


# E-Bike City

## A way out of our planning dilemmas?

**Other Conference Item**

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# E-Bike City: A way out of our planning dilemmas?

KW Axhausen

IVT

ETH

Zürich

July 2023

**DBAUG**

**ETH**

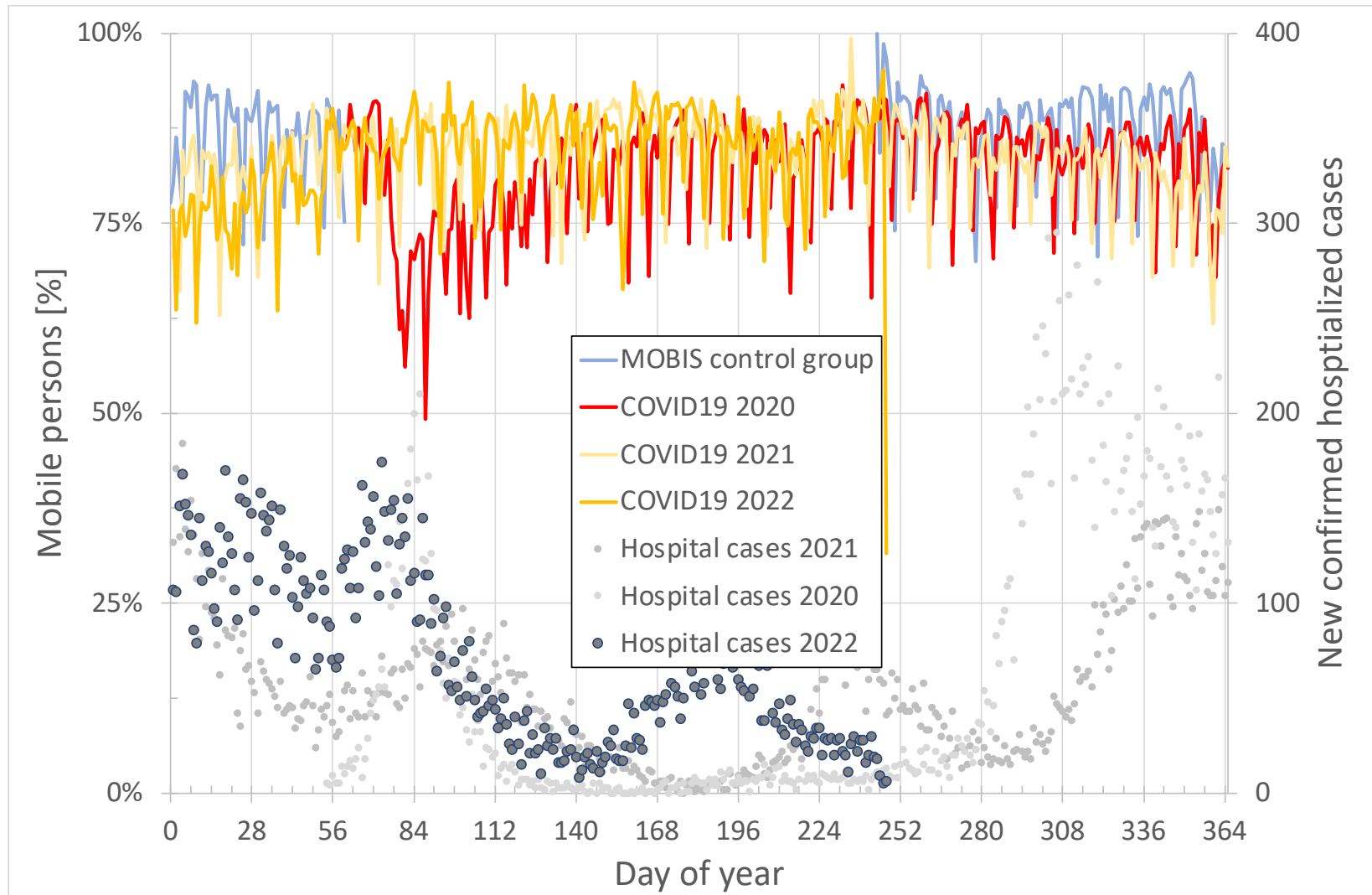
Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich



# Prelude: Changeability of travel behaviour

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# Share of mobiles since September 2019



Source: MOBIS/COVID19 GPS panel

# Dilemma of transport policy

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# Transport

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is a

**Normal (private) good**

i.e.. it has a negative generalized cost elasticity

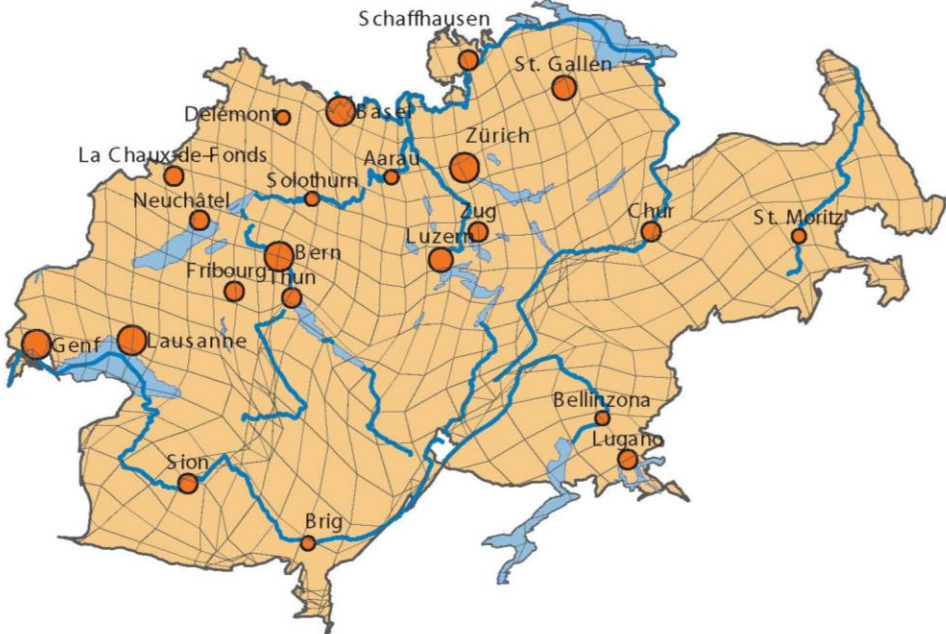
# Shrinking “road” – Switzerland (1950)



