



Leibniz Institute of
Ecological Urban and
Regional Development



Königsbrück / VVO

Linking Survey Data for Spatial Public Transit Analysis – Potentials, Relevant Data and Challenges

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Structure

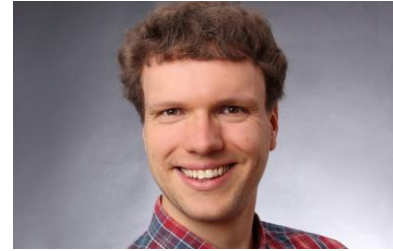
- Background & Motivation
- Potentials
- Relevant data & studies
- Methodology
- Challenges
- Discussion

Background & Motivation

Personal background

Theodor Rieche

- Spatial scientist and cartographer
- Interests
 - Geographic Data Science & GeoAI
 - Data linking & Modelling of uncertainties
 - Open Data, VGI / OpenStreetMap, Open Source, Citizen Science
- Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development (IOER)
 - Research Area „Spatial Information and Modelling“
 - Related research projects: SoRa+ and GOAT 3.0
- PhD started



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IOER Media

Introduction

Image, you plan to go from Ilmenau to Masserberg

(e.g. for swimming or hiking)

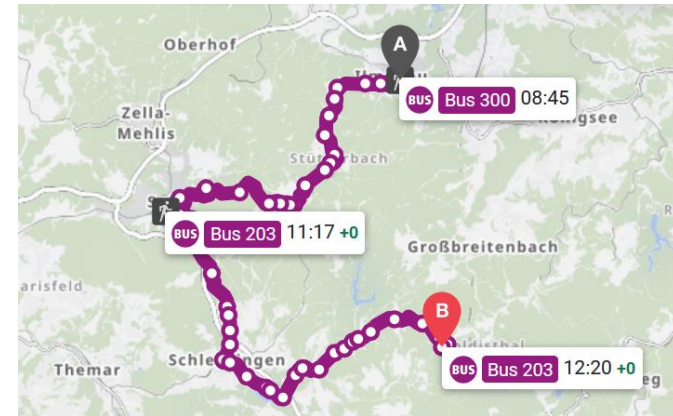
- By car: **31 min (25.2 km)**
- By bus: **at least 2 h 32 min (~ 65 km) via Suhl**

But from Ilmenau to Großbreitenbach (same county)

- By car: **26 min (18 km)**
- By bus: **34 min (18 km)**

Situation in Thuringian Forest region

- Bus often star-shaped network towards main town of each county
- Less cross-county lines
- Railway schedule is organised on federal state level



Kartendaten: © 2024 GeoBasis-DE/BKG (© 2009), Google Maps



Karte: NordNordWest, Lizenz: Creative Commons by-sa-3.0 de

Borders of local public transit planning

- Many different actors of local public transit planning in Germany draw a heterogeneous picture
- Planning of service/schedule or pricing on different spatial levels:
 - County
 - Traffic association
 - Federal state
 - Country

→ planning organization leads to border areas



Verkehrsverbünde: [Maximilian Dörrbecker \(Chumwa\)](#), [NJ Giggie](#), CC BY-SA 4.0 - Eigenes Werk

Research questions

- Has defining (artificial) boundaries of local public transit planning an impact on the offered service?
- Does it have an impact for daily choice of transport mode (e.g. car or bus) or car density for the people living within the border areas?
- And who is living in those border areas?
 - socio-demographic or socio-economic variables

