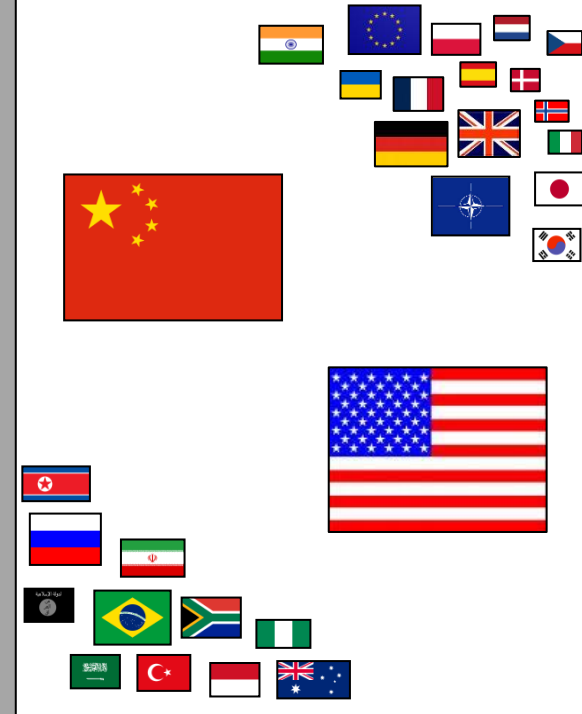


# Strategy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

## Session 2.



Paul van Hooft

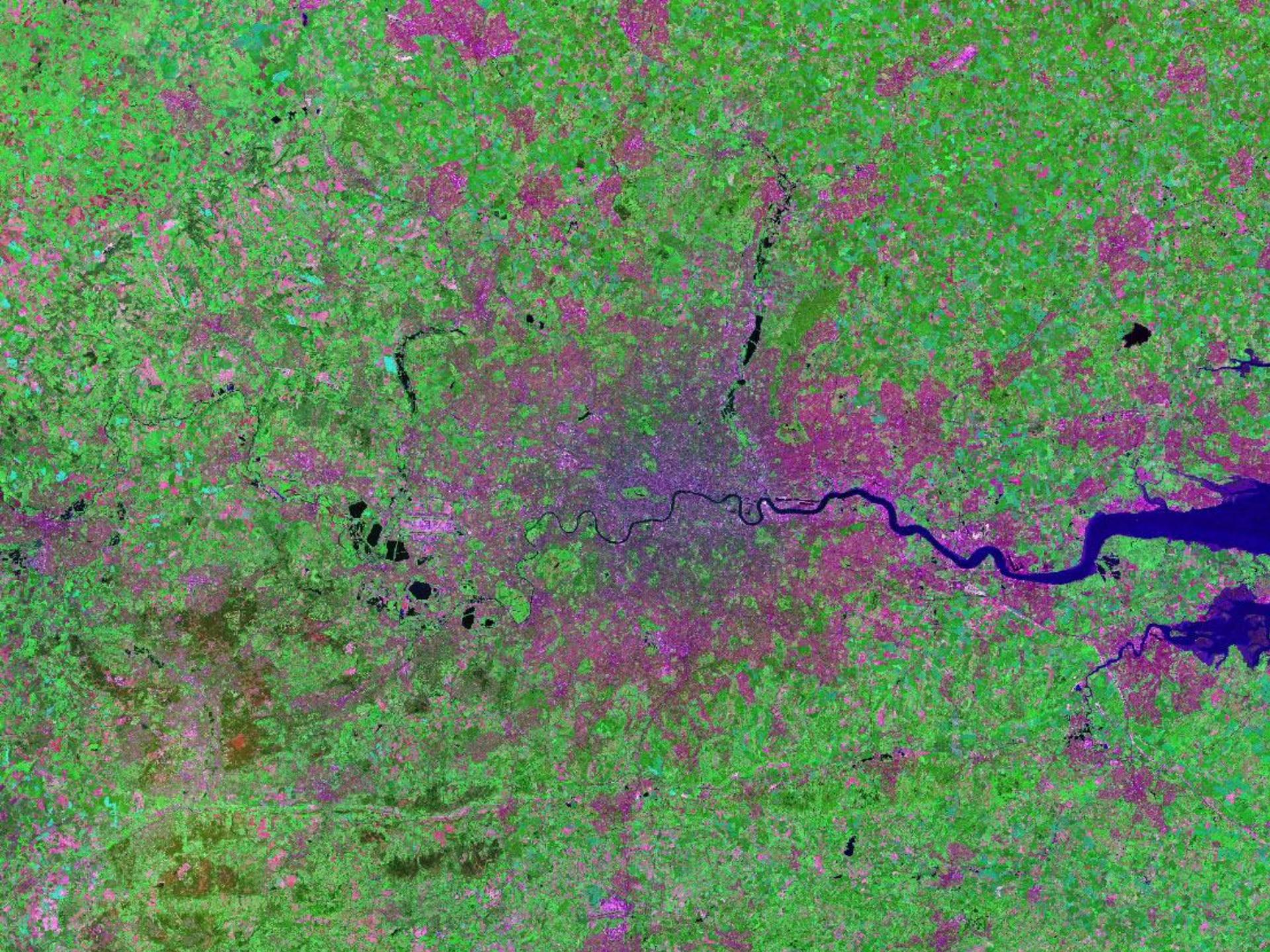
[p.a.vanhooft@uva.nl](mailto:p.a.vanhooft@uva.nl)

