

*Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board*

User's Guide for the MWCOG/NCRTPB Travel Demand Forecasting Model, Version 2.3, Build 57

Volume 1 of 2: Main Report and Appendix A (Flowcharts)

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Agency Transportation planning in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area is coordinated by the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (NC RTPB or simply TPB), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the region. The TPB is staffed by the Department of Transportation Planning (DTP) at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG or simply COG). COG is an independent, nonprofit association composed of elected officials from 21 local governments, members of the Maryland and Virginia state legislatures, and members of the U.S. Congress. The TPB Travel Forecasting Subcommittee provides oversight for the models development activities undertaken by the COG/TPB staff.		
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Abstract: This report describes how to apply a regional travel demand forecasting model, known as the Version 2.3 Travel Model, designed to represent the transportation supply and demand in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. The area represented by this model includes the District of Columbia, neighboring parts of Maryland, Virginia, and one county in West Virginia. The 6,800-square-mile modeled area is divided into 3,722 transportation analysis zones (TAZs). The model was calibrated to year-2007 conditions, between 2008 and 2011, using the COG/TPB 2007/08 Household Travel Survey and several on-board transit surveys. Revisions to the travel model are referred to as "builds," and is often indicated as the third index in the model version number This report describes the COG/TPB Version 2.3.57 travel model, which became the adopted travel model on October 15, 2014 by action of the TPB.		
Copies of this report can be found on the MWCOG Website: www.mwcog.org Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments 777 N. Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 300 Washington, D.C. 20002-4239 Tel. (202) 962-3200		

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Appendices

- A. Flowcharts
- B. Batch Files (in a separate volume)
- C. Cube Voyager Scripts (in a separate volume)
- D. AEMS Fortran Control Files (in a separate volume)

Colophon

This report was created using Microsoft Word 2010 and Visio 2007, and was converted to a PDF file using Adobe Acrobat 9.

This report consists of two sections: the main report and the appendices. The files for these two sections can be found in a folder on COG's internal file server (I:\ateam\docum\FY15\model_doc_user_guide). The name of the Word file containing the main report can be found on the cover of the report.

Preface

The National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (NC RTPB or simply TPB) is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area and is also one of several policy boards that operate at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG or simply COG). The TPB is staffed by COG's Department of Transportation Planning (DTP). The COG/TPB staff develops and maintains, with some consultant assistance, a series of regional travel demand models that are used for the regional transportation planning process in the Washington, D.C. area. These regional travel demand models are developed under the guidance of the Travel Forecasting Subcommittee (TFS), which is a subcommittee of TPB's Technical Committee. At any given time, the COG/TPB staff maintains at least two regional travel demand models: an adopted, production-use model and a developmental model. The production-use model is the one that is used in planning studies conducted by COG/TPB and is made available to outside parties for their use.¹ The developmental model is the one that is currently under development by COG/TPB staff, and is generally not made available to outside parties, since it is not yet considered a finished product. Each major change or revision to the model is referred to as a "build" and is often indicated as the third index in the model version number, e.g., build 57 of the Version 2.3 Travel Model can be called Version 2.3.57.

1 Introduction

This report explains how to setup and run the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model, Build 57, which is latest in a series of regional travel demand models developed by the COG/TPB staff for regional transportation planning work in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. The Version 2.3.57 Travel Model became the adopted, production-use model on October 14, 2014, when the TPB took the following two actions:

- TPB Resolution R5-2015: Approval of the Air Quality Conformity Determination of the 2014 Constrained, Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP) and the FY 2015-2020 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).
- TPB Resolution R6-2014: Approval of the 2014 CLRP.

The Version 2.3.57 Travel Model became the adopted, production-use model with those two actions because it was the model used for the air quality conformity (AQC) analysis. In other words, the TPB does not explicitly adopt a particular model version, but the adoption is made implicitly by the fact that it was used for an AQC analysis that was approved by the TPB.

The TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model was calibrated to year-2007 conditions from 2008 to 2011, and this work was documented in a calibration report.² In 2013, the Version 2.3 Travel Model was validated to

¹ The procedures for requesting the model can be found on the "Data Requests" webpage (<http://www.mwcog.org/transportation/activities/models/datarequests.asp>).

² Ronald Milone et al., *Calibration Report for the TPB Travel Forecasting Model, Version 2.3, on the 3,722-Zone Area System*, Final Report (Washington, D.C.: National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, January 20, 2012), <http://www.mwcog.org/transportation/activities/models/documentation.asp>.

year-2010 conditions,³ with an emphasis on validating the model's highway assignment results. Updates to the model resulting from this validation work were part of Build 52. Although the model was validated to year-2010 conditions, it was not recalibrated, so the January 20, 2012 calibration report remains the latest documentation for calibration work.

1.1 History of the Version 2.3 Travel Model: 2008 to 2014

The Version 2.3 Travel Model first became the adopted regional travel model for the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area on November 16, 2011 when the TPB adopted the following two resolutions:

- TPB Resolution R5-2012: TPB determined that the 2011 CLRP conformed to all requirements of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990.
- TPB Resolution R6-2012: TPB approved the 2011 CLRP, the TPB web site, and Appendix B of the Air Quality Conformity Report.

In 2012, Build 39 of the Version 2.3 Travel Model was used for the air quality conformity analysis of the 2012 Constrained Long-Range Plan and the FY 2013-2018 Transportation Improvement Plan. In 2013, Build 52 of the model was used for the air quality conformity analysis of the 2013 CLRP and FY 2013-2018 TIP. As stated earlier, in 2014, Build 57 of the Version 2.3 model became the production-use model, so this is the model that will be transmitted to interested parties who request the model.

The list below shows milestones in the development of the TPB regional travel demand model from 2008 to 2014:

- March 1, 2008: TPB Version 2.2 Travel Model was released.⁴
 - The Version 2.2 travel model was developed on the 2,191-TAZ area system and most of its component models were estimated and calibrated with data from the COG/TPB 1994 Household Travel Survey (HTS), which included about 4,800 households.
- June 30, 2008: Draft TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model was released.⁵
 - At the time when the Version 2.2 Travel Model was released, a parallel effort was also underway to combine a nested-logit mode choice (NL MC) model and revised truck models into the Version 2.2 framework. This development effort proved to be viable and resulted in a release of what was then called the "draft Version 2.3 travel model" in June of 2008. The draft Version 2.3 model, like Version 2.2, was developed on the 2,191-TAZ area system.

³ Ronald Milone to Files, "2010 Validation of the Version 2.3 Travel Demand Model," Memorandum, (June 30, 2013).

⁴ Ronald Milone et al., *TPB Travel Forecasting Model, Version 2.2: Specification, Validation, and User's Guide* (Washington, D.C.: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, March 1, 2008), <http://www.mwcog.org/transportation/activities/models/documentation.asp>.

⁵ Ronald Milone et al., *TPB Travel Forecasting Model, Version 2.3: Specification, Validation, and User's Guide*, Draft report (Washington, D.C.: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, June 30, 2008).

- The draft Version 2.3 model was not brought into production given that two related events were in motion during 2008. First, a new round of travel data collection was underway, including a major regional household travel survey (the COG/TPB 2007/2008 Household Travel Survey, which included about 11,000 households) and two transit on-board surveys (a bus on-board survey and a Metrorail passenger survey). Second, a new TAZ system was in development. The new zone system was envisioned to be developed over the same geographic area as the 2,191-TAZ system (6,800 square miles), but with smaller average zone sizes. TPB staff ultimately decided that the draft Version 2.3 Travel Model should not become the approved regional travel model until it incorporated the new zone system and the new data from the 2007/2008 Household Travel Survey (HTS) and the on-board transit surveys.
- February 28, 2011: TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model, Build 9, was released.⁶
 - From 2008 to 2012, TPB staff conducted the following activities:
 - Compiling and cleaning new survey data.
 - Preparing calibration files based on the new 3,722 TAZ system
 - Estimating and calibrating various sub-models in the regional travel model.
- November 11, 2011: TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model, Build 36, was released.⁷ This is the model that became the adopted regional travel model for the for the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area on November 16, 2011.
- December 21, 2011: TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model, Build 38, was released. This model was documented in January 2012.⁸
- July 17, 2013: TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model, Build 52 became the production-use travel model.
- October 15, 2014: The Version 2.3.57 model became the production-use travel model.

1.2 Recent changes to the Version 2.3 Travel Model: Build 57 vs. Build 52

Compared to its predecessor (Ver. 2.3.52), the Ver. 2.3.57 model has seven changes/updates, which are described below.

1.2.1 New version of Cube Voyager

The Ver. 2.3.52 model was designed to be used with Cube Voyager version 6.0.2. The Ver. 2.3.57 model is designed to be used with Cube Voyager version 6.1 Service Pack 1. We migrated to the latest version of Cube Voyager to take advantage of numerous minor bug fixes, including changes to the Bi-Conjugate

⁶ Ronald Milone et al., *TPB Version 2.3 Travel Forecasting Model for the 3,722-Zone Area System: Calibration Report*, Draft report (Washington, D.C.: National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, February 28, 2011).

⁷ Ronald Milone et al., *Calibration Report for the TPB Travel Forecasting Model, Version 2.3.36, on the 3,722-Zone Area System*, Draft report (Washington, D.C.: National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, November 18, 2011), <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/aF1fV1xW20111118131827.pdf>.

⁸ Ronald Milone et al., *User's Guide for the TPB Travel Forecasting Model, Version 2.3, Build 38, on the 3,722-Zone Area System*, Final Report (Washington, D.C.: National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, January 20, 2012), <http://www.mwcog.org/transportation/activities/models/documentation.asp>.

Frank-Wolfe process.⁹ The move from Cube Voyager 6.0.2 to 6.1 SP1 was also done so that we could use a new transit walkshed/percent-walk-to-transit that was developed by AECOM (described below). The move from Cube Voyager 6.0.2 to 6.1 SP1 does result in a small change in modeled results. For example, in a test done for the year 2010, there was a one hundredth of a percent reduction in VMT and a four hundredths of a percent increase in transit person trips, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1 Comparison of total transit and total VMT for a year-2010 run using Voyager 6.0.2 and 6.1 SP1.

Regional Totals		
	Transit	VMT
Base (6.0.2)	1,100,102	156,967,718
Test (6.1 SP1)	1,100,500	156,957,220
Diff (T-B)	398	-10,498
Pct Diff (T/B)	0.04%	-0.01%

Ref: "I:\ateam\docum\model_updates\cube_voyager_602_61sp1_diffs.xlsx"

There was also a very slight change in the rate of convergence for the highway assignment. Highway assignment is conducted in five speed-feedback (SFB) iterations of the model (pump prime, iteration 1, 2, 3, and 4). The total number of user equilibrium iterations for these five speed feedback iterations was 882 for the base case (6.0.2) and 888 for the test case (6.1 SP1). The aforementioned model result changes are considered very small and should not be an issue to most users.

1.2.2 New automated/integrated transit walkshed process to calculate zonal percent-walk-to-transit values

One of the inputs to the travel demand model is the percentage of each zone that is within walking distance to transit. Conceptually, one develops a series of transit walksheds, which are then combined geographically with zone boundaries to calculate the percentage of each zone that is within walking distance to transit. This procedure creates point buffers around transit stop nodes and then overlays these point buffers with TAZ boundaries. The process is made more complicated by the fact that two walking distances are differentiated: a short walk (0.5 miles) and a long walk (1.0 miles). See Section 21.4.3 ("Market segmentation by access to transit") beginning on p. 173 for more details.

The model assumes that the area of each TAZ that is within a short-walk or a long-walk to transit is stored in a text file (areawalk.txt). This file is then used by the walk access script (walkacc.s) to calculate the zonal walk *percentages*, which are then stored in a second text file (NLWalkPCT.txt).¹⁰ This second file then is an input to both the transit fare process (prefarv23.s) and the mode choice process. In the past, we had a separate, semi-automated ArcGIS/Visual Basic process for developing the areawalk.txt

⁹ Citilabs, Inc., *Cube Voyager Release Summary, Version 6.1.0 SPI* (Tallahassee, Florida: Citilabs, Inc., April 24, 2013), 4–5.

¹⁰ See page A-5 of the modeling flowchart in Appendix A.

file.¹¹ This process was run outside of the travel model stream. Using this process required the following:

1. A user had to have a copy of ArcGIS (purchased from Esri)
2. A user had to have the Visual Basic process (offered by COG for free)
3. A user had to remember to re-run the walkshed process before each model run when there had been a change in the transportation network that might affect transit access, such as adding or removing a bus line.

The Ver. 2.3.57 travel model now includes an automated/integrated transit walkshed process. The process automated in the sense that it is run using a Python/ArcPy script, so it does not require manual intervention from the user. The process is integrated in the sense that it is built into the travel model run: It is now the first step in the “run model steps” batch file (“call ArcPy_Walkshed_Process.bat %1”). The new process was developed by AECOM in FY 2014, and is discussed both in AECOM’s FY 2014 report¹² and in section 11 (“Building transit walksheds and calculating zonal walk percent”) of this report, beginning on p. 107. The new process was incorporated into the TPB model by COG/TPB staff and was used for the latest air quality conformity determination (of the 2014 CLRP). Since the process is integrated in the model run stream, the modeler does not have to remember to run it if network changes are made. As noted by AECOM, “ArcPy was chosen as the basis for development because it provides convenient and powerful access to the GIS functionalities in a (Python) programming environment that is transparent and relatively easy to modify.”¹³

Another advantage of the new process is that it does not require one to have/purchase ArcGIS. One needs only to have purchased Cube, which is already a requirement to run the model. To run the new integrated walkshed process, one must have the following:

- One of the following two software packages:
 - ArcGIS, version 10.1: Available for purchase from Esri. Some modelers may already have this software; some may not.
 - ArcGIS engine runtime, version 10.1: Available for free, if you have purchased Cube. All modelers will have purchased Cube (in order to run the model). Cube version 6.1 SP1 comes with ArcGIS engine runtime 10.1. When one installs Cube, one has two options: “with ArcGIS engine runtime” (e.g., cube610SP1setup.exe) and “without ArcGIS engine runtime (e.g., cube610SP1setupnogis.exe). If you do not have ArcGIS 10.1, you will want

¹¹ Yew Yuan, *Transit Walkshed Generator: A GIS Application to Generate Transit Walksheds, Technical Report, Draft* (Washington, D.C.: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, November 15, 2012); Yew Yuan, *Walkshed Generator User Guide* (Washington, D.C.: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, November 16, 2012).

¹² AECOM, *FY 2014 Final Report, COG Contract 12-006: Assistance with Development and Application of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board Travel Demand Model* (National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, August 18, 2014), chap. 3.

¹³ *Ibid.*, 3–2.

to install Cube using the “with ArcGIS engine runtime” option (e.g., cube610SP1setup.exe).

- Python: This is free, open-source software. One way to get it automatically is to install Cube “with ArcGIS engine runtime.” It may also be included when one installs the full version of ArcGIS.

Notes:

1. Cube 6.1 SP1 is compatible with ArcGIS 10.1, but Cube 6.0.2 is not.
2. The areawalk.txt file created in the new automated walkshed process is not always sorted by TAZ number. This was the case with the previous walkshed process also. This does not have an effect on modeled results, but it can make it challenging to compare two areawalk.txt files. For a future model version (2.3.58?), we hope to correct this shortcoming.
3. In testing, if two model runs that incorporate the new transit walkshed process were started at the same time, one of the two runs will stop prematurely in the walkshed process. This is likely due to a license restriction with the ArcGIS runtime engine. Consequently, it is recommended that multiple model runs on the same computer not be launched at exactly the same time. **Instead, it is recommended that the start times be staggered/offset by 45 to 60 minutes.**¹⁴ Based on a series of recent “stress tests” to see how many concurrent model runs could be completed on one server, it was also found that the 45-60-minute time offset is useful for minimizing the chance of a model run crash (irrespective of whether the new walkshed process is run).

The new walkshed process appears to give identical results to the previous walkshed process, providing the inputs, such as the transit line files, are identical and correctly coded.¹⁵

1.2.3 Updates made to the parker.s script used to generate walk transfer links between PNR lots and rail stations

The parker.s script used to generate walk transfer links between park-and-ride (PNR) lots and rail stations. A COG/TPB staff member had had questions about the way transit-related parking costs were handled in the model, including “shadow parking” costs, which have not yet been formally used by COG/TPB staff and are thus not well documented. To make the script easier to understand, the following changes were made to the parker.s script:

The name of a variable (“DOLLperMin”) was changed to more accurately reflect the contents of the variable. The new variable is called “MinPerDoll”.

¹⁴ Ibid., 3–8.

¹⁵ See page 2-3 of Mark S. Moran and Dzung Ngo to David Roden and Krishna Patnam, “Comments on Your Cube/ArcPy-Based Transit Walkshed Process and Its Associated Memo Dated March 25, 2013,” Memorandum, (May 15, 2014).

Comments were updated to give more information. For example, “; Offpk parking cost” was changed to “; Offpk parking cost (per-hour cost for OP, cents; assumes 1 hour duration)”, as shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1 Changed comments in parker.s script

STAPCAP	= di.1.STAPCAP	; Parking lot capacity
STAPKPCOST	= di.1.STAPKPCOST	; AM Pk daily parking cost
STAOPCOST	= di.1.STAOPCOST	; Offpk parking cost
STAPKSHAD	= di.1.STAPKSHAD	; AM Shadow parking cost
STAOPSHAD	= di.1.STAOPSHAD	; Offpk Shadow parking cost
STAP	= di.1.STAP	; Station PNR node (12000 - 14999 series)
STAN1	= di.1.STAN1	; Bus Node connector
STAPCAP	= di.1.STAPCAP	; Parking lot capacity
STAPKPCOST	= di.1.STAPKPCOST	; AM Pk daily parking cost (per-day cost for AM, cents)
STAOPCOST	= di.1.STAOPCOST	; Offpk parking cost (per-hour cost for OP, cents; assumes 1 hour duration)
STAPKSHAD	= di.1.STAPKSHAD	; AM Shadow parking cost (per-day cost for AM, hundredths of minutes)
STAOPSHAD	= di.1.STAOPSHAD	; Offpk Shadow parking cost (per-hour cost for OP, hundredths of minutes; assumes

A misspelling was corrected: “hundreds” => “hundredths”

Comments were changed to add more information and reflect the name change to the variable mentioned earlier.

Figure 2 Changed comments in parker.s script relating to the re-named variable

77	IF (STAPCAP > 2000) _Walkpk = 500.0	;
78		
79	;; write out Metrorail PNR-to-Station links (for AM & Offpeak periods)	
80	IF (MM = 'M' && STAPARK = 'Y' && STAUSE = 'Y')	
81		
82	_time = _walkpk + STAPKSHAD + (@DollperMin@ * _parkam)	
83	xtime = time/100.0	
!!!		
76	IF (STAPCAP > 2000) _Walkpk = 500.0	;
77		
78	;; write out Metrorail PNR-to-Station links (for AM & Offpeak periods)	
79	IF (MM = 'M' && STAPARK = 'Y' && STAUSE = 'Y')	
80	; units for _time are hundredths of minutes	
81	; units for @MinPerDoll@ are hundredths of minutes per cent, which equals minutes per dollar	
82	_time = _walkpk + STAPKSHAD + (@MinPerDoll@ * _parkam)	
83	xtime = time/100.0	

The variable @MinPerDoll@ has units of hundredths of minutes per cent (penny), which simplifies to minutes per dollar.

The changes made to parker.s were done to make the program more understandable and had no effect on modeled results.

1.2.4 Two new summary scripts are now included for comparing mode choice model results

Two new summary scripts are now included with the travel model:

- COMPARE_NL_MC_Expanded_Alt_minus_Base_V23_52.S: Compares two scenarios developed with V2.3.52
- COMPARE_NL_MC_Expanded_Alt_V23_52_minus_Base_V23_39.S: Compares alternative developed with V2.3.52 and base developed with V.2.3.39

In the previous user's guide (for the Ver. 2.3.52 model), the summary scripts had been mentioned in Chapter 1 (p. 6), but they had not been mentioned in Chapter 7 ("Summarizing model output and other utilities") of the user's guide. Also these two scripts had been inadvertently left out of the "summary" folder of the model.

1.2.5 Changes were made to both the four transit path-building/skimming scripts and the four "assemble skims" scripts

The following changes were made:

- Output matrix files are now in Cube Voyager format (previously they were in MINUTP format)
- Table names in the binary matrix files have been cleaned up (previously some names were mixed up or omitted)
- The first of these changes had the side benefit of removing a series of misleading error statements about "meaningless values."

1.2.5.1 Transit path-building/skimming scripts

The four transit skimming script files (transit_skims_[AB|BM|MR|CR].s) result in 22 transit skim files per speed feedback iteration. For example, in final (iteration #5) speed feedback, the following 22 transit skim files are generated:

i4_AM_DR_AB.SKM	i4_AM_WK_BM.SKM	i4_OP_KR_BM.SKM
i4_AM_DR_BM.SKM	i4_AM_WK_CR.SKM	i4_OP_KR_MR.SKM
i4_AM_DR_CR.SKM	i4_AM_WK_MR.SKM	i4_OP_WK_AB.SKM
i4_AM_DR_MR.SKM	i4_OP_DR_AB.SKM	i4_OP_WK_BM.SKM
i4_AM_KR_AB.SKM	i4_OP_DR_BM.SKM	i4_OP_WK_CR.SKM
i4_AM_KR_BM.SKM	i4_OP_DR_CR.SKM	i4_OP_WK_MR.SKM
i4_AM_KR_MR.SKM	i4_OP_DR_MR.SKM	
i4_AM_WK_AB.SKM	i4_OP_KR_AB.SKM	

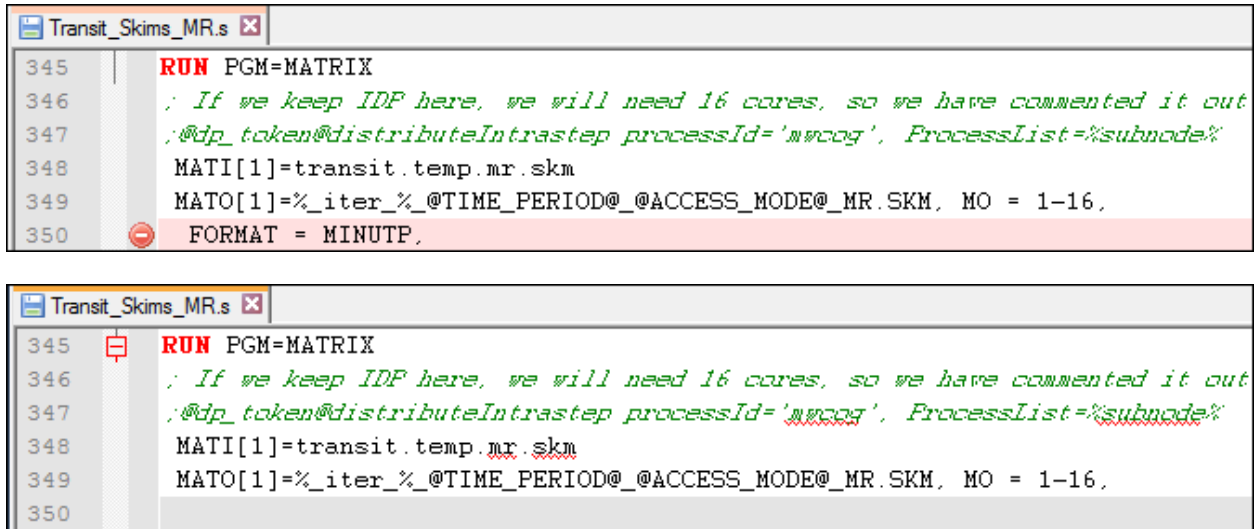
Each of the 22 skim files includes 16 matrices (e.g., in-vehicle time for local bus, in-vehicle time for express bus). In the past, these matrices were saved in MINUTP format, and the transit skimming scripts used the "NAME" statement to place labels/names on each of the 16 matrices. But there were two problems. First, according to the Cube Voyager Reference Guide, "For MINUTP and text output files, the program ignores NAME."¹⁶ This meant that the 16 matrix tables were not actually renamed and that the model indicate a large series of warning statements: "W(603): MATO[1] has meaningless values

¹⁶ Citilabs, Inc., *Cube Voyager Reference Guide, Version 6.0.2* (Citilabs, Inc., July 26, 2012), 545.

following it.” Second, although one could “comment out” the NAME statement, leaving it in the script as metadata for the contents of the 16 matrices, the current NAME statements listed only 14 tables, so, in effect, the 16 tables were mislabeled.

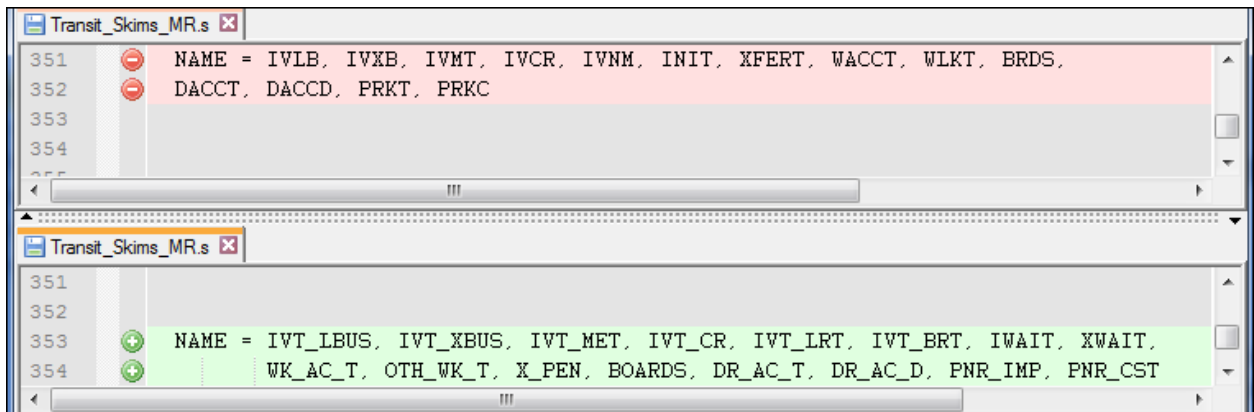
To fix this problem, we have made two changes to the four transit skimming scripts. First, the format was changed from MINUTP to Cube Voyager. This was done by removing “FORMAT = MINUTP” from the MATO statement, which makes the program use the default format (Cube Voyager):

Figure 3 Removing the “FORMAT = MINUTP” statement so that the default (Cube Voyager) format is used



Second, we corrected the list of matrices from 14 to 16, and we also made the names longer, so that they would be more descriptive:

Figure 4 Corrected and lengthened matrix names



These changes resulted in a reduction in the number of warning messages (“MATO[1] has meaningless values following it”), from 367 in the Ver. 2.3.52 model to 32 in the updated model. Also, when one opens a skim file, such as i4_AM_WK_MR.SKM, instead of seeing tables/matrices that are numbered but not labeled, such as this:

Figure 5 Matrix tables that are named only by their numerical sequence

	1	2	*3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Sum	8197379755	3818400	3748086	3644353	0	0	0	3446676	3523456	3574695	3834232	3807862	3889313			
1	3816528	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	710	710		
2	3746214	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
3	3644270	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
5	3709674	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		

One sees the following, which enhances the usability of the skim files:

Figure 6 Matrix tables that have more meaningful names

	1 IVT_LBUS	2 IVT_XBUS	*3 IVT_MET	4 IVT_CR	5 IVT_LRT	6 IVT_BRT	7 IWAIT	8 XWAIT	9 WK_AC_T	10 OTH_WK_T	11 X_P		
Sum	8197379755	3818400	3748086	3644353	0	0	0	3446676	3523456	3574695	3834232	3807862	3889313
1	3816528	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	710	710
2	3746214	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	3644270	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	3709674	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

This change did have a very small effect on the modeled results. For example, in a test conducted for the year 2010, total transit went up by 118 trips (i.e., 0.0107%) and total VMT went from 156,967,718 to 156,962,283, i.e., decreased by 5,435 (i.e., -0.0035%).

1.2.5.2 Four “assemble skims” scripts

The four “assemble skims” script files (assemble_skims_[AB|BM|MR|CR].s) write out a total of eight skim files. For example, for speed feedback iteration i4, we get these files (i4_trn??_?.skm):

i4_TRNAM_AB.SKM	i4_TRNAM_MR.SKM	i4_TRNOP_CR.SKM
i4_TRNAM_BM.SKM	i4_TRNOP_AB.SKM	i4_TRNOP_MR.SKM
i4_TRNAM_CR.SKM	i4_TRNOP_BM.SKM	

Each of these files contains 48 tables/matrices. Similar to what was done with the transit path-building/skimming scripts (discussed above), the statement "FORMAT = MINUTP", which was part of the MATO statement in the four assemble skims scripts, was resulting in a warning statement ("W(603): MATO[1] has meaningless values following it.") and also meant the 48 skim tables in each skim file were unlabeled, as shown in Figure 7.

Figure 7 Assemble skims file (trnam_mr.skm) without labels on the tabs for the 48 tables

*1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
Sum	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
3179507000	1469320	1938280	2116380	0	0	0	0	1773020	1813460	1989480	1761800	1873460	1637780	1752040	1520000	1520000	1520000
1	1471360	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	560	380	0	0	0
2	1939020	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	2118040	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	1444120	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	1818640	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	600	0
8	1814640	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	1991240	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

We have removed the "FORMAT = MINUTP" from the MATO statement, which makes the program use the default format (Cube Voyager). By removing the "FORMAT = MINUTP" statement, the 48 tables in each of the skim files are now labeled correctly, which can be seen when one opens one of the skim files in Cube Base (see Figure 8).

Figure 8 Assemble skims file (trnam_mr.skm) with labels on the tabs for the 48 tables

*1 WWAET	2 WWLKT	3 WWINIT	4 WXFRT	5 WIVTT	6 WIVCR	7 WIVXB	8 WIVMR	9 WIVN1	10 WIVN2	11 WIVLB	12 WNXFR	13 WFARE	14 WXPEN	
Sum	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3179507000	1469320	1938280	2116380	0	0	0	1773020	1813460	1989480	1761800	1873460	1637780	1752040	1520000
1	1471360	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	560	380	0	0
2	1939020	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	2118040	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	1444120	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	1818640	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	600	0	0
8	1814640	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Additionally, we have now eliminated all of the warning messages ("W(603): MATO[1] has meaningless values following it."). Previously, each model run resulted in 32 of these warning messages.

As was the case with the similar change made to the transit path-building/skimming scripts, the change from MINUTP format to Cube Voyager format has a very small effect on the modeled results at the regional level, as shown in Table 2. The total number of estimated regional transit trips increased by 11

(which is less than 1 thousandth of a percent) and the total regional VMT increased by 6,695 (about 4 thousandths of a percent).

Table 2 Effect of removing the "FORMAT = MINUTP" from the MATO statement in the four "assemble skims" script files (assemble_skims_[AB|BM|MR|CR].s)

Regional Totals		
	Transit	VMT
Base (with FORMAT = MINUTP)	1,100,220	156,962,283
Test (without FORMAT = MINUTP)	1,100,231	156,968,978
Diff (Test - Base)	11	6,695
Pct Diff (Test/Base)	0.001%	0.004%

Ref: "I:\ateam\docum\model_updates\assemble_skims_format_minutp_diffs.xlsx"

1.2.6 Corrected a coding error in the walkacc.s script

The walkacc.s script is used to develop zonal walk-access links to transit. One of the inputs of this script is the areawalk.txt file that was described earlier.¹⁷ On, June 10, 2014, Amir Shahpar, AECOM, alerted us to a coding error in the walkacc.s script that caused the program to create an incorrect output file (NLwalkPCT.txt) in cases where there is a gap in zone numbering in the input file (areawalk.txt). For example there is gap in TAZ numbering at TAZ 2555. The gaps in TAZ numbering in the areawalk.txt file are due to the differences between the "COG TAZ" and "TPB TAZ" area systems.¹⁸ Thus, areawalk.txt has gaps at TAZ numbers 2555, 2629, 3103, 3478, 3482, and 3495. The result is that, before the fix was done, the zonal percent walk values for zones 2555 and above was offset by one, and was thus wrong. So, in the NLwalkPCT.txt file, the walk percentages listed for TAZ 2556 were actually those for TAZ 2555. In summary, the walk percentages in the NLwalkPCT.txt file were wrong, due to this offset, for TAZs 255-3675. This would affect walk percentages in Prince William Co. and other outer counties with TAZ values above 2555.¹⁹ So, for the outer counties, the walk percentage for any given zone would have come from a neighboring TAZ. Thus, at the zonal level, for the outer counties, the number of transit trips estimated by the model would have been based on walk percent value that was not correct.

To assess the effect of this coding bug on modeled results, a test was conducted using the Ver. 2.3.52 model for the year 2020 (e-mail from Ron Milone dated 6/12/14). On model run was conducted with the bug in place and the other with the bug fixed. At the regional level, after making the fix, there was a change in total transit trips of 0.4% (transit trips went up by 5,400 out of 1.33 million transit trips). Applying the fix also had a very small effect on total VMT (it reduced by 0.03%). At the jurisdictional level, the effect of making the fix was more pronounced, but still reasonable. For most jurisdictions, the

¹⁷ See p. A-5 of the modeling flowchart in Appendix A.

¹⁸ Ronald Milone et al., *Highway and Transit Networks for the Version 2.3.52 Travel Model, Based on the 2013 CLRP and FY 2013-2018 TIP*, Final Report (Washington, D.C.: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, March 18, 2014), 2–5.

¹⁹ Ibid.

change in transit trips was limited (+/- 100 trips). The largest differences were for the outer counties. For example, the maximum difference found was for Anne Arundel Co., where the fix resulted in 736 additional transit trips.

The following fix was applied to walkacc.s: At line 116, "k(8)" was replaced by "_TAZ(8)".

1.2.7 "View_from_space" summary script

First, the maximum number of runs that can be compared in the "view from space" summary script has been increased from 10 to 15. Second, misnamed variables, associated with the number of households by various auto ownership levels, have been corrected. Specifically, in the travel model, households are segmented by vehicle availability level as follows:

- Households with 0 vehicles
- Households with 1 vehicle
- Households with 2 vehicles
- Households with 3+ vehicles

In the "view from space" summary script, these four segments were previously misnamed:

- HH_VA1
- HH_VA2
- HH_VA3
- HH_VA4

These have been corrected to the following names:

HH_VA0, HH_VA1, HH_VA2, and HH_VA3

The associated labels have also been updated:

HH_VA0, HH_VA1, HH_VA2, and HH_VA3+

The new script is called view_from_space_v2.3.57.s

1.3 Changes to the user's guide not directly associated with changes to the model

The user's guide has been updated to address the seven model updates listed above. The user's guide has also received updates that were not associated with changes to the model (listed below). Unless mentioned otherwise, the page numbers and table numbers in the list below refer to the Ver. 2.3.52 user's guide dated 9/18/13:

1. Fixed numbering in list of items ("user classes") on p. 179 of the Ver. 2.3.52 user's guide: The numbering mistakenly went from 7 to 12. It now goes from 1 to 6.
2. Fixed typos in Table 49, page 131: Twelve lines of Table 49, which incorrectly included the text "non-motorized", now include the correct text of "motorized."

3. Updated page 40 to include a description of how to determine if you have a Cube Cluster license. In the updated guide (this document), see Chapter 5 (“Preparing to run the model”), which begins on p. 51.
4. Corrected the description, on p. 144, of the core area that is included for the transit (Metrorail) constraint through the regional core.
5. Updated the description on p. 40 of Cygwin to cover both the 32-bit and 64-bit versions of Cygwin.

1.4 Older changes to the Version 2.3 Travel Model: Build 52 vs. Build 39

Compared to the Version 2.3.39 Travel Model, the Version 2.3.52 Travel Model had a number of updates or revisions that are described in this section. Some of these revisions were due to the year-2010 validation mentioned earlier. Other revisions were undertaken to make the model run more quickly (so called “parallelization” since multiple steps are made to run in parallel). Lastly, some of the updates were done to enhance usability, such as making the names of output files more consistent. All the model updates were described in a recent memo,²⁰ so this section of the report simply provides a summary of the most significant changes, in the three areas listed above.

1.4.1 Changes related to model validation

The following changes were made to the Version 2.3 Travel Model (from Build 39 to Build 52) based on the validation of the model to year-2010 conditions.

- We changed the way that bridge penalties were applied in the model. Previously, we were implementing bridge penalties using K factors. Now, we are using the more common approach: they are implemented as link attributes. Thus, we removed Potomac River K factors from the script which sets K factors (Set_Factors.s).
- An 11-minute time penalty was added to links crossing screenlines 20 (Potomac River inside the Beltway) and 36 (the upper Potomac River). This was done in the script used to build the highway network (V2.3_Highway_Build.s). The Governor Nice Bridge does not include any time penalties.
- We increased non-work, non-motorized trip rates (productions and attractions) by 30 percent in area types 1 and 2 (Trip_Generation.s). This change was done to improve the match between modeled shares and observed shares determined from the recent geographically focused household travel survey.²¹
- Change the procedure for scaling trip attractions to productions. Previously scaling was done separately for motorized and non-motorized trips. Now, scaling is done after motorized and non-motorized trips have been added together. Total zonal productions calculation has been adjusted so that total productions equal motorized productions with area-type and jurisdiction adjustments plus non-motorized productions with area-type and jurisdiction adjustments (Trip_Generation.s).

²⁰ Mark S. Moran to Ronald Milone, “Updates Made to the COG/TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model, from Build 38 to Build 52,” Memorandum, (May 30, 2013).

²¹ Ronald Milone, “Status Report on the Version 2.3 Travel Model: The Year-2010 Validation” (presented at the May 17, 2013 meeting of the Travel Forecasting Subcommittee of the Technical Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, held at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Washington, D.C., May 17, 2013).

- Internal-to-external (IX) extraction has been removed. We now subtract external attractions developed from total (motorized and non-motorized) I-I and I-X trips.

1.4.2 Changes related to parallelization

Based on suggestions from AECOM, we added further “parallelization” to the travel model.

Parallelization can be accomplished using Cube Cluster – both intra-step distributed processing (IDP) and multi-step distributed processing (MDP) – and native Windows techniques (running programs in parallel using multiple concurrent command windows). Previously, we had used IDP in highway assignment and transit skimming. In this model build, we turned off IDP in transit skimming, but added MDP, IDP, and native Windows techniques to other steps. Although the added parallelization makes the model more complex, it results in shorter model run times. Below is a list of the major changes:

- Replaced Transit_Skim_All_Modes.bat with Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat. The updated batch file now includes a section that can run the four transit modes (AB|BM|MR|CR) either sequentially (for computers with one core) or in parallel (for computers with 4 cores or more). The parallel processing is accomplished using native Windows techniques, not Cube Cluster.
- Added TransitSkim_LineHaul_Parallel.bat, which uses a token/variable (“%2”) to run the four transit skimming scripts: transit_skims_[AB|BM|MR|CR].s
- Changed transit_skims_[AB|BM|MR|CR].s: IDP was turned off (commented out) so that a maximum of only 8 cores would be used (not 16).
- Replaced Highway_Assignment.bat with Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat. The updated batch file opens (then later closes) the requested number of Cluster nodes, based on global token values (“AMsubnode” & “MDsubnode”) set in the wrapper batch file.
- Replaced Highway_Assignment.s with Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s. The updated script uses both MDP and IDP. MDP does not rely on any global tokens, but IDP relies on two global tokens (“AMsubnode” & “MDsubnode”). MDP is turned on using an environment variable in the wrapper batch file (useMdp=t).

1.4.3 Miscellaneous changes

Below is a list of some of the other miscellaneous changes/revisions that have been made to the Version 2.3 Travel Model (from Build 39 to 52).

- More consistent naming of output files: The speed feedback (SFB) iteration process begins with the pump prime (“pp”) run of the model and is followed by iterations 1, 2, 3, and 4 (“i1,” “i2,” “i3,” “i4”). The names of iteration-specific files include a two-letter flag, such as “pp,” to indicate the speed feedback iteration. Up to now, the SFB flag could occur anywhere in the file name and was not necessarily delimited from other alphanumeric characters in the name. The following changes, related to file naming, have been made to scripts and batch files:
 - The speed feedback (SFB) iteration flag always occurs at the start of the file name and is always delimited by an underscore (e.g., pp_*).
 - File names that included “false positives,” such as busoppnr.tb (which contains the string “pp” even though the file has nothing to do with the pump prime iteration), have been renamed so that the relevant flags are separated by underscores (e.g., bus_op_pnr.tb) to make them less ambiguous.

- Three summary scripts updated to reflect the aforementioned changes (view_from_space_v2.3.48_3722taz.s, Compare_Trip_Distribution.s, and COMPARE_NL_MC.S).
- Added capability
 - Convergence for highway assignments: The user equilibrium (UE) traffic assignment is an iterative process that stops when one or more stopping criteria are met. The Version 2.3 model uses two stopping criteria: relative gap (relGap) and the maximum number of user-equilibrium iterations (maxUelter). The relative gap metric is considered the primary closure metric. Previously, the model used the following UE stopping criterion: When the relative gap $\leq 10^{-3}$ OR the number of UE iterations ≥ 300 . We are now using a new stopping criterion that we call the “progressive relative gap” process. According to this process, the value of the relative gap threshold changes as the model progresses (i.e., goes from early speed feedback iterations to later speed feedback iterations). The idea is that, in the early SFB iterations, the UE closure criterion will be relatively loose, but, in the later SFB iterations, the UE closure criterion will tighten. See Table 4 on page 27 for more details.
 - Clean-up/deletion of intermediate/temporary output files: At the completion of a model run, there are about 28 GB of output files, many of which are temporary or non-final versions of files. The move_temp_files_v6.bat batch file creates the folder “temp_files” and moves about 18 GB of the 28 GB of files to the temp_files folder. To save disk space, the user can then either delete the temp_files folder or the contents of the temp_files folder (such as using Windows Explorer).
 - Added additional summary statistics to the “view from space” summary script (View_From_Space_V2.3_3722TAZ.s). There are now 195 metrics/statistics that are summarized.
 - Two new summary scripts added (developed by Dusan Vuksan and Feng Xie)
 - COMPARE_NL_MC_Expanded_Alt_minus_Base_V23_52.S: Compares two scenarios developed with the Ver. 2.3.52 Travel Model.
 - COMPARE_NL_MC_Expanded_Alt_V23_52_minus_Base_V23_39.S: Compares an alternative scenario developed with the Ver. 2.3.52 Travel Model (which uses the newer naming convention for output files) with a “base” scenario developed with the Ver. 2.3.39 Travel Model (which uses the older naming convention for output files). This script is helpful in showing differences between the 2012 and 2013 CLRP.
- Increased precision
 - Updated the following scripts to increase the precision from the default value of two decimal places to three decimal places (Time-of-Day.s, MC_Constraint_V23.s, and Prepare_Trip_Tables_for_Assignment.s)
 - MC_NL_Summary.s: Increased the numeric precision from the default value of 2 decimals to an explicit value of 3 decimals. This change was made to address a problem with rounding.
- Revised procedures

- K-factor files are now created in, and stored in, the output (scenario-specific) folder, instead of the "support" folder. K-factor files now use the MAT file extension (not DAT).
- Trip_Distribution.bat updated to reflect new trip distribution procedure: Total distribution process is supplanted by dual external/internal distribution process.
- The highway skimming script (Highway_skims.s) was split into two files (Highway_skims_am.s and Highway_skims_md.s) to eliminate a crash that occurred on some hardware.
- Transit walksheds and the percent of each zone within walking distance to transit: In September 2012, COG/TPB staff discovered that there was a misspecification in the way that the percent walk to transit (PWT) was defined. In the past, it was understood that one of the zonal PWT values was for Metrorail service and the other PWT values were for all transit combined. However, it was discovered that the Metrorail PWT should also include light rail transit (LRT). This oversight has been corrected and is discussed in more detail in section 21.4.3.2 on p. 178.

