Modelling variability of people's behaviour: time spent in different places in London

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Research undertaken within NERC APEx (Ben Barratt talk yesterday), NERC ASSURE & ERC urbisphere

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Introduction

Objective:

- to improve modelling of physical meteorological processes in urban areas by accounting for function
- to model how much time people spend doing different activities in different microenvironment (ME)



Approach to Model

People's behaviour:

- Activities: cooking, exercising, working, travelling
- Location: outdoors, indoors, in homes, shops, offices etc.
- Vary with: demographics (e.g. age), time (e.g. within day, week)

Outputs include:

- Anthropogenic heat flux (Capel-Timms et al. 2020, *GMD*): Building energy, transport, metabolism
- Time spent in locations and ME



DAVE: Dynamic Anthropogenic actiVities and feedback to Emissions Multi-scale model system





modified: Hertwig et al. 2024: in review



Many aspects of city varying

- Spaces of activity
- Land surfaces
- Building typologies
- Populations
- Activities

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Movement



Study area - London



- Mapping:
 - shown at 500 m x 500 m resolution
 - aligned with NAEI WRF modelling



Database development

(a) buildings (b) paved (c) grass frac. (-) frac. (-) frac. (-) 0 0 0 - 0.07 0.07 - 0.15 0.15 - 0.23 0.23 - 0.33 0.33 - 0.67 0 - 0.12 0.12 - 0.25 0.25 - 0.35 0.35 - 0.48 0.48 - 0.92 0-0.24 0.24 - 0.41 0.41 - 0.56 0.56 - 0.74 0.74 - 1 (e) water (f) bare soil (d) trees frac. (-) frac. (-) frac. (-) 0 - 0.003 0.003 - 0.008 0.008 - 0.016 0.016 - 0.033 0.033 - 0.061 0 - 0.02 0.02 - 0.06 0.06 - 0.12 0-0.04 0.04 - 0.14 0.14 - 0.33 0.33 - 0.63 0.12 - 0.2 0.2 - 0.34 0.63 - 1 (g) recreational greenspace (h) residential greenspace (i) other greenspace rac. (-) frac. (-) rac. (-) 0 0 - 0.07 0.07 - 0.21 0.21 - 0.39 0 - 0.077 0.077 - 0.186 0.186 - 0.292 0.292 - 0.413 0 - 0.1 0.1 - 0.27 0.27 - 0.51 0.39 - 0.66 0.51 - 0.77 0.413 - 0.721 0.66 -

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MAPSECC: London Multi-scale harmonisation Across Physical and Socio-Economic Characteristics of a City region

Hertwig et al. 2024: in review

Land-surface: SUEWS

- surface cover
- morphology
- materials

neighbourhood

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Hertwig et al. 2024: in review

MAPSECC: London

• Where people are

Where different types of indoor activities occur

Home

Work





MAPSECC: London

Residential building types differ

Simulated citizens

- assigned to different home building types
 - constrained by census data







Time Use Survey (TUS) Gershuny and Sullivan (2017)

TUS activities mapped to

ME **Activity Groups UK-TUS 2014-15** Activity groups Microenvironments Self care Home Activities Care work Chores Work OtherHome Education Workplace University Leisure PrimarySchool SecondarySchool Hospitality Hotel Exercise IndoorEnt Outside RoundTrip SmallShop LargeShop Cultural OutdoorEnt

• Timestep: 10-min

- Age groups
- Household sizes
- Day types
- Seasons

MAPSECC: London



People spend their time in different locations: varies with age, day type, time of day



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Hertwig et al. 2024: in review

MAPSECC: London



MAPSECC: London

Activities in different Microenvironments





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Hertwig et al. 2024: in review

Behaviour differs by household size (HHS)



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Liu et al. 2024 Energy and Buildings https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enbuild.2024.114668



Model simulations

- Assess impact of travel decisions on time spent
 - by age group:
 - by mode of travel
 - at home

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- Winter workday residents of central area of London (they can leave the area)
- People can use multiple modes to reach a destination
- Commute mode to/from work: same if available each day for an individual

Travel mode	walking	cycling	bus	Driving	train	tube
Speed: Average	constant	constant	Δ timetable	Same all day	Δ timetable	Δ timetable
				Δ by road type Δ by location		
Speed: Variable	constant	constant	Δ timetable	Δ w/time of day	Δ timetable	∆timetable
Fastest	Depends on route					
Slowest	Depends on route					
Most expensive	6	5	4	1	2	3
Cheapest	1	1	2	3	2	2

	Population	Age
Group	(%)	(years)
Children	6	5-12
Teens	7	13-18
Adults	76	19-64
Seniors	11	65+
Total #	332,065	





Fastest route chosen





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Impact of variable speed on mode choices

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Impact of transport choice on time spent travelling and at home



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Whole area





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Final Comments

- DAVE
 - allows human activities to influence urban physical meteorology
 - \rightarrow inform air quality simulations
 - allows assessment of time spent in different locations and microenvironments by individuals
 - \rightarrow inform exposure assessments
 - allows what if experiments to be conducted



