

# Using ANN to assess the mode choice resulting from MATSim

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## Overview: Project Goal

For the Amsterdam region

- ① mode choice models (MNL, ANN) have been estimated  
from revealed preference based on GPS traces
- ② estimate a *trip based* mode choice model from the MATSim output
- ③ compare the properties of the implicit mode choice mechanism in MATSim to a choice model extracted from observations

## Overview: Project Stages

- Stages
- ① Prepare MATSim plans from FEATHERS (activity based travel demand predictor) : The Netherlands, nationwide
  - ② Run MATSim simulation
  - ③ Estimate trip based mode choice model from MATSim output
  - ④ Compare choice models (from MATSim, from GPS observations)
- Status
- ① Building new `plans.xml` generator delayed by health event.

# Location Disaggregation: Locations and Positions

## Locations

- ① Nearly all *activity based models* predict travel between TAZ (travel analysis zones)
- ② **Location** choice models operate at TAZ level spatial resolution

## Positions

- ① MATSim requires **position** (street address) level resolution

## Mind *Schedule Morphing* by trip parameter updating

- ① by location to position disaggregation
- ② by MATSim

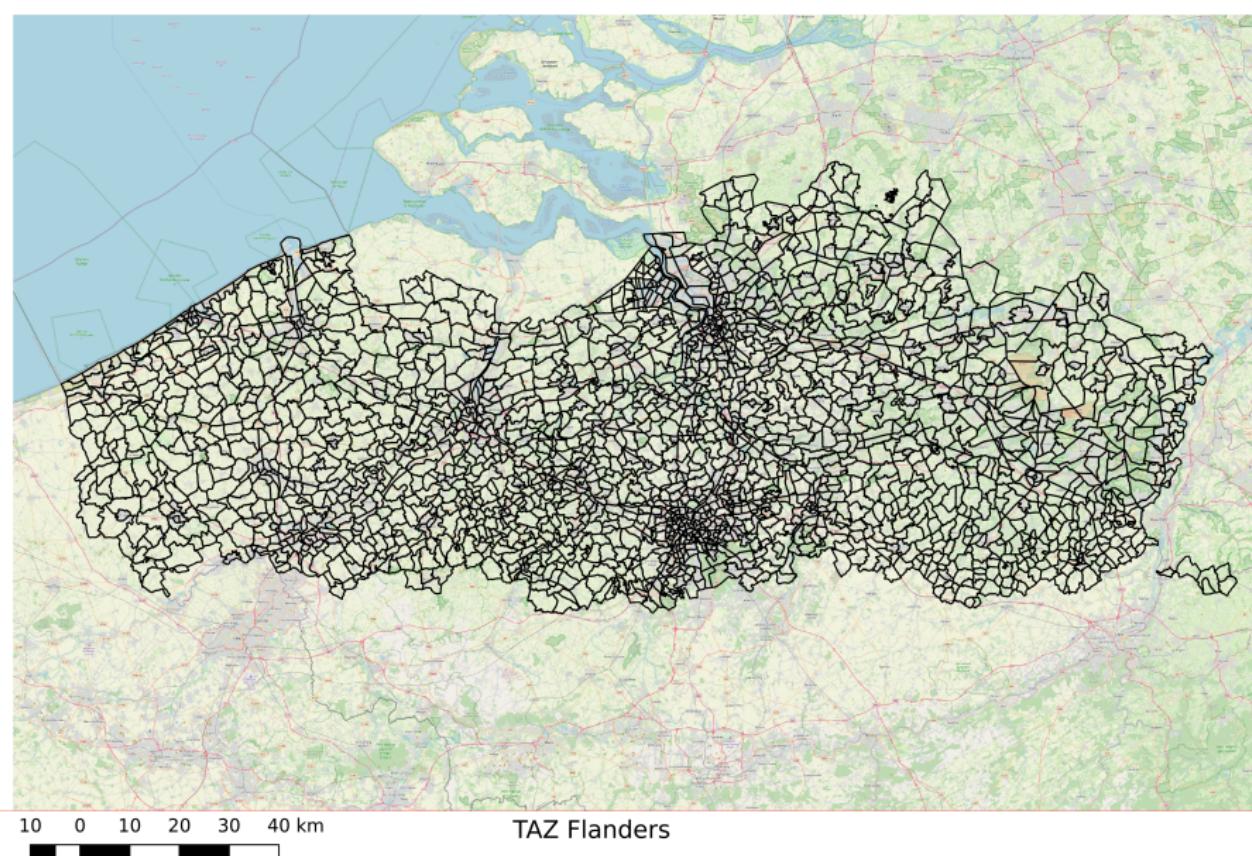
# Location Disaggregation: Examples

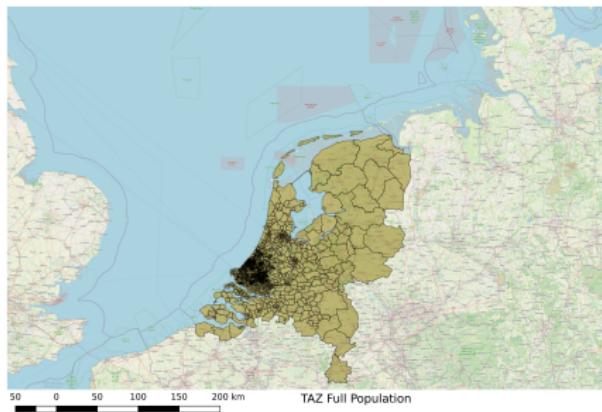
## Flanders

- ① TAZ area: more or less homogenous ( $5\text{km}^2$ )
- ② no address types in CRAB database

