

Activity and Tour Based Modeling Seminar

presented by
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April 13, 2004

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Acknowledgments

- Seminar developer
 - Thomas Rossi, Cambridge Systematics
- Overseen by Texas Transportation Institute
 - Gary Thomas
 - Penelope Weinberger
- Federal Highway Administration
 - Michael Culp

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Acknowledgments

• Oversight committee

- Kostas Goulias, Penn State University
- Rebekah Anderson, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
- Bill Davidson, PB Consult
- Keith Lawton, Portland Metro
- Mark Bradley, Mark Bradley Research and Consulting

• Other contributors

- Harry Timmermans, Ryuichi Kitamura, Chandra Bhat

Seminar Objectives

- Understand the limitations of traditional trip based models
- Learn about existing activity and tour based modeling procedures
- Understand the concepts behind such models
- Identify the ways in which these models are estimated and the data requirements
- Discuss how activity and tour based models can be applied

What Do You Know About Activity and Tour Based Modeling?

Two “New” Types of Models

• Tour based models

- Unit of travel is tour (beginning/ending at home) rather than trip
- Characteristics (mode, destination, time of day) of trips in a tour are modeled as related

• Activity based models

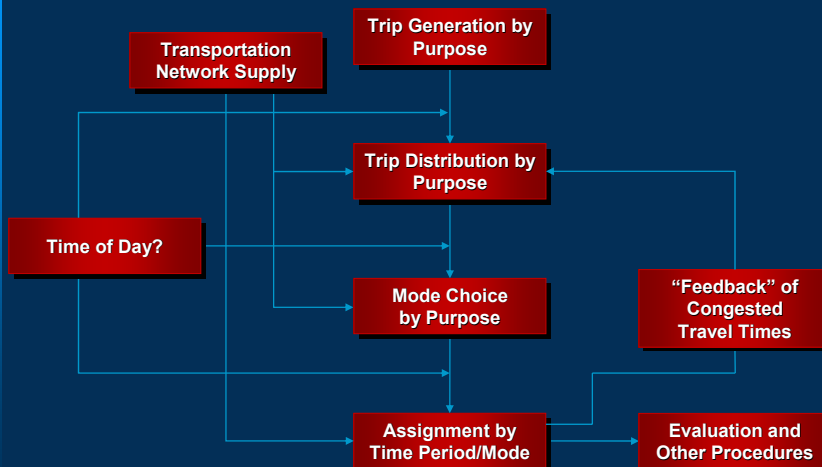
- Demand is assumed to be for trip making, rather than activities
- Activity patterns with locations converted to tours

All activity based models are tour based, but not all tour based models are activity based

The Role of Modeling in Transportation Planning

- Development of transportation plans
- Analysis of proposed transportation improvement projects
- Analysis of proposed transportation policies
- If conformity issues exist, needed for air quality analysis
- Land use planning

The Four-Step Modeling Process An Old Friend?



What Types of Models Do You Use Now?

What are the Limitations of Your Trip Based Models?

- Analytical
- Data

What Assumptions Do You Make?

- How comfortable are you with them?



Some Limitations of Trip Based Models

- Aggregation errors, many caused by the use of zones
- Trips are treated as independent of one another
- Sequential nature of four-step process

Some More Limitations of Trip Based Models

- Behavior modeled in earlier steps unaffected by choices modeled in later steps
- Effects of changes in transportation system not modeled in all steps
- Lack of sensitivity of trip generation to accessibility/cost (no induced travel)

Even More Limitations of Trip Based Models

- Demand is assumed to be for trip making, rather than activities
- Limited number of segmentation variables can be considered
- Limitations on types of policy analyses that can be considered

Analyses That Cannot Be Done Using Conventional Models

- Effects of level of service changes for one trip on other trips in a tour
- Effects of level of service changes for one person on others in household
- Identification of specific persons/households affected by policy actions

The Four-Step Modeling Process

An Old Friend?

