Participatory noise mapping

Dr. Ellie D'Hondt & Matthias Stevens



Participatory sensing for sustainable urban living

BRUSSENSE



operational

under development



overview

- 1. Sustainability in cities
- 2. Sound & noise
- 3. Noise maps today
- 4. Participative sensing & NoiseTube
- 5. Participative noise maps
- 6. Next year's developments

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cities \leftrightarrow sustainability

•UN data shows that:

- In 2005, 49% of the world's population were city dwellers
- By 2030, this number is expected to hit 60%

Urbanisation is rising even faster in developing nations

- In 2005, 74% of all city dwellers lived in the developing world
- By 2030, developing counties are expected to accord

Rapid urbanisation threater life

- Mobility issues
- Housing shortage
- Social injustice

[UN2003 Configure of States & Social Affairs, Population Division (2006). World Urbanization Prospects: The 2005 Revision Working Paper No. ESA/P/WP/200.



[UN2006]







cities \leftrightarrow sustainability

- Cities provide a critical arena from which to approach the issues of sustainability and climate change because:
- Urban areas are responsible for approximately 75 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions in the world;
- local policies can be effective where broader policies might not be feasible;
- 3. cities, like universities, are learning laboratories.

M. E. Kahn (2006). Green Cities: Urban Growth and the Environment, Brookings Institution Press

computer science \leftrightarrow sustainability

- Environmental <u>simulations</u>: to get better predictions of the future and thus encourage the need for action
- <u>Distributed</u> computation: for better exploitation of available computing resources and the development of energy-efficient soft- and hardware solutions
- Improve the granularity and quality of environmental measurement <u>data</u> (think Internet of Things)
- Increase <u>awareness</u> of citizens about the conditions in their environment and thus provide support for political action

L. Steels (2009), *Participatory Mapping and Social Networking for a Sustainable World*. Sony CSL Open House 2009 Symposium talk.

Participatory Sensing & Sustainability

Opportunity:



Platform:

Ever more popular, cheaper "<u>smart phones</u>"



(Time Magazine, 2006) Cultural shift (Web 2.0):

User-generated content, participation



Concerns: Growing interest for environmental/sustainability issues

 Significant computational power

- Semi-permanent Internet access WiFi, GPRS/EGDE, 3G
- Integrated sensors
- •Camera's, GPS, motion,

touch, ...

The (mobile) Web continues to change how we create, share and consume information... Climate change (*Inconvenient truth*, IPCC), desertification, global migration, urbanisation, mobility, energy efficiency, air pollution (e.g. fine particles), ...

participatory/urban sensing



Burke et al. (2006). *Participatory Sensing*. WSW'06 at SenSys '06, ACM Press. Cuff et al. (2008). *Urban sensing: Out of the woods*. Comm. of the ACM, 51(3): p.24-33.





tragedy of the commons

•= over-exploitation of common resources which are not replenished

<u>"No one owns the Earth's atmosphere</u>. Therefore, it is treated as a <u>common dump</u> into which everyone may <u>discharge wastes</u>. Among the unwanted consequences of this behaviour are acid rain, the greenhouse effect, and the erosion of the <u>Forth's protoctive acong layer</u>."

Earth's protective ozone layer."

"Industries and even nations are apt to regard the cleansing of industrial discharges as prohibitively expensive. The oceans are also treated as a common dump. Yet continuing to defend the freedom to pollute will ultimately lead to ruin for all. Nations are just beginning to evolve controls to limit this damage."



