AI for public transport – potentials and pitfalls

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The future of transport is automated – or is it?

- Affordability
- Congestion
- Social value

(R)Evolutions are always with us – including in public transport

Artificial Intelligence is just the latest technical tool we can apply

Life in transport is never quite as exciting as we would like …

Is it goodbye to public transport as we know it?

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AI runs on data

We have plenty of data … don't we?
- Ticketing
- Journey planning
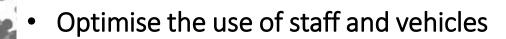- Fleet management

Data gaps and knowledge gaps

Access to data

Quality, standardisation and interoperability

Privacy and anonymisation

We will never arrive … but we must keep travelling

The next fuel for public transport will be data

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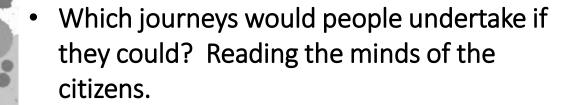
- Optimise the use of staff and vehicles

- Changes and trends – let transport provision keep pace with changing patterns of life and work

- More efficient maintenance routines

- More detail – faster results – better accuracy (?)

WhAI bother? What can we hope to achieve?

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- Which journeys would people undertake if they could? Reading the minds of the citizens.
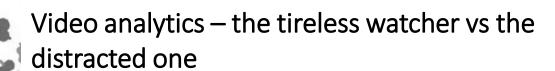
- Where do people live, work, study, exercise, shop now? Where would they like to?

- Many datasets, many sources – but we can do it!

Spot the services which are not there yet

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Video analytics – the tireless watcher vs the distracted one

Fare evasion and fraud

Beware - Algorithms can be bigoted too

Data bias and inbuilt undesirable outcomes

Skills and aptitudes in the data workforce

Travel safely and securely with AI

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The principles of MaaS demand an extraordinary amount of data to be fulfilled

More data = more opportunities for errors and omissions

AI methods can bring clarity and efficiency

An ongoing virtuous circle of interpreting what users are doing and providing them with ever better services

Mobility as a Service – data mess to data perfection

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Our urban areas need mass transit to continue to be available in the coming age of automation. MaaS is the key to supporting this, by making it simpler and more convenient to access than it has ever been. And AI is the key to realising the delivery of MaaS.

Thank you!

The future of public transport is in data and AI

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