

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Department of Logistics and Maritime Studies
Research Seminar

Incentive Regulation of Transportation Network Companies: Some Preliminary Thoughts

by

Prof. Richard ARNOTT
Distinguished Professor
Department of Economics
University of California, Riverside

Date: 13 March 2018 (Tuesday)
Time: 10:30am - 11:30am
Venue: R602, Shirley Chan Building
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

(Conducted in English)

Abstract:

One of the most significant changes in urban transportation in recent years has been the growth in “ridesharing”. This growth derives from technological improvements in dispatching. Ridesharing companies emerged since traditional taxis companies were slow to respond to this innovation, largely due to fare and entry regulation. The larger is a ridesharing company, the greater are the spatial densities of its customers and drivers. While prices are currently low as companies aggressively compete in prices to increase market share, the economies of density are conducive to natural monopoly. It is only a question of time before the winners start to exploit their monopoly power and customers to demand regulation. How should the regulation be designed so as to constrain the exercise of market power while preserving the industry’s current dynamism and flexibility?

Bio:

Richard Arnott is currently Distinguished Professor of Economics at the University of California, Riverside. He is best known for his research in urban transportation economics, especially the economics of rush-hour traffic dynamics and of downtown traffic congestion.

Please email to winnie.wy.tang@polyu.edu.hk for enquiries.

All are welcome!