# Transportation Behavioral Modelling: An Introduction

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# Why are we interested in Travel Demand Modelling?





#### Contents

- Introduction to four step model
- Choice Models
- Activity Based Modelling Approach



#### Introduction

- Demand for Travel is a derived Demand
- Components of Transportation System
  - 1. User
  - 2. Vehicle/ Carrier
  - 3. Roadway/ Facility
  - 4. Environment

#### • Transportation systems problems

- 1. Congestion
- 2. Pollution
- 3. Safety
- 4. Parking



# Four step model



#### Four step model

Inputs

#### Transportation system Characteristics

Land use – activity system characteristics E 1 Trip Generatio **1** Trip Generation 2 Trip Distribution (Where do they go?) 3 Mode Choice (By what mode?) 4 Traffic Assignment (By what route?)

**Urban Transportation mode** 

Traffic flow on network Quantity (Volume) Quality (Speed)









- Aims at predicting the total number of trips generated by (*Oi*) and attracted to (*Dj*) each zone of the study area
- **Trip or Journey:** This is a one-way movement from a point of origin to a point of destination
- Home-based (HB) Trip This is one where the home of the trip maker is either the origin or the destination of the journey
- Non-home-based (NHB) Trip This, conversely, is one where neither end of the trip is the home of the traveler



### Classification of Trips

- travel to work
- travel to school or college (education trips)
- shopping trips
- social and recreational journeys
- escort trips (to accompany or collect somebody else)
- other journeys





• The purpose of the trip distribution is to estimate 'zone to zone' movements, i.e., trip interchanges

#### **Gravity Model**

- Probability that a trip of a particular purpose k produced at zone i will be attracted to zone j, is proportional to the attractiveness or 'pull' of zone j, which depends on two factors.
- ➢One factor is the magnitude of activities related to the trip purpose k in zone j, and the other is the spatial separation of the zones i and j.



## 2 Trip Distribution: Gravity Model

- The gravity model assumes that the trips produced at an origin and attracted to a destination are directly proportional to the total trip productions at the origin and the total attractions at the destination.
- The calibrating term or "friction factor" (F) represents the reluctance or impedance of persons to make trips of various duration or distances.
- The general friction factor indicates that as travel times increase, travelers are increasingly less likely to make trips of such lengths.

Standard form of gravity model

$$T_{ij} = \frac{A_j F_{ij} K_{ij}}{\sum_{allicones} A_x F_{ij} K_{ix}} x P_i$$

Where: Tij = trips produced at I and attracted at j Pi = total trip production at I Aj = total trip attraction at j F ij = a calibration term for interchange ij, (friction factor) or travel time factor (F ij = $C/t_{ij}^n$ ) C= calibration factor for the friction factor Kij = a socioeconomic adjustment factor for interchange ij i = origin zone n = number of zones





- Relates the probability of transit usage to explanatory variables in mathematical form
- Factors Affecting Mode Choice

Factors that may explain a trip maker's choosing a specific mode of transportation for a trip are grouped commonly as follows:

- Trip Makers Characteristics:
  - Income
  - Car-Ownership
  - Car Availability
  - Age

#### • Trip Characteristics:

- Trip Purpose work, shop, recreation, etc.
- Destination Orientation CBD vs. non-CBD
- Trip Length
- Transportation Systems Characteristics
  - Waiting time
  - Speed
  - Cost
  - Comfort and Convenience
  - Access to terminal or transfer location





Actual Behavior – Reveled Preference (RP) Data



3 Mode Choice

•  $P_{Metro} = \frac{\exp(v_{Metro})}{\exp(v_{Metro}) + \exp(v_{FM})}$  $V_{Metro} = \alpha WT_{Metro} + \beta TT_{Metro} + \gamma TC_{Metro} + \phi DC_{Metro} + CONST$  $V_{EM} = \alpha WT_{EM} + \beta TT_{EM} + \gamma TC_{EM} + \phi DC_{EM}$ Pr(Metro/EM) = probability of shifting to Metro= deterministic component of utility of Metro mode  $V_{Metro}$ = Utility of Existing Mode  $V_{EM}$ = waiting time WT TT= travel time TC= travel cost DC = discomfort =parameters to be estimated using SP data α, β, γ, φ = constant that explains the unobserved effects CONST





