



## Transportation Modeling using GMNS standard, Open-Source AMS Tools

Developed through an early FHWA project: Effective Integration of Analysis, Modeling, and Simulation Tools

AMS DATA HUB CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:

<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/research/operations/13036/004.cfm>

General Modeling Network Specification (GMNS): <https://github.com/zephyr-data-specs/GMNS>

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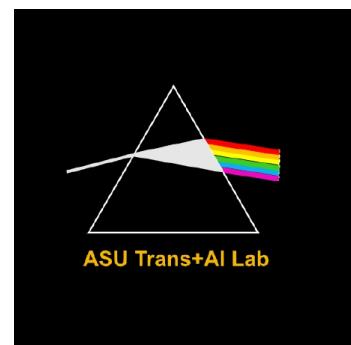
Xuesong (Simon) Zhou ([xzhou74@asu.edu](mailto:xzhou74@asu.edu))

<https://github.com/asu-trans-ai-lab>

[https://asu-trans-ai-lab.github.io/website\\_openlayer\\_4GMNS/](https://asu-trans-ai-lab.github.io/website_openlayer_4GMNS/)

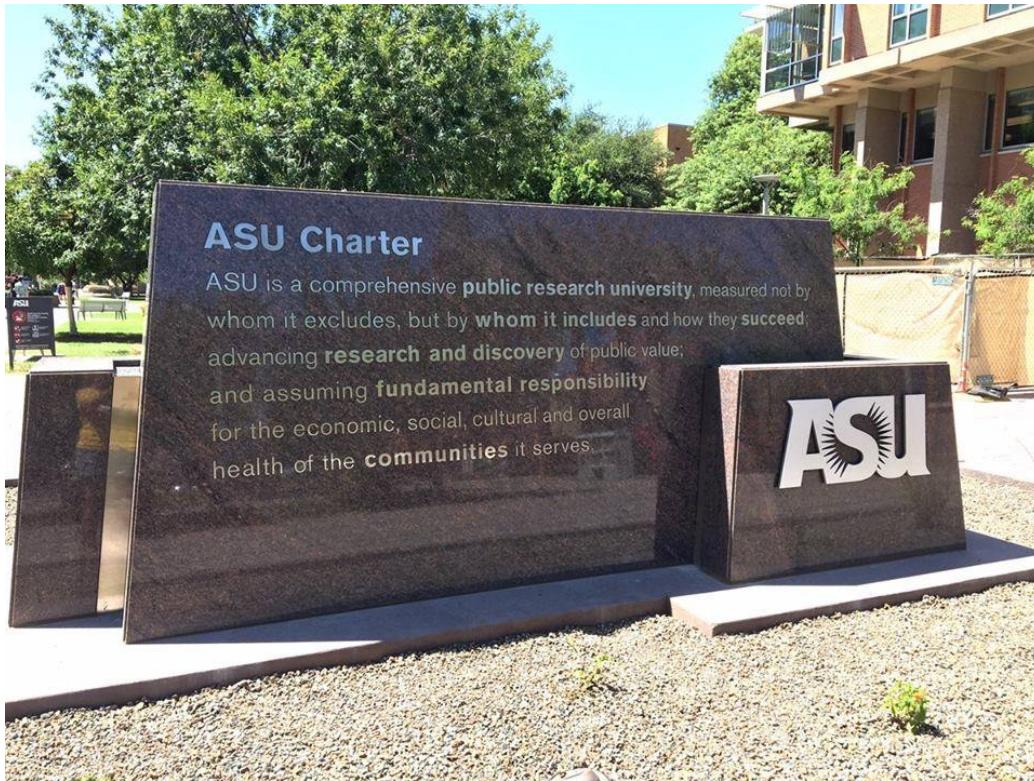
School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment

Arizona State University



# Inclusive Excellence

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ASU charter

ASU charter

"ASU is a comprehensive public research university, measured not by whom we exclude, but rather by whom we include and how they succeed..."

— ASU Charter

See ASU Charter, Mission, and Goals

A video thumbnail showing a young woman with curly hair, wearing a white lab coat over a pink shirt, looking up and to the side. The video has a play button in the center. To the right of the video, there is a quote from the ASU Charter. At the bottom right, there is a red button with white text that says "See ASU Charter, Mission, and Goals".

<https://inclusion.asu.edu/>

# Outline

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1. Motivation
2. Integrated Modeling
3. Datahub
4. Connections to transportation Analysis, Modeling and Simulation (AMS)
5. Large scale applications

# 1. Motivations

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## Adopting open network standard of GMNS

**General Travel Network Format Specification** is a product of Zephyr Foundation, which aims to advance the field through flexible and efficient support, education, guidance, encouragement, and incubation. Further details can be found in

<https://zephyrtransport.org/projects/2-network-standard-and-tools/>

## Integrated graphic user interface and analysis package

- (1) Provide an open-source code base to enable transportation researchers and software developers to expand its range of capabilities to various traffic management application.
- (2) Present results to other users by visualizing time-varying traffic flow dynamics and traveler route choice behavior in an integrated environment.
- (3) Provide a free, educational tool for students to understand the complex decision-making process in transportation planning and optimization processes.

# GMNS

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## Process and Governance

- Overseen by a volunteer project management group (PMG), which has met approximately quarterly over the past year
- Completed deliverables
  - Requirements
  - An initial specification
- Project Management Group

Joe Castiglione	SFCTA (chair)	Jeff Frkonja	Portland Metro
Michael Mahut	INRO	Scott Smith	Volpe / US DOT
Wu Sun	SANDAG	Natalia Ruiz Juri	University of Texas
Guy Rousseau	ARC	Song Gao	UMass Amherst
Chetan Joshi	PTV		

USDOT Volpe Center team  
Scott.Smith@dot.gov  
Ian.Berg@dot.gov

## Timeline

- 2017: Zephyr: idea won the project “shark tank” at the TRB Planning Applications Conference
- 2018: FHWA: initial development and stakeholder outreach
- 2019: Zephyr and FHWA efforts came together
  - PMG established
  - Requirements formulated
  - Continuing development
- 2020: Initial public release
  - Initial release in January, with ongoing development throughout the year
    - Focus on traffic controls
  - Initial development of NEXTA modules to use GMNS
    - <https://github.com/asu-trans-ai-lab>
  - Conversion tools from OpenStreetMap

# 1. Motivations

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- Existing technical barriers: (based on DTA user survey, TRB network modeling committee, 2009)
  - Require **too many input data**: 47%
  - Take **too long** to run: 35%
  - **Model is unclear**: 35%

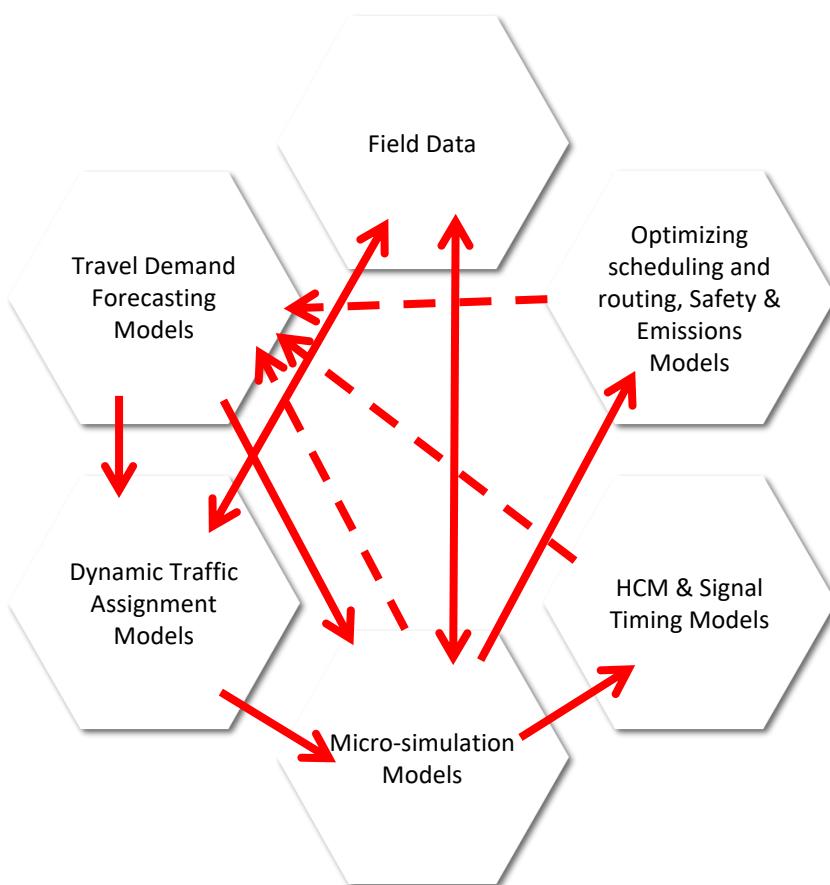
## Our goals

- **Simplified data input** from static traffic assignment
- Use **parallel computing** capability, simplified routing and simulation
- **Open-source**  
Visualization: **Seeing is believing**  
Excel Tools: **Start from basics**

# Our Vision

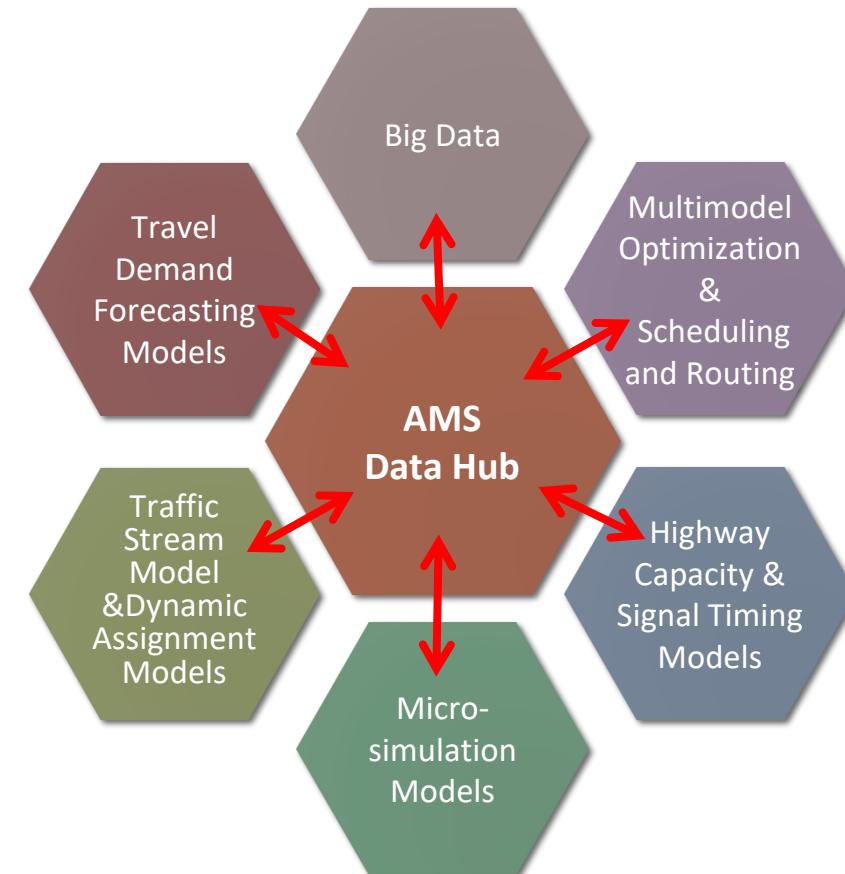
## Current Practice

Ad Hoc

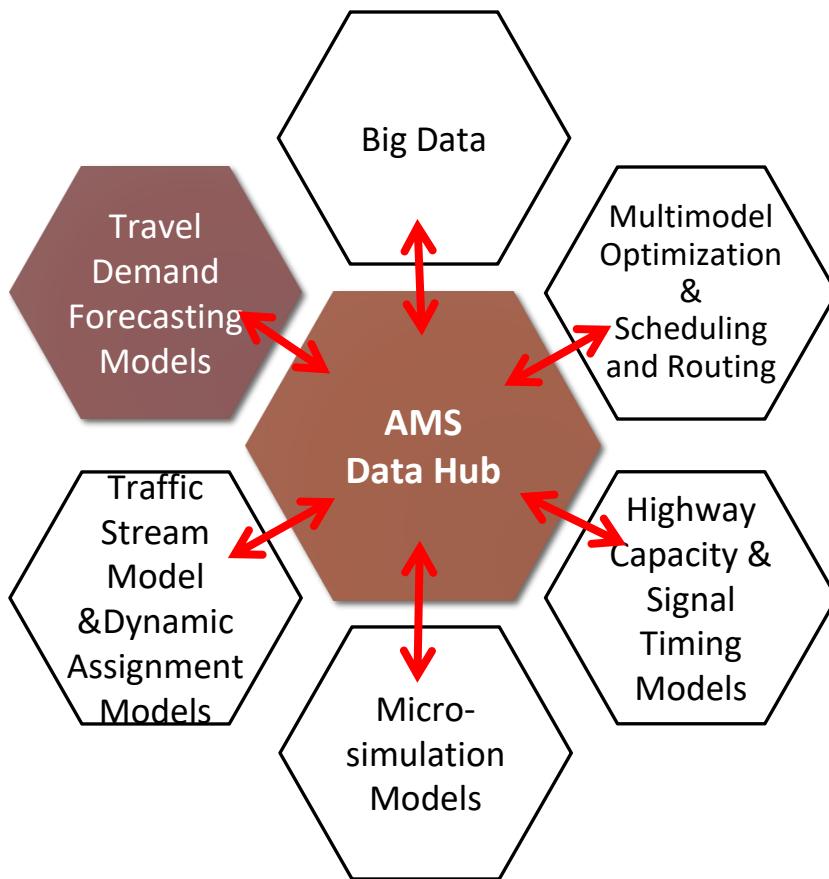


With Analysis, Modeling and Simulation (AMS) Data Hub

Systematic

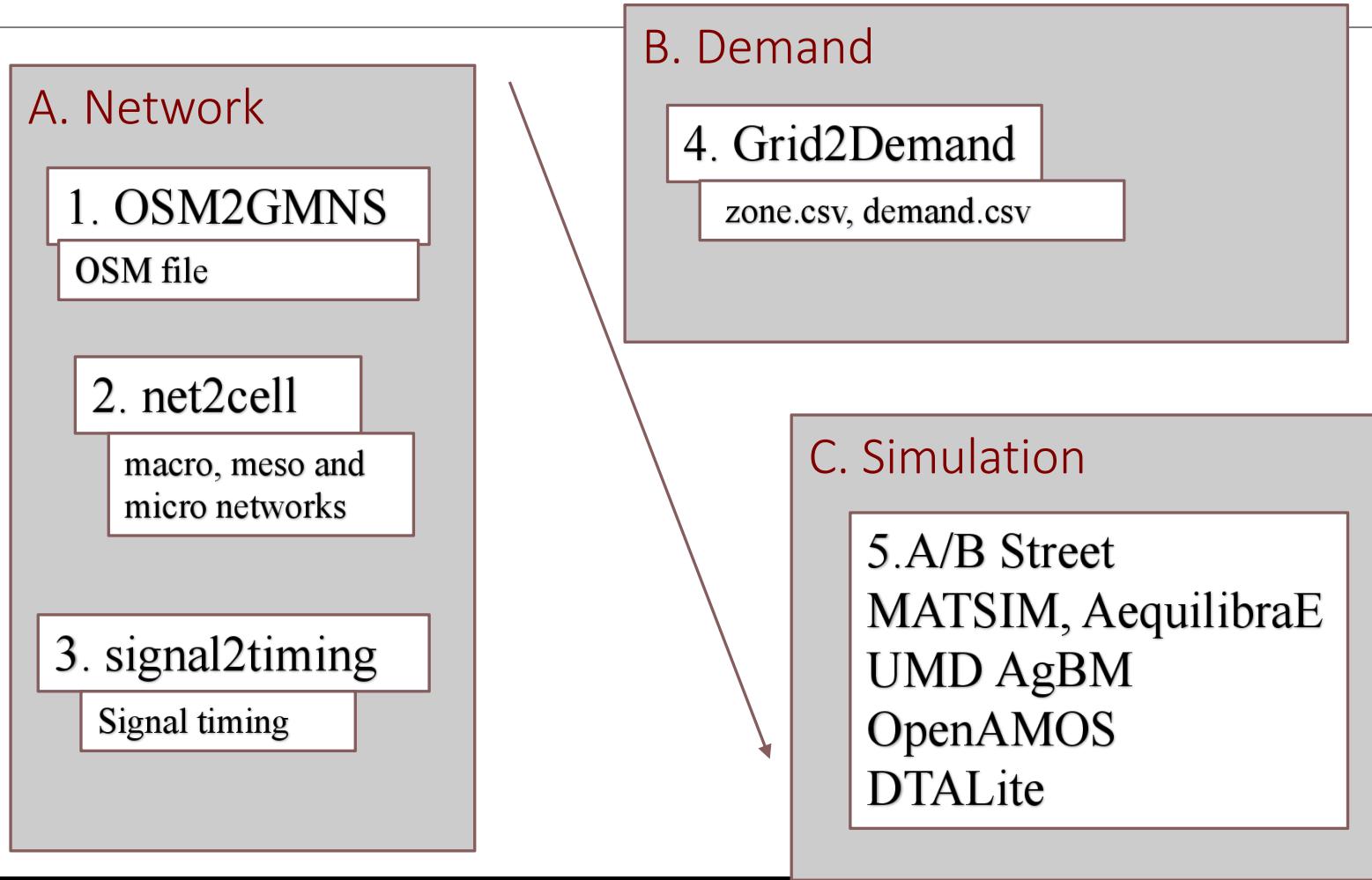


# Data hub 0: Network



- Based on GMNS data format
  - node, link, movement
  - <https://github.com/zephyr-data-specs/GMNS>
- Regional planning models through GIS shape files
  - TransCAD
  - CUBE
  - VISUM
- Export network to GIS
- Subarea cut utility

