Hypotheses of a Heterodox Evolutionary Assessment Approach for the Sustainable City

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Abstract. This contribution outlines a path of analysis, evaluation, and interpretation of the concept of sustainability in its most challenging context, the city. It proposes a twofold approach that looks behind the concept of value as utility or efficiency in view of the potential arising from the constitutive ambiguity of urban signs: objects, circumstances, phenomena, processes. The first part of this experiment presents an orthodox approach mostly based on the description functions; the second one proposes a heterodox approach based on wider assessment functions according to an evolutionary approach articulated in the capacities of inertia, adaptation and ex-aptation that redefine the value functions defined to represent the main aspects of urban sustainability.

Keywords: Urban sustainability · Evolutionary approach · Data analysis · Urban assessment · Urban ex-aptation

1 Introduction

One of the main reasons of interest in evaluating the complexity of urban eco-systems is the polysemy of the objects identified as 'value-bearers'; value, in its multiple declinations and articulations, is the essential content of their relevance for the organisation of settled communities.

Based on the value contents implied by their socio-economic order, communities establish and evolve extrasystemic (with the environment) and intrasystemic (between subsystems) complementarity relationships.

Complementarities and divergences between subsystems result in asymmetries in the allocation of the social surplus, which cause the set and hierarchies of codes and programmes to evolve.

These programmes interpret the prospect of continuous growth in the volume and value of the capital stock differently [1]; in fact, each of them refers to economic policy directions that differ in the position in which they place the same values in the means-end chain.

Within this unified and monolithic narrative stand the pillars of urban sustainability: society, economy, environment [2].

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It is common knowledge, however, that once the entropic watershed is crossed, wealth can no longer grow, and it is necessary to address the ecological, urban, and social issue through new narratives and new value/price relations.

The present work, with reference to the case study of the Municipality of Syracuse (Italy), proposes a multidimensional assessment model [3, 4] based on two complementary approaches with the aim of representing most of the value that tangible and intangible occurrences actually and potentially express, overcoming the limitations of an orthodox approach based on a misunderstood concept of progress. In fact, the city presents the greatest opportunities for this further capacity precisely because of the density and rapidity of the communication that spreads and self-sustains in it, fostering the evolution and accumulation of additional urban capital surplus [5].

Consequently, the city is an **eco-socio-system** whose **hyper-complexity** must be reduced by means of the basic cognitive functions, **observation**, **interpretation,** and **communication**, which typically select value-based representations, in particular the **home-city-landscape system**. The latter is a mental construction that transcends the occurrences of dwelling, living together and contemplating into corresponding axiological essences. The home-city-landscape system is the value essence of its object references: the building organism, the functional and infrastructural apparatus, the spatial-institutional extension. The home-city-landscape system is the essence of the resilient forms in which the **surplus** of the social product is consolidated and accumulated and can referred to the human and urban capital. [6]. **Human surplus** is made of **consciousness, personality and creativit**y; **Urban surplus** is made of **shape, normativity and sharing**.

Surplus is the energy of **evolution**: city evolves through the different times and shapes of **Inertia**, **Adaptation** and **Ex-a**ptation.

These three forms support the reinterpretation of the traditional multiple trade-off relationships between **Efficiency**, **Effectiveness**, **Convenience** and **Equity** from the perspective of the city as the highest value **shape** of capital [7] (Fig. 1).

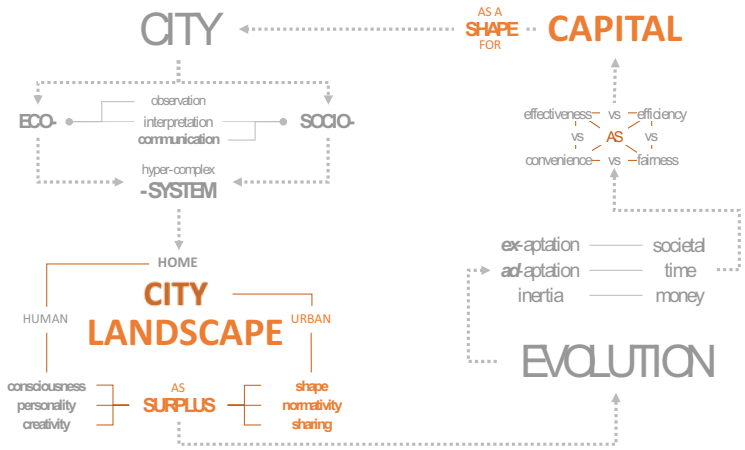

Fig. 1. Pattern of the evolutionary approach to the home-city-landscape Capital valuation.

