

# Ambient populations: Developing robust estimates

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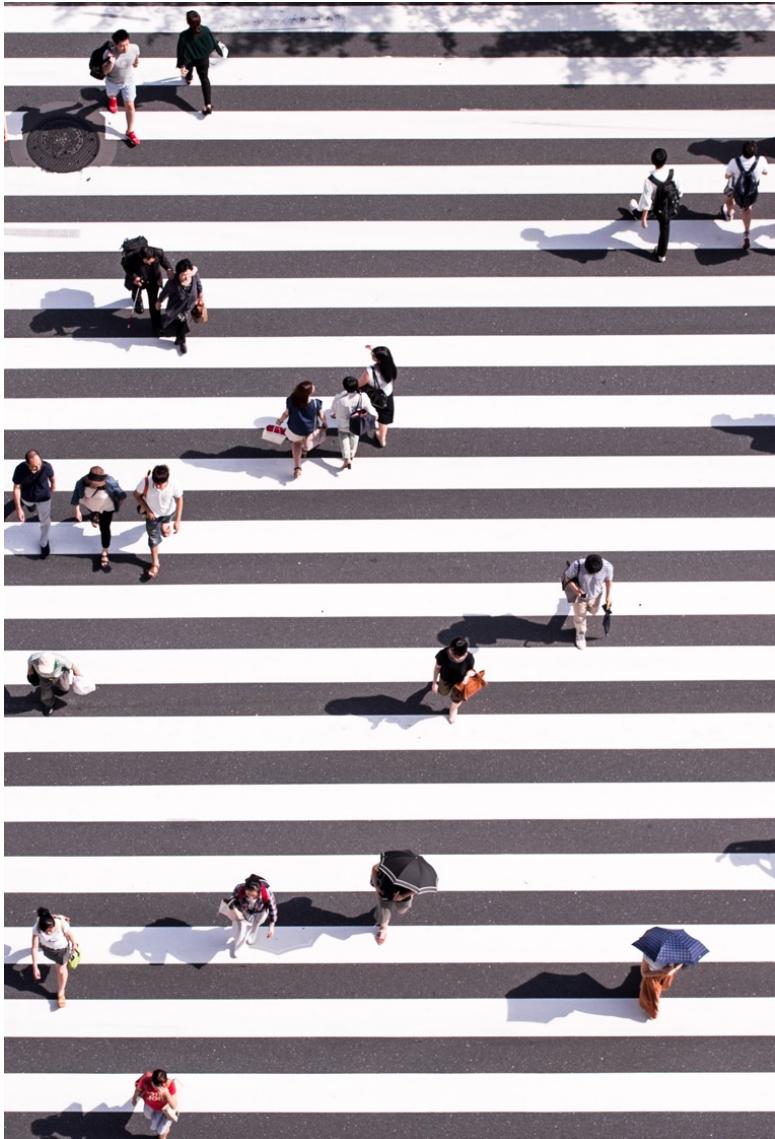


# Overview

1. Why estimates of the ambient population need to be developed
2. The ambient population and crime analysis
3. Identifying suitable data sources
4. Towards a comprehensive model of the ambient population
5. Ambient Populations for Smart City Simulations







## Why are ambient populations important?

- Crime (examples to follow)
- Planning and infrastructure
- Local economy
- Disease spread
- Transport
- Event management
- Emergencies and public safety
- Etc.

# Crime Analysis and the Ambient Population

## Research Questions

Are crime hot spots stable under the application of different population-at-risk measures?

Which areas have the highest crime rates under different denominators?

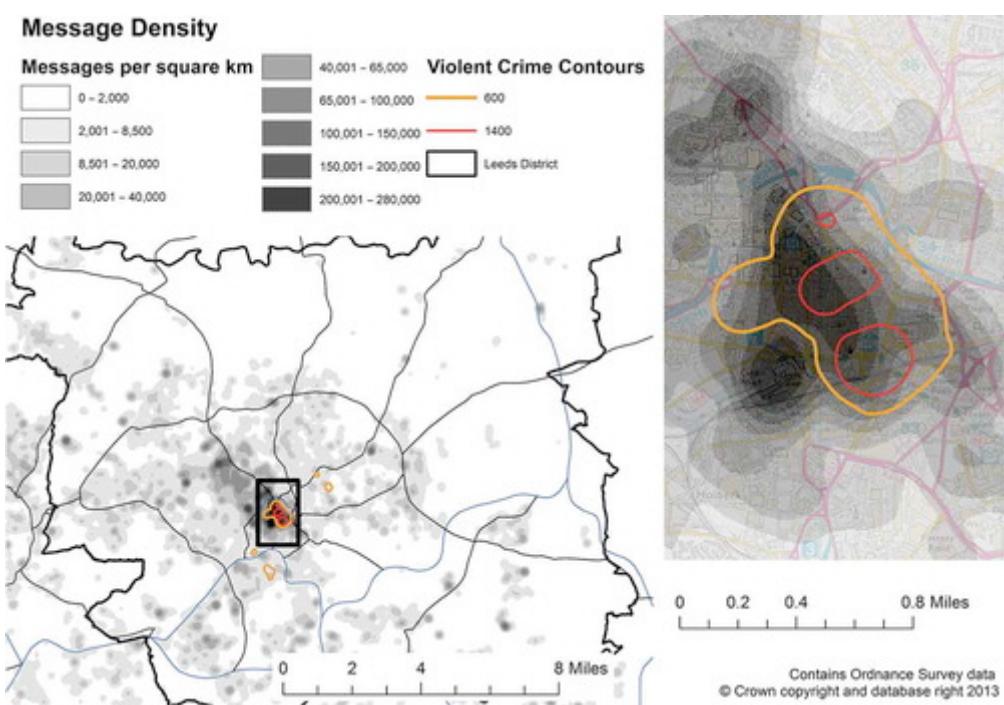
## Data:

