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# Relationship Between Travel-Related Feelings, On-Trip Activities and Use of Various Transport Means in Urban Areas

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1 **RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TRAVEL-RELATED FEELINGS, ON-TRIP ACTIVITIES**  
2 **AND USE OF VARIOUS TRANSPORT MEANS IN URBAN AREAS**

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33 **ABSTRACT**

34  
35 One of the key issues in contemporary transport research is to achieve a better balance in the use  
36 of different travel means in urban areas, particularly promoting the use of both transit and active  
37 modes (feet, bicycle). However, such behavioral change cannot fully be achieved only acting on  
38 the relative performances of the means themselves, for example in terms of travel times and  
39 costs. This paper considers some dimensions of the travelling experience, namely, if the trip was  
40 only important to reach a destination or not, if it was tiring, if it was pleasant or unpleasant, and  
41 relates these aspects to the completion of activities during the trip and to the use of different  
42 transport modes. Correspondence analysis and Association analysis are jointly developed on  
43 some categorical variables of the French National Travel Survey. Such combined technique is  
44 picking up the strengths of each method and has proven its effectiveness. It is therefore a  
45 potentially interesting method to be also used with unstructured and dispersed dataset such as the  
46 “Big Data” ones. On the applicative side, our results show that, all else being equal, evaluations  
47 are often more depending on the fact of traveling alone or with others than on the travel means  
48 being used. Previous research results related to the symbolic and affective value of driving are  
49 specially confirmed when traveling alone, whereas the experience of traveling with others as a  
50 driver or a passenger is more similar to the use of transit services.

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52

53 **KEYWORDS**

54

55 Correspondence analysis, association analysis, data mining, travel feelings, on-trip activities,  
56 multimodality, co-modality

57

58 **INTRODUCTION**

59 Transport policies around the world are seeking to achieve a better balance in the use of different  
60 transport means, as a way to improve the overall efficiency of the system also in economic terms,  
61 reduce its environmental impacts and promote social equality. From an engineering point of  
62 view, this goal can mainly be achieved by acting on the characteristics of the offer of travel  
63 services, namely by improving the performances (e.g., travel times and costs) of those means that  
64 one wants to incentivize. However, there is an increasing consensus among the scientific  
65 community on the importance of affective factors in shaping travel demand, particularly  
66 concerning modal choice (1-8).

67 Additionally, the ever increasing possibility of making travel time a “productive time” by  
68 performing a variety of activities (from the most traditional ones, such as reading or talking with  
69 others, to the possibility of benefitting from a true working environment with an Internet  
70 connection) is likely to have an impact on personal evaluations on mobility choices (9-12).  
71 Concerning the latter aspect, multimodality and co-modality issues are particularly important in  
72 urban areas, where trip characteristics, for example in terms of length and offer of different  
73 services, often make it possible to complete the same trip through several alternative travel  
74 means.

75 The objective of this paper is to check whether some travel-related evaluations and  
76 feelings, along with the possibility of performing on-trip activities and of taking a trip for the  
77 sake of it, are more associated with the use of a given transport mode. More specifically, on the  
78 basis of the data availability of our experimental context that will be later presented, we consider  
79 the following dimensions of the travel experience:

- 80 • if the trip was only important to reach a destination or if trip-related feelings and activities  
81 were important as well,
- 82 • if the trip was tiring or not,
- 83 • if the trip was pleasant or unpleasant,
- 84 • if some activities have been performed during the trip,
- 85 • if the trip was taken without having a well-defined destination.

86 These elements are admittedly not fully representative of the whole range of subjective  
87 factors affecting mobility choices that have been considered in previous research, such as  
88 preferences, opinions, attitudes and perceptions (1), intentions and motivations (2), social values  
89 and behavioural norms (13), affective-symbolic motives (7), perceived responsibility and control,  
90 emotional states, habits (14), lifestyles, personality traits (4), identities (8), situational factors  
91 such as health conditions and so on. However, under several aspects they represent a more basic  
92 and coherent set of indicators for many of these factors.

93 In order to effectively achieve our objective, we need an experimental framework that is  
94 as more general as possible, since limiting ourselves to specific kinds of trips (e.g. commute trips,  
95 or trips made by specific groups of individuals) would introduce biases in our findings. For  
96 example, commute trips have higher chances of being made through transit. On the other hand,  
97 such trips are probably felt quite differently from trips aimed at reaching more pleasurable  
98 destinations. Therefore, we consider here a sample that is representative of the general population  
99 of a whole nation, namely France, by analyzing the daily mobility observations of the French  
100 National Travel Survey (FNTS) of 2007-2008. Of course, this dataset has somewhat less  
101 information on subjective factors affecting mobility attitudes, evaluations and choices compared  
102 to what could be obtained through a more targeted survey. Indeed, most of the above mentioned

103 studies use in-depth data from a limited sample (e.g. commuters, students, or transit riders). Here  
104 we follow a different approach, trading off the possibility of using a richer dataset with a much  
105 stronger general validity of our results. On the other hand, the FNTS has some distinguishing  
106 features that are helpful in pursuing our goals, as it will be shown in the next section.

