

ABM Frameworks Review

&

Rust-AB: future plans

by Luca Postiglione



What we will talk about

ABM Frameworks Review

01

ABM World

What is an ABM, features and why we need frameworks

02

Framework Features

Which are the most common (and not) features offered and how frameworks are organized

Rust-AB: future plans

03

Rust-AB team

Who we are, how our work is organized and what we have done

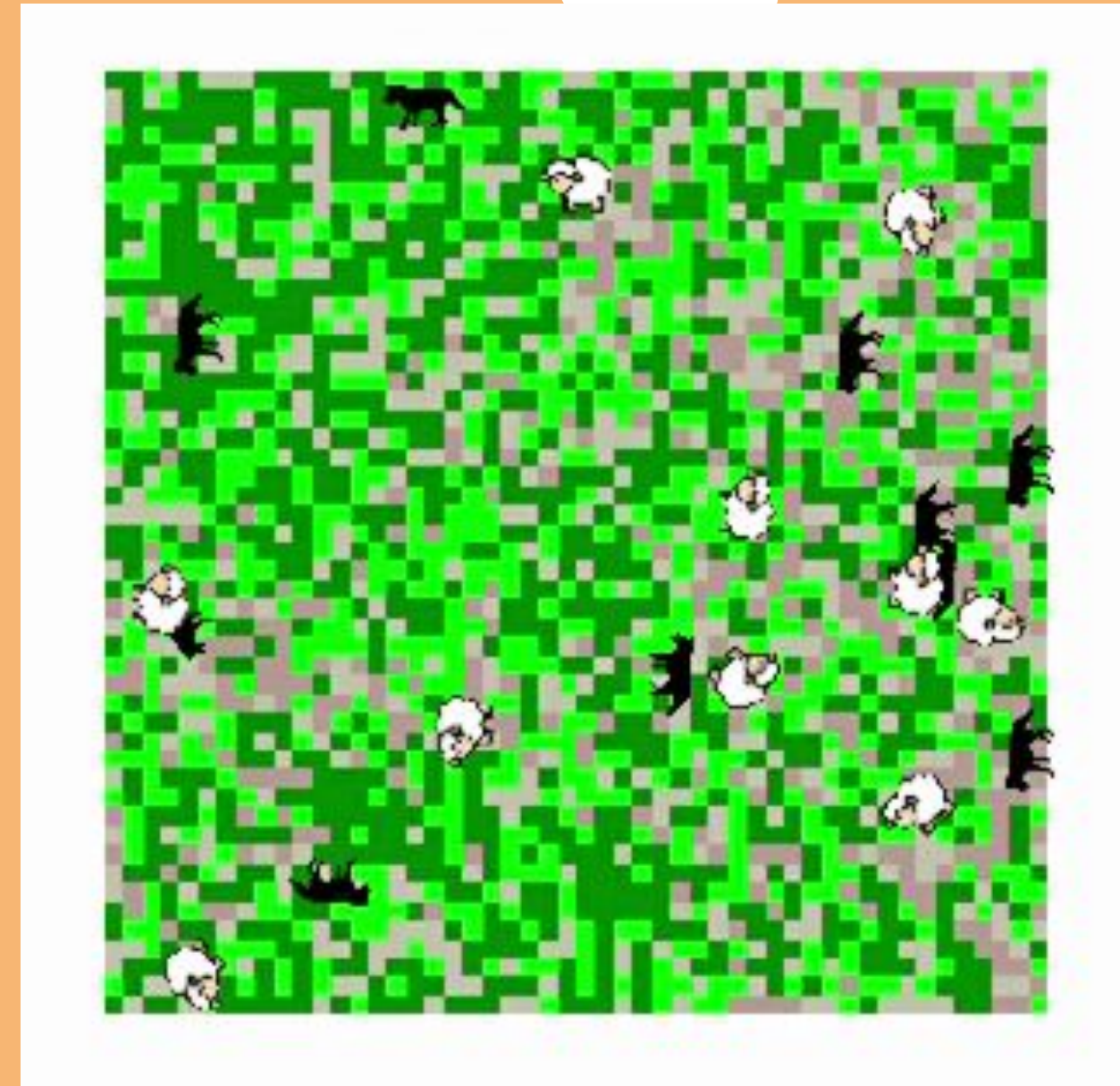
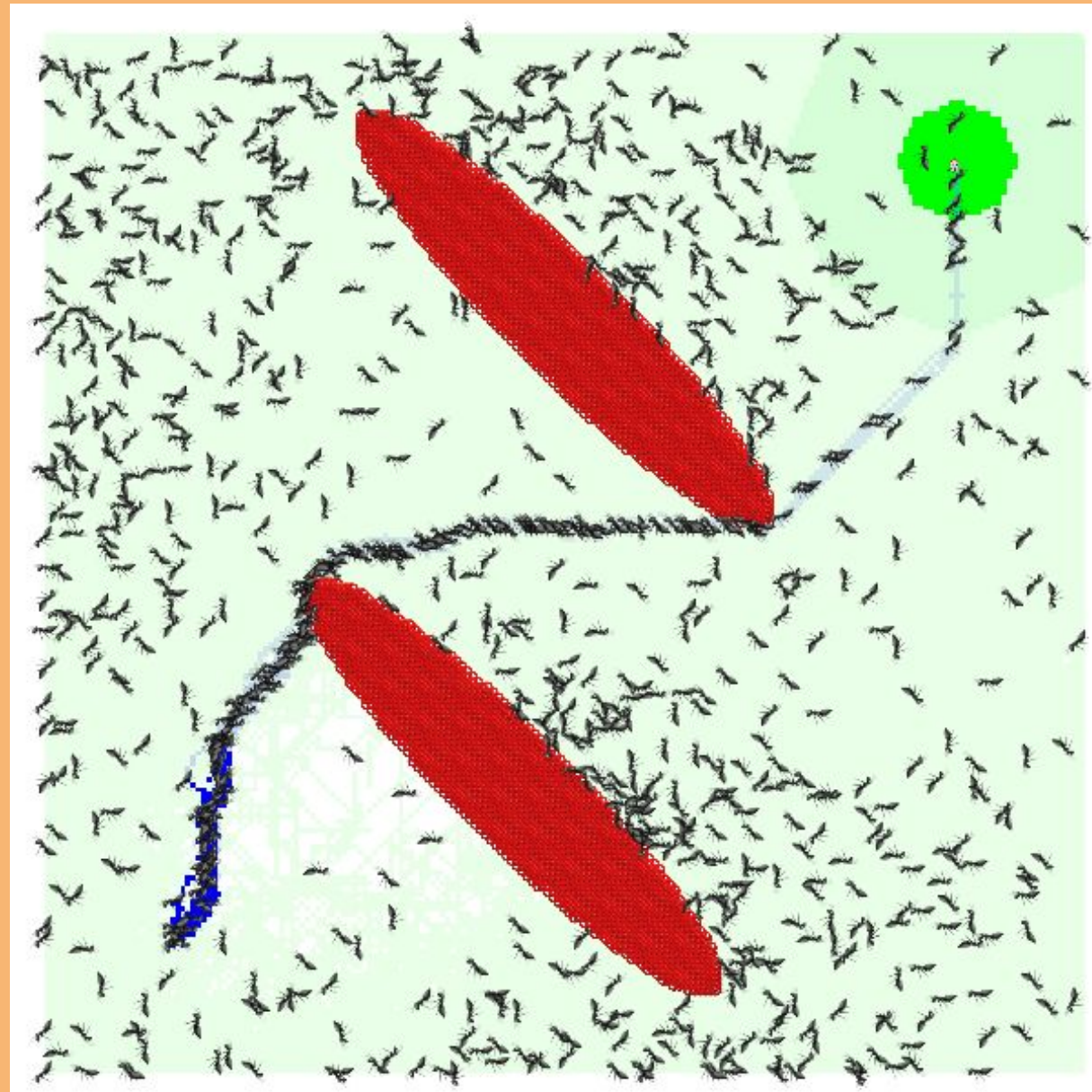
04

Framework evolution

What we are developing, and my next step: **Parameter space exploration and optimization**

What is ABM

Agent Based Modelling are computer simulations used to study the interactions among entities, called **agents**, inside an environment.