Residential population (census)

Geo-located tweets

Publicly-available crime data ('violent crime')

## Methods: GI\* & GAM



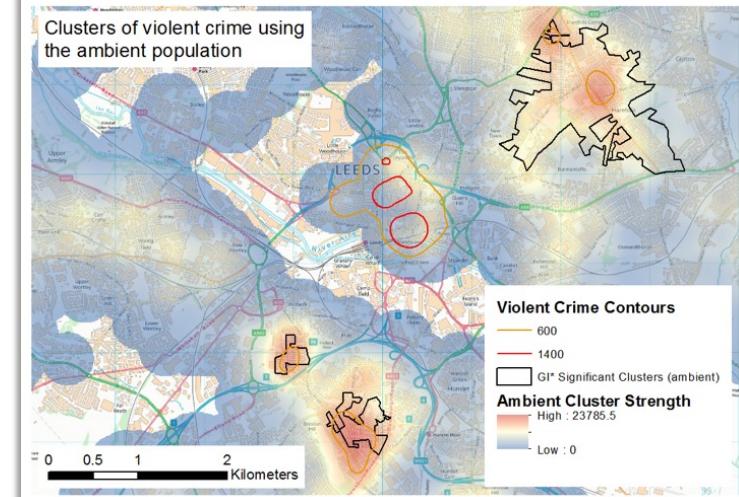
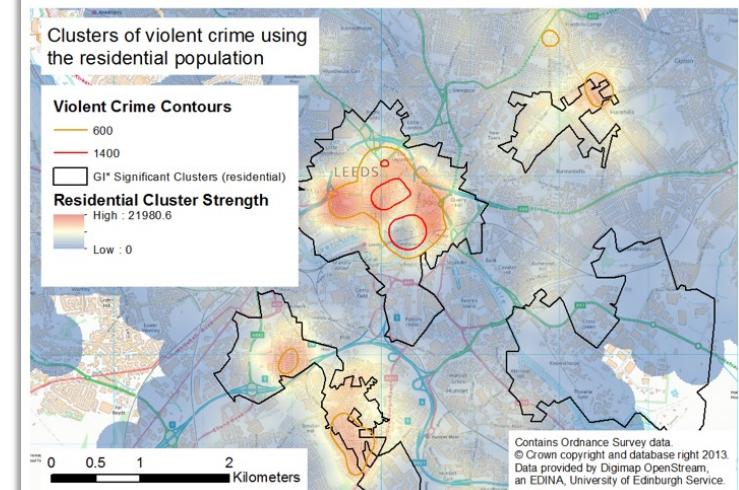
Malleson, N. and M. Andresen (2015) The impact of using social media data in crime rate calculations: shifting hot spots and changing spatial patterns. *Cartography and Geographic Information Science* : 42(2) 112-121

# Shifting Hotspots

Results: city-centre hotspot disappears

“... despite the high volume of violent criminal events, there is not a statistically significant elevation in risk .... No such conclusion would have been reached with the residential population.”

*But what about temporal changes?*



Malleon, N. and M. Andresen (2015) The impact of using social media data in crime rate calculations: shifting hot spots and changing spatial patterns.  
*Cartography and Geographic Information Science* : 42(2) 112-121

# Spatio-Temporal Hotspot Analysis

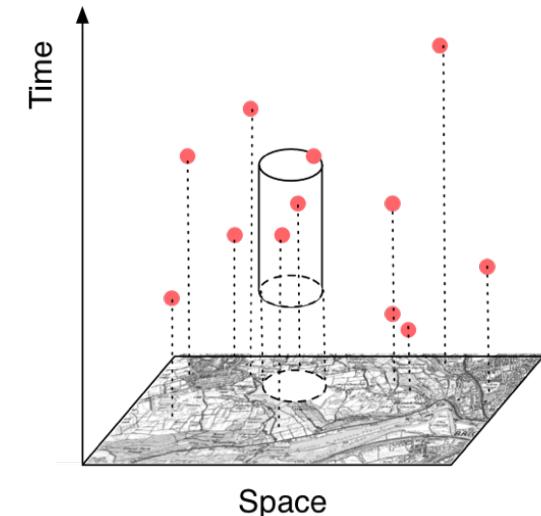
## Aim

Identify significant crime clusters (taking account of the ambient population) and explore their spatio-temporal dynamics.

## Data:

- Residential population (census)
- Geo-located tweets
- Sensitive crime data ('street crime': theft from person and robbery)

Methods: Space-Time Scan Statistics (*SaTScan*)



# Spatio-Temporal Hotspot Analysis

Results: the city-centre hotspot reappears!

