

Abstracts Booklet



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2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the 1st RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil in cooperation with ESA RN21 Quantitative Methods”

September 8th-10th, 2022

The Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) via the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

Hosted by University of São Paulo (USP)
and organized by the
Global Center for Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability (GCSMUS),
Research Committee on Logic and Methodology in Sociology (RC33)
of the International Sociology Association (ISA) in cooperation with the
Research Network “Quantitative Methods” (RN21)
of the European Sociology Association (ESA)





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ABSTRACTS BOOKLET



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**“2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on
Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability”
 (“SMUS Conference”)**

and

“1st RC33 Regional Conference – Latin America: Brazil”

September 8th-10th, 2022

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List of Contents

Welcome Remarks	4
SMUS Conference Brazil Organizing Team	6
1. Conference Technical Requirements	8
2. Conference Event Procedures	9
3. Conference Agenda	10
4. Conference Program	19
5. Paper Abstracts (Stream A — Stream F)	34





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**2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods
for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
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in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods”**

Welcome Remarks

Altogether with the SMUS Conference Brazil Steering Committee and the SMUS Conference Brazil Organization Team, it is a pleasure for me to welcome each one of you to the “2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods” (“SMUS Conference”), which will simultaneously be the “1st RC33 Regional Conference Latin America: Brazil” in cooperation with the Research Network “Quantitative Methods” (RN21) of the European Sociology Association”, and take place online at the University of São Paulo (USP), Brazil, from Thursday September 8th to Saturday September 10th, 2022. This Conference has been made possible by funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) via the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). In conceptual and logistic terms the SMUS Conference Brazil was brought about by the joint institutional engagement of the SMUS teams both at USP and at Technische Universität (TU) Berlin alongside the USP departments of Sociology and of Architectural Project, which are settled respectively at the USP [Faculty of Philosophy, Languages and Human Sciences](#) and the [School of Architecture and Urbanism](#).

The still ongoing global uncertainties brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic have forced us to keep on the online format employed at the SMUS Conference Botswana, which convened almost one year ago at the University of Botswana in Gaborone. Well conscious of the challenges to academic sociability implicit in this choice after three pandemic years, we did our best to circumvent the essentially inhospitable nature of online academic conferences. The six keynotes, twenty sessions, two roundtables and twelve Advanced Method courses comprised by the SMUS Conference Brazil will be ‘musically’ entangled with one another. Various talented young musicians of USP offered us six self-composed video soundtracks of instrumental music to enrich in artistic terms the Conference breaks.

Inspired by this musical setting, the SMUS Conference Brazil hopes to further the global dialogue on methods by scholars and researchers from all over the world and all social and spatial sciences (e. g. anthropology, area studies, architecture, communication studies, computational sciences, digital humanities, educational sciences, geography, historical sciences, humanities, landscape planning, philosophy, psychology, sociology, urban design, urban planning, traffic planning and environmental planning) by focusing especially on the following ten issues:





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for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
1st RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods”**

- spatial and temporal research
- decolonizing (social-scientific) knowledge
- mapping
- informatics
- spatial/cognitive crossroads
- intersections in urban planning
- housing
- violence
- healthcare
- food

By now each subject has been explicitly or implicitly tackled in the framework of the five strategic Actions that underpin the [Global Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability \(SMUS\)](#). To implement these [Actions](#) at USP, this University and TU Berlin signed a five-year cooperation agreement in 2020. The SMUS lead partner institution at USP is the Faculty of Philosophy, Languages and Human Sciences, and more specifically its [Department of Sociology](#).

Looking forward to the many other, alternative ways in which the above mentioned ten issues will be addressed via the SMUS Conference Brazil activities, I hereby warmly invite you to delve as intensely as possible into the opportunities for scientific, academic and personal exchange that the next three days will offer everyone.

With my deepest wish of an exciting and productive Conference for us all, I thank each of you in advance for your presence and engagement.



Prof. Dr. Fraya Frehse
GCSMUS Lead Partner, Steering Committee Member, and Action Speaker
Department of Sociology, University of São Paulo



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in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods”

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for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
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Mateus Alves de Mendonça – MA Student
(Graduate Program in Sociology, University of São Paulo)

Steering Committee

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(Department of Landscape Architecture, University of São Paulo)



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2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods
for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
1st RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods”

1. Conference Technical Requirements

- **Zoom**

The SMUS Conference Brazil will be hosted through Zoom application. Please note that you are required to be connected to the internet throughout the Conference to be able to participate in all the Conference activities (keynotes, sessions, courses and roundtables). The Zoom application can be accessed and/or downloaded at: <https://zoom.us/download>.

