



CITY-SCALE TRAFFIC SIMULATION

Gavin McArdle

UCD School of Computer Science





CITY-SCALE TRAFFIC SIMULATION THE DUBLIN SCENARIO

Gavin McArdle

UCD School of Computer Science



Overview



Building the Dublin Traffic Scenario

Multi-Agent Simulation

Input Data

Travel Demand

- Population Data, Car Ownership, Commuting, Daily Trips, Selection Choice, Social Network, Road Network

Results

Motivation

- Long Term
 - Building Projects
 - Infrastructure
 - Road Pricing
- Short Term
 - Emergency Response
 - Dynamic Road Pricing
 - Dynamic Speed Limits

Traffic Simulation

- Simulate Dublin Traffic
- Agent-Based Micro-Simulation
 - A population of agents performing a sequence of activities
- Large-scale (millions of vehicles/agents)
- Handles interactions between vehicles, junction crossing, congestion, etc.
- A single day simulation

Traffic Simulation

Qsim

Routing

Queue Based

Links in the Network have capacity (roads)

Adaptation strategies

Route selection, Departure time, Location choice

Agents have memory (a score)

Competing for resources

- Slot on the road network to complete journey at a given time

Equilibrium

Average score of agents stabilises

- Utility score – travel time



Traffic Simulation



Traffic Simulation



Initial Demand

Where/When do people:

Live

Work

Learn/School

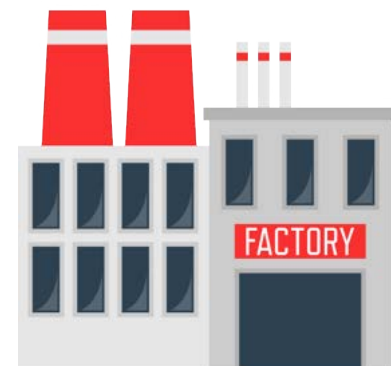
Shop

Eat

Entertain

Socialise

GO?



Initial Demand

Where/When do people:

Live

Work

Learn/School

Shop

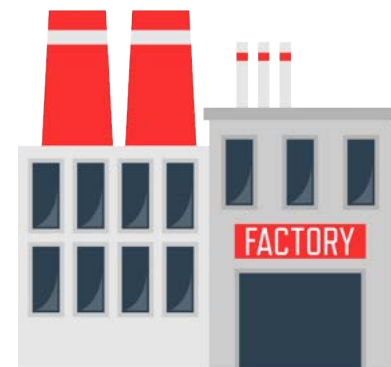
Eat

Entertain

Socialise

GO?

Spatial Data



Census

Conducted at small area level

80 – 100 households (18488 small areas)

Each individual's home is anonymised to a small area

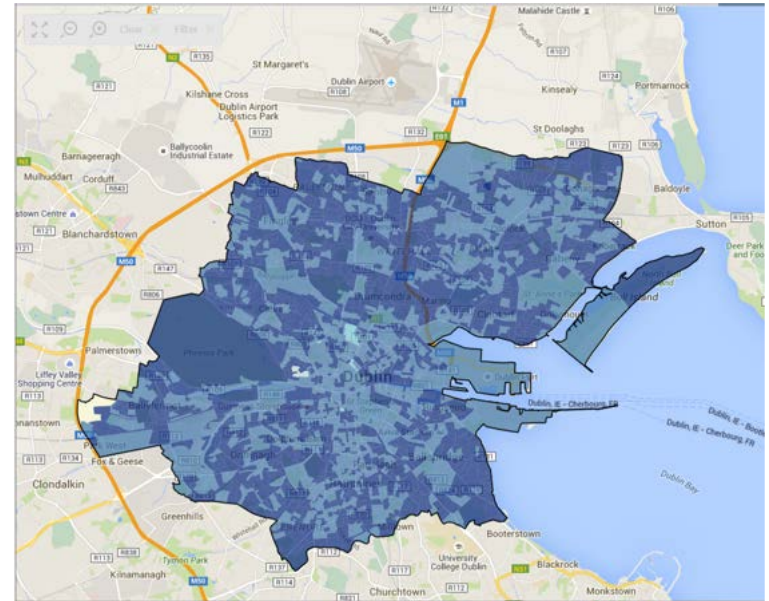
Requested Full Address of Work, School or College

Geo-coded using GeoDirectory for Rep. of Ireland
and Pointer for N. Ireland

Students

- Aged 5-14 or over 15 and indicated they were students in census question

Census Small Areas



POWSCAR Census

	Students	Workers	Total	%
Persons in private households or establishments enumerated and resident in Ireland	1,013,292	1,770,644	2,783,936	100.0
Place of work, school or college address (Q34) was matched to a GeoDirectory address point	929,003	1,360,800	2,289,803	82.3
Place of work, school or college address (Q34) blank or uncodeable	78,956	147,250	226,206	8.1
No fixed place of work indicated at Q34	-	148,177	148,177	5.3
Works from home indicated in Q34	-	106,055	106,055	3.8
Place of work, school or college address (Q34) was matched to a NI Pointer database address point	3,117	6,419	9,536	0.3
Place of work, school or college address (Q34) overseas	1,598	1,943	3,541	0.1
Home school indicated at Q34	618	-	618	0.0

POWSCAR Structure and Content

Tab delimited file micro data text file

First row contains variable names

Each subsequent row represents an individual (person)

Additional excel file with a description of the variable labels and codes (e.g. OSI codes)

42 POWSCAR Variables

Spatial data

House data (building)

Household data

Individual data

Some variables are relevant to students and vice-versa

POWSCAR Variables

Spatial Variables

Residence

- NUTS3, County, CSO Electoral Division, OSI Electoral Division
- Area Type (town v rural)
- Town Name
- **Small Area**

POWSC

- Location (IE, At home, NI, Abroad, Mobile)
- NUTS3, County, CSO Electoral Division, OSI Electoral Division
- Area Type (town v rural)
- Town Name
- Small Area
- **Fuzz East, Fuzz North**

POWSCAR Variables

Household Variables

Number Residents

Number Workers

Number Students

Home/House Variables

Year Built

Nature of Occupancy

One-Off House

Number of Cars or Vans

Household Composition

Highest Education of parents (students)

Unemployed parents (students)

POWSCAR Variables

Individual Variables

Sex

5 Year Age Group (not students)

School Level (students)

Religion (students)

Ability to Speak English (students)

Nationality (student)

Marital Status (not students)

Usual Residence

Highest Level of Education (not students)

Socioeconomic Group

Industry Group (not students)

POWSCAR Variables

Travel to Work, School or College

Means of Travel

Time of Departure

Journey Time

Experience of Using POWSCAR

POWSCAR added to Spatially enabled database
– PostGIS.

