

Reinforcement Learning in traffic control for Automated Connected Vehicles

AGENDA



01

INTRODUCTION

Background, Timeline,
First Steps

02

SINGLE AGENT

Details on the approach,
tested cases , results.

03

MULTI AGENT

Details on the approach,
tested cases , results.

04

CONCLUSSION

Final remarks and future
thoughts.



01

INTRODUCTION

SUMO Scenario, Reinforcement Learning, Timeline



Traffic Management Scenario



- 2 way Highway of 5km
- 2.5 km Autonomous Driving (AD) Zone
- RSU: Road Side Unit ()

- CAV : Connected Automated Vehicles
- CV : Connected Vehicles
- LV : Legacy Vehicles

Traffic Management Scenario



- C(A)Vs approach the no AD zone .
- RSU unit sends take-over request (ToR) messages to C(A)Vs.
- C(A)Vs should perform take-over of control (ToC) before the end of AD zone.

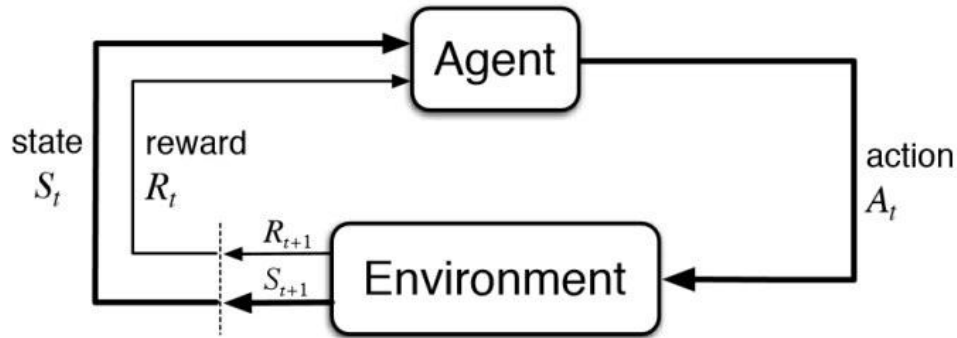
TRANSAID



TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT:

- An already implemented traffic management solution.
- Useful to get insight of the scenario.
- Part of the code has been used in our solutions.
- Operates as the baseline model.

REINFORCEMENT LEARNING



A RL agent:

- ❖ Observes the environment.
- ❖ Take action on that.
- ❖ Receive a reward for this action.
- ❖ Continues until reach the final goal.

WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE



DISTRIBUTE TOC

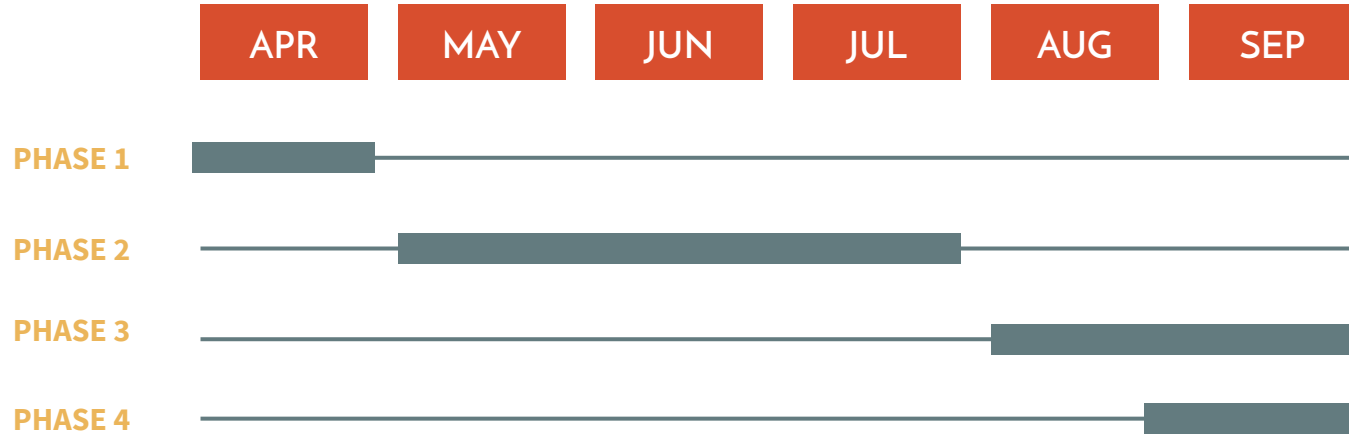
- Without disrupting traffic flow.
- Without congestion in AD zone.




KEEP AUTONOMOUS

mode for as long as possible.

THESIS TIMELINE



PHASE 1



Introduction to scenario,
its purpose and goals.



Experimentation with available
frameworks (**FLOW**).



Decision the develop our
own custom Reinforcement
Learning Framework.



PHASE 2

Single Agent

Set Up the framework
(Tensorflow & Stable
Baselines & DQN).

Adjust the original
TransAID code.

Research,
Experimentation,
Evaluation.

PHASE 3

Multi Agent

Set Up the framework
(Tensorflow & Rllib &
DQN).

Adjust previous
developed Code.

Research,
Experimentation,
Evaluation.

PHASE 4



Thesis Writing.



02

SINGLE AGENT


Implementation and Evaluation.





BACKGROUND

Some Details:

- Tensorflow, Stable Baselines and GYM.
 - Deep Q-network.
 - Research in similar projects
 - 30-40 Trainings of the models.
 - Model for bad traffic management.
 - Automation and Scalability of processes.
- 

INDICATORS



AVG CAV Distance

Covered distance until the moment of issued ToR.



Congestion - Waiting Time

The time in which the vehicle speed was below 0.1m/s.



TravelTime

The estimated travel time in a lane.



MeanSpeed

The mean speed of vehicles in a lane.

STRATEGY 1

2 lanes

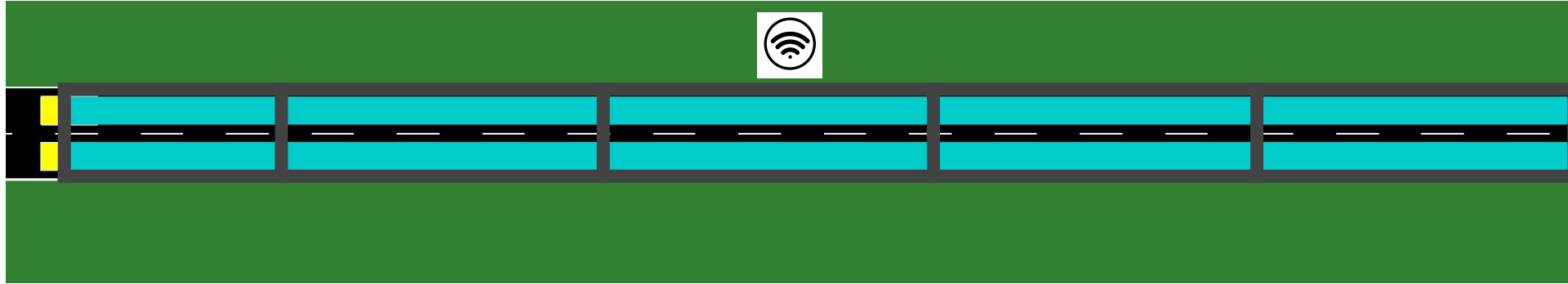


We tried to achieve:

- Maximum Mean Speed.
- Minimum Travel Time.
- Distribute ToR messages based on Density.

STRATEGY 2

10 cells



We tried to achieve:

- Better distribution of ToR messages.
- Minimize Congestion of vehicles.
- Keep balanced traffic flow.

STRATEGY 3

14 cells



We tried to achieve:

- Maximum covered distance of $C(A)V_s$.
- Stable traffic flow.
- Eliminate Congestion Incidents.
- Try to predict congestion by observing speeds.

CHECKLIST

	STRATEGY 1	STRATEGY 2	STRATEGY 3a	STRATEGY 3b
REDUCE TRAVEL TIME	✗	✓	✓	✗
MINIMIZE CONGESTION	✗	✗	✓	✓
INCREASE AVG CAV DISTANCE	✗	✓	✓	✓

EVALUATION METHOD



STEP 1

Run 10 simulation
per trained model.

STEP 2


Collect data from
tripinfo.xml.

STEP 3

Collect data saved
during the simulation.

STEP 4

Compare the models
and produce the plots.



Boxplot of Average covered distance by C(A)Vs in Meters.

TransAID



ID
1

Strategy 2



ID
2

Strategy 3a

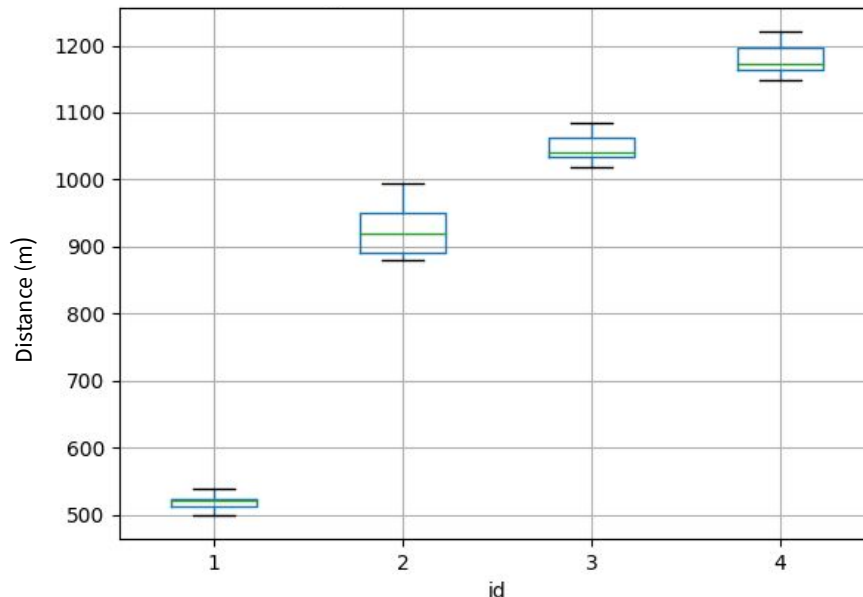


ID
3

Strategy 3b



ID
4



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations rounds for every model.

Boxplot of TravelTime sum for both lanes in Seconds.