2 Overview of the model

The TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model is a classic, “four-step,” regional travel demand model. The four steps in a classic travel demand model are

- Trip generation
- Trip distribution
- Mode choice
- Traffic assignment²²

The first three steps deal with estimating current-year or future-year demand for travel. The last step, traffic assignment, is where the demand for travel is assigned to a transportation network. This final step represents an equilibration between the transportation demand and the transportation supply. In many models, traffic assignment includes only a highway assignment, where private-use motor vehicles are assigned to a roadway network. In larger urban areas with extensive transit systems, there is often also a transit assignment, in addition to the highway assignment. The TPB travel model includes both a highway assignment and a transit assignment. So-called “four-step” models are trip based, meaning that trips are the basic unit of analysis, and are also “aggregate,” meaning that the model represents aggregate person flows and aggregate vehicle flows between transportation analysis zones (TAZs). In other words, these models do not model trips that happen within an individual TAZ (intra-zonal trips) and they do not simulate the movement of individual people or individual vehicles.

A highway assignment can be conducted at one of three different scales: microscopic, mesoscopic, or macroscopic. The TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model highway assignment is a **macroscopic**, static traffic assignment. This is the standard practice for almost every four-step model used in the United States. To better understand the meaning of a **macroscopic** traffic assignment, it is useful to understand the two other scales of assignment: microscopic and mesoscopic. In a **microscopic** traffic assignment, individual vehicles are modeled, using a small time step, such as every second. In a **mesoscopic** traffic assignment, platoons of vehicles are modeled, with a demand that varies though the assignment period (e.g., the AM peak hour demand is higher than the demand found in the shoulder hours of the AM peak period). By contrast, in a **macroscopic** traffic assignment, all traffic moving from one zone to another zone is modeled, but demand does not vary within the assignment period (e.g., a constant demand is assumed for all three hours in the AM peak period). Although it would seem appealing to use a microscopic or mesoscopic assignment in a regional travel demand model, these fine-grained assignments are almost never used in regional travel demand models since they would take too long to run and would require, at the regional level, too much input data (e.g., information about the traffic control devices and signal timings at every intersection). Thus, a macroscopic traffic assignment is usually the norm for regional travel demand models.

²² The Version 2.3 Travel Model actually has six major steps. The two additional steps are “demographic sub-models” and the “time-of-day model.” All six of these steps are described in section 2.3 of this report, beginning on page 6.

2.1 Model inputs

The major inputs and outputs of the regional travel demand model are shown in Figure 9. The travel model requires three major inputs:

- Zone-level land activity forecasts for year/scenario X;
- Transportation networks (both highway and transit) for year/scenario X; and
- Transportation policy assumptions for year/scenario X.

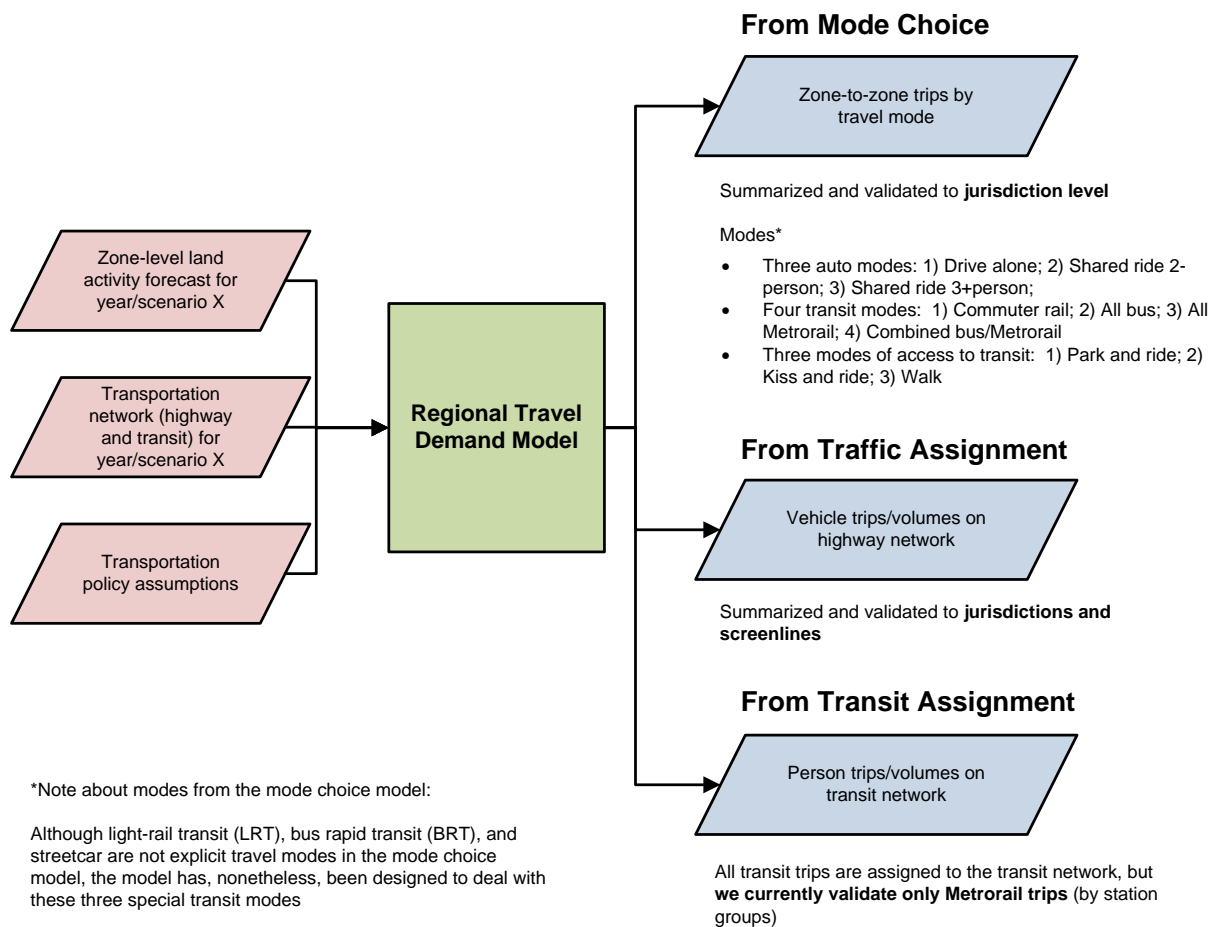


Figure 9 Major inputs and outputs of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model

Ref: travel_model_flowchart_overview_v3.vsd

The zone-level land activity forecasts are developed by COG's Cooperative Forecasting Program, working through its Cooperative Forecasting and Data Subcommittee.²³ COG does not use a formal land use

²³ "Regional Planning and Analysis," *Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments*, 2013, <http://www.mwcog.org/planning/planning/>.

model. In the early 1970s, COG tried using a land use model called EMPIRIC,²⁴ but COG staff was not satisfied with its performance, and later abandoned its use.²⁵ Instead of a land use model, like many MPOs and regional planning agencies, COG uses a process, often known as a “modified Delphi process,” which involves reconciling top-down and bottom-up land activity forecasts.²⁶ The top-down forecasts are regional econometric projections of employment, population, and households. The bottom-up forecasts are also projections of employment, population, and households, but made at the zone level and are based on information from the local governments. These bottom-up forecasts are derived from both building permits (providing short-term information) and comprehensive land use plans (providing long-term information). Each update of the zone-level, land activity forecasts in the Cooperative Forecasting program is called a “round” and the latest update is Round 8.2.

Before the zone-level land activity data can be used as an input to the travel model, it must undergo an adjustment process, known as the CTPP-based employment adjustment, which ensures that a consistent employment definition is used by all counties and jurisdictions in the modeled area. The reason for this adjustment is that different jurisdictions in the modeled area, which covers DC, Maryland, Virginia, and one county in West Virginia, use different definitions of employment. For example, jurisdictions in the Baltimore region and several other Maryland jurisdictions develop their base-year employment estimates using data from Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). By contrast, most of the jurisdictions in the Washington region develop their base-year employment estimates using data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).²⁷ The QCEW is a joint federal/state cooperative arrangement between the BLS and state employment security agencies (ESAs). According to Spear, “In lieu of using the publicly available QCEW database, some state DOTs (and even some MPOs) have entered into formal agreements with their state ESAs to obtain access to the enhanced QCEW microdata files that are used by BLS to develop the QCEW... [The QCEW files] are more commonly known in the transportation community as ES-202 data, but this terminology

²⁴ Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Company, *EMPIRIC Activity Allocation Model: Application to the Washington Metropolitan Region* (Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, 1972).

²⁵ Reid Ewing and Keith Bartholomew, “Comparing Land Use Forecasting Methods: Expert Panel Versus Spatial Interaction Model,” *Journal of the American Planning Association* 75, no. 3 (2009): 347.

²⁶ Greg Goodwin, “Cooperative Forecasting Program: Background and Draft Round 8.2 Estimates (Slides 9 and 10 Corrected on 4/4/13)” (presented at the March 22, 2013 meeting of the Travel Forecasting Subcommittee of the Technical Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, held at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Washington, D.C., March 22, 2013), 3, http://www.mwcog.org/committee/committee/archives.asp?COMMITTEE_ID=43.

²⁷ Robert E. Griffiths to Ronald Milone, “Travel Model Employment Data Adjustment Factors for Round 7.0,” Memorandum, (August 10, 2005), 1.

is no longer used by BLS.”²⁸ The most recent CTPP-based employment adjustment was conducted on Round 8.3 land activity data in April 2014.²⁹

As for the transportation networks, COG/TPB staff develops a series of highway and transit networks for the air quality conformity analysis, and these networks are often used as the starting point for other planning studies. The highway network consists of all freeways, expressways, and major arterials in the modeled area. It also includes many minor arterials and some collectors, but almost no local roads (centroid connectors represent local roads, but one centroid connector may represent many local roads, so there is not a one-to-one representation like one finds for other link types in the highway network). The highway network forms the base layer for the transit network, since buses mostly make use of the highway network. In addition to the highway network, the transit network includes the following elements:

- Transit infrastructure: Transit-only links
- Transfer links
- Transit service
- Transit fares

The latest full-scale documentation of the transportation networks was done in 2014.³⁰

Transportation policy assumptions include the following:

- Assumptions about how transportation costs will increase over time, e.g.,
 - Will transit fares rise at the same rate as inflation or a different rate?
 - How will auto operating costs change over time?
- Cost of parking;
 - For drive-access transit trips, the cost of parking is stored in the station file. For park-and-ride (PNR)-to-station transfer links, the walk time is a function of parking capacity and parking cost,³¹ but parking cost is not used as part of the transit path-building.
 - For driving trips not involving transit, a parking cost model is used, where parking cost is a function of employment density (see section 21.7.1 “Parking costs”).
- Amount of in-commuting from areas outside the modeled cordon.

²⁸ Bruce D. Spear, *NCHRP 08-36, Task 098: Improving Employment Data for Transportation Planning* (Washington, D.C.: American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), Standing Committee on Planning, September 2011), ES-7, [http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/docs/NCHRP08-36\(98\)_FR.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/docs/NCHRP08-36(98)_FR.pdf).

²⁹ Dzung Ngo to Mark Moran and Ronald Milone, “Developing Land Use Input Files for the Version 2.3 Travel Model Using Round 8.3 Cooperative Forecasts and the CTPP-Based Employment Adjustment Factors,” Memorandum, (April 25, 2014).

³⁰ Milone et al., *Highway and Transit Networks for the Version 2.3.52 Travel Model, Based on the 2013 CLRP and FY 2013-2018 TIP*.

³¹ Manish Jain to Ronald Milone and Mark Moran, “MWCOG Network Coding Guide for Nested Logit Model (First Draft: September 20, 2007; Updated February 2008 and October 2010),” Memorandum, (October 2010), 6, I:ateamfrom_consultsnested_logit2008-02-11_transitCodingManualRevisedMWCOG_Network_Coding_Guide_revised_2010-10.doc, MWCOG LAN.

2.2 Model outputs

The travel model produces a large number of outputs. Each model run produces about 28 GB of output files. Since many of these are intermediate files, a clean-up process has been added to the model that moves these intermediate/temporary files to a folder where they can be easily deleted. Once these are deleted, the amount of output files per model run is about 10 GB. As stated earlier, the travel model is an “aggregate” model meaning that the model represents aggregate person flows and aggregate vehicle flows between transportation analysis zones (TAZs). Nonetheless, the model produces many fine-grained outputs. These include link-level outputs, such as the number of vehicles traveling on a particular link in the AM peak period, and zone-interchange-level outputs, such as the number of bus person trips traveling from TAZ X to TAZ Y. However, although the model *produces* these fine-grained outputs, **the model has not been validated to these fine-grained levels, so it is not recommended that one use these fine-grained outputs from the travel model.** A general rule is that, before using or reporting any model outputs, they should be summarized or aggregated to the same level as was used in model validation, or a higher level than was used in validation. For example, although the model produces link-level traffic volumes, this information should be summarized at the screenline level, jurisdiction level, or regional level, before it is used or reported. Despite this rule, these fine-grained outputs are sometimes used in corridor-level or project-level planning studies, but typically only after the outputs have undergone post-processing (see, for example the classic report NCHRP 255,³² or its recent update, NCHRP 765³³). Given the regional nature of most of the transportation planning studies conducted for the TPB, the COG/TPB staff rarely conducts this type of post-processing work (it is more commonly conducted by consultants working for local governments or state DOTs). In conclusion, when using outputs of the regional travel demand model, one should generally use outputs that have been aggregated or summarized to the following levels:

- Region level, e.g.,
 - The modeled area,
 - The TPB planning area,
 - The metropolitan statistical area (MSA), or
 - One of the air quality non-attainment areas, which can vary by pollutant.³⁴
- Jurisdiction level
- Jurisdiction-to-jurisdiction level
- For highway assignments: Regional screenlines
- For transit assignments: Metrorail station groups

³² Neil J. Pedersen and D. R. Samdahl, *NCHRP Report 255: Highway Traffic Data for Urbanized Area Project Planning and Design*, National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) (Transportation Research Board, National Research Council, 1982), <http://trid.trb.org/view/1982/M/188432>.

³³ CDM Smith et al., *NCHRP Report 765: Analytical Travel Forecasting Approaches for Project-Level Planning and Design*, National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) (Transportation Research Board of the National Academies, 2014).

³⁴ The modeled area is the largest of these regional areas.

Figure 9 shows the three major outputs of the travel model, listing both the disaggregate-level output and the more aggregate-level output that is recommended for use. Table 3 adds some detail to the information found in Figure 9.

Table 3 Outputs of the travel model: Disaggregate-level output that is not validated versus aggregate-level output that is validated

Model producing the output	Disaggregate-level output (Produced by the mode, but not recommended for use)	Aggregate-level output (recommended for use)
Mode choice	Zone-to-zone trips by travel mode	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jurisdiction-to-jurisdiction flows • Jurisdiction-level mode splits • Region-level mode splits
Traffic assignment	Vehicle trips/volumes on the road links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jurisdiction-level metrics, such as VMT by jurisdiction • Screenline-level metrics, such as total number of vehicles crossing screenline
Transit assignment	Transit person trips/volumes on transit links	Although all transit person trips are assigned to the transit network, we currently validate only Metrorail trips, and these are validated only by station groups (generally three to four stations per group).

2.3 Modeling steps and the speed feedback loop

The major steps of the Version 2.3 Travel Model, including major inputs and outputs, can be found in Figure 10. As mentioned earlier, the major inputs are the transportation networks, the zonal land use data, and the transportation policy assumptions. The model itself, which is delineated in Figure 10 by a gray, dashed-line forming a box, begins with demographic models and ends with traffic assignment and transit assignment. Each of the steps of the travel model is discussed in subsequent chapters of the user's guide.

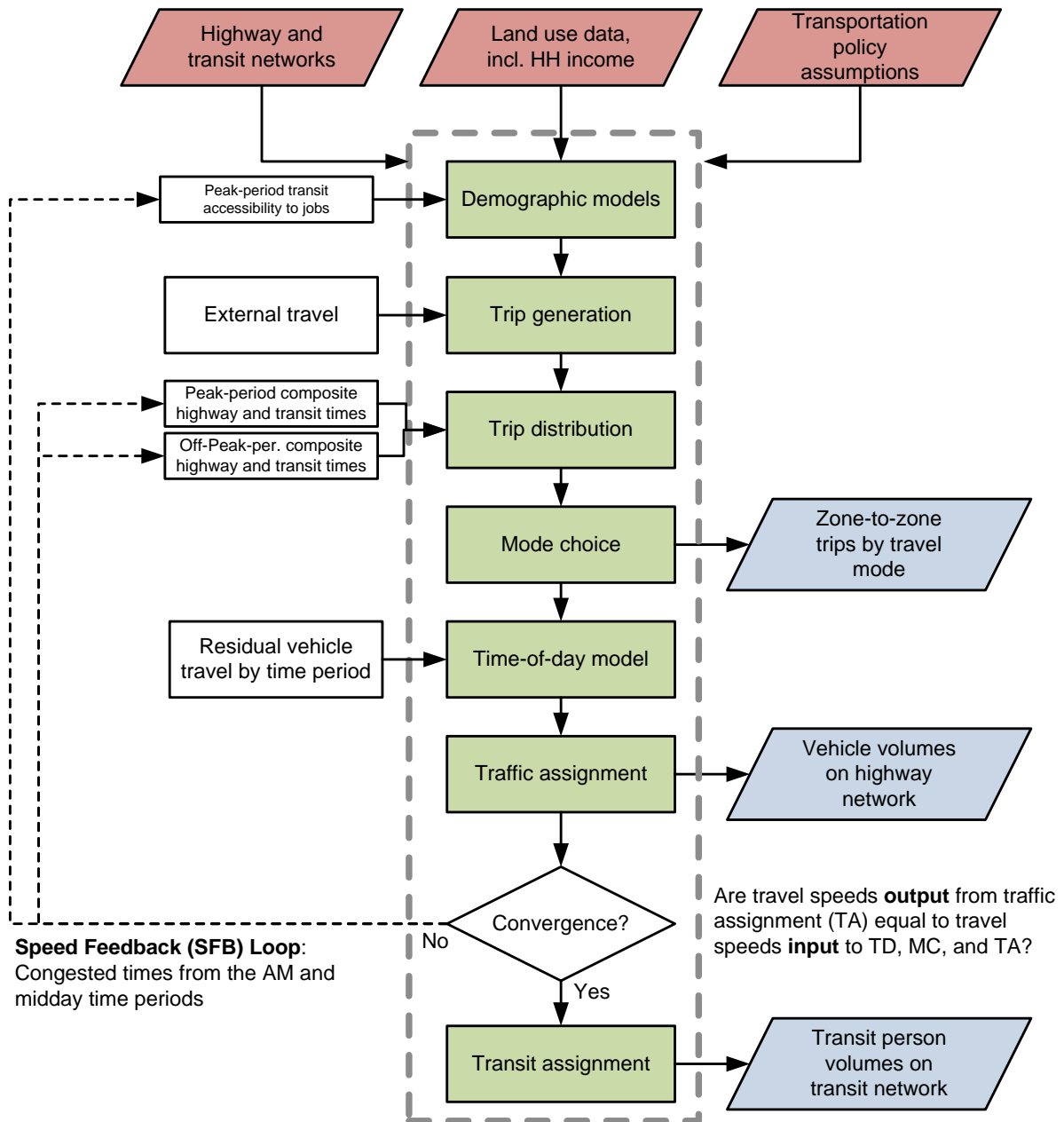


Figure 10 Major steps of the Version 2.3 Travel Model

Ref: six_step_model_ver2.3_v2.vsd

As can be seen in Figure 10, the Version 2.3 Travel Model uses a speed feedback (SFB) loop to ensure that the travel times (and hence speeds) coming out of traffic assignment are consistent with those used as inputs to trip distribution and mode choice. In theory, at the end of each SFB loop, the model would have a test to determine whether convergence has been met. In other words, one could continue running iterations of the speed feedback loop until a convergence stopping criterion has been met. Currently, however, we do not use a stopping criterion, per se, for testing convergence of the SFB loop.

Instead, based on past tests with the regional model, we have determined that the model is sufficiently converged after four SFB iterations,³⁵ so we simply use a fixed number of SFB loop iterations (five iterations, including the initialization iteration, known as the “pump prime” iteration). In the future, we may use a more formal stopping criterion for the SFB loop, such as the percent root-mean-square error (%RMSE) of the travel skims, which is discussed in a presentation by Slavin.³⁶ Nonetheless, in 2011, Cambridge Systematics was unable to find many MPOs that used a formal stopping criterion for the SFB loop.³⁷ The SFB loop and the volume averaging method used in the SFB loop are discussed in more detail later in this section.

Traffic assignment is discussed both here and in its own chapter (Chapter 23). Like most travel models in the U.S., the Version 2.3 Travel Model uses a user-equilibrium (UE) traffic assignment, which is the generally accepted method for static traffic assignments. Furthermore, the assignment process is a multi-class UE assignment, meaning that separate user classes can be assigned at the same time. The Version 2.3 model includes six user classes:

1. Single-occupant vehicle (SOV)
2. High-occupant vehicle with two persons (HOV2)
3. High-occupant vehicle with three+ persons (HOV3+)
4. Medium and heavy trucks
5. Commercial vehicles
6. Airport passengers traveling to/from the three commercial airports

Additionally, the Version 2.3 model includes four time-of-day periods for traffic assignment:

- AM peak period (3 hours: 6:00 AM to 9:00 AM)
- Midday period (6 hours: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM)
- PM peak period (4 hours: 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM)
- Night/early morning period (11 hours: 7:00 PM to 6:00 AM)

Most MPOs use a UE traffic assignment that relies on an optimization algorithm known as the Frank-Wolfe (FW) algorithm.³⁸ The FW algorithm is essentially a series of all-or-nothing traffic assignments where flows are combined using weights from an optimization process whose goal is to minimize an objective function. The process stops when a stopping criterion is met. Previously, the Version 2.3

³⁵ Ron Milone, “TPB Models Development Status Report” (presented at the January 23, 2009 meeting of the Travel Forecasting Subcommittee of the Technical Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, held at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Washington, D.C., January 23, 2009), http://www.mwcog.org/transportation/committee/committee/archives.asp?COMMITTEE_ID=43.

³⁶ Howard Slavin, “Achieving Planning Model Convergence” (presented at the 11th National Transportation Planning Applications Conference, May 6-10, 2007, Daytona Beach, Florida, May 2007), 3, 11, 14, <http://trb-appcon.org/2007conf/program.html>.

³⁷ Cambridge Systematics, Inc., *Fiscal Year 2010 Task Reports*, Final Report (Washington, D.C.: National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, November 16, 2010), 1–20 to 1–21, <http://www.mwcog.org/transportation/activities/models/review.asp>.

³⁸ Marguerite Frank and Philip Wolfe, “An Algorithm for Quadratic Programming,” *Naval Research Logistics Quarterly* 3, no. 1–2 (1956): 95–110, doi:10.1002/nav.3800030109.

Travel Model used the following UE stopping criterion: When the relative gap $\leq 10^{-3}$ OR the number of UE iterations ≥ 300 . The relative gap threshold was always intended to be the primary stopping criterion, with the number of UE iterations functioning as a backup criterion. Now, however, we have moved to what we call a “progressive” relative gap stopping criterion. The idea is that, in the early SFB iterations, the UE closure criterion will be relatively loose, but, in the later SFB iterations, the UE closure criterion will tighten, as shown in Table 4.

Table 4 User equilibrium closure criterion (relative gap) varies by speed feedback iteration

Speed feedback iteration	Primary closure criterion for UE traffic assignment	Secondary closure criteria for UE traffic assignment
Pump prime	Relative gap $\leq 10^{-2}$ (i.e., 0.01)	Number of UE iterations ≥ 1000
1	Relative gap $\leq 10^{-2}$ (i.e., 0.01)	Number of UE iterations ≥ 1000
2	Relative gap $\leq 10^{-2}$ (i.e., 0.01)	Number of UE iterations ≥ 1000
3	Relative gap $\leq 10^{-3}$ (i.e., 0.001)	Number of UE iterations ≥ 1000
4	Relative gap $\leq 10^{-4}$ (i.e., 0.0001)	Number of UE iterations ≥ 1000

By using the higher value for UE iterations (1000 vs. 300), we were able to ensure that this secondary criterion is unlikely to be used as the stopping criterion. Based on a series of sensitivity tests,³⁹ we found that the new progressive relative gap scheme results in a relatively converged traffic assignment, without the extremely lengthy model run times that would be needed if one were to use a high threshold (e.g., 10^{-4} relative gap) for each of the five SFB iterations. The Version 2.3 Travel Model uses a slight variation of the FW algorithm, called the *bi-conjugate* Frank-Wolfe algorithm, which converges marginally faster than the classic FW algorithm.

Regarding data inputs, the zonal land use data that is input to the travel model (Figure 10) includes information about average household wealth, in the form of an average household income index. This index is the ratio of the zonal median household income to the regional median household income, in year-2007 dollars. So-called “residual vehicle” trips are added to the modeling stream at the time-of-day model stage. These trips include

- Through trips (auto and truck);
- Taxi trips;
- School trips;
- Visitor/tourist trips;
- Airport passenger trips (i.e., trips by air passengers destined to the three commercial airports in the region).

³⁹ Mark S. Moran and Ronald Milone, “Status Report on the Version 2.3 Travel Model: Updates to the Model and Year-2010 Validation” (presented at the March 22, 2013 meeting of the Travel Forecasting Subcommittee of the Technical Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, held at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Washington, D.C., March 22, 2013), 7–11.

Figure 11 is another view of the Version 2.3 Travel Model, but with an emphasis on which steps occur *before* the speed feedback (SFB) loop and which steps occur *within* the SFB loop. Before the loop is begun, there is an initialization phase, known as the “pump-prime” iteration. In the pump prime iteration, a first pass of the travel model is performed using *initial* AM and off-peak highway speeds, and *initial* mode choice percentages (i.e., the mode choice model is not executed in the pump prime iteration). The “skimmed” highway times are used to develop drive-access-to-transit (zone-to-PNR-lot) links as part of the transit network. After the transit network is built and skimmed, trip generation and trip distribution are executed. The resulting person trips are converted to vehicle trips on the basis of default zone-level mode choice and car occupancy percentages, and are assigned to the highway network.

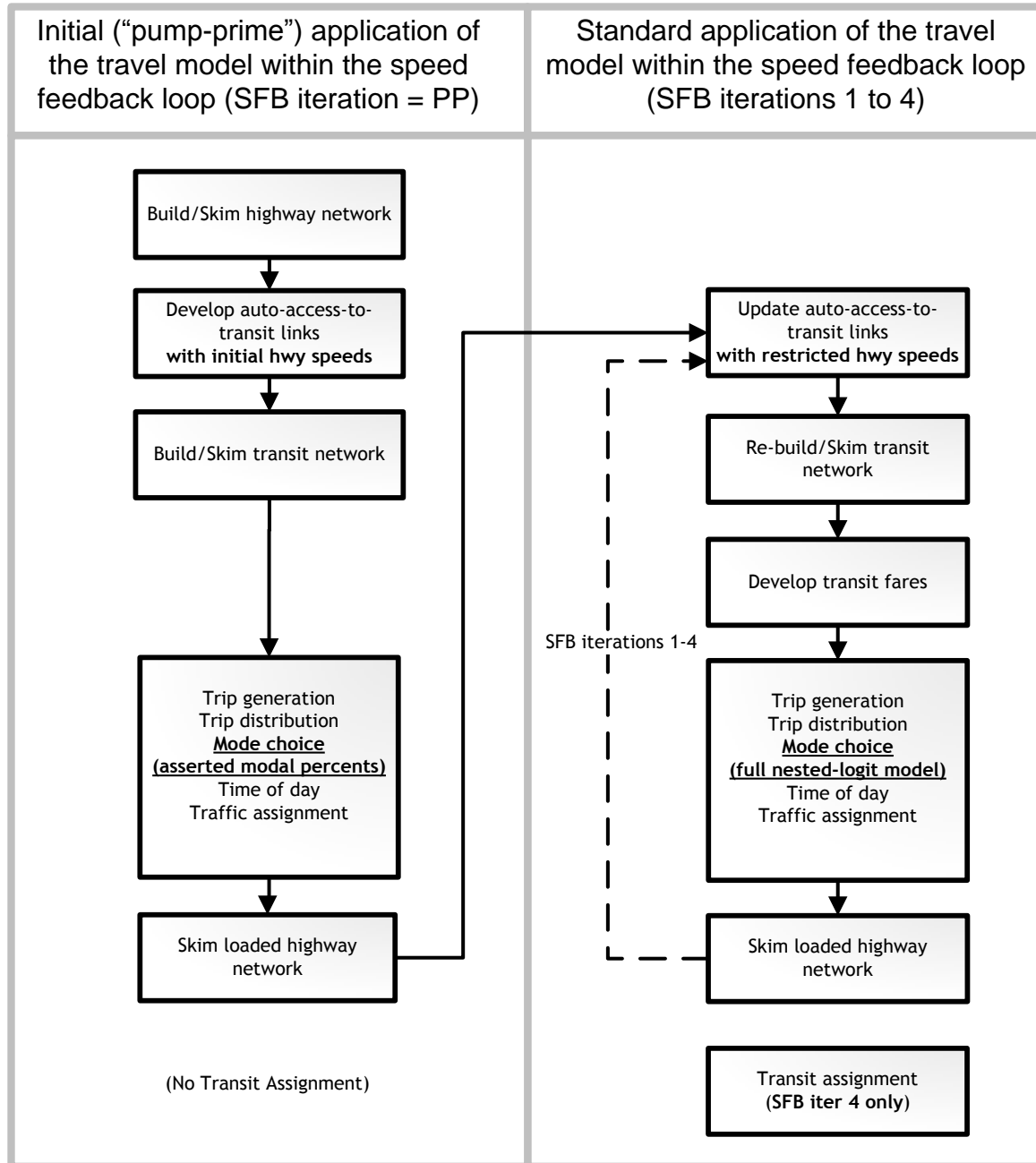


Figure 11 Application process of the Version 2.3 Travel Model

Ref: pumpPrime_vs_other_sfb_iter_v5.vsd

The next series of "standard" SFB iterations (1 through 4) involve the execution of the complete travel model which includes: 1) a mode choice model execution and 2) the use of recycled traffic assignment-based speeds as input. The AM peak and off-peak restrained highway times are used to update the zone-to-PNR link speeds, and the transit network is re-built and skimmed. The highway and transit time skims are used as inputs to the mode choice model. The auto driver trips produced from the mode choice model are processed through the time-of-day model, which apportions the auto drivers among four time-of-day periods: the AM peak period (6 - 9 AM), the midday period (9 AM - 3 PM), the PM peak

period (3 - 7 PM), and the night/early morning period (7 PM - 6 AM). The four time-of-day trip tables are subsequently loaded onto the highway network in separate traffic assignment procedures. The loaded-link volumes are successively averaged using the method of successive averages (MSA) to facilitate the convergence of the final link speeds. The averaging occurs individually for each of the four time-of-day periods at the link level, as follows:

- The “final” first iteration link volumes are equal to the “raw” assigned link volumes from the pump-prime iteration.
- The “final” second iteration link volume equals one half of the first iteration link volume plus one half of the second iteration assigned link volume.
- The “final” third iteration link volume equals 2/3 of the “final” second iteration link volume plus 1/3 of the third iteration assigned volume.
- The “final” fourth iteration volume is not averaged -- it is the direct assignment output.

In both the Version 2.2 and 2.3 travel models, a fixed number of speed-feedback (SFB) iterations is used. The Version 2.2 model used six speed feedback iterations (in addition to the pump prime iteration). By contrast, the Version 2.3 model uses four speed feedback iterations (in addition to the pump prime iteration). The Version 2.3 model produces **two final loaded network files** called **i4_Assign_Output.net** and **i4_HWY.NET** (not i6hwy.net, as was the case with the Version 2.2 Travel Model). The first file (**i4_Assign_Output.net**) is based on the direct trip table output, while **i4_HWY.NET** is based on volume averaging. TPB staff use **i4_Assign_Output.net** to compute the emissions as a part of air quality conformity and SIP work.

As shown in both Figure 10 and Figure 11, transit assignment is not conducted within each speed feedback loop, but is instead conducted once, after the final feedback iteration is complete.

2.4 Special modeling procedures

COG/TPB staff has developed two special modeling procedures, which are part of the Version 2.3 Travel Model, to handle two specific phenomena: The transit constraint through the regional core, and modeling High Occupancy/Toll (HOT) lanes. These are described below.

2.4.1 Transit constraint through the regional core

The transit constraint through the regional core, or more correctly the Metrorail constraint through the regional core, is a technical adjustment to the trip tables coming out of the mode choice process designed to reflect a WMATA policy assumption that, during peak periods, the Metrorail system may have insufficient capacity to serve all the demand traveling to and through the regional core. Typically, it is assumed that the Metrorail system will be able to handle all of the peak-period demand to and through the regional core in the near term, but, since demand is growing through time, the system might not be able to handle all the peak-period demand at some future time, depending on the amount of growth in demand and the number of rail cars available in a given year. The assumed year at which the Metrorail system will be at its peak capacity during the peak periods to and through the regional core is known as the “binding year.” For years beyond the binding year, it is assumed that any growth in peak-period Metrorail demand to and through the regional core will be forced to switch to other travel

modes (specifically, auto person trips). The transit constraint was initiated by WMATA in 2000 to address funding shortfalls restricting the expansion of the rail fleet.⁴⁰ WMATA policy sets the binding year, which is currently set at 2020. This means that, for any forecast year past 2020, the transit constraint is applied, i.e., any forecasted peak-period Metrorail trips that exceed the 2020 demand to and through the regional core are shifted to other travel modes (specifically, auto person trips). Details about the Metrorail constraint through the regional core, including a definition of the extent of the regional core can be found in section 21.2 on page 165, which is part of the “mode choice” section of this report.

2.4.2 Modeling high occupancy/toll (HOT) lanes

According to a recent FHWA report, “ ‘Managed lanes’ are defined as highway facilities or a set of lanes where operational strategies are proactively implemented and managed in response to changing conditions....Examples of operating managed lane projects include high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes, value priced lanes, high-occupancy toll (HOT) lanes, or exclusive or special use lanes.”⁴¹ Most HOT lane facilities exist on freeways which include one or more adjacent general purpose (GP) lanes that are not managed. HOT lanes have recently opened up on I-495 in Virginia and more HOT lanes are planned for I-95 in Virginia. Consequently, COG/TPB staff has developed a procedure for using the regional travel demand model to model HOT lanes.⁴² In the case of the I-495 Express Lanes, vehicles with three or more occupants (HOV3+) may use the facility for free, but single-occupant vehicles (SOVs) and two-occupant vehicles (HOV2) must pay a toll to use the facility. The toll is dynamically set based on congestion levels. The toll is set such that the HOT lanes will remain free flowing.

Before the opening of the Express Toll Lanes, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) stated that the toll paying traffic in the HOT lanes should not impede the flow of HOV traffic in the HOT lanes. To accommodate the VDOT policy, COG/TPB staff developed a modeling procedure where the travel model is run twice. The “**base run**” captures the travel time for unimpeded flow of HOV traffic on HOT lanes, consistent with VDOT’s stated operational policy. The “**final run**” of the travel model substitutes the HOV skims obtained for the HOV skims that would otherwise be obtained by simply skimming the networks with HOT lanes in operation. Only the HOV skims are taken from the “base run.” Skims for all other modes are taken from the “final run.” Under this framework, the “base run” serves solely as a means for measuring times for HOV traffic on HOT facilities. This procedure is referred to as the “HOV 3+ skim substitution option,” the “HOV3+ skim replacement (HSR),” or the “multi-run procedure” for

⁴⁰ Ronald Milone, “TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model on the 3,722-TAZ area system: Status report” (presented at the September 23, 2011 meeting of the Travel Forecasting Subcommittee of the Technical Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, held at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Washington, D.C., September 23, 2011).

⁴¹ *Managed Lanes: A Primer* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, 2008), 5, http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/publications/managelanes_primer/managed_lanes_primer.pdf.

⁴² Also known as “express toll lanes,” or, in Northern Virginia, the “I-495 Express Lanes” and the “I-95 Express Lanes.”

modeling HOT lanes. More information can be found pages 1-10 to 1-12 of the Version 2.2 Travel Model documentation.⁴³

2.4.3 Select-link analyses

A select-link analysis (SLA) and a select-link assignment are common procedures in travel demand modeling, but these are not part of our standard modeling procedures. There are theoretical reasons why SLAs should not be performed,⁴⁴ but we often get requests for help with running SLAs. COG/TPB staff has developed some SLA procedures⁴⁵ for the Ver. 2.3 travel model, which may be requested by outside parties in the normal fashion

(<http://www.mwcog.org/transportation/activities/models/datarequests.asp>).

⁴³ Ronald Milone et al., *TPB Travel Forecasting Model, Version 2.2: Specification, Validation, and User's Guide* (Washington, D.C.: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, March 1, 2008), 1–10 to 1–12, <http://www.mwcog.org/transportation/activities/models/documentation.asp>.

⁴⁴ See, for example, Hillel Bar-Gera and Amos Luzon, “Non-Unique Solutions of User-Equilibrium Assignments and Their Practical Implications,” in *Compendium of Papers CD-ROM* (presented at the Transportation Research Board 85th Annual Meeting, held January 22-26, 2006, Washington, D.C., 2006).

⁴⁵ See, for example, Feng Xie to Files, “Select Link Analysis for TPB’s v2.3.52 Travel Demand Model,” Memorandum, (October 25, 2013).

3 Hardware and software requirements

This section of the report describes the hardware and software requirements for running the Version 2.3 Travel Model. It also includes a section discussing the hardware used for modeling at COG. In addition to requirements, this section of the report also discusses any recommendations regarding hardware and software.

3.1 Hardware

- Processor/Central processing unit (CPU), a.k.a., chip or processor:
 - Intel-like processor, e.g., Intel, AMD, with 32-bit or 64-bit architecture.
 - Number of cores: The Version 2.3.57 Travel Model has been designed to run some steps in parallel, using Cube Cluster.
 - During the highway assignment step, there can be up to 8 concurrent program threads running at once, which means that it is recommended that you have a computer with 8 or more cores. Nonetheless, you can run the regional travel model on a computer with only 4 or 2 cores (see instructions found in Table 17 on p. 94), however, due to rounding issues in Cube Cluster, running with fewer than the recommended 8 cores may result in slight differences in modeled results.
 - The two biggest chip manufacturers are Intel and AMD. Some Intel chips feature a technology known as Hyper-Threading. When Hyper-Threading technology is enabled on the chip, the operating system sees double the number of cores. So, if your computer has four cores and Hyper-Threading is enabled, the operating system will see eight virtual cores, thus doubling your CPU capacity. See the section 8.2.1 for more details. COG/TPB staff has executed the Version 2.3 Travel Model on only computers running Intel chips, but the model should run equally well on computers running AMD chips.
 - Chip speed: There is no minimum chip speed. Given the amount of time to run the regional travel model, we recommend a chip speed of around 3 GHz.
- Memory: All 32-bit versions of Windows operating system can access up to 4 GB of random access memory (RAM). 64-bit versions of Windows can handle much more memory, potentially up to 128 GB of RAM. We recommend 3 to 4 GB of RAM, though the precise minimum amount of RAM needed to run the travel model is not known.
- Storage space: We recommend you have a hard disk drive with 500 GB of free space. As stated earlier, one modeling scenario/year generates about 25 GB of files (1,600 files) before the clean-up procedure is run, and about 10 GB of files after the clean-up procedure is run.

3.2 Software

- Operating system: Microsoft Windows (32-bit or 64-bit version), such as Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7, or Windows Server 2008. The model has not been tested at COG using Windows 8.

- The Version 2.3.57 Model: This is provided for free to those who request it. The procedures for requesting the model can be found on the “Data Requests” webpage (<http://www.mwcog.org/transportation/activities/models/datarequests.asp>). In essence, one needs to send an e-mail or a signed letter to Ronald Milone, Travel Forecasting Program Director in COG’s Department of Transportation Planning. The e-mail/letter should indicate how you intend to use the model, naming the specific study or research project, if applicable. When someone is given the TPB travel model, this includes the model inputs (principally transportation networks and land use data), batch files, Cube Voyager scripts, and the Fortran program used to run the mode choice model. Although Cube Voyager scripts are part of the model transmittal package, you cannot run these scripts without having a copy of Cube Voyager software (see below). Please note that the COG/TPB staff does not have the resources to staff a “help desk” for the regional travel model, so it is expected that individuals who request the travel model will have the knowledge and skills to use the model with minimal assistance from COG/TPB staff.
- Citilabs Cube software: The TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model is implemented using Citilabs Cube software, a proprietary software package, which is produced, licensed, and marketed by Citilabs, Inc. Thus, to run the regional travel model, you will need to purchase the Cube software from Citilabs (www.citilabs.com). COG/TPB staff cannot provide copies of the Citilabs Cube software. The Version 2.3.57 Travel Model has been developed and applied by COG/TPB staff using Cube version 6.1 SP1, so it is recommended you have this version of the software. The earlier software version (6.0.2) will not work with the new, automated ArcPy/Python transit walkshed process. It may be possible to use newer versions of Cube Voyager, such as 6.1.1, but this has not been tested at COG.
 - Cube Base: Cube Base is the graphical user interface (GUI) for editing transportation networks, matrices, and scripts. In theory, Cube Base can also be used for managing network scenarios (Scenario Manager) and running travel models (Application Manager), but that is not how the Version 2.3 Travel Model has been implemented. Instead, the Version 2.3 Travel Model is implemented using a command-line interface (CLI), as described later in this report.
 - Cube Voyager: Cube Voyager is the numerical engine that powers the Cube suite of software and includes its own proprietary scripting language.
 - Cube Cluster: Cube Cluster is Citilabs’ implementation of distributed processing, which is a technique for distributing computing jobs across multiple computers or processors, thus reducing model run times by allowing two or more processes to run in parallel. Strictly speaking, Cube Cluster is not required to run the Version 2.3 Travel Model. But it is strongly recommended, in order to keep model run times to a minimum, and, if you choose not to use it, you will have to modify the model setups that are supplied by COG/TPB staff (this is described later in this report).
- A text editor (optional, but recommended): The choice of which text editor to use is a personal one. Cube Base includes its own text editor, optimized, obviously, for editing Cube Voyager scripts. In addition to the Cube Base built-in text editor, COG staff uses one or more of the of

the following: Notepad++ (free and open source), PSPad (free, but not open source), KEDIT (for purchase; this may no longer be supported by the vendor).