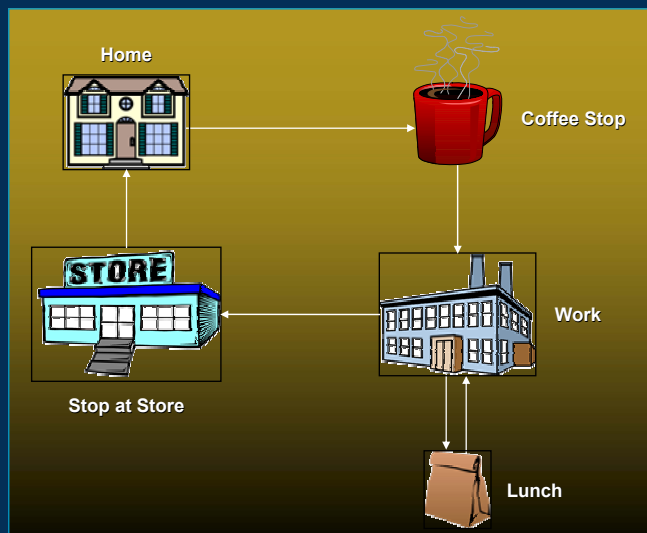
How Old



How Friendly

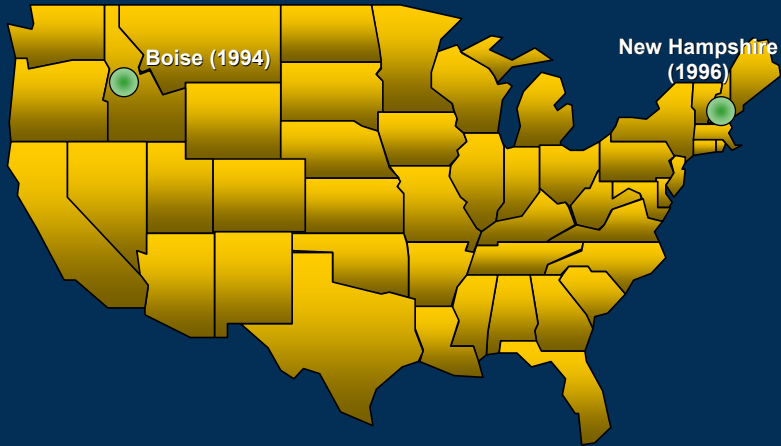
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Concept of Tours



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First United States Tour Based Models



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First United States Tour Based Models

- **Boise**
 - Developed by Cambridge Systematics for Ada County
- **New Hampshire**
 - Developed by Cambridge Systematics for New Hampshire Department of Transportation

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Early Tour Based Models Prior to United States Implementation

- Dutch national model
- Stockholm, Sweden

Features of First Working Tour Based Models Tour Level

- Number of tours by type/purpose
- Number of intermediate stops for each tour
- Tour primary destination choice
- Tour level mode choice

Features of First Working Tour Based Models Trip Level

- Location of intermediate stops (trip destination choice)
- Trip level mode choice

Correspondence Between Four-Step and Tour Based Models Trip Generation

- Number of trips by purpose could be derived from
 - Number of tours by purpose
 - Number of intermediate stops for each tour
- Home based work trips
 - “Half tours” between home and work with no intermediate stops
- Home based non-work trips
 - All other initial and final legs of tours
- Non-home based trips
 - Trips between primary destinations/intermediate stops

Correspondence Between Four-Step and Tour Based Models Trip Distribution

- Primary destination choice for tour
- Destination choice for intermediate stops (dependent on locations of home and primary destination)

Correspondence Between Four-Step and Tour Based Models Mode Choice

- Mode choice for tour (whether automobile is brought)
- Mode choice for intermediate stops (dependent on tour level mode choice)

Tour Generation Models

- Models for each defined tour purpose
- Multinomial logit specification
- Inputs
 - Primary destination choice utility logsum (induced travel)
 - Socioeconomic characteristics of traveler/household
- Output
 - Number of tours by purpose

Tour Generation Model Example New Hampshire Model – Work Tours One and Two Person Households

Variable	Zero Tours	One Tour	Two Tours	Three Tours
Constant	0	-2.345	-7.840	-12.60
Workers	0	3.018	6.070	7.555
Income Category	0	0.08215	0.1702	0.1702
Summer Dummy	0.7535	0	0	0

Tour Stops Models

- Models number of stops and work subtours
- Multinomial logit specification
- Inputs
 - Intermediate stop destination choice utility logsum
 - Socioeconomic characteristics of traveler/household
- Output
 - Number of stops and subtours

Tour Stops Model Example New Hampshire Model – Work Tours

Variable	Zero Stops Zero Sub	Zero Stops One Sub	One Stop Zero Sub	One Stop One Sub	Two Stops Zero Subs	Two Stops One Sub
Constant	0	-3.695	-1.534	-3.738	-2.554	-4.378
Vehicles	0	-0.0957	0	-0.0957	0	-0.0957
Workers	0	-0.2377	-0.2377	-0.2377	-0.2377	-0.2377
ln (Income)	0	0.5966	0.3521	0.5573	0.5996	0.9116
SF Dummy	0	-0.3018	0	-0.3018	0	-0.3018

Destination Choice Models

- Combine trip attraction and trip distribution components of four-step models
- Multinomial logit specification
- Models estimated/applied at two levels
 - Tour level
 - The location of the primary activity of tour
 - Trip level
 - The locations of intermediate stops on tour
- Singly constrained models (as are trip based logit destination choice models) although artificial constraints can be used if there is feedback

Primary Destination Choice Models

- Separate models by tour purpose
- Alternatives are the destination zones
- Other inputs
 - Socioeconomic characteristics of traveler/household
 - Land use data (employment, etc.)
 - Travel impedance captured using the mode choice utility logsum

Intermediate Stop Destination Choice Models

- Alternatives are the zones for intermediate stops
- Inputs to multinomial logit
 - Socioeconomic characteristics of traveler/household
 - Land use data (employment, etc.)
 - 'Additional' time (impedance) to each sampled destination
- Output
 - Zone for trip destination

Tour Level Mode Choice Models

- Nested logit mode choice models, one per tour purpose
- Alternatives
 - Auto, transit, sometimes non-motorized, and park-and-ride
- Inputs
 - Socioeconomic characteristics of traveler/household
 - Land use data
 - Number of stops on tour
 - Level of service skims by time period (best available transit path)
 - Considers both Origin (O) → Destination (D) and D → O level of service
- Output
 - Mode for tour

