

Micro-module A: Online Urban Data Gathering

A1-Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Online Data Gathering and Processing

In this micromodule, you will learn the basic skills of using QGIS for processing geographic information and different types of available urban data for geoprocessing in Hong Kong. In the first part, the tutorial will introduce the overall QGIS interface, data categories, coordination system in the geographic information system. It also shows how to open data/ add layer/ open attribute table.

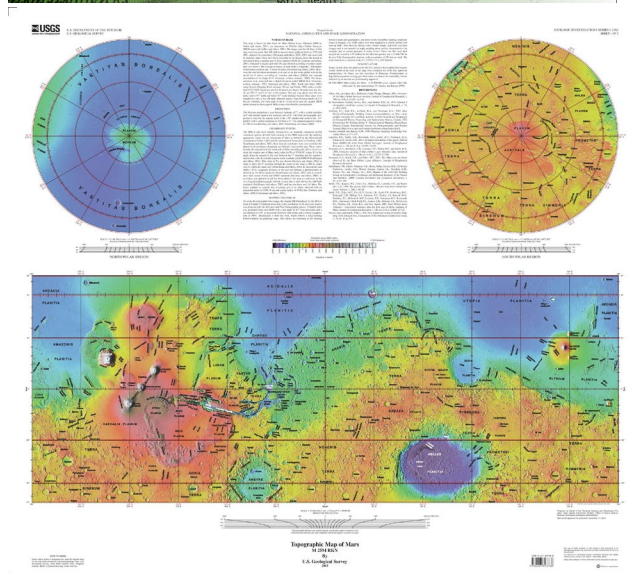
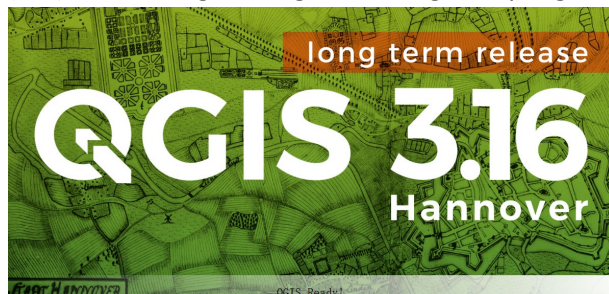
In the second part, this tutorial will show different types of urban data in Hong Kong, the Vector data includes Land Use/ Road Network/ Building/ Contour/Boundary Map. Geo-tagged CSV data includes Census Data, Infrastructure (elderly care and childcare information), and Point of Interests (POIs).

1. Introduction of the features of QGIS and ArcMap (ArcGIS)

1.1 A guideline of QGIS for beginners

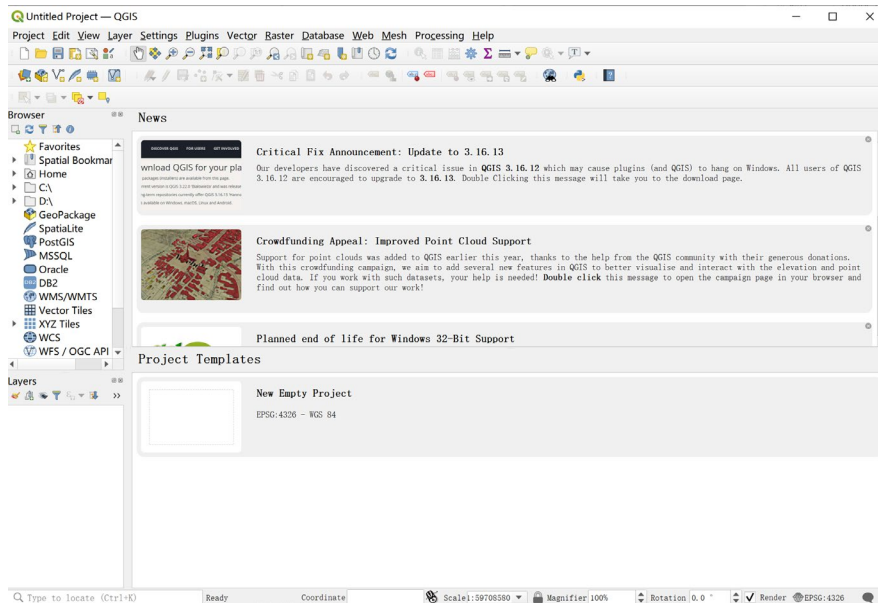
A geographic information system (GIS) is a system that creates, manages, analyzes, and maps all types of data. GIS connects data to a map, integrating location data (where things are) with all types of descriptive information (what things are like there). This provides a foundation for mapping and analysis that is used in science and almost every industry. GIS helps users understand patterns, relationships, and geographic context.