## Cluster (A)

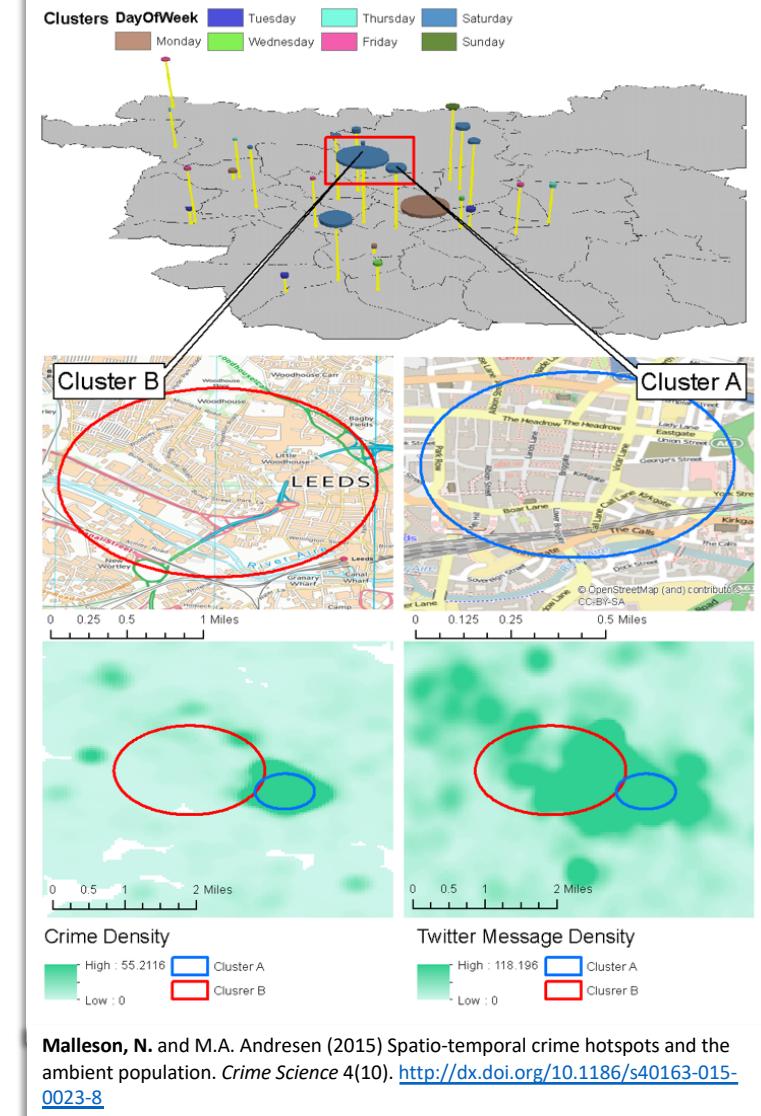
Small city-centre area (shops, bars, etc.)  
Saturday, 10:00 – 17:00

## Cluster (B)

Larger cluster includes campus and student residences  
Saturday, 21:00 – 02:00

Different populations of victims

*But are there other, better, data sources?*



Malleson, N. and M.A. Andresen (2015) Spatio-temporal crime hotspots and the ambient population. *Crime Science* 4(10). <http://dx.doi.org/10.1186/s40163-015-0023-8>

# Alternative Data Sets

Aim: evaluate 5 ambient population measures to find the most highly correlated with crime

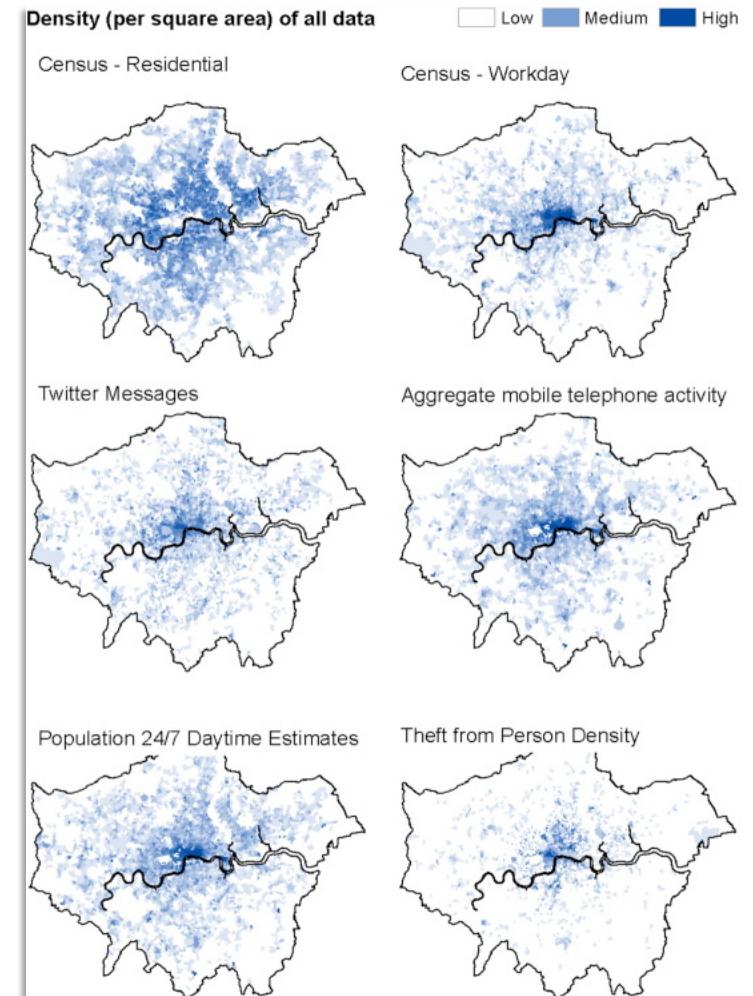
## Data:

Ambient population: census (residential and workday), Twitter, mobile telephones, Pop24/7

Crime: Publicly-available crime data ('theft from person')

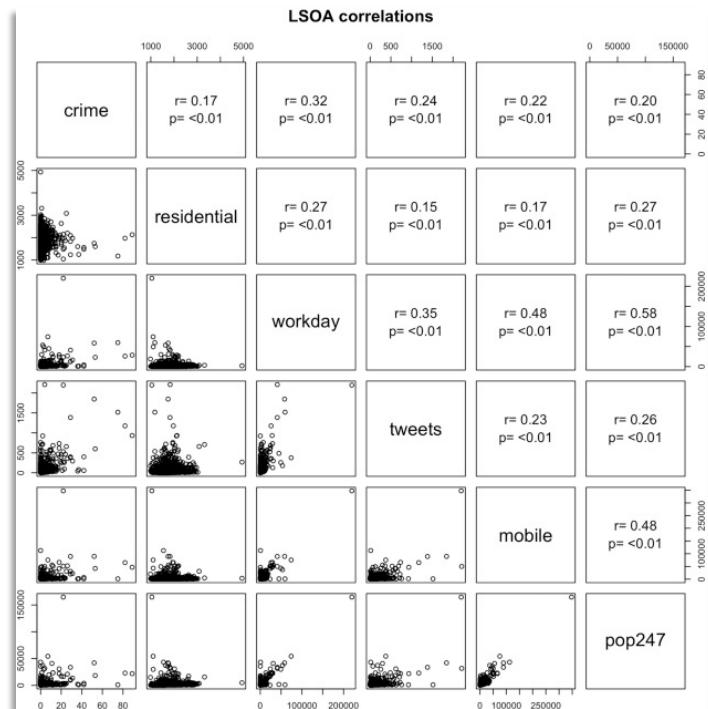
Points of interest: Open Street Map

## Methods: correlation & GI\*

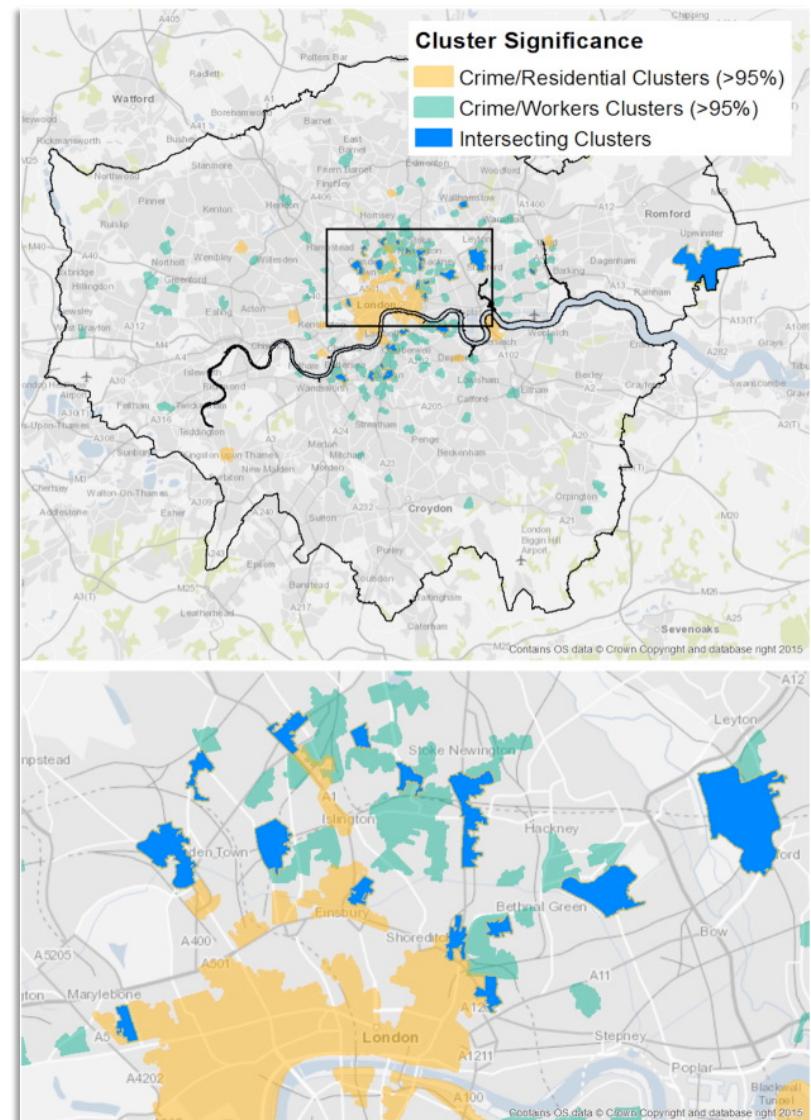


**Malleson, N., and Andresen, M.A. (2016)** Exploring the impact of ambient population measures on London crime hotspots. *Journal of Criminal Justice* 46 pp 52-63. (Open access) <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2016.03.002>

# Alternative Data Sets



Malleson, N., and Andresen, M.A. (2016) Exploring the impact of ambient population measures on London crime hotspots. *Journal of Criminal Justice* 46 pp 52-63. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2016.03.002>





## Crime Analysis and the Ambient Population

These studies highlight why estimates of the ambient population are important, but also raise several key questions:

- Which data are the best proxies?
- Are the data representative of the whole ambient population?
- How accurate are the data?

