



Structural properties of urban street patterns and the Multiple Centrality Assessment

Alessio Cardillo

Department of Physics and Astronomy – Università degli studi di Catania

Complex Networks - Equilibrium and Vulnerability Analysis with
Applications – Catania Italy



Our Group

- University of Catania
 - Vito Latora
 - Salvatore Scellato
 - Alessio Cardillo
- Polytechnic of Milan
 - Sergio Porta
 - Emanuele Strano



HSL
HumanSpaceLab

SPACE ANALYSIS AND URBAN DESIGN UNIT AT THE POLYTECHNIC OF MILAN

space analysis urban design publications studio news links

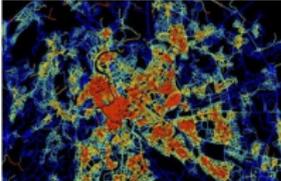


n.e.w.s

Time-conscious chapter for Echelon's online course delivered // 15/02/2008

Echelon Learning Ltd asked Sergio to work out part of the Urban Sustainability through Environmental Design module of the Gateways to the Professions Programme for post-graduate online learning, to be 'printed' online by year 2008. Sergio's chapter, entitled 'Analytical tools for time-conscious urban design', is a short abridgement of several core-messages that Sergio, Eugenio and other authors of the recent 'Urban Sustainability through Urban Design' book (see the Publications/Published books section of this website) are deepening for a next book to come in 2009. The chapter has now been delivered: find a draft version here in the Publications/Published articles page of this site.





Under the seeming disorder of the old city, wherever the old city is working successfully, is a marvellous order for maintaining the safety of the streets and the freedom of the city. It is a complex order: its essence is intricacy of sidewalk use, bringing with it a constant succession of eyes. This order is all composed of movement and change, and although it is life, not art, we may fancifully call it the art form of the city.

Jane Jacobs, 1961

<http://www.humanspacelab.com>
<http://www.ct.infn.it/~latora/>
<http://www.ct.infn.it/~cardillo/>



Outline



- Structural Properties ;



Outline



- Structural Properties ;
- **Multiple Centrality Assessment (MCA);**



Outline



- Structural Properties ;
- Multiple Centrality Assessment (MCA);
- **Relation between Centrality and Commercial Activity;**



Outline



- Structural Properties ;
- Multiple Centrality Assessment (MCA);
- Relation between Centrality and Commercial Activity;
- **Conclusions.**

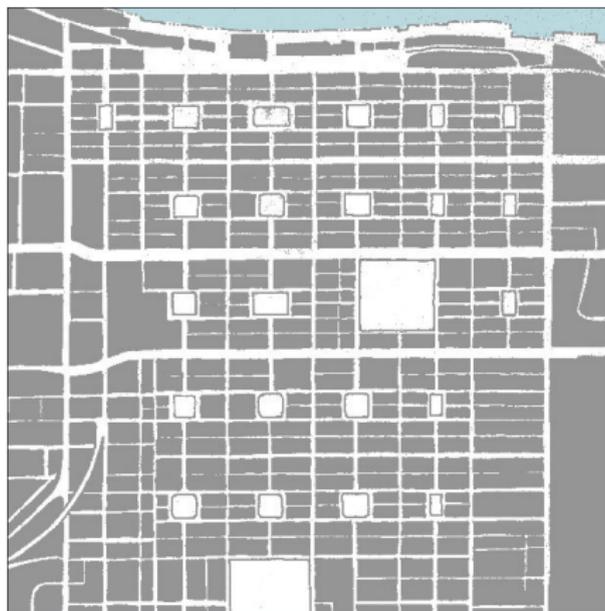


Complex Networks & Cities



Question:

How can we map a city into a graph?





Complex Networks & Cities



Answer:

We can follow two ways:

- 1 A Primal Approach;
- 2 A Dual Approach.



Complex Networks & Cities



Primal Approach

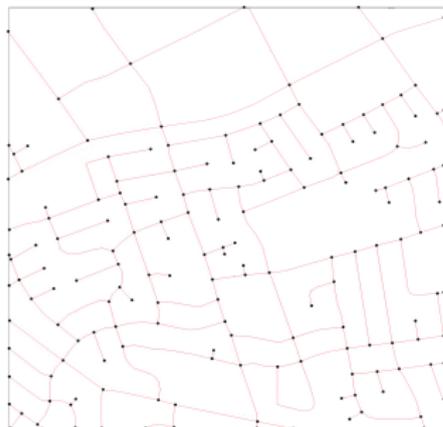




Complex Networks & Cities



Primal Approach



- Intersections as nodes, streets as edges;
- Focus on intersection.



Complex Networks & Cities



Dual Approach

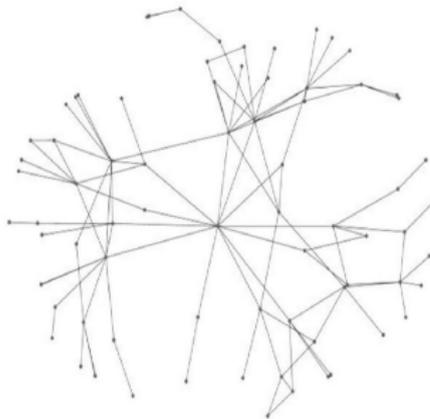




Complex Networks & Cities



Dual Approach



- Streets as nodes, intersections as edges;
- Focus on streets;
- **Not unique (name based, line of sight).**



From Trees to GT



Question:

How to compare a graph?



From Trees to GT

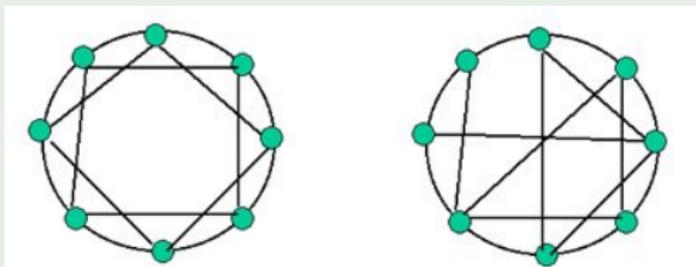


Question:

How to compare a graph?

Answer:

Usually real networks are compared with their **randomized** version.





