

Health and environmental co-benefits of city urban form in Latin America: an ecological study

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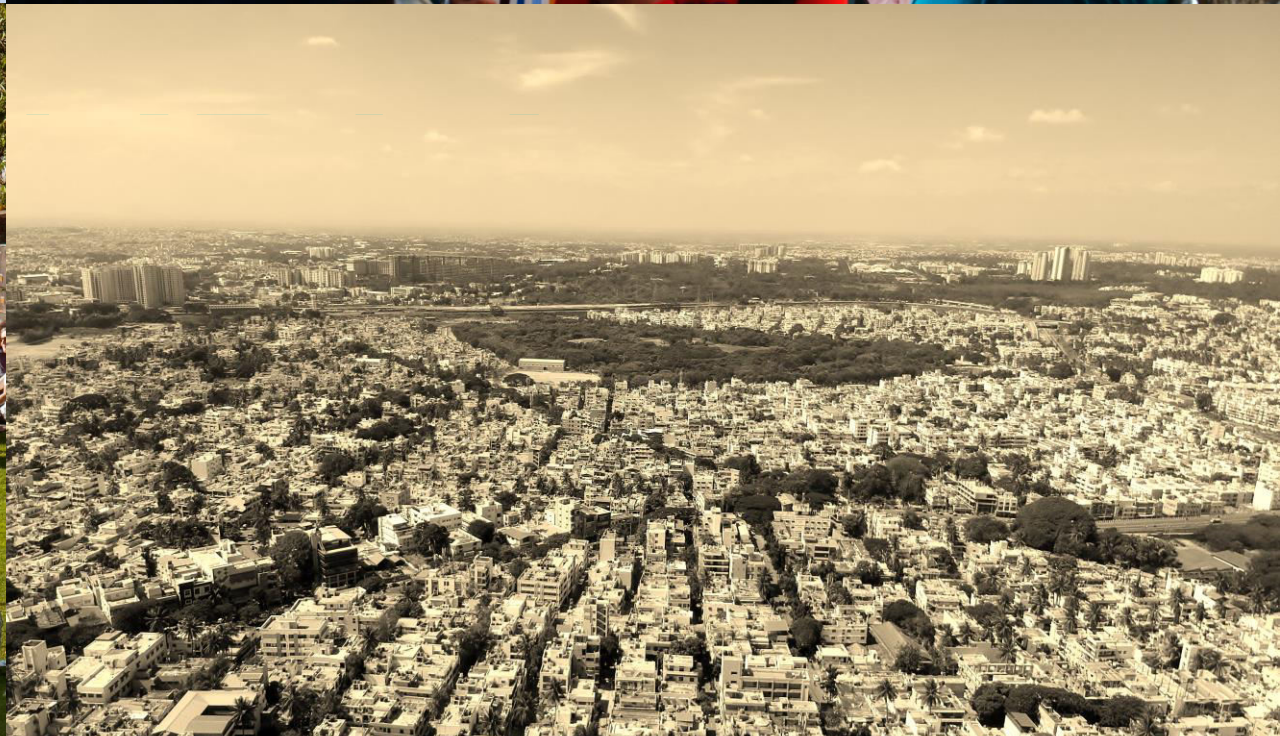
Wednesday 7 July 2021, 14:00-15:30 EDT

