

Optimization in city logistics

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Introduction

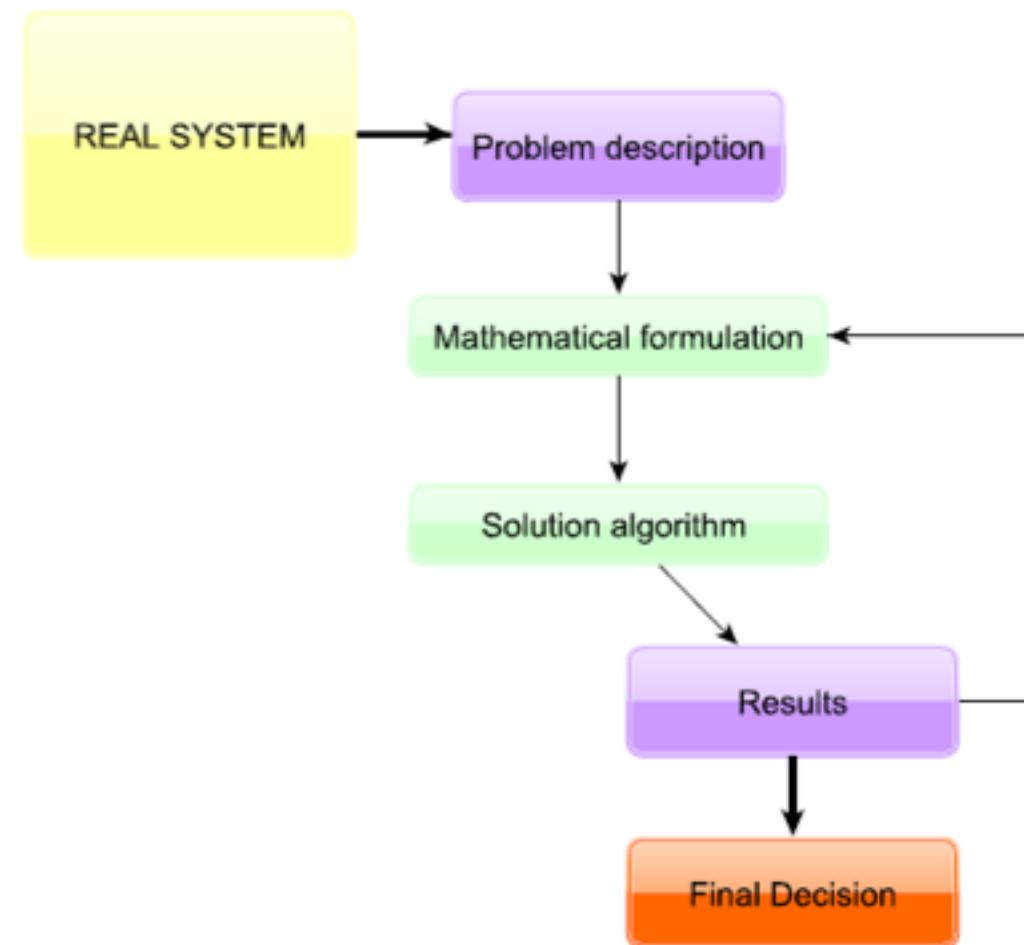
Operations research is a discipline that deals with the application of advanced analytical methods to help make better decisions.

For our purpose:

- Optimization of logistics and transport activities by private companies in urban areas;
- Target: improving environmental, economic, and social sustainability of urban areas.

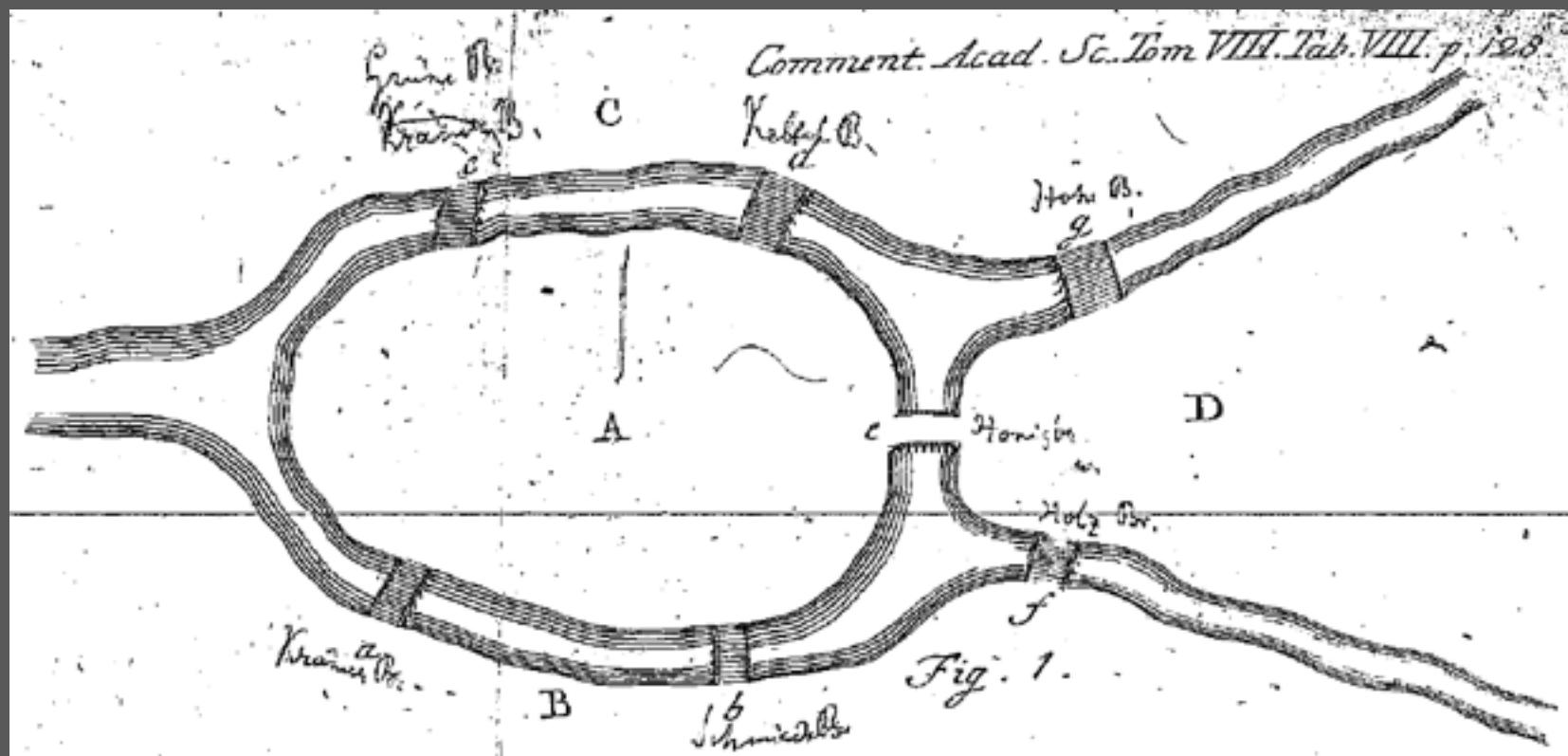
Introduction

- ① Problem definition (identification of parameters);
- ② Model construction (objective function, constraints);
- ③ Resolution (algorithms, computer science technologies);
- ④ Results application and possible model revision (feedback action).



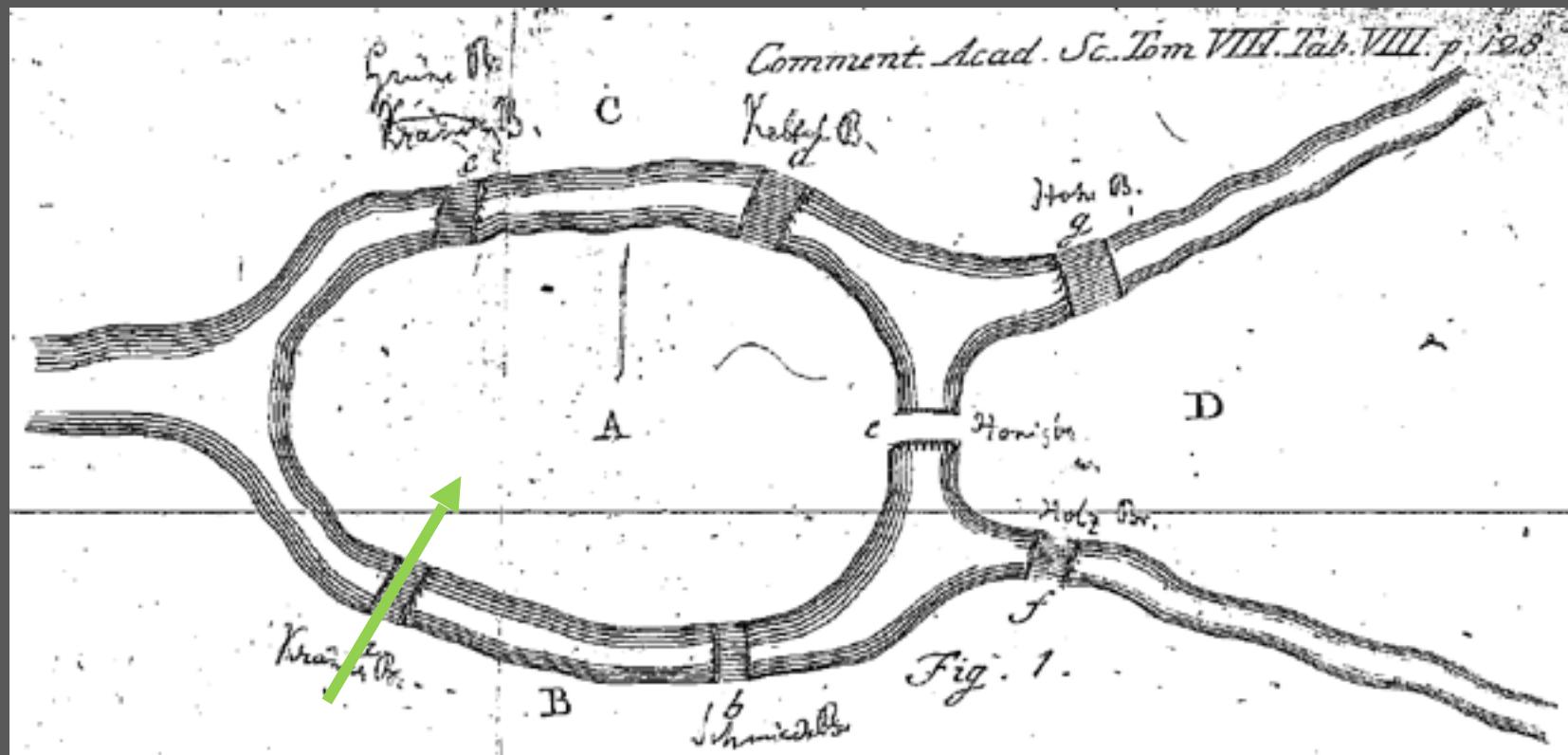
Arc routing

Arc Routing is the process of selecting the best path in a network based on the route.



