Bridging the map? Exploring interactions between academic and mapping communities in OSM

An introduction to the Academic Track of State of the Map 2019

The Scientific Committee

The Academic Track

- **2**nd **edition** of the track: 20 contributions accepted (18 talks & 6 posters)
- Ranging across disciplines & topics:
 - o civil engineering, computer science, earth sciences, geography, GIScience, industry, etc.
 - o contribution patterns, OSM effects, applications, the OSM community, data quality, etc.

09:00	Bridging the Map? Exploring Interactions between the Academic and Mapping Communities in OpenStreetMap A. Yair Grinberger, Marco Minghini, Levente Juhász, Peter Mooney, Godwin Yeboah	
09:30	<u>Lightning Poster Talks</u> Various authors	
10:00	Analysis of OSM data through OSM-Notes user posting Toshikazu Seto, Hiroshi Kanasugi, Yulchiro Nishimura	
10:30	A novel application of models of species abundance to better understand OpenStreetMap Community structure and interactions Peter Mooney	
11:00	Coffee break	
11:30	Towards Scalable Geospatial Remote Sensing for Efficient OSM Labeling Rui Zhang, Marcus Freitag, Conrad Albrecht, Slyuan Lu, Wei Zhang	
12:00	Estimating latent energy demand of buildings Nikola Milojevic-Dupont, Peter-Paul Pichler, Lynn H. Kaack, Steffen Lohrey, Felix Creutzig	
12:30	Client-side route planning: preprocessing the OpenStreetMap road network for Routable Tiles Harm Delva, Julián Andrés Rojas Meléndez, Ben Abelshausen, Pieter Colpaert, Ruben Verborgh	

14:00	Intrinsic assessment of OpenStreetMap contribution patterns through Exploratory Spatial Data Analysis Marco Minghini, Daniele Oxoli, Francesco Frassinelli, Maria Antonia Brovelli	
14:30	Corporate Editors in the Evolving Landscape of OpenStreetMap: A Close Investigation of the Impact to the Map & Community Jennings Anderson, Dipto Sarkar, Leysia Palen	
15:00	Exploring the Effects of Pokémon Go Vandalism on OpenStreetMap Levente Juhász, Hartwig Hochmair, Sen Qiao, Tessio Novack	
15:30	Analyzing the spatio-temporal patterns and impacts of large-scale data production events in OpenStreetMap A. Yair Grinberger, Moritz Schott, Martin Raifer, Rafael Trollo, Alexander Zipf	
16:00	Coffee break	
16:30	Development after Displacement: Using OSM data to measure SDG indicators at informal settlements Jamon Van Den Hoek, Hannah Friedrich, Anna Ballasiotes, David Wrathall	
17:00	Analysis of OpenStreetMap data quality at different stages of a participatory mapping process: Evidence from informal urban settings Godwin Yeboah, Rafael Troilo, Vangelis Pitidis, João Porto de Albuquerque	
17:30	Assessing the Completeness of Urban Green Spaces in OpenStreetMap Christina Ludwig, Robert Hecht, Sven Lautenbach	

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- OSM research community:
 - Has a stable base
 - Very diverse
 - Still developing
- Integration into the OSM community:
 - OSM-Science list since January 2017
 - The Academic Track
- Integration also happens in other manners
- This talk studies the extent of this and its effects

	2018	2019
Submissions	36	41
Accepted abstracts	12 talks + 10 posters	18 talks + 6 posters
Total number of authors	62	70
Abstracts with co- authors from more than one country	5 (22%)	9 (45%)
Total number of countries	15	12
Authors contributing both in 2018 and 2019	12	

Community engagement and OSM research

- The positivist notion of the researcher's objectivity is contested today
- **Scientific knowledge** is seen to be:
 - O Value-laden (Khun, 1962)
 - Constructed through interactions (Latour & Woolgar, 1979)
- OSM is open to different levels of interaction
- This makes OSM to susceptible to various scientific interpretations

Research questions:

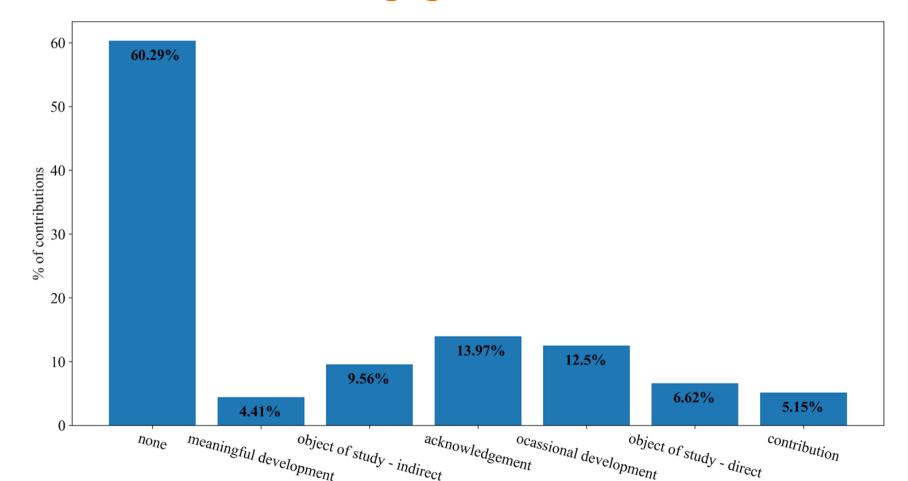
- In which manners does OSM research engages with OSM?
- What are the relations between engagement and conceptualizations of OSM?
- How do engagement and perspective affect OSM research?
- Where, when, and how should OSM research seek engagement with the mapping community?

