

ECON G6905
Topics in Trade
Jonathan Dingel
Fall 2025, Week 7



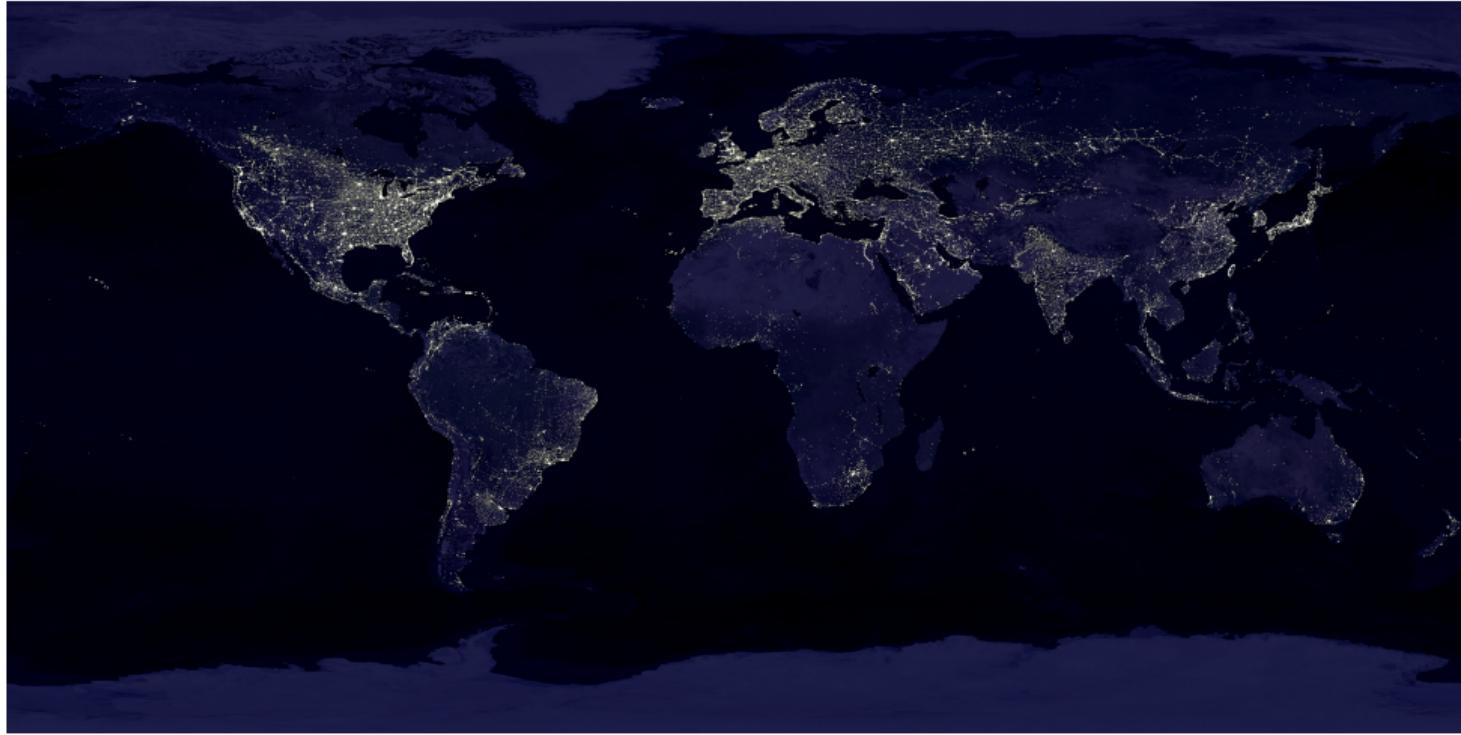


Image from [NOAA](#)
(Defense Meteorological Program Operational Linescan System)
Donaldson & Storeygard, “[The View from Above: Applications of Satellite Data in Economics](#)”, *JEP*, 2016

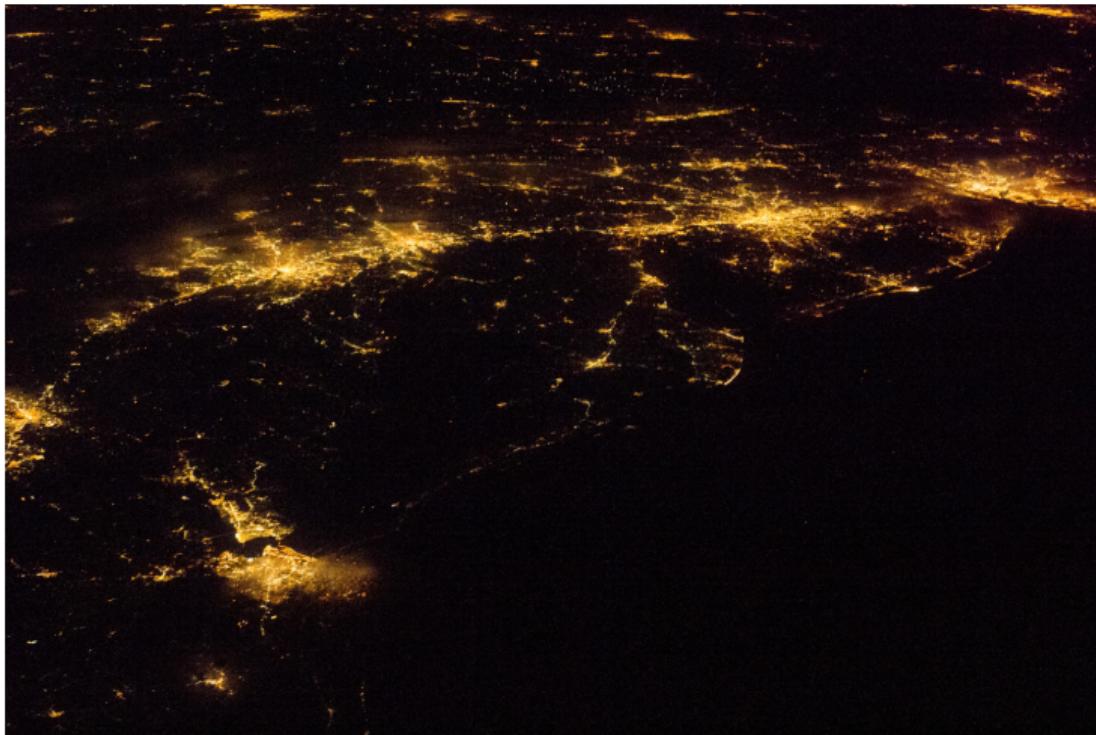
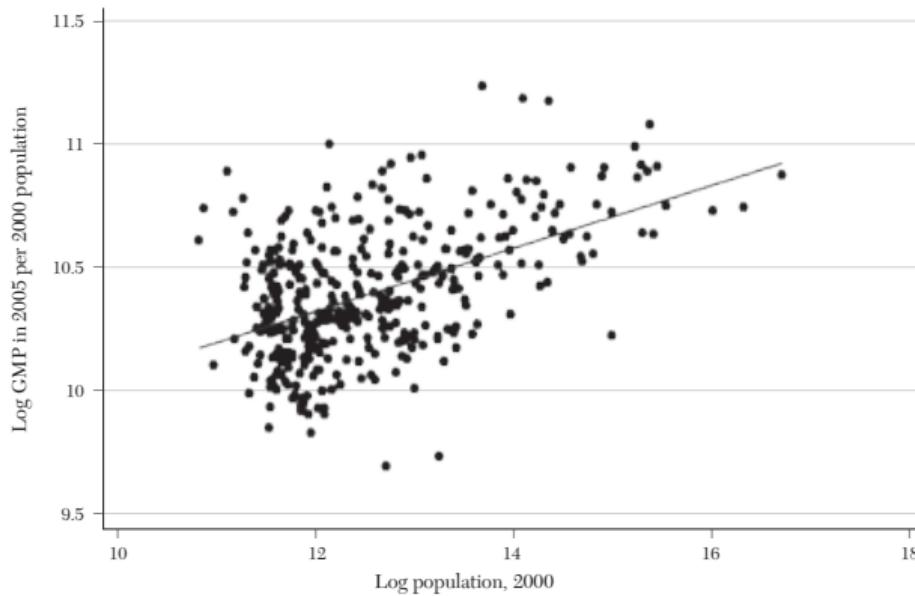


