

What's the added value of 'hGIS' for the study of the past?

[and in particular of the European integration]

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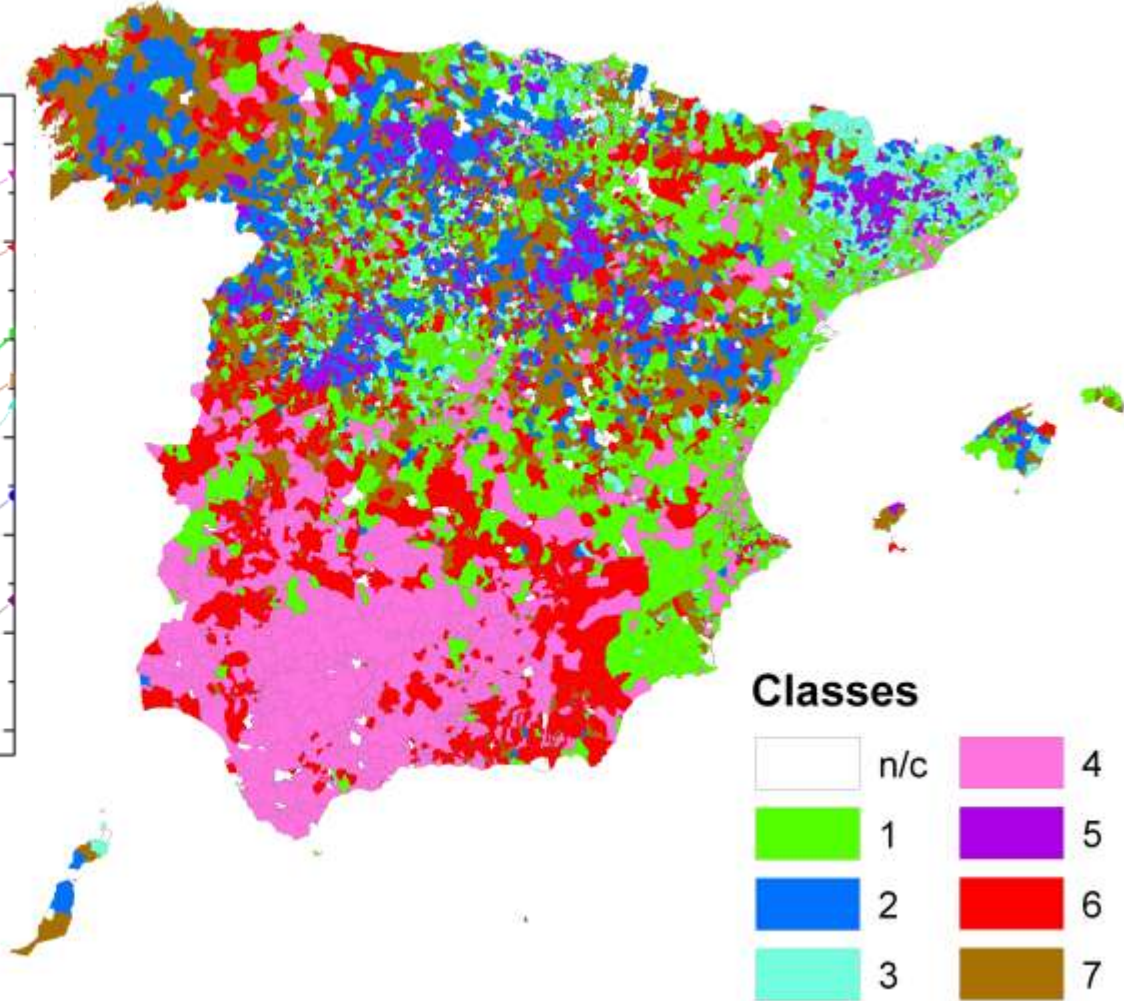
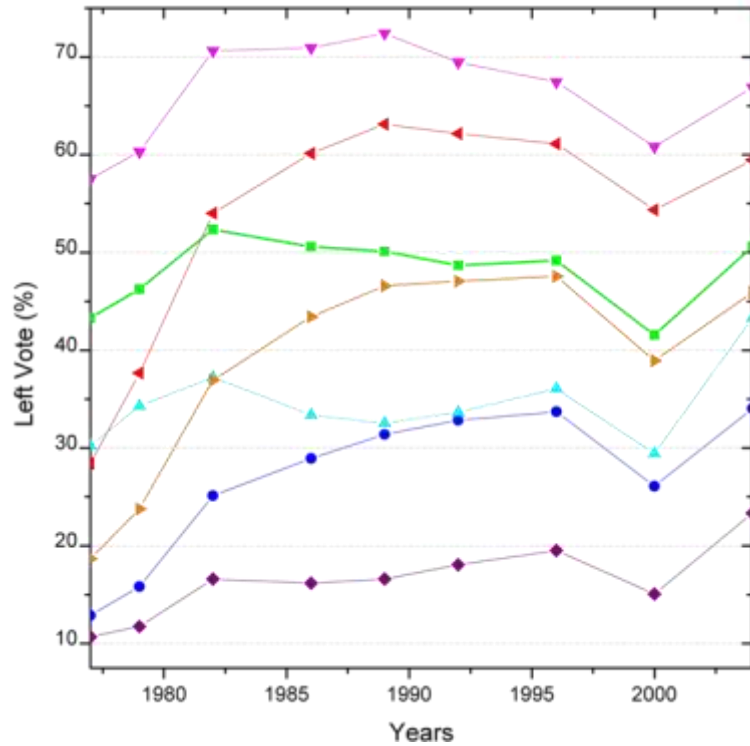
- Some previous notes:
 - Bottom line: History makes a lot more of sense with Geography (cfr. Braudel, 1950s)
 - hGIS for spatialize the historical processes: new insight into history (Benner 2004)
 - GIS Equation (Tapiador 1999):

$$\text{GIS} = \text{CAD} + \text{DB} + \text{Analysis}$$

so
$$\text{hGIS} = \text{CAD} + \text{hDB} + \text{Hcal. Analysis}$$

- More:
 - hGIS allow to extract complex relationships. A new twist on the Quantitative History concept
 - hGIS Analyses go beyond discourse, but hGIS don't make you a good historian
 - Narratives after we get the hGIS results, not before: empirical, comprehensive evidence of historical processes

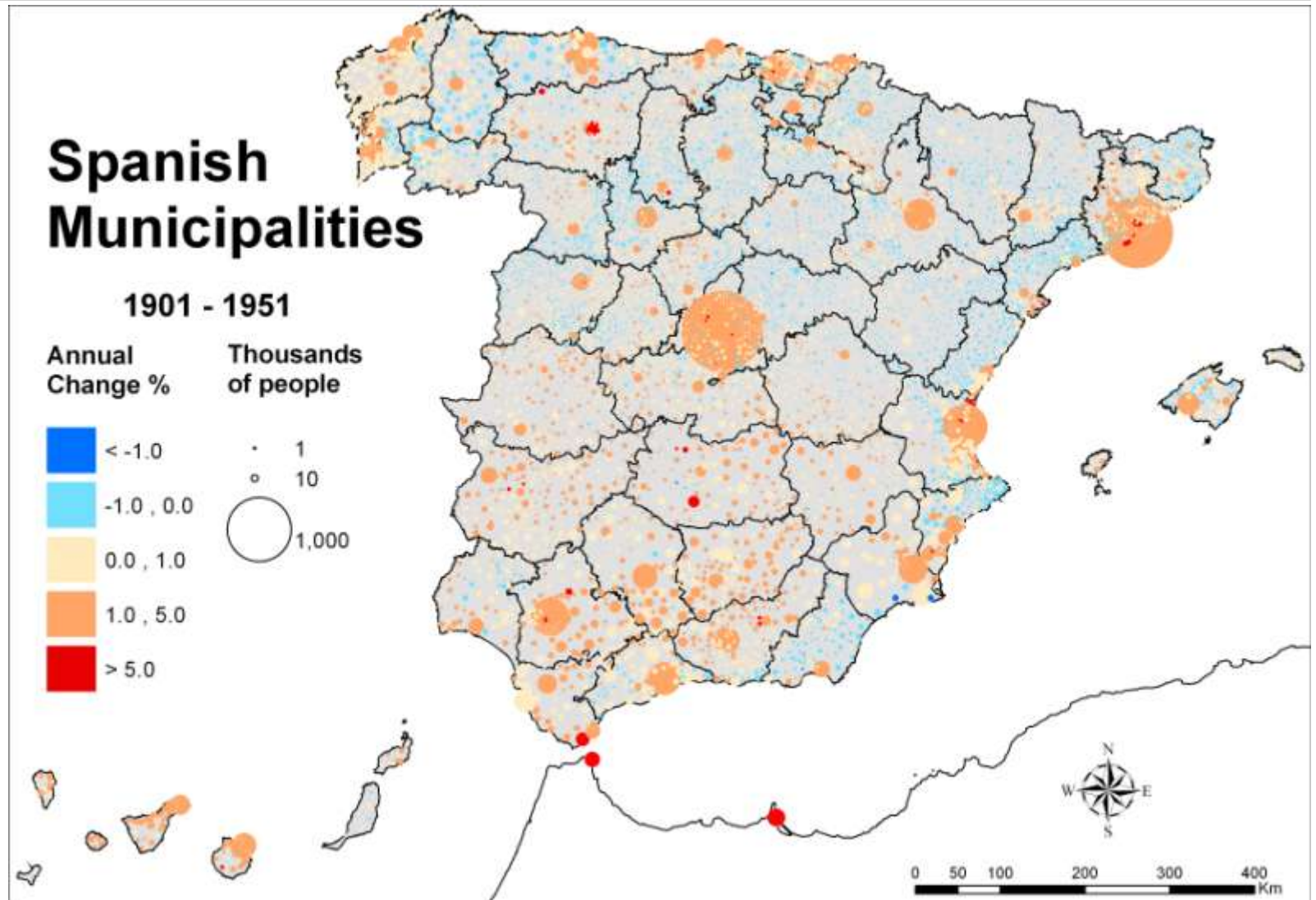
Classification by Vote Evolution



(Tapiador and Mezo 2007)

