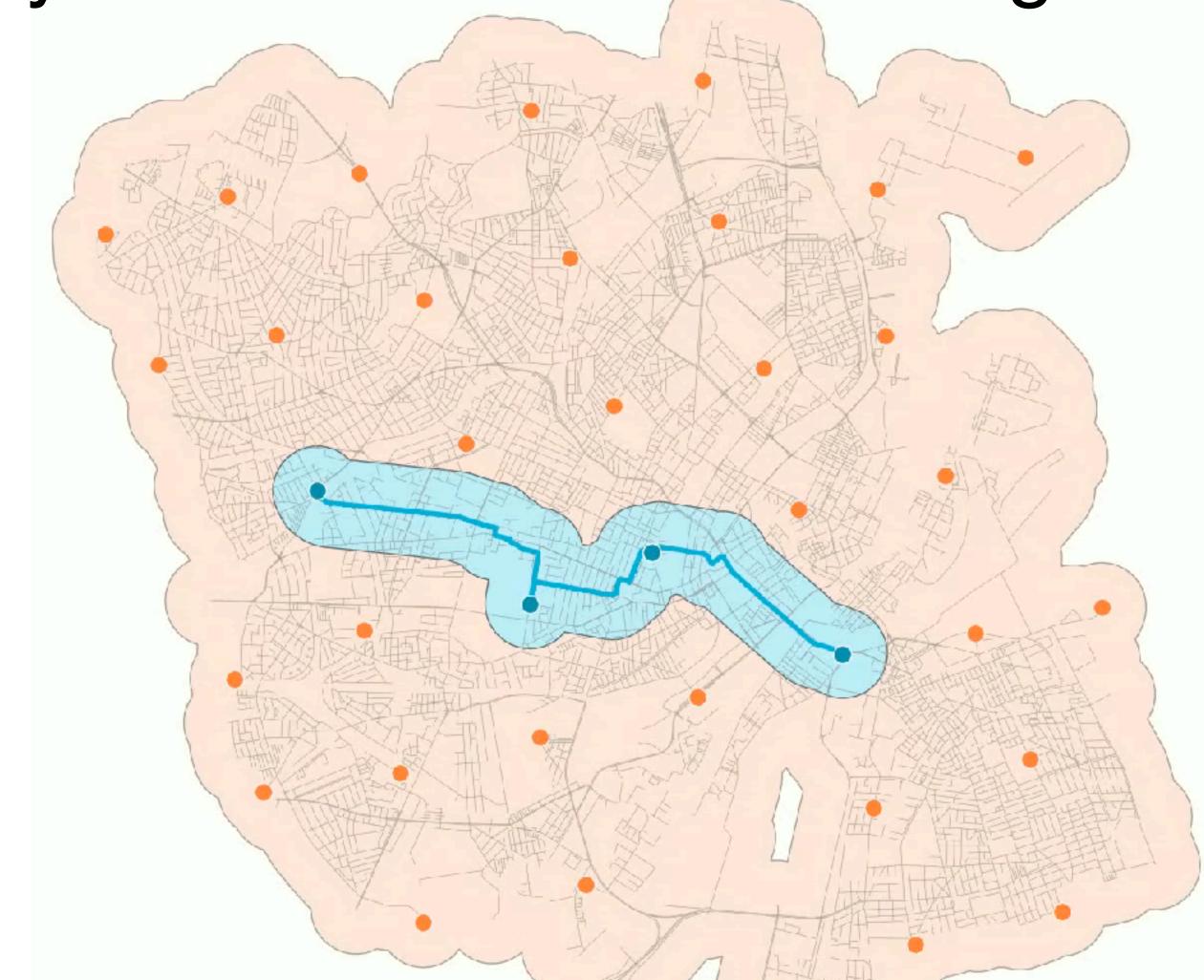
#### IT and Green Transitions, Fall 2022

Lecture 3: Sustainable Mobility and Data-driven Planning

Instructors:
Michael Szell
Ane Rahbek Vierø
Anastassia Vybornova

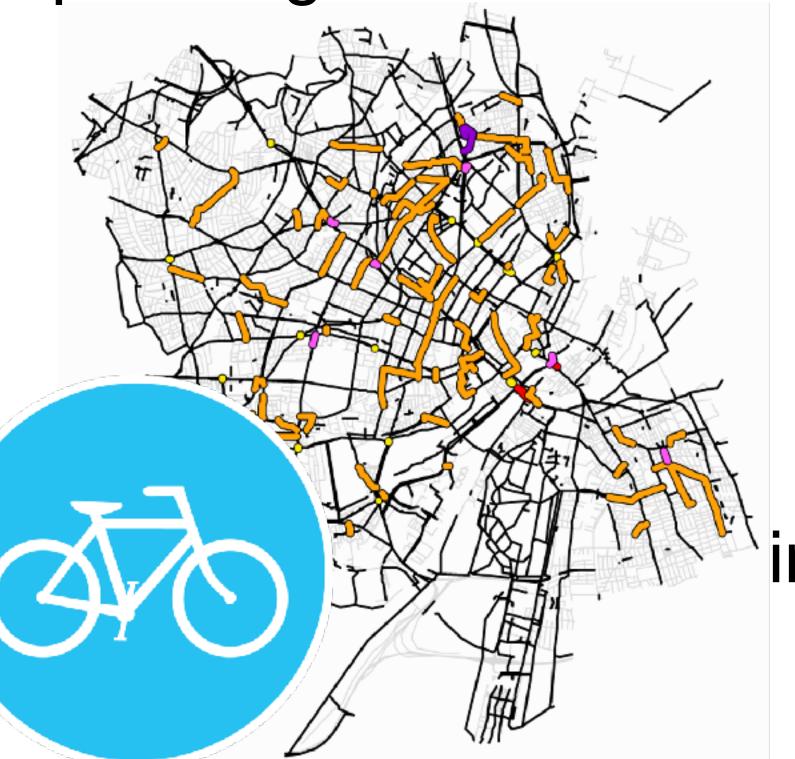
Sep 13, 2022



IT UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN

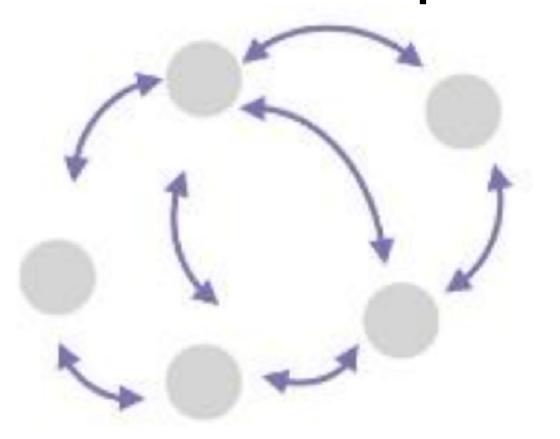
#### Today you will learn about IT and sustainable mobility

Part I: Bicycle network planning with data science



Exercise: How to grow a bike network? How to change the world?



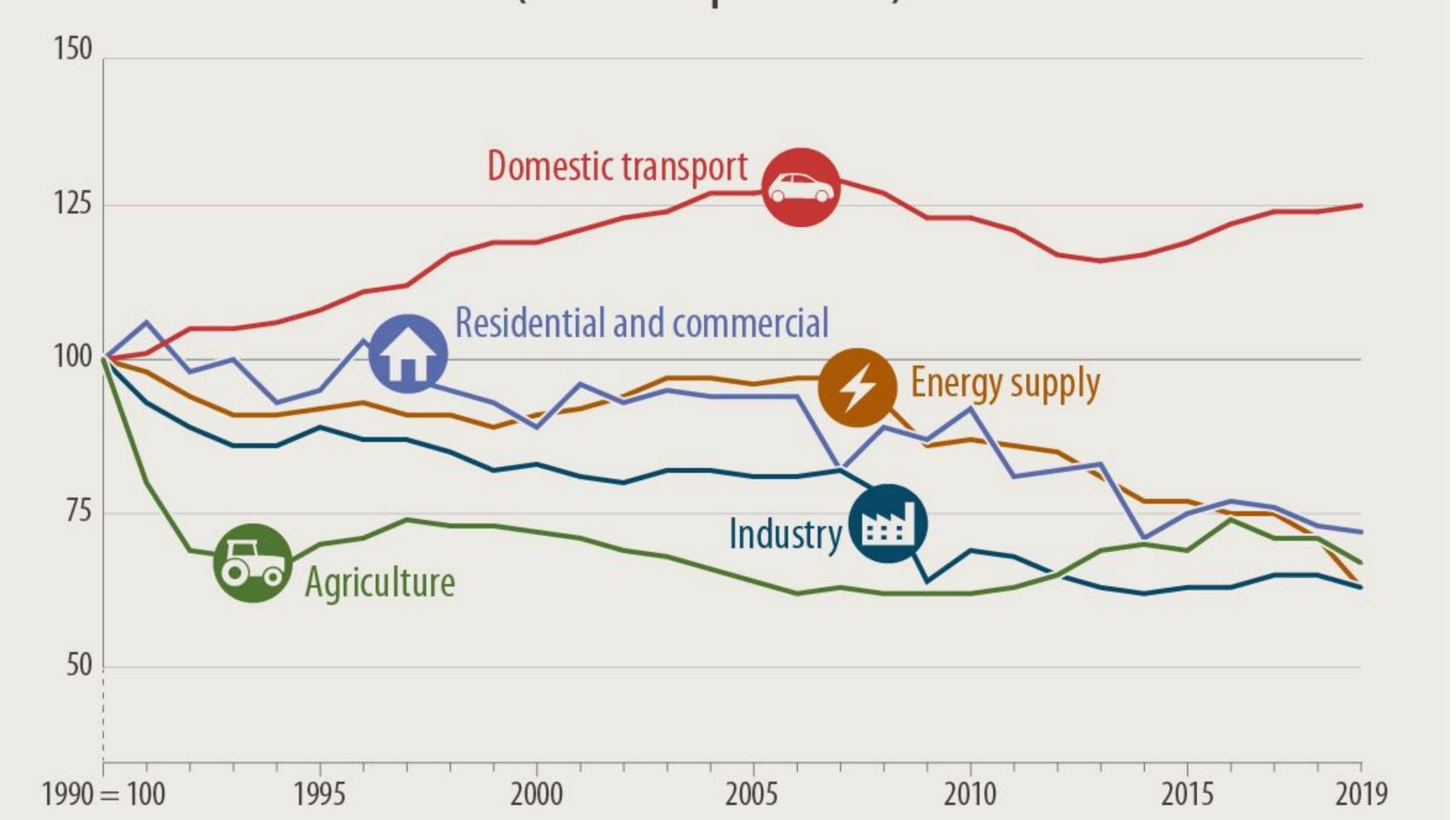




#### Transport plays a key role in the climate crisis

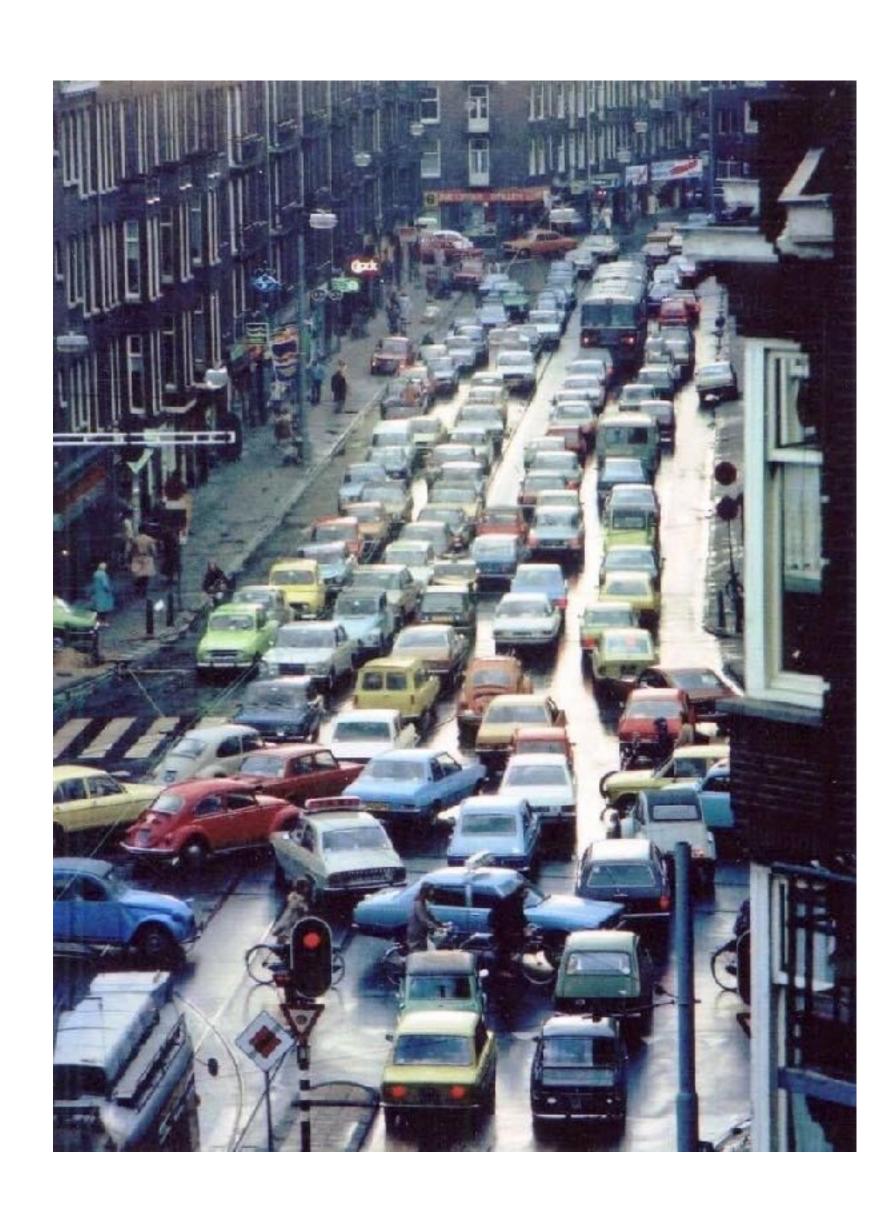
#### EMISSIONS IN THE EU\*

Change in emission levels by sector since 1990 (in CO2 equivalent)



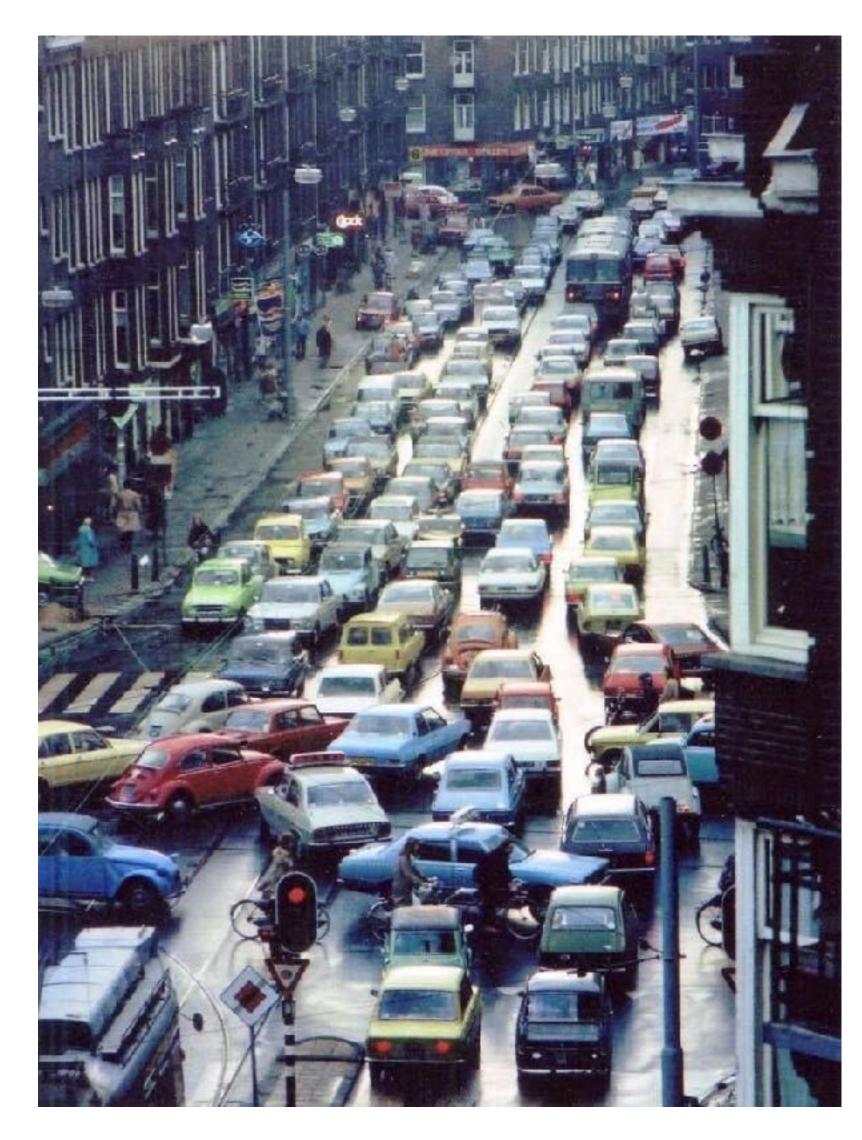
Transport represents almost a quarter of Europe's greenhouse gas emissions and is the main cause of air pollution in cities.

#### Which European city is this?



MENTIMETER

#### Amsterdam





1978 Today

#### Amsterdam

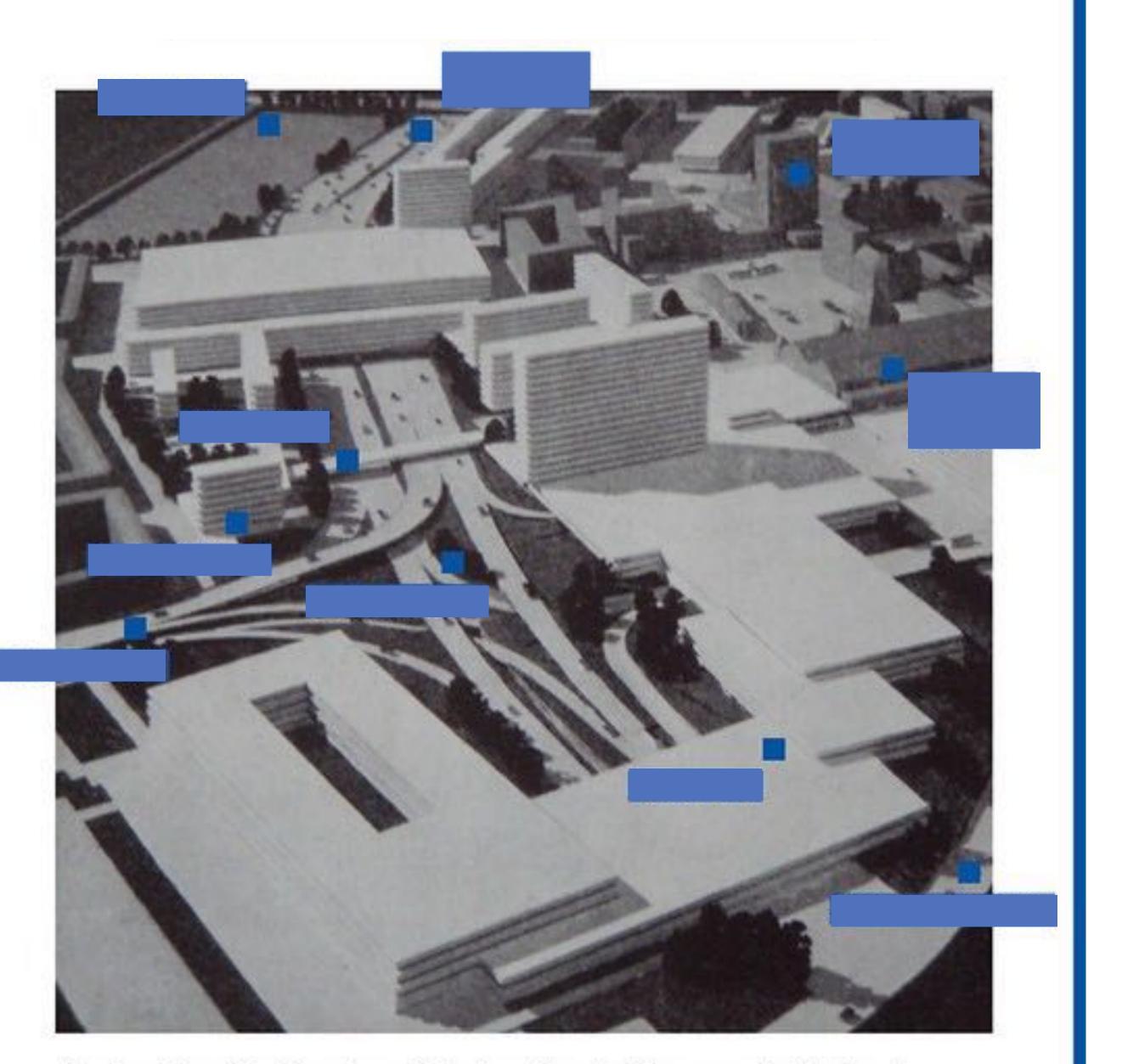


1920

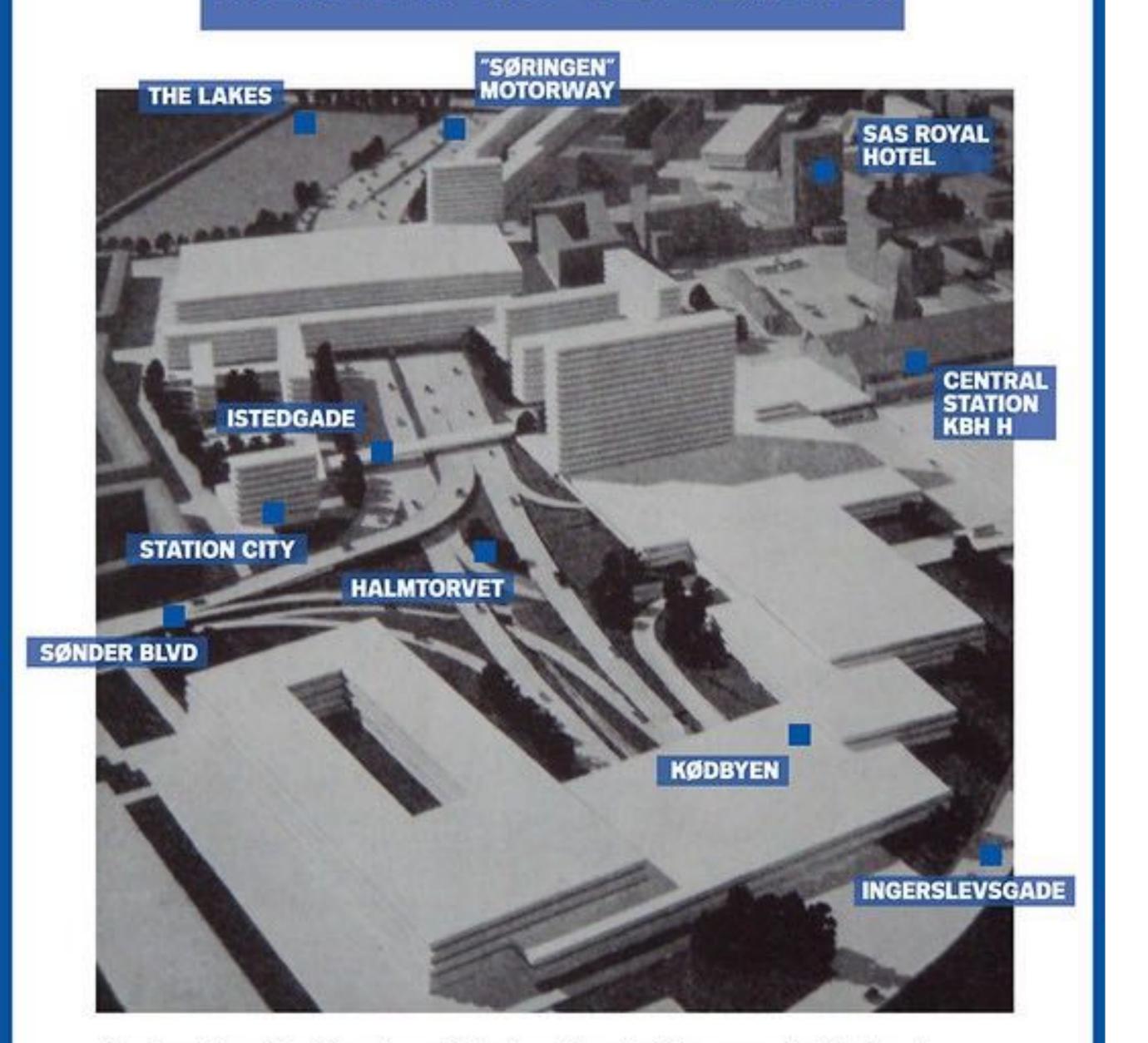




2015



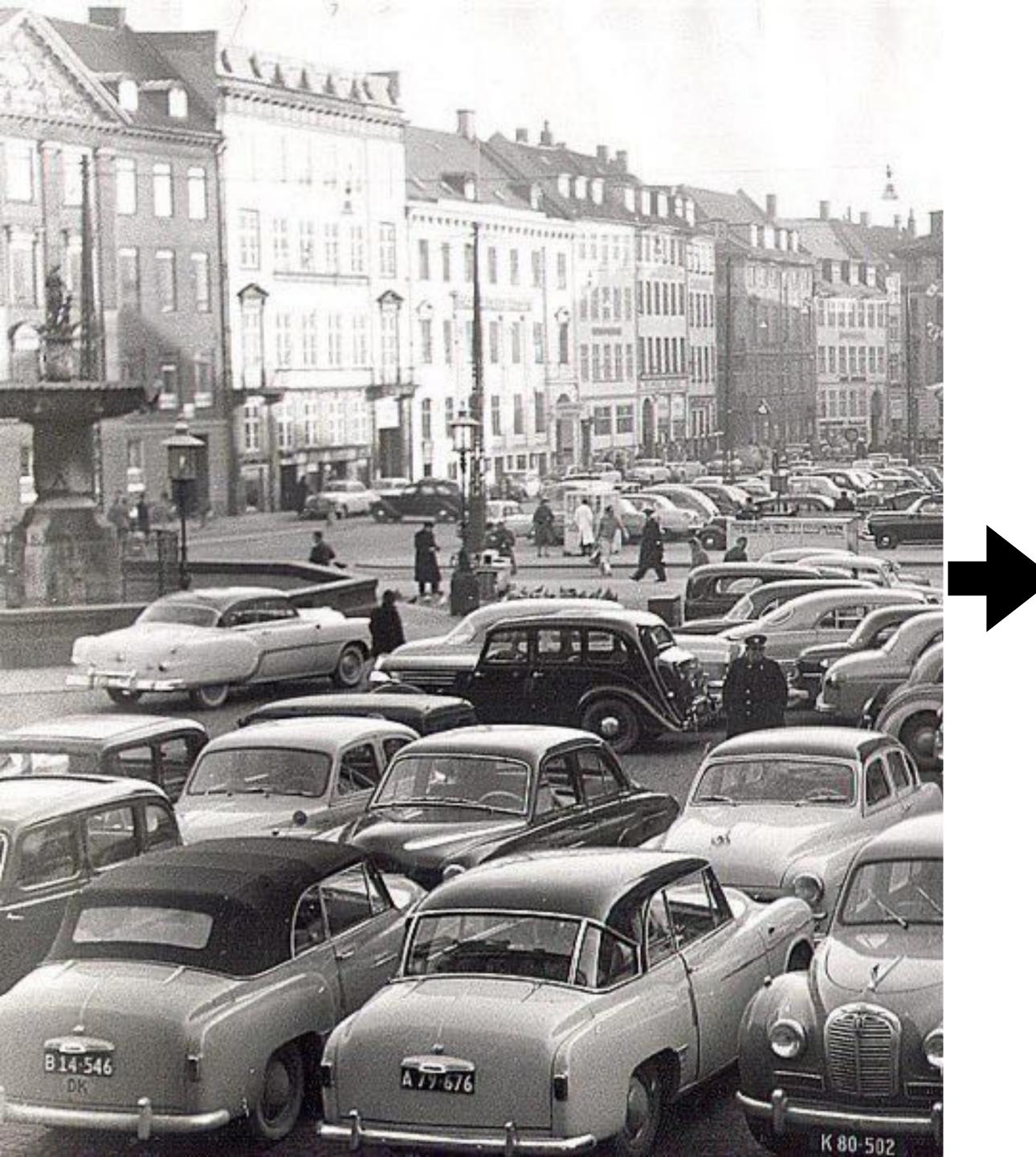
## CITY PLAN VEST - 1958-74 WELCOME TO VESTERBRO!



# Søringen

https://monocle.com/radio/shows/the-urbanist/tall-stories-322/

http://www.copenhagenize.com/2012/11/city-plan-vest-and-sringen-1958-1974.html

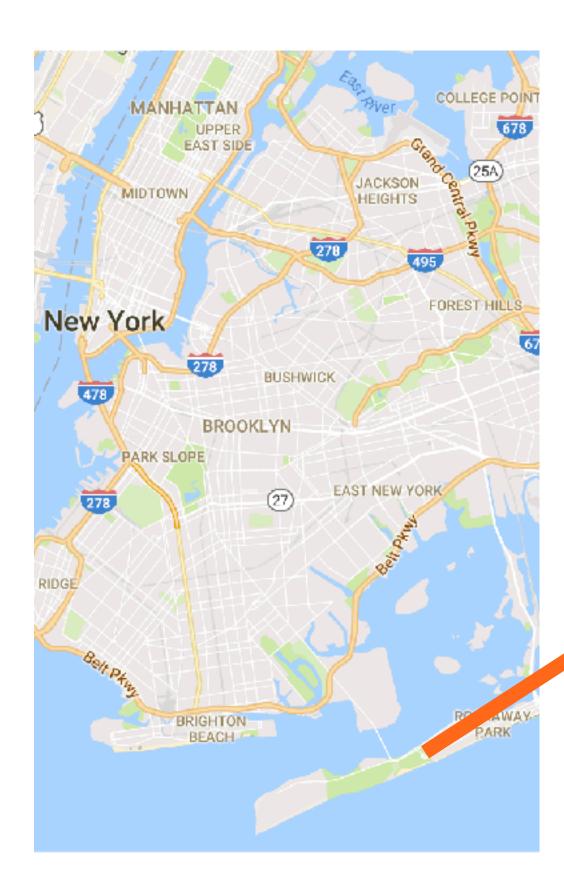




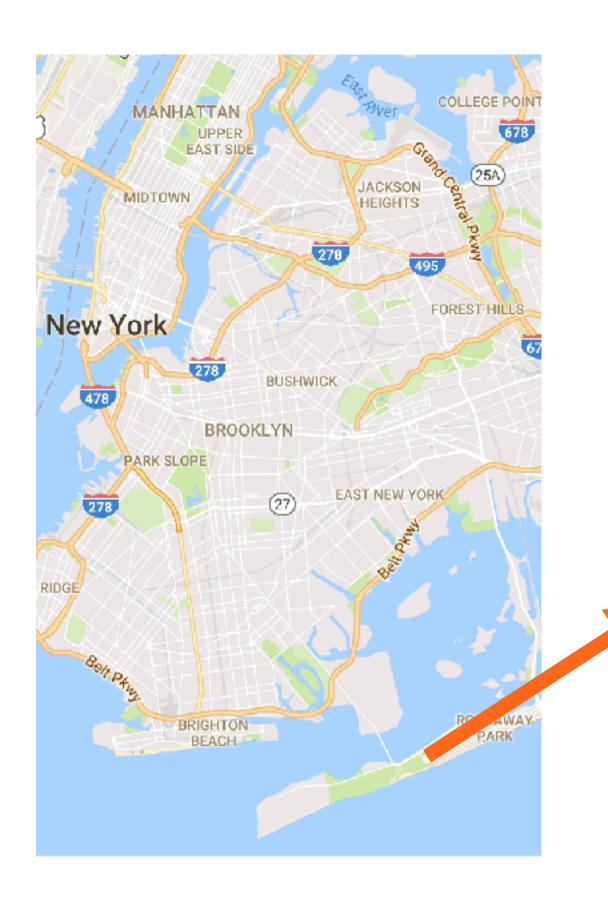
# Why is a city planned with a focus on cars not sustainable\*?

