

### Conurbation

PERTEMUAN 7 SUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION 2022

# The early conceptualization-1900s

Industrial towns and cities uniting into vast city-regions: conurbations (Geddes, 1915 p. 25). Centring around steel and coal manufacturing, with railway connection.

City---towns with different characters (nature, race, tradition, social functioning, and structure)----connected and growing----submerge all the differences under its growing process

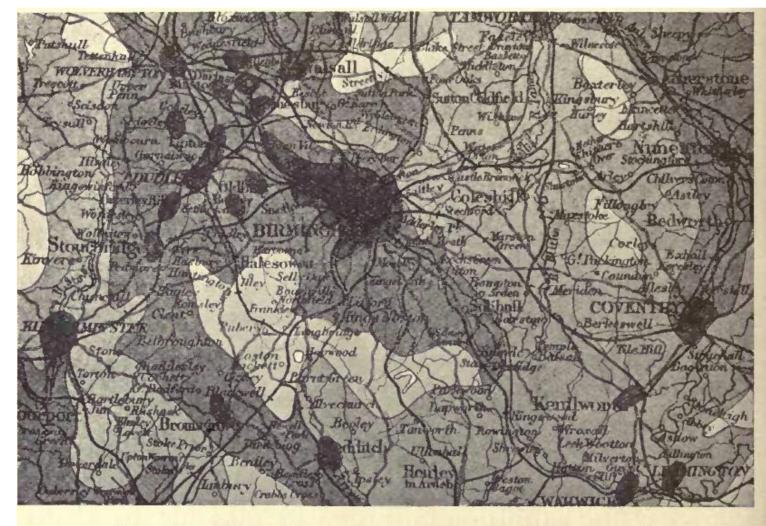


Fig. 14.—Midland towns agglomerating as "Midlandton."

#### Cities in Evolution Geddes, 1915, p. 34

Regional connections, growth, prosperity, towards a city-regions of Birmingham called MIDLANDTON or Greater Birmingham



# The early conceptualization-1900s

"Some name, then, for these city -regions, these town aggregates, is wanted. Constellations we cannot call them; conglomerations. But it may sound unappreciative; what of 'Conurbations' "(p. 34)

So the main limit of the modern city is the hour's journey or the maximum a person can face without too great deduction from their day's work (Geddes, 1915, p. 41).

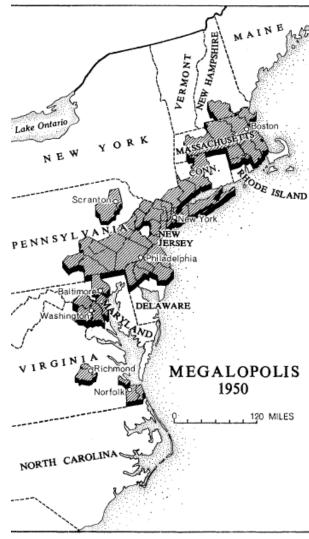


Fig. 1.

### NY to DC

Megalopolis grew up from the network provided by the early mushrooming of sea-trading towns along the coast from Boston to New York and then, along the Fall line, from New York to Washington.

The size of its principal urban nuclei, especially New York and Philadelphia, caused the subsequent mushrooming of suburbs filling in the spaces between the larger cities.

The early conceptualization-1950s

State Economic Areas, which showed clearly the continuity of an area of "metropolitan" economy from a little north of Boston to a little south of Washington



"The super-metropolitan character of this vast area, the greatest such growth ever observed, called for a special name. We chose the word Megalopolis," of Greek origin,