<u>More examples:</u> irrigation systems, space in streets, **noise** \leftrightarrow **silence**, forests \leftrightarrow logging,

G. Hardin (1968). The Tragedy of the Commons. Science, 162(3859): p.1243-1248.

managing common pool resources

1.Clearly defined <u>boundaries</u>

- 2.<u>Congruence</u> between <u>appropriation</u> and <u>provision</u> rules and local conditions
- 3.<u>Collective-choice</u> arrangements allowing for the <u>participation</u> of most of the appropriators in the decision making process
- 4.Effective monitoring by monitors who are part of or accountable to the appropriators
- 5.Graduated <u>sanctions</u> for appropriators who do not respect community rules
- 6.<u>Conflict-resolution</u> mechanisms which are cheap and easy of access
- 7. Minimal recognition of rights to organize

Elinor Ostrom (1990). *Governing the Commons. The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action*. Cambridge University Press.

community memorieş

- Early predecessors:
 - Bulletin boards [Colstad1975]
 - Open expert systems
 [Steels198]
 environment

= collection of ICT tools to collectively manage common pool resources, e.g. our environment

- Technological advances have enabled many new ingredients:
 - Mobile, participatory sensing
 - Social tagging
 - Geo-localisation
 - Aggregation, simulation and visualisation



[Colstad1975] K. Colstad & E. Lipkin (1975). *Community Memory: a public information network*. ACM SIGCAS Computers and Society, 6(4): p.6-7.

[Steels1986] L. Steels (1986). From Expert Systems to Community Memories. In T. Bernold (ed.), Expert Systems and Knowledge Engineering. Conf., G. Duttweiler Institute, Ruschlikon, Switzerland. p.17-29.

potential ingredients



L. Steels (2009), *Participatory Mapping and Social Networking for a Sustainable World*. Sony CSL Open House 2009 Symposium talk.

1. To set up the technology for a community memory for urban environmental measurement surveys, in particular focusing on noise, microclimate and pollution;to implement case studies in the Brussels Region & elsewhere.



Dr. Ellie D'Hondt & Matthias Stevens

BRUSSENSE • Department of Computer Science • Participatory sensing for sustainable urban living



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sound



typical sounds



sound level



pressure [Pa] ↔ sound pressure level [dB]



range of human hearing



frequency dependence



A-weighting [dB(A)]



Heathrow, UK

> Brussels, Belgium

noise is a real problem in cities all over the world



noise survey in the EU



A map of Europe showing the per-country percentage of respondents answering "Yes" to the question: "In the immediate neighbourhood of your home, do you have reason to complain about noise?"

WHO guidelines

- How loud is too loud?
- < 30 dB(A) in bedrooms for a good night's sleep</p>
- < 35 dB(A) in classrooms for good cognitive performance</p>
- < 40 dB(A) yearly average sound pressure level in and around bedrooms required to prevent health effects due to noise
- How many people are exposed to excessive noise?
- ± 40% of the EU population is exposed to traffic noise > 55db(A);
- 20% is exposed to > 65 dB(A) during the day
- > 30% is exposed to > 55 dB(A) at night.

consequences for quality of life

Traffic related noise exposure in Western Europe costs the society at least 1 million healthy life years per year [WHO2011, Burden of disease from environmental noise]

- Aspects studied:
- cardiovascular disease
- cognitive impairment in children
- sleep disturbance
- tinnitus
- general annoyance

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EU norms

- Noise maps obligatory for
 - cities > 250 000 inhabitants
 - roads > 6 million vehicles per year
 - railways > 60 000 passages per year
 - and this every 5 years from 2012 onwards



by simulation and/or measurement





EU norms

- where day: 7-19, evening: 19-23, night: 23-7
- each L is a time average over these periods
- needed: # people exposed to Lden and Lnight values
 - within 5dB bands between 55 and 75 dB and > 75dB
 - at 4 m above the ground on the most exposed façade
- separate value for road, rail, air traffic & industrial sources
- through measurements or simulation

official noise maps





WHO norms: day <55 dB(A) night: < 40 dB(A).

