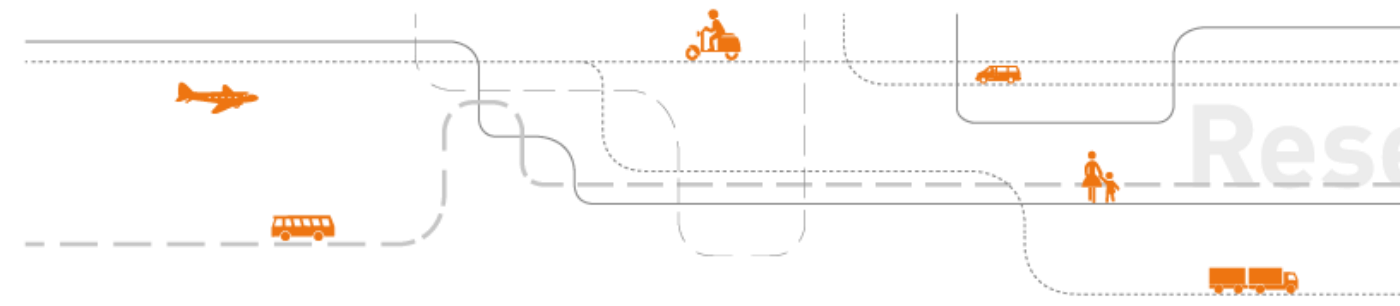


# E-scooter regulation

REGSMART Final Seminar 5 May 2021

Regulating Smart Mobility: Challenges  
and Opportunities in a Digital Transition

Nils Fearnley  
Chief researcher  
[naf@toi.no](mailto:naf@toi.no)