Individuals who live **OR** work **OR** study **in Dublin**
(GDR)

- Fixed place of work
- Means of Travel
 - limited to cars and vans
- Time of departure
- Residential Small Area
- Fuzzy East and Fuzzy North Anomalies
- Travel time
- No School/College



Input Sources – Initial Demand

Population

- Home Location

- Work Location

Network

- Road Network

- Public Transit Network

MATSim routes agents from their home location to their work location via the *road network*. Recursive iterations reduce travel time by avoiding congested routes.

Input Sources

Traditional Sources

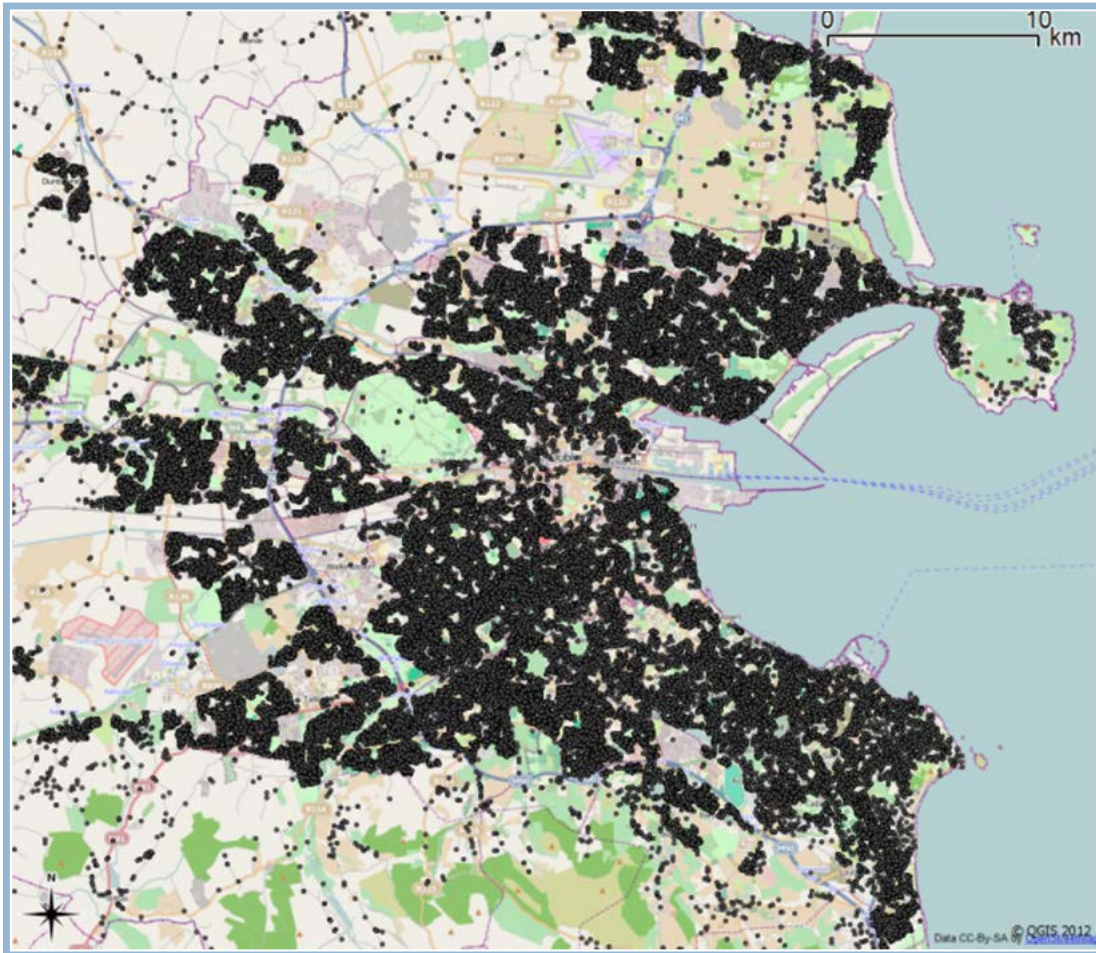
Population Census

- POWSCAR
 - Home Location
 - Work Location
 - Morning departure time
 - School/College Location

