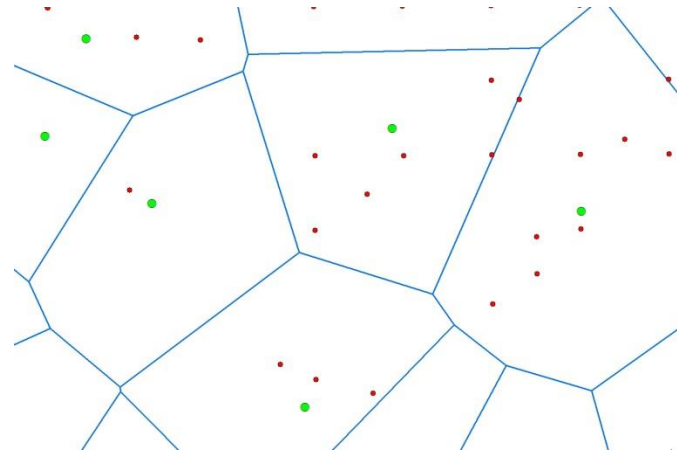


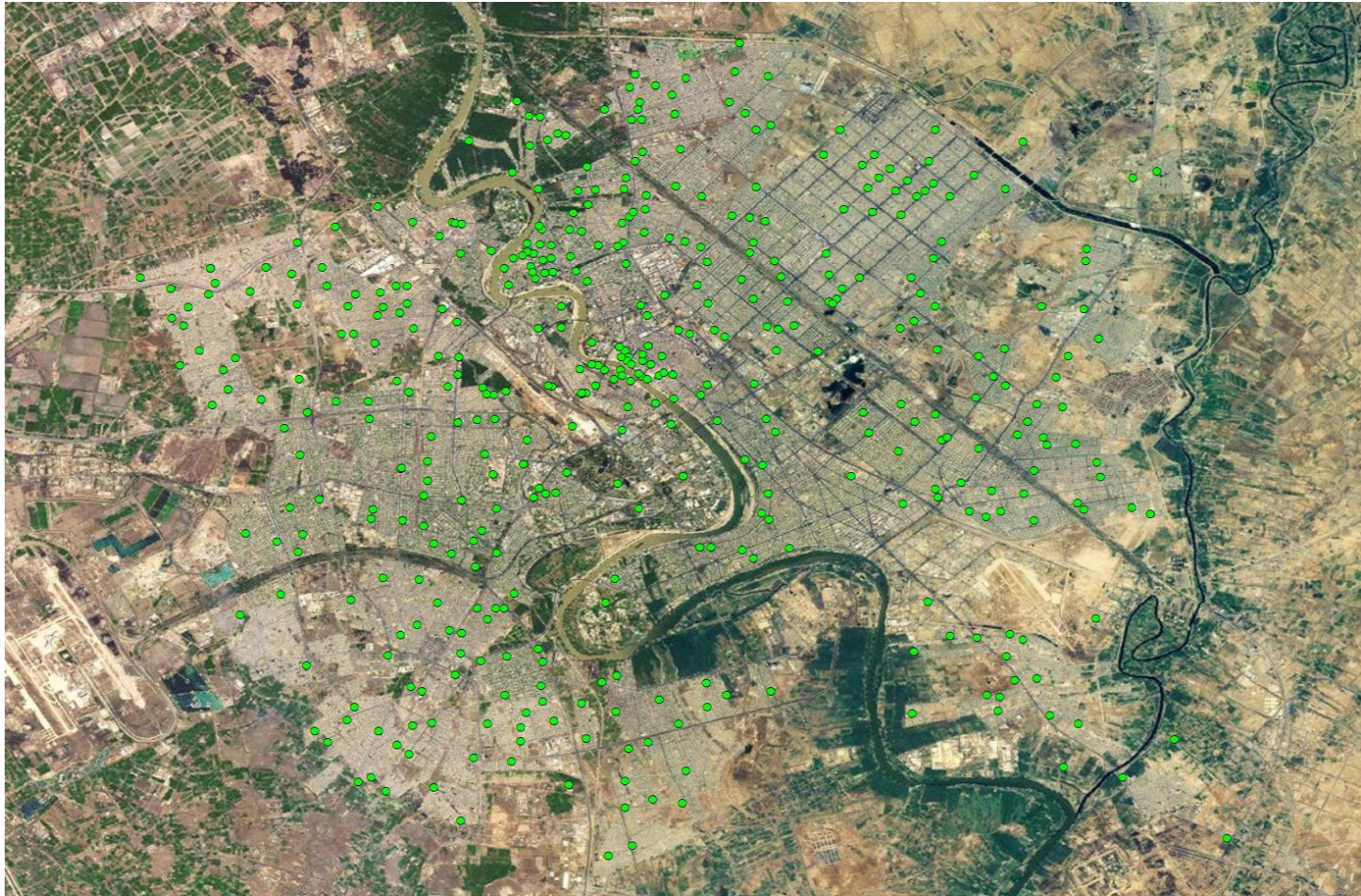


Islam, Information, and the Rise and Fall of Social Orders in Iraq

David Siddhartha Patel
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Cornell University
16 November 2011

