





#### V Jornadas Internacionales Ciudades Creativas Espacio público y cultura en acción

#### La ciudad: espacio frontera de nuestra modernidad Saskia Sassen

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#### The Global Street

A space for making by those who lack access to formal instruments for making.

 -making
 presence/estamospresentes
 -no explicit (conventional, standard)
 objective

Urban capabilities –arising out of a mix of people and space





#### DE-URBANIZING THE CITY

- New types of powerful technologies that can de-urbanize cities...
- Not certain city's capabilities can talk back here

#### MAP OF GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SURVEILLANCE AGENCIES, USA



Source: Washington Post. 2010. "Top Secret America," Interactive Maps. *Washington Post*, July 2010. http://projects.washingtonpost.com/top-secret-america/map/

#### Surveillance regimes

- 1,271 government organizations and 1,931 private companies work on programs related to counterterrorism, homeland security and intelligence in about 10,000 locations across the US

 An estimated 854,000 people – nearly 1.5 times as many people as live in Washington, D.C. – hold top-secret security clearances  Of the estimated 265,000 private companies doing intelligence work, 1,931 do work at the top-secret level.

 Out of 854,000 people with top-secret clearance, the Post estimates that 265,000 are private contractors

#### Expulsions: Foreclosures

- 2006 : 1.2 million foreclosures, up 42% from 2005. This is: One in every 92 U.S. households
- 2007: 2.2 millionforecls, up 75% from o6
- 2008: 3.1 million, up 81% from 07
- 2009: 3.9 million (or 1 in 45 US hholds)
- (From 2007 to 2009: 120% increase in forecls)
- 2010: 2.9 mill forecls. (2006-2010: total 14.2 mil)
- Source: RealtyTrac 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010; Blomquist 2011

#### Super-Prime Housing Market

 Monaco 18.9 million \$ Russian, CIS, UK, Italian, Scandinavian, Swiss London 15.9 million\$ Russian, French, South African, Italian, Indian, UAE, Greek, Australian, US, Canadian New York City 10 million\$ UK, French, Italian, Spanish, Mainland Chinese, Singaporean, Australian, Brazilian, Argentine, Canadian

#### more

 Dubai \$8.0m
 African (Kenyan, Somali, Tanzanian), Saudi Arabian, Russian, Indian, Iranian
 Paris 8.8 million\$
 Russian, CIS, Middle Eastern, Italian, French, Benelux, German, UK, US
 Moscow\$7.8m CIS

#### More

-Singapore 8.3 ms Indonesian, Mainland Chinese, Malaysian, Indian, Australian, UK -Shanghai 6.4 million \$ Hong Kong, Taiwanese, US, Canadian, Korean, Singaporean, Australian, Japanese, Malaysian, German, French - Hong Kong 15.4 m\$ **Mainland Chinese** 

# Intelligent Cities: Risk of technical obsolescence

- Excessively 'closed' technical systems that involve people (example Intelligent Cities) are at high risk of becoming obsolete.
- They do not register the way users might keep diverging from what the engineer had in mind.

The more widespread the use of intelligent systems in a city, the more the city itself is at risk of becoming obsolete.

# DEAD CITIES



#### DEAD Cities: Advanced stage



#### Incomplete and complex

 Historically, it is the mix of incompleteness and complexity of major cities that has enabled them to outlive enterprises, kingdoms, and nation-states.

#### Urbanizing Technology

- The specific technical capabilities of interactive technologies deliver their utilities through complex ecologies.
- These ecologies include more than just the technical:
- They also include the logics of users
- And these can diverge significantly from the engineer's logic.

#### The City as Hacker

Of spaces

- Of technologies
- Of individual's self-interest: the capacity of making a collective good even if the individuals involved are selfish and nasty.
- Of excessively rigid technological systems

#### The city tells us what works

- The city is one window into understanding successful technological innovations for urban systems and urban life
- The city as a powerful "hacker" of technologies: it alters the original design, adjusts it to urban users.

#### The City: Knowledge Partner

- The city is a generous partner in this work:
- it is a lens onto larger realities

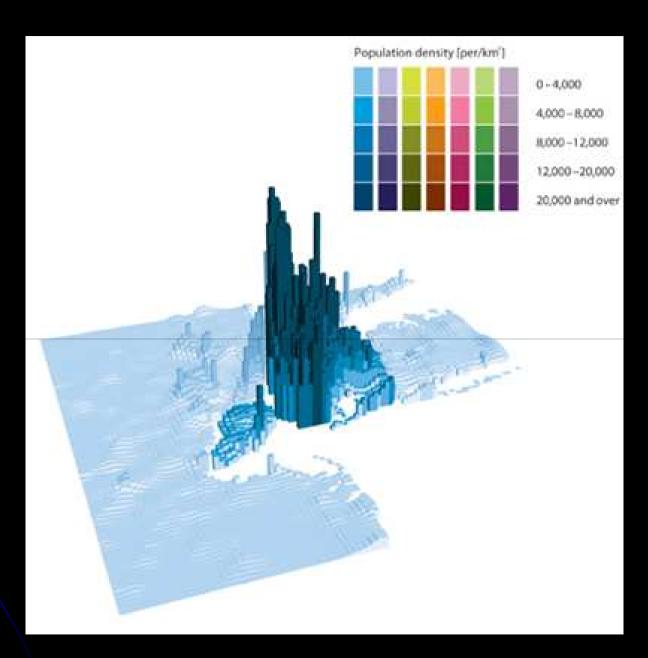
- Many non-urban processes and organizations now have an urban moment in their trajectories.
- This type of analysis keeps us from only seeing as technologists/engineers.