Image from [NASA](#)

Today: Agglomeration economies

Gross metropolitan product per capita rises with metro population:



Lucas (1988) on local external economies: “What can people be paying Manhattan or downtown Chicago rents **for**, if not being near other people?”

Today's agenda

Three big ideas: Cities, spatial equilibrium, and agglomeration economies

- ▶ Measurement: Satellite images, spatial units, and what is a city?
- ▶ Spatial equilibrium in the Rosen-Roback framework
- ▶ Spatial equilibrium and the marginal resident
- ▶ Agglomeration economies (local increasing returns)
- ▶ Developing-economy cities

Data on lights at night

- ▶ Defense Meteorological Satellite Program-Operational Linescan System (DMSP-OLS) for 1992-2011 versus Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) for 2011 onwards
- ▶ Lights are more useful for predicting GDP in cross section than time series (Chen and Nordhaus 2019 on both DMSP and VIIRS)
- ▶ [Chen and Nordhaus \(2019\)](#): high-resolution VIIRS lights better predict MSA GDP than state GDP (urban vs rural; lights do not explain value-added GDP in agriculture and forestry)
- ▶ [Gibson, Kim, Li \(2024\)](#): “these GDP-luminosity elasticities vary especially by spatial scale and metro status, and also by period and remote sensing source. The elasticities mainly capture extensive margins of luminosity.”

Data and measurement: US geographic units

Census block (~8 million; half unpopulated)

- ▶ Smallest geographic unit used by the US Census
- ▶ Bounded by streets, roads, streams, or other features

Census tract (~84,000)

- ▶ Designed to have homogeneous characteristics
- ▶ Usually 1,200-8,000 residents (optimally ~4,000)
- ▶ This is “neighborhood” in most social-science research

ZIP code (~40,000 defined by USPS)

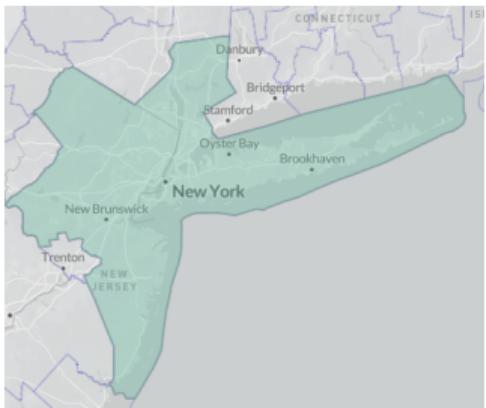
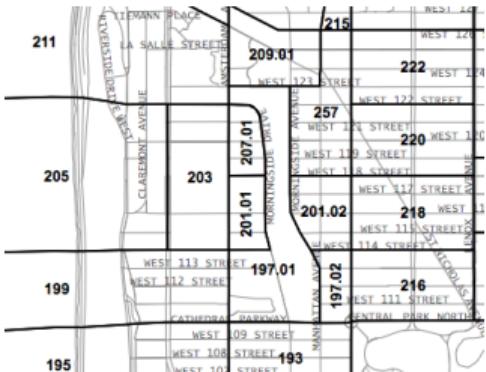
- ▶ Based on postal volumes

County (and county equivalents) (~3,143)

- ▶ Administrative/legal unit for local government services

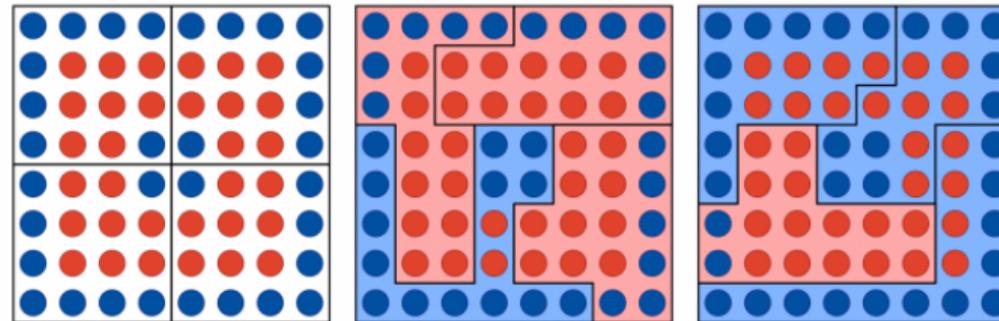
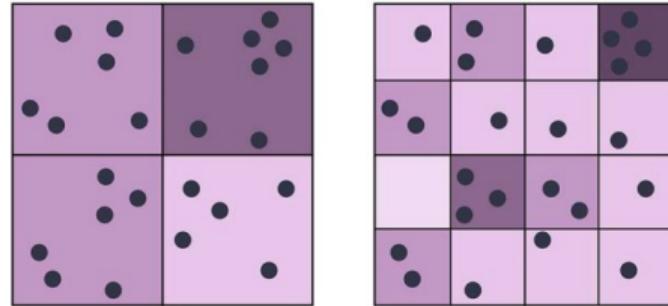
Core-based statistical area (~926 defined by OMB)

- ▶ Metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas
- ▶ Urban core and counties linked by commuting flows



Modifiable areal unit problem

Statistics and estimates depend on spatial units



What is a city?

