



# STUDENT SPACE CONTROL

Students as underrated agents of  
urban change in mid-sized  
university cities

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# CITY AND UNIVERSITY

Background



(STUDENT\* OR UNIVERSIT\*)

AND (CIT\* OR URBAN OR  
ENVIRONMENT\* OR  
NEIGHBORHOOD\*)

AND (ROLE\* OR IMPACT\* OR  
INFLUENCE\* OR EFFECT\*)

> 600



27 | 11



5



16

(STUDENT\* OR UNIVERSIT\*)  
AND (CIT\* OR URBAN OR ENVIRONMENT\* OR  
NEIGHBORHOOD\*)  
AND (ROLE\* OR IMPACT\* OR INFLUENCE\* OR EFFECT\*)

AUTHOR  
YEAR  
CITY

UNIT  
METHODS  
MODEL

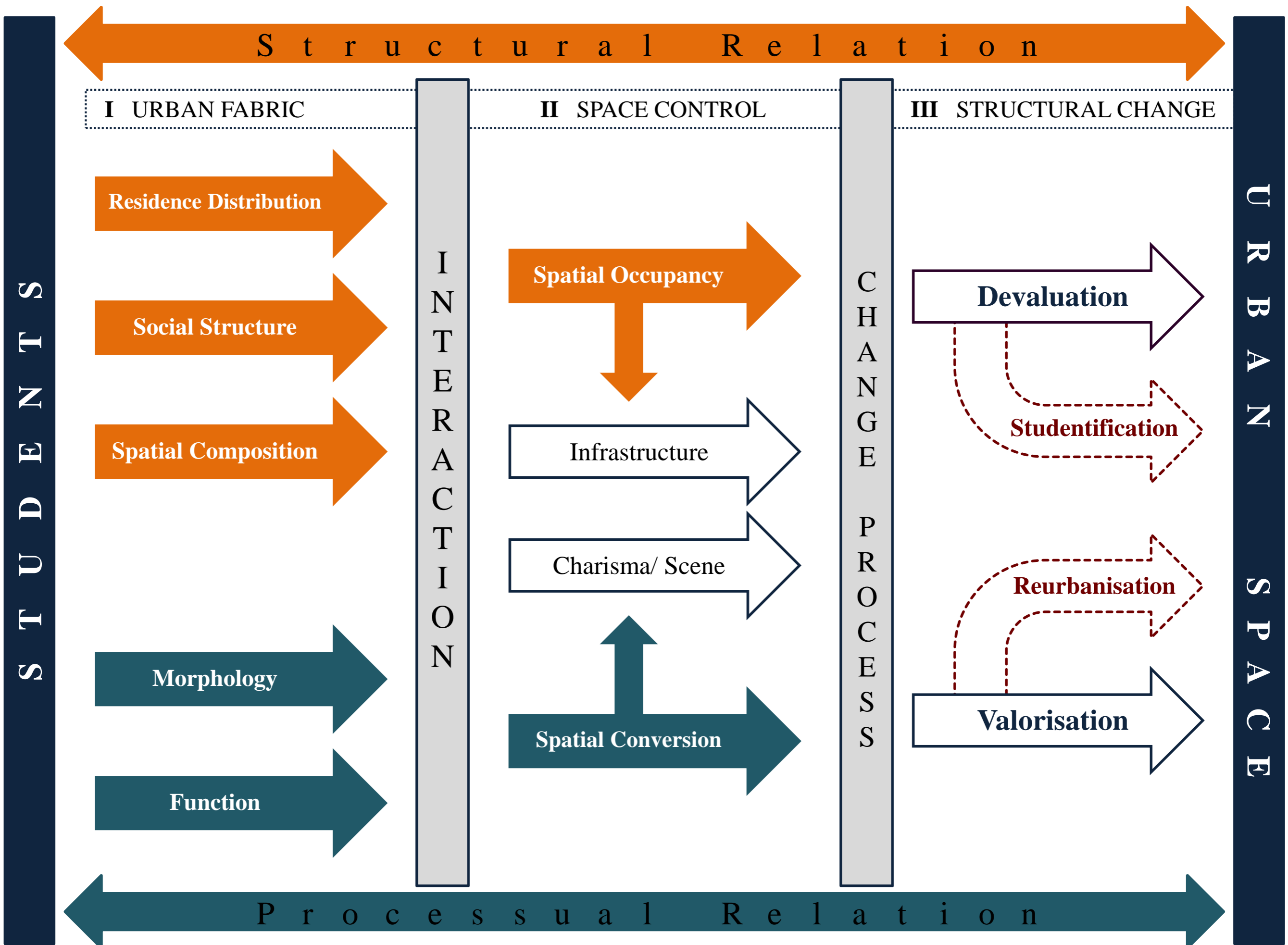
ATTRIBUTES  
EFFECTS  
ROLE

- Wide range of publication dates
- **Milestone 2004**
- No narrowed focus over time
- **Anglo-American bias**

- **Qualitative approaches in majority**
- Statistical data (mapping)
- No methodological bias found
- **No conceptual foundation visible**
- Studentification as auxiliary framework

- **‘Incivilities’ (10)**
- **‘Revitalisation’ (5)**
- **‘Infrastructure’ (4)**
- **‘Housing market effects’ (2)**
- **None considering all categories**
- Only two mention positive + negative
- Positive role: 3  
Negative role: 5  
**Neutral: 7**





