

# Vector capabilities in GRASS GIS

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ISTITUTO AGRARIO  
DI SAN MICHELE ALL'ADIGE



# Presentation outline

- An introduction to vector topology
- Vector features in GRASS GIS
- Vector boundary operations
- Vector network analysis



# Vector Topology

## Non-topological vectors

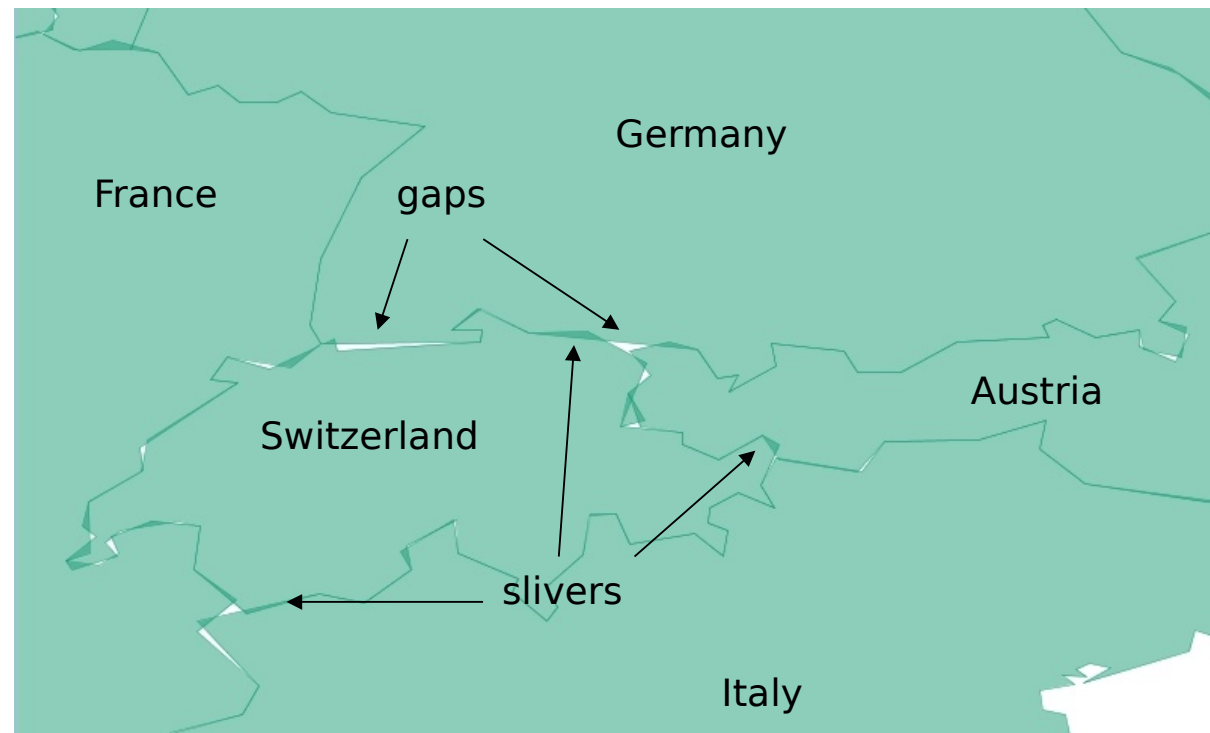
E.g. OGC Simple Features, ESRI shapefiles

Geometry types: points, lines, polygons

-> replicated boundaries for adjacent areas

Faster computations, but extra work for maintenance

**Non-topological**  
polygons generalized



# Vector Topology

## True vector Topology

Areas are constructed from boundaries

Boundaries are shared between adjacent areas

Slower computations, but less (nearly no manual) maintenance

**Topological**  
boundaries generalized



# Vector Topology

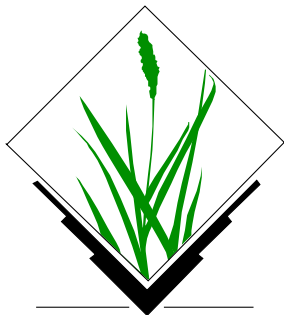
**True vector Topology** is implemented in e.g.



TNTmips



MApping Device –  
Change Analysis Tool  
(MAD-CAT)



GRASS GIS

# GRASS Vector model

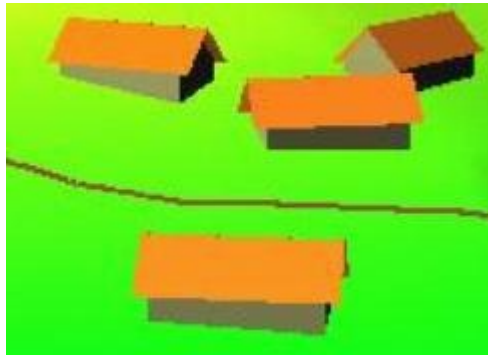
## Vector geometry types

- Point
- Centroid
- Line
- Boundary
- Area (boundary + centroid)
- face (3D area)
- [kernel (3D centroid)]
- [volumes (faces + kernel)]

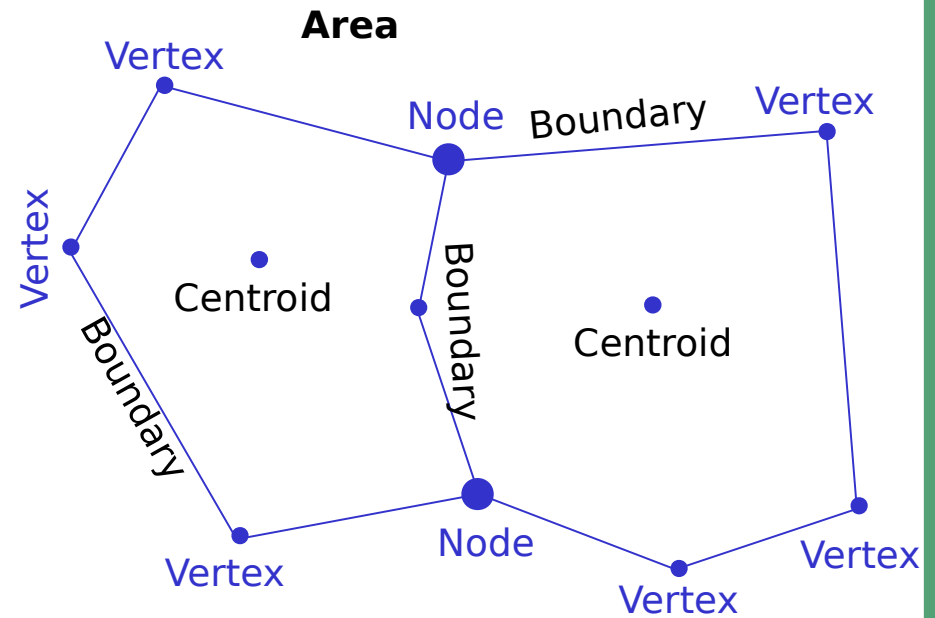
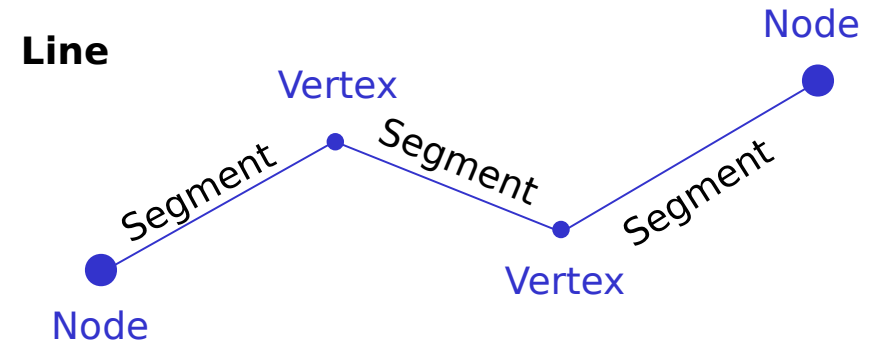
Geometry is **true** 3D when: x, y, z



Faces



not in all GIS!



