

Agent-based car sharing: Model presentation

Mick Princen & Ewout ter Hoeven

27-02-2023

RIVM, Bilthoven

Conceptualisation

Problem identification, system decomposition and conceptual behaviour

Problem identification

Current emergent pattern: many (empty) parking spaces in the neighbourhood, little availability of shared mobility, and a dominance of private car ownership resulting in heavy car use, congested traffic, unsafe streets and a large climate impact.



Desired emergent pattern: modality choice shift from private cars to shared mobility, public transport and other emission-friendly modes of transport to solve congestion and safety problems in addition to making ENKA a more sustainable, circular and comfortable neighbourhood.

Goal of using ABM in ENKA Ede

Research questions:

- For RIVM: 'How can transformative, participatory ABM and accompanying data science contribute to policy making and transitional processes, such as the energy transition, mobility transition, and the transition towards a safe and healthy circular economy?'
- For this specific model (case study): 'What is the emergent effect of implementing transitional policies that discourage private car ownership and use on modality choice behaviour, quality of living, and the public space in ENKA Ede?'

System decomposition

Agents

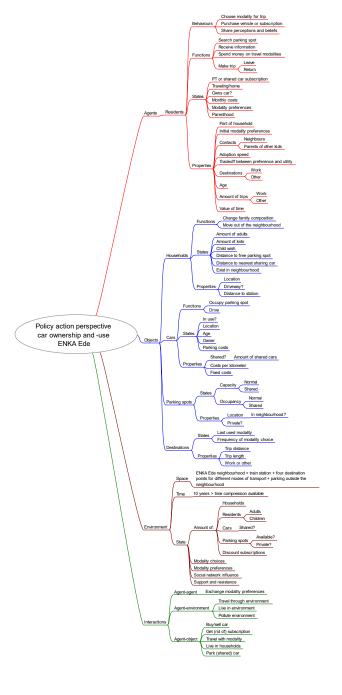
Residents

Objects

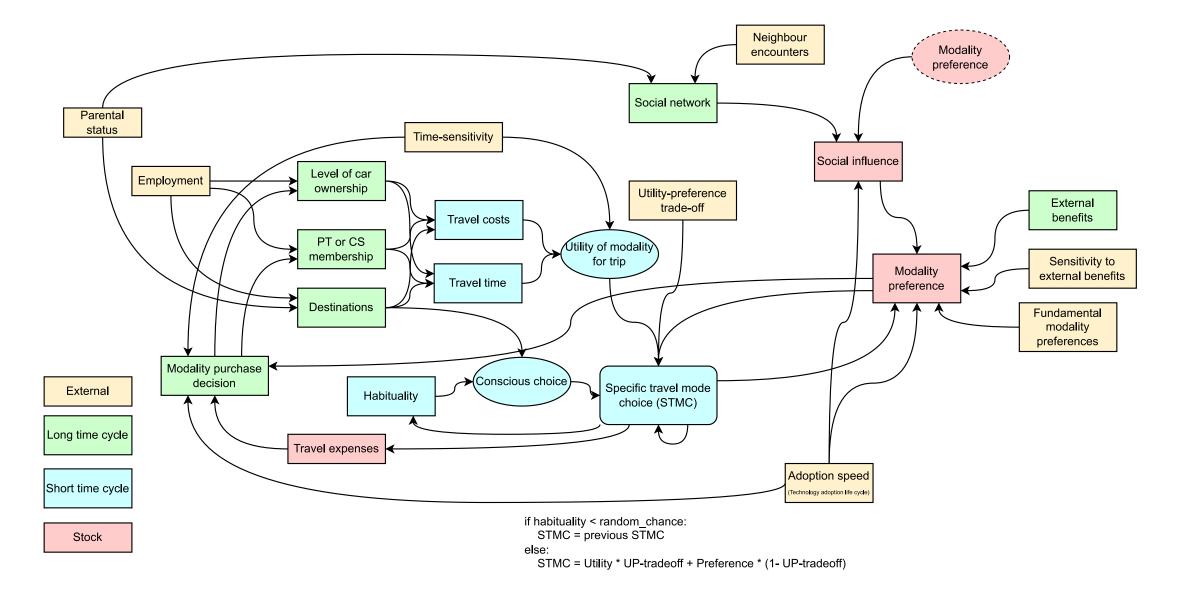
- Households
- Cars
- Parking spots
- Destinations