Once you have the Zoom application installed in your computer or gadget and you are ready to launch the application from your preferred web browser, simply click on the links for the keynotes, sessions, courses and roundtables, which are provided in the Conference Agenda (pp.10) via the following link:

<https://gcsmus.org/wp-content/uploads/SMUS-Conference-Brazil-AGENDA.pdf>.

These details have also been sent to you in advance via email. For more details on how to use Zoom during the conference, please access the **Zoom technical guide**: https://gcsmus.org/wp-content/uploads/SMUS_Brazil_Zoom_TechnicalGuidelines_v2.pdf.

- **Technical Support - contact details**

In case of doubts our Technical Support Team may be contacted via the email smusbrasil2022@usp.br.

Our WhatsApp Helpline is **+55 11 99925-5503** (only during the Conference days).

Please visit the SMUS Conference Brazil 2022 official website for more updates: <https://gcsmus.org/conferences/brazil/>.



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2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods
for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
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2. Conference Event Procedures

- **Conference Language(s) and Time**

All keynote, roundtable and session presentations will be held in English. The Advanced Method courses may be held in English and/or in Portuguese, according to previous announcements at: <https://gcsmus.org/conferences/brazil/courses>.

The Conference times adhere to Brasília Time – BRT Time Zone, also known as Brazil Time. Please find the link for the Time Zone Converter: <https://dateful.com/convert/brazil-sao-paulo?t=1729>

- **Opening Ceremony, Opening/Closing Lectures and Keynotes**

Given the online nature of the 2nd SMUS Conference Brazil, only the speakers can be seen and heard. Participants are not able to participate through audio or video. To make the most of the limited time available for discussion, questions can only be posed via the chat feature (located in the bottom bar of the Zoom interface).

- **Parallel Sessions, Roundtables and Courses**

Sessions, roundtables, and courses will take place in six parallel streams (from A to F). According to the Conference rules the length of each paper presentation is 15 minutes, and the time for each roundtable speech is 10 minutes. The purpose is to assure enough complementary discussion time. Advanced Methods courses in two formats will underpin the three Conference days (<https://gcsmus.org/conferences/brazil/courses>).



SMUS
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2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods
for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
1st RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods”

5. Paper Abstracts (Stream A – Stream F)

Stream A: Decolonization + Space-Time 44

Session 01. Ethnography as Spatial-Temporal Method 45

 Leisure in the Streets: A Spatio-Temporal Perspective of a Street Space in the
 Comunidade do Bode, Recife, Brazil 46

 The Single-Family Home as a Place of Longing or a Phase-Out Model? A
 Dominating Housing Culture on the Ethnographic Test Bench in the Munich
 Metropolitan Region 47

 Time-Space Ethnographies: Theoretical and Empirical Reflections about a
 Research Experience 47

 Participatory Videography in Interlinkage with Theory of Science as Decolonial
 Praxis 49

**Session 02. Historical Methods in Grappling with the Global South Challenges in the 21st
 Century** 50

 Implementing the New Urban Agenda Through the Utilization of Information
 Compiled from Historical Methods: The Case of the City of Gaborone, Botswana 50

 Why Does Language Matter to Urban Planning: Assessing Policy Through
 Conceptual History 51

 Historicising the Everydayness of Community Livelihoods in 21st Century Africa:
 The Significance of Oral Sources 52

 Writing Women into Zimbabwe’s Mining History: Contemporary Methodological
 Reflections, Challenges and Opportunities 53

 Understanding the Position of Women in Pre-Colonial Sotho Speaking Clans of
 Southern Africa and Post-Colonial Basotho: A Feminist Critical Discourse Analysis
 of Totemic Praises 54

 The Historical Genesis of Internal Worker Democracy in the South African
 Movement 55

Session 03. Political Ecology of the ‘Urban’: Historical and Situated Perspectives 56

Sub-Session 03.1. Methodological Pluralism ‘with’ and ‘for’ Urban Political Ecology 57





SMUS
BRAZIL

**2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods
for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
1st RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods”**

