

# Optimal Supply Networks III: Redistribution

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Complex Networks | @networksvox  
CSYS/MATH 303, Spring, 2018

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Size-density law

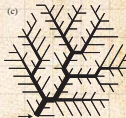
Cartograms

A reasonable derivation

Global redistribution

Public versus Private

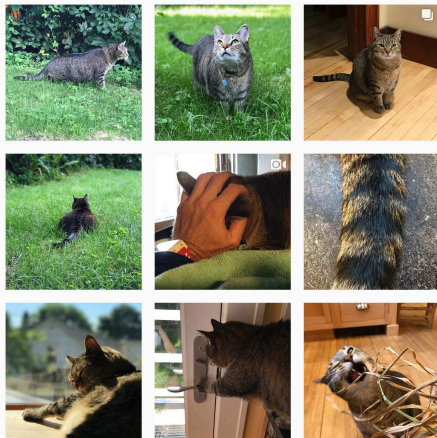
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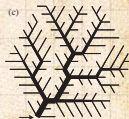
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 On Instagram at [pratchett\\_the\\_cat](https://www.instagram.com/pratchett_the_cat) 



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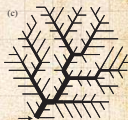
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# Many sources, many sinks

## How do we distribute sources?

- Focus on 2-d (results generalize to higher dimensions).
- Sources = hospitals, post offices, pubs, ...
- Key problem:** How do we cope with uneven population densities?
- Obvious: if density is uniform then sources are best distributed **uniformly**.
- Which lattice is optimal? The **hexagonal lattice**
- Q2:** Given population density is uneven, what do we do?
- We'll follow work by Stephan (1977, 1984) [4, 5], Gastner and Newman (2006) [2], Um *et al.* (2009) [6], and work cited by them.

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## Solidifying the basic problem

- Given a region with some population distribution  $\rho$ , most likely uneven.
- Given resources to build and maintain  $N$  facilities.
- Q:** How do we locate these  $N$  facilities so as to minimize the average distance between an individual's residence and the nearest facility?



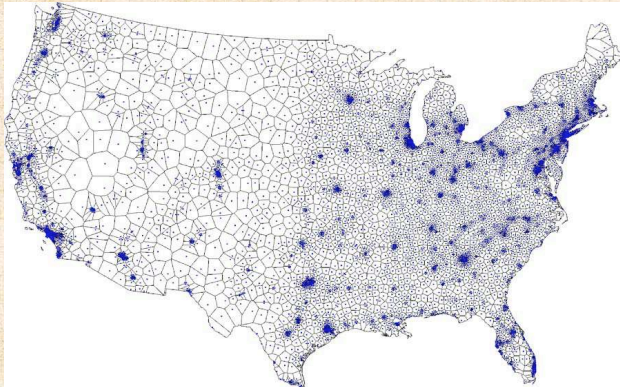
“Optimal design of spatial distribution  
networks” 

Gastner and Newman,  
Phys. Rev. E, **74**, 016117, 2006. [2]

Distributed  
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- Cartograms
- A reasonable derivation
- Global redistribution
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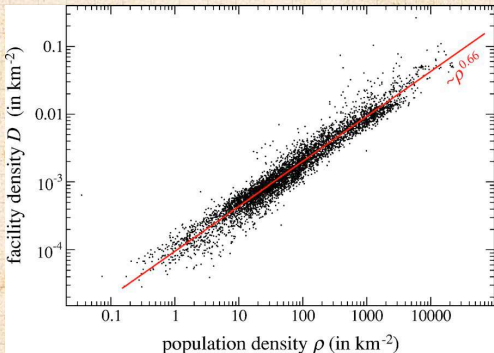
Approximately optimal location of 5000 facilities.



Based on 2000 Census data.




# Optimal source allocation




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- Cartograms
- A reasonable derivation
- Global redistribution
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## References

 Optimal facility density  $\rho_{\text{fac}}$  vs. population density  $\rho_{\text{pop}}$ .

 Fit is  $\rho_{\text{fac}} \propto \rho_{\text{pop}}^{0.66}$  with  $r^2 = 0.94$ .

 Looking good for a 2/3 power ...