# Building 4-step Model For Your Campus Using Open-source Tool And GMNS



# 0.1 Open-Source Network Downloader

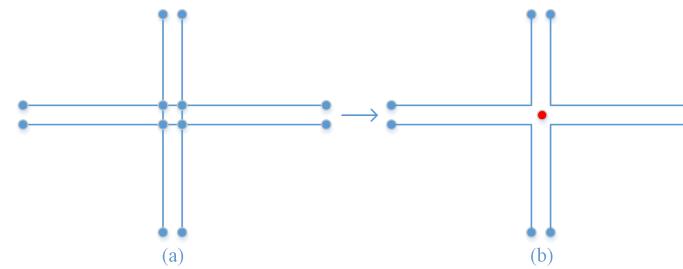
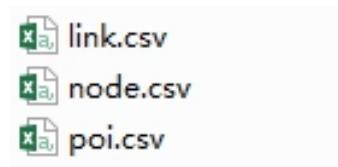
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## OSM2GMNS

### Features

- 1) Easy to use, two lines of python code
- 2) Multimodal support (drivable, walkable, bikeable roads; railway; aeroway)
- 3) Network files in GMNS format
- 4) Transportation network modelling (intersection consolidation; point of interest)

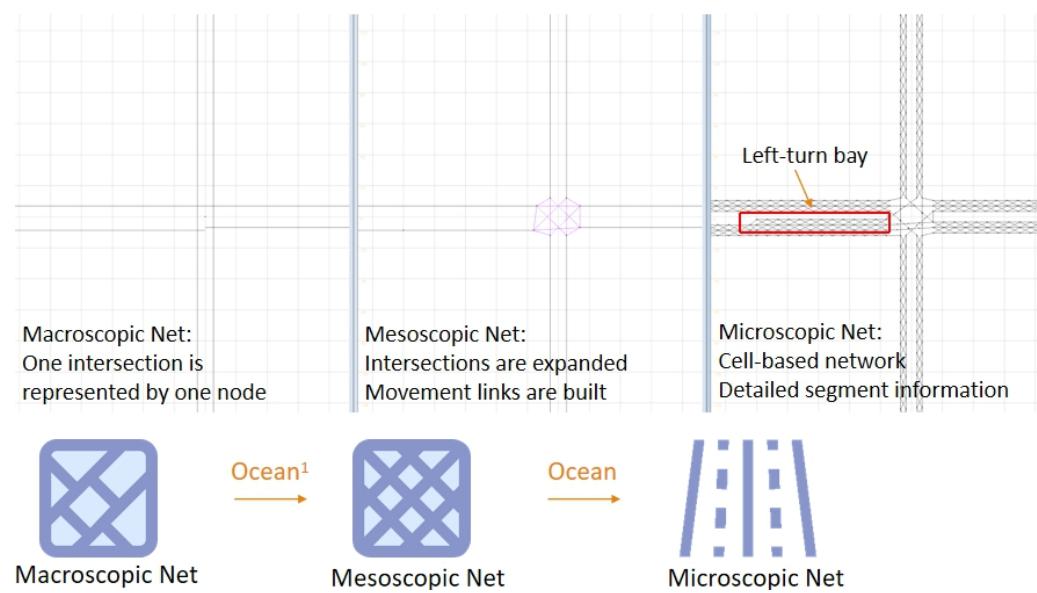
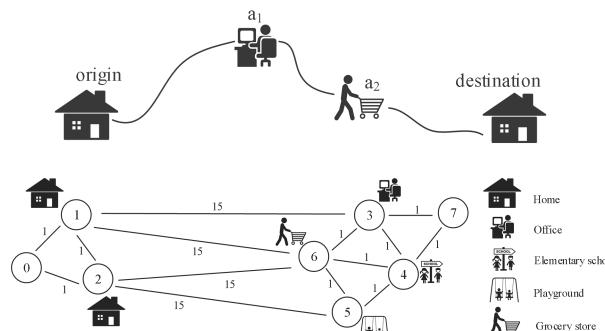
```
import osm2gmns as og
net = og.getNetFromOSMFile('asu.osm')
og.outputNetToCSV(net)
```



# 0.2 Multi-Level Network Convertor

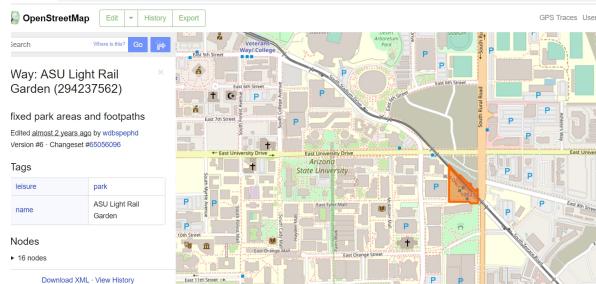
<https://pypi.org/project/net2cell/>

Open-source tool for creating cell-based  
(microscopic) and mesoscopic networks

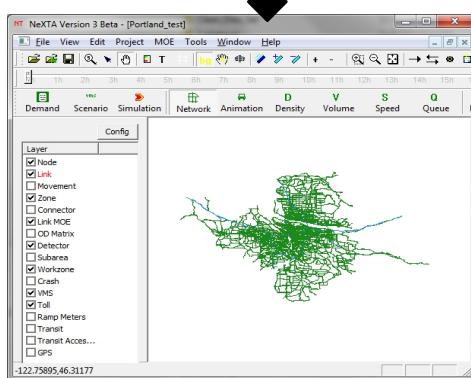


# Openstreet Map Data Importing

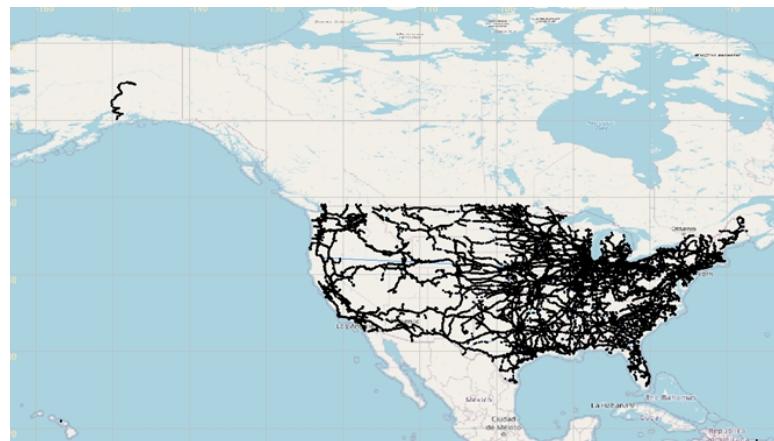
- Import node/link/zone shape to GMNS  
<https://pypi.org/project/osm2gmns/>



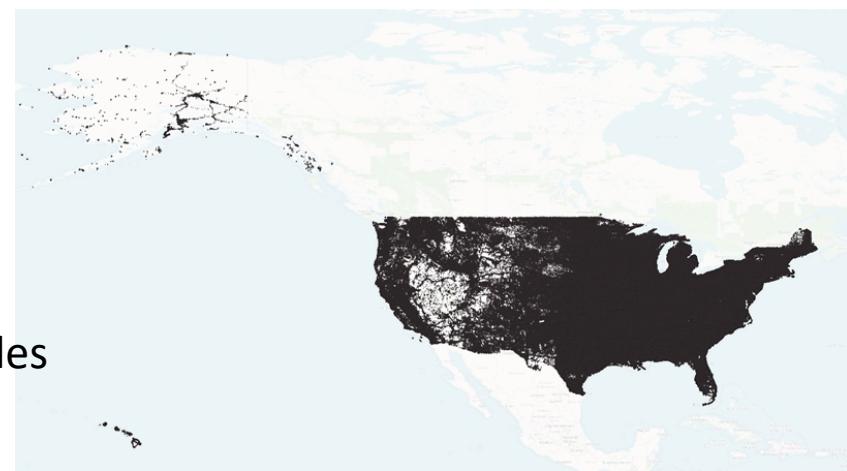
Openstreet Map



Converted by OSM2GMNS



US rail network from OSM with 0.5M nodes



US driving network from OSM with 20M nodes

Handling Large-scale map

# AMS Data Hub Software Prototype: NeXTA

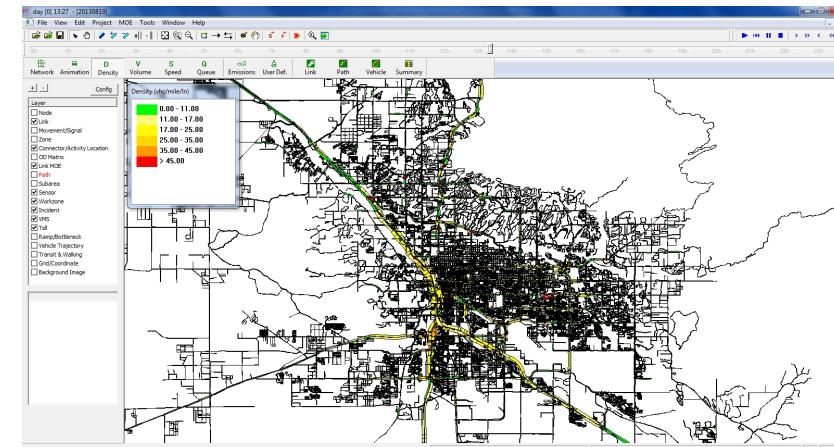
Start with GIS with multiple transportation layers

- 1. node,
- 2. link,
- 3. agent,
- 4. trajectory,
- 5. signal timing.

<https://github.com/xzhou99/NeXTA-GMNS>

Focus on data processing and visualization

<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/research/operations/13036/004.cfm>



The Effective Integration of Analysis, Modeling, and Simulation Tools

AMS DATA HUB CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

# 0.3 Signal Timing Generation Tool

## Excel-based and Python based

<https://github.com/milan1981/Sigma-X>

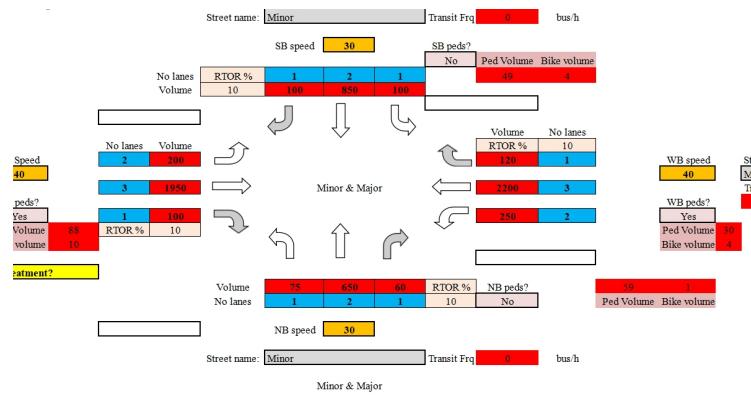
## HCM-based computational engine for signalized intersections

## Signalized multimodal intersection



**Red: Vehicle links and movements**  
**Blue: Cycle track links and movements**  
**Green: Pedestrian links and crosswalks**

An aerial photograph of a street intersection. Overlaid on the image are several colored arrows: a red curved arrow pointing from the bottom left towards the center; a blue curved arrow pointing from the top left towards the center; a blue straight arrow pointing from the top right towards the center; a red straight arrow pointing from the bottom right towards the center; and a green straight arrow pointing from the bottom left towards the center. These arrows likely represent different movement paths or traffic flow directions.



# 0.4 Demand Generation

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Grid2Demand

<https://pypi.org/project/grid2demand/>

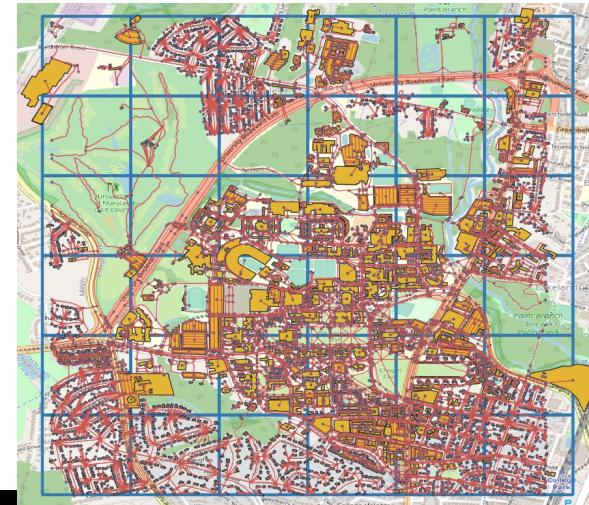
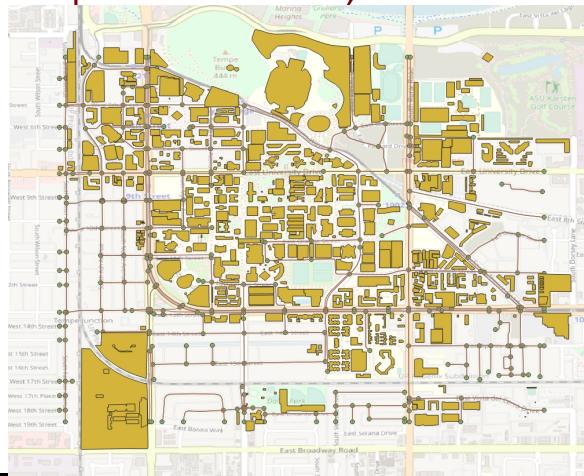
Input: POI geometry production, attraction type

$$T_{ij} = P_i \cdot \frac{A_j \cdot F_{ij} \cdot K_{ij}}{\sum_j (A_j \cdot F_{ij} \cdot K_{ij})}$$

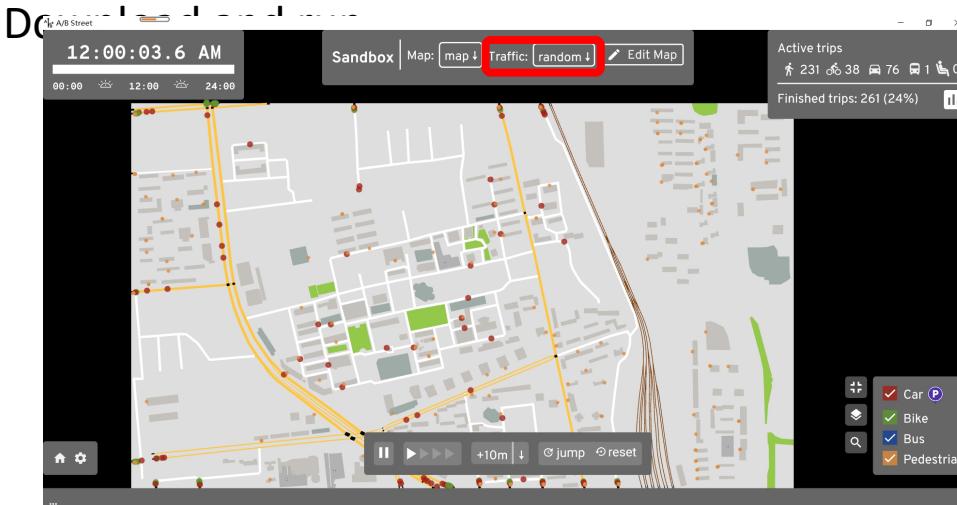
Intermediate: accessibility matrix

$$F_{ij} = e^{\beta d_{ij} - g}$$

Output: zone.csv, demand.csv



# Simulation/Assignment --> Learn Other Educational Resource From ABD30



Select map



## Educational Resources

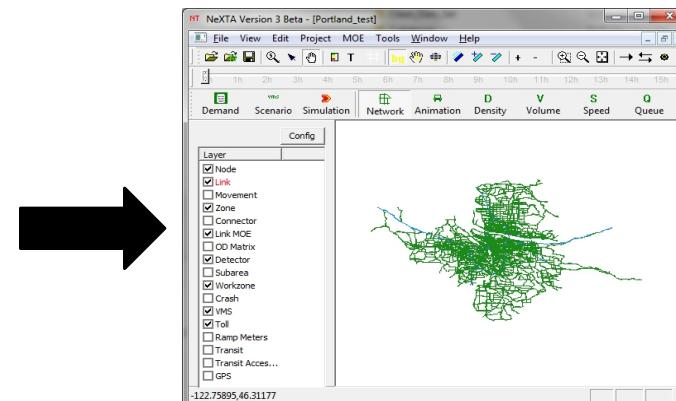
This webpage provides a list of educational resources suggested by our committee members and friends. If you please fill this [form](#), or contact [Dr. Steve Boyles](#).