- ▶ Municipality versus county versus metropolitan area versus commuting zone
- ▶ An integrated labor market defined by commuting ties? (cf. Monte et al 2018)
- ▶ What to do absent commuting flows? (Dingel, Mischio, Davis 2021)
- ▶ Discretization vs continuous linkages (Duranton and Overman 2005)

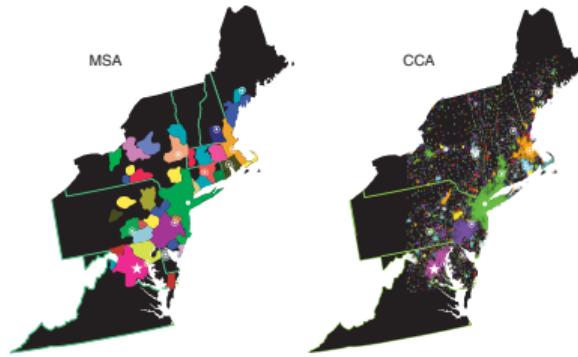


FIGURE 6. COMPARISON BETWEEN THE MSAs AND THE CCA CLUSTERS

Notes: Panel A shows the MSAs for the northeastern US. For example, New York county (Manhattan) with a population larger than 50,000 is a center of an MSA. Jersey City belongs to the same MSA since a large number of its population commute to Manhattan, setting economic and social ties between the two regions. Panel B shows the CCA clusters for the northeastern US for $\ell = 5$ km. Each cluster or MSA is plotted with a different grayscale. For instance, the MSA centered in New York City is composed of several clusters. The white concentric circles correspond to the location of the state capitals in the considered region. The star denotes Washington, DC, and the white full circle corresponds to New York City.

Today we study agglomeration without geography: discrete cities are islands without bilateral spatial linkages

Spatial equilibrium

Fundamentally, spatial equilibrium is a no-arbitrage condition. [Glaeser and Gottlieb \(JEL 2009\)](#):

The high mobility of labor leads urban economists to assume a spatial equilibrium, where elevated New York incomes do not imply that New Yorkers are better off. Instead, welfare levels are equalized across space and high incomes are offset by negative urban attributes such as high prices or low amenities.

- ▶ The benchmark model of spatial equilibrium is dubbed the “Rosen-Roback” model, due to the theory of equalizing differences (Sherwin Rosen 1974, 1979) applied to cities for both workers and firms (Jennifer Roback 1982)
- ▶ I borrow my exposition of Rosen-Roback model from [Owen Zidar’s slides](#)

Rosen-Roback framework

Goals

- ▶ How does change in amenity s alter local prices (wages, rents)?
- ▶ Infer the value of amenities

Markets

- ▶ Labor: price w , quantity N
- ▶ Land: price r , quantity $L = L^w + L^p$ used by workers and producers
- ▶ Goods: price $p = 1$, quantity X [no trade of consequence]

Agents

- ▶ Workers (homogeneous, perfectly mobile)
- ▶ Firm (perfectly competitive, constant returns to scale)

Indifference conditions

- ▶ Workers have same indirect utility in all locations
- ▶ Firm has zero profit (i.e., unit costs equal 1)

Workers: Preferences and budget constraint

Utility is $u(x, l^c, s)$

- ▶ x is consumption of private good
- ▶ l^c is consumption of land
- ▶ s is amenity

Budget constraint is $x + rl^c - w - I = 0$

- ▶ I is non-labor income that is independent of location
- ▶ w is labor income (note: no hours margin)

Indirect utility is

$$V(w, r, s) = \max_{x, l^c} u(x, l^c, s) \text{ s.t. } x + rl^c - w - I = 0$$

Let $\lambda = \lambda(w, r, s)$ be the marginal utility of a dollar of income, then

$$V_w = \lambda > 0 \quad V_r = -\lambda l^c < 0 \implies V_r = -V_w l^c \quad \text{via Roy's identity}$$

Example: Cobb-Douglas preferences

Utility is Cobb Douglas over goods and land with an amenity shifter:

$$u(x, l^c, s) = s^{\theta_W} x^\gamma (l^c)^{1-\gamma}$$

- ▶ Then $x = \gamma \left(\frac{w+I}{1} \right)$ and $l^c = (1 - \gamma) \left(\frac{w+I}{r} \right)$
- ▶ Let $\Gamma \equiv \gamma^\gamma (1 - \gamma)^{(1-\gamma)}$ so that indirect utility is

$$V(w, r, s) = \underbrace{\Gamma}_{\text{constant amenities}} \underbrace{s^{\theta_W}}_{\text{amenities}} \underbrace{1^{-\gamma} r^{-(1-\gamma)}}_{\text{prices}} \underbrace{(w + I)}_{\text{income}}$$

- ▶ MU of income is $\lambda(w, r, s)$

$$V_w = \lambda = \Gamma s^{\theta_W} r^{-(1-\gamma)}$$

$$V_r = -\lambda l^c = -\Gamma s^{\theta_W} r^{-(1-\gamma)} (1 - \gamma) \left(\frac{w + I}{r} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow V_r = -V_w l^c$$

Firms: Unit cost function

CRS production with cost function $C(X, w, r, s)$

- ▶ X is output
- ▶ Unit cost $c(w, r, s) = \frac{C(X, w, r, s)}{X}$
- ▶ L^p is total amount of land used by firms
- ▶ N is total employment