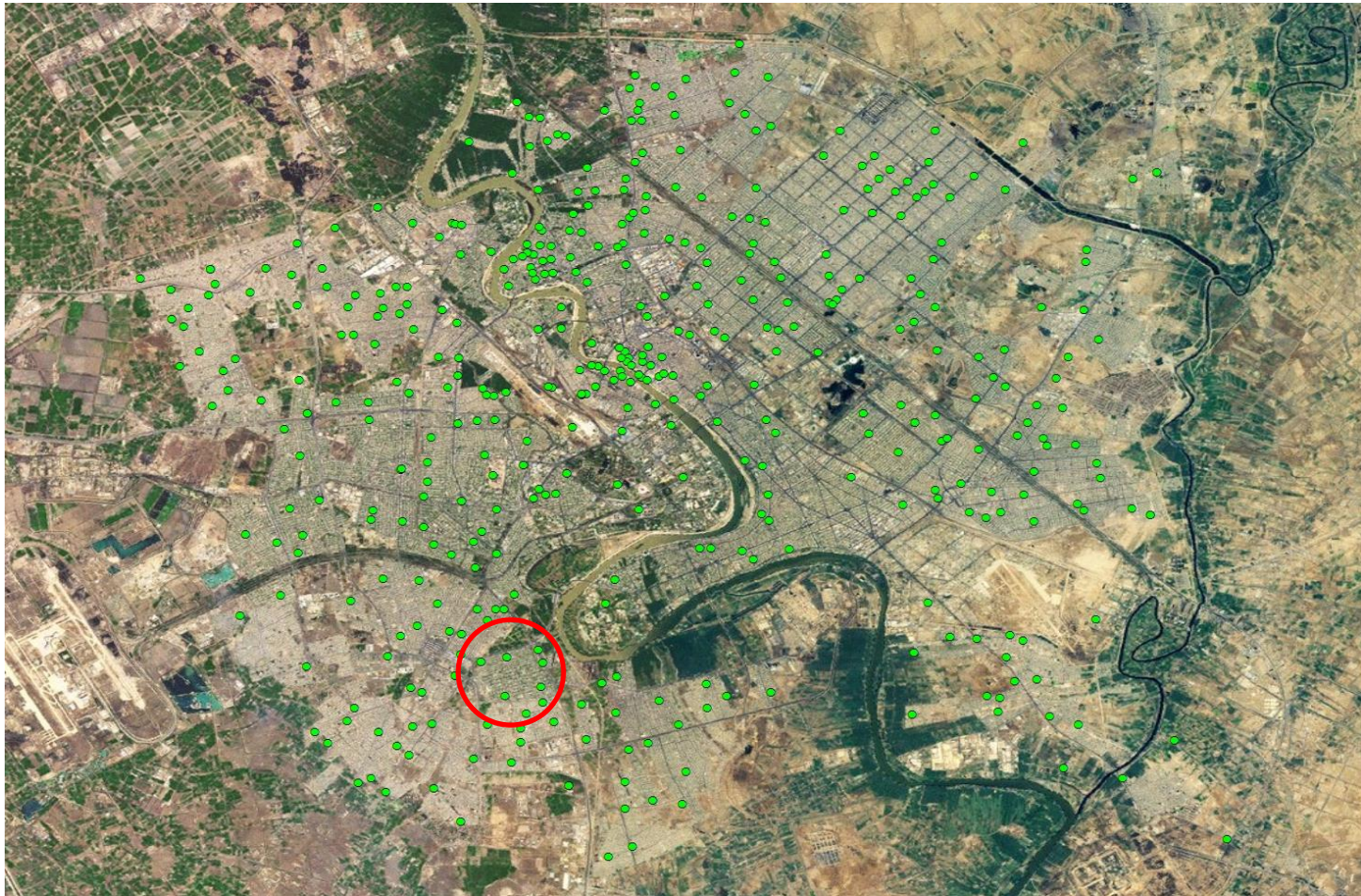


Baghdad's Mosques



Operationalizing “catchment areas”

Baghdad



Operationalizing “catchment areas” al-Saydiyah neighborhood



Operationalizing “catchment areas”

0.5 km “buffers”