107 Compared to the state of the art, this paper complements other research efforts aimed at  
108 clarifying in more general terms under which circumstances a trip is taken for the sake of it (15)  
109 or it is felt pleasant and/or tiring (16). In particular, unlike most of the previous research efforts,  
110 the present work seeks to build knowledge by processing information that is not expressed  
111 through metric variables, as it is apparent from the above mentioned dimensions of the travel  
112 experience. We also focus on the intertwined interrelationships of several variables, rather than  
113 on the dependence between one outcome and some explanatory factors. Under these two points  
114 of view, our method is suit to work with those unstructured and dispersed data sets that are  
115 increasingly available and that are generally referred to as “Big Data”.

116

## 117 **EXPERIMENTAL FRAMEWORK AND DATASET**

118 The protocol of the 2007-2008 FNTS introduced some novelties compared to standard national  
119 travel surveys. These latter usually focus only on “acted behaviors” of individuals and refrain  
120 from asking about subjective evaluations, feelings, preferences or opinions, that on the other hand  
121 are sometimes found in local travel surveys (e.g. 17, 18). Of particular interest for this study,  
122 some questions of this kind were instead inserted in the FNTS “primary utility inset”. The  
123 purpose of this specific part of the survey was to investigate if a subset of trips among those  
124 being reported had some utility per se, which is here called primary utility, beyond the derived  
125 utility of getting from one place to another that is customarily considered in travel demand  
126 models. Related questions were asked for a randomly selected trip among those being reported by  
127 17940 survey respondents and pertaining to daily and short distance mobility (19). The  
128 operational definition of the primary utility construct, available from previous studies (20, 21),  
129 informed the list of questions to be posed in the survey. Such questions and the related variables  
130 are quite relevant also for our study, since they match the dimensions of the travelling experience  
131 that have been listed in the introduction.

132 The first four rows of Table 1 show the definition of the four variables from the primary  
133 utility inset that are considered here. The fifth row represents a binary variable that we derived  
134 for the present research and that indicates whether the trip purpose was “going around without  
135 having a well-defined destination” or not. This specific trip purpose was defined when designing  
136 the survey in order to better identify which trips were taken for the sake of it. Taken together,  
137 these five variables operationalize the concepts of travel-related feelings and presence of on-trip  
138 activities that were discussed in the introduction. We point out that it is not common to dispose of  
139 such a big and nationally representative dataset for this kind of information.

140 The last row of Table 1 shows a variable that is derived from the list of travel means being  
141 used to complete the trip. Respondents could indicate up to four of them, so that 237 different  
142 combinations are found in the dataset. To simplify the analysis, we collapse them into the 12  
143 categories indicated in the table. The resulting classification is rather effective, since less than 5%  
144 of the trips are made of several legs with different modes, for which the MODE variable is  
145 therefore not defined, and there are at least 50 observations for each retained category.  
146 Consistently with the goals of the analysis, such classification is also based on the personal  
147 representation of individual transport means (e.g. driver alone or not versus passenger) rather

148 than on mere technology-driven considerations, in line with previous research recommendations  
149 (22).

150 The weights we used to compute the categorical frequencies in the third column are those  
151 from the original dataset, that made those individuals that were surveyed on their travel day  
152 representative of the French population older than 5. Descriptive statistics for those variables,  
153 also in relation with the socioeconomic characteristics of the sample, are available elsewhere (15,  
154 16).

155 The penultimate column of Table 1 reports the number of observations. We see much  
156 lower numbers in the first four rows compared to the total number of respondents, since the  
157 questions in the primary utility inset were asked only if the randomly selected trip lasted at least  
158 10 minutes; the remaining discrepancies between these four rows are due to nonresponse.  
159 PROMENADE is defined for all observed trips, whereas MODE could not be defined for about  
160 5% of trips as previously discussed. Finally, the last column of the first five rows shows the  
161 number of observations that are available for the following analysis, since the variable MODE  
162 could be defined.

163  
164 **[Table 1 about here]**  
165

166 In the following, we look at how MODE is associated with the other variables that are  
167 listed in the table. Since all these are categorical rather than metric, we cannot rely on more  
168 common statistical analyses such as regression, analysis of variance or correlation analysis. We  
169 therefore use two techniques that are appropriate in this framework, namely correspondence  
170 analysis and association analysis. These two techniques are complementary, since the former one  
171 is designed to focus on a limited set of variables, whereas the latter is a data mining method that  
172 is suit to simultaneously process big dataset. We believe that, taken together, they can represent  
173 an effective method to exploit the travel-related information that is hidden in a range of data  
174 sources beyond the typical contents of travel surveys.  
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## 176 **CORRESPONDENCE ANALYSES**

177 Correspondence analysis allows the researcher to visualize the associations among two or more  
178 categorical variables in a single plot. It is an increasingly popular tool, widely implemented in  
179 statistical analysis packages, that is helpful in disentangling those complex patterns of  
180 interdependences among factors that cannot be metrically expressed (23). All the categories are  
181 displayed through points in a single chart, whose position reflects the corresponding cell  
182 frequencies of the variables cross tabulations.

