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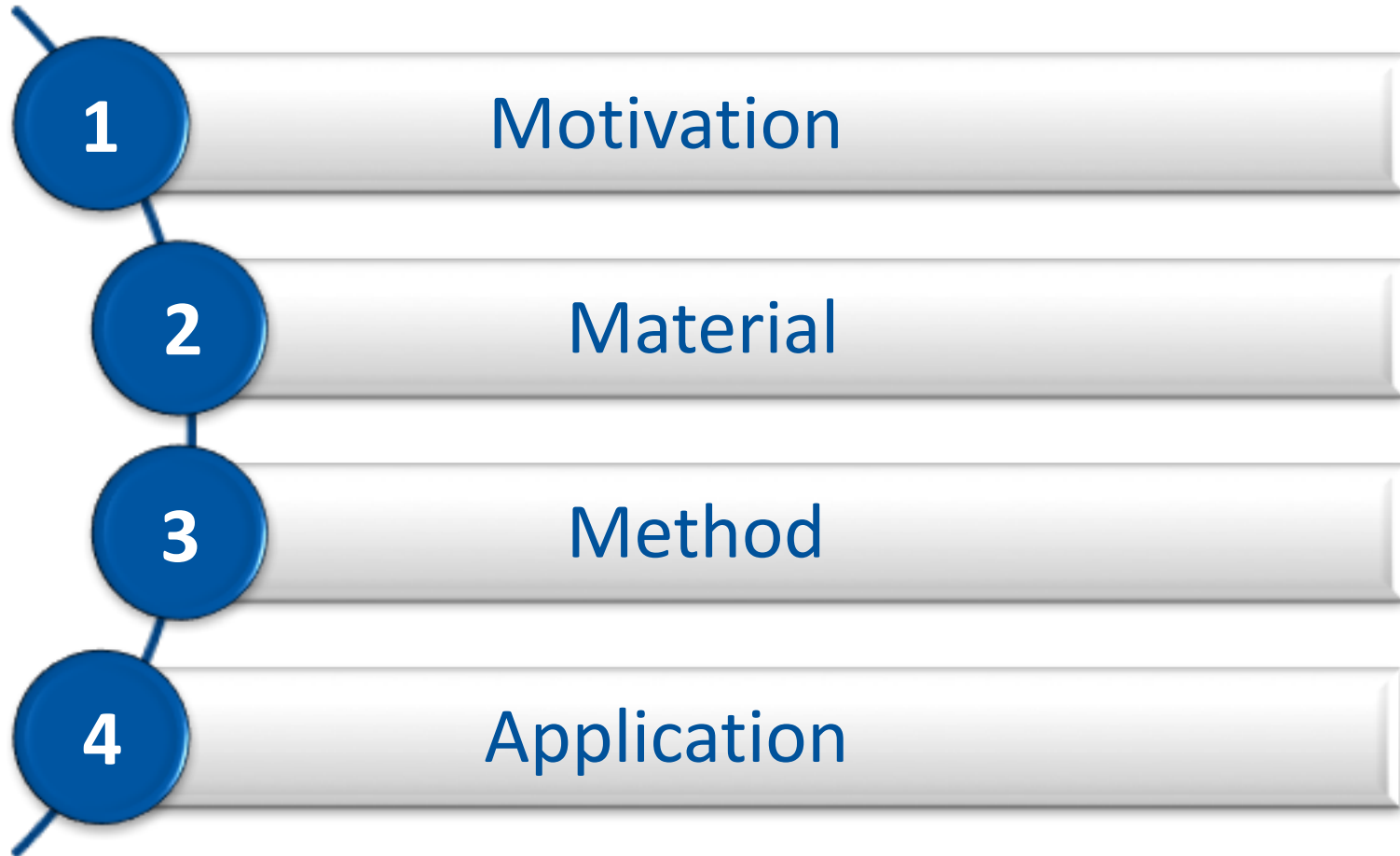
Tsinghua University

# Context-aware Real-time Population Estimation for Metropolis

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# Outline



# Motivation

# Significance



The population distribution varies during the day.

# Motivation

## Problems of population census

- Very expensive
- High latency



It's not feasible to achieve real-time population distribution through census.