- Cygwin (<http://www.cygwin.com/>) is a Linux-like environment for Windows that provides a series of Unix-like command-line tools, such as head, tail, and which. This free and open source software is not required to run the travel model, but some functionality of the travel model summary process will not work properly without this software installed.
- ArcGIS engine runtime 10.1 or ArcGIS 10.1. ArcGIS engine runtime 10.1 is installed automatically with Cube 6.1, provided that you choose the correct installation file (e.g., cube610SP1setup.exe, which corresponds to the “with ArcGIS engine runtime” installation option).
- Software for comparing or diffing text files (not required, but recommended). COG staff has been using WinDiff for a long time and has started to use WinMerge, which seems to have more functionality. Both are available for free.

3.3 Examples of computer hardware used at COG for modeling

COG/TPB staff performs most modeling runs on computer servers that are dedicated for this task, though one can also run the travel model on a standard, desktop computer. COG/TPB staff typically accesses a travel model server (TMS) using a Remote Desktop Connection. We are now using our sixth travel model server (tms6). Tms1 and tms2 are no longer being used as travel model servers, so COG/TPB staff currently has four travel model servers (tms3, tms4, tms5, and tms6). The latest travel model server, tms6, is being shared by the two teams in DTP that perform modeling work.

Table 5 compares the “specs” or computer specifications of the latest travel model server (tms6) and its immediate predecessor (tms5). Both computers are running Windows Server 2008 Enterprise, though tms6 is running Release 2 (“R2”) of the O/S. Whereas tms5 has a 32-bit version of the O/S, tms6 has a 64-bit version of the O/S. On a 32-bit version of Windows, all programs are installed in one folder (“C:\Program Files”). By contrast, on a 64-bit version of Windows, programs are stored in two locations:

- “C:\Program Files” for 64-bit applications
- “C:\Program Files (x86)” for 32-bit applications

Most computer programs/applications are currently 32-bit (including Citilabs Cube 6.0.2), so the second folder listed above is the one that is used for most programs and for updates to the Windows PATH environment variable (discussed later in section 5.1). Although both tms5 and tms6 have two processors, the clock speed of the newer computer, tms6, is actually 16% slower than that found in tms5. Tms6 has a marginally faster “maximum Turbo Frequency,” though it is not certain how this affects model run times. On benchmark tests, model run time on tms6 and tms5 almost identical, possibly because tms6 has faster hard drives (spinning at 10k RPMs vs. the 7.2k RPMs on tms5). Whereas tms5 has 12 physical cores (24 virtual cores with Hyper-Threading), tms6 has 16 physical cores (32 virtual cores with Hyper-Threading). Since the Version 2.3.52 and 2.3.57 models are set up to use a maximum of 8 threads/cores, one can run three simultaneous model runs on tms5 and four simultaneous model runs on tms6, without any significant slowing of the model runs. Although it should be possible to perform more than three simultaneous model runs on tms5 or four simultaneous model

runs on tms6, these are the threshold values where the model run times will start to degrade from the benchmark value of about 17 hours per run for a base year, such as 2010.

Table 5 Comparison of computer specs between tms5 and tms6

Host Name:	TMS5	TMS6	Ratio
OS Name:	MS Windows Server 2008 Enterprise	MS Windows Server 2008 R2 Enterprise	
OS Version:	6.0.6002 Service Pack 2 Build 6002	6.1.7601 Service Pack 1 Build 7601	
System Manufacturer:	HP	HP	
System Model:	ProLiant DL380 G7	ProLiant DL380p Gen8	
System Type:	32-bit	64-bit	
Number of processors:	2	2	
Processor name(s):	Intel Xeon X5690	Intel Xeon E5-2690	
Clock speed of processor (GHz):	3.46	2.90	0.84
Max. Turbo Freq. of processor (GHz):	3.73	3.80	1.02
No. of cores/processor:	6	8	1.33
No. of threads/processor:	12	16	1.33
Total number of cores:	12	16	1.33
Total number of threads:	24	32	1.33
Hyper-Threading Technology:	yes	yes	
Total Physical Memory (MB):	12,277	32,733	2.67
Available Physical Memory (MB):	9,917	30,421	3.07
Hard drives for data storage:			
Local	E, 4.6 TB, SAS, 7.2k	D (Ateam), 2 TB, SAS, 10k	
Local		E (Bteam), 2 TB, SAS, 10k	
Local		J (AteamArray), 10 TB, SAS, 7.2k	
Local		K (BteamArray), 10 TB, SAS, 7.2k	

Ref: "I:\ateam\team_mem\Moran\computer_specs_comp_tms5_tms6.xlsx"

Table 6 and Table 7 give information about the storage devices used for model runs at COG. The D and E drives are partitions of the C drive on tms6. To enhance performance, they have been set up with RAID 0, so there is no redundancy if one of the individual hard drives crashes. By contrast, ateamarray and bteamarray have been set up with RAID 5, so they have redundancy in the case of a hard drive crash, but their performance may be inferior to the D and E drives, in terms of model run times.

Table 6 Hard drives associated with tms6

Server	Share name	UNC path to share	Drive letter when logged on to tms6	Drive mapping (when <u>not</u> logged on to tms6)	Size (TB)
tms6	ateam	\\tms6\ateam	D	L	2
tms6	bteam	\\tms6\bteam	E	P	2
tms6	ateamarray	\\tms6\ateamarray	J	T	10
tms6	bteamarray	\\tms6\bteamarray	K	V	10

Table 7 Other hard drives of interest to travel demand modelers at COG

Server	Share name	UNC path to share	Drive letter when logged on to server	Drive mapping (when <u>not</u> logged on to server)	Size
tms4	D	\\tms4\d	D	Y	2.37 TB
tms5	E	\\tms5\e	E	X	4.46 TB
tms-nas	model_app	\\tms-nas\model_app	N/A*	N	1.9 TB
tms-nas	model_dev	\\tms-nas\model_dev	N/A*	O	1.9 TB
Not used for travel demand modeling:					
DFS	DTP	\\mwcog.org\DFS\DTP	N/A*	I	3.7 TB
coggis	GDrive	\\coggis\GDrive	N/A*	G	341 GB
cogsas	dtp_sas\$	\\cogsas\dtp_sas\$	D	S	599 GB

* Individual users do not log on to this server.

In the four cases in Table 6, a folder on each hard drive has been shared. Hence the share name is a folder name. By contrast, in the first two cases of Table 7, the entire hard drive has been shared. Hence, the share name is the name of the drive itself.

4 Mechanics of the model application process

The Version 2.3 Travel Model is applied using a command-line interface (CLI), not a graphical user interface (GUI). The model is launched via a single command that is typed or pasted in a single command window (this is covered in the section about running the model). The Version 2.3 Travel Model makes use of the following:

- A series of pre-established batch files, which are used to call a series of Cube Voyager scripts (*.s) and Fortran programs (*.exe);
- A standardized subdirectory system, in which input files, output files, Cube Voyager scripts, and other files are organized; and
- The use of generically named input and output files, which are stored in designated locations in the subdirectory system.

An example subdirectory structure for applying the Version 2.3 model is shown in Figure 12. The “root” subdirectory appears at the top of the structure. The root subdirectory may exist anywhere on the computer hard drive and may be arbitrarily named by the analyst, but **it is recommended that the name of the root subdirectory include information about both the travel model being used (e.g. Ver2.3.57) and the modeling project being undertaken.** For example, an analyst performing model runs to support the Air Quality Conformity Determination of the 2014 Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP) might name the root subdirectory as follows:

```
C:\modelRuns\fy15\Ver2.3.57_aqc_2014clrp
```

Note that the root subdirectory need not be located directly off the root of the C drive (or D drive, etc.). In the example above, the root subdirectory is below the “fy15” subdirectory. On the left side of Figure 12, there are five specially designated subdirectories under the root that are established:

- SOFTWARE: Fortran executable files and DLL files
- CONTROLS : Control files that are required by the Fortran programs
- SCRIPTS: Cube Voyager scripts
- SUPPORT: General parameter files used by the scripts or Fortran programs
- SUMMARY: Summary scripts, which are used to summarize the model run

The first four subdirectories are required, but the fifth subdirectory is optional. The SUPPORT subdirectory is reserved for parameter files that generally do not change by modeled scenario such as K-factors, F-factors, and the like. The four required subdirectories must exist under the root, and must be named as shown, although the names are not case sensitive. The optional summary subdirectory may be given any name. Furthermore, the files residing in these four required subdirectories should generally not be altered or renamed.

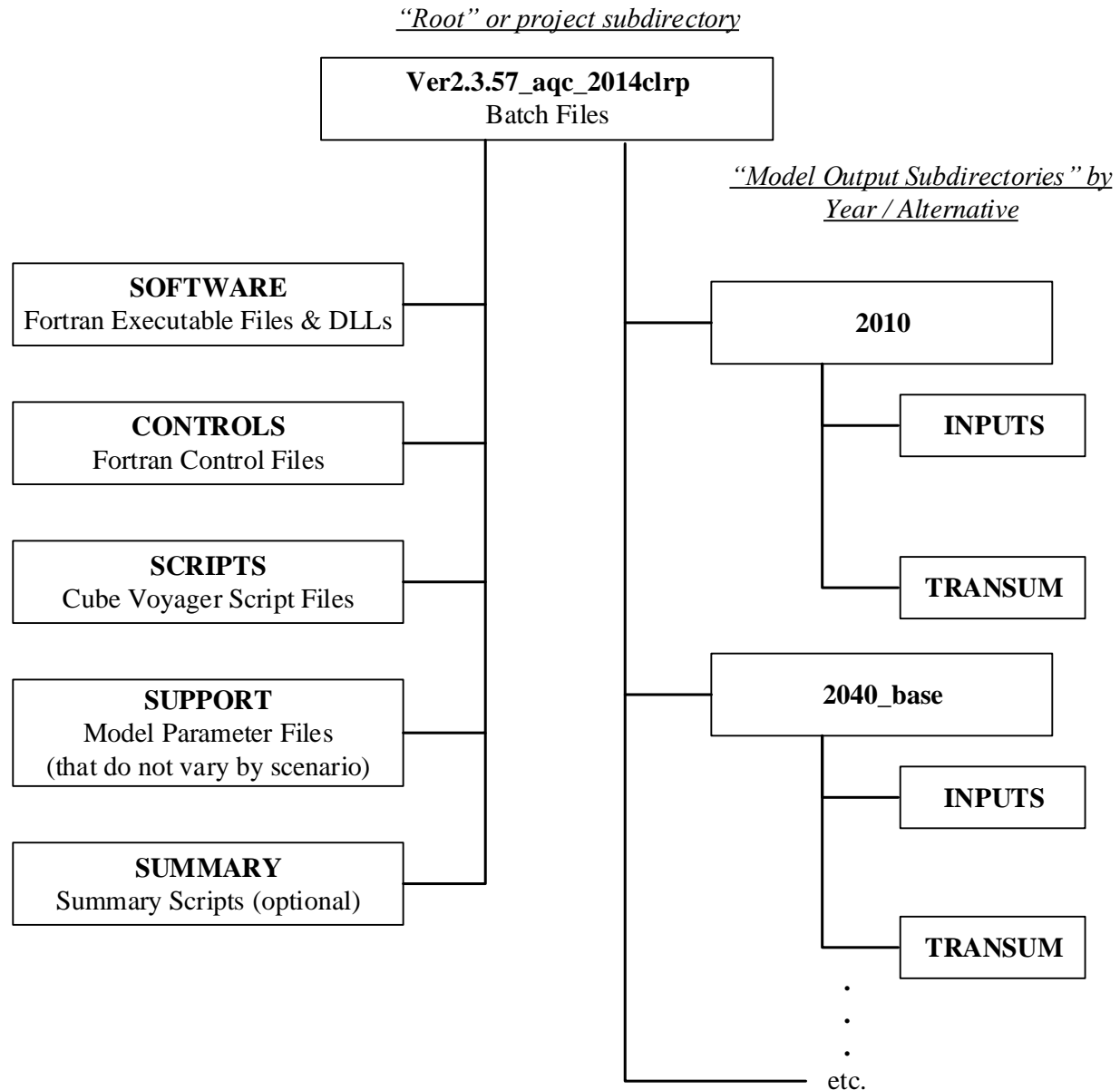


Figure 12 Subdirectory structure for executing the Version 2.3 Travel Model

Ref: directoryStruct_v23_model_v6.vsd

The right side of Figure 12 shows two subdirectories, named “2010” and “2040_base.” These two subdirectories are the output subdirectories (a.k.a. the scenario subdirectories). The user is free to choose any name for output subdirectories. Since travel demand models are best used in a comparative manner, a travel demand modeling project would typically have two or more scenarios or alternatives. Each alternative would get its own output subdirectory for scenario-specific outputs from the travel model.

Under each scenario-specific subdirectory that exists, there need to be two subdirectories, one named “inputs” and the other named “transum.” These exact names must be used, but, as stated previously, names are case insensitive. The “transum” subdirectory is for storing summary information about the

transit assignment. At the beginning of the model run, the “transum” subdirectory will be completely empty, but, at the end of the run, the subdirectory will contain reports from the process (LineSum) that summarizes the transit assignment. The “inputs” subdirectory is where one stores all necessary model inputs that area specific to a modeled scenarios (see Table 8). Note that some “inputs” that are common to all modeled scenarios are stored in the “support” subdirectory (see Table 8, which also includes input files stored in the CONTROLS subdirectory). Input files in the “inputs” folder are named generically (e.g., land use data is stored in a file named zone.dbf; network link data is stored in a file named link.dbf, etc.). The user may establish an unlimited number of output subdirectories, as long as each one contains one “inputs” subdirectory and one “transum” subdirectory. Neither the inputs nor transum subdirectories can be shared among more than one alternative. After a model has been run, if the automated transit walkshed process was run with the model (the default setup), then the “inputs” folder will contain a new subfolder called “Transit_Walksheds_GIS.”

One change to Table 8 that is associated with the Ver. 2.3.57 model, the areawalk.txt file is no longer an input file, since this file is generated during the automated transit walkshed process. If a copy of areawalk.txt already exists in the “inputs” folder, the old copy will be renamed as AreaWalk_Old.txt, before the new areawalk.txt file is created.⁴⁶

The actual structure of the folders/subdirectories storing the travel model, its input files, and output folders, will be a function of the years/scenarios analyzed and the way the transit constraint and HOT-lane modeling procedures are applied, but the list below is representative:

```
+---2010
|   +---inputs
|   \---transum
+---2020_base
|   +---Inputs
|   \---transum
+---2020_final
|   +---Inputs
|   \---transum
+---2040_base
|   +---Inputs
|   \---transum
+---2040_final
|   +---Inputs
|   \---transum
+---Controls
+---Docs
+---Scripts
+---Software
+---Summary
+---Support
```

⁴⁶ AECOM, *FY 2014 Final Report, COG Contract 12-006: Assistance with Development and Application of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board Travel Demand Model*, 9–2.

If one is running multiple scenarios, it is recommended that the analyst set up an electronic spreadsheet to keep track of metadata associated with each model run. The metadata of importance will vary from study to study, but might contain items such as:

- Run number/ID (a unique sequence number to quickly name a model run)
- Parent run number/ID (indicates the run number of the run that formed the basis for the current run). Useful in figuring which run was derived from which other runs.
- Subdirectory name (i.e., the name of the root folder/subdirectory)
- Key modeling assumption parameters, such as the network year, land use year, land use round (e.g., Round 7.2a), WMATA tariff number, etc.
- Key modeling output parameters, such as model run time, regional VMT, total transit, etc.

Table 8 Input files needed to run the Version 2.3 Travel Model, stored in the CONTROLS, INPUTS, and SUPPORT folders

No.	Folder	Filename	Description	File Type	Category	Modeling step where file is used
1	controls	HBO_NL_MC.ct1	HBO nested-logit mode choice mode control file	Text	Model	Mode choice (MC_Purp.bat & AEMS.EXE)
2	controls	HBS_NL_MC.ct1	HBS nested-logit mode choice mode control file	Text	Model	Mode choice (MC_Purp.bat & AEMS.EXE)
3	controls	HBW_NL_MC.ct1	HBW nested-logit mode choice mode control file	Text	Model	Mode choice (MC_Purp.bat & AEMS.EXE)
4	controls	lineSum_MR_access.ct1	Summary of Metrorail riders by access mode	Text	Summary	LineSum.exe
5	controls	lineSum_MR_line.ct1	Summary of Metrorail boardings, alightings, and ridership	Text	Summary	LineSum.exe
6	controls	LineSum_Volume.ct1	Consolidate peak & off-peak vols from transit assignment	Text	Summary	LineSum.exe
7	controls	NHO_NL_MC.ct1	NHO nested-logit mode choice mode control file	Text	Model	Mode choice (MC_Purp.bat & AEMS.EXE)
8	controls	NHW_NL_MC.ct1	NHW nested-logit mode choice mode control file	Text	Model	Mode choice (MC_Purp.bat & AEMS.EXE)
9	controls	station_names.dbf	Names of rail stations and express bus stops	DBF	Summary	LineSum.exe
10	inputs	airpax.adr	Air Passenger Auto Driver Trips	Binary	Assumptions	Miscellaneous time of day
11	inputs	AM_Tfac.dbf	AM Toll Factors by Vehicle Type	DBF	Assumptions	Highway skimming and assignment
12	inputs	areadef3722.prn	Input TAZ-Mode choice district equivalence	Text	Assumptions	Transit fare development (prefarv23.s)
13	inputs	AT_override.TXT	Cases where zones have area-type override values	Text	Assumptions	AreaType_File.s
14	inputs	bus_pnrn.tb	Bus PNR lots	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
15	inputs	BUSFARAM.ASC	AM Bus Fare matrix (Bus fares zones '1' to '21')	Text	Assumptions	mfare2.s
16	inputs	BUSFAROP.ASC	OP Bus Fare matrix (Bus fares zones '1' to '21')	Text	Assumptions	mfare2.s
17	inputs	com_bus.tb	Transfer link (walk) between commuter rail station and bus & LRT stop	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
18	inputs	com_link.tb	Commuter rail links	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
19	inputs	com_node.tb	Commuter rail stations	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
20	inputs	com_pnrn.tb	Commuter rail PNR lots	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
21	inputs	CPI_File.txt	Assumed rate of inflation, based on historical CPI	Text	Assumptions	Set_CPI.s
22	inputs	Ext_PsAs.dbf	External Productions and Attractions	DBF	Observed data	trip_generation.s
23	inputs	GIS_Variables.dbf	GIS variables used to calculate non-motorized trips	DBF	Observed data	trip_generation.s
24	inputs	HBO_NL_MC.MTT	Pre-existing mode choice model output	Binary	Assumptions	pp_auto_drivers.s
25	inputs	HBS_NL_MC.MTT	Pre-existing mode choice model output	Binary	Assumptions	pp_auto_drivers.s
26	inputs	HBW_NL_MC.MTT	Pre-existing mode choice model output	Binary	Assumptions	pp_auto_drivers.s
27	inputs	Jur.dbf	Equiv. between juris and river superdistricts: Disallows river crossings for PNR	DBF	Land use	Autoacc4.s
28	inputs	Lbus_timFTRS.asc	Local Bus Time Degradation Factors	Text	Assumptions	transit_skims_??s
29	inputs	Link.dbf	Highway network links	DBF	Highway network	V2.3_Highway_Build.s
30	inputs	lrt_bus.tb	Transfer link (walk) between LRT station and bus stop	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
31	inputs	lrt_link.tb	LRT links	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
32	inputs	lrt_node.tb	LRT stations/stops	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
33	inputs	lrt_pnrn.tb	LRT PNR lots	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
34	inputs	MD_Tfac.dbf	MD Toll Factors by Vehicle Type	DBF	Assumptions	Highway skimming and assignment
35	inputs	met_bus.tb	Transfer link (walk) between Metrorail station and bus stop	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
36	inputs	met_link.tb	Metrorail links	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
37	inputs	met_node.tb	Metrorail stations	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
38	inputs	met_pnrn.tb	Metrorail PNR lots	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
39	inputs	metlnkml.tb	Metrorail Links	Text	Transit network	metrorail_skims.s
40	inputs	metnodm1.tb	Metrorail Nodes	Text	Transit network	metrorail_skims.s
41	inputs	mfare1.a1	Metrorail Sta XYs scaled to 1/100ths of miles	Text	Transit network	mfare1.s
42	inputs	mfare1_Sta_Disc.ASC	Metrorail Sta fare discount array in cents	Text	Assumptions	mfare1.s
43	inputs	MODE1AM,... MODE10AM.tb	AM Transit Line Files	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
44	inputs	MODE1OP,... MODE10OP.tb	OP Transit Line Files	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
45	inputs	new_bus.tb	Transfer link (walk) between BRT/streetcar stop and bus stop	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
46	inputs	new_link.tb	BRT/streetcar links	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
47	inputs	new_node.tb	BRT/streetcar stations/stops	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s
48	inputs	new_pnrn.tb	BRT/streetcar PNR lots	Text	Transit network	transit_skims_??s

No.	Folder	Filename	Description	File Type	Category	Modeling step where file is used
49	inputs	NHO_NL_MC.MTT	Pre-existing mode choice model output	Binary	Assumptions	pp_auto_drivers.s
50	inputs	NHW_NL_MC.MTT	Pre-existing mode choice model output	Binary	Assumptions	pp_auto_drivers.s
51	inputs	Node.dbf	XY coordinates of nodes in highway network	DBF	Highway network	AreaType_File.s
52	inputs	NT_Tfac.dbf	NT Toll Factors by Vehicle Type	DBF	Assumptions	Highway skimming and assignment
53	inputs	Pen.dbf	List of TAZs considered to be in the "slugging" shed of the Pentagon	DBF	Assumptions	Autoacc4.s
54	inputs	PM_Tfac.dbf	PM Toll Factors by Vehicle Type	DBF	Assumptions	highway_assignment.s
55	inputs	schl.adr	School Auto Driver Trips	Binary	Assumptions	misc_time-of-day.s
56	inputs	StaAcc.dbf	Lookup table: Maximum drive-access-to-transit distances	DBF	Assumptions	Autoacc4.s
57	inputs	station.dbf	Station file: Metrorail, commuter rail, LRT stations/PNR lots and bus PNR lots	DBF	Transit network	parker.s
58	inputs	tariff.txt	WMATA tariff policy	Text	Assumptions	mfare1.s
59	inputs	taxi.adr	Taxi Auto Driver Trips	Binary	Assumptions	misc_time-of-day.s
60	inputs	tazfrzn.asc	Fare Zone File	Text	Assumptions	preferav23.s
61	inputs	Toll_Esc.dbf	Toll escalation assumptions: Highway tolls & deflators	DBF	Assumptions	V2.3_Highway_Build.s
62	inputs	trnpen.dat	Turn Penalty file to ensure correct Metrorail fares	Text	Assumptions	metrorail_skims.s
63	inputs	visi.adr	Visitor Auto Driver Trips	Binary	Assumptions	misc_time-of-day.s
64	inputs	xtrawalk.dbf	Extra walk links that the analyst wishes to include	DBF	Transit network	walkacc.s
65	inputs	xxaut.vtt	Auto Driver Through Trips	Binary	Assumptions	misc_time-of-day.s
66	inputs	XXCVT.vtt	Com/Mtk/Htk through Trips	Binary	Calculated data	misc_time-of-day.s
67	inputs	Zone.dbf	Land use/land activity data at zonal level, 3722 TAZ	DBF	Land use	AreaType_File.s
68	support	2013CLRP_2010_True_Shape_Net.*	Used to display highway network with True Shape	SHP	Highway network	Network editing with Cube Base
69	support	AM_SPD_LKP.txt	Initial lookup speeds used for highway links, AM period	Text	Highway network	V2.3_Highway_Build.s
70	support	AttrRates.dbf	Trip Attractions	DBF	Calculated data	trip_generation.s
71	support	cvdelta_3722.trp	Calibration matrix, or "delta table" for commercial vehicles	Binary	Assumptions	misc_time-of-day.s
72	support	equiv_toll_min_by_inc.s	Equivalent minutes (min/'07\$) by period & income level	Text	Assumptions	trip_distribution.s
73	support	GIS_variables.dbf	Input Zonal GIS variable File	DBF	Calculated data	trip_generation.s
74	support	HBincRat.dbf	HB Income Shares	DBF	Calculated data	trip_generation.s
75	support	hwy_assign_capSpeedLookup.s	FT x AT Speed & Capacity lookup	Text	Highway network	highway_assignment.s
76	support	hwy_assign_Conical_VDF.s	Volume Delay Functions file	Text	Highway network	highway_assignment.s
77	support	MD_SPD_LKP.txt	Initial lookup speeds used for highway links, midday	Text	Highway network	V2.3_Highway_Build.s
78	support	NMArates.dbf	Non-motorized Trip Attractions	DBF	Calculated data	trip_generation.s
79	support	NMPrates.dbf	Non-motorized Trip Productions	DBF	Calculated data	trip_generation.s
80	support	TAZ3722_to_7Mrkts.txt	Equivalency between TAZs and mode choice superdistricts	Text	Assumptions	PP_Auto_Drivers.s
81	support	tkdelta_3722.trp	Calibration matrix, or "delta table" for med and hvy truck	Binary	Assumptions	misc_time-of-day.s
82	support	todcomp_2008HTS.dbf	Time of day model/factors	Binary	Assumptions	time-of-day.s
83	support	toll_minutes.txt	Toll minutes equivalence file by Vehicle Type	Text	Assumptions	Highway_skims.s
84	support	TPBMod_Jur_Boundary.shp	Jurisdictional boundaries	SHP	Network	Network editing with Cube Base
85	support	Truck_Com_Trip_Rates.dbf	Truck and Commercial Vehicle Trip Rates	DBF	Calculated data	truck_com_trip_generation.s
86	support	Ver23_f_factors.dbf	F-factors for trip distribution	DBF	Calculated data	trip_distribution.s
87	support	weighted_trip_rates.dbf	Trip Productions	DBF	Calculated data	trip_generation.s

Ref: v23_inputs_v11.xlsx

Pre-established “parent” and “child” batch files for executing the model reside in the root subdirectory. Typically “parent” batch files are edited to correspond to each modeled scenario, while “child” batch files remain unaltered. The parent batch files can be named as the user likes. The two main parent batch files are the “wrapper” batch file and the “run model steps” batch file (the latter file used to be called the “run all” batch file). Details about these two files can be found in section 6.2 (“Parent batch files”) on page 62. The child batch files are the ones that actually execute individual modeling steps, such as the trip generation step (e.g., Trip_Generation.bat) or the traffic assignment step (e.g., Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat). Child batch files generally call the Cube Voyager scripts and/or Fortran programs. The child batch files also assign names to report files that result from each model step. Listing files are typically assigned file extensions of RPT or TAB. The former refers to Cube Voyager report or listing files, while the latter refers to a subset tabulation of the report file containing only trip table totals or jurisdictional summaries. Parent batch files are used to string child batch files together so that the entire model execution can be initiated with a single command or batch file. The parent batch files also establish Windows environment variables that are used in the child batch files and Cube Voyager scripts, such as the iteration number, the model year, and the model description.

As stated earlier, all of the input files located in the “inputs,” “controls,” and “support” folders are listed in Table 8. It is the user’s responsibility to make sure that the generically named files are appropriate for the modeled scenario and are in the prescribed format (described later). Additionally, almost all of the files shown in Table 8 must exist for the model run to complete successfully, with the exception of some files such as the shapefiles used for displaying a highway network in True Shape mode (2013CLRP_2010_True_Shape_Net.shp). The advantage of using generic filenames is that the input and output filenames referenced in each Cube Voyager script and control file do not need to be tailored to match the different scenarios that are run. The disadvantage of using generic filenames is that, when moving or sharing files, two files with the same name could be quite different (e.g., zone.dbf for the year 2007 has the same name as zone.dbf for the year 2040). Thus, the metadata that describes the scenario name is stored in the name of the output subdirectory (e.g., “2007”), not in the filenames themselves.

The SOFTWARE folder contains Fortran executable programs (*.exe) and dynamic-link library (DLL) files, as shown in Table 9. There are fewer Fortran executable programs (only three) used by the Versions 2.3 model than have been used in previous COG/TPB models, since several Fortran routines have been converted to Cube Voyager scripts.

A listing of child batch files is provided in Table 10. The table also indicates the programs and/or Cube Voyager scripts that are invoked and the purpose of each batch file. Given the iterative application process of the model, most of the batch files are called multiple times during a model run. The sequence of batch file applications, by iteration, is shown in Table 11. The table indicates that there are 48 batch file steps called during a standard application of the model. Some of the batch files are called once, while others (e.g., trip_generation.bat) are called during the pump-prime and all four standard iterations. A parent batch file (“run_ModelSteps*.bat”) is used to string each of the 48 child batch files together during a typical model execution. The parent batch files, like child batch files, reside in the root subdirectory. Two parent batch files are typically prepared for each individual model run. The process

for executing a model is addressed in the next section. The remaining chapters address the specific details of each modeling step.

Table 9 Fortran executable files and dynamic-link library files required for running the Version 2.3 travel model

Executable Name	Ver	Date	Size (bytes)	Program Function	Requires a control file?
AEMS.exe		2/13/2012	195,900	Mode choice application program	yes
cw3240.dll		2/13/2012	827,392	Dynamic-link library file associated w/ AEMS.exe	no
DFORMD.dll		2/13/2012	425,984	Dynamic-link library file associated w/ AEMS.exe	no
Tppdlibx.dll		**		Dynamic-link library file associated w/ AEMS.exe	no
Tputlib.dll		**		Dynamic-link library file associated w/ AEMS.exe	no
extrtab.exe		2/13/2012	464,559	Extracts sections from Cube Voyager report files	no
Linesum.exe	6.0.2	3/26/2014	697,344	Creates reports summarizing transit loaded link files	yes

** In previous versions of the Version 2.3 Travel Model, we would store a copy of the two TP+ DLL files (Tppdlibx.dll and Tputlib.dll) in the SOFTWARE folder under the root folder of the model run. However, since these two TP+ DLL files are also stored either here ("C:\Program Files\Citilabs\CubeVoyager" for a 32-bit version of Windows) or here ("C:\Program Files (x86)\Citilabs\CubeVoyager" for a 64-bit version of Windows), it was always possible that the two sets of files would not be synchronized, which could sometimes cause an error such as this:

```
READING CONTROL RECORD: 139forrt1: severe (157): Program Exception - access violation
```

Image	PC	Routine	Line	Source
AEMS.exe	0040EE49	INITPAR	15	AEMSINCA.FOR

It was found that the best way to rectify this problem was to remove the two TP+ DLL files from the SOFTWARE folder and simply make sure that the Windows PATH environment variable was set up as explained in section 5.1 ("Software installation").

Table 10 Child batch files used to run the Version 2.3 Travel Model

Batch File	Scripts/Programs	Purpose
ArcPy_Walkshed_Process.bat	MWCOG_Prepare_Inputs_to_Walkshed_Process_PT.s MWCOG_Prepare_Inputs_to_Walkshed_Process_TRNBUILD.s	Run the automated/integrated ArcPy/Python transit walkshed process
Set_CPI.bat	Set_CPI.s Set_Factors.s	Create highway and transit cost deflators. Create K factors and time penalties.
PP_Highway_Build.bat	AreaType_File.s V2.3_highway_build.s	Build highway networks.
PP_Highway_Skims.bat (see also Highway_Skims.bat)	Highway_skims_am.s Highway_skims_md.s Modnet.s Highway_skims_mod_am.s Highway_skims_mod_md.s Joinskims.s Remove_PP_Speed.s	Create AM/off-peak highway skims.
Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat	parker.s walkacc.s autoacc4.s transit_Accessibility.s Transit_Skim_LineHaul_Parallel.bat Transit_Skims_AB.s Transit_Skims_BM.s Transit_Skims_CR.s Transit_Skims_MR.s	Create the transit network: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create transit access links • Create transit network • Skim the four transit submodes Also runs the transit accessibility process.
Transit_Fare.bat	prefarV23.s Metrorail_skims.s MFARE1.s MFARE2.s Assemble_Skims_MR.s Assemble_Skims_BM.s Assemble_Skims_AB.s Assemble_Skims_CR.s	Create transit fares for the current speed feedback iteration.
Trip_Generation.bat	Demo_Models.s Trip_Generation.s Trip_Generation_Summary.s Truck_Com_Trip_Generation.s	Execute daily trip generation.
Trip_Distribution.bat	Prepare_Ext_Auto_Ends.s Prepare_Ext_ComTruck_Ends.s Trip_Distribution_External.s Prepare_Internal_Ends.s Trip_Distribution_Internal.s	Execute daily trip distribution.
Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat (or Mode_Choice_TC_V23_Parallel.bat)	MC_purp.bat => AEMS.EXE mc_NL_summary.s (mc_constraint_v23.s)	Execute the daily mode choice model (in P/A format). Optionally execute the mode choice model with the transit constraint through the regional core.
Auto_Driver.bat	mc_Auto_Drivers.s	Generate initial auto driver trips after mode choice.
PP_Auto_Drivers.bat	PP_Auto_Drivers.s	Generate initial auto driver trips without the use of the mode choice model.
Time-of-Day.bat	Time-of-Day.s Misc_Time-of-Day.s Prepare_Trip_Tables_for_Assignment.s	Convert daily modeled trips to AM, PM, midday, and night. Convert trip tables from P/A format to O/D format.

Batch File	Scripts/Programs	Purpose
Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat	Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s	Execute user equilibrium highway assignment for four time-of-day periods
Highway_Skims.bat (or HSR_Highway_Skims.bat)	Highway_Skims_am.s Highway_Skims_md.s modnet.s Highway_Skims_mod_am.s Highway_Skims_mod_md.s joinskims.s	Build zone-to-zone paths on the highway network and skim the times and costs on each path. Store the skimmed times and paths in matrix files. (Do the same, but with the HOV3+ skim substitution technique used for modeling HOT lanes.)
Transit_Assignment_Parallel.bat	Combine_Tables_For_TrAssign_Parallel.s Transit_Assignment_LineHaul_Parallel.bat Transit_Assignment_AB.s Transit_Assignment_BM.s Transit_Assignment_CR.s Transit_Assignment_MR.s	Execute the transit assignment (P/A format) for peak and off-peak periods
TranSum.bat	LineSum_*.ctl (such as LineSum_Volume.ctl, or lineSum_MR_access.ctl)	Summarize the transit assignment

Table 11 Sequence of the batch files used to run the Version 2.3 Travel Model

Batch File	Scripts/Programs	Speed Feedback Iteration				
		PP	1	2	3	4
ArcPy_Walkshed_Process.bat	MWCOG_Prepare_Inputs_to_Walkshed_Process_PT.s MWCOG_Prepare_Inputs_to_Walkshed_Process_TRNBUILD.s	1				
Set_CPI.bat	Set_CPI.s Set_Factors.s	2				
PP_Highway_Build.bat	AreaType_File.s V2.3_highway_build.s	3				
PP_Highway_Skims.bat (see also Highway_Skims.bat)	Highway_skims_am.s Highway_skims_md.s Modnet.s Highway_skims_mod_am.s Highway_skims_mod_md.s Joinskims.s Remove_PP_Speed.s	3				
Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat	parker.s walkacc.s autoacc4.s transit_Accessibility.s Transit_Skim_LineHaul_Parallel.bat Transit_Skims_AB.s Transit_Skims_BM.s Transit_Skims_CR.s Transit_Skims_MR.s	5	12	21	30	39
Transit_Fare.bat	prefarV23.s Metrorail_skims.s MFARE1.s MFARE2.s Assemble_Skims_MR.s Assemble_Skims_BM.s Assemble_Skims_AB.s Assemble_Skims_CR.s		13	22	31	39

Batch File	Scripts/Programs	Speed Feedback Iteration				
		PP	1	2	3	4
Trip_Generation.bat	Demo_Models.s Trip_Generation.s Trip_Generation_Summary.s Truck_Com_Trip_Generation.s	6	14	23	32	41
Trip_Distribution.bat	Prepare_Ext_Auto_Ends.s Prepare_Ext_ComTruck_Ends.s Trip_Distribution_External.s Prepare_Internal_Ends.s Trip_Distribution_Internal.s	7	15	24	33	42
Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat (or Mode_Choice_TC_V23_Parallel.bat)	MC_purp.bat => AEMS.EXE mc_NL_summary.s (mc_constraint_v23.s)		16	25	34	43
Auto_Driver.bat	mc_Auto_Drivers.s		17	26	35	44
PP_Auto_Drivers.bat	PP_Auto_Drivers.s	8				
Time-of-Day.bat	Time-of-Day.s Misc_Time-of-Day.s Prepare_Trip_Tables_for_Assignment.s	9	18	27	36	45
Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat	Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s	10	19	28	37	46
Highway_Skims.bat (or HSR_Highway_Skims.bat)	Highway_Skims_am.s Highway_Skims_md.s modnet.s Highway_Skims_mod_am.s Highway_Skims_mod_md.s joinskims.s	11	20	29	38	47
Transit_Assignment_Parallel.bat	Combine_Tables_For_TrAssign_Parallel.s Transit_Assignment_LineHaul_Parallel.bat Transit_Assignment_AB.s Transit_Assignment_BM.s Transit_Assignment_CR.s Transit_Assignment_MR.s					48
TranSum.bat	LineSum_*.ctl (such as LineSum_Volume.ctl, or lineSum_MR_access.ctl)					49

5 Preparing to run the model

Before the travel model can be run, one must install the necessary software, as described in the next section.

5.1 Software installation and setting the Windows PATH environment variable

Step 1: Make sure you are logged on to your computer with administrator privileges, so you can install software (or ask your IT department to perform the installation).

At COG, you will need to be a member of these two groups: “Administrators” and “SophosAdministrator” (the second group is associated with antivirus software). In other agencies, there may be other requirements. Additionally, based on testing done at COG, the mode choice application program (AEMS.EXE) may not work if you are not part of the Administrators group.

Step 2: Verify whether your computer is running a 32-bit or 64-bit version of Windows.

You can run the command “systeminfo | more”.

If you are running a 32-bit version of Windows, you will see “System Type: X86-based PC”.

If you are running a 64-bit version of Windows, you will see “System Type: x64-based PC”.

On 32-bit versions of Windows, software is stored here: “C:\Program Files”. On 64-bit versions of Windows, 32-bit software, such as Cube Base and Cube Voyager, is stored here: “C:\Program Files (x86)”.

Step 3: Determine the number of cores on your computer.

<Windows key><Pause/Break> will bring up the System Properties window, showing you, among other things, your CPU type (e.g., “Intel i5-3320M”). You can Google this to find the number of cores. For some of the screen shots shown later in this chapter, the computer being use has two cores. The example computer also has Intel Hyper-Threading Technology, which means each core can handle two threads, so the operating system (OS) will see four (virtual) cores. This can be confirmed by opening the Task Manager (keyboard combination <CTRL><SHFT><ESC>) and clicking the Performance tab.

Step 4: If you do not already have one, install the text editor of your choice, such as Notepad++ or PSPad. Notepad++ is free and open source. PSPad is free, but is not open source. Each of these text editors has it pluses and minuses, in terms of syntax highlighting, code folding, and other features, such as diffing two text files. Unfortunately, PSPad has recently begun adding bloat-ware, so, if you wish to avoid installing the bloat-ware, you need to be vigilant during the installation process.

Step 5: Install Citilabs Cube Base and Cube Voyager software. If you have purchased the license for Cube Cluster, this will also be installed at this point.

Once you have installed Cube Base, you can open it and click on help (“?”) and “About...”, which should bring up a window like the following:

Figure 13 Citilabs Cube 6, “About” message window

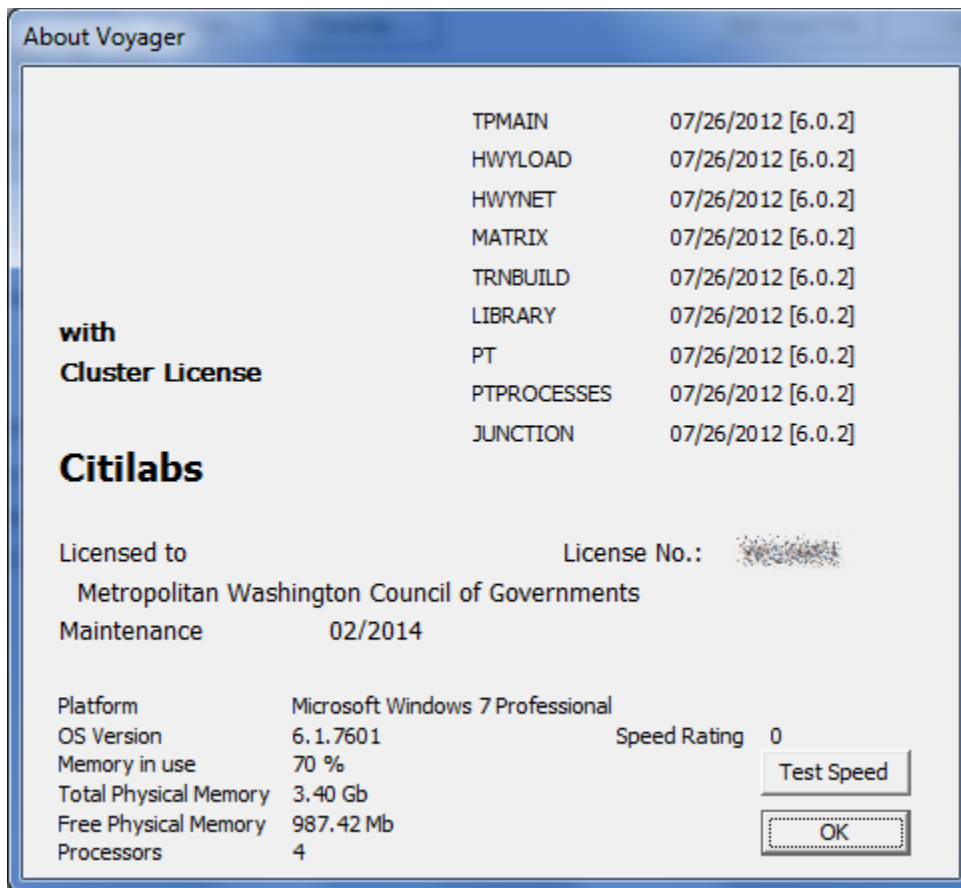


This product includes color specifications and designs developed by Cynthia Brewer (<http://colorbrewer.org/>)

From this window, we can see that we have installed Cube Base, version 6.0.2. The maintenance license expires in Feb. 2014. And Cube sees two CPUs, though we have already confirmed that the OS will see four virtual cores.

Determining if you have Cube Cluster: If you wish to determine whether a given computer includes a Cube Cluster license, open up Cube Voyager and click the “About Voyager” button. If your computer has a Cube Cluster license, you should see “with Cluster License” (as shown in Figure 14).

Figure 14 "About Voyager": Presence of Cube Cluster license



To determine the number of cores that you are licensed to use, click the date, listed to the right of the word "Maintenance." This will bring up a number such as "32000/999999/999999/8 0." The second to last number, in this case "8" is the number of cores you are licensed to use in Cube Cluster.

Step 6: Install Cygwin (<http://www.cygwin.com/>). This is a free, open source software package that provides a Linux-like environment for Windows. It provides a series of Unix-like command-line tools, such as head, tail, and which. This is not required to run the model, but some commands, such as tail, are used in the runModel batch file, to extract information from various report files. Cygwin comes in two versions: a 32-bit version (setup-x86.exe) and a 64-bit version (setup-x86_64.exe). You will want to install the version that is appropriate for your computer.

1. Download the appropriate Cygwin setup file to a location on your computer, such as c:\users\\downloads\cygwin.

 - a. 32-bit version: setup-x86.exe
 - b. 64-bit version: setup-x86_64.exe
2. Double click the setup file to run. It will install a default set of packages. You can always add more in the future by rerunning the setup file.

