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**Conditions of Sustainable Urban Transport and the Toolkit
of Development**

Ph.D. Theses of

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1 Preliminaries

Nearly 80% of the European population live in cities nowadays. This ratio will probably continue growing in the 21st century. The concentration of productive forces results the enlargement of population density of urban areas. Hence the crescendo urban social-economic role will expectedly determine the competitiveness of whole regions.

Due to the spatial concentration resulted environmental, energy efficiency, land use and transport problems, the European Commission called the attention of the European Parliament and European Economic and Social Commission to the importance of the urbanization-caused social-economic losses (*COM(2004)0060*).

The European Parliament agreed with the Commission and supported the preparatory documentation but suggested the application of stricter environmental conditions (*2006/2061(INI)*). Besides, involving citizens, non-government institutes, profit-oriented economic actors and other stakeholders into the preparation of development strategy was strongly recommended.

Since generally there is no possibility to adopt urban policies based on consensual agreement of the different social parties and stakeholder groups, approaches investigating the operation of the complex urban system and most of the actors of urban processes come to the front.

According to the report ("Urban sprawl in Europe" (4/2006)) of the European Environmental Agency, since the tendencies of the population and mobility growth and the enlargement of built-in urban areas are strongly related processes, their interactions should be analysed together in one complex system.

2 Objectives

Instead of the recommendations of the European Union, estimation and planning processes mostly ignore the joint representation of land use and mobility processes in practice.

Hence the aim of the research is to develop a decision support process, which is applicable to assist defining measure toolkits and to ensure sustainable urban

development, considering the complexity of the urban environment and the social interests. Therefore defining and modelling urban measure toolkits have to be based on a complex, interdisciplinary approach.

Summing up the objectives, the research has to investigate the urban system and to support working out urban measure toolkits with a complex methodology, integrating the scientific results of the interdisciplinary approaches.

3 Methodology

I applied the methodology of dialectics to evaluate the related literature. This approach made possible to analyse the model development process and the reason of the necessity of methodological evolution.

I used sequence and business diagrams to describe the interactions of the operation processes of cities to be able to define the problems of the complex urban environment,

I analysed the interactions among processes of the urban system with a spatial computable general equilibrium model based on the methodology applied by Anas (*Anas, 2007*).

Consumers use their decisions to maximize their utility subject to their budget constrain. Firms maximize their profit subject to the available resources. Consumers' utility function and firms' production functions were described by Cobb Douglas functions (*Cobb, C. W., Douglas, P. H., 1928.*) [95].

I applied the logit-model to estimate the probability of choices regarding residences and workplaces [73].

Transport supply was described by applying the approach of graph theory [74].

I suggest that the traffic assignment should be done by applying the approach of Larsson and Patriksson (*Larsson, T., Patriksson M., 1995.*) improving their model by considering the effect of externalities and the dynamics of information [100].

I solved the simple optimization problems with defining the first derivatives of the investigated object function [73].

I solved the constrained optimization problems with defining its Lagrangian function (*Lagrange, J. L., 1788.*).

I solved the optimization problems defined by inequalities with applying the Karush-Kuhn-Tucker (*Kuhn, H. W., Tucker, A. W., 1951.*) conditions.

4 New scientific results

4.1 Development of a new consumer utility function, which involves the effect of trip chains

Traditional spatial computable general equilibrium (SCGE) processes do not focus on short term decisions, hence implement the activity approach to extend the basic methodology of SCGE models. With the mentioned approach besides the quantitative properties of consumption it is possible to describe complex mobility demand structures in SCGE models as well

I interconnect attraction places (e.g. shops, offices, schools) with trip chains and the frequency of its realization. The routes to attraction places can be characterized with their travel costs and that makes possible to estimate the effect of residence and production place choices on mobility structure.

I developed a spatial computable general equilibrium model, which is compatible with activity-based traffic modelling and considers the effects of trip chains on consumer decisions. (in chapter 4.1.1)

$$U_{ij} = \prod_{hkl} (n_h \cdot Z_{ijhkl})^{a_{kl}} \cdot Q_{ij,FOGY}^b \cdot L_{ij}^g$$

Where:

U_{ij} : utility of consumers living in zone i and working in zone j,

n_h : the probability of the realization of the trip chain h,

- Z_{ijkl} : consumption of inhabitants living in zone i , working in zone j , realizing trip chain h , visiting zone k and choosing product or service type l ,
- α_{kl} : Cobb-Douglas parameter of product or service type l consumed in zone k ,
- $Q_{ij,FOGY}$: Size of residence used by inhabitants living in zone i working in zone j ,
- β : Cobb-Douglas parameter of residence,
- L_{ij} : Leisure time of inhabitants living in zone i , working in zone j ,
- γ : Cobb-Douglas parameter of leisure time.

