

# Traffic flow with bicycle lanes and bike boxes: *A cellular automaton*

*A project by:*

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Class Report for  
Complex Social Systems: Modeling Agents,  
Learning, and Games



## Agenda:

*Introduction*

*Literature*

*The Model*

*The Simulation*

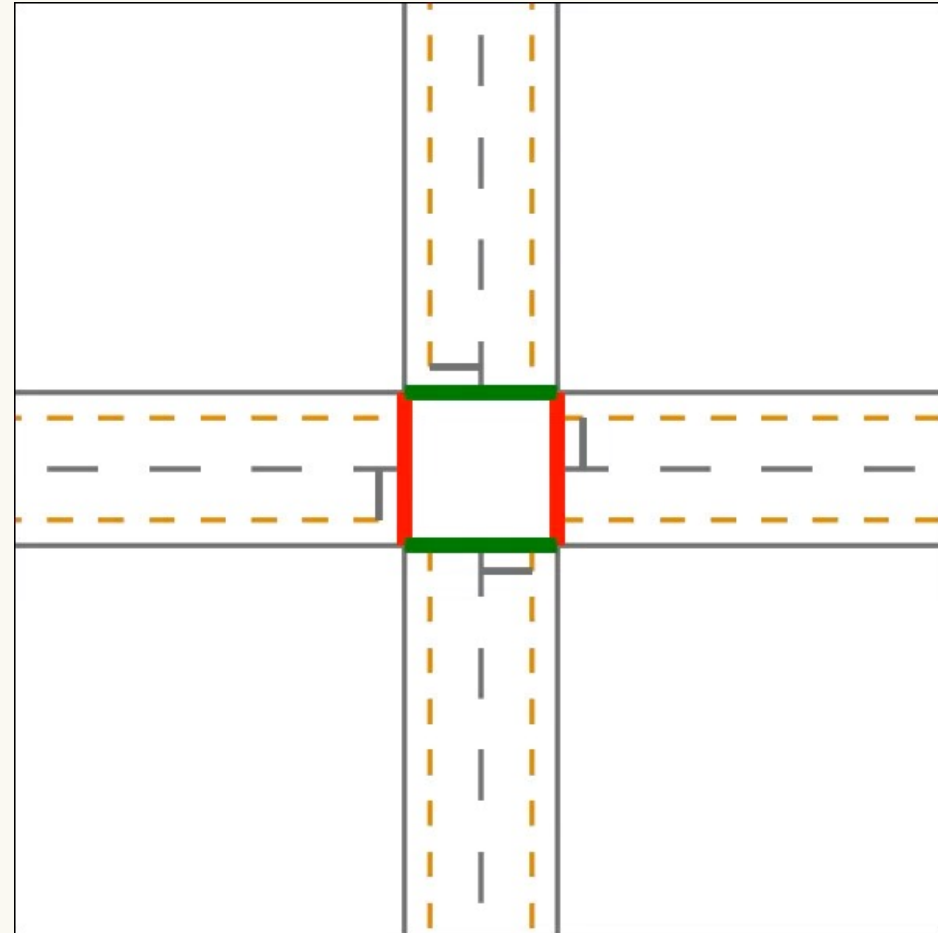
*Results and Hypotheses*

*Challenges*

# Introduction

*Safe cycling through  
Transport planning  
& Simulation*

*Bike Boxes or  
Advanced Stop Lines*



# Literature

## *The Nagel-Schreckenberg Model*

- 1. Acceleration: If the velocity  $v$  of a vehicle is slower than its max velocity and the gap to the next vehicle is larger than  $v + 1$ , its speed is updated to  $v + 1$*
- 2. Slowing down: If the distance to the next vehicle is  $j$  and  $j < v$ , the vehicle's speed is updated to  $j - 1$*
- 3. Randomization: With given probability  $p$  (called the slowdown probability) the vehicle decreases its velocity by 1*
- 4. Vehicle motion: All vehicles are advanced  $v$  sites (according to their updated velocity of steps 1-3)*