KPI's

- Monthly trips with each modality (modality choices)
- Count of cars and subscriptions (car ownership)
- Average private car opinion (support and resistance)



Conceptual behaviour model



Formalisation

How are the core functionalities specified

Important formulas to implement behaviour

	Formulas
Effective car costs	trip-distance * car-costs-per-km + (trip-distance / mean-car-speed) * value-of-time
Effective bike costs	trip-distance / mean-bike-speed * value-of-time
Effective public transport costs	trip-distance * public-transport-costs-per-km + (trip-distance / mean-public-transport-speed + 2 * distance-station-from-household / mean-bike-speed) * value-of-time
Effective shared car costs	trip-distance * shared-car-costs-per-km + trip-length * shared-car-costs-per-hour + (trip-distance / mean-car-speed) * value-of-time
Modality choice	utility-of-modality * preference-utility-tradeoff + modality-preference * (1 - preference-utility-tradeoff)
Car preference penalty	modality-preference-car * (1 – preference-penalty-parking-outside-neighbourhood * 0.01)
Chance to sell car	(total-car-costs - total-costs) / total-car-costs * preference-utility-tradeoff + (preferences-without-car - modality-preference-car) * (1 - preference-utility-tradeoff)
Chance to buy car	(total-costs - total-car-costs) / total-costs * preference-utility-tradeoff + (modality-preference-car - preferences-without-car) * (1 - preference-utility-tradeoff)
Update preference social network	modality-preference * (1 - alpha) + contact-preference * alpha

Experiments

Testing policy interventions

Experimental design

Stimulate shared cars

- Default = 8 shared cars
- Option 1 = 32 shared cars
- Option 2 = 128 shared cars

Paid parking

- Default = Parking is free
- Option 1 = Parking costs € 93,60 / year (€ 7,80 / month)
- Option 2 = Parking costs € 93,60 / quarter (€ 31,20 / month)

Replace parking spots

- Default option = no parking spaces are removed
- Option 1 = 20% of parking spaces are removed
- Option 2 = 40% of parking spaces are removed

Parking package

Combining Paid parking and Replace parking spots

- Default option = Parking is free and no spaces are removed
- Option 1 = Parking costs € 22 euro per month and 20% of the parking spaces removed
- Option 2 = Parking costs € 93 euro per month and 40% of the parking spaces removed

Full package

Combining all three policy options

- Default option = 8 shared cars, parking is free and no spaces are removed
- Option 1 = 32 shared cars, parking costs € 7,80 p.m. and 20% of parking spaces removed
- Option 2 = 128 shared cars, parking costs € 31,20 p.m. and 40% of parking spaces removed

Experimental setup

Simulation parameters

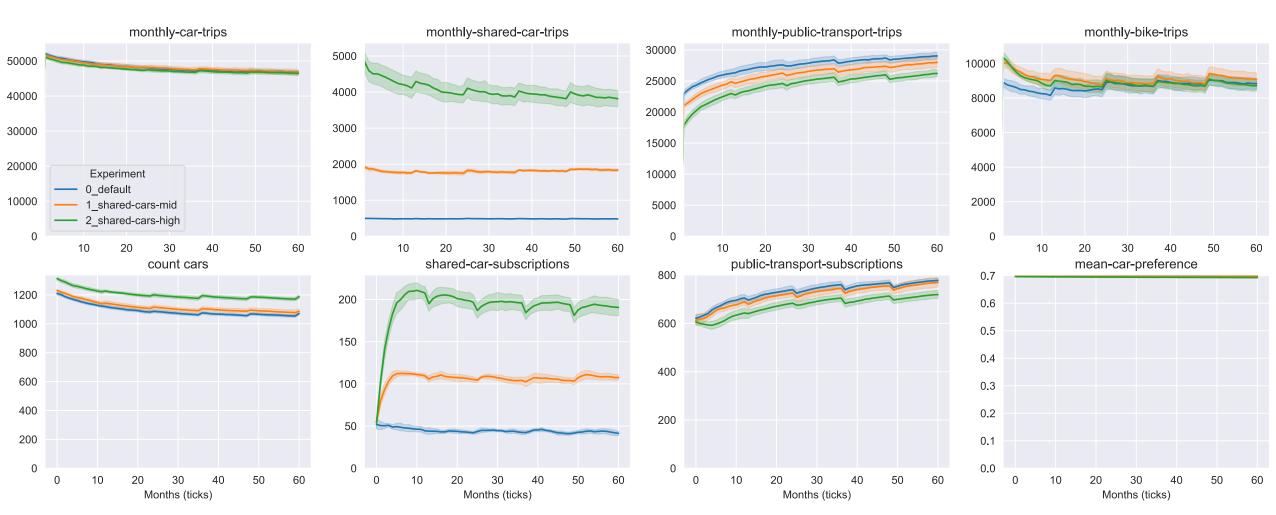
- 60 months runtime
- 10 replications for each experiment
- 5 policy lever sets with each 2 magnitudes
 - + 1 default scenario = 11 experiments
- Approximately one hour runtime per replication (a minute a month)

