# GIS for Business Intelligence: Getting Cloud Connected

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Intuitive Design. Intelligent Solutions.

# Agenda

- Purpose Solve Business Challenges with GIS and Cloud
- Intro to the Use Case & Problem Statement
- What is Business Intelligence?
- Approach
- Technical Implementation
- Takeaways





## Who is this talk for?

- For managers
  - Technology Choices
- For developers
  - A lightweight for ArcGIS Online
  - Azure, Linux, Python, SQL Server Spatial, ETL, Microsoft Teams + Webhooks, Esri Python API (not arcpy), Anaconda
- For analysts
  - Geoprocessing with Python
  - Pandas, GeoPandas, Fiona, GDAL, Python + QGIS.



# The Client – Cosmetics







300+ Field Sales Staff





Data



Head

Headquarters



Manufacturing & Warehousing

## Problem Statement(s)

- "We have addresses, but we need a map of our retailers and field staff"
- "We want to map sales data for each retailer, and by sales territories"
- "We want to know how long it takes our staff to drive to a retail location, so we can assign the right person"
- "Staff and retailers change so often that we can't reallocate field staff resources fast enough"
- "It takes months to re-balance/draw sales territories"



# The Solution $\longrightarrow$ To "geo-enable"

"To geo-enable is to apply geospatial capabilities to a business process in order to establish the authoritative spatial location of business data, and enable contextual spatial analysis"

-US Dept. of Interior & FGDC, 2011

# The Solution- Project Plan

- Move "on-premise" data to the cloud (i.e. ETL)
  - Low effort, cost.
- Geoenable the data (e.g. geocoding)
- Create maps & focused applications using ArcGIS Online (AGO) for Business Intelligence.
- Schedule...quick
- Cost...low



#### The Approach

- Agile, Phased
- Communications Plan
- Measure ROI
- Fast, Cheap...and Great

#### The Approach

- 3 Phases
  - GIS Baseline
  - Maps & Apps
  - Custom Apps & Integration
- Walk through each phase

# Business Intelligence (BI)

"The applications, infrastructure and tools, and best practices that enable access to and analysis of information to improve and optimize decisions and performance"

-Gartner



### Phase 1 – "GIS Baseline"

- Automatically Geocode addresses, generate failure reports
- Automatically geoprocess updated sales/operational boundaries
- Automatically sync with ArcGIS Online (AGO)
- Maps & Apps are automatically updated









#### Geodatabase

• Azure SQL DBaaS, no server to maintain



- Geography/Geometry data type, OGC Compliant
- Automated backups, failover, etc.
- Use Python pyodbc module for transactions
- Cons
  - Partial pyodbc Geography/Geometry data type support! Solution? Computed columns
  - No "editor tracking" like Esri. Solution? Triggers

# SQL Geography Point Data Type

CREATE TABLE [dbo].[pointtable]( [pointid] [nvarchar](300) NOT NULL, [longitude] AS ([geog].[Long]), [latitude] AS ([geog].[Lat]), [geog] [geography] NULL

select geog.STAsText() from pointtable
where pointid = '370'

POINT (-122.2685881899892 47.829202571096012)

select longitude, latitude from pointtable
where pointid = '370'
(-122.2685881899892 47.829202571096012) # tuple or list



### "Native" Geodatabase

- Works with ArcGIS Server, with or without installing Esri SDE
- Works with Geoserver (with some work)
- Did I mention OGC Methods: Area, buffer, contains, convex hull, difference, distance, intersects, etc.





# Geoprocessing

- Points, with categorical fields
- Voronoi polygons
- Dissolve by category
- Spatial join/union to countries



#### GIS Processing – Open Source

- Azure Linux Ubuntu Server 16.04
- QGIS Python
- Python Anaconda 3.6.x, Conda, virtualenv
- Key Packages
  - ArcGIS Python API
  - Fiona/Shapely
  - GDAL
  - Pyodbc
  - Geopandas & Pandas



GDAL

**ANACONDA**<sup>°</sup>

esri

# **GIS** Geoprocessing Choices

- ArcGIS Python API Open Source toolset for geoprocessing, administration in ArcGIS Online
- Pandas/Geopandas Slicing data, queries geoprocessing, visualization
- Shapely, Fiona, GDAL I/O, some geoprocessing
- QGIS python hooks for core functions (difficult since python version is tied to QGIS)
- Pyodbc SQL queries/views



# ArcGIS Python API

- Auto geocoding of addresses
- Automated Syncing of geodatabase (1-5x/day)
- Why not just use ArcGIS Server?
- How? Without changing "item id"





### **Create & Publish Item**

#### Add the zipped shapefile to AGO

shpfile = self.gis.content.add(item\_properties, filepath, folder=ago\_folder)

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#### **Create & Publish Item**

Publish the item, this creates a hosted feature layer. overwrite = True

published\_item = item.publish(overwrite=overwrite)

🦉 Feature Lay	yer (hosted)
rites	
	Open in Map Viewer 🗸 🗸 🗸 🗸
k² views: 32 vice	Open in Scene Viewer
ketSalesQuarter,	Open in ArcGIS Desktop
er 19, 2017	Publish 🗸
00010,2017,7.07.40	Create View
& Operations Admin	Export Data 🗸
	Overwrite
🛔 Change Owner	Share

## Update Item With New Data

Get the "feature item"

feature\_item = Pyapi.gis.content.get(feature\_info[0][0])

Get the "featurelayercollection"

#### flc = Pyapi.featurelayercollection(feature\_item)

Overwrite the service with a zipped shapefile, update the properties (if fields changed), update sharing

flc.manager.overwrite(zippath)
feature\_item.update(item\_properties)
feature\_item.share(\*\*sharing)



#### ArcGIS Online – Sales/Area/Period





#### Ad-Hoc Analysis



Comparative Retailer Analysis



# Summary...So Far

- Business data has been mapped
  - Point locations of assets
  - Sales boundaries
  - Sales data by area
- Focused Apps
  - In progress
- Custom Apps/Integrations
  - Future





# And You Can Too!

- Fast (80 days)
- Cheap
- Great...
- Flexible
- Extendable
- If...
  - Low volume/velocity of data
  - GIS/Dev skills...you need this anyway.



# Thank You!, Questions

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