



Agent-Based Assessment of the Paris LEZ Policy* Considering Individual Adaptations

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AGENDA

- Introduction
 - General context
 - Research questions
- Methodology and assumptions
- Results
 - Behavioral changes
 - Emissions
- Conclusion and perspectives

GENERAL CONTEXT

● **Transportation and air pollution**

- Responsible for **310 000 premature deaths** in Europe each year (EEA, 2020)
- In France (2019), **51.8% of NO₂** , **16% of PM2,5** , **11% of CO** , emissions¹.

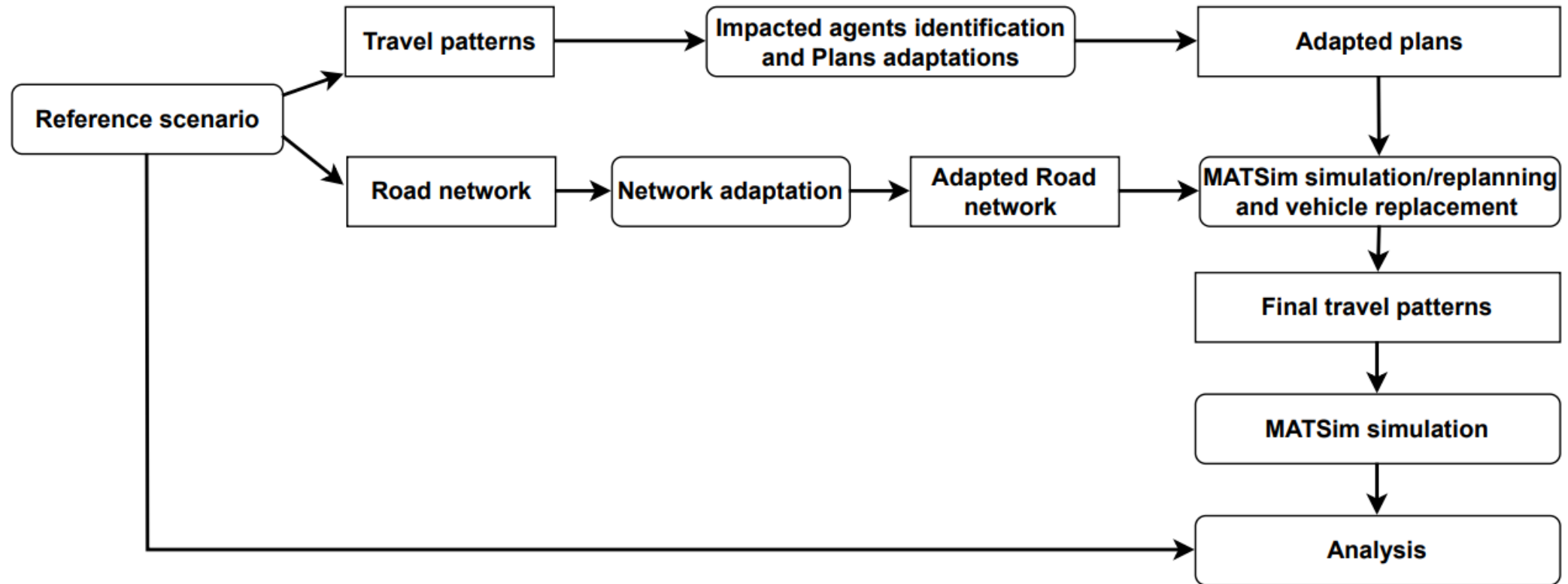
● **Policy measures to reduce private car use²**

- EU-27 aimed through **zero pollution** action plan to reduce the number of premature deaths due to exposure to fine particulate matter **by 55% by 2030, compared to 2005** (EEA, 2022).
- Encourage the use of **public transport** (UPPER project)
- **Low emission zones** (Gonzalez, J. N., Gomez, J., & Vassallo, J. M. (2022)): Stockholm (Sweden), Berlin (Germany), **Paris (France)** -
 - 2019 : Crit'Air 4 et 5
 - 2025 : Crit'Air 3 
- **Limit speed reduction:** Amsterdam (Netherlands), **Paris (France)**
 - **2024/10/01: 70 km/h to 50 km/h incoming presentation soon**



