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Developing smart statistics for urban mobility: challenges and opportunities

Abstract

The Urban Big Data Centre (UBDC), funded primarily by Research Councils of UK's Economic and Social Research Council, aims to promote innovative research methods and the use of big data to improve social, economic, and environmental well-being in cities. UBDC operates a research-led data service. Its diverse portfolio of research across no less than ten academic disciplines informs and in turn benefits from a developing data collection and community of users. This presentation will focus on UBDC's urban mobility research in the context of ICT and data trends including smart and connected transport and buildings, integrated smart systems and personal and wearable technology. It will cover sources of urban big data, and showcase methodological and infrastructural approaches to facilitate data management and the production of information insights. It will touch too on organisational aspects around big data including team composition and skills, quality assurance and information governance. The presentation will align UBDC's approaches with a wider smart statistics agenda, and outline through a series of examples the ways in which data capture, processing and analysis can be systematically embedded to enable the production of comparable, reproducible, scalable and robust data for policy.