

URBAN MOBILITY IN CLEAN, GREEN CITIES

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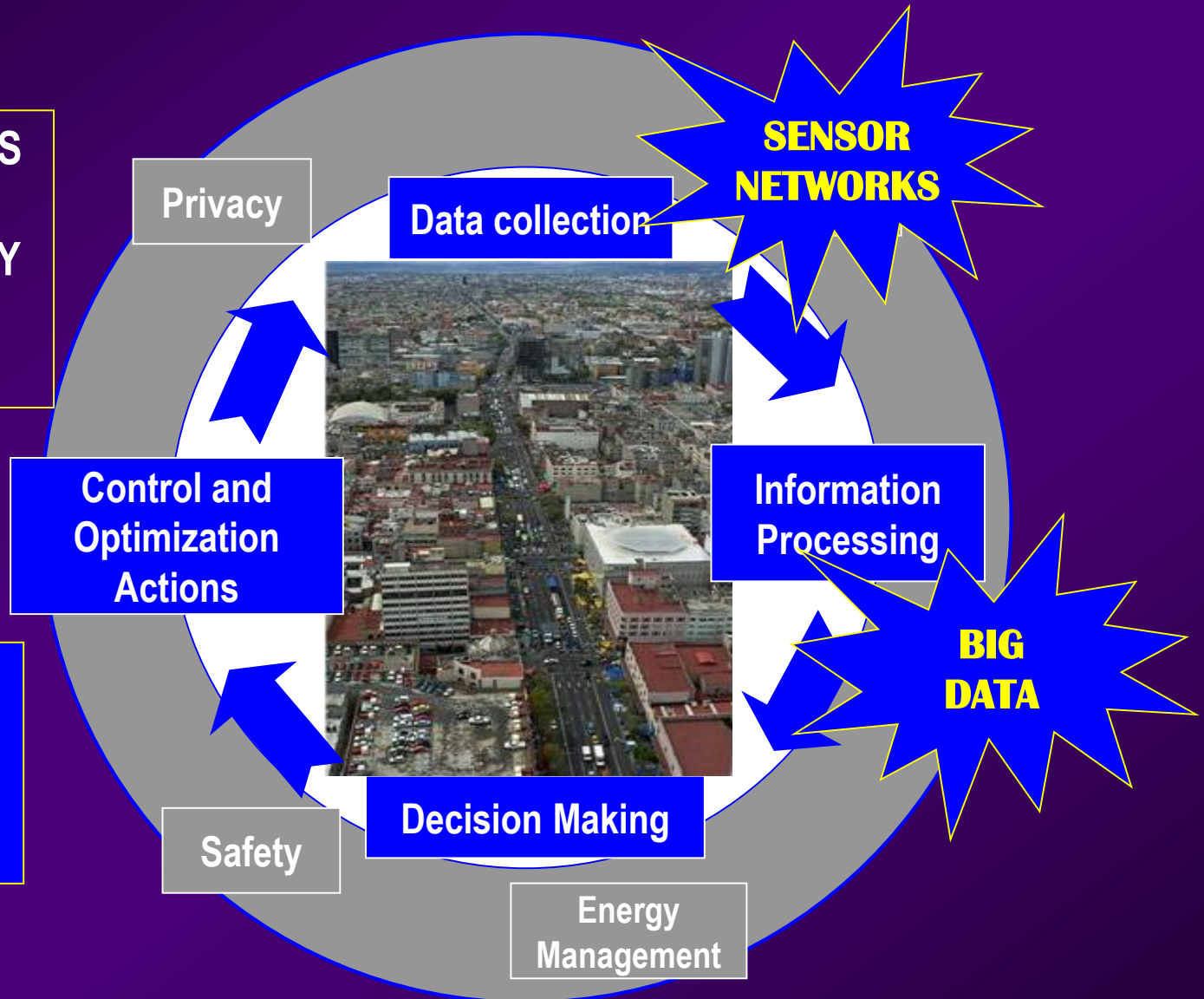
**and Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering
and Center for Information and Systems Engineering
Boston University**

SMART CITY

COLLECTING DATA IS
NOT “SMART”
- JUST A NECESSARY
STEP TO BEING
“SMART”



PROCESSING DATA
TO MAKE GOOD
DECISIONS IS
“SMART”



WHAT IS A “SMART CITY” ?

“A city well performing in a forward-looking way in [economy, people, governance, mobility, environment, and living] built on the smart combination of endowments and activities of self-decisive, independent and aware citizens.”