The above pattern is the conceptual-operational basis of a value-based cognitive process [8], coordinating a twofold approach, orthodox and heterodox, each of which selects and combines differently the information units from the perspectives of which the urban-territorial unit surveyed and represented.

The paper is divided into five parts: the second outlines a synthetic spatial profile of the studied context by identifying the areas most exposed to convergence between development prospects and conservation instances; the third summarises the method with reference to the information sources and the articulation of the contents of the applied multi-criteria analysis model; the fourth provides the results of the GIS mapping of the evaluation syntheses deriving from the aggregation of the information units at the different levels of evaluation and interpretation; the fifth concludes the paper with a discussion of the operational and conceptual results.

2 Materials. The Municipal Context of Syracuse (Italy)

Syracuse, the capital of the homonymous province, the sixth city for population in Sicily and one of the most relevant for the complex heritage value, synthesizing natural, and cultural systems in a landscape unity listed as a World Heritge Site by UNESCO since 2005. The municipality has 117,053 inhabitants, a housing stock of 10,596 units on a total area of approximately 7.5 square kilometers.

The municipal territory is articulated in six areas (Fig. 2):

- Ortigia, the ancient fortified nucleus built from the 8th century B.C. onwards, whose historic-artistic value has driven significant redevelopment and restoration processes that have supported significant functional, economic and social transformations resulting in an unexpected real estate and valorization;
- The Umbertino district which arose at the end of the 19th century after the demolition of most of the original city walls; it was formed according to a modern orthogonal layout principle, along the main axis (Corso Umberto I), a continuation of the main bridge connecting Ortigia to the mainland. The district is characterised by wide streets and large architecturally qualified buildings aggregated in large quadrangular blocks, which include shops and businesses, as well as residential and accommodation facilities.
- the "Borgata di Santa Lucia", built shortly after the previous one, until the early 20th century, was created as a working-class neighbourhood to allow the petty bourgeoisie that crowded Ortigia to have worthy dwellings in a modern context;
- the neighbourhoods in the northern area, built mainly since the 1960s: Grottasanta, Akradina, Tiche, Neapolis, Epipoli, Canalicchio, Targia, Belvedere;
- the area comprising the Canalicchio and Carrozziere quarters in the western part of the municipality;
- in the southern part, the coastal settlement of Fontane Bianche and, behind it, the Borgo di Cassibile, whose history is linked to the last events of the Second World War, and which preserves a rural settlement (the "Borgo di Cassibile") that maintains its original layout and buildings.

The territory of the municipality of Syracuse borders the petrochemical industrial district of Augusta-Priolo to the north, which extends along a 27 km coastal area.

The articulated and heterogeneous waterfront is of great interest as it includes areas of absolute historical, artistic and landscape value, as well as opportunities for entrepreneurial and socio-cultural development that are not without significant criticalities. These are:

- the landscape complex formed by the islet of Ortigia and the bays of Porto Piccolo and Porto Grande represents a meaningful part of Syracuse's complex value, even though it is affected by the typical criticalities of the gentrification processes: a fast modification of the socio-economic structure; drastic filtering-up phenomena; a dramatic reduction of residents; massive real estate investments from outside; distortion of the map of property values.
- the northern area, bordering the aforementioned petrochemical settlement, is a densely built-up context whose building stock could be affected in the medium to long term by development prospects arising from the redevelopment processes in the field of industrial archaeology of some parts of the plant;
- the Maddalena Peninsula is the richest area in terms of natural landscape, but it too, despite the constraining regime affecting the Plemmirio nature reserve area, is experiencing worrying real estate pressures;
- the southern part of the waterfront is of great scenic and recreational interest due to the value of the beaches and, along the municipal boundary, the mouth of the Cassibile river; this has deterred the formation of the settlements of Ognina and Fontane Bianche, which have significantly reduced the naturalistic value of the area.

