NCHRP Report 765 Overview



NATIONAL COOPERATIVE HIGHWAY RESEARCH PROGRAM

Analytical Travel Forecasting Approaches for Project-Level Planning and Design

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD

Roberto Miquel

November 19, 2014 North Carolina Model Users' Group

Presentation Overview

- NCHRP Report 765 Overview
- Traffic Forecasting Process (Chapter 4 Excerpts)
- Temporal Refinements and Time of Day Tables (Chapter 8 Excerpts)
- Possible Next Steps

NCHRP REPORT OVERVIEW

NCHRP Report 765

NCHRP 8-83 (NCHRP Report 765)

- Started in March, 2011
- Finished in October, 2013
- Published in July, 2014
 http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp rpt 765.pdf

Need

- Guidance to produce traffic forecasts for design, planning and operational project analysis
- Models and other tools produce results that need smoothing or factoring
- Updates NCHRP 255 which has been used since 1982 refining traffic forecasts

Project Background

- Program Manager: Nanda Srinivasan
- Team
 - CDM Smith: Rob Bostrom, Principal Investigator, several others
 - Alan Horowitz: Proprietor AJH Associates
 - Tom Creasey: Stantec
 - Ram Pendyala: Georgia Tech University
 - Mei Chen: University of Kentucky

Panel

- Chair: Mike Bruff of NC DOT
- Sarah Sun, Kermit Wies, Eric Pihl, Robert Winnick, Doug Laird, Jeff Shelton,
 Subrat Mahapatra, Derek Miura, Matthew Hardy, Phillip Cox, Dan Lamers

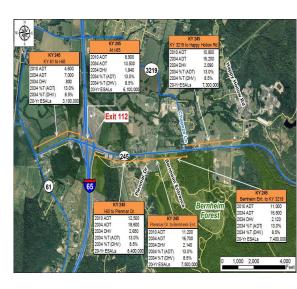
Contents

Background

- Introduction
- Overview of the Fundamentals of Traffic Forecasting
- Overview of Traffic Forecasting Tools and Methodologies

Guidelines

- The Project-Level Traffic Forecasting Process
- Working with a Travel Model
- Model Output Refinements
- Refining the Spatial Data of Traffic Models
- Improving the Temporal Accuracy of Traffic Forecasts
- Traffic Forecasting Methods for Special Purpose Applications
- Tools Other than Travel Models
- Case Studies



Final Draft Report: Chapter 1 Introduction

- What are projects?
- History/context/significance of NCHRP 255
- Chapter by chapter review of NCHRP 255
- Forecasting state of the practice: national survey and source documents
- Organization of report

What are projects?

- Traffic Impact Studies
- Improvements to Improve Reliability
- Operational Studies of Highway Facilities
- Planning of New Highway Facilities
- Construction of New Highway Facilities

Chapter 2: Overview of the Fundamentals of Traffic Forecasting

- Traffic forecasting parameters and source data - e.g. ADT, DHV, T%
- Traffic forecasting tools - TDMs and more
- Measures of effectiveness - see graphic
- Essential bookshelf
 - must reads for forecasters

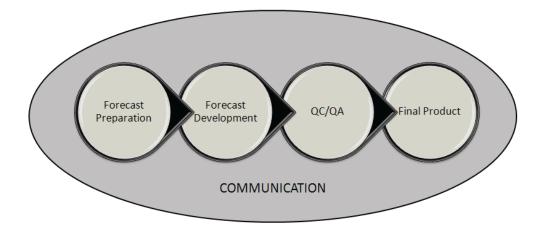
Typical Outputs/MOEs
Intersection turning movements, LOS, delay per vehicle
VMT, VHT, LOS
Link-specific volumes
Area-wide VMT, speeds
Corridor volumes and speeds
Traffic volumes
Benefit/cost, congestion
VMT, VHT, emissions, accidents
Benefit/cost, screenline volumes, vehicle hours, LOS
Traffic volumes, LOS
Intersection LOS, intersection turning movements, traffic volumes, travel times
Vehicle hours of delay, LOS
Travel times, volumes, throughput

Chapter 3: Overview of Traffic Forecasting Tools and Methodologies

- The travel forecasting model ideal
- State-of-the-practice travel forecasting models
- SOP of data inputs for travel forecasting models
- SOP of outputs for travel forecasting models
- Defaults vs. locally specific parameters
- Other traffic forecasting tools and methodologies

