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EDITORIAL PREFACE

Geoinformatica – An International Journal (GIJ) is an effective medium for interchange of high quality theoretical and applied research in Geoinformatica domain from theoretical research to application development. This is the *Second* Issue of Volume *Two* of GIJ. The Journal is published bi-monthly, with papers being peer reviewed to high international standards. GIJ emphasizes on efficient and effective geomatic sciences, and provides a central for a deeper understanding in the discipline by encouraging the quantitative comparison and performance evaluation of the emerging components of Geoinformatica. Some of the important topics are spatial ontologies, computational geometry and visualization for geographic information systems, geostatistics and spatial statistics, spatial analysis, interoperability, and innovative applications of geotechnologies etc.

The initial efforts helped to shape the editorial policy and to sharpen the focus of the journal. Started with Volume 2, 2012, GIJ appear with more focused issues. Besides normal publications, GIJ intend to organized special issues on more focused topics. Each special issue will have a designated editor (editors) – either member of the editorial board or another recognized specialist in the respective field.

GIJ give an opportunity to scientists, researchers, and vendors from different disciplines of Geoinformatica to share the ideas, identify problems, investigate relevant issues, share common interests, explore new approaches, and initiate possible collaborative research and system development. This journal is helpful for the researchers and R&D engineers, scientists all those persons who are involve in Geoinformatics in any shape.

Highly professional scholars give their efforts, valuable time, expertise and motivation to GIJ as Editorial board members. All submissions are evaluated by the International Editorial Board. The International Editorial Board ensures that significant developments in geotechnologies from around the world are reflected in the GIJ publications.

GIJ editors understand that how much it is important for authors and researchers to have their work published with a minimum delay after submission of their papers. They also strongly believe that the direct communication between the editors and authors are important for the welfare, quality and wellbeing of the Journal and its readers. Therefore, all activities from paper submission to paper publication are controlled through electronic systems that include electronic submission, editorial panel and review system that ensures rapid decision with least delays in the publication processes.

To build its international reputation, we are disseminating the publication information through Google Books, Google Scholar, Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), Open J Gate, ScientificCommons, Docstoc and many more. Our International Editors are working on establishing ISI listing and a good impact factor for GIJ. We would like to remind you that the success of our journal depends directly on the number of quality articles submitted for review. Accordingly, we would like to request your participation by submitting quality manuscripts for review and encouraging your colleagues to submit quality manuscripts for review. One of the great benefits we can provide to our prospective authors is the mentoring nature of our review process. GIJ provides authors with high quality, helpful reviews that are shaped to assist authors in improving their manuscripts.

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Spatiotemporal Land Use Patterns in Urbanization

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Abstract

Urban planning was very much a design and engineering exercise with the state as a single stake holder. Megacities with millions of population, which has undergone a series of physical as well as socio-economic changes over the last 60 years. These for in different areas of India, new planning approaches require the need to understand the complicated urban land development process. GIS- Geographic Information System and remote sensing provide the advance techniques and methods for studying urban land development and assist urban planning. This research survey firstly describes the urban expansion process till now and land use changes in the inner city.

Keywords: GIS, Remote sensing, Spatio-temporal, patterns of urbanization, land use change, spatial pattern analysis, urban planning.

1. INTRODUCTION

Over the last 50 years the world has faced dramatic growth of its urban population. Mega cities the largest category of urban agglomeration, attract considerable attention because of their population size, economic, socio-cultural, environmental and political influence and geographical complexity. Until 1975 there were just three mega cities in the world. The number of so-called mega cities increased in the period from 1975 until today from 4 to 22, mostly in less developed regions [13]. The number of cities increased to 27 mega cities until 2015 [11].

The population development of the world is expected to increase continuously from 6.7 billion to 9.3 billion in 2050. But a heavy increase of mega cities creates a serious problem in India. The population of India (today 1.2 billion) has grown two and half times, but the urban population has grown nearly five times. The number of Indian mega cities will double from the current three (Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata) to six by the year 2021, (new additions will be Bangalore, Chennai and Hyderabad), when India will have the largest concentration of mega cities in the world [4].

Then the number of six mega cities (Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Bangalore, Chennai and Hyderabad) is increased by twelve by the year 2015 (new Ahmadabad, Pune, Surat, Kanpur, Jaipur and Lucknow) [21]. With the rapid increase of urban growth, makes us to face lot of socio-economic, environmental and political problems. This phenomenon will necessitate advanced methodologies such as space technologies, which help city planners, economists, environmentalists, ecologists and resource managers solve the problems which accompany such growth [12]. Urban planners need information about the rate of growth, pattern and extent of sprawl to provide the basic amenities such as water, sanitation and electricity etc. Since planners currently lack such information, most of the sprawl areas lack basic infrastructure facilities.

On the last decade, earth observation sensors developed to a stage where global maps have been made possible on low resolution (LR) from 250m to 2 Km [15]. Examples are global urban extent maps based on e.g., DMSP-OLS night-time lights imagery [7], MODIS data [3][16].

A list, analysis and comparison of the various available global data sets is presented and discussed by Potere and Schneider [14]. However, most of them are provided for a single time step, and the coarse geometric resolution is a clear restriction tracing the small-scale urban outlines, extents and patterns.

Even though higher resolution sensors systems are available e.g., Land sat, spot, Rapid Eye, IRS, IKONOS, Quick Bird, World View-I and II. The provision of a global coverage or at least of a large amount of cities – is not an easy task. Limitations such as cloud coverage, on board storage capacity, sensor utilization and sharing of the same source with other EO projects cause a several years lasting acquisition period. Furthermore, data costs and processing effort are significant. Thus, a global coverage at the scale covered by the medium (MR: here defined as on 10m to 100m) and high resolution (HR: 1M-10m) to very high resolution (VHR: <1m). EO sensors are in existence.

Research studies on long term monitoring of the spatial effects of the urbanization are mostly based on MR (Medium Resolution) data from sensors such as Land sat or spot, having lower geometric resolution and thus allow for fewer thematic details.

Different studies have also shown that radar imagery is an excellent basis for classifying, monitoring and analyzing urban conglomerations and their development overtime especially in cases of large area mapping [5].

Using of MSS[Multispectral Scanner] data, ETM (Enhanced Thematic Mapper data) and Terra SAR-X Strip map data is used for monitoring urbanization in mega cities from space for analysis of 22 to 27 mega cities and their number is constantly increasing [11].

Temporal and spatial urban sprawl, re-densification and urban development in the tremendously growing six mega cities to 12 mega cities in India, and became the largest urban agglomerations [21].

In India, by using Quick bird data of VHR (Very High Resolution $\leq 1\text{M}$ i.e., 0.61M) with a sub-meter geo-metric resolution is applied for the multi-scale urban analysis of the Hyderabad metropolitan area of deriving parameters such as houses, streets, shadows, vegetation, bare soil etc., [20]. For the analysis of the urban patterns, first we have to classify the obtained data. The classification of the various land-sat scenes is based on an object-oriented classification procedure [19]. The first step is a multi-resolution segmentation. The second step is a hierarchical thematic classification procedure allowing mapping four different thematic classes, namely 'water', 'vegetation', 'undeveloped land' and 'urban' [1]. For the classification of TerraSAR-X (i.e., Radar data) data, a pixel-based classification algorithm is applied [8].