### General Resources

- [Transportation Network Analysis](#), a free textbook written by Stephen Boyles (The University of Texas at Austin) and Avinash Unnikrishnan (Portland State University). Currently, Volume I (static and dynamic traffic assignment) is available.
- [Python tutorial for civil engineering students](#), developed by Avinash Unnikrishnan (Portland State University).
- [Transportation Network Analysis](#) graduate course, with online slides and assignments. Covers basics of network analysis and optimization. Developed by Stephen Boyles (The University of Texas at Austin).
- [Traffic Engineering](#) course materials, developed by Sabyasachee Mishra. (University of Memphis)

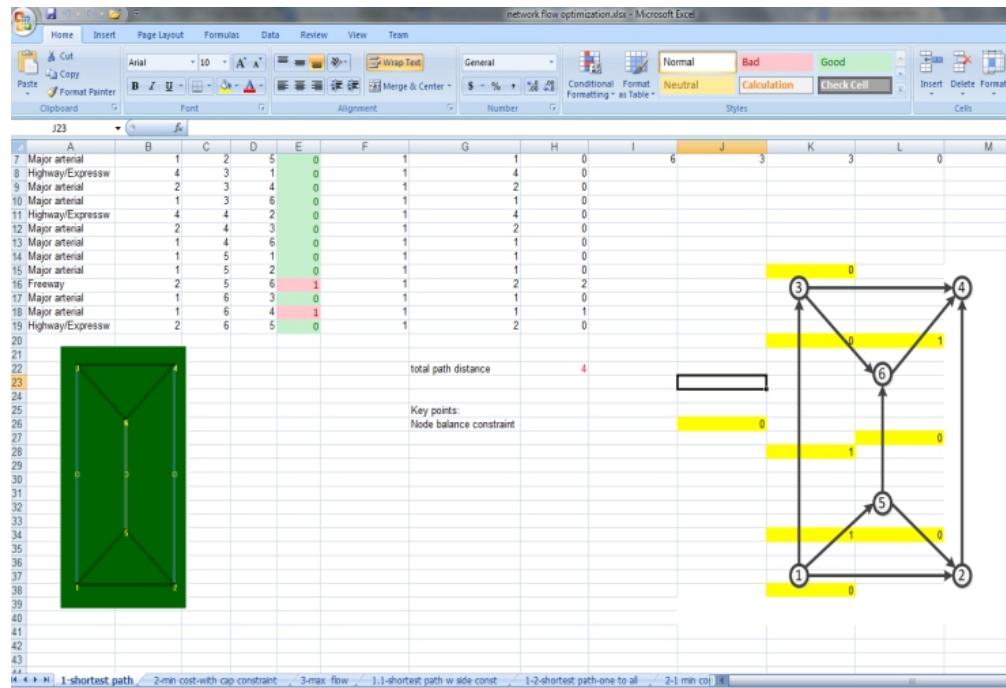
# General Transit Feed Specification (GTFS)

- Import GTFS to node/link data to GMNS data format (NeXTA-> menu -> import GTFS)



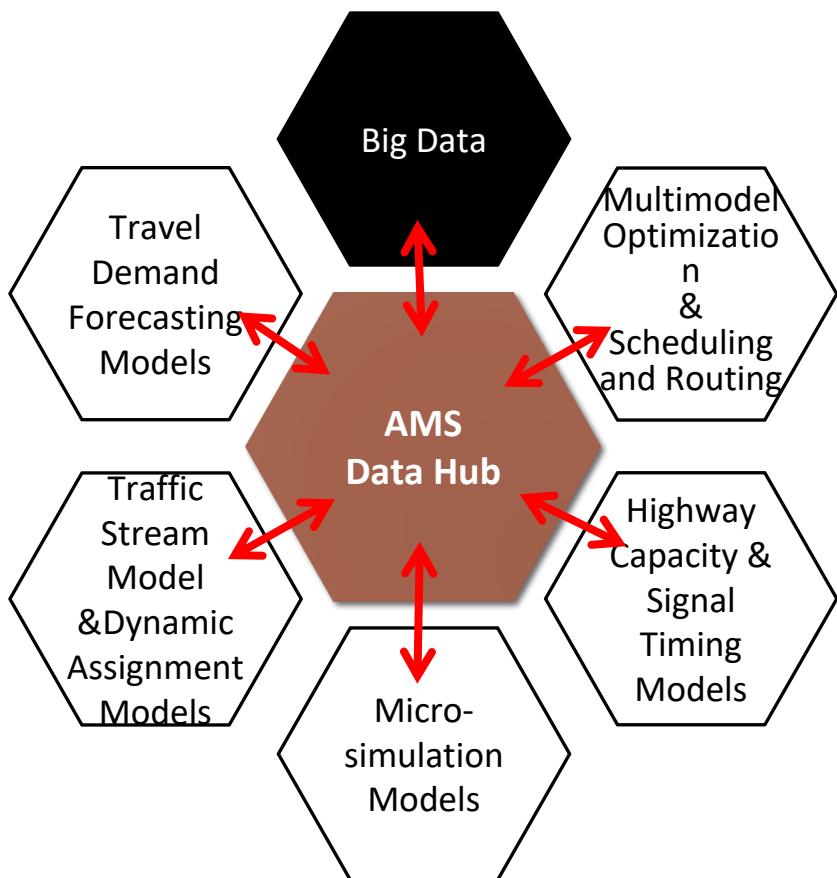
# Use of network data: Shortest Path Finding, Network Flow Model

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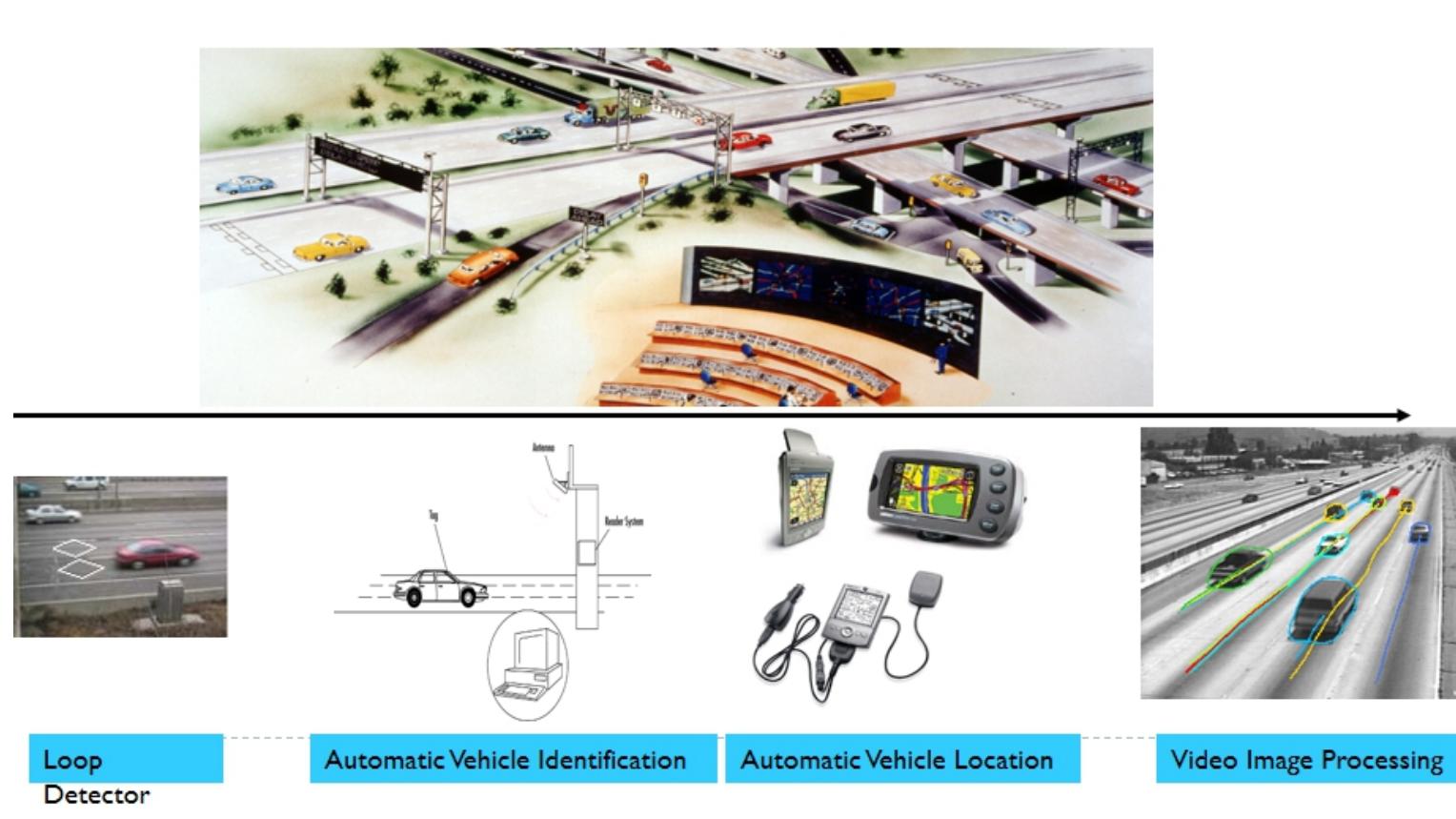
[https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/blob/master/GAMS\\_code%20-space-time-network/Assignment\\_2\\_LearningNetworkFlowOptimizationinExcelandGLPKSolvers.docx](https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/blob/master/GAMS_code%20-space-time-network/Assignment_2_LearningNetworkFlowOptimizationinExcelandGLPKSolvers.docx)

# Connection 1: Big Data



- Sensor data (link\_performance.csv)  
15-min speed or count
- GPS trajectory data (trajectory.csv)
- NGSIM trajectory data set  
[https://github.com/xzhou99/NeXTA\\_4\\_NGSIM\\_Trajectory\\_Visualization](https://github.com/xzhou99/NeXTA_4_NGSIM_Trajectory_Visualization)
- BHL sensor data set  
I-405 data set from PeMS (to do)

# Big data for integrated traffic management

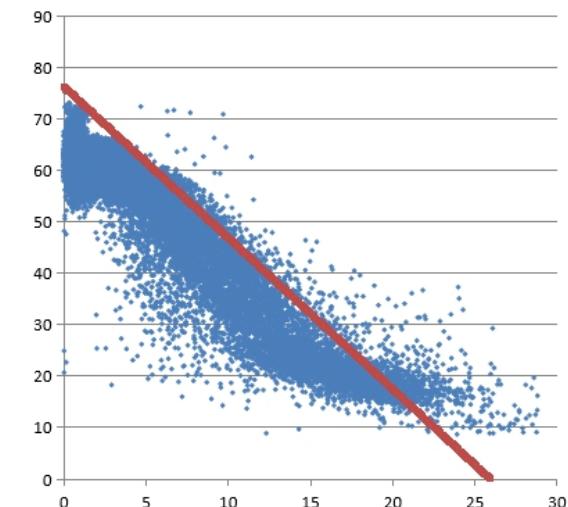
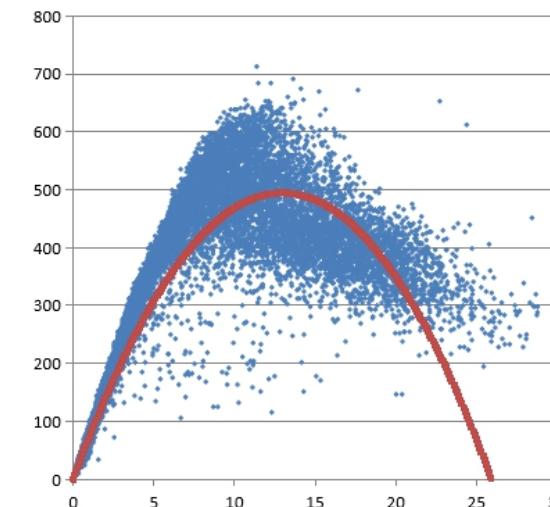
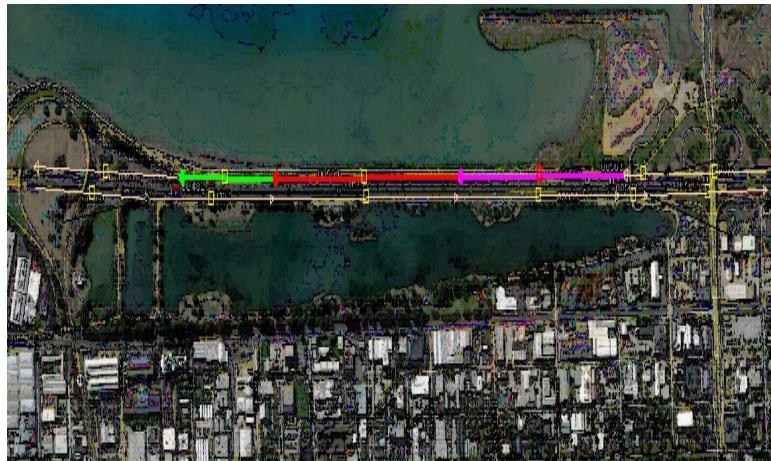


# 1.1 Understand QKV relationship from aggregated sensor data

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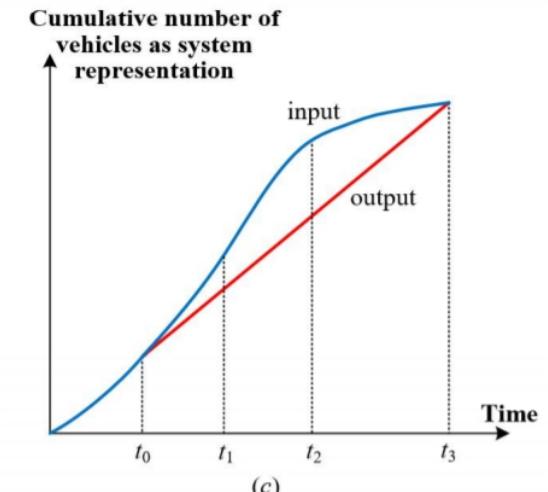
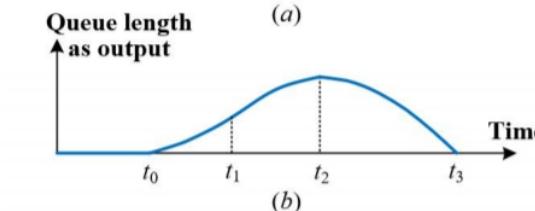
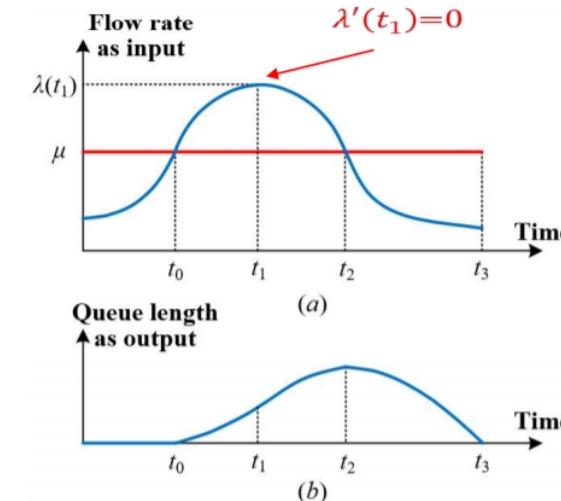
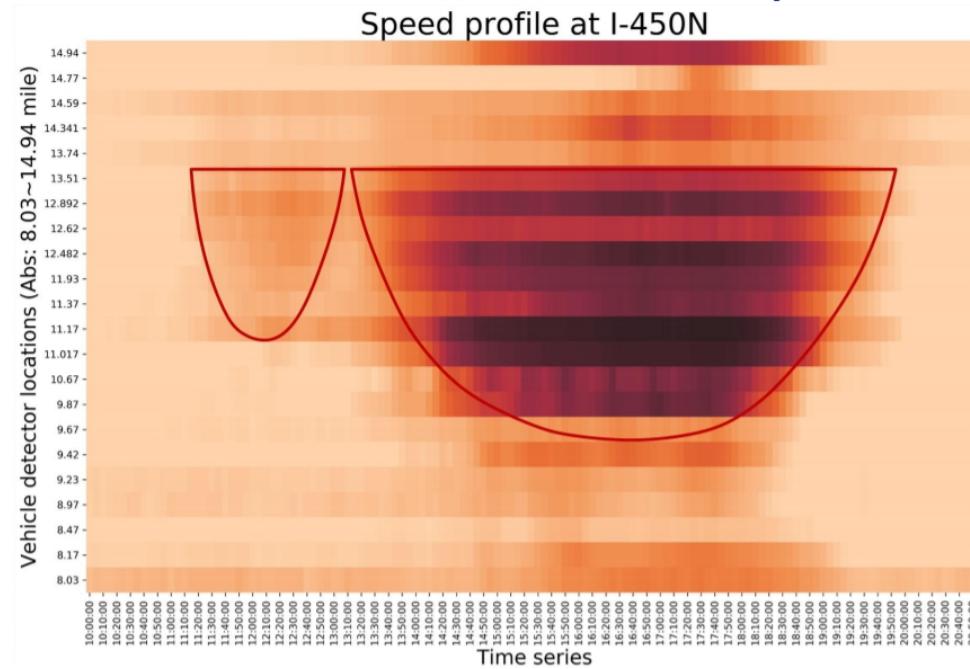
Berkeley Highway Laboratory (BHL) sensor data set

[https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-dtalite\\_software\\_release/tree/gh-pages/learning\\_document/4\\_highway\\_capacity\\_traffic\\_stream\\_model/BHL-Network](https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-dtalite_software_release/tree/gh-pages/learning_document/4_highway_capacity_traffic_stream_model/BHL-Network)



