Complex systems science and urban science: towards applications to sustainability trade-offs in territorial systems

J. Raimbault^{1,2,3,4*} and D. Pumain⁴

*juste.raimbault@polytechnique.edu

¹LASTIG, Univ Gustave Eiffel, IGN-ENSG
 ²CASA, University College London
 ³UPS CNRS 3611 Complex Systems Institute Paris
 ⁴UMR CNRS 8504 Géographie-cités

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Complexity and Urban Science

Perspectives towards sustainable planning

A model of urban evolution based on innovation diffusion





Spatial complexity and urban systems



Source: GHSL database [Florczyk et al., 2019]

From quantitative urban geography to an interdisciplinary urban science: urban systems are multi-scalar, multi-dimensional, multi-stakeholders, multi-objective, out-of-equilibrium, ...

Cybernetics and system dynamics



Systems dynamics approach inspired by Cybernetics: [Forrester, 1970], [Meadows et al., 1974], [Chamussy et al., 1984]

Fractals and urban form



Quantifying urban form using fractal measures [Batty and Longley, 1994]

Application to planning: MUPCity model [Frankhauser et al., 2018]

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Entropy and the gravity model

General gravity model for interactions between two geographical entities

$$\log T_{ij}^{obs} \sim \beta_0 + \sum_k \beta_k \log X_{ik} + \sum_l \beta_l \log X_{jl} + \beta \log f(c_{ij}) + \varepsilon$$

[Wilson, 1971] link with entropy maximisation: Maximising the entropy

$$W = \frac{\prod_{ij} T_{ij}!}{T!}$$

leads to equiprobable micro-states (one travel by one agent) which aggregate into the observed meso-state (flows) under macro-state constraints $\sum_{j} T_{ij} = O_i$, $\sum_{i} T_{ij} = D_j$ and $\sum T_{ij}c_{ij} = C$, gives

$$T_{ij} = A_i B_j O_i D_j \exp(-\beta c_{ij})$$

such that

$$A_i=1/\sum_j B_j D_j c_{ij}^{-eta}$$
 and $B_j=1/\sum_j A_i O_i c_{ij}^{-eta}$

 \rightarrow the doubly constrained model (origin and destination fixed effects in the statistical model) is derived

 \rightarrow emergence of simple laws (as for scaling laws): some sort of simplexity?

 \rightarrow strong parametrisation always needed: no such thing as "universal one-parameter model", importance of geographical context [Raimbault et al., 2019]

 \rightarrow analogy not yet transferred to general relativity: an "urban mass" would curb the "urban space-time" around it: changes in accessibility, transportation infrastructure (issues with evolution timescales; no equilibrium; equations not transferable?)

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Intra-urban dynamics



Intra-urban dynamics models based on dissipative structures physics (P. Allen) and on entropy maximisation (A. Wilson) [Pumain et al., 1984]

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Urban complex networks





Percolation theory applied to street networks to retrieve endogenous regions [Arcaute et al., 2016]

European firm ownership network [Raimbault et al., 2020c]

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Urban scaling



(Supra/infra-)linear scaling of urban properties: consequence of innovation diffusion cycles? [Pumain et al., 2006]

Urban systems and Artificial Life



Citation network of ALife studies of urban systems [Raimbault, 2020a]

Transfer of concepts: Urban morphogenesis, bio-inspired design, urban ecology, autopoiesis [Batty and Marshall, 2009]

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Urban Evolution

Urban evolution extending cultural evolution, cities as agents with their proper genome and evolutionary dynamics?





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An evolutionary urban theory considering cities as systems within systems of cities [Pumain, 2018]; Simpop 1 model [Sanders et al., 1997]; SimpopNet model [Schmitt, 2014]

Urban morphogenesis



A morphogenesis model with reaction-diffusion and multi-modeling of network growth: complementarity of heuristics, calibration for Europe on forms and their correlations [Raimbault, 2018a, Raimbault, 2019b]

Co-evolution and land-use transport interactions



A modeling approach to the issue of structuring effects of transport infrastructures: co-evolution of networks and territories

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[Raimbault, 2019a, Raimbault, 2020c, Raimbault, 2021c]



2 Perspectives towards sustainable planning

A model of urban evolution based on innovation diffusion





Theoretical/methodological open questions: spatio-temporal complexity; non-stationarity and ergodicity; multi-scale models; model coupling, integration and validation, ...

Discipline-specific questions: urban dynamics, land-use transport interactions, urban morphology, ...

Policies, decision-making and sustainable planning

 \rightarrow how to transfer results into sustainable policies at multiple scales \rightarrow how to include multiple stakeholders and objectives \rightarrow which trade-offs between sustainable development goals? \rightarrow ...

