

NECESSITY FOR URBAN MODELS IN THE PLANNING CONTEXT

Models can be

- parameterized
- computed
- rendered

NECESSITY FOR URBAN MODELS IN THE PLANNING CONTEXT

Models can be used to produce

- (a) simulations (energy, windflow, crowd behaviour)
- (b) visualizations (data representation from (a)),
- (c) iteration (manipulation and gained intuition)

MODELLING VS. DIRECT MEASUREMENT

Models are used IF

- (a) impossible or impractical to have experimental conditions with measurable outcomes
- (b) models use assumptions
- (c) number and precision of assumptions affect accuracy and thus relevance of models
- (d) Models are not necessarily digital

MODELLING VS. DIRECT MEASUREMENT

Direct measurement

- (a) where experimental conditions possible
- (b) controlled experiment, scientific method, for observation
- (c) accuracy higher than modelled estimates, depending on monitoring errors

MODELLING LANGUAGES

Artificial language (or convention) to express

- (a) information
- (b) knowledge
- (c) systems

Defined by consistent set(s) of rules.

MODELLING LANGUAGES

Rules are used for the interpretation in the model structure.

Examples:

- (a) CGA shape grammar
- (b) Unified Modelling Language (UML)
- (c) CityGML (City Model for the Geographic Markup Language)

SIMULATION VS. MODEL

A simulation is the functional implementation of a model in descriptive dimensions.²

² Systems Engineering Fundamentals. Defense Acquisition University Press, 2001.

SIMULATION VS. MODEL

A simulation

- (a) shows behaviour of particular object / phenomenon
- (b) is useful for testing, analysis, training.

STRUCTURE OF A MODEL

Structure ³

Fundamental notion covering

- (a) recognition
- (b) observation
- (c) nature
- (d) stability of patterns
- (e) relationships of entities

³ Pullan, Wendy (2000). Structure. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. ISBN 0521782589.

STRUCTURE OF A MODEL

Structure ³

Represents definition of a system:

- (a) configuration of items
- (b) collection of inter-related items
- (c) hierarchy (1 to n connections) or
- (d) network (n to n connections)

³ Pullan, Wendy (2000). Structure. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. ISBN 0521782589.

STRUCTURE OF A MODEL

Types of structures Classification in

- (a) biological structure
- (b) chemical structure
- (c) built structure
- (d) musical composition
- (e) social structure
- (f) data structure

SYSTEM

A system is a set of interacting or interdependent entities forming an integrated whole.

SYSTEM

Common characteristics of a system:

- (a) structure
- (b) behavior
- (c) interconnectivity

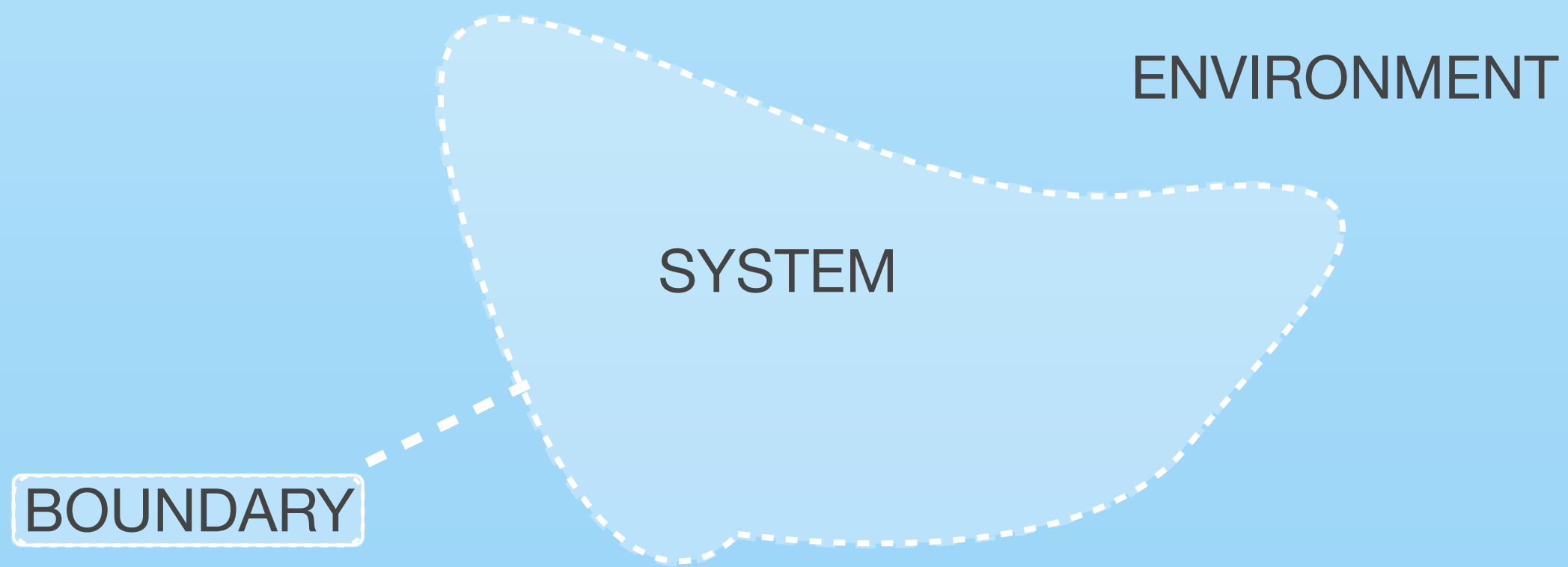
SYSTEM CONCEPTS

Environment and boundaries

(a) System scope has to be defined
e.g. what is inside/outside.

(b) Inside = part of system

(c) Outside = part of the environment.

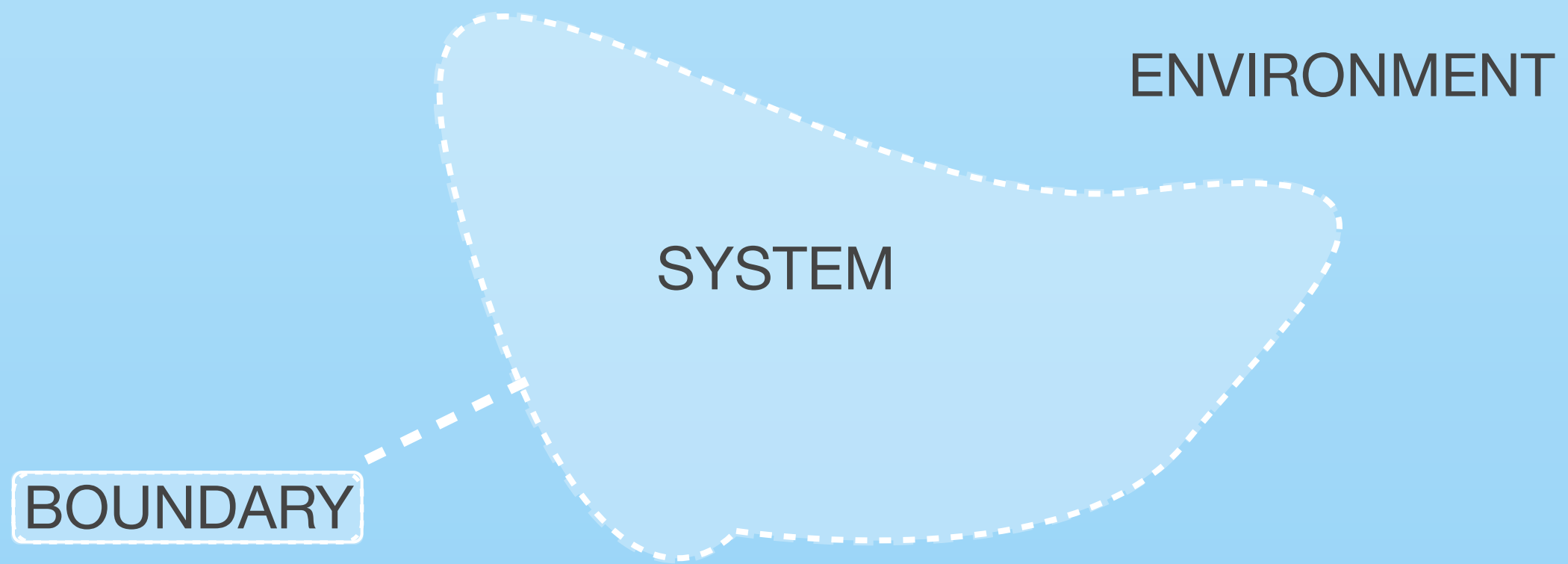


SYSTEM CONCEPTS

Environment and boundaries

Result

Simplified representation = Model



SYSTEM CONCEPTS

Natural and man-made systems

Natural systems:

- (a) may not have apparent objectives
- (b) output can be interpreted by related systems

SYSTEM CONCEPTS

Natural and man-made systems

Man-made systems:

- (a) purpose: delivery of outputs
- (b) coherent entity, otherwise two or more distinct systems

SYSTEM CONCEPTS

Open system vs. closed system

Open system

interacts with its
environment (with some
entities)

Closed system

is isolated from its
environment

SYSTEMS APPROACH & QUANTITATIVE REVOLUTION

**Late 1950s: rigorous theory building vs.
loose speculation**

(a) Quantitative Revolution

(b) Systems Approach

SYSTEMS APPROACH OF URBAN MODELS

Quantitative Revolution (1950s-90s)

- connection geographical space with mathematics, statistics
- analytical approaches for urban economics
- Operations Research medium for the analysis of a host of 'human' problems (link to Systems Approach⁴)

⁴ Batty (1976). Urban Modelling.

SYSTEMS APPROACH OF URBAN MODELS

Systems Approach (until today)

Blurring boundaries between disciplines
sharing of basic methodologies
transdisciplinary system engineering as a
science^{5,6}

⁵ Von Bertalanffy (1971). General Systems Theory.

⁶ Wiener (1948). Cybernetics.

ORIGINS OF URBAN MODELLING

Hippodamian System as a development model⁷ (Hippodamus of Miletos, 498 BC -408 BC)

- city of 10.000 (free) men,
- up to 50.000 people (including women, children, slaves)

⁷ Aristototele, politics II: VIII

ORIGINS OF URBAN MODELLING

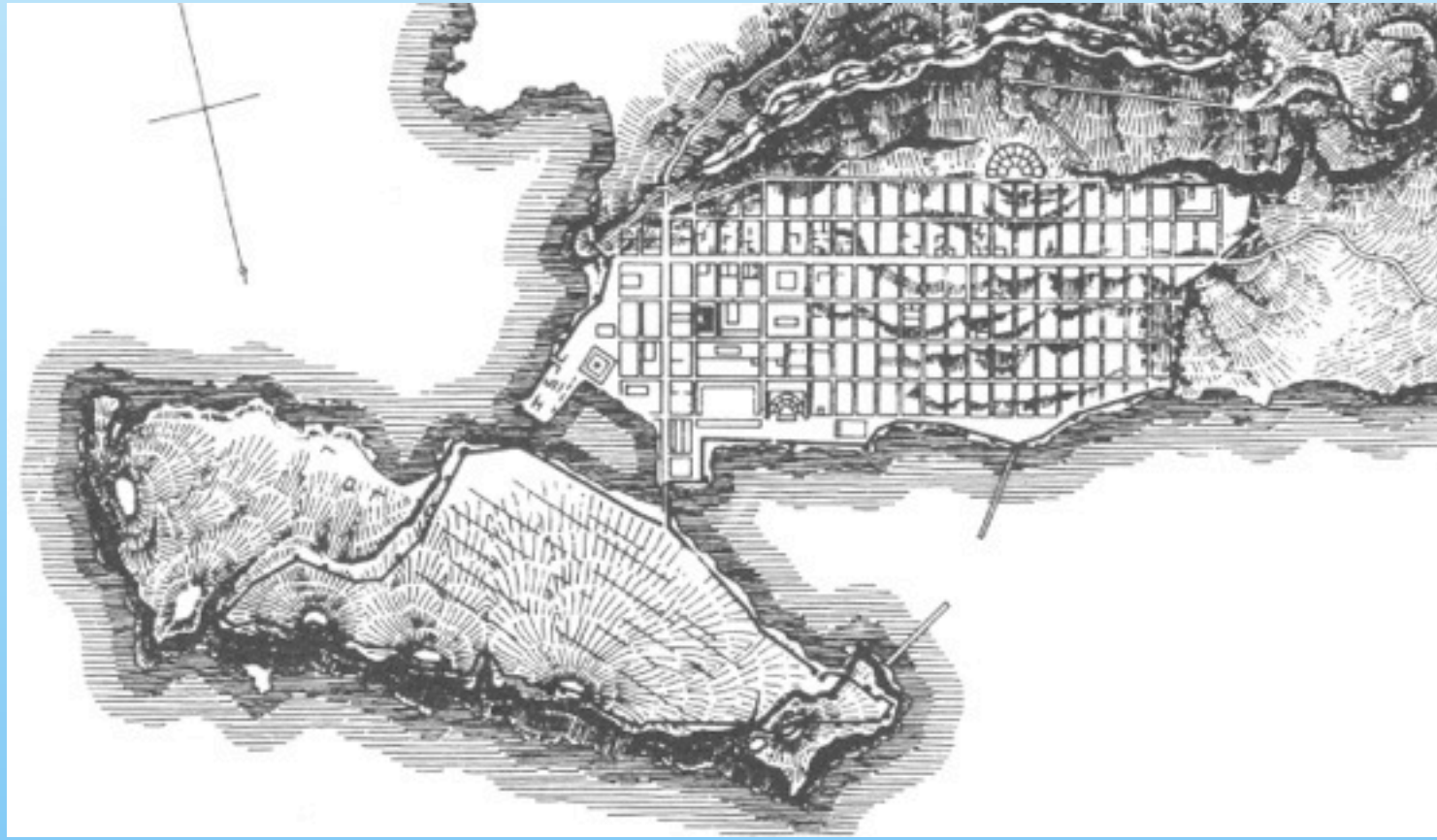
Hippodamian System as a development model⁷ (Hippodamus of Miletos, 498 BC -408 BC)

- system of social classes: soldiers, artisans and 'husbandmen'
- system of land use allocation: sacred, public, private

⁷ Aristototele, politics II: VIII

ORIGINS OF URBAN MODELLING

Hippodamian System as a development model⁷ (Hippodamus of Miletos, 498 BC -408 BC)



Knidos

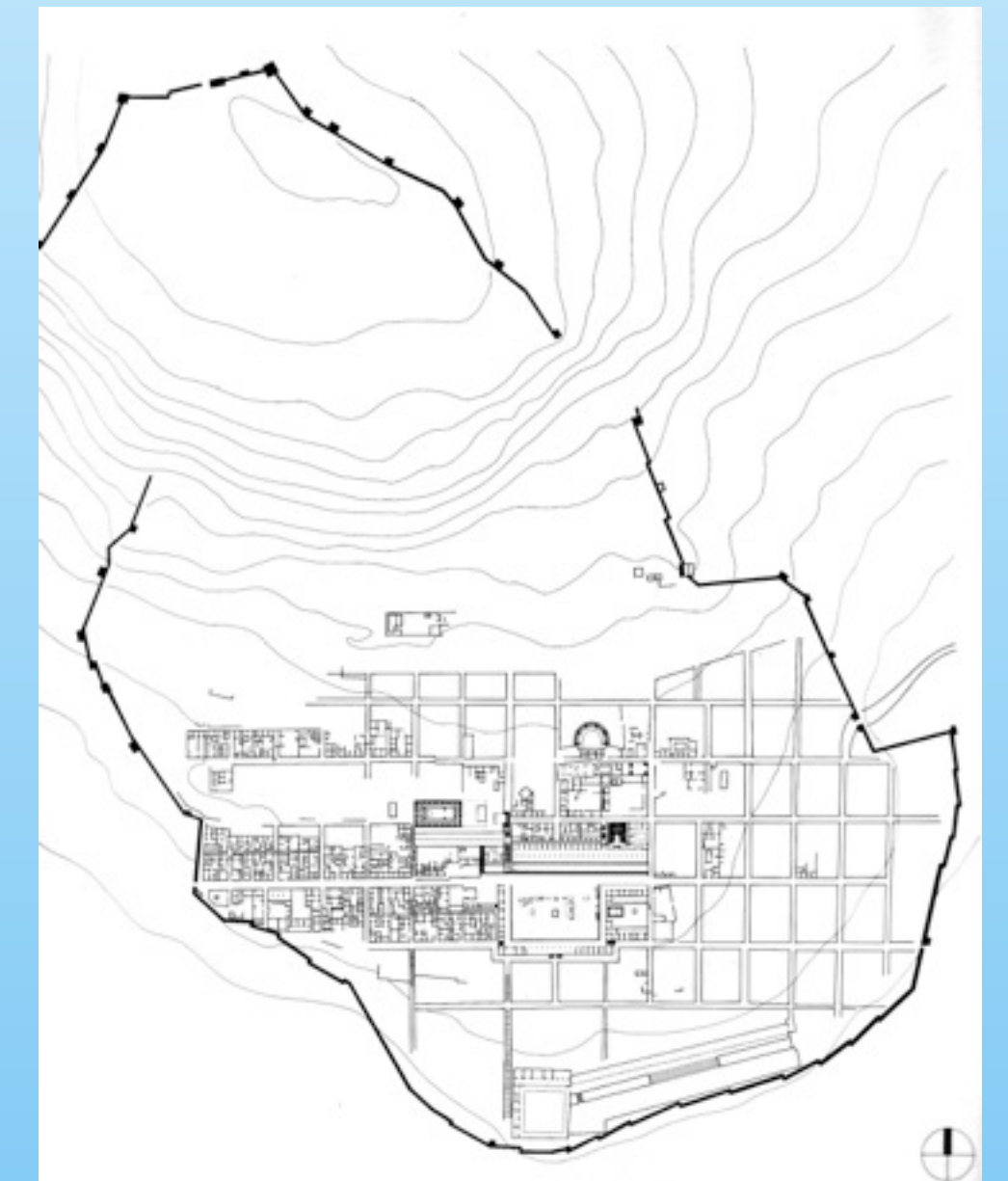
⁷ Aristototele, politics II: VIII



Miletos

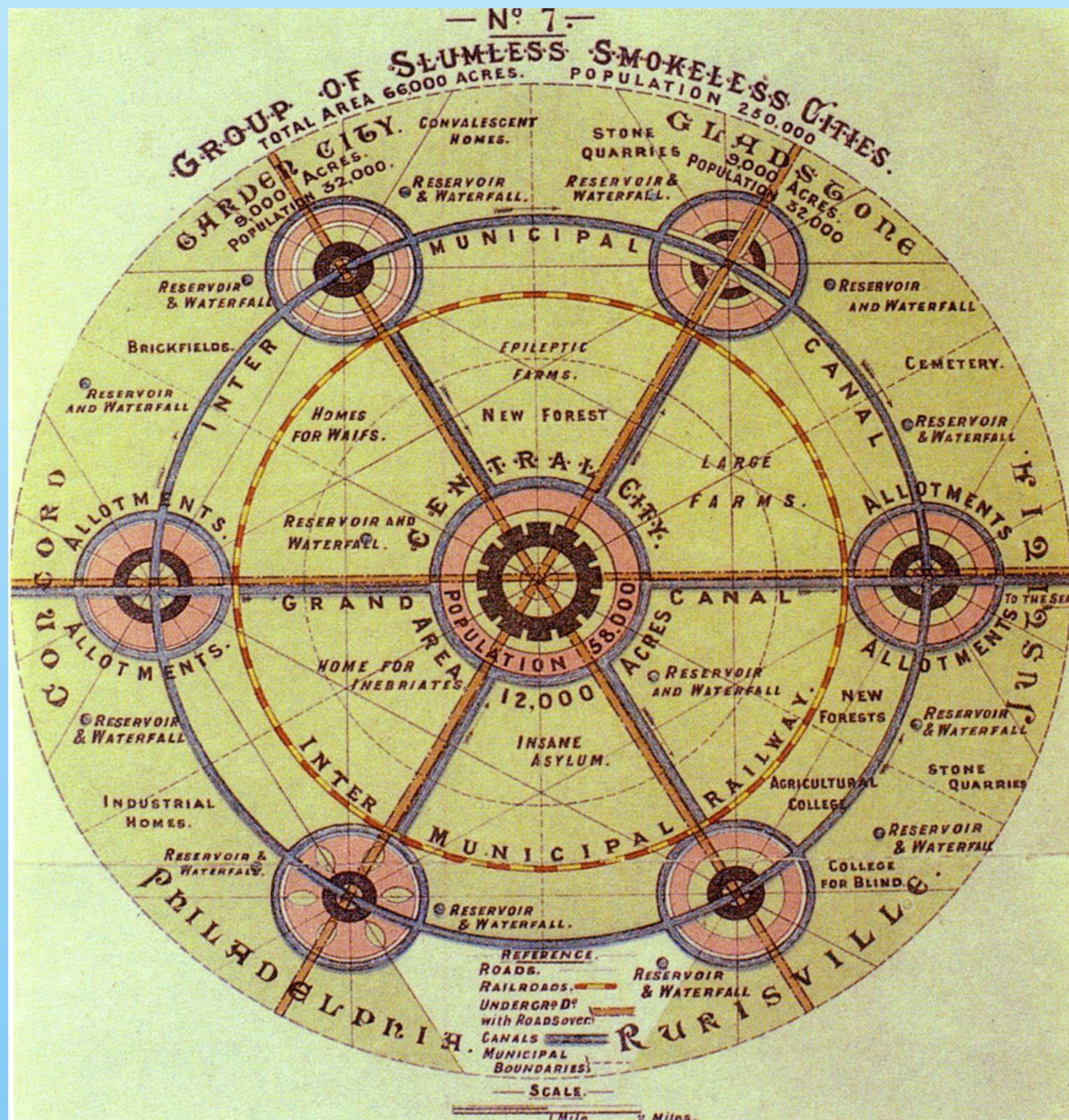


Olynthos

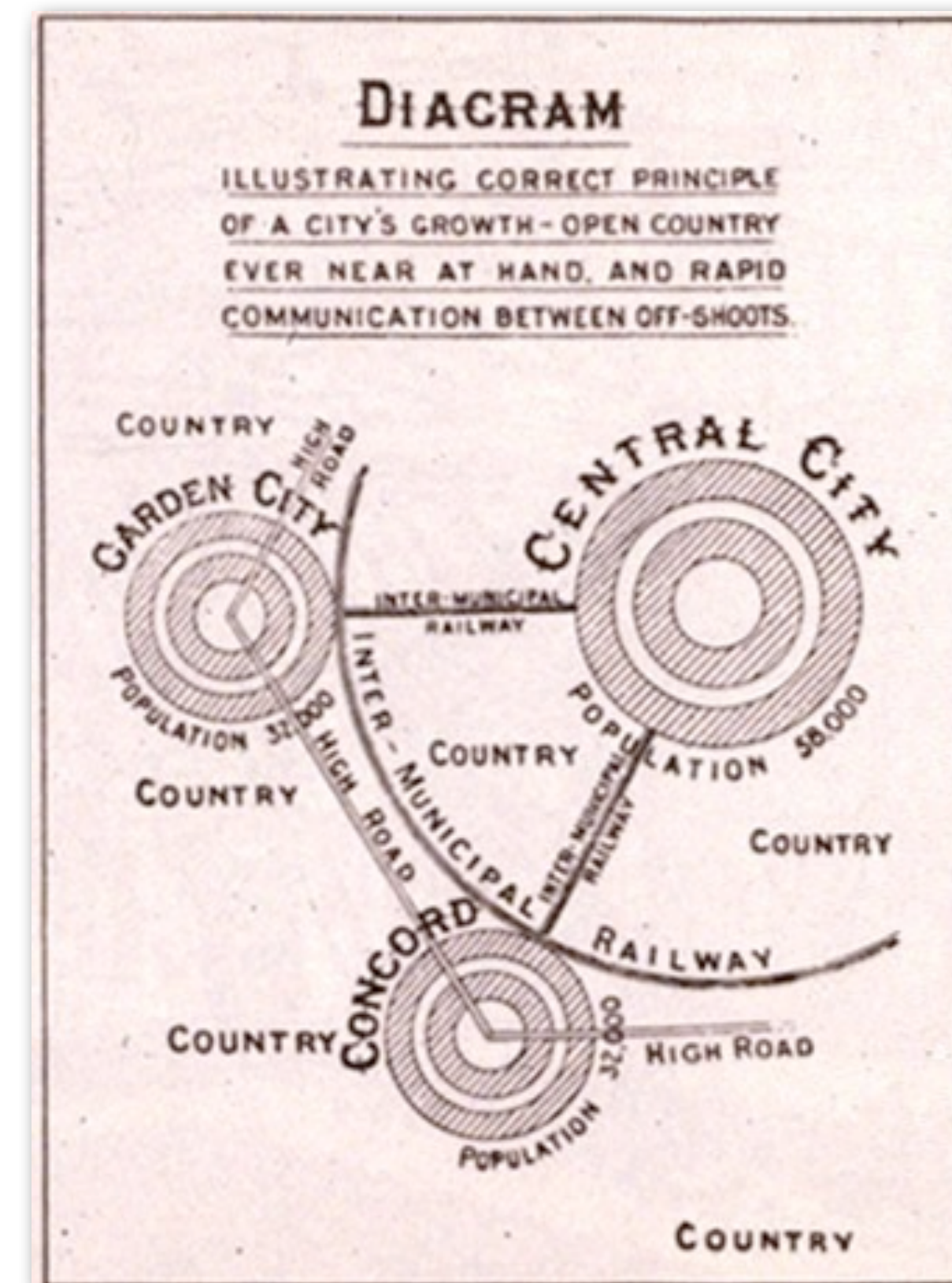


Priene

GARDEN CITY MODEL



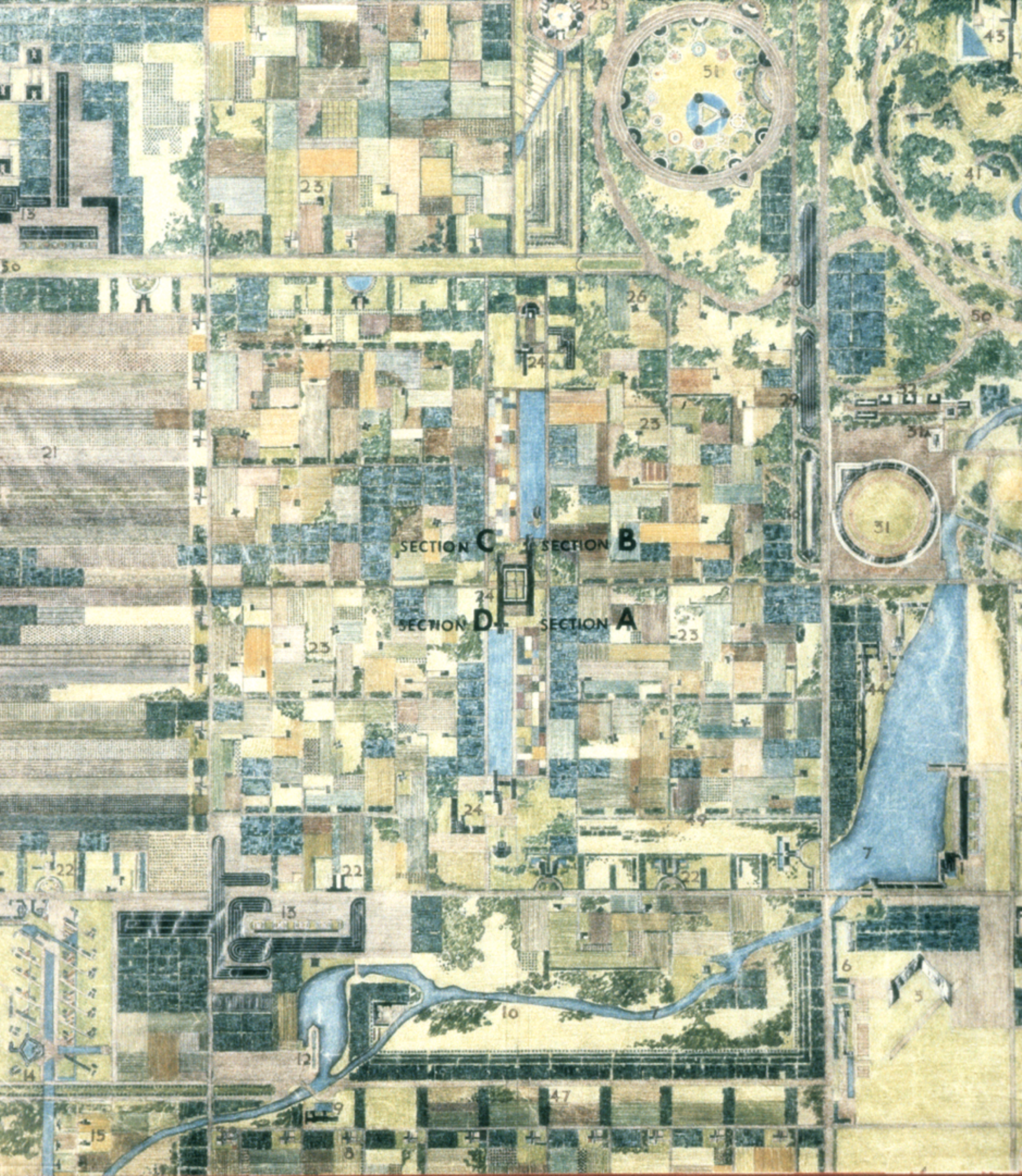
Howard (1898). Garden Cities of tomorrow.



DEVELOPMENT MODELS

Broadacre City Model

- (a) antithesis of a city
- (b) newly born suburbia
- (c) one acre for each family (~4000 sq. m.)
- (d) car traffic network

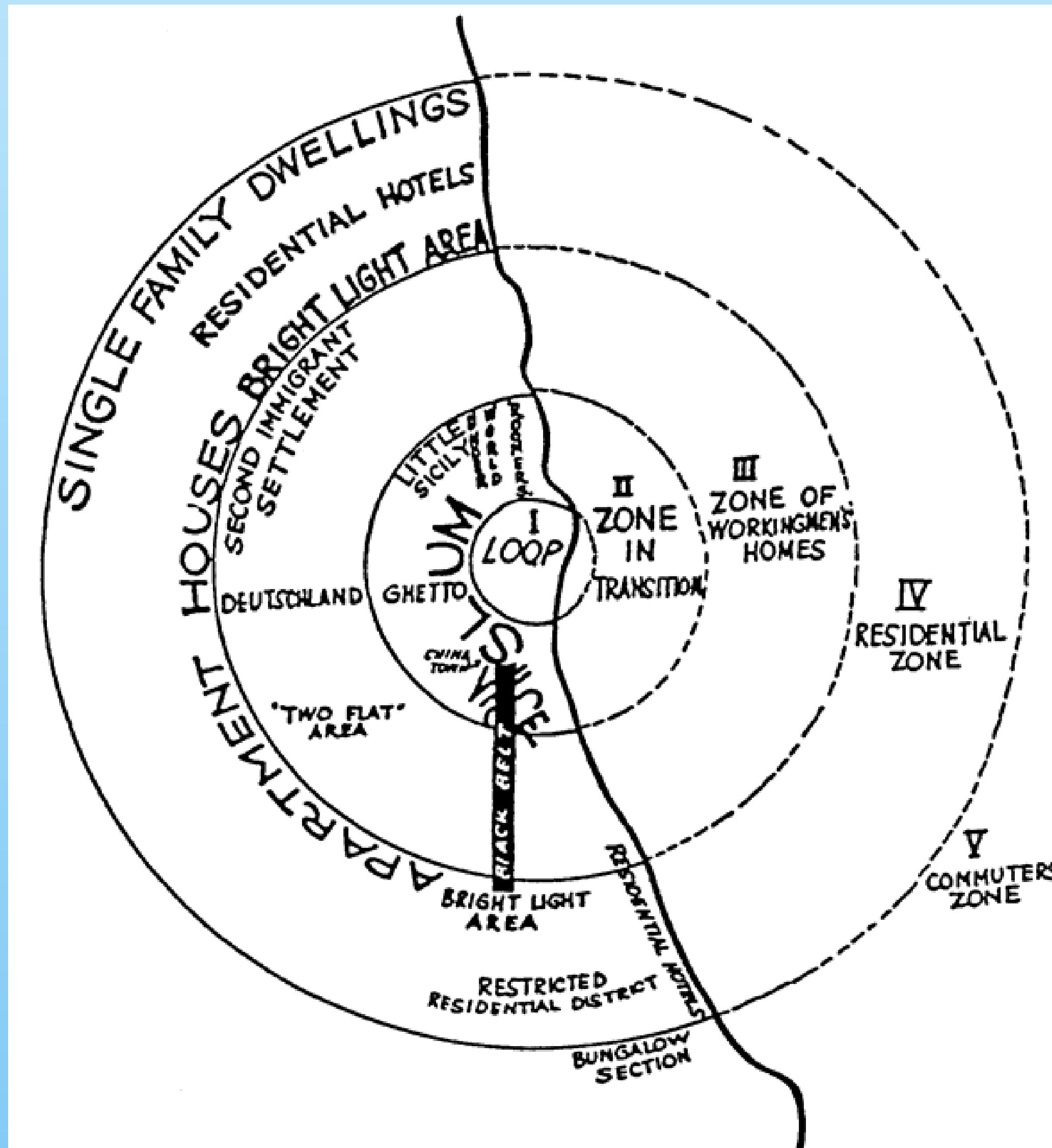


Wright (1932). The Disappearing City.