From Trees to GT

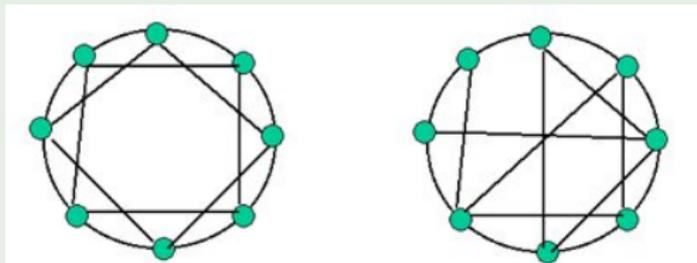


Question:

How to compare a graph?

Answer:

Usually real networks are compared with their **randomized** version.



Randomization → **Loss of Planarity**;

Use of extreme cases:

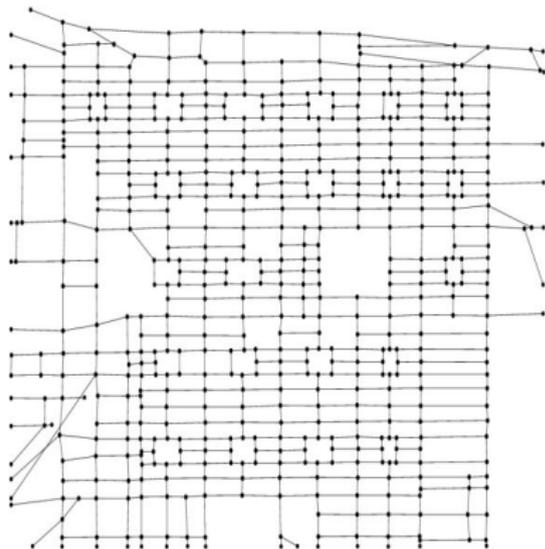
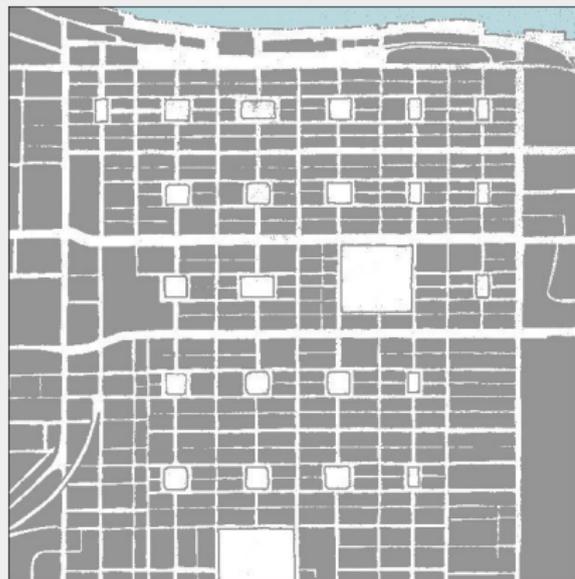
- Minimum Spanning Tree (MST);
- Greedy Triangulation (GT).



From Trees to GT

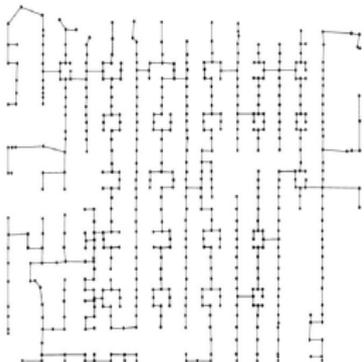
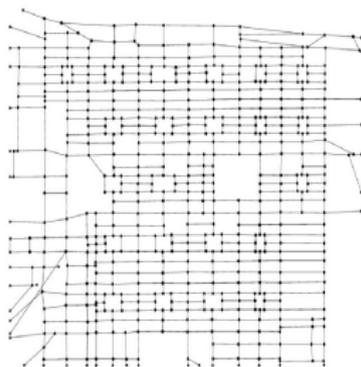


An example: the city of Savannah





From Trees to GT

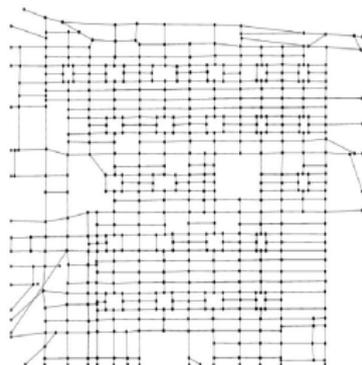


Definition

The **minimum spanning tree** (MST) is the shortest tree which connects every node into a single connected component.

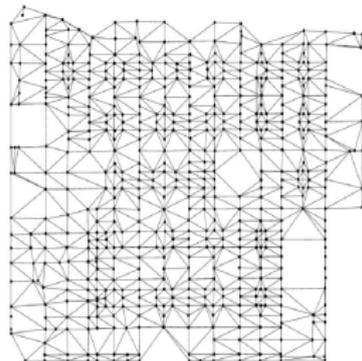


From Trees to GT



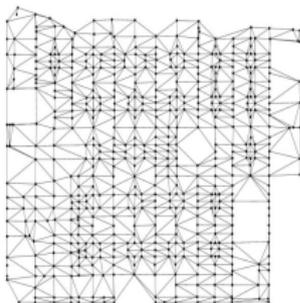
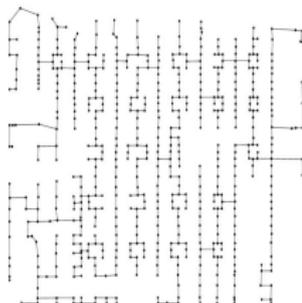
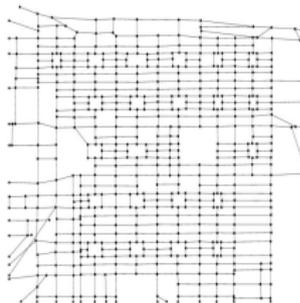
Definition

The **greedy triangulation** (GT) is the planar graph with the highest number of edges K_{max} , and that minimize the total length.





From Trees to GT



A. Cardillo, S. Scellato, V. Latora, S. Porta, Phys. Rev. E **73** (2006) 066107.

S. Scellato, A. Cardillo, V. Latora, S. Porta, Eur. Phys. Journ. B **50** (2006) 221.



Topological Properties



■ Fractal Dimension d_{BOX}



Topological Properties



- Fractal Dimension d_{BOX}
- Local Properties



Topological Properties



- Fractal Dimension d_{BOX}
- Local Properties
 - Degree k ;



Topological Properties



- Fractal Dimension d_{BOX}
- Local Properties
 - Degree k ;
 - Meshedness M ;



Topological Properties



- Fractal Dimension d_{BOX}
- Local Properties
 - Degree k ;
 - Meshedness M ;
 - **Motifs**;



Topological Properties



- Fractal Dimension d_{BOX}
- Local Properties
 - Degree k ;
 - Meshedness M ;
 - Motifs;
- Global Properties



Topological Properties



- Fractal Dimension d_{BOX}
- Local Properties
 - Degree k ;
 - Meshedness M ;
 - Motifs;
- Global Properties
 - Cost W ;



Topological Properties



- Fractal Dimension d_{BOX}
- Local Properties
 - Degree k ;
 - Meshedness M ;
 - Motifs;
- Global Properties
 - Cost W ;
 - Global Efficiency $E(G)$.



