

# Travel demand

## Assignment

Michel Bierlaire

Introduction to transportation systems



# Trip-based model: the 4-step approach

## 4-step approach

- ✓ Trip generation
- ✓ Trip distribution
- ✓ Modal split
- ▶ Assignment

## Objective

Find the link flows

## Context

Single mode

## Origin-destination table

- ▶  $f_{rs}$  for each pair of zones/centroids  $(r, s)$ .

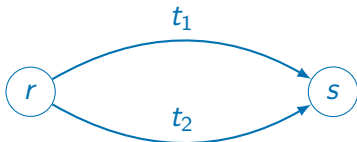
## Transportation network

- ▶ Link performance functions:  $t_\ell = t(x_\ell)$ .
- ▶ Link-path incidence matrix  $P$ .

# Assignment

## Behavior

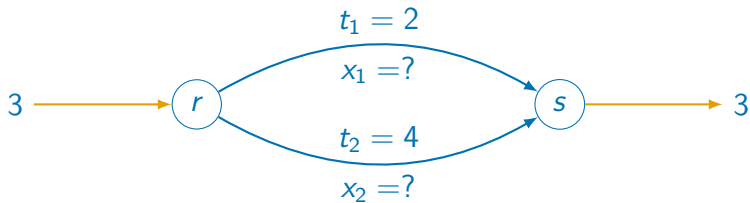
Route choice Assumption: utility maximizers, best path, “shortest” path



Example:  $t_1 = 2$ ,  $t_2 = 4$  Warning: all travelers have the same behavior The whole flow will take link 1: unrealistic But, we need to account for congestion

# Assignment

## All-or-nothing assignment



$$x_1 = 3, x_2 = 0$$

# Congestion

## Link performance functions

$$t_1(x) = 2 + x_1^2$$

$$t_2(x) = 4 + 2x_2^2$$

	Free flow		All on link 1		All on link 2	
	$\ell = 1$	$\ell = 2$	$\ell = 1$	$\ell = 2$	$\ell = 1$	$\ell = 2$
Flow	0	0	3	0	0	3
Cost	2	4	11	4	2	22

All-or-nothing does not make sense

# Congestion

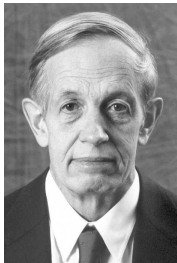
## Link performance functions

$$t_1(x) = 2 + x_1^2$$

$$t_2(x) = 4 + 2x_2^2$$

	$x_1$	$t_1$	$x_2$	$t_2$	Choice
Empty network	0	2	0	4	$\ell = 1$
First unit	1	3	0	4	$\ell = 1$
Second unit	2	6	0	4	$\ell = 2$
Third unit	2	6	1	6	Equilibrium

# Equilibrium



[nobelprize.org](https://www.nobelprize.org)



Lisbon, 2010

## Nash equilibrium

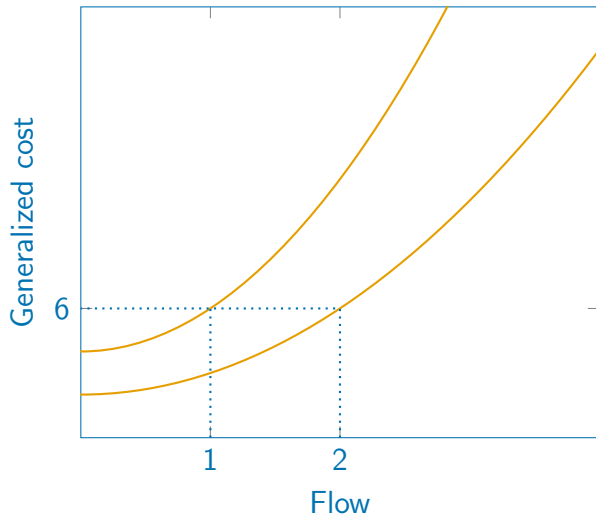
Situation where no traveler can improve her travel time by unilaterally changing routes.

## John Forbes Nash Jr.

- ▶ 1928–2015
- ▶ Nobel laureate 1994
- ▶ PhD thesis on non cooperative games: 1950 (28 pages)

# Equilibrium

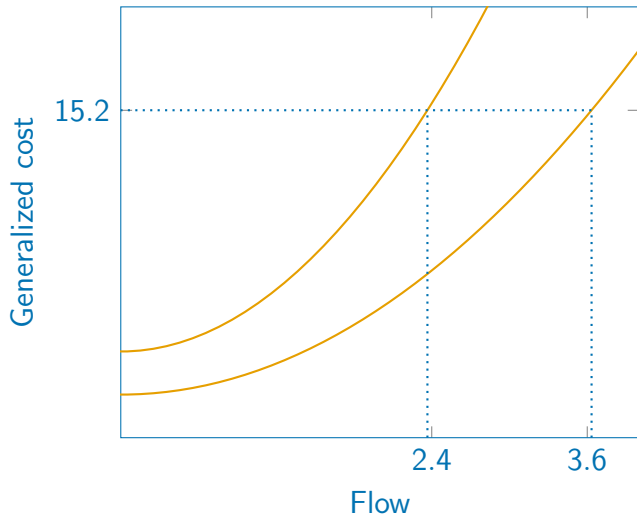
$$f_{rs} = 3$$





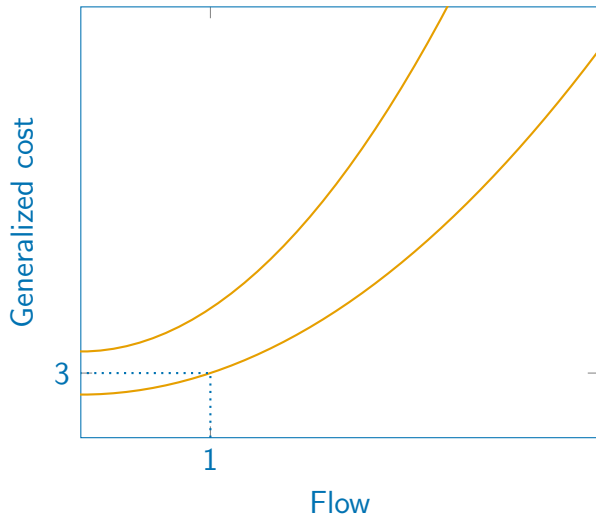
# Equilibrium

$$f_{rs} = 6$$



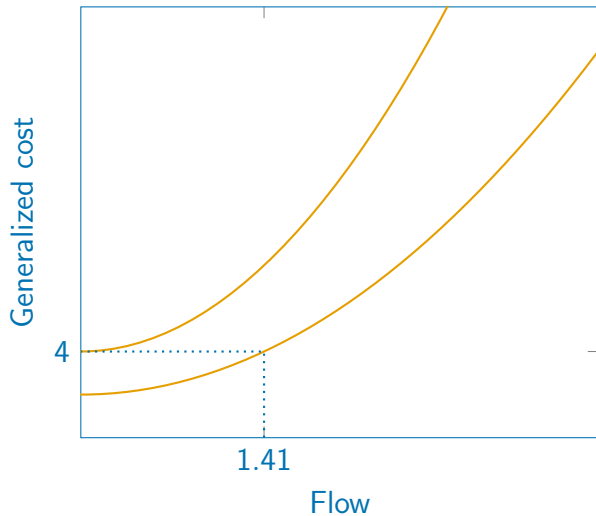
# Equilibrium

$$f_{rs} = 1$$



# Equilibrium

$$f_{rs} = \sqrt{2}$$



# Nash equilibrium

## Observations

- ▶ If  $t_1(f_{rs}) \leq t_2(0)$ , everybody uses link 1.
- ▶ If  $t_1(f_{rs}) \geq t_2(0)$ ,
  - ▶ both links are used,
  - ▶ they have equal costs:

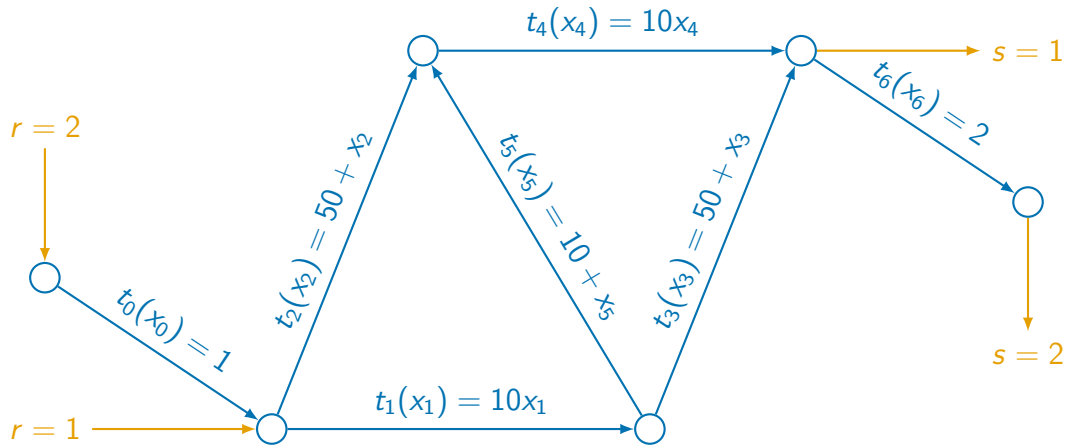
$$t_1(x_1) = t_2(x_2) \text{ and } x_1 + x_2 = f_{rs}$$

## Nash equilibrium = user equilibrium

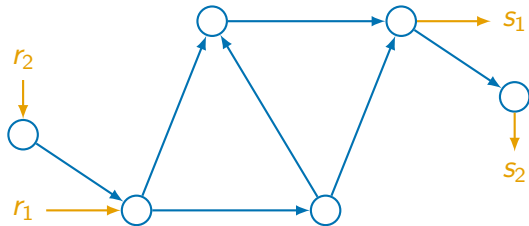
For each O-D pair, at user equilibrium,

- ▶ the generalized cost on all used paths is equal, and
- ▶ the generalized cost on all used paths is less or equal to the generalized cost on any unused path.

## Network example



# Network example












OD table: 3 entries

	$s_1$	$s_2$
$r_1$	3	1
$r_2$	2	0










Paths

- ▶  $(r_1, s_1)$  :
- ▶  $(r_1, s_2)$  :
- ▶  $(r_2, s_1)$  :

# Empty network










$p$	flow	$x_0$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$t_0$	$t_1$	$t_2$	$t_3$	$t_4$	$t_5$	$t_6$	cost
$r_1, s_1: f_{rs} = 3$																
	0		0		0					0		50				50
	0			0		0					50		0			50
	0		0				0	0		0			0	10		10
$r_1, s_2: f_{rs} = 1$																
	0		0		0			0		0		50			2	52
	0			0		0		0			50		0		2	52
	0		0				0	0	0				0	10	2	12
$r_2, s_1: f_{rs} = 2$																
	0	0	0		0				1	0		50				51
	0	0		0		0			1		50		0			51
	0	0	0				0	0	1	0			0	10		11

## Best free flow paths










$p$	flow	$x_0$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$t_0$	$t_1$	$t_2$	$t_3$	$t_4$	$t_5$	$t_6$	cost
$r_1, s_1: f_{rs} = 3$																
	0		6		0					60		50				110
	0			0		6					50		60			110
	3		6			6	6		60				60	16		136
$r_1, s_2: f_{rs} = 1$																
	0		6		0			1		60		50			2	112
	0			0		6		1			50		60		2	112
	1		6			6	6	1	60				60	16	2	138
$r_2, s_1: f_{rs} = 2$																
	0	2	6		0				1	60		50				111
	0	2		0		6			1		50		60			111
	2	2	6			6	6		1	60			60	16		137



# Equilibrium

$p$	flow	$x_0$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$t_0$	$t_1$	$t_2$	$t_3$	$t_4$	$t_5$	$t_6$	cost
$r_1, s_1: f_{rs} = 3$																
	1		4		2					40		52				92
	1			2		4					52		40			92
	1		4			4	2		40				40	12		92
$r_1, s_2: f_{rs} = 1$																
	1		4		2			1		40		52			2	94
	0			2		4		1			52		40		2	94
	0		4			4	2	1	40				40	12	2	94
$r_2, s_1: f_{rs} = 2$																
	0	2	4		2				1	40		52				93
	1	2		2		4			1		52		40			93
	1	2	4			4	2		1	40			40	12		93

## Another equilibrium

$p$	flow	$x_0$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$t_0$	$t_1$	$t_2$	$t_3$	$t_4$	$t_5$	$t_6$	cost
$r_1, s_1: f_{rs} = 3$																
	1		4		2					40		52				92
	0			2		4					52		40			92
	2		4			4	2		40				40	12		92
$r_1, s_2: f_{rs} = 1$																
	1		4		2			1		40		52			2	94
	0			2		4		1			52		40		2	94
	0		4			4	2	1	40				40	12	2	94
$r_2, s_1: f_{rs} = 2$																
	0	2	4		2				1	40		52				93
	2	2		2		4			1		52		40			93
	0	2	4			4	2		1	40			40	12		93

# Modeling

## Notations

- ▶ Number of links:  $K^\ell$
- ▶ Number of paths:  $K^p$
- ▶ Number of ODs:  $K^{rs}$
- ▶ Paths for OD  $q$ :  $\mathcal{P}_q$
- ▶ Link flow:  $x$
- ▶ Path flow:  $y$
- ▶ Link cost:  $t$
- ▶ Path cost:  $c$

# Modeling

## Link-path incidence matrix

$$P \in \{0, 1\}^{K^\ell \times K^p}$$
$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Route choice matrix

$$R \in \mathbb{R}_+^{K^p \times K^{rs}}$$
$$R = \begin{pmatrix} 1/3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Route choice matrix

## Definition

$$R \in \mathbb{R}_+^{K^p \times K^{rs}}$$

$R_{pq}$  is the proportion of travelers on OD pair  $q$  who choose route  $p$ .