- Allocates the trips between each zone pair to the links comprising the most likely travel routes.
- The trips on each link are accumulated and the total trips on each link are reported at the end of the assignment process
  - All or Nothing Assignment
  - User Equilibrium



**4** Traffic Assignment

All or nothing

• Trips from any origin to any destination is loaded into a single, minimum cost path between them

Limitations:

- Unrealistic as only one path is utilized
- No consideration for capacity or congestion travel time is a fixed input



Two Link Problem with constant travel time function

and total flows from 1 to 2 is given by.  $q_{12} = 12$ 

Since the shortest path is Link 1 all flows are assigned to it making  $x_1 = 12$  and  $x_2 = 0$ .

User Equilibrium (UE)

- The user equilibrium assignment is based on Wardrop's first principle, which states that no driver can unilaterally reduce his/her travel costs by shifting to another route.
- UE conditions can be written for a given O-D pair as

$$f_k(c_k - u) = 0 : \forall k$$
$$c_k - u \ge 0 : \forall k$$

where  $f_k$  is the flow on path k,  $c_k$  is the travel cost on path k, and u is the minimum cost. Equation labelqueue2 can have two states.

1. If  $c_k - u = 0$ , from equation 10.1  $f_k \ge 0$ . This means that all used paths will have same travel time.

2. If  $c_k - u \ge 0$ , then from equation 10.1  $f_k = 0$ .

This means that all unused paths will have travel time greater than the minimum cost path. where  $f_k$  is the flow on path k,  $c_k$  is the travel cost on path k, and u is the minimum cost.

## Choice models



#### Choice Models

- Choice modelling is based primarily on the utility theory.
- Characteristics of the alternatives defines its attractiveness for a particular user
- Utility is a subjective concept but it can be useful for comparison between given alternatives.



## Utility Theory

- Each alternative has attractiveness or utility associated with it
- Decision maker is assumed to chose that alternative which yields the highest utility
- Utilities are expressed as sum of measured attractiveness and a random term
- Measured attractiveness is a function of the attributes of the alternative as well as the decision maker's characteristics

$$U_{ji} = V_{ji} + \varepsilon_{ji}$$
$$V_{ji} = \beta' Z_{ji} \qquad Z_{ji} = (X_{ji}, S_i)$$

Where,

U<sub>ji</sub> =utility of alternative *j* for individual *i* 

 $V_{ji}$  = measured attractiveness of alternative *j* for individual *i* 

 $\varepsilon_{ji}$  = random part

 $Z_{ji}$  = column vector of characteristics of the individual *i* and attributes of the alternative *j* 

 $\beta$  = column vector of parameters



#### Utility Theory

• The alternative *j* is chosen by *i* when

$$U_{ji} > U_{li}$$
 for all  $l \neq j$ 

• The probability  $P_{jj}$  for the  $j^{th}$  alternative to be chosen is

$$P_{ji} = \Pr[V_{ji} + \varepsilon_{ji} > V_{li} + \varepsilon_{li}] \quad for \ all \ l \neq j$$
$$= \Pr[(\varepsilon_{li} - \varepsilon_{ji}) < (V_{ji} - V_{li})]$$



#### Variables ...

- Generic Variable Variable that appears in the utility functions of all alternatives in a generic sense and has same coefficient estimate for all the alternatives
- Alternative Specific Variable Variable that appears only in the utility function of those alternatives to which it is specific and has different coefficient estimate for each of the alternatives
- Alternative Specific Constant Takes care of unexplained effects



#### Some Limitations of 4-step TDM

- Traditional travel demand models ignore travel as a demand derived from activity participation decisions
- Does not incorporate the reason for traveling the activity at the end of the trip
- Trips treated as independent and ignores their spatial, temporal, and social interactions
- Heavy emphasis on commuting trips and Home-based trips
- Limited policy sensitivity (TAZs are hard to use in policy analysis)