The main objective of the survey is to investigate the dynamics of the urban landscapes in response to rapid urbanization among the most populated and the fastest growing cities.

More specifically, our objects are two:

- Characterize intra-level urban landscape transformations between time periods.
- Quantify relations between landscape transformations, urbanization patterns.

2. STUDY AREA

The term 'Megacity' refers to the largest category of urban agglomerations. The UN 2007 [24] defines mega cities quantitatively as conurbation having more than 10 million inhabitants. Today,

based on official number UN, 2009[22], there are 27 mega cities throughout the world and their number is expected to increase [11].

Cities such as Bangkok, Hyderabad, Chicago, Caracas, just to name a few, are already close to becoming a mega city. India is a prominent example for dynamic mega city development already having three mega cities (Mumbai, Delhi, and Kolkata)[13] the country will increase to six by the year 2020(including Bangalore, Chennai and Hyderabad), then having the largest concentration of mega cities in the world [4].

Less attention is paid to “Smaller” explosively fast growing cities, whose high growth rates may precipitate transmission into mega city status.

And the six mega cities increased by twelve mega cities by the year 2020(including Ahmadabad, Poona, Surat, Kanpur, Jaipur and Lucknow)[21].

It is clearly reveals that since 1975 the population development and thus, the rate of urbanization in mega cities outside the high developed countries, were enormous. The explosion of mega cities in low developed countries results from both the population growth (due to the demographic transition) and the process of migration (due to economic factors the gap between the urban and rural productivities and incomes and to sociological reasons: the attraction of the urban way of life).

In this study we understand the terms ‘urban foot print or urbanized areas’ as the land directly occupied by a particular physical man made structure. Thus, this definition is representing a ‘settlement mask’, defined by buildings, streets and impervious surfaces.

3. DATA AND METHODS

Data:

The Land sat program represents a series of earth observation satellites that have been continuously available since 1972. Therefore this system allows for an analysis of extended time series. It started with the Multispectral-scanner(MSS) featuring a geometric resolution of 59 meters and a spectral resolution of four bands(green, red, two near infrared bands). Since 1982 the Thematic Mapper(TM) has operated with 30 m geometric resolution and seven spectral bands. Since 1999 the Enhanced Thematic Mapper (ETM) has operated with an additional panchromatic band and 15m geometric resolution. Since 2002 Ikonos data of with 1m geometric resolution and since 2005 Quick bird data with 0.61m geometric resolution for finding the illegal constructions in the inner city [20]. With its field of view of 185 KM the satellite is able to survey the large metropolitan areas of the study sites-thus covering in dependence of their spatial position entire areas and no cloud coverage.

The secondary data is Demographic data i.e we get from Census of India.

The level of description with Landsat features is not flooded with microscopic detail, but re-gives nevertheless the specific features of the urban system. For this purpose, the requirements for the differentiation of classes are limited to the classification of built-up and non-built-up areas.

Methodologies for Land cover classification:

One of the primary obstacles to Urban land cover classification from optical data sets is the diversity and spectral heterogeneity of urban reflectance[9][10][17][18][25]. Small(2005) shows that urban land cover is extremely variable at a variety of spatial scales; he also shows intra-urban spectral variability due to a diversity of materials used for man-made structures as well as interurban variability as a result of socio-economic, cultural, historical and Environmental differences among 28 different cities across the world.

Having this obstacle in mind, we developed a user interface with a fixed processing chain with a pre-defined feature set **fig(1)**, but the possibility to interactively adapt classification thresholds to the specific spectral characteristics of the particular imagery [2].

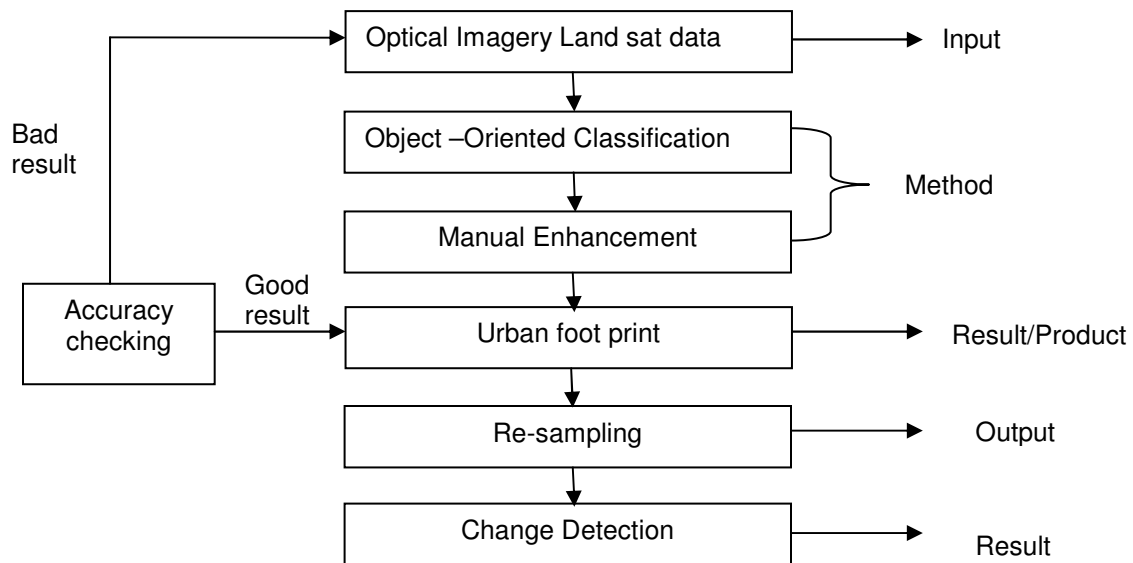


FIGURE 1: Flow chart of methodology for land use/land cover and change detection

The developed service chain is a semi-automatic classification procedure implemented as Defines Architect Solution. With this concept, we aimed at a straight forward classification approach being consistent, traceable and transparent for a large variety of optical Land Sat scenes at different times and parts of the world

The classification of the various Land Sat scenes is based on an object-oriented classification procedure. The first step is a multi-resolution segmentation fig(2) bottom up regions merging technique starting with one pixel objects. Throughout a pair wise clustering process, underlying optimization procedure minimizes the weighted heterogeneity of n h resulting image objects, where n is the size of a segment and h , a parameter of heterogeneity. In each step, that pair of adjacent image objects is merged which results in the smallest growth of the defined heterogeneity. If the smallest growth exceeds the threshold defined by the scale parameter, the process stops doing. So, multi-resolution segmentation allows adjustments of the scale parameter between 5 and 20 in dependence of the structure of the city.

The second step is a hierarchical thematic classification procedure allowing mapping four different thematic classes namely, 'water', 'vegetation', 'undeveloped land' and 'urban' [1]. However, in this study only the urban areas are considered. The methodology contains a hierarchical decision tree structure shown in figure Decision Tree.