183 Figure 1 shows the patterns of association between MUFATIGUE and MODE, where the  
184 categories of the two variables are respectively shown with triangles and dots. As expected,  
185 active travel means (feet and bicycles) are associated with more physically tiring trips. It is on the  
186 other hand interesting to note that school bus trips are instead more associated with mentally  
187 tiring trips. This is probably a sign of the stress related to going to school, rather than an  
188 indication of problems related to the trip itself. Finally, trips involving the use of suburban trains  
189 are the most tiring under both points of view, since they are likely to be overlong and taken for  
190 commuting. The top-right corner of the figure shows five travel means that are more associated to  
191 trips neither physically nor mentally tiring: car passenger, motorbike driver, car driver not alone,  
192 bus and tramway.

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**[Figure 1 about here]**

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Turning the attention to the relationship between mode usages and trip pleasantness, Figure 2 displays the same kind of analysis between the corresponding categories. It is apparent that pleasant trips are more associated with active travel means and with car trips taken with others. At the other extreme, trips with suburban trains and subways are often unpleasant: it is likely that such means are used mainly for their superior performance on factual elements such as travel times, absence of parking problems etc.

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Mostly interesting and quite unexpectedly, there is a more neutral attitude towards trips taken driving a car alone. This result seems at odds with results from the research on the affective and symbolic value of driving a car (24). However, these trips are the majority in our sample and are also more diversified in terms of purposes, length and other characteristics that have an influence on the traveler's perceptions. Our sample is also representative of a general population and is not focusing on specific groups, which could like to drive a car more than the average. It is nevertheless interesting to better investigate this issue by jointly considering other elements related to the travelling experience while driving: this will be the object of the following section.

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**[Figure 2 about here]**

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Finally, Figure 3 represents the correspondence analysis plot of MURAISSON and MODE. Interestingly enough, trips where feelings were considered important are predominantly made by bike, whereas those whose activities are important are associated with walking. With the partial exception of motorcyclists, trips that are taken predominantly for the need of reaching a well-defined destination are more associated with the remaining travel means. This analysis is under some points of view complementary with the preceding ones: the symbolic value of driving a car does not clearly emerge, since the related trips are more done for necessity than others.

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**[Figure 3 about here]**

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## 223 ASSOCIATION ANALYSES

### 224 Method

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Correspondence analyses allowed us to uncover how the use of different travel means is linked with single aspects of the overall travel experience, as described by each of the variables listed in Table 1. However, there are good reasons to think that more complex relationships, involving several of the above variables, are also in place. For example, unpleasant trips could be often considered also mentally tiring trips and, most importantly for our research, this could particularly happen with some travel means. We resort on a data mining technique in order to explore such more complex patterns, namely Association Analysis (25), that was already used in a previous study on modal usages patterns according to socioeconomic characteristics of the travelers (26).

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The first step of the method is to represent each trip in the dataset through a set of binary dummy variables that code all categories listed in Table 1. For example, we define two dummies for MUSENSATION, that take the value of (0, 0) when MUSENSATION=Pleasant for a given



238 trip, (1, 0) for MUSENSATION=Unpleasant and (1, 1) MUSENSATION=Neutral. It is then  
239 possible to build an incidence matrix with as many rows as trips and as many columns as dummy  
240 variables (equal to the number of categories listed in table 1 minus the number of variables).

241 An *itemset* is defined as any combination of categories that are associated to a specific  
242 trip, for example {MUACTION=Yes, PROMENADE=No}. In other words, any subset of dummies  
243 having value equal to one in a given row of the incidence matrix can be an itemset. Therefore,  
244 itemsets need not necessarily contain one category for each variable, so that in our case the size  
245 of an itemset is comprised between 1 and 6, i.e. the number of variables. The number of possible  
246 itemsets is huge, but for the purpose of this analysis it is however relevant to consider only those  
247 itemsets with minimum size equal to two and including a category pertaining to MODE that we  
248 index with  $k$ , with  $1 \leq k \leq 12$  according to Table 1. The relevant itemsets are in fact only those  
249 that associate the use of a given travel means  $k$  with at least one of the other features listed in the  
250 first five rows of Table 1. There are 4260 itemsets in the FNTS dataset that have these  
251 characteristics and are contained in at least one trip. Among these, those itemsets of size equal to  
252 two and containing a category from MUFATIGUE, MUSENSATION or MURAISSON are  
253 globally reproducing the results of the previous section.

254 *Interestingness measures* are defined to focus the attention on a manageable number of  
255 itemsets (25). The most commonly used measure is the *support*, namely the fraction of  
256 observations (trips) that contain the itemset. Higher support values are therefore indicating  
257 stronger associations between the corresponding items (categories), since the corresponding trip  
258 characteristics are more commonly found together in the dataset. Therefore, we run a preliminary  
259 analysis considering the three itemsets with highest support for each of the 12 categories of  
260 MODE. Categories MUFATIGUE=Not\_tiring and PROMENADE=No were thus found to be  
261 associated to all means within these first three positions. Additionally, MUACTION=No was  
262 associated with the use of bikes and mopeds (two-wheeled vehicles are not conducive to  
263 performing other on-trip activities) and MURAISSON=Direct with suburban trains and tramways.

