

## ERSA 2019

Call for Abstracts

Special Session 'Students, University and the City: Location Choice and Mobility behaviour'

Title: Do residential change influence students travel mode choice? A qualitative analysis from University of Lyon.

*Chloé Morhain  
Louafi Bouzouina*

Young people's behaviours are a key issue in transportation research for several reasons: two of them are because they will be the users of tomorrow, and because their mobility are often indicative of new practices. We are now witnessing changes in mobility behaviours, which young people are often at the origin: lowering of driving licence (Evolmob, 2016) growth of shared mobility, mobility as a service, etc. These changes are also witnessed in housing behaviours: strong increase of flat sharing, studentification of some districts. Despite all these changes, students practices remain unclear today. The student population, although it has been studied for several years in the United Kingdom for many years (Alamel, 2018), is still little studied as a central object in the French literature. A recent literature review notices few articles or reports on student mobility for example (Baron et al., 2017). Beyond this student population still little studied, many studies tend to show that a link between the residential environment of individuals and their preferences for travel. Beyond this link that we can now consider established, there remains a large number of issues about the understanding of explanatory factors this relationship between residential choices and travel, especially for this student population. This is the issue we want to question in this article.

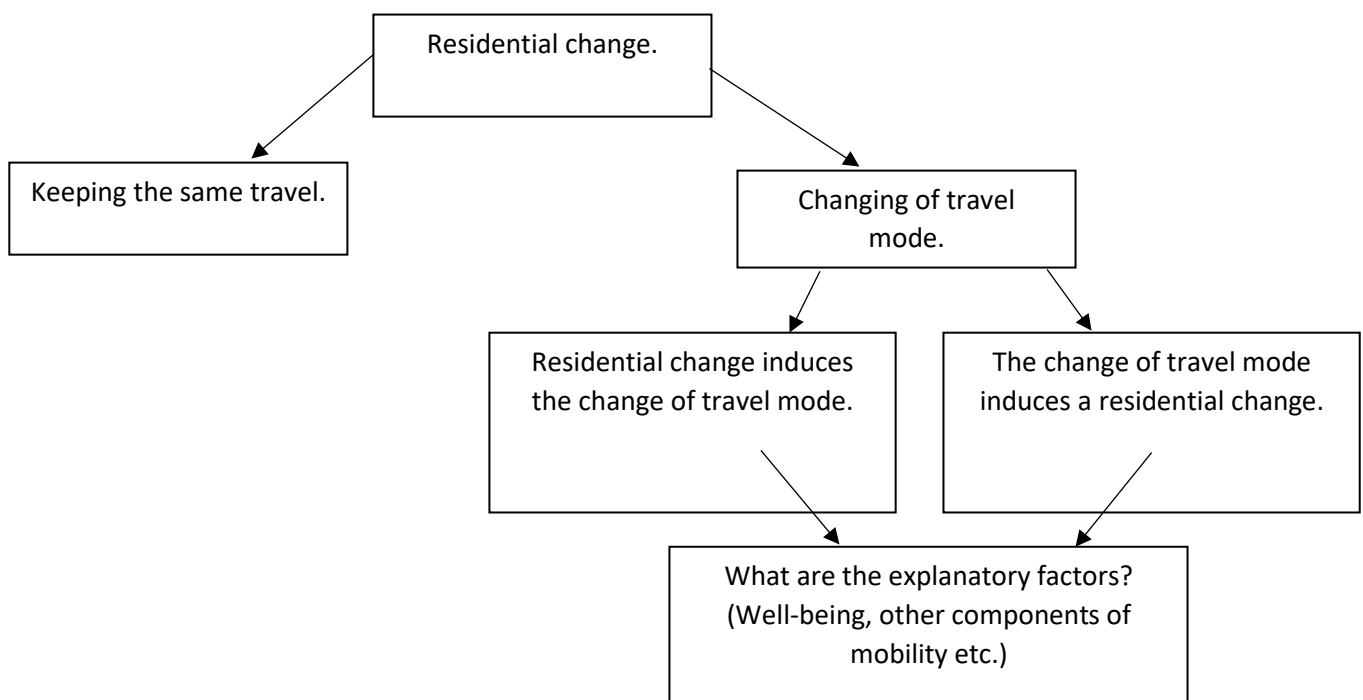
In order to study mobility behaviours and residential choices, this article is based on the data produced by the MobiCampus survey over the 2016–2017 period. This MobiCampus project, originally planned for three years, aims to produce and analyse data on the mobility practices of users of the various university campuses of the University of Lyon (UdL). As part of this survey, all types of university audiences were surveyed; teacher-researchers, administrative staff and students. However, we have chosen to focus here on the data produced for the student public, because it is usually unknown to investigators and developers.

