structure, often disrupting existing areas, contributing to the dilapidation of surrounding neighbourhoods (i.e. type one above). By comparison, Tai Koo Shing is an example of an island development that is very well connected to existing city structure, but this type of megastructure is less common in Hong Kong. Pacific Place is one of the very few successful megastructures in that it acts as a *connector* and not as *isolator*. Unfortunately this type of megastructure, facilitating the movement of people and connecting different parts of Hong Kong which would remain otherwise divided due to its topography and roads structure, is very rare.

How then can a megastructure be sustainable? Being a self-contained community, a defining feature of the megastructure is clearly not enough. Providing high residential densities sufficient to support services and facilities in one structure, as in the context of Hong Kong, cannot be seen as a replacement for the city or of its urban form. A megastructure can only begin to be sustainable if it is a truly interconnected part of the city.

Notes

1. Habraken is the founder of The Dutch Foundation for Architectural Research (SAR), established in 1962.
2. The concept is explained in the philosophy of Giles Deleuze (1994).
3. For the purposes of this chapter, I propose to define a megastructure as *any development in which residential densities are able to support services and facilities essential for the development to become a self-contained community*.
4. Marriott Hotel of 609 rooms, Conrad Hotel of 511 rooms, and Shangri-La Hotel of 566 rooms.

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