Use of Spatial Index

# GRASS Vector model

## Vector geometry types

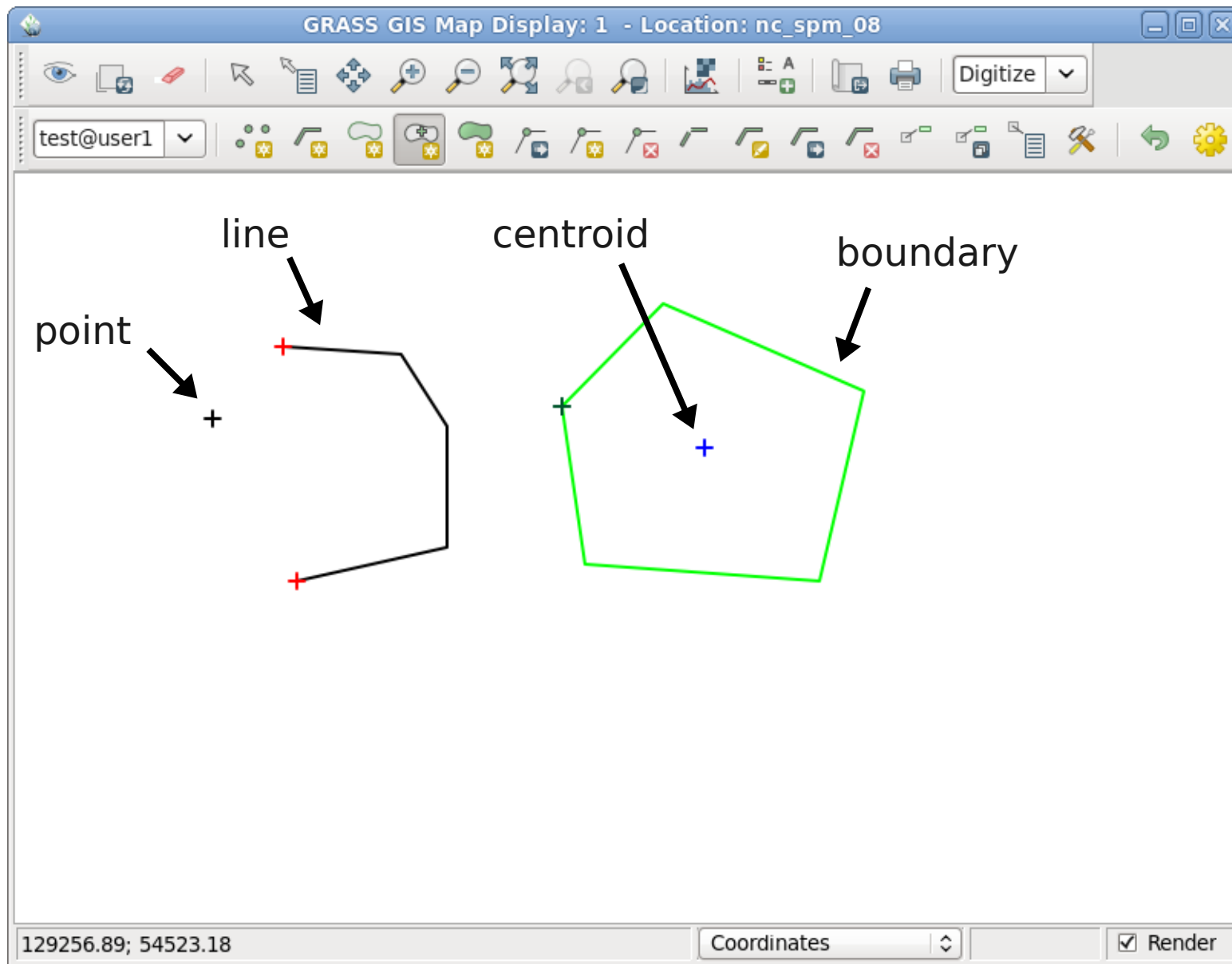
### Basic geometry types, can be edited

- Point
- Centroid
- Line
- Boundary

*A GRASS vector can contain a combination of several different types*

# GRASS Vector model

## Vector geometry types





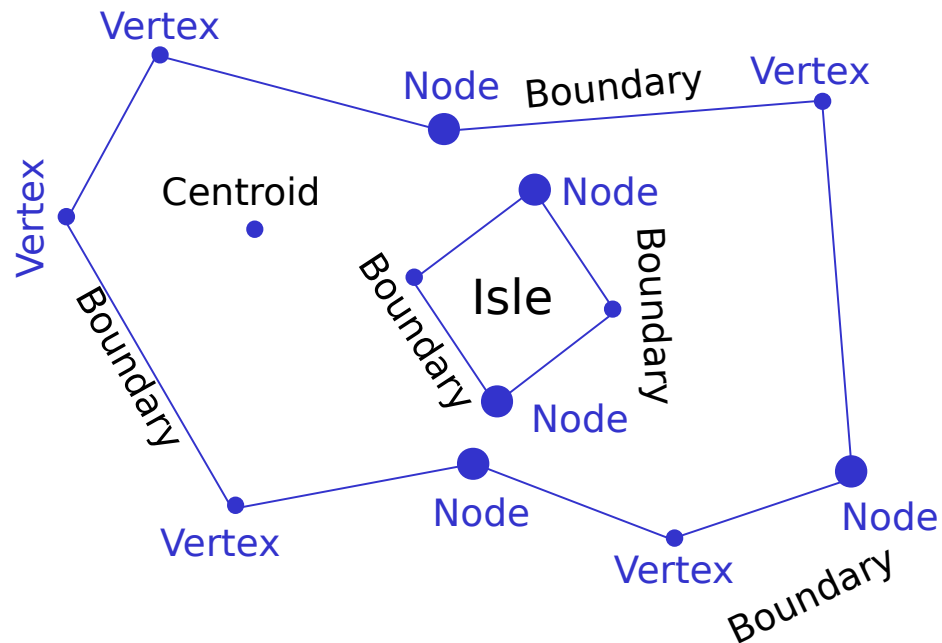
# GRASS Vector model

## Vector geometry types

### Derived geometry types, constructed from basic types

- Area (closed ring of boundaries + centroid)
- Isle (closed ring of boundaries, no centroid)
- Node (at both ends of lines/boundaries; equal to points/centroids)