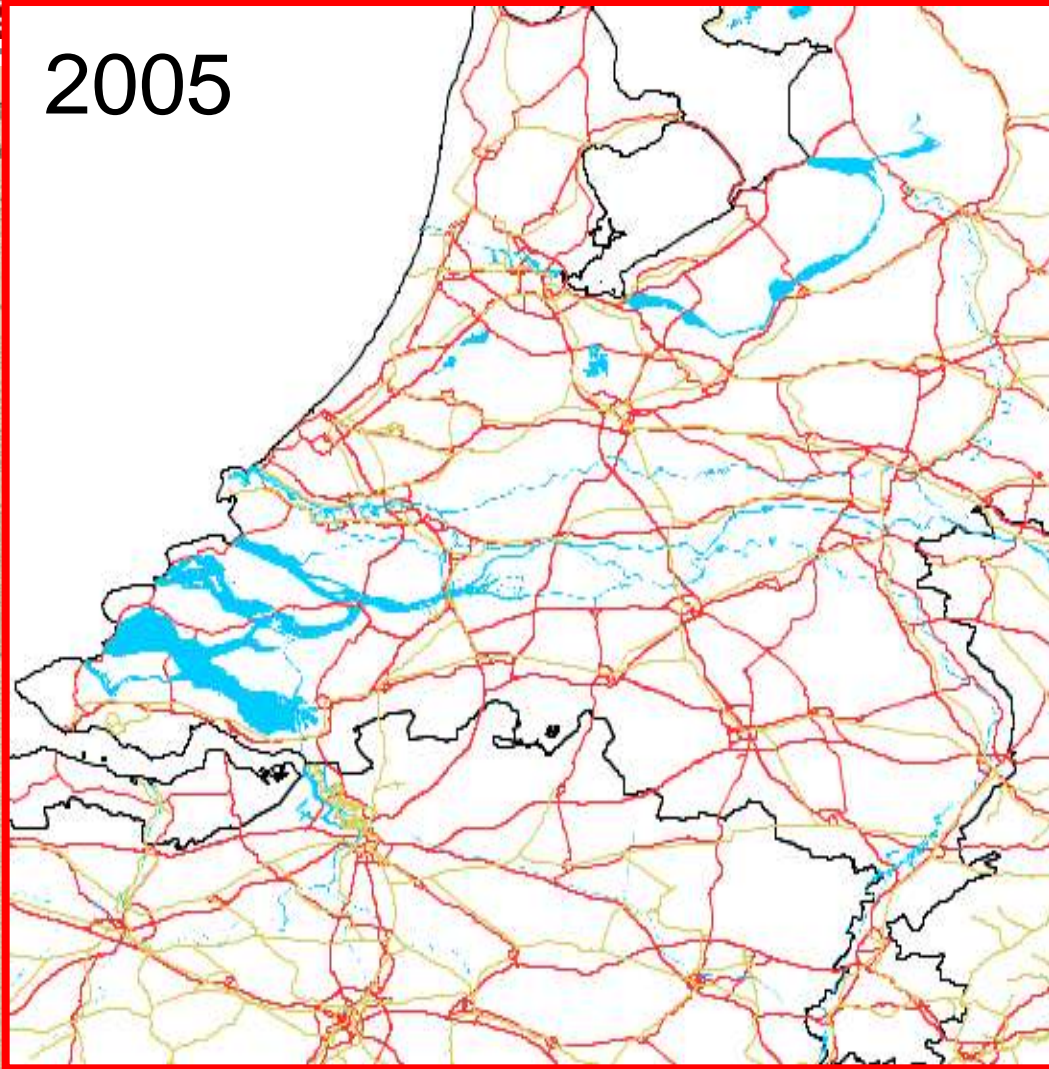
hGIS basics:

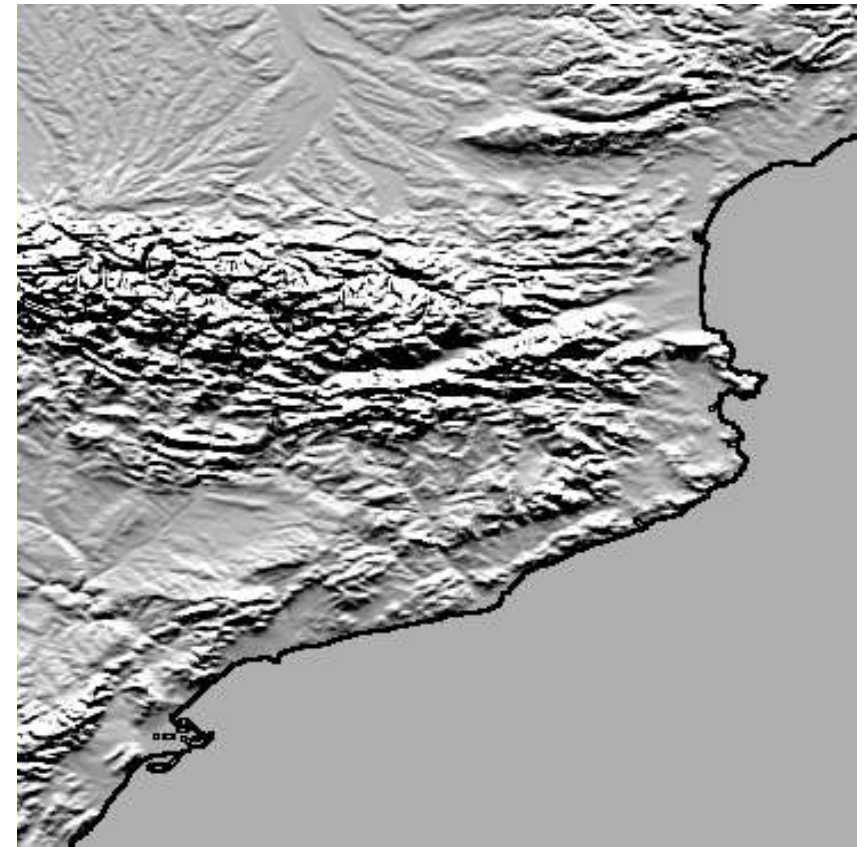
Mapping, Data Integration and Visualization



Martí-Henneberg, Pueyo, Simón, Tapiador and Bradshaw, 2007

2005





1835, by hand

2005, space shuttle

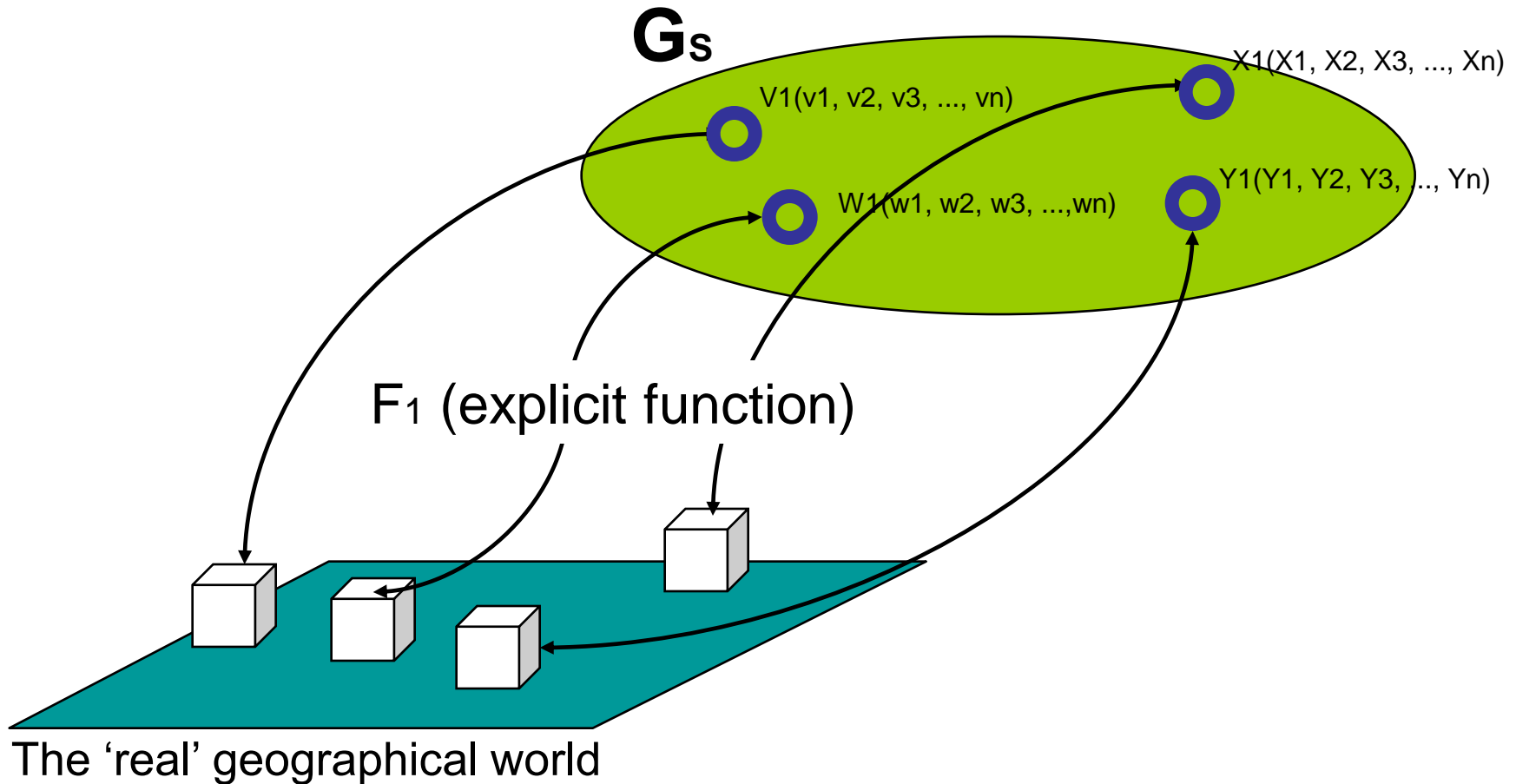


(Tapiador and Marti-Henneberg, 2007)