From Shepard's Lemma (derivative of cost function wrt factor price equals factor demand), we have

$$c_w = N/X > 0$$

$$c_r = L^p/X > 0$$

Example: Cobb-Douglas production

Suppose the production function is

$$X = f(N, L^p, s) = s^{\theta_F} N^\alpha (L^p)^{1-\alpha}$$

Let $\mathcal{A} \equiv \alpha^{-\alpha}(1 - \alpha)^{-(1-\alpha)}$. Then the cost function is

$$C(X, w, r, s) = X(s^{\theta_F})^{-1} w^\alpha r^{1-\alpha} \mathcal{A} \implies c(w, r, s) = (s^{\theta_F})^{-1} w^\alpha r^{1-\alpha} \mathcal{A}$$

Then

$$C_w(X, w, r, s) = \alpha \frac{(X(s^{\theta_F})^{-1} w^\alpha r^{1-\alpha} \mathcal{A})}{w} = N$$

$$C_r(X, w, r, s) = (1 - \alpha) \frac{(X(s^{\theta_F})^{-1} w^\alpha r^{1-\alpha} \mathcal{A})}{r} = L^p$$

Dividing both sides by X gives:

$$c_w = N/X > 0 \quad c_r = L^p/X > 0$$

Model recap

Workers parameters: s, θ_W, γ, I

- ▶ s is level of amenities
- ▶ θ_W is value of s for utility
- ▶ γ is goods share of expenditure
- ▶ $1 - \gamma$ is land share
- ▶ I is non-labor income

Firm Parameters: s, θ_F, α

- ▶ s is level of amenities
- ▶ θ_F is value of s for productivity
- ▶ α is output elasticity of labor
- ▶ $1 - \alpha$ is output elasticity of land

Endogenous outcomes:

- ▶ Labor: price w , quantity N
- ▶ Land: price r , quantities L^w, L^p for workers and production
- ▶ Goods: price $p = 1$, quantity X

Equilibrium concept: Two key indifference conditions

In equilibrium, workers and firms are indifferent across cities with different levels of s and endogenously varying wages $w(s)$ and rents $r(s)$:

$$c(w(s), r(s), s) = 1 \quad (1)$$

$$V(w(s), r(s), s) = V^0 \quad (2)$$

where V^0 is the equilibrium level of indirect utility.

Specifically, in our example:

Given $s, \theta_W, \theta_F, \gamma, I, \alpha$, equilibrium is defined by local prices and quantities $\{w, r, N, L^w, L^p, X\}$ such that (1) and (2) hold and land markets clear.

N.B. We will mainly be focusing on prices: $w(s)$ and $r(s)$.

Solving for effect of amenity changes on prices

- Differentiate (1) and (2) with respect to s and rearrange, we have:

$$\begin{bmatrix} c_w & c_r \\ V_w & V_r \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w'(s) \\ r'(s) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -c_s \\ -V_s \end{bmatrix}$$

- Solving for $w'(s), r'(s)$, we have

$$w'(s) = \frac{V_r c_s - c_r V_s}{c_r V_w - c_w V_r}$$

$$r'(s) = \frac{V_s c_w - c_s V_w}{c_r V_w - c_w V_r}$$

- Note we can rewrite

$$c_r V_w - c_w V_r = \lambda L^p / X + \lambda l^c N / X = \lambda L / X = V_w L / X$$

Aside: example values for matrix elements

$$c_w = \alpha \frac{(s^{\theta_F})^{-1} w^\alpha r^{1-\alpha} \mathcal{A}}{w}$$

$$c_r = (1 - \alpha) \frac{(s^{\theta_F})^{-1} w^\alpha r^{1-\alpha} \mathcal{A}}{r}$$

$$c_s = \theta_F \frac{(s^{\theta_F})^{-1} w^\alpha r^{1-\alpha} \mathcal{A}}{s}$$

$$V_w = s^{\theta_W} 1^{-\gamma} r^{-(1-\gamma)} \Gamma$$

$$V_r = -s^{\theta_W} 1^{-\gamma} r^{-(1-\gamma)} \Gamma(1 - \gamma) \left(\frac{w + I}{r} \right)$$

$$V_s = \theta_W \frac{(s^{\theta_W} 1^{-\gamma} r^{-(1-\gamma)} \Gamma(w + I))}{s}$$

Effect of amenity changes on prices

► Price changes

$$w'(s) = \frac{(V_r c_s - c_r V_s)X}{\lambda L}$$

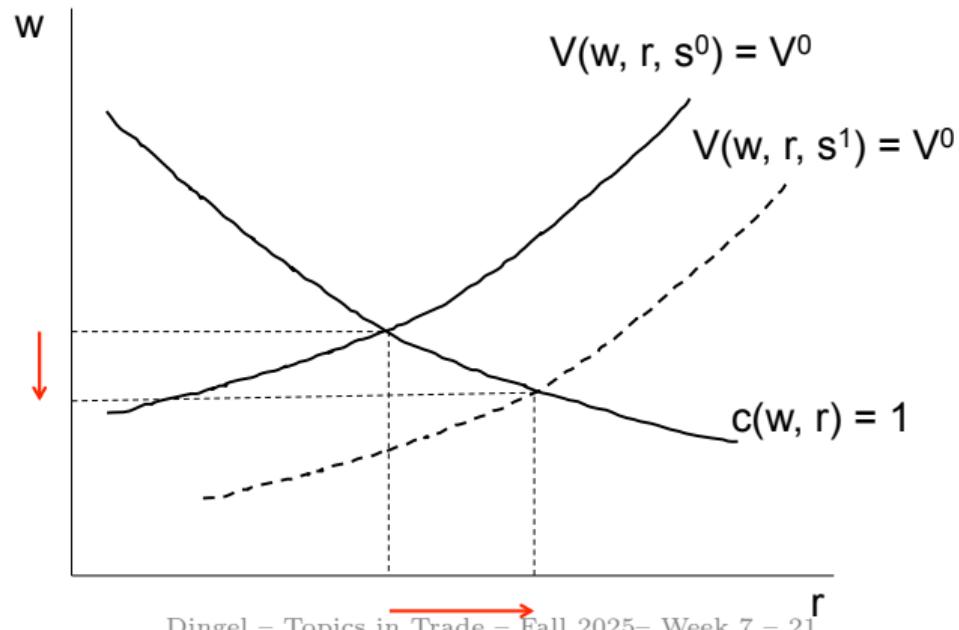
$$r'(s) = \frac{(V_s c_w - c_s V_w)X}{\lambda L}$$

► Special cases of interest:

1. Amenity only valued by consumers: $\theta_F = 0 \Rightarrow c_s = 0$
2. Amenity only has productivity effect: $\theta_W = 0 \Rightarrow V_s = 0$
3. Firms use no land $1 - \gamma = 0$ and amenity is non-productive $\theta_F = 0$: $c(w(s)) = 1$,
 $c_r = c_s = 0$

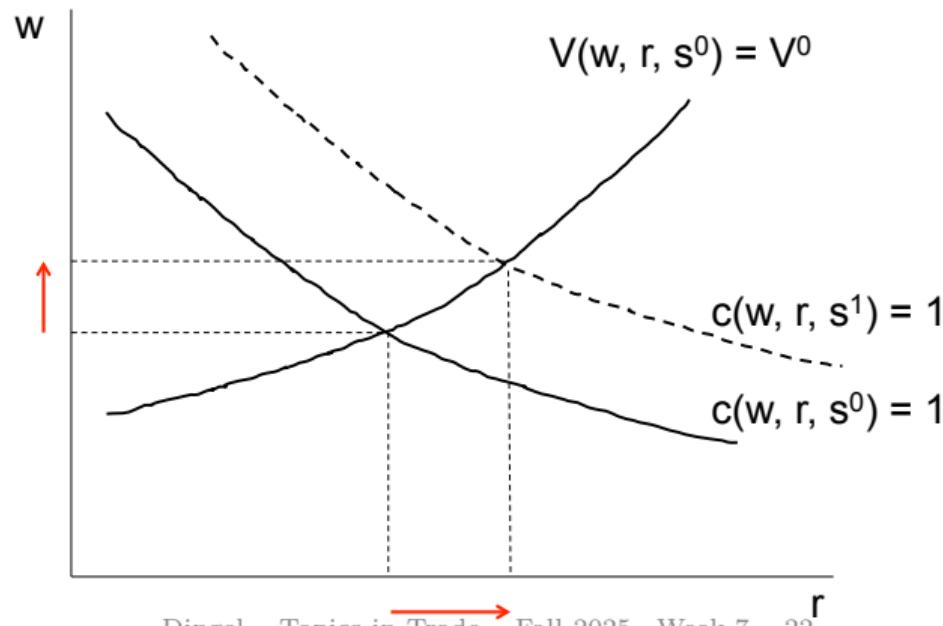
1. Amenity only valued by consumers: $\theta_F = 0 \Rightarrow c_s = 0$

- ▶ When $c_s = 0$, higher $s \Rightarrow$ higher r , lower w
- ▶ Workers are willing to pay more in land rents and receive less in wages to have access to higher levels of amenities



2. Amenity only valued by firms: $\theta_W = 0 \Rightarrow V_s = 0$

- ▶ When $V_s = 0$, higher $s \Rightarrow$ higher r and higher w
- ▶ Firms are willing to pay more in land rents and wages to access higher productivity due to amenities



3. Firms don't use land nor value amenity

- ▶ Firms don't use land ($\alpha = 1$) nor value amenity ($\theta_F = 0$)
- ▶ Only production input is labor and firms are indifferent across locations, so wages must be the same across cities: $c(w(s)) = 1$
- ▶ Since $c_r = c_s = 0$,

$$w'(s) = 0$$

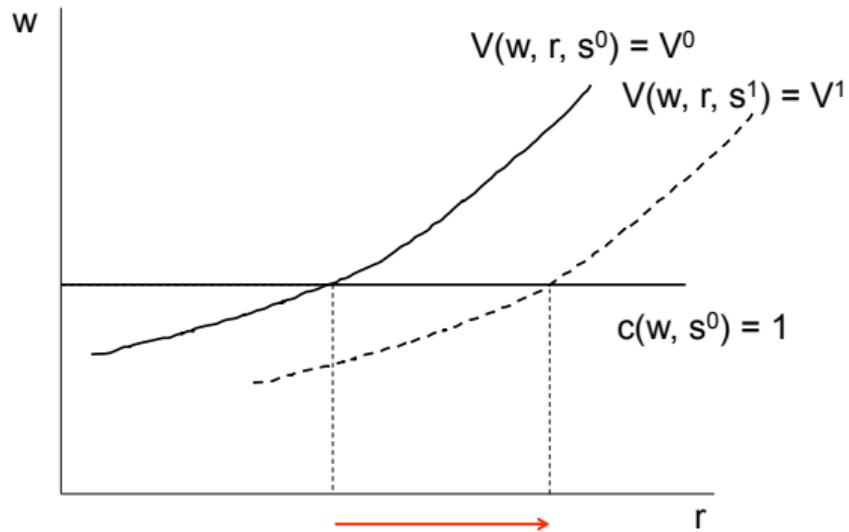
$$r'(s) = \frac{V_s c_w}{-c_w V_r} = \frac{V_s}{l^c V_w}, \text{ since } V_r = -l^c V_w$$

- ▶ So the rise in total cost of land for a worker living in a city with higher s is

$$l^c r'(s) = \frac{V_s}{V_w}$$

3. Firms don't use land nor value amenity

- ▶ $\frac{V_s}{V_w}$ = marginal WTP for a change in s so the marginal value of a change in the amenity is “fully capitalized” in rents



$\frac{V_s}{V_w} = \theta_W \frac{(w+I)}{s}$ is increasing in income, decreasing in level of amenities

Valuing consumer amenities

- General case: Start from equal-utility condition $V_0 = V(w(s), r(s), s)$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= V_w w'(s) + V_r r'(s) + V_s \\ \frac{V_s}{V_w} &= l^c r'(s) - w'(s) \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

- WTP for amenity is extra land cost for consumers plus lower wages
- Zero-profit condition:

$$c_w w'(s) + c_r r'(s) + c_s = 0 \tag{4}$$

- When $c_s = 0$, $w'(s) = \frac{-c_r}{c_w} r'(s) = \frac{-L^p}{N} r'(s)$
- Combine (3) and (4) to get the WTP of the N people in a given city:

$$N \frac{V_s}{V_w} = N l^c r'(s) + L^p r'(s) = L r'(s)$$

Aggregate WTP is how the total value of all land changes as s changes

Inferring and valuing amenities

Cobb-Douglas preferences:

$$V_0 = \Gamma s^{\theta_W} r^{-(1-\gamma)}(w + I) \text{ implies}$$

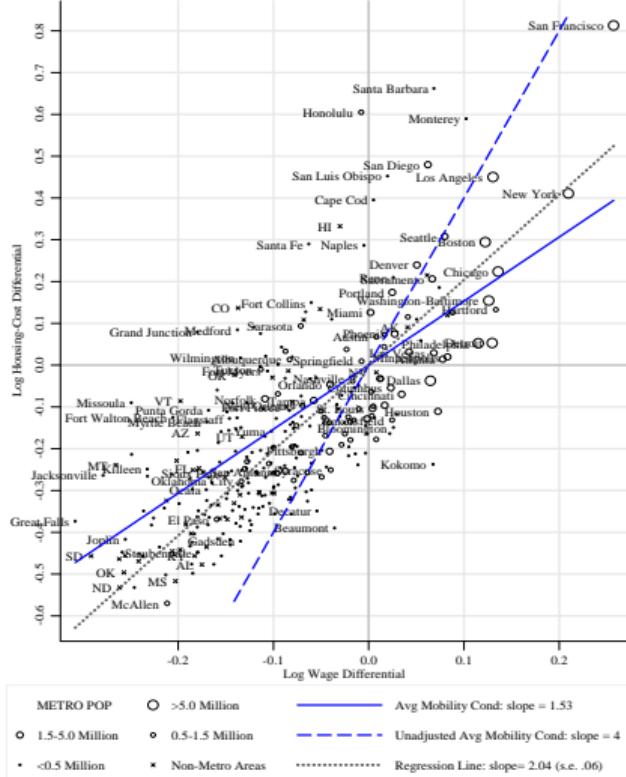
$$s^{\theta_W} = \frac{V_0}{\Gamma} \frac{r^{1-\gamma}}{w+I}$$

More generally,

$\hat{s}_j^{\theta_W} \approx s_y \hat{p}_j - s_w (1 - \tau') \hat{w}_j$ where p are all local prices and τ' is the marginal tax rate, s_y and s_w are national shares (my bad notation), and $\hat{x}_j = \frac{dx_j}{x}$ are local deviations

Albouy (2012) “Are Big Cities Bad Places to Live?” and Albouy (2016) “What are cities worth? Land rents, local productivity, and the total value of amenities”

Figure 1: Housing Costs versus Wage Levels across Metro Areas, 2000



What's an amenity?

Urban economists use the word “amenity” in two imperfectly aligned ways ([blog post](#))

1. Amenities are place-specific services/flows that are not explicitly transacted and hence do not appear in the budget constraint
2. Amenities are place-specific residuals because the researcher lacks expenditure/price data

Traditional view (Diamond and Tolley 1982):

- ▶ Clean air, lack of severe snow storms, and sunny days (Roback 1982)

Recent literature on “consumption amenities”

- ▶ Restaurants and retail (variety-adjusted price indices)

If an amenity is a non-tradable with crummy price data, then housing is an amenity in some empirical settings

Endogenous amenities

Thus far, s was an exogenous characteristic of a location.

- ▶ Sunshine doesn't respond to population composition
- ▶ Crime rates, school quality, and variety of restaurants are endogenous
- ▶ Endogenous amenities mean endogeneity problems
- ▶ See Milena Almagro's [UEA summer school lecture](#)

Spatial equilibrium and the marginal resident

Thus far, local labor supply is perfectly elastic (all workers are indifferent at V_0)

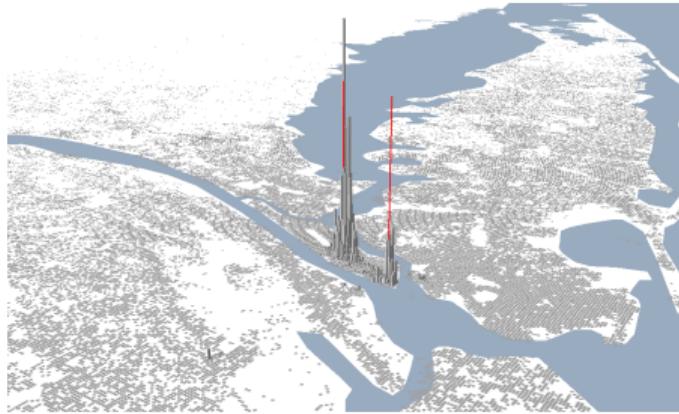
- ▶ No notion of welfare or spatial inequality for workers
- ▶ All workers adjust to shocks similarly
- ▶ Incidence of shocks/amenities is on land prices

The concept of spatial equilibrium is a no-arbitrage condition: the marginal resident must be indifferent

- ▶ Moretti (2011) and Diamond (2016): discrete-choice problem with idiosyncratic preferences so there are inframarginal residents
- ▶ Inferring and valuing amenities with heterogeneous individuals is harder

The geographic concentration of economic activity

People are concentrated. Are industries concentrated? Yes.



(b) Geographic concentration of prime service employment in NY

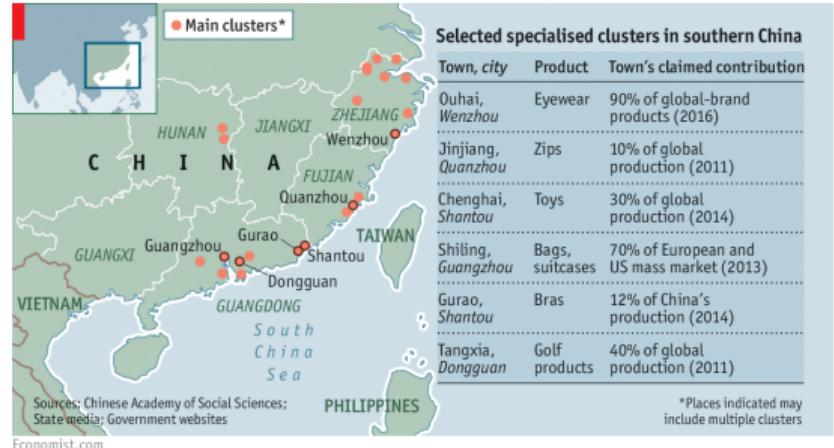


Figure from [Ahlfeldt, Albers & Behrens \(2020\)](#)

- ▶ [Ellison and Glaeser \(1997\)](#) “dartboard approach” to address internal vs external economies
- ▶ [Duranton and Overman \(2005\)](#) for continuous space

Local increasing returns: Urbanization vs localization economies

Agglomeration economies are the benefits of more people (Marshallian trinity)

1. Lower costs of trading goods
2. Lower costs of finding the right worker
3. Lower costs of exchanging ideas

Urbanization economies are benefits of total scale, regardless of industry, while *localization* economies are benefits of more activity in same industry ([Henderson 1987](#))

