

Christoph Fink

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Curriculum Vitae

March 2025

EDUCATION

- University of Helsinki, Finland**
2017-2021 PhD in *Interdisciplinary Environmental Sciences*
(graduated with distinction)
- Pontificada Universidad Católica del Ecuador, Quito, Ecuador**
2015 *Spanish* (no formal degree)
- Paris Lodron University Salzburg, Austria**
2011-2014 doctoral studies in *Applied Geoinformatics*
(accrued credits transferred to the University of Helsinki 2017)
- University of Vienna, Austria**
2004-2011 MSc in *Geography*, major in *Cartography and Geoinformation*
(graduated with distinction)
- Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany**
2008 semester abroad

ACADEMIC AND PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

- University of Vienna, Austria**
2024- postdoctoral fellow, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology,
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action *Performing as the expert: urban activists' roles and identities online and offline*
- University of Helsinki, Finland**
2021-2024 postdoctoral researcher, Digital Geography Lab, Horizon 2020 project *URBANAGE*
- 2019-2021 researcher, Helsinki Lab of Interdisciplinary Conservation Science, European Research Council project *Wildtrade*
- 2017-2019 researcher, Digital Geography Lab, Suomen Akatemia project *Investigating illegal wildlife trade*
- University of Vienna, Austria**
2016-2017 researcher, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, FWF project *Configurations of Remoteness*
- Paris Lodron University Salzburg, Austria**
2011-2014 researcher, Interfaculty Department of Geoinformatics Z_GIS
- Freytag-Berndt & Artaria, cartographic publishing house, Vienna, Austria**
2007-2013 map editor, developer for web cartography

occasionally projects in the fields of data visualisation and cartography, *examples on the following pages*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- University of Vienna, Austria**
2025 Visual Methods for Anthropologists
lecture/practical course (VU), one session ('Participatory mapmaking') out of six;
course main teacher: Sanderien Verstappen
- Aalto University, Finland**
2025 *Technology and Society*
guest lecture: 'Digital Governance and Equality'
- University of Helsinki, Finland**
2023 *Scientific thinking, history and concepts of geography*
seminar, one session out of five; course main teacher: Lotta Junnilainen
- Digital Geographies and Big Data for society*
seminar, one session out of five; together with Olle Järv, Tuuli Toivonen, Kamyar Hasanzadeh
- 2022 *Automating GIS processes*
lecture/practical lab course, course main teacher
- GEO-Python*
lecture/practical lab course; course main teacher: Dave Whipp
- 2021, 2019, 2018 *Open GIS and Spatial Data Infrastructure*
lecture/practical lab course (Moodle); one practical module out of seven; course main teacher: Elias Willberg
- 2020 *GIS project work*
supervising one group, together with Enrico Di Minin; course main teacher: Petteri Muukkonen
- 2019, 2018 *Urban GIS and Visual Tools*
lecture/practical lab course; guest lecture; course main teachers: Rami Ratvio, Sara Todorovic
- 2018, 2017 *Automating GIS processes*
practical lab course; one practical module out of seven; course main teachers: Henriikki Tenkanen, Dave Whipp
- 2018 *Methods for evaluating human preferences*
lecture/practical lab course; together with Enrico Di Minin (course main teacher), Anna Hausmann, Gonzalo Cortés-Capano, Anna Haukka
- University of Vienna, Austria**
2016, 2017 *Urban Analysis III*
practical lab course; one out of four modules, together with Michael Holzapfel; main course teacher: Ramon Bauer
- 2013, 2014 *Open GIS and Open Data in Geographic Information Data Handling*
practical lab course, main course teacher
- 2012 *Webmapping*
introductory seminar, main course teacher
- University of Salzburg, Austria**
2012 *Geosimulation*
lecture/practical course, main course teacher
- workshops and seminars taught at EGEA congresses (see honorary activity)**
2013 *Okkupy Google Maps! How grass-root activists use geomedia to convey their beliefs*
EGEA Euromed Regional Congress, El Bosque, Cadiz, Spain
- 2012 *Transport development in polycentric metroregions - the case of Rhine-Ruhr*
EGEA Western Regional Congress, Hattingen, Germany
- 2010 *4 countries, 1 problem: trans-alpine cargo in the 21st century*
EGEA Western Regional Congress, Steinach am Brenner, Austria
- 2009 *Waterway transport 2.0: Moving goods and ports*
EGEA Western Regional Congress, Bingen, Germany
- 2008 *Municipalities and the environment: How can the use of GIS ease protection, planning and management?*
EGEA Eastern Regional Congress, Sinaia, Romania
- 2007 *Practical Usage of Opensource GIS*
EGEA Annual Congress, Ustroń, Poland

