

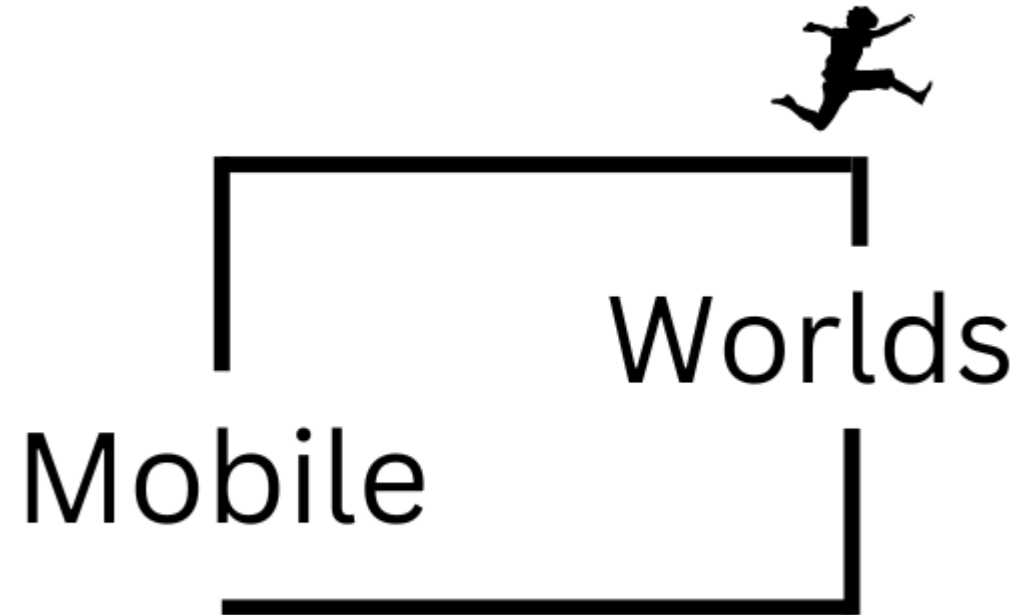


Western Norway
University of
Applied Sciences

Transcending the duality of the “mobile” and “immobile”

Revealing human capacities for planetary
wellbeing through “third cultures”

Kim Carlotta von Schönfeld
MSCA Research Fellow, HVL, Bergen
Mobil.TUM 2024
10 April 2024



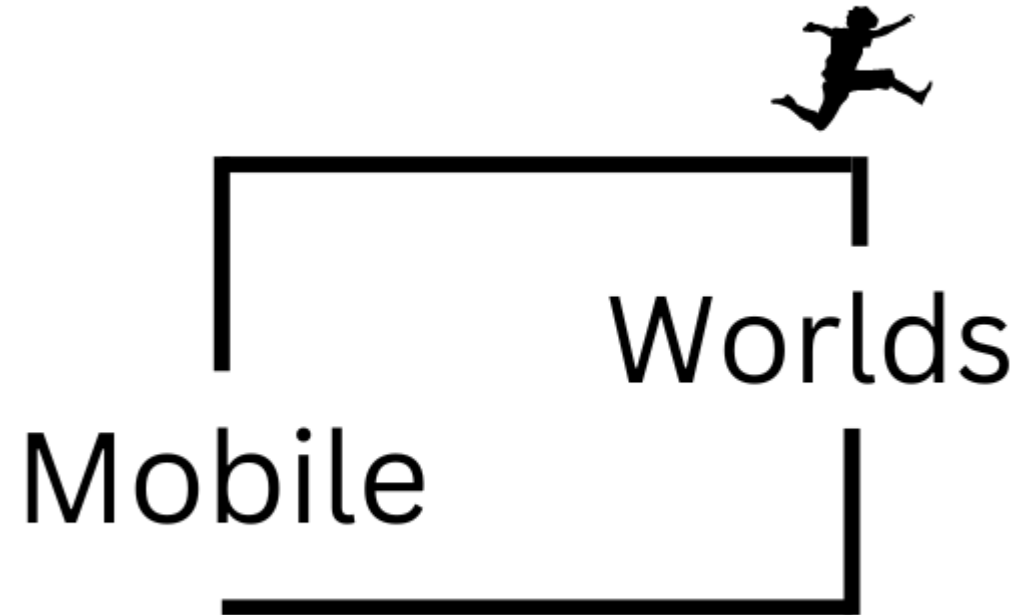


Western Norway
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Transcending cultural binaries / singularism

Revealing human capacities for planetary
wellbeing and sustainable mobility
through “third cultures”

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“I like cycling, but it’s just not done/possible here”

“Having a car is a status symbol”

“Cycling is for the Dutch!”