020 525 2786

REC B. 8.22

# Theory

*How to think about theory...*

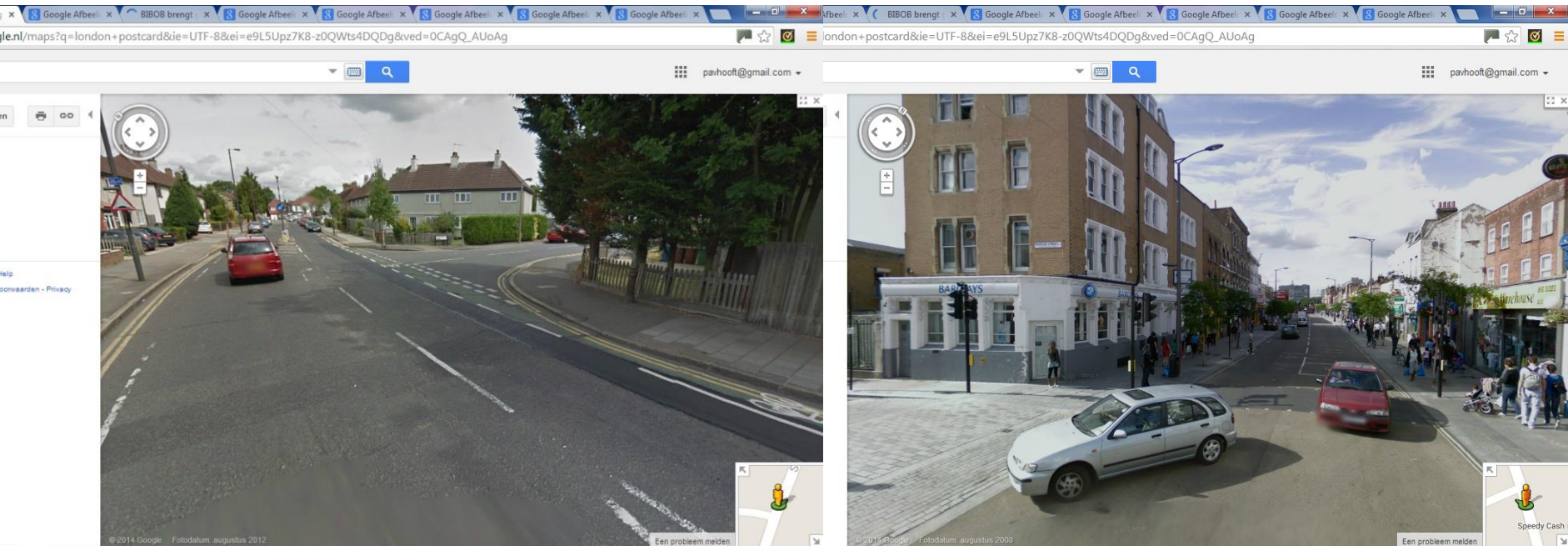


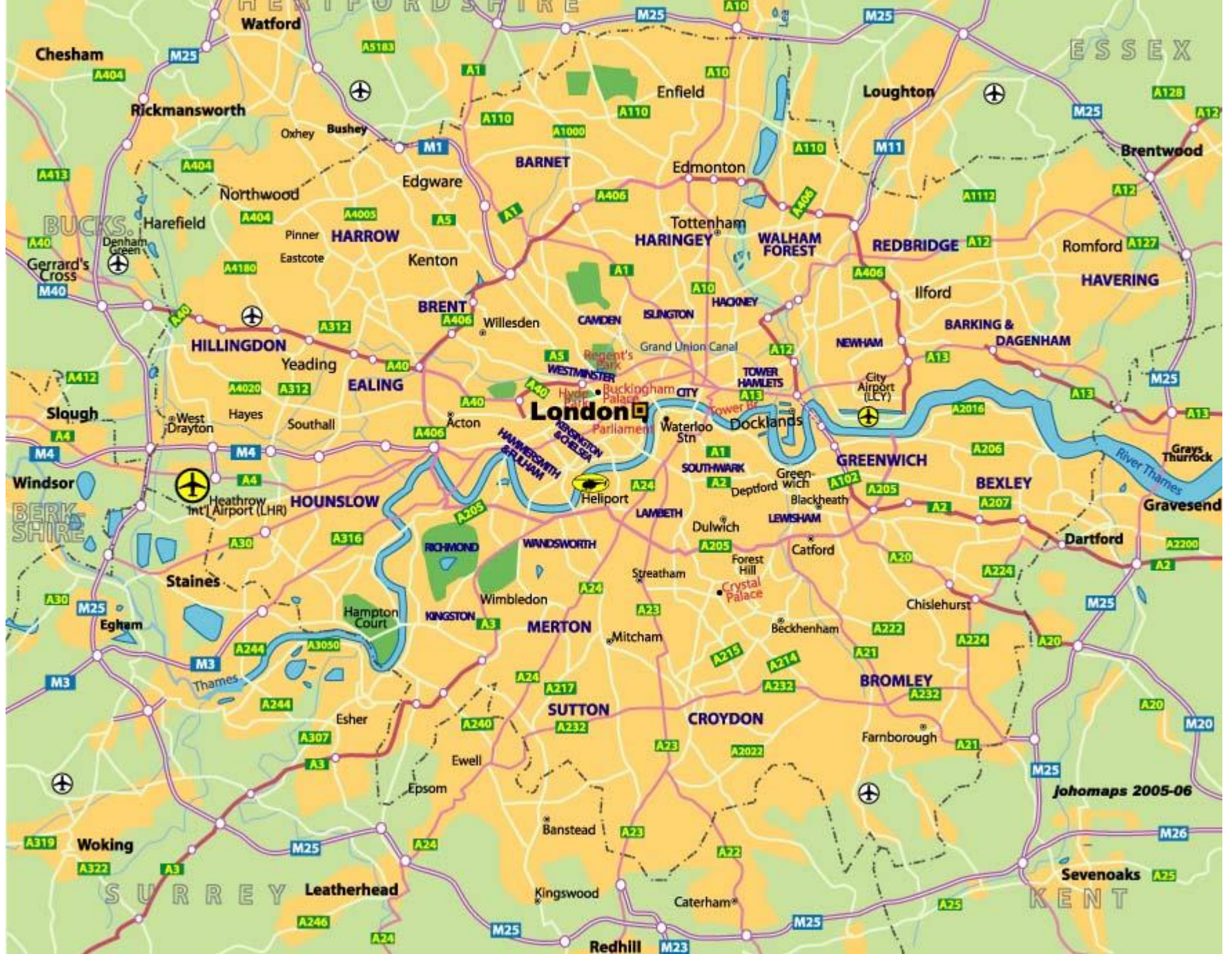




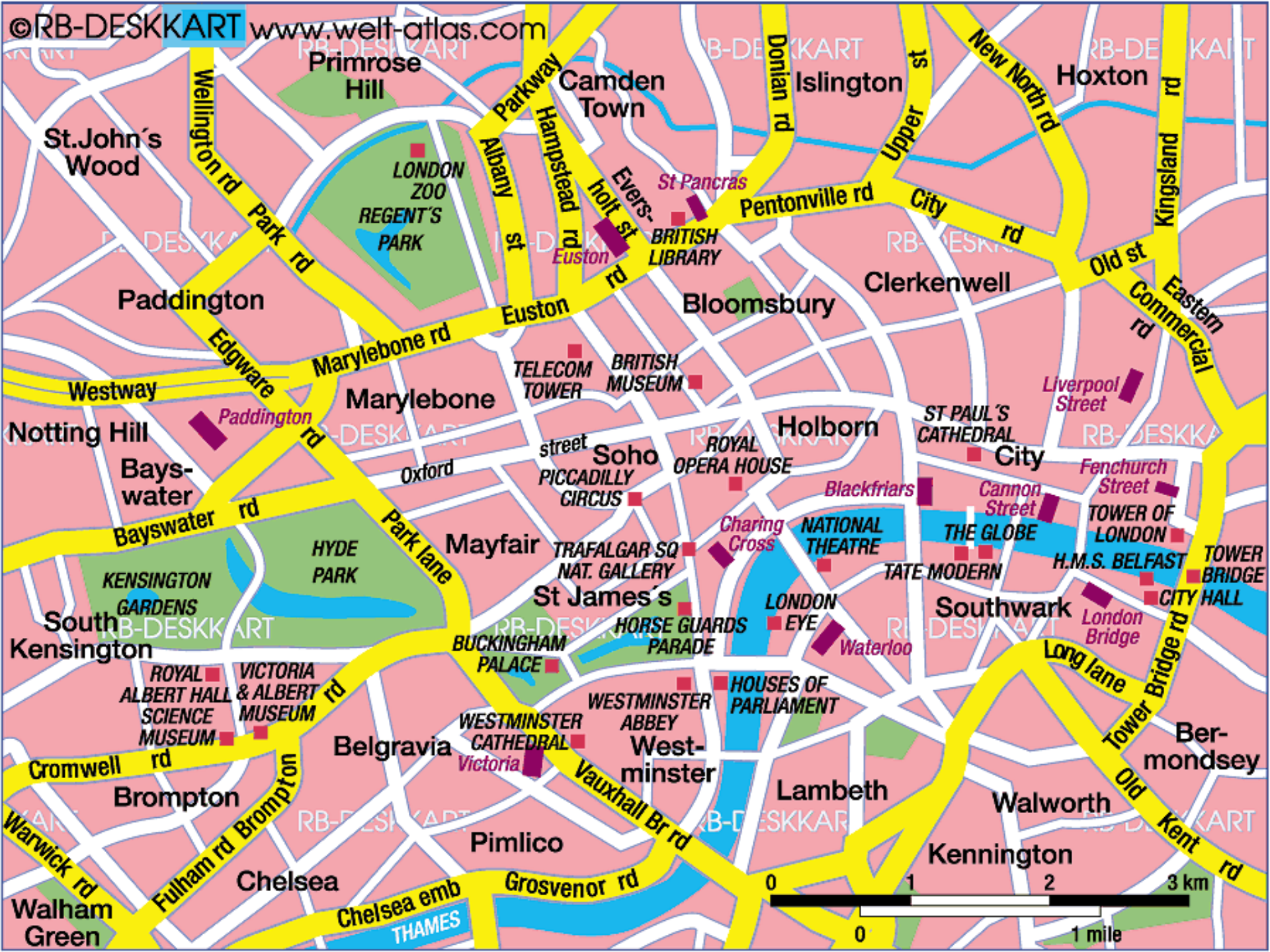
LONDON











St. John's Wood

Primrose Hill

Camden Town

Islington

Hoxton

LONDON ZOO  
REGENT'S PARK

Eversholt st  
Euston

St Pancras  
BRITISH LIBRARY

Pentonville rd

City

Old st  
Commercial rd

Paddington

Bloomsbury

Clerkenwell

Marylebone

TELECOM TOWER  
BRITISH MUSEUM

Holborn

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

Liverpool Street

Notting Hill

Bayswater

SoHo  
PICCADILLY CIRCUS

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

City

Fenchurch Street

Bayswater rd

Oxford street

TRAFALGAR SQ  
NAT. GALLERY

Charing Cross

NATIONAL THEATRE

THE GLOBE

TOWER OF LONDON

TOWER BRIDGE

KENSINGTON GARDENS  
HYDE PARK

Mayfair

St James's

LONDON EYE

TATE MODERN

Southwark

H.M.S. BELFAST