# The early conceptualization-1950s

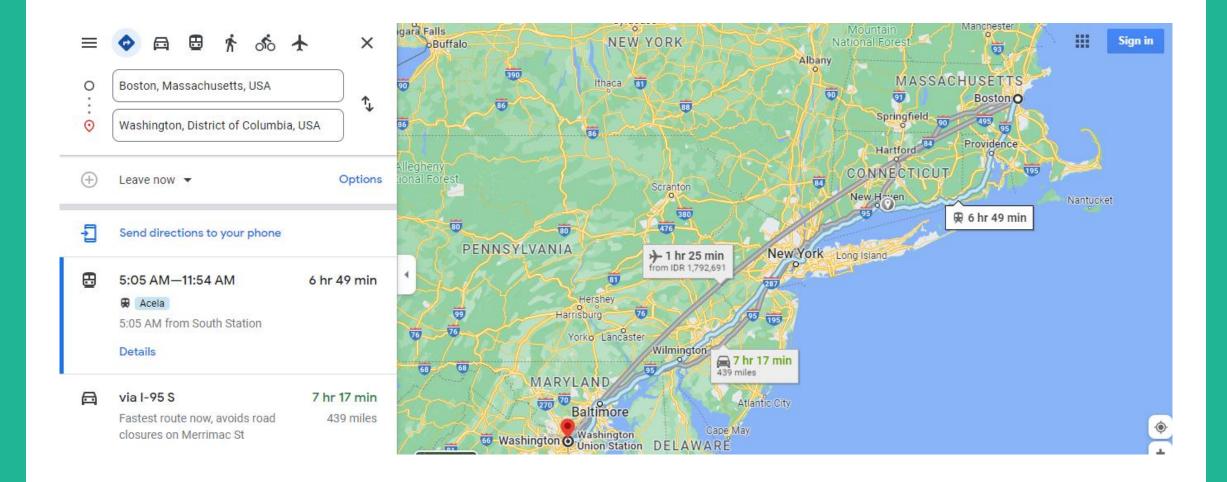
Railroads from New York City to Washington, D.C: main Street of the nation

By its size and mass, Megalopolis is both an <u>exceptional growth and a pioneer area</u>: <u>Exceptional, for</u> nowhere else could one find another concentration of population, of industrial and commercial facilities, of financial wealth and cultural activities

(1) Exceptional Growth of continuously urbanized spaces

More of such **enormous "metropolitan" bodies** can be expected to arise as the evolution, already well advanced in and around New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Washington

(2) Pioneer area: the processes which develop therein will help toward an understanding of and will forecast ways and obstacles to urban growth in various other parts



### Conurbation: Several terminologies

The terminology of conurbation was introduced by **Patrick Geddes** in his **Cities in Evolution (1915): Germany's Ruhr** and the **Netherlands'** 'Randstad Area'

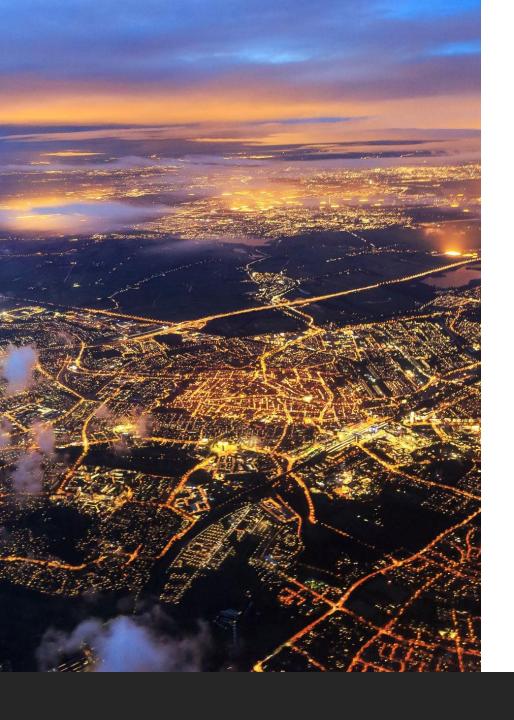
**Jean Gottmann** in 1957 mentioned the term 'megalopolis': a 700 km-long chain of closely linked cities from **Boston to Washington**, **DC** 

Extended metropolitan region (McGee 1991)

Mega-urban region (McGee and Robinson 1995; Douglass 2000),

Megaregion (Hoyler and Harrison 2015)

Others



### Conurbation

A conurbation is a region comprising a number of cities, large towns, and other urbanized and/or nominally rural areas which, through population growth and physical expansion, have merged to form a continuous urban and economically developed area that functions as a single economic entity (Friedmann and Sorensen, 2019)



### Mega Conurbation or Mega Urban Region in Asia

- the growth and knitting together of multiple metropolitan areas into huge pluricentric urban regions that function in at least some respects as integrated urban entities
- 2. becoming more prevalent in Asia
- 3. occurring at ever-larger scales, and in many places is happening at unprecedented speeds
- 4. mega-conurbations as a major challenge for urban and more specifically planning research