\*sustainable system = system with the possibility to continue a specific behaviour over long periods of time

## SPACE







#### What a lovely green..



#### What a <del>lovely green</del>.. MONSTER MANHATTAN UPPER EAST SIDE FOREST HILLS New York BUSHWICK BROOKLYN PARK SLOPE EAST NEW YORK Wheel Fun Rentals () 800m x 500m

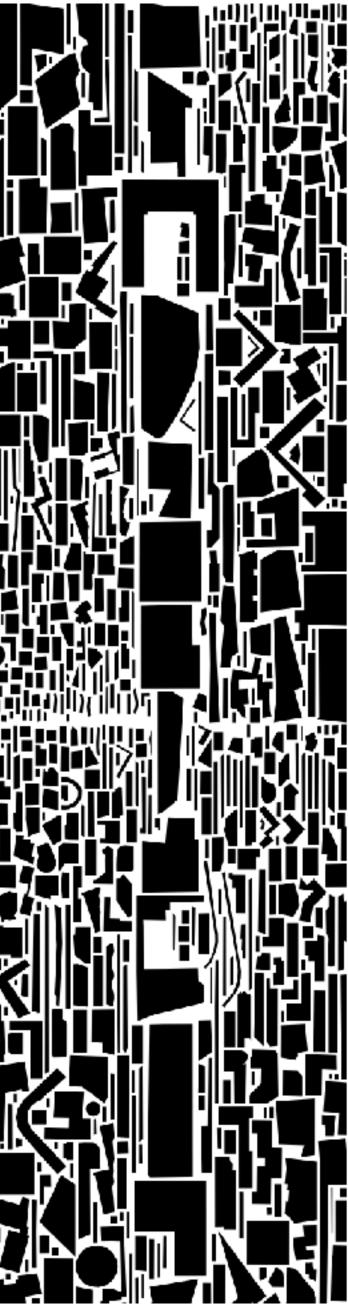


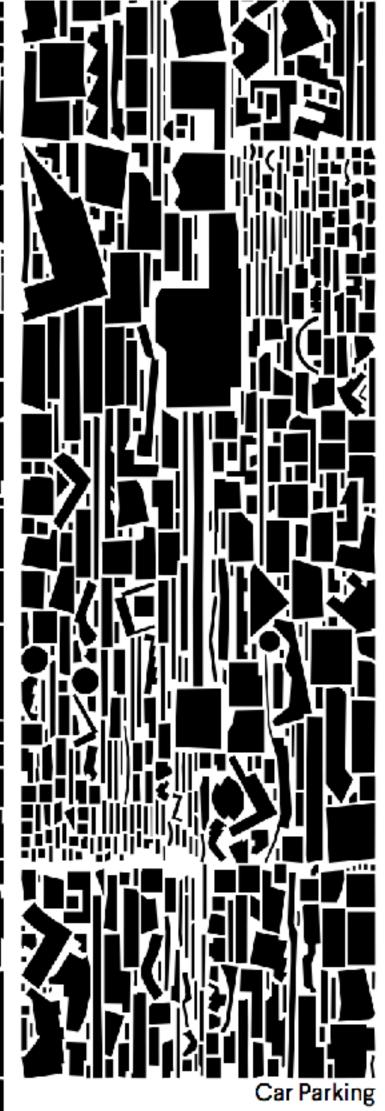
#### We visualized ALL parking spaces with polygon packing



#### Copenhagen



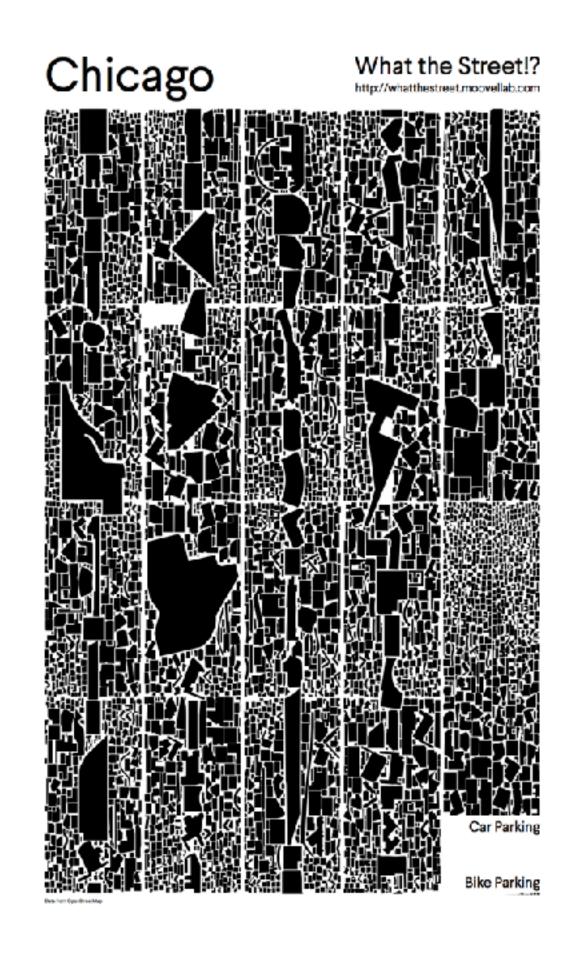


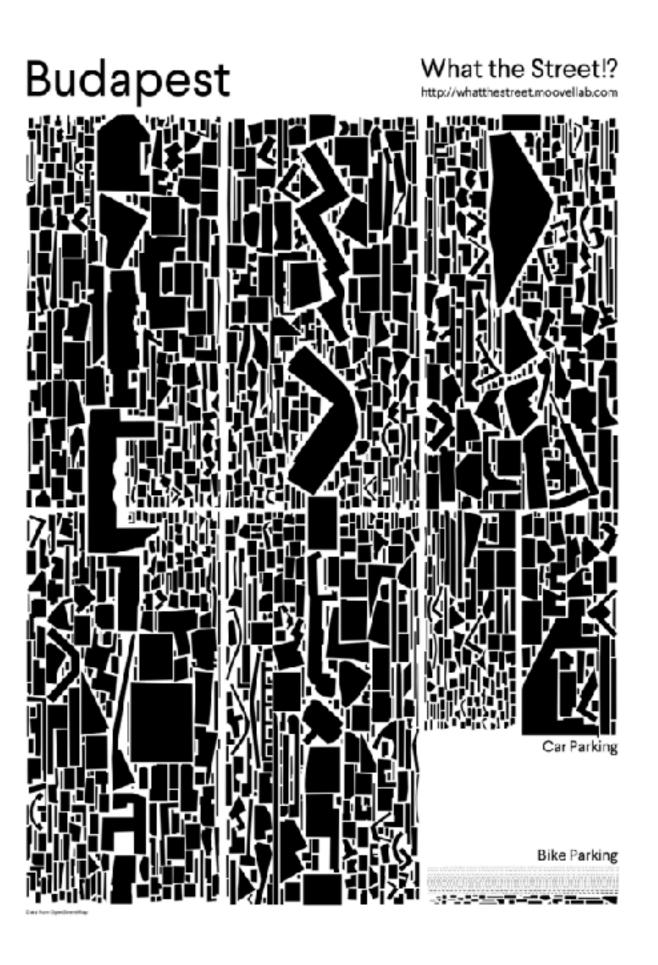


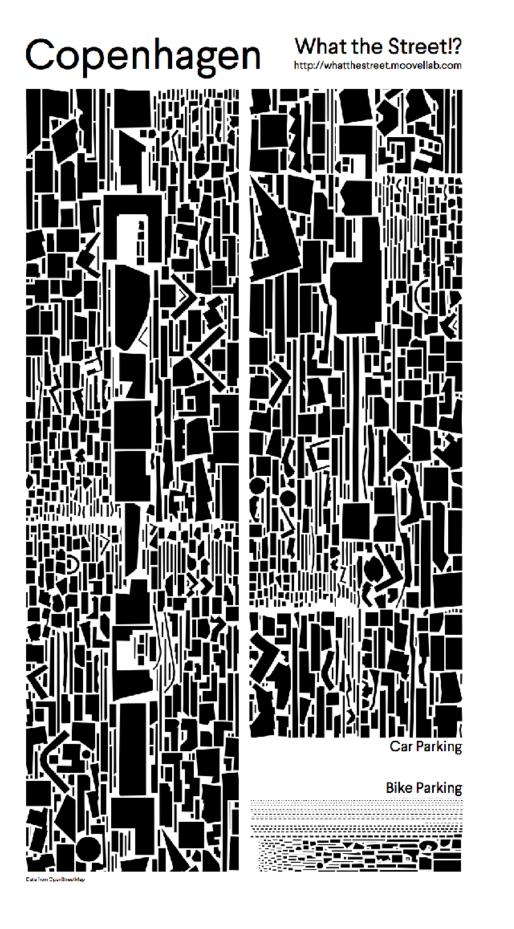
Bike Parking



#### There are huge differences between car and bike parking





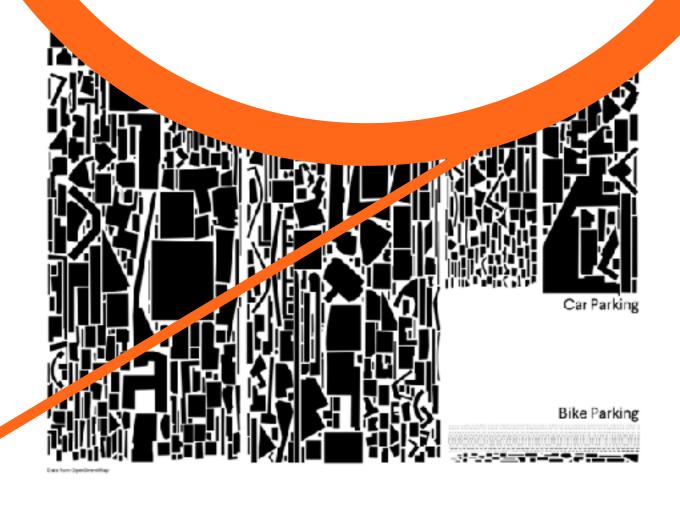


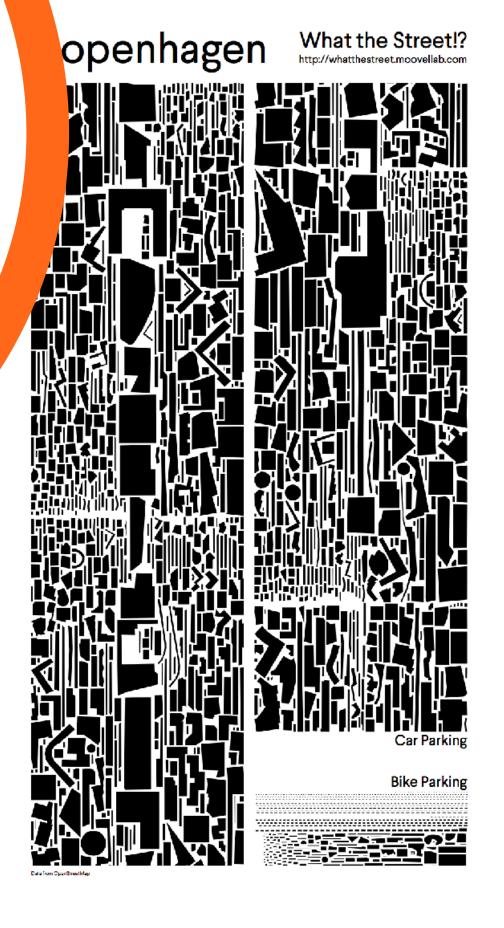
There are huge differences between

d bike parking

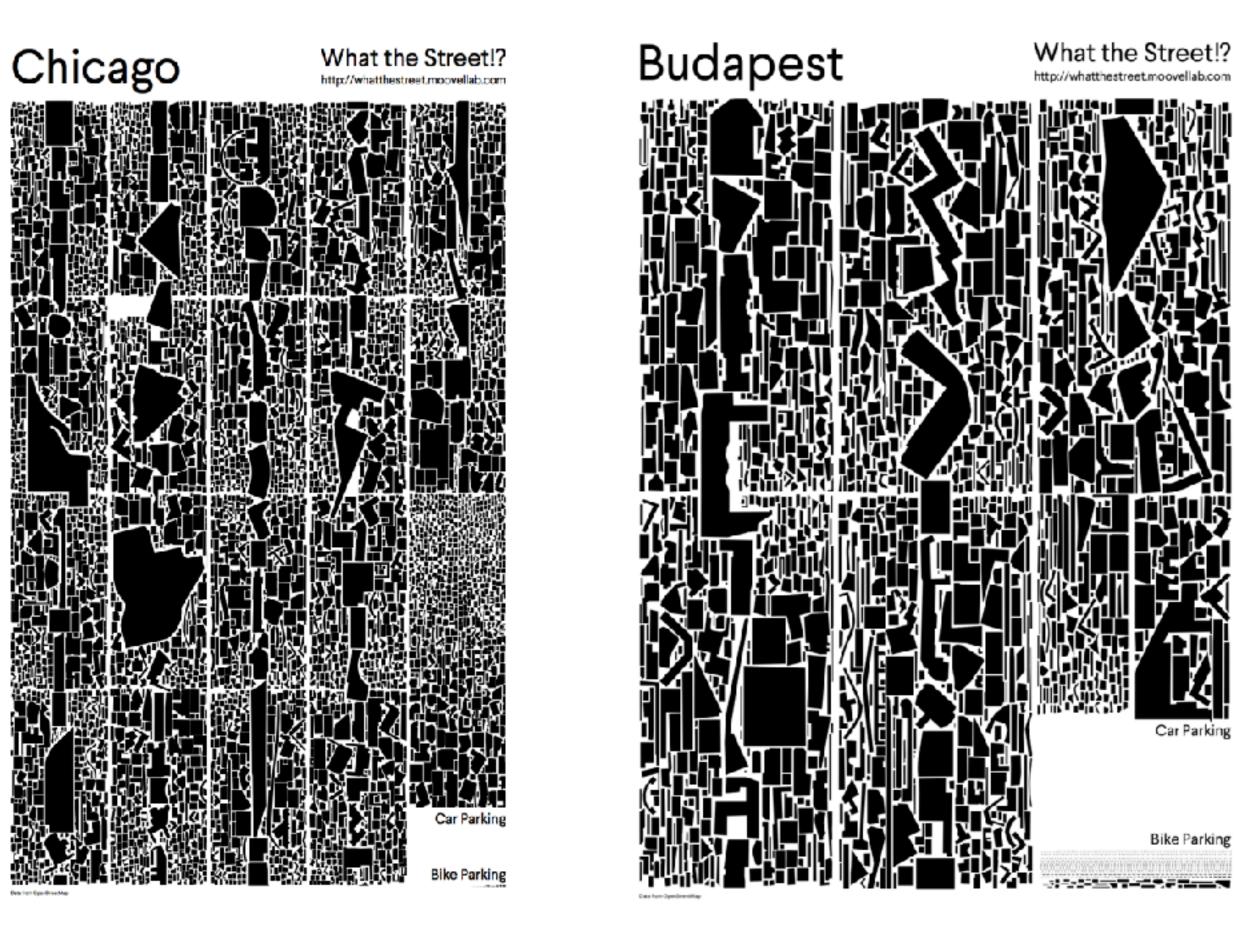


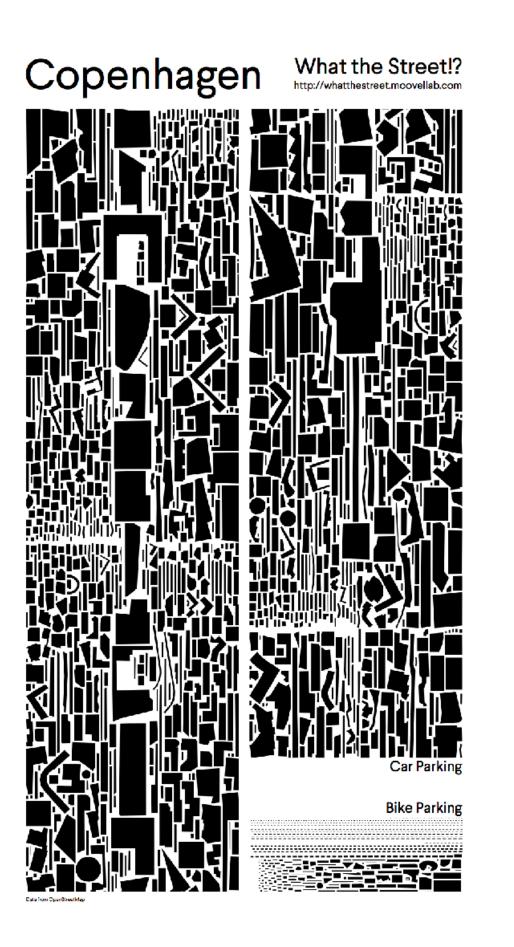
# arking





#### There are huge differences between car and bike parking

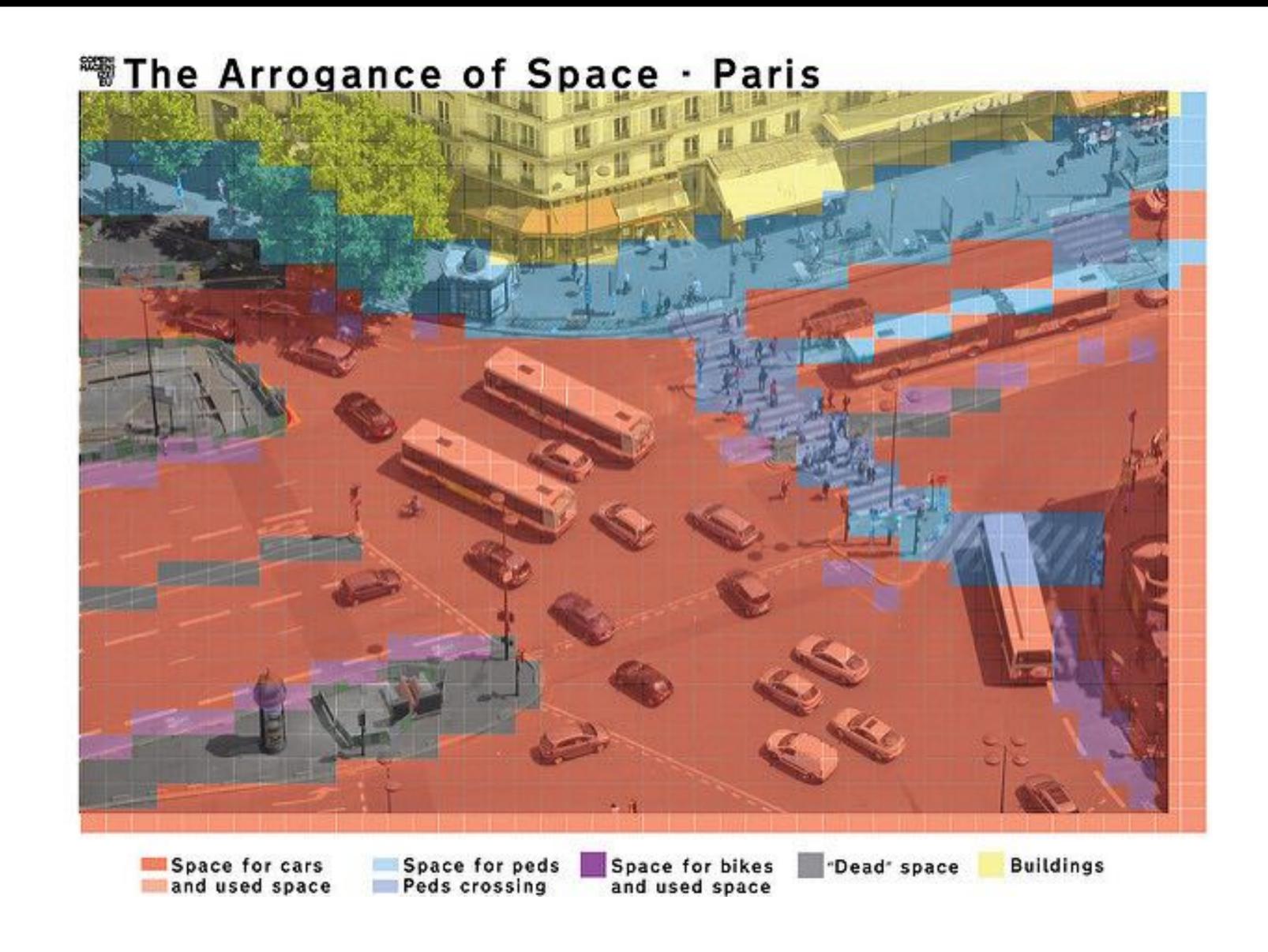




whatthestreet.com

Szell, Urb Plan 3, 1-20 (2018) Gössling, J Tran Geo 54, 1-9 (2016)

# Space is not distributed in a fair way between different modes of transport



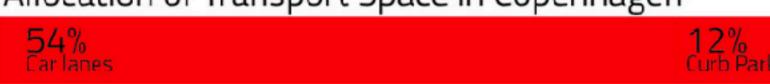
#### Most space is for cars, but most people use bicycles







Allocation of Transport Space in Copenhagen

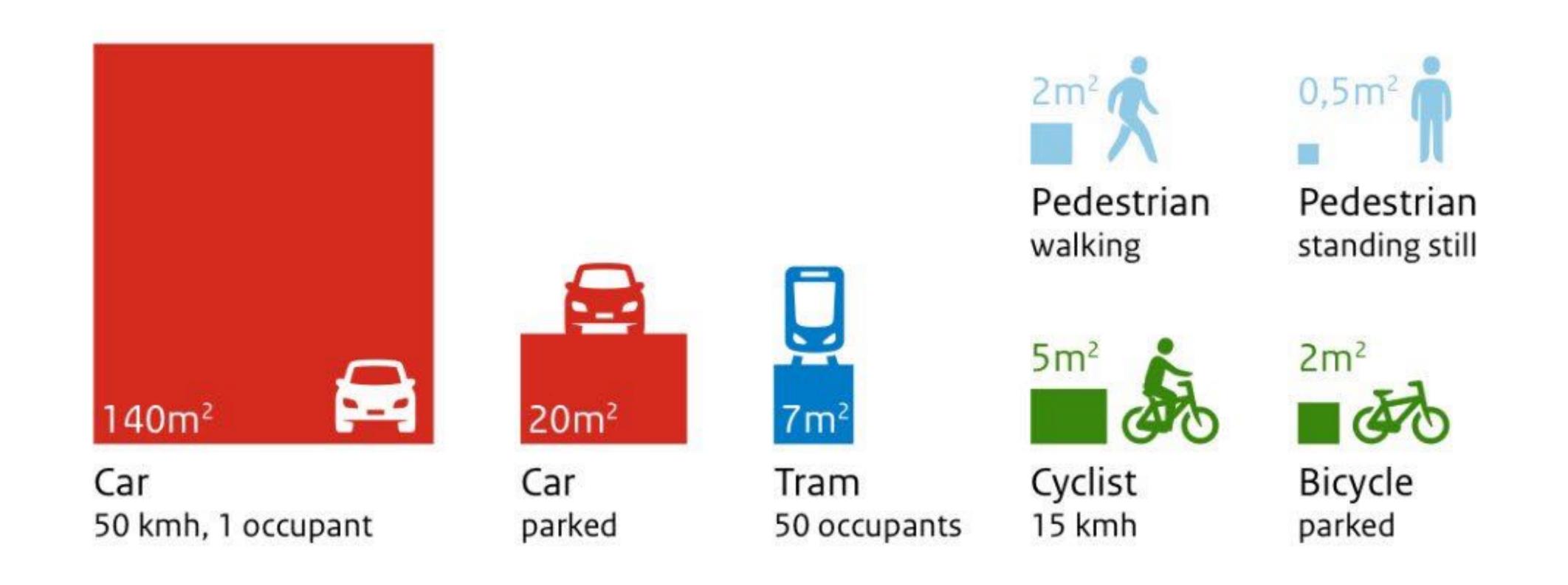








#### You can't beat geometry: Cars will ALWAYS be inefficient



# Cars are used 36 minutes per day Cars are not used 1404 minutes per day

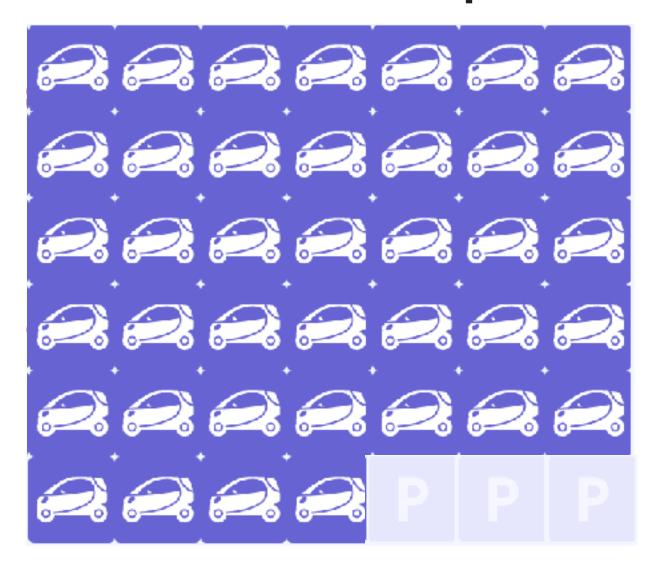
# Cars are used 36 minutes per day Cars are not used 1404 minutes per day