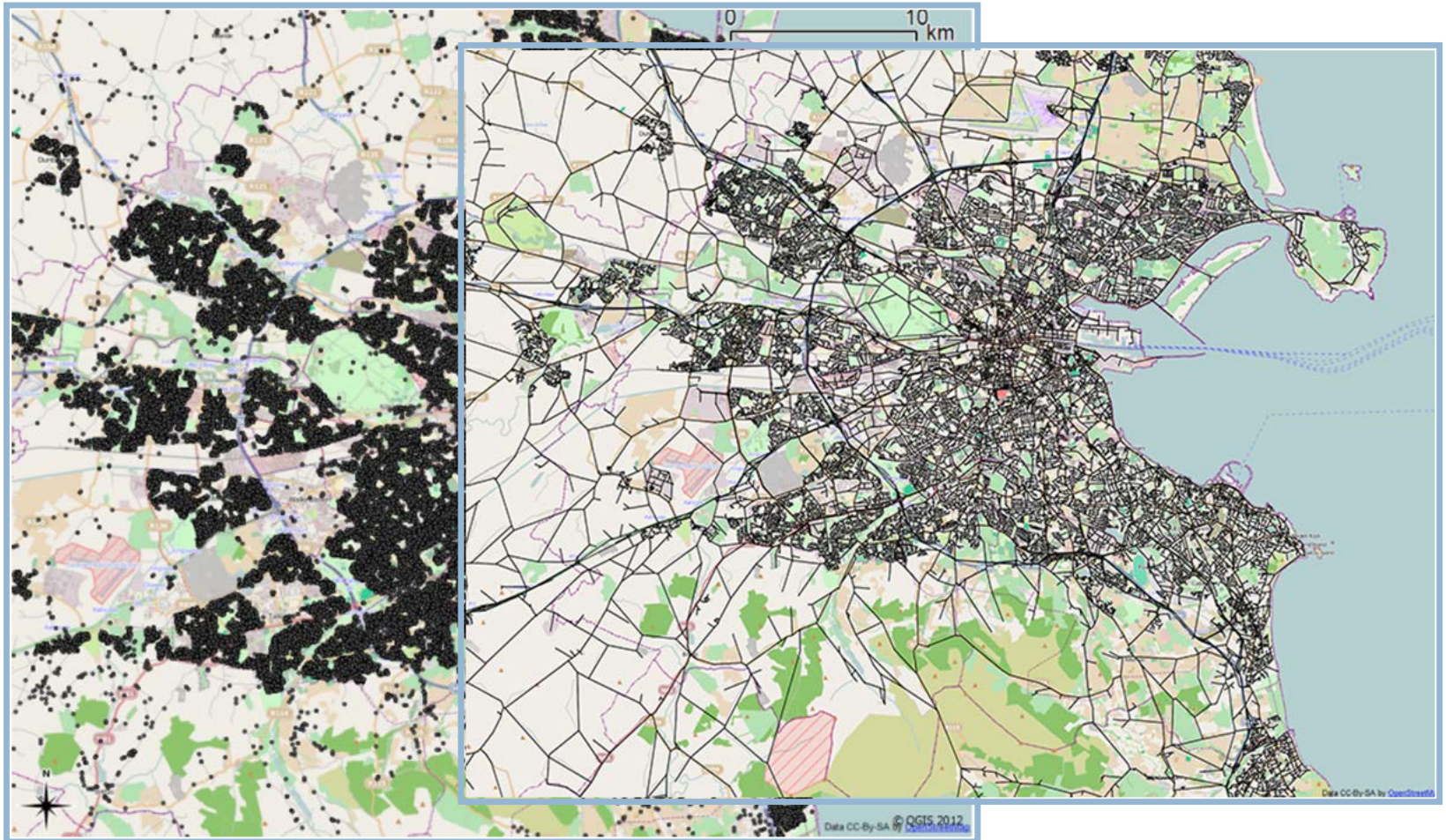
Road Network- Open Street Map

- Links and nodes
- Speed Limits
- No. of Lanes
- Class of Road

Input Sources



Input Sources



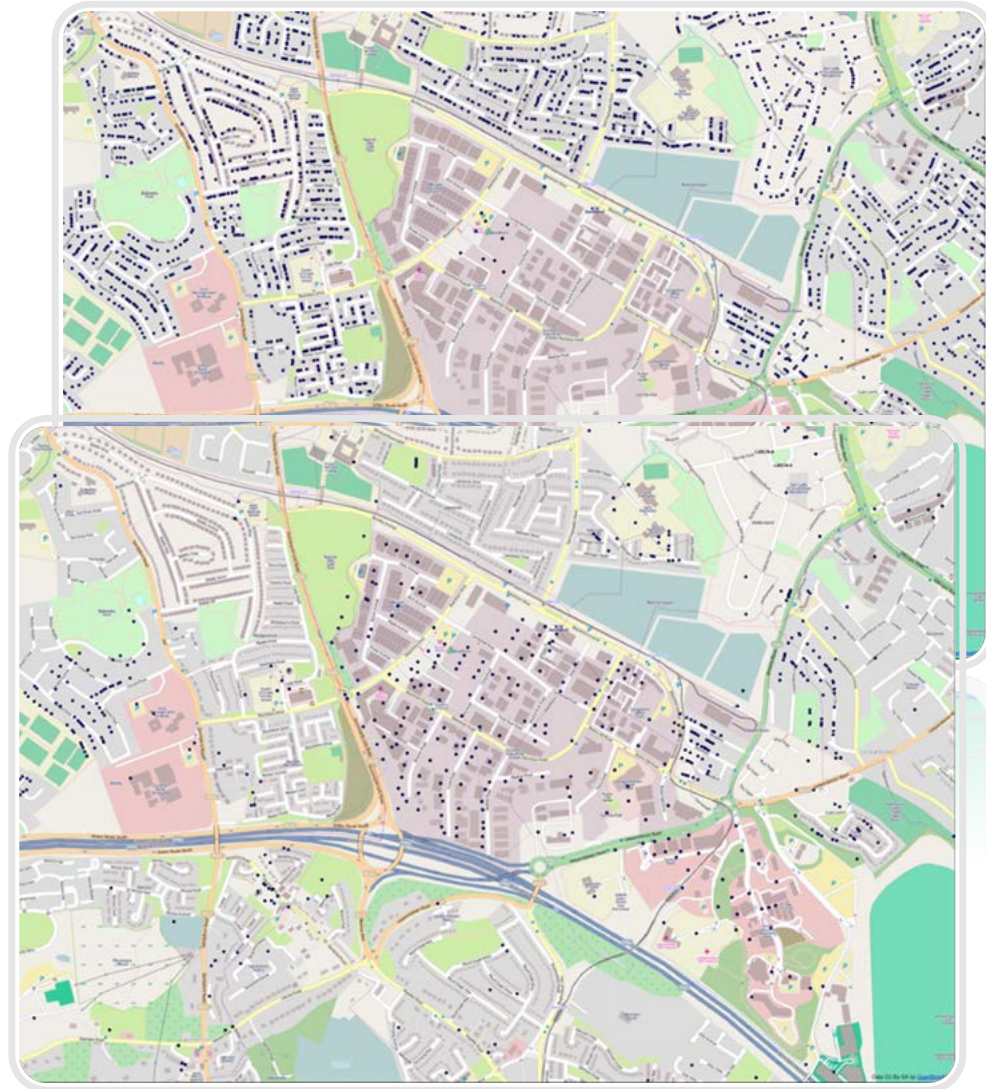
Input Sources

Anonymous Data

Required data fusion

Electoral districts/small areas for home locations

Merge with GeoDirectory to produce coordinates for buildings where people live/work



Input Sources

Irish National Travel Survey

16000 people kept a travel diary

- School/Education
- Shopping
- Sport/Leisure
- Doctor/Medical/Personal business
- Visiting Family/Friends
- Social/Entertainment



Where?

