

Predicting bus time to arrival at stops using GPS data only

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Goal

Develop an algorithm that predicts time to arrival on stop using GPS location as an input.

Approach

- 1) Preprocessing to transform data from data frame 'time vehicle id latitude longitude' to 'drive id starting stop ending stop travel time in seconds'.
- 2) Linear Regression as baseline model and Gradient Boosting Regressor as improved.

Median absolute error for baseline model: 30.86 seconds Median absolute error for GBR model: 21.77 seconds

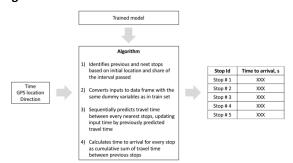
Result

A working demo that accepts location, direction and time as inputs, and returns data frame that contains seconds to arrival and arrival time for the next 5 stops.

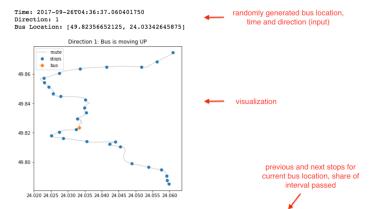
Challenges

Location data required a lot of transformation before model training. Data was collected every minute, it sparse so artificial data as middle points were imputed. Data is dirty: stops locations do not corresponds to true stops where bus moves.

Algorithm Schema



Demonstration



Bus is departed from stop #13: id=39164 and passed share=0.23 of the interval to stop #14: id=36559.

Next closest stops on the route: ['stop #14: id=36559' 'stop #15: id=36589' 'stop #16: id=36631' 'stop #17: id=36685' 'stop #18: id=36711']

| | next_stop | seconds_to_arrival | arrival_time | |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| 0 | stop #14: id=36559 | 155.847378 | 2017-09-26 04:39:12.907779750 | |
| 1 | stop #15: id=36589 | 298.304957 | 2017-09-26 04:41:35.365358750 | ← output |
| 2 | stop #16: id=36631 | 433.488589 | 2017-09-26 04:43:50.548990750 | Output |
| 3 | stop #17: id=36685 | 628.974608 | 2017-09-26 04:47:06.035010750 | |
| 4 | stop #18: id=36711 | 795.359942 | 2017-09-26 04:49:52.420344750 | |

Practical Value

Model was developed using route of Lviv bus A53 (route id = 1723724), but most of the code is standardized, so it can be easily used for other routes and cities. Demo works fast, so it can be used for predicting in real time.

- The results of the project can be used for developing electronic scoreboards on the bus stops which are in many European cities but not so widely used in Ukraine.
- Results may be used by EasyWay to improve their time to arrival predictions.



next 5 stops to be