Intersectional approach of everyday geography

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Abstract
Hour-by-hour variations in spatial distribution of gender, age and social class within cities remain poorly explored and combined in the segregation literature mainly centred on home places from a single social dimension. Taking advantage of 49 mobility surveys compiled together (385,000 respondents and 1,711,000 trips) and covering 60% of France’s population, we consider variations in hourly populations of 2572 districts after disaggregating population across gender, age and education level. We first isolate five district hourly profiles (two ‘daytime attractive’, two ‘nighttime attractive’ and one more ‘stable’) with very unequal distributions according to urban gradient but also to social groups. We then explore the intersectional forms of these everyday geographies. Taking as reference the dominant groups (men, middle-age and high educated people) known as concentrating hegemonic power and capital, we analyze specifically whether district hourly profiles of dominant groups diverge from those of the others groups. It is especially in the areas exhibiting strong increase or strong decrease of ambient population during the day that district hourly profiles not only combine the largest dissimilarities all together across gender, age and education level but are also widely more synchronous between dominant groups than between non-dominant groups (women, elderly and low-educated people). These intersectional patterns shed new light on areas where peers are synchronously located over the 24-hour period and thus potentially in better position to interact and to defend their common interests.

Keywords
Daily mobility, segregation, intersectionality, hourly rhythms, synchronization

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Introduction

People’s daily mobility in cities has been largely explored with particular attention to differences in trips number, distances travelled and transportation modes according to gender, age and social class. However, it remains much less common to examine how people’s daily mobility leads to hourly variations in spatial concentration of gender, age and social subgroups within cities. Such a blind spot is unfortunate because spatial and temporal constrains that demographic and social subgroups unequally encounter in their daily life do not only translate into differences in the ways they move around but generate also divergent spatial patterns in their co-locations and in segregation of cities around the clock.

Social and political determination of domestic, work and leisure places and times shape hourly rhythms both of social groups and of places. While the inequitable positioning of women in society structures gendered utilisation of urban space (Cresswell and Uteng, 2008), co-locations of women and men in cities throughout the day remain understudied in segregation literature probably because the traditional model of family and heterosexual couple induces gender parity in housing, at least at night, and by extension in residential areas. One can yet think that the gender mix observed in residential areas decreases during the day depending on the type and location of daily activities (professional but not only) with some neighbourhoods becoming overwhelmingly female or male (Vallée, 2020) in link with the differential presence and involvement of men and women in public and private spheres (McDowell, 1999). This is also true for the co-locations of different age groups, whose residential patterns (Cowgill, 1978; La Gory et al., 1981; Winkler and Klaas, 2012) can greatly change throughout the day (Abbasi et al., 2021). As developed in Lefebvre’s Rhythmanalysis (Lefebvre 1992), powerful groups imprint rhythms upon places. By scheduling public transportation or events in public spaces, by planning land use such as workplaces, shopping and recreational facilities, public and private actors may assemble, frame and co-ordinate population daily locations. Such strategies of synchronization play an important part in the production and the control of population in places. Some inclusive nighttime areas can then become exclusive for some subgroups of population during the day, and inversely (Kärholm, 2009; Vallée, 2017). Focussing on socioeconomic position or ethnicity, some studies have explored how social segregation vary around the clock in cities such as Miami (Wong and Shaw, 2011), Tallin (Silm and Ahas, 2014), Detroit (Farber et al., 2015), Paris (Le Roux et al., 2017) or Atlanta (Park and Kwan, 2018). However, these rare studies of everyday segregation focus solely on a single axe of difference (e.g. income) and do not consider everyday exclusion process impacting all together gender, age and socioeconomic position from an intersectional point of view.

Following the mobility turn, or new mobilities paradigm (Sheller and Urry, 2006), there is a need to bear on connections between daily (im)mobility and the intersectional forms of space-time experiences. We aim here to provide empirical keys on the way subordinates deal with ‘multi-layered and routinized forms of domination’ (Crenshaw, 1991) in their space-time experiences and to fill a gap in segregation literature where reference to intersectionality remains curiously absent and, at best, mentioned only in passing, as recently underlined by Hopkins (2019). Such intersectional approach of everyday geography would be useful to emphasize spatial injustice in daily access to the power structure. Finally, unlike the rare studies about everyday segregation which are mainly limited in geographical scope (Müürisepp et al., 2022), the present paper concerns a large sample of districts and city regions allowing comparisons across city regions or across similar urban rings from different city regions.