Isles and Nodes are not visible to users



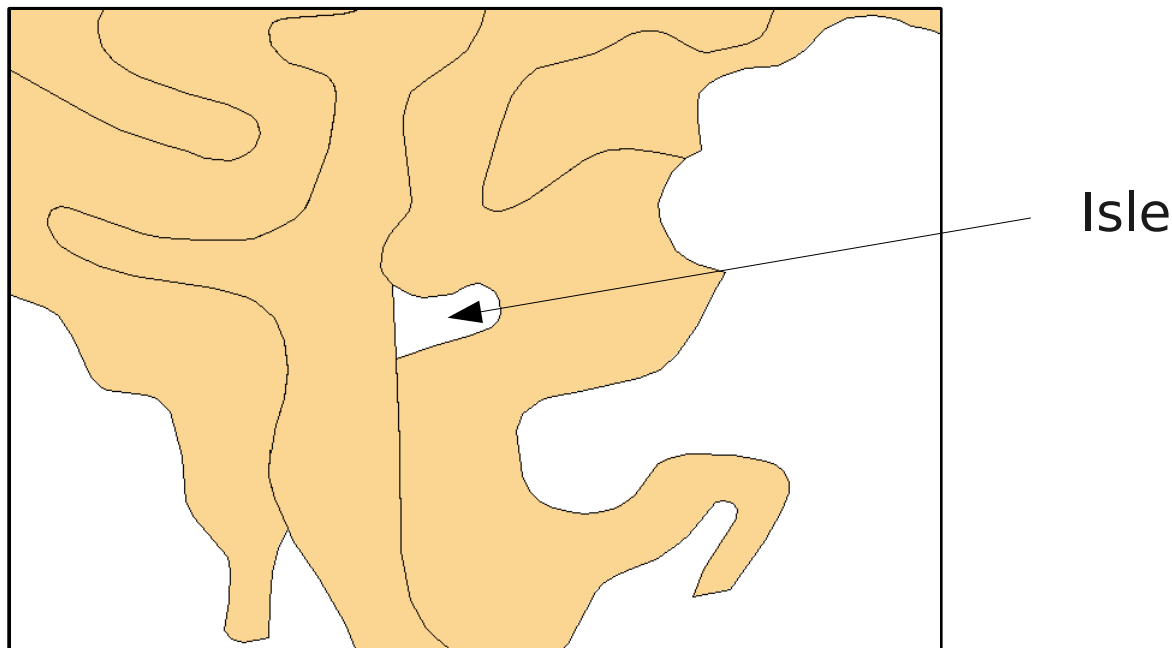
# GRASS Vector model

## Vector geometry types

### Derived geometry types, constructed from basic types

- Area (closed ring of boundaries + centroid)
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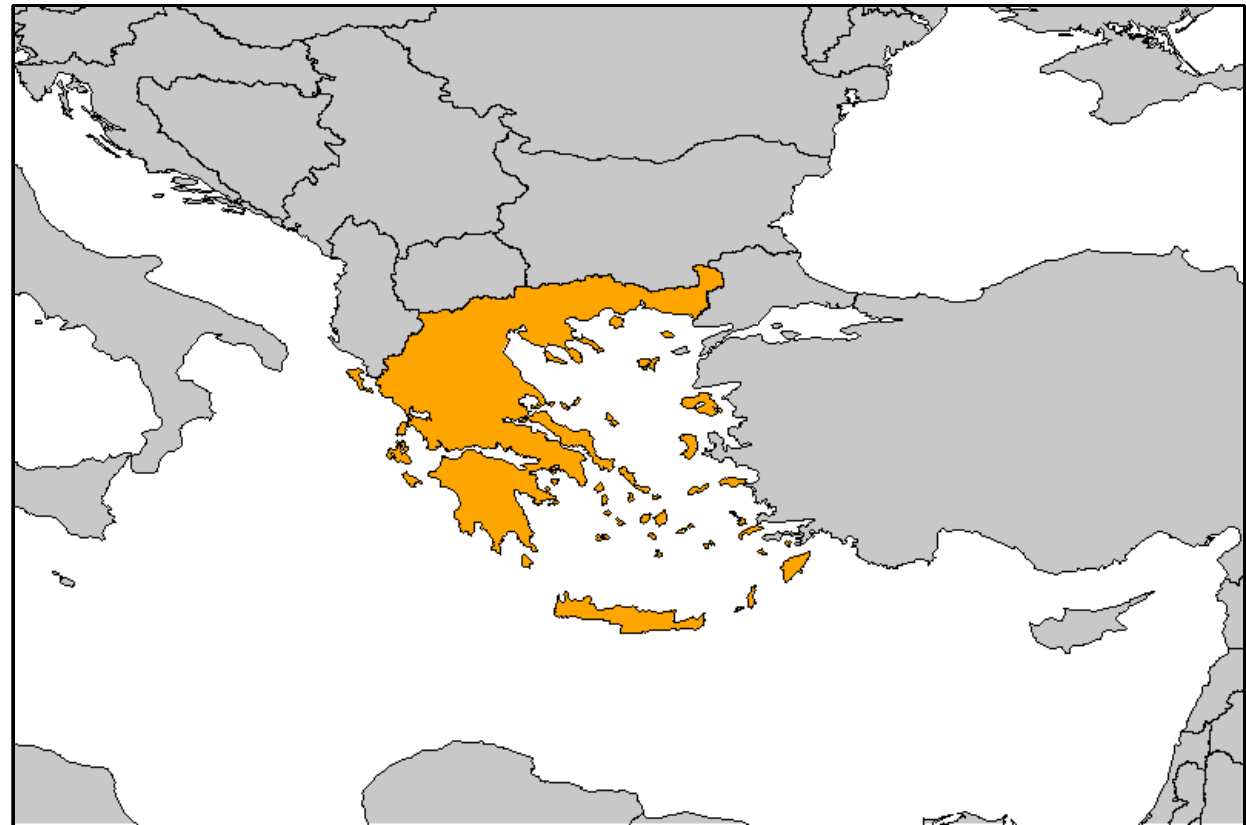
*North Carolina, soils\_wake@PERMANENT*

# GRASS Vector model: Categories

## Basic geometry types can have categories

Unique categories: unique id

Shared categories equivalent to e.g. Multipolygon



# GRASS Vector model: Categories

## Reclassification

*Converting unique categories to shared categories*

```
v.reclass in=world_boundaries out=world_boundaries_country \  
column=country
```

```
# unique categories
```

```
v.db.select map=world_boundaries columns=cat where="country = 'Greece'"  
cat  
1327  
... [48 more category values]  
1431
```

```
# grouped by country
```

```
v.db.select map=world_boundaries_country columns=cat \  
where="country = 'Greece'"  
cat  
77
```