## Notes

- ▶  $\sum_p R_{pq} = 1$ , for each  $q$ .
- ▶ Each path is associated with exactly one OD pair.
- ▶  $R_{pq} = 0$  if  $p \notin \mathcal{P}_q$ .
- ▶ For all-or-nothing assignment,  $R_{pq} \in \{0, 1\}$ ,  $\forall p, q$ .

# Modeling

## From OD table to path flows

$$y = Rf : \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1/3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$y_p = \sum_q R_{pq} f_q, \forall p.$$

# Modeling

## From path flows to link flows

$$x = Py : \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 4 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_\ell = \sum_p P_{\ell p} y_p, \forall \ell.$$

# Modeling

From OD table to link flows

$$x = PRf : \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 4 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 2/3 & 1 & 1/2 \\ 1/3 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 1/3 & 1 & 0 \\ 2/3 & 0 & 1 \\ 1/3 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_\ell = \sum_p \sum_q P_{\ell p} R_{pq} f_q, \forall \ell.$$

Assignment matrix:  $Q = PR$ ,  $Q \in \mathbb{R}_+^{K^\ell \times K^{rs}}$ .



# Modeling

## From link costs to path costs

$$c = P^T t : \begin{pmatrix} 92 \\ 92 \\ 92 \\ 94 \\ 94 \\ 94 \\ 93 \\ 93 \\ 93 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 40 \\ 52 \\ 52 \\ 40 \\ 12 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$c_p = \sum_{\ell} P_{\ell p} t_{\ell}.$$

# Modeling

## OD specific link-path incidence matrix

- ▶  $P^q$
- ▶ Columns of  $P$  corresponding to  $\mathcal{P}_q$ .

$$P_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad P_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

## OD specific route choice vector

- ▶  $R^q$
- ▶ Rows and column of  $R$  corresponding to  $q$ .

$$R_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1/3 \\ 1/3 \\ 1/3 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$R_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1/2 \\ 1/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Modeling

## Path flows for OD $q$

$$y^q = R^q f_q : y_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/3 \\ 1/3 \\ 1/3 \end{pmatrix} 3, \quad y_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1/2 \\ 1/2 \end{pmatrix} 2.$$

## Path costs for OD $q$

$$c^q = (P^q)^T t : c_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 92 \\ 92 \\ 92 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 40 \\ 52 \\ 52 \\ 40 \\ 12 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Modeling

## Lowest cost assumption

- Define the minimum cost for OD  $q$ :

$$c_q^* = \min_p c_p^q, \forall q.$$

## Summary

	Links	Paths	OD pair
Flow	$x_\ell$	$y_p$	$f_q$
Cost	$t_\ell$	$c_p$	$c_q^*$

# Equilibrium conditions

- ▶ Minimum cost for each OD pair  $q$ :

$$c_p^q \geq c_q^*, \forall q.$$

- ▶ For each OD pair  $q$ , the cost on all used paths is minimum:

$$y_p^q (c_p^q - c_q^*) = 0, \forall p, q.$$

- ▶ For each OD pair  $q$ , the whole demand is assigned:

$$\sum_p y_p^q = f_q, \forall q.$$

- ▶ Non negativity of path flows:

$$y_p^q \geq 0, \forall p, q.$$

# Beckmann's model

## Optimization problem

$$\min_y \sum_{\ell} \int_0^{x_{\ell}} t_{\ell}(z) dz$$

subject to

$$\sum_p y_p^q = f_q, \quad \forall q,$$

$$y_p^q \geq 0, \quad \forall p, q,$$

where

$$x_{\ell} = \sum_p P_{\ell p} y_p^q, \forall \ell, q.$$

## Assumptions

$$\frac{\partial t_{\ell}(x_{\ell})}{\partial x_{\ell}} > 0, \quad \forall \ell,$$

$$\frac{\partial t_{\ell}(x_{\ell})}{\partial x_{\ell'}} = 0, \quad \forall \ell \neq \ell'.$$

# Two link example

## Link performance functions

$$t_1(x) = 2 + x_1^2$$

$$t_2(x) = 4 + 2x_2^2$$

## Objective function

$$\int_0^{x_1} t_1(z) dz = 2z + \frac{1}{3}z^3 \Big|_0^{x_1} = 2x_1 + \frac{1}{3}x_1^3.$$

$$\int_0^{x_2} t_2(z) dz = 4z + \frac{2}{3}z^3 \Big|_0^{x_2} = 4x_2 + \frac{2}{3}x_2^3.$$

# Two link example

## Optimization problem

$$\min_{x_1, x_2} 2x_1 + \frac{1}{3}x_1^3 + 4x_2 + \frac{2}{3}x_2^3$$

subject to

$$x_1 + x_2 = 3$$

$$x_1, x_2 \geq 0.$$

$$x_2 = 3 - x_1$$

$$f(x_1) = 2x_1 + \frac{1}{3}x_1^3 + 4(3 - x_1) + \frac{2}{3}(3 - x_1)^3$$

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x_1) &= 2 + x_1^2 - 4 - 2(3 - x_1)^2 \\ &= -x_1^2 + 12x_1 - 20 \end{aligned}$$

$$f''(x_1) = -2x_1 + 12$$

$$f'(x_1) = 0 \text{ if } x_1 = 2 \text{ or } x_1 = 10$$

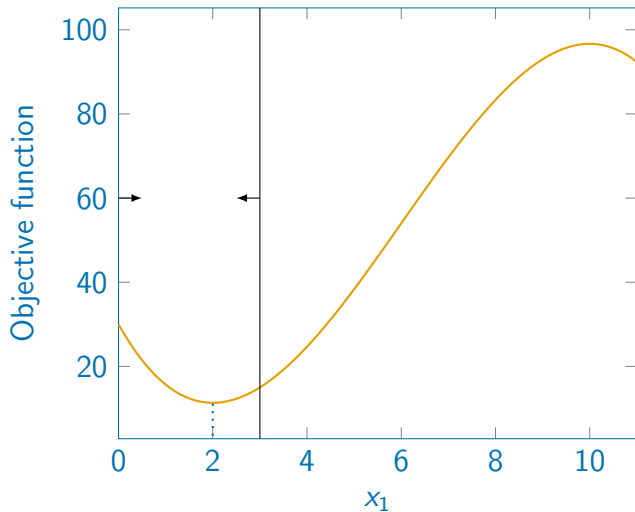
$$f''(2) = 8 > 0, \quad f''(10) = -8 < 0$$

Optimal solution:  $x_1 = 2$ ,

$$x_2 = 3 - x_1 = 1.$$



## Two link example



# Beckmann's model

## Optimization problem

$$\min_y \sum_{\ell} \int_0^{x_{\ell}} t_{\ell}(z) dz$$

subject to

$$\sum_{p'} y_{p'}^{q'} = f_{q'}, \quad \forall q', [\lambda_{q'}]$$

$$y_{p'}^{q'} \geq 0, \quad \forall p', q', [\mu_{p'q'}]$$

## Lagrangian

$$L(y; \lambda, \mu) =$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{\ell} \int_0^{x_{\ell}} t_{\ell}(z) dz \\ & + \sum_{q'} \lambda_{q'} (f_{q'} - \sum_{p'} y_{p'}^{q'}) \\ & - \sum_{p'} \sum_{q'} \mu_{p'q'} y_{p'}^{q'} \end{aligned}$$

