



University College London
University College London

Session 3: Big Data, Network Data, Measuring Disruption in the 24 Hour City

Michael Batty

<http://www.spatialcomplexity.info/>

July 7, 2018



Let me point you at www.spatialcomplexity.info
where I have now added the material under the
menu item

Shanghai

There you will find

- **The Journal Publication: Big Data and the City The**
- **Shanghai Smart Cities Lecture 1, 2, 3, and 4**

Real-Time Streaming: The Oyster Card Data Set

- Tap at **start** and **end** of train journeys
- Tap at **start only** on buses
- Accepted at 695 Underground and rail stations, and on thousands of buses
- **Many Variants of the Data Sets**
- **991 million** Oyster Card taps over Summer 2012 – this is big data
- Quality of Data
- What Can We Use It For
- Missing Data and Noise





Tube, Overground and National Rail Networks in London
where Oyster cards can be used

OYSTER GIVES UP PEARLS

How studying millions of Oyster Card journeys reveals London's 'polycentres'



Researchers from UCL have analysed millions of Oyster Card journeys in a bid to understand how, why and where we travel in London.


Professor Michael Batty (UCL Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis) and Dr Soong Kang (UCL Management Science and Innovation) applied the techniques of statistical physics to their mountain of raw data.

The pair joined forces with a computational social scientist and a physicist, both based in Paris, to explore patterns of commuting by tube into central London.



They used Transport for London's database of 11 million records taken over one week from the Oyster Card electronic ticketing system.


Latest news from UCL Engineering

 New web privacy system could revolutionise the safety of surfing

UCL host Google Girls Coding Programme with Generating Genius and University of West Indies

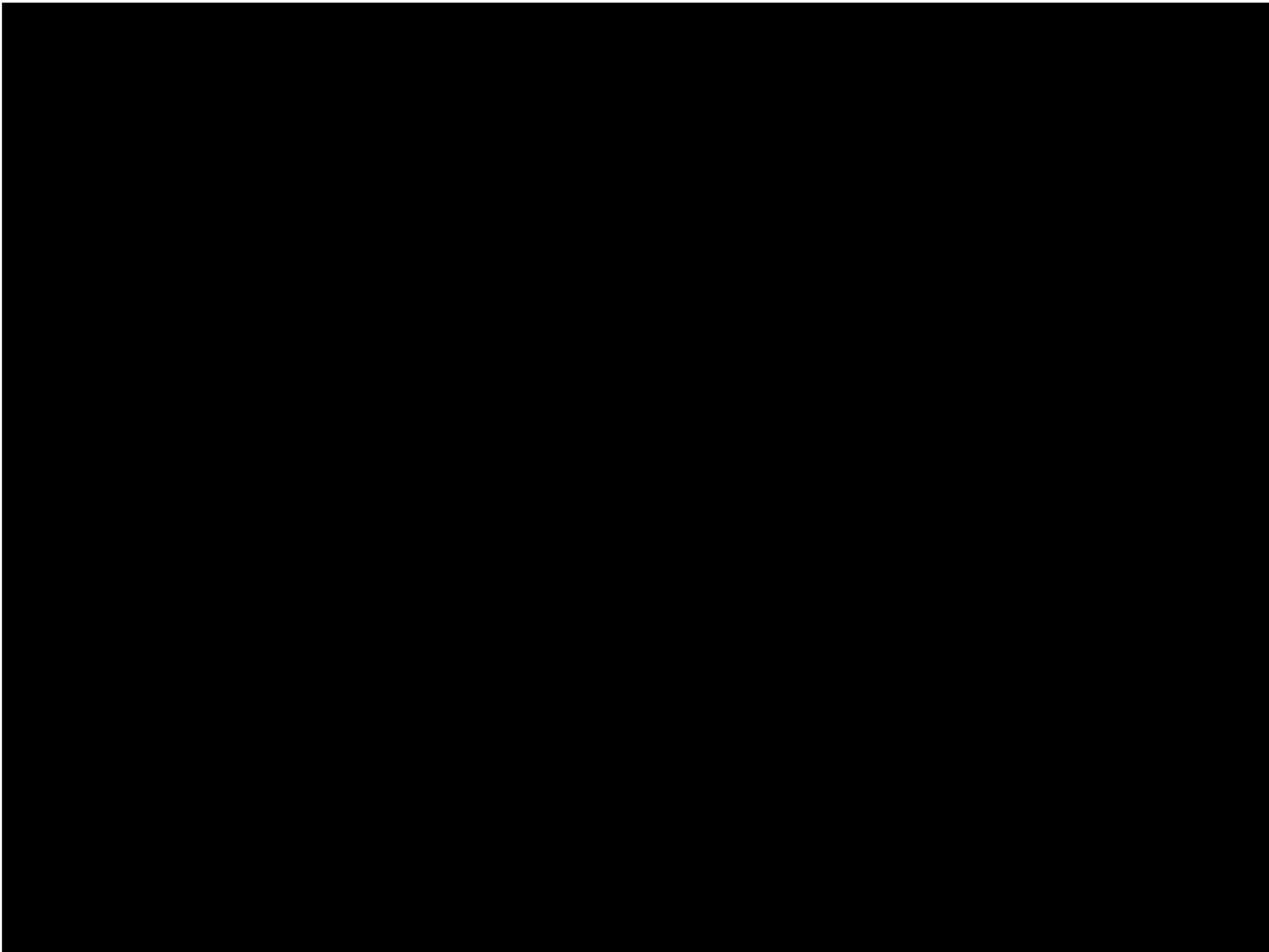
Professor Polina Bayvel to Give Royal Society Lecture

Twitter feed

 RT @markmiodownik: Am giving a ENGins seminar today for @UCLEngineering @UCLENGins all UCL engineers welcome - Roberts G06, 6:30pm. [http://...](#)
8:58am Thu 9th October 2014

RT @Centre4EngEdu: We're hiring! Multi-talented Centre Administrator required to help us launch and expand! [bit.ly/2eERSM](#)
10:54am Wed 8th October 2014

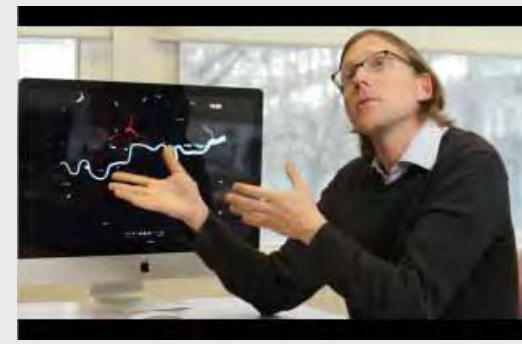
Join our mailing list



And how can we make sense of this



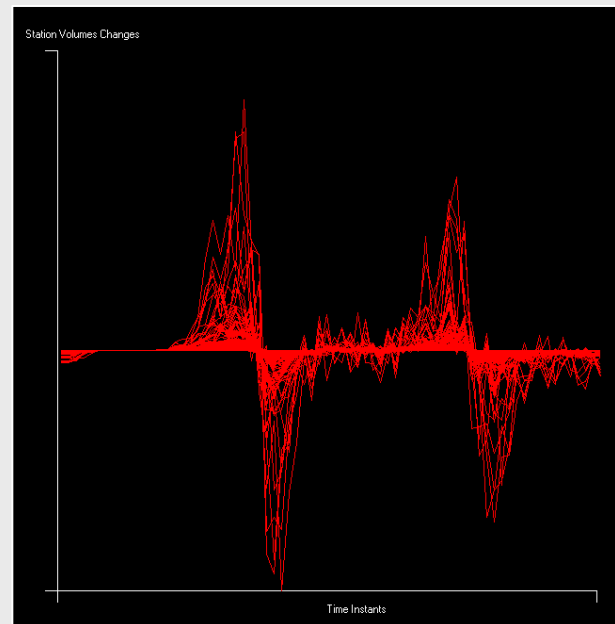
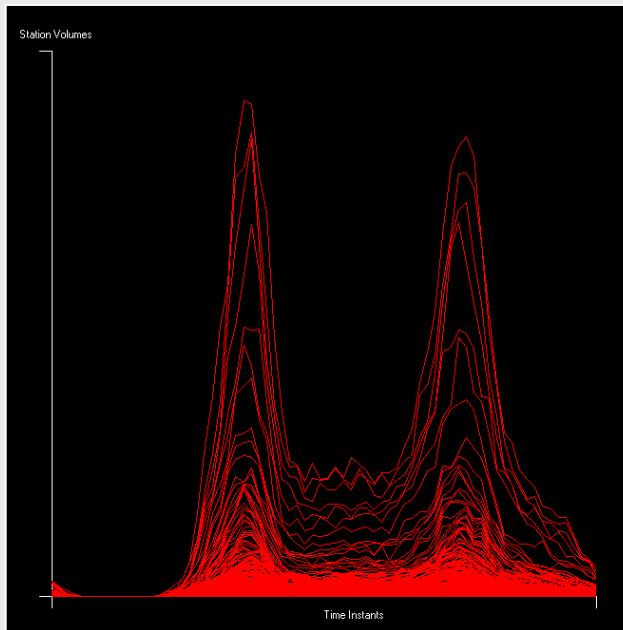
<http://www.simulacra.info/>

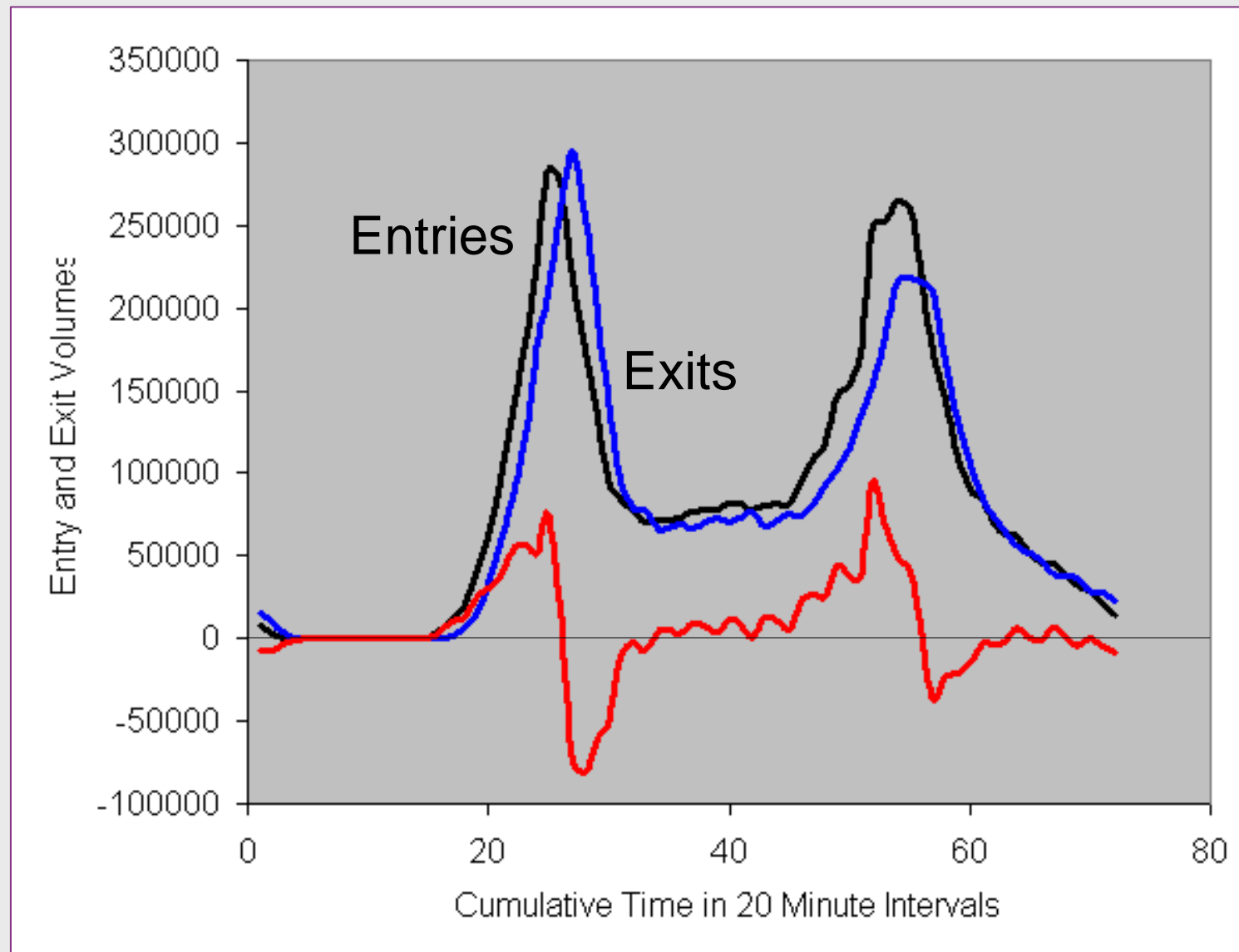


This of course was the thing that Lt Henry Harness did in Dublin in 1837 and what Minard et al. did a little later. In our LUTI models, this is an enormous problem as the scale of this assignment to networks is different

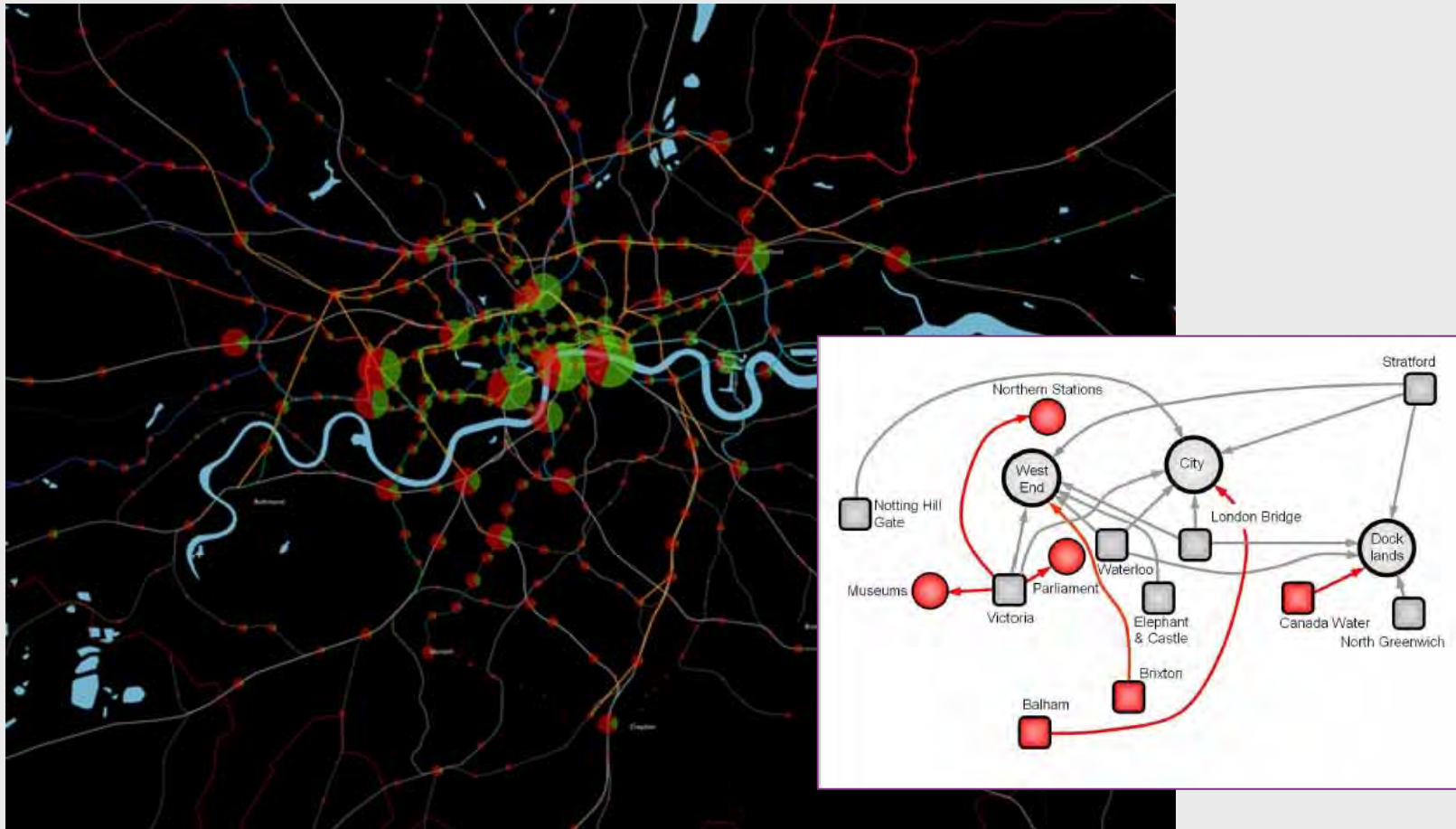
Variabilities – Heterogeneity and Travel Profiles

First we will look at some of the data and how it varies in terms of the diurnal flows usually morning and evening peaks, with a small blip (peak) around 10pm at night



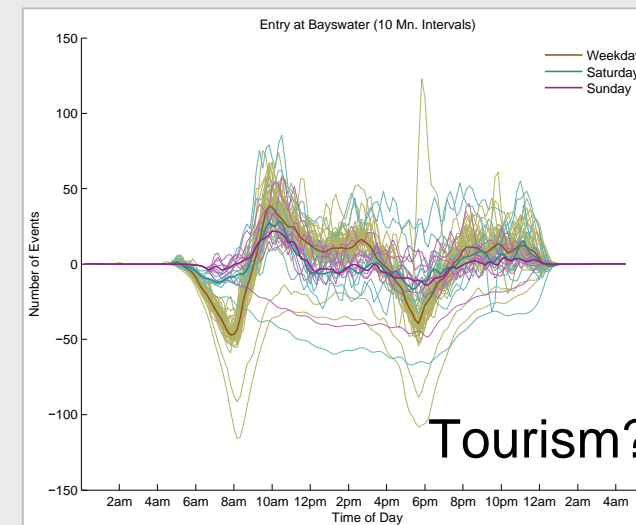
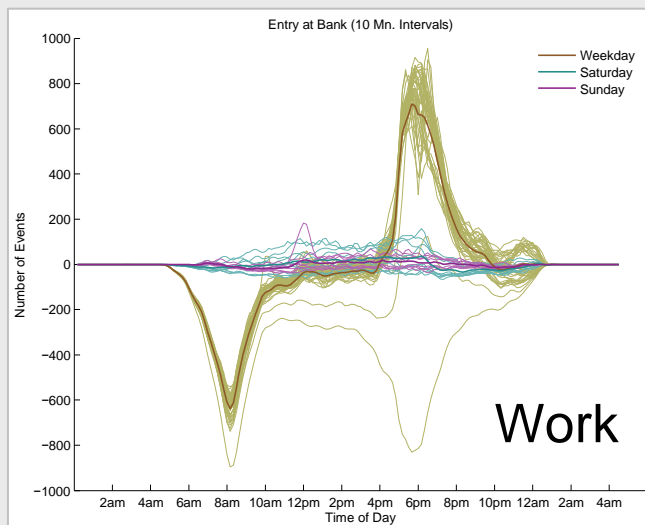
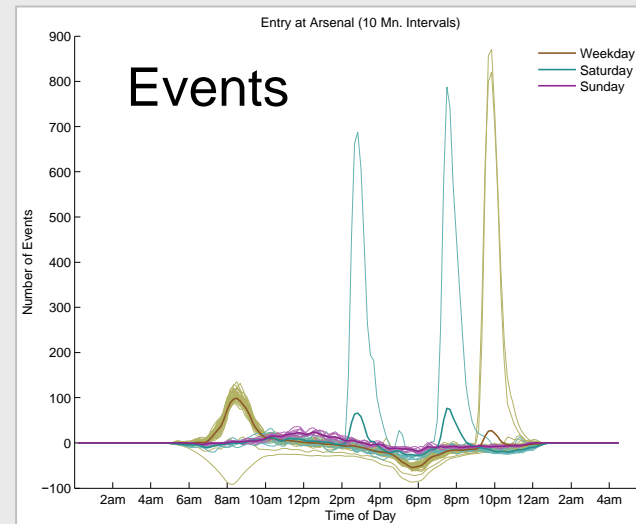
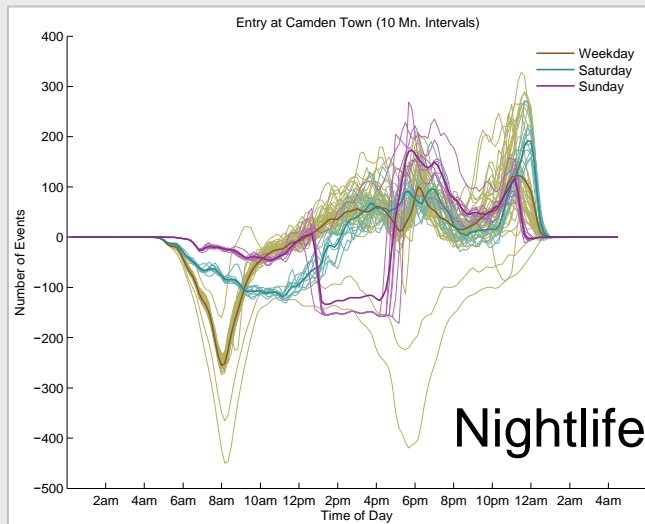


Oyster Card Data – interpreting urban structure, multitrips, etc.