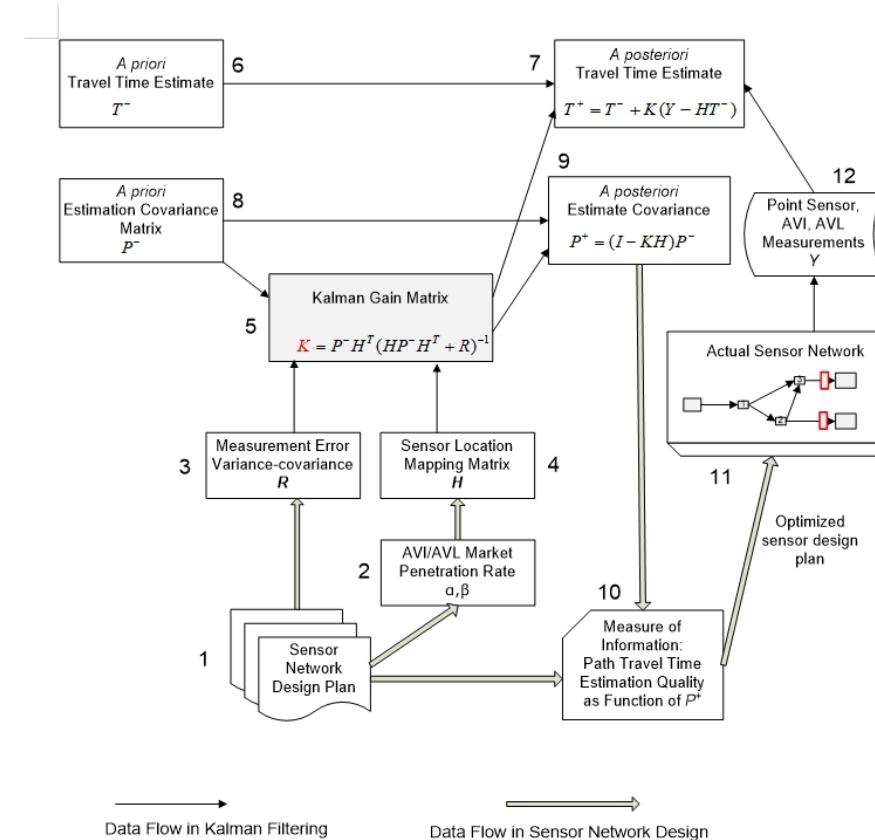
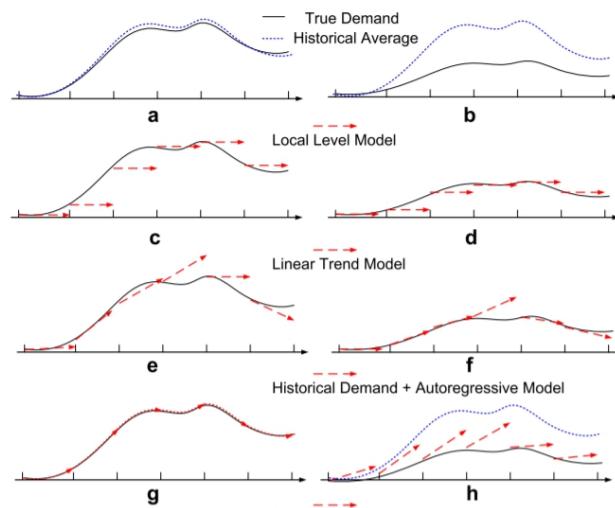
# 1.2 Understand capacity and bottleneck

[https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-dtalite\\_software\\_release/tree/gh-pages/learning\\_document/4\\_highway\\_capacity\\_traffic\\_stream\\_model](https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-dtalite_software_release/tree/gh-pages/learning_document/4_highway_capacity_traffic_stream_model)



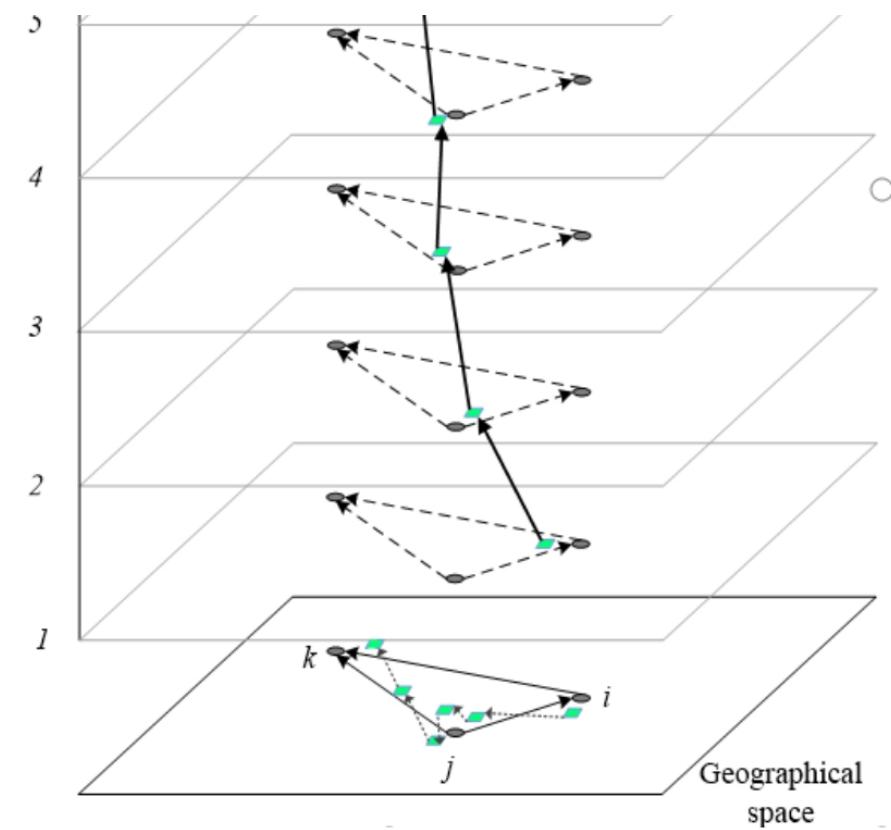
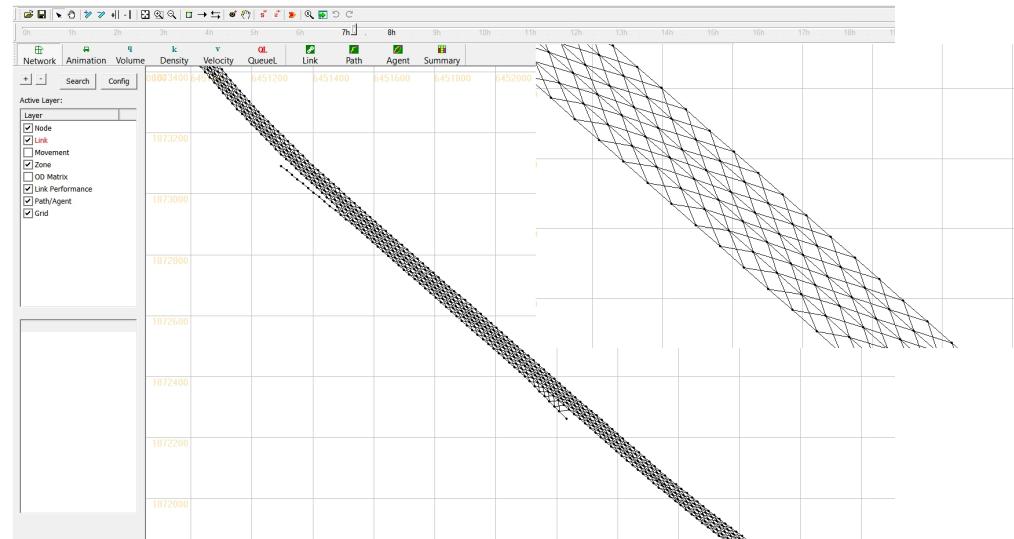
# 1.3 Understand traffic state estimation and prediction

[https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-dtalite\\_software\\_release/tree/gh-pages/learning\\_document/4\\_highway\\_capacity\\_traffic\\_stream\\_model/Learning\\_KalmanFiltering\\_for\\_travel\\_state\\_estimation\\_prediction](https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-dtalite_software_release/tree/gh-pages/learning_document/4_highway_capacity_traffic_stream_model/Learning_KalmanFiltering_for_travel_state_estimation_prediction)

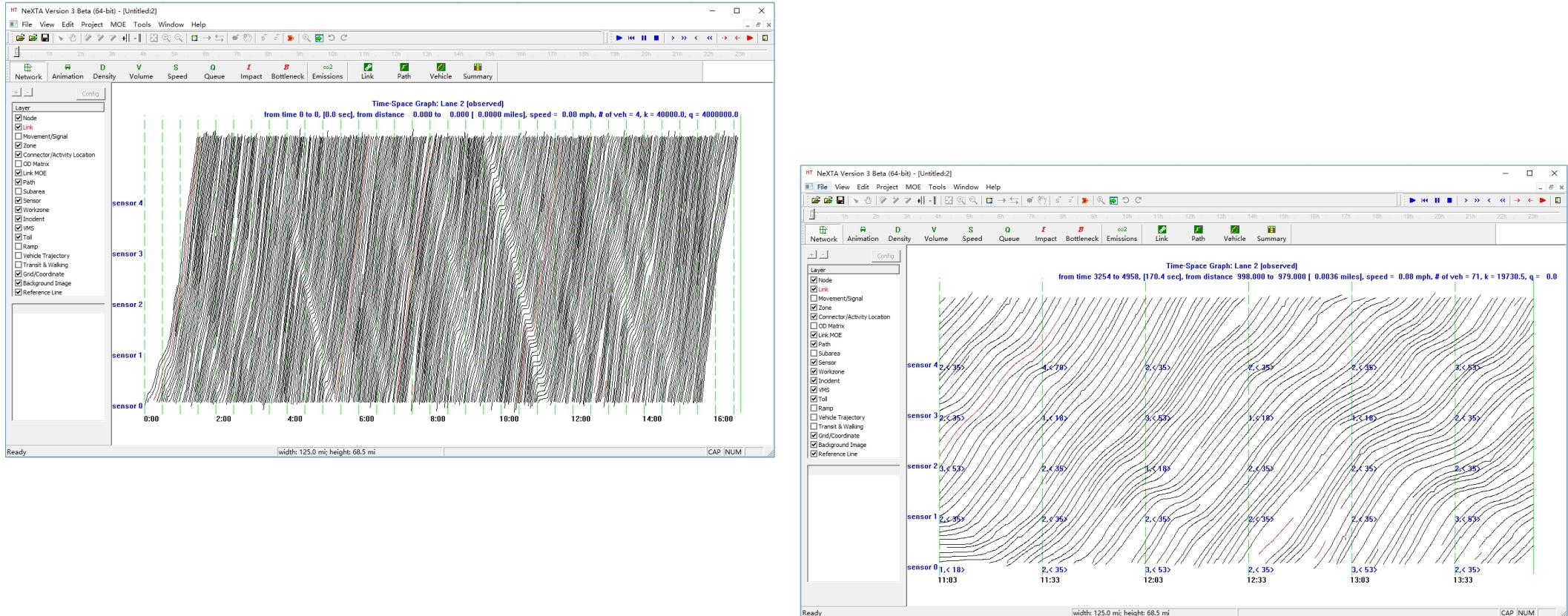


# 1.4 Map matching based on space-time paths and a time geographic method

<https://github.com/xzhou99/space-time-network-based-map-matching>



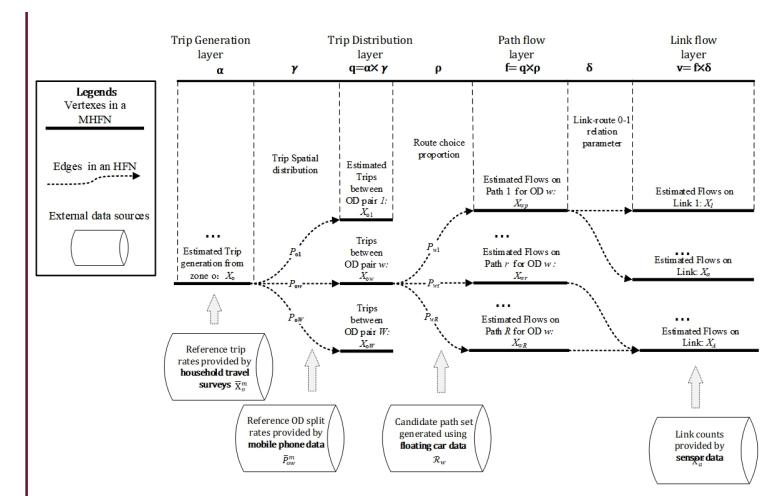
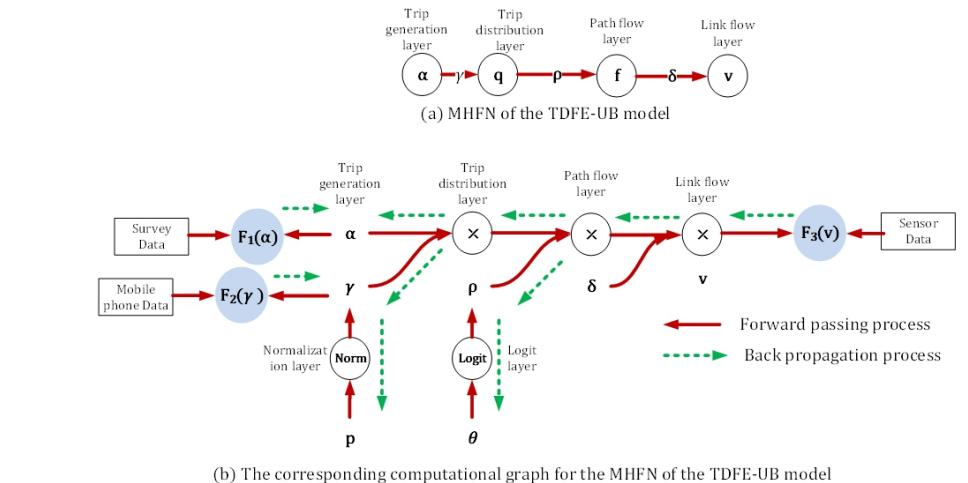
# 1.5 Analysis of Trajectories from NGSIM



# 1.6 Integrate deep learning methods with transportation modeling

<https://github.com/xzhou99/TCGLite>

## Computational graph language to describe the back propagation

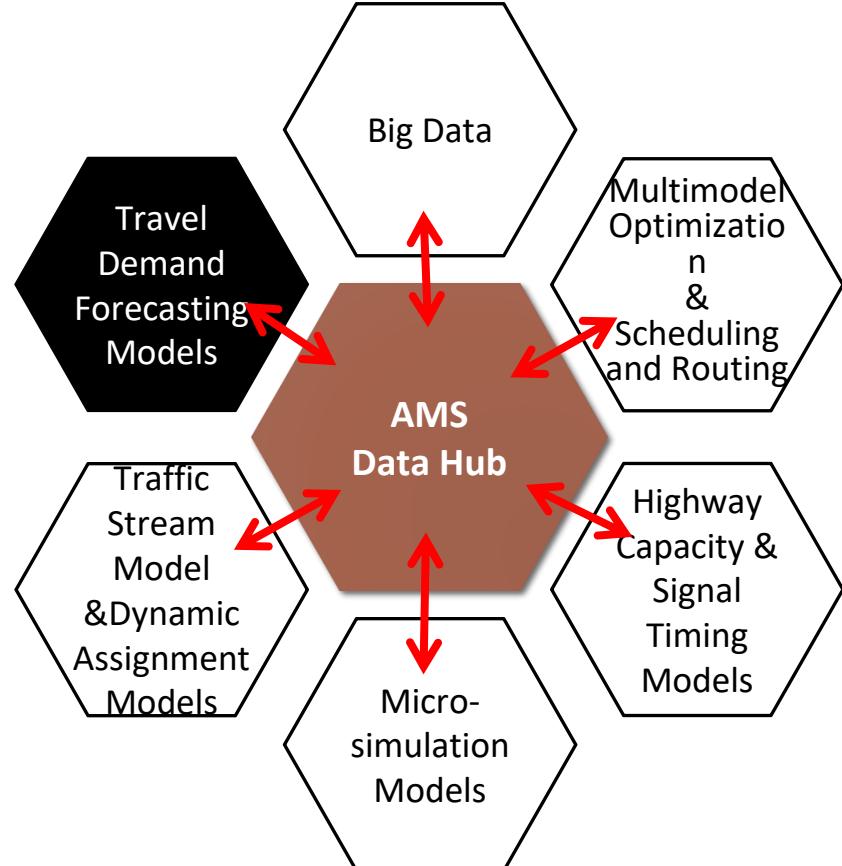


1. The following flow conservation constraints are expressed by the "Neural Network" whose activation functions are ReLu function  $f(x) = \max(0, x)$  :

$$\begin{aligned} X_o P_{ow} &= X_w \quad \forall w \in \mathcal{W} \quad o \in \mathcal{Z} \\ X_w P_{wr} &= X_r \quad \forall r \in \mathcal{R} \quad w \in \mathcal{W} \\ \sum_{r \in \mathcal{R}} \delta_{ra} X_r &= X_a \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{A} \end{aligned}$$

