Introduction to Computational Science Optimizing Traffic Lights in Urban Street Grids

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Problem introduction

- Traffic lights
- Long waiting times

Problem description

- Algorithm optimization
- Minimize waiting times
- Maximize throughput

Model scope

- "American city" grid
- Only car traffic (bicycle and pedestrains may be possible too)
- No accelartion or decelleration (instant reaction time)
- Uniform cars (no buses, trucks etc.)

Example

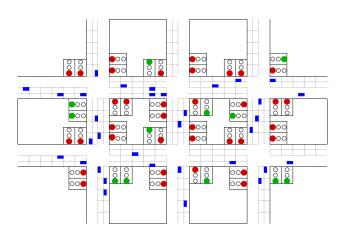


Figure: Model by Marco Wiering

Possible traffic light algoritms

- Individual timers
- Individual loop detection
- Globally connected timers or detection