TransAID



ID
1

Strategy 2



ID
2

Strategy 3a

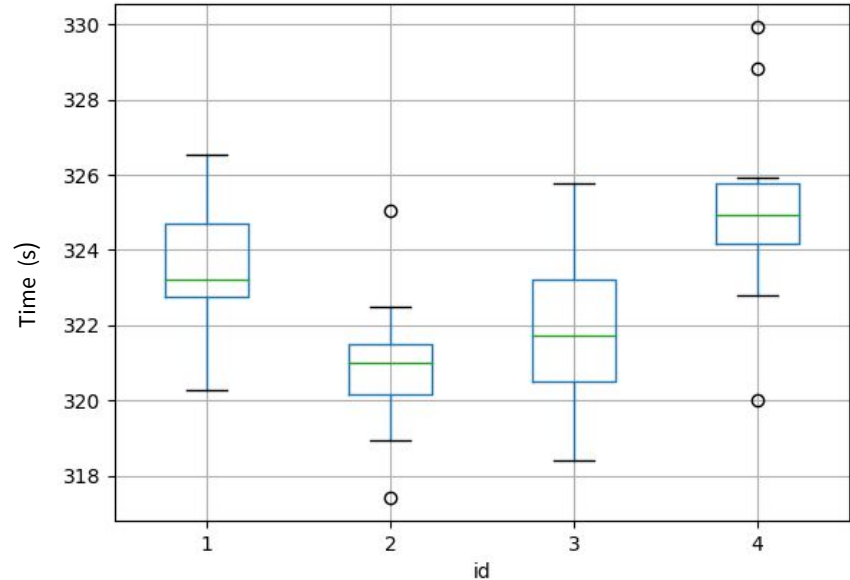


ID
3

Strategy 3b



ID
4



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations rounds for every model.

Plot of Total Waiting-Congestion Time in Seconds.

TransAID



ID
1

Strategy 2



ID
2

Strategy 3a

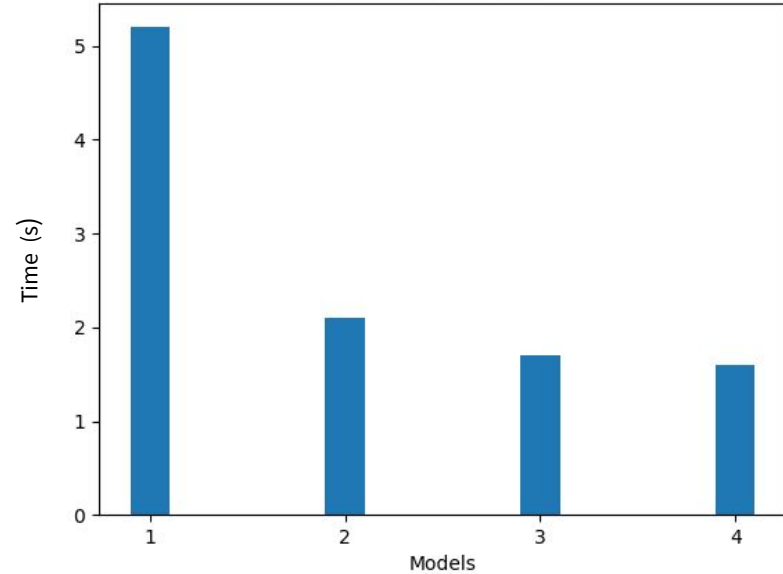


ID
3

Strategy 3b



ID
4



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations rounds for every model.



03

MULTI AGENT


Implementation and Evaluation.





BACKGROUND

Some Details:

- Tensorflow and Rllib.
 - Deep Q-network.
 - 30-40 Trainings of the models.
 - Research in similar projects
 - Automation and Scalability of processes.
 - 2,3,6 Agents -> 3 Agents
- 

INDICATORS



AVG CAV Distance

Covered distance until the moment of issued ToR.



Congestion - Waiting Time

The time in which the vehicle speed was below 0.1m/s.



TravelTime

The estimated travel time in a lane.

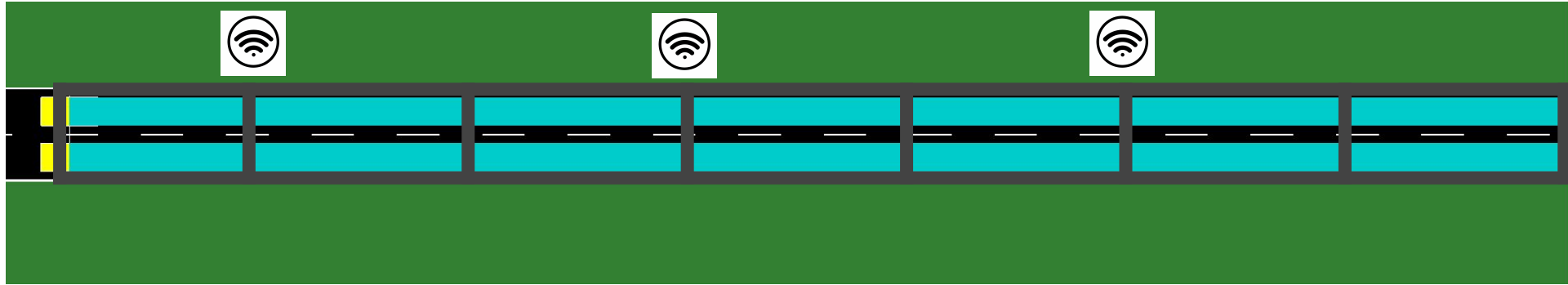


MeanSpeed

The mean speed of vehicles in a lane.

STRATEGY A

14 cells

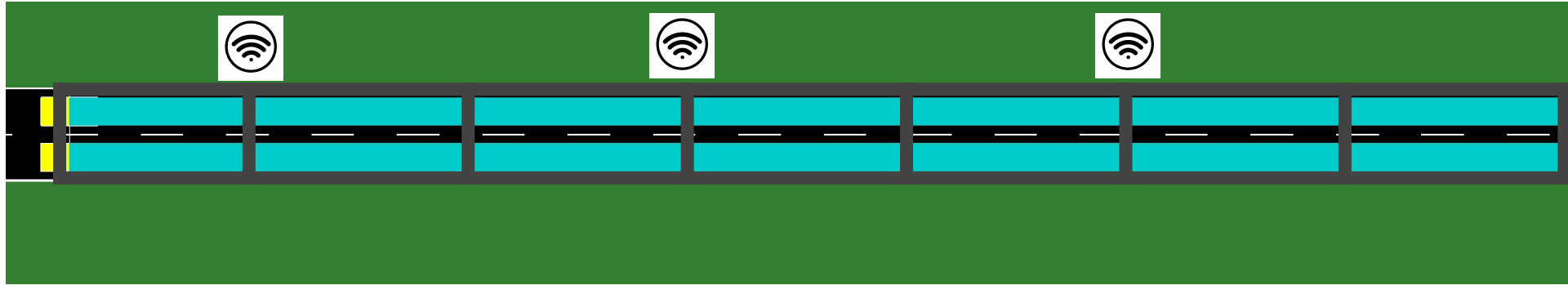


Our goal was to achieve:

- Transform Single Agent Strategy 3 to MultiAgent
 - Maximum covered distance of $C(A)V_s$.
 - Stable traffic flow.
 - Minimum Congestion Incidents.

STRATEGY B

14 cells



Our goal was to achieve:

- Increasing ToR distribution.
- Increase covered distance of C(A)Vs..
- Minimum Congestion Incidents.
- More manipulation on First Agent.

CHECKLIST

	STRATEGY A	STRATEGY B1	STRATEGY B2
REDUCE TRAVEL TIME	✓	✗	✗
MINIMIZE CONGESTION	✗	✓	✓
INCREASE AVG CAV DISTANCE	✓★	✓★	✓★

EVALUATION METHOD



STEP 1

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Collect data saved
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STEP 4

Compare the models
and produce the plots.

Boxplot of Average covered distance by C(A)Vs in Meters.

TransAID



ID
1

Strategy A



ID
2

Strategy B1

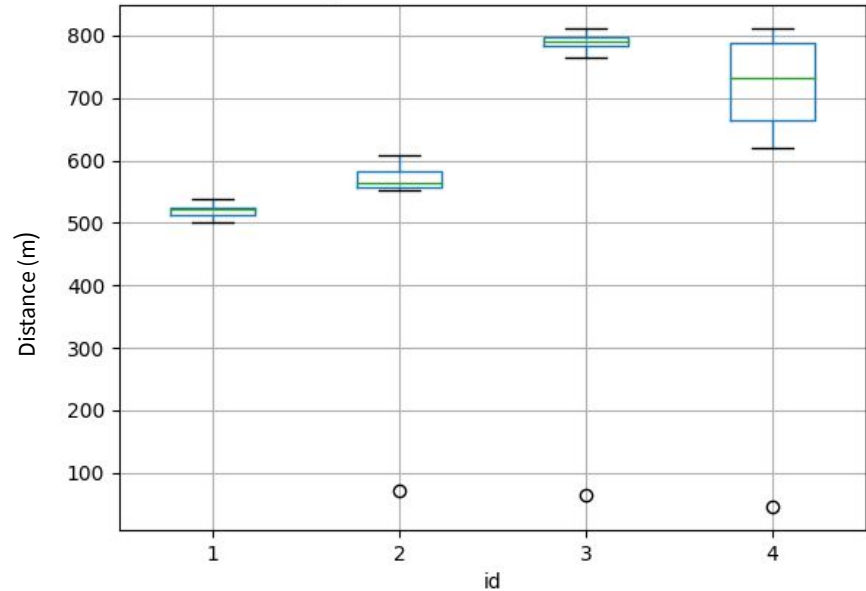


ID
3

Strategy B2



ID
4



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations rounds for every model.

Boxplot of TravelTime sum for both lanes in Seconds.

TransAID



ID
1

Strategy A



ID
2

Strategy B1

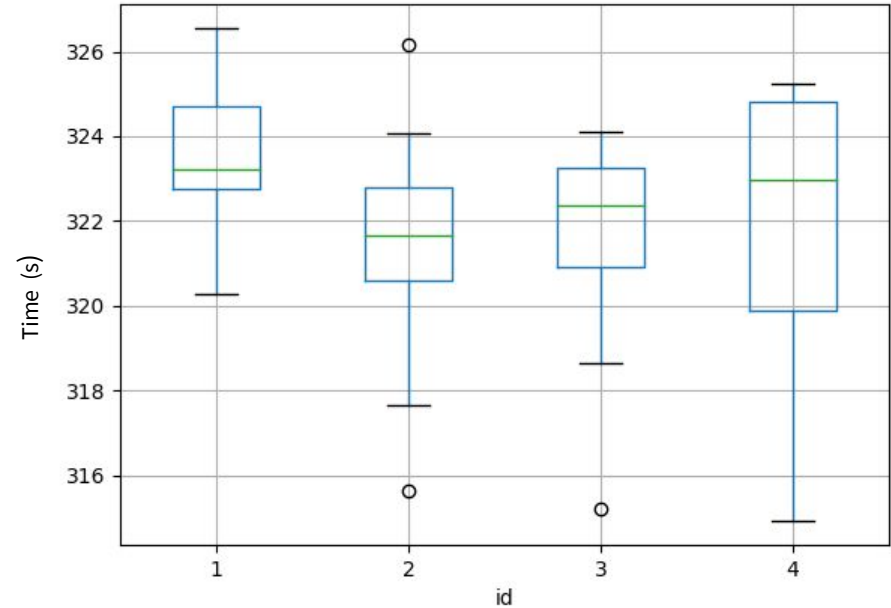


ID
3

Strategy B2



ID
4



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations
rounds for every model.

