, and these are slightly more advanced. These mods go a little deeper in that you must modify the code as well as the toolbox user interface through ArcGIS. These mods really help with workflow; e.g., being able to specify the location that a tool stores its output(s) is a real time saver and assists with maintaining organization of files and folders within a project. Similarly, adding variables to the tool interface that are otherwise only modifiable constants in the script save the steps of opening, finding code, and editing it. This is also not a good practice as errors could be unwittingly introduced into the script.

Mod Example: Compact and Backup

```
GeMS_CompactAndBackup_AGP2.py E3
22
23 def backupName(inDb,outFolder): # ALW added outFolder parameter (see sys.argv section below)
24 # returns name for a backup copy of a geodatabase where
25 # backup matches inDb in type (.gdb or .mdb)
26 # name is of form inDb_yyyy-mm-dd[x].gdb/.mdb

61
64
65 # If user chose to backup gdb...
66 if backup == 'true':
67     guf.addMsgAndPrint('Getting name of backup copy' )
68     copyName = backupName(inDb,outFolder) # ALW added outFolder parameter
69
70 # Check if user specified a backup folder
71 if len(outFolder) < 3:
72     guf.addMsgAndPrint(' Copy will be made to same folder as input GDB')
73 else:
74     guf.addMsgAndPrint(' Copy will be made to ' + outFolder)
75
76 if len(copyName) > 4:
79 else:
```

Geoprocessing

Tool Properties: Compact and Backup

General

Parameters

Execution

Validation

Geoprocessing

Compact and Backup

Parameters

Input geodatabase
C:\temp\GeMS_ToolTesting\WindrockTN_GeologicMap.gdb

Output
 Compact
 Backup

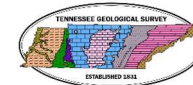
Output Folder
Backups

Message for log file
C:\temp\GeMS_ToolTesting\Backups

Test modification of the Compact and Backup tool

Open in Script Editor

Run



This slide demos the modified Compact and Backup script highlighting the addition of an output folder variable (code available on the GeMS GitHub site).



Extension by Creation

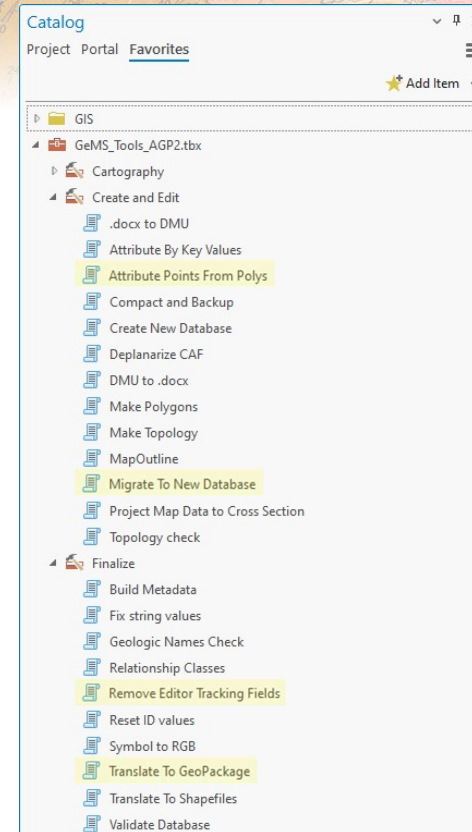
- Tools designed to automate repetitive or cumbersome tasks common to many GeMS geodatabase creation/modification workflows
- Written in Python 2.7 or 3.x; now all ported to 3.x for use with ArcGIS Pro (ArcMap versions will not be updated)
- Use the existing GeMS scripting framework; take advantage of GeMS utility functions



Extension by creation is just that: writing new scripts. In many cases these scripts piggy-back on others or rely on functions already included within the GeMS utility functions script. Code can be cobbled together from examples (mostly I take snippets from Esri's ArcPy examples) as well as from the many online forums where people ask questions and others respond with code samples that may help solve a particular problem.

Extension by Creation

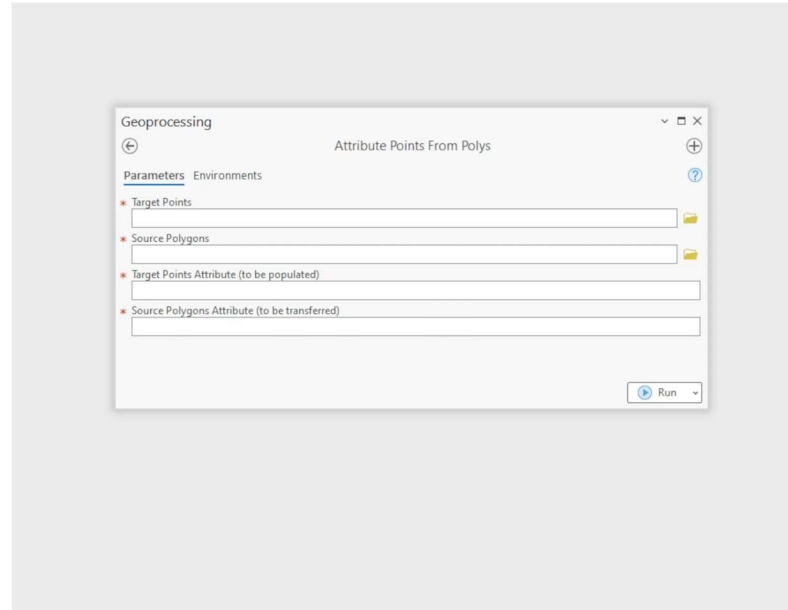
- Create and Edit:
 - Attribute Points From Polys
 - Migrate To New Database
- Finalize:
 - Remove Editor Tracking Fields
 - Translate to GeoPackage