Scherer, 2004



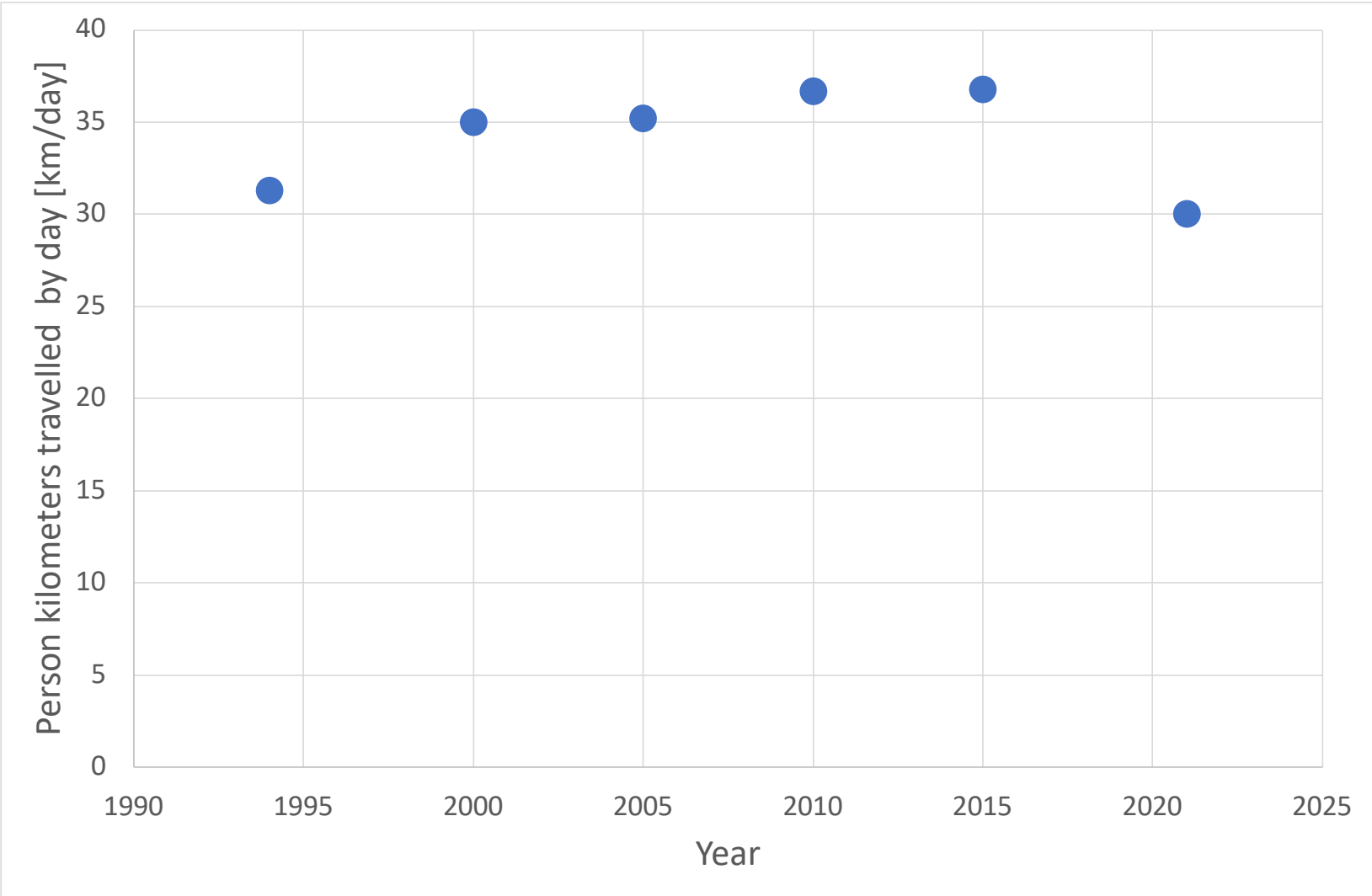
# Shrinking “road” – Switzerland (2000)



1 Stunde

10km x 10km Raster

# Switzerland: Pkm change since the MZ 1994



# What dilemma ?

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# What dilemma ?

