FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Last-Mile Logistics in London

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Abstract: Light and heavy goods vehicles account for approximately 23% of all road vehicle activity in the UK, with commercial van traffic rising year-on-year. In 2023-24, the UK parcel market handled 3.9 billion items, creating significant operational challenges for last-mile delivery. In this talk, I will present findings from the research project FTC2050: Freight Traffic Control 2050, which examined the impact of 'business-as-usual' carrier operations in London. I will describe the modus operandi and key challenges faced by last-mile logistics providers, explore alternative distribution strategies to enhance efficiency, discuss the mathematical modelling complexities involved, and share key results. This talk is based on joint work with co-authors from the Universities of Lancaster, Southampton, Westminster, and UCL.

Bio: Tolga Bektas is a Professor of Logistics Management within the Operations and Supply Chain Management Group at the University of Liverpool Management School. His research focuses on applying mathematical modelling and optimisation techniques to freight transportation, distribution planning, and supply chain networks, with an emphasis on improving their environmental performance.