About added value

Formalization

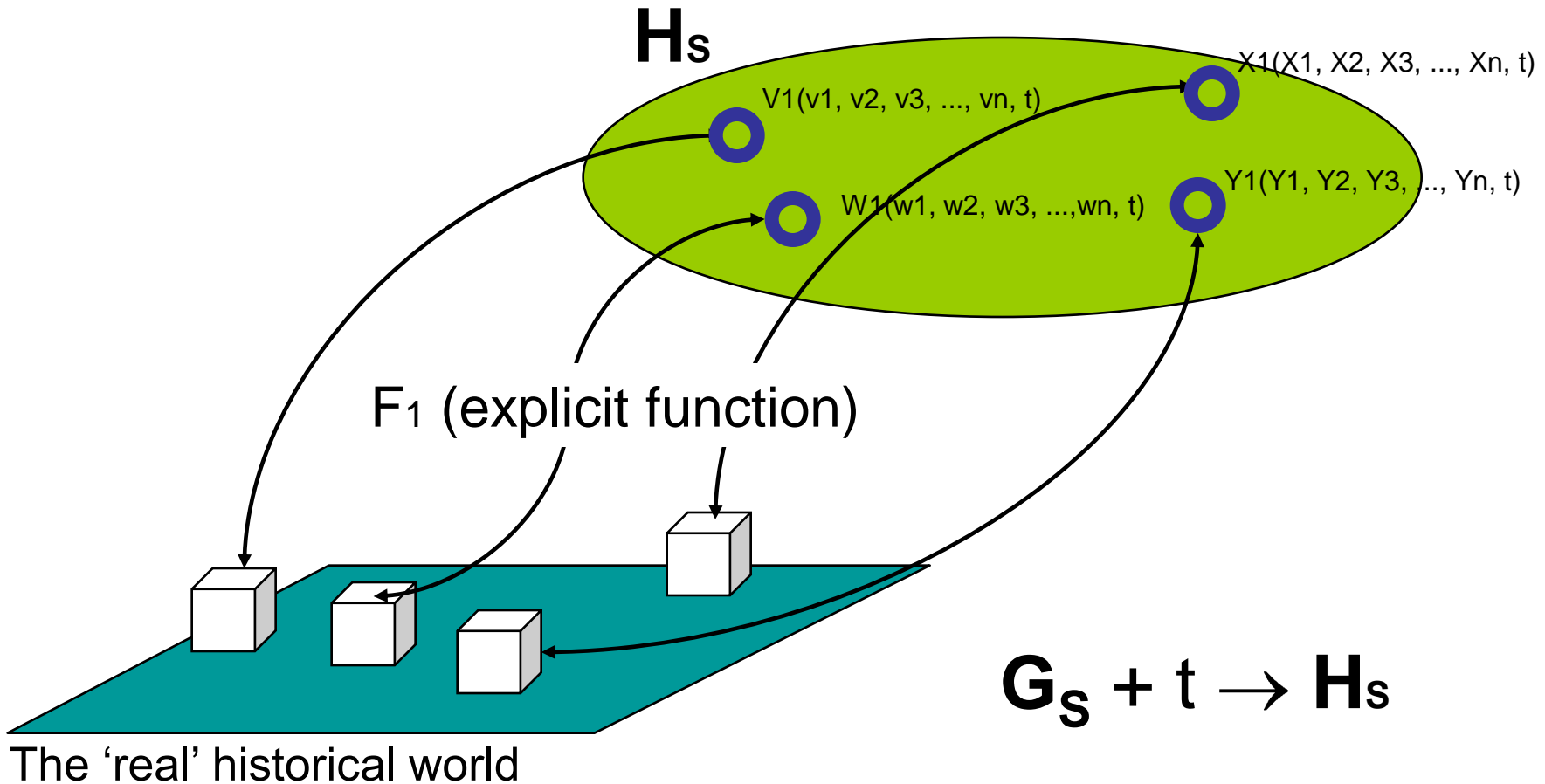
The *geographical space*



The 'real' geographical world

(Tapiador and Casanova, 1999)

The *historical space*



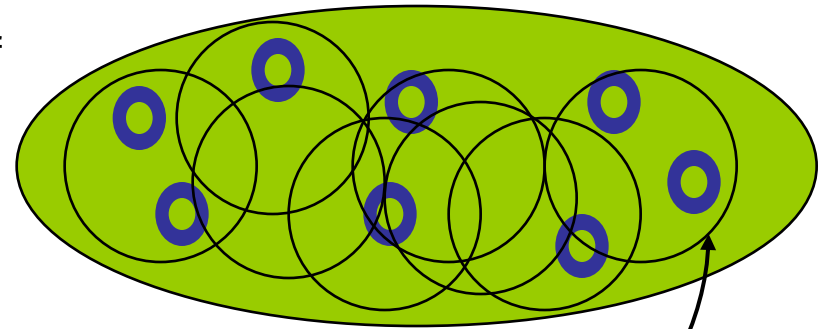
(Tapiador 2007)

The *historical space* H_S is also a topological space

By definition, H_S and A will be a topological space if it is satisfied that:

- 1) $\emptyset \in A$; $H_S \in A$
- 2) If $\{A_i\}_{i \in I}$ is an arbitrary family of sets,
 $A_i \in A \Rightarrow \bigcup_{i \in I} A_i \in A$
- 3) If $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and $A_1, \dots, A_n \in A \Rightarrow A_1 \cap \dots \cap A_n \in A$

which may be demonstrated easily for the Historical Space



Open sets

(Tapiador and Casanova, 1999)

So what?

- If the H_S is a topological space, we can consistently apply all the mathematical theorems we have
- We know now that all our GIS calculations are fully justified in formal terms
- Comprehensive approaches
- We can do calculations which are not accessible to the discourse: (Egenhofer and Franzosa, 1991, IJGIS, 9-intersection model)
- A step forward towards a full Quantitative History

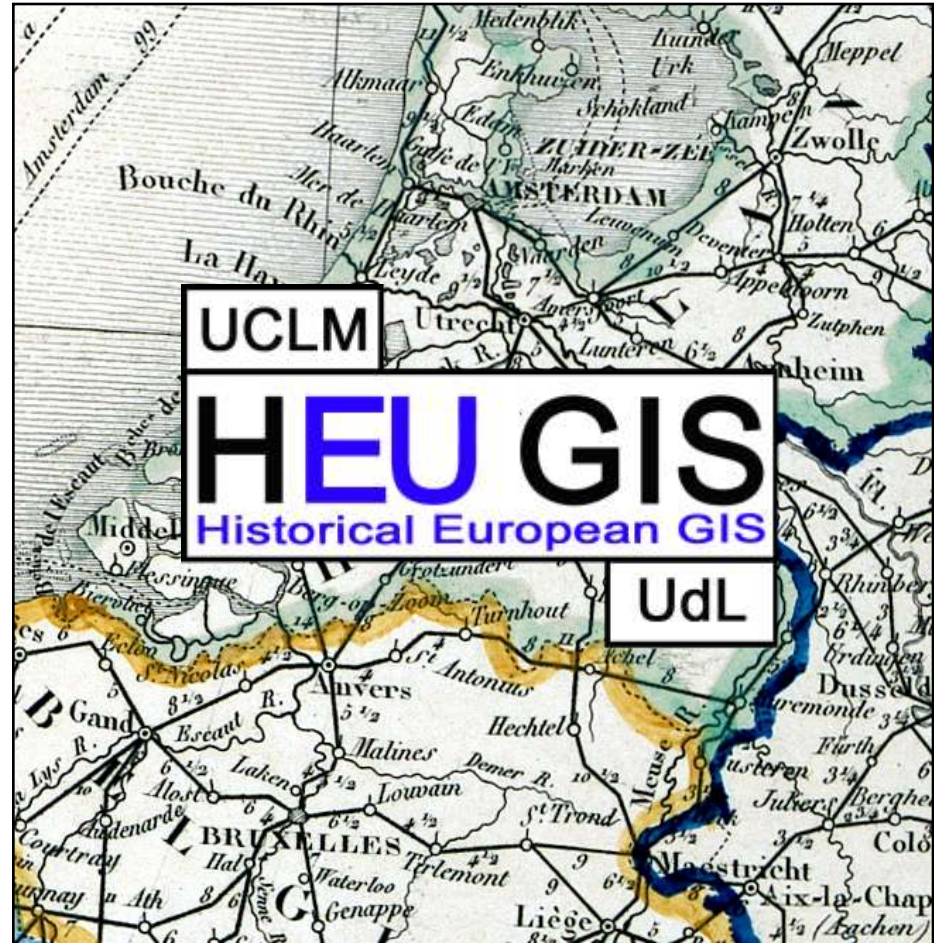
About added value

Real world examples with the Historical European GIS

UdL + UCLM

(Martí-Henneberg & Tapiador)

- Funding from 2001
- European-wide scale
- Software+Data+Analyses



- Approach to problem solving with the HEU GIS (very simplified):
 - Propose a working hypothesis
 - Select the relevant information
 - Create an empirical base (hGIS)
 - Test the hypothesis (hGIS)
 - Constructs such as accessibility are used here
 - GIS allows for 4D analysis
 - Develop the narratives of the process

