



# From Smart Cities to a Smart World

Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Dirk Helbing, Professor of Computational Social Science  
with Anders Johansson, Martin Treiber, Arne Kesting,  
Stefan Lämmer, Martin Schönhof, and others

# We Can't Anymore Do “Business As Usual”



“Our financial, transportation, and health system are broken.”

D GESS Sandy Pentland, MIT Media Lab



# The Noble Goals of Traffic Planning

- Better mobility
- Less pollution
- Less noise
- Less traffic





# But This Is Often the Reality ...

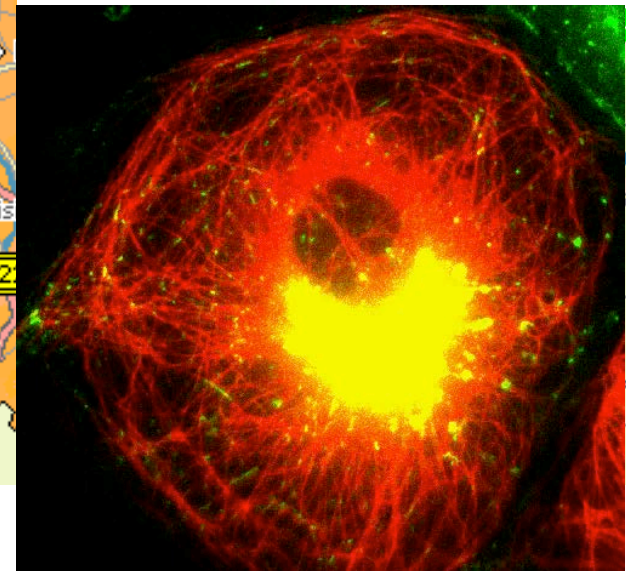
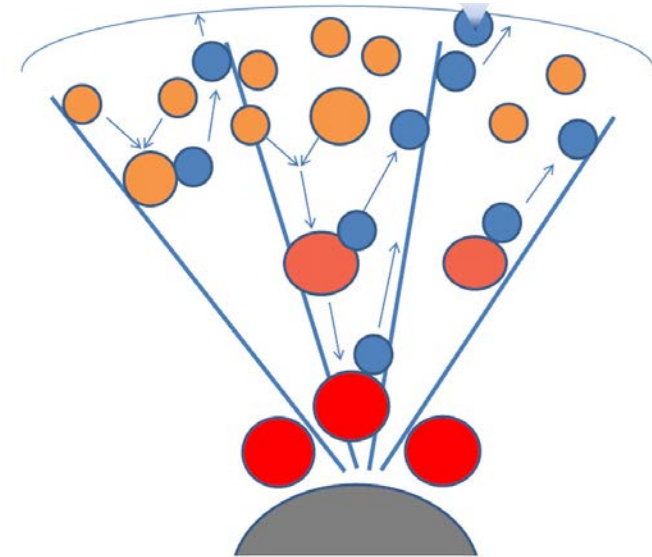
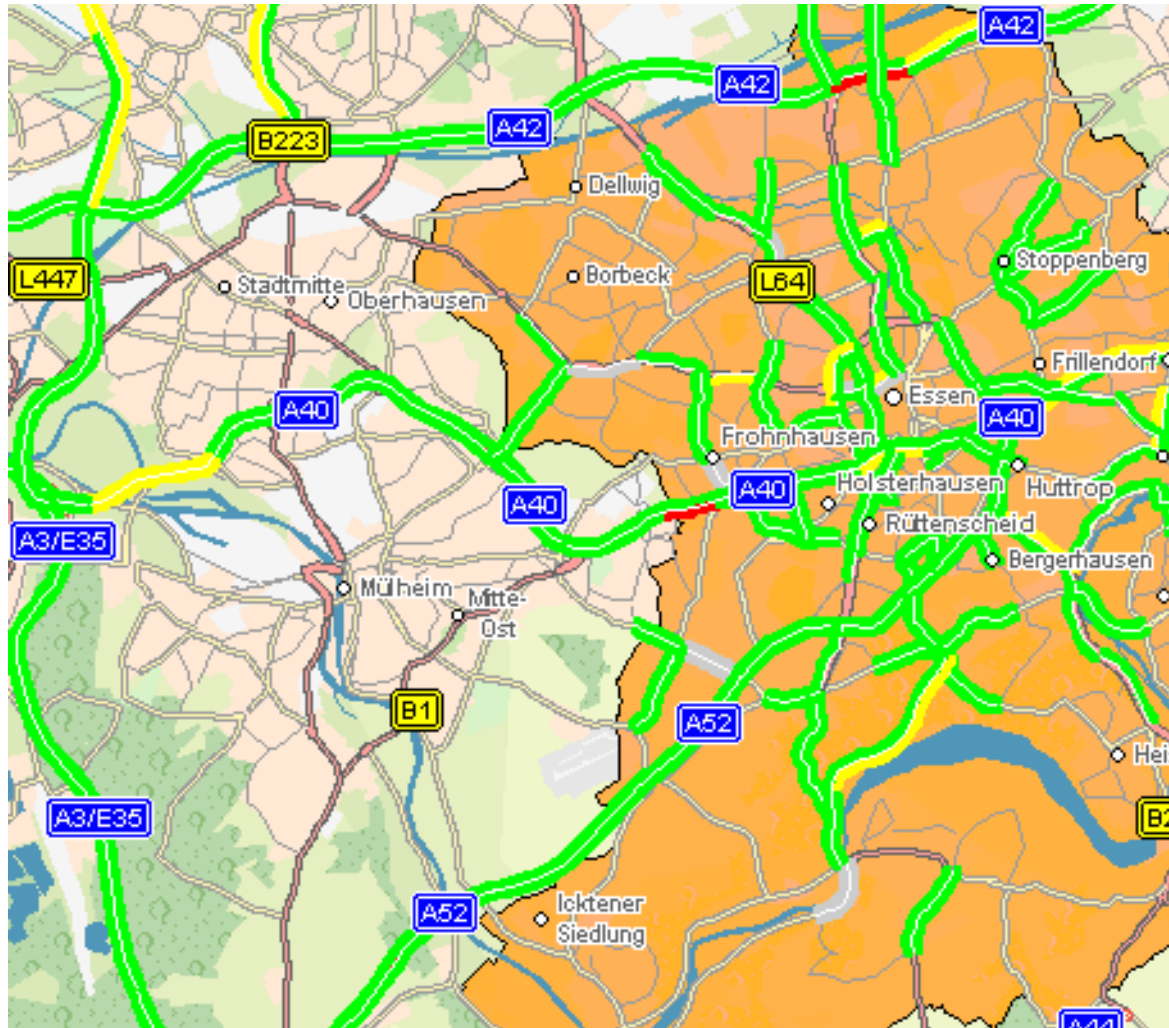




# ... and This: Urban Gridlock



# Flow Towards A Center: Biological Cells Have Figured It Out

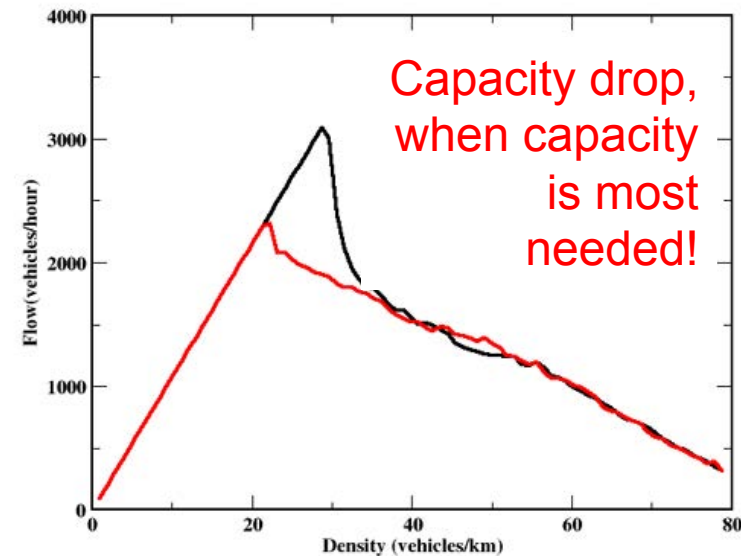




# Modeling Freeway Traffic

# „Phantom Traffic Jams“

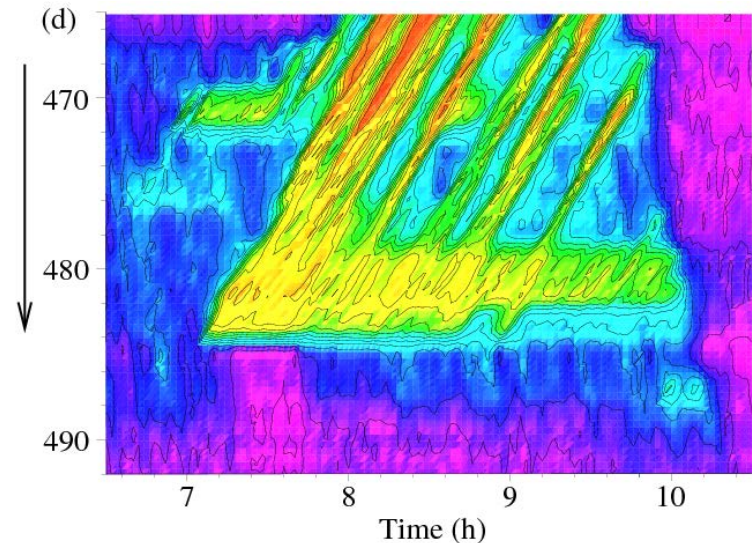
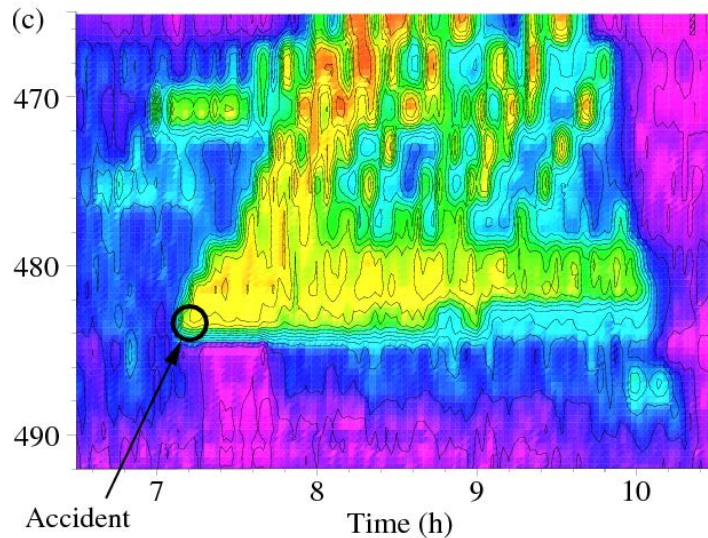
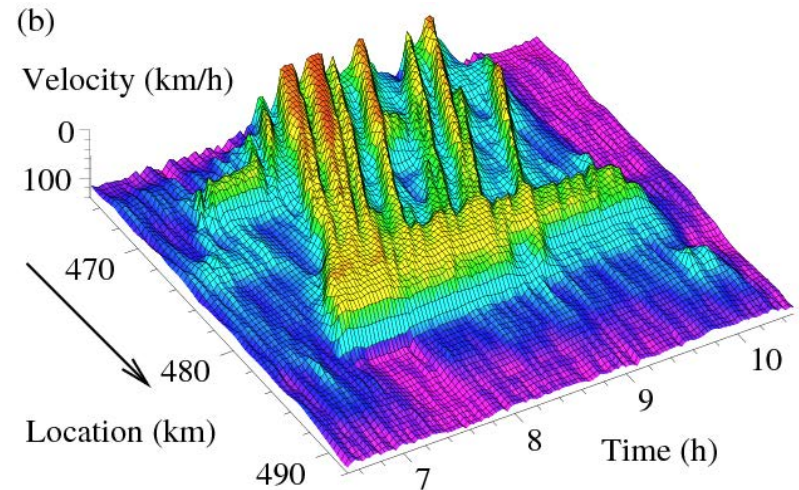
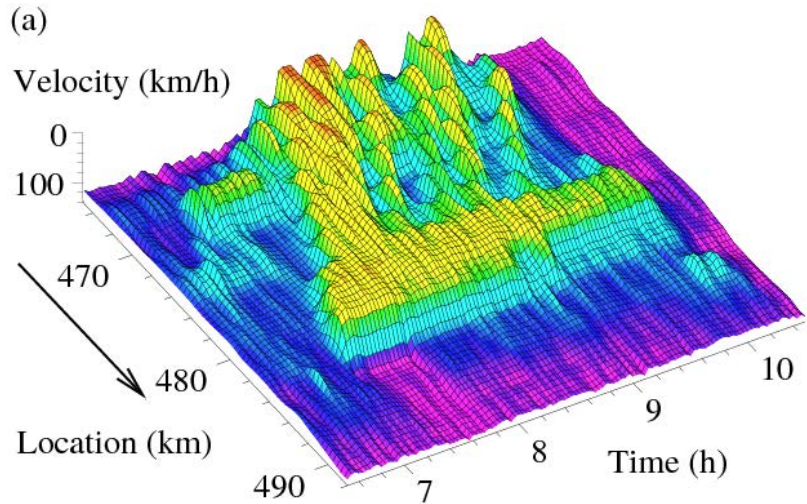
Thanks to Yuki Sugiyama



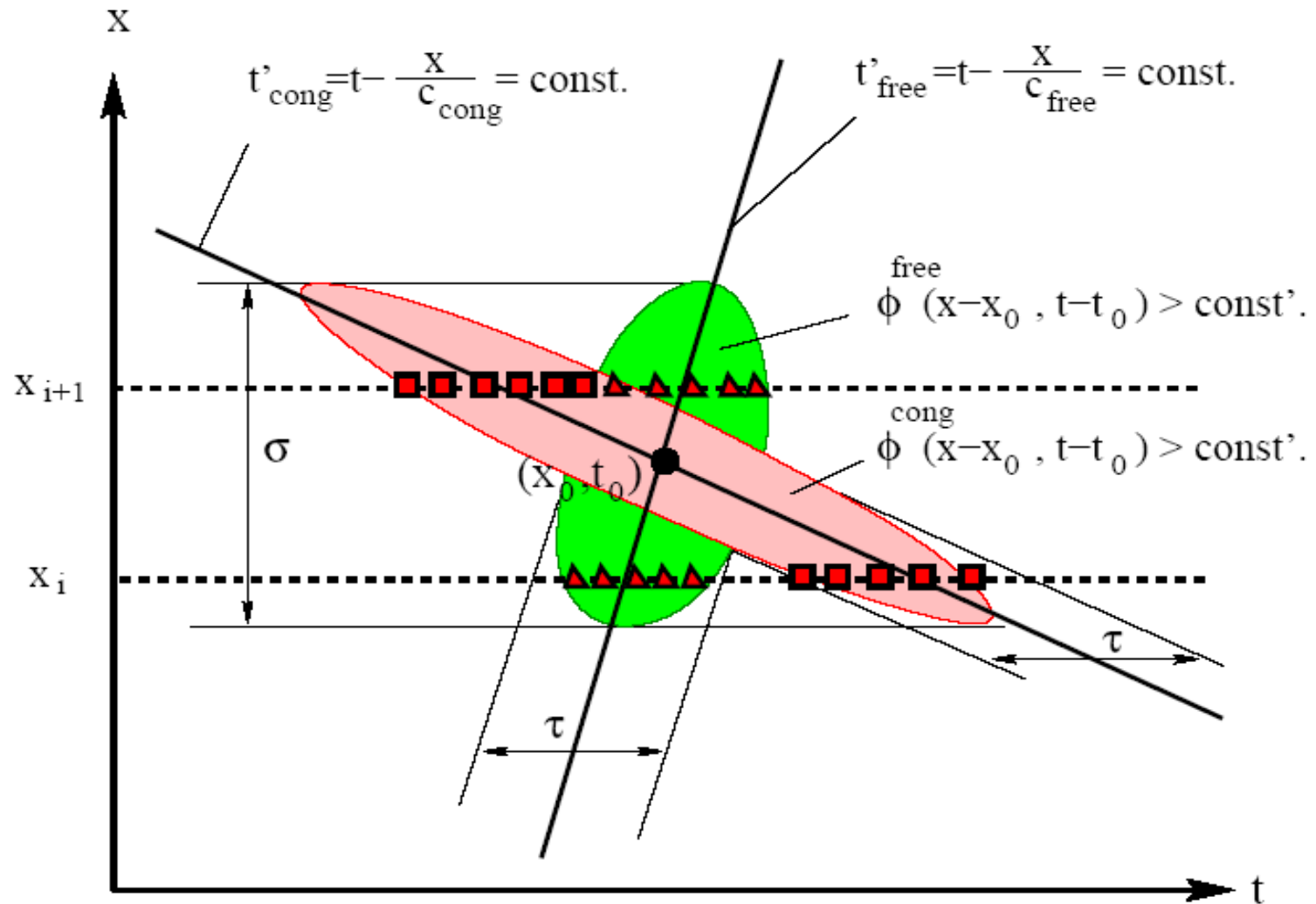
At high densities, free traffic flow is unstable:  
Despite best efforts, drivers fail to maintain speed



# How to Analyze the Cross-Sectional Traffic Data

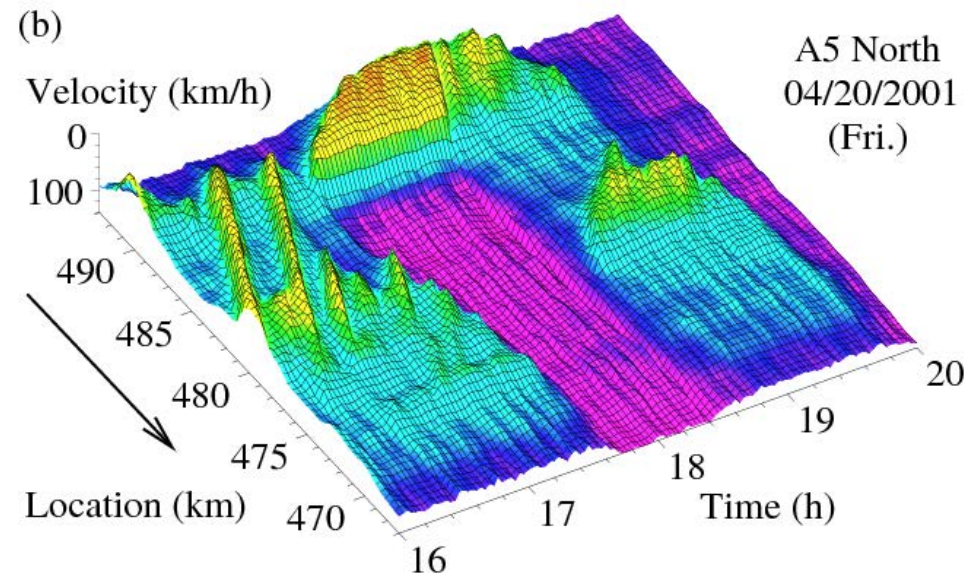
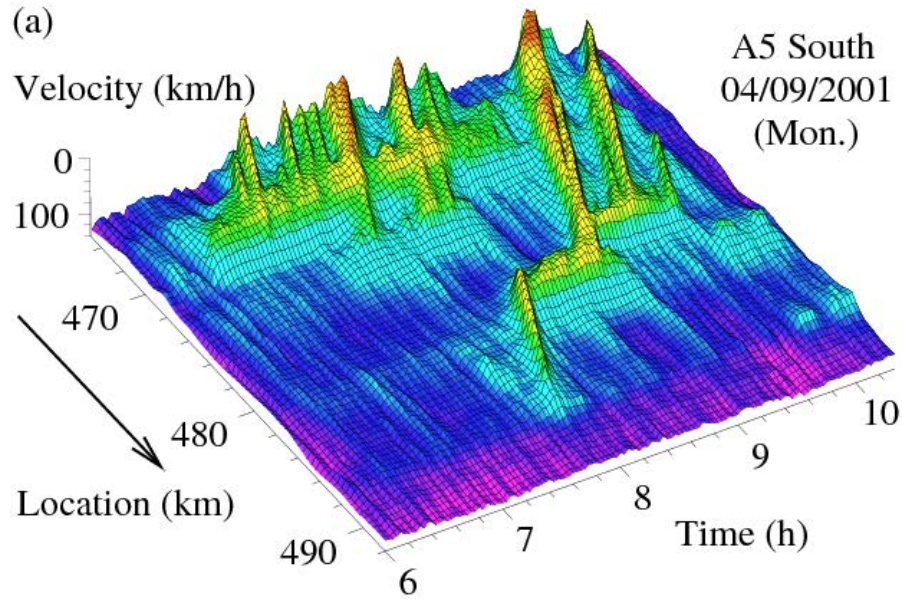


# How the Adaptive Smoothing Method Works

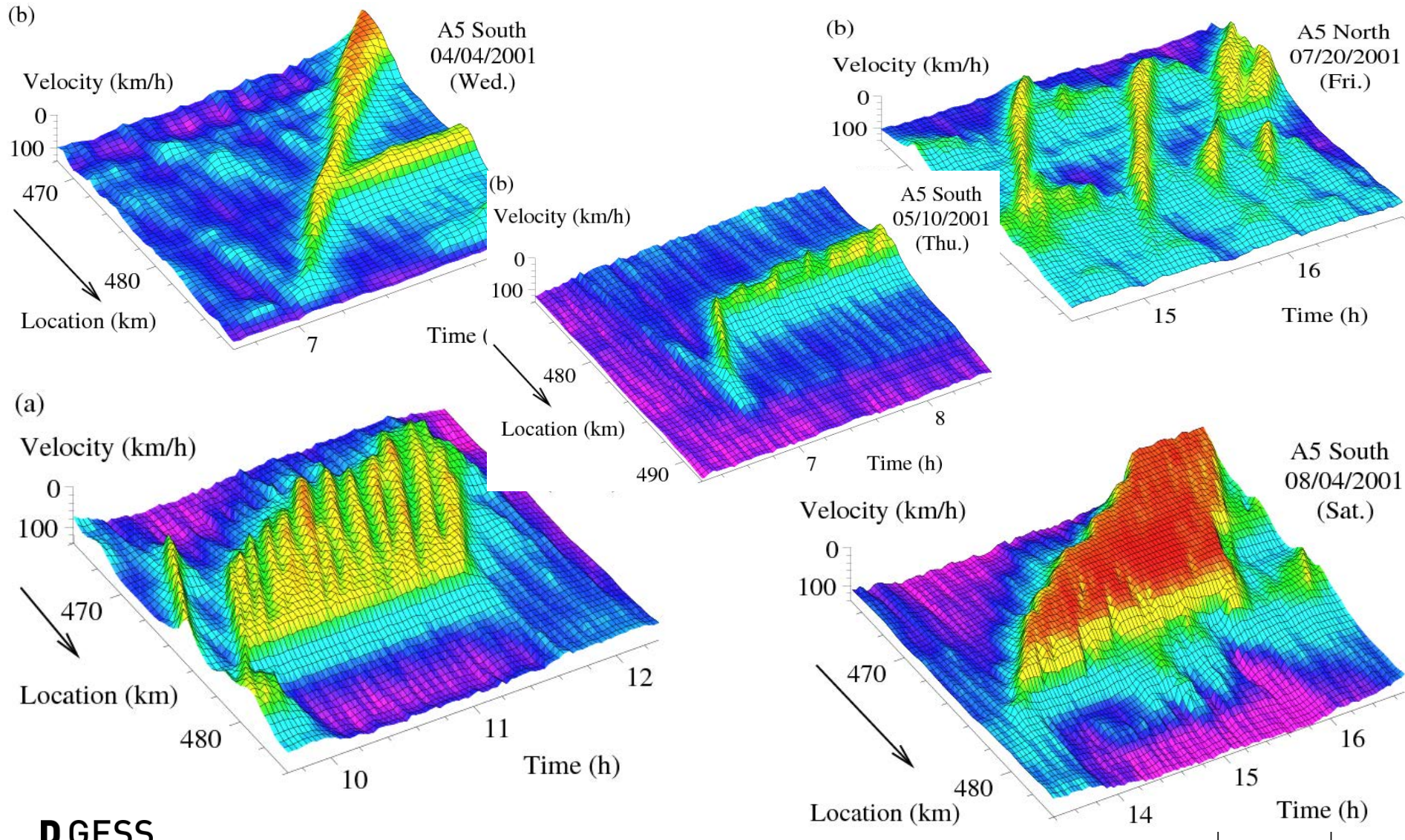




# Complex Congestion Patterns

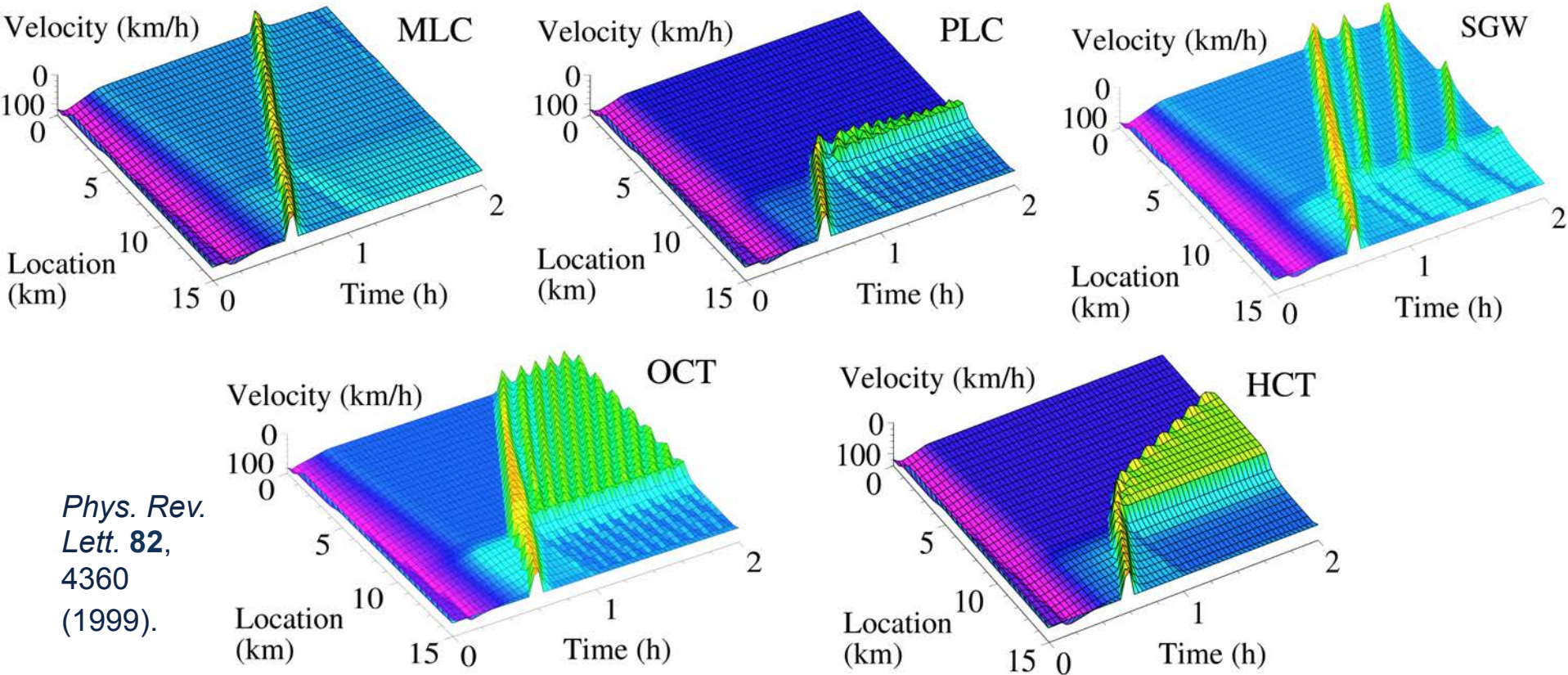


# Surprising Variety of Congestion Patterns





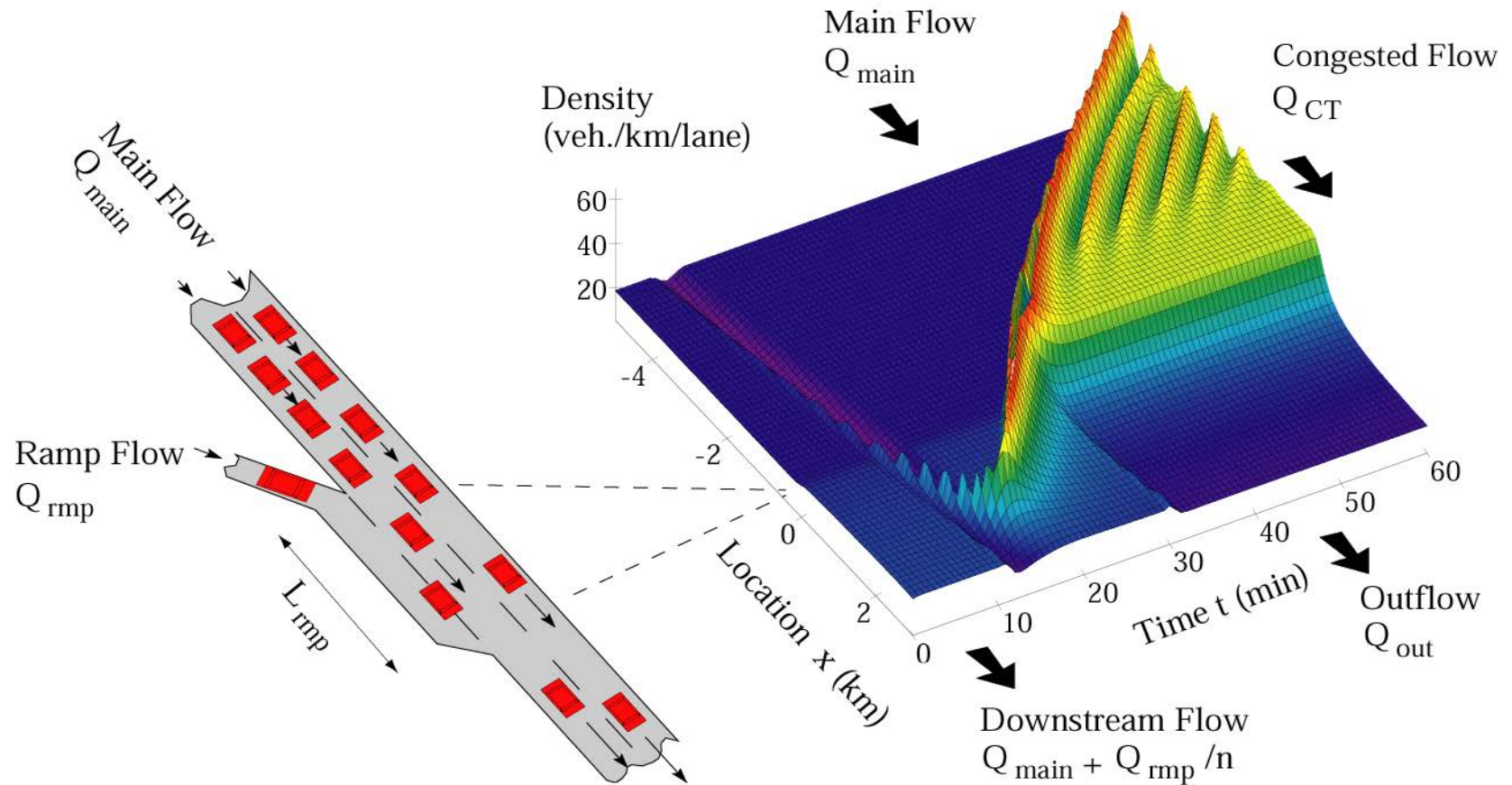
# Congested Traffic States Simulated with a Macroscopic Traffic Model



Similar congested traffic states are found for several other traffic models, including “microscopic” car-following models.

# Breakdown of Traffic due to a Supercritical Reduction of Traffic Flow

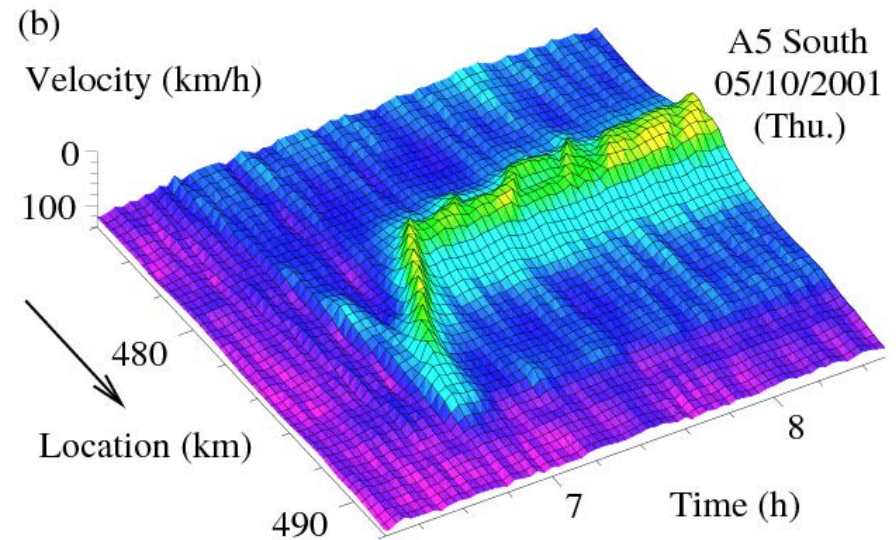
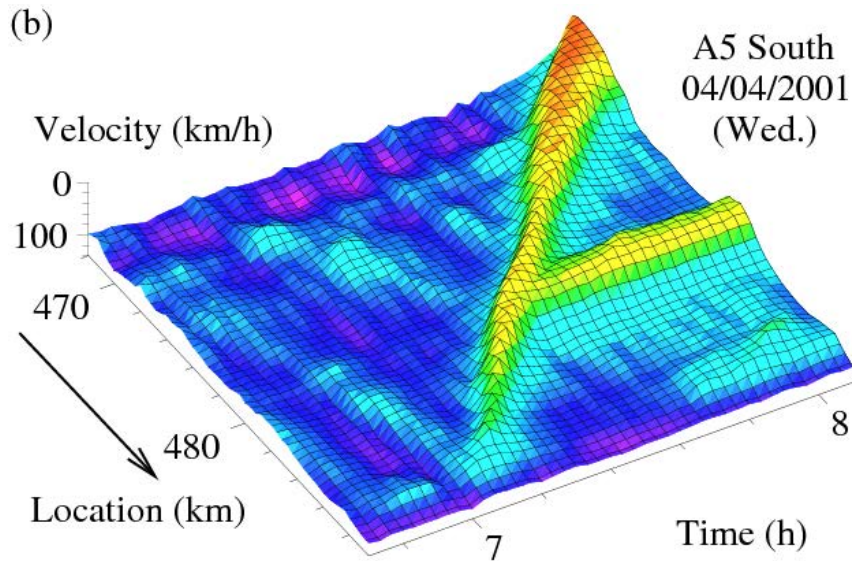
Negative Perturbation Triggering Oscillating Congested Traffic



Perturbing traffic flows and, paradoxically, even *decreasing* them may sometimes cause congestion.

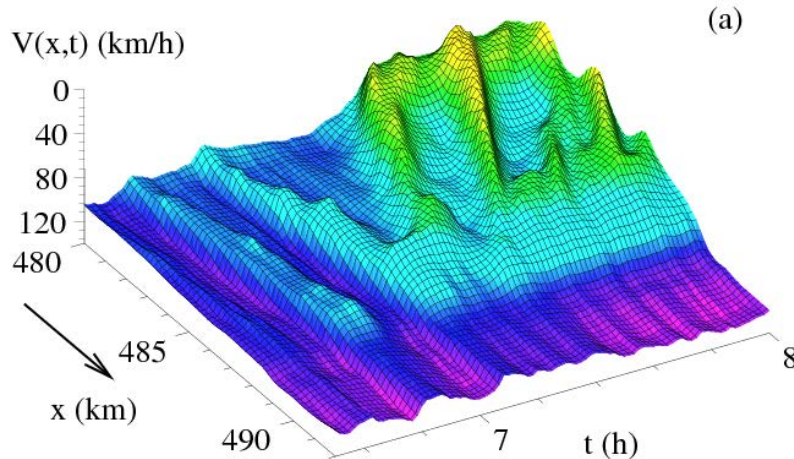


# Examples of the “Boomerang Effect”

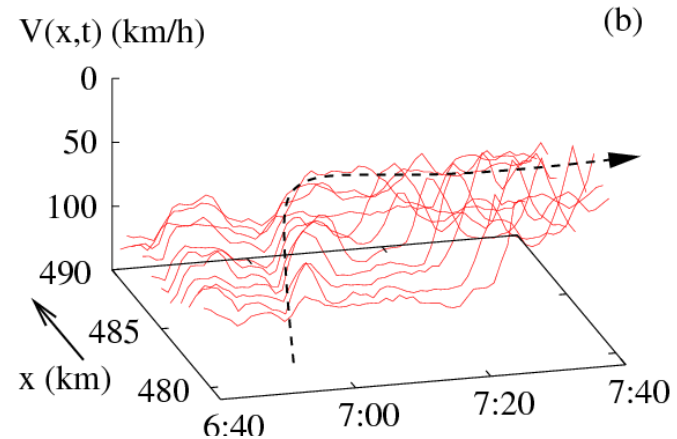


# Transitions from Free to Congested Traffic

A5 South, 09/25/2001 (Tue.)