# Beckmann's model

## Lagrangian

$$\begin{aligned} L(y; \lambda, \mu) = & \\ & \sum_{\ell} \int_0^{x_{\ell}} t_{\ell}(z) dz \\ & + \sum_{q'} \lambda_{q'} (f_{q'} - \sum_{p'} y_{p'}^{q'}) \\ & - \sum_{p'} \sum_{q'} \mu_{p'q'} y_{p'}^{q'} \end{aligned}$$

## Necessary optimality conditions

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial y_p^q} = 0, \forall p, q.$$

## Inequality constraints

$$\mu_{pq} \geq 0, \forall p, q.$$

## Complementarity slackness

$$\mu_{pq} y_p^q = 0, \forall p, q.$$

# Beckmann's model

## Objective function

$$f(y) = \sum_{\ell} \int_0^{x_{\ell}} t_{\ell}(z) dz$$

where

$$x_{\ell} = \sum_p P_{\ell p} y_p^q, \forall \ell, q.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_p^q} &= \sum_{\ell} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_{\ell}} \frac{\partial x_{\ell}}{\partial y_{pq}} \\ &= \sum_{\ell} P_{\ell p} t_{\ell}(x_{\ell}) \\ &= c_p^q. \end{aligned}$$

# Beckmann's model

## Lagrangian

$$\begin{aligned} L(y; \lambda, \mu) = & f(y) \\ & + \sum_{q'} \lambda_{q'} (f_{q'} - \sum_{p'} y_{p'}^{q'}) \\ & - \sum_{p'} \sum_{q'} \mu_{p'q'} y_{p'}^{q'} \end{aligned}$$

## Derivatives

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial y_p^q} = c_p^q - \lambda_q - \mu_{pq}.$$

## Necessary optimality conditions

$$\mu_{pq} = c_p^q - \lambda_q \geq 0, \forall p, q.$$

## Complementarity slackness

$$y_p^q (c_p^q - \lambda_q) = 0.$$

# Optimality conditions = equilibrium conditions

- ▶ Denote  $\lambda_q = c_q^*$ . It is the minimum cost:

$$c_p^q \geq c_q^*, \forall q. [\text{Optimality conditions}]$$

- ▶ For each OD pair  $q$ , the cost on all used paths is minimum:

$$y_p^q (c_p^q - c_q^*) = 0, \forall p, q. [\text{Compl. slackness}]$$

- ▶ For each OD pair  $q$ , the whole demand is assigned:

$$\sum_p y_p^q = f_q, \forall q. [\text{Primal constraints}]$$

- ▶ Non negativity of path flows:

$$y_p^q \geq 0, \forall p, q. [\text{Primal constraints}]$$

# Beckmann's model

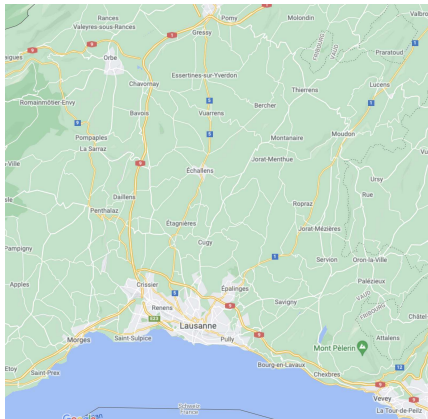
## Equivalence

Solution of the optimization problem = equilibrium path flows

## Uniqueness

- ▶ Optimization problem is strictly convex in the link flows.
- ▶ Link flow solution is unique.
- ▶ Path flow solution is not necessarily unique.

# Complexity



- ▶ Path-based formulation is untractable for real networks.
- ▶ The number of paths grows exponentially with the number of centroids.
- ▶ We had a similar issue with the shortest path problem.
- ▶ For the shortest path problem: Dijkstra.
- ▶ We will also rely on Dijkstra here.



# Solution algorithm

Initialization Empty network.

- ▶ Link costs:  $t_\ell(0)$ .
- ▶ Link flows from all-or-nothing assignment:  $x^0$ .
- ▶  $k = 0$ .

Step 1 Calculate link costs:  $t_\ell^k = t_\ell(x^k)$ .

Step 2 Link flows from all-or-nothing assignment:  $\tilde{x}^k$ .

Step 3 Line search.

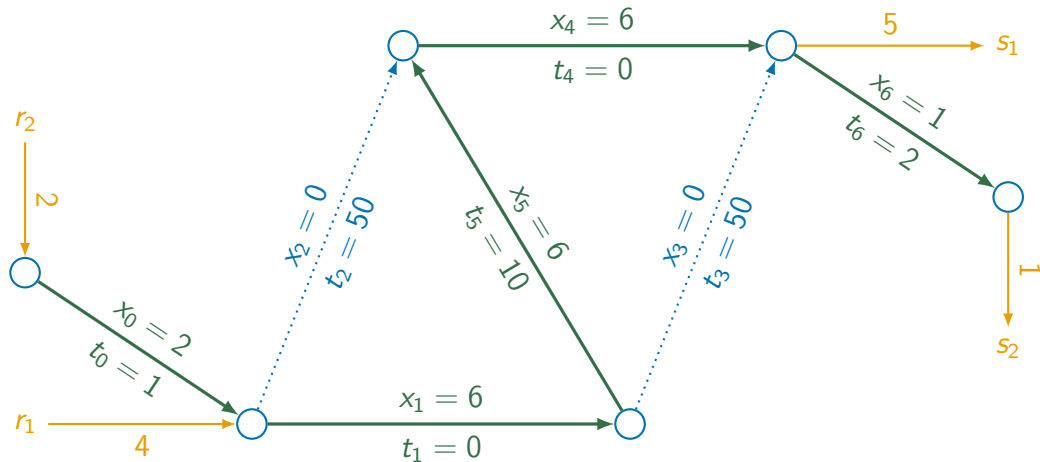
$$x^{k+1} = x^k + \alpha(\tilde{x}^k - x^k), \quad 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1,$$

where  $\alpha$  solves

$$\min_{\alpha} \sum_{\ell} \int_0^{x_{\ell}^{k+1}} t_{\ell}(z) dz$$

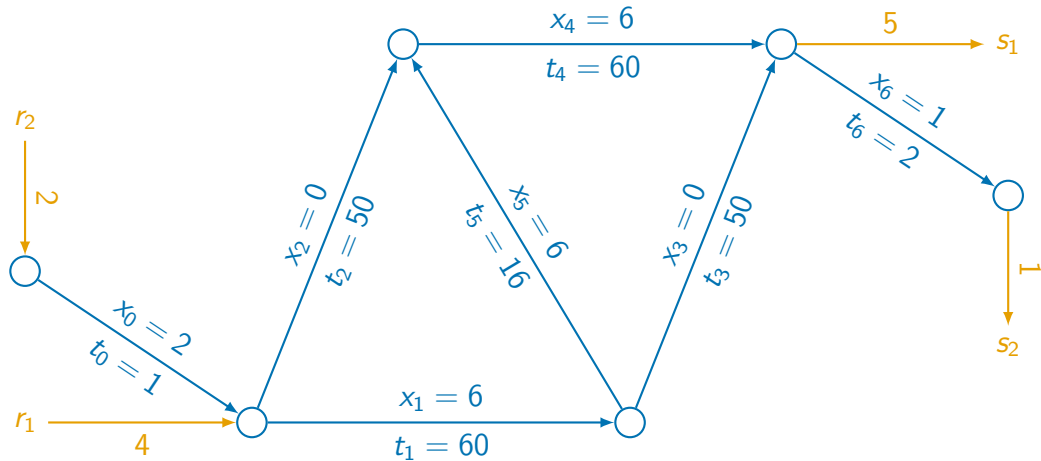
Step 4 Check convergence. If not, go to step 1.

