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MCM/ICM

Summary Sheet

The L^AT_EX Template for MCM Version v6.2.1

Summary

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Keywords: keyword1; keyword2

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Lewis Mumford, a famous sociologist and literary critic, once said in a metaphorical manner, “Adding highway lanes to deal with traffic congestion is like loosening your belt to cure obesity.” Fortunately, he did not experience the worse congestion around today’s highway toll plaza.

Currently, with roaring number of vehicles, rising construction costs and constrained available areas, traffic jam becomes more and more serious but future toll-plaza construction opportunities are limited to improve this situation markedly. Figure 1 shows the congestion in the toll plaza near Tappan Zee Bridge. Subject



Figure 1: Toll Plaza Congestion

to the constraints referred above, neither increasing highway lanes nor building more tollbooths seems practical enough to relieve traffic jam around a toll plaza nowadays, particularly for some heavily-traveled roads such as the Garden State Parkway, New Jersey. Therefore, looking for some innovative design improvements on the geometric parameters of the extent toll plaza is an effective solution.

1.2 Restatement of the Problem

In this paper, we are required to explore better solutions to design a departure zone of a toll plaza (if they exist). We may reach the better solutions with optimal throughput, cost or safety by determining its size, shape and merging pattern. All the model establishing processes are based on the fixed number of tollbooths (B) and the lanes after merging (L). From our perspective, connecting all

the considerations with cost directly or indirectly and make cost our main objective function is an explicit and effective plan.

1.3 Our Work

From our perspective, connecting all the considerations with cost directly or indirectly and make cost our major objective function is an explicit and effective plan. Thus, all our models are established out of this thought. In detail, we can determine an average waiting time by calculating the throughput of the toll plaza. In this way, we may quantify the average waiting time as money consumption with an introduction of a uniform *Waiting Time Cost*. Our goal is to look for the minimum cost (including time and construct cost) in the case of satisfying basic security conditions. In other words, the overall cost is our objective function and security factors are constraints towards the objective function. We can get better solutions by minimizing the overall cost. And in order to reveal the relationship of size, shape and merging pattern, we propose a two-dimensional Cellular Automata (CA) model. After that, we analysis the influence of size and shape of toll plaza and with a efficient merging control system we proposed a better solution than other toll plazas in common.

2 Assumptions

- We assume that all the drivers are selfish and short-sighted. To be specific, drivers are free to change lanes, in order to get out quickly.
- We assume that no drivers would like to move away from the Road Leading to Exit(RLE).
- We assume that both the choices towards tollbooths and the coming time of vehicles satisfies random distribution.
- We assume that all the cars are the same in size.
- We assume that the cost of the departure zone only consist of a one-time Land and road construction costs.

3 Notations

4 Model

4.1 Time Cost and Construction Cost

4.2 CA Model

5 Size

The size of the merge area can be determined by the following parameters:

- Total width of typical toll lanes (W_B).
- Length of the recovery zone (L_r).
- Length of total departure zone (L_d).
- Width of the exit (W_L).

Parameters hereinbefore are shown in Figure 2. For the number of travel lanes

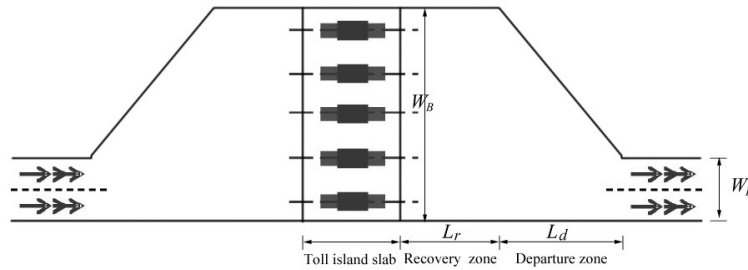


Figure 2: The Parameters

(L) is fixed, W_L is constant. Then we are considering the effect of the rest parameters separately. By simulating our model mentioned above via computer program, we can figure out how these parameters affect the maximal throughput of the merge area, that is, Q_{max} . Figure 3 shows the variation tendency of Q_{max} with the alteration of the width of each tollbooth W_b . Apparently $W_B = B \times W_b$. Figure 3 provides a result under the prerequisite that W_b ranges from 6 to 14 while other parameters are fixed. We utilize an appropriate Linear Fitting Function Model to address the data, and then get the fitting function of Q_{max} and W_b :