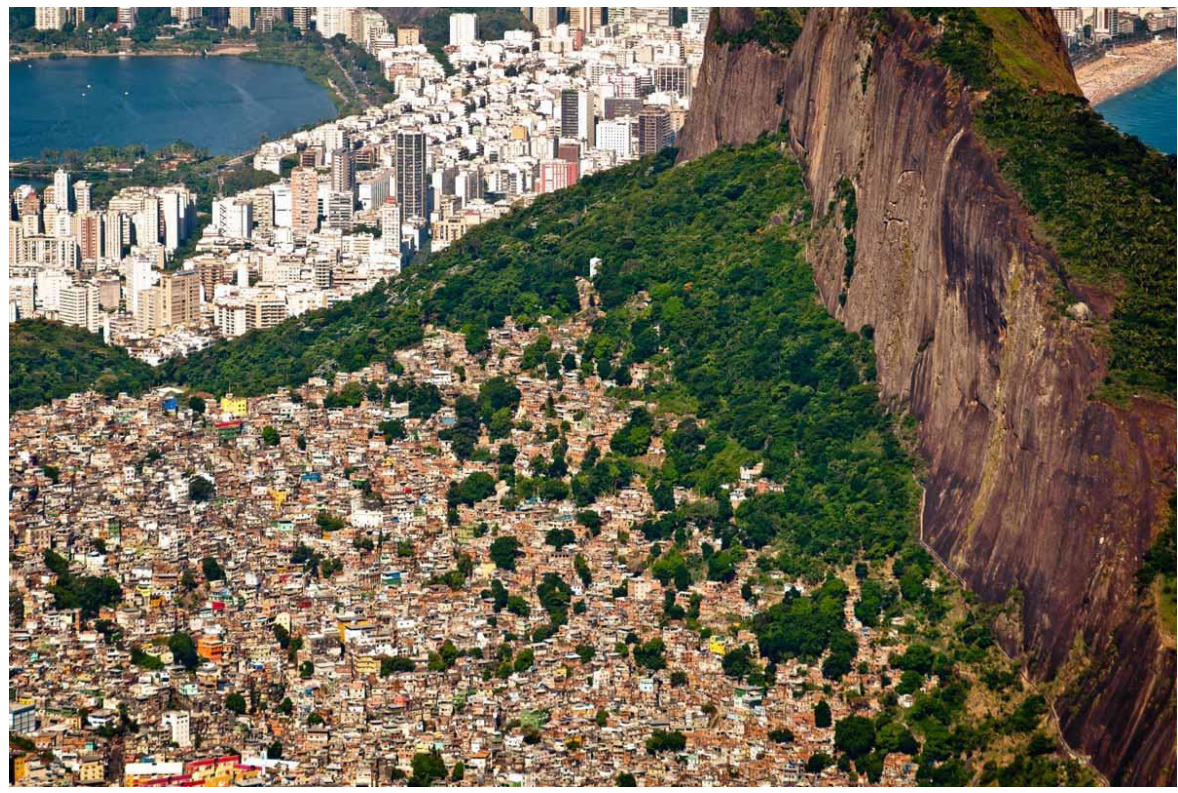




By 2050 almost 70% of world's population will live in urban environments







Research questions

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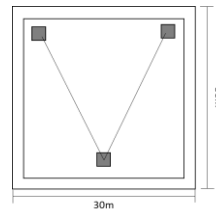
Research questions

1. Are certain urban landscape profiles at the city level associated with environmental outcomes in Latin American cities?
2. Are certain urban landscape profiles at the city level associated with health outcomes in Latin American cities?
3. What urban landscape profiles maximize environmental and health co-benefits in Latin America?

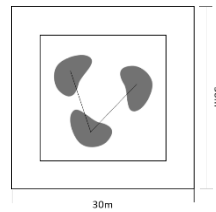


Exposure

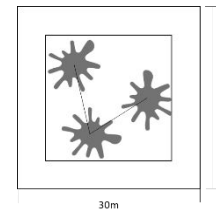
Urban landscape profiles



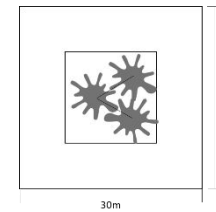
Scattered pixels
 low fragmentation
 high isolation
 compact shape



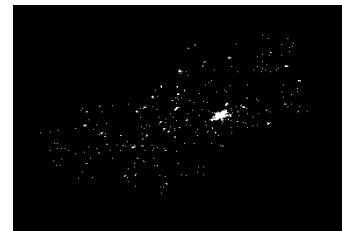
Proximate stones
 moderate fragmentation
 moderate isolation
 irregular shape