DEVELOPMENT MODELS

Concentric zone model

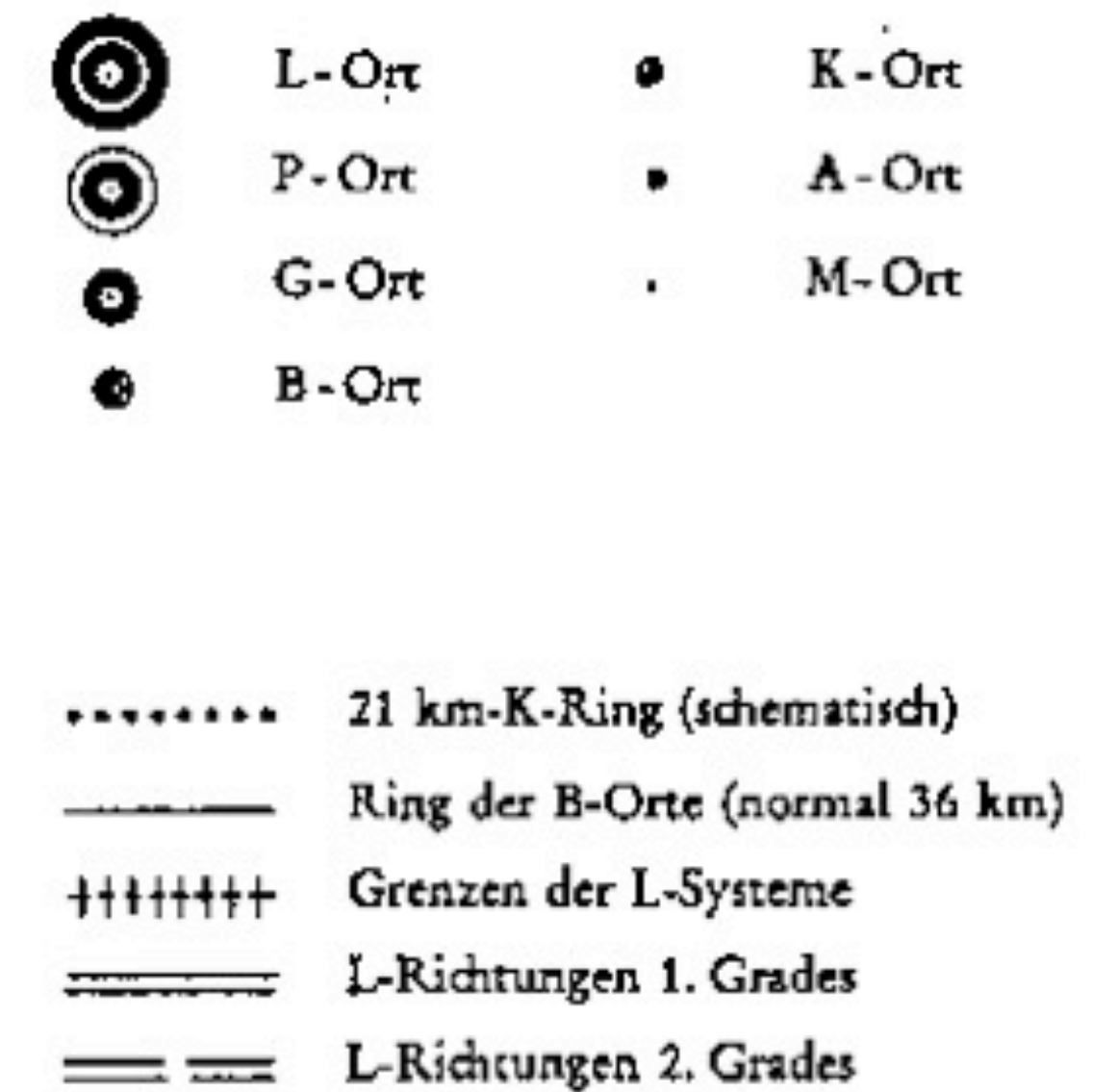
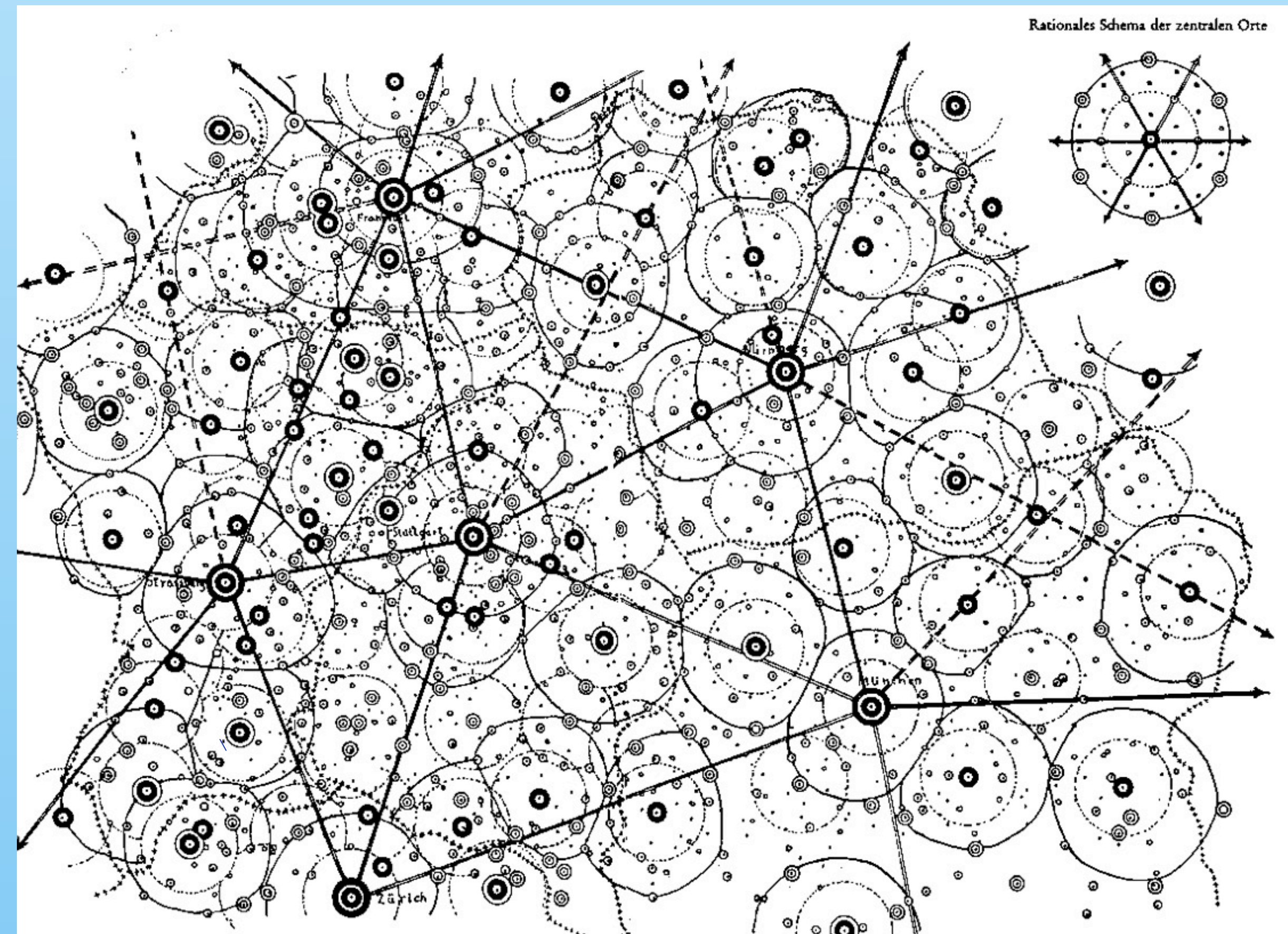
- (a) use area at city center
- (b) grow through migration
- (c) use an population from center to outside zone
- (d) zone in transition between center and outside zone
- (e) zones with decreasing density



Burgess et al. (1925).

DEVELOPMENT MODELS

Central Place Theory



Christaller (1933).

DEVELOPMENT MODELS

Central Place Theory

Optimal locations of production and supply

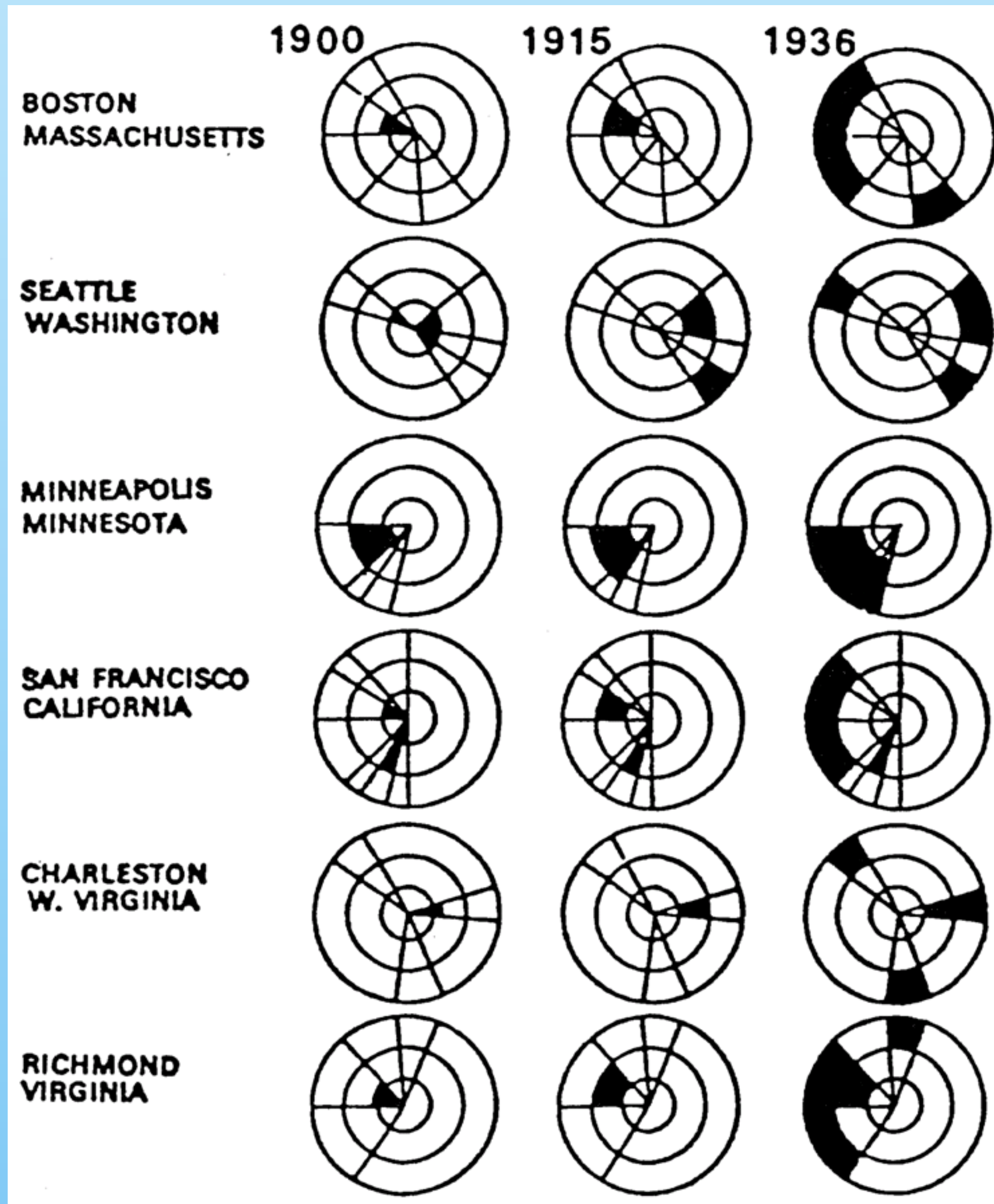
Given assumptions:

- (a) infinite homogeneous area
- (b) no topographic barriers
- (c) proportional cost for transport to distance
- (d) population with similar income, needs and density
- (e) producers and consumers maximize win-win

DEVELOPMENT MODELS

Concentric zone model

- (a) Starting point: all uses at city centre
- (b) high incomes move outside along public transport / streets
- (c) low incomes occupy free appartements
- (d) high income zones determine city development
- (e) different uses around city center

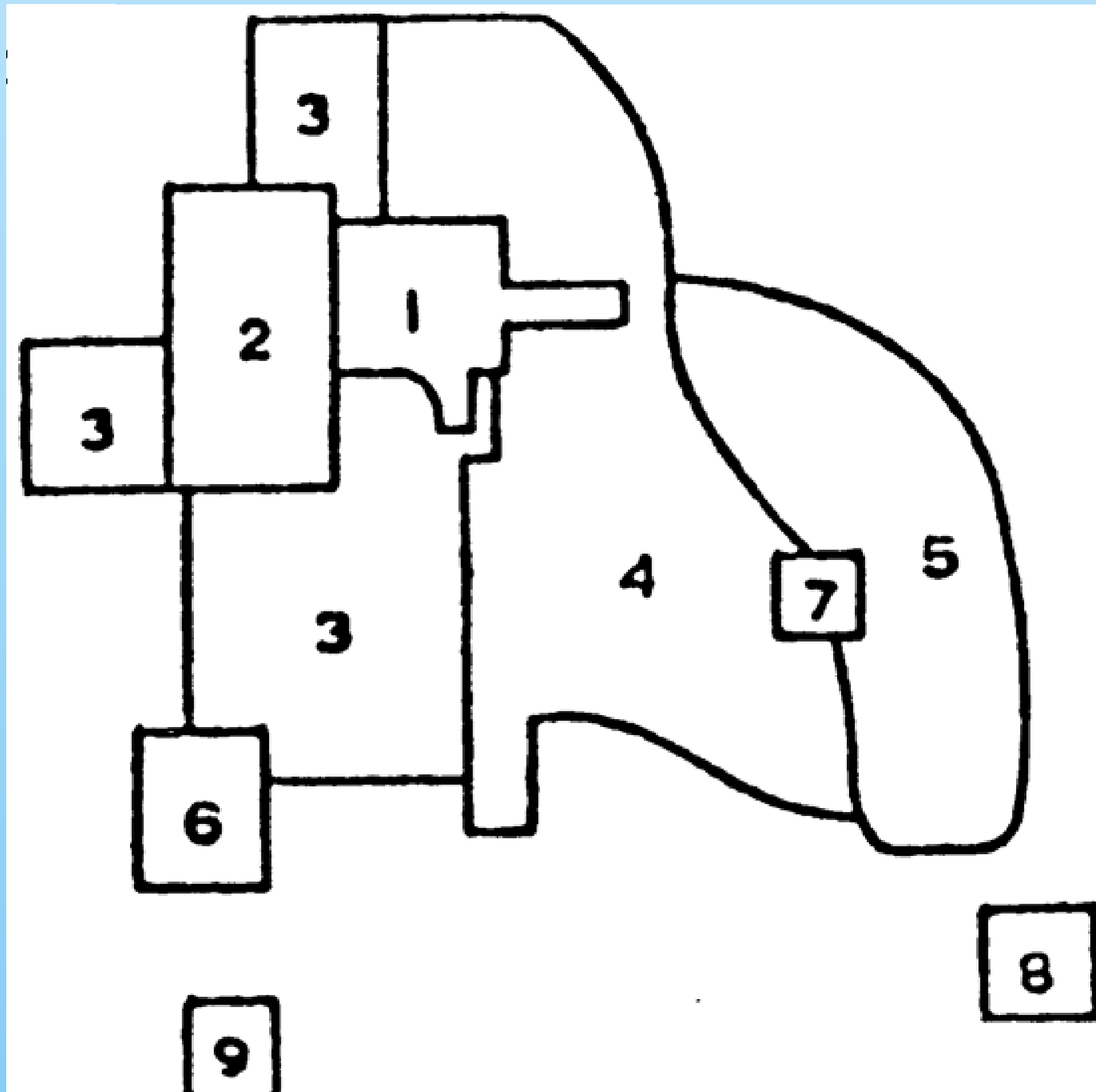


Hoyt. (1939).

DEVELOPMENT MODELS

Poly centric zone model

- (1) CBD
- (2) Retail
- (3) Residential, low incomes
- (4) Residential
- (5) Residential, high incomes
- (6) industry
- (7) sub center
- (8) residential suburb
- (9) industrial suburb

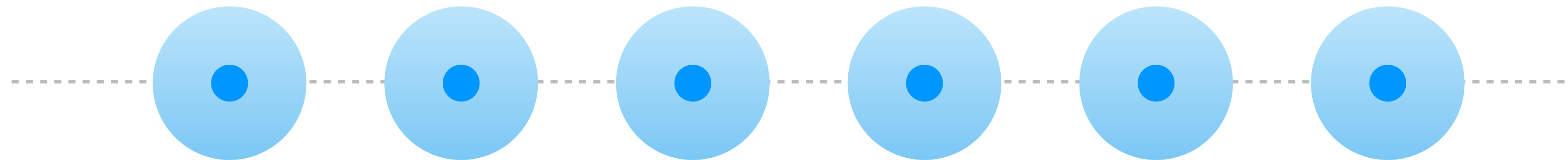


Harris and Ullmann. (1945).

DEVELOPMENT MODELS

Polarized Development

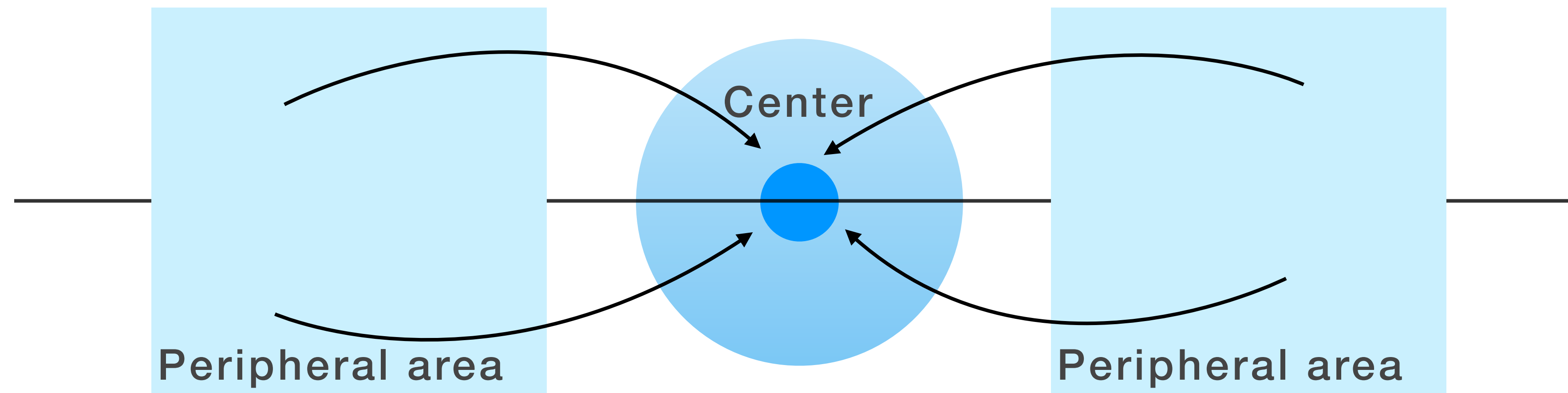
Pre-industrial development



DEVELOPMENT MODELS

Polarized Development

Transitional era development

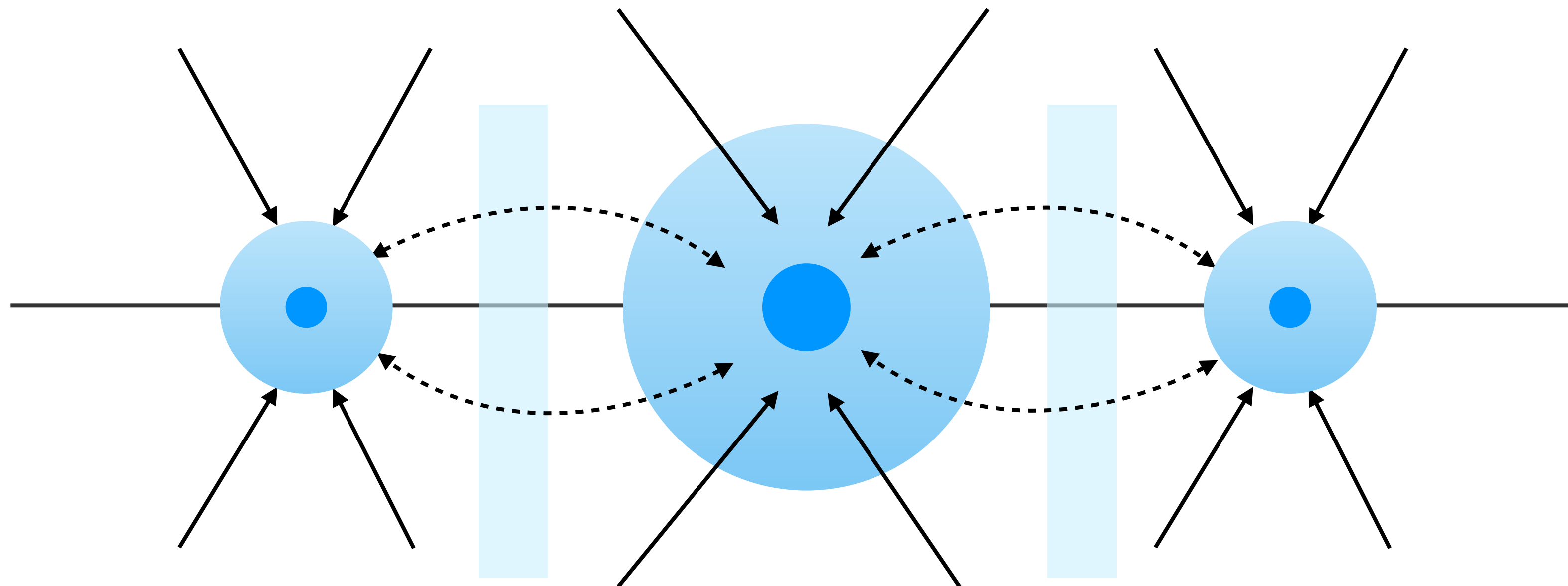


Friedmann (1972).

DEVELOPMENT MODELS

Polarized Development

Industrial era development

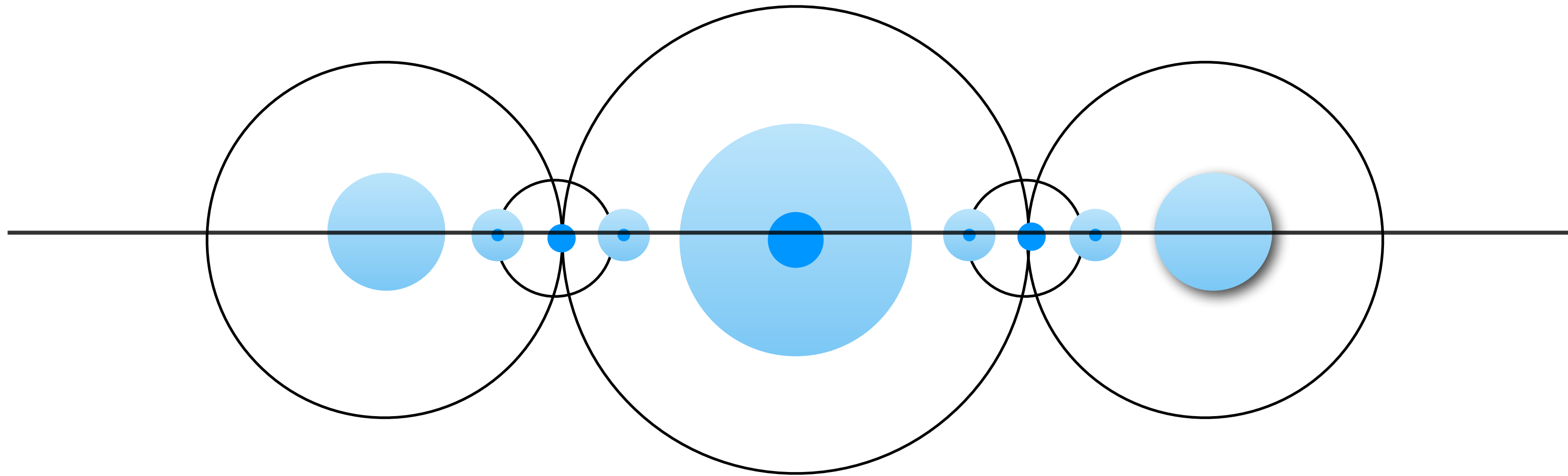


Friedmann (1972).

DEVELOPMENT MODELS

Polarized Development

Postindustrial development



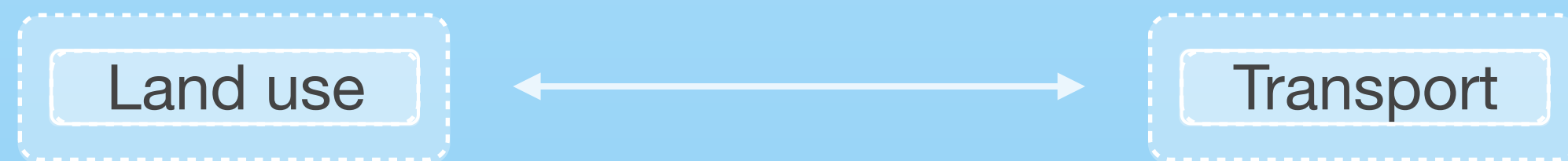
Friedmann (1972).

LAND-USE TRANSPORT MODELS

(I) Spatial development, land use determines the need for spatial interaction.

(II) Spatial interaction, transport provides accessibility.

(III) Spatial interaction determines spatial development.



LAND-USE TRANSPORT MODELS

Difficult to isolate land use from transport through multitude of concurrent changes. Methods for predicting impacts:

- (a) data from interviews with inhabitants
scenarios like change of locations through increased transport costs, land use regulations
- (b) conclusions from observed decisions
(‘revealed preference’)
- (c) simulate human decision behaviour in mathematical models

Wegener (2004). Transport Geography and Spatial Systems.

MATHEMATICAL LAND-USE TRANSPORT MODELS

- (a) based on empirical surveys
- (b) conclusion are quantified
- (c) results no more universally valid than empirical studies

Wegener (2004). Transport Geography and Spatial Systems.

LAND-USE TRANSPORT MODELS

Urban change process

- (I) Very slow changes: Urban transport, communications and utilities
- (II) Slow changes: Workplaces, housing
- (III) Fast changes: Employment, population
- (IV) Immediate changes: goods transport, travel

Wegener (2004). Transport Geography and Spatial Systems.

LAND-USE TRANSPORT MODELS

9 urban subsystems

(grouped to speed of change)

Very slow changes: Urban transport, communications and utilities

Slow changes: Workplaces, housing

Fast changes: Employment, population

Immediate changes: Goods transport, travel

Complex: Urban environment

Wegener (2004). Transport Geography and Spatial Systems.

LAND-USE TRANSPORT MODELS

Urban environment (human activities)

- (a) immediate: transport noise, air pollution
- (b) long-term: water or soil contamination
- (c) very slow: effects to climate

Wegener (2004). Transport Geography and Spatial Systems.

LAND-USE TRANSPORT MODELS

Urban subsystems are market driven and only partly subject to policy regulation.

Wegener (2004). Transport Geography and Spatial Systems.

LAND-USE TRANSPORT MODELS

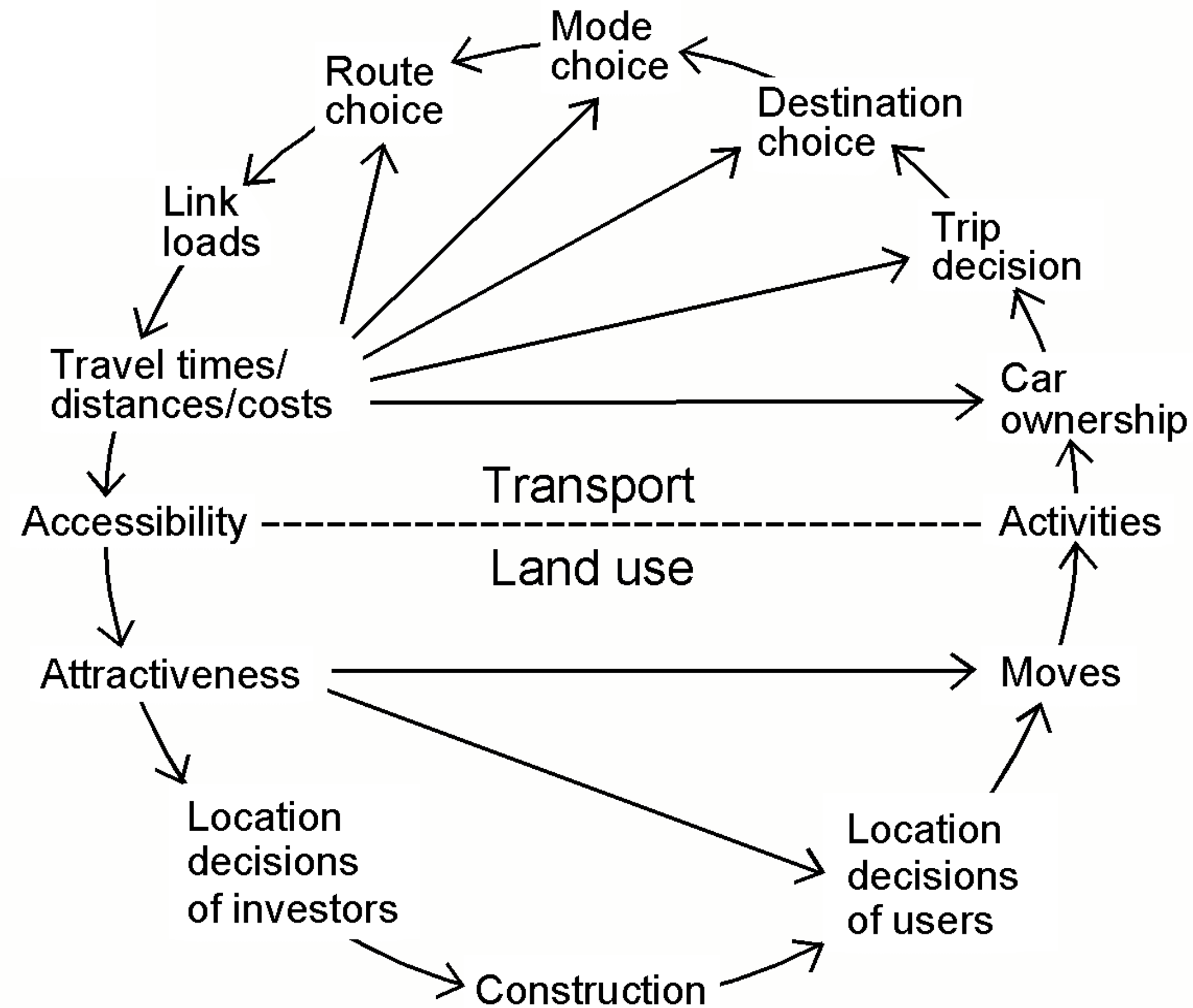
1950s: First efforts to study interrelationships between transport and spatial development of cities.

Example Washington, DC:

- (a) locations with high access have higher chances to be developed
- (b) trip and location decisions co-determine each other
- (c) result: land-use transport feedback cycle

Wegener (2004). Transport Geography and Spatial Systems.

LAND-USE TRANSPORT FEEDBACK CYCLE



7 Wegener (2004).

LAND-USE TRANSPORT FEEDBACK CYCLE

Lowry (1964): Model of Metropolis first attempt of an operational model.