QGIS is a free, open-source, cross-platform (lin/win/mac) geographical information system (GIS) for creating, editing, visualizing, analyzing and publishing geospatial information.



1.2 Introduction of QGIS interface

When you first start QGIS, you'll see a very simple and clear interface, which is mainly made up of 4 parts. On the top, is the main menu bar, browser bars and layers on the left, and a big area in the centre-right. At the bottom of window, there is a status bar with the information of projection.



1.3 Types of data

Before we jump into introducing the specific function on how to input, edit, output geographic information via QGIS, we would like to first introduce different types of data we will use in the following sessions, which is available for urban analytics.

There are mainly 2 types of data: raster data and vector data:

Raster data (geo-tiff):

A raster dataset is composed of rows (running across) and columns (running down) of pixels (also known as cells). Each pixel represents a geographical region, and the value in that pixel represents some characteristic of that region.

The size of pixels in a raster determines its spatial resolution.

Raster images can contain one or more bands, each covering the same spatial area, but containing different information.

For example, land use information or satellite image are typical raster data.

Reference: https://docs.qgis.org/3.4/en/docs/gentle_gis_introduction/raster_data.html

Vector data:

Vector data are composed of vertices and paths. For example, the three types of vectors are points, polylines, and polygons.

Vector points are simple XY coordinates in space.

Polylines connect XY coordinates called vertices with paths.

Lastly, vector polygons are a set of closed vertices and paths.

And we often store these points, lines and polygons in shapefiles, geodatabases and various other GIS file formats.

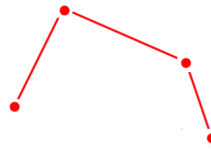
Another important thing is geo-tagged csv/excel dataset that contains X and Y coordinates could be converted to points (vector data), we'll show the process in the following tutorial.

Vector data are composed of **vertices and paths**. For example, the three types of vectors are points, polylines, and polygons.

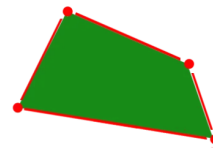
Vector points are simple XY coordinates in space.



Polylines connect XY coordinates called vertices with paths.