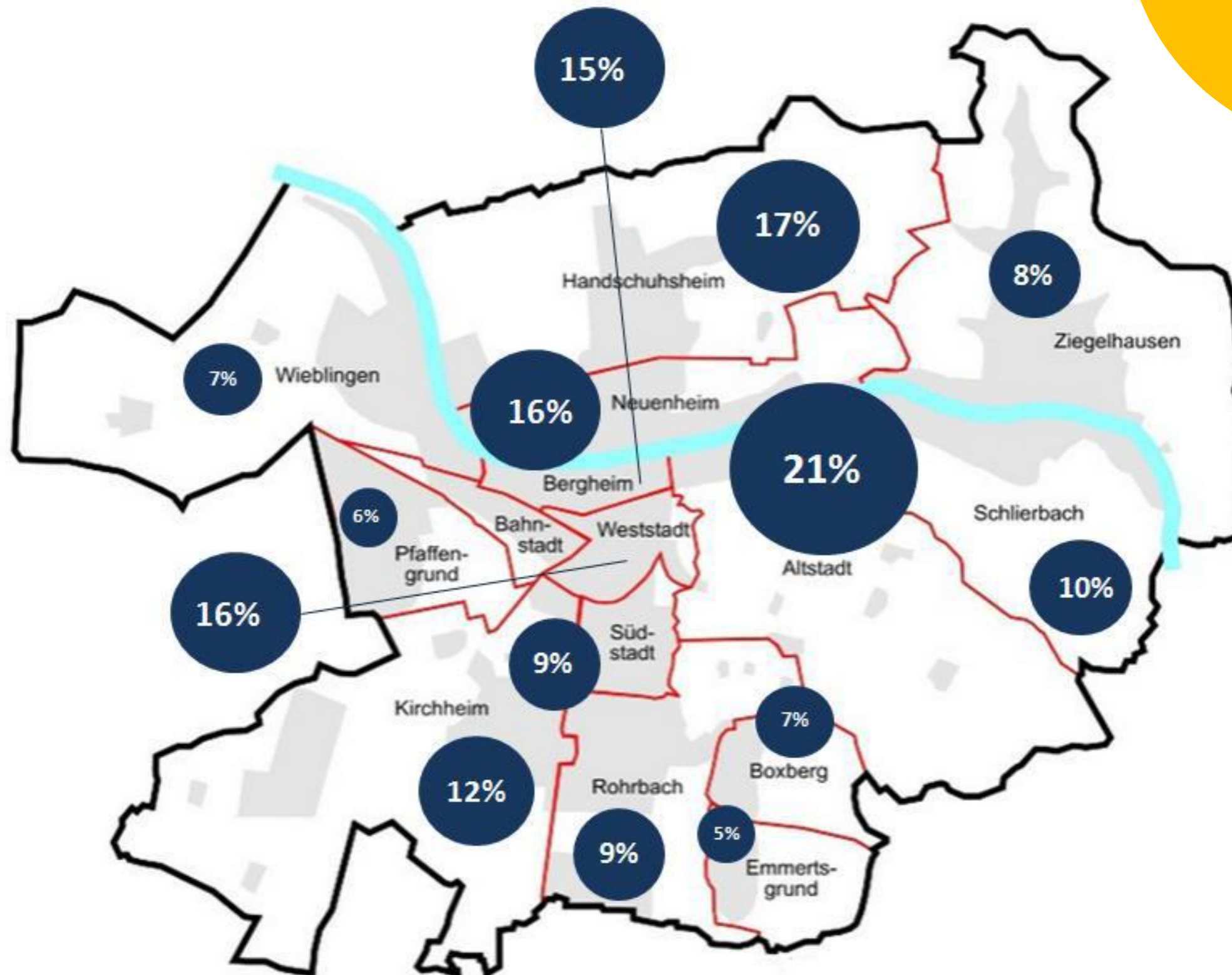


# MONTPELLIER FRANCE & HEIDELBERG GERMANY

Results of the  
Case Study

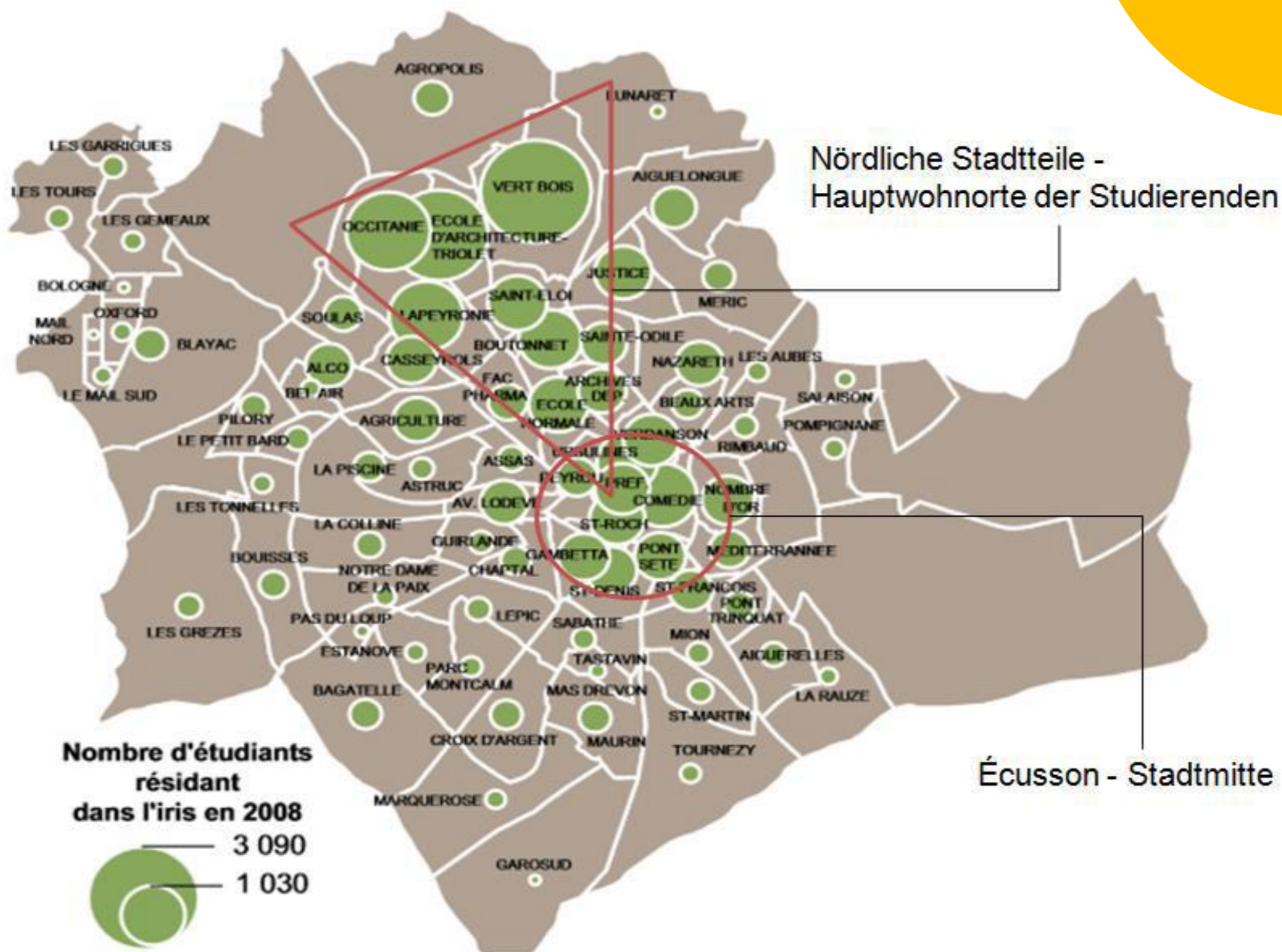
# HEIDELBERG: SHARE OF STUDENT HOUSEHOLDS

DATA