EXAMPLE 1

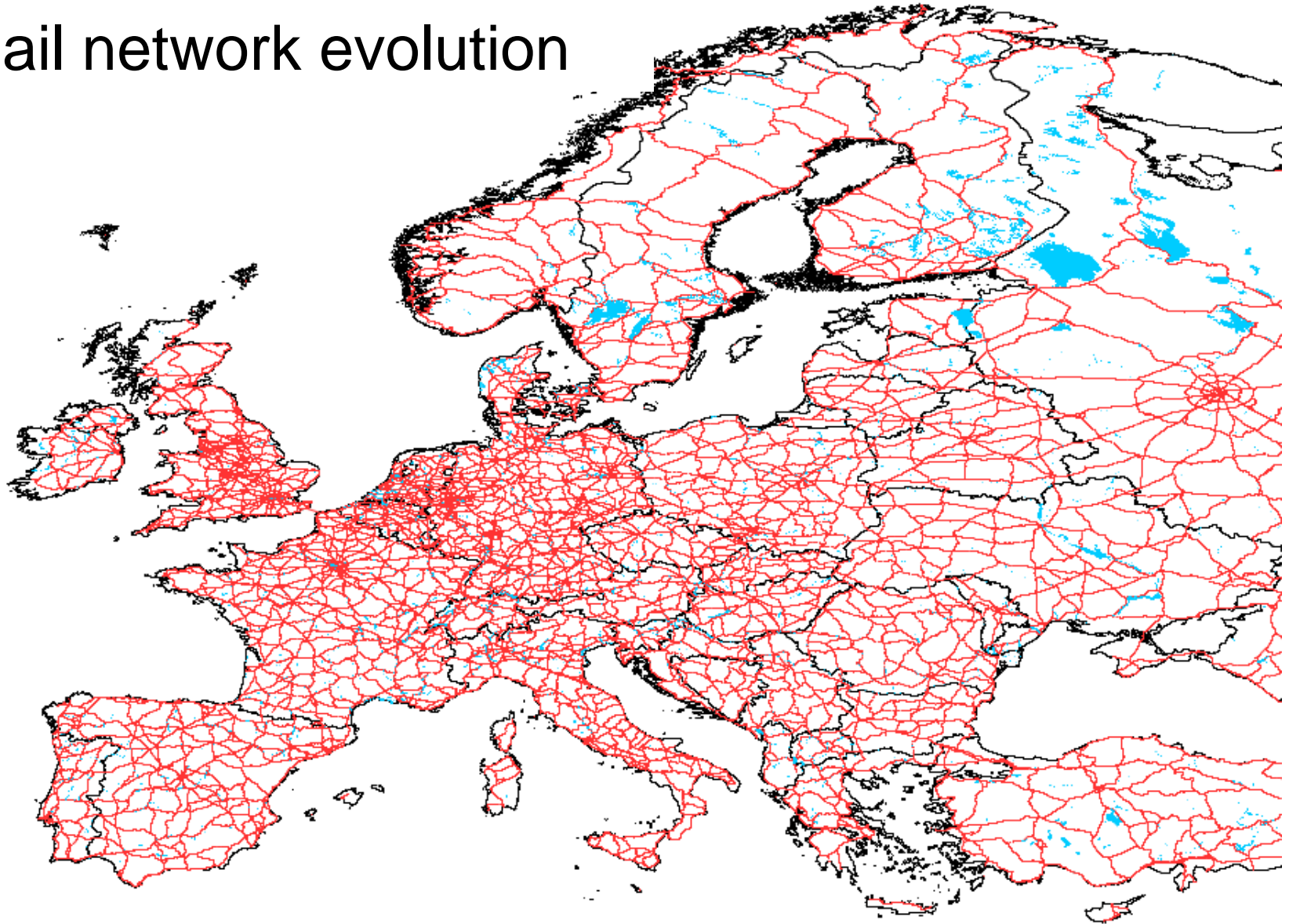
Did infrastructures shape Europe
or
the making of Europe did shape
infrastructures?

Roman Roads

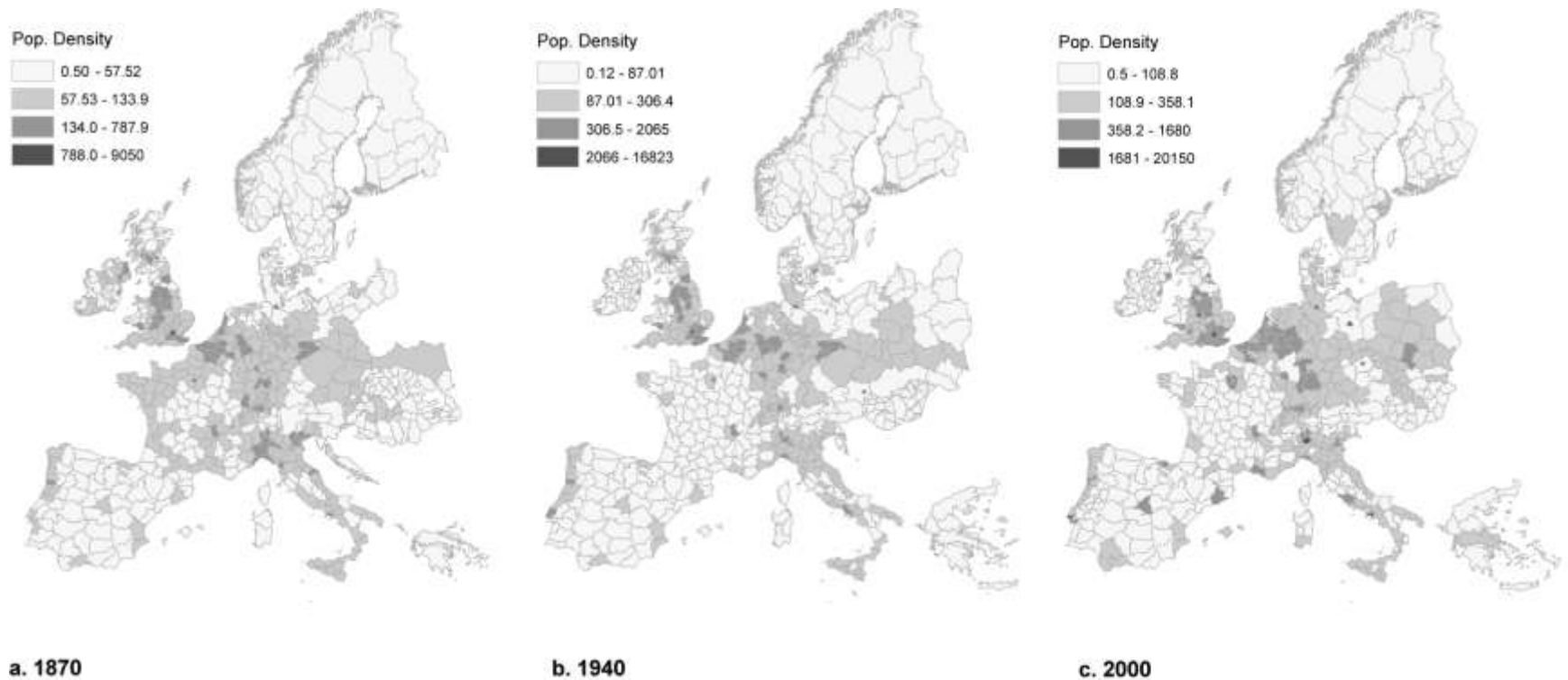


(Tapiador 2006, original data from G. Arias)

Rail network evolution

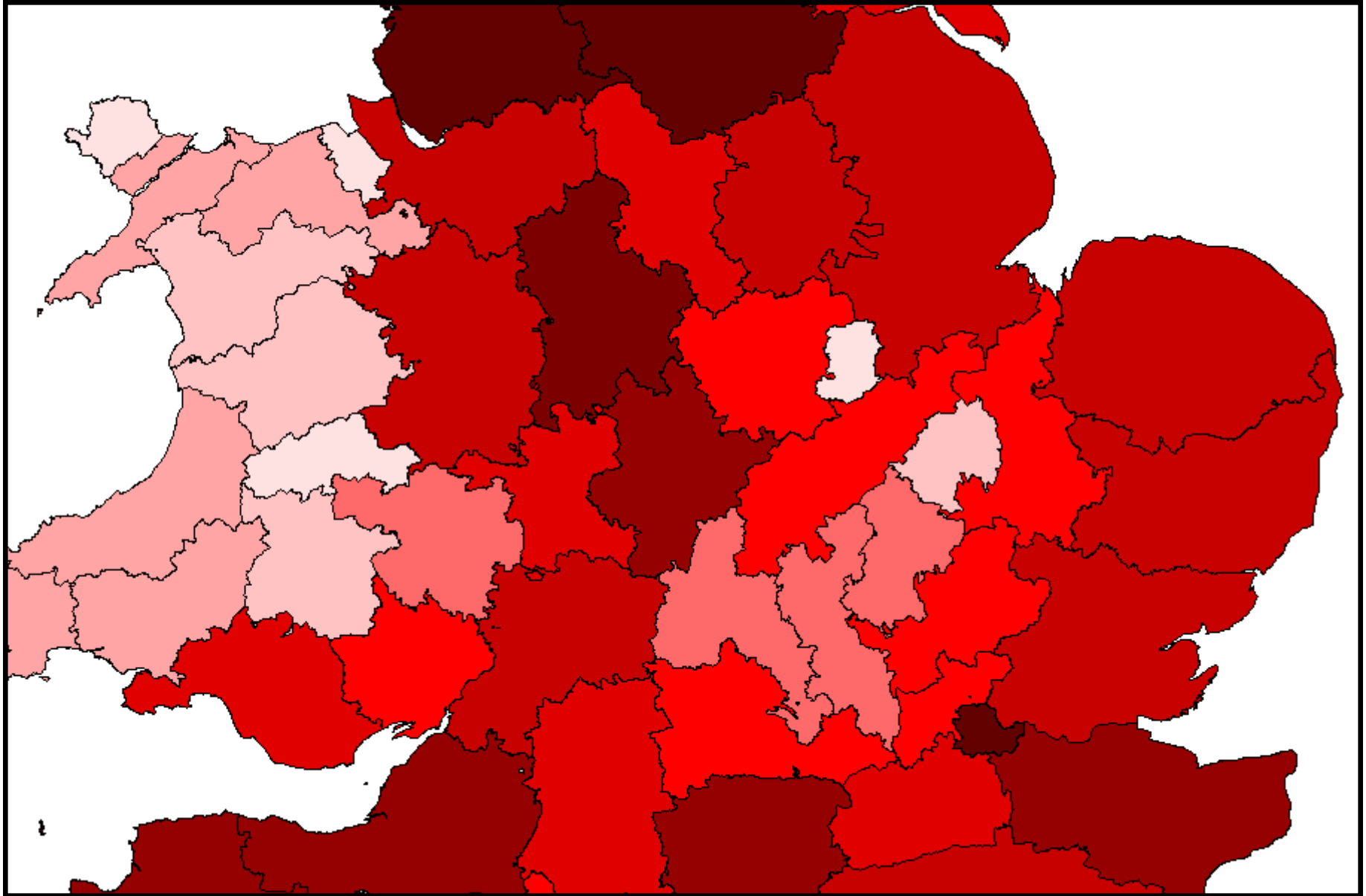


Population (area-interpolated, etc.)