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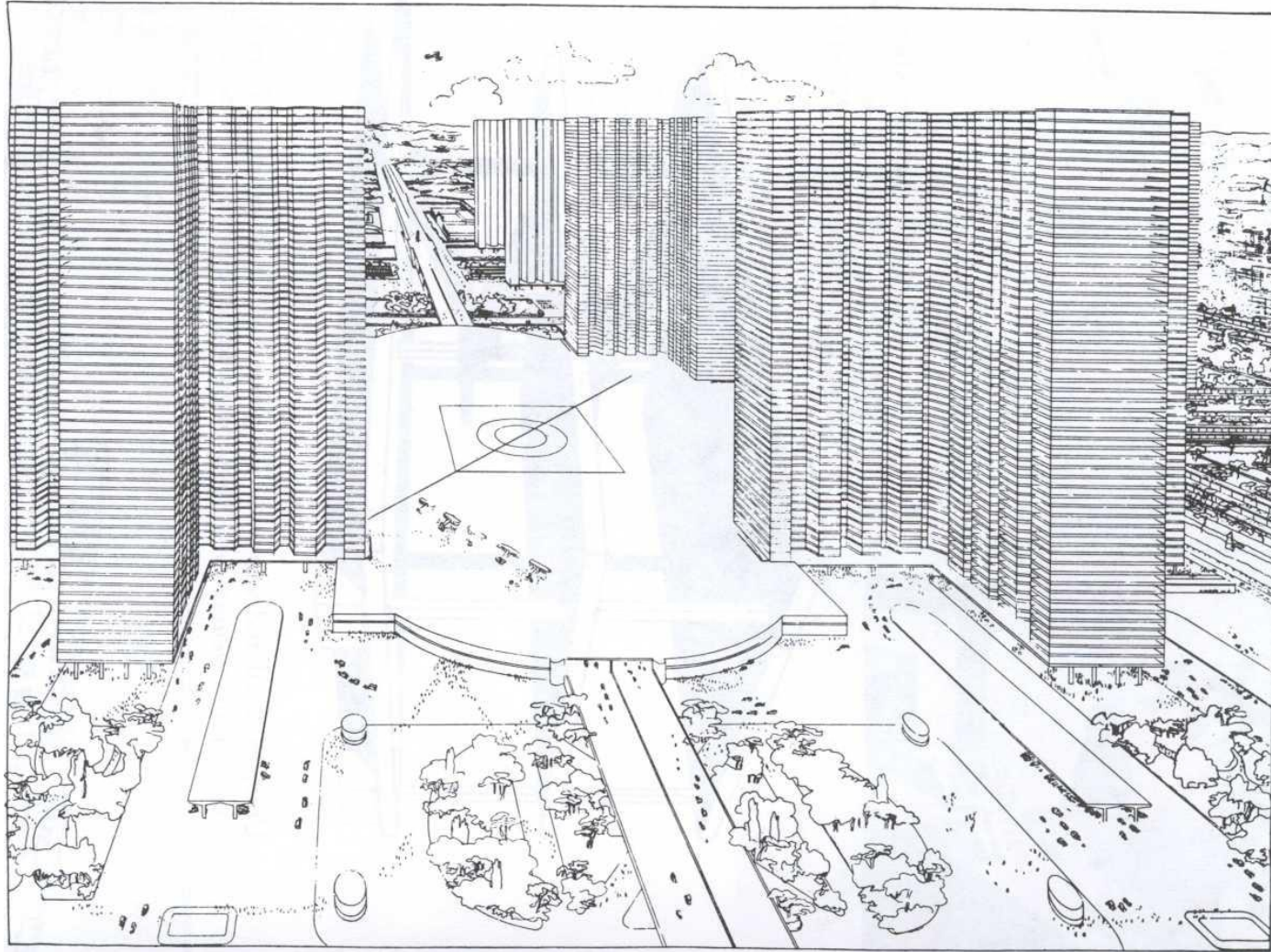
- Higher accessibility improves productivity and social capital
- Underused unpriced off-peak capacity due to (additional) capacity for population (growth) in the peak (roads, parking, transit) encourages overuse otherwise
- Induced demand due to the lower GC of electric and automated private and public transport
- Working from home making PT less relevant for many
  
- CO<sub>2</sub> reduction requirements
- Sprawl limitations
- VMT growth and congestion

# What were the past visions ?

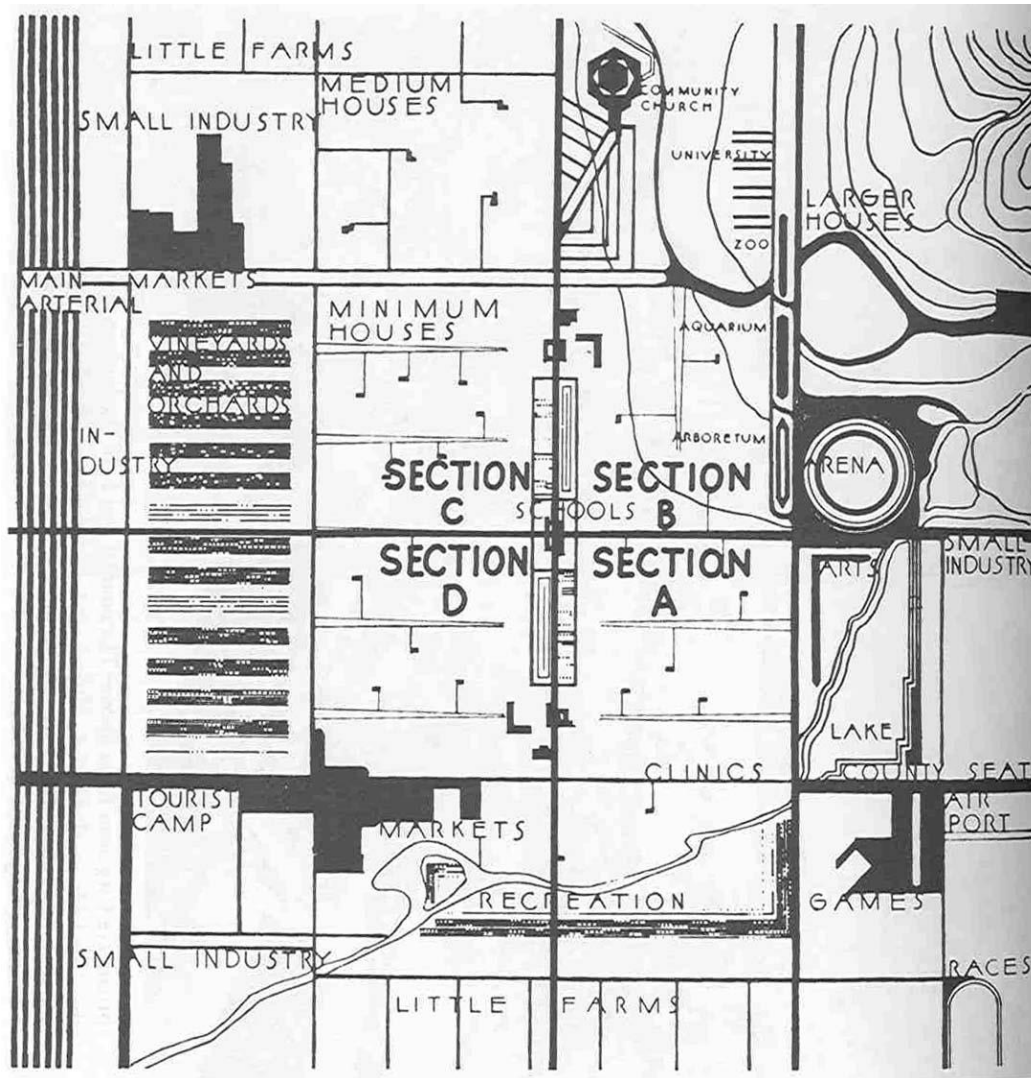
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# Radical dreams: Le Corbusier's City radieuse