Local Properties



Meshedness Coefficient

The **Meshedness Coefficient** M is more general measures of the structure of cycles than the clustering coefficient.

$$M = \frac{f}{f_{max}} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } G \text{ is a tree,} \\ 1 & \text{if } G \text{ is a complete planar graph.} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{where } \begin{aligned} f &= m - n + 1, \\ f_{max} &= 2n - 5. \end{aligned}$$

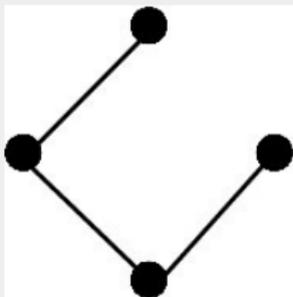
J. Buhl et.al. Eur. Phys. J. B **42**, 123 – 129 (2004)



Local Properties

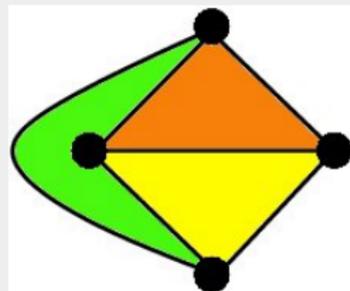


An example of Meshedness:



$$f = m - n + 1 = 3 - 4 + 1 = 0$$

$$M = \frac{0}{2 \cdot 4 - 5} = \frac{0}{3} = 0$$

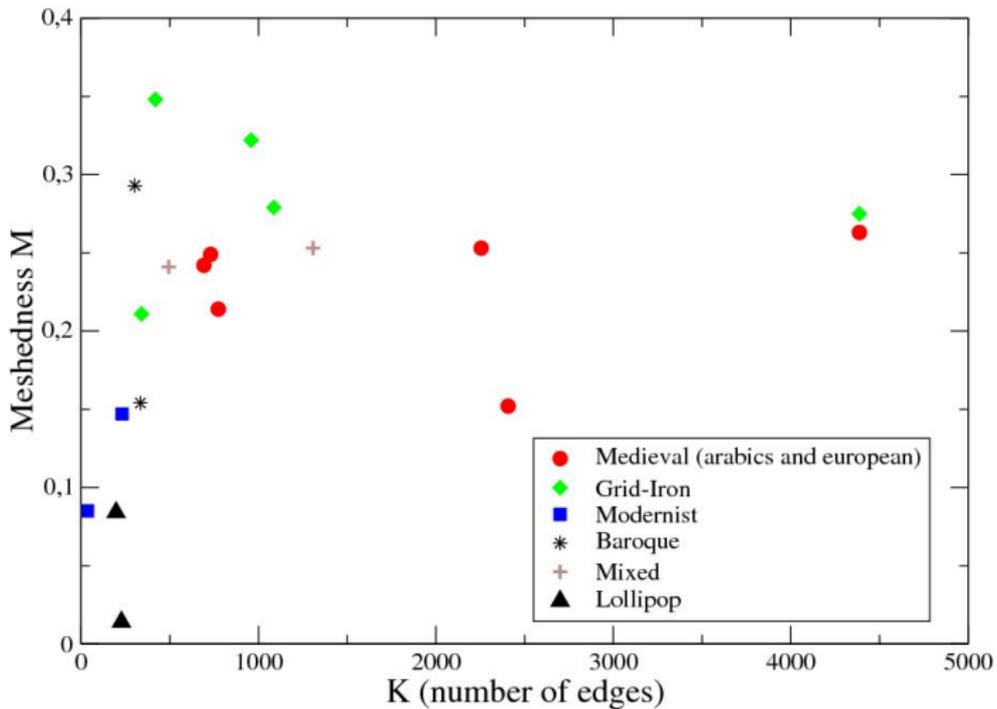


$$f = m - n + 1 = 6 - 4 + 1 = 3$$

$$M = \frac{3}{2 \cdot 4 - 5} = \frac{3}{3} = 1$$

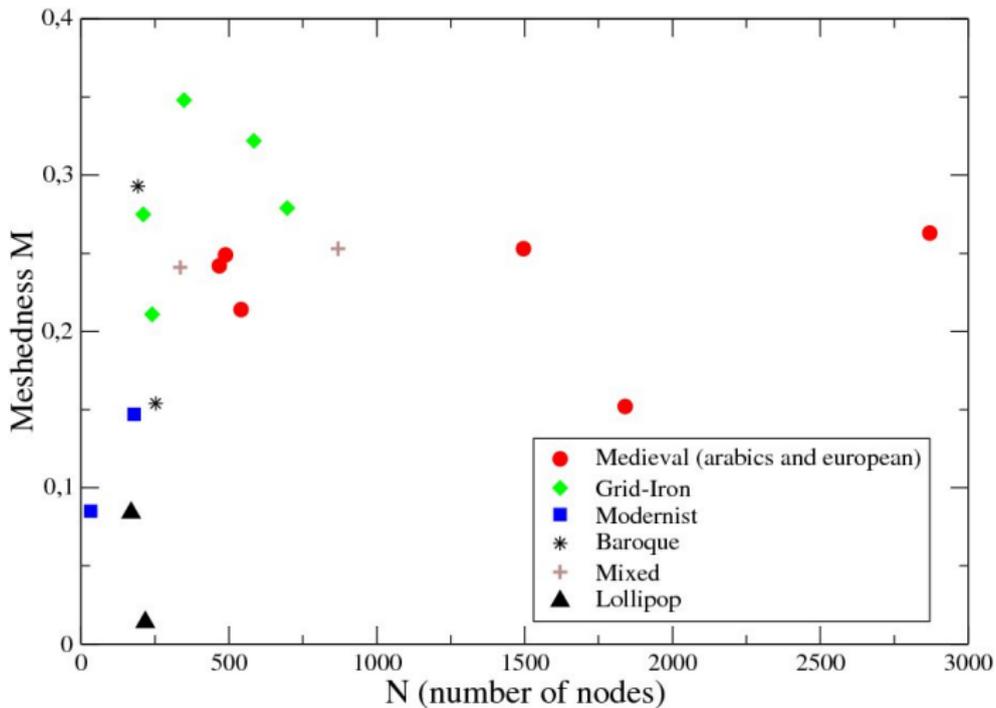


Local Properties





Local Properties



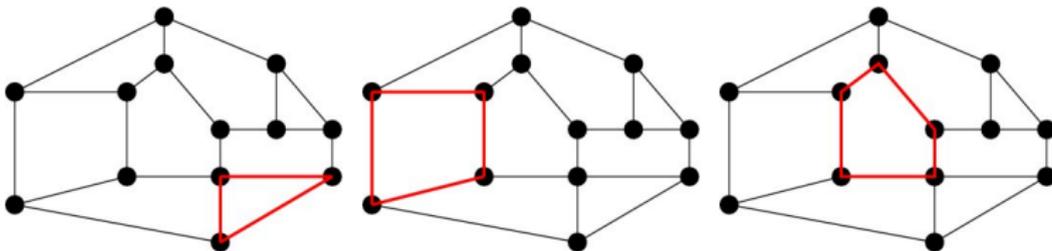


Local Properties



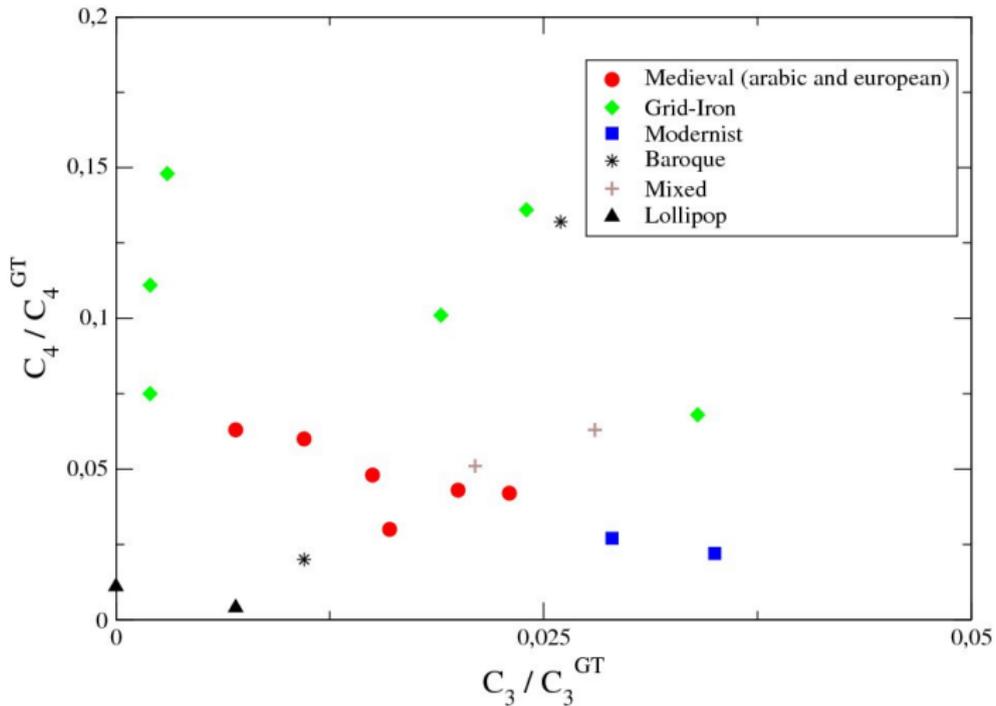
Motifs

In order to evaluate the complexity of graph inner structure one could count the number of cycles of length three (**triangles**), four (**squares**) and five (**pentagons**). A motif is significant if its number is higher than the number found in an equivalent random graph.





Local Properties





Global Properties



Cost