# GRASS Vector model: Layers

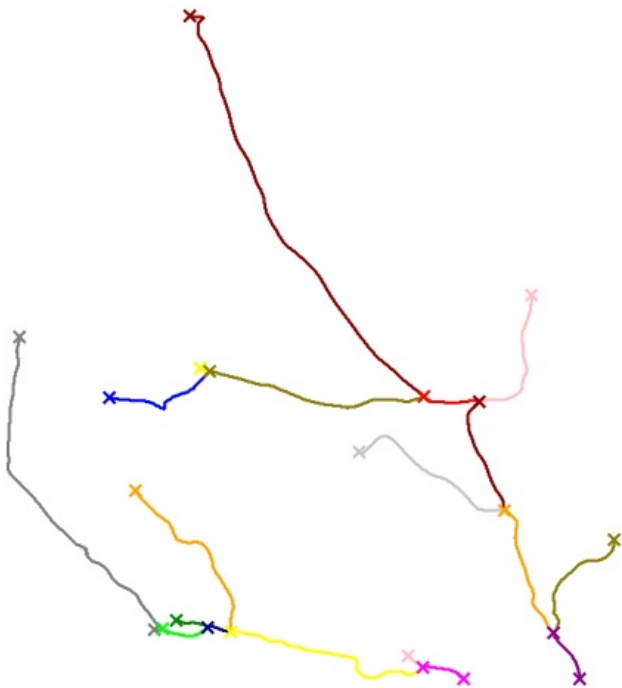
## Layers ~ thematic groups

Each layer can have its own attribute table

### ***Example: river networks***

Layer 1: unique stream ID

Layer 2: categories for stream head, intermediate stream, outlet



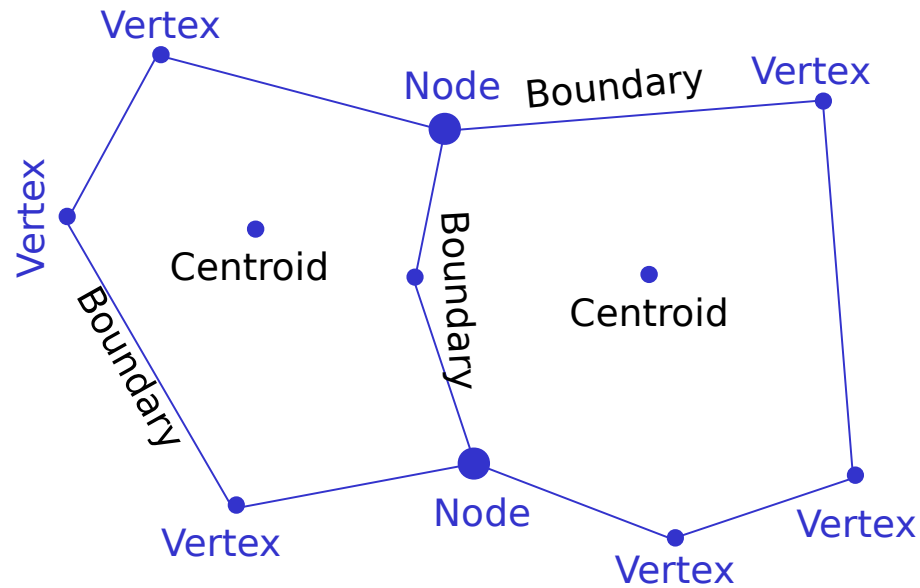
Layer 1: unique id



Layer 2: stream type

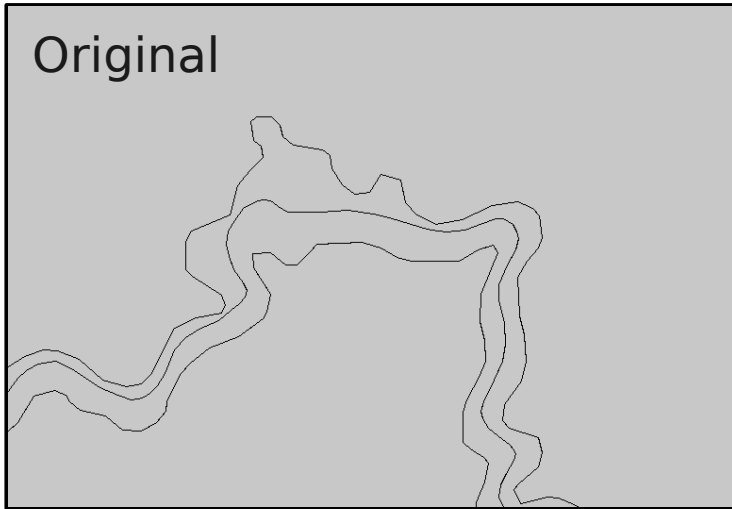


# Vector boundary operations in GRASS GIS

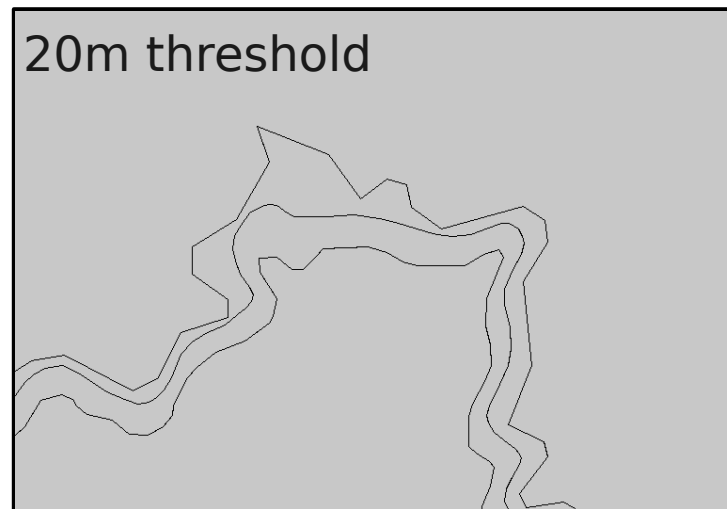
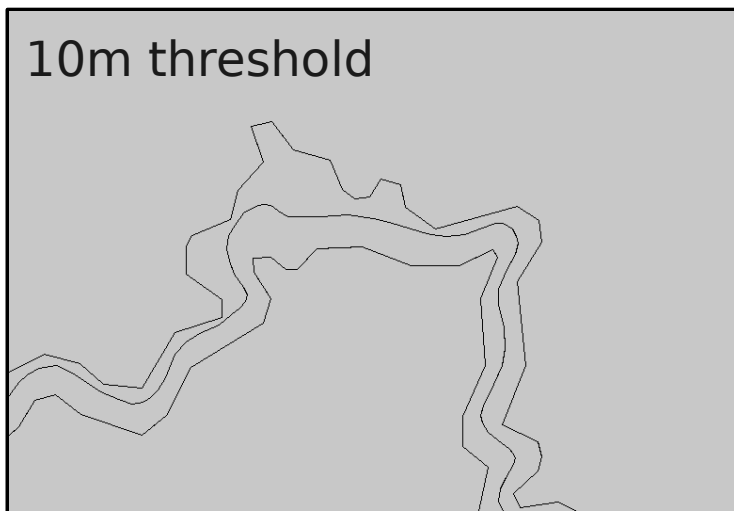


# Vector boundaries: smoothing

*North Carolina: boundary\_county*

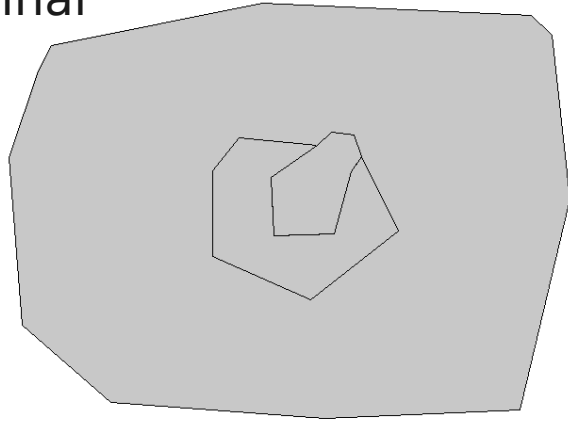


```
v.clean in=boundary_county \  
out=boundary_county_smooth_10 \  
tool=prune thres=10.00
```



