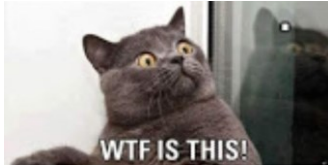


ENR145 Computational Methods:

**A small detour from “Hamming Python” so
we can do more coding practice**

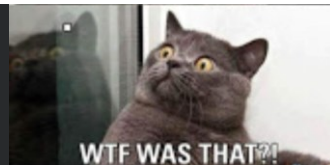
Xiang Li
Spring 2026

Current roadblocks in Hamming Python:



```
for i, item in enumerate (data_index):  
    hamming16_array[] = input_data[]    ## TODO: fill i and item in here  
  
print (hamming16_array)
```

```
# Generate P1-P4  
for p in []: ## TODO: p should be in p1 p2 p3 p4 position  
    for i in range (): ## TODO: p should be in the range of how many bit?  
        if p & i == : ## TODO: if p & i == to what?  
            hamming16_array[] = hamming16_array[] ^ hamming16_array[]    ## TODO: fill i and p in here
```

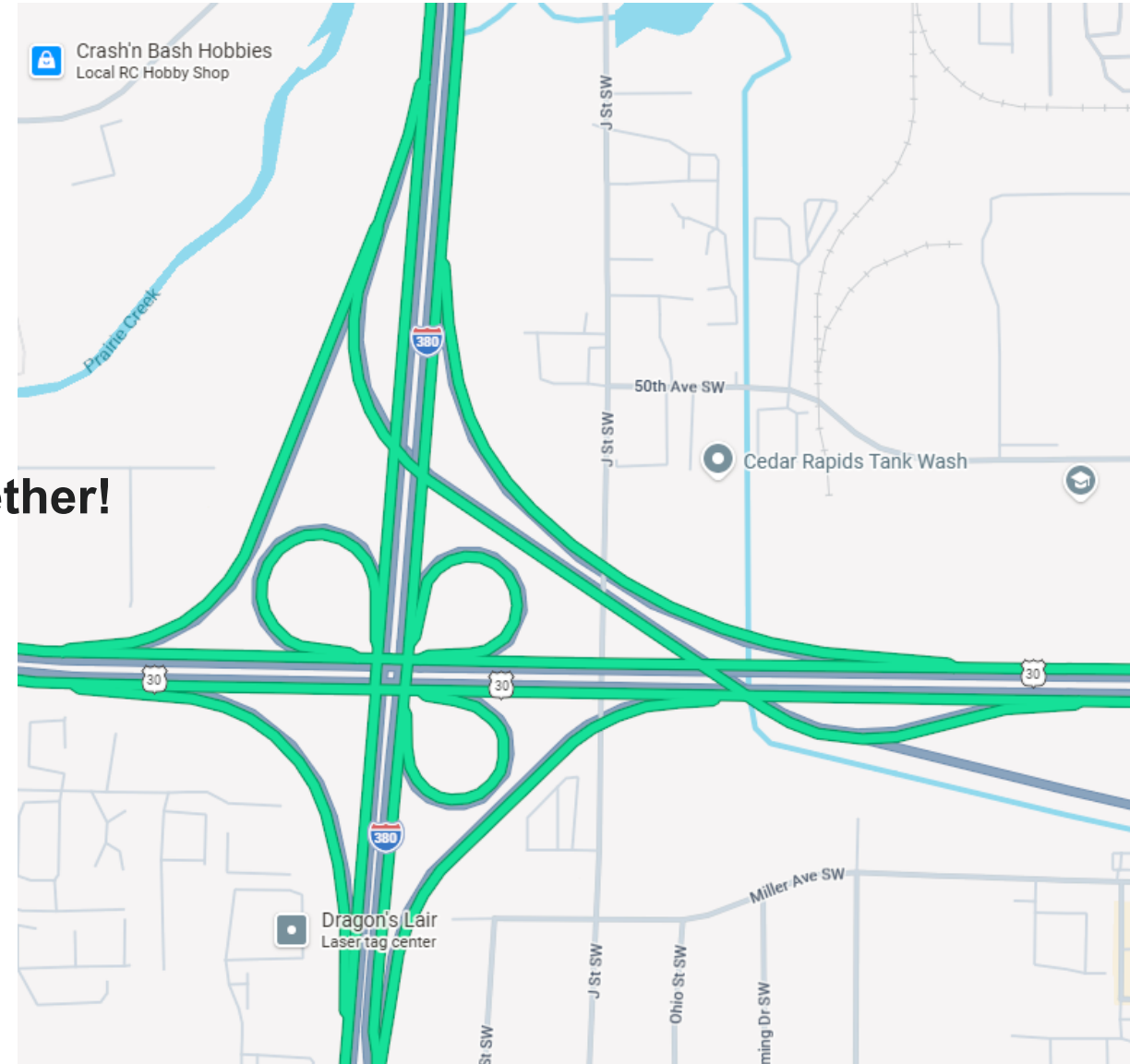


We can fix this, by some practice

All computational problem is just:

