
Decision-aid methodologies in transportation

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Transport and Mobility Laboratory

Introduction

Roles of transportation systems:

- move people and goods
- from one place (origin) to another (destination)
- safely
- efficiently
- with minimum negative impacts.

Roles of mathematical models

- Transportation systems are complex
 - the elements are complex
 - their interactions are complex
- Need to simplify in order to
 - describe
 - design
 - predict
 - optimize

Decision aid system

In this course...

- Part 1: operational models on the demand side
 - Methodology: choice models
 - Applications: transportation mode choice
 - Lecturer: Michel Bierlaire
 - TA: Jingmin Chen
- Part 2: operational models on the supply side
 - Methodology: operations research
 - Applications: airline scheduling
 - Lecturer: Prem Kumar
 - TA: Nitish Umang

Transportation Demand Analysis

- Demand in transportation is a **derived** demand.
- A derived demand occurs as a result of demand for something else.
- Direct demand:
 - for people: activities
 - for goods: consumption
- Demand / supply interactions
 - The level of service influences travel decisions
 - Travel decisions influence the level of service

Representations of the supply

- Transportation supply = infrastructure
- Network representation
- Usually one network per mode (roads, railways, buses, airlines, etc.)
- Classical indicators associated with each link:
 - travel time
 - cost
 - flow (nbr of persons per unit of time)
 - capacity (= max. flow)
- Static (average state) or dynamic (varies with time)

Representations of the demand

- Aggregate representation
 - Modeling element: flow
 - Flow: number of transported units (i.e. travelers, tons of freight, cars, flights, etc.) per unit of time, at a given location.
- Disaggregate representation
 - Modeling element: the transported unit (i.e. travelers, etc.)
 - Individual behavior of the traveler, or of the actors of the logistic chain.

Modeling framework

- We focus on the transportation of people
- **Four step model**
- Decompose the travel decision into 4 levels/steps
- Each step involves
 - The description of a specific behavior:
 1. Is a trip performed or not?
 2. What is the destination?
 3. What is the transportation mode?
 4. What is the itinerary?
 - Data collection
 - Modeling assumptions