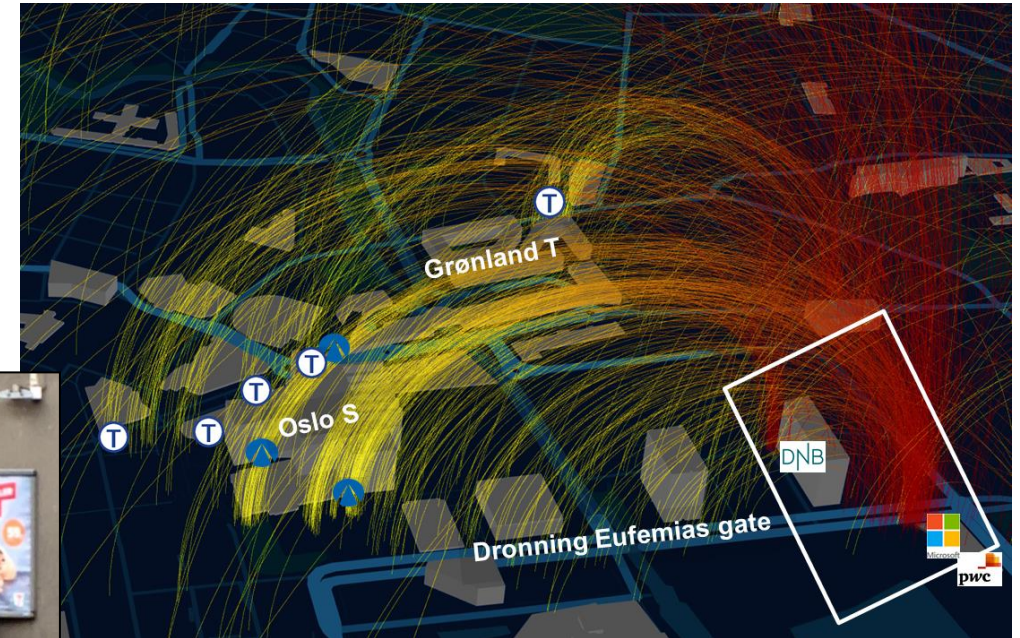


# Shared e-scooters: loved and hated

- Popular
- Users: They are fast, flexible, and fun
  
- ...But:
  - Littering
  - Accidents
  - Dangerous driving



Photo: Marit Rasmussen

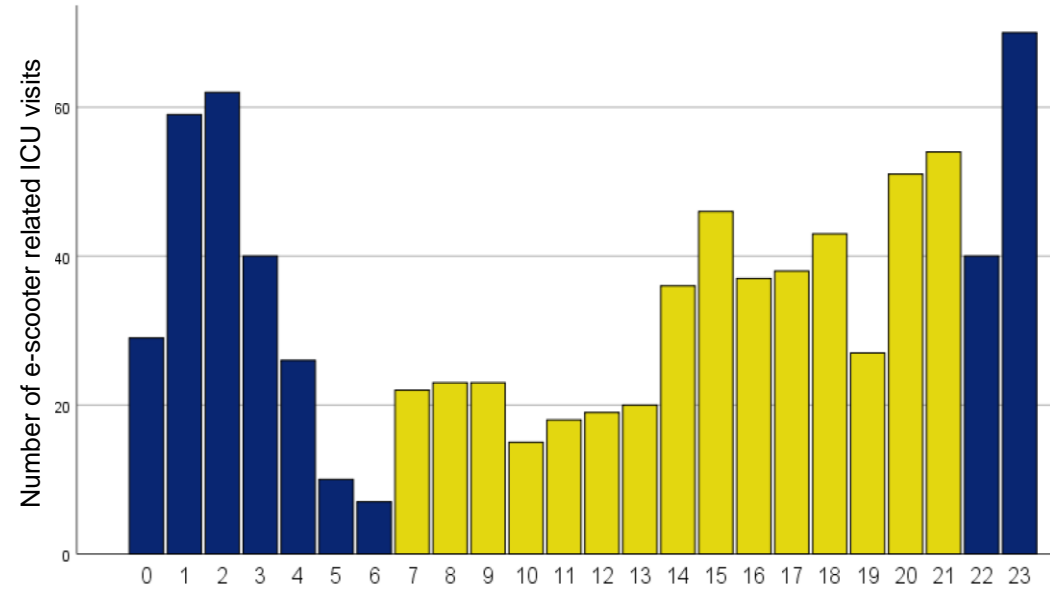


# Why regulate

- Market failure
- Use of public space
- Other societal goals

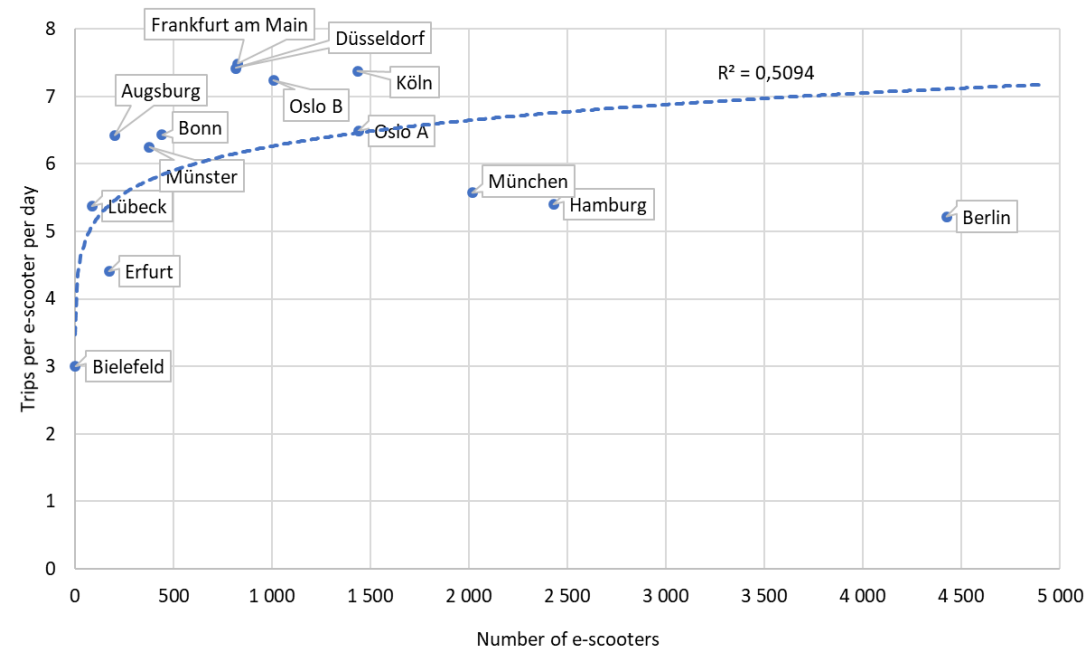
# Market failure

- Externalities - accidents

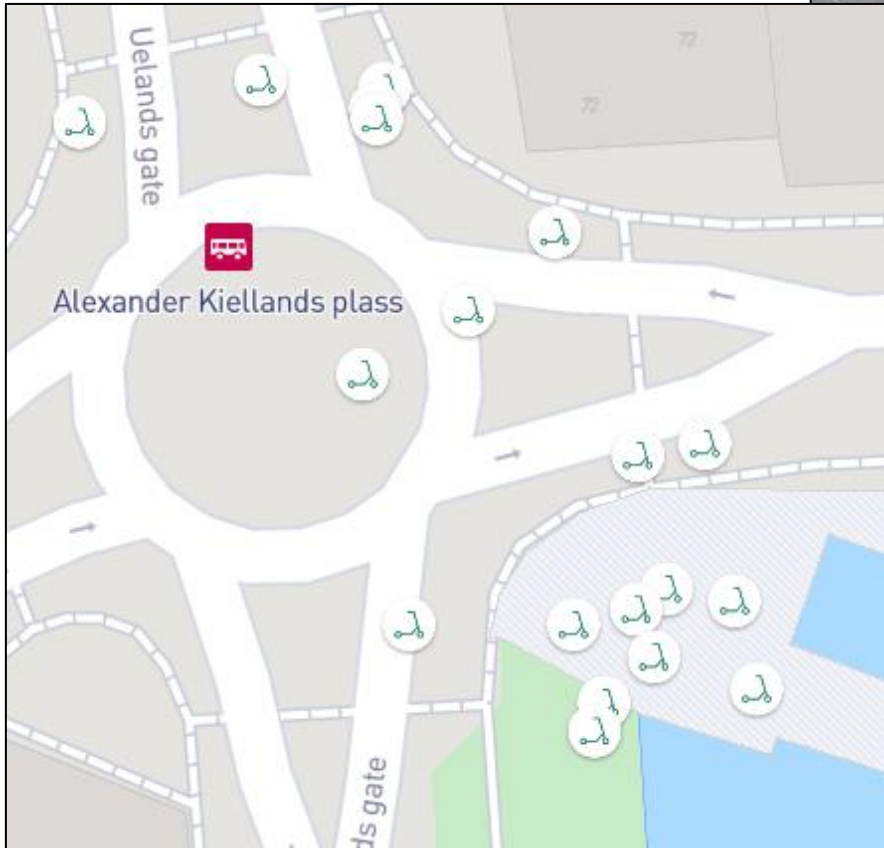


Source: Oslo municipal ICU

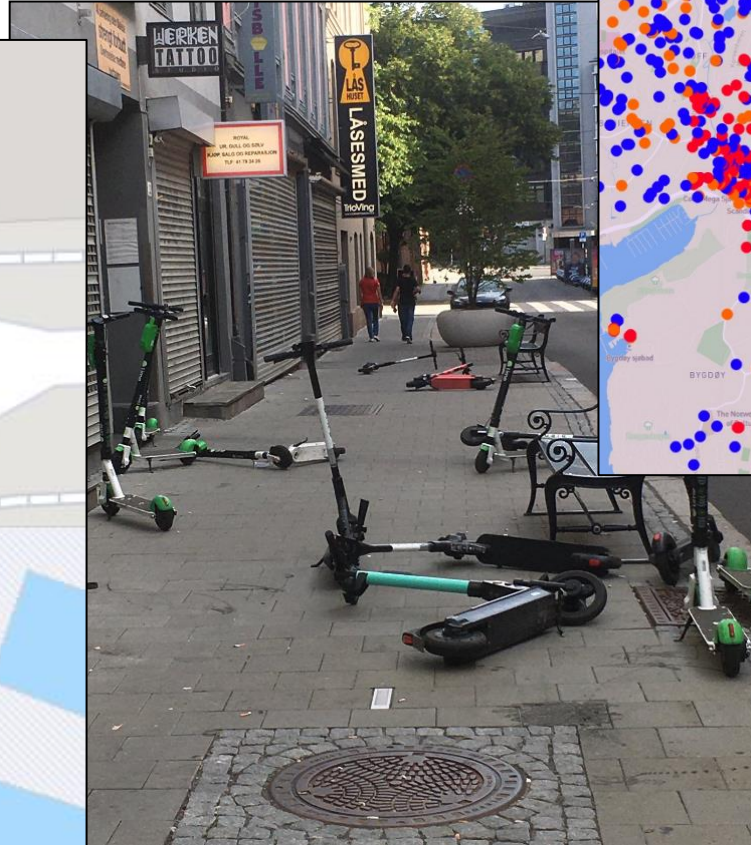
- Economies of scale and density



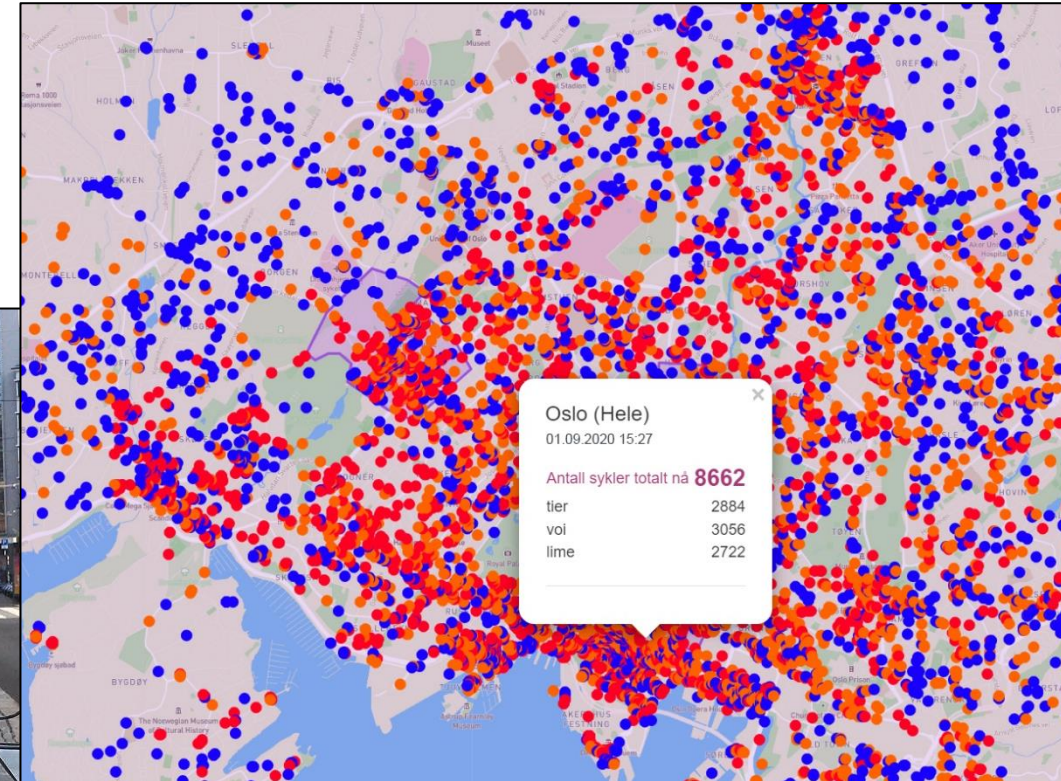
# Use of public space for commercial activity



Screenshot: Entur national travel planner. Area is about 50x50 meters



Screenshot Twitter / @pewalla



Screenshot: Nivel AS (data from 3 out of 5 e-scooter operators)

# Other societal goals

Equity, environment, labour rights, etc