“When I have kids, I’ll need a car”

“Public transport is just how you get around here”

“We depend on the car”

“They drive like crazy here!”

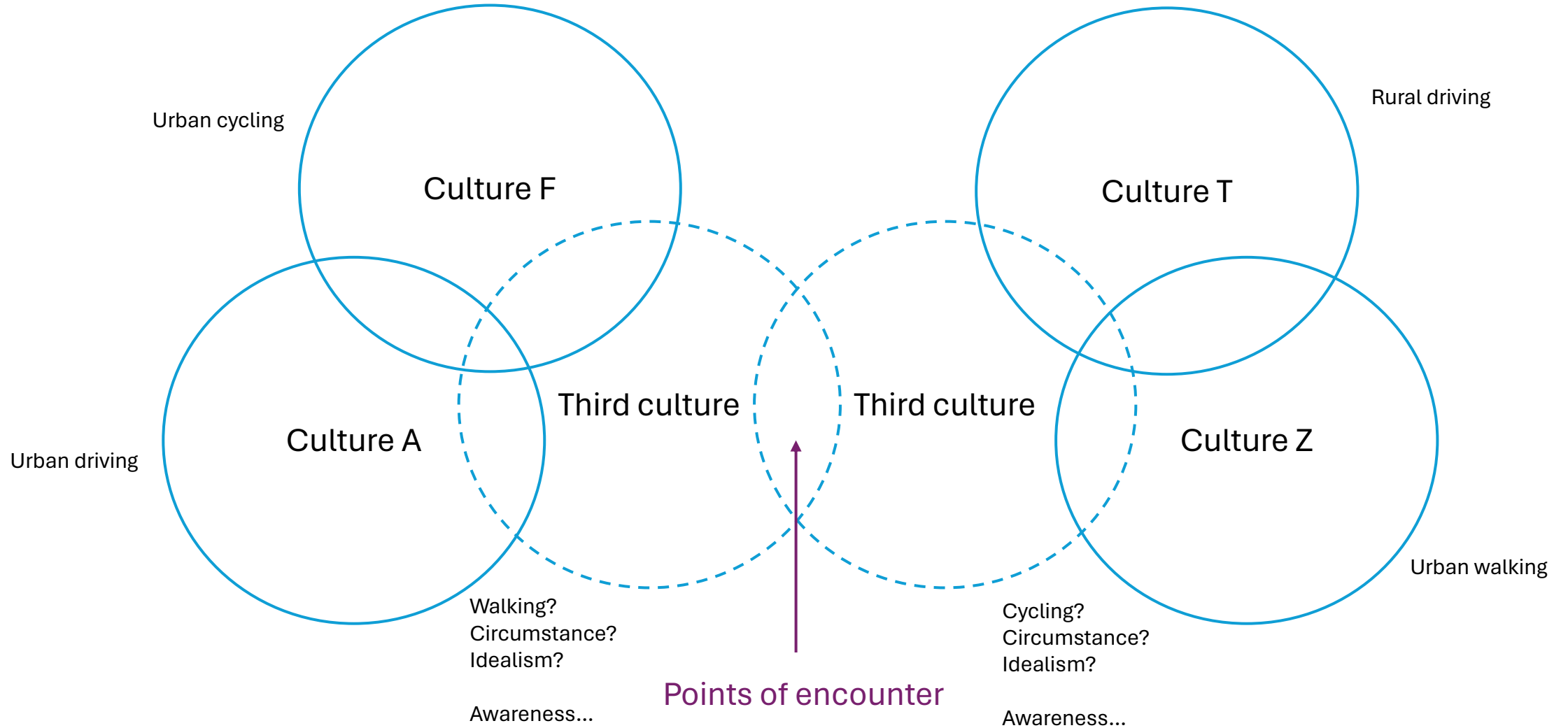
Mobile Worlds asks:

How can we transcend cultural binaries or singularisms or determinism, that we use to justify mobility practices we rationally would reject?