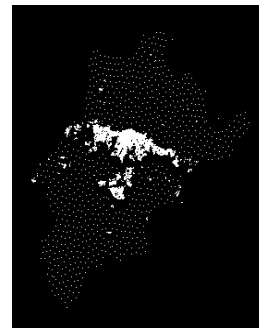
Proximate inkblots
 mod-high fragmentation
 moderate isolation
 complex shape



Contiguous large inkblots
 high fragmentation
 low isolation
 complex shape



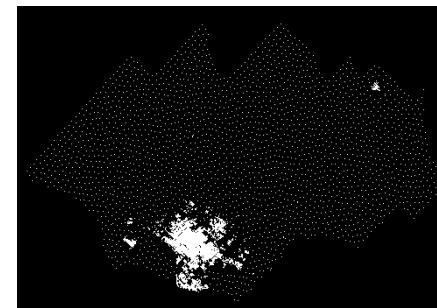
Fresnillo
(Mexico)



Pocos de Caldas
(Brazil)



Cartagena
(Colombia)



Buenos Aires
(Argentina)

Outcomes

Environmental outcomes

Lack of green space

Air Pollution

Carbon Footprint

Health outcomes

NCDs mortality

Non-int inj mortality

Hypertension

Diabetes

Obesity

Co-benefits

Lack of green space

NCD mortality

Air pollution

Non-int inj mortality

Obesity

Hypertension

Carbon Footprint

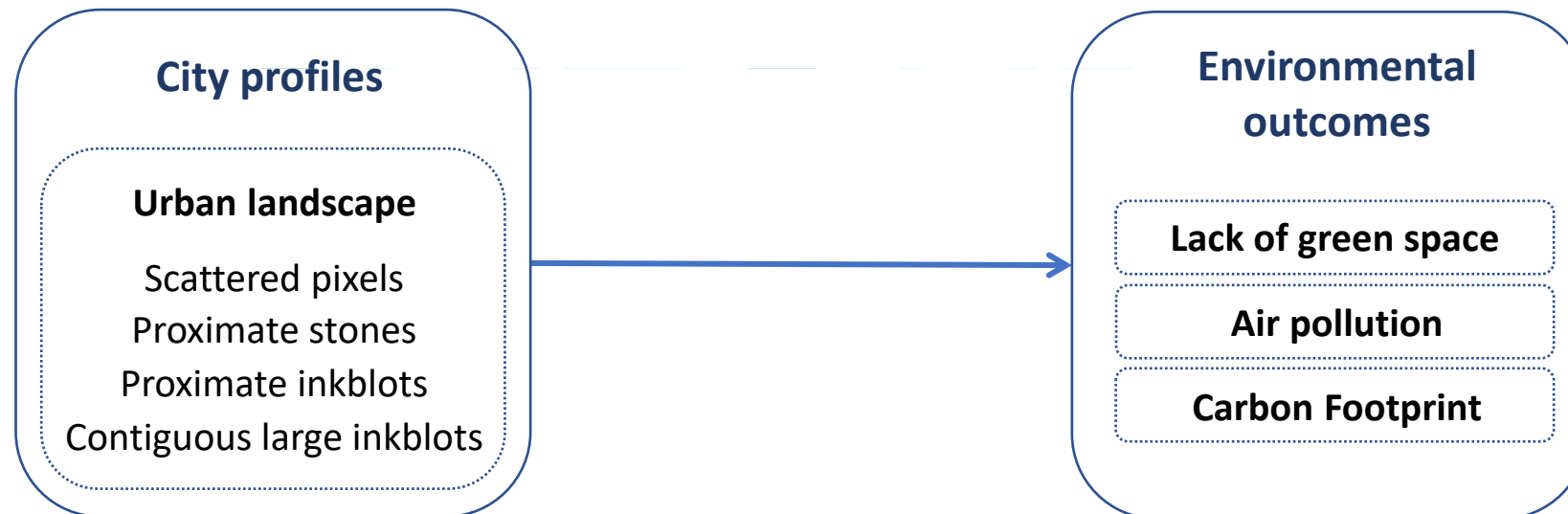
Diabetes

Covariates

- Age
- Sex
- Social Environment index
- Climate zones
- City size (total population)
- Country

