

GlobalData: Multi-User Interaction with Geographic Information Systems on Interactive Surfaces

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The geographical domain was often used as a showcase to show the possibilities of multi-touch interaction. Nonetheless, researchers have rarely investigated multi-user interaction with GIS - in fact, most of the geographical tabletop applications are not suited to multi-user interaction. Our multitouch application, GlobalData, allows multiple people to interact and collaborate in examining global, geolocated data. In idle mode, the device simply shows a stylized map of the earth. Users can open circular GeoLenses. These circles show the same map segment as the underlying base map and superimpose different data layers on it.