

A typology of the fragmentation of local institutions in European urban areas

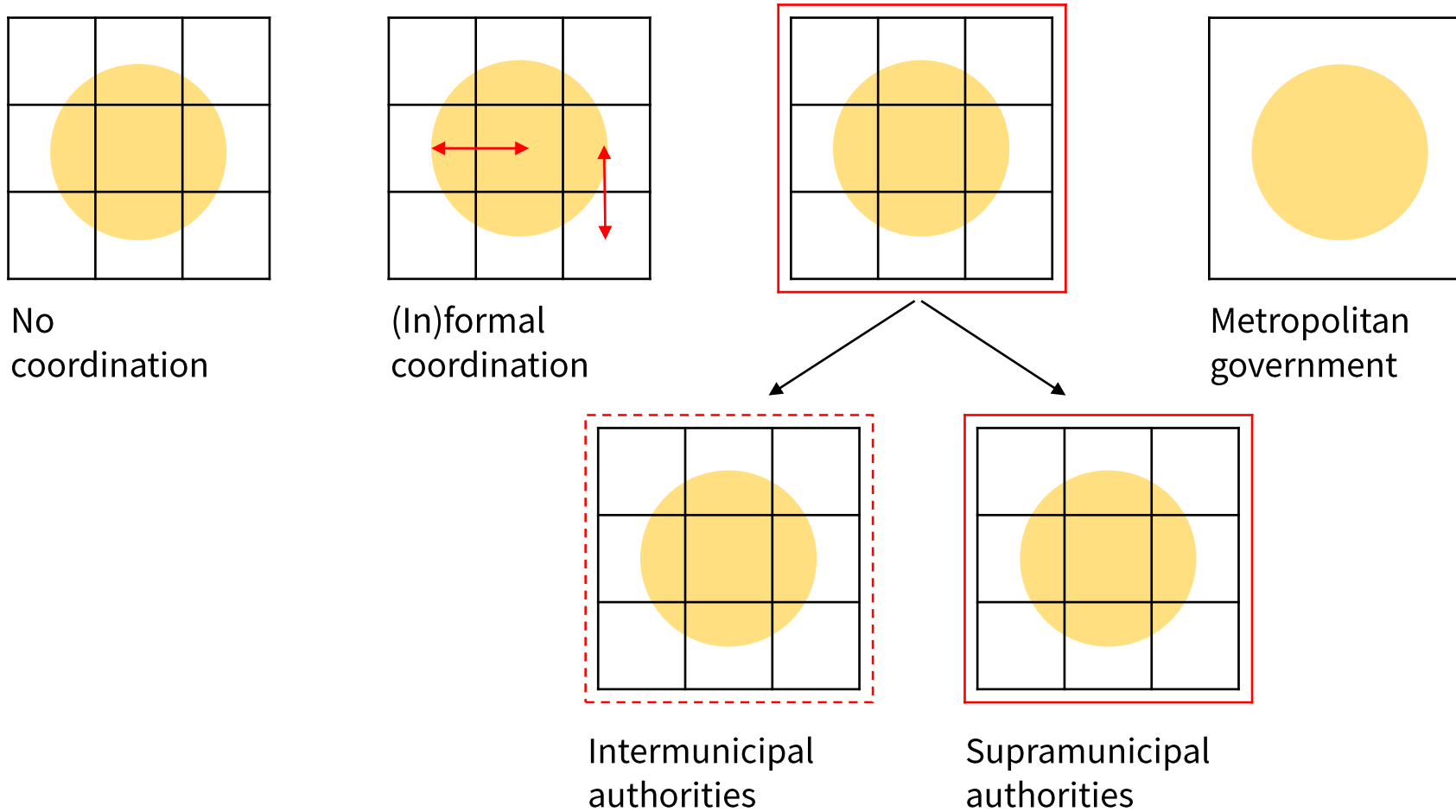
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Lecturer

IGU Regional Conference
« **Appreciating difference** »
Québec, 8th August 2018

Metropolitan governance

The constantly renewed debate



The major impact of the (spatiality of) local units

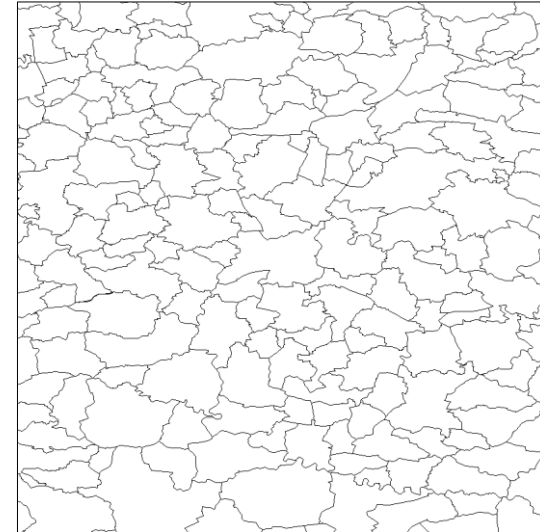
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Despite European integration, a strong
heterogeneity of local contexts



Coventry, UK
719.617 inhab.



Liège, BE
746.460 inhab.



Rennes, FR
710.294 inhab.

Objective and methodology

A typology of the local institutional fragmentation to provide contextual informations on systems of urban governance in Europe

Urban areas	▶	257 European urban areas of more than 300.000 inhabitants in the European union and partners
Level	▶	Based on the the smaller level of government identified by OECD and national authorities
Spatial data	▶	Based on Eurostat (functional urban areas, 2017) and EuroGeographics (EuroBoundaryMap, 2017)
Indicators	▶	Typology based on the distribution of the population and the area within functional urban areas

Breuer, Halleux, 2016. Spatiality of local government in European intermediate urban regions. A methodological approach, *Quaestiones Geographicae*, 34 (2) <http://hdl.handle.net/2268/193783>

Fragmentation indicators

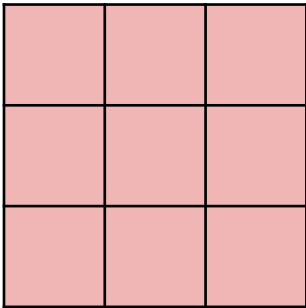
How to quantify the fragmentation of local institutions within urban areas?

