# How to use IDRISI Selva (An introduction)

#### Ronald C. Estoque, D3

Division of Spatial Information Science Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences University of Tsukuba, Japan

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### **Presentation outline**

- 1. Background about IDRISI Selva
- 2. Data format, display and map composition
- 3. IDRISI Selva Modules
- 4. A closer look at some modules
- 5. Remarks

# 1. Background about IDRISI Selva

#### • The IDRISI Legacy

- was named after Abu Abd Allah Muhammed al-Idrisi (1100-1166 A.D.)
  - a cartographer and geographer of major significance during the medieval period.

#### IDRISI Selva

- a version 17 of IDRISI; Selva means 'dense tropical forest'
- an integrated raster-based GIS and Image Processing software
  - provides nearly 300 modules
    - for the analysis and display of digital spatial information
- a complete GIS analysis package
  - for basic and advanced spatial analysis
    - surface and statistical analysis, decision support, and change and time series analysis

# 1. Background about IDRISI Selva

#### IDRISI Selva

- provides a platform for integrated modeling environments
  - Earth Trends Modeler
    - for image time series of environmental trends
  - Land Change Modeler
    - for land change analysis and prediction, a critical component for REDD projects
- provides complete utilities for:
  - importing and exporting GIS data
  - a comprehensive set of documentation and tutorials

# 2.a. Data format

- Raster file \*.rst
- Vector file \*.vct
- Conversion: <u>ArcGIS format</u> → <u>IDRISI format</u>
  - − ArcGIS grid file → IDRISI raster file
    - Convert the grid file into an ASCII file (text file)
      - Done in ArcGIS
    - Import the ASCII file into IDRISI
  - ArcGIS shapefile → IDRISI vector file
    - Import directly into IDRISI

# 2.a. Data format Conversion: ArcGIS format → IDRISI format ArcGIS grid file → IDRISI raster file



#### 2.a. Data format

Conversion: <u>ArcGIS format</u> → <u>IDRISI format</u>
 ArcGIS shapefile → IDRISI vector file

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## 2.a. Data format

#### Note:

- When using ArcGIS 10
  - <u>no need</u> to convert IDRISI raster file into ArcGIS grid file
    - ArcGIS 10 is able to read and process IDRISI raster file
- - reverse the process presented in the previous slide

## 2.b. Data display

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## 2.b. Data display





#### 2.c. Map composition

displaying

To examine

data



#### 2.c. Map composition



#### 3. IDRISI Selva Modules

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#### 3. IDRISI Selva Modules

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#### Example:

- Hypothetical goal Find suitable sites for housing projects
- Factors distance to city center; distance to road; and slope (no constraints)
- Relative weights to be determined using Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP)
- Assumption: the area is not yet urbanized and large part of it is still available for housing and urban development.
- Modules: Decision wizard [Multi-criteria Evaluation (MCE), Fuzzy, Weight, AHP] and Reclass

#### **Factors**



Distance to city center (m)

Distance to road (m)



#### Standardization procedures:



#### **Standardized factors**

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Distance to city center

Distance to road

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Weighted Linear Combination

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#### Output

#### MCE procedure/aggregation method

• Weighted Linear Combination (WLC)

$$LSI = \sum w_i x_i$$

where:

- *LSI* land suitability index  $w_i$  – weight of factor *i*
- $x_i$  standardized value of factor *i*





## 5. Remarks

- IDRISI Selva has a lot of modules
  - ample time is needed to explore these modules (prioritize what is needed)
- Nevertheless, the software comes with very useful tutorials.
- If interested, try some of the exercises...

