

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

The comparative cartographic methods focusing on the best-fit technique can be expanded for future research. With a grid system of coordinates available, a map user can compare the spatial character of the map with that of the real world or to compare the geometry of one map projection with that of another. It is then important for the map user to determine on what perspective (projection) the map is based and how that portrayal effects the information on the map. This would allow the user to compare different maps constructed on entirely different projections. The failure to correctly identify the projection of the selected maps hinders the successful comparison of the maps. Future research needs to focus on mathematical determination and analysis of the geometric properties of graphic source documents. Cartographers often fail to identify the projection of source maps needed for research, which is then discarded because questionable usefulness or incompatible geometric properties. Valuable information is then discarded or not used. Another area for further research requires the assessment of the quality of the projection used in the creation of historic maps. An analysis incorporating