Potentials

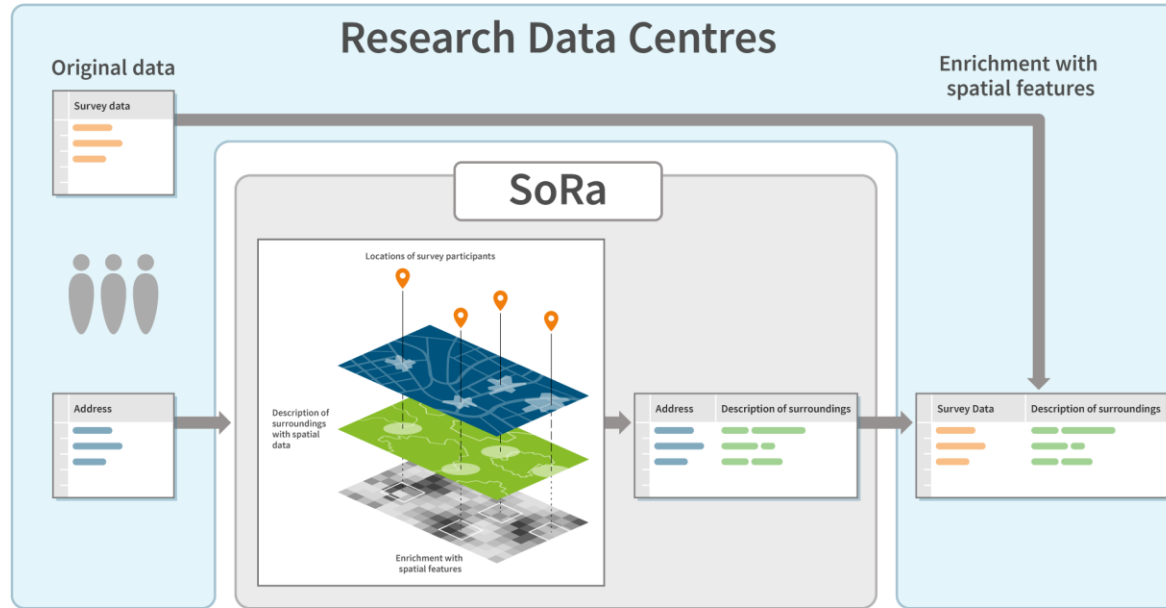


Potentials

- Long-term panel survey data exists, partly with small-scale spatial reference (like address or INSPIRE grid cell)
- More and more spatial data is publicly available, such as schedule data including departures, stops, journeys per day
- German-wide small-scale spatial indicators are available (e.g. IOER Monitor)
- Linking to gain more precise small-scale understanding of aspects in mobility sector
- Comparing individual perspective with status quo from spatial data

Data linking of survey and spatial data







General approach in the Sora+ project



Relevant data & studies

Relevant data & studies

Spatial data

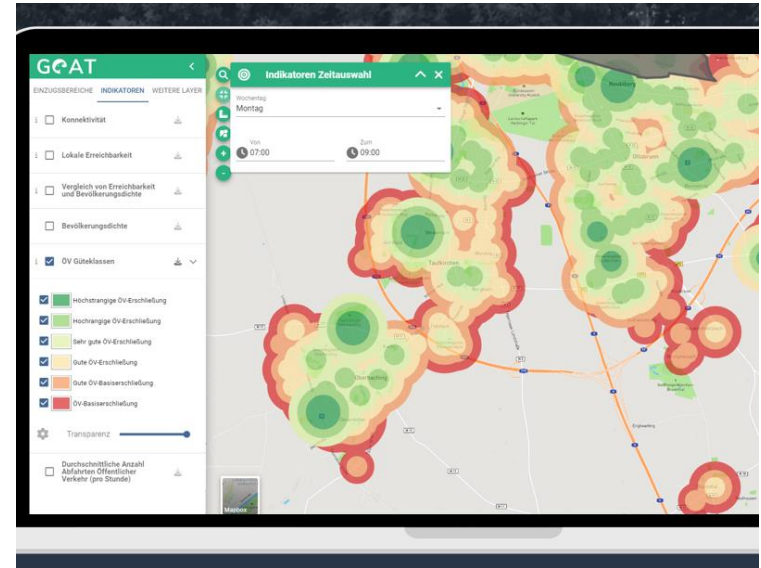
Dataset	A	B	C	D	E	F
						
Name	Deutschland gesamt / schedule data in GTFS format	Public transit routes	VG25 / Administrative boundaries	GeoGitter INSPIRE Grid	POIs	Spatial indicators from IOER Monitor of Settlement and Open Space Development
Provider	DELFI e.V.	OpenStreetMap	BKG	INSPIRE / BKG	OpenStreetMap, BKG	IOER Monitor
Spatial information	Stops as points	Polyline	Polygons	Polygons	POIs as points	Raster or Vector for whole Germany

Relevant data

Based on schedule data

Typical indicators:

- Accessibility of local public transit stops
- Frequency of services
- ÖV Güteklassen
- Operating period (from ... to ...)
- Number of trips per day
- Number of stops in admin unit
- Number of lines in admin unit
- Deriving disparities
- ...