Do not forget where this file is, since you might need to run it in the future to add or remove components from Cygwin. The recommended location is to place the file here:
c:\users\\downloads\cygwin. Once you have done this, you should create a shortcut to the setup file on the Windows Desktop so that you can find this file easily in the future. As an alternative, you can also store the setup file directly on the Windows Desktop. The disadvantage with this second location is that, during the installation procedure, Cygwin will place a folder of downloaded files on the Desktop, and this folder may have an odd name, such as
“ftp%3a%2f%2fftp.gtlb.gatech.edu%2fpub%2fcygwin%2f”.

Step 7: Set the Windows PATH environment variable.

You will want to update the Windows PATH environment variable to have at least two new entries: one for the path to reach Citilabs Cube Voyager and Cube Cluster, and one for the path to Cygwin. This step will allow you to run Cube Voyager, Cube Cluster, and and Cygwin commands from any command prompt.

As a minimum, you will want to add the following paths to your Windows PATH environment variable:

32-bit version of Windows	64-bit version of Windows
C:\cygwin\bin	C:\cygwin\bin
C:\Program Files\Citilabs\CubeVoyager	C:\Program Files (x86)\Citilabs\CubeVoyager

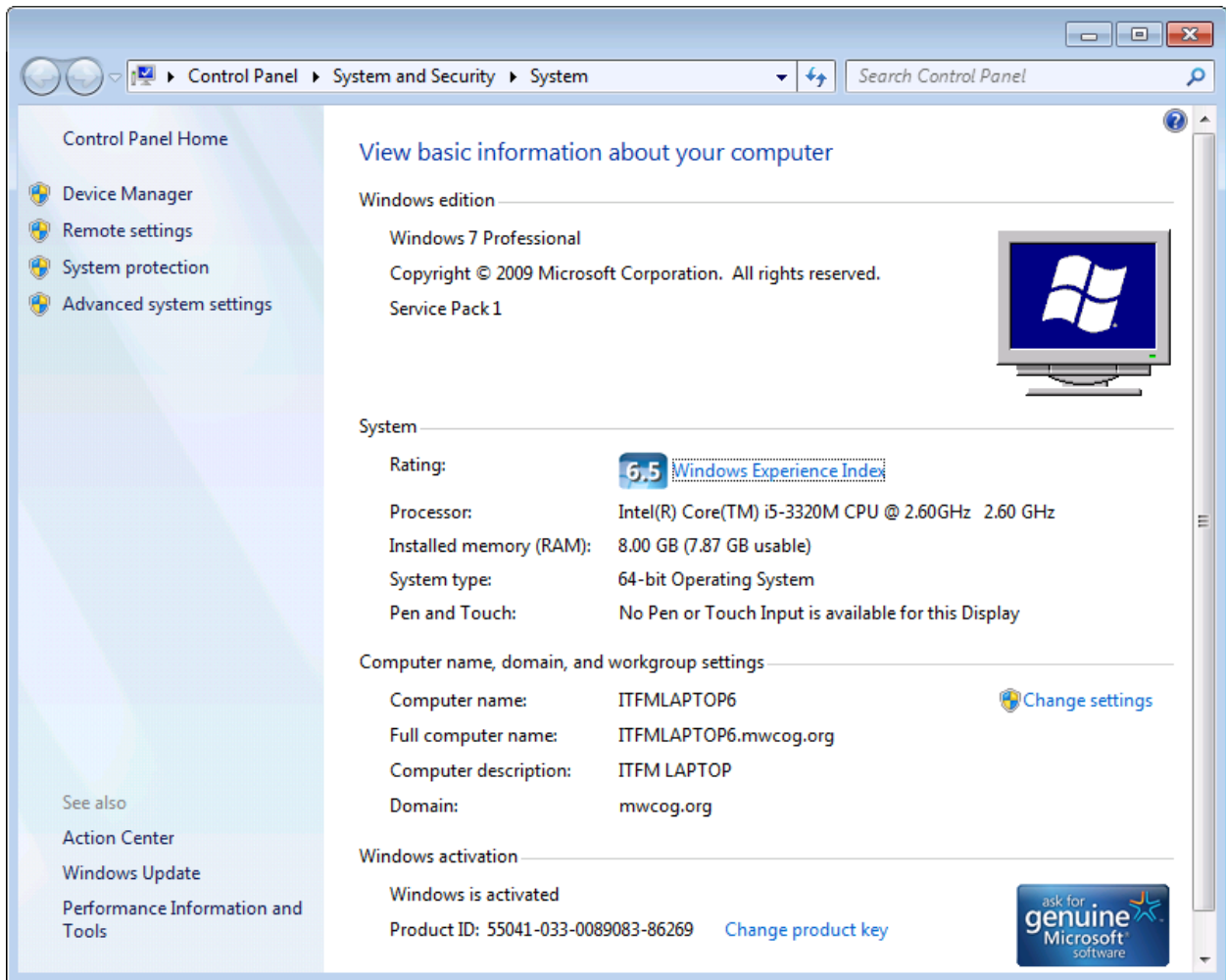
Additionally, the following paths might also be useful additions to your Windows PATH environment variable:

32-bit version of Windows	64-bit version of Windows
C:\Program Files\PSPad editor	C:\Program Files (x86)\PSPad editor
C:\Program Files\WinMerge	C:\Program Files (x86)\WinMerge

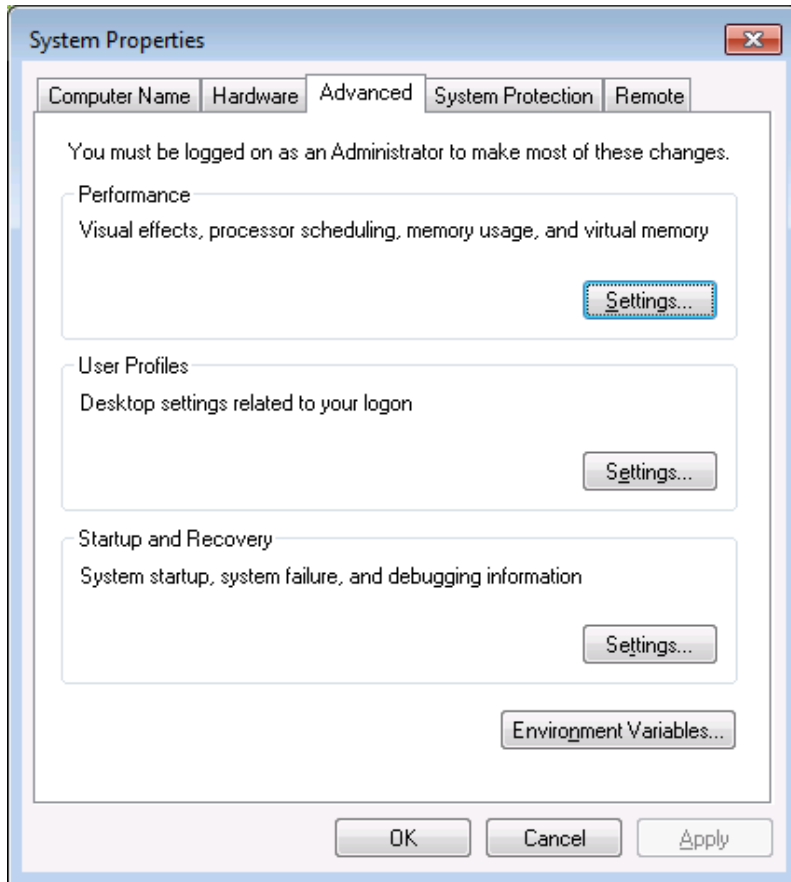
Here are instructions for updating the Windows PATH environment variable:

Hold down these two keys simultaneously to bring up the Windows System Properties window:

<Windows key><Pause/Break key>

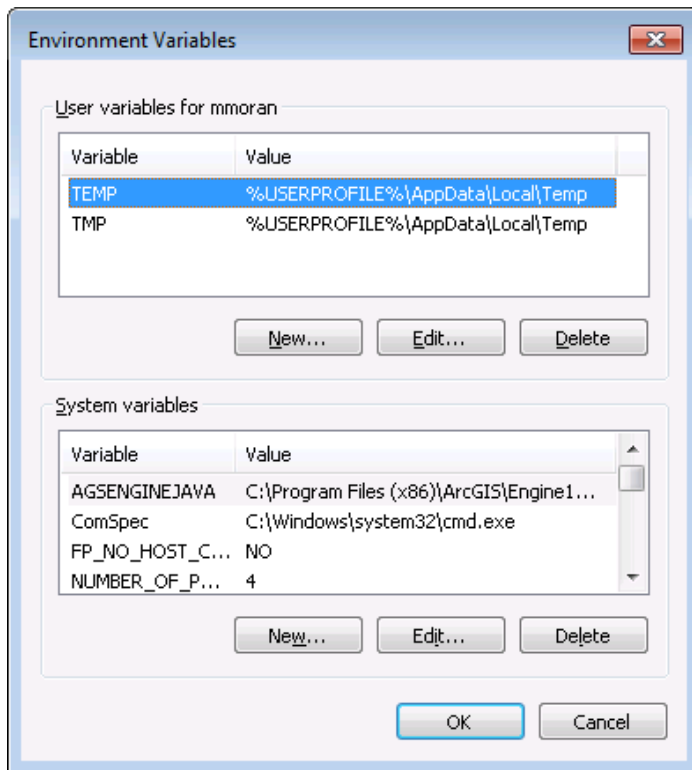


Click "Advanced system settings." Click the "Advanced" tab.

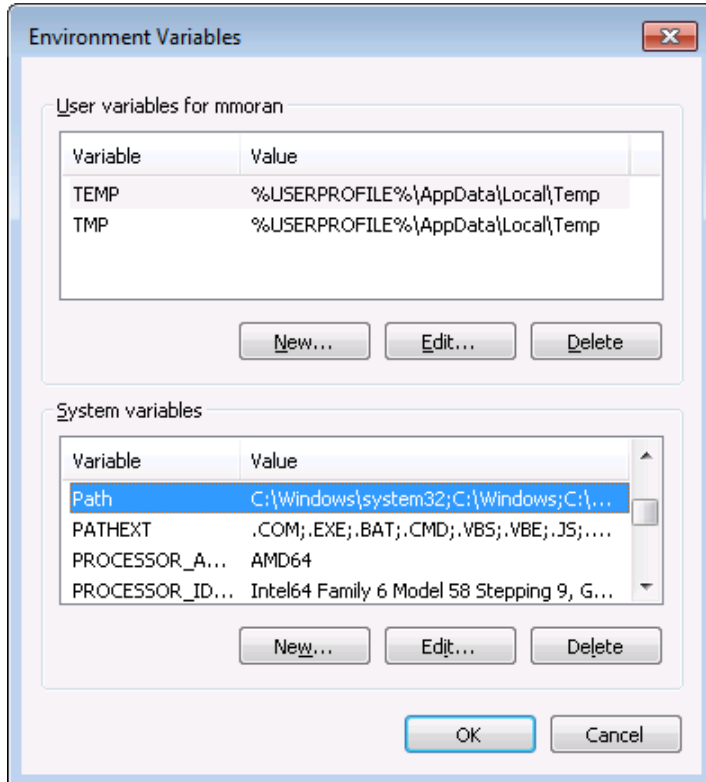


Click the “Environment Variables” button.

The lower half of this window contains “system variables.”



Find the "Path" environment variable in the lower half of this window.



Click "Edit."

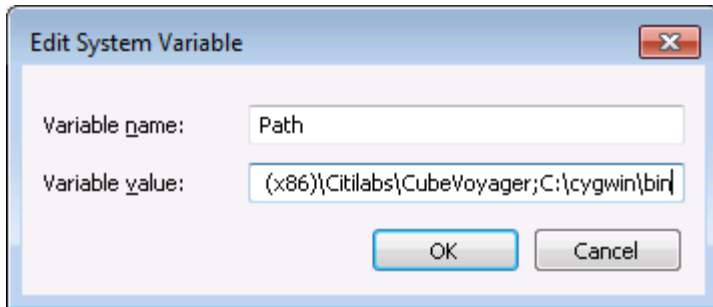
Add the Windows paths that you want. Add these to the end of the Path variable, using a semicolon (“;”) as the separator.

For example, this path:

```
%SystemRoot%\system32;%SystemRoot%;%SystemRoot%\System32\Wbem;%SYSTEMROOT%\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\
```

Would become this path:

```
%SystemRoot%\system32;%SystemRoot%;%SystemRoot%\System32\Wbem;%SYSTEMROOT%\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\;C:\Program Files (x86)\Citilabs\CubeVoyager;C:\cygwin\bin
```



Click “OK” three times.

To test what you have done, open a command window and type a Cygwin command, such as

```
which ls
```

Or

```
tail --help
```

To test Cube Voyager, type:

```
voyager
```

Or

```
cluster
```

Step 8: Useful, but not essential: Install Winmerge and update the PATH environment variable to include:

```
C:\Program Files\WinMerge
```

Step 9: You may want to associate *.net files with Cube.exe. This will allow the file i4_assign_output.net to be opened in Cube automatically at the completion of a model run. You may also want to associate *.txt and *.rpt files with your preferred text editor. At the completion of a model

run, the “run model” batch file tries to open several of these files (such as i4_Highway_Assignment.rpt). By setting up the desired file association, these files will be opened at the conclusion of the model run using the desired text editor (versus the default Windows text editor: Notepad).

5.2 Preparing input files and calculating zonal percent-walk-to-transit values

After a person has requested the COG/TPB travel model from Ron Milone, he or she will be sent a transmittal memo and the actual travel model, including its inputs. If the user wants to simply run the travel model for the years/scenarios that have been supplied by COG/TPB staff, then there is no need to make any changes to the model inputs.

In the past, prior to running the travel demand model, if the user made changes to the transportation network that would affect walking distances to transit, one would have needed to re-do the transit walkshed process to calculate the percent of each TAZ within walking distance to transit. This process was a semi-automated process that was run before a model run. Now, however, with the new automated/integrated transit walkshed process, this step is accomplished when one runs the model (the first step in the “pump-prime” speed feedback iteration), so there is no need to make a special effort to re-run the transit walkshed process. The new transit walkshed process is discussed in section 11 (“Building transit walksheds and calculating zonal walk percent”) of this report, beginning on p. 107.




6 Running the model


As noted in the "Hardware and software" section, the Version 2.3 Travel Model is implemented using Citilabs Cube software (ver. 6.1 SP1). Cube Base is the graphical user interface (GUI) for the Cube suite of software. Cube base can be used for editing Cube Voyage scripts, editing transportation networks, viewing matrix files, managing network scenarios (Scenario Manager), and running travel models (Application Manager). However, the Version 2.3 Travel Model is not launched using Cube Base's Application Manager. Instead, the Version 2.3 Travel Model is implemented using a command-line interface (CLI) that is initiated from a Windows command window (called a DOS command window by some, though that name is no longer technically correct).

6.1 Updating the Windows PATH environment variable

It is important to note that in order to launch the model using the batch file, it is necessary to include the location of Voyager.exe and Cluster.exe files in the PATH environment variable on the computer or server that is being used for the model run. This step was already described in section 5.1 ("Software installation and setting the Windows PATH environment variable"). This step is necessary because the batch files include calls to Voyager.exe and Cluster.exe, which do not specify the full file location (e.g., "C:\Program Files\Citilabs\CubeVoyager\Voyager.exe"). If one does not update the PATH environment variable, the operating system will be unable to find these files.⁴⁷ The general steps for setting the path environment variable will be explained shortly. There is a slight variation in the process, noted below, depending on whether you are using a 32-bit or 64-bit version of the Windows operating system.

To determine which version of the operating system you are using, you may do one of the following to open the "System Properties" window:

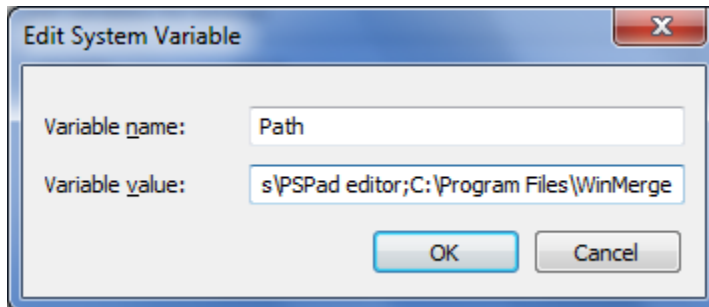
- Press the Windows key () at the same time as the Pause/Break key, which brings up the System Properties.
- Open Windows Explorer. Right-click the "Computer" icon () and select "Properties."
- Click the "Start" button. Right-click the "Computer" icon () and select "Properties."
- If you have the Computer icon on your desktop, right-click on the "Computer" icon and select "Properties."

Any one of these steps will allow you to see which version of Windows you have. For example, on a 32-bit version of Windows, you will see the following: 

⁴⁷ Some users of the model who have not updated their PATH environment variable report that they have been able to make the travel model run by manually opening Cube Base and Cube Cluster before launching the model run (though TPB staff does not recommend this procedure).

The general steps for setting the path environment variable are listed below:

- 1) As described above, open the "System Properties" window
- 2) Click on Advanced System Settings
- 3) Select Advanced tab
- 4) Click on Environment Variables
- 5) You will be presented with a window containing two boxes. The upper box is for "user variables" and the lower box is for "system variables." In the "system variables" box, select Path and click Edit. You will see the following message box:



Go to the end of the line in the "variable value" text box (in this case, after the word WinMerge)

- 6) **If you are using a 32-bit operating system**, add the following text string (without the quotes, but with the semicolon) to the end of the line ";C:\Program Files\Citilabs\CubeVoyager"
- 7) **If you are using a 64-bit operating system**, add the following text string (without the quotes, but with the semicolon) to the end of the line ";C:\Program Files (x86)\Citilabs\CubeVoyager"
- 8) Click "OK" three times to save the changes.

The next section describes a simple example of how to run the travel model. Following that are two sections that describe the wrapper batch file and the "run model steps" batch file in more detail.

6.2 Parent batch files

To run the Version 2.3 Travel Model, the user must edit two batch files and then run one of the batch files, which, in turn, will call the other file.⁴⁸ These two batch files are known as the parent batch files, since they call a series of other batch files (known as the child batch files). The first parent batch file is called the "wrapper" batch file or the "run model" batch file (an example can be seen in Figure 15). The second parent batch file is called the "run model steps" (formerly "run all") batch file (an example can be seen in Figure 16). In computer programming, the term "wrapper function" is used for a function whose main purpose is to call a second function and set up a computing environment for that second function. We are using this term in a similar vein, since the main purpose of our wrapper batch file is to call a second batch file (the "run model steps" batch file) and set up the running environment for the model run. Once the user has edited the two parent batch files with a text editor, the user launches the model run by launching the wrapper batch file within a command prompt window that is pointing to the

⁴⁸ Note: Be careful not to double click the batch file when viewing its icon in Windows Explorer, since this will launch the batch file, instead of editing it. The proper way to launch the batch file is described later in this chapter.

root directory. For example, if the root directory is “C:\modelRuns\fy15\Ver2.3.57_aqc_2014clrp”, then **the user would open a command prompt window at this location and type the name of the “run model”/wrapper batch file and press Enter to execute it.** This process is described in more detail below, along with some preliminary information needed to make the model run correctly.

There is typically a “run model” batch file and a “run model steps” batch file for each scenario/year that is modeled, e.g.,:

```
run_Model_2015_base.bat
run_Model_2015_final.bat
run_Model_2017_base.bat
run_Model_2017_Final.bat
... etc. ...
run_Model_2040_base.bat
run_Model_2040_final.bat
```

```
run_ModelSteps_2015_base.bat
run_ModelSteps_2015_final.bat
run_ModelSteps_2017_base.bat
run_ModelSteps_2017_Final.bat
... etc. ...
run_ModelSteps_2040_base.bat
run_ModelSteps_2040_final.bat
```

To launch a model run, one needs to open a Windows command window that points to the location where you have placed the parent batch files (the so-called “root” folder). One way to do this is to open Windows Explorer and navigate to the root folder, and then select the root folder by clicking it once. Next, in Windows XP and Windows Server 2003 (if one has installed the Windows “Open Command Window Here” PowerToy -- CmdHere.exe), one right-clicks the root folder and selects “Open Command Window Here.” **In Windows 7 and Windows Server 2008, where this feature is built into the operating system**, one selects the folder in the left pane, and then, with nothing selected in the right pane, one uses the mouse to **shift-right-click** in the right pane, selecting “Open Command Window Here.”

Figure 15 “Run model” batch file for 2015_base

```
1  :: tms6 D:\modelRuns\fy15\Ver2.3.57_Conformity2014CLRP_Xmittal\run_Model_2015_base.bat
2  :: Version 2.3.57
3  :: 2014-09-17 Wednesday 9:45 AM
4
5  set root=.
6  set scenar=2015_base
7  set runbat=run_ModelSteps_2015_base.bat
8  :: Environment variables for (multistep) distributed processing:
9  :: Environment variables for (intrastep) distributed processing:
10 ::     use MDP = t/f (for true or false)
11 ::     use IDP = t/f (for true or false)
12 ::     Number of subnodes: 1-3 => 3 subnodes and one main node = 4 nodes in total
13 set useIdp=t
14 set useMdp=t
15 :: AMsubnode & MDsubnode are used in highway_assignment_parallel.bat/s
16 set AMsubnode=1-4
17 set MDsubnode=2-4
18 :: subnode used in transit fare and transit assignment
```

```

19 :: We no longer use IDP in transit skimming, since it would require 16 cores
20 set subnode=1-3
21
22 :: This command will
23 :: 1) time the model run (using timethis.exe and the double quotes)
24 :: 2) redirect standard output and standard error to a file
25 :: 3) Use the tee command so that stderr & stdout are sent both to the file and the screen
26
27 timethis "%runbat% %scenar%" 2>&1 | tee %root%\%scenar%\%scenar%_fulloutput.txt
28
29 :: Open up the file containing the stderr and stdout
30 if exist %root%\%scenar%\%scenar%_fulloutput.txt start %root%\%scenar%\%scenar%_fulloutput.txt
31
32 :: Look for errors in the reports and output files
33 call searchForErrs.bat %scenar%
34 :: Open up the file containing any errors found
35 if exist %root%\%scenar%\%scenar%_searchForErrs.txt start %root%\%scenar%\%scenar%_searchForErrs.txt
36
37 :: Open up other report files
38 if exist %root%\%scenar%\i4_Highway_Assignment.rpt start %root%\%scenar%\i4_Highway_Assignment.rpt
39 if exist %root%\%scenar%\i4_mc_NL_summary.txt start %root%\%scenar%\i4_mc_NL_summary.txt
40 if exist %root%\%scenar%\i4_Assign_Output.net start %root%\%scenar%\i4_Assign_Output.net
41 cd %scenar%
42 start cmd /k ..\tail -n1 i4_ue*AM_nonHov*.txt i4_ue*AM_hov*.txt i4_ue*PM_nonHov*.txt i4_ue*PM_hov*.txt i4_ue*MD*.txt
43 i4_ue*NT*.txt
44 cd ..
45 move_temp_files_v6.bat %scenar%
46
47 :: Cleanup
48 set root=
49 set scenar=
50 set runbat=
51 set useIdp=
52 set useMdp=
53 set AMsubnode=
54 set MDsubnode=
55 set subnode=

```

Figure 16 "Run model steps" batch file for 2015_base

```

1 :: tms6 D:\modelRuns\fy15\Ver2.3.57_Conformity2014CLRP_Xmittal\run_ModelSteps_2015_base.bat
2 :: Version 2.3.57
3 :: 2014-09-17 Wednesday 9:45 AM
4
5 :: Version 2.3 TPB Travel Model on 3722 TAZ System
6
7 set _year_=2015
8 set _alt_=Ver2.3.57_2015_base
9 :: Maximum number of user equilibrium iterations used in traffic assignment
10 :: User should not need to change this. Instead, change _relGap_ (below)
11 set _maxUeIter_=1000
12
13 :: Set transit constraint path and files
14 :: Current year used to set the constraint = 2020
15 :: For years before constraint year: set _tcpath_=<blank>
16 :: For years after constraint year: set _tcpath_=..\2020_final
17 set _tcpath_=
18
19 :: Location of substitute HOV3+ skims
20 set _HOV3PATH_=
21
22 :: UE relative gap threshold: Progressive (10^-2 for pp-i2, 10^-3 for i3, & 10^-4 for i4)
23 :: Set the value below
24
25 rem ===== Pump Prime Iteration =====
26
27 set _iter_=pp
28 set _prev_=pp

```

```

29 set _relGap_=0.01
30
31 call ArcPy_Walkshed_Process.bat %1
32 call Set_CPI.bat %1
33 call PP_Highway_Build.bat %1
34 call PP_Highway_Skims.bat %1
35 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
36 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
37 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
38 call PP_Auto_Drivers.bat %1
39 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
40 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
41 call Highway_Skims.bat %1
42
43 :: rem ===== Iteration 1 =====
44
45 set _iter_=i1
46 set _prev_=pp
47
48 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
49 call Transit_Fare.bat %1
50 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
51 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
52 call Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat %1
53 call Auto_Driver.bat %1
54 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
55 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
56 call Highway_Skims.bat %1
57
58 :: rem ===== Iteration 2 =====
59
60 set _iter_=i2
61 set _prev_=i1
62
63 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
64 call Transit_Fare.bat %1
65 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
66 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
67 call Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat %1
68 call Auto_Driver.bat %1
69 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
70 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
71 call Average_Link_Speeds.bat %1
72 call Highway_Skims.bat %1
73
74 :: rem ===== Iteration 3 =====
75
76 set _iter_=i3
77 set _prev_=i2
78 set _relGap_=0.001
79
80 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
81 call Transit_Fare.bat %1
82 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
83 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
84 call Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat %1
85 call Auto_Driver.bat %1
86 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
87 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
88 call Average_Link_Speeds.bat %1
89 call Highway_Skims.bat %1
90
91 :: rem ===== Iteration 4 =====
92
93 set _iter_=i4
94 set _prev_=i3
95 set _relGap_=0.0001
96

```

```

97 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
98 call Transit_Fare.bat %1
99 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
100 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
101 call Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat %1
102 call Auto_Driver.bat %1
103 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
104 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
105 call Average_Link_Speeds.bat %1
106 call Highway_Skims.bat %1
107
108 :: rem ===== Transit assignment =====
109 @echo Starting Transit Assignment Step
110 @date /t & time/t
111
112 call Transit_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
113 call TranSum.bat %1
114
115 @echo End of batch file
116 @date /t & time/t
117 :: rem ===== End of batch file =====
118
119 REM cd %1
120 REM copy *.txt MDP_%useMDP%\*.txt
121 REM copy *.rpt MDP_%useMDP%\*.rpt
122 REM copy *.log MDP_%useMDP%\*.log
123 REM CD..
124
125 set _year_=
126 set _alt_=
127 set _iter_=
128 set _prev_=
129 set _maxUeIter_=
130 set _relGap_=

```

6.2.1 Description of the “run model”/wrapper batch file

The first three lines of the “run model” batch file shown in Figure 15 are simply comments. Comments in batch files can be indicated using either a double colon (“::”) or the word REM at the start of the line.⁴⁹ In line #5, we define a Windows environment variable called “root” and set its value to “.”, which simply means the current directory location (i.e., the current directory where one has opened a command prompt). In line #6, we define an environment variable called “scenar” (scenario) and set its value to the model scenario/year we want to run (in this case, 2015_base, but any string may be used, such as “2030_lowGrowth”). In line #7, we define an environment variable named “runbat” which is used to store the name of the “run model steps” batch file that we will use for the year-2015 model run. Lines 13-20 is where one sets the environment variables that control distributed processing. Distributed processing is covered in more detail later in this report.

Line 27 is the actual line that runs the model. The “timethis” command is used to time how long the command takes to run. In this case, the command being timed is the entire model run. The “2>&1” and “tee” sections of line 27 are explained next. When a program is run in a command-line interface (CLI), such as the Windows command window, there are two streams of output information: standard output and standard error. Standard output is information that the program supplies to a user while the program is running, such as messages about finishing a step, or the current TAZ number that is being

⁴⁹ A single colon (“:”) before a word indicates a label, which is often the target of a GOTO statement.

processed. Standard error is information about errors that occur while running a program, for example, "file not found." Normally, both the standard output stream and the standard error stream are sent to the screen (in this case, the Windows command window). However, since model run last many hours, it is not practical for a model user to watch the screen to see what messages occur during the model run. One solution is to redirect these two information streams to a file, instead of the screen, which allows one to review the contents of the file after the model run is completed. The ">&1" keyword redirects both standard error and standard output to one file (in this case, the file ending with "_fulloutput.txt"). However, the drawback to this approach is that the model user will not see any real-time information on the screen, since all the information is being sent to a file. An alternate approach is to combine the use of ">&1" with the "tee" command, which splits any stream of information into two streams of identical information. The result of using these two keywords together is that the standard output and standard error streams are sent both to the screen and to a file at the same time. Line 30 simply opens up, at the conclusion of the model run, the file containing the standard output and standard error information. The Tee.exe utility program is part of the Windows 2000 Resource Kit.

Line 33 calls a batch file that searches reports and output files for certain errors. Line 34 simply opens up this file containing the listing of errors. It should be noted that this file was mainly used for model development, **so it contains little useful information for the average model user. For the average model users, the key file to review is the one with the standard output and error information ("_fulloutput.txt").**

Lines 38 through 40 contain commands which open up other report files, after the model run has completed. Line 42 contains a command that opens up a command window showing some summary convergence metrics for traffic assignment. In order for the "tail" command to work, you should have installed Cygwin, as was described in section 5.1 ("Software installation and setting the Windows PATH environment variable"). **Lastly, line 45 runs the cleanup process**, which divides model output files into two sets: files to keep and temporary files that can be deleted. At the completion of a model run, there are about 26 GB of output files, many of which are temporary or non-final versions of files. The move_temp_files_v6.bat batch file creates the folder "temp_files" and moves about 16 GB of the 26 GB of files to the temp_files folder. **To save disk space, the user can then either delete the temp_files folder or the contents of the temp_files folder** (such as using Windows Explorer). The advantage of deleting the *contents* of the temp_files folder, but not the folder itself, is that, in multi-user environments, it will be apparent to other model users that the cleanup process has already been run.

6.2.2 Description of the "run model steps" batch files

As stated earlier, there is a "run model steps" batch file for each model run scenario/year. Suppose we have a project, such as an air quality conformity analysis, that includes the following three years: 2015, 2020, and 2040. Suppose also that binding year of for the transit constraint through the regional core process is currently set at 2020. This means that one must run the year 2020 run before running any model runs involving years after 2020. **Lastly, since the I-495 Express (HOT) Lanes opened on**

November 17, 2012,⁵⁰ one would need to run both a “base” and a “final” scenario for all years following that (in our case, all three years: 2015, 2020, and 2040). Thus, we would end up with the three years, but six scenarios, shown in Table 12.

Table 12 Summary of differences to “run model steps” batch files for the years 2015, 2020, and 2040

Year	Variant	Transit constraint through regional core?	HOV3+ skim substitution technique for modeling HOT lanes?
2015	Base	Not used (2020 is constraining year) i.e., “set_tspath_=”	No (Base HOV3+ skims are estimated) i.e., “set_HOV3PATH_=”
2015	Final	2020 is the year used to set the constraint, but no change is made to batch file i.e., “set_tspath_=”	Yes (Base HOV3+ skims are used from the “base” run) i.e., “set_HOV3PATH_=.\\2020_base”
2020	Base	2020 is the year used to set the constraint, but no change is made to batch file i.e., “set_tspath_=”	No (Base HOV3+ skims are estimated) i.e., “set_HOV3PATH_=”
2020	Final	2020 is the year used to set the constraint, but no change is made to batch file i.e., “set_tspath_=”	Yes (Base HOV3+ skims are used from the “base” run) i.e., “set_HOV3PATH_=.\\2020_base”
2040	Base	Yes e.g., “set_tspath_=.\\2020_final”	No (Base HOV3+ skims are estimated) i.e., “set_HOV3PATH_=”
2040	Final	Yes e.g., “set_tspath_=.\\2020_final”	Yes (Base HOV3+ skims are used from the “base” run) i.e., “set_HOV3PATH_=.\\2040_base”

Note: Regarding Table 12, select lines in the relevant “run model steps” batch files (Figure 16 through Figure 20) have been highlighted in yellow to call attention to key changes between batch files, such as the lines containing the text “set_tspath_ =”, “set_HOV3PATH_ =”, “rem call Highway_Skims.bat”, and “call HSR_Highway_Skims.bat”.

Table 12 shows that the year 2015 is represented using two scenarios. The transit constraint is not an issue, since the constraining year is 2020, so, in the 2015_base and 2015_final “run model steps” batch files, the environment variable “_tspath_” (transit constraint path) is set to blank/null, since no transit constraint path is needed to model the year 2015 (see line 17 in Figure 16). Since there are HOT lane facilities in the 2015 network, two scenarios must be modeled (2015_base and 2015_final). For the “base” run, the HOV3+ skim substitution technique is not used. In the 2015_base “run model steps” batch file, this means that the “_HOV3PATH_” environment variable is set to blank/null (see line 20 in Figure 16).

⁵⁰ Transurban (USA) Operations Inc., “Project Background,” *I-495 Express Lanes*, 2013, <https://www.495expresslanes.com/project-background>.

Table 12 shows that the year 2020 is represented with two scenarios: 2020_base and 2020_final. 2020 is the year used to set the constraint, but this does not require any change to the “run model steps” batch file shown in Figure 17. Thus, the environment variable “_tspath_” (transit constraint path) is still set to blank/null (see line 17 in Figure 17). As for HOT lane modeling, since 2020 is a year with HOT lanes, we need to run a “base” scenario (2020_base) which is used to get the travel time skims for HOV traffic using the HOT lanes (and this information will be used in the 2020_final run). However, for the 2020_base run, since we are not yet applying the HOV3+ skim substitution technique, we do not need to designate the location of the HOV3+ baseline skims, so the “_HOV3PATH_” environment variable is set to blank/null (see line 20 in Figure 17), as was the case for 2015_base. Also, in Figure 17, we have highlighted in yellow the lines that contain “call Highway_Skims.bat” (lines 41, 56, 72, 89, and 106) since these lines will be changed in the 2020_final “run model steps” batch file so that they call the HOV3+ skim substitution technique.

Figure 17 “Run model steps” batch file for 2020_base

```

1  :: tms6 D:\modelRuns\fy15\Ver2.3.57_Conformity2014CLRP_Xmittal\run_ModelSteps_2020_base.bat
2  :: Version 2.3.57
3  :: 2014-09-19 Friday 9:10
4
5  :: Version 2.3 TPB Travel Model on 3722 TAZ System
6
7  set _year_=2020
8  set _alt_=Ver2.3.57_2020_base
9  :: Maximum number of user equilibrium iterations used in traffic assignment
10 :: User should not need to change this. Instead, change _relGap_ (below)
11 set _maxUeIter_=1000
12
13 :: Set transit constraint path and files
14 :: Current year used to set the constraint = 2020
15 :: For years before constraint year: set _tspath_=<blank>
16 :: For years after constraint year: set _tspath_=..\2020_final
17 set _tspath_=
18
19 :: Location of substitute HOV3+ skims
20 set _HOV3PATH_=
21
22 :: UE relative gap threshold: Progressive (10^-2 for pp-i2, 10^-3 for i3, & 10^-4 for i4)
23 :: Set the value below
24
25 rem ===== Pump Prime Iteration =====
26
27 set _iter_=pp
28 set _prev_=pp
29 set _relGap_=0.01
30
31 call ArcPy_Walkshed_Process.bat %1
32 call Set_CPI.bat %1
33 call PP_Highway_Build.bat %1
34 call PP_Highway_Skims.bat %1
35 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
36 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
37 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
38 call PP_Auto_Drivers.bat %1
39 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
40 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
41 call Highway_Skims.bat %1
42
43 :: rem ===== Iteration 1 =====
44
45 set _iter_=i1

```

```

46 set _prev_=pp
47
48 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
49 call Transit_Fare.bat %1
50 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
51 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
52 call Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat %1
53 call Auto_Driver.bat %1
54 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
55 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
56 call Highway_Skims.bat %1
57
58 :: rem ===== Iteration 2 =====
59
60 set _iter_=i2
61 set _prev_=i1
62
63 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
64 call Transit_Fare.bat %1
65 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
66 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
67 call Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat %1
68 call Auto_Driver.bat %1
69 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
70 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
71 call Average_Link_Speeds.bat %1
72 call Highway_Skims.bat %1
73
74 :: rem ===== Iteration 3 =====
75
76 set _iter_=i3
77 set _prev_=i2
78 set _relGap_=0.001
79
80 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
81 call Transit_Fare.bat %1
82 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
83 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
84 call Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat %1
85 call Auto_Driver.bat %1
86 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
87 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
88 call Average_Link_Speeds.bat %1
89 call Highway_Skims.bat %1
90
91 :: rem ===== Iteration 4 =====
92
93 set _iter_=i4
94 set _prev_=i3
95 set _relGap_=0.0001
96
97 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
98 call Transit_Fare.bat %1
99 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
100 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
101 call Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat %1
102 call Auto_Driver.bat %1
103 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
104 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
105 call Average_Link_Speeds.bat %1
106 call Highway_Skims.bat %1
107
108 :: rem ===== Transit assignment =====
109 @echo Starting Transit Assignment Step
110 @date /t & time/t
111
112 call Transit_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
113 call TranSum.bat %1

```

```

114
115 @echo End of batch file
116 @date /t & time/t
117 :: rem ===== End of batch file =====
118
119 REM cd %1
120 REM copy *.txt MDP_%useMDP%\*.txt
121 REM copy *.rpt MDP_%useMDP%\*.rpt
122 REM copy *.log MDP_%useMDP%\*.log
123 REM CD..
124
125 set _year_=
126 set _alt_=
127 set _iter_=
128 set _prev_=
129 set _maxUeIter_=
130 set _relGap_=

```

Regarding the 2020_final scenario, whose “run model steps” batch file is shown in Figure 18, Table 12 shows that, just as was the case for 2020_base, the environment variable “_tcpath_” (transit constraint path) is still set to blank/null (see line 18 in Figure 18), since 2020 is the constraining year (i.e., not a post constraining year, such as 2040). However, in contrast to what was done for 2020_base, for the 2020_final scenario, we do apply the HOV3+ skim substitution technique, as indicated in Table 12, so we do need to designate the location of the HOV3+ baseline skims. Thus, the “_HOV3PATH_” environment variable is set to “..\2020_base” (the double dots means move up one level in the folder structure; see line 21 in Figure 18). Also, in Figure 18, we have highlighted in yellow the lines where we have commented out (via “REM”) one line (“call Highway_Skims.bat”) and added in a new line (“call HSR_Highway_Skims.bat”), which calls the HOV3+ Skim substitution/Replacement (HSR) process (lines 43, 59, 76, 94, and 112). This process is described in section 2.4.2 of this report and in Chapter 8 of the calibration report.

Figure 18 “Run model steps” batch file for 2020_final

```

1  :: tms6 D:\modelRuns\fy15\Ver2.3.57_Conformity2014CLRP_Xmittal\run_ModelSteps_2020_final.bat
2  :: Version 2.3.57
3  :: 2014-09-20 Saturday 9:00
4
5
6  :: Version 2.3 TPB Travel Model on 3722 TAZ System
7
8  set _year_=2020
9  set _alt_=Ver2.3.57_2020_final
10 :: Maximum number of user equilibrium iterations used in traffic assignment
11 :: User should not need to change this. Instead, change _relGap_ (below)
12 set _maxUeIter_=1000
13
14 :: Set transit constraint path and files
15 :: Current year used to set the constraint = 2020
16 :: For years before constraint year: set _tcpath_=<blank>
17 :: For years after constraint year: set _tcpath_=..\2020_final
18 set _tcpath_=
19
20 :: Location of substitute HOV3+ skims
21 set _HOV3PATH_=..\2020_base
22
23 :: UE relative gap threshold: Progressive (10^-2 for pp-i2, 10^-3 for i3, & 10^-4 for i4)
24 :: Set the value below
25
26 rem ===== Pump Prime Iteration =====
27

```

```

28 set _iter_=pp
29 set _prev_=pp
30 set _relGap_=0.01
31
32 call ArcPy_Walkshed_Process.bat %1
33 call Set_CPI.bat %1
34 call PP_Highway_Build.bat %1
35 call PP_Highway_Skims.bat %1
36 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
37 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
38 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
39 call PP_Auto_Drivers.bat %1
40 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
41 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
42 rem call Highway_Skims.bat %1
43 call HSR_Highway_Skims.bat %1
44
45 :: rem ===== Iteration 1 =====
46
47 set _iter_=i1
48 set _prev_=pp
49
50 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
51 call Transit_Fare.bat %1
52 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
53 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
54 call Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat %1
55 call Auto_Driver.bat %1
56 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
57 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
58 rem call Highway_Skims.bat %1
59 call HSR_Highway_Skims.bat %1
60
61 :: rem ===== Iteration 2 =====
62
63 set _iter_=i2
64 set _prev_=i1
65
66 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
67 call Transit_Fare.bat %1
68 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
69 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
70 call Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat %1
71 call Auto_Driver.bat %1
72 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
73 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
74 call Average_Link_Speeds.bat %1
75 rem call Highway_Skims.bat %1
76 call HSR_Highway_Skims.bat %1
77
78 :: rem ===== Iteration 3 =====
79
80 set _iter_=i3
81 set _prev_=i2
82 set _relGap_=0.001
83
84 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
85 call Transit_Fare.bat %1
86 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
87 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
88 call Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat %1
89 call Auto_Driver.bat %1
90 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
91 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
92 call Average_Link_Speeds.bat %1
93 rem call Highway_Skims.bat %1
94 call HSR_Highway_Skims.bat %1
95

```

```

96  :: rem ===== Iteration 4 =====
97
98  set _iter_=i4
99  set _prev_=i3
100 set _relGap_=0.0001
101
102 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
103 call Transit_Fare.bat %1
104 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
105 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
106 call Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat %1
107 call Auto_Driver.bat %1
108 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
109 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
110 call Average_Link_Speeds.bat %1
111 rem call Highway_Skims.bat %1
112 call HSR_Highway_Skims.bat %1
113
114 :: rem ===== Transit assignment =====
115 @echo Starting Transit Assignment Step
116 @date /t & time/t
117
118 call Transit_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
119 call TranSum.bat %1
120
121 @echo End of batch file
122 @date /t & time/t
123 :: rem ===== End of batch file =====
124
125 REM cd %1
126 REM copy *.txt MDP_%useMDP%\*.txt
127 REM copy *.rpt MDP_%useMDP%\*.rpt
128 REM copy *.log MDP_%useMDP%\*.log
129 REM CD..
130
131 set _year_=
132 set _alt_=
133 set _iter_=
134 set _prev_=
135 set _maxUeIter_=
136 set _relGap_=

```

Regarding the 2040_base scenario, whose “run model steps” batch file is shown in Figure 19, Table 12 shows that, yes, we are using the transit constraint process. Thus, there are two changes to the batch file. First, the “_tspath_” environment variable is set to the location containing the Metrorail trips for the constraint year (2020), thus “set _tspath_=..\2020_final” (see line 17 in Figure 19). Second, the lines that had been used to apply the mode choice process in previous runs (“call Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat”) have now been changed to call the transit constraint mode choice process (“call Mode_Choice_TC_V23_Parallel.bat”). These changes have been highlighted in yellow in Figure 19. Regarding the modeling of HOT lanes, Table 12 shows us that, since this is a “base” scenario (i.e., since we are not yet applying the HOV3+ skim substitution technique), we do not need to designate the location of the HOV3+ baseline skims, so the “_HOV3PATH_” environment variable is set to blank/null (see line 20 in Figure 19).