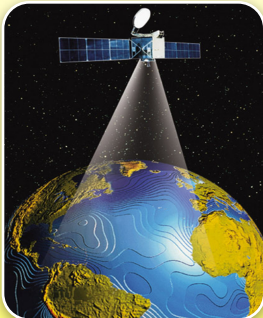
# Motivation

## Limitations of previous attempts



### Call Detail Records<sup>1</sup>

- Low spatial resolution
- High latency(sparse records)



### Remote Sensing Images<sup>2</sup>

- Require multiple datasets
- Can't track day-time variation

1. Deville, et al. Dynamic population mapping using mobile phone data[J]. PNAS, 2014.

2. Stevens F R, et al. Disaggregating census data for population ...[J]. PloS one, 2015.

## Motivation

Limitations of previous attempts

**Key points to  
address these  
problems**

**Appropriate datasets**

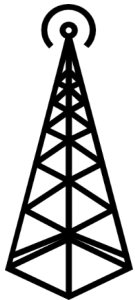
**Advanced method**

# Material

## Cellular data access records

Device's ID | Start time | End time | BS ID | Location | Traffic volume

Large-scale



9600 BSs



150,000 users

Long duration

From August 1  
to August 31,  
2014

Fine-grained

Start and end  
time accurate  
to second

**Contains 1.96 billion logs, total size over 300GB**

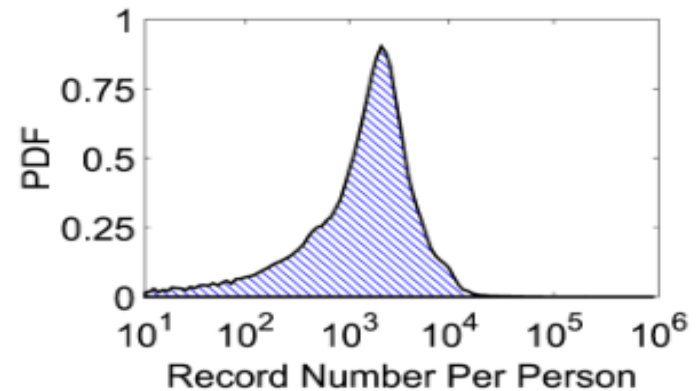
We extract the number of access of each base station at granularity of one hour.

# Material

## Dataset features

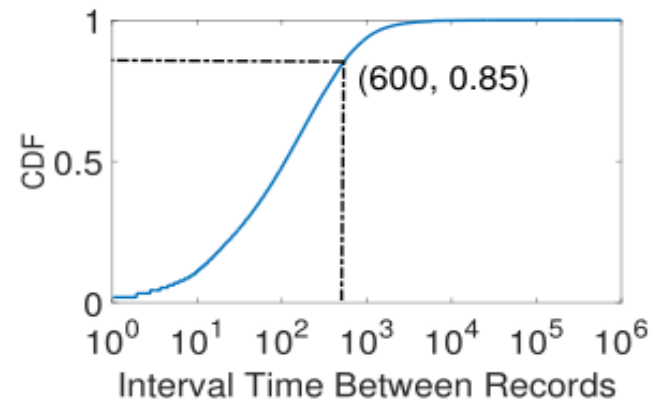
### Extensive records

- Most of users have more than 1,000 records in total.



### High Sampling Rate

- 85% of consecutive records happen in last than 10 Mins.



**8.2 hours on average for call records<sup>1</sup>**

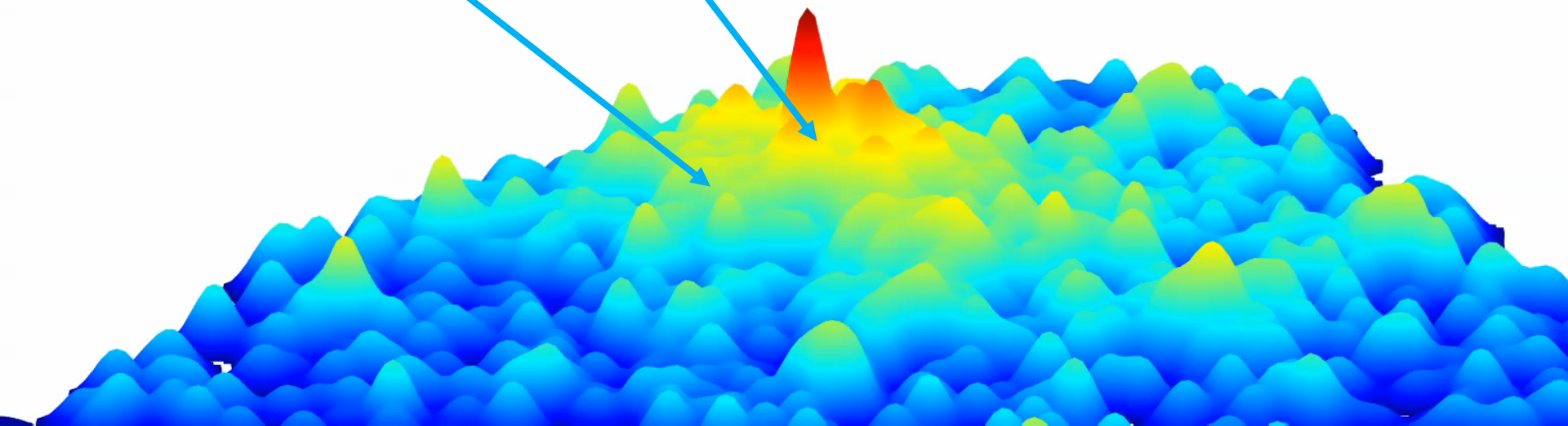
1. Gonzalez M C, et al. Understanding individual human mobility patterns[J]. Nature, 2008.