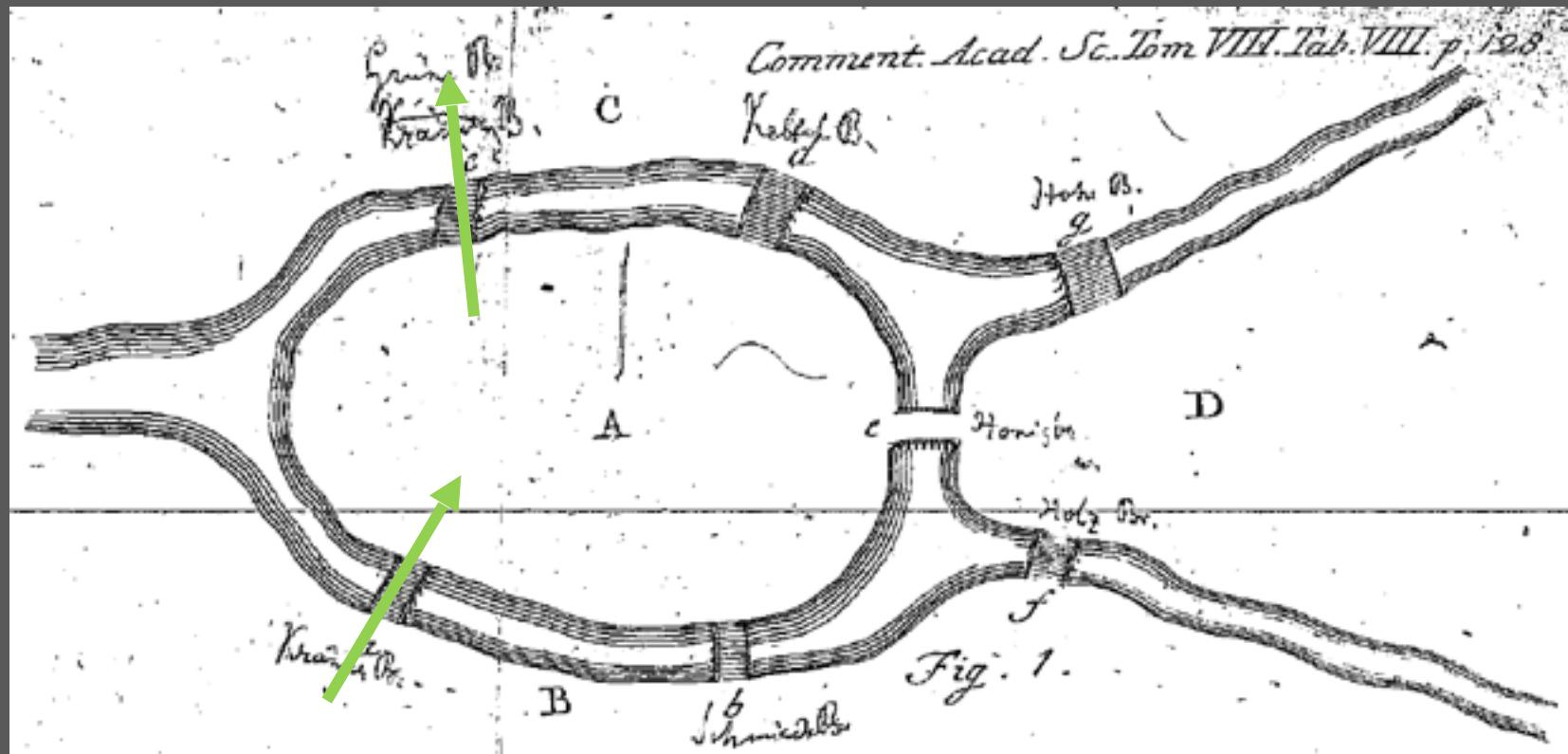
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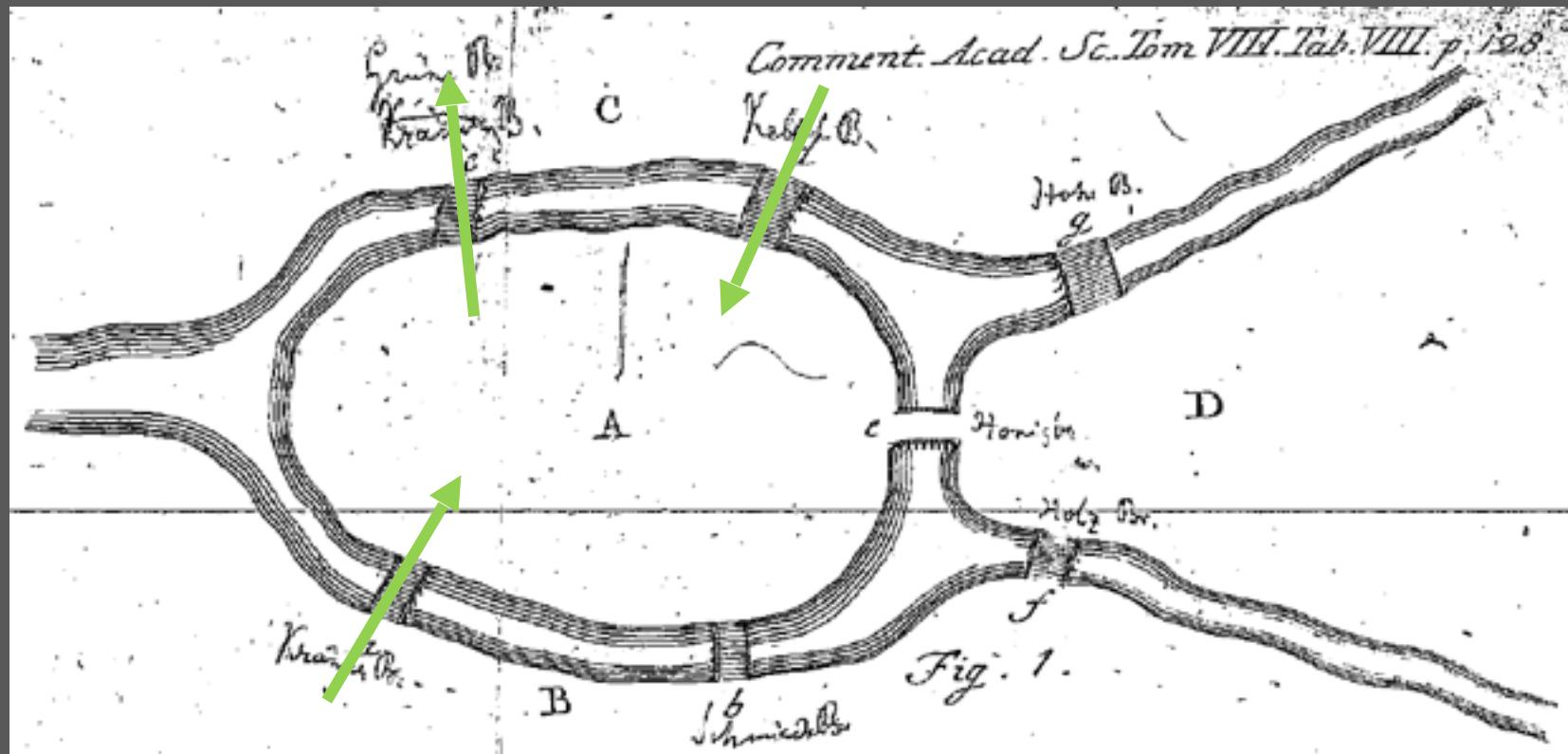
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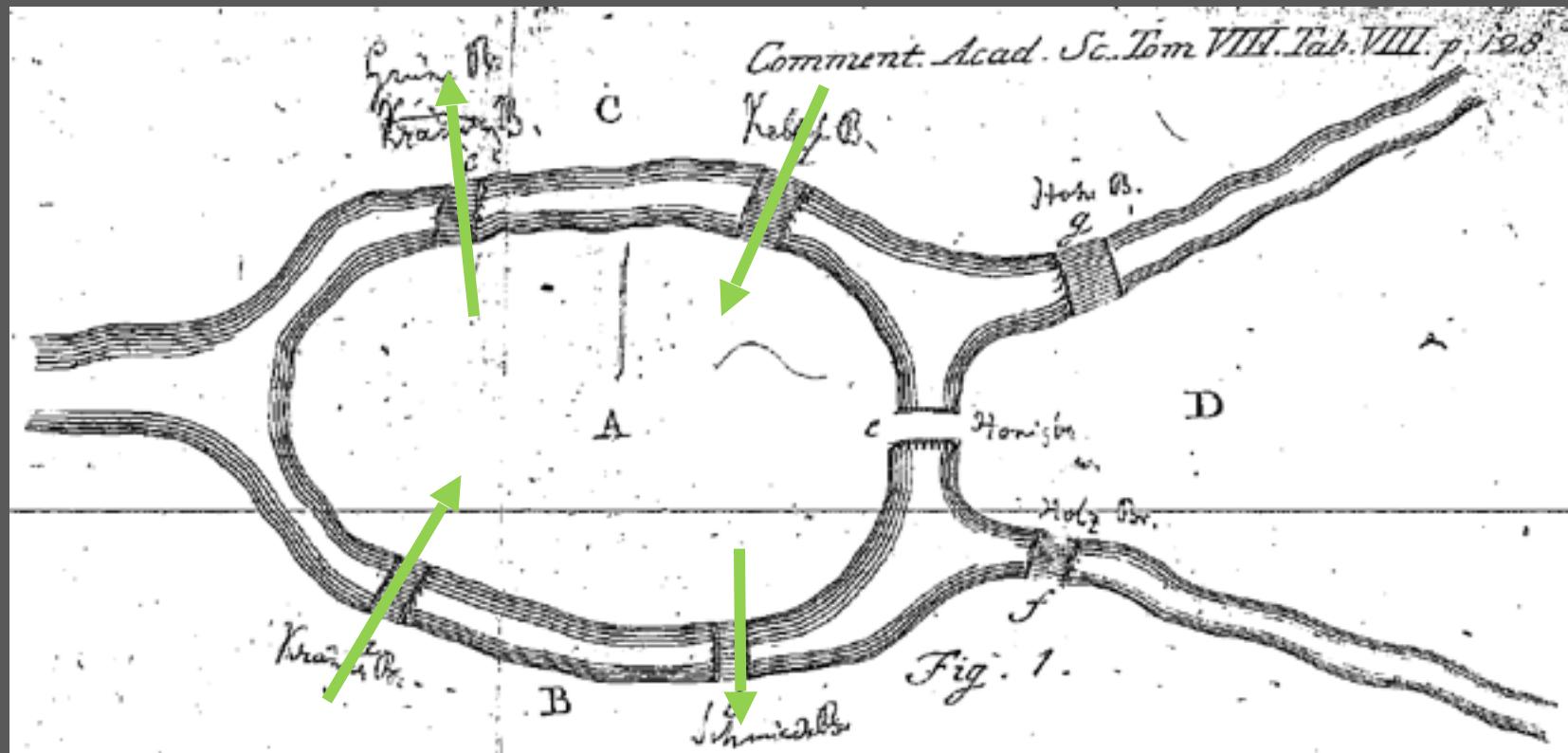