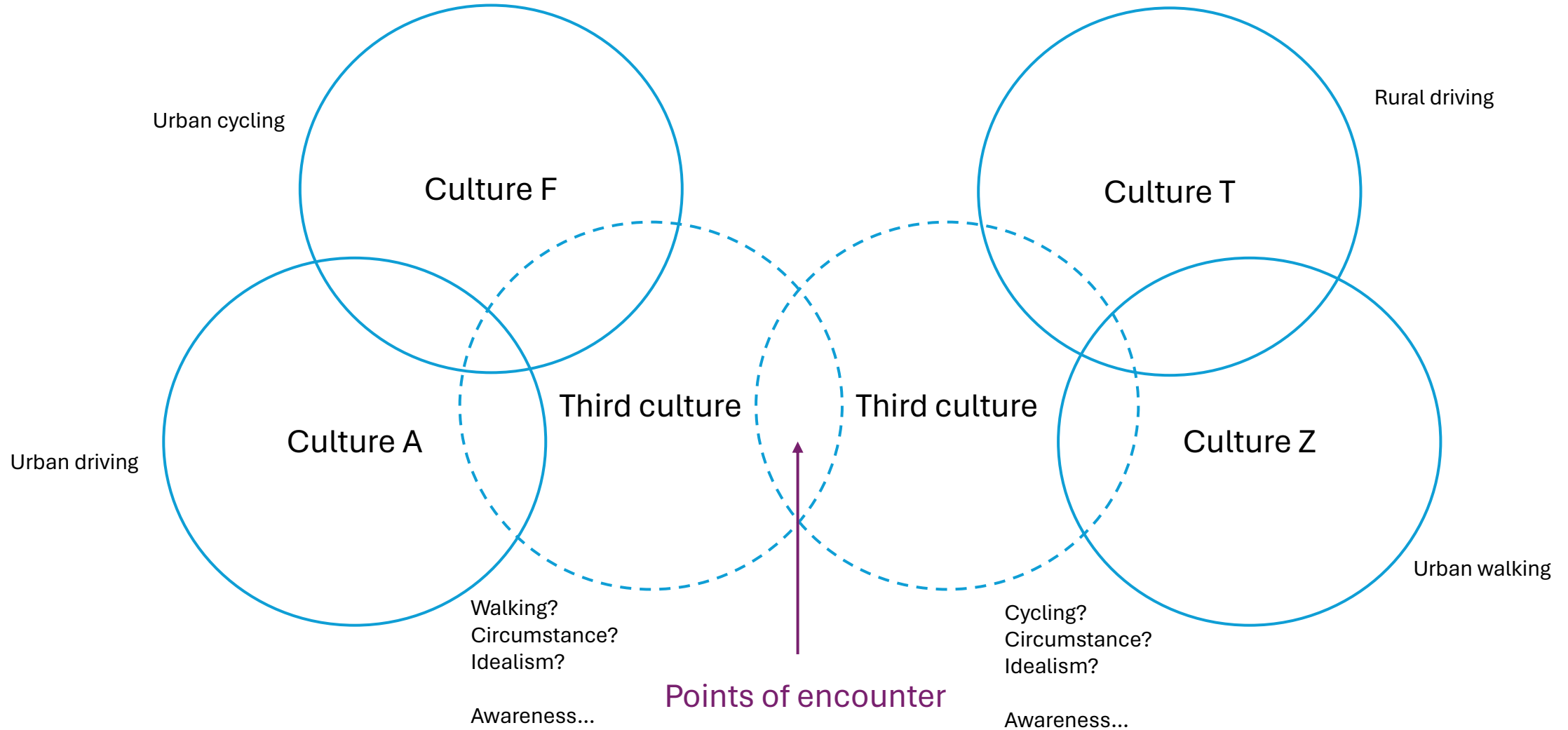
“Culture” here understood as a set of norms and values that an individual and/or group uses to (intuitively) know what is “done” or “not done”. It can be a national, regional, local or subcultural “culture”, and we leave quite open what people might determine this to mean for themselves, exactly.