Model design, but not only...



It's not simple to define/implement, because a model is characterized of several rules/parameters.

Then you have to manage everything related to scheduling, visualization, agents and system global management, concurrency problems... and other “problems”.

Does someone need help?





Focus on modelling

```
pub struct Animal {...}

pub trait AnimalActions {
    fn consume_energy(&mut self) -> LifeState;
    fn act(&mut self, state: &State);
    fn reproduce(&mut self, state: &State);
    fn eat(&mut self, state: &State);
    fn die(&self, state: &State);
}

impl Agent for Animal {
    type SimState = State;
    fn step(&mut self, state: &Self::SimState) {...}
}
```

It's trivial...



Model Developers want to
write **model structs/behaviours**



ABM Frameworks



MASON

Completely based on
Java



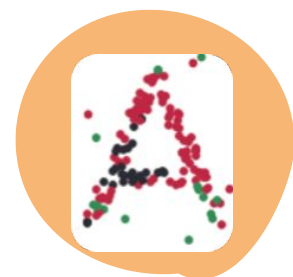
NetLogo

It's a **programming language**
written in Java/Scala



Repast

Provides also an **HPC**
version



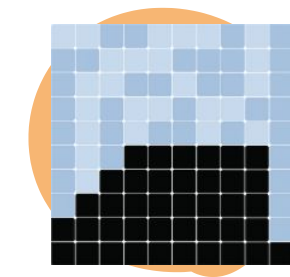
Agents.jl

Based on Julia. It's part
of **JuliaDynamics**



FLAME GPU

Extension of another
framework.



Mesa

A **Python** framework



AnyLogic

Simulation software for
business

Main features

01 Agents Space

1. Grid Space
2. Continuous Space
3. Graph Space

03 GUI

To setup easily simulation parameter values

02 Visualization

2D or 3D, taking advantage of some graphic engine

model-version

sheep-wolves

initial-number-sheep 100 initial-number-wolves 50

grass-regrowth-time 30

setup go

Sheep settings Wolf settings

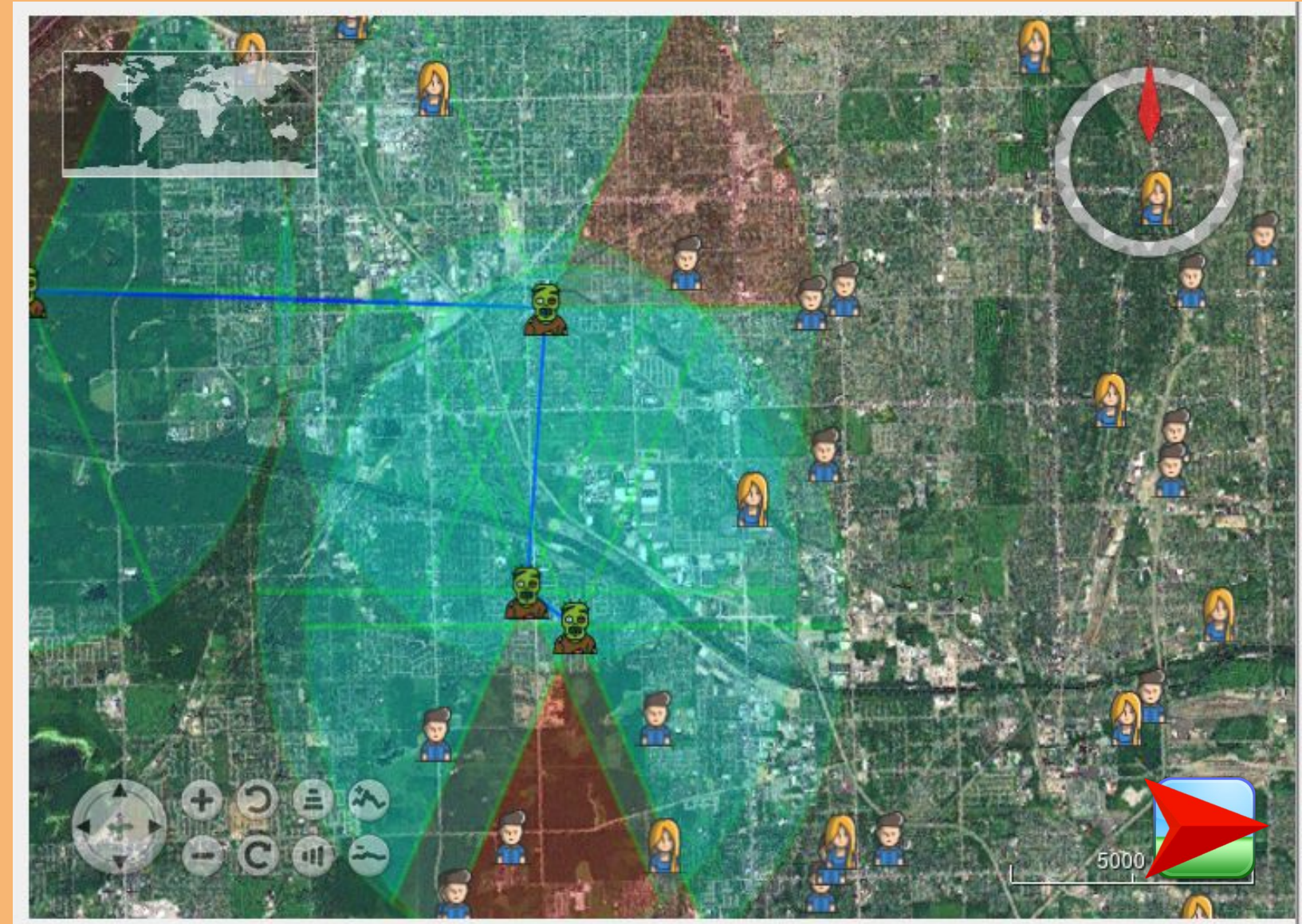
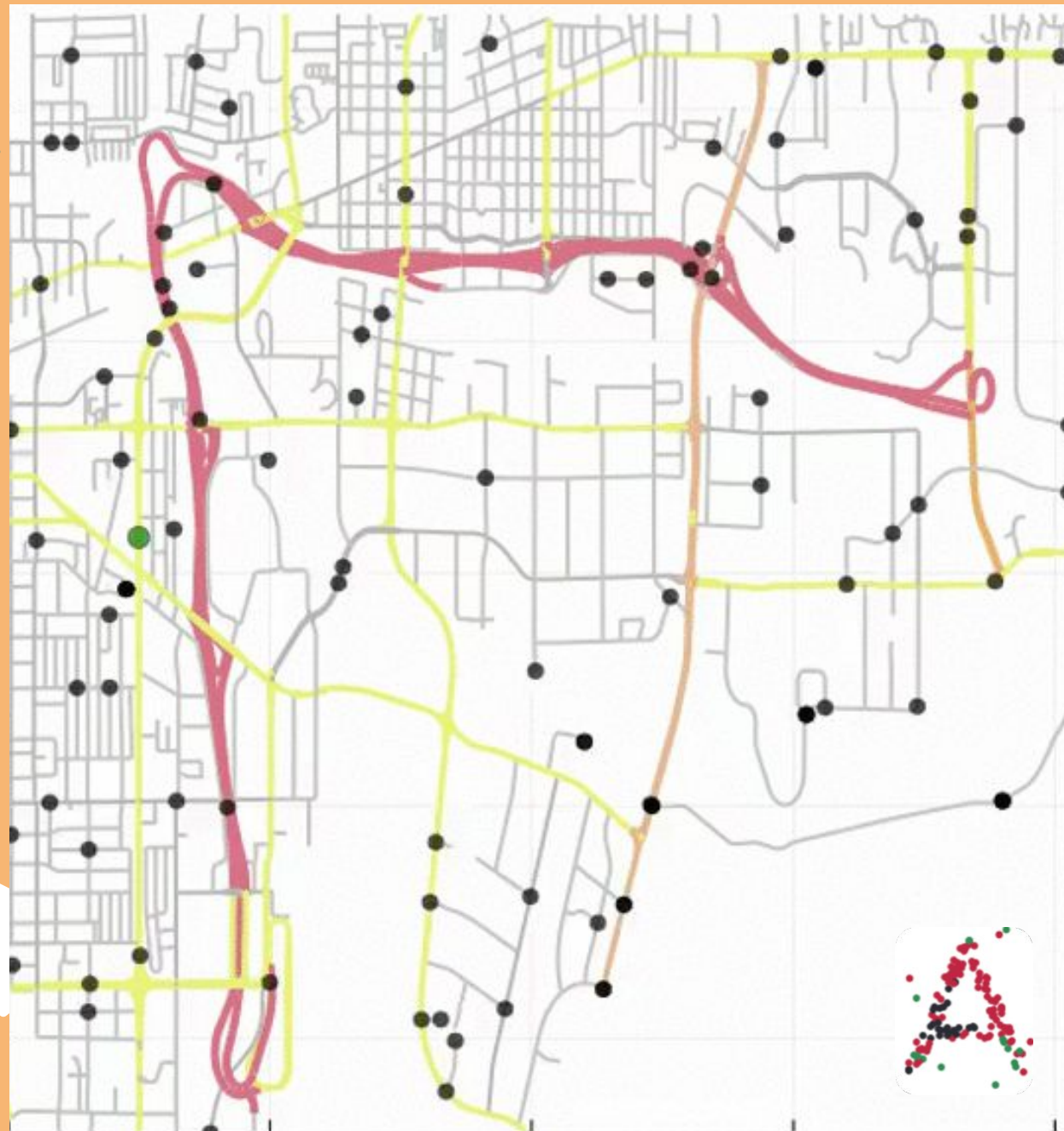
sheep-gain-from-food 4 wolf-gain-from-food 20

