



University of California, Irvine  
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# Efficient agent-based model of network trip flow with general demand pattern

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# 01

## Traffic congestion

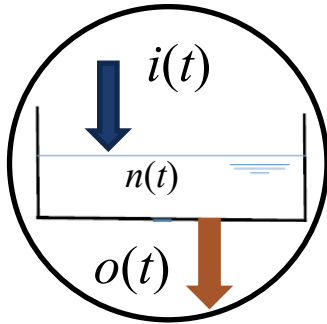
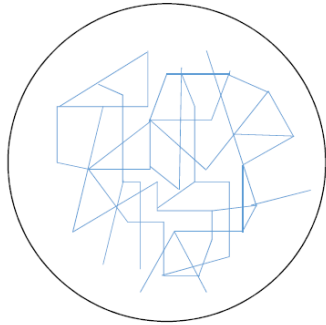


- Increased travel times
- Pollution
- Car accidents



## 01

# Network modeling



- Tracks inflow and outflow of a “bathtub”/ “single reservoir”
- Accumulation of vehicles  $n(t)$  is the only variable

Vickrey (1991, 2020)



## 01

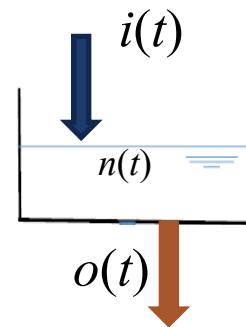
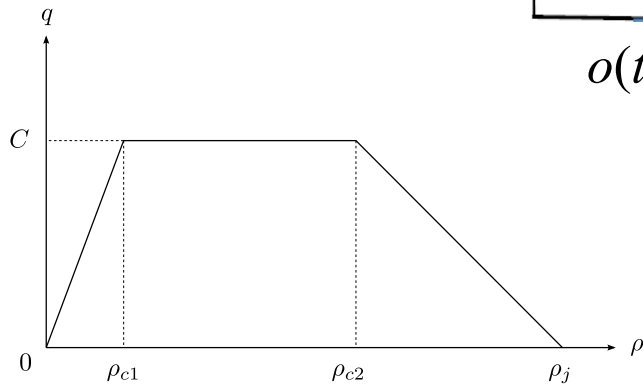
# Bathtub model for traveling trip dynamics

## SUPPLY:

Network fundamental diagram:

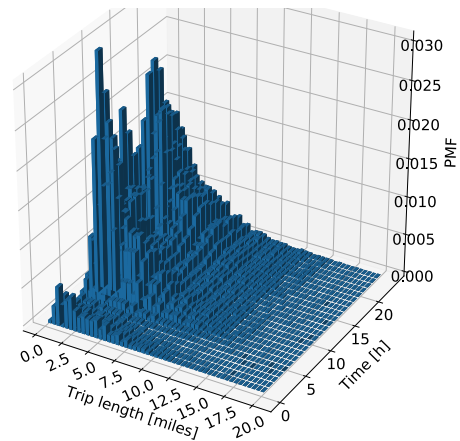
$$v(t) = V(\rho(t))$$

*Assumption:* Trapezoidal



## DEMAND:

Distribution of trip distances:  $\tilde{\Phi}(t, x)$



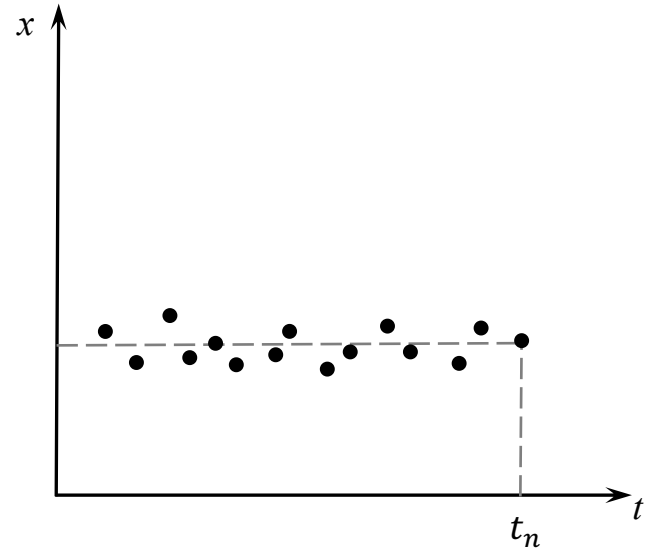


## 01

# DEMAND TYPE

- The demand is defined by trip distance and departure time
- Could be known, or a distribution

TRIP DISTANCE



DEPARTURE  
TIME



## 01

# Vickrey's bathtub model

Vickrey (1991, 2020)

- ASSUMPTION on Trip Distance  
→ time-independent negative exponential distribution

Dynamics modeled with ODE

$$\dot{n}(t) = i(t) - \frac{B k(t)V(k(t))}{\bar{L}}$$

Small and Chu (2003)

Daganzo (2007)

What if the trip distance follows another distribution?