Perhaps “third cultures” and creative methods could help?
“Breaking out of boxes”

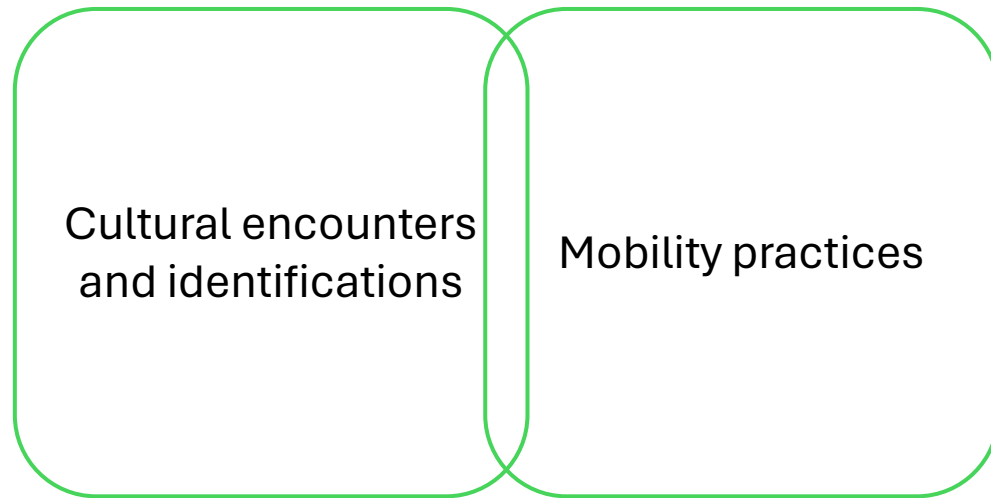
Who here has significant experience in more than one culture?



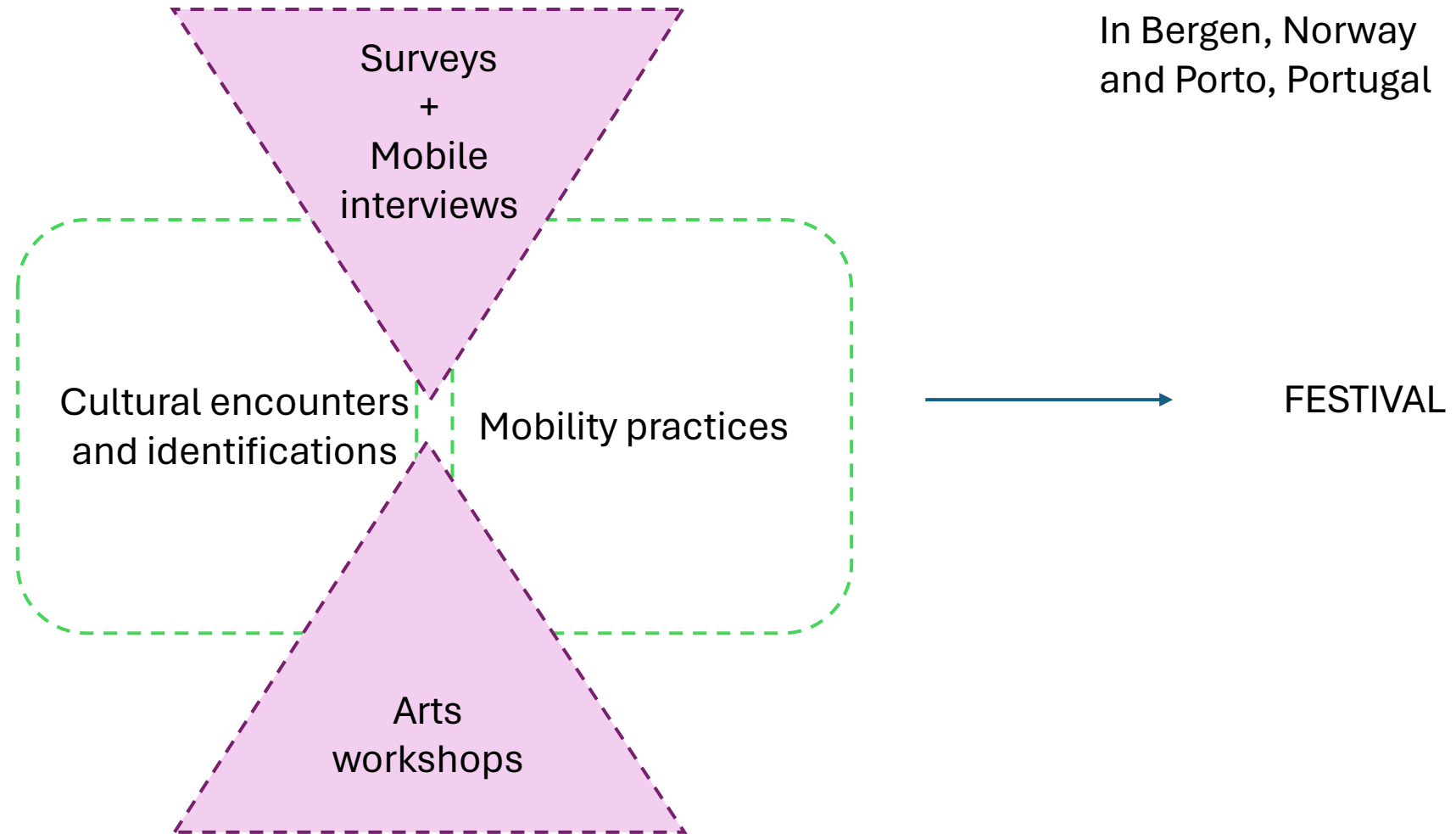
What if we ask what different cultures we have within each of us, and how they make us think about mobility?
What might points of encounter look like in terms of mobility?
Might we find something unexpected?



