Analyzing the SOCIO-TECHNICAL TRANSITION towards AUTONOMOUS DRIVING
The Examples of the Metropolitan Regions of Munich and Stuttgart

Eriketti Servou | mobil.LAB | 2nd Phase | Shaping Mobility Cultures

**MOTIVATION**
- Uncertainty among actors and citizens about the long-term impacts of automation
- Need to understand the historically developed interrelations between society, mobility policy and emerging technologies, and how they play out in the present
- No actual analysis of the policy and institutional dynamics on autonomous driving in existing literature

**PURPOSE OF RESEARCH**
Understanding the policy processes behind the promotion of autonomous driving to identify which tendencies will matter in the future

**RESEARCH QUESTIONS**
- How did autonomous driving come into place as a policy objective in the regions of Munich and Stuttgart?
- How do coalitions of actors come to articulate policy storylines on autonomous driving in the two regions?
- What kind of socially shared meanings do the actor coalitions reproduce through each storyline?
- Through which practices do actor coalitions attempt to promote autonomous driving and how do these practices transform or reproduce the policy discourse?

**RESEARCH OBJECTIVES**
- Identifying path dependencies between the system of automobility and automation technologies
- Unpacking the interplay between broader and local discourses
- Identifying the main actors, their arguments and their interests
- Revealing conflicts and power struggles among actors
- Revealing discrepancies between language and practices

**RESEARCH DESIGN**
**Theoretical Framework**
- Mobilities Paradigm
- Discourse Analysis
- Science & Technology Studies

**Methods**
- Two case studies
- Literature Review
- Pilot Interviews
- Desk Research (policy documents, historical archives, media articles)
- Expert interviews (planners, industry, politicians, engineers)
- Field observations in dialogue labs

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