Home

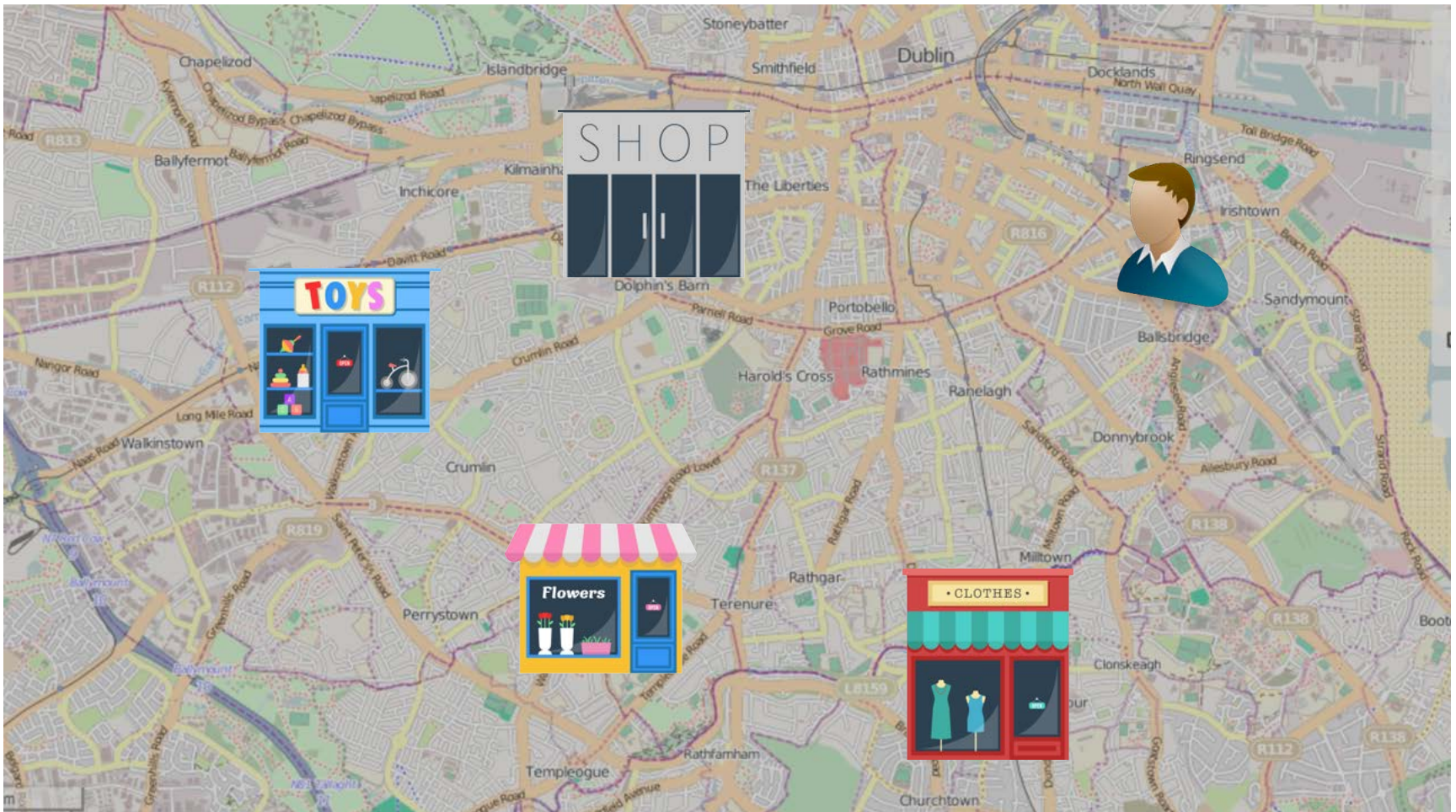
School

Work

Shopping

Friends

Home



Input Sources

Facility Locations

Shopping

Entertainment

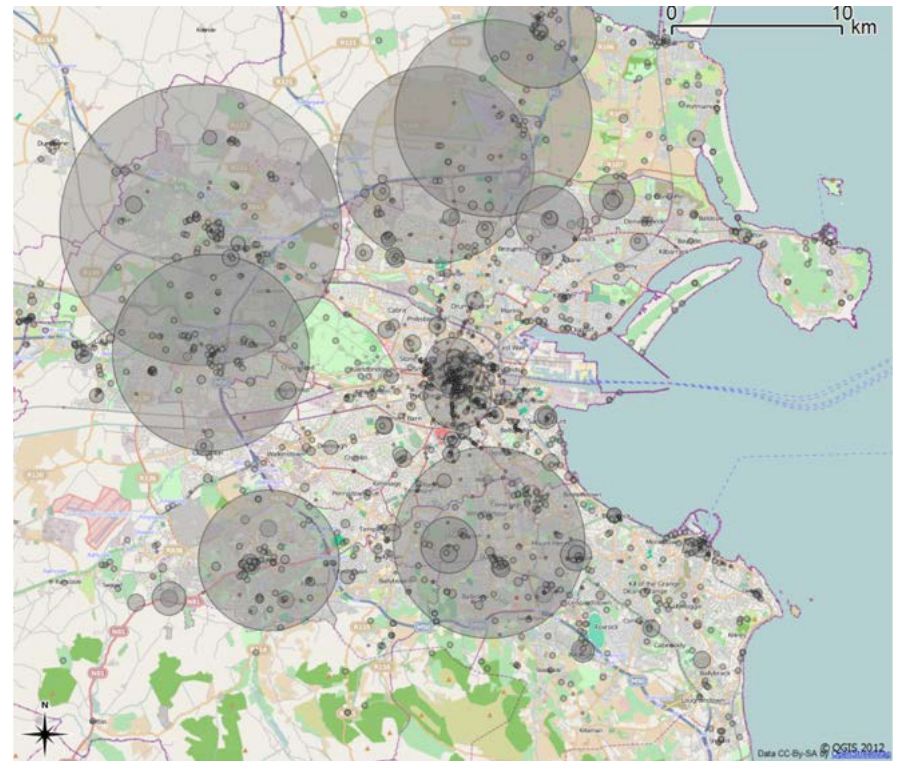
Sport

Facility Capacities

Attractiveness Score

Size of Facility

No. Parking Spaces



Spatial Choice Models

Radiation Model for Individual Spatial Choice

Based on model of intervening opportunities

Individuals have a demand for activities which can be fulfilled at multiple locations/facilities

Produce a ranking of facilities based on distance and attractiveness/capacity scores

The parameters are tuned based on demand patterns identified in on Twitter and Foursquare check-ins (optimal travel distance, etc.).