Hitachi's vision for the Smart Sustainable City seeks to achieve concern for the **global environment and lifestyle safety** and convenience through the **coordination of infrastructure**. Smart Sustainable Cities realized through the coordination of infrastructures consist of two infrastructure layers that support consumers' lifestyles together with the urban management infrastructure that links these together using IT

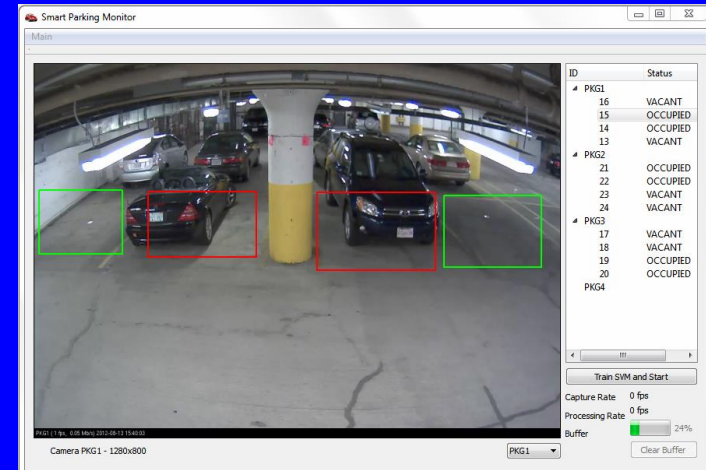
Smart Sustainable Cities **use information and communication technologies (ICT)** to be more intelligent and efficient in the use of resources, resulting in cost and energy savings, improved service delivery and quality of life, and reduced environmental footprint--all **supporting innovation and the low-carbon economy**.

“We believe a city to be smart when investments in human and social capital and traditional (transport) and **modern (ICT) communication infrastructure** fuel sustainable economic growth and a high quality of life, with a **wise management of natural resources**, through participatory governance.”

URBAN MOBILITY APPLICATIONS

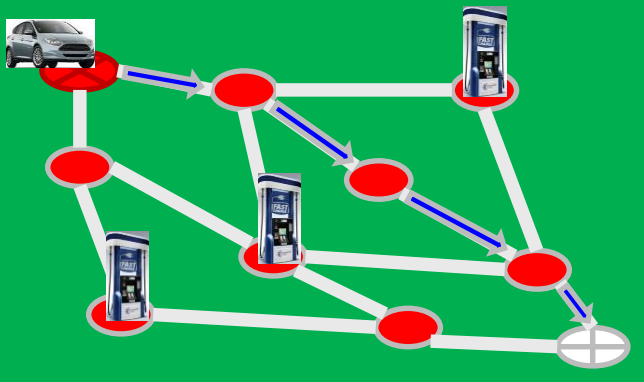
SMART PARKING

2011 IBM/IEEE Smarter Planet Challenge prize



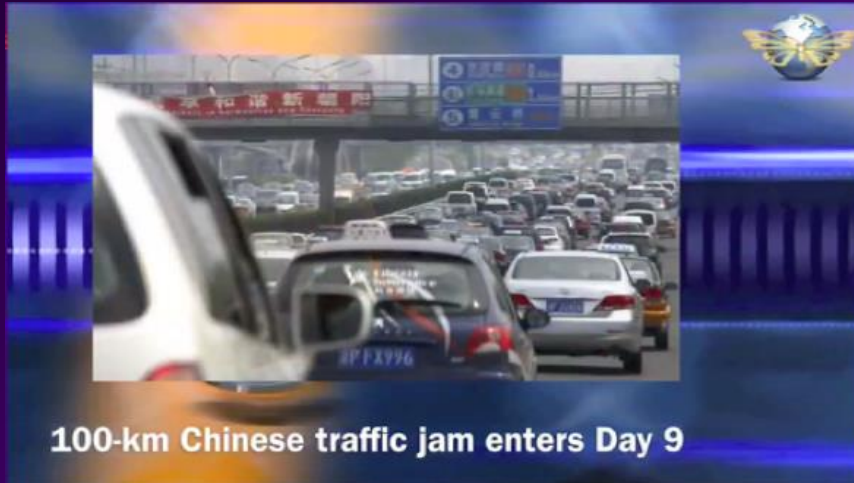
Finds optimal parking space for driver
+ reserves it

ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) ROUTING AND RECHARGING



Optimally routes EVs to minimize travel times
+ finds optimal charging station + reserves it

URBAN MOBILITY APPLICATIONS



TRAFFIC CONTROL

Exploit “connected vehicles” technology:
from (selfish) “driver optimal” to
“system optimal” traffic control



TRAFFIC LIGHT CONTROL

Real-time, data-driven dynamic traffic
light control:

- Alleviate congestion
- Reduce pollution and fuel waste

URBAN MOBILITY APPLICATIONS

STREET BUMP

2014 IBM/IEEE Smarter
Planet Challenge prize

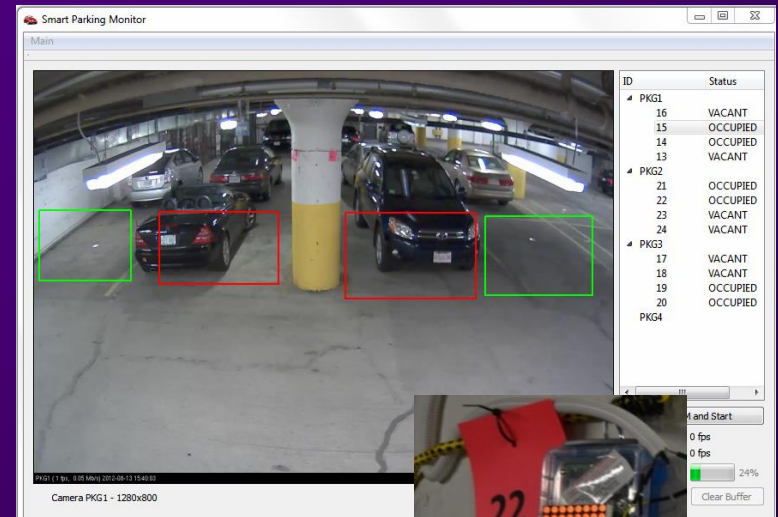


Detect roadway
“bumps” +
classify them +
prioritize and
dispatch crews

Used in Boston

SMART PARKING

iPhone app



SMART PARKING



30% of vehicles on the road in the downtowns of major cities are cruising for a parking spot. It takes the average driver **7.8** minutes to find a parking spot in the downtown core of a major city.

R. Arnott, T.Rave, R.Schob, *Alleviating Urban Traffic Congestion*. 2005

GUIDANCE-BASED PARKING – DRAWBACKS...

Drivers:

- May not find a vacant space
- May miss better space
- Processing info while driving

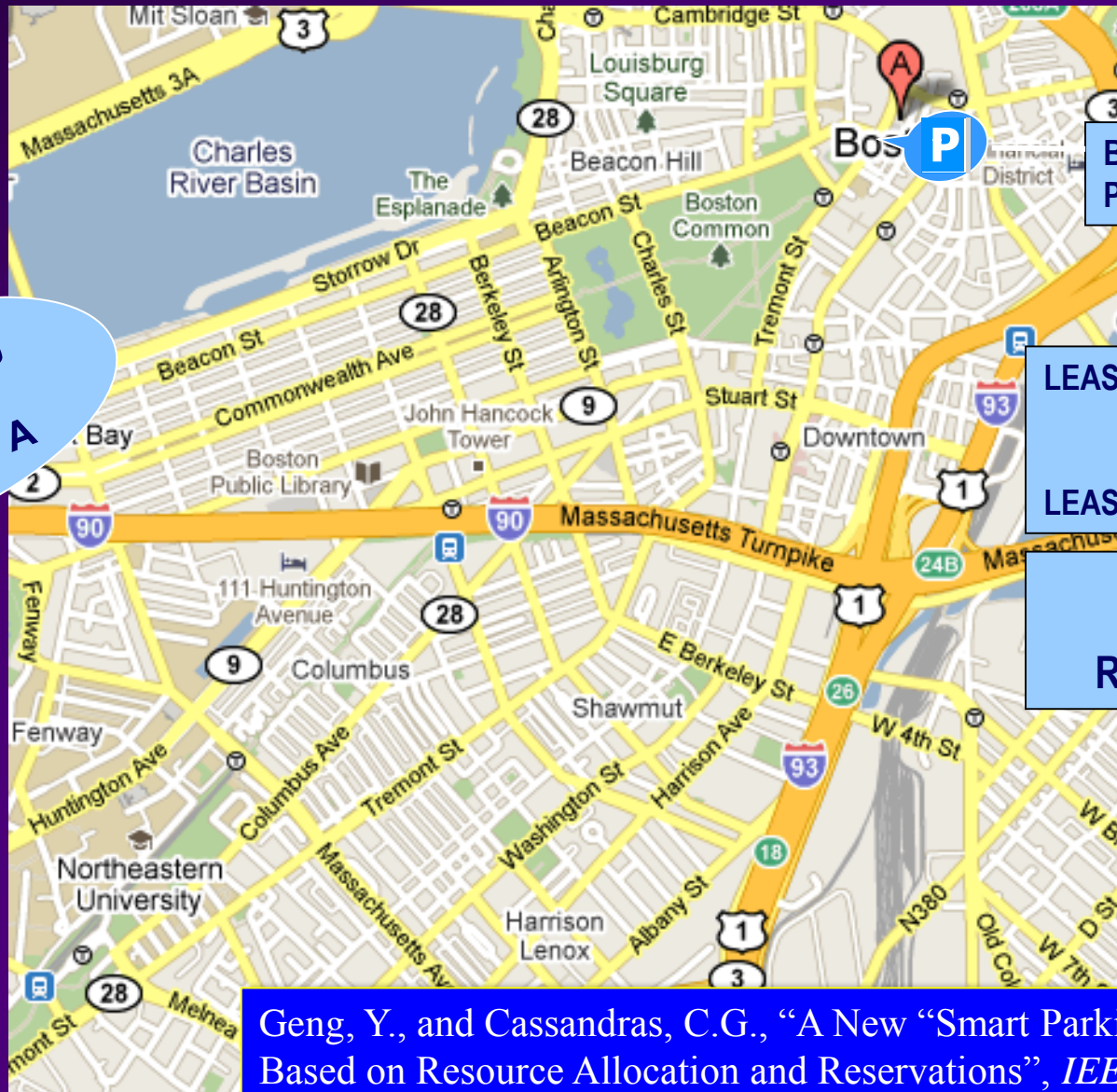
City:

- Imbalanced parking utilization
- May create **ADDED CONGESTION**
(as multiple drivers converge to where a space exists)

Searching for parking \Rightarrow Competing for parking

SMART PARKING

Find best parking spot for
DESTINATION A



BEST
PARKING SPOT



LEAST DISTANCE from A
+
LEAST COST

+
RESERVE IT

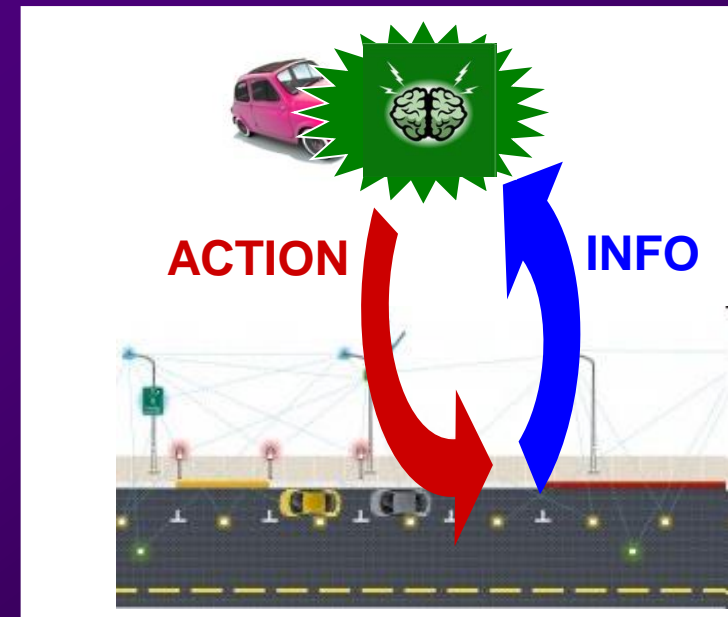
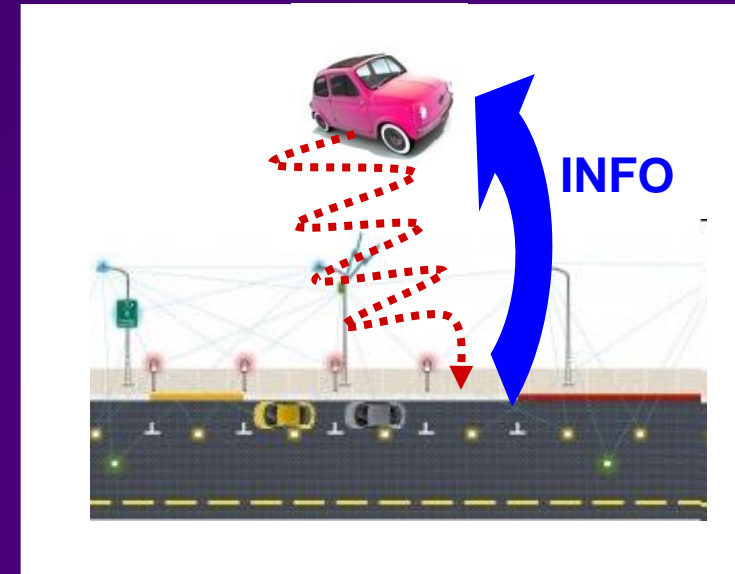
Geng, Y., and Cassandra, C.G., "A New "Smart Parking" System Based on Resource Allocation and Reservations", *IEEE Trans. on Intelligent Transportation Systems*, Vol. 14, 3, pp. 1129-1139, 2013.

WHAT IS *REALLY* “SMART” ?

COLLECTING DATA IS NOT “SMART”

- JUST A NECESSARY STEP TO BEING “SMART”

PROCESSING DATA TO MAKE GOOD DECISIONS IS “SMART”



SMART PARKING - IMPLEMENTATION

- 2011 IBM/IEEE

Smarter Planet Challenge competition,
2nd place prize

- **Best Paper/Best Poster Awards**



http://smartpark.bu.edu/smartparking_ios6/login.php



Currently in operation at
BU garage
(with Smartphone app:
BU Smart Parking)

<http://www.bu.edu/buniverse/view/?v=1zqb6NnD>



Smart Parking Application

By: [cstewart](#) (1) in [faculty](#), [staff](#)

Professor Christos Cassandra talks about the Smart Parking app in this video.

tags: [systems engineering](#)