ÖV Güteklassen with frequency and accesibility / Plan4Better GmbH / GOAT 3.0

Literature:

Agora Verkehrswende; Nationalatlas 1999;
Plan4Better / GOAT 3.0; Uddin (2022); Schlott (2022);
Shkurti (2022); Sikder (2020); Zogg (2023)

Relevant studies

In the field of mobility turnaround

- Agora Verkehrswende
 - Public transit (ÖV) Atlas 2021, 2022 and 2023
 - 2023: Mobility guarantee in Germany
- BBSR
 - 2018: Accessibility quality of public transit
 - 2019: Accessibility of public transport stops
- Acatech / Plan4Better
 - 2023: Modal Split / Active mobility Munich / MVV

Relevant data & studies

Based on survey (or statistical) data

Panel data	Smallest spatial reference	Socio-demographic	Socio-economic	Satisfaction with local public transit	Daily choice of transport mode
ALLBUS (GESIS)	INSPIRE grid	X	X		
SOEP Core (SOEP Panel)	Adress	X	X		(X)
INKAR (BBSR)	County / Municipality	X	X		(X) Car density etc
Regionaldatenbank (destatis)	County / Municipality	X	X		(X) Car density etc
Census 2011 & 2022	100m grid	X			
Mobility in Germany (BMDV / DLR)	1km grid (not everywhere)	X			X
Environmental awareness in Germany (UBA)	Federal state + city size	X	X		X

State of the art

- Various indicators of local public transit are applied mostly on municipality or county level
- Focus often on frequency or accessibility of the service
- Cross-border traffic is less in focus
- German-wide small-scale spatial indicators are missing

Methodology

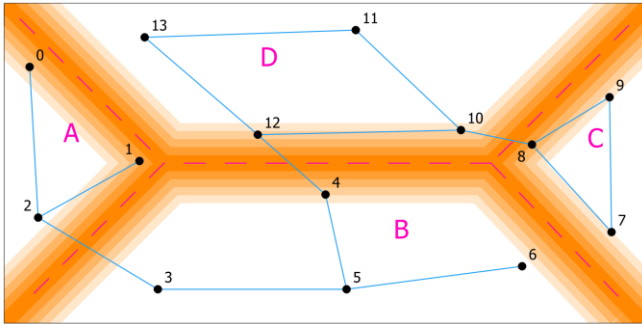


Methodology

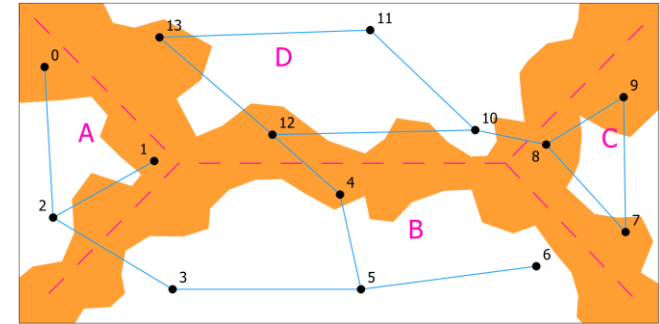
- Involving experts from mobility research and planning
- Creating spatial multi-level indicator
 - **Border area layer** (describing border areas)
 - **Connectivity layer** (analysing barriers in graph network)
 - **Destination / traveltime layer** (comparing reachable destinations / POIs by different transport mode e.g. private motor vehicle versus local public transit)
- Linking survey and spatial data using the SoRa approach
- Improve input data (e.g. POI data or schedule data)
- Model uncertainties in quantitative manner
- Test spatial indicators within model regions → later: Germany

Dimension: Border area

How to define the border area?

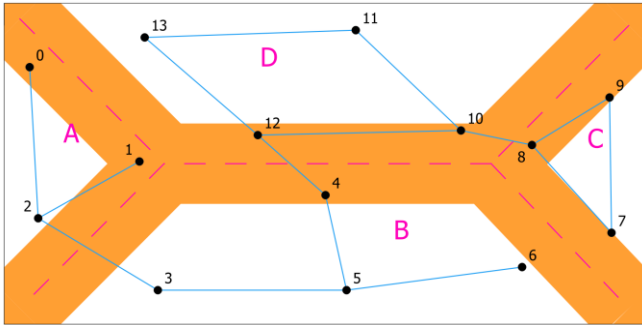


Buffer: graded border region with weighting ($0 \leq w \leq 1$)
(or using IDW to cover every area without gaps?)



Buffer: hard threshold

Using adjacent municipalities next to borders as a definition?



● stop

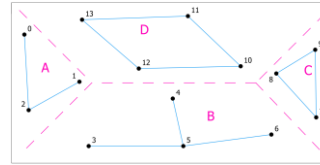
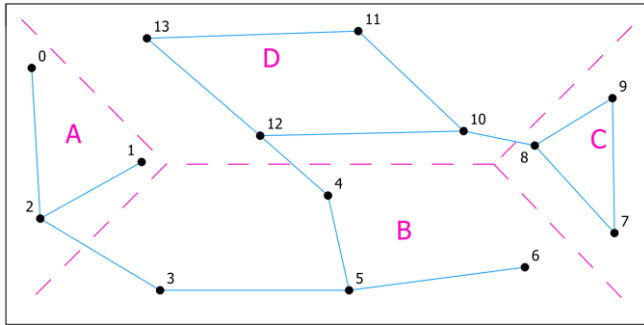
— border