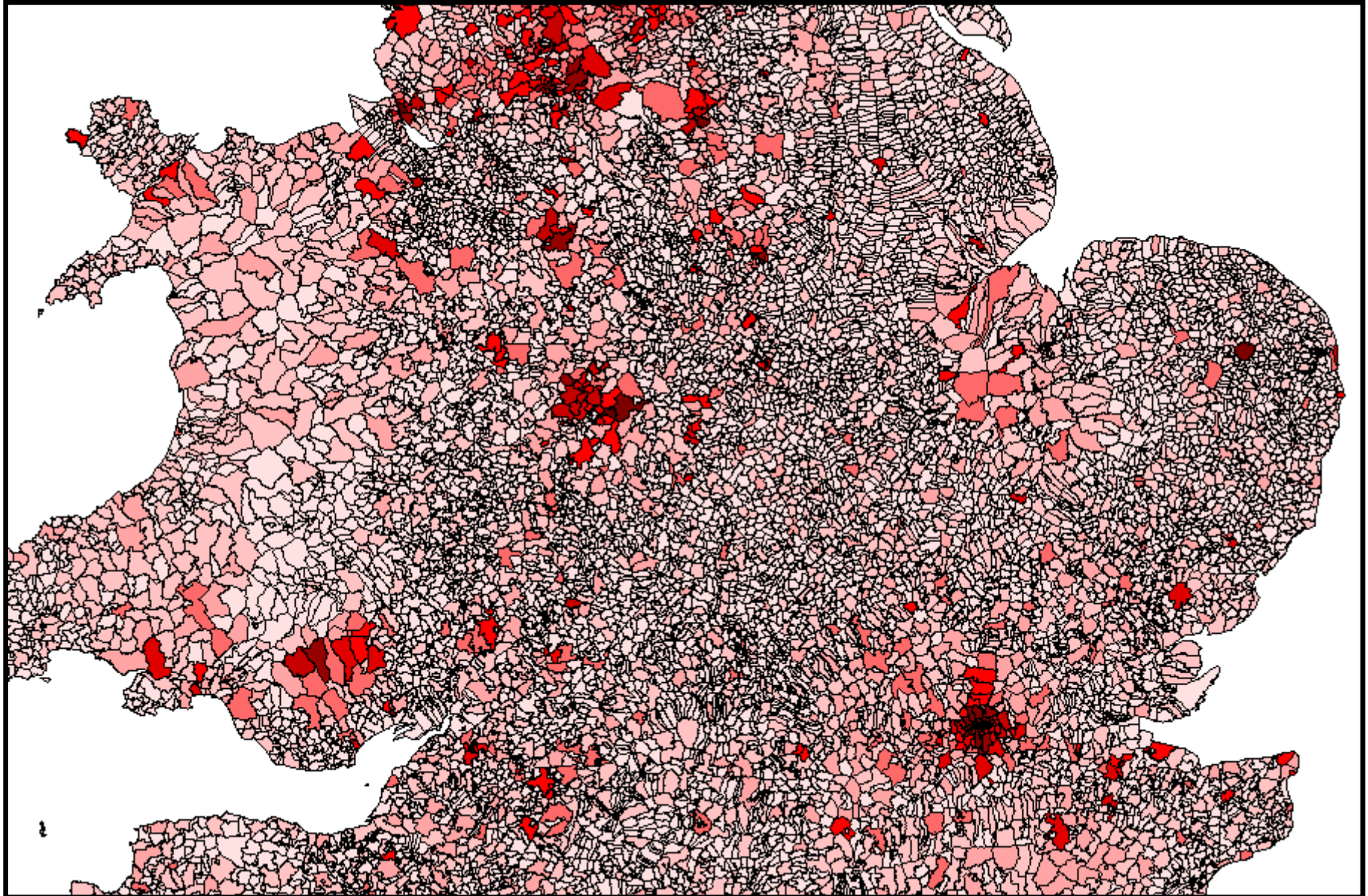


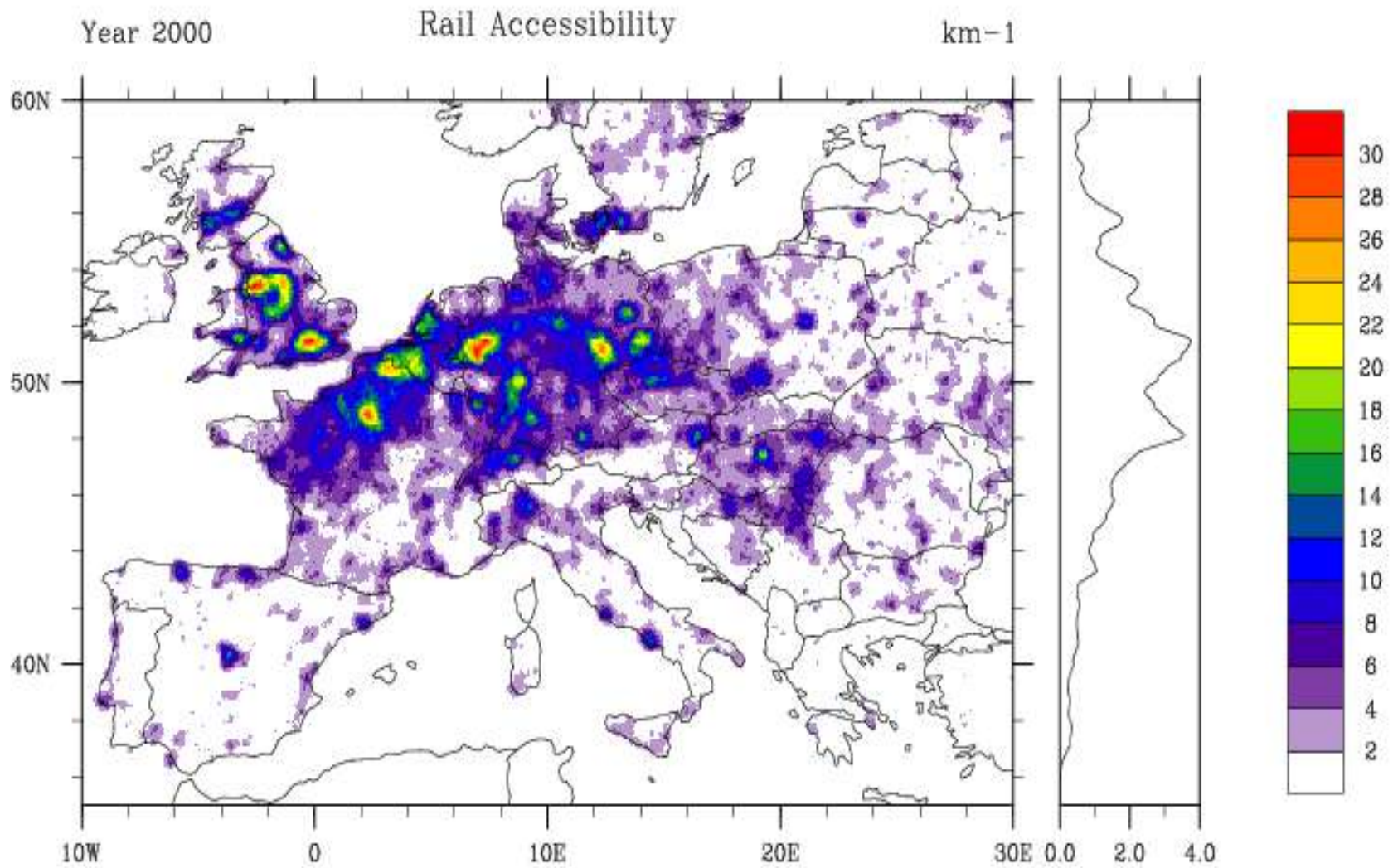
(Gregory, Martí-Henneberg and Tapiador 2007)