- Typical distances travelled for such activities

Where?

Home

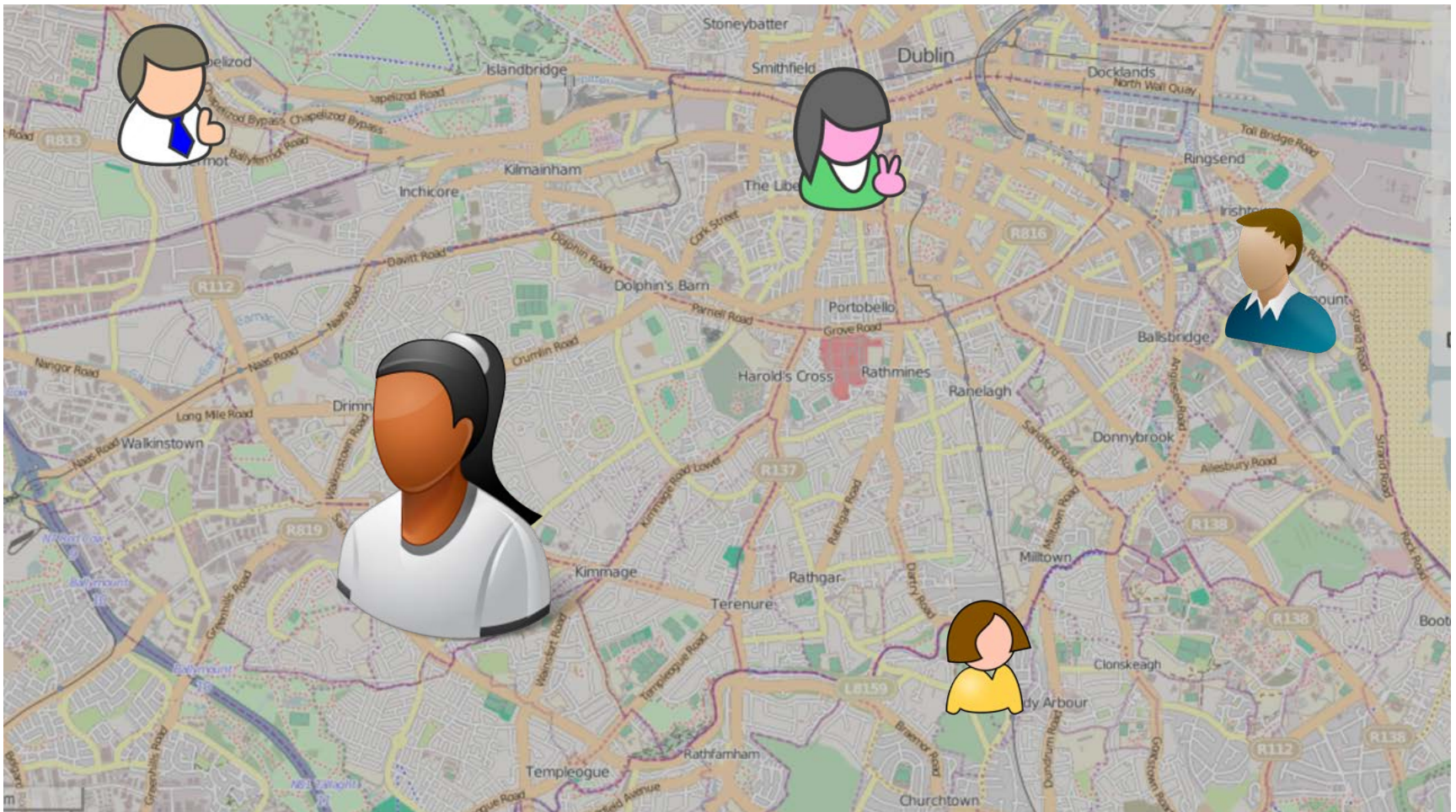
School

Work

Shopping

Friends

Home



Social Network



Geography of the Social Network is important

Probability of friendship decays with distance

Communities are spatially structured into enclosed contiguous regions

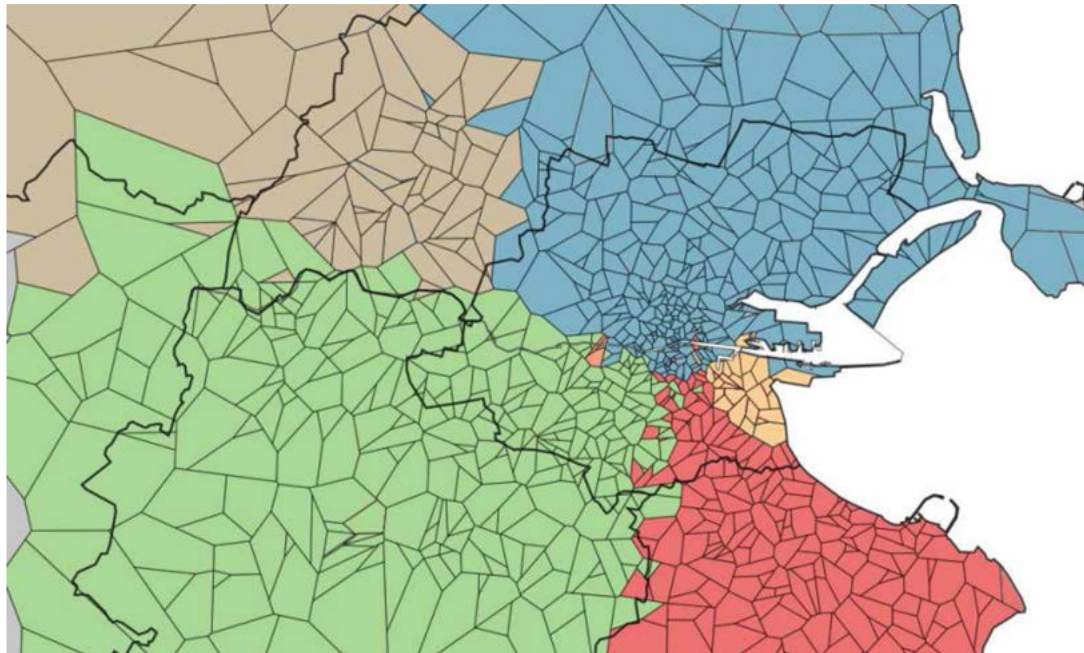
Utilised the social network built using CDR data

- Call detail records for cell/mobile phones
- Identify home locations
- Show how individuals are connected

Social Network

Reconstructed Social Network for the simulation population

Community structure



Simulation

Road Network
Facility Locations
Home Location
Drivers

- Workers
- Non Workers

Work Location
Activity Chains
Schedule
Social Network
Location Choice

The logo for MATSim, consisting of the text "MATSim" in white, bold, sans-serif font, set against a blue rectangular background. A light blue bracket on the left side of the slide groups the list of simulation components and points towards this logo.

