

# INFORMATION ARCHITECTURE OF CITIES

10

# Information Architecture and Future Cities

Understanding a city is fundamental for the meaningful design and management of a city. "Information Architecture and Future Cities" opens a holistic view on existing and new cities, with focus on Asia. The goal is to better understand the city by going beyond the physical appearance and by focusing on different representations, properties and impact factors of the urban system. We explore the city as the most complex human-made organism with a metabolism that can be modelled in terms of stocks and flows. We investigate data-driven approaches for the development of the future city, based on crowd sourcing and sensing. You will learn to see the consequences of citizen science and the merging of Architecture and information space. The course describes origins, state-of-the-art, and applications of information architecture and simulation. Both rapidly gain importance in the design of buildings, cities and territories. As course requirement, there will be three short exercises.

## Where

HIT F 22 (Value Lab)

## Supervision

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Denise Weber [denise.weber@arch.ethz.ch](mailto:denise.weber@arch.ethz.ch)  
Dongyoun Shin [shin@arch.ethz.ch](mailto:shin@arch.ethz.ch)

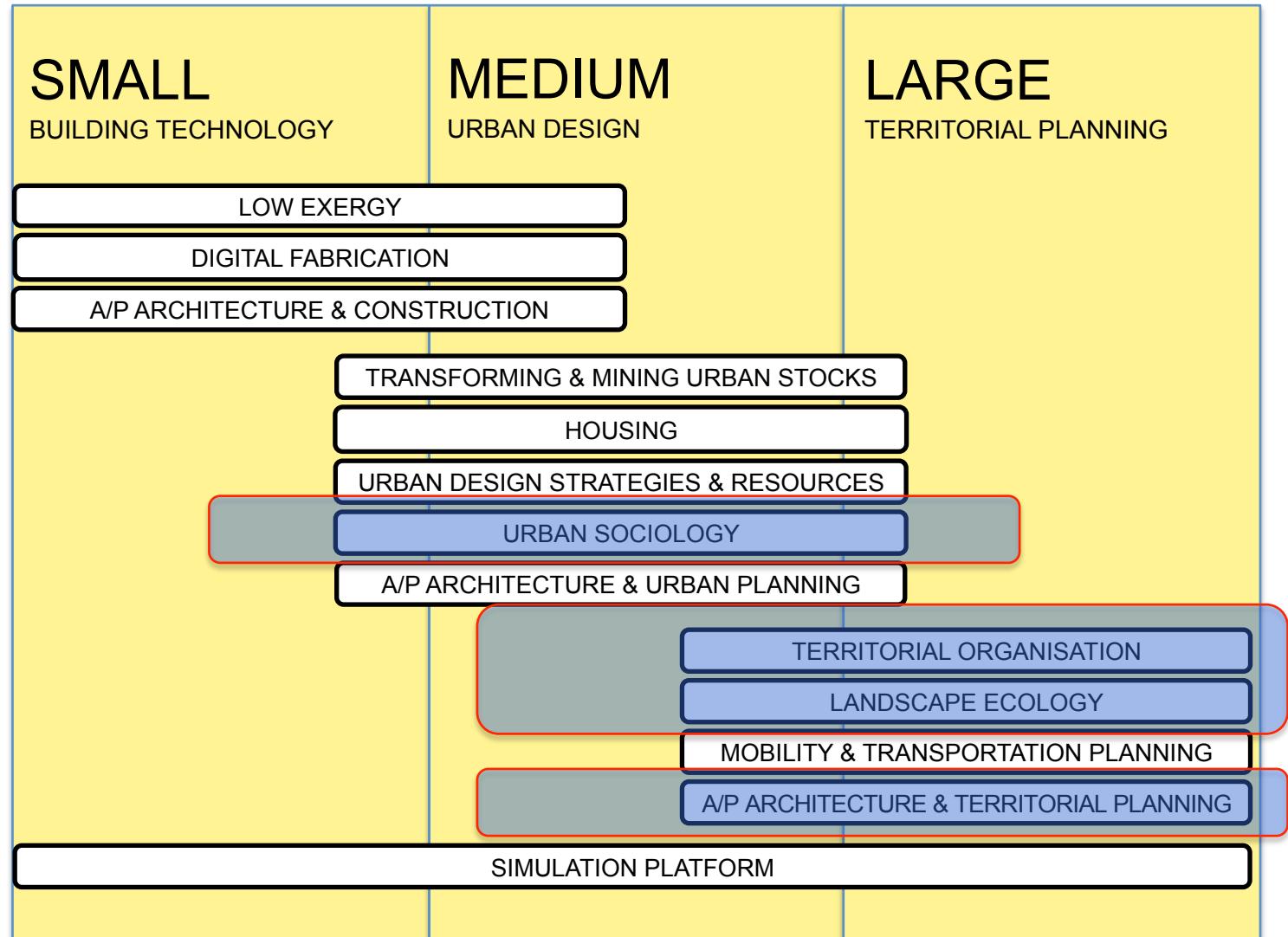
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|------------|--|
| 22.09.2014 | <b>Einführung und Überblick.</b> Introduction and Overview   |
| 29.09.2014 | <b>Das System Gebäude – Klima.</b> Building as a System - Climate (Guest Lecture by Estefania Tapias)                                    |
| 06.10.2014 | <b>Das System Gebäude - Konstruktion.</b> Building as a System - Habitat (Guest Lecture by Prof. Dirk Hebel)                             |
| 13.10.2014 | <b>Das System Gebäude – Energie &amp; Habitat.</b> Building as a System - Energy & Habitat   |
| 20.10.2014 | <b>Seminar week (No lecture)</b>   |
| 27.10.2014 | <b>Das System Stadt - Soziologie.</b> City as a System - Social Science (Guest Lecture)  |
| 03.11.2014 | <b>Stocks &amp; Flows - Wasser &amp; Material.</b> Stocks & Flows - Water & Material   |
| 10.11.2014 | <b>Das System Stadt - Entwurf.</b> City as a System - Design   |
| 17.11.2014 | <b>Stocks &amp; Flows - Menschen &amp; Informationen.</b><br>Stocks & Flows - People & Information (Guest Lecture by Matthias Standfest) |
| 24.11.2014 | <b>Das System Territorium - Mobilität.</b> Territory as a System - Mobility  |
| 01.12.2014 | <b>Das System Territorium - Organisation.</b> Territory as a System - Organization (Guest lecture by Prof. Dirk Hebel)                   |
| 01.12.2014 | <b>Final iA critique</b><br>Combined critique with the other iA courses (14:00 - 18:00)  |

# Territory System - Organisation

- Exercise 3 – first results
- Territory as a System
  - Planetary urbanization in a global perspective
  - Landscape ecology: Indonesia
  - Territorial organisation: Ethiopia
  - The architecture of Territory: SIJORI
- Suggestions for the next course

# Scales, Stocks and Flows

SPACE  
ENERGY  
MATERIALS  
PEOPLE  
CAPITAL  
WATER  
INFORMATION



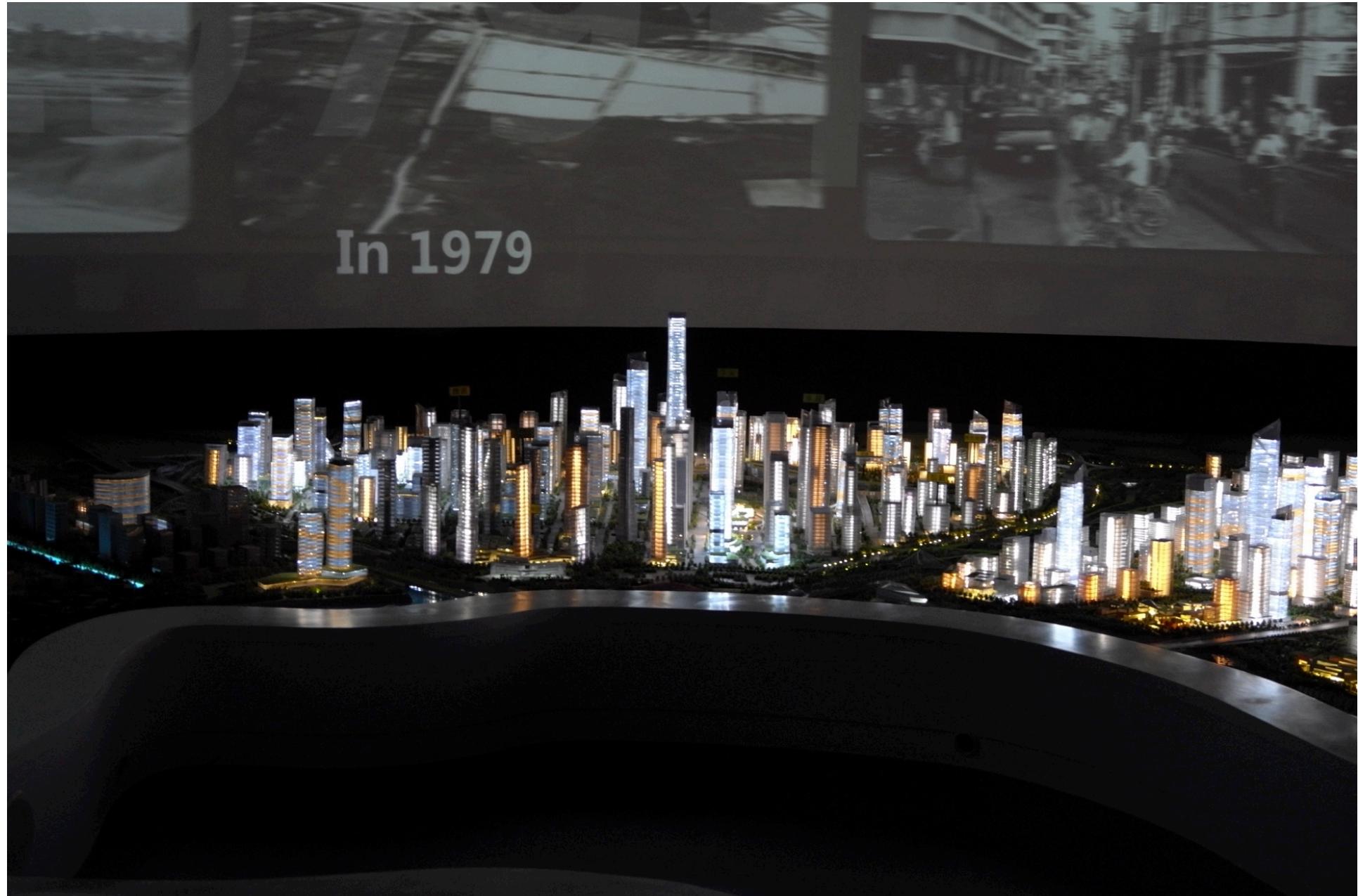
## Systems

A **system** defines a set of objects acting together as part of a whole. In the urban context, a system contains buildings, infrastructure, landscape, water and other elements as its parts. Taken together, and adding their individual behaviour and multiple interactions, they form a complex system. Complex systems theory is an important field of science. Its findings are applied to many areas, including urbanisation.

# **Module V: Urban Sociology: Planetary Urbanization in Comparative Perspective**

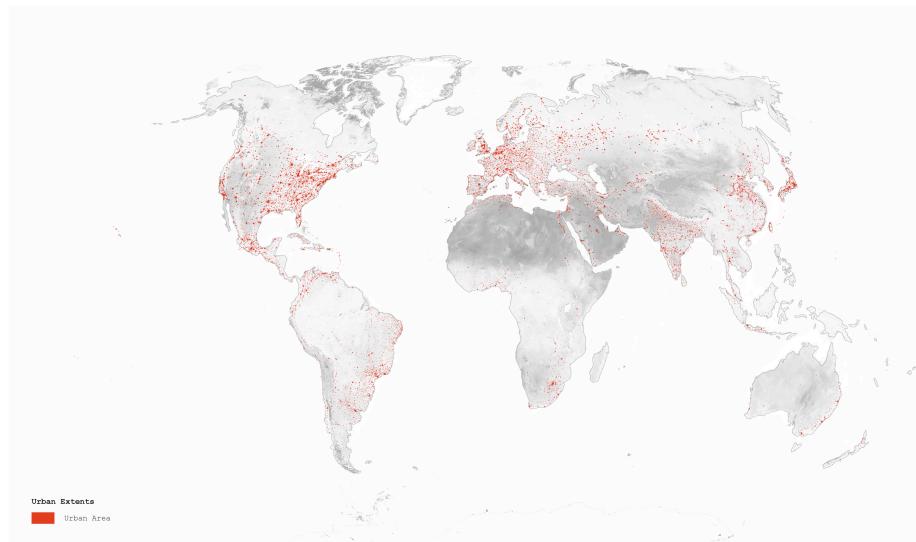




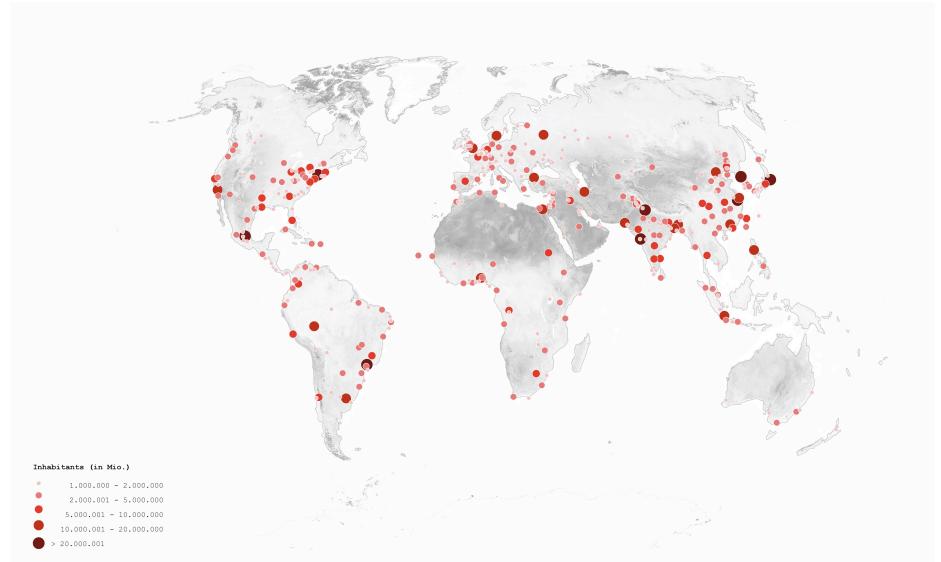


In 1979

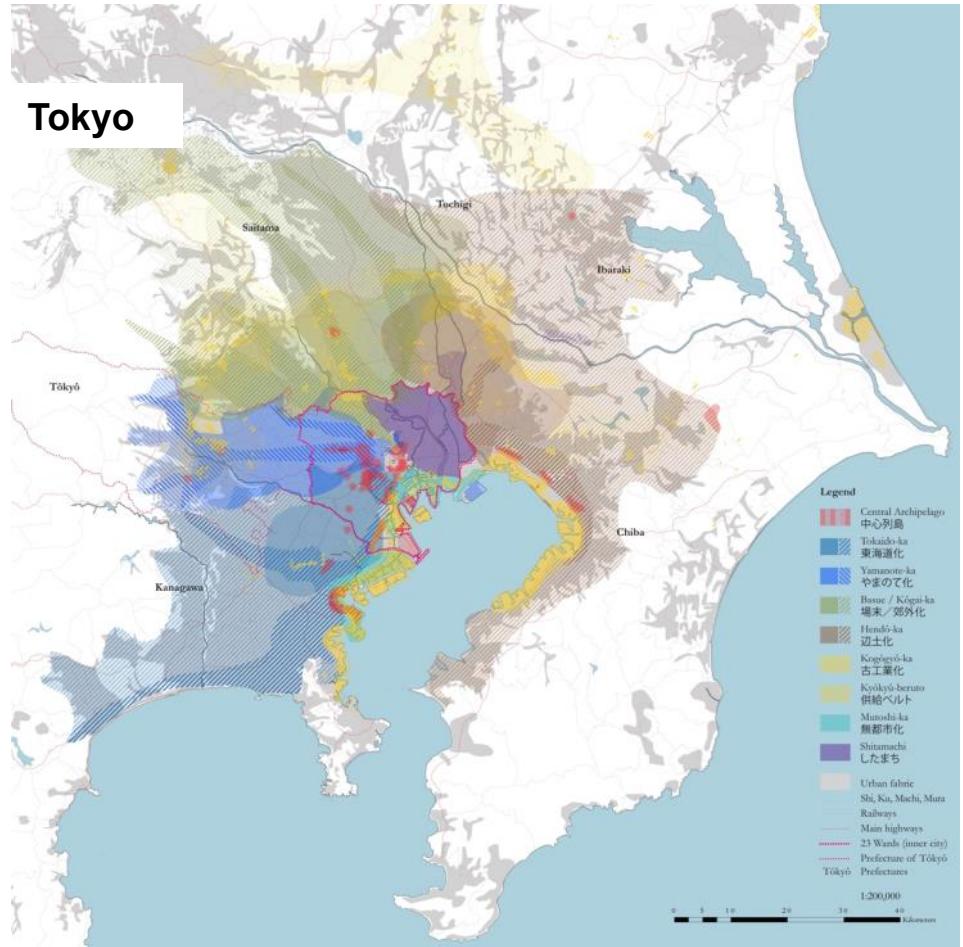
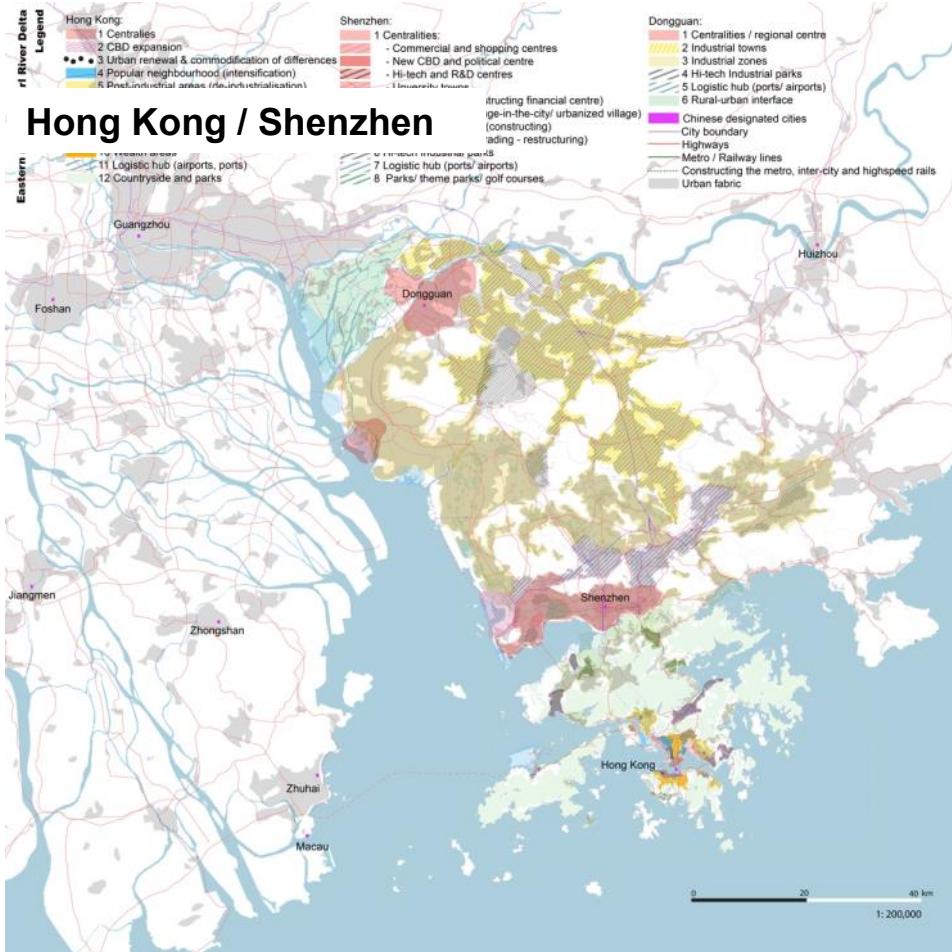
## Planetary Urbanization