1861 Population at registration county level

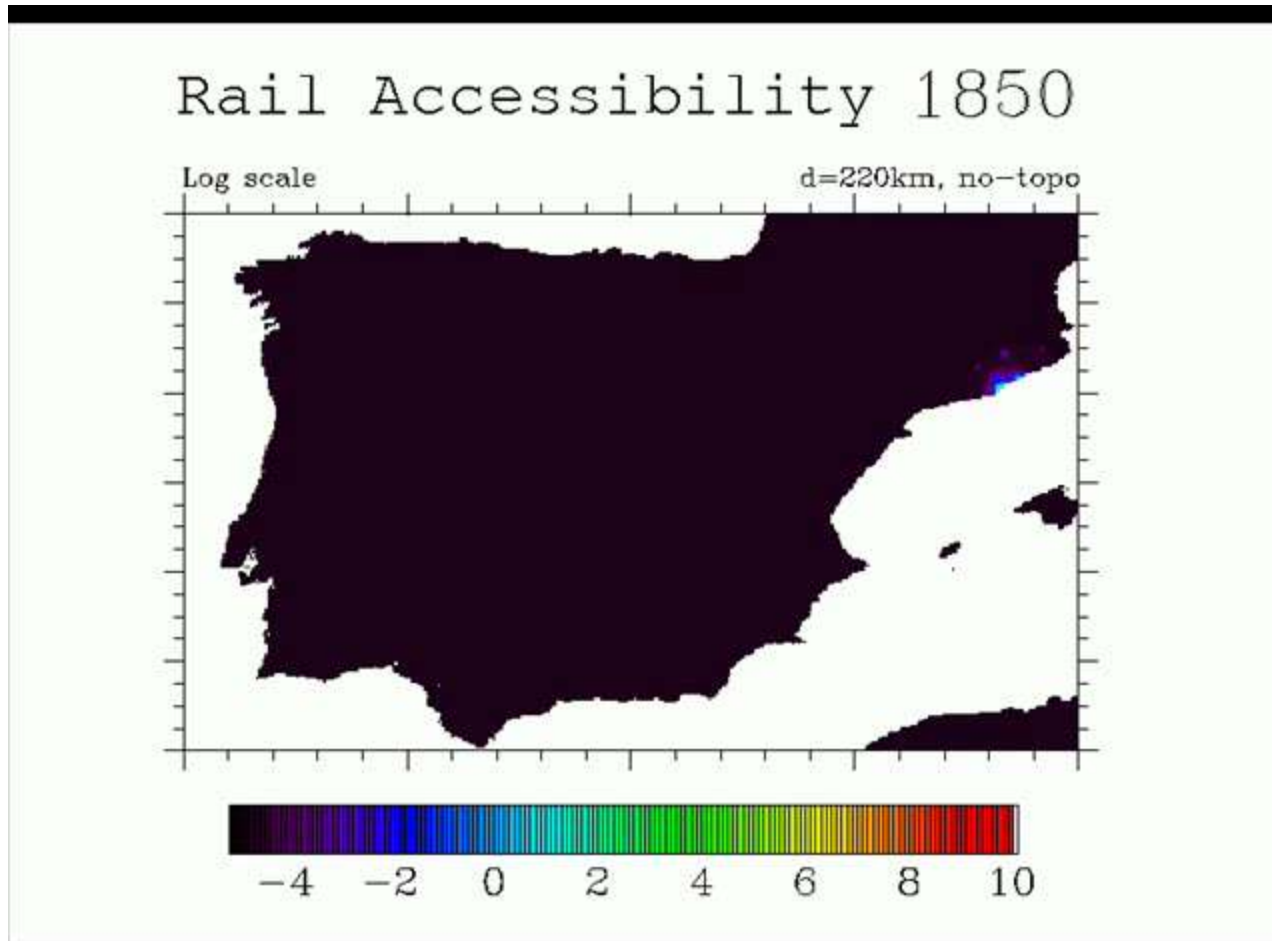


1861 Population at parish level





(Tapiador and Martí-Henneberg 2007, in progress)



(Tapiador, F.J. Rural Analysis and Management, Springer, 2007)

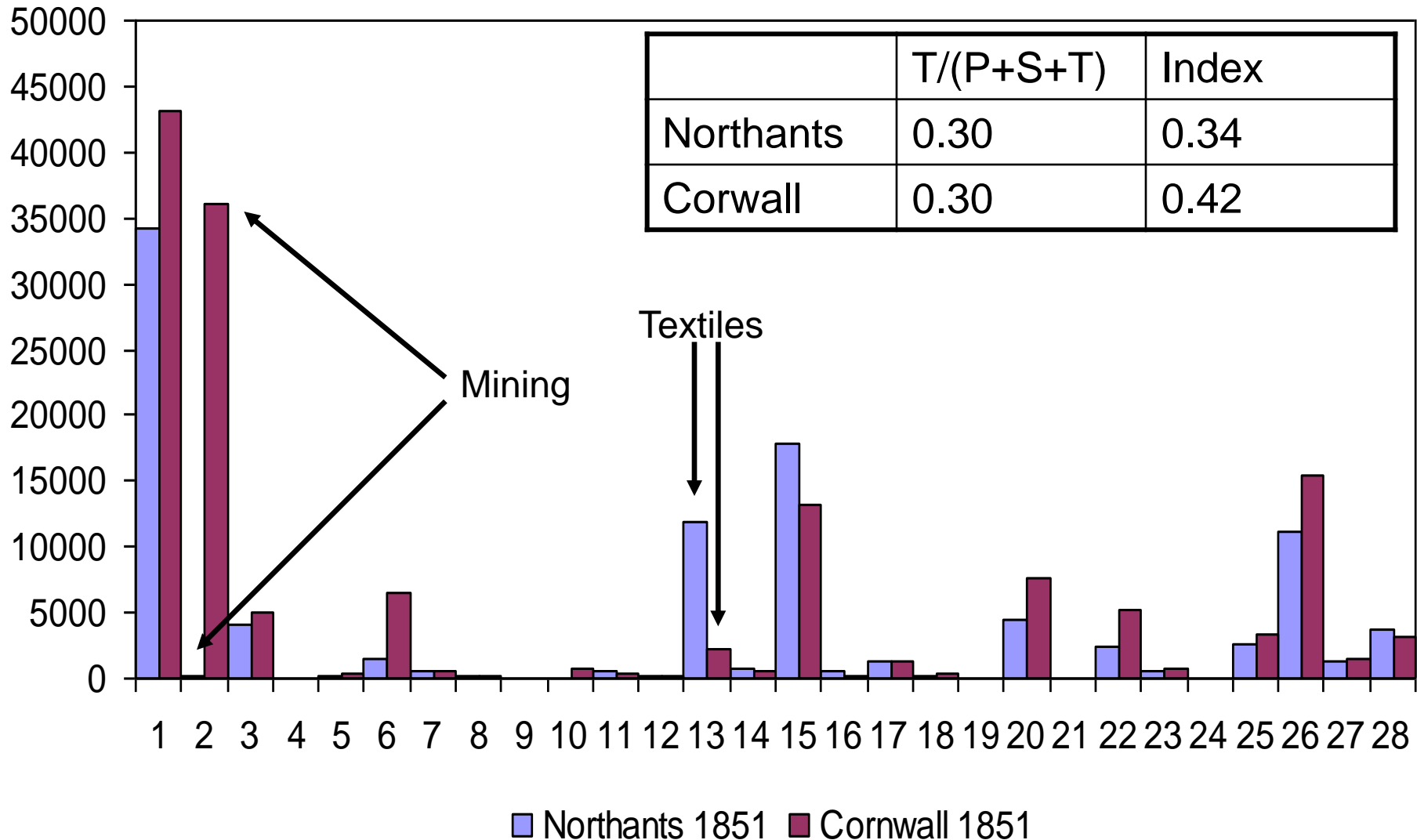
EXAMPLE 2

Analysing the evolution of the occupational structure of England

Data sources

- C.H. Lee. (1979) British Regional Employment Statistics 1841-1971
- H. Southall (2001), 27 occupational classes + not classified

PST or tertiarisation index?