Step 0: preparing the scope of the analysis

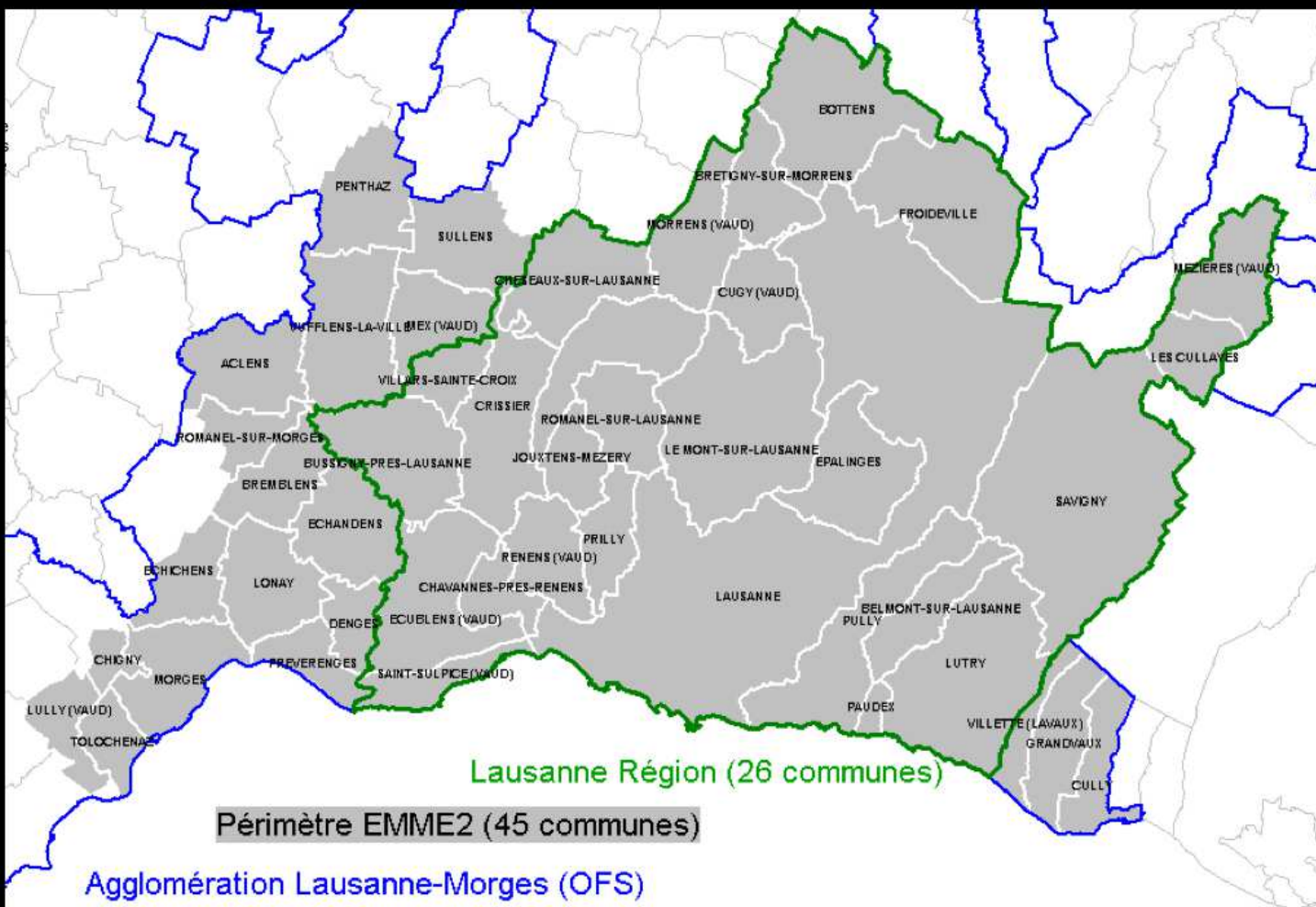
Spatial scope

- The perimeter relevant for the analysis is identified.
- It is partitioned into geographical zones (e.g. Lausanne: 500 zones)
- Assumption: travels within a zone are ignored

Temporal scope

- Identification of the period of the analysis
- For instance, the morning peak-hour, or the evening peak-hour.