# Asia's Mega Conurbation: constitute a single, interactive urban system

People flows

Capital flows

Commodity flows

Information flows from face to face to electronically mediated in cyberspace (the noösphere)

Water flows;

Electric energy flows

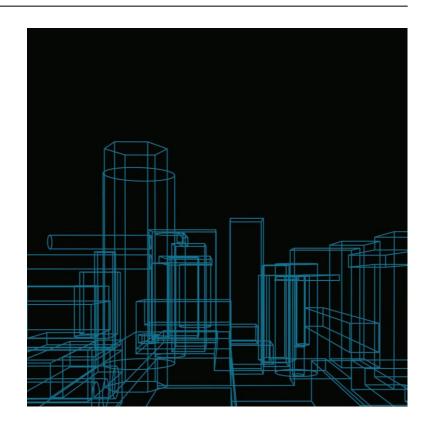
Transportation flows

Flows of solid and liquid waste and air pollution

# Mega-Conurbation or Mega Urban Region in Asia

a mega-conurbation can be said to be a largely open, self-organizing, and adaptive system of

- (1) physical structures
- (2) human beings acting both individually and through organizations
- (3) institutions that structure patterns of action and change
- (4) aggregations of urban spatial fabric and capital investment that are created during processes of urbanization.



# Mega-Conurbation or Mega Urban Region n Asia

a system is vitally dependent on the natural systems in which it is embedded and from which it draws key inputs such as water, and food



structured by the geographical and political settings in which it is located

#### Complex socio-spatial system

Limited information to understand the system (neither completely knowable nor, in the longer term, predictable (Lindblom 1965))

infrastructure decisions tend to follow rather than lead demand

the roles of governance and planning processes in shaping patterns of change must be questioned

The Challenge of Mega-Conurbation in Asia

# The Challenge of Mega-Conurbation in Asia

Rapid Periurban Growth

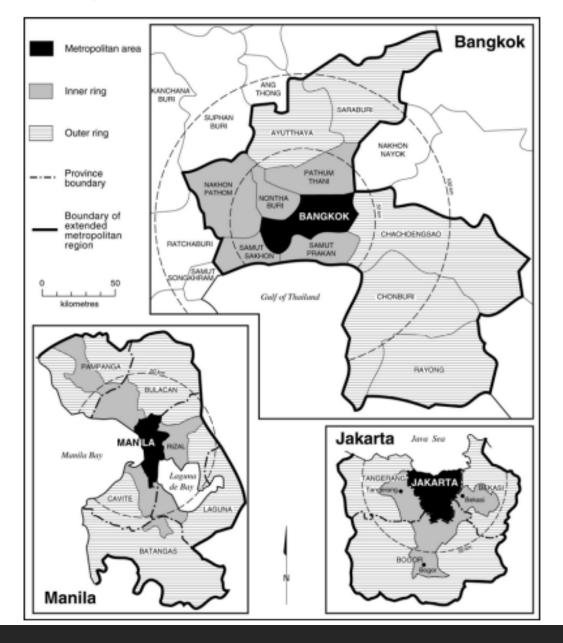
Periurban zones can thus be thought of as zones of transition from an originally rural to a progressively urban character and land use

These areas are therefore invariably zones of intense change and conflict between competing actors and between conflicting development approaches and projects.

We consider that a fundamental process in mega-conurbations is the ongoing production of new urban space, and the governance of public and private capital investment in those processes.

Challenge of Coordination

Figure 1 Zones of the extended metropolitan regions of Bangkok, Manila and Jakarta



# Southeast Asia Mega Urban Region

# The Challenge of Mega-Conurbation

mega-conurbations produced by their scale, density, speed of development, and their multiplicity of governance and power centres

modelling provide limited guidance to planning, in part because necessarily inadequate data

radical uncertainty, we still must make choices.

spatial planning should focus on an 'extended present' rather than on longer-term goals, and second that such efforts should focus primarily on mitigating the negative externalities associated with hyper rapid growth

three levels of spatial planning: at the scale of the mega-conurbation as a whole, at the meso (metropolitan or municipal) scale, and at the micro scale of neighbourhood communities

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