Trip Mode Choice Models

- **Nested or multinomial logit models, one per tour purpose**
- **Inputs**
 - Socioeconomic characteristics of traveler/household
 - Land use data
 - Mode of tour
 - Level of service skims (for O-D trip leg) by time period
- **Output**
 - Mode for each trip on tour

Trip Assignment

- **Basically the same as for trip based models**
- **O-D trip table matrices must be created from information on tours and stops**

Time of Day

- Early United States models did not include time of day
- Tour level time of day
 - Departure time from home
 - Arrival time back at home
 - Information on timing/duration of primary activity
- Trip level time of day (for each stop)
- Multinomial logit models
- May be modeled before destination or mode choice

Other Tour Model Components

- Auto ownership model
- External travel model
 - Usually treated as trip based for non-residents (no data for tours)
 - Can be treated as either trip or tour based for residents, but no data on external destinations
- Commercial vehicle model
 - Usually treated as trip based

Tour Based Modeling Data Requirements

- Basically the same as for trip based models
 - Household/traveler characteristics
 - Origin, destination, mode, etc. for all trips
 - Which tours comprise trips (available from household surveys)
- Data preparation
 - Arrange travel into tours and trips within tour
 - Classify households by structure/lifecycle
 - Classify persons by age, worker status, household structure/lifestyle

Tour Based Modeling Model Estimation

- Same type of estimation process as four-step models (logit estimation software)
- Many more models to estimate compared to four-step
- Data can be stretched thin – be careful with specification

Tour Based Modeling Model Application

- Could use aggregate, sample enumeration, or microsimulation approach
- Some modeling software beginning to incorporate tour based approach
- Probably need custom software (can draw on existing tour based models)
- Run times can be significantly longer, depending on efficiency of programming

Tour Based Modeling Model Validation

- Most validation tests of trip based models can (and should) be performed for tour based models:
 - Volume/VMT/screenline comparisons to counts
 - Trip length frequencies
 - Mode shares
 - Tests of input data
 - Comparisons of base and forecast years
- Other tests should also be performed:
 - Trips per tour by purpose
 - Tours per household by purpose, etc.

Tour Based Modeling Summary

- Model structure
 - Generally known
- Model estimation procedures
 - Generally same as trip based models
- Data requirements
 - Generally same as trip based models
- Data processing
 - Significantly greater than trip based models
- Run times
 - Significantly greater than trip based models
- Analytical capabilities
 - Greater than trip based models

Definition of Activity Based Modeling

- Treatment of travel as a demand derived from the desire to participate in other activities
- Focus on sequences/patterns of behavior
- Households as decision-making units
- Examination of timing and duration of activities and travel
- Incorporation of spatial, temporal, and interpersonal constraints
- Recognition of interdependence of events
- Use of household/person classification schemes based on differences in activity needs, commitments, and constraints

Activity Based Modeling Relation to Tour Based Modeling

- All activity models are tour based, but not all tour based models are activity based
- Daily activity patterns have related travel patterns, which are expressed as tours
- Tours, as sequences of trips, can be modeled without modeling the underlying activity patterns (although most modern models are activity based)

Two Types of Activity Based Models

Model Type	Econometric	Hybrid Simulation
Search Stage	Exhaustive (Feasible) or Simple Heuristic	Complex Search Heuristic
Choice Stage	Utility Maximization	Utility or Satisfaction
Application	Probabilistic	Rule Based
Implementation	Calculated Probabilities or Realization	Realization

Source: Based on Bowman and Ben-Akiva (1996).

Activity Based Models Terminology

- In-home activities
- Activity opportunity
 - Location in time and space where an activity can be pursued
- Duration
 - The length of time an activity is performed (excluding travel to/from the activity)
- Daily activity schedule
 - A listing of activities to be pursued by an individual during the day along with their locations in time and space

Activity Based Models Early Research

- Oi and Shuldiner (1962)
 - Introduced concept of travel as a derived demand
- Hagerstrand (early 1970s)
 - Delineated systems of constraints on activity participation
- Chapin (early 1970s)
 - Identified patterns of behavior across time and space
- Jones/Heggie (late 1970s/early 1980s)
 - In depth interviews with small samples
 - Gaming simulation

Activity Based Models Concepts up to the Early 1990s

• Bowman and Ben-Akiva

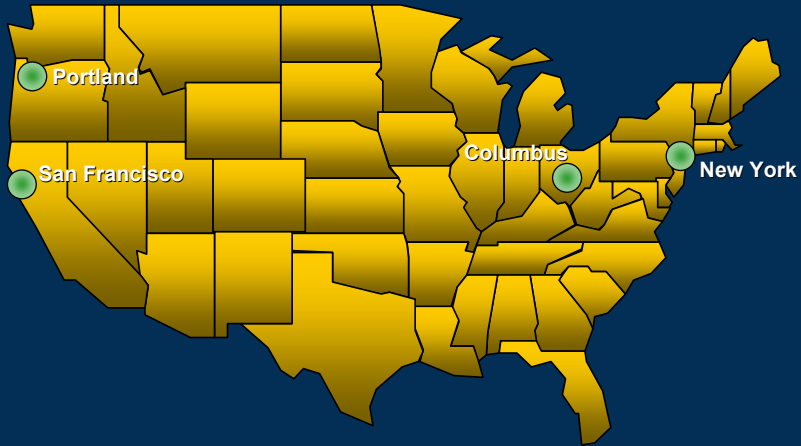
- Classified as econometric
- Introduced the concept of the daily activity pattern model
- Incorporated time of day decision
- Identified daily activity pattern, primary activity, primary tour type, and number/purpose of secondary tours
- Implemented as system of nested logit models