XPS 15 9520, Core i7-12700H, NetLogo 6.3.0, Python 3.11, Windows 11

```
import os
import pyNetLogo
import pandas as pd
os.environ["JAVA_HOME"] = 'C:/Program Files/NetLogo 6.3.0/runtime/bin/server/'
|default_values = {
replications = 10
ticks = 60 # Months
exp_nr = 2 # Change this to run different experiment
exp_names = ["default", "all-low", "all-high"]
exp_name = f"{exp_nr}_{exp_names[exp_nr]}
|series_reporters = [
single_reporters = []
netlogo = pyNetLogo.NetLogoLink(gui=gui)
netlogo.load_model("C:/Users/Ewout/Documents/GitHub/SEN9120-ABC/ABC_model.nlogo")
series_data = {}
print(f"Starting experiment {exp_name} with {replications} runs.")
for var, val in exp.items():
   print(f"Using {var} = {val[exp_nr]}")
```

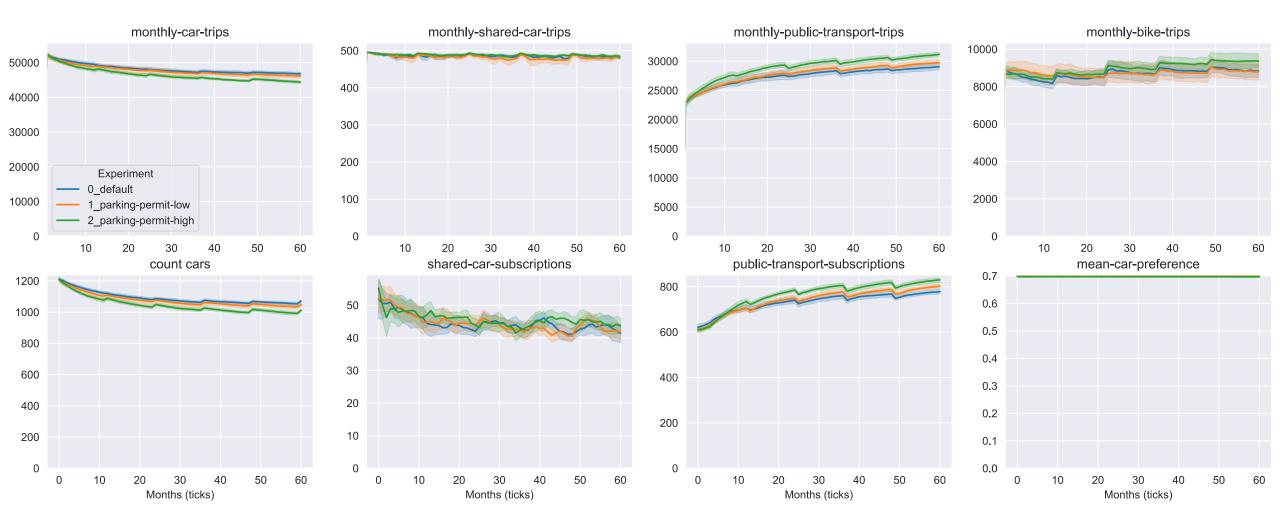
Shared cars: 8, 32 or 128

The experiment "shared_cars_only" results for each KPI (mean with 95% confidence interval)