A typical snapshot of Copenhagen

5,500 cars moving

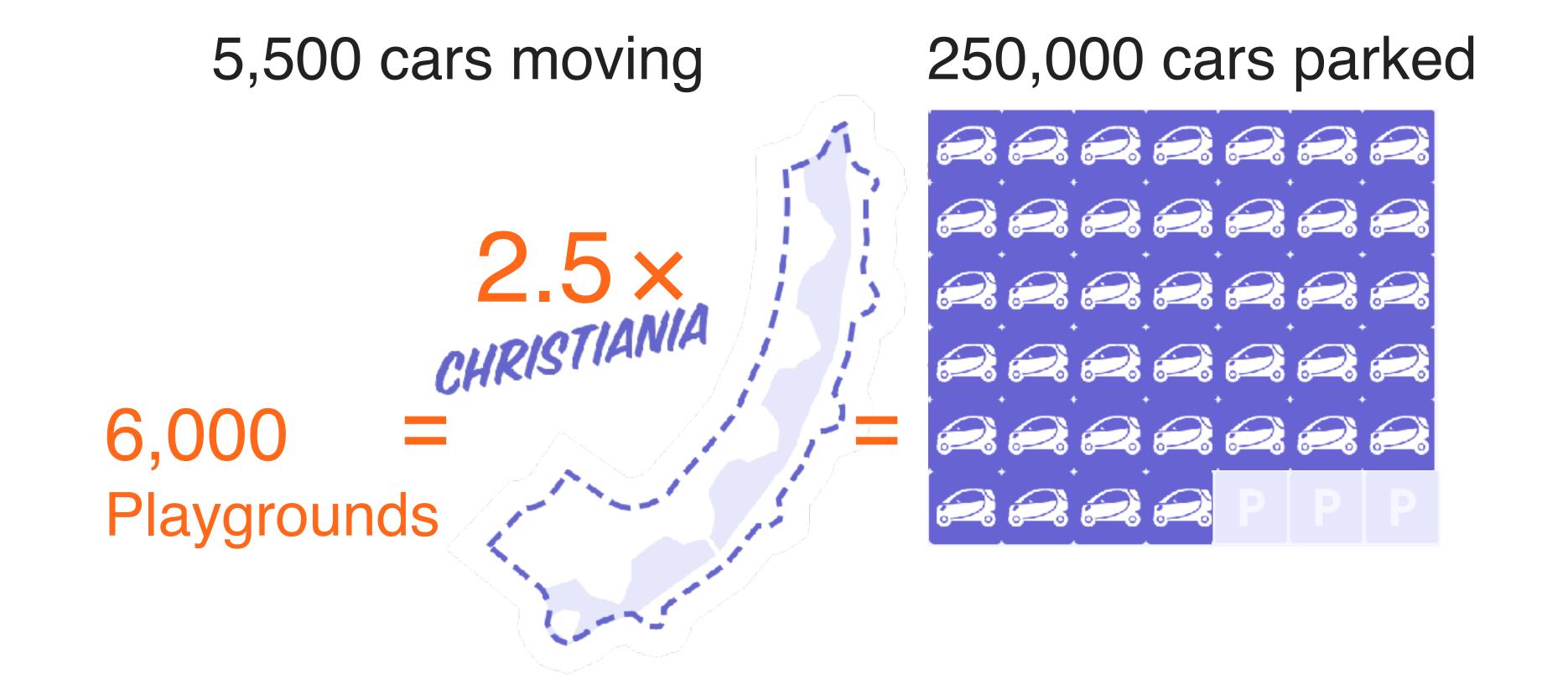


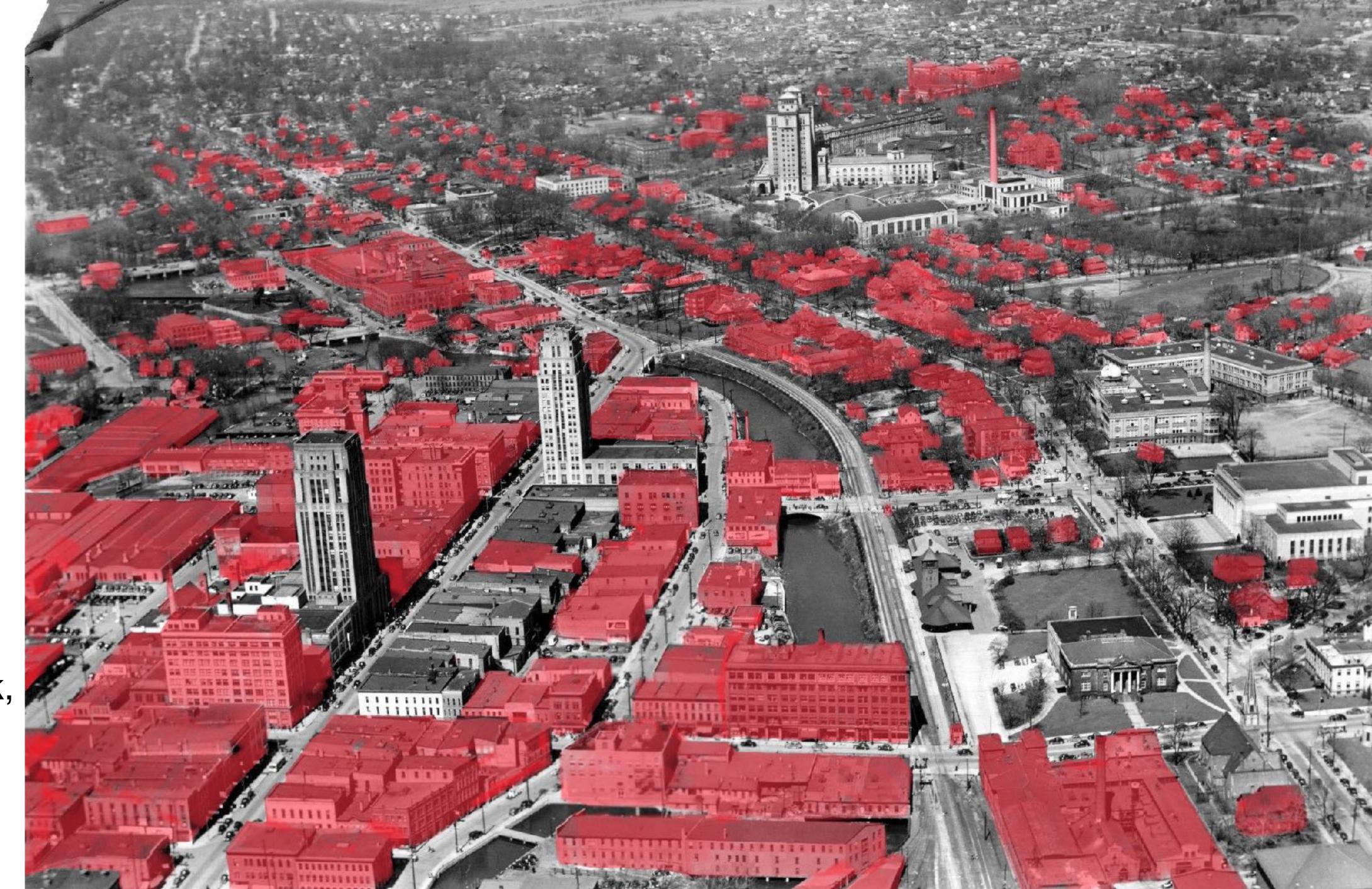
250,000 cars parked



#### We are wasting space worth 6,000 playgrounds!

A typical snapshot of Copenhagen





Battle Creek, MI



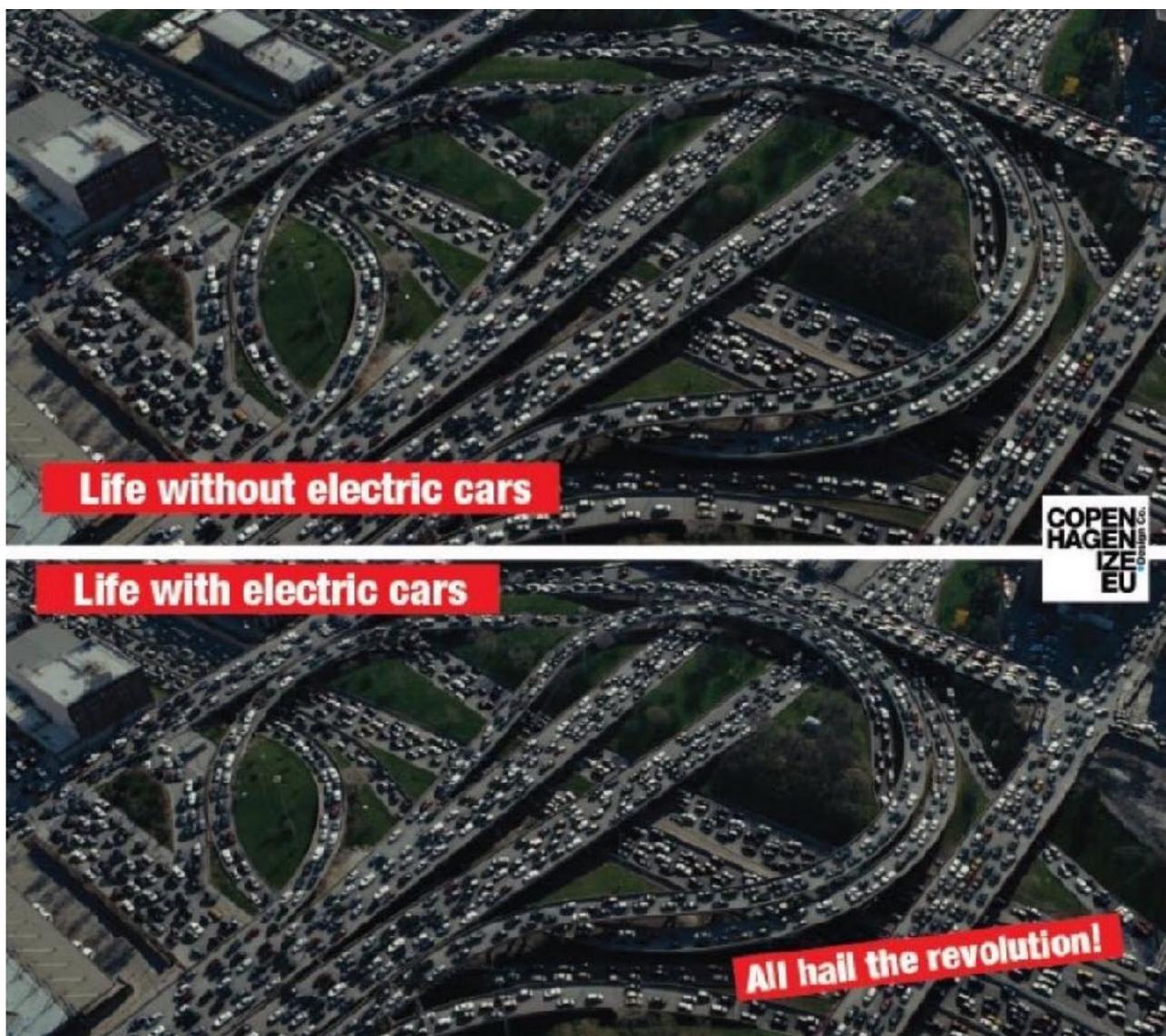
Battle Creek, MI

#### Cars eat up our living space in cities



#### Cars eat up our living space in cities



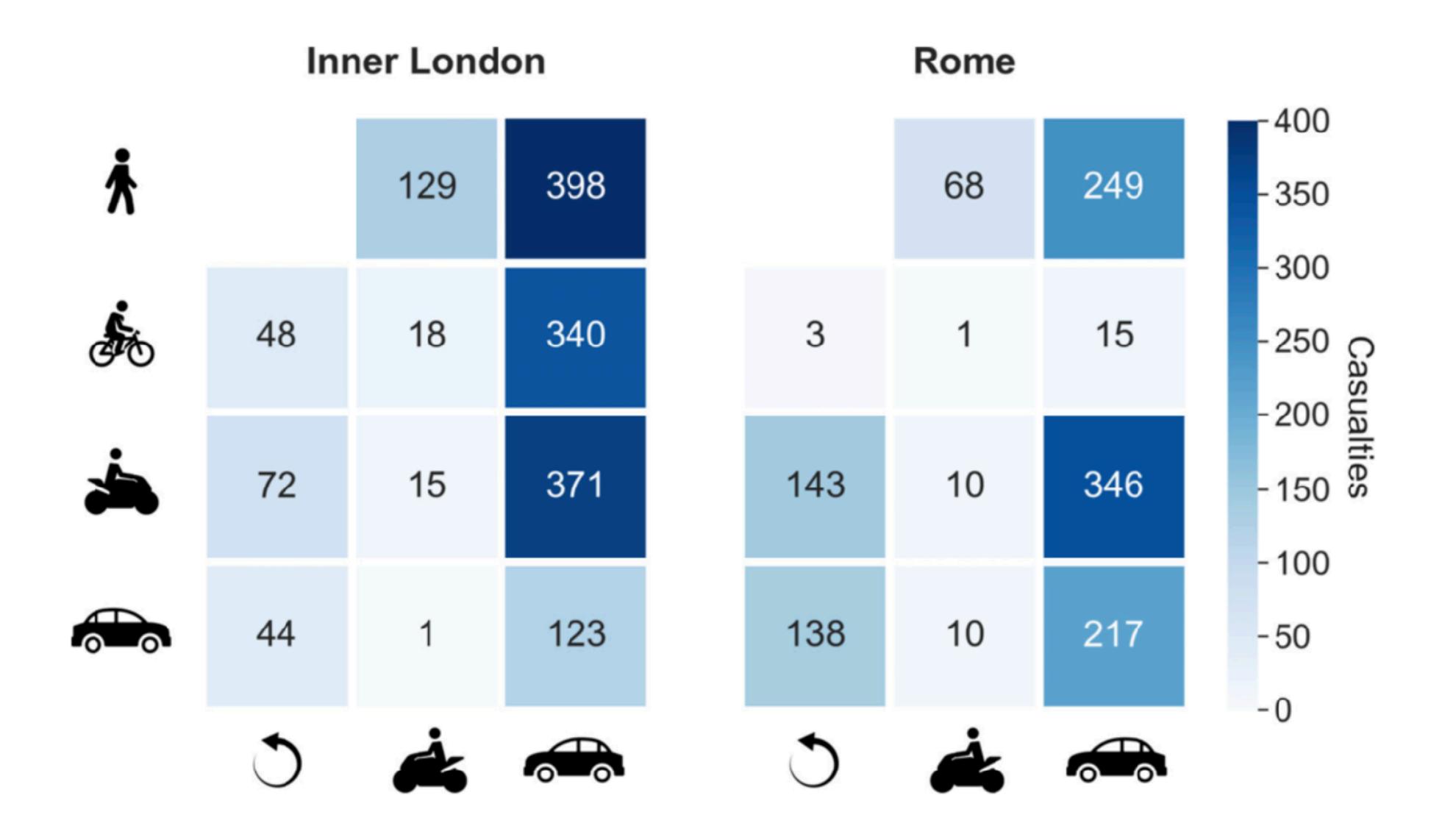


### POLLUTION

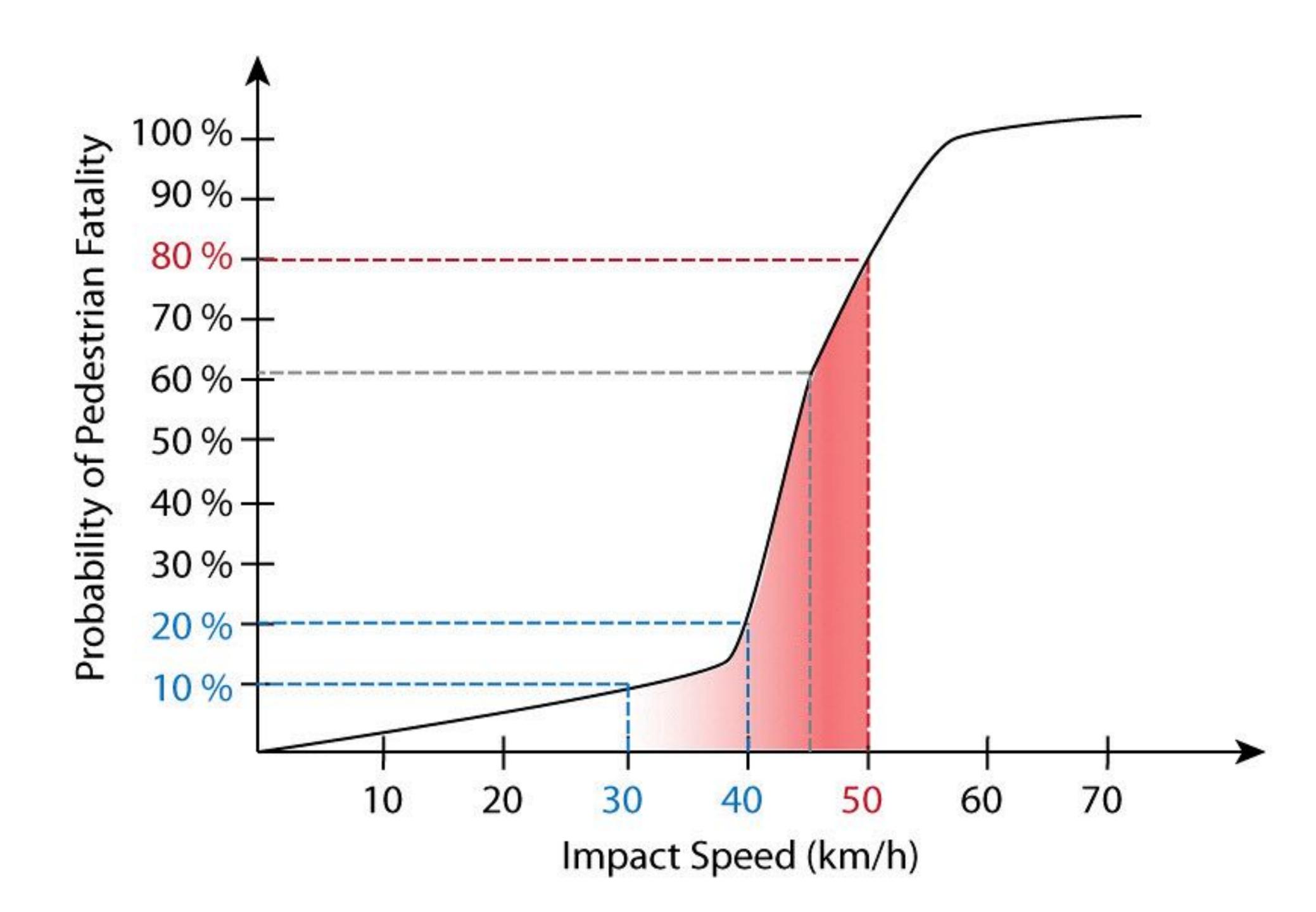
~9.000.000

# ANYTHING ELSE?





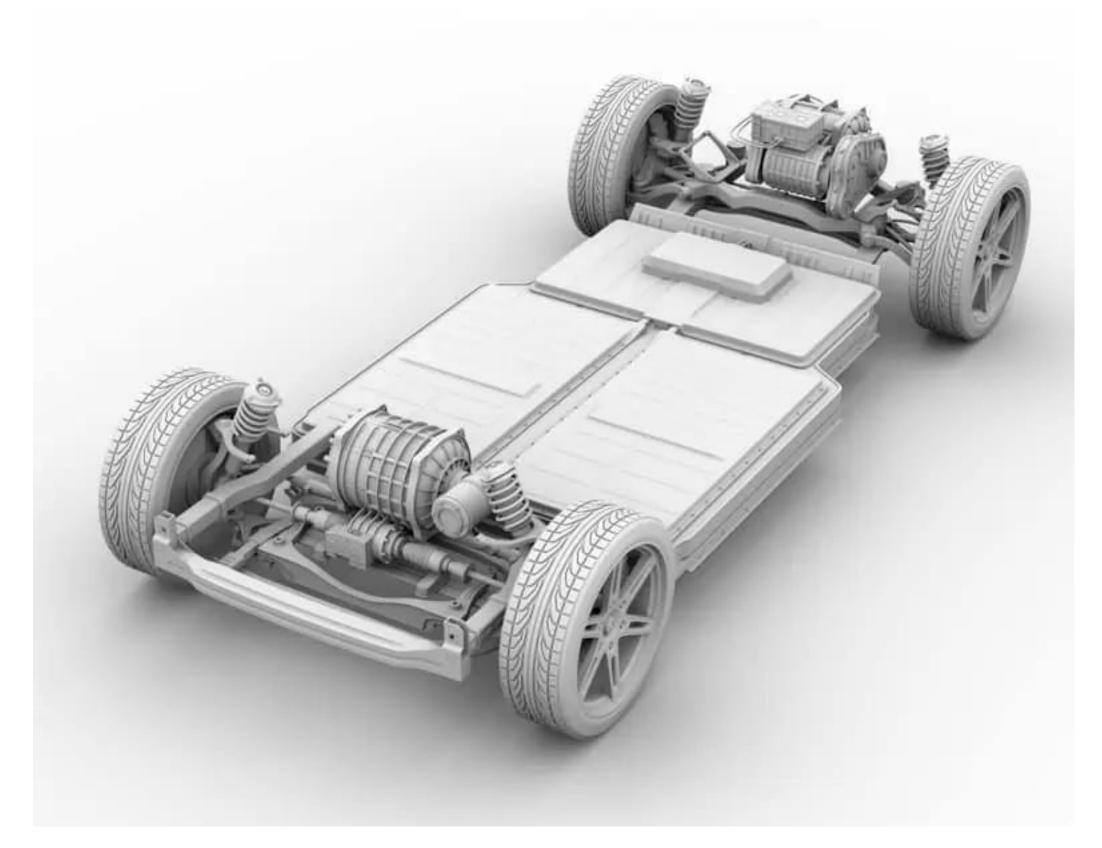
# 



#### Casualties are getting worse with e-cars



4500kg



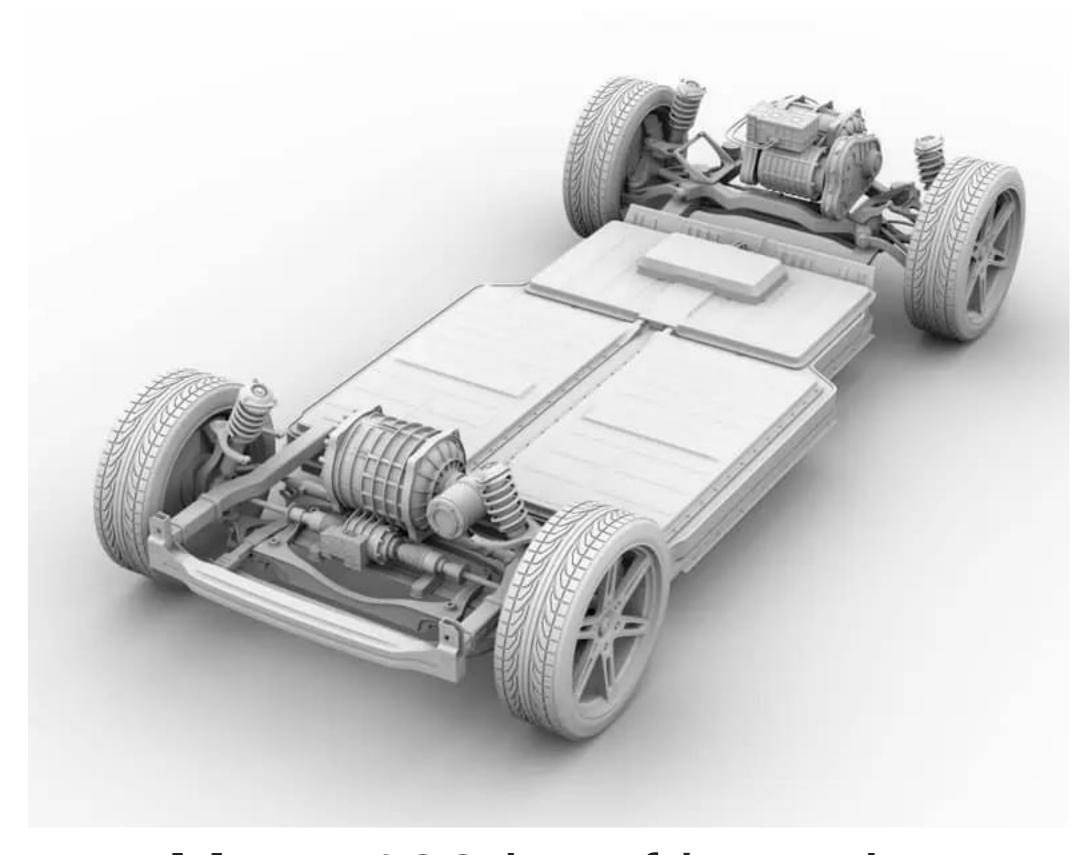
Many 100 kg of batteries

#### Casualties are getting worse with e-cars



4500kg

50% more crashes with electric cars due to unadapted behavior and much faster acceleration



Many 100 kg of batteries

#### Cycling is a time-tested technology that delivers on 11 SDGs





#### CYCLING DELIVERS ON THE GLOBAL GOALS

Shifting towards a better economy, society, and planet for all

#### More active travel is an *economic* "no-brainer"

#### Cost-benefit analysis in EU that accounts for

- Health
- Environment
- Travel / Congestion

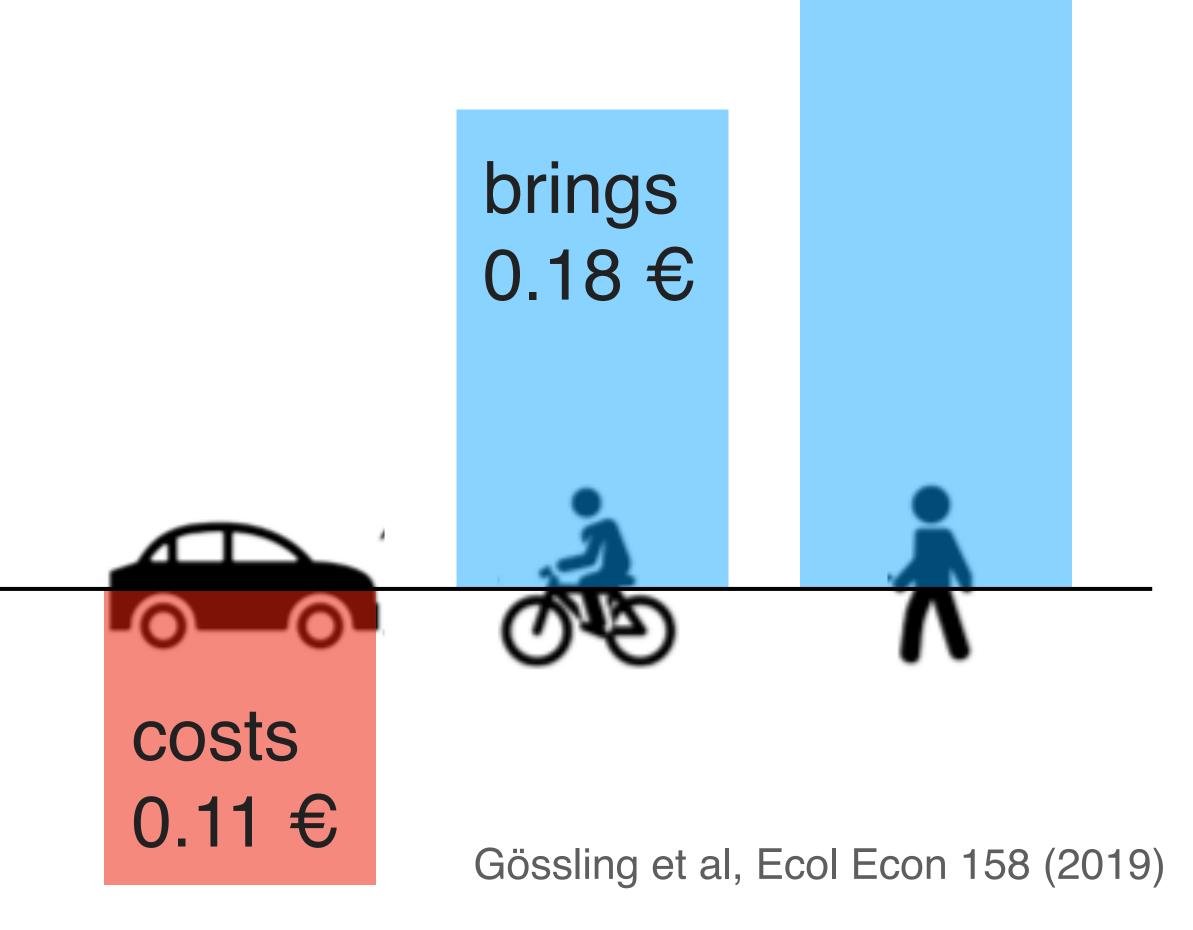
shows:

#### More active travel is an *economic* "no-brainer"

Cost-benefit analysis in EU that accounts for

- Health
- Environment
- Travel / Congestion

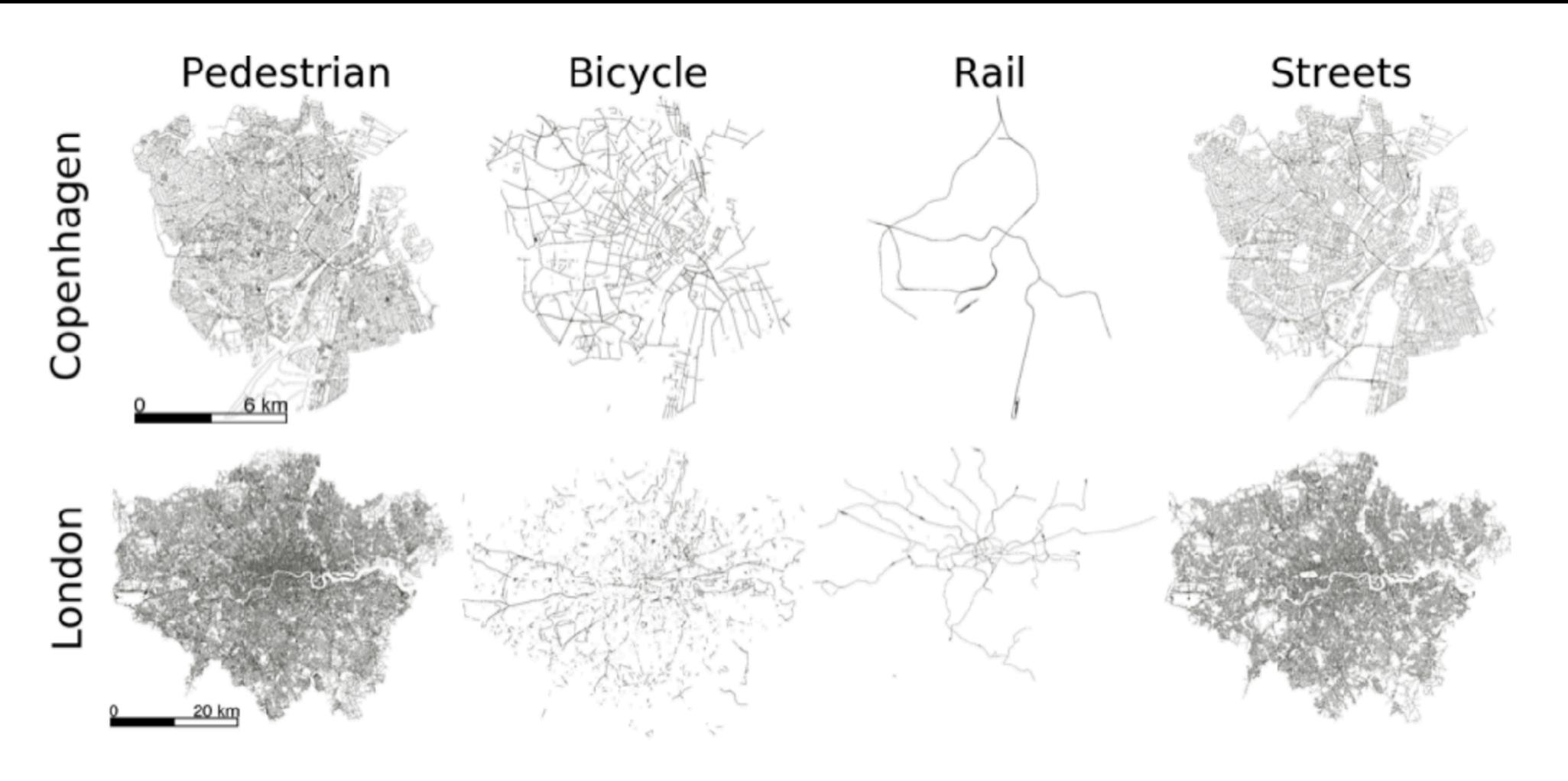
shows: 1 km travelled by

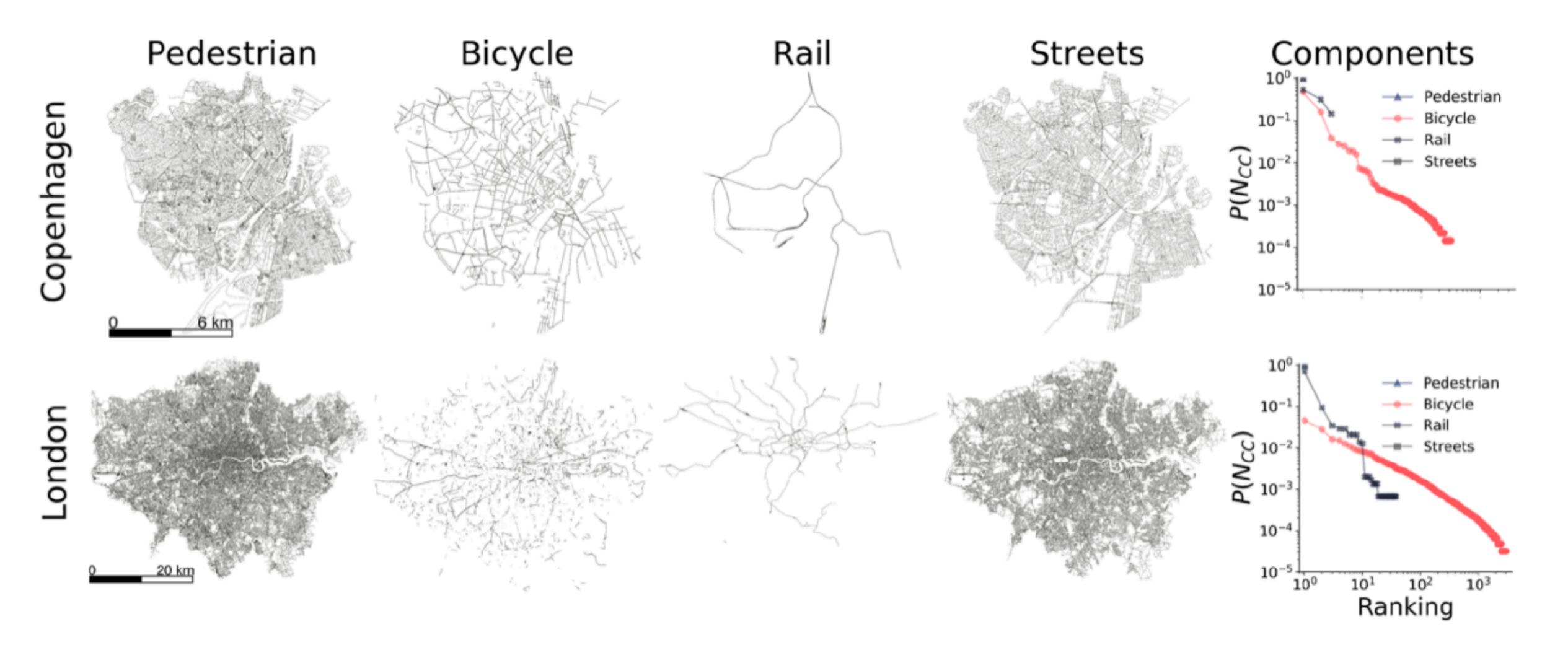


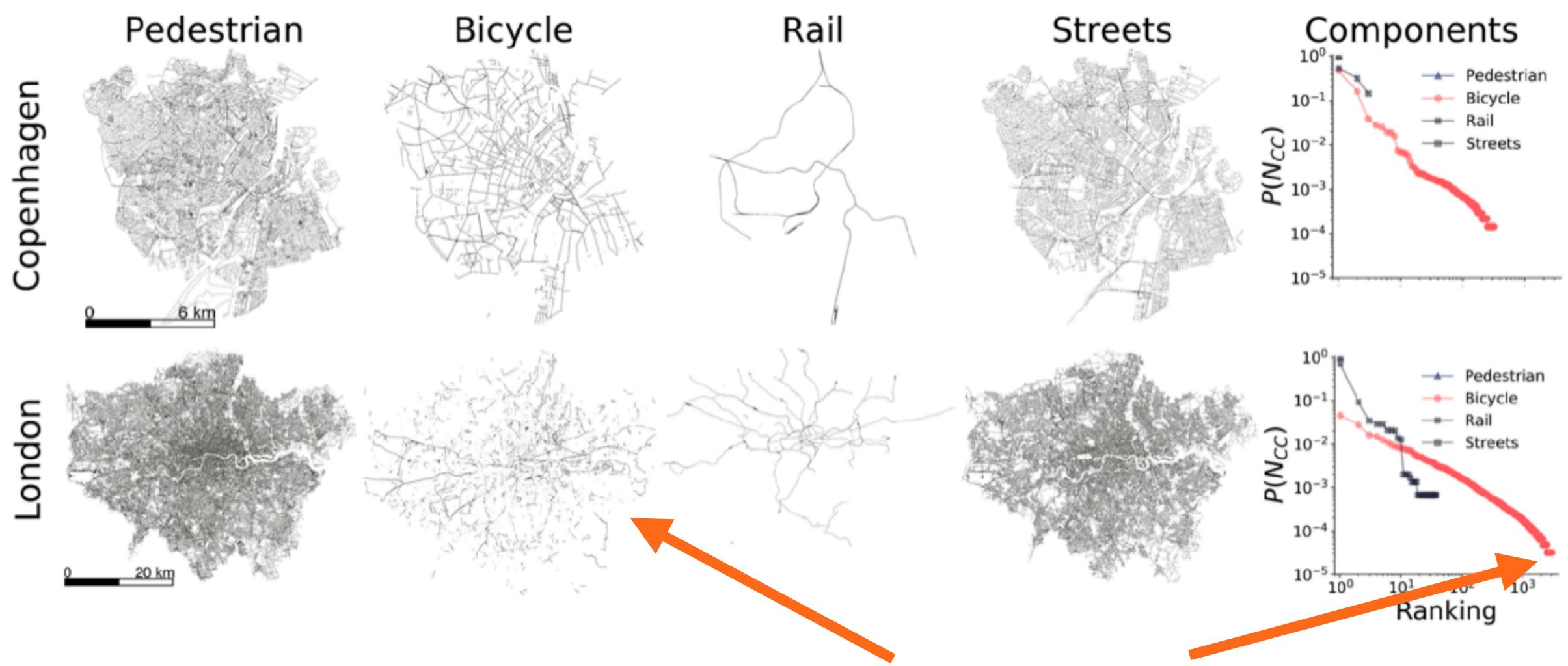
brings 0.37 €

#### Network Science 101

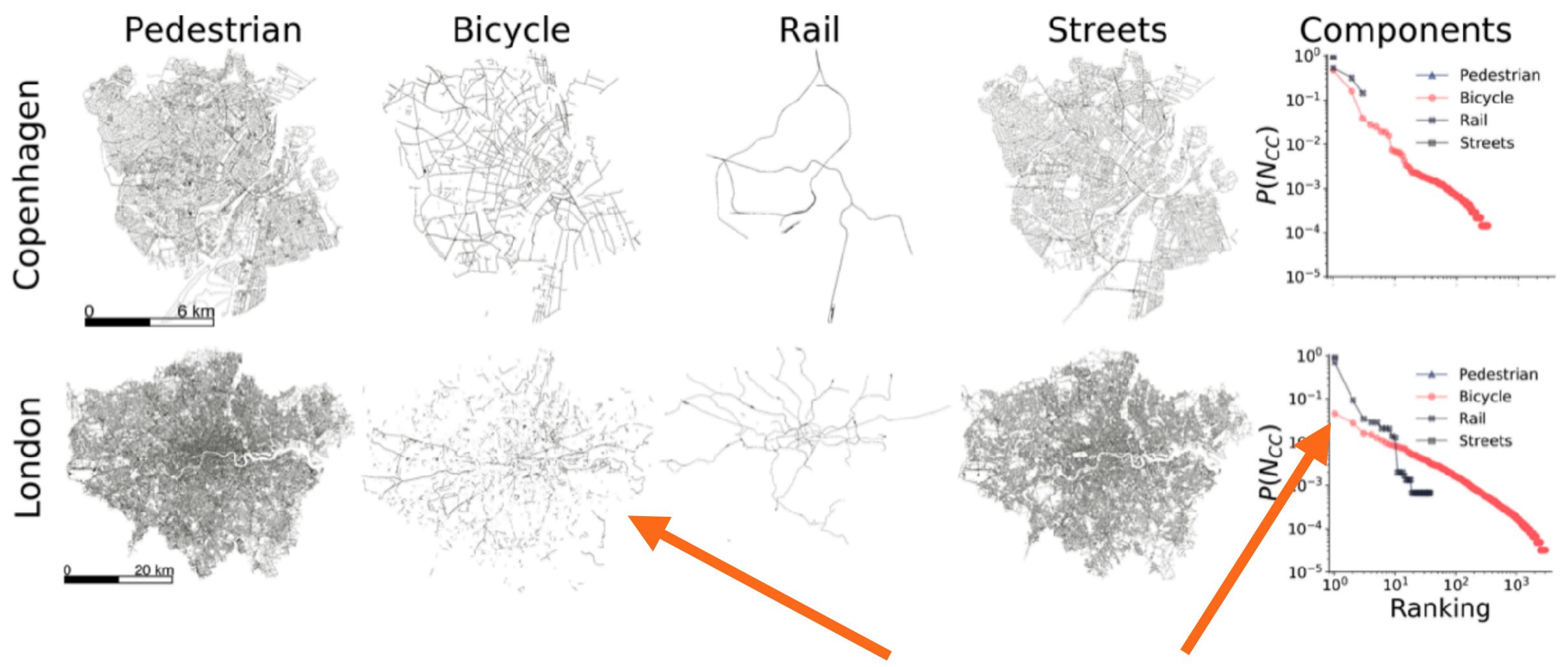
#### Cities have different transport network layers



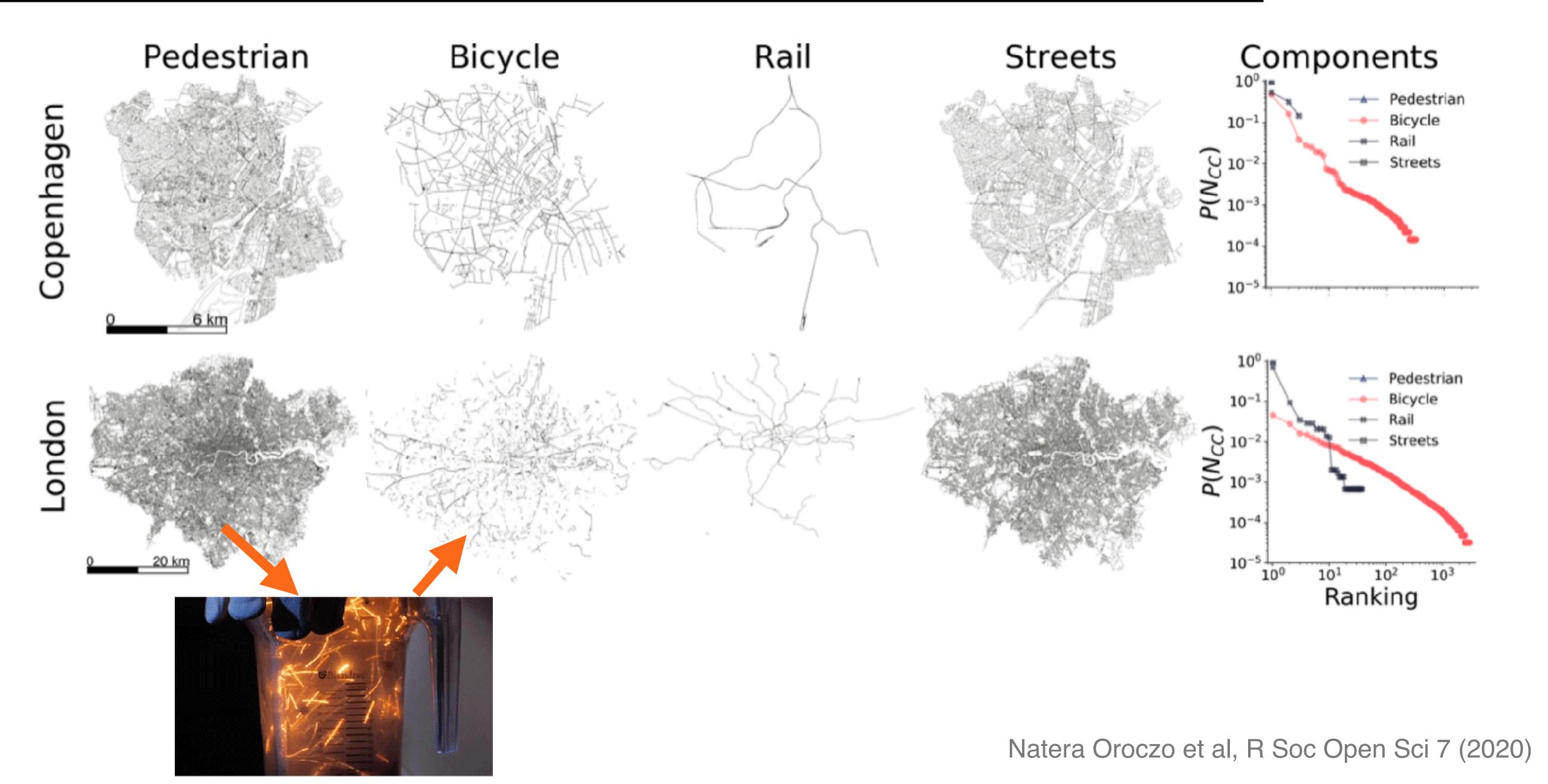




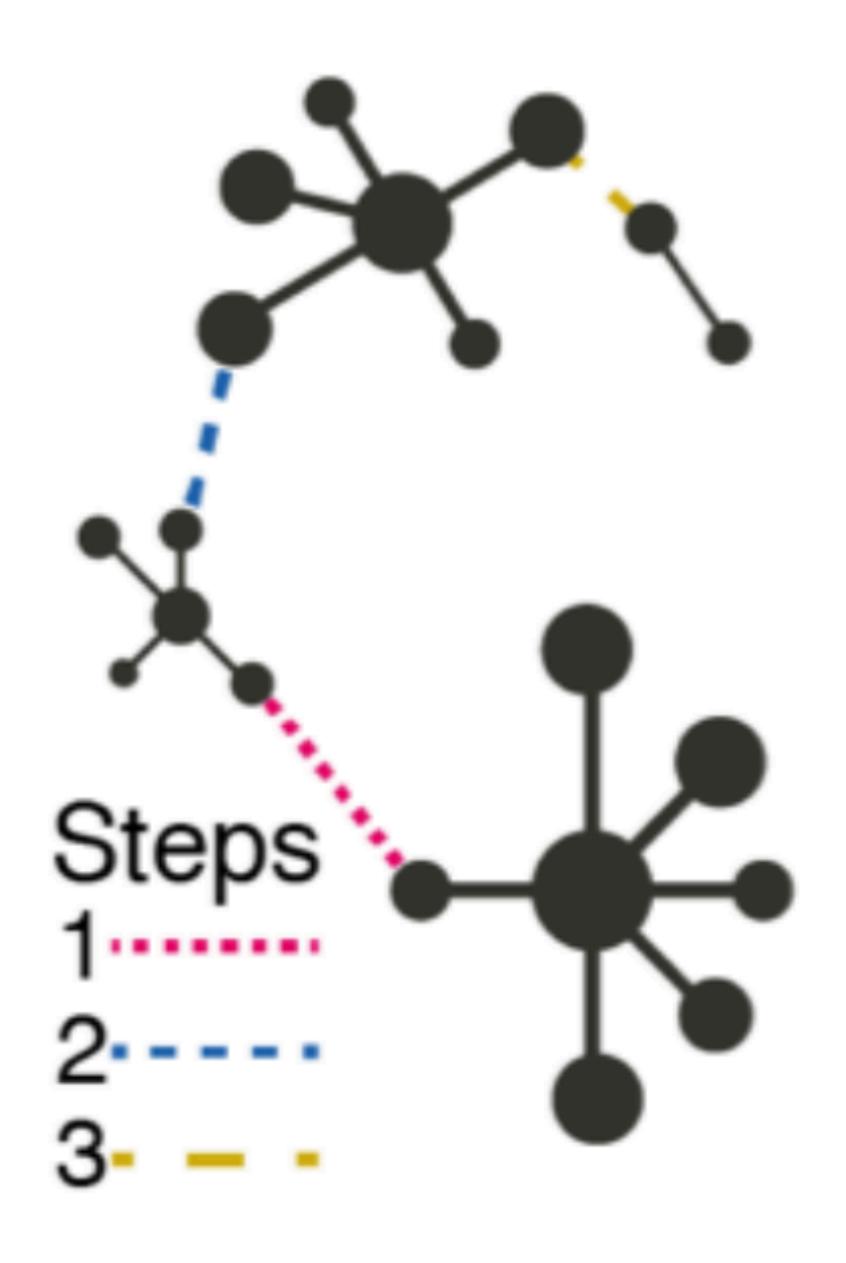
2) In London, the bicycle network has >3000 disconnected components



1) In London, the largest connected bicycle component covers only 5% of nodes

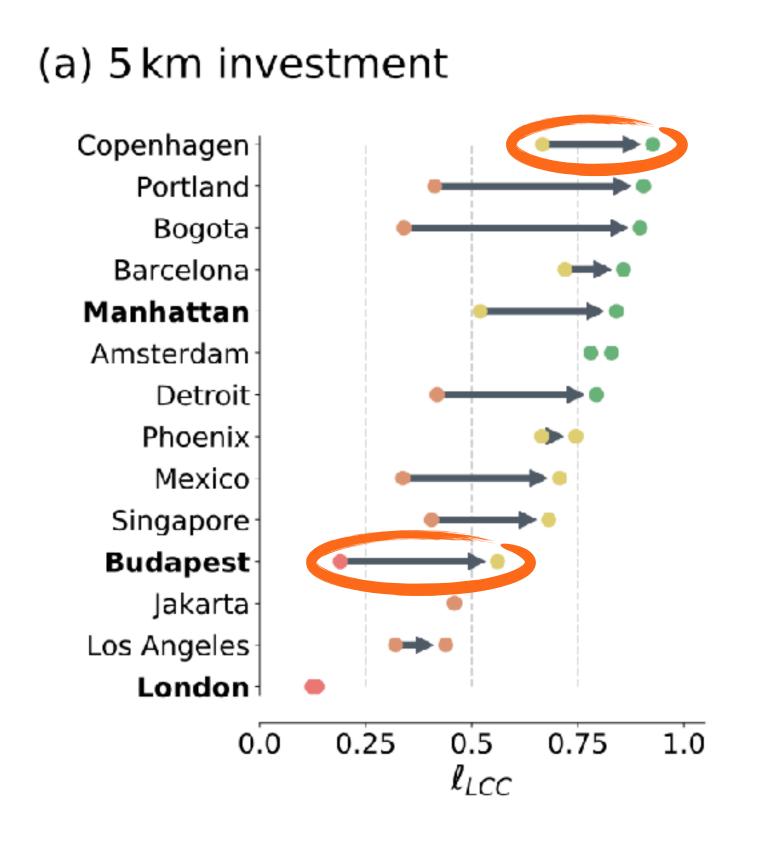


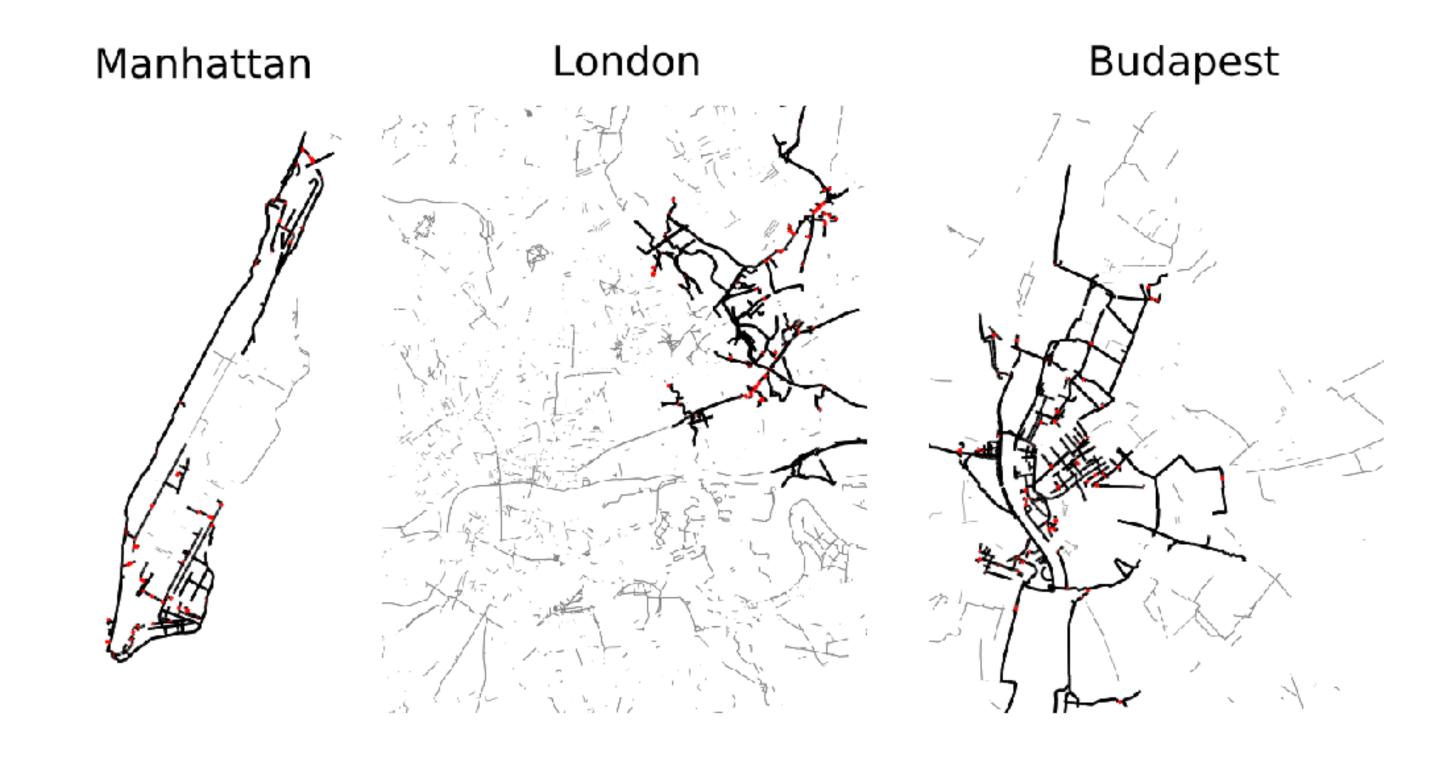
#### How should we connect the components?