Urban Political Ecology: Recent Trends and Future Trajectories 57

Monsoon as Method..... 58

Urban Political Ecology and the (Re)production of Disaster Risks: A Reflection from
the Global South 58

Crazy Project!: Methodological Conundrums of the Political Ecology of
Contemporary Urbanization in Istanbul..... 59

Sub-Session 03.2. Case-based Explorations from the Global South..... 60

Narratives on Adi Ganga: Situated Resilience on a Riverine Urbanscapes 60

Fragments of Water in a Small Himalayan Town 61

Understanding Local Sustainability Through Practices and Politics of Water
Provisioning - The Case of Baruipur Town, West Bengal, India..... 62

Drought: An Insurable Project Risk Analysis for Bloemfontein, South Africa 63

Session 04. Decolonizing Social Science Methodology 65

Decolonizing Social Science Methodology - An Introduction..... 66

Co-Production and the Quest for Knowledge Decolonization in the Global South:
Promises, Challenges and Suggestions on Ethics and Methods 66

Guerreiro Ramos' Contributions to a Decolonized Sociology 67

Connecting East-West in East Asia Culture Region: It's Two Hearts Living in Two
Separated Worlds? 68

Contested Comparisons: Deliberative Practices from the West and Its Spatial
'Others' - A Reconstruction of a Postcolonial Methodological Critique 69

Decolonizing Public Consciousness and Social Science Methodology: Ukraine's
Experience of the War in 2022..... 70

**Session 05. Co-Production (of Knowledge) as Pathway to Decolonization of Knowledge in the
Global South 72**

Co-Production as Localization of Research and Development in Africa: Promises
and Challenges 73

Co-Production and Socio-Technological Imaginaries: The Narrative of 'Good AI' as
a Centralizing Force 74





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BRAZIL

**2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods
for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
1st RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods”**

Co-Production through Prioritization of Residents' Preference in Provision of Green Infrastructure in Traditional African Capital City 74

Connecting with Potential Research Participants by Long Term Ethnography is a Premise of Co-Construction of Decolonial Knowledge 75

Preliminary Results of a Multi-Site Ethnographic Analysis of the Pacaembu Concession 76

Methodological Overview of the Public Discourses on Climate Change Adaptation Options in Botswana 77

Stream B: Spatial/Cognitive Crossroads..... 79

Session 06. From Living Labs to Sites of Unity: Decolonizing Urban Experiments with Planetary Futures 80

Introduction to Session..... 81

Experimental Urban Planning: Tensions Behind the Proliferation of Urban Laboratories in Latin America 81

Urban Living Labs, Big Techs and Entrepreneurship: A Critical Analysis 82

Rethinking the Concept of 'Ecological Design' for and Through Urban Living Labs and Learning Sites 83

Session 09. Migration, Mobilities, and Displacement in the Global South 84

Migration and Displacement in Ghana – A Historical-Narrative Overview 85

Stories of Displacement and Vulnerability in Cameroon..... 85

“Ukuzala Yikuzelula”: Fact or Fiction: Shrinking Economies and the Efficacy of Intergenerational Support Within Transnational Families in the Era of COVID-19 in Zimbabwe..... 86

Participatory Action Research: Opportunities, Challenges and Ethical Considerations of using ‘Liming’ with Venezuelan Migrants in Trinidad and Tobago 86

Session 10. Mobile Methods and Sociospatial Inequalities 88

Mobile Methods and Sociospatial Inequalities 88





SMUS
BRAZIL

**2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods
for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
1st RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods”**

A Practice-Based Methodological Approach Toward Mobility: Spatial and Temporal Analysis of Everyday Mobility Practice in Tehran 89

Inquiring Mobility, Inquiring in the Move Challenges of a Local Engagement Project in an Urban Periphery 90

Mobile Ideas and Elites: Notes on a Multi-Sited Ethnography with Insurance Industry Agents in Brazil 91

Automobilities and Popular Economies in the Peripheries of Capitalism: Connections Between the “Official” Car Market and its Marginal Extensions in São Paulo, Brazil 92

Police Vehicles as Mobile Torture Units: An Intersectional Approach to Urban Violence 93

Session 11. Spatial Methods in Transdisciplinarity and Interdisciplinarity for Urban Sustainability..... 95

Sub-Session 11.1. Experiencing and Conceptualizing Transdisciplinarity 96

Students' Critical View on Spatial Methods Applied to Homelessness in Transdisciplinarity 96