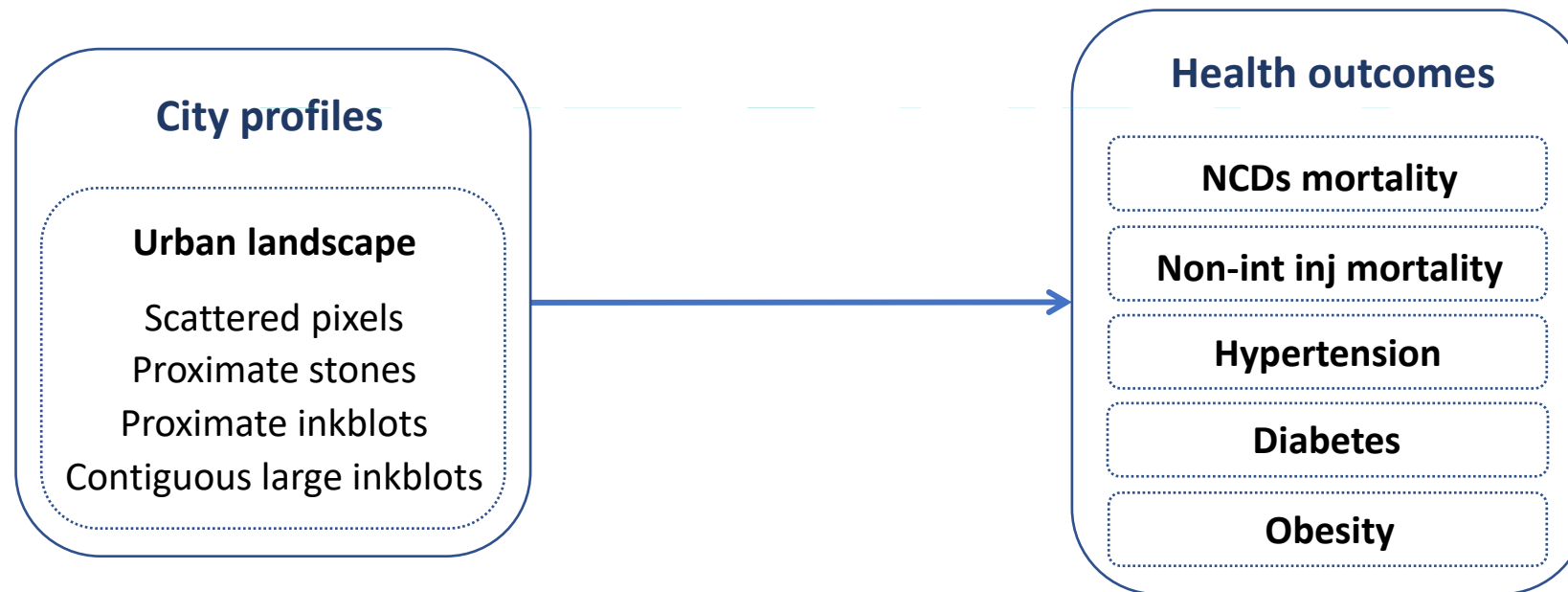
Methods

1. Linear regression models.



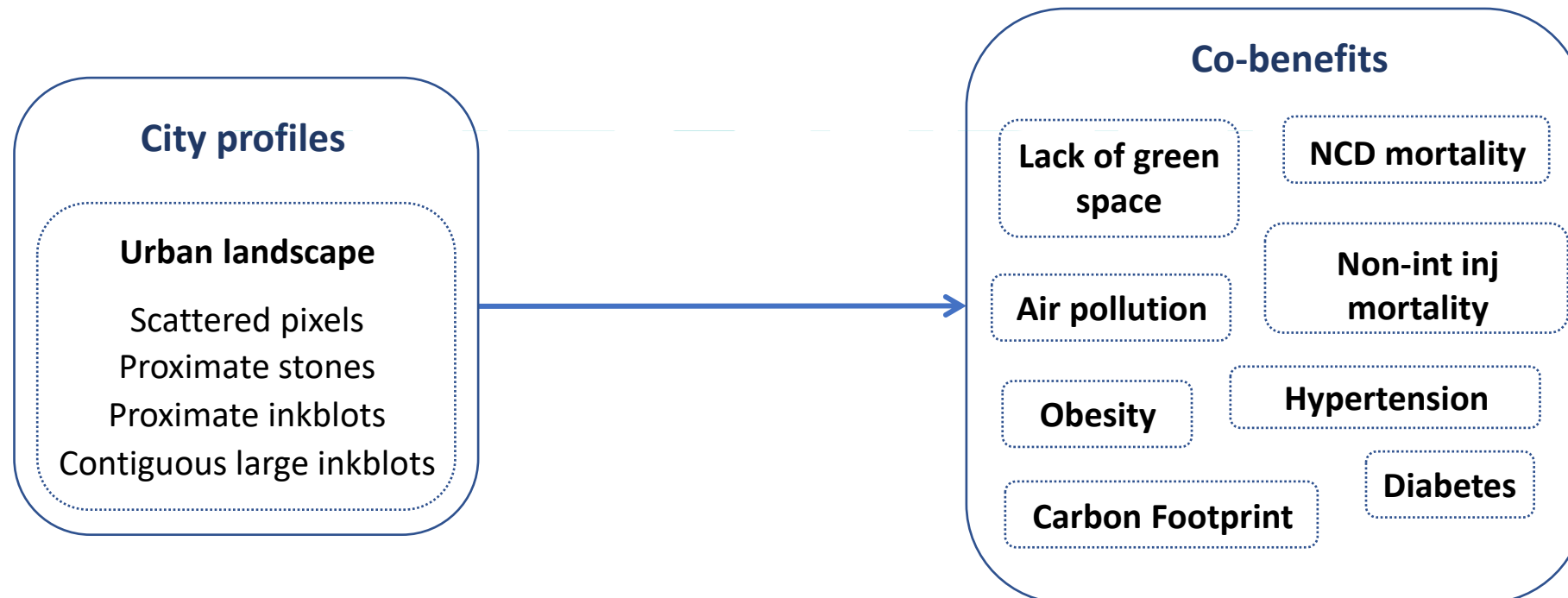
Methods

1. Linear regression models.
2. Multilevel Poisson and logistic regression models with random intercepts at the city level.



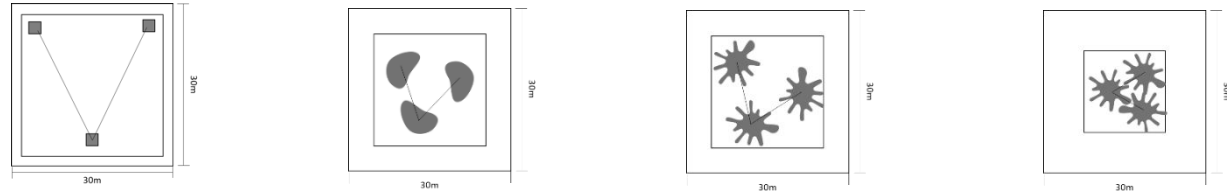
Methods

1. Linear regression models.
2. Multilevel Poisson and logistic regression models with random intercepts at the city level.
3. Latent Class Analysis creating 5 classes.