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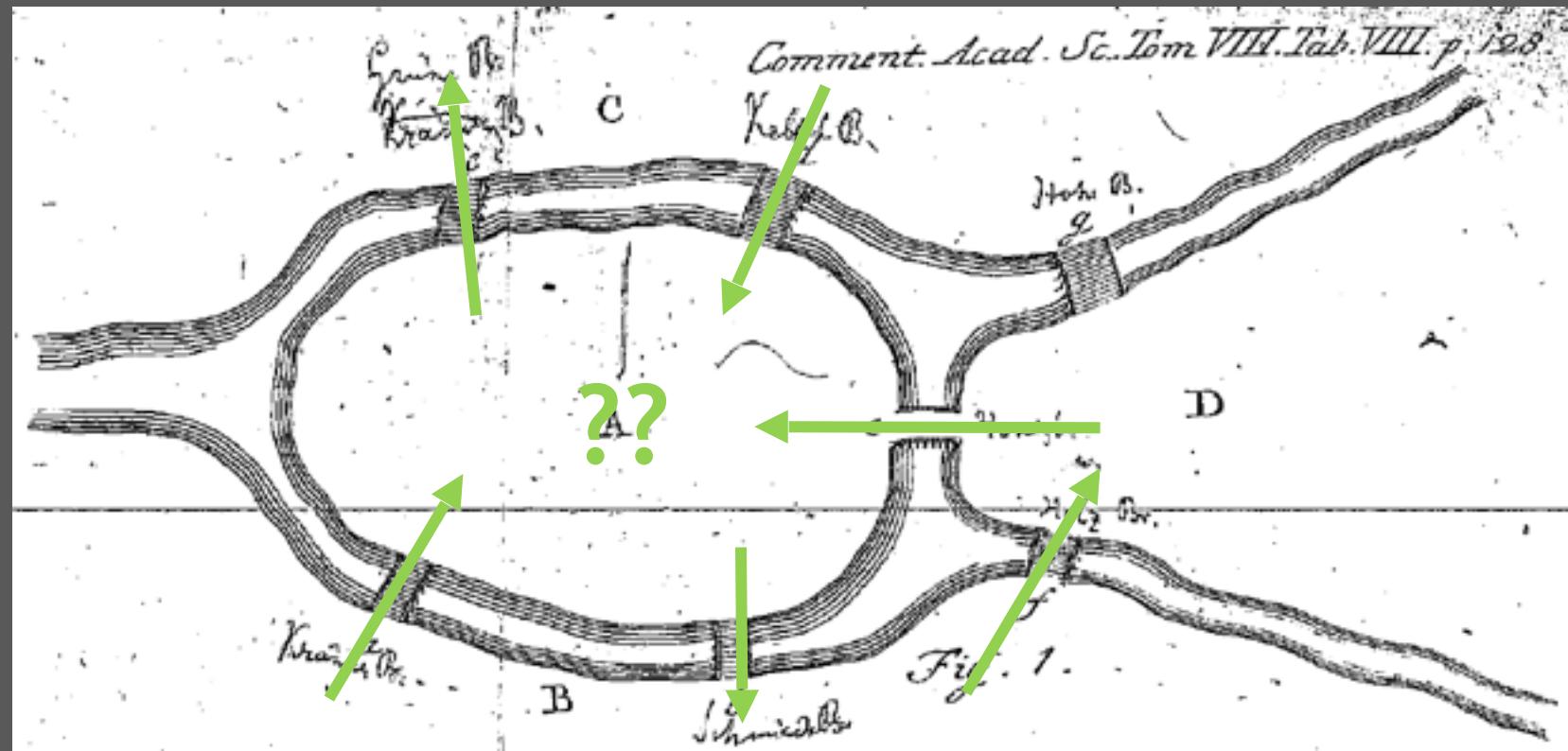
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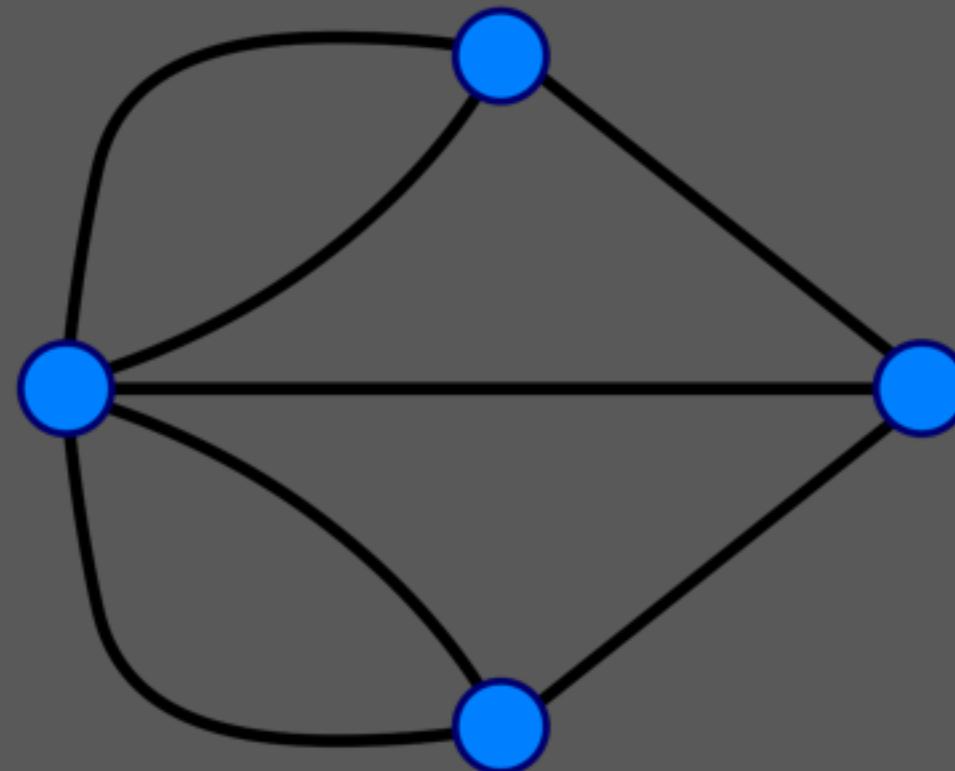
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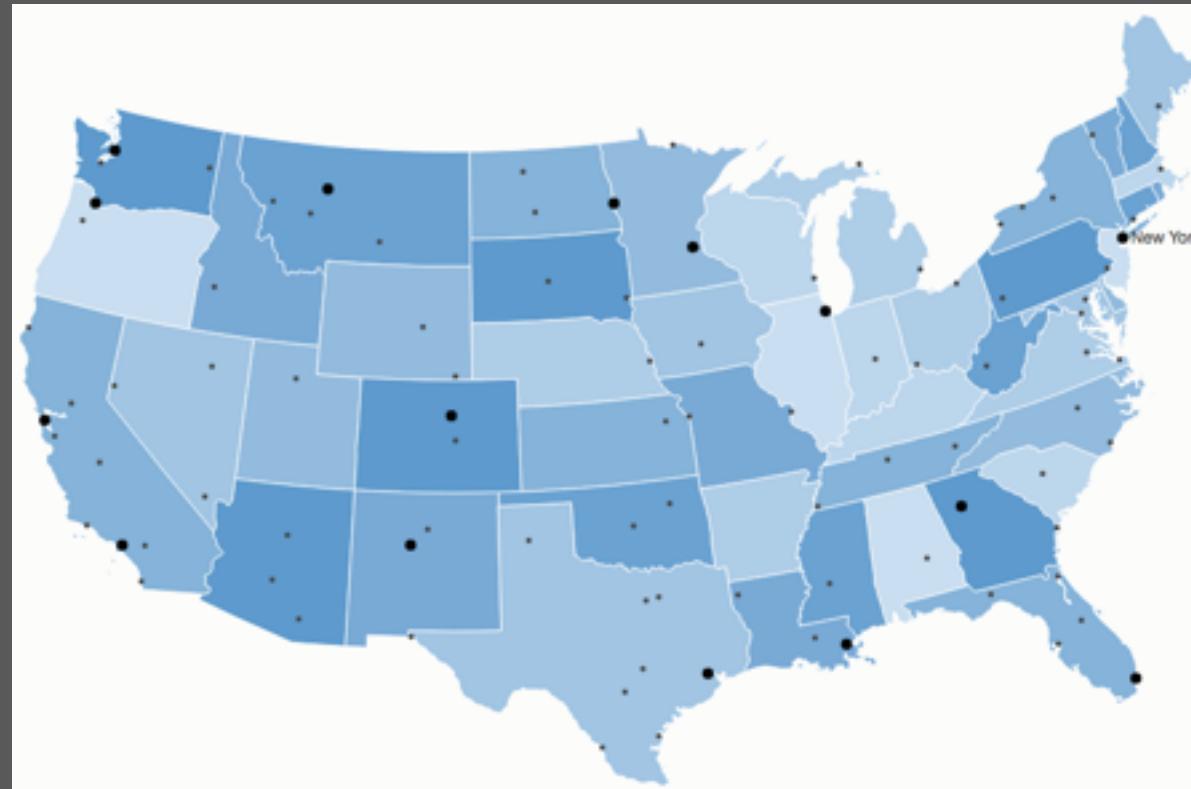
Arc routing