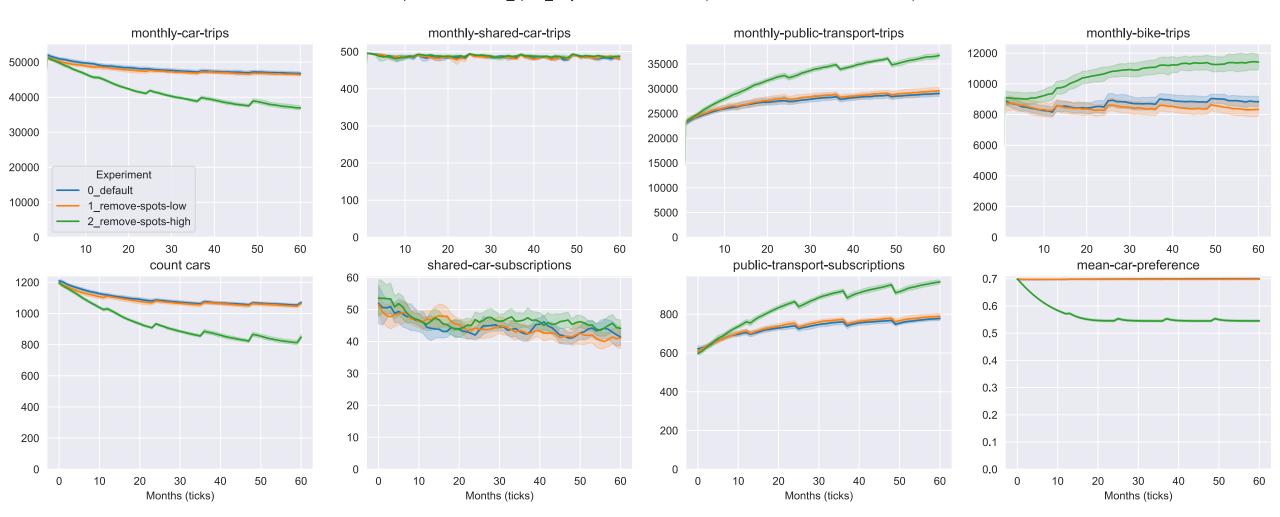
Parking permit: Free, €7,80 or €31,20

The experiment "parking_permit_only" results for each KPI (mean with 95% confidence interval)



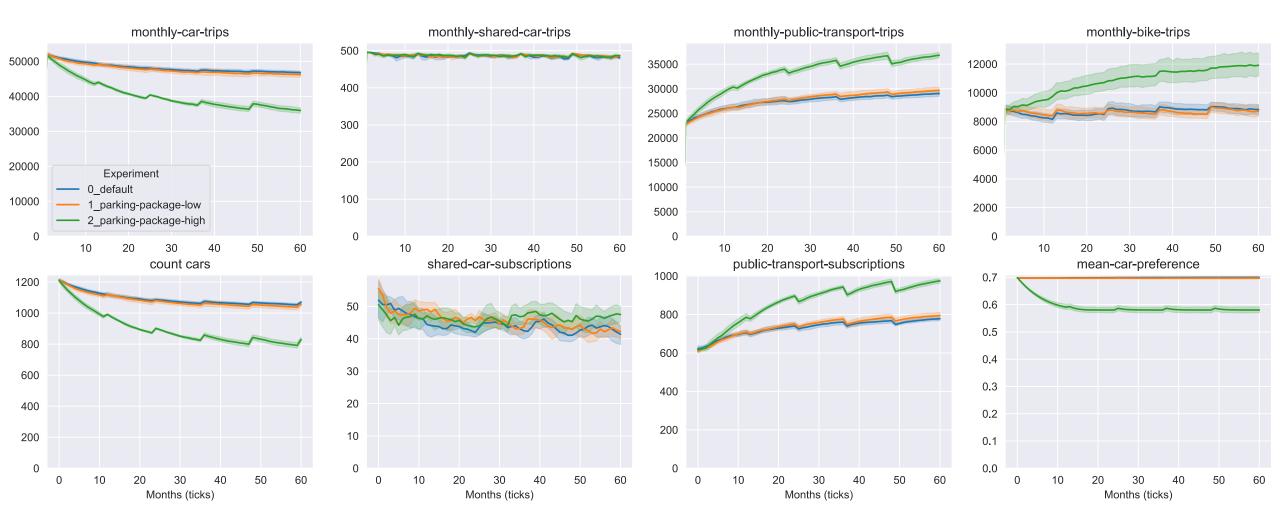
Remove spots: None, 20% or 40%

The experiment "remove spots only" results for each KPI (mean with 95% confidence interval)