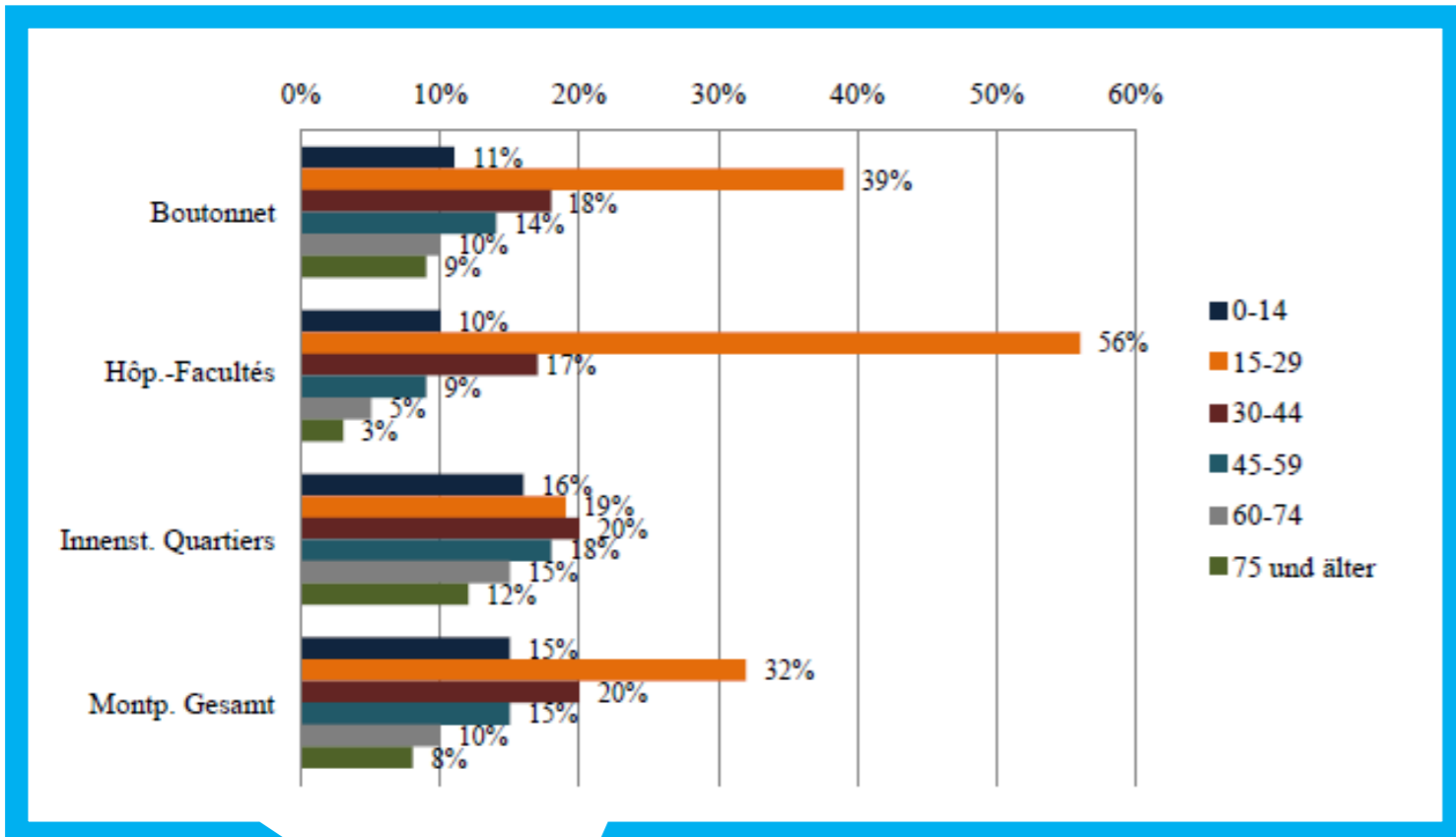
# MONTPELLIER: SHARE OF STUDENT HOUSEHOLDS

# DATA

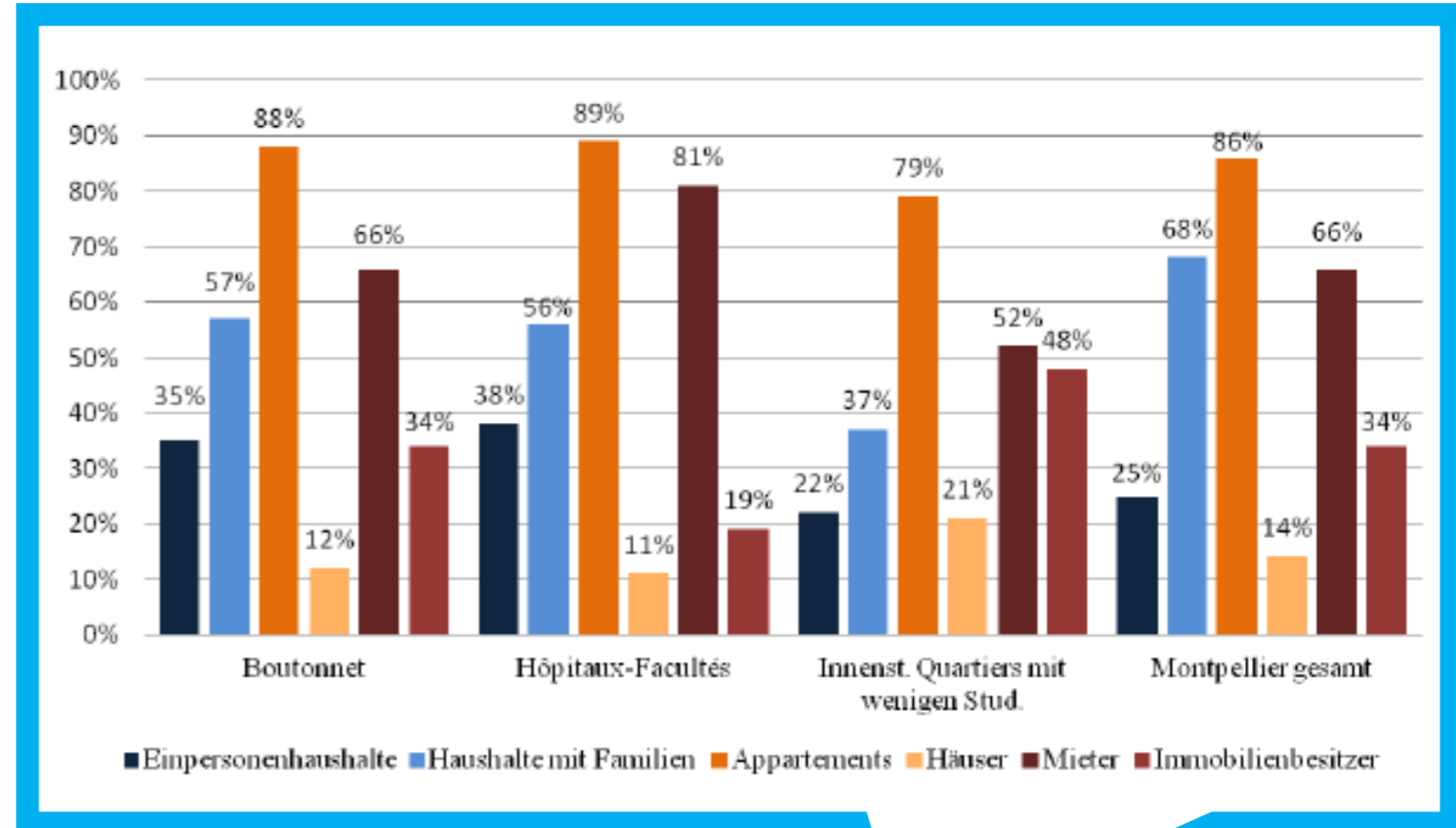




# Montpellier: Population by Age Groups



# Montpellier: Forms of