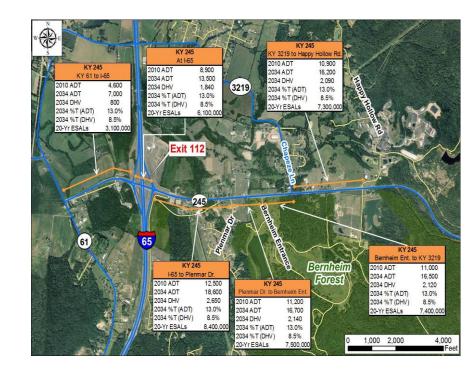
Chapter 4: The Project-Level Forecasting Process

- Traffic forecasting context
 - Application
 - Scope
- Traffic forecasting steps
 - Preparation
 - Forecast development
 - QA/QC
 - Documentation



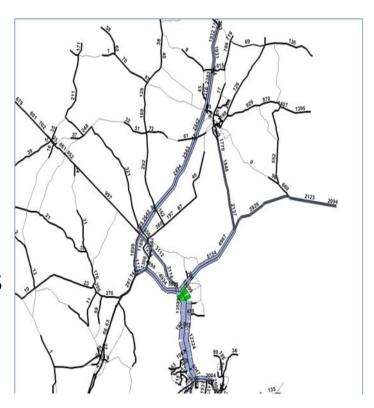
Chapter 4: The Project-Level Forecasting Process

- Key Traffic Forecasting Considerations
 - Accuracy
 - Judgment
 - Traffic forecasting rules of thumb: precision/rounding, importance of data



Chapter 5: Working with a Travel Model

- Understanding your model
- Validation methods and standards
- Errors and variability in speed and volume data
- Fixing issues in input or validation data
- Understanding travel model outputs
- Dealing with outliers in model outputs



Chapter 5: Working with a Travel Model

Default free flow travel times for a TDM:

HCM Method	Base Free Flow Speed (mph)	Criterion
Basic Freeway Segments	75.4	
Multilane Highways	Posted Speed + 5 mph	Posted Speed <u>></u> 50 mph
Multilane Highways	Posted Speed + 7 mph	Posted Speed ≤ 50 mph
Two-Lane Highways	45 to 70	Little guidance given; based on speed data and local knowledge of operating conditions
Urban Streets	25 - 55	Based on recommended speed constant and geometric/traffic control parameters (HCM 2010 Ex. 17-11)

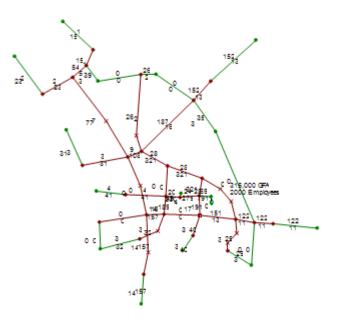
Chapter 6: Model Output Refinements

- Screenline refinement and base volumes
- Refining turning movement outputs of travel models
- Refining directional splits from travel models
- Refining speed and travel time outputs of travel models
- Model refinement with origin-destination matrix estimation

OPTIONAL INPUT				Į			1				1
FINAL REFINED FO	RECAST										1
	COL	COL	COL	COL	COL	COL	COL	COL	COL	COL	COL
	1	2	3	3.5	4	5	6	7	7.1	7.2	7.3
				Į	near base m	nodel	2008			Į	Į
	Road/Link	Min Diff	Max Rat	Use SL	count year	count data	Ab	Abinterpolate	R	D	MR
(east leg)	SR 18 (State St)	0.5	2	Enable	2011	2215	1687	2243	0.99	-28	0.41
(north leg)	Mitchell Rd	0.5	2	Enable	2011	520	416	490	1.06	30	1.73
(west leg)	SR 18 (Deshler Rd)	0.5	2	Enable	2011	2011	1861	2479	0.81	-468	0.00
(south leg)	Mitchell Rd	0.5	2	Enable	2011	592	157	184	3.22	408	6.34
(up leg)		0.5	2	Enable			1	0	0.00	0	-1.00
(down leg)		0.5	2	Enable	- 4		1	0	0.00	0	-1.00
(other roads)		0.5	2	Enable				0	0.00	0	-1.00
(other roads)		0.5	2	Enable				0	0.00	0	-1.00
(other roads)		0.5	2	Enable			1	0	0.00	0	-1.00
(other roads)		0.5	2	Enable	1		4	0	0.00	0	-1,00
Total						5338	1	5396			1
There are hidde	n rows if you want more	e roads in	your inte	ersection	n/screenline						
	Year			1							<u> </u>
Model Base	2008		***************************************				Screenline 0	ptions (see fie	ld 3.5 (descrip	tion)
Model Opening (or	2018	if Yo=Ybt	hen also m	ust = Yc	(cnl4)		Enable				
Model Forecast	2038	must be >	Yb				Disable				l
Project Opening	2016						Force				1
Project Design	2036			Ĭ.		•				Ĭ.	ì