## Material

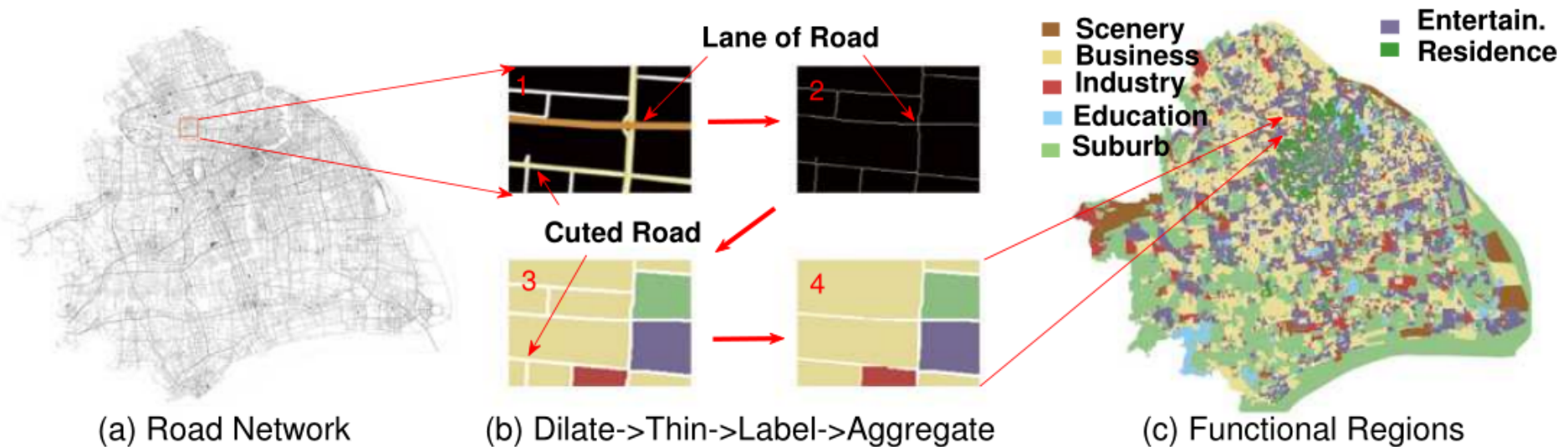
## Visualization

Can we achieve **context-aware** segmentation of the cities?  
Different

Mobile users' behavior is related to the type of their location(**physical context**).



**Road network** forms a natural segmentation of urban environment. <sup>1</sup>



1. Yuan J, et al. Discovering regions of different functions ...,SIGKDD, 2012.

## Material

## Labeling the type of regions

**POI** — a specific point location of a certain function.

Region\POI	Resid.	Enter.	Busi.	Indus.	Edu.	Scen.	Sub.
Residence	<b>0.76</b>	0.29	0.46	0.01	0.05	0.02	0.01
Entertainment	0.29	<b>0.66</b>	0.18	0.07	0.05	0.04	0.02
Business	0.24	0.24	<b>0.3</b>	0.14	0.04	0.02	0.17
Industry	0.09	0.14	0.40	<b>0.66</b>	0.03	0.02	0.29
Education	0.14	0.22	0.22	0.08	<b>0.72</b>	0.03	0.17
Scenery spot	0.13	0.22	0.19	0.03	0.02	<b>0.77</b>	0.11
Suburb	0.06	0.08	0.17	0.10	0.02	0.02	<b>0.86</b>

Table 5. The mean value of TF-IDF vectors for every functional type.

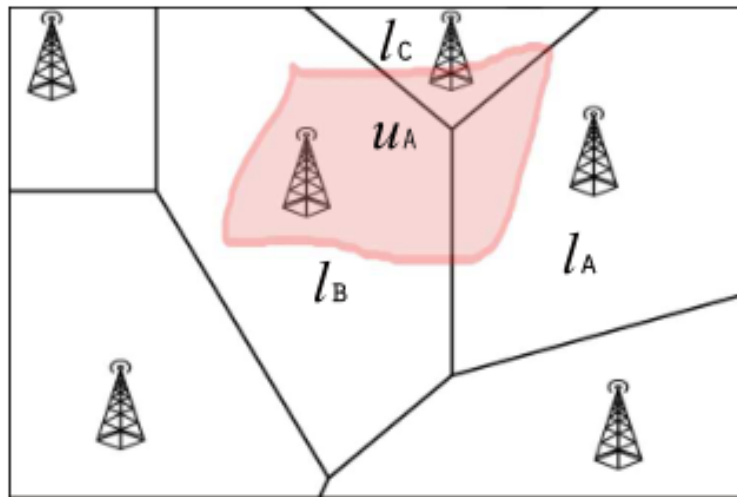
1. <http://map.baidu.com/>

## *Worldpop project*<sup>1</sup>:

- Only provide night-time population.
- Accurate (State of the art).
- High resolution 100mX100m.