# Data for Modelling Ambient Populations

Census data

Remote  
sensing

Travel surveys

Mobile phone  
activity data

Cell tower  
locations

Mobility  
reports

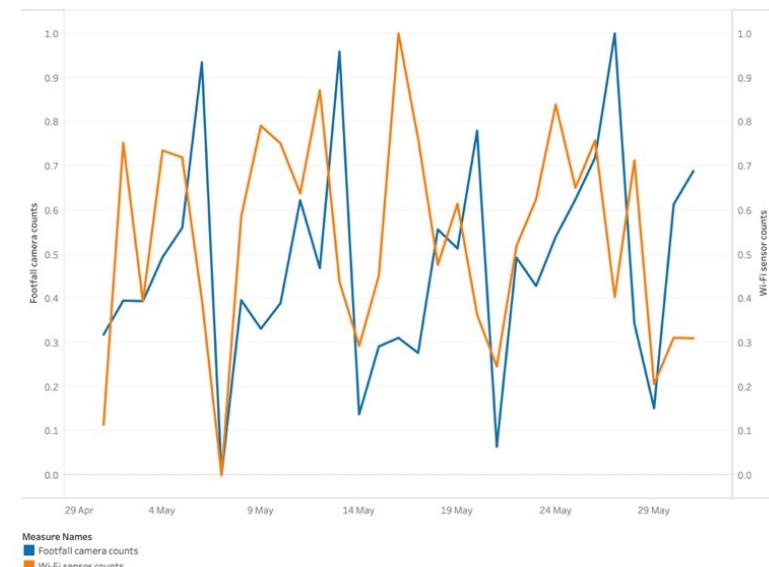
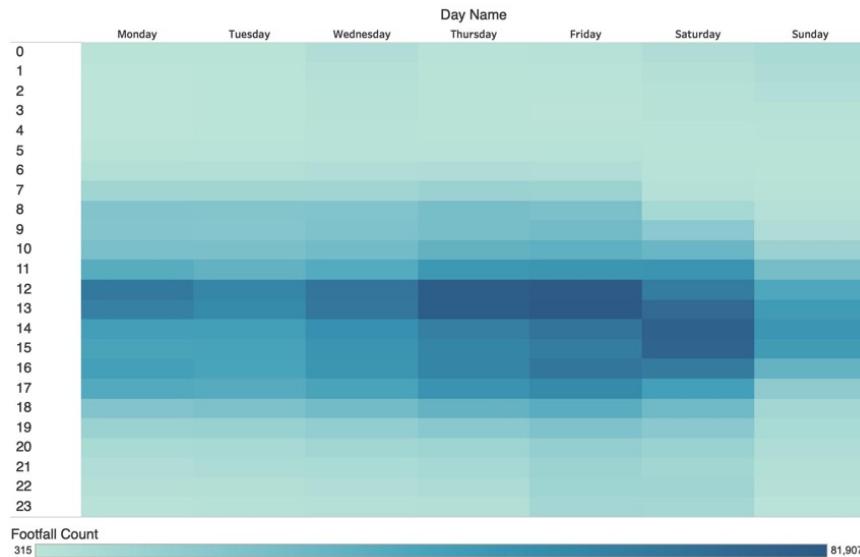
Footfall  
cameras