To date, studies exploring daily people’s locations, ambient populations and everyday segregation have relied on different types of data (Müürisepp et al., 2022; Whipp et al., 2021). The more recent one refer to the digital traces that people leave with their mobile phones (Hanaoka, 2018; Jiang et al., 2016; Lenormand et al., 2015b; Olteanu et al., 2012; Song et al., 2010), their
transportation cards (Zhong et al., 2016), their credit cards (De Montjoye et al., 2015; Louail et al., 2017) or their participation in social media – such as Twitter (Wang et al., 2018; Heine et al., 2021). Digital traces depend on the operator market share and may suffer from representative issues in users’ demographics. With phone traces, scholars are also inclined to restrict analysis to inner cities where the grid of mobile phone towers is sufficiently small to enable accurate analyses (Sakarovitch et al., 2019). Moreover, in digital data, person-based information such as ethnicity or social class (and also sex and age) are very often lacking for confidential/privacy reasons, even if there are some exceptions (Gauvin et al., 2020; Lenormand et al., 2015a). To overcome the lack of individual social information in digital data, some recent studies use the aggregated social profile of residential areas from census or fiscal databases to infer users social class or race and enrich the data. This residential and ecological inference is yet ineffective to extract some individual information (i) about social groups that are heterogeneous located in residential areas (e.g. middle classes, gender or age) or (ii) in areas where density of mobile phone towers is low (e.g. rural areas) and where larger census tracts often gather more heterogeneous population. Besides digital traces, a more traditional literature uses census data to examine geographies of segregation at home and at work (Ellis et al., 2004; Hellerstein and Neumark, 2008). However, these home-work data exclude the large part of the population who is non-active (unemployed, retired, at home, etc.) and do not consider locations experiences through leisure, errand activities, or visits to friends and family. Moreover, census data give no information about the temporal agenda inhibiting space-time analysis of everyday geography. A third data source is also available in some specific countries and cities: the origin-destination surveys (often based on travel diaries). They provide some precise space-time data including a large range of person-based data (e.g. sex, age, education level, occupational status) from a representative population. Often seen as less fashionable that digital traces, with smaller sample of respondents, over a more limited time span, or with errors due to self-reporting, these traditional data sources are yet valuable especially when they concern a large number of cities and ensure that observations made in one city remain valid for other cities (Cottineau and Vanhoof, 2019). In France, where origin-destination surveys are carried out in standardized way in a vast range of city regions, microdata about daily trips can be compiled to concern 385,000 respondents across 2572 districts located in 49 city regions (Vallée et al., 2022; Cerema, 2020). This dataset provides a large sample bearing comparison with studies using mobile phone (Song et al., 2010; Phithakkitnukoon et al., 2012) or socio-media data (Wang et al., 2018) for which initial and massive samples get often drastically reduced after data cleaning.

Instead of using these French microdata to analyze daily trips, we focus here on people’s hourly locations to explore in everyone of the 2572 districts the number of present population of each social group (defined from their gender, age or education level) across the 24-hour period. Actually, these district hourly profiles are at the heart of our empirical analysis: we use them to compare the everyday geography of each social group. By exploring differences in district hourly profiles (called mismatch in the present paper), we aim to reveal the intersectional forms of everyday exclusion resulting from the spatial and temporal constraints that social groups unequally encounter in the course of their daily life combined with their residential segregation. Our argument is as follows: if hourly profiles of different social groups in a same district are found to perfectly overlap, it means that the district has similar hourly attractiveness whatever the social group under consideration and that every social group equally access to it over the 24-hour period. Conversely, if district hourly profiles of different social groups do not overlap (i.e. exhibit a mismatch), it means that the district under consideration has uneven hourly attractiveness and that its everyday use is different from one social group to another. Taking into consideration social subgroups known as concentrating hegemonic power and capital (Bessière and Gollac, 2020; Atkinson, 1971; Garbinti et al., 2018), we define men, middle-age and high educated people as belonging to dominant groups. By contrast, we defined women, elderly people and low-educated people as belonging to non-dominant groups.
Even if age is more rarely considered in intersectional studies, we define elderly people as belonging to non-dominant groups according to the stigma and exclusion attendant to old age in the contemporary societies of the global North and to the ways this stigma vary with gender and social class (Calasanti and King, 2015). Here, we explore whether (and where) district hourly profiles of dominant groups diverge from those of the others groups. More specifically, the present paper aims to meet the following 4 objectives: (1) describe district hourly profiles and differences in their distribution according to social groups but also according to district location; (2) measure to what extent a same district exhibits mismatch in its hourly profiles according to gender, age or educational groups under consideration; (3) highlight districts combining all together large mismatch in their hourly profiles across gender, age and education; (4) explore mismatch in district hourly profiles between dominant groups and explore whether (and where) they differ from mismatch in district hourly profiles between non-dominant groups.