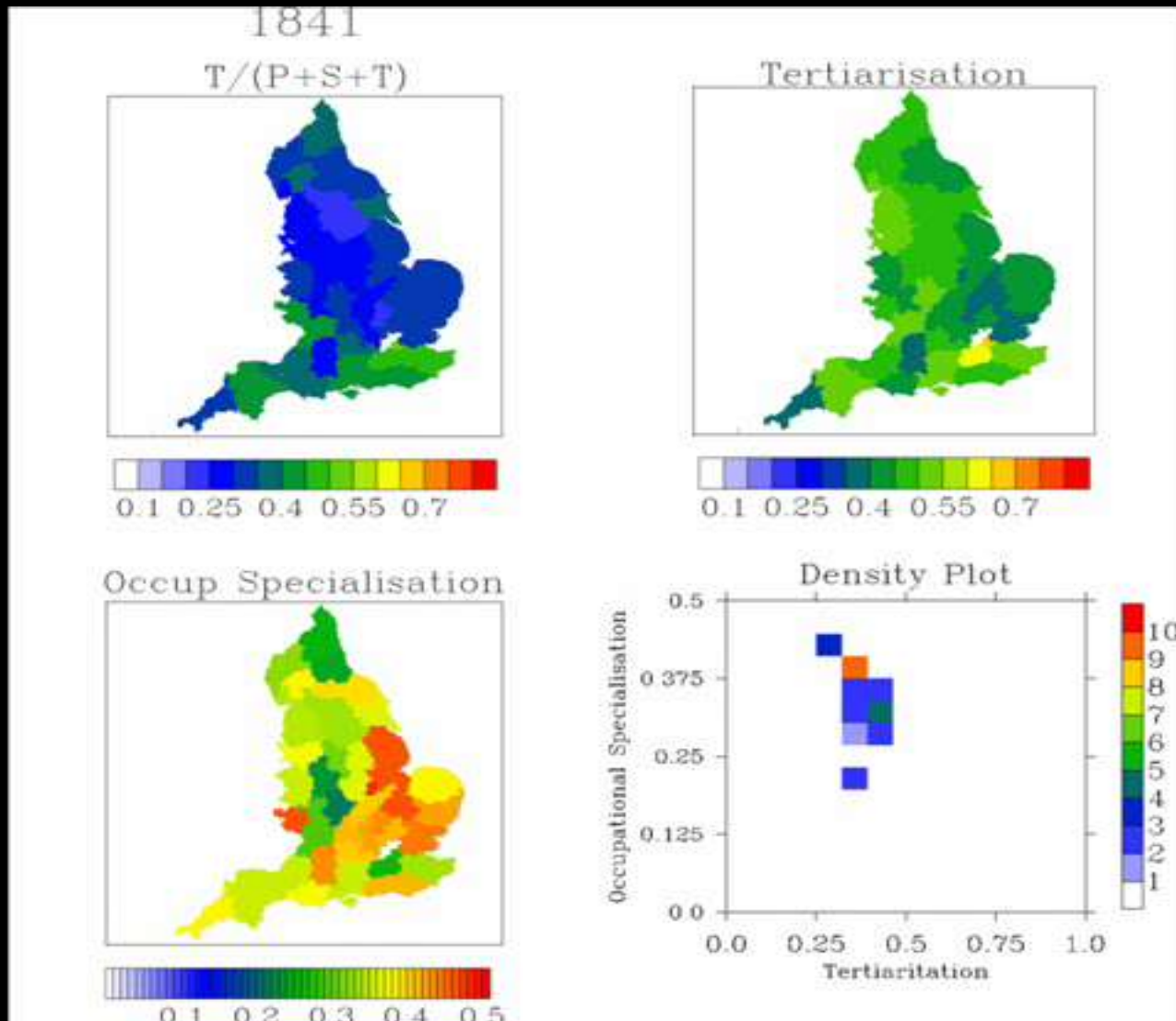
Specialisation index

- This can be measured calculating the informational entropy of the PDF

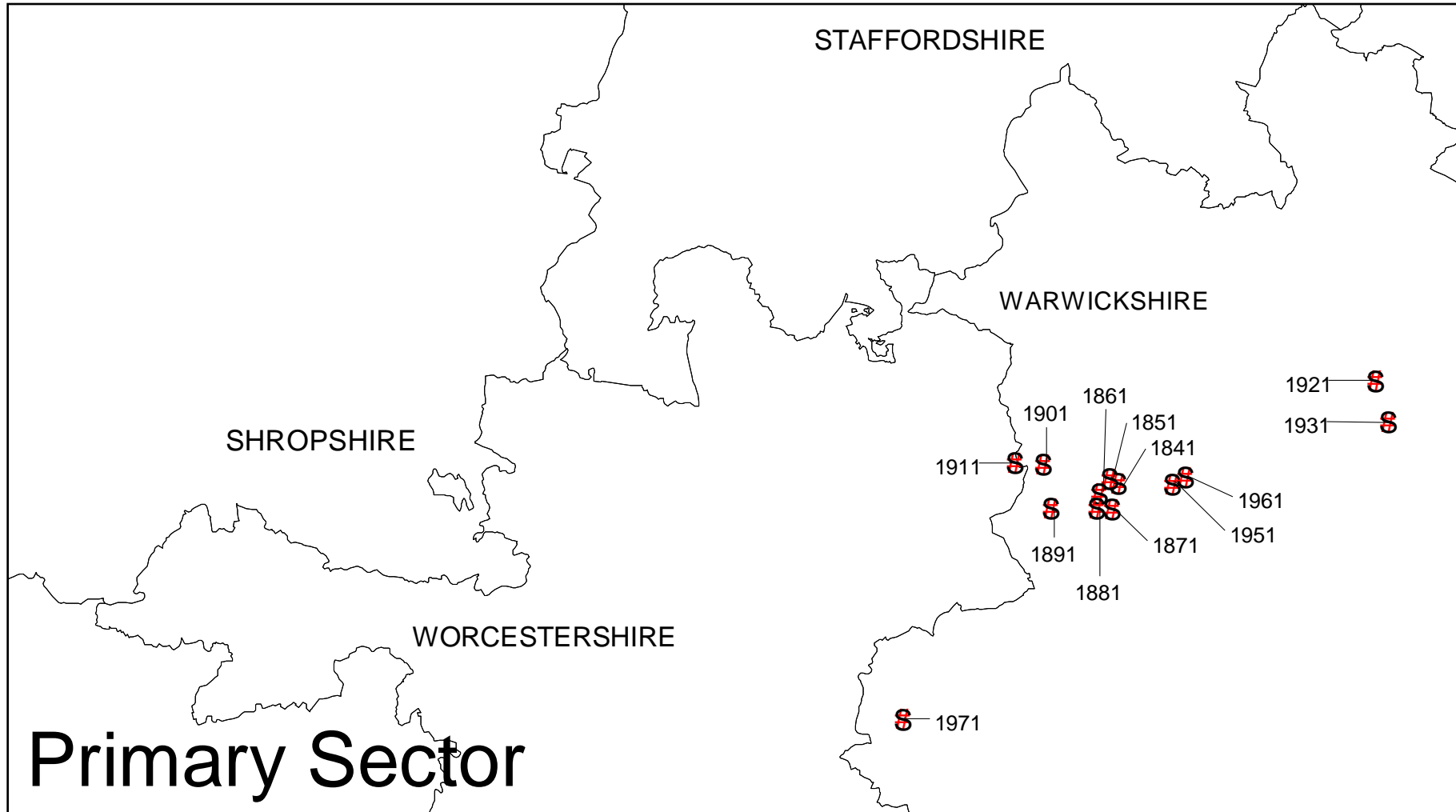
$$I_2 \equiv -k \sum_{x=1}^{27} p(x) \log[p(x)]$$

with $k = \log(1/27)$

- This measures not the ‘width’ around the mean value of the histogram (the variance) but the relative differences between occupations.