1. Source: Citepa, rapport Secten, mai 2020
 2. <https://urbanaccessregulations.eu/>

WORKFLOW



 → Task

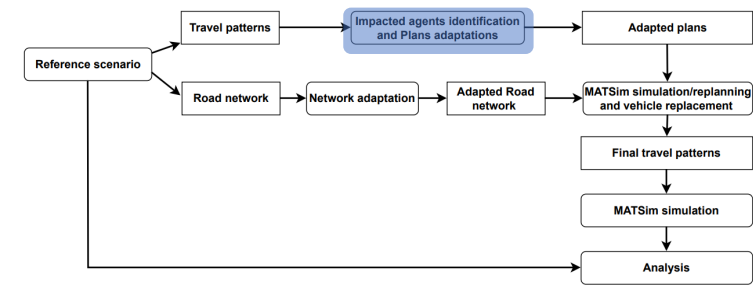
 → Output

IDENTIFICATION OF IMPACTED AGENT

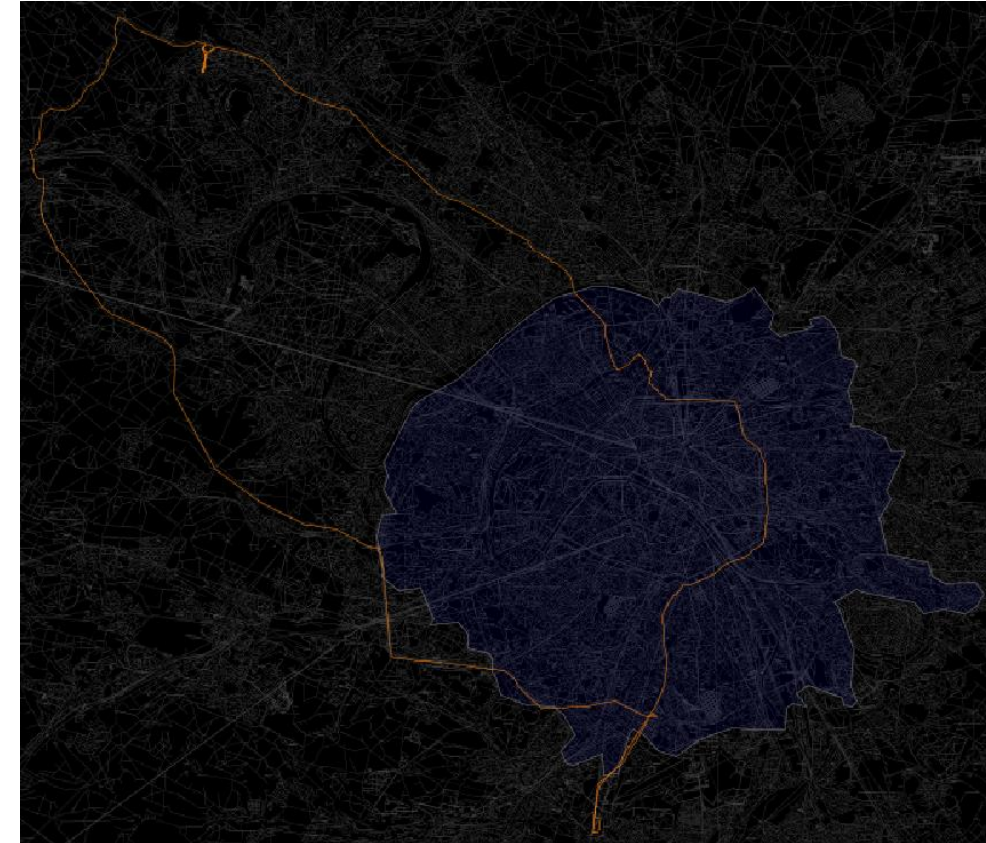
● Based-on the reference scenario (without LEZ):

- Simulation output event (agent_id, link_id, time_step) → routes
- Transport network (link_id, geometry)
- Agents' vehicles fleet (agent_id, type, energy, Euro norm)
- LEZ area (geometry)

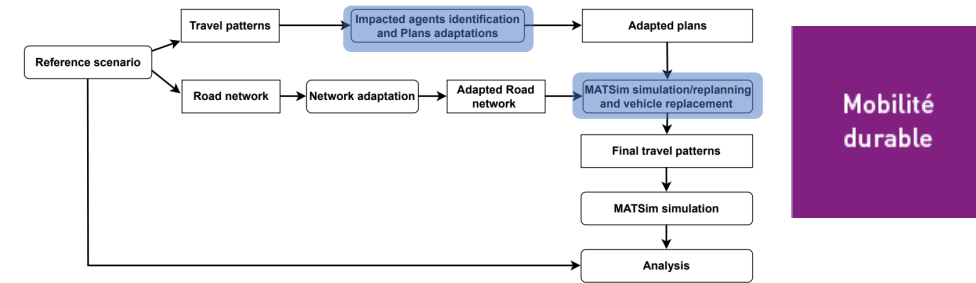
● Spatial SQL requests to identified agents traveled in the LEZ area with no appropriate vehicle



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PLANS ADAPTATIONS AND REPLANNING STRATEGIES



● Three subpopulations with different strategies:

● *lezConformAgent*

- No impacted agents or whose replaced their forbidden car
- Can use their conform vehicle anywhere