Related publications: [73], [74], [95].

4.2 The representation of trip chain related mobility processes

To assign mobility demands on the network we need to estimate the result of the consumer's route choice processes. The complex network topology of real networks makes it necessary to involve factors beside traffic dependent travel time in the representation of the network users' decision process, which are more realistically expected to be known by road users [16].

I implemented the route choice processes of the consumers in the methodology of spatial computable general equilibrium models as a constrained optimization problem. (chapter 4.1.2)

$$T_{INT} = \sum_{a \in A} (W_t t_{a,INT}(f_{a,INT}) + s_a (W_s + W_{EXT} \cdot EXT(f_{a,INT})))$$

Where:

INT: ordinal number of the intervals generated by deviding up the operative time period of route choice process,

T_{INT} :	Summed up cost function of network users,
a :	ordinal number of network links,
$f_{a,INT}$:	traffic on network link “a” in interval “INT”,
$t_{a,INT}$:	time dependent traffic on link „a” in interval “INT”,
EXT :	externality parameter,
s_a :	length of network link “a”,
W_t :	weight parameter of time cost,
W_s :	weight parameter of distance cost,
W_{EXT} :	weight parameter of externalities.

Related publications: [94], [100], [102].

4.3 Defining parameters of spatial computable general equilibrium models

Parameters of spatial computable general equilibrium models are traditionally defined based on the social account matrix, however it is generally not available on regional, metropolitan or urban level. Moreover traditionally parameter definition is getting more and more complex with the growth of the equation number.

Following the method of the representation of the consumer’s decision problem [62], rearranging and dividing with each other the first derivatives of the Lagrangian function, I defined the consumption of inhabitants living in zone i , working in zone j , realizing trip chain 1, visiting zone 1. With that I rearrange the equation and express the Cobb-Douglas parameter of consumption.

I developed a new method to define the parameters of spatial computable general equilibrium models with the application of spatial approach. (chapter 4.3)

$$a_1 = \frac{n_1 \cdot p_1 \cdot b \cdot Z_{ij11}}{r_i \cdot Q_{ij,FOGY}}$$

Where:

- β : Cobb-Douglas parameter of residence,
- Z_{ij11} : consumption of inhabitants living in zone i, working in zone j, realizing trip chain no. 1 and visiting zone 1,
- α_1 : Cobb-Douglas parameter of consumption,
- $Q_{ij,FOGY}$: Size of residence used by inhabitants living in zone i working in zone j,
- n_1 : the probability of the realization of the trip chain no. 1,,
- r_i : rent in zone i,
- p_1 : price in zone 1.

Related publication: [107], [110].

4.4 Underlying methodological framework of definition of urban measure toolkits

Applying the developed urban model, I prepared the methodological framework of defining urban intervention toolkits, which maximize social welfare.

My new approach represents the public decisions as a constrained optimization problem, where the object function is the social welfare function, which contains the aggregated utilities of the inhabitants and the constrain of the objective function is the financial frame of the communitiy. (chapter 4.4)

$$U = \prod_i (U_i^{j_i})$$

$$FC = \sum_i (Dev_{i1} - 1) \cdot Inv_{i1kl}$$

Where:

U social welfare function,

U_i utility of consumers living in zone i and working in zone j,

φ_i ratio of utility of consumer group i and the total utility of the community,

FC: financial constrain of the community,

Dev_{i1} : rate of development on network element connecting zone i and zone 1 (e.g. in case of a transport infrastructure investment, $1 < Dev_{i1} < n$, where n is the ratio of the maximum travel time savings related to the investment),

Inv_{i1} : unity price of investment on network element connecting zone i and zone 1.

Related publication: [108], [112].

5 Further development orientations

The deeper integration of trip-chains methodology in spatial computable general equilibrium models results the extension of the aspects of the investigation of the urban system. Implementing trip-chains in the model as independent variable should make the evaluation process more complex but can generate new examining approaches and the new approaches would be able to describe consumer behavior more realistically.

The enhancement of the models complexity, the complicated optimization problems and the extended data needs of the models makes it necessary to apply new methodological approaches. Non-classical, biological models show good applicability in solving other transport problems, hence they are expected to be well applicable in the field of spatial computable general equilibrium models as well.

Neural networks could be applied to analyse relationship between different types functional social-economical and transport datasets. Besides they can be used to explain the different effects of system interactions in time. Genetic algorithms could solve the problem of complexity in reference to the optimization problems, since the increasing number of model variables could cause extremely high solving time for traditional equation system solving approaches.

6 References of the author associated with the theses

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