Decision trees are compared of hierarchically structured decisions, which have to be traced, when classifying each segment @ pixel of an image [11].

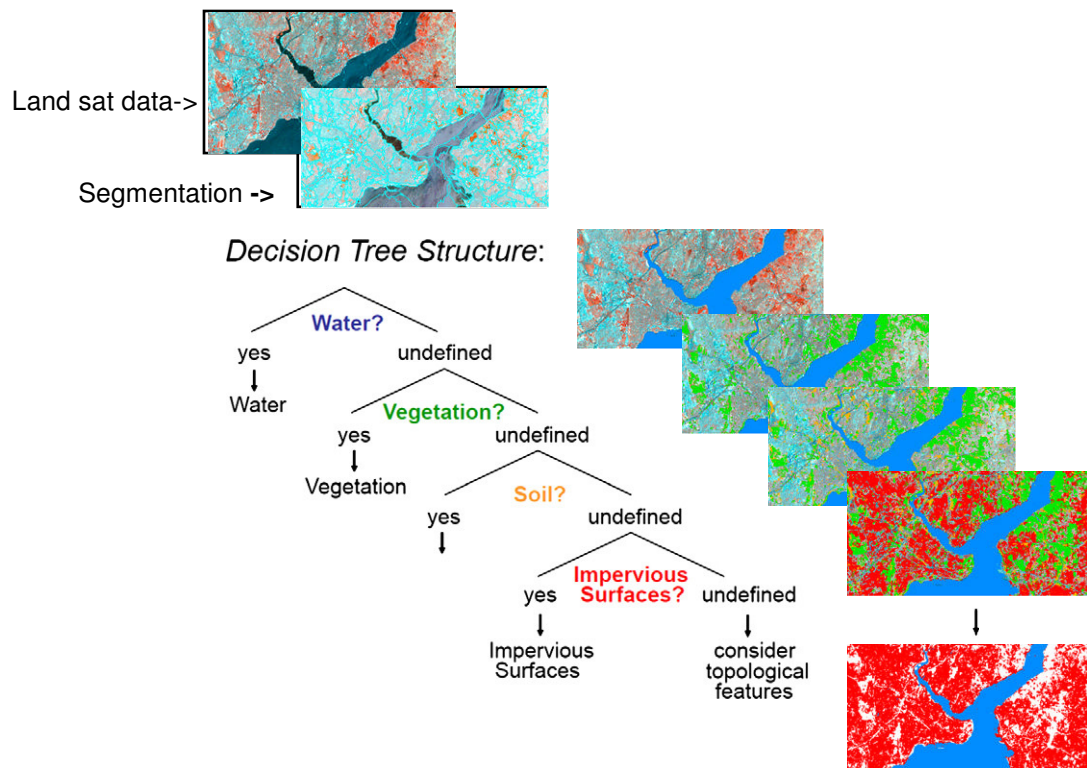


FIGURE 2: Schematic overview of the step-wise hierarchical structure of the classification algorithm for

But monitoring of large data sets across the world, it is better to use the strip map data i.e., Radar data [11]. These data have the advantage of being weather independent and consistently available for all mega cities today.

4. RESULTS, CHANGE DETECTION AND DISCUSSIONS:

For the mega cities of the world featuring four individual urban foot print classification at four time steps in the mid-1970's, around 1990, 2000 and 2010. The change detection allows identifying, localizing and quantifying the pattern and dimension of urban sprawl overtime.

Fig (3) clearly reveals that since 1975 the population development and thus, the rate of urbanization in the mega cities outside the high developed countries were enormous [11]. At a first glance, a number of trends are immediately clear in terms of spatial dynamics of urbanization over the time period observed is the highest in developing countries. Beyond this, the spatial extents in developed countries are noticeably larger with respect to the absolute population.

The first and the most natural analysis is the measurement of spatial urban expansion over time. The quantification of urban growth for the metropolitan areas of the mega cities are calculates as relative growth. The absolute growth would be misleading due to a heterogeneous spatial base for comparison in dependence of the data availability at the four time steps i.e., 1975, 1990, 2000 and 2010. As one example illustrating the difference in spatial expansion between mega cities in absolute terms, the urbanized metropolitan area Osaka for the available extent was measured 1136 sqkm in 1975 and expanded to 2844 sqkm in 2010 (2.5 times its formal spatial dimension),

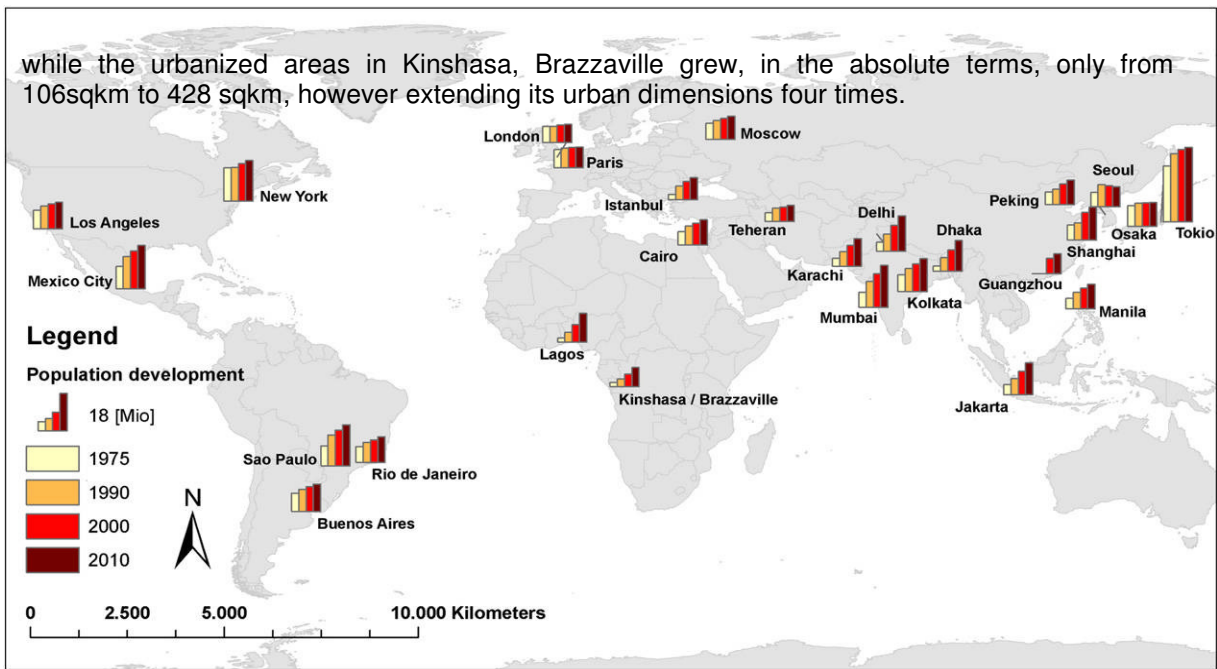


FIGURE 3: Spatial distribution of the current megacities of the world and their population development since 1975, Data source: UN (2007).