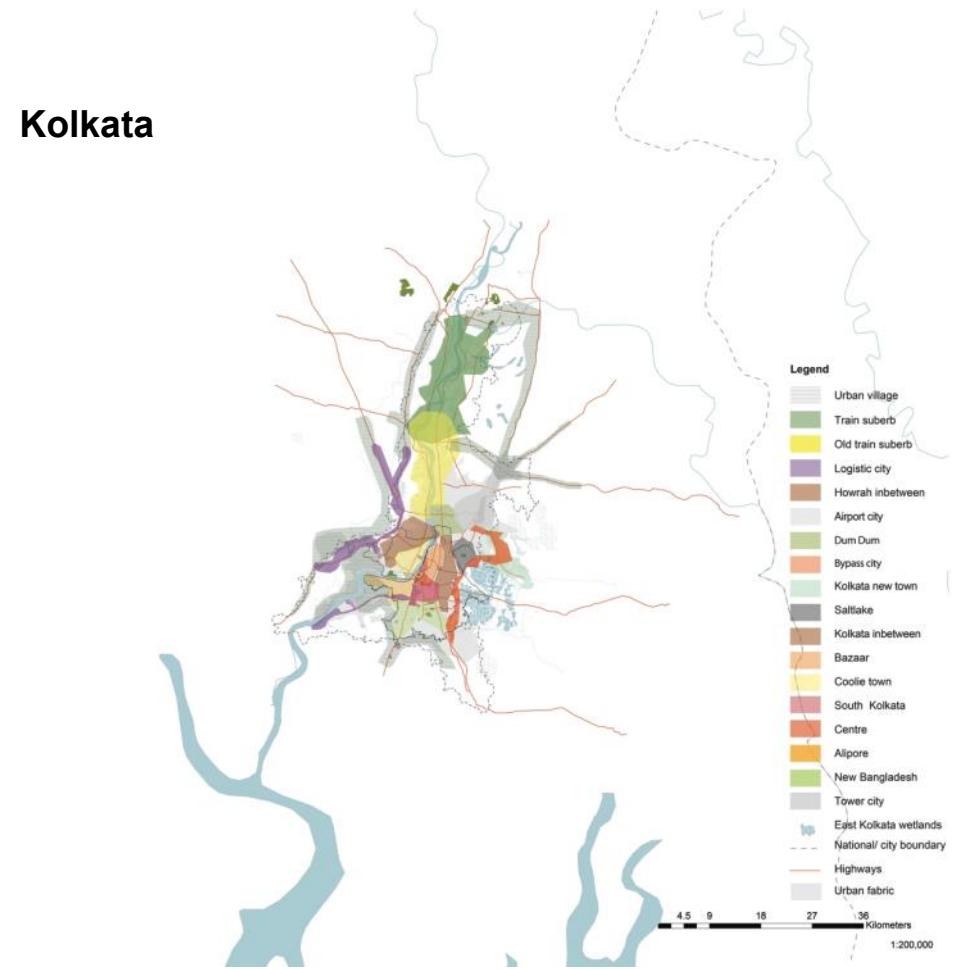
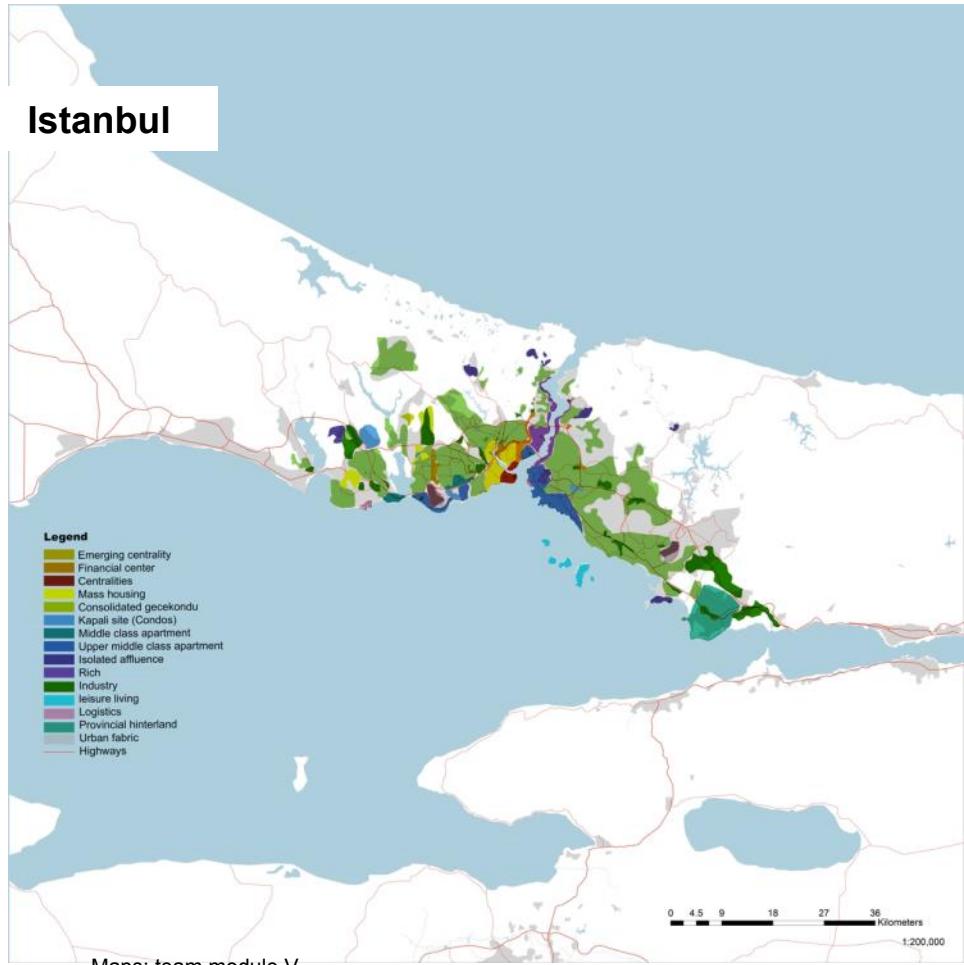


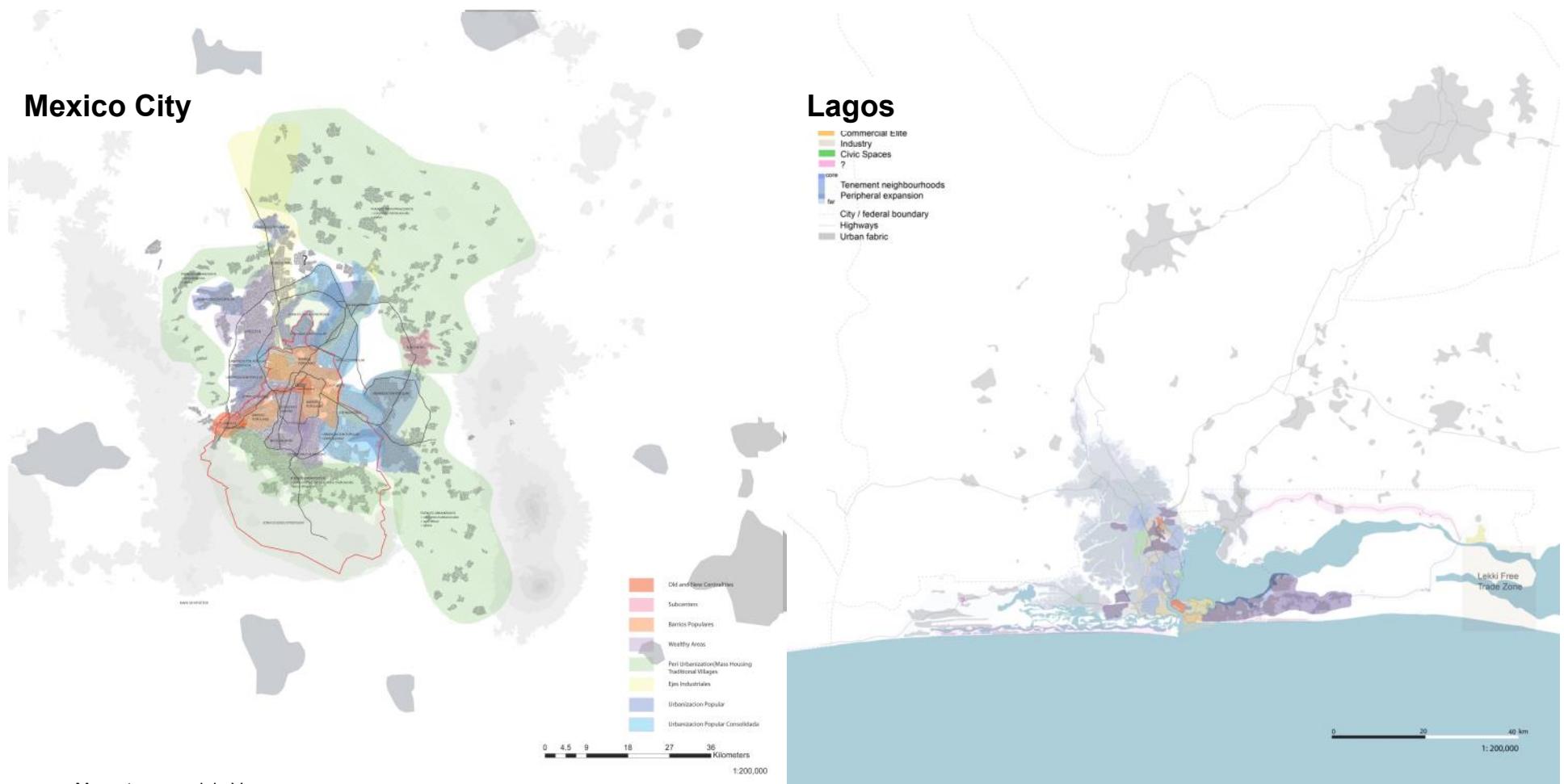
Source: Alpha Data, Columbia University - New York, 2005



Source: Citypopulation.de, 2008







Maps: team module V

# Landscape Ecology

[Team](#) | [Synergies](#) | [Aim](#) | [Progress](#) | [DRS](#) | [Dissemination](#) | [Next steps](#)







## Aim & Methods

**Demonstrating that a change of paradigm in river rehabilitation is possible, and providing a future vision that balances concerns over flooding, water quality, and ecology, with the realities of a rapidly growing Southeast Asian city**

### Study area

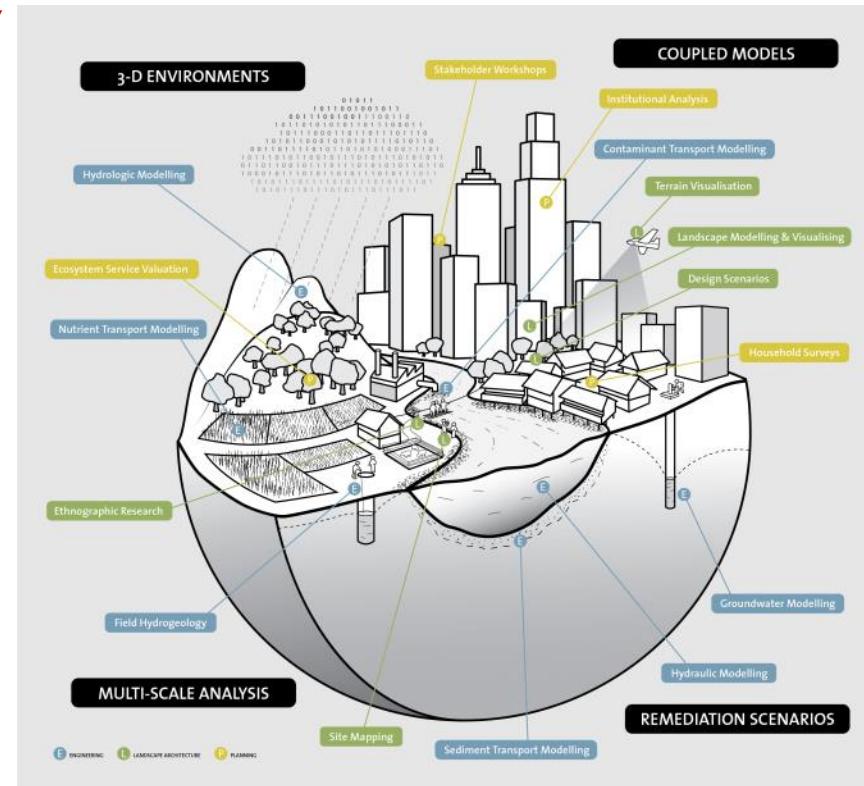


Ciliwung River, Indonesia

**ETH**  
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

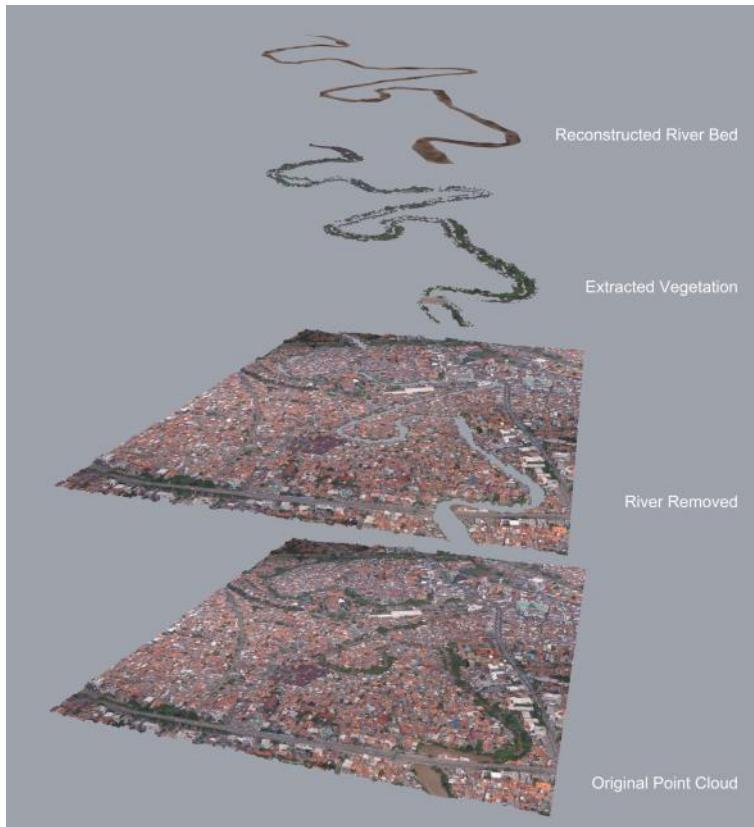
Landscape Ecology  
Prof. Christophe Girot

### Methods



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(FCL) FUTURE CITIES LABORATORY 未来城市实验室



