<https://www.climatecentral.org/news/city-tailpipe-emissions-18861#>

Oh no, urban areas cause so much carbon emissions, especially cars. Why don’t more people use public transit? There are so many cities that have train lines, there are even train lines between cities!

<https://kinder.rice.edu/urbanedge/racism-has-shaped-public-transit-and-its-riddled-inequities>

I just learned that train stations and public transit in general is “riddled with inequalities”. This is unacceptable. What causes these scenarios where even the placement of train stations is racist?

<https://www.c40knowledgehub.org/s/article/How-cities-can-make-public-transport-inclusive-equitable-and-accessible-for-everyone?language=en_US>

This is a great article on make public transit more equitable for all. Talks about considering population density and commuter preferences.

Well, there is an equitable way to make train stations so why doesn’t someone get on that. Maybe make some sort of system to place them first. Maybe the issue is currently planning? There are no apparent answers.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-06-10/america-s-train-stations-an-architectural-explainer>

Interesting seems it might be a mentality issue. Helping create new developments is cool and all, but what about neighborhoods that already exist?

Ok I have been thinking, what if there was an AI that could determine train station placements based on population density data. I could take an image of some city and return that city with train stations placed around it.

Since my last tweet many people have been asking me question about how this can be equitable, considering Ruha Benjamin’s work regarding how AI reiterates preexisting forms of inequality and hierarchy(1/x).

What if we didn’t train it on existing data, and rather placed points based purely off external factors and called that our train station map. This would deal with basing the ai off existing problematic train stations. 2/x

Referencing Sylvia Wynter’s work on Man 1 and Man 2, we can aim to shift away from The Man1 perspective of a system for train locations would have data that primarily reflects historical patterns of development.

3/x

Towards the direction of Man 2 by using a full scope of data and making mathematical decisions that limit the distance between train stations and those who are most marginalized by being on the outskirts of a station’s respective region. End of my little twitter rant.

4/end

Just realized that linking the population data to map data is kind of like the where system from act-r. Funny little coincidence, but really helps understand how to view the ideas from prior tweets from the perspective of human cognition.

I think the AI makes a lot of sense if it can input map data and respond with train station placements to help plan. The issue is building them, but I guess that needs to come from higher up. Hopefully something comes of this because less pollution is always better.

This kind of idea is reliant on people acting on it unfortunately. But imagine a world with more trains in places where people need them. It would also encourage so many more people to use public transit, only a net positive!