Results

Table 1. Characteristics of the study cities by Urban Landscape Profiles



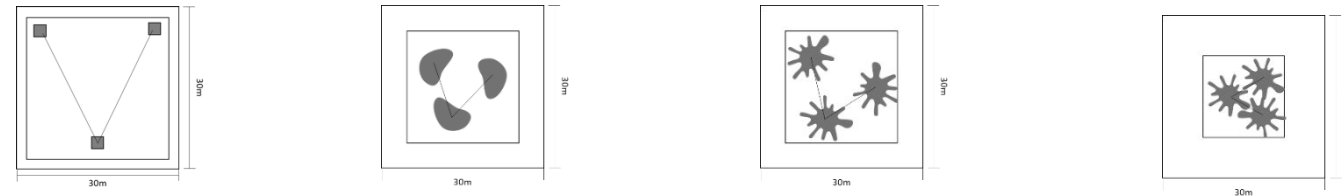
VARIABLE	Total	Scattered pixels	Proximate stones	Proximate inkblots	Contiguous large inkblots	p-value*
	p50(iqr)	p50(iqr)	p50(iqr)	p50(iqr)	p50(iqr)	
Number of cities	370	91	168	90	21	
Number of surveys	238630	22911	42854	96448	76206	
City characteristics						
Total population (hab)	280918 (398129)	176213 (113555)	229962 (186198)	827328.50 (554430.30)	3697687 (5459527)	<0.001
Population density (hab/km2)	6454.003 (3519.5)	7063.435 (5628.069)	6142.93 (3435.09)	6068.10 (2646.38)	7442.44 (3760.13)	0.0226
Census age >=65years (%)	10.69 (3.42)	10.93 (3.58)	11 (3.56)	10.08 (2.87)	10.44 (1.83)	0.0391
Census females (%)	51.05 (1.43)	50.87 (1.46)	50.94 (1.44)	51.16 (1.44)	51.51 (1.19)	0.0132
Adults aged >=25 years who completed secondary education or above (%)	38.59 (10.79)	35.87 (10.17)	38.55 (11.35)	40.37 (8.89)	43.72 (7.84)	<0.001
Social Environment Index	0.12 (0.78)	-0.17 (1.13)	0.10 (0.73)	0.29 (0.67)	0.38 (0.30)	0.0012
Major climate zone						0.054
Tropical	43.78%	44.0%	43.5%	45.6%	38.1%	
Arid	20.27%	28.6%	14.9%	24.4%	9.5%	
Temperate & Polar	35.95%	27.5%	41.7%	30.0%	52.4%	

*Chi test for categorical variables, Kruskal Wallis test for continuous variables

Results



Table 2. Adjusted single exposure and single outcome regression models with urban landscape profiles.



Urban landscape profiles	Scattered pixels	Proximate stones	Proximate inkblots	Contiguous large inkblots
Environmental outcomes		Coef (95% CI)	Coef (95% CI)	Coef (95% CI)
Lack of green space (% lack green/unit)	referent	0.25 (-3.23, 3.73)	8.07 (4.06, 12.08)*	12.74 (6.39, 19.10)*
PM _{2.5} (µg/m ³)	referent	2.17 (1.12, 3.22)*	2.47 (1.25, 3.68)*	4.81 (2.89, 6.73)*
NO ₂ (ppb)	referent	0.09 (0.00, 0.19)	0.12 (0.01, 0.23)*	0.82 (0.64, 0.99)*
Per capita carbon footprint (CO ₂ emissions/hab)	referent	0.02 (-0.09, 0.13)	-0.05 (-0.18, 0.07)	0.08 (-0.12, 0.28)

*p<0.05

PM_{2.5}, Particulate Matter that have a diameter of less than 2.5 micrometers. NO₂, Nitrogen dioxide. CO₂, Carbon dioxide. IRR, Incidence Rate Ratio. OR, Odds Ratio.

Environmental outcomes models: Linear regression models adjusted by climate zones, social environment index, country.

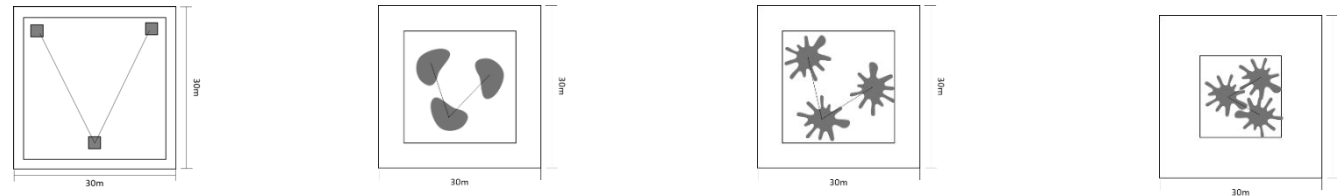
Mortality outcomes models: Multilevel Poisson regression models adjusted by age, sex, social environment index, climate zones, country as fixed effects; city as random intercept.