Wi-Fi sensors

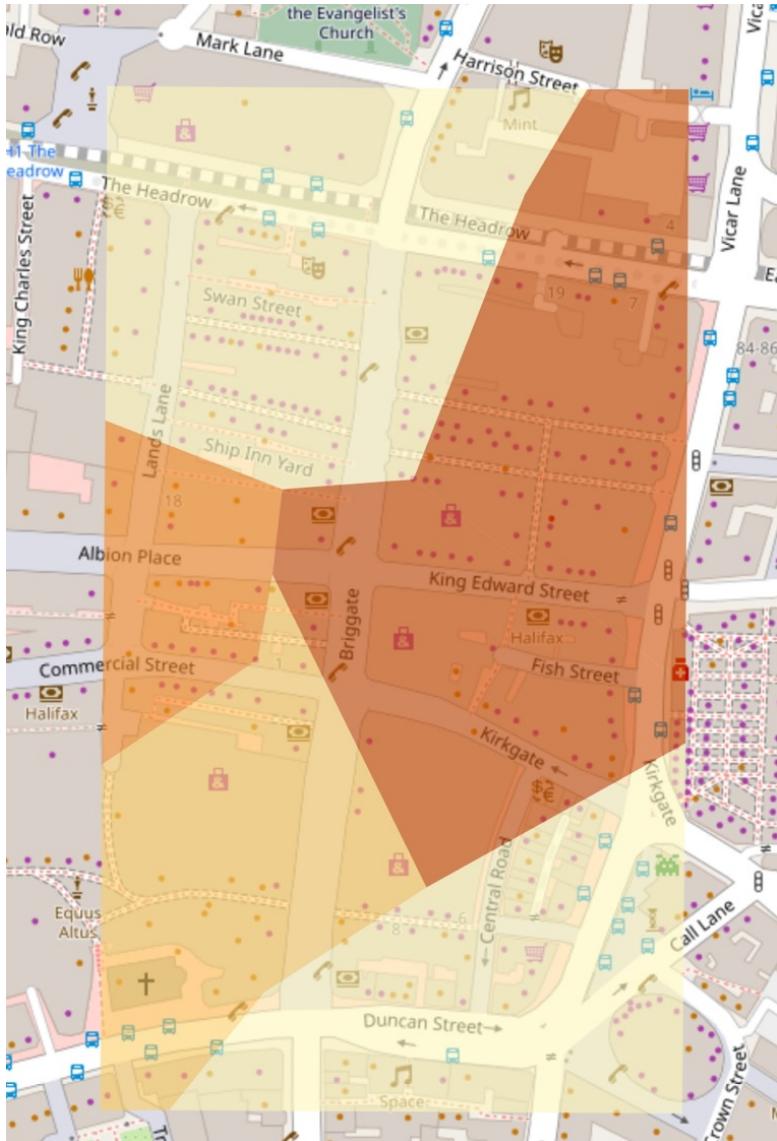
# Estimates of the Ambient Population: Assessing the Utility of Conventional and Novel Data Sources

*ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information*

Annabel Whipp, Nick Malleson , Jonathan Ward and Alison Heppenstall



<https://www.mdpi.com/2220-9964/10/3/131>



# Towards Holistic Ambient Population Quantification

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## Aims

- Validate data sources using manual counts
- Build an estimate of the ambient population without replicating groups of individuals
- Predict the ambient population in locations without cameras or counters

# Geographically weighted regression

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Spatial data are often spatially autocorrelated

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Unlike a global regression model, in a GWR model the relationship between the dependent and independent variables can vary across space

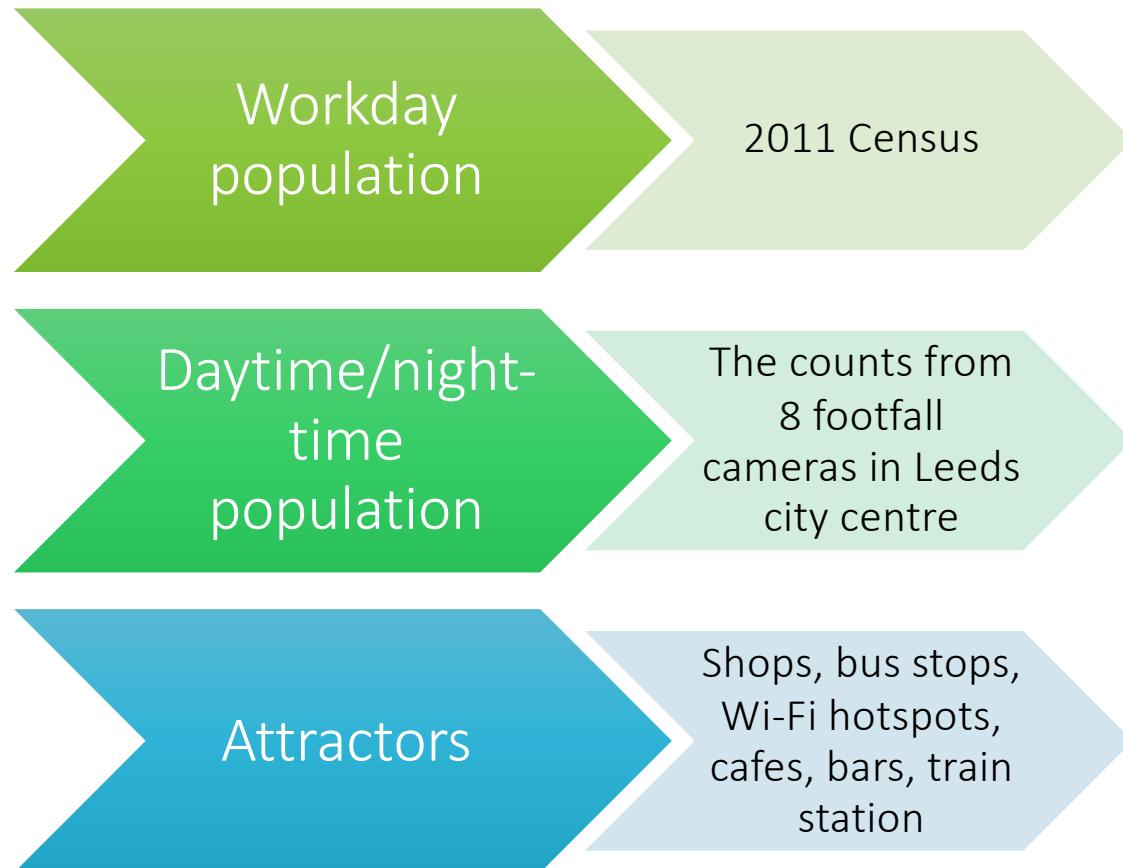
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A daytime model and a night-time model will be developed