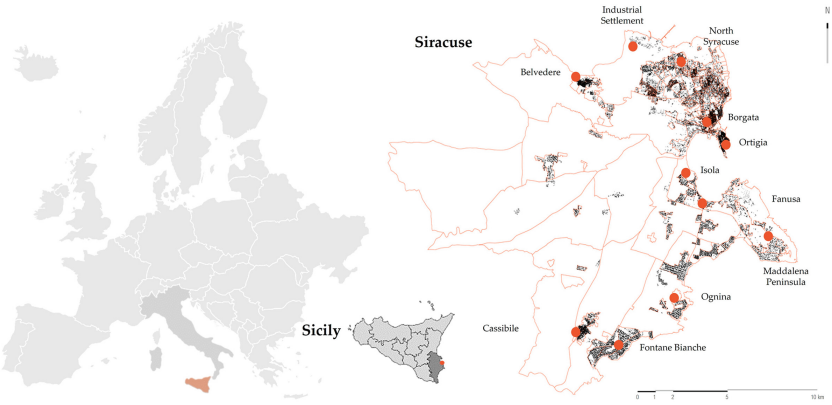

Fig. 2. Territorial frame of the Syracuse Municipality.

3 Methods. Patterns and Contents of a Heterodox Assessment Evolutionary Approach

The proposed method concerns the organisation of the cognitive process of the studied territorial-urban system, coordinating the description and evaluation functions according to a dual approach, orthodox and heterodox.

Description involves observation and denotation, while evaluation involves connotation and interpretation as further elaborations of higher axiological density.

A different degree of "neutrality" of the observer characterises the four functions: observation is predominantly neutral, whereas interpretation expresses the intentionality of the observer. Neutrality characterises an orthodox approach, conversely, intentionality supports heterodox approach and the consequent greater responsibility of the evaluation involving axiological and praxeological coordinations [9]; the former involve values, the latter choices.

An Orthodox Valuative Approach (OVA) merely provides evaluations within the range of significance of what is ordinary, probable, generally acknowledged; it uses semantics (relations of signification) related to current circumstances, efficiency criteria and conventions with a low gradient of agency, i.e. predominantly unintentional. As a result, evaluations are reduced to the "positive" sphere of factual judgement where an occurrence is assumed to be valid for the public and within a limited spatio-temporal range of validity, disregarding further possibilities of worthiness.

In the development of urban eco-socio-systems, such an approach has supported the most unscrupulous and irreversible transformations by sacrificing important components of historical, artistic and naturalistic value that are now regretted.

A Heterodox Evaluative Approach (HVA), on the contrary, looking as much at errors of the past as at threats from the future: 1. Extends the sphere of meaningfulness to what is extra-ordinary, possible, specifically valid; 2. Practices semantics that encompass the entire spectrum of experience that unfolds from memory to expectations, formulating in various cases hypotheses of resemantisation that enhance the potential of what is contingently judged inefficient, ineffective, not cost-effective; 3. Identifies as many reasons for which it is possible to discern reserves of hidden value in what is ordinarily considered rejects; 4. Supports the bottom-up agency of the collective subject, especially in view of further instability of the balance between the social system and the environment and reduction of distributive fairness.

With reference to the concrete characteristics of urban settlements, the proposed description and evaluation model basically replicates the structure of a "signification process" applied to each significance-bearing unit, the "territorial-urban sign", within a "semantic field", the city, bounded by relations of similarity and/or belonging. These links are spatial, administrative, anthropic, social, legal, economic, etc. Within this network, the elementary Signifiers, or significance-bearers, are selected and identified by simplifying reduction, i.e. the set of characteristics by aggregation of which the overall Significance of each sign – i.e. the individual land-urban units – is provided; the latter, consequently, is not taken as a physical referent, but as a synthesis between the structured set of its characteristics and its complex value, i.e. between Signifier and Significance. Two filters are thus interposed between the physical referent and the sign, one cognitive, the other evaluative. In this sense:

– according to an OVA, the sign is bound to the referent insofar as the latter is represented by significance bearers; thus on the basis of a link of dependence of the significance on the signifier preceding it: according to a signification process, it is commonly agreed that "price depends on value";

– according to an HVA, the sign is bound to the referent insofar as the latter retains a memory of its past value and a hope as to its future worth and therefore has a value in itself; such an "iconic value" is independent of the signifier and rather operates on it by restoring semantic dignity to components normally neglected, in relation to which the sign itself gains a different physiognomy; according to a resemantisation process: "the stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone!"

The signification and resemantisation processes [10] supporting the two approaches are summarised in Fig. 3.

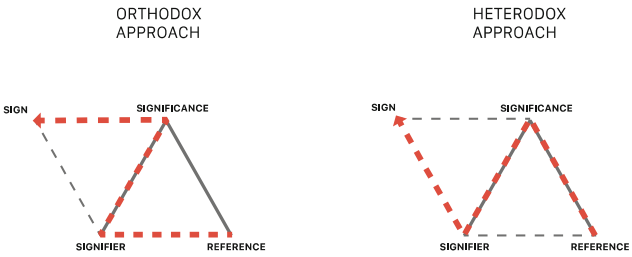

Fig. 3. Semiotic interpretation of the Orthodox and Heterodox approaches.

