

Urban Speculations: Cities, Technologies, Futures

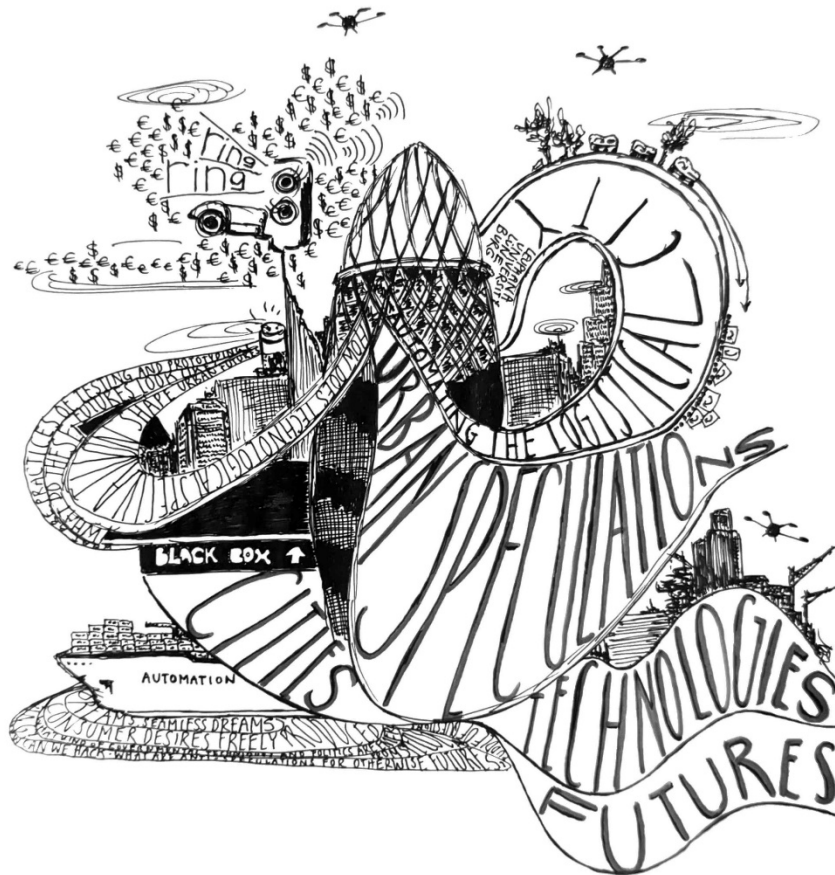
International Conference, Lüneburg, 4-6 February 2025

<https://logistical.city/conference/>

Host: Centre for Digital Cultures, Leuphana University of Lüneburg

Organizers:

Ilia Antenucci, Armin Beverungen, Maja-Lee Voigt, Randi Heinrichs, Ranjodh Singh Dhaliwal



Program

All events take place in the Central Building (C40) on Leuphana's main campus.

Tuesday 4th February 2025

16:00-18:00 Arrival

Foyer, Central Building (C40)

18:00-18:15 Welcome from organizers

Forum, Central Building

18:15-19:15 Opening Panel: Speculative Methods with and Against Amazon, with Max Haiven, Daniel Wetzel (Chair: Randi Heinrichs)

Forum, Central Building

19:15-20:15 Opening Reception

Forum, Central Building

Wednesday 5th February 2025

9:00-9:30 Registration / Welcome Coffee

C40.501

9:30-11:00 Keynote: Liza Rose Cirolia (Chair: Ranjodh Singh Dhaliwal)

C40.606 & Zoom

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

C40.501

11:30-13:00 Parallel Sessions I

Session Ia: Panel: Re-Politicizing Urban Futures: Speculations, Struggles, Scales, with Katja Schwaller, Fabian Namberger, Valentin Niebler, Barbara Orth (Chair: Fabian Namberger)

C40.601

Session Ib: Speculating on Sustainability (Chair: Ulf Treger)

C 40.606 & Zoom

Rumen Rachev & Chris Berthelsen, Tsuyoshi Hatori, Christoph Rupprecht, Takuya Iwahori (Ehime University, The University of Auckland, Utrecht University):
“Speculative Futures in Urban Weather, Mobility, and Ecology: Reimagining Cityscapes Through Weather Commons and Technological Innovations”

Ola Michalec (University of Bristol): “Future Grid: Understanding the Politics of Energy Grid Decentralization as Regional Speculations”

Session Ic: Panel: Techno-Politics of Urban Investability, with Alberto Valz Gris, Andrea Pollio, Emanuele Sciuva, Mara Ferreri, Desirée Fields, Jillian (Lee) Crandall, Dimitris Pettas, Giulia Dal Maso (Chair: Andrea Pollio)

C40.704

Session Id: Panel: Digital Speculations on Simplification, with Andreas Bischof, Zita Seichter, Sebastian Wucherer, Johanna Fischer (Chair: Johanna Fischer)

C40.256 & Zoom (*not public*)

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00- 14:30 Demonstration of art installation “Thinking in bits (and with boxes)”

C40.530

A speculative audio-installation to be (inter-)activated on location on the (philosophical and artistic) entanglement between packaging labour and collaborative thinking. Conceived, produced and performed by Anke Haarmann & Alice Lagaay with Stephan Kraus & Henrik Nieratschker aka Anlica Kranier

14:30-16:00 Parallel Sessions II

Session IIa: Silicon Cities (Chair: Maja-Lee Voigt)

C40.601

Claudia Seldin (Center for Metropolitan Studies – Technische Universität Berlin): “Berlin vs. Tech: Hacking the (Dis)Connected City”

Laura Hille (Leuphana University Lüneburg): “California Forever”

Session IIb: Mobilities/Ecologies (Chair: Valentin Niebler)