Chapter 7: Refining the Spatial Detail of Traffic Models

- Focusing: enhancing detail in regional or statewide models
- Windowing (subarea model)
- Custom subarea focused models
- Multi-resolution modeling systems
- Hybrid models
- Refining E-E trip tables
- Case studies



Chapter 8: Improving The Temporal Accuracy of Traffic Forecasts

- Activity and tour-based model systems
- Dynamic traffic assignment
- Peak spreading
- Pre-assignment factoring
- Post-assignment factoring
- Day of week
- Month of year
- Vehicle class considerations
- Case studies

Chapter 8: Pre-assignment Table (NCHRP 716)

		-Based ork		-Based work		-Based 100l		-Based her		
Hour Ending	From Home	To Home	From Home	To Home	From Home	To Home	From Home	To Home	Nonhome- Based	All Trips
1:00 AM	0.1%	0.5%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%
2:00 AM	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
3:00 AM	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
4:00 AM	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
5:00 AM	1.4%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.3%	0.4%
6:00 AM	5.2%	0.0%	0.6%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.7%	0.1%	0.5%	1.3%
7:00 AM	11.5%	0.1%	2.3%	0.3%	6.4%	0.0%	1.8%	0.3%	1.7%	3.6%
8:00 AM	14.3%	0.1%	7.0%	1.0%	28.2%	0.1%	4.2%	1.0%	4.9%	7.9%
9:00 AM	7.7%	0.1%	4.8%	1.3%	12.6%	0.2%	3.9%	1.3%	5.1%	6.1%
10:00 AM	2.8%	0.3%	3.4%	1.4%	1.7%	0.2%	3.6%	1.4%	5.1%	4.6%
11:00 AM	1.3%	0.3%	3.1%	1.9%	0.8%	0.4%	3.4%	1.9%	6.4%	4.9%
Noon	1.1%	1.0%	2.5%	2.4%	0.6%	1.1%	2.8%	2.4%	9.2%	5.8%
1:00 PM	1.6%	1.8%	2.3%	2.9%	0.7%	2.0%	2.5%	2.9%	11.1%	6.8%
2:00 PM	1.7%	1.4%	2.5%	2.7%	0.3%	2.0%	2.8%	2.7%	8.8%	6.0%
3:00 PM	1.7%	2.7%	2.7%	4.7%	0.3%	13.4%	3.0%	4.7%	8.6%	7.3%
4:00 PM	1.1%	6.2%	2.6%	5.9%	0.4%	16.5%	2.9%	5.9%	9.2%	8.6%
5:00 PM	1.0%	9.0%	3.2%	4.6%	0.6%	3.8%	3.5%	4.6%	8.2%	8.2%
6:00 PM	0.5%	10.5%	3.7%	4.9%	0.8%	2.5%	4.0%	4.9%	7.3%	8.5%
7:00 PM	0.3%	4.5%	4.1%	4.0%	0.4%	1.0%	4.6%	4.0%	5.0%	6.7%
8:00 PM	0.1%	1.9%	2.5%	3.8%	0.0%	0.8%	2.8%	3.8%	3.8%	4.9%
9:00 PM	0.1%	1.2%	1.1%	3.7%	0.0%	0.7%	1.2%	3.7%	2.1%	3.5%
10:00 PM	0.2%	1.2%	0.6%	2.5%	0.1%	0.9%	0.6%	2.5%	1.4%	2.3%
11:00 PM	0.3%	1.3%	0.3%	1.3%	0.0%	0.3%	0.3%	1.3%	0.8%	1.3%
Midnight	0.1%	1.4%	0.2%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.7%	0.3%	0.8%
Total	54.3%	45.7%	49.5%	50.6%	54.0%	46.0%	49.5%	50.6%	100.0%	100.0%
7-9 AM	22.0%	0.2%	11.8%	2.3%	40.7%	0.3%	8.1%	2.6%	10.0%	14.0%
3-6 PM	2.6%	25.7%	9.5%	15.3%	1.7%	22.8%	10.5%	14.4%	24.7%	25.3%

Chapter 8: Post-assignment Table

- Hourly factors derived from ATRs for post-assignment ADT processing.
- Categories: urban area small/medium/large, rural area; ½ of table below

