

Measuring the performance of geosimulation models by map comparison

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Propositions belonging to the thesis “Measuring the performance of geosimulation models by map comparison”, Alex Hagen-Zanker, 2008.

1. There are at least as many map comparison methods as there are interpretations of maps. Each method on its own is objective and reproducible. The choice for one or the other remains subjective.
2. One is the loneliest number that you'll ever know. Without a frame of reference a single map comparison statistic lacks meaningful interpretation.
3. Progress is when a highly realistic and promising model proves to be just a bit better than random.
4. As “A View on the World from Ninth Avenue” already showed 32 years ago, distance weighted moving windows naturally represent the first law of geography.
5. Fractal analysis tells us that cities are organized somewhere in between a network and two-dimensional space. This abstract notion becomes tangible when you arrive at a destination and find that there is no parking space.
6. Early studies of the emerging field of nano-geography should focus on the price gradient of food at Dutch train stations, where supermarkets even charge different prices for the same product depending on the aisle from which it is taken.
7. The notion that the world is round is fully accepted now that conservative Christians claim that Russia is visible from Alaska.
8. Driving languages to extinction is a major advantage of globalization as it promotes worldwide understanding.
9. Journal of Applied Research is a contradiction in terms.
10. “Expert judgment” often means “some person’s opinion”.