Accommodation



# DATA






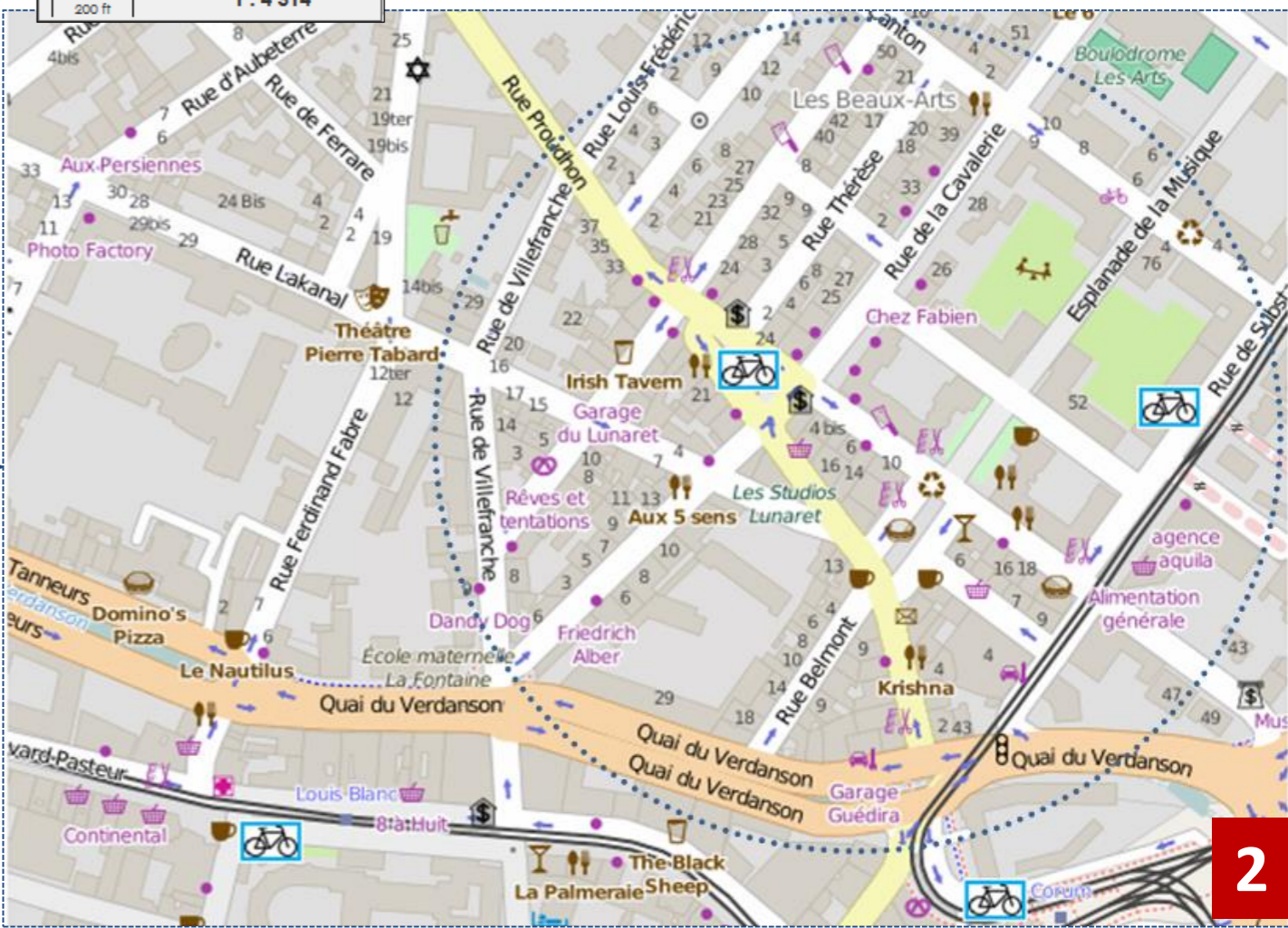
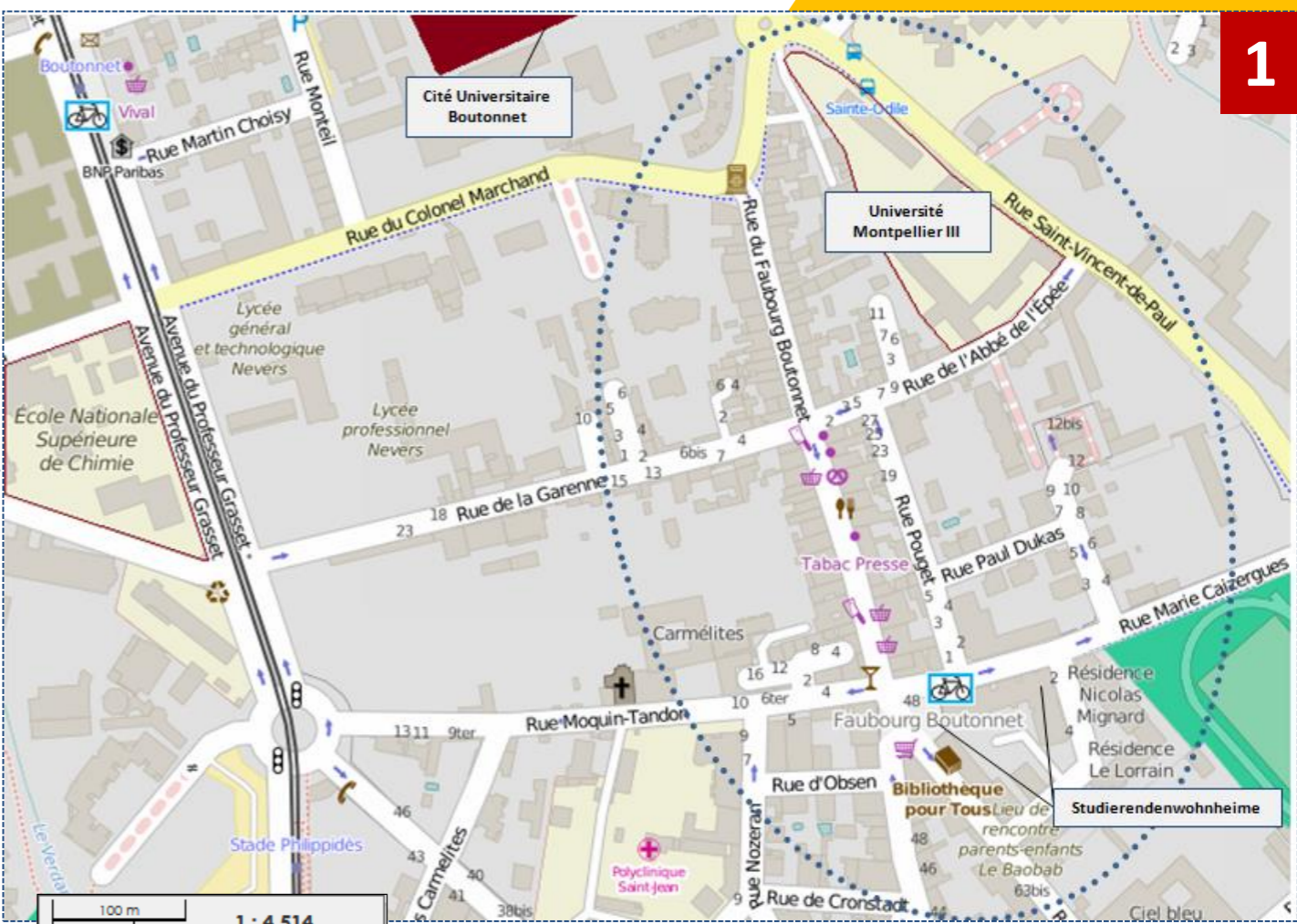
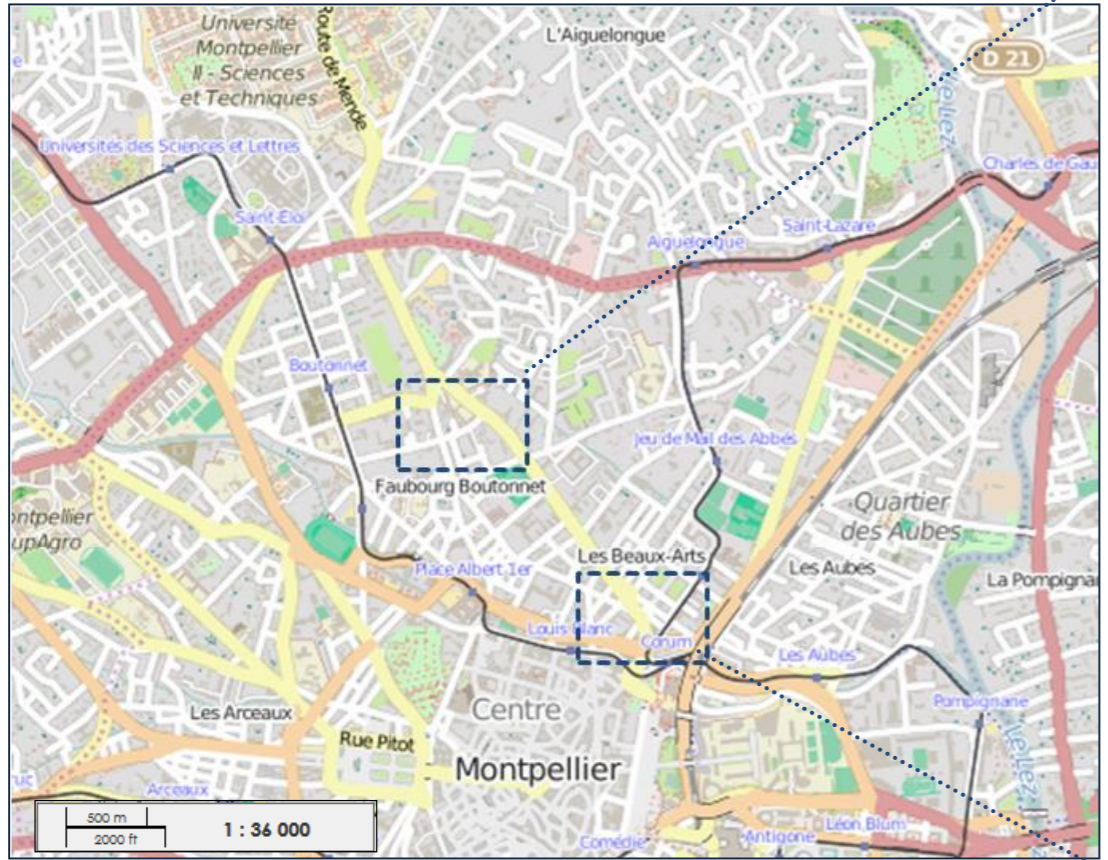
# DATA



## Montpellier: Figure ground plan (built structure)

