

Feel sick? Follow the money!D. Brockmann*Max Planck Institute for Dynamics and Self-Organization
Göttingen, Germany* Electronic Address: brockmann@ds.mpg.de

In the light of increasing international trade, intensified human mobility and a potential flu pandemic the knowledge of dynamical and statistical properties of human travel is of fundamental importance. Despite its crucial role, a quantitative assessment of these properties on geographical scales remains elusive and the assumption that humans disperse diffusively still prevails in models.

In 1998, Hank Eskin invented the online bill-tracking game wheresgeorge.com. The idea behind the game is simple. Users can mark individual dollar bills, register them at the website, return them into circulation and subsequently monitor their movement across the United States.

I will report on a quantitative assessment^[1] of the travel statistics of over nine million wheresgeorge.com dollar bills. Using bank notes as a proxy, I will present the scaling laws of human travel and show that we travel anomalously in many ways.

[1] D. Brockmann, L. Hufnagel, and T. Geisel *Nature* **439**, 462 (2006).