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The results will be validated using manual counts

## Geographically weighted regression - Data

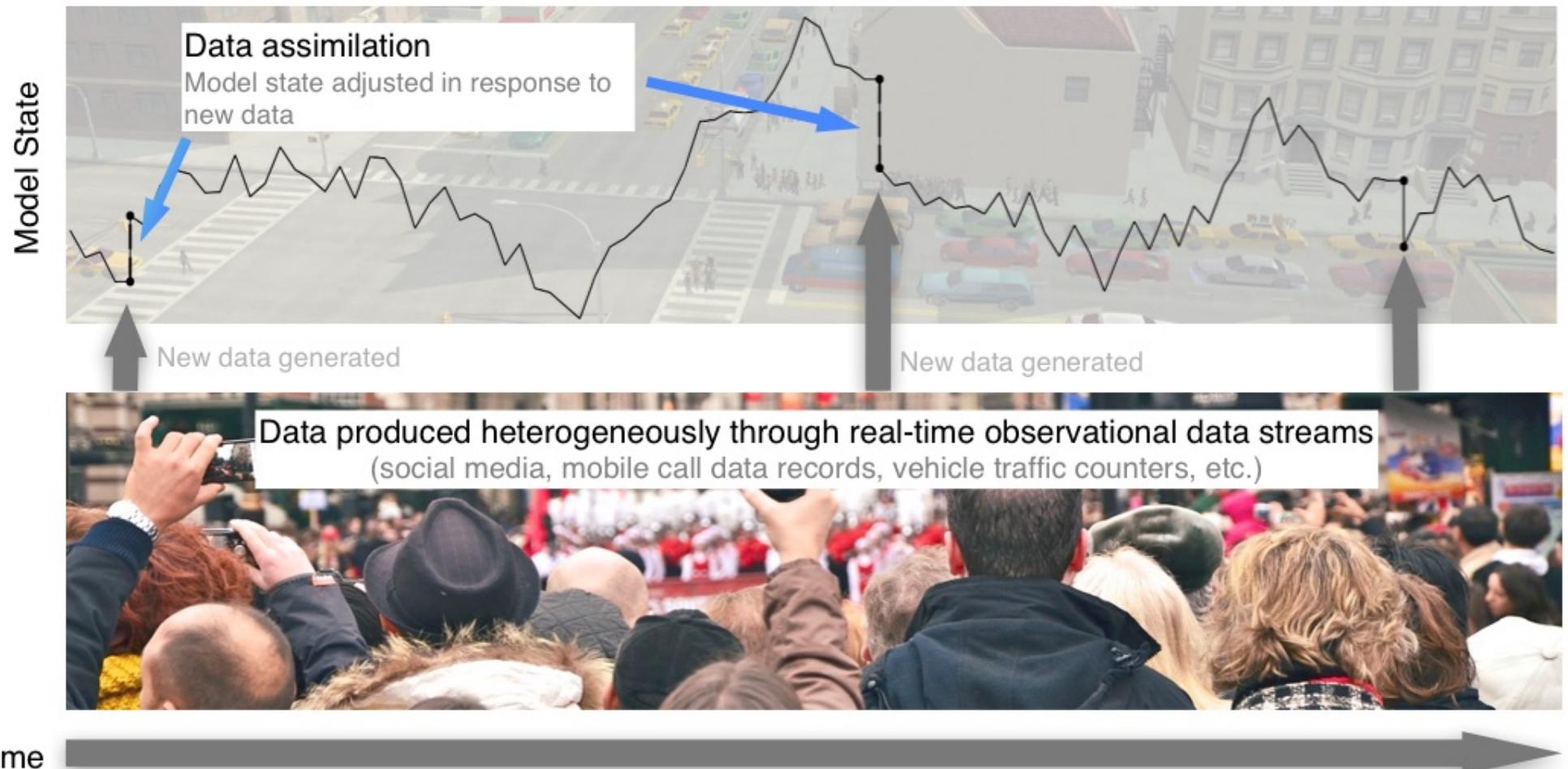




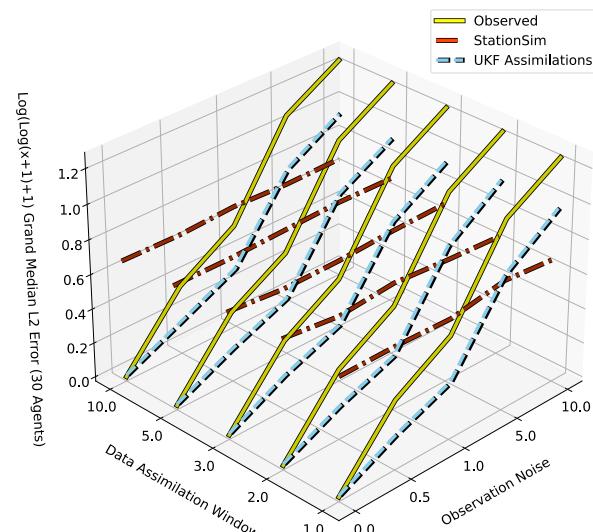
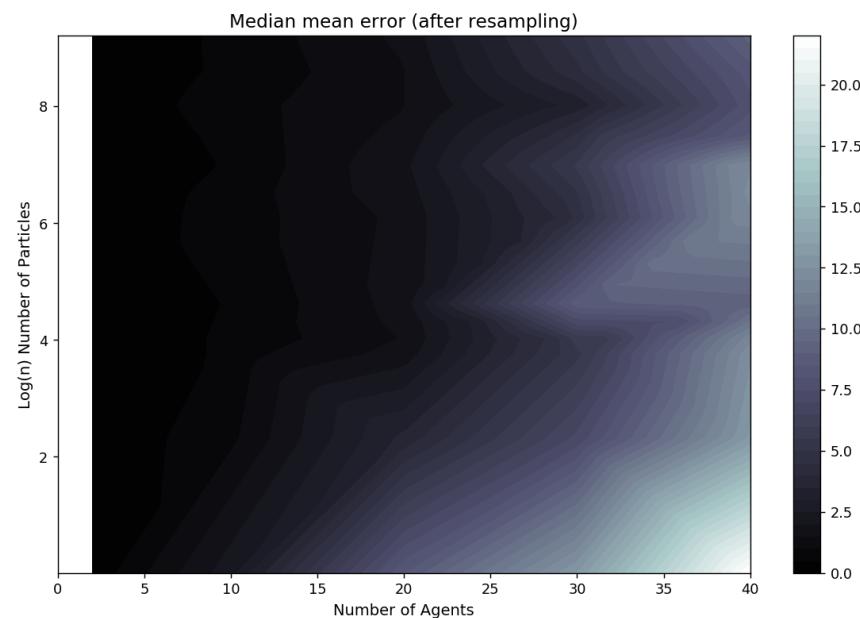




## Agent-Based Simulation of a Social System



# Data Assimilation for Agent-Based Models



# Data Assimilation for Agent-Based Models

DUST: <https://dust.leeds.ac.uk/>

So far: DA with Particle Filters and (Ensemble/Unscented) Kalman Filters.

Towards full, real-time crowd models

... and eventually cities

## Project Publications and Documentation

*The following publications report on the current progress of the DUST project or on related activities*

### Peer Reviewed Articles

Malleson, N., K. Minors, Le-Minh Kieu , J. A. Ward , A. West and A. Heppenstall (2020) Simulating Crowds in Real Time with Agent-Based Modelling and a Particle Filter. *Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation (JASSS)* 23 (3). <http://jasss.soc.surrey.ac.uk/23/3/3.html> DOI: 10.18564/jasss.4266 (open access)

Kieu, Le-Minh, N. Malleson, and A. Heppenstall (2019). Dealing with Uncertainty in Agent-Based Models for Short-Term Predictions'. *Royal Society Open Science* 7(1): 191074. DOI: 10.1098/rsos.191074 (open access)

Kieu, Le-Minh, D. Ngoduy, N Malleson, and E. Chung (2019). A Stochastic Schedule-Following Simulation Model of Bus Routes. *Transportmetrica B: Transport Dynamics* 7 (1): 1588–1610. DOI: 10.1080/21680566.2019.1670118.

Crois, T., and N. Malleson (2019) Quantifying the Ambient Population Using Hourly Population Footfall Data and an Agent-Based Model of Daily Mobility. *GeoInformatica* (online first). DOI: 10.1007/s10707-019-00346-1. [Open access].

