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Comparison of scenarios improving the distribution of local opportunities

Introduction



Introduction

- Possible solutions to urban sprawl :
 - Increase in density
 - Increase in diversity of land use
 - Controlling housing costs
 - Controlling commuting (e.g. by tolls)



Optimization of the localization of

proximity services

Methodology

- Investigating two scenarios relocating opportunities proportionally to the night population and day population
- Study impacts of scenarios with 30% and 60% of restaurants closures
- Evaluating the effects of the virtualization of activities





Methodology - Data

- Aggregation to the census tract level
 - In the Greater Montreal area
 - Census tracts limits from the Census of Canada of 2011
- Points of interest of proximity services
 - From the 2019 CanMap® Content Suite database of DMTI Spatial
- Night population and day population
 - Data from the Origin-Destination Survey of 2013
 - furnishes the population at midday

Methodology

Diagnostic of the current distribution of opportunities

- ► Grocery Stores (3400)
- Drugstores (1072)
- Child Daycare Services (1414)
- Restaurants (10 722)

These opportunity types were chosen because :

- Regularly frequented by the population
- Still visited in times of lockdown

It is possible to use the methodology with other opportunity types.

Methodology

- Indicators :
 - Opportunity density per thousand of people and per squared kilometer
 - Percentage of opportunities to be relocated if the scenario were to be implemented
 - Number of opportunities to be relocated per census tract
 - Risk indicator of restaurant closure

Risk indicator = Number of restaurants $\times \frac{Day population}{Night population}$



Figure 1 : Distribution of census tracts per area

Heterogeneity in size

- Delimitation of census tracts considering the population
- Higher concentrations of population in downtown Montreal



Figure 2 : Map of day population over night population ratio by census tract

- Night population up to 4 times more than the day population
- Day population up to 86 times more than the night population



Higher proportion
 without opportunity
 during the night than
 during the day

Figure 3 : Night and day population distribution per opportunity density per thousand of people



Higher proportion
without opportunity
during the night
than during the day
47% have more than
8 restaurants per
km² during the day

Figure 4 : Distribution of the night and day population per opportunity density per squared kilometer

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Results - Scenarios

Table 1 : Percentage of opportunities to be relocated for the scenario to be implemented

Scenario	Grocery Stores	Drugstores	Child Daycare Services	Restaurants
Scenario Night Pop	34%	47%	39%	45%
Scenario Day Pop	35%	46%	42%	35%

- Drugstores are the least distributed proportionally to the population
- Grocery stores are the more distributed proportionally to the population
- Restaurants distribution corresponds more to the day population than the night population

Results - Night population scenario



Total equity for drugstores and child daycare services, even with the day population

Figure 5 : Distribution of night and day population per opportunity density per thousand of people with the current distribution and the night population scenario

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Results - Day population scenario



Increase in equity compared with the current distribution

 But less than the night population scenario increases the equity for the day population

Figure 6 : Distribution of night and day population per opportunity density per thousand of people with the current distribution and the day population scenario

Results - Restaurant closures scenarios



With 60% closures,
more than the
double of the
population have
access to less than 1
restaurant per
thousand people in
their census tract

Figure 7 : Distribution of night and day population per restaurant density per thousand of people with the current distribution and the scenarios of restaurant closures

Results - Risk Indicator



Figure 8 : Risk indicator of census tracts

Risk indicator interval

[0;35235[

Discussion

- Increase in equity
 - For the two optimization scenarios studied
- Night population scenario confers more equity with the day population than the day population scenario does for the night population
 - Higher variability in the day population distribution
- Considering the potential increase in virtualization of activities
 - Beneficial to apply strategic planning based on the localization of the night population

Limitations

- Study of theoretical scenarios only
 - Investigate the possible impacts of strategic planning
- Border effects due to the aggregation level
- All opportunities of the same type are considered equivalent
- Increase in e-shopping has not been considered
- Opportunity density is a normative, not positive, accessibility indicator
- Restaurant closures are supposed uniformly distributed
 - Risk indicator proposed to improve the analysis

Conclusion

- Impacts of strategic planning considering the localization of the population
 - Everybody has access to opportunities in their area
 - Diminution of distances
 - Increase in active modes potential
- Investigating more on this subject
 - Refine the aggregation level
 - Study different scenarios
 - Evaluate the impacts of the virtualization of activities using the sum of personhours per area

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