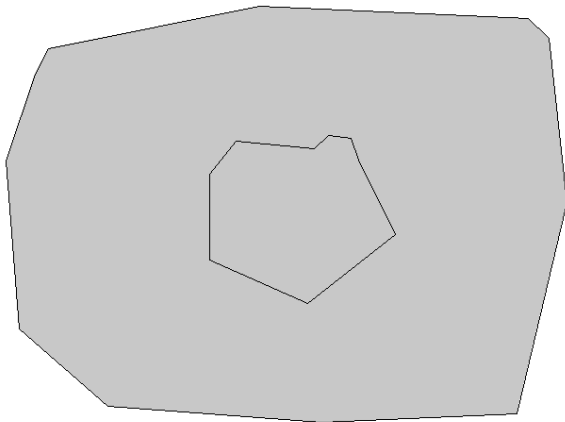
# Vector boundaries: removing small areas

Original

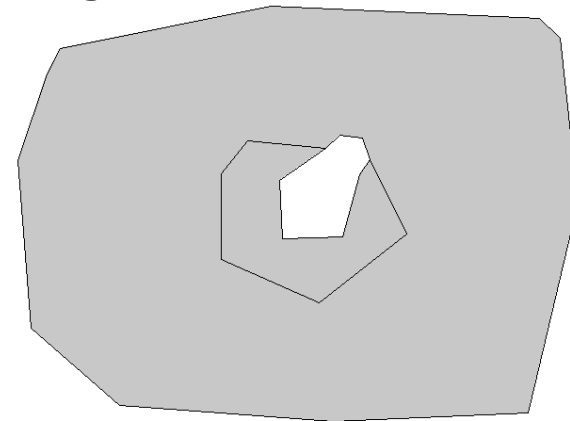


Removing the smallest area in the center

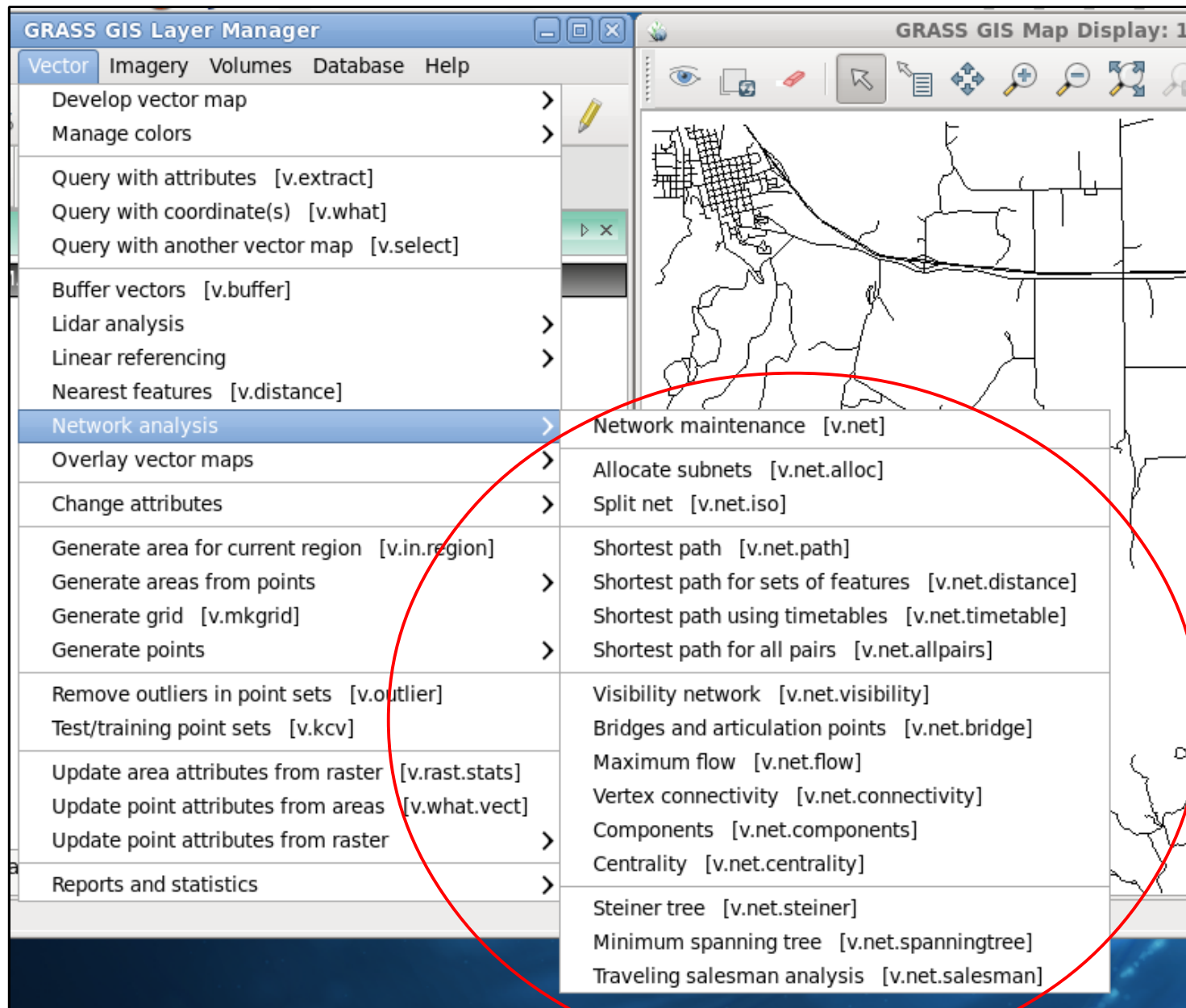
topological



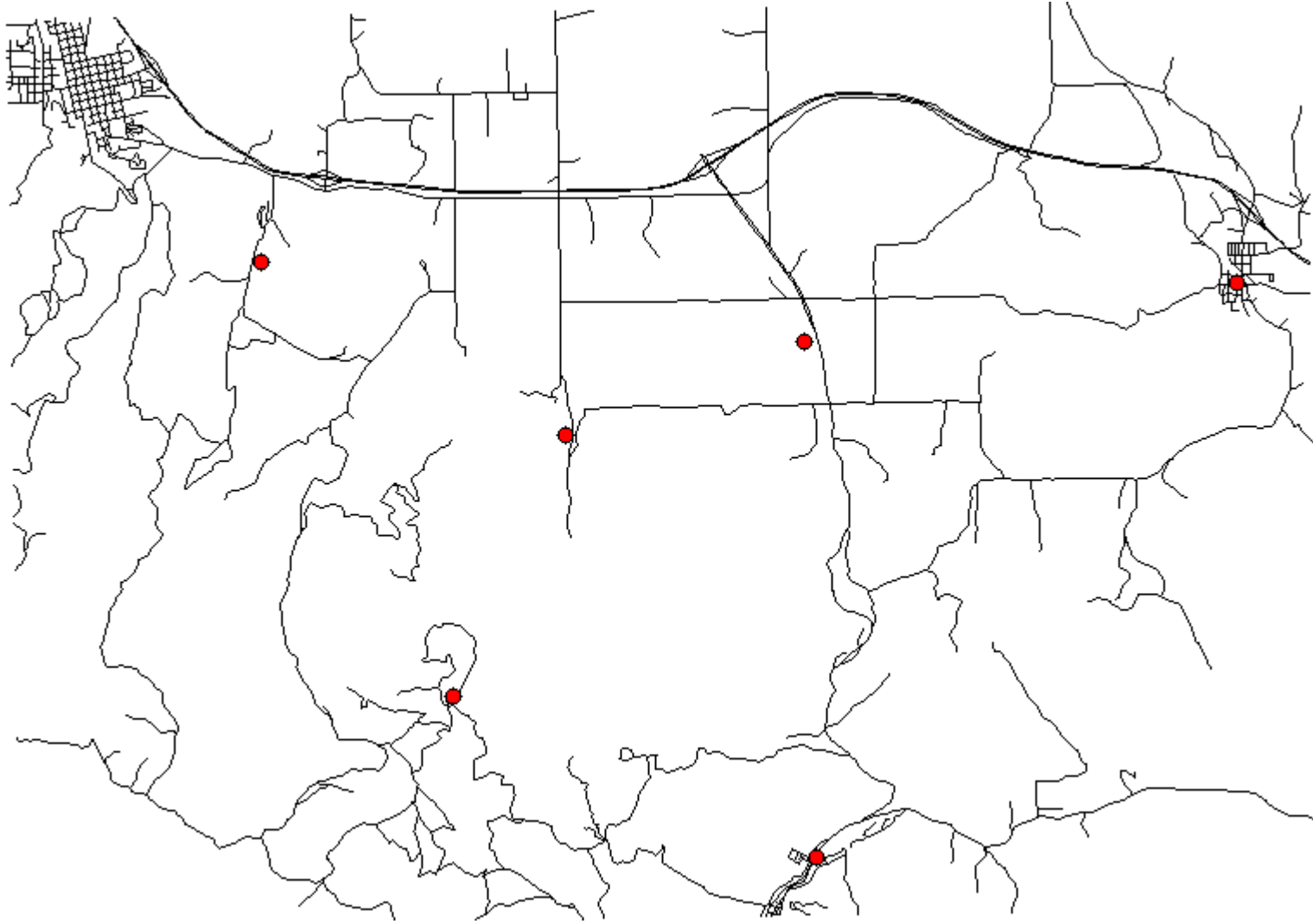
non-topological



# Vector network analysis in GRASS GIS

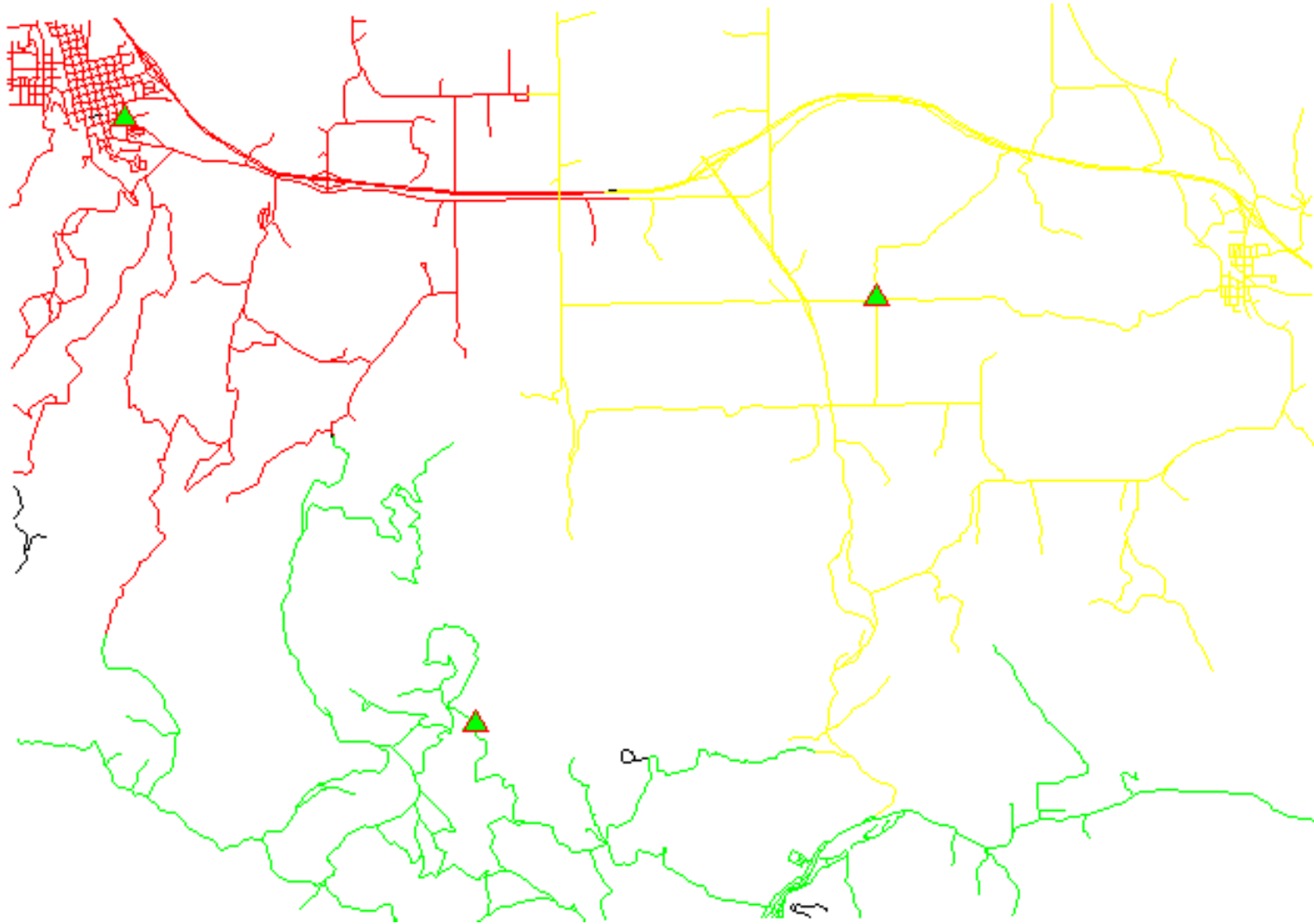


# Vector network analysis in GRASS GIS





# Vector network analysis in GRASS GIS



# Network analysis

## General concept of a network graph

- Arcs connected by nodes
- Forward/backward costs assigned to each arc  
(oneway road)
- Starting point(s)
- Ending point(s)

## Cost definition examples

- Distance → shortest path
- Travelling time → fastest path
- Travelling costs (fuel, train ticket, etc) → cheapest path

# Network analysis: traveling salesman

## Distances as costs

*Spearfish example*

```
# we want to vist 6 locations on our trip
```

```
echo "1|601653.5|4922869.2|a  
2|608284|4923776.6|b  
3|601845|4914981.9|c  
4|596270|4917456.3|d  
5|593330.8|4924096.6|e  
6|598005.5|4921439.2|f" | v.in.ascii cat=1 x=2 y=3 out=centers \  
col="cat integer, east double precision, \  
north double precision, label varchar(43)"
```

```
# prepare network
```