## Modification of 3D Point Cloud Datasets



Changes to River Profile



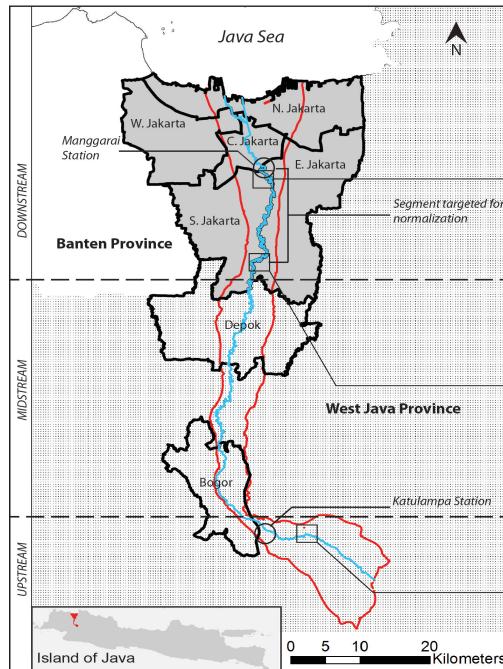
Large Infrastructural Interventions



Changes in Land Use

## Aim & Methods

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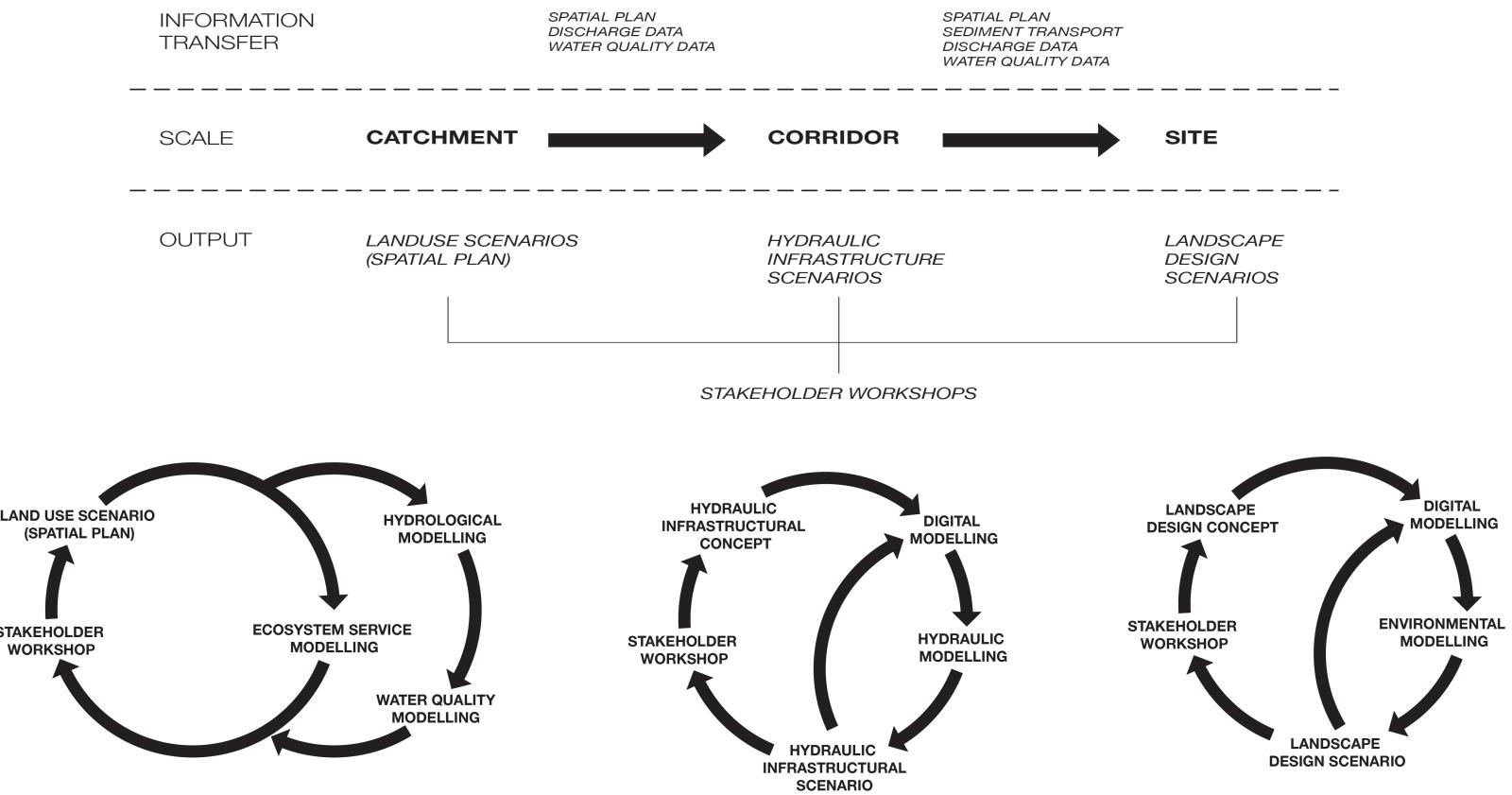


Ciliwung River, Indonesia



### Knowledge integration

- Using 3-D visual models as a platform to present analytical results and get feedback
- Coupling sediment transport, groundwater, water quality, and hydrological models to form an integrated suite
- Incorporating site-scale observations into catchment-scale analysis and vice-versa
- Developing scenarios for a rehabilitated river corridor

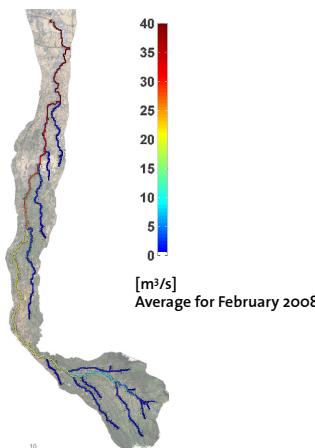


## Catchment Scale Modelling

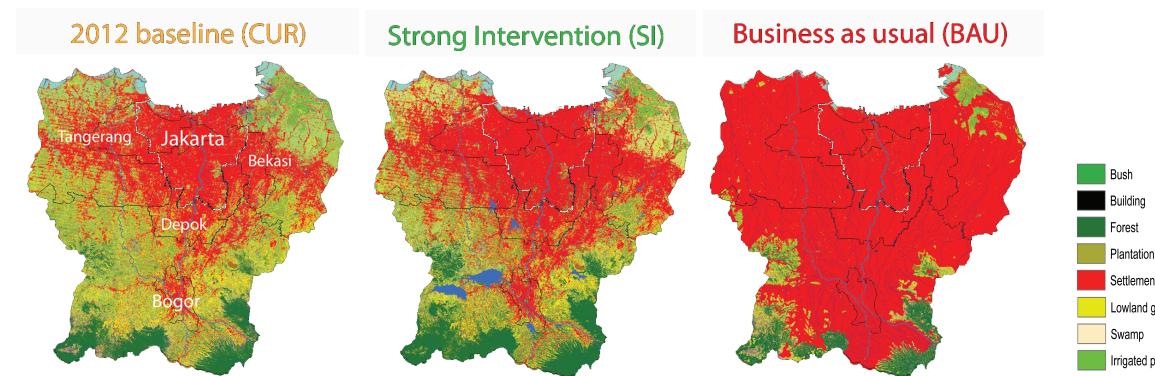
Hydrological model to reproduce water  
—environment interactions:

- Flood events
- Land use and climate impacts
- Effects of new water infrastructures
- Groundwater recharge, etc.

*Hourly water  
discharge along  
the river*



*Future land use scenarios for the entire region (2030)*

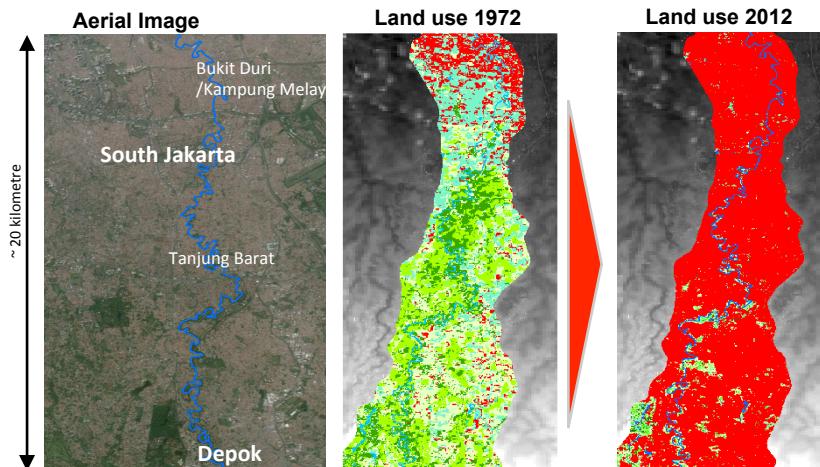


*Up to +20% water discharge in Jakarta for a major flood event  
if urban expansion not controlled*

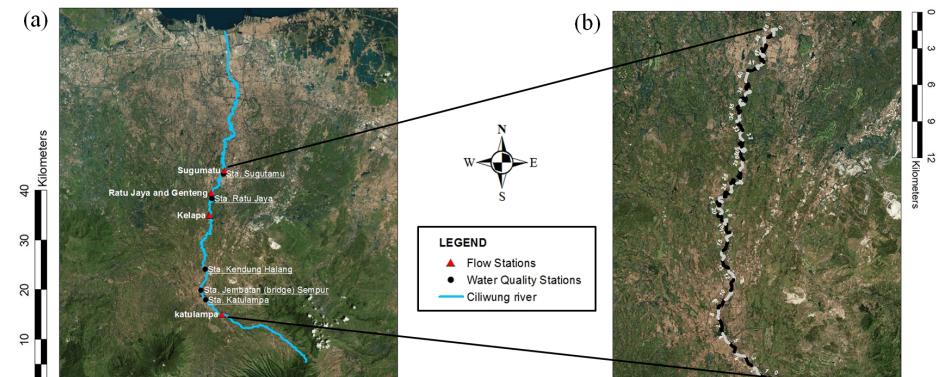
## Corridor Scale Modelling

Impact of rapid urbanization along the **River-corridor** on flooding and water availability

- Higher flood peaks during wet season: Propagation of flood wave down the river is faster
- Lower groundwater availability during dry season: Depression in groundwater table due to lower infiltration rates leading to dry wells
- Models developed to help evaluate interventions (like infiltration wells) to manage this dual problem



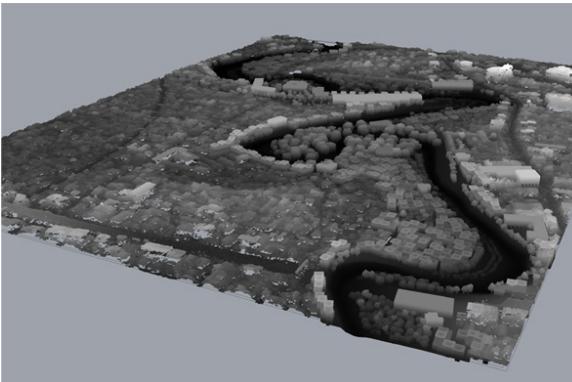
### Reverse modelling to estimate pollution loadings



## Modified Point Cloud Datasets Coupled with Environmental Modelling



Original Point Cloud Model



Large Scale Modifications to the Landscape



Flood Extent Simulation



Flood Velocity Simulation

To develop designs and interventions that are grounded in the realities of a megacity, mathematical modelling of flow of water as well as the propagation of pollutants and contaminants can provide valuable insight.

As demonstrated in the videos, the know-how from the disciplines of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Engineering has been integrated to create a platform not only to design and validate, but also to communicate to a larger audience the issues involved.

## Environmental Modelling and Simulations



Flood simulation in Kampung Melayu

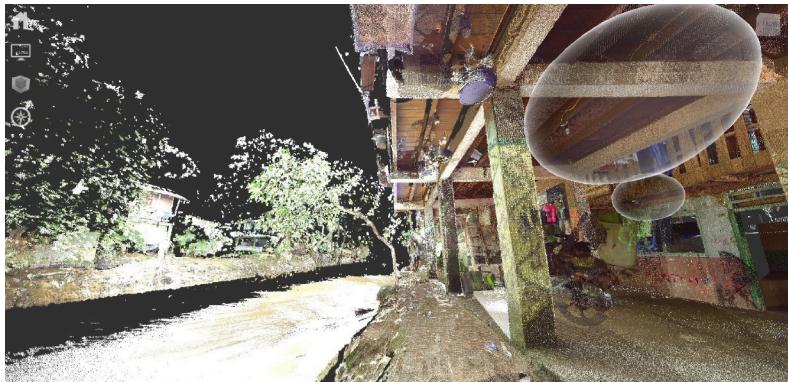


Contaminant simulation

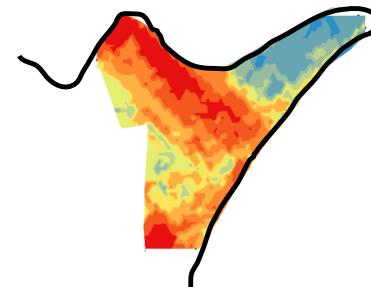
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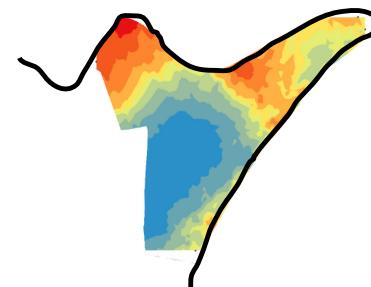
## Design scenarios for urban river landscapes



Terrestrial laser scans of riverbank neighbourhoods



Probability that a household grows plants



Probability that a household visits the river for recreation

To develop designs and interventions that are socio-culturally, and ecologically grounded within the local environment, detailed spatial, and qualitative data of the urban fabric and river landscape is gathered and reacted upon within future landscape transformations.

Design scenarios are developed for urban river landscapes with ongoing engagement from local communities and NGOs.

[Team](#) | [Synergies](#) | [Aim](#) | [Progress](#) | **DRS** | [Dissemination](#) | [Next steps](#)

## Design Research Studio Outputs



**ETH**  
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

Landscape Ecology  
Prof. Christophe Girot

(SEC) SINGAPORE-ETH CENTRE 新加坡-ETH 研究中心

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INTRO | IN VIVO | IN VITRO | OUTREACH

# Territorial Organisation

Sascha Roesler, Cary Siress, Deane Simpson, Jesse LeCavalier, Rainer Hehl, Benjamin Stähli, Sascha Delz,  
Martha Kolokotroni, Benjamin Leclair-Paquet, Charlotte Malterre Barthes, Ani Vihervaara

**Module VI investigates the mechanisms at work  
in the production of territory ...  
and addresses the impact of forms of collective organisation on the  
make-up of urban environments.**

INTRO | IN VIVO | IN VITRO | OUTREACH

# political economy of territory



Prof. Dr. Marc Angélil / Prof. em. Franz Oswald

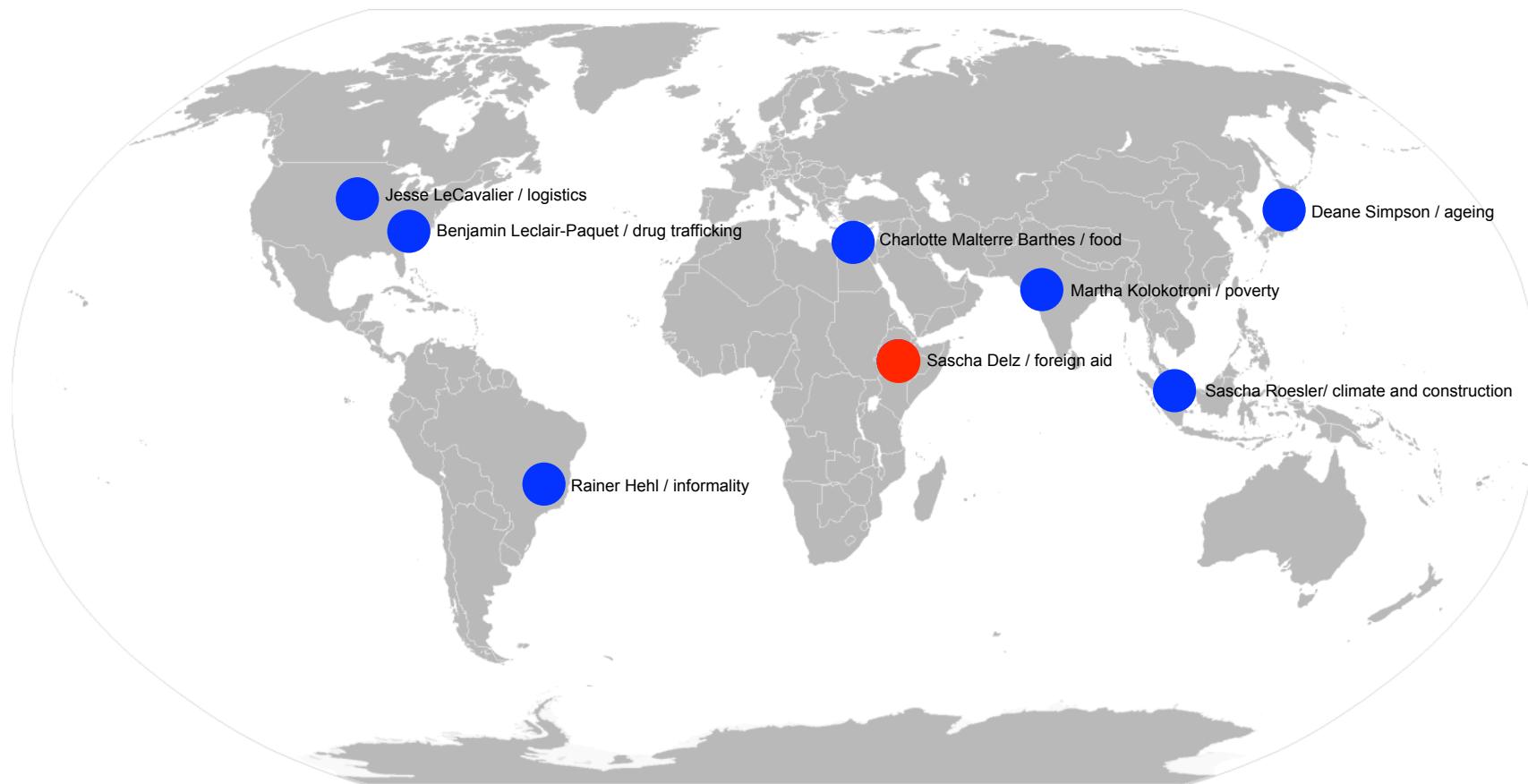
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CITIES  
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INTRO | IN VIVO | IN VITRO | OUTREACH

**ageing  
logistics  
informality  
foreign aid  
poverty  
drug trafficking  
food  
climate**

INTRO | IN VIVO | IN VITRO | OUTREACH







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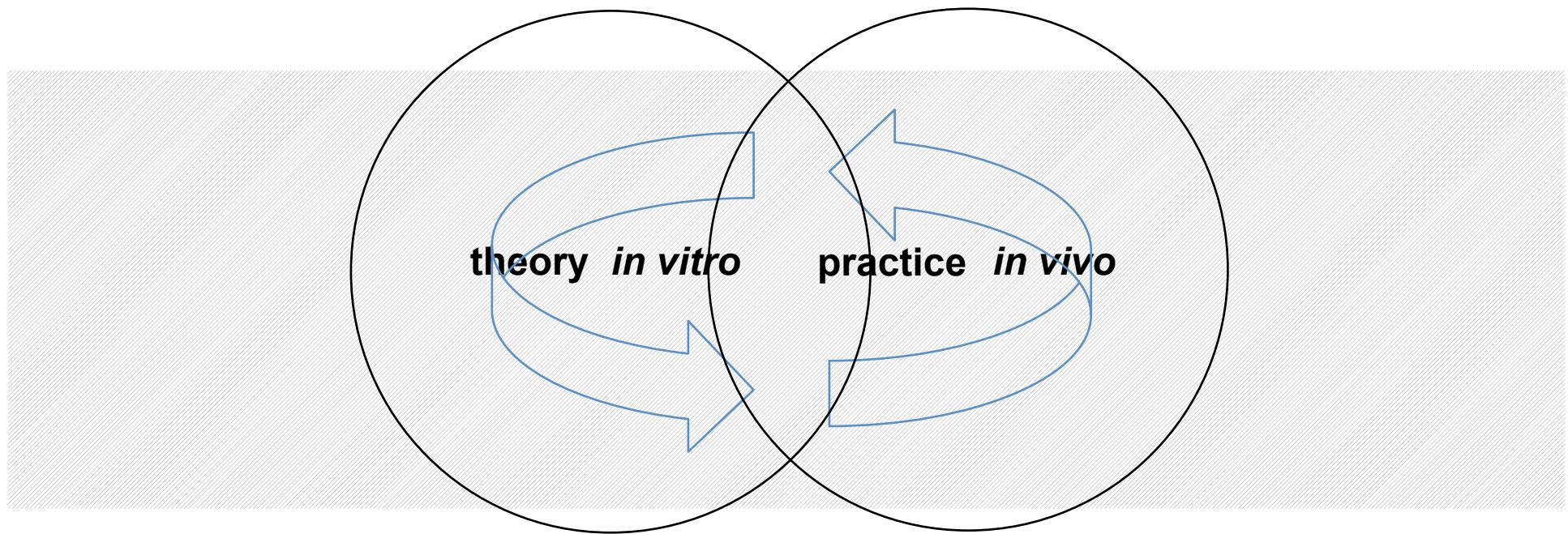