1. <http://www.worldpop.org.uk/>.



(a) Mapping of mobile users



(b) Mapping of Worldpop

Mapping cellular data and worldpop data into segmented regions based on **overlapping area**.

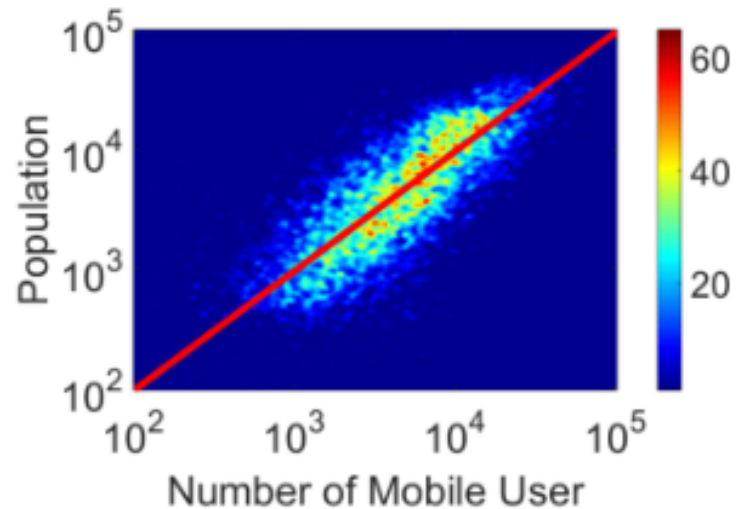
## Method

## Estimation model

- Inspiration: **superlinear effect** has been discovered in many fields in urban area, which is considered to be the result of intensive cooperation.<sup>1</sup>

$$\theta_u = \alpha(\rho_u)^\beta$$

$$\ln \theta_u = \ln \alpha + \beta \ln \rho_u$$



1. Bettencourt L M A. The origins of scaling in cities[J]. science, 2013.

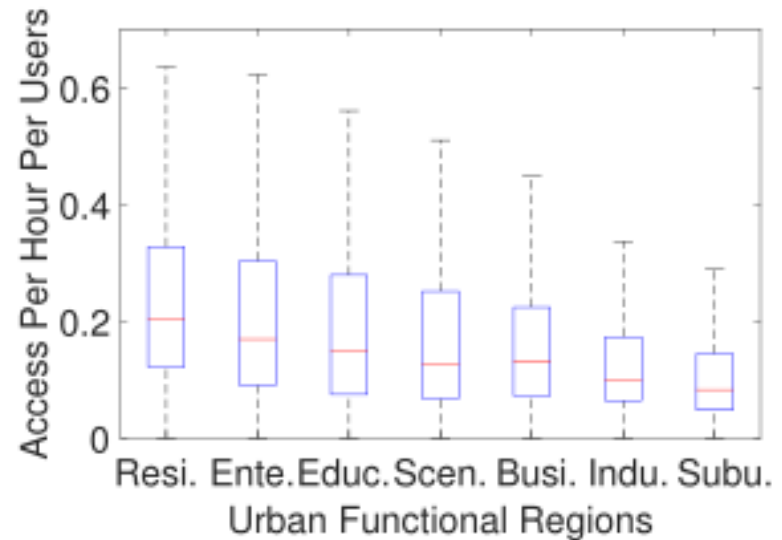
## Method

## Estimation model

- Context-aware estimation model.

$$\theta_u = \alpha_j (\rho_u)^{\beta_j}$$

$$j = 1, 2 \dots 7$$



Users' behavior is spatial heterogeneous.