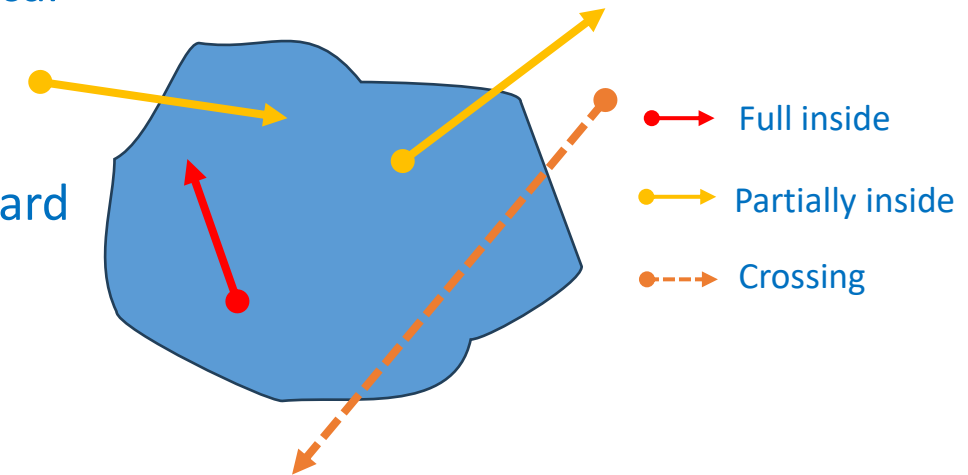
● *noConformInsideAgent*

- *Impacted agents who perform modal shift from car toward PT, bike, or walk*
- Cannot use car mode anymore (no car+other)

● *noLezConformFullCrossingAgent*

- Impacted agents who perform route change
- Use only car

● Delete all initial links and routes and replace the car by PT within the initial plans



NETWORK ADAPTATION AND SIMULATION

● New car mode

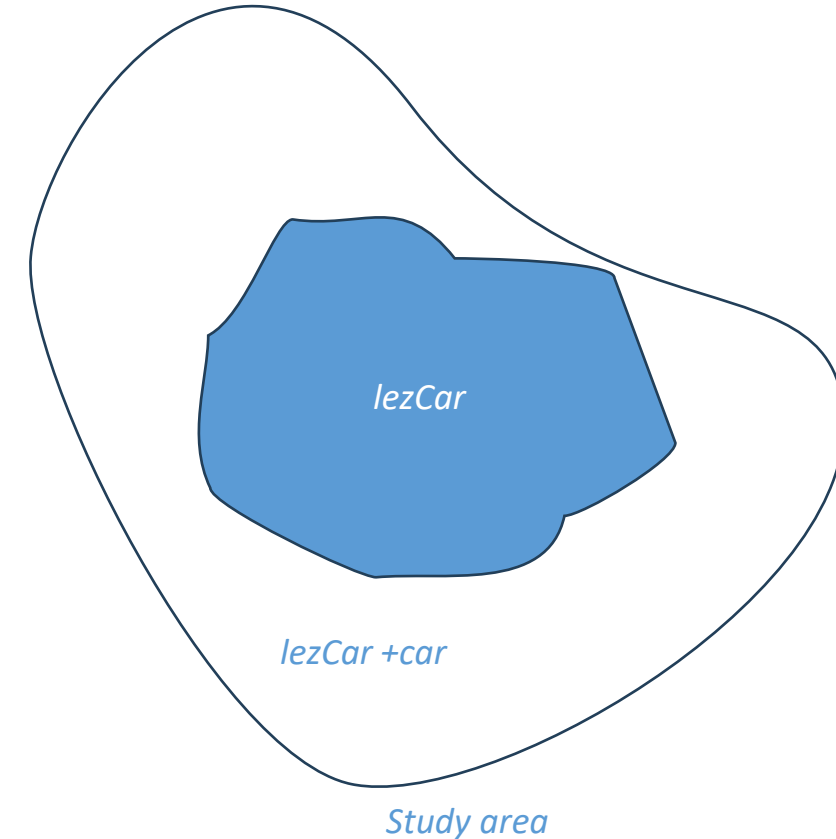
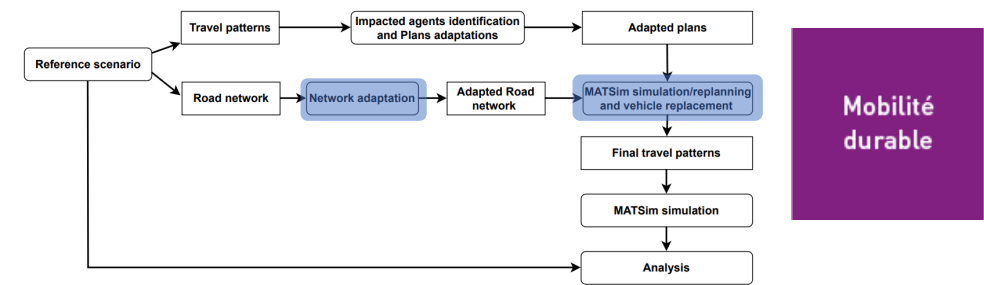
- *lezCar* allowed into the whole network
- *car* allowed only outside the LEZ area