official noise maps


Lden vs. Lnight



VENICENOISE.ORG



official noise data

		les.		
Niveeux seneres Tehritariimeux	Nombro d'habitations Aontal woningen	No Des No babilitado ne No son trat Intrasi aprical Interningan	Habitetions avec façade catine Aantai woningen men sen tuezon gemi	Ni des habitations soutrises aux reveaux sonores précisés et bénéficiant d'une façade calme Ni van het sontat veningen biotopresis ant precises geluidentvisious en met pert subigit germi
4 45 (B(A)	5223	3%	0	0%
45-50 dB(A)	23429	13%	q	0%
50-55 dB(A)	56361	30%	÷	0%
55 - 60 dS(A)	49756	27%	35	0%
TO B CAL	31083	17%	28	0%
65=70 dtsAl	15904	9%	- 248	3%
70+75 dB(A)	3891	2%	557	14%
+ 15 dBiA	561	0%	134	24%

interpretation

Sensation moyenne Geneldette gebättervaring	Hivesu sonore Georgenivesu	Type d'ambiance extérieure Gelaideompéring	Conversation Despirek
Très bruyent Zear tuid	80 dB(A)	Autoroute, chardier, Autoweg, bouwwerf,	
Snyant	76 dB(A)	Rue animée, grand boulevard,	Difficie Moeilijk
Lud	65.dB(A)	Weg met druk verkeer, grote laan 1.	
Bruit urbain modéré	BC CECAL	Centre-ville, rue de distribution,	En parlant fort
Matig statistisman	55 dB(A)	Stadscentrum, wirikeletmet	Luid proten
Ralativement calme	50 dB(A)	Secteur résidentiel, rue de desserte,	
Relation rustin	45 dB(A)	Residentible wilk, verbindingsweg	A volx normale
Bruit de fond calme Rustig actitorgrondgaluid	.40 dB(A)	Intérieur cour, compagne, Einnerplants, platteland	normale stem
Très calme Zeer rustig	30 dB(A)	Ambiance noclume en milieu rural Nachtgeluid in ean landelijke omgeving	A voix besse Filisionen
Sience	20.dB(A)	Désert Woostijn	

note: 3dB≠ is barely audible (mosquito at 3m distance)

noise maps through simulation



- sources covered:
 - traffic, train, industry, airports
- Imited measurement
 - data + propagation model →noise map



EU norms

- The measuring apparatus has to incorporate:
 - A-filtering
 - ☑ direct read-out of dB(A)
 - $\mathbf{\underline{M}}$ L_{A,eq} over arbitrary Δt
 - Calibration
 - Spherical wind shielding
 - read-out of wind speed & direction
 - Speed registration of passing vehicles



noise maps through simulation



trafic ferroviaire / treinverkeer

Distribution: C.I.R.B. 20 avenue des Arts, 1000 Bruxelles Distributie: C.I.B.G. 20 Kunstlaan, 1000 Brussel

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Nicolas Maisonneuve, Matthias Stevens & Bartek Ochab. *Participatory noise pollution monitoring using mobile phones*. Information Polity, 15(1-2):51-71, Aug 2010. DOI: 10.3233/IP-2010-0200. 45

state of the art: apps

	platform	availability	measurement s	architecture
Ear-Phone	Java ME	private	continuous	app only
NoiseSPY	Symbian C++	private	continuous	app+server
NoiseTube	Java ME- Android-iPhone	public	continuous	app+server
WideNoise	iPhone	public	on demand	app+server

Rana &al, Ear-Phone: An End-to-End Participatory Urban Noise Mapping, Proc. 9th Int. Conf. on Information Processing in Sensor Networks, 2010

Kanjo, NoiseSPY: A Real-Time Mobile Phone Platform for Urban Noise Monitoring and Mapping, J. Mobile Networks and Appl., Vol. 15(4), 2010

Stevens &al. Participatory noise pollution monitoring using mobile phones. Information Polity, 15(1-2):51-71, Aug 2010. 46







environmental social tagging adding context to numeric pollution data to

facilitate interpretation

- Sources of noise
- subjective perception
- activity



Users tag sources of noise, perceived annoyance, etc. Tags are sent and stored with measurement data