Hour	Hour		Weekday		Saturday				Sunday		А	1	
Begins	Ends	Interstat e	Arterial	Collector	Interstate	Arterial	Collector	Interstate	Arterial	Collector	Interstate	Arterial	Collector
12:00 A M	12:59 AM	1.43	0.72	0.57	1.83	1.34	1.16	1.59	1.50	1.38	1.50	0.89	0.75
1:00 AM	1:59 A M	1.12	0.49	0.36	1.37	0.84	0.69	1.15	0.95	0.87	1.15	0.59	0.48
2:00 AM	2:59 A M	0.99	0.43	0.31	1.14	0.63	0.50	0.95	0.68	0.62	1.00	0.48	0.30
3:00 AM	3:59 A M	1.02	0.51	0.38	1.04	0.55	0.44	0.80	0.50	0.43	0.99	0.52	0.40
4:00 A M	4:59 A M	131	0.93	0.84	1.15	0.71	0.58	0.83	0.52	0.47	1.22	0.85	0.70
5:00 AM	5:59 A M	2.12	2.28	2.19	1.52	1.27	1.22	1.01	0.83	0.85	1.88	1.97	1.90
6:00 AM	6:59 A M	3.58	4.54	4.36	2.25	2.18	2.09	1.45	1.38	1.34	3.11	3.85	3.70
7:00 AM	7:59 AM	4.89	6.63	6.55	3.24	3.22	3.17	2.10	2.01	1.99	4.29	5.64	5.56
8:00 A M	8:59 A M	4.95	5.55	5.58	4.43	4.35	4.41	3.10	3.06	3.22	4.63	5.10	5.14
9:00 AM	9:59 A M	5.23	5.24	5.25	5.63	5.58	5.71	4.39	4.89	5.23	5.17	5.25	5.33
10:00 A M	10:59 A M	5.64	5.41	5.44	6.63	6.58	6.75	5.72	5.92	6.22	5.80	5.63	5.73
11:00 A M	11:59 AM	5.92	5.67	5.71	7.08	7.14	7.29	6.67	6.53	6.65	6.18	5.97	6.04

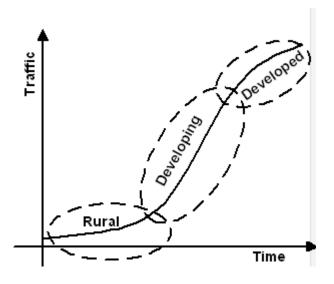
Chapter 9: Traffic Forecasting Methods for Special Purpose Applications

- Basic forecasts w/ ADT, DHV and turning movements
- Data extrapolations
- Vehicle mix & MOVES
- ESALs
- Benefit-cost analysis
- Toll/revenue forecasts
- Work zone congestion
- Incident management
- Non-recurring congestion
- Environmental justice
- Traffic impact studies

MOVES Screen	Input Item	Ozone			
Description	Description	User Choice			
Scale	Domain/Scale	County			
	Calculation Type	Emission Rate			
Time Spans	Time Aggregation Level	Hour			
	Year	2002, 2010, 2015, 2020, 2025, 2030, 2035, 2040			
	Months	July			
	Days	Weekday			
	Hours	Select All			
Geographic Bounds	Geographic Bounds	Delaware County			
Vehicles	Vehicles	All Gas and Diesel Combinations			

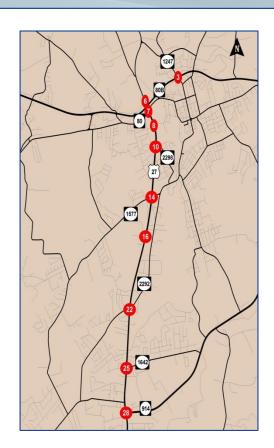
Chapter 10: Tools Other than Travel Models

- When to use non-TDM methods
- Time series of traffic volume data
- Sketch planning and spreadsheet techniques
- Elasticity methods
- Post processing using HCM 2010
- Stitching a model together



Chapter 11: Case Studies

- Suburban Arterial network
- Network window
- Small city (Charleston, SC)
- Large City (Atlanta)
- Time series on a link
- Blending a TDM and microsimulation





Appendices

- Glossary/acronyms
- Survey/expert panel/NCHRP 255 detailed review
- Modeling source documents
- Examples
 - Traffic forecasting
 - Trend line analysis
 - Turning movement
 - Model spreadsheet
- Modeling checklist

NCHRP 765 Recommendations

- Project-level forecasting, for the most part, use travel models and/or time series.
- Sketch planning tools are also fine for traffic forecasting.
- Most traffic forecasts for projects need some sort of refinement.
 - Ratios/deltas
 - ODME
- Engineering judgment is allowed and encouraged must be documented though!