Absolute indicators

often used by European publications and reports

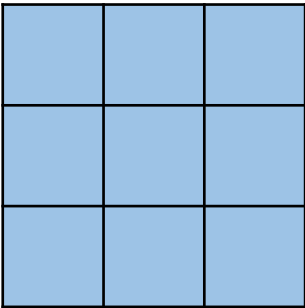
Direct information on coordination issues

Indirect information on the capacity of local units of government



Population
fragmentation
indicator

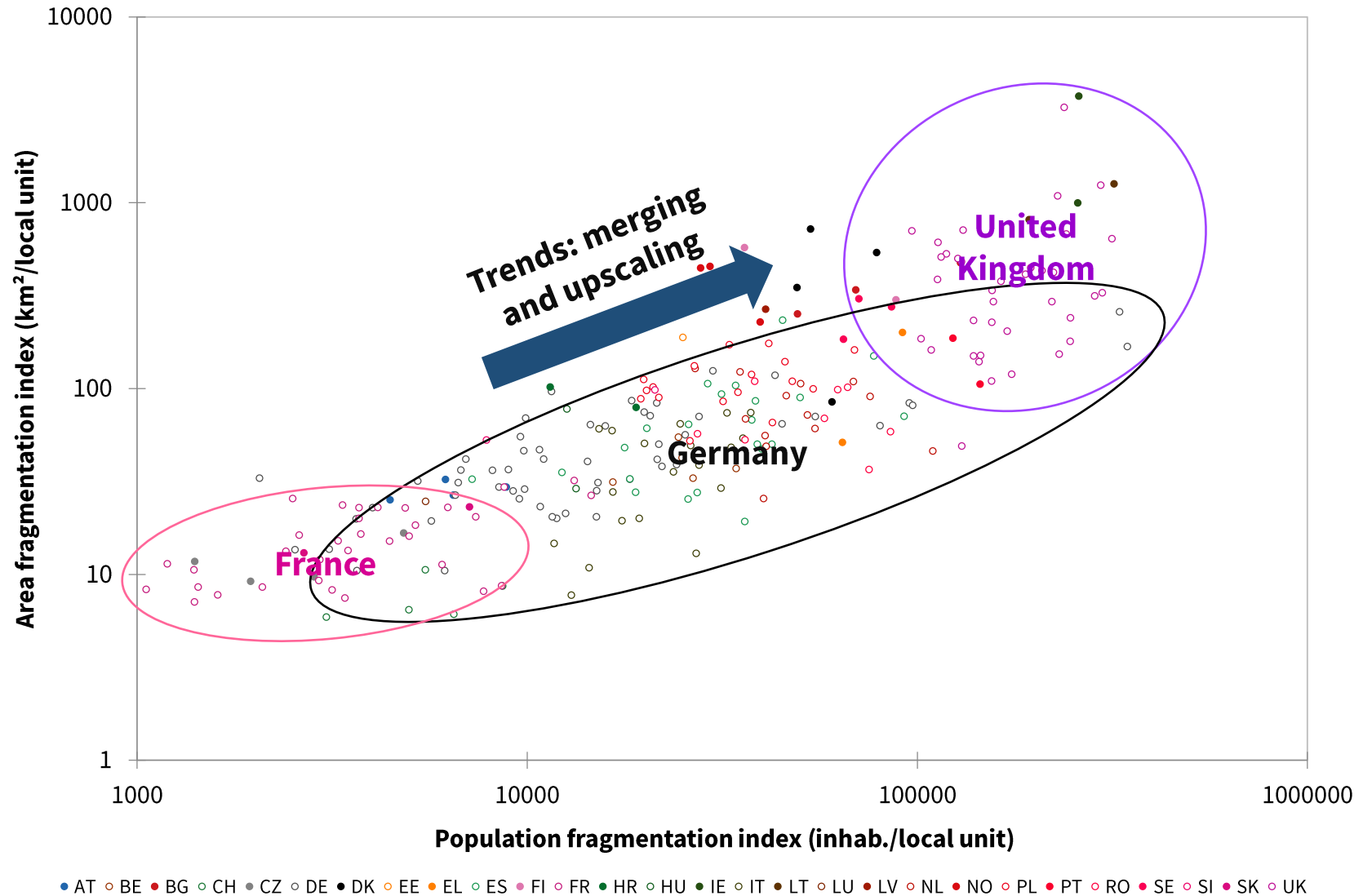
$$\frac{\text{inhabitants}}{\text{local units}} = \text{inh. / local unit}$$