— public transit route

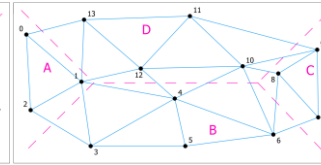
Border areas will be derived **for all relevant spatial levels**, e.g. counties, traffic associations, and federal states

Dimension: Connectivity

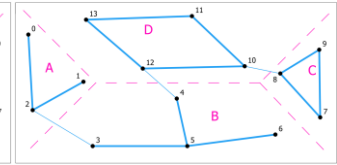
How to detect gaps in a node-edge-model (graph theory)?



worst case
(no cross-border service)



(almost) best case
(triangulation)



Low number of cross-border trips per day

Measures for cross-border services:
Edge (Public transit route)

- Crossing a border (yes/no)

Point (Stop)

- Ratio directly (without changing service) reachable stations in other areas versus all stops
- Number of adjacent edges

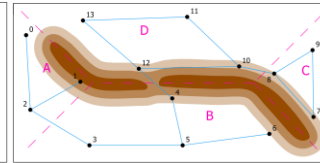
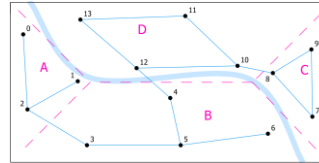
Comparison of two networks: public transit versus road network?

● stop

— border

— public transit route

Topographic barrier: rivers or mountains

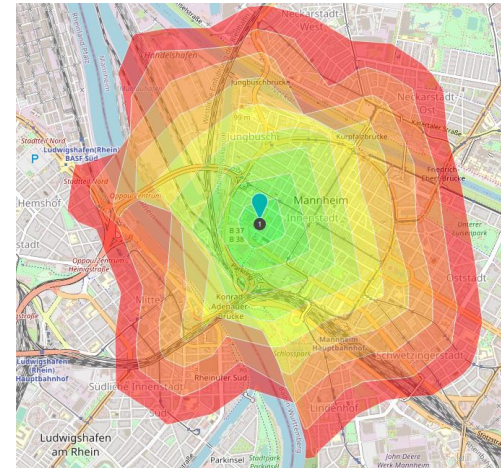


Dimension: Reachable destinations

Ratio of reachable destinations by different transport mode

- E.g. reachable POIs within one hour by car or local public transit
- As a measure to understand choice of transport mode
- Isochrones (profile: car or public transit)
- Could be derived in a small-scale raster grid
- POI data as relevant input (e.g. BKG, OSM)
 - Selection of POI type is still not defined

$$p = \frac{\sum \text{reachable POIs by local public transit}}{\sum \text{reachable POIs by private motor vehicle}}$$



<https://openrouteservice.org/>

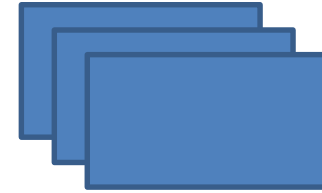
Usage of SoRa workflow

For linking survey and spatial data

survey data, addressing ...

- ... daily choise transport mode
- ... satisfaction with local public transit
- ... socio-demography
- ... socio-economy

And others



spatial data

Multi-level indicator containing multiple small-scale raster layer

- **Border area**
- **Connectivity**
- **Reachable destinations**



Analysing correlation to answer research questions

Challenges



Challenges

Important terms and its usage

- Data protection compliant processing → solution: SoRa data linking service
- Size of sample in survey data big enough? Representativeness?
- Positional accuracy / shift of survey data (if no adress data)
- From point to area: how to visualize survey data in a small-scale map without de-anonymize the survey participants?
 - Using dynamic buffer etc. based on population grid to keep statistical confidentiality?
 - Idea: detect changes of choise of transport mode or car density over time to explain it in spatial context?

Discussion

Discussion

Possible questions

- Further relevant georeferenced (survey) data for the analysis?
 - Hints for data of **Austria** or **Switzerland** to analyse cross-country region?
- How to define border areas related to planning borders?
- Any hints or further interesting aspects for my conceptual framework?

