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Special Cluster 8 WORKSHOP – 10-11 March 2016, Seville, Spain

Big data: a new opportunity for urban transport and mobility policies

Call for papers

The European Commission, Joint Research Centre (JRC) is pleased to invite you to a special NECTAR (Network of European Communications and Transportation Academic Researchers) Cluster 8 meeting. The meeting will take place in **Seville (Spain)** during two days (**10-11/MAR/2016**) and will focus on the use in transport studies of what is identified today as 'big data'.

As the European Commission's in-house science service, the JRC's mission is to provide European Union (EU) policies with independent, evidence-based scientific and technical support throughout the whole policy cycle.

In this context, the meeting is organised to bring together leading researchers from a number of disciplines related to big data to discuss research outcomes that may contribute to a better design of sustainable mobility policies.

The outcomes of the meeting include publication opportunities (special issues in leading relevant journals) for selected papers.

Topics of Interest

The vast (and ever increasing) ICT penetration has resulted to a new pool of data, known as 'big data', which captures almost every aspect of human activity. This massive data collected have enabled somewhat radical developments in mobility studies as a direct result of the growing 'digitization' of human communications and interactions.



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Nowadays, measurements coming from mobile sensors such as GPS navigators or mobile phones offer the opportunity to study human interaction in their use of transport infrastructure (roads, railways, airports, etc.) at a very precise temporal and spatial resolution. Similarly, buses and underground rail systems can be studied using stream data emanating from smart travel cards or digital ticketing applications. The same applies to traditionally less studied (soft) modes, where the abundance of data (e.g. from bike sharing schemes) have resulted in the possibility to incorporate the specific features of these modes when developing models to understand the behavior and responses to incentives by the users of these modes.

In relation to the support to transport analysis, big data may also be useful to study the spatial concentration of human activities and how these change over time. Interesting examples can be found in the exploration of internet data (e.g. IP addresses), web applications such as social media platforms or data coming from mobile phones such as the antenna-to-antenna traffic they generate or the (personal) trajectories they define. The assessment of spatial human interaction (and associated usage of infrastructure and resources) via big data opens a new stream of research and applications that is being proven useful for urban and regional planning, as the data brings in very detailed temporal and spatial information. The meeting aims to elaborate further on this area.

Travel and accommodation expenses:

A number of invited speakers (one author per paper) will be entitled to the reimbursement of their travel expenses plus a flat accommodation rate.

Deadlines:

Abstract Submission by email to:

nicolas.ibanez-rivas@ec.europa.eu; e.tranos@bham.ac.uk; emack@msu.edu

Abstract submission deadline: 15/DEC/2015
Abstract acceptance notice: 10/JAN/2016
Meeting dates: 10-11/MAR/2016



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Workshop venue

European Commission, Joint Research Centre – C/Inca Garcilaso, 3 E-41092 Seville.

Sessions schedule and publication

We seek an open discussion for each presentation (20-30 min) and one 90-minute round table in the closing session (with representatives involved in policy design and implementation).

Publication of selected works presented (in either a journal special issue or a book) is expected.

Organising committee

Juan Nicolás IBÁÑEZ Joint Research Centre, European Commission, Spain.

Emmanouil TRANOS GEES, University of Birmingham, UK.

Elizabeth MACK Department of Geography, Michigan State University, USA.

NECTAR is a European-based scientific association. The primary objective is to foster research collaboration and exchange of information between experts in the field of transport, communication and mobility from all European countries and the rest of the world. It is a multidisciplinary social science network. It brings together a wide variety of perspectives on transport and communication problems and their impacts on society in an international perspective. For further information see: <http://www.nectar-eu.eu>

We look forward to receiving your paper and seeing you in Seville!