Urban Grammar

Measuring (even) better the Urban-Rural continuum

The Future of Cities policy briefs

Dani Arribas-Bel
@darribas

Martin Fleischmann
@martinfleis

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

The Alan Turing

Geographic Data Science
Urban-Rural Continuum
The importance of getting measurement right

- MAUP
- *Urban* and *rural* are “in the eyes of the beholder”
- More granularity, more (not just better) insight
Urban Grammar
Learning an urban grammar from satellite data through AI
Disclaimer

The following is not criticism (but endorsement) of the (principle behind the) Degree of Urbanisation (DEGURBA)
Science Fiction
Spatial Signatures of Great Britain

Geographical Characterisation of British Urban Form and Function using the Spatial Signatures Framework

Spatial signatures characterise space based on form and function in a way designed to understand urban environments. This data product, part of the Urban Grammar project, contains a typology of spatial signatures in Great Britain. Each type has a distinct character capturing what the place looks like (form) and how it is used (function).

The data product contains bespoke Signature geometry with signature type, summary of input variables per each geometry and per each type, interpolation of signature types to OA and LSOA geometry and short pen portraits for the typology, shorthand descriptions of the characteristics of each signature type.

The interactive map showing the typology is available at [https://urbangrammar.org.uk/great-britains](https://urbangrammar.org.uk/great-britains). More details about the project can be found at the project website [https://urbangrammar.org.uk](https://urbangrammar.org.uk).
Enclosed Tessellation

Embedding *form & function*

Spatial Signatures