

Discussion on possible test regions



Characterising urbanisation zones as test regions: the French case

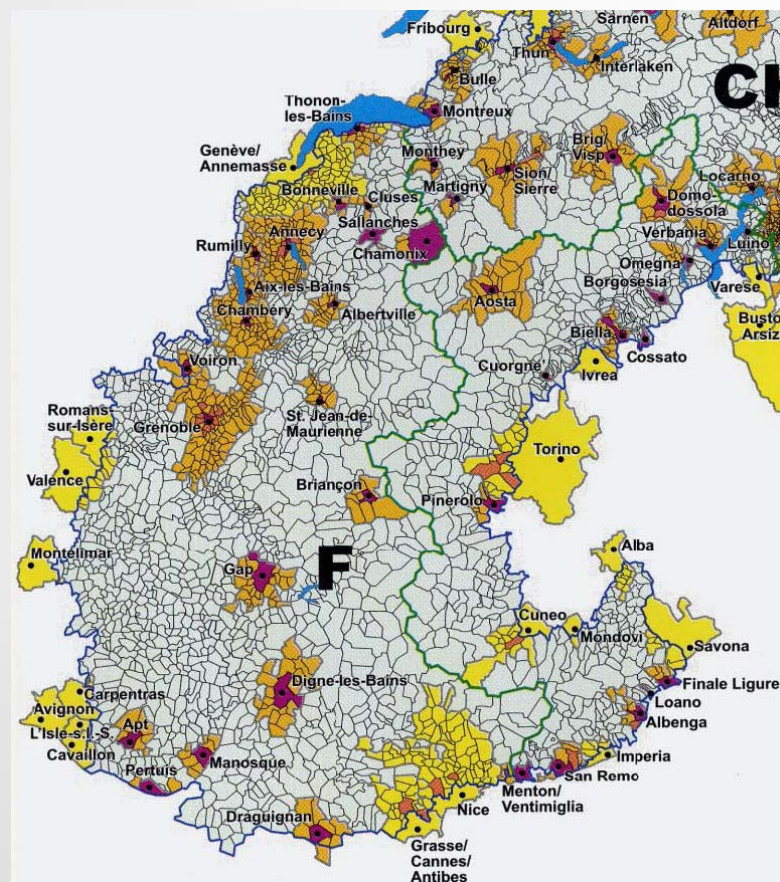
Discussion on possible test regions



***The starting point:
well known Manfred map***

***in yellow: areas intersected by
limits of the Alps***

***these urbanisation zones
should be excluded***



Discussion on possible test regions



First questions on the map

- ☞ Which zones fit with selection criteria: urban character, centre with a minimum number of workplaces, population between ± 15000 and ± 50000 inhabitants
- ☞ Zones delineated according to commuter flows in the 90s: were there important changes since?
- ☞ Zones defined according to a single functional property: labour market function. Do they fit with other functionalities (service supply function, gaining supra- regional importance e.g. through competitive and innovative activities)?
- ☞ What about SMESTOs/urbanisation zones typology?
- ☞ Relevance of the delineation for tests of indicators and instruments related to land take with local stakeholders? For analysing co-operation issues?