## Method

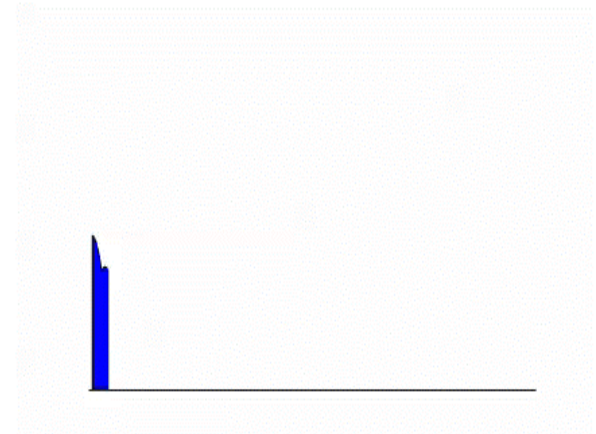
## Estimation model

- Expand the model into a dynamic one.

$$R_t = \sum_u \theta_u / \sum_j \alpha_j (\rho_u)^{\beta_j}$$

$$\alpha_j^t = R_t \times \alpha_j$$

$$\hat{\theta}_u^t = \alpha_j^t (\rho_u^t)^{\beta_j}$$



$\alpha_j^t$  is scaled to model the **temporal inhomogeneity** of users' behavior, while  $\beta_j$  is fixed to model spatial characteristics.

## Method

## Evaluation method

### Evaluation datasets

- Worldpop dataset.
- Transportation dataset (10 million taxi trips, 1 month)<sup>1</sup>.

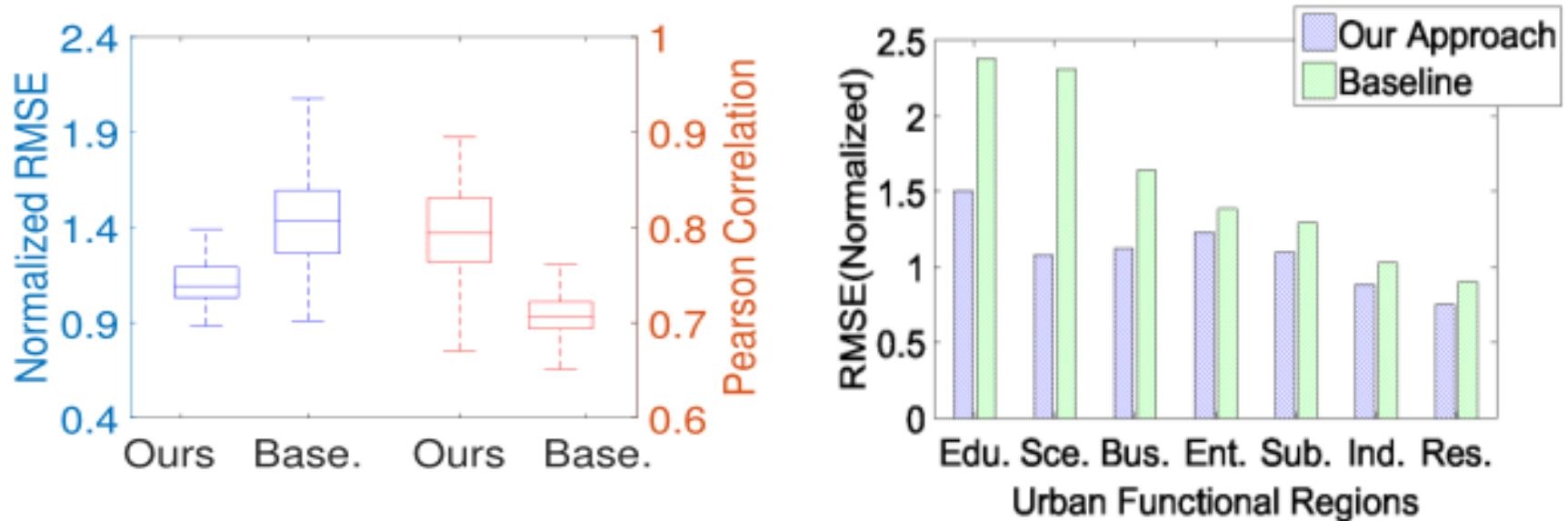
### Evaluation schemes

- Validate the night-time estimation with Worldpop data.
- Evaluate the real-time estimation with transportation dataset.

1. <http://soda.datashanghai.gov.cn/>.