To take into account the amount of resources needed to “build” a street one could consider several functional forms. The simplest one is the Euclidean distance between start and arrival node. This is the so called **Cost**.

$$W_{ij} = \sqrt{(x_j - x_i)^2 + (y_j - y_i)^2} ;$$



Global Properties



Global Efficiency

A measure of the typical separation between two nodes in the graph is given by the **average shortest path length**, also known as **characteristic path length L** , defined as:

$$L = \frac{1}{N(N-1)} \sum_{i,j \in G, i \neq j} d_{ij};$$

An alternative approach is to consider the harmonic mean of geodesic lengths, and to define the so-called **efficiency** of G as:

$$E(G) = \frac{1}{N(N-1)} \sum_{i,j \in G, i \neq j} \frac{1}{d_{ij}};$$

V. Latora, M. Marchiori, PRL **87**, 198701 (2001)



Data Analysis



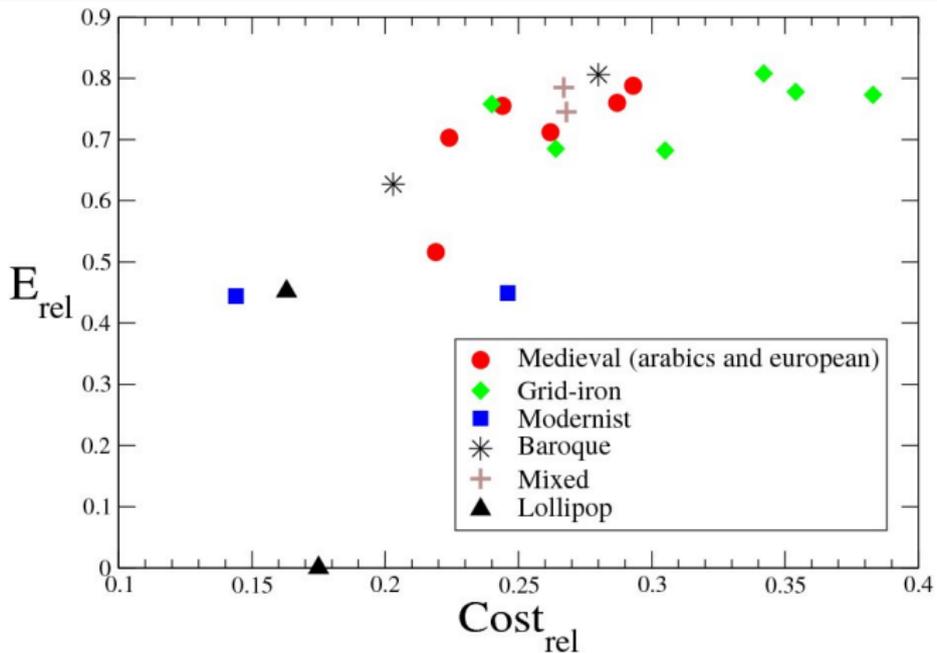
In order to compare different city we used two quantities: **Relative Efficiency** E_{rel} and **Relative Cost** W_{rel} defined as:

$$E_{rel} = \frac{E - E^{MST}}{E^{GT} - E^{MST}} ;$$

$$W_{rel} = \frac{W - W^{MST}}{W^{GT} - W^{MST}} ;$$



Data Analysis



A. Cardillo, S. Scellato, V. Latora, S. Porta, Phys. Rev. E73 (2006) 066107.



Multiple Centrality Assessment (MCA)

Main Scope

Set up a methodology for investigation of spatial systems as complex networks to spot the hot places, the critical components and the central routes of a city.