Arc Routing is the process of selecting the **best path** in a network based on the route.



Node routing

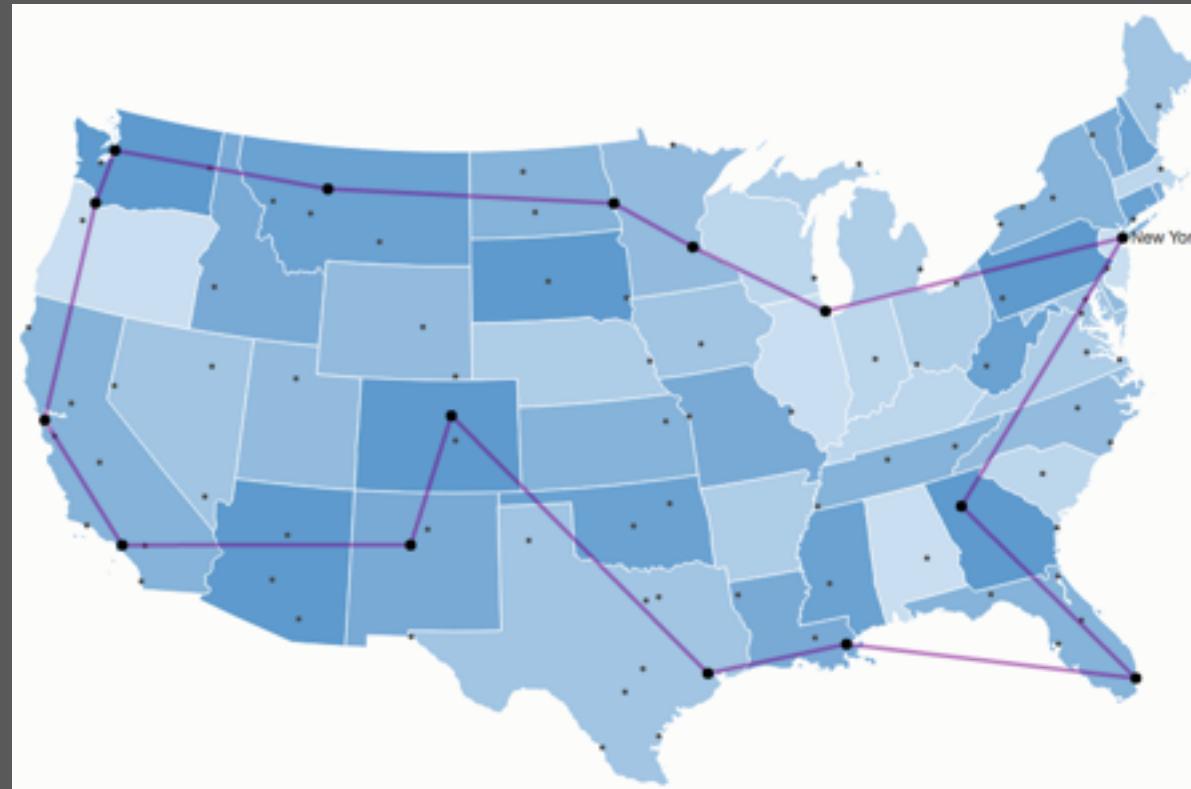
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Credit Gurobi

Node routing

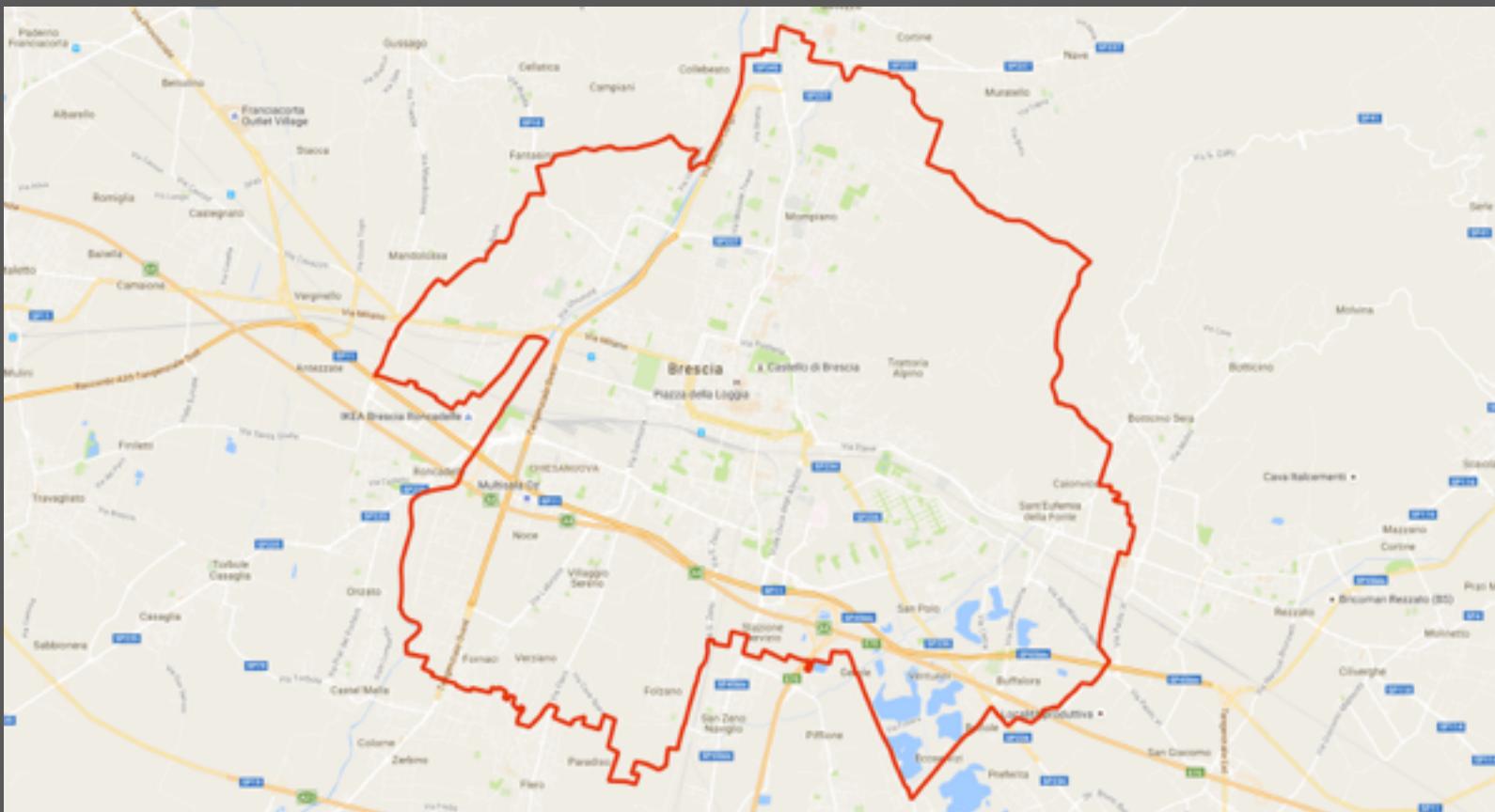
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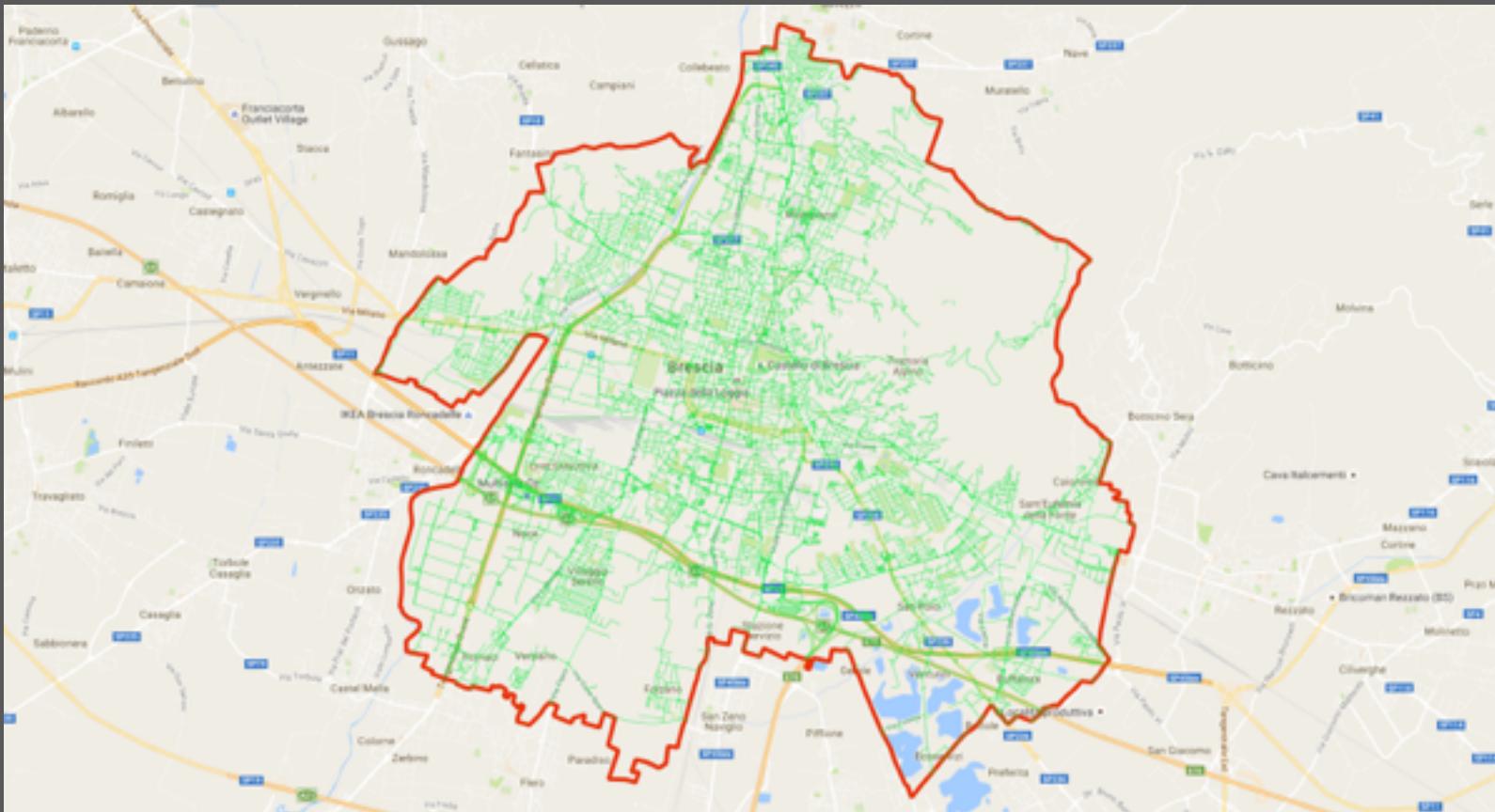
QGIS

QGIS is a cross-platform free and open-source desktop geographic information system (GIS) application that provides data viewing, editing, and analysis.