## Method

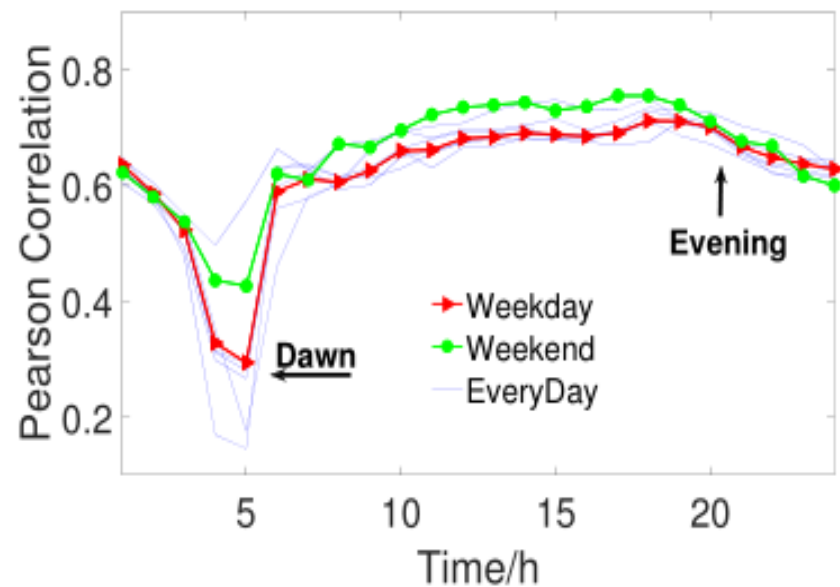
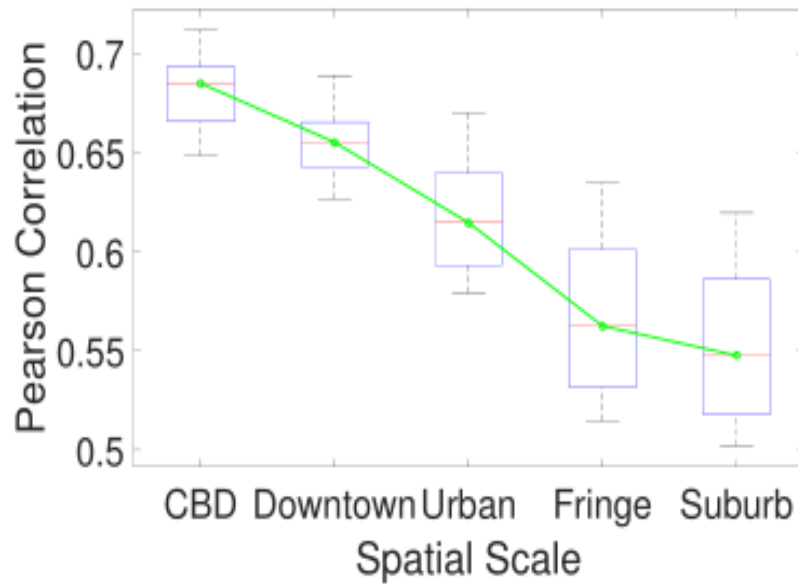
## Evaluating night-time estimation



- Reduce 22.5% estimation error, enhance 12.5% correlation.
- Performance gain is most significant in education, scenery and business regions.

## Method

## Evaluating dynamic estimation

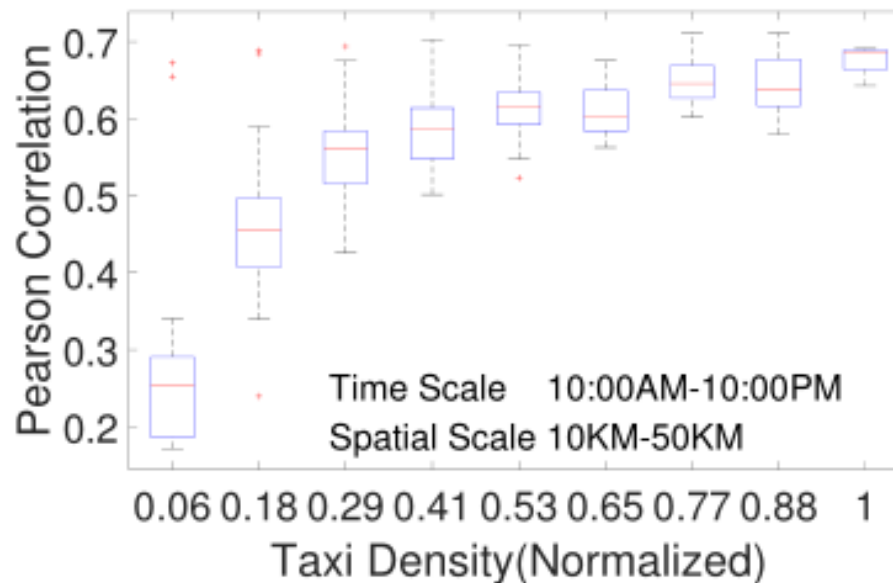


- Estimated population has a high correlation with taxi data in central area of urban.
- The correlation is significantly higher during day-time.