264 Concerning the latter finding, Figure 3 from the previous section shows that  
265 MURAISSON=Direct is also associated to many other travel modes. However, when jointly  
266 considering several dimensions of the travelling experience, itemsets with size equal to two and  
267 containing MUFATIGUE=Not\_tiring or PROMENADE=No show higher support compared to  
268 those with MURAISSON=Direct. This happened considering all travel modes, except rail. This is  
269 a good example of the complementarity of correspondence analysis and association analysis:  
270 when considering more than one dimension of the travelling experience, we realize that the link  
271 between MURAISSON=Direct and most of travel means is relatively weaker. On the other hand,  
272 correspondence analysis can more easily show the association of several categories for a limited  
273 number of variables.

274 The frequency of the different categories is widely different in the FNTS dataset, as  
275 shown in Table 1. Therefore, considering only itemsets with highest support is not a good  
276 selection criterion, because for example we would most likely not consider any itemset  
277 containing less frequently used travel means. To overcome this problem, in the following we also  
278 consider the *lift*, that is commonly defined as the ratio between the support of an itemset and the  
279 product of the frequencies of the categories belonging to the same itemset (25). Large lift values  
280 are an indication of the absence of independence among the corresponding categories. On the  
281 other hand, itemsets with too large lifts are often spurious, since they could be present in few  
282 observations, thus inflating the denominator of the lift.

283 To overcome the above shortcoming of the lift measure, we propose to apply it only on a  
284 subset of the above 4260 itemsets, that is defined as follows. We consider only those complete

285 itemsets (i.e. containing six categories, one for each variable) that satisfy both the following two  
 286 conditions: (1) they must be found in at least 1% of all the trips made by mode  $k$ , and (2) they  
 287 must be contained in at least 5 trips. More formally, we define a new interestingness measure that  
 288 we name *partial frequency*. The partial frequency of an itemset  $i$  ( $PF_i$ ) is a function of its support  
 289  $SUP_i$ , of the total number of trips made by mode  $k$  ( $TRP_k$ ) and of the total number  $N$  of trips in  
 290 the dataset (that is equal to 17940 in our case):

$$291 \quad PF_i = SUP_i \frac{N}{TRP_k} .$$

292 Then, we define a subset of the above mentioned 4260 itemsets such that  $PF_i \geq 0.01$ ,  $SUP_i \geq 5/N$   
 293 and  $size(i) = 6$ .

294 From this subset, the three itemsets having the highest lift for each mode  $k$  are selected.  
 295 After considerable experimentation, we believe that this process of selecting the itemsets upon  
 296 which to focus our attention is the best compromise between the need of considering the most  
 297 frequent itemsets and the widely different frequency of use of the means.

298 Thirty-five itemsets have thus been identified, since only two itemsets satisfying the three  
 299 above constraint are available for Mopeds. They are presented in Table 2, along with their partial  
 300 frequency (PF) and lift values in the last two columns. Several different comments are possible  
 301 on the basis of these results.

302  
 303 **[Table 2 about here]**  
 304

### 305 **Results and comments**

306  
 307 The three itemsets related to the two non-motorized travel means “On foot” and “Bicycle”  
 308 follow similar patterns. For example, partial frequency values are generally lower and lifts are  
 309 higher than those related to the other modes. This is an indication of the fact that trip-related  
 310 feelings patterns are more differentiated compared to other means, but form more identifiable  
 311 clusters. The first five itemsets in the table are also the only ones where the related trip purpose is  
 312 “promenade”. This does not necessarily mean that such purpose is not present also for other  
 313 modes, but rather than there are other stronger associations in place. It is very important in  
 314 general to avoid separately considering each individual variable when interpreting the results  
 315 related to an itemset: we mined itemsets with highest lifts, so the combination of different  
 316 categories rather than the individual ones are of central interest here. By looking at the first five  
 317 rows of the table, we can therefore conclude that “promenade” trips are strongly associated with  
 318 positive feelings. The same goes for physically tiring bike trips that are not “promenades”, an  
 319 interesting and policy relevant finding in that if physical effort does not negatively affect the  
 320 traveler’s mood, then the potential for such travel means is much higher.