## "Territorial Division: The Least-Time Constraint Behind the Formation of Subnational Boundaries" ↗

G. Edward Stephan,  
Science, **196**, 523–524, 1977. [4]

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References

- 🧱 We first examine Stephan's treatment (1977) [4, 5]
- 🧱 "Territorial Division: The Least-Time Constraint Behind the Formation of Subnational Boundaries" (Science, 1977)
- 🧱 Zipf-like approach: invokes **principle of minimal effort**.
- 🧱 Also known as the Homer Simpson principle.



# Optimal source allocation

- Consider a region of area  $A$  and population  $P$  with a single functional center that everyone needs to access every day.
- Build up a general cost function based on time expended to **access and maintain center**.
- Write **average travel distance** to center as  $\bar{d}$  and assume **average speed of travel** is  $\bar{v}$ .
- Assume **isometry**: average travel distance  $\bar{d}$  will be on the length scale of the region which is  $\sim A^{1/2}$
- Average time expended per person in accessing facility is therefore

$$\bar{d}/\bar{v} = cA^{1/2}/\bar{v}$$

where  $c$  is an unimportant shape factor.

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# Optimal source allocation

- Next assume facility requires regular maintenance (person-hours per day).
- Call this quantity  $\tau$ .
- If burden of maintenance is shared then average cost per person is  $\tau/P$  where  $P$  = population.
- Replace  $P$  by  $\rho_{\text{pop}}A$  where  $\rho_{\text{pop}}$  is density.
- Important assumption: uniform density.
- Total average time cost per person:

$$T = \bar{d}/\bar{v} + \tau/(\rho_{\text{pop}}A) = cA^{1/2}/\bar{v} + \tau/(\rho_{\text{pop}}A).$$

- Now Minimize with respect to  $A$  ...

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# Optimal source allocation

🧱 Differentiating ...

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial T}{\partial A} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial A} \left( cA^{1/2}/\bar{v} + \tau/(\rho_{\text{pop}}A) \right) \\ &= \frac{c}{2\bar{v}A^{1/2}} - \frac{\tau}{\rho_{\text{pop}}A^2} = 0\end{aligned}$$

🧱 Rearrange:

$$A = \left( \frac{2\bar{v}\tau}{c\rho_{\text{pop}}} \right)^{2/3} \propto \rho_{\text{pop}}^{-2/3}$$

🧱 # facilities per unit area  $\rho_{\text{fac}}$ :

$$\rho_{\text{fac}} \propto A^{-1} \propto \rho_{\text{pop}}^{2/3}$$

🧱 Groovy ...

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An issue:

🧱 Maintenance ( $\tau$ ) is assumed to be **independent** of population and area ( $P$  and  $A$ )

🧱 Stephan's online book "**The Division of Territory in Society**" is here .

🧱 (It used to be here .)

🧱 The Readme  is well worth reading (1995).

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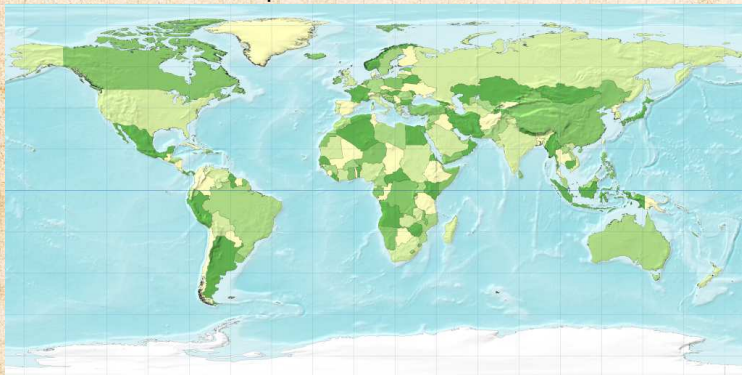
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# Cartograms

Standard world map:



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# Cartograms

## Cartogram of countries 'rescaled' by population:



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# Cartograms

## Diffusion-based cartograms:

- Idea of cartograms is to **distort areas** to more accurately represent some local density  $\rho_{\text{pop}}$  (e.g. population).
- Many methods put forward—typically involve some kind of physical analogy to **spreading or repulsion**.
- Algorithm due to Gastner and Newman (2004)<sup>[1]</sup> is based on **standard diffusion**:

$$\nabla^2 \rho_{\text{pop}} - \frac{\partial \rho_{\text{pop}}}{\partial t} = 0.$$

- Allow density to diffuse and trace the movement of individual elements and boundaries.
- Diffusion is constrained by boundary condition of surrounding area having density  $\bar{\rho}_{\text{pop}}$ .