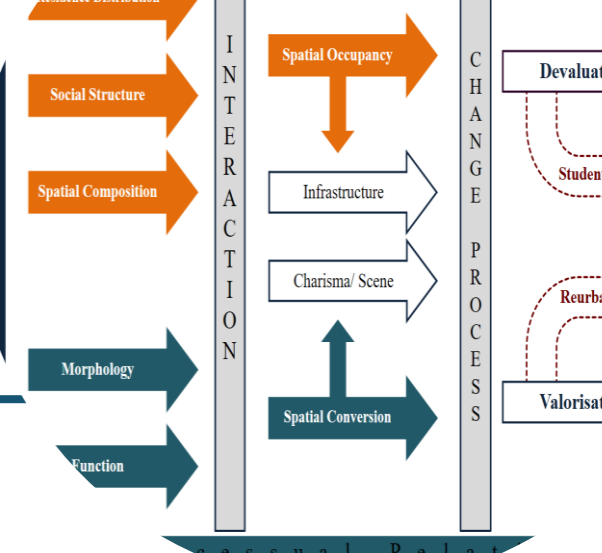


-  Retail
-  Infrastructural important areas
-  Bike stations



-  Bar
-  Nightclub
-  Butcher
-  Café
-  Diner/ Takeaway
-  Bakery
-  Restaurant
-  Grocery