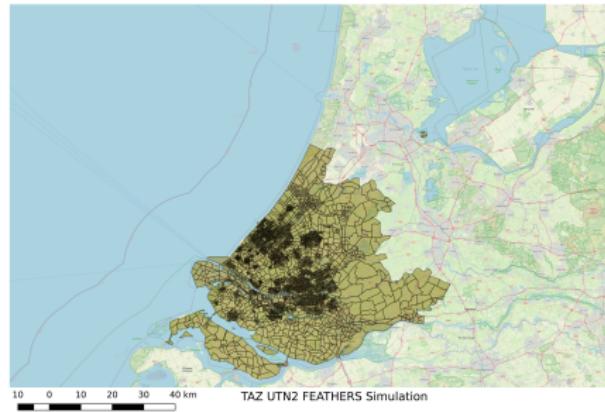
## The Netherlands

- ① TAZ area: wide range  $[0.01 \dots 1500]\text{km}^2$
- ② address labels in BAG database
  - ① each address database bears non-empty set of functional labels (*industry, meeting, residential, shopping, health, sports, ...*)
  - ② relation *activTypes*  $\times$  *addrLabels* to find candidate addresses for activity type



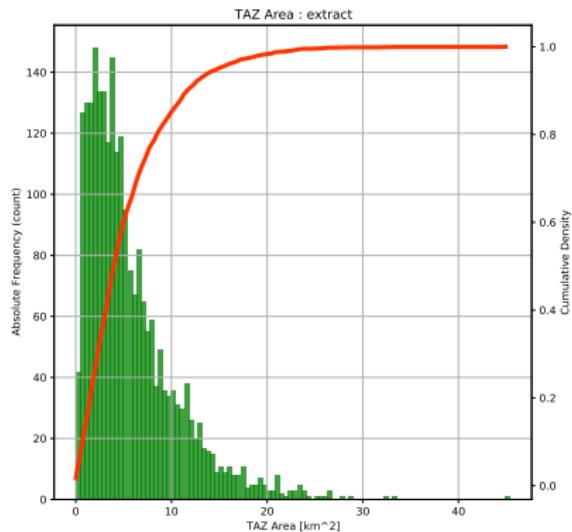


The Netherlands  
Nationwide

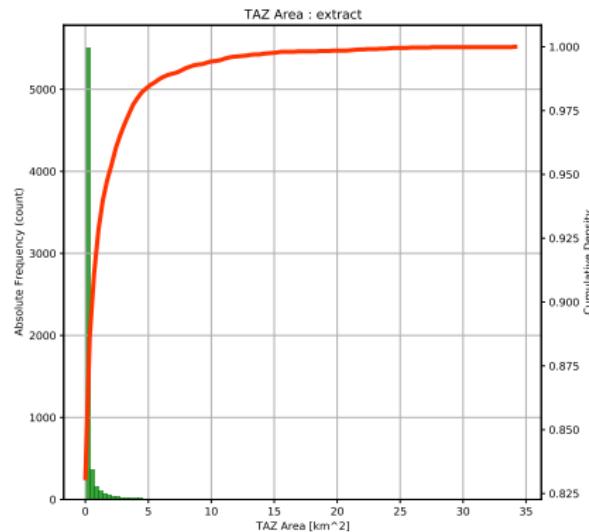


Simulated Rotterdam region  
(UTN2 project)

TAZ area distributions: mind rightmost vertical axis ranges.



Flanders



Rotterdam region (UTN2 project)

# Location Disaggregation: Problems to solve

## Intrazonal trips predicted by FEATHERS

- ① FL: intrazonal trip duration = 5[min]
- ② NL: intrazonal trip duration (distance) is  $\langle \text{TAZ}, \text{mode} \rangle$  specific
- ③ intrazonal trip duration (distance) *not* activity or individual specific

## Tour Delimiting

- ① ambiguity: how to disaggregate *revisited location* into *position(s)* ?
- ② e.g. *pickUp/dropOff* vs. *shopping*

# Location Disaggregation: Choice models

## Required

- ① Two level choice modeling

ActivBM : *location* choice at TAZ resolution

disAggregation : *position* choice at street address resolution

- ② Challenges

① keep the models compatible

② independent sampling *within travel plan* is *behaviourally inaccurate*

## Actual practice

- ① Nearly all research papers mention

① *independent position sampling*

② using *uniform* distributions

- ② In general: causes unrealistic schedules (travel plans)