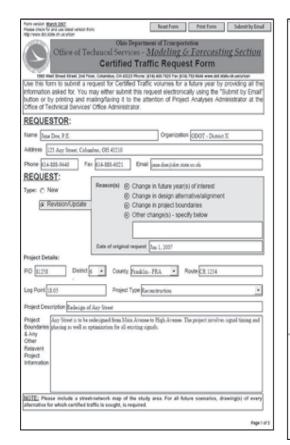
TRAFFIC FORECASTING PROCESS

Chapter 4 The Project-Level Forecasting Process

- Traffic Forecasting Context Management Perspective
- Traffic Forecasting context Analyst Perspective
- Role of Judgment
- Forecast Accuracy
- Traffic Forecasting Rules of Thumb

Traffic Forecasting Context: Management Perspective

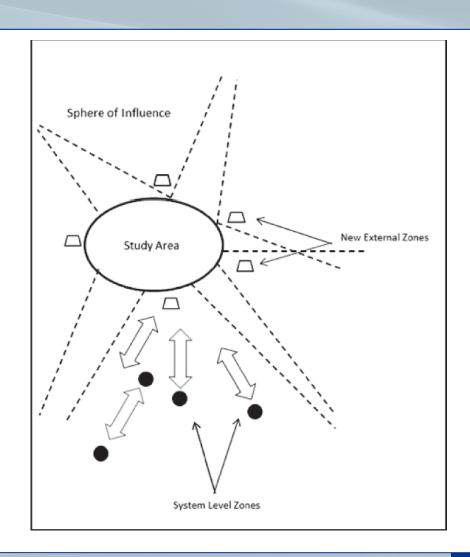
- Forecast needs
 - Covers many disciplines
 - Operations, planning, design and subsets of each
- Forecast origins/protocols



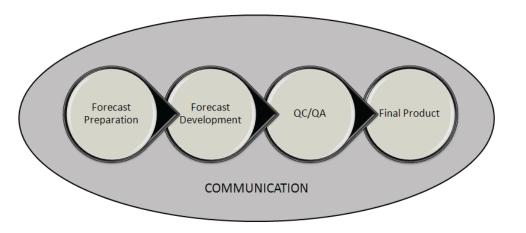
Project Opening Year 2000 Project Design Year 2000
Select Required Design Designations IDENTIFY Study I. Any Sever & Main Ave. © TD © T24 © K & D Factors Intersection(s) 2. Any Sever & Otio Ave. 2. Any Sever & Otio Ave.
D. Auty Steed it Subsystal Ave. 4 Auty Steed it Kestnicky Ave.
S Turning newment volumes S Auf Steen & Bigh Are. S AND Pool: S PM Pool: S ADT
Enopes Nose Proping Separate Design Designations (f any)
Committed E. Espansion of Nothand Plaza and to: Pall build out of Notional Mall Planned Development in vicinity (if any)
Special Conditions (if any)
SCHEDULE: Technical Survivors' goal is to meet time requirement 100 percent of the time. The District Office will be contacted to determine priority amongst pending requests for multiple projects from the same District. Technical Services will notify you immediately of any known proteins which will impact the ability to respond within 45 working days of receipt of a request. Date when data is needed. Date when data is needed.
50 NOT WATER BLOW-FOR HERMALUSE ONLY Reset from Point form Submit by Small
Code request received State Job No. Analysi assigned
Request logged in sucker on and by
Notes
Cate of computers Oriented 5 Sent on Fage 2 of 2

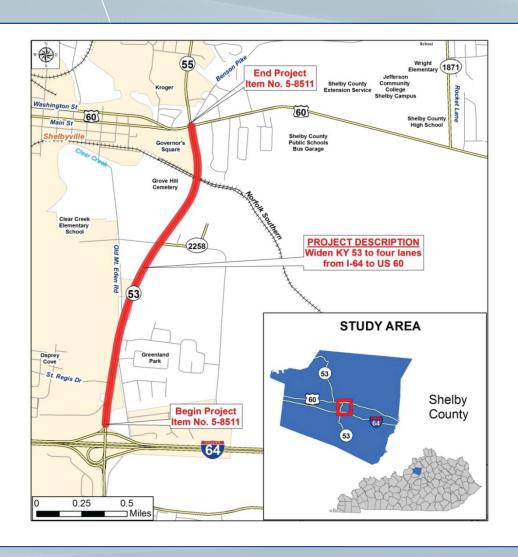
Traffic Forecasting Context: Management Perspective

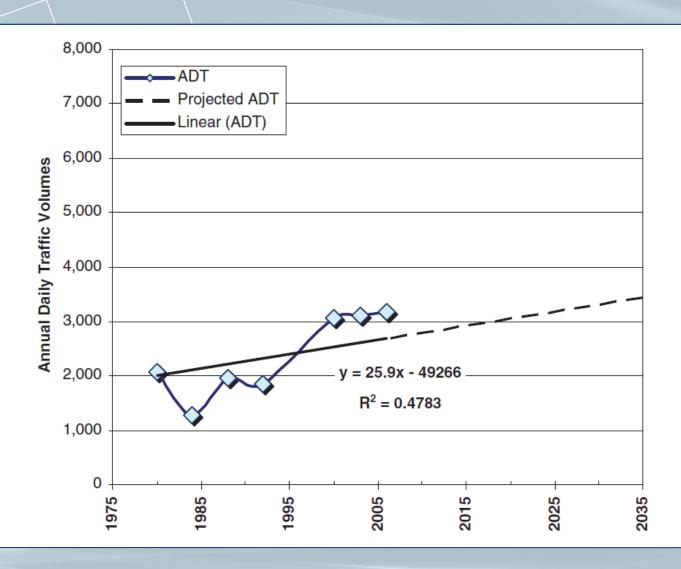
- Scope
 - Timeframe
 - Study area (sphere of influence)
 - Alternatives and scenarios: both supply and demand
 - Resources
 - Tools