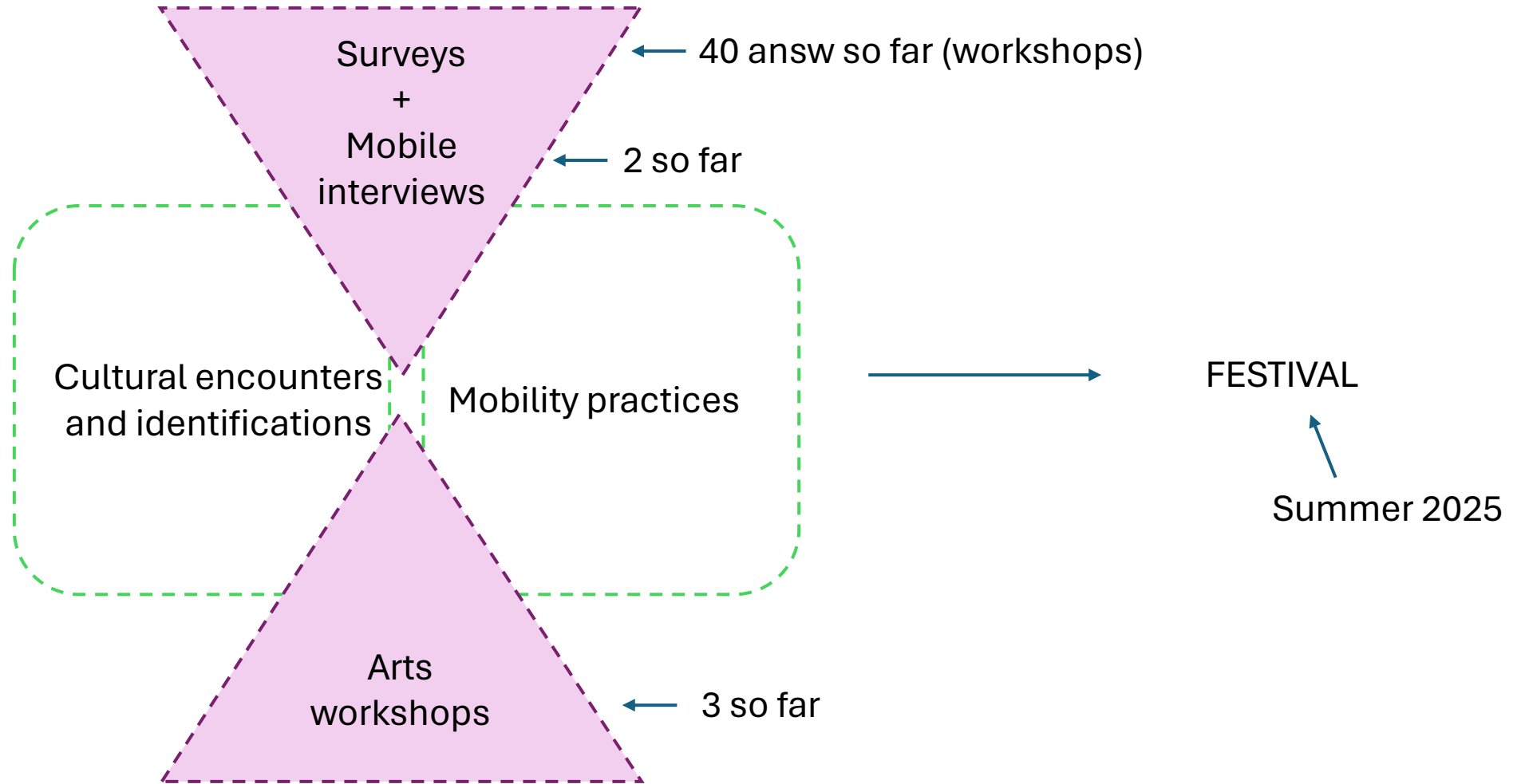
Methodology



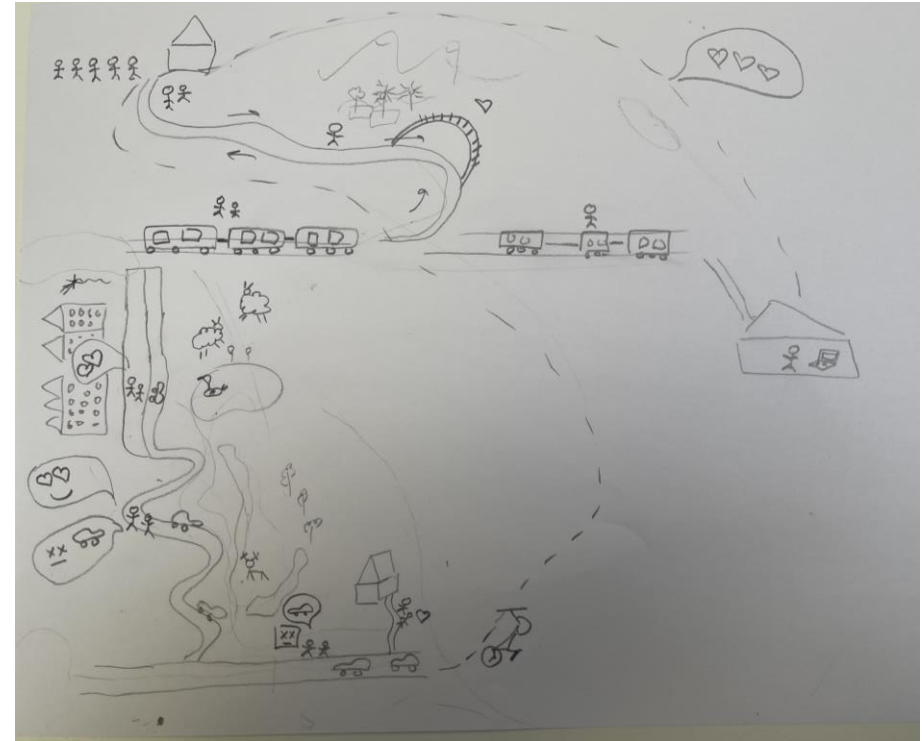
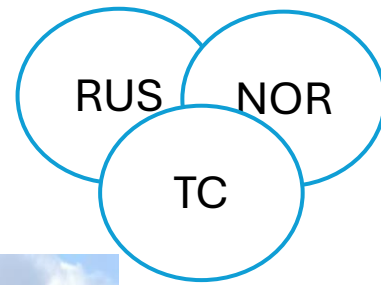
Methodology



Methodology



Methodology – Mobile Interviews



Walking on roads relatively normalised? What is “safe”? What “can be done”?

Methodology – Workshop Materials



Methodology – Workshop Set-up

- Super short introduction
- Individual
 - **Drawing** exercise: “Draw your path from home to work” and prompts, such as “What is your favourite transport and why?” + sharing
 - (**Post-it** exercise: which cultures have you had contact with; which do you identify with (also others’))
- Break
- Group
 - **Futuring** – ideal situation (choosing one path from the group and re-make it based on a dominant culture, and then based on a mixed culture from the group)
- Sharing



First findings

NATIONAL

Norwegian
Mid-west USA
AUSSIES
Mexican
NORWEGIAN
SWEDISH
Norwegian
German
Norwegian
MILLENNIALS
Arabic culture
SOUTH
EUROPE
British
British
South Norway
French

REGIONAL

WESTERN NORWAY COUNTRY JOE
Norwegian West Coast (East)
Bodø/Vanng
MOLDENSER
TRONDØR
NORDCENING
Telavak
CITY (SLO)
Sorlandet
Bergen
Finnmark