Risk factors outcomes models: Multilevel logistic regression models adjusted by age, sex, education, social environment index, climate zones, country as fixed effects; city as random intercept.

Results



Table 2. Adjusted single exposure and single outcome regression models with urban landscape profiles.



Urban landscape profiles	Scattered pixels	Proximate stones	Proximate inkblots	Contiguous large inkblots
Health outcomes		Rate ratio/OR (95% CI)	Rate ratio/OR (95% CI)	Rate ratio/OR (95% CI)
NCDs mortality	referent	0.93 (0.86, 1.01)	0.93 (0.85, 1.01)	0.77 (0.67, 0.87)*
Non-intentional injuries mortality	referent	0.88 (0.76, 1.03)	1.02 (0.86, 1.21)	1.00 (0.77, 1.30)
Hypertension	referent	1.02 (0.91, 1.14)	1.07 (0.95, 1.21)	1.06 (0.90, 1.24)
Diabetes	referent	1.11 (0.99, 1.23)	1.08 (0.97, 1.21)	1.24 (1.07, 1.43)*
Obesity	referent	0.90 (0.79, 1.01)	0.87 (0.76, 0.99)*	0.91 (0.76, 1.09)

*p<0.05

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Results



Table 3. Description of co-benefits class

Co-benefits class	Description of co-benefits class	Number of cities
Positive co-benefits	Positive health & environmental co-benefits	57
Environmental benefits	Environmental benefits, negative health outcomes, except diabetes & obesity	75
Health benefits	Lack GS & high PM2.5, health benefits except obesity	12
High emissions & risk factors	High NO2 & carbon footprint, high hypertension & diabetes	40
Negative co-benefits	Negative health & environmental co-benefits, except hypertension	161

Results



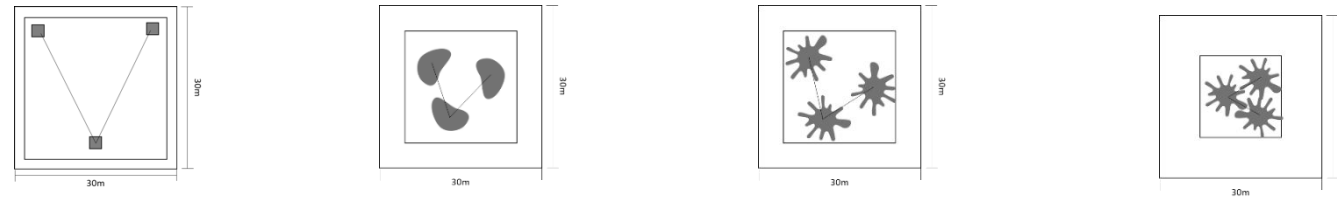
Table 4. Characteristics of the study cities by co-benefits class

Co-benefits class	Number of cities	Total population (hab)	Population density (hab/km ²)	Census >=65years (%)	Census females (%)	Adults with completed secondary education or above (%)	Social Environment Index
		p50(iqr)	p50(iqr)	p50(iqr)	p50(iqr)	p50(iqr)	p50(iqr)
Positive co-benefits	57	274607 (308438)	12529.02 (7153.94)	10.45 (3.33)	52.87 (1.94)	39.5 (8.57)	0.19 (0.63)
Environmental benefits	75	273161 (739029)	7407.16 (3219.59)	10.06 (3.51)	52.72 (2.36)	37.74 (12.48)	-0.32 (0.72)
Health benefits	12	344036.5 (572823)	11159.88 (3441.41)	9.83 (1.81)	51.11 (2.57)	66.52 (8.99)	0.26 (0.23)
High emissions & risk factors	40	318650.5 (426626.5)	5209.07 (2069.43)	13.08 (4.1)	52.45 (1.31)	38.32 (5.25)	0.38 (0.39)
Negative co-benefits	161	299828 (397711)	5557.85 (1680.28)	10.65 (3.52)	52.21 (1.29)	36.87 (10.67)	0.23 (0.78)