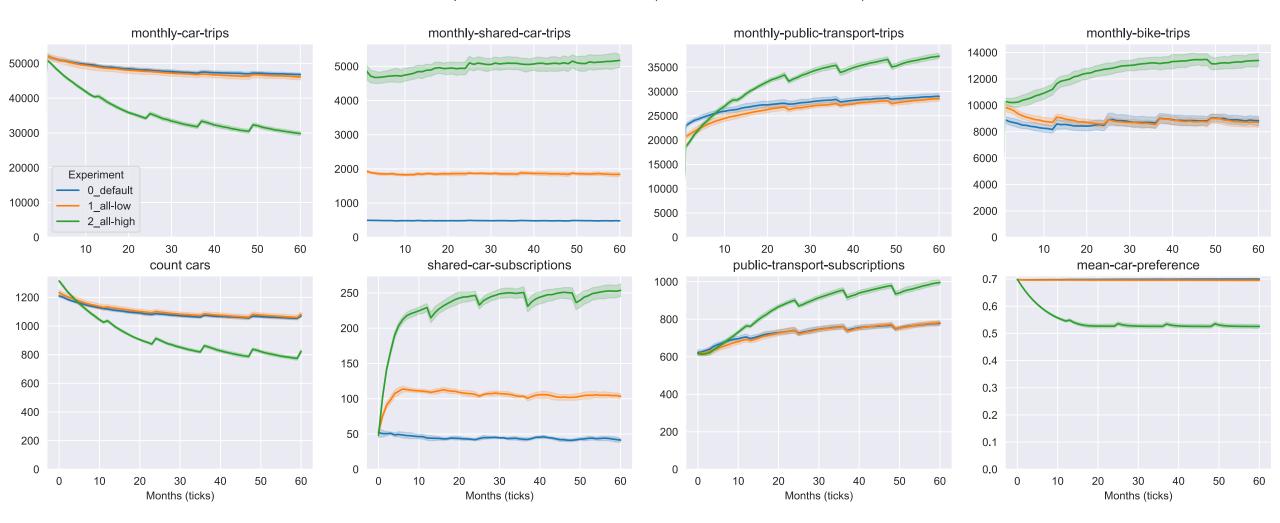
Parking package

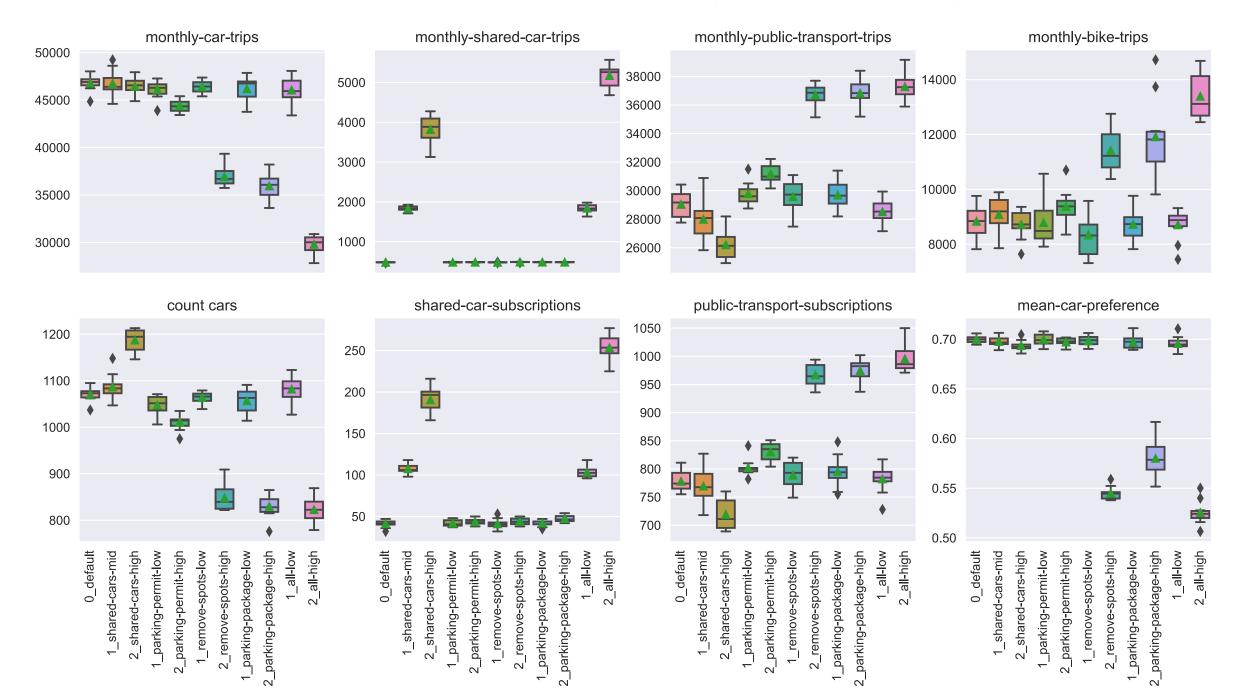
The experiment "parking_package" results for each KPI (mean with 95% confidence interval)



All combined

The experiment "all" results for each KPI (mean with 95% confidence interval)