sheep-reproduce 4 % wolf-reproduce 5 %

☐ show-energy?

OpenStreetMap & GIS Data

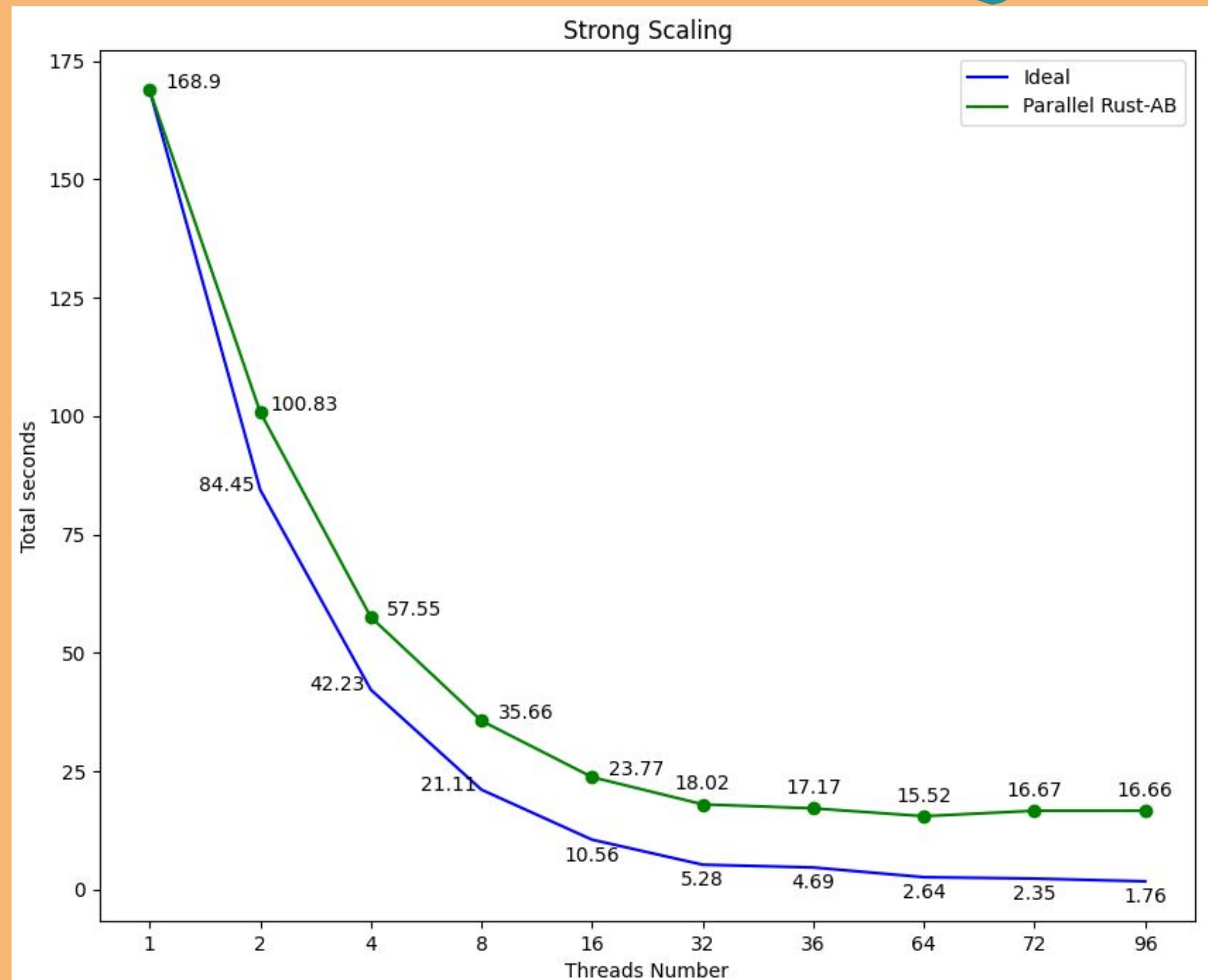
- Detailed space for agents & geographical informations;
- More realistic simulations;



Performance are important (enabling)

- Some simulation requires many hour to be executed;
- Parallel & Distributed Cloud computing are the answer

Test on 500.000 agents
(Boids example)

