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Noise software to help you choose a house

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Scientists have developed a software tool that can predict noise levels in a street to help people choose where to live.

The University of Granada program can predict noise pollution with a reliability of 95 per cent by analysing data on street type, road conditions, average traffic speed, road works and other triggers.

'This is the first system to apply soft computing methods in urban noise assessment', explained Natalia Genaro Garcia, one of the researchers working on the project.

'There is scarce literature available on this method. While many noise forecasting models have been developed in different countries, none of them is accurate enough.'

Having initially used data from Granada, the team is now expanding its focus to test the model on other cities.

Noise is considered a pollutant by the World Health Organisation and as well as house buyers, the program could be used by urban planners to help them design better cities.

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