Here we took existing French data to explore these issues

Discussion on possible test regions

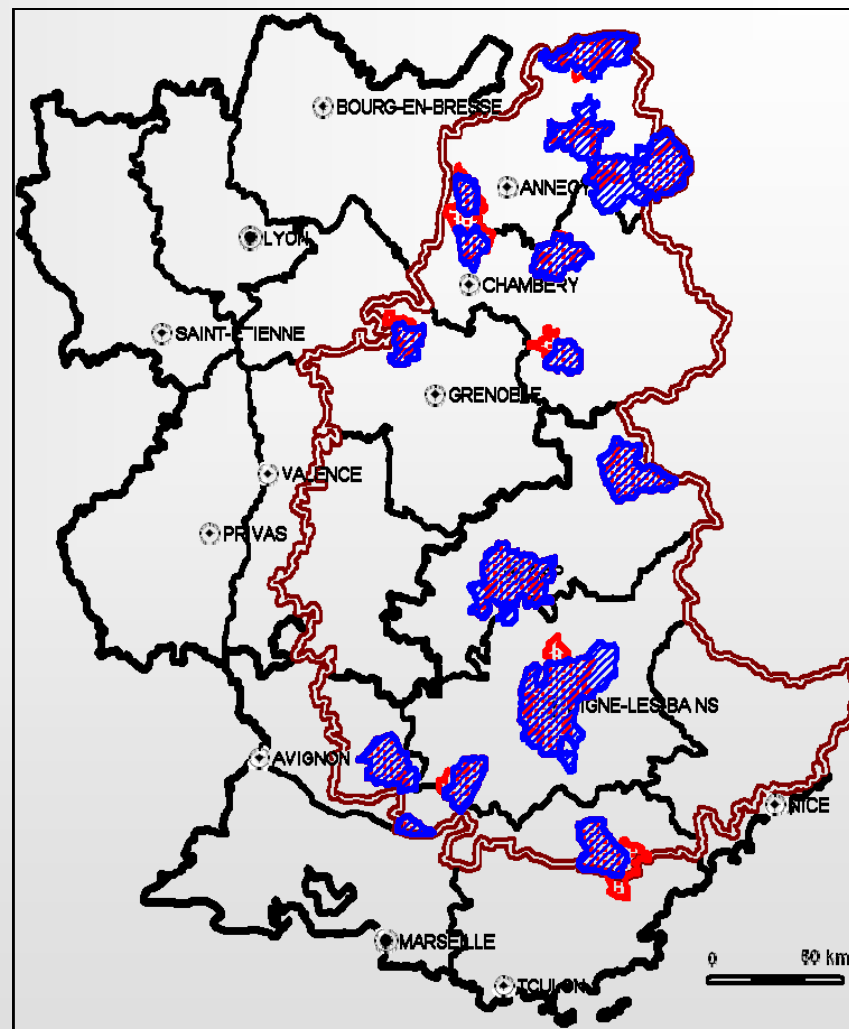


Delineation of the urbanisation zones

Cemagref updated the delineation, according to more recent commuter flow data. It leads in most cases in enlarging Manfred urbanisation zones

In red: Manfred zones

In blue: update of delineation



Discussion on possible test regions



Urbanisation zones between ± 15000 and ± 50000 inhabitants

Zone	Urbanisation zone		Core of zone		Urban fringe	
	Number of communities	Population 1999	Number of communities	Population 1999	Number of communities	Population 1999
Aix-les-Bains	22	49947	9	40278	13	9669
Albertville	24	36914	15	31425	9	5489
Apt	9	19759	2	14100	7	5659
Briançon	9	17023	5	15046	4	1977
Chamonix-Mont-Blanc	4	13744	2	12536	2	1208
Bonneville-Cluses	18	63451	9	56906	9	6545
Digne-les-Bains	26	24483	2	16757	24	7726
Draguignan	9	53918	5	49212	4	4706
Gap	30	47770	1	36262	29	11508
Manosque	11	34221	3	25938	8	8283
Pertuis	1	17833	1	17833	0	0
Rumilly	13	18210	2	12778	11	5432
Saint-Jean-de-Maurienne	16	17590	7	13800	9	3790
Sallanches	9	40949	9	40949	0	0
Thonon-les-Bains	34	74403	12	58834	24	15569
Voiron	15	48845	9	42131	6	6714