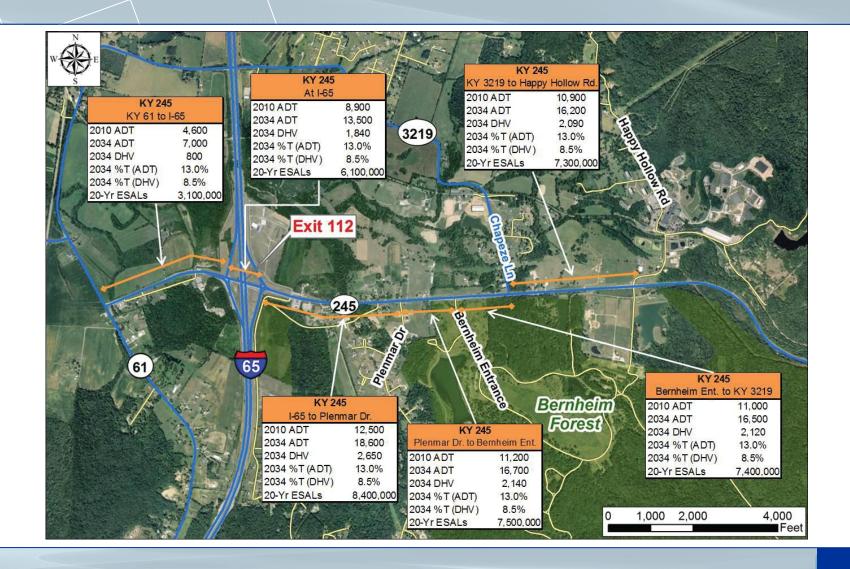


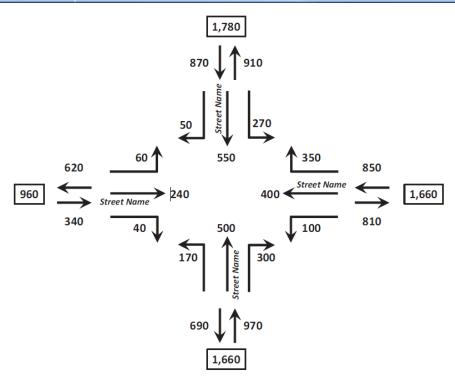
- Forecast preparation: data old and new, related forecasts, site visits
- Forecast development see Appendix F for 2 full TFs, 3 mini TFs in this section
- Quality analysis feedback to data program, TF refinement
- Forecast product comprehensive document w TC, TF purpose, data types/sources, tools and methods, results
- Communication











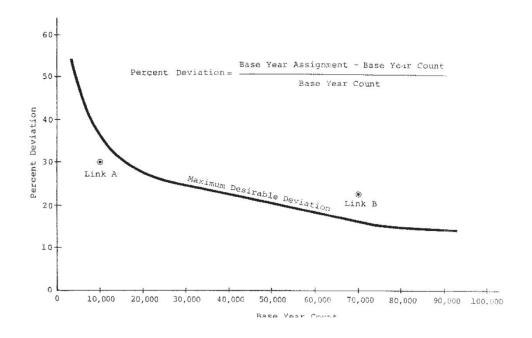
	Turning Volume								
Approach	Left	Through	Right	Total					
Northbound	170	500	300	970					
Southbound	270	550	50	870					
Eastbound	60	240	40	340					
Westbound	100	400	350	850					
Total				3,030					

Role of Judgment

- Model Errors
- Decision-making process
- Types of error
- Sensitivity
- Common sense
- Wrong performance measures
- Personal integrity

Forecast Accuracy

- Model Error RMSE, other measures
- Forecasting error confidence intervals



Traffic Forecasting Rules of Thumb

- Tools use a model rather than TLA if possible, behavior over history
- Understand increases/decreases in traffic
- Data, data, data
- Document assumptions
- Rounding

Traffic Forecast Precision									
Forecast Volume	Round to Nearest								
<100	10								
100 to 999	50								
1,000 to 9,999	100								
10,000 to 99,999	500								
>99,999	1,000								

