Trends in spatial analysis

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The leaders of spatial analysis have a collective wisdom which can benefit the discipline. Specifically, students and junior researchers have much to gain from knowing the perspectives and thoughts of the discipline's most accomplished individuals. In this paper we provide a summary of a survey completed by many leaders in the field of spatial analysis. We overview the key developments in spatial analysis, outline challenges and opportunities for new research, and indicate resources that will aid students in preparing to meet research challenges. Key developments include the introduction of GIS, an improved understanding of spatial autocorrelation, the introduction of local methods, the spread of spatial analysis beyond geography, and the availability of new data. Future opportunities in spatial analysis include the retention of spatial analysis as a geographic discipline, the development of methods for large data sets (including spatial-temporal data sets), overcoming the limitations of local statistics, and better integration of GIS and spatial analysis. Perspectives of the spatial analysis leaders are set within the context of journal trends and literature.

Quantitative revolution, current trends, spatial analysis