P. Crucitti, V. Latora, S. Porta, Chaos **16** (2006) 015113

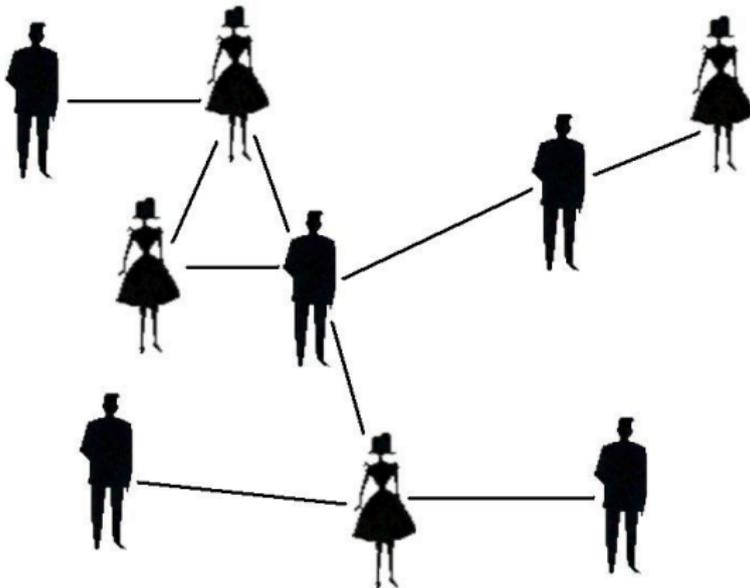


Centrality Indices



Question:

What does it mean being “Central”? (Bavelas 1948)

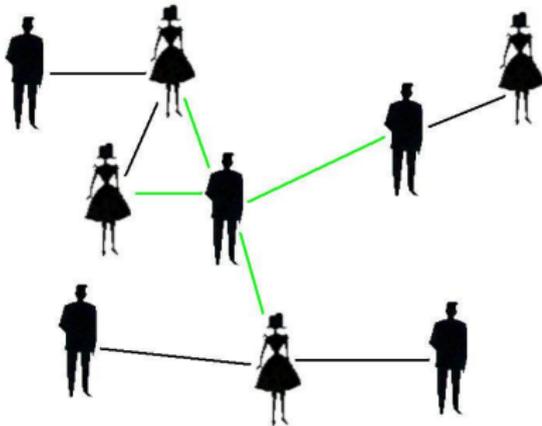




Centrality Indices



It means know “many” people? **Degree Centrality**; (Nieminem 1974)



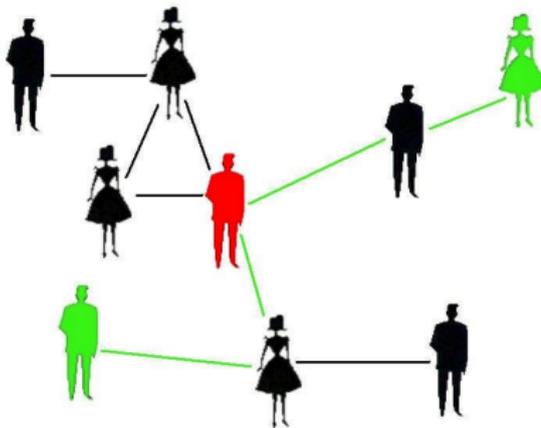
$$k_i = \sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij};$$



Centrality Indices



Or act like a “bridge” between two nodes?
Betweenness Centrality; (Freeman 1977)



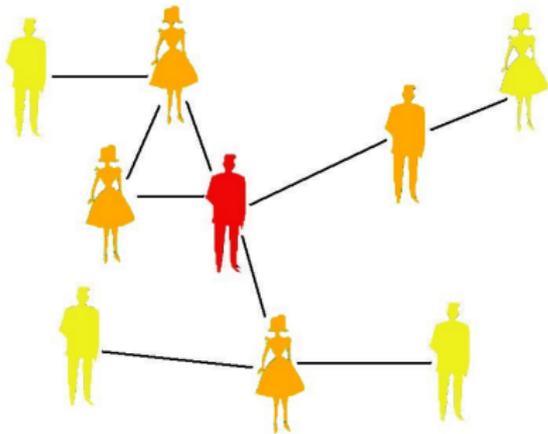
$$C_i^B = \frac{1}{(N-1)(N-2)} \sum_{\substack{j,k \in G \\ j \neq k \neq i}} \frac{n_{jk}(i)}{n_{jk}};$$



Centrality Indices



Or being more “close” to other nodes?
Closeness Centrality; (Sabidussi 1966)



$$C_i^C = \frac{N - 1}{\sum_{j \in G} \frac{1}{d_{ij}}};$$

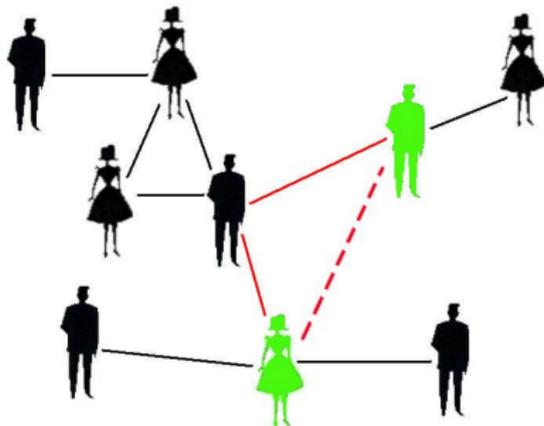
P. Crucitti, V. Latora and S. Porta Phys. Rev. E **73** (2006) 036125