Seive baging United baging United

Tags are used to create rich, annotated noise exposure maps

L. Steels & E. Tiselli (2008). *Social Tagging in Community Memories*. Proceedings of the AAAI Spring Symposium on Social Information Processing. 49

web-based community

memory



individual tracks



collective maps

dynamic aggregated maps per city, combining all shared exposure data



semantic exploration

- Social & automatic contextual tagging allows semantic search through large data sets
- Bookmarkable tag queries

Semantic s	pace	Geographical space
Noise Exposure	e	
Туре	annoying, noisy, quiet, risky,	
Signal behavior	long noisy exposure, sudden peak, suddent peak,	
<i>social</i> (by the	users) bar, bird , bus, construction, neighbor, neighbors, roadworks , traffic,	
User Activity Mobility	stationary, using transport, walking,	
Weather Type Temperature Wind	mostly cloudy, moderate, breeze,	
Time Day Week Season	afternoon, evening, morning, _{night} , autumn,	
Location		
Type City Zip Street	avenue des gobelins, boulevard saint michel, place de la contrescarpe, pont de sully, rue amyot, rue blainville, rue censier, rue claude bernard, rue clovis, rue d'ulm, rue de bazeilles, rue de l'estrapade, rue de mirbel, rue des boulangers, rue des ecoles, rue des fossés saint bernard, rue du cardinal lemoine , rue du pot de fer, rue jussieu, rue lacépède, rue lacépède, rue lhomond, rue monge, rue	

finding & motivating users

Individuals

personal awareness worldwide & universal? so far: limited/scattered results

Coordination is needed!

.. and also necessary from scientific point of view (validation)

authority-led initiatives



citizen-led initiatives

Typical participative scenario: mapping noise pollution in a given area by a limited group of (untrained) citizens: Ademloos

comparison

simulated	participatory
only 4 sources of sound	all sounds
accurate but few measurements	less accurate but many measurements
not scalable	scalable
authorities only	all citizens
large cities & roads	all areas
pre-defined time averages	arbitrary time durations
some data inaccessible	all data in hands of citizens
little contextual information	context through tags

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research question

implementation

data aggregation

How do we make participatory noise maps and what is the quality one can expect to achieve?

How do these maps compare to current environmental surveying methods, which are simulation-based (and rely only on a limited amount of measured data)?

analysis & interpretation

EU-norms

state of the art: maps

	measure -ments	focus		maps
Ear-Phone	street	compressiv e sensing		street
NoiseSPY	city	Cambridge		city
NoiseTube	world	accuracy, norms	ci	ty areas
WideNoise	discrete points	?		-





noise maps through crowd-sourtingasurantents of data

- geotemporal tagging for data organisation
- Professional calibration
 - in controlled environment (anechoic chamber)
 - in the field
- user-friendliness is an iss





measurement equipment

#2209 ID6m46

10x

EU-norms:

- A-filtering
- direct read-out of dB(A)
- \mathbf{M} L_{A,eq} over arbitrary Δt
- **C** calibration
- **D**spherical wind shielding
- **D**read-out of wind speed & direction
- **O**speed registration of passing vehicles

realistic set of phones (from eBay)



calibration





Calibration work carried out in collaboration with Prof. Guillaume, Acoustics & Vibration Group, Applied Sciences, VUB.

2 phones tested





calibration







no significant differe



there is a dependency on sound level (more ≠between levels at higher dB)



Refere

add 6dB globally

phone follows mike quite well, except for low dB/frequency

- for frequency-dependent calibration one needs to develop a digital filter, which is hard!
- sound level dependency points to frequencyindependent technique
- correspondence between phone & reference is good in the domains that matter conclusion: digital litter is overkill, use frequencyindependent calibration technique instead (using white poise)

calibration: white noise



white noise = all frequencies equally present

calibration: white noise





calibration: white noise


calibration: in the field



coordinated mapping for citizens



we want to map noise participatively in this area. How do we define such a measuring campaign?

coordinated mapping for researchers

We want to control as many parameters as possible, to evaluate the participatory technique.