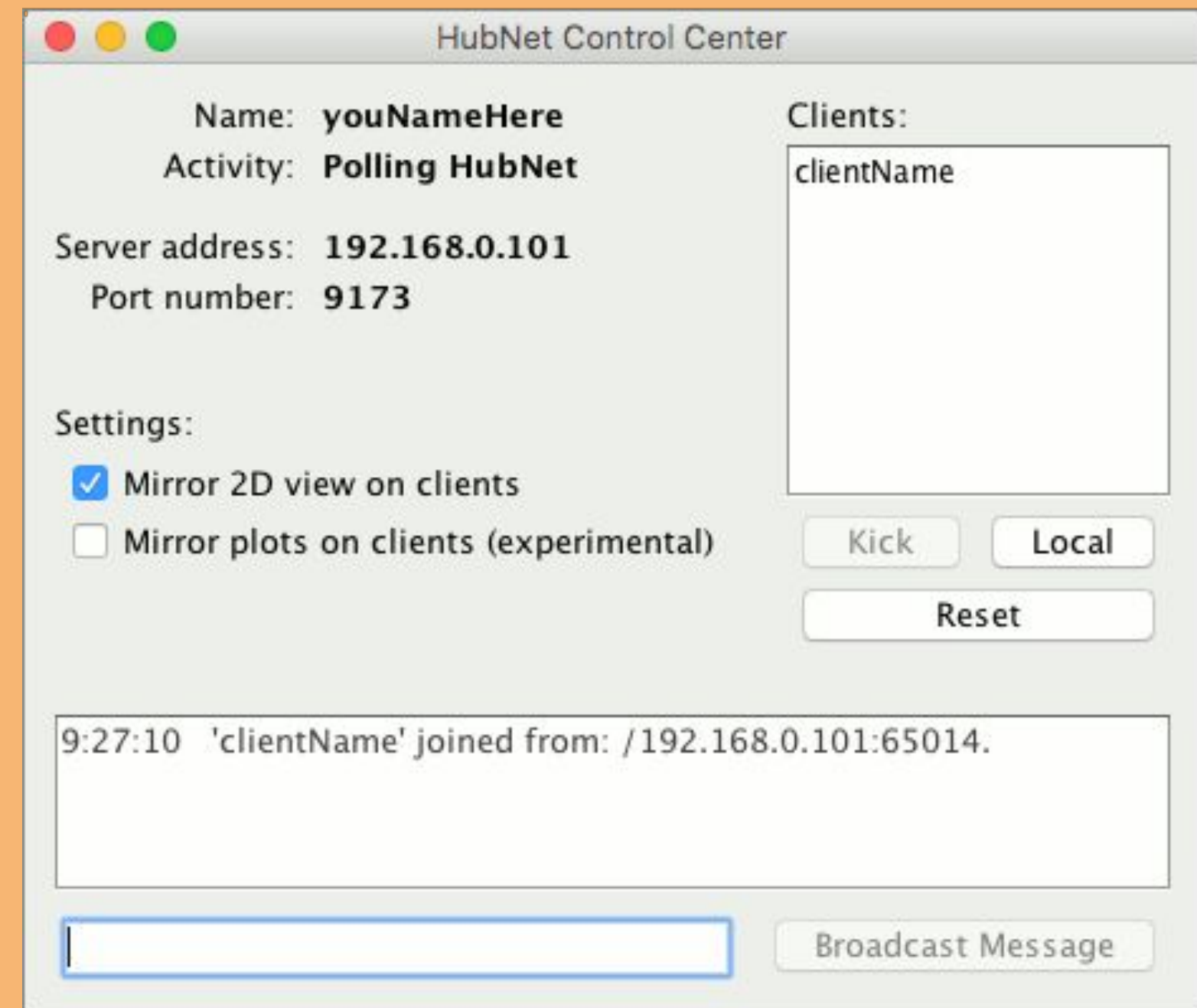





Web Based Simulation (WBS)

Exploit Web Based Technologies

- No platform dependencies;
- Test Framework without installing something;
- E-Learning, example: **HubNet**



Anylogic WBS: Community Repo

 anylogic cloud

Public models

Search models...

Selected Models

All Models6233

Healthcare445

Manufacturing268

Transportation and Logistics371

Supply Chains209

Market and Competition96

Airports, Stations, Malls183

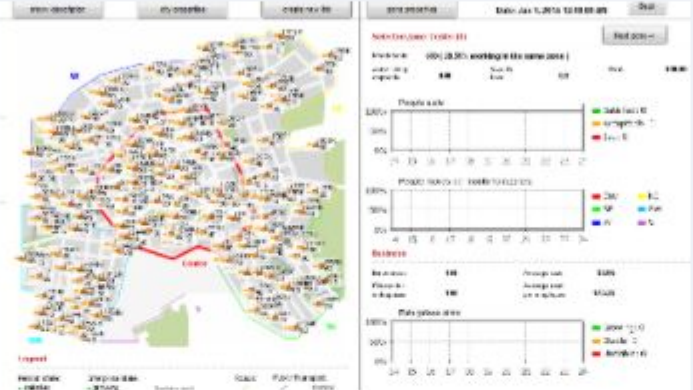
Road Traffic182

Social and Eco Dynamics160

Oil and Gas28

Business Processes224


Best community models



Urban Dynamics Education...

Gonçalo Correia

7344 31

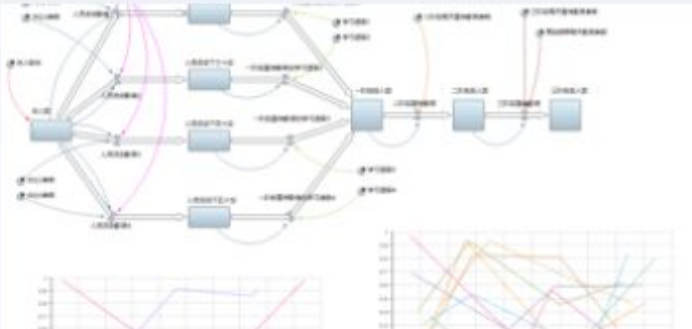



Drive Through Mass Vacci...