The relative urban growth result opposes the immense spatial sprawl of cities in Asia such as Mumbai (77.6 times its spatial dimensions in 2010 compared to 1975), Manila (77.1 since 1975) a Seoul (75.3 since 1975) with the comparatively reduced urban sprawl in cities such as London (1.7 since 1975), New York City (1.2 since 1975). However the metropolitan areas are captured and thus, relative spatial growth allows comparability across the world's mega cities fig (4)

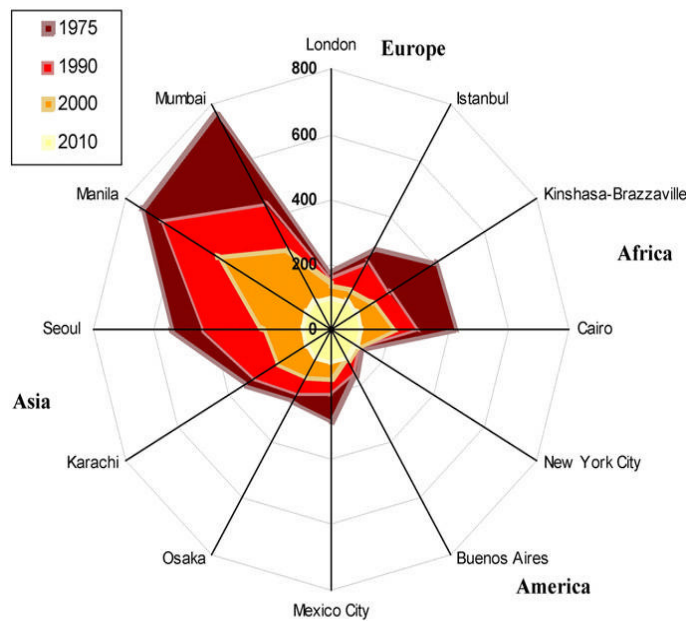


FIGURE 4: Relative spatial growth of mega cities in percent with 1975 as baseline

So, there is a heavy growth of urban sprawl in Asia and mainly focus in India. In 2005, 22 mega cities (urban agglomerations of 10 million inhabitants or more) around the world were identified. Three of the cities, Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata, were on the Indian subcontinent [13][23]. Besides the three current mega cities, nine more urban agglomerations in India (Ahmadabad, Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Poona, Kanpur, Lucknow and Surat) currently have more than 2.5 million inhabitants and the population growth in the largest Indian cities in the Table (1) and fig(5) shows the geographic locations of the twelve cities on the Indian sub-continent.

City/Year	1975	1990	2000	2005	2015
Mumbai	7,01	12,31	16,08	18,20	21,87
Delhi	4,43	8,21	12,44	15,05	18,60
Kolkatta	7,89	10,89	13,06	14,23	16,98
Chennai	3,61	5,34	6,35	6,92	8,28
Bengaluru	2,11	4,04	5,57	6,46	7,94
Hyderabad	2,09	4,19	5,45	6,12	7,42
Ahmadabad	2,05	3,26	4,43	5,12	6,30
Poona	1,35	2,43	3,66	4,41	5,52
Surat	0,64	1,47	2,70	3,56	4,62
Kanpur	1,42	2,00	2,64	3,02	3,72
Jaipur	0,78	1,48	2,26	2,75	3,57
Lucknow	0,89	1,61	2,22	2,57	3,18

TABLE 1: Population growth in the 12 largest Indian cities in million inhabitants



FIGURE 5 : Location of India's large urban agglomerations

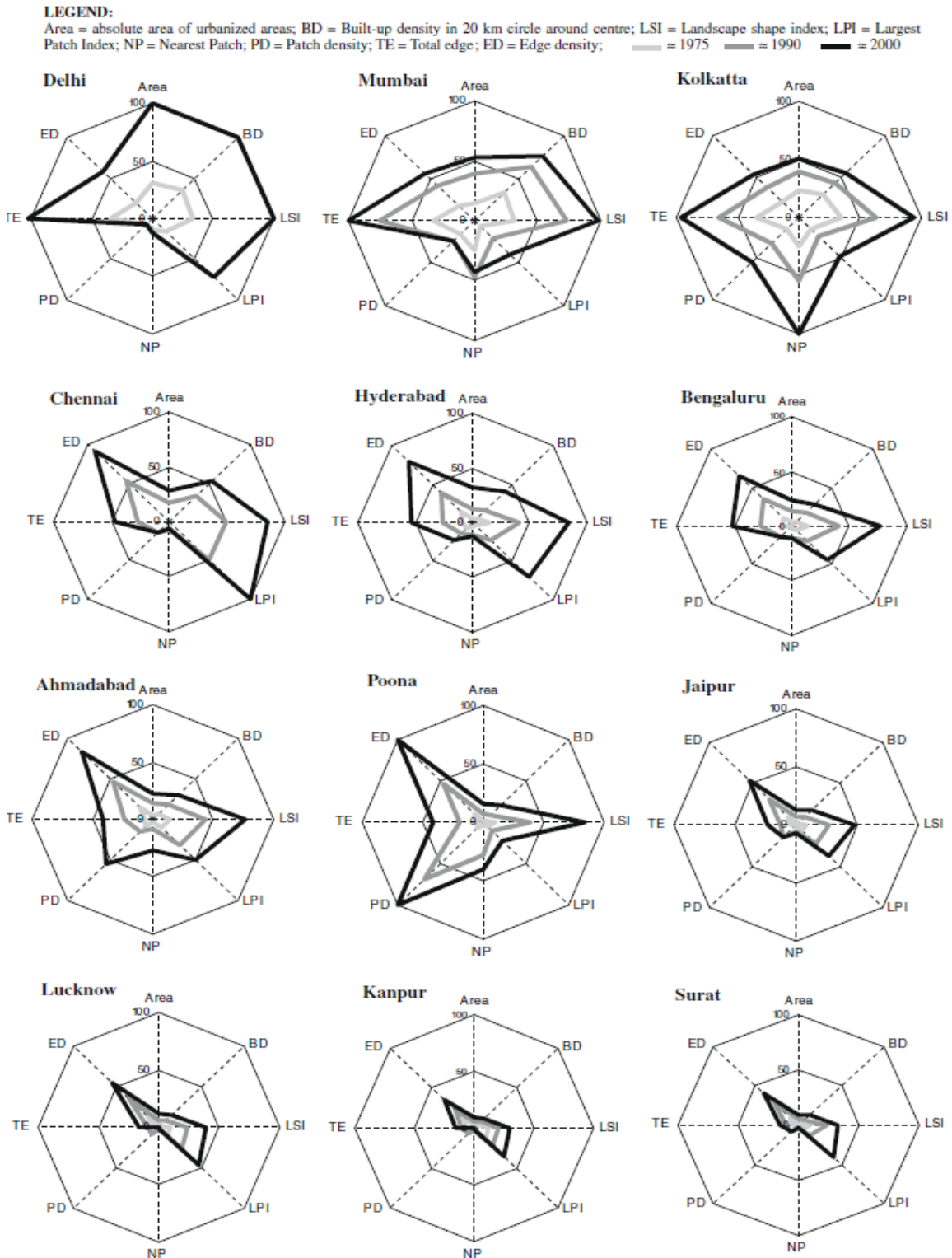


FIGURE 6: Spider charts characterizing Spatio-temporal urban development

The spider chart **fig (6)** allows us to spatially visualize the urban type by quantifying landscape metrics that spatially describe the urban environment [21]. In the following, the 12 largest urban

agglomerations of India are displayed at three different time stages, beginning in 1970's. Thus we can analyze the development of spatial urban growth for individual cities: like Hyderabad, Poona, and Surat etc.