Sensivity

Testing effect of changing external factors

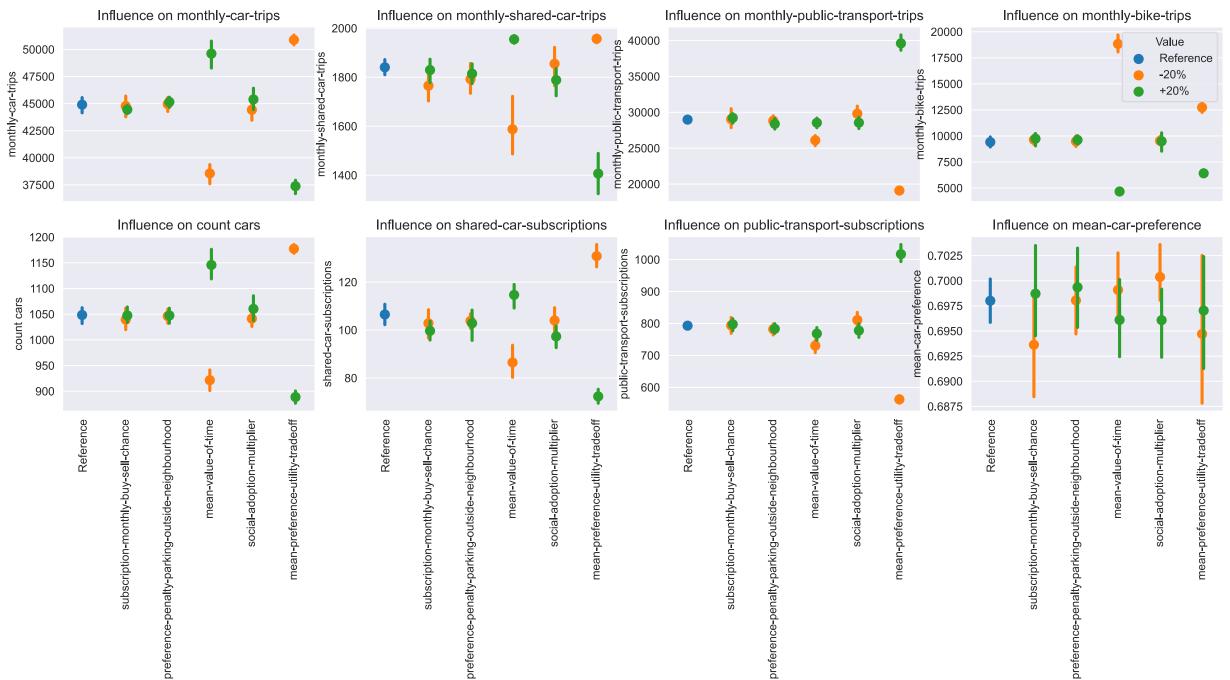
Sensitivity design

- Changing one variable at a time, and testing the effect on the KPIs
 - +/- 20% for regular coefficients
 - +/- 10% of total range for distribution parameters