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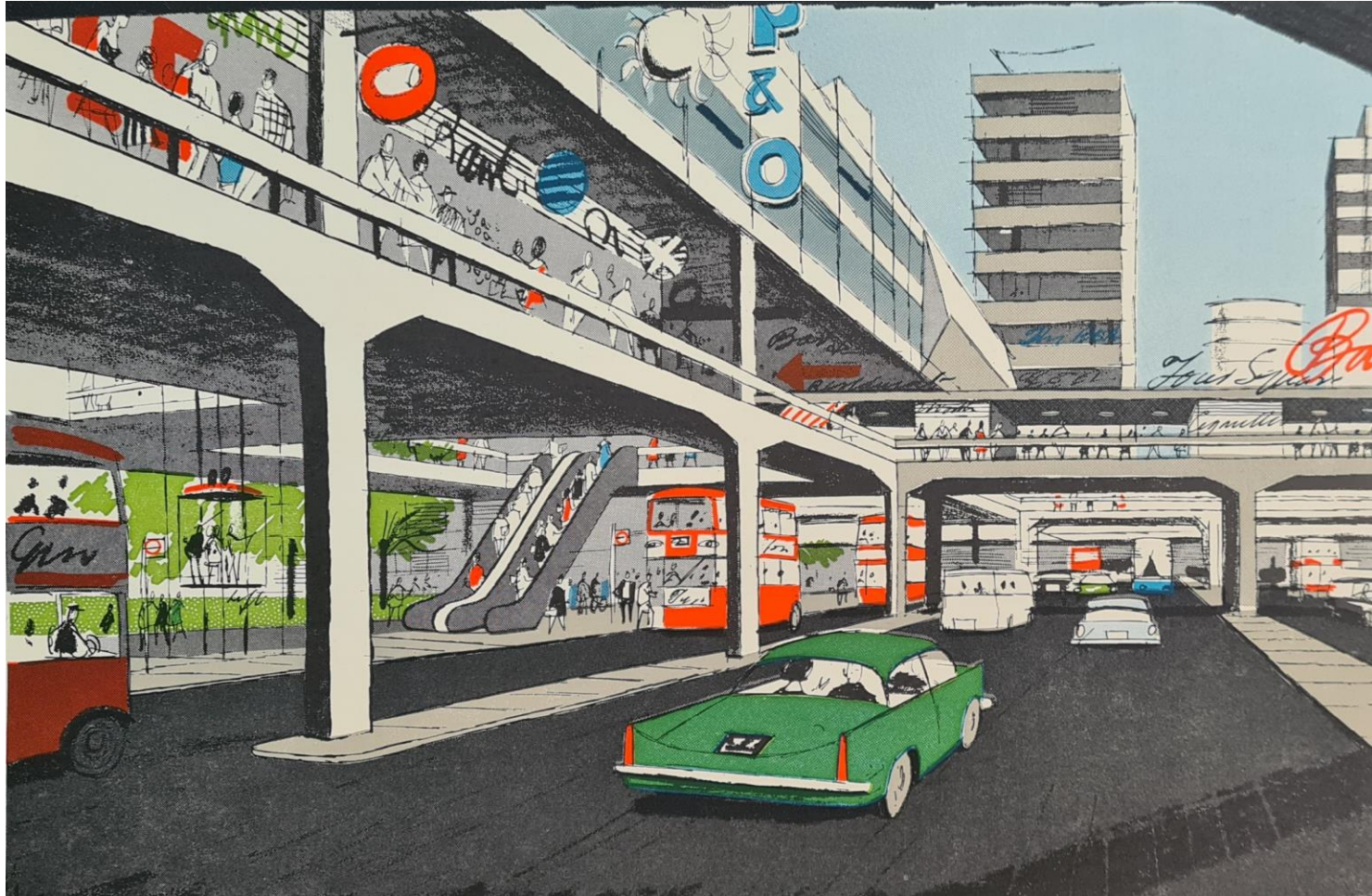
# Past radical dreams: Lloyd Wright's Usonia





# Past radical dreams: Buchanan's two-level central London

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Source: Buchanan Report (1963)



# Past radical dreams, realised: Motorways

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Dr. Wolf Strache, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons



Xi'an 23/07

# Which future are we discussing?

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# A managed/co-ordinated one

