A different kind of smart?

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Smart humans?

IT'S NOT OUR INTELLIGENCE

... every person alive today receives a *cultural download* of stories, practices, tools, and institutions that gradually piled up across the span of ancestors who came before us. There are no rugged individuals in this world. We are each a walking repository of social learnings received from others in our community.

(Brewer (2016) *Are humans really that smart?* https://evolution-institute.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/brewer_imagechart.jpg)
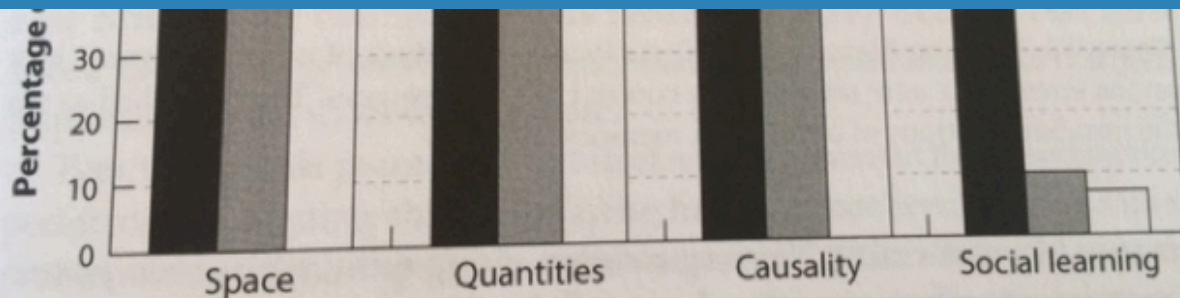
Percentage

30

20

10

0

Space   Quantities   Causality   Social learning

Figure 2.2. Average performance on four sets of cognitive tests with chimpanzees, orangutans, and toddlers.
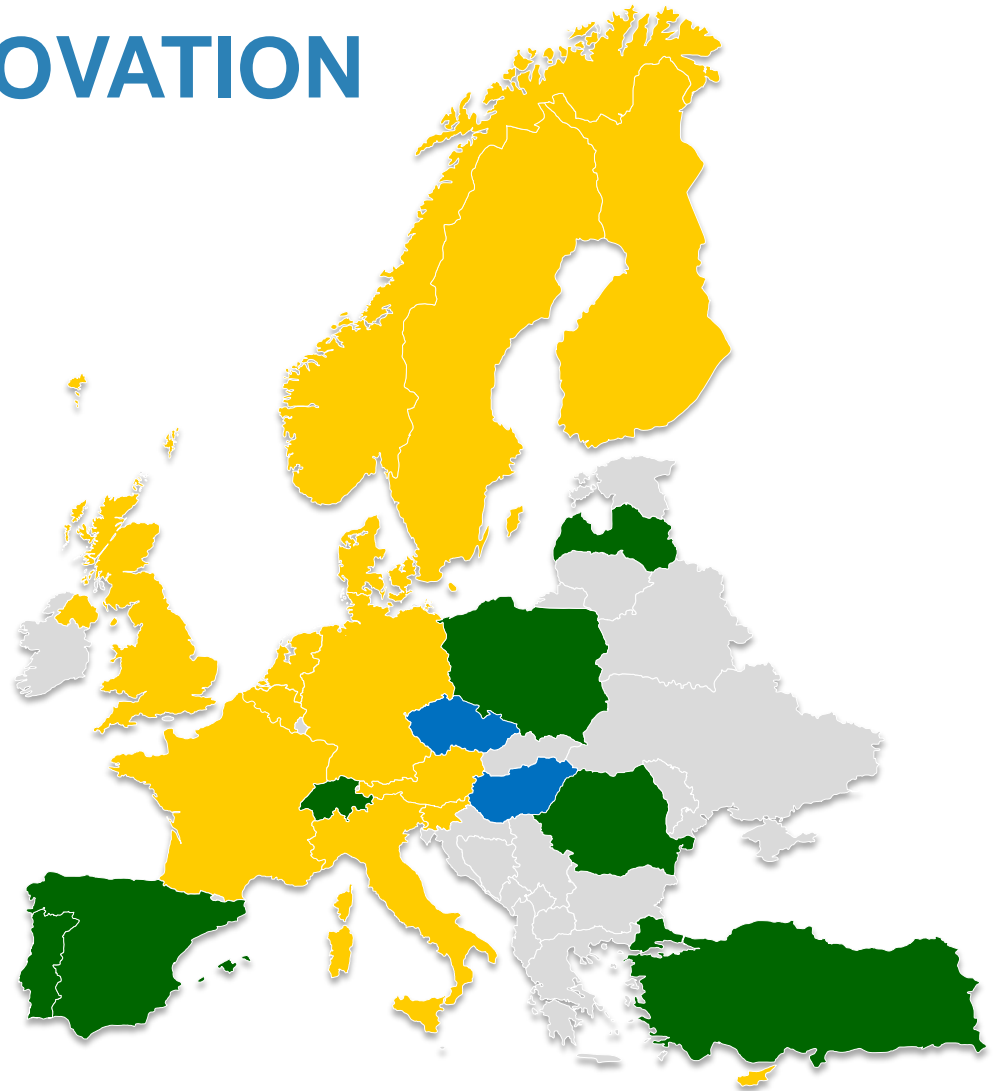
URBAN EUROPE