Figure 19 “Run model steps” batch file for 2040_base

```

1  :: tms6 D:\modelRuns\fy15\Ver2.3.57_Conformity2014CLRP_Xmittal\run_ModelSteps_2040_base.bat
2  :: Version 2.3.57
3  :: 2014-09-23 Tuesday 9:30
4
5  :: Version 2.3 TPB Travel Model on 3722 TAZ System

```

```

6
7 set _year_=2040
8 set _alt_=Ver2.3.57_2040_base
9 :: Maximum number of user equilibrium iterations used in traffic assignment
10 :: User should not need to change this. Instead, change _relGap_ (below)
11 set _maxUeIter_=1000
12
13 :: Set transit constraint path and files
14 :: Current year used to set the constraint = 2020
15 :: For years before constraint year: set _tcpath_=<blank>
16 :: For years after constraint year: set _tcpath_=..\2020_final
17 set _tcpath_=..\2020_final
18
19 :: Location of substitute HOV3+ skims
20 set _HOV3PATH_=
21
22 :: UE relative gap threshold: Progressive (10^-2 for pp-i2, 10^-3 for i3, & 10^-4 for i4)
23 :: Set the value below
24
25 rem ===== Pump Prime Iteration =====
26
27 set _iter_=pp
28 set _prev_=pp
29 set _relGap_=0.01
30
31 call ArcPy_Walkshed_Process.bat %1
32 call Set_CPI.bat %1
33 call PP_Highway_Build.bat %1
34 call PP_Highway_Skims.bat %1
35 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
36 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
37 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
38 call PP_Auto_Drivers.bat %1
39 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
40 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
41 call Highway_Skims.bat %1
42
43 :: rem ===== Iteration 1 =====
44
45 set _iter_=i1
46 set _prev_=pp
47
48 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
49 call Transit_Fare.bat %1
50 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
51 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
52 call Mode_Choice_TC_V23_Parallel.bat %1
53 call Auto_Driver.bat %1
54 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
55 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
56 call Highway_Skims.bat %1
57
58 :: rem ===== Iteration 2 =====
59
60 set _iter_=i2
61 set _prev_=i1
62
63 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
64 call Transit_Fare.bat %1
65 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
66 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
67 call Mode_Choice_TC_V23_Parallel.bat %1
68 call Auto_Driver.bat %1
69 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
70 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
71 call Average_Link_Speeds.bat %1
72 call Highway_Skims.bat %1
73

```



```

74 :: rem ===== Iteration 3 =====
75
76 set _iter_=i3
77 set _prev_=i2
78 set _relGap_=0.001
79
80 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
81 call Transit_Fare.bat %1
82 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
83 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
84 call Mode_Choice_TC_V23_Parallel.bat %1
85 call Auto_Driver.bat %1
86 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
87 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
88 call Average_Link_Speeds.bat %1
89 call Highway_Skims.bat %1
90
91 :: rem ===== Iteration 4 =====
92
93 set _iter_=i4
94 set _prev_=i3
95 set _relGap_=0.0001
96
97 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
98 call Transit_Fare.bat %1
99 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
100 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
101 call Mode_Choice_TC_V23_Parallel.bat %1
102 call Auto_Driver.bat %1
103 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
104 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
105 call Average_Link_Speeds.bat %1
106 call Highway_Skims.bat %1
107
108 :: rem ===== Transit assignment =====
109 @echo Starting Transit Assignment Step
110 @date /t & time/t
111
112 call Transit_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
113 call TranSum.bat %1
114
115 @echo End of batch file
116 @date /t & time/t
117 :: rem ===== End of batch file =====
118
119 REM cd %1
120 REM copy *.txt MDP_%useMDP%\*.txt
121 REM copy *.rpt MDP_%useMDP%\*.rpt
122 REM copy *.log MDP_%useMDP%\*.log
123 REM CD..
124
125 set _year_=
126 set _alt_=
127 set _iter_=
128 set _prev_=
129 set _maxUeIter_=
130 set _relGap_=

```

Regarding the 2040_final scenario, whose “run model steps” batch file is shown in Figure 20, Table 12 shows that, yes, again, we are using the transit constraint process. Thus, again, there are two changes to the batch file. First, the “_tspath_” environment variable is set to the location containing the Metrorail trips for the constraint year (2020), thus “set _tspath_=.\2020_final” (see line 17 in Figure 20). Second, the lines that had been used to apply the mode choice process in previous runs (“call Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat”) have been changed to call the transit constraint mode choice process (“call

Mode_Choice_TC_V23_Parallel.bat"). These changes have been highlighted in yellow in Figure 20. Regarding the modeling of HOT lanes, Table 12 shows us that, since this is a "final" scenario (i.e., we are applying the HOV3+ skim substitution technique), we do need to designate the location of the HOV3+ baseline skims. Thus, the "_HOV3PATH_" environment variable is set to "..\2040_base" (see line 20 in Figure 20). Also, in Figure 20, we have highlighted in yellow the lines where we have commented out (via "REM") one line ("call Highway_Skims.bat") and added in a new line ("call HSR_Highway_Skims.bat"), which calls the HOV3+ Skim substitution/Replacement (HSR) process.

Figure 20 "Run model steps" batch file for 2040_final

```

1  :: tms6 D:\modelRuns\fy15\Ver2.3.57_Conformity2014CLRP_Xmittal\run_ModelSteps_2040_final.bat
2  :: Version 2.3.57
3  :: 2014-09-23 Wednesday 9:30
4
5  :: Version 2.3 TPB Travel Model on 3722 TAZ System
6
7  set _year_=2040
8  set _alt_=Ver2.3.57_2040_final
9  :: Maximum number of user equilibrium iterations used in traffic assignment
10 :: User should not need to change this. Instead, change _relGap_ (below)
11 set _maxUeIter_=1000
12
13 :: Set transit constraint path and files
14 :: Current year used to set the constraint = 2020
15 :: For years before constraint year: set _tcpath_=<blank>
16 :: For years after constraint year: set _tcpath_=..\2020_final
17 set _tcpath_=..\2020_final
18
19 :: Location of substitute HOV3+ skims
20 set _HOV3PATH_=..\2040_base
21
22 :: UE relative gap threshold: Progressive (10^-2 for pp-i2, 10^-3 for i3, & 10^-4 for i4)
23 :: Set the value below
24
25 rem ===== Pump Prime Iteration =====
26
27 set _iter_=pp
28 set _prev_=pp
29 set _relGap_=0.01
30
31 call ArcPy_Walkshed_Process.bat %1
32 call Set_CPI.bat %1
33 call PP_Highway_Build.bat %1
34 call PP_Highway_Skims.bat %1
35 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
36 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
37 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
38 call PP_Auto_Drivers.bat %1
39 call Time-of-Day.bat %1
40 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
41 rem call Highway_Skims.bat %1
42 call HSR_Highway_Skims.bat %1
43
44 :: rem ===== Iteration 1 =====
45
46 set _iter_=i1
47 set _prev_=pp
48
49 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
50 call Transit_Fare.bat %1
51 call Trip_Generation.bat %1
52 call Trip_Distribution.bat %1
53 call Mode_Choice_TC_V23_Parallel.bat %1

```

```

54 call Auto_Driver.bat          %1
55 call Time-of-Day.bat         %1
56 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
57 rem call Highway_Skims.bat   %1
58 call HSR_Highway_Skims.bat  %1
59
60 :: rem ===== Iteration 2 =====
61
62 set _iter_=i2
63 set _prev_=i1
64
65 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
66 call Transit_Fare.bat          %1
67 call Trip_Generation.bat       %1
68 call Trip_Distribution.bat     %1
69 call Mode_Choice_TC_V23_Parallel.bat %1
70 call Auto_Driver.bat          %1
71 call Time-of-Day.bat         %1
72 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
73 call Average_Link_Speeds.bat  %1
74 rem call Highway_Skims.bat   %1
75 call HSR_Highway_Skims.bat  %1
76
77 :: rem ===== Iteration 3 =====
78
79 set _iter_=i3
80 set _prev_=i2
81 set _relGap_=0.001
82
83 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
84 call Transit_Fare.bat          %1
85 call Trip_Generation.bat       %1
86 call Trip_Distribution.bat     %1
87 call Mode_Choice_TC_V23_Parallel.bat %1
88 call Auto_Driver.bat          %1
89 call Time-of-Day.bat         %1
90 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
91 call Average_Link_Speeds.bat  %1
92 rem call Highway_Skims.bat   %1
93 call HSR_Highway_Skims.bat  %1
94
95 :: rem ===== Iteration 4 =====
96
97 set _iter_=i4
98 set _prev_=i3
99 set _relGap_=0.0001
100
101 call Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat %1
102 call Transit_Fare.bat          %1
103 call Trip_Generation.bat       %1
104 call Trip_Distribution.bat     %1
105 call Mode_Choice_TC_V23_Parallel.bat %1
106 call Auto_Driver.bat          %1
107 call Time-of-Day.bat         %1
108 call Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
109 call Average_Link_Speeds.bat  %1
110 rem call Highway_Skims.bat   %1
111 call HSR_Highway_Skims.bat  %1
112
113 :: rem ===== Transit assignment =====
114 @echo Starting Transit Assignment Step
115 @date /t & time/t
116
117 call Transit_Assignment_Parallel.bat %1
118 call TranSum.bat %1
119
120 @echo End of batch file
121 @date /t & time/t

```

```

122  :: rem ===== End of batch file =====
123
124  REM cd %1
125  REM copy *.txt MDP_%useMDP%\*.txt
126  REM copy *.rpt MDP_%useMDP%\*.rpt
127  REM copy *.log MDP_%useMDP%\*.log
128  REM CD..
129
130  set _year_=
131  set _alt_=
132  set _iter_=
133  set _prev_=
134  set _maxUeIter_=
135  set _relGap_=
    
```

All five of the “run model steps” batch files (Figure 16 to Figure 20) apply the progressive relative gap procedure⁵¹ by using the “_relGap_” environment variable. The relGap variable starts at a value of 0.01 (10^{-2}) on line 29 or 30 (depending on the batch file), and then changes to 0.001 (10^{-3}) on lines 77-78, before attaining the final value of 0.0001 (10^{-4}) in speed-feedback iteration 4 (lines 94-95). This is covered in more detail in the text surrounding both Table 4 and Table 80.

6.3 Running the model: An example

This section provides an example of how to run the travel model for the year 2015 (scenario 2015_base) using the travel model package that is typically transmitted to external users. It is assumed that the user has copied the transmitted model into the folder where it will be run and did not modify any input files or folder names. The top-level folder is referred to as the “root” folder and typically has a name referring to the travel model version and the particular modeling project (e.g. “Ver2.3.57_aqc_2014clr”). The root folder contains all of the batch files and modeling folders (shown in Figure 12). The folder/subdirectory called “2010_base” is referred to as the “outputs” folder or the “scenario-specific” folder. It should also be noted that, in order to follow the steps below, one should have followed all the steps in Chapter 5 (“Preparing to run the model”). It is also assumed that you are not making any changes to the default parallel processing setup in the model, which requires a computer with eight cores. Otherwise, see instructions found in Table 17 on p. 94.

1. Ensure that the root folder has the two parent batch files:
 - a. run_Model_2015_base.bat, which is known as the wrapper batch file or the “run model” batch file.
 - b. run_ModelSteps_2015_base.bat, which is known as the “run model steps” batch file.
2. These two batch files are ready to go and should not need any editing for a normal model run. However, the general practice would be to open the wrapper file in a text editor (do not double click it, since this will launch the model run) and check the following:
 - a. The “root” environment variable should be set equal to “.” (which means the current working directory, i.e., the current folder in your command window)
 - b. The “scenar” environment variable should be set equal to “2015_base”

⁵¹ Moran and Milone, “Status Report on the Version 2.3 Travel Model: Updates to the Model and Year-2010 Validation.”

- c. The "runbat" environment variable should be set equal to "run_ModelSteps_2015_base.bat" (which is the relevant "run model steps" batch file)
 - d. Other environment variables, such as those used for distributed processing, are explained in the chapter on parallel processing.
3. Open a command window and navigate to the root folder OR

Use Windows Explorer to navigate to the root folder, deselect all files, shift-right click in the folder, and select "open command window here." (Explained in more detail on page in the section entitled "Parent batch files" which begins on page 62).

4. Type "run_Model_2015_base.bat" (without the quotes) and hit Enter.

7 Summarizing model output and other utilities

7.1 Summary Scripts

In addition to the model, the user is provided with a number of summary scripts, which may be helpful in analyzing the model output. These are listed in Table 13.

Table 13 Travel Model Summary Scripts

Summary script	Description	Folder
Compare_mode_choice.s	Compares estimated mode choice results to HTS observed mode choice data	summary
Compare_mode_choice_adj.s	Compares estimated mode choice results to adjusted HTS and transit surveys observed mode choice data	summary
COMPARE_NL_MC.S	Compares estimated mode choice results between two different model runs.	summary
Compare_Trip_Distribution.s	Compares estimated trip distribution to observed trip distribution from HTS	summary
View_From_Space_V2.3_3722TAZ.s	Creates global summary of demographic info, trips, and VMT	summary
COMPARE_NL_MC_Expanded_Alt_minus_Base_V23_52.S	Compares two scenarios developed with Ver. 2.3.52 or later	summary
COMPARE_NL_MC_Expanded_Alt_V23_52_minus_Base_V23_39.S	Compares alternative developed with V2.3.52 and base developed with V.2.3.39. Such a script is needed because naming conventions for output files changed between Build 39 and Build 52 (see "Miscellaneous changes" on p. 15).	summary
Summarize_Est_Obs_Volume_Daily.s	Compares estimated daily volumes on select links to observed counts. Also compares estimated and observed daily screenline volumes.	assignment_summary
Summarize_Est_Obs_Volume_Period.s	Compares estimated AM, MD, PM, and NT volumes on select links to observed counts	assignment_summary
Summarize_2007_2040_Screenlines.s	Compares estimated screenlines volumes in 2007 and 2040	assignment_summary
Plot_Volume_Differences.s	Plots volume differences between two input networks	assignment_summary

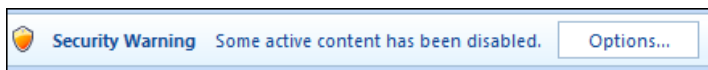
Additionally, the program LineSum.exe is used for summarizing the transit assignment (see Chapter 24 ("Transit Assignment, Including Summary Process (LineSum)").

7.2 Utilities

The Version 2.3 Travel Model requires a number of input files in various file formats. One of the file formats is dBase or DBF. Compared to space-delimited text files, DBF files have a number of advantages (e.g., fields do not mistakenly run together when values become large), but DBF files can also have some drawbacks, e.g., they can be difficult to create and it can be difficult to compare two DBF files. On this second issue, there are a number of utilities for comparing or “diffing” text files (such as the Unix/Linux `diff` command, WinDiff, WinMerge, PSPad, and Notepad++), but it is more difficult to find programs that allow one to compare DBF files. To facilitate such comparison, a member of the TPB staff, Feng Xie, has developed a utility, known as the DBF Converter (DBF_Converter_v3.2.xls) that enables the user to convert DBF files to text files in comma-separated variable (CSV) format. This conversion can also be done within Cube (using File > Export). Once the files are converted to CSV format, it is easier to compare or “diff” them using other existing utilities. TPB staff is making this DBF converter available to users of the regional travel model to aid in checking/comparing input files.

Using the DBF converter, the user has the option of converting all DBF files in a directory or a select subset of the files. This utility requires Microsoft Office Excel software.

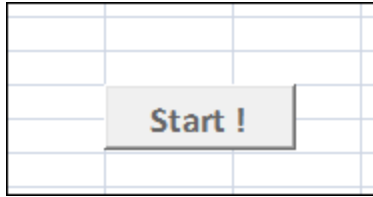
To begin the process, the user double clicks on the converter file/icon (DBF_Converter_v3.2.xls), which will open an Excel spreadsheet. In the center of the spreadsheet, there is a “Start” button. Before clicking on this button, the user has to enable the button by clicking on the “Options...” button:



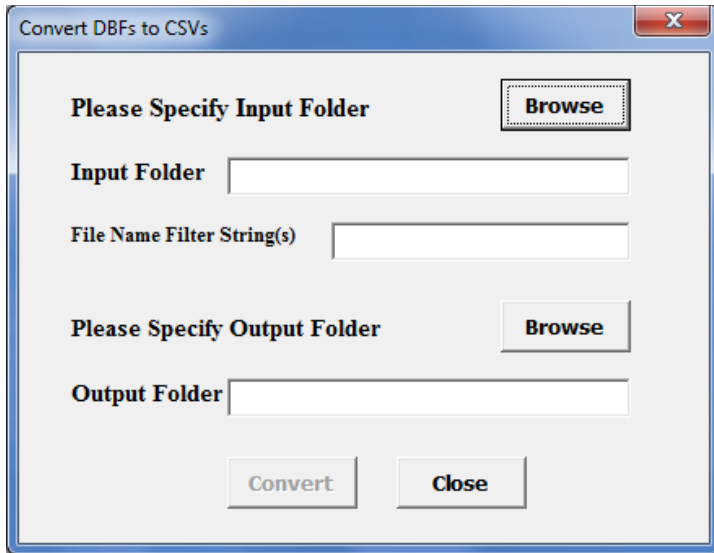
When prompted, the user will have to click “Enable this content” and “OK”:



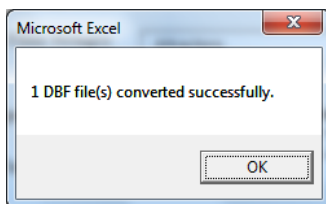
Now, the user can click on the “Start” button:



This will result in the following pop-up window prompting the user to enter the input folder, output folder, and the file name filter string(s):



The input folder must contain the DBF files that the user wishes to convert. The output folder is the folder where the newly created CSV files will be placed. The Input/Output folders can be specified by either by clicking the "Browse" button or by typing/pasting in the text boxes. Once the user has selected the input and output folders, he or she may wish to specify a file name filter string. The filter string textbox allows multiple filter strings, separated by spaces. If the user would like to convert all DBF files in the input folder, then the "File Name Filter String(s)" field should be left blank. However, if the user wishes to convert only one DBF file or only a subset of DBF files in the input folder, he or she should specify either a full or partial file name. When the fields are filled, the user needs to press the "Convert" button. Once the conversion process is complete, the user will see a pop-up window stating that the DBF file(s) were converted successfully.



Once the converter has run, the user can find the newly created CSV file(s) in the specified output folder.

8 Use of parallel processing to reduce model run times

8.1 Model run times

In the period from 2008 to 2011, when COG/TPB staff had first transitioned from the Version 2.2 Travel Model to the Version 2.3 Travel Model, we noticed that the Version 2.3 model required much longer run times. For example, using a server bought in 2009 (such as COG's travel model server 3, or tms3), a run of the Ver. 2.2 Travel Model took 15-20 hours, whereas a run of the Version 2.3 Travel Model required about 80-90 hours initially (a factor of 4.5 times or 350%), which was later reduced to about 30 hours in 2012 by using Cube Cluster, Citilabs' implementation of distributed processing. On a newer travel model server, such as tms6, the model run time is about 18-20 hours.

There are several reasons why the Version 2.3 Travel Model had such long run times, compared to its predecessor, the Version 2.2 Travel Model. First, the number of transportation analysis zones (TAZs) increased from 2,191 to 3,722. This represents a 70% increase in the number of TAZs and a 189% increase in matrix sizes used to store trip tables and travel time skims ($3,722^2/2,191^2$). The other factors causing longer run times are associated mainly with refinements to the Version 2.2 traffic assignment process:

- The number of time-of-day periods went from three (AM, PM, and off peak) to four (AM, midday, PM, night/early morning)
- The number of user classes went from five to six (an explicit commercial-vehicle user class has been added);
- The number of traffic assignments has increased. The Version 2.2 Travel Model had originally used three traffic assignments, one for each time-of-day period (AM, PM, and off peak). Later versions of the Version 2.2 Travel Model split the peak assignments into two groups (HOV3+ and non-HOV3+, the so called "two step traffic assignment"), resulting in the five assignments shown in the left-hand column of Table 14. In the Version 2.3 Travel Model, the off-peak period has been further split into two parts: midday and night/early morning. So, the number of traffic assignments has increased from five in Version 2.2 to six in Version 2.3.
- Higher convergence thresholds
 - In the Version 2.2 model, all five traffic assignments were run with 60 user equilibrium (UE) iterations. This resulted in a range of relative gaps values, from a low value of 1.10×10^{-4} (0.0001) for the AM HOV3+ assignment to a high of 1.19×10^{-2} (0.0119) for the AM non-HOV3+ assignment.^{52 53}
 - In the Version 2.3 model, prior to Build 52, all six traffic assignments were run to either a relative gap of 0.001 (1×10^{-3}) or 300 user equilibrium iterations, whichever came first.

⁵² From a model run representing year-2002 conditions from the air quality conformity determination of the 2009 CLRP/FY 2010-2015 TIP.

⁵³ The modeler can check the relative gap by consulting the highway assignment report file for the final speed feedback iteration (i.e., i4_Highway_Assignment.rpt). The variable is called RELGAP.

For the Version 2.3 model, Build 52 and Build 57, we are now using a progressive relative gap procedure, which is described in more detail later in this chapter.

Table 14 Five traffic assignments in the Version 2.2 travel model becomes six traffic assignments in the Version 2.3 travel model

Version 2.2 model: Five assignments	Version 2.3 model: Six assignments
AM Non-HOV3+	AM Non-HOV3+
AM HOV3+	AM HOV3+
PM Non-HOV3+	PM Non-HOV3+
PM HOV3+	PM HOV3+
Off peak	Midday
	Night and early morning

8.2 Use of parallel processing to reduce model run times

One way to reduce model run times is to buy quicker hardware. However, there are limits to this approach, given the recent trend of chip makers, such as Intel, to focus less on increasing clock speeds and focus more on increasing the number of cores (i.e., the capacity) of computer processors. As evidence of this trend, COG's newest travel model server, tms6, has a processor whose clock speed is 16% *slower* than that of its predecessor (travel model server #5, or tms5). By contrast, the number of cores has gone from 12 physical cores (24 virtual cores with Hyper-Threading) in tms5 to 16 physical cores (32 virtual cores with Hyper-Threading) in tms6. Consequently, we have focused on achieving run time reductions via the software side of the equation.

We use the term "parallelization" to mean running two or more processes or threads in parallel. By running two or more steps in parallel, one can reduce model run time. A common way to achieve this parallelization is by using distributed processing, which essentially distributes the computing load across multiple computer processors or cores. These computer processors/cores could be in separate computers (linked by a local area network or LAN) or could be on one computer that has multiple cores. Citilabs has its own implementation of distributed processing called Cube Cluster, which is an add-on component of Cube Voyager. There are two forms of distributed processing available in Cube Cluster:

- "Intra-step distributed processing (IDP): This type of distributed processing works by breaking up zone based processing in a single step into zone groups that can be processed concurrently on multiple computing nodes. Currently only the Matrix and the Highway programs are available for IDP."⁵⁴
- "Multi-step distributed processing (MDP): This type of distributed processing works by breaking up blocks of one or more modeling steps and distributes them to multiple computing nodes to process. This can be used for any program in Cube Voyager as well as user-written programs

⁵⁴ Citilabs, Inc., *Cube Voyager Reference Guide, Version 6.0.2*, 1004.

with the caveat that the distributed blocks and the mainline process must be logically independent of each other.”⁵⁵

The Version 2.3.52 Travel Model uses both IDP and MDP, and also uses a third method of parallelization that is already part of the Windows operating system: Running programs in parallel using multiple concurrent command windows.

8.2.1 Background and terminology

A computer contains a central processing unit (CPU), which is also known as a chip or processor. Modern CPUs are often divided into two, four, or more cores. A core functions as a separate processor, so, to an operating system, a computer with two CPUs is the same as a computer with one CPU divided into two cores. The two biggest chip manufacturers for computers running the Microsoft Windows operating system are Intel and AMD. COG/TPB staff has run the Version 2.3 Travel Model on only computers with Intel chips, but the model should run on computers with any Intel-like chip, such as AMD. Some Intel chips feature a technology known as Hyper-Threading. When Hyper-Threading technology is enabled on the chip, the operating system sees double the number of cores. So, if your computer has four cores and Hyper-Threading is enabled, the operating system will see eight virtual cores, thus doubling your CPU capacity. Thus, a computer with one CPU that contains four cores and has Hyper-Threading enabled, should be able to run the Version 2.3 Travel Model “out of the box” without making changes to the “run model”/wrapper batch file. When a computer executes a task, it uses a process or “thread.” In general, one process or thread runs on one processor or core. The operating system (Microsoft Windows) chooses the actual physical core to use when running a process, and, by opening up Windows Task Manager, one can see that the operating system appears to randomly move the task from one core to the next until the process completes, but the user need not focus on this detail.

In Cube Cluster parlance, a set of processors that can be used for a computing task, whether they exist in one computer or a network of computers is called a “cluster.” Any individual processor or core is called a “computing node” or simply a “node.” Cube Cluster, which is a part of Cube Voyager, allows the nodes in the cluster to communicate, so that they can work together, essentially running in parallel, to accomplish a computing task. Citilabs originally wrote Cube Cluster with the idea that users would want to harness the power of multiple, run-of-the-mill PCs that were networked together using a local area network (LAN). However, COG/TPB staff has not used Cube Cluster in that way. Instead, COG/TPB staff has harnessed the power of Cube Cluster by running on one computer (server) at a time, by virtue of the fact that the computer contained multiple cores. If you are running Cube Cluster across multiple computers, you would have a main computer, known as the “main node,” and also one or more helper computers, known as “sub-nodes” (or “subnodes”). When running Cube Cluster in a single computer with multiple cores, the “main node” and “sub-nodes” would then exist within the same CPU. So, continuing with the single-computer scenario, the user can think of a model run as occurring on a “main

⁵⁵ Ibid., 1005.

node” (which is simply one of the cores on the CPU), and the main node can then call upon one or more sub-nodes (other cores on the CPU) to make use of IDP or MDP.

8.2.2 Effect of Cube Cluster on modeled results

It should be noted that **using Cube Cluster can result in numerical rounding which can affect model results**. For instance, COG/TPB staff found that the use of IDP resulted in a very small change in the estimated VMT coming out of the travel model.⁵⁶ As part of a series of test conducted in 2011, COG/TPB staff conducted two model runs: 1) a year-2007 traffic assignment with IDP using 4 cores; and 2) a year-2007 traffic assignment without IDP (i.e., one core). COG/TPB staff then calculated the VMT difference between the two runs at the regional level, the jurisdiction level, and the link level. At the regional level, the use of IDP had almost no effect on modeled results – it resulted in only a 1/100th to 3/100ths of a percent drop in estimated VMT (slide 25). At the jurisdiction level, the use of IDP also resulted in almost no difference in estimated VMT – the difference was as large as 9/100ths of a percent for some jurisdictions (slide 27). At the link level, however, the use of IDP resulted in a number of cases where the VMT difference was above 20% (slide 29). Fortunately, the links with the largest volume differences were the lower-class facilities (e.g., not freeways). Both runs were done as part of the full travel model and both were done using Cube Voyager/Cluster version 5.1.2. Newer versions of Cube Voyager/Cluster are now available (e.g., COG is now using 6.1), but COG/TPB staff have not re-tried the sensitivity test with the newer versions of Cube Voyager. COG/TPB staff shared these results with Citilabs and, in 2012, Citilabs updated its documentation to note this rounding phenomenon: “Use of Cluster can have a very small effect on volumes generated by the HIGHWAY program. During the ADJUST phase, when iteration volumes are combined, the final assigned volumes might vary slightly over different numbers of cluster nodes.”⁵⁷

8.2.3 History of adding parallelization to the Version 2.3 Travel Model

In Build 16 of the Version 2.3 Travel Model, COG/TPB staff added IDP to the highway assignment script. Staff set the travel model up to use four cores, and, based on the findings of the aforementioned tests, staff recommended that users who wanted to replicate COG results also use four cores. In Builds 20 through 24 of the Version 2.3 Travel Model, COG/TPB staff added IDP to other modeling steps, such as MFARE2.s, Time-of-Day.s, and the transit skimming scripts. In 2012, COG asked for AECOM’s assistance to further reduce model run times. AECOM suggested model changes that introduced MDP to the travel model.⁵⁸ Now, in addition to using four cores for IDP traffic assignment, the use of MDP allowed two traffic assignments to run in parallel (thus, 8 cores would be in use, but only 4 in each of the two IDP sessions). COG/TPB staff incorporated these AECOM recommendations into Build 40 of the Version 2.3

⁵⁶ See slides 25-32 of Ronald Milone and Mark S. Moran, “TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model on the 3,722-TAZ Area System: Status Report” (presented at the May 20, 2011 meeting of the Travel Forecasting Subcommittee of the Technical Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, held at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Washington, D.C., May 20, 2011).

⁵⁷ p. 1009, Citilabs, Inc. *Cube Voyager Reference Guide, Version 6.0.2*. Citilabs, Inc., July 26, 2012.

⁵⁸ For more details, see AECOM and Stump/Hausman Partnership, *FY 2012 Draft Final Report, COG Contract 12-006: Assistance with Development and Application of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board Travel Demand Model* (National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, July 13, 2012), chap. 5.

Travel Model, and these same parallelization enhancements, such as the use of both IDP and MDP, also exist in the Version 2.3.52 Travel Model.

8.2.4 Implementation of parallelization in the Version 2.3.52 and 2.3.57 travel models

There has been no change to the use of parallelization in the Ver. 2.3.57 model compared to the Ver. 2.3.52 model, so the discussion in this section still applies to the Ver. 2.3.57 model. The Version 2.3.52 Travel Model has three types of parallelization to help minimize run times:

- Cube Cluster intra-step distributed processing (IDP)
- Cube Cluster multi-step distributed processing (MDP)
- Windows operating system: Running programs in parallel using multiple concurrent command windows

IDP is used in three modeling steps:

- Highway assignment (Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s)
- Transit fare development (MFARE2.S)
- Transit assignment (Combine_Tables_For_TrAssign_Parallel.s)

By contrast, MDP is used for only one step: Highway assignment (Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s). In other words, highway assignment uses both IDP and MDP. The model is set up to use four cores in IDP, and, using MDP, there are two concurrent IDP sessions: A main node, which uses four cores via IDP, and a sub-node, which also uses four cores via IDP. **This combination of IDP and MDP means that highway assignment uses 8 cores concurrently for processing.**

Lastly, running programs in parallel by using multiple concurrent command windows is used for three modeling steps:

- Transit skimming (command windows invoked by Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat)
- Mode choice (command windows invoked by Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat or Mode_Choice_TC_V23_Parallel.bat)
- Transit assignment (command windows invoked by Transit_Assignment_Parallel.bat)

IDP, which works only for the MATRIX or HIGHWAY modules of Cube Voyager, is implemented in a Cube Voyager script using **a single line of code**, such as this from the Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s script:

```
distributeIntrastep processId='AM', ProcessList=%AMsubnode%
```

By contrast, **MDP** is implemented in a Cube Voyager script using **an MDP block of code**. The code block begins and ends with code such as the following (from the Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s script):

```
DistributeMULTISTEP ProcessID='AM', ProcessNum=1  
    (various lines of code)  
ENDDistributeMULTISTEP
```

The IDP statement above can be used on its own or within an MDP block. Examples of both of these cases can be found in the Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s script.

Table 15 shows the five modeling steps where parallelization is used, noting the method of parallelization (e.g., IDP, MDP, or batch file); the names of the batch files that call each step; the names of the tokens (variables) used to store the number of processing nodes/subnodes to use for IDP/MDP; and the maximum number of simultaneous threads/cores used by the step. For example, in the case of transit skimming, parallelization is achieved by calling multiple simultaneous batch files. The batch file that actually initiates the multiple Windows command windows is Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat, and, since this step uses neither IDP nor MDP, there are no associated IDP or MDP tokens. The transit skimming process uses 4 cores. In the highway assignment step, both MDP and IDP are used. The tokens used for IDP are AMsubnode and MDsubnode (more on this later in this chapter). Although MDP is used, no tokens are used for MDP. Instead, the subnode for MDP is labeled using a fixed name, "AM1". The highway assignment step can use up to 8 simultaneous nodes/cores, since IDP is implemented with four cores and there are two concurrent IDP sessions, run using MDP. As can be seen in Table 15, modeling steps with parallelization use 4, 5, or 8 cores. Modeling steps without parallelization use only one core at a time.

8.2.4.1 Parallel processing in the "Run model"/wrapper batch file

This section of the report describes how the code in the "run model"/wrapper batch files affects parallel processing implemented in the Version 2.3.52 Travel Model. This section uses the 2010 "run model" batch file (Figure 15 on page 63) as an example. It also describes changes that can be made to the "run model"/wrapper batch files in order run the model on a computer with fewer than the standard 8 cores. The next section of the report, 8.2.4.3 on page 95, describes how parallel processing (specifically IDP and MDP) has been implemented in one script: Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s. As noted in Table 15, the number of cores used in each of the parallelized modeling steps varies from 4 to 8 cores. Those steps that do not contain parallelization use only one core at a time. Thus, to run the Version 2.3.52 Travel Model "out of the box," without making any changes, one needs a computer with eight or more cores, as was explained in the section 3.1 of the report.

Table 15 Modeling steps where parallelization is used, including the maximum number of threads/cores used

Modeling Step	First-Level "Child" Batch File	Second-Level "Child" Batch File	Method of Parallelization (batch file or script which calls parallel process)	Tokens Used for IDP**	Max. No. of Cores
Transit skimming	Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat	TransitSkim_LineHaul_Parallel.bat	Batch file (Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat)		4
Highway assignment	Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat	None	MDP & IDP (Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s)	AMsubnode MDsubnode	8
Transit fare development	Transit_Fare.bat	None	IDP (MFARE2.s)	subnode	4
Mode choice	Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat	MC_purp.bat	Batch file (Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat or Mode_Choice_TC_V23_Parallel.bat)		5
Transit assignment	Transit_Assignment_Parallel.bat	TransitAssignment_LineHaul_Parallel.bat	Batch file (Transit_Assignment_Parallel.bat) IDP (Combine_Tables_For_TrAssign_Parallel.s)	subnode	4

** MDP as implemented in Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s does not use a token. Instead, the subnode name designation is done using a hard-coded value in the script, i.e.. "AM1", as is explained later in this chapter.

The “run model”/wrapper batch file makes use of a number of user-defined Windows environment variables. Those environment variables that do not deal with distributed processing were discussed in section 6.2.1 (“Description of the “run model”/wrapper batch file”) on page 66. By contrast, those environment variables that do deal with distributed processing are discussed in this chapter (Chapter 8).

It is possible to have IDP-related or MDP-related statements in a script, but not use them. Consequently, one of the first Cube Cluster statements in any script that uses Cube Cluster will be a statement that indicates whether Cube Cluster should be used or not. An example of such a statement is shown below:

```
distribute intrastep=t multistep=f
```

The above statement indicates that IDP will be used (since its flag has been set to a value of TRUE or T) and MDP will not be used (since its flag has been set to a value of FALSE or F). In this example, even if there is code for MDP in the Cube Voyager script, the MDP processing will not be executed, since it has been set to FALSE. In our scripts and batch files, we generally use user-defined, Windows environment variables to set these two values. Thus, the statement above appears like this, using two “tokens” or variables to hold the true/false flags:

```
distribute intrastep=%useIdp% multistep=%useMdp%
```

In lines 12 and 13 of the “run model”/wrapper batch file (shown in Figure 15), these two “set” statements simply set the IDP and MDP usage flags to a value of TRUE:

```
set useIdp=t
set useMdp=t
```

The statement “distribute intrastep=%useIdp% multistep=%useMdp%” is used in both *Combine_Tables_For_TrAssign_Parallel.s* and *Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s*.⁵⁹ By contrast, in *MFARE2.s*, which uses IDP, but not MDP, the MDP flag has been hard-coded to FALSE, instead of using the token value set in the wrapper batch file: “distribute intrastep=%useIdp% multistep=f”.

The “useidp” environment variable is used in the three steps shown in Table 15 that make use of IDP. As one would expect, the “usemdp” environment variable is used in the highway assignment step, since this step makes use of MDP. However, the “usemdp” environment variable **is also used in *Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat* and *Mode_Choice_TC_V23_Parallel.bat***. Specifically, if the “usemdp” flag is set to TRUE, then parallel processing is used in the mode choice step (via concurrent batch files, not MDP), which means that the five mode choice models (HBW, HBS, HBO, NHW, and NHO) are run in parallel command windows. If the “usemdp” flag is set to FALSE, then the mode choice process assumes that there is only one core available and runs the five mode choice models in sequence.

⁵⁹ This same statement is also currently found in the four transit skimming scripts (*Transit_Skims_AB|BM|CR|MR.s*), but it is no longer being used, so it should eventually be removed. At one point, we had used IDP in transit skimming, but, for the Ver. 2.3.40 model, when parallelization via concurrent batch files was added, the parallelization via IDP was dropped, so that the model would not use more than 8 concurrent cores.

The next two environment variables dealing with distributed processing can be found on in lines 15 and 16 of the “run model”/wrapper batch file (Figure 15):

```
set AMsubnode=1-4
set MDsubnode=2-4
```

As shown in Table 15, the AMsubnode and MDsubnode are used for IDP in traffic assignment. The names AMsubnode and MDsubnode would seem to indicate a subnode for processing the AM peak period and one for processing the midday period. Originally, when AECOM first proposed adding MDP to various steps of the model, it was added to both highway skimming and highway assignment. In highway skimming, there is a peak period skim, represented by the AM peak period, and an off-peak period skim, represented by the midday (MD) period. So, for skimming, the processing of the AM skims was sent off to a subnode, using MDP, and the AMsubnode variable/token was used to define the number of subnodes to use in IDP for the processing of the AM skims. And for the processing of the midday (MD) skims, this work was retained on the main processing node, with the MDsubnode variable/token used to define the number of subnodes to use in IDP for the processing of the MD skims.⁶⁰ For reasons of expediency, the same variable names (AMsubnode and MDsubnode) were used for the MDP in the highway assignment step. This meant that the AM peak period highway assignment was transferred, via MDP, to a subnode called “AM1.” But, in the case of the PM traffic assignment, it was processed on the main node, but it used the “MD” token for naming its IDP subnodes.⁶¹ What’s more, the MD period was processed on branch/sub-node delineated “AM” (from the AMsubnode, not “MD”) and the NT period was processed by the main node, but was delineated “MD” (from MDsubnode, not “NT”). When COG/TPB staff chose which of the AECOM suggested parallelization enhancements to implement, it chose not to implement MDP in the highway skimming, just in highway assignment.⁶² The end result was that the naming convention used in the highway assignment step is somewhat confusing, even though, strictly speaking, the code functions normally. This is explained in more detail in the next section of the report. Consequently, given the way that MDP is used in only the highway assignment step, one could come up with better names for the two variables that are currently called AMsubnode and MDsubnode, as shown in Table 16.

Table 16 Current and alternate names for the two Windows environment variables that store information about the number of subnodes to use in IDP in the highway assignment

Current name of environment variable	Usage	Alternate name for environment variable
AMsubnode	Number of IDP subnodes used within an MDP block	idp_for_mdp_branch
MDsubnode	Number of IDP subnodes used w/in main processing branch	idp_for_main_branch

⁶⁰ See, for example, AECOM and Stump/Hausman Partnership, *FY 2012 Report*, fig. 5–2.

⁶¹ See, for example, *ibid.*, fig. 5–6.

⁶² See Mary Martchouk and Mark S. Moran to Ronald Milone, “Reducing Model Run Times: Results from the TPB Staff Tests of AECOM’s Proposed Parallelization Enhancements to the Travel Model,” Memorandum, (September 17, 2012), 6.

Given that we generally have decided upon using four cores for IDP processing in the model (to maintain consistency), one might expect that AMsubnode = MDsubnode = 1-4. In other words, one might expect that we would provide Cube Cluster with a list of four nodes (1-4) for both the main branch of IDP processing and the MDP branch of IDP. According to AECOM, the reason for delineating only three subnodes (i.e., “MDsubnode=2-4”) and not four, is that “only three slave threads [sub-nodes] are launched since the master uses itself as one of the threads to process the PM highway assignment.”⁶³ Thus, despite the appearance of 3 nodes for MD and 4 nodes for AM, both IDP sessions use 4 nodes. To further clarify this issue, the IDP and MDP processes running in Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s have been diagramed in Figure 21 and Figure 22 in section 8.2.4.3.

8.2.4.2 Changing the “run model”/wrapper batch file for computers with fewer than 8 cores

The Version 2.3.52 Travel Model is designed to run on a computer that has 8 or more cores. Table 17 shows the changes that a user should make in order to run the Version 2.3.52 model on computers with fewer than 8 cores. See section 8.2.2 (“Effect of Cube Cluster on modeled results”) on p. 88 for a discussion about how modeled results can change slightly with the number of cores used.

Table 17 Running the Version 2.3.52 Travel Model on computers with fewer than 8 cores: Changes that need to be made to the “run model”/wrapper batch file

Number of cores in your computer	Changes needed in the “run model”/wrapper batch file	Result
8 or more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No changes need be made 	The model will run using between 1 and 8 cores, depending on the modeling step. Eight cores are used in highway assignment, due to the use of both IDP and MDP.
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change “useMdp=t” to “useMdp=f” 	This change will mean that highway assignment no longer uses MDP, only four cores with IDP. Also, in the mode choice model, sequential processing will be done (i.e., the five models will no longer run in parallel).
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change “useMdp=t” to “useMdp=f” Change “set AMsubnode=1-4” to “set AMsubnode=1-2” Change “set MDsubnode=2-4” to “set MDsubnode=2” 	This should result in only 2 cores being used in IDP.
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change “useMdp=t” to “useMdp=f” Change “useldp=t” to “useldp=f” 	This will disable IDP and MDP and will also result in disabling the parallel processing in the mode choice step.

Note that the information in Table 17 is based on testing done by COG/TPB staff using a virtual computer with Cube 6.0.2 installed.