In future, a highly detailed structural analysis of the larger scale and heterogeneous inner structures of the urban morphology using satellite data with higher geometric resolution (eg IKONOS, Quick bird data) are expected to augment information for planning purposes [20]. Measuring the development stages of the large Indian urban agglomerations, conclusions about incipient mega cities in the same cultural area like Hyderabad, Bangalore and Chennai may support planning, future modeling and thus decision-making for sustainable and energy efficient urban futures.

5. CONCLUSION

The critical issues and challenges of development and management for growing urban centers have been the subject of extensive discussions and debates in recent years. The major problems associated with the urban centers in India are that of unplanned expansion, changing land use / land cover areas. Management of huge volumes of data, it is very difficult. For this, Remote Sensing imagery, with its repetitive and synoptic viewing capabilities, together with GIS, are important tools to map areas and monitor the changes in the urban growth. High-resolution satellite imagery (IKONOS, Quick bird) can also be used to monitor urban expansion and illegal construction over a period of time [20]. Monitoring of urban sprawl over a period of time in large areas, better to use the radar data [11] i.e., TERRASAR-X data, it is easy to classify.

To fight with the problems faced by the rapid urban growth, and to meet the challenges of sustainable development, it is suggested that the use of remote-sensing and GIS in conjunction with geo-spatial data is of vital importance. There is need for the use of an urban information data base that can be generated using remote sensing data and GIS techniques. Top priority should be given to the issues related to the planned development of the city. The administrative, technical and managerial staff of the urban local bodies needs to be strengthened. The officials of various government departments should be given thorough exposure and training of remote sensing and GIS for its application implementation in the urban management plans. The problems and challenges faced by mankind are of national importance, but it has to be dealt at the local level.

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A review on Geographical Information System (GIS) in Town Planning: Malaysia Experience

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Abstract

Development growth in most developing countries has become one of the issues, as rapid planning process can no longer be controlled. Planning process is a widely accepted way to handle complex problems of resource allocation and decision making. Apparently, the planning system has an important role in managing and controlling the development trends. In Malaysia, to control, monitor and plan systematically town, the method used is development plan preparation method and urban development monitoring and the blue print method. However, the process has changed and planning process have to faced with complex town problems due to rapid development of the country. The rapid town development due to increasing population and economic growth have to faced an uncontrolled planning process and takes a long time to complete the process. Hence, to overcome the town planning problem by implementation Geographical Information System [GIS] as the main tool in plan making operations. GIS is able to support the town planning process in capable of input, storage, manipulation, analysis of data useful in planning, decision making and implementation. It is a powerful tool which helps the user to view the different scenarios so that the best strategy may be chosen for planning development. The use of GIS in town planning can develop database for the both data which attribute and spatial data. From that, it can generate planning needs analysis according to the Town and Country Planning Department. Therefore, this paper discusses the use of GIS in town planning. This paper will also highlight on how GIS is applied for town planning process in Malaysia level. The findings showed the implementation of GIS in town planning can improve the result based on quality of town planning process, saving time and costs and data can be obtained faster.

Keywords: Geographical Information System, town planning, planning process, Malaysia.

1. INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, technology development provides an opportunity for the planning authority and the city administration to develop a rapid city. Planning and urban management has been introduced in Malaysia for a long time, mostly using the method of preparation and monitoring of development plans and town development of the 'blue print' in which this method to do the mapping in the drawing. This method used to analyse potential and development problems, produce development plan and review the town background [1,2].

However, this method makes it difficult to monitor the process of uncontrolled town planning. In addition, according to Milad Bagheri et al. al. [2006], the method is difficult to monitor the implementation of the development process too much [3]. According to Yusoff et al. al. [2010], method used previously taken long time to be resolved and also have planning process stages

and complicated [4]. Thus, the ability of Geographical Information System [GIS] used to solve the problem of attribute data processing and spatial data simultaneously. Then GIS is a suitable technology tools to solve problems of town planning [5]. Hence, objective this paper will enlighten the need for GIS in town planning process based on Malaysia experience.

This paper has divided into six parts. First part is introduction on background problems in town planning process. On the other hand, part two focused the explanation in the Geographical Information System. This part will discussed GIS in general and implementation GIS in Malaysia. Besides that, section three in this paper focus on the town planning in Malaysia. After that part four concentrate on the outcome of the study in usage GIS on town planning from the previous researchers. Last part in this paper will discussed overall conclusion that achieved from the research results.

2. GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

Geographical Information System [GIS] is a computer system capable of capturing, storing, checking, integrating, manipulating, analyzing and displaying data in digital form related to the position of the earth surface [6,7]. GIS development has grown in line with the rapid development of technology during the past decades have expressed specific challenges in storage and spatial data analysts [9]. It also functions as an important tool in the process of problem solving and decision making [10].

Geographical Information System is a digital map-based technologies that rely on database management system that can be used to display and information, spatial analysis and produce results in the selection process [11]. Fundamentally, a GIS is able to support all the stages of spatial data processing including manual digitizing, checking and editing of digitized data and output of information to graphics devices. Besides that, GIS technology has long been applied in planning activities, which essentially include plans formulation as well as development control [36]. Figure 1 list five categories of GIS component which are people, data, software, hardware and methods [39, 40].

GIS has been put into practice by many countries which China used GIS for disaster monitoring and proven to be very effective. It is also used to track the effect of town development on agricultural area. While Singapore is another example which has promoted the use of information technology in business by using the Integrated Land Use System. Besides that, in Culcutta used GIS as a tool for preparing development plan including the framework of future land use. Another example includes the application of GIS in tourism planning in Canada studying the environmental impact of tourism on fragile reefs in the Cayman Islands [37].