#### Effective connectivity improvements are possible

#### Small but focused investments connect the bicycle network effectively

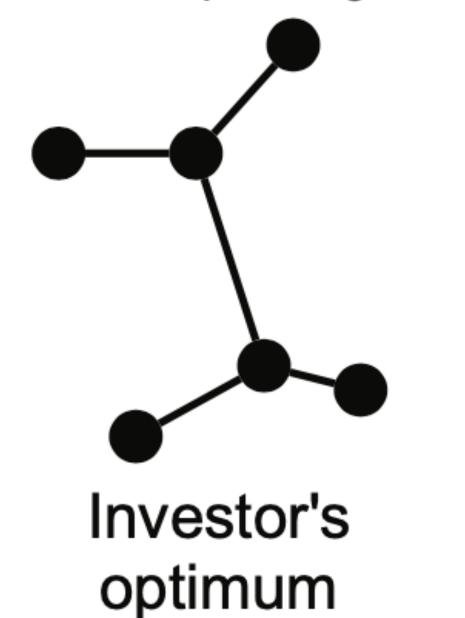




#### Just connecting components comes with 3 issues

#### 1) No resilience

Minimum spanning tree

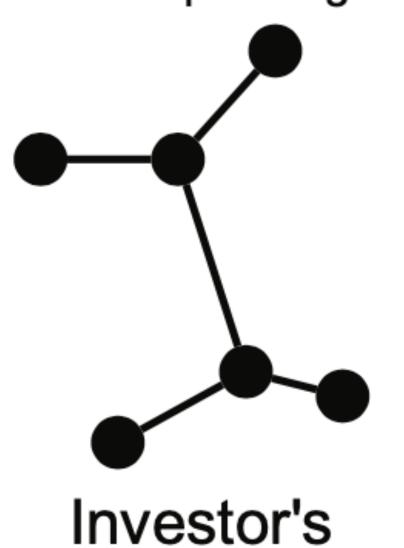


#### Just connecting components comes with 3 issues

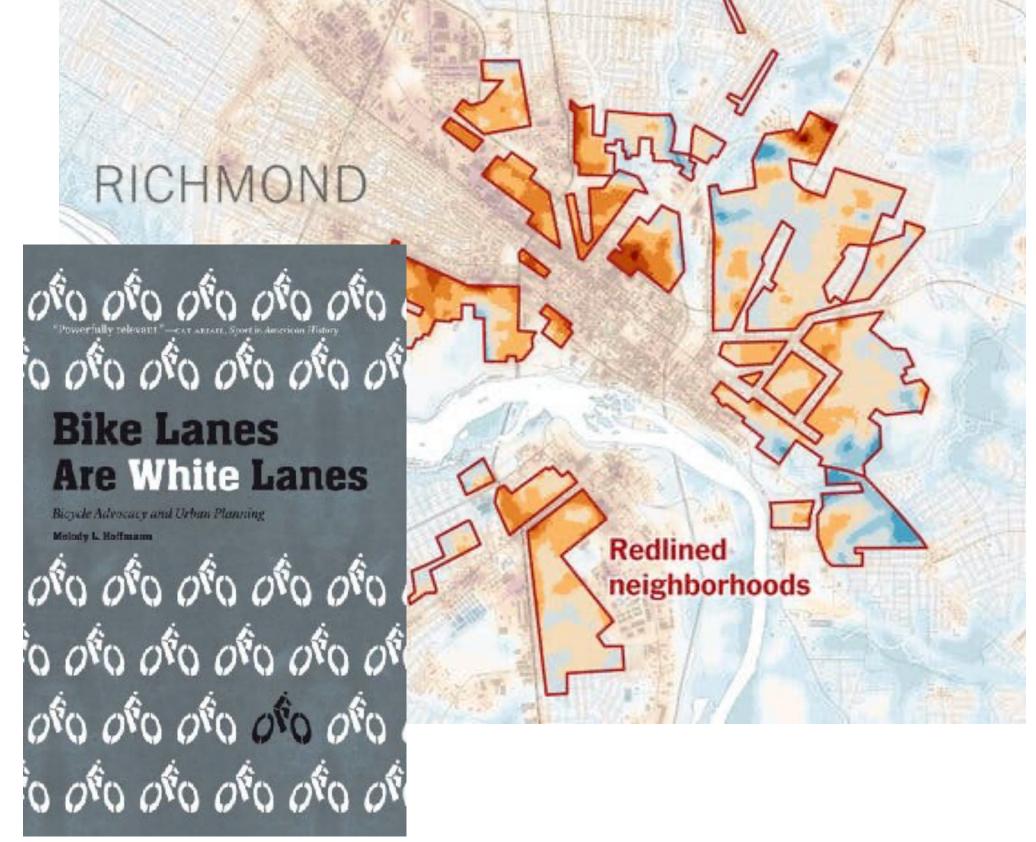
#### 1) No resilience

### 2) Develops only developed areas

Minimum spanning tree



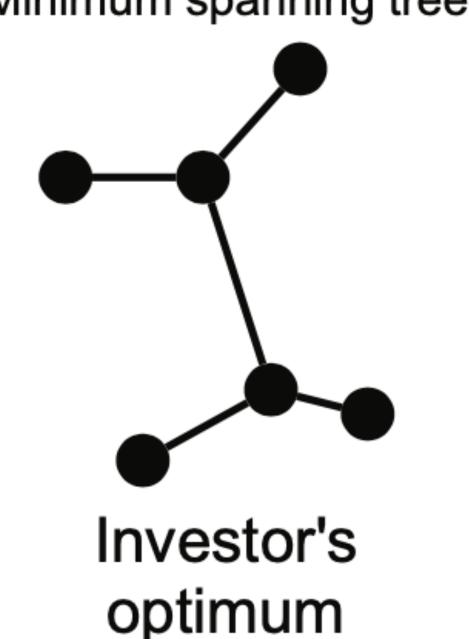
optimum



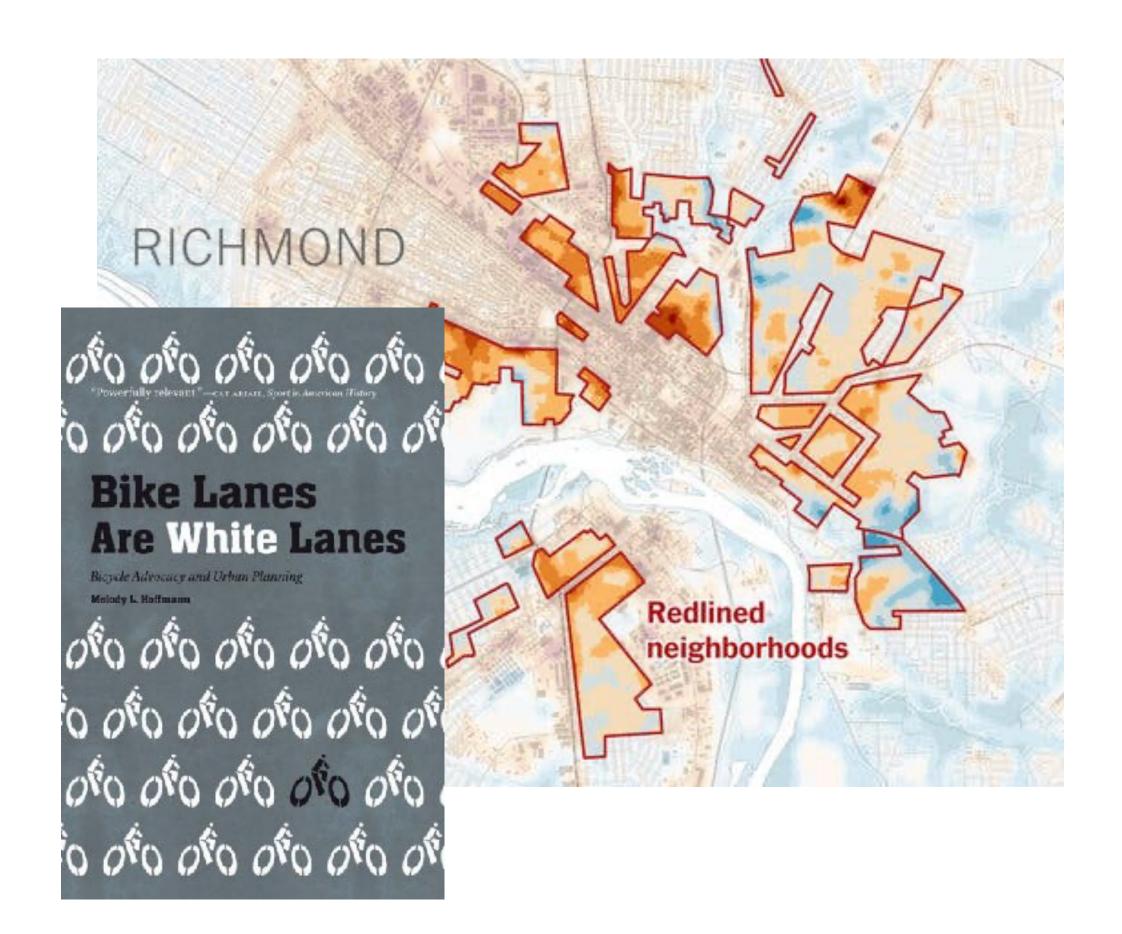
#### Just connecting components comes with 3 issues

#### 1) No resilience

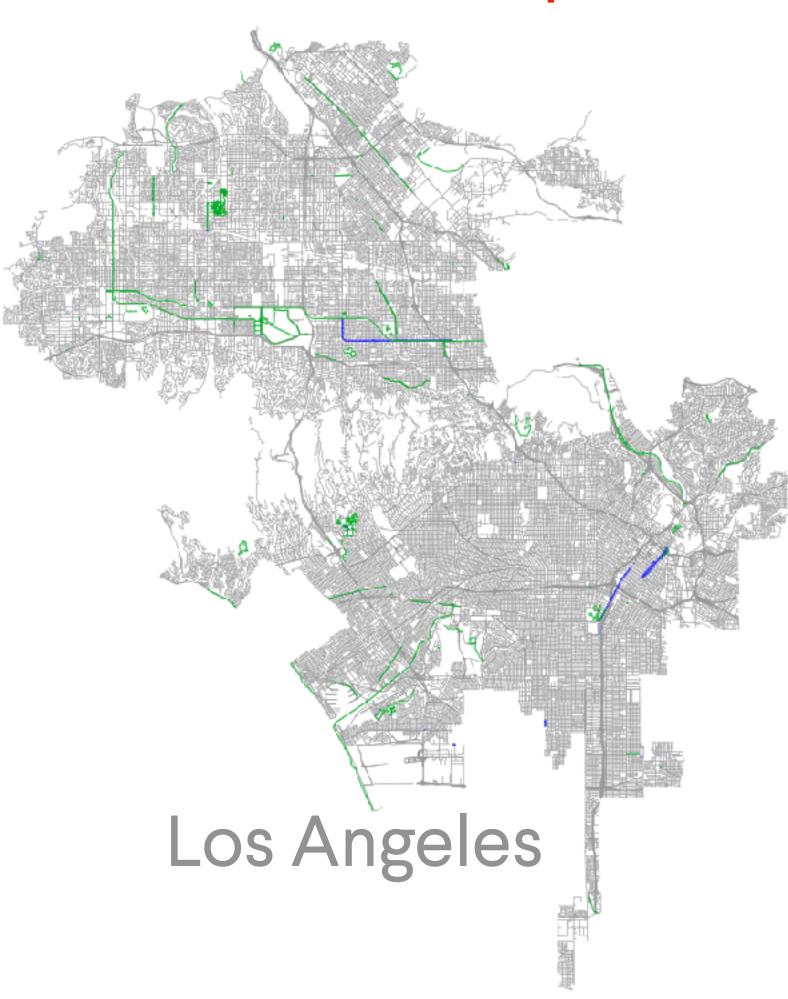
Minimum spanning tree



2) Develops only developed areas

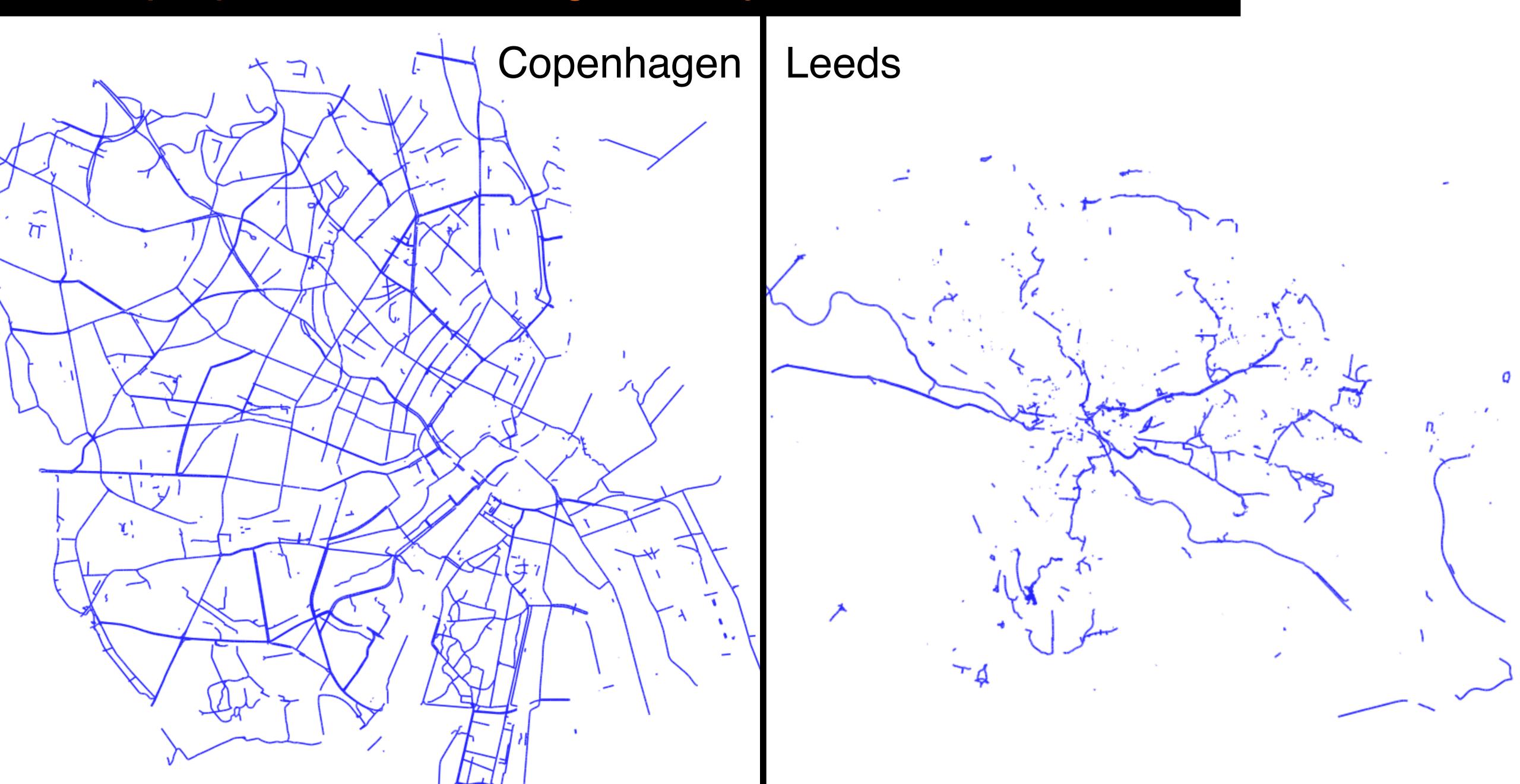


3) Irrelevant for >99% of cities on the planet



## Let's grow networks from scratch

#### What properties should a good bicycle network have?

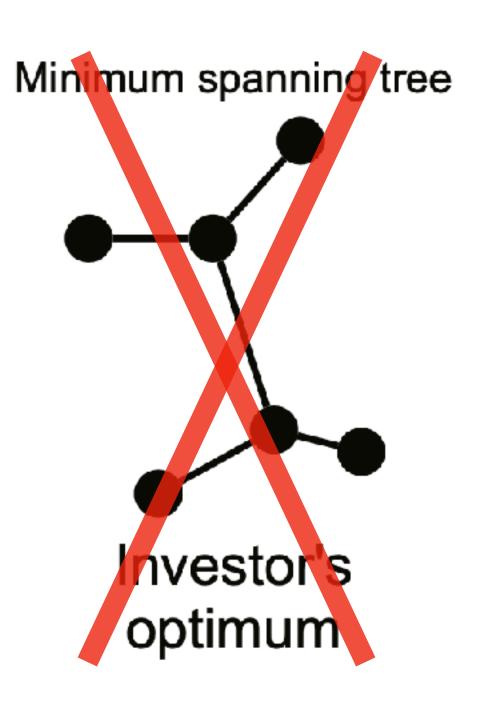




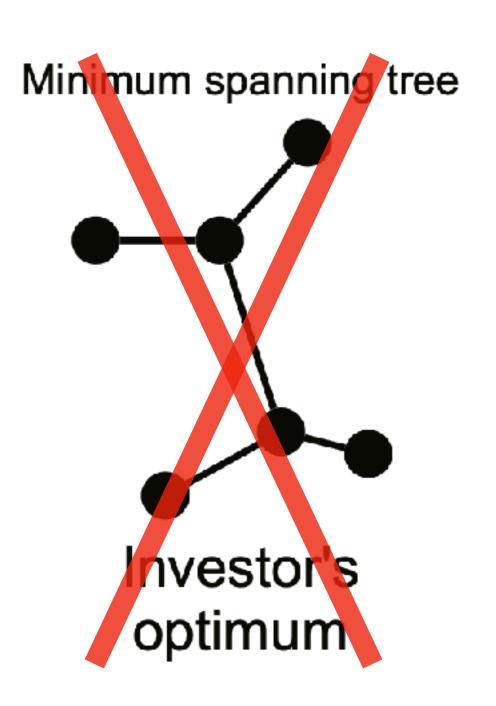
### Design Manual for Bicycle Traffic

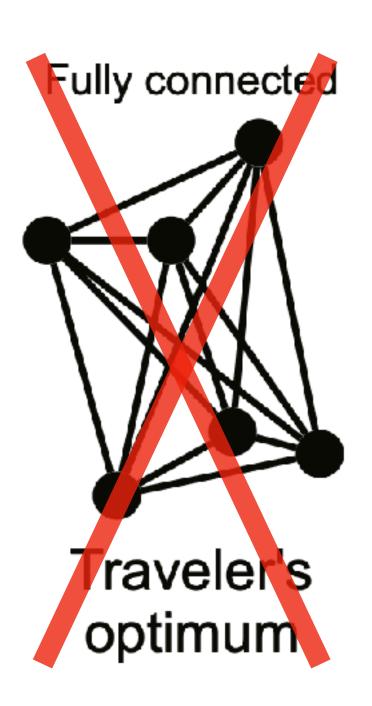


Connectedness & Resilience

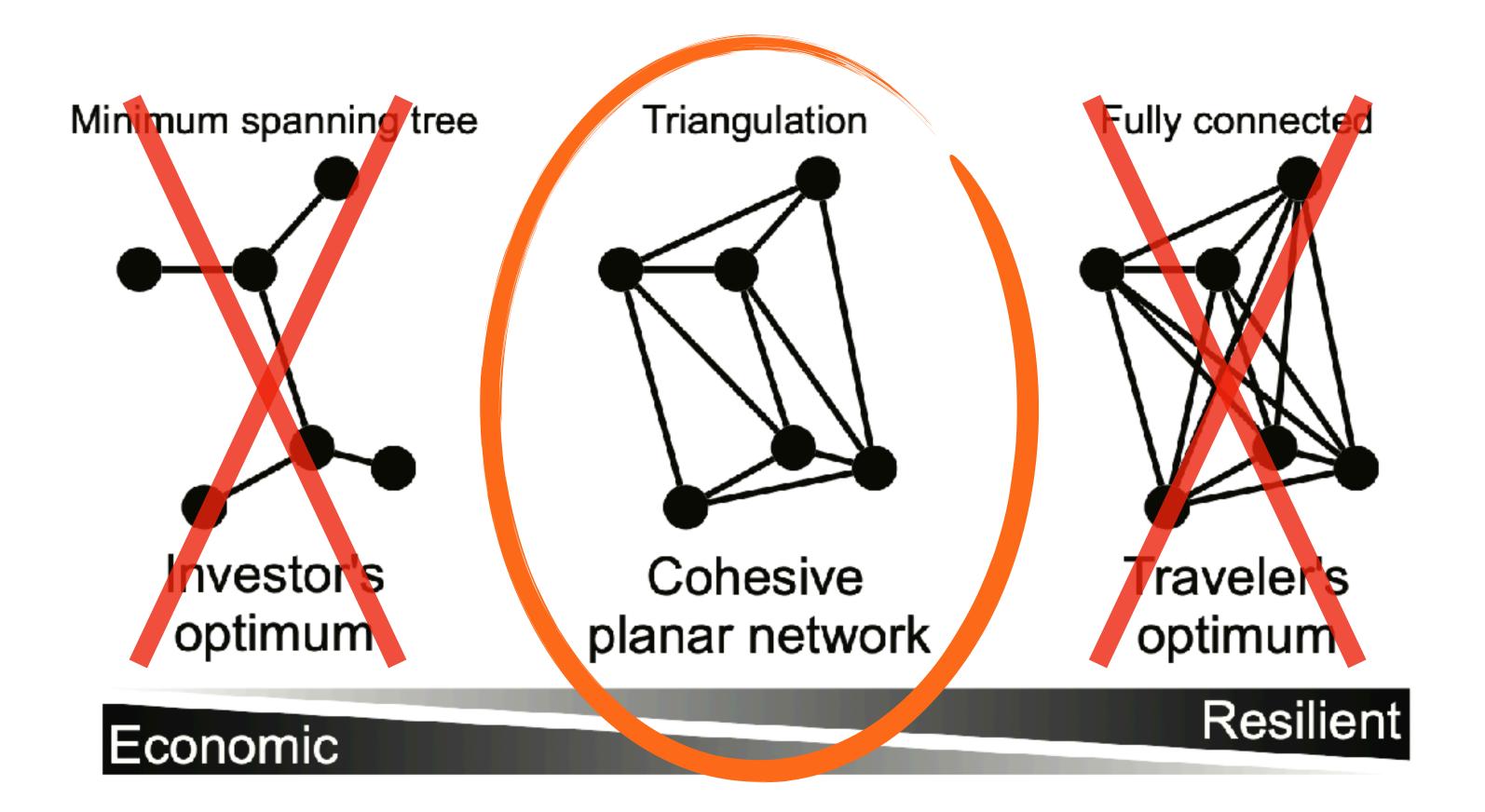


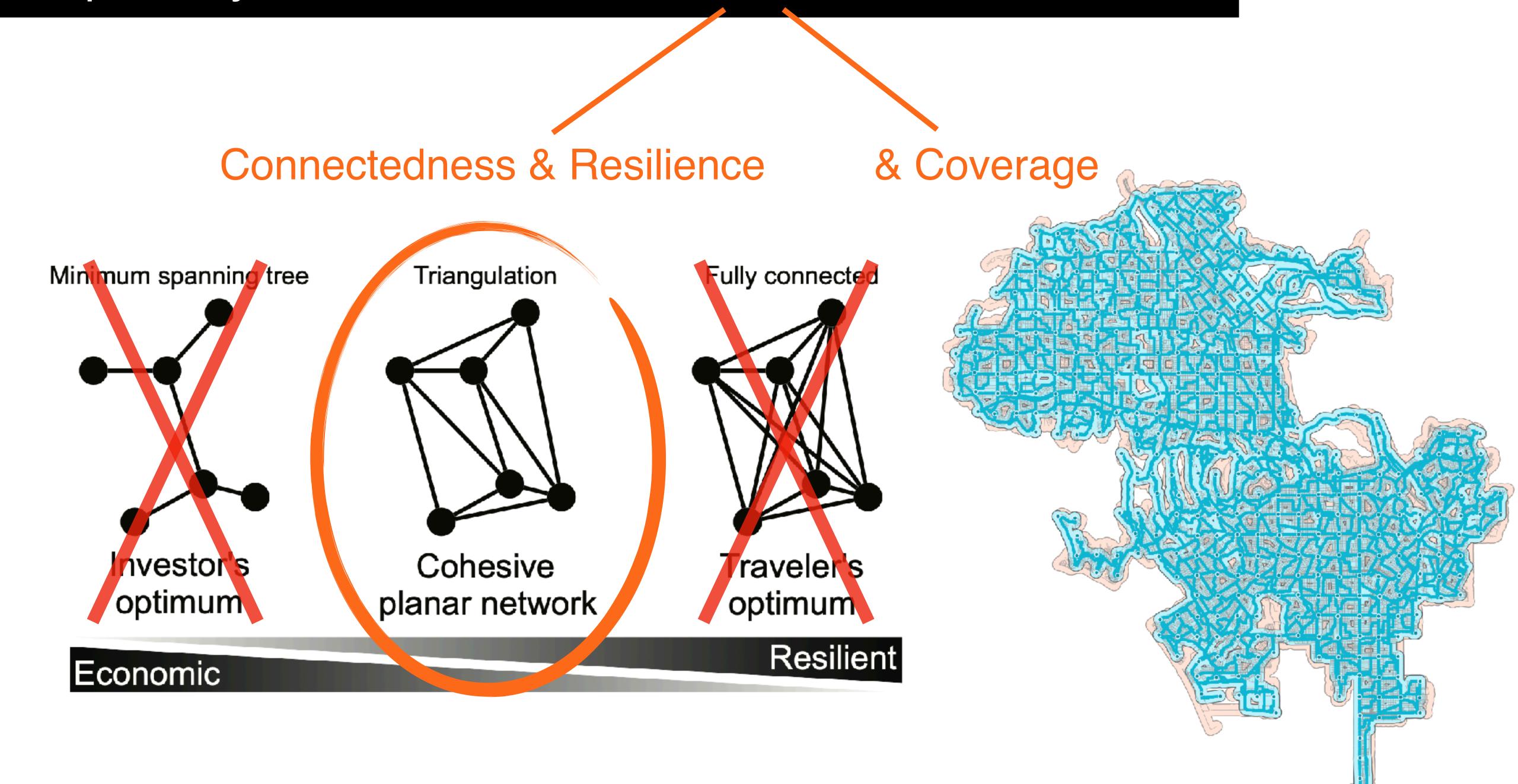
#### Connectedness & Resilience



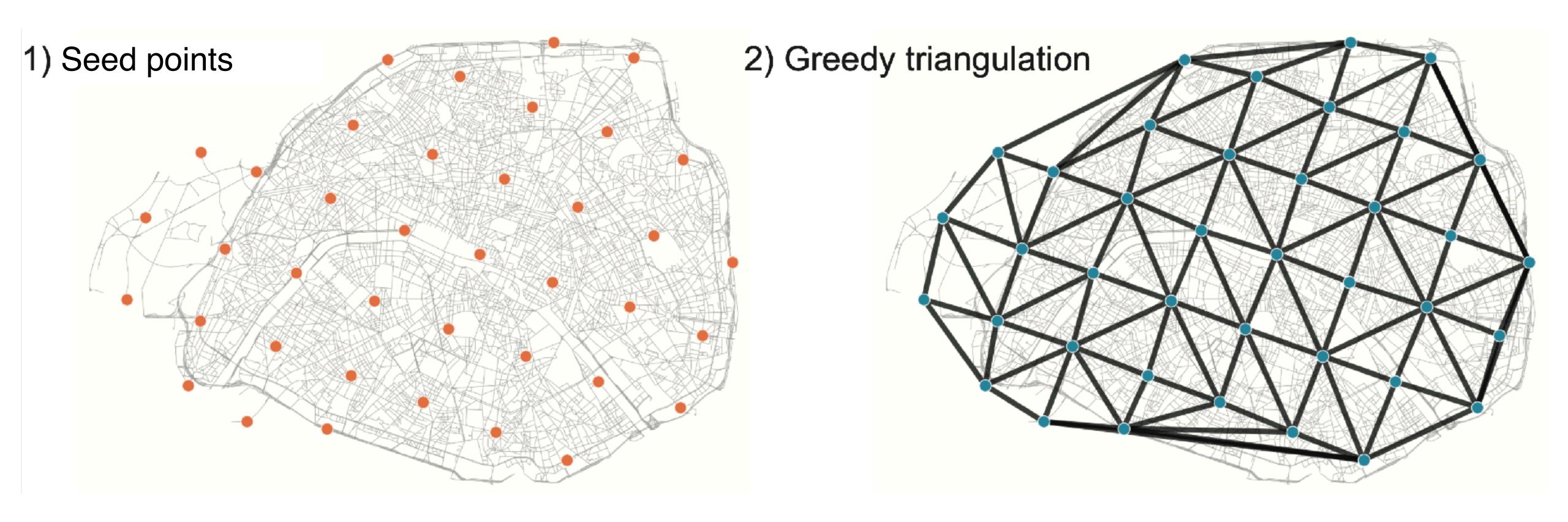


#### Connectedness & Resilience



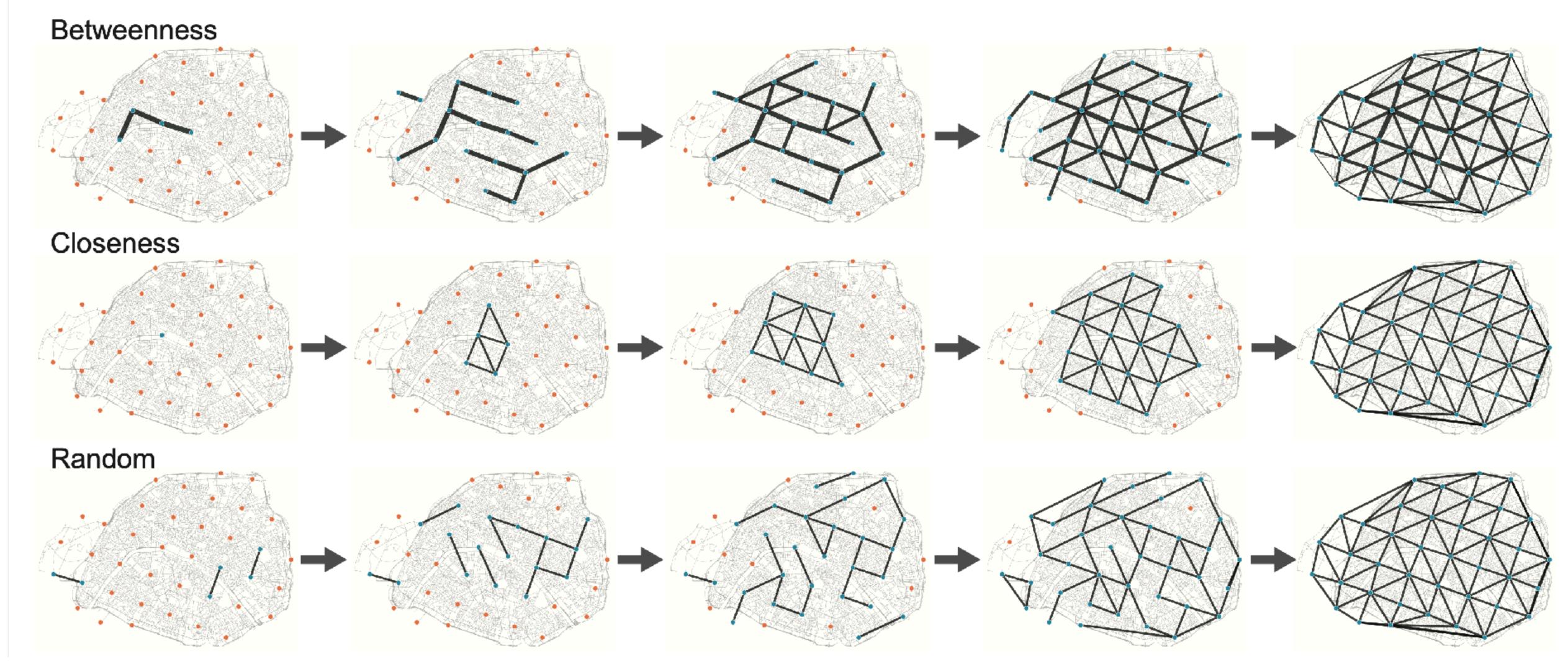


#### We build a greedy triangulation between points of interest



#### We build a greedy triangulation between points of interest

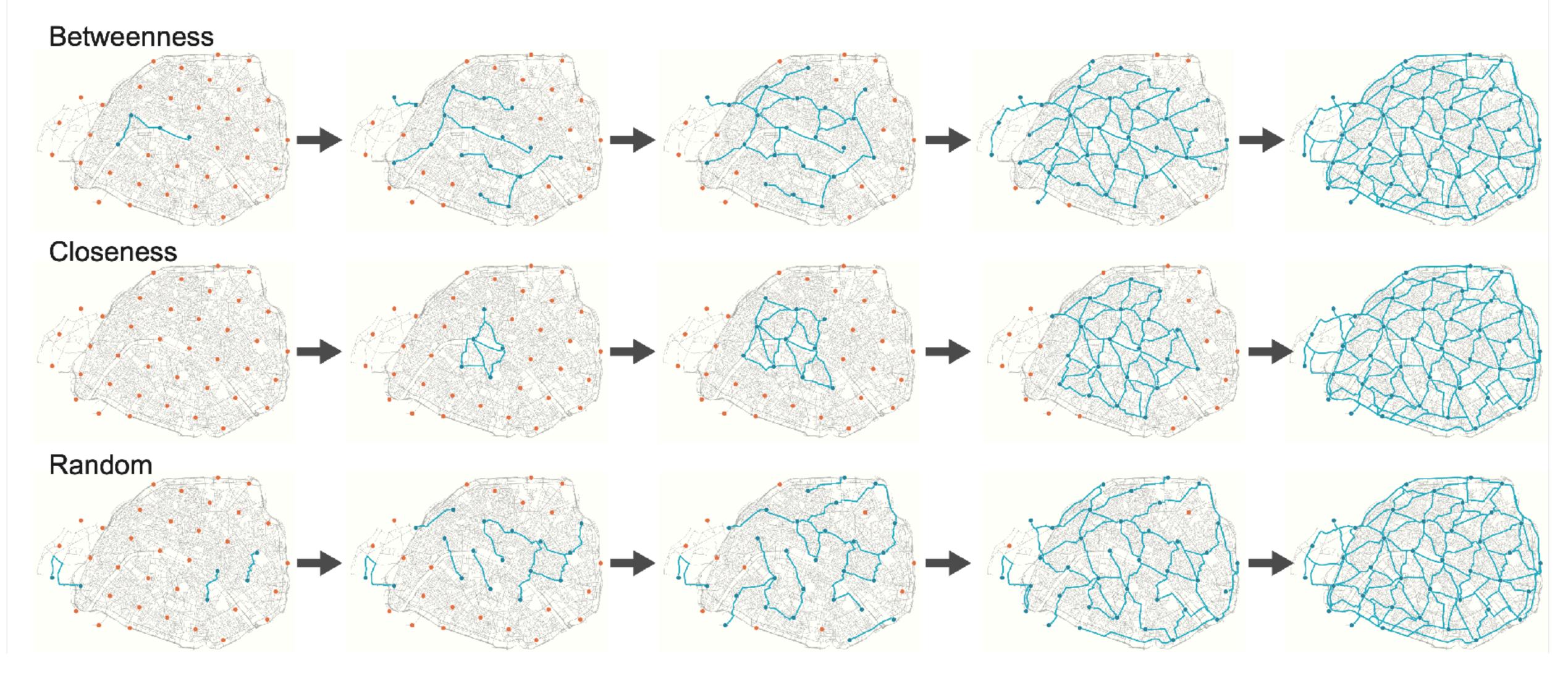
#### 3) Order by growth strategy



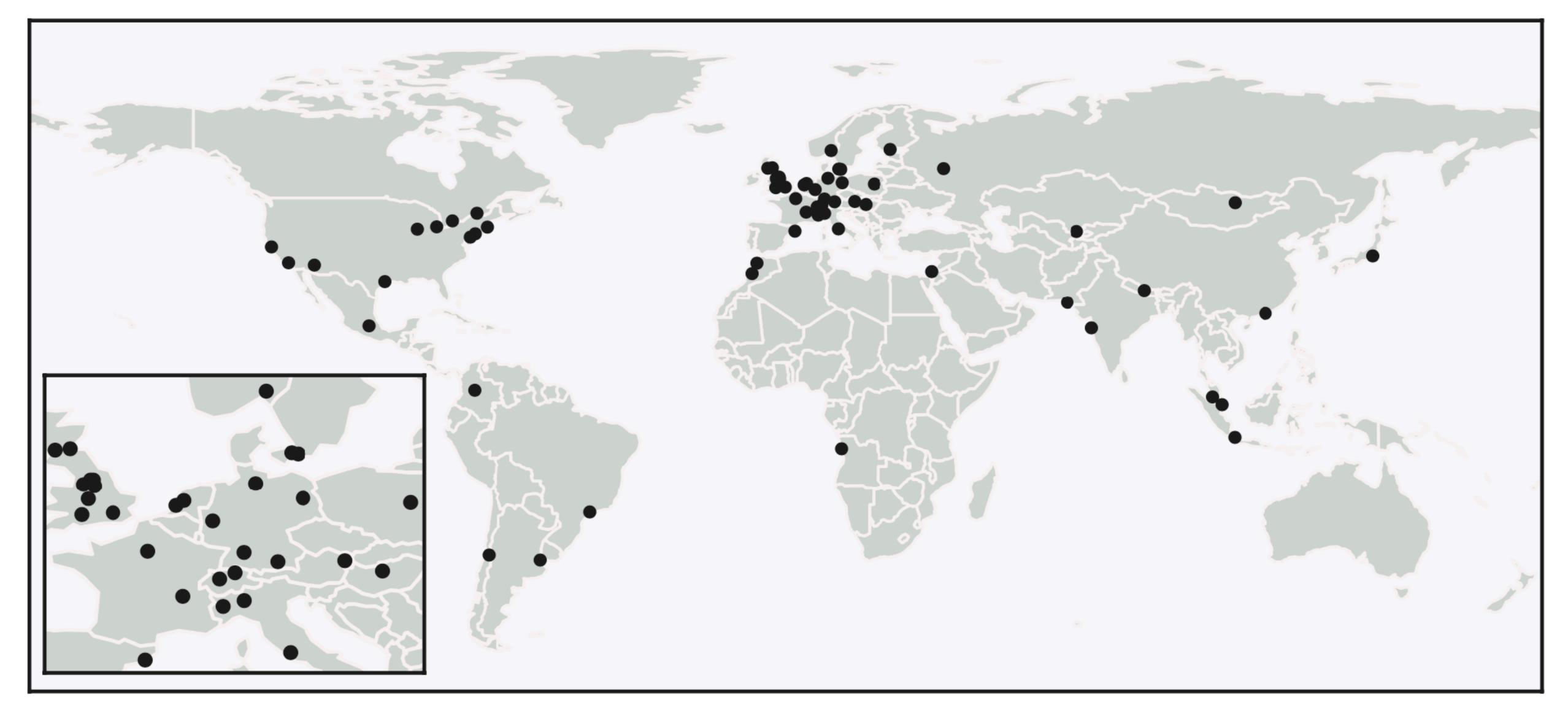
Szell et al., Sci Rep 12, 6765 (2022)

