

Multimodal accessibility model for workplaces

- a framework for integrated land use and transport development

Background

Metropolitan areas all over the world are facing transport-related problems like congestion and pollution. Further growth brings up the question of where to create additional housing or where to develop workplaces. The spatial distribution of employment acts as a catalyst for transport activities and population growth. Due to this crucial role, planners need scientifically sound tools that help them develop sustainable employment-related land use and transport strategies.

Accessibility

Accessibility is a concept that combines characteristics of land use and transport in order to describe the potential of opportunities for interaction from a given location, from an individual's perspective or at a certain time. Some accessibility tools already exist that offer the potential to support decision-making in spatial planning processes. These instruments and concepts will be adapted and expanded in order to shed light on options for future employment development from a sustainable mobility perspective.

Expected Outcome

The main outcome of this research is a methodology for planning workplace development. The methodology will be realized by means of an accessibility model. The hypotheses are as follows:

- 1. The accessibility of workplaces has a significant influence on employees' mobility behavior.
- 2. The accessibility model is capable of highlighting specific development options for a variety of social, economic, and environmental goals.
- 3. The policy implications vary depending on the pre-defined planning goals, thus highlighting the importance of a clear definition and appropriate conceptualization of the objectives.

Objectives

Accessibility is a prerequisite for social interaction and economic prosperity. Thus, accessibility benefits are among the aims of spatial planning strategies. Accessibility increases with increasing proximity (as a result of increasing density and diversity), but also with increasing mobility. The negative consequences of excessive transport activities require appropriate solutions. Several existing studies focus on employment accessibility. However, a number of questions regarding the conceptualization of planning goals and the creation of a corresponding planning process are still open. This research aims to:

- Identify the influencing factors on employees' mobility behavior and explain the strength and direction of influence
- Develop an accessibility model that enables sustainable workplace development with respect to employees' mobility behavior
- Create an understanding of how accessibility analysis can enhance spatial planning processes and support the selection of appropriate accessibility indicators

Work program

The proposed work program includes the following steps:

- 1. Literature review: framework and concretization of methodological basis
- 2. Empirical analysis: identify influencing factors on employees' mobility behavior by comparing accessibility-related variables and realized behavior
- 3. Conceptualization: define planning goals (from the literature and discussions with political stakeholders) and develop an accessibility model based on the different goals
- Application of the model in the Munich Metropolitan Region (see Figure 1a-c)
- 5. Reflection: discuss model results referring to overarching goal of sustainable mobility of employees; conclusion and outlook

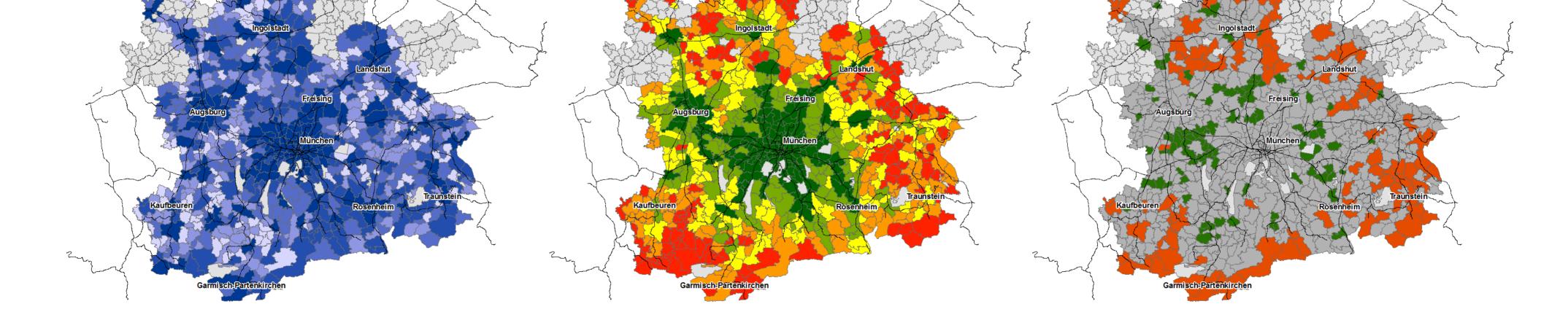


Figure 1a: Number of jobs per municipality

Figure 1b: Public transport accessibility to workers

Figure 1c: Overlay of jobs and accessibility to workers

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