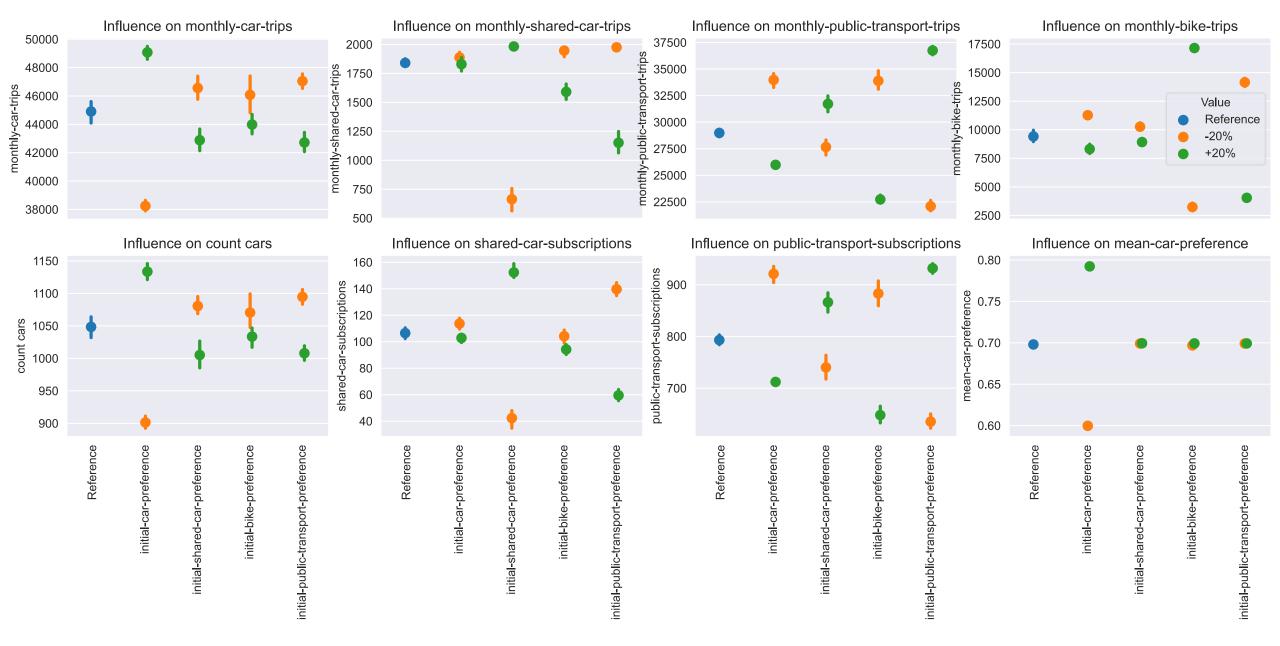
Simulation parameters

- 48 months runtime
- 12 replications for default scenario
- 6 replications for all others scenarios
- KPIs measured at last month