Plot of Total Waiting-Congestion Time in Seconds.

TransAID



ID
1

Strategy A



ID
2

Strategy B1

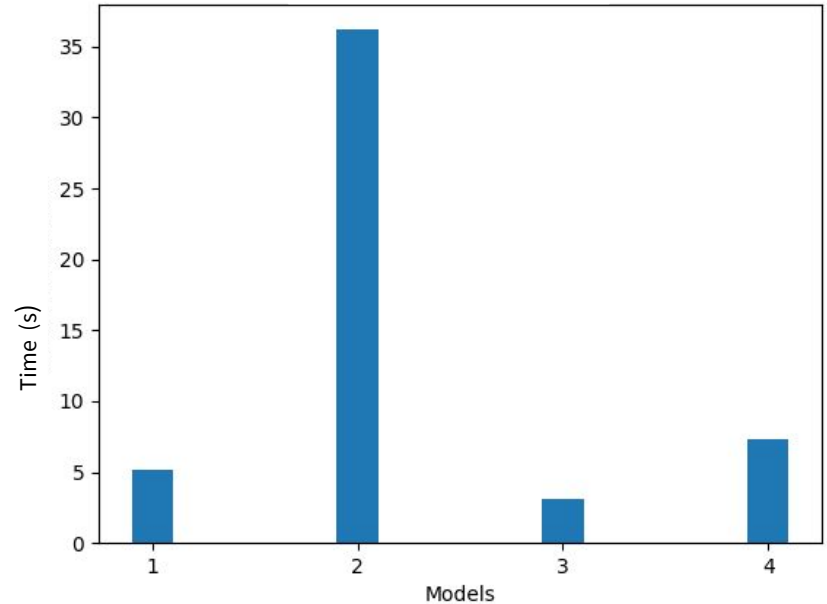


ID
3

Strategy B2



ID
4



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations rounds for every model.



04

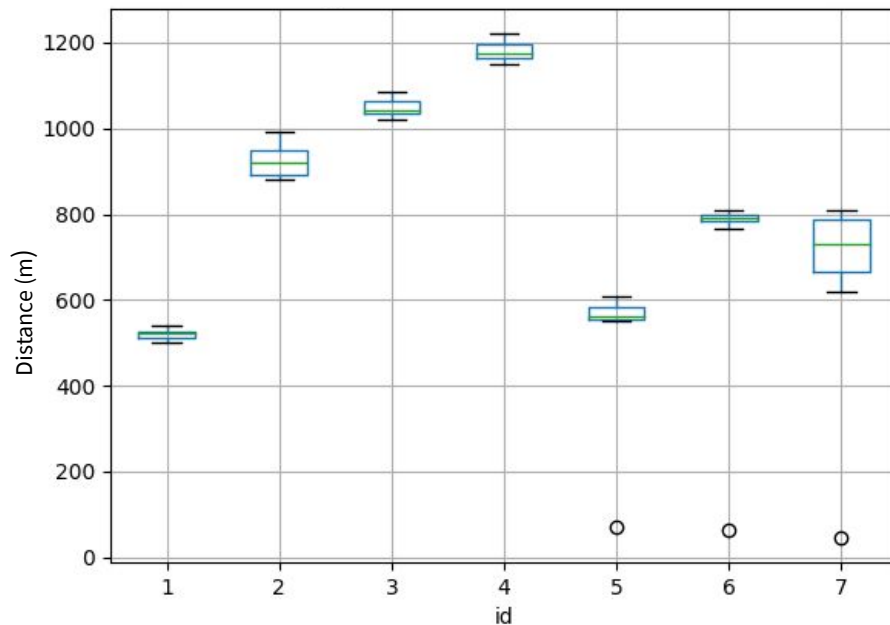
Conclusion

Final Thoughts, Future steps.



Boxplot of Average covered distance by C(A)Vs in Meters.

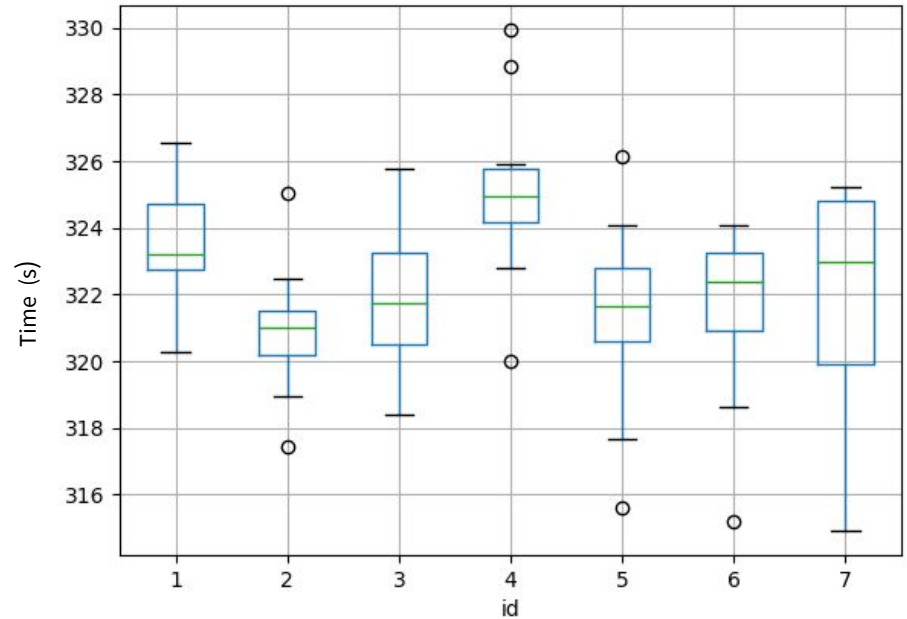
TransAID	ID 1
Strategy 2	ID 2
Strategy 3a	ID 3
Strategy 3b	ID 4
Strategy A	ID 5
Strategy B1	ID 6
Strategy B2	ID 7



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations rounds for every model.

Boxplot of TravelTime sum for both lanes in Seconds.

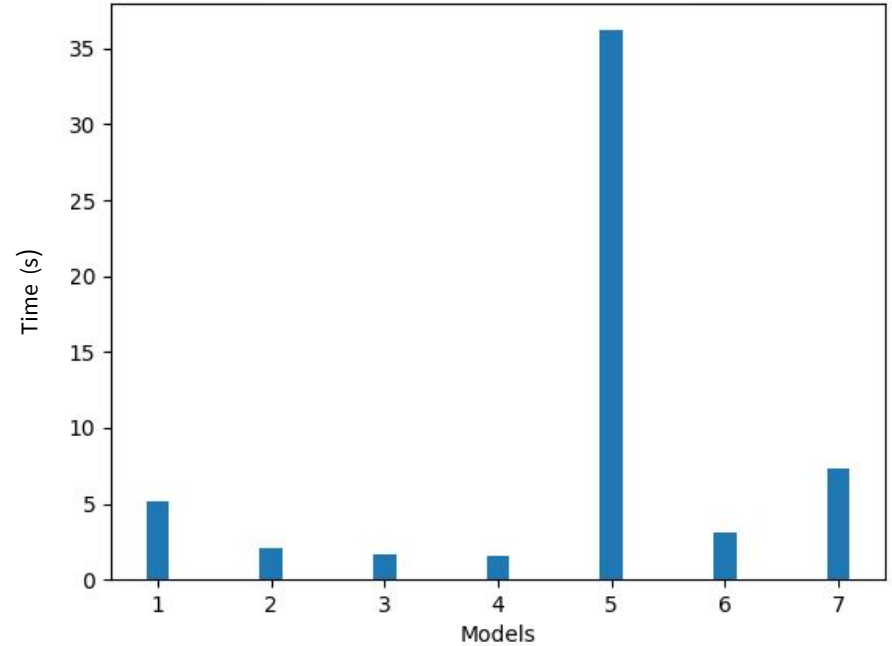
TransAID	ID 1
Strategy 2	ID 2
Strategy 3a	ID 3
Strategy 3b	ID 4
Strategy A	ID 5
Strategy B1	ID 6
Strategy B2	ID 7



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations rounds for every model.

Plot of Total Waiting-Congestion Time in Seconds.

TransAID	ID 1
Strategy 2	ID 2
Strategy 3a	ID 3
Strategy 3b	ID 4
Strategy A	ID 5
Strategy B1	ID 6
Strategy B2	ID 7



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations rounds for every model.

CONCLUSION



SUMMARY:

- The Single Agent approach has better results.
- The Multi Agent approach needs more investigation.
- The appearance of Congestion-Waiting Time is possible.
- More time on training should be allocated.
- Increase of CAV AVG leads to Increase of Travel Time.

PROBLEMS:

- First Agent Symptom in Multi Agent (More Agents, Bigger Problem).
- Stability issues - Robustness.



FUTURE WORK

SOME THOUGHTS:

- More research on Multi Agent approach.
- Explore different approach (no cells).
- Improve the Robustness of the models.
- Longer training processes.



THANK YOU

Do you have any questions?

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Q&N SLIDES



DQN



PARAMETERS:

- **Learning_rate** : learning rate for adam optimizer
- **Buffer_size**: size of the replay buffer
- **Batch_size**: fraction of entire training period over which the exploration rate is annealed
- **Exploration_fraction**: fraction of entire training period over which the exploration rate is annealed
- **Target_network_update_freq**: update the target network every target_network_update_freq steps.

TRAINING



DETAILS:

- Train on random seeds (1024-2024).
- 30-60 trains give fair results.
- Tensorboard support to visualize training.
- Keep a training record for the variations.

EVALUATION



DETAILS:

- 10 simulation with 10 given seeds .
- Boxplots helps in tracing the outliers.
- Csv file :
 - AVG CAV Distance
 - TravelTime
 - MeanSpeed
- Tripinfo.xml
 - WatitingTime
 - Timeloss, DepartDelay,Duration, etc

FLOW CASE



DETAILS:

- Couldn't load our xml files.
- Our flows definition were using more sophisticated type distributions.
- Patch over patch led to a mess.