Roth C., Kang S. M., Batty, M., and Barthelemy, M. (2011) Structure of Urban Movements: Polycentric Activity and Entangled Hierarchical Flows. **PLoS ONE 6(1)**: e15923. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0015923

Particular Events: Weekdays, Saturdays and Sundays



Comparing Variability for different time intervals for Three World Cities: London, Beijing and Singapore

Table 1. Summary statistics of one-week of smart-card data (metro trips only)

| | London | Singapore | Beijing |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Monday | 3,457,234 | 2,208,173 | 4,577,500 |
| Tuesday | 3,621,983 | 2,250,597 | 4,421,737 |
| Wednesday | 3,677,807 | 2,277,850 | 4,564,335 |
| Thursday | 3,667,126 | 2,276,408 | 4,582,144 |
| Friday | 3,762,336 | 2,409,600 | 4,880,267 |
| Number of stations (1) | 400 | 130 | 233 |
| Number of tube line | 13 | 4 | 17 |
| Area (2) | 1,572 km ² | 718.3 km ² | 2267 km ² |
| Total population (3) | 8.63 million | 5.3 million | 21.15 million |
| Ridership of Metro | 20% | 35% | 21% |
| Length of metro lines | 402km | 182km | 465 km |
| | | (MRT+LRT) | |

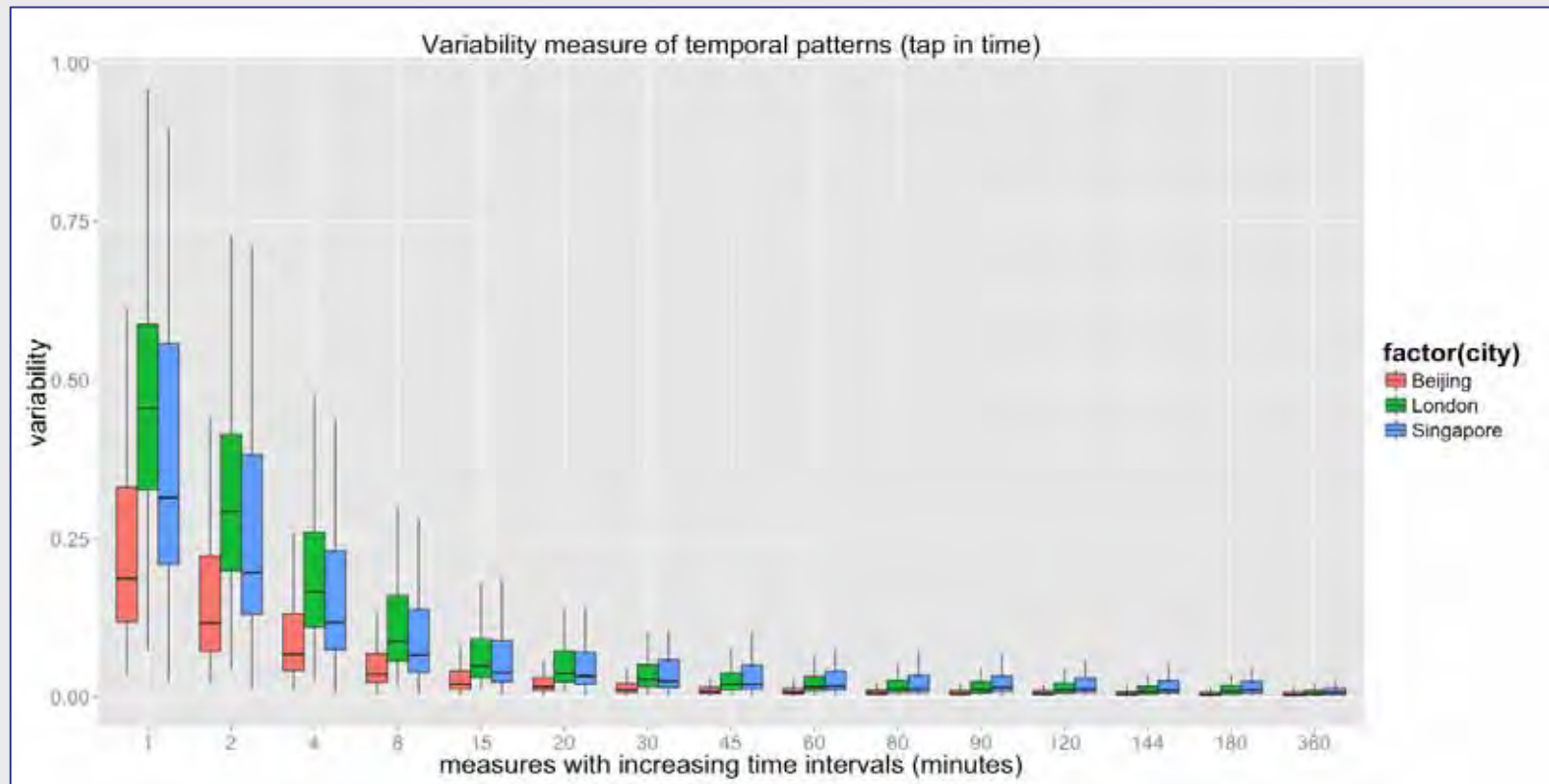
(1) Number of stations is the number of stations with smart-card records generated.

(2) The area of Beijing only counts the area enclosed by the 6th ring road for a fair comparison.

(3) From the World Population Review, <http://worldpopulationreview.com/world-cities/> accessed 17 January 2016

Zhong, C., Batty, M., Manley, E., Wan, J., Wang, Z., Che, F., and Schmitt, G. (2016) Variability in Regularity: Mining Temporal Mobility Patterns in London, Singapore and Beijing using Smart-Card Data., **PLOS One**, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0149222>

From 1 minute intervals to the whole day



Comparing Variability for different time Intervals over the day

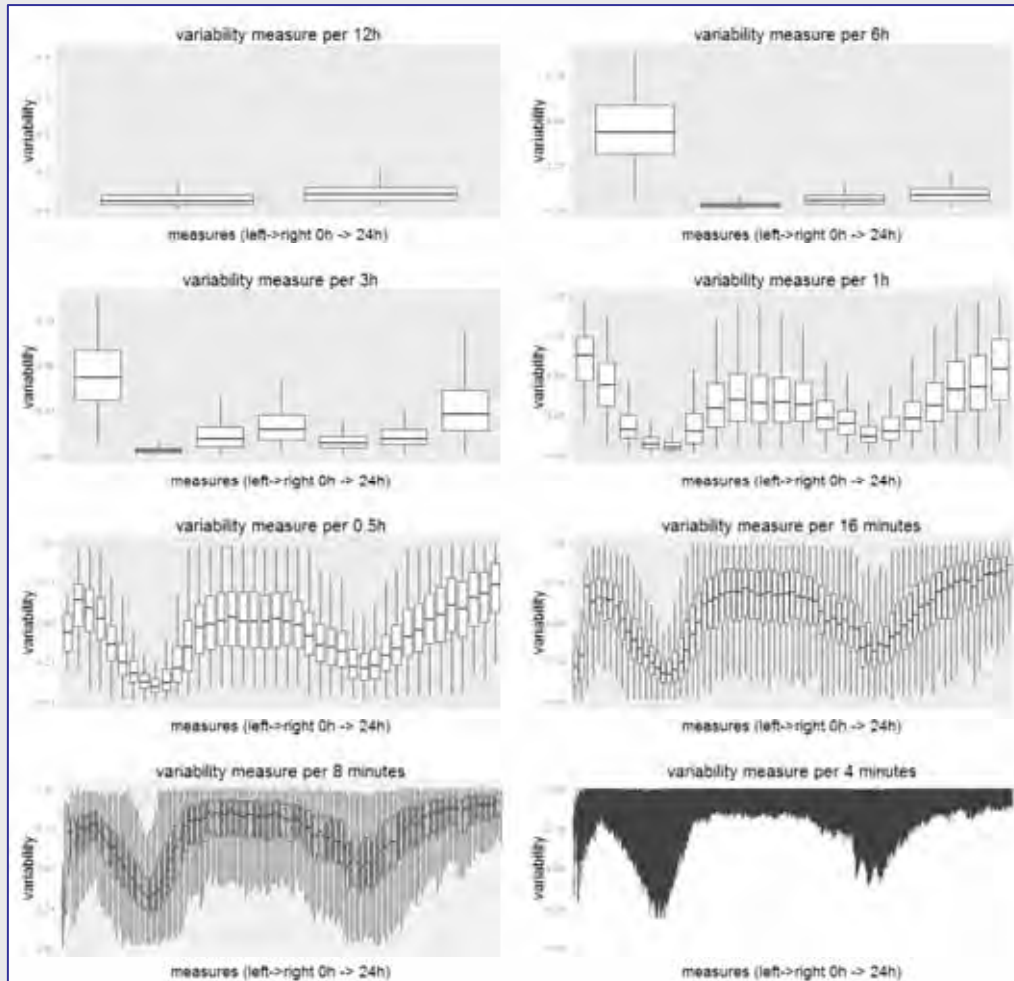
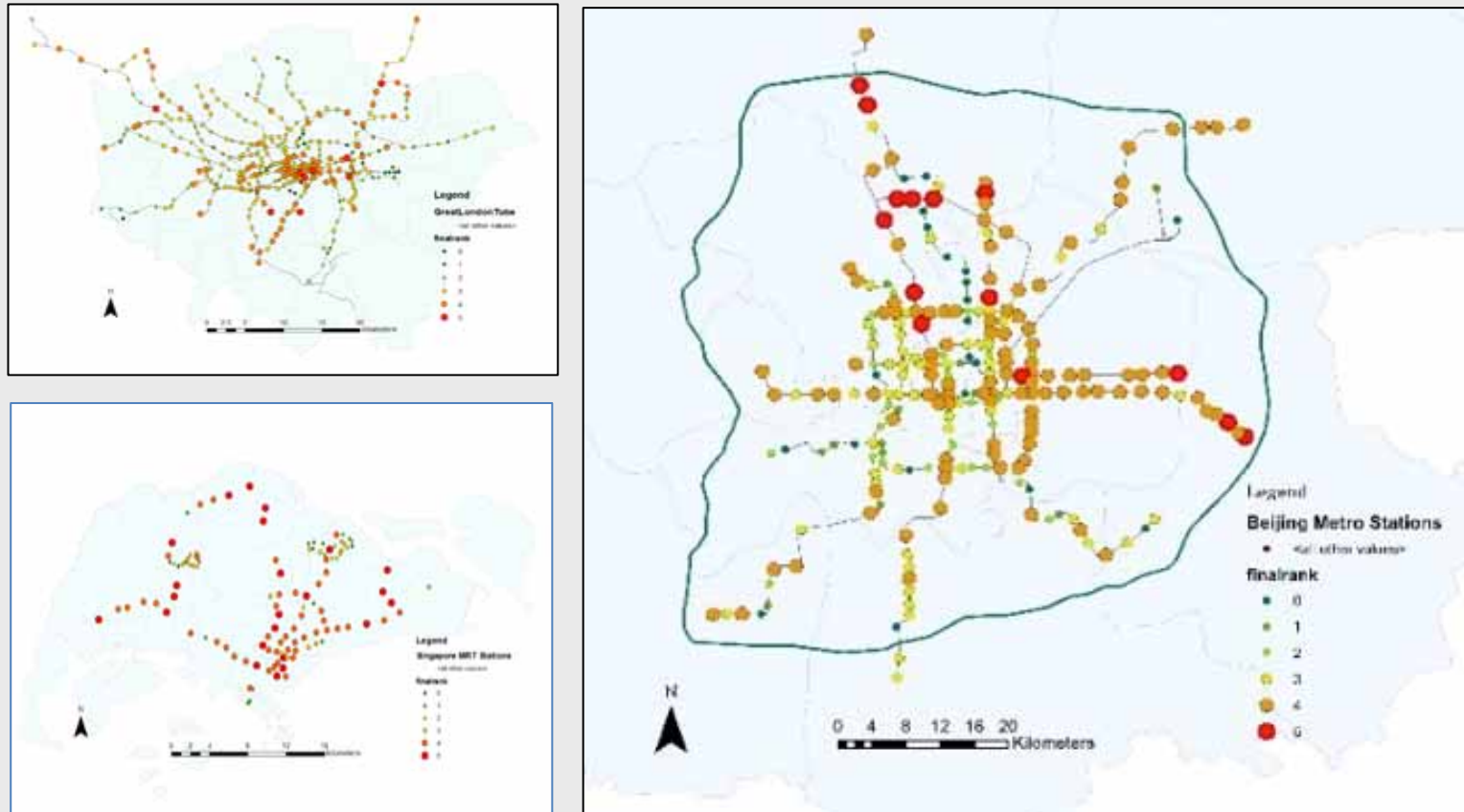


Figure 1. Variability of regularity in the trip matrix over time.

Note: Each box plot shows the variability of 400 stations over time measured at different temporal scales. Overall, eight subplots give a similar trend where lower variability appears during peak hours (around 9 am in the morning and 6pm in the evening). More details can be captured as differences of variability between each time unit are magnified as we decrease the temporal scale from 12h to 4 minutes.

Comparing Variability for different time intervals for Three World Cities: London, Beijing and Singapore





Maps of Underground and Rail stations in London visualised by the proportion of regular trips

originating at each location

ending at each location

starting and ending at each location

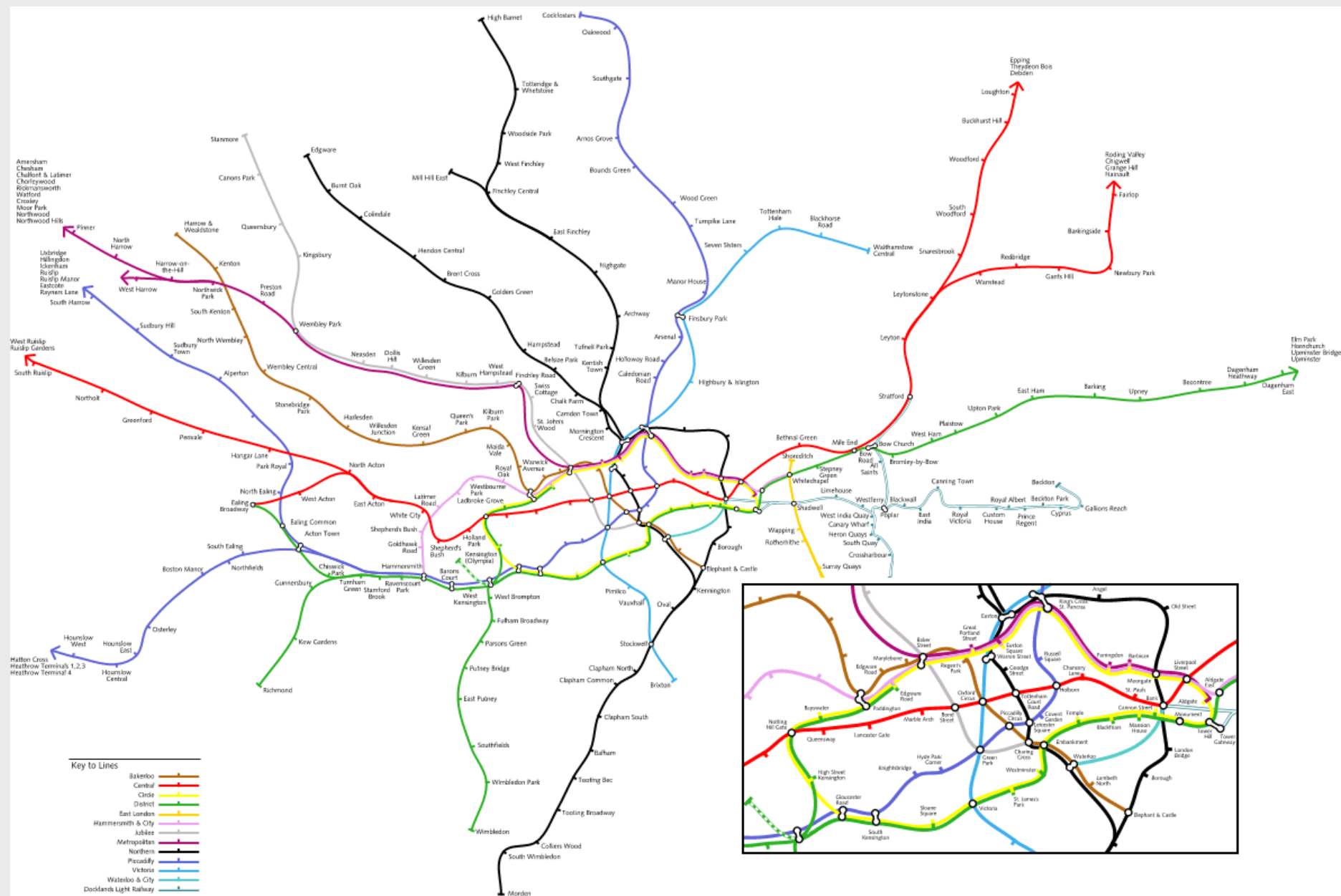
Disruptions – Routine Analysis of Daily Events

- Behaviours vary across network
- Different areas of network more resilient to disruption, due to available infrastructure and individual ability to change
- But areas of network are naturally closely tied through established usage patterns
- Individual-based analyses provide insight into behaviours underlying macroscopic flows