Data

Initial trip dataset

We used microdata coming from large origin-destination surveys conducted from 2009 to 2019 (during the autumn and winter seasons) in 49 French city regions covering 39.5 millions of inhabitants (i.e. 60% of France’s population). The sample contains 385,000 respondents aged 16 years and more and questioned about all their trips (place and time of departure/arrival for every activity) the day before of the survey (from Monday to Friday). Additional person-based information regarding gender, age and educational level of the respondents are also provided in the surveys (but no ethnicity or race information is collected in accordance with French state’s policy rejecting any references to racial or ethnic minorities). We considered four age groups (16–24 years, 25–34 years, 35–64 years and 65 and more) and merged respondents’ achieved level of education in four groups of individual educational status: low (middle school or less), middle-low (high school without Baccalauréat),1 middle-high (up to 2 years after Baccalauréat) and high (3 years or more after Baccalauréat). Sample contains 385,000 respondents and 1,711,000 trips across 49 city regions (see Table S1 in Supplementary Material for summary statistics).

Hourly location dataset

To understand how the hourly distribution of individuals changes over spatial and social dimensions, trip dataset was transformed into hourly location dataset in which every location was defined at district level. Districts are the smallest units in which it is relevant to aggregate data when it comes to not only ensuring sufficient sample size for statistical analysis but also protecting confidentiality of personal data for the provision of open data (see below). Districts correspond to a neighbourhood in core urban areas and to a municipality or a group of municipalities in peripheral areas. 24 hourly time steps were defined to get 24 cross-sectional pictures of respondents’ locations at exact hours (04.00, 05.00 etc.). Short locations in the interval between two exact hours have then not been registered in district hourly dataset. Transportation periods were also not considered except if respondents reported to use an ‘adherent’ mode of transportation (i.e. walking or cycling). In this case, half of the trip was considered as located in the district of origin and the other half as located in the district of destination (Le Roux et al., 2017). In the (rares) cases where ‘adherent’ trip symmetrically straddling an exact hour, location at this very hour was chosen to be in the district where respondent stayed the shortest time (because the longest duration taking place in the other district has a high probability to be registered at another hour).
In everyone of the 2572 districts, the number of present population over the 24-hour period was estimated for each of the 10 population groups under consideration: men or women; 16–24 years, 25–34 years, 35–64 years or 65 years and more; low, middle-low, middle-high or high education. These estimations took into account the respondent’s weighting coefficients provided in the origin-destination surveys (Cerema 2020). Figure 1 displays the fraction of individuals under consideration (after the weighting process) according to gender, age and educational groups. We can note that 12% of people have no available information about their achieved level of education: it concerns mainly (69%) the youngest people (16–24 yrs.) because many of them are still in school.

Located in 49 French city regions, these 2572 districts can be defined according to urban gradient (Figure 2): 653 districts (25.5%) belong to the inner areas of the 49 city regions, 1074 districts (41.9%) are located outside inner cities but in urban areas (major, medium or small urban poles), and 834 districts (32.6%) are part of peripheral areas (corresponding to surroundings of urban poles, multi-polarized or isolated areas) as defined in the French functional urban zoning (‘Zonage en Aires urbaines’) proposed by the French National Statistical Institute (Insee).

Temporal signal normalization

For each city region $c$, the distribution of the different social groups in space and time was quantified with a three-dimensional matrix $N^c = (N^c_{i,j,h})$ representing the number of individuals belonging to the social group $i \in [1, m]$ present in district $j \in [1, n]$ at hour $h \in [1, 24]$ during a typical weekday. We considered here $m = 11$ overlapping social groups: the total population (hereafter called ‘All’), the gender (men or women), the four age groups and the four educational groups.

![Figure 1. Fraction of individuals (after the weighting process) according to gender, age and educational groups.](image-url)
We first normalized the three-dimensional matrix by the total hourly activity of the social group $i$ in each city region $c$ (Equation (1))

$$\hat{N}_{i,j,h}^c = \frac{N_{i,j,h}^c}{\sum_{k=1}^{24} N_{i,k,h}^c}$$

(1)

This normalization was made to ensure that the total number of individuals belonging to a given social group present in a city region was constant along the day. We further normalized this quantity to obtain a temporal signal summing to 1 for a given social group and a given district (Equation (2))

$$T_{i,j,h}^c = \frac{\hat{N}_{i,j,h}^c}{\sum_{k=1}^{24} \hat{N}_{i,j,k}^c}$$

(2)

At the end of the process, we obtained a final sample of 28,281 temporal signals reflecting the temporal distribution of 11 social groups in the 2572 districts (hereafter called sociodistricts). Eleven sociodistricts without activity (2 for low-educated group and 9 for high educated group) were removed.

