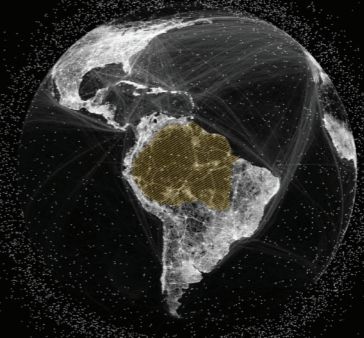
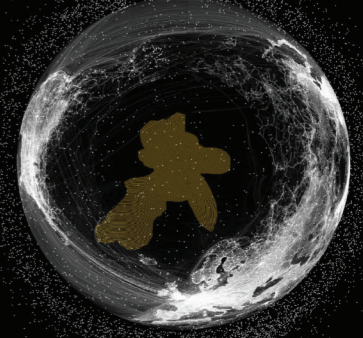




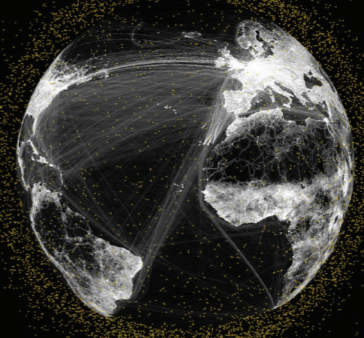
OPERATIONAL LANDSCAPES. IMAGE BY DANIEL IBAÑEZ AND NIKOS KATSIKIS, URBAN THEORY LAB.



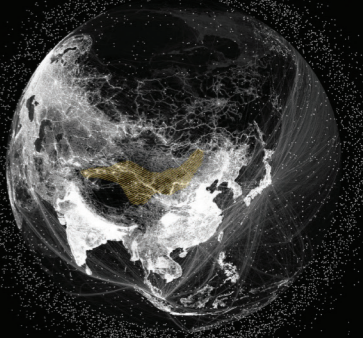
Extreme Territory 1: AMAZON



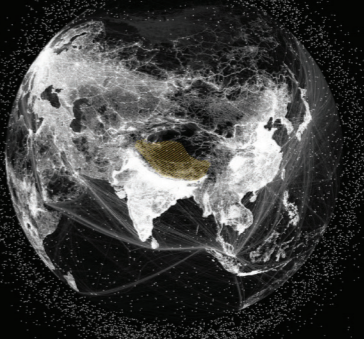
Extreme Territory 2: ARCTIC



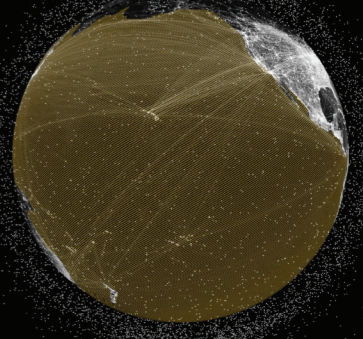
Extreme Territory 3: ATMOSPHERE



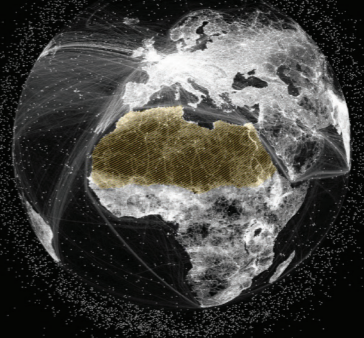
Extreme Territory 4: GOBI



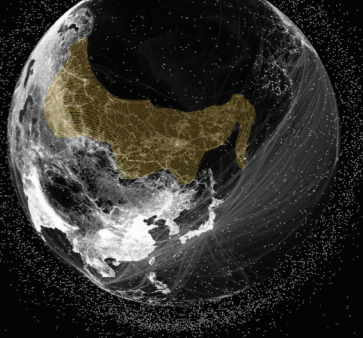
Extreme Territory 5: HIMALAYAS



Extreme Territory 6: PACIFIC



Extreme Territory 5: SAHARA



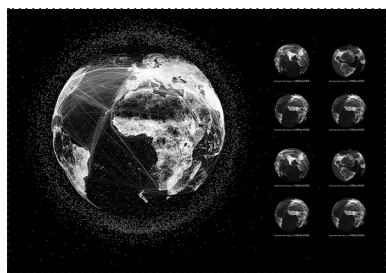
Extreme Territory 6: SIBERIA

EXTREME TERRITORIES OF URBANIZATION. IMAGE DANIEL IBAÑEZ AND NIKOS KATSIKIS, URBAN THEORY LAB.



