

# **International experiences using Chernoff faces in Cartography**

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The method named Chernoff faces was originally created for the graphic representation of statistical data, specifically to represent multivariate data using only one “diagram”. During the last 10-15 years, this method of representation began to be introduced also to cartography abroad, taking advantage of the technological development led by the daily use of personal computers to complete tasks in diverse fields. During this period different kinds of thematic maps were made using this method and its new variations. Present work includes some examples about the general use of this method in maps. Till now, we can affirm that the international experiences have been isolated each from other and the international bibliography dedicated to this theme is not enough. These reasons motivated us to begin a new (international) project divided in two parts. The first one is dedicated to the study of the practical and correct use of Chernoff faces in thematic cartography and the second one will investigate the possibilities of this method in a more specific cartographic field: the thematic representation in school atlases and maps, trying to find answers to questions related to the possible use of this method in thematic maps published to be used by school pupils.