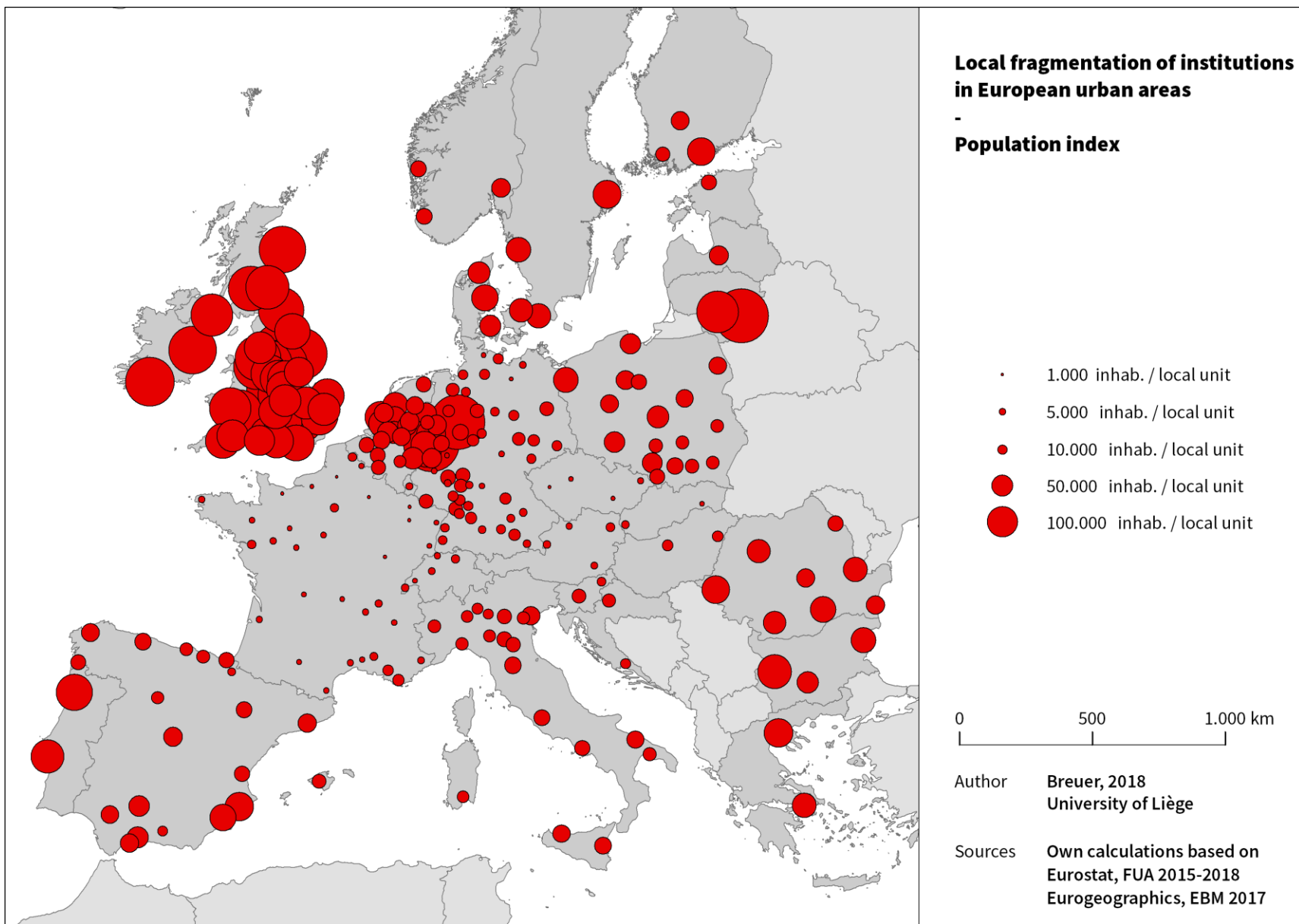


Area
fragmentation
indicator

$$\frac{\text{area}}{\text{local units}} = \text{km}^2 \text{ / local unit}$$

Distribution of 257 European areas by fragmentation index



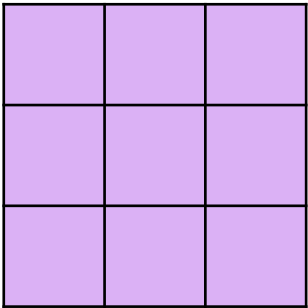


Fragmentation indicators

How to quantify the fragmentation of local institutions within urban areas?

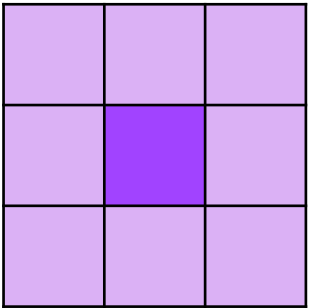
Relative indicators
on the distribution of the population (and the area) within the area

Indirect information on the (relative) distribution of power within the urban areas