The MobiCampus-UdL project is both an articulation of methodologies and themes: from the place of study or work that is the university, we chose to analyse mobility behaviour and residential choices. This intersection between mobility and residential choice allows us to understand the question of residential choices in a very broad perspective, by analysing the location, accessibility, but also the lifestyle choices that seem particularly significant in the residential choices of students. The issue of student housing and more specifically residential choices seemed particularly relevant to us in the context of a global study on the academic mobility, with a view to creating an observatory. Indeed, these themes are fundamentally related, and the study of the Lyon case seems necessary, as it is the largest provincial market for private studio rentals. Today, more than 50,000 privately rented studios in Greater Lyon, nearly half of which are rented by students (Rental Observatory, 2016). Based on these first data and the lack of knowledge of student practices in housing – even more in the private domain

than in the social domain – it seemed appropriate to offer a reflection on the student public and their residential choices. To study the mutual influence of residential changes on student travel.

A starting hypothesis is built around residential change among students in whom this change is considered to be chosen. At the time of changing residence, it is a question about analysing students travel mode. If the change of residence does not induce a change of mode, the durability factors of this travel mode will be analysed. Conversely, if the residential change induces a change of mode, it will be to understand if the residential change itself induced the change of mode or if it is a preference for a mode that influenced the change of residence. The description of this hypothesis is presented in the following diagram (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Diagram of the explanatory factors of changing mode or residential choice



The MobiCampus survey aims to collect different types of data, including qualitative interviews. For the purposes of this article, only interviews with students have been taken into account. On a panel of 59 qualitative interviews collected in the framework of the MobiCampus survey, 34 concern students: the other interviews concern members of the staff and faculty of universities. From these 34 student interviews, a new sort was made within the panel. Indeed, in order to limit biases and analyse only residential change in students, only those students who reported having chosen their current residence was selected; out of 34 students, 20 are considered to have chosen their current place of residence.

The profiles of students who have not been retained generally belong to students who are still living with their parents (who did not have to search for and choose accommodation), or students who have moved into their peer or spouse apartment. Some student profiles were also excluded from our study panel because they applied for social housing at CROUS; this attribution by the CROUS does not allow

the students to choose their university residence in a precise way, they are considered as having not chosen their current residence. In order to keep only the profiles of surveys that had made a real choice for their residence, students who benefited from housing by opportunity will not be studied either. These residences by opportunity exist as well among students living alone or in flat-sharing. They do not belong to a real choice nor a process of research from the occupants, which is why they were excluded from our final panel of which here is a summary. The summary table shows the interviews that were selected for this study.

Figure 2: Table of the selected interviews

<b>Name</b>	<b>Choice of residence</b>	<b>Type of housing</b>
Adriana	No	At their parents place
Alexandre	Yes	With a partner
Alexia	Yes	Alone (asked to stay at her CROUS apartment)
Alisson	Yes	Flat-sharing
Laura	Yes	Alone
Anais	No	Find a place in an already formed collocation (opportunity)
Anna	Yes	Flat-sharing
Apolline	No	At their parents place
Armand	Yes	Flat-sharing
Charlotte	No	At their parents and at her partner's apartment
Chloé	Yes	With a partner
Clélia	No	At their parents place
Constance	Yes	With a partner
Edgar	Yes	Flat-sharing
Elena	Yes	Alone
Etienne	Yes	Flat-sharing
Gabriel	No	With a partner (moved to his wife's apartment)
Guillaume	No	Alone (in an apartment by opportunity)
Juan-Pedro	Yes	Alone
Julia	No	Alone (CROUS)
Julien	Yes	Alone
Lisa	Yes	With a partner
Marianne	No	At their parents place
Marina	No	Alone in a flat her parents bought
Marion	Yes	Alone
Nathan	No	At their parents place
Pablo	No	Alone in a flat chosen by his mother
Paola	Yes	Alone
Paul	Yes	Flat-sharing
Pierre	Yes	With a partner
Rosalie	No	No housing mentioned
Salomé	Yes	Flat-sharing
Valentin	Yes	Flat-sharing

Among the profiles of students selected in the qualitative interview panel, an analysis will be made from the profiles who reported having changed their mode of travel after a residential change. By this analysis, we try to solve a chicken and egg issue about mobility and residential choices; do mobility behaviours effect residential choices, or is residential choice influencing mobility behaviours? From a built-in residential change, how to sort out the preference for the travel mode from the choice of a residence? Between all the profiles we keep from the original qualitative panel, we will make a typology analysis to identify explanatory factors of these students' choices.