# Urban Analytics & City Science

Overview

Dani Arribas-Bel





# Background

- Cities are (increasingly) relevant for all of humanity's challenges but also their solutions
- 🛛 <mark>Data</mark>, data, data
- Data is the oil, analytics is the refinery (Rey, 2021)



## Definition

Editorial

#### Urban analytics defined

B Urban Analytics and City Science

EPB: Urban Analytics and City Science 2019, Vol. 46(3) 403–405 © The Author(s) 2019 Article reuse guidelines: sagepub.com/journals-permissions DOI: 10.1177/2399808319839494 journals.sagepub.com/home/epb

Suddenly you realise there is a new phrase or term that everyone is using and you wonder where it came from. Urban analytics is one of those clichés that seems to effortlessly roll off the tongue as though we have used it all our lives. It strictly originates from 'urban analysis', but it is more than this for the term analytics implies a set of methods that can be used to explore, understand and predict properties and features of any system, in our case of cities. Batty (2019)

#### Source

New, big, fast data; but also the *theory* behind them



# Trajectory



# **Origins & evolution**

- Vague but early start linked to physics
- From deductive to inductive
- Computing and data technologies critical in trajectory

### Urban Analytics: History, Trajectory, and Critique<sup>1</sup>

Geoff Boeing<sup>2</sup>, Michael Batty<sup>3</sup>, Shan Jiang<sup>4</sup>, Lisa Schweitzer<sup>5</sup>

Source



## **Urban Data Science**

Article

#### A roundtable discussion: Defining urban data science

B Urban Analytics and City Science

EPB: Urban Analytics and City Science 2019, Vol. 46(9) 1756–1768 © The Author(s) 2019 Article reuse guidelines: sagepub.com/journals-permissions DOI: 10.1177/2399808319882826 journals.sagepub.com/home/epb

### Kang et al. (2019)

Source

**Organizers** 

Wei Kang University of California, Riverside, USA

Taylor Oshan University of Maryland, USA

**Levi J Wolf** University of Bristol, UK

#### Discussants

**Geoff Boeing** University of Southern California, USA

Vanessa Frias-Martinez University of Maryland Institute for Advanced Computer Studies, USA

Song Gao University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA

Ate Poorthuis Singapore University of Technology and Design, Singapore

Wenfei Xu Columbia University, USA



# **Contemporary Urban Analytics**

- Landing the data/AI revolution on cities and regions
- Natively interdisciplinary (the urban as nexus)
- Linked to policy, decision-making, practice







## **EP-B Urban Data/Code**

#### Editorial

### Urban data/code: A new EP-B section

B Urban Analytics and City Science

EPB: Urban Analytics and City Science 2021, Vol. 48(9) 2517–2519 © The Author(s) 2021 Article reuse guidelines: sagepub.com/journals-permissions DOI: 10.1177/23998083211059670 journals.sagepub.com/home/epb

# Arribas-Bel et al. (2021)

#### Source

In this editorial, we are introducing a new section in *Environment & Planning B* (EP-B) that we call "Urban Data/Code". In some ways, papers in "Urban Data/Code" will be similar to every other one at EP-B: high-quality pieces of scholarship concerned with Urban Analytics and City Science that will undergo standard peer-review before being accepted, and which will be published as part of each issue of the journal. In other ways, they will differ quite a bit: unlike traditional manuscripts, those in "Urban Data/Code" will exclusively contain *descriptions of novel software* or *data products* that will help us better understand cities and the people who inhabit them. In this editorial, we will provide some background to this new addition to the EP-B family as well as sketching out in more detail what we are looking for in candidate submissions.



# Pedagogy



Disciplines Products Resources About

Book > Textbooks > Geography, Earth & Environmental Science



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#### **Urban Analytics**

FIRST EDITION <u>Alex D. Singleton</u> - University of Liverpool, UK <u>Seth Spielman</u> - University of Colorado, Boulder, USA <u>David Folch</u> - Florida State University, USA

Additional resources:

Online Resources

#### Series:

Spatial Analytics and GIS
Other Titles in:
Geographical Methodology | Geography, Earth & Environmental Science
| Sociological Research Methods

December 2017 | 200 pages | SAGE Publications Ltd

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- Urban theory & methods
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