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Ego networks and social geographies in Singapore

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Why social networks in transport/spatial planning?

Example: Number of accompanying travellers



Example: Residential location choice in Kt. Zürich

Variable	Beta	t-Test
Rent/Income	-5.51	***
log(m2/head)	0.98	***
Frequency weighted mean distance to friends	-8.16	*
Exponent (friends)	0.22	**
Mean distance to work/school	-1.59	**
Exponent (distance to work)	0.37	**
Travel time to Bürkliplatz	0.02	**
log(transit accessibility) * "No car"	0.41	**
log(car accessibility) * "Car"	-0.30	**
Share of equally sized HH within 1 km	0.02	*
Population density within 1 km	0.01	**
Share of empty flats in municipality	-0.11	
N= 683, rho² = 0.2128; * > 0.1; ** > 0.05; *** > 0.01		

Benchmarking the current state

- Numbers of contacts
- Distance distributions
- Geographies
- Frequency and mode of contact
- "Productivity"
- Levels of local anomie
- Levels of local trust
- Level of place attachment

Social network survey: Singapore

- Tan, Chua: 410 egos (recruited by telephone, incentive offered)
- Hall-based supervised CASI on a tablet computer
- 11 different prompts for contacts
- Map-support address capture
- Residential and mobility biographies
- Emphasis on social capital questions

Number of contacts reported



Gender

Mean great circle distances between ego and its alters



Great circle distances between ego and alter diads



Great circle distances between ego and alter diads

	Median	Mean
Singapore	6.5 km	510 km
Switzerland (Snowball) Zurich Toronto Eindhoven Concepcion	8.9 km 9 km 11.2 km 10 km 4.9 km	106 km. 287 km. 1036 km. 153 km. 223 km.

Example of a social network geography



Size of network geometries centered ego's address



Interactions by mode and distance between homes (SG) (1)



Interactions by mode and distance between homes (SG) (2)



Interactions by mode and distance between homes (CH)



Personal attributes	Current ego area (logged)	Historical ego area (logged)	Alter area (logged)
Female	0.5*	0.21	0.3
Malay	0.32	0.04	0.92*
Indian	0.44	-0.22	0.81*
Others	0.76	0.14	1.31
Singapore PR (versus citizen)	1.03*	1.34***	1.3*
Education (in years)	-0.02	0.02	-0.08
Private housing (versus public housing)	-0.33	O.1	0.5
Monthly household earnings	0.00	0.00	0.00
Number of overseas trips in the past year	0.01	0.01	0.01
Access to a car	0.17	-0.08	0.64*

Biography	Current ego area (logged)	Historical ego area (logged)	Alter area (logged)
Age (in years)	0.16*	0.12 [*]	0.16*
Age squared	-0.00*	-0.00*	-0.00*
Number of addresses	0.08	0.17 ^{**}	-0.11
Number of schools	0.02	-0.1	0.14
Number of companies	-0.01	0.02	0.02
Number of organizations	O.11	O.1	0.23*

	Current	Historical	Alter area
Network attributes	ego area	ego area	(logged)
	(logged)	(logged)	(108800)
Size of the network	O.12 ***	.05*	0.24***
Proportion of non-kin in the network	1.91***	1.83 _{***}	2.62
Mean education level of the network	O.21 ^{***}	О	0.15 *
Sex diversity in the network	-0.21	0.26	0.66
Nationality diversity in the network	-0.24	·54 [*]	0.2
Ethnic diversity in the network	-0.21	-0.08	0.52
Constant	-5.02	-1.47	-6.79
R-squared	0.27	0.29	0.31
Ν	370	379	362

Outlook

- The comparison of the name generators between studies
- Placement of name generators (i.e. comparison between name interpreters during the survey and at the end of the survey)
- Factors influencing social network geographies (i.e. the influence of age, gender, nationality, residential mobility and voluntary association participation rather than network capital)
- Spatially spread social network geography rich in social capital (i.e. strong positive association between spatial distance and well-educated network members/ rich diversity of different nationality groups/ non-kin)
- Spatial Inequalities as Social Inequalities (i.e. if reaching out entails reaching resources, it follows that spatial inequality entails social inequality

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