Operationalizing “catchment areas” overlapping 0.5 km buffers



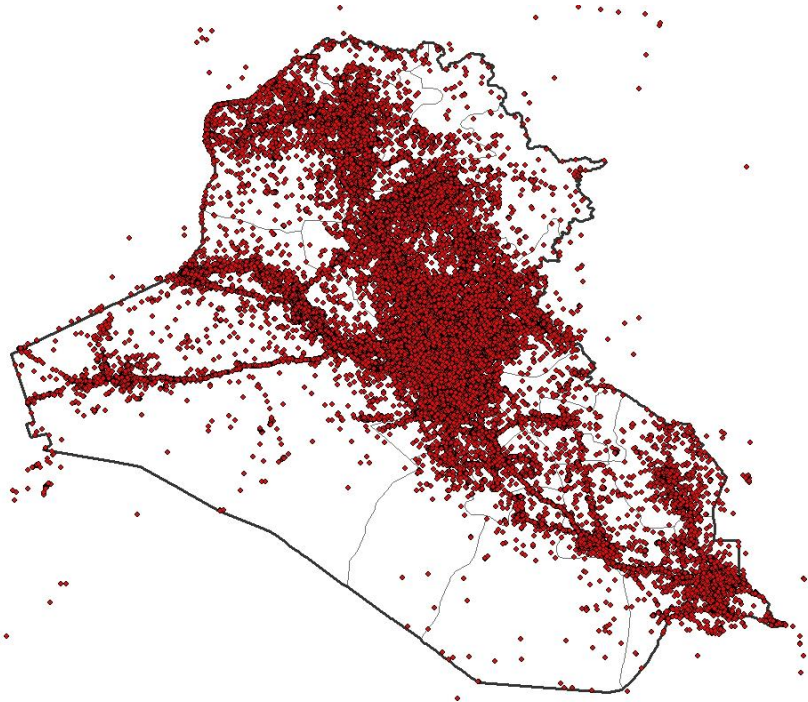
Operationalizing “catchment areas”

Space in 0, 1, or 2+ mosque areas





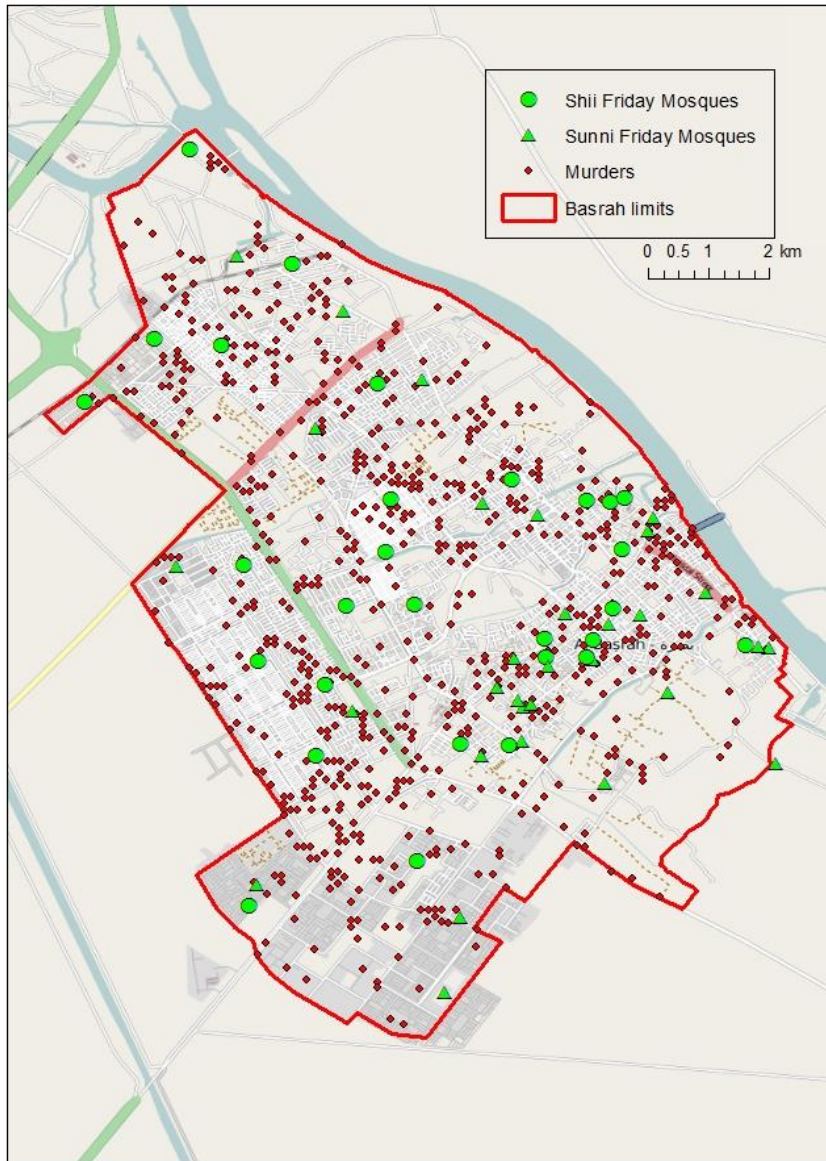
Photos: David Patel



I created my datasets of mosques via field work.