- (a) residential location model
- (b) service and retail employment location model
- (c) stimulation for complex modelling approaches

Hansen (1959). Transport Geography and Spatial Systems.

LAND-USE TRANSPORT FEEDBACK CYCLE

Contemporary models

- (a) approximately 20 models in use
- (b) at least 2 of urban subsystems incorporated
- (c) only a few integrates 8 subsystems
- (d) urban environment (architectural level) mainly neglected

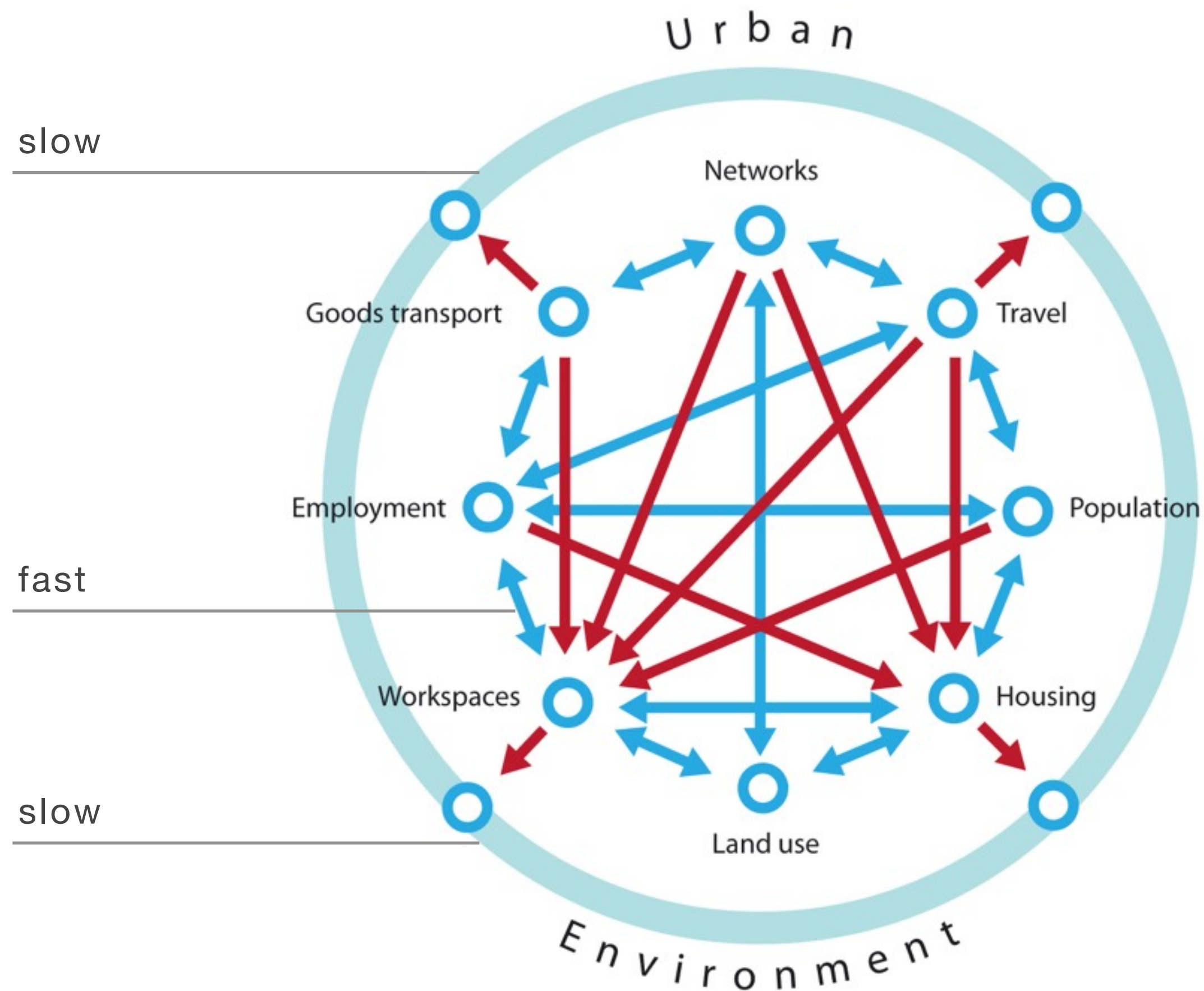
Wegener (2004).

LAND-USE TRANSPORT MODELS

Contemporary models

Models	Speed of change							
	Very slow		Slow		Fast		Immediate	
	Networks	Land use	Work-places	Housing	Employ-ment	Popula-tion	Goods transport	Travel
BOYCE	+				+	+		+
CUFM	(+)	+	+	+	+	+		(+)
DELTA	(+)	+	+	+	+	+		(+)
ILUTE	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
IMREL	+	+	+	+	+	+		+
IRPUD	+	+	+	+	+	+		+
ITLUP	+	+			+	+		+
KIM	+				+	+	+	+
LILT	+	+	+	+	+	+		+
MEPLAN	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
METROSIM	+	+	+	+	+	+		+
MUSSA	(+)			+	+	+		(+)
PECAS	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
POLIS	(+)	+			+	+		(+)
RURBAN	(+)	+			+	+		(+)
STASA	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
TLUMIP	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
TRANUS	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
TRESIS	+	+	+	+	+	+		+
URBANSIM	(+)	+	+	+	+	+		(+)

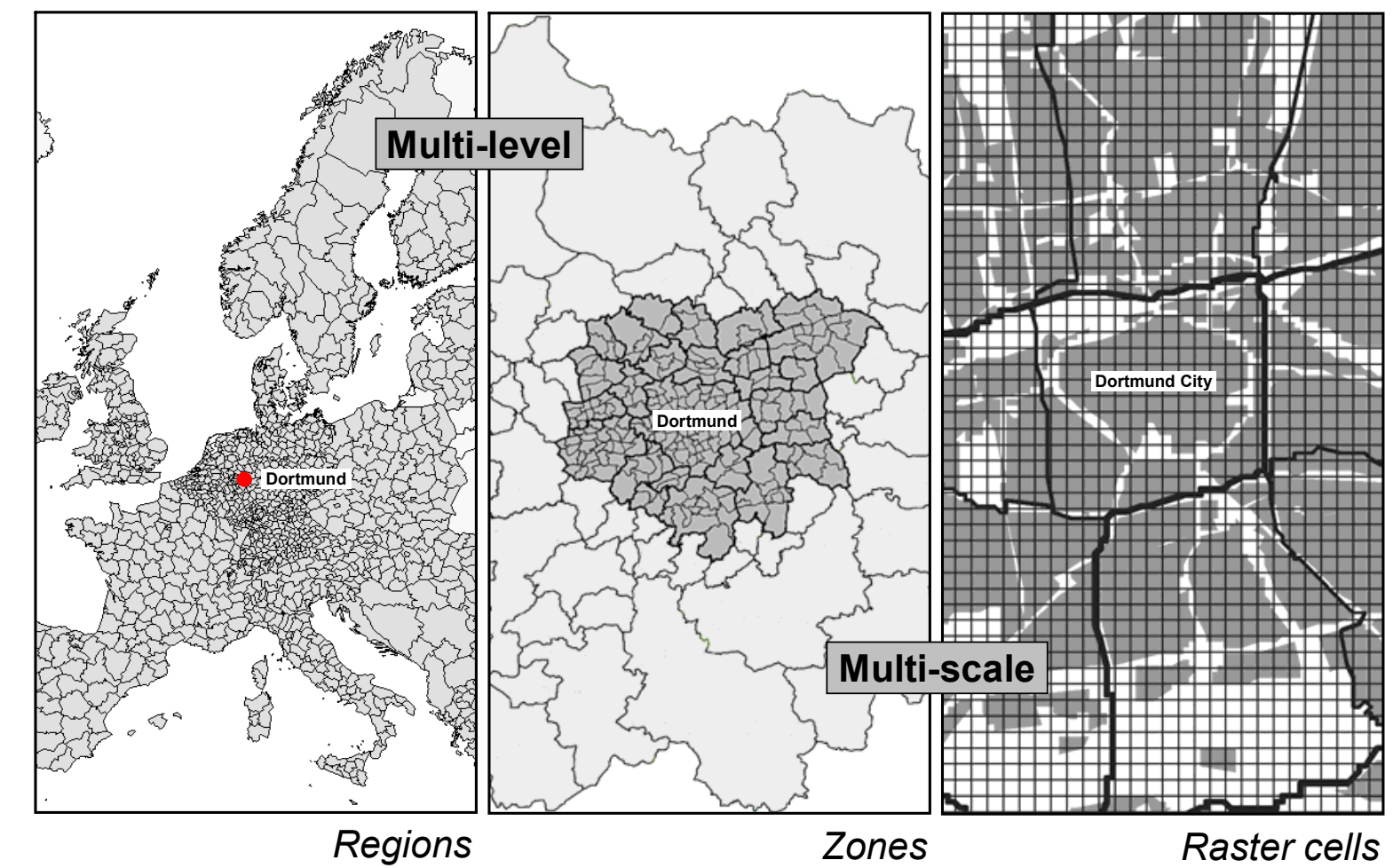
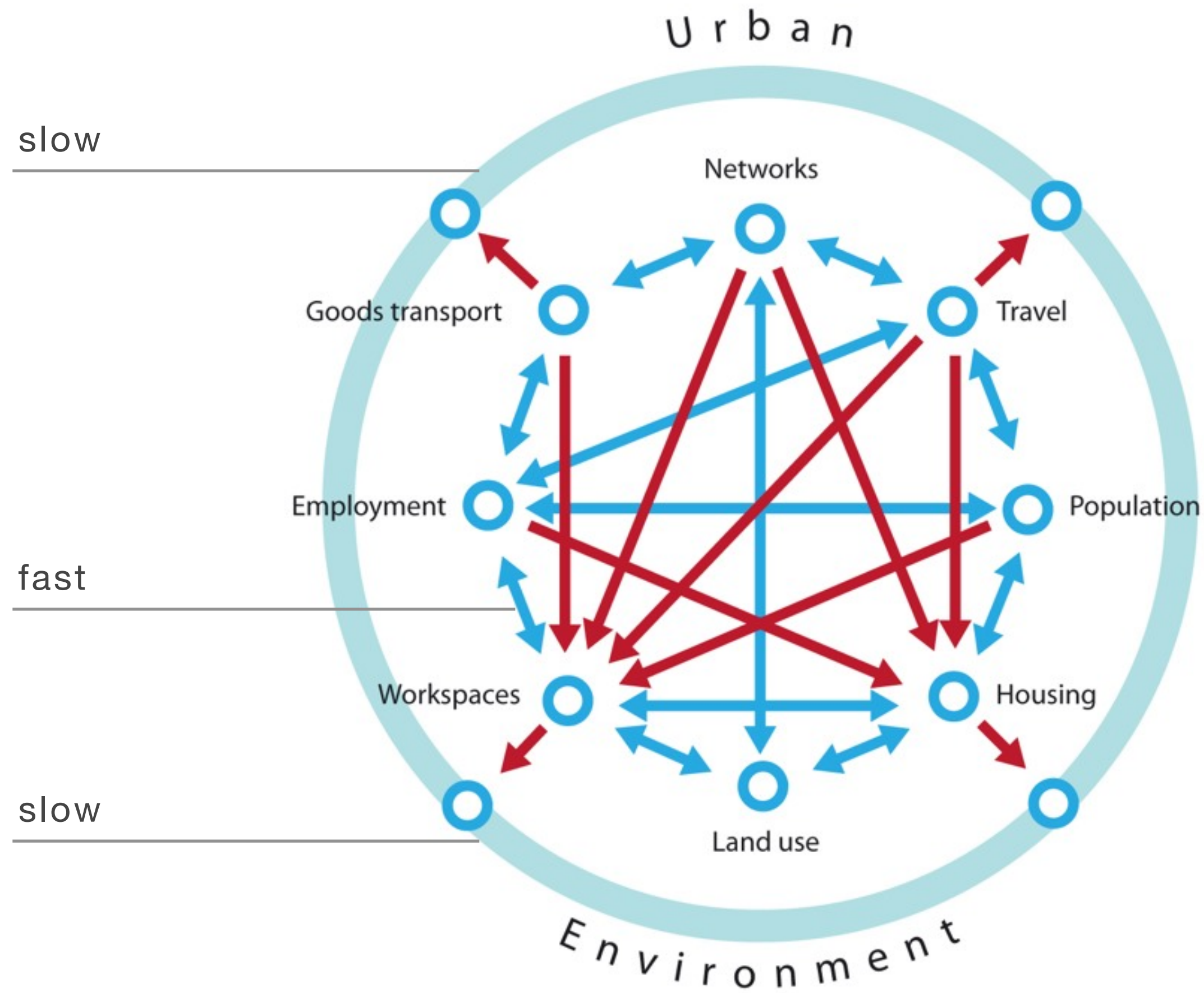
WEGENER'S MODEL FOR URBAN ENVIRONMENTS⁴



- (a) Mathematical and statistical models
- (b) Analysis of existing structures
- (c) Prediction of structures
- (d) Detection of successful city patterns (spatial relationships)
- (e) Results: abstract GIS that can help regional planners

⁴ Wegener (1994, 2009).

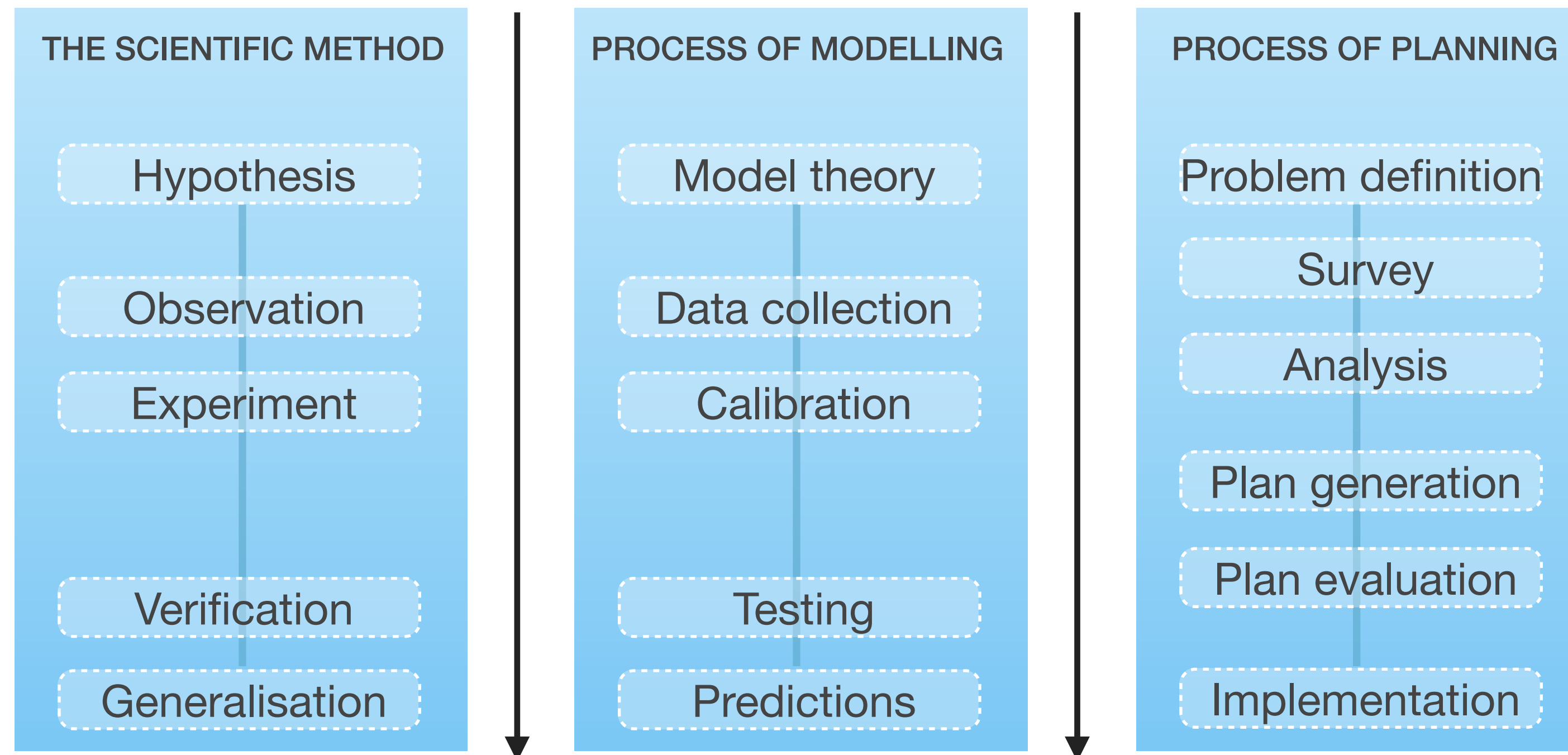
WEGENER'S MODEL FOR URBAN ENVIRONMENTS⁴



urban
design?

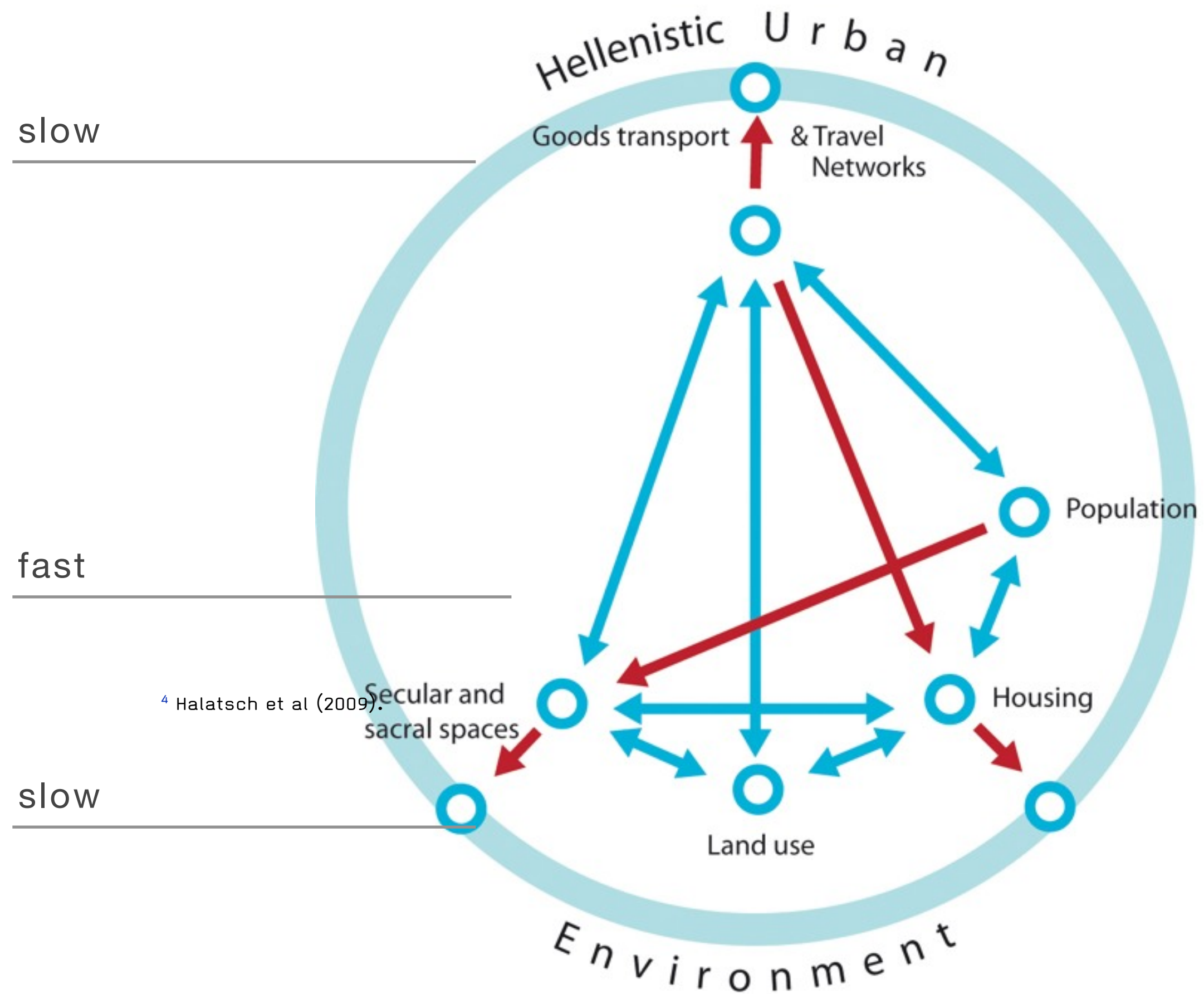
⁴ Wegener (1994, 2009).

MODEL DESIGN AND PLAN DESIGN⁴



⁴ Batty (1976). Urban Modelling.

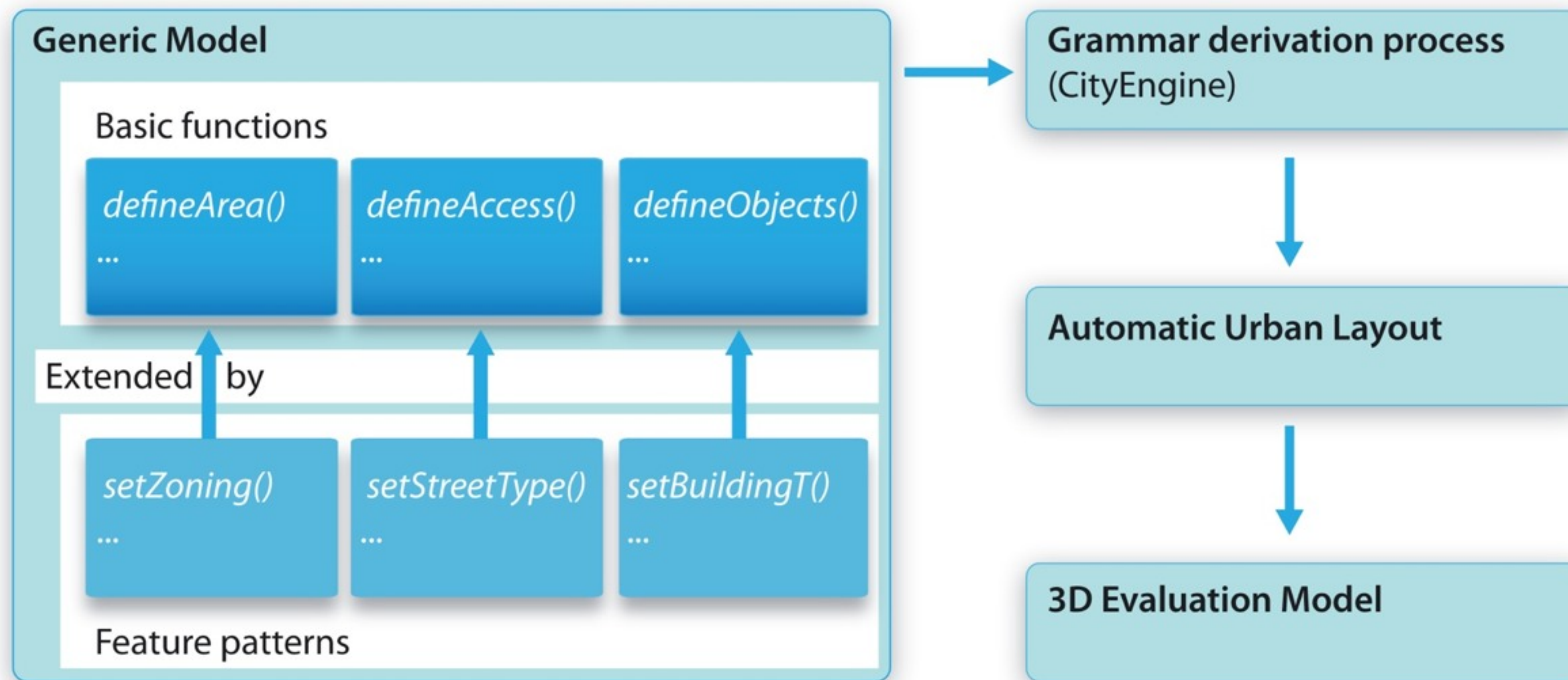
SIMPLIFICATION OF WEGENER'S SYSTEM FOR 3D CITY MODELLING



- generation functions
- patterns: statistical properties
- patterns: design properties
- patterns: spatial properties

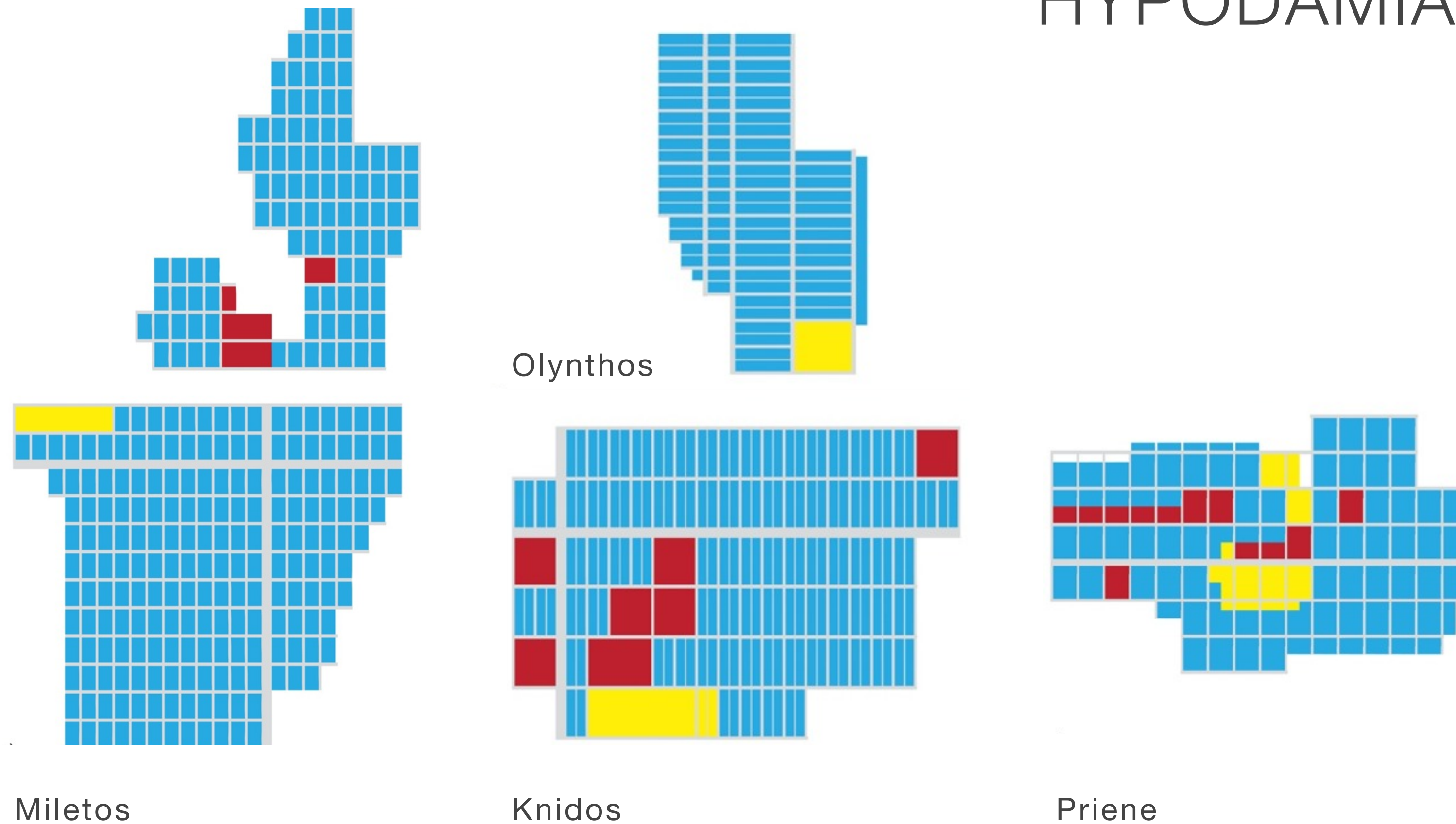
⁴ Halatsch et al (2009).

SIMPLIFICATION OF WEGENER'S SYSTEM FOR 3D CITY MODELING



⁴ Halatsch et al (2009).

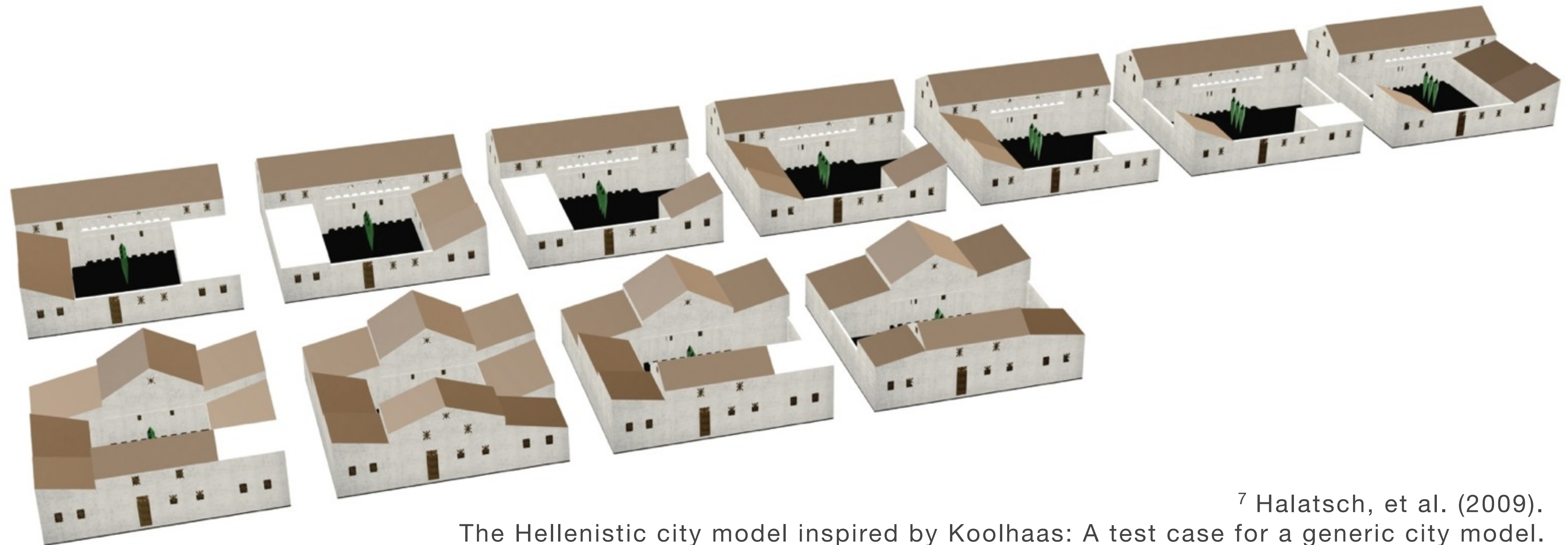
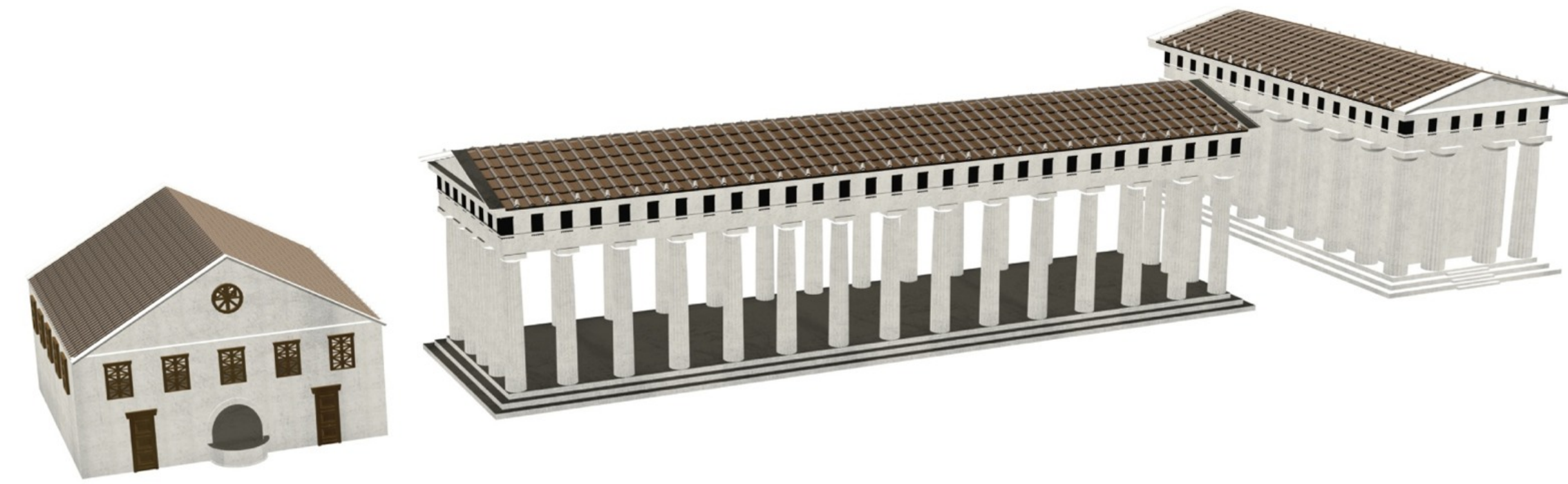
COMPUTED LAYOUTS BASED ON THE HYPODAMIAN PRINCIPLES



⁷ Halatsch, et al. (2009).