## 01

# Generalized bathtub model

Jin (2020)

- Can handle any trip distance
- Completion rate:  $o(t) = V(k(t)) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} Y(t, 0)$
- Dynamics (PDE)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} Y(t, x) - V(k(t)) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} Y(t, x) = i(t) \tilde{\Phi}(t, x)$$

$Y(t, x)$ : active traveling trips with remaining FHV distance not smaller than  $x$

$n(t) = Y(t, 0)$  : total number of active traveling trips

$k(t)$ : density of vehicles in the network





# 01

## LIMITATIONS

Continuum modeling

- Deterministic demand  
→ Exact solution

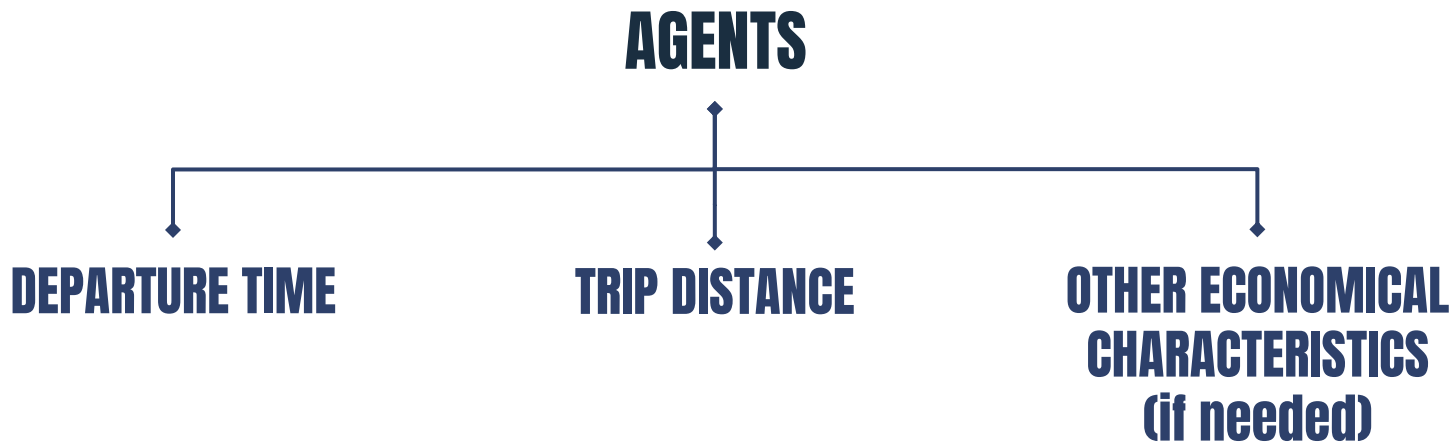


- Probabilistic demand  
→ No information of higher order momentum  
→ Approximate solution