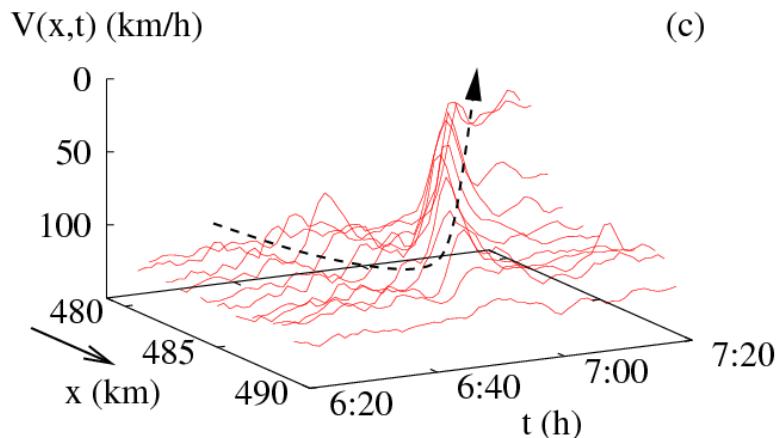


A5 South, 09/25/2001 (Tue.)

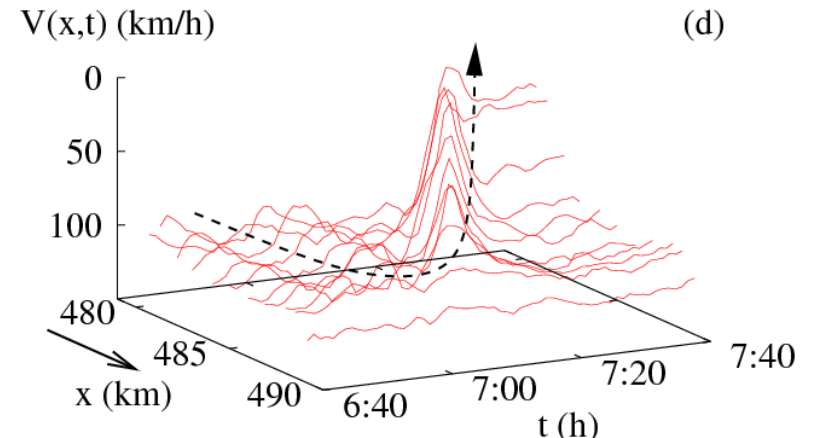


The underlying dynamics of this transition is a **“boomerang effect”**

A5 South, 05/10/2001 (Thu.)



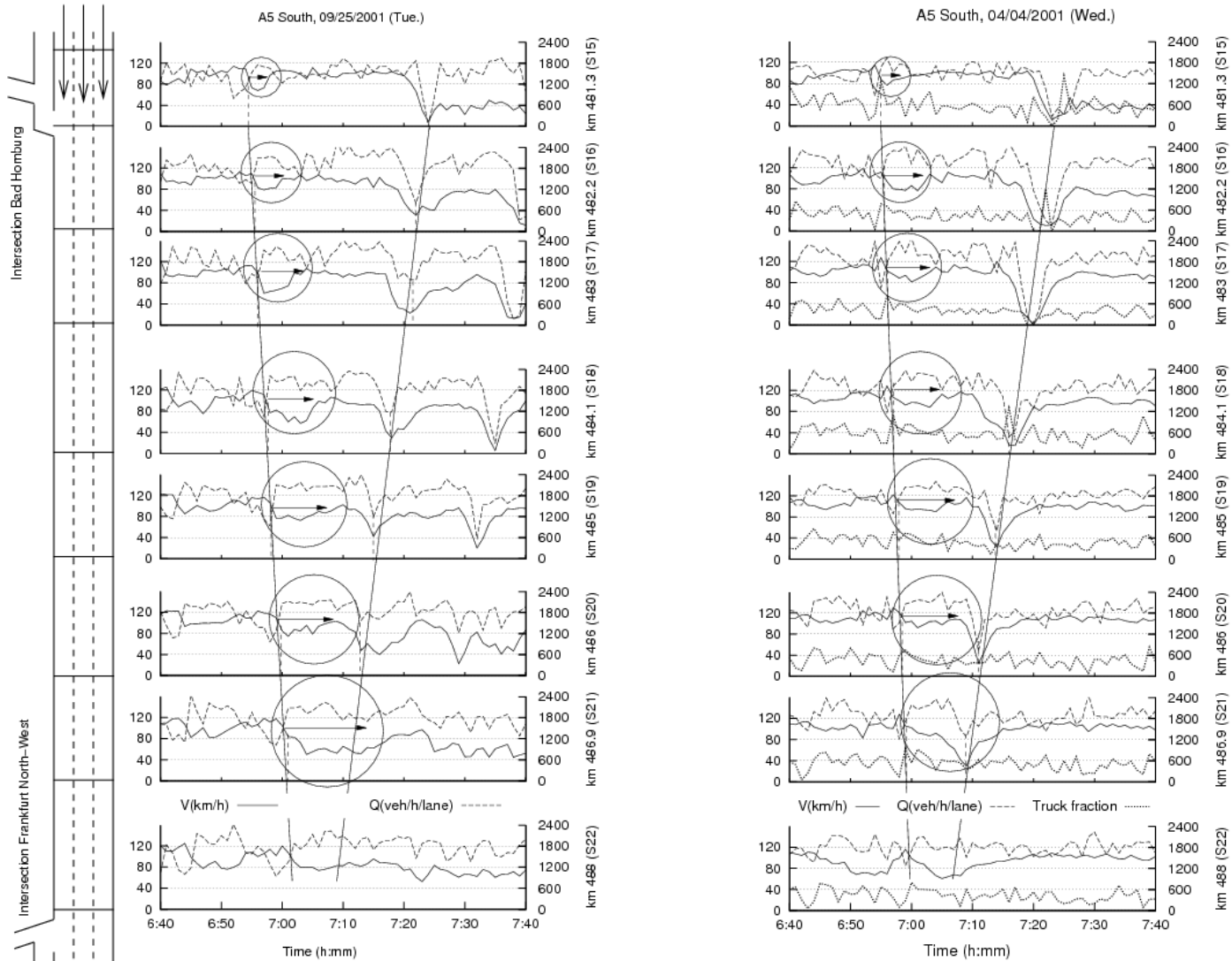
A5 South, 04/04/2001 (Wed.)



The boomerang effect was observed in 18 out of 245 cases of traffic breakdowns.



# Boomerang Effects Are due to Overtaking Trucks

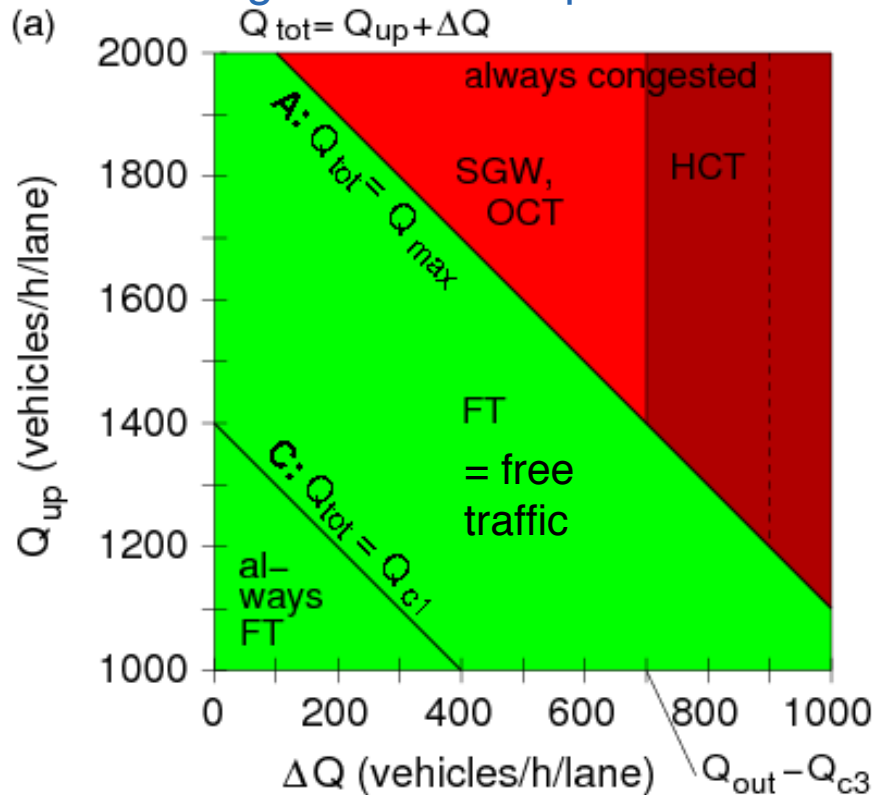


# Phase Diagram of Congested Traffic States

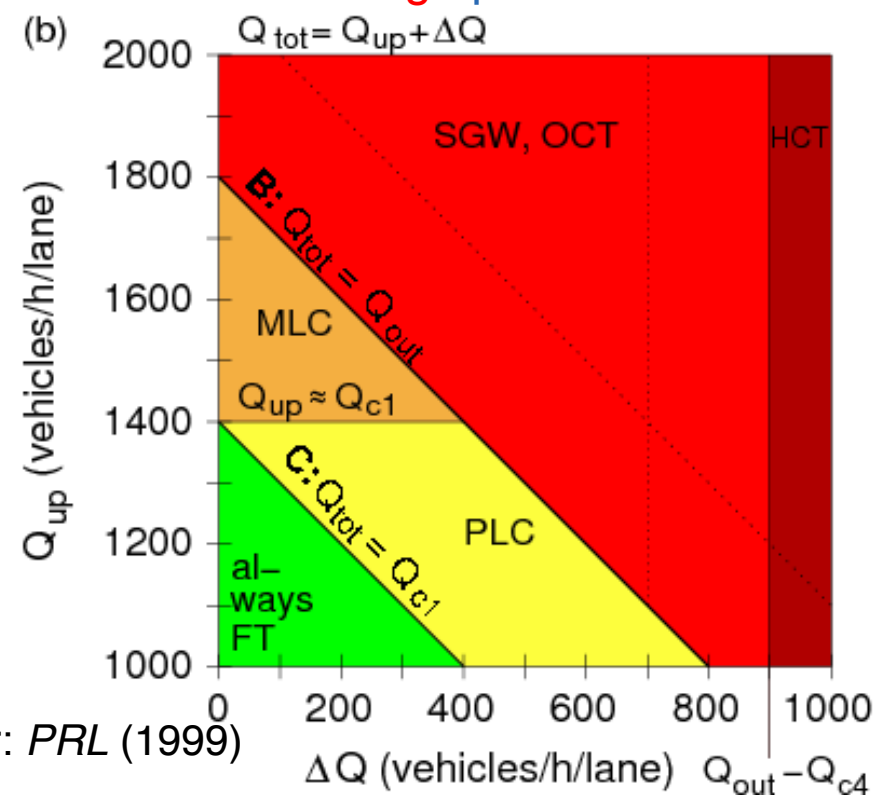


# Phase Diagram of Traffic States and Universality Classes

Phase diagram for **small** perturbations



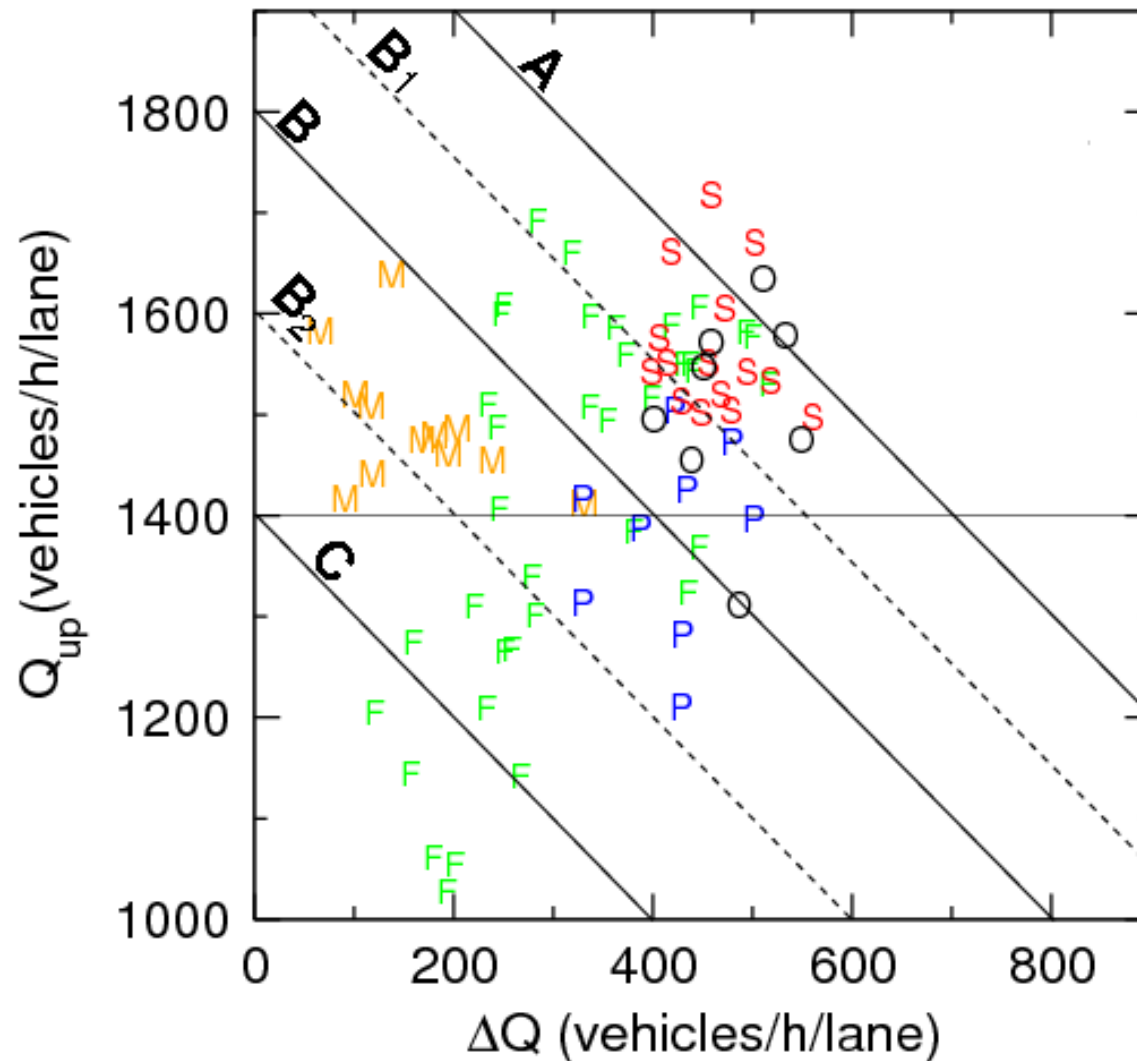
for **large** perturbations



After: *PRL* (1999)

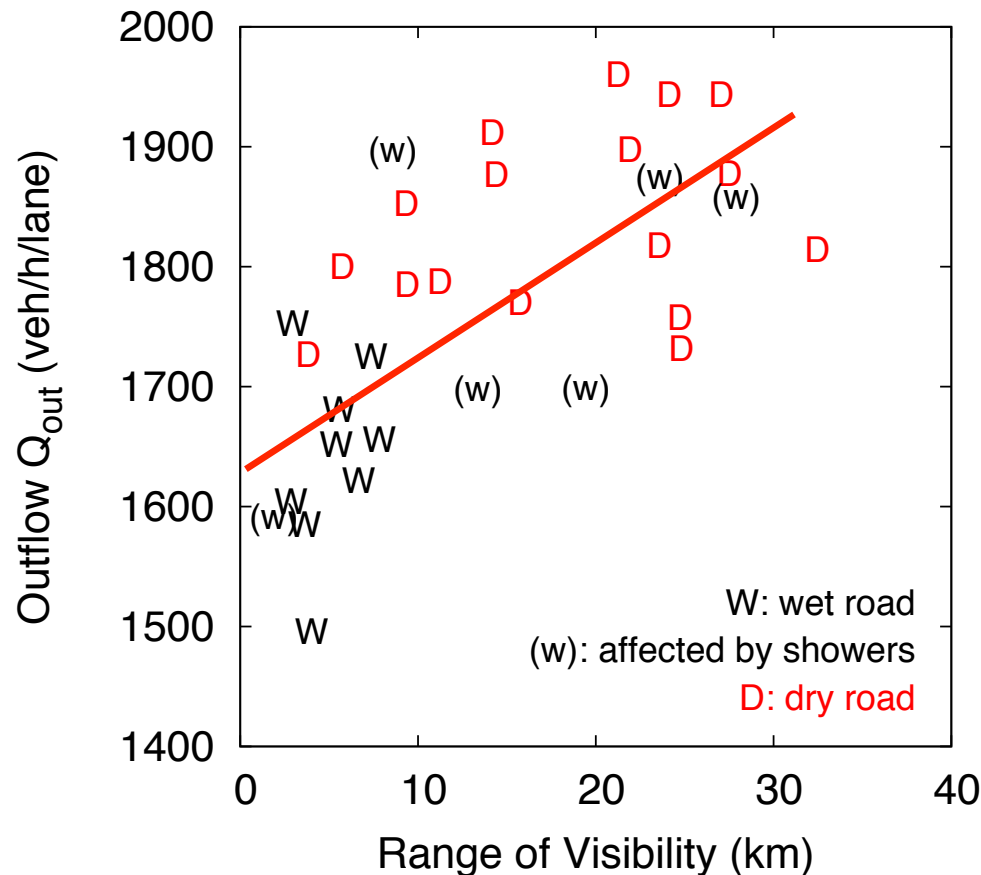
# Empirical Phase Diagram

(b) A5 South: Junction Friedberg



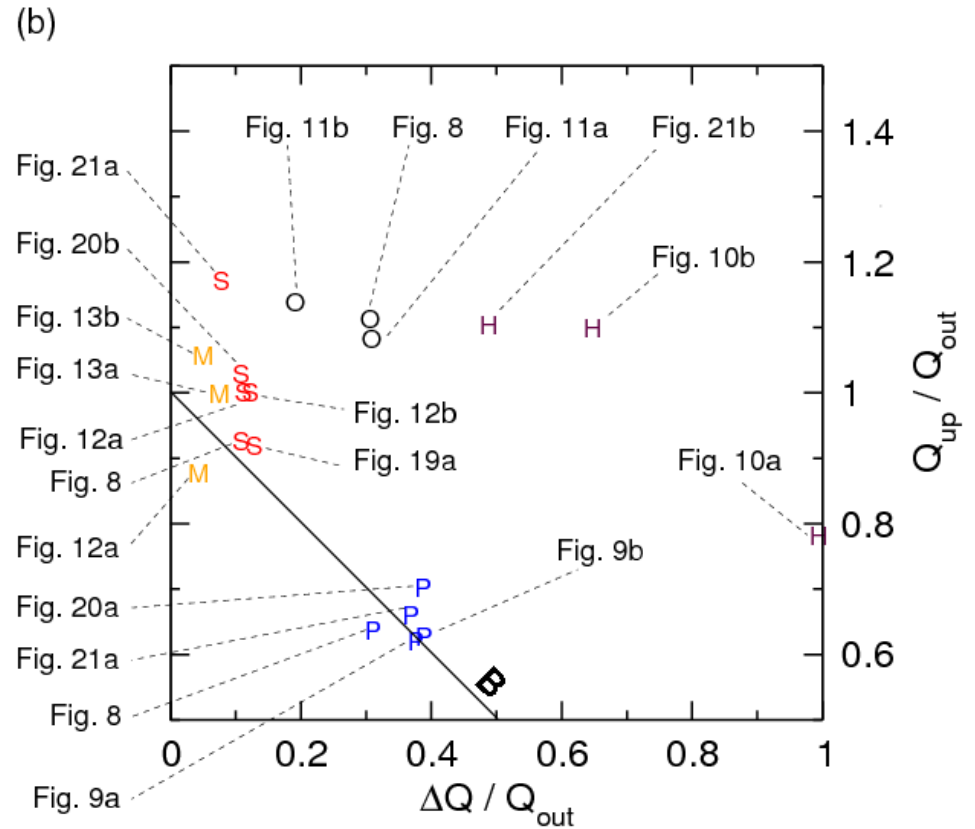
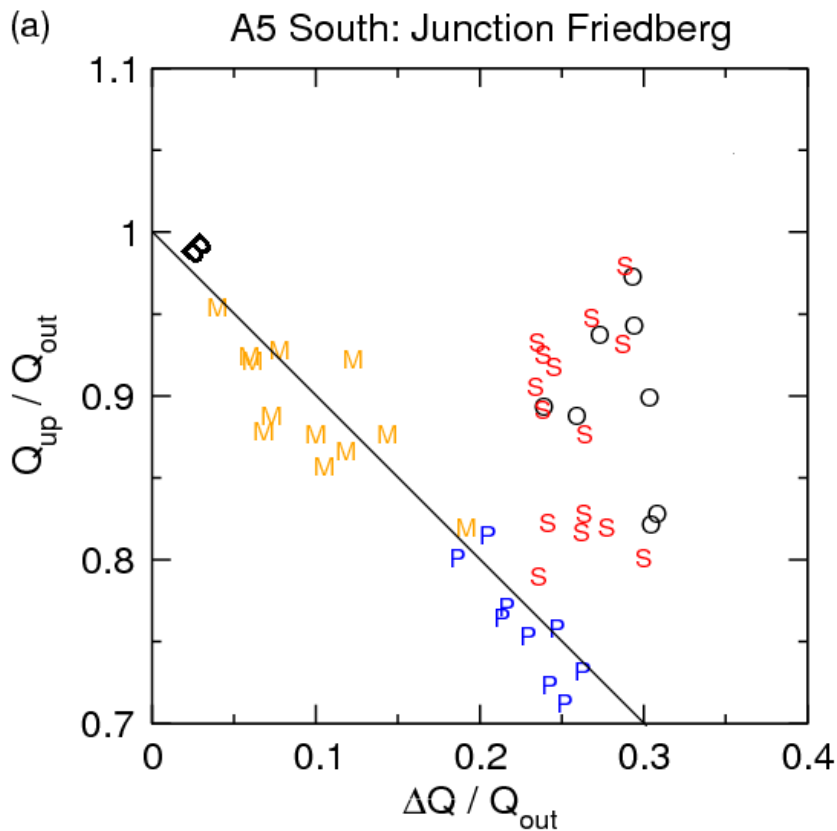


# The Outflow Depends on the Weather Conditions

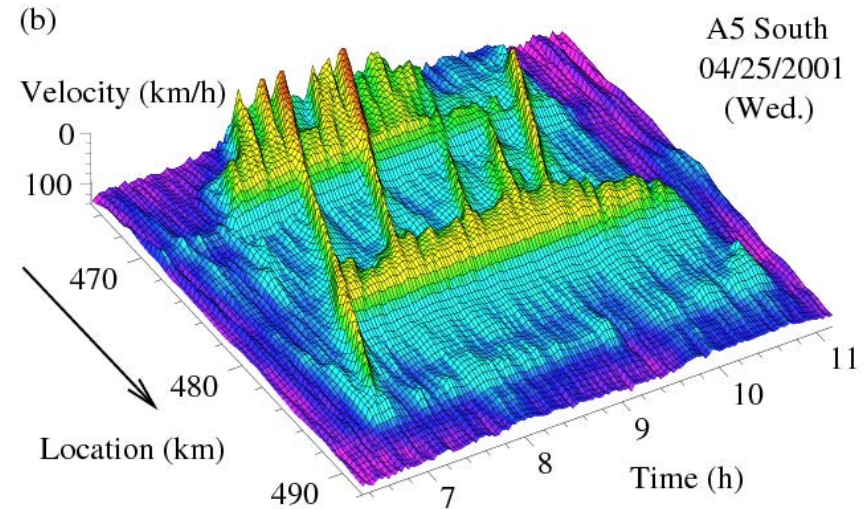
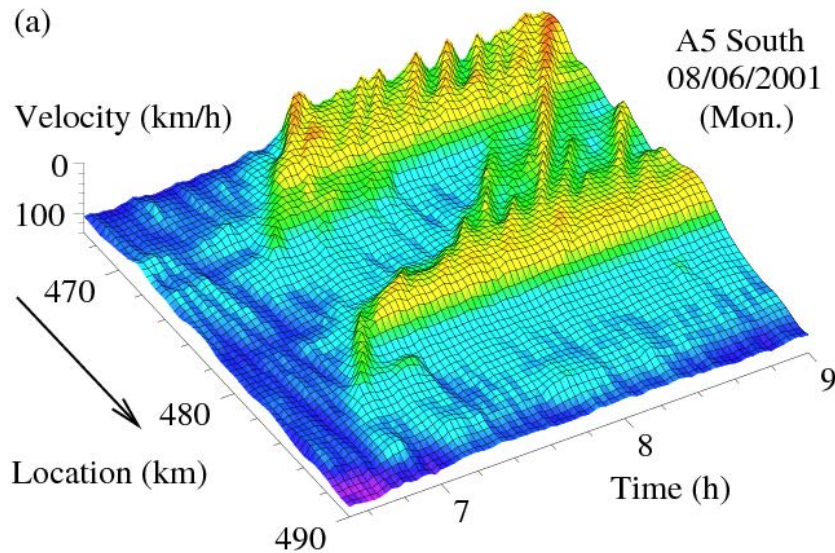


# Empirical Phase Diagram for Scaled Flows

A scaling by the outflow, that varies from day to day, gives a clearer picture.



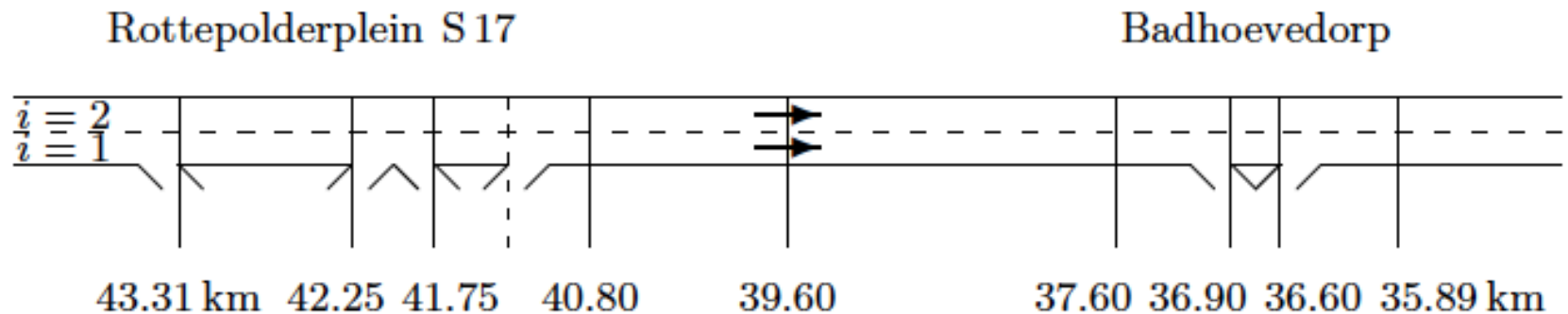
# “General Pattern” and “Pinch Effect”



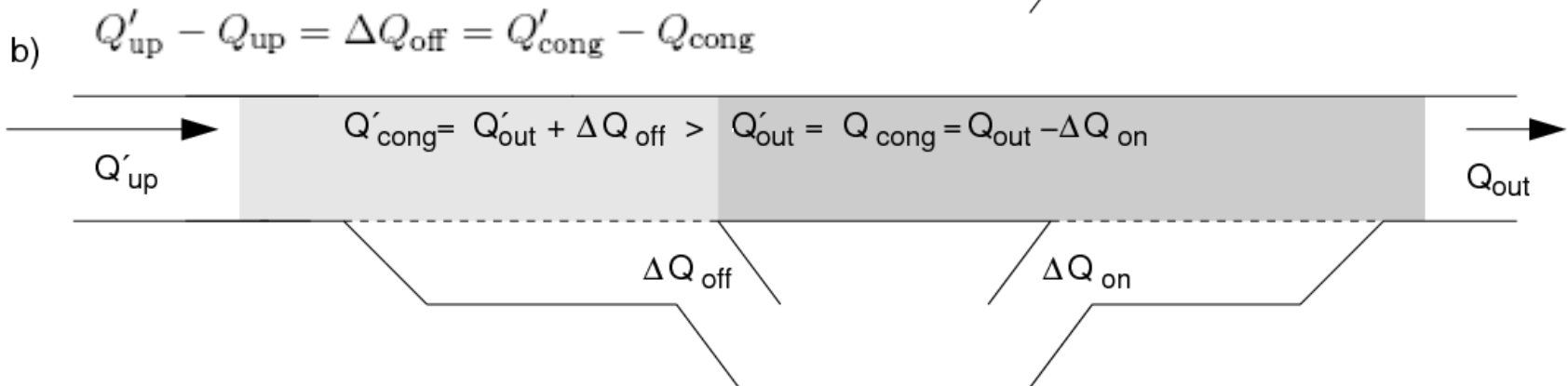
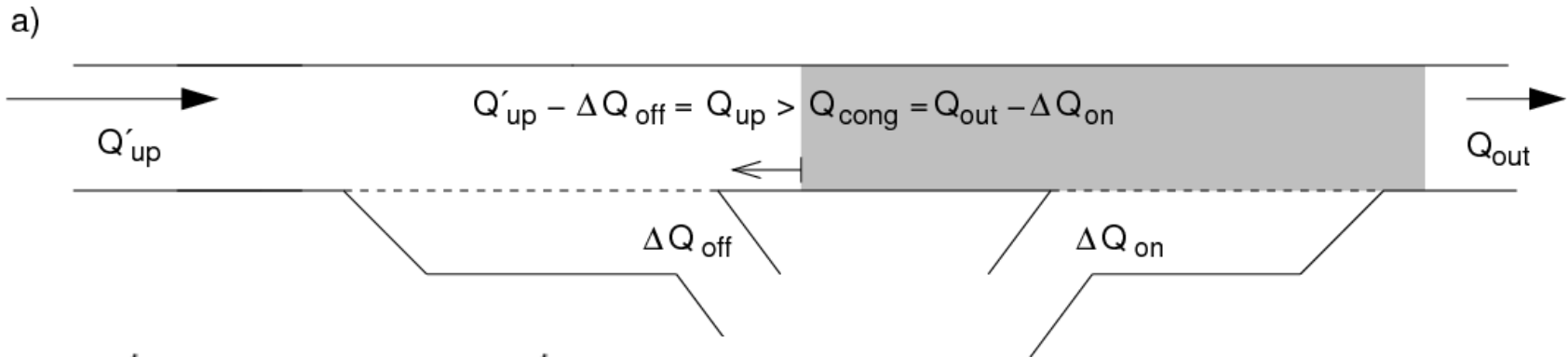
According to Boris Kerner, in the “**generalized pattern**”, synchronized traffic upstream of a bottleneck breeds wide moving jams based on the “**pinch effect**”. That is, upstream of a section with “synchronized” congested traffic close to a bottleneck, a so-called “pinch region” gives spontaneously birth to narrow vehicle clusters. These perturbations should be growing while traveling further upstream. Eventually, wide moving jams form by the merging or disappearance of narrow jams. Once formed, wide jams suppress the occurrence of new narrow jams in between.



# Typical Freeway Design



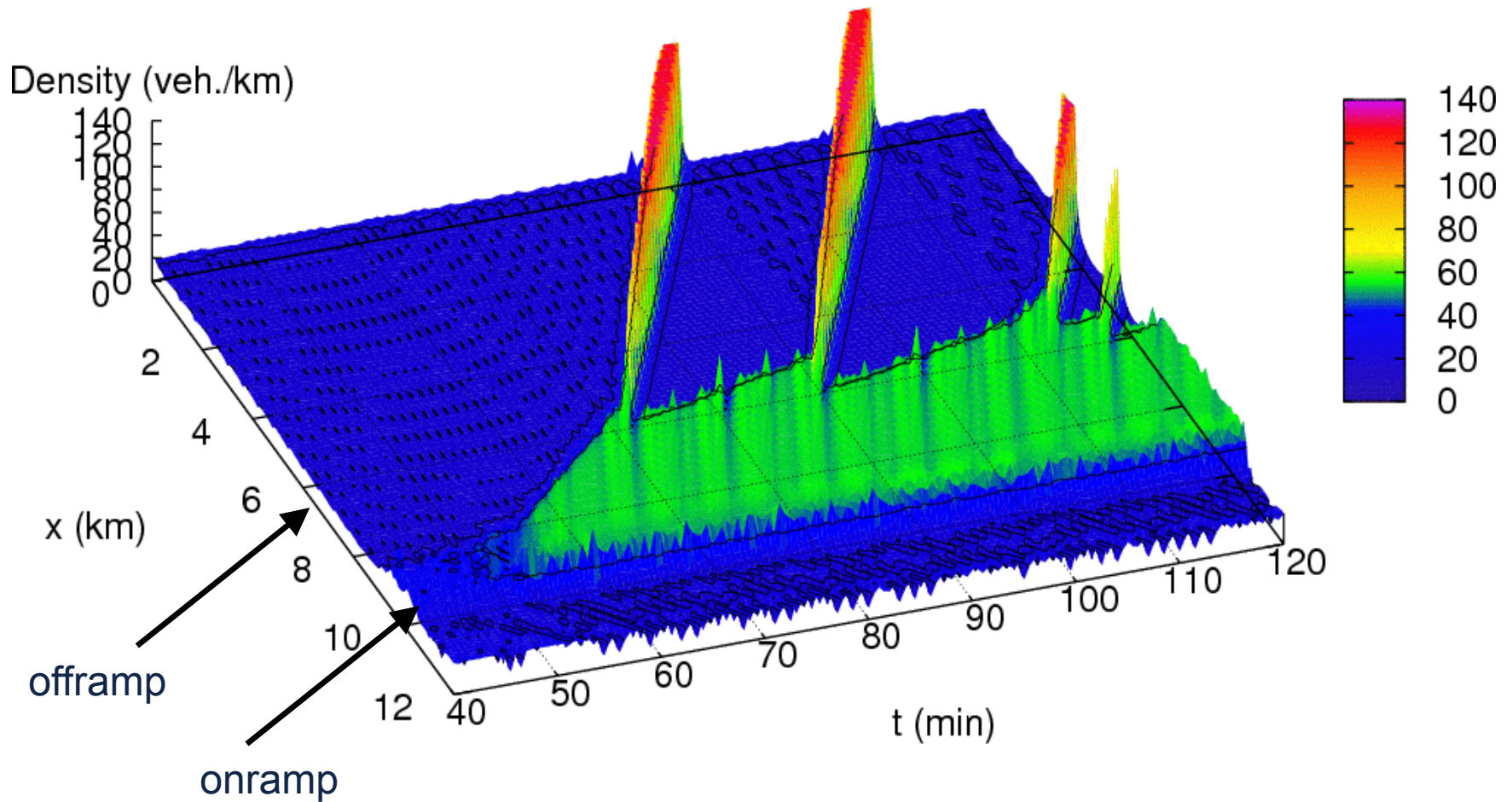
# (Intermittent) Activation of an Off-Ramp Bottleneck



$$\Delta Q = \max(\Delta Q_{on} - \Delta Q_{off}, 0) = \max\left(\frac{Q_{rmp}}{n} - \frac{Q'_{rmp}}{n'}, 0\right) \leq \Delta Q_{on}$$

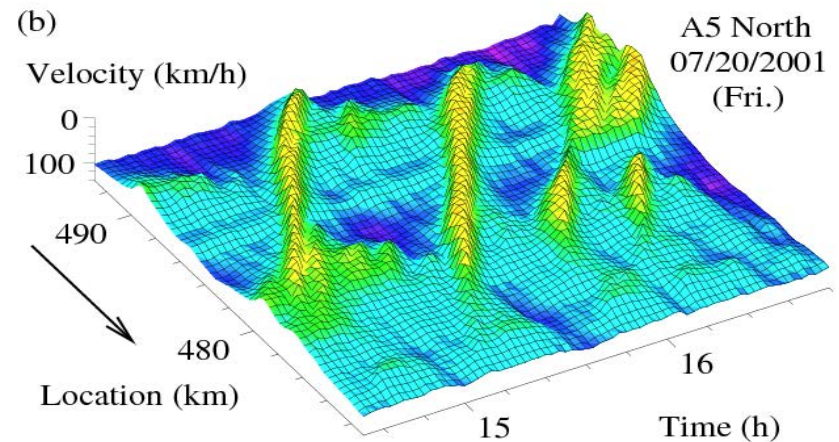
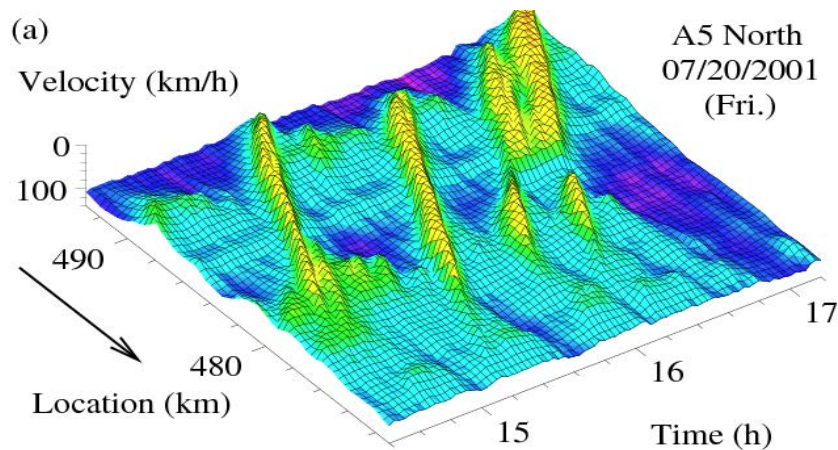
Milder form of congested traffic upstream of off-ramp expected, e.g. OCT or SGW instead of HCT. Looks like the “general pattern” (see next slide).