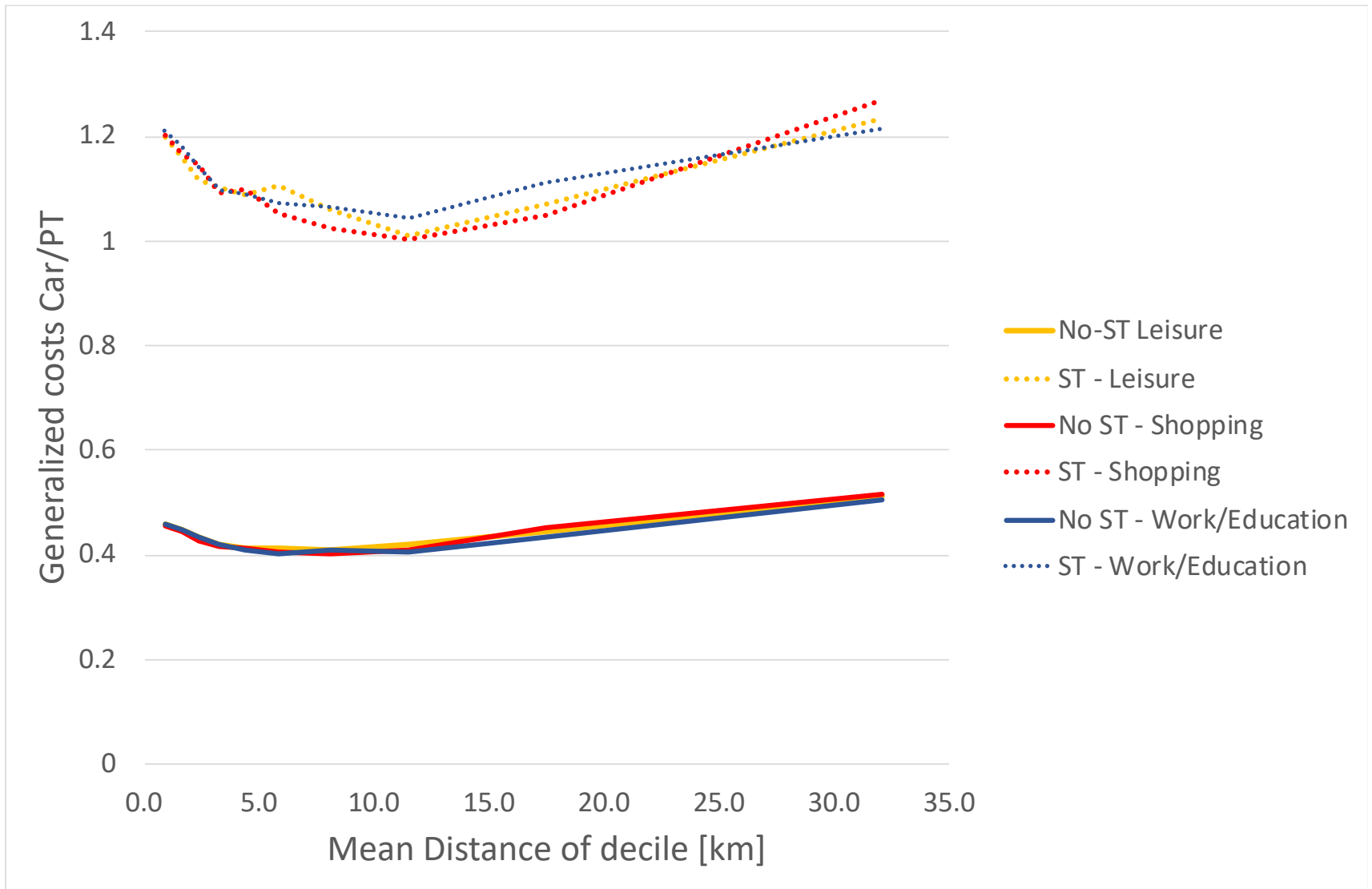
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# A managed/co-ordinated one

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- *Mobility pricing*
  - Two-part tariffs for infrastructure
    - Option fee
    - Pay-as-you-go for usage
  - Congestion pricing
  - (Demand responsive) parking pricing
  - GHG (CO<sub>2</sub>) pricing
  - Local emission pricing
- MaaS improved shared mobility