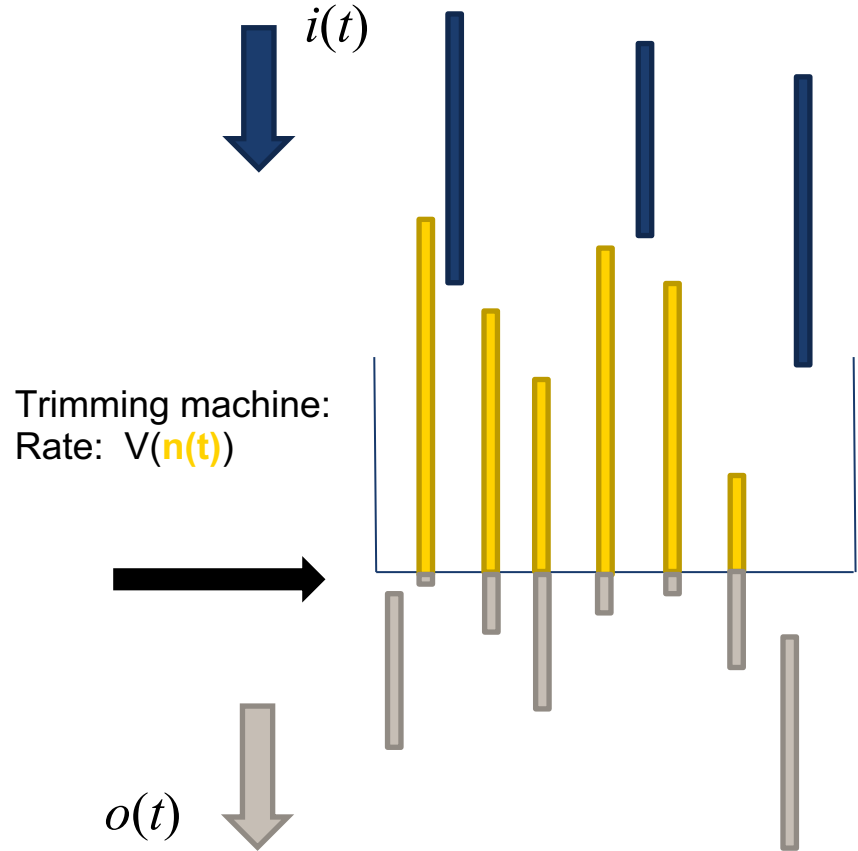
# 02





# Same idea, but more detail

- We have a bathtub
- The demand is defined by individual trips
- The progression can be tracked