C40.606 & Zoom

Karol Kurnicki (Leibniz-Institut für Länderkunde): “Platformisation of Mobility and Making of Urban Futures”

Avishek Ray & Atriya Dey (National Institute of Technology Silchar, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay): “The Toto as a New Mobility Paradigm: Smart Infrastructures Contra Ecological Consciousness”

Stefan Janković & David Adam (University of Belgrade): “Inhaling Data, Exhaling Politics: Speculative Ordinaries and the Infra-Commoning of Belgrade’s Atmotechnical Sensecape”

Session IIc: Real Estate (Chair: Mathias Denecke)

C40.704

Lena Greinke, Linda Lange & Johanna Richter (Leibniz University Hannover, Institute of Environmental Planning, Working group Spatial Planning and Regional Development): “From Consumption to Co-Design and What’s Next? A Closer Look at the Interim Use ‘Aufhof’ of the Former Shopping Centre ‘Kaufhof’ in Hannover’s City Centre”

Emanuele Sciuva (DIST – Interuniversity Department of Regional and Urban Studies and Planning Politecnico di Torino): “Nomadlands: Digital Nomadism, Geoarbitrage, and Infrastructural Speculations”

Kostas Gourzis & Georgia Alexandri (University of the Aegean, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology): “Real-Estate Speculation in Athens: Housing Financialization and Different Waves of Gentrification in a Tertiary Growth Model”

Session IIId: Spatial Governance and Techno-Scientific Development: Emerging Modes and Concrete Implications, with Ruggero Signoroni, Devika Prakash, Deepa Joshi, Adriana de la Pena Espinosa and Michelangelo Fusi (Chair: Ruggero Signoroni)

C40.256 & Zoom (not public)

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

C40.501

16:30-18:00 Keynote Plenary: Speculating the City, with Niloufar Vadiati, Andrea Pollio and Aris Komporozos-Athanasiou (Chair: Ilia Antenucci)

C40.606 & Zoom

Thursday 6th February 2025

9:30-11:00 Keynote: Lauren Bridges (Chair: Armin Beverungen)

C40.606 & Zoom

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

C40.501

11:30-13:00 Parallel Sessions III

Session IIIa: (Un)Desirable Futures (Chair: Niloufar Vadiati)

C40.601

Abigail Kemper, Yuming Pan, Carine Ingabire, Dora Hegyi (UNITAC/HafenCity Universität): “Meeting them where they are at – Resilience-building by co-developing digital and data capacities with five Namibian towns”

Pamela Carralero (Kettering University): “Afrofuturist Ecofiction Rethinks the Relation Between Data and Urban Space”

Session IIIb: Digital Twins (Chair: Michaela Büsse)

C40.606 & Zoom

Yanai Toister (Tampere University, Finland): “Driving and Drivering”

Daniela van Geenen, Carolin Gerlitz & Max Kanderske (University of Siegen): “Dutch Cycling Intelligence: Challenging Digital Twins as Urban Platforms for Managing Micro-Mobility”

Harrison Smith (University of Toronto): “‘What If’ States: Digital Twins as Speculative Urbanism”

Session IIIc: Infrastructures of Speculation (Chair: Sophia Leipert)

C40.255

Prem Sylvester & Anthony Burton (Digital Democracies Institute, Simon Fraser University): “Modular Logistics: The Physical Internet in the City”

Noel Chung (University of Cambridge): “Friction-Free Cities: Emerging Infrastructures and Spaces of Contactless Delivery”

Fabian Halfar & Niklas Steinke (Center for Metropolitan Studies, TU Berlin): “From Cloud to Ground: Negotiating Space and Resources for Hyper-Scale Data Centers in Berlin”

13:00-14:30 Lunch

C40.501

14:00-14:15 Book Launch of *In/Convenience: Inhabiting the Logistical Surround* (eds. Joshua Neves & Marc Steinberg, INC, 2024), with Marc Steinberg and authors
C40.530

14:30-16:00 Keynote Plenary: “Amazon & Co. - resistance is *not* futile” Panel Discussion with Constance Carr (University of Luxembourg), Yonatan Miller (Berlin vs. Amazon) & Katja Schwaller (Stanford University) (Chair: Maja-Lee Voigt)
C40.606 & Zoom

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break
C40.501

16:30-18:00 Parallel Sessions IV

Session IVa: Counter-Speculation (Chair: Klara Friese)
C40.601 & Zoom (not public)

Sam Hopkins (Academy of Media Arts, Cologne): “Digital Baze: Offline Media Exchange in Nairobi’s Eastlands”

Torben Körschkes (Leiden University / Royal Academy of Art The Hague): “The Erratic as a Reconfiguration of the Unity of the Spatial”

Session IVb: Testing Futures (Chair: Max Kanderske)
C40.606 & Zoom

Sandeep Mertia (Stevens Institute of Technology): “Tier-2 Futures: Relocating the Horizons of Urbanism in Startup India”

Burcu Baykurt (University of Massachusetts Amherst): “Avoiding the F-word: The Politics of Scaling and Failing in Test-Bed Urbanism”

Fiona McDermott (Trinity College Dublin): “Building Next Generation Networks: Towards the True of False Public Utility of the Future City”

Session IVc: Smart Homes and Subjects (Chair: Laura Hille)
C40.255

Mathias Deneke (Institute of Media Studies, Ruhr-University Bochum): “Speculating on Aging in Place: Demographic Change and the Logistics of Urban Care”

Sukanya Maity (Central European University): “The Linguistic Reproduction of the Working-Class Female Subject: Techno-masculinist Takeover of the Smart Homes”

Federico Giordano Perla (Cornell University): “From City-Building to Space-Producing Games”

18:00 Close of Conference