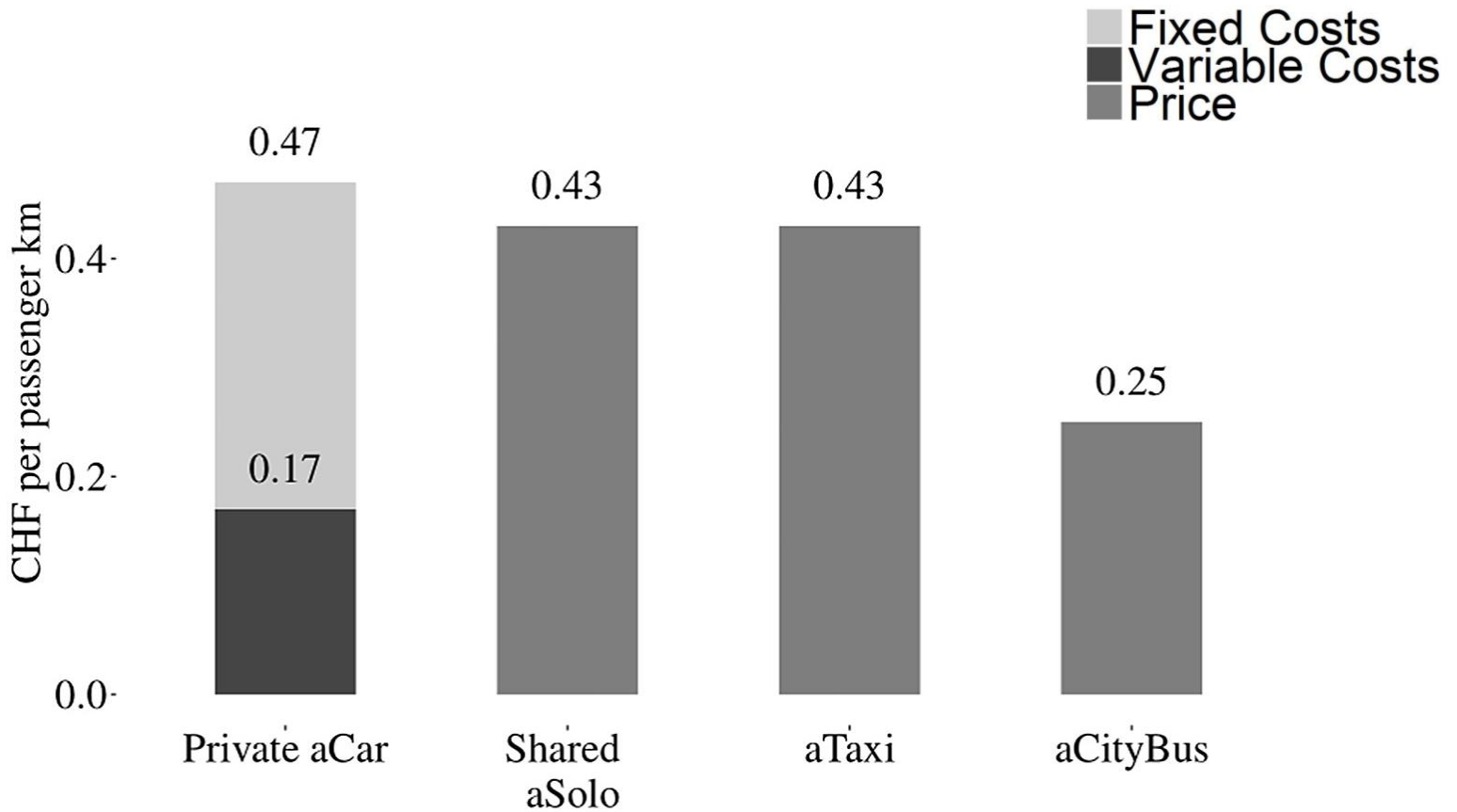
# A managed/co-ordinated one? Comparison of MOBIS GC



# An automated one? First robust cost estimates

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# Structure of the pkm full costs for today's usage levels



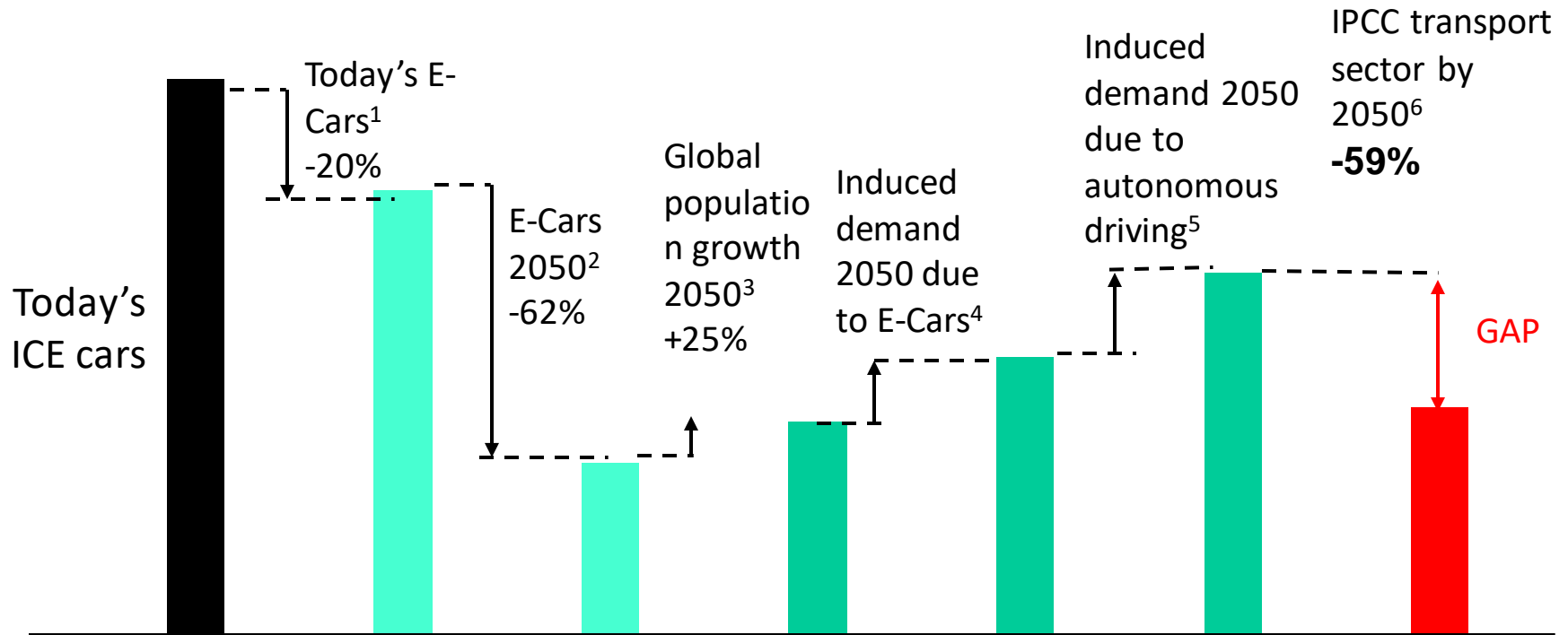
Source: Bösch, Becker, Becker and Axhausen (2017)

**An electrical autonomous one,**

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# An electrical autonomous one,



Source: Livingston (2022)

Note: These are optimistic estimates of how many CO2 emissions can be avoided through technology.