321 The nine itemsets related to car trips show well how trip-related feelings change not only  
 322 with the use of a given mode but also with the role that is taken by the traveler. Concerning “car  
 323 driver alone” trips, affectively neutral trips (for which it is only important to get to destination)  
 324 are almost 34%, a number that reinforces the interpretation of the related results from Figure 2  
 325 that was offered in the previous section. Such trips are more pleasant than the contrary even if no-  
 326 on trip activity is performed. Interestingly enough, when the driver is not alone trip activities are  
 327 more strongly associated with pleasant trips and with the importance of on-trip feelings, so that  
 328 the itemset patterns are completely different. These latter three itemsets are also strikingly similar  
 329 with the “Car passenger” ones. This is a relevant finding for the vast literature investigating the

330 symbolic meaning of cars and of the driving activity (24). Actually, the fact of traveling with  
331 others seems to override the fact of driving a vehicle and the related psychological implications, a  
332 perhaps decisive scientific support to the potential of schemes such as carpooling also towards a  
333 “better education” of travelers, even if private means are still used and cars are still driven.

334 Trips with mopeds and motorbikes show similar patterns of trips made by solo car drivers.  
335 Driving a motorbike, like driving a car, made the trip pleasant and made the related feeling  
336 important without performing other activities for around 15% of reported trips through both  
337 means. However, the association of these categories in the case of motorbikes is much stronger,  
338 so that the pleasure of driving affects higher proportions of motorcyclists than of car drivers.

339 Concerning transit modes, whose itemsets are reported in the last fifteen rows of Table 2,  
340 it is noteworthy that subways and buses were associated with a physically tiring experience  
341 whenever it is only important to get to destination. Again, considering the relationship between  
342 MODE and MUFATIGUE in Figure 1 does to allow finding a direct association between those  
343 two transit modes and trips considered physically tiring. We can jointly interpret these two results  
344 assuming that those traveling only to get to destination and without having good feelings from  
345 the trip are more sensitive to physical accessibility barriers of the travel means (e.g. stairs to get  
346 into the vehicle or lack of seats). Therefore, only for this subset of travelers there is an association  
347 between some forms of public transport and trips that were physically tiring. Conversely, the two  
348 associations in Figure 1 between mentally tiring trips and school bus, and both physically and  
349 mentally tiring trips and suburban trains are dispelled when jointly considering the possibility of  
350 performing on-trip activities or having a pleasant trip. These are probably “high stakes-high  
351 rewards” means, in the sense that travelers can have potentially high benefits when using them,  
352 but such means can be rather tiring if this does not happen.

353 “Neutral” sensations are more frequently found in itemsets related to public transport (7  
354 itemsets out of 15) compared to other means. However, itemsets containing MUSENSATION =  
355 “Pleasant” are still the majority among those fifteen and moreover are very similar to the six  
356 itemsets pertaining to “Car driver not alone” and “Car passenger” that were previously  
357 interpreted and commented. This confirms the importance of considering a categorization of  
358 transport modes that is more based on the fact of travelling alone or with others, rather than on  
359 the actual kind of vehicle and of service being used, whenever we are considering traveler’s  
360 values and affective factors.

361

## 362 **DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

363 In this paper we presented some analyses aimed at uncovering the relationships between a set of  
364 constructs pertaining to the individual traveling experience and the use of different travel means,  
365 that were categorized also considering the individual point of view (e.g. travelling alone or with  
366 others) rather than exclusively referring to the standard classification operated in transport  
367 planning studies (car, rail, bus etc.). On an analytical point of view, the main difficulty was the  
368 need of working with non-metric information, which prevented us from using standard  
369 multivariate statistical analysis techniques. Two complementary methods have then been used to  
370 this effect. Correspondence analysis allowed us to examine the association between each variable  
371 and the 12 travel means that were defined, whereas association analysis jointly considered all  
372 variables for each travel means. To the best of our knowledge, these two techniques have been  
373 combined for the first time in a published work. Such methodology seems particularly suit to be

374 employed also with “big data”, where massive amounts of unstructured and often non-  
375 quantitative databanks need to be processed in order to extract the relevant information.

376 Several different findings have been shown when presenting the results in detail. We  
377 believe that the most important outcome from this research is having shown the importance of  
378 defining the set of travel modes in a different way, compared to what it is customarily done when  
379 the objective is modeling travel demand. Empirical evidence from this study has shown that, all  
380 else being equal since we consider a general sample, travel-related feelings are even more  
381 depending on the fact of travelling alone or with others, than on the actual means being used.  
382 Travelling with others is more associated to pleasant trips, irrespective of the fact of driving,  
383 being a passenger or riding transit. It is likely that most of previous studies concerning the  
384 symbolic and affective value of driving a car specially apply to solo drivers (cars and even more  
385 motorbikes).

386 The above results potentially have deep implications in transport planning and modeling  
387 practices. The importance of often neglected determinants for travel demand and mobility  
388 choices, ranging from the fact of travelling alone or with others to the possibility of performing  
389 different activities during the trip, has emerged. This suggest both new travel demand models  
390 specifications and new policy measures, for example to make environmentally benign means  
391 more attractive, reduce congestion, improve public health through the promotion of walking and  
392 cycling or assess the market potential of new services such as driverless cars.