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Valet Parking, the App

New technology finds closest parking spots, best price

08.30.2011

By Mark Dworitzan



http://www.necn.com/09/23/11/JoeBattParkingapp/landing_scitech.html?blockID=566574&feedID=4213

STREET BUMP: DETECTING “BUMPS” THROUGH SMARTPHONES + “BIG DATA” METHODS

iPhone app



STREET BUMP – PROCESSING “BIG DATA”

- Detect obstacles using iPhone accelerometer and GPS
- Send to central server through StreetBump app
- Process data to classify obstacles:
 - Anomaly detection and clustering algorithms, similar to cybersecurity problems
- Detect “actionable” obstacles
- Prioritize and dispatch crews to fix problems

LET THE DATA SPEAK: LESS \$\$ HARDWARE, MORE INTELLIGENCE

TRADITIONAL SENSING:
Expensive (hence, few)
very reliable sensors

VS

MODERN TREND:
Many cheap sensors +
Intelligent
Information Processing

Minimal
(or No)
Infrastructure

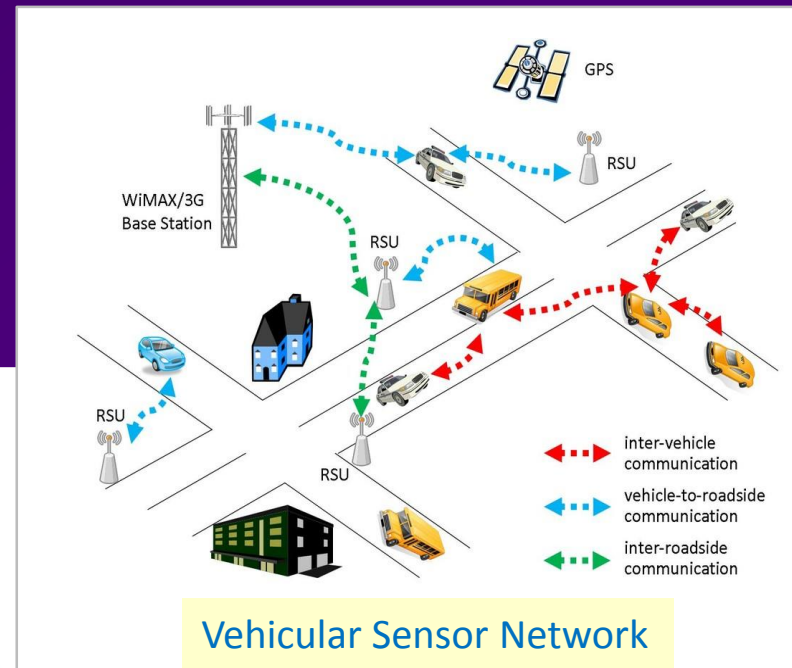
Minimal
Cost

Better Coverage:
Crowd Sourcing

Faster
Repairs

Incentives for further citizen
participation
(‘thank you’ message, free city services, lotteries)

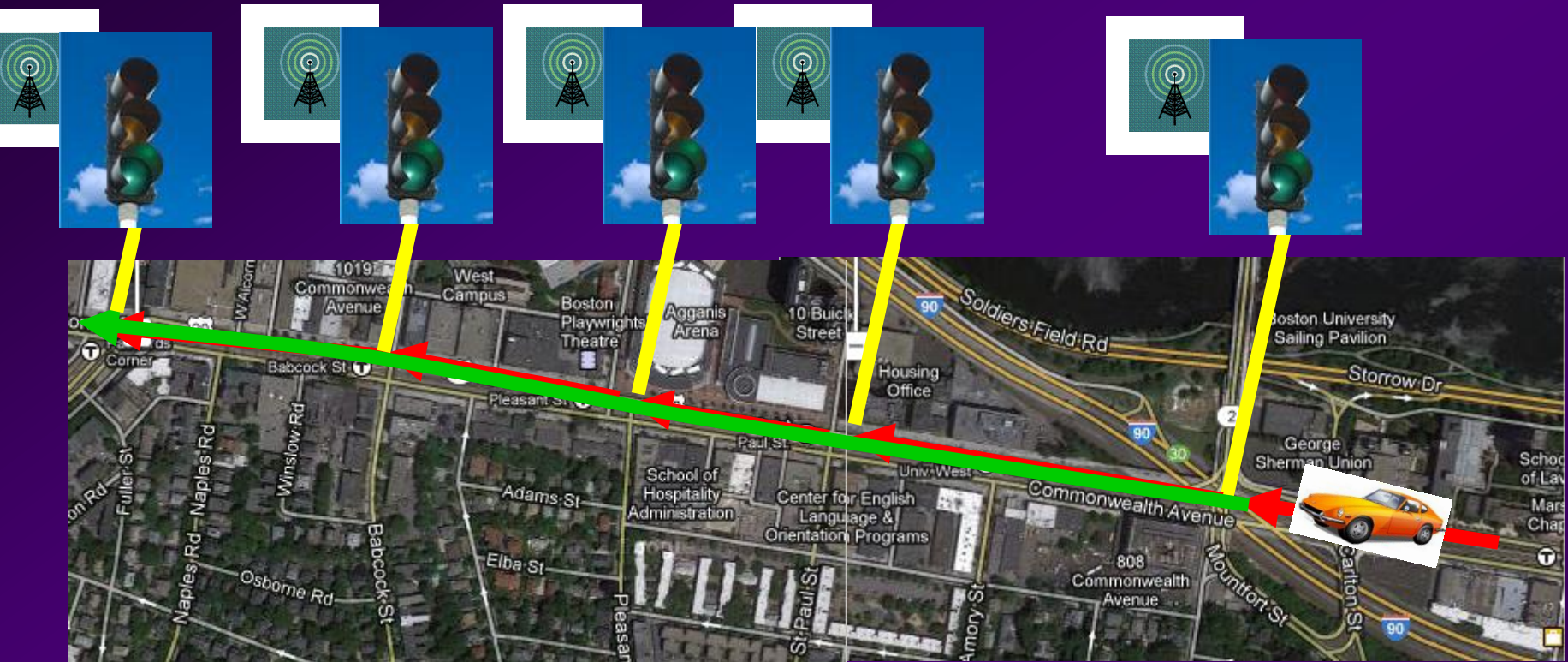
Citizen
Participation !