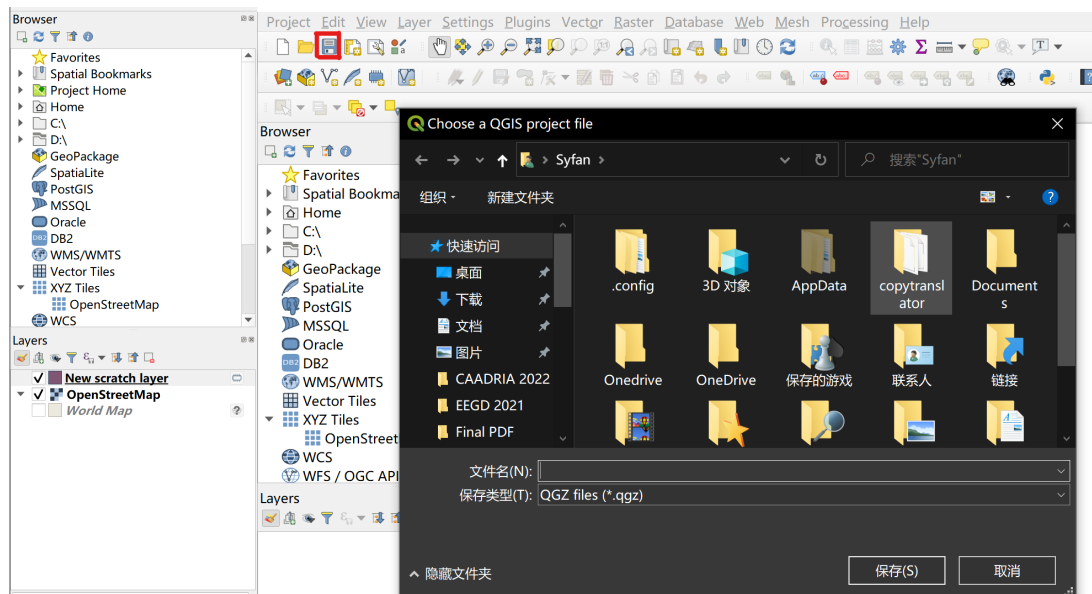


Lastly, vector polygons are a set of **closed vertices and paths**.



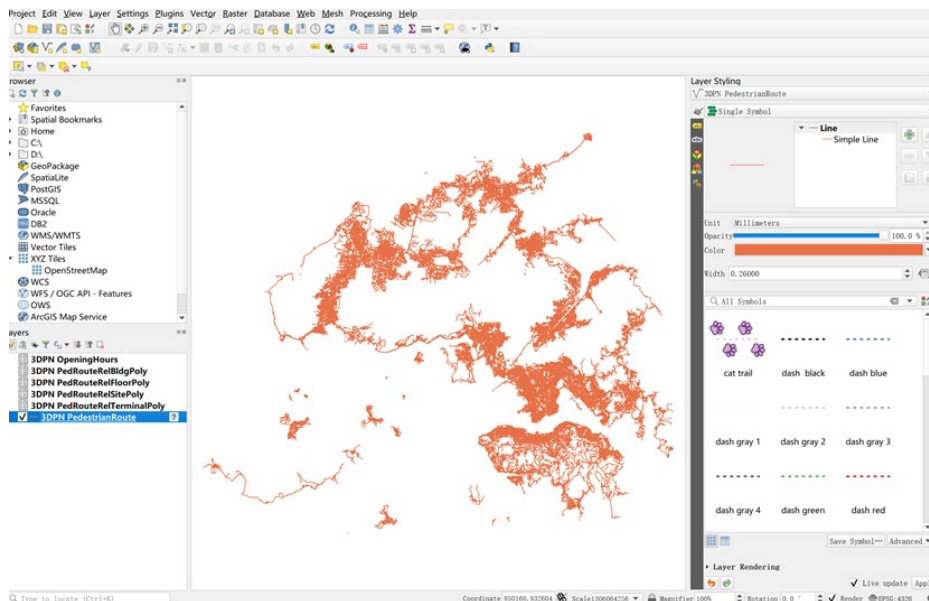
Reference: <https://gisgeography.com/rasterization-vectorization/>

1.4 Open data (local or online); Save data; Change layers



Open .gdb data (just drag into QGIS)

A file geodatabase is a collection of files in a folder on a disk that can store, query, and manage both spatial and nonspatial data.



1.5 Projections and coordinate systems

General introduction of projection

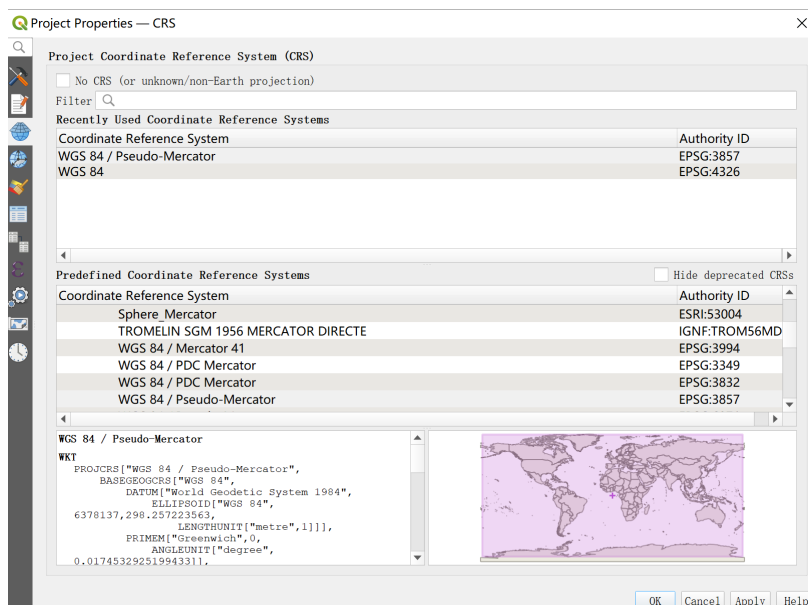
A Coordinate Reference System, or CRS, is a method of associating numerical coordinates with a position on the surface of the Earth. QGIS has support for approximately 7,000 standard CRSs, each with different use cases, pros and cons!

