

3<sup>rd</sup> BIVEC-GIBET Lecture – University of Gent, Gent – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2013



## THE FUTURE OF SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

### **David Banister**

Director of the Transport Studies Unit School of Geography and the Environment

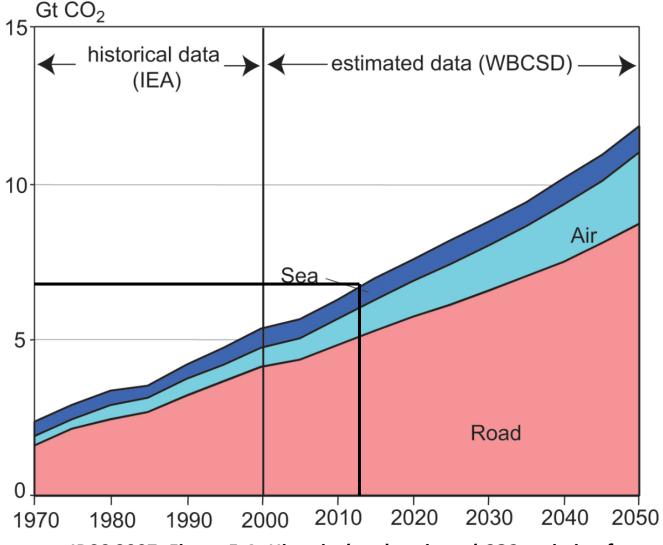


## **1. Global Perspective**



- Transport brings enormous benefits

   globalisation, travel and trade
- Totally dependent on oil – uses 61% global oil (over 71% in the EU27
- Major contributor to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions – about 25%



**IPCC 2007: Figure 5.4: Historical and projected CO2 emission from transport by modes,** 1970–2050 Source: IEA, 2005; WBCSD, 2004b.

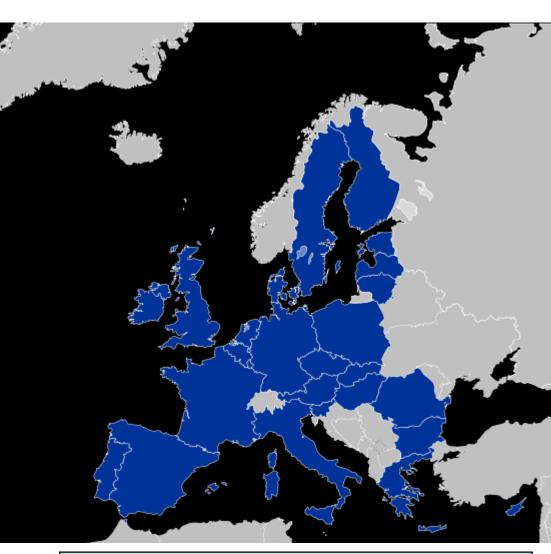


## **Limited Action in Transport**



### EU27 Growth in Transport Emissions 1990-2009 – MtCO<sub>2</sub>e

1990	951.1	16.5%
1995	1029.3	19.0%
2000	1161.8	21.8%
2005	1259.6	23.1%
2008	1224.6	25.0%



Source: EC (2011) EU Transport Statistical Pocketbook 2012



### **2. Social Science - Thinking**



### **Review:** Five basic strategies

Acceptance of complexity – but main aim has been decarbonisation through a mixture of:

- 1. Transport technologies hybrids, EVs, efficiency, weight, fuels
- 2. Price of carbon, fuel prices and cap and trade approaches pricing the negative externalities
- Infrastructure investment in low carbon transport including buses, walking and cycling, and also HSR – integration through densification and TODs
- 4. Soft measures and behavioural change attitudes, lifestyles, norms and the values placed on the environment and decarbonisation
- 5. Institutions and structures governing transport systems rules and regulations and role of different agencies

Schwanen, T, Banister, D and Anable, J (2011) Scientific research about climate change mitigation in transport: A critical review, *Transportation Research A* 45: 993-1006



### Methods:

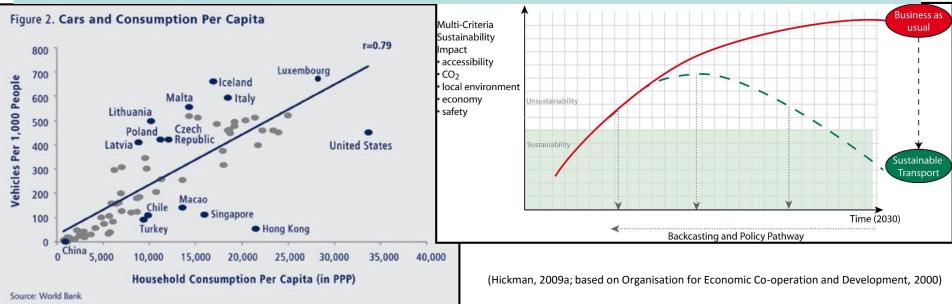


1. Quantitative empirical studies – use of statistical methods including regression and discrete choice modelling – short term – trend based