# Combination of an Off-Ramp with an On-Ramp

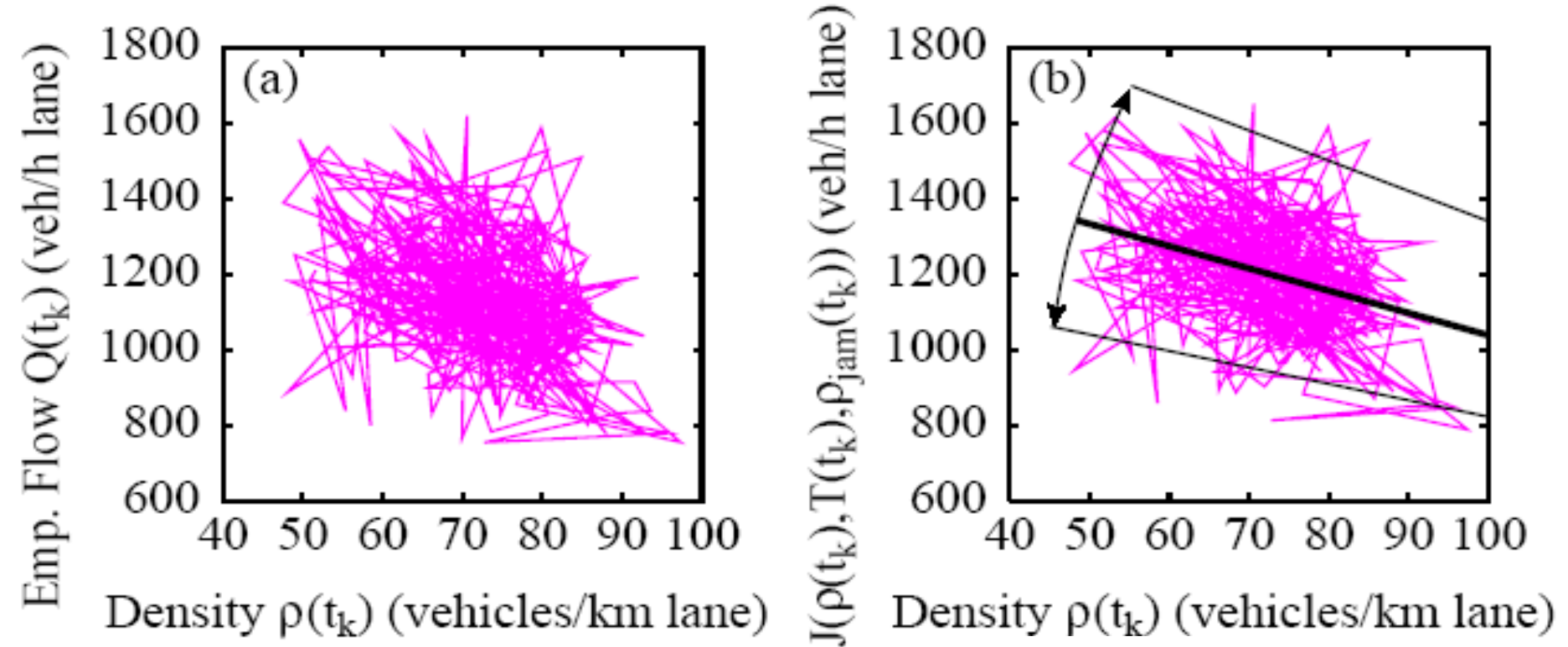




# Stop-and-Go Waves Emerging at a Gradient Look Different



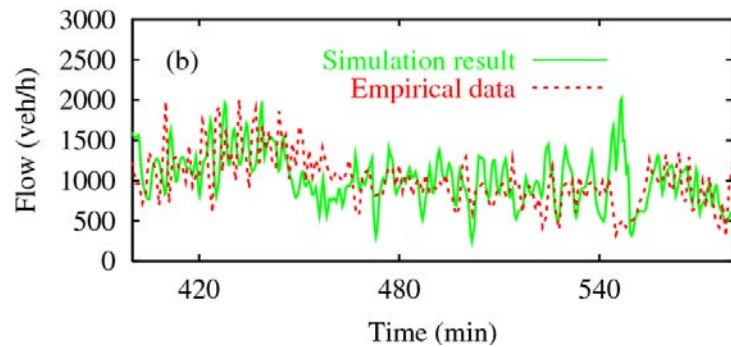
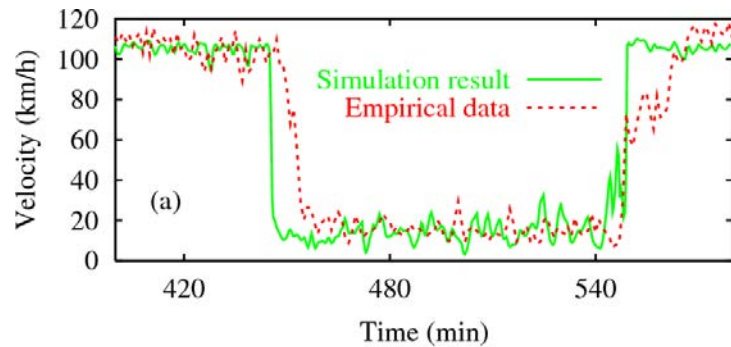
# Wide Scattering as Effect of Heterogeneous Traffic



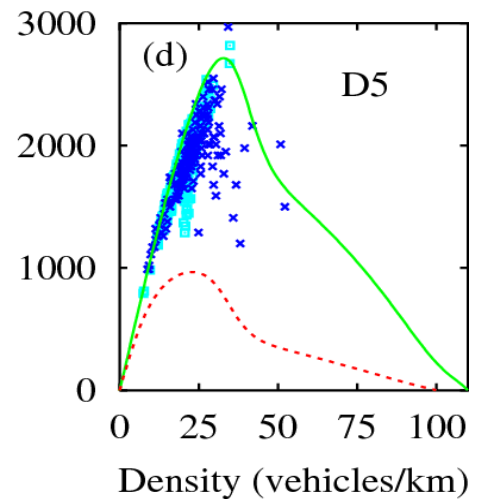
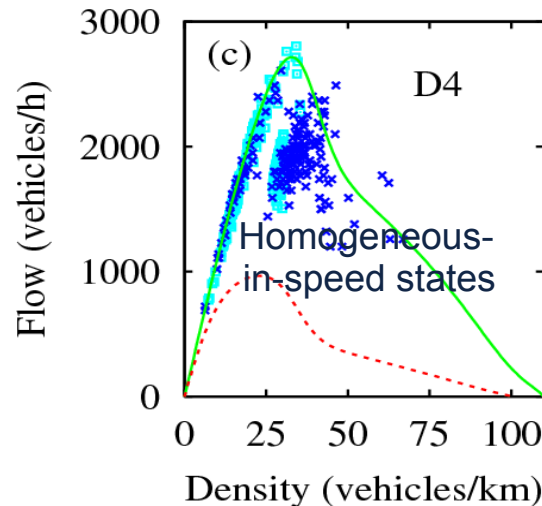
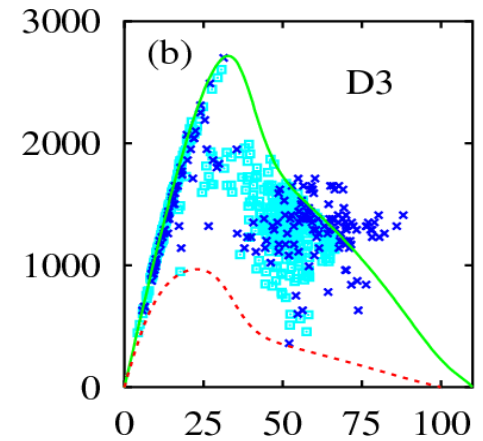
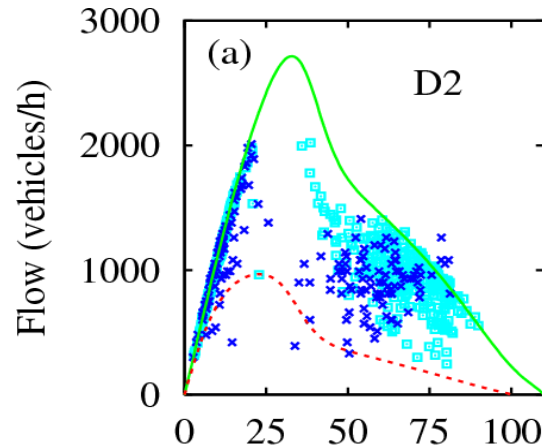
$$Q(t) = \frac{1}{T(t)} \left( 1 - \frac{\rho(t)}{\rho_{jam}(t)} \right)$$

The jam line with variable parameters can explain the observations quantitatively! Scattering and stochasticity do not contradict models with a fundamental diagram, just models with identical driver-vehicle units.

# “Synchronized Traffic” Considering Cars+Trucks



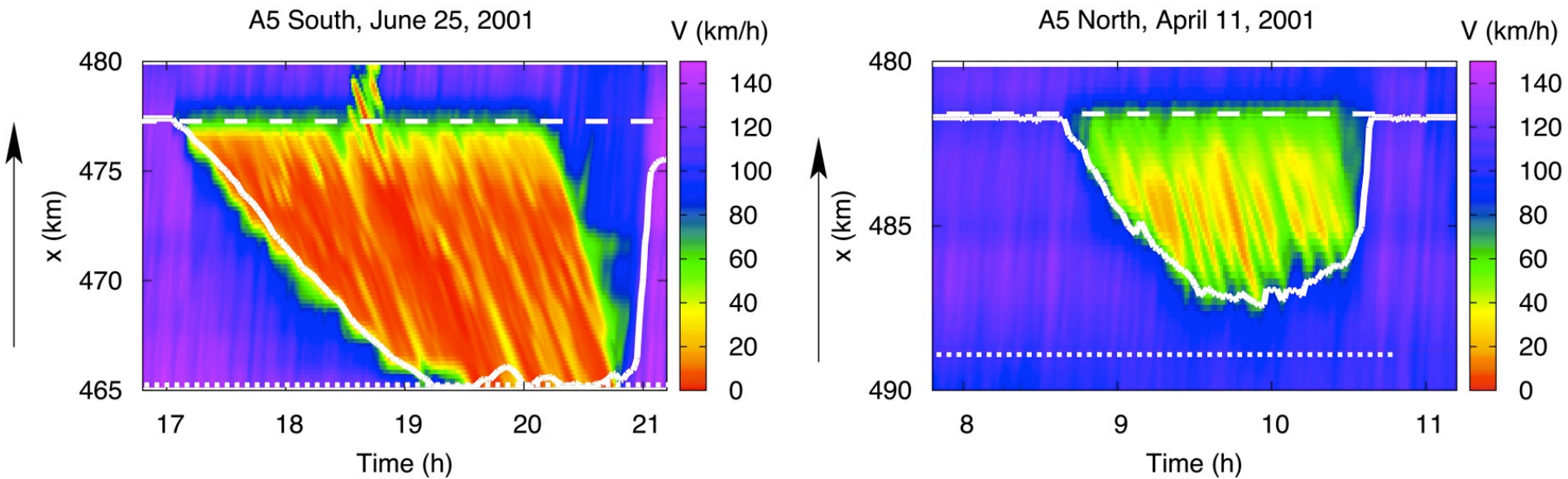
Time series



Fundamental diagram



# Traffic Congestion is Predictable



# Traffic Physics

The European Physical Journal B

A selection of articles by Dirk Helbing

## An Analytical Theory of Traffic Flow

D. Helbing

**Derivation of non-local macroscopic traffic equations and consistent traffic pressures from microscopic car-following models**  
DOI: 10.1140/epjb/e2009-00192-5

D. Helbing and A.F. Johansson

**On the controversy around Daganzo's rule for and Aw-Rascle's resurrection of second-order traffic flow models**  
DOI: 10.1140/epjb/e2009-00182-7

D. Helbing and M. Moussaid

**Analytical calculation of critical perturbation amplitudes and critical densities by non-linear stability analysis of a simple traffic flow model**  
DOI: 10.1140/epjb/e2009-00042-6

D. Helbing, M. Treiber, A. Kesting and M. Schönhof

**Theoretical vs. empirical classification and prediction of congested traffic states**  
DOI: 10.1140/epjb/e2009-00140-5

M. Treiber and D. Helbing

**Hamilton-like statistics in one dimensional driven dissipative many-particle systems**  
DOI: 10.1140/epjb/e2009-00121-6

D. Helbing and B. Tilch

**A power law for the duration of high-flow states and its interpretation from a heterogeneous traffic flow perspective**  
DOI: 10.1140/epjb/e2009-00092-8

D. Helbing

**Derivation of a fundamental diagram for urban traffic flow**  
DOI: 10.1140/epjb/e2009-00093-7

D. Helbing and A. Mazloumian

**Operation regimes and slower-is-faster effect in the control of traffic intersections**  
DOI: 10.1140/epjb/e2009-00213-5

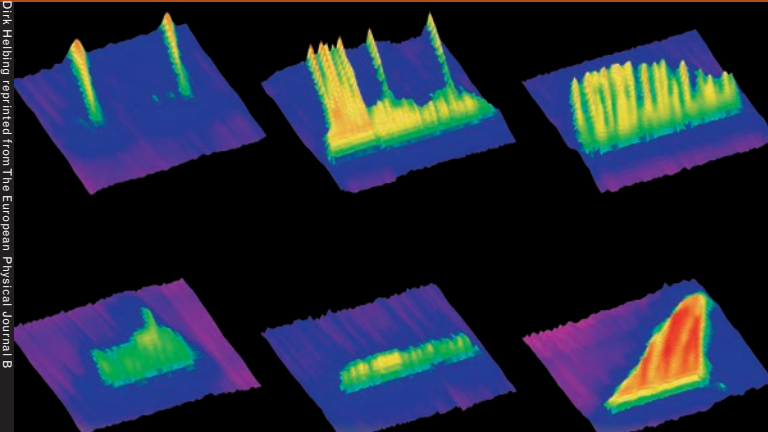
Printed on acid free paper

EJP.org  
your physics journal

## An Analytical Theory of Traffic Flow

A selection of articles by Dirk Helbing  
reprinted from The European Physical Journal B

A selection of articles by Dirk Helbing reprinted from The European Physical Journal B



EDP  
SCIENCES

Società Italiana  
di Fisica

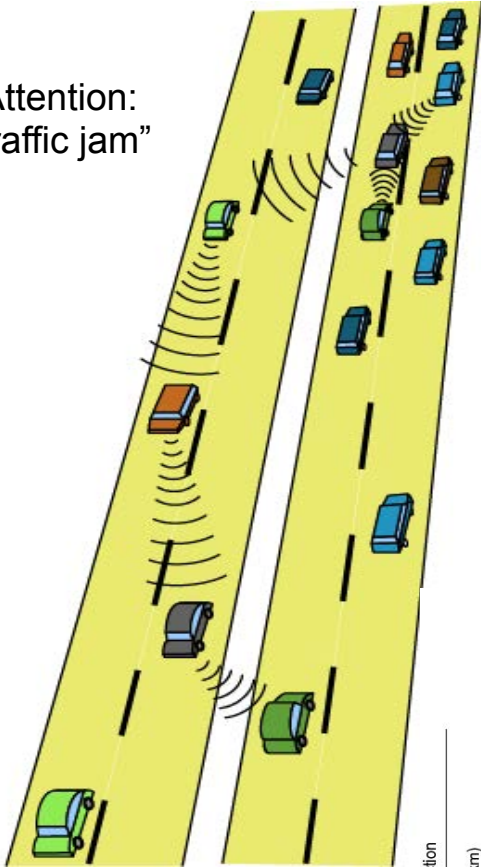
Springer

# Freeway Traffic Control

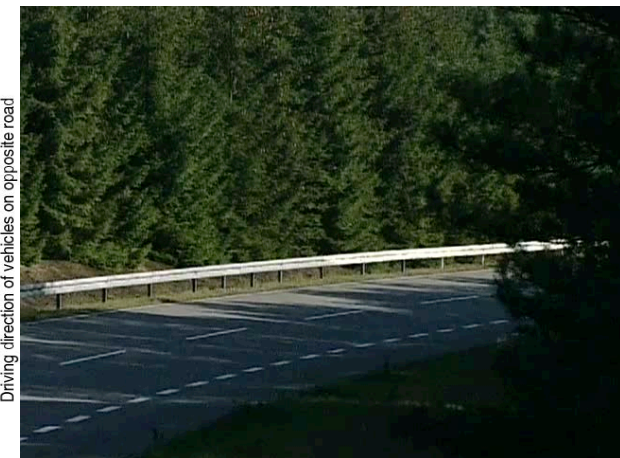
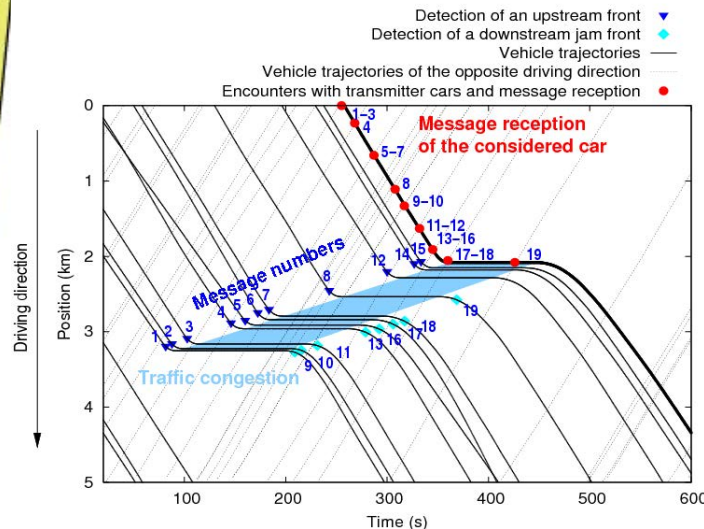
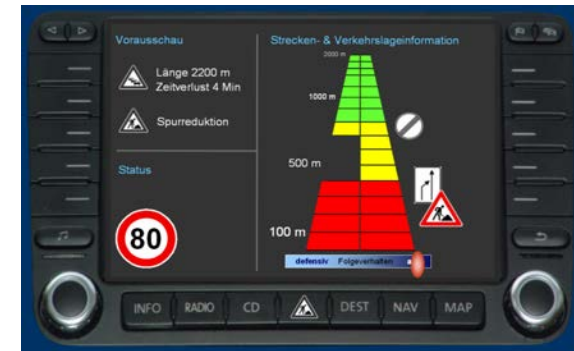


# Cooperative Driving Based on Autonomous Vehicle Interactions

“Attention:  
Traffic jam”

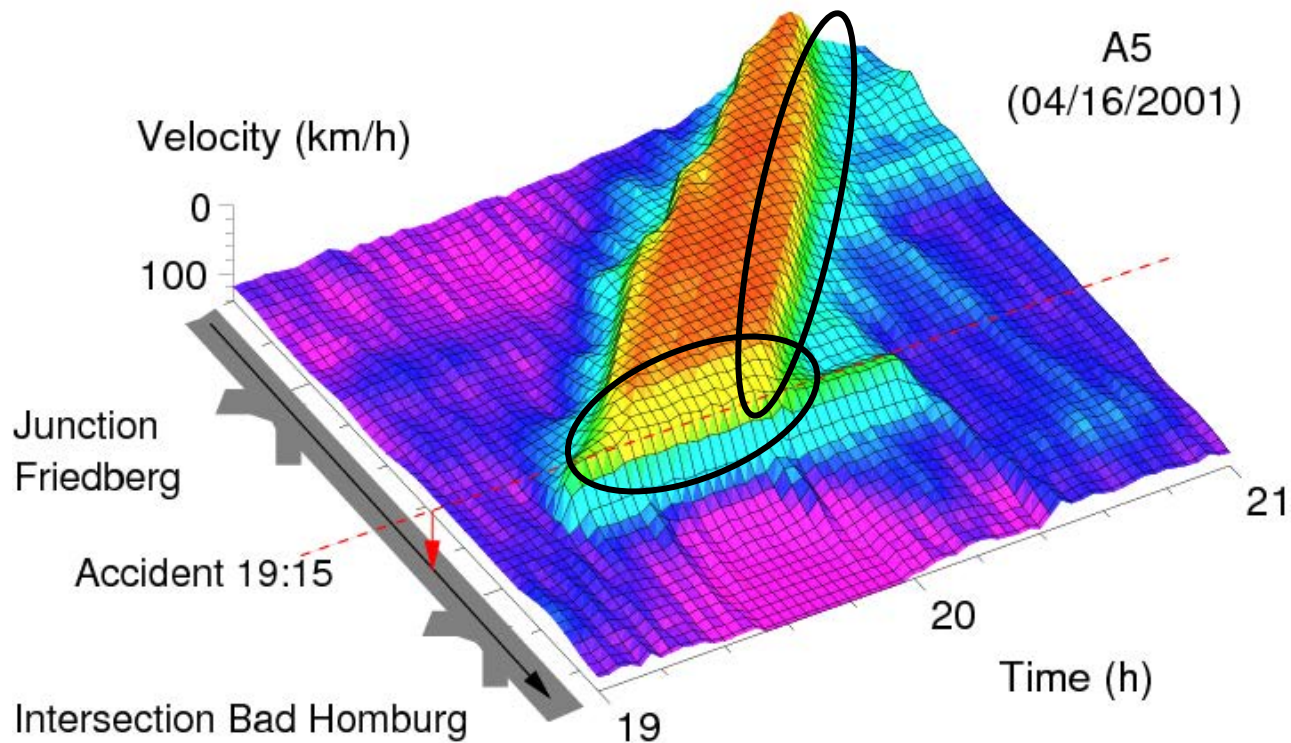


- On-board data acquisition („perception“)
- Inter-vehicle communication
- Cooperative traffic state determination (“cognition“)
- Adaptive choice of driving strategy (“decision-making“)
- Driver information
- Traffic assistance (higher stability and capacity of traffic flow)



In: *Transportation Research Record* (2007)

# How to Detect the Spatiotemporal Dynamics of a Traffic Jam?



Downstream jam fronts

# Jam Front Detection – Intervehicle Communication

Inter-Vehicle-Communication (V2V):

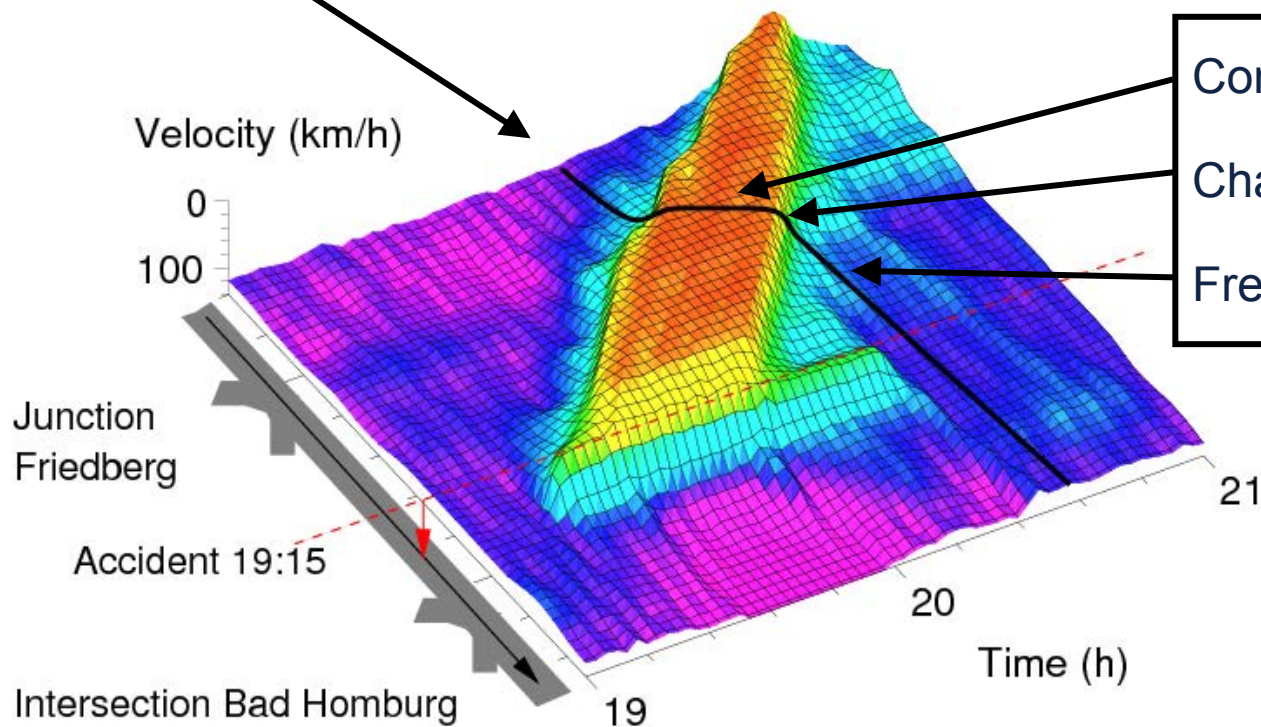
Floating car (ACC)

Message core:

Congested traffic

Change: Position, Time

Free traffic



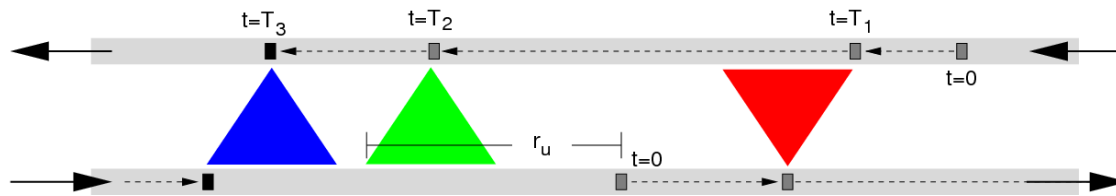
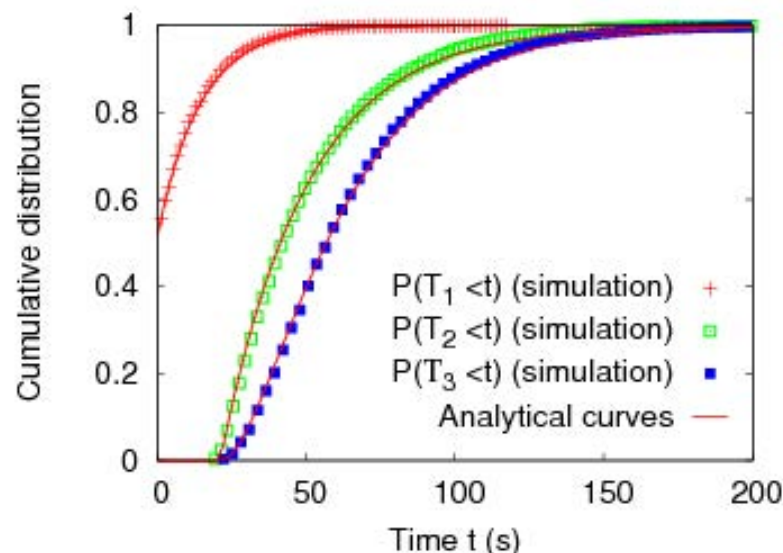


# Statistics of Message Transmission

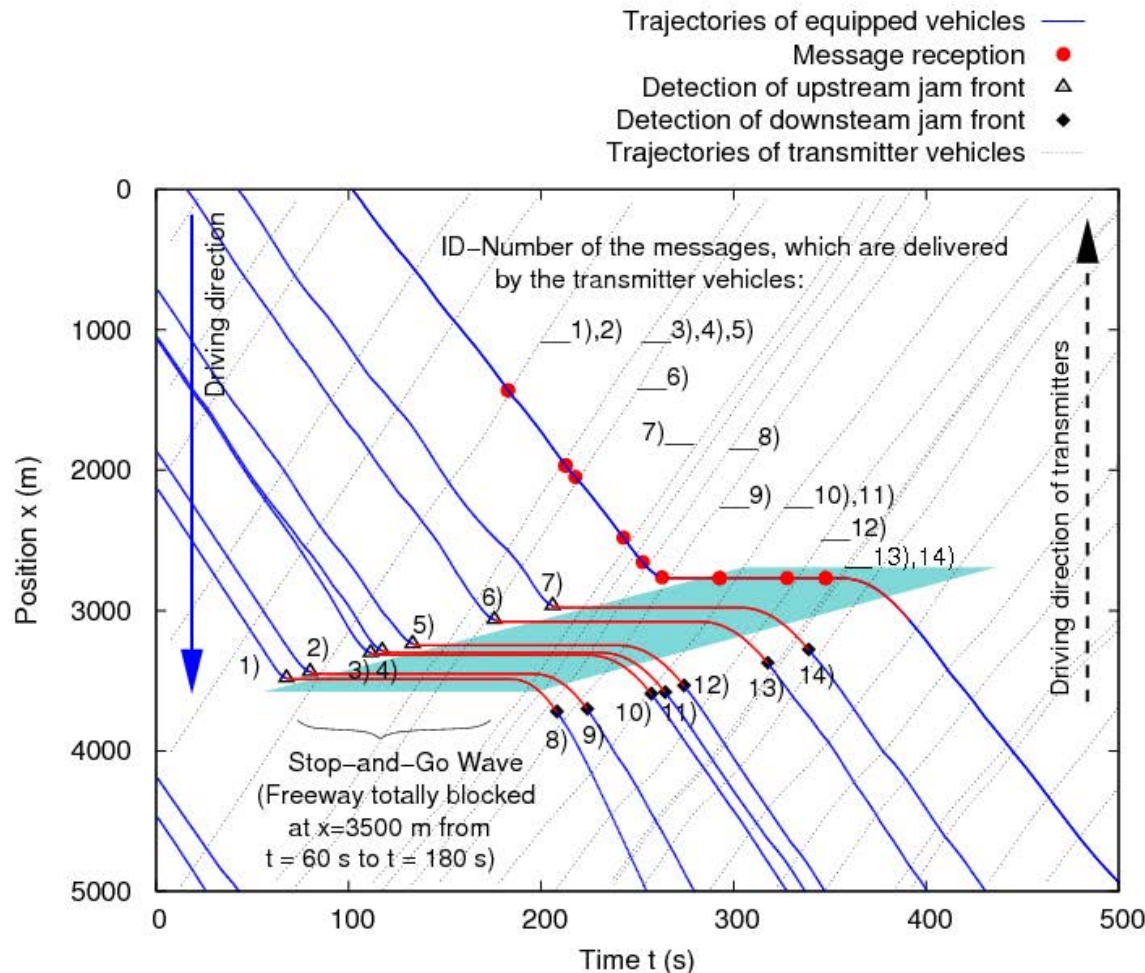
Distance between communicating vehicles exponentially distributed

→ Distributions for  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$ , and  $T_3$ ,

e.g. 
$$P(T_2 < t) = \Theta \left( t - \frac{r_{\text{up}} - 2r}{v} \right) \left( 1 - e^{-\beta(2r + vt - r_{\text{up}})} \right)$$

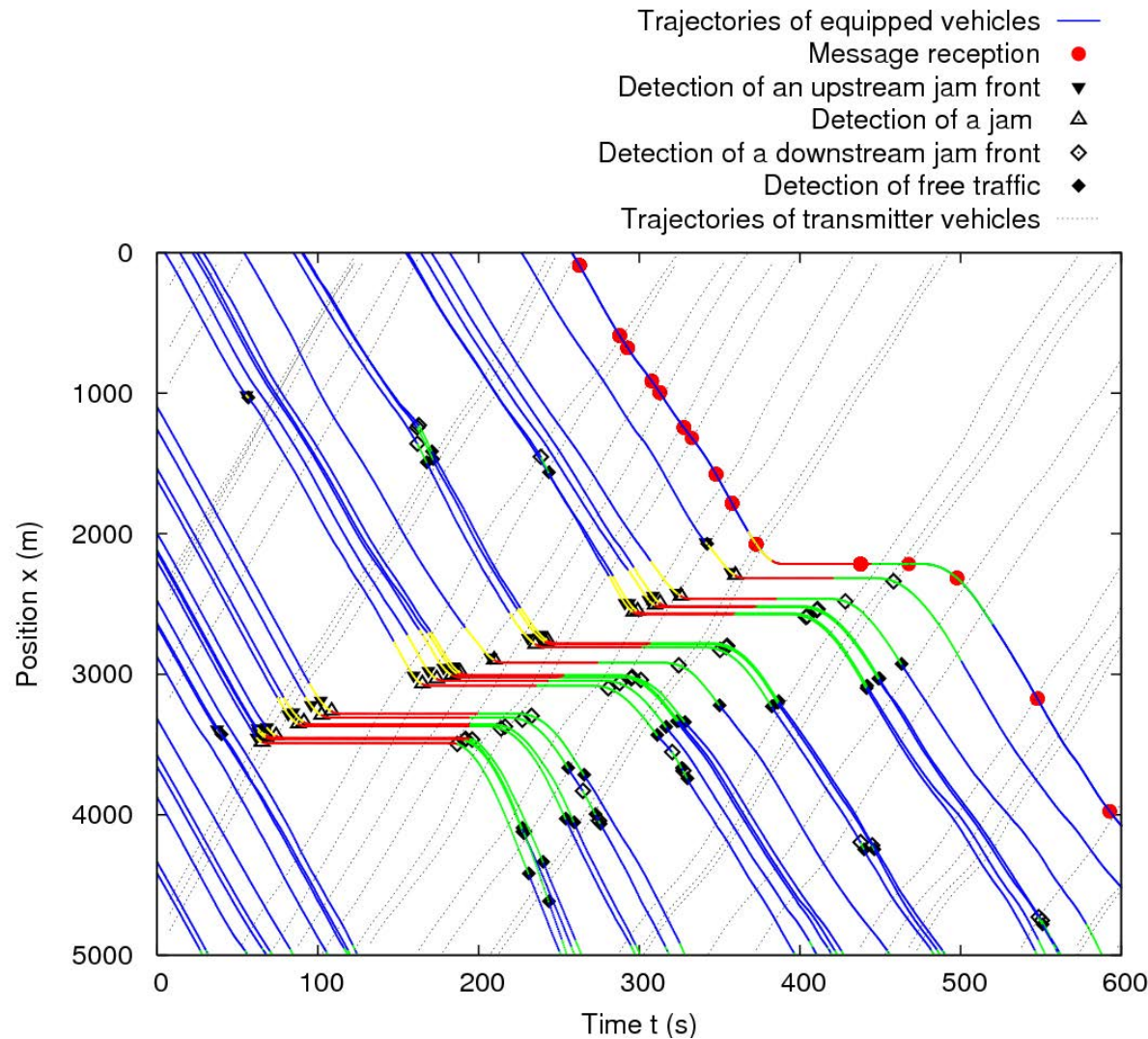


# Example: Information about a Stop-and-Go Wave



- 1) Upstream jam front at x=3481 m, t=68 s
- 2) Upstream jam front at x=3436 m, t=80 s
- 3) Upstream jam front at x=3302 m, t=111 s
- 4) Upstream jam front at x=3285 m, t=117 s
- 5) Upstream jam front at x=3236 m, t=133 s
- 6) Upstream jam front at x=3065 m, t=176 s
- 7) Upstream jam front at x=2966 m, t=206 s
- 8) Free traffic at x=3719 m, t=208 s
- 9) ...