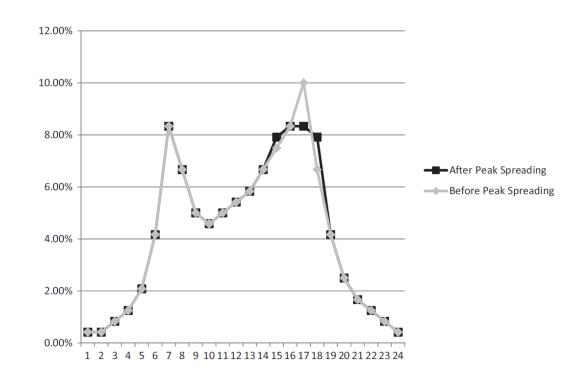
TEMPORAL REFINEMENTS AND TOD TABLES

Improving the Temporal Accuracy of Traffic Forecasts

- Activity based travel demand model systems
- Dynamic traffic assignment
- Peak spreading
- Pre-assignment time of day factoring
- Post-assignment time of day factoring
- Day of the week factors and monthly factors
- Vehicle class considerations

Peak Spreading

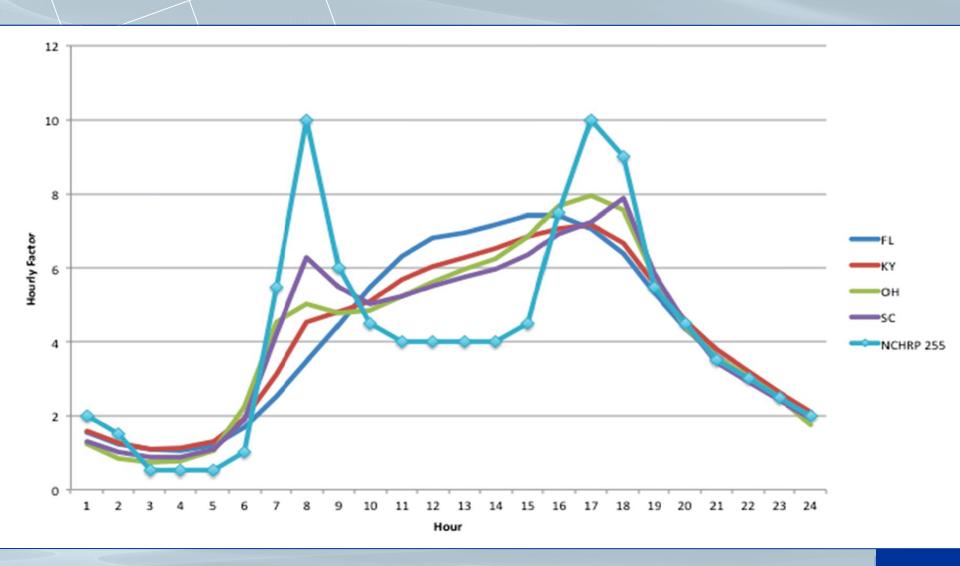
- Application adapted from Ohio DOT congestion analysis tool
- Iterative movement of excess traffic to shoulder hours
- Daily forecasts may exceed
 24 x hourly capacity
- Revisit forecasts
- Use professional judgment.



Post-assignment Time-of-day Factoring

- DHV = AADT x K
- 30th highest hour (K30), K50, K100, K200, standard K factors (FL)
- D factors
- Data sources: FL, SC, OH, TX, KY
- Categories
 - Area population
 - Facility type
 - Weekday and weekend

Post-assignment Time-of-day Factoring



Day-of-the-week Factors and Monthly Factors

Table 8-13. Monthly factors.

		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
	Interstate	1.144	1.103	0.985	1.002	1.005	0.946	0.935	0.985	1.054	1.011	1.002	1.056
Rural	Arterial	1.127	1.052	0.982	0.981	0.987	0.989	1.008	0.999	1.018	0.998	1.022	1.090
	Collector	1.092	1.038	0.964	0.970	0.980	0.992	1.034	1.017	1.030	1.001	1.031	1.113
	Interstate	1.125	1.075	0.968	0.987	1.020	0.982	0.969	1.011	1.074	1.028	0.982	1.026
Urban - Small	Arterial	1.107	1.027	0.982	0.995	0.988	1.023	1.057	1.001	1.033	1.033	1.077	1.113
	Collector	1.161	1.137	0.951	0.999	1.037	0.962	1.012	0.946	0.993	1.023	1.039	1.148
	Interstate	1.088	1.051	0.999	1.023	1.022	1.001	1.011	1.015	1.060	1.018	1.017	1.053
Urban - Medium	Arterial - CBD	1.124	1.010	0.959	0.987	1.044	1.033	1.099	1.014	1.060	0.992	1.075	1.102
orban - Medium	Arterial - Other	1.084	1.015	0.981	1.011	1.017	1.009	1.035	1.017	1.048	1.029	1.039	1.051
	Collector	1.011	0.931	0.929	0.941	1.010	1.107	1.174	1.164	1.179	1.093	1.051	1.055
	Interstate	1.097	1.051	0.982	0.997	1.012	1.012	1.048	1.015	1.032	1.004	1.017	1.068
Helen Leves	Arterial - CBD	1.054	0.970	0.980	1.007	1.033	1.065	1.081	1.056	1.058	1.056	1.077	1.060
Urban - Large	Arterial - Other	1.078	1.023	0.984	0.994	0.989	0.998	1.043	1.025	1.032	1.013	1.049	1.072
	Collector	1.066	1.018	0.966	0.972	0.999	1.051	1.090	1.086	1.107	1.043	1.014	1.001

