

# The Propensity to Cycle Tool



A nationally scalable strategic cycle network planning tool

Robin Lovelace, Associate Professor of Transport Data Science  
ITS, University of Leeds

ERTICO presentation 2020-10-11



**WWW.PCT.BIKE**  
PROPENSITY TO CYCLE TOOL



## How the PCT works

# The first prototype of the PCT

- 1st prototype: Hackathon at ODI Leeds in February 2015
- We identifying key routes and mapped them
- For description of aims, see Lovelace et al. (2017)

- Launched in 2017 with the Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy (CWIS)

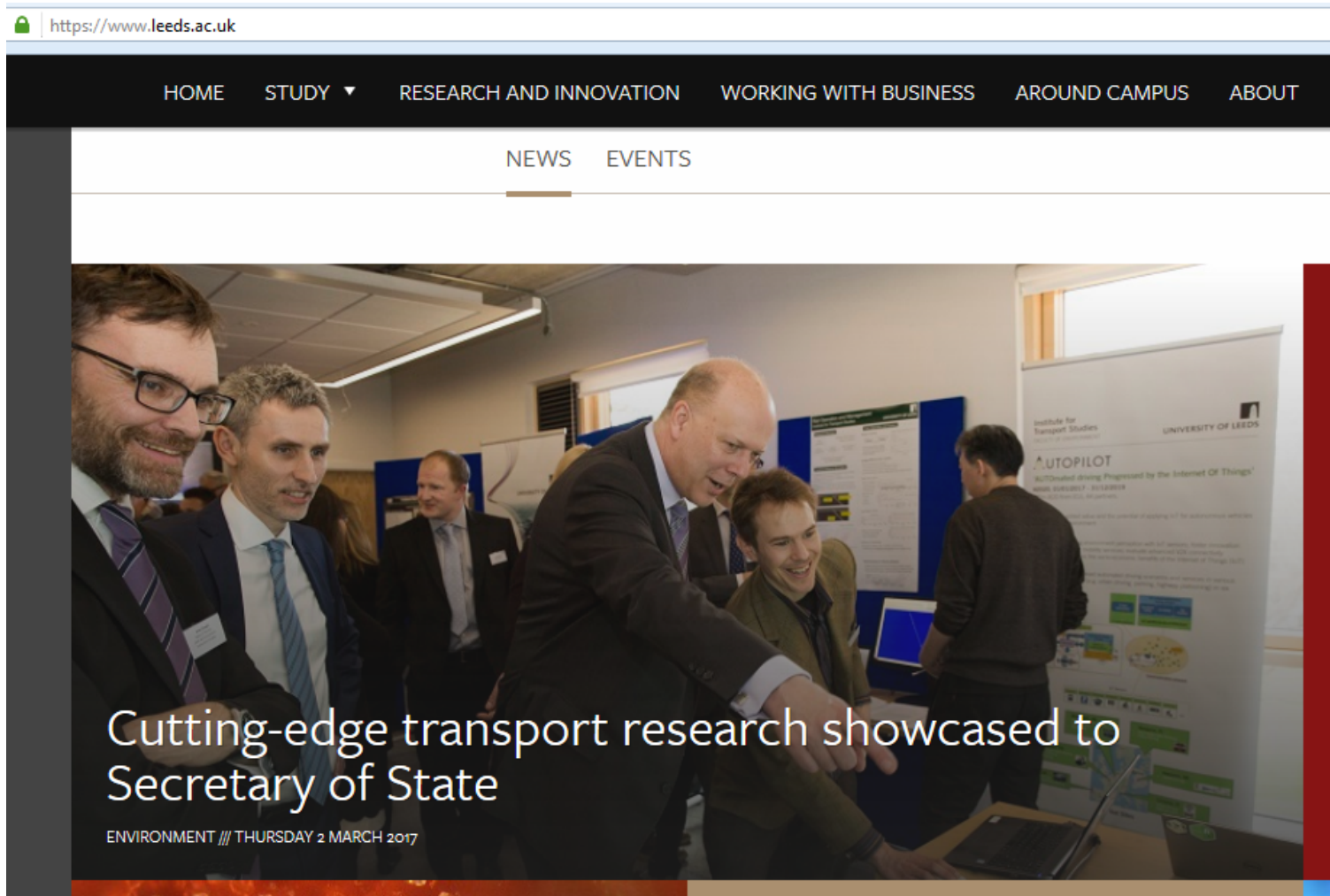


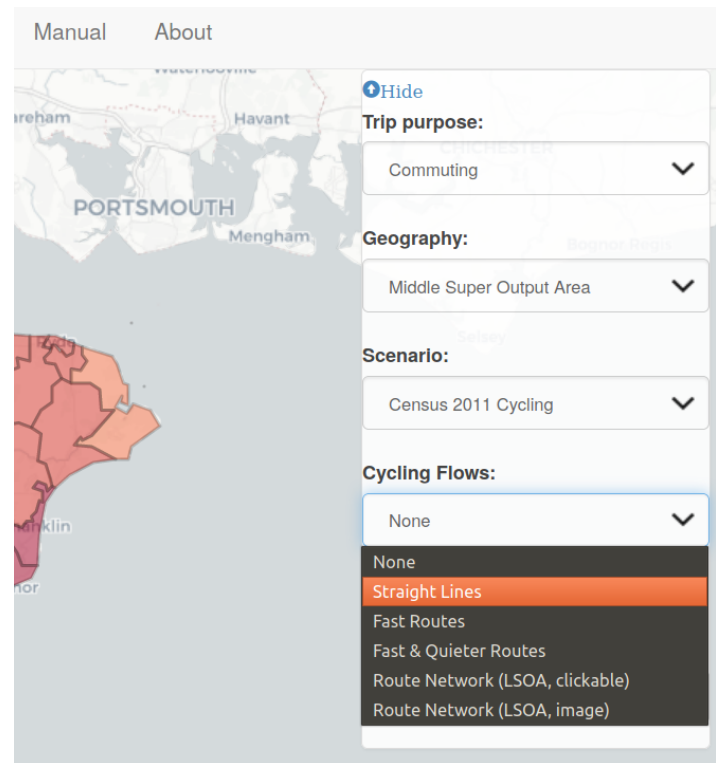
Photo: demo of the PCT to Secretary of State for Transport (March 2017)