$$Q_{max} = p_1 \times W_b + p_2$$

Where,

$$p_1 = 10.35, p_2 = 661.7$$

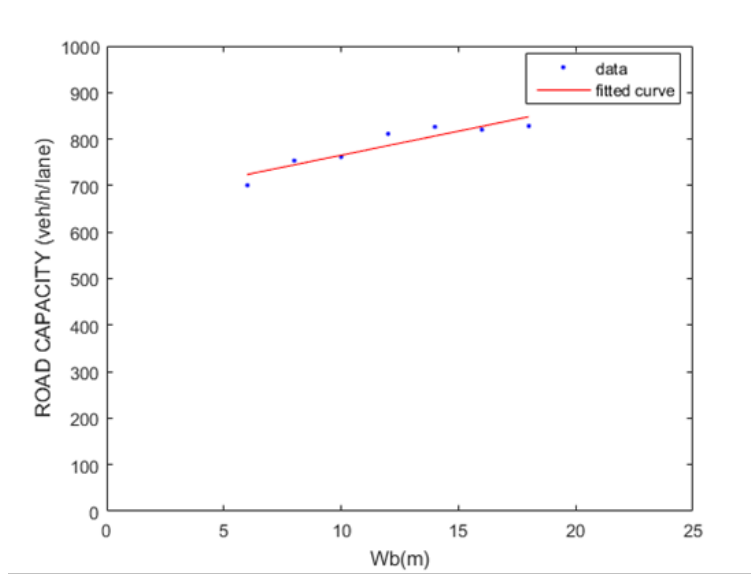


Figure 3: The Linear Fitting Image of Q_{max} and W_b

The simulation result indicates that Q_{max} would only be affected by the total width of typical toll lanes (W_B) in a small degree. However, increasing W_b will markedly result in a rise in construction costs. For L_r , the linear fitting image is showed in Figure 4 and the variance of Q_{max} is 36.7188. We can see that L_r causes almost no effect on the merge area capacity. In the Linear Fitting Function, the coefficient $p_3 = 0$.

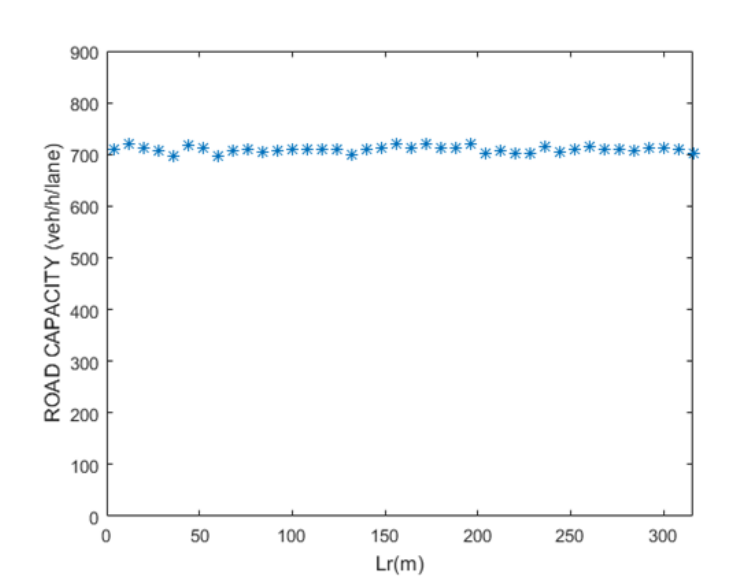


Figure 4: The Linear Fitting Image of Q_{max} and L_r

Both linear fitting image, and function of Q_{max} and L_d are shown below. There is a negative correlation between Q_{max} and L_d . Nevertheless, the relationship is so faint that enlarging Q_{max} by changing L_d is not functional.