**Methods**

**District hourly profiles of social groups**

To group together sociodistricts exhibiting similar temporal signals, we performed an ascending hierarchical clustering using Ward’s metric and Euclidean distances as agglomeration method and dissimilarity metric, respectively (Hastie et al., 2009). From this clustering, we isolated different district hourly profiles and explored whether they were unequally distributed according to social
groups, urban gradient and city regions (objective 1). Chi-square tests were used to determine whether there was a statistically significant difference between distributions (with significance level of 0.01).

Mismatch in district hourly profiles

To highlight to what extent a district gather different hourly profiles according to social groups, we computed – for every pair of social groups – a mismatch index defined as the Euclidean distance between their two hourly profiles in every district under consideration. This Euclidean distance was normalized by the maximum reachable distance between the two extreme hourly profiles. We privileged this indicator because of its direct interpretation. Indeed, for a given district, the mismatch between two different social groups varies from 0, when the two social groups have exactly the same profile, to 1, when the two social groups have opposite profiles with the maximum reachable Euclidean between profiles.

Although this mismatch index could be computed between any pairs of social group for a given district, we first computed mismatch in hourly profiles across each of the three sociodemographic variables (gender, age or education), that is, 13 mismatch values per district (one for the gender, six for the age and six for the education). We then explored how mismatch indices differed for each of the three sociodemographic variables not only among the whole district sample (i.e. the 2561 districts with full information), but also among subsamples of districts according to their location within city regions (i.e. urban gradient) and the city region they belong to (objective 2). Notched boxplots were used to establish visually the significance of differences between mismatch values.

The width of a notch displays the 95% confidence interval information for the median: when the notches do not overlap, it provides evidence of a statistically significant difference between medians values.

Intersectional mismatch in district hourly profiles

To extend analysis of mismatch in district hourly profiles with an intersectional lens, we explored more specifically whether district hourly profiles of dominant groups diverge from those of the others groups. Taking into consideration groups known as concentrating hegemonically power and capital (Bessière and Gollac, 2020; Atkinson, 1971; Garbinti et al., 2018), we defined a priori a ‘dominant’ group for each of the three sociodemographic variables: men for the gender, the 35–64 years old group for the age and the high educational level for the education.

In a first step, we focused on the seven mismatch indices measuring differences in district hourly profiles across gender, age and education using dominant groups as a reference (one mismatch value for gender, three for age and three for education). After having described one by one the gender-based mismatch, the age-based mismatch and the education-based mismatch, we aimed at highlighting districts combining large mismatches all together across gender, age and education (objective 3). To provide some answers to this question, we relied here again on the Ward’s metric and Euclidean distances to cluster together districts exhibiting a similar set of the seven mismatch values under consideration. In order to emphasize differences between the clusters, we based our cluster analysis on the concept of $V$-test measuring the gap between the average mismatch within a cluster of districts and the average mismatch in the whole district sample by taking into account the mismatch empirical variance. For a given mismatch $X$ (mismatch between women and men, for example), the $V$-Test defined in equation (3) was used to compare the average mismatch $\bar{X}_g$ measured in a cluster $g$ (with $n_g$ districts) with the average mismatch $\bar{X}$ in the whole sample ($n$ districts). We note that the denominator is the standard error of the mean in the case of a sampling without replacement of $n_g$ elements among $n$. 

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\[
VT = \frac{\bar{X}_g - \bar{X}}{\sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n-n_g} \sigma^2_i}{n-1}}}
\]

where \(\sigma^2\) stands for the empirical variance of the mismatch. Chi-square tests (with significance level of 0.01) were once again used to determine whether there were statistically significant differences in cluster distributions according to the districts’ geographical location.

In a second step, we focused on differences in district hourly profiles between dominant groups (men, middle-age and high educated people). We computed for every district the average of the three associated mismatch values (men vs. middle-age people; men vs. high educated people; middle-age vs. high educated people). This average mismatch value is called dominants’ mismatch. For comparison purpose, we also considered the three mismatch values measuring differences in district hourly profiles between non-dominant groups (women, elderly and low-educated people) and computed similarly for every district the average mismatch in their hourly profiles (called non-dominants’ mismatch) from the three associated mismatch values (women vs. elderly people; women vs. low-educated people; elderly vs. low-educated people). By comparing dominants’ mismatch and non-dominants’ mismatch values, we aimed at exploring whether synchronization in district hourly profiles between dominant groups differed from synchronization in district hourly profiles between non-dominant groups, and whether synchronization patterns were similar whatever the districts (objective 4).