EUROPEAN HUB FOR URBAN RESEARCH & INNOVATION

20 European countries participating and contributing

Core Members
Observers and occasional co-funders of joint calls
Additional partners in dissemination

Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA)

- To support cities along the entire transition cycle, from target setting up to concept implementation and validation. By efforts to:

  – enhance our understanding of the complexity of urban sustainability in all its dimensions

  – provide a framework to assess and monitor urban sustainability progress

  – identify and quantify pivotal forces that influence sustainability and its constituent factors as well as the interrelationships between them

- JPI URBAN EUROPE -

Transition towards sustainable and liveable urban futures

What is the normal kind of smart?

The European normal kind of smart

- Paradigm shift around 2010
  - Among urban managers, policy makers, industry leaders
- Part of a global market value: USD 8.8 billion in 2014

- But no strong consensus on what 'smart' actually means!

As beneficial as the EU funding is for the smart city, it has also misguided our focus to over-estimate the actual problem-solving capacity of smart cities and ***underestimate the complexity and required organizational shift that is needed to make smart cities happen***. In addition we tend to neglect potential short-comings of the merely tech-driven smart cities concept.
(von Radecki (2015) State-of-the-art; emphasis added)

Relational cities and the archipelago of urban R&I

Sustainable City

Smart City

Fig. 5. Network structure of author keywords associated with twelve city categories (minimum of 2 co-occurrences).

M. de Jong et al. / Journal of Cleaner Production xxx (2015) 1–14

http://www.citylab.com/housing/2016/04/cities-drive-the-new-world-order-parag-khanna-connectography-maps/480165/

Widening the smart?

- FIREBALL (FP7) on shaping a **smarter** city, not ideal future visions
- 'Smart' as infratructur**ing**: ever more systems of systems to support urban everyday life
- Not 'more of the same', but with and/or beyond ICT, energy, and mobility. E.g.:
    - knowledge infrastructures (e.g. 'production line in the knowledge society')
    - research infrastructures (e.g. 'institutes', 'ERA')
    - energy infrastructures (e.g. 'smart grids')
    - mobility infrastructures (e.g. 'public transport')
    - governance infrastructures (e.g. 'urban planning circuits')
    - green/blue infrastructures (e.g. 'permaculture', 'climate services')
    - cultural infrastructures (e.g. 'language', 'urban innovation capacity')
    - economic infrastructures (e.g. 'job-markets', 'financial circuits')
    - …

JPI Urban Europe funded projects (selection from 37)

- Urban Governance and Participation
  - b-Part
  - UrbanData2Decide
  - IntegrCiTy
  - SmartGov
  - Smart-FI
  - SmartCityHospitality
- Accessibility and Connectivity
  - SmarterLabs
  - me2

- Environmental Sustainability and Resilience
  - DESENT
  - CODALoop
  - BREATHE
  - SURECITY
  - PARENT
  - Smart Urban Isle
  - SPACERGY

Thank you!

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