# Can an Aggregate Transport Mode Choice Model for London Buses, based on Ward Attributes, be used for Policy Making and Intervention?

#### Fred Shone

UCL - Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis - Spatial Data Science and Visualization

Quantitative Methods 2017 Final Assessment Presentation – 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017

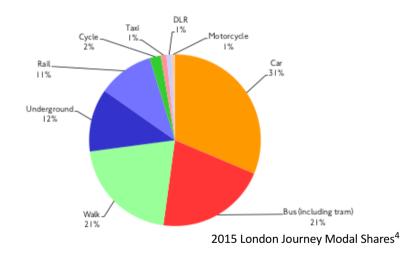
#### Part 1: Transport Mode Choice Models

- Transport mode choice models are not new
  - Recent analysis is predominantly for cycling and walking<sup>1</sup>
  - Models are increasingly complex<sup>2</sup>
  - Often incorporate segmentation<sup>3</sup> ie clustering and then linear or logistic regression<sup>4</sup>
  - Primarily based on individuals, ie dis-aggregate

- 1. Estimation of the determinants of bicycle mode share for the journey to work using census data. Parkin et al.
- Spatial Autoregressive Error Components in Travel Flow Models: An Application to Aggregate Mode Choice. Denis Bolduc
- 3. Using Segmentation Approaches for Better Prediction and Understanding from Consumer Mode Choice Models. Imran S. Currim
- 4. Sirakaya, E., Woodside, A. G., 2005. Building and testing theories of decision making by travelers. Tourism Management, 26 815-832.

### Part 1: Why Bus Mode Share?

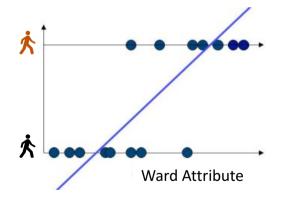
- The TFL bus network carries ~2.3bn passengers per year<sup>1</sup>
- The current aim is to increase Active and Public Transport by 16% by 2041<sup>2</sup>
- TFL spends ~3bn pa. operating, maintaining and investing in buses<sup>3</sup>

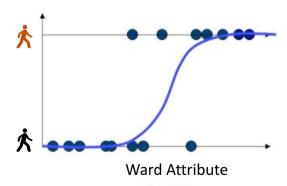


- 1. Transport for London Website [https://www.tfl.gov.uk/modes/buses/improving-buses]
- 2. Mayors Transport Strategy [https://consultations.tfl.gov.uk/policy/mayors-transport-strategy]
- . Transport for London Budget [transport-for-london-budget-2017-18.pdf]
- 4. TFL, Travel in London Report, Report 9

### Part 1: Modelling Bus Mode Share

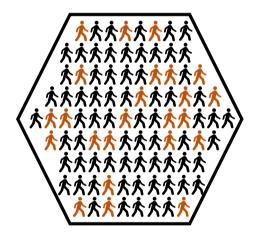
- Dependent Variable = London Bus Mode Share by London Ward
  - Data from the London Travel Demand Survey (LTDS)
  - Combined over ~three years to get adequate sample size
  - The share of each ward population choosing to travel by bus
- Non Linear! Use Logistic Regression, eg Logit



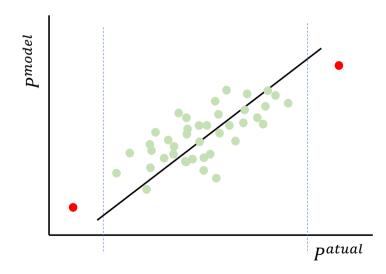


#### Part 1: Aggregate Mode Share

- In aggregate can a categorical variable reasonably be approximated as linear?
- Large sample allows Normal Approximate to Binomial<sup>1</sup>



• Sensible results due to avoiding extremes



### Part 2: Explanatory Variables

- Explanatory variables (predictors) are aggregated to London Ward level
- Aggregation allows for use of TFL data to build model



- Performance

- Connectivity to amenities Reliability of services
- Distance to bus networks Distance to tube networks
- Regularity of bus service Regularity of tube service
- · Distance to rail & tram networks
- · Regularity of rail & tram services

- Bus speeds
- Boarding
- Alighting

- Bus Patronage/crowding
- Breakdowns by day
- · Breakdowns by period
- Traffic Flows

Loss of individuals attributes compared to dis-aggregate model

Population

- Age groups
- Ethnicity
- Employment
- Indices of Deprivation
- Bedrooms
- Car ownership

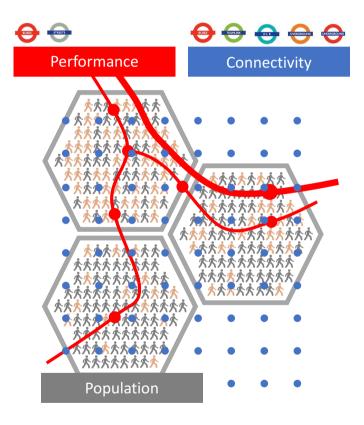
### Part 2: Methodology Discussion

#### Challenges

- Data cleaning and manipulation
- Avoid over-fitting
- Deal with correlated predictors
- Capture complex interactions
- Keep it interpretable

#### Solutions

- Algorithmic (Ridge Regression or LASSO methodologies)
- vs common sense
- Segmentation using clustering
- Try and keep it linear and interpretable



## Part 3: Applications in Policy Making and Intervention (1)

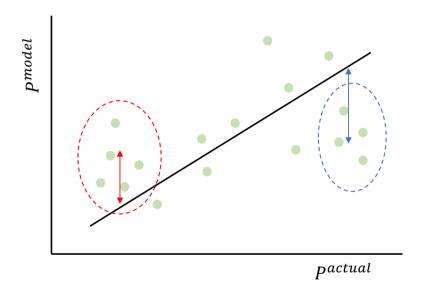
Understanding predictors in the model (significance testing with hypotheses)

$$P^{ward} = \beta_0 + \beta_{0 \to n} [Population]^{ward} + \beta_{n \to m} [Connectivity]^{ward} + \beta_{m \to p} [Performance]^{ward}$$

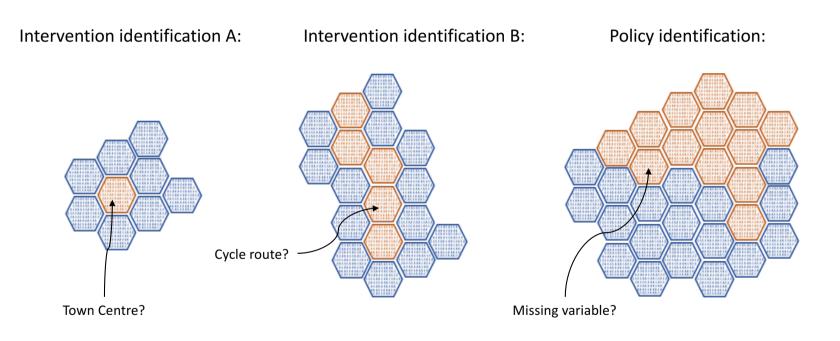
- Allows prediction of future changes
- Suggests levers for change

## Part 3: Applications in Policy Making and Intervention (2)

- Identifying outliers
  - More data?
  - Improve the model?
  - Identify patterns



## Part 3: Some Predictions for Policy Making and Intervention



Questions Please