# Operativni krajolici: Prema alternativnoj kartografiji svjetske urbanizacije

planetarno M4 planetary



**O URBAN THEORY LABU:**  
SMJEŠTEN NA HARVARDSKOJ ŠKOLI ZA ARHITEKTURU (HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN), URBAN THEORY LAB POD DIREKCIJOM NEILA BRENNERA DJELUJE KAO TIM ISTRAŽIVAČA USMJEREN NA PROMIŠLJANJE TEMELJNIH KATEGORIJA, METODA I KARTOGRAFIJA URBANE TEORIJE, A S CILJEM BOLJEG RAZUMIJEVANJA I UTJECAJA NA TRENUTAČNE FORME PLANETARNE URBANIZACIJE.

**ABOUT THE URBAN THEORY LAB:**  
BASED AT THE HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN AND DIRECTED BY NEIL BRENNER, THE URBAN THEORY LAB (UTL) IS A RESEARCH TEAM CONCERNED TO RETHINK THE BASIC CATEGORIES, METHODS AND CARTOGRAPHIES OF URBAN THEORY IN ORDER TO BETTER UNDERSTAND AND INFLUENCE EMERGENT FORMS OF PLANETARY URBANIZATION.

## Operativni krajolici: prema alternativnoj kartografiji svjetske urbanizacije

Što danas znači živjeti u „urbanoj eri“? Ova ideja prizivana od strane istraživača, kreatora politika, planera, dizajnera i arhitekata, često se referira na tvrdnju da više od 50% svjetske populacije živi u gradovima.

No, može li se priroda našeg urbanog svijeta razumjeti i mapirati isključivo kroz rast gradova i gradske populacije? U ovom radu, *Urban Theory Lab* (urbantheorylab.net) izvrće spomenutu pretpostavku spekulirajući s radikalno alternativnim mapiranjem suvremene planetarne urbanizacije. Umjesto fokusiranja na velike centre populacije, rad istražuje urbanizaciju iz pozicije njezinih pretpostavljenih „outsidera“, zona koje su tradicionalno reprezentirane kao ruralne, udaljene, divlje, i/ili izvan ljudskog utjecaja. Što se događa s našom kognitivnom mapom globalnoga urbanog stanja ako se, umjesto na globalne gradove ili megagradove, usmjerimo na različite društveno-prostorne i ekološke transformacije koje se trenutačno događaju u navodno „udaljenim“ ili „divljim“ regijama poput Amazone, Arktika, pustinje Gobi, Himalaje, Tihog oceana, saharske pustinje, Sibira, pa čak i atmosfere? Do koje su razine ove zone trenutačno integrirane unutar svjetskoga urbanog tkiva? Kako su restrukturirane i zatvorene da bi podržavale energiju, vodu, materijal, hranu, i logistiku potrebnu velikim gradovima?

Kroz kombinaciju povijesne analize, kritičke geopolitičke ekonomije, geoprostornih vizualizacija podataka i konceptualnog eksperimentiranja, ovo istraživanje cilja proširiti analitičke i političke horizonte urbane teorije na „ekstremne teritorije“ urbanizacije.