## All-or-nothing on empty network

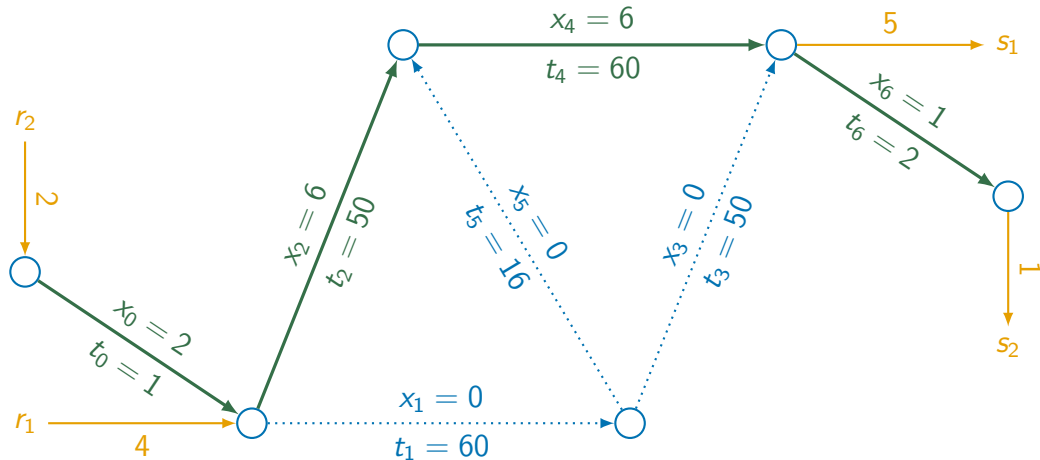


$$c_{11}^* = 10, c_{12}^* = 12, c_{21}^* = 11$$

## Updated costs



## All-or-nothing with updated costs

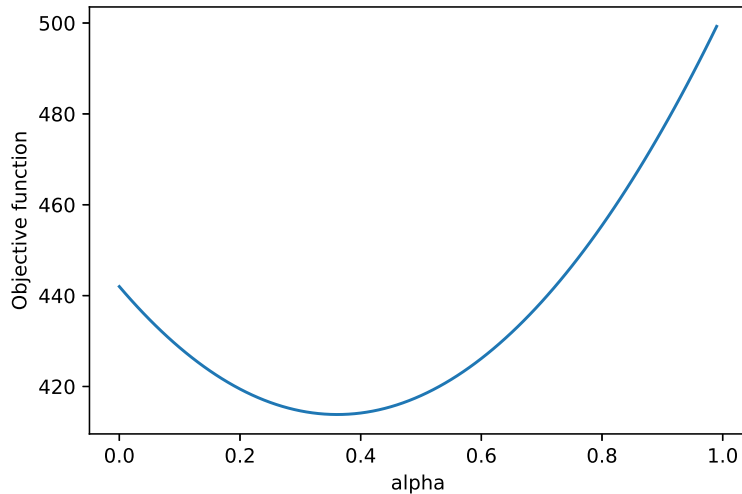


$$c_{11}^* = 110, c_{12}^* = 112, c_{21}^* = 111$$

# Convex combination

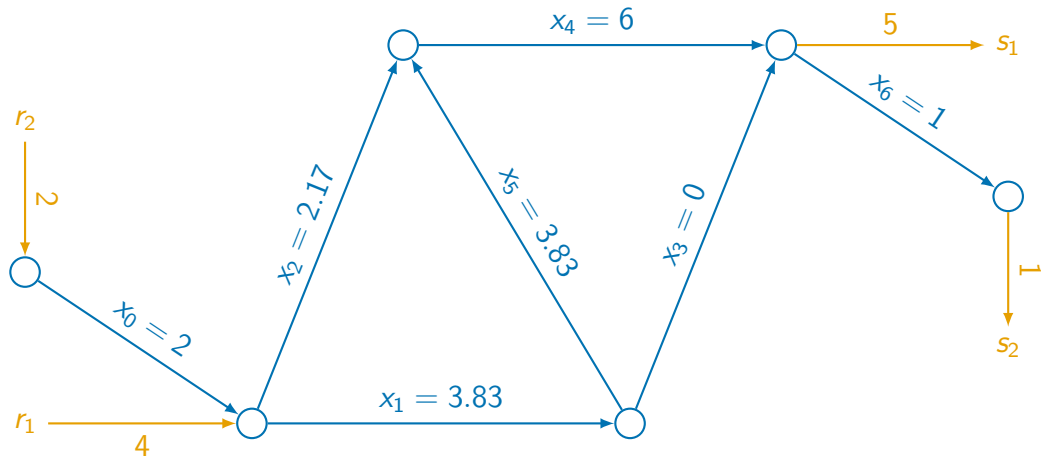
Arc	First flow	Second flow	Convex combination
0	2	2	$2 + \alpha (2-2) = 2$
1	6	0	$6 + \alpha (0-6) = 6 - 6 \alpha$
2	0	6	$0 + \alpha(6-0) = 6 \alpha$
3	0	0	$0 + \alpha(0-0) = 0$
4	6	6	$6 + \alpha(6-6) = 6$
5	6	0	$6 + \alpha (0-6) = 6 - 6 \alpha$
6	1	1	$1 + \alpha (1-1) = 1$

## Line search



$$\alpha^* = 0.361$$

## Updated flows



# Iterations

Iter	$\alpha$	Objective function
0		442.00
1	0.361	413.83
2	0.309	391.72
3	0.0885	390.67
4	0.0538	390.31
5	0.0358	390.15
6	0.0249	390.08
7	0.0179	390.04
8	0.0131	390.02
9	0.00967	390.01
10	0.00722	390.01
11	0.00544	390.00