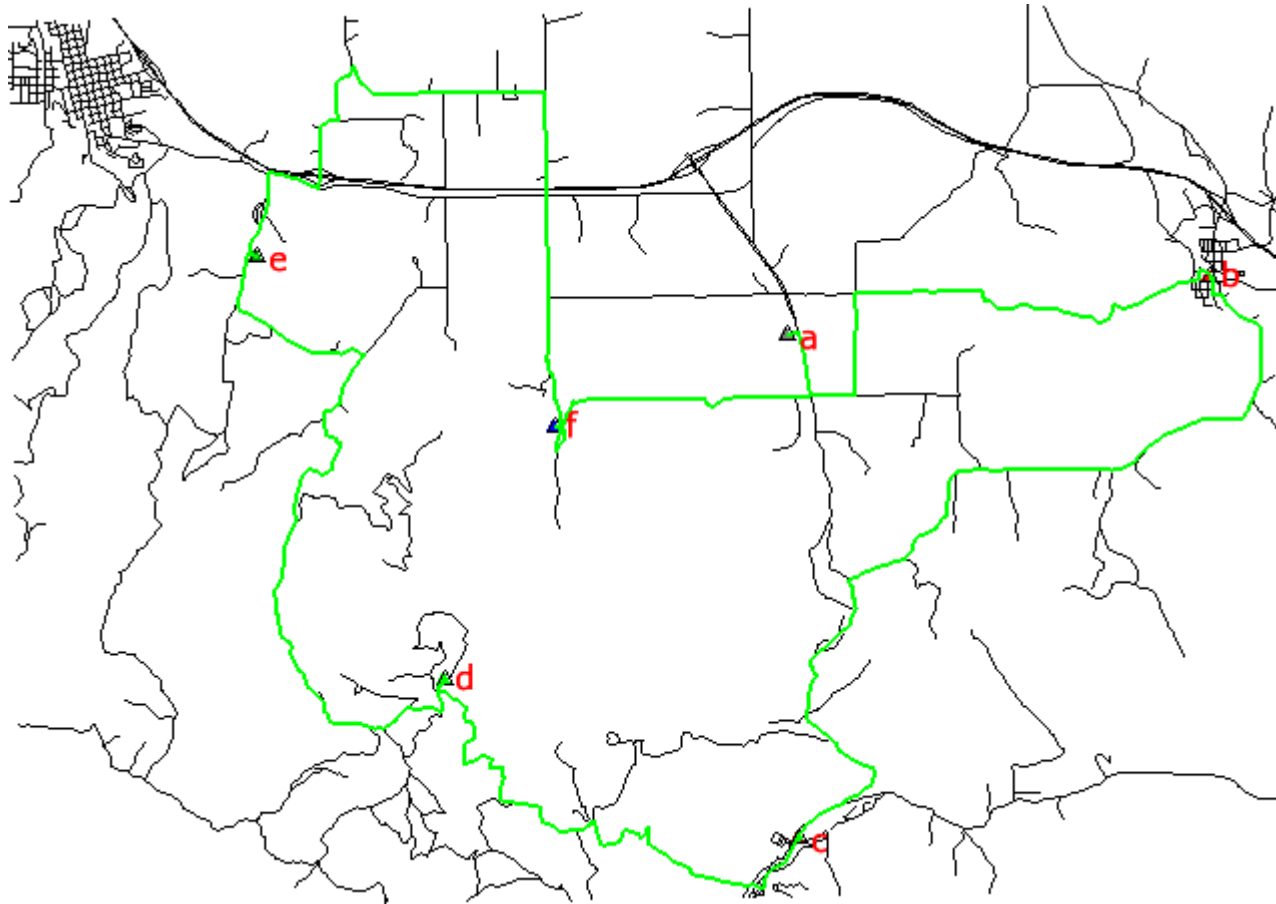
```
g.copy vect=roads,myroads  
v.net myroads points=centers out=myroads_net op=connect \  
thresh=500
```

```
v.net.salesman myroads_net ccats=1-6 out=mysalesman_length
```

# Network analysis: traveling salesman

## Distances as costs

Result



# Network analysis: traveling salesman

## Traveling time as costs

```
# create unique categories for each line in layer 2
v.category in=myroads_tmp out=myroads opt=add cat=1 layer=2

# add new table for layer 2
v.db.addtable myroads layer=2 col="cat integer, label
varchar(43),length double precision,speed double precision,cost
double precision"

# copy road type to layer 2
v.to.db myroads layer=2 qlayer=1 opt=query qcolumn=label
columns=label

# create lines map connecting points to network (take care of
layers)
v.net myroads points=centers out=myroads_net op=connect
thresh=500 alayer=2 nlayer=1
```



# Network analysis: traveling salesman

## Traveling time as costs

<b>Road type</b>	<b>Speed limit</b>
Interstate	75 mph
Primary highway, hard surface	75 mph
Secondary highway, hard surface	50 mph
Light-duty road, improved surface	25 mph
Unimproved road	5 mph

# Network analysis: traveling salesman

## Traveling time as costs

```
# define traveling costs as length in miles divided by speed  
limit in miles per hour:
```

```
v.to.db map=myroads_net layer=2 type=line option=length  
col=length unit=miles
```

```
# set speed limits in miles / hour
```

```
v.db.update myroads_net layer=2 col=speed val="5.0"
```

```
v.db.update myroads_net layer=2 col=speed val="75.0"
```

```
where="label='interstate'"
```

```
v.db.update myroads_net layer=2 col=speed val="75.0"
```

```
where="label='primary highway, hard surface'"
```

```
v.db.update myroads_net layer=2 col=speed val="50.0"
```

```
where="label='secondary highway, hard surface'"
```

```
v.db.update myroads_net layer=2 col=speed val="25.0"
```

```
where="label='light-duty road, improved surface'"
```

```
v.db.update myroads_net layer=2 col=speed val="5.0"
```

```
where="label='unimproved road'"
```

# Network analysis: traveling salesman

## Traveling time as costs

```
# set costs as traveling time in hours
```

```
v.db.update myroads_net layer=2 col=cost val="length / speed"
```