\section*{Data and materials availability}

All data, code and materials used in the present paper are available in open access. Initial datasets with hourly populations estimations of the 2572 French districts come from Mobiliscope (www.mobiliscope.cnrs.fr), an open interactive geovizualisation platform to explore cities around the clock (Vallée et al., 2020). Derived from version v4.1 of Mobiliscope, initial datasets are also stored under ODbL licence in an open-access repository (www.doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7738571). Procedures are made available in a public repository under License GPLv3 (https://gitlab.huma-num.fr/mobiliscope/intersectionality) and findings can be fully explored in an open dedicated cartographic platform (https://shiny.umr-tetis.fr/Intersectionality).

\section*{Results}

\section*{District hourly profiles of social groups}

From ascending hierarchical clustering, we obtained five main profiles of sociodistricts exhibiting similar temporal signals (see Figures S1 and S2 in Supplementary Material for more information about clustering outputs). Figure 3(a) shows how people concentration looks like for each of the 5 hourly profiles and Figure 3(b) displays the distribution of the five hourly profiles. Two ‘daytime attractive’ profiles gather 22% of sociodistricts (6% for the profile 1 and 16% for the profile 2). They both show an increase of people concentration between 6a.m. and 6p.m. with a small drop at lunchtime. The increase during the day is much greater for profile 1 than for profile 2. Two ‘nighttime attractive’ profiles gather 40% of sociodistricts (24% for profile 4 and 16% for profile 5) and exhibit conversely a decrease of people concentration from 6 a.m., a small increase of activity around 12p.m. and a decrease from 3p.m. The decrease during the day is much greater for profile 5 than for profile 4. The temporal concentration patterns associated with profiles 1 and 2 appear to be the opposite of the ones associated with profiles 4 and 5, respectively. A last ‘stable’ behaviour (profile 3) gathering 38% of sociodistricts exhibit similar people concentration over the 24 hour period, even if there is a very small decrease from 7a.m. to 6p.m.
Distribution of district hourly profiles according to the social groups (Figure 3(b)) highlights large and significant differences across gender, age and educational groups. The two attractive daytime profiles (profiles 1 and 2) are more common when educational level increases: for the high educational group there are about 11% of their district hourly signals belonging to profile 1 compared to 4% for the low educational group. Attractive daytime profiles are also less common when age decreases: for the young adults (16–24 years) about 10% of their district hourly signals belong to profile 1 compared to 1% for people aged 65 years. For gender, attractive daytime profiles are, for example, slightly more common for men than for women (5.4% vs. 4.4%, respectively, for profile 1). Other patterns can be highlighted: districts exhibiting stable profile during the day (profile 3) are more numerous as age increases, as education level decreases and for women than for men.

There are no systematic differences in the distribution of district hourly profiles across city regions (Figure 3(c)): significant differences are found for 26 city regions among the 49 under consideration (53%) when compared their distribution to the whole distribution in the remaining 48 cities (refer to Figure S3 in Supplementary Material to know the 26 city regions with significant differences). At a more local scale, we observe large and significant differences in district hourly profiles according to urban gradient as shown in Figure 3(d) (see also Figure S3 in Supplementary Material for percentages of sociodistricts belonging to each profile according to the urban gradient for the 49 city regions). As expected, the two attractive daytime profiles (profiles 1 and 2) concern...
more frequently areas close to core centre and the two attractive nighttime profiles (profiles 4 and 5) concern conversely more frequently areas far to core centre.

**Mismatch in district hourly profiles: variations across gender, age and education**

This first exploration of the space-time rhythms highlights large variations in district hourly profiles within each of the three sociodemographic variables (cf. Figure 3(b)). When exploring mismatch values across gender, across age groups and across educational groups, we observe that about 46% of districts have a gender-based mismatch, 96% at least one age-based mismatch, 94% at least one educational-based mismatch and finally 99% at least one mismatch among the 13 mismatch values under consideration.

Mismatch values are higher for age than for education, and even more than for gender (Figure 4(b)). While mismatch values are broadly similar when comparing city regions, they vary greatly according to the urban gradient: mismatch values across age and across education groups were found to be significantly higher in inner cities than in urban or peripheral areas (see notched boxplots in Figure 4(c)).

![Figure 4. Mismatch in district hourly profiles across gender, age and education.](image)

(a) Probability Density Function (PDF) of the mismatch according to the sociodemographic variable. A rug plot has been included (grey tick marks at the bottom of the plot) to show the position of the 11 possible mismatch values. (b) Average mismatch for each of the three sociodemographic variables according to the city (only 23 city regions in mainland France are displayed here: the six most populated and also those with the most recent data). The coloured dashed lines represent the mismatch values obtained with the 49 city regions taken together. (c) Notched boxplots of the average mismatch per city region for each of the three sociodemographic variables according to the urban gradient. (d) Notched boxplots of the average mismatch per city region for every social group with respect to the reference category (men for the gender, the 35–64 years old category for the age and the high educational level for the education). Each notched boxplot is composed of the first decile, the first quartile, the median, the third quartile and the ninth decile.
Finally, with respect to districts’ global attractiveness over the 24 hour period (from profiles obtained with the ‘All’ category), mismatch values both for age and education are widened in districts with large increase of population during the day (profile 1), and to a lesser extent in districts with large decrease of population during the day (profile 5). Similar pattern is also apparent for gender-based mismatch, but in a less marked way (Figure S4 in Supplementary Material).