Day-of-the-week Factors and Monthly Factors

Table 8-12. Day-of-the-week factors.

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Mon-Thu	Weekday	Weekend
	Interstate	1.079	1.090	1.032	0.985	0.875	1.041	1.060	1.046	1.012	1.051
Rural	Arterial	1.013	1.000	0.984	0.955	0.875	1.071	1.268	0.988	0.965	1.169
	Collector	1.009	0.999	0.985	0.967	0.895	1.075	1.250	0.990	0.971	1.162
	Interstate	1.058	1.088	1.054	0.983	0.863	1.029	1.080	1.046	1.009	1.055
Urban - Small	Arterial	0.993	0.974	0.959	0.940	0.879	1.135	1.384	0.966	0.949	1.259
	Collector	0.962	0.956	0.927	0.937	0.897	1.167	1.422	0.946	0.936	1.294
	Interstate	0.997	0.974	0.948	0.929	0.881	1.151	1.341	0.962	0.946	1.246
Urban - Medium	Arterial - CBD	0.997	0.967	0.950	0.939	0.879	1.113	1.432	0.964	0.947	1.273
Orban - Medium	Arterial - Other	1.000	0.975	0.952	0.943	0.880	1.079	1.376	0.967	0.950	1.228
	Collector	0.994	0.959	0.939	0.934	0.912	1.173	1.410	0.971	0.963	1.292
	Interstate	1.002	0.970	0.943	0.938	0.893	1.140	1.321	0.964	0.950	1.231
Urban - Large	Arterial - CBD	0.985	0.948	0.935	0.931	0.909	1.155	1.456	0.950	0.942	1.305
Orbail - Large	Arterial - Other	0.997	0.960	0.943	0.938	0.892	1.092	1.368	0.960	0.948	1.234
	Collector	0.984	0.951	0.934	0.976	0.874	1.145	1.387	0.965	0.947	1.266

Vehicle Class Considerations

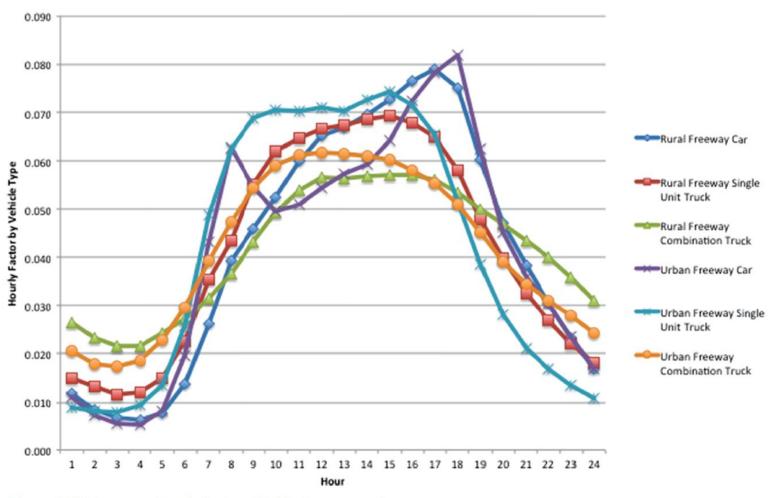


Figure 8-17. Freeway hourly factor distribution comparison.

POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS

NCHRP 765: What's Next?

- Forecast guidelines for areas not covered such as transit forecasting
- More work on "hot" areas
 - Speed data usage for forecasting
 - Forecasting accuracy/ranges
 - Refinement of toolkit approach NCHRP 8-84 ongoing
 - Development of forecast adjustments for metrics other than volumes.
- Nanda mentioned a possible update in five years.
- Consideration of a TRB forecasting committee not just modeling!

Thanks for Your Attention!

- Any questions/comments
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