INTRO | THEORY | PRACTICE | OUTREACH

# Territorial Organisation

Marc Angélil, Franz Oswald, Sascha Roesler, Cary Siress, Deane Simpson, Jesse LeCavalier, Rainer Hehl, Benjamin Stähli,  
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INTRO | THEORY | PRACTICE | OUTREACH



INTRO | THEORY | PRACTICE | OUTREACH

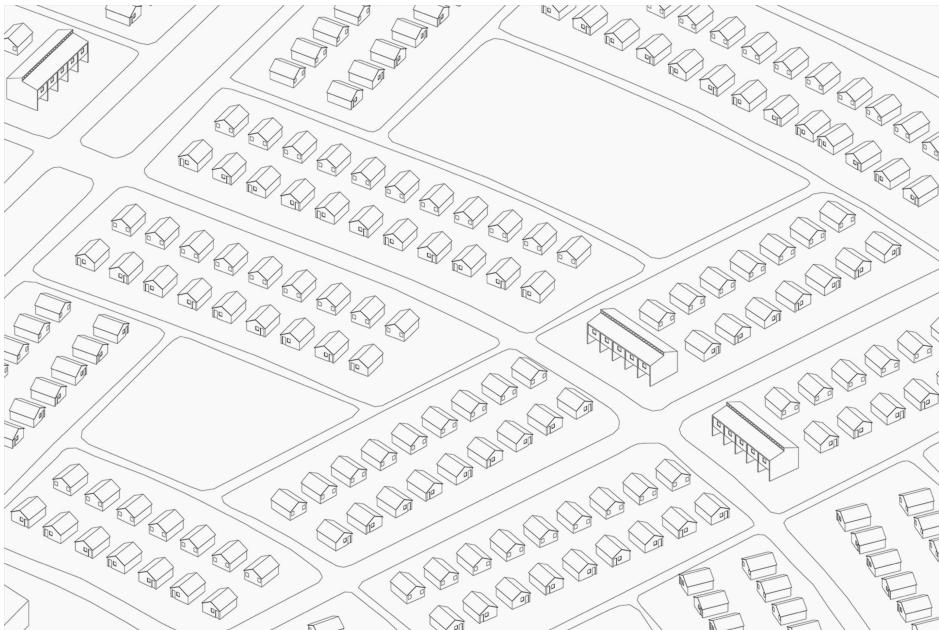


*City of God*, Fernando Meirelles and Kátia Lund, 2002

INTRO | THEORY | PRACTICE | OUTREACH



INTRO | THEORY | PRACTICE | OUTREACH



Cidade de Deus, 1966



Cidade de Deus, 2012



Studio-X Rio de Janeiro, June 2013

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Demonstration Rio de Janeiro, June 2013



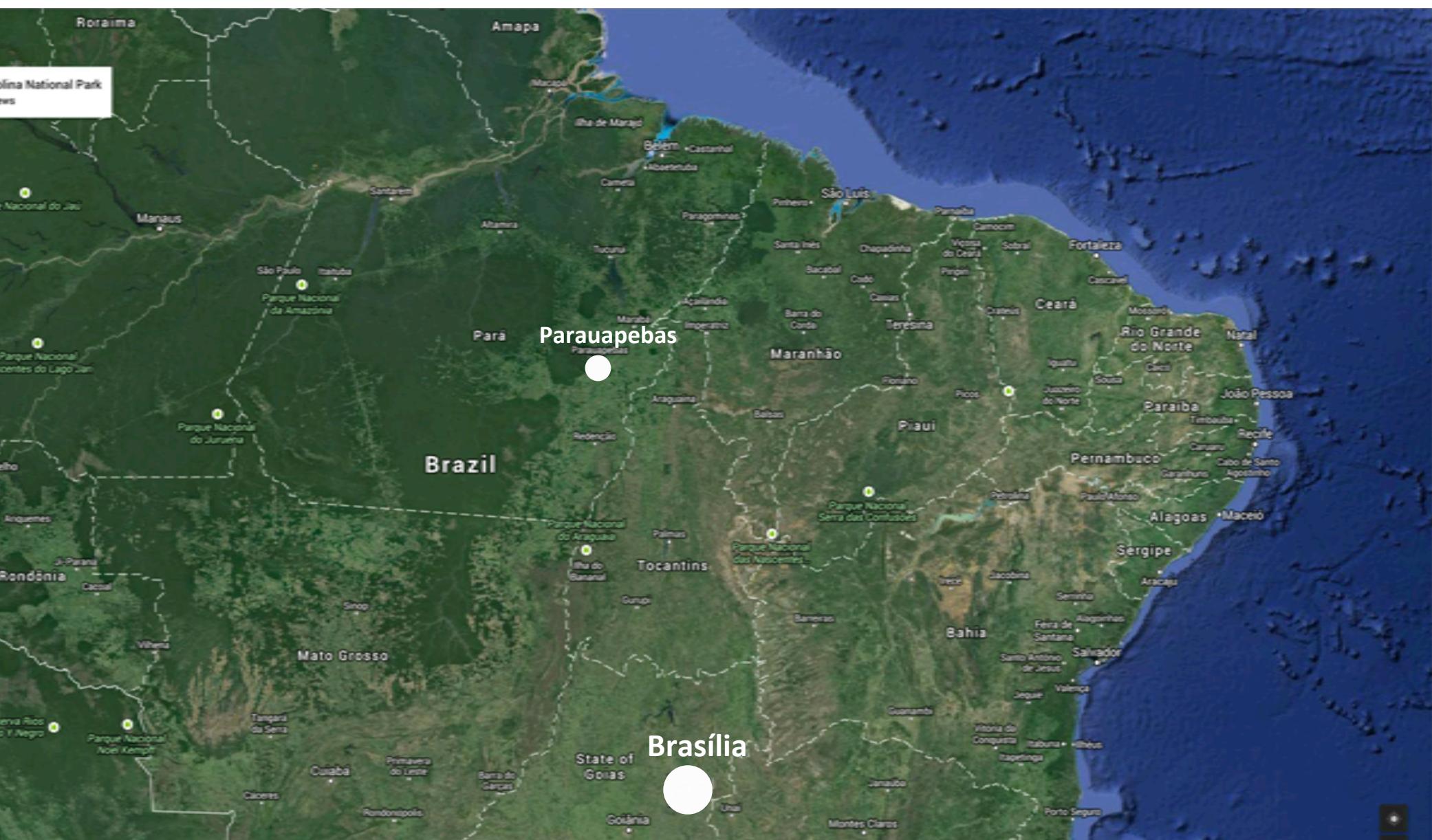
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Inês Magalhães, National Housing Secretary and head of the MCMV programme, Ministry of the Cities, Brasília



Minha Casa Minha Vida Programme





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Vila Kennedy, Rio de Janeiro, early 1960s



Minha Casa Minha Vida, 800 units in Buena Vista, 2012









# APB AND THE POWER OF THE POPULAR

A report from Rio de Janeiro, June 20<sup>th</sup> 2013

Rainer Hehl / Furtwängler

**Social Design**

Nobody expected anything as radical would happen on that day. According to official media 1.2 million people were marching in the streets of Rio de Janeiro for more democracy and participation. A wide range of the Brazilian society young people, pensioners, students and enraged citizens were demonstrating against the corruption of the political system that doesn't take enough care of the people's needs. Brazil has been facing a series of protests by students claiming for public interests in its whole history. What was the motivation behind this massive movement? A sudden explosion of a huge amount of collective energy? Whether the protest was caused by the pressure of state corruption or for more investment in education, social security and public transportation, the movement seems to have now things to change.

The Brazilians were living a similar moment 45 years ago when 100,000 people were occupying public spaces, fighting against state oppression during the military dictatorship, and singing in the streets that "tomorrow has to be another day" (*amanhã tem que ser outro dia*). The Brazilian singer-songwriter Chico Buarque who coordinated together with artists like Gilberto Gil, Caetano Veloso and others to the formation of a new music genre called MPB (Musica Popular Brasileira), the MPB artists fed an ephemeral, but high impact movements known as Tropicalia and Samba Rock. They were the first to make a fundamental contribution to the richness, vitality, and creativity of the peaceful demonstrations turned more and more into riots with violent confrontations between protesters and police forces. The APB catalogue was born at a moment in a Brazil that was emotionally torn apart and at the same time open for new ideas and opportunities. The catalog assembled in the APB catalogue addresses some of the most important issues that were at stake in the context of the demonstrations.

While the peaceful demonstrations turned more and more into riots with violent confrontations between protesters and police forces, the APB catalogue was born at a moment in a Brazil that was emotionally torn apart and at the same time open for new ideas and opportunities. The catalog assembled in the APB catalogue addresses some of the most important issues that were at stake in the context of the demonstrations.

The more we experience popular uprisings and collective action in other countries in the crisis-torn European states, the more we realize that the street still has the power to change the world. The APB research encouraged the public debate in Brazil at the moment when the political system and the social and political relations were renegotiated, which also highlighted the role of urban design within the public realm. If half a century ago the Tropicalia movement had the power to transform the situation of Brazilian popular music into an open process of creative production, the APB catalogue and the APB research could have a similar impact in the context of the social transformations that are happening today. Whether we look at the experimentation of collective action in the streets of Rio or at the emerging interests of the APB collection, the APB catalogue marks the beginning of a new era of the making of popular movements in Brazil, but it is also an opportunity to rethink design practice as a powerful tool for the reproduction and reinvention of popular architecture and culture as a whole.

**Public Action**

When the recent movement occurred Gilberto Gil, the former minister of culture and one of the most prominent figures of the Tropicalia movement, was comparing parallels between what happened back then and now, asking if the popular movement of 1968 had the strength to change the world. The movement of 1968 was a moment of the rise, but at the same time relieved to see this popular insurgency that was able to change the world. The movement between the counterrevolutionary movement of the past and the kind of mix that we are experiencing today is very similar to the recent global condition dominated by a neoliberal economic system that only cares about the rich. The movement between the ruling classes and the popular masses—the increasing gap between rich and poor, the increasing gap between top-down governance and bottom-up mobilization and the mass demonstrations that happened at the same time in Rio have in common that they are both expressions of a desire for change that is produced within the streetscape. Similar to the claim for more participation in the APB catalogue, the movement of 1968 marked the beginning of a new era of the making of popular movements in Brazil, but it is also an opportunity to rethink design practice as a powerful tool for the reproduction and reinvention of popular architecture and culture as a whole.

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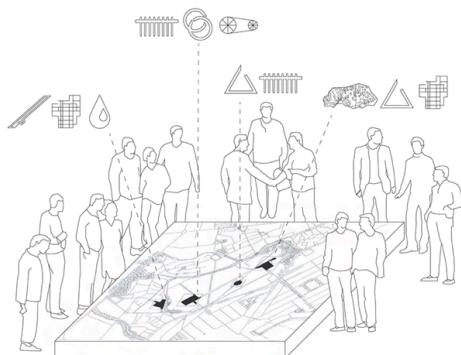


## SELO DE QUALIDADE URBANA

### CRITÉRIOS DE QUALIDADE

#### DIRETRIZ 1

##### DIAGNÓSTICO E PLANO URBANÍSTICO



Criar modelos urbanos mais agradáveis, harmoniosos e sustentáveis em nome da qualidade urbana para as futuras gerações.

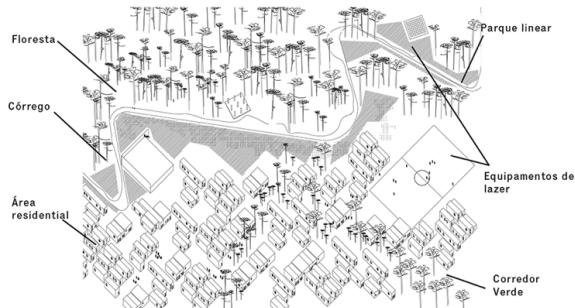
OBJETIVOS A SEREM ALCANÇADOS

COLETTIVIDADE  
DIVERSIDADE  
FLEXIBILIDADE  
SUSTENTABILIDADE  
QUALIDADE ARQUITETÔNICA

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Design guidelines, Minha Nossa Cidade, 2013

- ① INTEGRANDO O MEIO AMBIENTE NATURAL AO URBANO:**
- Identificar e preservar elementos naturais do sítio, como: morros, pântanos e florestas.
  - Estabelecer espaços e corredores verdes criando uma rede que integra o meio natural e o urbano.
  - Projetar espaços destinados a parques ou paisagens produtivas, como: agricultura, cultivo de mudas, áreas de reflorestamento etc; anexando aos elementos naturais como ambiente de transição da paisagem.



- ② CONECTANDO À MALHA PREEXISTENTE:**
- Traçar a nova rede de infra-estrutura urbana, criando uma rede urbana aberta bem como conectando o novo empreendimento às áreas vizinhas na escala territorial.
  - Definir as novas funções dessas vias conforme à malha preexistente.
  - Prever uma malha urbana que apresenta gabaritos diferenciados, atendendo às necessidades da hierarquia viária.
- ③ CICLOVIAS**
- Definir as ciclovias conforme projetos municipais de mobilidade urbana existentes ou a serem implantados.

- ④ INFRASTRUTURA**
- Apresentar, as informações oficiais (da Prefeitura e instâncias colegiadas correlatas e/ou da concessionária) sobre o que existe de infraestrutura de saneamento e de prestação dos serviços públicos de saneamento básico na área em que se insere o empreendimento, com relação ao abastecimento de água e Esgotamento Sanitário, manejo de Resíduos Sólidos e drenagem urbana, manejo de resíduos sólidos e drenagem urbana.
  - Apresentar o estudo de viabilidade com as alternativas de integração do empreendimento aos serviços públicos de saneamento tanto do ponto de vista da integração física da infraestrutura, quanto das medidas necessárias para a integração operacional do empreendimento à prestação regular destes serviços na cidade. (abastecimento de água, esgotamento sanitário, manejo de resíduos sólidos e limpeza urbana, drenagem e manejo de águas pluviais urbanas).



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#### CRITÉRIOS:

- 5.1 Projetar diferentes tipos de praças em função da inserção urbana, do diagnóstico urbano e da área total do empreendimento. Usar como parâmetro área equivalente a 4,5m<sup>2</sup> de praça por habitante, a ser usado para a implantação de 3 tipos de escalas de praças: (1) Cívica, (2) Local e (3) Privada ou semi-pública. ④ ⑤ ⑥

- 5.2 Com relação as vias de circulação, a praça deverá apresentar no máximo duas vias adjacentes ao seu perímetro.

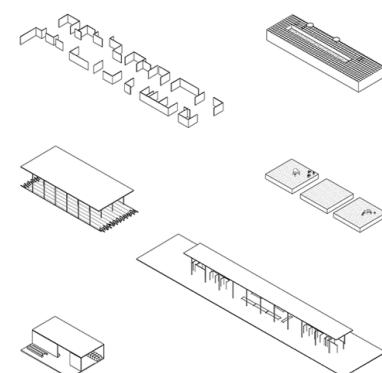
- 5.3 Projetar obrigatoriedade o acesso das edificações - habitação e comércio - diretamente à praça, evitando muros no seu perímetro e trazendo segurança a este espaço público.

- 5.4 Prever nas praças cívicas o PROJETO PAISAGÍSTICO e PROJETO ARQUITETÔNICO para edificação ou espaço coberto de uso coletivo e espaço para atividades de recreação e lazer.

- 5.5 Agendar dois encontros com a presença do ARQUITETO E DO PAISAGISTA junto a comunidade. O primeiro encontro visa a definição do programa das praças (quanto a equipamentos e infraestrutura de lazer) conforme a demanda dos moradores e aquelas já identificadas no diagnóstico urbano. O segundo encontro visa a apresentação do MANUAL DO PROJETO arquitetônico e paisagístico , desses espaços públicos para os futuros moradores. Ambos os encontros deverão ser feitos em parceria com o trabalho TECNO SOCIAL gerenciado pelo município. ⑦ ⑧

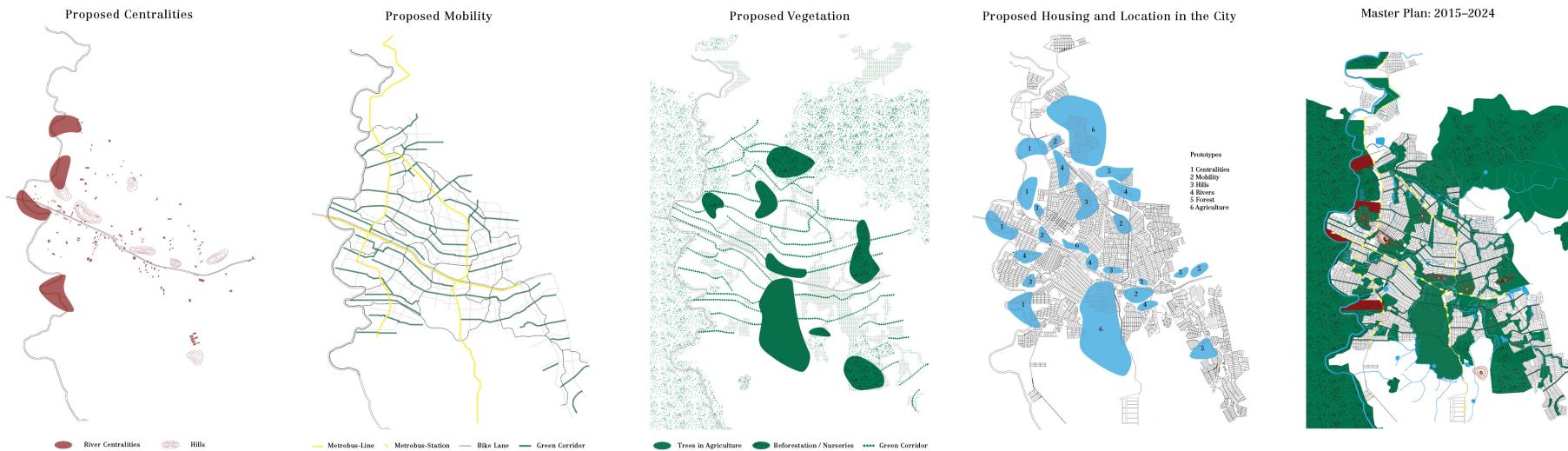
PONTUAÇÃO: 1000 OBRIGATÓRIO

- ⑤ Prover uma combinação de diferentes tipos de equipamentos e infra-estrutura de lazer, como: marquise, escadaria, área coberta, espaços auto-organizados de múltiplos usos, cozinha coletiva, feiras livres, clubes de xadrez, oficinas de arte, centros comunitários, surgindo como catalisadores de atração social e facilitadores da manutenção dos espaços.