Activity Based Models Concepts up to the 1990s

• Satisficing approaches

- STARCHILD (1986 – Recker, McNally, Root)
- MIDAS (1992 – Goulias and Kitamura)
- SMASH (1993 – Ettema, Borgers, Timmermans)
- AMOS (1995 – Kitamura, Pendyala, Pas et al)
- FAMOS (Ongoing – Pendyala, Kitamura et al)

Examples of Activity Based Models



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Examples of Activity Based Models

Portland

- Developed by Portland Metro, Mark Bradley, John Bowman, Cambridge Systematics

San Francisco

- Developed by Cambridge Systematics, Parsons Brinckerhoff, and Mark Bradley for San Francisco County Transportation Authority

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Examples of Activity Based Models

• New York

- Developed by Parsons Brinckerhoff with AECOM, Cambridge Systematics, Urbitran, Urbanomics, Alex Anas, NuStats, George Hoyt for New York Metropolitan Transportation Council

• Columbus

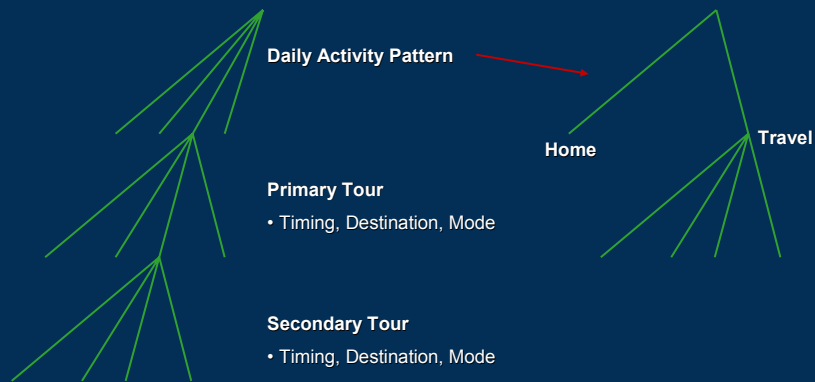
- Developed by Parsons Brinckerhoff and Mark Bradley for Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

Other Examples of Activity Based Models

• ALBATROSS (Netherlands) – Arentze, Timmermans, Hofman

• TRANSIMS – Developed by Los Alamos National Laboratories for U.S. Department of Transportation

Daily Activity Schedule



Source: Bowman and Ben-Akiva (1996).

In-Home Activities

- Choice between in-home and out-of-home activities may be affected by transportation system
- **HOWEVER**, to model this choice, need survey data on in-home activities
- Note that in-home includes not only technology driven activities (telecommuting, shopping on-line, etc.) but more “traditional” activities such as recreation

Activity Based Models Time of Day Modeling

- As in tour based modeling, need to jointly model start/end times of tours and of intermediate stops
 - Start time of activity = arrival time of trip
 - End time of activity = departure time of trip
- Since activities are being modeled, activity durations are being modeled
- Tours can take a long time!
 - Cannot assign (as is done with trips) tours to individual time periods
 - Start/end time period combination defines alternatives

Example Time of Day Model Portland

Time Periods	
EA	3:00 A.M.-6:59 A.M.
A.M.	7:00 A.M.-9:29 A.M.
MD	9:30 A.M.-3:59 P.M.
P.M.	4:00 P.M.-6:59 P.M.
LA	7:00 P.M.-2:59 A.M.

EA = Early
MD = Midday
LA = Late

Definitions of Alternatives				
(1) EA-EA	(2) EA-A.M.	(3) EA-MD	(4) EA-P.M.	(5) EA-LA
	(6) A.M.-A.M.	(7) A.M.-MD	(8) A.M.-P.M.	(9) A.M.-LA
		(10) MD-MD	(11) MD-P.M.	(12) MD-LA
			(13) P.M.-P.M.	(14) P.M.-LA
				(15) LA-LA

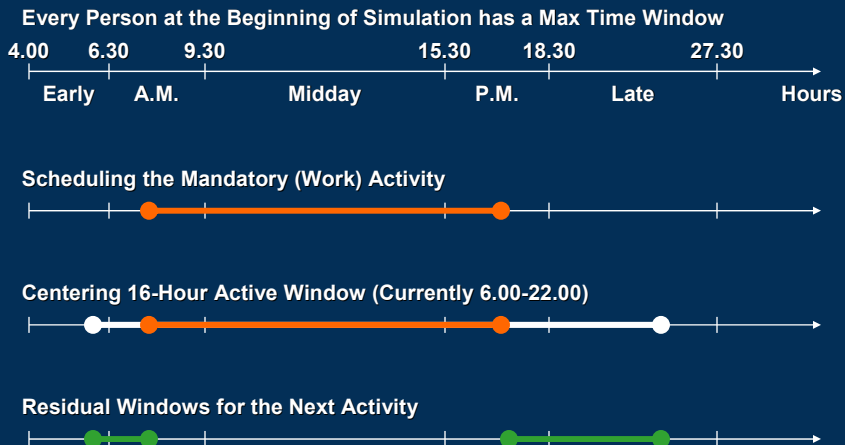
Example Time of Day Model Portland (continued)

- Conditional on tour type, purpose, importance, person/household variables
- Logit models with logsums from mode/destination choice

Source: Bradley, Cambridge Systematics, and Portland Metro, 1998.