#### We build a greedy triangulation between points of interest

#### 4) Route on street network

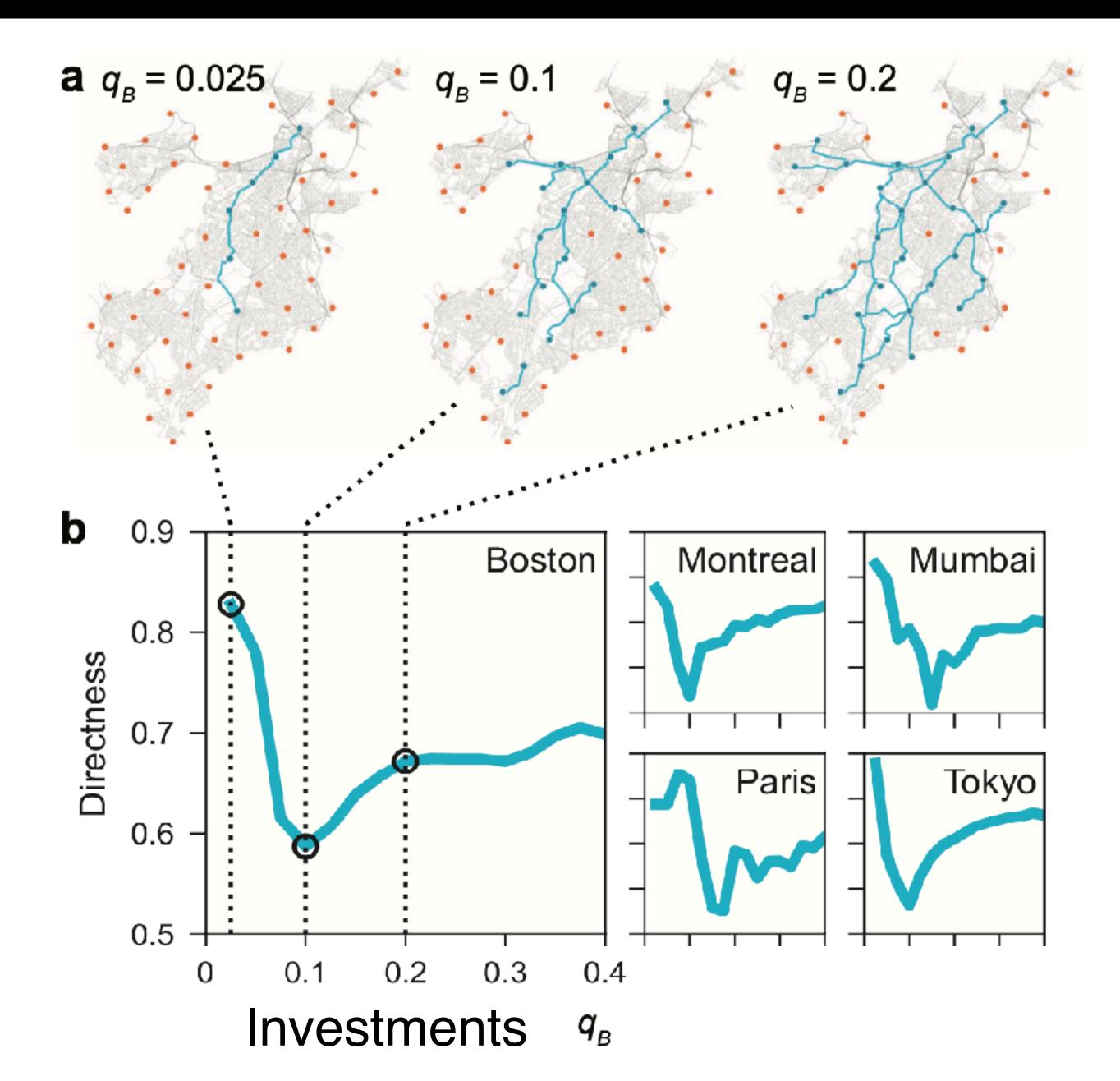


#### We explore 62 cities



Szell et al., Sci Rep 12, 6765 (2022)

#### Result 1: Investments need to surpass a critical threshold



# The pieces need to connect and to form cycles

#### Policy implication 1: Invest persistently!

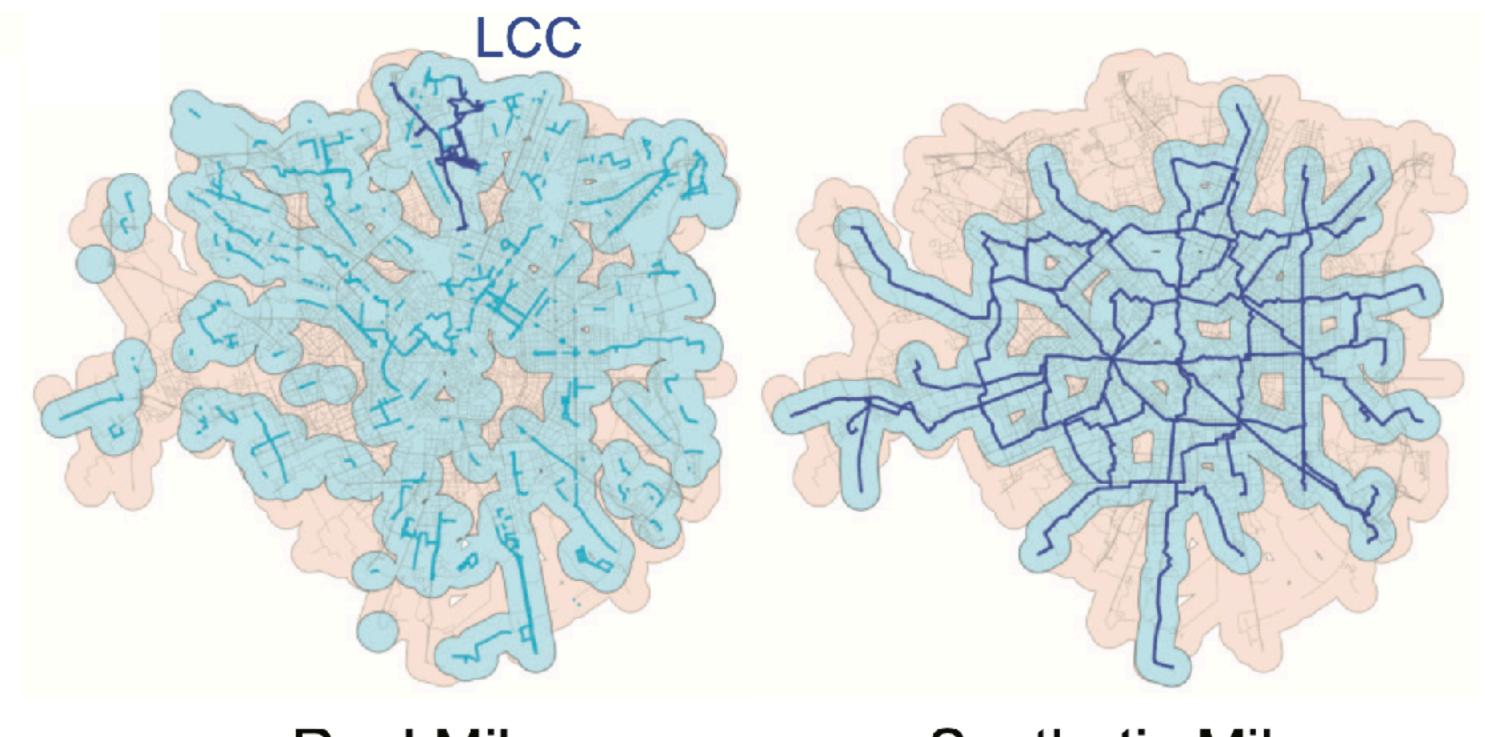


Brent Toderian 📀 @BrentToderian · Jul 30

My real advice for ambitious municipal elected leaders on building a safe, connected network of REAL (not painted lines or sharrows) bike infrastructure — direct your staff to do ALL of the work that you're currently planning to build over the next 5-10 years, ALL IN ONE YEAR.

#### Result 2: It's not a network's length that matters but how you grow it

### At same length, we could do much better

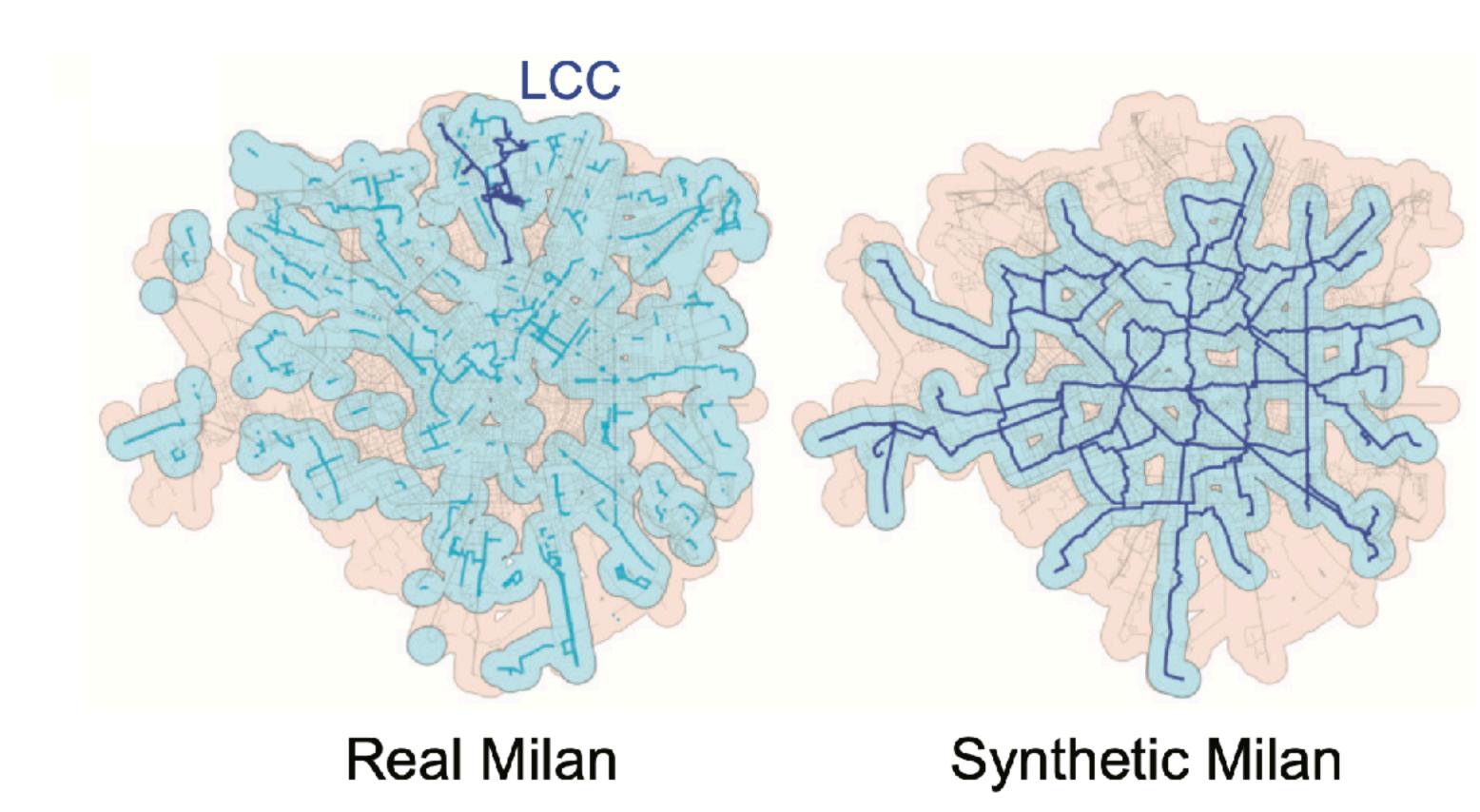


Real Milan

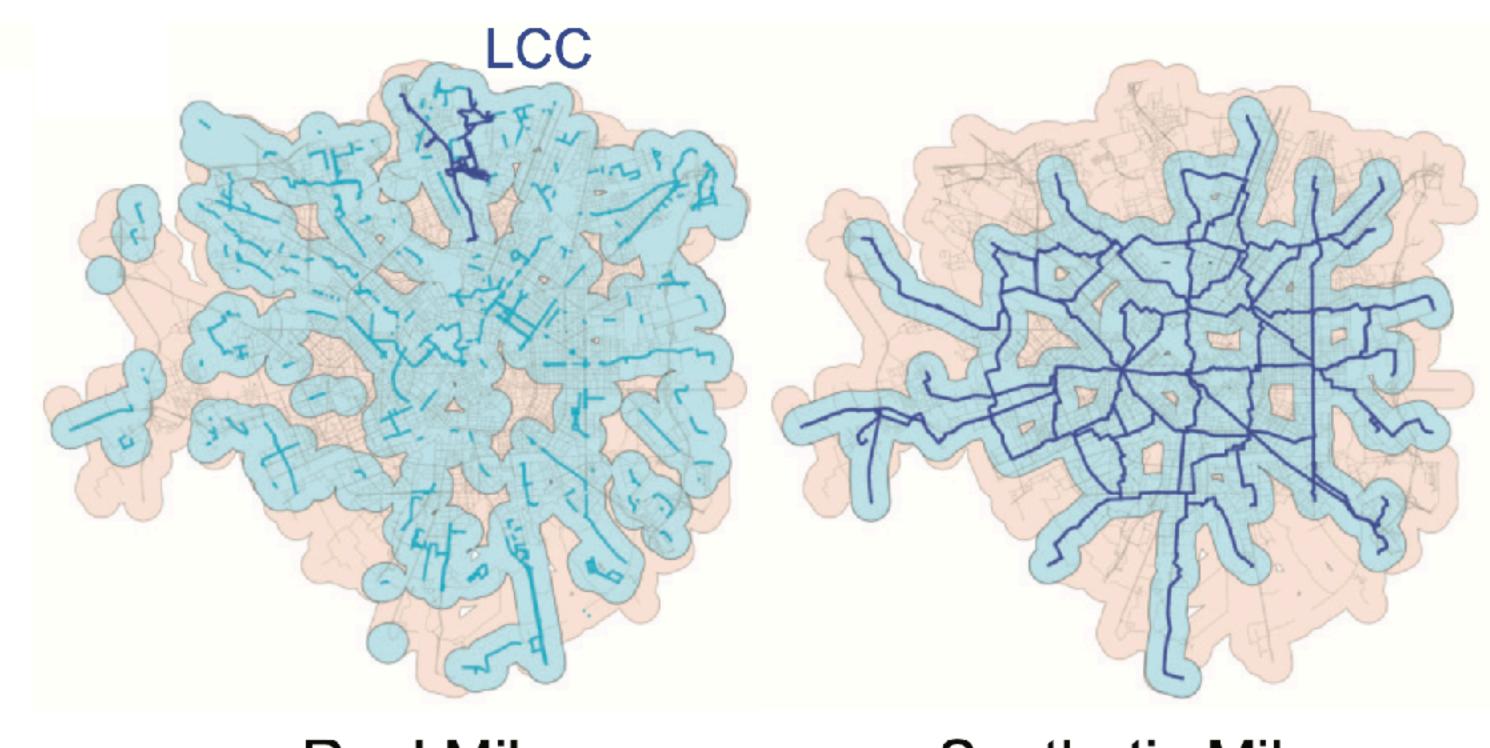
Synthetic Milan

#### Policy implication 2: Strategy matters: Build for the whole city

### Avoid "random-like", piecewise growth



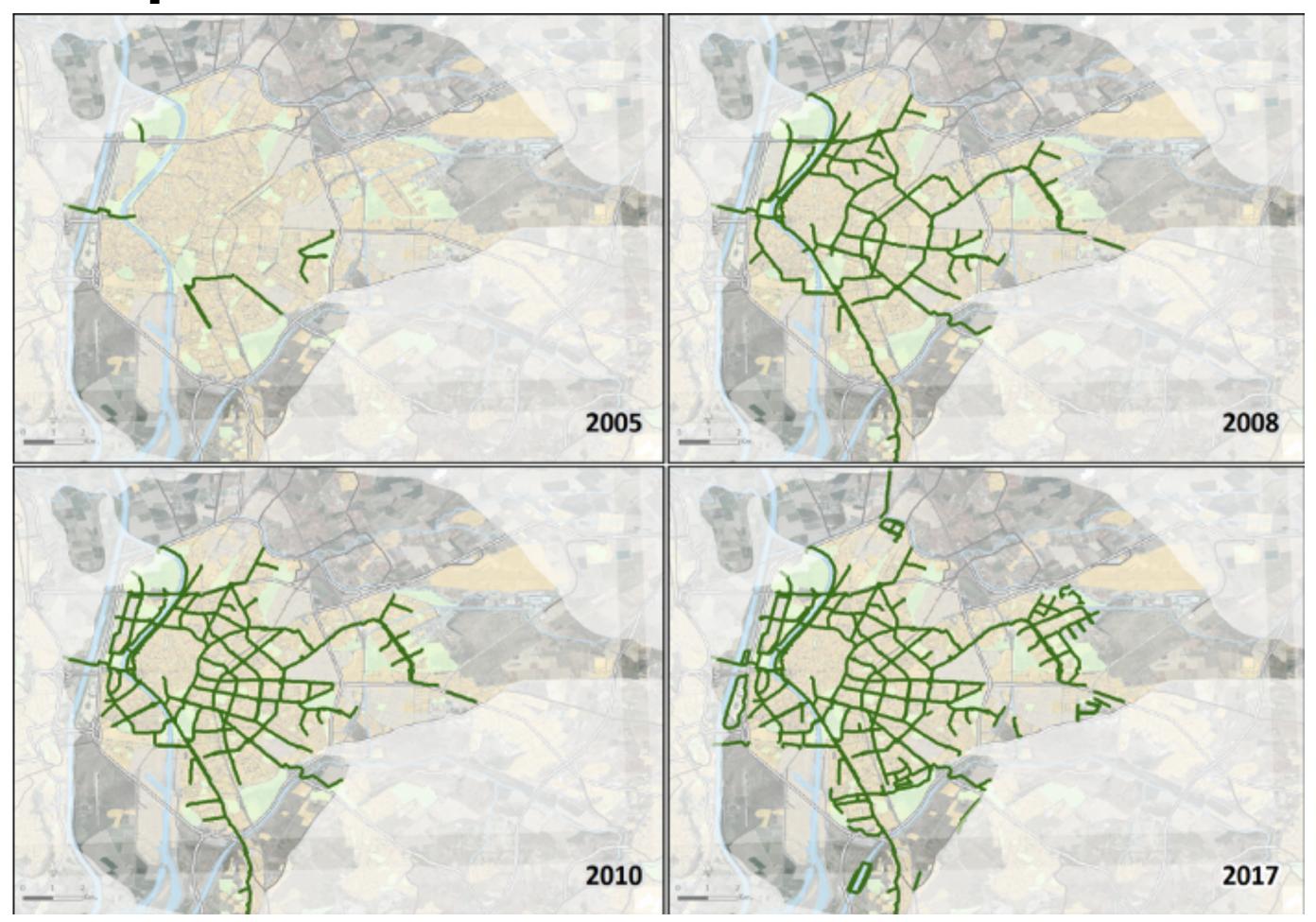
#### Easier said than done - Isn't this unrealistic??



Real Milan

Synthetic Milan

#### Nope: See Seville

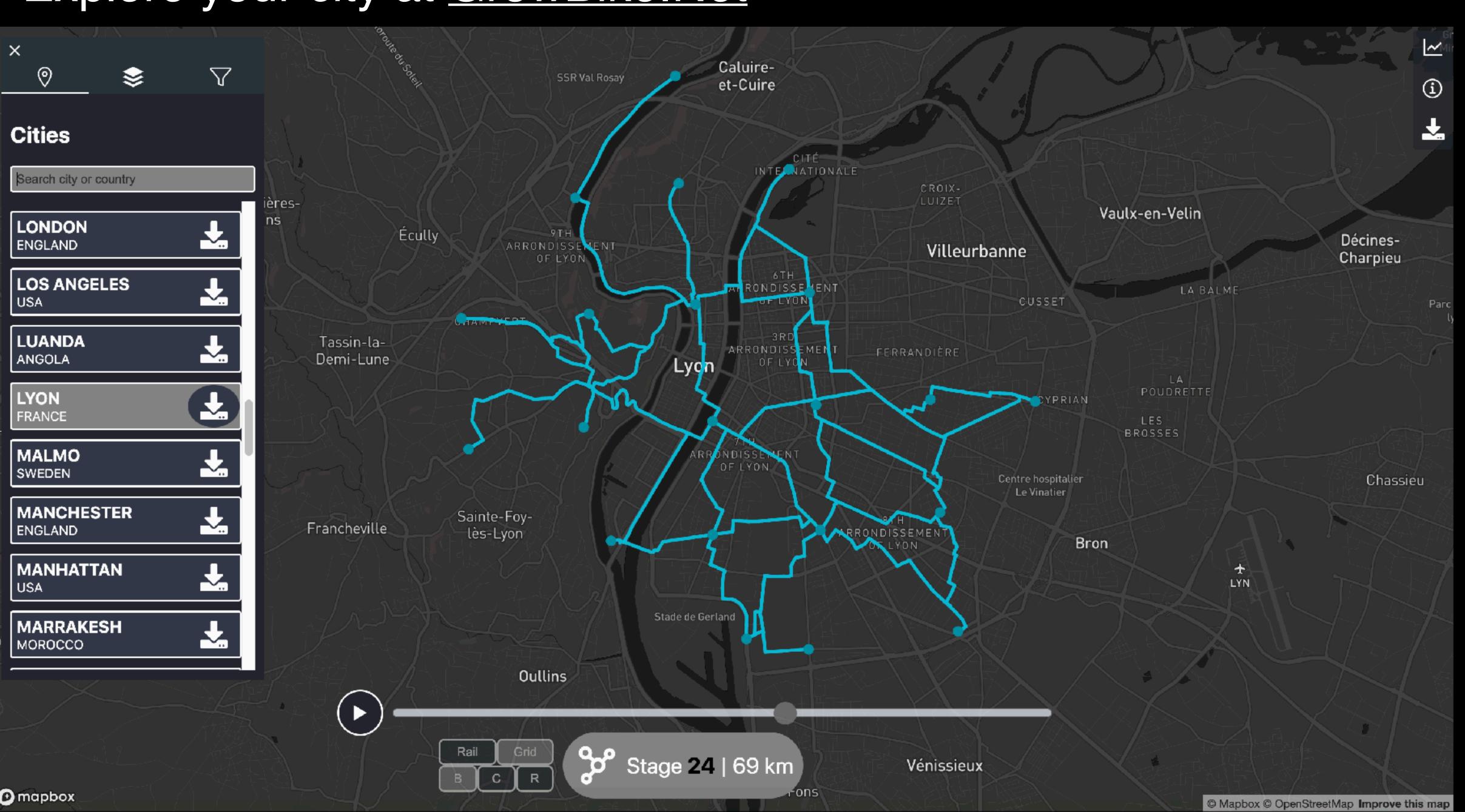


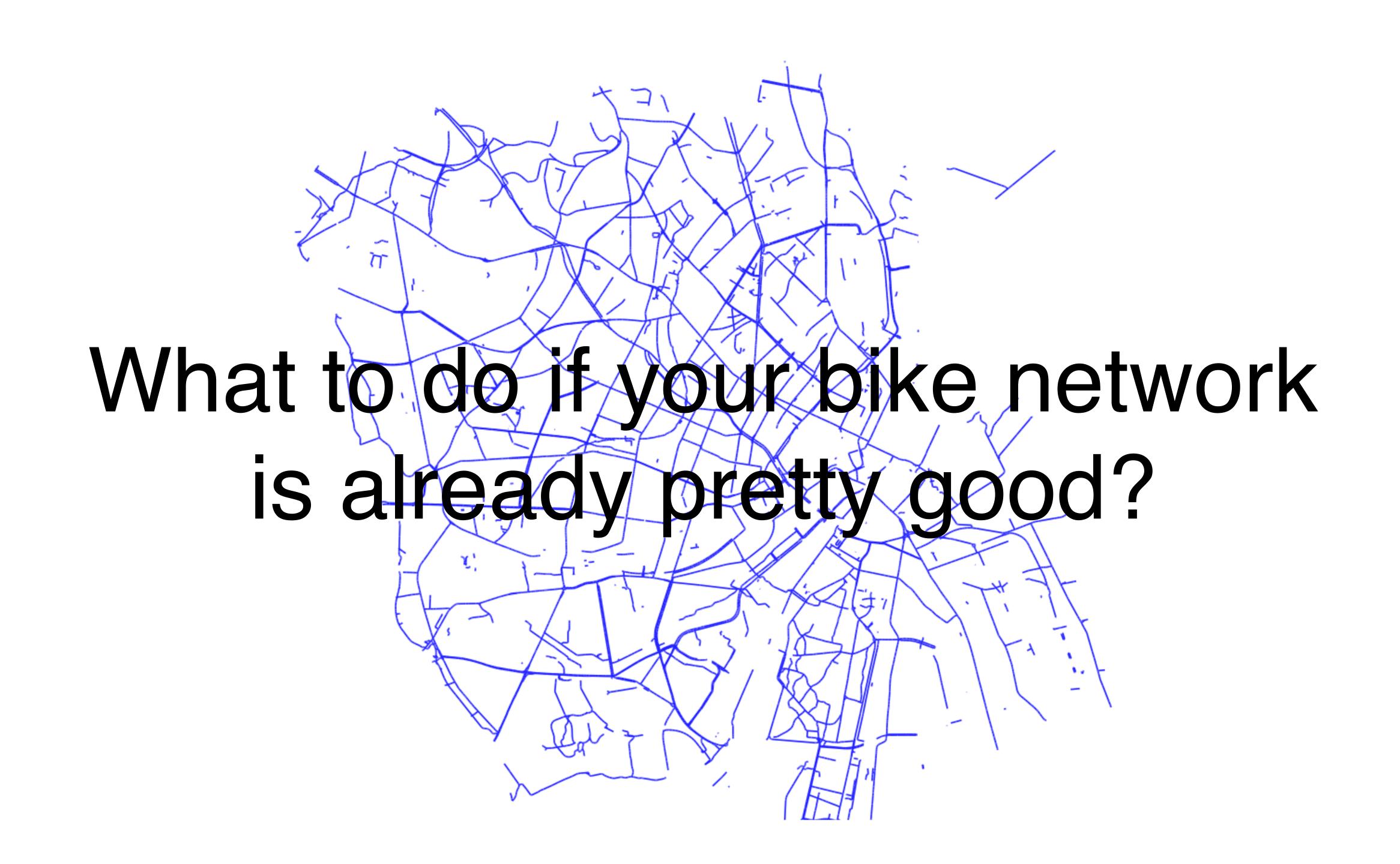
#### Also: Paris, Oslo, ...



# There is no excuse

#### Explore your city at GrowBike.Net





#### Identify & Prioritize

We could find millions of gaps...

We need a metric to prioritize them.



Vybornova et al, Geographical Analysis (2022)

## 2) Prioritize



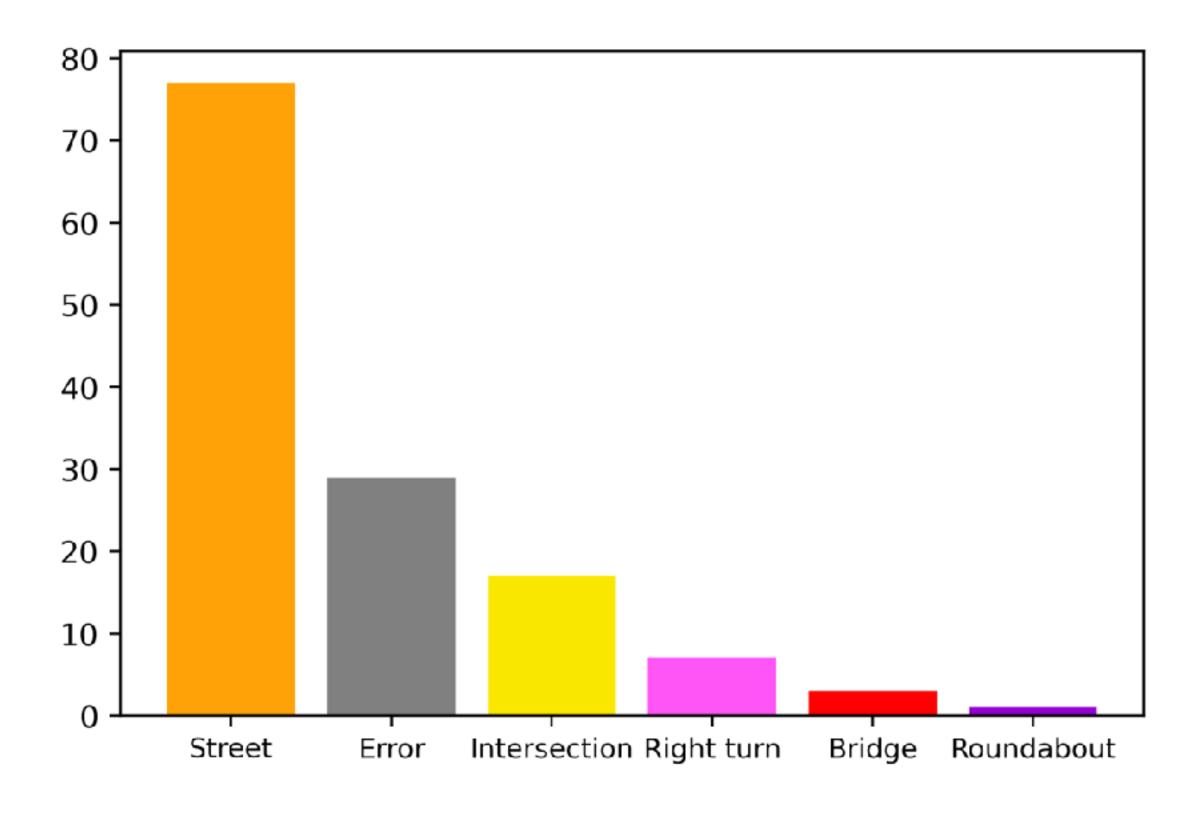
"If this gap was closed, how many meters cycled in mixed traffic would be avoided per investment unit?"