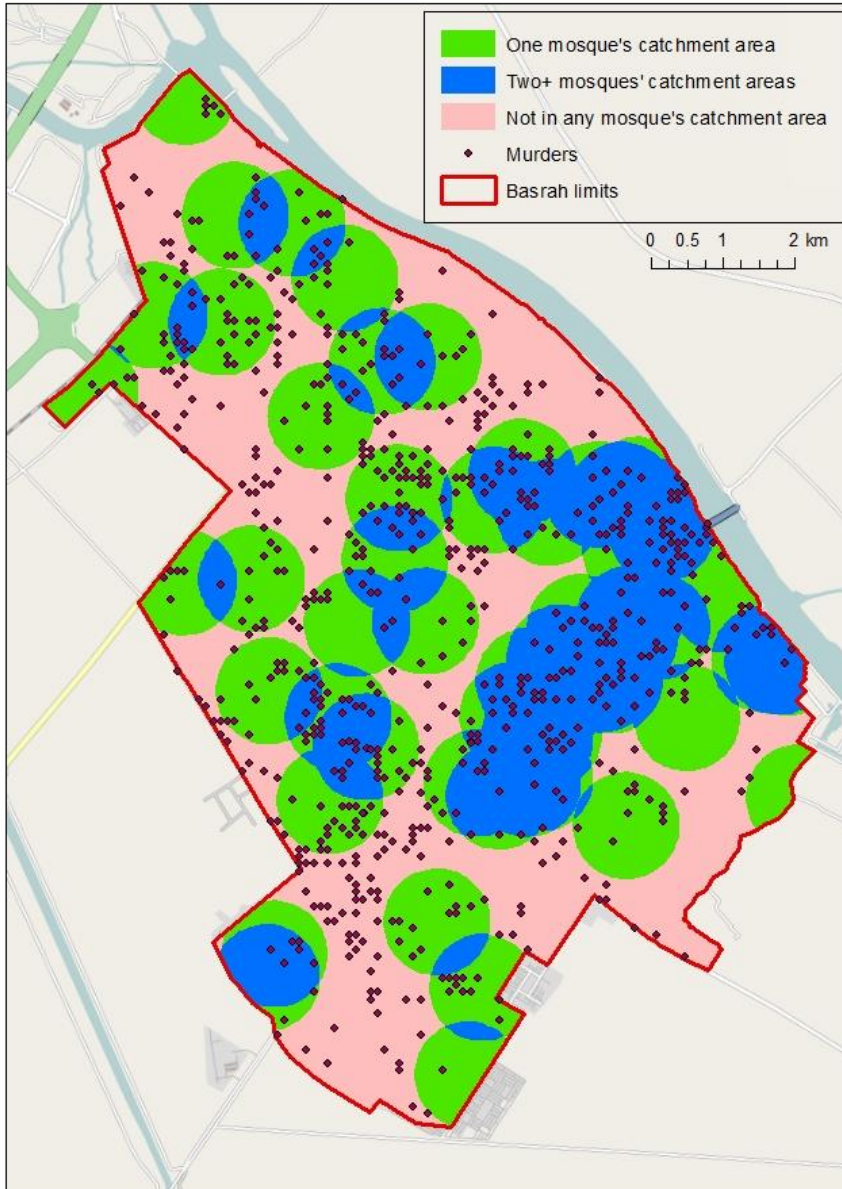
Data on murders come from the U.S. military's SIGACT dataset.

- 391,832 field reports
- Covers Jan 2004 to Dec 2009 (except two months)
- 109,032 deaths, including 61,081 civilians



