



FLOW: Cycling Measures – A Cause of Congestion or a Solution to It?

Velo-city Global – 27 February 2016 – Taipei, Taiwan
27PM8 Co-benefits of Cycling

Bernard Gyergyay, Rupprecht Consult



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Velo-city presents many co-benefits of cycling...

HEALTH BENEFITS OF CYCLING



- MENTAL HEALTH**
Reduces anxiety and depression
- HEART**
Increased cardiovascular fitness
- COORDINATION**
Improved posture and coordination
- WAISTLINE**
Decreased body fat levels
- MUSCLES**
Increased strength and flexibility
- JOINTS**
Improved mobility

#GenBetter
Sourced from betterhealth.vic.gov.au



You are not just burning off calories...



You'll save one pound of CO₂ for every mile you don't drive.

Do your green efforts count with the best or most available mode of transport in the health of our planet. (Source is requested)



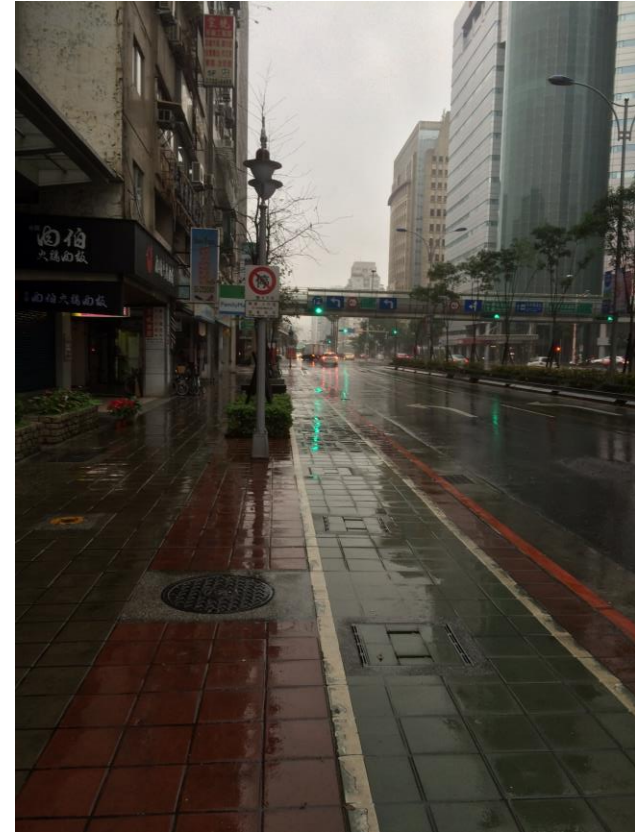
Co-benefits of cycling...?

- How much do these **co-benefits actually matter** to urban transport planning departments around the world?
- The core focus of transport planning is:
 - Safety
 - Traffic efficiency (commonly defined by ‘delay’ and ‘level of service’)
- **Conflict between co-benefits and key performance indicators for traffic efficiency**
- Safety concerns and **FEAR OF CONGESTION** used as an argument against cycling measures!



Example: Fear of Congestion Taipei

- Why is the cycle lane on the pedestrian footpath?
- Because the transport model considers taking away road space or mixing cycling as a cause of delay to the cars and reduces the level of service...
- Looking at it from a multi-modal perspective: doesn't this solution reduce the level of service and increase delay to cyclists and pedestrians?
- If so, how would you assess it?



Xinyi Road

FLOW objectives

- **Define the role** of cycling in congestion reduction
- Develop and apply tools (mainly modelling) for **assessing the congestion-reducing potential** of cycling measures
- **Increase awareness** of the congestion reduction potential of cycling
- **Foster the market up take** of FLOW tools in cities and transport planning consultancies



FLOW partnership

Support partners

- Rupperecht Consult (coordinator)
- Gdansk University of Technology
- Budapest U of Tech and Economics.
- Wuppertal Institute
- Traject
- Polis

Technical

- PTV
- Forum of European National Highway Research Laboratories

Cycling and walking

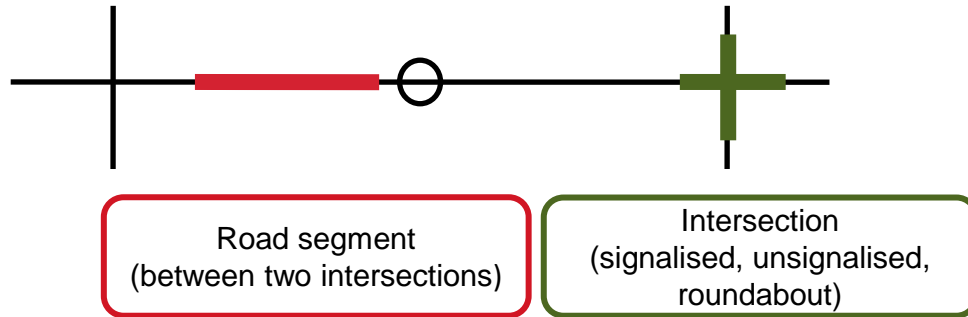
- Walk21
- European Cyclists' Federation



The FLOW story – What is multimodal-congestion?



How do you operationalise a multimodal definition of congestion?



density (disturbance rate)



delay

Density is defined as the number of vehicles / pedestrians /cyclists occupying a length of roadway, usually specified as one km.

