Human Mobility and Segregation in the U.S.

Project Overview

The Human Mobility and Segregation Project (HMSP) provides novel big data to address important theoretical and empirical questions on human mobility and multiplex segregation in the U.S. The goal of HMSP is to harness the benefit of large-scale digital trace human daily mobility data and consumer records to study racial segregation with a model that accounts for both individuals' residential location and their movements and exposure in their everyday life, and to examine its relationship with various social, cultural, economic, and political outcomes. **First**, we propose to use daily mobility data to construct mobility networks between communities and study social connectedness between these communities. **Second**, we combine the daily mobility data with residential location data to develop new metrics to measure racial segregation that accounts for exposure through both spatial proximity and everyday mobility. **Third**, we will link the mobility data with various additional data sources, including geocoded consumer data, political voting records, and census data, to study its relationship with economic and partisan segregation in the U.S. **Fourth**, we will develop technical infrastructure to make our data products publicly accessible.