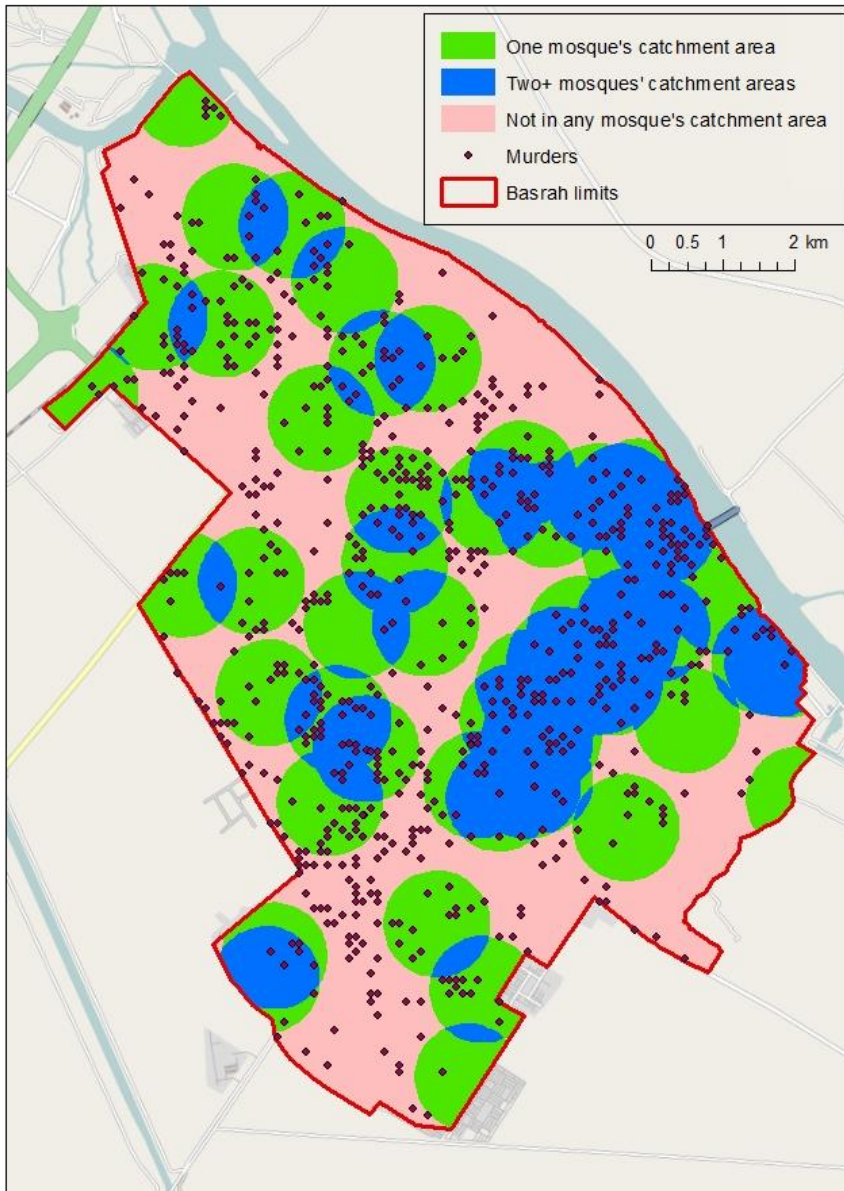
Murders in Basra

- I remove deaths from obvious terrorist, insurgent, or COIN operations.
- 1031 murder events in Basra
- These data severely undercount murders. They are a sample.



A testable conjecture of my theory:

- Murder rates should be lower in areas entirely within the catchment area of one mosque (green areas) than in areas where mosques' catchment areas overlap (blue areas).

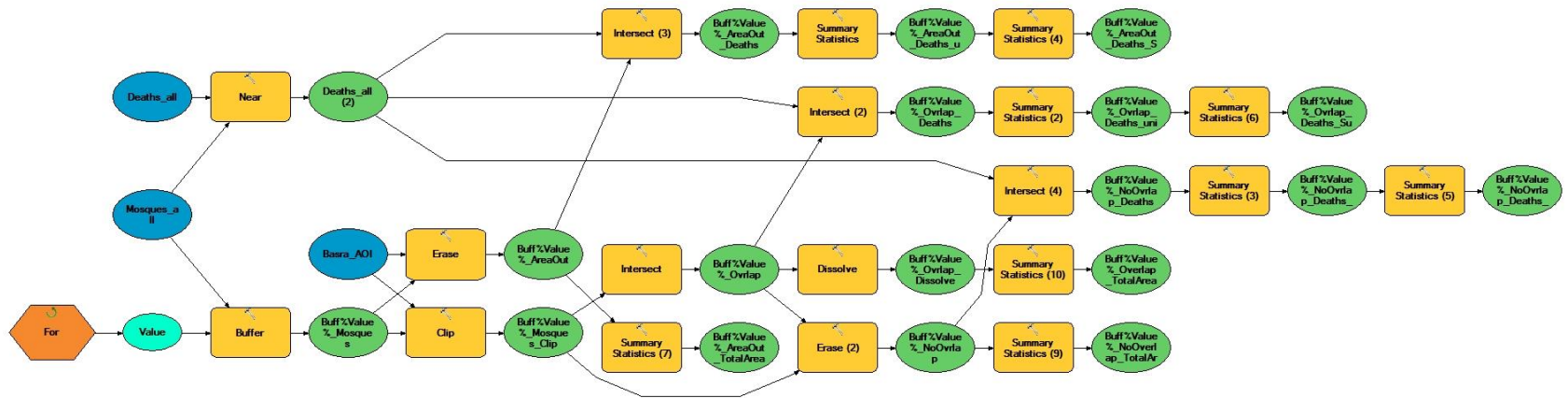


BUT, what should I assume is the geographic size of a Friday mosque's catchment area?