- Encoding (give number meaning)
- Decoding (find meaning from number)
- Data manipulation (math out the solution)

So, let's try to do a traffic control problem together!



How to find the Colab notebook



ENR 145: Computational Methods for Physicists and Engineers

Department of Engineering Physics, Coe College | Cedar Rapids, Iowa



Download Syllabus



Upload to Moodle

▼ Module 1: Codes, Visuals, and Algos (4 weeks)

Week 2:

Google Sheets helper file

Slides #3

Week 3:

Hamming python 101(right click and "save link as" to download)

Assignment #4

Week 4:

Slides #4 Traffic control 201(right click and "save link as" to download)

Week 5:



traffic_control_201_class.ipynb ☆ ☁

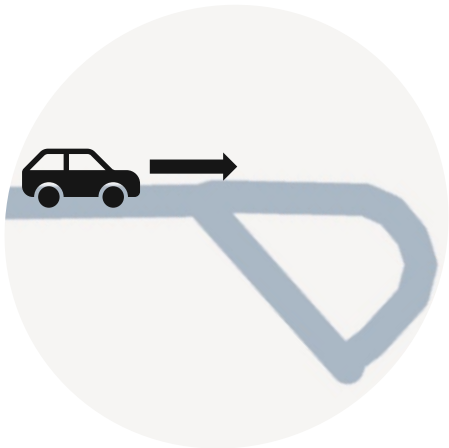
File Edit View Insert Runtime Tools Help



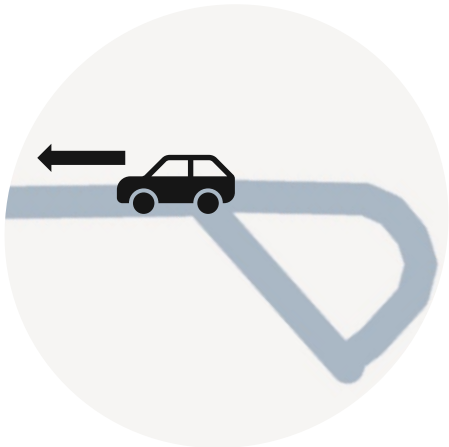
COE COLLEGE®

Encoding the traffic: level 0

A car is moving in a straight lane with a dead-end.



Before: lane_a = [0,0,1,0]



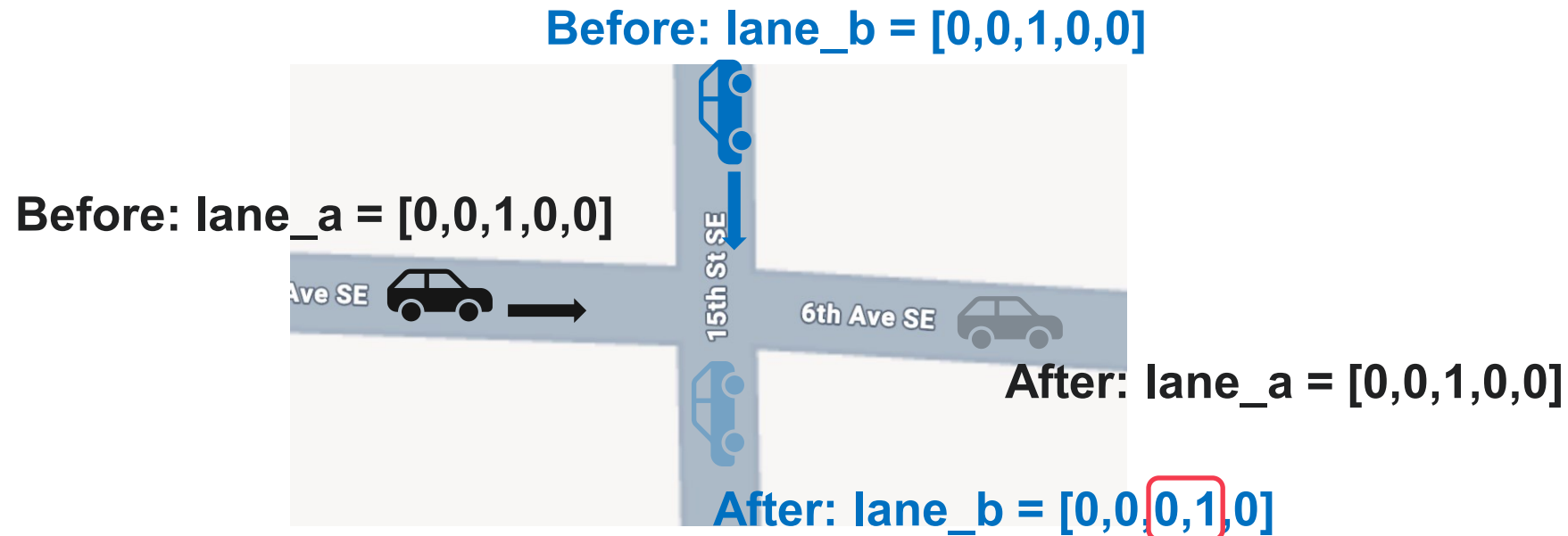
After: lane_a = [0,0,-1,0]