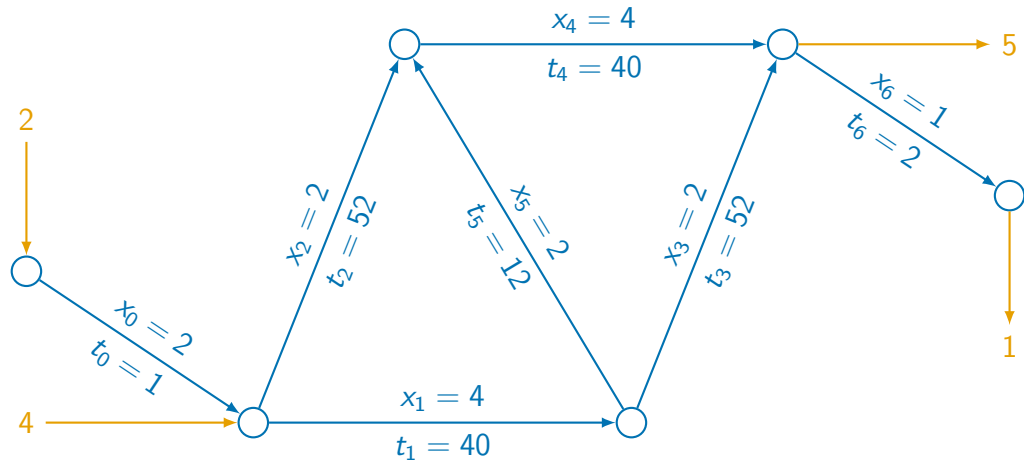


# Comments

## Complexity

- ▶ All-or-nothing: Dijkstra.
- ▶ Line search: link-based objective function
- ▶ No path enumeration is needed.
- ▶ Convergence may be slow.
- ▶ Convergence slower for highly congested networks.

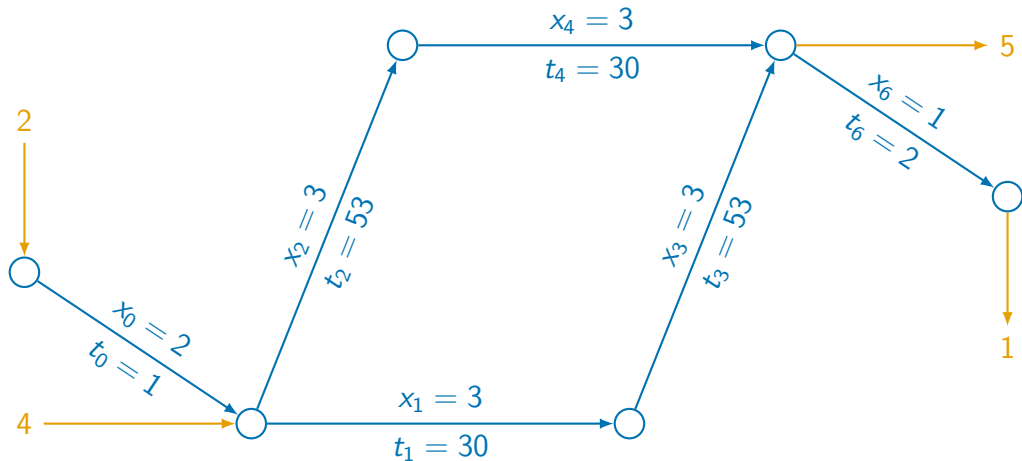
## Equilibrium: level of service



$$c_{11}^* = 92, c_{12}^* = 94, c_{21}^* = 93, \text{ Mean: } \frac{1}{6}(92 \cdot 3 + 94 \cdot 1 + 93 \cdot 2) = 92.7$$

Level of service when a link is removed

## Level of service when a link is removed



$$c_{11}^* = 83, c_{12}^* = 85, c_{21}^* = 84, \text{ Mean: } \frac{1}{6}(83 \cdot 3 + 85 \cdot 1 + 84 \cdot 2) = 83.7$$

# Braess paradox

## Observation

- ▶ The capacity of the network is reduced.
- ▶ The performance of the network is improved.

## Equivalently...

- ▶ The capacity of the network is increased.
- ▶ The performance of the network is deteriorated.

Is it a mathematical artifact? Or does it happen in reality?

# Stuttgart, 1968

## Events

- ▶ Schlossplatz
- ▶ Opening of a new traffic network.
- ▶ Consequences: big chaos.
- ▶ Solution: close Königstrasse



Source: [Knödel, 1969]

# New-York, 1990



## Events

- ▶ Earth Day (April 22)
- ▶ Closing of 42th street.
- ▶ Expectations: “earth day = doomsday”
- ▶ “You didn’t need to be a rocket scientist or have a sophisticated computer queuing model to see that this could have been a major problem.”
- ▶ Actually, the situation was better than expected.

Source: [Kolata, 1990]

# Seoul, 2003

Before



After



## Events

- ▶ Cheonggyecheon, Seoul
- ▶ Removal of a 6-lane highway.
- ▶ Expectations: catastrophe.
- ▶ In reality: “Many transportation professionals were surprised to learn that the city’s traffic flow had actually improved, instead of worsening”

Source: [Baker, 2009]

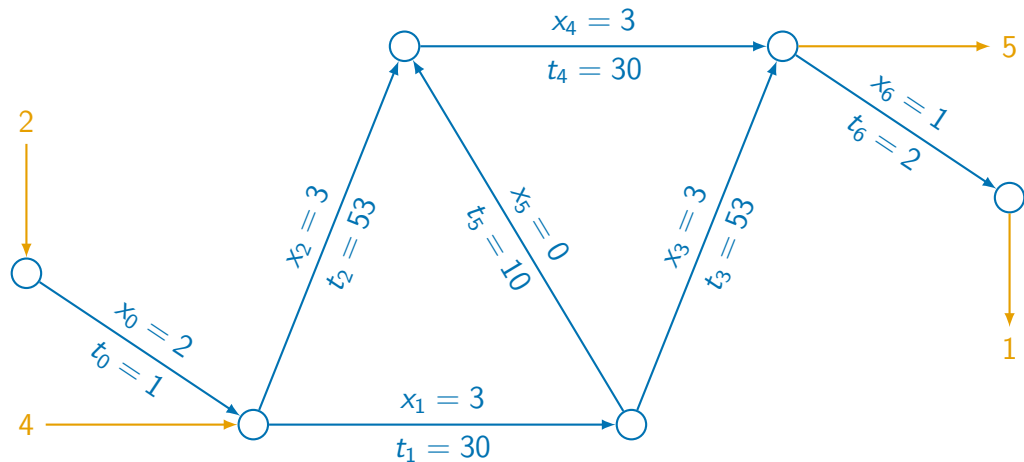


# Braess paradox

## Why does it happen?

- ▶ People do not cooperate
- ▶ The new highway brings traffic in small roads.

What if we convince travelers to do the following?



$$c_{11}^* = 83, c_{12}^* = 85, c_{21}^* = 84, \text{ Mean: } \frac{1}{6}(83 \cdot 3 + 85 \cdot 1 + 84 \cdot 2) = 83.7$$

# Prisoner's dilemma



## Context

- ▶ Joe and Averell have been arrested.
- ▶ They are separated and isolated.
- ▶ They are accused of a small robbery, with evidence.
- ▶ They are suspected of a major robbery, without evidence.

# Prisoner's dilemma



## Bargain

- ▶ To Joe: you can stay silent, or betray Averell.
- ▶ To Averell: you can stay silent, or betray Joe.
- ▶ If both stay silent: 1 year in prison.
- ▶ If both betray each other: 2 years in prison.
- ▶ If Joe betrays Averell, and Averell stays silent, Joe is free and 3 years of prison for Averell.
- ▶ If Averell betrays Joe, and Joe stays silent, Averell is free and 3 years of prison for Joe.