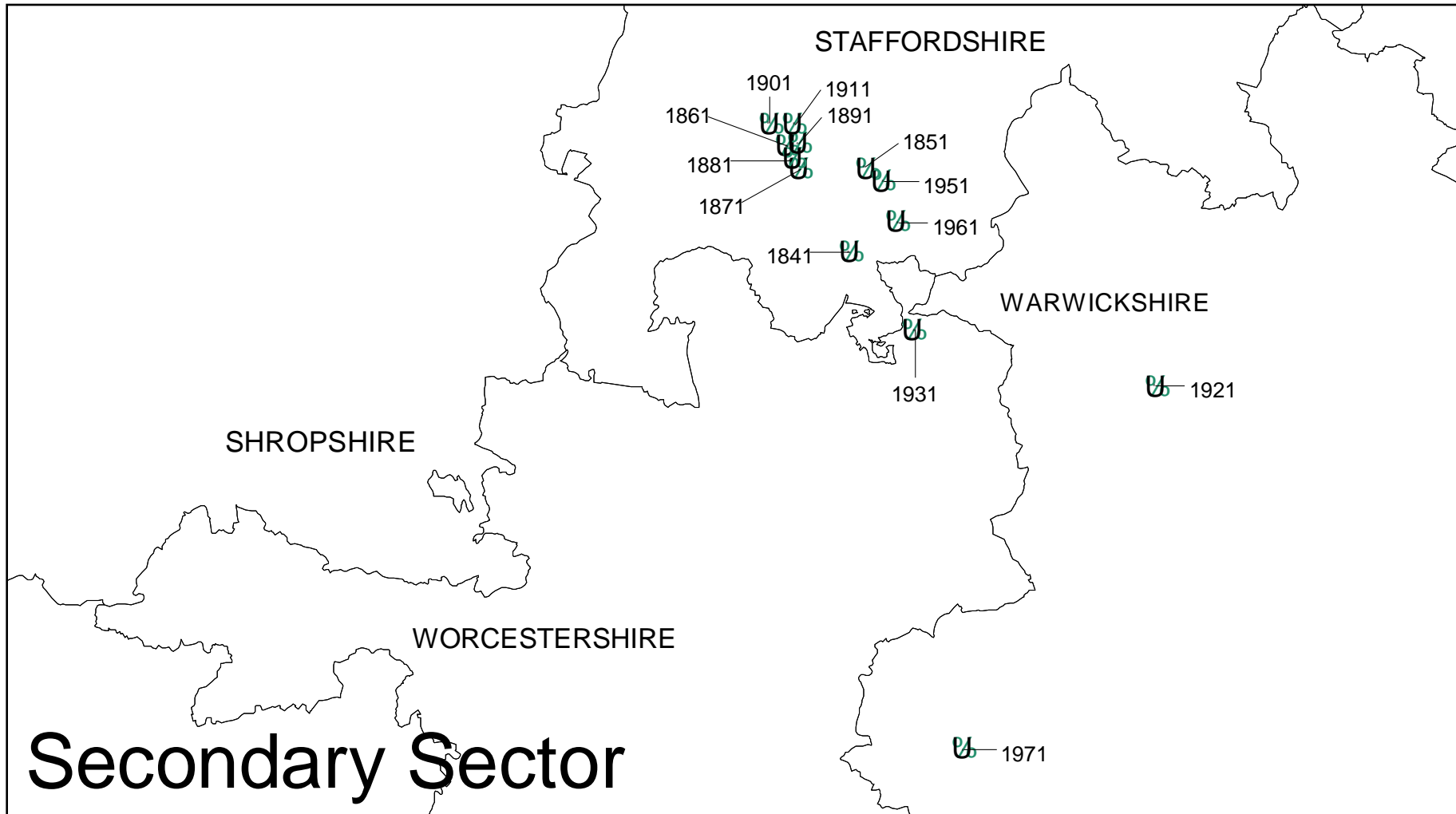


Southall's 1st & 2nd class occupations

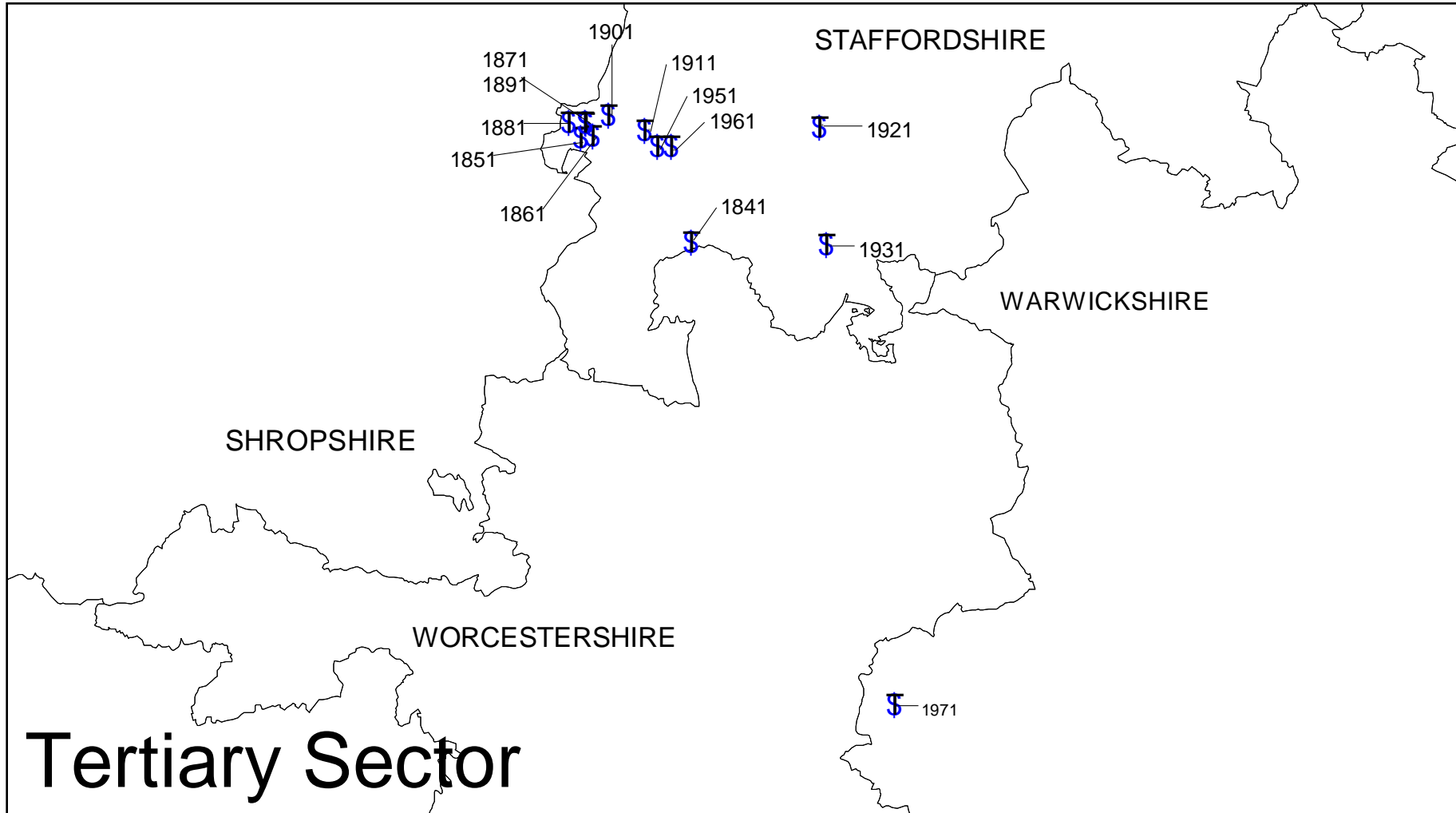


Primary Sector

Southall's 3rd to 19th class occupations



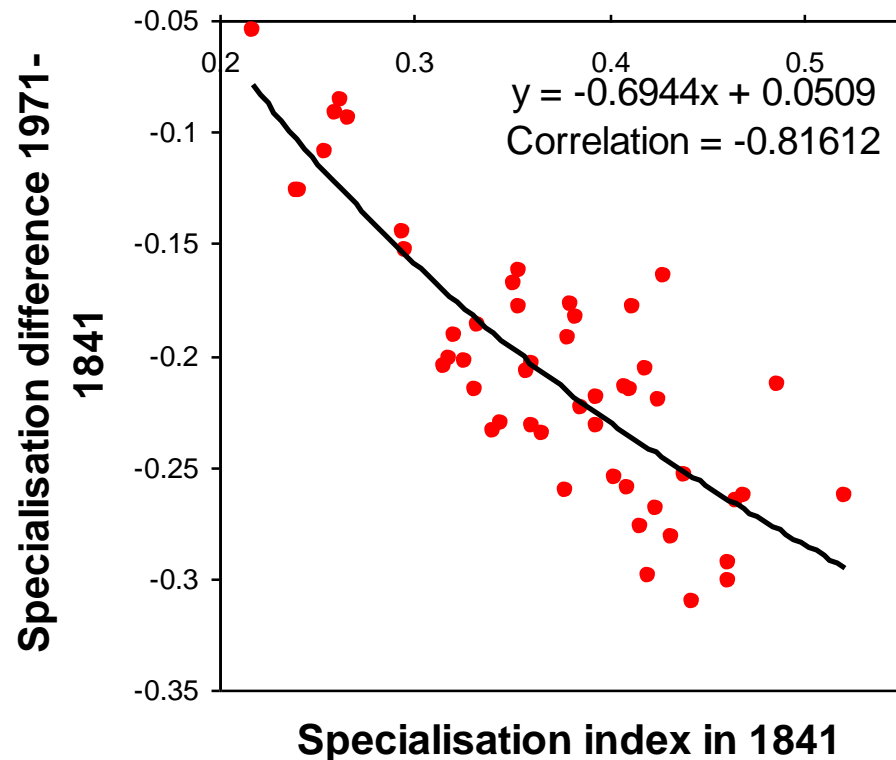
Southall's 20th to 27th class occupations

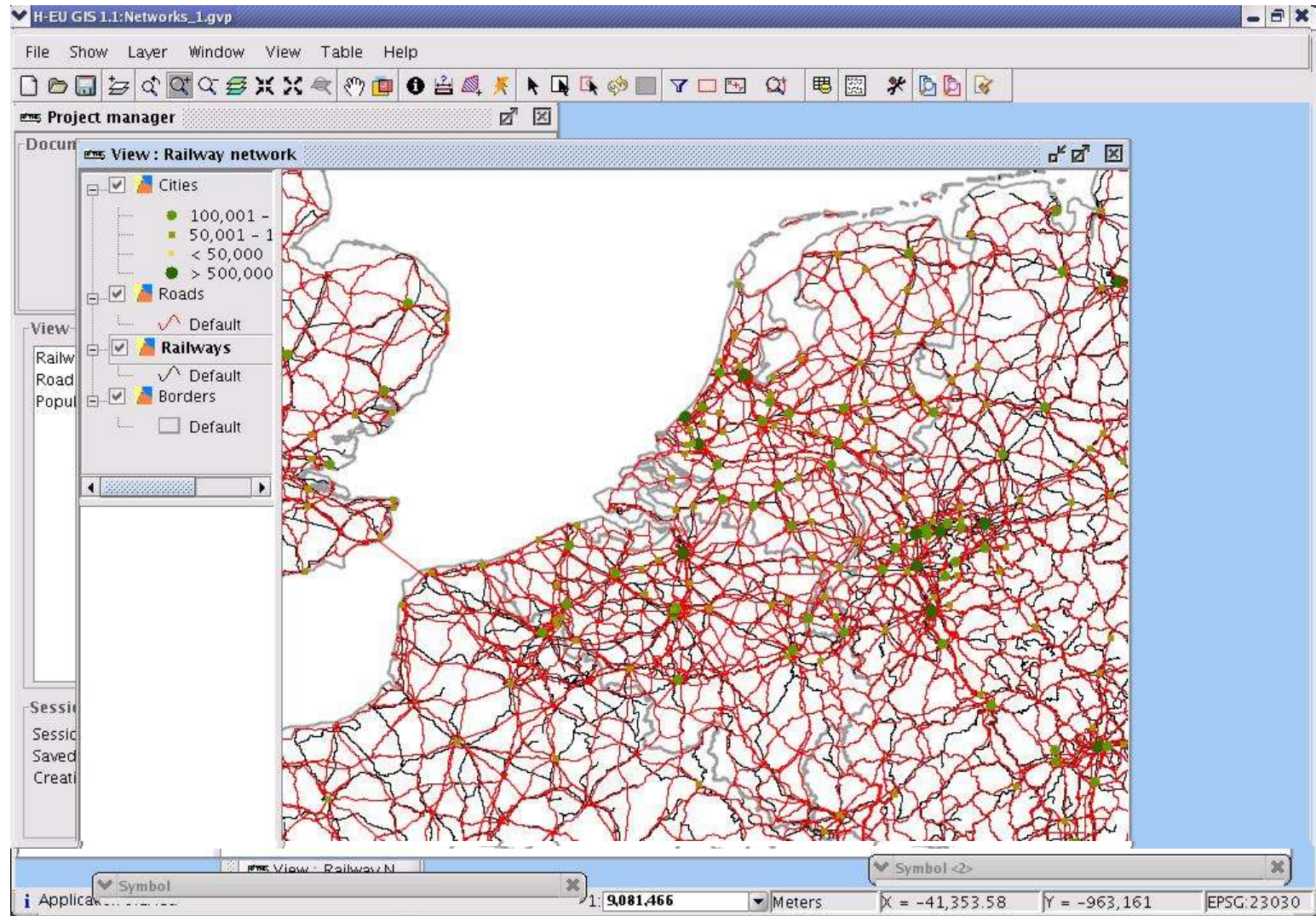


Evidence for the narratives

- Highly specialised areas in 1841 have undergone a quick diversification.
- Poorly specialised areas in 1841 have remain diversified
- Clear global diversification tendency


Relationship Between Specialisation in 1841 and the 1971-1841 Specialisation Gradient





hGIS issues for analyzing the European integration

- Analyze regional convergence patterns: beyond the state-nation approach
- Empirical evidence of well-known processes: surprises may appear
- Finding very complicated, interlinked patterns
- Auditable, public information

- Current efforts into the  **HEU GIS**
Historical European GIS
UdL
 - Infrastructures (Rail, Road and Water)
 - Physical geography layout (Climate, etc.)
 - Population (Demography, occupations, etc.)
 - Economic information (GDP, etc.)

 - Design tailored modelling tools

- What else do we need to analyse the European integration?
 - Voting, political preferences
 - Living standards information
 - Social information (press links)
 - Cultural and scientific evolution

Discussion

- Likely topics:
 - hGIS added value
 - hGIS as Historical Geographical Information Science
 - The role of formalization
 - Are new tools needed for history? (areal interpolation, 4D-interpolation, etc.)
 - hGIS for analysing the European integration
 - Which data are needed?
 - Are we getting those data?
 - How can we coordinate efforts?