2. Different types of data sources are mapped onto different layers of the architecture

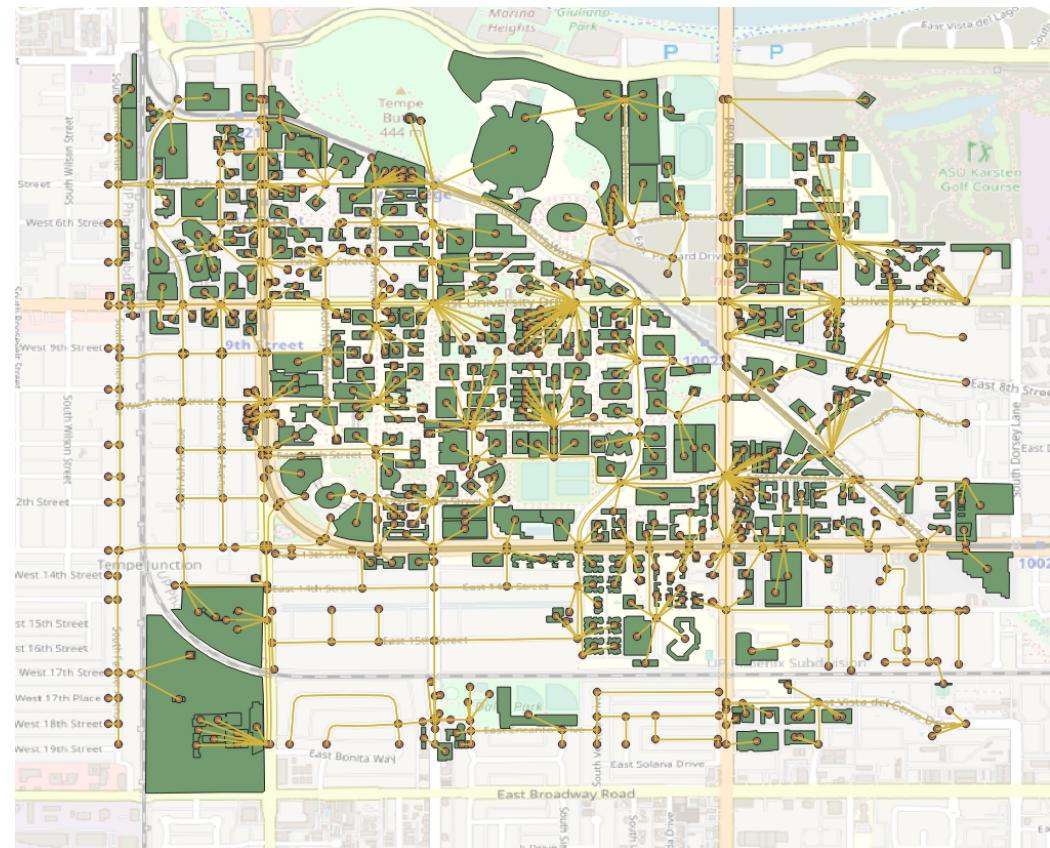
# Connection 2: Travel demand model



- Trip generation, distribution and model choice
- Static Traffic Assignment
- OD destination using multiple data sources
- Layout and land use

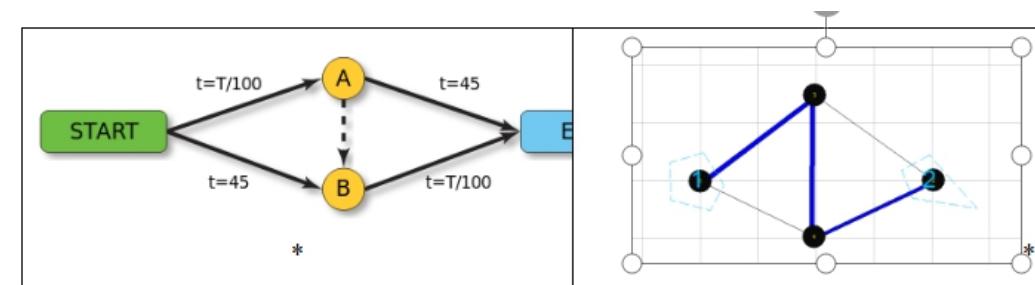
# 2.1 Trip generation, distribution and model choice

- Grid2Demand
  - A quick trip generation and distribution tool
  - 4-step trip generation
  - Input: POI geometry production, attraction information, POI type
  - Output: zone.csv, demand.csv
  - <https://github.com/asu-trans-ai-lab/grid2demand>
- Mode choice model
  - [https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-dtalite\\_software\\_release/tree/gh-pages/learning\\_document/6\\_trip\\_generation/mode\\_choice](https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-dtalite_software_release/tree/gh-pages/learning_document/6_trip_generation/mode_choice)



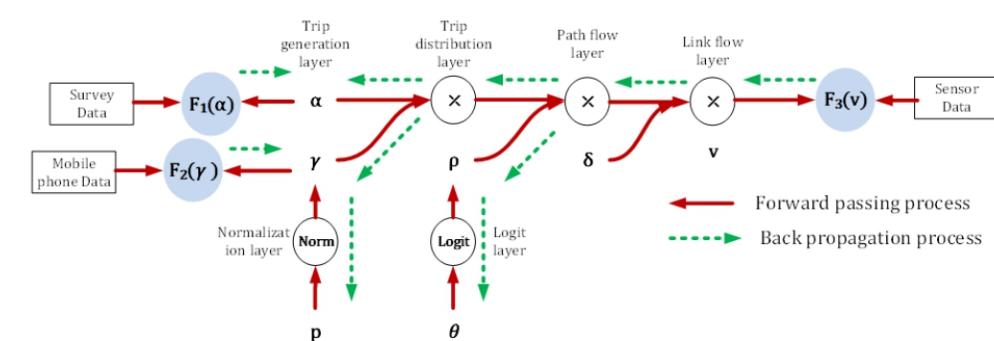
## 2.2 Static Traffic Assignment

- Static traffic assignment GAMS
  - [https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS\\_code%20-space-time-network/2%20traffic\\_assignment](https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS_code%20-space-time-network/2%20traffic_assignment)
- Static traffic assignmetn using STALite
  - [https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-dtalite\\_software\\_release/tree/gh-pages/learning\\_document/2\\_static\\_user\\_equilibrium](https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-dtalite_software_release/tree/gh-pages/learning_document/2_static_user_equilibrium)

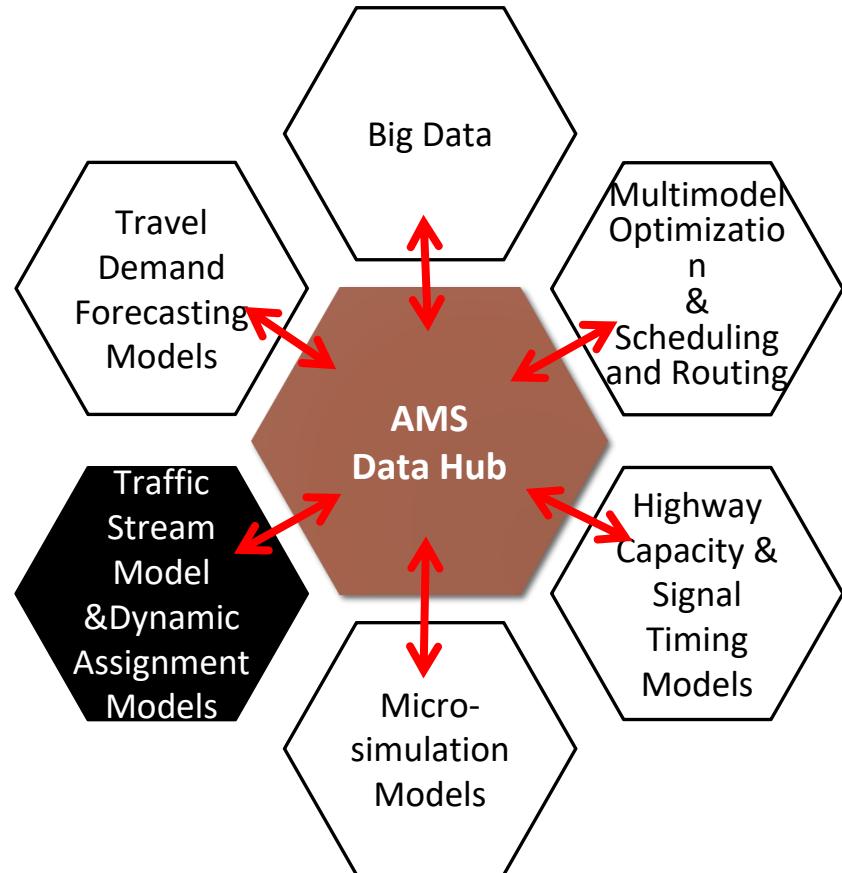


## 2.3 OD Demand Estimation

- Static OD demand estimation using STAlite
  - [https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-software\\_release/tree/pages/learning\\_document/7\\_ODdemand\\_estimation](https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-software_release/tree/pages/learning_document/7_ODdemand_estimation)
- ODME using GAMS
  - <https://github.com/xzhou99/ODME>
- Computational graph based demand estimation model using multiple data sources
  - <https://github.com/xzhou99/TCGLite>

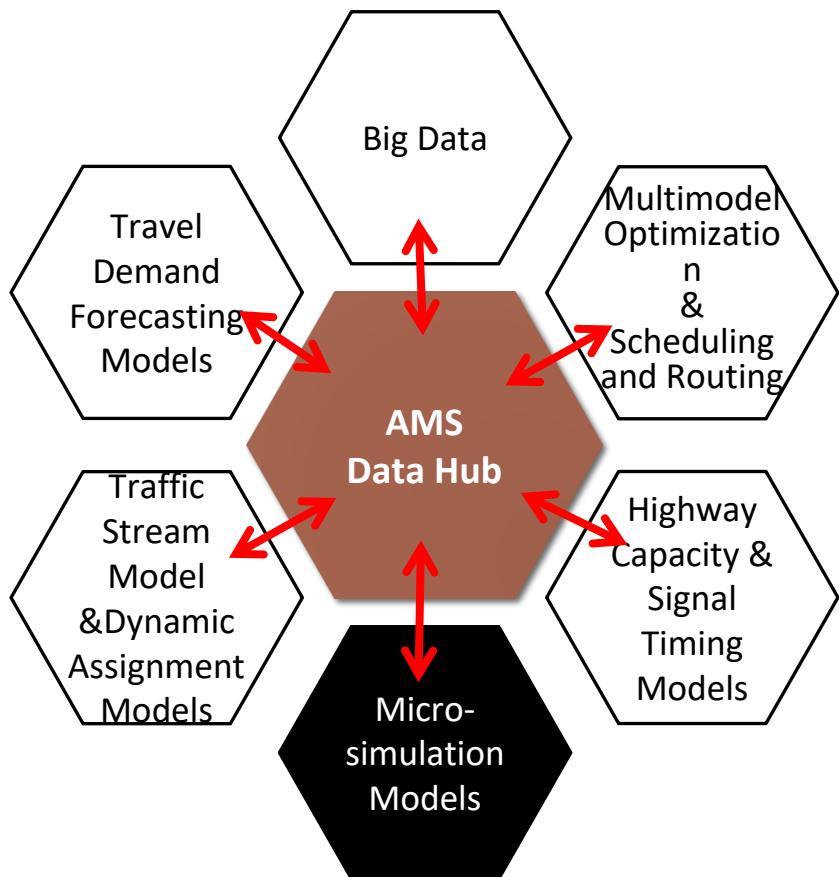


# Connection 3: Traffic Stream Model and Dynamic Assignment



- Dynamic user equilibrium assignment method
  - Model queue spillback
  - Consider traffic flow dynamics
- GAMS for dynamic traffic assignment
  - [https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS\\_code%20-space-time-network/2%20traffic\\_assignment](https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS_code%20-space-time-network/2%20traffic_assignment)
- DTALite/STALite
  - <https://github.com/xzhou99/DTALite-python>
  - [https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-dtalite\\_software\\_release](https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-dtalite_software_release)
- Learning document
  - [https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-dtalite\\_software\\_release/tree/gh-pages/learning\\_document/3\\_dynamic\\_user\\_equilibrium\\_and\\_traffic\\_bottleneck](https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-dtalite_software_release/tree/gh-pages/learning_document/3_dynamic_user_equilibrium_and_traffic_bottleneck)

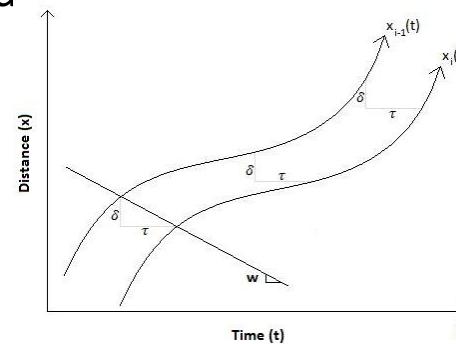
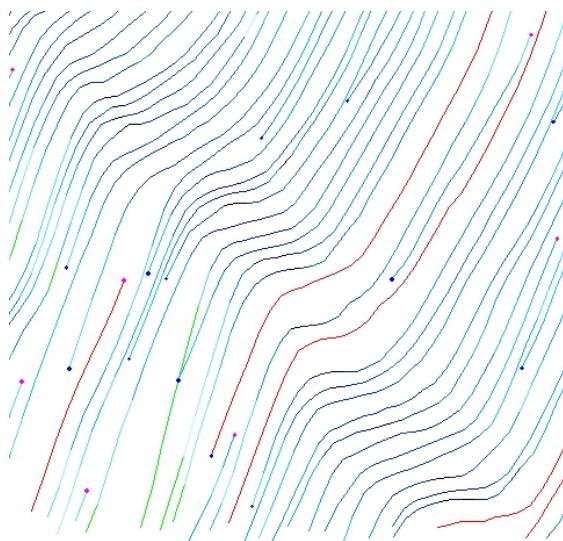
# Connection 4: Microsimulation Models



- [https://github.com/xzhou99/NeXTA\\_4\\_NGSIM\\_Trajectory\\_Visualization](https://github.com/xzhou99/NeXTA_4_NGSIM_Trajectory_Visualization)
- Multi-resolution network converter: Ocean  
<https://github.com/jiawei92/Ocean>
- CAVLite  
<https://github.com/jiawei92/CAVLite>

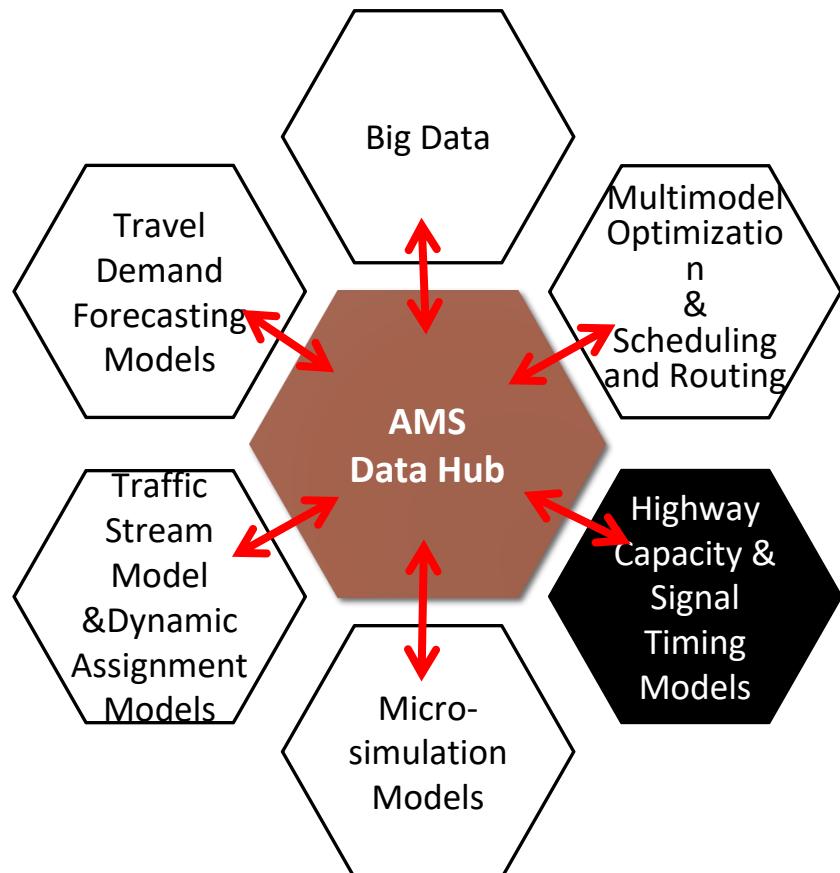
# 4.1 Understand driving behavior

- Understand microscopic car following model
  - [https://github.com/xzhou99/DTW\\_Vehicle\\_Trajectory\\_Data](https://github.com/xzhou99/DTW_Vehicle_Trajectory_Data)
  - [https://github.com/xzhou99/Basic\\_DTW\\_Matlab](https://github.com/xzhou99/Basic_DTW_Matlab)



Reaction  
distance/spacing  $\delta$   
Reaction time lag  $\tau$   
 $W = \delta / \tau$

# Connection 5: Capacity Analysis Tools

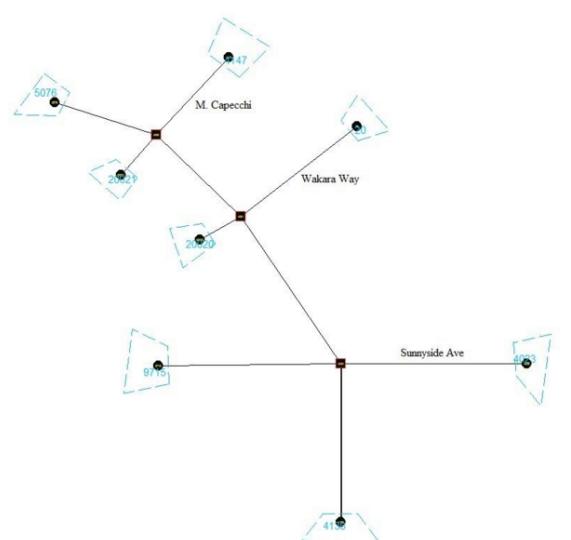


- HCM-based Quick Estimation Method (QEM)
  - Given turning volume,
  - Generate signal phasing and timing data
  - <https://github.com/xzhou99/Sigma-X>
  - <https://github.com/xzhou99/SignalAPI>
- Learning Document for Signal Timing Optimization
  - [https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-dtalite\\_software\\_release/tree/gh-pages/learning\\_document/5\\_signal\\_timing\\_optimization](https://github.com/xzhou99/stalite-dtalite_software_release/tree/gh-pages/learning_document/5_signal_timing_optimization)