Centrality Indices



Or how much you are in a **straight line** with others? **Straightness** Centrality; (Crucitti 2006)



$$C_i^S = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{\substack{j \in G \\ j \neq i}} \frac{d_{ij}^{Eucl.}}{d_{ij}};$$

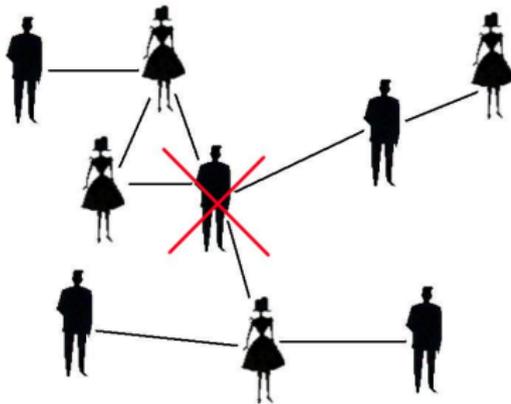
P. Crucitti, V. Latora and S. Porta Phys. Rev. E **73** (2006) 036125



Centrality Indices



Or how much your **removal** affect network efficiency Latora (2005)? **Information Centrality**; (Latora 2007)



$$C_i^I = \frac{\Delta E}{E} = \frac{E(G) - E(G')}{E(G)},$$

$$E(G) = \frac{\sum_{i,j \in G} \frac{1}{d_{ij}}}{N(N-1)};$$

V. Latora, M. Marchiori, Phys. Rev. E **71** (2005) 015103R.

V. Latora, M. Marchiori, New. J. Phys **9** (2007) 188



Centrality Indices



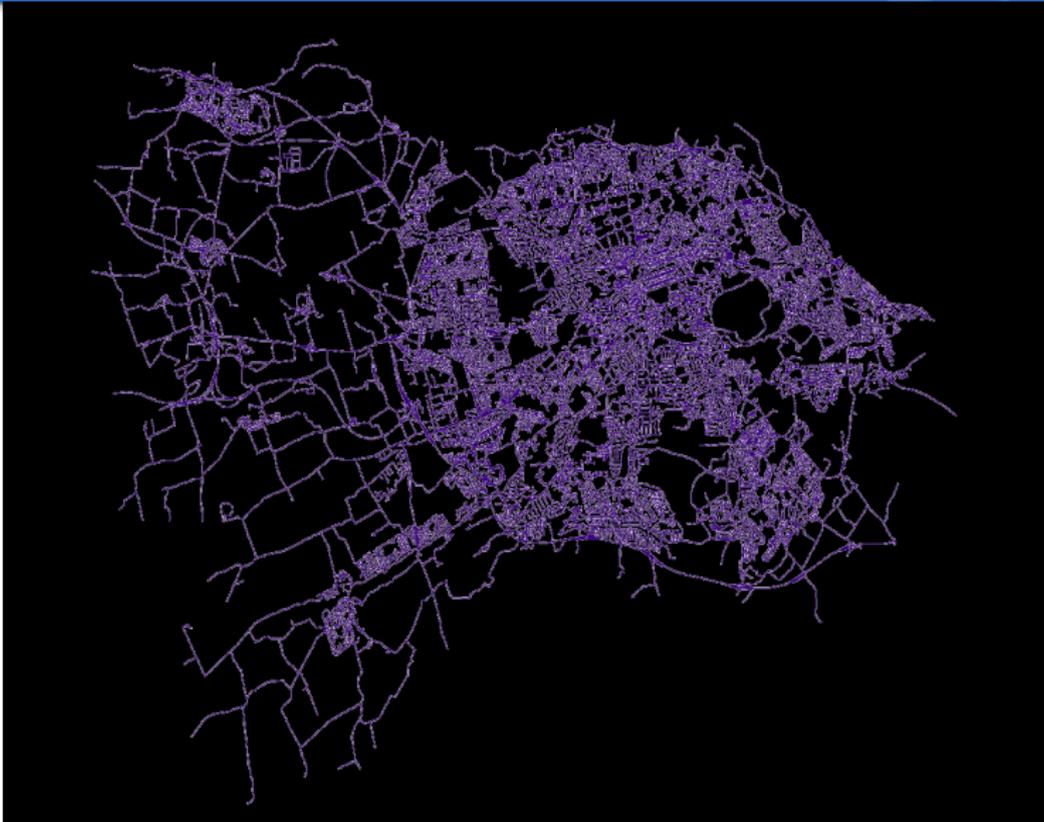
Answer:

All of these features make you “**Central**” !!!

S. Porta, P. Crucitti, V. Latora, Environmental and Planning B**33** (2006) 705.
P. Crucitti, V. Latora, S. Porta, Chaos **16** (2006) 015113.