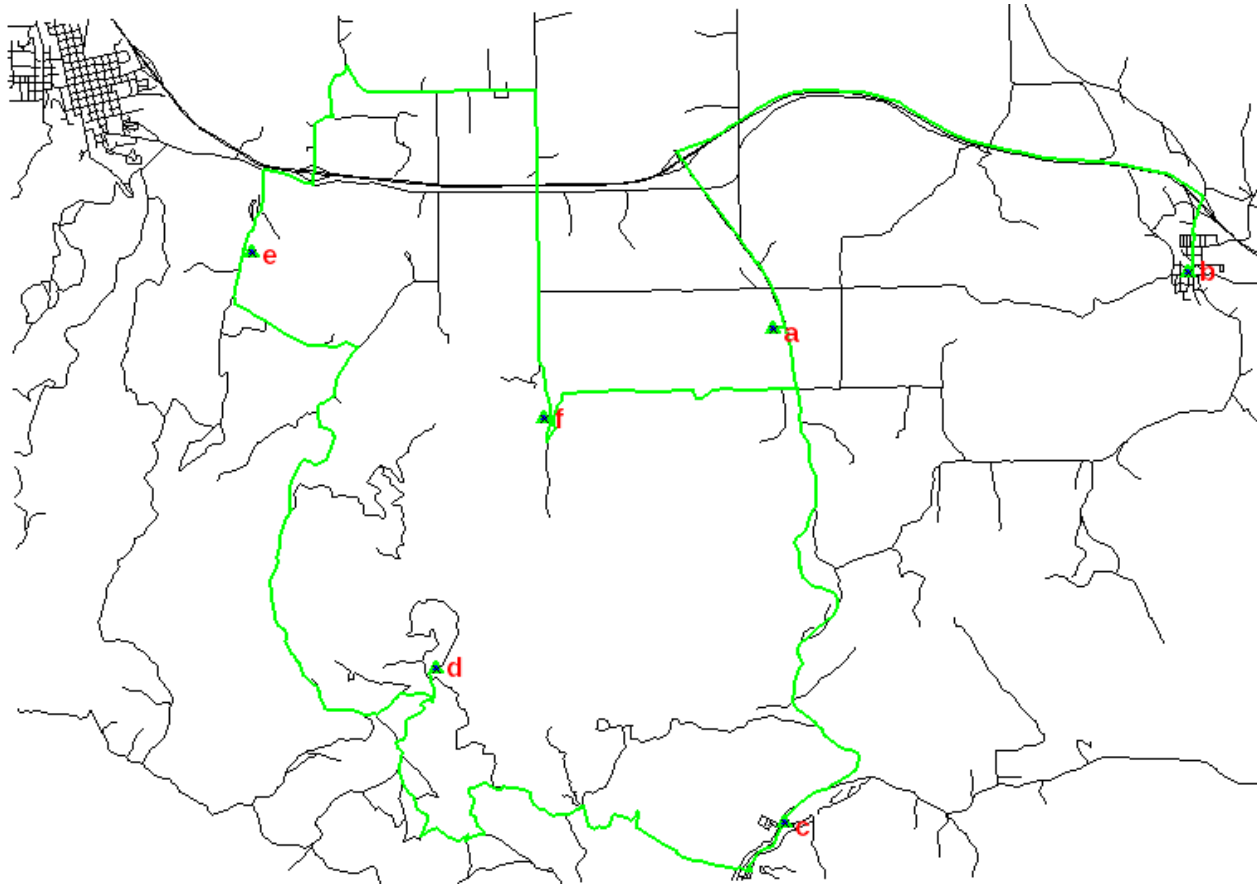
```
# fastest path: traveling costs = length / speed
```

```
v.net.salesman myroads_net alayer=2 nlayer=1 acol=cost ccats=1-6  
out=mysalesman_fastest
```

# Network analysis: traveling salesman

## Traveling time as costs

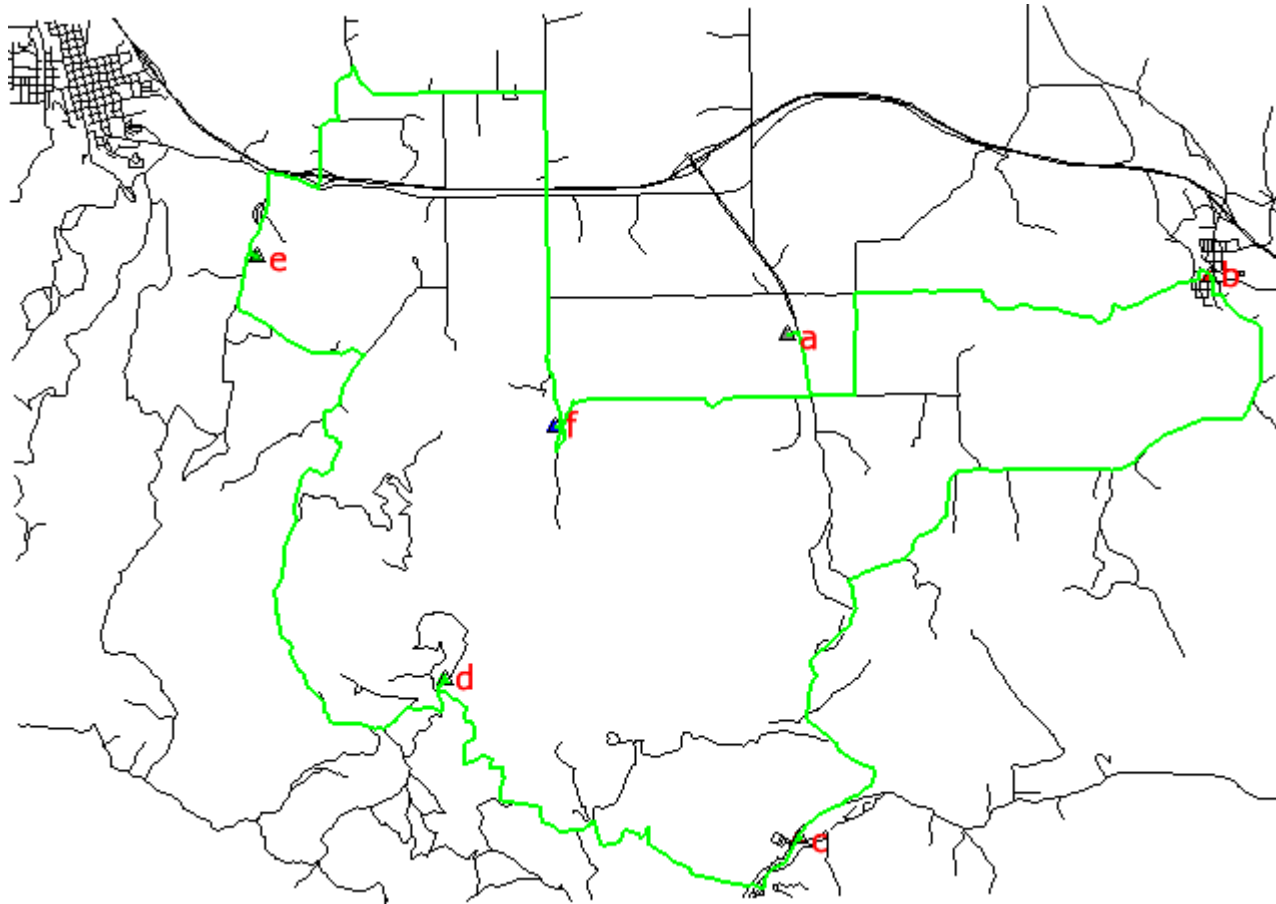
Result



# Network analysis: traveling salesman

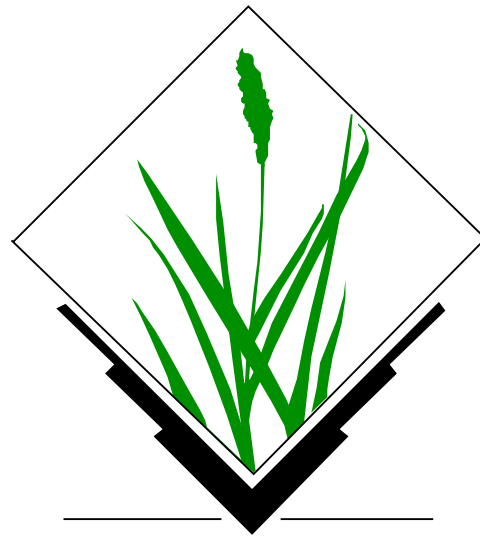
## Distances as costs

Result





# Thank you for your attention



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