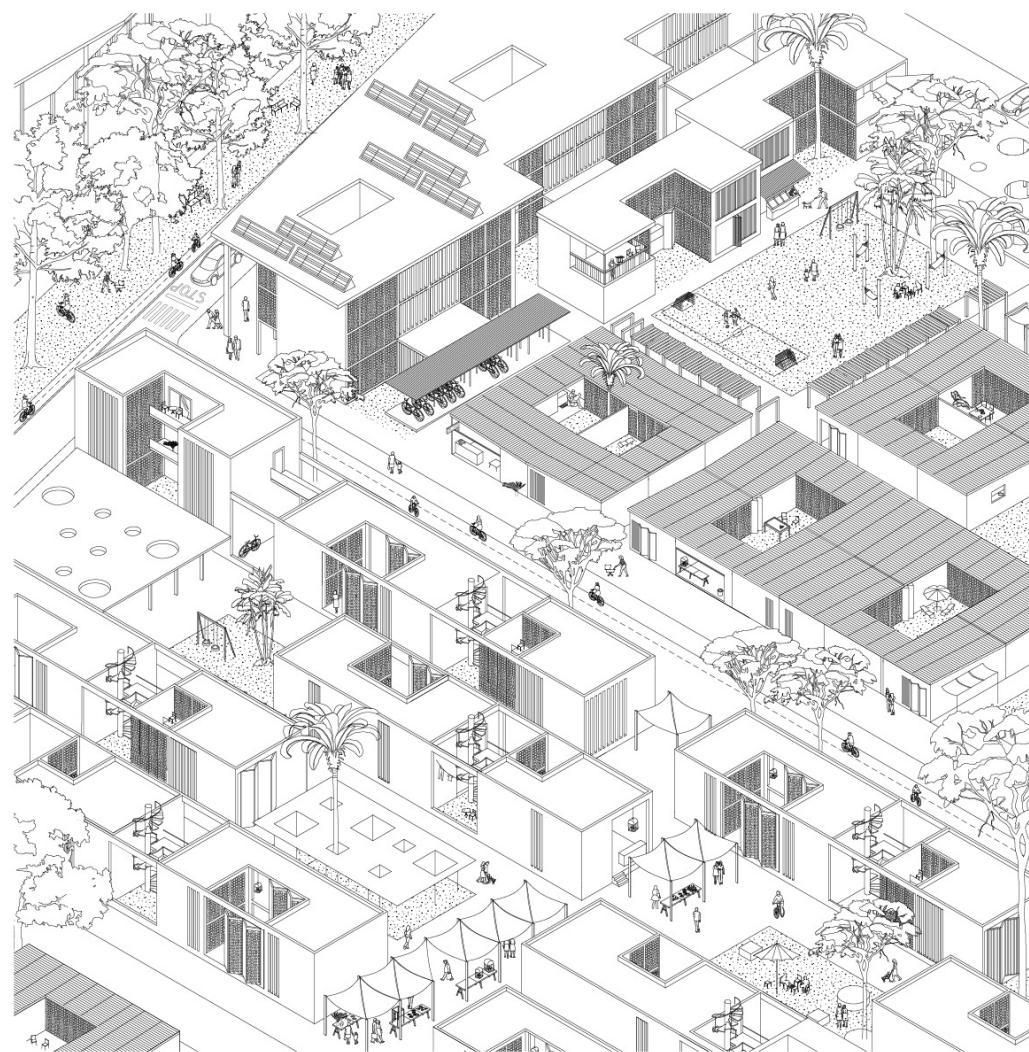
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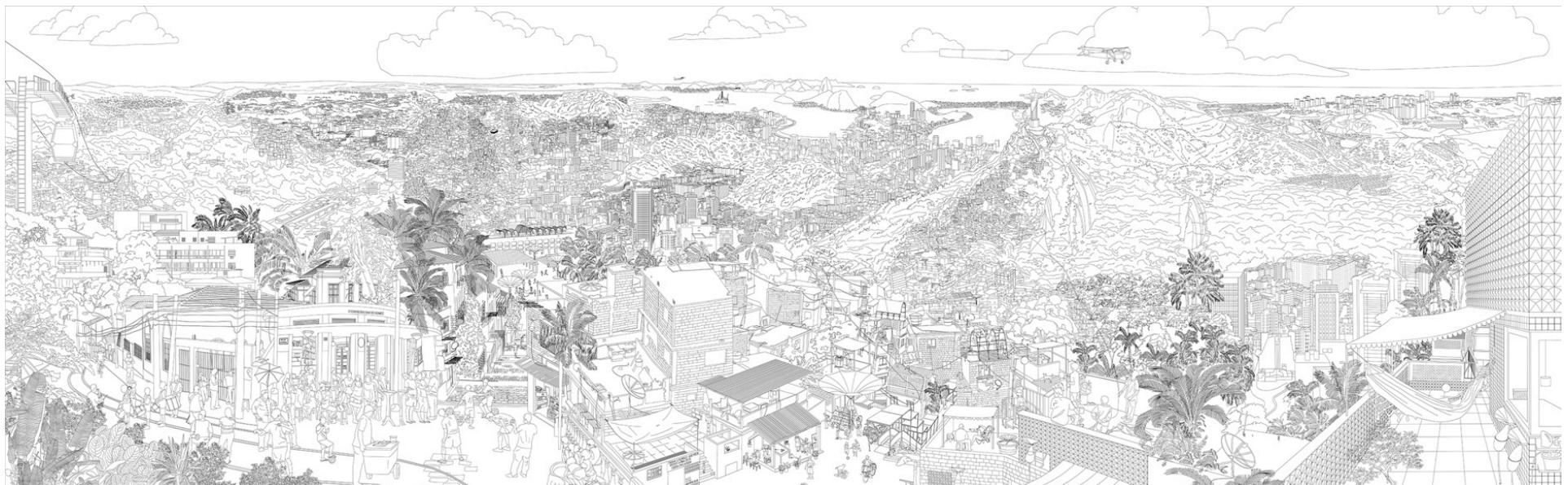


Masterplan for the Municipality of Parauapebas, August 2014

Neighborhood Parauapebas, August 2014



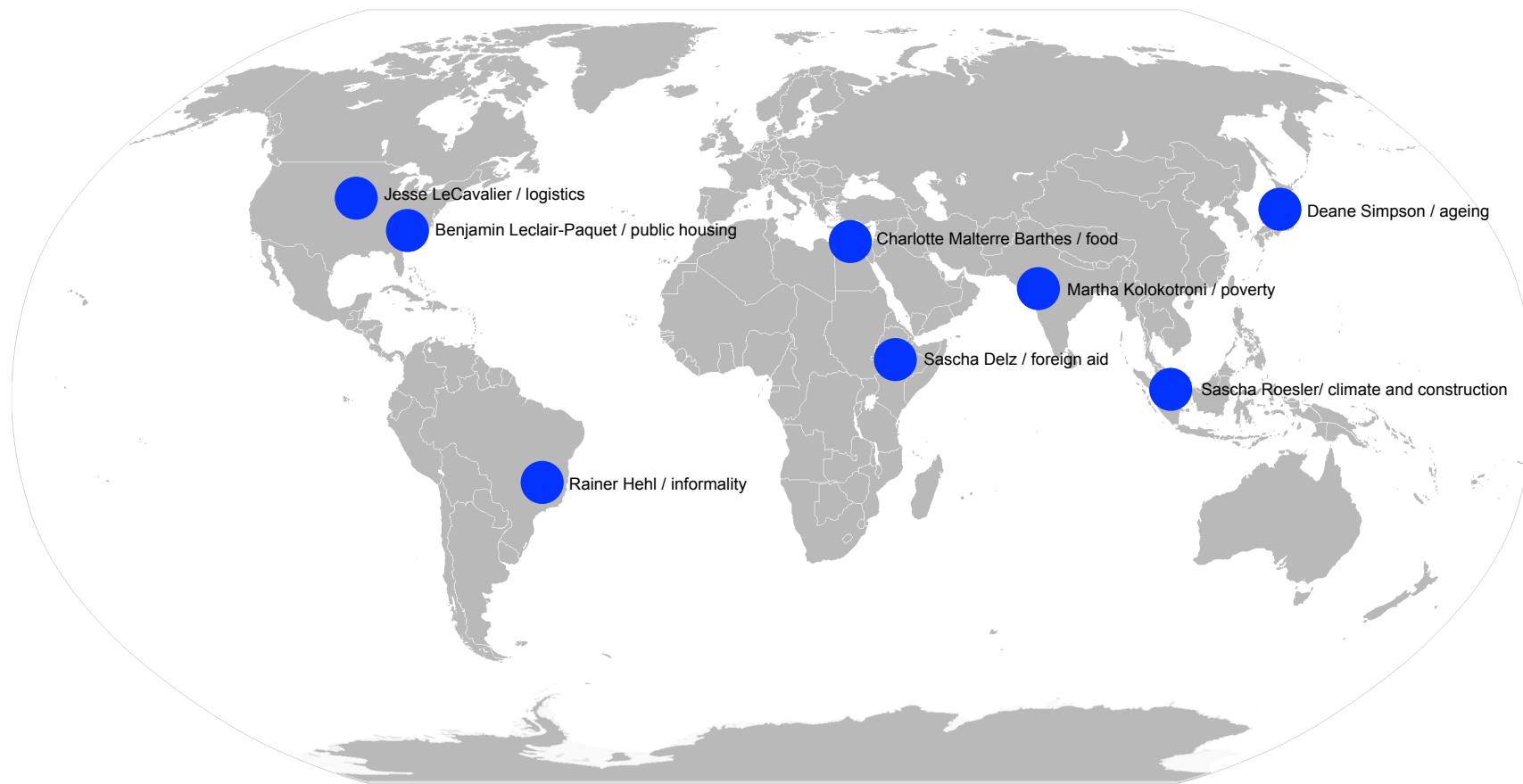
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*Uneven Growth: Tactical Urbanisms for Expanding Megacities*  
Museum of Modern Art New York, November 22, 2014 – May 10, 2015 / Panorama 14m x 3.5 m

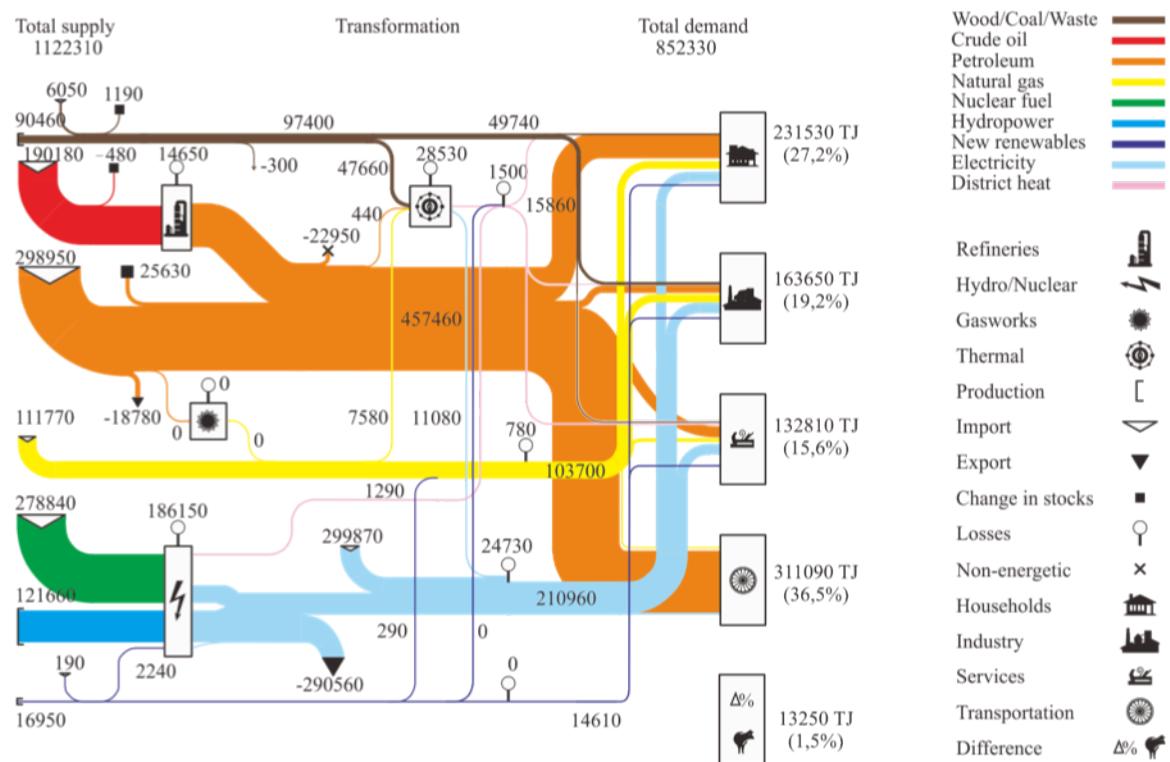


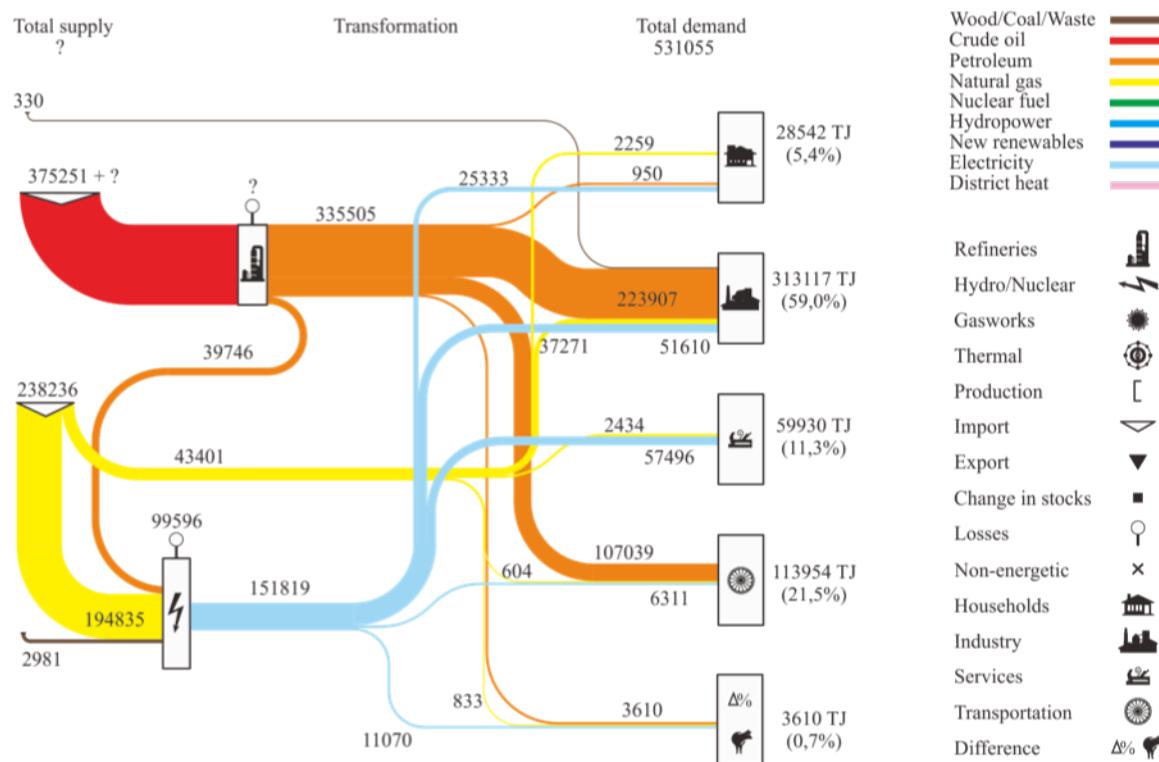
INTRO | THEORY | PRACTICE | OUTREACH



# ARCHITECTURE OF TERRITORY HINTERLAND

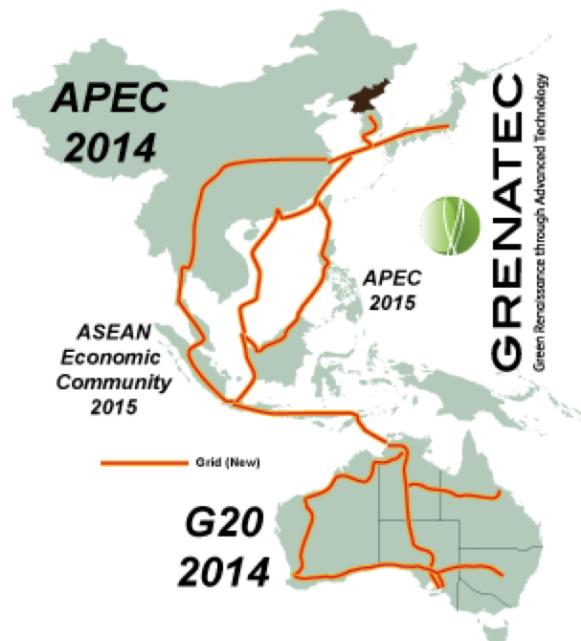
SINGAPORE'S HINTERLAND | PRODUCTIVE TERRITORIES |  
RESOURCES | MODEL LAND | SIJORI





Both China and Australia want to encourage **economic growth, infrastructure investment, cross-border integration and market efficiency**.

### 2014: Year of a *Pan-Asian Energy Infrastructure?*



*This year's APEC and G20 meetings could lay the foundations for a Pan-Asian Energy Infrastructure.*

This can be achieved through building a **Pan-Asian Energy Infrastructure**. It would be comprised of interconnected cross-border power lines, natural gas pipelines and fiber optic cables.