ADAPTIVE TRAFFIC LIGHT CONTROL



REAL-TIME TRAFFIC CONTROL

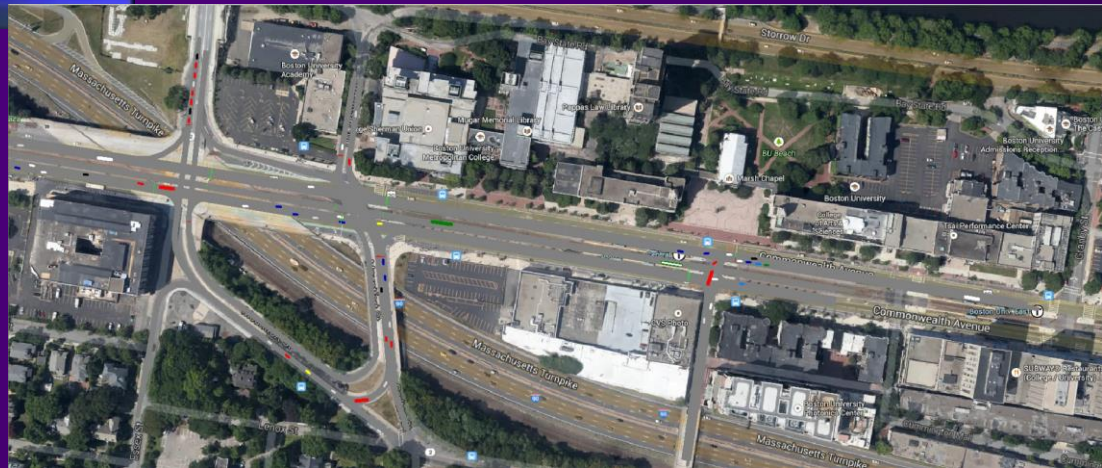


- Automatically adapt red/green light cycles based on observed data
- Predict and **alleviate congestion** over entire urban network
- Reduce waiting times, **congestion**
- Reduce **pollution** and **fuel waste**

TRAFFIC CONTROL



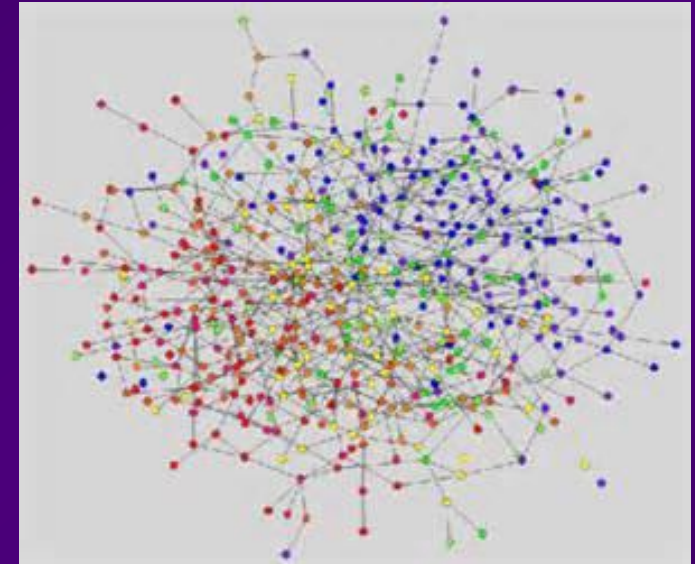
100-km Chinese traffic jam enters Day 9



The BU Bridge mess, Boston, MA (simulation using VISSIM)

WHY CAN'T WE IMPROVE TRAFFIC...

