Mobility-based Models of Epidemic Spreading

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Background and Motivation



Covid-19 (a global pandemic)



containment measures physical **distancing** business, social life **lockdown**

side effects economic downturn psychological well-being

need for more moderate contact-reduction policies



Mechanism of infectious disease spreading







5 Source: Matt Crooks, towards data science

Revisiting epidemic concepts







reproductive number

compartmental models (population-based) offline contact tracing



Basic reproductive number (R_o)

The **expected** number of people that an individual infects

 $R_0 < 1$ infection dies out $R_0 > 1$ infection persists

 $R_0 = p \times k$

p: transmission probability **k**: number of contacts

Ebola: 1.6-2







Beyond R0

(unrealistic) assumptions of R0

homogeneous population: all individuals are equally susceptible full population mixing: all individuals are equally likely to come into contact with each other

more realistic epidemic models need to integrate heterogeneity of individuals, e.g., different contact patterns monitor actual contacts of individuals



Offline contact tracing (through interviews)

time-consuming
resource-intensive
lack of accuracy





Digital contact tracing



Enabled by mobile apps, geolocation devices, etc.

- ✓ addresses limitations of traditional contact tracing
- × privacy concern



Compartmental models





SIR model

Time $t = \blacksquare$



Probability of being infected - β

Probability of recovering - γ



Individual-based models





mobility network / contact network

nodes: individuals **edges**: social interaction **contagion**: stochastic infection due to spatial proximity



Motivation





reproductive number

very simple
 assumes full mixing
 ignores heterogeneity of individuals

compartmental

- learning transition
 probabilities (as a group)
- X ignores heterogeneity of individuals



individual-based

- ✓ best reflection of real life
- monitor individual transition between compartments
- X requires extensive, very detailed data

focus of this research



Today's Overview

- Epidemic Spreading in Trajectory Networks
- Microscopic Modeling of Spatiotemporal Epidemic Dynamics

They offer two complementary approaches



Epidemic Spreading in Trajectory Networks

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Research Questions



RQ1: How to take (mobility) heterogeneity into account?



model **relative risk** of individuals as a factor of **their contacts** over time



RQ2: How to model epidemic spreading?



model epidemic spreading as **cascading** process in **dynamic spatiotemporal networks**



RQ3: How to contain an epidemic?



design **targeted network interventions** that aim at containing/controlling the contagious process



Problem Statement



The Problem

Input

• Historical data of individual trips (trajectories)

Output

- Assess the relative risk of infection of individuals
- Assess the size of a disease outbreaks due to specific individuals
- Assess the impact of targeted non-pharmaceutical intervention strategies
- Provide support to health policy-making



Methodology



Trajectories of individuals





Proximity network







Trajectory network





Modeling risk of infection



Three (3) methods for measuring risk of infection

1+1+1+1 = 4

5+1+2+12 = 20

 $\beta = 0.1$ 4-0.9⁵-0.9¹-0.9²-0.9¹² \cong 1.4





(1) # of contacts (node degree)

(2) total contact time

(3) sum of contact times in geometric function

 intuitive
 doesn't consider time spent in contact considers contact timeX long contacts skew result

 considers contact time
 very long contacts don't count as much



Modeling epidemic spreading



Simulating disease spreading on a trajectory network

we employ a stochastic agent-based SEIR network model

Each node (person) has a $p_{u,v}$ chance to infect their neighbors

 $p_{u,v} = 1 - (1 - \beta)^k$

where

β: transmission probability **k**: duration (in timesteps)





Disease spreading

Timestamp: 1



0

Disease spreading





Targeted network interventions



Intervention policy 1 (centralized): node immunization



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Intervention policy 2A (individual): avoiding high-risk contacts



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Intervention policy 2B (individual): maintaining a "social bubble"



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Experimental results


Pedestrian simulation data

map: YorkU campus map
(from OpenStreetMap)

trips: random individual trips based on **daily activity patterns** (with SUMO)

granularity level: min-by-min movement of 10k pedestrians over 30 days (with SUMO)

mobility network: spatiotemporal network (10k nodes, ~56M edges)





Modeling real-world activity patterns





distribution of activity levels

hourly activity



activity level

Synthetic Data Generator

Simulation of Urban MObility (SUMO)