● Network modification

- Delete *car* mode within all links inside the LEZ area
- Add *lezCar* mode into the whole network links

● Simulation

- Adapting the config file to consider the new replanning strategies



NON-COMPLIANT VEHICLE REPLACEMENT

● Based on

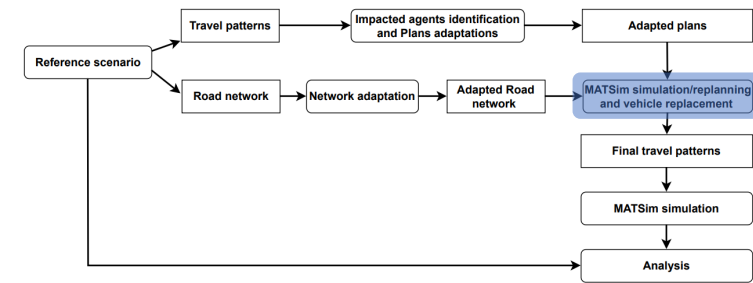
- the **replanning** simulation output as post-processing step
- the **remaining compliant** car fleet

● Conditioned by the **inability** to **fully or partially** complete daily activities due to

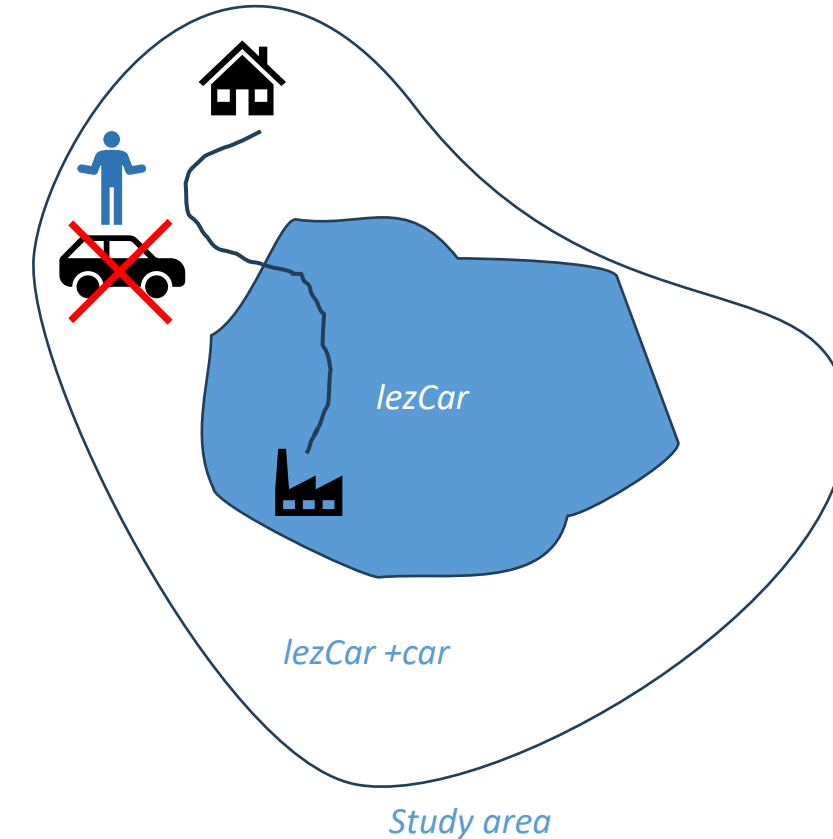
- Increased travel times from mode shift or rerouting
→ Those are agents likely to replace their banned vehicle and shift into *lezConformAgent* sub-population

● Assumptions & Constraints

- **PT travel time ratio threshold** (PT time / car time) ≤ 2.7 (Leviaux & Péguy (2022))
- Avoid exceed travel time (≤ 75 th percentile) for PT (<60 min), bike (30 min) or walking (<15 min)