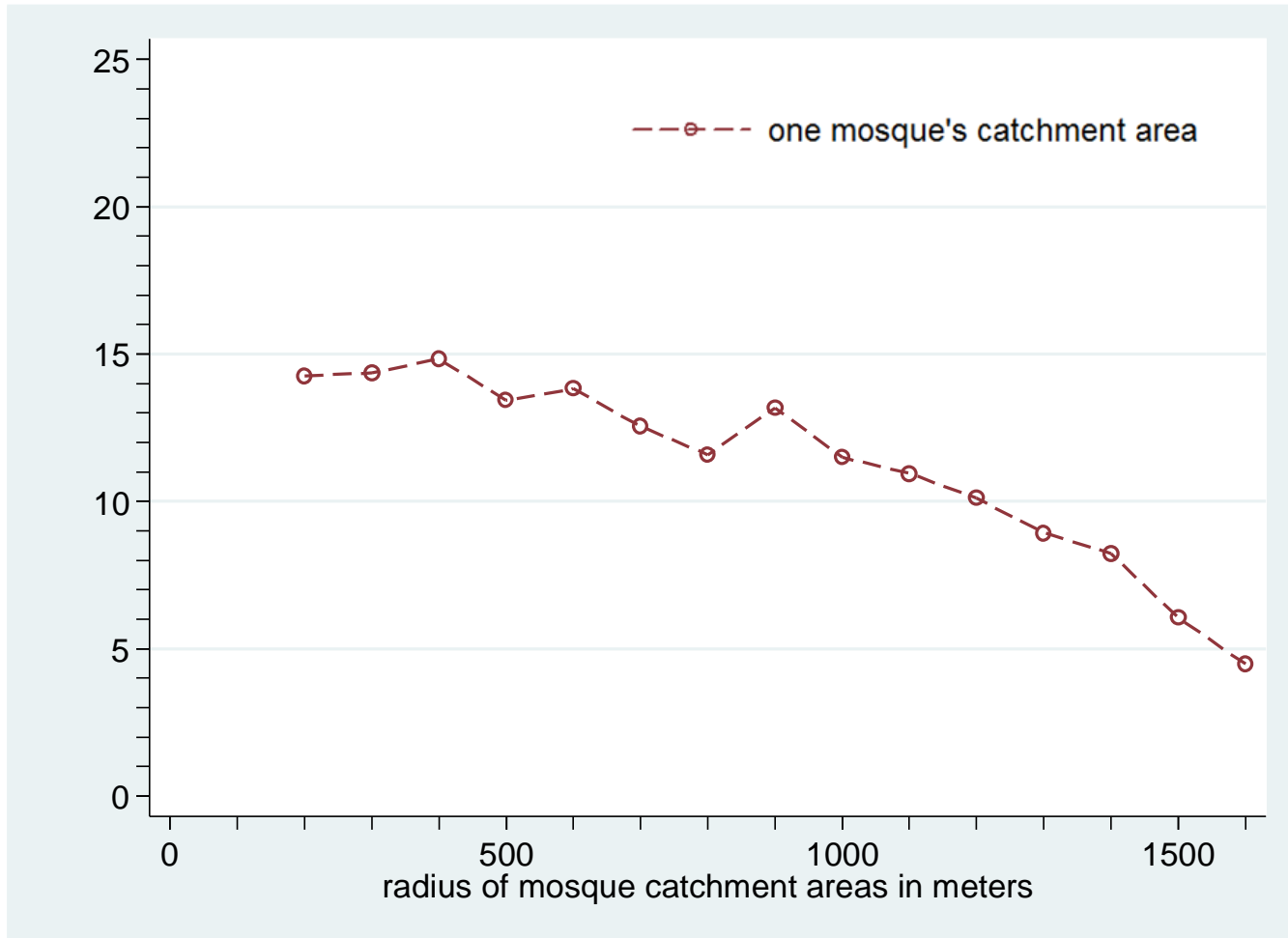
½ km? 1 km?

My solution is to rerun the analysis over a wide range of buffer sizes and report the comparative statics results in a graph.