393 Coming to the characterisation of different transport modes, active travel means (bicycles  
394 and walking) are associated with more pleasant but more physically tiring trips, and also with  
395 trips where feelings and on-trip activities are important, beyond the interest of getting to a  
396 destination. Jointly considering all variables, physically tiring bike trips are even associated with  
397 positive feelings. The effort needed to ride a bike constitutes a barrier for its use for those never  
398 riding, but our results indicate that this is not an issue for those using it. If the two groups of  
399 individuals are not significantly different, then creating occasions for anybody to try this means  
400 would be very important to overcome such “activation barrier”.

401 Public transit can be tiring, especially for trips where it is only important to get to  
402 destination. These are probably mandatory trips mostly taken during rush hours, where the  
403 performances of the services probably worsen. We also have a higher proportion of neutral  
404 sensations, but also a lot of pleasant trips, following patterns that are similar to those traveling by  
405 a private mode but not alone. Among the different forms of transit, suburban train trips are  
406 overall most tiring and most unpleasant, also because of the higher share of potentially  
407 mandatory trips. On the other hand, at least when having the possibility of performing on-trip  
408 activities, passenger evaluations radically change. It seems therefore particularly important to  
409 improve the performances of these means and introduce the possibility of performing on-trip  
410 activities on suburban trains. On the other hand, if we consider other transit modes such as buses,  
411 also different factors, such as travelling not alone, seem to play a role in shaping the passenger  
412 experience.

413 The interpretation of the above findings suggests that additional factors should be  
414 considered in future research efforts. In particular, considering also trip-related contextual  
415 variables, primarily the trip purpose (but also others such as travel distance), could help in better  
416 understanding some of the above commented relationships, since the proportion of trips made for  
417 different purposes or the distribution of travel distances are clearly not constant across several  
418 different modes. For example, we already mentioned that findings related to trips by public  
419 transport and suburban trains could be affected by a higher proportion of mandatory or  
420 commuting trips, so that it would be interesting to control for this effect. We believe that

421 Association Analysis can accommodate for this kind of analyses of increased complexity,  
422 although the selection process of the itemsets that should be scrutinized needs to be fine-tuned,  
423 also considering the method that was proposed here.  
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**TABLE 1 Definition of the Considered Variables and Corresponding Sample Sizes**

Variable	Question	Categories and related weighted frequencies	Total obs.	Useful obs.
MUFATIGUE	Was the trip tiring?	Physically (2.4%), Mentally (4.6%), Both (1.8%), Not tiring (91.2%)	13063	12539
MUSENSATION	Was the trip pleasant?	Pleasant (50.1%), Unpleasant (3.4%), Neutral (46.5%)	13061	12537
MURAISON	Was it only important to get to destination, or were on-trip activities or feelings important?	Direct (83.4%), Activity (10.4%), Feeling (6.2%)	13007	12485
MUACTI	Were some activities performed on-trip?	Yes (40.7%), No (59.3%)	13076	12552
PROMENADE	Was the trip purpose "going around without destination"?	Yes (2.9%), No (97.1%)	17940	17270
MODE	<i>Trip classification according to travel means (derived variable)</i>	On foot (21.1%), Bicycle (2.9%), Moped driver (0.8%), Motorbike driver (0.6%), Car driver alone (31.3%), Car driver not alone (18.5%), Car passenger (19.2%), School bus (1.1%), Urban bus (2.3%), Tramway (0.3%), Subway (1.5%), Suburban train (0.5%)	17270	-

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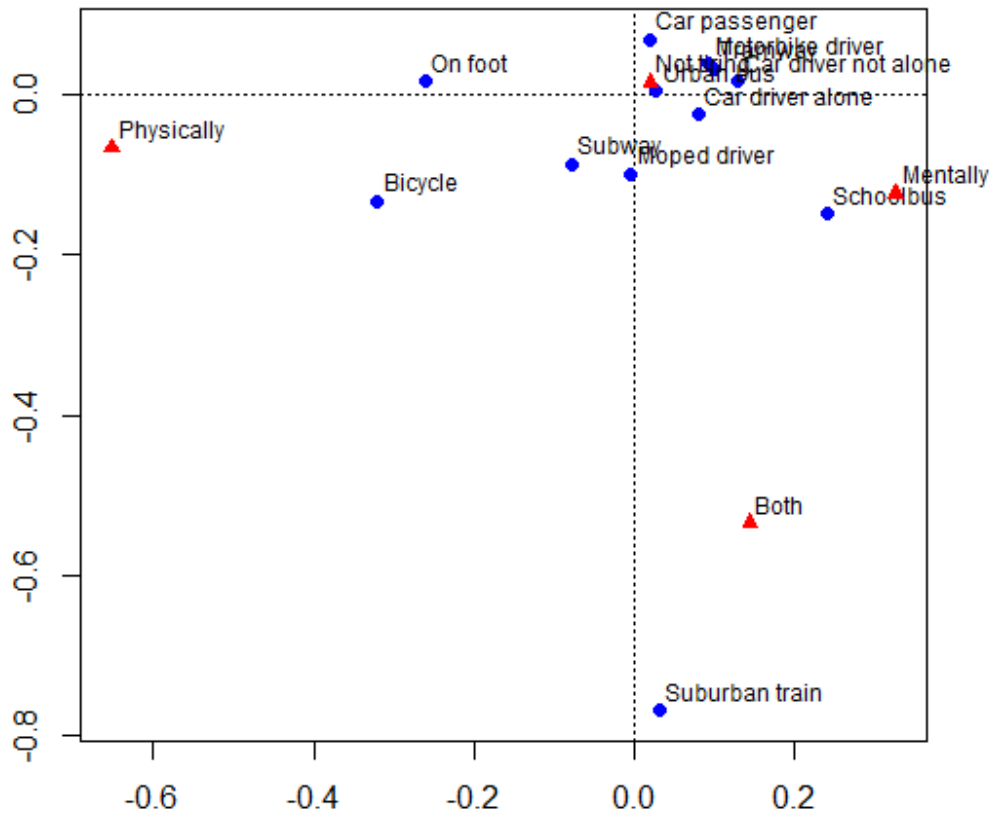
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**TABLE 2 Selected Itemsets for Each Travel Mode**