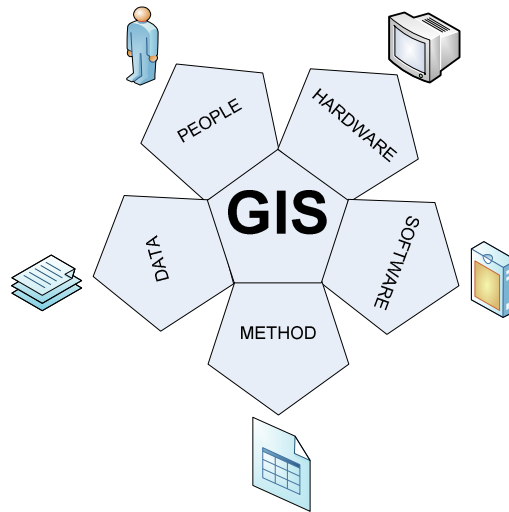


FIGURE 1: Component of Geographical Information System

2.1 Application of Geographical Information System

Information technology has helped expand the use of GIS in city planning in Malaysia. History of the use of GIS started in 1960s. GIS technology at the time, it can be a planning tool for its ability to handle the processing of spatial data and attribute data simultaneously. However, the GIS must be combined with other information systems to enhance the capacity and role in the various fields [8.13]. In Malaysia, the history of GIS began in the 1980s through the digital cadastral database [DCDB] and the National Topographic Database developed by the Department of Survey and Mapping [19]. GIS is widely used in various fields such as urban planning, education, and agriculture [14].

1) GIS in Education

According to the Lateh et al. [2011] in a study of the challenges and potential applications of GIS in geography education in Malaysia, noted that to this day teaching and learning methods [P & P] still practice delivery methods using oral and written facts on a blackboard. Through this traditional method, students do not fully master the basic skills such as locating the state, drawing and reading map coordinates. However, GIS has the potential applied to the R & D because it provides an attractive environment and further develop students creative thinking, critical and innovative [14].

2) GIS in Town Planning

The study by Yaakup et al. [2004] that applies geographical information system to improve the planning system of Negeri Sembilan authorities, especially in monitoring the development in the area of jurisdiction. Negeri Sembilan geographical information system [GIS9] includes the development of the database. In addition, it is also used to analyze each planning decision by showing the consequences of such an action is taken on an area and can anticipate the effects of development occurring in the future [10, 15].

In another study by Samat [2006] which focuses on the use of geographical information systems area management in Malaysia. In his studies, he said that Malaysia is a country that has experienced rapid development of the use of the area to achieve progress. To solve the problem of uncontrolled use of the area, urban and regional departments responsible for planning, forecasting and conduct research with the aid of GIS use. GIS to produce information and it is a mechanism used to implement the planning function involving the daily administrative management operations. In addition, its platform to plan for economic growth and impact on society and the environment [1].

In another study by Zaini [2007] who apply GIS in preserving the historical heritage buildings in Taiping, Perak. Any development carried out cannot change the identity of the historic buildings that have become hallmarks of pride in Taiping. GIS is used for this system's ability to manipulate data. In addition, GIS is also capable of efficiently generating a variety of scenarios required by the authorities in controlling the development of Taiping [17].

3) GIS in Medicine

In medicine, the application of GIS has been applied in the study of dengue fever in Bandar Baru Bangi and Kajang by Shaharudin et al [2002]. GIS functions in this study are in mapping the distribution of health facilities and dengue disease in the affected areas. In addition, GIS services are also applied in the health care database for the study area [9].

4) GIS in Geology

GIS applications have also been used in a study conducted by Manap et al. [2009]. In this study, the interactive display capability of geographical information systems for geological assessment in the Klang Valley, Malaysia. 1:10 000 scale topographic maps used to generate digital elevation models stored in the geological map of elevation models digital to produce 3D-shaped display. Interpretation issued by the DEM information made by using technological capabilities of geographical information systems software in the form of 3D. Results from this study states the results produced through the use of digital elevation models in the application in geology [18].

5) GIS in Crime

The study by Suryavanshi [2001] stated that GIS has emerged as a powerful analysis tool to support the decision-making process involved in crime prevention. Besides that, GIS also as a tool to support analysis of information as a means for understanding the relationships of variables affecting the link between land use and opportunities for crime. GIS allows integration of crime information systems with spatial data and assist in the production of accurate and high quality maps that clearly show the locations of different kinds of crimes as crime-spots [34]. Example of technology GIS in criminal is the Safe City Monitoring System used for prevention of crime.

6) GIS in Remote Sensing

Remote Sensing techniques are useful for selection of sites for specific facilities such as school, industry, hospital, restaurants and solid waste disposal. Remote sensing also can provide an important source of data for urban land use/land cover mapping and environmental monitoring. Platforms used to acquire remote sensing data such as aircraft and satellite [39].

2.2 Development of Geographical Information System in Malaysia

At the national level, GIS is used mainly for land suitability analysis, data compilation and generate suitability maps. GIS systems enable data from wide variety of sources and data formats to be integrated together in a common scheme of geographical referencing thus providing up-to-date information. Thus, GIS applied to a wide range of land management and land use planning issues including the interpretation and formulation of land use policy [38].

In general, there is the role of geographical information systems produce accurate information in an efficient analysis. The second role is to predict the results of GIS analysis in the future and the third role is to facilitate and expedite the administration in analyzing the problem. In general, Figure 2 shows the development of Geographical Information Systems in various sectors of the field [5, 15-16, 18, 21-22, 24-30, 32-33]. However, this study only focuses on the application of geographical information systems in town development in Malaysia.

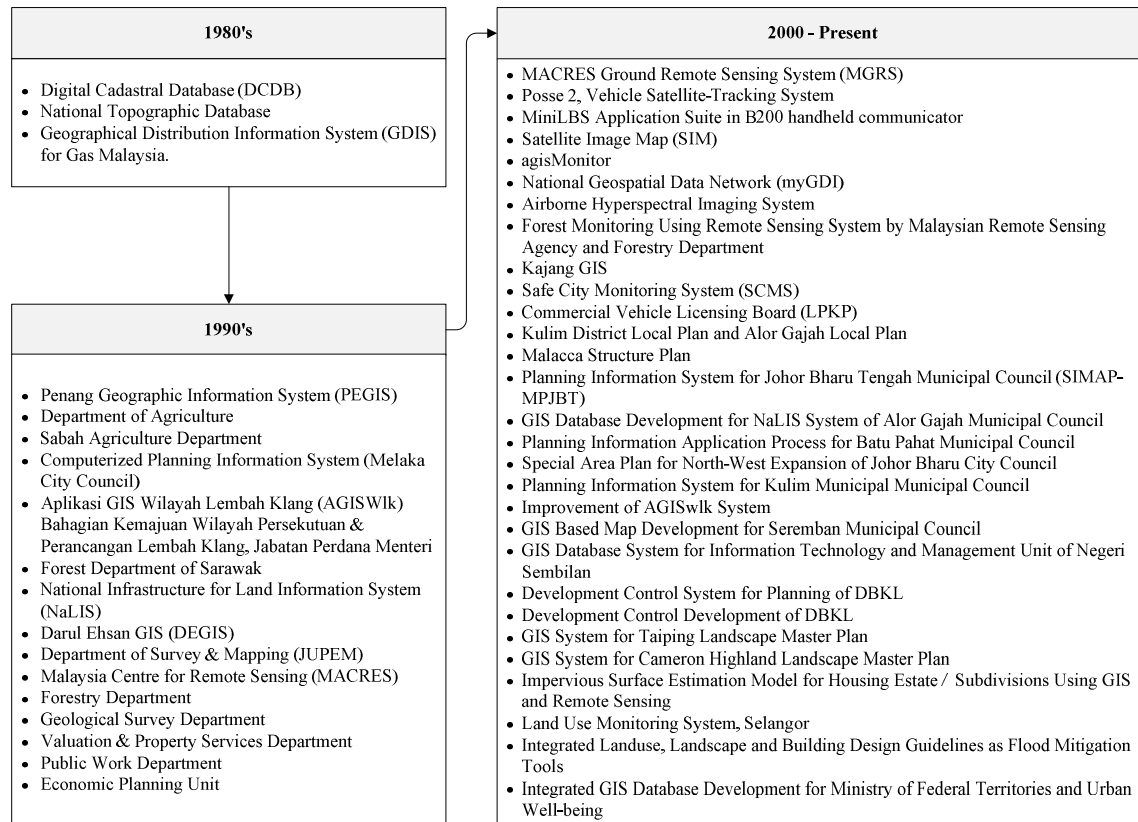


FIGURE 2: Development of Geographical Information System from 1980-Present.