Method and Data

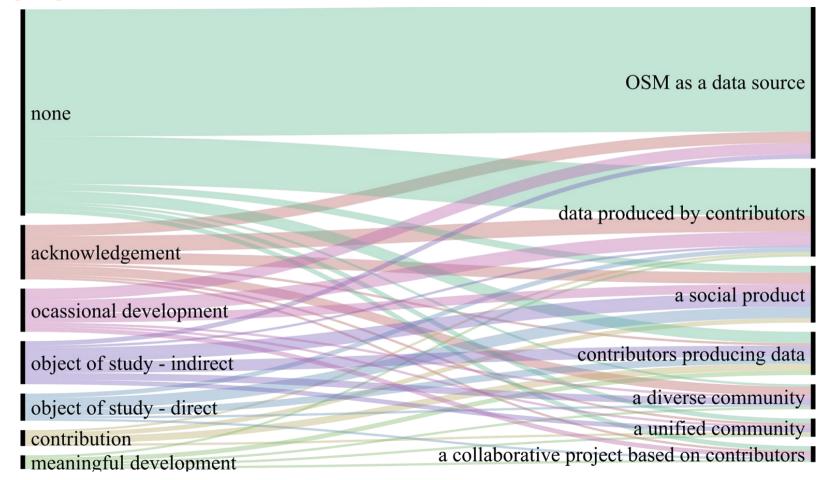
• Paper review:

- Collection of 181 publications from 2016-2019 containing the words
 OpenStreetMap or OSM in the title
- Manual classification of 136 items across multiple categories
- Authors' self-reflections on their personal experiences
- 10 interviews of researchers using/relating to OSM in their studies:
 - Conceptualization of OSM
 - OSM research and interaction history
 - Views towards the future

How does research engage with OSM?



Engagement and Conceptualization

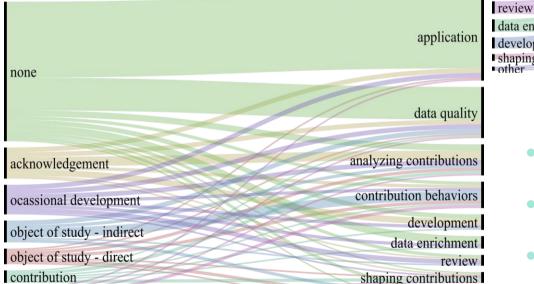


Research Topics



Engagement, perspectives, research

meaningful development



data enrichment

development

shaping contributions
other

a diverse community
a unified community
a collaborative project based on contributors

OSM as a data source

a social product

data produced by contributors

contributors producing data

application

data quality

contributors

contributors

contribution behaviors

analyzing contributions

engagement/data-centric viewBehavior, contributions, contributors ⇔

Application and data quality ⇔no

- Behavior, contributions, contributors ⇔ engagement/contributors/community
- Data enrichment ⇔no engagement

Place for engagement (Authors' disciplines)

geo-information

none

meaningful development

contribution

computer science geography acknowledgement engineering ocassional development

social sciences object of study - indirect informatics object of study - direct natural sciences

geo-information OSM as a data source computer science data produced by contributors engineering contributors producing data geography a social product social sciences informatics a diverse community natural sciences a collaborative project based on contributors

Engagement:

other

other

interdisciplinary •

interdisciplinary

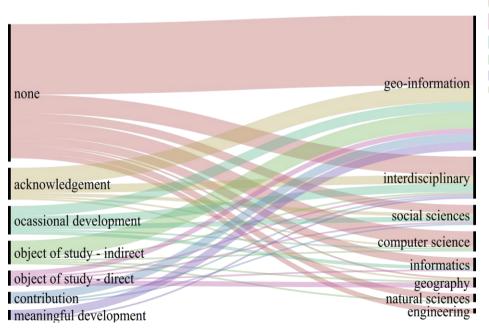
- Evident in more "social "fields"
- **Exceptions** geo-information, computer science

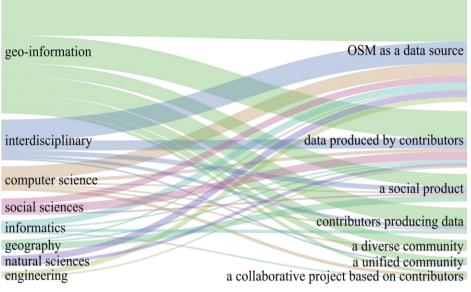
a unified community

Perspective: not conclusive

Place for engagement

(Journals' disciplines)