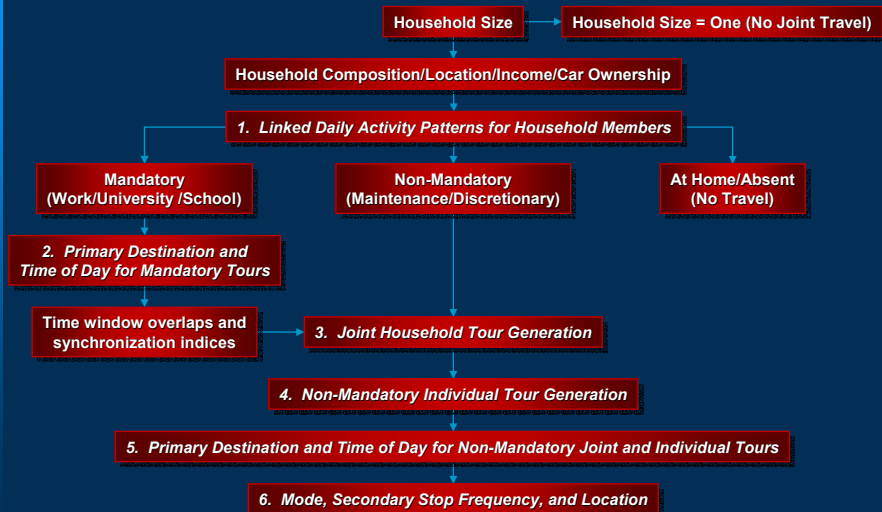
Example Time of Day Model Columbus



Source: Anderson, Al-Akhras, Gill, and Donnelly, 2003.



Joint Activities/Intra-Household Interactions



Source: Anderson, Al-Akhras, Gill, and Donnelly, 2003.

Example of Joint Household Travel Modeling Columbus

- Fully joint tours generated by shared non-mandatory activity
- Partially joint tours (pick-ups/drop-offs) generated by synchronized mandatory activities (work/school)
- Fully and partially joint tours generated by altruistic escorting

Dynamic Transition and Static Models

- Longer term decisions
 - Dynamic models (panel data)
 - Residential choice
 - Workplace choice
 - Car ownership
 - Household demographic transitions
- Shorter term decisions
 - Daily activity patterns and related travel
- Examples
 - MIDAS, DEMOS

Activity Based Modeling Data Requirements

- Origin, destination, mode, etc. for all trips
- Activity based household surveys
(already used in many MPOs)
- For switching/satisficing models, may need
stated preference surveys
- For some types of models (e.g., MIDAS), need panel
survey data
- The future – process data?

Activity Based Modeling Data Requirements – Types of Surveys

- Activity diary
- Location diary
- Longitudinal (panel) survey
- Stated preference survey

Activity Based Modeling Model Estimation

- Logit models estimated with estimation software
- More models to estimate compared to four-step or four based
- Data can be stretched thin – be careful with specification

Activity Based Modeling Model Application

- Could use sample enumeration, but modern models use microsimulation
- Modeling software does not yet accommodate activity based approach – can use for assignment and network and matrix maintenance
- Need custom software (can draw on existing activity based models)
- Run times can be much longer, depending on efficiency of programming
 - Microsimulation requires multiple runs (see next session)

Activity Based Modeling Model Validation

- Most validation tests of trip and tour based models can (and should) be performed for activity based models:
- Other tests should also be performed:
 - Activities per person and tour
 - Comparison of modeled joint participation to observed
 - Comparison of modeled time at home to observed
 - Checks of activities generated but not satisfied

Microsimulation of Households/Persons

- Conventional models are aggregate
- We model groups of “similar” households and attribute *the same behavior to all of them*
- It is possible to model the behavior of individual households and persons

Synthetic Population/Households

- How to define households and persons
 - Number of persons
 - Workers
 - Ages
 - Income
- Data sources
 - Census
 - PUMS
 - CTPP
 - SF1, SF3
 - Household survey
- How to derive
 - Iterative proportional fitting
 - Random sampling from survey or PUMS data

Application of Microsimulation Approach

- Compute probabilities for each choice
- Apply Monte Carlo simulation, based on the choice probabilities, to determine behavior
- Run models multiple times (varying random number seeds) to obtain reasonable average results

Replicability of Results

- In aggregate and probabilistic models applied using probabilities directly, results are the same every time model is run
- When Monte Carlo simulation is used, results differ (unless random number seed is kept constant)
- To obtain “average” results, need to run model several times
 - Castiglione et al suggest that 10-20 runs are needed to stabilize at the zone level, 5-10 runs for neighborhoods
 - Number of runs will vary depending on level of detail
- Are the differences between scenario results within the simulation error?