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A research project towards integrated models and policies



[Raimbault, 2021b]

Towards harmonised databases for SDGs

 \rightarrow Systematic review of existing databases for different SDGs \rightarrow Construction of open, harmonised and multidimensional databases, on consistent and comparable geographical entities

Dimension	SDGs	Existing		
Population	All	Global Human Settlement Layer		
		[Florczyk et al., 2019]		
GDP	8 (Growth)	[Kummu et al., 2018]		
Income	10 (Inequalities)	[Van Zanden et al., 2014]		
Transport	11 (Sustainable cities)	No harmonised dataset		
Emissions	14 (Climate)	EDGAR		
		[Janssens-Maenhout et al., 2019]		
Innovation	9 (Innovation)	No geolocated patent database		

Examples of different SDGs dimensions and existing databasest

Current work : constructing a multimodal four step transport models by linking open components and data with scientific workflow engines [Raimbault and Batty, 2021]

Integrated models:

- MATSim model (MATSim Community) for transport [W Axhausen et al., 2016]
- SPENSER model (University of Leeds) for synthetic population [Spooner et al., 2021]
- QUANT model (CASA, University College London) for spatial interactions [Batty and Milton, 2021]
- spatialdata library (OpenMOLE community) for data processing [Raimbault et al., 2020b]

Horizontal integration: multi-modeling and benchmarks



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Benchmarking network and urban morphogenesis models [Raimbault, 2018b, Raimbault, 2020b, Raimbault, 2021a]

Vertical integration: towards multi-scale models



Processes specific to scales, coupling implies dedicated ontologies [Raimbault, 2021e, Raimbault, 2021d]

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3 A model of urban evolution based on innovation diffusion



 \rightarrow Innovation diffusion is a crucial process in artificial life evolutionary systems and open-ended evolution [Bedau et al., 2000]

 \rightarrow Artificial societies used to study the dynamics of innovation [Zenobia et al., 2009]

 \rightarrow Innovations diffuse hierarchically in systems of cities [Hagerstrand, 1968], potential explanation of urban scaling laws [Pumain et al., 2006]

Innovation diffusion as a privileged entry to understand urban evolution

- Agents are cities, macroscopic scale (regional, country, continental) and long time scales (century)
- Cities characterized by their size in terms of population; genome as adoption proportions of innovations (social or technological) for each city (one single dimension to simplify)
- Following [Favaro and Pumain, 2011], attractivity of cities due to level of innovation drive their population growth through spatial interactions; innovation diffuse through an other spatial interaction model [Fotheringham and O'Kelly, 1989]

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• Mutations occur in cities as new innovations appear



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Model formalization

At each time step, with $P_i(t)$ population, $\delta_{c,i}(t)$ genome, u_c utility of innovation, $p_{c,i,t}$ share of total population adopting innovation c in city iCrossover through the diffusion of innovations

$$\delta_{c,i,t} = \frac{\sum_{j} p_{c,j,t-1}^{\frac{1}{u_c}} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{d_{ij}}{d_l}\right)}{\sum_{c} \sum_{j} p_{c,j,t-1}^{\frac{1}{u_c}} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{d_{ij}}{d_l}\right)}$$

Population growth through spatial interactions $P_i(t) - P_i(t-1) = w_l \cdot \sum_j \frac{V_{ij}}{\langle V_{ij} \rangle}$ with

$$V_{ij} = \frac{P_i(t-1) \cdot P_j(t-1)}{\left(\sum_k P_k(t-1)\right)^2} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{d_{ij}}{d_G} \cdot \prod_c \delta_{c,i,t}^{\phi_{c,t}}\right)$$

and $\phi_{c,t} = \sum_{i} \delta_{i,c,t} \cdot P_i(t-1) / \sum_{i,c} \delta_{i,c,t} \cdot P_i(t-1)$

• Mutations with innovations introduced with probability $\beta \cdot (P_i(t) / \max_k P_k(t))^{\alpha_l}$ and an initial penetration rate r_0 ; new utility u_c randomly distributed (normal or log-normal) with average current average utility and standard deviation a given parameter $\sigma_{U_{normal}}$

• Average diversity

$$D = \frac{1}{t_f + 1} \sum_{t=0}^{t_f} \left(1 - \sum_{i,c} (p_{c,i,t})^2 \right)$$

• Average utility

$$U = \frac{1}{t_f + 1} \sum_{t=0}^{t_f} \sum_{i,c} \delta_{c,i,t} u_c$$

Innovatitivity

$$I = \frac{\max c}{N \cdot (t_f + 1)}$$

• Population trajectories, summarized by final hierarchy [Raimbault, 2020d]

Model applied on synthetic systems of cities (so that conclusions are independent of geographical contingencies [Raimbault et al., 2019]):