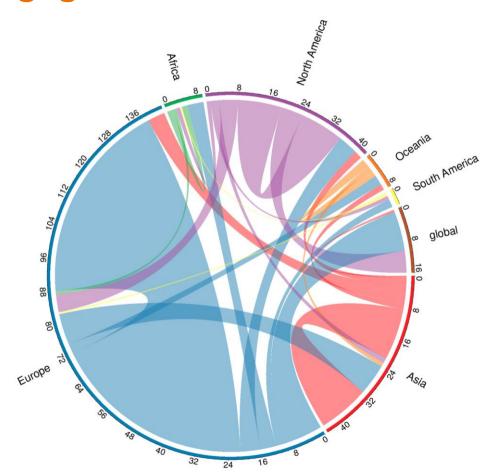




• Engagement:

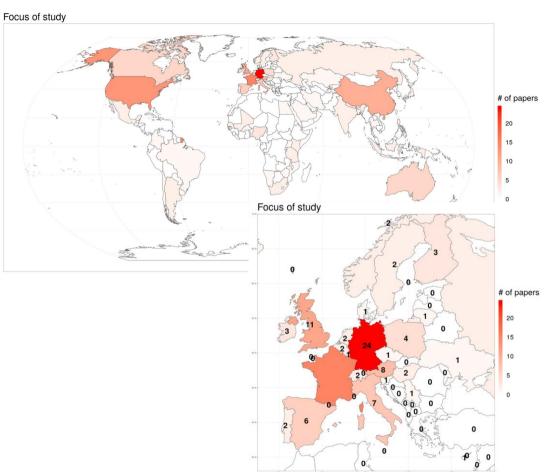
- Similar to authors 'disciplines
- **Exception:** computer science
- Perspective:
 - Geography ⇔social product
 - Informatics/nat. sciences/eng. ⇔data centric perspectives

Place for engagement (Authors' origins and study areas)



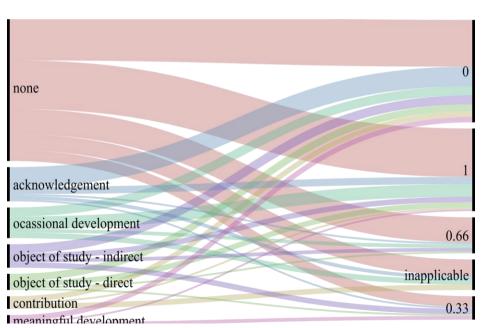
Place for engagement (Study areas)

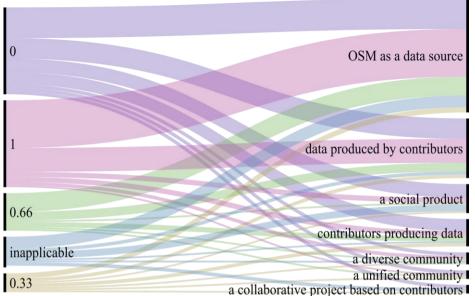
	Study area	#of papers
1	Germany	24
2	global	16
3	France	15
4	not applicable	15
5	USA	13



Place for engagement

(Geographical relations)





- Most cases away (0) or at home (1)
- Engagement nothing conclusive
- Perspective:
 - Data-centric perspective more dominant
 "closer to home" (0.66+1)

Digging deeper into engagement

- Personal reflections and interviews as a means towards causality
- Initial insights:
 - More engagement => more complex understanding:
 - OSM Academic potentially limited understanding
 - Academic to Mapper developing understanding
 - Mapper to Academic rich understanding
 - **First contact** is important in shaping view of the community
 - Contacts shape engagement and feedback loops
 - Dual personalities how consciously does each 'role' affects the other? And to what extent?
 - Less engagement => greater openness for significant modifications of OSM

Conclusions - Paths for bridging the map?

- OSM is perceived and engaged in multiple ways, most cases in the simplest manner.
- Evidence for **meaningful relations**:
 - Topics and engagement
 - Academic background and engagement/perspective
 - The orientation of publication outlets adversely affecting communication?
 - Geographical relations and engagement
 - First contact and engagement
- Engagement affects critical review of OSM assumptions?
- Where can OSM research improve:
 - Work outside comfort zones geographically and discipline-wise
 - **Raising awareness** to the complexity of OSM in more technical fields
 - Increasing communication with the mapping community
 - Studying mapping community views on research

Communicating our results

- SotM 2019 Academic Track Proceedings:
 - Fitting with scientific standards
 - Openly accessible to everyone (CC BY (4.0)

Special issue:

- "OpenStreetMap as a multi-disciplinary nexus: Perspectives, Practices and Procedures"
- Meant to shed light on the relations between crowds, real-world applications, technological developments, and scientific research
- Will offer Open Access fee waivers and/or discounts accessible to the community
- Keeping the OSM-science mailing list active and vibrant, sharing in other lists?



Thank You!



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