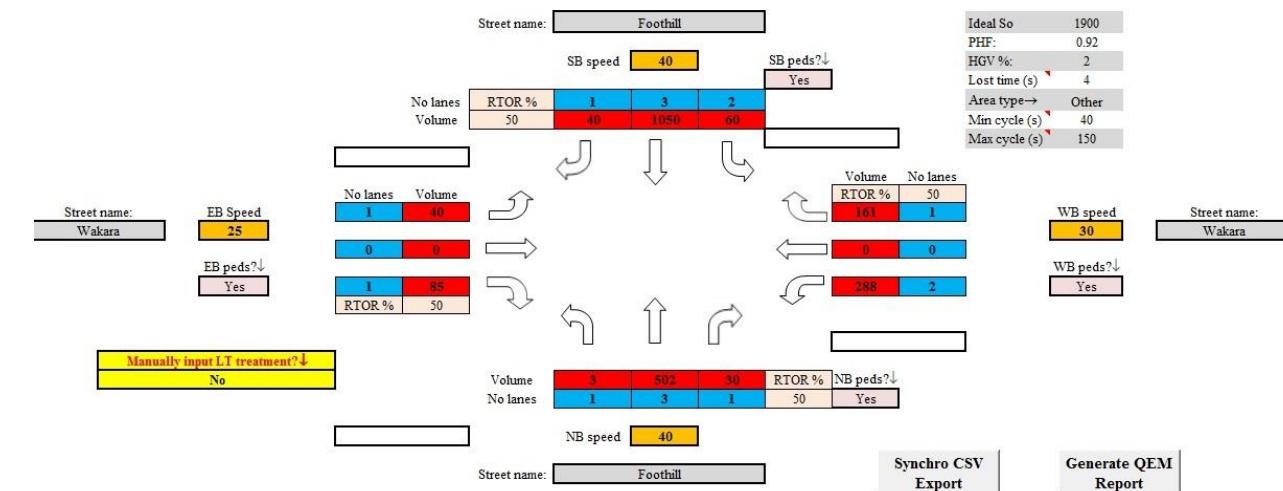
# 5.1 Traffic signal timing optimization

Excel-based and Python based

- <https://github.com/xzhou99/Sigma-X> HCM-based computational engine for intersections
- <https://github.com/xzhou99/SignalAPI>



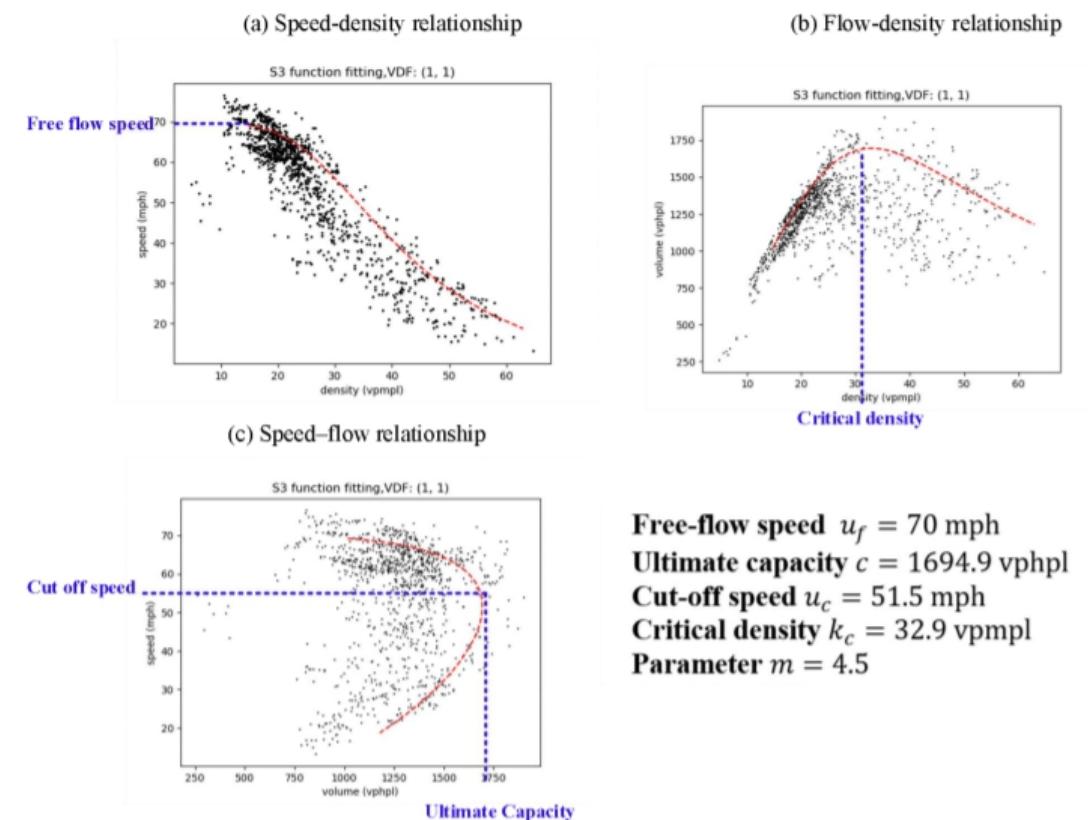
The Intersection with ID



Sigma-X

## 5.2. Freeway capacity analysis

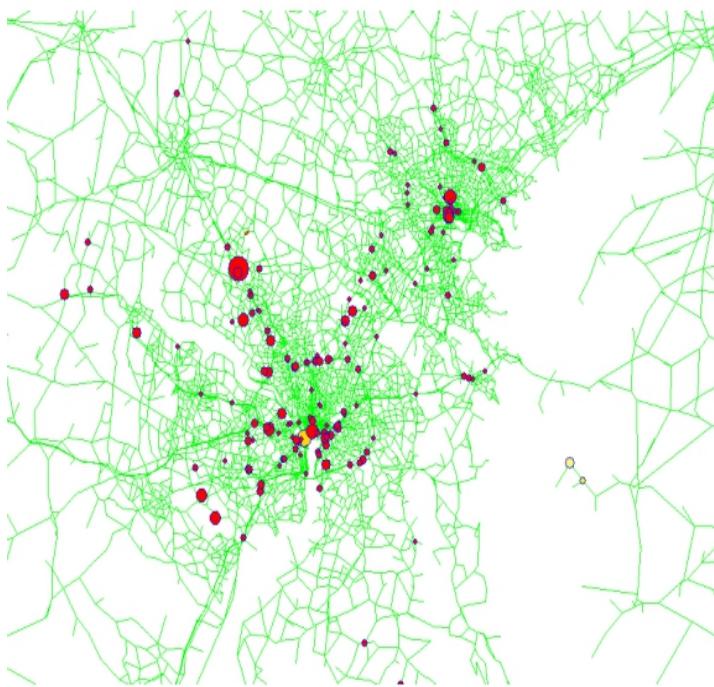
[https://github.com/xzhou99/  
VDF\\_calibration](https://github.com/xzhou99/VDF_calibration)



# 5. Large scale applications

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# Computational Challenges

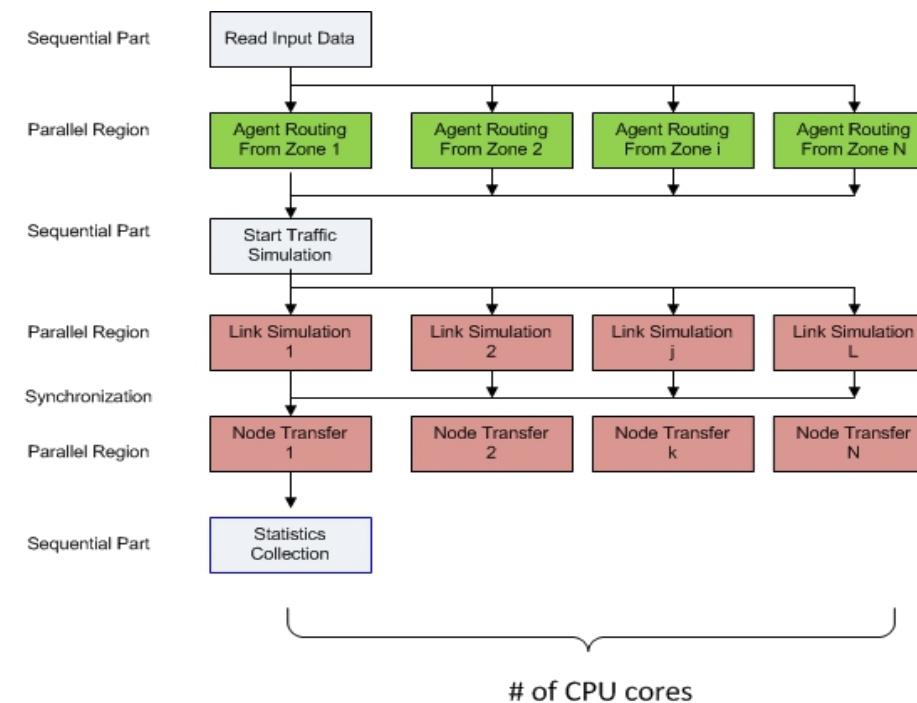


Maryland State-wide model:

20 K nodes, 47K links, 3,000 zones, 18 M agents

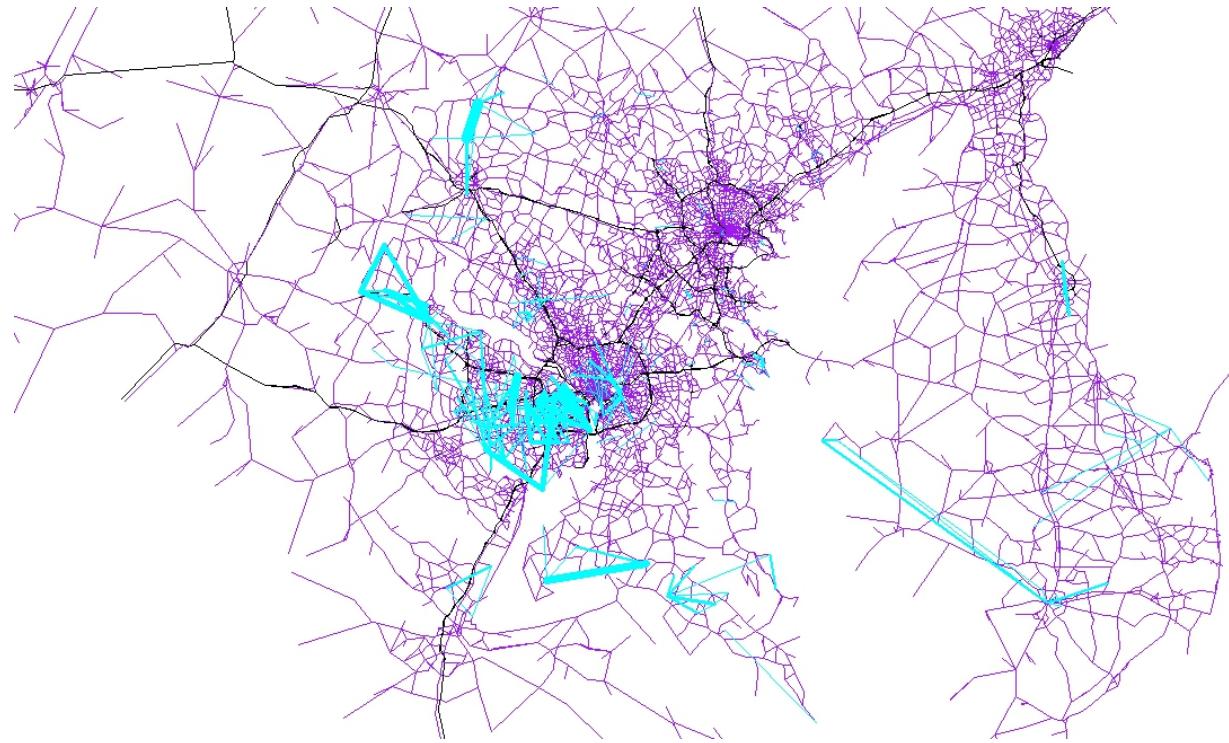
CPU time: 30 min per UE iteration on a 20-core workstation with 194 GB RAM

Shared memory-based parallel computing for agent-based path finding and mesoscopic traffic simulation (based on OpenMP)



# Origin-Destination Demand Spatial Distribution Pattern

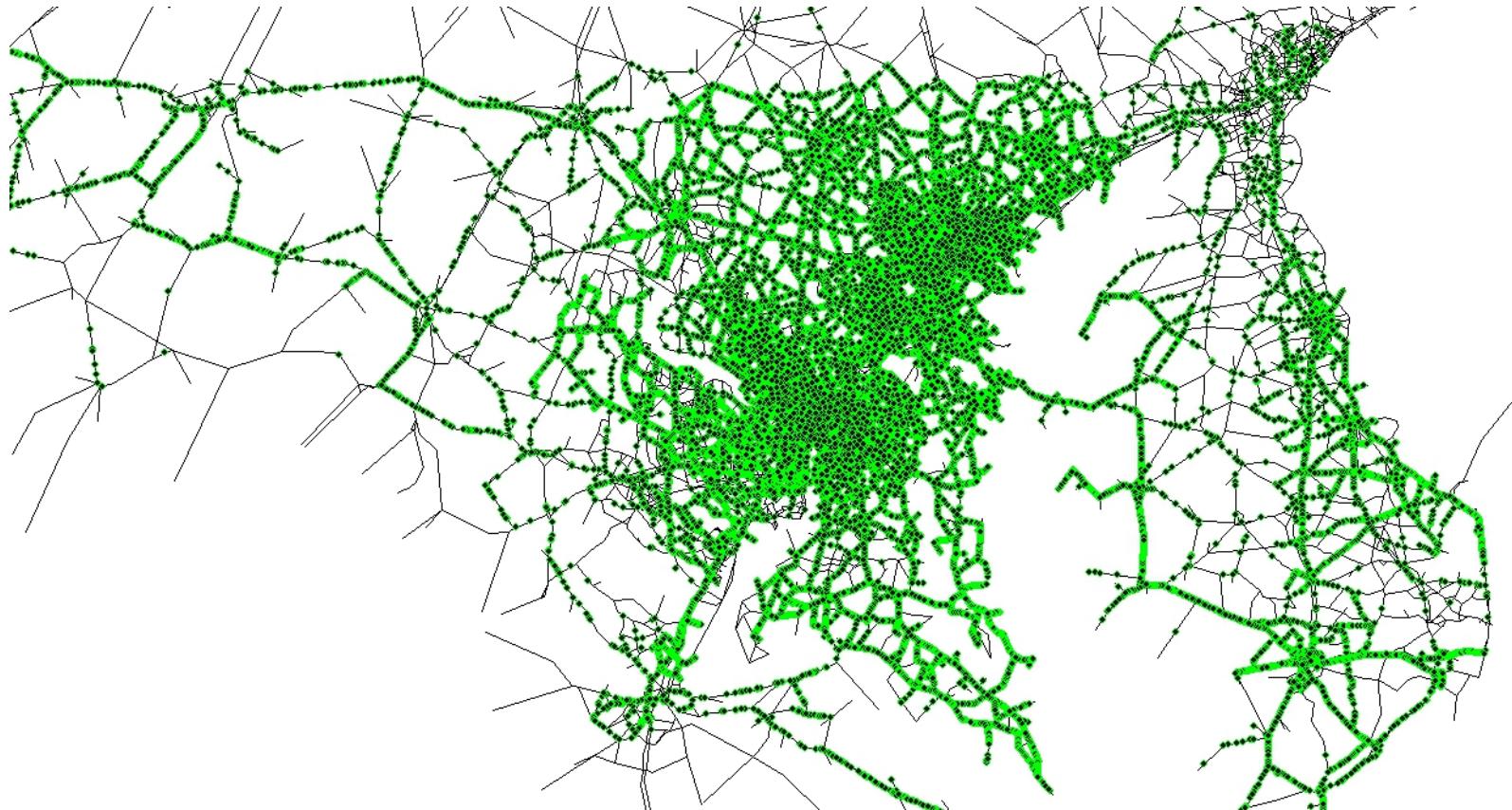
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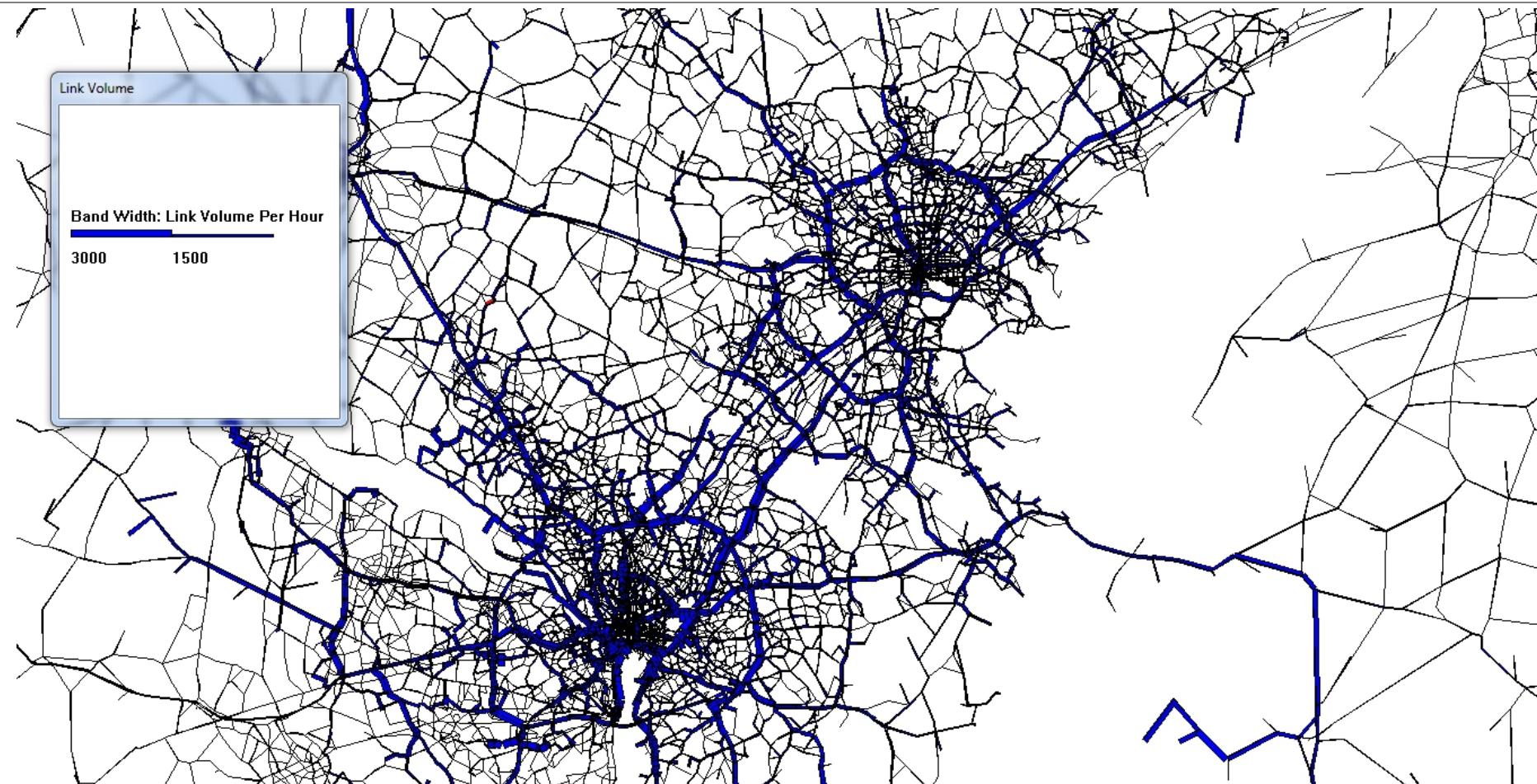
Collaboration with University of Maryland and Maryland [State Highway Administration](#)  
Supported by TRB SHRP II Program