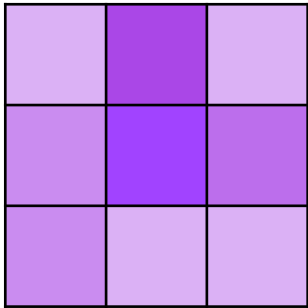
General
fragmentation
indicator

$$\frac{100\%}{\text{local units}} = \%$$



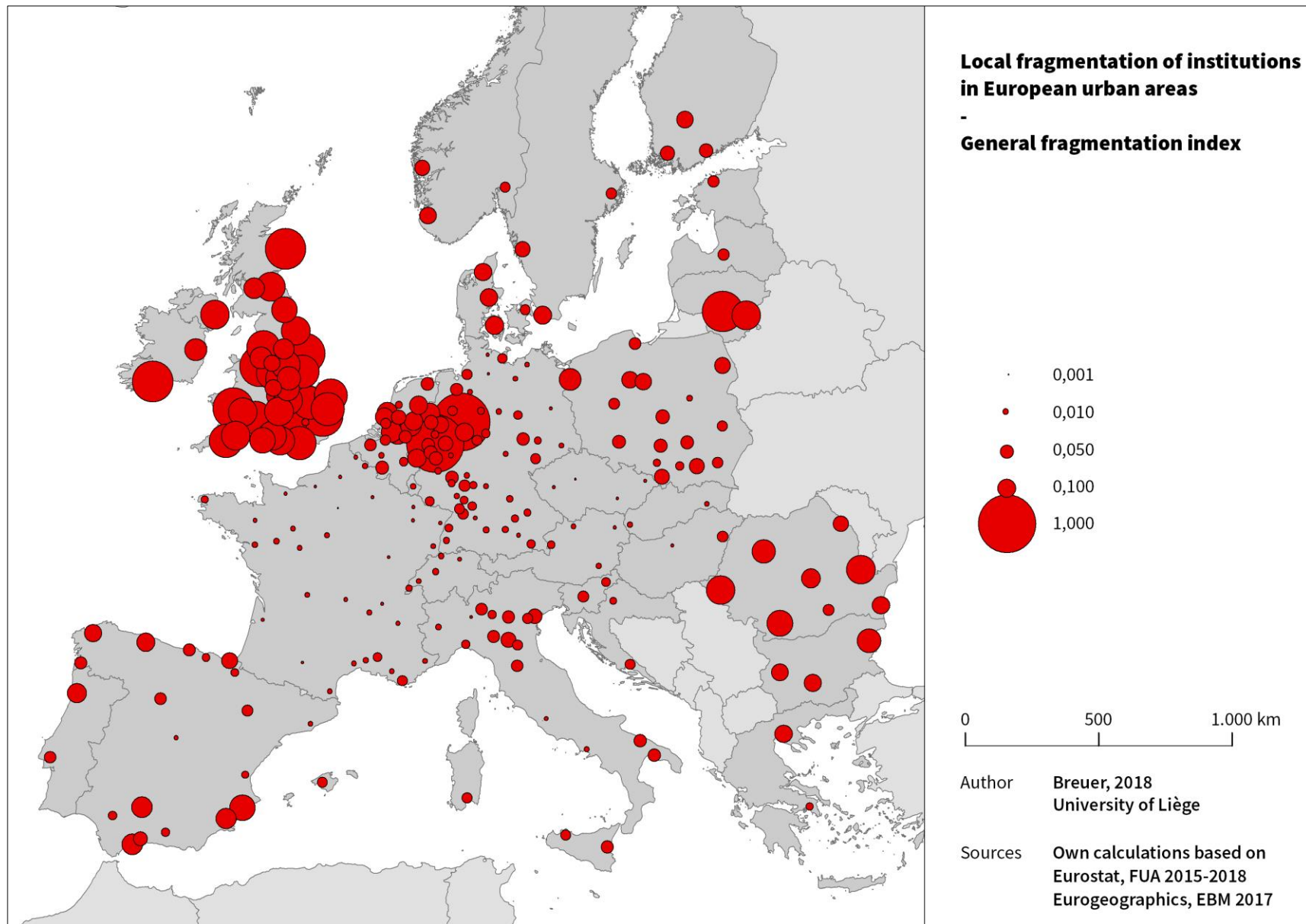
Primacy
population
indicator

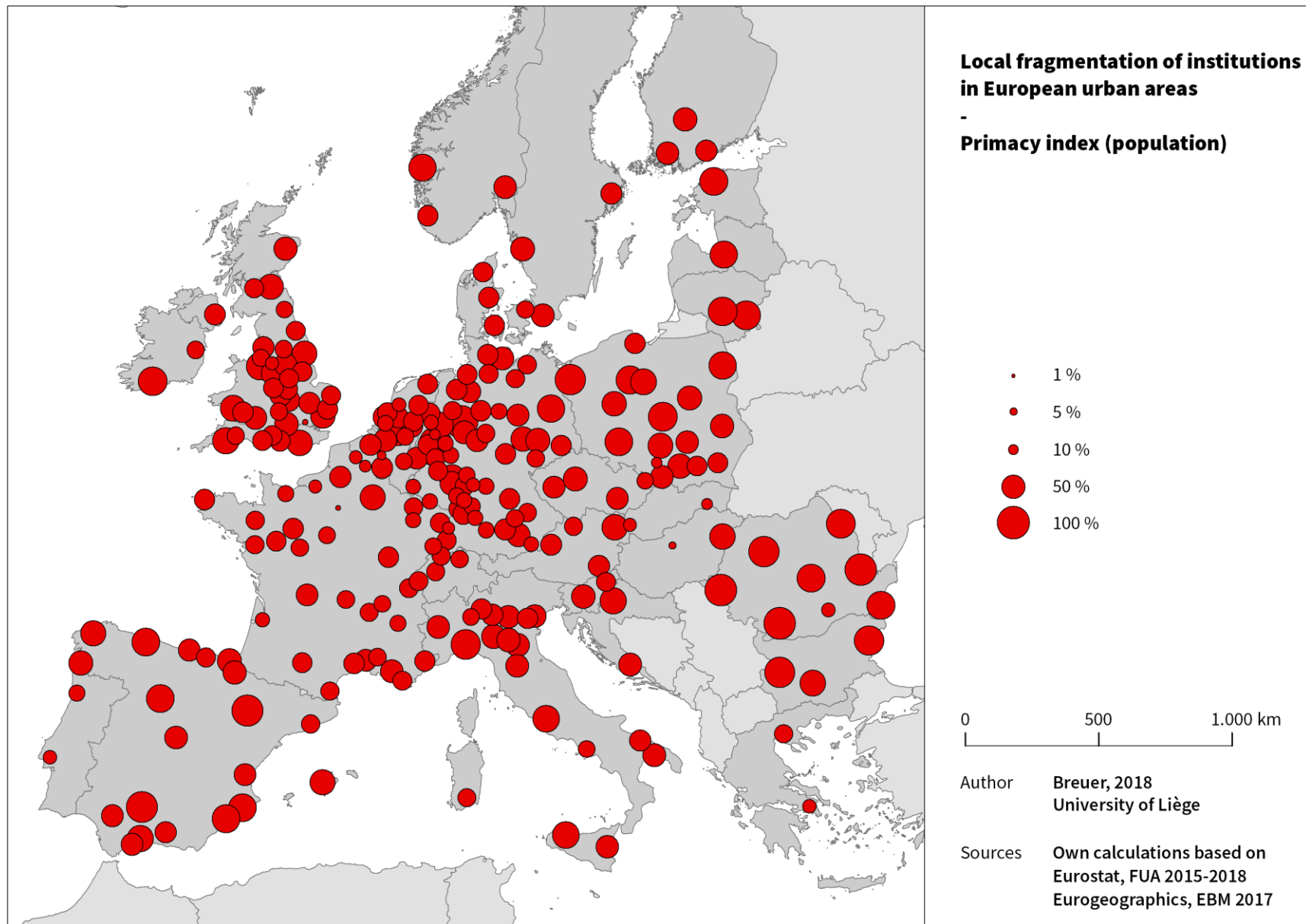
$$\frac{\text{max. pop./area}}{\text{total pop./area}} = \text{km}^2 / \text{local unit}$$