- ▶ Henderson (1974) model with localization economies: “because cities of different types specialize in the production of different traded goods,” differences in scale elasticity generate differences in city size

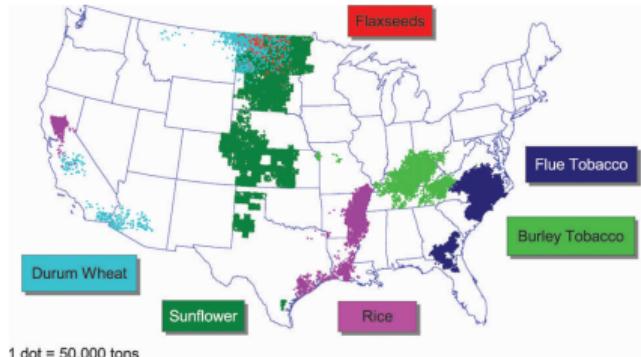
Looking at growth effects, [Glaeser, Kallal, Scheinkman, Shleifer \(1992\)](#) contrast “Marshall-Arrow-Romer” same-industry knowledge spillovers and “Jane Jacobs” between-industry knowledge spillovers

What explains the intense concentration of economic activity?

Before we discuss these agglomeration economies, consider the alternative hypothesis: exogenous “locational fundamentals” independent of population

Places may have advantages, regardless of population, that pull in more people

First-nature causes for agriculture and mining: what's in the ground?



- ▶ Plausible: Half the US population lives in coastal counties (oceans plus Great Lakes), only 13% of land area ([Rappaport, Sachs 2003](#))
- ▶ Implausible: Locational fundamentals cannot explain Seattle's Microsoft-led resurgence nor Datang's sock specialization

Evidence of agglomeration economies

- ▶ Estimate from observed spatial equilibrium, tackling endogeneity and sorting problems
- ▶ Test for multiple equilibria (sufficiently strong agglomeration forces imply multiple equilibria)
- ▶ [Greenstone, Hornbeck, Moretti \(2010\)](#) use “million-dollar plants” to estimate agglomeration economies (cf. [Patrick 2016](#))

See Combes and Gobillon - “[The Empirics of Agglomeration Economies](#)”
(*Handbook* 2015)

Estimating agglomeration economies

Revisit that plot of wages against city size ([Combes, Duranton, Gobillon, Roux 2010](#))

- ▶ Endogeneity problem: exogenous productivity attracts more workers
- ▶ Sorting problem: higher-wage workers may sort into larger cities
- ▶ Instrumental variables for endogenous quantity of labor from geology or history (e.g., century-ago population, soil quality, climate)
 - Historical IVs requires persistence – in labor supply, not labor demand
- ▶ Sorting problem can be addressed using longitudinal data on workers, introducing worker fixed effects Like Abowd, Kramarz, Margolis (1999) regressions; see de la Roca and Puga (2017) and Carry, Kleinman, Nimier-David (2025)
- ▶ One needs to tackle endogeneity and sorting simultaneously
- ▶ CDGR 2010 say density elasticity of wages is about 0.2: OLS is 0.05; IV is 0.04; worker FEs is 0.033; IV + worker FEs is 0.027

Bleakley and Lin 2012: Portage and Path Dependence

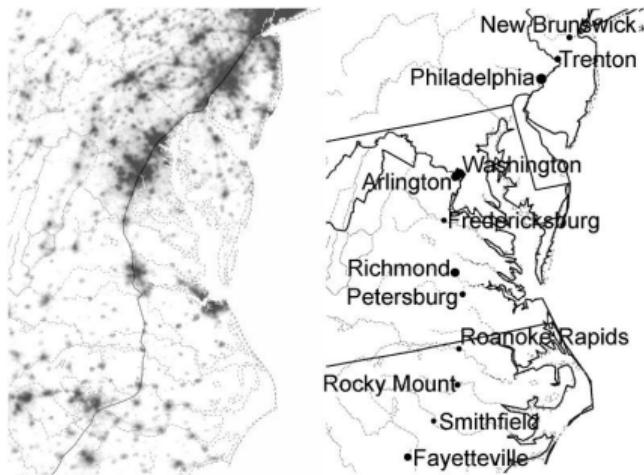


FIGURE IV

Fall-Line Cities from North Carolina to New Jersey

The map in the left panel shows the contemporary distribution of economic activity across the southeastern United States measured by the 2003 nighttime lights layer from NationalAtlas.gov. The nighttime lights are used to present a nearly continuous measure of present-day economic activity at high spatial frequency. The fall line (solid) is digitized from *Physical Divisions of the United States*, produced by the U.S. Geological Survey. Major rivers (dashed gray) are from NationalAtlas.gov, based on data produced by the U.S. Geological Survey. Contemporary fall-line cities are labeled in the right panel.

Table 1: Proximity to Historical Portage Site and Contemporary Population Density

Specifications:	(1)	(2)	(3)
	Basic	Other spatial controls	Distance from various features
Explanatory variables:			
Panel A: Census Tracts, 2000, N = 21452			
Dummy for proximity to portage site	1.113 (0.340)***	1.009 (0.321)***	1.118 (0.243)***
Distance to portage site, natural logs	-0.617 (0.134)***	-0.653 (0.128)***	-0.721 (0.118)***
Panel B: Nighttime Lights, 1996–97, N = 65000			
Dummy for proximity to portage site	0.504 (0.144)***	0.445 (0.127)***	0.490 (0.161)***
Distance to portage site, natural logs	-0.188 (0.065)***	-0.159 (0.065)**	-0.151 (0.090)

TABLE II
UPSTREAM WATERSHED AND CONTEMPORARY POPULATION DENSITY

Specifications:	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	Basic	Other spatial controls	Distance from various features	Water power	Water power
Explanatory variables:					
Panel A: Census Tracts, 2000, N = 21452					
Portage site times upstream watershed	0.467 (0.175)**	0.467 (0.164)***	0.500 (0.114)***	0.496 (0.173)***	0.452 (0.177)**
Binary indicator for portage site	1.096 (0.348)***	1.000 (0.326)***	1.111 (0.219)***	1.099 (0.350)***	1.056 (0.364)***
Portage site times horsepower/100k				-1.812 (1.235)	
Portage site times horsepower > 2000					0.110 (0.311)

Davis & Weinstein: “Bones, Bombs, and Breakpoints”