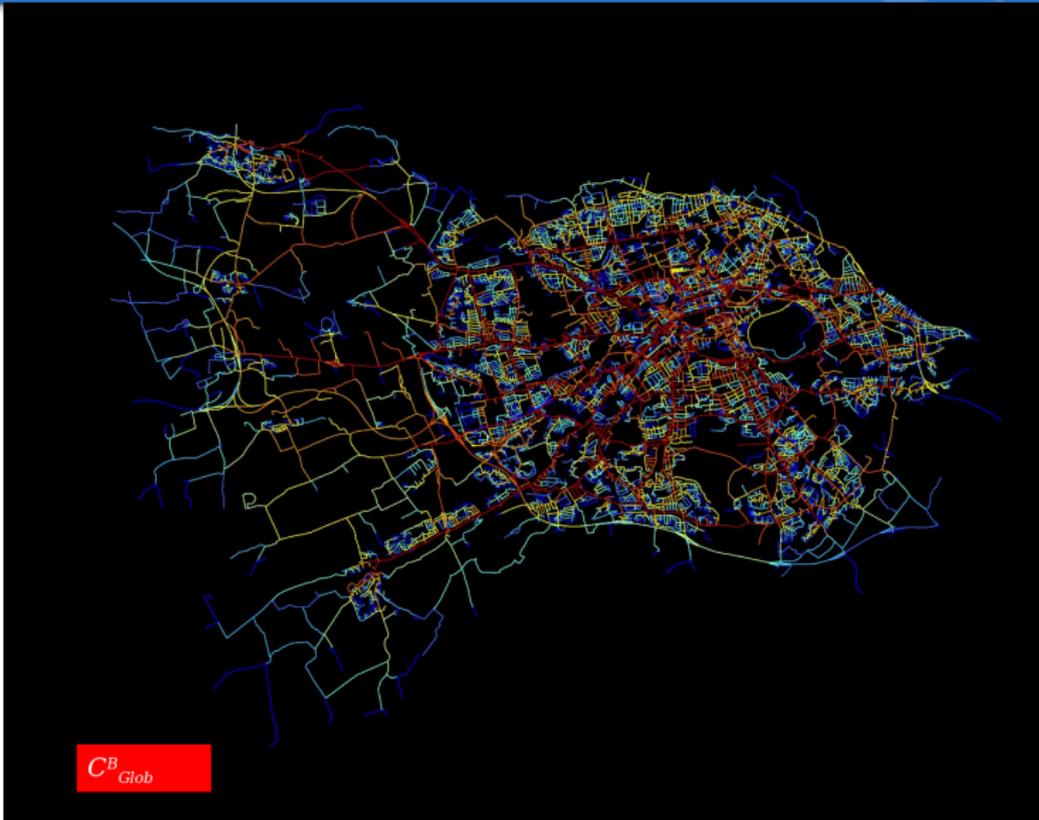


Some Example of MCA





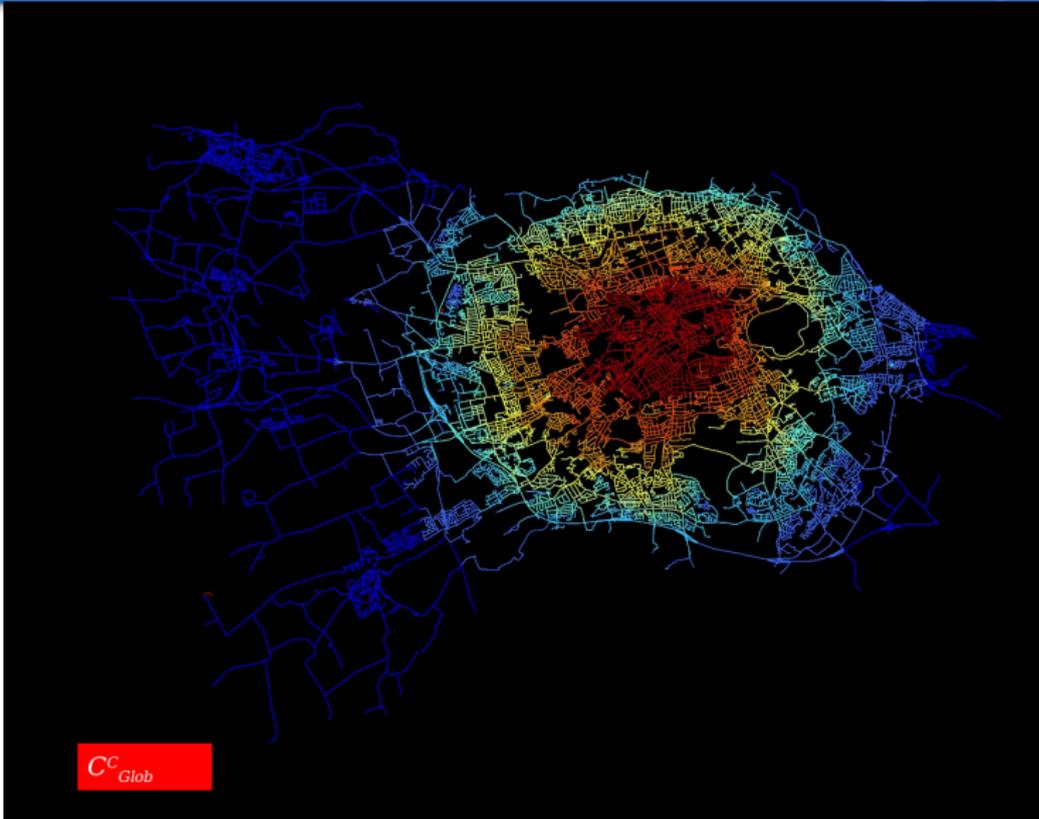
Some Example of MCA



C^B_{Glob}

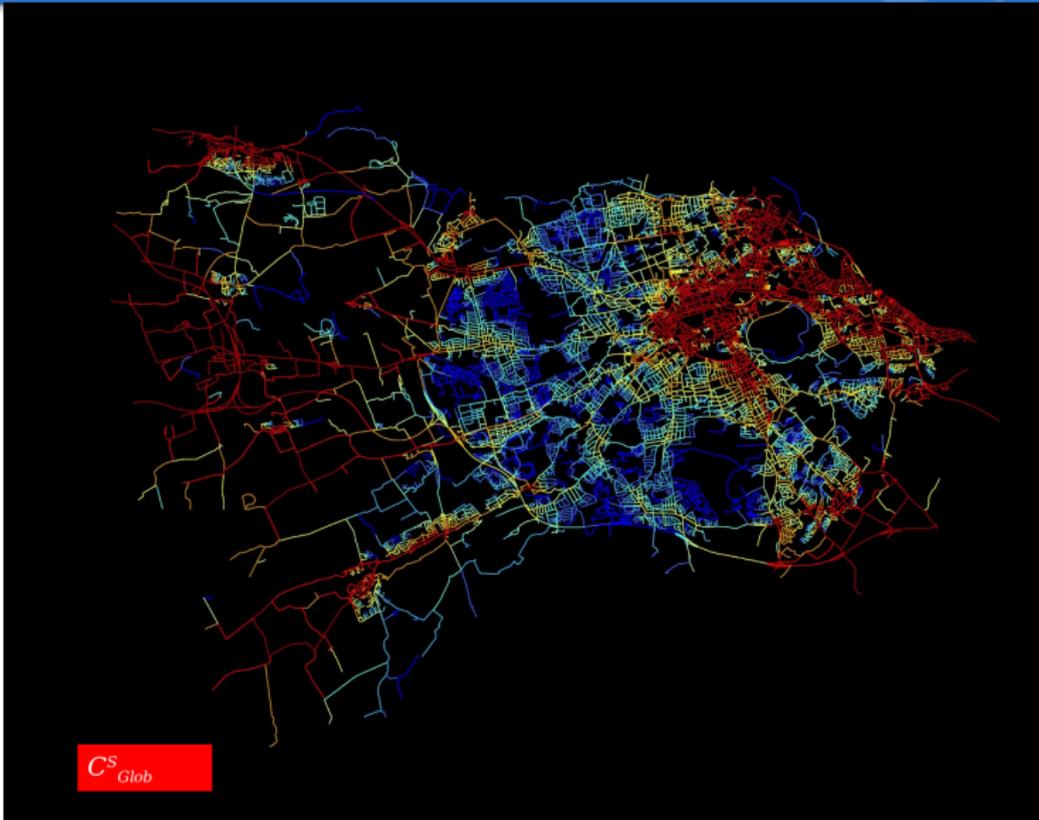


Some Example of MCA





Some Example of MCA





Relationship Between Centrality and Commerce Retail

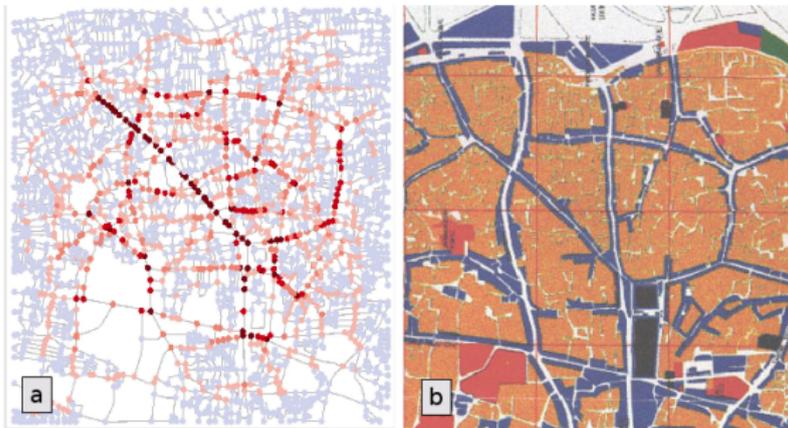
The Grocer's Mantra

- Mario runs his business at the street corner just in front of my door.
- He told me that he spent one week in the street before making the choice for the location of his grocery
- “The first thing – he said – is where do the people walk”
- Mario is quite good in his work, he says **“You have to be central, people are where centrality is”**.





Relationship Between Centrality and Commerce Retail



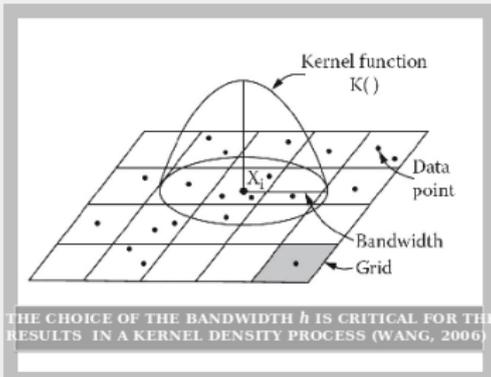
Question:

Is there empirical evidence of the correlation between street centrality and economic activities?



Relationship Between Centrality and Commerce Retail

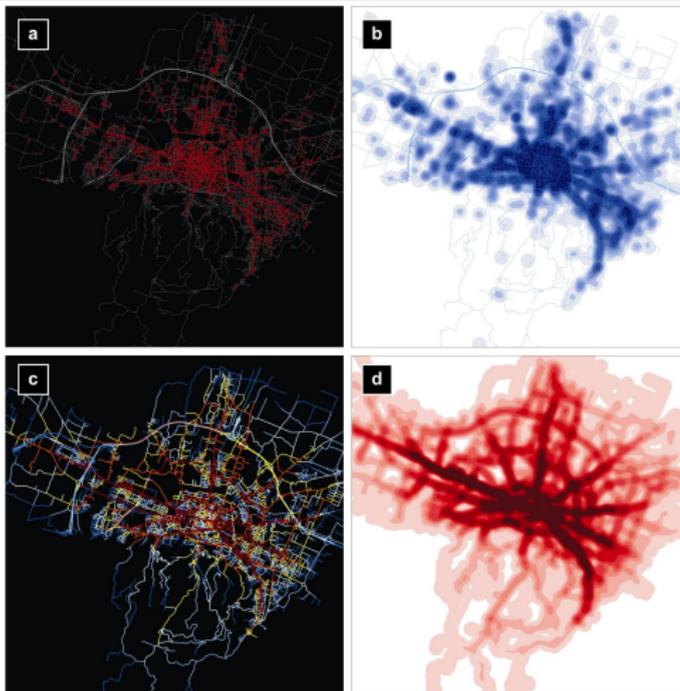
- In order to study the relation between centrality and commerce the space has been divided into square cells. Per each cell a **Kernel Density Estimator (KDE)** function has been calculated. The same operation has been done with centrality.





Some Results

Case study: the city of Bologna



Porta S et. al. – Street Centrality and Densities of Retails and Services in Bologna, Italy – [physics/0701111](#). In press in *Env. Plann. B*



What are we doing



- Application of MCA to large scale graphs (entire cities);



What are we doing



- Application of MCA to large scale graphs (entire cities);
- **Comparison between city structure and biological systems like leaves ;**