SOFTWARE



TOOLS:

- Python
- Anaconda
- Tensorflow, TensorBoard
- OpenAI Gym
- Stable Baselines
- Rllib



MORE RESULTS

EXTRA INDICATORS

TimeLoss

The time lost due to driving below the ideal speed.

departDelay

The time the vehicle had to wait before it could start his journey.

waitingCount

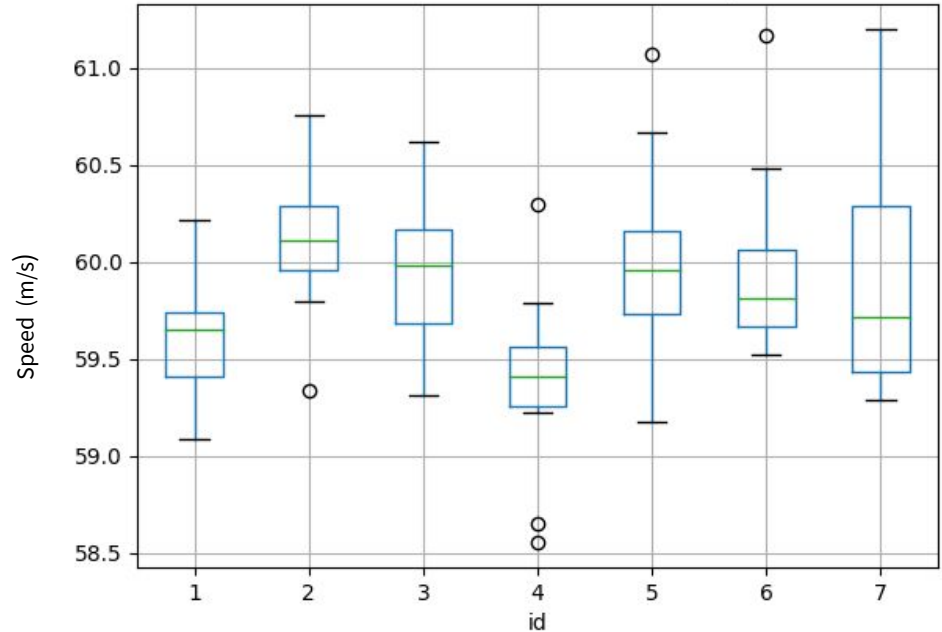
Number of waitingTime episodes.

duration

The time the vehicle needed to accomplish the route.

Boxplot of MeanSpeed for both lanes in m/s.

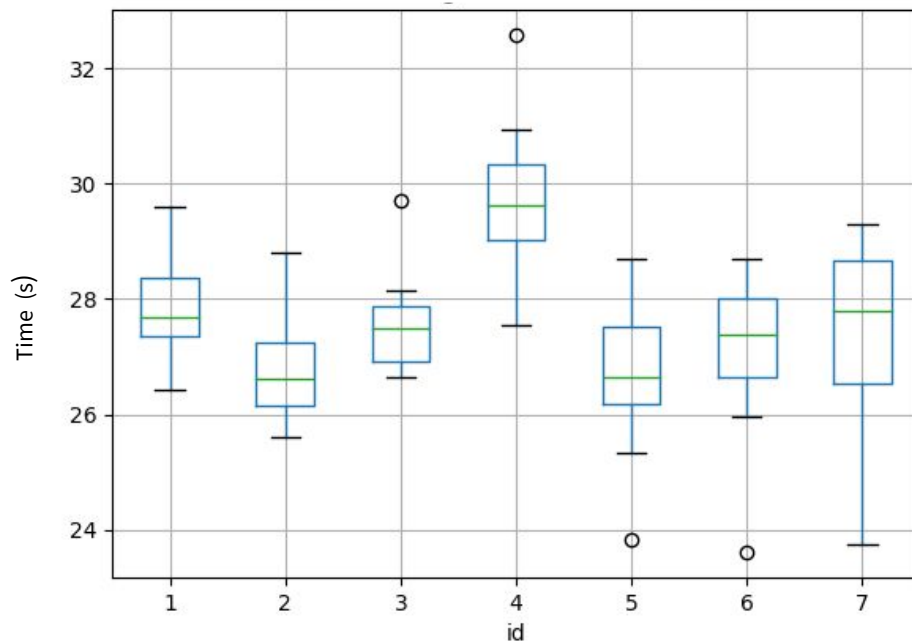
TransAID	ID 1
Strategy 2	ID 2
Strategy 3a	ID 3
Strategy 3b	ID 4
Strategy A	ID 5
Strategy B1	ID 6
Strategy B2	ID 7



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations
rounds for every model.

Boxplot of TimeLoss for both lanes in Seconds.

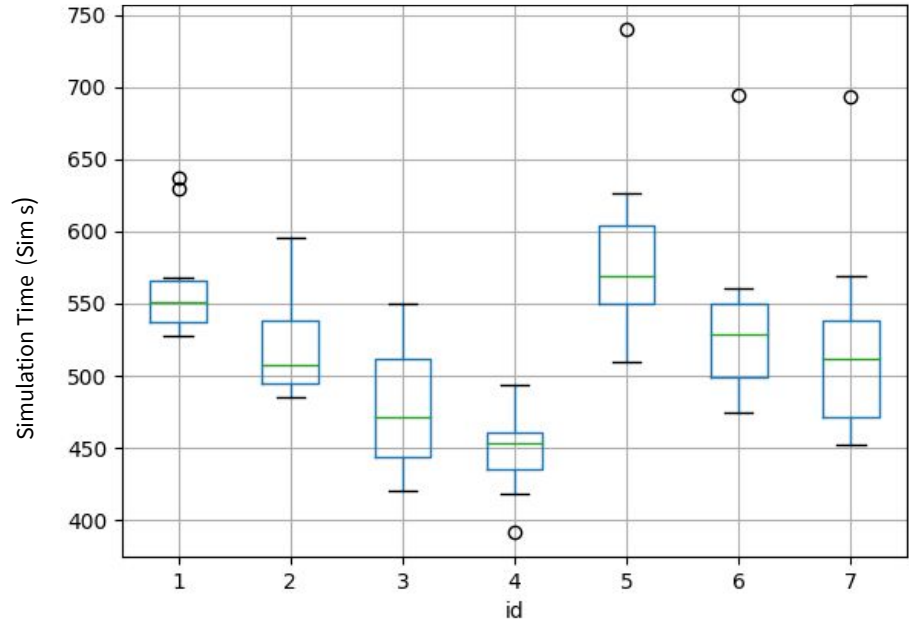
TransAID	ID 1
Strategy 2	ID 2
Strategy 3a	ID 3
Strategy 3b	ID 4
Strategy A	ID 5
Strategy B1	ID 6
Strategy B2	ID 7



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations
rounds for every model.

Boxplot of DepartDelay for both lanes in Seconds.

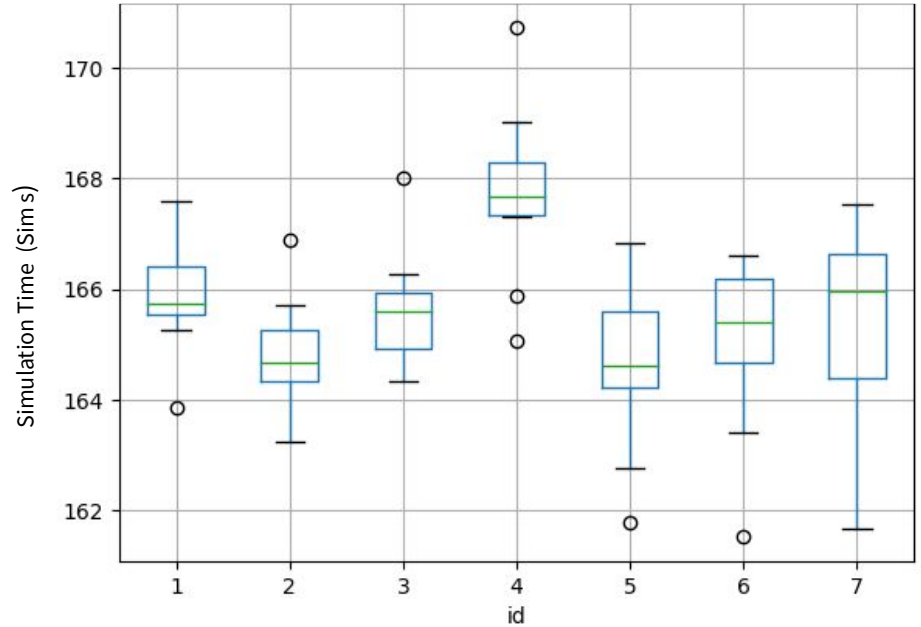
TransAID	ID 1
Strategy 2	ID 2
Strategy 3a	ID 3
Strategy 3b	ID 4
Strategy A	ID 5
Strategy B1	ID 6
Strategy B2	ID 7



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations rounds for every model.

Boxplot of Duration for both lanes in Seconds.

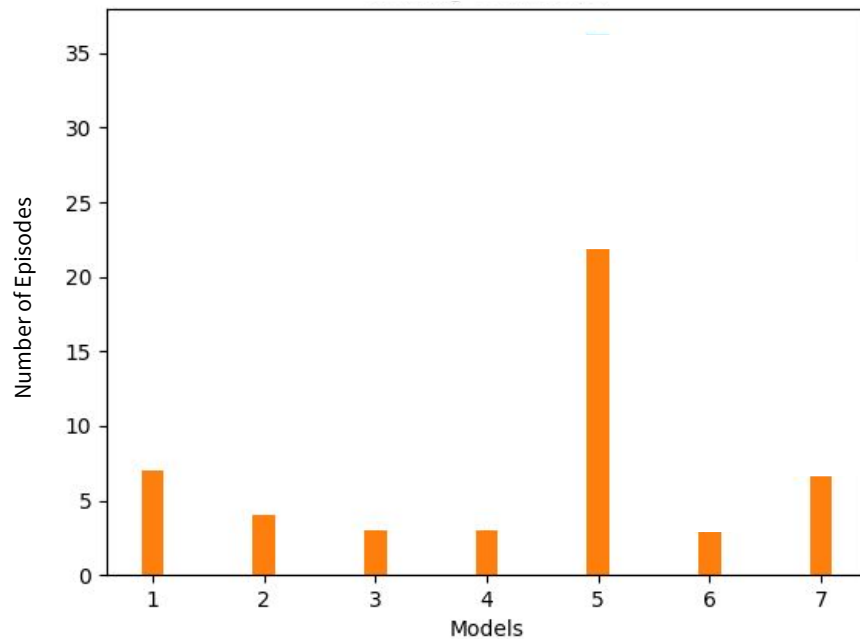
TransAID	ID 1
Strategy 2	ID 2
Strategy 3a	ID 3
Strategy 3b	ID 4
Strategy A	ID 5
Strategy B1	ID 6
Strategy B2	ID 7



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations
rounds for every model.

Plot of Total Waiting-Congestion Episodes.

TransAID	ID 1
Strategy 2	ID 2
Strategy 3a	ID 3
Strategy 3b	ID 4
Strategy A	ID 5
Strategy B1	ID 6
Strategy B2	ID 7



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations rounds for every model.