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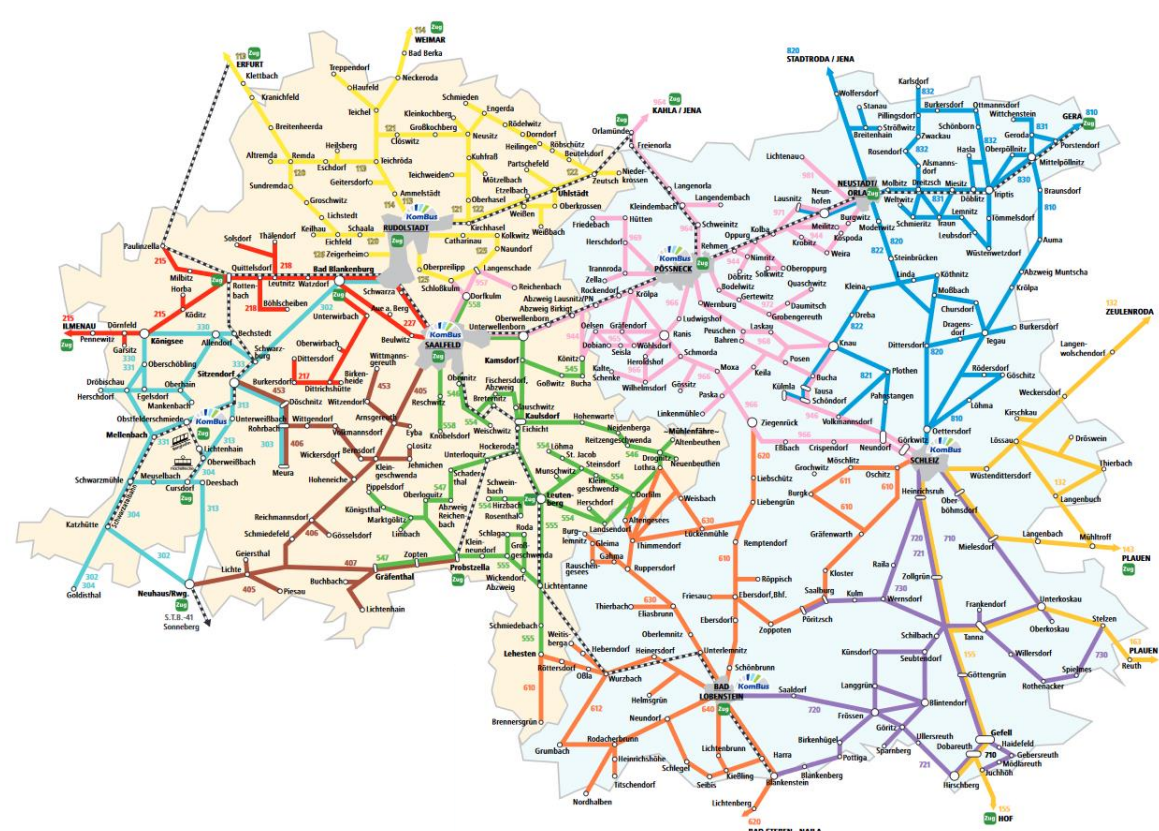
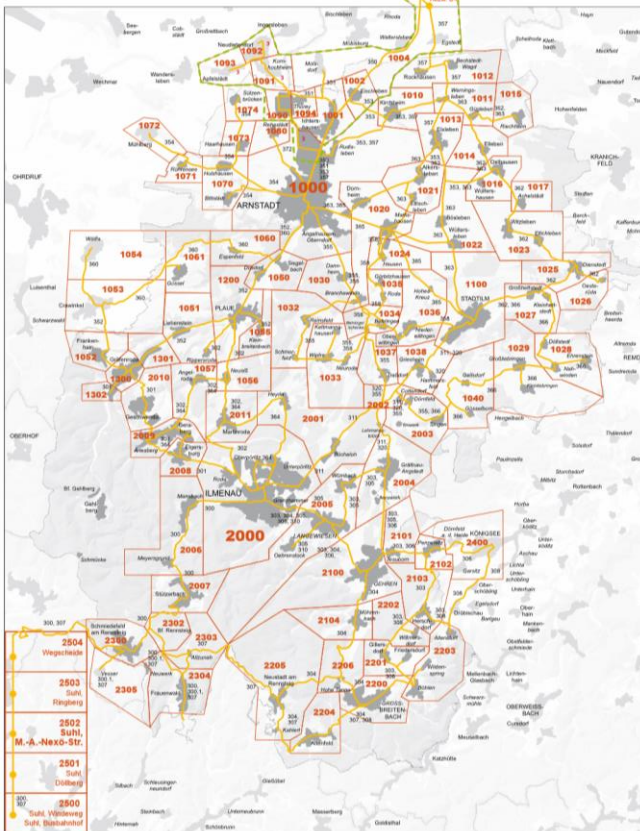
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Source: <https://www.bus-bahn-thuringen.de/>

Thank you for your attention!

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SoRa+ project: <https://sora-service.org/en/>