These are four scripts that I have created. Attribute Points From Polys, Remove Editor Tracking Fields, and Translate to GeoPackage are all available now on the GeMS Github site's Issues page (<https://github.com/DOI-USGS/gems-tools-pro/issues>)

Attribute Points From Polys

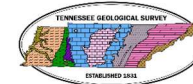
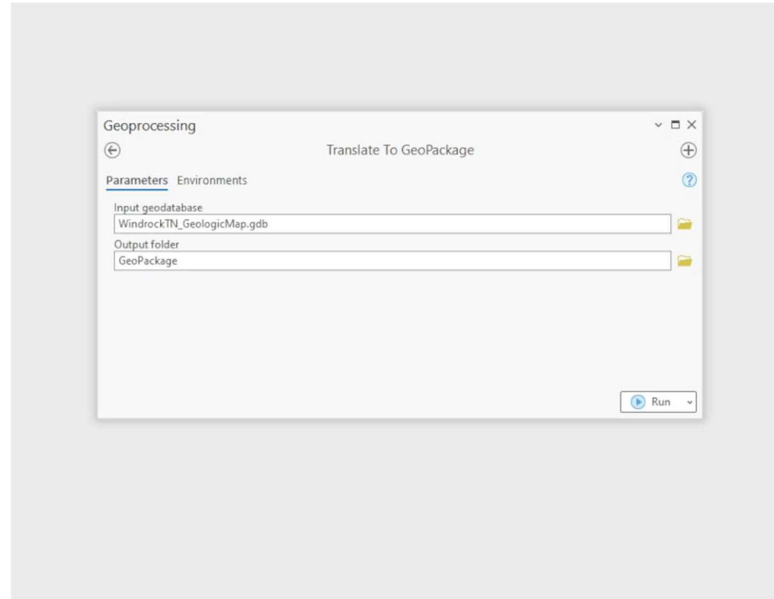
- Script uses an “in-memory” spatial join to transfer an attribute from a polygon class to an attribute of a point class which intersects it.
- Target points and source polygons are filtered by feature type by the ArcGIS Pro “Tool Properties > Parameters”
- Target and source attributes are dependent on the target and source point feature attribute tables



Attribute Points From Polys is a Python script of about 100 lines. It stores the polygon attribute values from the spatial join that correspond to the target point feature OIDs and transfers those values to the target attribute in the point class, all without creating an intermediate output or requiring any additional user action.

Translate to GeoPackage

- Translates feature classes, tables, and annotation (as points) from a file geodatabase (gdb) to an OGC GeoPackage.
- Geopackages do not support Feature Datasets, so prefixes are added to the output feature class names
- Relationship and Topology classes are not translated by the tool (incompatible with GeoPackages)



Translate to GeoPackage is a Python script of about 140 lines. GeoPackages do not support Esri file geodatabase Feature Datasets, so prefixes are added to the feature class names so that they sort together in the output. If the input database is a GeMS-style database, the prefixes are defined (e.g., "GeologicMap" = "GM", "CrossSectionA" = "CSA", etc.). Custom names can be specified, or the tool will generate its own prefix. Translations are accomplished through ArcPy conversion functions FeatureClassToFeatureClass, AddRasterToGeoPackage, and TableToTable, along with management function FeatureToPoint which handles annotation. The script can only convert feature classes, tables, and raster datasets.

Sharing Modifications... Thoughts?

The GitHub Site: <https://github.com/DOI-USGS/gems-tools-pro>

- Easy to create an account, log in, and make suggestions or edits to scripts:
 - Log Issues to report problems or to submit new ideas
 - Create “branches” (pull requests) that can be reviewed by appropriate staff
 - If approved, branches are “merged” back into the master

But what about the ArcGIS .tbx file???

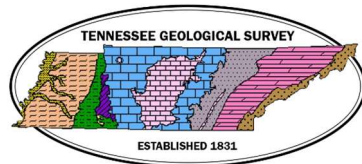
- NOT as easy to edit and QC, but doable...

How do Evan et al. feel about more of us using the Git collaborative space for this kind of GeMS work?

What about you?



The reason for presenting the extension idea in the two forks is to try and encourage people who may be intimidated by the idea of programming to classify their idea to make it more accessible conceptually. We want there to be a place to make suggestions for modifications to existing tools, suggest new tools, and be able to share experiences using the tools. Where is that space? Github is an obvious but underutilized resource for sharing and modifying collaboratively. After the presentation, I had conversations with several folks and the other option that came up was an ArcGIS Hub site. This is a developing issue and will be discussed further after the meeting with more info on collaboration likely coming through the Listserv.



Thank you!

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