# Traffic-Adaptive Driving Strategy for ACC





# Design of Traffic State Adaptive Cruise Control

Invent-VLA: Intelligent Adaptive Cruise Control (IACC)  
for the avoidance of traffic breakdowns and a faster  
recovery from congested traffic

## Free Traffic

Normal driving mode

## VLA Matrix for IDM

aVLA/a	bVLA/b	Tvla/T
1.0	1.0	1.0
1.0	0.7	1.0
1.0	1.0	1.0
1.0	1.0	0.7
2.0	1.0	0.5

## Downstream Bottom of Congestion

Forceful and accurately timed  
acceleration most important

## Approaching Upstream End of Congestion

Reduce desired deceleration  
for safety and convenience

## Driving in Congested Traffic (OCT/HCT)

Normal driving mode  
(or reduce oscillations)

## Driving in Bottleneck Section

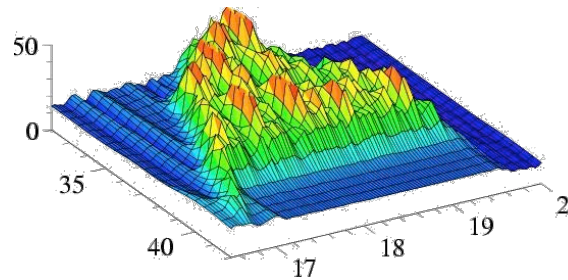
Increase local capacity by  
decreasing time gaps  
(dyn. homogenization)

# Overcoming Congestion by Real-Time Feedback

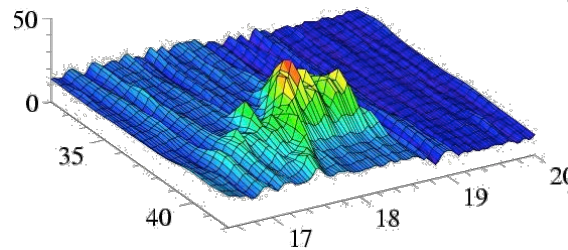


# Enhancing Traffic Performance by Adaptive Cruise Control

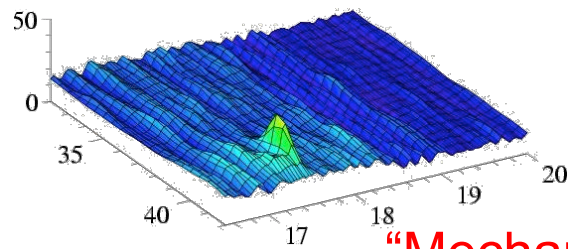
$\rho$ (veh./km/lane)



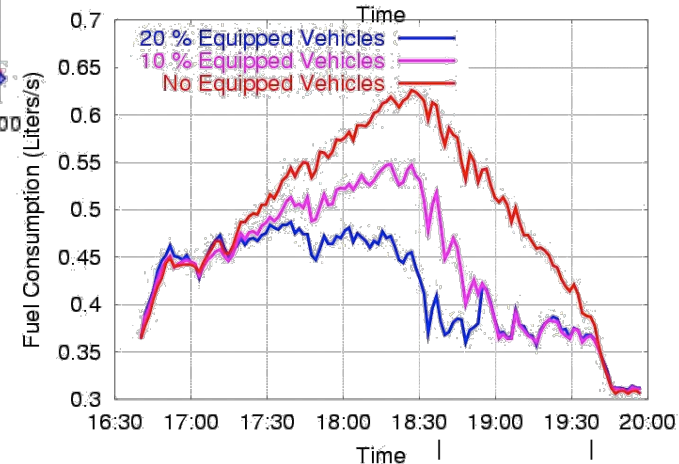
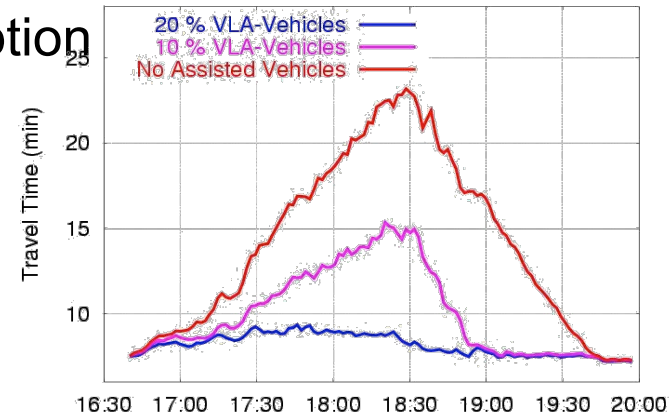
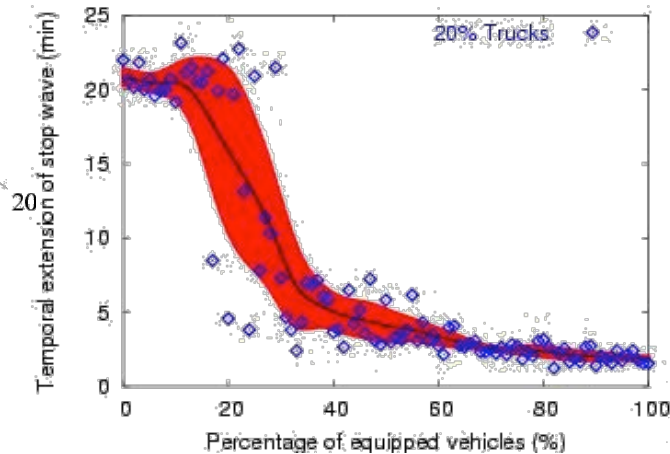
10% Equipped Vehicles



20% Equipped Vehicles



- Traffic breakdowns delayed
- Faster recovery to free traffic
- High impact on travel times
- Reduced fuel consumption and emissions

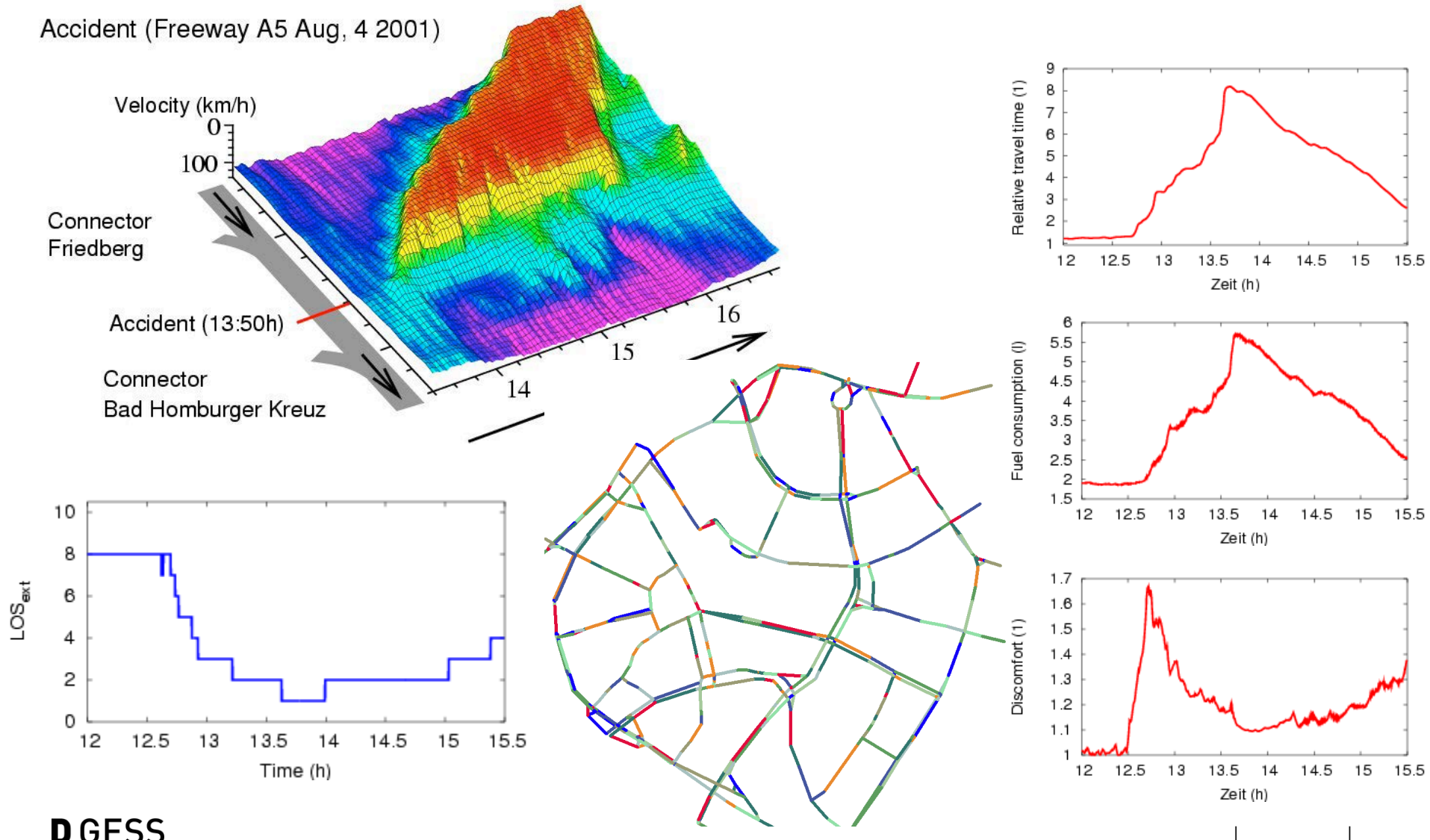


“Mechanism design”,  
in cooperation with



# A Driver-Oriented Level of Service

Accident (Freeway A5 Aug, 4 2001)

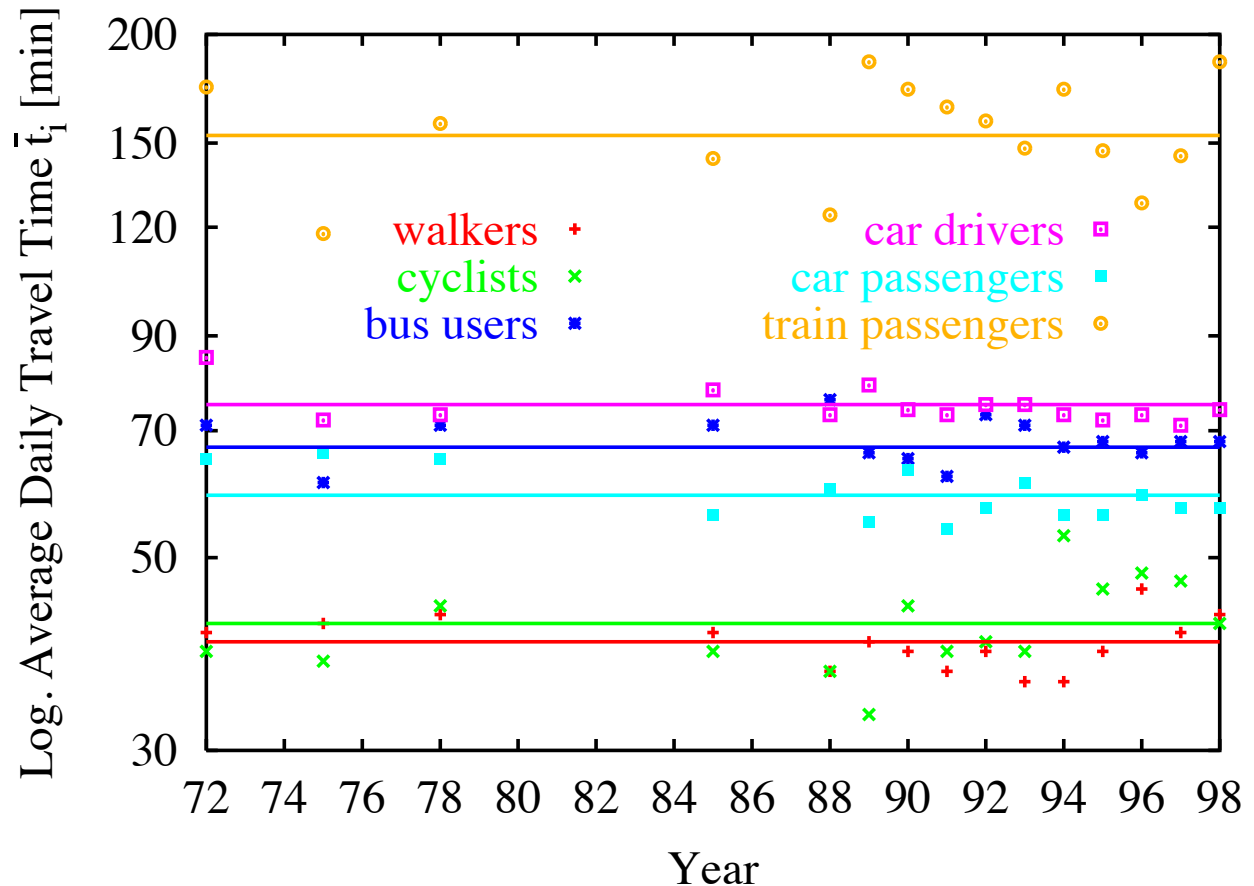




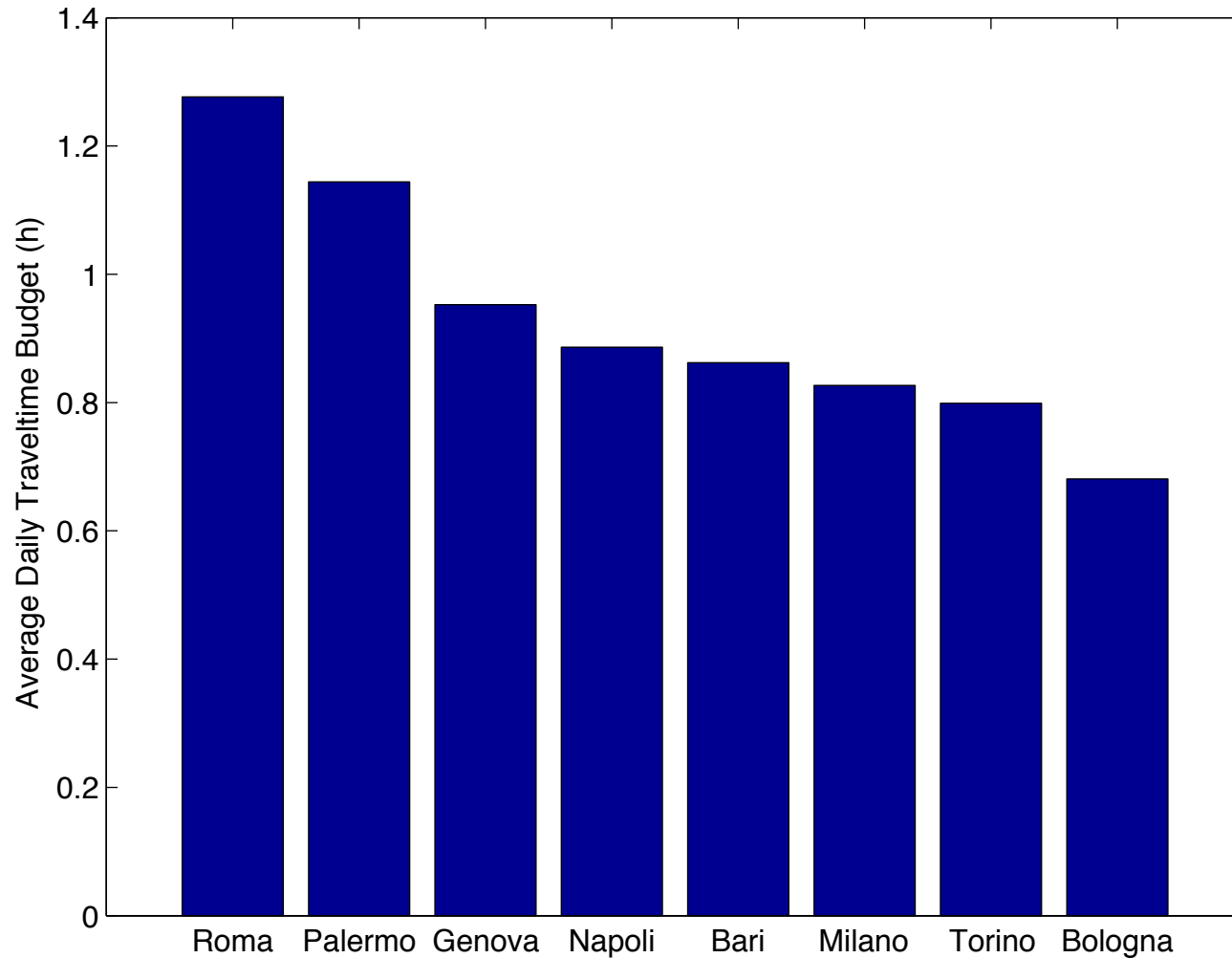
# Travel Demand

# Is Zahavi's Theory of a Constant Travel Time Budget Correct?

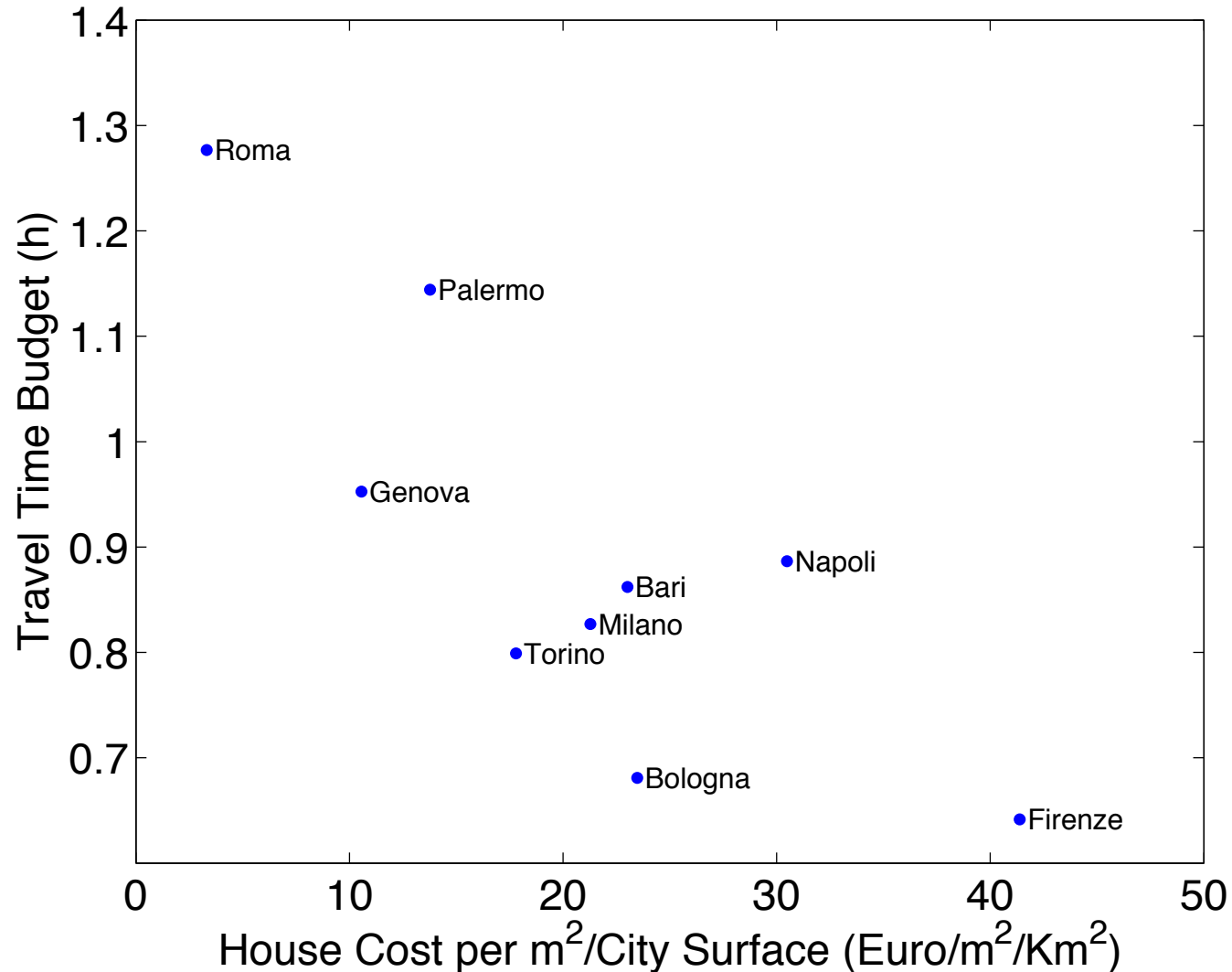
Zahavi and others:  
People spend about 1 hour traveling (on average), and they do it since ages. There is a fixed travel time budget.



# The Travel Time Budget Is Not a Constant



# Travel Time Budget Depends on Housing Costs

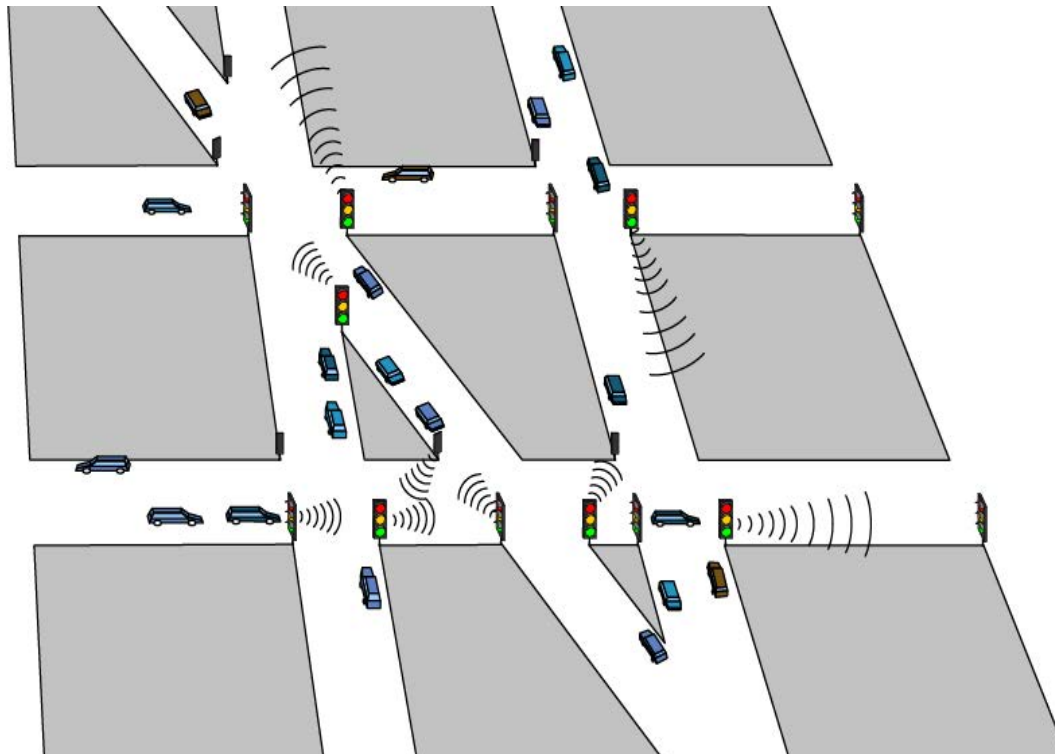




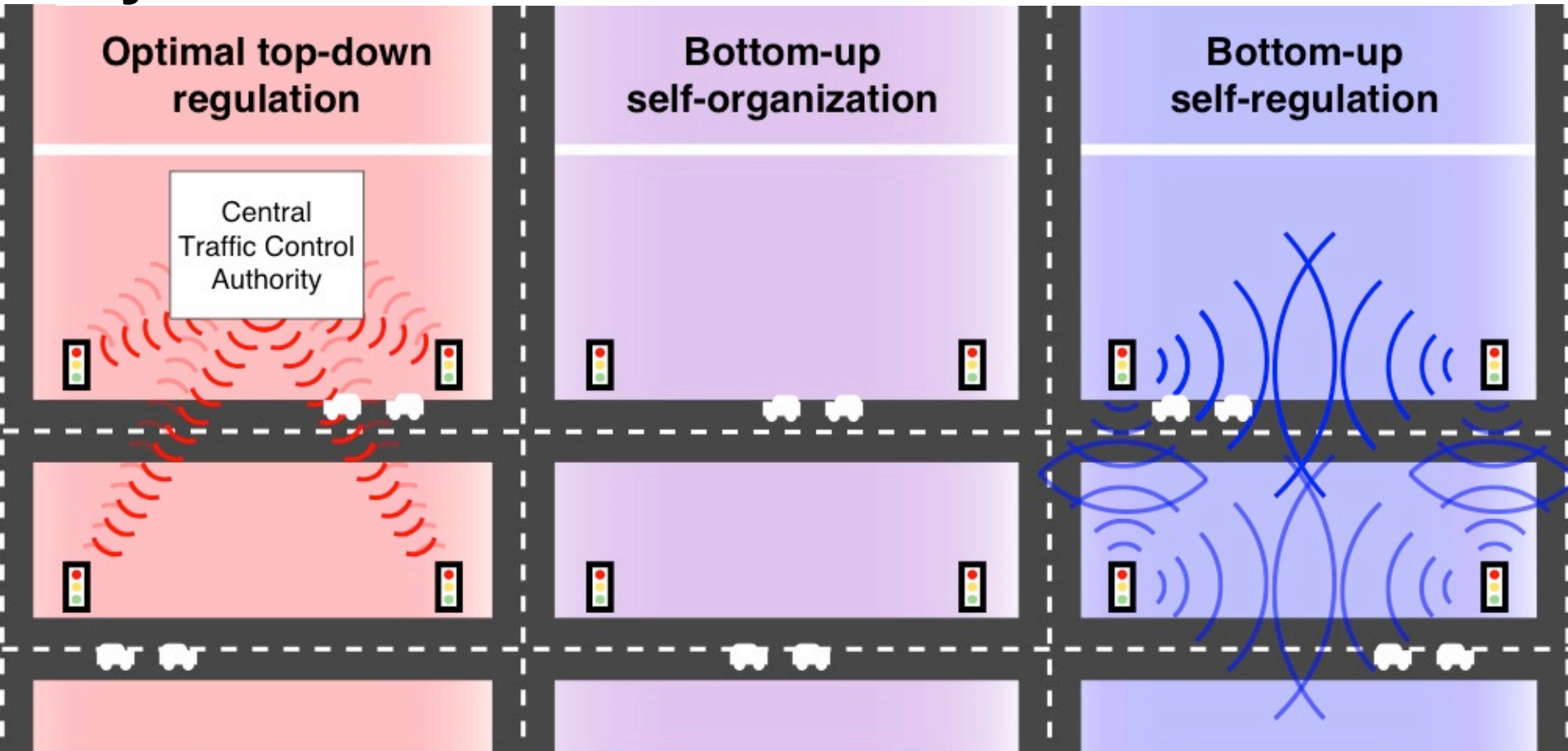
# Traffic Light Control

# Adaptive Traffic Light Control

- for complex street networks
- for traffic disruptions (building sites, accidents, etc.)
- for particular events (Olympic games, pop concerts, etc.)



# Comparing 3 Ways to Organize a Complex System



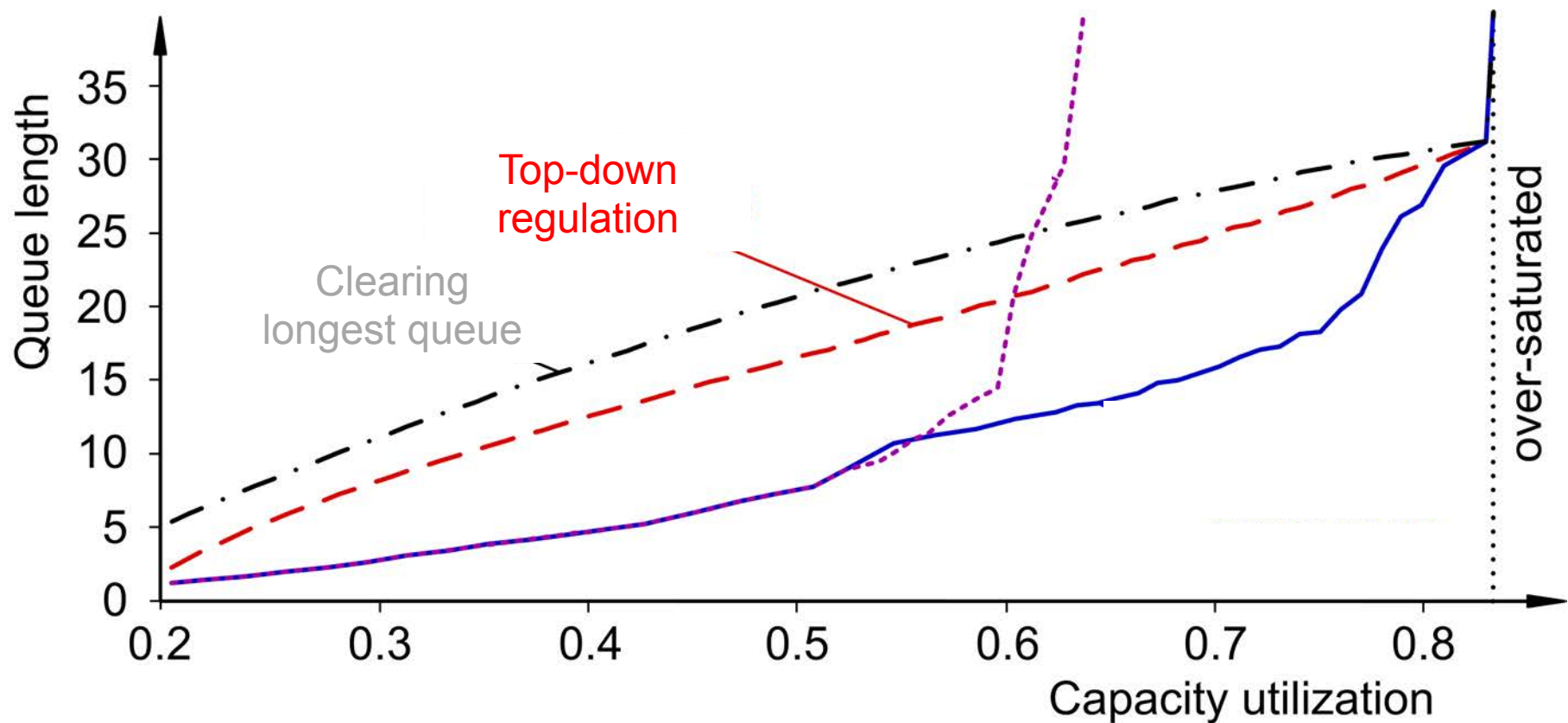
Central control,  
"benevolent dictator"  
D GESS

Travel time minimization,  
"homo economicus"

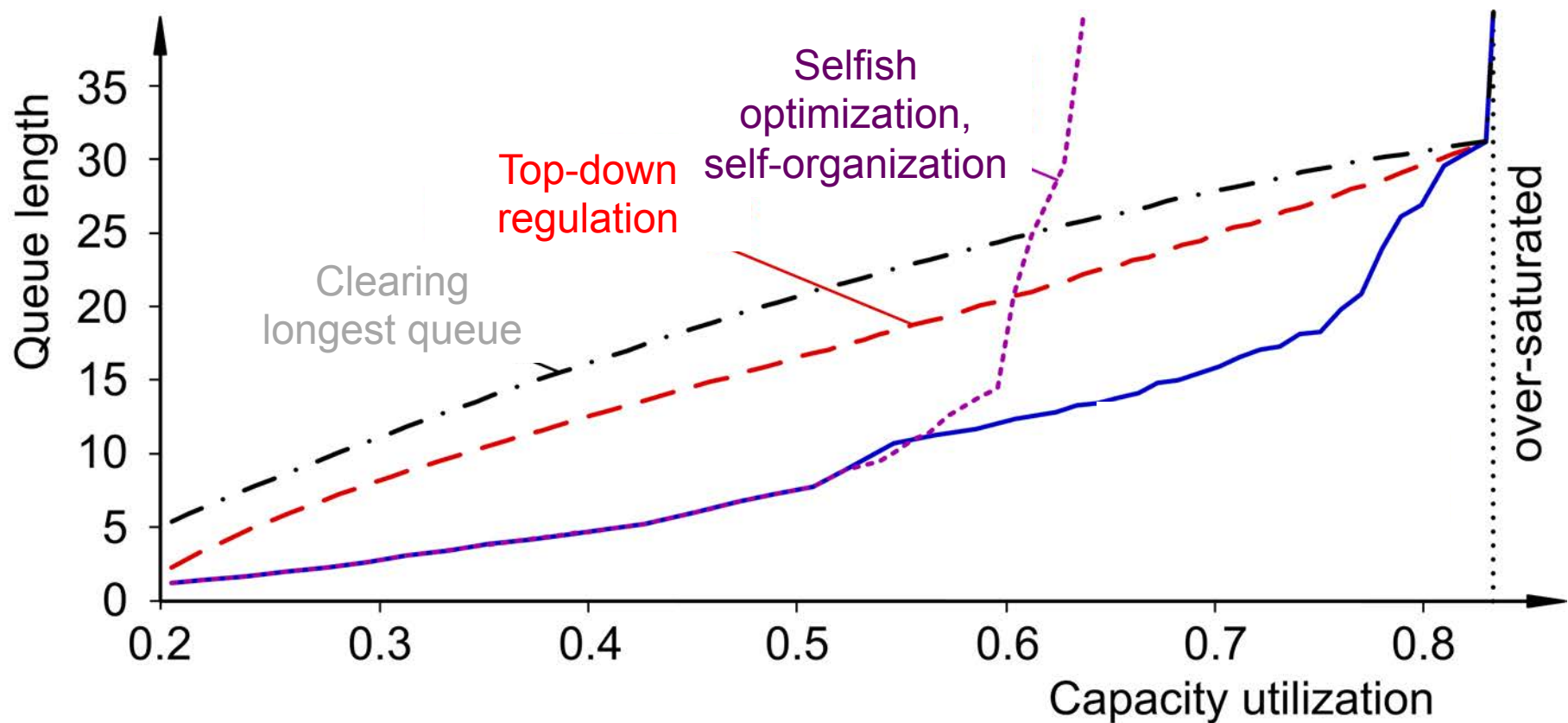
Same, but other-regarding  
coordination with neighbors



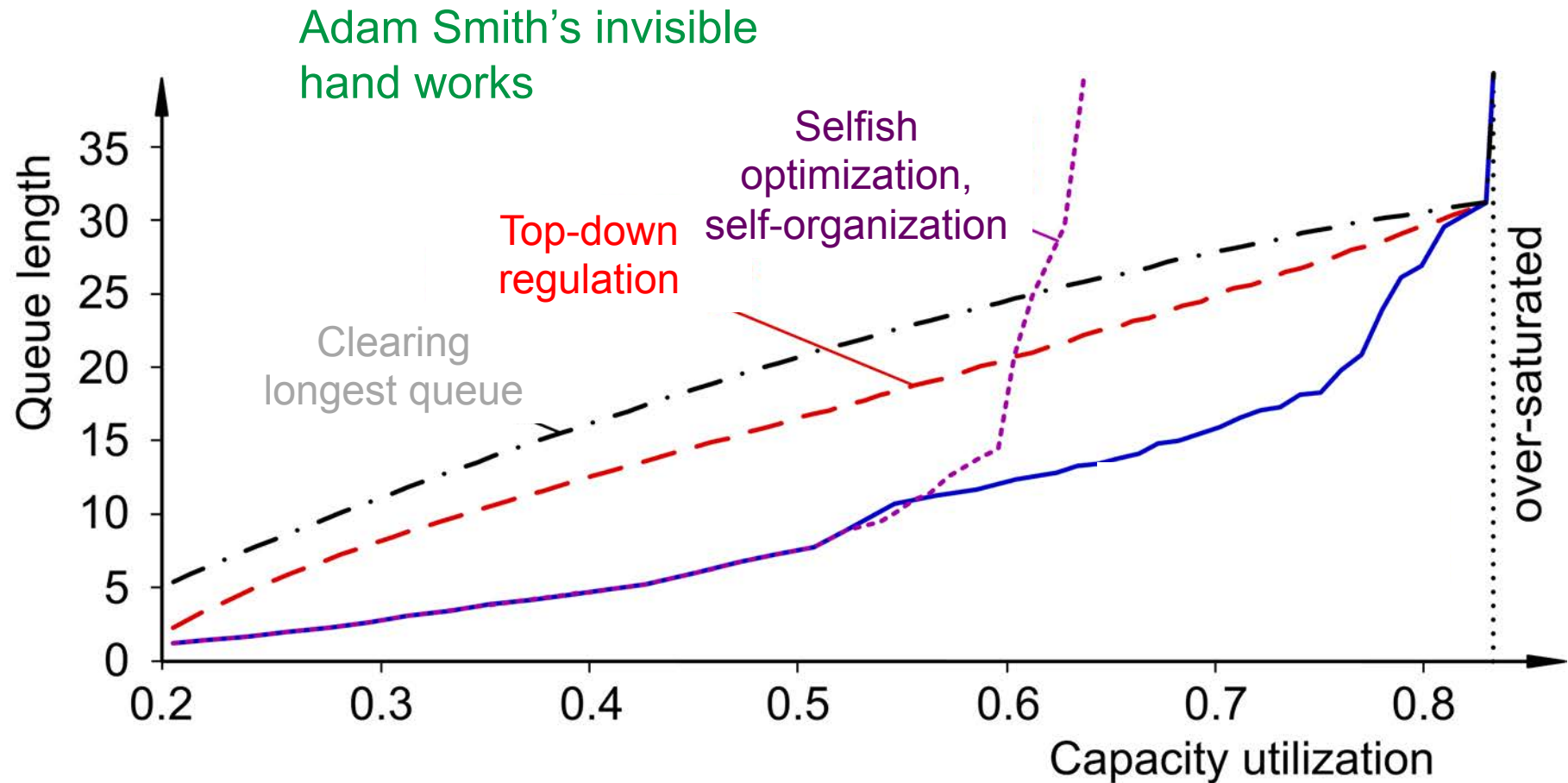
# Bottom-Up Self-Regulation Can Outsmart Optimal Top-Down Control