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Problem 1: Optimizing garbage collection using mathematical tools

Door to door VS selective bins collection



VS



Study area

Brescia is moving from a bins-based system to a door-to-door service.

The city needs to

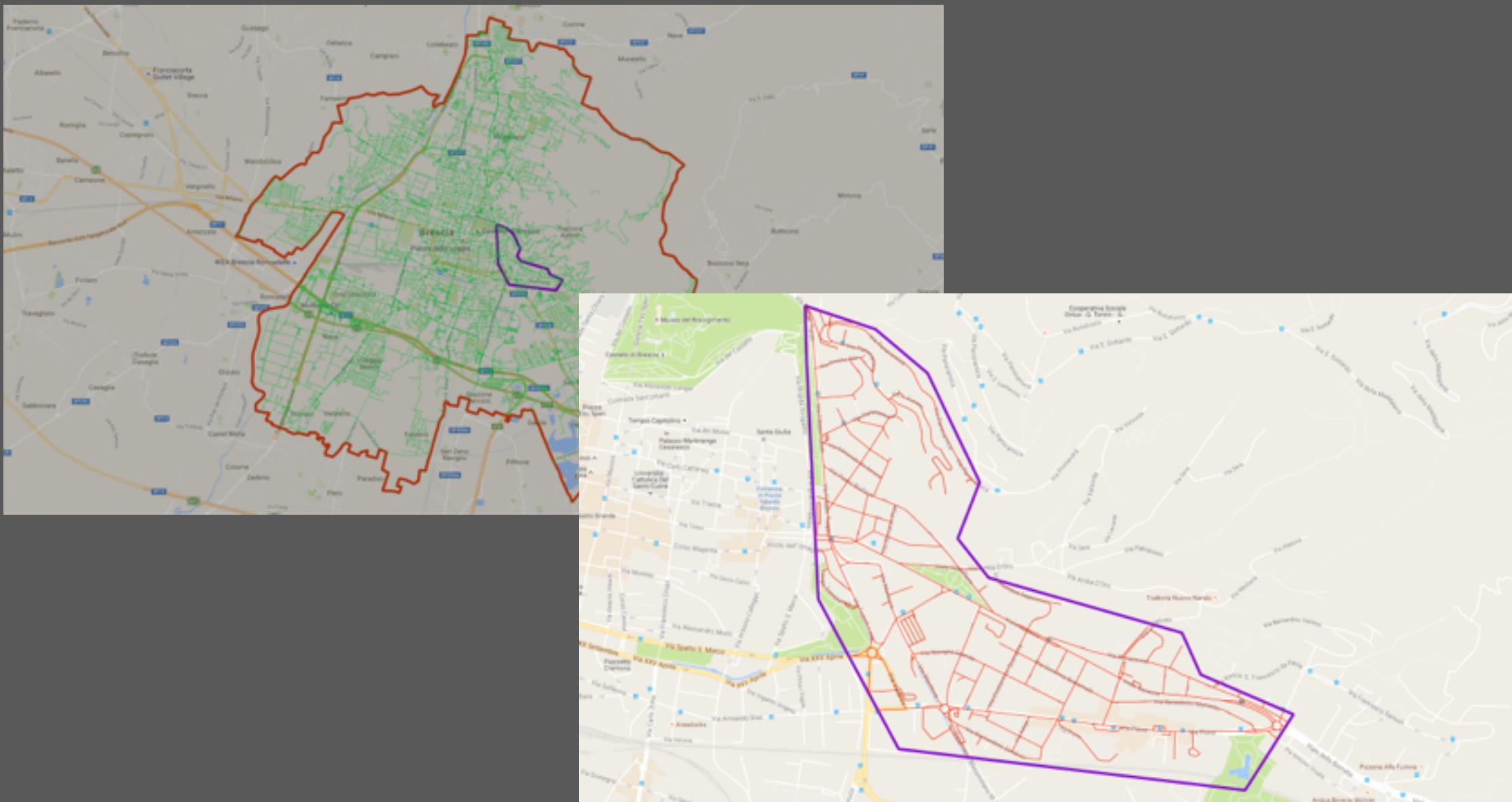
- Re-organize the activity of a huge number of trucks and workers
- Define the routes for the new service and the corresponding schedule

We can use a mathematical model to find an **optimal route (minimize costs, guarantee a fixed schedule for each type of waste...)**

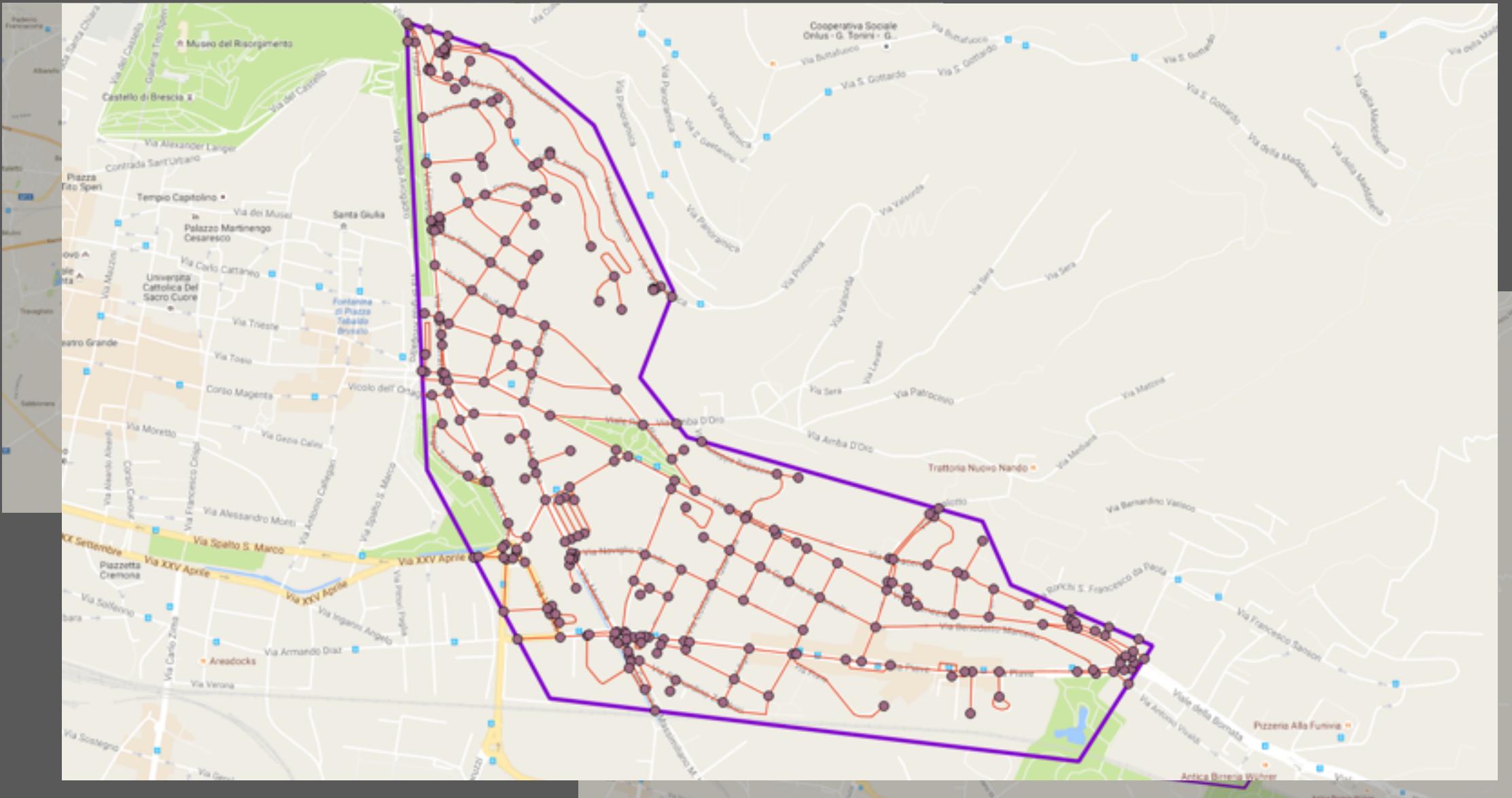
Study area



Study area



Study area



The model

$$\min \sum_{(i,j) \in A} c_{ij} x_{ij}$$

$$\text{s.t. } x_{ij} + x_{ji} \geq 1 \quad (i, j) \in A$$

$$\sum_{(i,j) \in \delta^+(\{h\})} x_{ij} = \sum_{(i,j) \in \delta^-(\{h\})} x_{ij} \quad h \in V$$