## Method

## Evaluating dynamic estimation

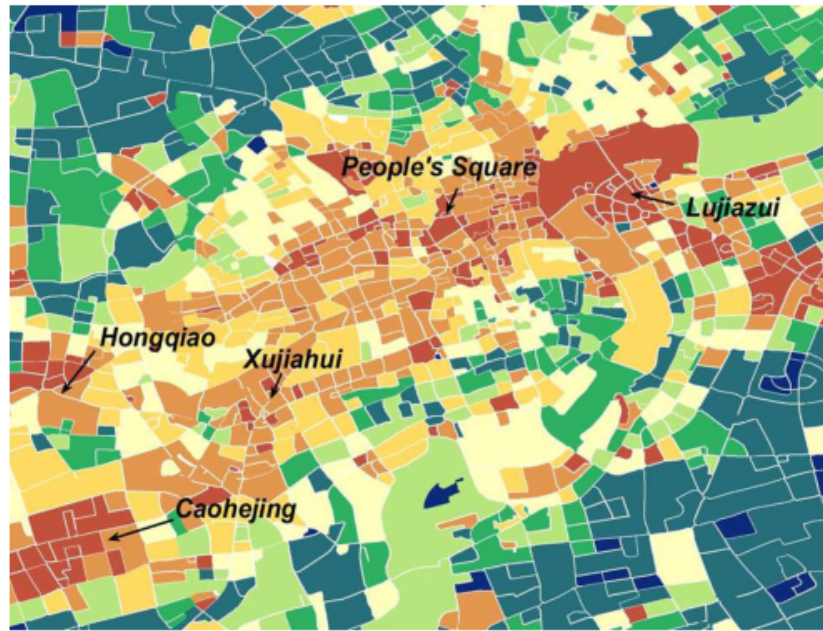
The dynamic estimation matches well with taxi data.



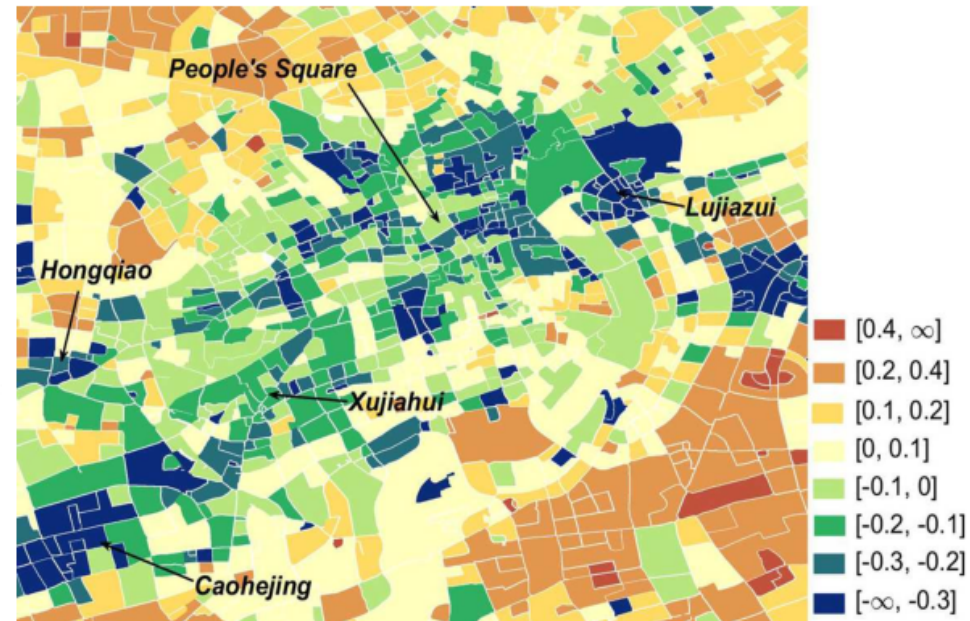
- The correlation monotonically increases with taxi density.
- Underlying reasons: taxi data can't capture population well when its density is low.