**A car free/reduced one,**

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## A car free/reduced one,

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- a 15 min city ?
- a net-zero CO<sub>2</sub> city ?
- an e-Bike city ?

# An e-bike city?

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# The idea of an e-bike city

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- 50% of road space for slow vehicles (e-bike, bike etc.)
- Maintaining of current accessibility levels (for all)
- Integration with shared services for the larger demand variations

# The idea of an e-bike city: Birchstrasse, Zürich



Source: Ballo, 2023

# Which further questions arise ?

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- Optimal one-way street networks
- Cost of reconstruction
- Today's ebike behaviour
  - Route choice models and non-chosen alternatives
- Future mode choice/demand
- Modelling the schedule adjustments
- CO<sub>2</sub> – impacts and LCA forecasts
- Future accessibilities
- Equity impact
  
- Freight traffic deliveries
- Road safety

# What tools and resources are available at ETH?

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- Models
  - MATSim Switzerland (Zürich) (IVT)
  - National VISUM-based SBB model (SBB with EPFL support)
  - MFD-based approaches (Leclercq / Loder)
- Data
  - MOBIS & MOBIS/COVID (about 750k tracked days)
  - EBIS (about 300k+ tracked days)
  - TimeUse+ (about 36k tracked days and time budgets)



# e-bike city team by subproject

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## E-Bike City PIs:

- K.W. Axhausen (C, H)
- M. Bierlaire (EPFL)
- F. Corman (B)
- A.Kouvelas (D)
- *M. Makridis* (D)
- M. Raubal (E)
- S. Hellweg (F)
- D. Kaufmann (G)
- B. Adey (I)

## E-Bike City co-ordinator

- C.V. Livingston

## E-Bike City researchers:

- L. Ballo (C, H)
- F. Fuchs (B)
- C.V. Livingston (C)
- M. Makridis (D)
- A.D. Marra (B)
- H. Martin (E)
- A.H.G. Meister (C)
- L. Meyer de Freitas (H)
- Y-C. Ni (D)
- J. Pougala (EPFL)
- S. Pfister (F)
- V. Schenker (F)
- J. Stephan (G)
- N. Wiedemann (E)
- M. Wiki (G)
- D. Zani (I)

# Questions?

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- [www.ivt.ethz.ch](http://www.ivt.ethz.ch)
- [ebikecity.baug.ethz.ch](http://ebikecity.baug.ethz.ch)
- [ebis.ethz.ch](http://ebis.ethz.ch)

## Footnotes to slide 30

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<sup>1</sup>ITF (2020) Good to go? Assessing the environmental performance of new mobility, International Transport Forum, Corporate Partnership Board, Paris.

<sup>2</sup>Cox, B., C.L. Mutel, C. Bauer, A. Mendoza Beltran and D.P. van Vuuren (2018) Uncertain environmental footprint of current and future battery electric vehicles, *Environmental Science & Technology*, 52 (8) 4989–4995. – middle of the expected range

<sup>3</sup>UN (2019) World urbanization prospects: The 2018 revision, United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, New York.

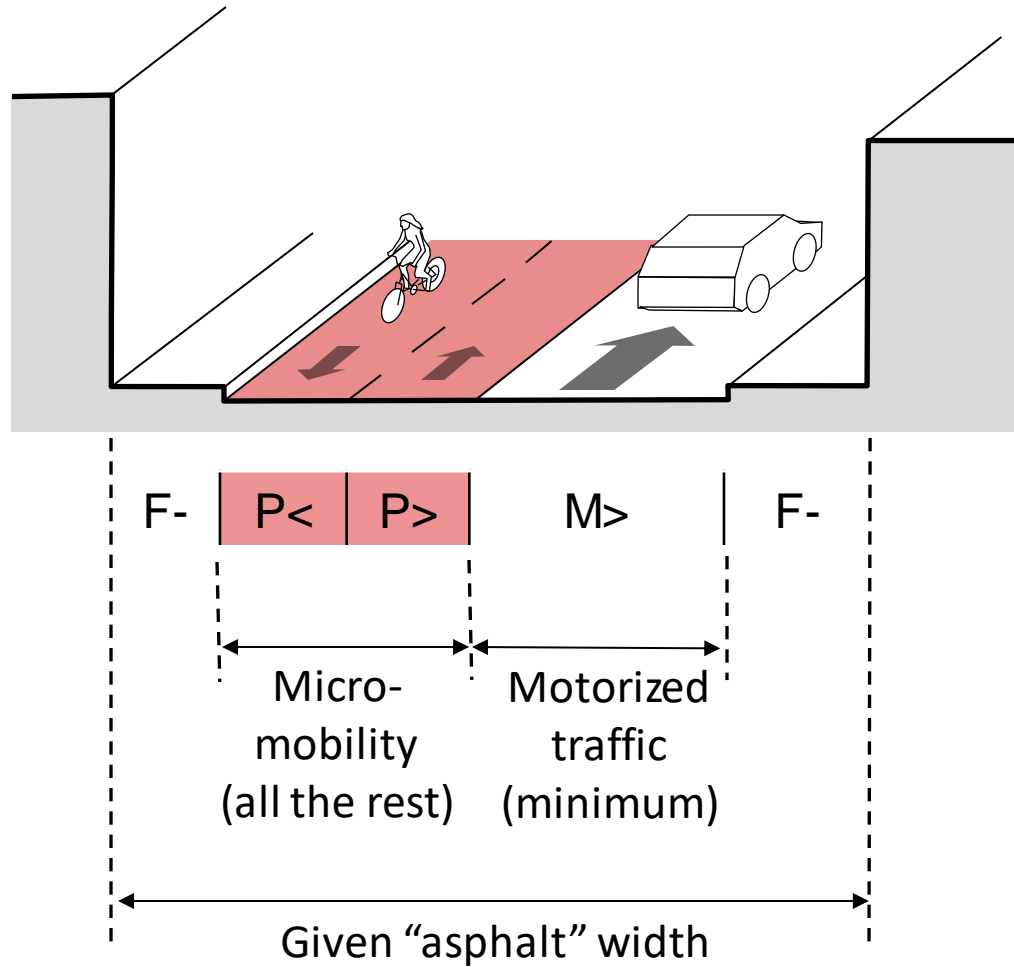
<sup>4</sup>Assumption due to growing wealth, better infrastructure and lower cost of batteries for future E-Cars: Schmidt, O., A. Hawkes, A. Gambhir and I. Staffell (2017) The future cost of electrical energy storage based on experience rates, *Nature Energy*, 2 (8) 17110.