We will look at several kinds of disruption

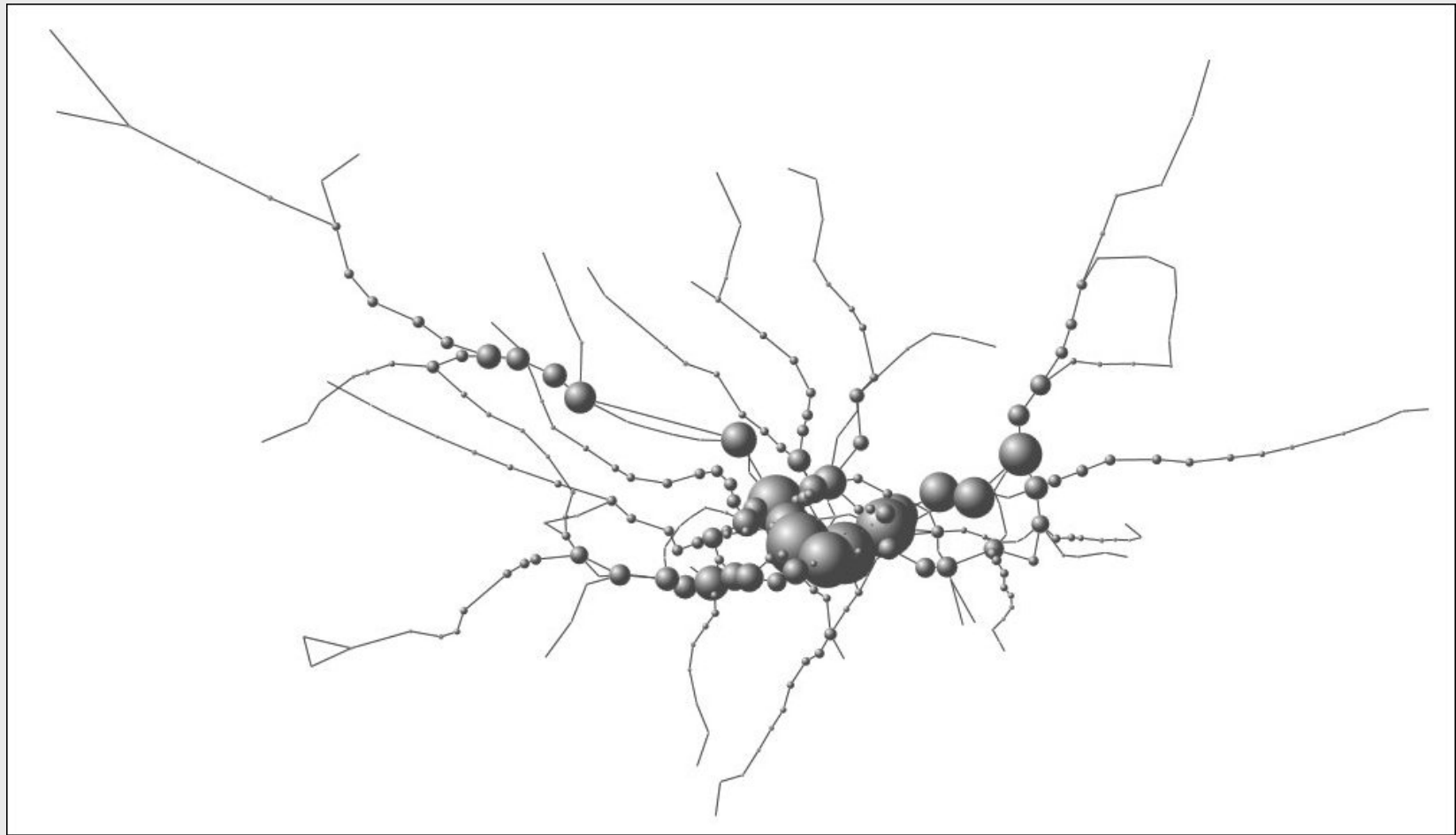
- First hypothetical disruptions simply by examining breaks in the network
- Then an example of the Circle and District Lines which had a 4 hour stoppage on July 19th 2012
- And a Bus Strike in East London and how this shows up in the data
- And typical pattern of delay on all modes visualised for Greater London





Resilience and Disruption

Examining Network Disruption: Station and Line Closures



Representing the Tube Network

We use standard graph algebra to represent the network where we define three indices of centrality

Degrees of the graph

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \sigma_i &= \sum_j a_{ij} \\ \sigma_j &= \sum_i a_{ij} \end{aligned} \right\} \quad \sigma = \sum_i \sigma_i = \sum_j \sigma_j = \sum_i \sum_j a_{ij}$$

Betweenness Centrality

$$C_k = \sum_i \sum_j \frac{\sigma_{ikj}}{\sigma_{ij}}$$

Closeness Centrality

$$L_i = KD_i^{-1} = K \left(\sum_j d_{ij} \right)^{-1}$$

Representing Flows

Trip Volume
Entries and Exits

$$\left. \begin{aligned} T_i &= \sum_j T_{ij} \\ T_j &= \sum_i T_{ij} \end{aligned} \right\} T = \sum_i T_i = \sum_j T_j = \sum_i \sum_j T_{ij}$$

Changes in
Trip Volumes

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \Delta_i &= T_i - T'_i \\ \Delta_j &= T_j - T'_j \end{aligned} \right\} \sum_i \Delta_i = \sum_j \Delta_j = 0$$

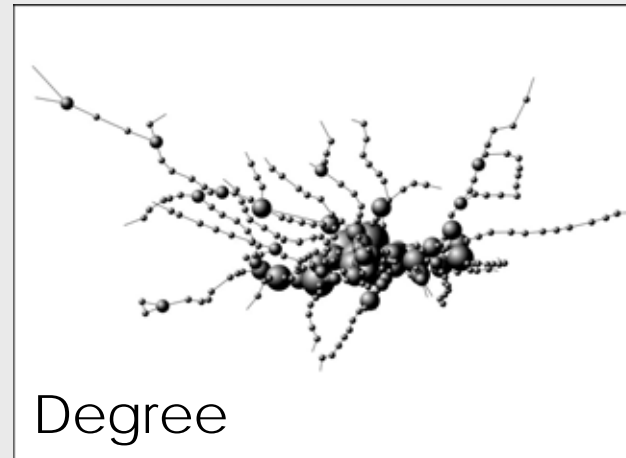
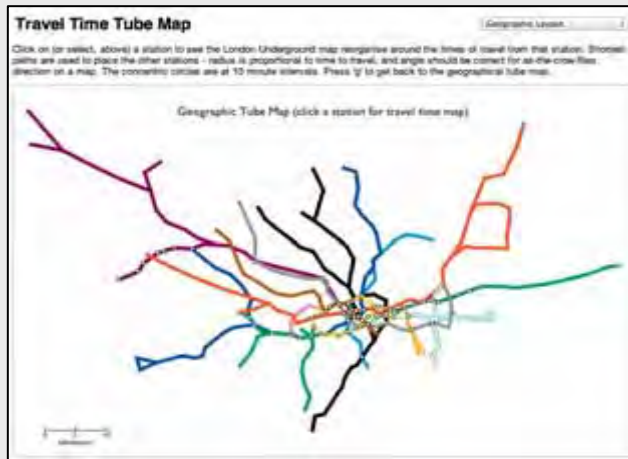
Weighted Betweenness
Centrality

$$p_{ijk} = \frac{\sigma_{ikj}}{\sigma_{ij}} = \frac{\sigma_{ikj}}{\sum_{\ell} \sigma_{i\ell j}}, \quad \sum_k p_{ikj} = 1$$

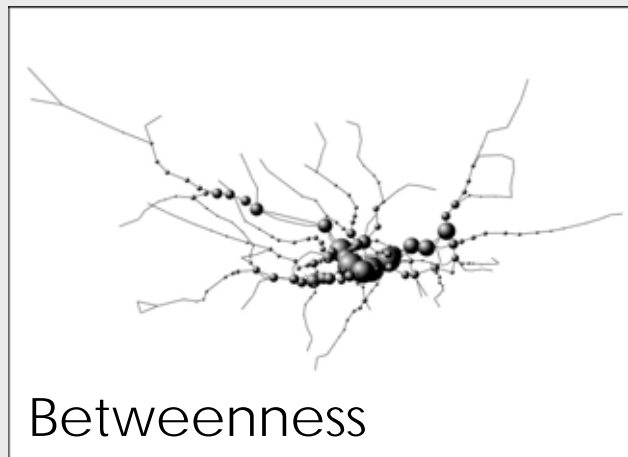
$$\tilde{C}_k = \sum_i \sum_j T_{ij} p_{ikj} = \sum_i \sum_j T_{ij} \frac{\sigma_{ikj}}{\sigma_{ij}}$$

A Preliminary Analysis (1)

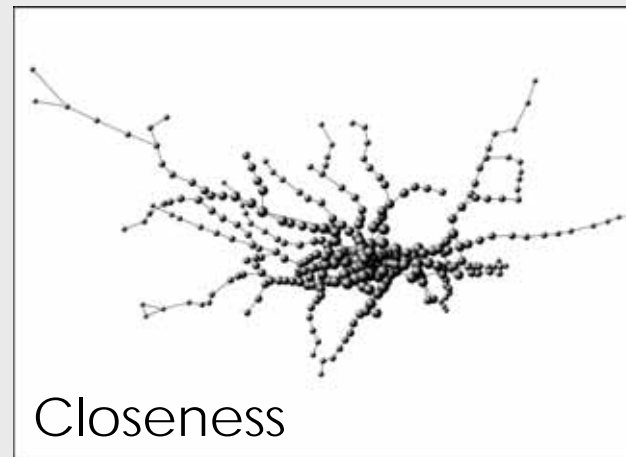
The Minimal Tube Network and the Three Centrality Indices



Degree



Betweenness



Closeness

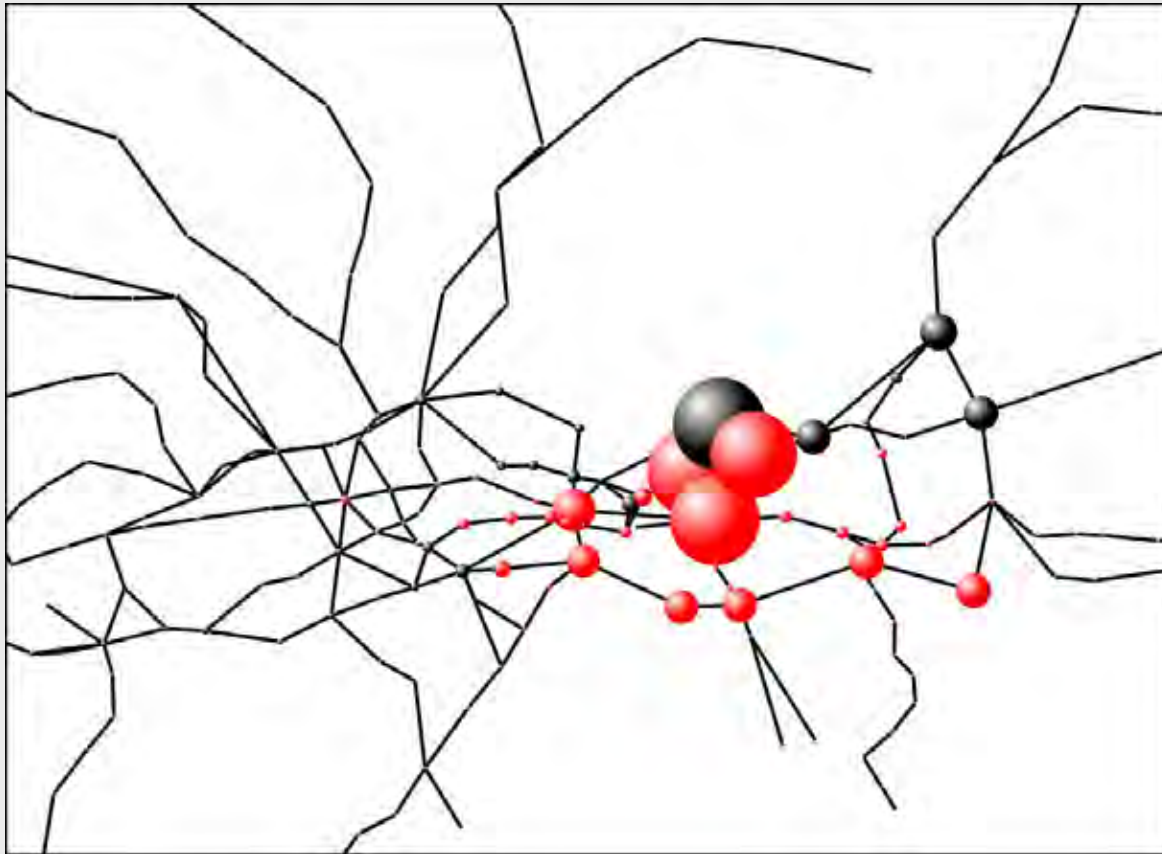
A Preliminary Analysis (2)

- Top Stations
- By Centrality

| Station | d_i | Station | \hat{C}_i | Station | \hat{L}_i |
|-------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Baker Street | 7 | Green Park | 16399 | Green Park | 2.137 |
| King's Cross | 7 | Waterloo | 15644 | Westminster | 2.107 |
| Bank | 6 | Bank | 15008 | Bond Street | 2.101 |
| Earl's Court | 6 | Baker Street | 14441 | Oxford Circus | 2.089 |
| Green Park | 6 | Westminster | 14139 | Waterloo | 2.089 |
| Oxford Circus | 6 | Bond Street | 11429 | Bank | 2.074 |
| Waterloo | 6 | Liverpool Street | 11186 | Baker Street | 2.071 |
| Canning Town | 5 | Stratford | 10814 | Victoria | 2.065 |
| Liverpool Street | 5 | Mile End | 10302 | Hyde Pk Corner | 2.053 |
| Paddington | 5 | Bethnal Green | 10017 | Embankment | 2.041 |
| Shadwell | 5 | Finchley Road | 8905 | Piccadilly Circus | 2.041 |
| Turnham Green | 5 | Earl's Court | 8706 | St. James's Park | 2.035 |
| Acton Town | 4 | King's Cross | 8679 | Regent's Park | 2.032 |
| Bond Street | 4 | Wembley Park | 7968 | King's Cross | 2.029 |
| Camden Town | 4 | South Ken | 7182 | Liverpool Street | 2.026 |
| Canada Water | 4 | Euston | 7156 | Marble Arch | 2.026 |
| Canary Wharf | 4 | Gloucester Rd | 7042 | Tottenham Ct Rd | 2.026 |
| Embankment | 4 | Paddington | 7028 | Moorgate | 2.020 |
| Euston | 4 | Victoria | 6558 | Charing Cross | 2.017 |
| Finchley Road | 4 | Harrow-o-t-Hill | 6253 | Great Portland St | 2.017 |

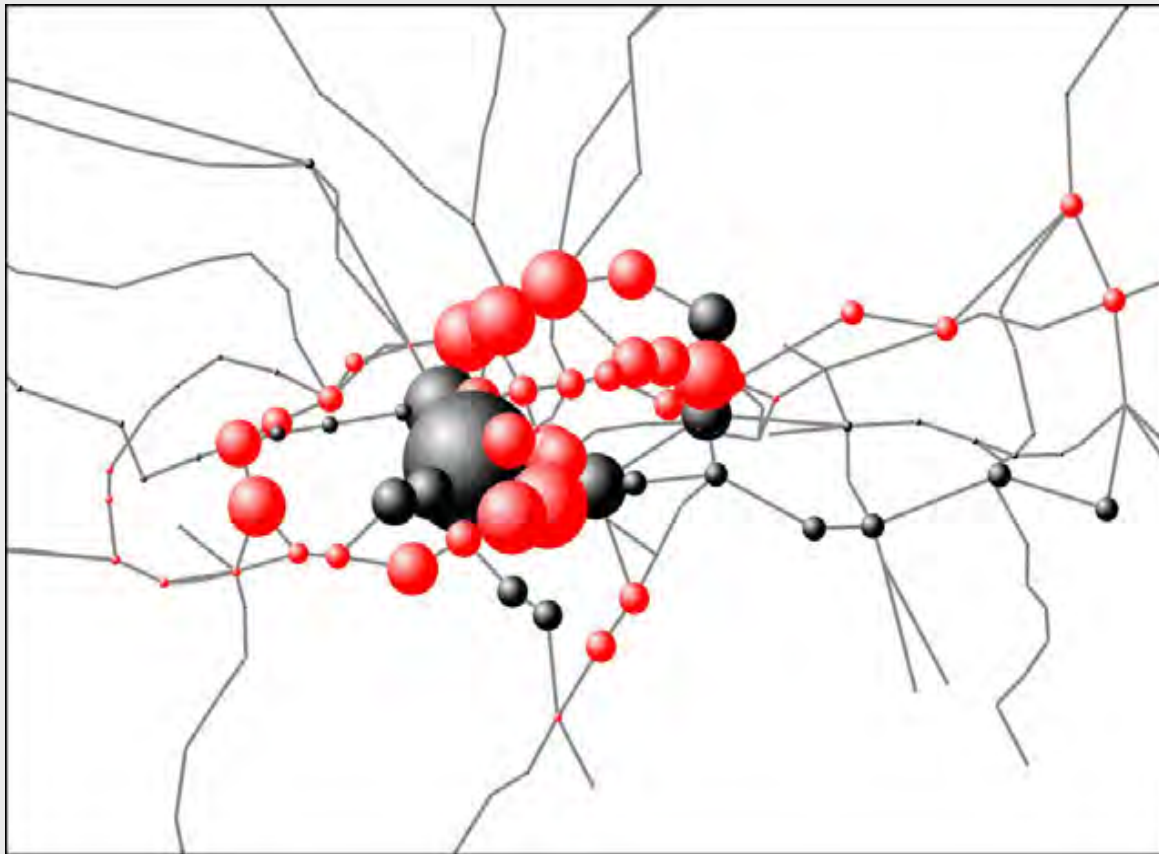
A Preliminary Analysis (3)

Closing Liverpool Street

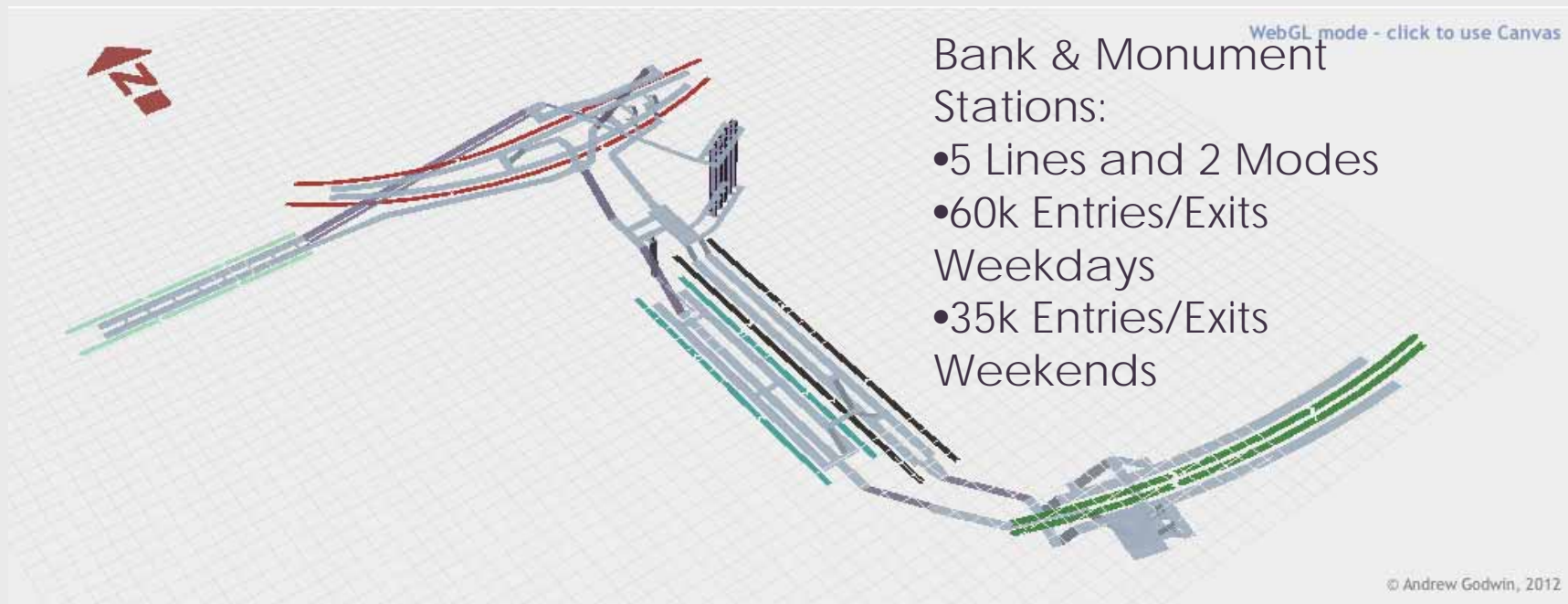


A Preliminary Analysis (3)