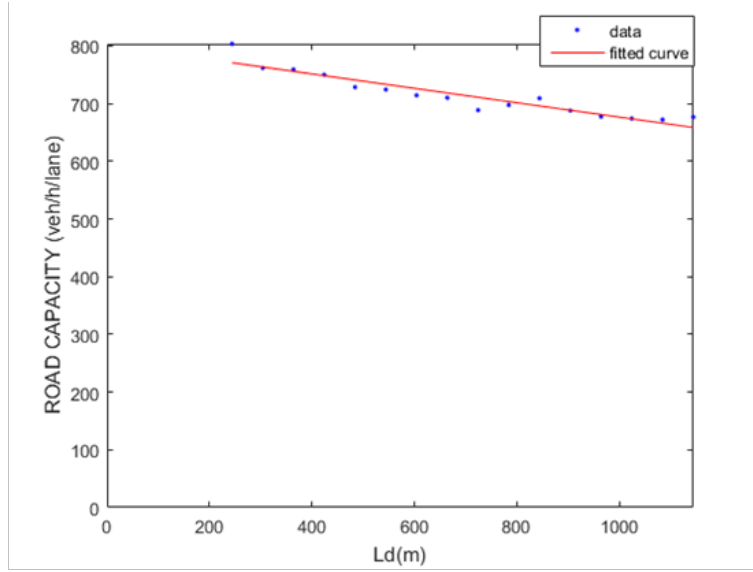


Figure 5: The Linear Fitting Image of Q_{max} and L_d

$$Q_{3max} = p_5 \times L_d + p_6$$

Where,

$$p_5 = -0.1248, p_6 = 801.1.$$

From discussion above, the size does cause impact on Q_{max} , while the impact is not that obvious. In addition, L_d and W_B should never be constructed too small because it may cause potential safety problems and result in higher accident rate. For ensuring safety, the departure taper rates T_r must be limited into $[T_{rmin}, T_{rmax}]$. In summary, in order to determine the optimal size of a toll plaza, the problem can be transformed into a linear minimization problem with the form:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\text{minimize} && C = S(C_{road} + C_{construct}) + 4380h_g^2C_h(Q_g - Q_{max}) \\
 &\text{s.t} && Q_{max} | W_b = 3m, L_d = 612m, L_r = 168m = 709XL \\
 &&& \frac{dQ_{max}}{dW_b} = p_1 = 10.35 \\
 &&& \frac{dQ_{max}}{dL_r} = p_3 = 0 \\
 &&& \frac{dQ_{max}}{dL_d} = p_5 = -0.1248 \\
 &&& T_{rmin} < T_r < T_{rmax} \\
 &&& W_b > W_{bmin}
 \end{aligned}$$

Here W_{bmin} signifies the minimal width of the toothbooths, and the area of

toll plaza

$$S = 13W_b(L_r + 0.5L_d) + 0.5LW_L L_d$$

The departure taper rate

$$T_r = \frac{L_d}{13W_b - LW_L}$$

For example, there is a toll plaza with three lanes and eight tollbooths. To solve the problem, we can make assumptions as following:

- The limited speed is 30 km/h.
- The lifespan planned reaches to 10 years.
- The average daily congestion time $h_g = 1h$.
- The average congestion flow $Q_q = 2300veh/h$.
- The land price locally $C_{land} = 85USD/m^2$
- The cost of highway construction $C_{road} = 357USD/m_2$

According to 1994 *Green Book* taper rate for lane addition in a 3-lane section, T_r should arrange from 8 to 15. Commonly, it takes 1 USD as the cost for each per son to wait one hour.

On the basis of these conditions, the optimal solution of linear programming is

$$W_b = 5 \tag{1}$$

$$L_r = 47m \tag{2}$$

$$L_d = 265.5m \tag{3}$$

the total cost

$$C = 8,167,645USD$$

6 Shape

We propose two types of the plaza shape: series type and parallel type.

