

SCIENTIFIC ARTICLES

Authors: Martin ERLEBACH, Marián HALÁS, Jan DANIEL, Pavel KLAPKA

Title: Is there congruence in the spatial patterns of regions derived from scalar and vector geographical information?

pp. 2-14

Abstract: Selected traits of the spatial organisation of a geographical environment which stem from two types of human behaviour (locational and interactive) are examined in this paper. An attempt is made to find and account for similarities in the spatial patterns of scalar and vector geographical data. In doing so, the paper analyses a core-periphery dichotomy, based on socio-economic information, and travel-to-work patterns. The paper uses the concept of a region as an integrating and focusing framework for the study. Formal regions (peripheral areas) are defined through the application of principal components analysis and cluster analysis; functional regions are defined by a standard rule-based regionalisation algorithm. The territory of the Czech Republic is used as an area for testing the basic hypotheses. The results show that there is some form of interrelationship and complementarity between the spatial distribution of scalar data and vector data, i.e. between spatial structure and spatial interaction patterns, which together form the spatial organisation of a geographical environment.

Article history: Received 5 April 2017, Accepted 20 February 2019, Published 31 March 2019

Author: Burak BEYHAN

Title: The delimitation of planning regions on the basis of functional regions: An algorithm and its implementation in Turkey

pp. 15-30

Abstract: The proper delimitation of planning regions is a critical issue in the success of regional plans, and it constitutes a rich domain of research. In this paper, it is argued that planning regions should be based on functional regions – if the main intention is to increase the driving power of the people behind the planning process. Within this context, the aims of this paper are twofold: (1) to develop an algorithm (FRGIS) for the delimitation of planning regions on the bases of functional regions, and to implement it by using the scripting facilities available in Free and Open Source Software for Geographic Information Systems (GIS); and (2) to delimit the planning regions in Turkey by using FRGIS and the script developed for this purpose, by employing the commuting flows occurring between districts in the case country (Turkey) in 2010. The results show that FRGIS is successful in terms of the formation of spatially-balanced regions having higher levels of self-containment compared to those of existing regions. Nevertheless, it is also evident from this study that a combination of the nomothetic and ideographic methods of science is inevitable if functional regions are to be employed as planning regions.

Article history: Received 12 March 2018, Accepted 20 December 2018, Published 31 March 2019

Authors: Mateusz SMOLARSKI, Wojciech JURKOWSKI, Andrzej RACZYK

Title: Bus and train connections between towns in Lower Silesia under different operational models: Competition or complementarity?

pp. 31-40

Abstract: Relationships between the activities of bus carriers and rail passenger traffic (and the railway offer) are examined in this article. The study was carried out in peripheral areas located at the Polish and Czech borderlands in Lower Silesia province. High quality rail transport generally increases the demand for transport services. Therefore, the proper development of transport offer plays a key role in the functioning of public transport systems, the backbone of which is rail transport. The study also shows that under conditions of transport market deregulation, bus carriers have developed a competitive network which is not complementary to rail transport. As a consequence, the deregulation of the transport market has increased the risk of transport exclusion.

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Authors: Bogdan WŁODARCZYK, Michał DUDA

Title: The role of the novel in shaping a city's image and its choice as a tourist destination: The case of Łódź

pp. 41-53

Abstract: Following in the footsteps of one's favourite literary characters has become a significant part of tourism. It remains unknown, however, how many readers decide to visit the places described in a book, or what factors determine their decision to do so. This issue was analysed using the example of Łódź, the third largest city in Poland, which struggles with a negative image. In contrast to the research on literary tourism conducted so far, a questionnaire was completed by readers and not by tourists visiting the places described. The readers remembered many real locations and had become familiar with the city's topography. Some declared their reluctance to accept its stereotypically 'bad' image, while others were fascinated with its 'unique atmosphere'. To many the city has become more familiar and a significant number of readers have changed their perception of it as a result. By means of linear modelling, several factors were established which encouraged readers to visit the city for tourism purposes. These factors included the size of the reader's home location, changes of opinion, and the first impression the book made. This research project clearly points to the significant role of the novel in creating images of the places it depicts.

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SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION

Authors: Radim BLAHETA, Bryn GREER-WOOTTEN, Bohumil FRANTÁL

Title: Prestigious honour for the discipline of Geography: The Karel Engliš Honorary Medal presentation to Professor Bryn Greer-Wootten

pp. 54-60

Abstract: This communication concerns the prestigious award - the Karel Engliš Honorary Medal for Merit in the Social and Economic Sciences - that Bryn Greer-Wootten, Professor Emeritus at York University in Toronto and the Editor-in-Chief of the Moravian Geographical Reports (MGR), received from the Czech Academy of Sciences in 2018. The article contains the most important and interesting points from the Laudation by Professor Radim Blaheta (Chair of the Institute of Geonics' Institutional Board and the previous Director of the Institute), the Response by Professor Greer-Wootten, and the Closing Speech by Bohumil Frantál (Executive Editor of MGR), which were presented during the award ceremony on August 28, 2018 at the historic Löw-Beer Villa in Brno, Czech Republic.

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