Closing Green Park



Looking at Station Closures and Shifts of Travellers Using The 'Shortest'-Paths



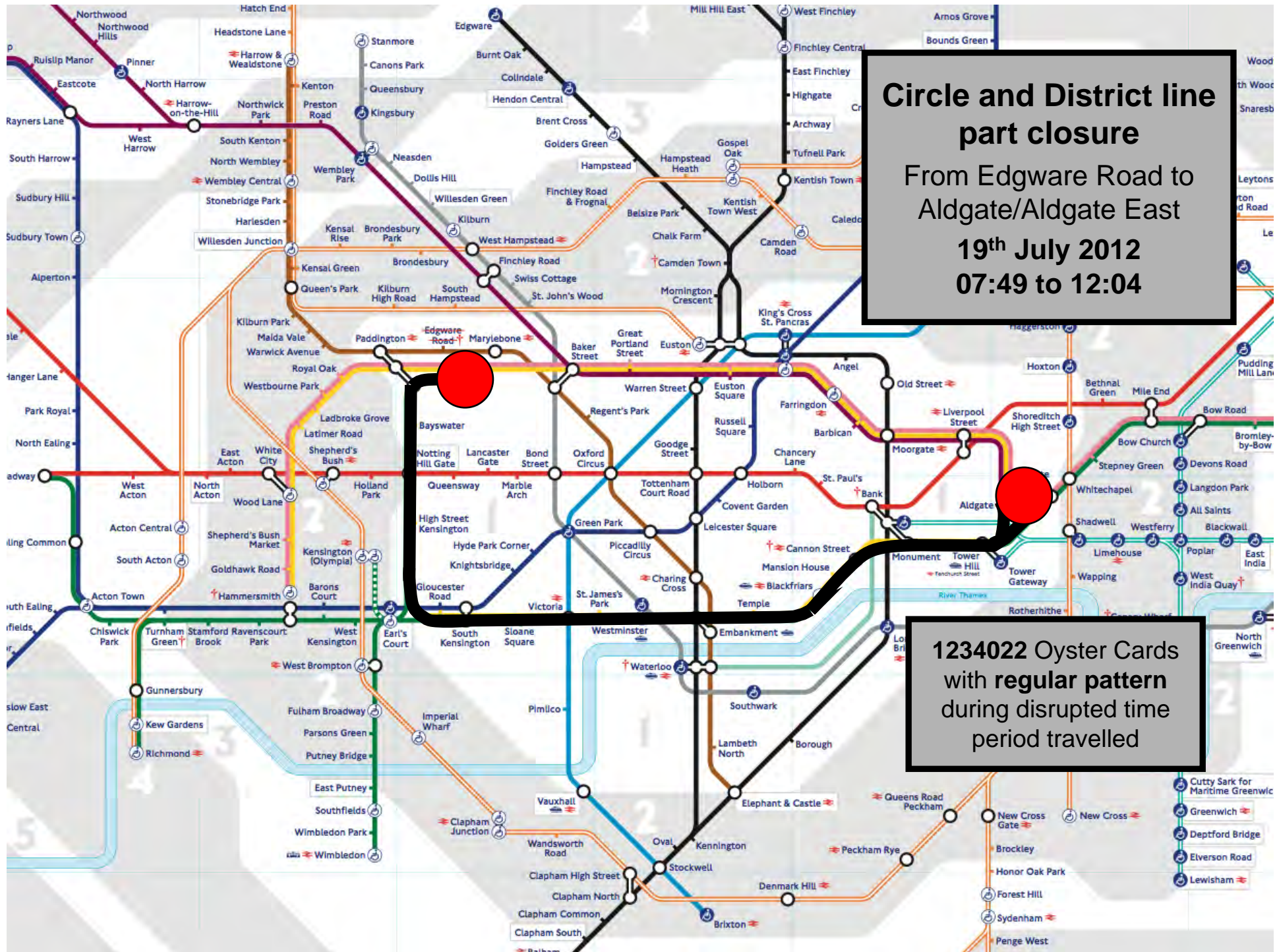
Although a simple station/line network may be sufficient for small cities, for 'Mega-Cities' such as London, New York, or Tokyo a much more detailed network is needed with interchanges measured down to the platform level. The 'penalties' for changing lines (and permitted Out-of-Station Interchanges) can be severe and should be included in a schematic network representation.

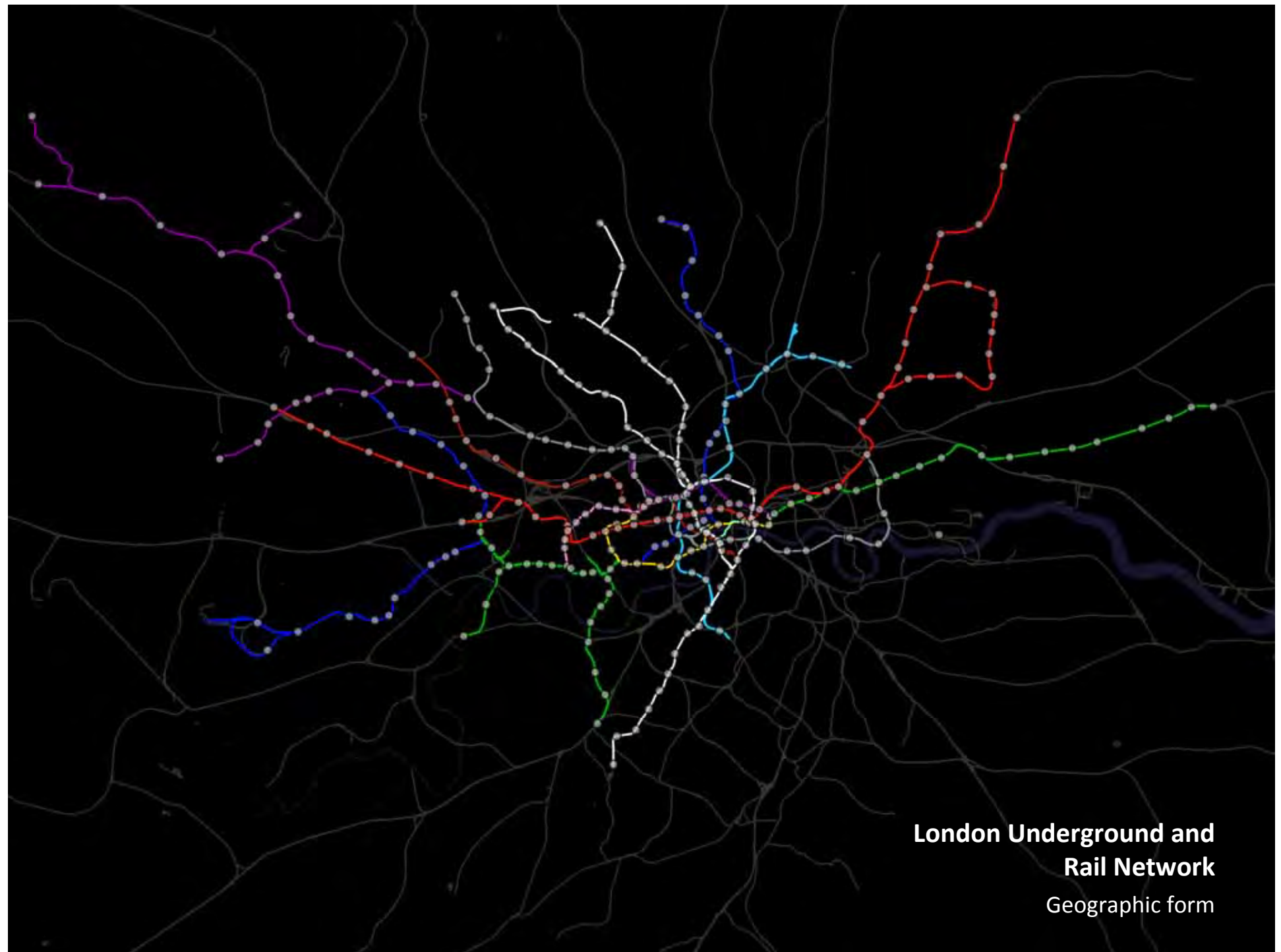
Circle and District line part closure

From Edgware Road to
Aldgate/Aldgate East

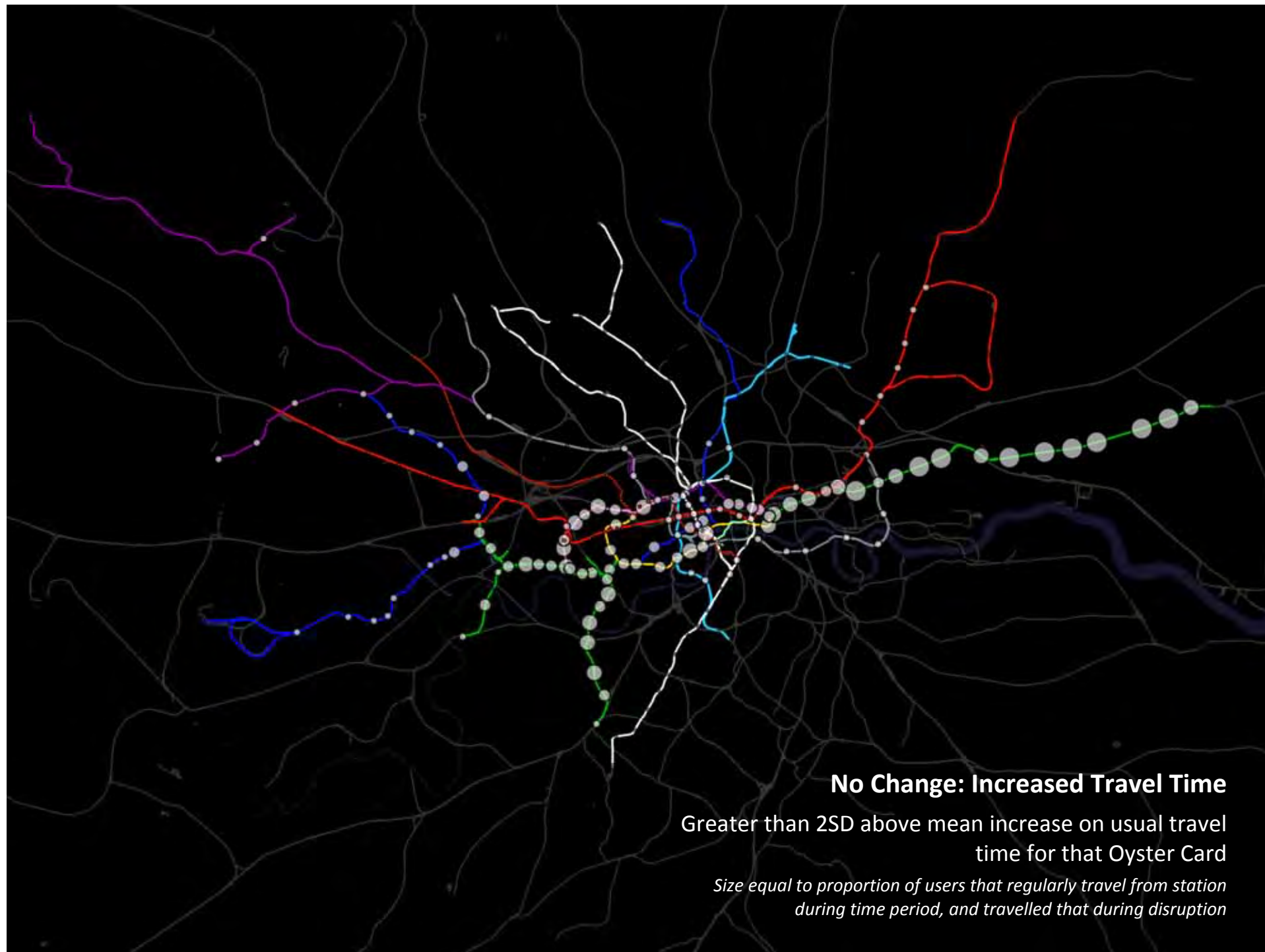
19th July 2012
07:49 to 12:04

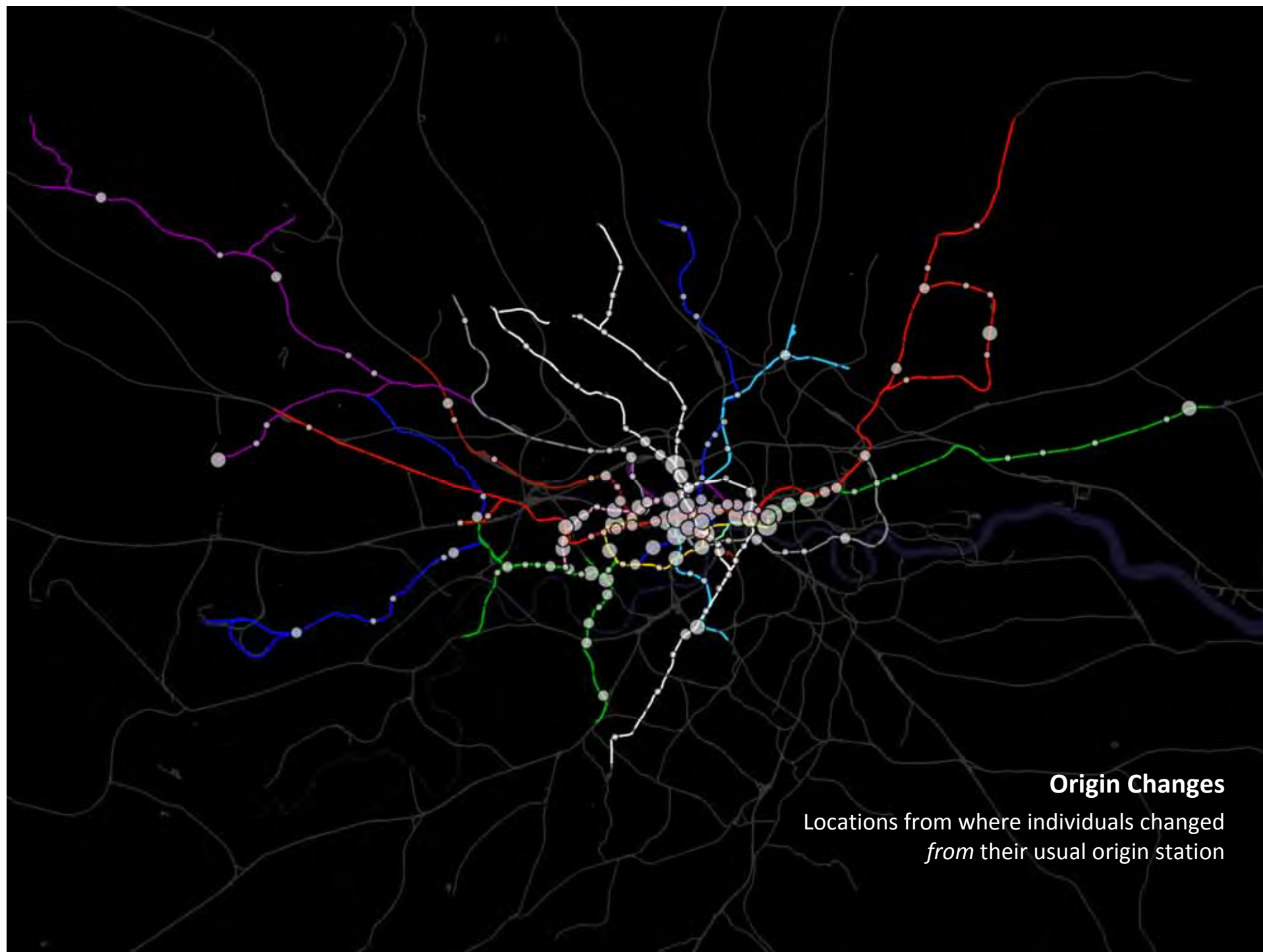
1234022 Oyster Cards
with **regular pattern**
during disrupted time
period travelled