Ali Asgary and 1 more

3608 8

Trending models



Rust-AB



 Rust-AB



ISISLab

ISISLab Framework

Current DevTeam

Team Coordinator: Spagnuolo Carmine

Caramante
Pasquale

Parallelization,
Benchmarks

Foglia
Francesco

Visualization,
WebSite

Postiglione
Luca

Parameter space
exploration and
optimization

Rust-AB: RoadMap

**Parameter
space
exploration
–
Postiglione**

**Visualization,
OpenStreetMap
–
Foglia**

**Optimize
parallelization,
Distributed
computing
–
Caramante**

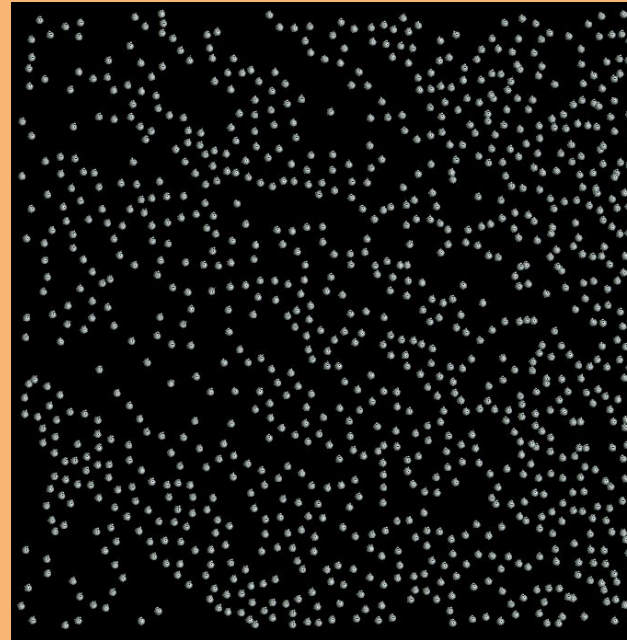
Benchmarks, Examples – Caramante

Sites, Testing, Examples – Foglia

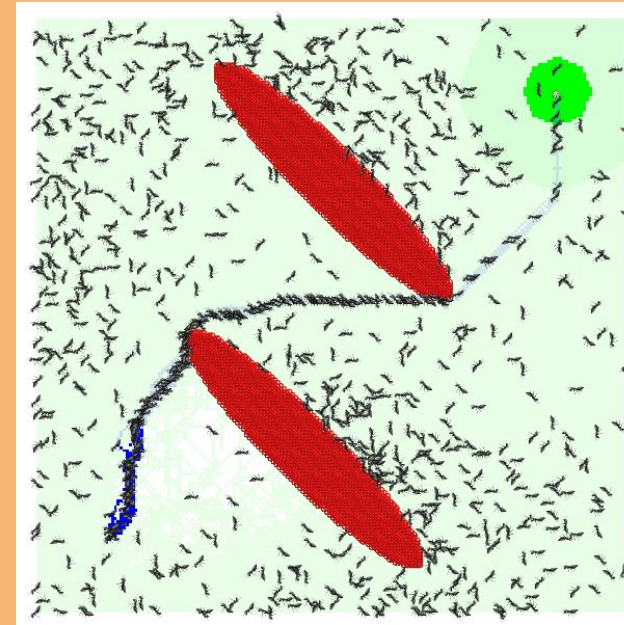
S.O.T.A, Examples, New features (Remove) – Postiglione