Gini
population
indicator

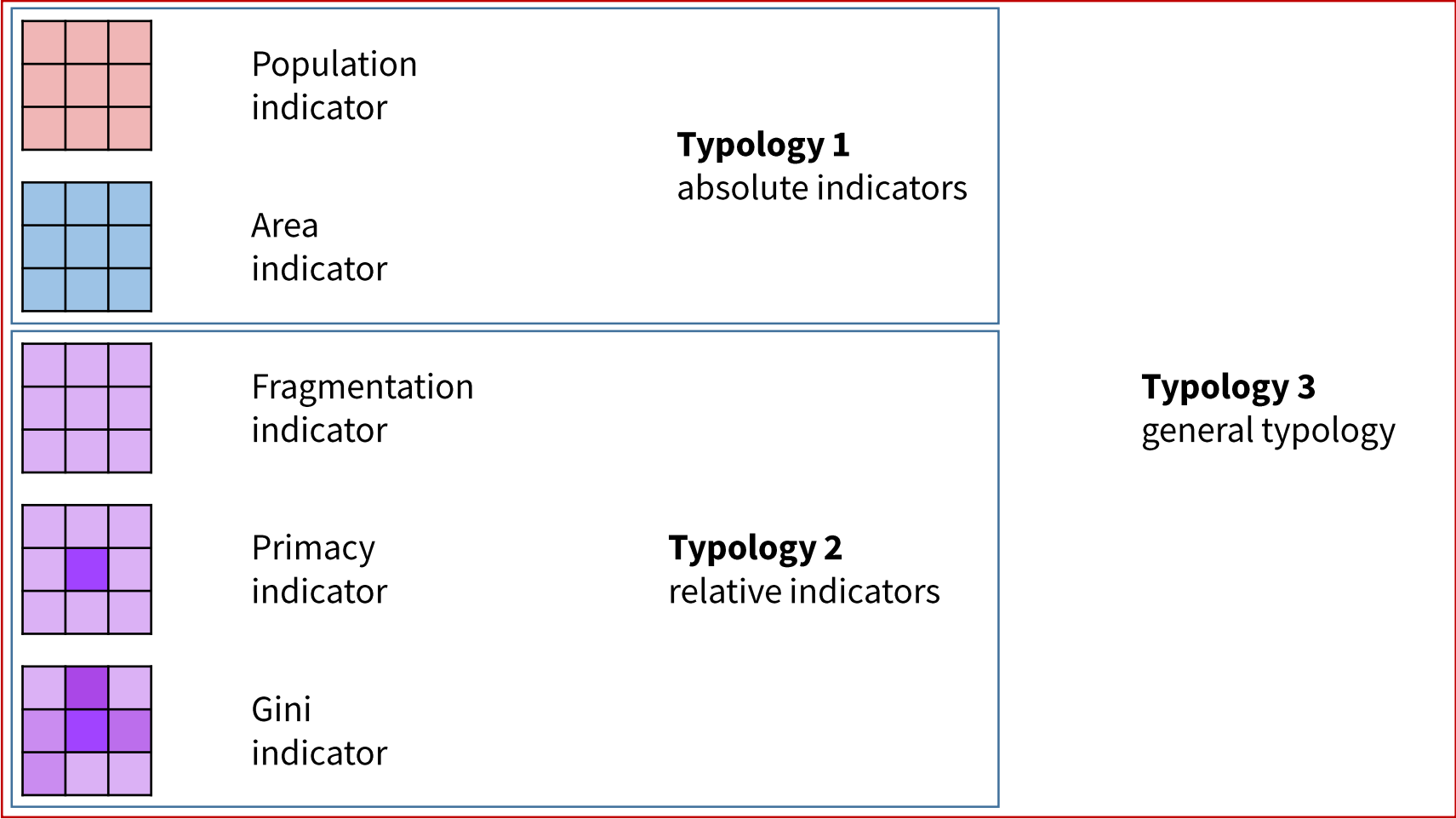
$$\frac{\text{surface 1}}{\text{surface 2}} = [0 - 1]$$

