The Intertwined Histories of Mobile Communication & AI



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What is mobile communication?



Wall Street, 1987



Minority Report, 2002


AirDrop a Copy
Done
People
Danny Lopez
Joe Lipscomb
Other Devices
MacBook Air
AirDrop
Danny Lopez would like to share 23 photos
Decline
Accept
Clock
Reminders
App Store
Notes
Podcasts
Settings
Mail
TV
News
Wallet
Health
Maps


Tap to ride is coming soon.
GO
CUBIC


AT&T LTE
12:41 PM
77%
Settings
Calendar
Tuesday
23
Photos
Clock
Reminders
Notes
Weather
Safari
Authenticator
Google
Games
Maps
Twitter
App Store
Vine
Google Maps
Tumblr
TrainingPeaks
HipChat
Facebook
Instagram
Strava
Yelp
CaltrainMe
Camera
Mail
Messages
Phone


1
2
3
4
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6
7
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9
*
0
#
Rcl
Clr
Snd
Sto
Fcn
End
Pwr
Lock
Vol







networked **MOBILITY**

Mobile communication

changes how people interact

in / with

spaces.

Mobile phones → Embedded Infrastructures

Mobile phones →
Embedded Infrastructures









(de Souza e Silva & Campbell, 2023)

“smart” cities



“smart” homes



(de Souza e Silva & Campbell, 2023)

surveillance infrastructures





The Politics of AI + Mobile Communication

Power Asymmetries

(1) people's different levels of personal access to mobile technologies,
(2) people's level of awareness about whether they are in fact in a hybrid space,
(3) people's agency to deploy and access the networked infrastructures that configure hybrid spaces (data access).

Heterogeneous Spaces





(Andrejevic, 2008; Sloterdjk, 2005; Cresswell, 2010)

Implications

How do mobile locative technologies (e.g., smartphone apps) connected to urban digital infrastructures (e.g., sensors, intelligent transport systems, surveillance infrastructures, and artificial intelligent systems) shape urban mobility, sociability, and people's interactions with public spaces by both collecting data from us, and also allowing people to access data about their environment?

Implications

How do mobility systems, such as micromobility (e.g., electric bikes and scooters), ride-sharing vehicles (e.g., taxis and Uber), and public transportation (e.g., buses and subway) are reconfigured by location-based media, AI systems and data collection mechanisms?







(de Souza e Silva, Damasceno, Bueno & Grandinetti, 2020; de Souza e Silva, Damasceno, & Bueno, 2019)