# 'STUDENT URBANITY': MONTPELLIER & HEIDELBERG IN COMPARISON



## Distribution of students

- **Historic momentum:** City center → 'Radial Ring'
- Clear **pattern:** Triangle



- **Historic momentum:** Converging villages
- No clear **pattern:** Center-oriented

## Social structure

- **Age:** Very high share of young inhabitants
- **Unemployment rate:** Below average
- **Educational level:** Above average
- **Diversity:** Higher percentage of foreigners



- **Age:** Affects ends of scale
- **Unemployment rate:** Below average
- **Diversity:** Higher percentage of foreigners

## Built structure

### Housing:

- High share of one-person households
- More apartments, less detached homes

- **Historically grown vs. subject of city planning**

- **Built structure: Structural homogeneity of the area**

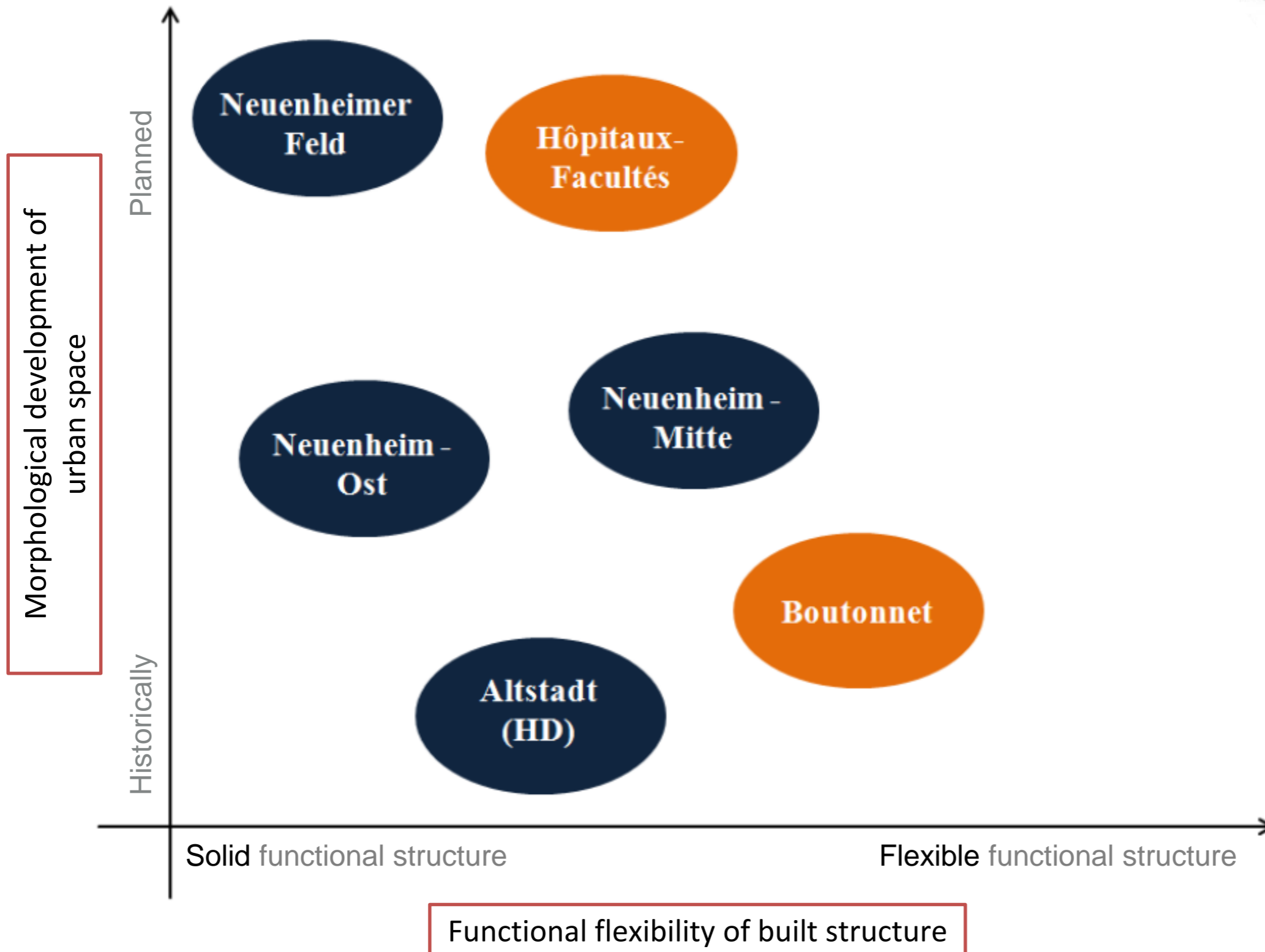
- **Functional flexibility: Solidity vs. Conversion**

### Housing:

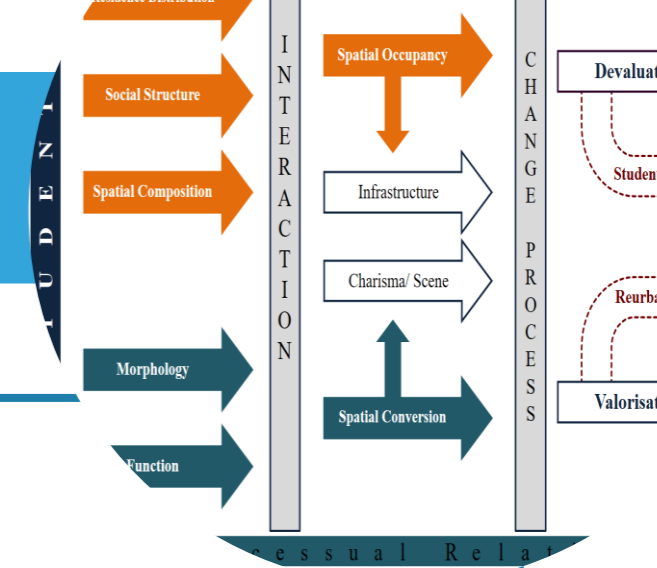
- High share of one-person households
- More apartments, less detached homes