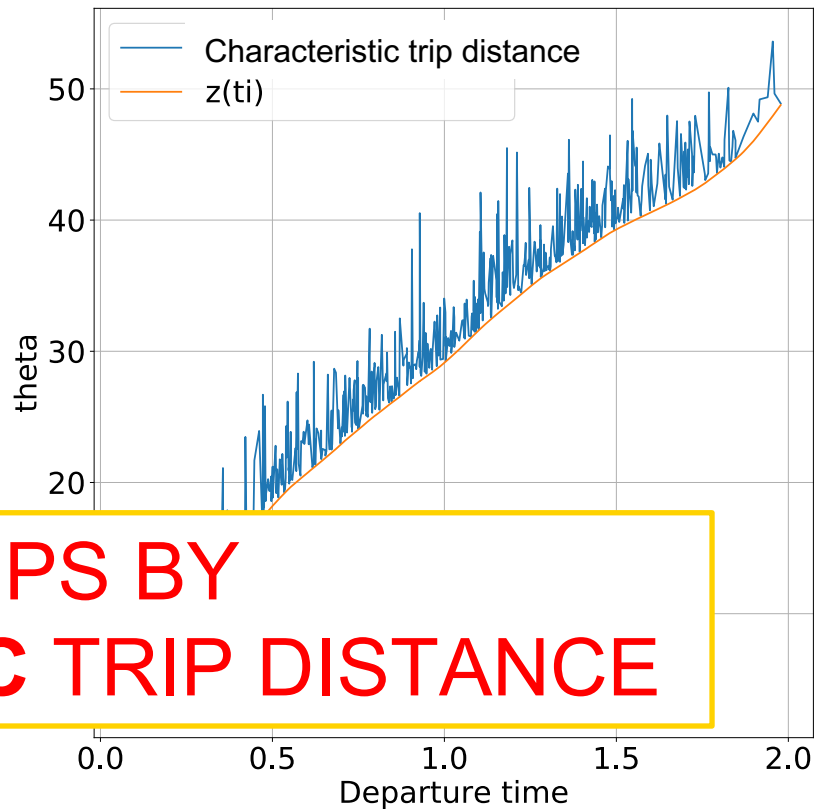




# CHARACTERISTIC DISTANCE

- Define  $z(t)$
- Characteristic distance of trip  $i$

$$\theta_i = x_i + z(t_i)$$

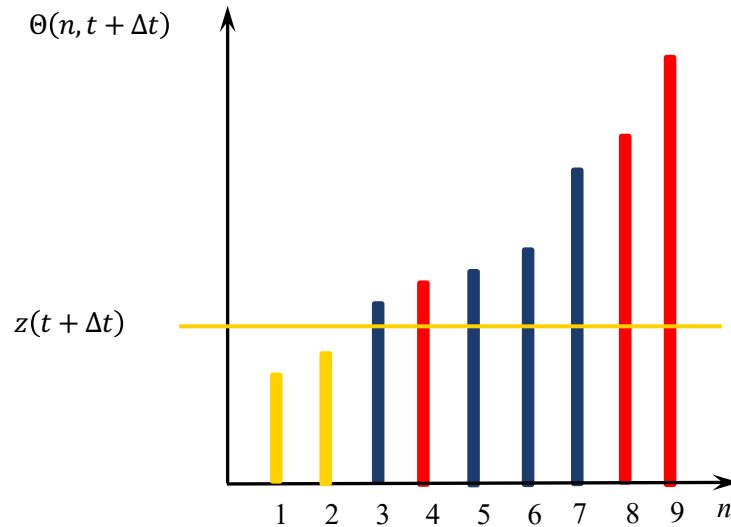
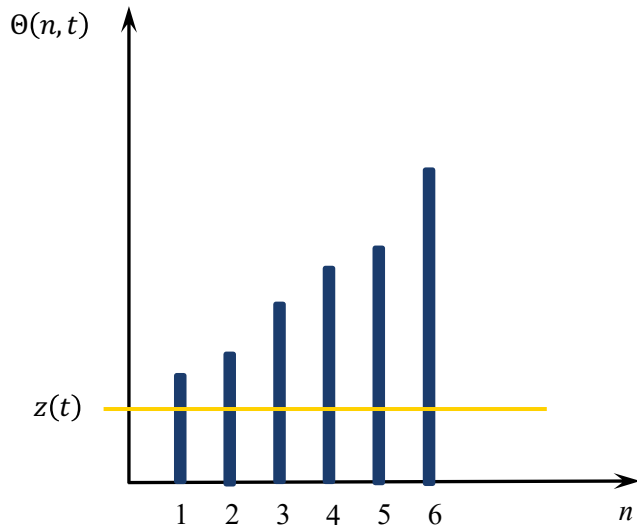