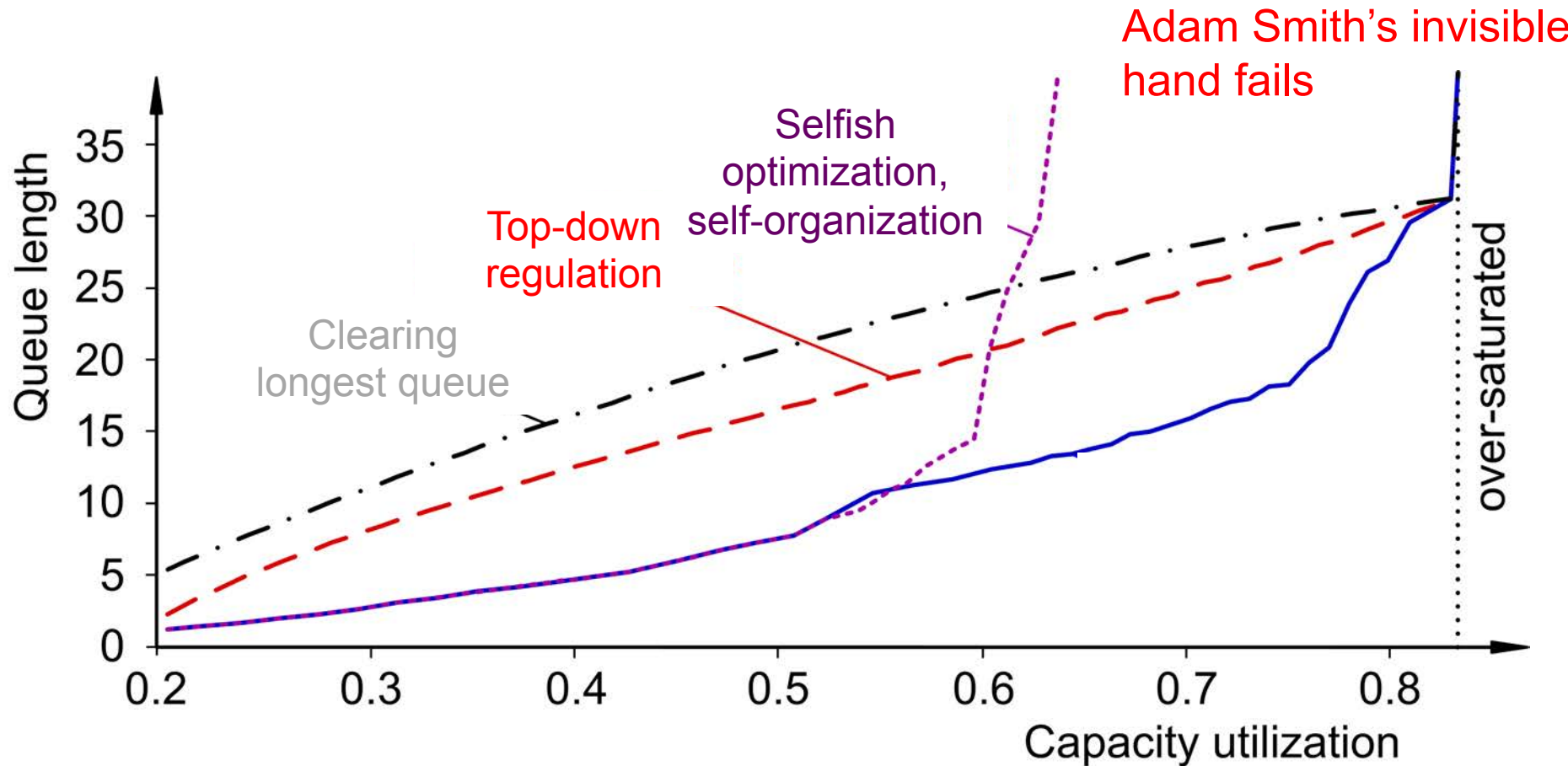
# Bottom-Up Self-Regulation Can Outsmart Optimal Top-Down Control



# Bottom-Up Self-Regulation Can Outsmart Optimal Top-Down Control

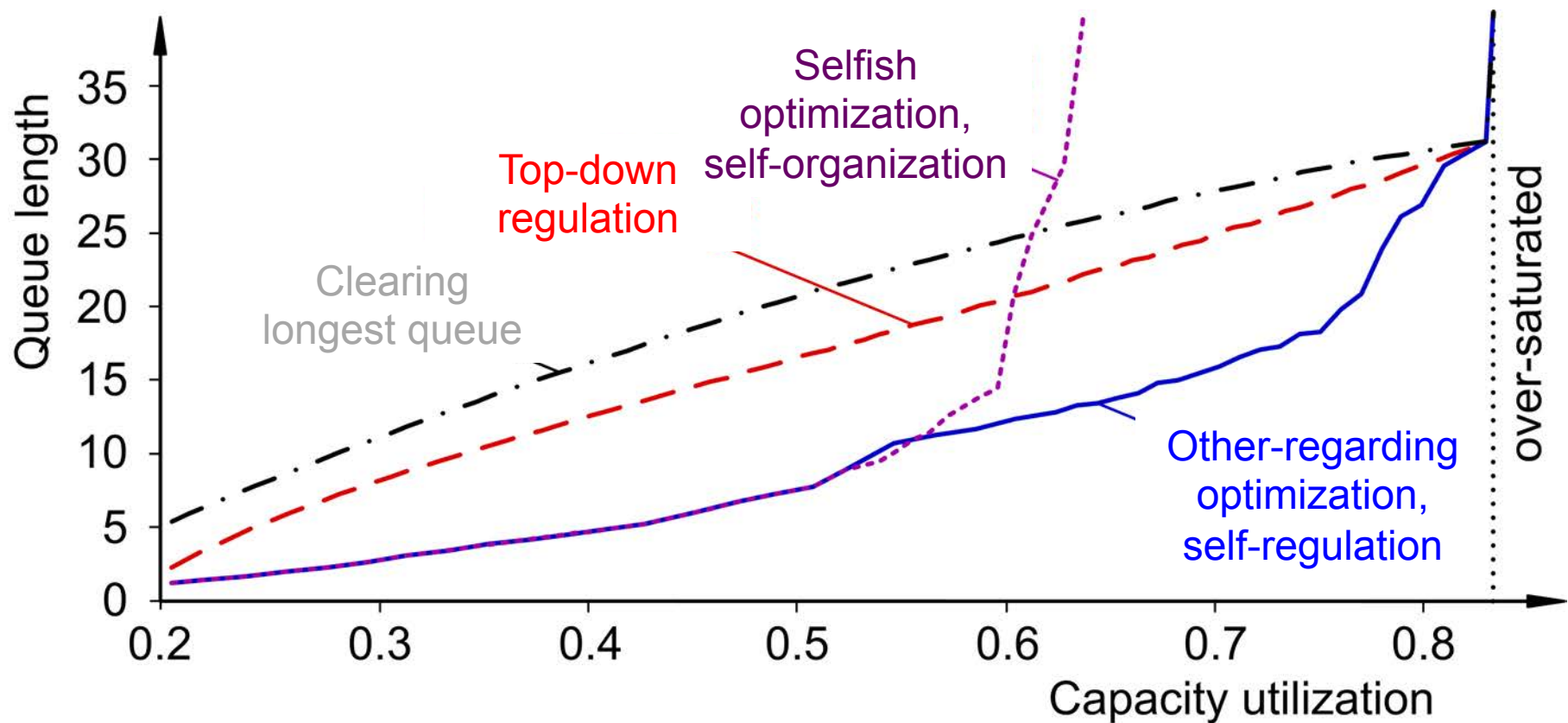


# Bottom-Up Self-Regulation Can Outsmart Optimal Top-Down Control

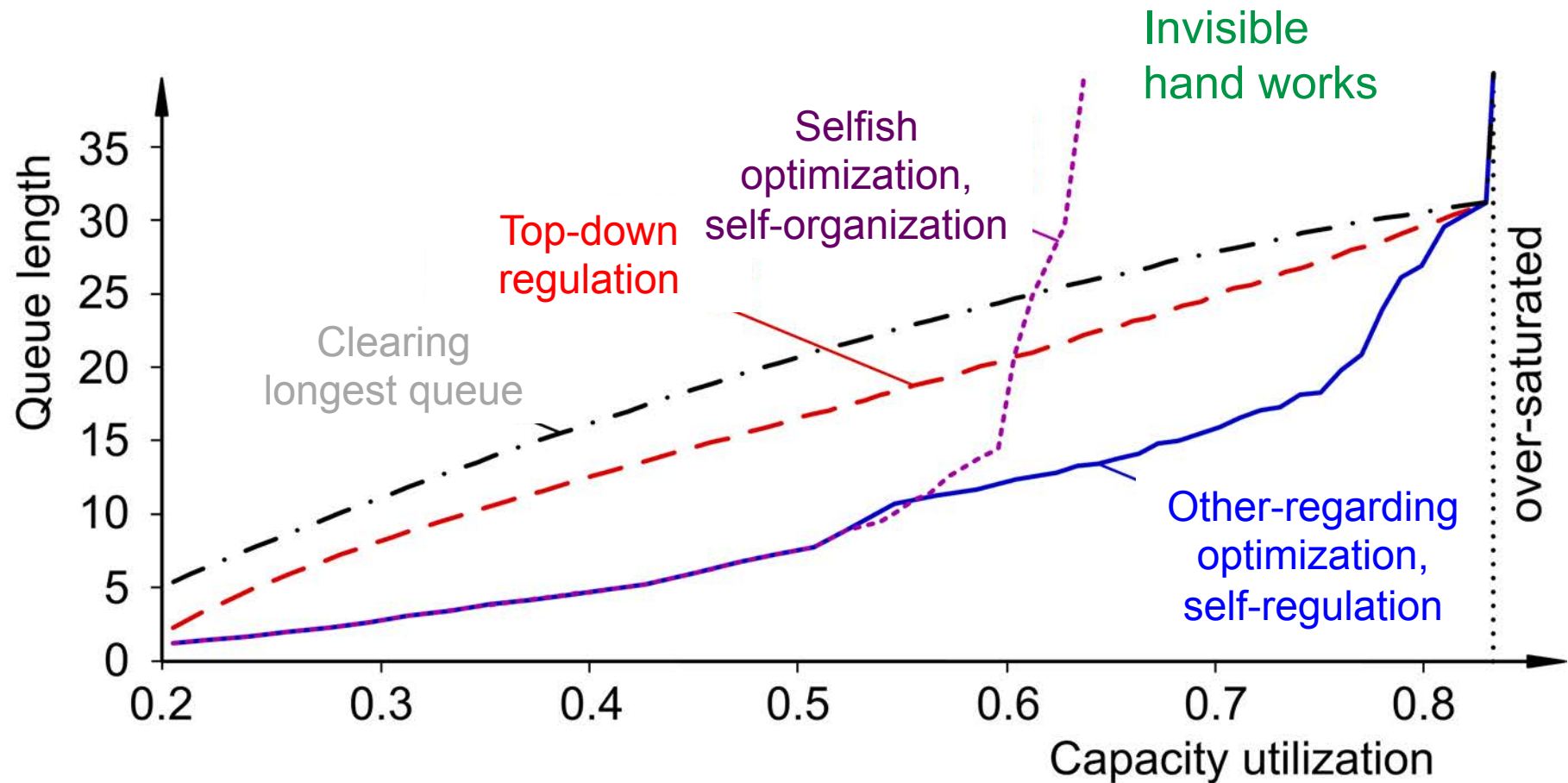




# Bottom-Up Self-Regulation Can Outsmart Optimal Top-Down Control

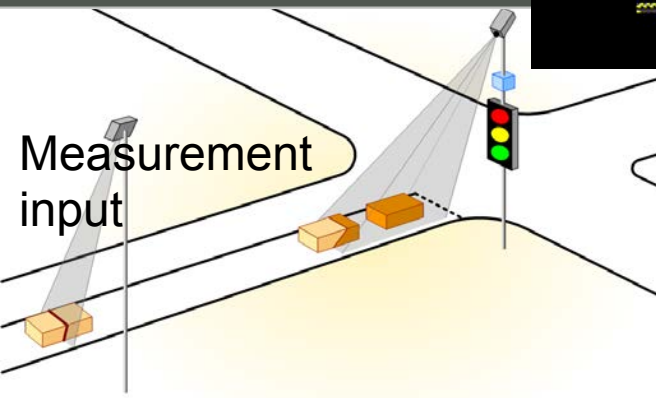
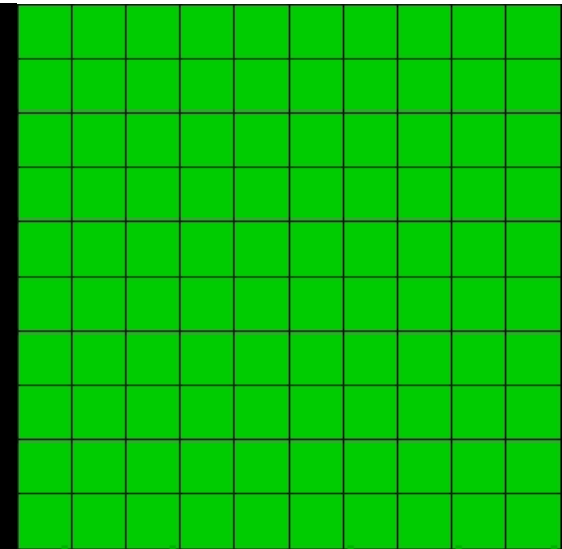
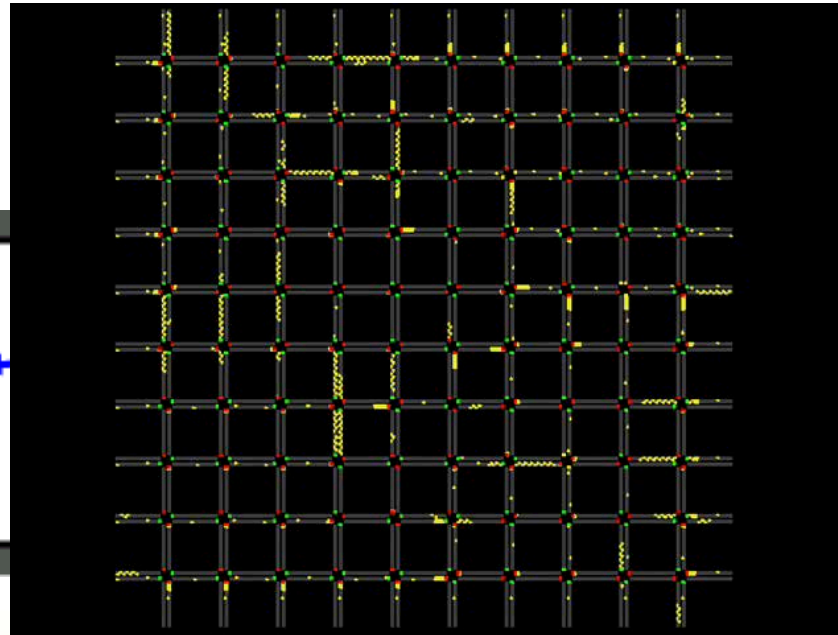
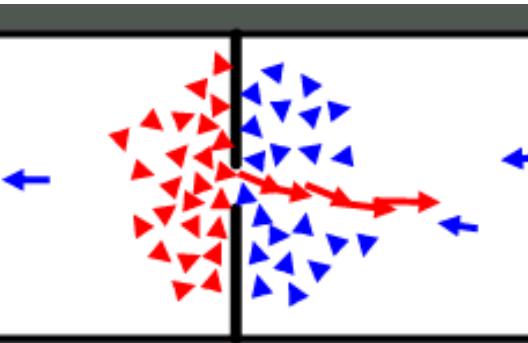


# Bottom-Up Self-Regulation Can Outsmart Optimal Top-Down Control

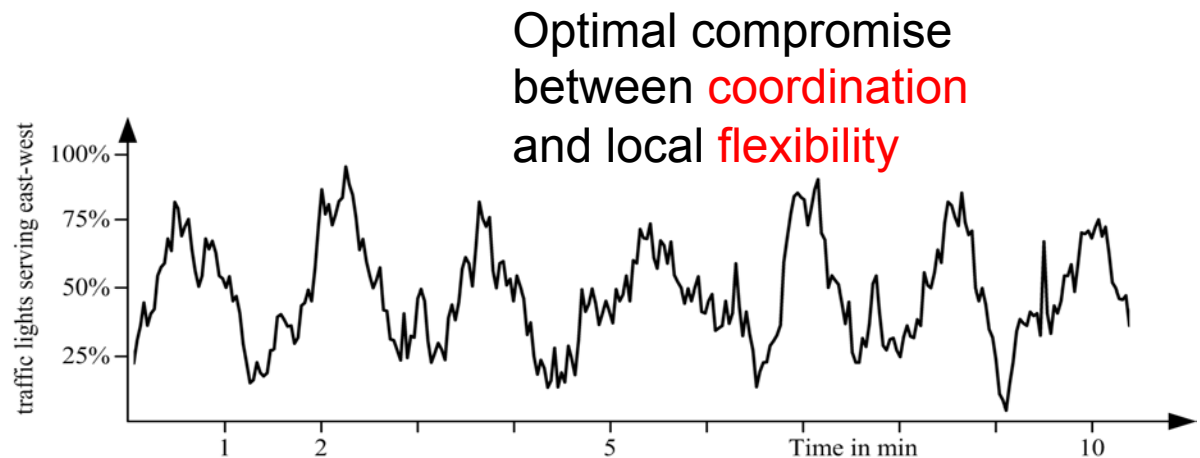


# Decentralized Concept of Self-Organized Traffic Light Control

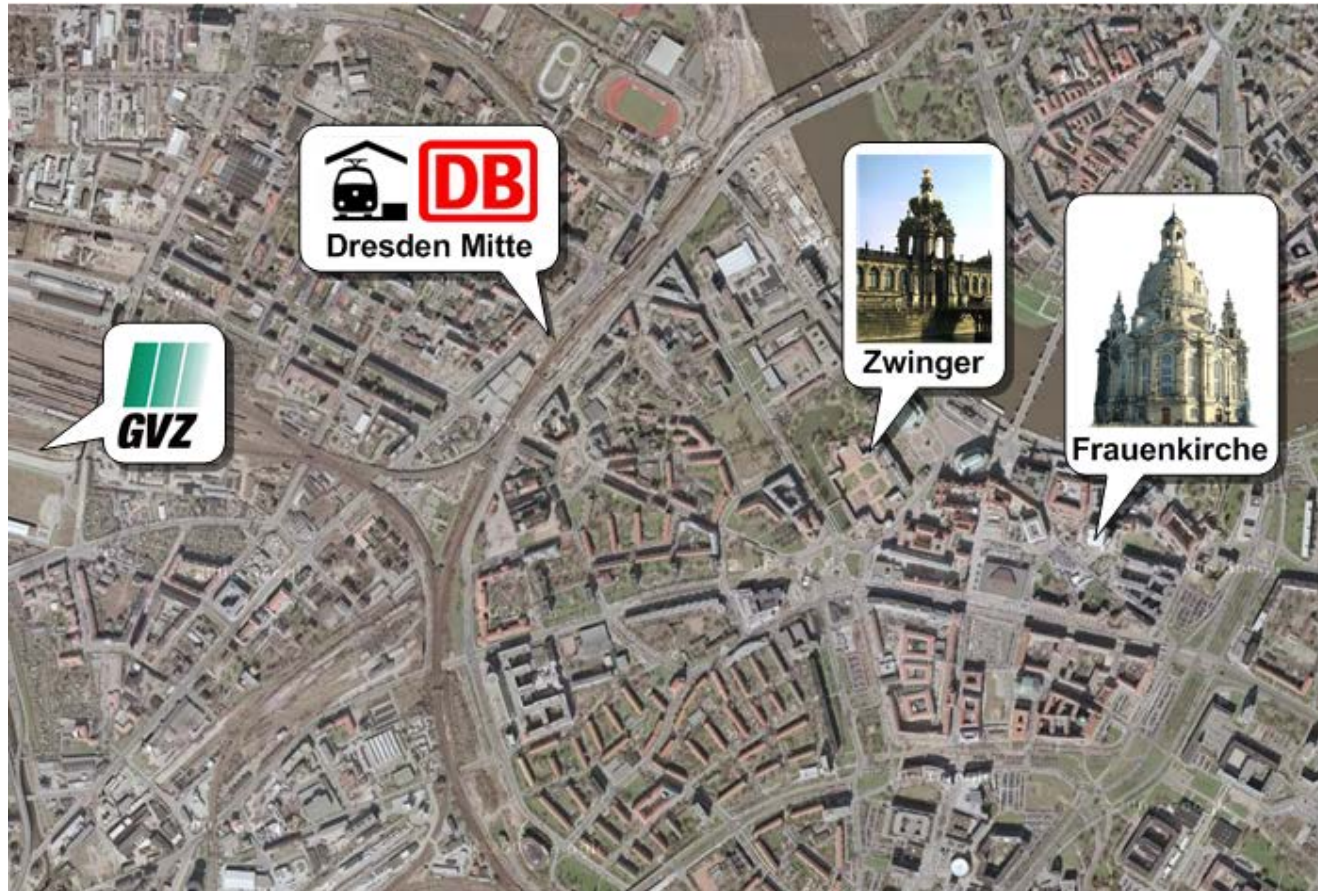
**Inspiration:** Self-organized oscillations at bottlenecks



Published in *JSTAT* (2008)  
**D GESS**

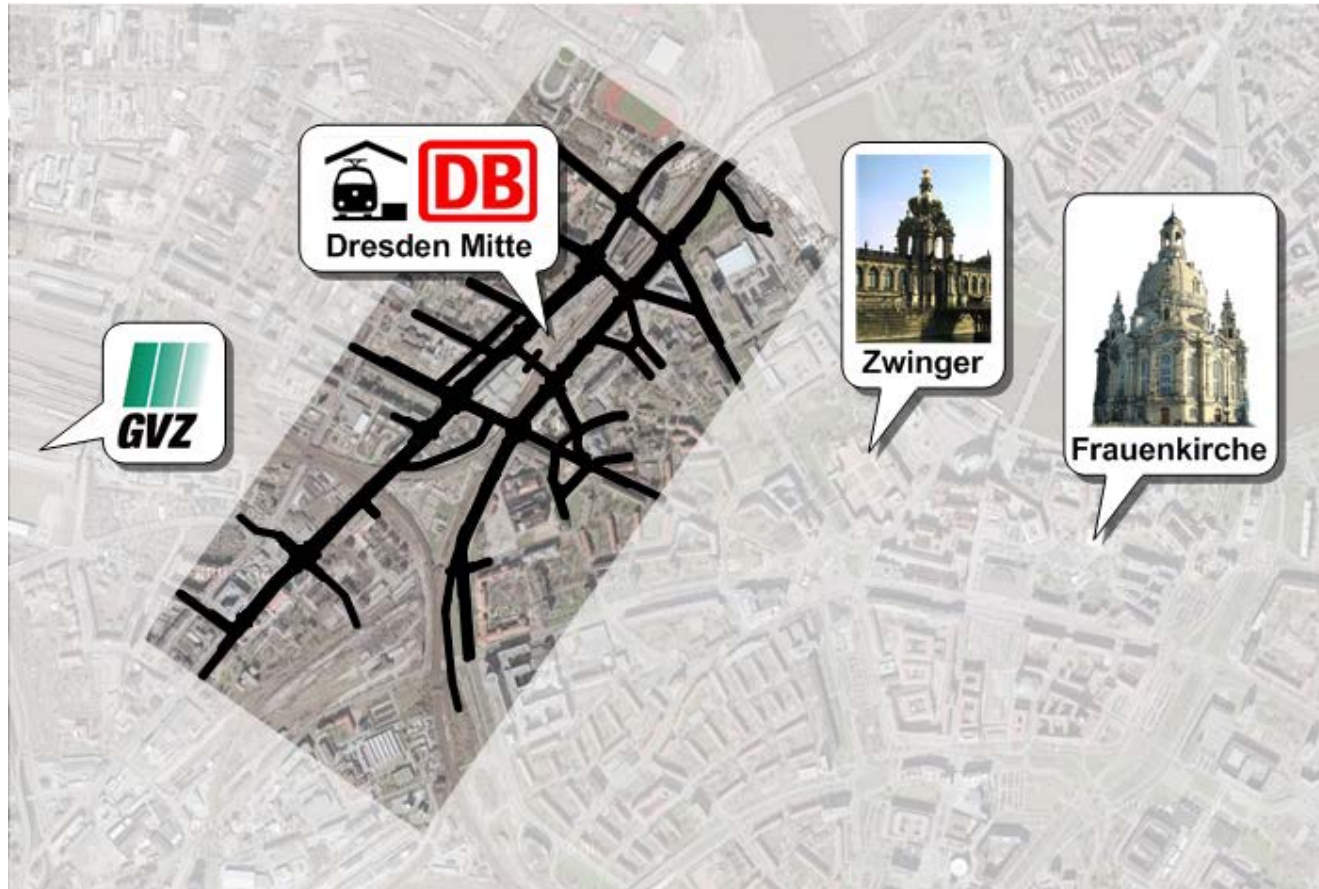


# Towards Self-Organized Traffic Light Control in Dresden

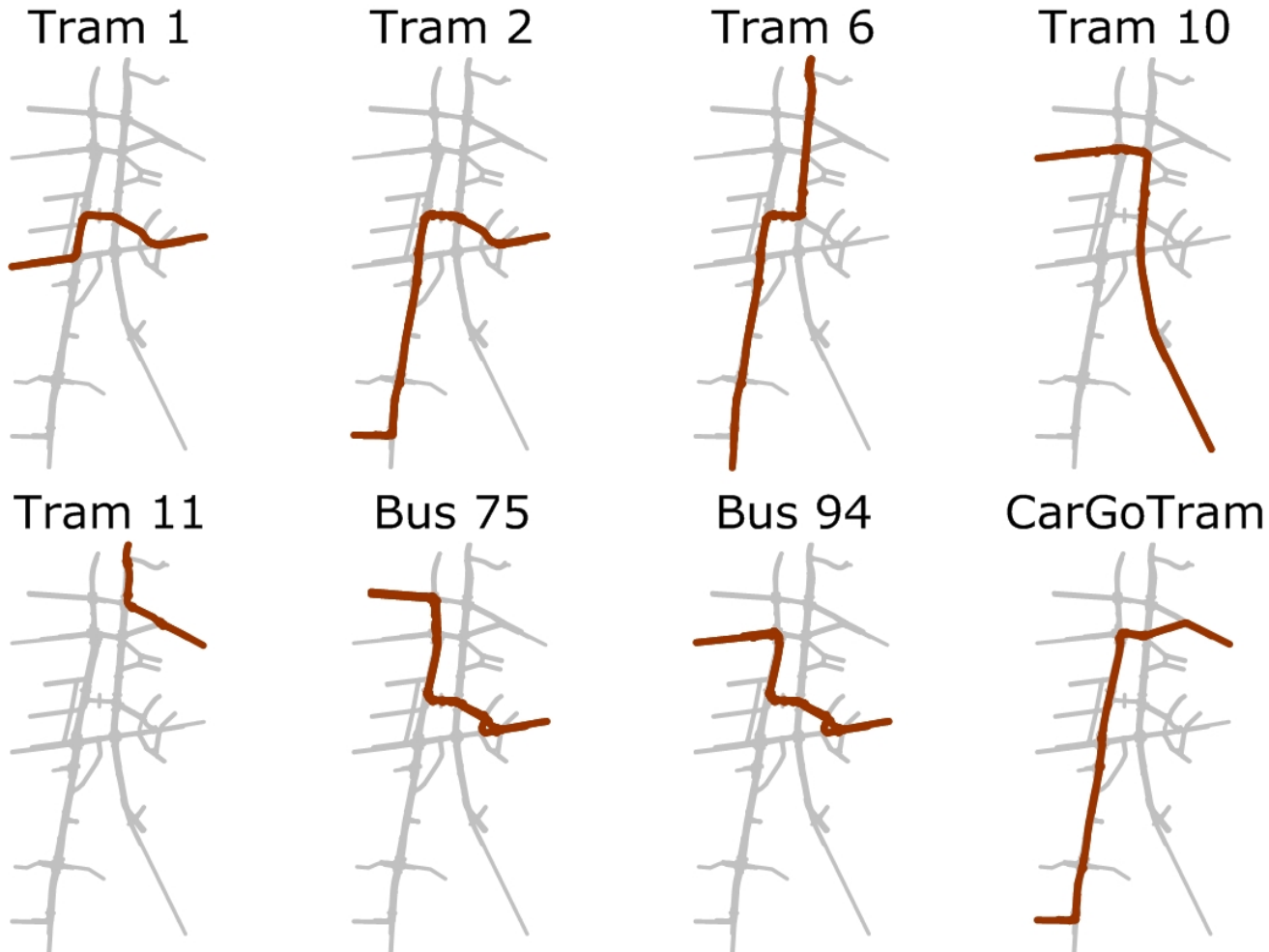




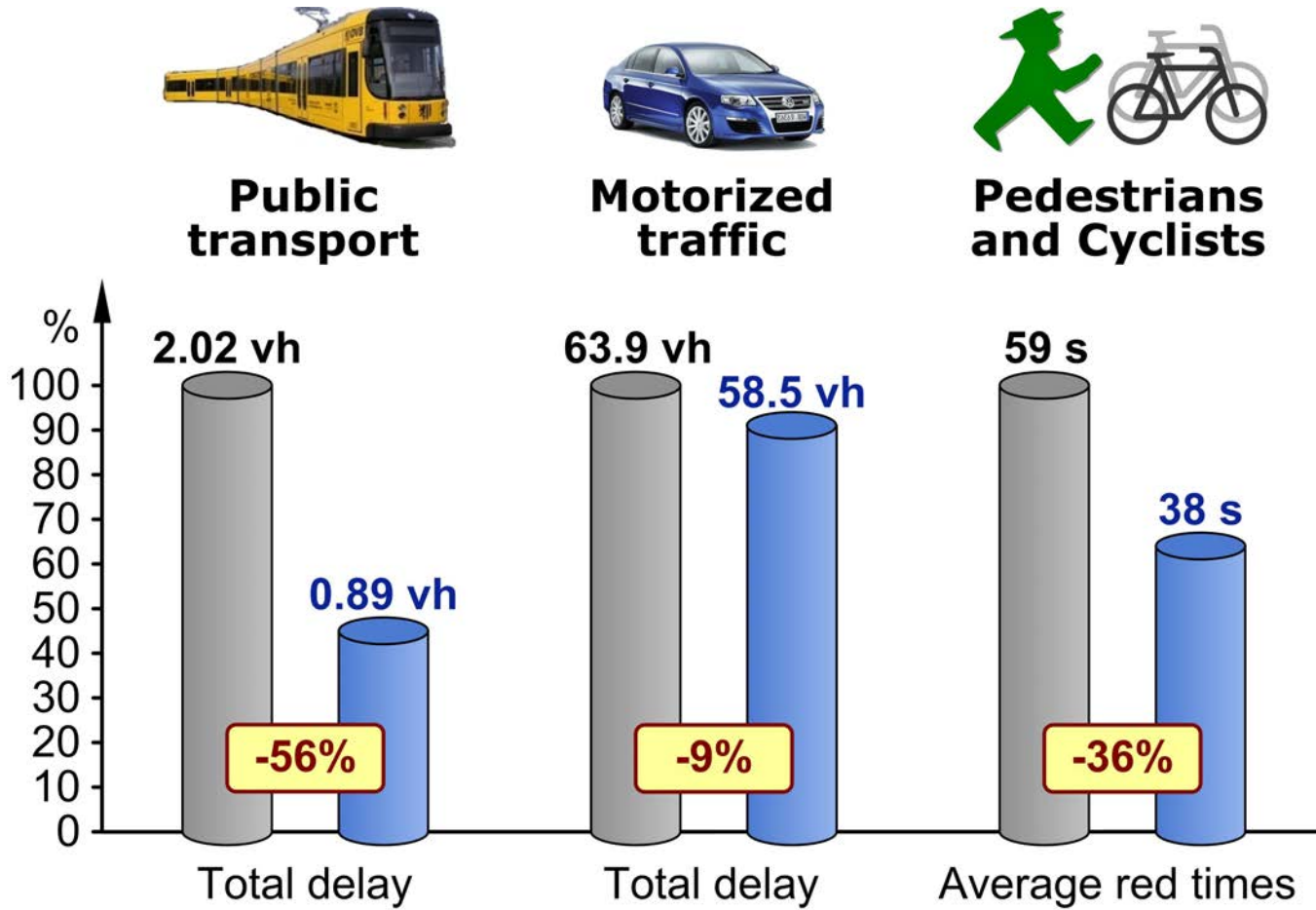
# The Measurement and Control Area



# Disturbance of Traffic Coordination by Bus and Tram Lines



# Gain in Performance



# Production, Supply Chains, and Logistics as Traffic Problems



# Analogies to Production Networks

## Road Networks

### Directed Links:

- Road sections
- Travel- and delay time
- Congestion, queues

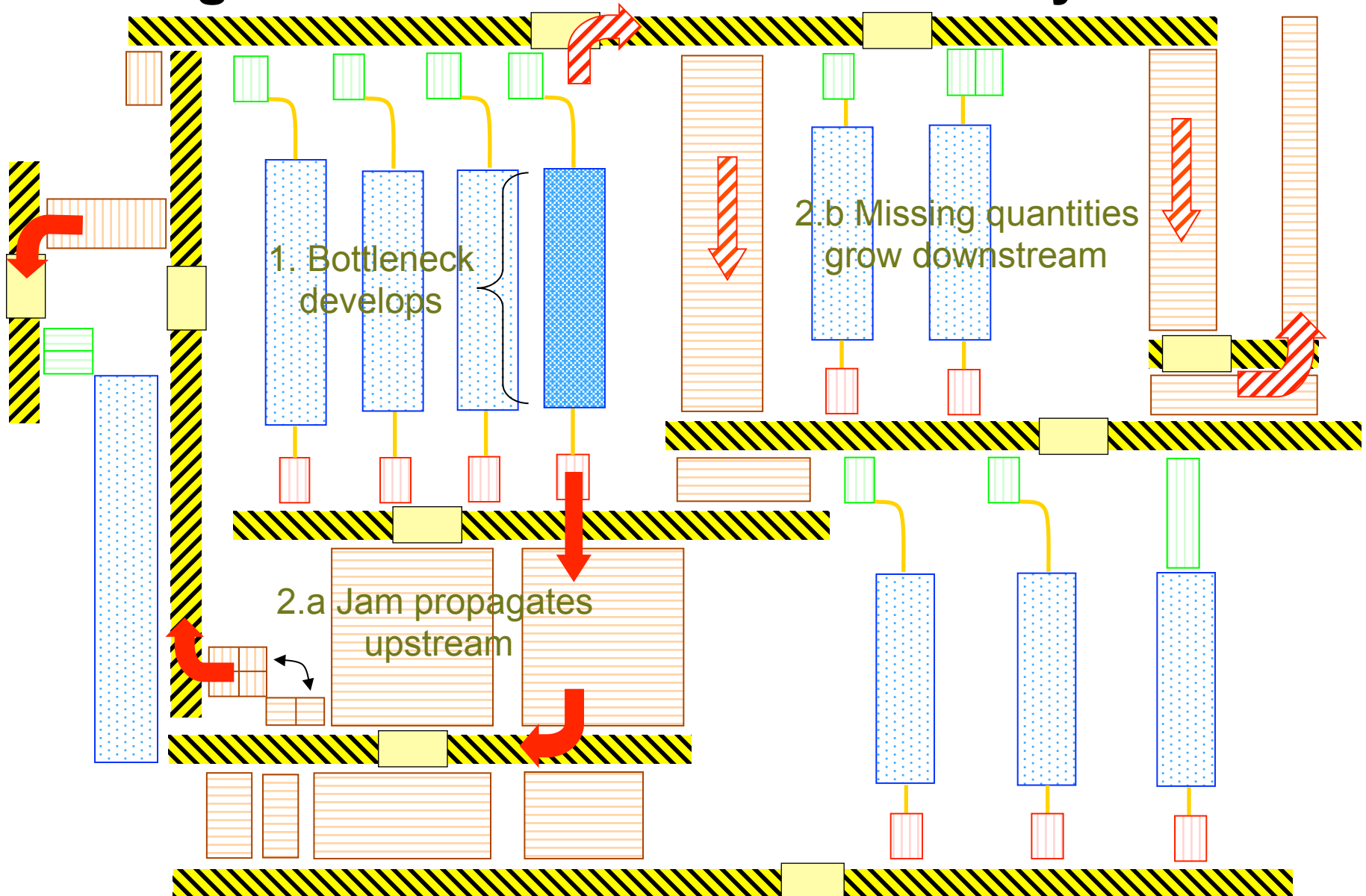
### Nodes:

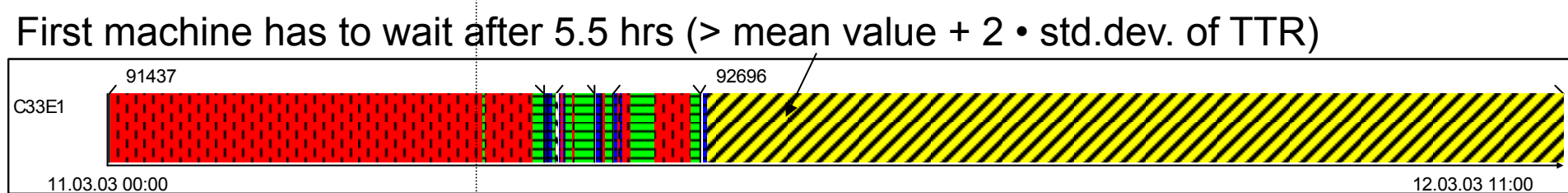
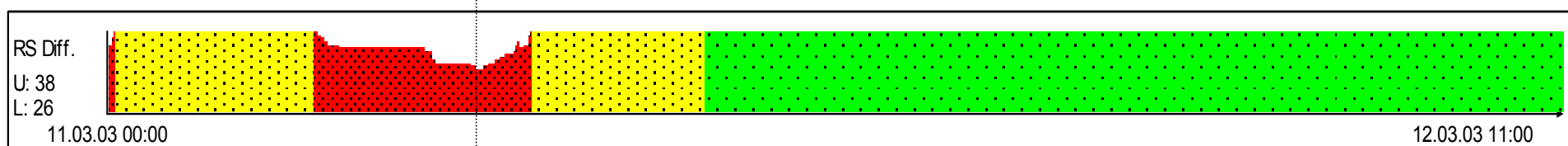
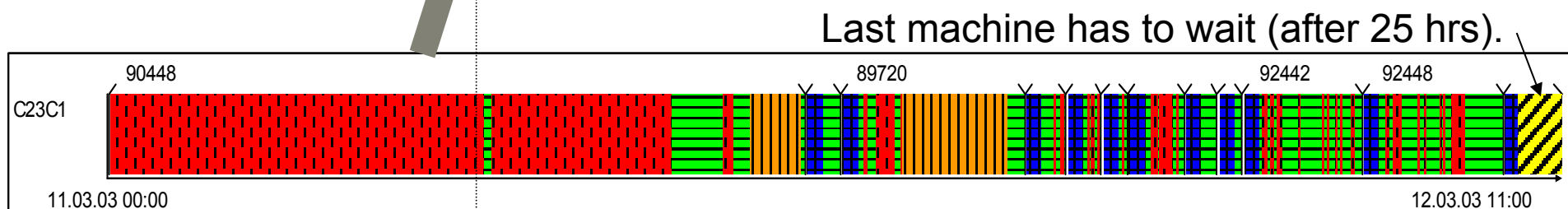
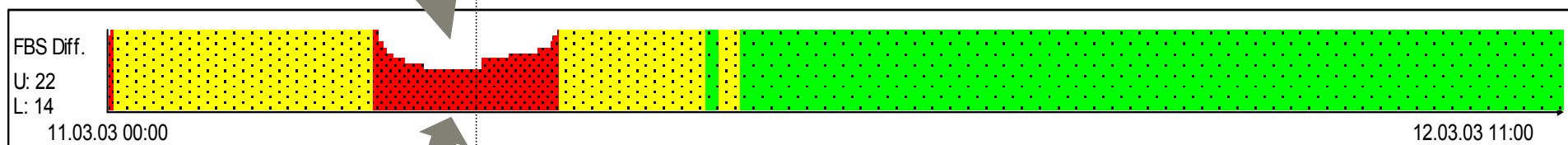
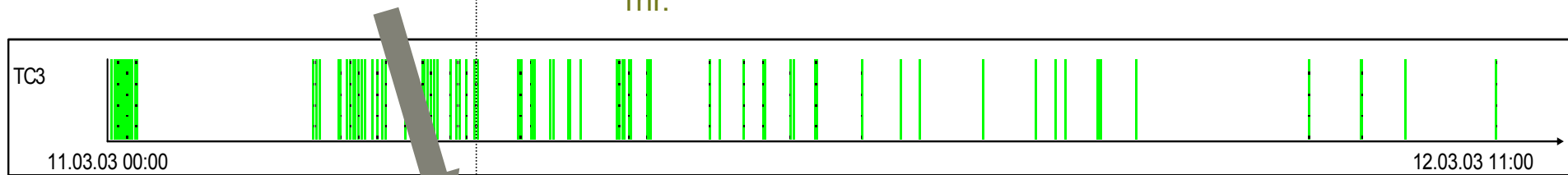
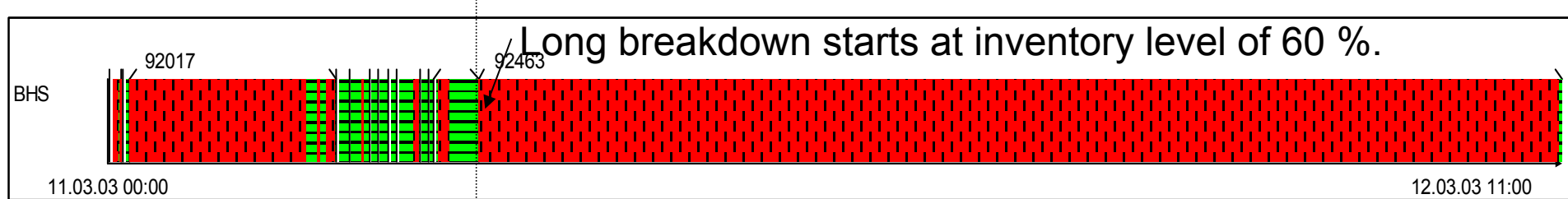
- Junctions
- Different origin-destination
- Conflicting flows
- Traffic light scheduling
- Green Wave
- Accidents

## Production Networks

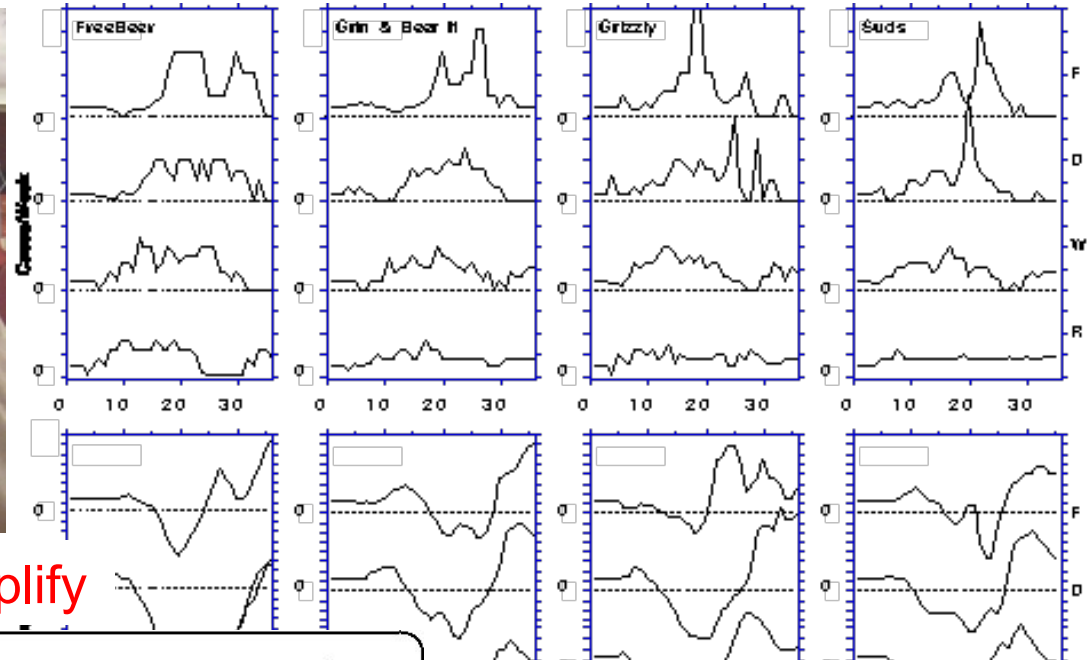
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| ⇔ | Buffers  |
| ⇔ | Cycle time                                       |
| ⇔ | Full buffers                                     |
| ⇔ | Processing units                                 |
| ⇔ | Different products flows                         |
| ⇔ | Conflicts in usage of gripper transfer cars etc. |
| ⇔ | Production scheduling                            |
| ⇔ | ConWiP strategy                                  |
| ⇔ | Machine breakdowns                               |

# Analogies of Production with Traffic Dynamics

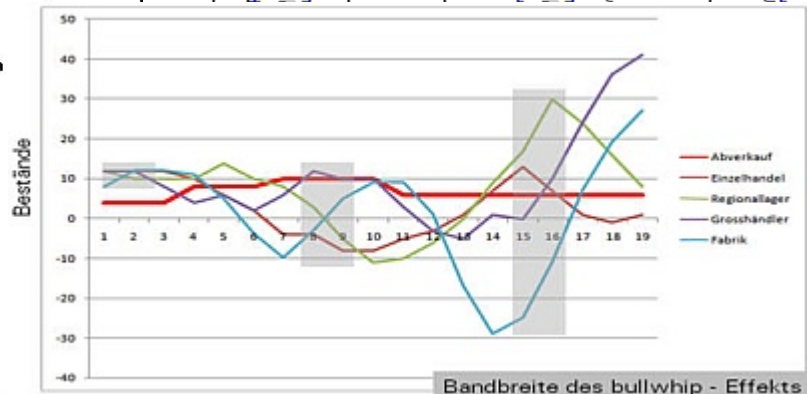
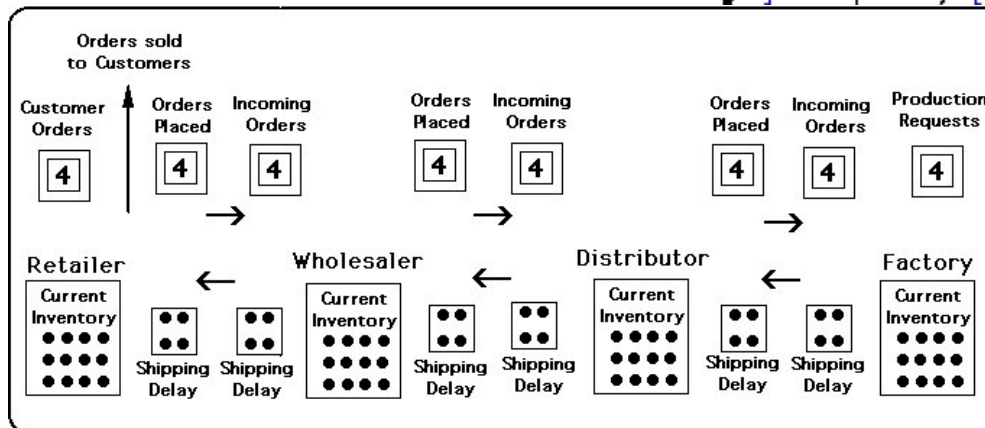




# John D. Sterman's Beer Game



Perturbations in demand amplify



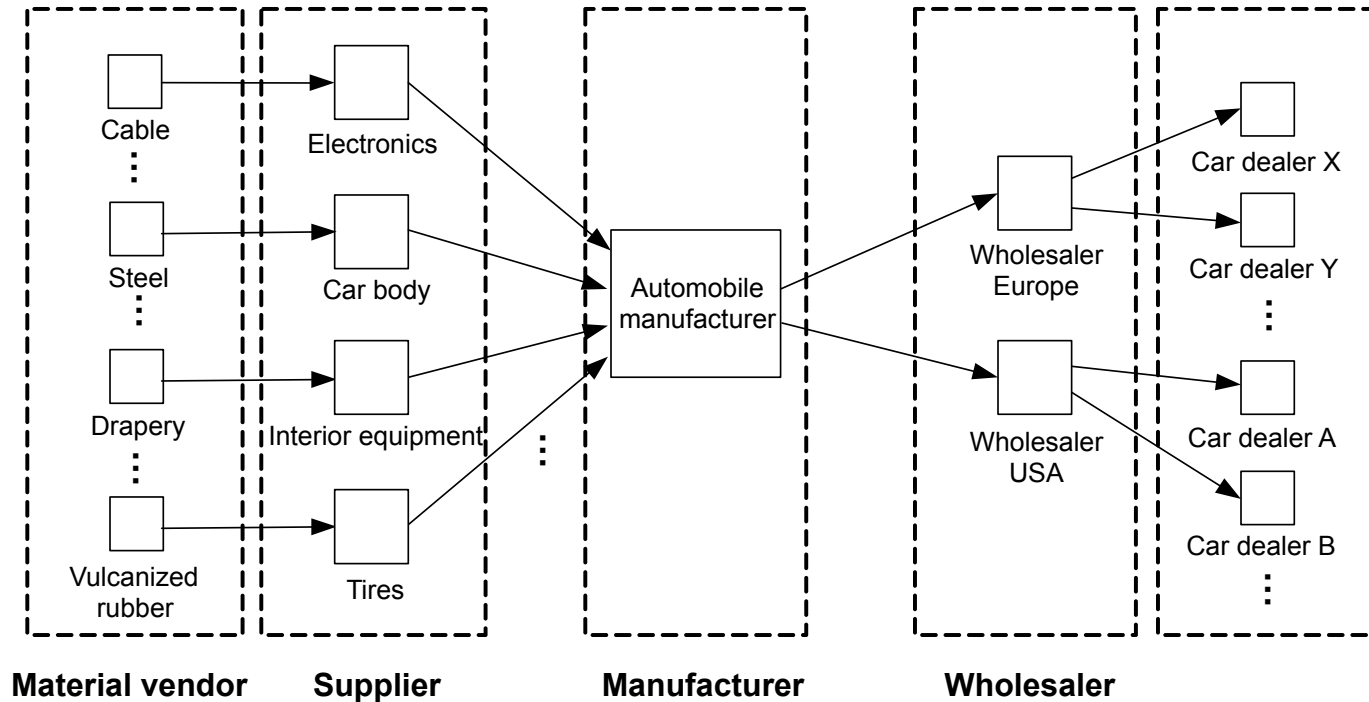


# Material Flows in Supply Networks

Open questions:

- **Inventory** vs. **just in time** production?
- How important is the **network topology**?

Supply Chain as a network structure:



# Modeling Supply Networks

## Conservation of resources

$$\dot{N}_i(t) = \underbrace{Q_i(t)}_{\text{supply}} - \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} Q_j(t)}_{\text{re-entrant}} - \underbrace{Y_i(t)}_{\text{outflow}}$$

$(a_{ij})$  input matrix  $\mathbf{A}$   
 $N_i(t)$  inventory level  
 $Q_i(t)$  delivery rate  
 $Y_i(t)$  consumption rate  
 $P_i(t)$  price level

## Adaptation of delivery rates

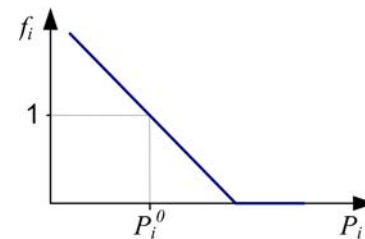
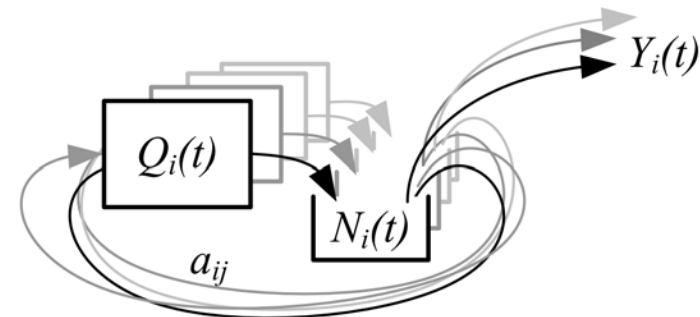
$$\frac{\dot{Q}_i(t)}{Q_i(t)} = \hat{\nu} \underbrace{\left( \frac{N_i^0}{N_i(t)} - 1 \right)}_{\text{deviations from desired level}} - \hat{\mu} \underbrace{\frac{\dot{N}_i(t)}{N_i(t)}}_{\text{temporal changes}}$$

## Adaptation of prices

$$\frac{\dot{P}_i(t)}{P_i(t)} = \nu \underbrace{\left( \frac{N_i^0}{N_i(t)} - 1 \right)}_{\text{deviations from desired level}} - \mu \underbrace{\frac{\dot{N}_i(t)}{N_i(t)}}_{\text{temporal changes}}$$

## Consumption

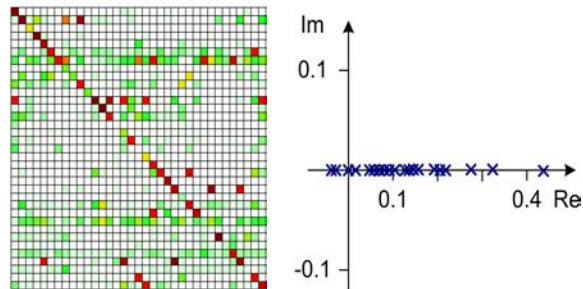
$$Y_i(t) = [Y_i^0 + \xi_i(t)] f_i(P_i(t))$$



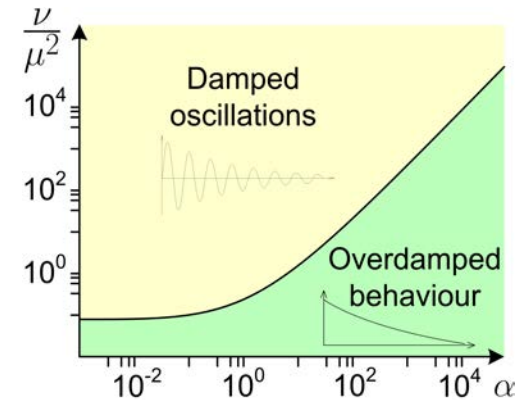
D. H., U. Witt, S. Lämmer, T. Brenner, *Physical Review E* **70**, 056118 (2004).

# Network-Induced Oscillatory Behavior

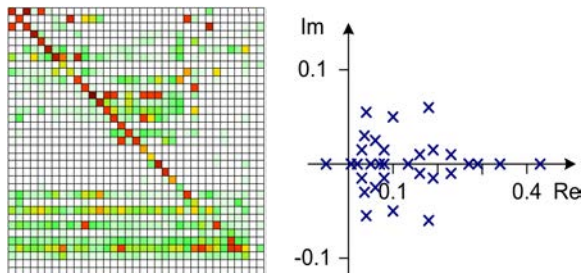
Input matrices with **real** eigenvalues only



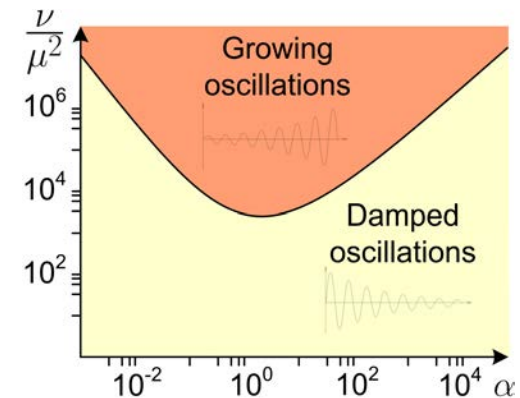
Overdamped behaviour possible.  
Oscillations are **never growing**.



Input matrices with **complex** eigenvalues



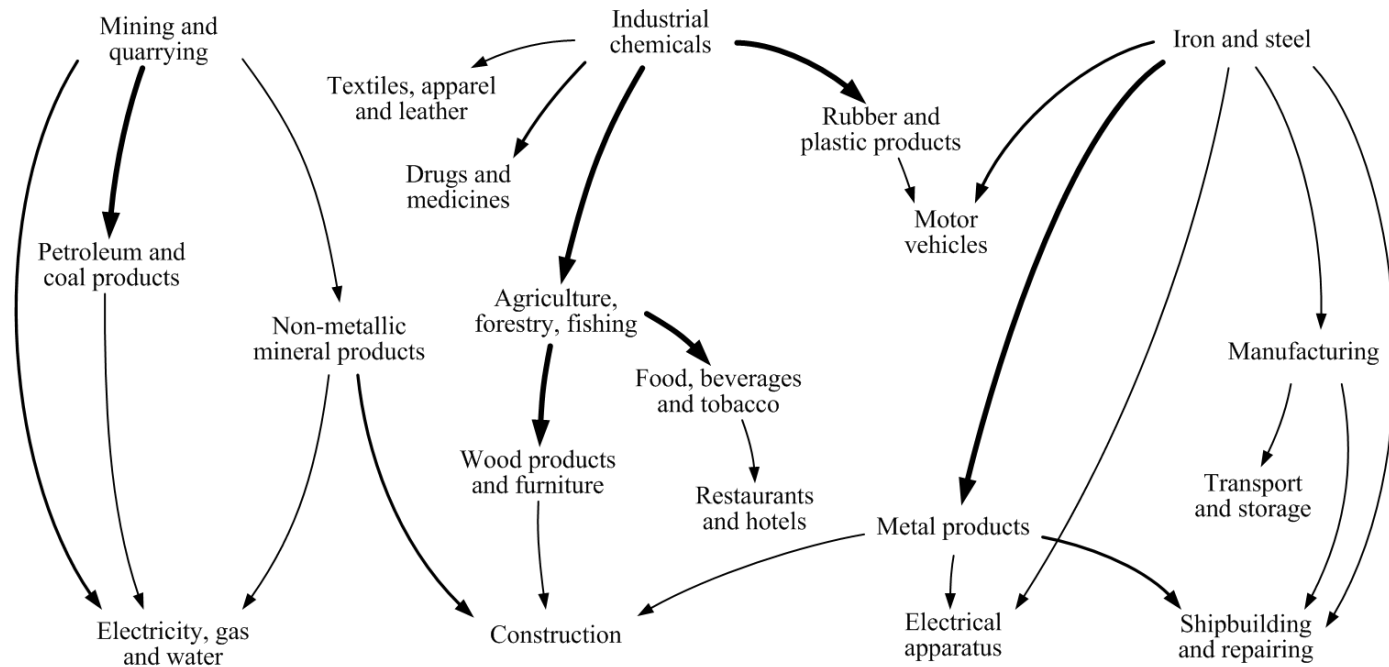
Always oscillating.  
**Growing oscillations** are likely.



# Global Logistic Networks: Recessions Are Like Traffic Jams of the Economy

Commodity flow (average of FRA, GER, JAP, UK, USA)

Network structure

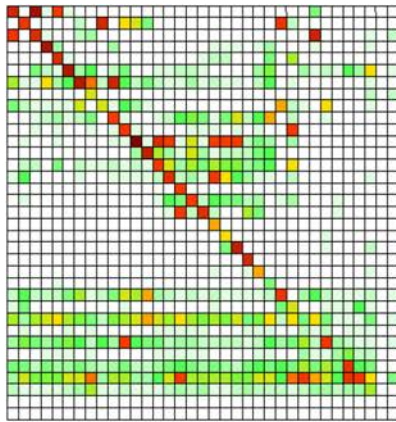


D. H., U. Witt, S. Lämmer, T. Brenner, *Physical Review E* **70**, 056118 (2004).

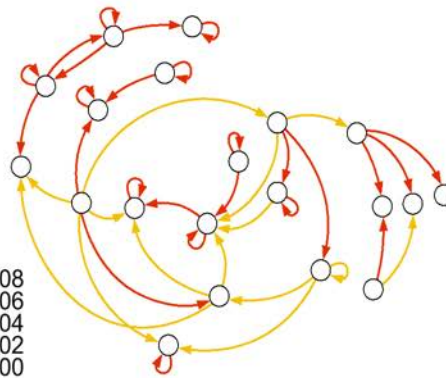


# Business Cycles as Result of Network Flows

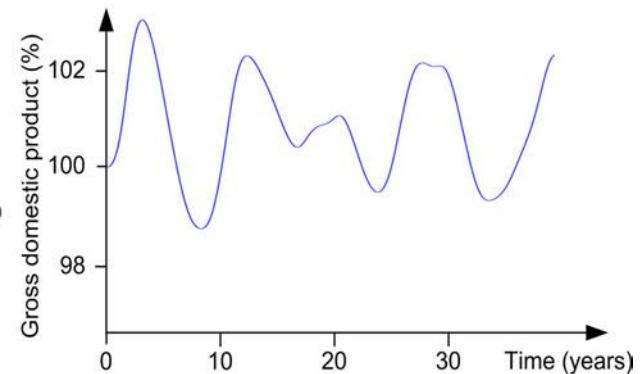
Business cycles because of the structure of production networks?



Input output matrix

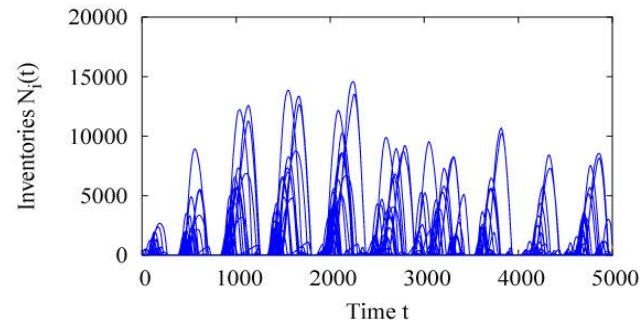
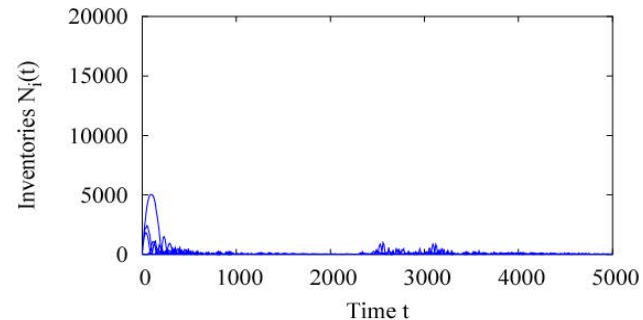
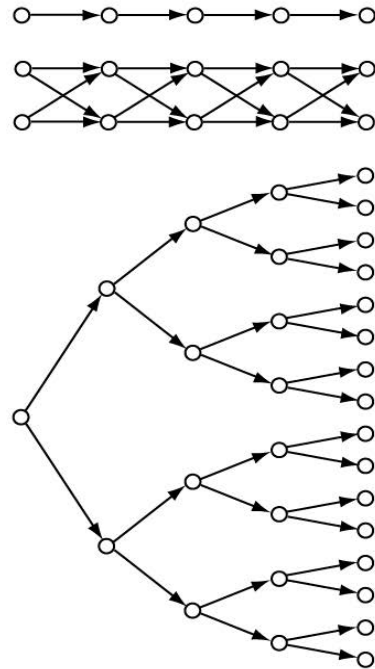
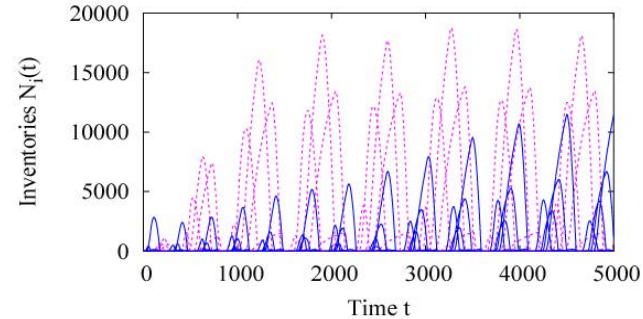
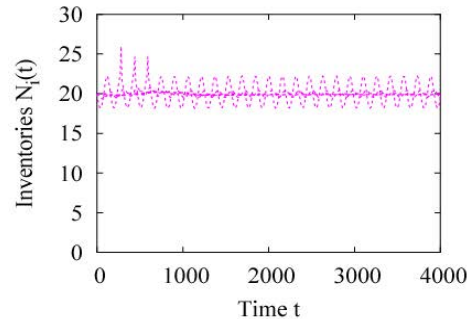


Related  
delivery  
network



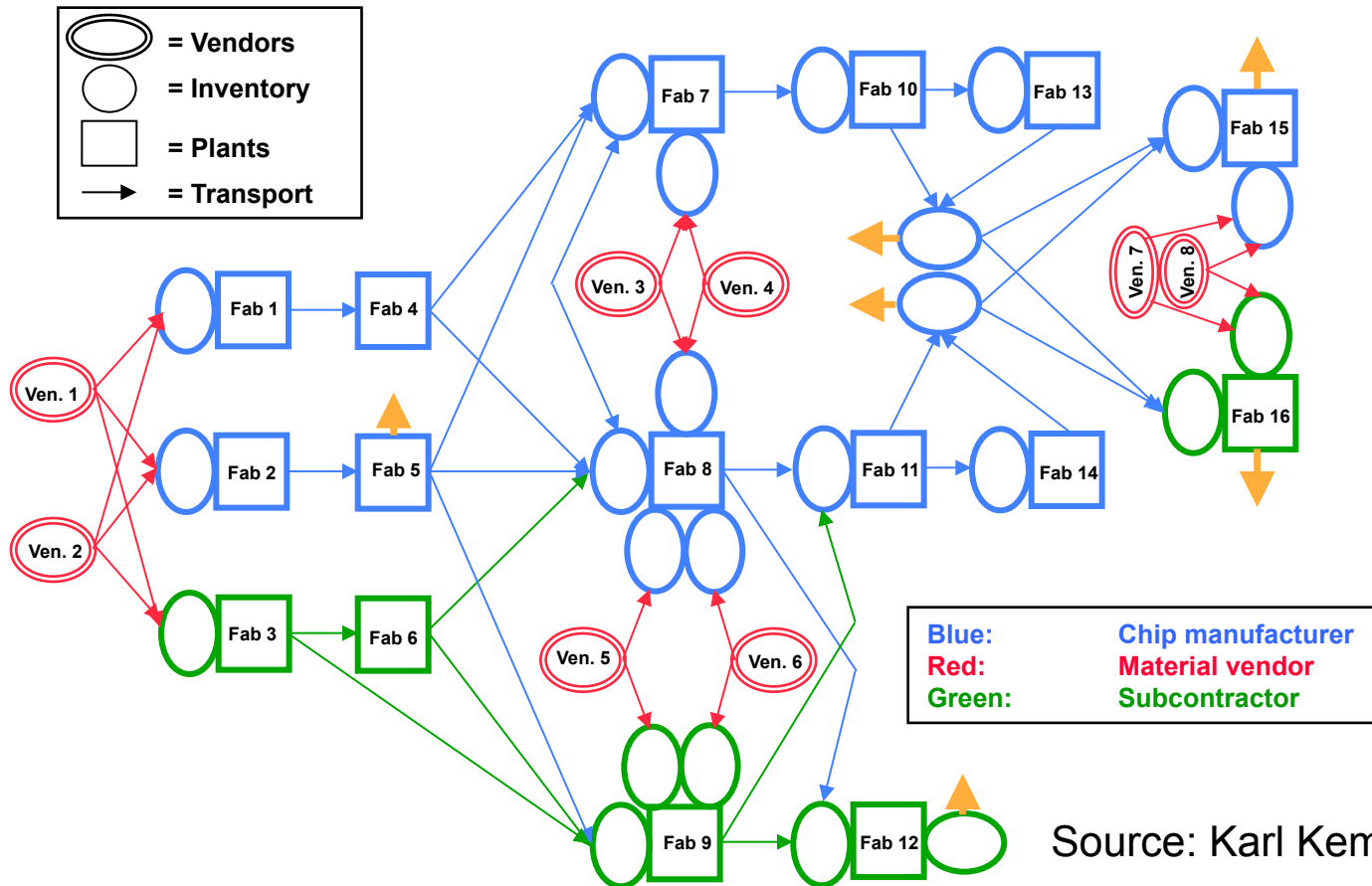
Resulting  
oscillations in the  
gross domestic  
product