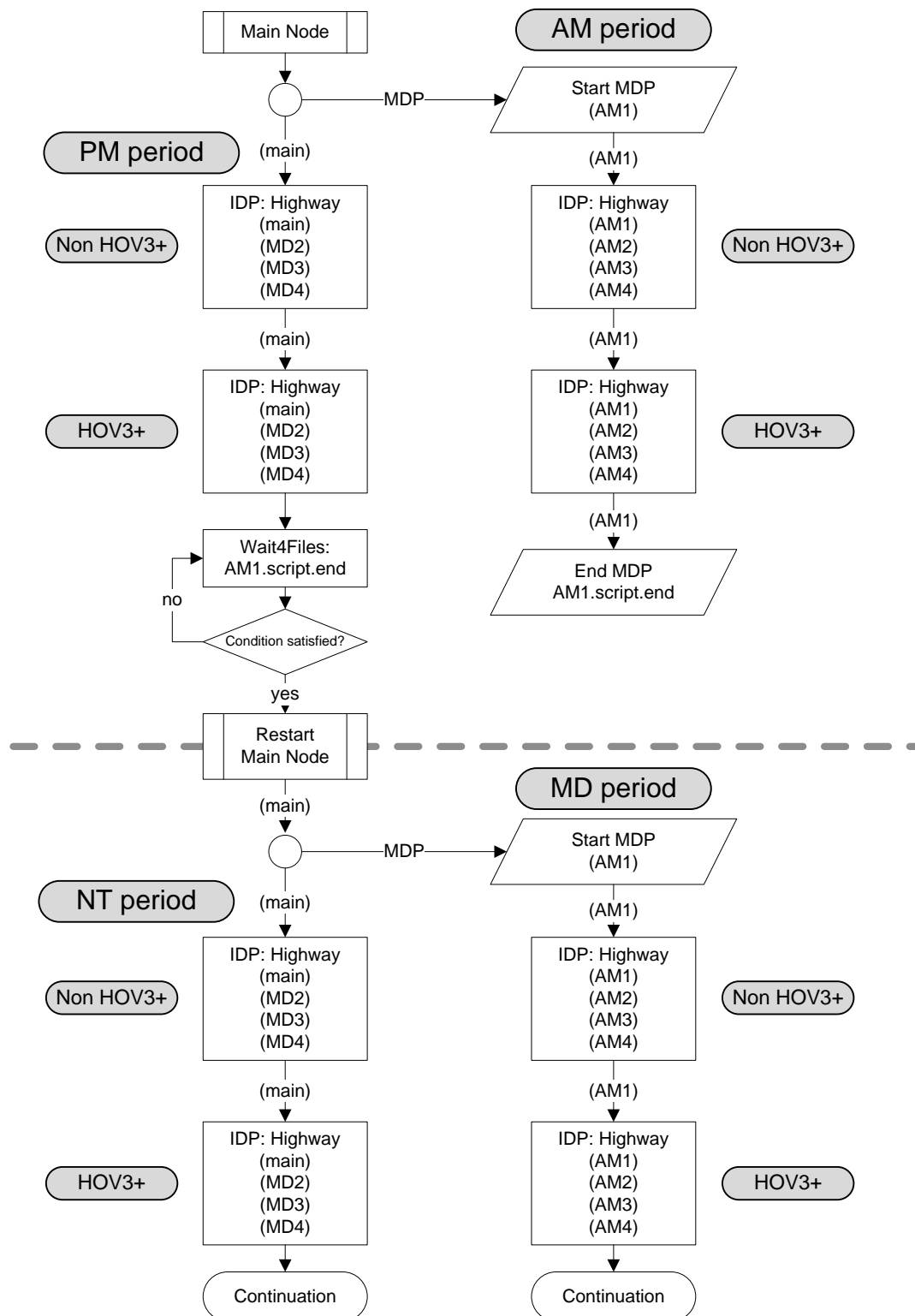
⁶³ AECOM and Stump/Hausman Partnership, *FY 2012 Report*, 5–9 to 5–10.

8.2.4.3 Parallel processing in the highway assignment script

The previous section of the report, section 8.2.4.1, described how the code in the “run model”/wrapper batch files affects parallel processing implemented in the Version 2.3.52 Travel Model. This section of the report describes how parallel processing (specifically IDP and MDP) have been implemented in one script: Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s. Figure 21 shows a schematic of how IDP and MDP have been implanted in the highway assignment script. This figure shows the sub-node naming conventions that are used in the Version 2.3.52 Travel Model, keeping in mind some of the issues related to the naming of sub-nodes in section 8.2.4.1. Figure 22 is a revision of Figure 21, which shows a schematic of how IDP and MDP have been implanted in the highway assignment script, but with more logical naming conventions (the changed sub-node names are indicated by using red font).

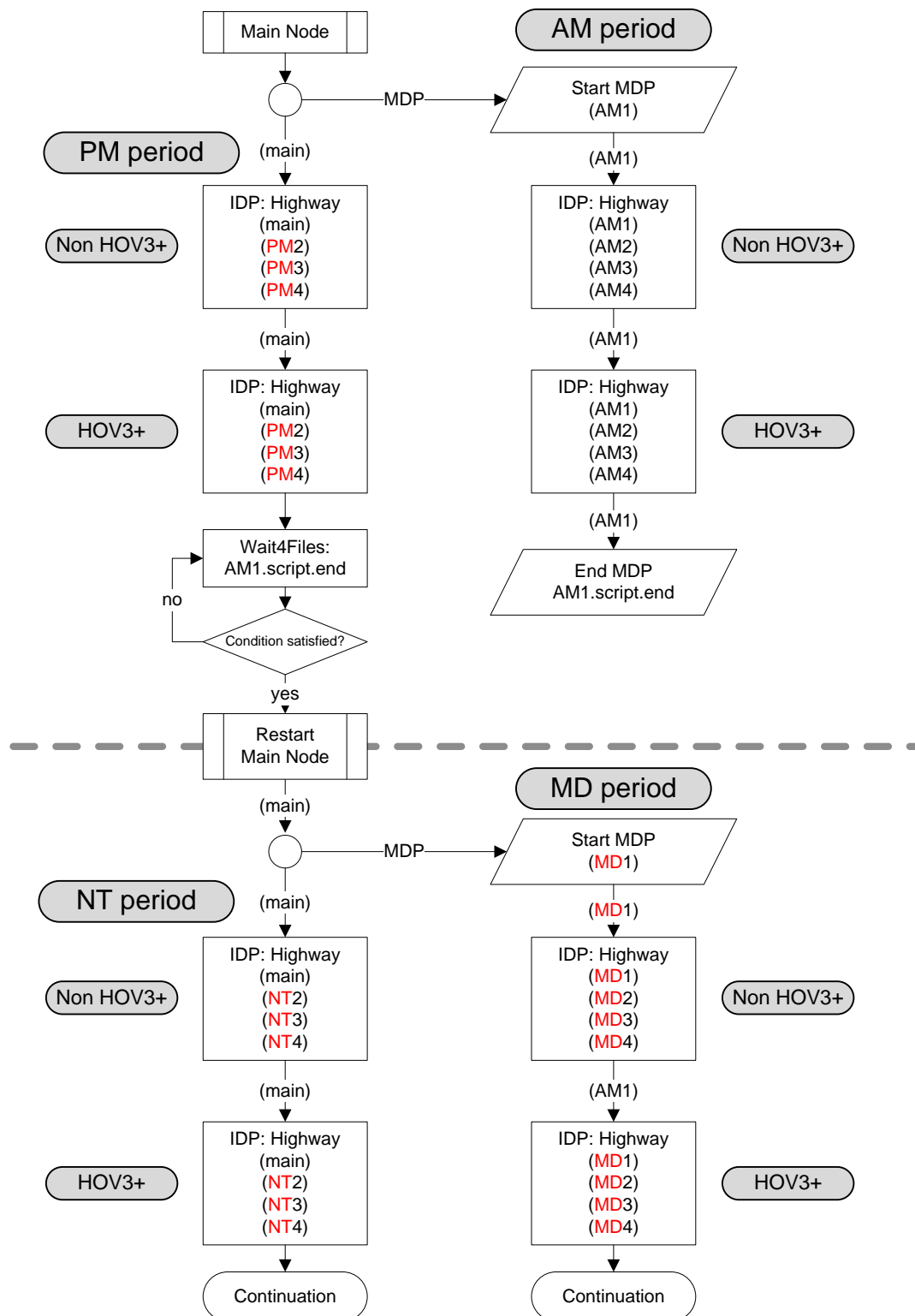
The highway assignment script relating to Figure 21 can be found in Appendix C. Since the script has over 2,000 lines of code, we have created an excerpt of the Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s script (about 150 lines), shown in Figure 23, that focuses on the lines that are most relevant to IDP and MDP. Locations where code has been removed are indicated in Figure 23 by a triple ampersand (“&&&”). On line 4 of Figure 23, the statement “distribute intrastep=%useIdp% multistep=%useMdp%” either turns IDP and MDP on or off, based on the value of the two tokens. The code in Figure 23 contains two MDP blocks. Each MDP block begins with the keyword “DistributeMULTISTEP” and ends with the keyword “ENDDistributeMULTISTEP.” The beginning and ending of each of the two MDP blocks has been highlighted in green. IDP does not require a block of statements – it simple uses a single statement begun with the keyword “distributeIntrastep.” Lines containing this keyword have been highlighted in yellow. For example, the first MDP block includes two IDP statements, but the next two IDP statements occur outside of an MDP block (in other words, they are run from the main node, not a sub-node). As shown in Figure 21, since we have two parallel streams of processes (e.g., one for the AM period and one for the PM period), we need to use a “Wait4Files” keyword, which ensures that the main line of processing stops until the MDP branch completes it work. The Wait4Files keywords have been highlighted in blue in Figure 23. So, as indicated in Figure 21, when the AM period processing is finished a file called AM1.script.end is generated. The Wait4Files tells the main line of processing to stop until it detects that the AM1.script.end file has been generated.

Figure 21 Schematic of IDP and MDP in the highway assignment process of the Ver. 2.3.52 Travel Model (Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s): Existing naming convention for nodes



Ref: ver2.3.52_hwy_assign_mdp_idp.vsd

Figure 22 Schematic of IDP and MDP in the highway assignment process of the Ver. 2.3.52 Travel Model (Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s): Proposed new naming convention for nodes (changes shown in red)



Ref: ver2.3.52_hwy_assign_mdp_idp.vsd

Figure 23 Excerpts from the Highway_Assignment_Parallel.s script (triple ampersand => code removed)

```

1  &&&
2  /* **** Set up tokens in Voyager Pilot step **** */
3  ; useIdp = t (true) or f (false); this is set in the wrapper batch file
4  distribute intrastep=%useIdp% multistep=%useMdp%
5  &&&
6  ;;*****
7  ;;; Step 1: Execute peak-period traffic assignments (AM & PM)
8  ;;;      AM nonHOV, HOV and PM nonHOV and HOV Assignemnts
9  ;;;*****
10
11  itr = '%_iter_%'  ;;
12  &&&
13  INPNET = 'ZONEHWY.NET'
14
15  DistributeMULTISTEP ProcessID='AM', ProcessNum=1
16
17  PRD      = 'AM'      ;
18  PCTADT   = 41.7      ; %_AMPF_% AM PHF (% of traffic in pk hr of period)
19  CAPFAC=1/(PCTADT/100) ; Capacity Factor = 1/(PCTADT/100)
20  &&&
21  in_capSpd = '..\support\hwy_assign_capSpeedLookup.s'      ;; FT x AT Speed & Capacity lookup
22  VDF_File  = '..\support\hwy_assign_Conical_VDF.s'        ;; Volume Delay Functions file
23
24  ;;*****
25  ;;; Step 1.1: Assign AM NonHOV3+ trip tables only
26  ;;;      (SOV, HOV2, CV, TRUCK & AIRPORT PASSENGER TRIPS)
27  ;;;*****
28
29  RUN PGM=HIGHWAY ; NonHOV3+ traffic assignment
30  distributeIntrastep processId='AM', ProcessList=%AMsubnode%
31  FILEI NETI      = @INPNET@ ; TP+ Network
32  &&&
33  ENDRUN
34  ;;*****
35  ;;; Step 1.2: Assign AM HOV3+ only
36  ;;;*****
37
38  RUN PGM=HIGHWAY ; HOV3+ traffic assignment
39  distributeIntrastep processId='AM', ProcessList=%AMsubnode%
40  FILEI NETI      = TEMP1_@PRD@.NET ; TP+ Network
41  &&&
42  ENDRUN
43  ENDDistributeMULTISTEP
44
45  PRD      = 'PM'      ;
46  PCTADT   = 29.4      ; %_AMPF_% AM PHF (% of traffic in pk hr of period)
47
48  &&&
49  ;;*****
50  ;;; Step 1.3: Assign PM NonHOV3+ trip tables only
51  ;;;      (SOV, HOV2, CV, TRUCK & AIRPORT PASSENGER TRIPS)
52  ;;;*****
53
54  RUN PGM=HIGHWAY ; NonHOV3+ traffic assignment
55  distributeIntrastep processId='MD', ProcessList=%MDsubnode%
56  FILEI NETI      = @INPNET@ ; TP+ Network
57  &&&
58  ENDRUN
59  ;;*****
60  ;;; Step 1.4: Assign PM HOV3+ only
61  ;;;*****
62
63  RUN PGM=HIGHWAY ; HOV3+ traffic assignment
64  distributeIntrastep processId='MD', ProcessList=%MDsubnode%
65  FILEI NETI      = TEMP1_@PRD@.NET ; TP+ Network
66  &&&

```



```

67 ENDRUN
68
69 Wait4Files Files=AM1.script.end, CheckReturnCode=T, PrintFiles=Merge, DelDistribFiles=T
70
71 ;;*****
72 ;;; Step 2: Execute off-peak-period traffic assignments (midday/MD & night/NT)
73 ;;; All 6 trip tables are assigned together.
74 ;;;*****
75
76 DistributeMULTISTEP ProcessID='AM', ProcessNum=1
77 ; Off-Peak Period
78 PRD = 'MD' ;
79 PCTADT = 17.7 ; %_MDPF_% Midday PHF (% of traffic in pk hr of period)
80 CAPFAC=1/(PCTADT/100) ; Capacity Factor = 1/(PCTADT/100)
81 ; Turnpen = 'inputs\turnpen.pen' ; Turn penalty
82
83 RUN PGM=HIGHWAY ; Off-peak (midday & evening) traffic assignment
84 distributeIntrastep processId='AM', ProcessList=%AMsubnode%
85 FILEI NETI = @INPNET@ ; TP+ Network
86 &&&
87 ENDRUN
88
89 ENDDistributeMULTISTEP
90
91 PRD = 'NT' ;
92 PCTADT = 15.0 ; %_NTPF_% NT PHF (% of traffic in pk hr of period)
93 CAPFAC=1/(PCTADT/100) ; Capacity Factor = 1/(PCTADT/100)
94
95 RUN PGM=HIGHWAY ; Off-peak (midday & evening) traffic assignment
96 distributeIntrastep processId='MD', ProcessList=%MDsubnode%
97 FILEI NETI = @INPNET@ ; TP+ Network
98 &&&
99 ENDRUN
100
101 Wait4Files Files=AM1.script.end, CheckReturnCode=T, PrintFiles=Merge, DelDistribFiles=T
102
103 ; END OF MIDDAY and OFF PEAK ASSIGNMENT
104
105 ;;*****
106 ;;; Step 3: Calculate restrained final Volumes, speeds, V/Cs (No MSA)
107 ;;;*****
108 ;;; Step 3.1: Loop thru 1 (AM) and 2 (PM)
109 ;;;*****
110
111 LOOP PERIOD = 1,2 ; Loop thru 1 (AM) and 2 (PM); Each pk per. includes NonHOV3+ and HOV3+
112
113 IF (PERIOD==1)
114 PRD = 'AM' ;
115 PCTADT = 41.7 ;
116 ELSE
117 PRD = 'PM' ;
118 PCTADT = 29.4 ;
119 ENDF
120 CAPFAC=1/(PCTADT/100) ; Capacity Factor = 1/(PCTADT/100)
121
122 RUN PGM=HWYNET ; Calculate restrained speed/perform MSA volume averaging
123 &&&
124 ENDRUN
125 ENDL
126 ; Loop thru 1 (AM) and 2 (PM); Each pk per. includes NonHOV3+ and HOV3+
127
128 ;;*****
129 ;;; Step 3.2: Loop thru 3 (MD) and 4 (OP)
130 ;;;*****
131
132 LOOP PERIOD = 3,4 ; Loop thru 1 (midday, MD) and 2 (evening/off-peak, OP)
133 IF (PERIOD==3)
134 PRD = 'MD' ;
135 PCTADT = 17.7

```

```

135 ELSE
136     PRD    = 'NT'        ;
137     PCTADT = 15.0
138 ENDIF
139 CAPFAC=1/(PCTADT/100)    ; Capacity Factor = 1/(PCTADT/100)
140
141 RUN PGM=HWYNET    ; Calculate restrained speed/perform MSA volume averaging
142 &&&
143 ENDRUN
144 ENDLOOP          ; Loop thru 1 (midday, MD) and 2 (evening/off-peak, OP)
145
146 ;;*****
147 ;; Step 4: Summarize 24-hour VMT of current AM, PM, MD & NT assignments
148 ;;*****
149
150 RUN PGM=HWYNET    ; Summarize 24-hour VMT of current AM, PM, MD & OP assignments
151 &&&
152 ENDRUN

```

Ref: Highway_Assignment_Parallel_excerpt2.s

To conclude the discussion of Figure 23, we note here some cases where process sub-nodes have somewhat misleading names. The four periods being processed are AM, PM, MD, and NT, and these are indicated in Figure 23 by pink/purple highlighting. For the AM assignment, there are no issues with misleading names for the sub-nodes. For example, we can see that on line 17, the AM processing starts, and the four IDP sub-nodes for the non-HOV3+ assignment are named AM1, AM2, AM3, and AM4 (line 30 of Figure 23), since %AMsubnode% equals "1-4". After the non-HOV3+ assignment is complete, then HOV3+ assignment occurs, and the four IDP sub-nodes for the HOV assignment are also named AM1, AM2, AM3, and AM4 (line 39 of Figure 23). The mislabeled naming of sub-nodes begins with the PM period assignment, which begins on line 45. For example, for the PM non-HOV3+ assignment, the sub-nodes are named MD2, MD3, and MD4 (line 55 of Figure 23), since %MDsubnode% equals "2-4". It would be less confusing if these sub-nodes had been named PM2, PM3, and PM4. The same misleading naming convention is used for the sub-node names in the PM HOV3+ assignment: MD2, MD3, and MD4 -- instead of PM2, PM3, and PM4 (line 64 of Figure 23). A similar issue occurs for the midday assignment (beginning on line 78 of Figure 23) and the nighttime assignment (beginning on line 91 of Figure 23). **At any rate, it should be noted that the code works, despite the misnamed sub-nodes.** In a future version of the model, we plan to clean up the sub-node naming.

9 Debugging cases where the model run stops prematurely or crashes

If a model run stops prematurely or crashes, one can use the “full output” text file to determine

- The speed feedback iteration (e.g., pump prime, iteration 1, ..., iteration 4) that was underway when the model stopped
- The particular modeling step, within a given speed feedback iteration, that was underway when the model stopped (e.g., network building, trip distribution, mode choice, traffic assignment).
- Possible error messages returned by any programs that crash.

An excerpt from one of the “full output” text files can be seen in Figure 24. Additionally, when debugging a model run crash, one should find the latest print file (*.prn) to see any relevant error or warning messages. One can search this file using regular expressions to find any warnings or errors.⁶⁴

In some cases, it is sufficient to review the “full output” text file and the latest print file to determine why a model run stops. As an additional tool, however, one can also scan the “search for errors” text file (e.g. 2010_Final_searchForErrs.txt), which is created by the searchForErrs.bat batch file. An example of the “search for errors” text file can be found in Figure 25.

One of the most common causes for a model run crash is a sharing violation, which typically occurs when one launches two or more concurrent model runs in the same root directory at about the same time. **One way to protect against this happening is to ensure there is a time delay (ca. 1 hour) between the start of two model runs that share the same root directory.** Additionally, there is now a second reason to offset model runs by about an hour: As described in Chapter 11 (“Building transit walksheds and calculating zonal walk percent”), with the new process for generating transit walksheds and calculating the percent of each zone within walking distance to transit, it is imperative to use a 45- to 60-minute gap in the start times of two or more model runs on the same computer.

⁶⁴ For example, using the text editor PSpad, one can use this regular expression (regex) to find warnings or errors: `F\([0-9]*\):|W\([0-9]*\):`

Figure 24 An excerpt from an example of the “full output” text file that is created during a model run

```

1 D:\ateam\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal>set _year_=2010
2
3 D:\ateam\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal>set _alt_=Ver2.3.52_2010_Final
4
5 D:\ateam\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal>set _maxUeIter_=1000
6
7 D:\ateam\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal>set _tspath_=
8
9 D:\ateam\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal>set _HOV3PATH_=
10
11 D:\ateam\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal>rem ===== Pump Prime Iteration
12 =====
13
14 D:\ateam\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal>set _iter_=pp
15
16 D:\ateam\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal>set _prev_=pp
17
18 D:\ateam\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal>set _relGap_=0.01
19
20 D:\ateam\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal>call Set_CPI.bat                2010_Final
21
22 D:\ateam\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal>cd 2010_Final
23
24 D:\ateam\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal\2010_Final>REM  CPI Establishment
25
26 D:\ateam\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal\2010_Final>if exist voya*.* del voya*.*
27
28 D:\ateam\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal\2010_Final>if exist set_CPI.rpt del set_CPI.rpt
29
30 D:\ateam\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal\2010_Final>start /w Voyager.exe  ..\scripts\set_CPI.s /start
31 -Pvoya -S..\2010_Final
32
33 D:\ateam\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal\2010_Final>if errorlevel 1 goto error
34
35 D:\ateam\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal\2010_Final>if exist voya*.prn copy voya*.prn set_CPI.rpt /y
36 voya0001.PRN
37     1 file(s) copied.

```

Ref: L:\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal\2010_Final\2010_Final_fulloutput.txt

Figure 25 An excerpt from the “search for errors” file that is created during a model run

```

1 ***** Searching for errors and anomalies after a travel model run *****
2 Program name: searchForErrs.bat
3
4 ***** Searching *fulloutput.txt
5
6     *** Searching for cases where a file could not be found
7
8
9 ***** Searching report files (*.rpt)
10     *** Searching for evidence that TP+ (TPMAIN) is running, instead of Voyager (PILOT)
11     *** Searching for evidence of LINKO nodes that do not have XY values
12 2010_Final\i1_TRANSIT_SKIMS_AB.RPT:W(693): The following LINKO nodes do not have XY values:
13 2010_Final\i1_TRANSIT_SKIMS_AB.RPT:W(693): The following LINKO nodes do not have XY values:
14 2010_Final\i1_TRANSIT_SKIMS_AB.RPT:W(693): The following LINKO nodes do not have XY values:
15 2010_Final\i1_TRANSIT_SKIMS_AB.RPT:W(693): The following LINKO nodes do not have XY values:
16 2010_Final\i1_TRANSIT_SKIMS_AB.RPT:W(693): The following LINKO nodes do not have XY values:
17 2010_Final\i1_TRANSIT_SKIMS_AB.RPT:W(693): The following LINKO nodes do not have XY values:

```

Ref: L:\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal\2010_Final\2010_Final_searchForErrs.txt

10 Known issues related to running the model

10.1 Cube Cluster differences

When using Cube Cluster, the estimated VMT coming from the model can change slightly, depending on how many cores/nodes are used. See section 8.2.2 (“Effect of Cube Cluster on modeled results”) on page 88 for more details.

10.2 Model run stops before finishing

We have experienced some cases where a model run will prematurely stop (“crash”) for no apparent reason. Sometimes the exact same model run will complete successfully if run on a different computer. While we are still trying to determine the cause of these crashes, we do, however, have a pragmatic way for dealing with these events. Determine where the model run crashed. Re-launch the model run, but comment out all the steps in the “run model steps” that have completed successfully, so that the model runs only the step that crashed and the steps that follow it. This procedure will typically result in a normal model run, even though it requires the analyst to intervene midstream. Please see Chapter 9 (“Debugging cases where the model run stops prematurely or crashes”) on page 101.

10.3 Issues with traffic assignment convergence

We have identified some cases where the gap (but not relative gap) for a given user equilibrium iteration is equal to exactly zero, as opposed to a small, but non-zero value. We have reported this issue to Citilabs, which is currently investigating it. However, since the Version 2.3.57 model (like its predecessor, the Ver. 2.3.57 model) uses the relative gap and the number of user equilibrium iterations as stopping criteria, this issue should not affect the running of the model. Nonetheless, a model user could experience convergence issues if they change the model to use a really tight stopping criterion. For example, in one test conducted by TPB staff, a stopping criterion of 10^{-6} was used, but the traffic assignment continued on, going past 10^{-7} , even though 10^{-6} was specified. This happened for a future-year scenario that had variably-priced facilities. We are still investigating this situation and have contacted Citilabs, which thinks the difficulty reaching convergence may be due to large toll values that dominate the link-cost function. Again, this should not be an issue for standard runs of the travel model, which use progressively tightening relative gap tolerances of 10^{-2} , 10^{-3} , and 10^{-4} .

10.4 Running multiple concurrent model runs one computer/server

A user may wish to run two or more travel model runs on one computer or server at the same time. To compute the maximum number of concurrent model runs that may be run on a given computer, divide the number of cores (real or virtual, whichever is greater) by the number of cores needed per model run (currently 8, in the traffic assignment step). For example, on a computer like COG’s travel model server #6 (tms6), which has 16 physical cores or 32 virtual cores due to Intel’s Hyper-Threading Technology, the calculation would be:

$$(32 \text{ virtual cores}) / (8 \text{ cores needed per model run}) = 4 \text{ concurrent model runs (maximum)}$$

However, based on our experience at COG, the actual number of concurrent model runs that you can run on a given computer may be less than the maximum number, depending on factors such as the following:

- The number of users launching the model runs. So, for example, four concurrent runs by one user may not be the same as two runs by two users, even though both cases result in four concurrent runs.
- The version of Cube used. We have used both 6.0.2 and 6.1 SP1. The Ver. 2.3.57 model requires 6.1 SP1 (due to the automated ArcPy walkshed process).
- Whether one runs the automated ArcPy walkshed process. This is turned on by default, but it can also be commented out by the user if the areawalk.txt file is already been developed and exists in the "inputs" folder.
- Whether one introduces a time delay (lag time) between model runs. For example, **two model runs can be launched at exactly the same time**, or the **modeler can choose to offset the two launch times by a certain amount of time**. Thus, "**concurrent**" can mean that all of the runs were started at exactly the same time or that there was some offset between the start times of the model runs.

Based on anecdotal evidence, we have seen cases where we were able to run four concurrent model runs on our latest travel model server (tms6). However, there have also been cases where 2, 3, or 4 model runs were going and one or more of the runs crashed. To investigate this more, we have been conducting a series of "stress tests" to determine 1) the maximum number of concurrent model runs that can be launched on one computer (tms6) and 2) the effect of various variables on this maximum number. Although the stress testing is not yet finished and has not yet been documented in a memo, here are some of the findings to date:

1. Model runs appear to be more stable, when there is only one user involved. That is, when there is only one user launching all of the concurrent model runs, there is a greater probability that all the runs will complete normally without stopping prematurely ("crashing"). Two or more model users can launch multiple model runs concurrently (with or without an offset in the start time), but there is a much greater probability that one of the runs will crash. We are not sure if this was the case with Cube 6.0.2, but it appears to be the case for Cube 6.1 SP1. We are still investigating this issue.
2. Conceivably, Cube Cluster could allow a computer with X (say 32) cores to run multiple concurrent model runs needing Y (say 40) cores, where $Y > X$. However, based on our initial testing, this does not appear to be the case. So, for the Ver. 2.3.57 model, which needs up to 8 cores per run, it appears that the maximum number of concurrent runs is four. We tested five concurrent runs launched by three users, and one or more of the runs crashed. However, we have not yet tested five runs launched by one user.
3. **Whether there are one or multiple users, you should offset the starting time of your model runs by 45 to 60 minutes** for two reasons:

- a. This has been found to be beneficial in past work with the Ver. 2.3.52 model and earlier models.
- b. **This is now essential with the Ver. 2.3.57 model, since it appears that only one ArcPy walkshed process may occur on the same computer at a given time.** It appears that, due to an issue with licensing in ArcGIS or ArcGIS engine runtime, only one geoprocessing task may occur at a time. When two of the automated ArcPy walkshed processes are attempted at the same time, it was found in our tests that one of the two always failed. COG has been communicating with Esri to determine if there is a way to address this issue.

We have discussed the difficulty of running multiple concurrent model runs with Citilabs. Citilabs sent us a fix (an updated Voyager.exe and Tputlib.dll files), but this fix has not seemed to help the issue.

11 Building transit walksheds and calculating zonal walk percentages

11.1 Overview

One of the inputs to the travel demand model is the percentage of each zone that is within walking distance to transit. Conceptually, one develops a series of transit walksheds, which are then combined geographically with zone boundaries to calculate the percentage of each zone that is within walking distance to transit. This procedure creates point buffers around transit stop nodes and then overlays these point buffers with TAZ boundaries. The process is made more complicated by the fact that two walking distances are differentiated: a short walk (0.5 miles) and a long walk (1.0 miles). See Section 21.4.3 (“Market segmentation by access to transit”) beginning on p. 173 for more details.

The model assumes that the area of each TAZ that is within a short-walk or a long-walk to transit is stored in a text file (areawalk.txt). This file is used by the walk access script (walkacc.s) to calculate the zonal walk *percentages*, which are then stored in a second text file (NLWalkPCT.txt).⁶⁵ This second file is then an input to both the transit fare process (prefarv23.s) and the mode choice process.

11.2 Application Details

The Ver. 2.3.57 travel model now includes an automated/integrated transit walkshed process, which was developed by AECOM. The process is automated in the sense that it is run using a Python/ArcPy script, so it does not require manual intervention from the user. The process is integrated in the sense that it is built into the travel model run: It is now the first step in the “run model steps” batch file (“call ArcPy_Walkshed_Process.bat %1”). The new process was developed by AECOM in FY 2014, and is discussed both in AECOM’s FY 2014 report.⁶⁶ Since the process is integrated in the model run stream, the modeler does not have to remember to run it if network changes are made. As noted by AECOM, “ArcPy was chosen as the basis for development because it provides convenient and powerful access to the GIS functionalities in a (Python) programming environment that is transparent and relatively easy to modify.”⁶⁷

Another advantage of the new process is that it does not require one to have/purchase ArcGIS. One needs only to have purchased Cube, which is already a requirement to run the model. To run the new integrated walkshed process, one must have the following:

- One of the following two software packages:
 - ArcGIS, version 10.1: Available for purchase from Esri. Some modelers may already have this software; some may not.
 - ArcGIS engine runtime, version 10.1: Available for free, if you have purchased Cube. All modelers will have purchased Cube (in order to run the model). Cube version 6.1 SP1

⁶⁵ See page A-5 of the modeling flowchart in Appendix A.

⁶⁶ AECOM, *FY 2014 Final Report, COG Contract 12-006: Assistance with Development and Application of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board Travel Demand Model*, chap. 3.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.*, 3–2.

comes with ArcGIS engine runtime 10.1. When one installs Cube, one has two options: “with ArcGIS engine runtime” (e.g., cube610SP1setup.exe) and “without ArcGIS engine runtime (e.g., cube610SP1setupnogis.exe). If you do not have ArcGIS 10.1, you will want to install Cube using the “with ArcGIS engine runtime” option (e.g., cube610SP1setup.exe).

- Python: This is free, open-source software. One way to get it automatically is to install Cube “with ArcGIS engine runtime.” It may also be included when one installs the full version of ArcGIS.

Notes:

1. Cube 6.1 SP1 is compatible with ArcGIS 10.1, but Cube 6.0.2 is not.
2. The areawalk.txt file created in the new automated walkshed process is not always sorted by TAZ number. This was the case with the previous walkshed process also. This does not have an effect on modeled results, but it can make it challenging to compare two areawalk.txt files. For a future model version (2.3.58?), we hope to correct this shortcoming.
3. In testing, if two model runs that incorporate the new transit walkshed process were started at the same time, one of the two runs will stop prematurely in the walkshed process. This is likely due to a license restriction with the ArcGIS runtime engine. Consequently, it is recommended that multiple model runs on the same computer not be launched at exactly the same time. Instead, **it is recommended that the start times be staggered/offset by 45 to 60 minutes.**⁶⁸ Based on a series of recent “stress tests” to see how many concurrent model runs could be completed on one server, it was also found that the 45-60-minute time offset is useful for minimizing the chance of a model run crash (irrespective of whether the new walkshed process is run).

The new walkshed process appears to give identical results to the previous walkshed process, providing the inputs, such as the transit line files, are identical and correctly coded.⁶⁹

The automated ArcPy walkshed process is called by a line in the “run model steps” batch file:

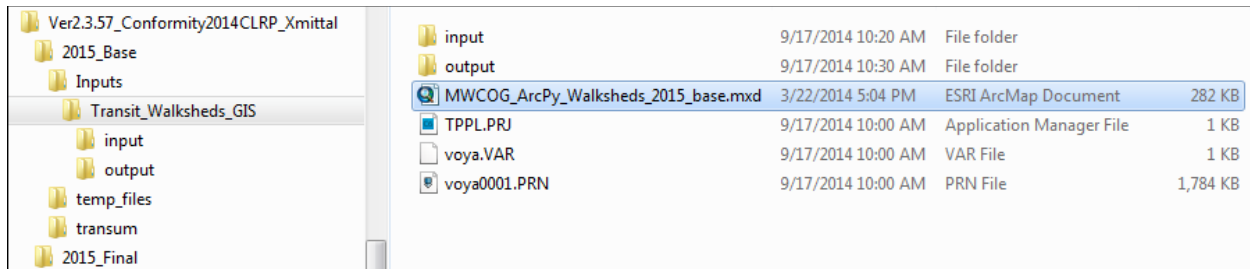
```
call ArcPy_Walkshed_Process.bat %1
```

This is done at the start of the pump-prime (PP) speed feedback loop. Once the walkshed process has been run, there a new folder will be created in the “inputs” folder, named “Transit_Walkshed_GIS,” as shown in Figure 26. Within this folder, one can find an ArcGIS map document file (MWCOG_ArcPy_Walksheds_*.mxd) which can be used to visualize the walkshed buffers, as shown in Figure 27.

⁶⁸ Ibid., 3–8.

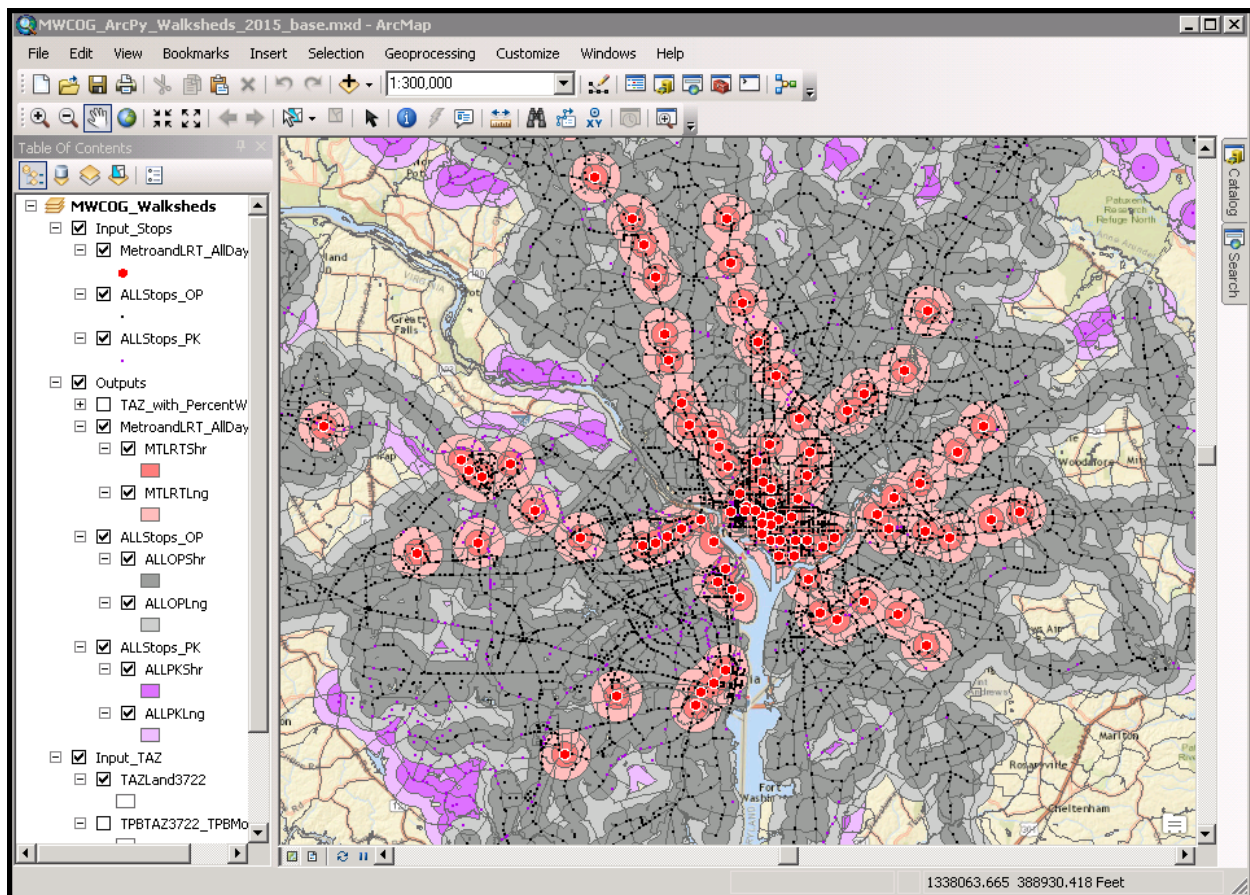
⁶⁹ See page 2-3 of Moran and Ngo to Roden and Patnam, “Comments on Your Cube/ArcPy-Based Transit Walkshed Process and Its Associated Memo Dated March 25, 2013.”

Figure 26 Folder structure for the automated ArcPy walkshed process



Note that the Transit_Walkshed_GIS folder includes two subfolders, “input” and “output”, which should not be confused with the “inputs” folder that is stored within the scenario-specific folder (which, in this case is called 2015_Base). The ArcPy walkshed process creates two files: areawalk.txt and PercentWalk.txt, but only the first file is used by the travel model. If a copy of areawalk.txt already exists in the “inputs” folder, the old copy will be renamed as AreaWalk_Old.txt, before the new areawalk.txt file is created.⁷⁰

Figure 27 Walkshed buffers for 2015_base scenario



⁷⁰ AECOM, FY 2014 Final Report, COG Contract 12-006: Assistance with Development and Application of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board Travel Demand Model, 9–2.

12 Set-Up Programs and Highway Network Building

12.1 Overview

The initial modeling steps of the Version 2.3 model are executed to establish basic modeling parameters to construct a binary (or “built”) highway network. The steps are executed using two batch files:

- SET_CPI.BAT: The batch file calls two Cube Voyager scripts, SET_CPI.S and SET_FACTORS.S
- PP_HIGHWAY_BUILD.BAT: The batch file calls two Cube Voyager scripts, AreaType_File.S and V2.3_Highway_Build.S

The modeling steps included in these two batch files are shown on pages A-2 and A-3 of the flowchart in Appendix A. Set_CPI.s is used to establish deflation factors that are used in subsequent toll-related and transit fare-related steps. Set_Factors.s is used to establish K-Factors used in trip distribution. The Area_Type.s step establishes zonal area type codes based on land activity densities (see Table 27). The resulting area type file is subsequently used in the highway building step, V2.3_Highway_Build.s. These steps are not implemented within the speed feedback loop of the travel model; they are executed only once, in the “pump prime” stage of the travel model. The principal inputs to above modeling steps are listed in Table 18 and detailed in Table 19 through Table 22. The principal outputs are listed in Table 23, and are detailed in Table 24 and Table 25.

Table 18 Inputs to the set-up and highway network building process

CPI schedule and parameter file	\\Inputs\CPI_File.txt	Text
Zonal land use file	\\Inputs\ZONE.DBF	DBF
Node coordinate file	\\Inputs\NODE.DBF	DBF
Zonal area type override file	\\Inputs\AT_override.txt	Text
Link file	\\Inputs\LINK.DBF	DBF
Initial AM and midday hwy. speed lookup files	\\Support\AM_SPD_LKP.TXT, \\Support\MD_SPD_LKP.TXT	Text
Toll parameter file	\\Inputs\Toll_Esc.dbf	DBF

Table 19 Land Use File Format Description (zone.dbf)

File Name	Variable Name	Description
Zone.dbf	TAZ	TAZ (1-3,722)
	HH	Households
	HHPOP	Household Population
	GQPOP	Group Quarters Population
	TOTPOP	Total Population
	TOTEMP	Total Employment
	INDEMP	Industrial Employment
	RETEMP	Retail Employment
	OFFEMP	Office Employment
	OTHEMP	Other Employment
	JURCODE	Jurisdiction Code (0-23)
	LANDAREA	Gross Land Area (in sq. miles)
	HHINCIDX	Ratio of zonal HH median income to regional median HH income in tenths (i.e. 10=0.1) per 2007 ACS
	ADISTTOX	Airline distance to the nearest external station in whole miles.
	TAZCRD	TAZ X-Coordinates (NAD83-based in whole feet)
TAZYCRD	TAZ Y-Coordinates (NAD83-based in whole feet)	

Table 20 Node Coordinate File Format Description (node.dbf)

File Name	Variable Name	Description
Node.dbf	N	Highway Node Number
	X	X - Coordinates (NAD83-based in whole feet)
	Y	Y - Coordinates (NAD83-based in whole feet)

Table 21 Base Highway Link File Format Description (link.dbf)

File Name	Variable Name	Description
Link.dbf	A	A-Node
	B	B_Node
	DISTANCE	Link distance (in 1/100 th s of miles)
	JUR	Jurisdiction Code (0-23) <i>0/dc, 1/mtg, 2/pg, 3/alr/, 4/alx,5, ffx, 6/ldn, 7/pw, 8/(unused), 9/frd, 10/how, 11/aa, 12/chs, 13/(unused), 14/car, 15/cal, 16/stm, 17/kg, 18/fbg, 19/stf, 20/spts, 21/fau, 22/clk, 23/jef</i>
	SCREEN	Screenline Code
	FTYPE	Link Facility Type Code (0-6) <i>0/centroids, 1/Freeways, 2/Major Art., 3/Minor Art, 4/ Collector, 5/ Expressway, 6/ Ramp</i>
	TOLL	Toll Value in current year dollars
	TOLLGRP	Toll Group Code
	AMLANE	AM Peak No. of Lanes
	AMLIMIT	AM Peak Limit Code (0-9)
	PMLANE	PM Peak No. of Lanes

	PMLIMIT	PM Peak Limit Code (0-9)
	OPLANE	Off-Peak No. of Lanes
	OPLIMIT	Off-Peak Limit Code (0-9)
	EDGEID	Geometry network link identifier
	LINKID	Logical network link identifier
	NETWORKYEARLink	Planning year of network link
	SHAPE_LENGLink	Geometry length of network link (in feet)
	PROJECTID	Project identifier
	CODE	Unused (place marker to flag network edits)

Notes:

- The mode choice model requires that all costs be in 2007 dollars.
- Limit Codes are 0,1 = General Use, 2 = HOV2,3+ only, 3 = HOV 3+ Only, 4 = Truck Prohibited, 5 = Non-Airport Vehicles Prohibited, 6-8 = (unused), 9 = "Transit Only" link (links used to depict coded transit routes more accurately, but are below the grain of the zone system; these links are not included in the highway assignment process).