SUPERVISION EXPERIENCE

- 2024 Eemil Haapanen: **Cartographic interaction for exploring travel time matrices – the development of an interactive web map and a user survey.** Master's thesis, Master's programme in Geography, study track Geoinformatics, University of Helsinki
- 2024 Roope Heinonen: **Green Paths 2.0: Developing a transferable multi-objective environmental exposure optimizing route planning tool for active travel.** Master's thesis, Master's programme in Geography, study track Geoinformatics, University of Helsinki
- 2023 Eero Perola: **Driving speed deviation from the speed limits – an analysis using floating car data in the Helsinki Metropolitan Area.** Master's thesis, Master's programme in Geography, study track Geoinformatics, University of Helsinki
- 2021 Petteri Muilu: **Remote Sensing of Acid Sulfate Soils using Deep Learning and Aerial LiDAR Data.** Master's thesis, Master's Programme in Data Science, University of Helsinki.

EVALUATION OF THESES

- 2022 Kayleigh C. Kavanagh: **Identifying Intrinsic, Instrumental, and Relational Values in Kumpula, Helsinki. A Participatory Mapping Study.** Master's thesis, Master's programme in Environmental Change and Global Sustainability, University of Helsinki.

RESEARCH FOCUS

urban transformation, active mobility
processes of appropriation of space(s)
cities as possibility spaces for political and social participation
biodiversity conservation
cartography, cartography as discourse

volunteered geographic information (VGI)
big data (e.g., social media)
machine-learning/artificial intelligence
data visualisation, data science
spatial and spatio-temporal phenomena

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2024 [Fink](#), Willberg, Klein, Heikinheimo & Toivonen: **A travel time matrix for the Helsinki region 2023, sensitive to time, mode and interpersonal differences.** *Scientific Data*.
- Willberg, [Fink](#), Klein, Heinonen & Toivonen: **'Green or short: choose one' - a comparison of walking accessibility and greenery in 43 European cities.** *Computers, Environment and Urban Systems*.
- 2023 Tupasela, Devis Clavijo, Salokannel & [Fink](#): **Older people and the Smart City – developing inclusive practices to protect and serve a vulnerable population.** *Internet Policy Review*.
- Willberg, [Fink](#) & Toivonen: **The 15-minute city for all? – Measuring individual and temporal variations in walking accessibility.** *Transport Geography* 106.
- Willberg, [Fink](#) & Toivonen: **Towards equitable 20-minute neighbourhoods.** *Town & Country Planning* 92(3).
- 2022 O'Hern, Willberg, [Fink](#) & Useche: **Relationships among Bicycle Rider Behaviours, Anger, Aggression, and Crashes in Finland.** *Safety* 8(1).
- Sancho-Reinoso, Saxinger, [Fink](#), et al.: **Mapping hierarchies of mobility in the Baikal Amur Mainline region: A quantitative account of needs and expectations relating to railroad usage.** *Polar Geography* 45(3).
- 2021 [Fink](#), Toivonen, Correia & Di Minin: **Mapping the online songbird trade in Indonesia.** *Applied Geography* 134.
- Di Minin & [Fink](#), Hausmann, Kremer, Kulkarni: **How to address data privacy concerns when using social media data in conservation science.** *Conservation Biology* 35(2).
- 2020 [Fink](#), Hausmann & Di Minin: **Online sentiment towards iconic species.** *Biological Conservation* 108289.
- 2019 Toivonen, Heikinheimo, [Fink](#), Hausmann, Hiippala, Järv, Tenkanen & Di Minin: **Social media data for conservation science: a methodological overview.** *Biological Conservation* 233.
- 2018 Di Minin, [Fink](#), Tenkanen & Hiippala: **Machine learning for tracking illegal wildlife trade on social media.** *Nature Ecology & Evolution* 2(3).
- 2013 [Fink](#) & Koch: **Urban Segregation Revisited: incorporating cognitive space representations into agent-based residential models.** In: Koch, A., Mandl, P. (Eds.), *Modelling Social Phenomena in Spatial Context (=Geosimulation Vol. 2)*.
- 2011 [Fink](#): **Mapping together: on collaborative implicit cartographies, their discourses, and space construction.** *meta-carto-semiotics – Journal for Theoretical Cartography* 4.

