Using GIS To Measure In-Library Book-Use Behavior

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Abstract

This article is an attempt to develop Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology into an analytical tool for examining the relationships between the height of the bookshelves and the behavior of library readers in utilizing books within a library. The tool would contain a database to store book-use information and some GIS maps to represent bookshelves. Upon analyzing the data stored in the database, different frequencies of book use across bookshelf layers are displayed on the maps. The tool would provide a wonderful means of visualization through which analysts can quickly realize the spatial distribution of books used in a library. This article reveals that readers tend to pull books out of the bookshelf layers that are easily reachable by human eyes and hands, and thus opens some issues for librarians to reconsider the management of library collections.

Full Text:

PDF

References


A. K. Jain, A Statistical Study of Book Use (Ph.D. diss., Purdue University, 1967), 128.


More descriptions about collection arrangements of MacKimmie Library can be found in reference 11, "GIS in the Management of Library Pick-up Books."


McGrath also excluded periodicals from his survey on in-library book use. W. E. McGrath, "Correlating the Subject of Books Taken Out of and Used Within an Openstock Library."

W. S. Pierce, Furnishing the Library Interior.

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Refbacks

- There are currently no refbacks.
Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to Measure in Library Book Use Behavior. In a 2004 article written by Xia Jingfeng, the MacKimmie Library at the University of Calgary attempts to develop Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology into an analytical tool for examining the relationships between the height of the bookshelves and the behavior of library readers utilizing books within a library. “ArcView, a GIS software, was selected to develop the tool for this study because GIS has the functions of dynamically analyzing and displaying spatial data. The research on library readers pulling out books involves the measurements of bookshelf heights, and thus deals with spatial coordinates.