6.1 Series Type

Literally, this type is to connect two or more merge areas in series. Here, we only consider connecting two merge areas. Furthermore, we might as well suppose $B = 8$ and $L = 3$. Specially, vehicles fan in from eight tollbooth egress lanes

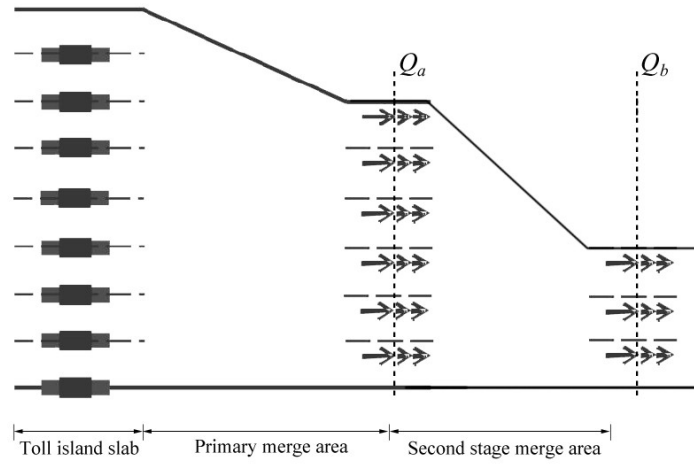


Figure 6: Series Type

down to six lanes of traffic, then fan in from six lanes of traffic to three, as Figure 6 shows.

According to the Buckets Effect (BE),

$$Q_{smax} = \min \{Q_{amax}, Q_{bmax}\}$$

Q_{amax} , Q_{bmax} and Q_{smax} respectively signify the maximal throughput of the primary merge area, second stage merge area and the whole series-type toll plaza. We can get Table 1 from simulation results, which indicates the value of the maximal throughput for each traffic line (Q_{emax}) with different B and L ($B > L$).

Table 1: Q_{max} with B and L

Q_{max}	B=1	B=2	B=3	B=4	B=5	B=6	B=7	B=8	B=9	B=10
L=1		882	845	832	796	771	772	736	689	640
L=2			815	789	773	755	720	718	686	659
L=3				755	758	734	724	709	684	671
L=4					724	700	715	695	694	673
L=5						716	695	690	688	673
L=6							695	688	682	667
L=7								682	676	670
L=8									676	660
L=9										651

As for the example shown in Figure 6,

$$Q_{smax} = \min \{688 \times 6, 734 \times 3\}$$

For a simple toll plaza with the same number of B and L,

$$Q_{max} = 709 \times 3 = 2127$$

Therefore

$$Q_{smax} > Q_{max}$$

Moreover, since Q_{emax} is becoming large as B or L decrease, we can prove that the merge area in series type would have a larger capacity for any B and L (BL). Thus, connecting two or more merge area in series is a practical and optimized scheme.

6.2 Parallel Type

That is, divide the merge area transversely and put them together in parallel. Similarly, if we suppose $B = 8$ and $L = 3$ again, the toll plaza can be divided into two portions as Figure 7 shows. Since the two areas are juxtaposed,

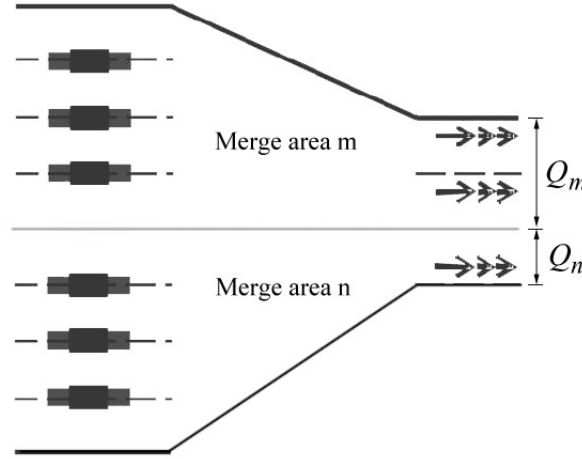


Figure 7: Parallel Type

$$Q_{pmax} = Q_{mmax} + Q_{nmax}$$

Q_{mmax} , Q_{nmax} and Q_{pmax} respectively signify the maximal throughput of the merge area m, merge area n and the whole parallel-type toll plaza. Similar to the analysis of the series type, Q_{emax} is becoming large with the increasing of B or L . Thus, this solution could enlarge the maximal throughput efficaciously.