Models: Available & in progress

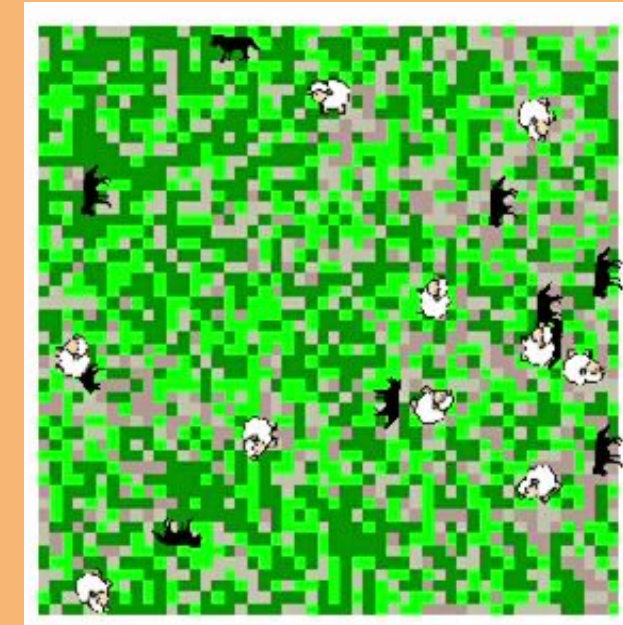
Boids



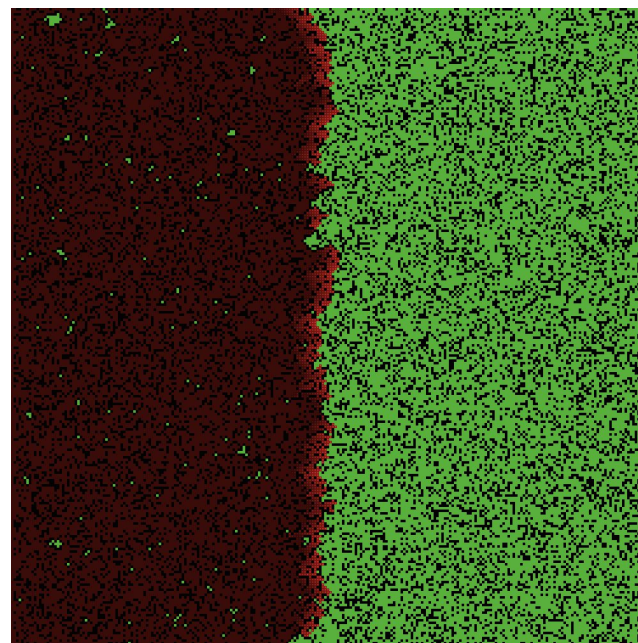
Ants Foraging



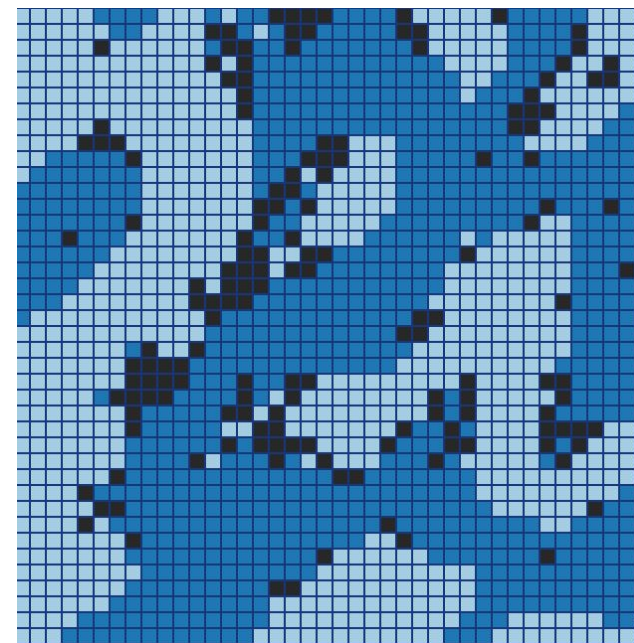
WolfSheepGrass



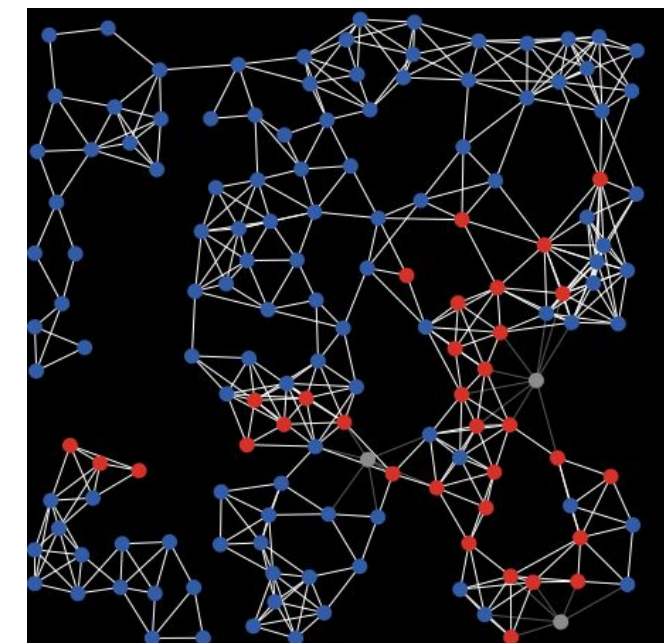
Forest Fire



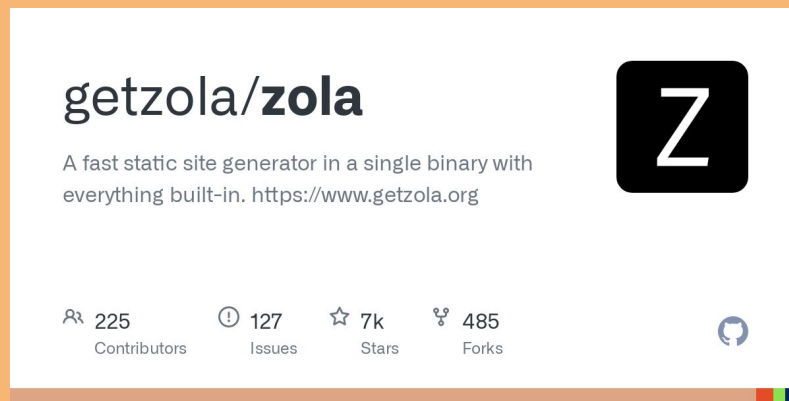
Schelling



Virus on a Network



Teammates are working on



01

WebSite

With documentation, examples and benchmarks

02

Dynamic Scheduling

Add/Remove agents from scheduler

03

New Graphic engine

Previously based on **Amethyst**, now moved to **Bevy**

04

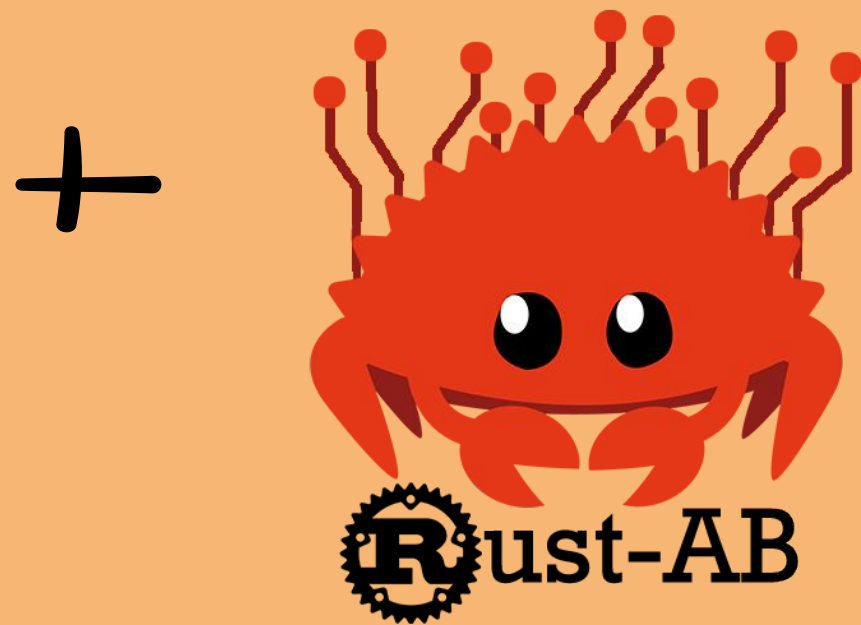
Benchmarks

Auto-update using github actions and publish result on the site



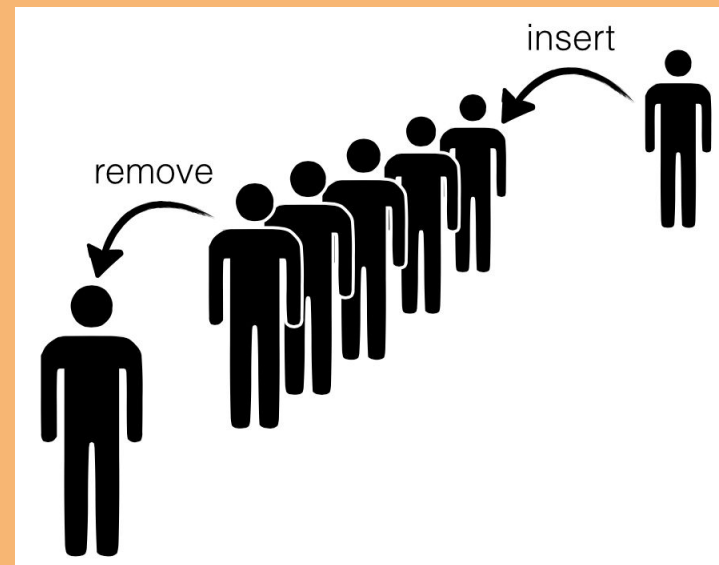
What I've Done

Kick-off



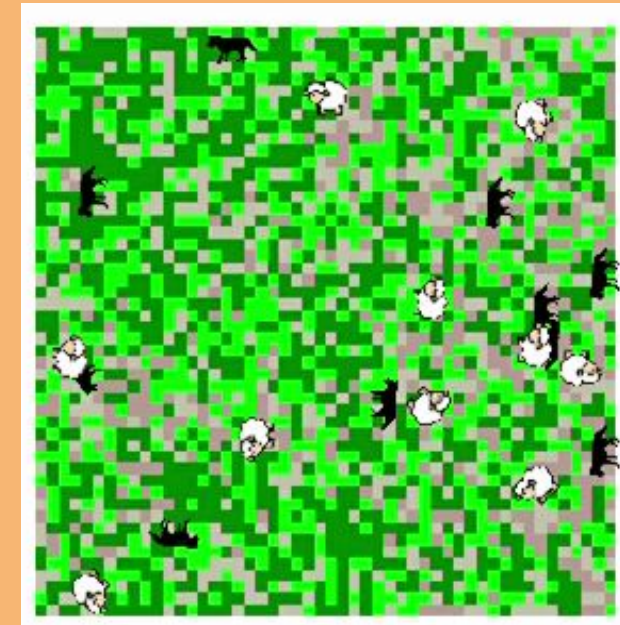
1. Learning **Rust**
2. Rust-AB analysis