MATSim

Output & Validation

Hourly traffic volumes and travel times for all road segments in the road network (Open Street Map)

Validate against ground truth from the National Roads Authority count stations

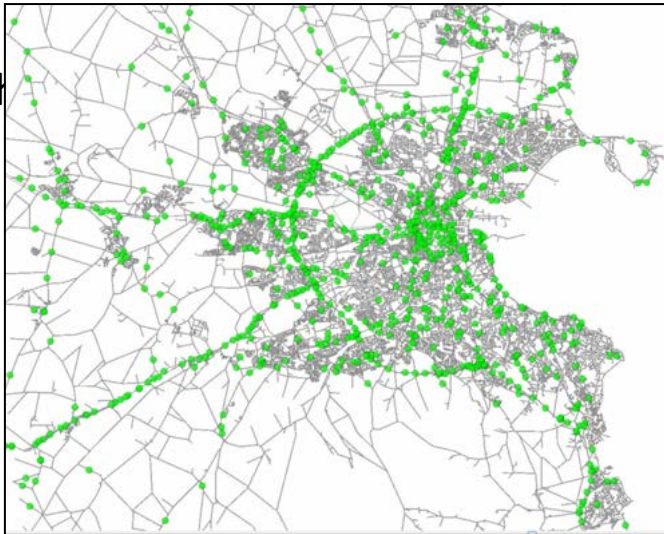
M50/M4 Count Stations Midweek (motors)

SCATS(Sydney Coordinated Active Transport System)

Compare *Radiation Model* for location choice with a *Nearest Neighbour* approach

Output

6AM
Pre 'Rush
Hour'



8AM
'Rush-
Hour'



8PM
Post 'Rush-
Hour'