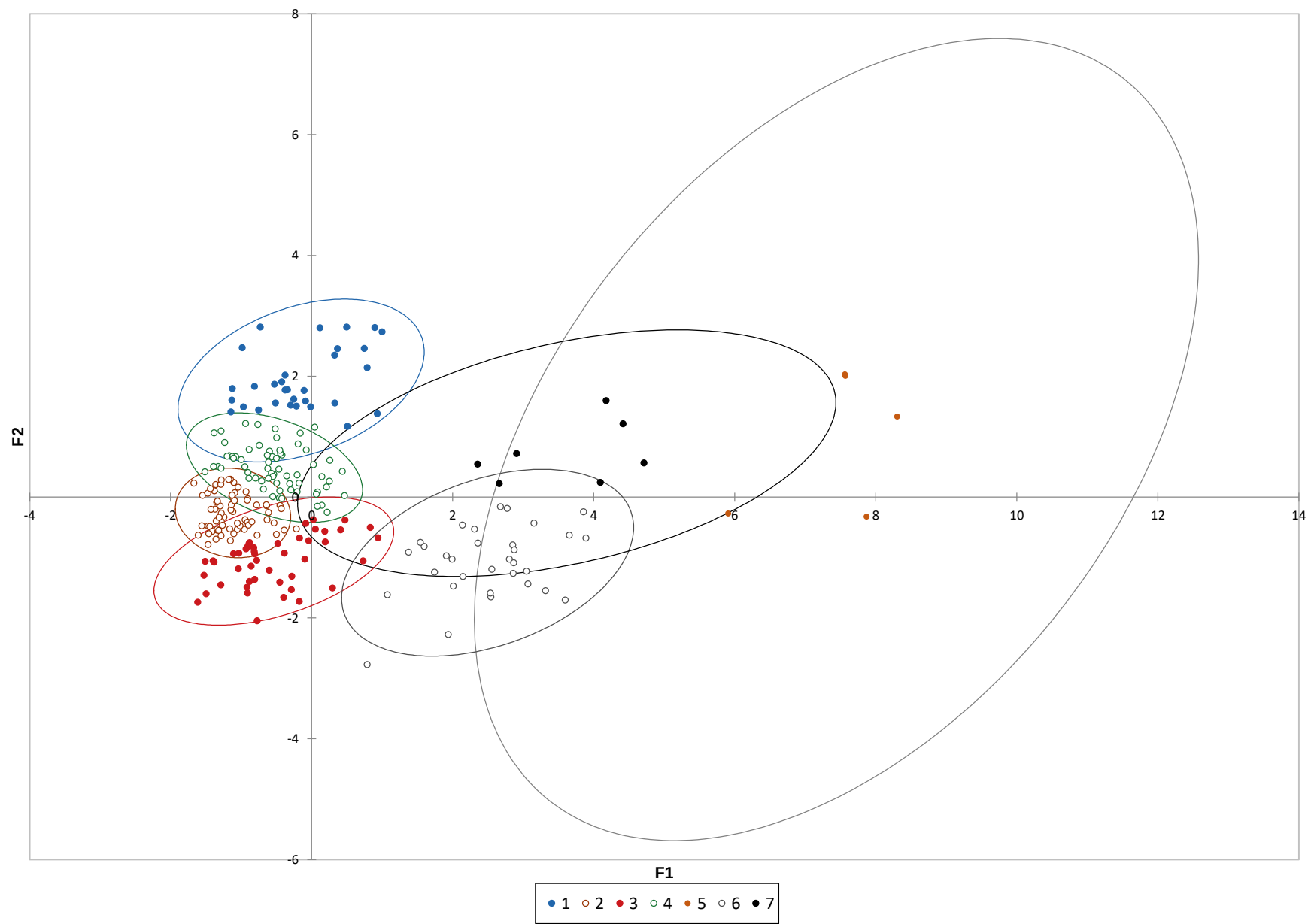


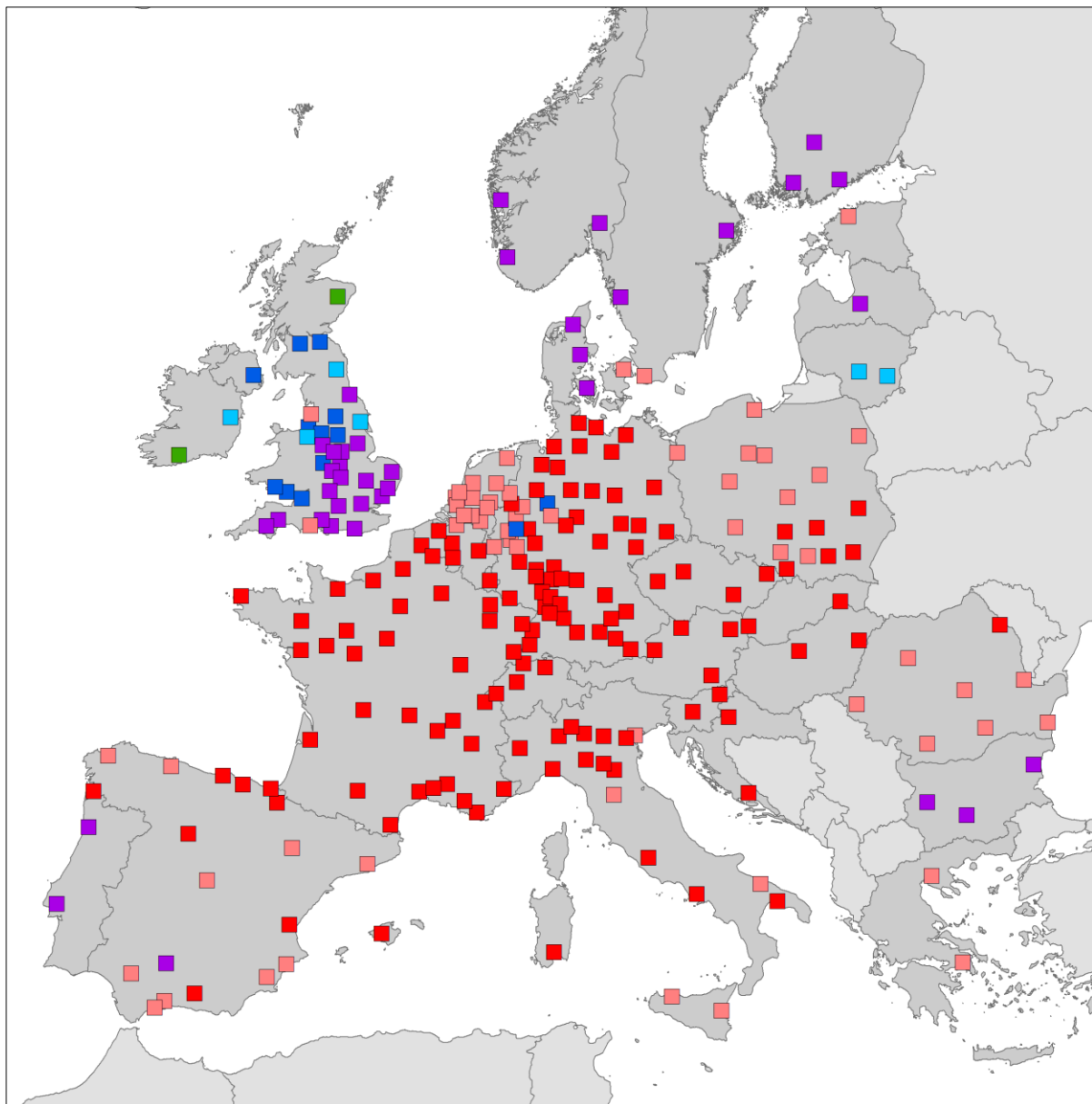


From the database to the typology

—
3 typologies



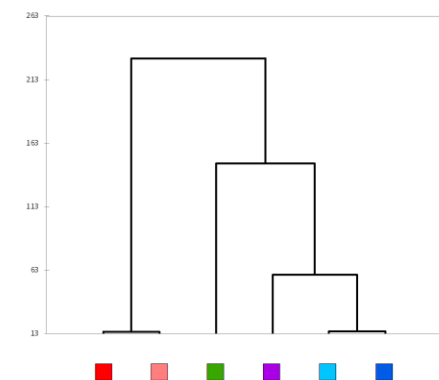