MODE	MUFATIGUE	MUSENSATION	MURAIISON	MUACTI	PROMEN	PF	Lift
On foot	Not tiring	Pleasant	Feeling	Yes	Yes	1.51%	146.34
On foot	Not tiring	Pleasant	Feeling	No	Yes	1.32%	84.40
On foot	Not tiring	Pleasant	Activity	Yes	Yes	1.10%	70.90
Bicycle	Not tiring	Pleasant	Feeling	Yes	Yes	1.10%	106.58
Bicycle	Not tiring	Pleasant	Feeling	No	Yes	1.54%	98.61
Bicycle	Physically	Pleasant	Feeling	No	No	1.76%	64.11
Car driver alone	Not tiring	Neutral	Direct	No	No	33.93%	5.91
Car driver alone	Not tiring	Pleasant	Direct	No	No	15.54%	2.50
Car driver alone	Not tiring	Unpleasant	Direct	No	No	1.00%	2.47
Car driver not alone	Not tiring	Pleasant	Activity	Yes	No	3.96%	7.72
Car driver not alone	Not tiring	Pleasant	Feeling	Yes	No	2.37%	6.93
Car driver not alone	Not tiring	Pleasant	Direct	Yes	No	17.51%	4.27
Car passenger	Not tiring	Pleasant	Activity	Yes	No	4.94%	9.64
Car passenger	Not tiring	Pleasant	Feeling	Yes	No	2.65%	7.77
Car passenger	Not tiring	Pleasant	Direct	Yes	No	23.78%	5.80
Moped driver	Not tiring	Neutral	Direct	No	No	31.46%	5.48
Moped driver	Not tiring	Pleasant	Direct	No	No	22.47%	3.62
Motorbike driver	Not tiring	Pleasant	Feeling	No	No	14.13%	27.36
Motorbike driver	Not tiring	Pleasant	Direct	No	No	32.61%	5.25
Motorbike driver	Not tiring	Neutral	Direct	No	No	14.13%	2.46
School bus	Not tiring	Neutral	Direct	Yes	No	32.73%	8.63
School bus	Not tiring	Pleasant	Direct	Yes	No	21.82%	5.32
School bus	Not tiring	Pleasant	Direct	No	No	11.82%	1.90
Suburban train	Not tiring	Neutral	Direct	Yes	No	16.67%	4.39
Suburban train	Not tiring	Pleasant	Direct	Yes	No	14.81%	3.61
Suburban train	Not tiring	Neutral	Direct	No	No	12.04%	2.10
Subway	Physically	Neutral	Direct	Yes	No	2.47%	12.26
Subway	Not tiring	Pleasant	Activity	Yes	No	5.25%	10.24
Subway	Not tiring	Pleasant	Feeling	Yes	No	1.85%	5.42
Tramway	Not tiring	Neutral	Direct	Yes	No	20.00%	5.27
Tramway	Not tiring	Neutral	Direct	No	No	30.00%	5.23
Tramway	Not tiring	Pleasant	Direct	Yes	No	17.50%	4.27
Urban bus	Physically	Neutral	Direct	No	No	2.70%	8.77
Urban bus	Not tiring	Pleasant	Feeling	Yes	No	2.70%	7.82
Urban bus	Not tiring	Pleasant	Activity	Yes	No	3.00%	5.79