When we compare gender-based mismatch, age-based mismatch and education-based mismatch using men, middle-age and high educated people, respectively, as a reference (Figure 4(d)), we observe that the largest mismatch value concerns the low-educated group (vs. high educated), while the smallest value is observed for women (vs. men). About age-based mismatch, the largest mismatch value concerns the youngest group (vs. 35–64 yrs.) A progressive gradient appears between educational subgroups since mismatch’ median values are found to significantly decrease as educational level increases.

**Cluster of districts based on mismatch in their hourly profiles**

To combine all together gender-based mismatch, age-based mismatch and education-based mismatch, we clustered districts exhibiting a similar set of mismatch values in their hourly profiles (see Figure S5 and Table S2 in Supplementary Material for more information about clustering outputs). Eight clusters of districts emerged (Figure 5(a)). Cluster 1 is the only one cluster with districts combining all together low mismatch in their hourly profiles for the seven mismatch values by comparison with the average mismatch in the whole sample. Clusters 2, 3 and 4 also combine districts with low mismatch in their hourly profiles but only for two among the three socio-demographic variables: large mismatch values are found for the middle-age group (25–34 yrs.) in cluster 2, for the three educational groups in cluster 3, and for elderly group (65 yrs. and more) in

![Figure 5. Cluster of districts based on mismatch values.](image-url)
cluster 4. Clusters 5 and 6 gather districts combining large mismatch values for two among the three sociodemographic variables: there are large mismatches in district hourly profiles for gender and age (16–24 yrs.) in cluster 5, and for age and education in cluster 6. Finally, clusters 7 and 8 gather districts combining large mismatch values all together for the three sociodemographic variables. While districts in cluster 7 exhibit large mismatch values for gender, the three age groups and the middle-high educational group, districts in cluster 8 exhibit more specifically large mismatch values for women, elderly people and middle-low and low-educated people (i.e. the groups we have defined as belonging to non-dominant groups).

According to the 49 city regions (Figure S6 in Supplementary Material), percentages of districts belonging to cluster 1 vary from 0% (Angers Region) to 36% (Longwy Region) and percentages of districts belonging to cluster 8 vary from 0% (Fort-de-France, Martinique) to 40% (Angoulême Region).

Cluster distributions highlight large and significant differences according to urban gradient and the five profiles. Districts combining all together low mismatch in their hourly profiles for the seven mismatch values (cluster 1) are more frequent in the urban areas than in inner cities or in peripheral areas (Figure 5(b)) and are widely over-represented in areas without daily variation (see profile 3 in Figure 5(c)). We also note that districts with large mismatch in their hourly profiles for the youngest group are under-represented in peripheral areas, compared to inner cities and urban areas (see clusters 5 and 7 in Figure 5(b)): they are almost absent from very attractive ‘nighttime’ areas (see profile 5 in Figure 5(c)). At the other end of the spectrum, districts exhibiting all together large mismatch in hourly profiles for women, elderly people and low-educated people (cluster 8) are similarly present in inner cities and in urban areas but are markedly more frequent in peripheral areas (Figure 5(b)). Actually they are widely over-represented in very attractive ‘daytime’ and ‘nighttime’ areas (profiles 1 and 5) compared to stable profile (profile 3). This result deserves to be linked with a previous finding showing that gender-based mismatch, age-based mismatch and education-based mismatch considered separately were larger in inner cities and in very attractive ‘daytime’ areas. It means that the geography of large differences in district hourly profiles change when mismatch is considered in a combined way or separately for gender, age or education. Adopting an intersectional approach crossing gender, age and education makes it possible to emphasize that mismatch in district hourly profiles across social groups is not exclusive to attractive central cities but also concerns peripheral areas with a large drop in their daytime population.

Mismatch in district hourly profiles between dominant groups: similar than between non-dominant groups?

To complete the analysis of space-time profiles with an intersectional lens, we finally computed mismatch in district hourly profiles between the three dominant groups: men, middle-age and high educated people. For comparison purposes, we also computed the mismatch between three non-dominant groups: women, elderly and low-educated people. Mismatch in hourly profiles appear for about 68% of districts when comparing profiles of the three dominant groups and for about 75% of districts when comparing profiles of the three non-dominant groups. For the whole districts (Table 1), average mismatch values are almost equivalent between dominant groups (0.127) and between non-dominant groups (0.131).