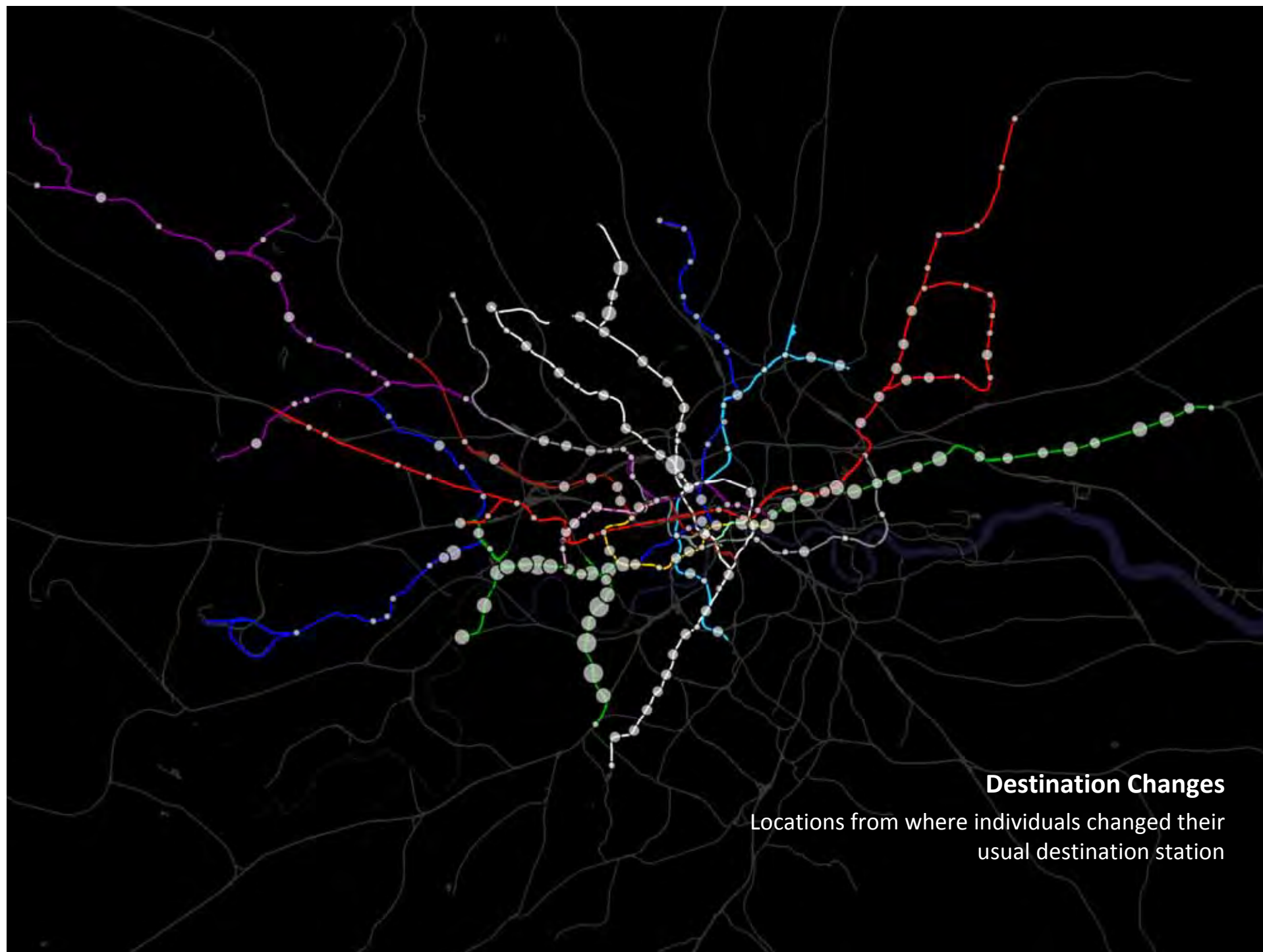


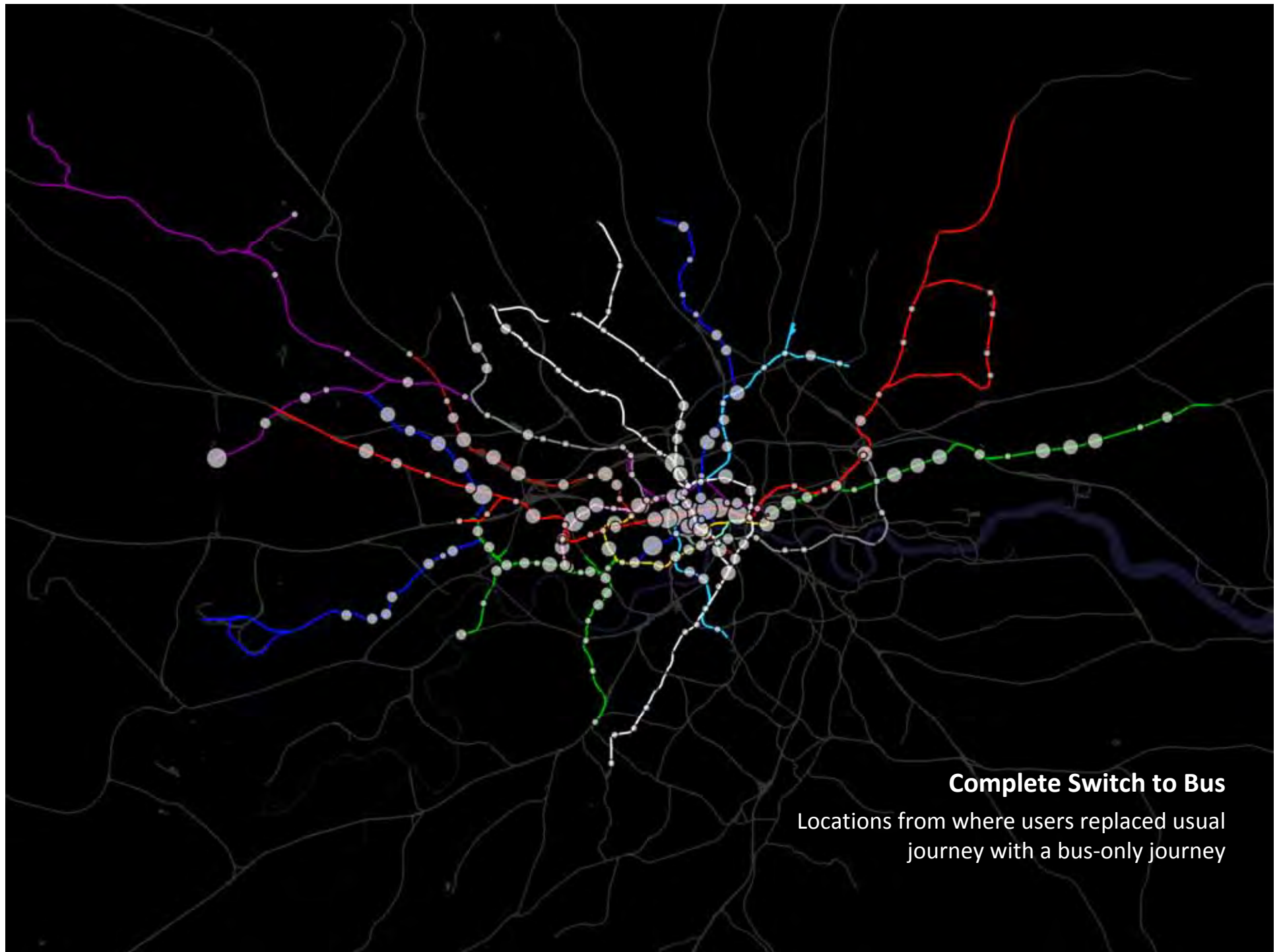


**London Underground and
Rail Network**
Geographic form



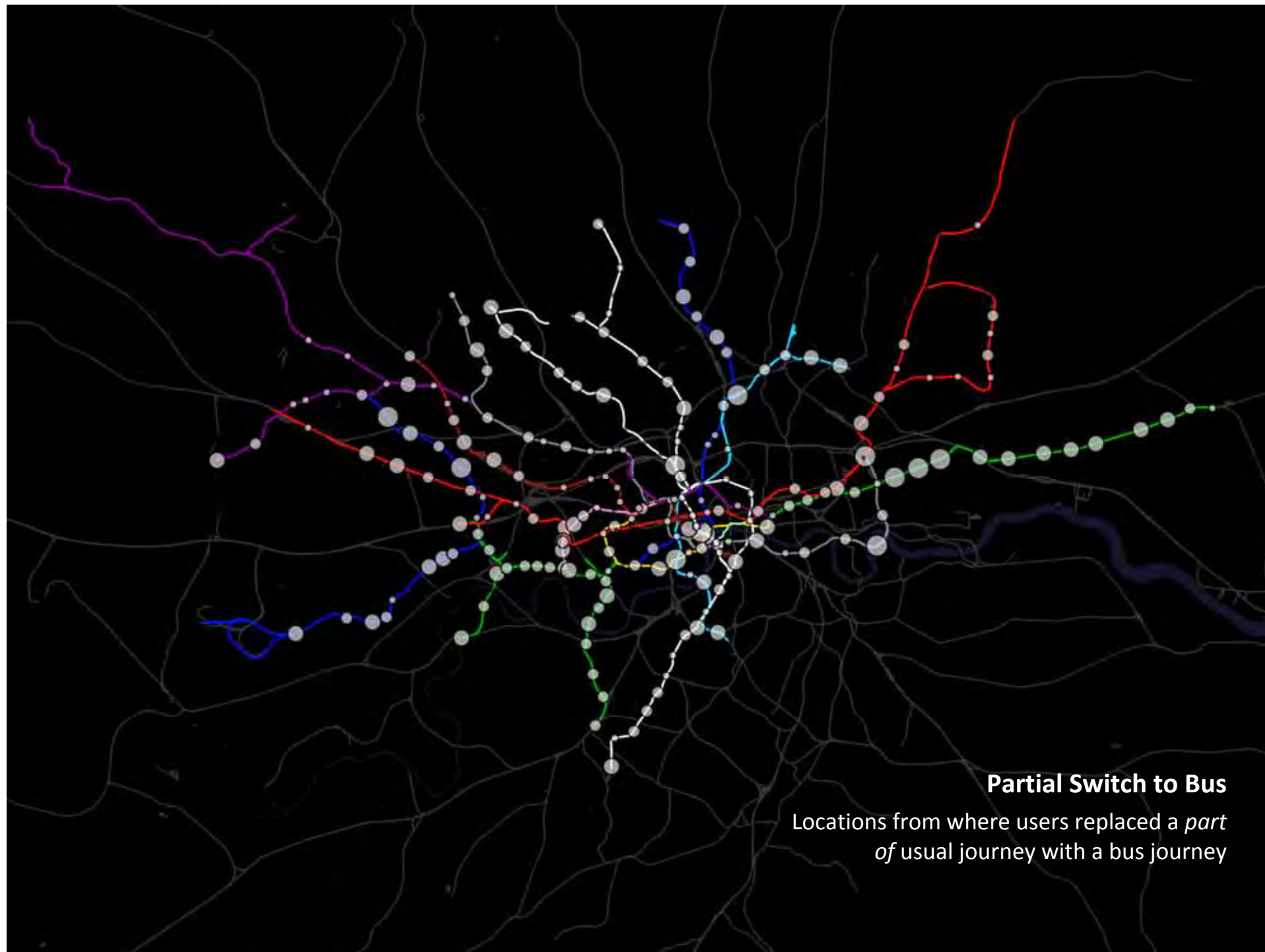


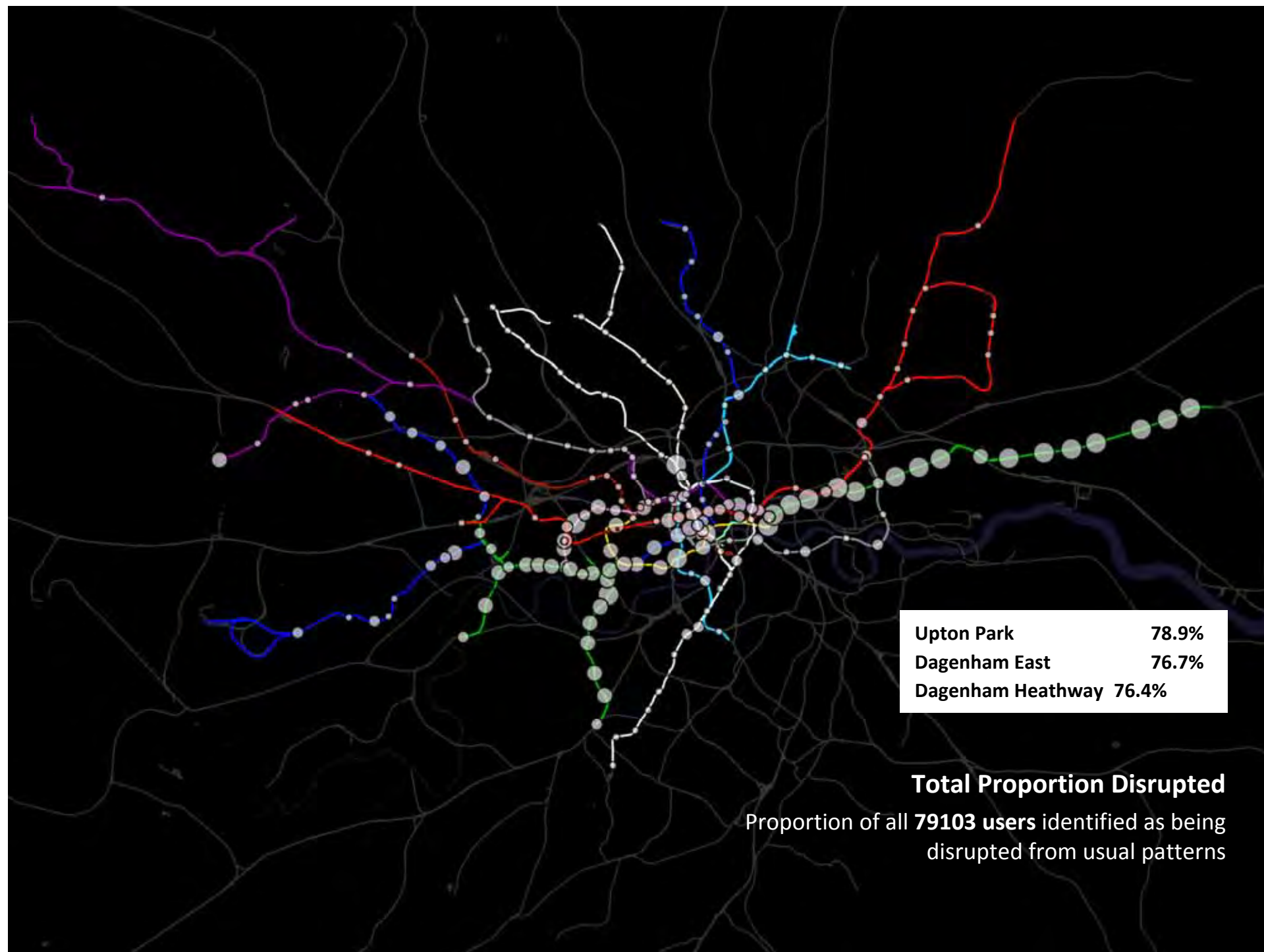




Complete Switch to Bus

Locations from where users replaced usual journey with a bus-only journey

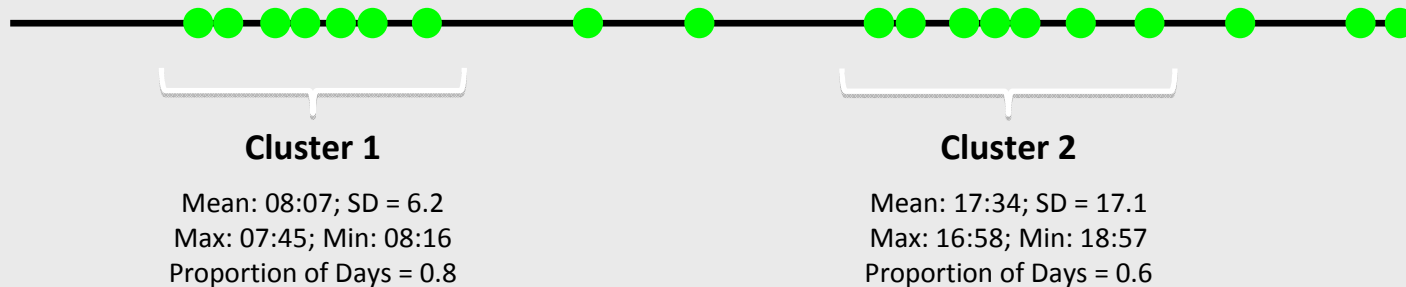




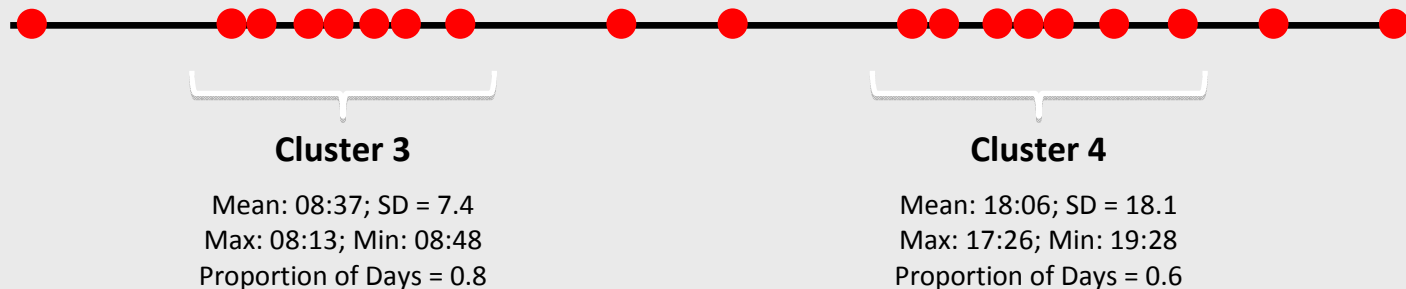
Measuring Regularity

Version 2: DBSCAN Method

Oyster Card A – Origin 747

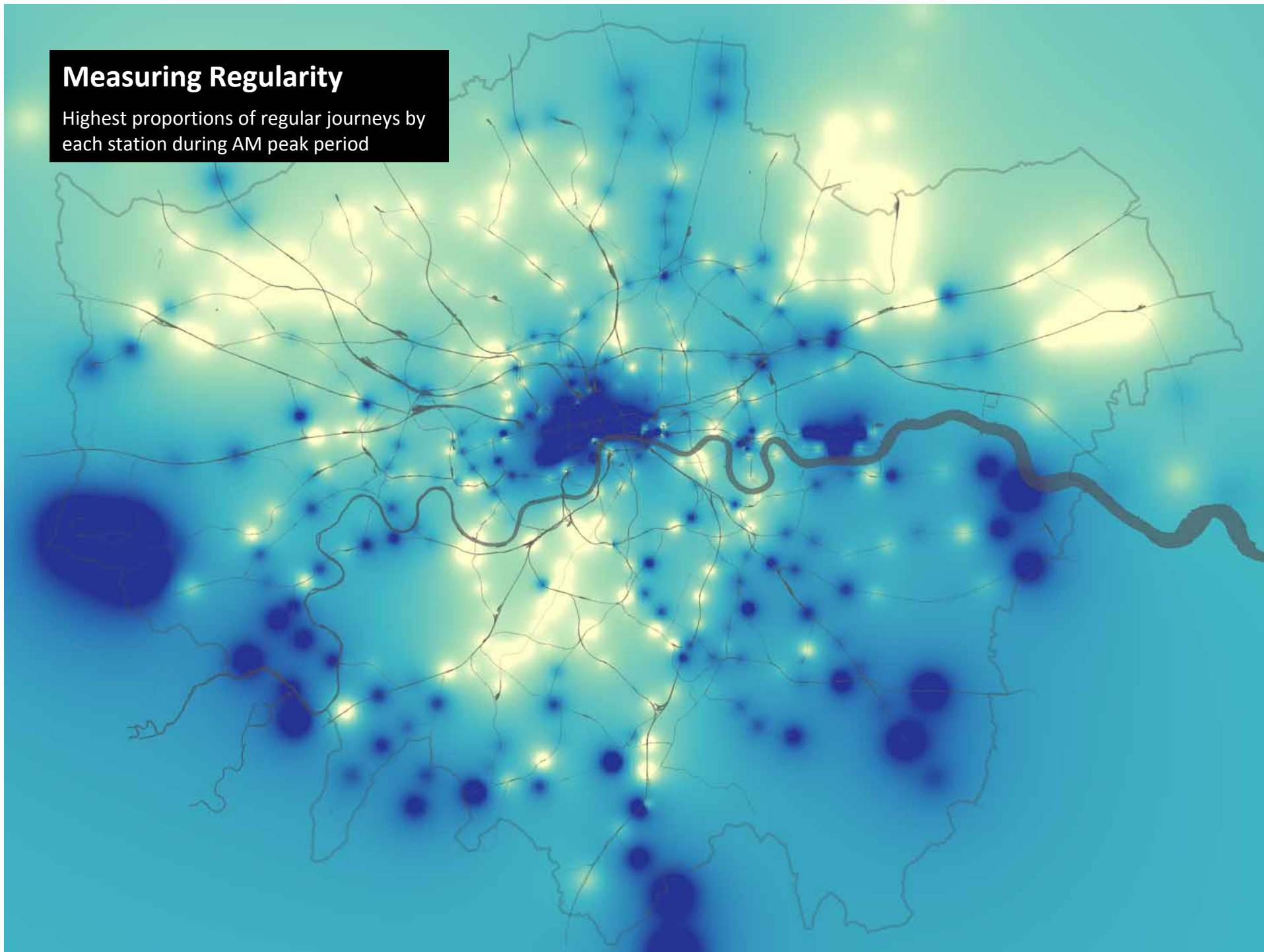