Transposing this scheme to the case of urban analysis and evaluation, a city can be represented as a semantic chain whose signs assume the function of mutual interpreters. This capacity depends on sharing the same criteria of identification (the topology of land-urban units) and signification (the official information units) and thus on the aptitude to be represented in terms of the same significance bearers.

The latter, in economic-estimative language, can be regarded as the multiple measures of its "capacity to count" as a driver of civil progress. This capacity is differently represented – i.e. evaluated – depending on the type of approach applied, orthodox or heterodox.

The proposed model has the structure of a database that contains as records (references) the elementary land-urban units (urban signs) delimited by the National Statistics Institute (NSI), in this case the Census Sections (CS), and as fields (the elementary signifiers) [11, 12], i.e. the observations accessible in the NSI portal, grouped in the five main topicals, Population, Foreigners, Dwellings, Households, Buildings [13–16];

In general, the cognitive process is developed through a typical Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) [17, 18] which:

– in the construction process it is structured by a progressive top-down disaggregation of the two main socio-economic categories of the city: according to the OVA, Human Capital (HC) and Urban Capital (UC) [19, 20]; according to the HVA Civic Eco-System (CES) and the Social Eco-System (SES);

– in the operational process, the WBS is covered from the bottom up, i.e. by subsequent aggregation of the measures assigned to each CS from the perspective of the attributes selected and identified as the most significant "value bearers".

A specific WBS was created for each of the two above mentioned approaches (Figs. 4 and 5).

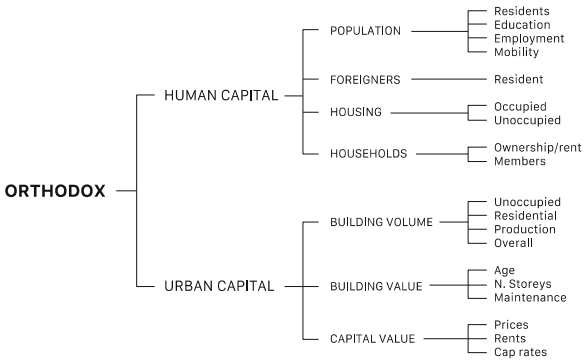

Fig. 4. WBS of the Valuation Orthodox Approach.

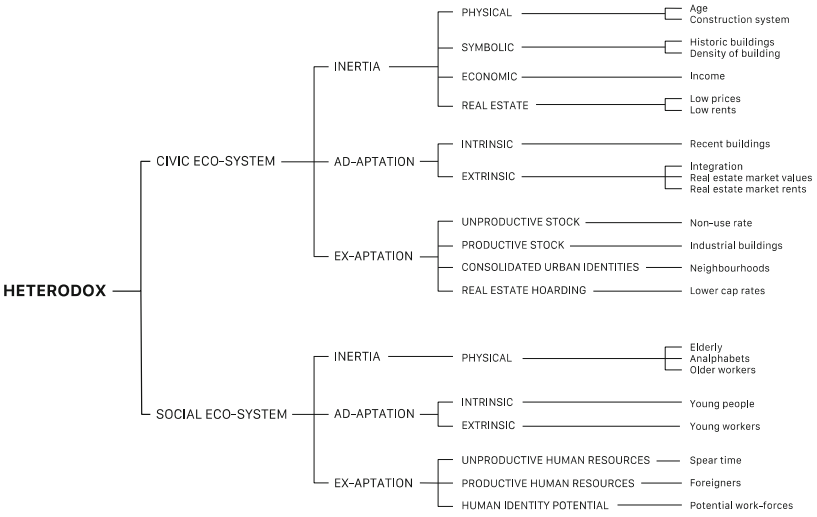

Fig. 5. WBS of the Valuation Heterodox Approach.

The overall process of knowledge of facts and values unfolds according Multi-Attribute Value Theory-based model [21, 22], for the principles of which we refer to the qualified literature on the method and applications most relevant to this experience [23].

The cognitive-valuation process is developed in the following steps:

– for each record (CS) each unit of elementary information is standardised into a score according to a semantic, in this case a four-linear standardisation function anchored

to the minimum and maximum values and the three quartiles of each observation in the semantic field;
– this semantic is assigned a "polarity" that identifies the elementary signifier as a value-bearer or disvalue-bearer; each elementary information unit (observation from the official dataset is normalized according a standard 0–2 scale score. Finally, a hierarchical system of weights measures the relative importance of each of the characteristics in relation to all others at the same level of aggregation, in accordance with the organisation of each of the two information frameworks.

