Abstract

AskWATERS: Correlating Water-Based Information Across Geography
Track: Water Resources
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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) AskWATERS tool is a flexible query methodology that allows the correlation of disparate EPA Program Data. The underlying integration roadmap is EPA’s Reach Address Database (RAD), which employs the National Hydrography Dataset as the spatial framework for linking the Program Data. Utilizing geographical relationships, expressed in the RAD and indexed events, these disparate data sources can be correlated to answer questions about the health of and threats to our water resources. This project capitalizes on prior work and technologies such as the National Hydrography Dataset, SDE, and Oracle Spatial. Discussion topics will include technical hurdles, the structure of AskWATERS, EPA program integration, and data quality/availability challenges.

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