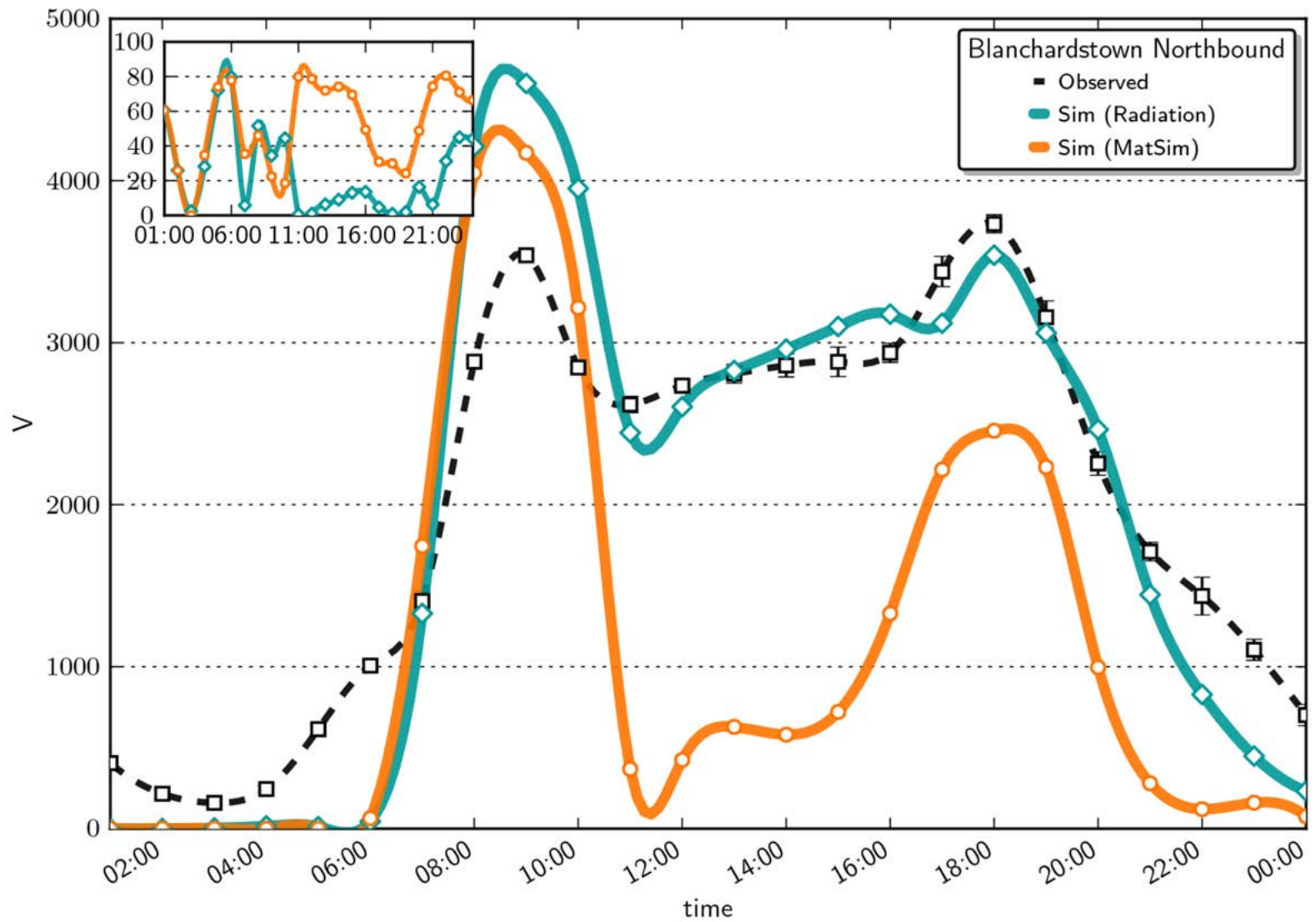


Output & Validation

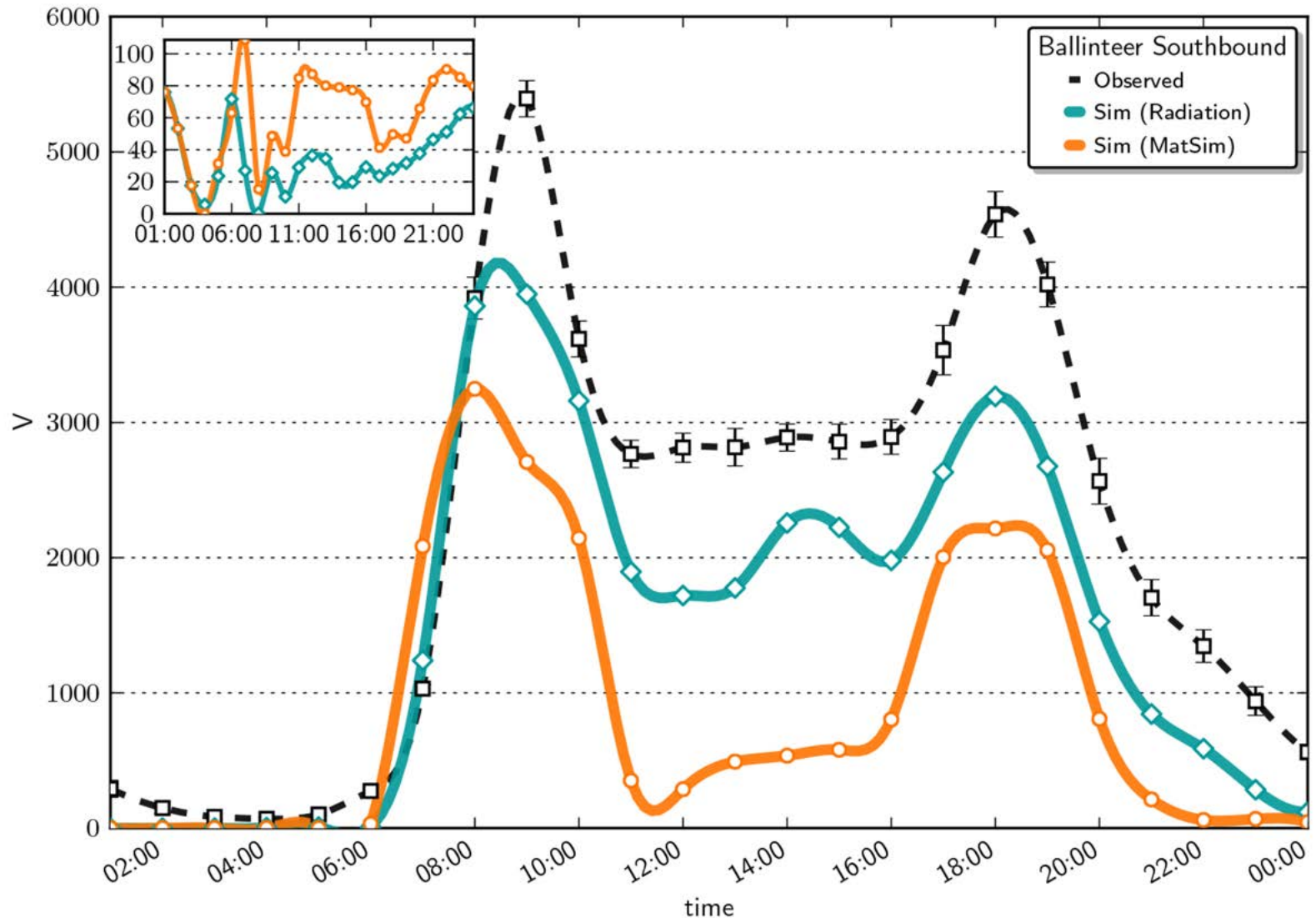


Aggregated Counts over a 24 Hours

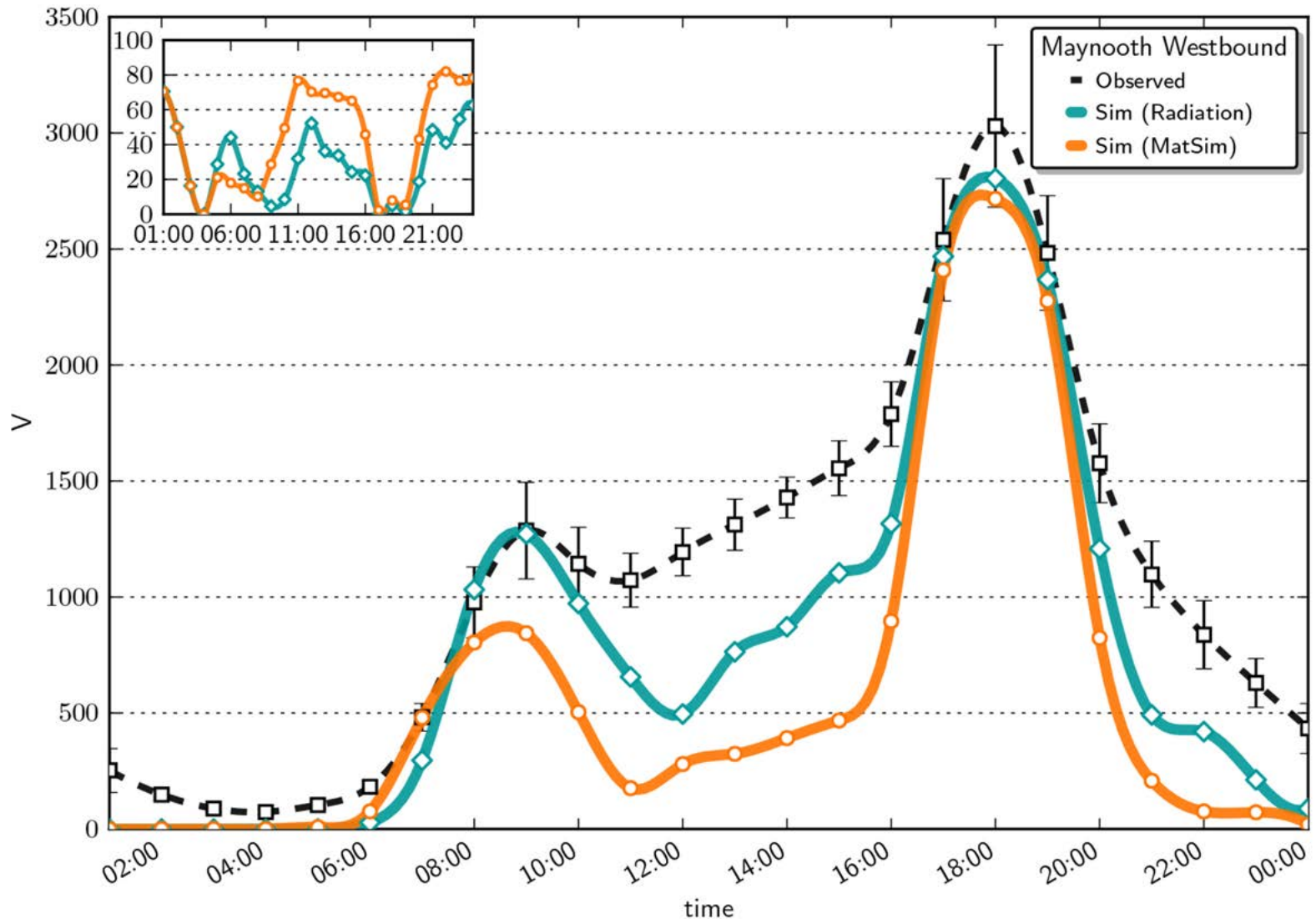
Blanchardstown Northbound



Ballinteer Southbound



Maynooth Westbound



Dublin Scenario Summary

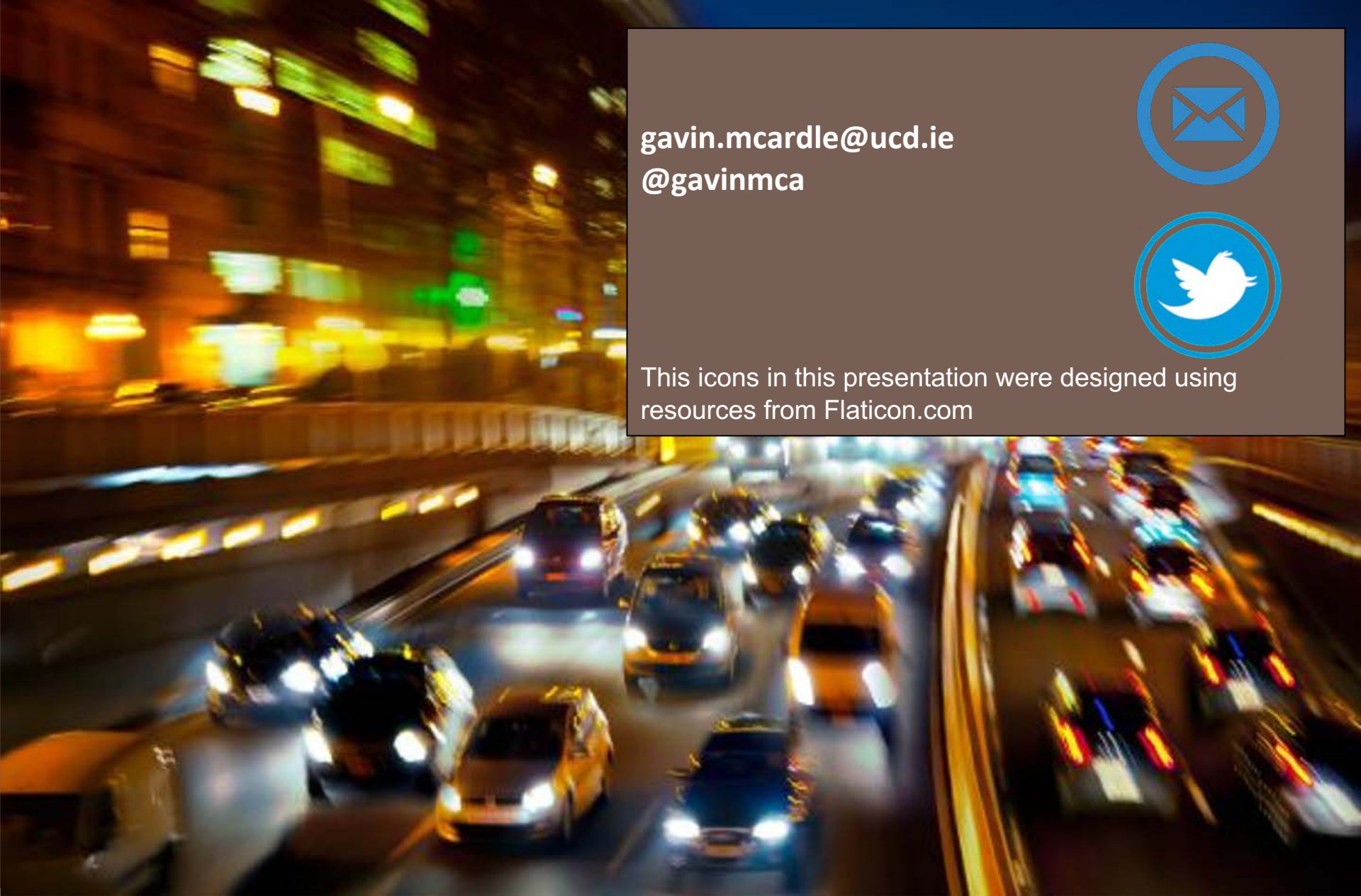
Realistic large-scale traffic micro-simulation account for work, social and leisure related trips

- ? 500k individuals (~50% sample)
- ? Commute patterns from census data
- ? Social network from mobile phone logs
- ? Leisure and Shopping trips using radiation type model

Future work involves increasing the number of individuals

- ? Integrating new datasets
 - Public transport
- ? Handling weekend traffic and large events
- ? Investigating the role of habit
- ? Investigating the influence of social network on location choice
- ? Integration of EVs
 - Charing stations
 - Variable Road pricing





gavin.mcardle@ucd.ie
[@gavinmca](https://twitter.com/gavinmca)



This icons in this presentation were designed using resources from Flaticon.com