LOCAL

Parents group on the island holding rural area
RURAL
Local YOUTH CULTURE
STRIK
URBAN
Bygda
Rural culture "car-busy culture" in Norway
SMALL TOWN
URBAN CULTURE
Rural
Urban
Kulturisk
Bygdekvinner

OTHER (non-spatial)

ART COOPER
WORK
RELIGIOUS
ACADEMIA
DANCE
SOME
Kase
Student
SPORTS TEAM
POLITIKERE
BOUCES
UNGE POLITIKERE
TEKNOLOGIET
Indigenous
Art
Urban
Small district

First findings

- “Other” cultures are very common – more than “national”
 - Urban-rural divide was an important “cultural” divide
 - “Academic” culture came up frequently during the two academics’ workshops
 - More “temporary” cultures, such as “student” came up as well
- The bike (and walking) came up frequently
- Cars have not been so dominant, but among non-academics definitely more
- Identification with the “cultures” of others is frequent



Preliminary conclusions & next steps

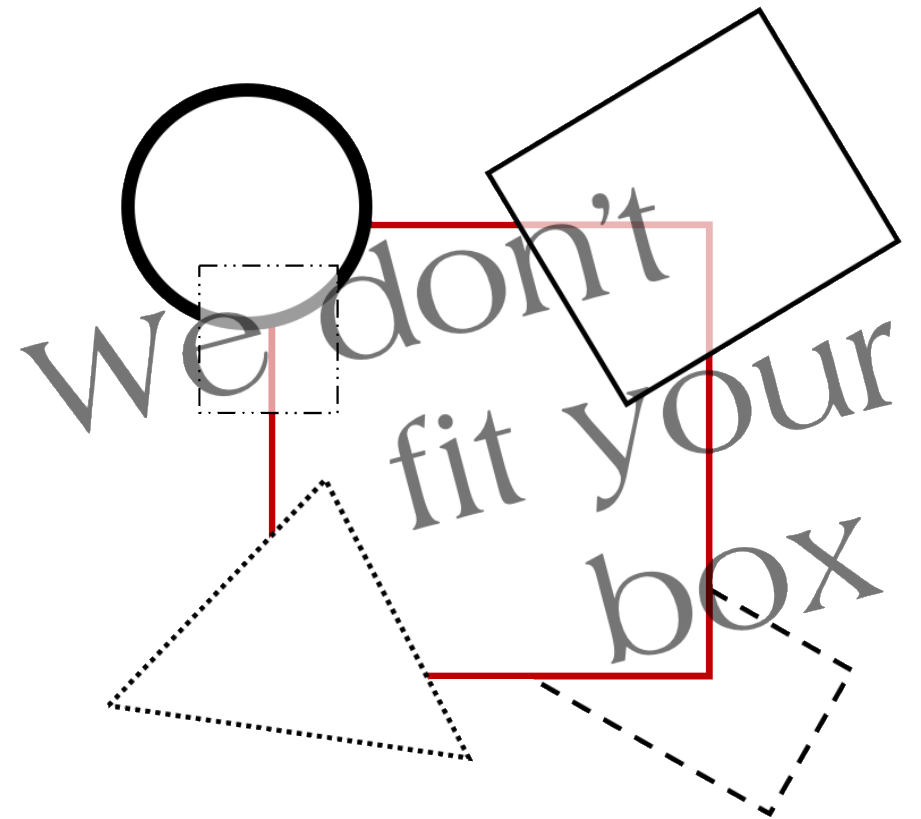
- A lot of “anecdotes” so far
- Quite a positive response to active participation (self-selection...? Not only...)
- Link between mobility and culture not obvious to everyone, but seems to reflect culture in some ways (e.g. whether you look for comfort, safety, fun, speed, status, etc.)
- Recognising “cultures” beyond “nationality” among planners (practice and research)
- Connecting to a different self-understanding via hands-on creative activities
- Work with all ages
- Not so much look for a generally applicable result, but see how differently such creative methods work among various groups, and perhaps trigger one or a couple of unexpected/unusual ideas

Look out for...

- Expert survey
- Workshop invites in Bergen and Porto
- Interview/portrait invites
- The FESTIVAL

and more....!

<https://mobileworlds.online>



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Thank you for your attention

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