Perimeter



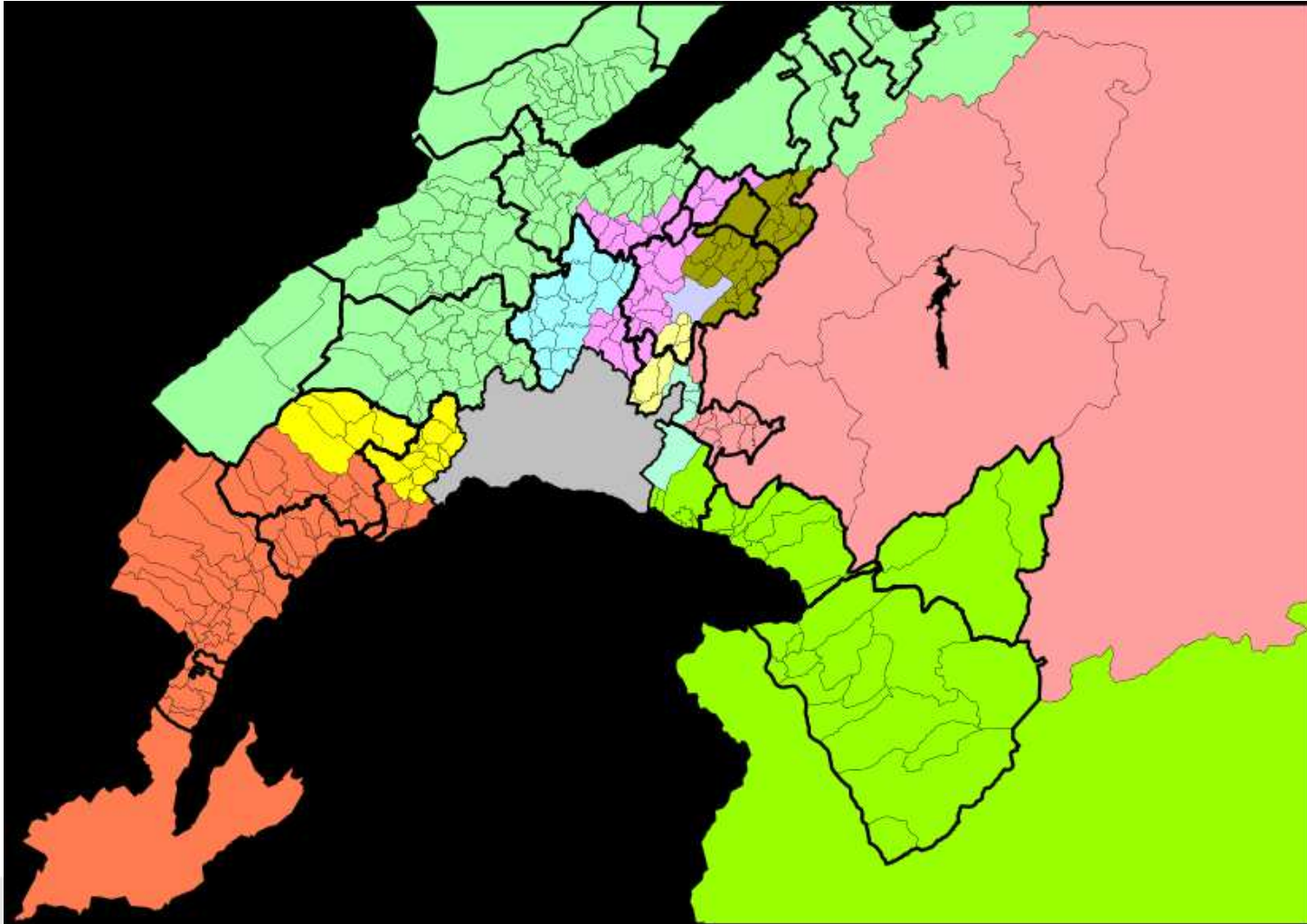
Zoning



Zoning



Zoning



Step 1: trip generation

Is a trip performed or not?

- derived demand
- travel is required when two successive activities are not located at the same place
- Travel purposes (Swiss Micro-census 2000)

Leisure	41743	40.4%
Work	23420	22.7%
Shopping	20297	19.6%
Education	7912	7.7%
Service	3352	3.2%
Business activity	3006	2.9%
Escorting	1732	1.7%
Other	1017	1.0%
Business trip	837	0.8%
Change mode	60	0.1%

Step 1: trip generation

- Land use, urban planning and transport closely related
- Question: where are located the activities?
- Main locations to identify in a city:
 - housing
 - work places
 - shops and commercial centers
 - schools
- Many studies focus on home-based trips

Step 1: trip generation

Aggregate representation

- For each zone, determine
 - the number of trips originating from the zone
 - the number of trips reaching the zoneduring the analysis period
- Modeling tool: linear regression

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X$$

with, for instance, Y =nbr of trips, X =population

Disaggregate representation

- Activity choice models
- Location choice models

Step 2: distribution

What is the destination?

How many trips starting at a given origin are reaching a given destination?

- Aggregate representation: origin-destination matrix
- Disaggregate representation: destination choice models

Step 2: distribution

Origin-destination matrix

	D_1	D_2	D_j	
O_1	T_{11}	T_{12}	T_{1j}	\dots
O_2	T_{21}	\ddots		
O_i	T_{i1}		T_{ij}	
	\vdots			\ddots

- T_{ij} is the flow between origin i and destination j
- For each origin i , $\sum_j T_{ij} = O_i$
- For each destination j , $\sum_i T_{ij} = D_j$

Step 3: modal split

What is the transportation mode?

- Assume K modes
 - car (as driver)
 - car (as passenger)
 - bus
 - metro
 - bike
 - motorbike
 - walk
 - etc.
- From OD matrix T , create K matrices T^k such that

$$T = \sum_{k=1}^K T^k.$$

Step 3: modal split

- In practice, one generate a split function p such that

$$0 \leq p(k|i, j) \leq 1, \forall i, j,$$

and

$$\sum_{k=1}^K p(k|i, j) = 1, \forall i, j$$

- Obviously, we have

$$T_{ij}^k = p(k|i, j)T_{ij}$$

- The split function p is derived from a mode choice model.
- This will be the main focus of this course

Step 4: assignment

What is the itinerary?

Aggregate representation

- Shortest path algorithm
- Based on travel time, so “fastest path”

Disaggregate representation

- Route choice models
- Based on various indicators

Note:

- if many travelers use the best path, it will be congested
- and it will not be the best anymore
- This is captured by the concept of “traffic equilibrium”

Summary

- Four step models
 1. Generation
 2. Distribution
 3. Modal split
 4. Assignment
- Each step captures a type of choice
 1. Activity location choice
 2. Destination choice
 3. Mode choice
 4. Route choice

Main objective of this course:

Introduction to choice models. Theory and case studies.