Oxford

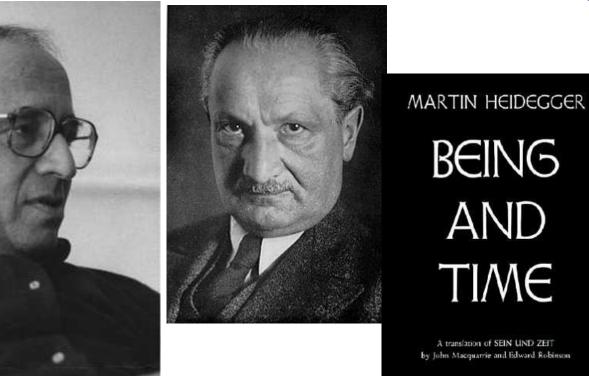
2. Scenario approaches – projective or forecasting methods and prospective scenarios – often over a longer time horizon - also backcasting approaches for more normative futures - could be trend breaking

Based mainly on positivistic epistemologies – with the hierarchical perspective of the expert determining knowledge, relevance, reasoning and assumptions - limited input from 'outsiders'



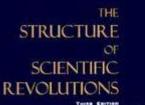


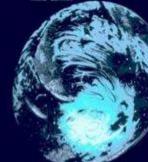




Three dimensions of practical understanding

- 1. Prepossession and familiarity background understanding
- 2. Preview and problem how to deal with a problem
- 3. Preconception and solution ways of resolution





THOMAS S. KUHN



These concepts help us to understand the development of transport studies – multiple path dependencies can be found



- **Comment:** Huge amount of research has been carried out vibrant and varied
- 1. Decarbonisation of transport a massive task need to combine means and measures to target multiple elements of the system
- 2. Overwhelming focus on technological solutions
- 3. The 'logic of provision' prevails better infrastructure means a shift will take place
- 4. Market based approaches dominate carbon emissions are commodified and pricing is seen as the solution
- 5. Research emphasising behavioural change is gaining in popularity
- 6. Quantitative methodologies positivism prevails but participatory and qualitative methods are increasingly used

**Conclusion**: Path dependency – the experiences in the past development of transport studies pattern the responses to new stimuli – rather than new thinking.



## **3. Social Science - Contributions**



1. Reinforcement of the techno-economic focus through part dependency and the belief in Neo Liberalism and Ecological Modernisation

2. These approaches are useful – but only give part of the picture

3. Need to extend the discourse – CC mitigation in transport must be understood as a multiplicity of context-dependent social processes

4. A much wider range of approaches – ethnographies, participatory and action research – and different epistemological frameworks

Socio technical transitions: micro level niche – influenced by the broader landscape and the intermediate regime

Transition seen as a co-evolutionary process with many actors spanning a period of time

a) Longitudinal studies of past transitions

b) Present day niches in the near future

Practice theories: behaviour is semiconscious (routinised) and has 4 elements

- a) Material
- b) Procedural
- c) Symbolic
- d) Affective

Schwanen, T, Banister, D and Anable, J (2012) Rethinking habits and their role in behavioural change: The case of low carbon mobility, *Journal of Transport Geography* 24: 467-535



### Social Sciences – as generators of new thinking and as initiators of new solutions



Two propositions – not mutually exclusive but different pathways to meet the objective of sustainable mobility – and path breaking

- 1. Technological futures
- 2. Rethinking urban mobility









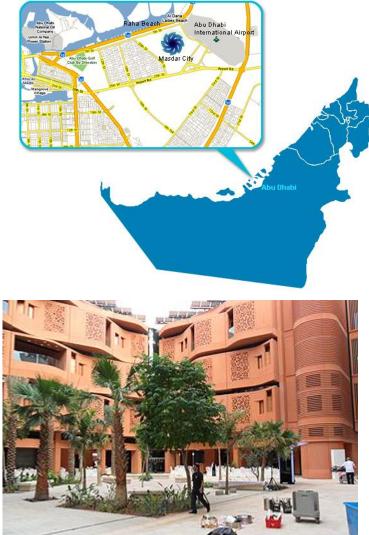
### 4. Zero Carbon Mobility? Technological Futures - Masdar