Discussion on possible test regions



Urbanisation zones between ± 15000 and ± 50000 inhabitants

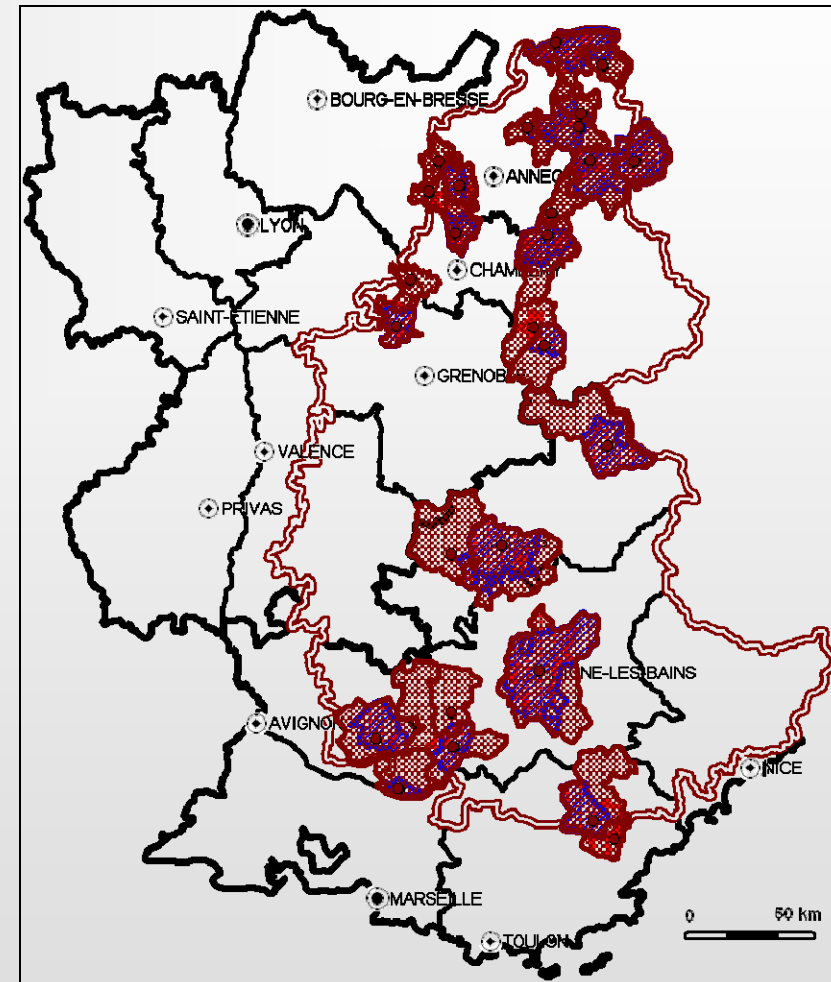
- Exclusion of Pertuis and Sallanches: no urban fringe
- Exclusion of Bonneville-Cluses and Thonon-les-Bains: too populated, vicinity of Sillon Alpin metropolitan zone
- Voiron is debatable: on-going inclusion in Grenoble urbanisation zone



Discussion on possible test regions

Taking into account other functionalities

- With respect to a main function of SMESTOs, which is supply to inhabitants of services that are not available everywhere (like hospitals), INSEE has defined 'bassins de vie' which are area where most important non daily services are available
- Centres of 'bassins de vie' are cities which act as supply nodes for these services
- The 'bassins de vie' (in brown) superimpose more or less accurately with the urbanisation zones
- In some cases, urbanisation zones do not include centres of respective 'bassins de vie'