# Structure of Supply Network Can Stabilize

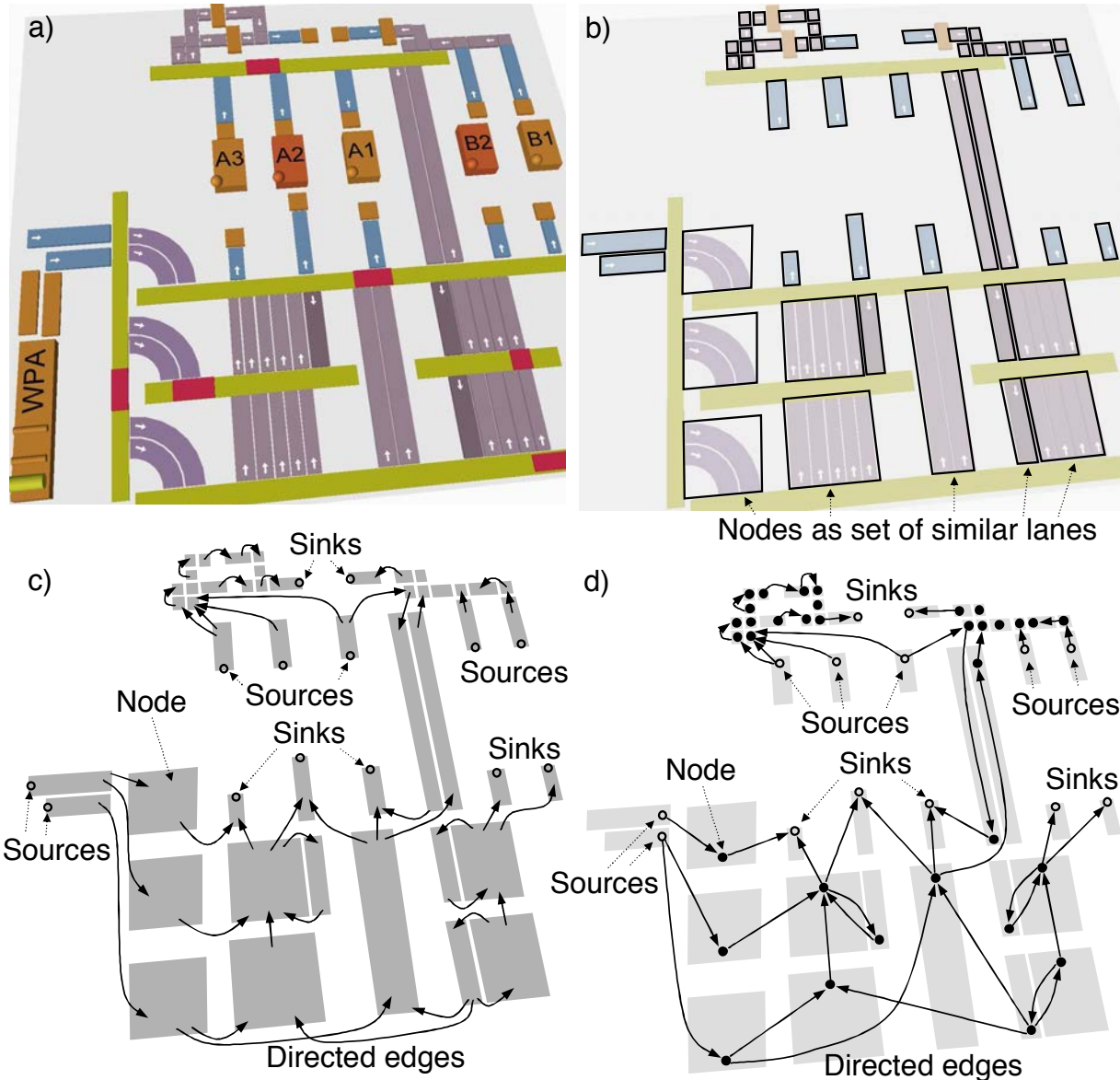


D. H., *New Journal of Physics* **5.90**, 1-28 (2003).

# Redundancy Matters: Distribution Network of Intel Technologies

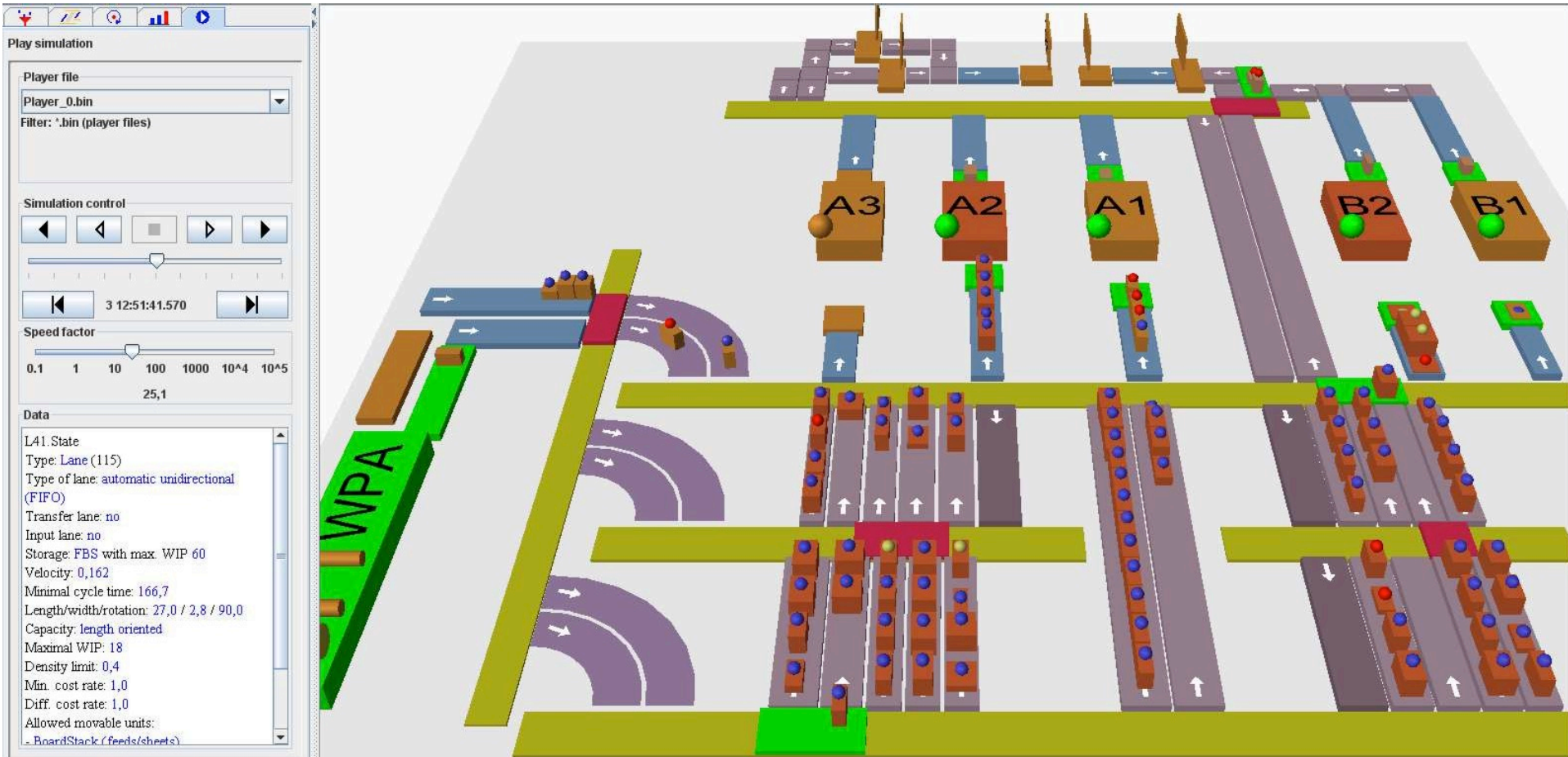


# Network Representation of A Production Plant



T. Seidel,  
J. Hartwig,  
R.L. Sanders,  
DH

# Agent-Based Factory Simulation of Self-Organized Production

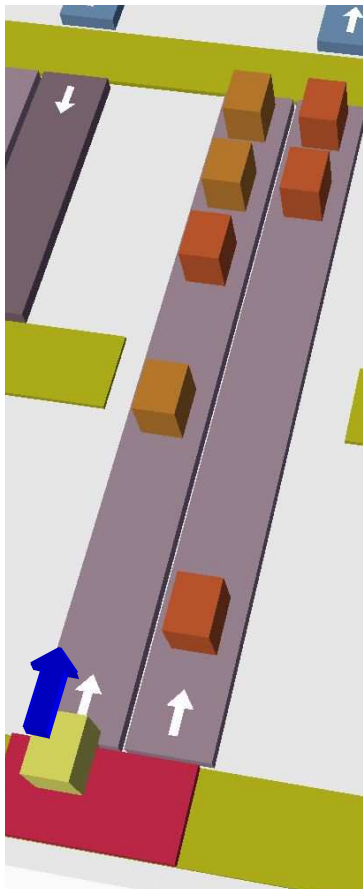


T. Seidel, J. Hartwig, R.L. Sanders, DH

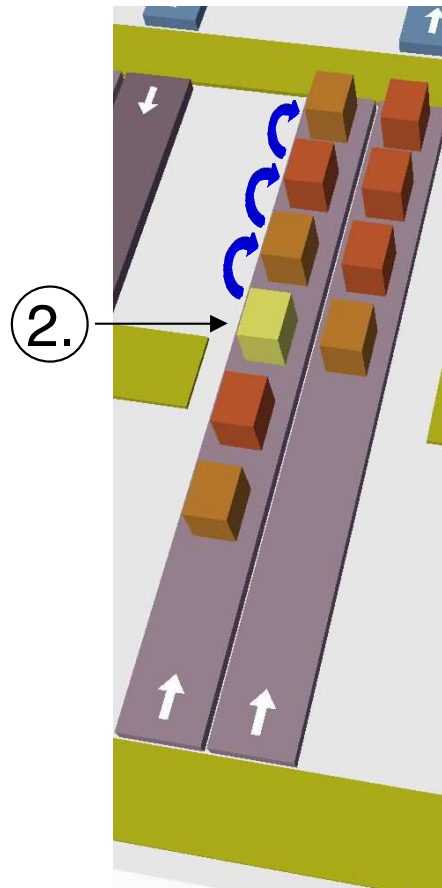


# Specification of Information Flows and Interaction Rules

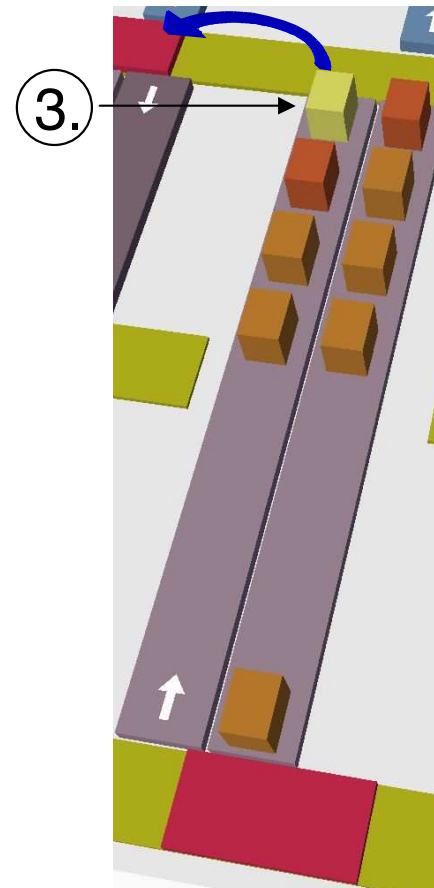
A unit enters the lane



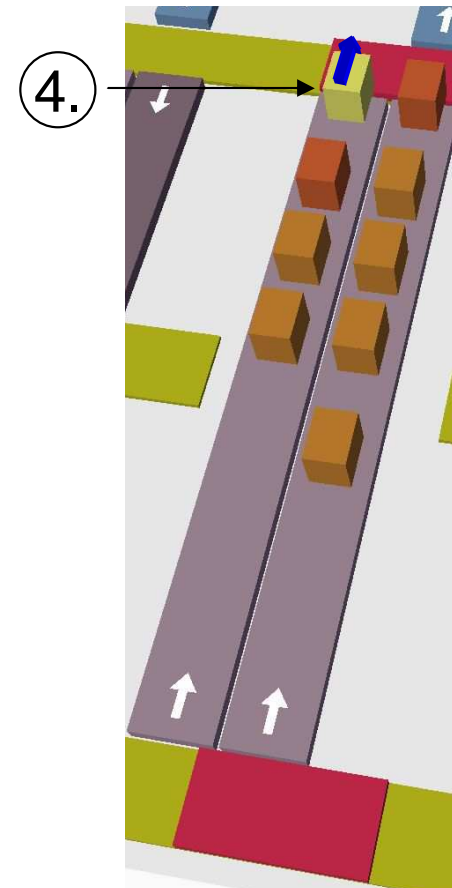
It decides to exit the lane



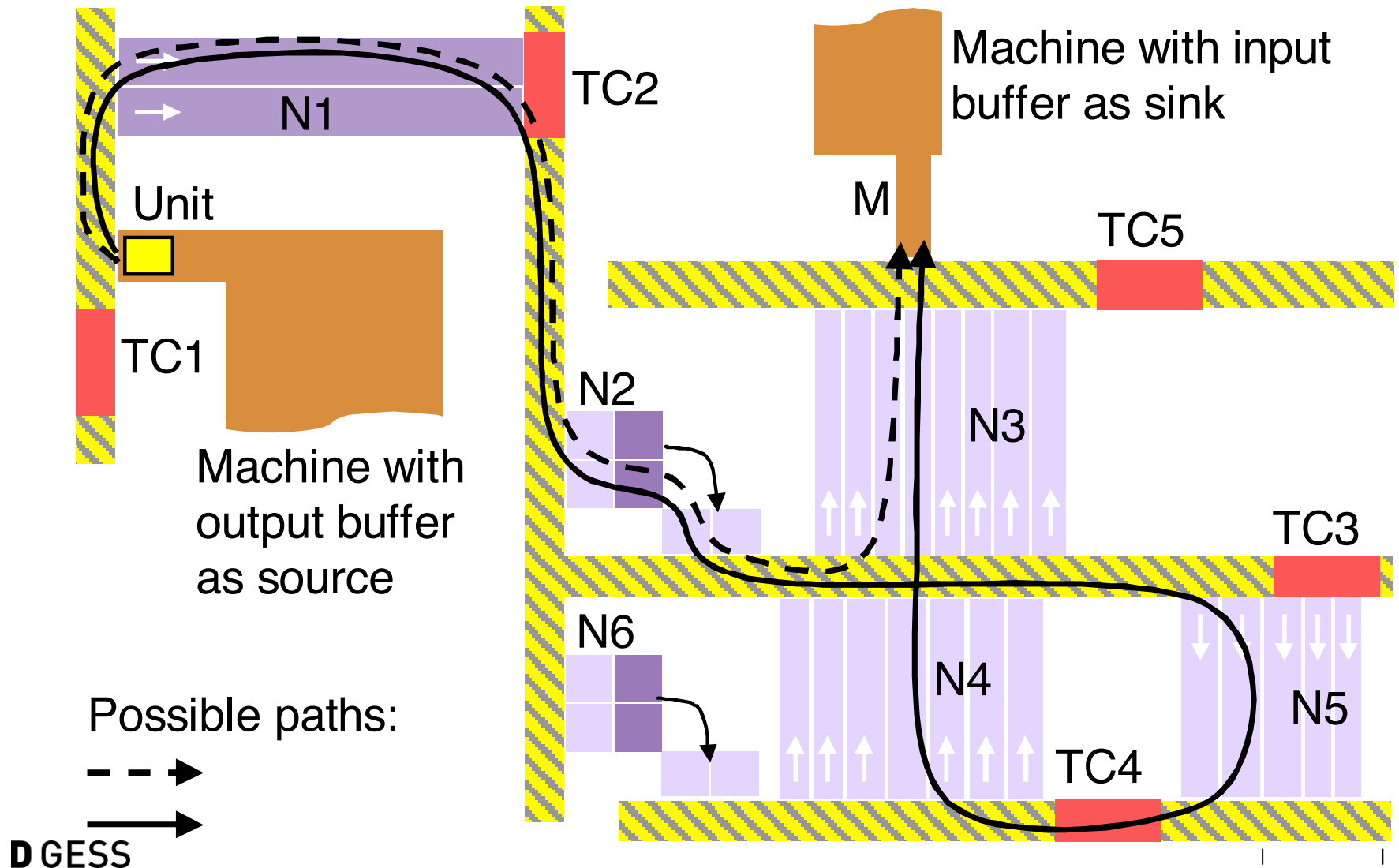
It sends a request for a transfer car



The unit exits the lane



# Alternative Paths: Interaction-Based Routing





Source: Kai Furmans



# A New Paradigm



Universe – C. Flammarion, Woodcut, Paris 1888, Colorit : Heikenwaelder  
Hugo, Vienna 1998, CC BY-SA 2.5



# Over-Regulation





# Supporting Desirable and Efficient Behavior



# Self-Organizing Traffic Flow







# Pedestrian, Crowd, and Evacuation Dynamics

Dirk Helbing

with Anders Johansson, Wenjian Yu, Mehdi Moussaid,  
Illes Farkas, Peter Molnar, Tamas Vicsek and others

# Lane Formation in Pedestrian Counterflows





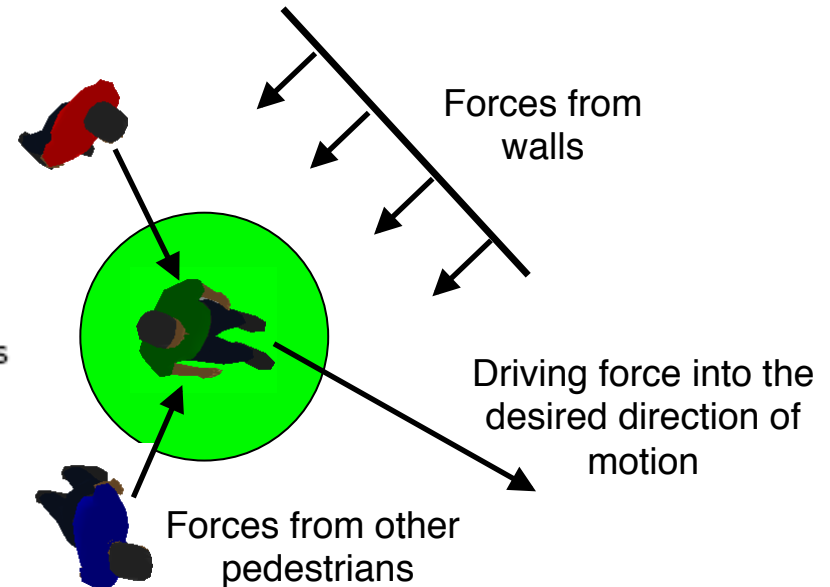
# The Social Force Model

The social force model assumes **individual goals** (to reach a certain destination efficiently), **social interactions** (e.g. avoidance of collisions), and **institutional setting** (e.g. walls).

$$\frac{dx_\alpha}{dt} = v_\alpha(t) \quad (\text{equation of motion})$$

$$\underbrace{\frac{dv_\alpha}{dt}}_{\text{acceleration}} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{\tau_\alpha}(v_\alpha^0 e_\alpha^0 - v_\alpha)}_{\text{driving force}} + \underbrace{\sum_{\beta(\neq \alpha)} F_{\alpha\beta}^{\text{int}}}_{\text{interactions}} + \underbrace{F_\alpha^{\text{walls}}}_{\text{boundaries}}$$

(acceleration equation)



# Experimental Study of Individual Avoidance Behavior



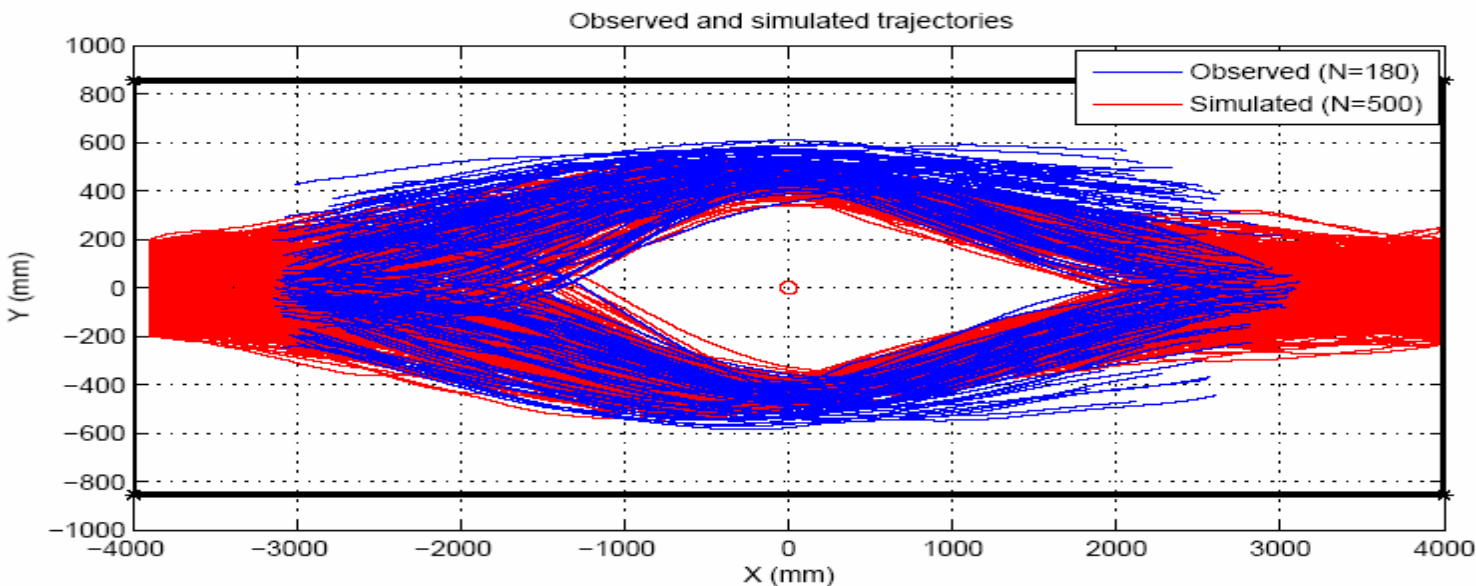
Avoidance of a static pedestrian



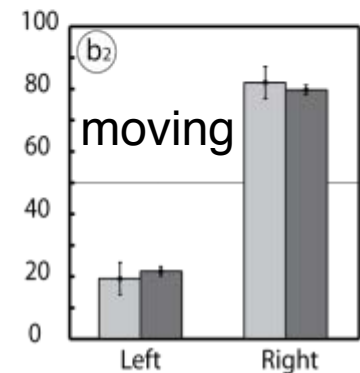
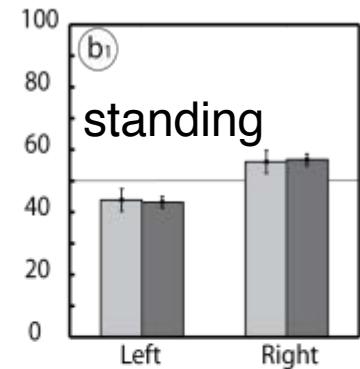
Avoidance of a moving pedestrian

# Validation 1: Corridor Experiment

Observed and simulated pedestrian trajectories



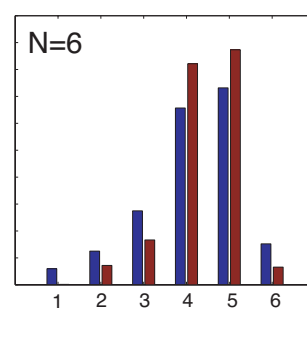
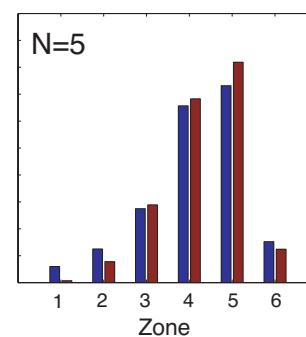
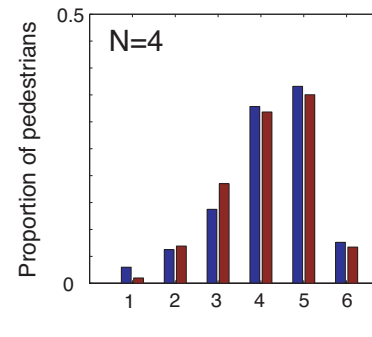
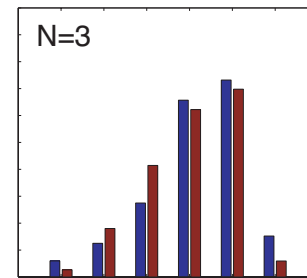
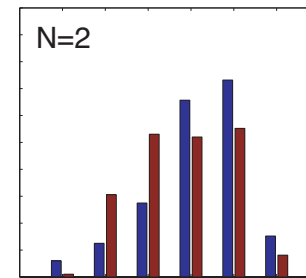
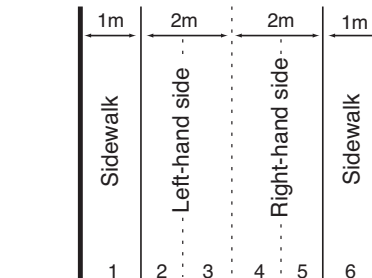
preferred  
avoidance  
side



# Validation 2: Collective Dynamics

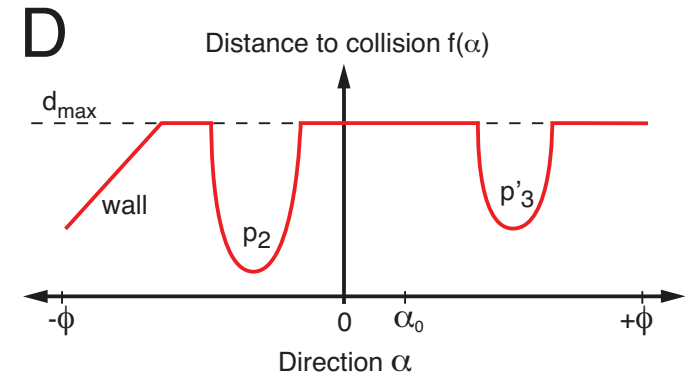
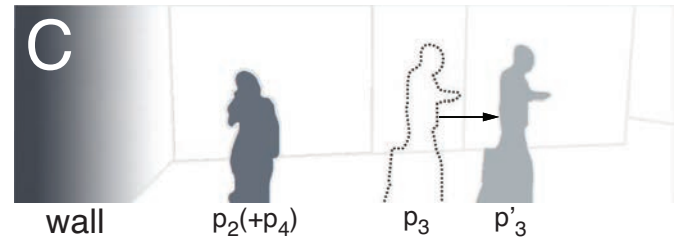
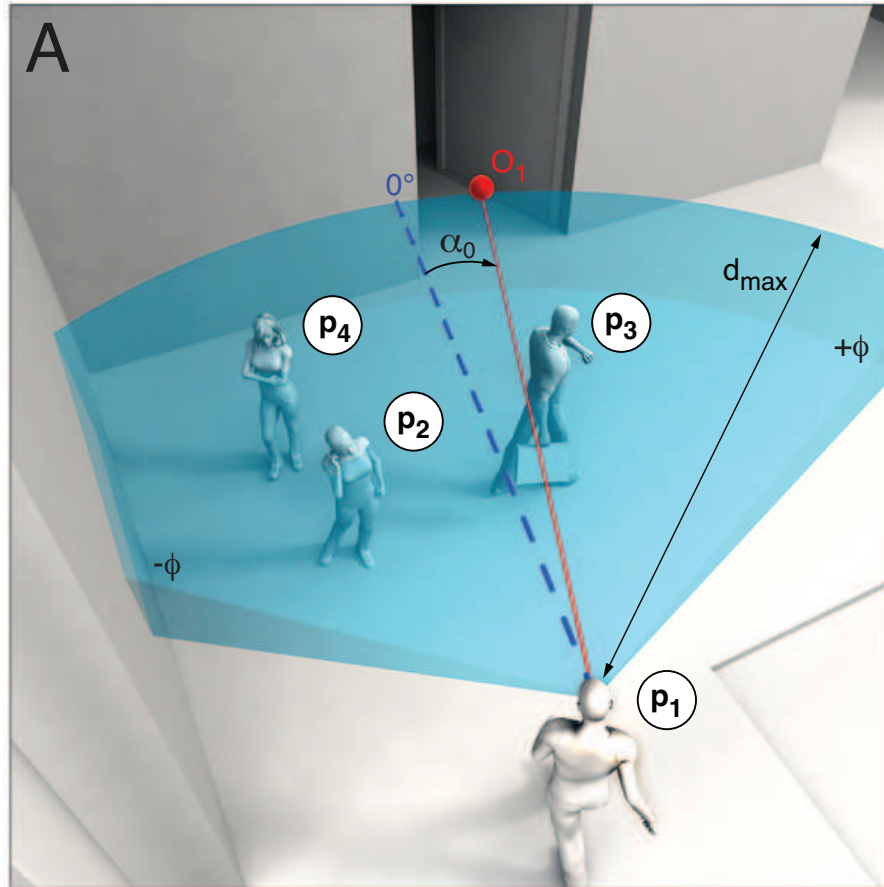


Observations in a crowded street





# Visualization of the Cognitive (Heuristics) Model



M. Moussaïd et al, in PNAS

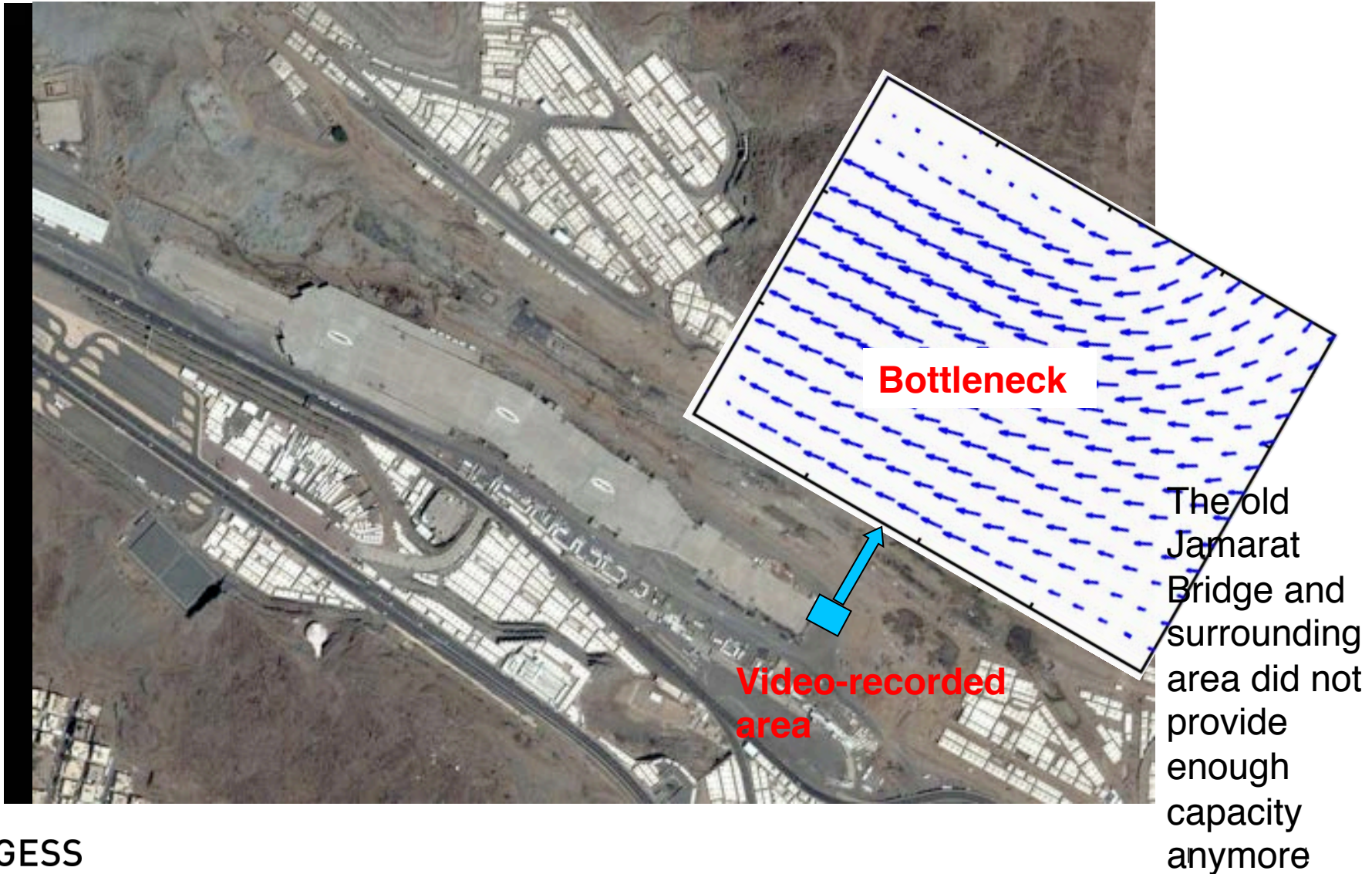
1. Walk into the least obstructed direction (“hunt for gaps”)
2. Adjust speed to keep time headway constant

# PTV VisWalk Planning Software

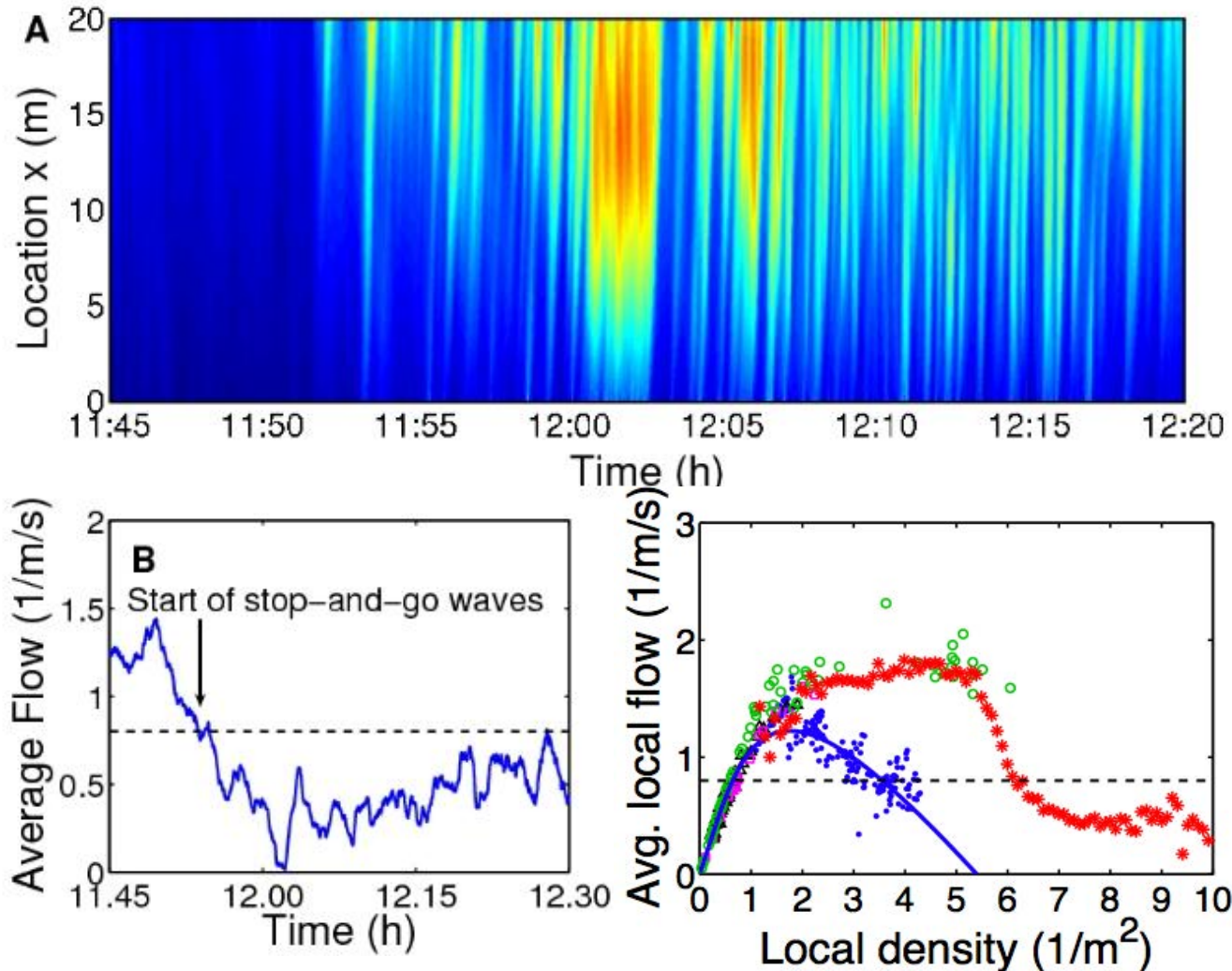




# The Jamarat Bridge (as of January 2006)



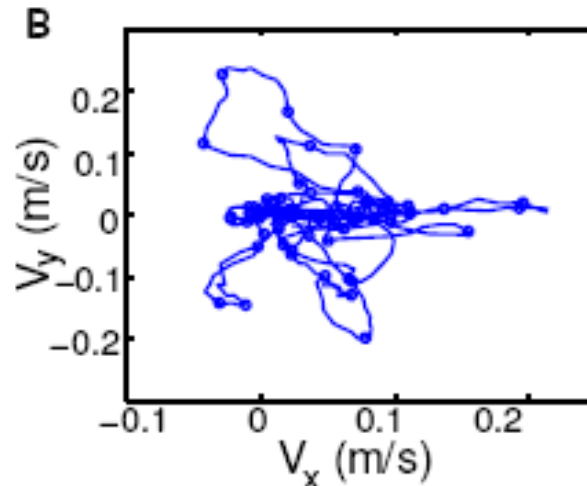
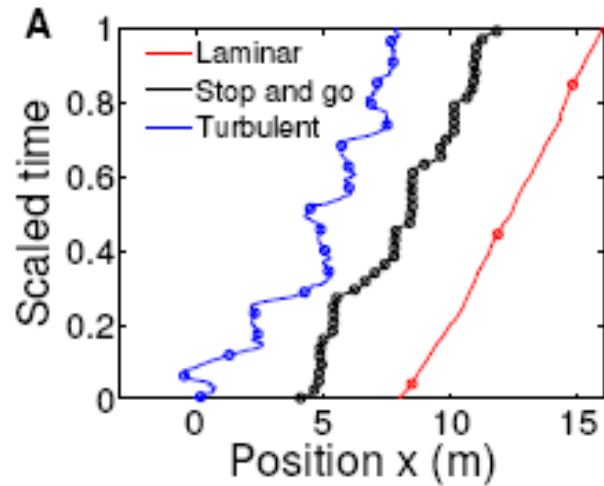
# Transition from Smooth to Stop-and-Go Flow



Mechanism is very different from stop-and-go waves in vehicle traffic!

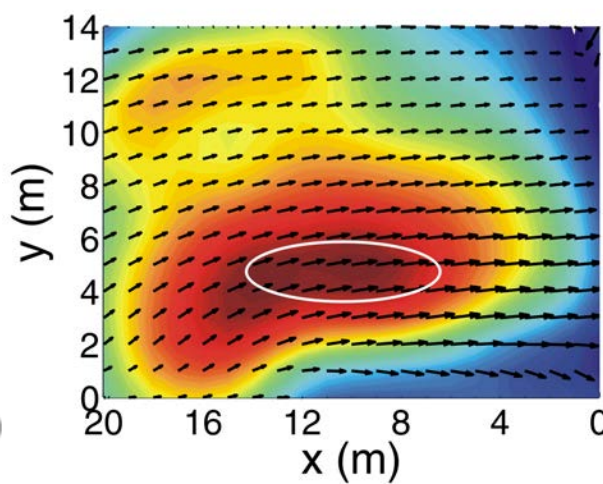
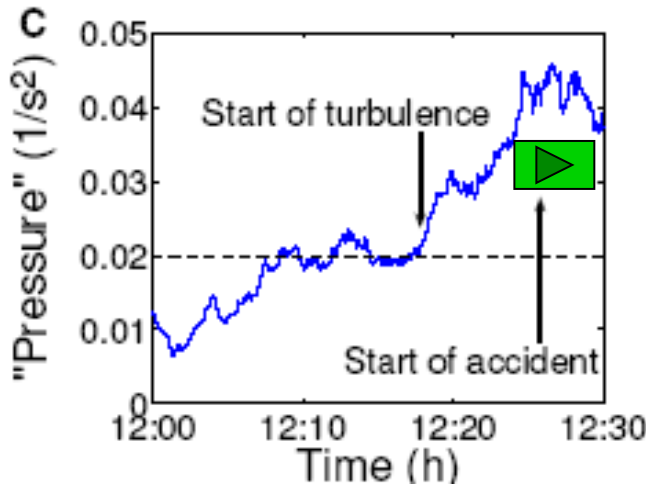


# Transition from Stop-and-Go Flow to “Crowd Turbulence”



The density times the variation in speeds constitutes the hazard!