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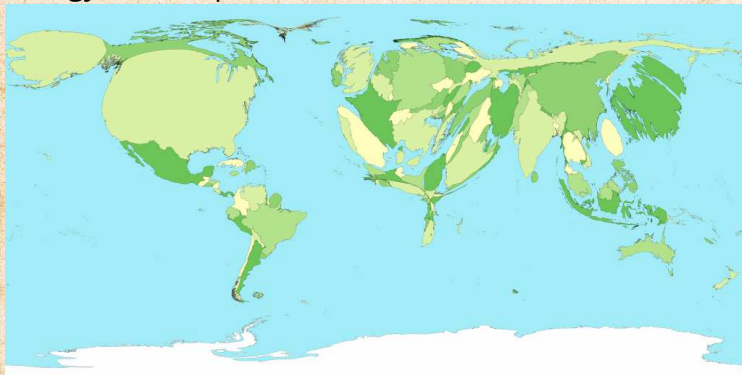




# Cartograms

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Energy consumption:



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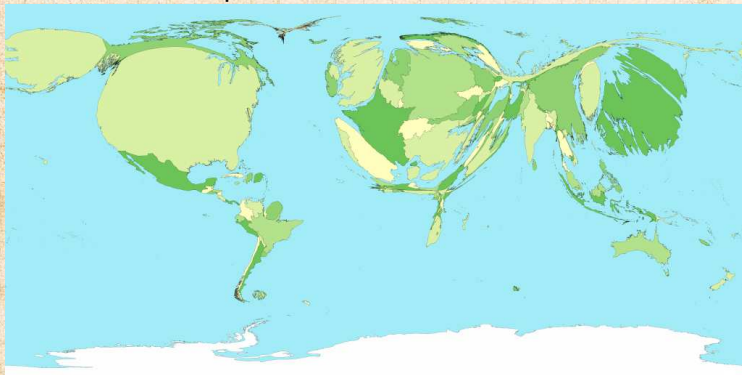
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Gross domestic product:



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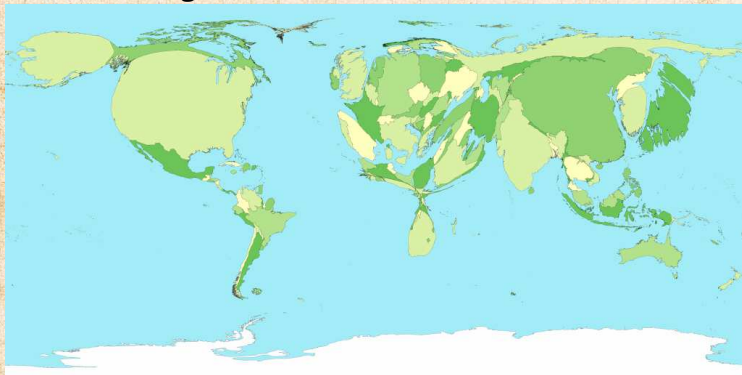
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# Cartograms

## Greenhouse gas emissions:



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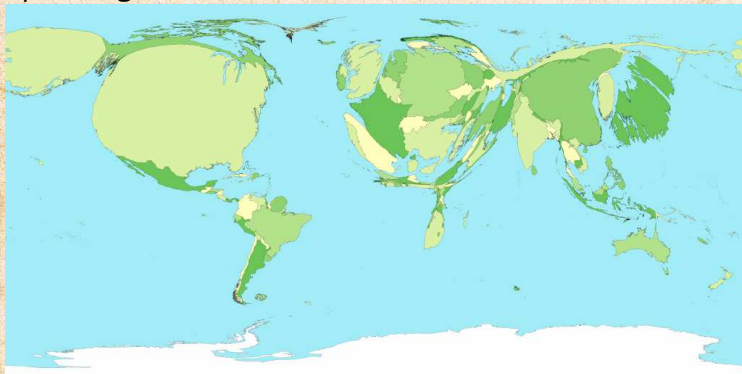
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# Cartograms

Spending on healthcare:



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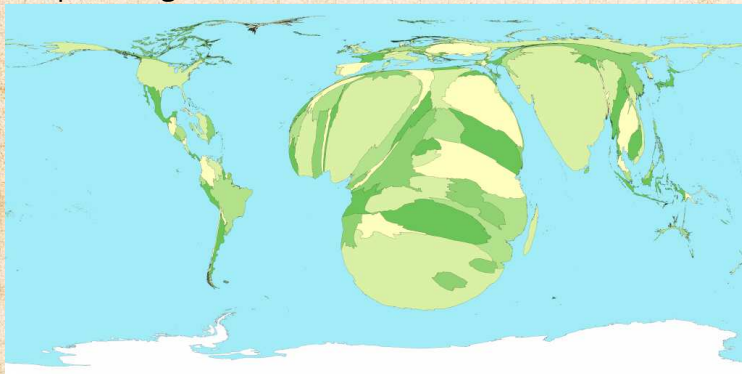
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# Cartograms

## People living with HIV:



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## Distributed Sources

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### Cartograms



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 The preceding sampling of Gastner & Newman's cartograms lives [here](#) .

 A larger collection can be found at [worldmapper.org](http://worldmapper.org) .



# Size-density law



“Optimal design of spatial distribution networks” 

Gastner and Newman,  
Phys. Rev. E, **74**, 016117, 2006. [2]

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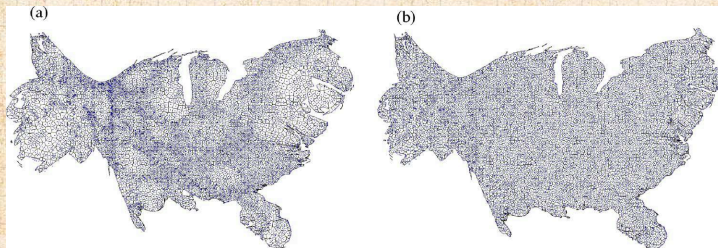
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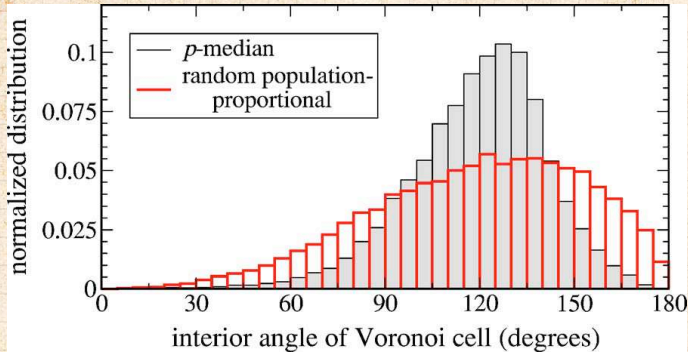
 **Left:** population density-equalized cartogram.

 **Right:** (population density)<sup>2/3</sup>-equalized cartogram.

 Facility density is uniform for  $\rho_{\text{pop}}^{2/3}$  cartogram.



# Size-density law



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From Gastner and Newman (2006) [2]






Cartogram's Voronoi cells are somewhat hexagonal.






# Size-density law

Deriving the optimal source distribution:

-  **Basic idea:** Minimize the average distance from a random individual to the nearest facility. [2]
-  Assume given a fixed population density  $\rho_{\text{pop}}$  defined on a spatial region  $\Omega$ .
-  Formally, we want to find the locations of  $n$  **sources**  $\{\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n\}$  that minimizes the **cost function**

$$F(\{\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n\}) = \int_{\Omega} \rho_{\text{pop}}(\vec{x}) \min_i \|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_i\| d\vec{x}.$$

-  Also known as the p-median problem.
-  Not easy ...in fact this one is an NP-hard problem. [2]
-  Approximate solution originally due to Gusein-Zade [3].

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# Size-density law

## Approximations:

For a given set of source placements  $\{\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n\}$ , the region  $\Omega$  is divided up into Voronoi cells, one per source.

Define  $A(\vec{x})$  as the **area** of the Voronoi cell containing  $\vec{x}$ .

As per Stephan's calculation, estimate typical distance from  $\vec{x}$  to the nearest source (say  $i$ ) as

$$c_i A(\vec{x})^{1/2}$$

where  $c_i$  is a shape factor for the  $i$ th Voronoi cell.