At each level of aggregation and for each group of attributes, the CS's final score S is calculates by the weighted average scores of the attributes from the lower (the standardized scores) to the higher level:

$$S = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i s_i$$

where λ_i is the weight of the i_{th} attribute and s_i the normalized elementary score, under the following condition:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i = 1$$

4 Application e Results

4.1 Orthodox Approach: Human and Urban Capital

The data base provided by the official sources and the subsequent evaluative elaborations – developed at the different levels of abstraction of the primary observation, addressing the two dimensions of human and urban capital [24] – are linked to an interoperable Geographical Information System (GIS). This consultation platform enriches numerical processing with synthetic knowledge supported by thematic comparisons between the different areas and neighbourhoods by cross-referencing in several cases the levels of denotation and connotation.

4.1.1 Human Capital

The aforementioned interpretative process provided an initial assessment of Human Capital represented through 46 elementary information units variously aggregated, relating to the size and articulation of the Resident population, the presence and integration of Foreigners, the Housing Condition and the condition of Households (Fig. 6).

The CS detailed database does not provide income data and therefore the survey on socio-professional status and income is associated with the educational level. Moreover, the observations on the residents are unsuitable to display education level in areas such as Fontane Bianche or Ortigia where second houses prevail. Also the Mobility indices representation doesn't correspond to a situation typically characterized by the presence

of commutants students whose mapping should display similar values in the coastal area of Cassibile as in the area between Isola and Fanusa neighbourhoods.

Similarly, mapping of the foreigners integration in affected on the one hand by the concentration of farms in the central part of the rural area nearby Cassibile, on the other hand by different favourable location drivers in various areas of the Borgata and the northern area.

Similarly, the overview of the representation of the two forms of capital should be approached with reference to the number of occupied dwellings and the ratio of rented to owned dwellings. Some examples:

- high-income households are concentrated in the Pizzuta district, which is characterised by a high level of settlement quality;
- in Ortigia the prevalence of renting depends on the lack of residents, as properties purchased from outside are put on the rental market or left vacant. This is the effect of the excess of intangible values over functional ones, which identifies real estate as a target for just such a hoarding; Ortigia is an exemplary case of the convergence of inefficiency and property inequity;
- the Borgata, on the other hand, is characterised by significant unexpressed potential, anticipated by rents but not by market prices, nor by the quality of maintenance and urban furnishings.

In general, the composition of households is poorly correlated with location and settlement quality, except in the case of Ortigia from which young and medium-sized households move towards the Borgata, but especially towards the northern area, due to the better building performance offered by buildings meeting contemporary housing standards (Fig. 6).

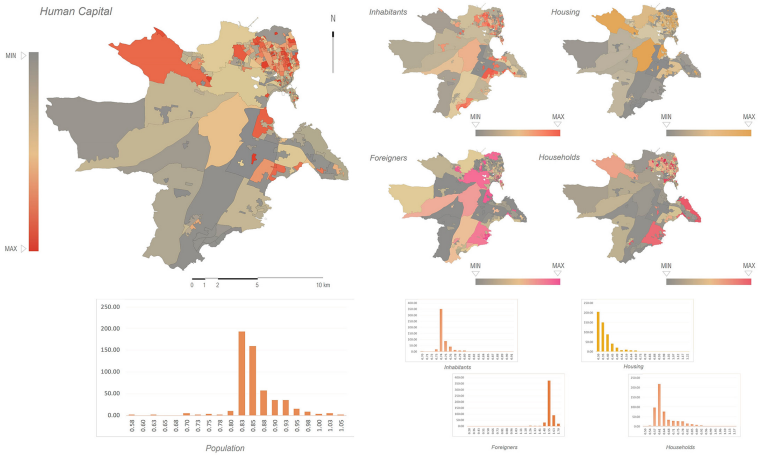

Fig. 6. Maps and probability density graphs of the main axiological components of the Human Capital (our valuation and GIS elaborations of the NSI dataset).

4.1.2 Urban Capital

Urban Capital was also observed and interpreted based on the normalisation and aggregation and combination of data into indices with reference to the general categories of the volume and value of building stock.

The observations concerned the volumes and functions of residential and productive uses and the total building stock in the CS.