Model Analysis



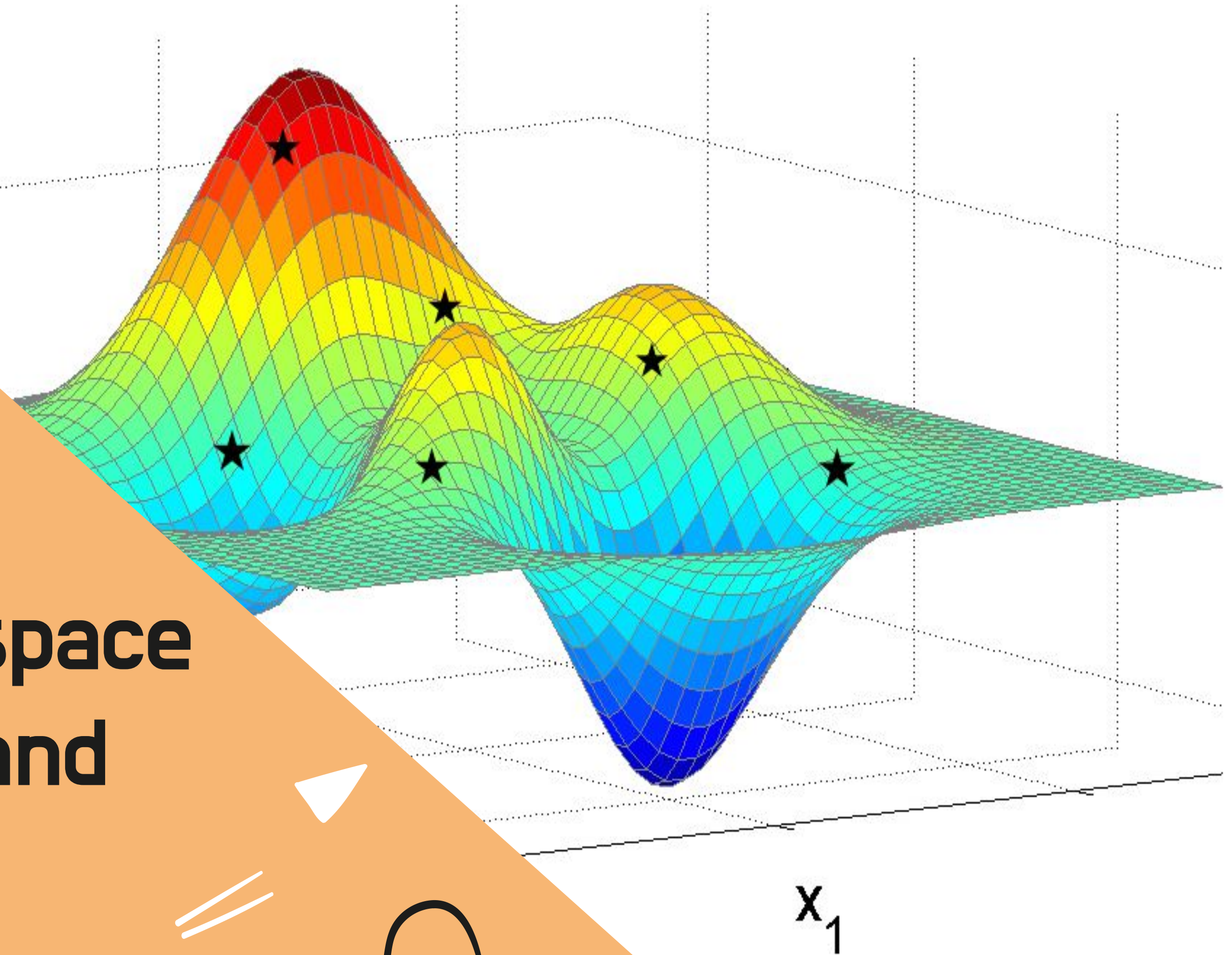
1. Defining features for WSG
2. Future problems of the model

WolfSheepGrass



1. Model Definition
2. "Remove from grid"
3. Bug Detection

**Parameter space
exploration and
optimization**



Tuning parameters

Manual testing to choose parameters is possible with the simplest models, with discrete domain.

But with real numbers?



Some tool is required to automatize this process



We want "real" simulation

The screenshot shows the 'sheep-wolves' model interface. At the top, a green bar contains the text 'model-version'. Below it is a dropdown menu with 'sheep-wolves' selected. There are three sliders: 'initial-number-sheep' set to 100, 'initial-number-wolves' set to 50, and 'grass-regrowth-time' set to 30. Below the sliders are two blue buttons: 'setup' and 'go'. Under 'Sheep settings', there are two sliders: 'sheep-gain-from-food' set to 4 and 'sheep-reproduce' set to 4%. Under 'Wolf settings', there are two sliders: 'wolf-gain-from-food' set to 20 and 'wolf-reproduce' set to 5%. At the bottom, there is a checkbox labeled 'show-energy?' which is currently unchecked.

Parameter	Value
initial-number-sheep	100
initial-number-wolves	50
grass-regrowth-time	30
sheep-gain-from-food	4
sheep-reproduce	4 %
wolf-gain-from-food	20
wolf-reproduce	5 %

The objective of AB simulation is reproduce better as possible what happened in real system.

Change values means change simulation results.

Integrated in a framework



Completely based on
Java



It's a **programming language**
written in Java/Scala



Provides also an **HPC**
version



Based on Julia. It's part
of **JuliaDynamics**



Extension of another
framework.



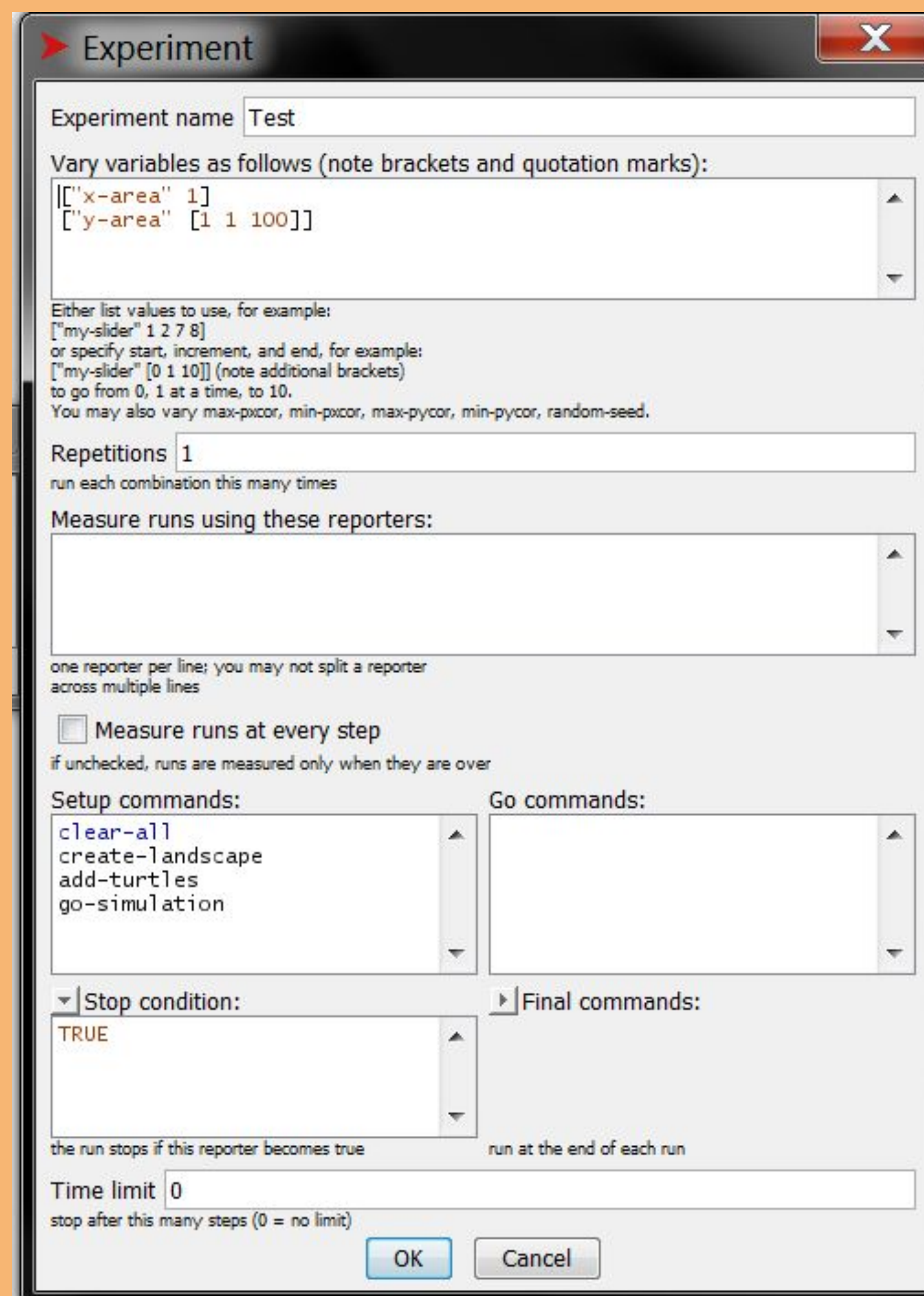
A **Python** framework



Simulation software for
business

BehaviorSpace

- Multiple Runs:
 - Multiple settings;
 - Repeat multiple time;
- Recording results;
- Generates dataset of results;
- “Explore” datasets:



The screenshot shows the 'Experiment' configuration window in BehaviorSpace. The window has a title bar with a red 'X' button. The main area is divided into several sections:

- Experiment name:** A text field containing 'Test'.
- Vary variables as follows (note brackets and quotation marks):** A text area containing:

```
[["x-area" 1]  
["y-area" [1 1 100]]
```
- Either list values to use, for example:**

```
["my-slider" 1 2 7 8]
```

or specify start, increment, and end, for example:

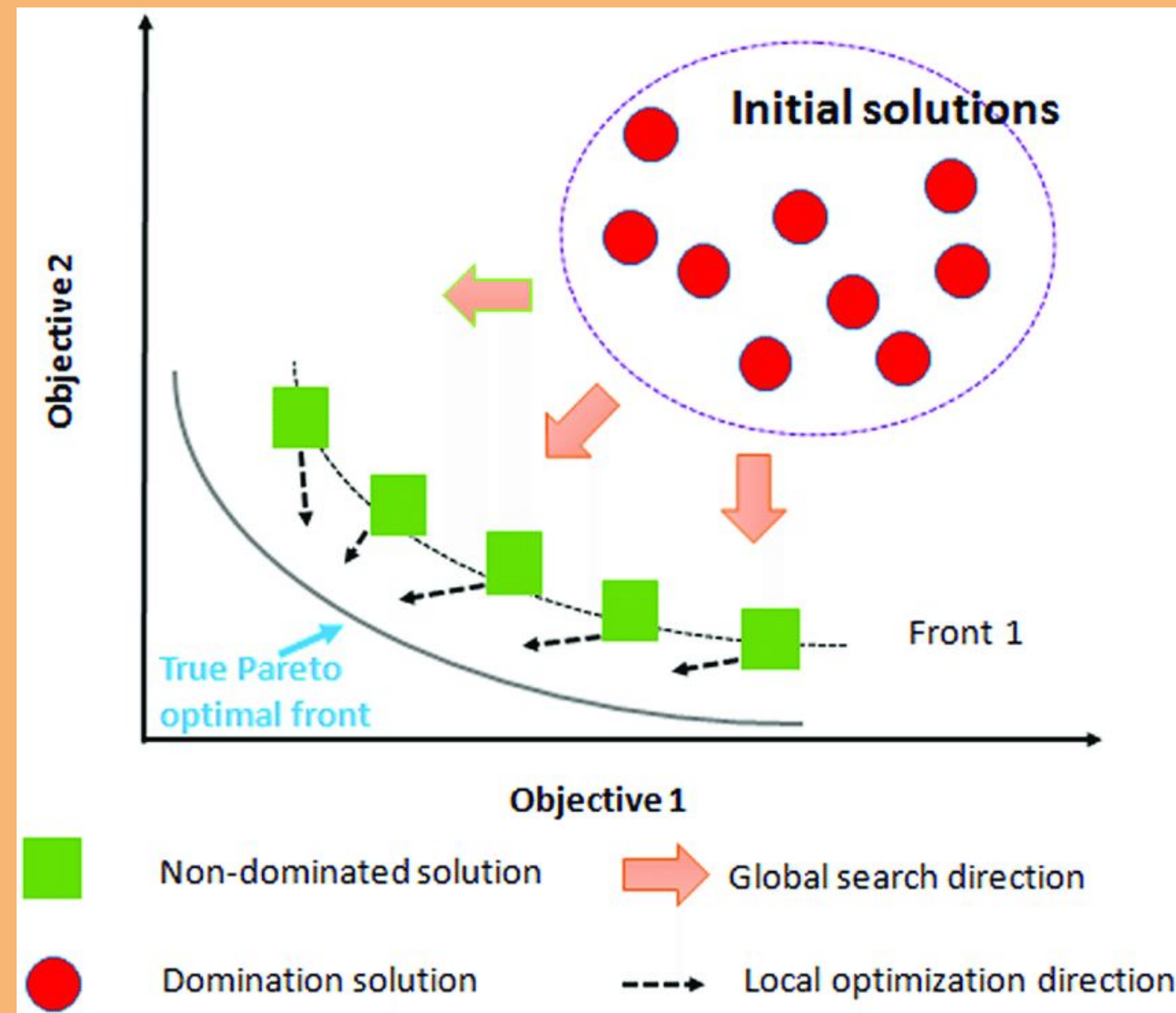
```
["my-slider" [0 1 10]]
```

 (note additional brackets)
to go from 0, 1 at a time, to 10.
You may also vary max-pxcor, min-pxcor, max-pycor, min-pycor, random-seed.
- Repetitions:** A text field containing '1', with the subtext 'run each combination this many times'.
- Measure runs using these reporters:** An empty text area.
- one reporter per line; you may not split a reporter across multiple lines**
- ☐ Measure runs at every step**
if unchecked, runs are measured only when they are over
- Setup commands:** A text area containing:

```
clear-all  
create-landscape  
add-turtles  
go-simulation
```
- Go commands:** An empty text area.
- Stop condition:** A dropdown menu showing 'TRUE', with the subtext 'the run stops if this reporter becomes true'.
- Final commands:** A dropdown menu showing 'run at the end of each run'.
- Time limit:** A text field containing '0', with the subtext 'stop after this many steps (0 = no limit)'.

At the bottom right are 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons.

An optimization problem



Multi-objective optimization, also known as Pareto optimization.

I'll focus on Evolutionary algorithms, especially **NSGA-II** (Non-dominated Sorting Genetic Algorithm-II).

Metaprogramming in Rust

```
macro_rules! simulate{
    ($step:expr, $sch:expr, $ty:ty, $s:expr $(,$opt:expr)*) => {
        let n_step:u128 = $step;
        let mut schedule:Schedule<$ty> = $sch;
        println!("Num of steps {}", n_step);
        $(
            println!("Option received. {}", $opt);
        )*
        let start = std::time::Instant::now();
        for _ in 0..n_step{
            schedule.step(&mut $s);
        }
    }
}

fn main() {
    ...
    simulate!(STEP, schedule, MyAgent, state, "opt1", "opt2");
    println!("The simulation has completed successfully.");
}
```

“Code that generates code”

More than a function:

- Don't repeat yourself:
- Domain-specific languages;
- Variadic interfaces;

+

That's all falks!

(for now)

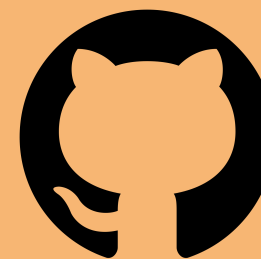


Do you are interested, curious or you have some question?
Join our meetings!



ISISLab

Rust-AB Team meeting:
Every Tuesday, 11.15 a.m.,
[ISISLab Discord](#),
voice chat RoomTwo



Git Organization: [Rust-AB](#)
Email:
l.postiglione4@studenti.unisa.it