Table 22 Toll Parameter File (Toll_esc.dbf)

File Name	Variable Name	Description
Toll_Esc.dbf	Tollgrp	Toll group code, 1=existing tolled facility, 2=ICC, 3+= VA Hot segments
	Escfac	Deflation factor override
	Dstfac	Distance (per mile) based toll factor in present year cents/dollar (optional)
	AM_Tftr	AM period Toll factor
	PM_Tftr	PM period toll factor
	OP_Tftr	Off-peak period toll factor
	AT_Min	Area Type minimum override (optional)
	AT_Max	Area Type maximum override (optional)
	TollType	<i>Toll Type (1=operating in calibration year, 2= operating after calibration year)</i>

Table 23 Outputs of the set-up and highway network building process

Highway, transit deflator files	Trn_Deflator.txt, Hwy_Deflator.txt	Text
Summary text file of Fare CPI assumptions used	MFARE2_CPI.txt	Text
Zone centroid co-ordinates	TAZ_XYs.dbf	DBF
1-mile floating land use	Floating_LU.dbf	DBF
Area type file	AreaType_File.dbf	DBF
Unloaded/built highway network file	ZONEHWY.NET	Binary
Summary text file of Fare CPI assumptions used	MFARE2_CPI.txt	Text
Zonal K-factors	HBW_K.MAT, HBS_K.MAT, HBO_K.MAT, NHW_K.MAT, NHO_K.MAT	Binary

Table 24 Zonal Area Type File (AreaType_File.dbf)

File Name	Variable Name	Description
AreaType_File.dbf	TAZ	TAZ Number (1-3,722)
	POP_10	One-mile "floating" Population density
	EMP_10	One-mile "floating" Employment density
	AREA_10	One-mile "floating" Area
	POPDEN	One-mile "floating" Population density
	EMPDEN	One-mile "floating" Employment density
	POPCODE	Population density code (1-7)
	EMPCODE	Employment density code (1-7)
	ATYPE	Area Type (1-6)

Table 25 Unloaded binary highway network file (Zonehwy.net)

File Name	VariableName	Description	
zonehwy.net	A	A Node	
	B	B Node	
	DISTANCE	Link Distance in miles (x.xx)	
	SPDC	(Not used)	
	CAPC	(Not used)	
	JUR	Jurisdiction Code (0-23)	
			<i>0/dc, 1/mtg, 2/pg, 3/alr/, 4/alx,5, ffx, 6/ldn, 7/ pw, 8/(unused), 9/ frd, 10/how, 11/aa, 12/chs, 13/(unused), 14/car, 15/cal, 16/stm, 17/ kg, 18/fbg, 19/stf, 20/spts, 21/fau, 22/clk, 23/jef</i>
	SCREEN	Screenline Code (1-38)	
	FTYPE	Link Facility Type Code (0-6)	
			<i>0/centroids, 1/Freeways, 2/Major Art., 3/Minor Art, 4/ Collector, 5/ Expressway, 6/ Ramp</i>
	TOLL	Toll value in current year dollars	
	TOLLGRP	Toll Group Code (1-9999)	
	<Period>LANE	<Period> No. of Lanes	
	<Period>LIMIT	<Period> Limit Code (0-9)	
	EDGEID	Geometry network link identifier	
	LINKID	Logical network link identifier	
	NETWORKYEA	Planning year of network link	
	SHAPE_LEN	Geometry length of network link (in feet)	
	PROJECTID	Project identifier	
	TAZ	TAZ (1-3,722)	
	ATYPE	Area Type (1-6)	
	SPDCCLASS	Speed Class	
	CAPCLASS	Capacity Class	
	DEFLATIONFTR		Deflation factor for converting existing year costs to 2007 costs
	<Period>TOLL	<Period>Toll value in current year cents (if applicable)	
	<Period>TOLL_VP	<Period>Toll of future, variably priced facility only	
	<Period> HTIME	<Period> Highway Time (min)	
	Key		
	<Period>=	AM	AM Peak Period (6:00-9:00 AM)
		MD	Mid Day (9:00 AM - 3:00 PM)
		PM	PM Peak Period (3:00 - 7:00 PM)
	NT	All remaining hours	

12.2 Application Details

The SET_CPI.S script is used to produce deflation factor files (Trn_Deflator.txt and Hwy_Deflator.txt) which are used to convert present-year costs to constant-year (2007) costs. The deflation parameter files are inputs to the V2.3_Highway_Build.s and MFARE2.S scripts. This procedure has been established to ensure that cost deflation for highway tolls and transit fares are treated consistently.

The SET_CPI.S script reads a preexisting look-up table (\INPUTS\CPI_File.txt) containing historical annualized CPI figures published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics beginning with the model calibration year, 2007. The CPI figures are based on the U.S. city average of all urban consumers (100 = 1982-84). An example listing of the file appears in Figure 28.

Figure 28 Consumer price index file (CPI_File.txt)

```

1  ;; ----- Inflation Parameters - per V2.3 Model
2  ;; - RJ Milone - 3/18/2011- CPI data from BLS / All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) US City Avg. / 1982-84=100
3  ;;   ftp://ftp.bls.gov/pub/special.requests/cpi/cpiaai.txt
4
5  InflationFTR      = 1.0           ; Inflation Assumption (DEFAULT IS 1.0)
6  Defl_OverRide    = 0.0           ; Deflation Override (DEFAULT IS 0.0) If Non-zero it is used as deflator
7                                     ; Used as deflator IF NON-ZERO
8  BaseCPIYear      = 2007          ; Base year of the CPI Table
9  CurrCPIYear      = 2010          ; Current year on CPI table below (Most current year for which CPI data is
10 available)
11 ;
12 ;=====
13 ; Establish historic CPI table and Deflation Factor =
14 ;=====
15 ;
16   LOOKUP Name=CPI_Table,
17     LOOKUP[1]   = 1,Result = 2,           ; CPI index (from US BLS)
18     LOOKUP[2]   = 1,Result = 3,           ; Compounded Growth Rate From Base Year
19     LOOKUP[3]   = 1,Result = 4,           ; Deflation Factor
20     Interpolate = N, FAIL=0,0,0,list=Y,
21     ;;
22     ;;          (((YrCPI/BsCPI)^(1/n))-1.0)*100  BsCPI/YrCPI
23     ;;          Annual_Avg.          Historic Deflation
24     ;; YEAR   CPI      Growth_Rate      Factor
25     ;; ----   ----   -----
26     R=' 2007,  207.3,   0.000,          1.00000', ; <--- BaseCPIYear
27         ' 2008,  215.3,   3.859,          0.96284', ;
28         ' 2009,  214.5,   1.722,          0.96643', ;
29         ' 2010,  218.1,   1.707,          0.95048', ; <--- Curr(ent)CPI Year
30         ;
31
32 ; --- end of CPI File -----
33 ; -----

```

Ref: L:\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal\2010_Final\inputs\CPI_File.txt

The script computes a cost deflation factor using the CPI table and the parameters *BaseCPIYear*, *CurrCPIYear*, *InflationFTR* (all specified in the above text file), and **the *_Year_* environment variable specified in the “Run_ModelSteps” batch file**. These parameters are defined as:

- **BaseCPIYear** = the base (or calibration) year of the travel model
- **CurrCPIYear** = the most recent year for which historical CPI data exists (as reflected in the CPI table)

- **_Year_** = the year of the modeled scenario (as defined in the Run_ModelSteps.bat file)
- **InflationFTR** = Factor reflecting special CPI growth assumptions beyond CurrCPIYear that might be considered in scenario testing. For example, a value of 1.0 indicates future cost escalation is assumed to remain constant with the historical rate of inflation; a value of 2.0 would indicate that the future cost escalation is assumed to be twice the historical rate of inflation; a value of 0.5 would indicate that the future cost escalation is assumed to be one half of the historical rate of inflation, etc. The default value is 1.0.

Under default conditions, if the modeled year (*_Year_*) is less than or equal to *CurrCPIYear*, the CPI factor will equal $CPI_{2007} / CPI_{_Year_}$ from values provided in the CPI table. If the modeled year (*_Year_*) is greater than *CurrCPIYear*, the CPI factor will equal $(CPI_{2007} / CPI_{CurrCPIYear})$ from values provided in the CPI table. The user may optionally invoke the *InflationFTR* parameter to arrive at a deflation factor that reflects something other than the “historical inflation rate” assumption. In addition to the output deflation factor files mentioned above, the script also writes a text file (Mfare2_CPI.txt) that lists the input and output parameter values used.

The Set_Factors.s script is used to generate a family of K-factors by modeled trip purpose, to be used subsequently by the trip distribution process. The K-factors are jurisdiction-based and have been formulated during the calibration and validation phase of the model development process. Separate K-factor files are produced by purpose as Cube/Voyager binary matrix files (zone-to-zone). These files are currently stored in the Support folder, though there has been some thought of moving these into the inputs folder to prevent sharing violations when multiple model runs are launched concurrently.

It is useful to understand the basic elements of the highway and transit networks that are reflected in the highway link input file (link.dbf) to the Version 2.3 model. The highway elements are shown in Table 26.

The network includes two types of centroids: a zonal centroid, which represents the geographic center of land activity within a TAZ, and a park-and-ride (PNR) lot centroid (also known as a “station centroid,” “dummy PNR centroid”), which represents PNR lot locations at Metrorail and commuter rail stations. The PNR centroid represents a kiss-and-ride (KNR) drop-off point if no PNR lot exists at a given station. Within the station file (station.dbf), the PNR centroid/station centroid is denoted with the variable name STAC. Each Metrorail station and commuter rail station should have its own unique STAC. The two centroid types are assigned specific numbering ranges. TAZ centroids are numbered 1-3722 and PNR centroids are numbered 5001-7999. The numbering gap between the TAZ and PNR ranges, 3723-5000, are reserved for future TAZ assignments.⁷¹ The two centroid types are employed so that highway level-of-service (LOS) matrices may be built, not only between TAZs, but also between TAZs and PNR lots.

⁷¹ The existing Version 2.3 scripts, inputs, and support files would need to be modified if additional TAZs were added to the highway network.

Highway nodes representing intersections or highway access points from TAZs or PNR lots are assigned a number from the following range: 20000 to 60000. Network links (i.e., centroid connectors and highway links) are assigned facility type ("Ftype") attributes ranging from 0 to 6.

The highway network building process -- i.e., the process for creating a binary highway network file which is used in subsequent modeling steps -- is undertaken with two scripts that are executed in sequence: AreaType_File.s and V2.3_Highway_Build.s (page A-3). The AreaType_File.s script, which reads a preexisting zonal land activity file (Zone.dbf) and a highway node coordinate file (Node.dbf), computes the area type code associated with each TAZ. Area type codes range from 1 to 6 and are based on population and employment density, as detailed in Table 27.

Table 26 Elements of the highway network

Highway Network Element	What It Represents	Node No. Ranges	Notes
Zone centroid	Center of activity for the TAZ; Start and end point for trips	1-3722	3676-3722 allocated as external stations. 3723-5000 reserved for TAZ expansion. Established ranges for each jurisdiction. Some TAZs are unused
Station PNR centroid	Location of the station's park-and-ride lot. Used to develop congested highway times between each TAZ and each PNR lot.	5001-7999*	5001-5999 for Metrorail. 6000-6999 for commuter rail. 7000-7999 for LRT, BRT, and streetcar.
Highway node	Highway intersections or junctions, including where zone centroids connect to the highway network	20000-60000	Established ranges for each jurisdiction.
Zone centroid connectors	Connection from zone centroid to the highway network. One zone centroid connector can represent multiple local roads.		Facility type (FTYPE) = 0
PNR lot connectors	Connection from PNR lot to the highway network		Facility type (FTYPE) = 4
Highway links	Road segments		0 = centroid connectors; 1 = freeways; 2 = major arterials; 3 = minor arterials; 4 = collectors; 5 = expressways; 6 = ramps on freeways and arterials; 9 = transit only;

Notes: * Station PNR centroids (a.k.a. dummy station centroids) are not required for Mode 5 (LRT) or Mode 10 (BRT/streetcar).⁷² For the sake of consistency, the current COG coding practice is to refrain from using station PNR centroids for LRT, BRT, and streetcar. In other words, in the station file, the STAC variable is coded with a value of zero.

The AreaType_File.s script produces three files which are used as inputs to the v2.3_highway_build.s script:

- TAZ_Xys.dbf (zonal coordinates),

⁷² Jain to Milone and Moran, "MWCOG Network Coding Guide for Nested Logit Model (First Draft: September 20, 2007; Updated February 2008 and October 2010)," 6 and 10.

- Floating_LU.dbf (a zonal file containing the area, population, and employment within one mile), and
- Areatype_file.dbf (a zonal file containing the associated area type, in accordance with the land activity file)

Table 27 Area type codes, based on population and employment density

One-Mile "Floating" Population Density (Pop/Sq mi)	One-mile "Floating" Employment Density (Emp/Sq mi)						
	0-100	101-350	351-1,500	1,501-3,550	3,551-13,750	13,751-15,000	15,001+
0-750	6	6	5	3	3	3	2
751-1,500	6	5	5	3	3	3	2
1,501-3,500	6	5	5	3	3	2	2
3,501-6,000	6	4	4	3	2	2	1
6,001-10,000	4	4	4	2	2	2	1
10,000-15,000	4	4	4	2	2	2	1
15,001+	2	2	2	2	2	1	1

The V2.3_Highway_Build.S script reads the zonal area type file, along with a node file, a link attribute file, a zone file, and four parameter files. The parameter files include initial speed and capacity lookup files (AMSpd.lkp, MDSpd.lkp), both arrayed by facility type and area type. The deflation file created by the SET_CPI.s script (Hwy_Deflator.txt) is also read into the highway building script. Finally, a toll parameter/escalation file (Toll_esc.dbf) is also used by the script. The file contains a number of toll-related parameters that are indexed by a tolled facility code (tollgrp) which is included as a link attribute.

The highway building process consists of the following steps:

- 1) Each highway link is evaluated against all TAZ centroids to determine its nearest zone (i.e., the TAZ centroid nearest to the airline mid-point of the link a-node and b-node). The nearest zone is then saved to a temporary link file containing the A-node, B-node, and nearest TAZ.
- 2) The link file, zonal area type file, and link-TAZ (from step 1) are merged to enable the zonal area type of the nearest TAZ to be assigned to each link. The link file contains basic link attributes, including distance, facility code, time-of-day-period-specific (AM, PM, OP) lanes and limit codes, coded tolls, toll group codes, jurisdiction, and screenline codes.
- 3) Toll parameters are merged to each link on the basis of the tollgrp code.

- 4) Speed and capacity classes are next defined as a two-digit integer, where the first digit is the facility type and the second digit is the area type.
- 5) Period-specific tolls (AM, PM, and OP) are computed. The general form of the toll computation is:

$$\langle \text{prd} \rangle \text{Toll} = (\text{Toll} + (\text{DstFac}_t * \text{Distance} * \langle \text{prd} \rangle \text{TFtr}_t)) * (\text{EscFac}_t \text{ if } > 0.0; \text{ Otherwise: Hdefl})$$

Where:

- $\langle \text{prd} \rangle \text{Toll}$ = period-specific toll coded on link in constant year dollars (e.g., Amtoll)
- Toll = link-coded "Toll" link attribute value
- DstFac_t = distance factor (cents/mi) for toll group "t", as specified in Toll_Esc.dbf
- Distance = link-coded distance (miles)
- $\langle \text{prd} \rangle \text{TFtr}_t$ = period-specific factor for toll group "t" as specified in Toll_Esc.dbf
- Hdefl = Default highway deflation factor based on CPI assumptions (Set_CPI.s)
- Esc_Fac_t = Hwy. deflation factor *override* for toll group "t", as specified in Toll_Esc.dbf

- 6) A period-specific toll type code ($\langle \text{prd} \rangle \text{Toll_VP}$) is established to distinguish whether the tolled link existed during the model calibration year or the tolled link is a future, variably priced facility. This information is relevant to subsequent toll skimming.
- 7) Initial AM and OP speeds are assigned, based on facility and area type codes.
- 8) Midday (MD) and Night (NT) attributes are set to off-peak (OP)-related attributes defined above

The binary network file resulting from the highway network building process is named Zonehwy.net. Variables that are included in the zonehwy.net file are described in Table 28.

Table 28 zonehwy.net file Variables description

VariableName	Description
A	A-Node
B	B-Node
DISTANCE	Link Distance in miles (x.xx)
SPDC	Not used
CAPC	Not used
JUR	Jurisdiction Code (0-23) 0/dc, 1/mtg, 2/pg, 3/alr/, 4/alx, 5/ffx, 6/ldn, 7/pw, 8/(unused), 9/frd, 10/how, 11/aa, 12/chs, 13/(unused), 14/car, 15/cal, 16/stm, 17/kg, 18/fbg, 19/stf, 20/spts, 21/fau, 22/clk, 23/jef
SCREEN	Screenline Code (1-38)
FTYPE	Link Facility Type Code (0-6) 0/centroids, 1/Freeways, 2/Major Art., 3/Minor Art, 4/Collector, 5/Expressway, 6/Ramp
TOLL	Toll Value in current year dollars
TOLLGRP	Toll Group Code (1-9999)
$\langle \text{Period} \rangle \text{LANE}$	$\langle \text{Period} \rangle$ No. of Lanes
$\langle \text{Period} \rangle \text{LIMIT}$	$\langle \text{Period} \rangle$ Limit Code (0-9)
EDGEID	Geometry network link identifier

LINKID	Logical network link identifier
NETWORKYEA	Planning year of network link
SHAPE_LENG	Geometry length of network link (in feet)
PROJECTID	Project identifier
TAZ	TAZ (1-3,722)
ATYPE	Area Type (1-6)
SPDCLASS	Speed Class
CAPCLASS	Capacity Class
DEFLATIONFTR	Factor for deflating current year tolls to constant year tolls
<Period>TOLL	<Period> Toll Value in current year dollars
<Period>TOLL_VP	<Period> Toll Value in current year dollars - Variably priced tolled facilities only
<Period> HTIME	<Period> Highway Time - based on initial highway lookup speeds
KEY	
<Period>= AM	AM Peak Period (6:00 AM - 9:00 AM)
MD	Midday (9:00 AM - 3:00 PM)
PM	PM Peak Period (3:00 PM - 7:00 PM)
NT	All remaining hours ("nighttime")

13 Highway Skim File Development

13.1 Overview

Highway skimming begins with path building, the process of building minimum-impedance paths from every TAZ to every other TAZ. After paths have been built, the paths can be “skimmed,” i.e., the paths are traversed and key variables are summed over the paths. The variables that are skimmed include travel times, distances, and tolls. The resultant zone-to-zone sums are saved in one or more skim matrices. The input to the skimming process is usually a loaded network with congested travel speeds, generated from a traffic assignment process. Although traffic assignment is conducted for four time-of-day periods (AM peak period, midday, PM peak period, and nighttime), the travel model is set up to use skims for only two time-of-day periods: a peak period (represented by the AM peak period) and an off-peak period (represented by the midday period). Highway skims in the Version 2.3 model are generated after each traffic assignment step.

Highway skims are generated by time period (AM and Midday), and by highway mode (SOV, HOV 2-occupant, HOV 3+occupant). In addition, truck skims are generated for the midday period only. Mode-specific paths are very important in the Washington, D.C. region, due to special operating restrictions, particularly during the AM peak period.

The TPB's highway skimming is done twice: once to develop zone-to-zone (3722 x 3722) skim matrices and then again to develop zone/PNR lot-to-zone/PNR lot (7999 x 7999) skim matrices. The latter set enables restrained highway speeds and distances to be calculated between zones and PNR lots, thus allowing transit auto-access links to be built. The entire highway skimming process is applied with the scripts named HIGHWAY_SKIMS_AM.S, HIGHWAY_SKIMS_MD.S, MODNET.S, Highway_Skims_mod_am.s, Highway_Skims_mod_md.s,⁷³ JOINSKIMS.S, and Remove_PP_Speed.S. These are invoked with the PP_Highway_Skims.bat file in the initial or pump-prime iteration (see page A-4 of Appendix A) and the Highway_Skims.bat file (see page A-11) in the standard iterations. For analysis years involving HOT lanes, instead of using the Highway_Skims.bat file, the HSR_Highway_Skims.bat (HOV3+ skim replacement) file is used instead (p. A-11). The Remove_PP_Speed.s script is executed in the pump-prime iteration only. The principal inputs and outputs are shown in Table 29 and Table 30, respectively.

⁷³ Prior to build 37, there was one script (Highway_Skims_mod.s), which had a loop covering the two time periods, AM and midday. However, it was found that this script would crash on some hardware configurations, when running Voyager 5.1.3, resulting in the following errors: 1) Voyager.exe, APPCRASH, TPPDLIBX.DLL; and 2) Voyager, APPCRASH, MSVCR90.DLL. The script was then split into two files (Highway_Skims_mod_am.s and Highway_Skims_mod_md.s), which eliminated this problem.

Table 29 Inputs to the highway skim file development

Built highway network file	<ITER>_HWY.NET	Binary
Toll minutes equivalent	support\toll_minutes.txt	Text
AM toll factors by vehicle type	Inputs\AM_Tfac.dbf	DBF
MD toll factors by vehicle type	Inputs\MD_Tfac.dbf	DBF

Note: <ITER> =PP, i1...i4 <Prd>= AM and MD

Table 30 Outputs of the highway skim file development

Total highway skims	<ITER>_SKIMTOT.TXT	Text
Truck skims	<ITER>_MD_TRK.SKM	Binary
SOV skims	<ITER>_<Prd>_SOV.SKM	Binary
HOV2 skims	<ITER>_<Prd>_HOV2.SKM	Binary
HOV3+ skims	<ITER>_<Prd>_HOV3.SKM	Binary
SOV skims (used by mode choice model)	<ITER>_<Prd>_SOV_MC.SKM	Binary
HOV2 skims (used by mode choice model)	<ITER>_<Prd>_HOV2_MC.SKM	Binary
HOV3+ skims (used by mode choice model)	<ITER>_<Prd>_HOV3_MC.SKM	Binary
AM highway skims	<ITER>_HWY_AM.SKM	Binary
Off peak highway skims	<ITER>_HWY_OP.SKM	Binary
Network with added station centroid connectors	<ITER>_HWYMOD.NET	Binary
Walk access links	WalkAcc_Links.dbf	DBF
	<ITER>_<Prd>_SOV_MOD.SKM	Binary
	<ITER>_<Prd>_HOV2_MOD.SKM	Binary
	<ITER>_<Prd>_HOV3_MOD.SKM	Binary
Highway network with PP speeds removed	ZoneHWY.NET	Binary

Note: <ITER> =PP, i1...i4 <Prd>= AM and MD

13.2 Application Details

The highway skimming process is used to develop time, cost, and toll values between origin/destination (i/j) pairs of zones on a minimum-impedance path. The skimming process reads a highway network input file with preexisting restrained speeds. The restrained speeds used in the pump prime (PP) iteration initially are table look-up values based on time period (AM, Off-peak), facility type, and area type. After the PP iteration is completed (i.e., after the PP traffic assignment process is completed), the highway skimming is accomplished using traffic assignment-based link speeds. The generalized impedance for which paths are developed for highway skimming is defined as follows:

Equation 1 Converting tolls into time-equivalent minutes of impedance

$$(\text{Impedance})_v = (\text{Restrained over-the-network time})_v + (\text{Toll-related time})_v$$

or

$$(\text{Impedance})_v = (\text{Restrained over-the-network time})_v + ([\text{Toll cost}]_v \times [\text{Time rate}]_v \times [\text{Vehicle factor}]_{vf})$$

where

$$(\text{Impedance})_v = \text{Restrained over-the-network time}_v + \text{Toll-related Time}_v$$

$$(\text{Restrained over-the-network time})_v$$

= Congested/restrained network travel time (min) for vehicle class "V"

$$[\text{Toll cost}]_v = \text{Tolls (2007 dollars) paid by vehicle class "V", if a tolled facility was used}$$

$$[\text{Time rate}]_v = \text{Time valuation (min/2007 dollar) of toll costs for vehicle class "V"}$$

$$[\text{Vehicle factor}]_{vf} = \text{Vehicle class factor for tolled facility "F"}$$

Note: Vehicle classes are: SOVs, HOV2+occs, HOV3+occs, Commercial Vehicles, Trucks, and airport passenger vehicles.

The assumed time rates are provided by vehicle class and time period in the input file *toll_minutes.txt* (see below). The values shown are derived from average household income levels and information from the 2007/08 HTS. The values should not be altered.

```

;
;
; =====
; = Equivalent Toll Minutes by Time Prd & Vehicle Type           =
; = in minutes per 2007 dollar - rm 1/7/11                       =
; =====
;
;
; AM Peak           Midday           PM Peak           Night
;-----
; SVAMEQM = 2.5     SVMDEQM = 3.0     SVPMEQM = 3.0     SVNTEQM = 3.0 ; <--- SOVs
; H2AMEQM = 1.5     H2MDEQM = 4.0     H2PMEQM = 2.0     H2NTEQM = 4.0 ; <--- HOVs-2 Occ
; H3AMEQM = 1.0     H3MDEQM = 4.0     H3PMEQM = 1.0     H3NTEQM = 4.0 ; <--- HOVs-3+Occ
; CVAMEQM = 2.0     CVMDEQM = 2.0     CVPMEQM = 2.0     CVNTEQM = 2.0 ; <--- Comm Veh
; TKAMEQM = 2.0     TKMDEQM = 2.0     TKPMEQM = 2.0     TKNTEQM = 2.0 ; <--- Trucks
; APAMEQM = 2.0     APMDEQM = 2.0     APPMEQM = 2.0     APNTEQM = 2.0 ; <--- Apaxs

```

The vehicle factors are provided by time period in the inputs files *AM_Tfac.dbf* and *MD_Tfac.dbf*. An example of the *AM_Tfac.dbf* file is shown below. The file is available to allow for the ability to reflect a facility-specific toll policy differential between vehicle classes. The table below specifies the default assumption that tolls do not vary between vehicle classes, except for trucks, which are assumed to pay 2.5 times the toll that an auto would pay.

TOLLGRP	AMSOVTFTR	AMHV2TFTR	AMHV3TFTR	AMCOMTFTR	AMTRKTFTR	AMAPXTFTR
1	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	2.5000	1.0000

Information about the “toll setting” process that is used to estimate reasonable toll values can be found in two recent memos.⁷⁴

The standard zone-to-zone highway skims are developed by the script *Highway_Skim.s*. The script produces skim files pertaining time periods (AM and midday) and mode/path type (SOV, HOV2, HOV3+, and truck). The truck skim file contains one table pertaining to travel time. The SOV and HOV skim files contain three tables: time (min), distance in implied tenths of miles, and tolls (year-2007 cents).

Based on a past analysis of Version 2.2 model forecasts, TPB staff found substantial costs associated with planned variably priced highway facilities (e.g., the Northern Virginia HOT lanes and the ICC) caused counterintuitive mode choice model results. Essentially, the added person trips induced by the HOT lane’s accessibility benefit tended to be allocated among non-SOV modes because of the substantial costs for paying SOVs to use the HOT lane costs. The result was not considered reasonable since the objective of the facility was to attract paying SOVs by selling a travel time benefit. Staff speculated the result may be attributed to the specification of the mode choice model: the “SOV-pay” alternative was not included in the choice set when the model was calibrated (indeed, no such facility has ever operated in the region). It was decided that the potentially extreme costs associated with future-year, variably priced highway facilities should **not** be considered by the mode choice model **as monetary values** in application. **Instead, tolls on variably priced facilities are expressed as equivalent minutes that are added to the highway time.** This approach has been adopted for the Version 2.3 application.

Consequently, two sets of SOV and HOV skim files are created, one in which all toll facility costs are skimmed (e.g., <ITER>_AM_SOV.SKM), and another set in which the toll skims reflect base-year toll facilities only **and the time skims reflect highway times and tolls converted to equivalent time** (<ITER>_AM_SOV_MC.SKM). The former is used as an input to the trip distribution model and the latter is used as an input to mode choice.

The *Joinskims.s* script is used to merge the six skim files used by the mode choice model into two files, <iter>_HWY_AM.skm and <iter>_HWY_MD.skm, which are read directly into the mode choice model.

Modnet.s reads the built highway network file and creates another modified binary network that includes an expanded set of zone centroids, zone centroids (numbered 1 to 3722) and PNR lot centroids (numbered 5001 to 7999). The expanded network is named <iter>_HwyMod.net. *Modnet.s* also generates a list of highway links that are considered as “walk network links” in the development of sidewalk (mode 13) links for the transit network.

The *Highway_Skims_Mod_am.s* and *Highway_Skims_Mod_md.s* scripts read the expanded network and create an expanded set of highway skims dimensioned 7999 by 7999, which includes highway skims between zone centroids as well as between zone and PNR lot pairs. The latter will be used subsequently to create auto access link attributes. As explained in footnote 73, prior to build 37, there was one script

⁷⁴ Jinchul Park to Team B Modelers, “Processes Related to Toll Setting in Version 2.3 Model (draft),” Memorandum, (October 12, 2012); Jinchul Park to Files, “HOT Lane Modeling Process of MWCOG/TPB (Draft),” Memorandum, (October 12, 2012).

(Highway_Skims_mod.s), which had a loop covering the two time periods, AM and midday. However, it was found that this script would crash on some hardware configurations, but not on others. The script was then split into two files (Highway_Skims_mod_am.s and Highway_Skims_mod_md.s), which eliminated this problem.

The Remove_PP_Speed.s script is used to remove the "PP" iteration speed attributes from the highway network. This is necessary in the initial (PP) iteration, when table lookup speeds are to be replaced by traffic assignment speeds in the PP iteration.

14 Auto Driver Trip Development

14.1 Overview

The “auto drivers” step is used to convert daily auto person trip tables by occupant group (1, 2, and 3+) into auto driver trips by occupant group. This step occurs in between the mode choice model and the time-of-day model steps (see pages A-8 and A-14 of Appendix A). The auto driver step uses daily auto person trips estimated by the mode choice model and computes auto driver trips by occupant groups using matrix division. Because the mode choice file output includes only internal-to-internal movements, total external auto person trips produced in the trip distribution step are also used as a basis for developing external auto driver trips by occupant groups. External auto person trips produced by the trip distribution process are not stratified by occupant groups. The auto driver step uses modeled occupant disaggregation curves to develop external auto drivers by occupant groups.

The scripts used are PP_AUTO_DRIVERS.S, invoked by the PP_AutoDrivers.bat file (see page A-8 of Appendix A) and MC_AUTO_DRIVERS.S, invoked by the Auto_Drivers.bat file (see page A-14 of Appendix A). The inputs to this step are shown in Table 31. The outputs are shown in Table 32. The outputs consist of five purpose-specific auto driver files, each containing three tables (one for each occupant group). The output files contain both internal and external auto driver movements.

Note that the PP_AUTO_DRIVERS.S script uses a pre-existing mode choice model output file that resides in the \inputs subdirectory, while the MC_AUTO_DRIVERS.S script reads mode choice model output that is generated within the model execution stream. A pre-existing file must be used in the pump prime iteration in order to provide initial zonal mode choice percentages. TPB staff uses a pre-existing file that is as current and as reasonable for the modeled scenario as possible.

Table 31 Inputs to auto driver trip development

Pre-existing final iteration AEMS mode choice model output modal trip tables	??_NL_MC.MTT	Binary
Pump Prime iteration person trip tables	<iter>_???.PTT	Binary
Current iteration AEMS mode choice model output modal trip tables	??_NL_MC.MTT	Binary

Note: ??? = HBW, HBS, HBO, NHW, and NHO <ITER> =PP, i1...i4

14.2 Application Details

Table 32 Outputs of auto driver trip development

Auto drivers trips by trip purpose (t1= 1-occ. auto drivers, t2= 2-occ. auto drivers, t3 =3+ occ. Auto drivers	<ITER>_??_ADR.MAT	Binary
--	-------------------	--------

Note: ??? = HBW, HBS, HBO, NHW, and NHO <ITER> =PP, i1...i4,

15 Pre-Transit Network Processing

15.1 Overview

Prior to transit network building (shown on page A-5), a series of Cube Voyager scripts is executed to generate special transit-access links that are subsequently folded into the transit network, along with highway links, transit links, and transit lines. The scripts include WALKACC.S (used to develop zonal walk access links), PARKER.S (used to generate PNR lot-to-rail station links), and AUTOACC4.S (used to generate TAZ-to-station links or auto access links). The automated approach for generating these links has greatly streamlined the transit network coding process. All three of these programs were originally developed as stand-alone Fortran programs developed by AECOM Consult. TPB staff converted these three Fortran programs to Cube Voyager scripts to facilitate the implementation of future enhancements.

The inputs used by the above programs are list in Table 33. Specific file descriptions are shown in Table 34 through Table 37. The output files are shown in Table 38.

Table 33 Inputs to pre-transit network processing

Zonal land use file	Zone.dbf	DBF
Station file	Station.dbf	DBF
Highway node file	node.dbf	DBF
Supplemental walk link file	xtrawalk.dbf	DBF
Sidewalk network links	WalkAcc_Links.dbf	DBF
TAZ area that is within walking distance from transit stops	Areawalk.txt**	Text
Station mode-station type-max access dist. Lookup	StaAcc.dbf	DBF
Jurisdiction code- jurisdiction group lookup	Jur.dbf	DBF
List of zones connected to the Pentagon Metrorail station for the purpose of creating long-distance kiss-and-ride (KNR) links, which represent "slugging" or informal, ad-hoc carpooling	Pen.dbf	DBF
TAZ XY co-ordinates	TAZ_xys.dbf	DBF
SOV AM/Off-peak highway time skims file	AM_SOV_MOD.SKM, MD_SOV_MOD.SKM	Binary

** Areawalk.txt contains information needed to calculate zonal percent-walk-to-transit (PWT) values.⁷⁵

⁷⁵ See Yuan, *Walkshed Generator User Guide*, November 16, 2012.

Input File Descriptions and Formats

Table 34 Variables in the transit station file (Station.dbf)

Name	Type	Field Description
SEQNO	N	Sequence Number
MM	C	Mode Code (M=Metrorail, C=Commuter rail, B=Bus, L=Light rail, N=BRT/streetcar)
NCT	N	Access distance code (1, 2, 3, 0, 9, 8) (See Table 35)
STAPARK	C	Does the station have a park-and-ride lot? (Y=yes; blank=no)
STAUSE	C	Is the station in use for the given year? (Y=yes; blank=no)
SNAME	C	Station Name/PNR lot name
STAC	N	Station centroid number (5001-7999), also known as a park-and-ride (PNR) lot centroid or a dummy PNR centroid"
STAZ	N	For the purposes of path building, the TAZ (1-3722) that represents the location of the station PNR lot. Usually the closest TAZ to the PNR lot.
STAT	N	Station Node (8000-8999, 9000-9999, 10000-10999)
STAP	N	Station park-and-ride (PNR) node number (11000-13999)
STAN1	N	Station bus node #1 (used to generate a station-to-bus-node connector)
STAN2	N	Station bus node #2 (used to generate a station-to-bus-node connector)
STAN3	N	Station bus node #3 (used to generate a station-to-bus-node connector)
STAN4	N	Station bus node #4 (used to generate a station-to-bus-node connector)
STAPCAP	N	Parking capacity (number of spaces at the PNR lot)
STAX	N	X coordinate of station/PNR lot (MD State Plane, NAD83, feet)
STAY	N	Y coordinate of station/PNR lot (MD State Plane, NAD83, feet)
STAPKCOST	N	Peak period parking cost (daily cost, cents)
STAOPCOST	N	Off-peak parking cost (hourly cost, cents)
STAPKSHAD	N	Peak-period shadow price (currently not used)
STAOPSHAD	N	Off-peak-period shadow price (currently not used)
FIRSTYR	N	Year of Station/PNR lot Opening (unused by scripts, but used as metadata)
STA_CEND	N	Project ID (Metadata)
	C	Scenario name, or left blank (Metadata)
	C	Comments, if any, regarding the file, since file cannot accept comment lines preceding the data lines

Notes: New variables are shown with bold font. The SEQNO variable does not correspond to the station node (STAT), and, unlike the STAT, cannot be assumed to stay the same over time.

Source: Jain, M. (2010, October). MWCOG network coding guide for Nested Logit Model (First draft: September 20, 2007; Updated February 2008 and October 2010). Memorandum.

The "access distance code," known as NCT in the autoacc4.s script, is a newly added variable in the station file that controls the number, extent, and directionality of PNR/KNR access links generated for each parking lot (in the case of PNR) or each station (in the case of KNR). Table 35 describes the meaning of each of the six access distance codes.

Table 35 Interpretation of transit access distance codes (NCT): Metrorail, light rail, and bus PNR access distance codes and their meaning for the

Acc Dist Code	Interpretation
1	End-of-the-line station (e.g., Shady Grove Metro)
2	Intermediate station (e.g., Rockville Metro)
3	PNR close to a CBD (e.g., Rhode Island Ave. Metro, Fort Totten)
0	Only KNR-access links generated (e.g., Braddock Road, National Airport, Clarendon)
9	Metrorail sta. in use, but no PNR/KNR access (e.g., Dupont Circle, Farragut North, Metro Ctr.)
8	Pentagon Metro Sta., allows for very long KNR links, to represent "slugging" (informal carpool)

The access distance code, along with the transit mode, determines the maximum link distance for the drive-access-to-transit links generated by autoacc4.s for the TPB nested-logit mode choice model. The maximum link distances for PNR are shown in Table 75. Although not shown in the table, the maximum allowed link distance for KNR links is 3 miles. It is also important to note that the KNR links are generated to Metrorail stations, light rail stations, streetcar stops, and bus stops with parking lots, but not commuter rail stations.

Table 36 HBW zonal parking costs/terminal time file (HBWV2a1.dbf)

File Name	Variable Name	Description
HBWV2a1.dbf	TAZ	TAZ (1-3,722)
	PCTWKSH	Percent short walk to transit
	PCTWKLG	Percent long walk to transit
	AREA	in sq. mile

For more information about short walk and long walk to transit, see section 21.4 ("Market segmentation") on page 169.

Table 37 Walk Access Links (WalkAcc_Lnks.dbf)

File Name	Variable Name	Description
WalkAcc_Lnks.dbf	A	A-Node
	B	B_Node
	DISTANCE	Link distance (in 1/100 th s of miles)
	FTYPE	Link Facility Type Code (0-6)
		0/centroids, 1/Freeways, 2/Major Art., 3/Minor Art, 4/ Collector, 5/ Expressway, 6/ Ramp
	TAZ	TAZ (1-3,722)

Table 38 Outputs of pre-transit network processing

Transit support files in inputs subdirectory	met_link.tb, com_link.tb, lrt_link.tb, new_link.tb, met_node.tb, com_node.tb, lrt_node.tb, new_node.tb, bus_pnrn.tb, met_pnrn.tb, com_pnrn.tb, lrt_pnrn.tb, new_pnrn.tb, met_bus.tb, com_bus.tb, lrt_bus.tb, new_bus.tb	Text
Transit network walk link files	sidewalk.asc walkacc.asc support.asc	Text
Percent of TAZ within short/long walk from transit	HBWV2A1.dbf	DBF
	NLWalkPCT.txt	Text
PNR lot to station transfer links	metampnr.tb, comampnr.tb, busampnr.tb, newampnr.tb, lrtampnr.tb, metoppnr.tb, comoppnr.tb, busoppnr.tb, newoppnr.tb, lrtoppnr.tb	Text
Transit access link files	mrpram.asc, mrprop.asc, mrkram.asc, mrkrop.asc, cram.asc, crop.asc, buspram.asc, busprop.asc, buskram.asc, buskrop.asc, lrtam.asc, lrtop.asc, newam.asc, newop.asc, lrtkram.asc, lrtkrop.asc, newkram.asc, newkrop.asc, autoall.asc	Text

15.2 Application Details

It is important to understand the various elements of the Version 2.3 transit network system. The elements are listed in Table 39. The network consists of highway links, transit stops, PNR lots, rail stations, rail links, and transit lines (modes 1-10). The transit network also contains access links relating to zonal access connections including zone-to-transit-stop walking links (mode 16), and zone-to-KNR/PNR auto links (mode 11). The network also includes other walk-related connections such as sidewalk links used in transferring (mode 13), rail station-to-bus stop connections (mode 12), and PNR lot-to-station connections (mode 15). The above scripts are used to develop all of these types of “support” links, with the exception of station-to-bus transfer links which are addressed as part of pre-network development.

The Mode Choice Model chapter of this report addresses the how access links are developed by the WALKACC.S, Parker.S, and the AutoAcc4.S programs.

Table 39 Overview of Version 2.3 Transit Network Elements

Transit Network Element	Description	Numbering	Modes/Notes
Bus stop nodes	Highway nodes that reflect bus stops	20000 - 60000	boarding/alighting locations
PNR lots	Point location representing PNR lot	11001-13999	11001-11999 Metrorail 12001-12999 Commuter rail 13001-13999 LRT/BRT/Streetcar
Station	Point location representing rail stop	8001-10999	8001-8999 Metrorail 9001-9999 Commuter rail 10001-10999 LRT/BRT/New
Rail links	Fixed guideway segments connecting stations (non-highway transit links)	-	Mode 3= Metrorail Mode 4 = Commuter rail Mode 5 = light rail Mode 10= BRT, Streetcar
Walk access links	TAZ -transit stop bike/ pedestrian connections	-	Mode 16= TAZ-to-transit stop node Mode 13= sidewalk links
Auto access links	TAZ-PNR lot driving connections	-	Mode 11
PNR lot-to station links	Walk transfer links from PNR lot to Station	-	Mode=15
Station-to-bus transfer link	Walk transfer links between stations & bus stops		Mode=12
Transit line files	Bus, Rail transit line data (line characteristics, node sequence of route)		Modes 1-10

16 Transit Skim File Development

The transit skimming file process involves the development of 22 sets of level-of-service (LOS) skims corresponding to two time-of-day period (peak and off-peak)⁷⁶ by four sub-mode groups (Bus only, Metrorail only, Bus-Metrorail combination, and commuter rail) by three access mode (walk, PNR, KNR).⁷⁷ As shown on page A-5 of Appendix A, the transit network building and skimming scripts are named TRANSIT_SKIMS_CR.S, TRANSIT_SKIMS_MR.S, TRANSIT_SKIMS_AB.S, TRANSIT_SKIMS_BM.S. These four scripts are launched using two batch files:

- Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat
- Transit_Skim_LineHaul_Parallel.bat

Additionally, transit accessibility summaries are needed to support the vehicle ownership model. The Transit_Accessibility.S script is used for this purpose. The inputs out outputs to transit skimming are shown in Table 40 and Table 41, respectively.

Table 40 Inputs to transit skim file development

Local bus future time degradation factors	Lbus_TimFTRS.ASC	Text
Transit line files	MODE1,MODE2AM,...MODE10AM.TB MODE1,MODE2OP,...MODE10OP.TB	Text
Transit path tracing selection criteria	PATHTRACE.S	Script block
Binary highway network	ZONEHWY.NET	Binary
Transit support files in inputs subdirectory	met_link.tb, com_link.tb, lrt_link.tb, new_link.tb, met_node.tb, com_node.tb, lrt_node.tb, new_node.tb, bus_pnrn.tb, met_pnrn.tb, com_pnrn.tb, lrt_pnrn.tb, new_pnrn.tb, met_bus.tb, com_bus.tb, lrt_bus.tb, new_bus.tb	Text
Transit network walk link files	sidewalk.asc walkacc.asc support.asc	Text
PNR lot to station transfer links	metampnr.tb, comampnr.tb, busampnr.tb, newampnr.tb, lrtampnr.tb, metoppnr.tb, comoppnr.tb, busoppnr.tb, newoppnr.tb, lrtoppnr.tb	Text
Transit access link files	mrpram.asc, mrprop.asc, mrkram.asc, mrkrop.asc, cram.asc, crop.asc, buspram.asc, busprop.asc, buskram.asc, buskrop.asc, lrtam.asc, lrtop.asc, newam.asc, newop.asc, lrtkram.asc, lrtkrop.asc, newkram.asc, newkrop.asc, autoall.asc	Text

⁷⁶ For the calculation of average headways and run times, the peak period is represented by the AM peak hour and the off-peak period is represented by the five-hour midday period.