What are we doing



- Application of MCA to large scale graphs (entire cities);
- Comparison between city structure and biological systems like leaves ;
- **Elaboration of a city growth model based not only on geometrical constraint but also on centrality and retail.**



Summary



- Analysis of structural properties of planar graphs based on urban street patterns;



Summary



- Analysis of structural properties of planar graphs based on urban street patterns;
- **Elaboration of a method to compare different spatial graphs;**



Summary



- Analysis of structural properties of planar graphs based on urban street patterns;
- Elaboration of a method to compare different spatial graphs;
- **Analysis of city structure based on multiple centrality indices (MCA);**



Summary



- Analysis of structural properties of planar graphs based on urban street patterns;
- Elaboration of a method to compare different spatial graphs;
- Analysis of city structure based on multiple centrality indices (MCA);
- **Relation between centrality and commercial activities → Geomarketing.**



References



-  A. Cardillo, S. Scellato, V. Latora, S. Porta, Phys. Rev. E **73** (2006) 066107
-  S. Scellato, A. Cardillo, V. Latora, S. Porta, Eur. Phys. Journ. B **50** (2006) 221
-  P. Crucitti, V. Latora and S. Porta Phys. Rev. E **73** (2006) 036125
-  S. Porta, P. Crucitti, V. Latora, Environmental and Planning B **33** (2006) 705
-  P. Crucitti, V. Latora, S. Porta, Chaos **16** (2006) 015113
-  Porta S et. al. – Street Centrality and Densities of Retails and Services in Bologna, Italy – **physics/0701111**. In press in Env. Plann. B