- identical phones
- simplified NoiseTube
- identical tracks
- measurement technique
- ensure quantity of measurements
 - pre-define time & area for measuring
 - fixed # people

protocol: track choice











protocol

We want to measure at peak and off-peak hours. How do we divide the work?

- choose time.
- week 1: peak hour (7:30 8:30)
- week 2: off-peak hour (21:00 22:00)
- 4 volunteers
- how much data/effort?
 - 5 days x 2 tracks per day x 4 people = 40 tracks
 - 5 days x 1 hour per day x 4 people = 20 hours of field work
 - ± 1800 measurements per track (1 per 2 sec)





one map out of one track



analysis: tools

40 tracks in xml \rightarrow Scheme vector with clean data



analysis: tools

40 tracks in xml \rightarrow Scheme vector with clean data

(5 21 4 1 66 51.229289850654006 4.380786121046)



analysis: grid

Divide the area into a grid...



#measurements and GPS errors

- GPS errors max 8,25m for latitude, 11,41m for longitude as measured at 7 positions in the area
- we use a 40m x 40m matrix grid to have ±100 measurements

analysis: grid

... distribute measurements over the grid

analysis: statistics

... compute averages &tc per grid element and make ready for map representation

results: noise map

Import in GIS software to obtain noise maps. (see http://www.brussense.be/experiments/linkeroever/)





results: # measurements



results: # measurements



results: comparison



precise data required from city administrations for quantitative analysis

confirmation: Brussels



confirmation



confirmation



confirmation: San Francisco

Sector 8

1 person

3x 45minutes

Number of measurements: 19 Average L_{Aeq,1s}: 73.58 dB(A) Expected deviation: 3.91228 Standard deviation: 4.40096 Minimum L_{Aeq,1s}: 66.00 dB(A) Maximum L_{Aeq,1s}: 80.00 dB(A) Х

72 squares • average 53 and at least 10 measurements per square • average sound level 68,88 ± 2,92 dB(A)

Hotel Nikko

see

wild mapping

What quality can we achieve with global participation, but without coordination?



one track



noise maps



329 squares • average 150 and at least 100 measurements per square • average sound level 61,1 ± 4,5 dB(A)

90 squares • average 90 and at least 10 measurements per square • average sound level 58,0 ± 4,4 dB(A)

extensions



Development work carried out in the context of supervised Bachelor (2), Master (1) and Ph.D. projects.

context-aware participatory sensing



Development work carried out in the context of supervised Master Thesis (1).

environmental participatory sensing



dissemination

... to the public at large, the scientific and engineering community, as well as governmental policy makers.



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- policy support programme call for Open Innovation for Internet-enabled services in smart cities
- 23 partners: 12 city/region councils, 8 companies, 3 research institutes
- Important step towards large-scale adoption

pilot locations





Solar potential assesment

Designed-for-all personal routing

See http://www.iscopeproject.net/

in our planning

substantial upgrade of web app to tackle eniciency & usability issues and conform to standards

- Participatory environmental mapping: campaign with 5-10 people & Body Area Network (BAN) setup focussing on noise, microclimate, and air pollution
- Facilitate community-driven participatory sensing through the website
 - community-building functionalities: geographical (neighbourhood concerns), through common interests (how do peak hours in different cities compare?) or task-oriented (your boss at city hall asks you to evaluate how street works affect the commune)
 - Private or public campaigns
 - torracted data analyzaia



enrollments

Brussense Participatory sensing for sustainable urban living

Join us!!

Register at www.noisetube.net and download NoiseTube from the following locations:

Android: Market Java ME: www.noisetube.net/downloads iPhone: App Store as of Dec 1st

Contact us:

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