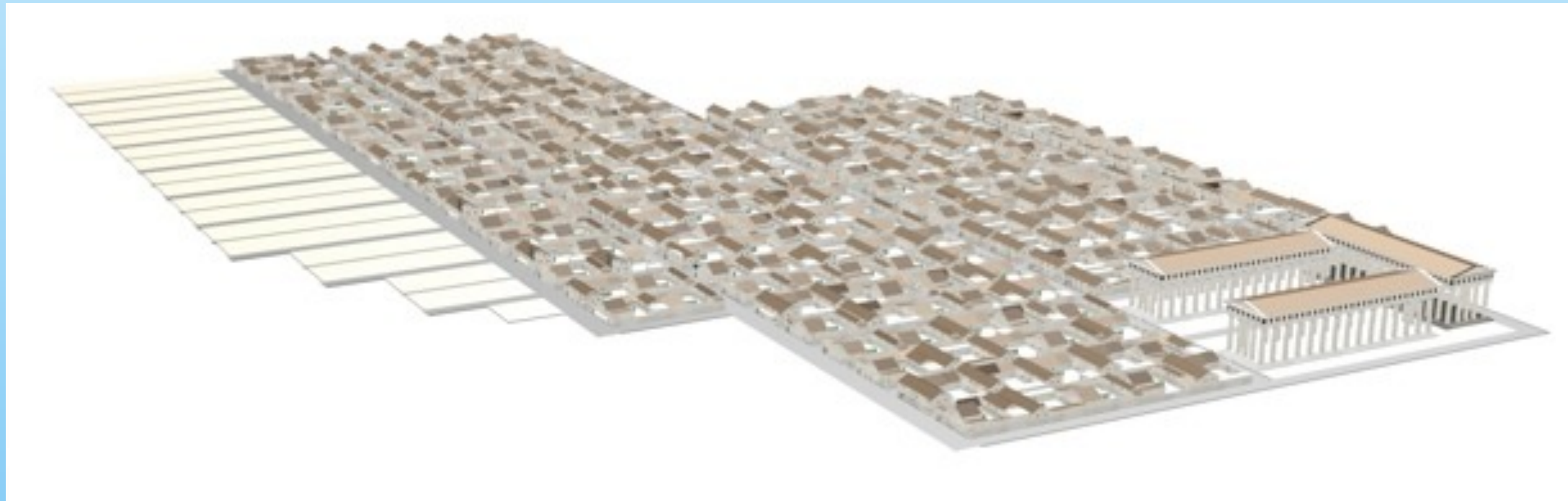
The Hellenistic city model inspired by Koolhaas: A test case for a generic city model.

COMPUTED LAYOUTS BASED ON THE HYPODAMIAN PRINCIPLES

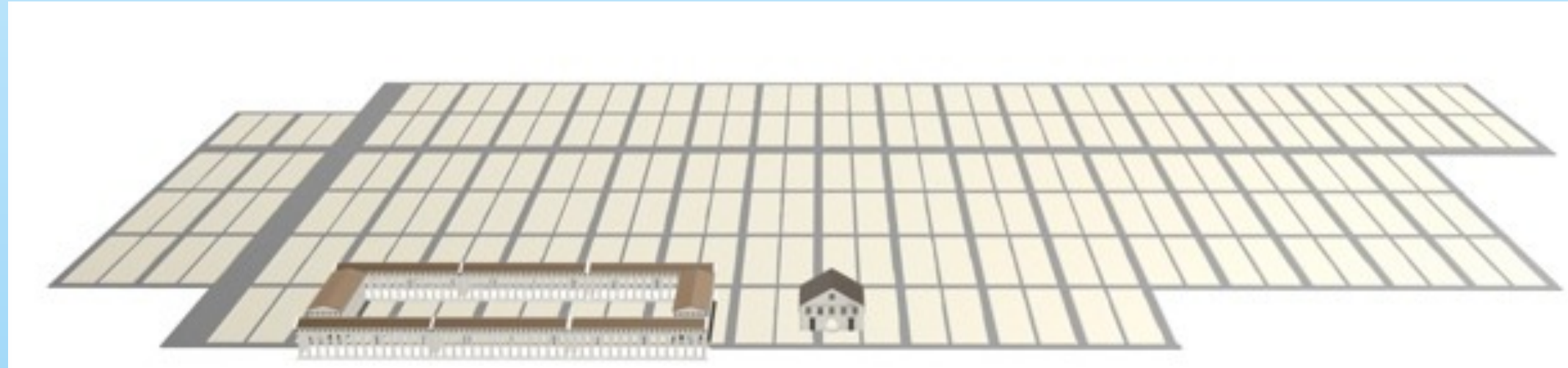


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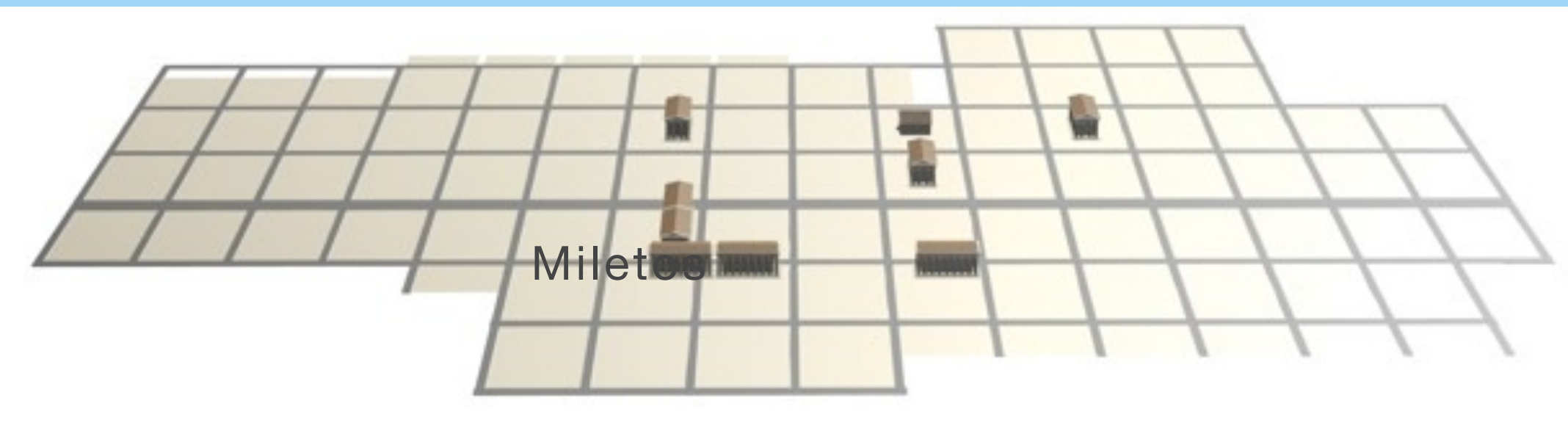
COMPUTED LAYOUTS BASED ON THE HYPODAMIAN PRINCIPLES



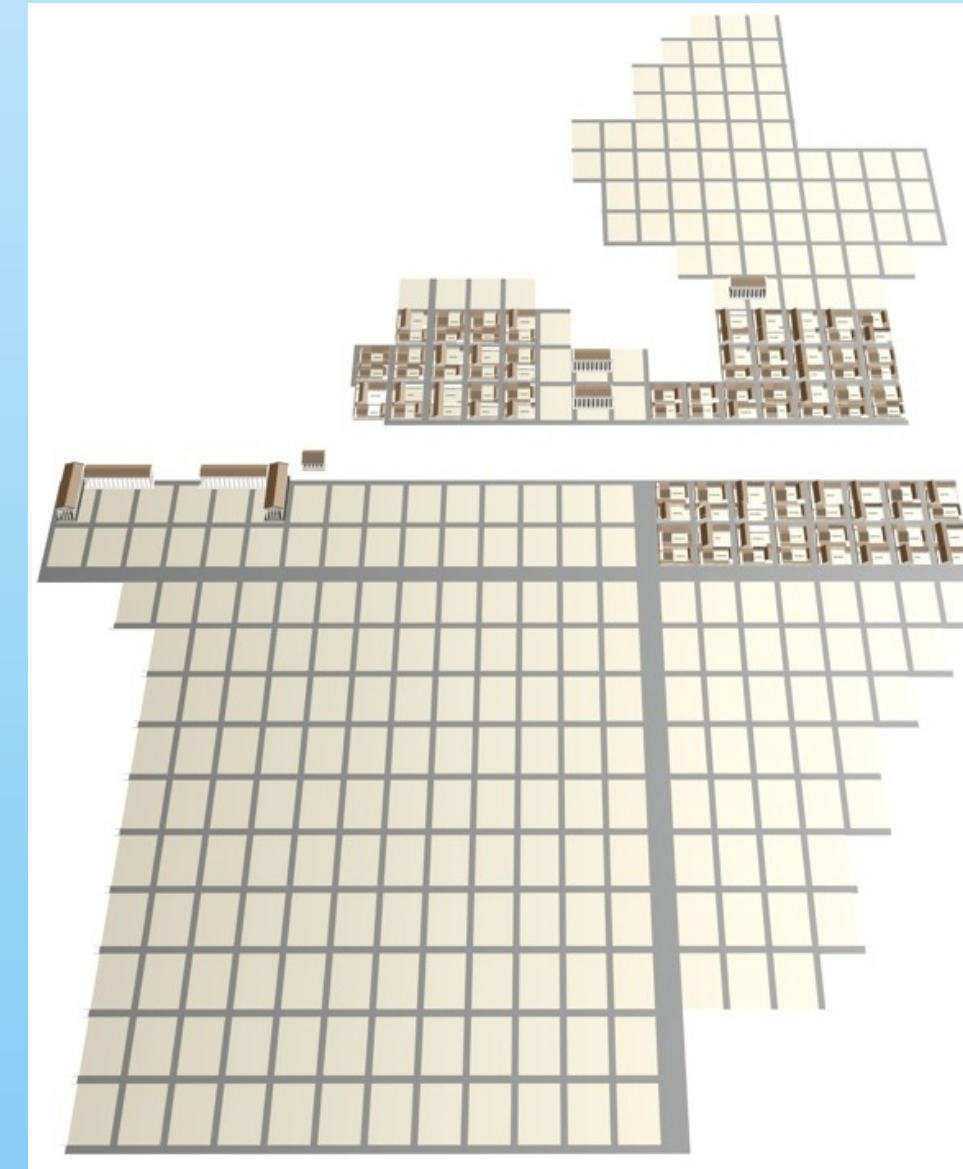
Olynthos



Knidos



Priene



Miletos

⁷ Halatsch, et al. (2009).

TARGET: COLLABORATIVE URBAN REQUIREMENT DEFINITION

Possible results of urban models

Definition of urban planning scenaria

Feedback for stakeholders

Resulting performance indicators help to understand and evaluate a certain design proposal or strategy

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

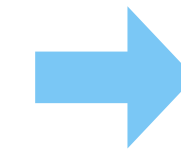
Urban Modeling

Urban Simulation

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

- Roads
- Blocks
- Parcels
- Buildings

Urban Modeling



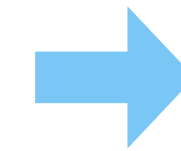
3D Model

Urban Simulation

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

- Roads
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- Parcels
- Buildings

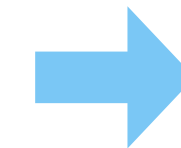
Urban Modeling



3D Model

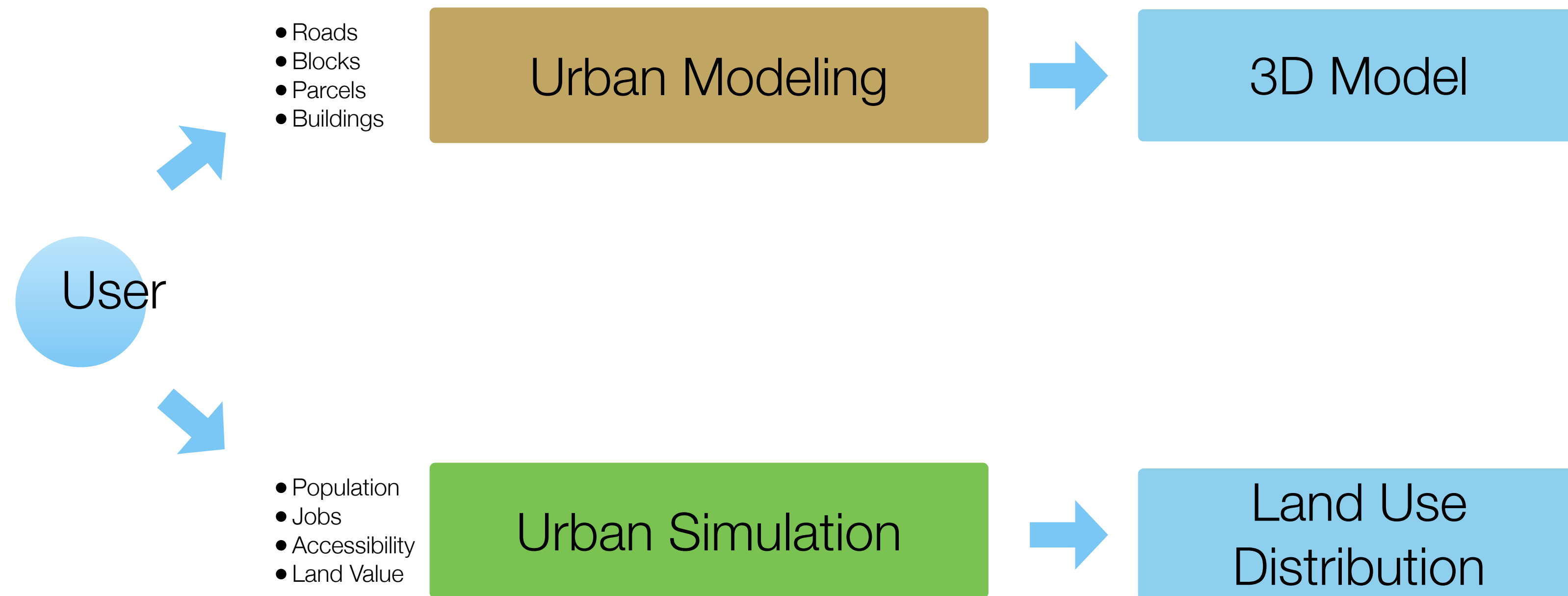
- Population
- Jobs
- Accessibility
- Land Value

Urban Simulation

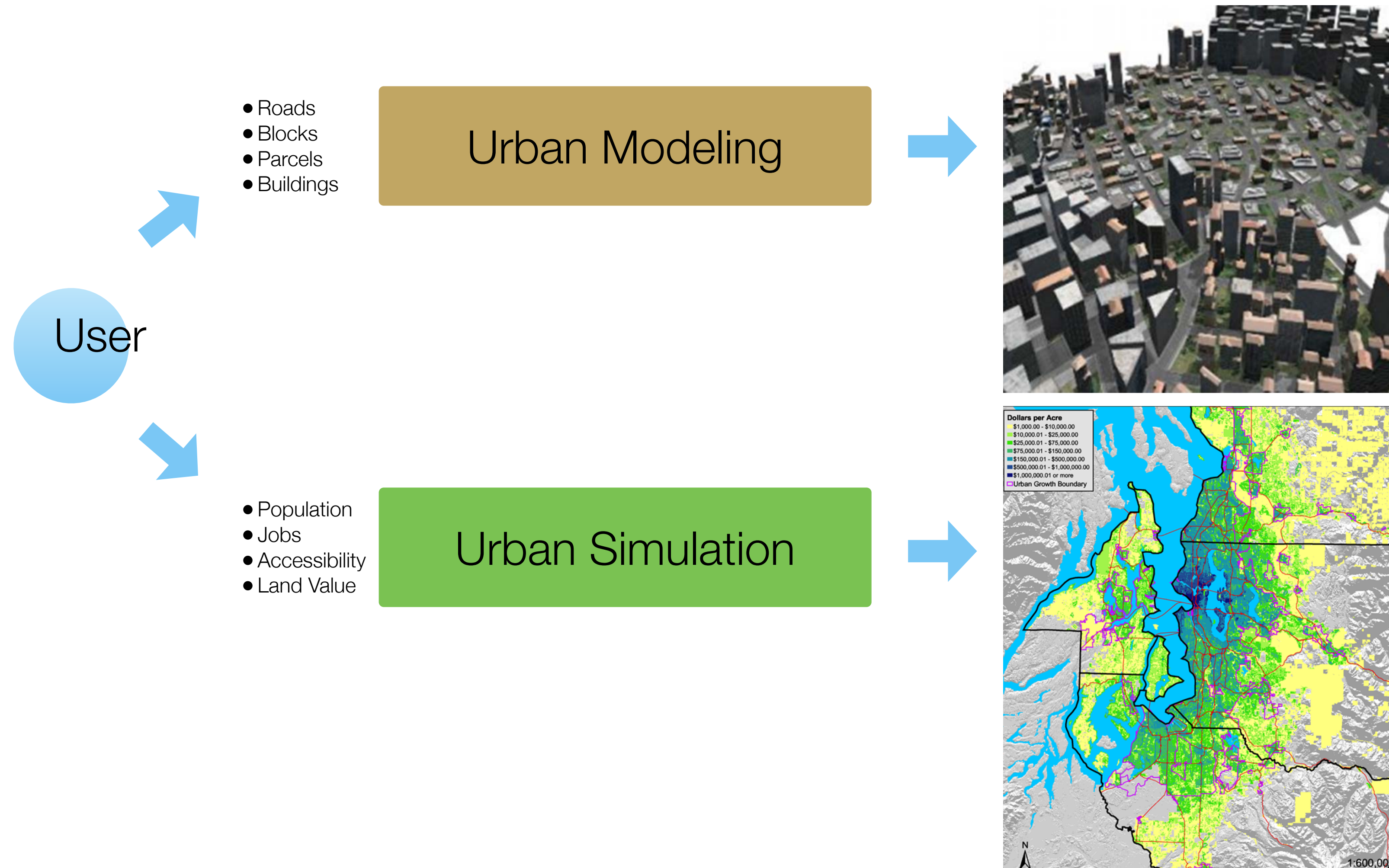


Land Use
Distribution

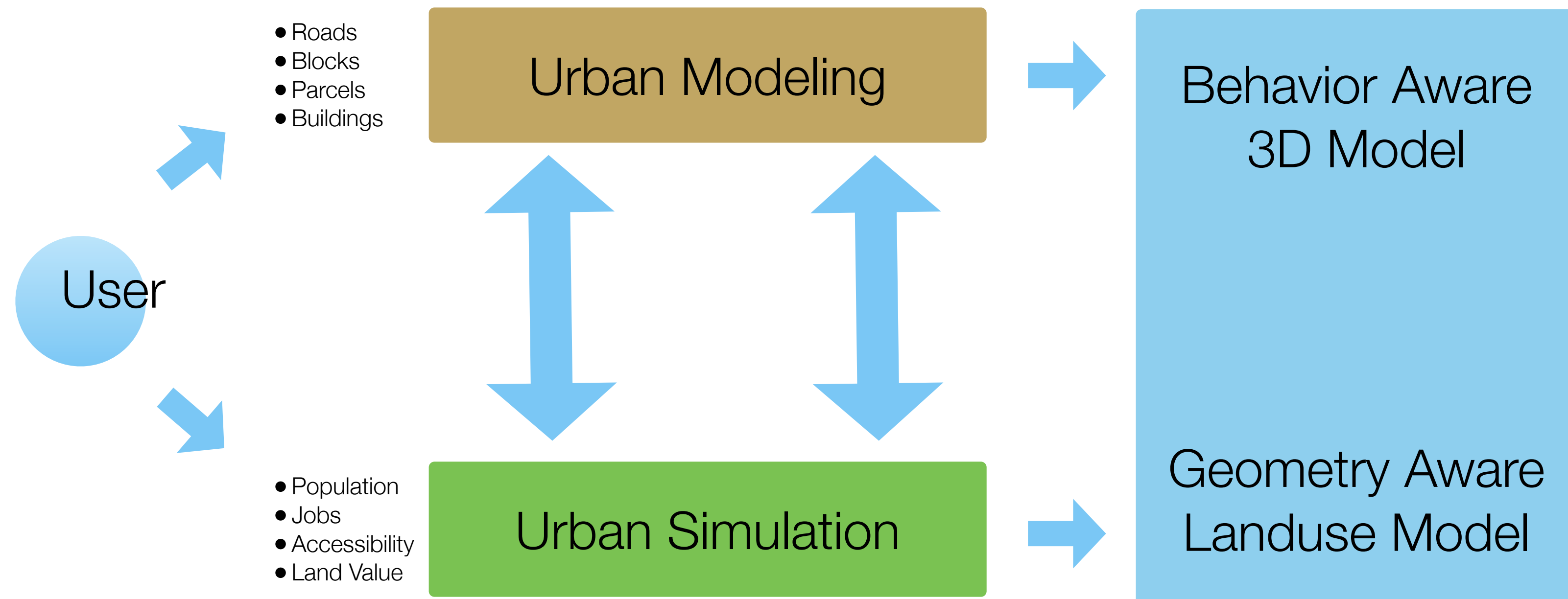
BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING



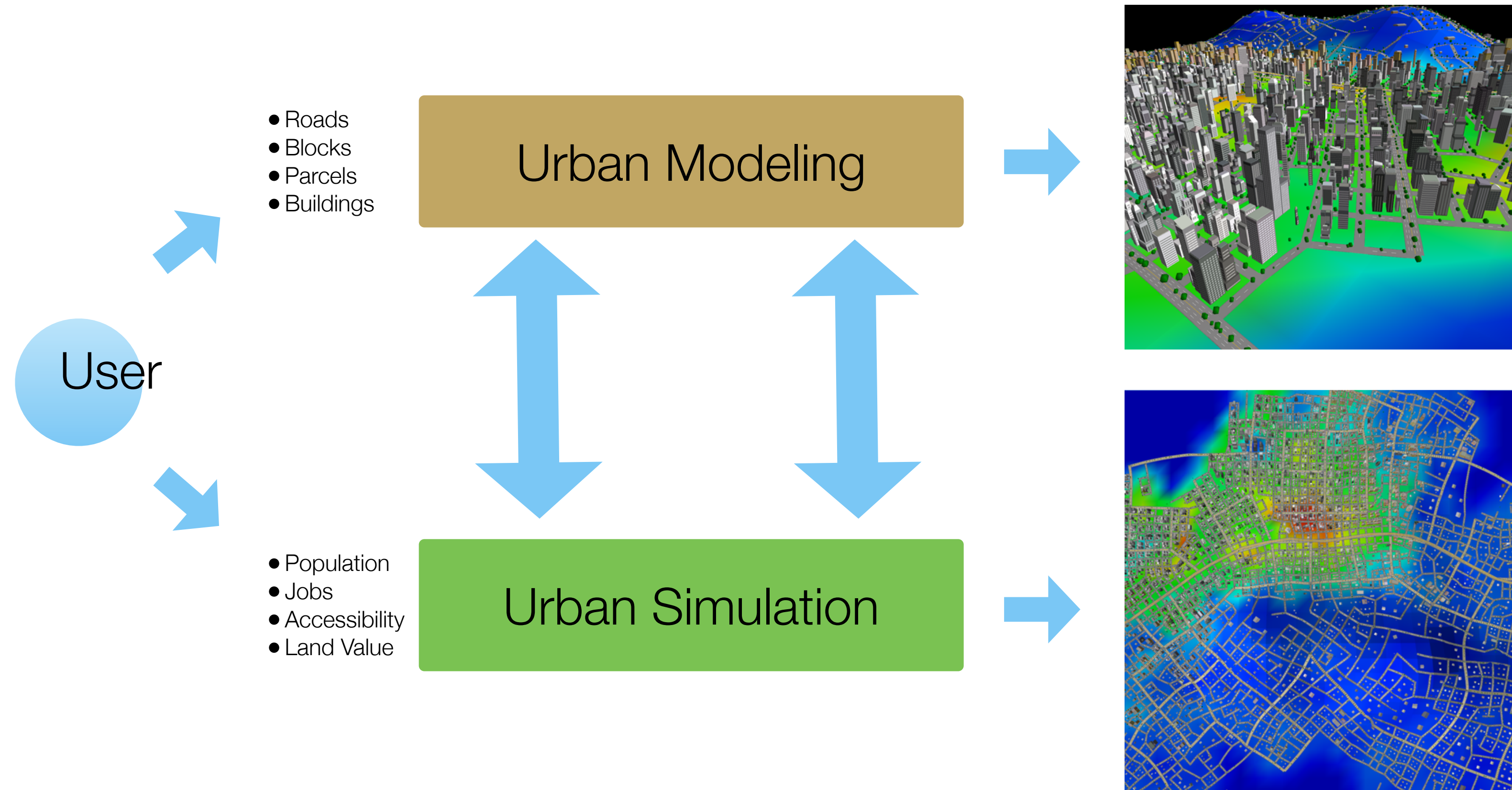
BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING



BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING



BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING



URBAN MODELING

Overview of approaches for
urban simulation

Methods in Computer Graphics that
integrate urban modeling, visualization
and simulation

Integrated system for real-world urban
planning

URBAN MODELING

Urban Modeling

Covered in previous lectures

URBAN SIMULATION

Brief overview

Urban Simulation

URBAN SIMULATION

Models the behavioral and spatial patterns of urban economic agents

Jobs

Population

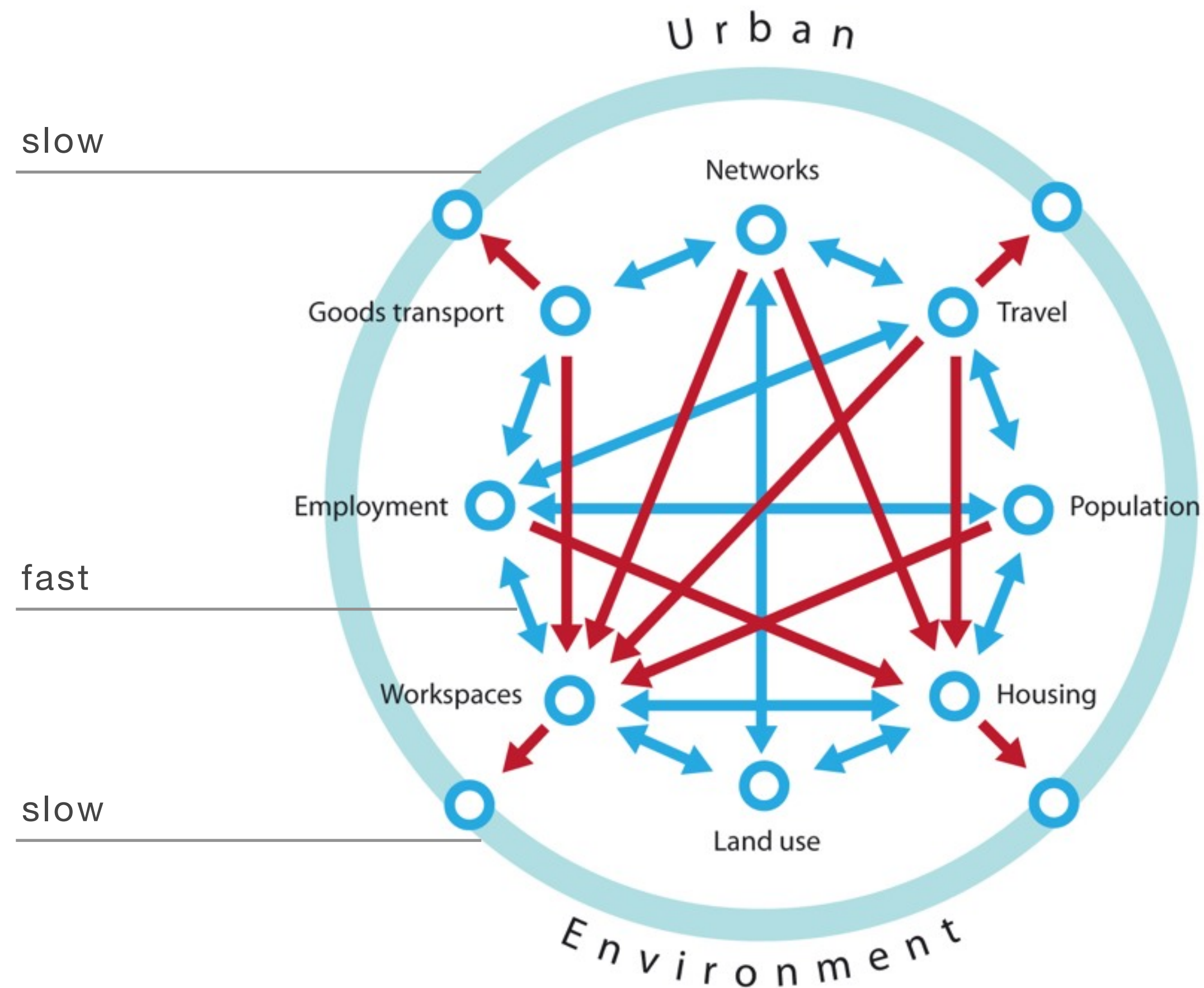
Housing

Land use

Aims to predict behavior of a city over time

Outputs massive spatially distributed data

URBAN SIMULATION



General Simulation Model

- (a) Mathematical and statistical models
- (b) Analysis of existing structures
- (c) Prediction of structures
- (d) Detection of successful city patterns (spatial relationships)
- (e) Results: abstract GIS that can help regional planners

Recreated from Weegener (1994, 2009).

