Spatial analytics and health

Space Syntax

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- UCL spin out
- 30 years old
- 25 people
- Emerged from architecture and planning but interested in how people interact with, and are influenced by, the built environment.



- Built environment affects daily activity e.g. transport behaviour.
 - Transport behaviour impacts health.
- Costs society.
- Built environment can be modelled/analysed before built.



Place risk Car Dependence

- Models use strategic data available nationally.
- Streets/pedestrian routes, land use, public transport.
 - Model analyses how these systems interact from point of individual house and view of person.
- E.g. how walkable is my area?
- Structured so that can be combined with other datasets (e.g. census).
- Measure of car dependence.
 - Describe existing condition.
 - Understand in relation to current behaviour.
 - Scenario test future conditions.



Car & equal to Public 1 Car & 1.0 x below Car & 1.0 - 2.5 x below Car & 2.5 - 5.0 x below Car & 5.0 - x below

Space Syntax

- Link to additional datasets.
- Run other models to see vulnerable communities.
- See overlap between "place risk" and "demographic risk".
- Prioritise areas to look at.
- Understand how built environment systems contribute and think about how to address or mitigate.
- Might be physical change, but might be service delivery, or behaviour change.



- Can link to other open data
- View from point of user, and point of system.
- Not just am in a catchment, but what is my choice of surgery, what is the capacity, how happy are patients?



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- Includes built environment and socio economic inputs.
- Stronger correlation to environmental variables than income – shows people in some areas can afford cars but choose not to.
- Was meant to be obesity risk model but couldn't get data.



- NHS healthy new towns experience - Cranbrook/Exeter
- Exeter Public Health identified correlation between walkability index and obesity.
- Causation/correlation can't guarantee an outcome, but see where environment makes something possible or not.

Predict No Car Ownership Commute by Public Transport Commute by Active Transport



- In SSx use models in two ways:
- Design better new places that make behaviours possible;
- Use analysis to manage existing places better.



- IUK/Newton Fund project CityZen – aimed to improve lives of elderly people in cities
- SSx aimed to remove technical barriers so that Sao Paulo city staff can draw insights from model/analysis.
- FCC engaged with city staff and elderly people.
 - SSx developed tool to help answer questions of city staff while considering views of elderly.
 - Created measures that consider income and physical health.



Indices on liveability – made up from (planned and unplanned) opportunities for social interaction, physical activity, access to health facilities, and public transport. Look at indices and contributors in more detail to see areas of highest risk, then what missing and consider how to respond.



Tool accessible and online at address on slide.



- IUM pre-processed and available across GB.
- Interested in exploring how we can use it in practice, particularly in relation to health outcomes.