Pressure fluctuations cause turbulent motion and potentially the falling and trampling of people.



Increased driving forces occur in crowded areas when trying to gain space, particularly during “crowd panic”

# Crowd Turbulence as Final Cause of the Love Parade Disaster



# Crowd Safety by Information Feedback



FuturICT

[www.futurict.eu](http://www.futurict.eu)





# Building a Planetary Nervous System for Real-Time Measurements

Dirk Helbing and team



# Planetary Nervous System (PNS)

Translating data from the globe spanning ICT system into information about the state of the world.

Public mood

Message patterns

Mobility patterns

# All It Takes is You and Your Smartphone

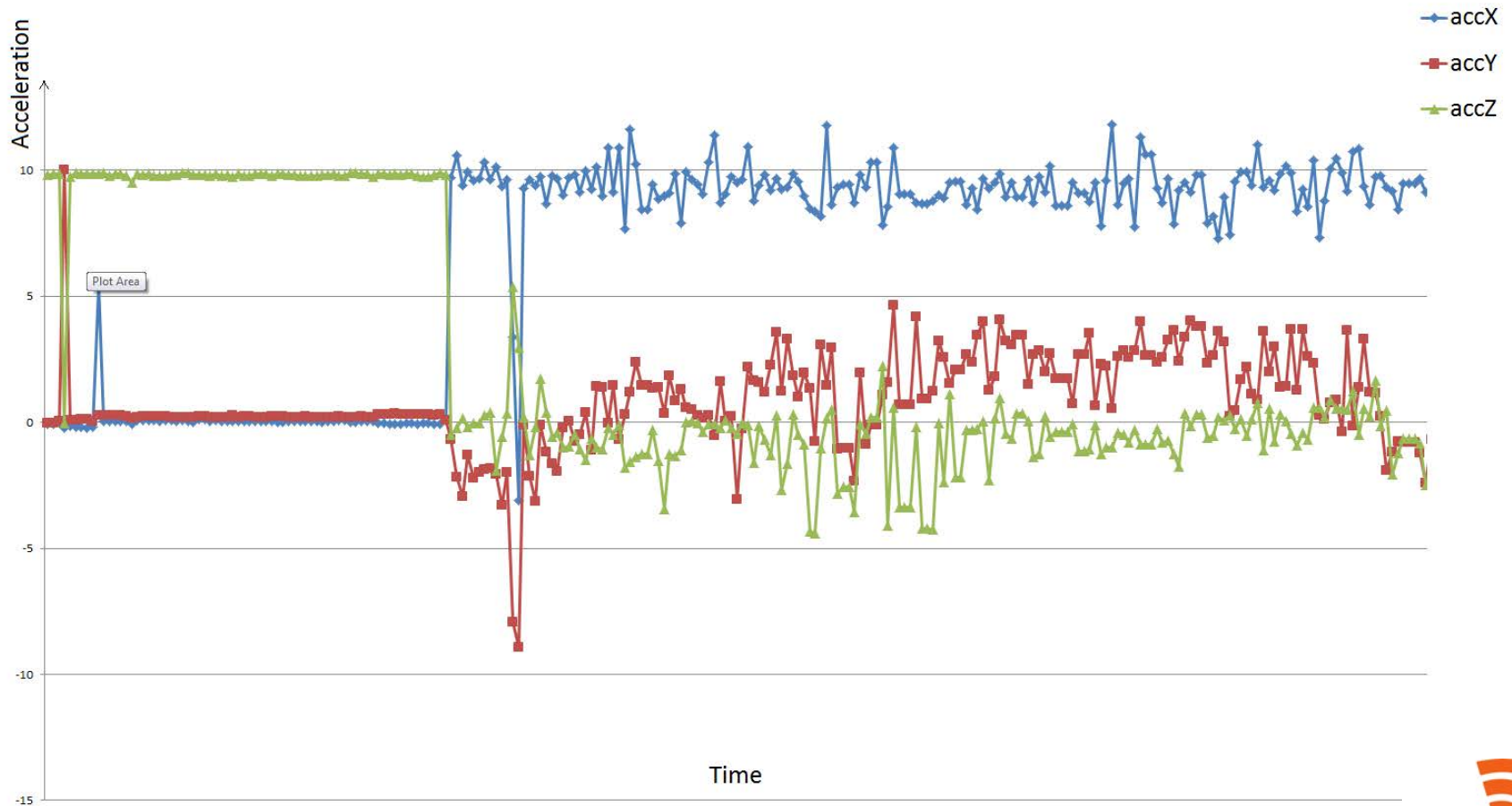


Source: <http://mashable.com/2012/12/13/smartphone-holiday-wishes/>

# Because We Can Connect Smartphones to Build a Global Measurement System



# Visualization of Acceleration Data

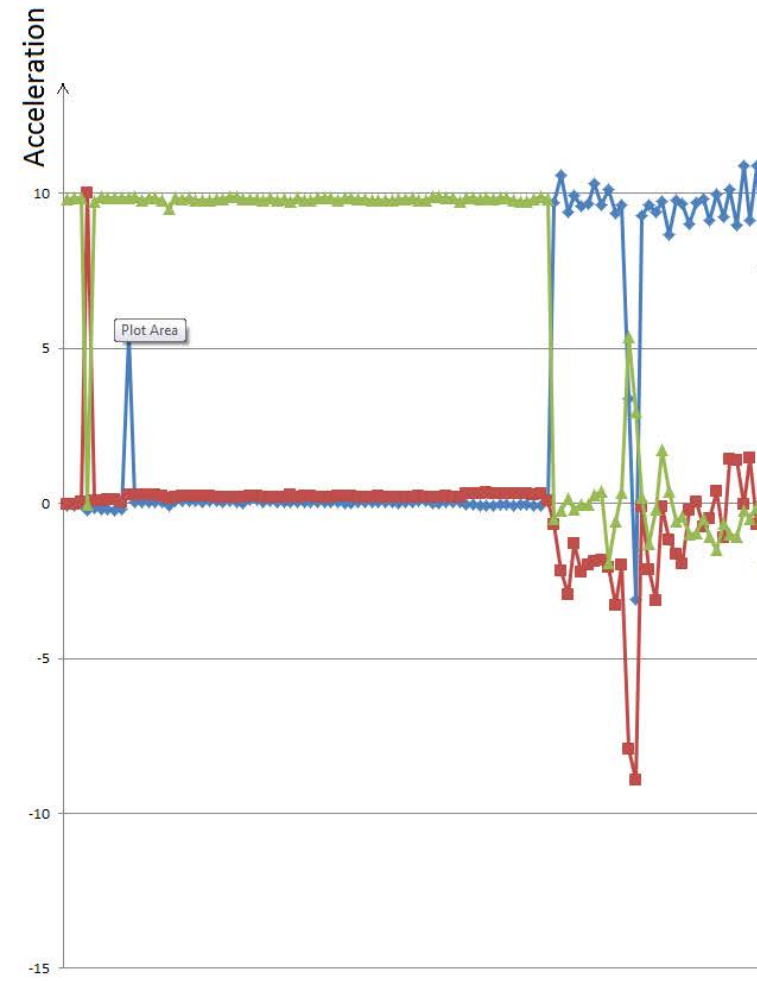




# Identify Road Bumps Together



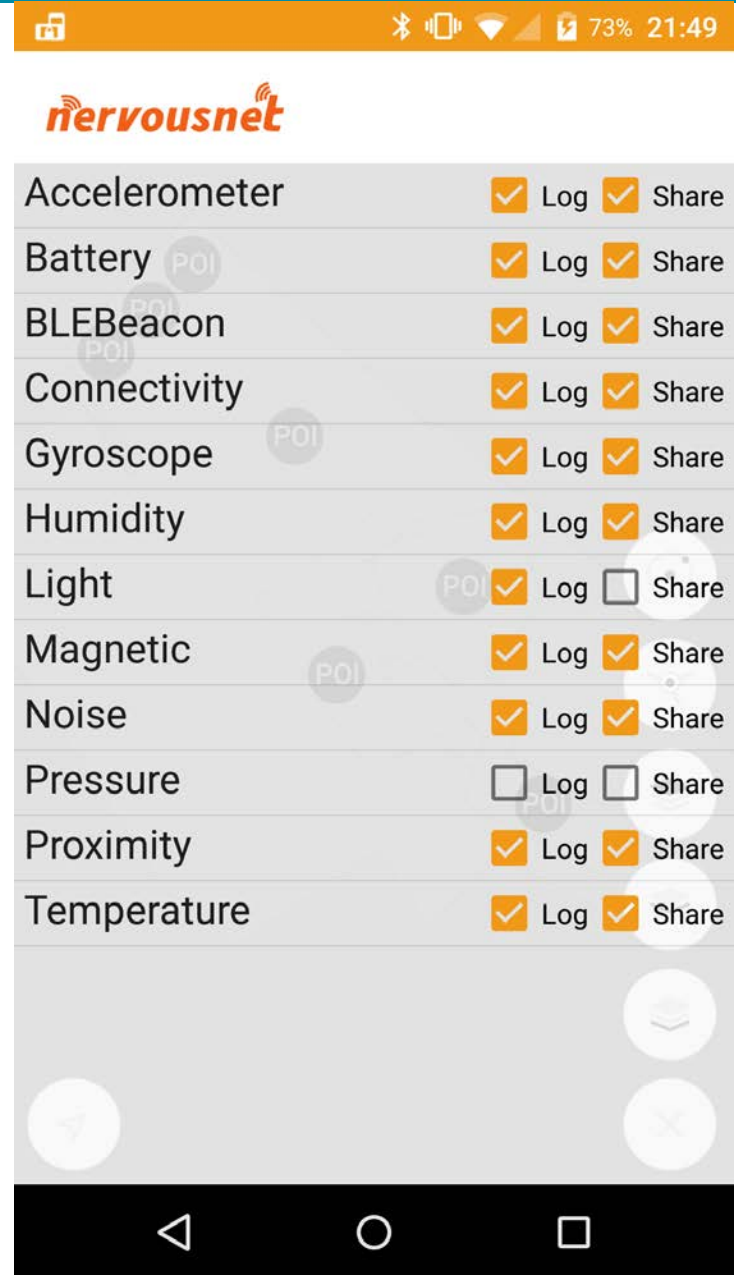
# Detect Earthquakes and Warn Our Friends



**But We Need A System We Can Trust ...**



# An Information System Controlled by You!





## PRIVACY

While controlling  
how it is used



## PERSONAL DATA

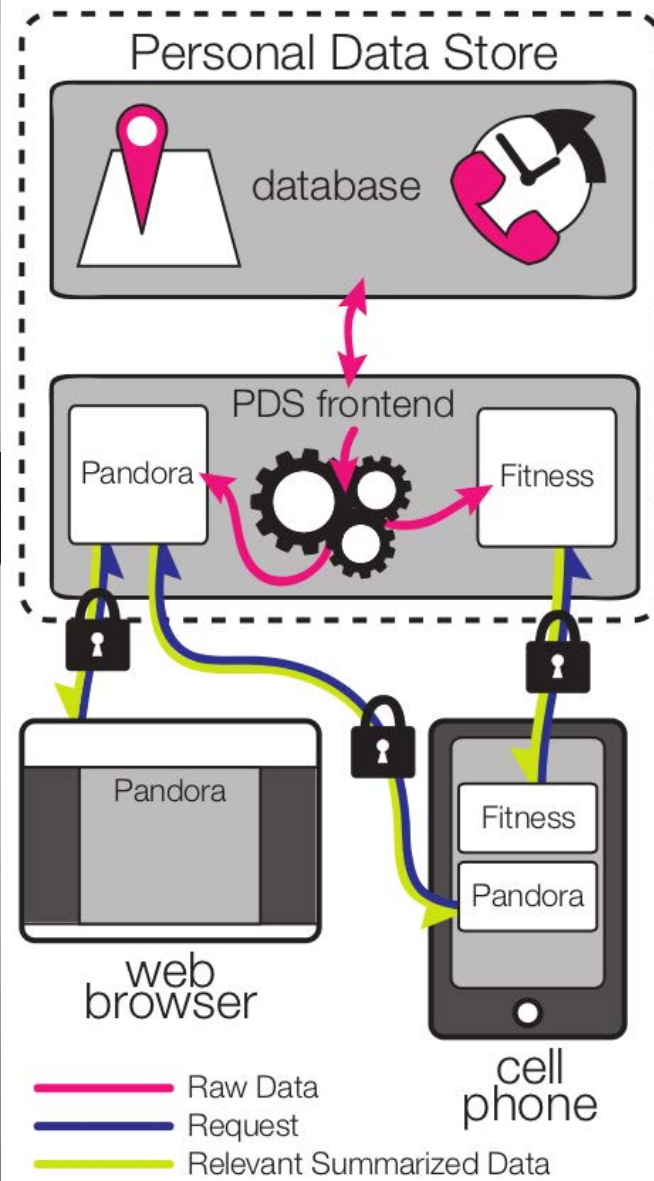
Collect it, Own it  
Share it

## PRIVACY

openPDS helps  
you protect your data



# Privacy and Data Ownership



# The „Internet of Things“ as Citizen Web

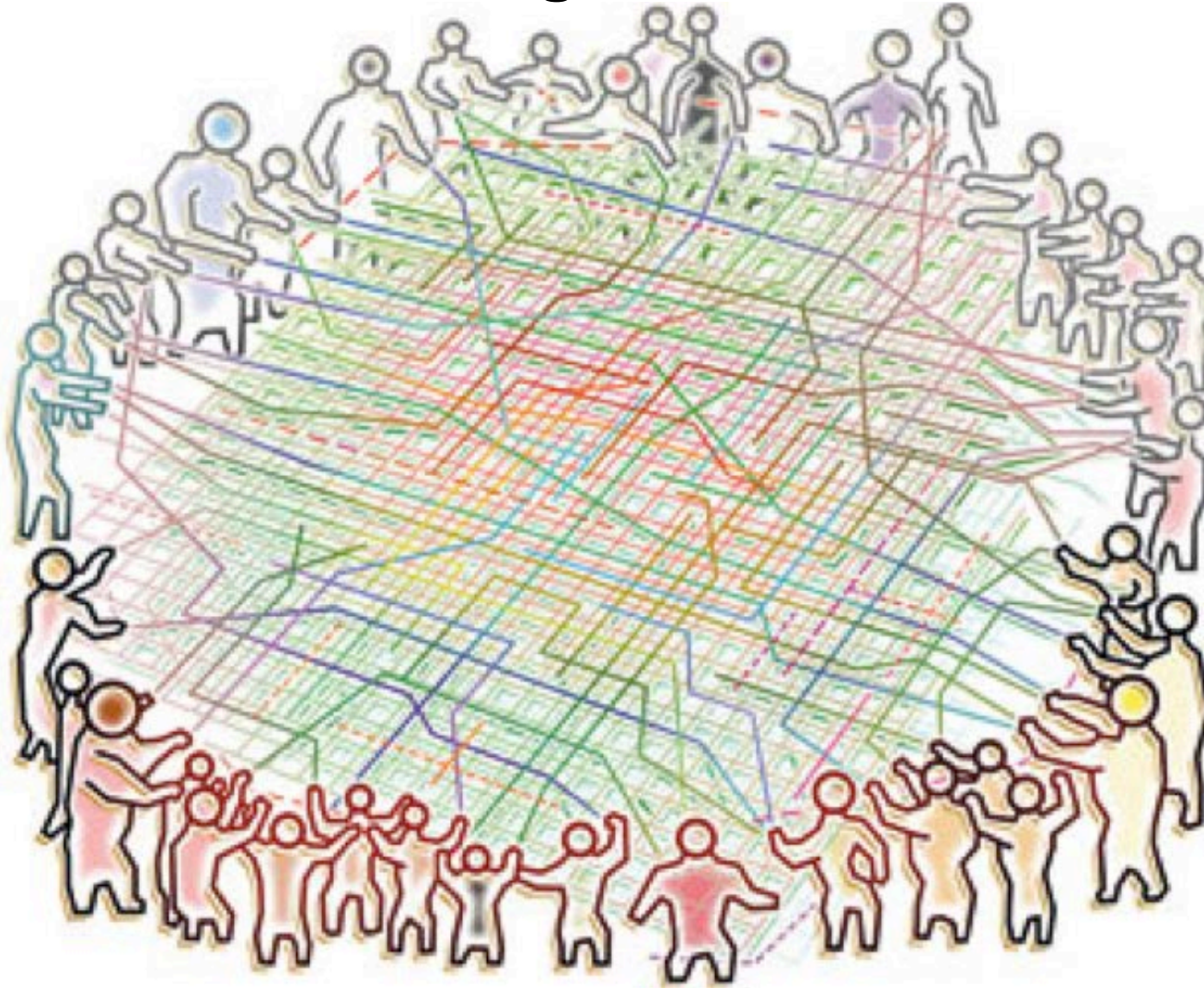
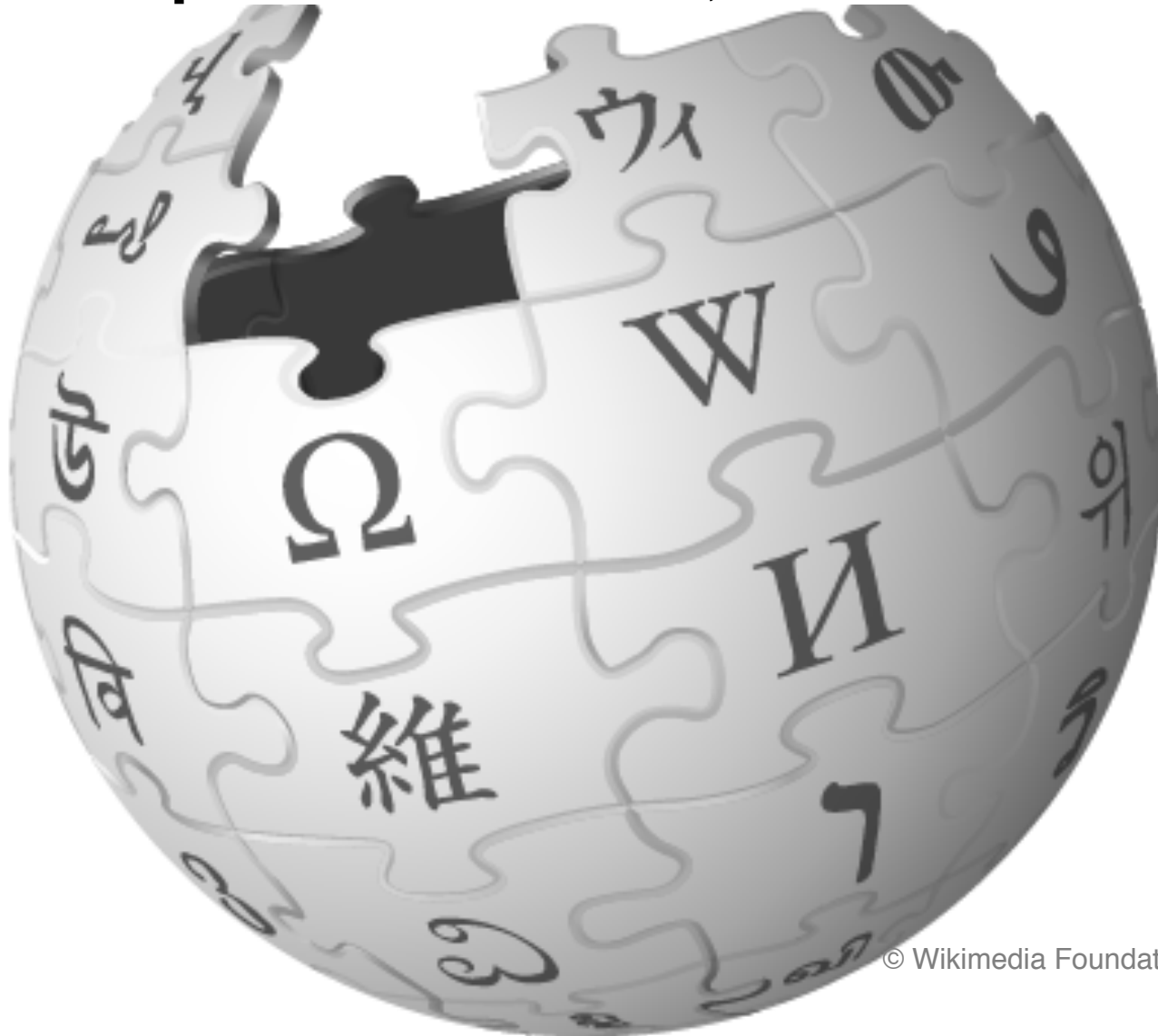


Illustration: Jac Depczyk, <http://www.thisviewoflife.com/index.php/magazine/articles/climate-change-and-inter-group-cooperation>

# A Participatory System



# An Open Data Source, but Real Time



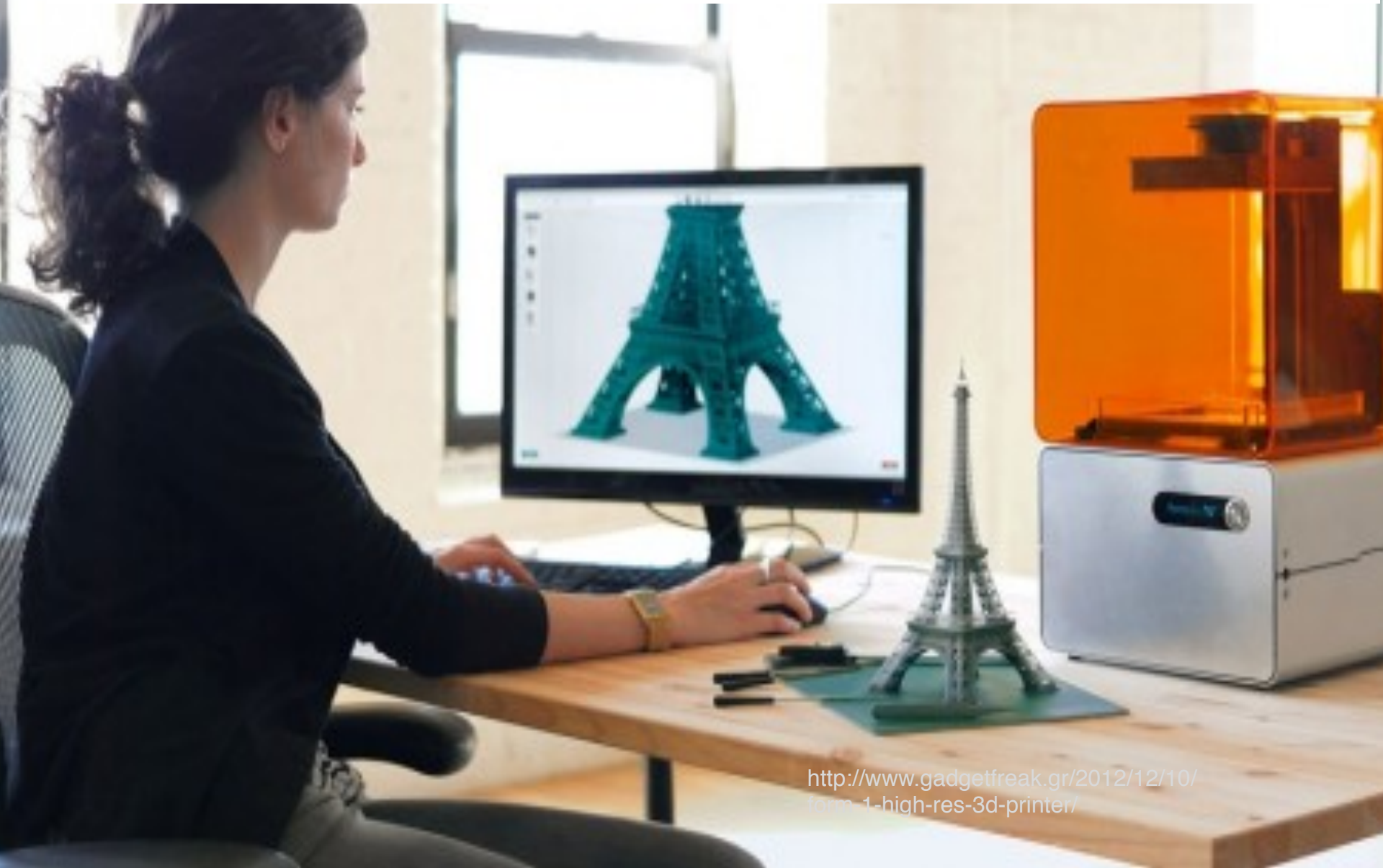
© Wikimedia Foundation, Inc.



## With A Micro-Payment System...



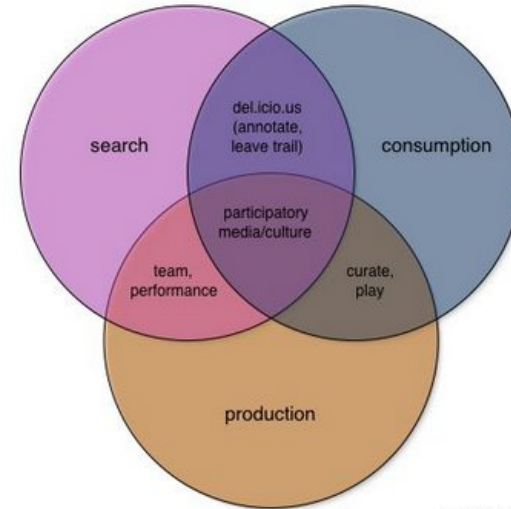
**...You Can Run Your Own Business...**



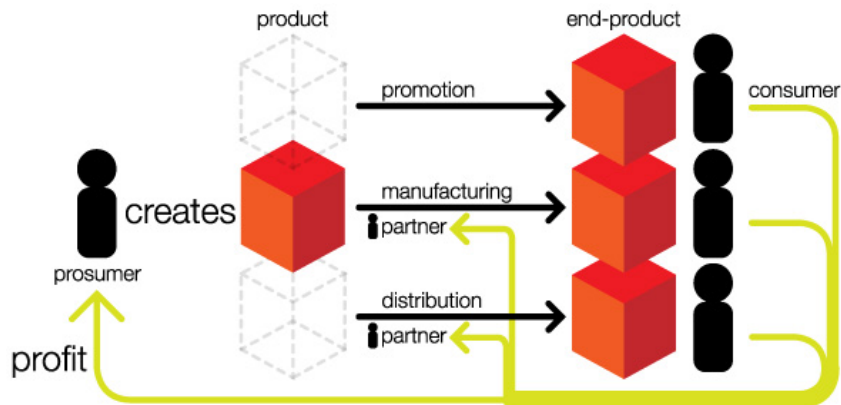
<http://www.gadgetfreak.gr/2012/12/10/form-1-high-res-3d-printer/>

# ... and Collaborate with Others

participatory culture and the empowered media prosumer



by Eli Chapman  
3/10/05  
<http://www.chapmanlogic.com/blog>



# Let's Do This Together!





## Create Our Own Open Data

“Give and  
take is  
fair **play.**”

English Proverb

Source [www.quotescover.com](http://www.quotescover.com)

# Share Source Codes



## A stylized illustration of a tree where the trunk and branches are composed of blue lines. The canopy is filled with numerous circular icons representing various digital concepts like social media, technology, communication, and business. At the base of the tree is a simple grey rectangle.

**... and Create New Opportunities  
for Everyone**



[www.enableeurope.eu](http://www.enableeurope.eu)



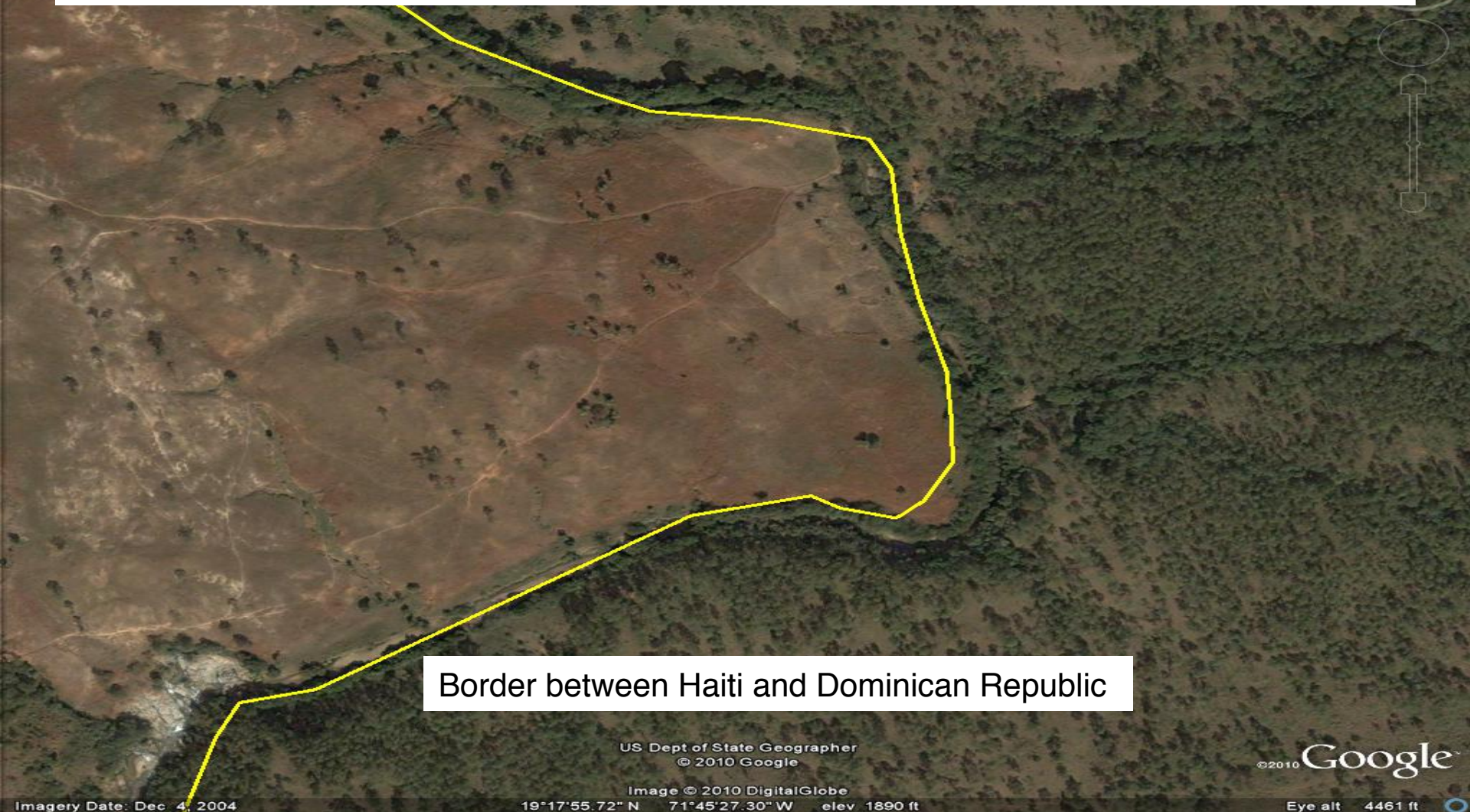


**nervousnet**

The nervousnet startup team, @ ETH Zurich



# Map Environmental Change and Who Causes It



Border between Haiti and Dominican Republic

# Map Resources and Who Uses Them

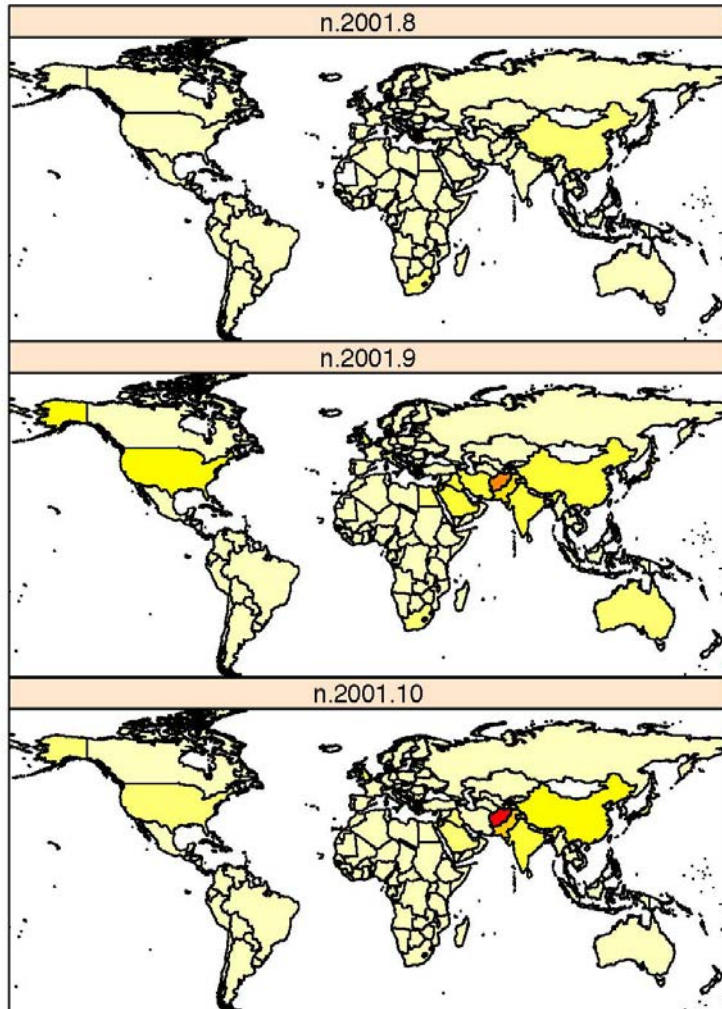


Would help to avoid shortages and recessions

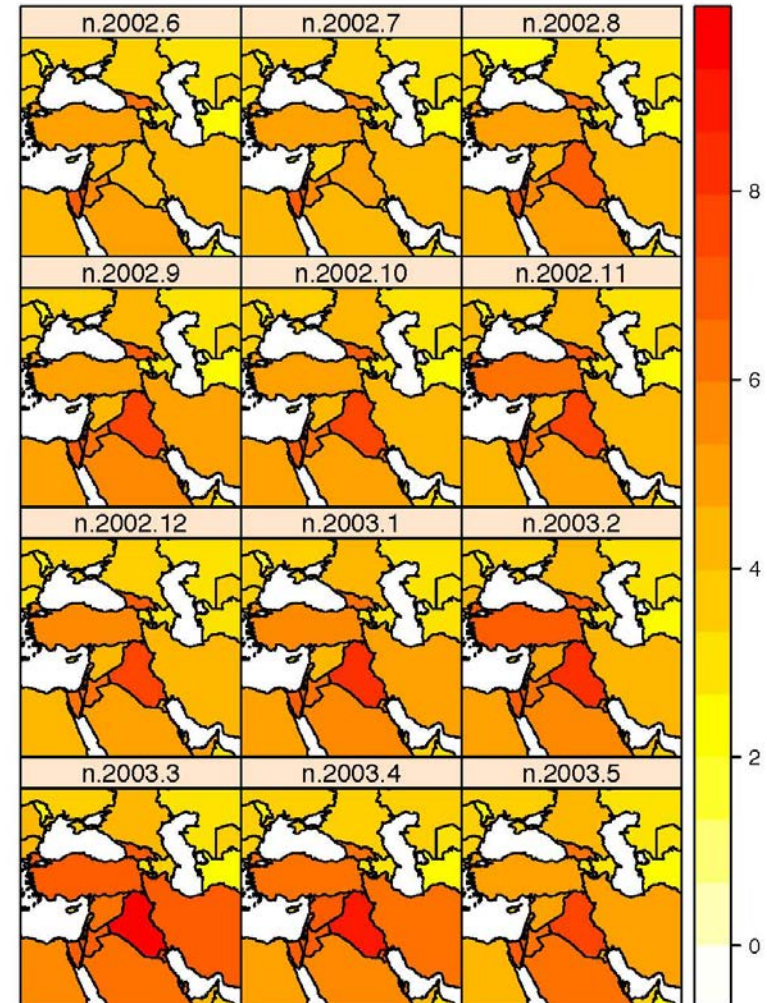


# Map Conflicts and How They Come About

News



News





# Get Ready!



# Team Up With Your Friends + Colleagues



Join the *nervousnet* Community

The logo for 'nervousnet' features the word in a bold, orange, italicized sans-serif font. Above the 'n' and 't' are orange icons consisting of three concentric curved lines, resembling a Wi-Fi signal. The background of the slide is a light gray network diagram with circular nodes and connecting lines.

***nervousnet***

*nervousnet@ethz.ch*