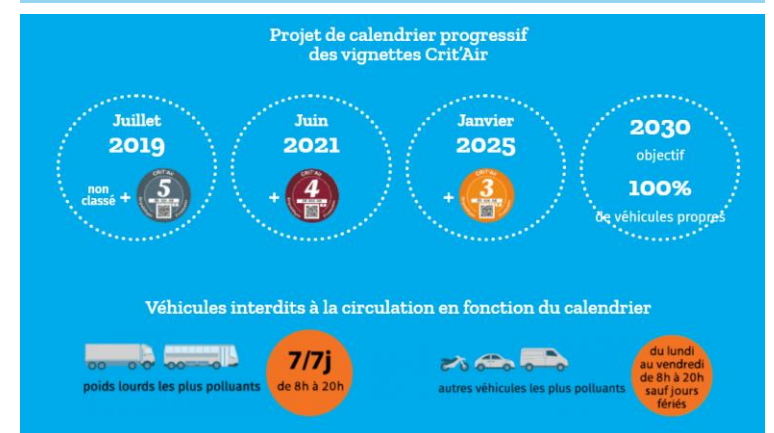
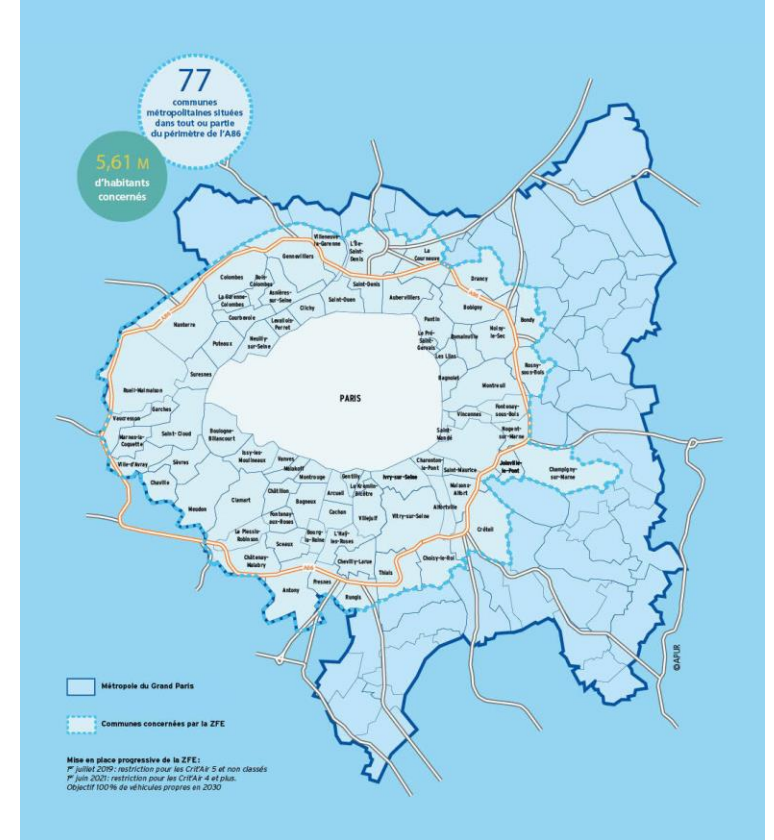


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PARIS LOW EMISSION ZONE

- In France, cities where pollutant emissions thresholds defined by WHO are exceeded must implement a ~~Low Emission Zone (LEZ)~~
- In Paris, the LEZ legislation* includes
 - a perimeter and times slots where vehicles circulation is restricted,
 - a schedule for future restrictions,
 - and exemptions.
- The classification of vehicles in LEZ is determined by the Crit'Air system, which itself is based on the vehicle's Euro emission standard
 - **Next vehicles restrictions is C3 (Gasoline Euro 2 & 3 Diesel Euro 4) in 2025 /!**