Approximate  $c_i$  as a constant  $c$ .

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# Size-density law

Carrying on:


 The cost function is now


$$F = c \int_{\Omega} \rho_{\text{pop}}(\vec{x}) A(\vec{x})^{1/2} d\vec{x}.$$

 We also have that the **constraint** that Voronoi cells divide up the overall area of  $\Omega$ :  $\sum_{i=1}^n A(\vec{x}_i) = A_{\Omega}$ .

 Sneakily turn this into an integral constraint:

$$\int_{\Omega} \frac{d\vec{x}}{A(\vec{x})} = n.$$

 Within each cell,  $A(\vec{x})$  is constant.

 So ...integral over each of the  $n$  cells equals 1.

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## Now a Lagrange multiplier story:

By varying  $\{\vec{x}_1, \dots, \vec{x}_n\}$ , minimize

$$G(A) = c \int_{\Omega} \rho_{\text{pop}}(\vec{x}) A(\vec{x})^{1/2} d\vec{x} - \lambda \left( n - \int_{\Omega} [A(\vec{x})]^{-1} d\vec{x} \right)$$

I Can Haz Calculus of Variations ↗?

Compute  $\delta G / \delta A$ , the functional derivative ↗ of the functional  $G(A)$ .

This gives

$$\int_{\Omega} \left[ \frac{c}{2} \rho_{\text{pop}}(\vec{x}) A(\vec{x})^{-1/2} - \lambda [A(\vec{x})]^{-2} \right] d\vec{x} = 0.$$


Setting the integrand to be zilch, we have:

$$\rho_{\text{pop}}(\vec{x}) = 2\lambda c^{-1} A(\vec{x})^{-3/2}.$$





# Size-density law

Now a Lagrange multiplier story:


 Rearranging, we have

$$A(\vec{x}) = (2\lambda c^{-1})^{2/3} \rho_{\text{pop}}^{-2/3}.$$

 Finally, we indentify  $1/A(\vec{x})$  as  $\rho_{\text{fac}}(\vec{x})$ , an approximation of the local source density.

 Substituting  $\rho_{\text{fac}} = 1/A$ , we have

$$\rho_{\text{fac}}(\vec{x}) = \left( \frac{c}{2\lambda} \rho_{\text{pop}} \right)^{2/3}.$$

 Normalizing (or solving for  $\lambda$ ):

$$\rho_{\text{fac}}(\vec{x}) = n \frac{[\rho_{\text{pop}}(\vec{x})]^{2/3}}{\int_{\Omega} [\rho_{\text{pop}}(\vec{x})]^{2/3} d\vec{x}} \propto [\rho_{\text{pop}}(\vec{x})]^{2/3}.$$

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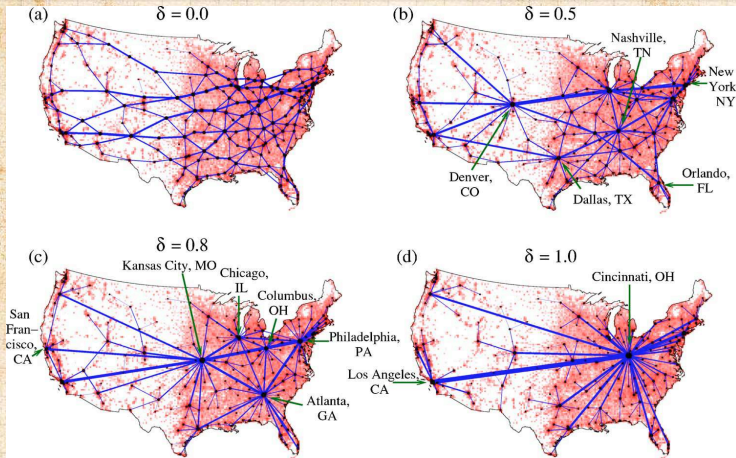
References







# Global redistribution networks



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From Gastner and Newman (2006) [2]






# Public versus private facilities


Beyond minimizing distances:

 "Scaling laws between population and facility densities" by Um *et al.*, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., 2009. [6]


 Um *et al.* find empirically and argue theoretically that the connection between facility and population density

$$\rho_{\text{fac}} \propto \rho_{\text{pop}}^{\alpha}$$

does not universally hold with  $\alpha = 2/3$ .

