

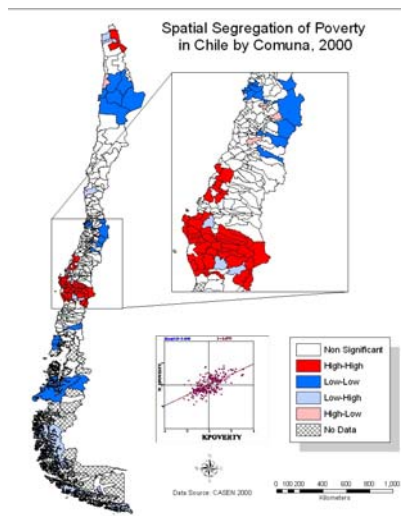
Spatial Cluster

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Definition: A Spatial cluster is an unusual aggregation, real or perceived, of events that are grouped together. Generally, within a cluster, the interested attributes would have high similarity in comparison to one another, but are dissimilar to those outside the cluster.

Spatial clustering is an important concept when dealing with spatial data and it can be used to gain insight into the distribution of data, to observe the characteristics of each cluster, and to focus on a particular set of clusters for further analysis.

Application:



The map on the left demonstrates the spatial clustering of poverty in Chile. The red areal units represent the similar high poverty rate, and on the other hand, the blue areas stand for the similar low poverty rate.

There are several statistics which could be used to determine whether the cluster is statistically significant, such as the global Moran's I and Local Indicators of Spatial Association (LISA statistics).

Data source: CASEN 2000.

References/Sources:

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