Overlay Analysis

Overlay analysis is operation for superimposing the multiple layer of datasets that representing different themes together for analysing or identifying relationship of each layer. Overlay analysis represent the composite map by the combination of different attribute and geometry of datasets or entity. Overlay is the operations of comparing variables among multiple coverages. In the overlay analysis new spatial data sets are created by merging data from two or more input data layers. It analyses the multiple layer with common coordinate systems and determine what is on the top layer. Overlay operations combine the data from same entity or different entities and create the new geometries and new unit of change entity.



Overlay operations performs many type of analysis for example cropping pattern in the field, dominance of particular ethnic population in a region, age and sex composition of region, physical landforms of the surface. Suppose I have to find the potential park sites of population so I will create the map of density of population and the map of distance to parks of populated area then I will superimpose the both layer and find the suitable location.