$$x_{ij} \in \mathbb{N} \quad (i, j) \in A$$

Implementing the algorithm



VS



Used software: MPL

```
TITLE
    Waste_collection;

INDEX
    i := DATAFILE("nodes.txt");
    j := DATAFILE("nodes.txt");

DATA
    cost[i,j] := DATAFILE("distances.txt");

VARIABLES
    x[i,j] WHERE cost[i,j] > 0;

MODEL
    MIN  SUM(i,j: x[i,j] * cost[i,j])

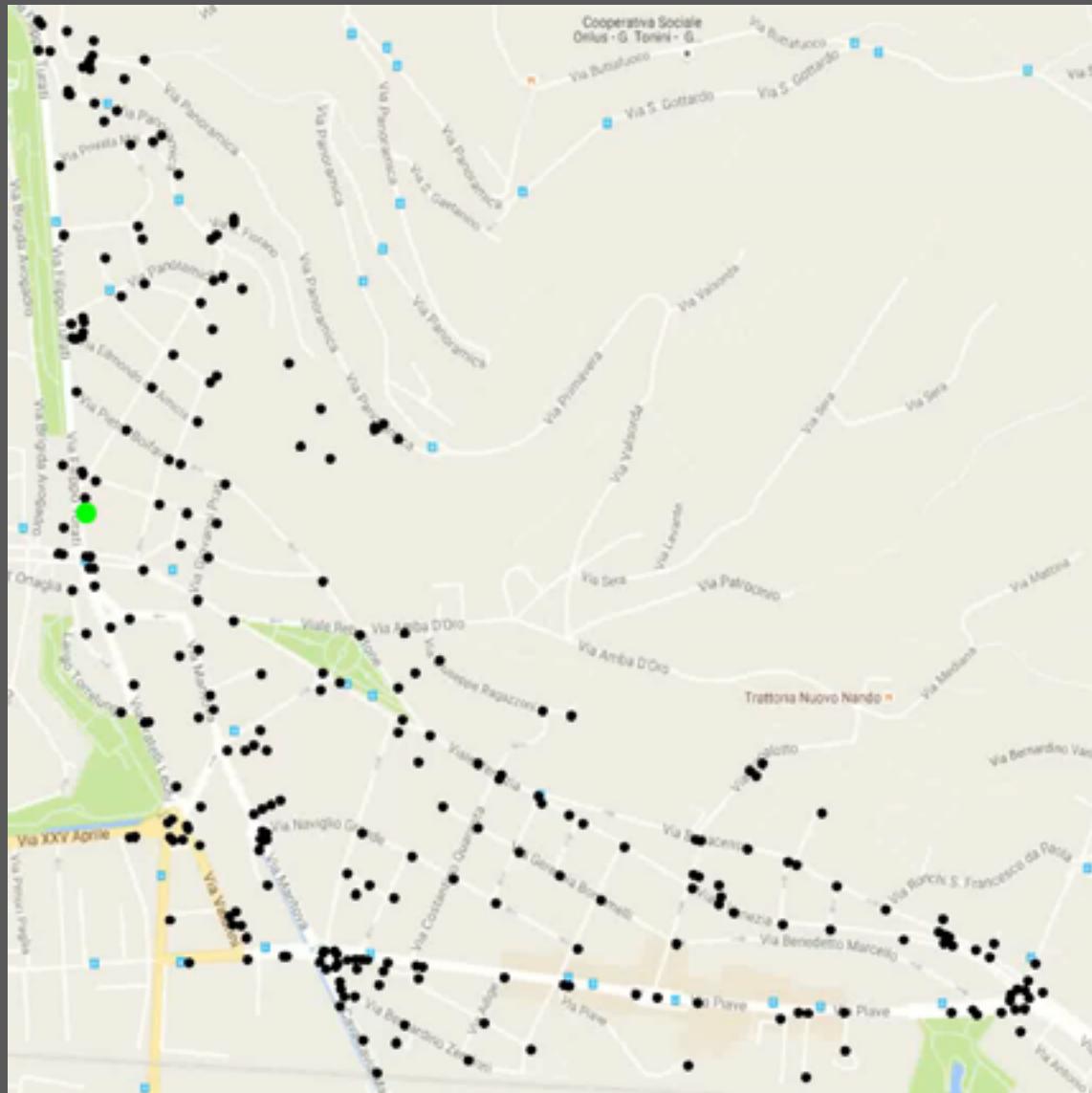
SUBJECT TO
    arc_passing[i,j]:      x[i,j] + x[i:=j,j:=i] >= 1;
    flow_conservation[i]:  SUM(j: x[i,j]) - SUM(j: x[i:=j,j:=i]) = 0

INTEGER
    x[i,j]

END
```



The solution



The solution

Study area ~ **1km²**. The optimal (shortest) route is **36 km** long!

However, with respect to a not optimal implemented route, with our solution we can save about 400km annually!

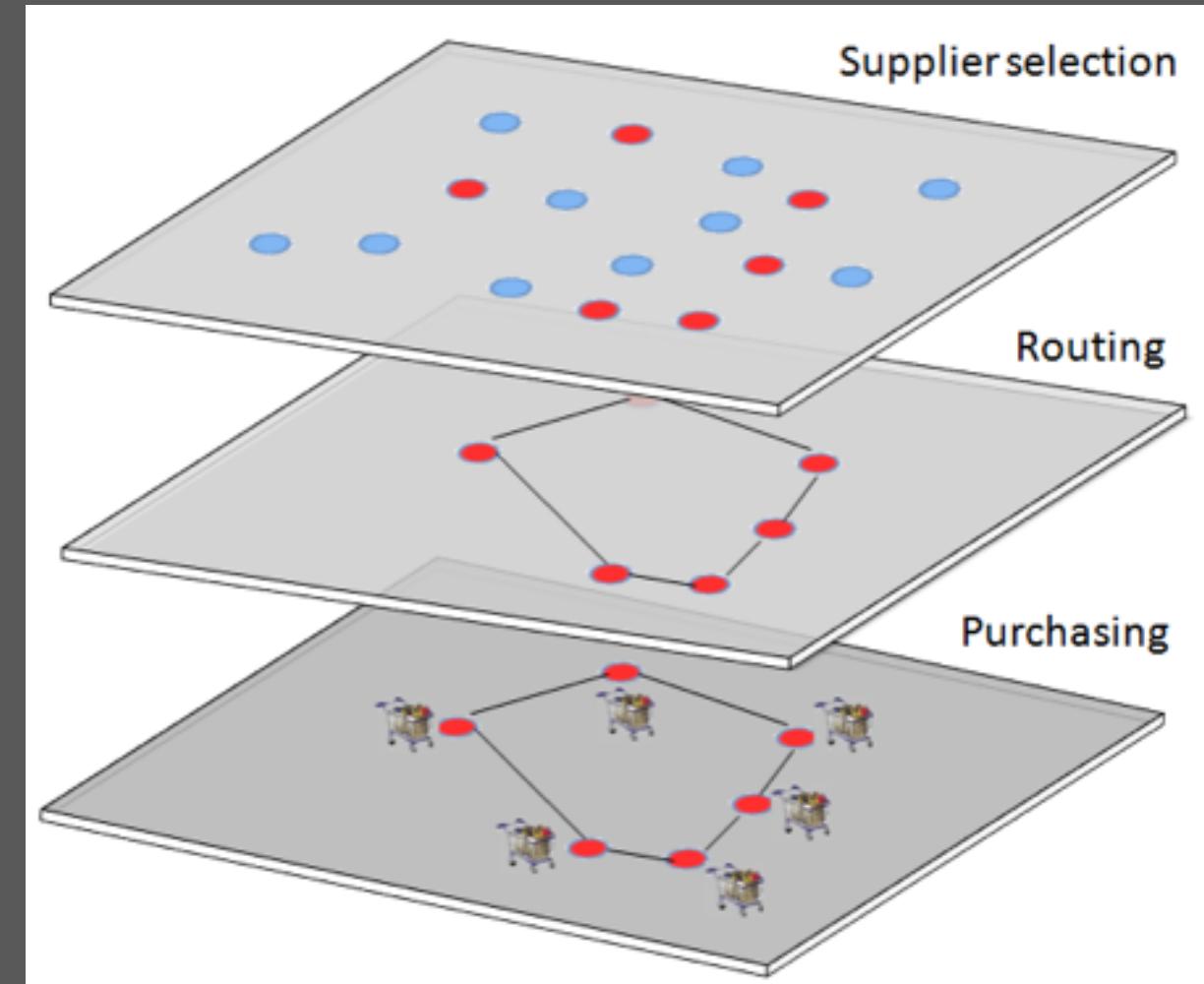
Brescia is about **90.34 km²** so do the math!

Problem 2: Management of complex operations in procurement logistics

Procurement logistics

A buyer has to determine

- Optimal suppliers selection;
- Optimal routing;
- Optimal purchasing planning.



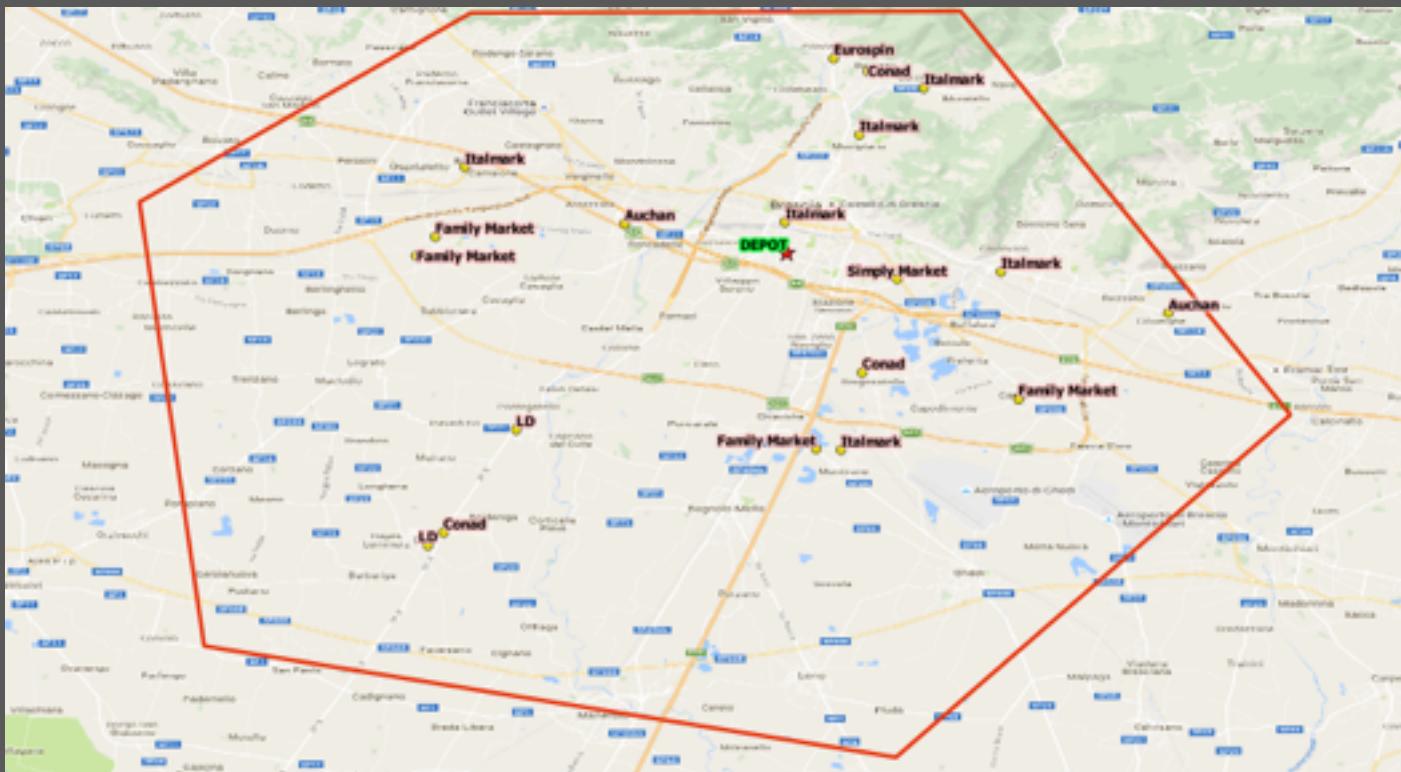
Study area

We have a shopping list. We can buy from 19 supermarkets (M) using a set of trucks, each one with a maximum capacity Q . We start from the depot and we want to return there.

50 different goods (k), offered differently by each supermarket. Some goods can not travel together.



We want to buy everything at the minimum travelling and purchasing cost.