### Preprints

Tang, D. (2020). Finding the Maximum-a-Posteriori Behaviour of Agents in an Agent-Based Model. [ArXiv:2005.02096 \[Cs\]](#).

Tang, D. (2020) Decentralised, Privacy-Preserving Bayesian Inference for Mobile Phone Contact Tracing', 2020. [arXiv: 2005.05086 \[cs.CY\]](#).

Tang, D. (2019). Data Assimilation in Agent-Based Models Using Creation and Annihilation Operators. [ArXiv:1910.09442 \[Cs\]](#).

Malleson, N., Kevin Minors, Le-Minh Kieu, Jonathan A. Ward, Andrew A. West, Alison Heppenstall (2019) Simulating Crowds in Real Time with Agent-Based Modelling and a Particle Filter. [arXiv:1909.09397 \[cs.MA\]](#).

Kieu, Le-Minh, N. Malleson, and A. Heppenstall (2019) Dealing with Uncertainty in Agent-Based Models for Short-Term Predictions'. [arXiv:1908.08288 \[cs.MA\]](#).

### Conference proceedings

*For a full list of conference presentations, see the [presentations](#) page.*

R. Clay, Le-Minh Kieu, J. A. Ward, A. Heppenstall, N. Malleson (2020) Towards Real-Time Crowd Simulation Under Uncertainty Using an Agent-Based Model and an Unscented Kalman Filter. In Demazeau Y., Holvoet T., Corchado J., Costantini S. (eds) *Advances in Practical Applications of Agents, Multi-Agent Systems, and Trustworthiness. The PAAMS Collection. PAAMS 2020. Lecture Notes*

# Conclusion

We need better estimates of the ambient population:

More accurate / reliable / detailed **data sources**

Methods / models to create a more holistic representation

Towards a comprehensive model of the ambient population

Ambient Populations for Smart City Simulations

# Ambient populations: Developing robust estimates

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