### Density - Mumbai

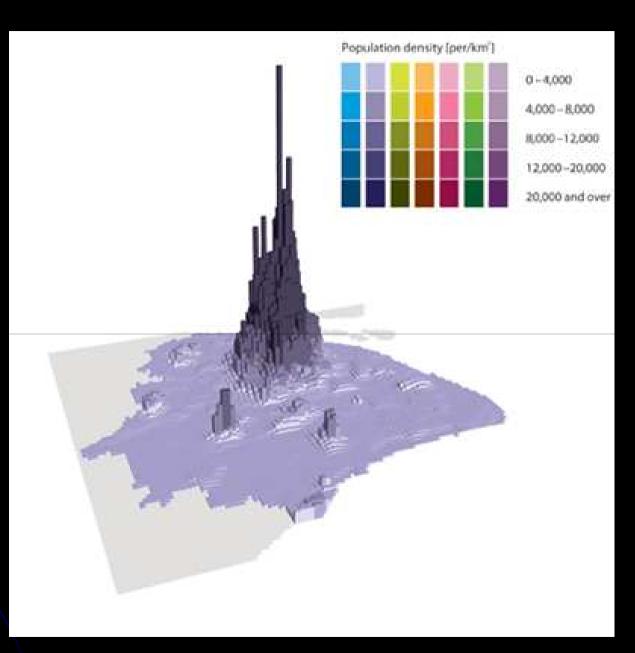
Population density [per/km]



# Density - NYC



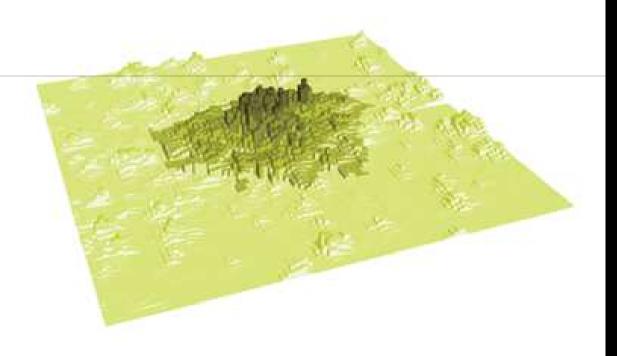
### Density - Shanghai





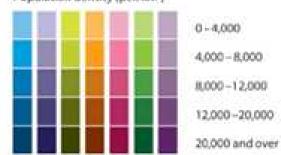
Population density [per/km]



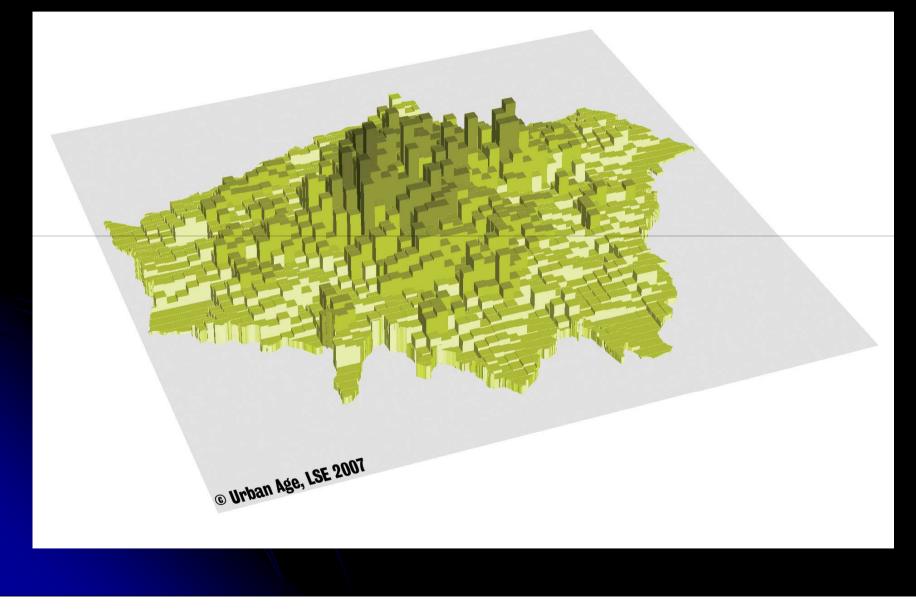


### Density - Mexico City

Population density [per/km]



# London (Population)



# London (Workplace)