3. TOWN PLANNING IN MALAYSIA

Planning in the context of town planning process can be defined as physical performance related to map drawing [1]. Urban planning is the process of arranging an area based on the plans provided as well as control over the development process [2]. Those responsible the duties of this town is the Town and Country Planning Department [TCPD]. The following is a description of the role of Town and Country Planning Department [TCPD] in Malaysia.

3.1 The Role of Town Planning Department of The Land Use Planning and Control

Town planning in Malaysia started in 1929 by Charles Reade who is a person responsible for improving the development of Kuala Lumpur [1]. At present, town planning and monitoring under the responsibility of the Town and Country Planning Department. DTCP is responsible for ensuring that development planning, land use and preservation. There are three levels of exercise DTCP functions of a] the federal role was to advise the Federal Government on the issue of land development; b] the state as a state adviser on land planning; c] the local level governing the use of land and buildings in the area Local Authorities [20].

There are some areas in the Town and Country Planning Division of Management Services, Corporate Plan, the National Physical Development Plan, Regional Planning, Legal and Regulatory Planning, Legal Unit, the National Land Use Information, Internal Audit Unit and the Division of Research and Development. Division of Land Use Information [BMGN] seeks to manage the planning data of interest used in the development of national land use. One function is to coordinate advice BMGN in the field of Geographical Information System [GIS] [20]. According Samat [2006], town planning is important to achieve efficient use of land, infrastructure and urban environmental quality by using GIS technology to enhance the quality of town planning. Good urban planning aims to achieve a more orderly placement [1].

3.2 Use of Geographical Information System in Town Planning in Malaysia

Use of Geographical Information Systems in the field of urban planning has shown a good level of development, for example a] AGISwIk of GIS for Klang Valley Region b] GIS9 which is the Negeri Sembilan planning system which acts as a manual system to monitor the structure plan document and c] PEGIS which is an application of GIS to Penang played a key role in providing information to the Economic Planning Unit of Penang. [21-29].

The integration of Geographical Information System has provided a tool which can contribute to much clearer understanding of real planning problems as well as prescriptive planning scenarios to enhance the quality of urban planning and management. GIS provide the ability to store and display maps and associated information from the various sources [37]. On the whole course of the Geographical Information System is described in detail by the flow of the framework in Figure 3 [8].

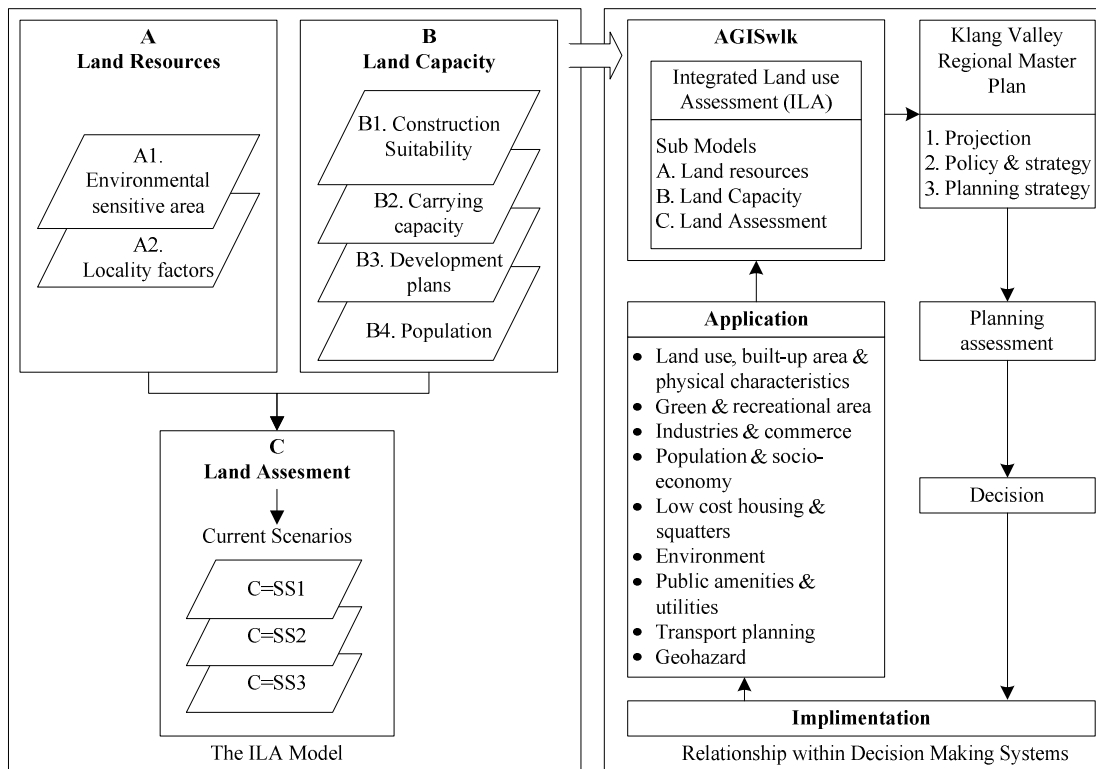


FIGURE 3: Integrated Land Use Assessment of Klang Valley.
Source: A. Yaakup *et al.* [2005]

GIS approach can store and analyze information to assist in making decisions related to urban planning. Therefore, the information required in this application consists of spatial and attribute data for each plot of land, land acquisition and infrastructure. GIS has long been accepted as the appropriate solution to address spatially referenced data. According Yaakup *et al.* [1994], Table 1 shows the main areas of application of Geographical Information System [15].

Field	Usage of GIS
Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban development • Control land use
Facility Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pipe location and underground cable • Utility planning coordination

Field	Usage of GIS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telecommunication network service • Energy consumption planning • Building site selection
Environmental Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste management • Disaster management • Analysis of environmentally sensitive areas • Study the suitability of crops, forest management, agricultural land, water resources, wetlands
Road Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vehicle navigation • Home and road location • Site assessment • Ambulance service • Transport planning
Design and Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development strategy • Population growth and migration • Availability of land for development • Highway route location • Utilities development
Land Information System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cadastral administration • Tax • Land use zoning • Use of space information such as water, air and soil • Reclamation of land

TABLE 1: Main Areas in Town Planning that Apply GIS.