No carbon no waste – covers an area 6 km<sup>2</sup> with a residential population of 6,000 (45,000 by 2020) – solar energy – no cars – rail access to Abu Dhabi – pedestrian scale – natural cooling from 40C to 30 C

#### 20 miles from Abu Dhabi





FOSTER + PARTNERS







Original design for a personal rapid transit system – podcars – to operate automatically on a driverless system between about 100 stops – with about 3000 vehicles to cater for 135,000 daily trips





### **5. Rethinking Urban Mobility**



## Car as a compromise – not good at doing what it ought to do:

- 1. Major investment buying a car
- 2. Value halves over two years asset or liability
- 3. Multi functional 4 people when normally only one
- 4. Energy inefficient weight 1200kg to carry 75 kg
- 5. Huge amount invested in the support system
- 6. Dominates the urban environment in many cities
- 7. Substantial environmental and social costs

But symbolic of success, image and status?



### **Opportunity to Rethink the Car**





- 1. Shrink the car less parking, more open space
  - light weight materials
- 2. New ownership patterns sharing and leasing
- 3. Service based transport
- 4. Efficient public transport
- 5. Potential for small, slow electric vehicle not as a replacement but a new mode of transport

130



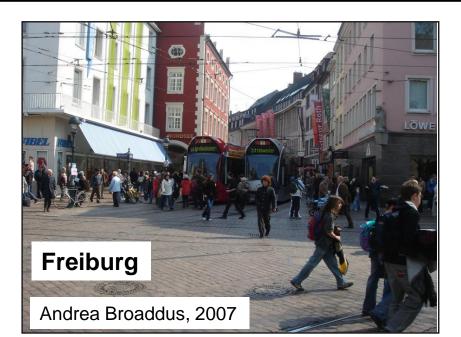


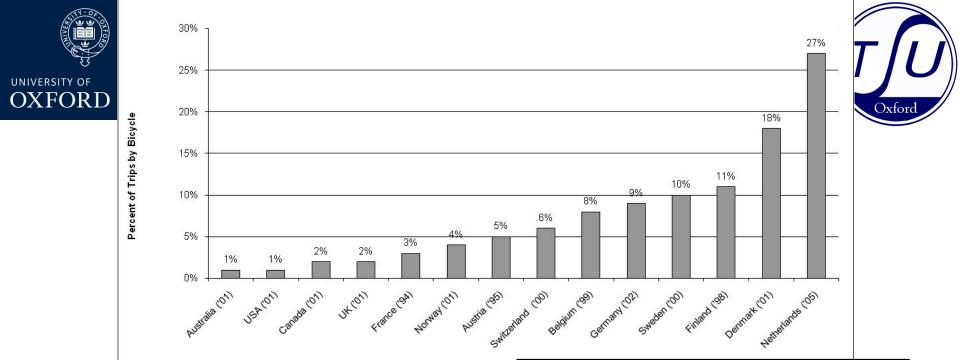
### 6. Collaborative Consumption and Changing the Dynamic



Lifestyles – buy-usetrash lifestyle – needs to change – sharing renting borrowing – circular economy Resources and public finance embedded in the system – to promote higher levels of mobility. Better use of existing capacity – space as a resource

European cities – high levels of walking and cycling – over 50% of trips – and public transport 20-30%





Levels of cycle use in different countries – John Pucher and Ralph Buehler (2008 and

2012)





http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lfoSq08I6-g



# 7. City transport in a post carbon society – the greenprint



- 1. Slower travel to improve quality of life, to contribute to  $CO_2$  reductions, and to increase safety and health benefits
- 2. Travel time savings linked to travel time reliability and reasonable travel times creative use of time when travelling
- Smaller vehicles cars and vans less parking and more open and green space – reallocation of space to cyclists and walkers – use of active transport modes for at least 50% of trips
- 4. Local pollutants have a direct effect on health and quality of life zero or low emissions zones
- Promote active travel cycling and walking.
   66% of adults do not get enough exercise
- 6. Investment in clean efficient public transport
- Potential for a small, slow, clean, shared or leased vehicle – a new mode of transport



Hangzhou, China Karl Fjellstrom, 2006



### 8. Transport Governance



### Evolutionary Approaches – Unruh (2000)

- 1. End of pipe: system left intact, but treat externalities
- 2. Continuity measures: incremental change and innovations to maintain the existing system
- 3. Discontinuity measures: radical innovation and transition

Transport related discourses heavily influenced by scientific and expert understandings – desire to accommodate additional demand for transport – the issue of capacity

Unruh, GC (2000) Understanding carbon lock in, *Energy Policy* 28:817-30.





