



Mobility and social spatiality

finding a space for the mobile workplace?

- ◆ The aim of the essay
- ◆ Our context of research and design
- ◆ Mobility
- ◆ Our findings
- ◆ Traveling through an environment
- ◆ What is the "Mobile-workplace"?



Mobility

- ◆ A "buzz-word" but what can it mean?
- ◆ Related studies on mobile work
- ◆ Environment - "an alien other"
- ◆ What do we perceive as mobility
- ◆ Threatening or maintaining stability

The Road inspector

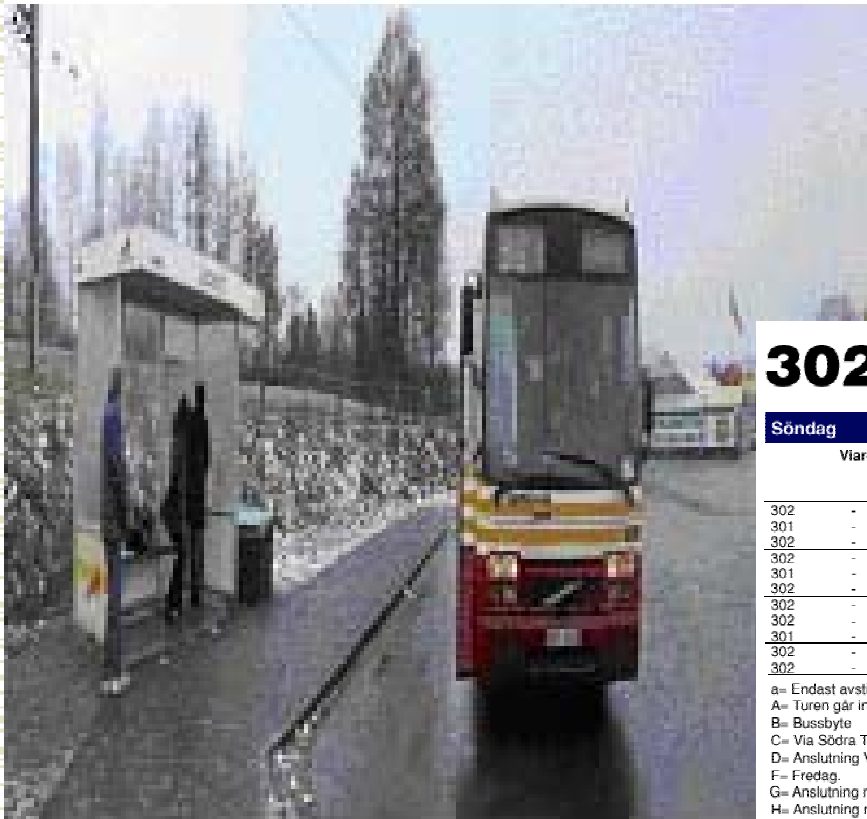


Local objects and "immutable mobiles"

When turning into the Vallentuna-exit Jakob discover the loss of one reflection pole. We can see the pole it in the ditch. He stops the car and starts to look in the list of available defect codes. He selects a code, and enters a text where he describes the location, despite the position given by GPS. He justifies it with the argument that he wants to make it obvious that the pole was placed in the curve of the exit. This is done without leaving the vehicle. The pole is left in the ditch. He memorizes that he has to bring some extra poles, since the top is broken on several others. He do not take notes on this.

Two days later he approaches the same location. Jakob has brought a renovated pole that he assembles. He has to use rivets to get it together. He does not report it in in ProData. 50 meters ahead he discovers a defect road sign, which has no reflection. He stops the truck, reports and finally leaves the truck to take pictures of the road sign. The next time he will bring a new road sign, so he can change it.