Delay is defined as the additional time experienced by a driver / cyclist / pedestrian beyond what would reasonably be desired

procedure for all transport

modes

- Multimodal input data for calculation (e.g. traffic volume, speed, traffic control)



Theoretical demonstration of procedure: Level of Service at road segment

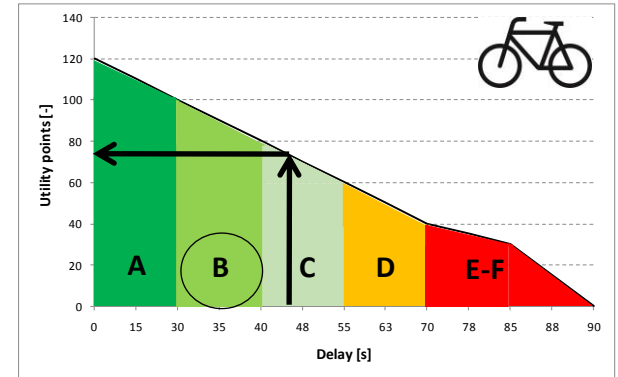
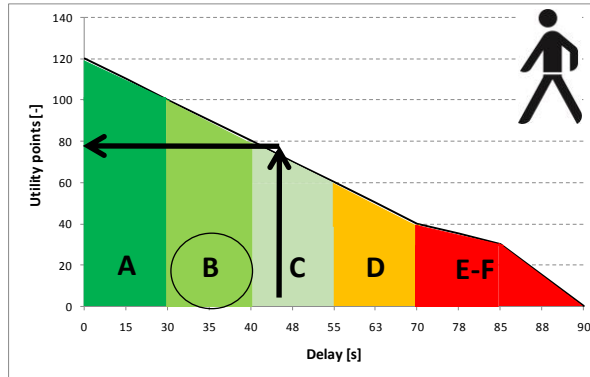
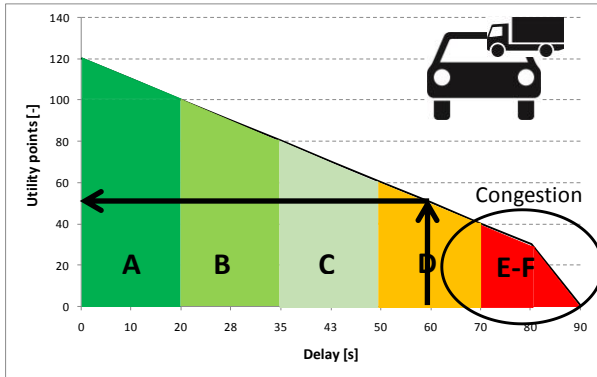
Example!

Multimodal traffic quality calculation

Road segment
(between two intersections)



Level of Service



Target: Combining different transport modes to have one aggregate multimodal level of service

Reduced vehicle LOS

+

Improve Pedestrian LOS

+

Improve Cyclists LOS

=

IMPROVED MULTIMODAL LOS

Practical tools for assessment: transport models

1. Macroscopic modelling

Network level assessment of congestion impact of cycling measures (e.g. bicycle sharing)

2. Microscopic modelling

Local congestion impact of cycling measures on road segments and intersections

PTV VISUM



PTV VISSIM

PTV VISWALK



Operation and extension of the MOL Bubi system

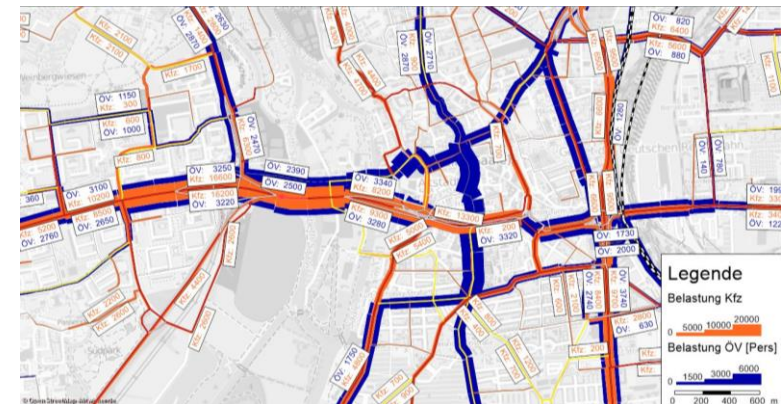
Launched in September 2014:

- Budapest downtown area 15 km²
- 76 docking stations (1500 stands)
- 1100 bicycles
- **1 000 000 trips** since opening (2 rents/bike/day, 2200 rents/day)

Application of FLOW Assessment tools for extension of MOL Bubi system:

- Marcoscopic Analysis
- Include bike sharing in assignment model
- Congestion impact
- Impact on traffic flow

Congestion impact evaluation of U-Bike Taipei?



Conclusion

Overall more cycling measures

Arguments against the FEAR OF CONGESTION for decision makers and traffic engineers

Applied modelling tools

6 case studies

Definition of multimodal congestion

Methodology for assessment



Involvement opportunities

- h2020-flow.eu
- FLOW newsletter
- Twitter feed

Cities:

- 25 Follower Cities

Marketplace:

- 10 Transport Planning Consultancies

Learning and exchange:

- face-to-face workshops and site visits
- online courses
- webinars



Questions for Group discussions

Is the 'Fear of Congestion' used as an argument against cycling in your city?

How do you define congestion in our city?

How can you prove that cycling can reduce congestion? Or not make congestion any worse?

How would you assess it?

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Thank you for your attention.



Bernard Gyergyay – b.gyergyay@rupprecht-consult.eu