### Implementation



Current system does not encourage innovation or open and collaborative actions – but is fragmented – making integration difficult – institutional lock-in

1. Participatory approaches – communicative planning, with less emphasis of technocratic processes – greater clarity of responsibilities and powers 2. Specialisation and compartmentalisation – mitigates against coordination and holistic approaches – wide range of interests and division of powers - ineffective

Need for multi level perspectives – niches, regimes and landscapes – and transition pathways – timing important – disruption rather than reinforcement – with the innovation having a competitive or symbiotic relationship with the regime – important role for public policy – to create transition arenas – exchange knowledge, learning, experimentation – to create broad public coalitions of support

Kemp, R, Avelino, F and Bresser, N (2011) Transition management as a model for sustainable mobility, *European Transport* 47:25-46



### **Global Governance**

1. Debates over responsibilities – developed v developing



2. Complexity and contestability – aviation and maritime

From production accounting – exporting emissions – to consumption based accounting to allocation emissions to end users

	2008	2050
Land transport Air transport Shipping <b>Global Total</b>	$\begin{array}{rrrr} 6.6 & {\rm Gt} & {\rm CO}_2 & (22\%) \\ 0.730 & {\rm Gt} & {\rm CO}_2 & (2.2\%) \\ 1 & {\rm Gt} & {\rm CO}_2 & (3.1\%) \\ & & {\bf 29.381} & {\rm Gt} & {\rm CO}_2 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{rl} 3.2-3.6 \; {\rm Gt}\; {\rm CO}_2 \left( 20\mathchar{-}22\% \right) \\ 2.4-3.2 \; {\rm Gt}\; {\rm CO}_2 \left( 15\mathchar{-}20\% \right) \\ 2.4-3.6 \; {\rm Gt}\; {\rm CO}_2 \; \left( 15\mathchar{-}22\% \right) \\ {\color{red} {\bf 16}\; {\rm Gt}\; {\rm CO}_2 \; \left( {\color{red} {\bf 100\% }} \right) \end{array}$

Notes: 2050 figure is 50% of 2005 figure. This means that nearly 65% of all carbon emissions could come from transport – see figures above. Air transport figures from IEA (2008) and shipping from the second IMO GHG  $CO_2$  study (2009).



## 9. Future of Sustainable Mobility



### **Current Priorities:**

- 1. Include international travel people and goods
- Move beyond technological optimism and investment in (green) infrastructure – path dependency – to demand and capacity management
- 3. Realistic pricing of  $CO_2$  at least \$100 t $CO_2$

**Key Objective:** Shorten global supply chains – increase local production and collaborative consumption – to substantially reduce travel distances – for people and freight



#### Additional priorities – importance of social sciences:



- 1. Stronger promotion of 'green' values and change social norms to reduce levels of consumption
- 2. Address issues of transition and implementation in governance so that outcomes reflect intentions participatory processes
- 3. Re-examine the concept of travel time being seen as 'wasted time' and the need to move faster to save time value of time in travel
- 4. Re-balance the dominance of economic factors with greater weight being allocated to social and environmental factors
- 5. Seize the opportunity to rethink the role of the car in the city

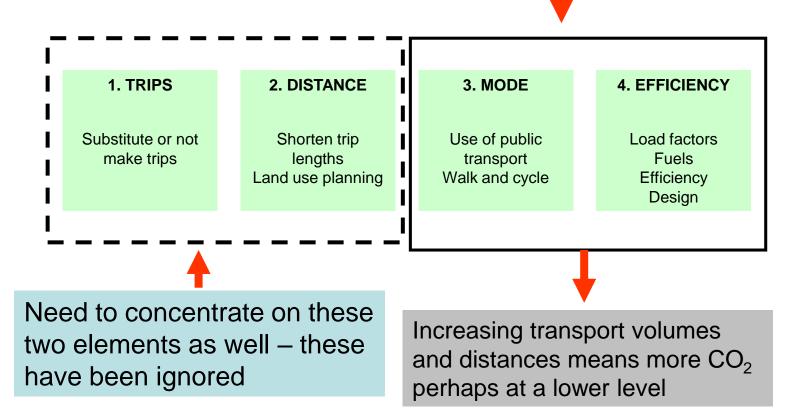






Reality has been to increase transport to promote economic growth, at a lower environmental cost – by promoting modal shift and technological innovations





## Sustainable Mobility Paradigm requires strong action in all four elements