**... EVEN IF WE KNOW
THE ACHIEVABLE
OPTIMUM IN A
TRAFFIC NETWORK ???**



Because:

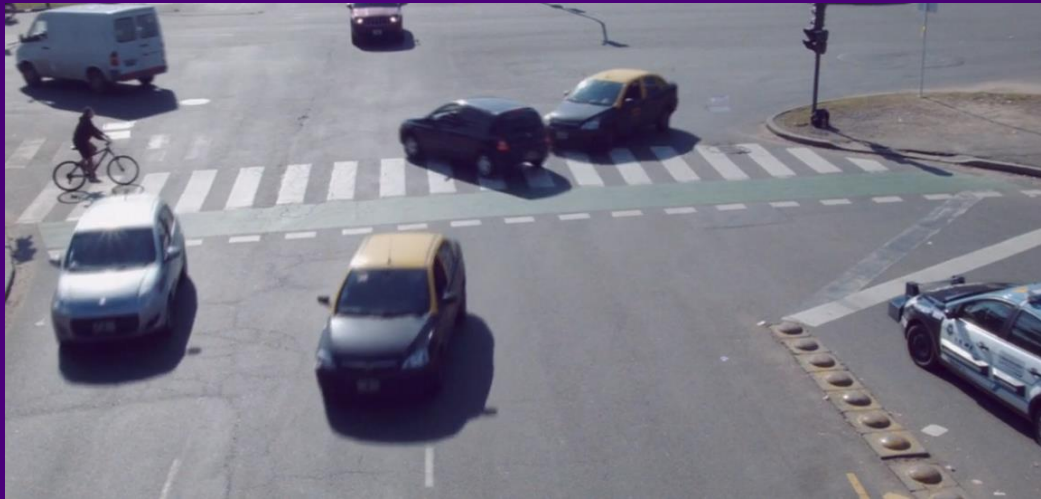
- **Not enough controls** (traffic lights, tolls, speed fines)
→ No chance to use feedback
- **Not knowing other drivers' behavior** leads to poor decisions (a simple game-theoretic fact)
→ Drivers seek individual (**selfish**) optimum,
not system-wide (**social**) optimum

CONNECTED AUTOMATED VEHICLES (CAVs)



NO TRAFFIC LIGHTS, NEVER STOP...

Exploit “connected vehicles” technology

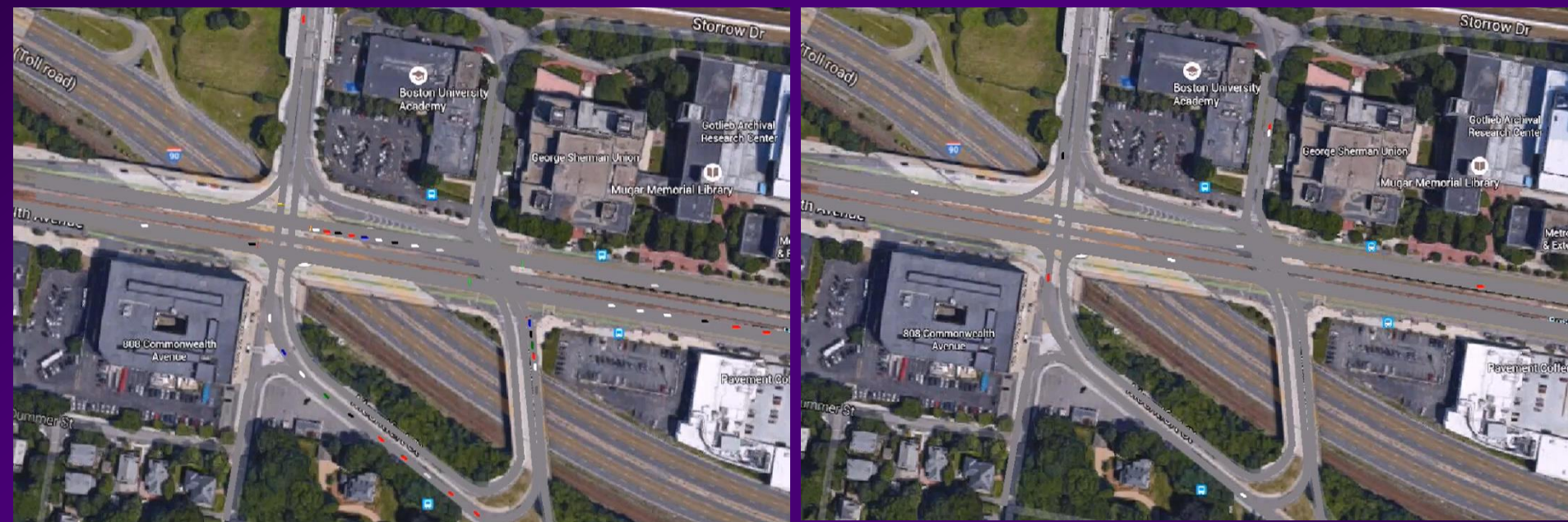


WHO NEEDS TRAFFIC LIGHTS ?