Local fragmentation of institutions in European urban areas

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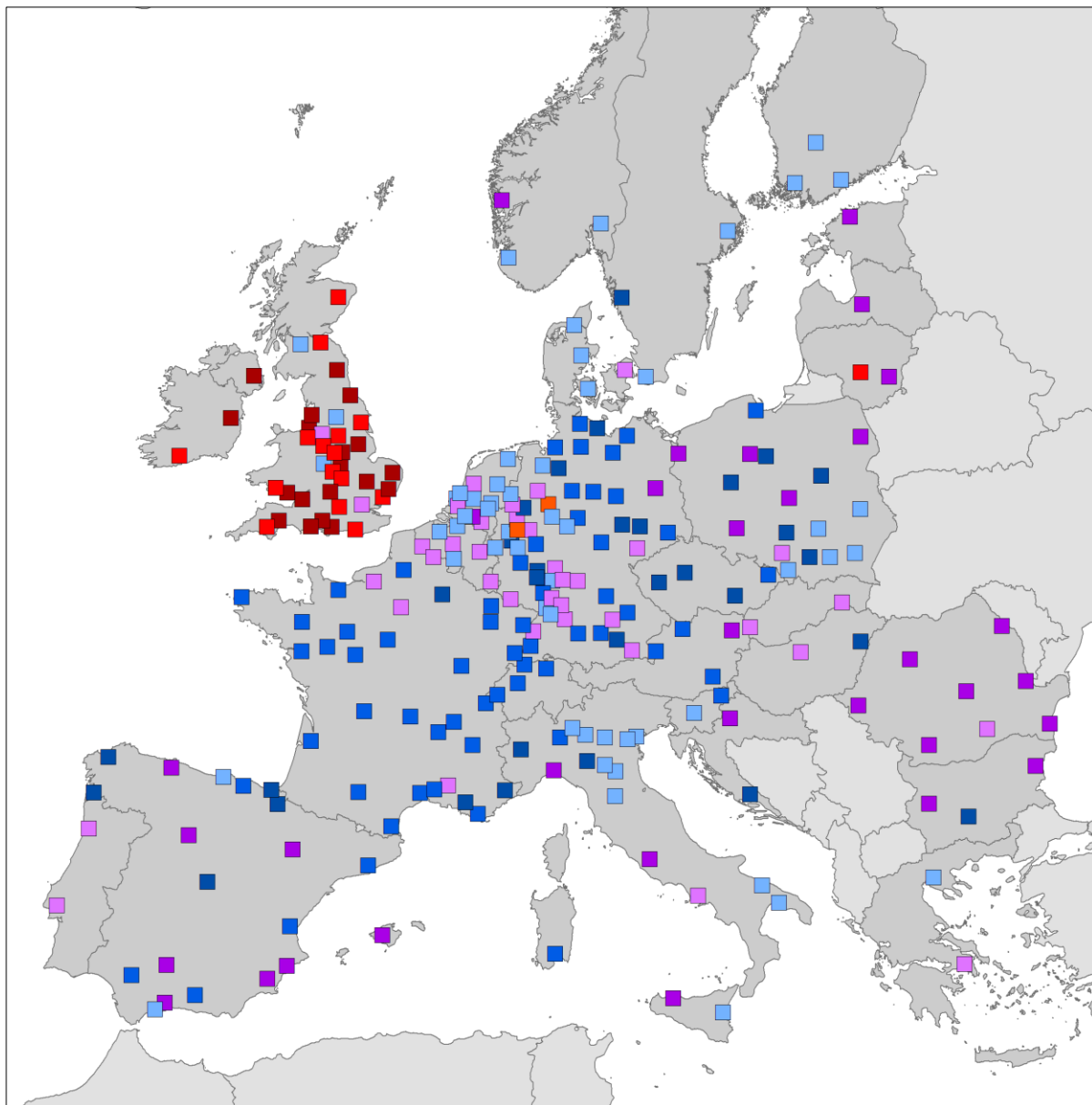
Typology on absolute indicators (6 groups)