Vybornova et al, Geographical Analysis (2022)

## Our top 105 gaps



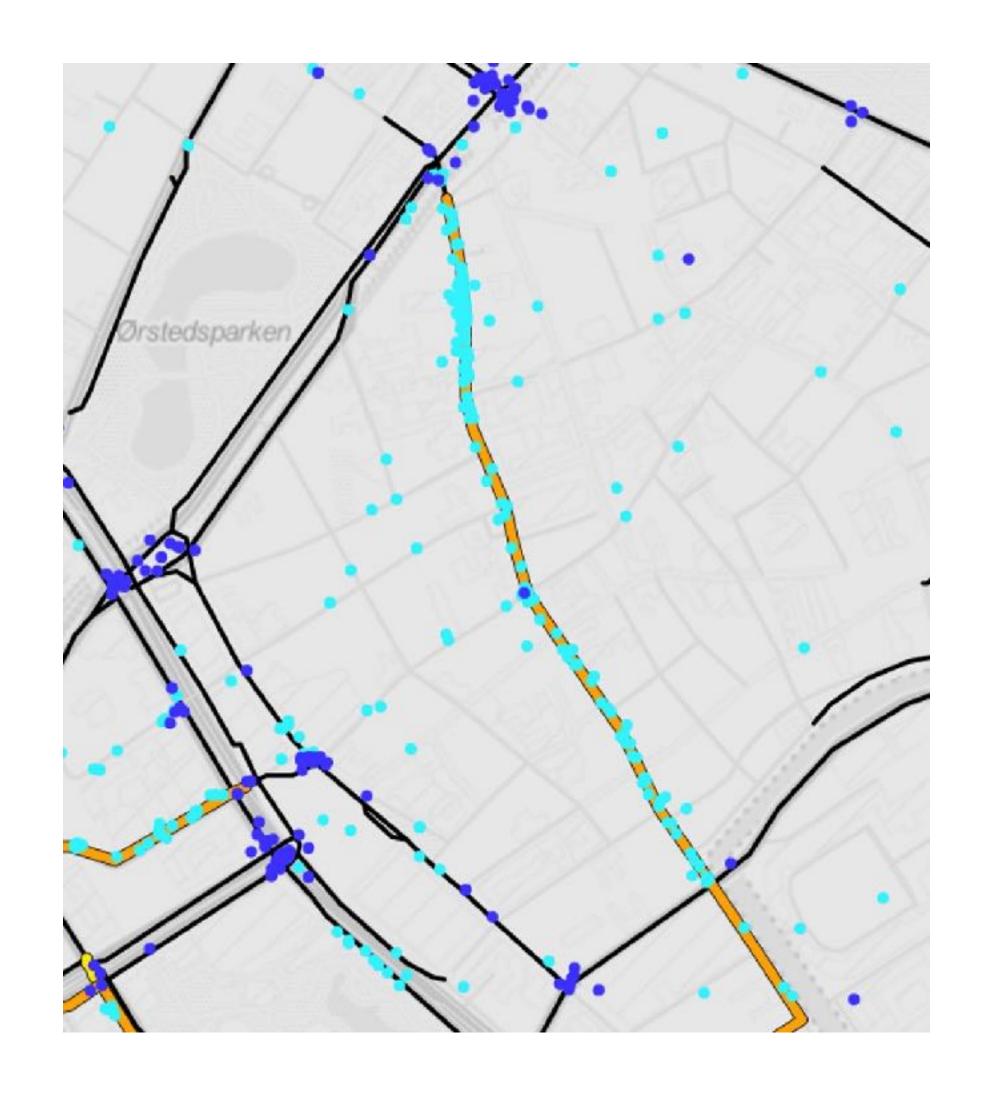


## Evaluation: Comparison with Cykelsti-Prioriteringsplan





## Evaluation: We find many overlaps



Hans Tavsens Park

Nørregade

Rantzausgade

not developed

Los Angeles



Grow persistently with focused investments

not developed

Los Angeles



Grow persistently with focused investments

medium developed

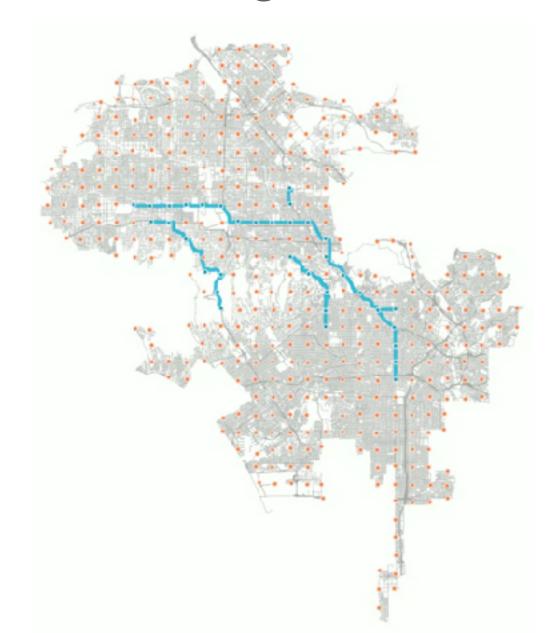
Budapest



Connect with right strategy

not developed

Los Angeles



Grow persistently with focused investments

medium developed

Budapest



Connect with right strategy

well developed

Copenhagen

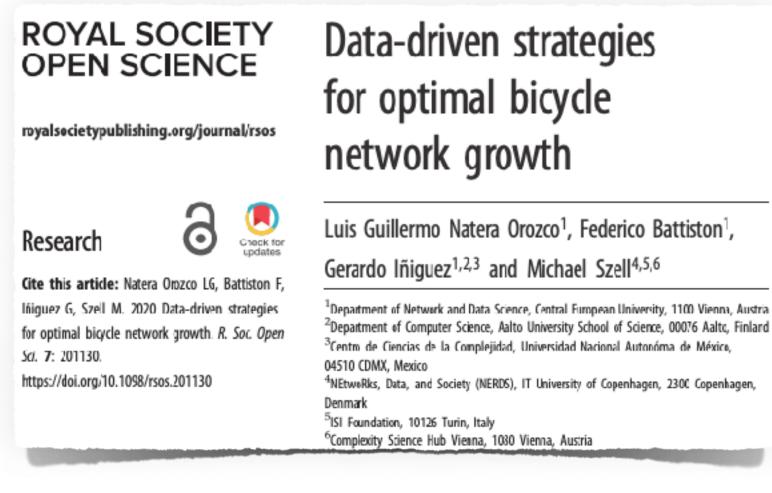


Close the most important gaps

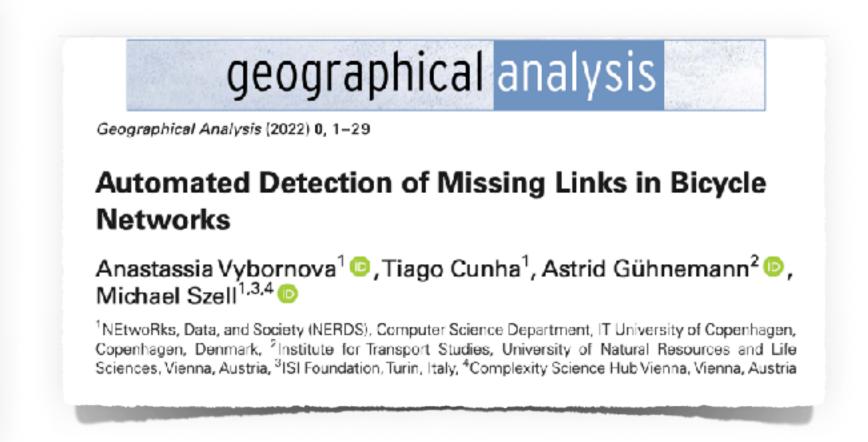
not developed



#### medium developed



#### well developed



Grow persistently with focused investments

Connect with right strategy

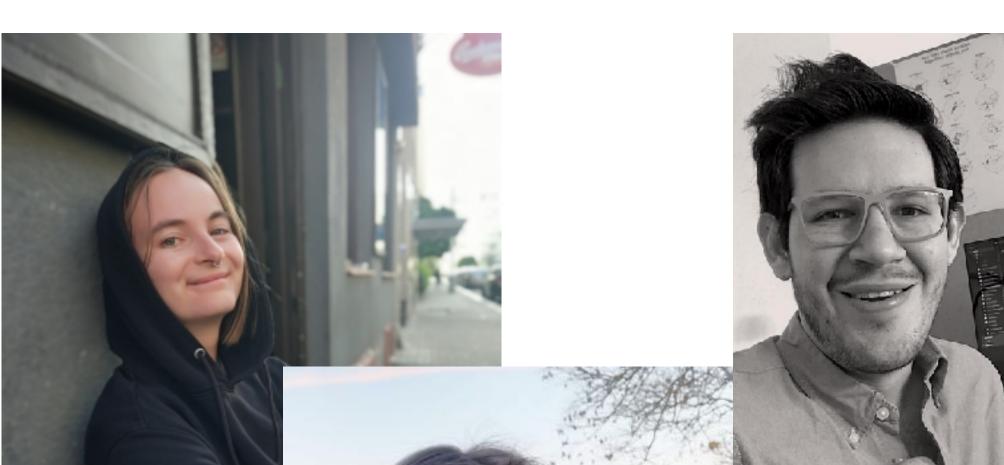
Close the most important gaps

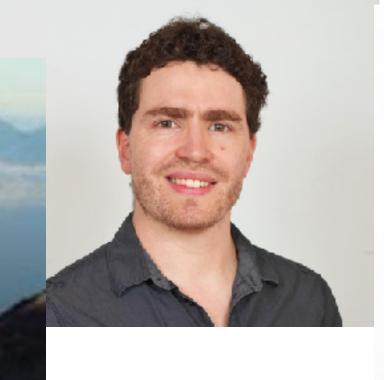


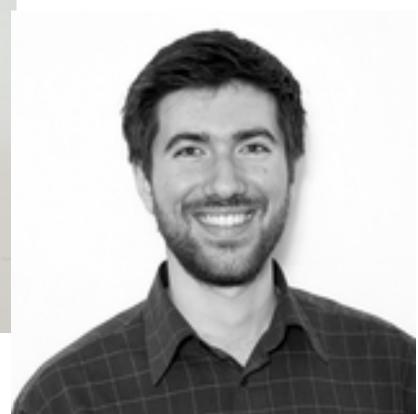










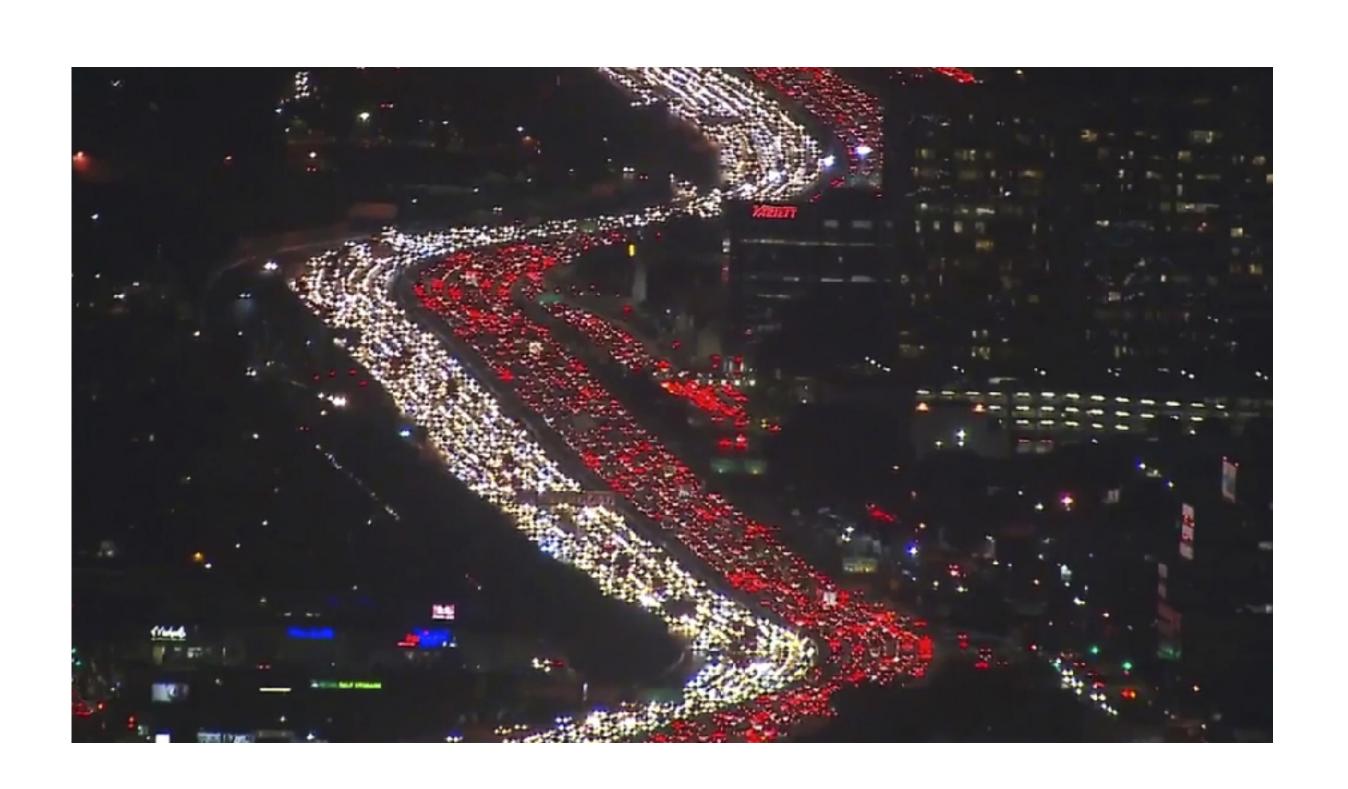


Szell et al., Sci Rep 12, 6765 (2022) Klanjcic et al, EPJ Data Sci 11, 27 (2022) Natera Oroczo et al, R Soc Open Sci 7 (2020) Vybornova et al, Geographical Analysis (2022)

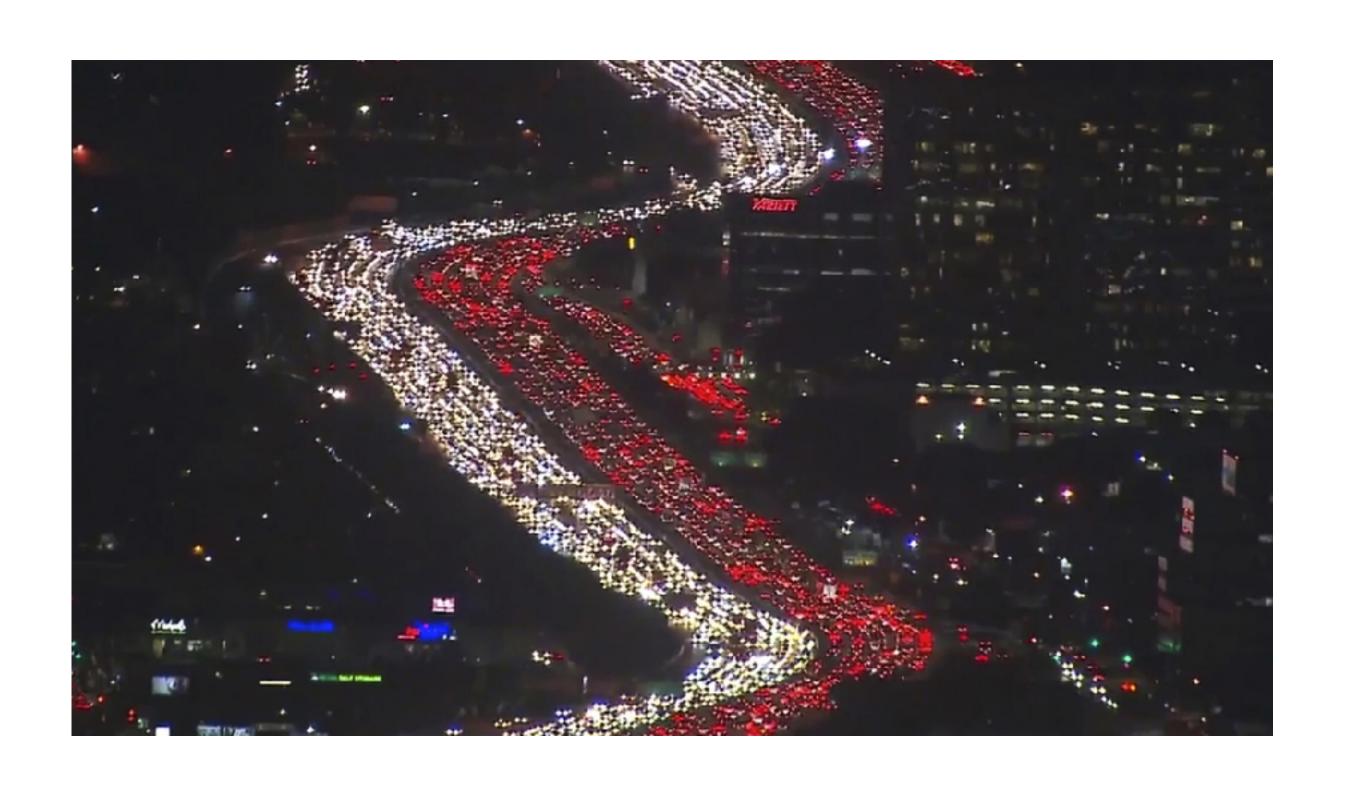
# Break

# How are cities planned?

# What should you do to relieve congestion?



# Building more roads to prevent congestion

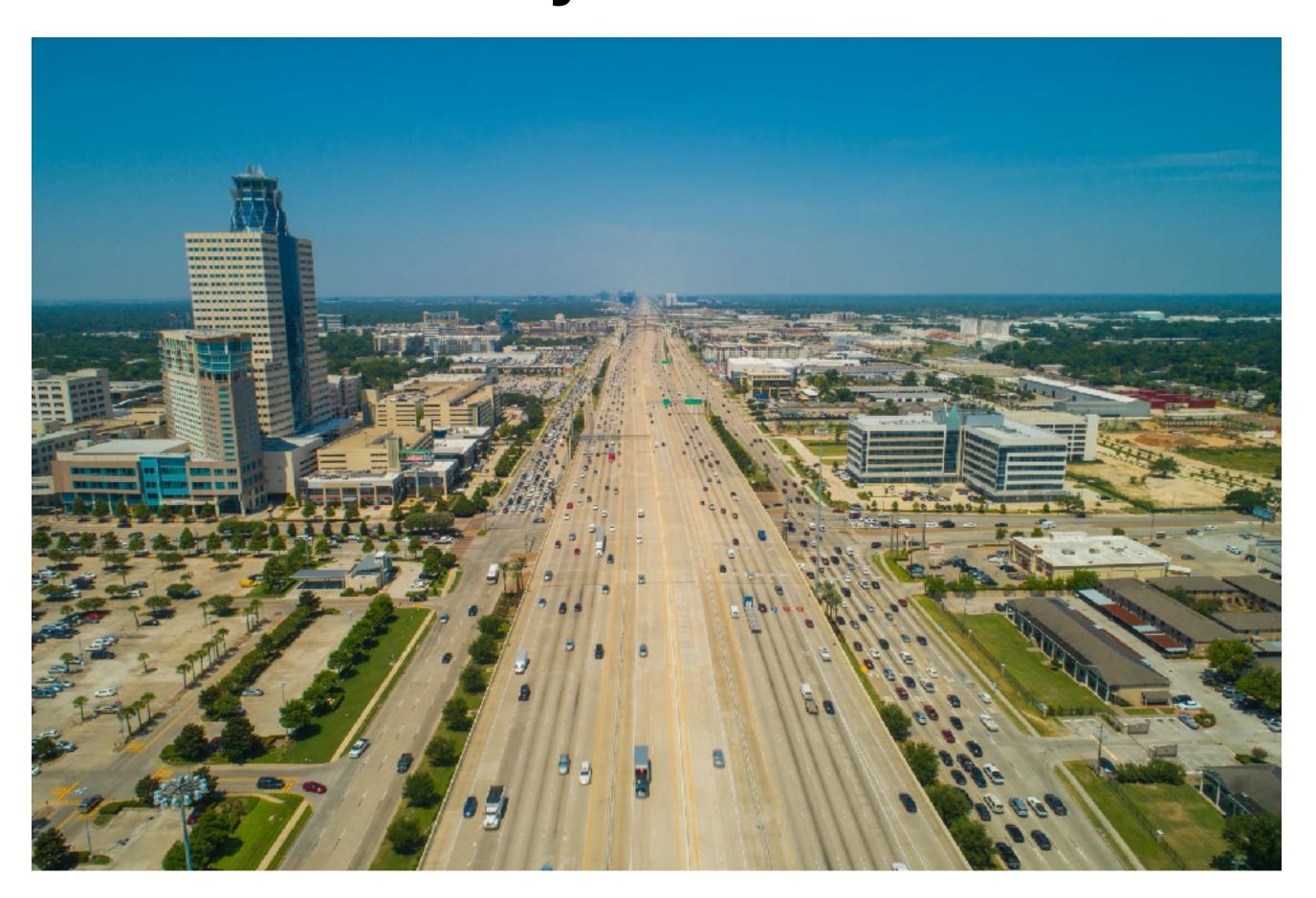


# is like a fat man loosening his belt to prevent obesity



Lewis Mumford

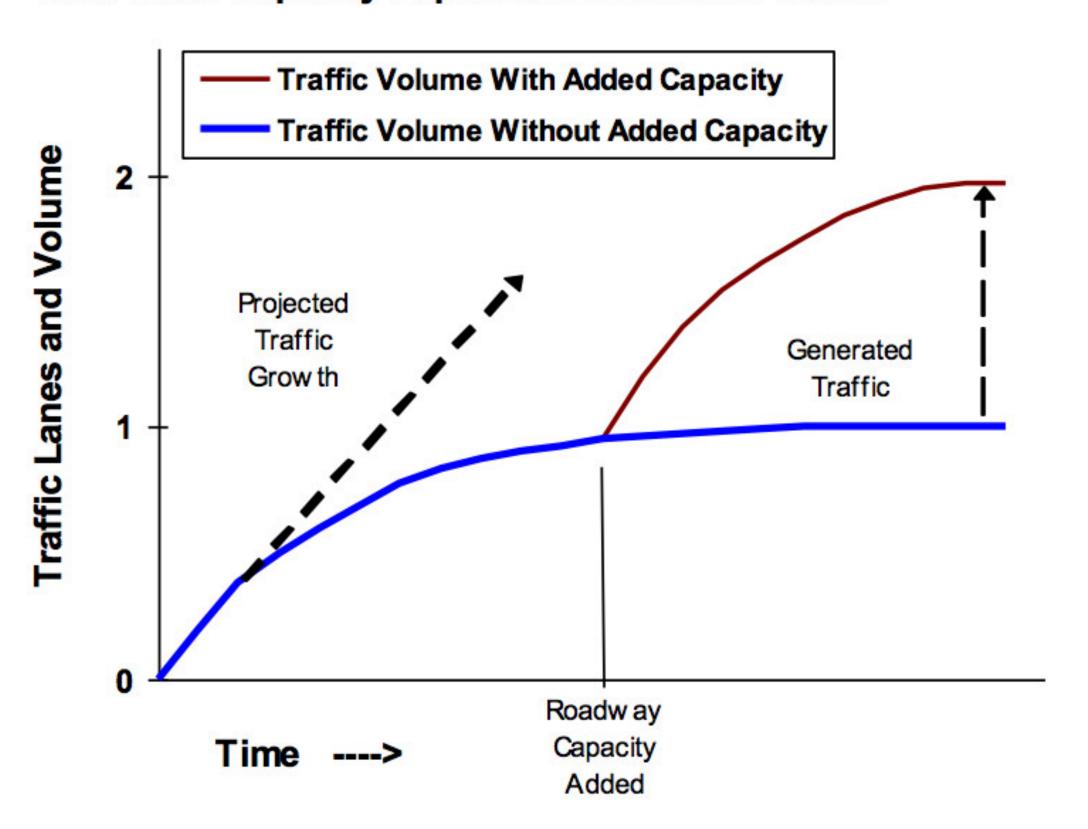
## If you widen roads, you create more traffic



https://www.governing.com/now/why-the-concept-of-induced-demand-is-a-hard-sell https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2021-09-28/why-widening-highways-doesn-t-bring-traffic-relief

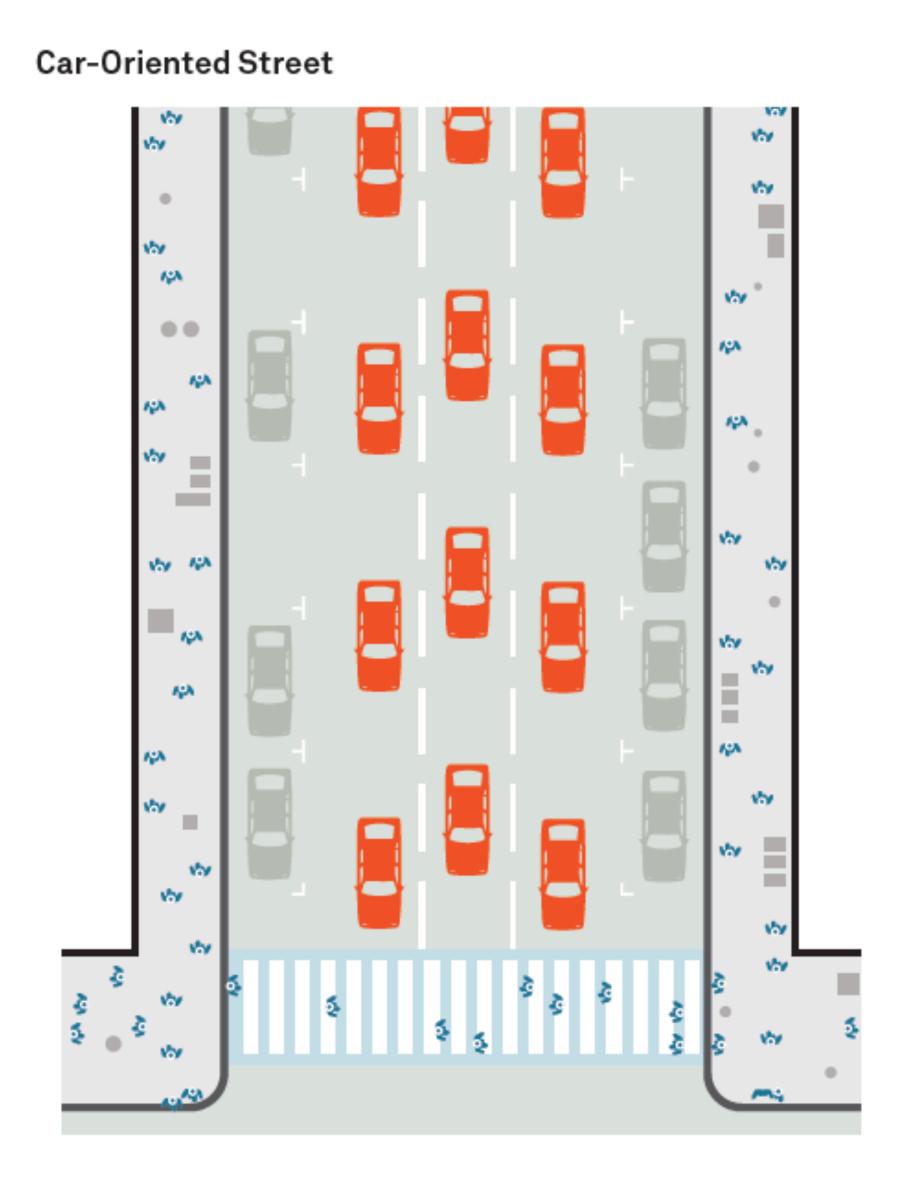
# If you widen roads, you create more traffic

#### **How Road Capacity Expansion Generates Traffic**

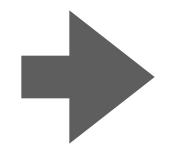


https://www.governing.com/now/why-the-concept-of-induced-demand-is-a-hard-sell https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2021-09-28/why-widening-highways-doesn-t-bring-traffic-relief

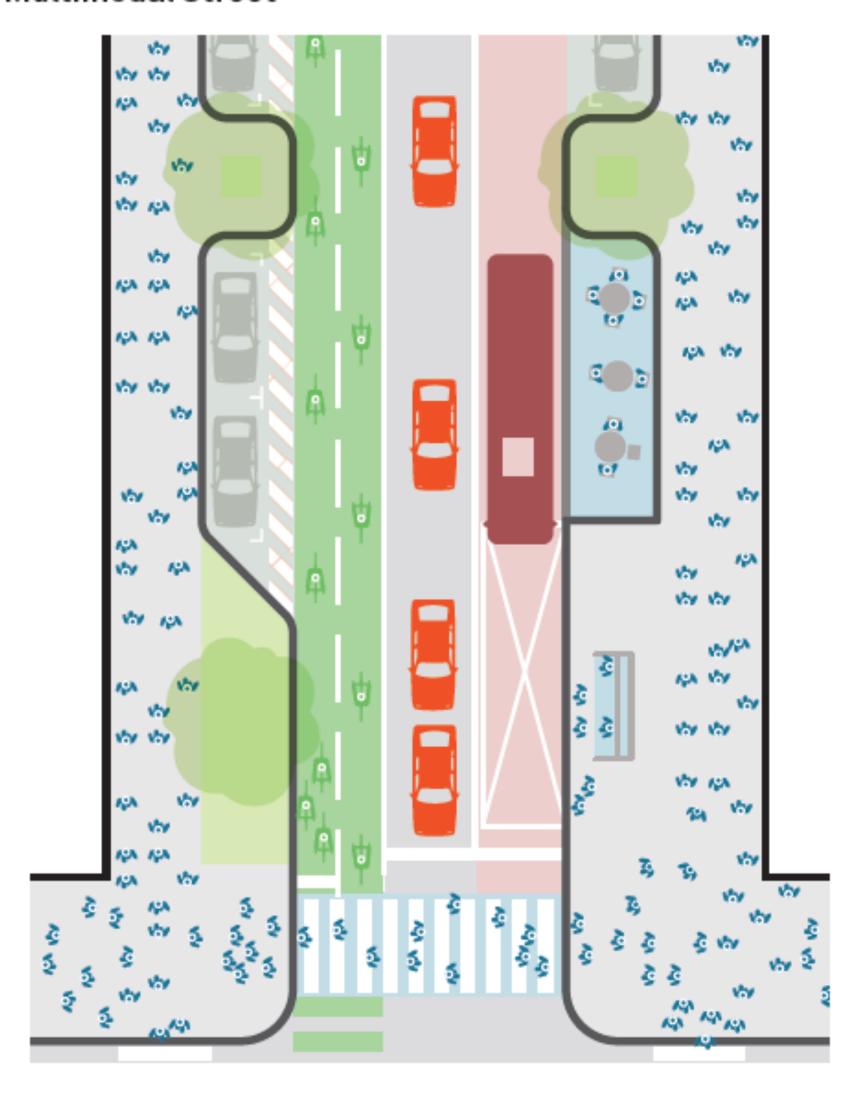
#### The opposite of induced demand is disappearing traffic







#### Multimodal Street



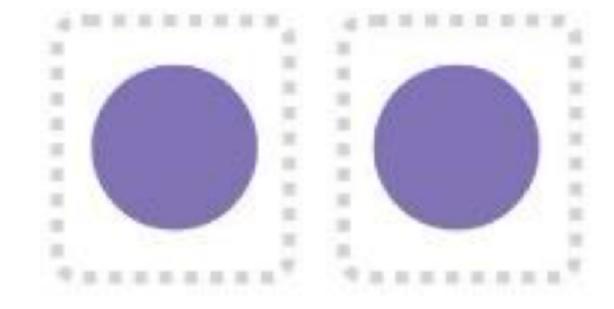
# Short-term engineering thinking

VS

Long-term systems thinking

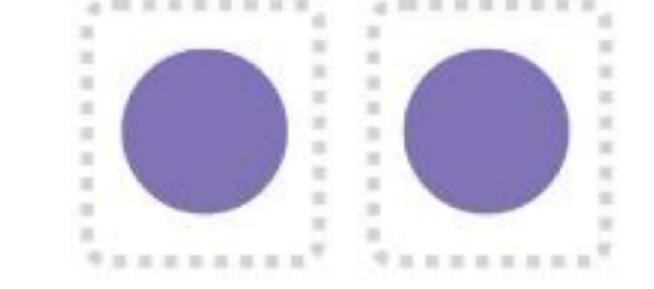
## 20th century: Short-term engineering thinking

Compartmentalization: We can study a subsystem on its own

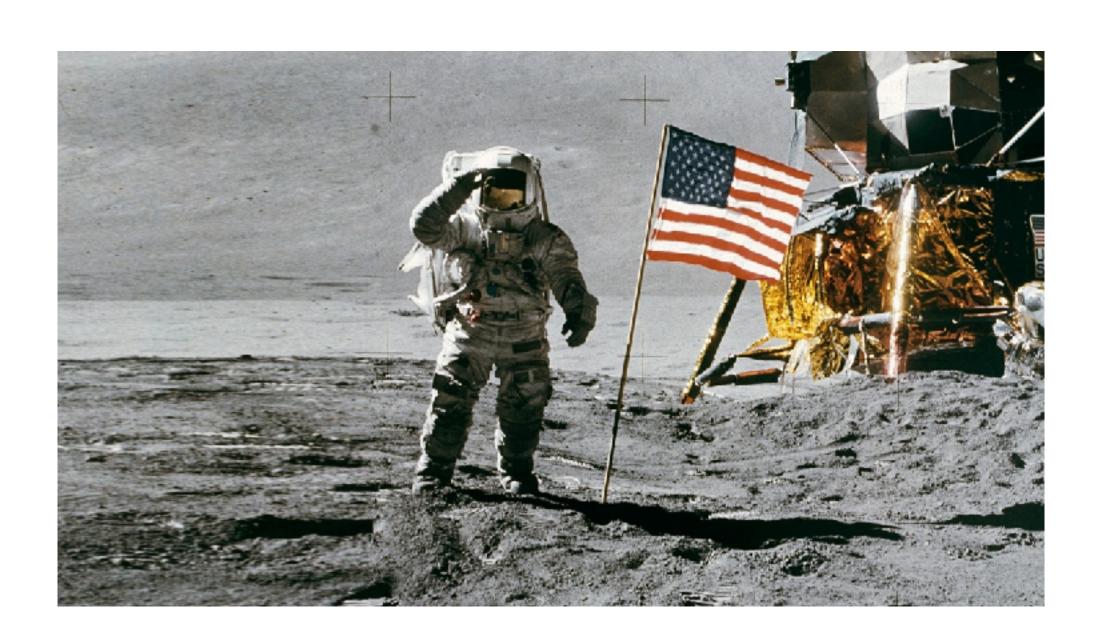


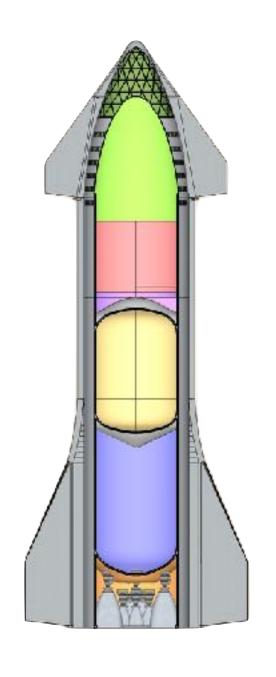
## 20th century: Short-term engineering thinking

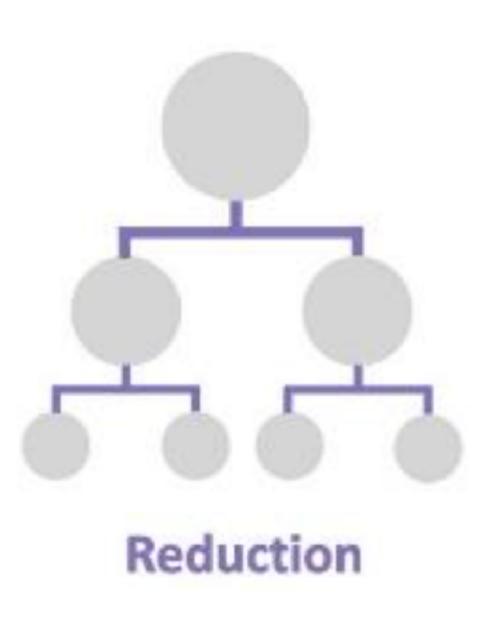
Compartmentalization: We can study a subsystem on its own



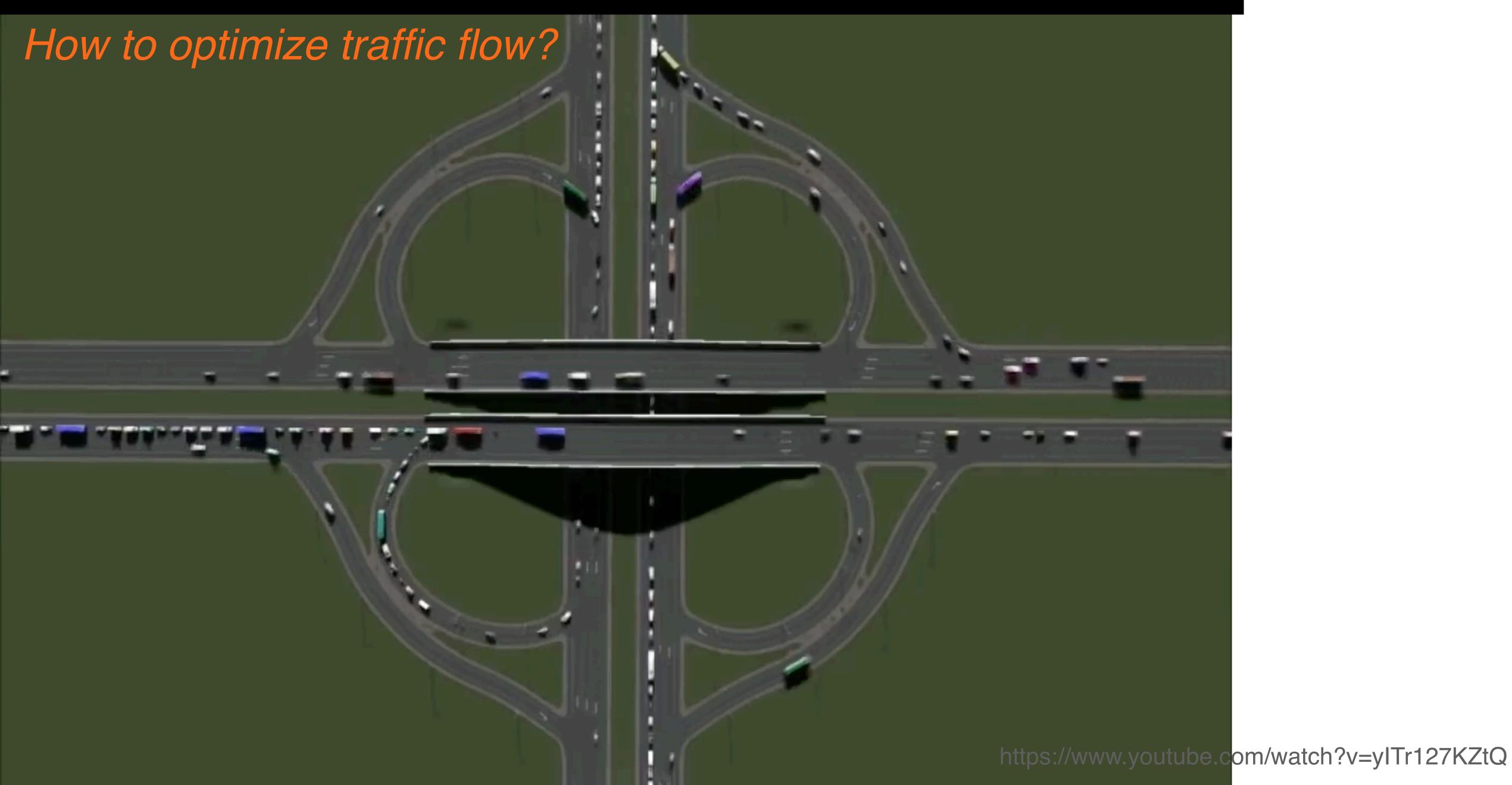
#### How do we build & shoot a rocket to the moon?