Sub-Session 11.2. Evaluation and Monitoring..... 97

RBM, a Necessity for Implementability Evaluation of Settlement Sustainability in Spatial Plans of Less Developed Regions 97

Methodological Construction for Monitoring Socio-environmental and Climate Vulnerability in the Scope of Public Management in the State of Rio de Janeiro... 98

Sub-Session 11.3. Experiencing and Conceptualizing Interdisciplinarity 99

Methodological Enquiry on Inclusivity in Public Sanitation in Indian Cities: An Interdisciplinary Approach for Contextual Research..... 99

Attempt of a Heuristic to Classify Methodological Approaches in Planning 100

Session 12. Collaborative Research and Mutual Learning in Urban Sustainability Projects 101

Diverse Agency of Teachers to Promote Continuous Professional Learning: A Case Study of In-service Teacher Training in Nepal..... 101

Interdisciplinary Research and Teaching at the Universities of the Republic of Kazakhstan 102





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**2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods
for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
1st RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods”**

Reviewing the Methodology for Teaching Sustainable Urban Park Design in a
Small/Mid-sized Brazilian City..... 103

Building Spaces of Commoning: Practises and Roles in Spatial Re/Production of
Operating Systems for the City as a Common Good..... 104

Stream C: Housing + Urban Planning..... 106

**Session 13. Studying Urban Space, Governance and Planning in Various Contexts:
Methodological and Empirical Perspectives 107**

My Tiny Homeland: on Studying Mental Representations of Urban Neighborhoods
..... 107

The Role of Actors in the Effective Governance of Wastewater Treatment Facilities
in Botswana..... 108

Urban Mobility Basic Index (UMBI) for Medium-sized Brazilian Cities: Formulation
Using the AHP Method with Application in the Municipality of Franca 109

Neighbourhood Planning and Residential Liveability in Windhoek, Namibia 110

**Session 14. Urban Planning and Design Contribution to Understanding the Socio-Spatial
Dynamic of Place and Memory 111**

Memories of Replacements; Mapping Locals' Memory of Transformation of Qasr
and Heshmatieh Neighbourhoods 112

Looking Back in Time, I See the Future: Urban Void..... 112

Disaster Memories in the Global South: Visual Evidence of Typhoon Washi in the
Philippines..... 113

Projecting the Future of the Balcony, Drawing Narratives from Memory..... 114

Approaching Transnational Memory Sites in Latin America: the Memoria Abierta
and the Núcleo Memória..... 115

Down Memory Lane: Footprints, Narratives and Mnemonics of Place..... 115

**Session 15. Methodological Weaknesses in Approaching Affordable Housing in the Global
South – Need for Context-Responsive Approaches 117**

Context-Responsive Approaches for the Transformation of Slums in the Global
South 118





SMUS
BRAZIL

**2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods
for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
1st RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods”**

Understanding the Framework of Affordable Housing Policies in India: Evidence from Bengaluru City 118

A Preliminary Critique of the State and Humanist Approaches to Affordable Housing in India 119

The Use of Building Information Modeling Methodology in the Documentation of Wooden Stilt Systems in Housings in the Amazon Varzea 120

Session 16. Dialogues on Social Housing 122

Urban Quality of Life: Multidimensional Evaluation in Porto Alegre, Brazil 122

The Importance of Accessing and Using Secondary Data in Studies on Urban Informal Settlements 123

Determining House Prices in Low Income Neighbourhoods of North-Central Nigeria: A Categorical Modelling Approach 124

Building Material Flows of Incremental Housing in Lima 125

Session 17. Applying Spatial Methods in Homelessness Studies: Methodological and Ethical Challenge 126

Spatial Methods in Homelessness Studies: An Overview and its Methodological and Ethical Challenges 127

Spatio-Temporally Rooted Death: a Methodological Perspective 127

Home-making on the Streets Amidst the Politics of Evictions 128

Stream D: Informatics and Methods 130

Session 08. Sense-making with (Unconventional) Large Digital Datasets in Social and Cultural Research – Methodological Challenges and Approaches 131

Sub-Session 08.1. Reflecting the Gap, Conceptualizing How to Bridge Between Structural and Interpretative Methods 132

On the Inability of Computer Programmes to Understand Attributions of Meaning and the Possibilities of Using them for Qualitative Discourse Analyses 132