# Prisoner's dilemma: global point of view

## Strategies

Decision		Penalty		Total penalty
Joe	Averell	Joe	Averell	
Silent	Silent	1	1	2
Silent	Betray	3	0	3
Betray	Silent	0	3	3
Betray	Betray	2	2	4

## Best strategy

- ▶ Both stay silent.
- ▶ Optimal globally and individually.

# Prisoner's dilemma: individual points of view

## Joe's point of view

### Assume that Averell stays silent

- ▶ If I stay silent: 1 year in prison.
- ▶ If I betray Averell: I am free.

### Assume that Averell betrays me

- ▶ If I stay silent: 3 years in prison.
- ▶ If I betray Averell: 2 years in prison.

Whatever Averell does, I am better off betraying him.

## Averell's point of view

### Assume that Joe stays silent

- ▶ If I stay silent: 1 year in prison.
- ▶ If I betray Joe: I am free.

### Assume that Joe betrays me

- ▶ If I stay silent: 3 years in prison.
- ▶ If I betray Joe: 2 years in prison.

Whatever Joe does, I am better off betraying him.

# Prisoner's dilemma

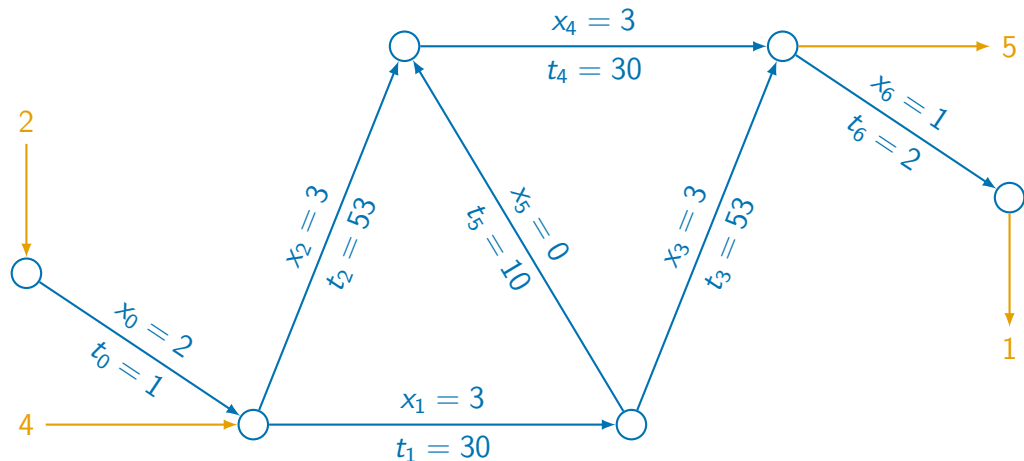
## Nash equilibrium

- ▶ Equilibrium: betray the other.
- ▶ No player can improve the situation with a unilateral decision.

## Cooperation

- ▶ Best joined decision: stay both silent.
- ▶ It requires cooperation and trust.

Can we convince travelers to do the following?



$$c_{11}^* = 83, c_{12}^* = 85, c_{21}^* = 84, \text{ Mean: } \frac{1}{6}(83 \cdot 3 + 85 \cdot 1 + 84 \cdot 2) = 83.7$$



# Traffic assignment

## User equilibrium

$$y^* = \operatorname{argmin}_y \sum_{\ell} \int_0^{x_{\ell}} t_{\ell}(z) dz$$

subject to

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_p y_p^q &= f_q, & \forall q, \\ y_p^q &\geq 0, & \forall p, q. \end{aligned}$$

## System optimum

$$\tilde{y}^* = \operatorname{argmin}_y \sum_{\ell} x_{\ell} t_{\ell}(x_{\ell})$$

subject to

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_p y_p^q &= f_q, & \forall q, \\ y_p^q &\geq 0, & \forall p, q. \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{\ell} x_{\ell}^* t_{\ell}(x_{\ell}^*) - \sum_{\ell} \tilde{x}_{\ell}^* t_{\ell}(\tilde{x}_{\ell}^*) \geq 0: \text{ price of anarchy}$$

# Engineering point of view

## Role

- ▶ Design
- ▶ Maintain
- ▶ Operate

## Objective

- ▶ Minimize the price of anarchy.
- ▶ Benchmark: system optimum.

## Actions

- ▶ Infrastructure.
- ▶ Influence the travelers.

# Towards system optimum

## Supply-based

- ▶ Traffic lights, speed limit, etc.
- ▶ Control strategies.
- ▶ Compliance guaranteed by law.
- ▶ See the course of Prof. Geroliminis.

## Demand-based

- ▶ Information and incentives.
- ▶ Compliance not guaranteed.
- ▶ Pricing.

# System optimum



## Engineering and policy makers

- ▶ System optimum is about the average traveler.
- ▶ In the example, all travelers were better off when the link was removed.
- ▶ In practice, some travelers may pay a high price for the greater good.
- ▶ Concepts like equity, minimum level of service, etc. are important as well.

# Summary

## User equilibrium

- ▶ No traveler can improve her travel time by unilaterally changing routes.
- ▶ Minimum cost of all used paths.
- ▶ No flow on paths with higher costs.
- ▶ Equivalent optimization problem.

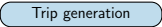
## Braess paradox

- ▶ Decreasing capacity may improve the level of service.
- ▶ Increasing capacity may deteriorate the level of service.

## System optimum

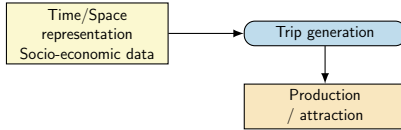
- ▶ Requires cooperation among travelers.
- ▶ Prisoner's dilemma.
- ▶ Main objective for the engineer.