## 20th century: Short-term engineering thinking



## 21th century: Also consider long-term systems thinking

Complexity: We cannot study a subsystem on its own

There are strong interactions or feedback loops

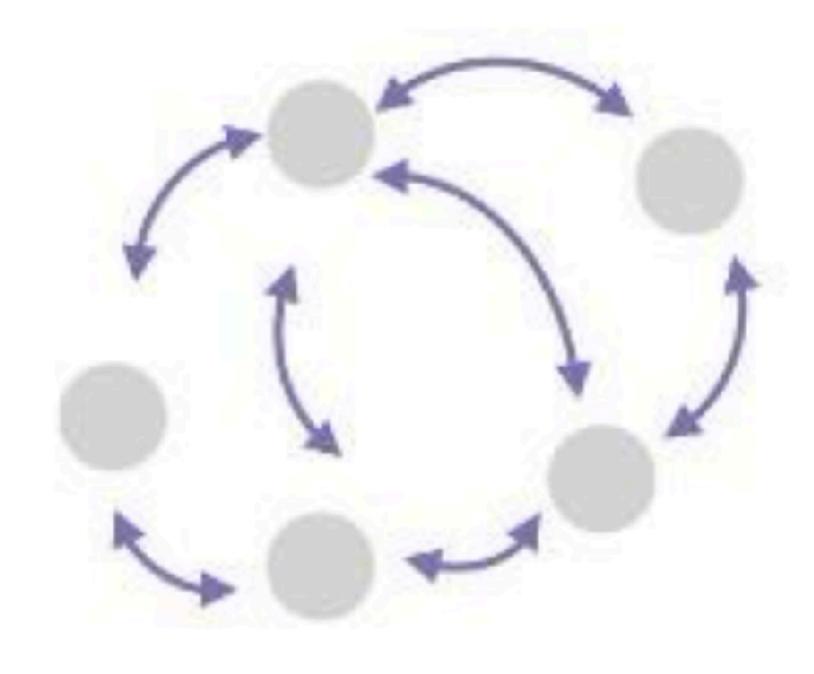
## 21th century: Also consider long-term systems thinking

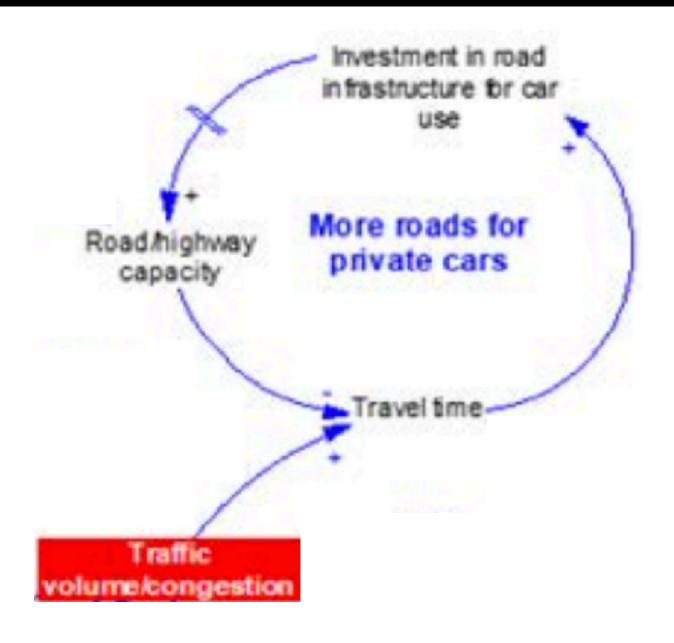
Complexity: We cannot study a subsystem on its own

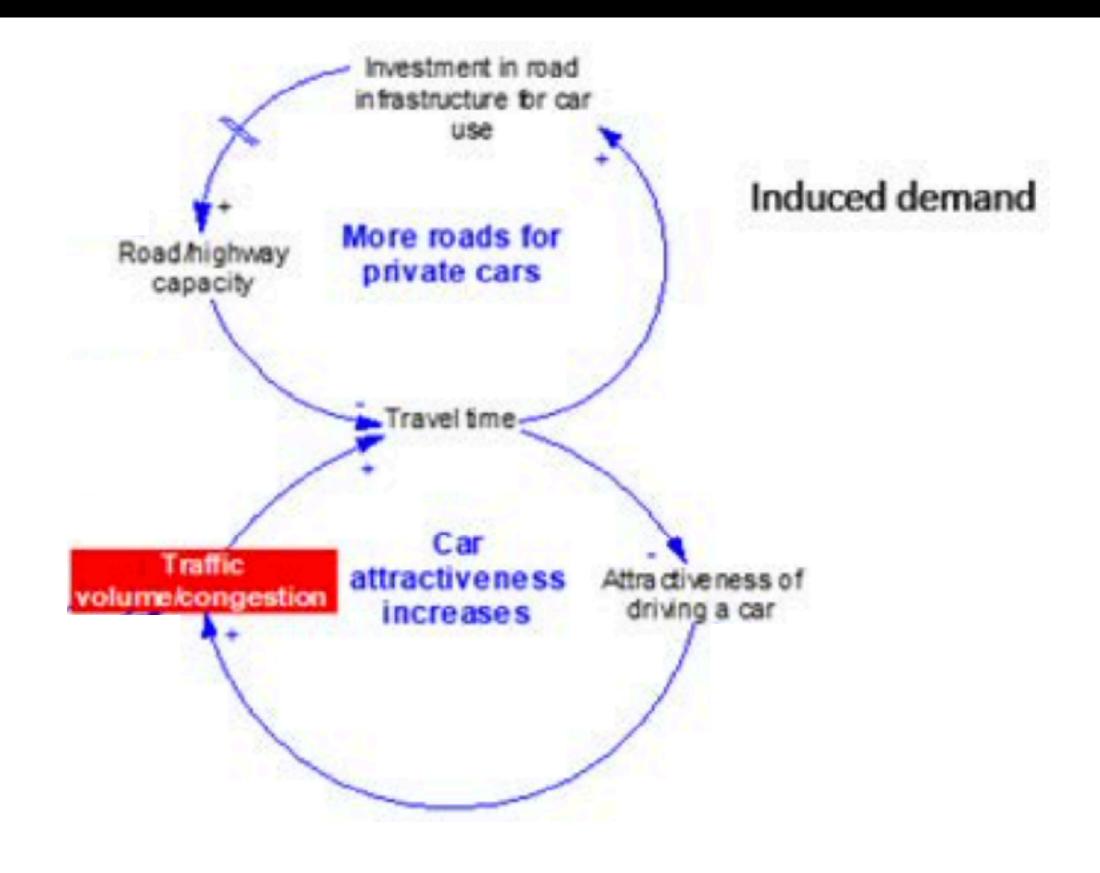
There are strong interactions or feedback loops

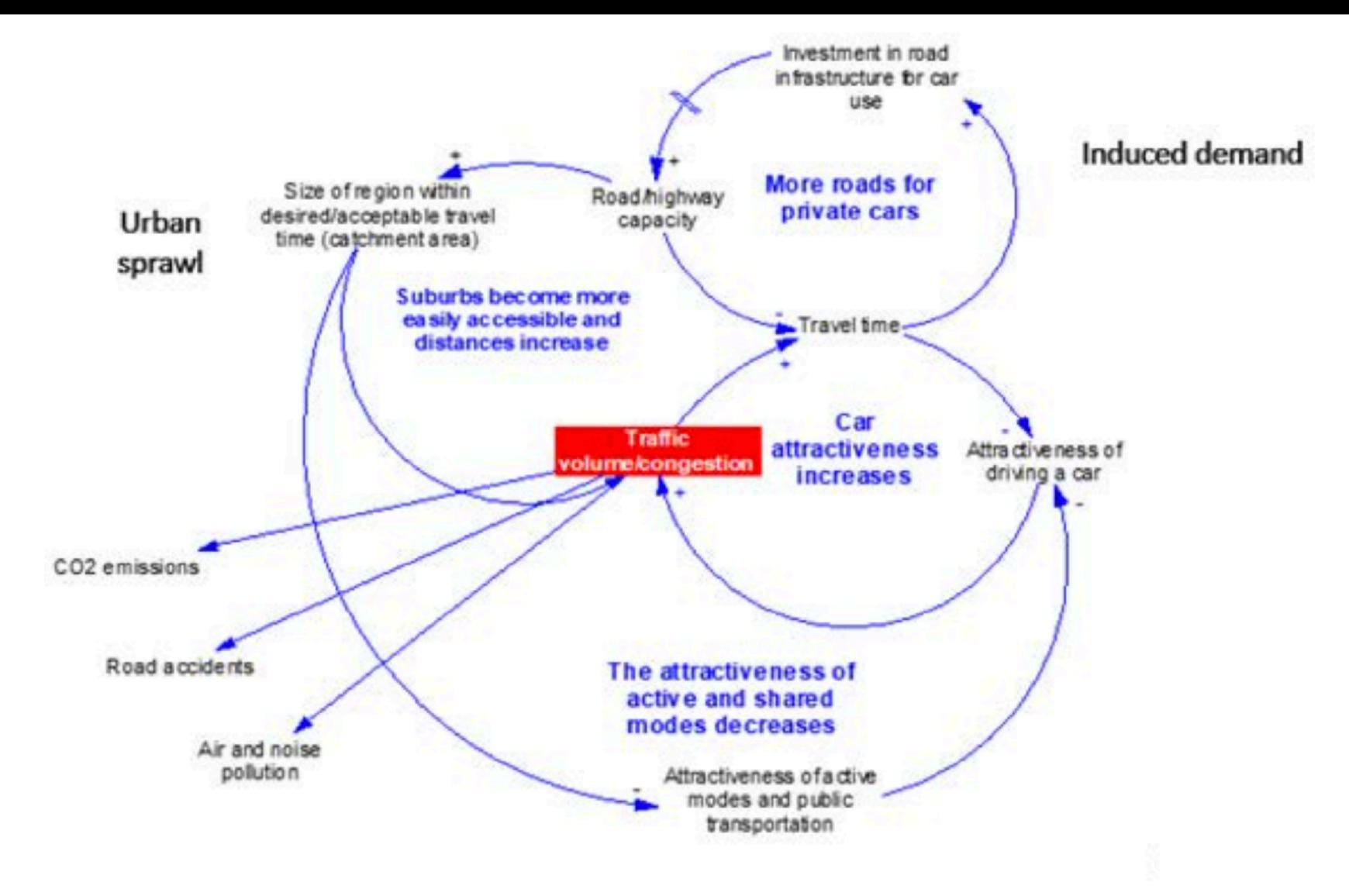
How do cities develop if we optimize streets for traffic flow?



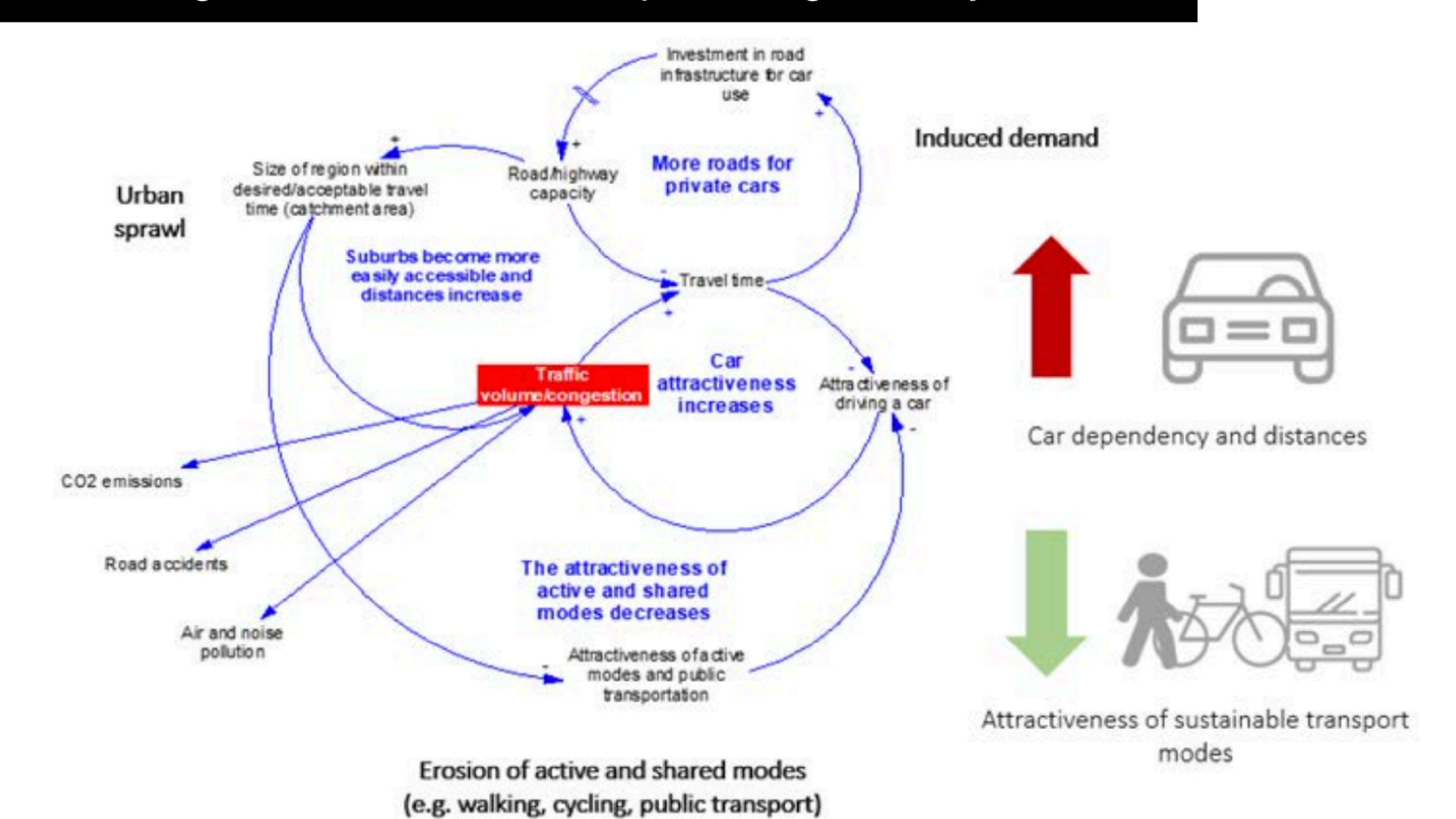


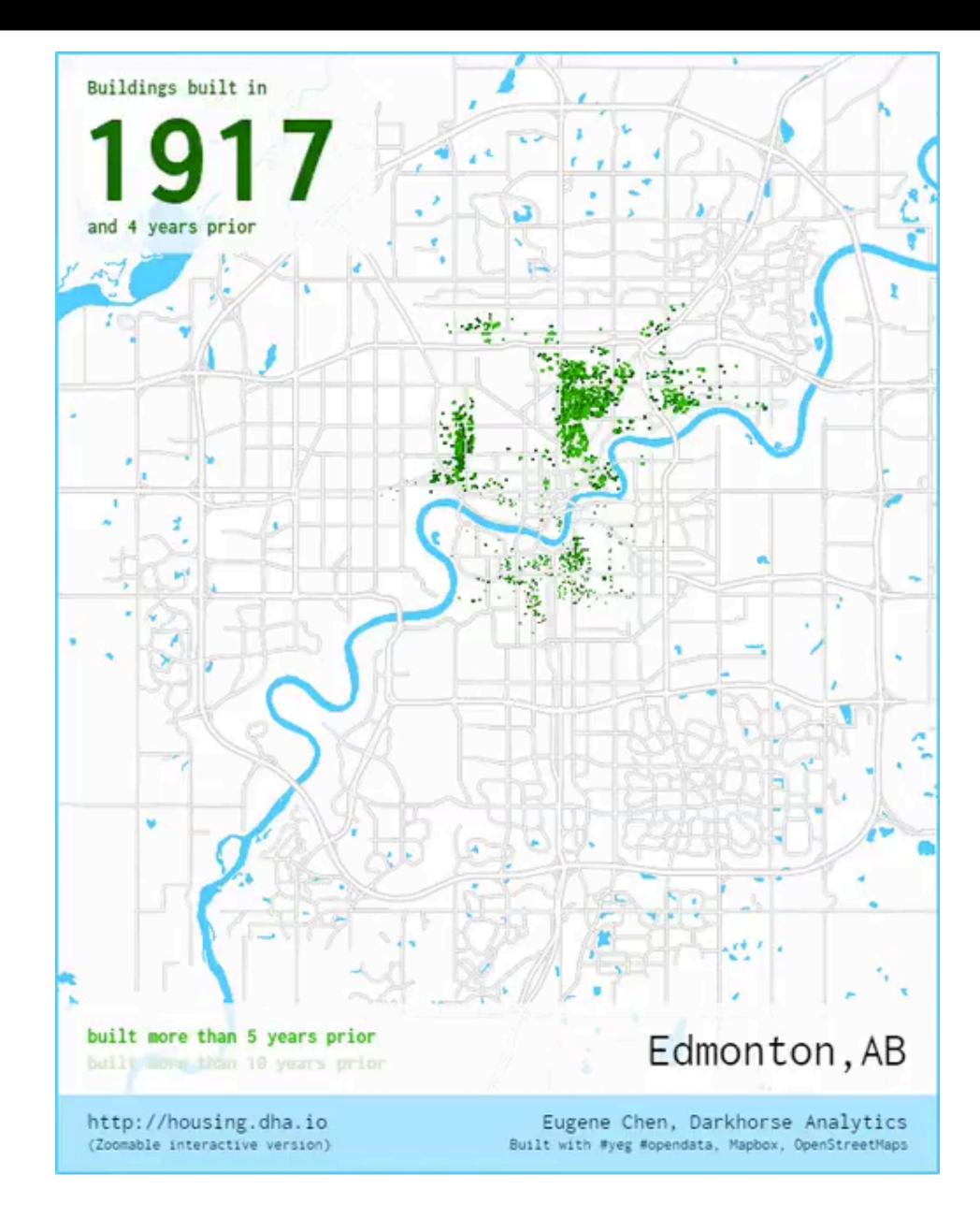






Erosion of active and shared modes (e.g. walking, cycling, public transport)







#### Urban sprawl

As the *size of the region accessible by road* increases, density decreases and the *number of places conveniently accessible by public transport* decrease.

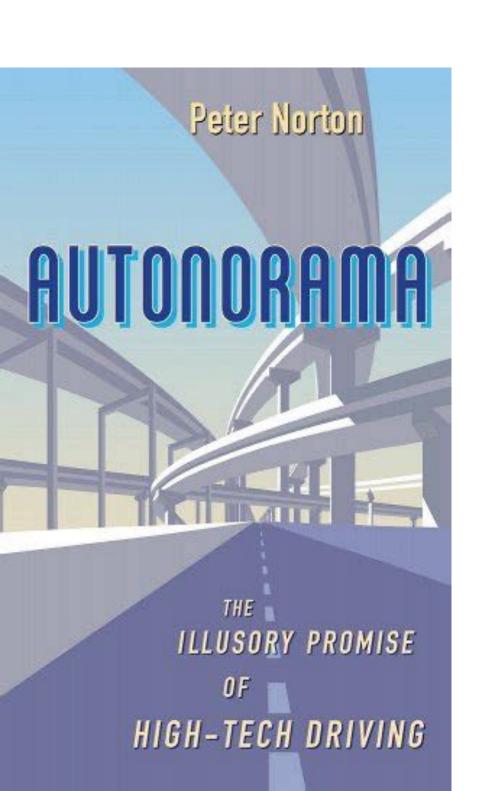
Thus, as the region expands, places may be less well served by public transport, reducing the attractiveness of public transport and increasing the attractiveness of its alternative: the car.

# Optimizing one part of a complex system can come with unintended consequences

# What is "data-driven" planning, and how/why do it?

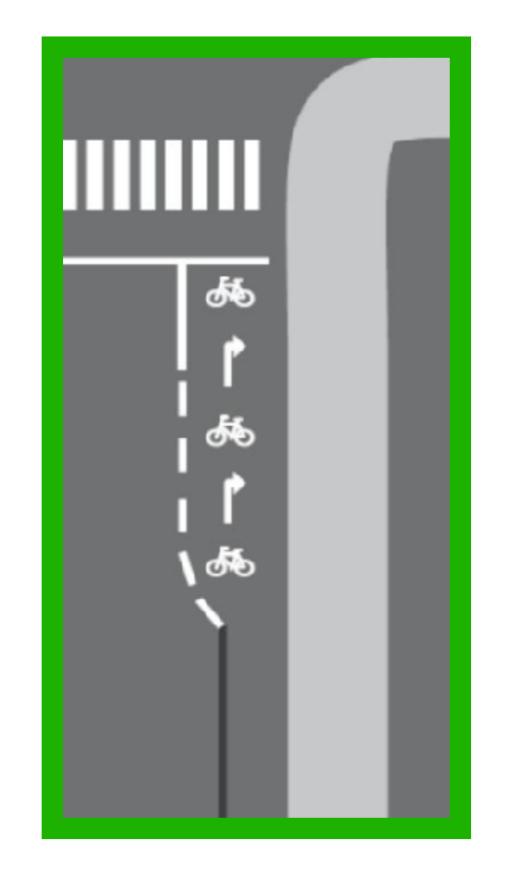
### By "data-driven", we mean "data-informed"

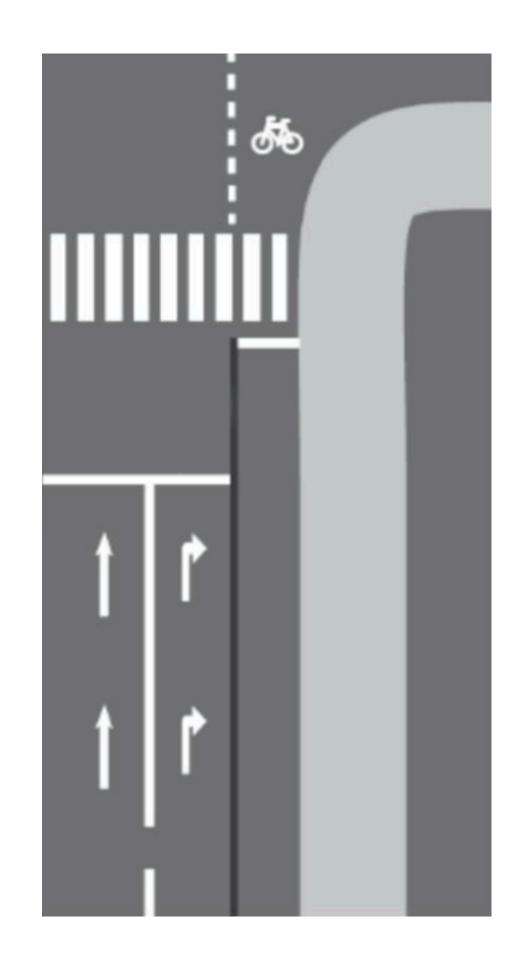
# Which data you use, and how you use it, is *always* a political decision



You can argue for/against everything with "data"

Based on crash data and a regression model, the Danish road directorate favors this intersection design:





Sørensen, Jensen, Hansen, Proc Ann Trans Conf (2020) <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/False\_dilemma">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/False\_dilemma</a>

# Would you let a child cycle here?





Hard to measure: Data of how many children did not cycle here

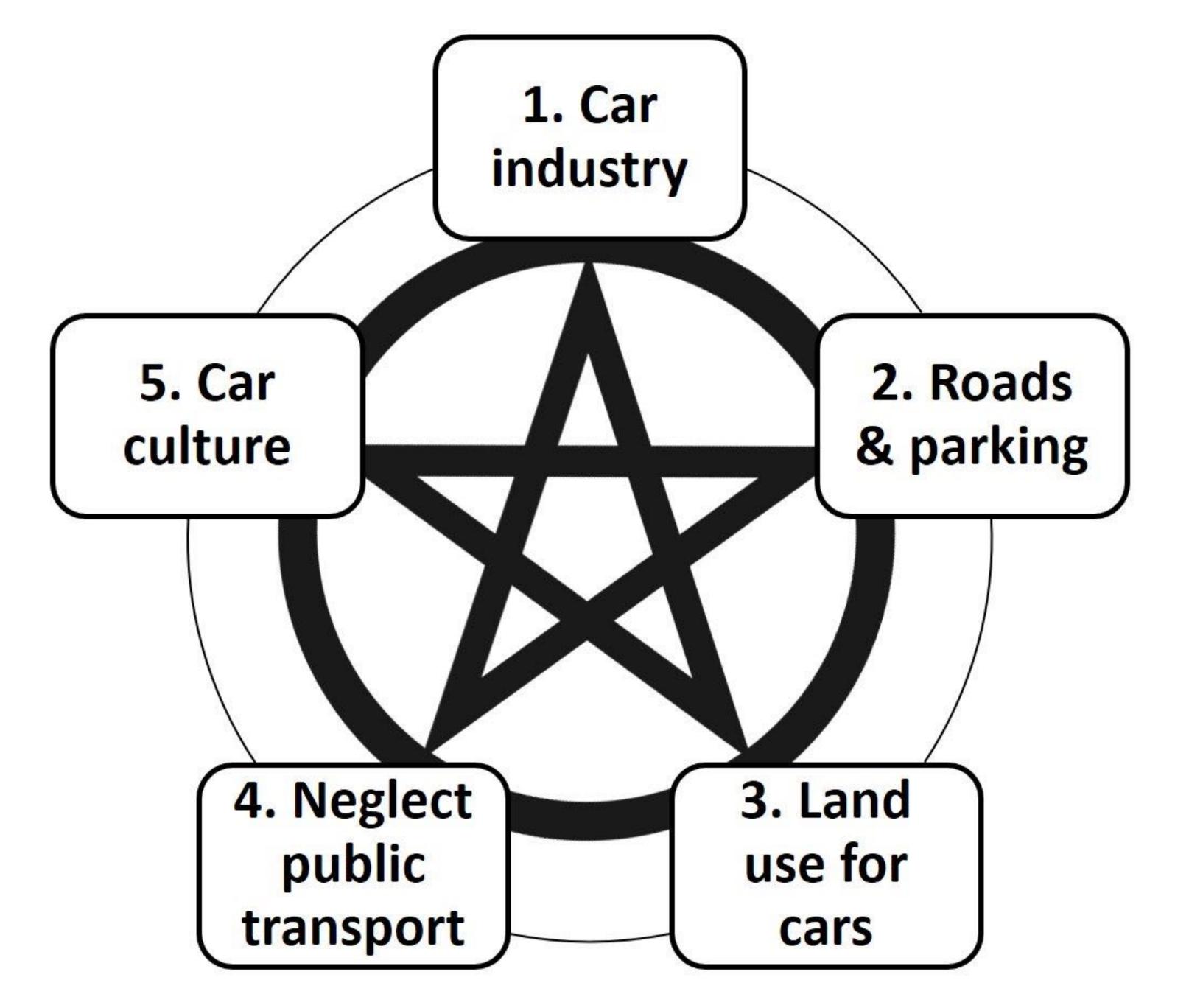




# There are better ways: Minimize mixing with cars







# The political economy of car-dependency: an anatomy of lock-in

		arracerry or reer in			
Cause: Effect:	1 Automotive Industry	2 Car Infrastructure	3 Land Use Patterns	4 Public Transport	5 Car Culture
1 Automotive industry		Car infrastructure enables the sale of more cars, by providing space to accommodate them. The status of roads goes from shared public spaces to motorised flow spaces, literally driving other modes out, and enhancing the value of car ownership.	The need for cars to navigate urban sprawl creates an incentive for consumers to purchase more of them, thereby stabilising demand for automobiles. Suburban, car-dependent constituencies further strengthen the car industry's lobbying efforts.	Historically, the legacy of monopolistic public transit companies has strengthened the political hand of the car industry. Currently, deteriorating public transit forces more people to buy cars.	Car culture produces a continuous demand for vehicles that upholds the car industry. It also influences the cultural dynamics of the industry itself, locking in certain approaches and business models.
2 Car Infrastructure	The automotive industry plays a key role in lobbying coalitions which pressure government to invest public resources, and co-opt public space, to make room for cars.		The expansion of the suburbs demands high-capacity roads and highways to serve them, while also making it more challenging to travel by foot, bike, or public transit.	Public transit becomes dependent on car-dependent road infrastructure, bolstering car industry's lobbying efforts.	Car infrastructure has durable cultural associations with progress, modernity, ruralism, and competent governance, which improve its political viability.
3 Land Use Patterns	The car industry, working with other aligned industries, such as suburban real-estate developers, actively promotes urban sprawl. Historically, car companies promoted visions of an efficient, modern cityscapes and suburban areas.	The expansion of car infrastructure encourages suburban and single-purpose development, which become more viable and more desirable due to mass automobility.		Lack of public transport options leads to locational indifference of sprawl, with no reason to prioritize land use around public transit axes.	Suburban land use has a potent set of cultural imaginaries (for example white picket fences in the USA), which encourage more people to move to the suburbs and own cars.
4 Public transport	The car industry deliberately attempts to undermine public transit, and is strengthened in its attempts to do so by the fact that the public costs it imposes are more hidden than those of public transit. During economic crises, public transit gets cut while the car industry gets bailed out. Meanwhile, the surplus capacity that the car industry builds into cars gives it a critical advantage over public transit in terms of range, marginal cost, and cargo capacity.	Infrastructure designed primarily for cars crowds out public transport road-based options such as buses, and pulls financial resources away from other alternatives, such as railways or streetcars.	Lower population densities make it more challenging to effectively organise public transit networks, leading to more car dependency and settlements outside public transit networks, in a vicious cycle.		Public transit is portrayed as unattractive, burdensome, and for the poor, young, or infirm.
5 Car Culture	The car industry actively supports the development of car culture, both deliberately, through advertising and marketing, and tacitly, through the built-in redundancy in the vehicles they sell, and the effects this has on people's daily practices.	Car infrastructure creates practices and habits & thence cultural trends, including daily dispersed activities connected by car journeys. Car infrastructure has also been normalised as a prominent symbol, for example in children's toys.	Land use patterns, both for residential and work developments, normalise commuting and car transport, ensuring that alternatives are portrayed as marginal.	The collapse of public transit networks encourages more people to adopt car-centric lifestyles.	

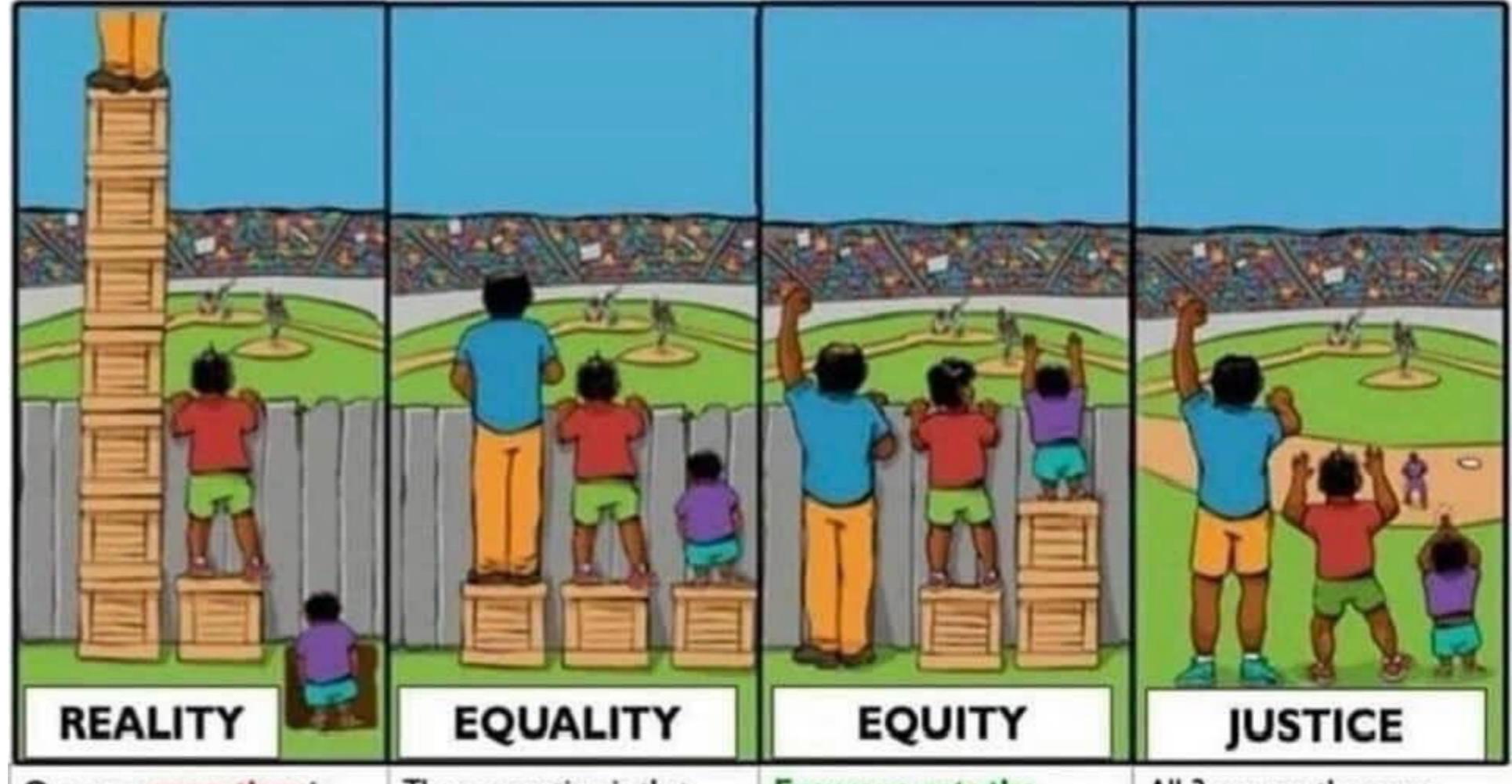


## Short-term thinking has led to "predict and provide"

But we should "decide and provide"

# What are possible problems of just focusing on building bike networks?



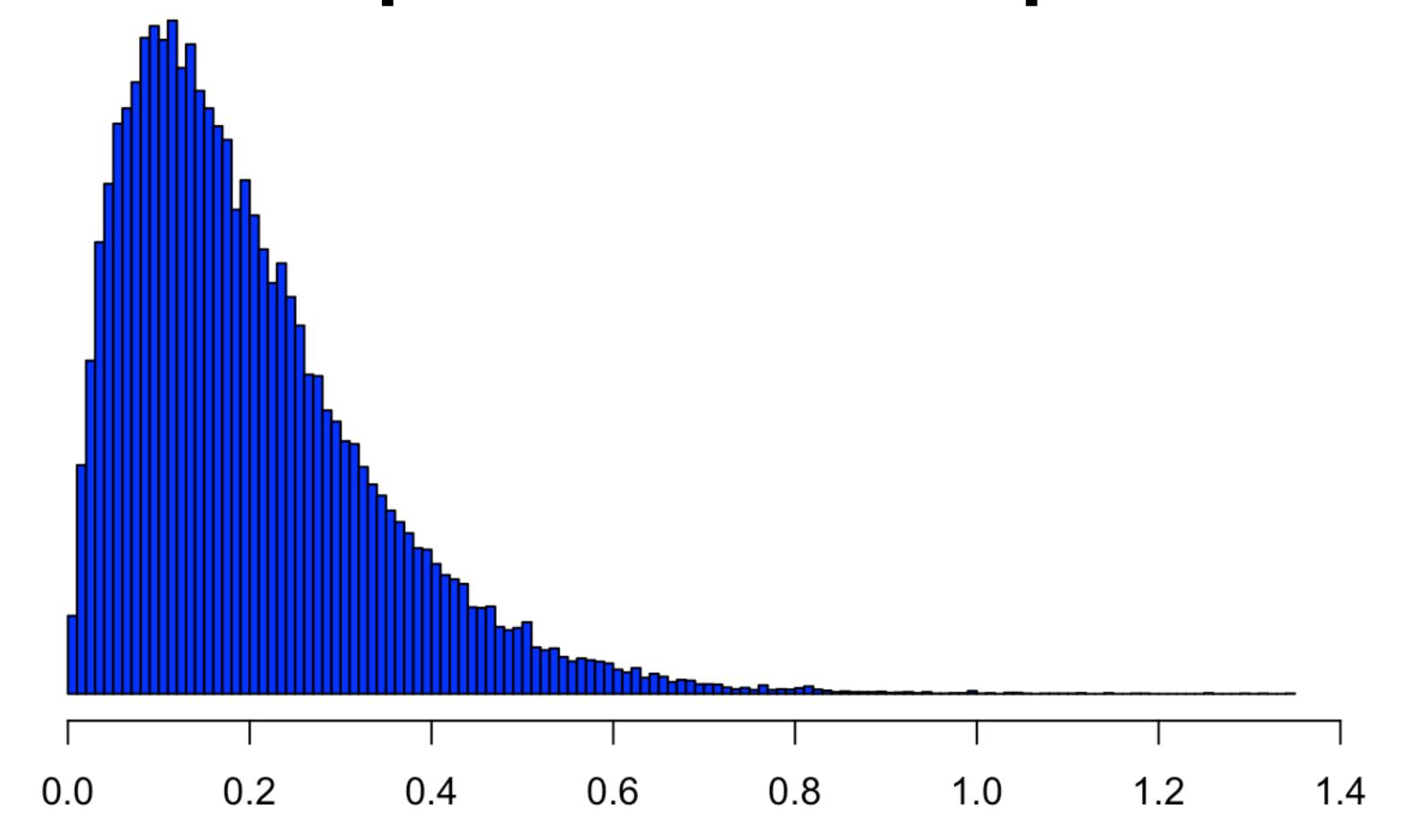


One gets more than is needed, while the other gets less than is needed. Thus, a huge disparity is created.

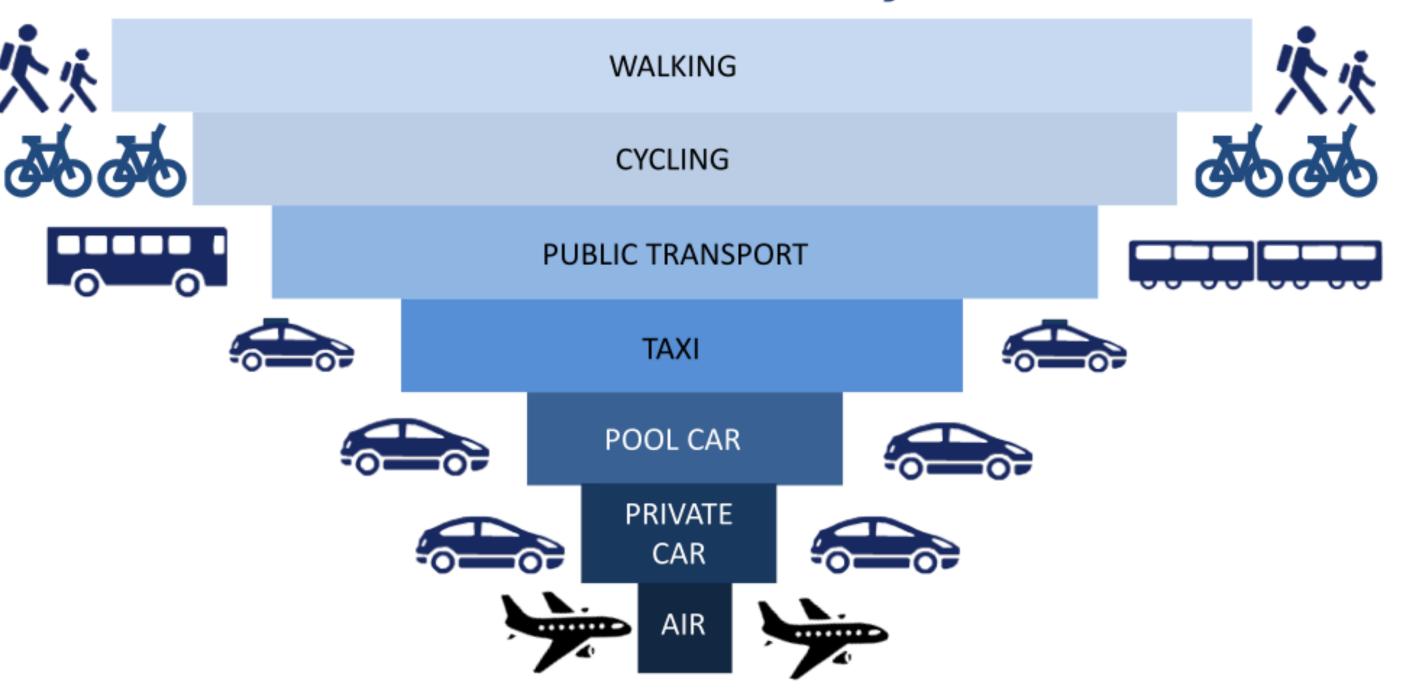
The assumption is that everyone benefits from the same supports. This is considered to be equal treatment.