BAD MODEL

TransAID

ID
1

Bad model

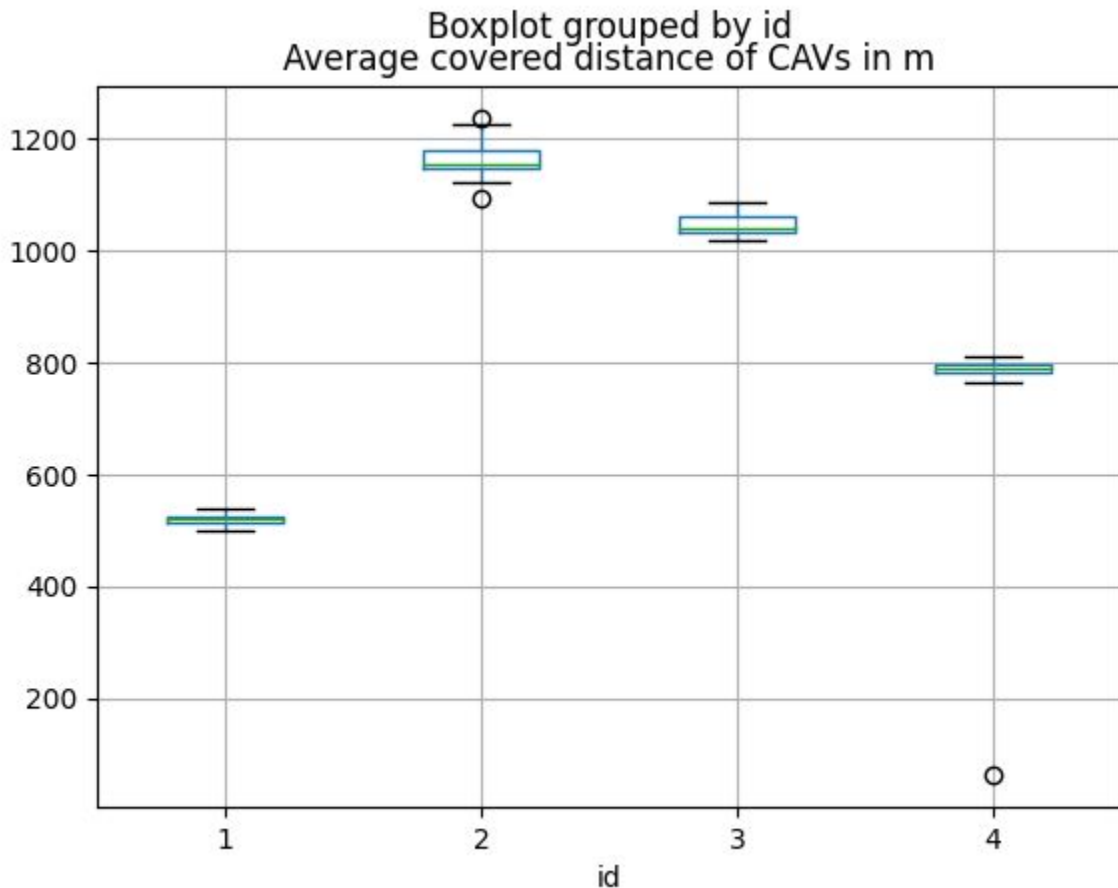
ID
2

Strategy 3a

ID
3

Strategy B1

ID
4



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations
rounds for every model.



TransAID

ID
1

Bad model

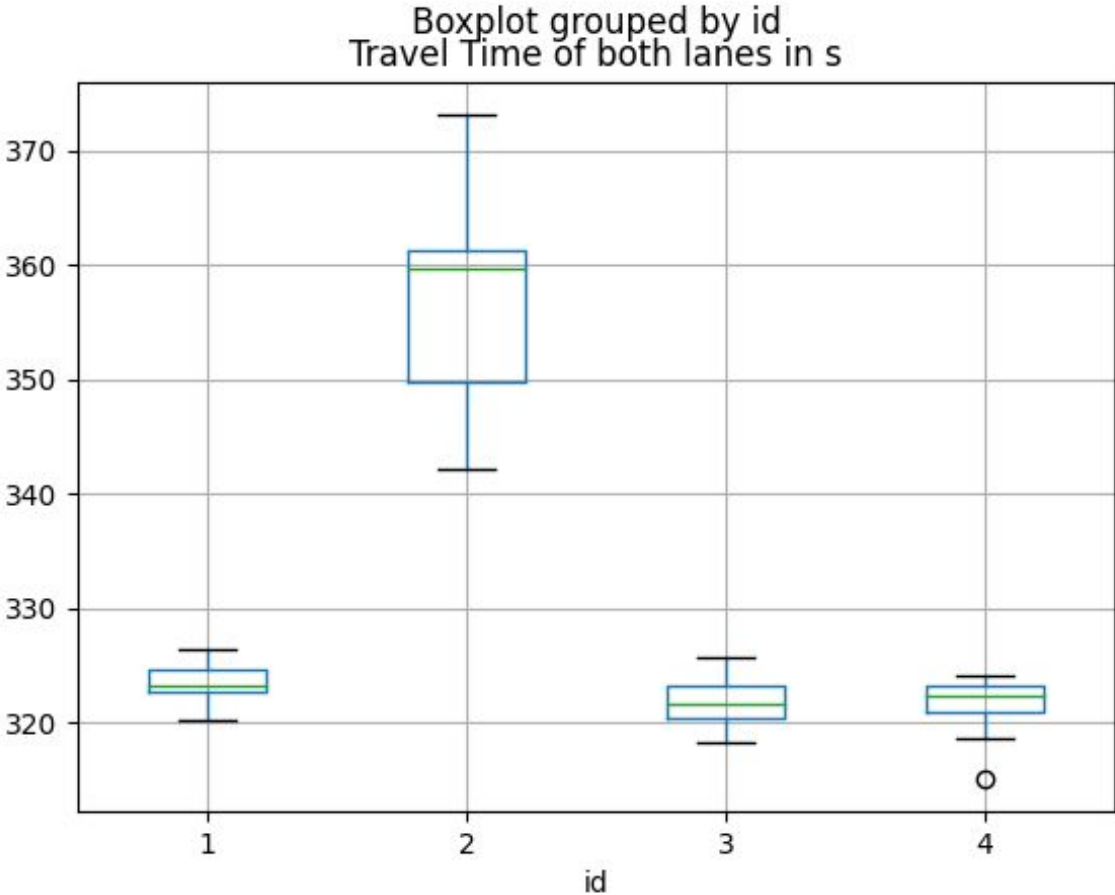
ID
2

Strategy 3a

ID
3

Strategy B1

ID
4



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations
rounds for every model.

TransAID

ID
1

Bad model

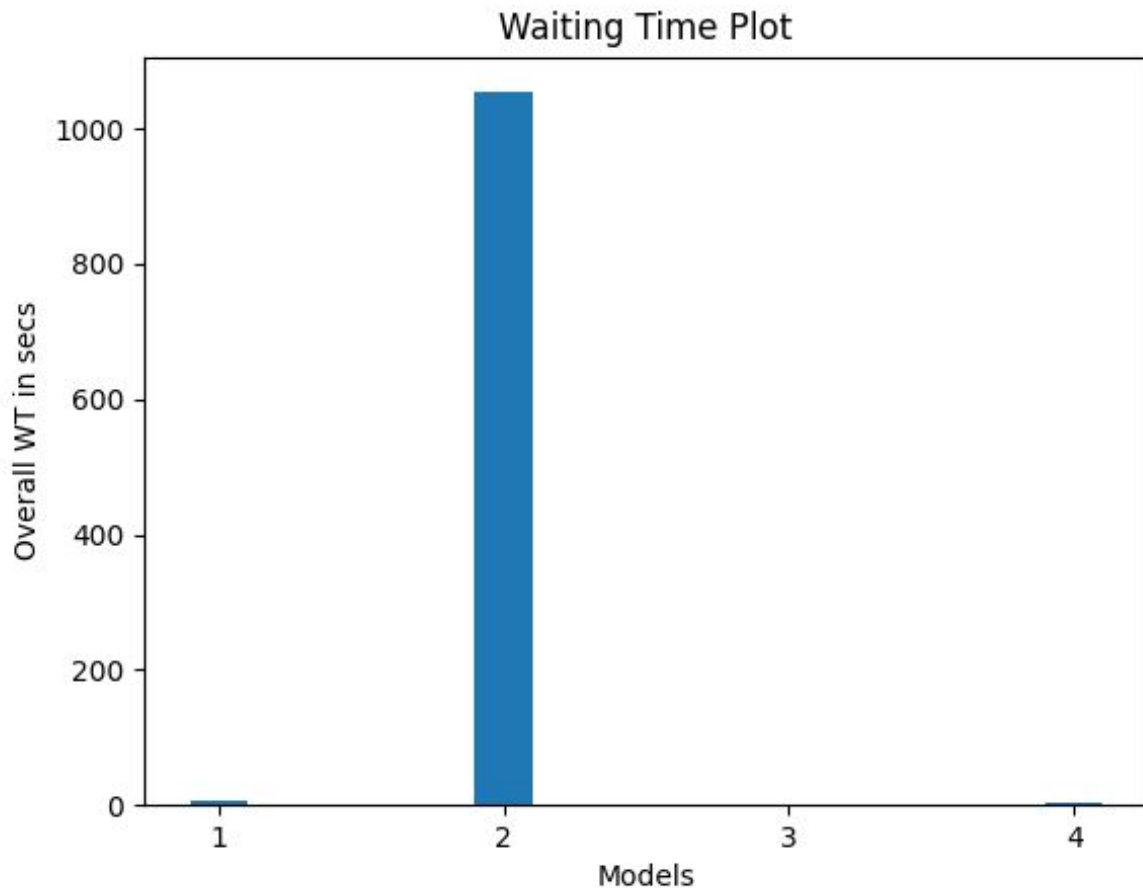
ID
2

Strategy 3a

ID
3

Strategy B1

ID
4



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations
rounds for every model.

