



# Expanding Select Bicycle Lanes to Improve Bike Safety in Boston

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CS 512 & CS 591 L1

## INTRODUCTION

- **2007** – Boston Bicycle Program launched: doubled ridership.
- **2012** – 5 fatal bicycle incidents.
- **2013** – Boston Bike Network Plan : decreasing bicycle crashes by 50 percent by 2020.
- This project: *identifying a comprehensive network of bicycle routes* through the city of Boston based on the Bikes Crash Data.

## DATA

- **Bikes Crash Data Sets** (2009 – 2012):
  - Boston Bikes Crash Data (by BPD)
  - EMS Crash Data (by City of Boston)
  - Bike Collision Database (by Harvard Dataverse)
- **Existing Bike Network** (by BostonGIS)
- **Boston OpenStreetMap** (by Metro Extracts)
  - to get groups of connected streets
  - to acquire the length of each street

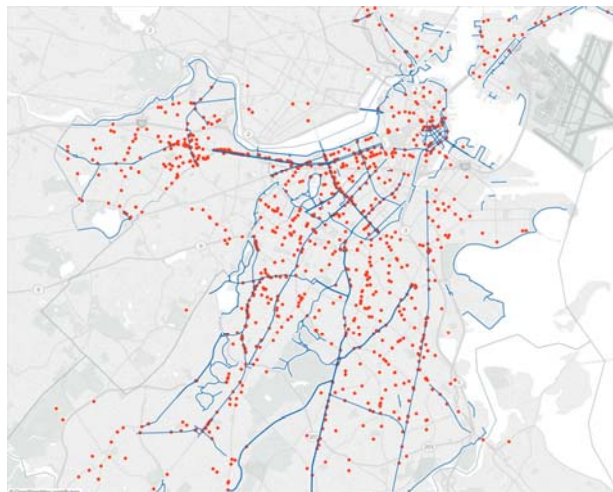
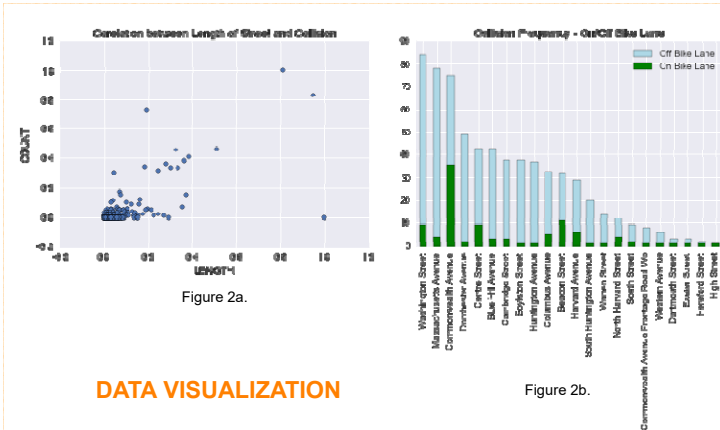


Figure 1. Existing Bike Lane & Bikes Collisions in Boston



## DATA VISUALIZATION

- **Figure 2a:** no strong evidence suggests the covariance between the length of the street versus the amount of bike collisions.
- **Figure 2b:** there are significantly less collisions occurred in the bike lane, compared to the streets without bike lane.

## DATA ANALYSIS

- **Goal:**
  - To build a better *connected* bike lane network
  - What are the main streets that need a bike lane (if it hasn't) in order to achieve connective routes?
- **Modeling:**
  - 3 states for each pair of streets  $(x_i, x_j)$  that connect/intersect:
    - $S_1$  = both streets have bike lanes.
    - $S_2$  = only 1 of the 2 streets has a bike lane.
    - $S_3$  = neither of the streets have bike lanes.
  - Binary representation:
    - $S_1 = (1, 1)$
    - $S_2 = (1, 0)$  or  $(0, 1)$
    - $S_3 = (0, 0)$
  - State Transformation (Figure 3.)

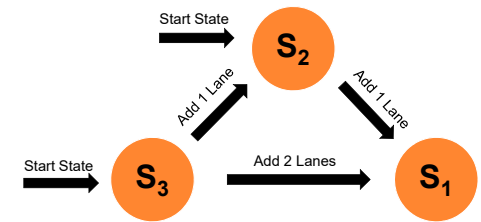


Figure 3. States Transformation

## Optimization:

- **Maximize**  $S_1$  where most bike lanes are connected.
- **non-linear model:**
  - $\argmax_{i,j \in N} \sum (-1)^{x_i + x_j}$
  - **constraint set:**  $x_{i,j} \in \{0,1\}$  where 0 represents no bike lane, 1 means there is a bike lane.
  - Solver: **dReal**
- **Minimize**  $S_2$  where single bike lanes are left alone.
- **linear model:**
  - $\argmin_{i,j \in N} \sum |x_i - x_j|$
  - **constraint set:**  $x_{i,j} \in \{0,1\}$  where 0 represents no bike lane, 1 means there is a bike lane.
  - Solver: **Z3Opt**
- Both models need constraint on how many bike lanes  $K$  would like to be added:
  - $x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_N \leq K$

## FUTURE WORK

- Linear Programming vs. Integer Programming
- Statistical analysis on the impact of adding bike lanes.
- Updated Bike Collision Data.
- More information on when (date) each bike lane was installed in order to match with the bike collision on bike lane.

## REFERENCES

- Boston Bikes, <http://www.cityofboston.gov/bikes>
- Figure 1., <https://public.tableau.com/profile/asross#!/>
- <http://www.cs.bu.edu/faculty/kfoury/UNI-Teaching/CS512-Spring16>
- <http://cs-people.bu.edu/lapets/591/>