# Literature

## The Nagel-Schreckenberg Model<sup>1</sup>

1. Acceleration
2. Slowing down
3. Randomization
4. Vehicle motion

N°12

A CELLULAR AUTOMATON MODEL FOR FREEWAY TRAFFIC

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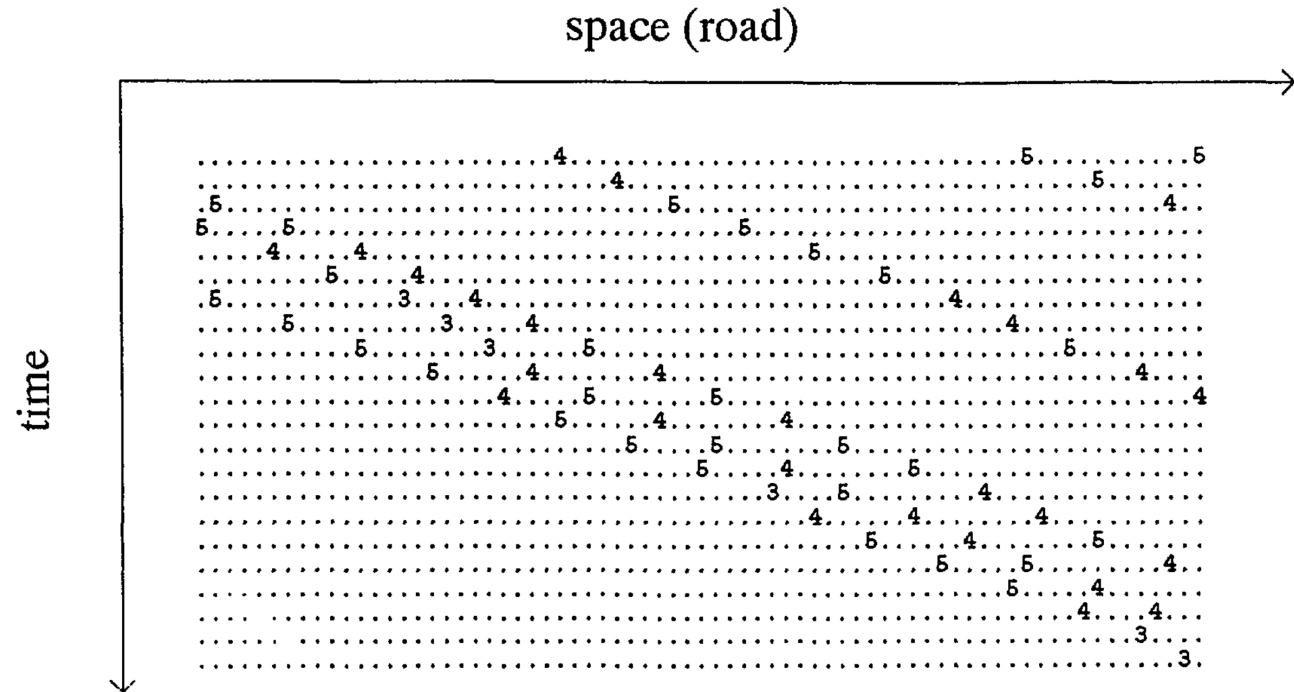