Default	Low	High	Low change	High change	Change type	
25	20	30	-20%	20%	+-20% from default	
0,5	0,4	0,6	-20%	20%		
11,25	9	13,5	-20%	20%		
0,1	0,08	0,12	-20%	20%		
0,5	0,4	0,6	-20%	20%		
0,7	0,6	0,8	-14%	14%	+-10% from range (= +-0.1)	
0,5	0,4	0,6	-20%	20%		
0,5	0,4	0,6	-20%	20%		
0,3	0,2	0,4	-33%	33%		
	25 0,5 11,25 0,1 0,5 0,7 0,5 0,5	25 20 0,5 0,4 11,25 9 0,1 0,08 0,5 0,4 0,7 0,6 0,5 0,4 0,5 0,4 0,5 0,4	25 20 30 0,5 0,4 0,6 11,25 9 13,5 0,1 0,08 0,12 0,5 0,4 0,6 0,7 0,6 0,8 0,5 0,4 0,6 0,5 0,4 0,6 0,5 0,4 0,6	25 20 30 -20% 0,5 0,4 0,6 -20% 11,25 9 13,5 -20% 0,1 0,08 0,12 -20% 0,5 0,4 0,6 -20% 0,7 0,6 0,8 -14% 0,5 0,4 0,6 -20% 0,5 0,4 0,6 -20% 0,5 0,4 0,6 -20% 0,5 0,4 0,6 -20% 0,5 0,4 0,6 -20%	25 20 30 -20% 20% 0,5 0,4 0,6 -20% 20% 11,25 9 13,5 -20% 20% 0,1 0,08 0,12 -20% 20% 0,5 0,4 0,6 -20% 20% 0,7 0,6 0,8 -14% 14% 0,5 0,4 0,6 -20% 20% 0,5 0,4 0,6 -20% 20% 0,5 0,4 0,6 -20% 20% 0,5 0,4 0,6 -20% 20%	



Effect of variation of input values on last 4 KPIs (with 95% confidence interval)

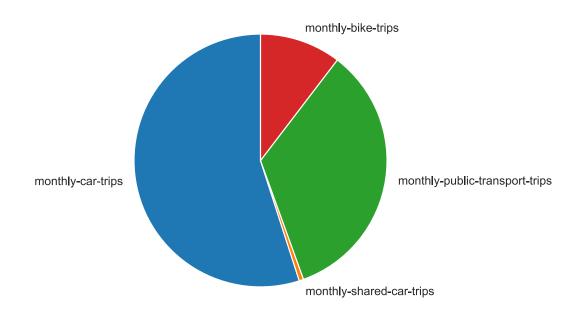


Validation

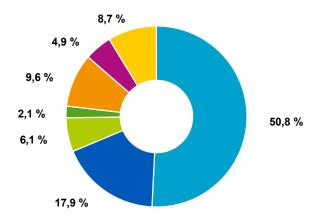
Is the model consistent with real-world behaviour?

Modality choices

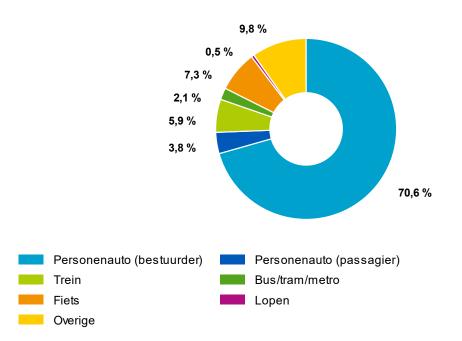
- (Too) large bias towards public transport
- Bike in the right order of magnitude
- Might be useful to make distinction between work and other trips



Reizigerskilometers naar vervoerwijze, personen van 6 jaar of ouder, 2021



Afgelegde afstand van en naar het werk naar vervoerwijze, 2021



Discussion

What are the limitations of our model?

Limitations

- Preferences diffusion > experiences limited
- External benefits limited
- Rational behaviour
- Amount of trips
- Households empty construct (no sharing of cars i.e.)
- Social networks and destinations don't change
- Costs don't change

Alternative KPI's

- Occupancy and capacity rates of parking spots
- Other modality preferences
- Influence of social diffusion

Conclusion

What are the main takeaways and next steps?

Conclusions

- Implementing shared cars alone in ENKA will not necessarily decrease the use and ownership of cars.
- Parking permit costs have no significant impact.
- 20% of the parking spots can be removed without any change in emergent behaviour > no resistance.
- Removing 40% of parking spots significantly reduces car ownership and use. Car opinion also changes, likely to come with some resistance in the first 12 months.
- Combining all policy interventions is effective, shared car trips replace a large part of normal car trips.

What is next?

- Sensitivity analysis shows that the initial modality preferences as well as the preference-utility trade-off and value of time variables are very sensitive.
- Therefore: data collection on people's preferred mode of transport in ENKA is crucial. Additionally, it is important to find out how important they find utility and time.
- Then: more external variables can be implemented to measure the change in preferences more accurately over time.

Backup slides

Background information

