Special Session Proposal

RSPP Special Issue: A New Toolbox for Novel Research in Regional, Urban and Spatial Studies

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Abstract

Novelty in research is rooted in critical observation, theory, data or methods. There is no progress in science without these elements. Very often the focus is on the first two, while the last two are neglected. The aim of this special session is to collect papers whose strength lies in data and/or methods. They should open up new avenues for regional research, allowing new questions to be asked and the same phenomena to be seen with new eyes. Taking a new approach is risky - it may not always be successful and convincing to others. But it can also bring great scientific gain and stimulate scientific debate, which is the seed of conferences and publications. This session aims to stimulate discussion on novel methods and data that can be used in regional, urban and spatial studies.

Welcome topics include, among others

- spatial machine learning

- links between spatial statistics, spatial econometrics and spatial machine learning

- novel approaches to dealing with low granularity spatial data

- methods, tricks and approaches for dealing with spatio-temporal data

- new algorithms for dealing with big data and streaming data

- challenges of aggregating spatial data of different granulation - coherent databases of pixel, raster, line, regional, point, polygon data

- new sources of data that can be used in regional, urban and spatial studies.

- whta is right - theory-driven, problem-driven or data-driven science?

During this session we hope to discuss the new solutions in methods and data that will advance regional, urban and spatial studies. Participants of this session are encouraged to submit their papers to the journal Regional Science Policy and Practice (Impact Factor 1.7 in 2023). We will publish a special issue, following a very successful special issue on Night Lights.