The entire descriptive framework addresses, in its original aspirations, the category of urban landscape and thus distinguishes and emphasises the considerable amount of historic buildings and their integration into the overall urban fabric.

Again, the lack of information on actual volumes made it necessary to use an indirect representation, obtained by integrating observations on the rates of buildings of different age classes, number of above-ground elevations and properties. Excluding the suburban areas, the maps showed significant differences between the landscape quality of the historic urban fabric, Ortigia and the Borgata, and that of the more recent ones in the northern part of the city. In spite of the effects of a representation influenced by measurements at different scales, it can be seen that the most heavily built-up sections, i.e. those of the densest urban fabrics, often show average evaluations due to the wide range of maintenance conditions that characterise buildings dating back to the 1960s-80 (Fig. 7).

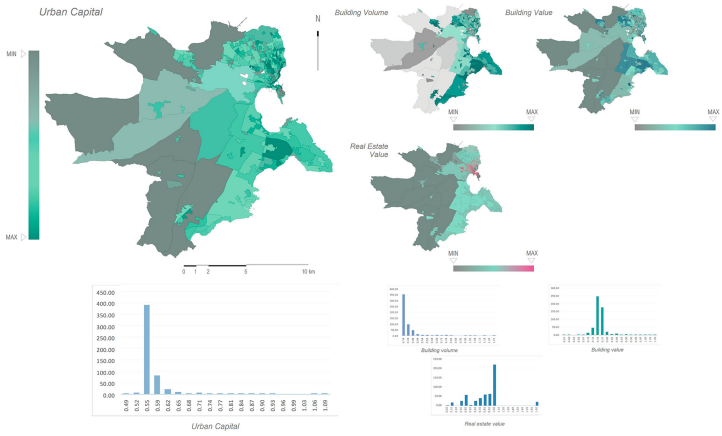

Fig. 7. Maps and probability density graphs of the main axiological components of the Urban Capital (our valuation and GIS elaborations of the NSI dataset).

4.1.3 Synthesis

The complexity and contradictions of this particular spatial context are finally summarised in the results of the overall assessments of the two complementary and converging categories of the home-city-landscape system. Here again, it is an abstraction that reflects the original aspirations of the economic-estimative tradition engaged in

defining the most effective (monetary and non-monetary) assessment information contents and attributes for the purposes of economic communication, thus reducing to synthetic indices the complexity of the multiple aptitudes to be worth, prices or preference relations, according to the task and purpose of the assessment.

Among the contradictions that emerge from this experience of "reasoned mapping" – that is, traced back to the numerical evidence of the available territorial information apparatus – the divergence of landscape values and environmental disvalues stands out. The latter, especially in the face of the successes of the 'cultural industry' that are recognised by the "Ortiga" brand, must be constantly brought to the attention of the public.

The effects of the sudden development of this sector can also be seen in this analysis, just in the relationship between human and urban capital, which is significantly – and now also irreversibly – affected by the accumulation of liquidity in the real estate asset, mostly consolidated in the old nucleus of Ortigia and seeking new opportunities in the Borgata di S. Lucia. Further ways and forms of this trend can also be seen in the extra-urban areas, in particular on the Maddalena Peninsula and on the southern coast in the area of Cassibile and Fontane Bianche, whose naturalistic and landscape values complement the architectural and testimonial ones, completing the basket of real estate performances with relevant alternatives for both productive and speculative investment.

These expectations imply certain threats of irreversible impacts generated by transformations inspired by entrepreneurial success and real estate that increase the gap between the reasons of efficiency and the demands of equity.

4.2 Heterodox Approach: Inertia, Adaptation and Ex-aptation at the Levels of the Civic and Social Systems

The prospect of a heterodox approach overcomes the dimension of the category of capital by turning to that of eco-system, particularly civic and social.

The civic eco-system involves the relations between people and the city with reference to the way in which the city responds to the instances that the community expresses in the view of a more rapid and consistent affirmation of the principles of civic progress; the social eco-system looks at the way in which the urban dimension constitutes the catalyst of social fairness through the reduction of communicative barriers between social sub-systems and between the system and the environment: in the former case, aspects of social justice are taken into account, in the latter those of environmental justice.