# URBAN SPACE: SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT VS. FUNCTIONAL ARRANGEMENT



# 'STUDENT URBANITY': MONTPELLIER & HEIDELBERG IN COMPARISON



## Urban Space I

- **Dynamic and changeable** urban space
- **Occupancy and conversion** through use of space
- **Heterogeneous** functional meanings of urban space

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- **Static** urban space
- **Strong use** of space without possibility of conversion
- **Strong functional meaning** of urban space: Historic momentum (picturesque Old Town, urban campus)

## Urban Space II

- **Infrastructural impact** clear and dynamic
- Students able to **occupy and shape** urban space: Small local centres, Street Art etc.
- Student **charisma** of urban areas genuine and dynamic

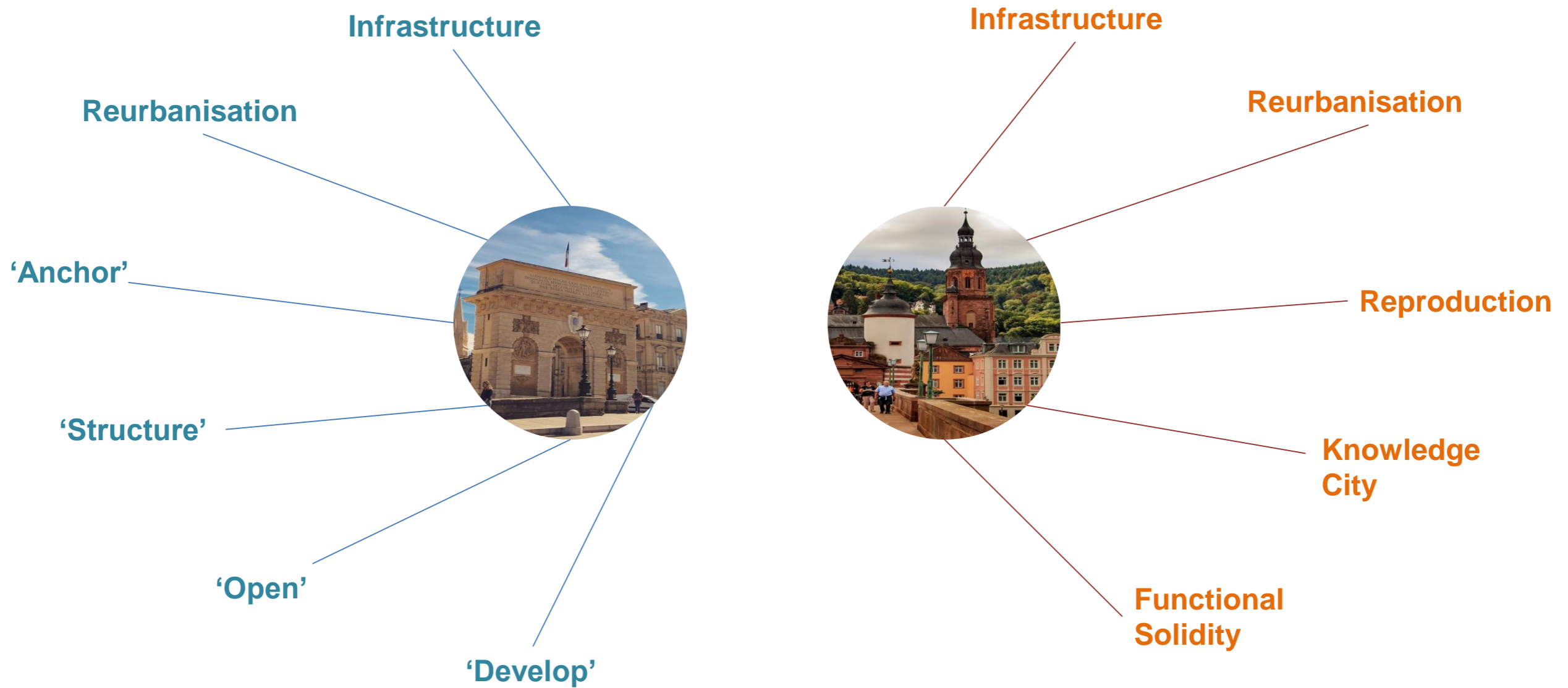
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- **Infrastructural impact** detectable but traditional
- Students **use** urban space according to its characteristic, reproduce its content and symbols
- Student **charisma** institutionalised
- Traditional **setting** instead of 'Scene'