Oyster Card A – Destination 647



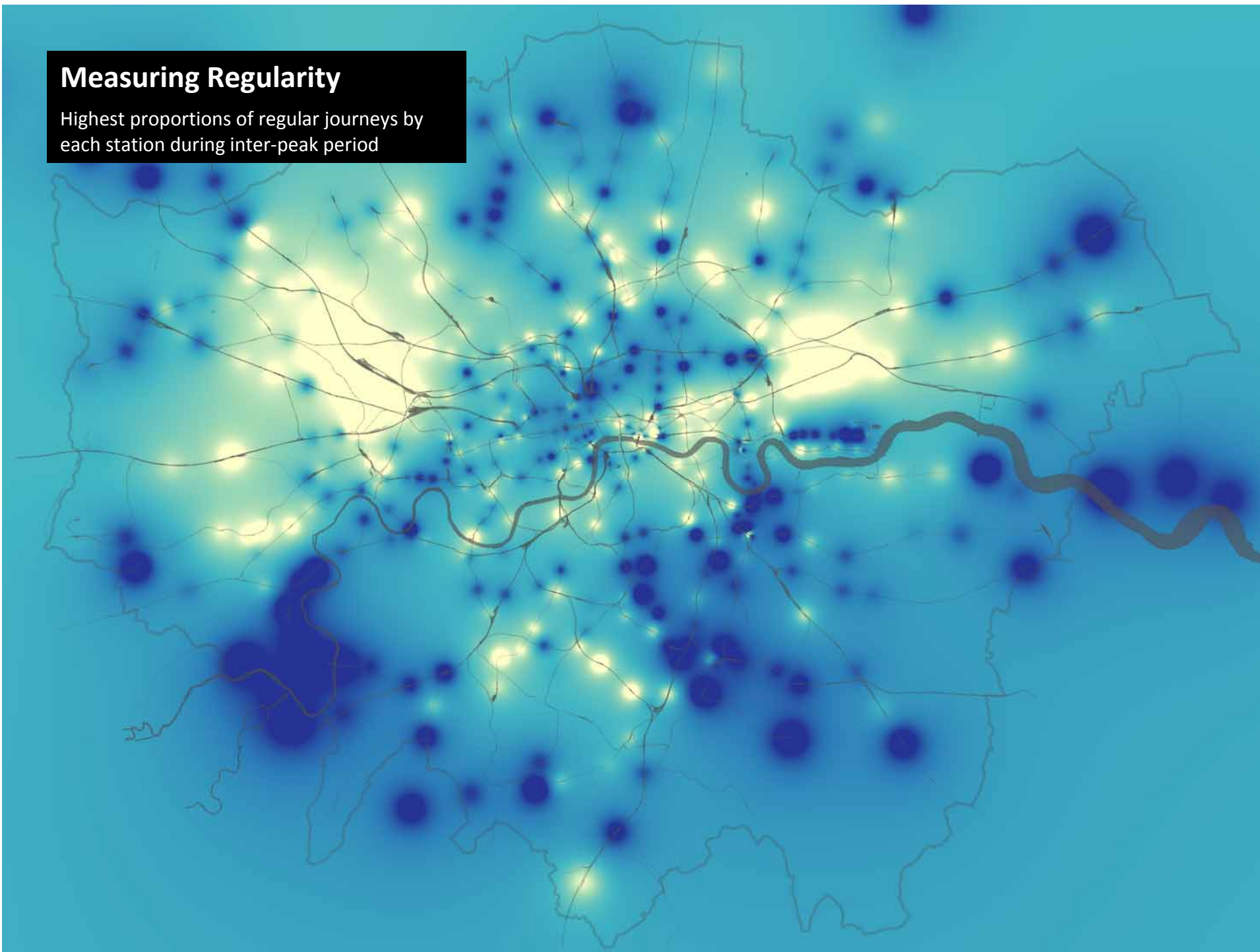
Measuring Regularity

Highest proportions of regular journeys by each station during AM peak period

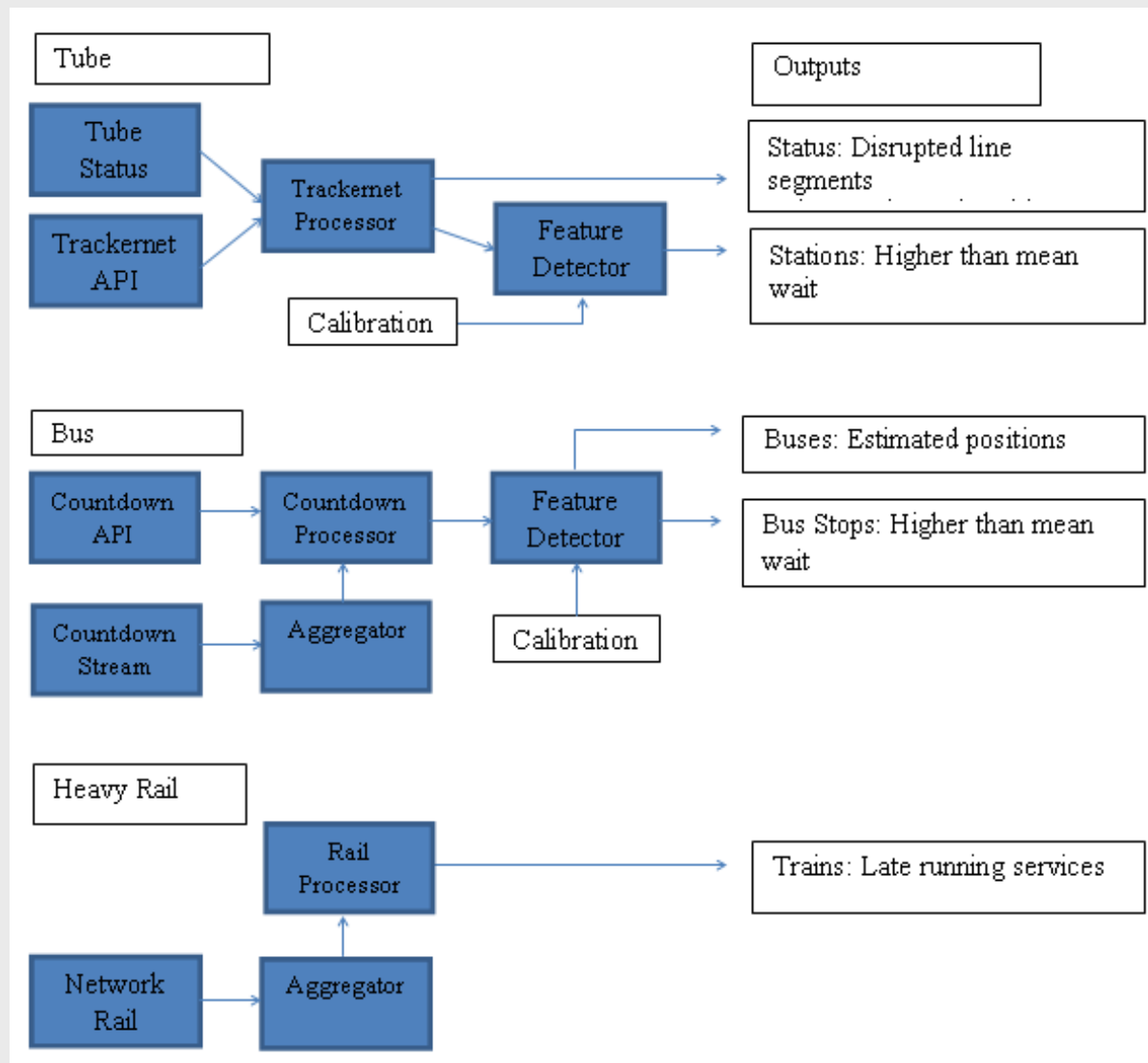


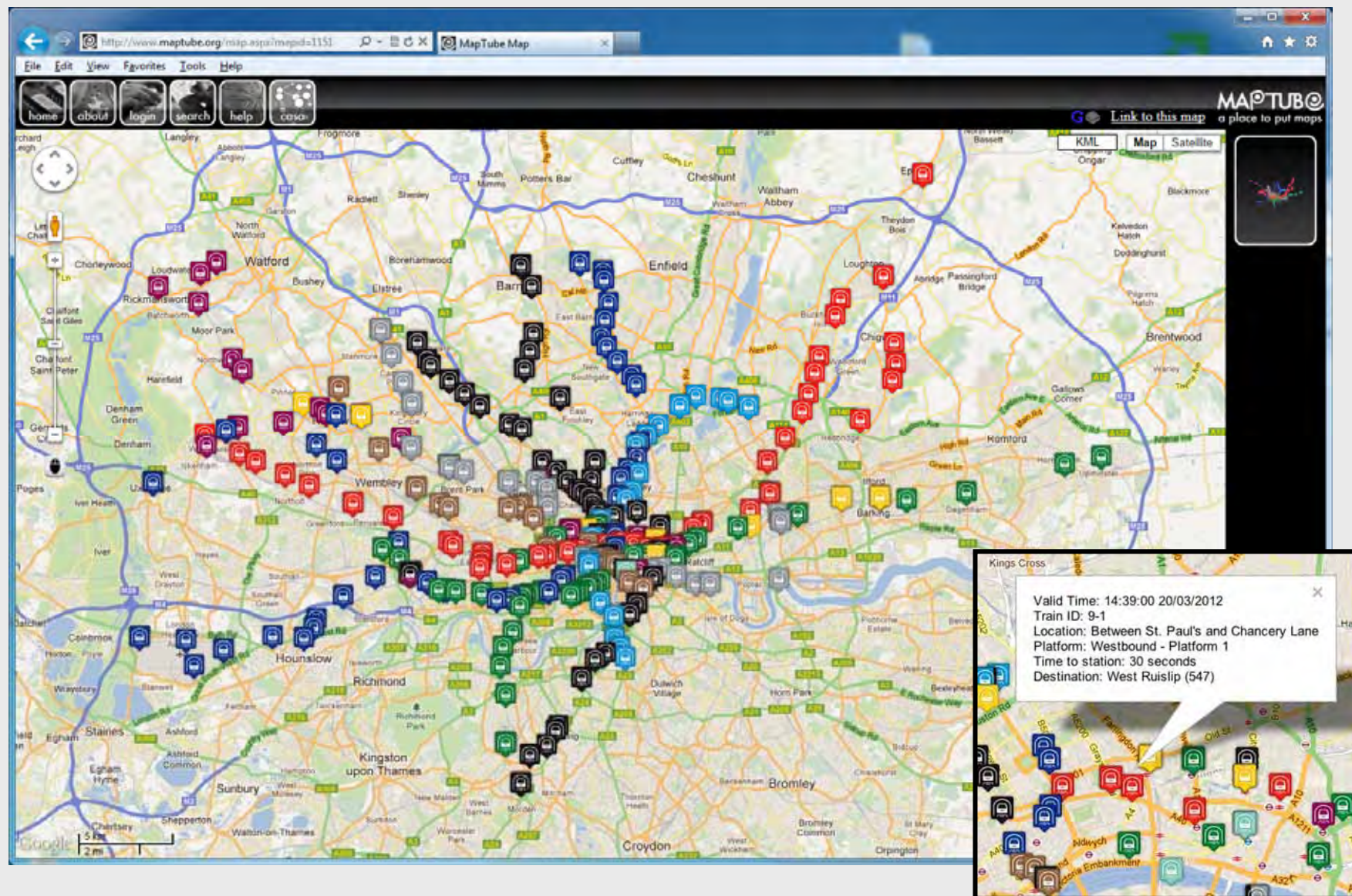
Measuring Regularity

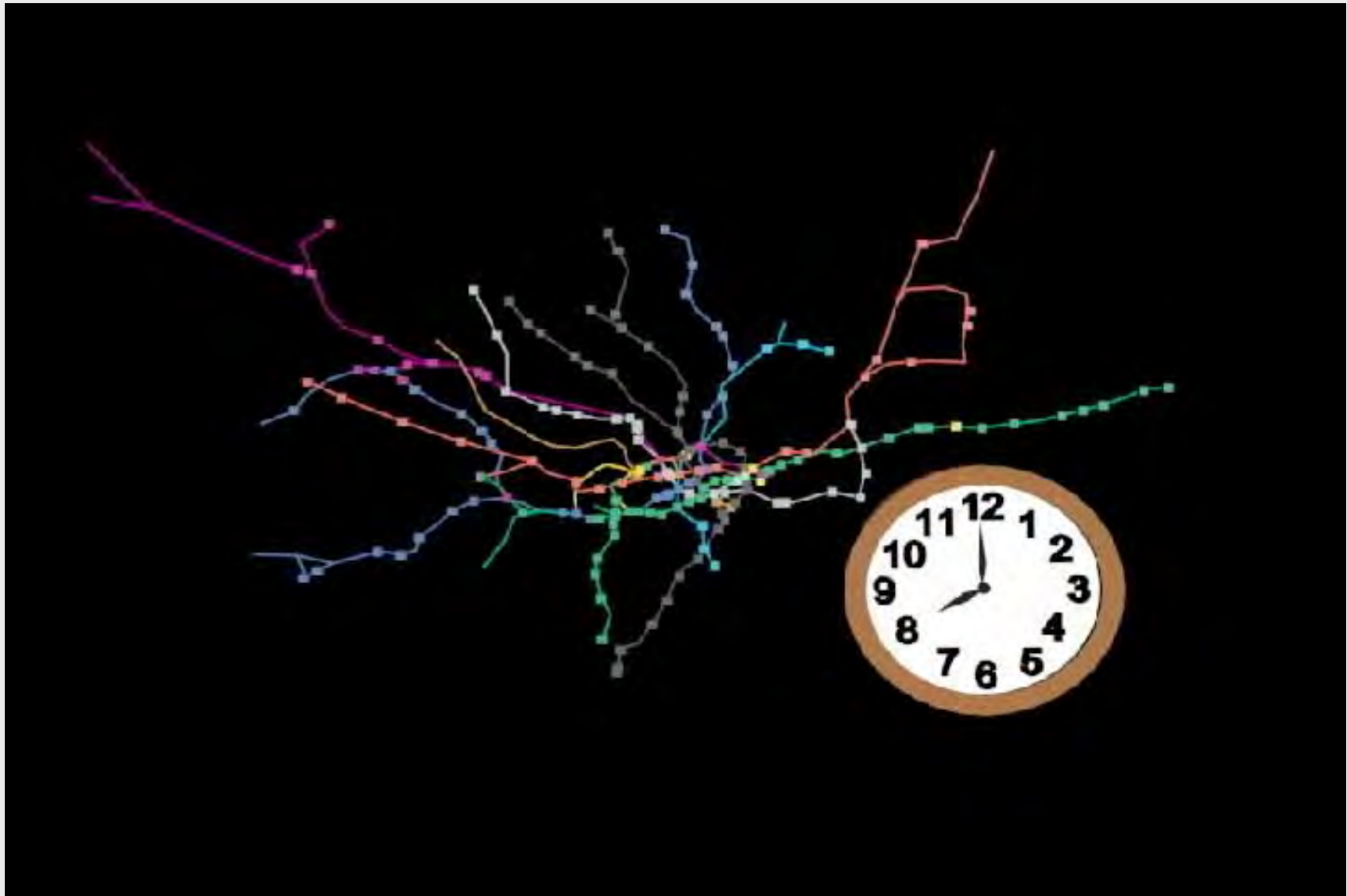
Highest proportions of regular journeys by each station during inter-peak period



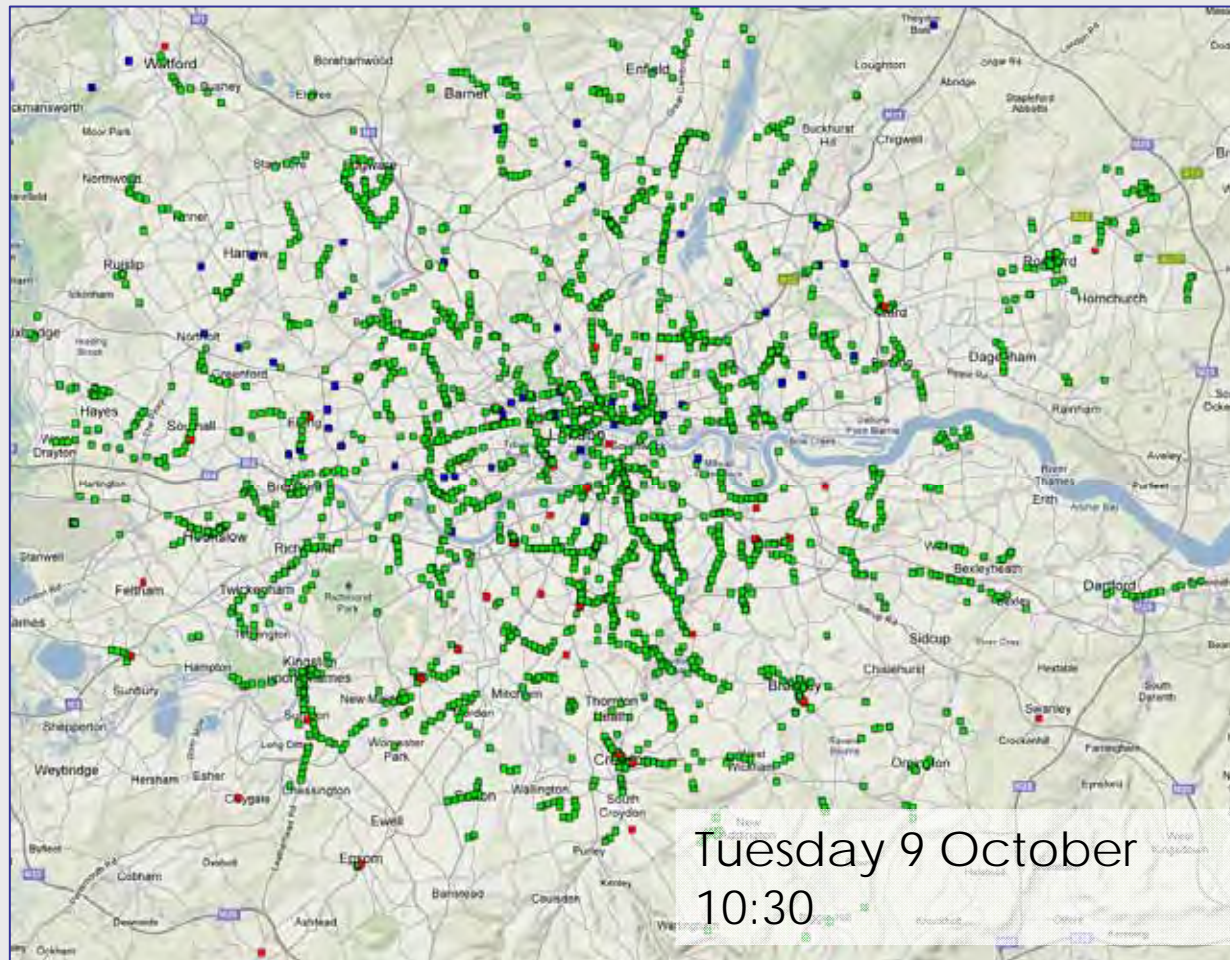
The Public Transport System in Terms of Vehicle Flows