**STREETSBLOG SF**  
Pedestrian Safety / Bicycling / Muni / Parking / Peninsula / California

## Study: Balancing Equity & Density with Scooters

There's a natural tension between providing for undeserved areas and achieving the density needed for the system to work

By Roger Rudick | Feb 8, 2021 | 2 COMMENTS THIS POST IS SUPPORTED BY GJEL ACCIDENT ATTORNEYS

**MOTHERBOARD**  
TECH BY VICE

## The Gig Economy Workers Who Power the Scooter Ridesharing Craze for a Pittance

People are hoarding electric scooters and going into other people's homes to retrieve them.

By Sarah Emerson

## Opinion: The Equity Case for E-Bikes and E-Scooters in New York City

**AUTHOR**  
Jonathan Westin

**DATE**  
May 14, 2019

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TRANSPORTATION / RIDEABLES / SCOOTERS

## Electric scooter charging is a cutthroat business, and Lime wants to fix that

The startup is testing a feature to let 'juicers' reserve a scooter ahead of time

By Andrew J. Hawkins | @andyjayhawk | Mar 15, 2019, 11:15am EDT

# ...but do not over-regulate

- Good principle: regulate minimum necessary
  - Do not choke innovation
- Infant industry, new and growing market
  - Low / negative profitability for several companies
  - Extremely dynamic and innovative market

# An innovative force – use it!

- Innovative procurement
  - Dialogue
  - Mutual learning
  - Specify function, not technological solution
- Regulatory sandboxes and trial schemes

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TECHNOLOGY 18 August 2020  
By [Loyal Liverpool](#)





# Summarised

- A strong case for regulation of e-scooter markets
  - Market failures
  - Use of public rights of way
  - Protection of wider societal goals
- Regulation should be the minimum necessary to achieve the objectives, and be facilitative
- Stimulate innovation
  - Specify function, not technology. Regulatory sandboxes, trials and pilots