**"Between 2010 and 2020, Asia needs to invest approximately \$8 trillion in overall national infrastructure."**

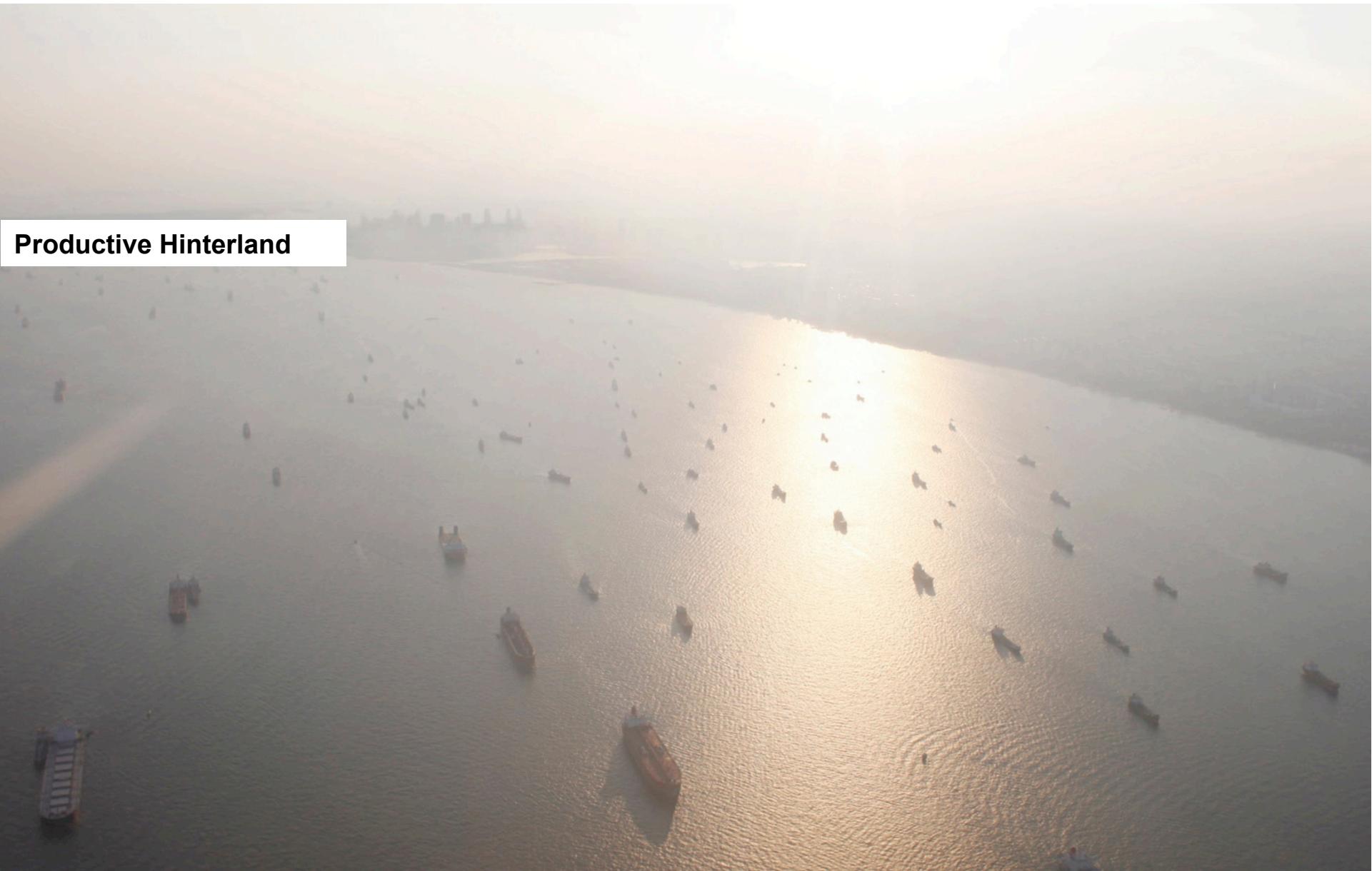
*"Infrastructure For a Seamless Asia,"  
Asian Development Bank,  
2009*

**"(Asia) must advance the interconnection of electric grids across borders to realize maximum efficiency in power generation and delivery."**  
*"Asian Development Outlook 2013: Asia's Energy Challenge,"  
Asian Development Bank*

**"The Trans-ASEAN Gas Pipeline** aims to interconnect the gas pipeline infrastructure of ASEAN Member States and to enable gas to be transported across the borders of the Member States.

The **Trans-ASEAN Power Grid**, on the other hand, ensures that gas for power is also being optimized with other potential sources of energy.  
*"ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation 2010-2015."*

**"If (national electricity) grids were linked up properly, in a large integrated energy market, then the peaks and troughs (of renewable energy generation)would be likely to even out."**  
*The Economist*



## Productive Hinterland

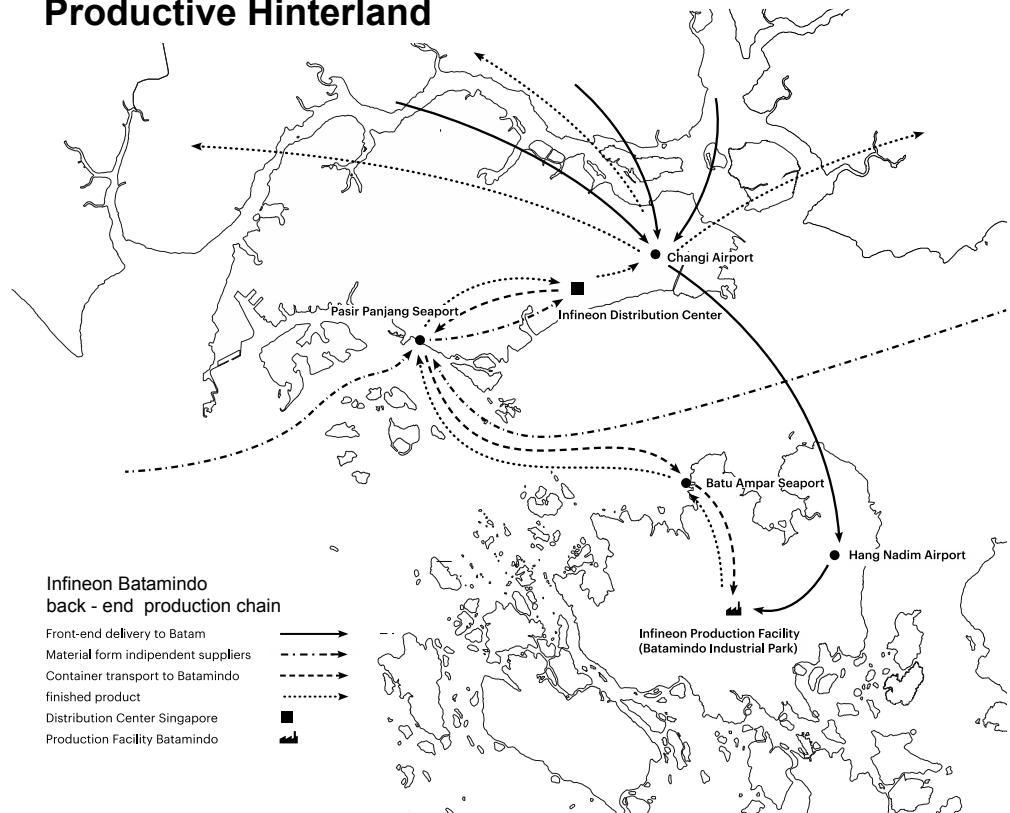
**ETH**  
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Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

Architecture and Territorial Planning  
Asst. Prof. Milica Topalovic

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## Productive Hinterland



## Resource Hinterland



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## Model Land



Singapore's topography 2012



1924

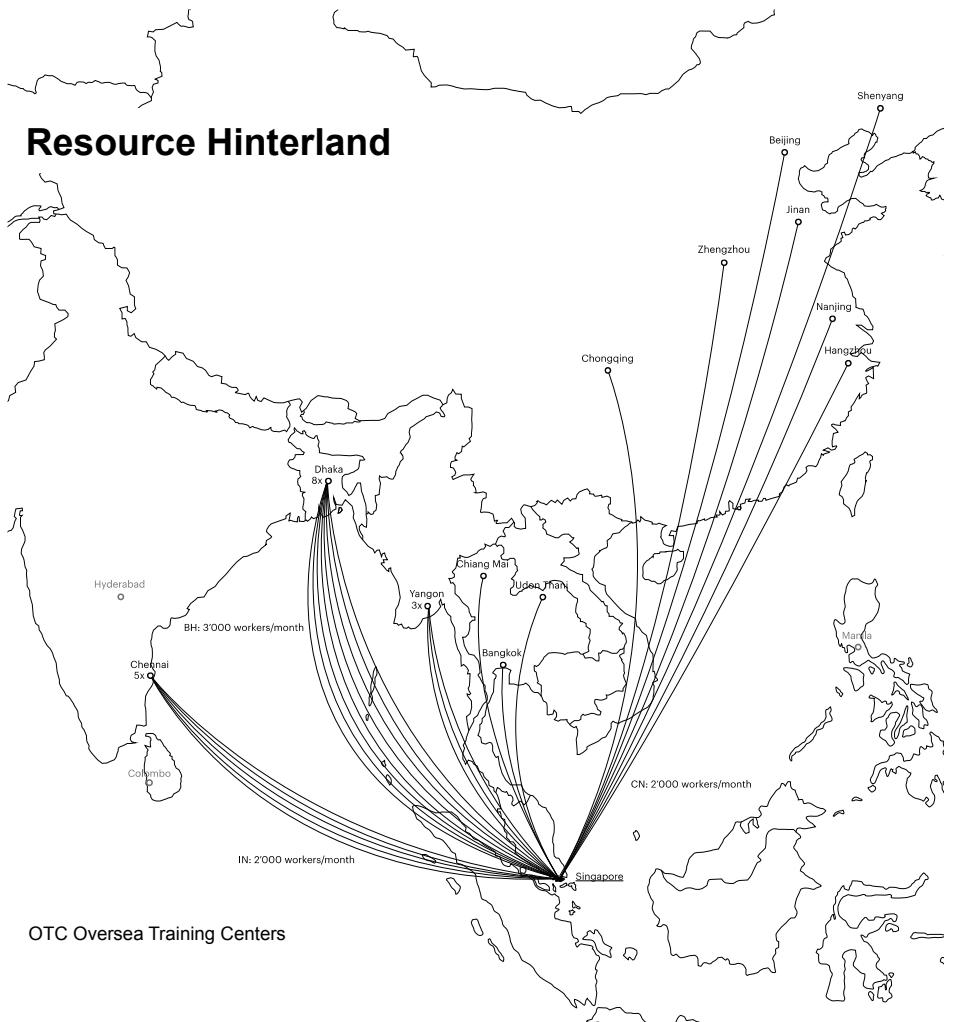


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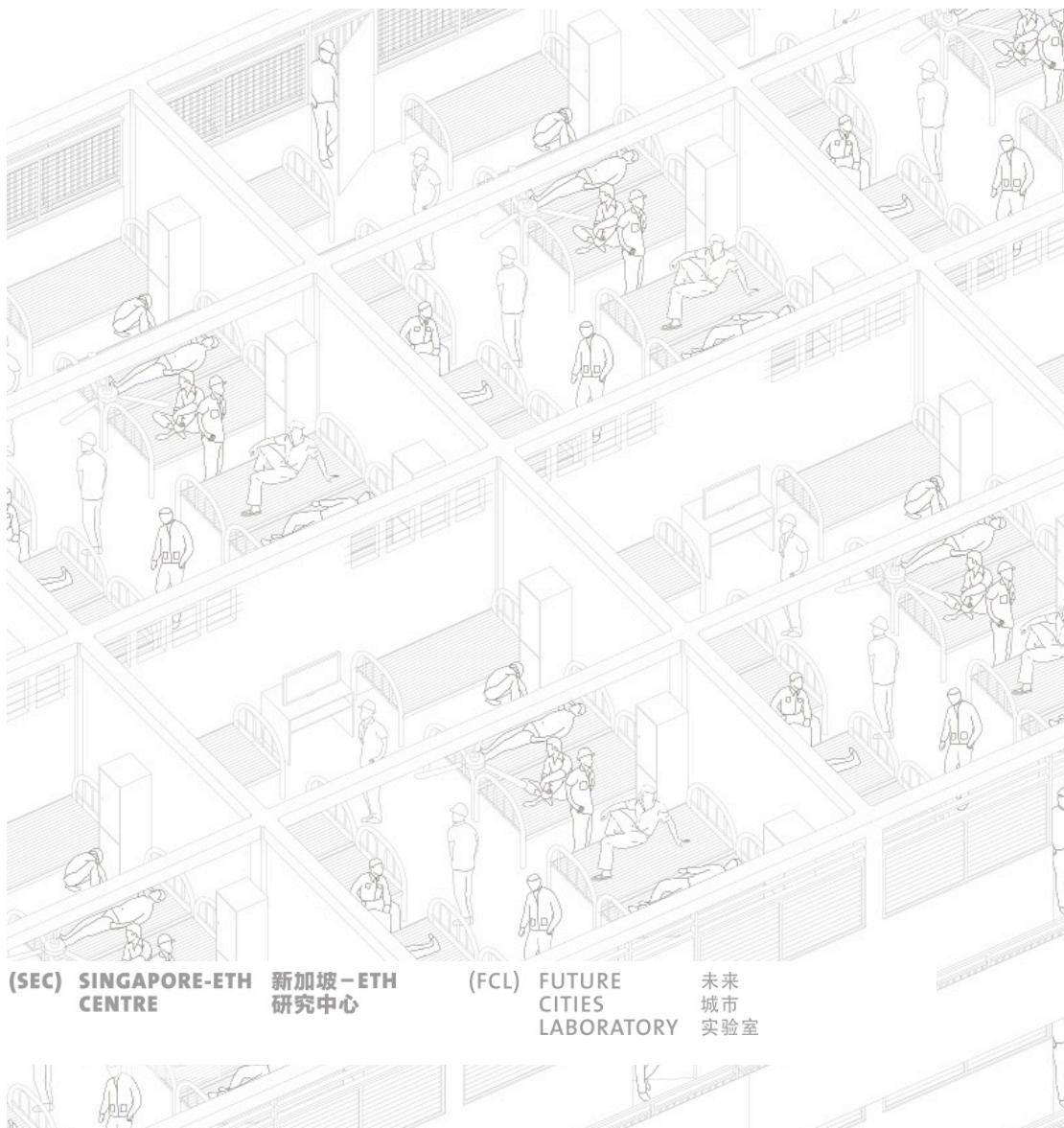
(SEC) SINGAPORE-ETH CENTRE 新加坡-ETH 研究中心

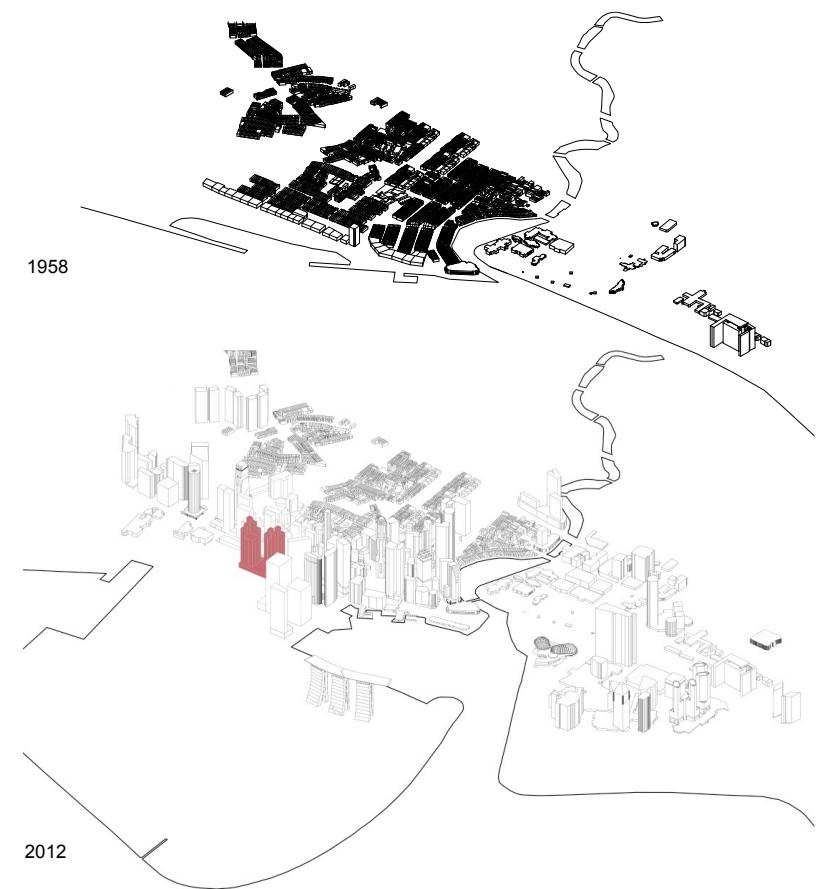
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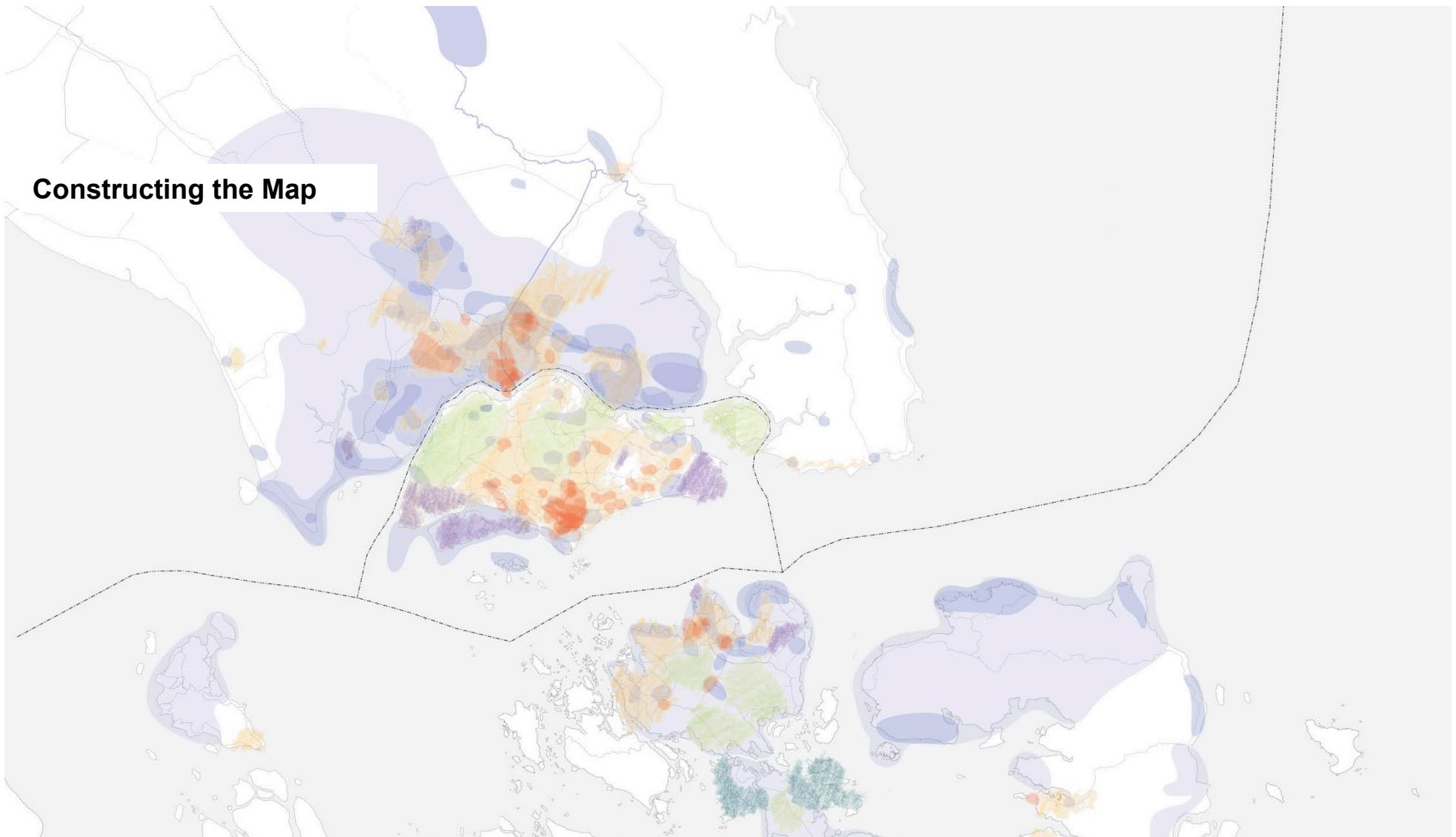
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## Constructing the Map



