

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ArcView project file (.apr)

An ASCII formatted file that sets the parameters for an ArcView session. If a new project is opened, ArcView's default .apr file is read, opening a blank project with the system default variables. When a project is customized and saved, a new project file is created. This file is read during the startup of the project. The file contains, among other things, a set of pointers to the project components (documents).

attribute (item, field)

A character of a feature, usually stored as values in columns in a table. Items, fields, and attributes are synonymous terms.

Automatic Traffic Recorder (ATR) Station

Permanent traffic recorder for the continuous collection of traffic data.

avenue

The programming language and customization and development environment of ArcView. Avenue is commonly used to write program scripts to automate repetitive tasks, modify and customize the ArcView interface, develop and distribute new applications, and integrate ArcView with other applications. Avenue is a hybrid language that has characteristics of both procedural and object oriented languages.

best guess group assignments ("best guess")

The seasonal profile curve that best correlates with the data collected at a Portable Traffic Counter site.

coverage (cover)

The data structure of geographic features as stored by ARC/INFO. A coverage may contain one or more primary features such as points, lines, and polygons, and secondary features such as tics, links, or annotation. These features are usually associated with records in a feature attribute table. A typical coverage might be

lines (arcs) that represent the individual segments of a road network, with an attribute table containing items describing the route number, number of lanes, street name, etc.

feature

A geographic representation of an entity on Earth. A feature can be an arc (line), polygon, or a point. Secondary features include, among other things, tics, annotation, and links. Features are usually associated with one record in a feature attribute table.

feature (theme) attribute table

Database table comprised of attributes (columns) and records (rows). Each record in a feature attribute table represents a geographic entity (feature) in a theme. The intersection of a record and attribute is the value of that particular attribute for the feature the row represents.

hot link

Link between a file and the features in a theme. A hot link gives the user the ability to associate each feature in a theme with some action, such as opening an image window with a linked image file displayed.

Portable Traffic Counter (PTC) Station

Location where a short-term count is taken for the purposes for publishing an average annual daily traffic (AADT) count.

shapefile

The data structure of geographic features as stored by ArcView. A shapefile may contain one or more features such as points, lines, and polygons. These features are usually associated with records in a feature attribute table.

theme

A collection of features drawn in a view represented by symbols in a classifiable legend. The features in a theme have a common relationship. For example, the features in a theme may be a collection of points that all represent fire hydrants.

The list of themes available in a View GUI are listed in the view's table of contents, an area left of the digital map area. Sources of themes include shapefiles, coverages, and images. Computer Aided Drafting (CAD) files can also be represented as a theme in a view.

value

The intersection of a record and an item (attribute) in a table. The value is an answer to the attribute for the record in question. For example, a selected records value for the Median Household Income attribute may be \$100,000.