 **Two idealized limiting classes:**

1. For-profit, commercial facilities:  $\alpha = 1$ ;
2. Pro-social, public facilities:  $\alpha = 2/3$ .

 Um *et al.* investigate facility locations in the United States and South Korea.

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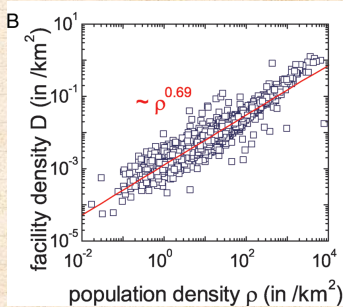
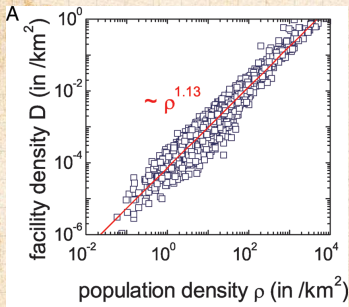
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Public versus Private

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# Public versus private facilities: evidence



-  **Left plot:** ambulatory hospitals in the U.S.
-  **Right plot:** public schools in the U.S.
-  Note: break in scaling for public schools. Transition from  $\alpha \simeq 2/3$  to  $\alpha = 1$  around  $\rho_{\text{pop}} \simeq 100$ .

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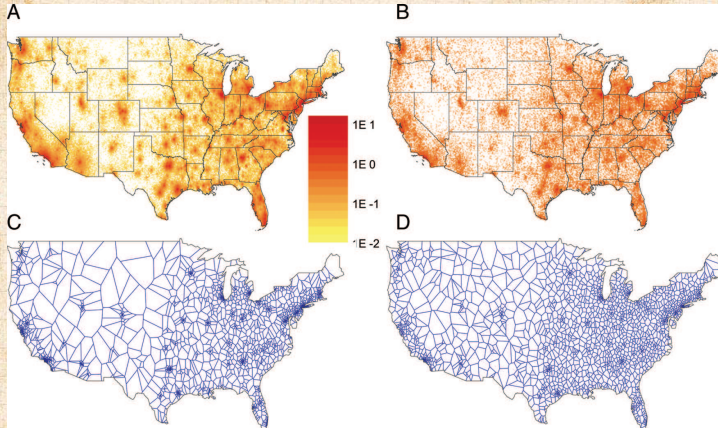
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# Public versus private facilities: evidence



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References

**A, C:** ambulatory hospitals in the U.S.; **B, D:** public schools in the U.S.; **A, B:** data; **C, D:** Voronoi diagram from model simulation.








# Public versus private facilities: the story

- Either proceeding as per the Gastner-Newman-Gusein-Zade calculation or, as Um *et al.* do, observing that the cost for each cell should be the same, we have:

$$\rho_{\text{fac}}(\vec{x}) = n \frac{[\rho_{\text{pop}}(\vec{x})]^{2/(\beta+2)}}{\int_{\Omega} [\rho_{\text{pop}}(\vec{x})]^{2/(\beta+2)} d\vec{x}} \propto [\rho_{\text{pop}}(\vec{x})]^{2/(\beta+2)}$$

- For  $\beta = 0$ ,  $\alpha = 1$ : commercial scaling is linear.
- For  $\beta = 1$ ,  $\alpha = 2/3$ : social scaling is sublinear.
- You can try this too:  
Insert question from assignment 4 

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# References I

- [1] M. T. Gastner and M. E. J. Newman.  
Diffusion-based method for producing  
density-equalizing maps.  
[Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., 101:7499–7504, 2004. pdf ↗](#)
- [2] M. T. Gastner and M. E. J. Newman.  
Optimal design of spatial distribution networks.  
[Phys. Rev. E, 74:016117, 2006. pdf ↗](#)
- [3] S. M. Gusein-Zade.  
Bunge's problem in central place theory and its  
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[Geogr. Anal., 14:246–252, 1982. pdf ↗](#)
- [4] G. E. Stephan.  
Territorial division: The least-time constraint  
behind the formation of subnational boundaries.  
[Science, 196:523–524, 1977. pdf ↗](#)

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