With **traffic lights**

With **decentralized optimal control of CAVs**

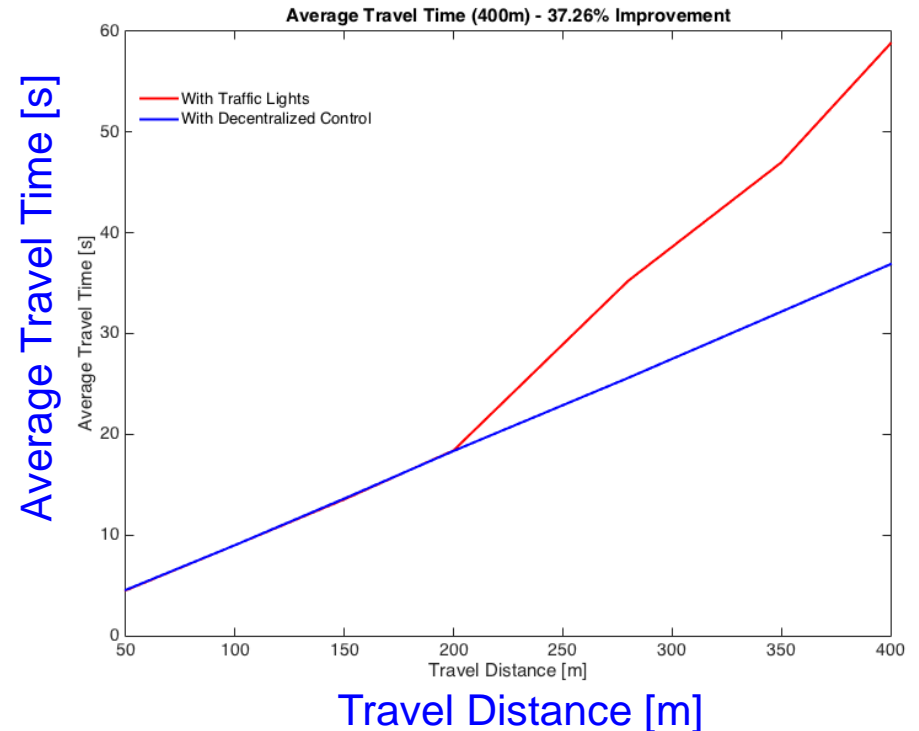
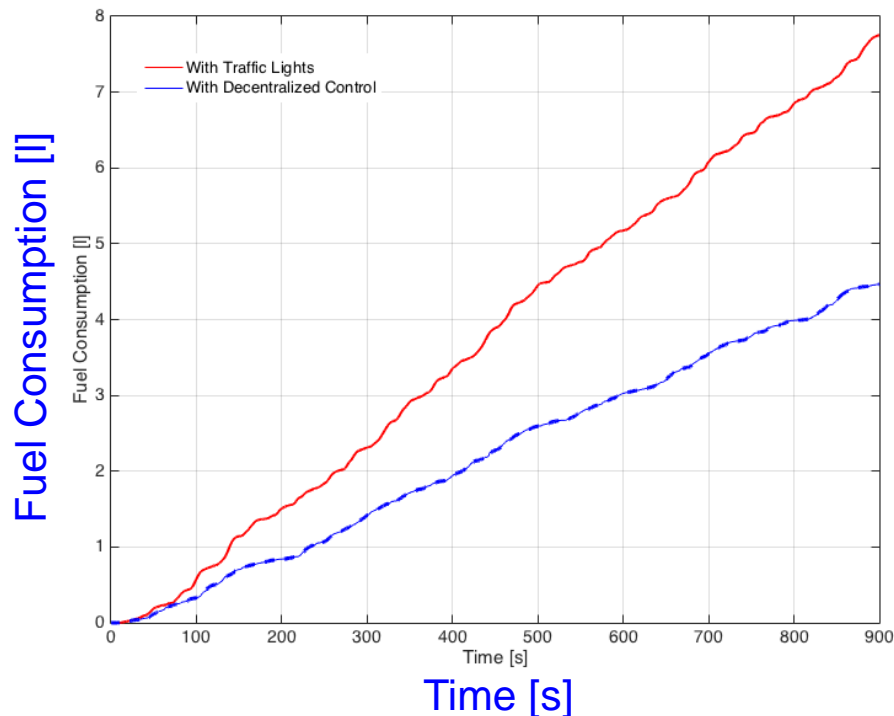
[Zhang, Malikopoulos, Cassandras, ACC, 2016]



IMPACT ON FUEL CONSUMPTION AND TRAVEL TIMES

- **448 vehicles** crossed the intersection
- **Fuel consumption 42% improvement**
- **Travel time 37% improvement**

WIN-WIN



SCOPE: Smart-city Cloud-based Open Platform and Ecosystem (Mass + NSF + Corp. Partners)