Does a temporary shock have permanent effects? After the Allied bombing in WWII, most cities returned to their rank in the distribution of city sizes within about 15 years

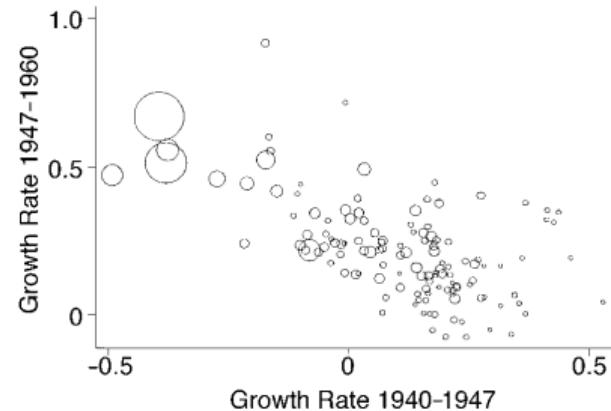


FIGURE 1. EFFECTS OF BOMBING ON CITIES WITH MORE THAN 30,000 INHABITANTS

Note: The figure presents data for cities with positive casualty rates only.

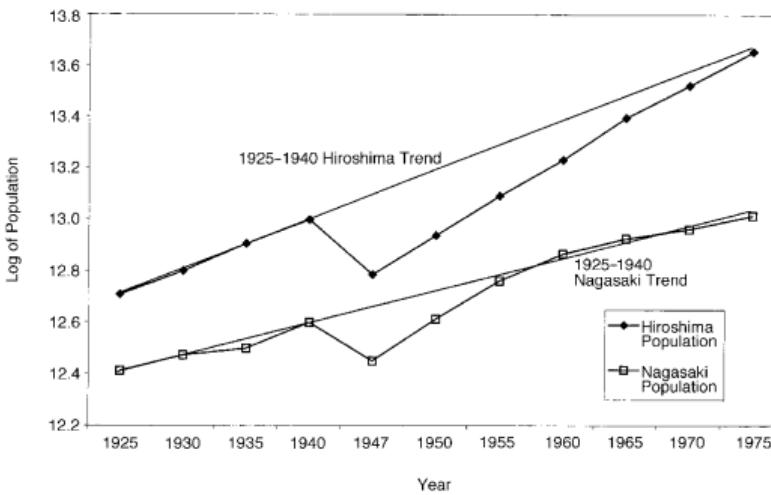


FIGURE 2. POPULATION GROWTH

Also, Miguel and Roland (*JDE* 2011): “even the most intense bombing in human history did not generate local poverty traps in Vietnam”

When and where does history matter?

Lin and Rauch (2022):

- ▶ “with a few important exceptions, major temporary shocks do not appear to permanently affect the fortunes of cities or large regions”
- ▶ “there is perhaps more evidence of history dependence in the location and scale of city-industries and even more evidence of history dependence in neighborhood sorting and segregation”
- ▶ “What factors might distinguish city-industries or neighborhoods from regions in making history dependence and multiplicity more empirically relevant? These factors may provide guidance on when history matters, and when it does not.”

Classic model of agglomeration: Henderson (1974)

“The Sizes and Types of Cities” addresses basic, fundamental questions about a system of cities in general equilibrium

- ▶ Why do cities exist?
- ▶ Why do cities of different sizes exist?
- ▶ Are cities too large or too small?

Classic model of agglomeration: Henderson (1974)

“The Sizes and Types of Cities” addresses basic, fundamental questions about a system of cities in general equilibrium

- ▶ Why do cities exist? “because there are technological economies of scale in production or consumption”
- ▶ Why do cities of different sizes exist? “because cities of different types specialize in the production of different traded goods”
- ▶ Are cities too large or too small? a stability argument says that cities tend to be too large

Optimal city size vs equilibrium city size

- ▶ If productivity rises with size but congestion costs eventually dominate, then the average return to city size is a single-peaked function
- ▶ Spatial equilibrium equates average returns across cities
- ▶ Henderson (1974): An equilibrium on the rising part of the average-return curve is *unstable*: adding a person would make that city more attractive
- ▶ Thus, stable equilibria have cities that are too large
- ▶ See [Albouy, Behrens, Robert-Nicoud, Seegert \(2019\)](#) on central planner versus city-level planners versus “self-organization” (free migration)
- ▶ Heterogeneous fundamentals mean that average returns differ when marginal returns are equal: equalizing average returns undoes optimal allocation
Optimal sizing is not the same as optimal policy, which introduces regional transfers (trade deficits); see [Fajgelbaum and Gaubert \(2025\)](#)

Developing-economy cities

- ▶ World Bank projects 2.7 billion more urban residents in developing economies by 2050
- ▶ Cities still require agglomeration and dispersion forces, but the technologies and conditions might differ
- ▶ Gollin, Jedwab, Vollrath “Urbanization with and without Industrialization” (2016) on ‘consumption cities’ in resource exporters
- ▶ Jedwab, Loungani, Yezer: cities in rich countries are tall and sprawl; in poor countries they crowd
- ▶ Typically, urban wages are much higher than rural wages
- ▶ [Gollin, Kirchberg, Lagakos \(2021\)](#): observed private consumption and amenities are higher in urban areas of 20 SSA countries (they avoid using prices)
- ▶ Henderson and Turner (2020): higher incidence of lifestyle diseases, poorer child health outcomes and greater exposure to crime
- ▶ See Bryan, Glaeser, Tsivanidis (2019) “[Cities in the Developing World](#)”

This week has omitted spatial linkages like trade costs

County-level presence of four industries in 2007

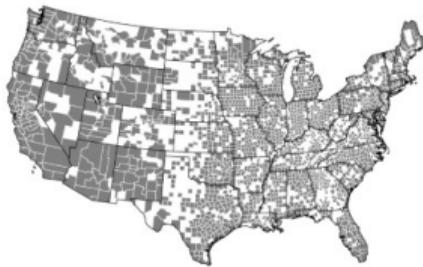
a. Aircraft Manufacturing
(NAICS 336411)



b. Software Publishing
(NAICS 511210)



c. Ready Mix Concrete Manufacturing
(NAICS 327320)



d. Tax Preparation Services
(NAICS 541213)



Gervais and Jensen (2019), Figure 1

Next week

- ▶ Up next: Quantitative spatial models
- ▶ Read Krugman (1991) before class so I can cover quickly