

# Online calibration of dynamic traffic assignment

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# Calibration of iterated DTA microsimulations

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- DTA microsimulations
  - simulate more than route choice (e.g., dpt. time, mode)
  - capture arbitrary demand heterogeneity
  - handle complex and large systems
- existing demand calibration: OD matrix estimation / PFE of limited use
  - cannot estimate all demand dimensions
  - hardly accounts for demand heterogeneity
  - computationally involved
- supply calibration: more amenable to physically motivated techniques

# Online demand calibration

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- parameters are stable over many days
- what changes are the states (here: choices, plans)
- online demand calibration: update the individual-level choice distributions in the simulated traveler population from sensor data
- (offline demand calibration: update the underlying parameters)

# Outline

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A macroscopic path flow estimator

Microsimulation perspective

Case study

Summary, outlook

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# Prior path flows

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- a minimum of notation

$n$  origin/destination (OD) pair,  $n = 1 \dots N$   
 $d_n$  number of trips between OD pair  $n$   
 $C_n$  set of available routes for OD pair  $n$   
 $d_{ni}$  number of trips on route  $i \in C_n$

- path flows  $\mathbf{d} = (d_{ni})$  are consistent with network conditions

$$d_{ni} = P_n(i|\mathbf{d})d_n \quad \forall n, i \in C_n$$

where  $P_n(i|\mathbf{d})$  is the congestion-dependent route choice model

# Derivation of Bayesian estimator

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1. consistent path flows maximize **prior entropy function**

$$W(\mathbf{d}) = \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{i \in C_n} d_{ni} \ln \frac{P_n(i|\mathbf{d})}{d_{ni}}$$

2. relate traffic counts  $\mathbf{y}$  to path flows  $\mathbf{d}$  through likelihood  $p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{d})$
3. path flows given counts maximize **posterior entropy function**

$$W(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{y}) = \ln p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{d}) + W(\mathbf{d})$$

4. evaluate optimality conditions...

# Posterior path flows

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- route choice model given the traffic counts  $\mathbf{y}$  fulfills

$$P_n(i|\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{y}) \sim \exp\left(\frac{\partial \ln p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{d})}{\partial d_{ni}}\right) P_n(i|\mathbf{d})$$

- replace iterative optimization by path flow distribution scaling
- apart from local linearizability, no modeling assumptions



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# Reinterpretation of the macroscopic setting

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- notation, revisited

$n$  individual traveler,  $n = 1 \dots N$

$d_n$  number of repeated choice situations

$C_n$  set of available **travel plans** for individual  $n$

$d_{ni}$  number of times traveler  $n$  chooses plan  $i \in C_n$

$P_n(i|\mathbf{d})$  congestion-dependent plan choice distribution

- calibration: select plans from **posterior choice distribution**

$$P_n(i|\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{y}) \sim \exp\left(\frac{\partial \ln p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{d})}{\partial P_n(i|\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{y})}\right) \cdot P_n(i|\mathbf{d})$$

...as before!

# How to implement the calibration

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## Algorithm

1. choose initial network conditions
2. repeat until consistency
  - 2.1 linearize log-likelihood function in given network conditions<sup>1</sup>
  - 2.2 select plans for all agents from scaled choice distributions<sup>2</sup>
  - 2.3 load all agents on the network

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<sup>1</sup>analytically, based on proportional assignment or regression

<sup>2</sup>by actual prob. scaling, adjustment of ASCs, rejection sampling, ...

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A macroscopic path flow estimator

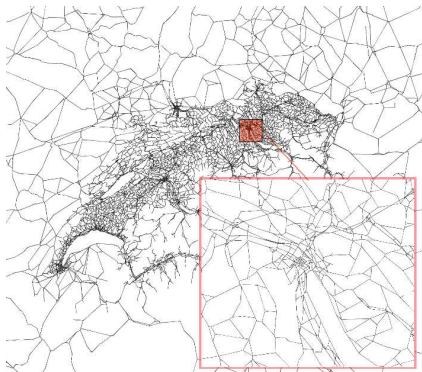
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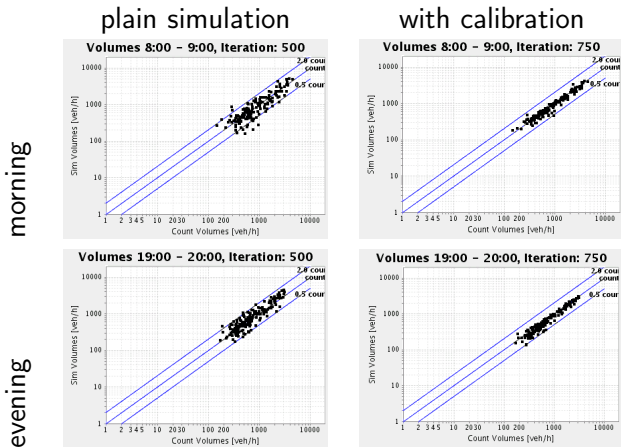
# Zurich case study

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- network with 60 492 links and 24 180 nodes
- 187 484 agents
- hourly counts from 161 counting stations
- jointly estimate route + dpt. time + mode choice
- Off-line calibration for an entire day

# Results, qualitatively



## Results, quantitatively

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|                       | reproduction<br>( $\cdot$ ) <sup>2</sup> error | validation<br>( $\cdot$ ) <sup>2</sup> error | computing time<br>for 24 h traffic |
|-----------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|
| plain simulation      | 103.6  | 103.6  | 133 sec                            |
| calibrated simulation | 20.9   | 75.1   | 146 sec                            |
| relative difference   | - 80 %   | - 28 %                                       | + 9 %                              |

- global improvements, no overfitting: lower validation improvement due to limited scope of sensor data
- computationally ready for real time applications

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- disaggregate and dynamic calibration of arbitrary choice dimensions from traffic counts
- freely available software toolbox:  
[transp-or2.epfl.ch/cadyts](http://transp-or2.epfl.ch/cadyts)
- ongoing work:
  - calibration of choice model *parameters*
  - applications: MATSim, SUMO, DRACULA
- future work:
  - supply calibration
  - disaggregate data sources