Results



Table 5. Co-benefits class distribution by city profiles



	Scattered pixels	Proximate stones	Proximate inkblots	Contiguous large inkblots
	%	%	%	%
Positive co-benefits	26.8	16.7	9.3	5
Environmental benefits	23.2	18.6	23.3	35
Health benefits	6.1	2.6	2.3	5
High emissions & risk factors	17.1	8.3	9.3	20
Negative co-benefits	26.8	53.8	55.8	35

Summary of results

1. Environmental Outcomes

- All the different profiles were associated with higher % of lack of green space and higher levels of PM2.5, NO2, and carbon footprint compared to the scattered pixels profile.

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- Risk factors:
 - Higher odds of hypertension and diabetes
 - Lower odds of obesity

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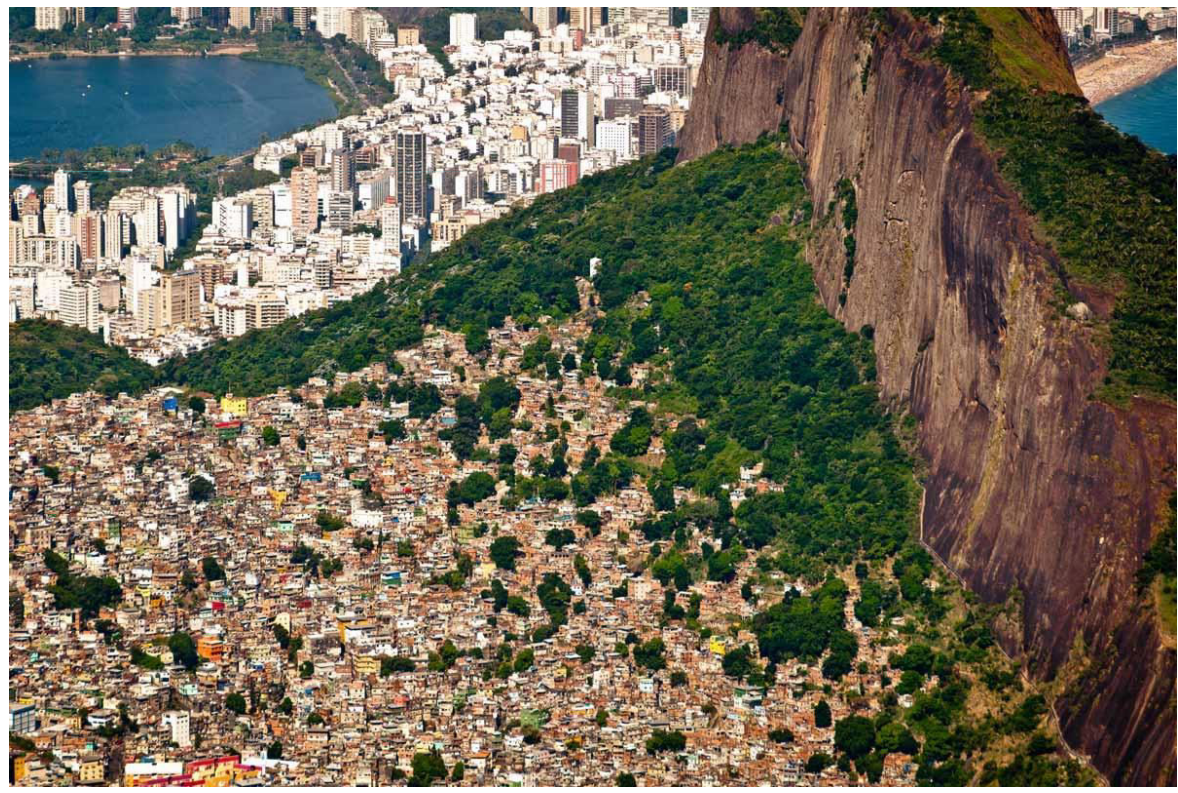
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3. Co-benefits

- The Negative co-benefits class is the most frequent class in all the different profiles
- The Positive co-benefits is mostly frequent in the scattered pixels profile



Thank you!



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