This perspective is taken here to reinterpret the official information system in light of three evolutionary capacities: Inertia, Adaptation and Ex-aptation. These are three ways in which a social-urban eco-system, as a whole, on the one hand acquiesces to individual and social demands and pressures from mainly economic-productive drivers of development, and on the other hand reveals the tensions arising from the inevitable gaps in social communication between colliding sub-systems that make the social system

increasingly vulnerable to environmental fluctuations. These three attitudes of the social-urban system toward its living space have been represented through the indices relating to the above three concepts:

- Inertia is that condition represented in the barriers to the rapid transformation of the human/urban landscape, which hints at margins of value contained in depth apart from that contingently attributed;
- Adaptation is the condition of an urban eco-system that has responded to the triggers of material progress according to the directions of urban land policies by exhausting the entire spectrum of potential implicit in the heritage that has been irreversibly erased;
- Ex-aptation is an evolutionist concept, introduced by two paleontologists, S. J. Gould and E. S. Vrba [25], in disagreement with that of adaptation, because it assumes unemployed resources as a condition of new unexplored possibilities in spite of most likely low use or functional value.

4.2.1 Inertia

The Inertia index summarizes the scoring of the two Civic and Social eco-systems groups of drivers.

The first one concerns the building volume components due to its scarce reversibility and flexibility. A fortiori, architectural heritage constitutes a component of the building asset whose historic-architectural value consolidates the perspective of the preservation of the multiple cultural identities stratified over time [26, 27]. The synthesis of inertia identifies consolidated urban contexts as invariants of the development policies of the city as a whole. Even some peripheral coastal urban units, albeit in continuous and subdued expansion, prospect the consolidation of an image capable of opposing the real estate attack, as in the areas of Ognina, Fontane Bianche and the Maddalena peninsula.

The second one concerns the fragile and non-independent social fabrics due to old age and low educational attainment; nevertheless, these constitute a significant presidium of the local identities [28] facing imminent dissolution.

The maps of Inertia at the levels of the two eco-systems are displayed in Fig. 8.

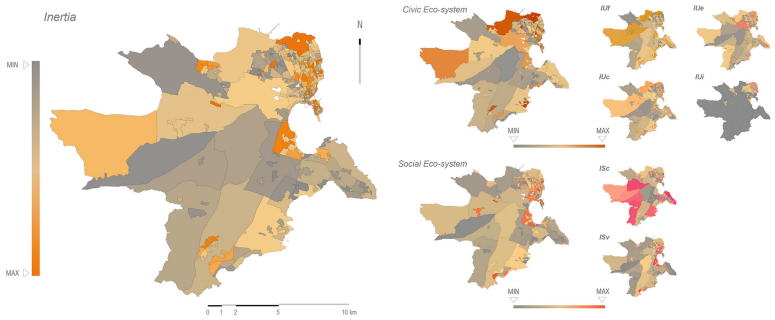

Fig. 8. Maps of the main drivers of Inertia at the levels of civic and social eco-systems (our valuation and GIS elaboration of the NSI dataset).

4.2.2 Adaptation

The synthesis of the adaptation maps suggests that the expansion of the city and the vibrancy of these areas due to the presence of the younger people can prospect, especially in the Borgata, co-evolutionary processes of neighbourhood identities aimed at public spaces and the life quality enhancement.

With reference to the civic eco-system, the areas of the new city that have rapidly developed in response to the prospects of renewal and expansion of the urban building stock have also failed to complete and evolve the secondary urbanization system beyond the minimum legal standards. As a result, the measures of this rapid adaptation referring to the rate of urban expansion over time, the typological and functional mix of the built heritage among different areas does not reflect the profile of a context that has developed organically.

The social eco-system is also affected by these critical issues as to the difficulties of maintaining and developing neighbourhood identities around key social and cultural facilities (Fig. 9).

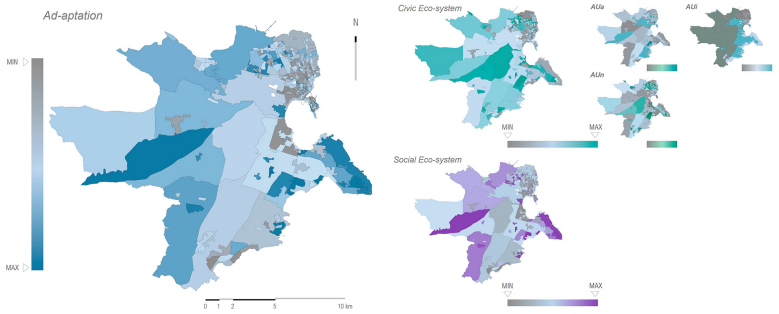

Fig. 9. Maps of the main drivers of Adaptation at the levels of civic and social eco-systems (our valuation and GIS elaboration of the NSI dataset).