# The 4-step approach: summary

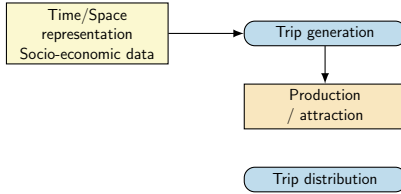


Trip generation

# The 4-step approach: summary

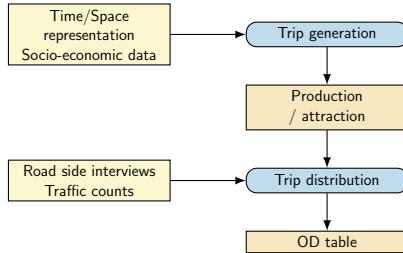


# The 4-step approach: summary

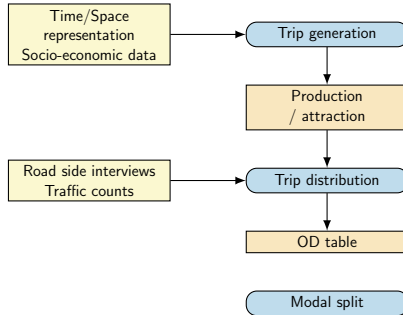




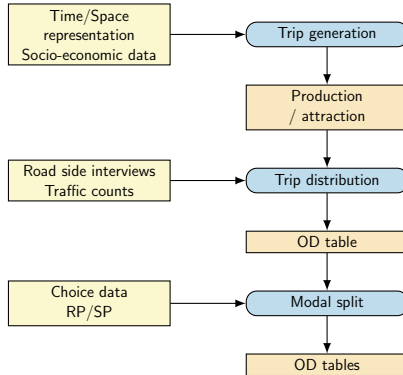
# The 4-step approach: summary



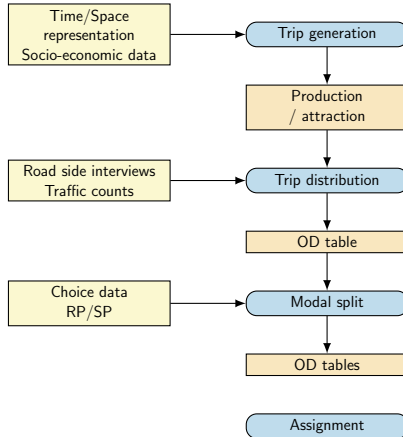
# The 4-step approach: summary



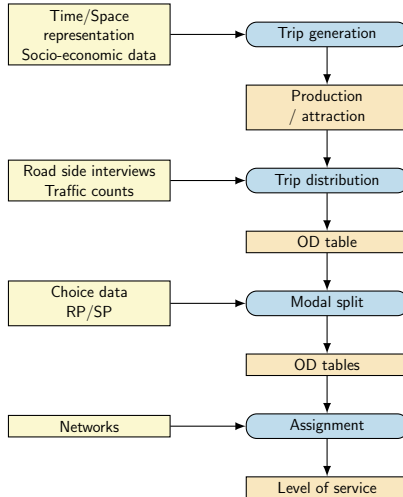
# The 4-step approach: summary



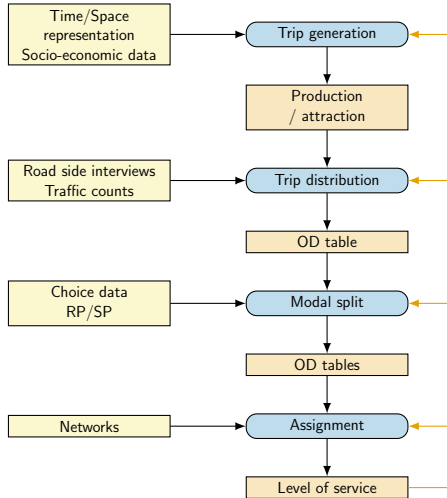
# The 4-step approach: summary



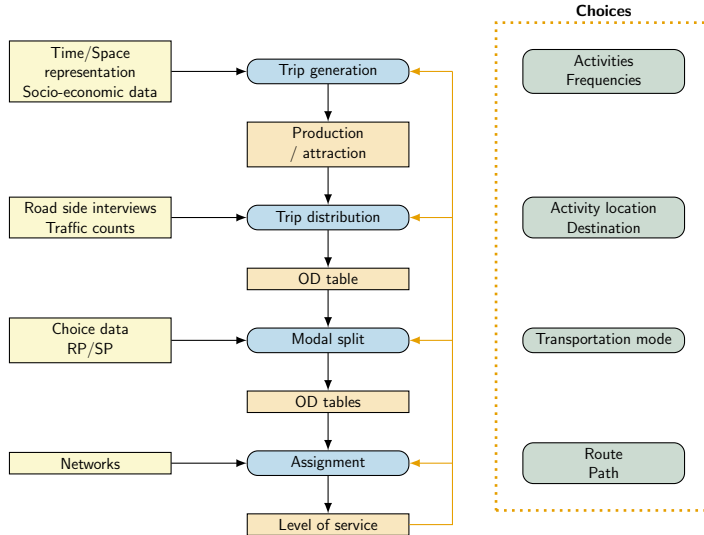
# The 4-step approach: summary



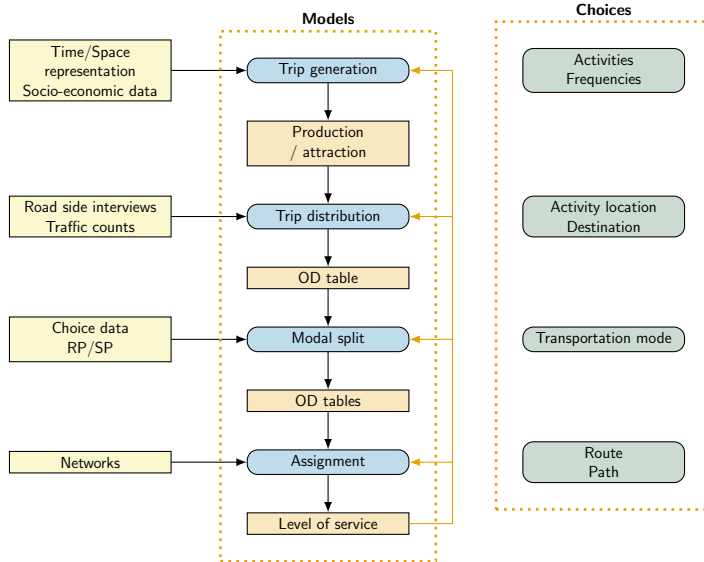
# The 4-step approach: summary



# The 4-step approach: summary

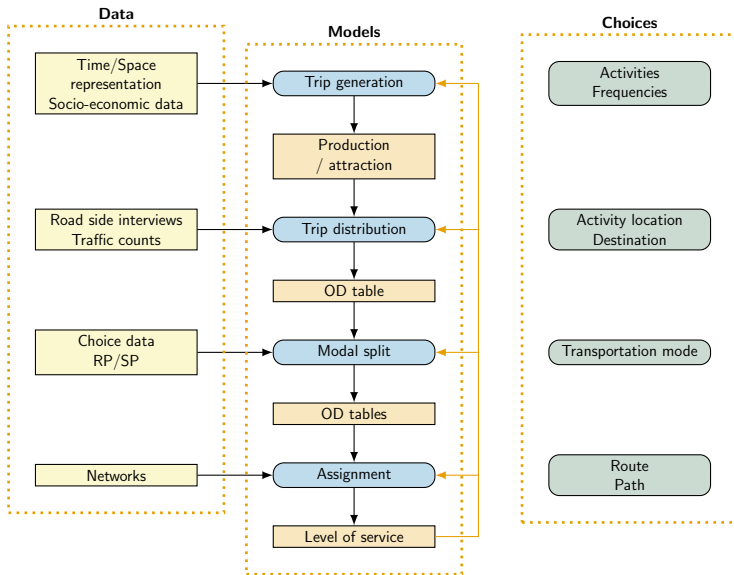


# The 4-step approach: summary





# The 4-step approach: summary



# Bibliography



Baker, L. (2009).

Removing roads and traffic lights speeds urban travel.  
[Scientific American.](#)



Knödel, W. (1969).

Graphentheoretische Methoden und ihre Anwendungen.  
[Springer, Berlin.](#)



Kolata, G. (1990).

What if they closed 42d street and nobody noticed?  
[The New York Times, page 38.](#)