Thinking Situational Analysis Through and With Digital Tools..... 133

(Con)sequences of Reading Archaeological Reports Close by and in Distance.. 134





SMUS
BRAZIL

**2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods
for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
1st RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods”**

Denialism and Authoritarianism: Methodological and Theoretical Questions to
Analyze the Telegram Media Content..... 135

Social Digital Memory in the Borderlands: An Ontology-Based Digital Humanities
Approach to Analyzing Semiotic Activity on Social Network Sites 136

Rethinking Automated Annotation Through the Lens of Hermeneutics: Qualitative
Discourse Analysis with Digital Tools and Methods 137

**Sub-Session 08.2. Extending Structural Analyses of Large Data Sets with Interpretative
Approaches..... 137**

The Role of Context for Data Construction and Analysis: How Structural and
Interpretative Approaches Complement Each Other When Making Sense with
(Unconventional) Large Digital Datasets 138

The Pandemic COVID-19 and the Impacts on Public Policy Councils: What Is the
Place of Participation in Confronting the New Coronavirus? 138

Bots on Social Media: Theoretical and Methodological Challenges for the Field of
Political Behavior and Communication 140

Using Geolocation to Infer Costly Activities/Events 140

**Sub-Session 08.3. Enhancing and Complementing Ethnographic and Discourse Approaches
with Structural Analytics..... 141**

The D-Wise Tool Suite – Working with Multimodal Digital Materials in Qualitative
Discourse Analyses..... 141

The Calling with Women: Gendered Mobilities among Brazilian Evangelicals on
WhatsApp..... 142

Learning about Long-Term Developments in Scientific Discourses from Google
Books N-Gram Viewer: A Methodological Exploration 143

Religion and Ethical Boundaries of the Digitization and Digitalization Practices in
Africa 144

Stream E: Mapping + Violence 146

**Session 07. Hybrid Mapping and Critical Cartography as Research Methodologies for Cities
..... 147**





SMUS
BRAZIL

**2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods
for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
1st RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods”**

**Sub-Session 07.1. Hybrid Mapping and Critical Cartography as Research Methodologies for
Cities 147**

Ground Atlas: An Historiographic-Cartographic Decolonizing Socio-Spatial
Research 148

Mapping as a Planning Method of the 'Urbanized Maritime Coasts' 149

Hybrid Mapping the Homeless City..... 149

Landscape Transformations in Baixo Augusta, São Paulo..... 150

Common Spaces as Urban Commons: Data Collection and Visualization Through
Mapping 151

Hybrid Knowledge/Hybrid Mapping: Decolonising Berlin's Botanical Gardens 152

**Sub-Session 07.2. Mapping as an Applied Spatial Research Method for Urban Landscape
Design and Planning..... 153**

The Urban Condition of Metropolitan Regions - Mapping Complex and Non-
Discrete Attributes of the Territory at a Regional Scale..... 154

Urban Mangrove Delimitation Using a Novel Technique MVI (Mangrove Vegetation
Index) 155

Mapping the Urbanization Impact on a Regional Ecosystem. Historical Cartography
on Invasion-Succession of *Ligustrum lucidum* in the Chaco Forest of Metro
Córdoba (2001-2022)..... 156

Land-Use Change and Greenspace Connectivity in a Large City in Brazil 157

Mapping as a Method of Spatial Analysis in Land and Urban Regularization: A
Case Study at the Neighborhood Jardim Gonzaga in São Carlos, SP..... 158

Dynamics of Urban and Population Expansion: The Case of Pato Branco, Paraná,
Brazil (1953-2016)..... 159

**Sub-Session 07.3. Mapping as an Applied Spatial Research Method for Urban Landscape
Design and Planning..... 159**

Mapping of Natural Resources as a Learning Process for Local Planning and
Sustainability 160

Geovisualization as a Process for the Just Provisioning of Green Space in Urban
Environments 162





SMUS
BRAZIL

**2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods
for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
1st RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods”**

Reclassification and Hybrid Mapping of Vacant Urban Land: Territorial Complexity in Middle Sized Cities in Northern Patagonia, the Case of Trelew 162

Cartography of Controversies: The Polarized Debate About the Future of Minhocão 163

Solutions to Biases of Including Elderly Women in Participatory Action Research on Housing Vacancies? 164