Resource Issues

- Run times, even without repeated runs to stabilize results, can be long
 - Simulation of choices of every person (possibly millions) in region
 - Efficiency of custom programs
- Hardware requirements significantly greater than for traditional aggregate models

Activity Based Modeling Summary

- Model structure
 - Most working United States models are based on either the Ben-Akiva/Bowman daily activity pattern approach or the approach used by Vovsha et al, but other approaches have been successfully tested
- Model estimation procedures
 - Discrete choice models similar to trip based models, rule based approaches
- Data requirements
 - Need activity patterns, in some models may need longitudinal data

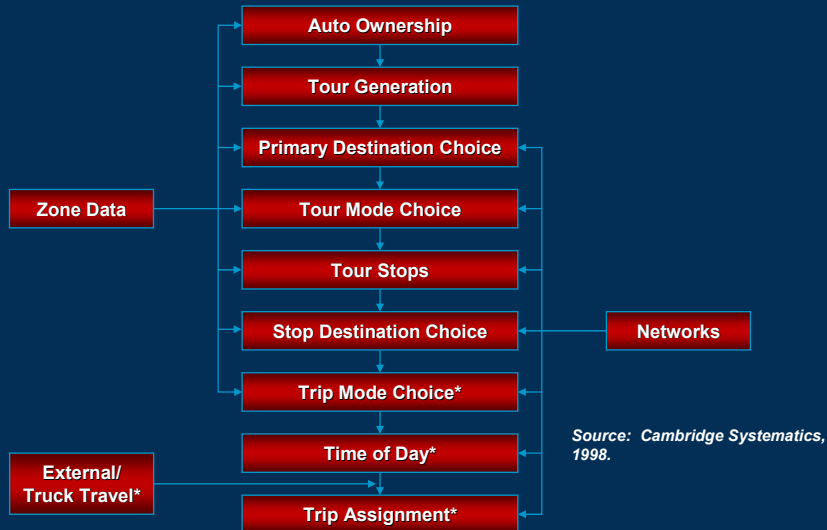
Activity Based Modeling Summary (continued)

- Data processing
 - Significantly greater than trip based models
- Run times
 - Significantly greater than trip based models
- Analytical capabilities
 - Significantly greater than trip based models

Stockholm Tour Based Model 1994



New Hampshire Statewide Model Structure



* Module Run Using EMME/2.

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San Francisco County Model

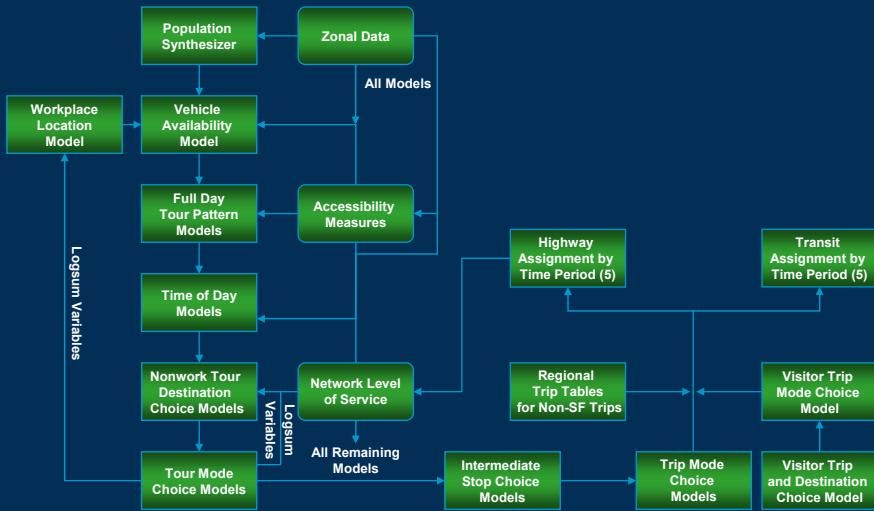
• Suite of C++ programs developed for other model components

- Synthetic sample of households/persons
- Work location model
- Vehicle availability model
- Tour/trip generation and time of day models (full day activity pattern)
- Tour destination choice/tour mode choice models
- Intermediate stop destination choice models
- Trip mode choice models, writes TP+ trip tables

• TP+ software used for skim building, assignment

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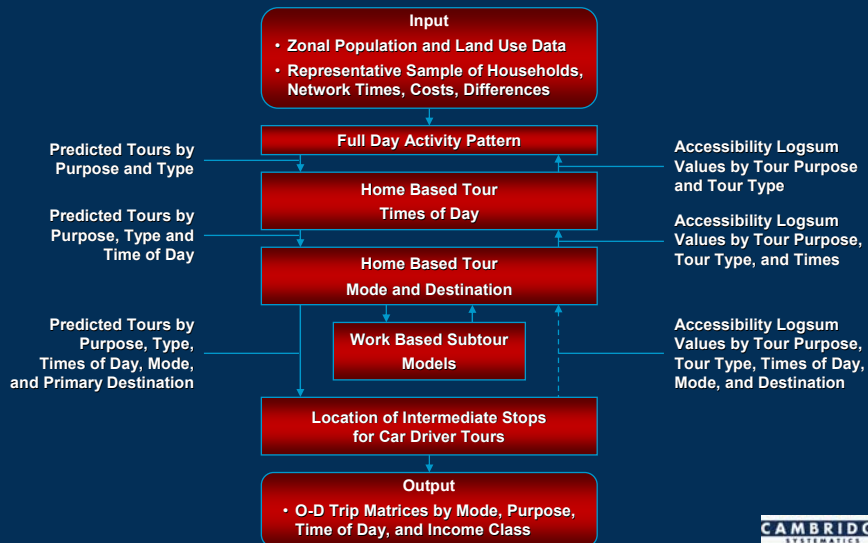
San Francisco County Model Structure



Source: Cambridge Systematics et al, 2001.