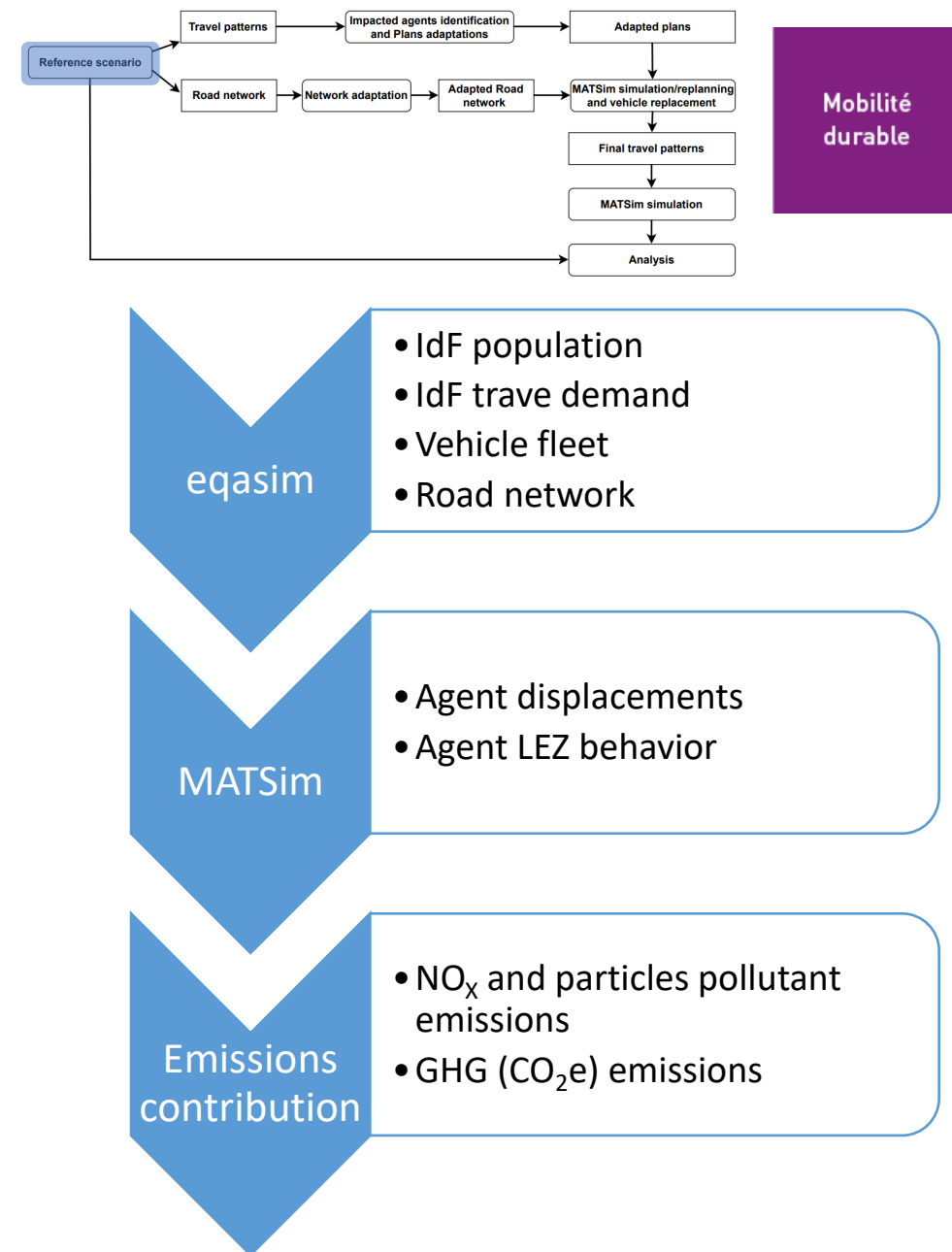


* <https://metropolegrandparis.fr/fr/la-zone-faibles-emissions-metropolitaine>

SIMULATION FRAMEWORK

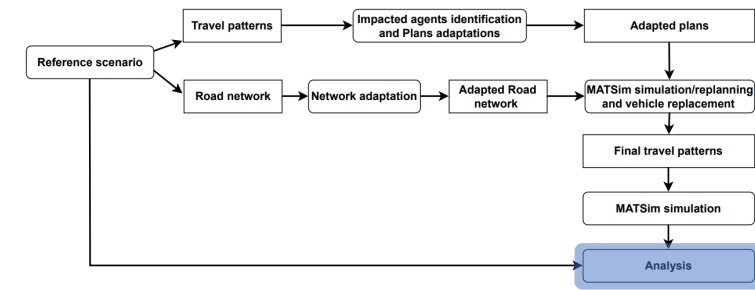
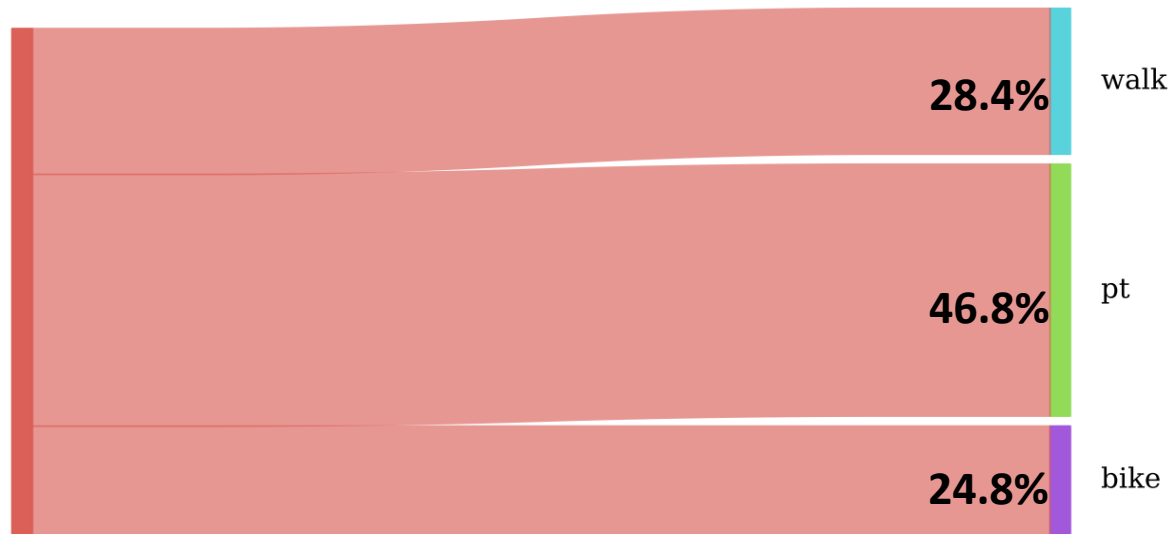
- **eqasim** generates Ile-de-France* population, travel demand and light vehicle fleet
 - The approach allows to assign a vehicle to each agent while retaining an age and energy distribution
- **MATSim** simulates **behavioral adaptations** in response to the **LEZ**
- MATSim emissions module coupled with HBEFA computes pollutant (NO_x and particles) and GHG (CO₂) emissions