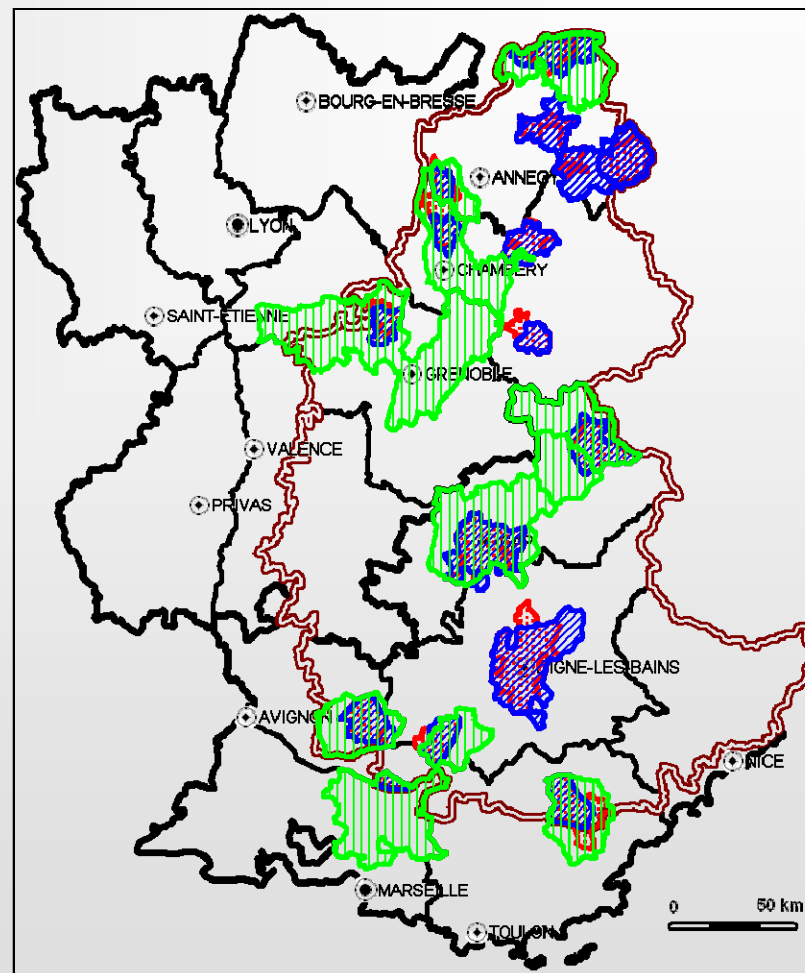


Discussion on possible test regions



Taking into account our main problem field

- Land take effects and management will lead to focus on regional planning instruments, which intend to steer spatial development
- In France, most comprehensive instruments are the 'Schémas de Cohérence Territoriale (SCOT)', which are implemented in urban regions
- Further enlargement of the 'urbanisation zones' in taking into account the SCOT perimeters (in green)?

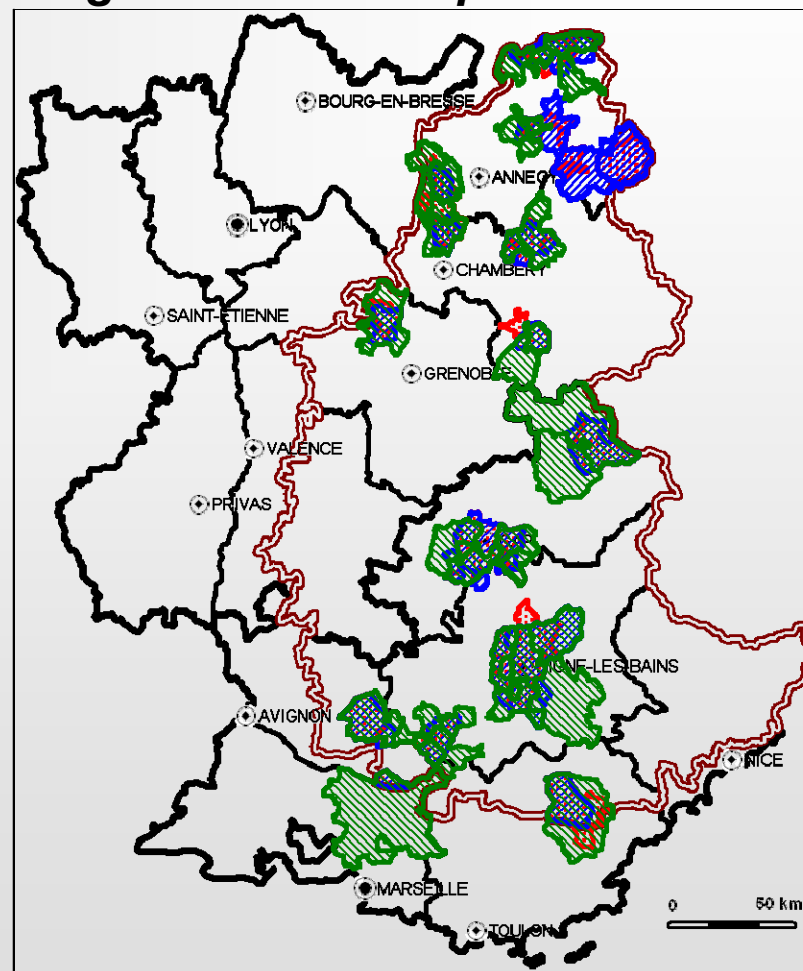


Discussion on possible test regions



Taking into account co-operation issues against our main problem field

- Enhancing co-operation between municipalities is a mainstream in French territorial development policies since the 80s, with the aim of optimising allocation of public services and strengthening functional complementarities between communities
- 'Communautés de communes' and 'Communautés d'agglomérations' (in dark green) become the current territorial basis for co-operation between municipalities, e.g. for the preparation of SCOT. Once more, they do not fit with urbanisation zones perimeters



Discussion on possible test regions



Further questions

- ☞ Are there meaningful differences in land take between these zones?
- ☞ How far can we assign SMESTOs development types to possible selected urbanisation zones?
- ☞ Are these differences in link with development types?
- ☞ Which are main functional disparities within the zones between the centres and the fringes?
- ☞ How far these disparities are already managed?
- ☞ How far these disparities call for more efficient co-operation between communities?