Delays from Tube, National Rail and Bus Fused



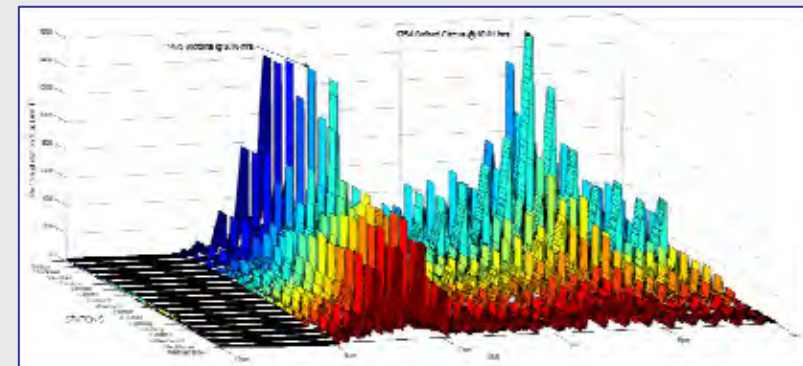
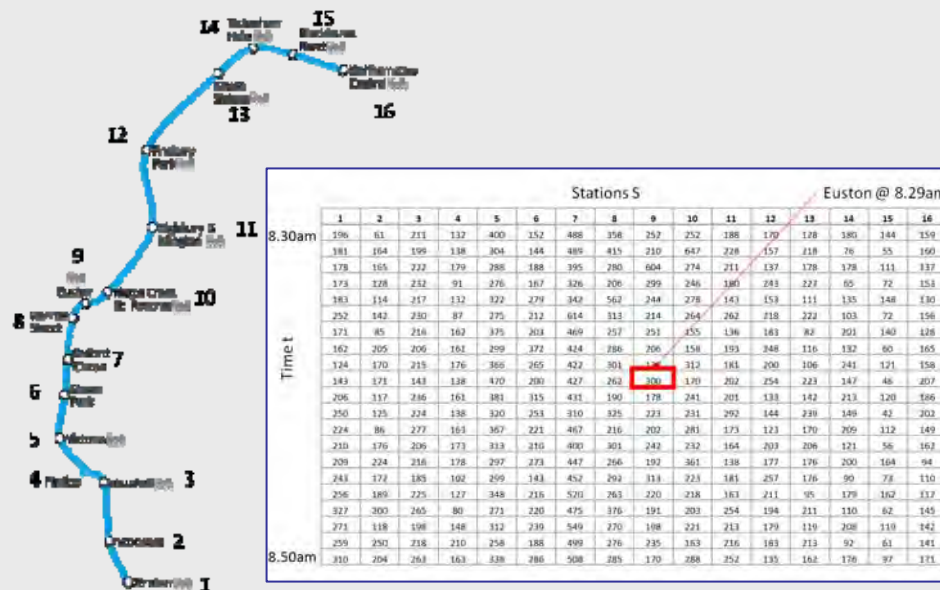
Key

-  National Rail more than 5 minutes late
-  Tube stations showing a wait time 15% above expected
-  Bus stops showing a wait time 20% above expected

Tube delays from the TfL status feed are also plotted as lines

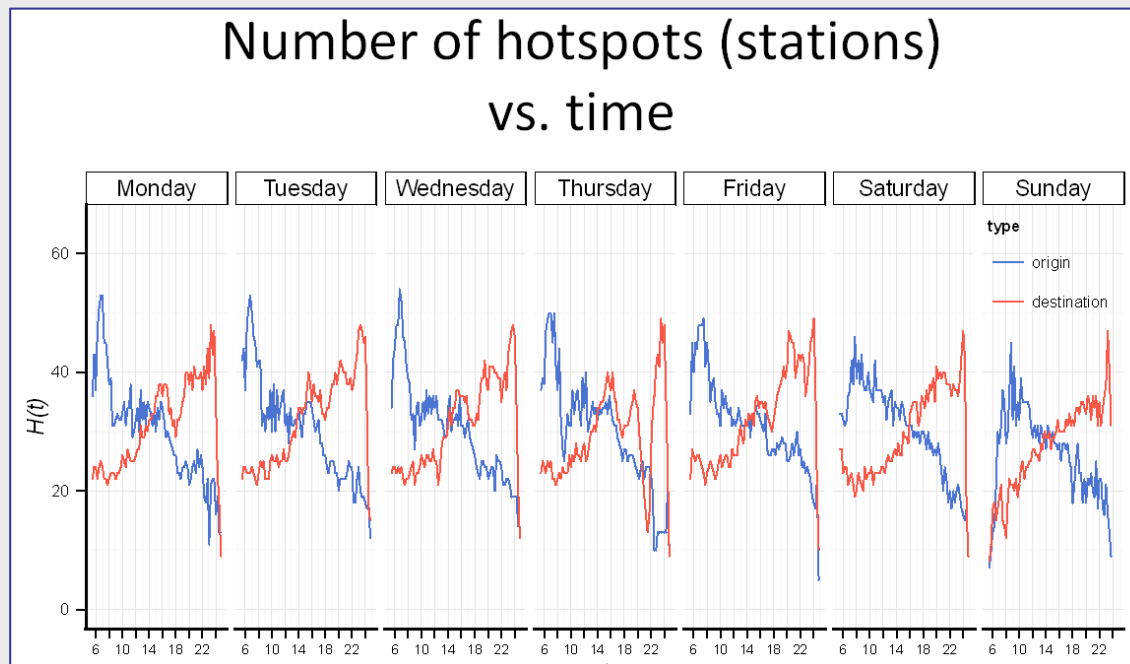
Locational Dynamics of Demand

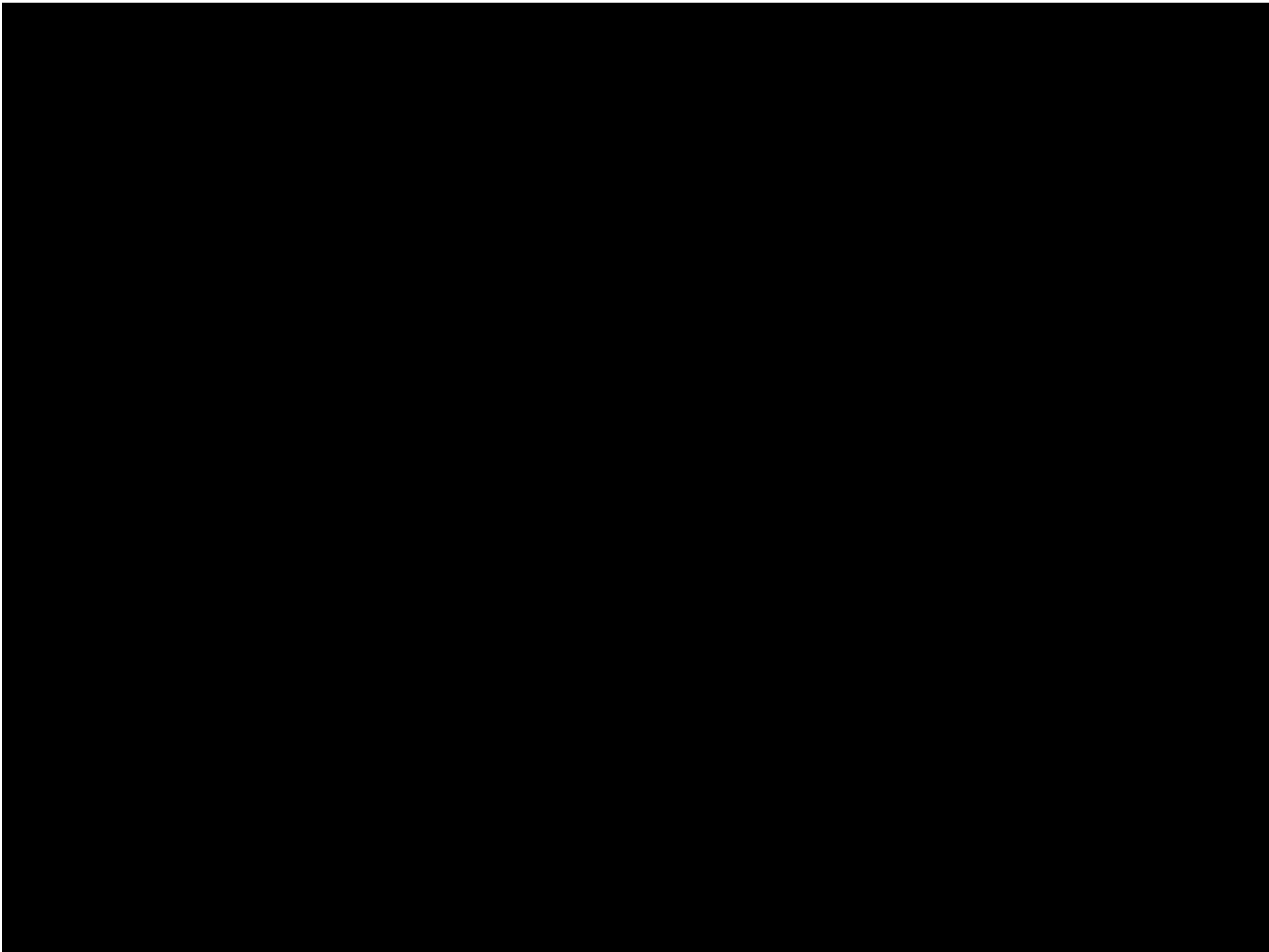
We are currently using information theory to figure out how much information from trips is transmitted from station to station through time by working out how many passengers are in stations or on trains in stations over time. We are using the concept of **transfer entropy** to do this. I don't have time to say much about this but here is a picture about this for one line



$$T_{YX} = \sum_{t=1} p(y_{t+1}, y_t, x_t) \log \frac{p(y_{t+1}|y_t, x_t)}{p(y_{t+1}|y_t)}$$

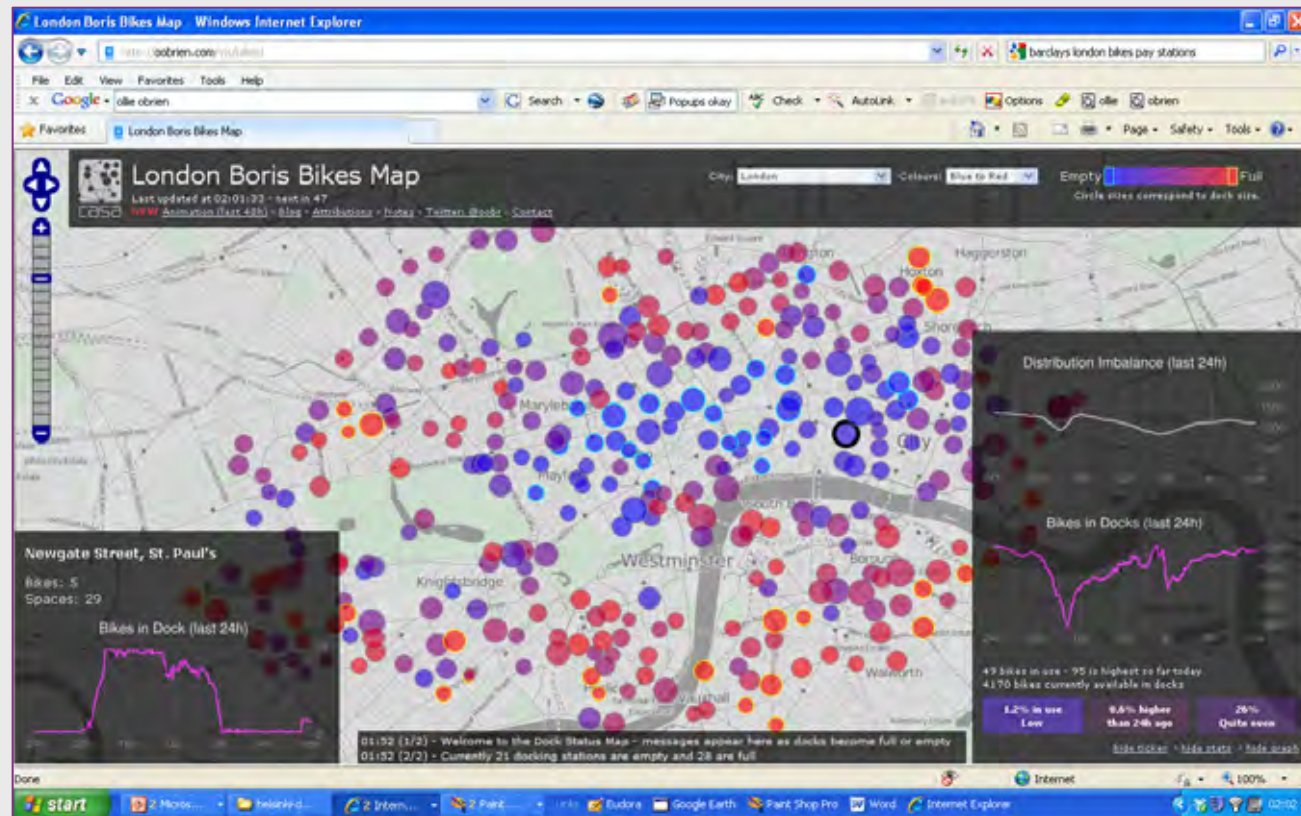
Second we are working with the Oyster data again with Melanie Bosredon in our group and Marc Barthelemy in Paris on extracting clusters from the travel data using a new method of defining intensity. I will show this as a simple movie of origin and destination intensities as they change over time of day.





Related Real-Time Data: Bikes, Social Media

A lot of data is now coming online for travel and one of our group Oliver O'Brien has some 97 bike schemes world wide for which he has online data in real time - Bikes Data – 4200 bikes, started Nov 2010, all the data- everything – all trips, all times, all stations/docks





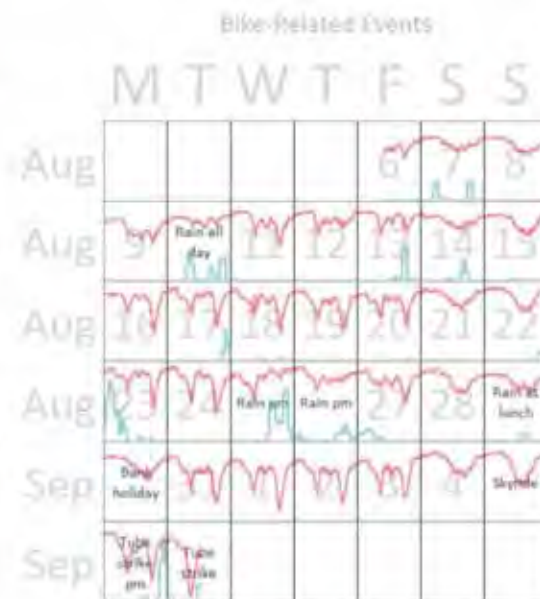
Animations of Public Bike Movements



Animations of Changes in the Bike Nodes; Docking

More Analysis

- **London**
- Graph shows number of bikes available to hire
- Effect of rain
 - Using the CASA weather station
- Effect of the tube strikes