4. RESEARCH STUDIES ON USAGE GIS IN TOWN PLANNING

Research study proving the Geographical Information System was developed in Malaysia and applied in the field of town planning in Malaysia. Each Geographical Information System development in Malaysia in specific on town planning field as a whole reviewed the results of the studies made by previous researchers. Table 2 shows the previous research that applies GIS in town planning in Malaysia. This table discusses the types of use of GIS in town planning and the problems that faced by applying GIS. In addition, this study focuses on the development of data and results from the use of GIS.

Researchers	Problems	Type of Data	Results
Yaakup et al. [30]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulties in planning and development at the state level. • Use of the 'blue print' where the mapping is done using the drawings. • No monitoring system planning. • No development of urban planning database. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social and economic • Land Information • Physically • Utility • Traffic and transportation • Land Use • Environment • Geopolitics • Public facilities • Administration • Population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geospatial data storage efficient and uniform format. • Facilitate the update and evaluation of information. • Geospatial information easily produced, analyzed and displayed. • Geospatial information can be shared with other departments. • Saves time and cost because there is no repetition of the process data. • Improve the results of the development and approval.
Ibrahim et al. [12]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The existence of squatters in a dense population in urban areas. • Difficulty in determining the site of government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic map • Utility • Population • Public facilities • Land information • Environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist the Johor Bahru City Council to develop squatter resettlement program more regularly.

Researchers	Problems	Type of Data	Results
	for the resettlement of squatters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation 	
Yaakup et al. [22]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulty in interpreting the data analyzed for urban planning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use land • Physical • Environment • Public facilities • Land information • Geopolitic • Population • Basic map • Transportation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an interactive display of data using GIS. • Provide facilities to update easily.
Johar et al. [16]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban planning process takes a long time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic map • Public facilities • Utility • Hydrographic • Transportation • Social and economic • Physical • Land information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City planning data can be obtained quickly and accurately. • Easily to monitor progress of work and increase productivity.
Shamsudin and Musa [26]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the quality and data analysis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic map • Environment • Population • Social and economic • Utility • Physical • Transportation • Public facilities • Land information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the validity of the design criteria and output
Yaakup et al. [29]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficult to monitor urban planning that is too fast to grow. • Difficult to control the process of urban planning that many and complex. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic map • Use land • Physical • Population • Social and economic • Environment • Public facilities • Utility • Transportation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a technology tool that can give an insight in the actual planning concept. • Improve the quality of urban planning and management.
Kassim et al. [15]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No planning system that facilitates monitoring of the planning process. administration. • No comprehensive geospatial database. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use land • Physical • Environment • Basic map • Transportation • Social-economy • Land information • Geopolitic • Population • Public facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standardize format is coordinated with the Department of Town and Country Planning. • The results obtained are more accurate in the development process and planning • Reduce the cost and time wastage. • There will be no repetition of the process in data development.
Zaini dan Nor [28]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High crime rates occur in the scene and within the same time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal record • Map address • Basic map • Public facilities • Land information • Population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to handle criminal cases. • Able to identify areas of crime. • Sharing data with other relevant organizations.
Kassim [37]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main tools used in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change the previous tools with

Researchers	Problems	Type of Data	Results
	<p>every planning are drawing boards and T-squares are kept in paper files and missing without notice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning has have to faced with town problems due to rapid development of the country. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment • Land information • Basic map 	<p>the computer networking using GIS application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a systematic databases on landuses. • Monitoring tool evaluating landuse changes.
Yaakup et al. [36]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncontrolled planning would produce negative consequences to the physical, social and natural environment. • Planning has have to faced with town problems due to rapid development of the country. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use land • Environment • Land information • Basic map • Physical • Social • Environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GIS becomes imperatives for better and improved decision making in town planning and management.

TABLE 2: The Previous Research that Applies GIS in Town Planning in Malaysia

5. DISCUSSION

Nows, land use have changes rapidly due to economic growth, increasing industrialization process and population. The effects from this issues has increased the usage of land use and will pressure on land and environment in big cities. With GIS, it become the main tools in planning, monitoring and analyzing of land use because GIS data can easily stored, retrieved and updated by listing the data type that use based on problem [34]. Landuse planning is very much dependent on its strength and contents in storing information which are analytical in function and well integrated.

According to Yaakup et al. [2006] stated that in their research the issues in town planning are difficult to plan and develop at the state level. The previous method used in town planning is blue print which the mapping is done using the manual drawings. The others problems that the paper highlights are no monitoring system planning and no development for town planning database. To overcome the solution, geospatial data storage efficient and uniform format has been implemented. Geospatial information can be shared with others department and easily to analyze and display the information.

The other researcher stated by Kassim et al. [2011] enlighten that no planning system that facilitates monitoring of the planning process administration. Due to the problems, no comprehensive geospatial database has been provided. So, GIS technology used to standardize the format with the department of town and country planning. Using this technology, the result obtained is more accurate in the town planning process. Hence, it can reduce the cost and time wastage which no repetition data in the flow process.

Kassim stated that •the main problems in town planning is the tool that used to plan the planning activity. The main tools used in every planning are drawing boards and T-squares are kept in paper files and missing without notice. It is because planning has have to faced with town problems due to rapid development of the country. Thus, to solve the problem, the come out with the idea to change the previous tools with the computer networking using GIS application. Besides that, develop a systematic databases on landuses for monitoring the data that used in planning activity.

6. CONCLUSION

Geographical Information System has been proven to be invaluable tool for evaluating alternative solutions to town planning problems. Planning database can be extensively to generate several alternative solutions to town planning problems. The use of GIS in town planning is an alternative to get better results and effectively. Apparently, GIS become imperatives for better and improved decision making in town planning process. The introduction of GIS has been helpful in transforming the challenges of land use planning into a more analytical and informative system.

7. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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The initial efforts helped to shape the editorial policy and to sharpen the focus of the journal. Started with Volume 2, 2012, GIJ appear with more focused issues. Besides normal publications, GIJ intend to organized special issues on more focused topics. Each special issue will have a designated editor (editors) – either member of the editorial board or another recognized specialist in the respective field.

We are open to contributions, proposals for any topic as well as for editors and reviewers. We understand that it is through the effort of volunteers that CSC Journals continues to grow and flourish.

LIST OF TOPICS

The realm of Geoinformatica – An International Journal (GIJ) extends, but not limited, to the following:

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- Computational Geometry and Visualization
- Distributed GIS/GIS and the Internet
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- Geographic Information Science
- Geospatial Web
- Geostatistics
- Guidance Systems
- Land and Geographic Information Systems
- Location-Based Services
- Mobile Maps
- Sensor Networks
- Spatial Cognition
- Spatial Ontologies and Interoperability
- Surface Modeling
- Digital Mapping
- Geo Tags
- Geographic Data
- Geographic Information
- Geoinformatics
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