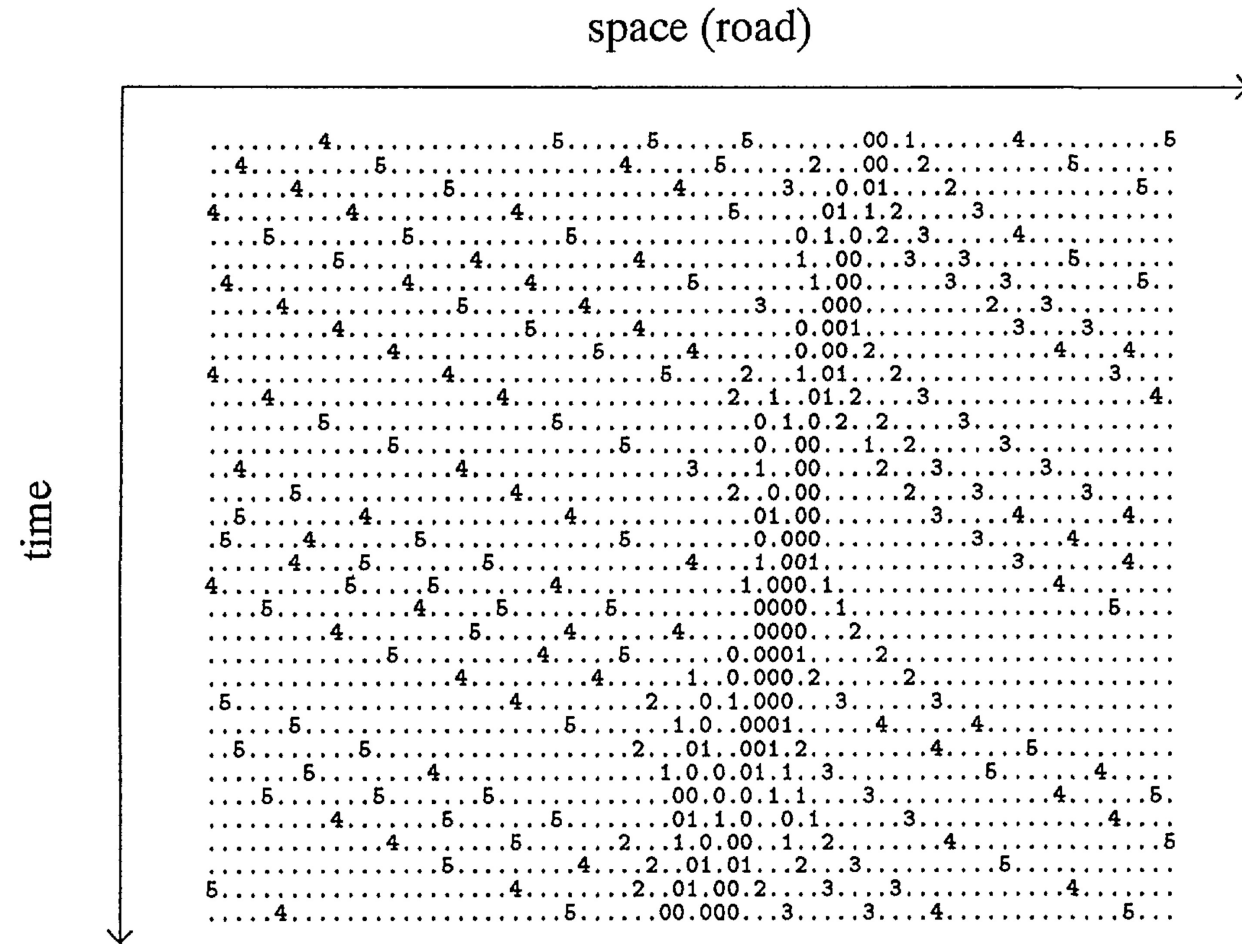
Fig.1. — Simulated traffic at a (low) density of 0.03 cars per site. Each new line shows the traffic lane after one further complete velocity-update and just before the car motion. Empty sites are represented by a dot, sites which are occupied by a car are represented by the integer number of its velocity. At low densities, we see undisturbed motion.

<sup>1</sup>Kai Nagel and Michael Schreckenberg. "A cellular automaton model for freeway traffic". Journal de Physique I 2 (Dec. 1992), p. 2221. doi: 10.1051/jp1:1992277

# Literature

## *The Nagel-Schreckenberg Model<sup>1</sup>*

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# Literature

## *Adaptions to the original Model:*

- *Agents moving on a lattice (2 dimensional model)*<sup>1</sup>
- *Heterogeneous vehicles*<sup>2</sup>
- *Road with Bicycle Lane and interactions*<sup>3</sup>