URBAN THEORY LAB

## Operational Landscapes: Towards an Alternative Cartography of World Urbanization

In what sense do we today live in an “urban age”? This idea is frequently invoked by scholars, policy-makers, planners, designers and architects, usually with reference to the proposition that more than 50% of the world’s population now lives within cities. But, can the nature of our urban world be understood and mapped exclusively with reference to the growth of cities and their populations? In our current work, the Urban Theory Lab (urbantheorylab.net) turns this proposition upside-down and inside-out by speculating on a radically alternative mapping of contemporary planetary urbanization. Rather than focusing our attention on large population centers, we investigate urbanization from the point of view of its putative “outsides,” the zones that are commonly represented as rural, remote, wild and/or untouched by human impact. What happens to our cognitive map of the global urban condition if we focus not on the global cities or mega-cities of the world, but on the wide-ranging sociospatial and environmental transformations that are currently unfolding in supposedly “remote” or “wilderness” regions such as the Amazon, the Arctic, the Gobi desert steppe, the Himalayas, the Pacific ocean, the Sahara desert and Siberia, and even the earth’s atmosphere? To what degree are such zones now being integrated within a worldwide fabric of urbanization? How are they being restructured and enclosed to support the energy, water, material, food and logistics needs of major cities?

Through a combination of historical analysis, critical geopolitical economy, geospatial data visualization and conceptual experimentation, this research aims to extend the analytical and political horizons of urban theory into these “extreme territories” of urbanization.

## From agglomerations

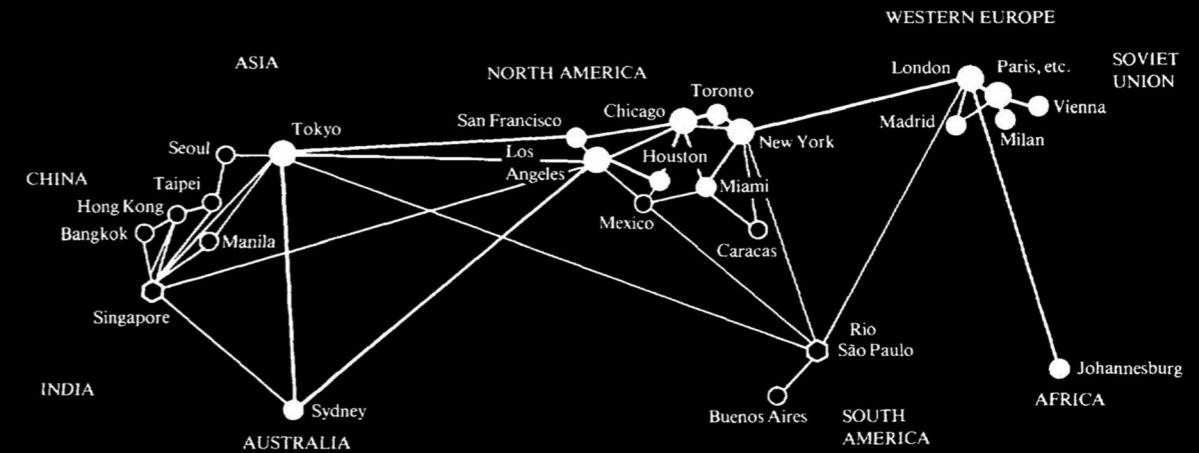


IMAGE 3 (WORLD CITIES): THE WORLD CITY. IMAGE FROM JOHN FRIEDMANN, “THE WORLD CITY HYPOTHESIS,” DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGE, 17, 1986, P. 75.



IMAGE 4 (NIGHT-TIME LIGHTS MAP): NIGHT TIME LIGHTS MAP. IMAGE BY CRAIG MAYHEW AND ROBERT SIMMON, NASA GSFC.

## to operational landscapes



IMAGE 5 (LAND INTENSIFICATION): LAND USE INTENSIFICATION. IMAGE BY NIKOS KATSIKIS, URBAN THEORY LAB.



IMAGE 6 (AIR ROUTES): CONNECTIVITY INFRASTRUCTURES AND ROUTES. IMAGE BY NIKOS KATSIKIS, URBAN THEORY LAB.