Mapping Objective and Subjective Aspects of the Open Space System for Landscape Planning..... 165

Session 18. Spatial Dynamics of Violence: Qualitative Methodologies and Discussions 167

State Violence, Racialization and Homelessness on 21st-Century Urban Frontiers: An Experience of Activists Against Police Violence in São Paulo's Central Area 168

Sexual Violence: Ethnophenomenological Analysis of the Experience of Affected Persons 168

A Student-Led Approach to Understanding Violence 169

Using Kernel Density Estimation to Identify and Map Stealing from a Person Theft in Gaborone, Botswana..... 171

A Situational Understanding of Violence Through the Analysis of Visual Data 171

The Rise of 'Smash-and-Grab' Crimes in Gaborone City: A Case Study Using Facebook for Participant Recruitment and Data Collection in Qualitative Research 172

Stream F: Healthcare + Food..... 173

Session 19. Spatial Methods in Healthcare Research 174

Urban Quality of Life and Covid-19: Selection Criteria for Representative Spatial Frameworks 174

Proposal of a Multicriteria Method to Implement New Primary Health Care Units: a Case Study in São Carlos, SP 175

Spatial Conditions of Medical Professionalism: Perceptions of Professionalism Among Prospective General Practitioners in Rural Regions 176





SMUS
BRAZIL

**2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods
for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
1st RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods”**

Methodological Insights from Using a Mixed Methods Design in the Study of a Restorative Postnatal Hospital Environment	177
Session 20. Methods in Food Studies Research.....	179
Methods and Food Studies Research.....	179
Food Democracy Analysis	180
Are You a Spy?: Challenges of Data Access in Food Service Operations.....	181
Local Food Producers and Solutions Against Food Waste: A Network Analysis Approach.....	182





SMUS
BRAZIL

**2nd International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods
for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference) and the
1st RC33 Regional Conference “Latin America: Brazil”
in cooperation with ESA RN21 “Quantitative Methods”**

science, and progress on one hand, and the contemporary imperative for critically self-reflexivity and decolonising knowledge on the other. These insights challenge the central role of Western taxonomy as the only legitimate form of ordering botanic knowledge and the spaces it produces. We tackled these complex issues using innovative interdisciplinary hybrid mapping methods, that we are developing within the working group 'Hybrid Mapping Methods' hosted at the SFB 1265 'Refiguration of Spaces' in Berlin. We pursue a new hybrid mapping methodology at the interface of social science and spatial design, drawing together analytical and projective modes and combining both visual and textual means of inquiry. The approach enables multi-perspective data collection of different types of data, joint analysis and finally visualisation of research results. We consider hybridity along three dimensions: the integration of heterogeneous data types; the entanglement of different spatial figures and spatial understandings (e.g., territorial & net-worked); the interdisciplinary inspiration between architecture, planning, sociology, anthropology and geography.

Sub-Session 07.2. Mapping as an Applied Spatial Research Method for Urban Landscape Design and Planning

Moderators: *Sanja Avramoska (Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, North Macedonia)*

Gaby Hansen (Namibia University of Science and Technology)

Talita Heleodoro (Institute of Research and Urban Planning of Curitiba, Brazil)

Session Abstract

The urban landscape is an entangled, relational process of the production of space composed of physical forms, organizational systems, and humans. Rather than being a fixed entity it is continually forming and undergoing small shifts in its organization that may have broader ramifications. The urban dynamics accompanied by a transformation of space and social relations call for scientific support. The socio-spatial and spatio-temporal problems arising in the urban environments require a spatial method approach. Applied spatial research methods focus on exploring, responding to, or investigating particular urban problems rather than generalizing knowledge. Mapping as an explorative analytical tool has been used as a method to understand the visible and invisible spatial, temporal, social, and material aspects of the urban landscape, as well as discovering nuances that contribute to the debate of potentialities and possibilities. The process of mapping can take various approaches such as artistic or digitized explorative and analytical gestures of individual/group participation and co-production. If mapping was once seen as a top-down neutral objective representation of the real world, today, maps are done in



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collective and bottom-up approaches like participatory or cognitive mapping processes. Techniques such as sketching mental maps, collaging, counter-mapping, land-use maps, space syntax, machine learning, urban sensing, urban computing, etc. are relevant and widely used by planners and designers to visualize spatial data towards the improvement of planning, design, and governance. The results can be qualitative and quantitative and can be used for both theory building and applied research. This session intends to explore a wide range of mapping techniques that are used as generative methods for the process of urban landscape planning and design. We, therefore, invite papers that present case studies or tools of applied mapping methods. How can mapping as an explorative qualitative and quantitative method aid in the intelligent gathering of information, to better understand the entangled social-spatial processes that create its physical forms and organization systems that continue to govern urban landscapes? How to combine the interplay of objective and subjective mapping data for urban landscape? What are the main challenges related to the analysis, organization, presentation, and visualization of mapping data?