The model

$$\min \sum_{v \in F} \sum_{(i,j) \in A} c_{ij} x_{ij}^v + \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{i \in M_k} \sum_{v \in F} p_{ik} z_{ik}^v \quad (1)$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{i \in M_k} \sum_{v \in F} z_{ik}^v = d_k \quad k \in K \quad (2)$$

$$\sum_{(i,j) \in \delta^+(\{h\})} x_{ij}^v = \sum_{(i,j) \in \delta^-(\{h\})} x_{ij}^v = y_h^v \quad h \in M, v \in F \quad (3)$$

$$u_i^v - u_j^v + |M| x_{ij}^v \leq |M| - 1 \quad i, j \in M, i \neq j, v \in F \quad (4)$$

$$\sum_{k \in K} \sum_{i \in M_k} z_{ik}^v \leq Q \quad v \in F \quad (5)$$

$$z_{ik}^v \leq q_{ik} y_i^v \quad k \in K, i \in M_k, v \in F \quad (6)$$

$$\sum_{v \in F} z_{ik}^v \leq q_{ik} \quad k \in K, i \in M_k \quad (7)$$

$$w_k^v + w_g^v \leq 1 \quad (k, g) \in B, v \in F \quad (8)$$

$$w_k^v \leq \sum_{i \in M_k} z_{ik}^v \leq d_k w_k^v \quad k \in K, v \in F \quad (9)$$

$$x_{ij}^v, y_i^v, w_k^v \in \{0, 1\} \quad z_{ik}^v, u_i^v \geq 0$$

Used software: CPLEX



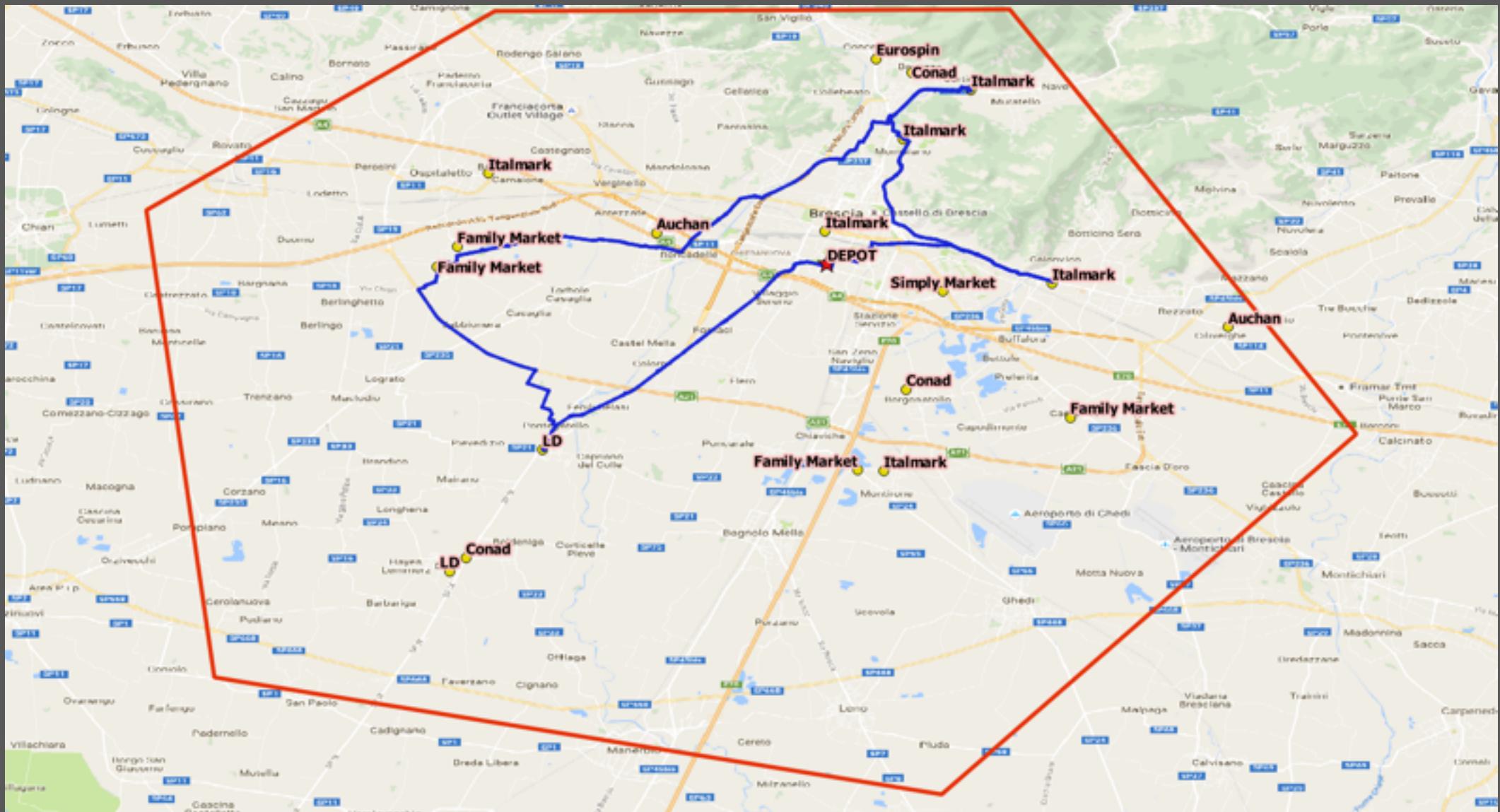
Used software: CPLEX

We implemented a model, using all these constraints, but....

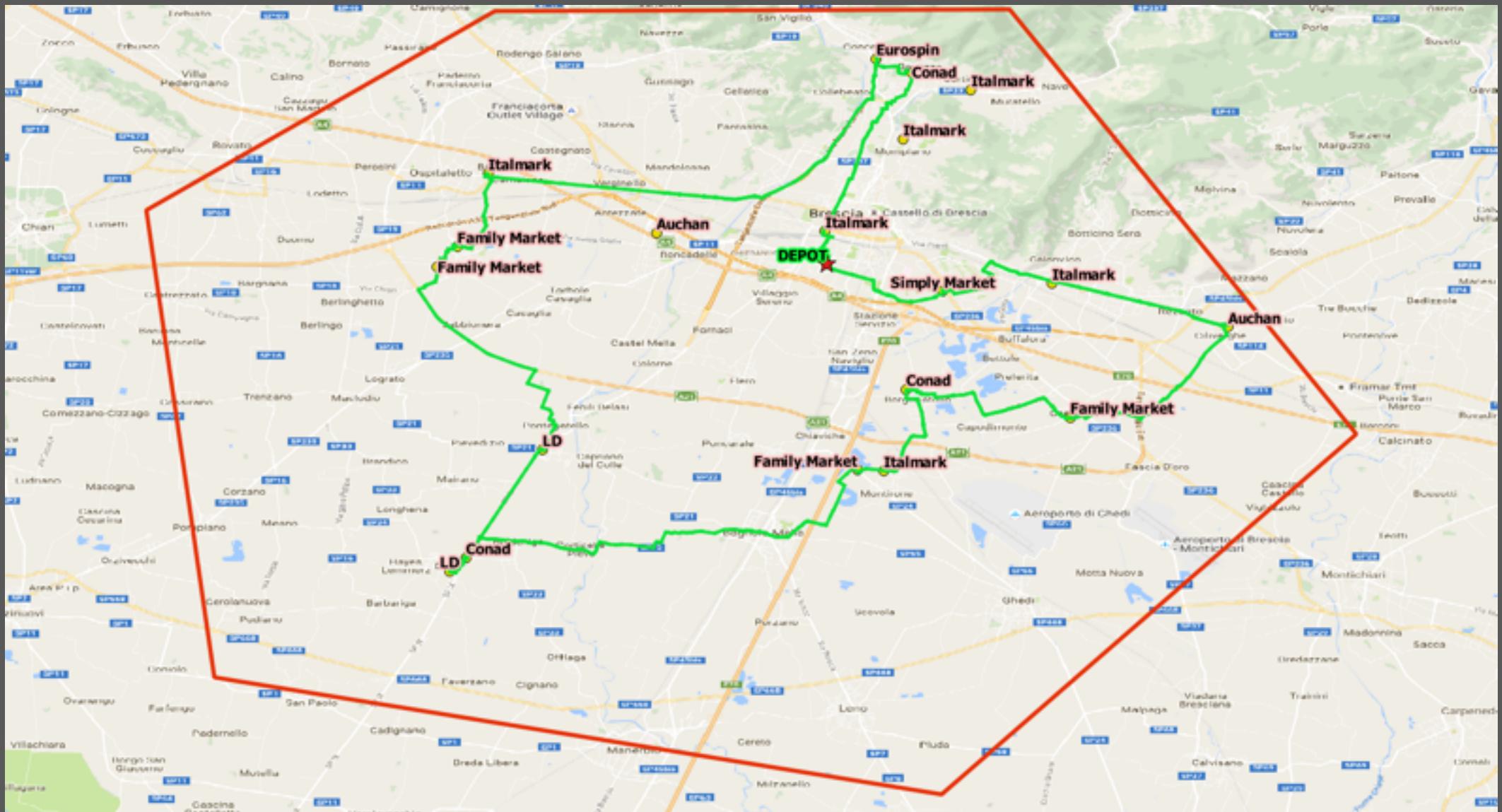
After 10 minutes we were still far from the optimal solution!!

We had to reason and develop a dynamic inclusion of more powerful constraints to speed up the resolution.

