

*“Using R as a GIS”* is a clear, practical, and highly accessible introduction to spatial analysis using R. Designed with learners in mind, it walks readers with no prior knowledge of GIS or computer scripting from foundational concepts and spatial data types to advanced hands-on mapping, analysis, and visualisation using R programming language. This is achieved through an approachable writing style, which makes complex topics feel less intimidating. The abundant R code examples, the explicit statement of learning outcomes at the beginning of each chapter, and the inclusion of structured exercises make it easy to follow along and apply new skills right away.

Beyond technical instruction, the book brings R as a GIS to the professional sphere, by placing a strong emphasis on project management and reproducibility. Dedicated chapters on file organisation, version control with Git and GitHub and collaborative work provide practical tools that are not always covered in textbooks and yet, are essential for real-world workflows and collaborative research.

The book is up to date with current best practices, and guides readers toward modern tools, while still acknowledging the legacy of existing materials built around other widely used but now deprecated R libraries like `sp`. However, it stands as a valuable long-term reference, which builds conceptual and practical foundations rather than focusing on the use of specific functions, enabling readers to adapt and keep pace with future changes as the R spatial ecosystem quickly evolves. Whether you are a student, researcher, or practitioner looking to integrate R into your GIS work, this book is an excellent starting point.