- random positions and rank-size hierarchy $P_i(0) = \frac{P_{max}}{i^{\alpha_0}}$ with $\alpha_0 = 1.0$ and $P_{max} = 100,000$
- regional urban system scale: N = 30 cities
- simulated for $t_f = 50$ macroscopic time steps (order of magnitude of a century)

Parameter	Not.	Process	Range	Def.
Number of cities	Ν	Spatial scale	[10; 100]	30
Initial hierarchy	α_0	System of cities	[0.5; 2.0]	1
Initial population	P _{max}	System of cities	$[10^4; 10^7]$	10 ⁵
Simulation steps	t _f	Temporal scale	[10; 100]	50
Growth rate	w _l	Pop. growth	[0.001; 0.01]	0.005
Gravity range	d _G	Crossover	[0;2]	1
Innovation range	dı	Crossover	[0;2]	1
Innovation rate	β	Mutation	[0; 1]	0.5
Innovation hierarchy	α_l	Mutation	[0;2]	1
Innov. utility std.	σ_U	Mutation	[0.7;2]	1
Penetration rate	<i>r</i> ₀	Mutation	[0.1;0.9]	0.5
Utility type	-	Mutation	$\{n;ln\}$	In

Model implemented in scala; relatively large parameter space

 \rightarrow integration into the OpenMOLE model exploration open source software [Reuillon et al., 2013]



Enables seamlessly (i) model embedding; (ii) access to HPC resources; (iii) exploration and optimization algorithms

https://openmole.org/

- Latin Hypercube Sampling of 100 parameter points, 1000 replications for each
- Sharpe ratios have high values for all indicators and all parameters (minimum 1.7 for utility)
- Average and median relative distances defined as $\Delta_{ij} = 2 \frac{|\mu_i \mu_j|}{\sigma_i + \sigma_j}$ larger than one for all indicators: 50 repetitions in further experiments

Model exploration: diversity

Grid sampling of the parameter space (23,168 points, 50 replications) with a finer grid on d_G and d_I ; plots shown at $\alpha_I = 1$ and $\sigma_U = 1$



Diversity increases with interaction span with a plateau behavior, decreases with innovation diffusion span

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Model exploration: utility



Piecewise behavior for low innovation rates; maximum as a function of d_G for high innovation: emergence of regional innovation clusters?

Model optimization



NSGA2 algorithm to simultaneously optimize utility and diversity: emergence of three compromise regimes; intermediate regime with low level of innovation diffusion



Perspectives towards sustainable planning

A model of urban evolution based on innovation diffusion

4 Trade-offs between SDGs in systems of cities

SDG 11: "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable" [Nations, 2015]

 \rightarrow Environmental Kuznet Curve hypothesis [Dinda, 2004, Stern, 2004]: inverted U-shaped relationship between environmental impact and income per-capita; not validated empirically [Harbaugh et al., 2002]

 \rightarrow Trade-offs between SDGs in urban systems [Viguié and Hallegatte, 2012]

 \rightarrow Which trade-offs between innovation (SDG 9: innovation) and emissions (SDG 14: climate) in systems of cities?

Application of the urban evolution model, optimising with NSGA2 for conflicting objectives in synthetic systems of cities:

total utility of innovations

$$U = \sum_{t,i,c} \delta_{t,i,c} \cdot u_c$$

gravity mobility flows as proxy for emissions

$$E = \sum_{t,i,j} \frac{P_{t,i}P_{t,j}}{P_t^2} \cdot \exp\left(-d_{ij}/d_G\right)$$

Trade-offs between SDG9 and SDG14



Pareto front confirms the existence of a trade-off

Influence of urban hierarchy



Higher inter-urban inequalities yield stronger trade-offs

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Influence of innovation hierarchy



More balanced innovation yield higher utilities and less emissions (dominating Pareto front)

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Extension and link with empirical data

Work in progress: empirical stylised facts on possible trade-offs in systems of cities; model parametrisation with real data (patents and spatialised emissions); extension to other SDGs.

Issues:

- Patent data as a proxy for innovation
 - Geolocation of inventors not straightforward [Bergeaud and Verluise, 2021, De Rassenfosse et al., 2019]
 - Which technological (sub-)classes? Model with one dimension (extension with a matrix genome?)
 - Semantic content to better capture innovation diffusion? [Bergeaud et al., 2017]
- Emissions: inter-urban mobility emissions difficult to capture (need an additional transport model?)

- Additional dimensions: accessibility and public transport networks, economic prosperity and inequalities
 - coupling with other layers for these dimensions [Raimbault et al., 2020a]
 - many-objective optimisation? (NSGA3)

 \rightarrow towards an integrative urban (territorial?) science applied to sustainable planning at multiple scales

 \rightarrow transfer to decision-making, policies and governance? e-team of the CSDC campus

Open repositories for

- Model and results: https://github.com/JusteRaimbault/UrbanEvolution
- Simulation data: https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/Q5GKZ0

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