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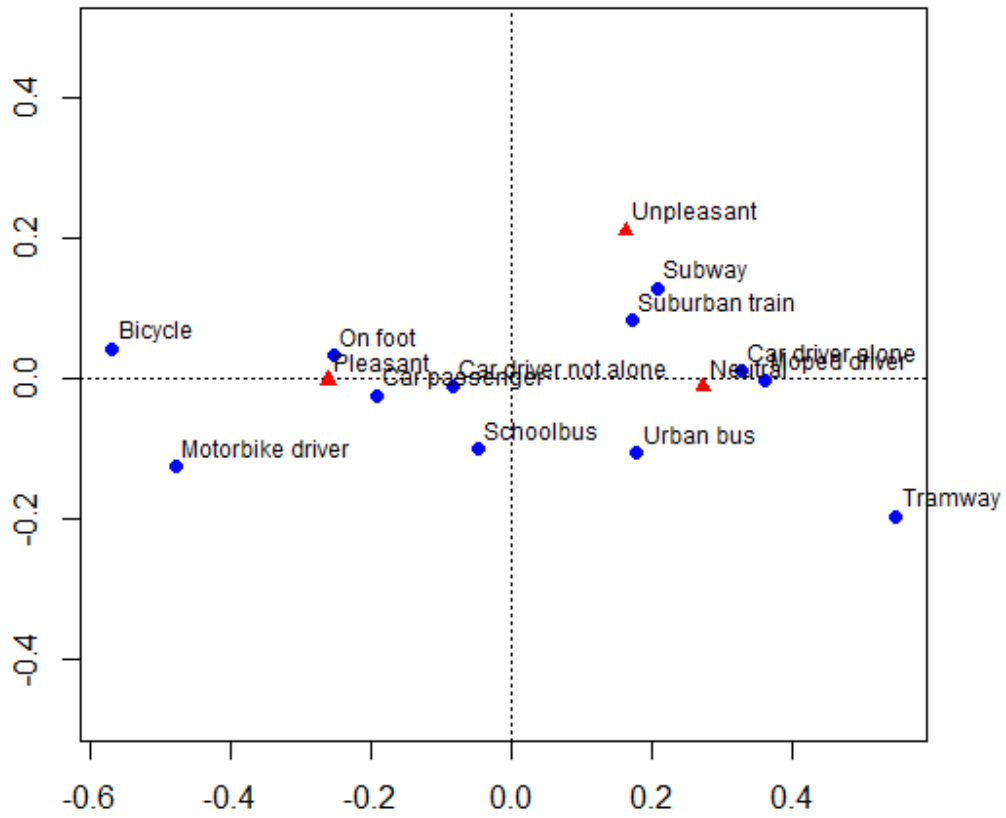
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FIGURE 1 Correspondence analysis of MUFATIGUE (triangles) and MODE (dots).

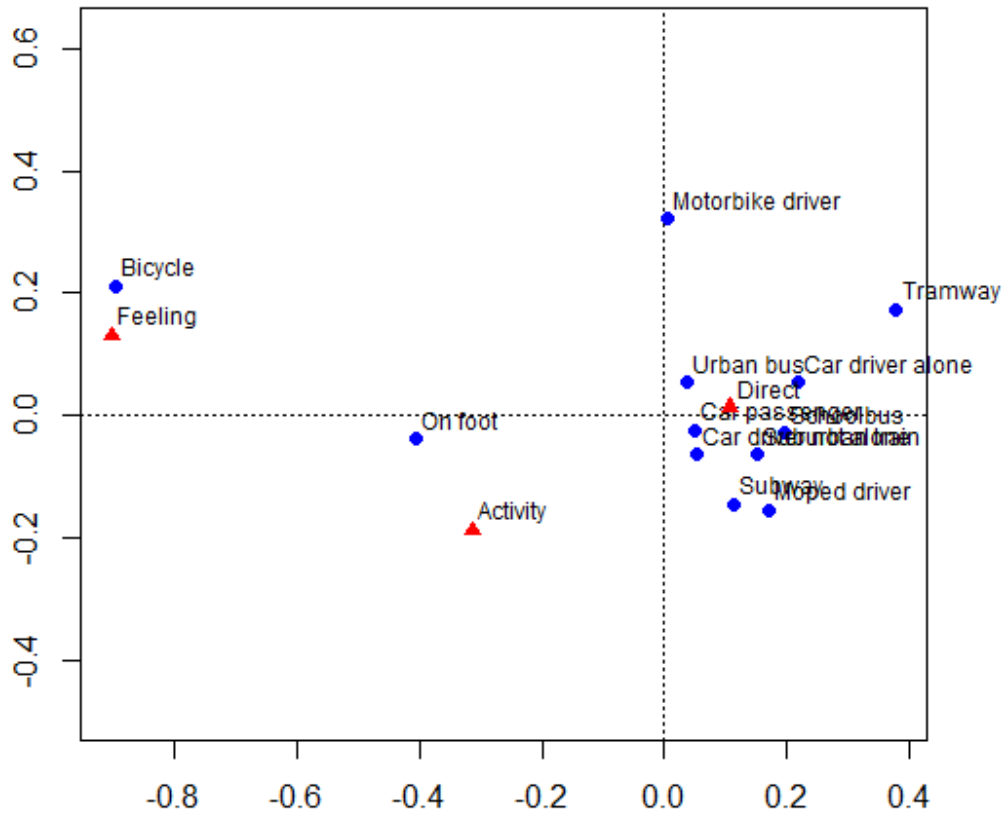
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FIGURE 2 Correspondence analysis of MUSENSATION (triangles) and MODE (dots).

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FIGURE 3 Correspondence analysis of MURAISON (triangles) and MODE (dots).