Everyone gets the support they need, which produces equity. All 3 can see the game without supports or accommodations because the cause(s) of the inequity was addressed. The systemic barrier has been removed.

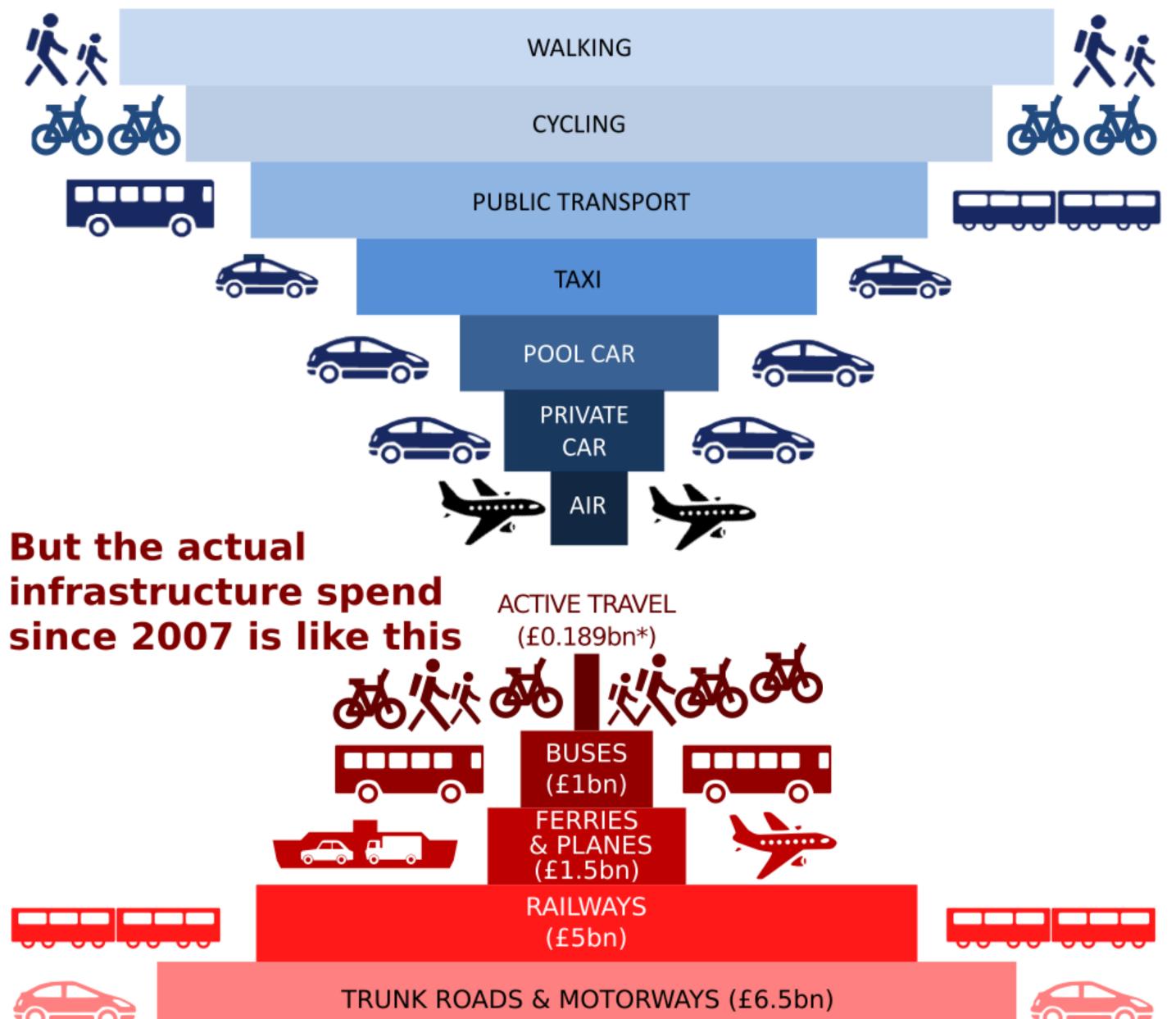
# Most systemic problems are about skewed power and priorities



#### The sustainable travel hierarchy looks like this



#### The sustainable travel hierarchy looks like this







### Denmark is a cycling nation

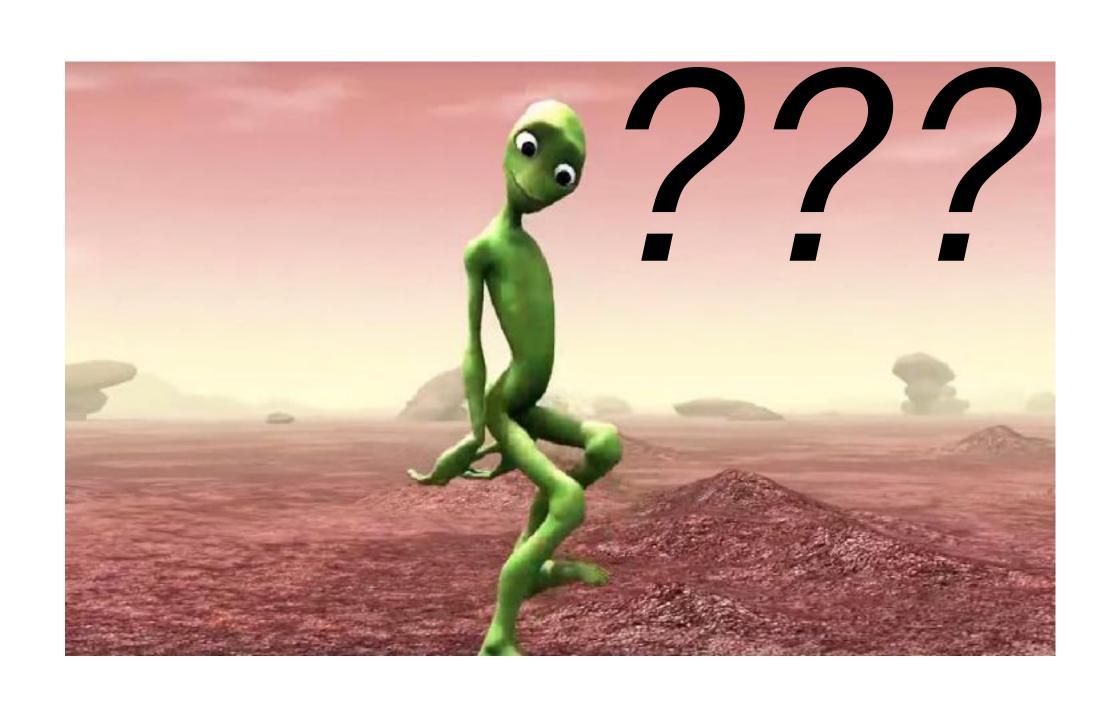


Cycling: 3bn DKK





## Denmark is a cycling nation





Cycling: 3bn DKK





### Er Danmark en cykelnation?

#### **CYKLING**

ANDRÉS FELIPE VALDERRAMA PINEDA, LEKTOR, AALBORG UNIVERSITET ANDERS FJENDBO JENSEN, LEKTOR, DTU CAROLINE SAMSON, PH.D.-STUDERENDE, AALBORG UNIVERSITET HARRY LAHRMANN, LEKTOR, AALBORG UNIVERSITET HILDA RØMMER KRISTENSEN, LEKTOR, KØBENHAVNS UNIVERSITET JASPER SCHIPPERIJN, PROFESSOR, SYDDANSK UNIVERSITET MADS PAULSEN, POSTDOC, DTU MALENE FREUDENDAL-PEDERSEN, PROFESSOR, AALBORG UNIVERSITET MICHAEL SZELL, LEKTOR, IT-UNIVERSITETET OG MICHALA HVIDT BREENGAARD, POSTDOC, AARHUS UNIVERSITET

'CYKELNATIONEN DANMARK' bliver flittigt fremhævet, i anledning af at Tour de France kommer til Danmark. Vi præsenterer os for omverdenen som det gode eksempel på en nation med mange hverdagscyklister og en succesfuld cykelstrategi. Og i Danmark – særligt i de store byer – er det i store træk godt at cykle.

Der er dog også en anden virkelighed, der presser sig på. Tendensen landet over er, at flere kører i bil og færre på cykel. Data fra den årlige transportvaneundersøgelse (tudata.dk) viser, at ud af det daglige antal kørte kilometer er kun 3,5 procent på cykel, mens mere end 84 procent er i bil m.v. Disse tal virker især påfaldende, når vi sammenholder dem med, at 25 procent af alle daglige rejser er under 4 km, og 46 procent er under 10 km. Der burde være masser af potentiale for at cykle. Det uundgåelige spørgsmål er, om billedet af Danmark som cykelnation er ved at krakelere lidt. Tallene tyder nemlig på, at vi i stigende grad er en bilnation. Det har en lang række konsekvenser – ikke mindst i forhold til folkesundhed, byrum og klimaudfordringen, ligesom det bliver svært fortsat at brande Danmark som 'det gode eksempel' for cyklisme.

Det er blevet fremhævet, at siden 2009 har Danmark investeret mere end 3,5 milliarder i cykling. Derudover er der med 'Infrastrukturplan 2035' kommet en investering i cykling på 3 milliarder kroner. Dette beløb skal dog ses i lyset af, at der i samme periode investeres mere end 64 milliarder i at bygge nye veje. Når der samtidig ikke er en strategisk plan for investeringer i cykling, risikerer vi, at de 3 milliarder ender i fragmenterede små projekter over hele landet, som vi har oplevet de seneste år.

HVIS DANMARK fortsat skal fremstå som den cykelnation, vi praler af, skal der ske et kvantespring i forhold til investeringer og fokus på cykling i hele landet. Vejdirektoratets nye Cykel Videnscenter og cykeltopmødet 30. juni med den fælles deklaration om øget samarbejde på cykelområdet er en start, men det er ikke nok.

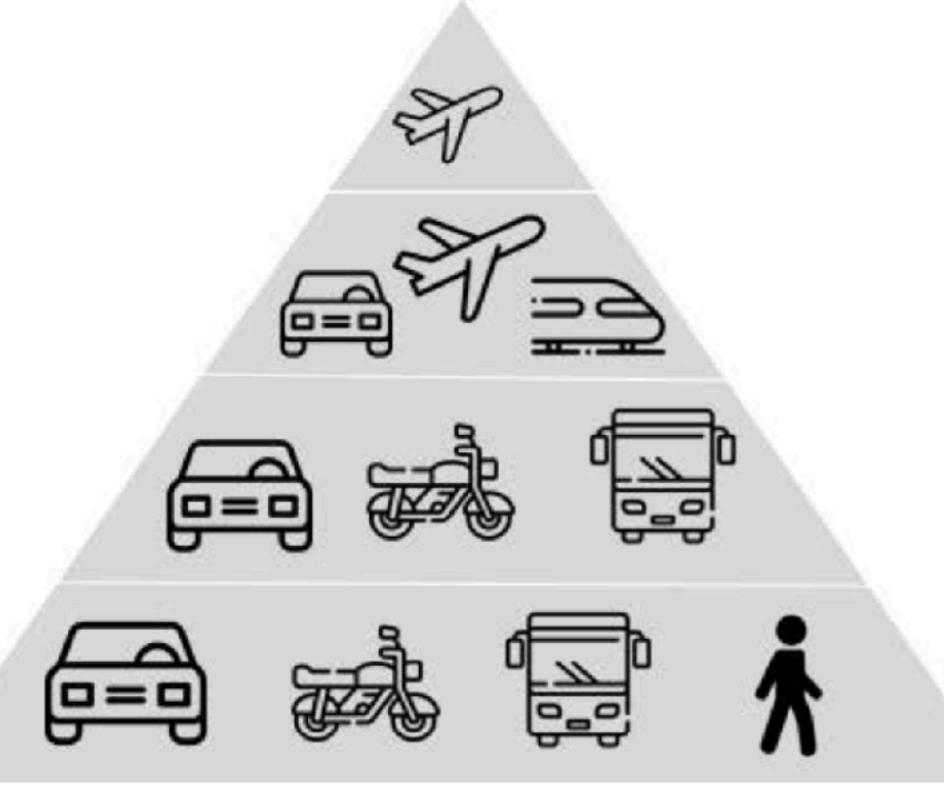
Cykling foregår i mange tempi, som er afhængige af lokale og regionale forskelle såvel som borgernes alder, fysik og formål med turen, herunder pendling til arbejde og studie, adgang til fritidsaktiviteter, ærinder, turisme og cykling som aktivitet i sig selv. Hvis vi skal være en cykelnation, er vi nødt til at tænke de forskellige behov ind i vores cykelstrategi.

Når der samtidig er evidens for store sundhedsgevinster ved aktiv mobilitet, virker det åbenlyst, at investeringer i cykling har en stor samfundsmæssig gevinst. Samtidig gør det Danmark mindre sårbart over for stigende internationale brændstof- og energipriser. Øget cykling kan også medvirke til at løse de store udfordringer, som vores transport udgør på klimaområdet.

EN CYKELNATION skal for alvor investere i cykelinfrastruktur og -kultur mere bredt. Samtidig bør de nationale infrastruktur- og vidensinstitutioner være med til at sikre, at disse investeringer hænger sammen. Det er essentielt at samle og kommunikere erfaring og viden, hvis vi skal have flere op på cyklen, såvel som for at kunne etablere et landsdækkende cykelsystem, som giver tryg og sikker cykelmobilitet for alle. Det er nødvendigt, hvis vi fortsat gerne vil brande og eksportere den danske cykelmodel til andre lande.

Der er mange lande rundtomkring i verden, der kigger mod Danmark som en model for håndtering af klimaudfordringerne på transportområdet. Det vil vi gerne have, at de bliver ved med. Det kræver dog, at vi værner om det, vi har opnået, og viser, at vi kan gøre det endnu bedre.





"Unhealthy" system

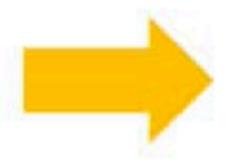


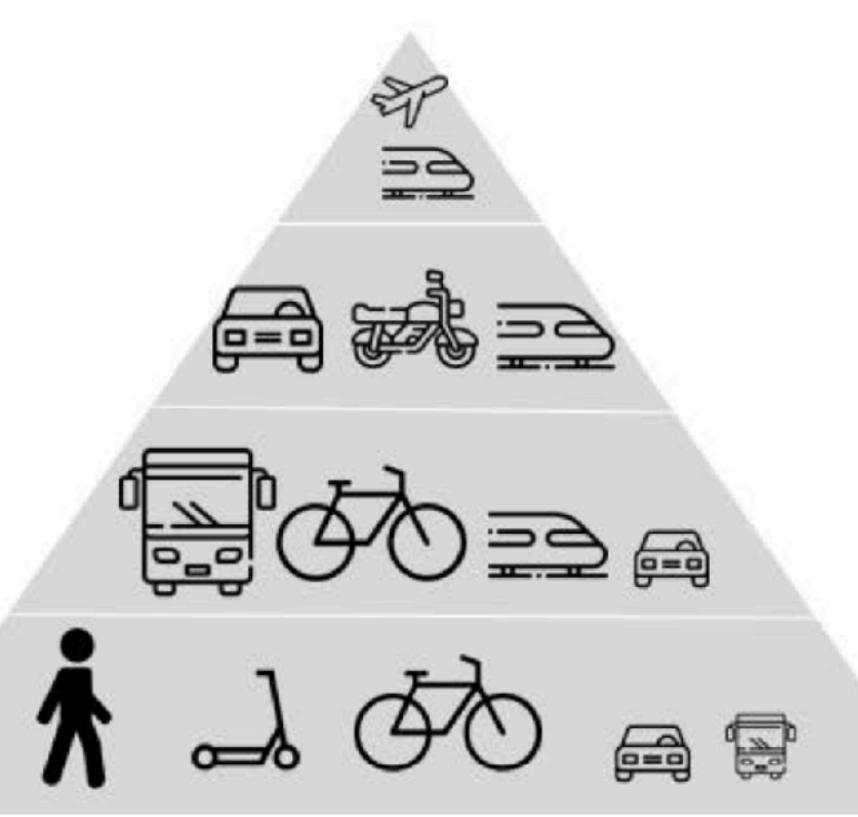
Once in a while

Occasional trips

Weekly or monthly trips

Daily trips

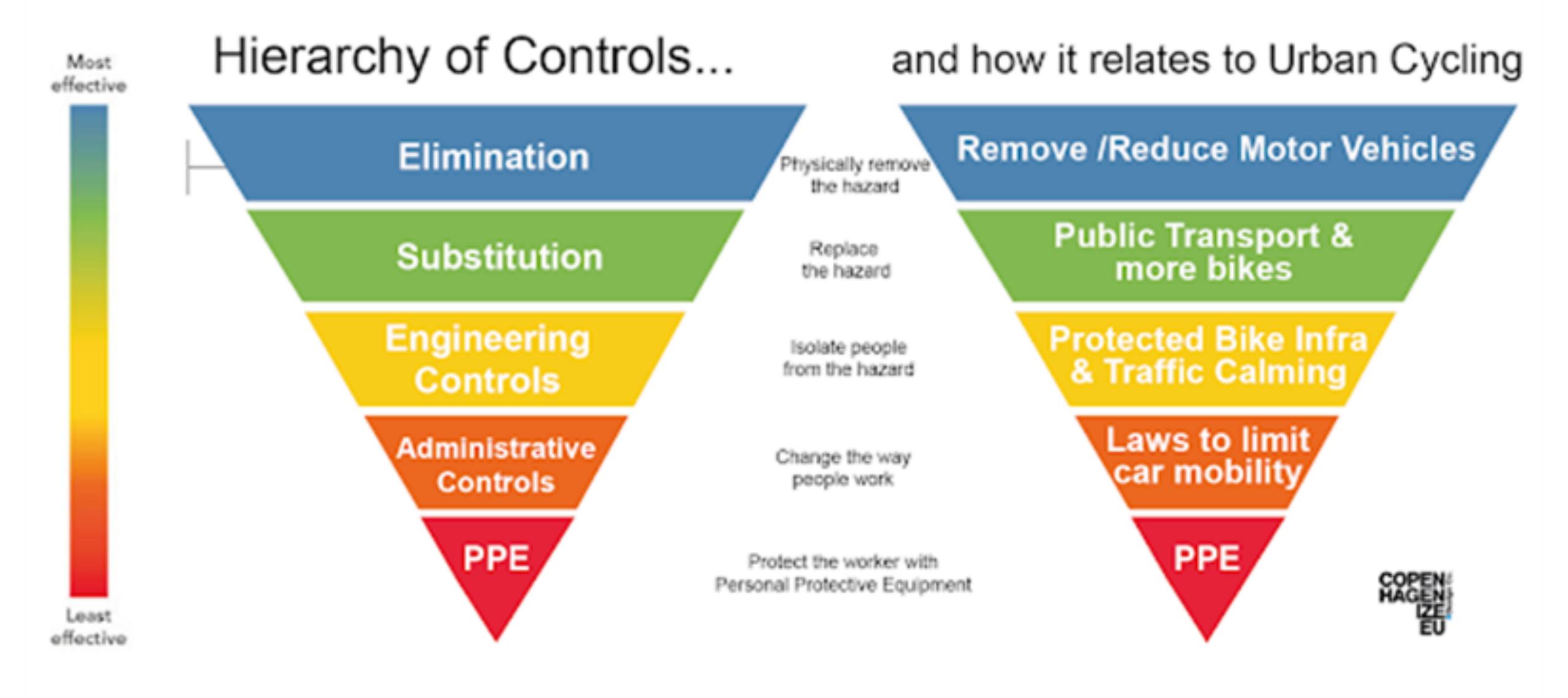


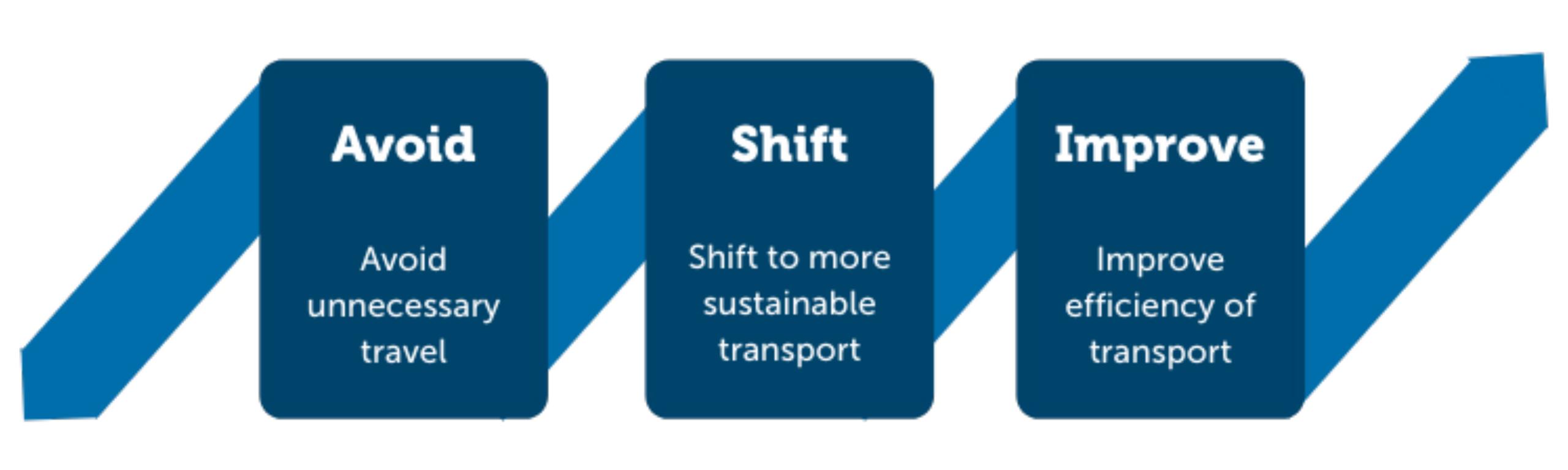


"Healthy" system







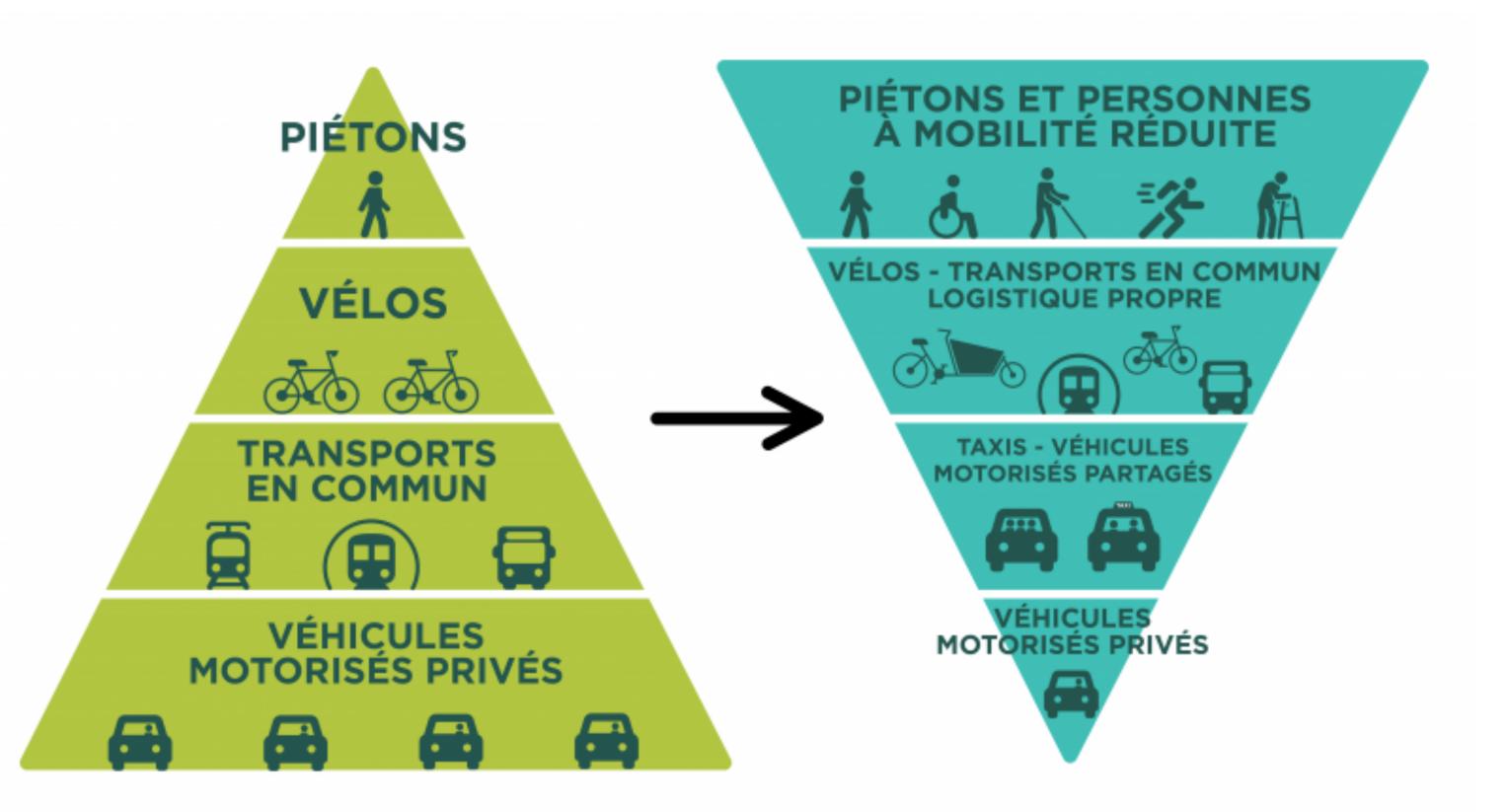


### Our top priority should be building sustainable systems

Not just removing cars

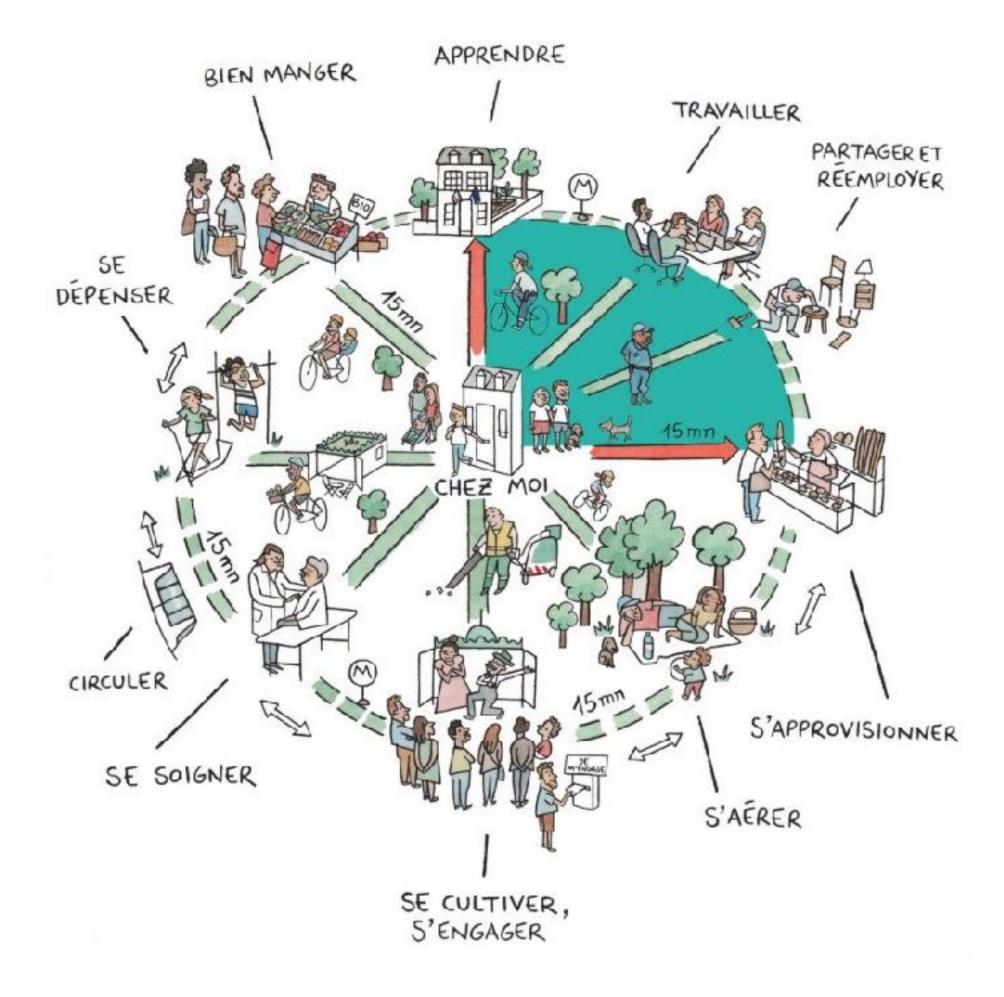
Not just building bike networks

- - -



LE PARIS DU 1/4 HEURE



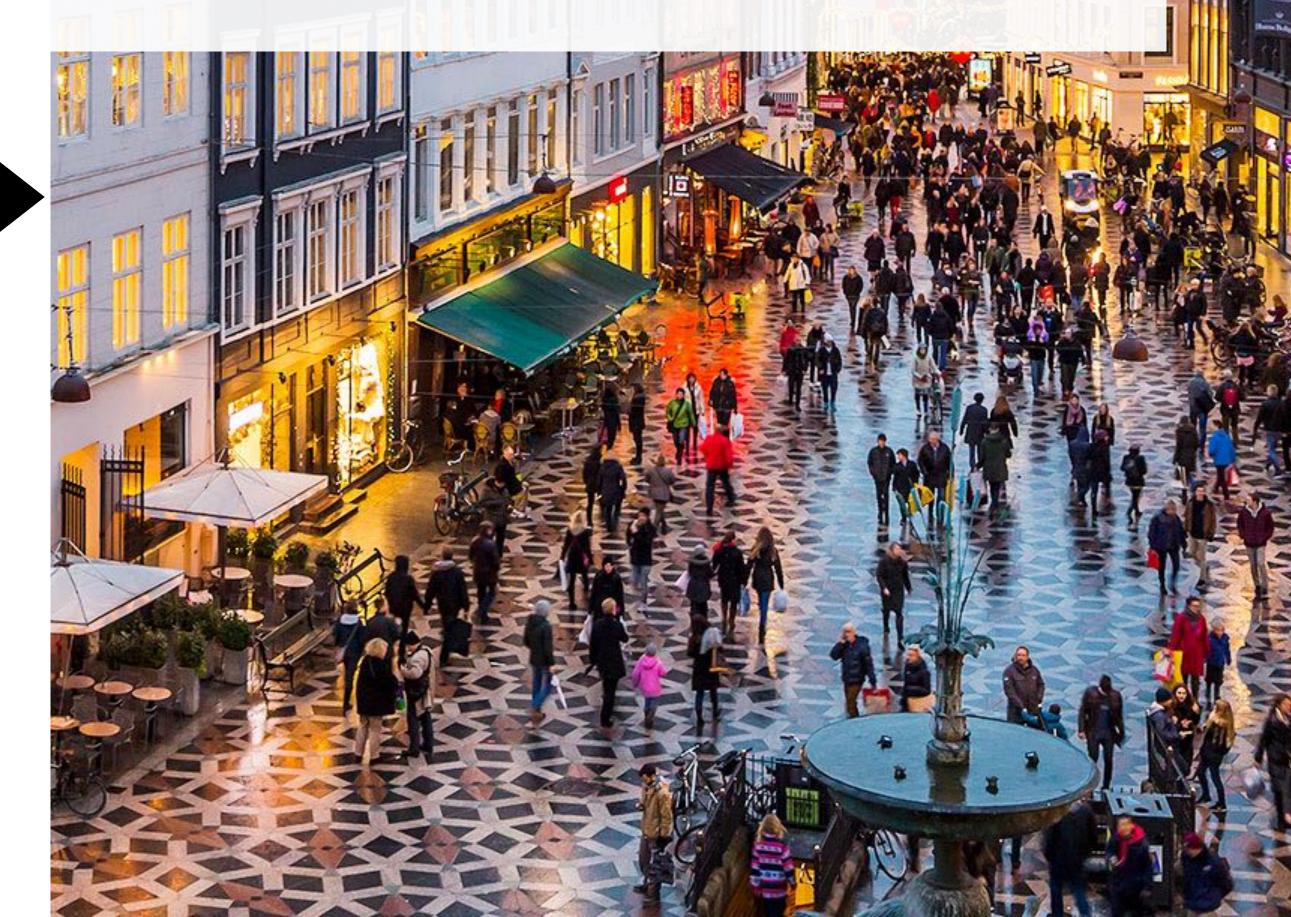




# Building sustainable cities is 99% a political, not a technical question

# If there is the will (and pressure), cities can change radically



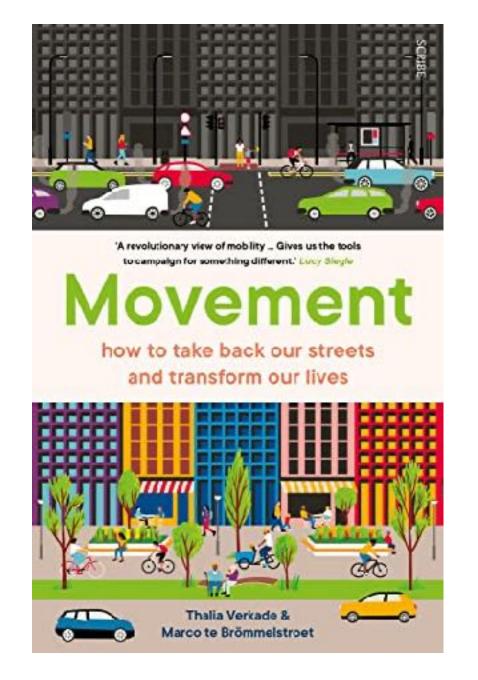


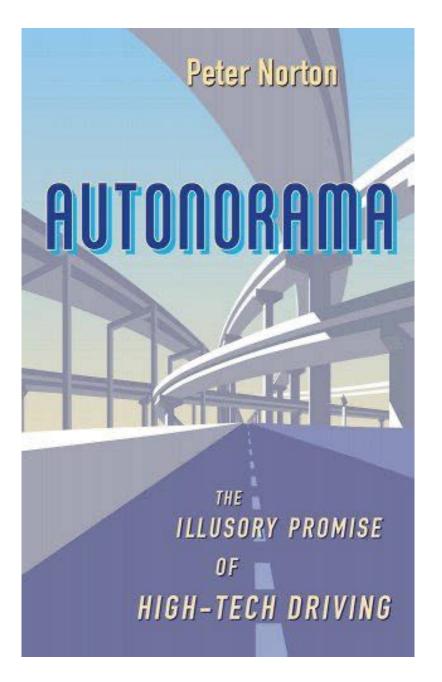
### Take-home messages

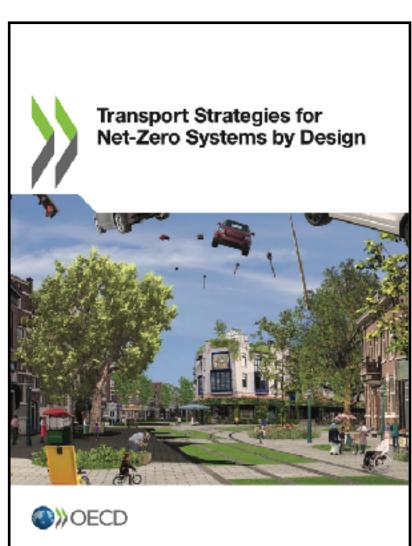
We can use IT to help design better, sustainable cities, but:

- 1) Inadequately applying engineering thinking can lead to unintended consequences
- 2) Induced demand: Widening or building new roads causes more traffic
- 3) We can't use tech like e-cars to "solve" mobility, but must rebuild the whole system, and reverse skewed political priorities that come from power inequalities

#### Further materials







Youtube: Julia Steinberger: The importance of climate activism

Geospatial Data Science (Spring 2022)



https://github.com/mszell/geospatialdatascience

Henderson (2020): EVs are not the answer

Gössling (2016): Urban transport justice



thewaroncars.org



Not Just Bikes

#### Exercises

How to grow a bike network? How to change the world?