CITY HALL

South Kensington

ROYAL ALBERT HALL  
SCIENCE MUSEUM

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

HORSE GUARDS PARADE

Waterloo

THE GLOBE

London Bridge

Brompton

Belgravia

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

Lambeth

Walworth

Bermondsey

Walham Green

Chelsea

Pimlico

Westminster

Lambeth

Kennington

Warwick rd

Fulham rd

Chelsea emb

Grosvenor rd

Vauxhall Br rd

Lambeth

Walworth

Long lane

Tower Bridge rd

Old Kent rd





**Malyon Club**

SOHO

OXFORD A40 143

TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD

NEW OXFORD STREET

CHAIRING CROSS

AVENUE

SHAFTESBURY AVENUE

CROSS

143

ST PORTLAND ST

GENEVA ST

ST

# Tube Map



# Which one is right?

Depends what the task is:

- Satellite (actual proportions, w/o other information)
- Nightview (industrialisation/activity, w/o other information)
- Postcards (highlights for tourists, skewed w/o proportions)
- Google street view (would you want to live there)
- Streetmap London (where everything is, w/o detail)
- Streetmap Soho (where everything is, w/o overview)
- Subway map (how to get point A point B, w/o anything)

# Theory as a maps

- What is the task you are trying to accomplish?
- Which are the components you need?
- Most of all: which information are you prepared to dump?
- You can't have everything, all the time =>  
no theory of everything
- ... although, combinations are of course possible (portfolio of maps and pictures) to scout the terrain.

# Theory as a map

- Point is: you always sacrifice something, and, most of the time, a lot.
- Subway map is the best illustration: it is the least 'real', but, of all the examples, it is the one that I have been the happiest with by far while travelling. (Structural realism?)
- That is fine (most of the time), just as long as you are aware of these limitations, and are honest about them.

# Theory

1. What is to be explained? (dependent variable)
  2. What explains? (independent variable)
  3. What condition/ applies? (intervening variable)
  4. What is not to be explained?
- Clear, precise, concrete
  - Coherent, consistent
  - Testable, falsifiable

# Theory

What is there to be explained?

*(systemic outcomes, strategies, policies (trade, environmental))*

What do you think the causal factors are?

*(international distribution of power or threats, domestic distribution of power or threats, societal preferences, misperception, economic interests, etc. etc.)*

Who are the actors?

*(states, policymakers, political parties, civil society, etc. etc.)*

What is the mechanism?

At what level are you explaining?

*(Mearsheimer / Waltz vs. Schweller vs Layne)*



# Theory as a map

`Think again of your topic, and when you think about theoretical framework, and look for literature...