Portland Model Structure



Source: Lawton, 2001.

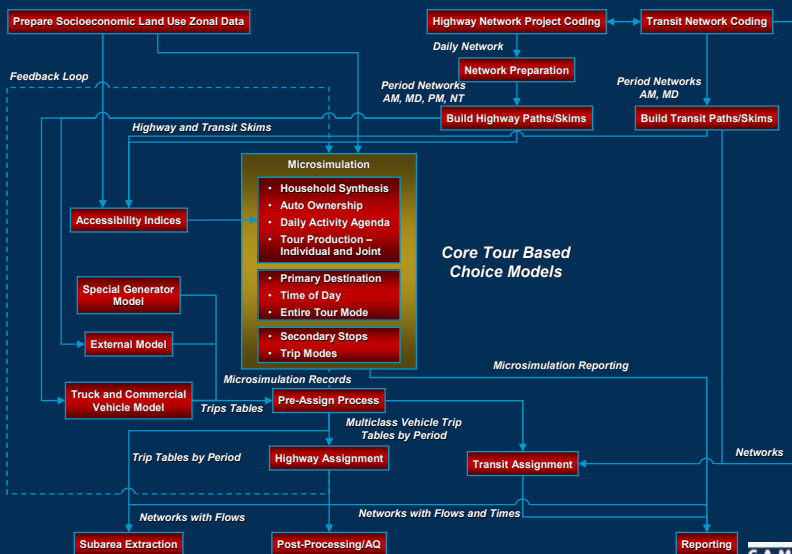


Columbus Model

- Household members simulated in priority order
- Choice conditional on choices of other household members
- Work/school tours predicted first, then joint tours, then other individual tours
- Remaining available “time window” influences choices at each stage
- No explicit tradeoff between making stops or additional tours



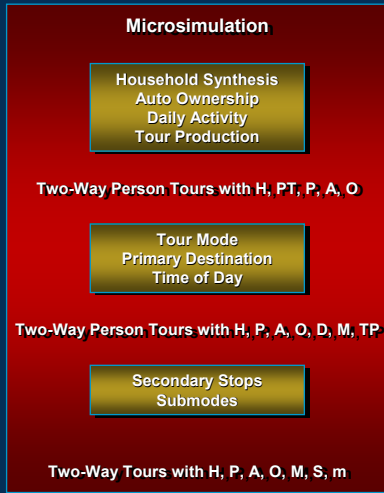
Columbus Model Structure



Source: Anderson, Al-Akhras, Gill, and Donnelly, 2003.



Columbus Core Models

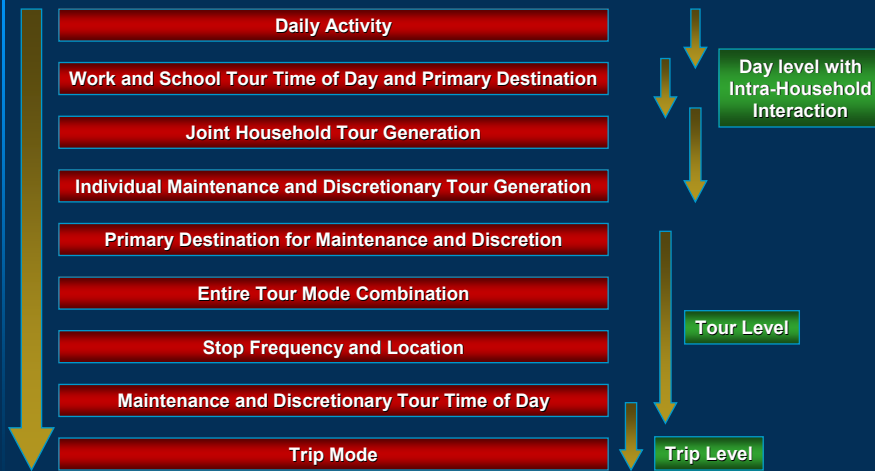


- H = Household Attributes
- PT = Person Type
- P = Purpose or Category
- A = Autos Owned
- O = Tour Origin (home)
- D = Tour Primary Destination
- M = Tour Mode
- TP = Time Period
- S = Number and Location of Stops
- m = Trip Mode

Source: Anderson, Al-Akhras, Gill, and Donnelly, 2003.



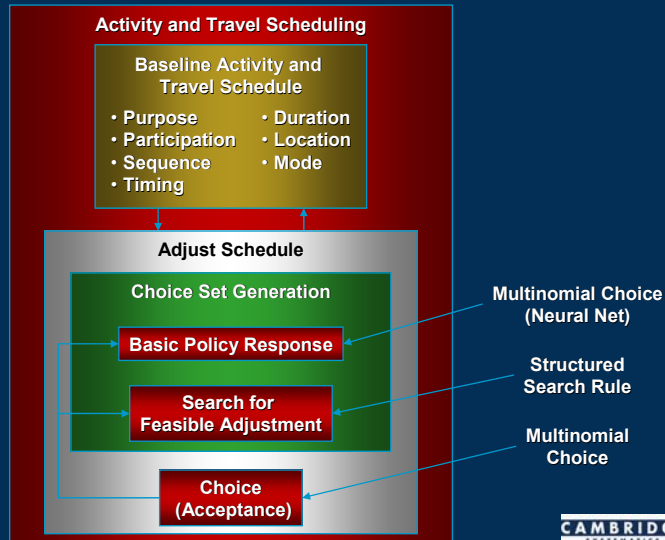
Columbus Model Hierarchy



Source: Anderson, Al-Akhras, Gill, and Donnelly, 2003.