The Bus driver



302 Från Borås Till Falkenberg via Svenljunga och Älvsered

Söndag

	Viared	Borås lasarett	Borås Centralplan	Gånghester	Målsryd	Aplared samhälle	Lockryd terminal	Hillared Solvägen	Sexdrega	Svenljunga terminal	Holsljunga	Mjölback	Älvsered
302	-	-	10.00	10.10	10.15	-	10.25G	10.30	10.37	10.50	-	-	-
301	-	-	12.10	12.20	12.25	-	12.35G	-	-	-	-	-	-
302	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.35	12.40	12.47	13.00	-	-	-
302	-	14.00	14.10	14.20	14.25	14.30	14.35G	14.40	14.47	15.05	15.20	15.35	15.50H
301	-	16.00	16.10	16.20	16.25	-	16.35G	-	-	-	-	-	-
302	-	-	-	-	-	-	16.35	16.40	16.47	17.00	-	-	-
302	-	-	18.00	18.10	18.15	-	18.25G	18.30	18.37	18.50	-	-	-
302	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19.05	19.20	19.35	19.50
301	-	-	20.00	20.10	20.15	-	20.25G	-	-	-	-	-	-
302	-	-	-	-	-	-	20.25	20.30	20.37	20.50	-	-	-
302	-	-	22.00	22.10	22.15	-	22.25G	-	22.30	22.40	-	-	-

a= Endast avstigning Överlida - Mjölback.

A= Turen går inte 3/7 - 30/7.

B= Bussbyte

C= Via Södra Torget kl 01.30.

D= Anslutning Viared-Borås C med linje 200.

F= Fredag.

G= Anslutning mellan linje 301 och 302 i Lockryd.

H= Anslutning med linje 555 Falkenberg - Älvsered.

J= Via eller utgår från Elmo Calf kl 16.15.

K= Via Holsljunga skola kl 7.38 o 14.10, Överlida skola kl 7.25 o 14.23 skoldagar.

M= Via eller från Moga Fritid kl 13.55 och 15.35 i Svenljunga skoldagar.

N= Via Mogaskolan och Örsås skola i Svenljunga skoldagar.

P= Under perioden 29/6-24/8 körs turen även torsdagar.

U= Via Kilabro.

V= Går fr o m 14/8

Y= Går endast nya väg 154 i Sexdrega. Hållplats Sexdrega väg 154.

Z= Skoltur, går inte 13/6 - 13/8, 30/10 - 5/11, 21/12 - 7/1, 12/2 - 18/2,

9/4 - 16/4, 30/4 och 25/5.

Ö= Anslutn fr Ö Frölunda kl 20.05 till Överlida söndagar o fr Överlida 17.22 till Ö Frölunda fredagar. Från 14/8.

Traveling through, maintaining stability

Close to location

Distant to location

Within a
social
space

Between
different
social
spaces

Driver in loudspeaker: James over?

Driver: Yes James speaking. You were the one who tried to reach me just a moment ago? Over.

Driver in loudspeaker: Yes. I am turning into Lockryd a bit late; we are just passing the railway in Aplared. Over.

Driver: Good, then I don't need to call and tell that I'm late.

[After the conversation the driver turns to the researcher.]

Driver: In these cases, when informing the connection bus, the communication radio works well.

Researcher: He told you where he was, why?

Driver: It's better to say so, that he is passing the railway and then I know exactly where he is, and then I know how he drives and so forth. It's also easier for me to know when he is coming.

Excerpt 8: The driver informs about his present location

Topologies as maintaining stability

- ◆ Regional or Euclidean Topology
 - fixating locality drawing borders
- ◆ Network topology
 - freezing relations, linking nodes
- ◆ Fluid topology
 - Variance and adaptation, movement and variation

The cross section in Mobility



Topology of "the social"

Environment / Euclidean topology



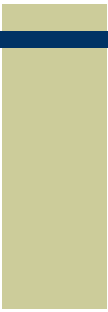
Summing up

- ◆ Mobility as collaborative activity
- ◆ The importance of the movement through the environment
- ◆ Coordinating by the use of environment
- ◆ The environment as the organisation
- ◆ How then do we describe the spatiality of the organisation?

Questions and Comments

- ◆ Mattias Esbjörnsson, Interactive Institute
 - mattias.esbjornsson@interactiveinstitute.se
- ◆ Daniel Vesterlind, STS Göteborgs
- ◆ Universitet and Interactive Institute
 - daniel.vesterlind@interactiveinstitute.se





Mobility vs. Place

- ◆ Anthropology and sociology studied interrelations between physical and social, in these writings mobility has been:
 - disregarded
 - temporary phenomena
- ◆ Studies on mobility regarded the interrelations between physical and social as:
 - given, (and twined into the activities)
 - disregarded
 - temporary flux