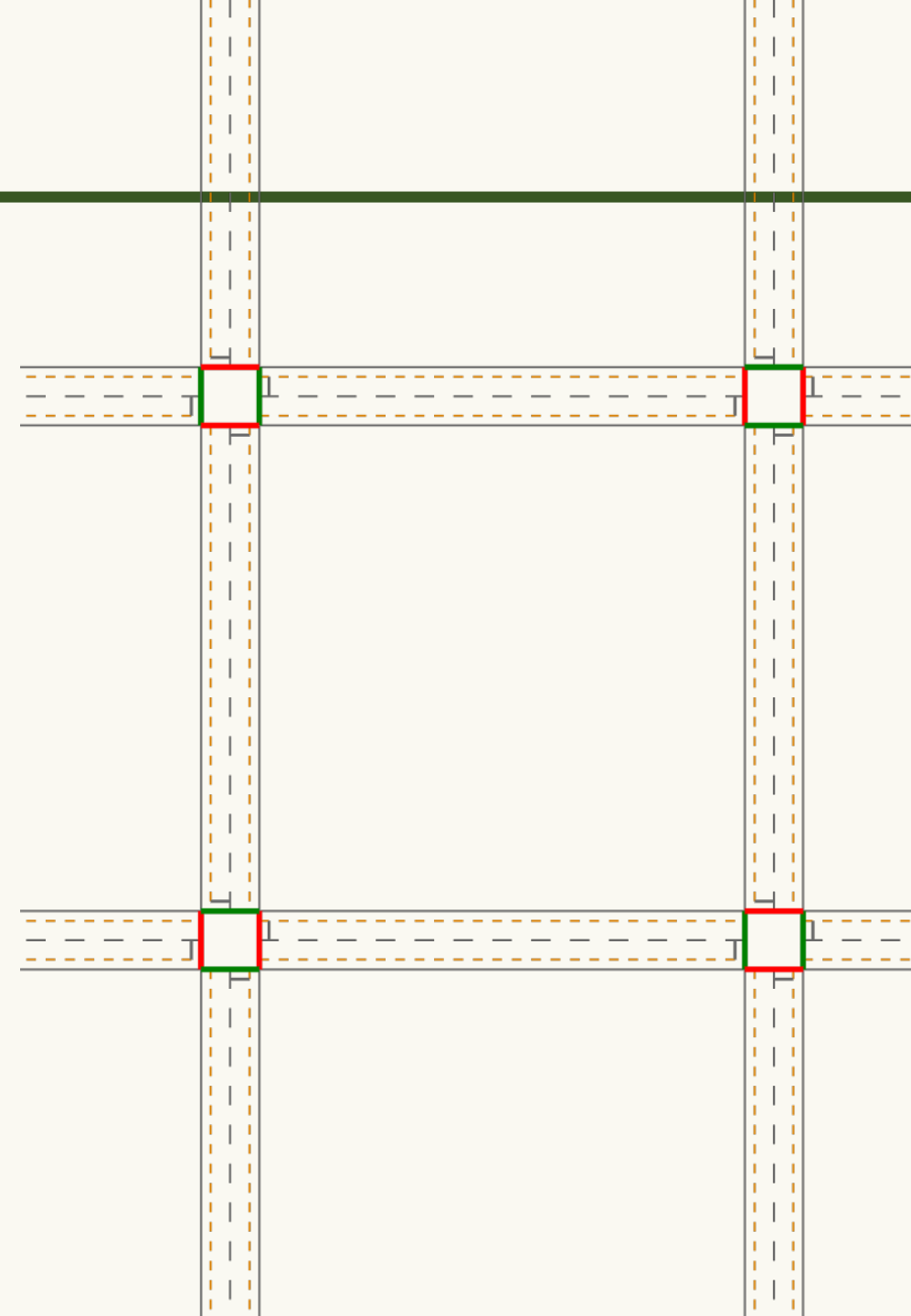
<sup>1</sup>Debashish Chowdhury and Andreas Schadschneider. "Self-organization of traffic jams in cities: Effects of stochastic dynamics and signal periods". Phys. Rev. E 59 (2 Feb. 1999), R1311–R1314. doi: 10.1103/PhysRevE.59.R1311

<sup>2</sup>Dirk Helbing and Michael Schreckenberg. "Cellular automata simulating experimental properties of traffic flow". Phys. Rev. E 59 (3 Mar. 1999), R2505–R2508. doi: 10.1103/PhysRevE.59.R2505.

<sup>3</sup>Jelena Vasic and Heather J. Ruskin. "Cellular automata simulation of traffic including cars and bicycles". Physica A: Statistical Mechanics and its Applications 391.8 (2012), pp. 2720–2729. issn: 0378-4371. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.physa.2011.12.018>.

# The Model

- *Lattice of  $270 \times 270$  cells*
- *Open boundary conditions*
- *Vehicles moving in 1 direction only*
- *Intersections with traffic lights*
- *Heterogeneous vehicles:*
  - *CARS:*  
 *$2 \times 2$  cells, max speed 5 cells/time step*
  - *BIKES:*  
 *$1 \times 1$  cell, max speed 3 cells/time step*
- *1 time step: 1 second, 1 cell: 3,5 m*
- *Visualisation with tuning parameters*





# The Simulation

## *Shared Roads*

- *Cars & Bikes share road with no protected bicycle space*
- *No overtaking*

## *Bicycle Lanes & Bike Boxes*

- *Bike Lane and Bike box implemented*
- *Increase safety*
- *Prioritize bikes*

*Goal:* compare in terms of

- average maximum velocity
  - traffic flow

For cars and bikes respectively

# The Simulation

*The Simulation in the Web interface*

# Results and Hypotheses

Make statements about and quantify the improvement of traffic flow and prioritizing bicycles in traffic

Expectation:

- Improved flow for bicycles with bike lanes and bike boxes
- Bike Boxes prioritize bicycles at intersections

# Challenges

- Generation of new agents:  
Dynamic number of agents
- Length of streets:  
If the first road in the simulation is full, no new agents
- Statistics:  
Generating statistics for dynamic number of agents

# Challenges

- Traffic lights:  
Not adaptive, e.g. green wave for bikes
- Look ahead for collisions
- Rules for bike boxes

Thank you for your  
attention  
&  
Ride safely