For our needs, the common WGS 84 latitude/ longitude CRS is known by the identifier EPSG:4326, and the web mapping standard CRS is EPSG:3857.

In order to correctly project data into a specific target CRS, either your data must contain information about its coordinate reference system or you will need to manually assign the correct CRS to the layer.

To assign the same CRS to multiple layers that have no crs or have a wrong one in one operation:

1. Select the layers in the Layers panel
2. Press Ctrl+Shift+C. You could also right-click over one of the selected layers or go to Layer
 - ▶ Set CRS of layer(s)
3. Find and select the right CRS to use
4. And press OK. You can confirm that it has been set correctly in the Source tab of the layers' properties dialogue.



1.6 Attributes and tables

3DPN PedRouteRelBldgPoly — Features Total: 10604, Filtered: 10604, Selected: 0

ObjectID	BuildingID	BuildingPolyID	ChineseName	EnglishName	CreationDate	Modified
1	1	250000000	采逸軒	La Maison Du ...	2021-09-01 00...	HEYA
2	2	250000001			2021-09-01 00...	HEYA
3	3	250000002	美暉大廈	Markfield Build...	2021-09-01 00...	HEYA
4	4	250000003	浚峯	The Hudson	2021-09-01 00...	HEYA
5	5	250000004	聯安新樓	Luen On Apart...	2021-09-01 00...	HEYA
6	6	250000005	大德樓	Tai Tak Mansion	2021-09-01 00...	HEYA
7	7	250000006	順興大廈	Shun Hing Buil...	2021-09-01 00...	HEYA
8	8	250000007	加多近山	Cadogan	2021-09-01 00...	HEYA
9	9	250000008	嘉都大廈	Cado Building	2021-09-01 00...	HEYA

Show All Features

2. Introduction of the available data for urban studies, which could be processed in GIS

Resource

Hong Kong

-Overview

<https://data.gov.hk/sc/>

Vector data:

Land Use/ Road Network/ Building/ Contour/Boundary Map

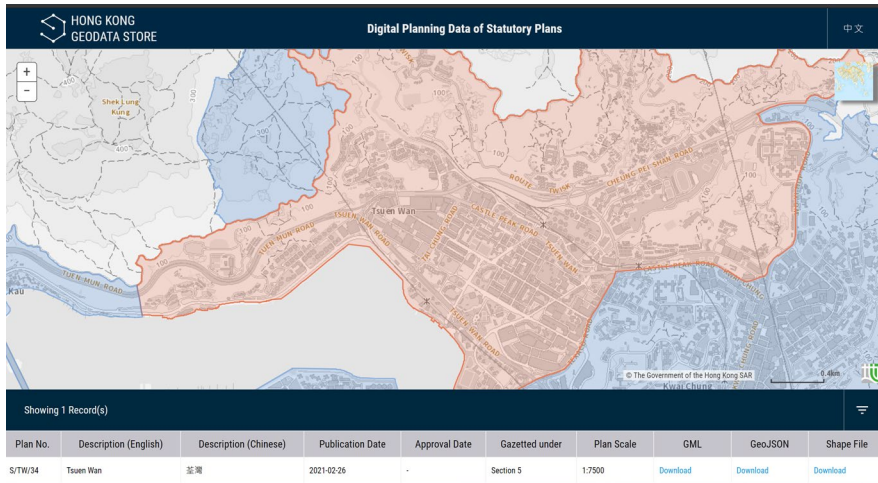
-Landuse (current condition)

https://www.pland.gov.hk/pland_en/info_serv/open_data/landu/index.html#!