# Activity Based Modelling



## Necessity of Activity Based Travel Demand Modelling

- Development of ABM due to poor forecasting results achieved in the trip based aggregate demand models
- Introduce road pricing
- new technologies (Internet and mobile phones)
- For solving urbanization problems, understanding behavioural changes of people in developing countries is necessary



## Activity Based Modelling – Historical

- ABM belongs to the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation of travel demand models
  - Trip based 4-step models
  - Disaggregate trip based models (1980's & 1990's)
  - Activity based models
- In ABM the basic unit of analysis is the activities of individuals/households
- Activity Based Models (ABM) predict travel behavior as a derivative of activities (i.e., derived demand)
- Travel decisions are part of a broader process based on modeling the demand for activities rather than merely modeling trips
- ABM are based on the theories of Hägerstrand (1970) and Chapin (1974)
  - Hägerstrand focused on personal and social constraints
  - Chapin focused on opportunities and choices
- Theory is that activity demand is motivated by basic human desires for: survival, ego gratification, and social encounters



#### ABM Approach

- Travel demand is derived from activities that individuals need/wish to perform
- Sequence/patterns of behavior, not individual trips, are the unit of analysis
- Household and other social structures influence travel and activity behavior
- Spatial, temporal, transportation, and interpersonal interdependencies constrain activity/travel behavior
- Activity based approaches aim at predicting which activities are conducted where, when, for how long, with whom, by mode, and ideally also the implied route decision



#### **ABM** Paradigms

- ABM rely on the following 5 paradigms:
  - Travel derived demand from activity participation
  - Focus is on the sequence of activities
  - Activities are planned within the context of the household
  - Activities are spread over a 24-hour
  - Travel choices are limited in time, space, and by personal constraints









#### Activities in Time and Space



## Criticism of Trip and Tour Based Models

# Modelled as independent and isolated trips

- No-connection between the different trips
- No-time component
- No-sequential information
- No-behavioural foundation
- No-data efficient

# Modelled as independent and isolated tours

- No-temporal dimension
- Independent tours, model is not capable of making the integration



#### Advantages of ABM

- Theoretically based on human behavior
- Better understanding and prediction of traveler behavior
- Based on decision-making choices present in the "real-world"
- Use of disaggregate data
- Inclusion of time-of-day travel choices



## Activity Patterns (Schedule)

A sequence of activities, or a schedule, defines a path in space and time

#### What defines a person's activity pattern?

- Total amount of time outside home
- Number of trips per day and their type
- Allocation of trips to tours
- Allocation of tours to particular HH members
- Departure time from home
- Arrival time at home in the evening

- Activity duration
- Activity location
- Mode of transportation
- Travel party



# A Person's Daily Travel Pattern (conventional model)





## A Person's Daily Travel Pattern (activity based model)



TRIPS: -2 HBW -1 HBS -1 HBO -1 NHB

-2 Home based tours (chains)
-Timing of all trips
-Duration of activity at each location

# All Household Members' Travel Pattern (activity based model)





#### Some Key Aspects of Activity Based Models

- Trips are linked for each person in a day
- Timing and durations are included
- Entire daily travel patterns are linked
- Car use is associated to needs (take child to school, drive together to shop & dine and back )



#### Survey Instrument

- Household Information
- Person Information
- Activity Information

#### **Activity Diary**

#### **Activities classified:**

- Work related activities
- Maintenance activities
- Leisure activities



## Modelling approaches

- Econometric modelling
- Rule based modelling
- Markov models
- Microsimulation modelling



#### CONCLUSION

- Conventional four stage-planning models for travel demand forecasting includes the lack of behavioral foundation, over dependence on trips, and insensitivity to policy changes.
- There is a need to develop the models which will take into account above criteria's to improve the travel demand.
- The new modeling approach i.e. activity based travel demand modeling has good scope in developing countries due to its more focus on behavioral aspect of people.