<sup>5</sup>Assumption based on Bösch, P.M., F. Ciari and K.W. Axhausen (2018) Transport policy optimization with autonomous vehicles, *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 2672 (8) 698–707.

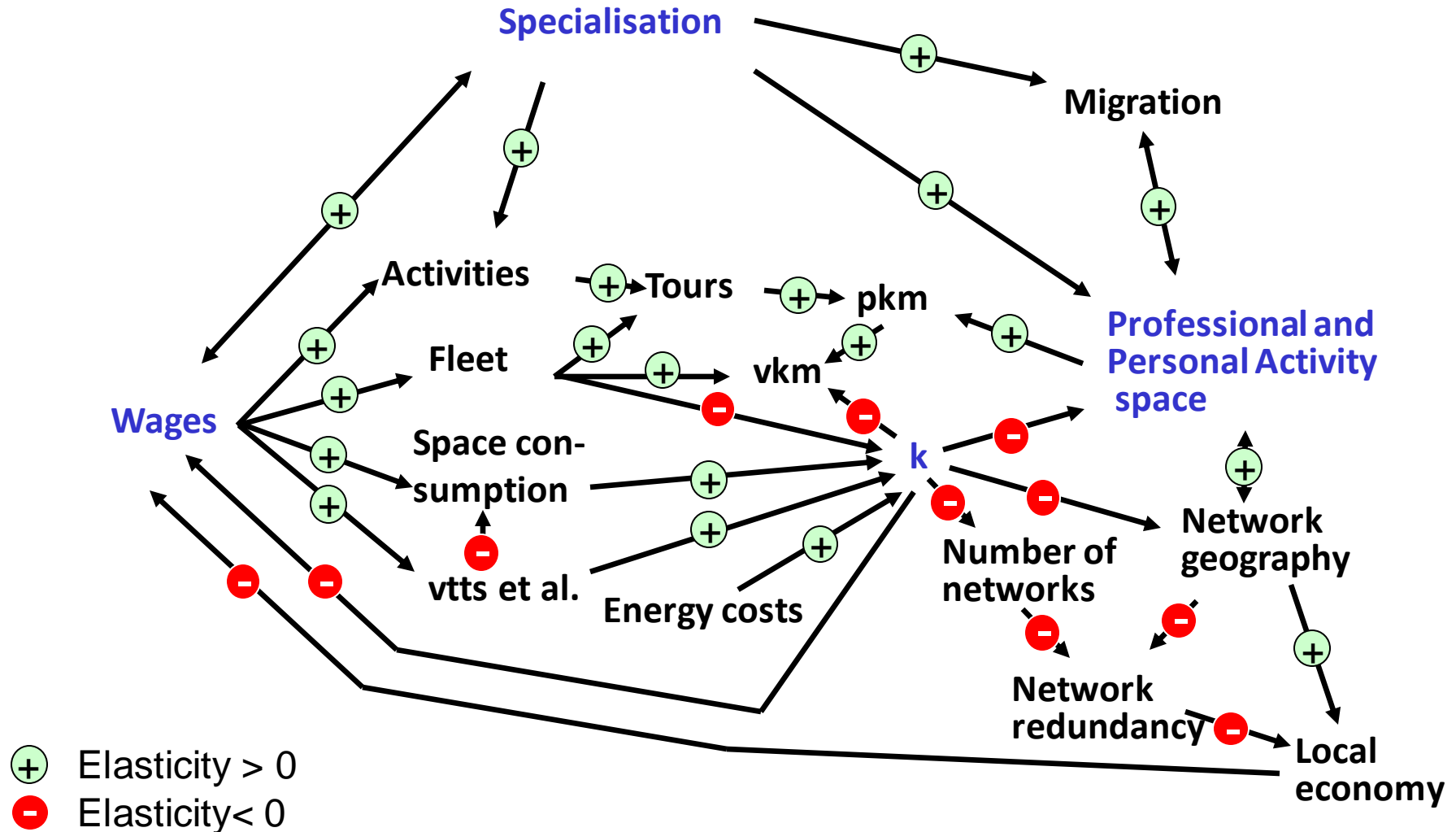
<sup>6</sup>IPCC (2022) Climate change 2022, mitigation of climate change, summary for policymakers, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Geneva.

# The idea of an e-bike city: Design guidelines

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# Conceptual model: Dynamic of activity space



(+) Elasticity > 0  
 (-) Elasticity < 0  
 k: Generalised costs

## Demand elasticities with respect to

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Accessibility	Share of mobiles	0.61
	Number of trips	0.44
	Trips per hour	0.24
	Out-of-home time	0.10
	Total distance travelled	1.14
Transport price index	Share of mobiles	-0.06
	Number of trips	-0.19
	Trips per hour	-1.66
	Out-of-home time	-1.95
	Total distance travelled	-0.84