*Hörl, S. and M. Balac (2021) Synthetic population and travel demand for Paris and Île-de-France based on open and publicly available data, Transportation Research Part C, 130, 103291.

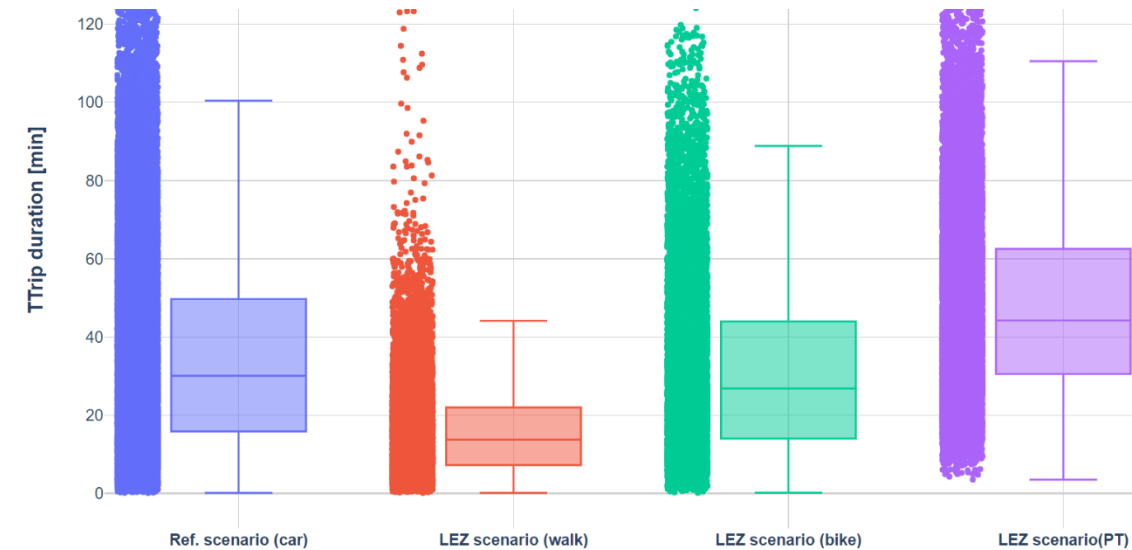


BEHAVIORAL CHANGES

● *noConformInsideAgent* sub-population



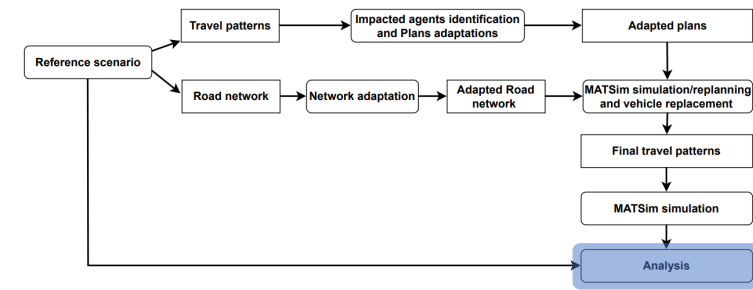
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● After applying *constraints* complete daily activities

- 3%, 9%, and 15% shifted to walking, cycling, and public transport (PT), respectively
- 73% remaining replaced their non-compliant vehicle