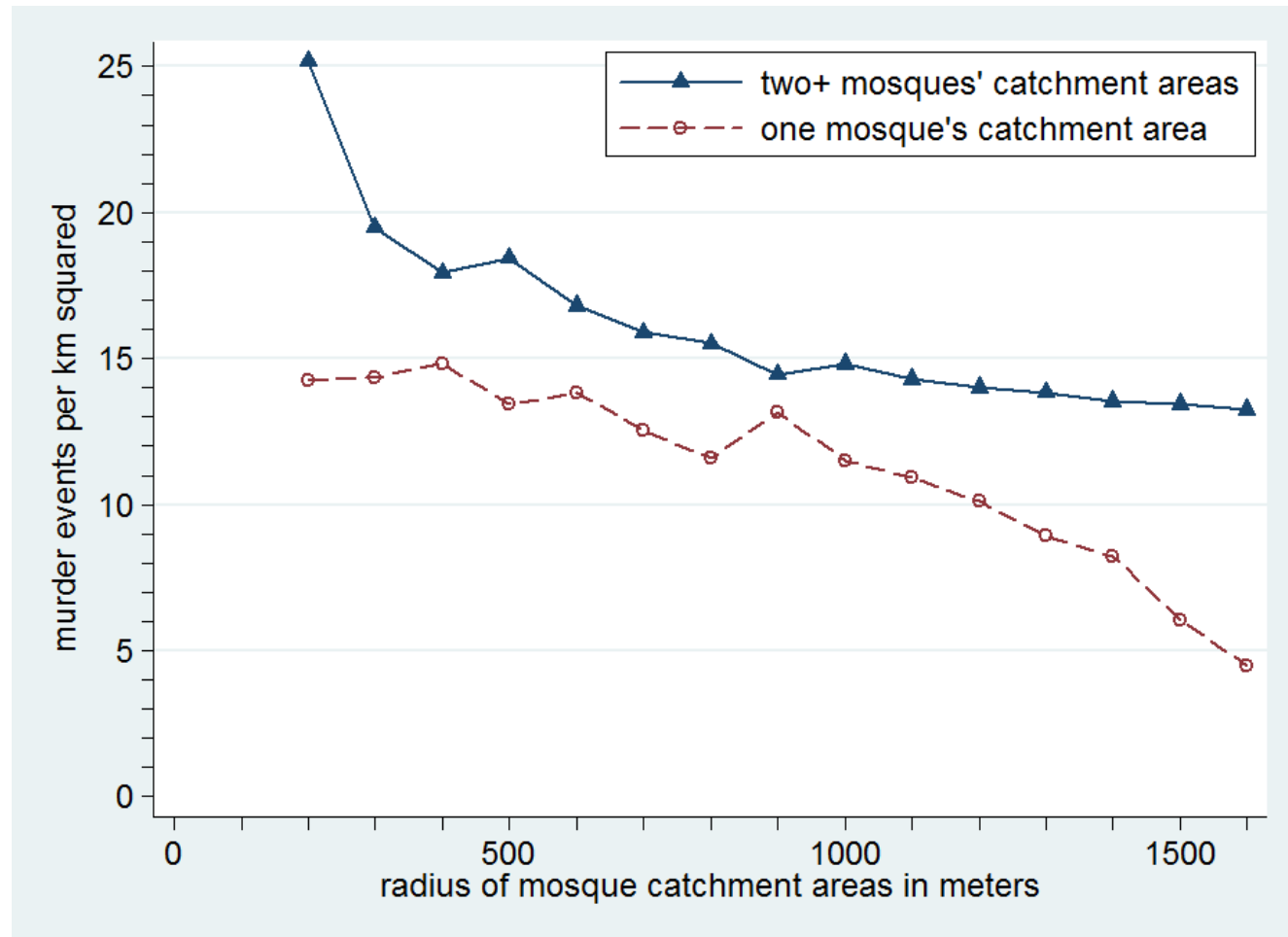
Iterated in ArcGIS ModelBuilder

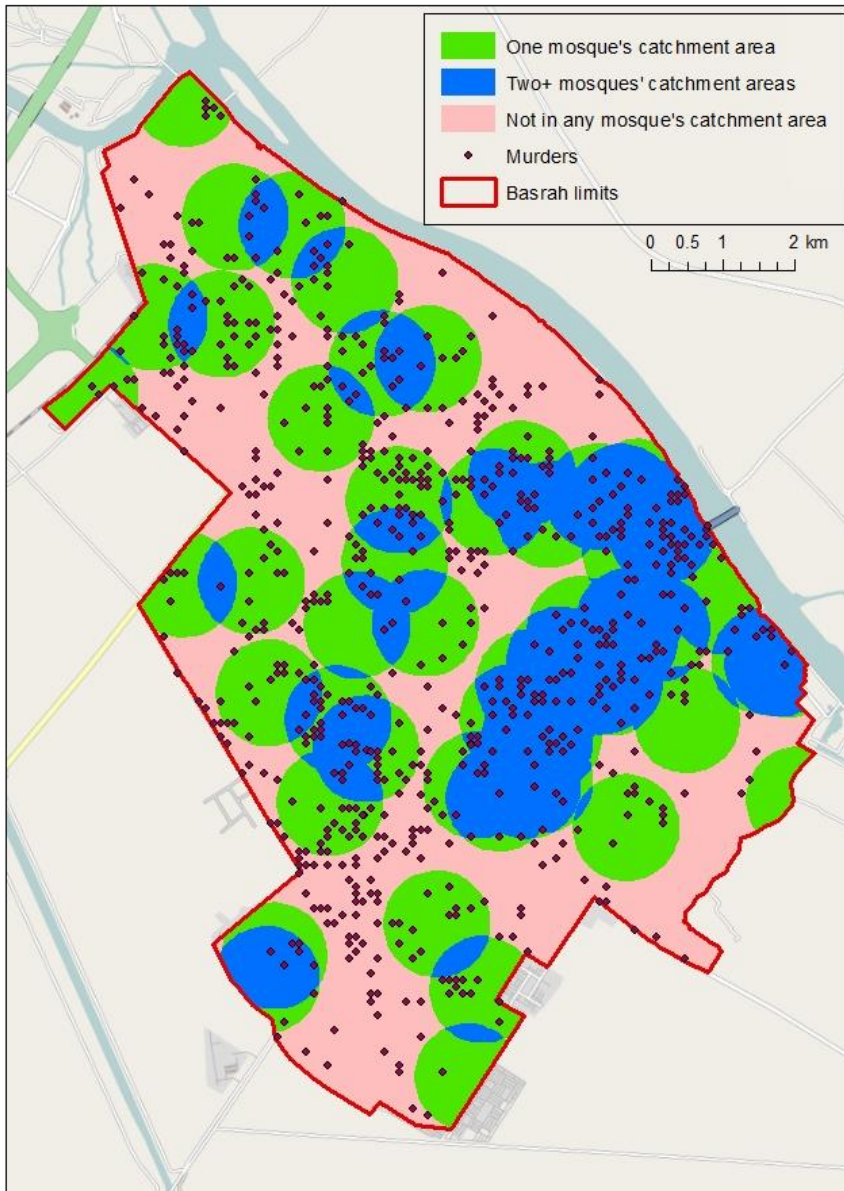


Results



Results



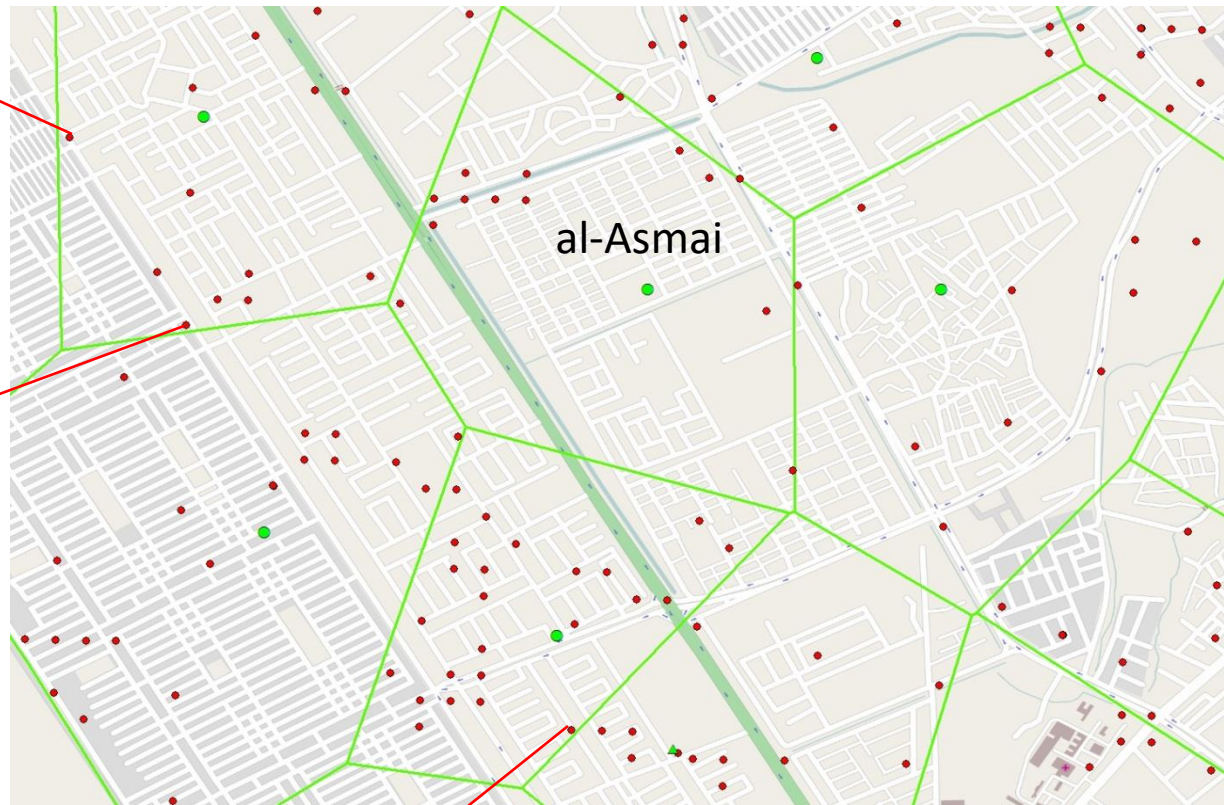


More observable implications of my theory and alternatives:

- Effects of sectarian diversity
- Effects of non-Friday mosques and *husayniyyahs*
- Change over time: mosques closed or new ones built

Ahmed al-Younis
shot and killed
his cousin,
Hassan
al-Younis, over a
family matter on
3 October 2006.

Abbas al-
Radhey, age 23,
found with a
9mm gunshot to
his head on 4
April 2007.



A group of armed unknown men hijacked a creamy Toyota Cresta on 2 August 2007. The driver of the vehicle, Mohammad Guytan al-Maliki, was shot several times in his body and killed.