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## Hinterland



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实验室



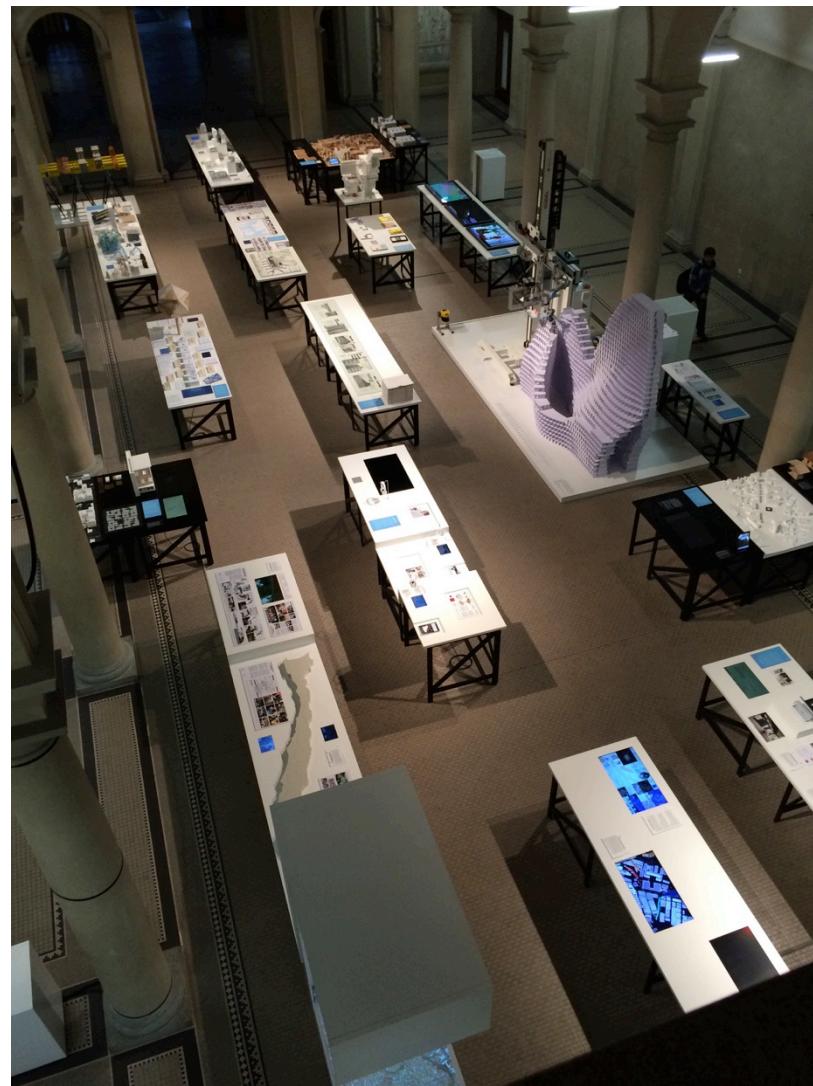










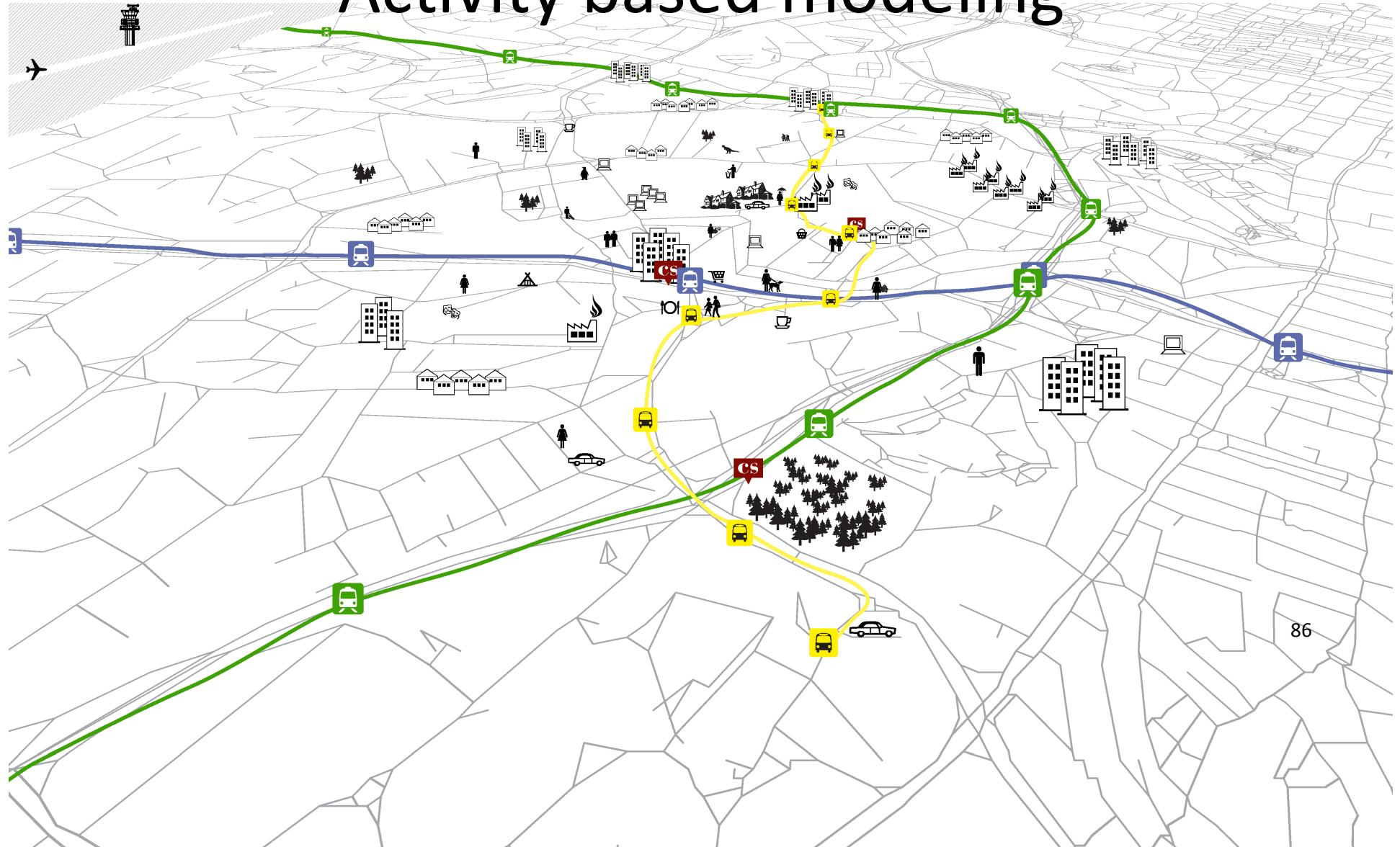




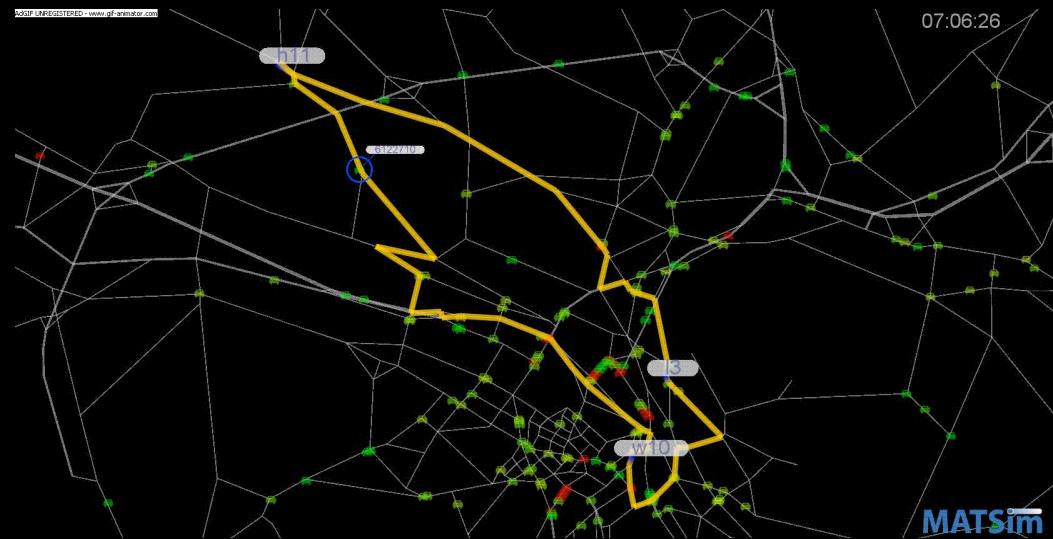




# Activity based modeling

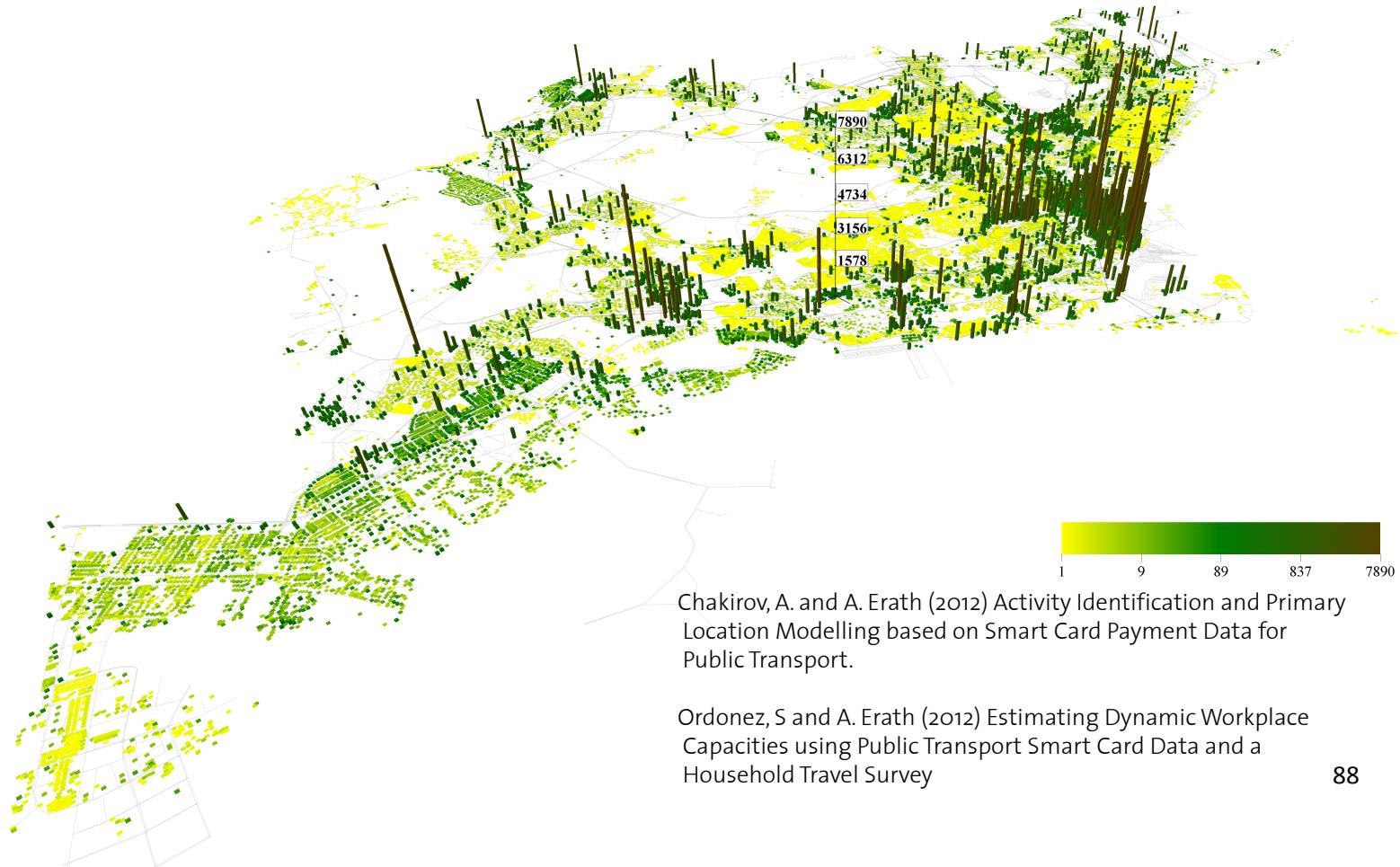


# Agent-based transport demand modelling



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        </leg>
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            dur="10:00:00" end_time="17:15:11" />
        ...
    </plan>
</person>
```

# Workplace locations in Singapore





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Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

Mobility and Transportation Planning  
Kay Axhausen

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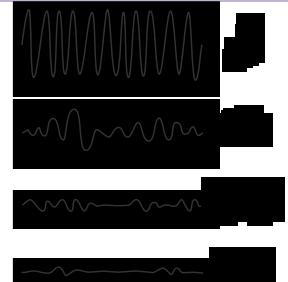
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# Understanding Cities

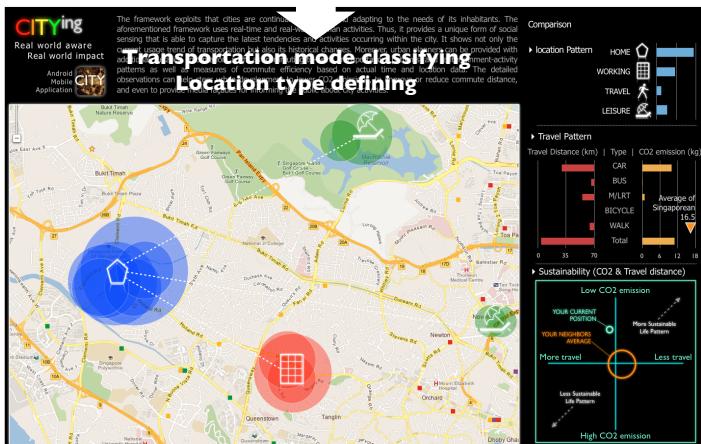
## Analyzing transportation data



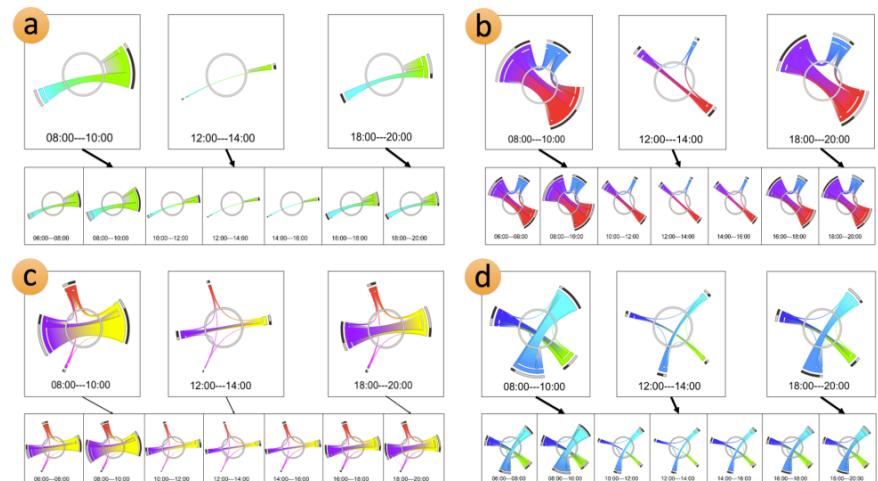
Sensing by mobile application



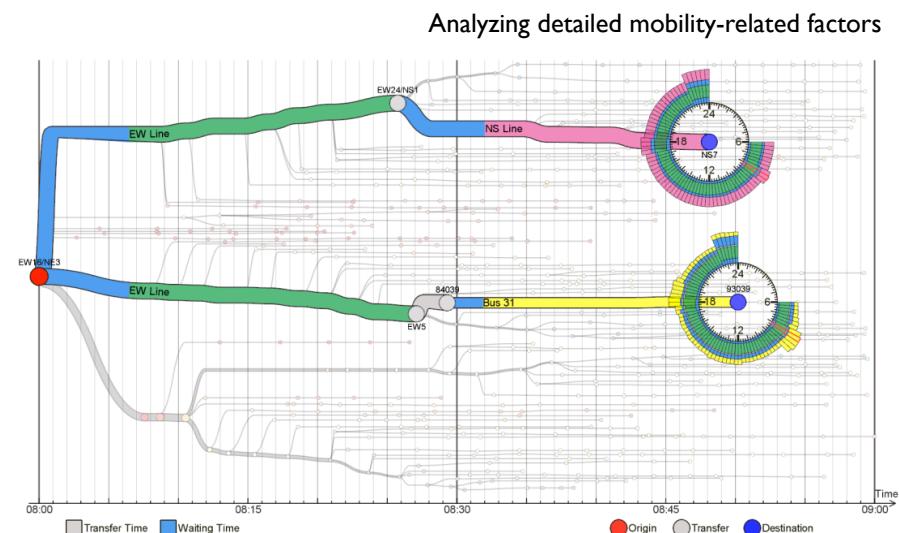
High Efficiency Vehicle Detecting Algorithm



PhD project of Dongyoun Shin

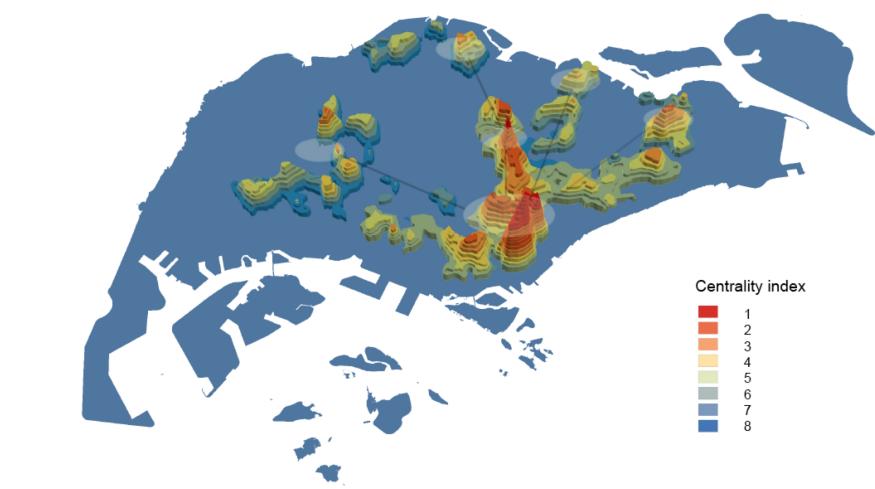
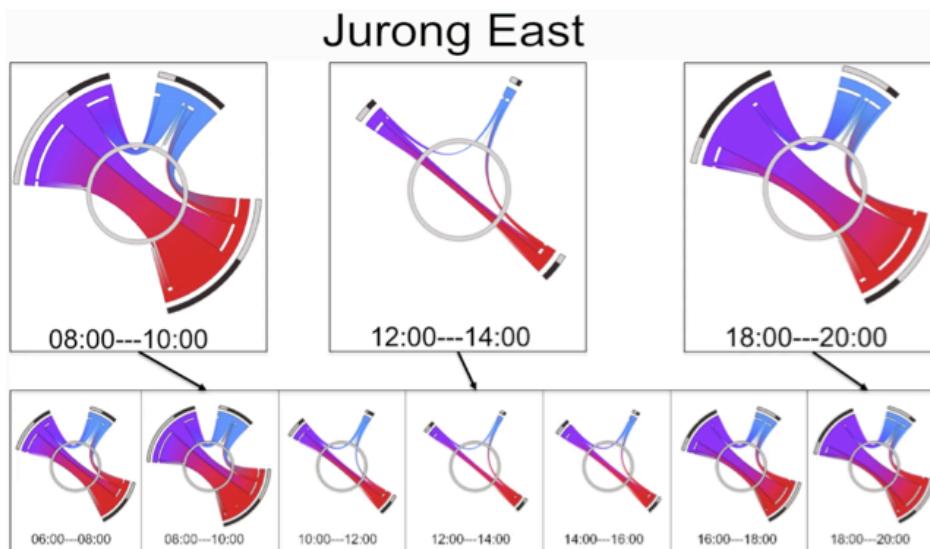


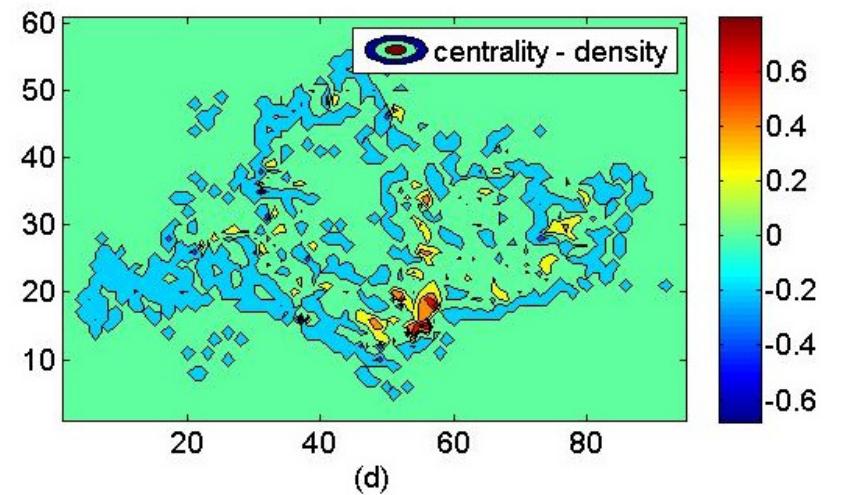
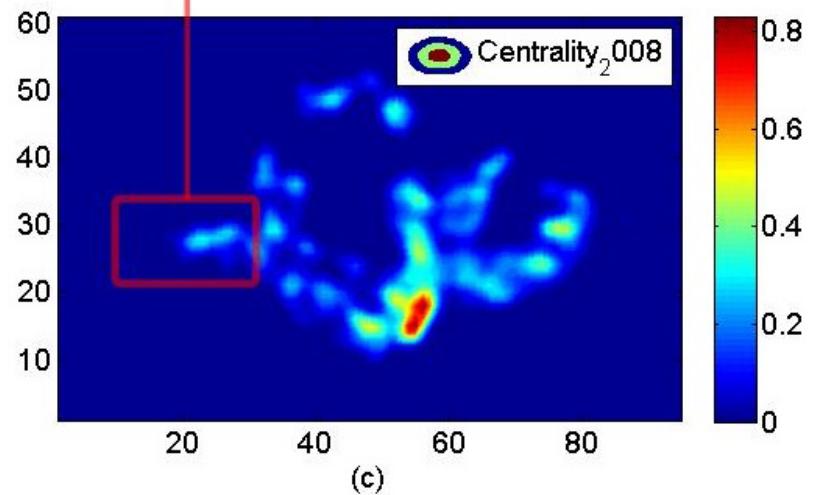
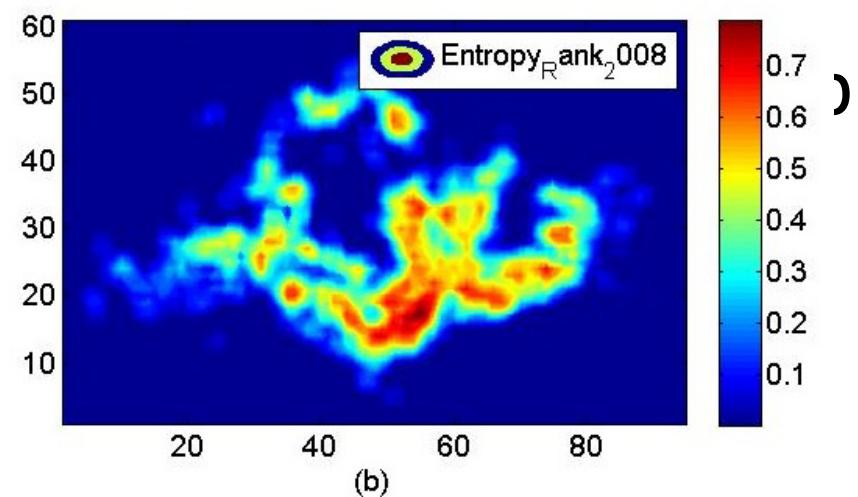
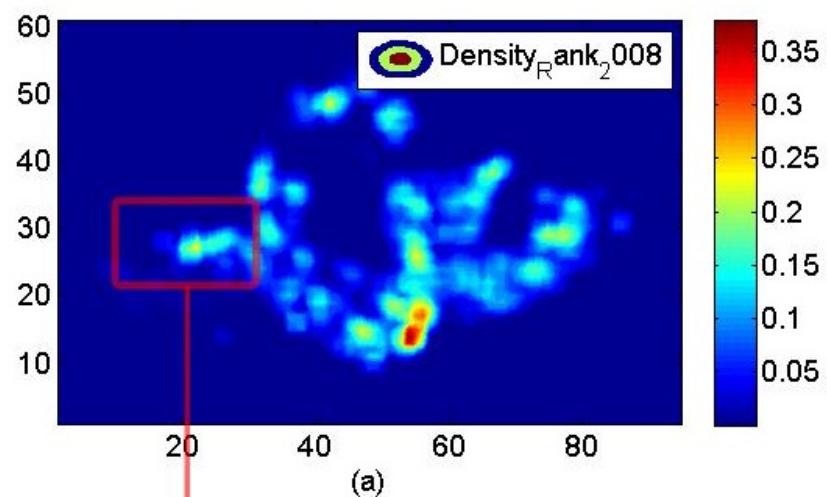
Exploring the temporal interchange patterns at the Singapore Metro system

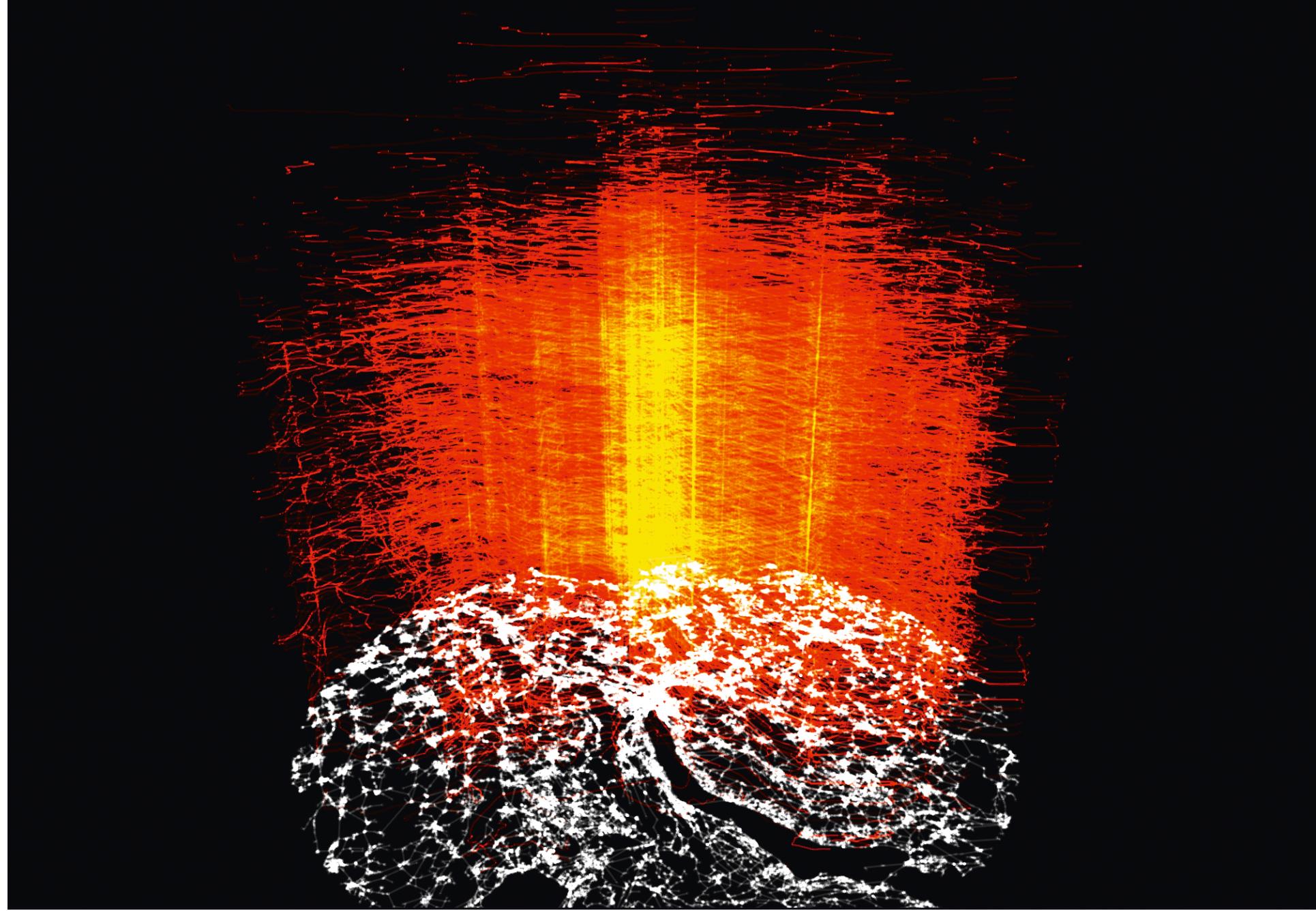


## Visual Analytics, Geospatial Analysis, Design and Planning Support

Left: Visualization of temporal interchange pattern changes over a day in the Jurong East station of Singapore Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) system (ZENG Wei). Right: Centrality index detected from transportation data (ZHONG Chen).

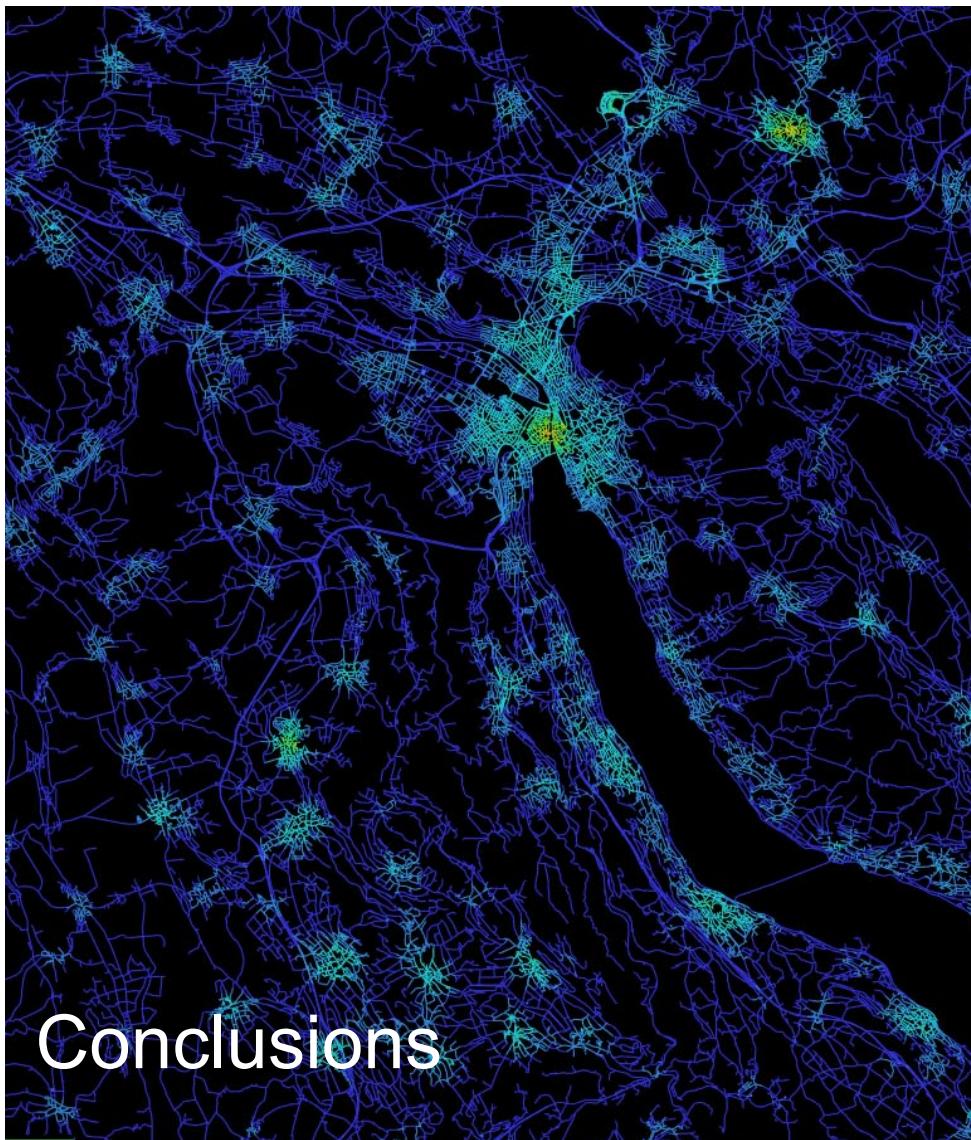






# Conclusions

- Jede Stadt hat einen einverwechselbaren Metabolismus
- Singapur und die Schweiz sind komplementäre Beispiele
- Big Data hilft im Erkennen und Nutzen der Stadtmuster und für die kontinuierliche Planung
- Kooperierende Stadt-Land Systeme können das Klima verbessern



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Aschwanden, G. 2013. *Integration analysis of Zurich region.*