Besides WP8 indicators, some existing French data can help to answer some of these questions, notably to reveal differences between the cores and the fringes. Additional criteria to select the test zone?

Discussion on possible test regions



Trends in land take

Change in land use from 1990 to 2000 (according to Corine data....): is there an increase of artificial surfaces (CLC1)?

- Important differences between zones in land take by urban fabric (CLC1)
- In most cases: increase of artificial surfaces in the cores, more stability in the fringes

Extension of artificial surfaces versus decrease in agriculture surfaces (CLC2)?

- Retreat of agriculture surfaces (CLC2) often more pronounced than increase of artificial surfaces
- It concerns above all the cores, less pronounced in the fringes

Changes in semi-natural surfaces (CLC3-5, i e from 'forest' to 'water bodies')?

- Semi-natural surfaces are prominent in many urbanisation zones
- Increase of these surfaces in the cores, no general trend in the fringes
- Changes due to various factors, e g forest extension in certain zones

Discussion on possible test regions



Differences in development types

Demographic trends

- Most zones were in demographic growth in the 90s, due above all to migration (demographic attractiveness). Only 3 were stagnating, due to emigration
- These differences concern the cores, since population grows in the fringes

Employment generation / labour market development

- Increase in jobs pronounced in some urbanisation zones, but 3 zones are stagnating
- Increase more pronounced in some cases in the cores, in other cases in the fringes
- Fringes keep strongly dependent from cores in terms of jobs

Sharing 'central' traditional functions between centres and fringes

Jobs in trade and in public administration keep over-represented in the cores, in comparison with fringes

Discussion on possible test regions



Differences in development types

Sharing possible 'supra-regional' functions between centres and fringes

- ✓ High value and even 'international' tourism is developed in certain urbanisation zones, does not concern necessarily the cores
- ✓ Bank and insurance activities are developed in some zones, but do not concern the fringes
- ✓ Differences between zones concerning the share of other business activities, but contrasts between cores and fringes are less marked

Share of traditional / declining activities

- Low importance of agriculture in jobs in centres; although declining, agriculture is still important in fringes of certain zones
- High differences between zones in importance of jobs in industry; when important, industry does not concern only the cores. In most zones, slight decline of industry, but industry develops in some fringes areas when it retreats from the centres
- Construction loses its importance in all zones, in the cores as well as in the fringes

Discussion on possible test regions



Competition between municipalities

- ❖ Inequities between communities: the rich and the poor, like in every country
- ❖ Development needs increase of financial resources for the communities: not only financial support from the State, but also more money coming from local taxes raised by communities
- ❖ Most important local taxes are: taxe d'habitation (based on 'fiscal value' of housing) and taxe professionnelle (based on 'fiscal value' of professional assets of companies)
- ❖ Competition focuses commonly on differences in taxation rates between communities, for local taxes raised by the community



Taxation rates differ between zones, but rates are still a bit higher in cores

Additional support from the State when communities join a inter-municipal co-operation structure, and moreover when these structure standardize the taxe professionnelle rates

Discussion on possible test regions



Indicators for characterising the urbanisation zones

Coming from WP8 (or derived from WP7 indicators)

- Population and immigrants less immigrants / population ratio
- Ratio employed persons by place of work / employed persons by place of residence
- Employed persons (by place of work) by sector, in trade and in public services
- Artificial, agricultural and near natural area per municipality
- Salaried jobs in business services, in tourist accommodation, in bank and insurance

Specific indicators

- o Location in centre or in fringe area of urbanisation zone
- o Membership of an inter-municipal co-operation structure
- o Inclusion into regional planning perimeters (SCOT)
- o Inclusion into a service supply basin (bassin de vie)
- o Taxation rates for local taxes