0 500 1.000 km

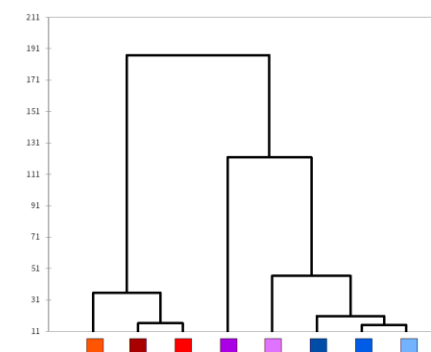
Author Breuer, 2018
University of Liège

Sources Own calculations based on
Eurostat, FUA 2015-2018
Eurogeographics, EBM 2017



Local fragmentation of institutions in European urban areas

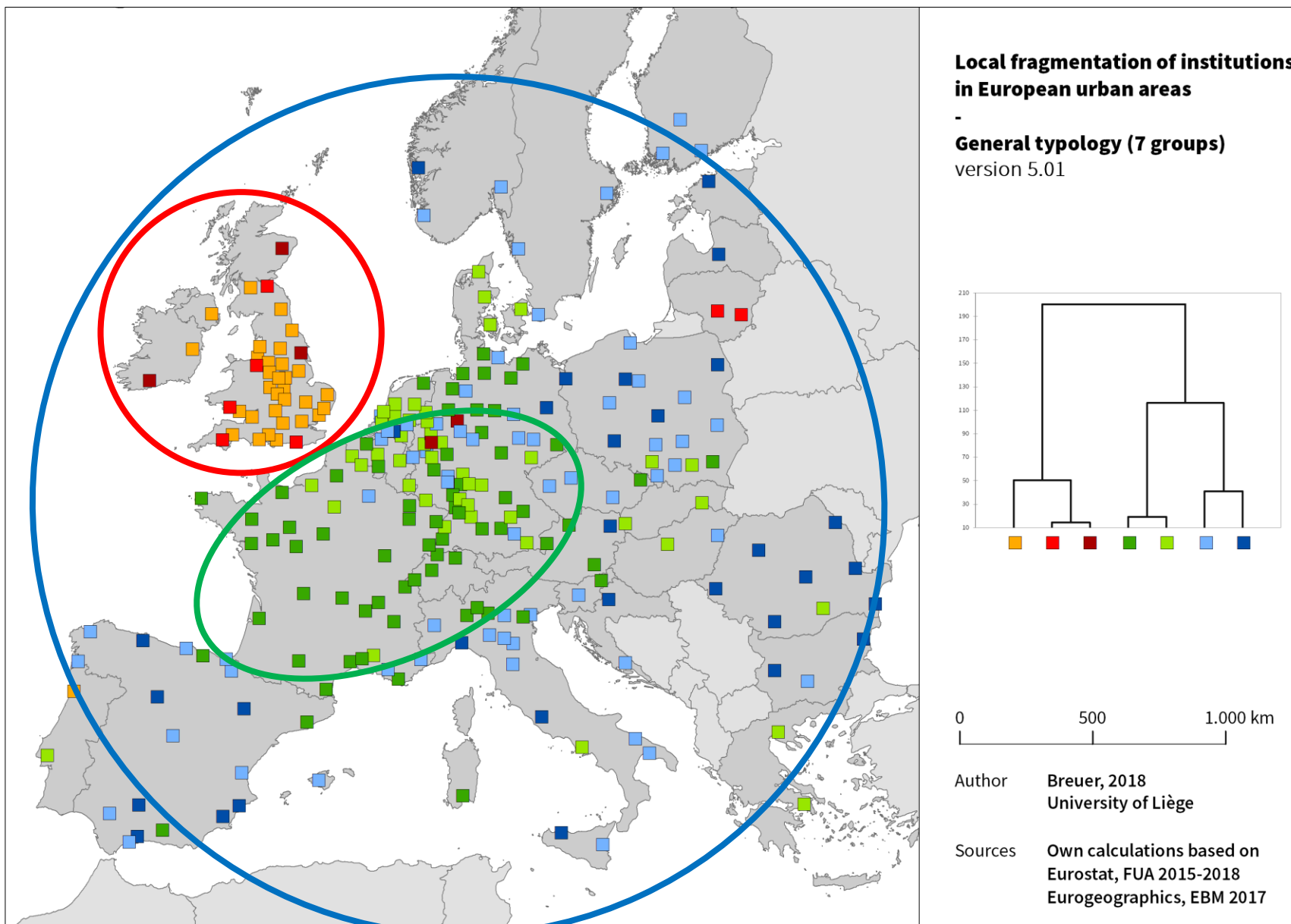
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Typology on relative indicators
version 4.02



0 500 1.000 km

Author Breuer, 2018
University of Liège

Sources Own calculations based on
Eurostat, FUA 2015-2018
Eurogeographics, EBM 2017



Conclusions

A typology of the local institutional fragmentation to provide contextual informations on systems of urban governance in Europe

Main results



The typologies show (1) high variation in fragmentation profile within Europe and their spatialization, (2) common features for urban areas of the 7 groups



The typologies are adaptative and useful for the selection and the contextualisation of comparative studies of urban (metropolitan) governance

Research perspectives



Further quantitative analysis on the links between fragmentation indicators and individual characteristics of metropolitan governance



Complementary studies on the correlations between the fragmentation indicators and the territorial characteristics of urban areas

Any suggestions?

Any proposals?

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