TransAID

ID
1

Bad model

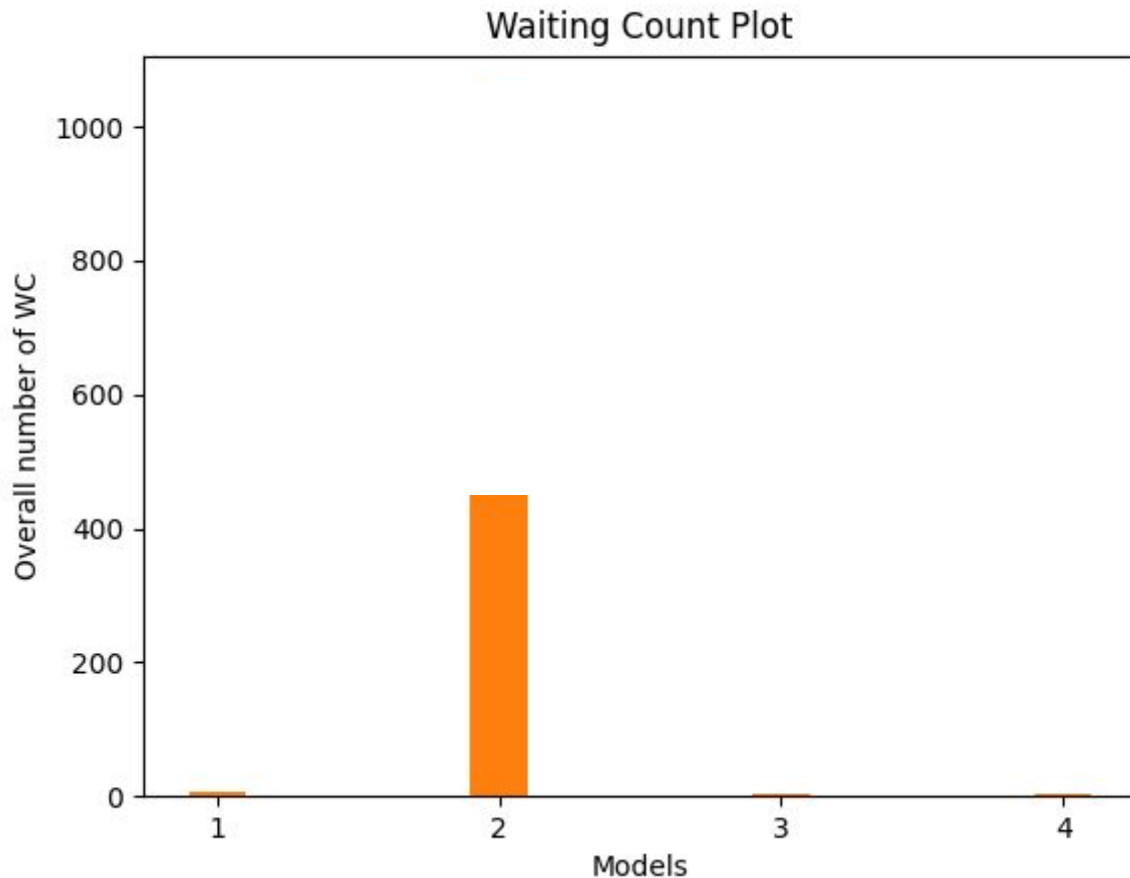
ID
2

Strategy 3a

ID
3

Strategy B1

ID
4



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations
rounds for every model.

TransAID

ID
1

Bad model

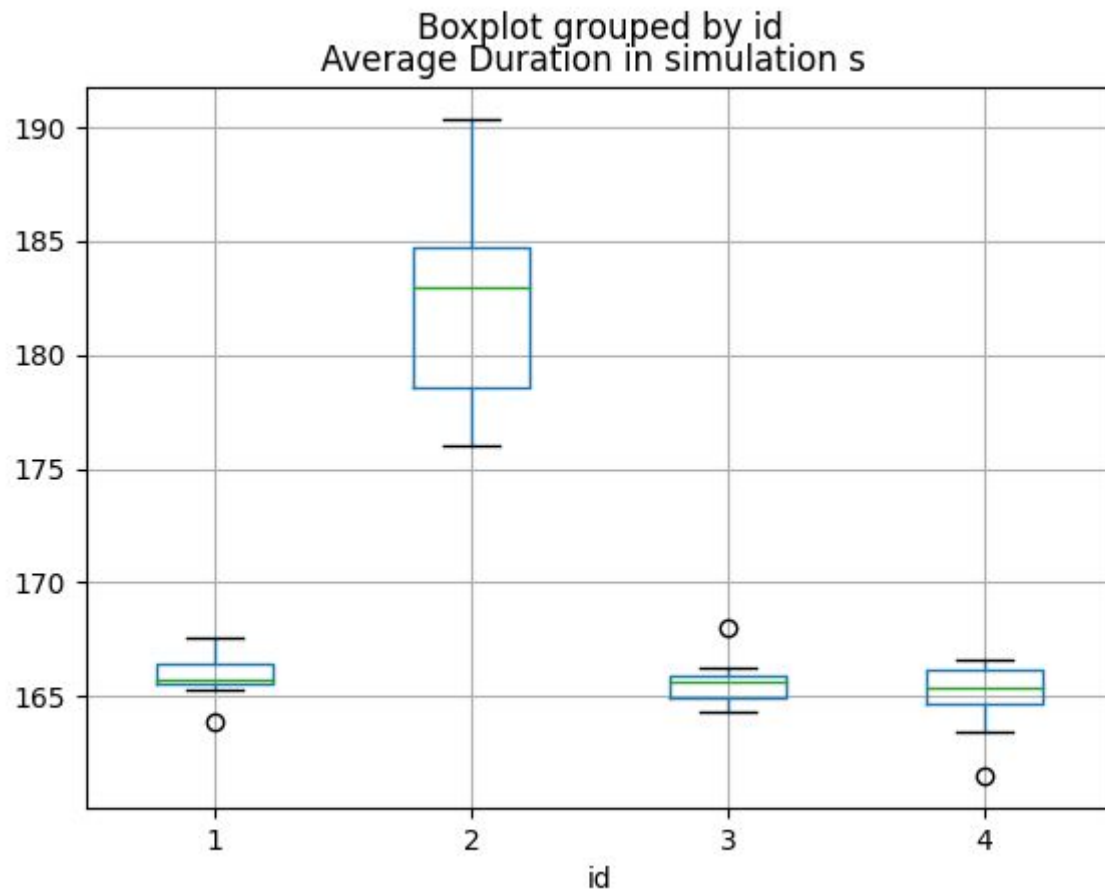
ID
2

Strategy 3a

ID
3

Strategy B1

ID
4



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations
rounds for every model.



RESULTS BOXPLOTS

TransAID

ID
1

Strategy 2

ID
2

Strategy 3a

ID
3

Strategy 3b

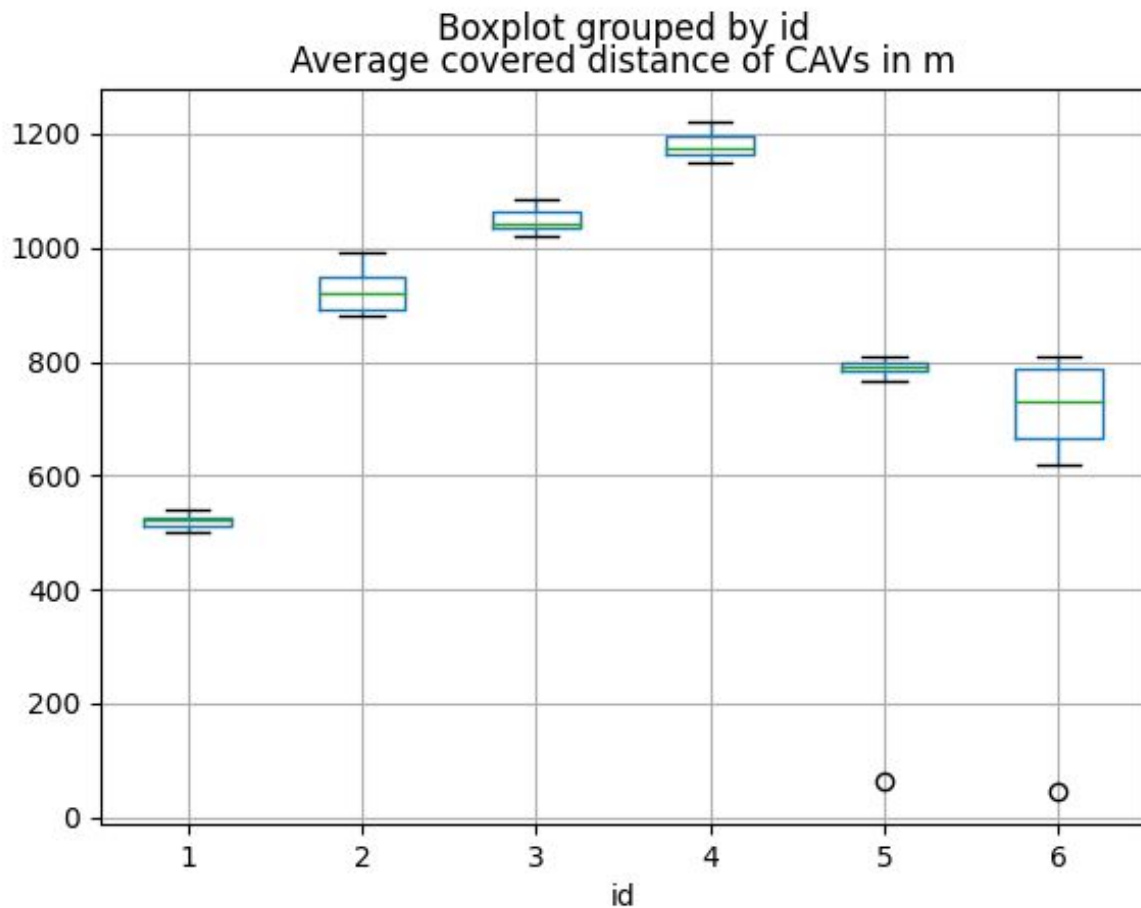
ID
4

Strategy B1

ID
5

Strategy B2

ID
6



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations
rounds for every model.