**SORT ACTIVE TRIPS BY  
CHARACTERISTIC TRIP DISTANCE**



# METHODOLOGY

## 02

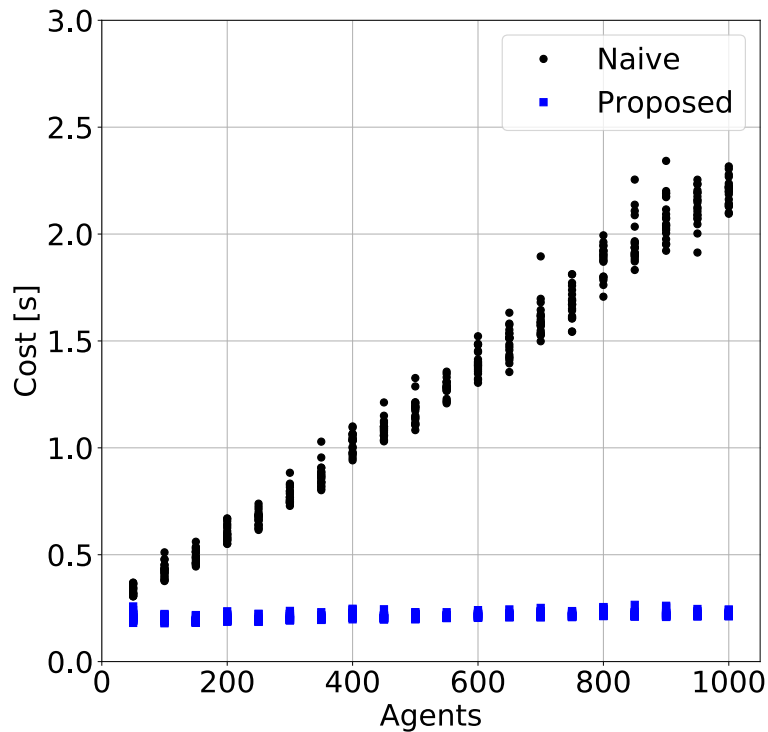




# 1st CONTRIBUTION

## Efficiency

- Naïve: without sorting
- Proposed: with sorting

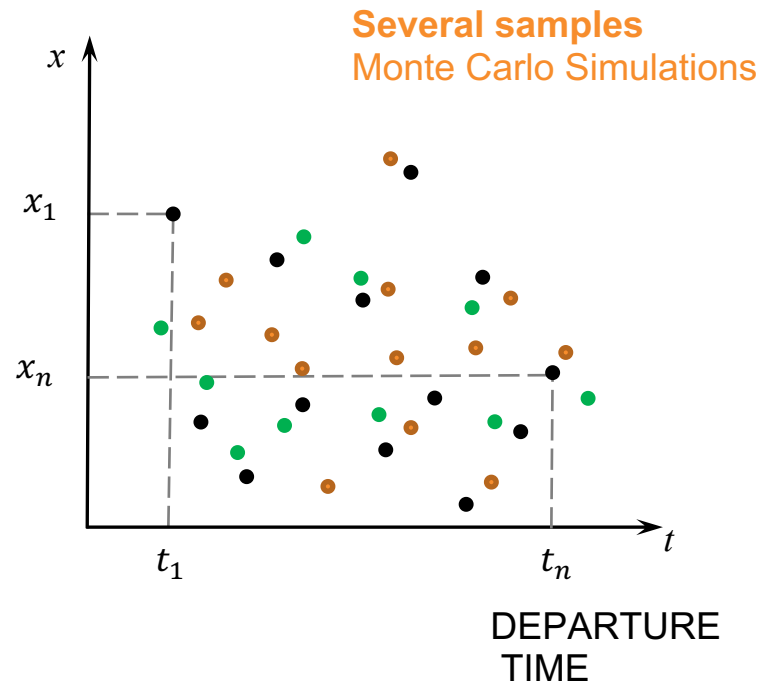




# DEMAND TYPE

- Discrete
- Continuous
- Probabilistic

TRIP DISTANCE





## 2nd CONTRIBUTION

INDEPENDENT OF CITY SIZE

Model can be **normalized**

- 1 Mio agents in a city with 1000 km
- 1000 agents in a city of 1 km

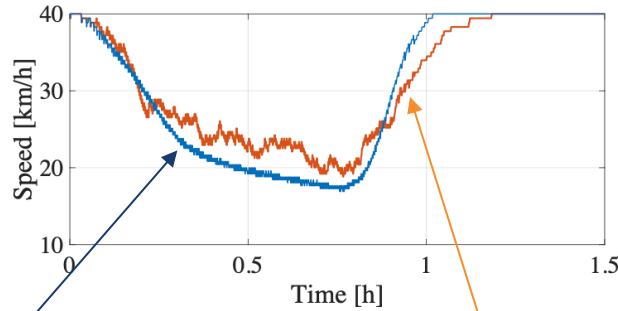
If the demand "pattern" is equal.



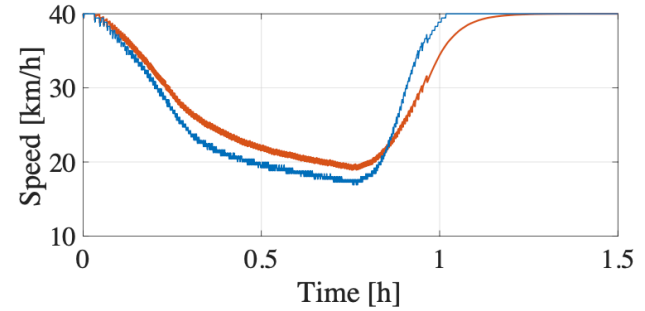


# NUMERICAL RESULTS: speed evolution

Total demand: 320 veh/km/ln ; trapezoidal inflow



(a) Single simulation



(b) Average over 1000 Monte Carlo simulations

Constant trip distance

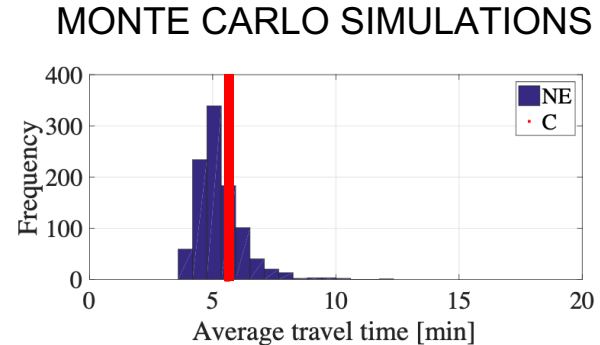
Negative exponential distribution

Figure 1: Speed evolution over time for two types of TDD with the same average trip length of  $B = 2$  km. The constant trip distance (blue), and the time-independent negative exponential trip distance distribution



# NUMERICAL RESULTS: individual trip information

- **Negative exponential distribution:**  
Different samples lead to different results (probabilistic)
- **Constant distance:**  
Few variation across simulations (deterministic)





# CONTRIBUTIONS

1. Captures individual trip information
2. Computationally efficient
3. Can be normalized
4. More accurate than generalized bathtub model for stochastic demand



# CONCLUSIONS

- Solution for any demand
- Efficient and accurate to model traffic congestion
- Can be extended to more complex systems with shared mobility

# THANKS

Does anyone have any questions?



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