Presentation 1

The Urban Condition of Metropolitan Regions - Mapping Complex and Non-Discrete Attributes of the Territory at a Regional Scale

Sara Maria Boccolini

Facing the growing importance of metropolitan regions in structuring socio-productive relations in the territory, it is crucial to accurately map their structure and extension, as starting point for the development of social, productive and environmental policies that are more sustainable, inclusive and efficient. For practical purposes, the analyzes usually delimit the urban systems in the territory according to political or administrative criteria. However, these delimitations do not usually have a direct correlation with the metropolitan structure: the urban condition of a territory reflects complex, multi-dimensional and multi-scalar historical socio-environmental processes that (re)produce the urban landscape. This urban condition is usually defined by the levels of creative synergy (also called *synecism* by some authors) that are direct function of attributes such as population density, population diversity and integration, and the intensity of encounters/exchanges (of goods, information, ideas) between them, as well as the ability to sustain those over time in the territory. However, these attributes are not very specific; this favors the use of qualitative, non-standard and discretionary indicators, chosen according to circumstantial objectives or information availability. This makes it difficult to carry out comparative and historical studies; but it also hinders the (co)construction of knowledge by integrating data from different methodological perspectives, contributions from different disciplines, and makes it very difficult to (re)constructing the object of study through successive approaches that address the many dimensions in which urbanization manifests itself. I propose



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to move towards a comprehensive and verifiable assessment of the urban condition at a regional scale, taking advantage of GIS to process data from standardized indicators, and to explore the socio-spatial dimension of urbanization to mapping accurately the levels of urban condition in a metropolitan region. In this instance, I present the results obtained for the Metropolitan Region of Córdoba (Argentina): the Multi-criteria Matrix approach allows integrating normalized indicators that are not directly comparable (population density, socioeconomic diversity and integration, availability of meeting and exchange spaces, connectivity of people through mobility networks, etc.). The visualization of the results through GIS allows complex readings of multiple layers of information, integrating them in single-band images or as multiple stacked layers that shows each of the dimensions of the urban condition in the territory with great level of detail: even when the analysis covers a region of thousands of hectares, the minimum unit of information is 30 x 30 m. Due to the latter, the procedure can be applied at the neighborhood, local, regional or national scale, and allows direct comparisons between different urban systems, or historical studies in a particular case. As a result, not only the true extension of the metropolitan territory is made visible, but also the different levels of intensity of the urban condition in the territory. This highlights the profound inequalities present in local urban systems, but also reveals the existing potential of the territory to increase the quality of life of more and more people.

Presentation 2

Urban Mangrove Delimitation Using a Novel Technique MVI (Mangrove Vegetation Index)

Rafael Aguilar Zamudio and Rafael de Castro Catão

Vitória is one of the few state's capital cities in Brazil that lies and interacts with an urban mangrove ecosystem. It is part of the city's biodiversity and richness, and this is an opportunity to identify and assess the current environmental health of this vibrant part of the urban area. Mangrove forests provide several ecosystem services and coastal area protection for the tropical and subtropical coastlines of the world. Despite their benefits and services, mangroves continue to be threatened by high population growth and migration into coastal areas, leading to coastal development and increased demand for aquaculture and agriculture products. The situation is further exacerbated by poor land-use planning, weak governance, and uncoordinated economic development in the coastal zone. (Pham et al. 2019). Since they cover large areas and are often inaccessible for field research, remote sensing is a key tool with which to characterize mangroves and their structure and quantify the benefits (such as carbon) that they provide. Advancement in Remote Sensing allows rapid mangrove mapping without the need for data-intensive methodologies, complex classifiers, and skill-dependent classification techniques. This study uses a new index, the Mangrove Vegetation Index (MVI) developed by Alvin et al (2020) to rapidly and accurately map mangroves' extent from remotely-sensed