Human mobility data for urban analytics

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The study of human mobility is vital for understanding expansion processes in urban areas, the spatial distribution of amenities and the effective planning of transportation services and networks. The development of GPS trackers and other portable or wearable devices equipped with sensors that capture movement data in real-time and at detailed spatial and temporal scales has transformed our ability to collect mobility data. However, even though these devices can record an individual's movement very accurately, and potentially can be used to identify individuals, they do not record essential characteristics of travel behaviour.

In this seminar, I will talk about contextually enhancing raw movement trajectories to uncover these mobility characteristics. Furthermore, I will give multiple examples where mobility data can be used to support the understanding of urban areas.

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Katarzyna Sila-Nowicka is currently a senior lecturer (Associate Professor) in GIScience at the University of Auckland where she has been working since 2019. Prior to that she worked for four years as a Research Associate in Urban Methods, Modelling and Simulations in the ESRC-funded Urban Big Data Centre (UBDC) at the University of Glasgow, UK. She holds a PhD in Geoinformatics from the University of St Andrews, UK.

Her area of expertise is GIScience and urban analytics where her research interests mainly involve developing spatiotemporal analytics, modelling techniques to study and understand movement and protect privacy of movement data.

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