6.3 An example

For the convenience of discussion, we still take a toll plaza with three lanes and eight tollbooths as an example. If we adopt the method of 8-6-3 series type, from

what has been discussed above, Q_{max} increases from 2127 to 2212 veh/h with increasing rate of 3.9%. Therefore, the cost time decreases by 1.4%.

However, at the same time, the area S_r and S_d increases. The total area will increase by

$$\Delta S = 4W_b L_d + W_L(6L_r + 3L_d)$$

We can solve out that the total area will increase by 73.4%. Thus, the construction cost will also increase by 73.4%. Under normal conditions, construction cost and time cost are of the same order of magnitude, so the series cannot solve the problem practically.

On the other hand, if we adopt the method of parallel type, we can find that Q_{max} increase by 13.3%, which is fully significant. And we adopt the structure shown in figure X simultaneously. Such shape would cause the total area to increase by the following formula:

$$\Delta S = 6W_L(L_D + L_r + L_A)$$

Where L_A is the length of approving zone of the toll plaza, which increases by 21.3% approximately. Hence it is necessary to construct toll plaza in this way when the traffic congestion is serious and the cost time is extremely large.

7 Merging Pattern

Here, we devise a real-time merging control system for toll plaza based on the previous work by M. Papageorgiou et al. Through our improvement, it can be specially used for the toll plaza we are discussing. In addition, this system can effectively maximize the throughput by maintaining the occupancy of departure area close to a critical value. Figure 8 illustrates the framework of this system.

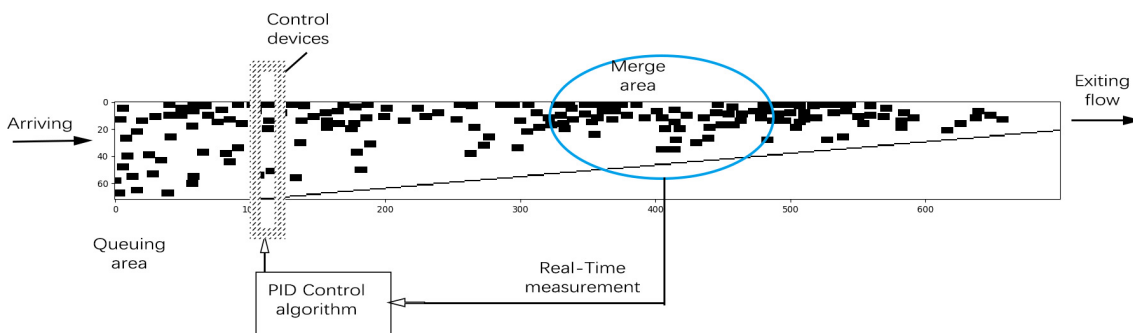


Figure 8: The Framework of This System

Merge area

As a matter of fact, the merge area is equal to the departure zone as referred to above. Typically, it is an approximately trapezoidal area where the vehicles leave from the booths on a total of B lanes and finally fit into L lanes of the exit.

Here, we focus on the flow-density variation with the occupancy increasing in the merge area. Eventually, according to our CA model's simulation, we obtain a diagram to describe this functional relationship, which is shown in Figure 9.

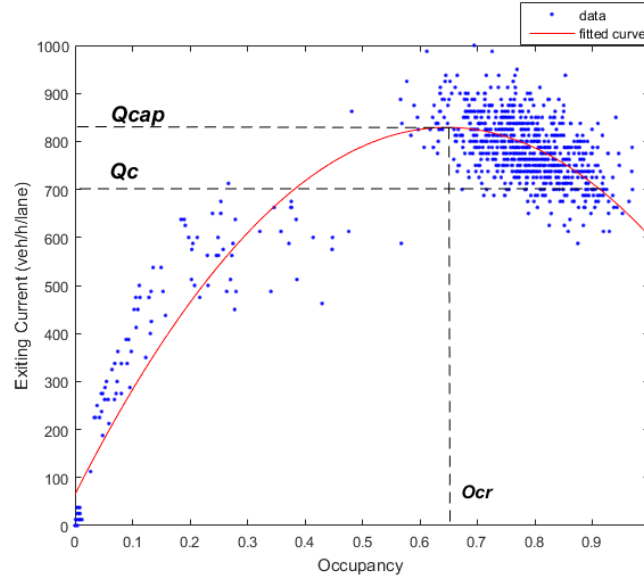


Figure 9: The Functionary Relationship

After noticing that X-axis is occupancy o (%), while Y-axis represents the exit flow q_{out} , we can tell from the diagram:

- When o is small, merging conflicts are scarce. the exit flow is correspondingly low and it increases linearly with density increasing
- As o increases, merging conflicts may increase, but q_{out} also increases as well until, for a specific value o_{cr} , the exit flow reaches the capacity q_{cap} .
- If o increases beyond o_{cr} , merging conflicts become more frequent, leading to a serious congestion. Consequently, a capacity drop happens.

Therefore, we can conclude that the occupancy of the merge area can directly influence the exit flow, or rather, the throughput. And we can regulate the occupancy under the goal to maintain $o \approx o_{cr}$ by controlling the merging pattern with the assistant of a control algorithm and feedback. From a macroscopic perspective, the maximum throughput can be achieved by a certain merging pattern design. As a result, our goal is to model this design.

Feedback control based on PID controller

We are inspired by the commonly used PID control algorithm in industrial control systems and decide to deploy traffic lights to individual lanes as control devices.

However, the most crucial task is to determine the form of feedback control.

Our goal is to ensure that occupancy is maintained at around o_{cr} regardless of how serious the traffic congestion is. What's different from common PID control system is that the traffic system is not a Continuous system, and The control loops are very long compared to other systems. We suppose that the feedback control is activated at each discrete time interval witch usually set as 1 2 min. After activation, it will collect latest measurements of occupancy o , and send data-converted instructions to control devices under the purpose of maintaining $o \approx o_{cr}$.

The PID system can be expressed as:

$$q(n) = K_p e(n-1) + K_i \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} e(n-1) + K_d \frac{d}{dx} [e(n-1) - e(n-2)]$$

$$e(n) = \hat{o}(n) - o(n)$$

Where,

n	Discrete time index
$q(n)$	Dontrolled entering flow (veh/h) to be implemented in a new time step n
$o(n)$	Measured occupancy of merge area in this time step
\hat{o}	Desired value of occupancy (can be set as o_{cr})
K_p, K_i, K_d	Coefficients for the proportional, integral, and derivative terms, always positive

In addition, the occupancy measurement should best be placed at or just up-stream of the location where serious vehicle decelerations (congestion) appear first.

8 Conclusion

9 Sensitivity Analysis

9.1 The Performance of Our Solution in Light and Heavy Traffic

9.2 Autonomous Vehicles

9.3 The Proportions of Different Tollbooths

10 Strengths and Weaknesses

10.1 Strengths

10.2 Weaknesses

References

- [1] D. E. KNUTH The \TeX book the American Mathematical Society and Addison-Wesley Publishing Company , 1984-1986.
- [2] Lamport, Leslie, \LaTeX : “ A Document Preparation System ”, Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1986.

Appendices

Appendix A First appendix

Here are simulation programmes we used in our model as follow.

Input matlab source:

```
function [t,seat,aisle]=OI6Sim(n,target,seated)
pab=rand(1,n);
for i=1:n
    if pab(i)<0.4
        aisleTime(i)=0;
    else
        aisleTime(i)=trirnd(3.2,7.1,38.7);
```

```
    end  
end
```

Appendix B Second appendix

some more text **Input C++ source:**

```
//=====
// Name      : Sudoku.cpp
// Author     : wzlf11
// Version    : a.0
// Copyright  : Your copyright notice
// Description : Sudoku in C++.
//=====

#include <iostream>
#include <cstdlib>
#include <ctime>

using namespace std;

int table[9][9];

int main() {

    for(int i = 0; i < 9; i++){
        table[0][i] = i + 1;
    }

    srand((unsigned int)time(NULL));

    shuffle((int *)&table[0], 9);

    while(!put_line(1))
    {
        shuffle((int *)&table[0], 9);
    }

    for(int x = 0; x < 9; x++){
        for(int y = 0; y < 9; y++){
            cout << table[x][y] << " ";
        }

        cout << endl;
    }

    return 0;
}
```