TransAID

ID
1

Strategy 2

ID
2

Strategy 3a

ID
3

Strategy 3b

ID
4

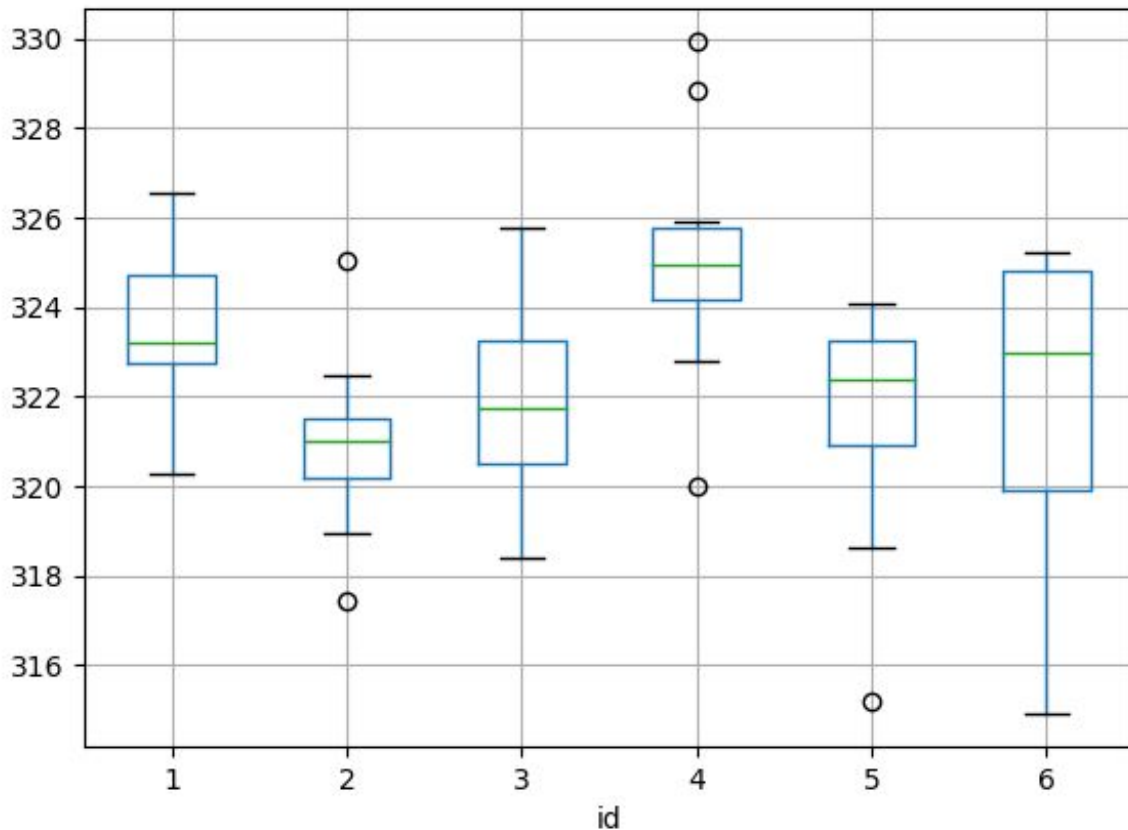
Strategy B1

ID
5

Strategy B2

ID
6

Boxplot grouped by id
Travel Time of both lanes in s



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations
rounds for every model.

TransAID

ID
1

Strategy 2

ID
2

Strategy 3a

ID
3

Strategy 3b

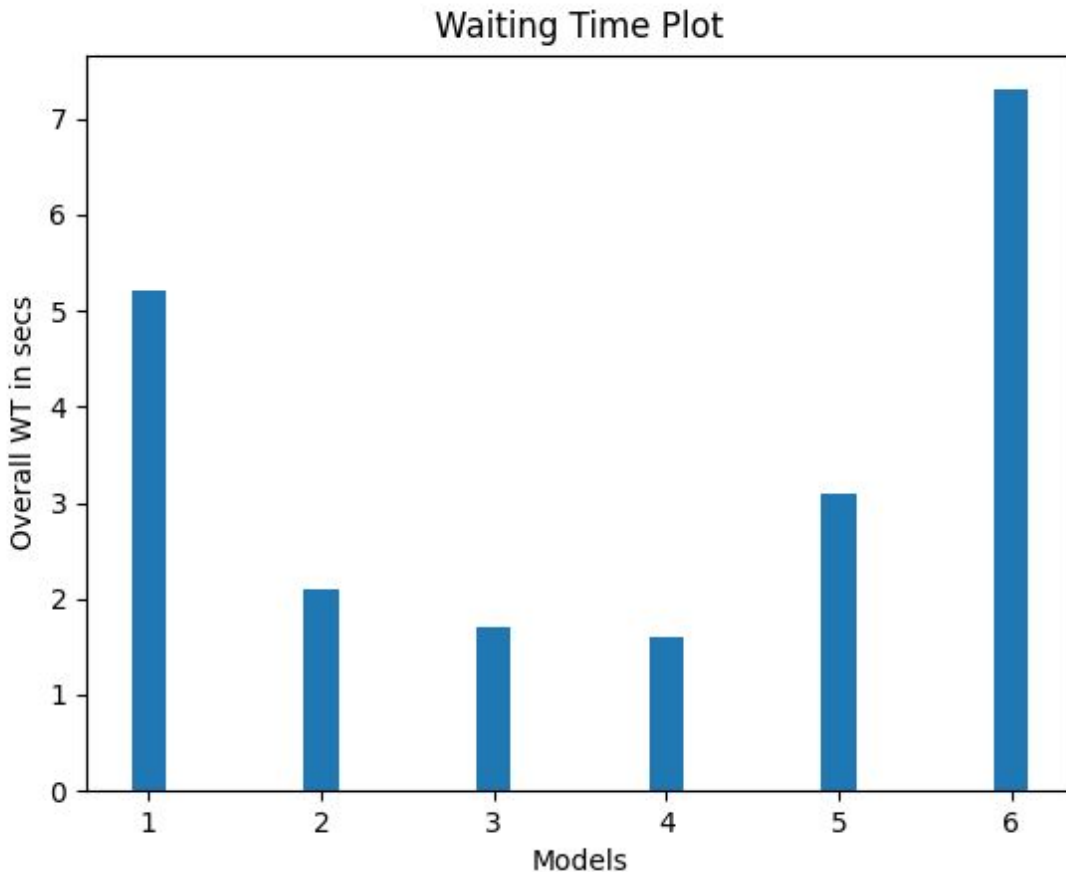
ID
4

Strategy B1

ID
5

Strategy B2

ID
6



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations rounds for every model.



TransAID

ID
1

Strategy 2

ID
2

Strategy 3a

ID
3

Strategy 3b

ID
4

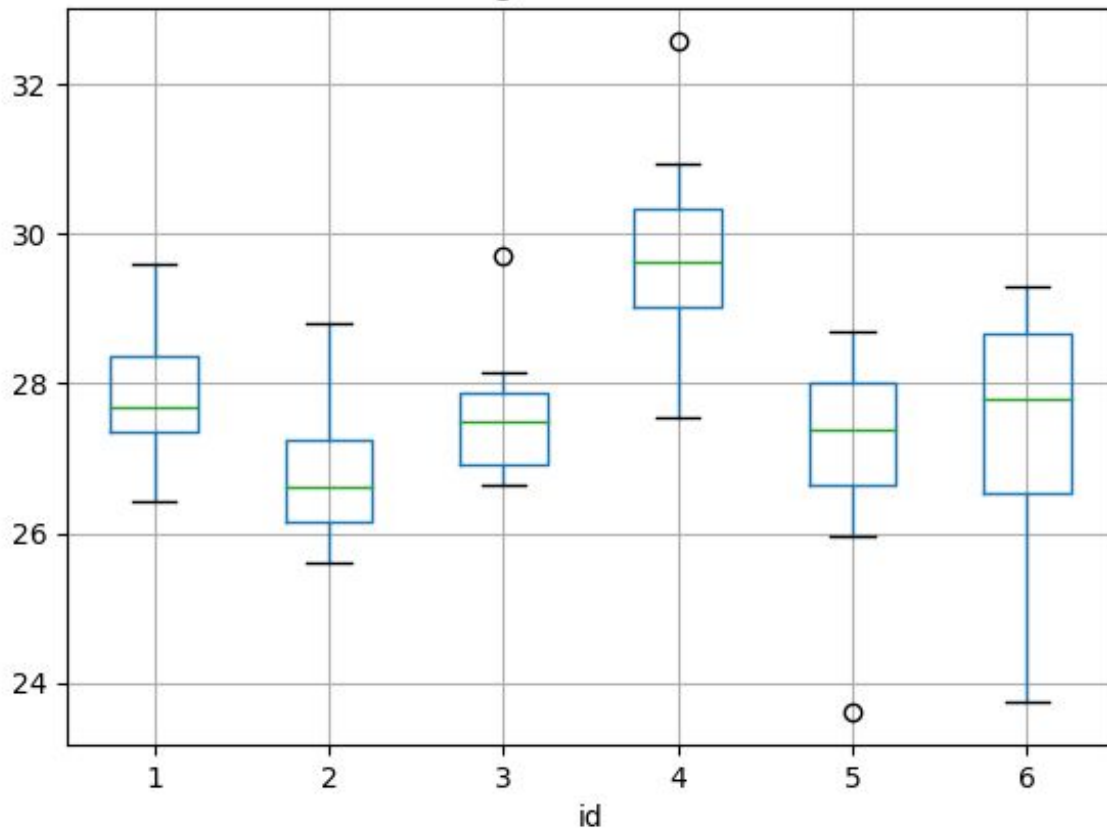
Strategy B1

ID
5

Strategy B2

ID
6

Boxplot grouped by id
Average Time Loss in s



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations
rounds for every model.



TransAID

ID
1

Strategy 2

ID
2

Strategy 3a

ID
3

Strategy 3b

ID
4

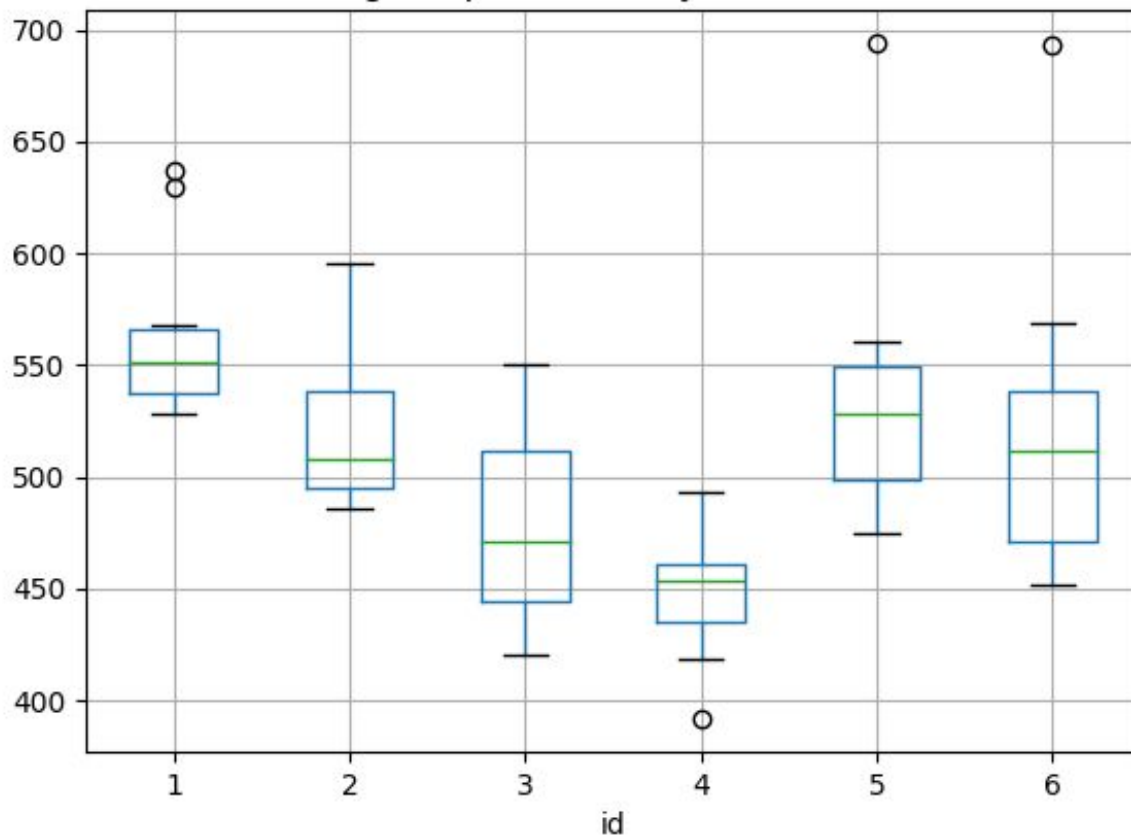
Strategy B1

ID
5

Strategy B2

ID
6

Boxplot grouped by id
Average Departure Delay in simulation s



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations
rounds for every model.