According to the urban gradient (Table 1), the largest mismatch values are both found in inner cities in comparison with urban areas and peripheral areas. Dominants’ mismatch and non-dominants’ mismatch are found to have equivalent values in inner cities and in urban areas. But, dominants’ mismatch is widely smaller than non-dominants’ mismatch in peripheral areas (Table 1). We also observe an interesting pattern when comparing dominants’ mismatch and non-dominants’ mismatch according to districts global attractiveness over the 24-hour period.
(from profiles obtained with the ‘All’ category) (Table 1). While dominants’ mismatch and non-dominants’ mismatch are found to be roughly equivalent in districts belonging to profile 2 (small increase of total population during the day) and to profile 4 (small decrease of total population during the day), dominants’ mismatch is widely smaller than non-dominants’ mismatch in districts with large increase (profile 1) or large decreases (profile 5) of total population during the day and conversely dominants’ mismatch is much larger than non-dominants’ mismatch in districts with stable temporal profile (profile 3).

**Methodological discussion**

We based the present analysis on the intersection of three structural dimensions (gender, age and education level) assuming in accordance with Bilge (2010) that it is appropriate to treat intersectionality as a meta-principle requiring to be adjusted and rounded out in respect of the particular fields of study and research aims, and to accept the multiplicity of its empirical usages and of its theoretical influences. We did not consider ethnicity or race because origin-destination surveys have not collected this information. This may constitute an unfortunate limitation given the racial segregation and the anti-foreigners discrimination that could be observed in France during both day and night. Ethnic home-based segregation has indeed been enhanced in the Paris region (Préteceille, 2011) and the whole French territory (Pan Ké Shon, 2010) from census data on nationality and country of birth. A more qualitative study also described anti-foreigners discrimination occurring in French privileged and inner cities areas where foreigners (or considered as such) are present during the day (Najib, 2021). This study echoes our research by pointing out that the perpetrators of racial or religious discrimination feel comfortable with taking action in these areas precisely because ‘they feel themselves to be in the majority or dominant’ (Najib, 2021). We have also excluded deliberately some other available factors such as occupational status or access to car. These two factors are well-known in time-geography literature to impact space-time constraints and travel patterns and to be unequally distributed across gender, age and education subgroups (Kwan, 1999). From our sample, we observed, for example, that among middle-age population (35–64 years), fraction of employed people is largely smaller for women than for men (68 vs. 77%) and progressively increase with educational level (from 41 to 83%). Although factors such as occupational status or access to transportation matter to understand why districts exhibit large dissimilarities in their hourly profiles
according to gender, age and educational groups, these factors are more an expression of the power relations in contemporary society and then do not deserve to be included as primary structural factors. It would be interesting for further studies to measure the relative weight of these explanatory factors on the intersectional patterns of everyday geographies, but this is beyond the scope of this paper.

In the paper we used aggregated data issued from 49 French origin-destination surveys. These surveys covered geographical areas of varying size various, sometimes up to the department or even a region in the case of the Paris region (‘Île-de-France’) and were carried out between 2009 and 2019 inducing a time lag of up to 10 years between surveys. In spite of the variability in geographical coverage and the time lag in data collection, we underline a relative concordance between city regions when exploring their district hourly profiles and extent of their mismatch: it is rather the internal differences within city regions according to urban gradient or population variations across the 24-hour period that stand out. In addition to the year itself, the duration and the year period of the data collection could also impact comparability between city regions. Actually, the 49 surveys were carried out over a maximum period of 20 weeks between October and April (excluding school holidays) and over a minimum period of 8 weeks to smooth exceptional (weather) events (Cerema, 2020). Everyday geographies which are studied here only concern weekdays (Monday-Friday) and districts hourly profiles would probably largely differ if they were derived from daily trips on Saturdays or Sundays. Finally, as all the daily mobility data were collected before the Covid-19 health pandemic, it would be appropriate to renew the analysis in order to consider the spatial and time restrictions on daily trips from March 2020 and the associated changes in gender-based, age-based and educational-based hourly locations within cities.

As for any spatial analysis, our findings are dependant both of the scale and of areal partitioning of our primary spatial units, that is, the districts. From data collected in the origin-destination surveys, districts are used to aggregate for every hour the (weighted) number of ambient respondents. The 2572 studied districts are quite heterogeneous in terms of size and residential population (see Table S1 in Supplementary Material for summary statistics). This heterogeneity is a direct reflection of variations in population densities within city regions. There is no choice but to use heterogeneous spatial units when one wants to ensure sufficient sample size for statistical analysis and to protect confidentiality of personal data for the provision of open data. Moreover, this spatial heterogeneity is not specific to our survey data: analysis from mobile phone data are also very dependant of heterogeneous densities of mobile phone towers in all countries.