SELECTED PROJECTS

2018	POREM.wien	interactive spatio-temporal data visualisation of places of remembrance relating to austro-fascism and national socialism
2017	Weltmuseum Wien: global flow of people	an interactive installation commissioned by the ethnographic museum <i>Weltmuseum Wien</i> , for its permanent exhibition 'World in Motion'
2016	austromorph.space	anamorphic maps ('cartograms') on topics of societal, political, and economical relevance
2016	beyondgentrification.com	data-driven, interactive maps visualising the results of a multi-local, multi-paradigmatic research project
2015	wired-project.at/maps	interactive map showing the religious and ethnic diversity of Vienna

SELECTED SOFTWARE

2022	Python wrapper for the R5 routing analysis engine github.com/r5py
2021	downloader for complete histories of data and metadata of the microblogging platform Twitter pypi.org/project/twitterhistory
2017	QGIS cartogram plugin christophfink.com/blog/cartogram-plugin-for-qgis3

HONORARY ACTIVITY

2024-	convenor of the <i>Wednesday Seminar</i> series, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Vienna.
2020-2023	trainer, bicycle courses for adult learners, Helsingin Polkupyöräilijät/Pyöräliitto
2005-2014	member of the European Geography Association for Students and Young Geographers (EGEA), workshop leader, congress organiser, editor of congress proceedings
2007-2009	student spokesperson on the board of the German Society for Geography (DGfG)

PRIZES, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

2023	Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action Postdoctoral Fellowship, with Dr Sanderien Verstappen, University of Vienna
2019	1 st prize in the Map Awards (category Digital Products) of the International Cartographic Conference, Tokyo, Japan for the interactive data visualisation project Politics of Remembrance (POREM.wien)
2016	member of the winning team, Copernicus Earth Observation Data Hackathon, Vienna, Austria

LANGUAGES

German (native tongue)	English (full professional proficiency)	Finnish (intermediate, CEFR level B2)
	Spanish (fluent)	French (beginner, CEFR level A2)

COMPUTER SKILLS

programming, script and markup languages: Python, Bash, R, Javascript/ES6, PHP, Perl, C, C++, Java

data analysis and visualisation: Pandas, GeoPandas, Numpy/SciPy, R, Tableau, NLTK, Spacy, matplotlib, seaborn, ggplot, Inkscape, Adobe Creative Suite, Blender, d3js

geographic information systems, cartography: QGIS, GDAL/OGR, ESRI ArcGIS, Grass GIS, PostGIS, GeoPandas, UMN MapServer, OpenLayers, Leaflet, GeoServer

database systems: PostgreSQL/PostGIS, MySQL/MariaDB, SQLite, CouchDB, MongoDB, LDAP, Oracle

systems administration: systemd/SysVinit (e.g., GNU/Linux, FreeBSD), Apple MacOS, Microsoft Windows

REFERENCES

Associate Professor Sanderien Verstappen, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Vienna, sanderien.verstappen@univie.ac.at

Professor Tuuli Toivonen, Department of Geosciences and Geography, University of Helsinki, tuuli.toivonen@helsinki.fi

Dr Alois Humer, Institute for Urban and Regional Research, Austrian Academy of Sciences, alois.humer@oeaw.ac.at

Dr Gertrude Saxinger, Department of Political Science, University of Vienna, gertrude.saxinger@univie.ac.at

Ramon Bauer, Statistics Vienna, City of Vienna, ramon.bauer@wien.gv.at