- ③ Suitable only for fine grained homogeneous TAZ area distribution

## Location Disaggregation: Proposed method

*Position type  $\Leftrightarrow$  Activity type in a schedule (travel plan)*

stable : same for each activity of given type (*work, school, ...*)

volatile : discretionary (*shopping, services, ...*)

### Concept

- ① Assign *position* to each stable location in schedule
- ② Keep the predicted travel modes
- ③ For each tour: sample  $N$  tour alternatives (by sampling *position* for each volatile location)
- ④ Select the alternative with smallest total travel duration (distance) using fast coarse euclidean distance based estimate

## Location Disaggregation: Determining $N$ for tour $T$

$nAct(T)$  number of activities in tour  $T$

$A_i$  i-th activity in tour

$Z(A_i)$  TAZ for i-th activity in tour

$nAddr(Z(A_i), A_i)$  number of addresses in TAZ  $Z(A_i)$  for activity type  $A_i$

$$nComb = \prod_{i \in [1, nAct(T)]} nAddr((Z(A_i), A_i)) \quad (1)$$

$$N = \min(200, nComb/10) \quad (2)$$

- ① The number 300 is somewhat arbitrarily chosen (function of computational power), but has desirable probability of selecting a 'good' tour for realistic values of  $nComb$ .
- ②  $nComb/10$  is used to avoid systematic selection of shortest option when insufficient alternatives are available.

## Location Disaggregation: Proposed method

```
for all  $tp \in TravelPlans$  do
    assign position to each stable location in  $tp$ 
    for all  $tour \in tp$  do
         $selectedOption \leftarrow \text{null}$ 
        for  $i \in [0, N - 1]$  do
             $alt \leftarrow tour$ 
            for all  $loc \in alt$  do
                if  $loc.isVolatile()$  then
                     $loc \leftarrow$  uniformly sampled from suitable positions
                end if
            end for
             $selectedOption \leftarrow keepShortest(selectedOption, alt)$ 
        end for
         $tour \leftarrow selectedOption$            ▷ all volatile locations substituted in tour
    end for                                ▷ all volatile locations substituted in travel plan
end for                                    ▷ all travel plans processed
```

# ANN and MATSim: Alternative generation and training

## Alternative generation

- ① Using Conveyal R5<sup>1</sup>, trip alternatives for **each modality** will be generated for each trip in the **output** of MATSim simulation that uses the *plans.xml* file.

## Training

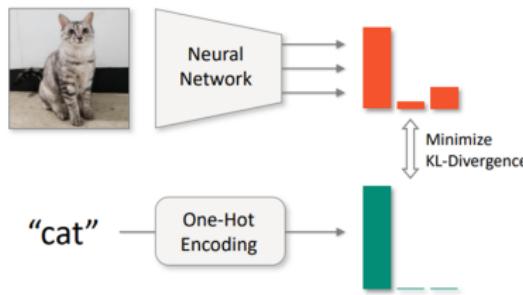
- ② A choice model will be estimated by training an Artificial Neural Network trained with **belief matching loss** on the generated trip alternatives, using the chosen trip mode in MATSim as **ground truth**

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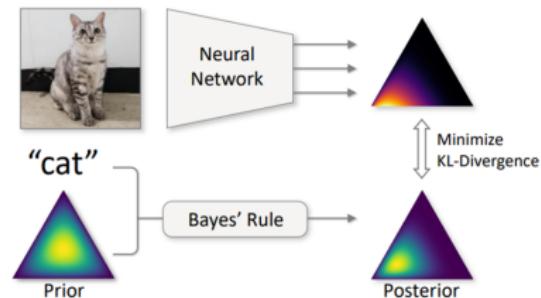
<sup>1</sup><https://github.com/conveyal/r5>

# ANN and MATSim: Loss function

Joo, T., Chung, U., and Seo, M.-G. (2020). Being bayesian about categorical probability. In *International Conference on Machine Learning*, pages 4950–4961. PMLR.



(a) Softmax cross-entropy loss



(b) Belief matching framework

$$\begin{aligned} & \psi(\alpha_y^w(x,s)) - \psi(\alpha_0^w(x,s)) - \lambda \left( \log \left( \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_0^w(x,s)) \prod_k \Gamma(\beta_k)}{\prod_k \Gamma(\alpha_k^w(x,s)) \Gamma(\beta_0)} \right) \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sum (\alpha_k^w(x,s) - \beta_k)(\psi(\alpha_k^w(x,s)) - \psi(\alpha_0^w(x,s))) \right) \end{aligned}$$

# ANN and MATSim: Comparing validation performance

Validation performance will be computed on:

- ① Withheld validation partition of generated alternatives from MATSim output plans.
- ② Generated alternatives based on trips matched using tracking data from the Amsterdam region collected from an app.

Training and validation metrics can be compared:

- ① Comparing training performance and validation performance on generated alternatives from MATSim output will yield an indication of the ability of the choice model to generalize
- ② Comparing validation performances on MATSim vs real world data will yield an indication of the ability of the MATSim model to capture real world mode choice dynamics