The importance (?) of "stories"

Kai Nagel TU Berlin, Germany Motivation: plain text vs. bar charts vs. spatial picture

Many examples of what I think we can (and should) do

- Spider analysis (where do people go?)
- High resolution accessibility (quality of locations)
- Emissions (who produces them?)
- More winners and losers

Conclusion





Motivation: Text vs. bar charts vs. spatial plots

An unnamed paper

Cordon

If we introduce a cordon toll of $20 \in$, the total kilometers increase to 39,747 km (+2.7%). The distance covered by heavy vehicles increases slightly by 0.6 percent (31,075 km). Carriers employ 540 vehicles (+1.7%). The number of employed heavy vehicles decrease to 410. Due to the increase in kilometers, total CO2 emissions increase as well to 31 tCO2 (+2.1%). Departure times are not affected by this measure.

Total kilometers in the environmental zone amounts to 2,546 km which is a significant decrease by 31.4 percent. The distance covered by heavy vehicles decrease to 1,637 km which is 46.1 percent less. Note since the number of total heavy vehicle kilometers even increased slightly, the savings in the environmental zone are more than offset by kilometers travelled outside the environmental zone. The number of vehicles accessing the zone decrease to 201 (-34.1%) (heavy: 132 (-52%)). This significant decrease is not surprising since a cordon toll is

→ I don't see anything. Could you please provide bar plots?

Heavy freight traffic (official prediction Berlin/BB)



Abbildung 55: Entwicklung der Verkehrsleistung im Schwerverkehr (Lkw>3,5t zGG)

Now we have bars. But:

Why should one believe such a growth of through traffic?

Assignment result (flow difference HDV traffic)





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This I can believe (strong growth of W↔E freight traffic through Germany, which has nothing to do with local situation).

"Spider" analysis





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[[Show Via "live" version]]
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Could (and should) do this web-based
[[google maps / senozon locations]]
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Could be used for stakeholder involvement. (make available by web)



High resolution accessibility

"Incoming" vs. "outgoing" accessibility



How well is a location accessible? Interesting, e.g., for businesses.



How well can other locations be accessed? Interesting, e.g., for residences.

(in the following)



Econometric accessibility

Here: "econometric" accessibility at location *i*:

 $A_i = \ln \sum_j \exp(-C_{ij}) .$

With:

• C_{ij} = effort to travel from *i* to *j*

Is an averaging operator: close locations get high weight, far away locations low weight.



In following: Accessibility to workplaces (by car ...)









Port Elizabeth Map







Accessibility to workplaces in NMB; red = bad; saturation = population density



(with J. Joubert)

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Low accessibility

Possible reasons:

- Very few workplaces locally
- Very few "registered" workplaces locally
- Bad transport connections to CBDs
- Long distance from CBD

"Bird's eye view from green table"?

- \leftrightarrow google earth is clearly useful.
- There are also clear differences between townships.
- See photo …



Motherwell Township

Ht

R

Brussels cordon toll accessibility changes



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Higher resolution than (most) earlier versions. In particular, not zone based.

Based on **network travel times**, possibly congested, possibly public transit.

Base case maps can probably be **automatically generated based on OpenStreetMap**.



Emissions



Emissions by sub-populations



Emissions per person (at home location, in Eu)





Left: Zone 30 (just shown); Right: alternative policy ³⁰



Alternative measure is: Emissions-specific toll



Let each driver pay vehicle-specific toll that corresponds to the external costs of its emissions

Emissions per vehicle per link

Can trace back emissions to **subgroups** or home locations (and thus also "virtually" internalise it, including vehicle type and engine temperature)

Commuters/freight by far largest emitters, despite low numbers

"Zone 30" counter-productive with respect to emissions May be better with respect to exposure.



More winners and losers

Since we have every agent's utility ...

... we can search for agents who gain or lose a lot by a measure.



Possible removal of the Alaskan Way viaduct





Seattle viaduct removal top 10% affected

Most affected: persons who travel "around" the bay





Locations winning from freeway ring extension



Policy measure: PT speed increase

- 10% pt speed increase
- Scenario Zurich



Average **time** gains by income group



Population deciles sorted by income

- Pt users gain about 6min per day
- Spillover to car users (3min) because of mode switchers
- No income sensitivity

(with B. Kickhöfer, D. Grether)



Measure has positive BCR, but 2/3 of population against.

Winner/loser analysis very **straightforward** with agent-based modelling.

Identify support/**opposition** for projects.

Benefits of ring roads ...

- ... do not go to locations along ring road ...
- ... but to locations outside.

Benefits of quality improvements ...

• ... go to the more affluent.



Conclusion

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We have spatial models.

→ make spatial pictures

If no signal, maybe don't need a spatial model?

We have heterogeneous models.

→ analyse by sub-populations

If no signal, maybe don't need a heterogeneous model?

We (sometimes) have agent-based models. → *tell stories about the agents*

In my view, has to do with "believability" of models/results.

Disclaimer: addition to methodology, not replacement