# Vehicle Animation at Network Level

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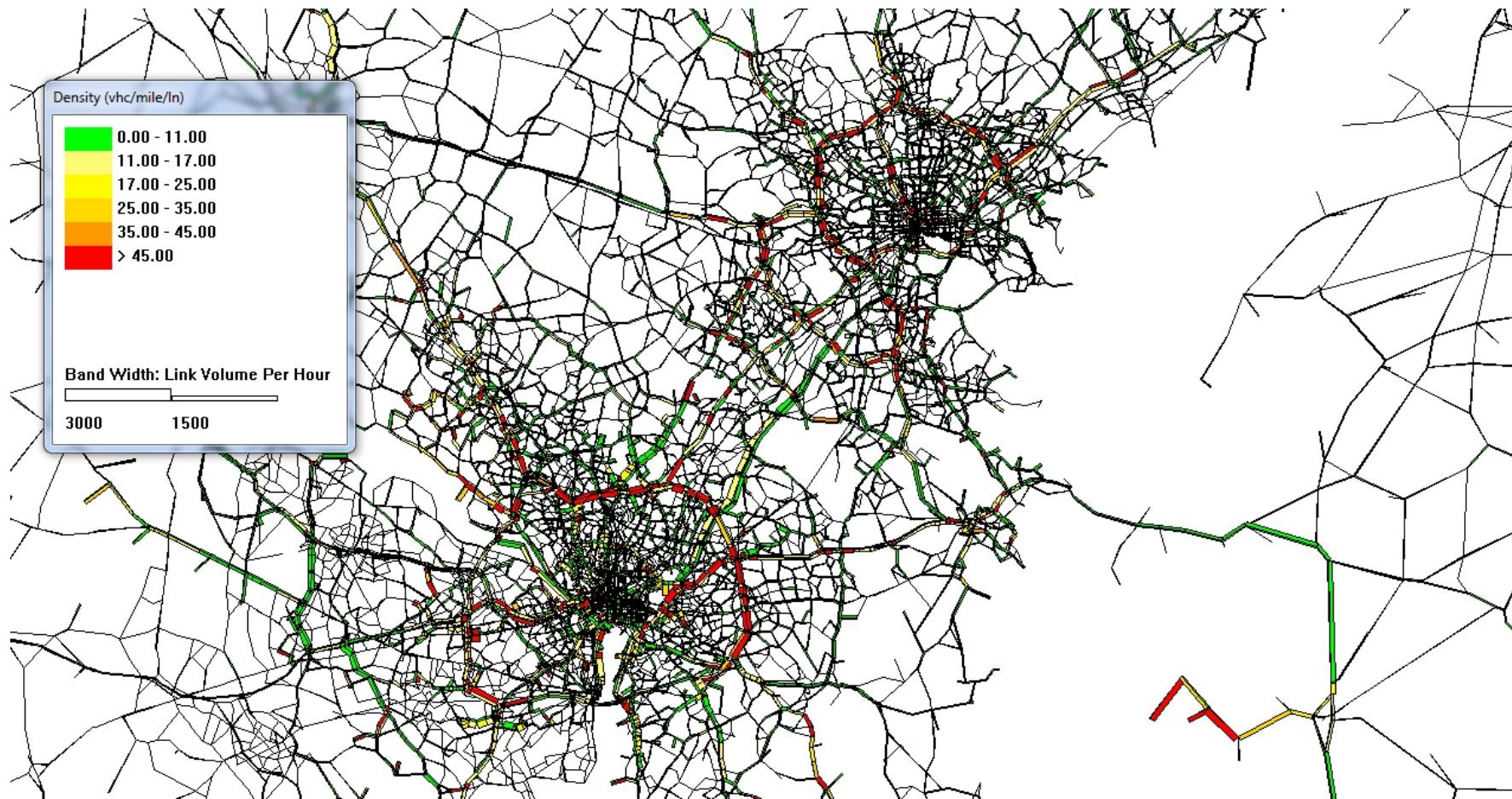
## Volume at Network Level



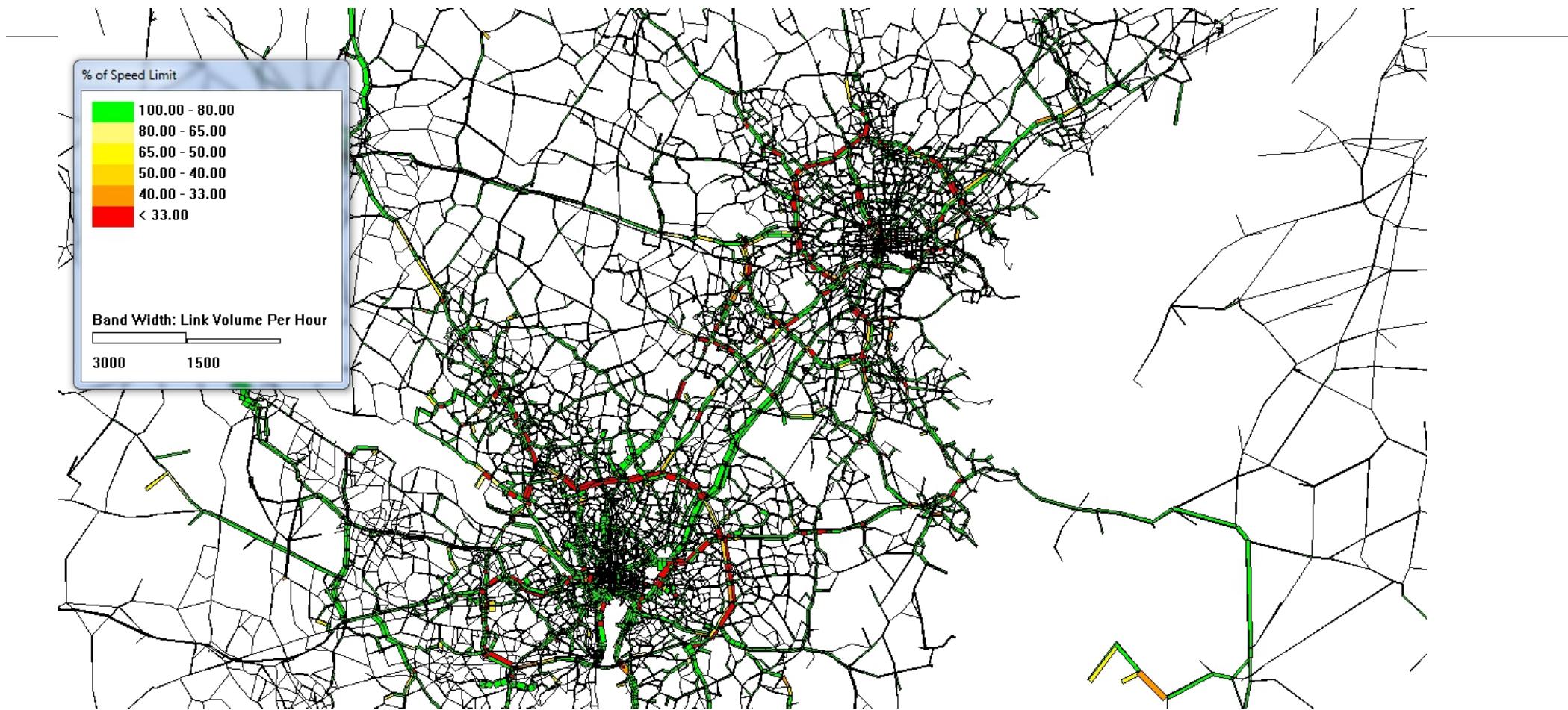
Band width of a link is proportional to link volume

# Density at Network Level

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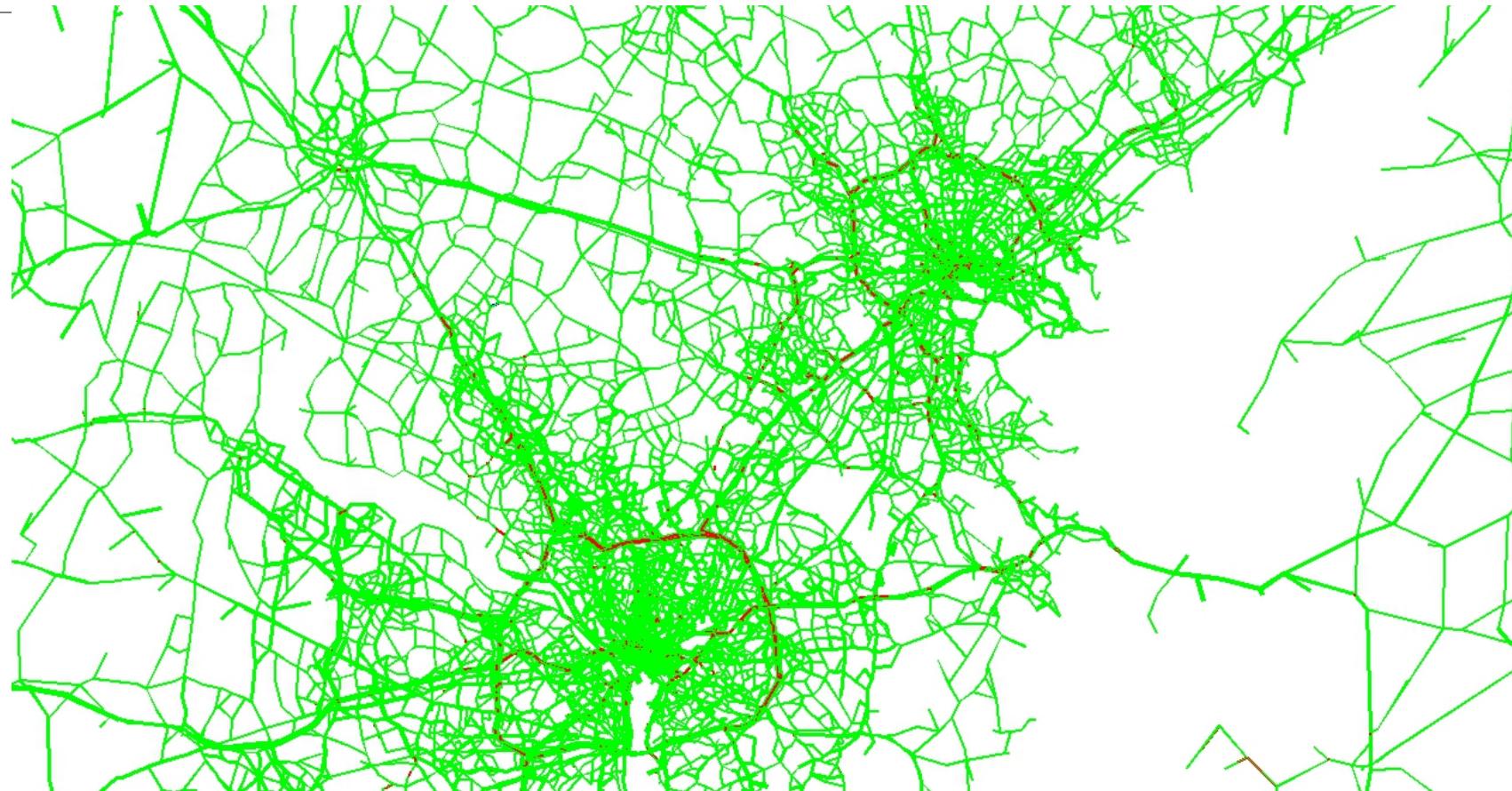


# Speed at Network Level



## Queue at Network Level

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# Queue Duration at Network Level

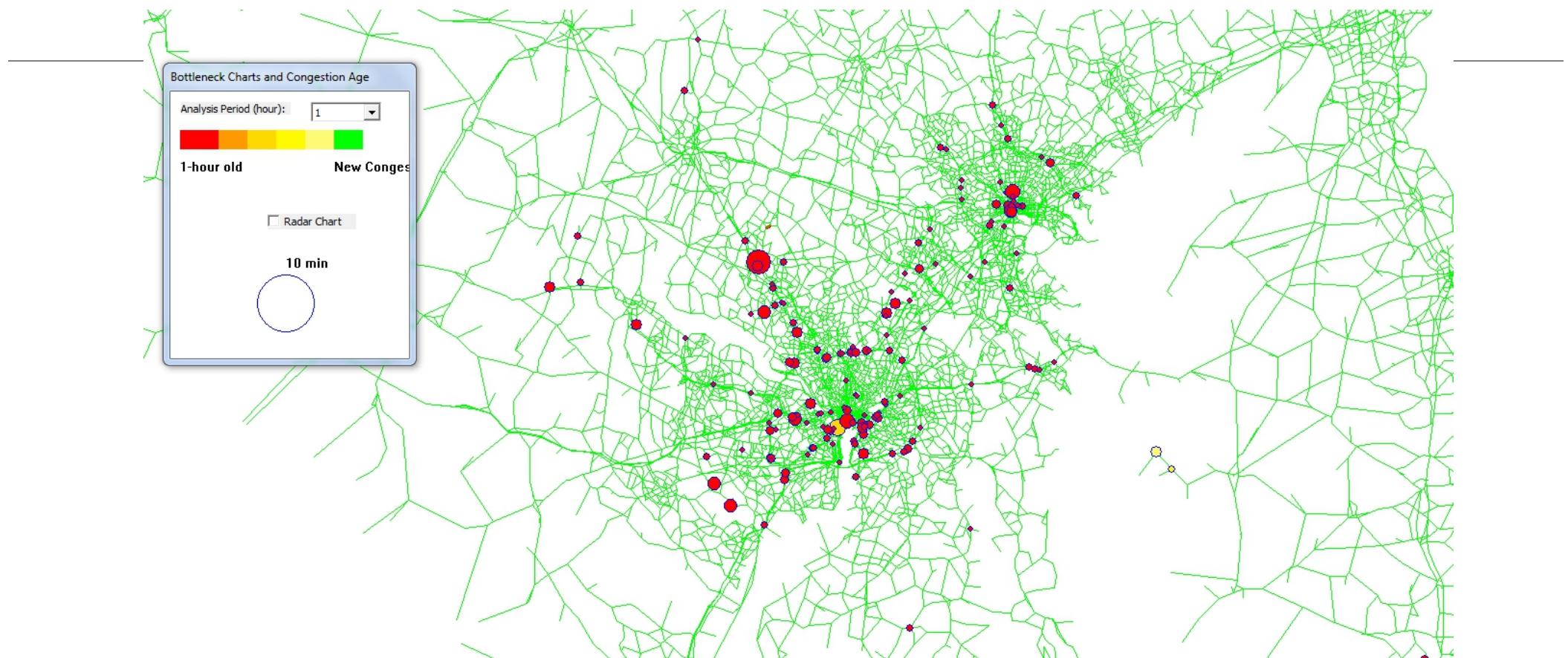


Link width represents duration of congestion (e.g. 60 min vs. 120 min)