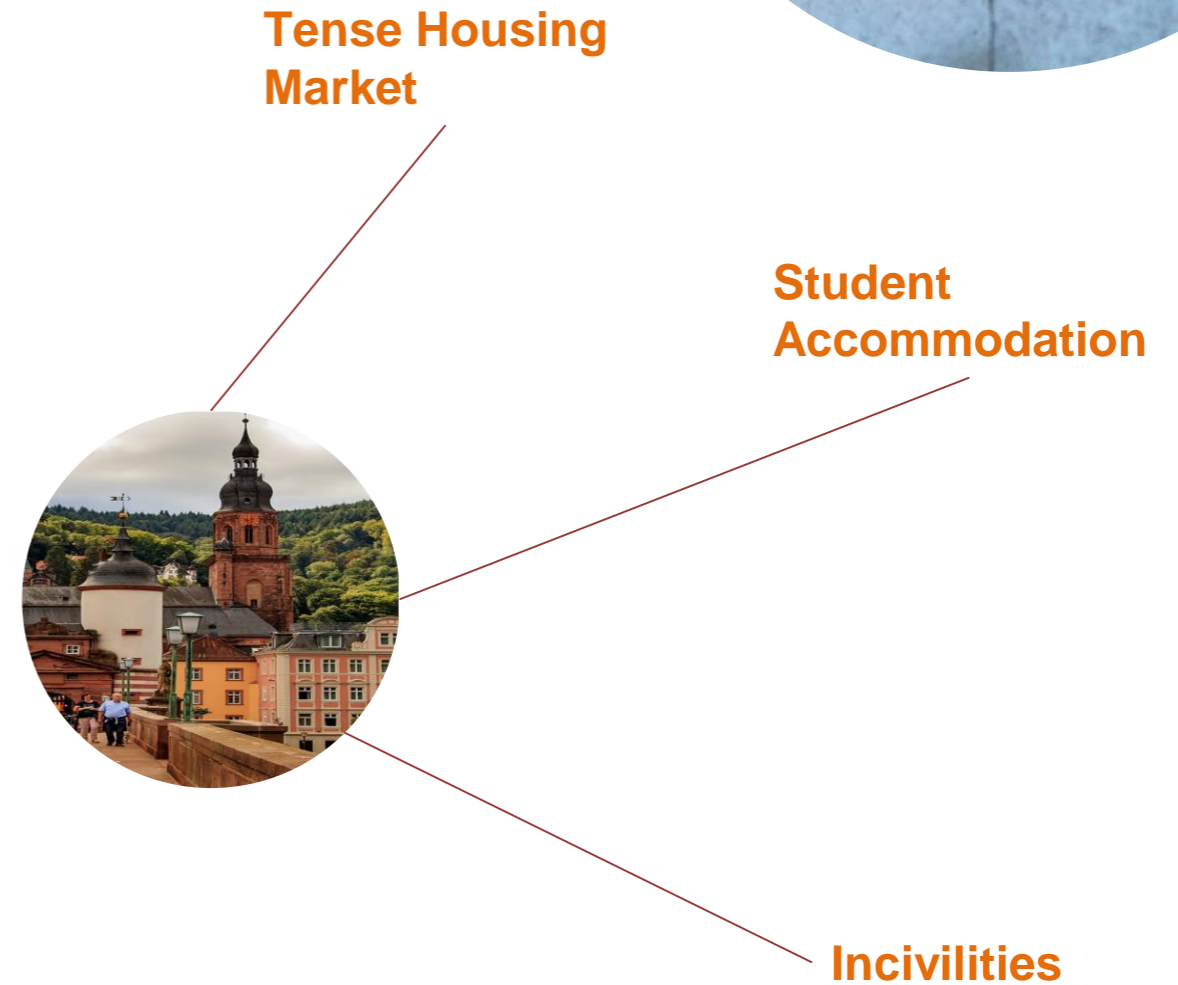
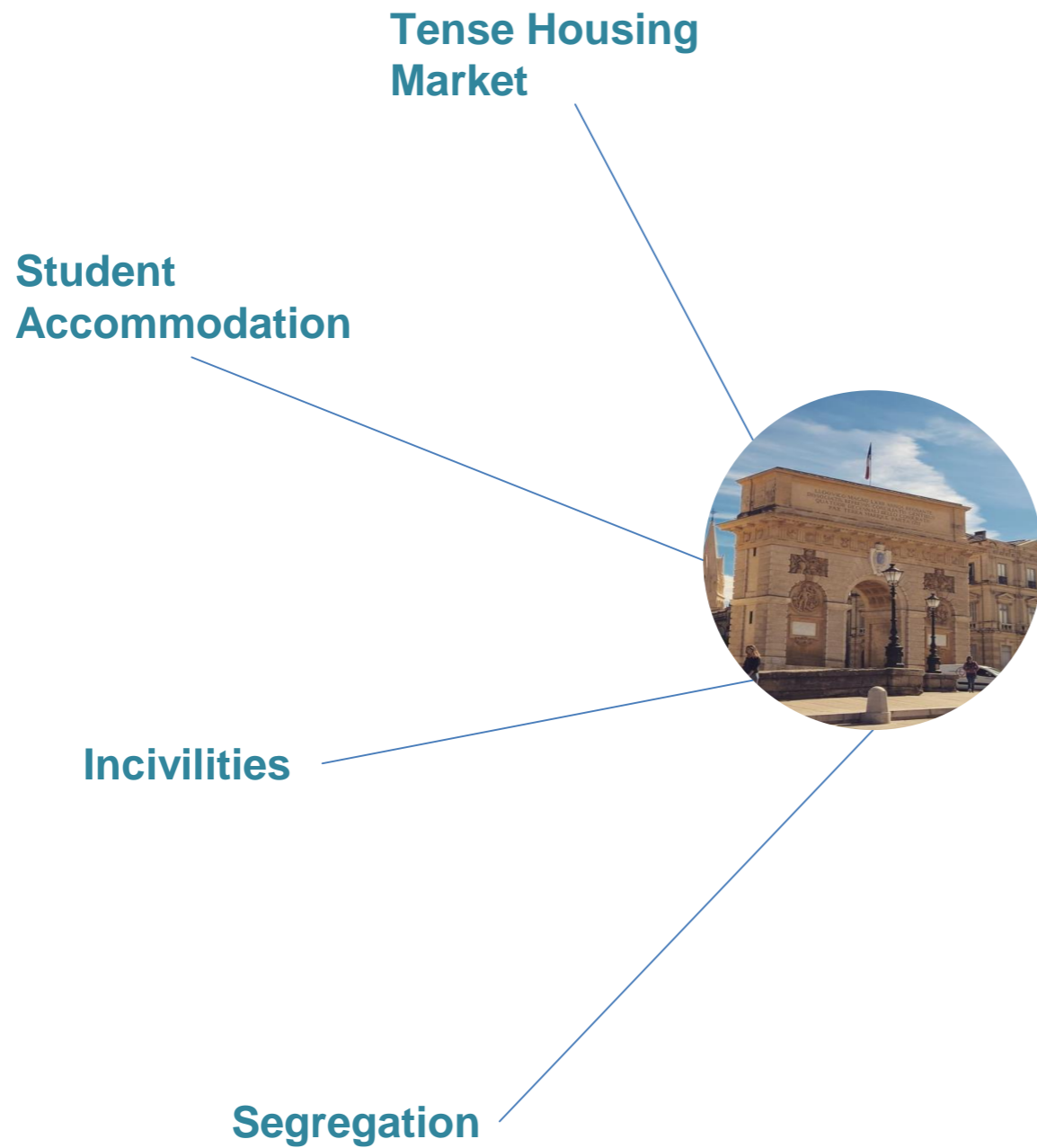




# TENDENCIES OF REVALUATION MONTPELLIER & HEIDELBERG IN COMPARISON



# TENDENCIES OF DEVALUATION MONTPELLIER & HEIDELBERG IN COMPARISON



,AND WHATEVER THE COMPLAINTS, SMITH HAS NOW DISCOVERED  
,**DESTUDENTIFICATION**' AND SAYS RESIDENTS DON'T LIKE IT. TALKING TO  
RESIDENTS IN NOTTINGHAM AND COVENTRY LAST WEEK HE SAYS: THE  
EXPRESSED CONCERNS ABOUT THEIR AREAS ARE ENTERING A SPIRAL OF  
DECLINE BECAUSE STUDENTS WERE ABANDONING THEM. RESIDENTS ARE  
SAYING WE NEED TO TRY AND ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO STAY AROUND  
**BECAUSE THEY ARE GOOD FOR THE AREA.**'

(MACLOED & WARD: 2006)

Thank you!

# STUDENT SPACE CONTROL

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# Literature

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