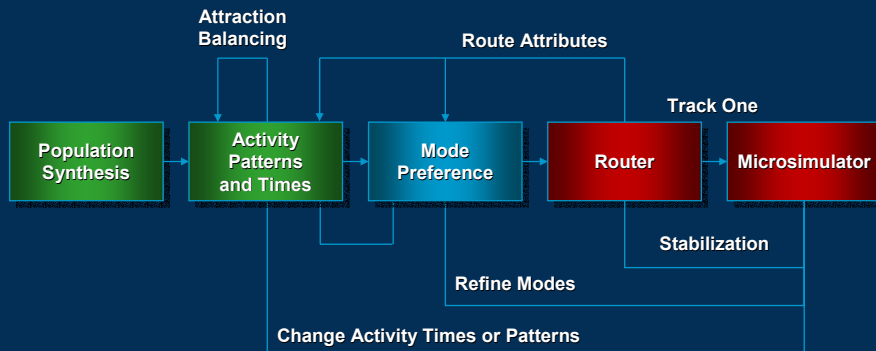
AMOS 1994



ALBATROSS

- For each individual/primary work activity, choose transport mode
- For each individual/flexible activity, add episodes of activity, choose duration/joint participation
- For each individual, define activity sequence and start/end times
- Organize sequences into tours
- Choices are made using a rule based approach

TRANSIMS Model Structure



Source: PB Consult, 2003.

TRANSIMS Activity Generation

- Match each synthesized household with a household from the survey
- Binary classification tree household attributes and urban area type for household matching
- Transfer survey household activity pattern to synthesized household
- Decision rules to “correct” pattern

TRANSIMS

Activity Generation (continued)

■ Location choice model

- Logit formulation
- Similar to tour based destination choice models for primary activities and stops

■ Mode preference

- Multinomial logit for tour level
- Secondary binary models for certain sub modes
- Use of Router for trip mode choice

Summary – Tour Based Vs. Trip Based Models

- Tour based models account for trip chaining
- Trip choices not treated as independent of one another in tour based models
- In tour based, easier to limit effects of sequential process
- More analytical capabilities in tour based models
- Data needs are similar (more processing required for tour based models)
- Custom programs needed, run times generally longer for tour based models (for now)

Summary – Activity Based Vs. Tour Based Models

- In tour based models, demand is assumed to be for trip making, rather than activities (more realistic behavior)
- Activity based models can account for intra-household effects on travel behavior
- More analytical capabilities in activity based models
- Data needs are similar although more data needed for application of disaggregate (microsimulation) activity based models
- Run times generally longer for activity based models (for now)

Future Directions of Activity Based Methods

- Better modeling of household interactions
- Improvements to time of day/activity duration modeling
- Microsimulation as the preferred platform
- Shift from cross-sectional to dynamic models
- Better use of GIS to estimate time/space relationships
- Improvements in model run time/efficiency
- Use of iterative model structures

Future Directions of Activity Based Methods

- **Finer temporal/spatial resolution**
- **Integration with land use models**
- **Additional sensitivity analysis**
- **Comparisons with traditional models**
- **More continuous representation of space-time**
- **Analysis of the day to day variations**
- **Analysis of decision under uncertainty**
- **Use of process data and other non-traditional data sources**

Appendix – More Examples of Tour Based Model Components

(from New Hampshire Statewide Model)

Primary Destination Choice Model Example New Hampshire Model – Work Tours

Variable	Coefficient
Travel Impedance	-0.0419
Home Zone Dummy	1.376
CBD Dummy	0.0545
Airport Dummy	0.0545
College Dummy	0.1153
In (Retail Employment)	0.0392

Variable	Coefficient
In (Manufacturing Employment)	0.0467
In (Private Service Employment)	0.0779
In (Fire Employment)	0.1230
In (Other Service Employment)	0.0652
In (Other Employment)	0.1404
In (Households)	0.1344

Tour Level Mode Choice Model Example New Hampshire Model – Work Tours Auto versus Non-Auto

Variable	Coefficient
Travel Impedance	-0.00054
Urban Zone Dummy	-0.3303
Number of Vehicles	0.4525
Income Category	0.0167

Variable	Coefficient
Single Family Dummy	0.4899
Number of Work Tours	-0.4799
Number of Persons	-0.1824
Auto Constant	2.189

Trip Level Mode Choice Model Example New Hampshire Model – Work Non-Auto Tours

Variable	Non-Motor	Bus	Rail	Auto Passenger
Constant	0	-3.085	0.212	-2.639
Vehicles	0	-0.942	-0.053	0.557
Persons	0	1.021	1.085	0.487
Distance	0	0.513	0.387	0.304
Travel Time	0	-0.0119	-0.0119	-0.0119