-Planning

<https://geodata.gov.hk/gs/view-dataset?uuid=a860f3fb-af71-4ef1-823f-fa9990d77953&sidx=0>

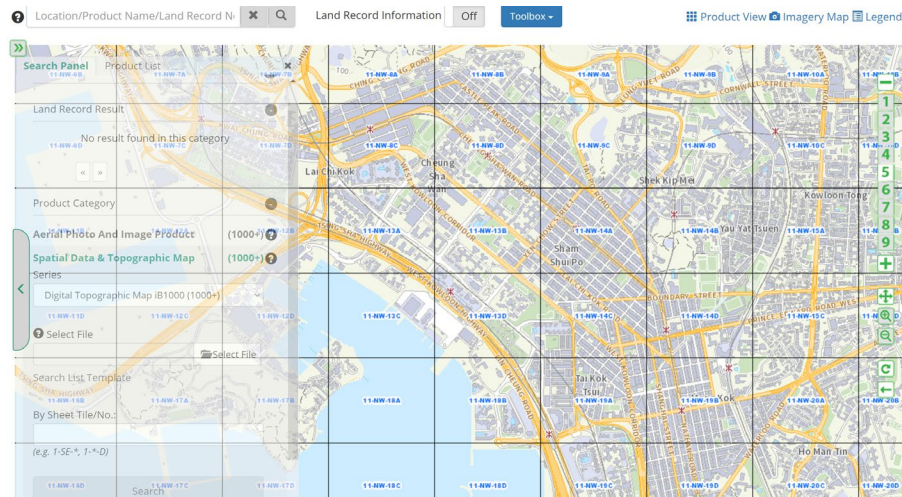


planning dataset (could be output as .shp)

-Road Network/Buildings/Contour

<https://www.hkmapservice.gov.hk/OneStopSystem/map-search>

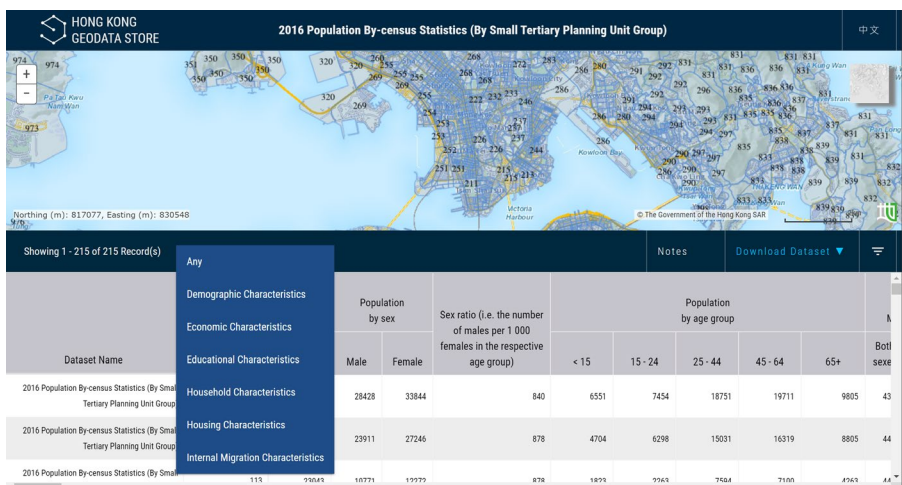
different grid with different scale (most used 'Digital topographical map iB1000')



CSV geo-tagged:

-Census Data:

<https://geodata.gov.hk/gs/>

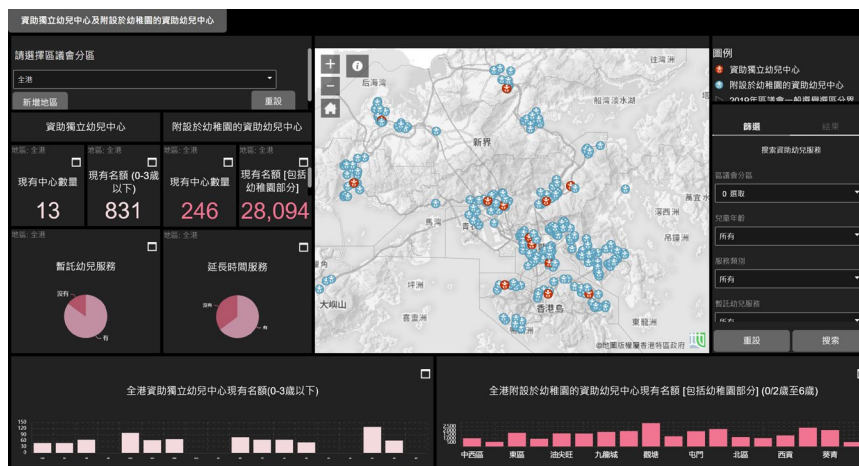
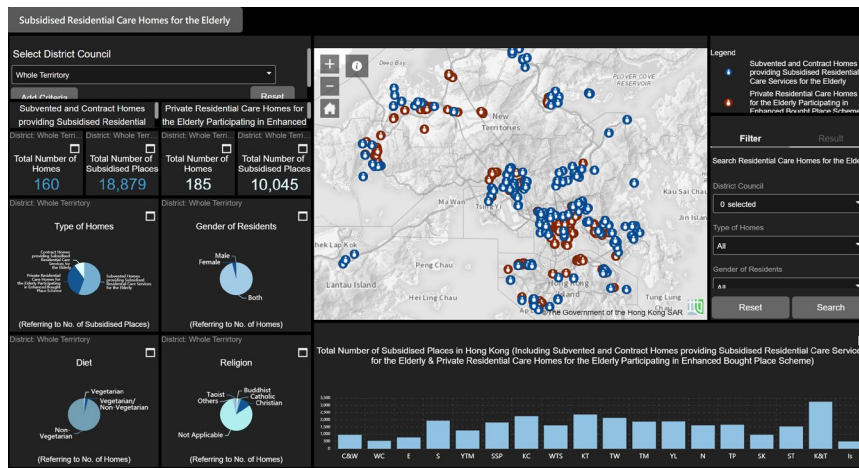


-Infrastructure:

<http://hk.centamap.com/gc/home.aspx>

including elderly care and childcare information

<https://csdi-dashboard.geodata.gov.hk/landing/?lang=en&fontSize=1>



POIs

including maps of bus, food, school, etc

Google Maps Platform

Overview Products Pricing Documentation 更多 Search 中文 - 简体

Guides Support

Overview

- Set up in Cloud Console
- Using API Keys

Web Services

- Client Libraries
- Web Services Best Practices

Dev Guides

- Place Search
- Place Details
- Place Photos
- Place Autocomplete
- Query Autocomplete

Overviews

- Place IDs
- Place Types
- Place Data Fields
- Place Icons
- Session Tokens

Migration Guide

- Place Field Migration

Policies and Terms

- Usage and Billing

Home > Products > Google Maps Platform > Documentation > Places API

Overview

Before you begin: Before you start using the Places API, you need a project with a billing account and the Places API enabled. We recommend creating multiple Project Owners and Billing Administrators, so that you'll always have someone with these roles available to your team. To learn more, see [Get Started with Google Maps Platform](#).

Note: Server-side and client-side libraries

The Places API is a service that returns information about places using HTTP requests. Places are defined within this API as establishments, geographic locations, or prominent points of interest.

Introducing the API

The following place requests are available:

- Place Search** returns a list of places based on a user's location or search string.
- Place Details** returns more detailed information about a specific place, including user reviews.
- Place Photos** provides access to the millions of place-related photos stored in Google's Place database.
- Place Autocomplete** automatically fills in the name and/or address of a place as users type.
- Query Autocomplete** provides a query prediction service for text-based geographic searches, returning suggested queries as users type.

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Introducing the API

Policies and Terms

Based on this session

- Place Search Updated 2021年11月9日
- Using API Keys Updated 2021年11月9日
- Place Details Updated 2021年11月9日