Rural areas are under-represented in our district sample (see Figure 1) because of the geographical coverage of origin-destination surveys (Cerema, 2020). French areas belonging to ‘diagonal of low densities’ – historically more aged and more socially deprived that other parts of the French territory (Pistre, 2010) – are then excluded from the present analysis. It could be interesting to find empirical data allowing to extend our analysis to remote French rural areas but also to other countries to see whether (and where) district hourly profiles of dominant groups are also found to diverge from those of the others population groups.

Finally we have developed a two-steps methodological process to group together districts exhibiting similar hourly signals and to measure afterwards mismatch in district hourly profiles according to social groups. It is important to note that the main purpose of the first step is to reduce the noise in order to obtain characteristic profiles. It is also worth emphasizing that the proposed method could be used to compare various kinds of space-time profiles, and not exclusively district profiles over the 24 hour period. It could, for example, be used to compare mismatch in district yearly profiles according to social groups and to better grasp the intersectional forms of population concentration per district over the years resulting from diverse residential mobility patterns.
Conclusion

When exploring hourly rhythms of ambient populations within cities, five district hourly profiles (two ‘daytime attractive’, two ‘nighttime attractive’ and one more ‘stable’) emerged: they are broadly distributed in a similar way across the 49 French city regions but unequally distributed according to social groups and to urban gradient.

Districts exhibit large dissimilarities in their hourly profiles according to educational and age groups, and to a lesser extent according to gender. Three numbers can sum up the situation: about 46% of districts are found to have a gender-based mismatch in their hourly profiles, 96% at least one mismatch across the four age groups and 94% at least one mismatch across the four educational groups. By highlighting that district hourly profiles of different social groups rarely overlap (i.e. exhibit a mismatch), this paper provides an argument for the importance of disaggregating ambient populations according to their demographic or social profiles. By comparing the geographical locations of social groups over the 24-hour period, the present paper gives more broadly insight towards the uneven geography of daily destinations (not only jobs, but also shops, leisure places, etc.) and their unequal use according to gender, age and social groups.

Moreover, some districts have the particular feature of combining all together large mismatch in hourly profiles across gender (women vs men), age (elderly vs. middle-age people) and education (low educated vs. high educated people). These districts are spread across the French city regions but are over-represented both in the areas with large increase or large decrease of population during the day. While recent quantitative research exploring daytime population variations mainly focus on inner cities and on single social dimension, the present paper highlights that the space-time dissimilarities extend outside inner cities areas and concern mutually constitutive forms of exclusion. It thus provides an awareness of the intersectional dimension that spatial segregation can take over a 24-hour period.

Finally, synchronization of hourly rhythms is found to differ according to population segments under consideration but also according to areas and their global attractiveness over the 24-hour period. In areas exhibiting large increase or large decrease of population during the day, we note that hourly rhythms of men, middle-age and high educated people (dominant groups) are widely more synchronous to each other than rhythms of women, elderly and low-educated people (non-dominant groups). Conversely, in areas with stable people concentration over the 24 hour period, divergence in hourly profiles synchronization between these population segments is smaller (and ordered in a reverse way) than in very attractive ‘daytime’ and ‘nighttime’ areas: rhythms between non-dominant groups are found to be slightly more synchronized than rhythms between dominant groups. Here again, the present paper underlines that area hourly rhythms, and especially their synchronization, gain to be explored over the whole territory and across different sociodemographic attributes.

Unlike the rare studies about everyday segregation mainly limited to one city region, the present paper concerns a large sample of city regions allowing to observe a relative concordance between city regions when exploring their district hourly profiles and their mismatch values across social groups and to emphasize conversely large internal differences within city regions according to districts’ global attractiveness over the 24 hour period rather than according to the sole urban gradient.

Through this original analysis of the intersectional forms of everyday geographies, we extend the scope of segregation literature mainly centred on home places from a single social dimension. Literature has underlined for decades that spatial aggregation in residential areas both reflects and structures power relations and inequalities: residential segregation prompts upper social classes to accumulate resources and capital and to perpetuate their differential access to privileges (Pinçon-Charlot and Pinçon, 2018) and at the other end of the social hierarchy, makes poor people much
more vulnerable and more ‘disadvantaged’ (Wilson, 1987). The present research is a first step to broaden the scope of these residential-based mechanisms and to enhance knowledge of space-time (de)synchronization across gender, age and educational groups: it sheds new light on areas where peers are synchronously located over the 24-hour period and thus potentially in better position to interact and to defend their common interests. It may feed future intersectional studies dedicated to everyday geography and to its effect on the dynamics of power relations and inequality.

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Note
1. French high school diploma.

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