Band Width: Queue Duration

120 min      60 min

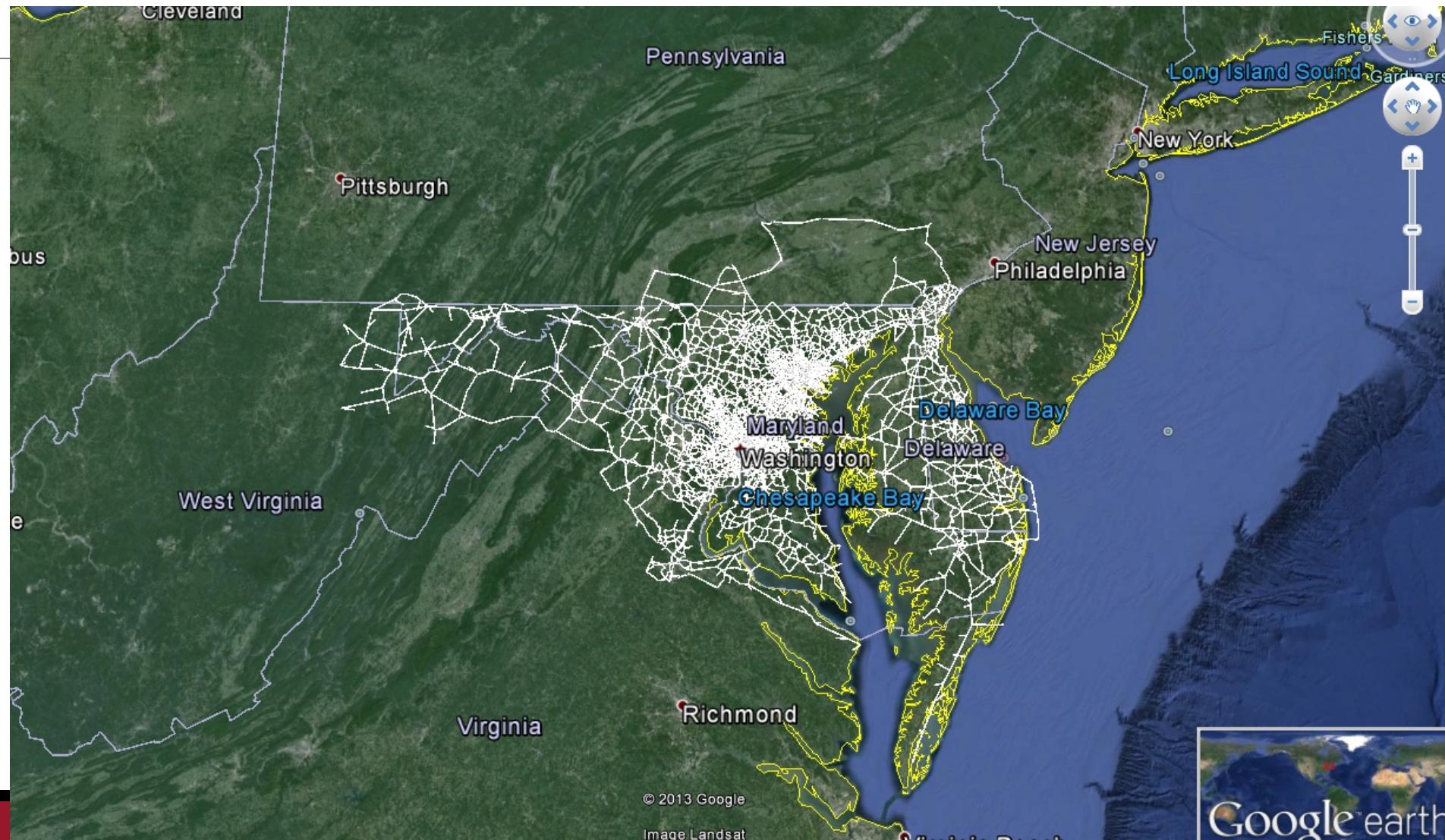
# Time-dependent Bottleneck Locations



Size of a circle represents the total delay at one node

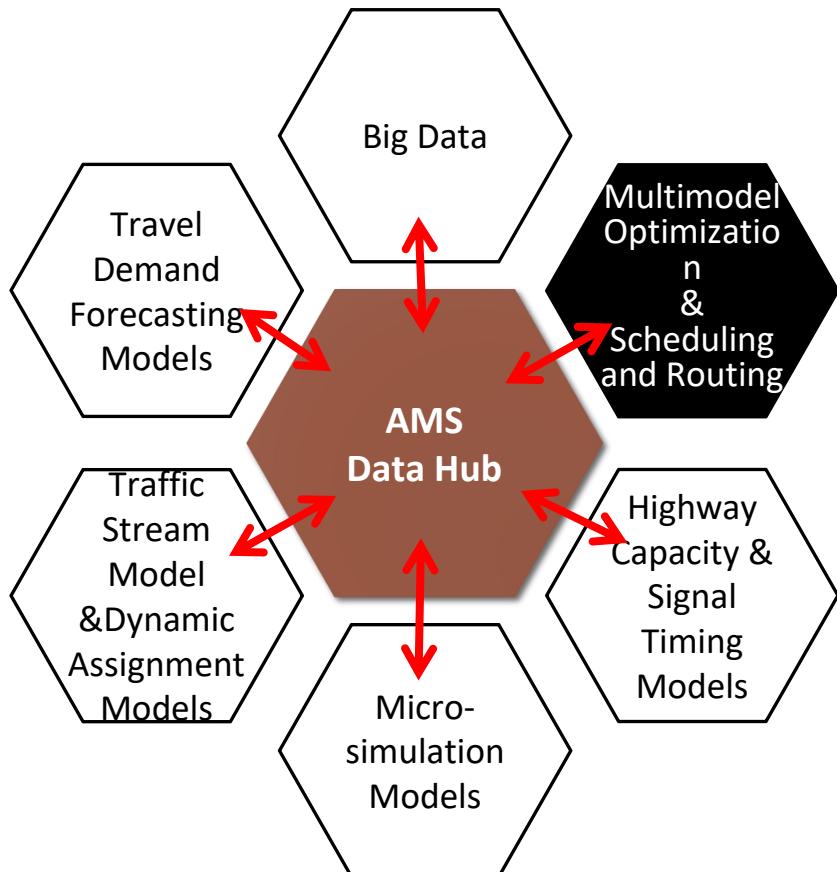
Color of a circle represents the age of congestion (to identify the congestion propagation sequence)

# Statewide Network Coverage in Google Earth



Google earth

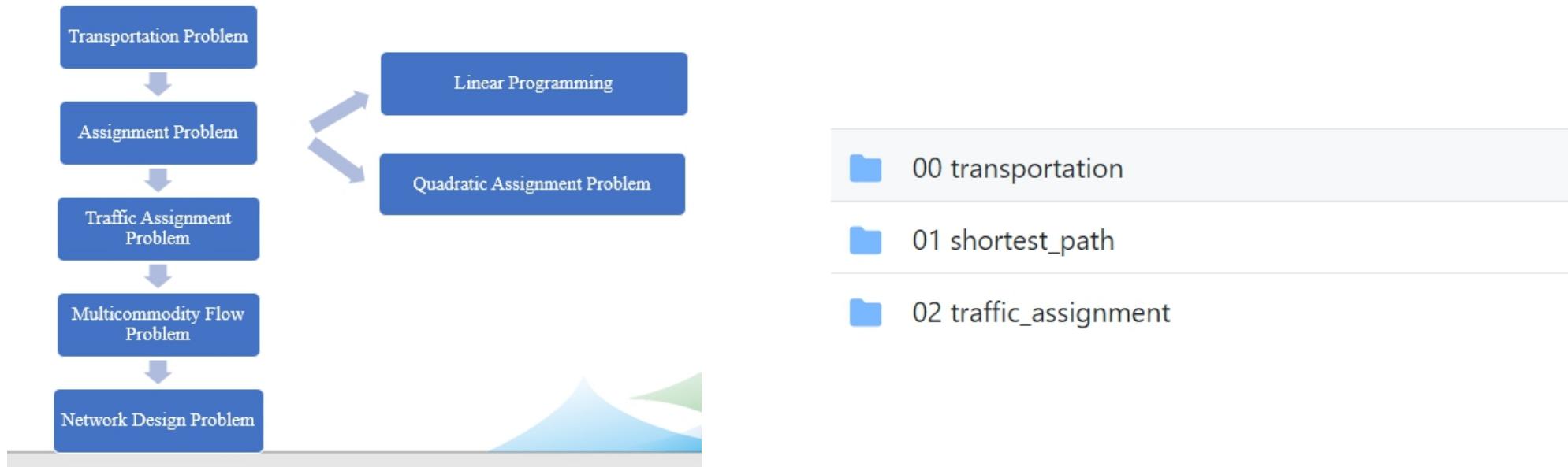
# Connection 6: Optimization, Routing and Scheduling



- Optimization
  - Transportation problem
  - Shortest path problem
  - Space time network design
  - Transit network design
  - Yard management
  - Vehicle routing problem
  - Train scheduling
  - Customized bus service design
- [https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS\\_code%20-space-time-network](https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS_code%20-space-time-network)
- VRPLite  
<https://github.com/xzhou99/VRPLite>  
DTALite-S: for multimodal transportation simulation  
<https://github.com/xzhou99/DTALite-S>

# 6.1 Learning Network Flow Models based on GAMS

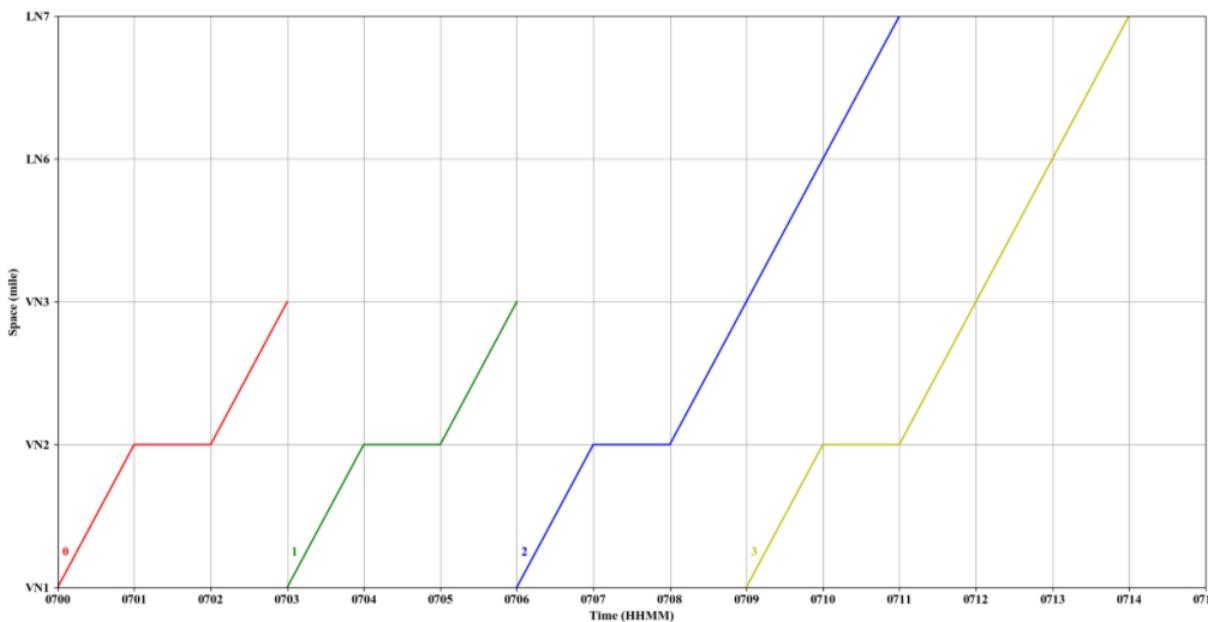
- [https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS\\_code%20-space-time-network](https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS_code%20-space-time-network)



# 6.2 From space-time diagram to space-time networks

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[https://github.com/xzhou99/space-time-diagram\\_gmns](https://github.com/xzhou99/space-time-diagram_gmns)



03 space\_time\_network\_design\_for\_accessibility

04 transit\_network\_design\_and\_branch\_and\_bound

[https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS\\_code%20-space-time-network](https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS_code%20-space-time-network)

# 6.3 From space-time network to space-time-state network in vehicle routing

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- <https://github.com/xzhou99/VRPLite>
- <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s40864-018-0083-7>

[https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS\\_code%20-space-time-network](https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS_code%20-space-time-network)

-  05 Vehicle Routing Problem with pickup and delivery...
-  06 space\_time\_speed\_network\_for\_train\_schedudling

# 6.4 Use space-time network in multimodal system scheduling

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[https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS\\_code%20-space-time-network](https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS_code%20-space-time-network)



07 Customized\_bus\_service\_design



08 train scheduling for minimizing passenger waiting...



09 multi-layer rail\_yard\_management

# 6.5 Automated vehicle scheduling based on space-time networks

<https://github.com/xzhou99/AVRLite>

## 10 multi-vehicle longitudinal trajectory optimization

[https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS\\_code%20-space-time-network](https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS_code%20-space-time-network)

Objective function:

$$\min Z = \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{(i,j,t,s)} x_{i,j,t,s}^{\alpha} \times c_{i,j,t,s}^{\alpha}$$

Subject to:

Flow balance constraint:

$$\sum_{i,t:(i,j,t,s) \in E} x_{i,j,t,s}^{\alpha} - \sum_{i,t:(j,i,s,t) \in E} x_{j,i,s,t}^{\alpha} = \begin{cases} -1 & j = o(a), s = DT^{\alpha} \\ 1 & j = d(a), s = T \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

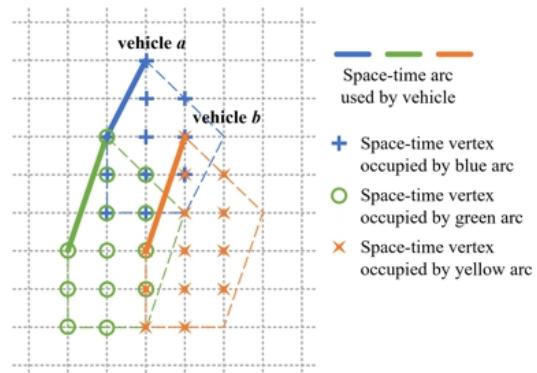
Indicator of vertex visited by vehicles:

$$\sum_{(i,j,t,s) \in \varphi(k,p)} x_{i,j,t,s}^{\alpha} \leq y_{(k,p)}^{\alpha} \times M, \quad \forall \alpha, \forall (k,p)$$

Simplified car-following safety constraints:

$$\sum_{\alpha} y_{(k,p)}^{\alpha} \leq 1, \quad \forall (k,p)$$

Binary variables:  $x_{i,j,t,s}^{\alpha} \in \{0,1\}, y_{(k,p)}^{\alpha} \in \{0,1\}$

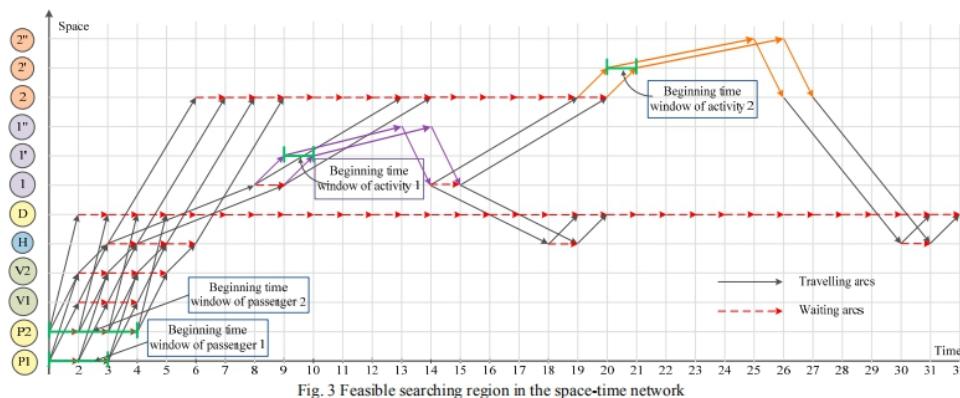


Occupied vertices of the leading and following vehicle

# 6.6 Travel demand and activity modeling based on space-time-state network

[https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS\\_code%20-space-time-network](https://github.com/xzhou99/learning-transportation/tree/master/GAMS_code%20-space-time-network)

- 11 Traffic OD demand estimation
- 12 household activity scheduling



Objective function

$$\min \sum_v \sum_{(i,j,t,s,w,w') \in E} (c_{i,j,t,s,w,w'}^v \times x_{i,j,t,s,w,w'}^v)$$

Subject to,

(1) Flow balance constraint for each vehicle:

$$\sum_{i,t,w:(i,j,t,s,w,w') \in E} x_{i,j,t,s,w,w'}^v - \sum_{i,t,w:(j,i,s,t,w',w) \in E} x_{i,j,t,s,w,w'}^v = \begin{cases} -1 & j = O(v), s = DT(v), w = [0, 0, \dots, 0] \\ 1 & j = D(v), s = T, w = [2, \dots, 2] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}, \forall v$$

(2) Mandatory activity performing constraint for the driver on the activity arcs (including ride-sharing):

$$\sum_{i,t,w:(i,j,t,s,w,w') \in E(v,a_m)} x_{i,j,t,s,w,w'}^v = 1, \forall v, \forall a \in A(v)$$

(3) Binary variable:  $x_{i,j,t,s,w,w'}^v = \{0, 1\}$

# Summary of related open-source tools

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Simulation-based mesoscopic dynamic traffic assignment

DTALite(based on simplified kinematic wave model)

Simulation-based mesoscopic dynamic traffic assignment

STALite

visualization interface

NEXTA

Traffic state estimation and prediction, Train routing and scheduling

VRPLite