# The PCT in 2020

- Now the go-to tool for strategic cycle network planning in England and Wales, used by most local authorities with cycling plans ([source](#)).

## Geographic levels in the PCT

- Generate and analyse route networks for transport planning with reference to:
  - Zones
  - Origin-destination (OD) data
  - Geographic desire lines
  - Route allocation using different routing services
  - Route network generation and analysis

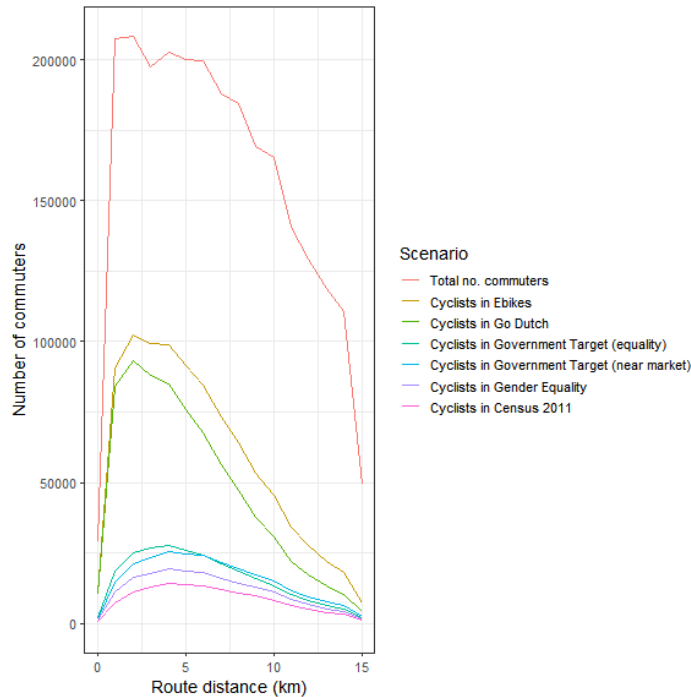


See these levels at [www.pct.bike](http://www.pct.bike)

# Route networks

```
rnet = stplanr::overline(r, "bicycle")  
plot(rnet, lwd = rnet$bicycle / 10)
```

# Cycling uptake



## Cycling potential in London under scenarios of change

- Ebike scenario is most ambitious
- Government target can be set to local priorities

Dose/response modelling: about cycling in response to distance, hilliness and other factors. Source: [pct R package website](#)

# Live demo of the PCT for Bristol

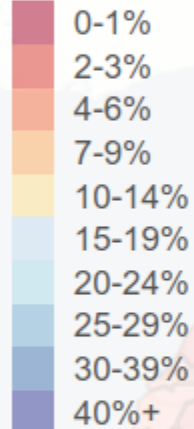
See <https://www.pct.bike/>

Map Region stats Region data National data Manual About

+

-

% cycling to work



Hide

Trip purpose:

Commuting



Geography:

Middle Super Output Area



Scenario:

Census 2011 Cycling



Cycling Flows:

None



☒ Show Zones

Map Base:

Roadmap (Black & White)



5 km

5 mi



# Uses of the PCT

- Visioning
- Planning strategic cycle networks
- Identifying corridors with high latent demand

Uses that were not initially planned

- Pop-up cycleway planning
- LTN planning?

# Deploying in new contexts

- Requires survey based or synthetic OD data, to be processed by software developed at Leeds (Lovelace and Ellison, 2018)
- For more on methods, see the [transport chapter](#) (available free online) (Lovelace, Nowosad, and Muenchow, 2019)
- Can also be used for specific contexts (e.g. cycling to school, cycling to public transport) (Goodman, Rojas, Woodcock, et al., 2019)

For further info, see the training materials at [itsleeds.github.io](https://github.com/itsleeds)

# References

- [1] A. Goodman, I. F. Rojas, J. Woodcock, et al. "Scenarios of cycling to school in England, and associated health and carbon impacts: Application of the 'Propensity to Cycle Tool'". In: *Journal of Transport & Health* 12 (Mar. 2019), pp. 263-278. ISSN: 2214-1405. DOI: 10.1016/j.jth.2019.01.008. URL: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214140518301257> (visited on 03/04/2019).
- [2] R. Lovelace and R. Ellison. "stplanr: A Package for Transport Planning". In: *The R Journal* 10.2 (2018), pp. 7-23. DOI: 10.32614/RJ-2018-053. URL: <https://doi.org/10.32614/RJ-2018-053> (visited on 11/24/2016).
- [3] R. Lovelace, J. Nowosad, and J. Muenchow. *Geocomputation with R*. CRC Press, 2019. ISBN: 1-138-30451-4. (visited on 10/05/2017).