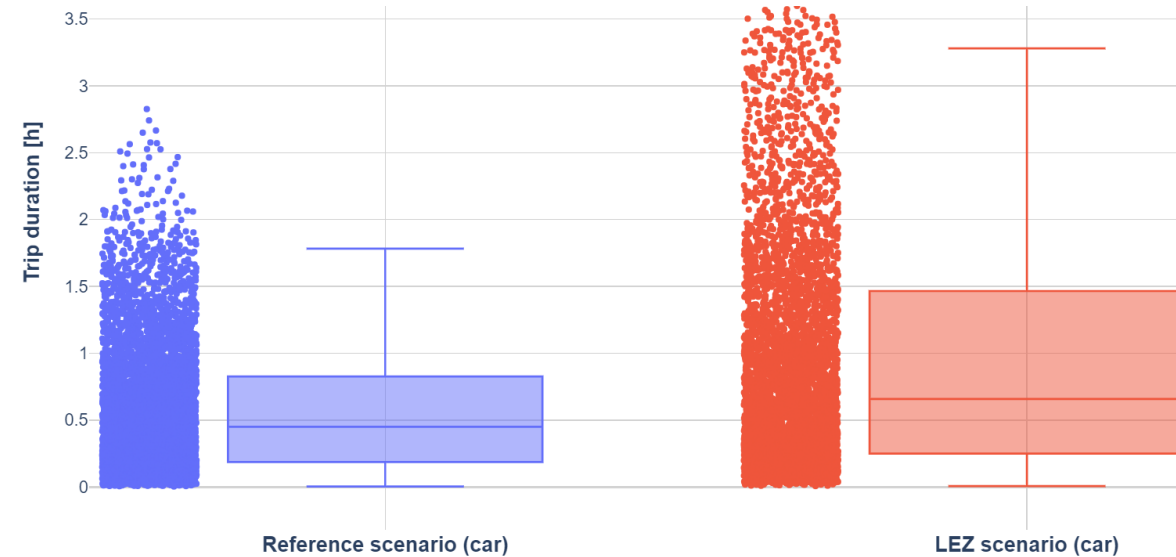
BEHAVIORAL CHANGES



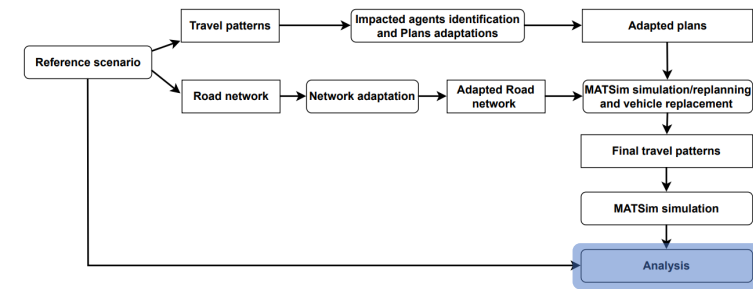
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● *noLezConformFullCrossingAgent* sub-population

- 94% of agents who avoided the restricted zone kept their non-compliant vehicles
- Only 6% chose to replace



EMISSIONS



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	LEZ area			MGP			IdF		
	NO _x	PM2.5	CO ₂	NO _x	PM2.5	CO ₂	NO _x	PM2.5	CO ₂
Ref. scena.	12	0.3	6,274	13.8	0.3	7,108	32.2	0.8	15,644
LEZ scena.	9.9	0.07	5,954	11.5	0.13	6,901	30	0.5	15,420
Variation (%)	-17.8	-74.2	-5.1	-15.2	-62.2	-3	-6.8	-41.3	-1.4

- Larger LEZ areas lead to greater overall emission reductions
- **Particulate matter (PM)** emissions show the most significant decrease, compared to NO_x and CO₂
- This is largely due to the **ban on Diesel Euro 4 vehicles**, which:
 - represent **10%** of the vehicle fleet
 - Contribute to **80%** of PM emissions

CONCLUSION

- Paris LEZ Policy (2025) Assessment via Agent-Based Simulation (MATSim)
 - Focusing on three key behavioral adaptations: Vehicle replacement, Modal shift (PT, bike, walking), Route change
 - Modeled through specific agent sub-populations
- Key Finding: **Banning Diesel Euro 4 vehicles** (10% of fleet) leads to a **major reduction in particle emissions** (80% of PM sources)
- **Limitations:**
 - Does not capture psychological/latent factors (opinions, perceptions, attitudes) → cf. Morton et al. (2021)
 - Assumes agents always adapt — no trip abandonment or fraud (e.g., non-compliant use)
- **Perspectives:**
 - Integrate population and car fleet evolution and new PT lines over time
 - Integrate intermodal alternatives (Yin et al. (2024)), trip abandonment, and fraud
 - Extend to geographic and temporal restrictions (Versailles Grand Parc)
 - Perform localized emissions analysis (e.g., LEZ periphery rebound effects)

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING!



<https://www.brusselstimes.com/44817/belgium-s-slow-war-against-diesel-cars>

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