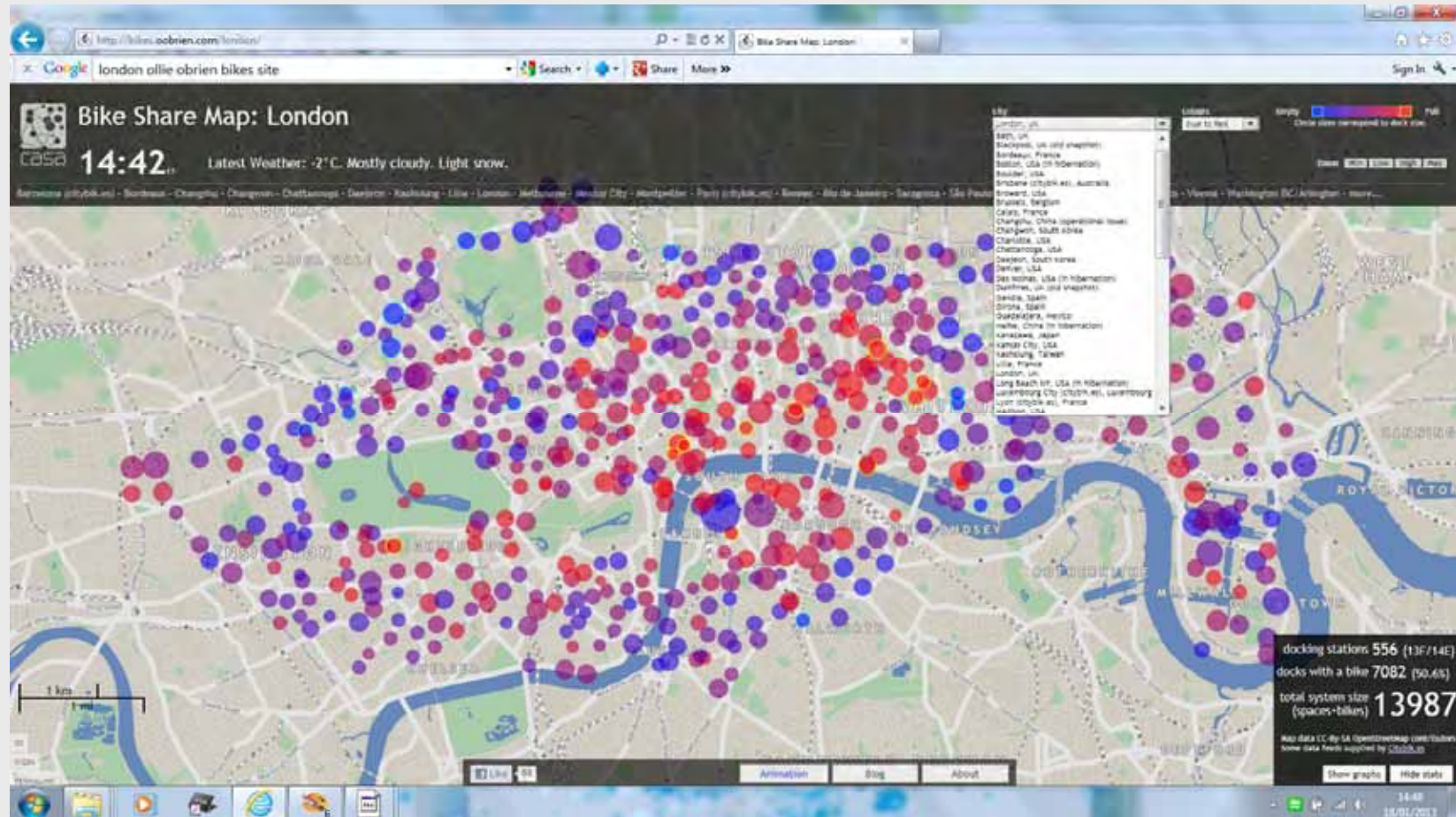
Bike-o-Meter casa.ucl.ac.uk/bom

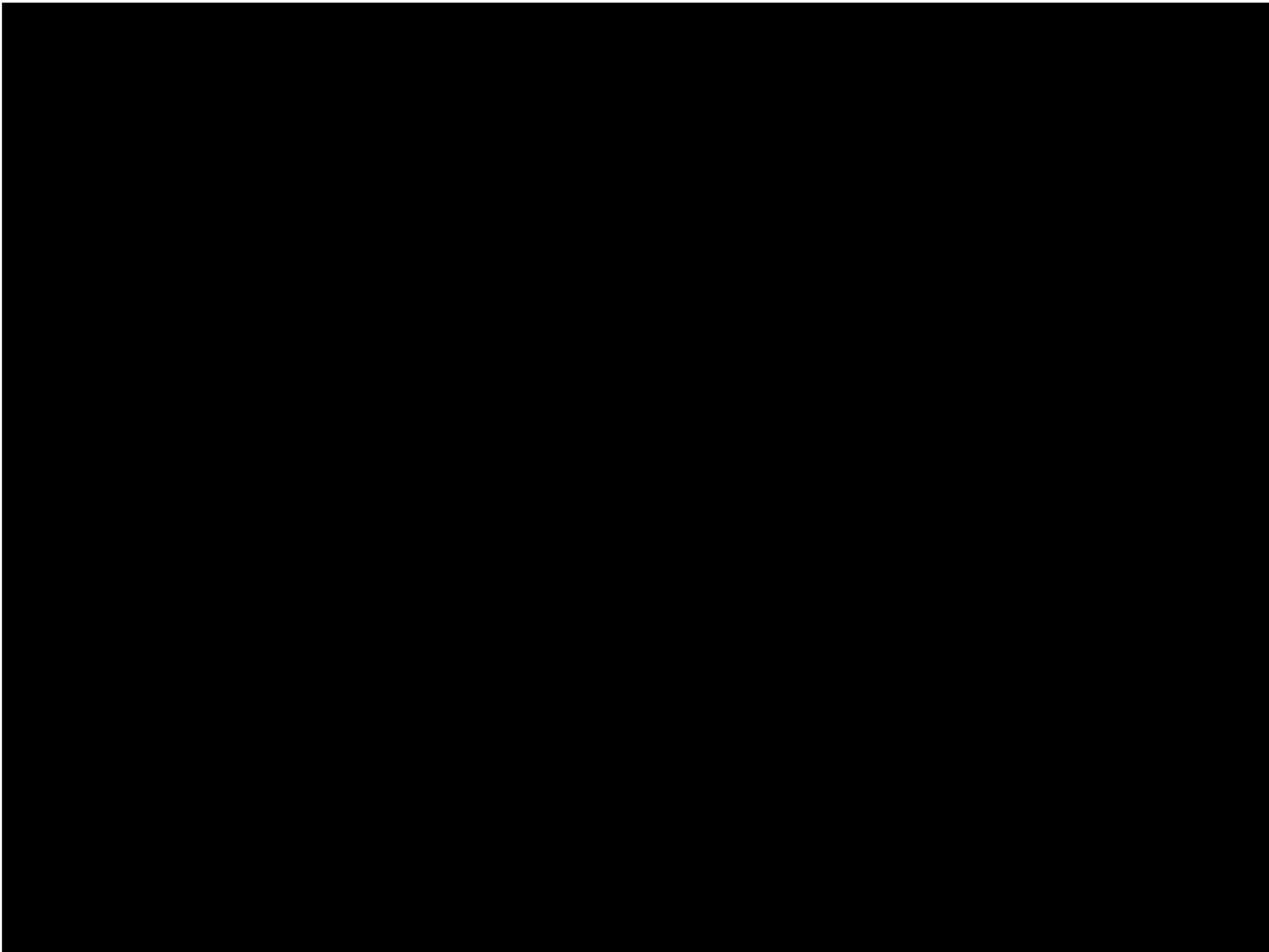
- Tweet-o-Meter for bikes
 - Steven Gray (@frogo)
 - Using Google Gauges
- See the real life Tweet-o-Meters at the new British Library "Growing Knowledge" exhibition
 - Should be easy to hack to show the Bike-o-Meters instead ☺

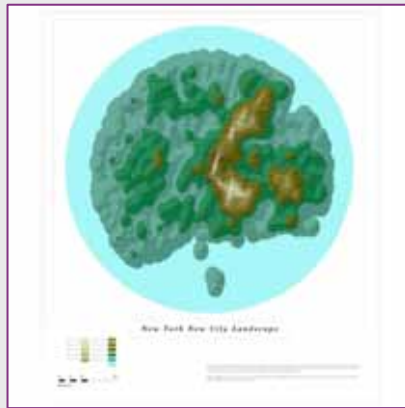


The Website: Real Time Visualisation of Origins and Destinations Activity

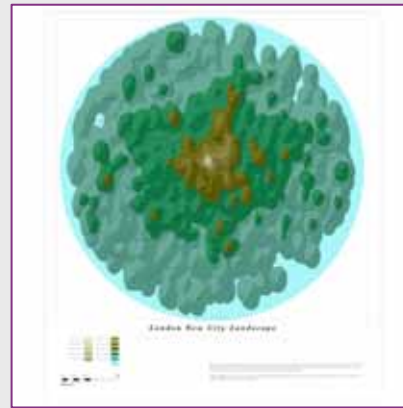
<http://bikes.oobrien.com/london/>



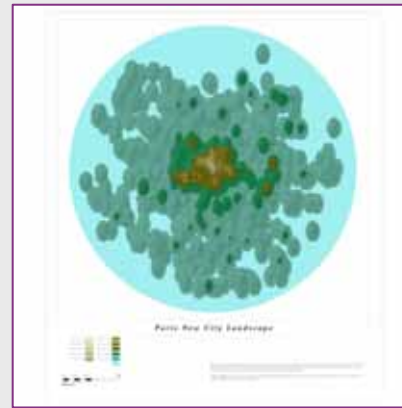




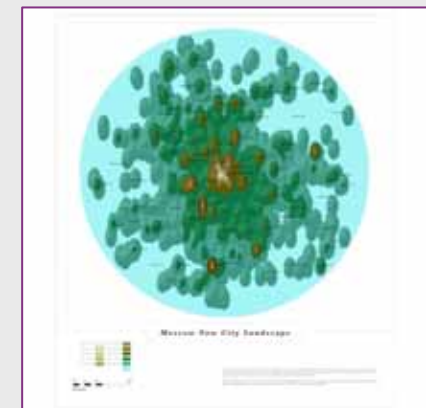
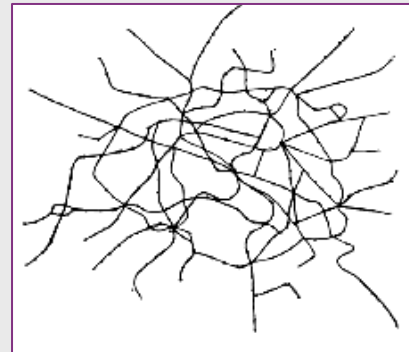
New York



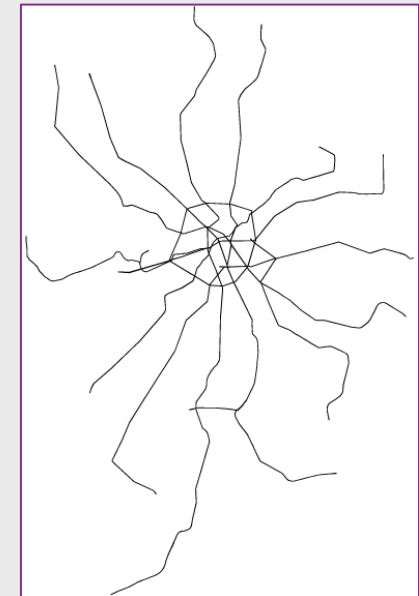
London

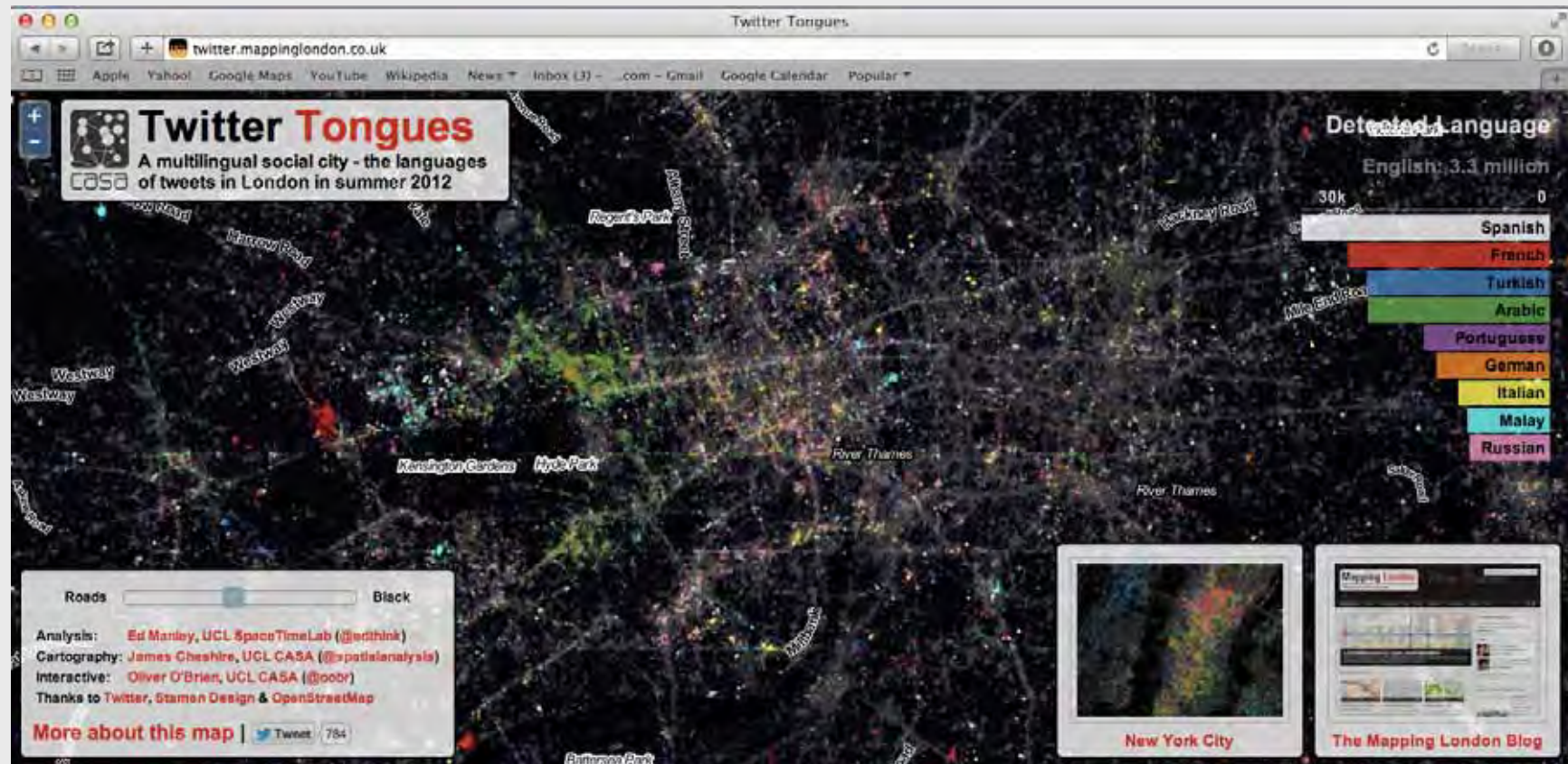


Paris

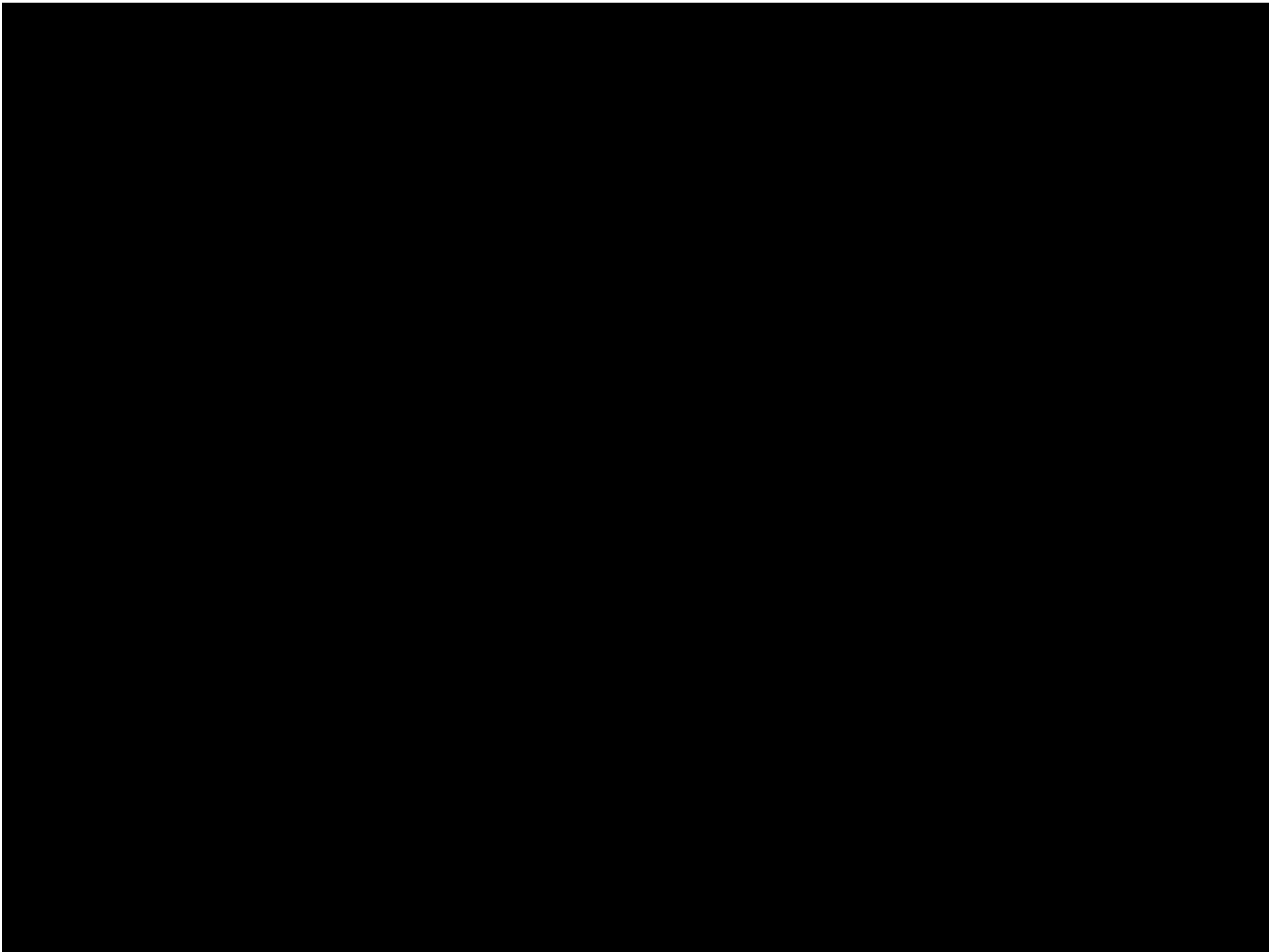


Moscow









What Can We Learn: The Limits to Big Data

We need to add geo-demographics to this data – how
– we barely have any possibility of doing this
because of confidentiality

We only have a difference between young and old in
terms of the card data

Chen Zhong my post doc, now a lecturer at Kings
(KCL) has done a lot of work on this relating to
extracting such data from related data sets
producing synthetic results –a paper in IJGIS

International Journal of Geographical Information Science, 2014
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13658816.2014.914521>



Detecting the dynamics of urban structure through spatial network analysis

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Finding Pearls in London's Oysters

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Public transport is perhaps the most significant component of the contemporary smart city currently being automated using sensor technologies that generate data about human behaviour. This is largely due to the fact that the travel associated with such transport is highly ordered. Travellers move collectively in closed vehicles between fixed stops and their entry into and from the system is unambiguous and easy to automate using smart cards. Flows can thus be easily calculated at specific station locations and bus stops and within fine temporal intervals. Here we outline work we have been doing using a remarkable big data set for public transport in Greater London generated from the Oyster Card, the smart card which has been in use for over 13 years. We explore the generic properties of the Tube and Overground rail system focusing first on the scale and distribution of the flow volumes at stations, then engaging in an analysis of temporal flows that can be decomposed into various patterns using principal components analysis (PCA) which smoothes out normal fluctuations and leaves a residual in which significant deviations can be tracked and explained. We then explore the heterogeneity in the data set with respect to how travel behaviour varies over different time intervals and suggest how we can use these ideas to detect and manage disruptions in the system.

Big Data, Automation and Smart Transit

Automation in transit systems is the most visible sign of how the city is being transformed to enhance the travel experience and efficiency of movement (Batty et al., 2012). There are many ways of achieving this but one of the most significant is the use of smart cards for 'fully automatic fare collection'. These smart cards usually contain the value that the consumer has agreed to load onto the card; they meet stringent requirements for anonymity and security; and their use is such that by tapping in and out of an automated system, correct payments are ensured. Smart cards like this, in fact, go back to the late 1960s and rapid progress in their development was achieved in the 1970s and 1980s when they first made their appearance as phone cards in France. Different varieties of credit card were then emerging too, and by

1984 in places like Hong Kong, stored value cards for use on their new Mass Transit Railway (MTR) had been introduced. By the mid-1990s, contactless cards came onto the scene, first in Seoul with the UPass card, and then in Hong Kong where they introduced the Octopus card, which was then extended to other purchases in the local retail system.

Several other cities followed, but one of the most comprehensive rollouts was in London where, in 2003, the first cards were introduced on the underground ('Tube') system. These are called 'Oyster' cards – partly in tribute, it would seem, to Hong Kong's Octopus card – but the official reason is that the Oyster Card protects its 'pearl' – the stored value – in a 'hard shell'; hence, the name which we have used in the title to this paper. Our particular interest in these 'pearls' is not in their value but in the raw data that can be extracted which covers 'where' the owner of

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Variability in Regularity: Mining Temporal Mobility Patterns in London, Singapore and Beijing Using Smart-Card Data

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Abstract

To discover regularities in human mobility is of fundamental importance to our understanding of urban dynamics, and essential to city and transport planning, urban management and policymaking. Previous research has revealed universal regularities at mainly aggregated spatio-temporal scales but when we zoom into finer scales, considerable heterogeneity and diversity is observed instead. The fundamental question we address in this paper is at what scales are the regularities we detect stable, explicable, and sustainable. This paper thus proposes a basic measure of variability to assess the stability of such regularities focusing mainly on changes over a range of temporal scales. We demonstrate this by comparing regularities in the urban mobility patterns in three world cities, namely London, Singapore and Beijing using one-week of smart-card data. The results show that variations in regularity scale as non-linear functions of the temporal resolution, which we measure over a scale from 1 minute to 24 hours thus reflecting the diurnal cycle of human mobility. A particularly dramatic increase in variability occurs up to the temporal scale of about 15 minutes in all three cities and this implies that limits exist when we look forward or backward with respect to making short-term predictions. The degree of regularity varies in fact from city to city with Beijing and Singapore showing higher regularity in comparison to London across all temporal scales. A detailed discussion is provided, which relates the analysis to various characteristics of the three cities. In summary, this work contributes to a deeper understanding of regularities in patterns of transit use from variations in volumes of travellers entering subway stations, it establishes a generic analytical framework for comparative studies using urban mobility data, and it provides key points for the management of variability by policy-makers intent on for making the travel experience more amenable.