# BLASTING WORK IN PROGRESS

## TERRITORIAL SCALE

**Territories contain cities, cities contain buildings. Yet they do not form a hierarchical system, as the interaction between buildings influences the city as much as the interaction between cities influences the territory. Rather, territories interact with cities and urban systems, if we consider them as entities with a metabolism and that they are functioning in the analogy to the stocks and flows model.**

**In this exercise you are encouraged to question the traditional definitions and roles of buildings, cities and territories, as novel non-urbanised high-density settlements will significantly influence our future habitat, as well as the architectural and urban design profession.**

## Non-urban Information Cities

In the past, there were strong boundaries between the city and its surrounding territory, the so-called hinterland. The separation between the city, the villages and the countryside was clear, and so was the hierarchy between them. This situation has changed drastically with the ubiquitous distribution of information technology, particularly the mobile phone and its associated services. The possibility to work at home or from home has changed the life of Swiss citizens, as well as Indian or Brazilian citizens. As the boundaries of the city disappear, urbanized systems, high-density settlements and new forms of habitat - Information Cities - are emerging rapidly throughout the world. Identify and prepare the following:

- Identify and describe two attractive non-urban, non-city settlements which nevertheless show characteristics of an urban settlement
- Identify and describe the most important stocks and flows entering, staying in, and eventually leaving this area
- Describe two approaches how buildings in urban sprawl areas could be transformed from a perceived liability into an asset for the resilience of future cities

Hand in until December 1, 2014 to [shin@arch.ethz.ch](mailto:shin@arch.ethz.ch), with cc to [denise.weber@arch.ethz.ch](mailto:denise.weber@arch.ethz.ch)

# Information Architecture of Cities - Support

- The MOOC – Massive Open Online Course
  - <https://www.edx.org/course/ethx/ethx-fc-01x-future-cities-1821>
- The BOOK – Basic Open Offline Knowledge
  - Information Cities