Can you write a function to do this in Python?

```
[ ] ▶ # A car (in lane_a) is coming into a dead-end, after 3 ticks of time, it will enter the roundabout.  
lane_a = [0,0,1,0] # A number array is used to encoding one car in one lane.  
  
# After it exit, it will become [0,0,-1,0]  
  
## TODO: write a function for this application:  
  
def dead_end(car):          # This dead_end function needs one input (a number array).  
    for i in range(len(car)): # Use len to get length of the array (how many ticks in total); use range to iterate through each tick.  
        if #TODO: find the car in the lane  
            #TODO: do something to do the flip  
    return car               # This is the output of this function, which will return a number array.  
  
[ ] # test this function by run this following code  
  
lane_b = [0,1,0,1,0]  
dead_end (lane_b)  
  
[0, -1, 0, -1, 0]
```

Encoding the traffic: level 1

Two cars meet in one intersection.



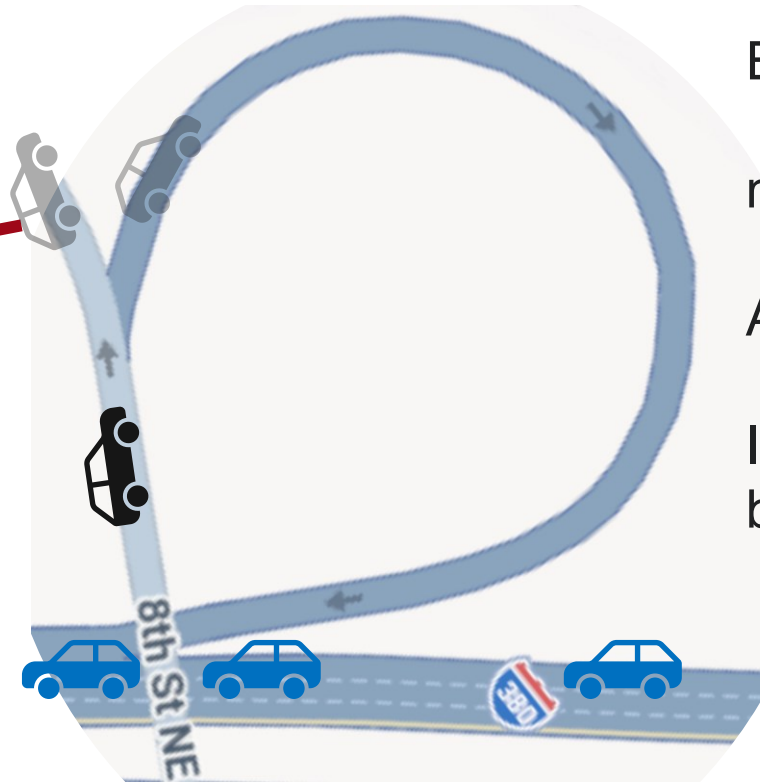
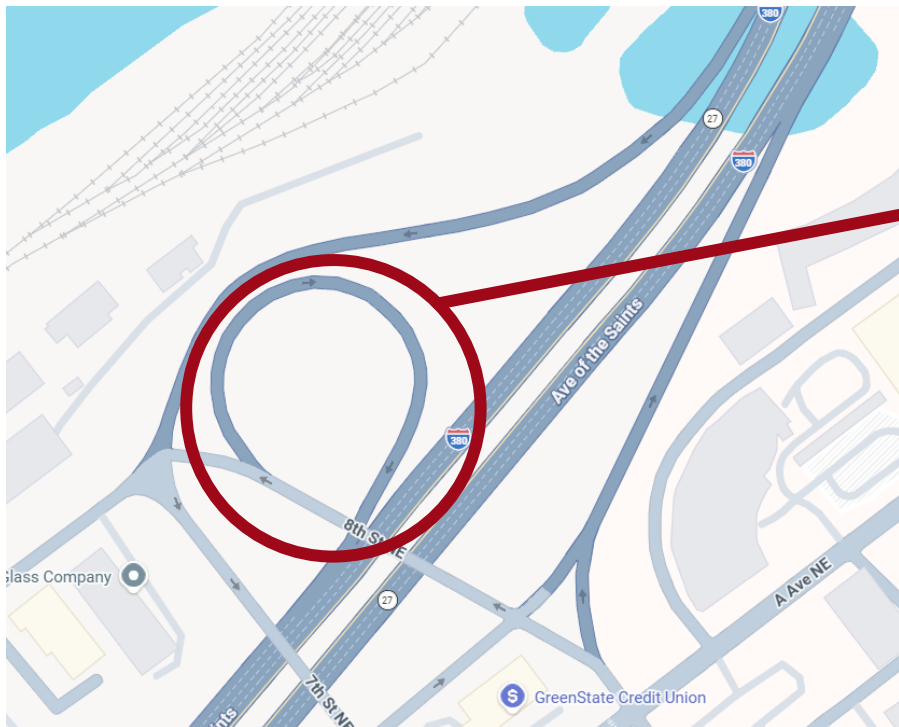
It waited for 1 tick, so lane_a will be clear.

Can you write a function to do this in Python?



Encoding the traffic: level 2

A car in one lane might have different states (left/right, merge/no merge).



Eighth_ST = $[0, n, n, 0, 0]$

n = left or right?

Ave_380 = $[1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1]$

If n merge to 380, it needs to be removed from 8th St array.

Encoding the traffic: level 2.2

More states, how to check collision?

Before: lane_b = [0,0,n,0,0]

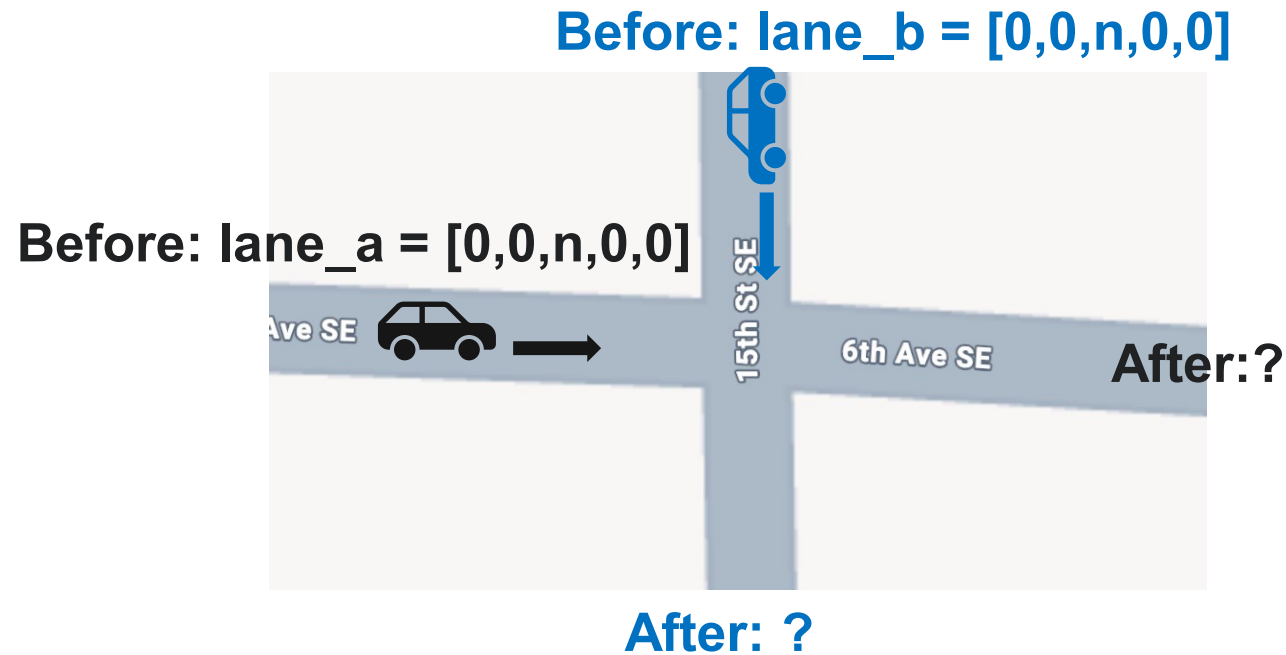
Before: lane_a = [0,0,n,0,0]