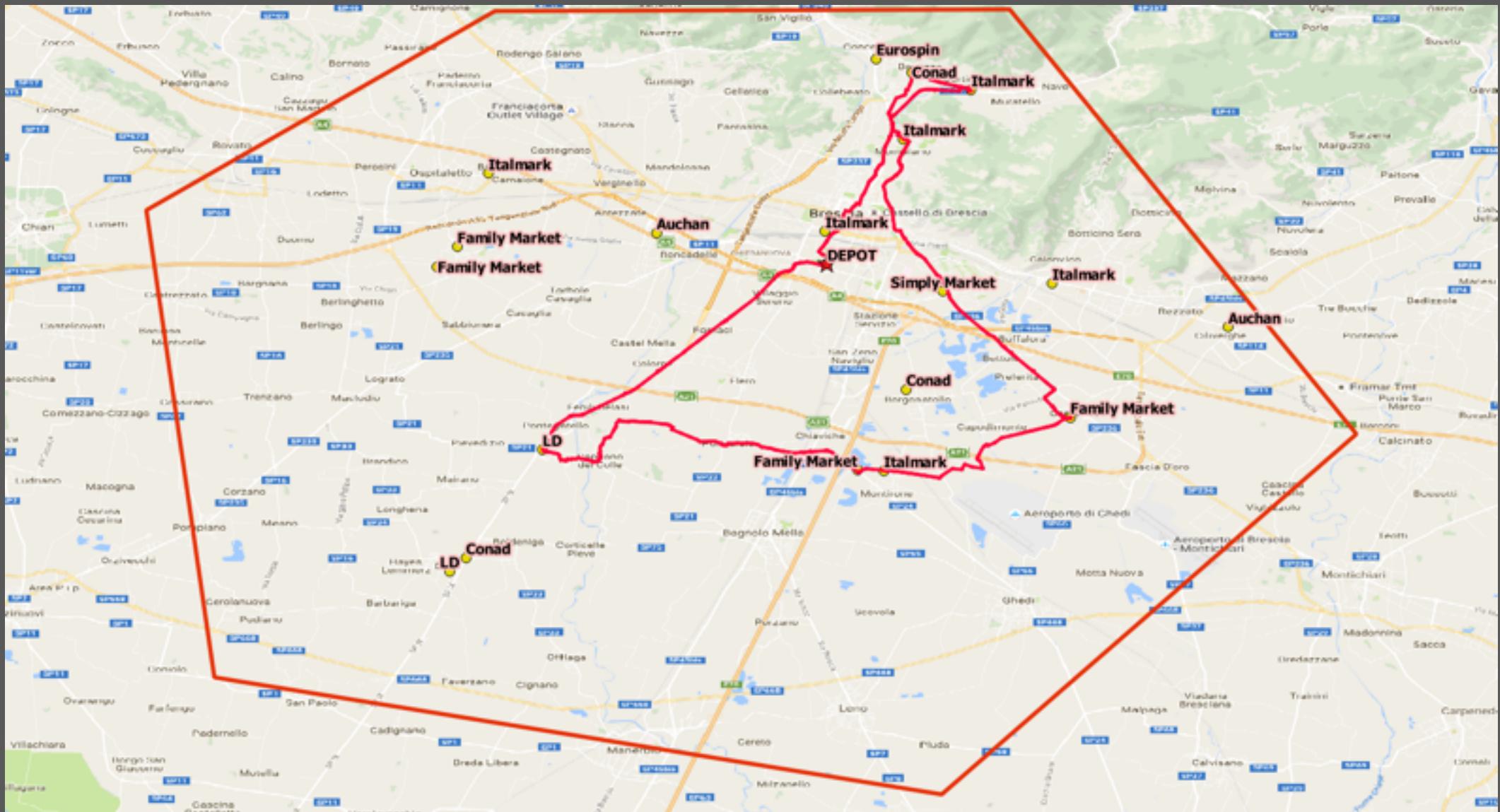
Optimal shopping plan



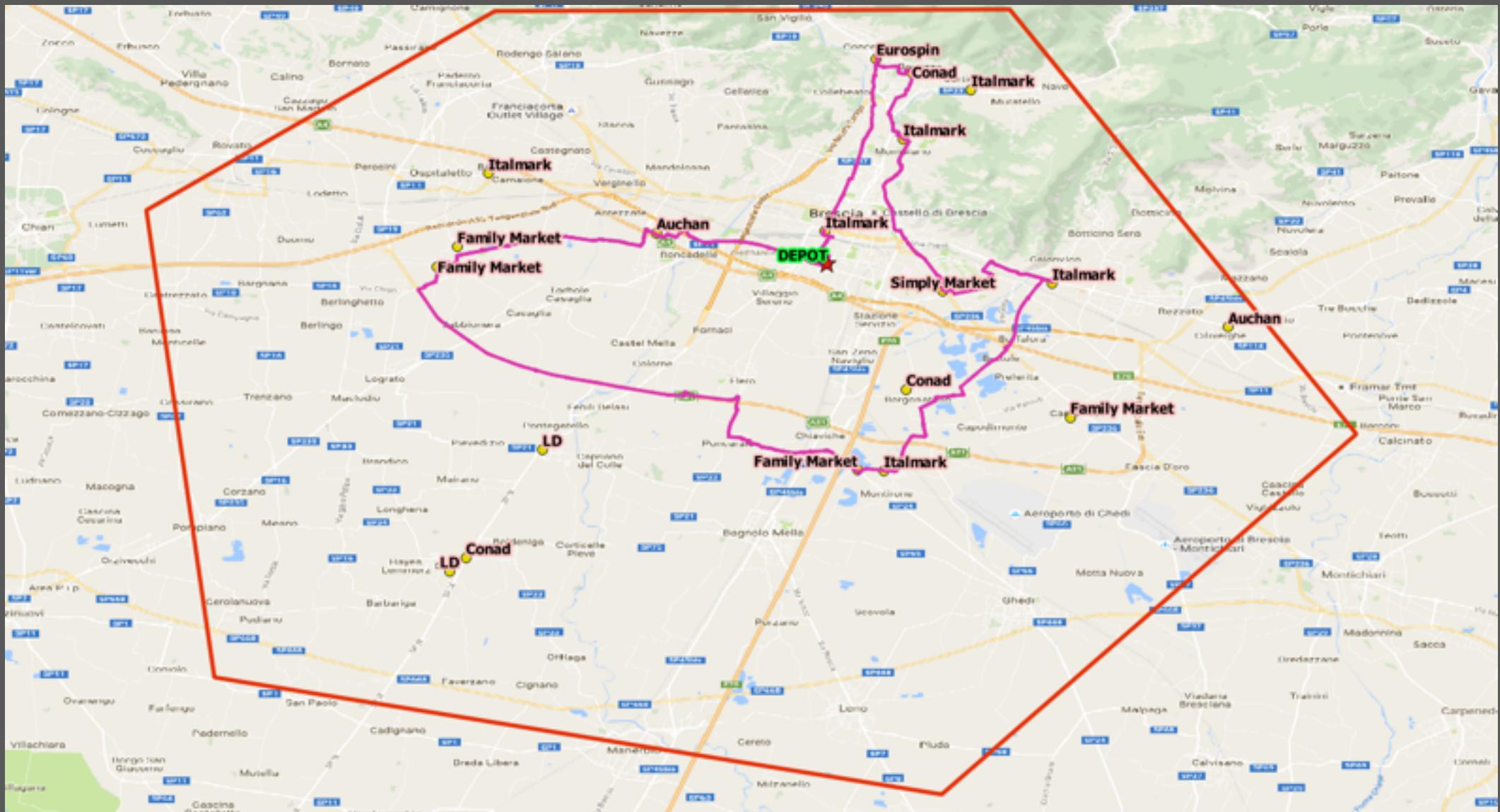
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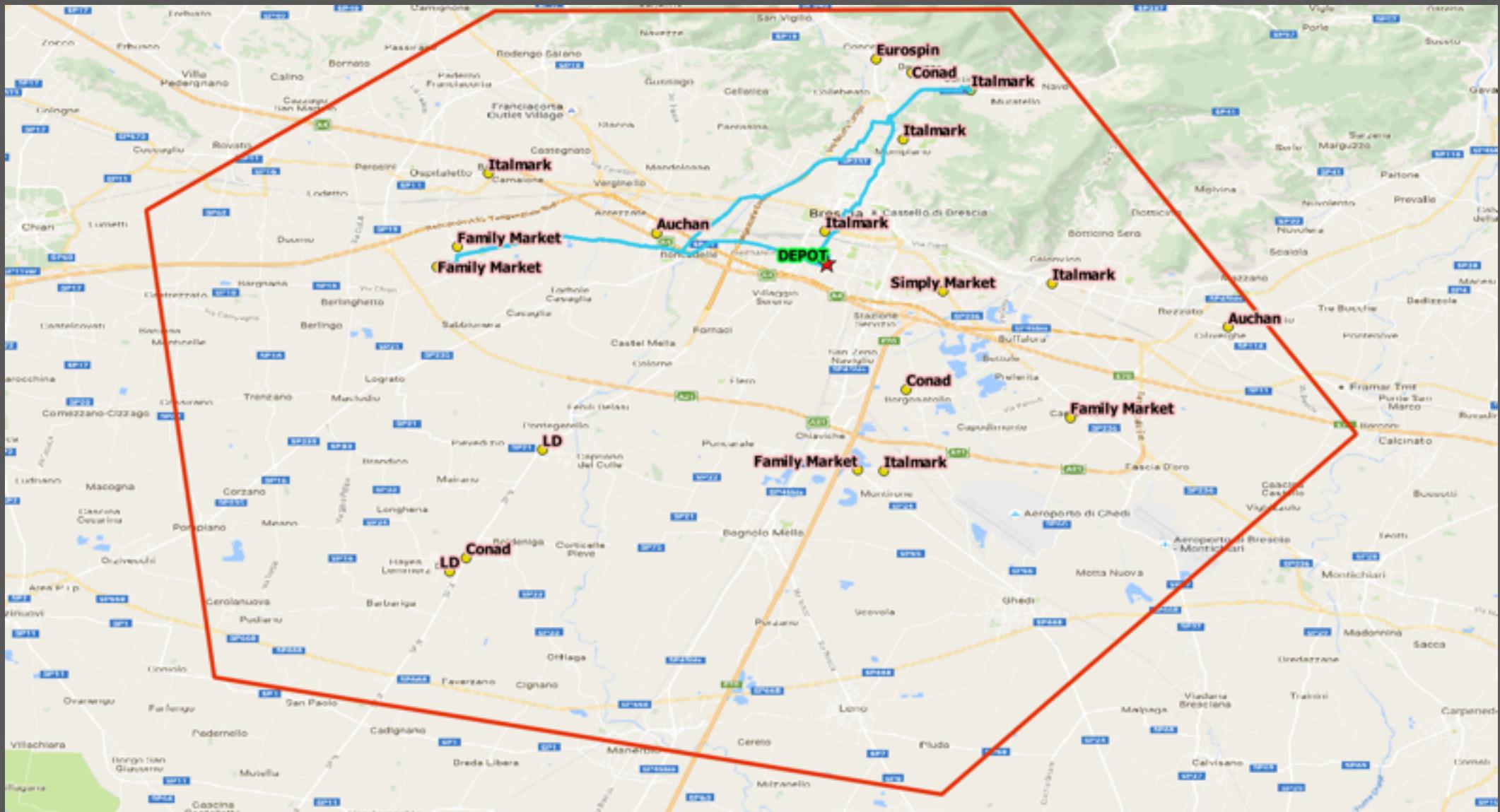
Optimal shopping plan



Optimal shopping plan



Optimal shopping plan



Optimal shopping plan



Final remarks

We saw very powerful instruments to solve real life problems.

Private and public bodies might (SHOULD) take advantage of these mathematical tools to improve citizens life quality, profits, sustainability, ...

Thank you