# Application

## Observing urban dynamics



(a) Morning rush of downtown

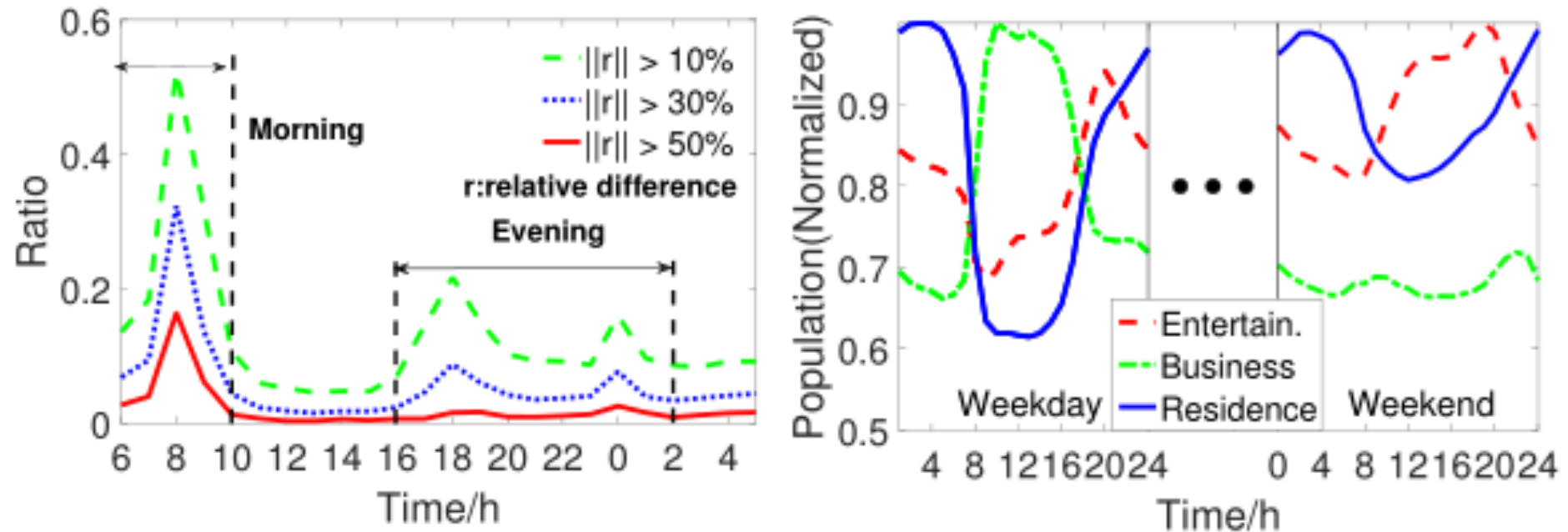


(b) Evening rush of downtown

Simple visualization can quantify the phenomenon of morning and evening rush.

# Application

## Observing urban dynamics

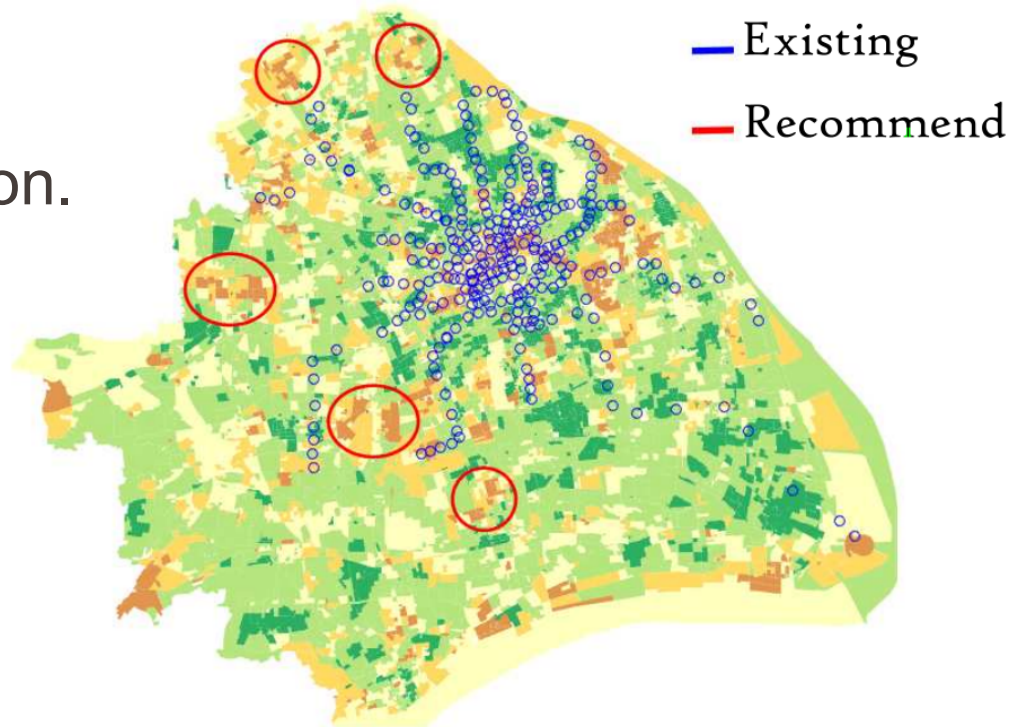


- Morning rush is more intensive than evening rush.
- Different functional regions have distinct population patterns.

# Application

## Locate new subway station

- Warmer color represents higher variation of population.
- The regions with **high population variation** and no subway station are recommended identified.



## Summary

- Appropriate data: collect 3G/LTE data access records of over 9,600 BSs with 150,000 subscribers for one month
- Advanced method: First estimation model to produce accurate real-time population estimation.
- Applications:
  - Visualizing and quantifying the dynamics of urban population.
  - Recommending locations for new subway stations.

# Thanks you!

## Q&A

For Data Sample, Please Contact

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