After: ?

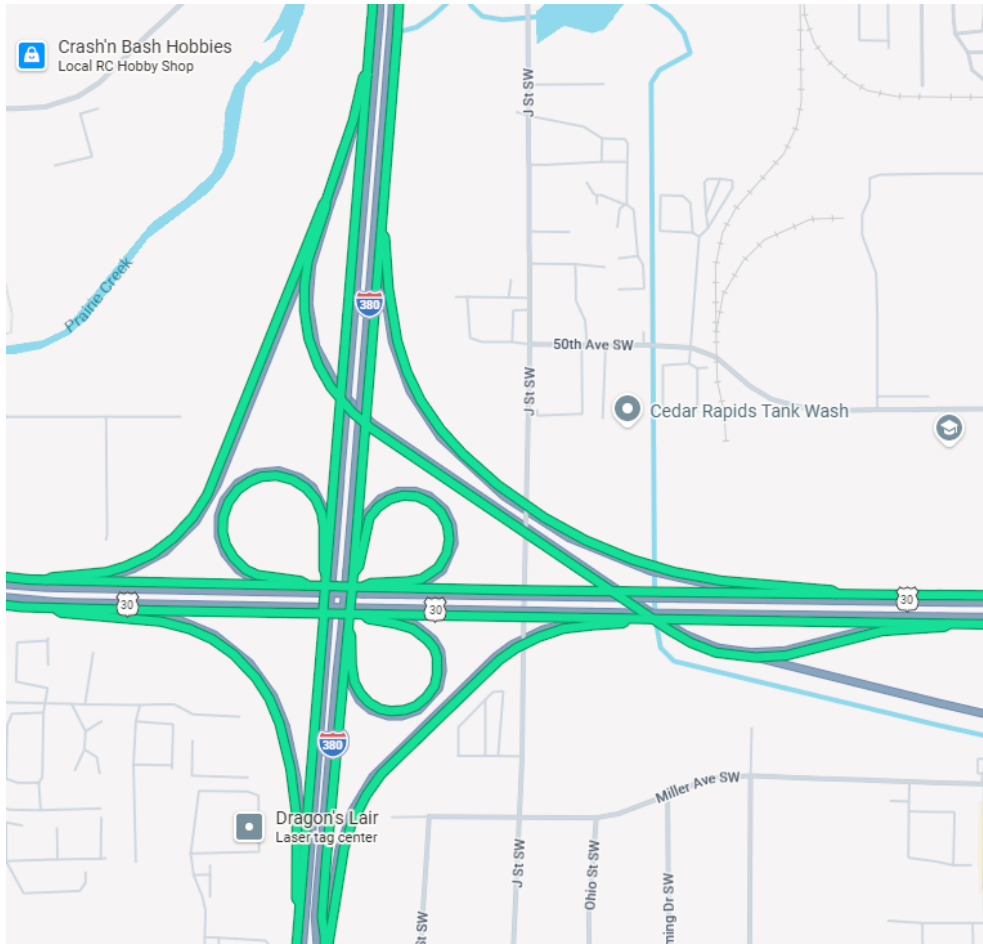
Encoding the traffic: level 2.3

If collision == true, how to code “right of the way”?



Encoding the traffic: level 3

Cloverleaf interchange



How many lanes?

380N, 380S, 30E, 30W

How many options for output?

3 for each lane, how to code?

Bottleneck: need to remove car from the original lane once it's gone.