URBAN SIMULATION

Overview of Urban Simulation Paradigms

Cellular Automata
Agent-based Models
Dynamic Microsimulation

Example System

UrbanSim

Outputs massive spatially distributed data

URBAN SIMULATION

Cellular Automata

Simulate the conversion of non-urban land to urban use

City is represented as an arrangement of individual automata in a regular tessellated space

URBAN SIMULATION

Cellular Automata

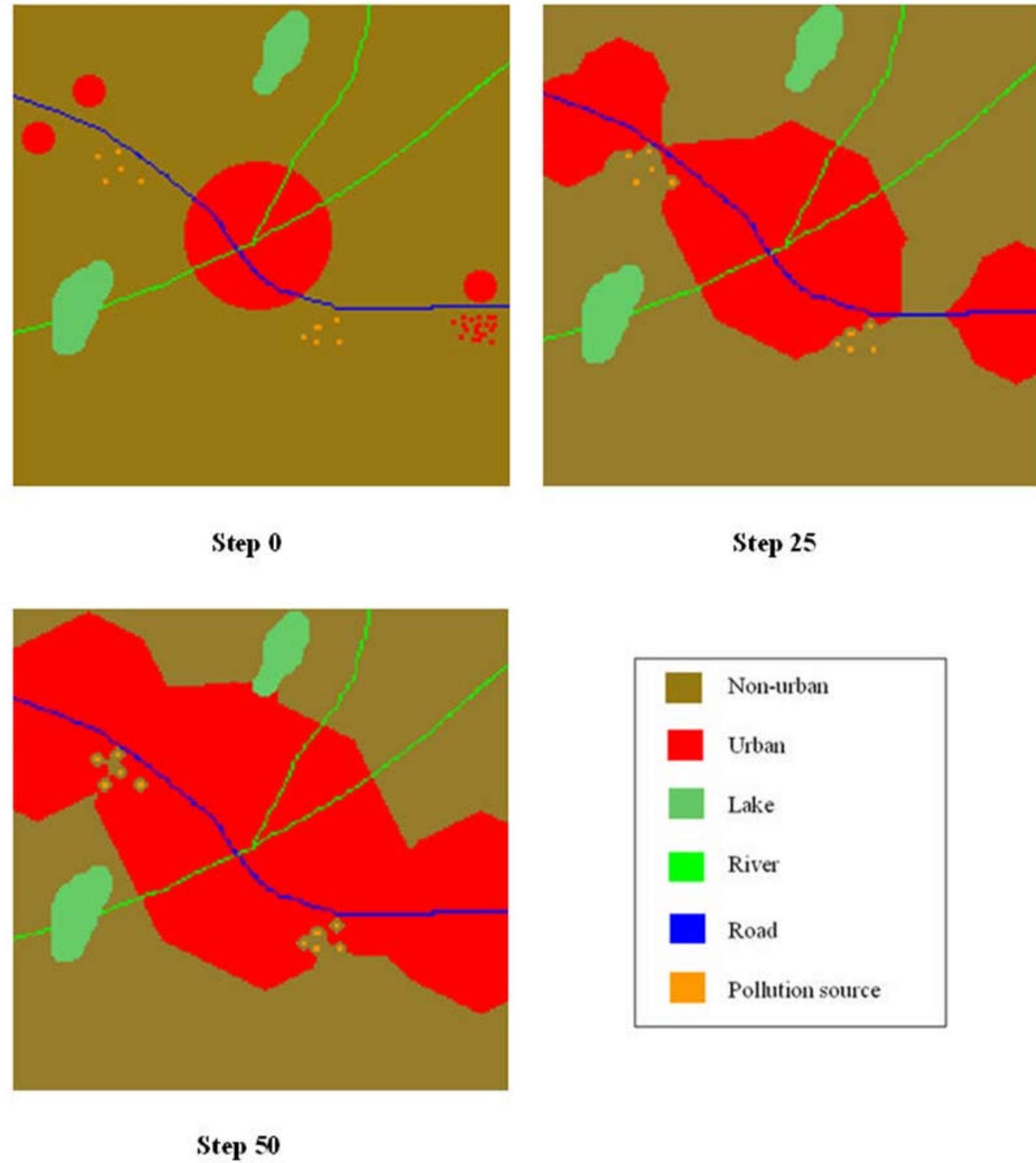
Transition rules determine how automata states adapt over time

Information is exchanged between cells and spread through neighborhoods

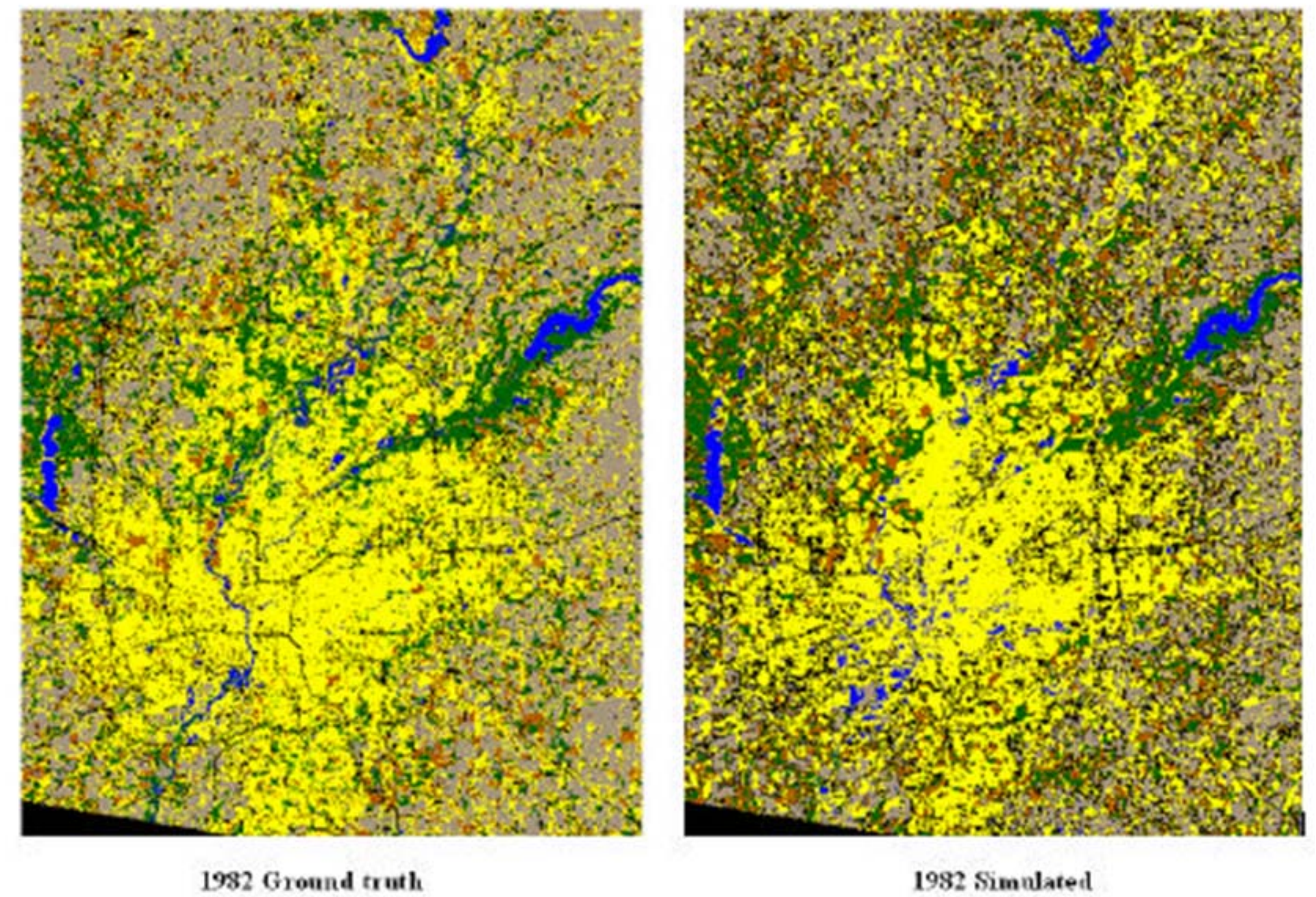
Do not address changes to the built environment or the is occupants, or the travel that connects agents

URBAN SIMULATION

Cellular Automata



Sharaf Alkheder, Jie Shan, "Cellular Automata Urban Growth Simulation and Evaluation", 2008



URBAN SIMULATION

Cellular Automata

Cellular automata and urban simulation,
Torrens, Sullivan, 2001

Loose-coupling a cellular automaton model
and GIS, Clarke, 1998

Fuzzy inference guided cellular automata
urbangrowth modeling, Al-Kheder, Wang,
Shan, 2008

URBAN SIMULATION

Agent-based Models

Extended cellular automata framework to include mobile, interacting agents

Examine cities as self-organizing complex systems

URBAN SIMULATION

Agent-based Models

Properties of agents explored with relatively simple behavioral rules

Most agent-based urban simulation models have behavior influenced only by localized context

URBAN SIMULATION

Dynamic Micro-Simulation

Combination of urban economic analysis with statistical modeling of choices made by agents in the urban environment

- E.g., households choosing residential location

Builds on

- Random Utility Theory (McFadden, 1974)
- Discrete choice models

URBAN SIMULATION

Dynamic Micro-Simulation

Integrated urban models, Putman, 1991

General equilibrium models of polycentric urban land use, Anas, Kim, 1996

A land use model for Santiago City, Martinez, 1996

URBAN SIMULATION

Example system - UrbanSim

UrbanSim: Modeling urban development for land use, transportation, and environmental planning, Paul Waddell, 2002

URBAN SIMULATION

Example system - UrbanSim

Simulates the choices of

- Individual households
- Businesses
- Parcel landowners
- Developers

Interacting in real estate markets

URBAN SIMULATION

Example system - UrbanSim

Differs from Cellular Automata and agent-based models by integrating

- Discrete choice methods
- Explicit representation of real estate markets
- Statistical methods to estimate model parameter and to calibrate uncertainty in the model system

URBAN SIMULATION

Visualizations of computed data sets

Used by regional planning agencies to evaluate

- Alternative transportation investments
- Land use regulations
- Environmental protection policies

URBAN SIMULATION

Visualizations of computed data sets

Interest several groups of population with different levels of expertise in handling data

- Policy makers
- The public
- Modelers running the simulation

URBAN VISUALIZATION

Traditional urban visualization techniques

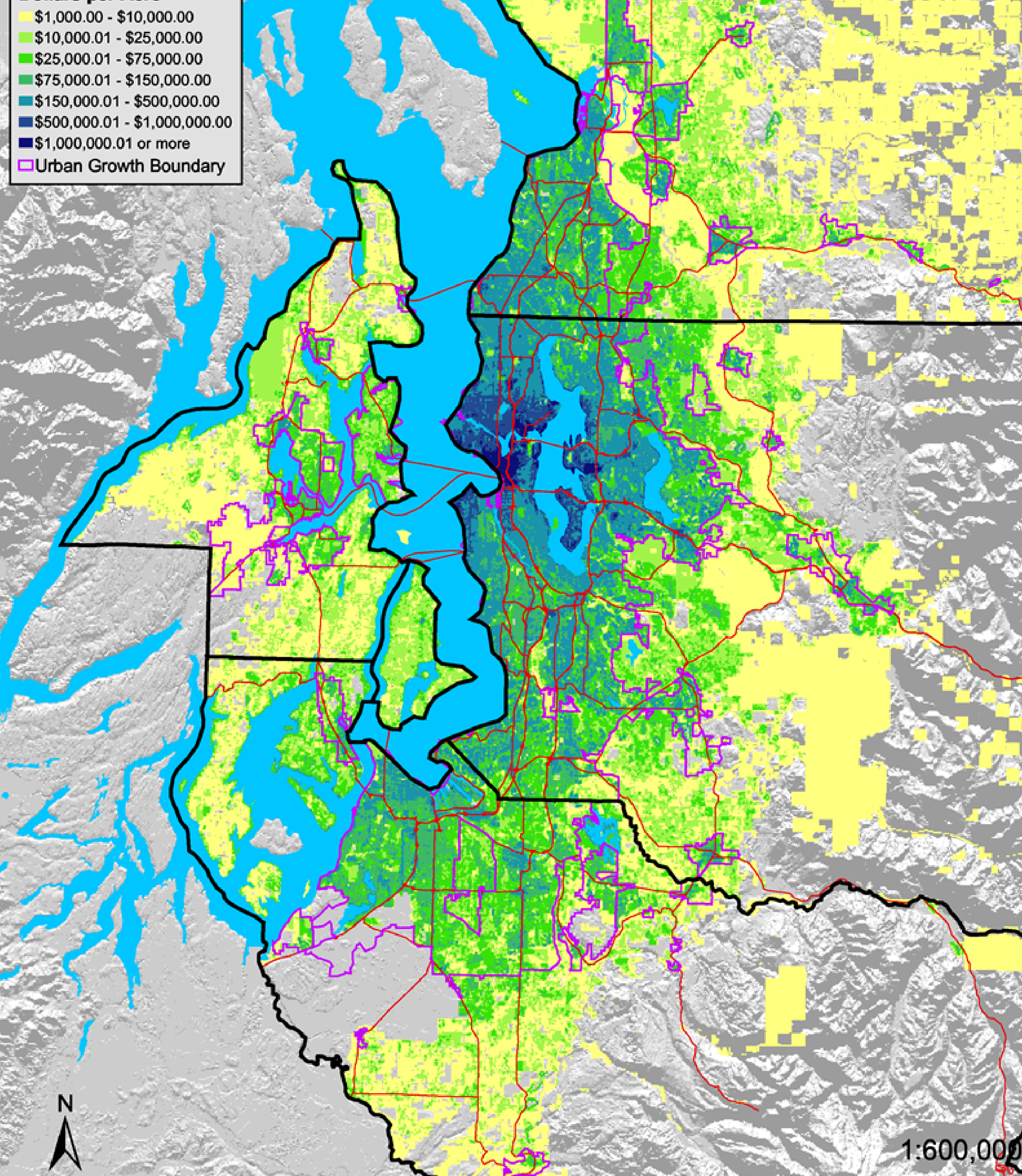
- Focused on handling large urban simulation data sets
- Making their analysis more intuitive to urban planners

URBAN VISUALIZATION

Traditional urban visualization techniques

Choropleth maps

- Areas shaded in the proportion to the values of the displayed variables



Map-based indicator display for Puget Sound region
(Total land value per acre, 2000)

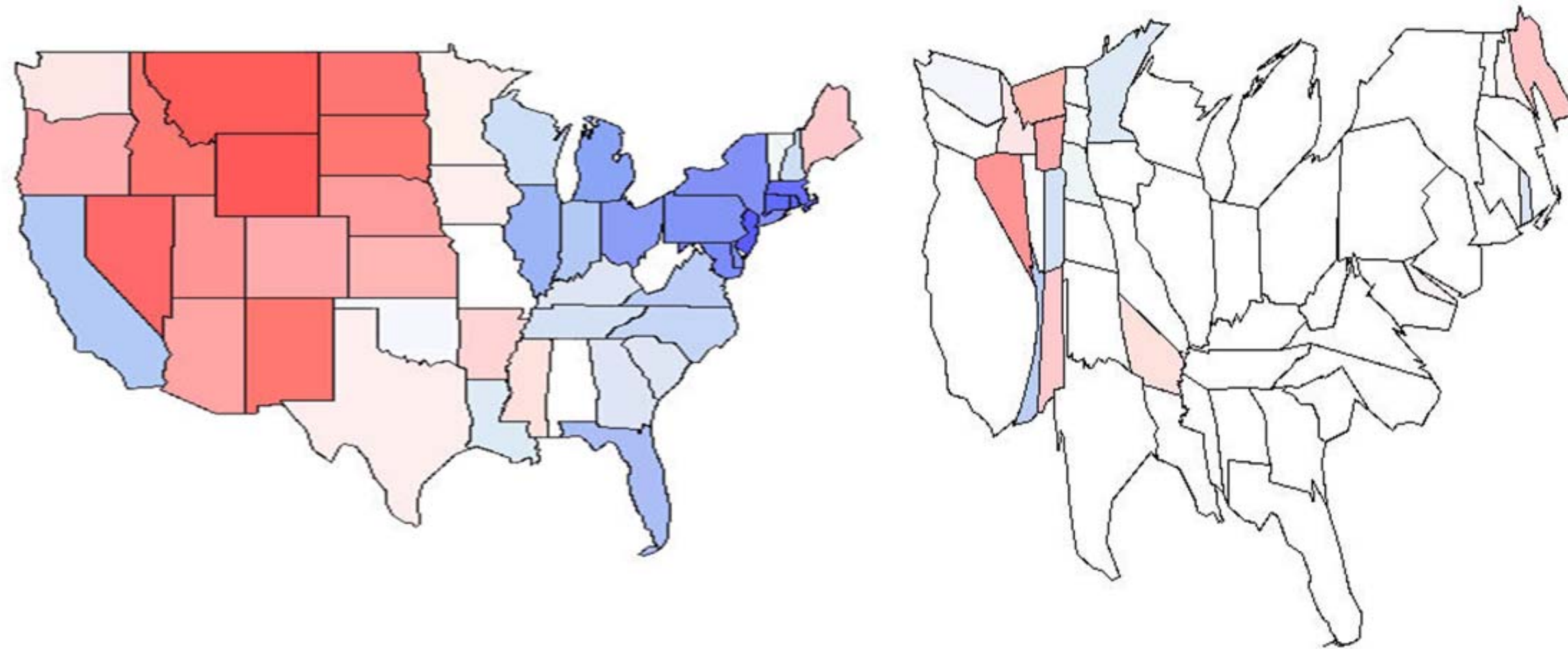
Image from: Alan Borning, University of Washington

URBAN VISUALIZATION

Traditional urban visualization techniques

Cartograms

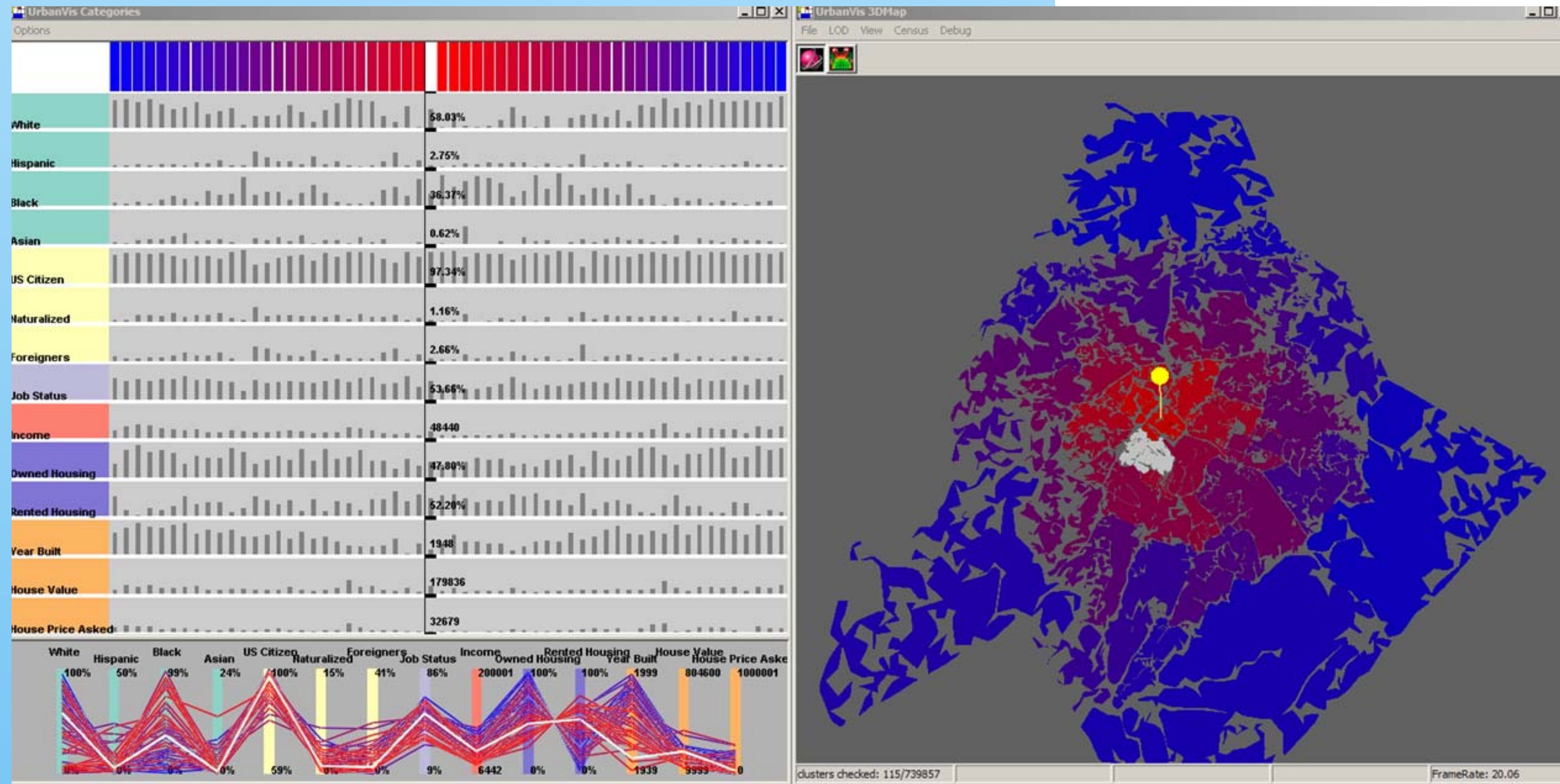
- Distort a map by resizing its regions according to the values of the displayed variable, but keeping the map recognizable



Daniel Keim, Stephen North, Christian Panse, "CartoDraw: A Scanline based Cartogram Algorithm", 2004.

URBAN VISUALIZATION

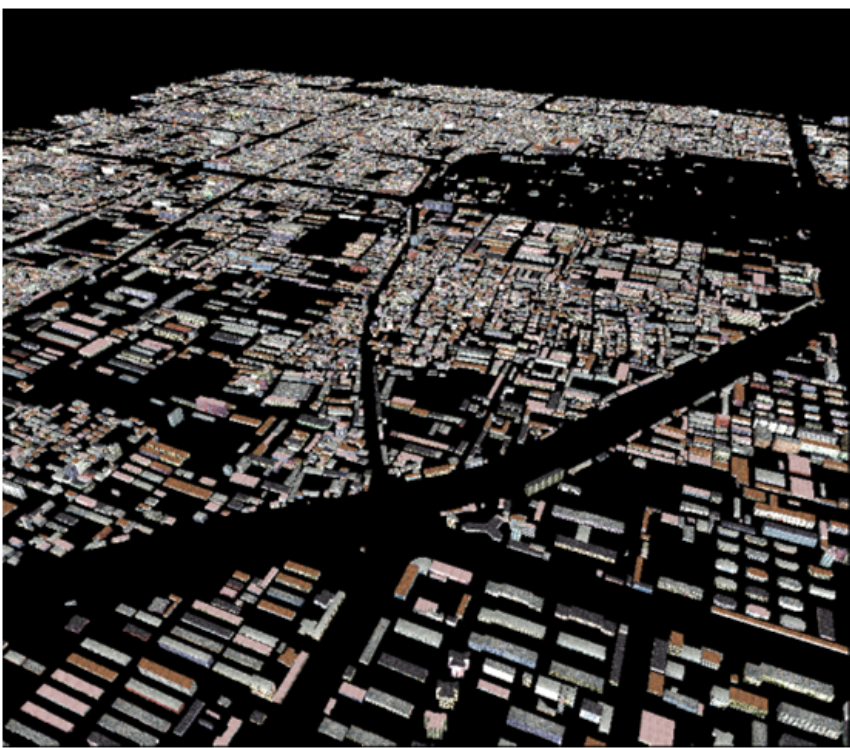
Legible Cities, Chang, Wessel, Kosara,
Saouda, Ribarski, TVCG 2007



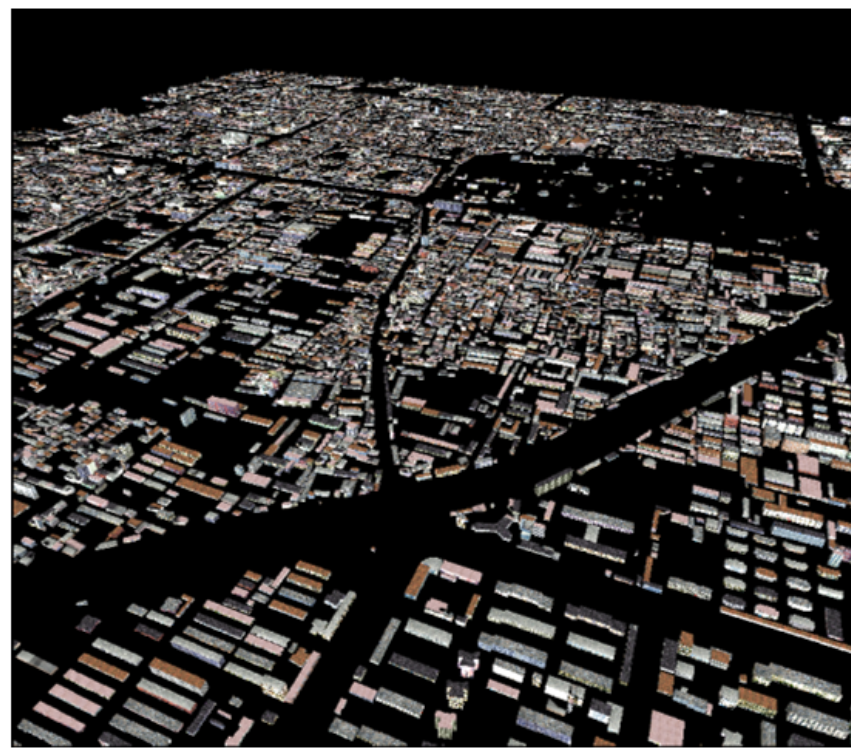
URBAN VISUALIZATION

Legible Cities, Chang, Wessel, Kosara, Sauda, Ribarski, TVCG 2007

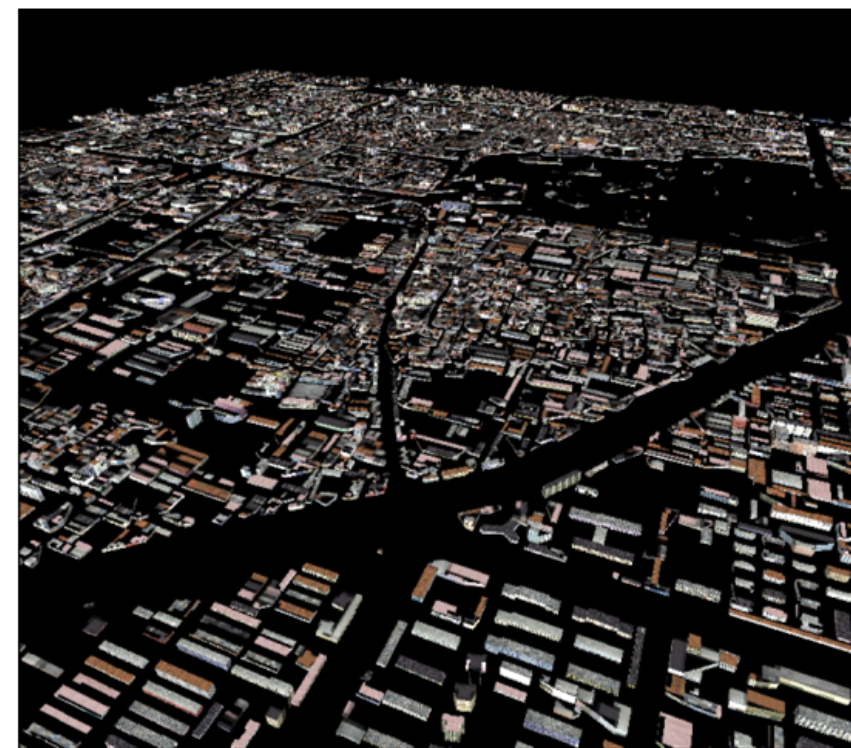
- Goal: Visualize an urban model in a focus-dependent, multi-resolution fashion, while retaining the legibility of the city



Original Model



45% polygons

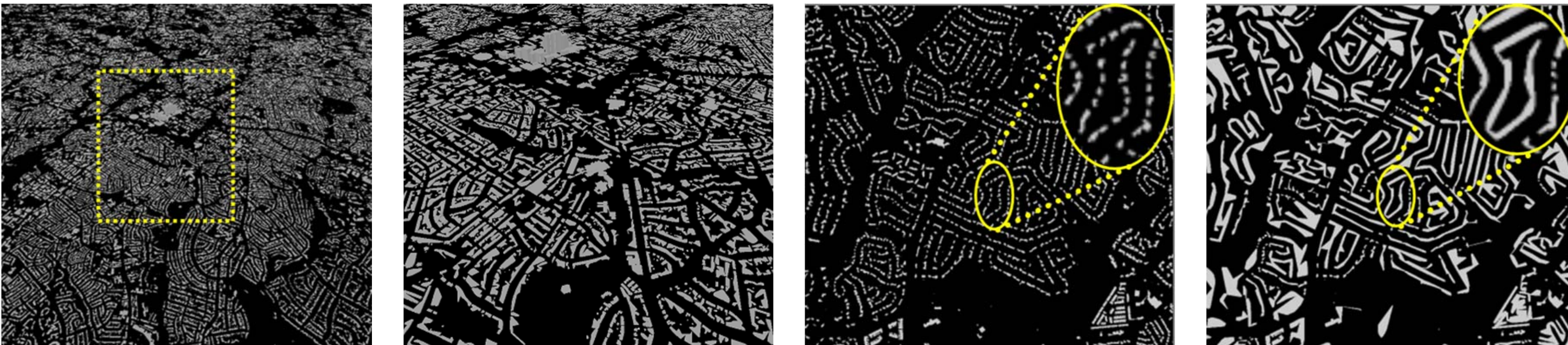


18% polygons

URBAN VISUALIZATION

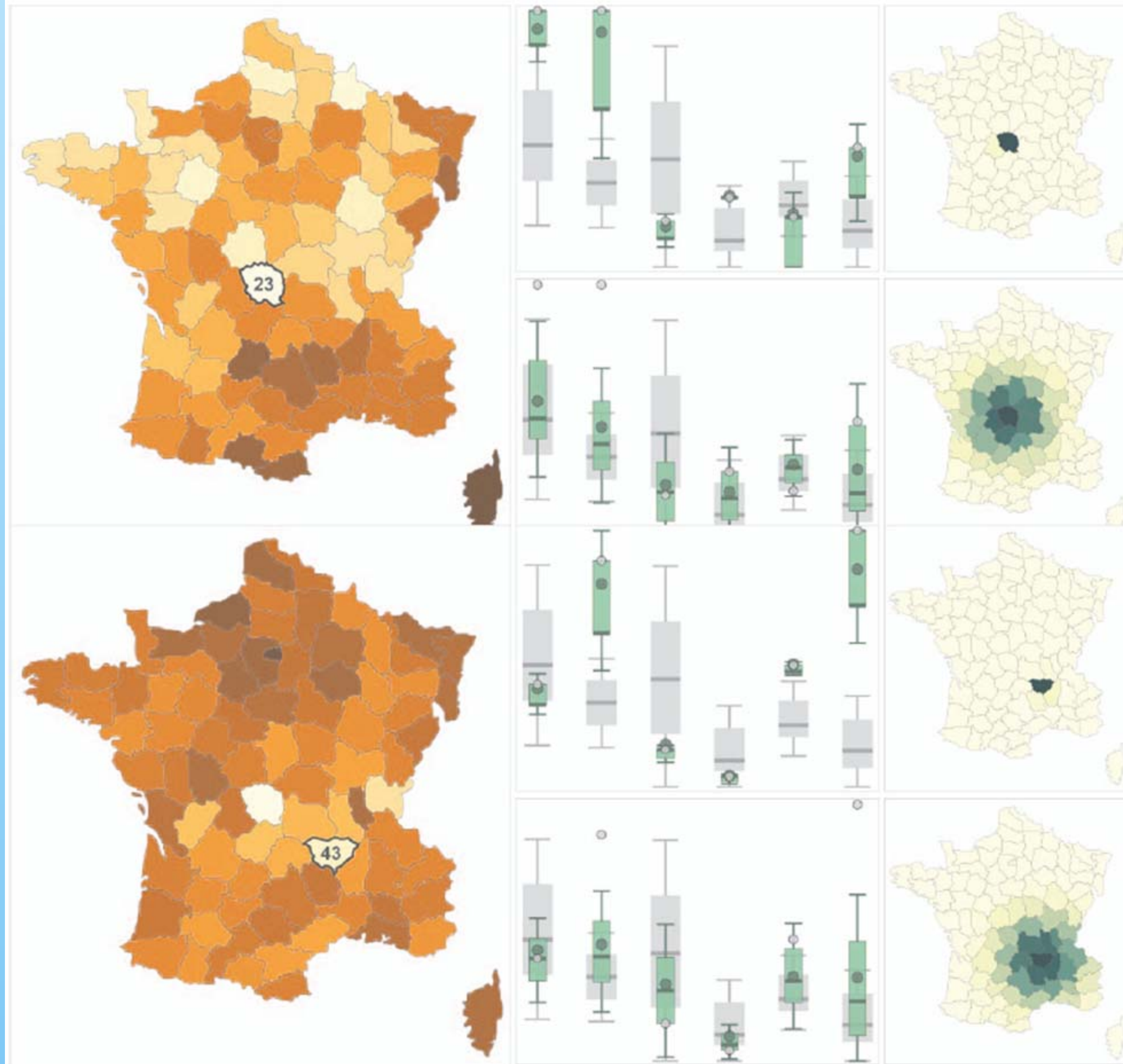
Legible Cities, Chang, Wessel, Kosara, Sauda, Ribarski, TVCG 2007

- Integrate 3D model view and data view
- Relationships between the geospatial information of the urban model and the related urban data can be more intuitively identified



URBAN VISUALIZATION

Geographically Weighted Visualization,
Dykes, Brunsdon, TVCG 2007



URBAN VISUALIZATION

Geographically Weighted Visualization,
Dykes, Brunsdon, TVCG 2007

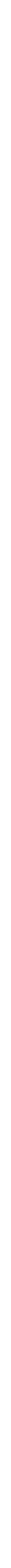
Visually encode information about
geographic and statistical proximity and
variation through

- geographically weighted (GW)-
choropleth maps
- multivariate GW-boxplots
- GW-shading and scalograms

New graphic types reveal information about
GW statistics at several scales concurrently

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Visualization of Simulated Urban Spaces,
Vanegas, Aliaga, Benes, Waddell, TVCG 2007



BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Visualization of Simulated Urban Spaces,
Vanegas, Aliaga, Benes, Waddell, TVCG 2007