TransAID

ID
1

Strategy 2

ID
2

Strategy 3a

ID
3

Strategy 3b

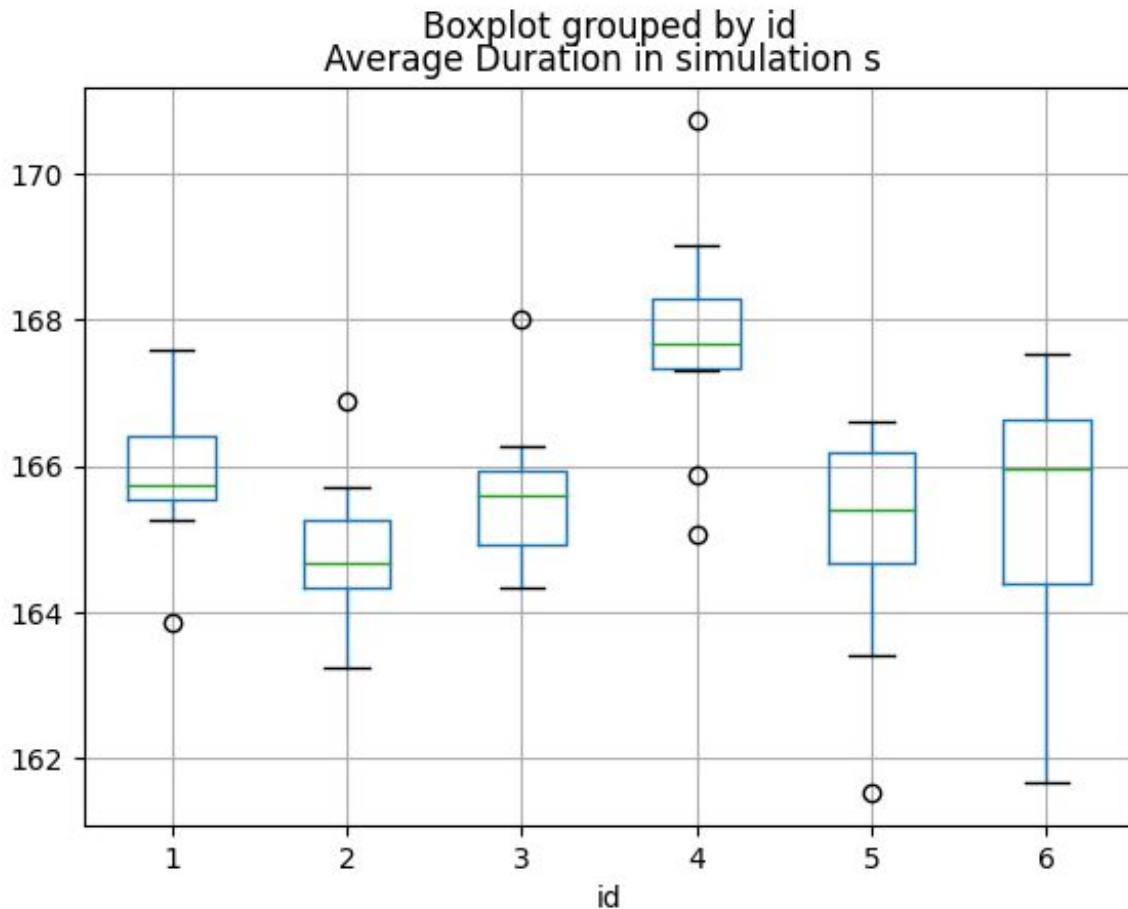
ID
4

Strategy B1

ID
5

Strategy B2

ID
6



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations
rounds for every model.



TransAID

ID
1

Strategy 2

ID
2

Strategy 3a

ID
3

Strategy 3b

ID
4

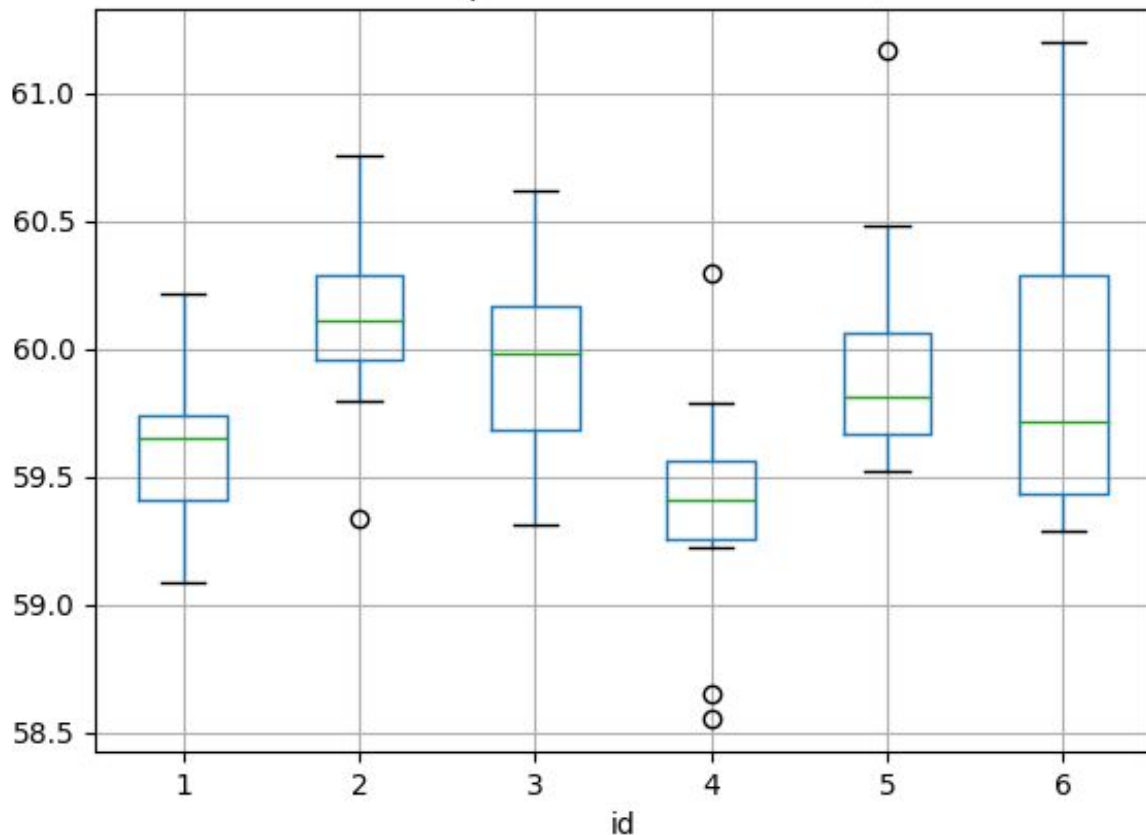
Strategy B1

ID
5

Strategy B2

ID
6

Boxplot grouped by id
Mean Speed of both lanes in m/s



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations
rounds for every model.

TransAID

ID
1

Strategy 2

ID
2

Strategy 3a

ID
3

Strategy 3b

ID
4

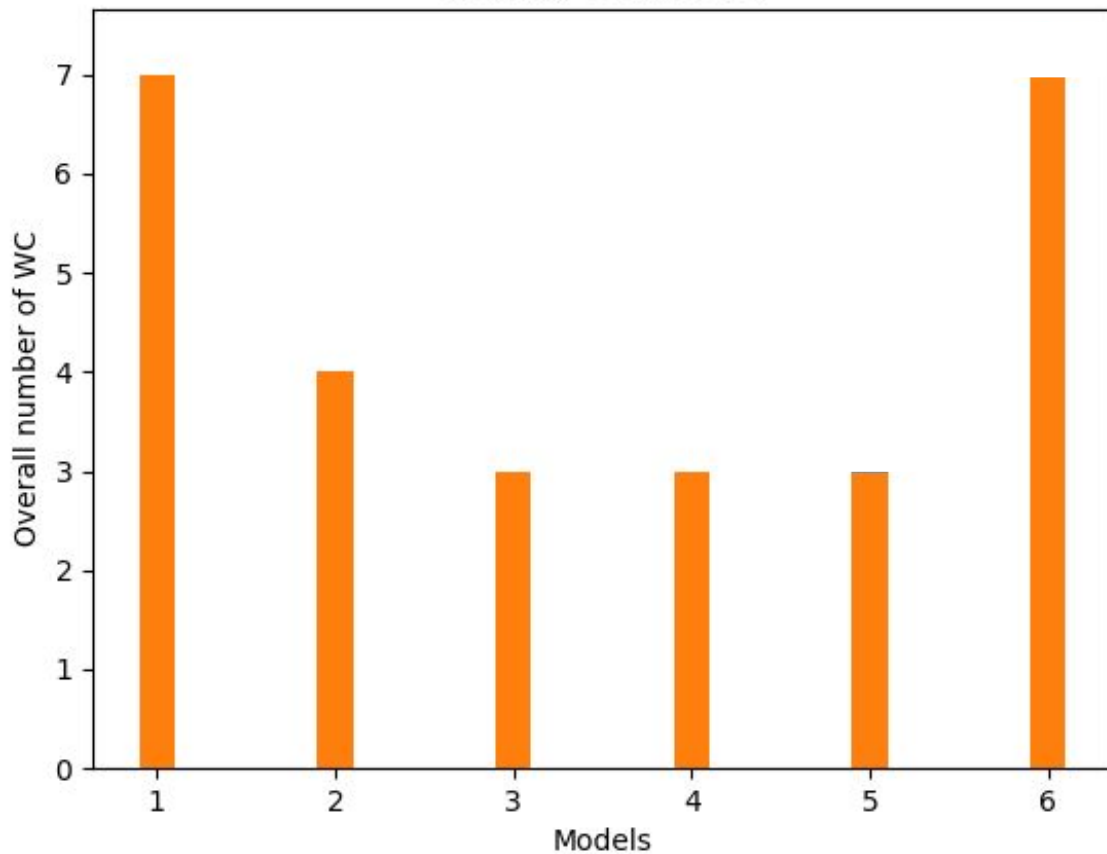
Strategy B1

ID
5

Strategy B2

ID
6

Waiting Count Plot



Boxplots of values gained from 10 simulations rounds for every model.

THANK YOU (Again)

Do you have any questions?

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