- designed for traffic/ pedestrian flow prediction
- supports real map analysis





Distribution of relative risks of individuals



rrisk_u⁽³⁾ more smooth a 3x higher risk than b



Outbreaks due to "seed" nodes belonging to different risk groups





Direct vs secondary infections





Ro distribution of individuals





Intervention 1 vs null model (same # of random edges removed)

node immunization





Intervention 2A vs null model

avoiding high-risk contacts





Intervention 2B vs null model

maintaining a "social bubble"



SEIR progress ($\alpha = 20\%$)



infections for varying α



Comparison of interventions





Takeaway





Microscopic Modeling of Spatiotemporal Epidemic Dynamics

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Problem Statement



The Problem

Input

Historical data of individual trips (trajectories)

Output

- Assess the relative risk of infection of individuals
- Assess the relative risk of infection of geographic areas and points-of-interest (POIs)
- Assess the risk of infection of a (pedestrian) trip in an urban environment
- Recommend alternative trips that mitigate the risk of infection
- Assess the impact of targeted non-pharmaceutical intervention strategies
- Provide support to health policy-making



Methodology



Trajectories of individuals





Geographic area tessellation



We define **blocks** by applying plane tessellation using a hexagonal grid (**honeycomb**)



Block risk of infection



Block infection risk (1/2)

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What is the risk of infection of a **block**?

How they compare to each other?



Block infection risk (2/2)

the risk **brisk(b, t)** of a **block b** at **time t** is a function of the **#pairs of individuals** in **b** at **t** the risk **brisk**_b is the average risk of a block over an observation period





Risk map example (overlay of a geographic area)





Individual risk of infection



Individual infection risk (1/2)



What is the risk of infection of an **individual**?

How they compare to each other?



Individual infection risk (2/2)

the risk **risk**_u of an individual is a function of the risks **brisk**_b of all **blocks traversed**



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Point-of-interest (POI) risk of infection



Multi-block: POI-based hierarchical block aggregation





Point-of-interest (POI) risk of infection





Pedestrian trip risk of infection



Blocks and trips





Pedestrian trip risk of infection (1/3)





Pedestrian trip risk of infection (2/3)





Pedestrian trip risk of infection (3/3)





Pedestrian trip recommendation



Pedestrian trip recommendation







(a)











Pedestrian trip recommendation model





distance travel time infection risk


Risk-based trip/POI recommendation

Path Recommender	PC Recom	9I mender	Searched Results
OSRM	l	Gr	ass Hopper
Find a destination:			
Drive	W	alk	Bike
175 Hilda Avenue			
Finch Station			
eave now			
\bigcirc leave	yyyy-m	m-dd,	: 🗖
Submit]		

Input: Query





Output: Recommended Trips/POIs



Origin-destination trip recommendation

Input: Query (origin, destination, time)





Output: risk-based trip recommendation





POI recommendation example

Input: Query (POI type, radius, time)





Output: risk-based POI recommendation





Modeling epidemic spreading



Infectious disease spreading



assumptions

- SIR model: Susceptible, Infectious and Recovered
- seed nodes: some people are infected at time 0



Stochastic modeling of infectious disease spreading (1/2)



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Stochastic modeling of infectious disease spreading (2/2)



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Experimental results



Experimental Scenarios

Q1 Effect of POI visitor distribution on risk

Q2 Effect of POI visitor distribution, occupancy and initial infected seed size on direct infections

Q3 Impact of targeted and non-targeted intervention strategies

Q4 Impact of recommendation policy



Q1 Effect of POI visitor distribution on risk





Q2 Effect of POI visitor distribution, occupancy and initial infected seed size on direct infections



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Q3 Impact of targeted and non-targeted intervention strategies





Q4 Impact of recommendation policy





Takeaway



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Low

→ High



risk maps





risk of trips



hierarchical modeling



trip recommendations



Credits



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Epidemic Spreading in Trajectory Networks.

T. Pechlivanoglou, J. Li, J. Sun, F. Heidari, M. Papagelis. **Big Data Research** (BDR, Vol. 27, 100275, pp 1-15, 2022).

Microscopic Modeling of Spatiotemporal Epidemic Dynamics. T. Pechlivanoglou, G. Alix, N. Yanin, J. Li, F. Heidari, M. Papagelis. Submitted.



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Thank you!

Questions?