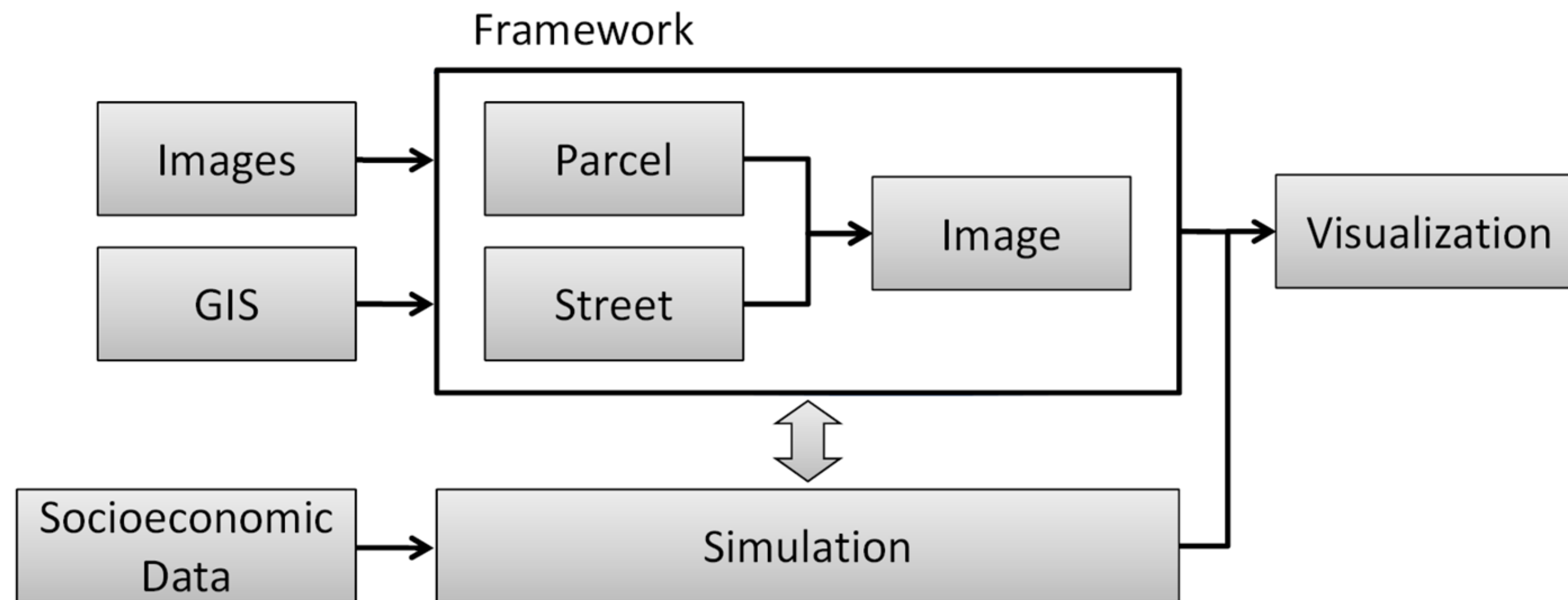
Infer an urban layout

- Images (aerial view) + Structure (streets, parcels)

from the values of a set of simulation variables at any given time step



BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

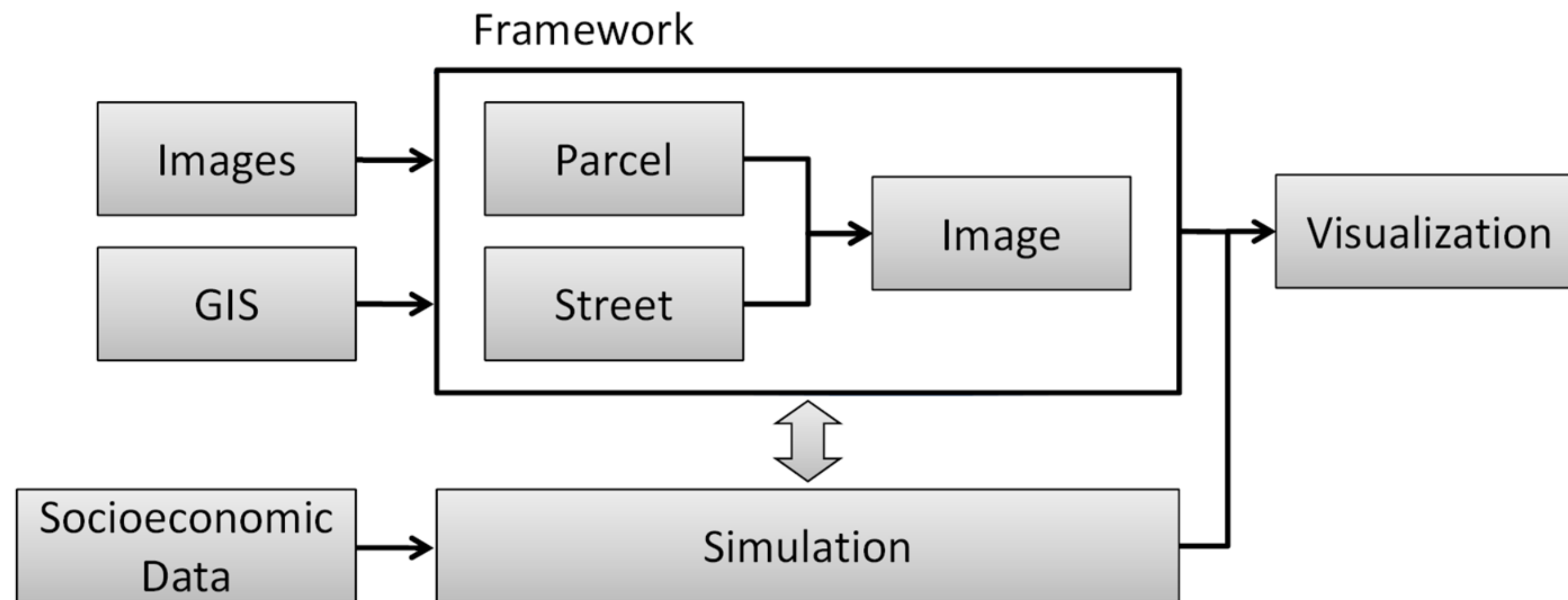


Visualization of Simulated Urban Spaces,
Vanegas, Aliaga, Benes, Waddell, TVCG 2007

Approach

- Spatially match socioeconomic data set with input aerial images and structure of the urban space

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

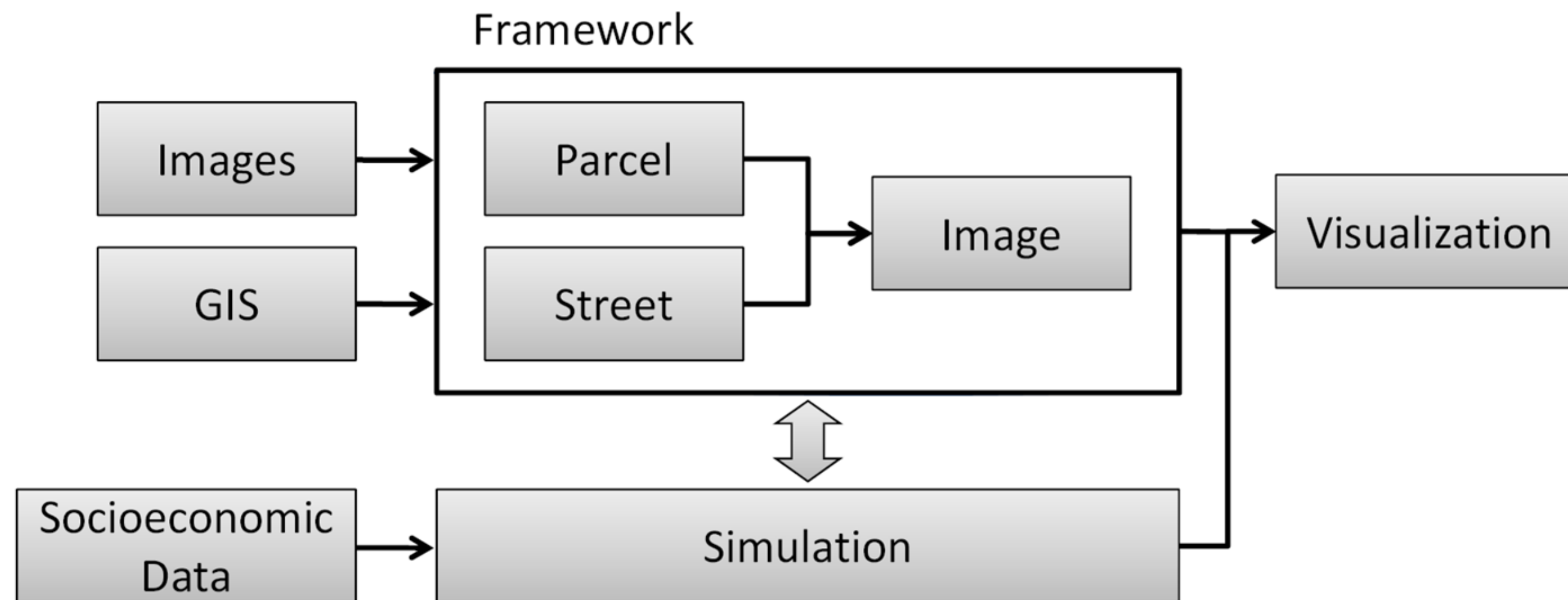


Visualization of Simulated Urban Spaces,
Vanegas, Aliaga, Benes, Waddell, TVCG 2007

Approach

- Create new structure that matches a set of attributes inferred from simulation variables
- New blank lots are created

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

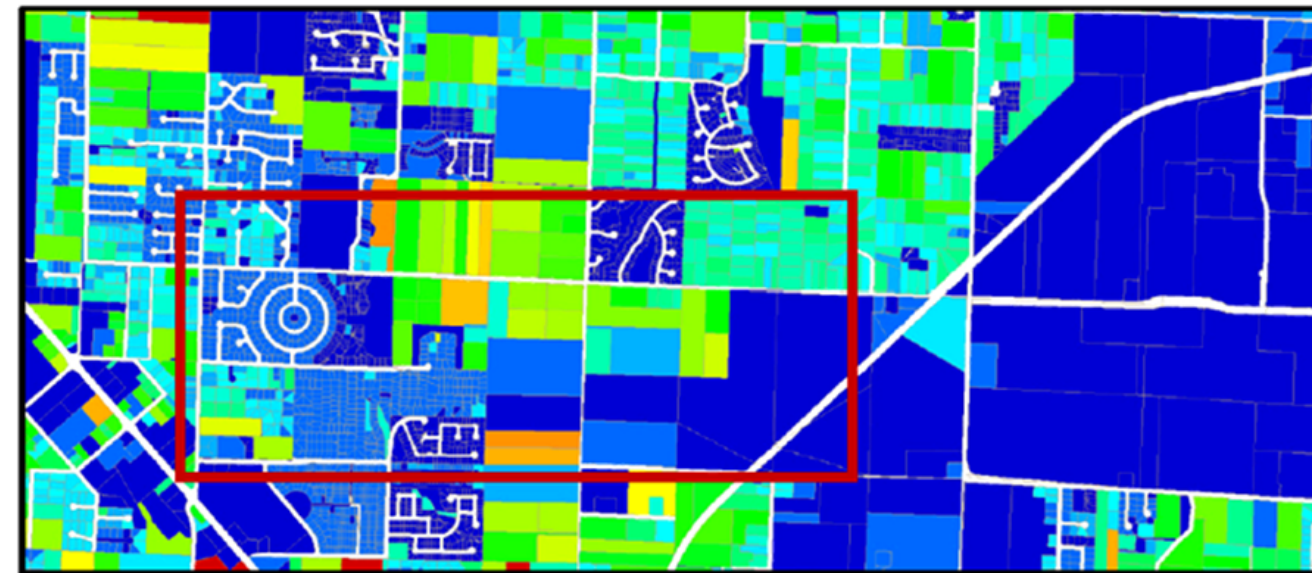


Visualization of Simulated Urban Spaces,
Vanegas, Aliaga, Benes, Waddell, TVCG 2007

Approach

- Aerial imagery is “borrowed” from existing lots of the city with similar socioeconomic attributes as the new blank lot

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING



Visualization of Simulated Urban Spaces,
Vanegas, Aliaga, Benes, Waddell, TVCG 2007

Example Result



BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

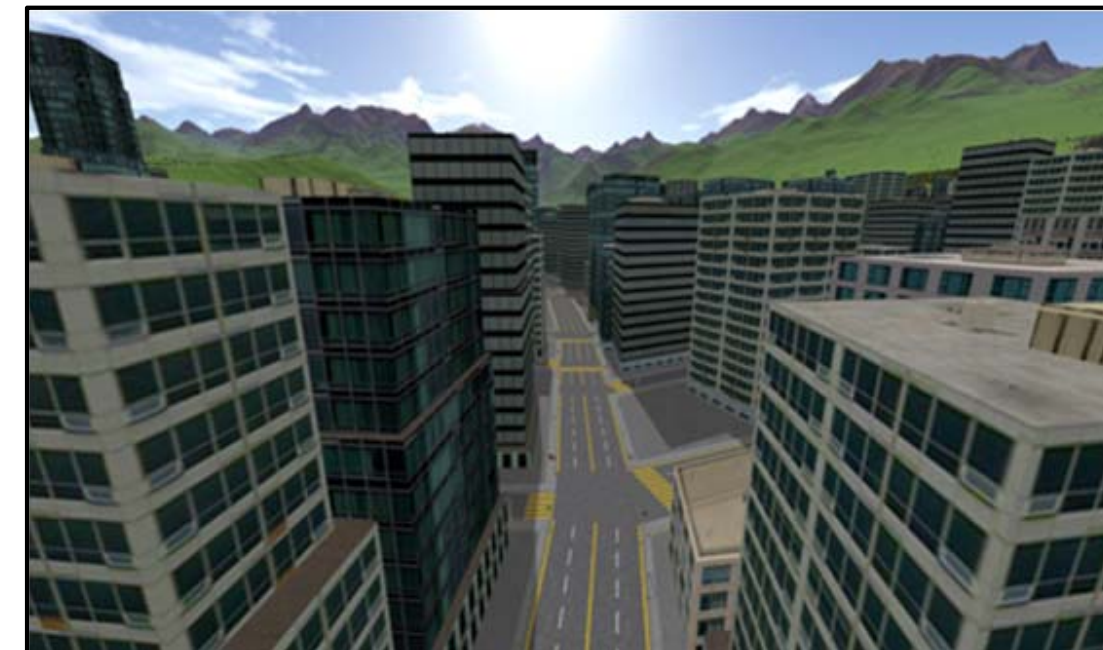
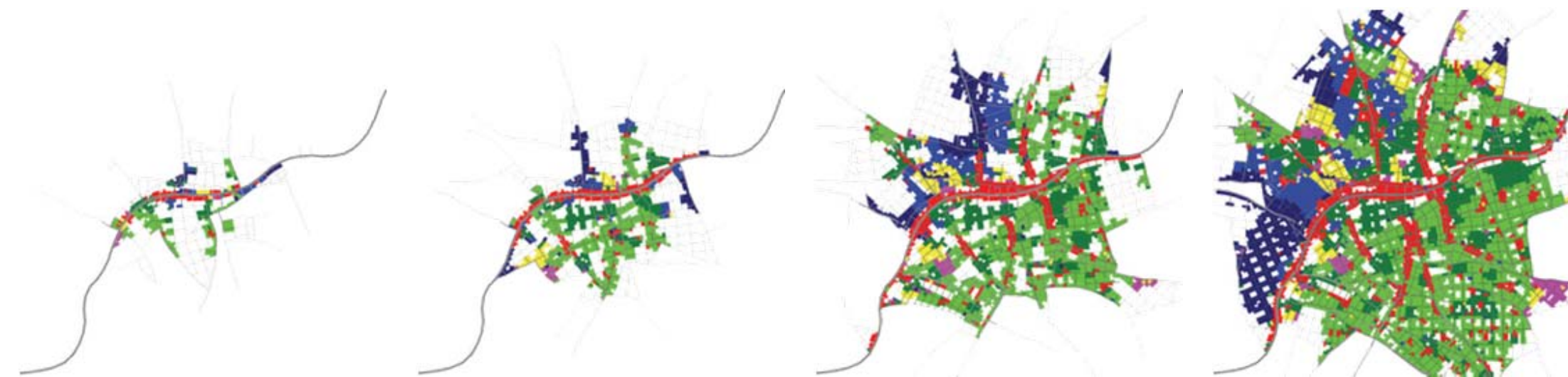
Visualization of Simulated Urban Spaces,
Vanegas, Aliaga, Benes, Waddell, TVCG 2007

Example Result



BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Interactive Geometric Simulation of 4D Cities,
Weber, Müller, Wonka, Gross,
Eurographics 2009



BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Interactive Geometric Simulation of 4D Cities,
Weber, Müller, Wonka, Gross,
Eurographics 2009

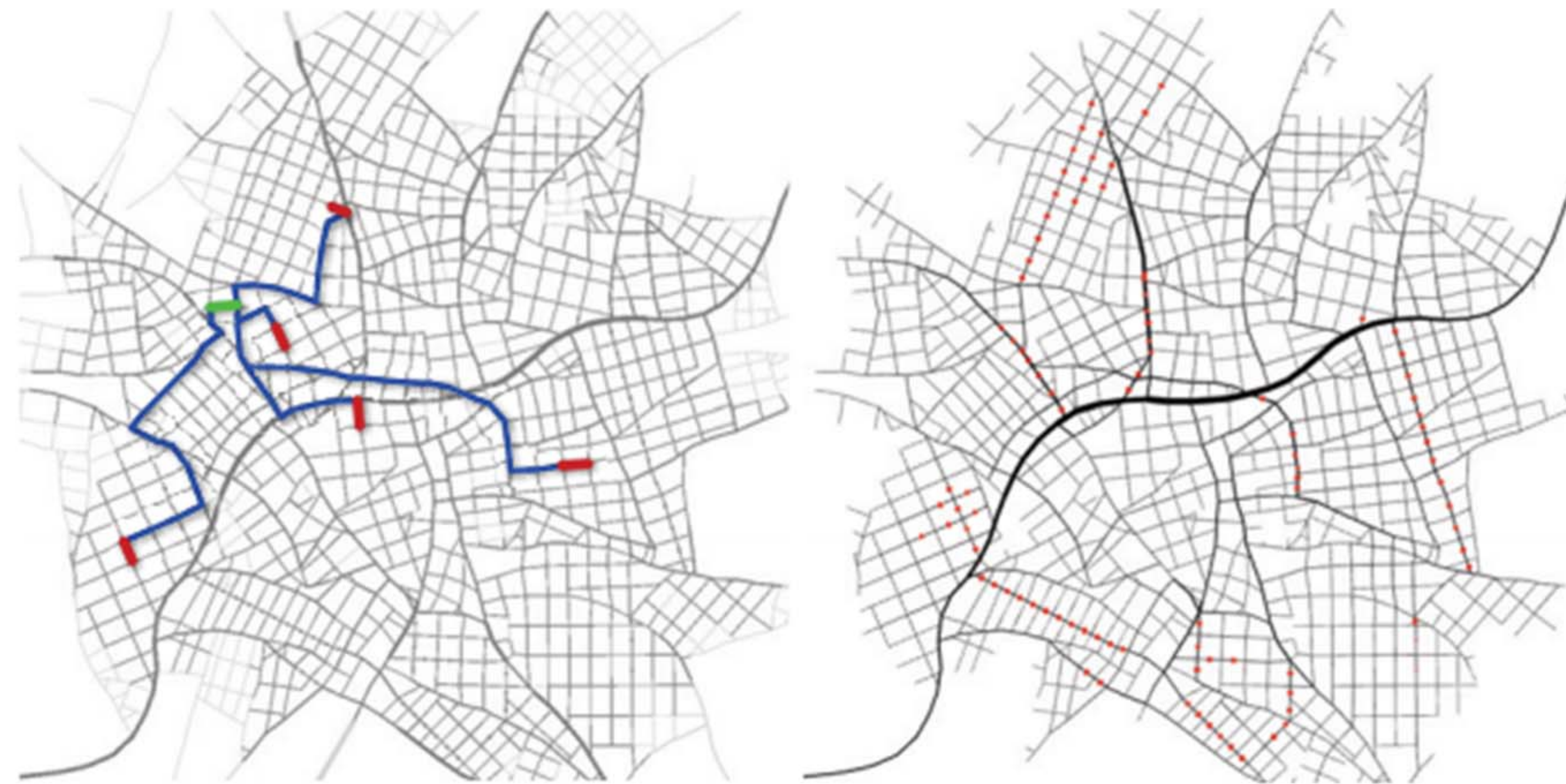
- How to model cities that are changing over time?
- How to use the urban simulation data to infer the geometry of the city (roads, lots, buildings)?



time →

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Interactive Geometric Simulation of 4D Cities,
Weber, Müller, Wonka, Gross,
Eurographics 2009
Traffic simulation for street generation



BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Interactive Geometric Simulation of 4D Cities

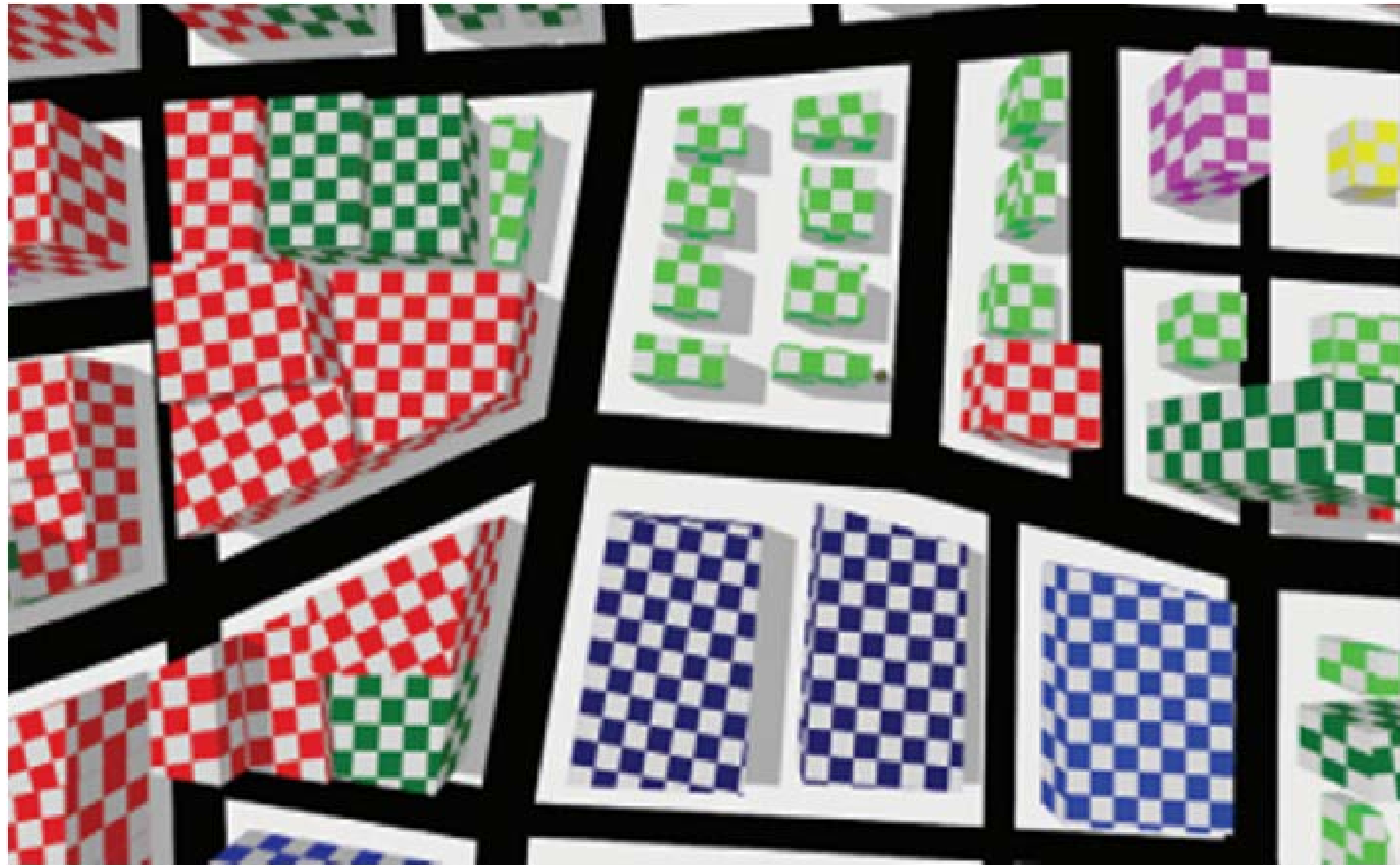
Weber, Müller, Wonka, Gross,
Eurographics 2009

Land use simulation

- Optimization of a land use value function

$$luv = \lambda_{global} \cdot luv_{global} + \lambda_{local} \frac{\sum_{\forall i} lot[i].area \cdot lot[i].luv}{\sum_{\forall i} lot[i].area}$$

- Global and local land use goals

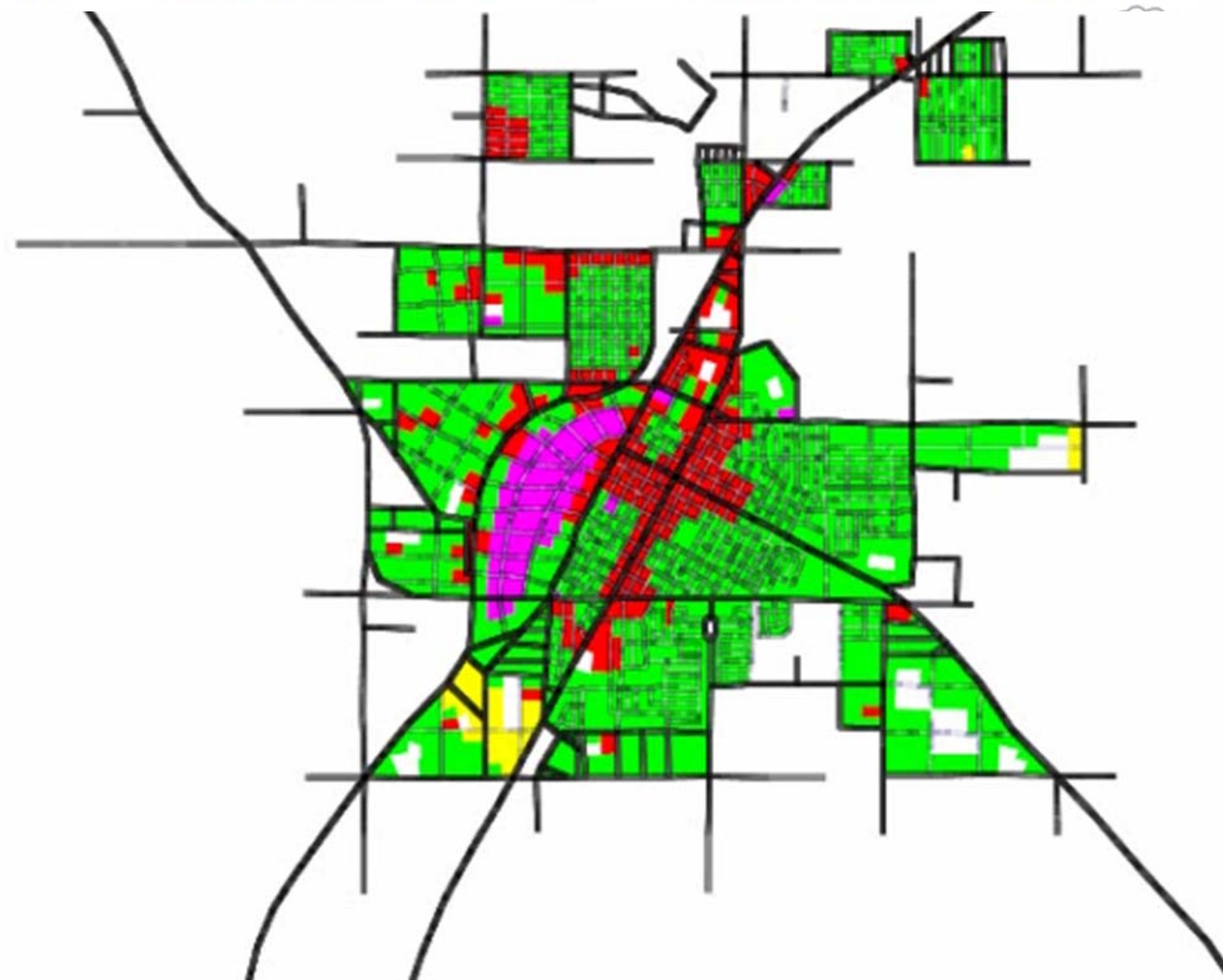
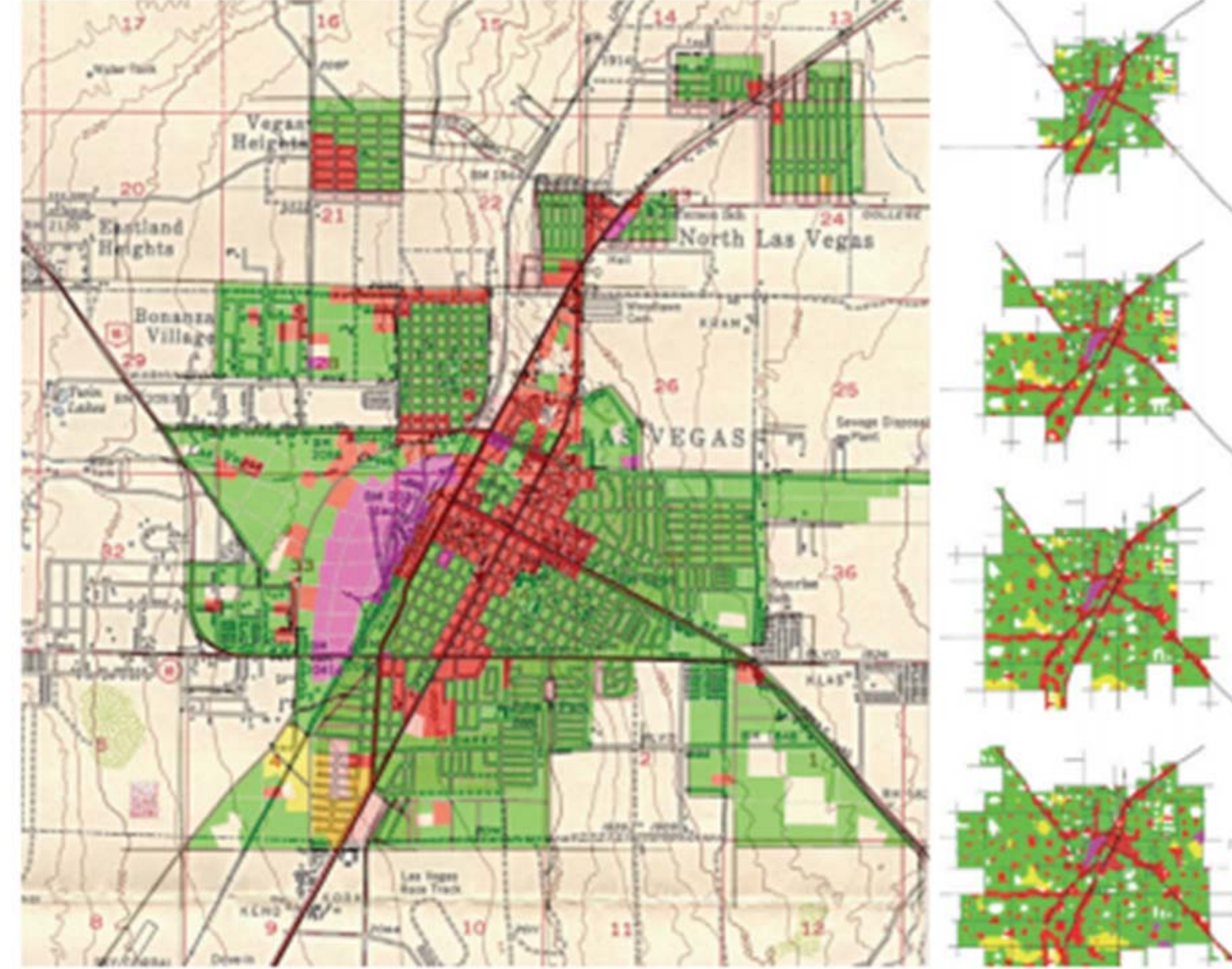


BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Interactive Geometric Simulation of 4D Cities

Weber, Müller, Wonka, Gross,
Eurographics 2009

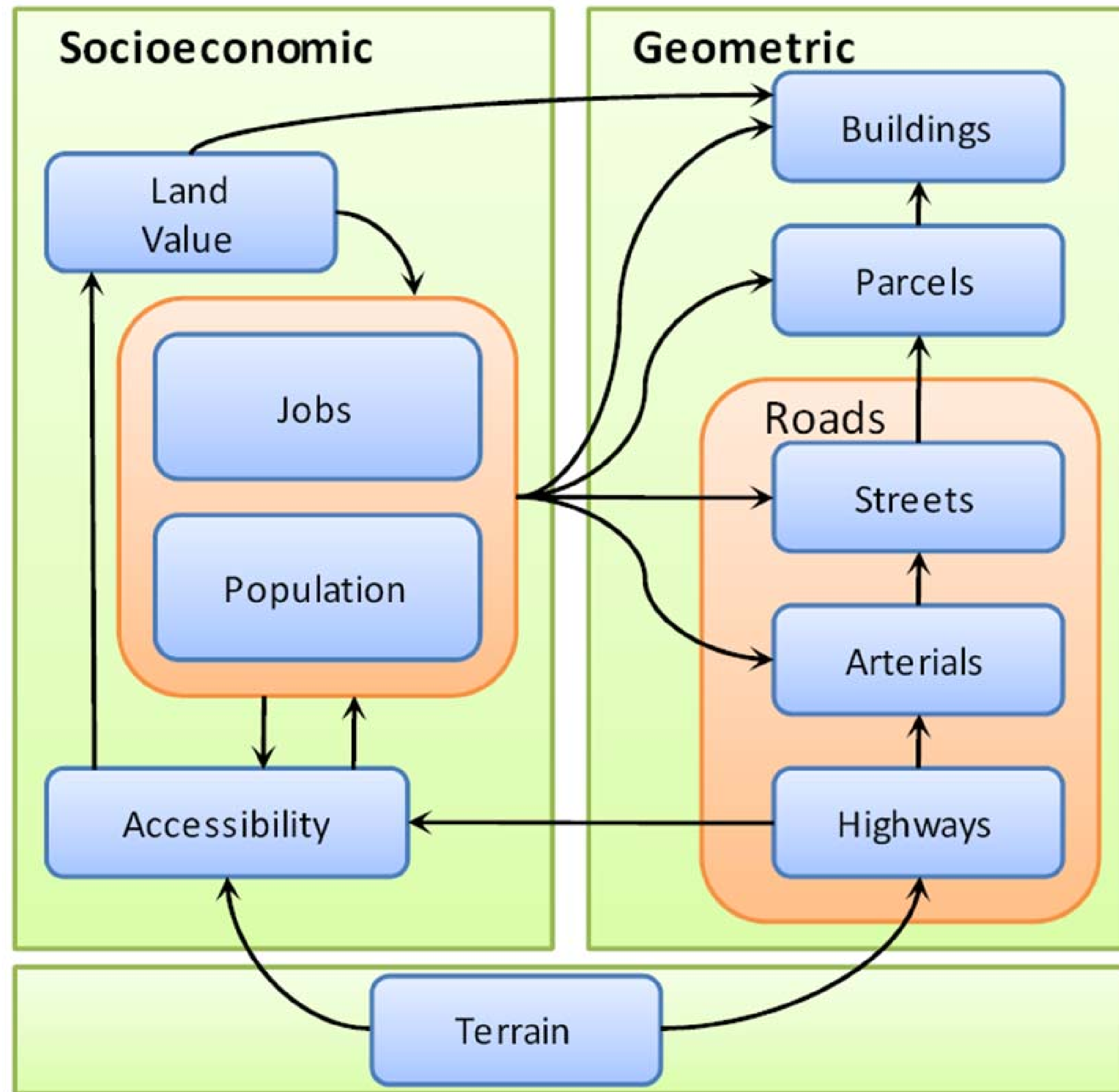
Validation



BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Interactive Geometric Simulation of 4D Cities
Vanegas, Aliaga, Benes, Waddell,
SIGGRAPH Asia 2009





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Interactive Geometric Simulation of 4D Cities
Vanegas, Aliaga, Benes, Waddell,
SIGGRAPH Asia 2009

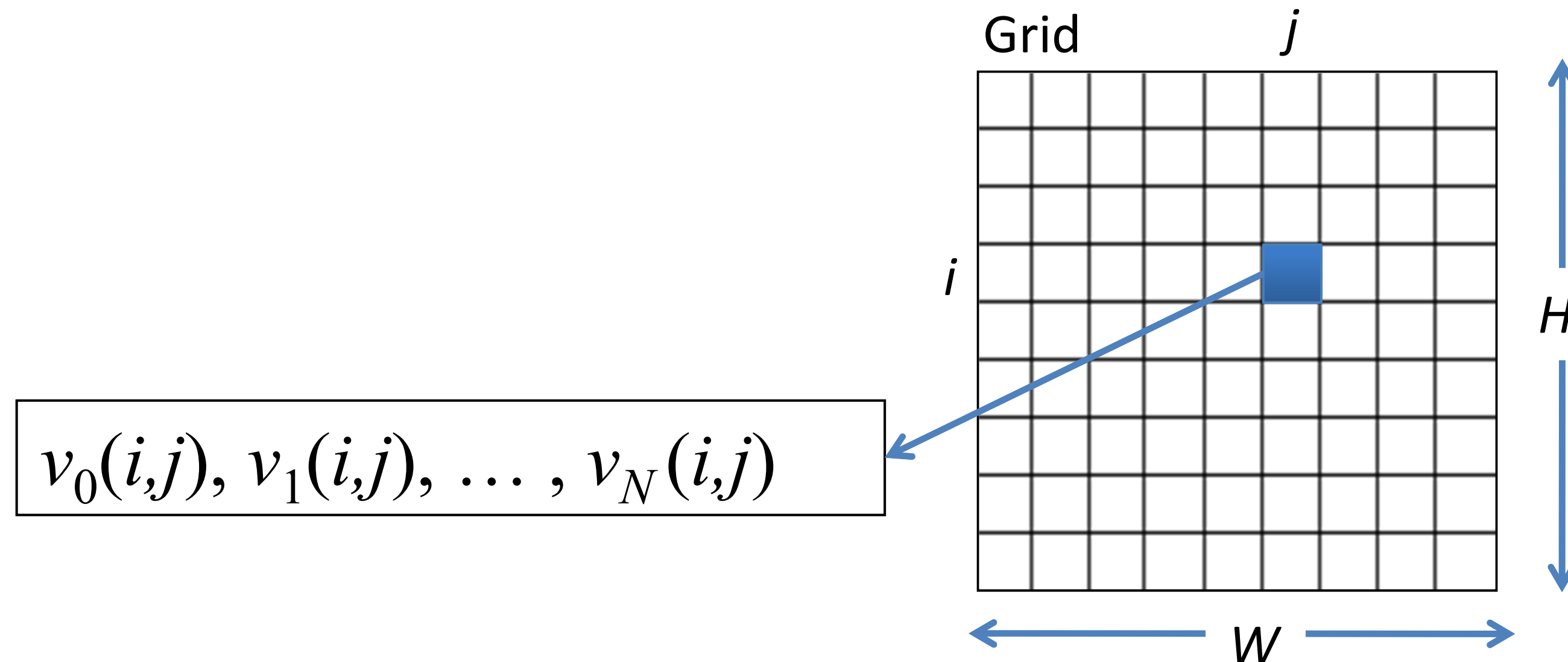
BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Interactive Geometric Simulation of 4D Cities

Vanegas, Aliaga, Benes, Waddell,
SIGGRAPH Asia 2009

System

- Consists of N variables defined over a spatial domain
- Each variable sampled over a 2D spatial grid \mathbf{G} of Size $W \times H$
- $v_k(i,j)$ denotes the value of k -th variable at grid cell (i,j)



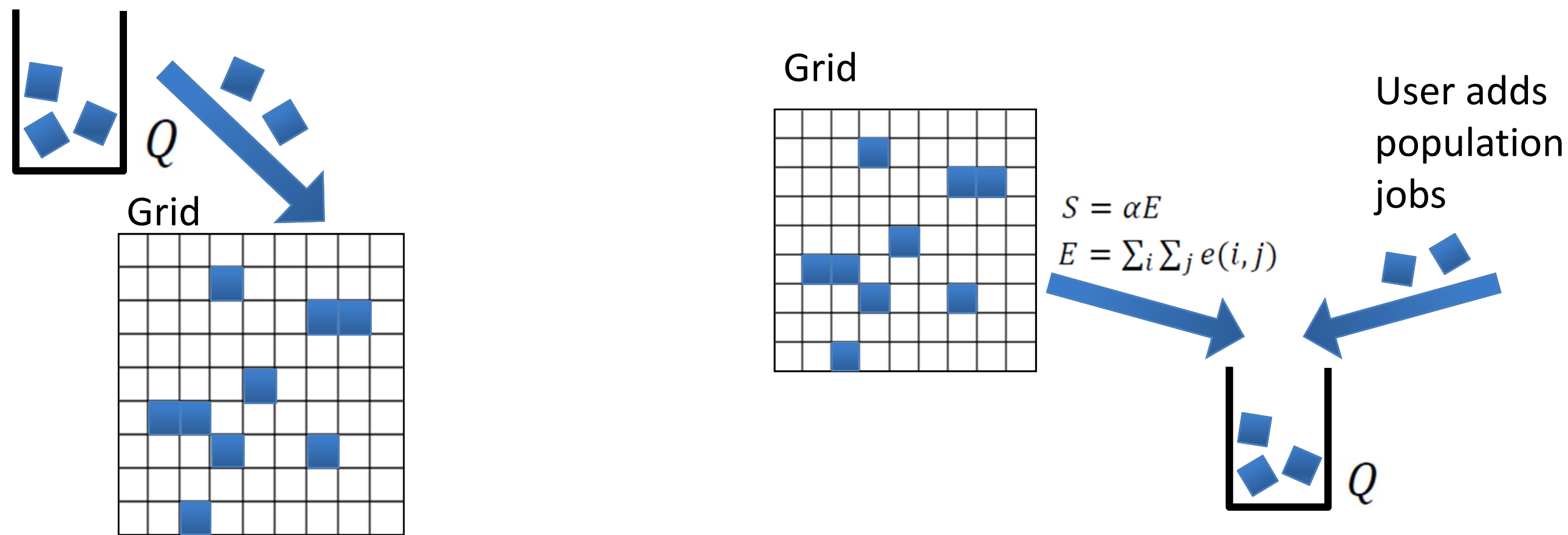
BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Interactive Geometric Simulation of 4D Cities

Vanegas, Aliaga, Benes, Waddell,
SIGGRAPH Asia 2009

Operations

- Location an de-location of behavioral variables using location choice and mobility algorithms



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Interactive Geometric Simulation of 4D Cities

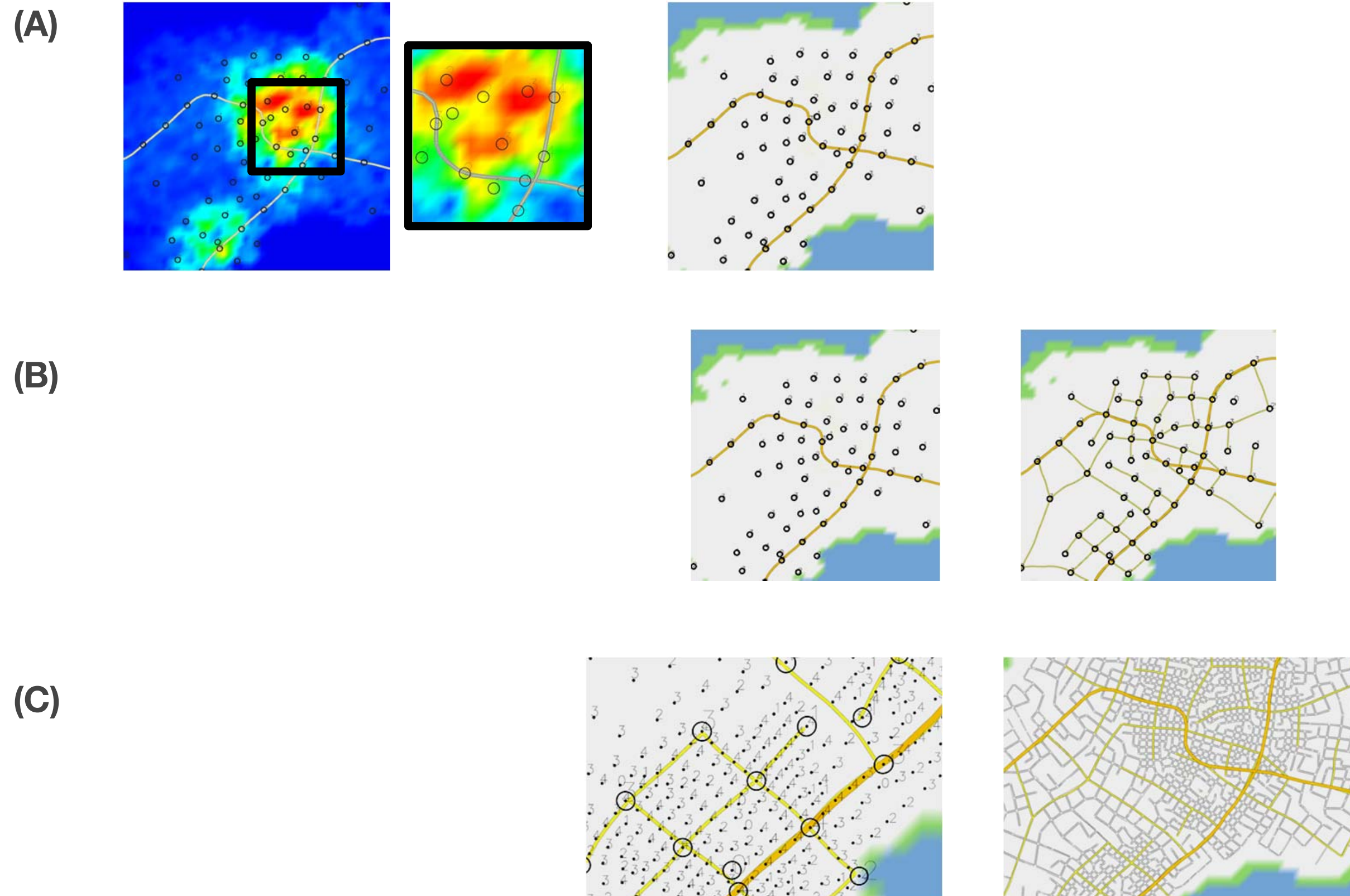
Vanegas, Aliaga, Benes, Waddell,
SIGGRAPH Asia 2009

Operations

(A) Seeds

(B) Expansion of Arterials

(C) Expansion of Streets

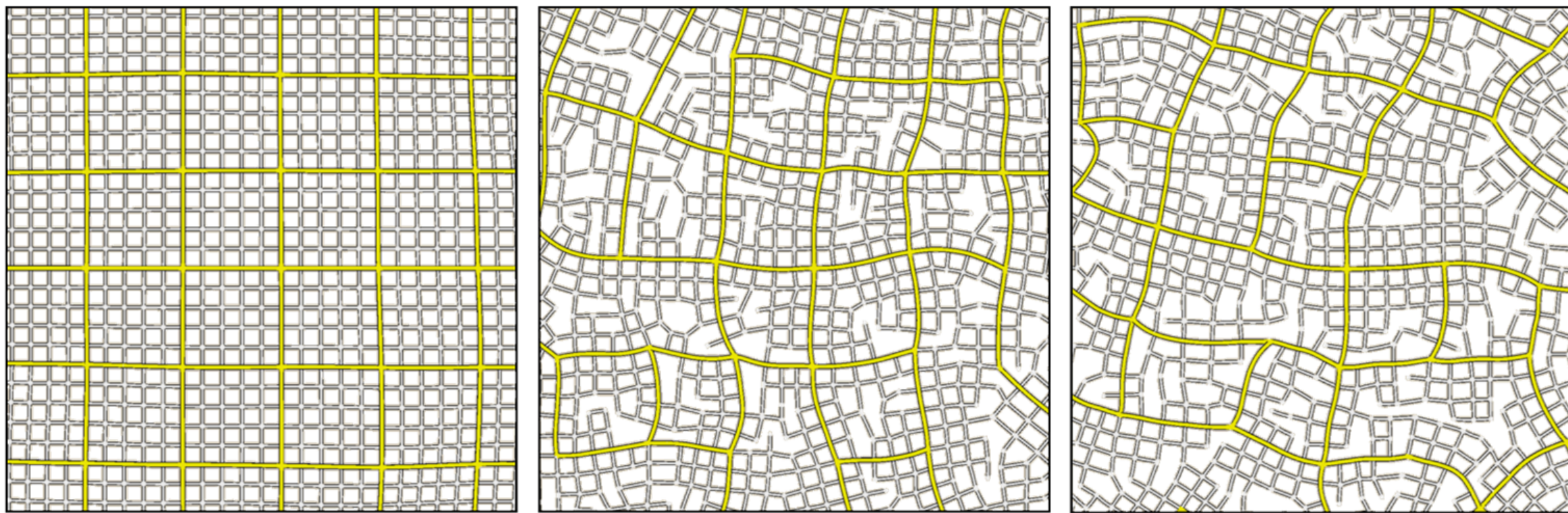


BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

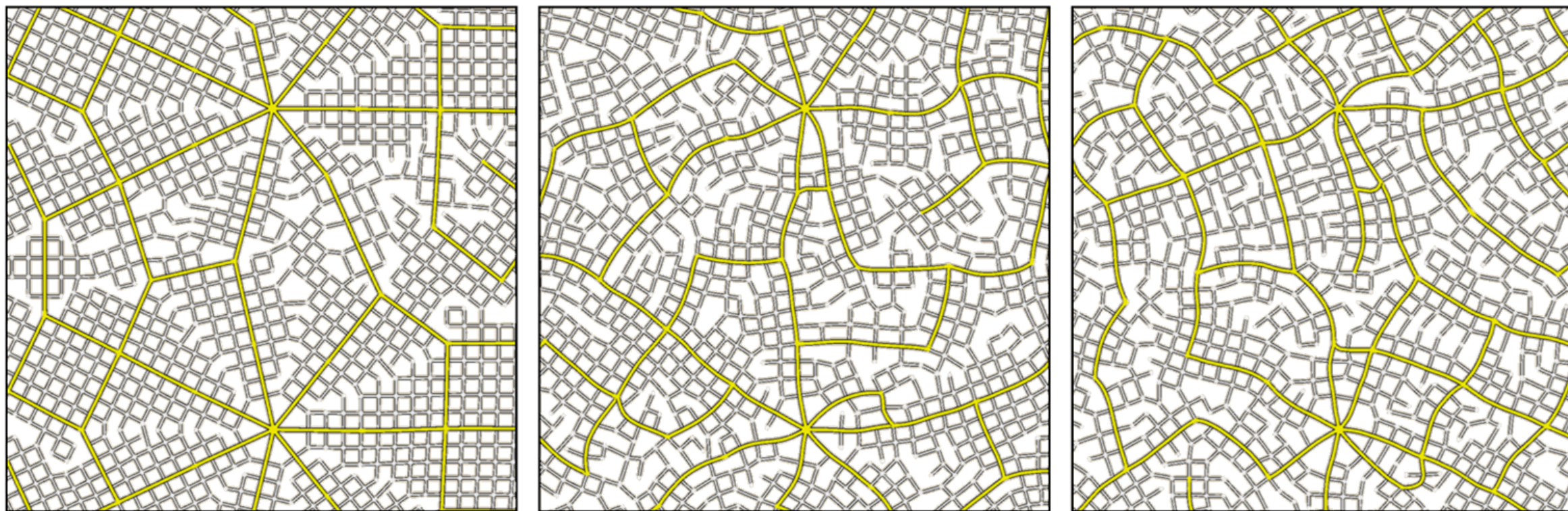
Interactive Geometric Simulation of 4D Cities

Vanegas, Aliaga, Benes, Waddell,
SIGGRAPH Asia 2009

Grid



Radial

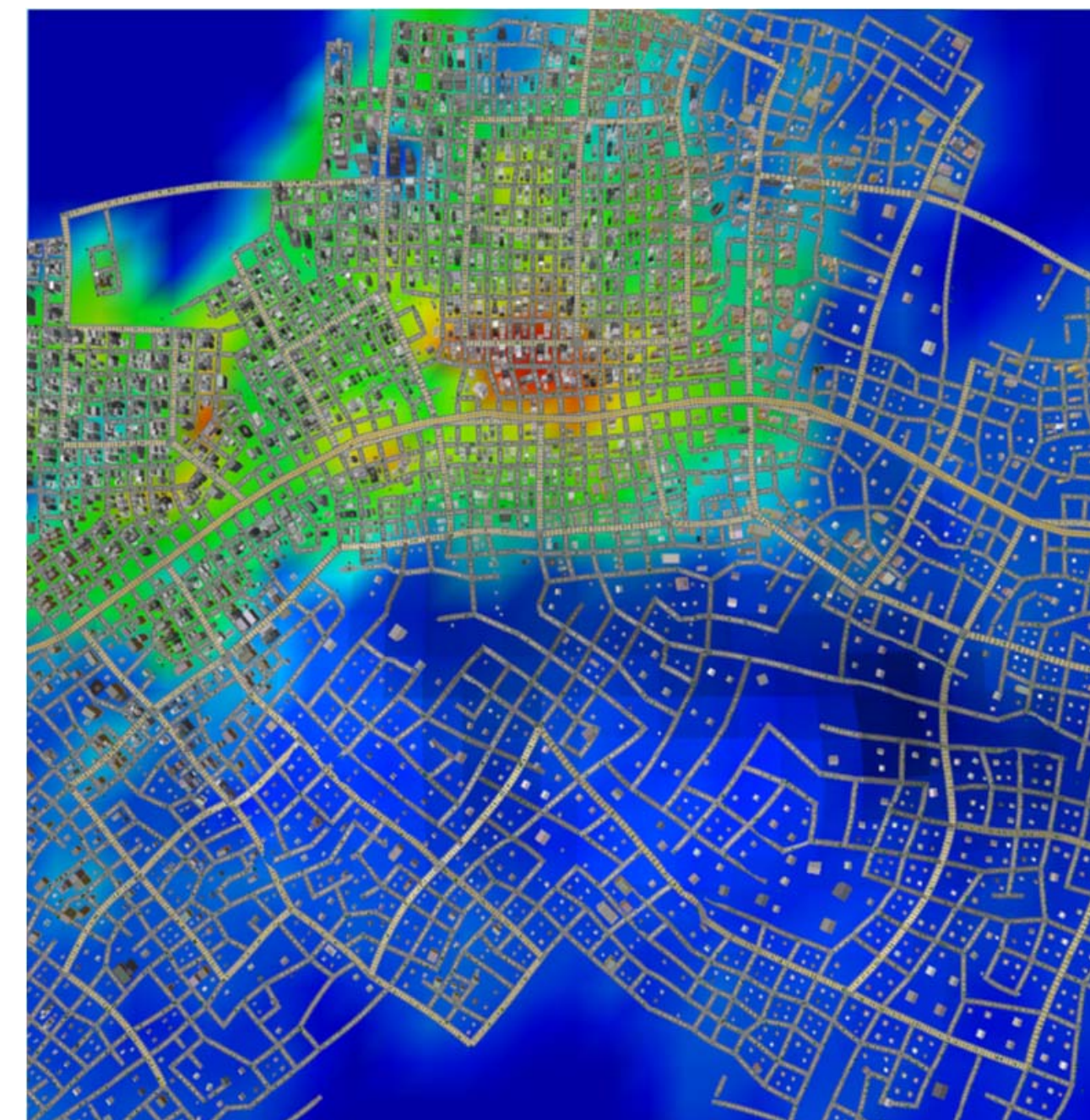
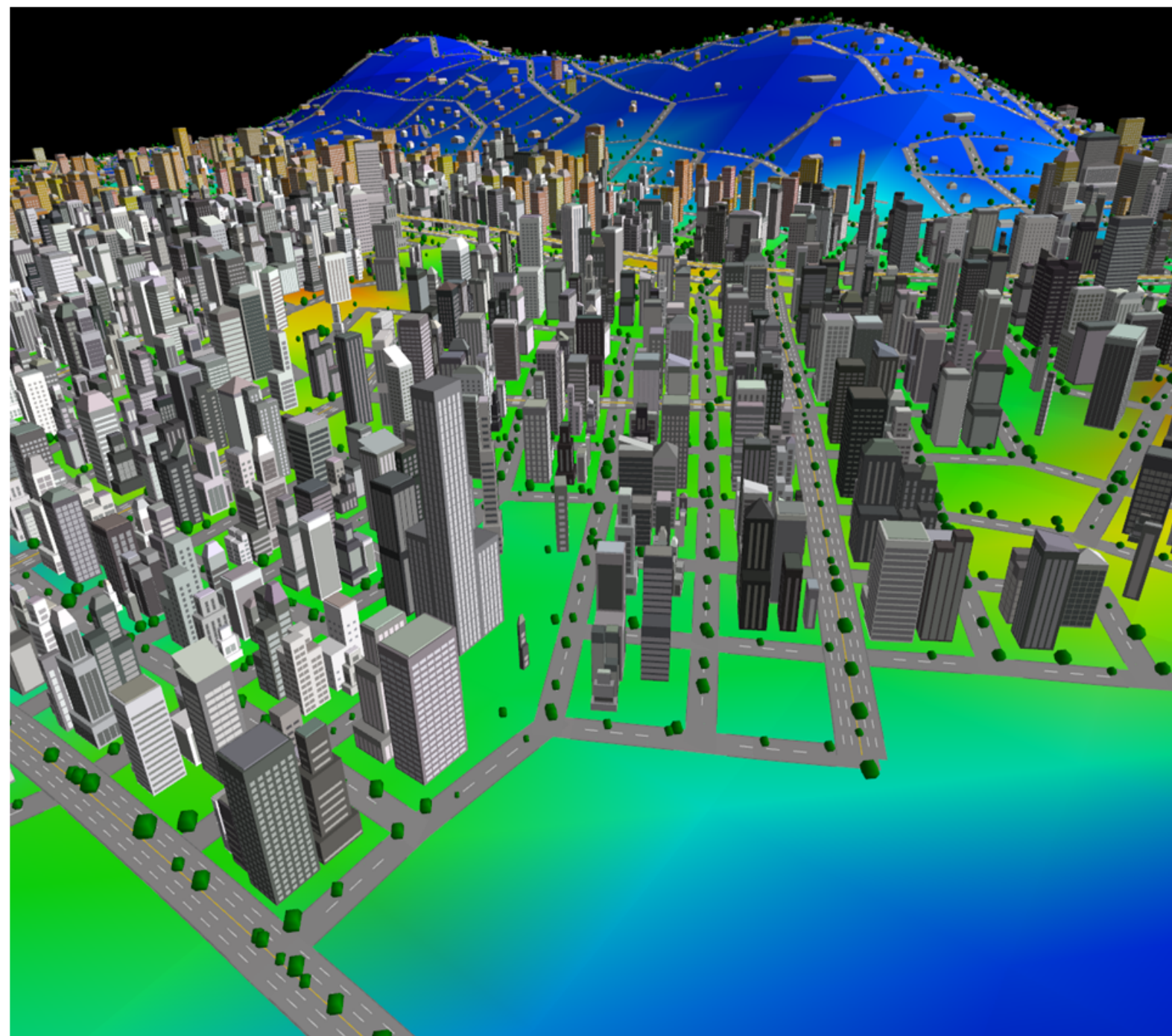


Tortuosity →

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Interactive Geometric Simulation of 4D Cities

Vanegas, Aliaga, Benes, Waddell,
SIGGRAPH Asia 2009



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Real City



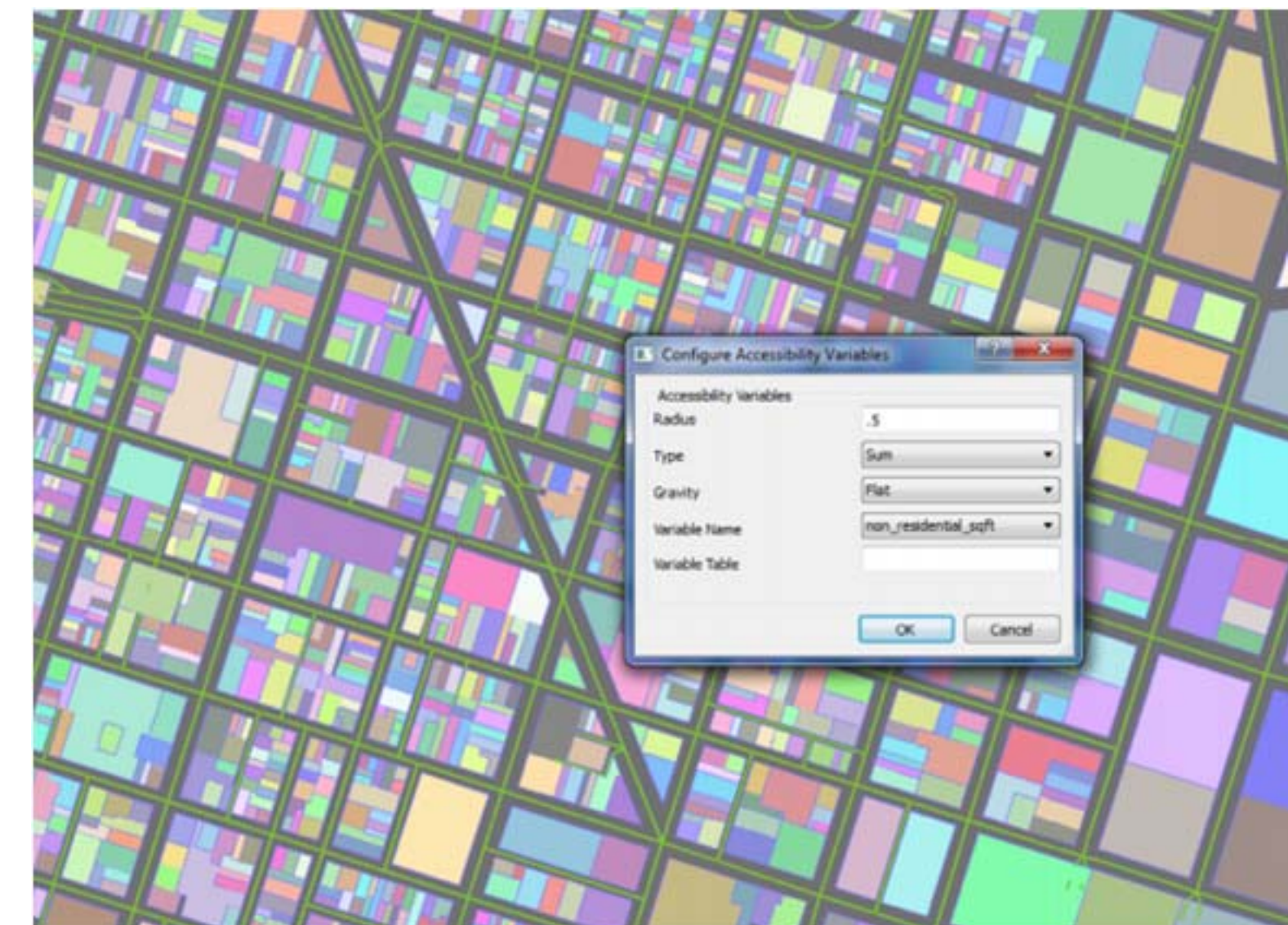
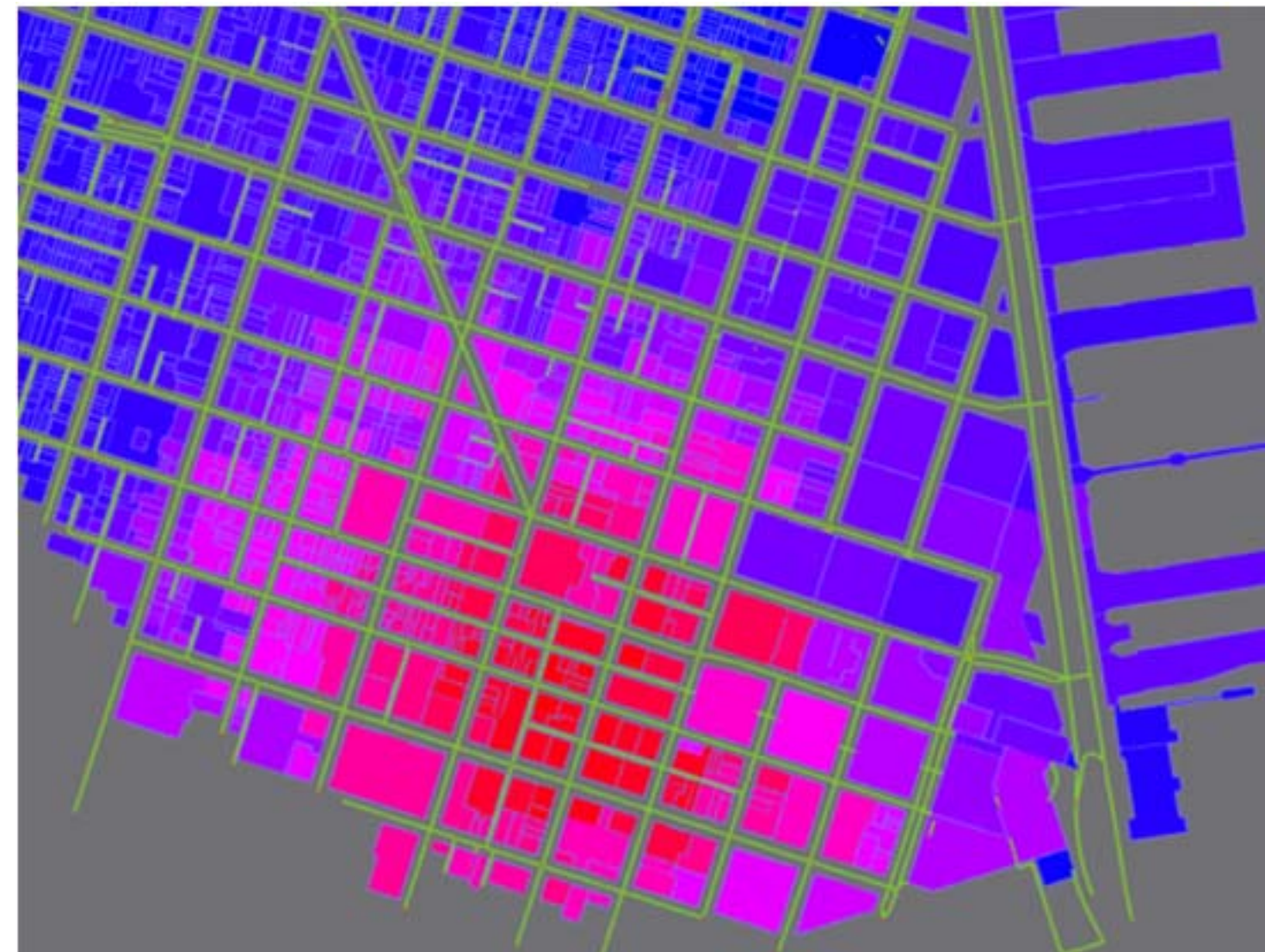
Synthetic City



BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

UrbanVision

Develop an open-source extension to UrbanSim to include geometric modeling for use in urban planning scenarios

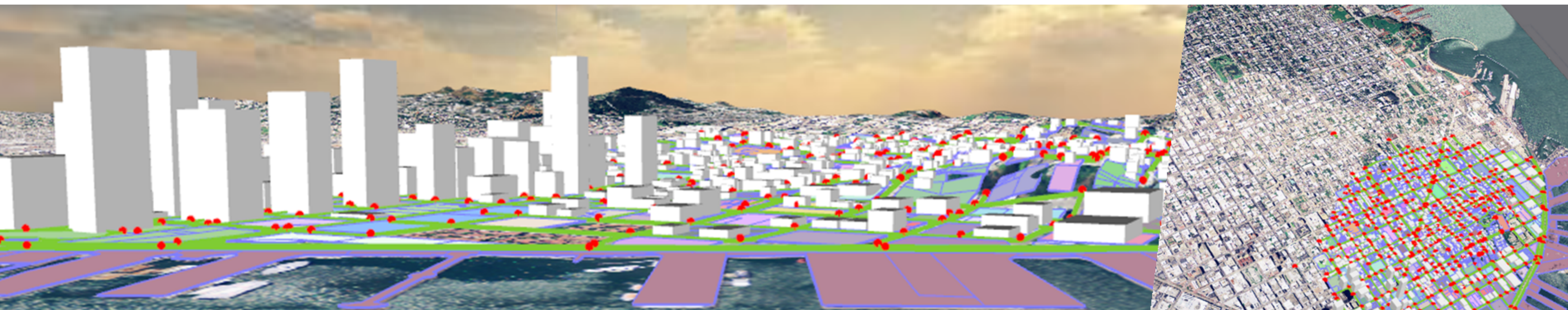


BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Deployment - San Francisco Bay Area

7+ million people, 1.5 million parcels, 7000 square miles

Purdue University, UCL Berkeley



BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Limitations of existing urban simulation systems

Difficult to specify what is to be simulated

(A) Simulation scenario (time)

(B) Area of interest (space) -
e.g., Real Estate

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

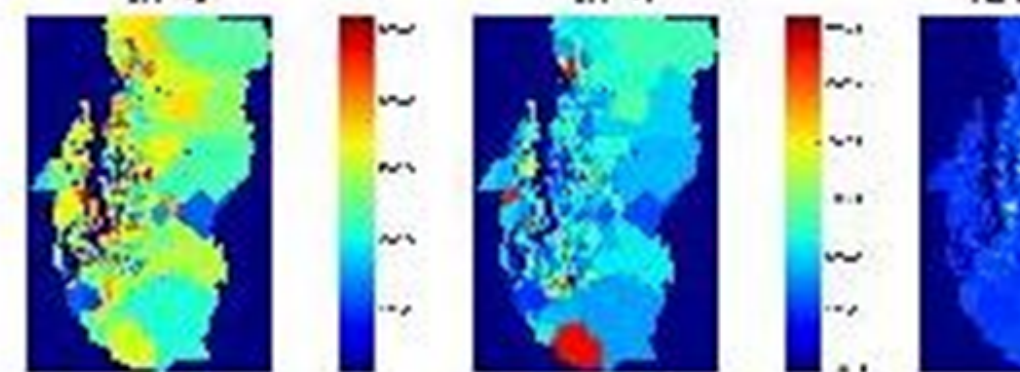
Limitations of existing urban simulation systems

Visualization of results

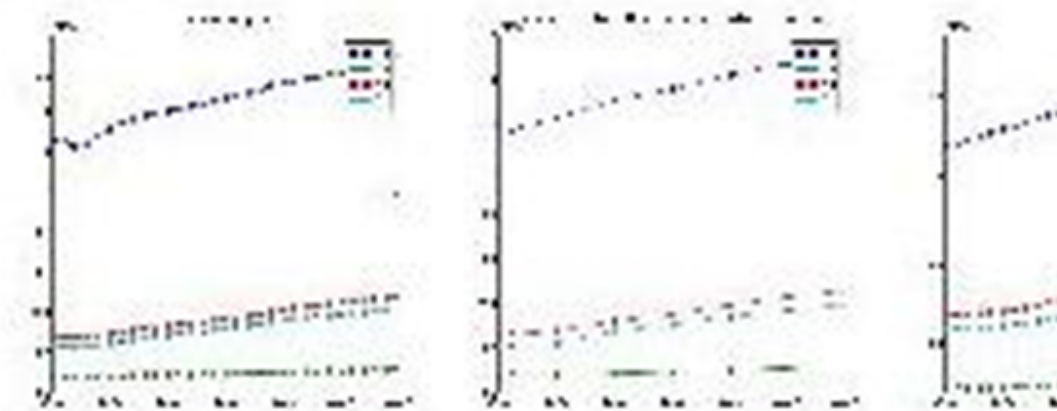
(A) Offline

(B) Lacks 3D content

maps:



charts:



tables:

[faz table number of jobs.csv](#)

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Limitations of existing urban simulation systems

User interaction

(A) Limited to tables in databases

(B) Lacks “immersive” navigation

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Limitations of existing urban simulation systems

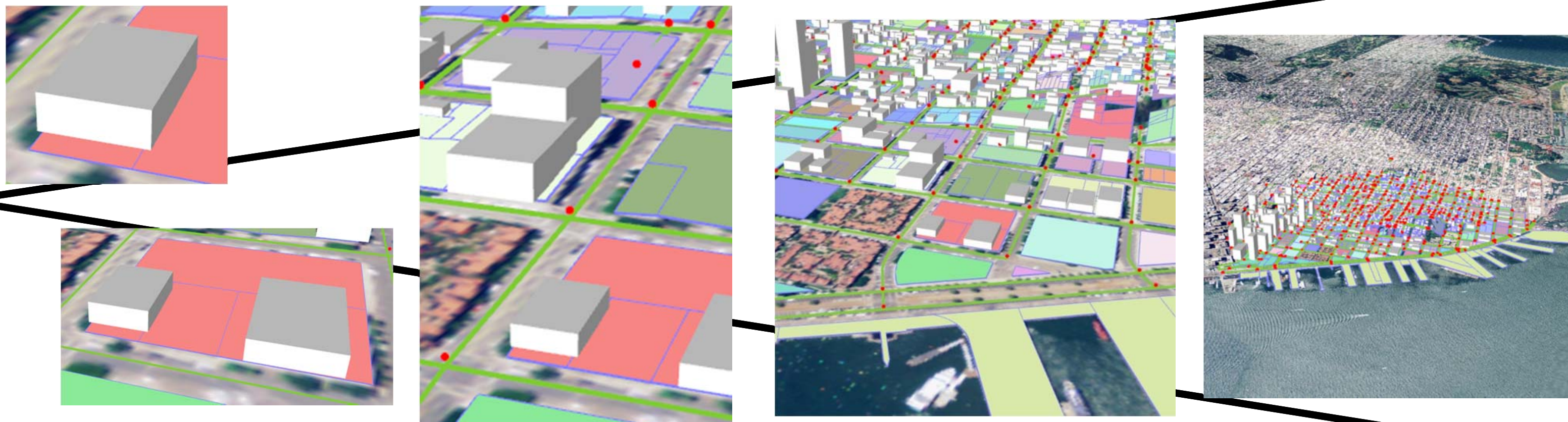
Isolation

No common framework for integration of different behavioral and geometric simulation models

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Goals (1) - Open Source

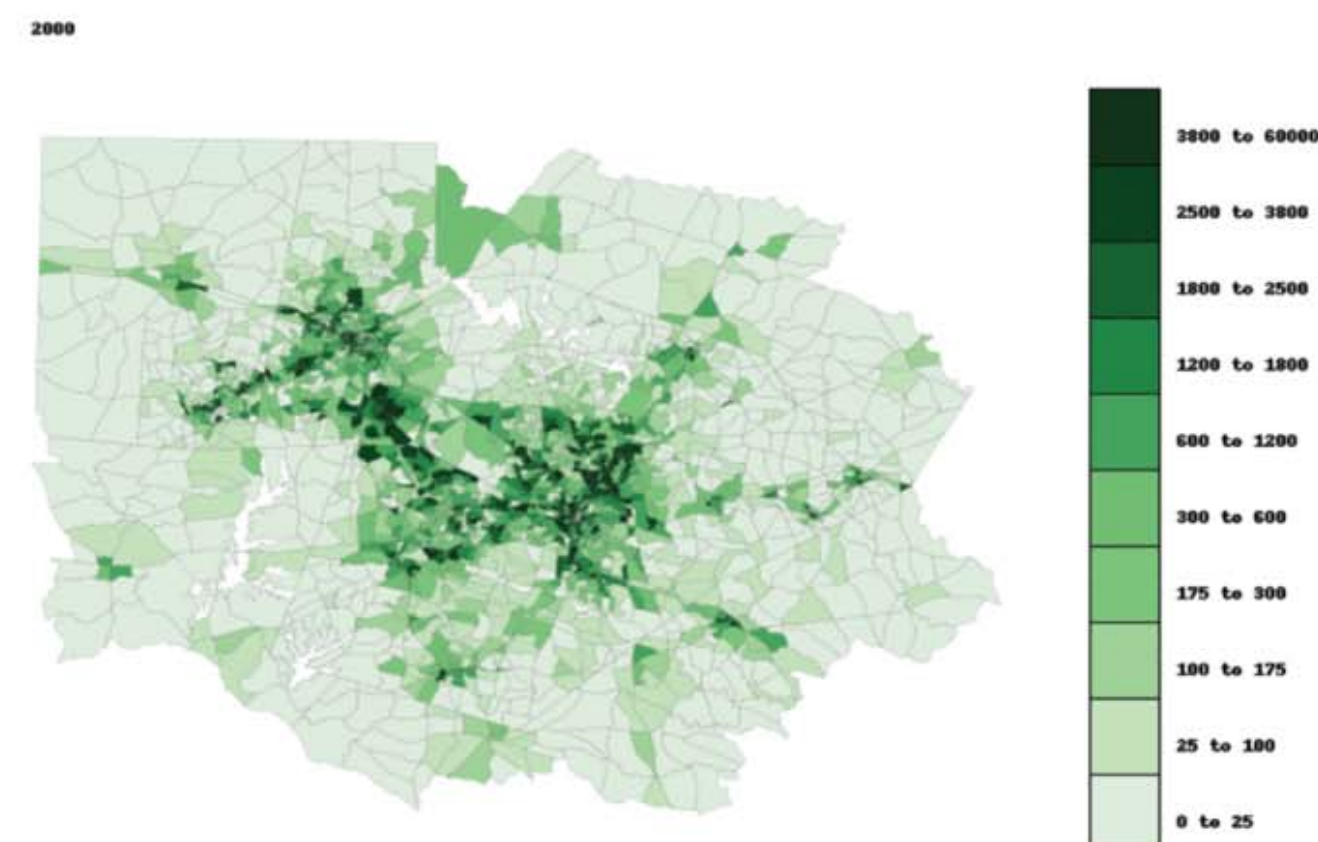
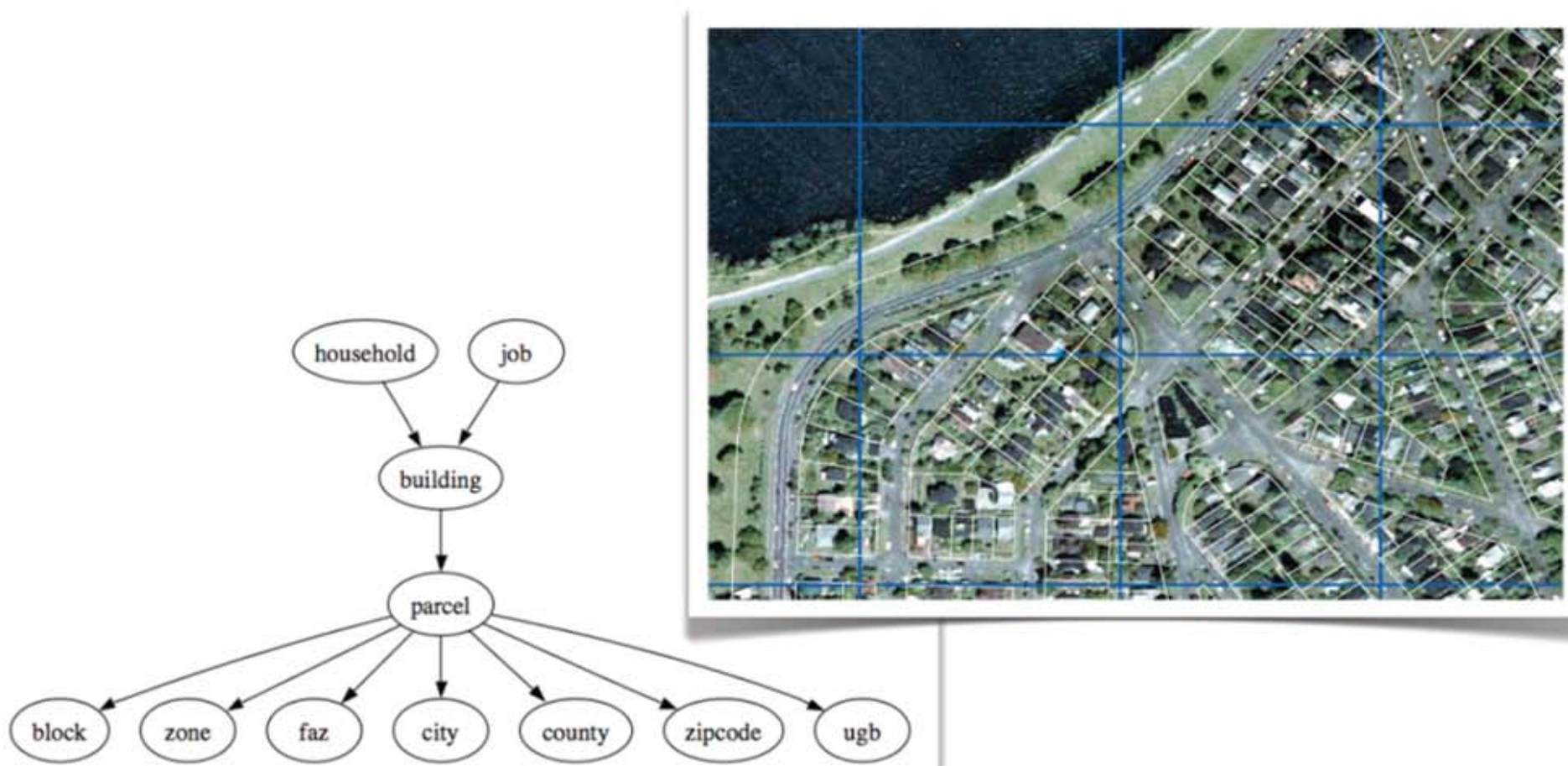
Develop an open-source platform for a high-resolution representation and simulation of future urban landscapes for use in urban planning, design and simulation



BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Goals (2) - Behavioral Simulation

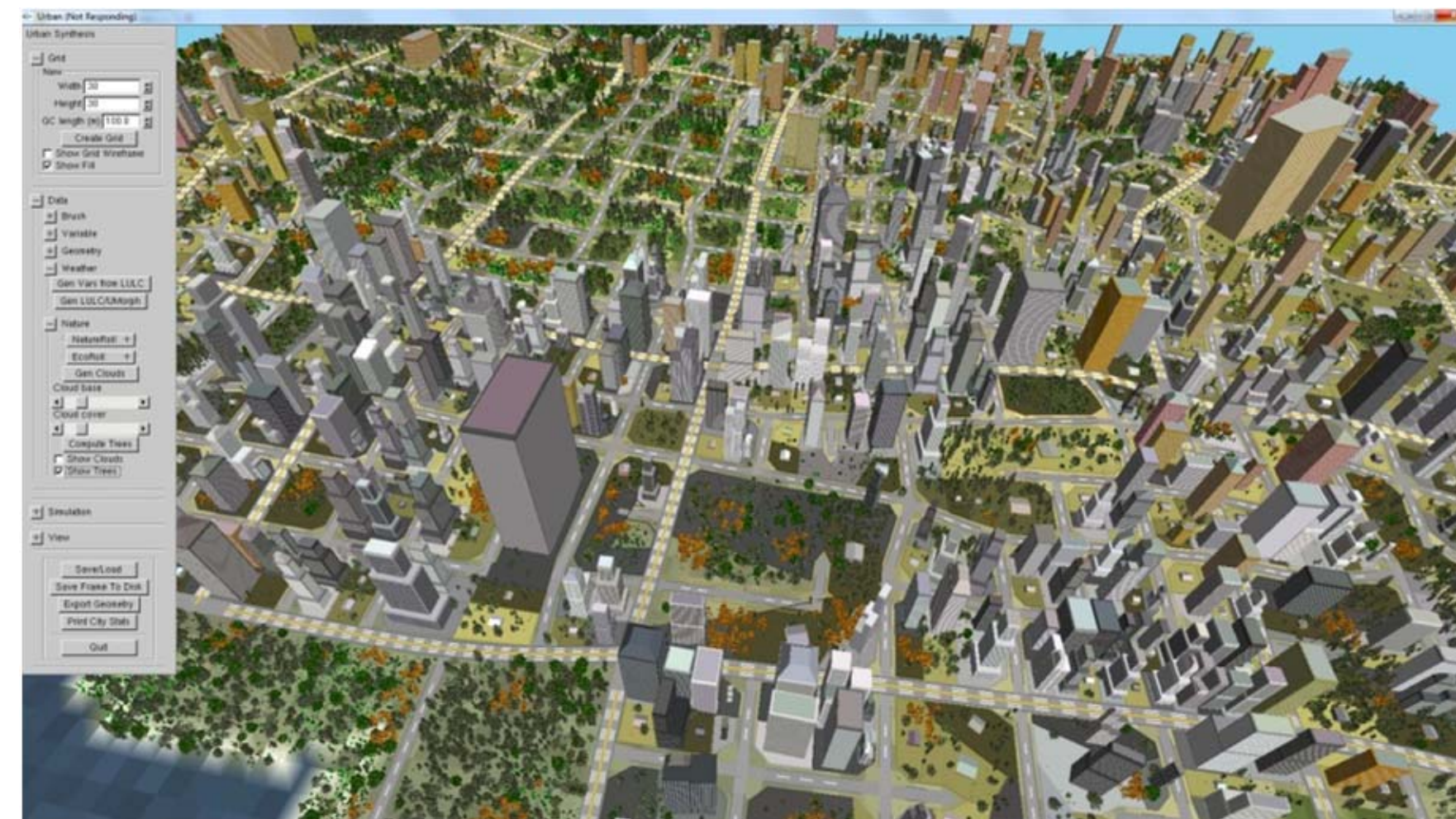
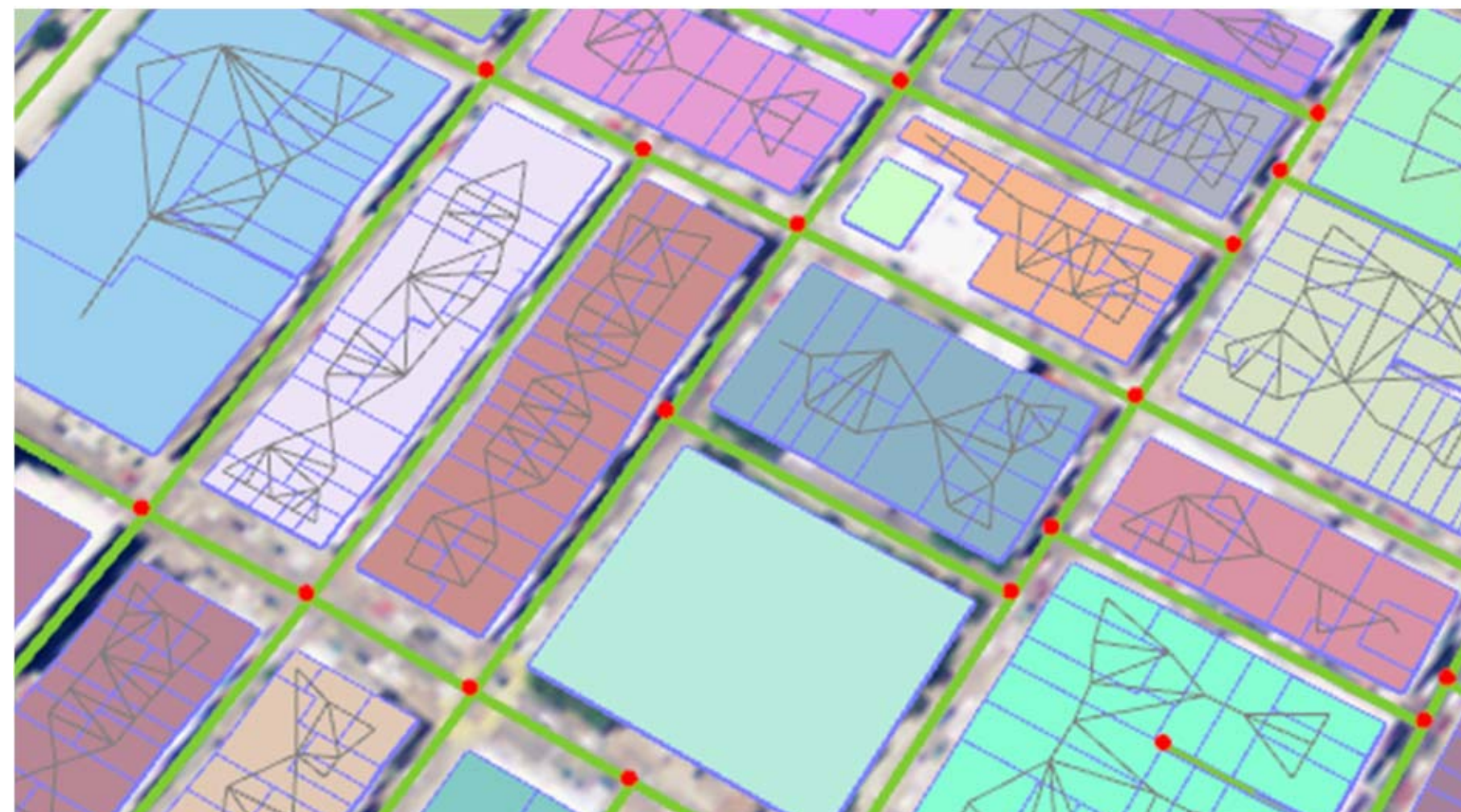
Read, write, and simulate changes to buildings, streets, and patterns of urban development and transportation and environmental conditions over time



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Goals (3) - Geometric Simulation

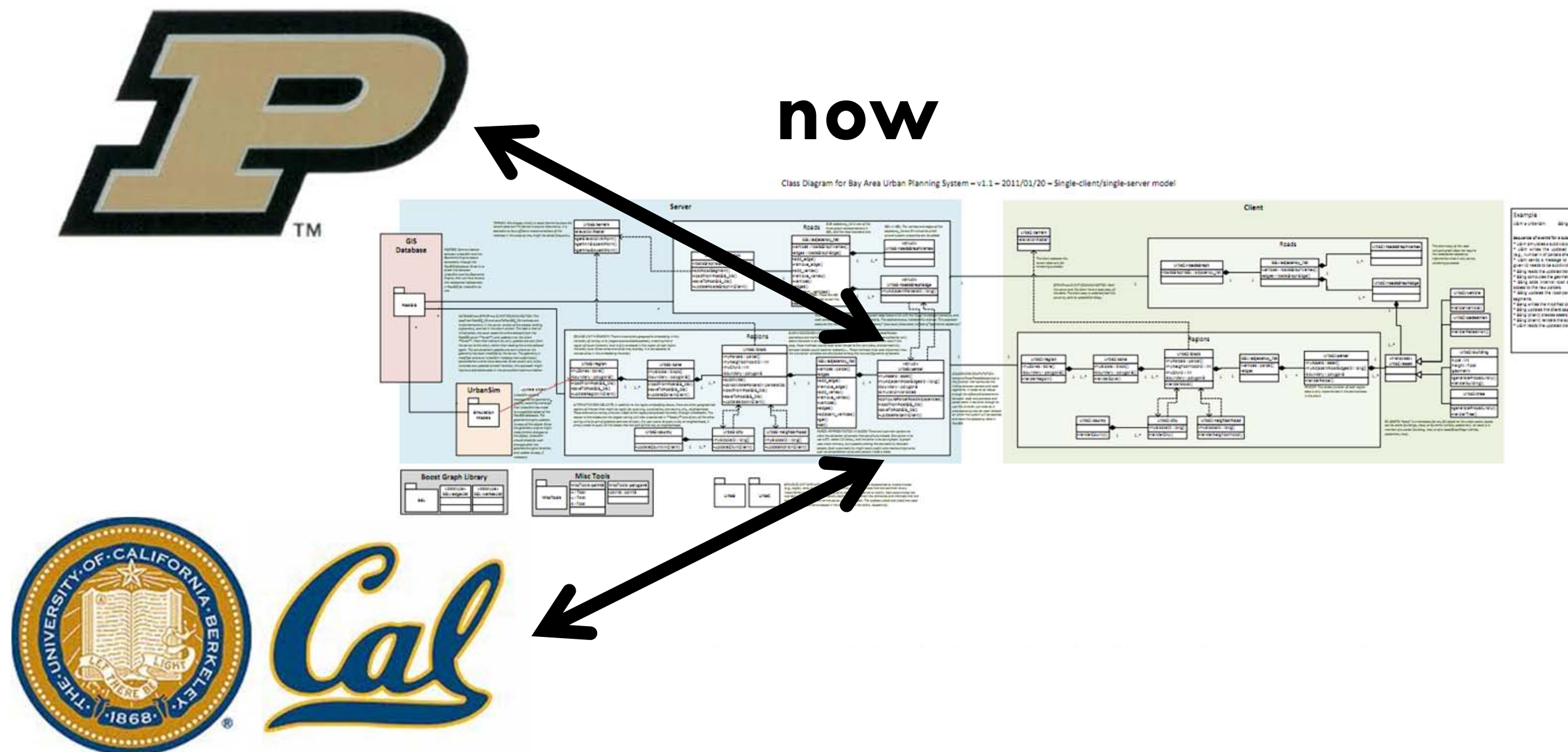
Model current and future simulated scenarios with geometric structures including streets, buildings, vegetation, pedestrians and vehicles.



BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

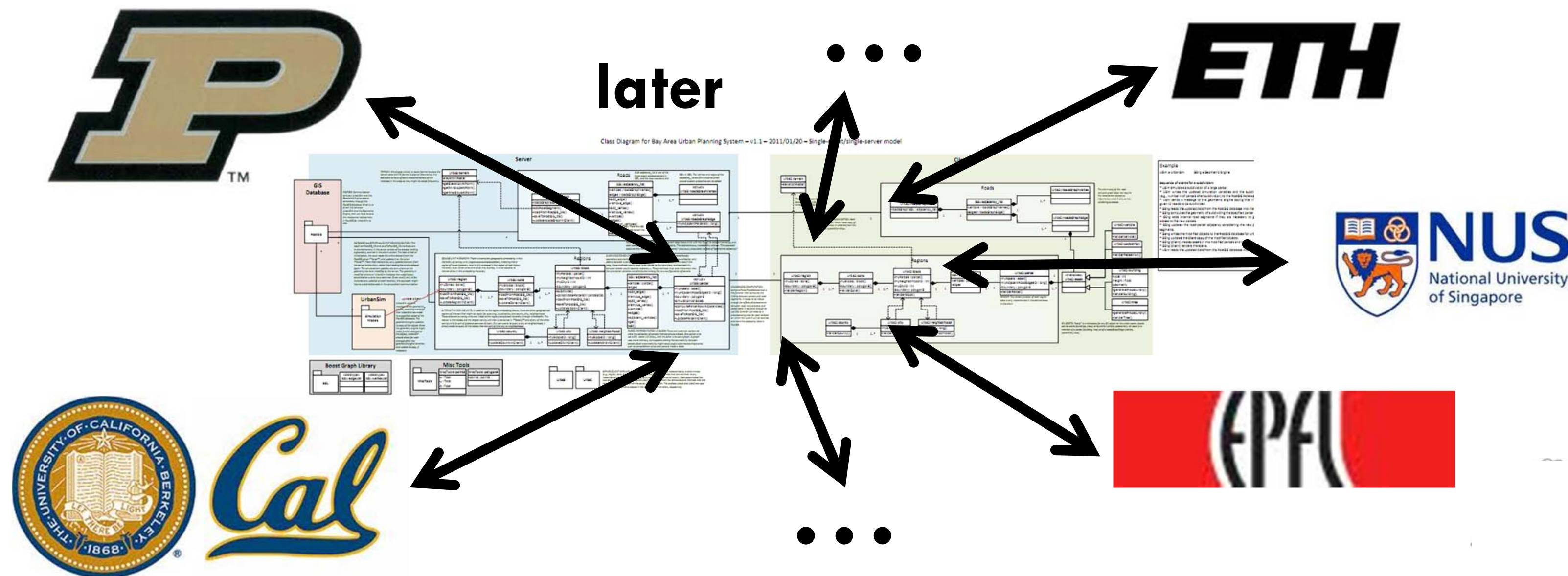
Goals (4) - Robust Integration

Develop a common API to make it easy to interface current and future models and visualization functionality in ways that are (fast) and modular



BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Goals (4) - Robust Integration



BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Who will use this system?

Initially

Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Association of Bay Area Governments

What for?

To support public engagement in the
Sustainable Communities Strategies
planning process

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN URBAN SIMULATION AND URBAN MODELING

Who will use this system?

Later

City Governments and planning agencies

Community

Other research projects in urban simulation,
modeling



THANK YOU!

Zurich sustainable future vision
Source: Jan Halatch