4.2.3 Ex-aptation

The sequence of the aspects of Ex-aptation also outlines a complex framework of resources with has yet unexpressed potential.

From the perspective of the civic eco-system, it is noteworthy the underutilized residential building stock which, traditionally regarded as a manifestation of inefficiency, implies a tendency for real hoarding in view of positive expectations of future real estate performances in terms of both yield and capital gains measured by the low cap rates especially in Ortigia, in the Borgata and in the Maddalena Peninsula.

However, these aspects also underlie positive effects in terms of social rebalancing due to the high heterogeneity of the housing stock, the assortment of which provides a wide set of opportunities in the different areas of the city in response to the multiple needs, of personal use, of renting, of seasonal activities that can as much alternate as integrate. A further aspect concerning prospects for social promotion concerns an extensive stock

of old, disused industrial buildings in the areas close to the central station that outline significant undefined urban inclusive development prospects [29] (Fig. 10).

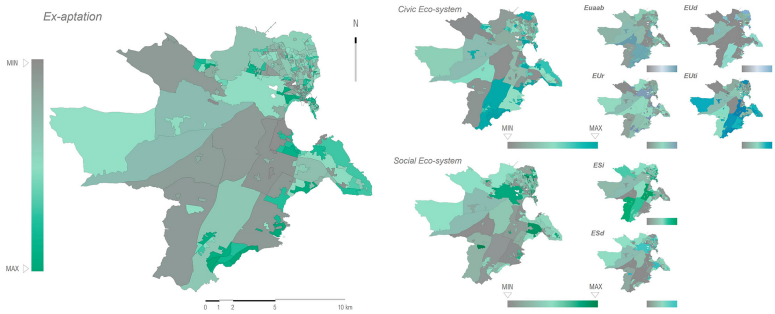

Fig. 10. Maps of the main drivers of Ex-aptation at the levels of civic and social eco-systems (our valuation and GIS elaboration of the NSI dataset).

4.2.4 Synthesis

The three perspectives of the heterodox approach highlight the different ways of considering the same urban context as valuable depending on its variables, with the perspective of not neglecting any potential or residual fraction of the past/future capacity of parts of the territory and city to become important for someone and in certain aspects. The mapping of Inertia as the capacity of the territorial-urban system to resist transformations with a high social and urban impact, does not reveal a clear correspondence between the most resistant areas and the least dynamic social components.

Similarly, and inversely, the Adaptation map indicates the areas that have already exhausted their entire transformative potential, unless a massive rethinking of urban policy lines, hopefully in the wake of the opportunities of ecological transition.

In this prospect emerges the capacity for Ex-Adaptation that in the whole context takes the different forms of real hoarding, on the one hand motivated by the expansion of the real estate sector, on the other identifiable in the expectations about new intended uses of the abandoned ancient industrial asset that can integrate the now saturated lines of expansion of the existing building stock.

5 Conclusions

This study aims to suggest a research path on the sustainability of urban development [30] based on the fertile and multiple notion of value, often taken in the reductive forms of utility in hedonic terms on the one hand and efficiency, functional and economic, on the other.

The proposal of a dialectic between an orthodox and a heterodox approach, supported by a multidimensional assessment model applied in a complex, stratified and in various respects even contradictory urban context, is aimed at highlighting the polysemy of

different occurrences (objects, facts, processes, trends) with respect to the possibility of expressing a multiplicity of values. In the prospect of a twofold (orthodox/heterodox) approach, all of them has been recognised relevant even if not predominantly highlighted by location and/or real estate investment choices, as well as not adequately valued at the level of the political-administrative system.

In this perspective, if the orthodox approach based on efficiency and cost-effectiveness defines clear objectives and non-contradictory criteria of urban redevelopment processes, the emergence of the instances of sustainability [31] empower the science of evaluations in applying heterodox approaches showing the contradictions of the traditional development model, which has leveraged market rules to transfer irreducible costs to the environment (mainly natural, but more guiltily to human).

This study, also consistent with the most recent sustainability approaches, which propose measurements of embodied energy and residual performances, proposes – especially considering the concepts of Inertia and Ex-aptation – a reflection and experimentation on how to think and represent by values the fabric of occurrences and relationships that denotate and connotate the home-city-landscape system in a centripetal perspective, from planet to home.

More generally, the heterodox approach is an important stage of "suspension of judgment" in the awareness that values are all the more important the more the facts themselves are recognized as values, and that values are not relative or absolute, but false or authentic, and always present, irreducible and unamendable across the entire spectrum of the shared experience.

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