⁷⁷ This should equal 24 (2x3x4), but KNR access to commuter rail mode is not considered by the mode choice model, and so the total number of required path sets equals 22.

Description of local bus, future time degradation factors: Transit service is represented in the transit network using a series of transit routes, which are stored in transit “line” or “mode” files. There is one set of transit routes for the peak period (represented by AM peak period service) and one set of transit routes for the off-peak period (represented by the midday period). For each of the two time-of-day periods, each transit route has the following:

- Name (such as “WM04AI,” or WMATA bus 4A, inbound),
- Flag indicating whether the route is one way or two way,
- Mode code (e.g., 1 = local bus),
- Average headway (FREQ[1]= 30, which means the bus comes every 30 minutes), and
- Average run time (i.e., the number of minutes from the start of the route to the end of the route, e.g., RUNTIME= 42 min.).

When developing the transit networks for a base year (i.e., a year close to the current year, such as 2010), the average headways and average run times come directly from the published schedules from the transit providers. For a future-year transit network (such as 2040), however, the average headway and run time are unknown, so we use information from the latest published schedule (e.g., 2013). However, simply using the published schedules would likely result in bus speeds that are too fast, since they don't account for the added roadway congestion that is likely to occur in the future -- It is likely that worsening road congestion over time would result in slower bus speeds. In particular, local bus service, which travels on local roads, might be slowed more than express bus service, which makes use of freeways and expressways for all or part of its routes. Thus, it would be good to have a relationship between future road links speeds and bus speeds. Before 2004, the COG/TPB travel model had no such relationship. In 2004, AECOM recommended that COG develop a relationship between link speeds and bus speeds, but cautioned against developing overly sensitive relationships.⁷⁸ For example, if one develops a direct relationship between the link speed and the bus travel times over that link, and if one road link becomes hyper congested, due, say, to excessive traffic or a network coding error, then the bus speed will drop to near zero. Consequently, COG/TPB staff developed a proposed solution that followed what was proposed in the Bruggeman/Woodford memo. The solution was what is known as the local bus, future time degradation factors (Lbus_TimFTRS.ASC), which are used to represent the fact that, as the highway network becomes more congested, there will be a slight degradation in local bus speeds over time. This technique was first used in the Version 2.1/D Travel Model,⁷⁹ and has been retained in the Version 2.2 and 2.3 travel models.

⁷⁸ Jeff Bruggeman and Bill Woodford to Ronald Milone, “Comments on MWCOG Modeling Procedures,” Memorandum, (June 30, 2004).

⁷⁹ Ronald Milone to Files, “Methodology for Linking Future Bus Speeds to Highway Congestion in the Version 2.1/D Model,” Memorandum, (July 14, 2004).

Table 41 Outputs of transit skim file development

Commuter rail skim files	SUPL_<Prd>_<AA>_CR.ASC SUPN_<Prd>_<AA>_CR.DBF TRNL_<Prd>_<AA>_CR.DBF <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_CR.STA <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_CR.SKM <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_CR.TTT	Text DBF DBF Binary Binary Binary
Metrorail support skim files	SUPL_<Prd>_<AA>_MR.ASC SUPN_<Prd>_<AA>_MR.DBF TRNL_<Prd>_<AA>_MR.DBF <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_MR.STA <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_MR.SKM <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_MR.TTT	Text DBF DBF Binary Binary Binary
All Bus support skim files	SUPL_<Prd>_<AA>_AB.ASC SUPN_<Prd>_<AA>_AB.DBF TRNL_<Prd>_<AA>_AB.DBF <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_AB.STA <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_AB.SKM <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_AB.TTT	Text DBF DBF Binary Binary Binary
Bus/Metrorail support skim files	SUPL_<Prd>_<AA>_BM.ASC SUPN_<Prd>_<AA>_BM.DBF TRNL_<Prd>_<AA>_BM.DBF <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_BM.STA <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_BM.SKM <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_BM.TTT	Text DBF DBF Binary Binary Binary
Job accessibility by transit	<ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_[BM MR]_JobAcc.dbf	DBF

Note: <Prd>= AM and OP <AA>= WK, DR, KR <ITER> =PP, i1...i4

Transit accessibility outputs are listed on Table 42.

Table 42 Job accessibility by transit file format description (<ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_[BM|MR]_JobAcc.dbf)

Variable Name	Description
TAZ	TAZ (1-3722)
EMP35	Number of jobs accessible, from a given zone, within 35 minutes travel time
EMP40	Number of jobs accessible, from a given zone, within 40 minutes travel time
EMP45**	Number of jobs accessible, from a given zone, within 45 minutes travel time
EMP50	Number of jobs accessible, from a given zone, within 50 minutes travel time
EMPTOT	Total number of jobs accessible, from a given zone

** Only EMP45 is used from this file.

17 Transit Fare Development

17.1 Overview

Zone-to-zone transit fares are developed for the 22 paths sets described in the transit skimming section (section 16). As shown on page A-12 of Appendix A, the fares are developed using the scripts named Prefarv23.s, Metrorail_Skims.S, Mfare1.s, and Mfare2.s. The inputs to the fare process are shown in Table 43 and the outputs are shown in Table 44. After the fare process is executed, four scripts are used to combine transit skims and fares into consolidated submode files: Assemble_Skims_CR.s, Assemble_Skims_MR.s, Assemble_Skims_AB.s, and Assemble_Skims_BM.s.

Table 43 Inputs to transit fare development

Zonal transit walk percent	Inputs\NLwalkPct.txt	Text
Zonal TAZ-to-bus fare zone equivalence	Inputs\TAZFRZN.ASC	Text
Zonal Area Type file	AreaType_File.dbf	DBF
Zonal land use file	zone.dbf	DBF
Zonal TAZ-Mode choice district equivalency	areadef3722.prn	Text
Metro Station Link File	METLNKM1.TB**	Text
Metro Station XY File	METNODM1.TB**	Text
Metrorail turn penalty file	Inputs\trnpen.dat	Text
MFARE1 A1 (Coordinate) File	MFARE1.A1	Text
Metrorail station discount file	Inputs\MFARE1_STA_DISC.ASC	Text
WMATA tariff parameters	Inputs\tarriff.txt	Text
Transit fare deflation factor file	Trn_deflator.txt	Text
	<ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_CR.STA <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_CR.SKM <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_MR.STA <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_MR.SKM <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_AB.STA <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_AB.SKM <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_BM.STA <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_BM.SKM	Binary
	<ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_CR.FAR <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_MR.FAR <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_AB.FAR <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_BM.FAR	
Peak / Off-Peak MFARE2 Bus Fare Matrix	Inputs\busfaram.asc Inputs\busfarop.asc	Text
Peak /Off-Peak MFARE2 A2 File	FARE_A2.ASC	Text

Notes: <Prd>= AM and OP <AA>= WK, DR, KR <ITER> =PP, i1...i4

** These two files are originally in the Inputs folder, and then are copied to the Output folder in Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat

Table 44 Outputs of transit fare development

Summary of watershed area and watershed percentage	Prepare_MC_Zfile.txt	Text
Output Zone file for the NL mode choice model	ZONEV2.A2F	Text
A "complete" A2 file for the MFARE2.S	Fare_a2.asc	
Metrorail distance skims	RLDIST.SKM	Binary
Metrorail station to station fares	AM_Metrorail_Fares.TXT OP_Metrorail_Fares.TXT	Text
Zonal fares	<ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_CR.FAR <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_CR.FR5 <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_CR.TXT <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_MR.FAR <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_MR.FR5 <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_MR.TXT <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_AB.FAR <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_AB.FR5 <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_AB.TXT <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_BM.FAR <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_BM.FR5 <ITER>_<Prd>_<AA>_BM.TXT	
Combined time and fare commuter rail skims	<ITER>_TRNAM_CR.SKM <ITER>_TRNOP_CR.SKM	Binary
Combined time and fare Metrorail skims	<ITER>_TRNAM_MR.SKM <ITER>_TRNOP_MR.SKM	Binary
Combined time and fare all bus skims	<ITER>_TRNAM_AB.SKM <ITER>_TRNOP_AB.SKM	Binary
Combined time and fare bus/Metrorail skims	<ITER>_TRNAM_BM.SKM <ITER>_TRNOP_BM.SKM	Binary

Table 45 TAZ / Bus Fare Zone Equivalency File Format Description (TAZFRZN.ASC)

Columns	Format	Field Description
<i>Zonal data (All lines in the file)</i>		
1-8	I4	TAZ Number (1-3,675) and Metrorail Station No. (1-150)
9-16	I4	1 st Bus fare zone 1 (currently numbered 1 to 21)
17-24	I4	2 nd Bus fare zone 2 (currently numbered 1 to 21)
<i>Station data (first 150 lines of the file only)</i>		
41-48	I4	1 st Bus Fare Zone (currently numbered 1 to 21)
49-56	I4	2 nd Bus Fare Zone (currently numbered 1 to 21)
57-64	I8	Jurisdiction code
65-72	I8	P discount
73-80	I8	A discount

17.2 Application Details

The purpose of transit fare process is to develop a zonal matrix containing total transit costs as expressed in 2007 cents. The core components of the transit fare process are two scripts: MFARE1.S which develops Metrorail station-to-station fares and MFARE2.S which develops zone-to-zone transit fares using the MFARE1.S output. Twenty-two fare matrices are developed sub-mode, time period, and access type, specifically:

- Four sub-modes (Bus Only Metrorail only, Metrorail/ Bus, and Commuter Rail) by;
- Two time periods (AM, off-peak), by;
- Three access types (Walk, PNR, and KNR)

Since commuter rail access is distinguished by walk and auto access only, 22 matrices are developed (instead of 24 which is implied above).

The fare process is executed with a batch file named TRANSIT_FARE.BAT. The batch file calls four scripts that are used to formulate the zone-to-zone transit fares for each market:

- PrefarV23.S: This script reads a zonal transit walk area file (NLWalkPct.txt) which includes walk areas pertaining to Metrorail stations only. It also reads an equivalency file (TAZFRZN.ASC) that equates TAZs to bus fare zones and Metrorail station numbers to bus fare zones. The program essentially merges the Metrorail walk percent information into the zonal equivalency file. The resulting file is named fare_a2.asc. This file is called by the MFARE2.S script and is needed for the zonal transit fare calculation. This script is also used to develop the zonal parking costs that are input into the mode choice model.
- Metrorail_Skims.S: This script reads a Metrorail link and node file, and then develops Metrorail station-to-station distance skims. The file is need for the Metrorail station-to-station fare calculation.

- MFARE1.S: This script calculates the Metrorail station-to-station fares for AM and off-peak periods. The script reads in a fare parameter file that is consistent with WMATA's Metrorail fare policy (tariff.txt), station coordinates (MFARE1.A1), and a station discount file (MFARE1_STA_DISC.ASC). The script writes two text files containing Metrorail fares: AM_Metrorail_Fares.txt and OP_Metrorail_Fares.txt.
- MFARE2.S: This script calculates the total transit fare between TAZs for AM and off-peak periods. The script reads in several files:
 - the Metrorail station-to-station fares developed by MFARE1.s,
 - tariff.txt (transit fare policy parameters contain rail-to-bus discounts)
 - TRN_Deflator.txt (the transit deflation factor)
 - Fare_a2.asc (file containing zonal walk percentages to Metrorail stations)
 - BUSFAREAM/OP.ASC: AM and off-peak bus and commuter rail fares between bus fare policy zones. TPB currently uses 21 bus fare zones for the region. While most TAZs fall into a single bus policy zone, the fare calculation also accounts for the possibility that a single TAZ may be straddle 2 bus policy zones
 - Zonal skim files containing Metrorail on/off stations (*.STA) and in-vehicle travel times by transit mode (*.SKM). A set of transit skims must exist for each of the 22 transit paths.

The transit fare files are written to 22 binary file (*.FAR) each containing 1 table (total transit fare in 2007 cents). The batch file calls four additional scripts (Assemble_Skims.??S) which are used to consolidate the 22 binary fare files into 4 files associated with each sub-mode. The consolidated files are subsequently used as inputs to the mode choice model.

The fare construction process between zonal pairs essentially consists of blending the Metrorail station-to-station fares with the bus zone-to-bus zone fares. The consideration of Metrorail fares is dependent upon individual path characteristics, i.e., whether or not the Metrorail in-vehicle time is greater than zero. If the path is not Metrorail-related then the fare is developed from the bus fare matrix input. If the path is Metrorail-related then the transit fare is based on the Metrorail station-to station fare (from MFARE1), bus access and/or egress fares developed from the bus fare matrix, zonal Metrorail walk potential, and the Rail-to-Bus policy discount. The MFARE2 computation may be explained as a series of discrete conditions.

Condition 1: Non-Metrorail related path / Single bus fare zone origin to Single bus fare destination zone

Transit fare = Bus Fare(bi1/bj1)

Condition 2: Non-Metrorail related path / Single bus fare zone origin to Double bus fare destination zone:

Transit fare = [(Bus Fare(bi1/bj1) + Bus Fare(bi1/bj2)) / 2.0

Condition 3: Non-Metrorail related path / Double bus fare zone origin to Double bus fare destination zone

Transit fare = [(Bus Fare(bi1/bj1) + Bus Fare(b i1/bj2) + (Bus Fare(b i2/bj1) + Bus Fare(b i2/bj2))] / 4.0

Condition 4: Metrorail related paths

Transit Fare = (Bus Access fare * (1.0-Origin Metrorail walk Pct.)) + Metrorail fare(si/sj) +
(Bus Egress fare * (1.0-Destin. Metrorail walk Pct.))

Bus Access Fare Single bus fare zone to single Metrorail bus fare zone =
Bus Fare(bi1/mi1) – 0.5 Rail-Bus Discount

Bus Access Fare Single bus fare zone to double Metrorail bus fare zone =
[Bus Fare(bi1/mi1) + Bus Fare(bi1/mi1)]/2.0 – 0.5 Rail-Bus Discount

Bus Access Fare Double bus fare zone to double Metrorail bus fare zone =
[Bus Fare(bi1/mi1) + Bus Fare(bi1/mi2) + Bus Fare(bi2/mi1) + Bus Fare(bi2/mi2)]/4.0 – 0.5 Rail-Bus
Discount

Bus egress fares are calculated in the same way that bus access fares are calculated. A fare discount is applied to the fare calculation before it is written out to the binary output.

18 Demographic Submodels

Demographic submodels are applied within the Trip_Generation.bat batch file using the Demo_Models.s Cube Voyager script (see page A-6 of Appendix A). This script applies the three demographic submodels that are run prior to trip generation: household size, household income, and vehicle availability (see Chapter 3 of the calibration report for more details). The inputs to the model are zonal land use data (zone.dbf), data about area types (areaType_File.dbf), and information about the accessibility to jobs via transit. The zone.dbf file contains zonal households, population, jurisdiction code, and income index, as well as the household size and household income submodels (in the form of lookup tables). The households in each TAZ are then allocated to a household size group (1, 2, 3, or 4+) and an income group (<50K, 50K-100K, 100K-150K, or 150+K).

Next, the Demo_Models.s reads in the number of jobs accessible by AM Metrorail and Bus/Metrorail service within 45 minutes for each TAZ (see Table 42). This information along with household size, household income, area type, and the DC dummy variable are used to allocate households to the four vehicle ownership categories (0, 1, 2, or 3+).

Then, a file is produced, for each of the four income levels, which contains the number of households by household size and vehicle availability. These files are later used in trip generation. Lastly, the script accumulates the households by area type and prints out the following summaries located in the <ITER>_Demo_Models.txt:

- Regional Households by Size and Income Summary
- Jurisdictional Households by Size
- Jurisdictional Households by Income
- Regional Households by Vehicles Available and Size Summary
- Regional Households by Vehicles Available and Income Summary
- Jurisdictional Households by Vehicles Available
- Estimated Households By Size Level by Area Type
- Estimated Households By Income Level by Area Type
- Estimated Households By Vehicle Availability Level by Area Type

Process inputs and outputs are shown in Table 46 and Table 47.

Table 46 Inputs to the Demographic Models

Zonal Land Use File	Inputs\zone.dbf	DBF
Zonal Area Type File	AreaType_File.dbf	DBF
Transit Accessibility File (Metrorail only and Bus & Metrorail service)	<ITER>_AM_WK_MR_JOBACC.dbf <ITER>_AM_DR_MR_JOBACC.dbf <ITER>_AM_WK_BM_JOBACC.dbf <ITER>_AM_DR_BM_JOBACC.dbf	DBF

Note: <ITER> =PP, i1...i4

Table 47 Outputs of the Demographic Models

Zonal HHs of Income Level 1, Stratified by Size and Vehicle Avail.	HHI1_SV.txt	Text
Zonal HHs of Income Level 2, Stratified by Size and Vehicle Avail.	HHI2_SV.txt	Text
Zonal HHs of Income Level 3, Stratified by Size and Vehicle Avail.	HHI3_SV.txt	Text
Zonal HHs of Income Level 4, Stratified by Size and Vehicle Avail.	HHI4_SV.txt	Text
Interim Output: Zonal Households stratified by Income Level, household Size, and vehicle available (64 cross-classes)	<iter> _Demo_Models_HHbyISV.dbf	DBF

19 Trip Generation

19.1 Control/Support File(s):

TRIP_GENERATION.S, TRIP_GENERATION_Summary.S, Truck_Com_Trip_Generation.s

19.2 Application Details:

Trip generation is executed within the Trip_Generation.bat batch file using three Cube Voyager scripts: Trip_Generation.s, Trip_Generation_Summary.s, and Truck_Com_Trip_Generation.s (as shown on page A-6 of Appendix A). The inputs to the Trip_Generation.bat batch file are shown in Table 48.

Table 48 Inputs to trip generation

Zonal land use file	zone.dbf	DBF
Zonal Area Type File	AreaType_File.dbf	DBF
Zonal Households stratified by Income Level, household Size, & vehicles available	<iter>_Demo_Models_HHbyISV.dbf	DBF
Zonal GIS variable file	GIS_variables.dbf	DBF
Trip production rates	weighted_trip_rates.dbf	DBF
External Production and Attraction File	Ext_PsAs.dbf	DBF
Non-motorized trip production share model coefficients	NMPrates.dbf	DBF
Non-motorized trips Attraction share model coefficients	NMArates.dbf	DBF
Trip attraction rates	AttrRates.dbf	DBF
HB income shares	HBINCRAT.dbf	DBF
Consolidated zonal land use file	TripGen_LUFile.dbf	DBF
Truck and commercial vehicles trip rates	support\truck_com_trip_rates.dbf	DBF
Zonal access verification file	Skimtot<ITER>.txt	Text
	JurCore.dbf	DBF

The Trip_Generation.s script calculates zonal trip productions and attractions. The Trip_Generation_Summary.s summarizes the demographic information and the trip ends by jurisdiction. The Truck_Com_Trip_Generation.s produces trip ends for commercial vehicles and trucks.

The Trip_Generation.s script begins by reading the zonal land use (Zone.dbf); the area type file (AreaType_File.dbf); external trip productions and attractions (EXT_PsAs.dbf, described in Table 49); zonal households stratified by income, size, and vehicles available (<iter>_Demo_Models_HHbyISV.dbf); zonal walkability factors (GIS_variables.dbf); trip production rates (weighted_trip_rates.dbf); non-motorized production model coefficients (NMPrates.dbf); non-motorized attraction model coefficients (NMArates.dbf); trip attraction model coefficients (AttrRates.dbf); and income shares for home-based trips (HBINCRAT.dbf).

The zonal GIS variable file (GIS_variables.dbf) contains a number of built-environment variables that describe the walkability of an area, such as the number of three-way intersections per TAZ, the number of cul de sacs per TAZ, the number of street blocks per TAZ, and the number of Census blocks per TAZ. Although the GIS file contains a number of variables, the trip generation process uses only one: **the**

number of street blocks per TAZ (“BLOCKS”).⁸⁰ Since these built-environment variables are intended to deal with issues of walkability, it is best to use a detailed street network when calculating these metrics (as opposed to simply using the highway network itself, which is quite coarse). In our case, we used NAVTEQ’s NAVSTREETS Street Data⁸¹ (for which COG pays a license fee) and the work was performed in 2010 by COG/TPB staff.⁸² A block is defined as a 2-dimensional area (polygon) that is completely enclosed by a series of NAVTEQ street segments. Prior to forming blocks, the following segments were removed from the NAVTEQ street network:

- Street segments with no name (ST_NAME=blank), since these are not actually street segments;
- “Major highways” (NAVTEQ functional class [FUNC_CLASS] equal to 1 or 2).⁸³
- Ramps (RAMP = Y)

Figure 29 shows an example of the seven blocks that are contained within TAZ 283 (Union Station), as defined by NAVTEQ street segments (omitting major highways and ramps, as discussed above).

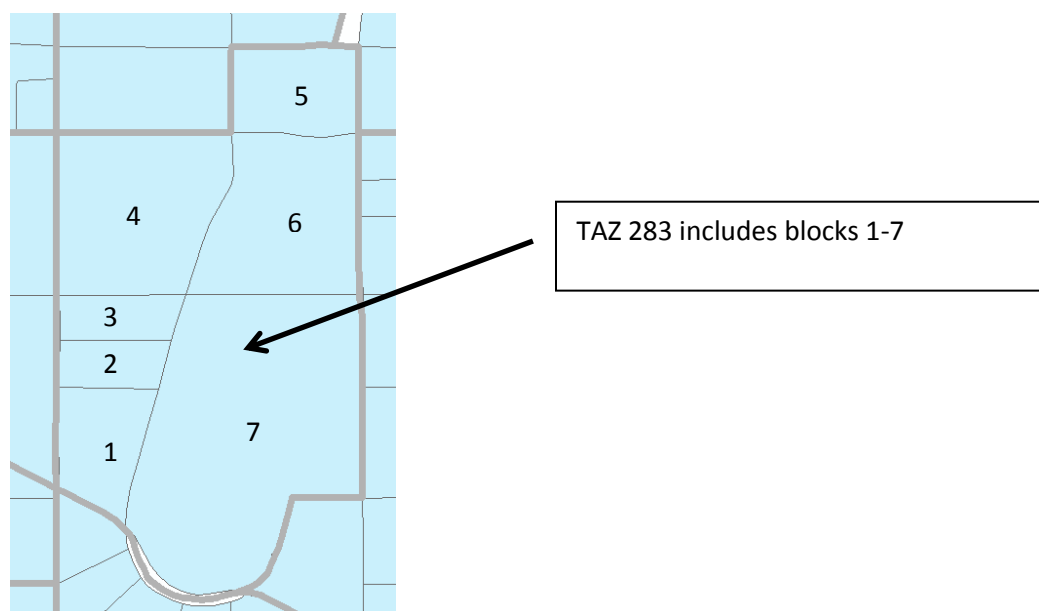


Figure 29 Example of seven NAVTEQ street blocks within TAZ 283 (Union Station)

In the trip generation script (Trip_Generation.s), the number of blocks per TAZ is then converted to a density measure, specifically the floating 0.5-mile block density for each TAZ (BLOCKS05, lines 180-215 of Trip_Generation.s). In the travel model, it is assumed that the block density has an effect on non-motorized trip productions and attractions **only for area types 1 and 2** (See, for example, Tables 27-29

⁸⁰ It has been found that areas with a higher density of street blocks are more walkable.

⁸¹ NAVTEQ, *NAVTEQ's NAVSTREETS Street Data, Reference Manual v3.2*, Proprietary and Confidential (Chicago, Illinois: NAVTEQ, April 1, 2009).

⁸² Mary Martchouk to Mark S. Moran, “Developing GIS Walkability Measures,” Memorandum, (June 2, 2010), 6–7.

⁸³ NAVTEQ, *NAVTEQ's NAVSTREETS Street Data, Reference Manual v3.2*, p. 4-5.

of the calibration report for non-motorized productions and Tables 30-32 for non-motorized attractions, where the floating 0.5-mile block density is called BLKDEN05).⁸⁴

It is assumed that the model user will rarely change the value of BLOCKS (or its derivative, BLKDEN05) when running the model (i.e., the modeler will freeze the base-year levels of block density). This is analogous to the way that household income distributions are generally frozen in the model. The exception to this rule is if the modeler believes that the street network in an area will become denser or sparser, then the modeler can make appropriate manual adjustments to the zonal BLOCK variable.

The trip generation process also reads external trip ends from a file that is developed exogenously. The data items are shown in Table 49.

The Trip_Generation.S script writes out an intermediate dBase file containing land activity, one-mile "floating" land use density, one-half mile "floating" block density, and jurisdictional and area type codes. The file is a consolidation of input data from various zone files and derived variables. The specific data elements are shown on Table 50.

Note that, in the file Ext_PsAs.dbf (Table 49), the last two variables are medium truck external-internal (X-I) trip ends (MTK_XI) and heavy truck external-internal (X-I) trip ends (HTK_XI), but there are no corresponding variables for the internal-external movements (e.g., MTK_IX and HTK_IX). This is because it is assumed that the two movements (XI and IX) are the same.

Table 49 External Production and Attraction File (Ext_PsAs.dbf)

Variable	Description
TAZ	External station no. (3676-3722)
FACILITY	Facility route no./name
AAWT_CTL	Average annual weekday traffic count (observed or forecasted)
CNTFTR	(unused)
AUTO_XI	Auto driver external-internal (X-I) trip ends
AUTO_IX	Auto driver internal-external (I-X) trip ends
AUTO_XX	Auto driver through (X-X) trip ends
CV_XX	Commercial vehicle through (X-X) trip ends
HBW_XI	HBW external-internal (X-I) trip ends
HBS_XI	HBS external-internal (X-I) trip ends
HBO_XI	HBO external-internal (X-I) trip ends
NHB_XI	NHB external-internal (X-I) trip ends
CV_XI	Commercial vehicle external-internal (X-I) trip ends
HBW_IX	HBW internal-external (I-X) trip ends
HBS_IX	HBS internal-external (I-X) trip ends
HBO_IX	HBO internal-external (I-X) trip ends

⁸⁴ Milone et al., *Calibration Report for the TPB Travel Forecasting Model, Version 2.3*, 4-17 to 4-20.

NHB_IX	NHB internal-external (I-X) trip ends
CV_IX	Commercial vehicle internal-external (I-X) trip ends
TRCK_XX	Truck through (X-X) tip ends (medium and heavy truck)
TRCK_XI	Truck external-internal (X-I) trip ends (medium and heavy truck)
TRCK_IX	Truck internal-external (I-X) trip ends (medium and heavy truck)
MTK_XI	Medium truck external-internal (X-I) trip ends
HTK_XI	Heavy truck external-internal (X-I) trip ends

Source: Milone, R. (2011, July 1). Version 2.3 Exogenous Trip Files. Memorandum.

The one-mile floating density is then calculated for population and employment and a half-mile floating density is calculated for street blocks. These are saved in an intermediate file named TripGen_LUFile.dbf (Table 50). Then, the script calculates zonal trip productions based on demographic data and applies the non-motorized production model to the results. Motorized internal trips productions are then obtained by subtracting the estimated non-motorized trips. The output production file data items are shown on Table 51.

Table 50 Consolidated Zonal Land Use File

File Name	Variable Name	Description
TripGen_LUFile.dbf	TAZ	TAZ Number (1-3,722)
	HH	Number of house holds
	TOTPOP	Total Population
	TOTEMP	Total employment
	RETEMP	Retail employment
	NRETEMP	Non-retail employment
	OFFEMP	Office employment
	OTHEMP	Other employment
	INDEMP	Industrial employment
	HHPOP	House hold population
	GQPOP	Group quarter population
	LANDAREA	Land area (sq. mi.)
	POP_10	Number of population within one "floating" mile
	EMP_10	Number of employment within one "floating" mile
	AREA_10	Zonal Area within one "floating" mile
	POPDEN10	Population density within one "floating" mile
	EMPDEN10	Employment density within one "floating" mile
	ADISTTOX	Distance to the nearest external station
	BLOCKS05	Blocks within 0.5 mile "floating" blocks
	AREA05	Area within 0.5 mile "floating" blocks
	BLOCKDEN05	Block density within 0.5 mile "floating" blocks
	JURCODE	Jurisdiction code (0-23)
	ATYPE	Area Type (1-6)

Table 51 Computed zonal trip productions file (<iter>_Trip_Gen_Productions_Comp.dbf)

Variable Name	Description
TAZ	TAZ Number (1-3,722)
HBW_MTR_PS	Home-Based-Work motorized person trip productions
HBW_NMT_PS	Home-Based-Work non-motorized person trip productions
HBW_ALL_PS	Home-Based-Work motorized and non-motorized person trip productions
HBWMTRP_I1	Home-Based-Work non-motorized person trip productions, Income level 1
HBWMTRP_I2	Home-Based-Work non-motorized person trip productions, Income level 2
HBWMTRP_I3	Home-Based-Work non-motorized person trip productions, Income level 3
HBWMTRP_I4	Home-Based-Work non-motorized person trip productions, Income level 4
HBS_MTR_PS	Home-Based-Shop motorized person trip productions
HBS_NMT_PS	Home-Based-Shop non-motorized person trip productions
HBS_ALL_PS	Home-Based-Shop motorized and non-motorized person trip productions
HBSMTRP_I1	Home-Based-Shop non-motorized person trip productions, Income level 1
HBSMTRP_I2	Home-Based-Shop non-motorized person trip productions, Income level 2
HBSMTRP_I3	Home-Based-Shop non-motorized person trip productions, Income level 3
HBSMTRP_I4	Home-Based-Shop non-motorized person trip productions, Income level 4
HBO_MTR_PS	Home-Based-Other motorized person trip productions
HBO_NMT_PS	Home-Based-Other non-motorized person trip productions
HBO_ALL_PS	Home-Based-Other motorized and non-motorized person trip productions
HBOMTRP_I1	Home-Based-Other non-motorized person trip productions, Income level 1
HBOMTRP_I2	Home-Based-Other non-motorized person trip productions, Income level 2
HBOMTRP_I3	Home-Based-Other non-motorized person trip productions, Income level 3
HBOMTRP_I4	Home-Based-Other non-motorized person trip productions, Income level 4
NHW_MTR_PS	Non-Home-Based Work-Related motorized person trip productions
NHW_NMT_PS	Non-Home-Based Work-Related non-motorized person trip productions
NHW_ALL_PS	Non-Home-Based Work-Related motorized & non-motorized person trip productions
NHO_MTR_PS	Non-Home-Based Non-Work-Related motorized person trip productions
NHO_NMT_PS	Non-Home-Based Non-Work-Related non-motorized person trip productions
NHO_ALL_PS	Non-Home-Based Non-Work-Related motorized & non-motorized person trip productions

Next, the zonal trip attractions are calculated by applying the attraction trip models to the land use file. Non-motorized trip attractions are then determined and subtracted from the total trip attractions. Similar to productions, attractions are multiplied by an adjustment factor (Appendix A of the Calibration Report) and disaggregated by income level. The computed trip attractions are then written out to <ITER>_Trip_Gen_Attractions_Comp.dbf file. The final trip attractions are saved in the <ITER>_Trip_Gen_Attractions_Final.dbf described in Table 52.

Table 52 Computed zone trip attractions file (<iter>_Trip_Gen_Attractions_Comp.dbf)

Variable Name	Description
TAZ	TAZ Number (1-3,722)
HBW_MTR_AS	Home-Based-Work motorized person trip Attractions
HBW_NMT_AS	Home-Based-Work non-motorized person trip Attractions
HBW_ALL_AS	Home-Based-Work motorized and non-motorized person trip Attractions
HBWMTRA_I1	Home-Based-Work motorized person trip Attractions, Income level 1
HBWMTRA_I2	Home-Based-Work motorized person trip Attractions, Income level 2
HBWMTRA_I3	Home-Based-Work motorized person trip Attractions, Income level 3
HBWMTRA_I4	Home-Based-Work motorized person trip Attractions, Income level 4
HBS_MTR_AS	Home-Based-Shop motorized person trip Attractions
HBS_NMT_AS	Home-Based-Shop non-motorized person trip Attractions
HBS_ALL_AS	Home-Based-Shop motorized and non-motorized person trip Attractions
HBSMTRA_I1	Home-Based-Shop motorized person trip Attractions, Income level 1
HBSMTRA_I2	Home-Based-Shop motorized person trip Attractions, Income level 2
HBSMTRA_I3	Home-Based-Shop motorized person trip Attractions, Income level 3
HBSMTRA_I4	Home-Based-Shop motorized person trip Attractions, Income level 4
HBO_MTR_AS	Home-Based-Other motorized person trip Attractions
HBO_NMT_AS	Home-Based-Other non-motorized person trip Attractions
HBO_ALL_AS	Home-Based-Other motorized and non-motorized person trip Attractions
HBOMTRA_I1	Home-Based-Other motorized person trip Attractions, Income level 1
HBOMTRA_I2	Home-Based-Other motorized person trip Attractions, Income level 2
HBOMTRA_I3	Home-Based-Other motorized person trip Attractions, Income level 3
HBOMTRA_I4	Home-Based-Other motorized person trip Attractions, Income level 4
NHW_MTR_AS	Non-Home-Based Work-Related motorized person trip Attractions
NHW_NMT_AS	Non-Home-Based Work-Related non-motorized person trip Attractions
NHW_ALL_AS	Non-Home-Based Work-Related motorized & non-motorized person trip Attractions
NHO_MTR_AS	Non-Home-Based Non-Work-Related motorized person trip Attractions
NHO_NMT_AS	Non-Home-Based Non-Work-Related non-motorized person trip Attractions
NHO_ALL_AS	Non-Home-Based Non-Work-Related motorized & non-motorized person trip Attractions

The Trip_Generation_Summary.s creates a summary text file, <ITER>_Trip_Generation_Summary.txt, which includes the following tables:

- Land Activity by Jurisdiction
- Land Activity by Area Type
- Motorized Trip Productions by Purpose and Jurisdiction
- Motorized Trip Productions per Household by Purpose and Jurisdiction
- Motorized Trip Productions by Purpose and Area Type
- Non-Motorized Trip Productions by Purpose and Jurisdiction
- Non-Motorized Trip Productions by Purpose and Area Type

- Home-Based Motorized Trip Productions by Purpose, Income, and Jurisdiction
- Home-Based Motorized Trip Productions by Purpose, Income, and Area Type
- Motorized Trip Attractions by Purpose and Jurisdiction
- Motorized Trip Attractions per Job by Purpose and Jurisdiction
- Motorized Trip Attractions by Purpose and Area Type
- Non-Motorized Trip Attractions by Purpose and Jurisdiction
- Non-Motorized Trip Attractions by Purpose and Area Type
- Home-Based Motorized Trip Attractions by Purpose, Income, and Jurisdiction
- Home-Based Motorized Trip Attractions by Purpose, Income, and Area Type

The Truck_Com_Trip_Generation.s script reads in the zonal land use file (Zone.dbf), the area type file (AreaType_File.dbf), external trip productions and attractions (EXT_PsAs.dbf), demographic model outputs (%_iter_%_Demo_Models_HHbyISV.dbf), truck and commercial trip model coefficients (truck_com_trip_rates.dbf), and the zonal access verification file (Skimtot<ITER>.txt). For the list of inputs, see Table 48. The script then uses the truck and commercial trip model coefficients and the land use data to calculate medium and heavy truck and commercial vehicle zonal trips. After an adjustment factor is applied, these are written out to a ComVeh_Truck_Ends_<ITER>.dbf file described in Table 53.

Table 53 Truck and commercial vehicles trip ends (<iter>_ComVeh_Truck_Ends.dbf)

Variable Name	Description
TAZ	TAZ number (1-3722)
COMM_VEH	Commercial vehicle trip ends
MED_TRUCK	Medium truck trip ends
HVY_TRUCK	Heavy truck trip ends
ICOMM_VEH	Commercial vehicle trip ends (internal only)
IMED_TRUCK	Medium truck trip ends (internal only)
IHVY_TRUCK	Heavy truck trip ends (internal only)

The script also generates a summary text file- <ITER>_Truck_Com_Trip_Generation.txt, which includes the following tables:

- Regional Total Truck and Commercial Trip-Ends
- Truck and Commercial Vehicle Internal Trip Totals by Area Type
- Truck and Commercial Vehicle Internal Trip Totals by Jurisdiction

The trip generation process is currently applied to produce computed trip productions and computed (un-scaled) attractions by trip purpose. The computed productions and attractions are provided explicitly as motorized and non-motorized. The Home-Based motorized Ps and As are further stratified by income level. In prior trip generation versions, an Internal to External production share model was employed to extract the external travel component of total trip productions (of I-X trips). The extraction was necessary because external trip ends are prepared exogenously based on projected traffic counts. The potential problem with an I-X extraction model is that there is no guarantee that the model would

yield I-X productions already developed exogenously at the external station level. It was ultimately decided that the approach for treating external trips in the generation and distribution process, and the approach for trip attraction scaling would be modified to ensure that I-X trips would be better preserved.

The modified process now involves the following Trip Generation and Trip distribution steps:

1. Trip_Generation.S: Computed trip productions and computed trip attractions are developed by purpose and mode (motorized and non-motorized). Trip attraction scaling is not undertaken.
2. Prepare_Ext_Auto_Ends.S, Prepare_Ext_ComTruck_Ends.S: External trip-ends (Ps and As) are prepared
3. Trip_Distribution_External.s: External trip-ends are distributed, resulting in external trip tables, by purpose
4. Prepare_Internal_Ends.s: Final internal trip-ends are computed as follows:
 - External trip ends (I-X) trips and (X-I) trips-ends are summarized by purpose from the external trip matrices developed in Step 3
 - The zonal I-X trip ends are subtracted from the motorized trip productions computed in Step 1. This results in final motorized productions. Non-motorized productions are unaffected.
 - Scaling factors for internal trip attractions are computed by purpose. The factor is⁸⁵

$$\text{IntAttrScaleFtr} = (\text{"Final" Intl P's} + \text{Extl. P's} - \text{Extl. A's}) / \text{Intl. "Computed" A's}$$

The above factor is applied to both motorized and non-motorized trip attractions

5. Trip_Distribution_Internal.s: The final internal P's and balanced A's are run through trip distribution. The resulting internal trips are combined with the external trips developed in step three.

While this process is slightly more complicated than the prior approach it better ensures that external trips developed exogenously are preserved through the trip distribution stage.

⁸⁵ This equation was developed by Bill Mann.

20 Trip Distribution

20.1 Overview

The trip distribution process (shown on page A-7 of Appendix A) is invoked by the Trip_Distribution.bat file. The input and output files are listed in Table 54 and Table 55. As stated in the calibration report, the gravity model is doubly-constrained for all five trip purposes.

The trip distribution process entails five Cube Voyager steps that involve two separate trip distribution procedures: one to distribute external auto person trips by purpose, and another to distribute internal motorized person trips by purpose. As explained in the trip generation chapter, this dual distribution procedure enables external trips (I-X) trips to be more precisely preserved at the station level compared to the prior trip generation/distribution approach.

Table 54 Inputs to trip distribution

Item	Filename	Format
Computed zonal motorized trip productions	<iter>_Trip_Gen_Productions_Comp.dbf	dBase
Computed zonal motorized trip attractions (un-scaled)	<iter>_Trip_Gen_Attractions_Comp.dbf	dBase
Computed zonal commercial, truck trip ends (Ps,As)	<iter>_ComVeh_Truck_Ends.dbf	dBase
AM highway skims	<Prelter>_AM_SOV.SKM	Binary
OP highway skims	<Prelter>_OP_SOV.SKM	Binary
AM Walk Access Metrorail-only total travel time	<iter>_AM_WK_MR.ttt	Binary
AM Drive Access Metrorail-only total travel time	<iter>_AM_DR_MR.ttt	Binary
OP Walk Access Metrorail-only total travel time	<iter>_OP_WK_MR.ttt	Binary
OP Drive Access Metrorail-only total travel time	<iter>_OP_DR_MR.ttt	Binary
Toll-time equiv. file (by Income/purpose)	Equiv_Toll_Min_by_Inc.s	Text
K-Factor matrices	HBW_K.mat, HBS_k.mat,...,NHO_k.mat	binary
Friction factors	Ver23_F_Factors.dbf	dBase

Note: <ITER> =PP, i1...i4

Table 55 Outputs of trip distribution

Item	Filename	Format
HBW Motorized Psn. Trips (internal & external)	<iter>_HBW.PTT	Binary
HBS Motorized Psn. Trips (internal & external)	<iter>_HBS.PTT	Binary
HBO Motorized Psn. Trips (internal & external)	<iter>_HBO.PTT	Binary
NHW Motorized Psn. Trips (internal & external)	<iter>_NHW.PTT	Binary
NHO Motorized Psn. Trips (internal & external)	<iter>_NHO.PTT	Binary
Commercial Vehicle Trips (internal & external)	<iter>_Commer.PTT	Binary

Medium Truck Trips (internal & external)	<iter>_MTruck.PTT	Binary
Heavy Truck Trips (internal & external)	<iter>_HTruck.PTT	Binary
HBW Motorized Psn. Trips (internal only)	<iter>_HBW_NL.PTT	Binary
HBS Motorized Psn. Trips (internal only)	<iter>_HBS_NL.PTT	Binary
HBO Motorized Psn. Trips (internal only)	<iter>_HBO_NL.PTT	Binary
NHW Motorized Psn. Trips (internal only)	<iter>_NHW_NL.PTT	Binary
NHO Motorized Psn. Trips (internal only)	<iter>_NHO_NL.PTT	Binary

20.2 Application Details

The Trip Distribution process is executed with the batch file named, Trip_Distribution.bat. Five Cube Voyager scripts are used to carry out the process.

The first two scripts, Prepare_Ext_Auto_Ends.S and Prepare_Ext_ComTruck_Ends.S read the computed zonal Productions and Attraction resulting trip generation and prepares trip ends that are suitable for applying trip distributing for external Ps and As only.

The Trip_Distribution_External.s script executes the distribution of external trip-ends, resulting in external trip tables, by purpose. The script also calculates zonal impedances that are used in both the distribution of external and internal trips.

The trip distribution process uses different LOS impedances measures, depending on trip purpose. Work (HBW) trips are distributed using AM peak travel impedances while midday (MD) impedances are used for all remaining purposes.

The script first prepares zonal highway terminal times, which are based on the zonal area type. The terminal times, which represent the time needed to park and un-park a vehicle, range from 1 minute in the least developed areas to 5 minutes for highly developed areas. The terminal times are then added to the over-the-network highway travel time skims. Next, composite impedance tables are developed combining transit time and highway times, based on the formula shown in Equation 2:

Equation 2 Composite time

$$CT_i = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{HT + TollT_i} + \frac{P_i}{TT}}$$

where

CT_i = Composite time for income level i

HT = Congested highway time (minutes), including terminal time

$TollT_i$ = Time equivalent (minutes) of tolls associated with the minimum-time path for income i

P_i = Regional transit share of income i for the trip purpose

TT = Metrorail-related transit time (min.), including in-vehicle and out-of-veh. time components

The basis of the $TollT_i$ term calculation is specified in Table 56. The table indicates the average time valuation, in minutes, per year-2007 dollar, that is assigned to a toll value by income level and trip type. The table indicates, for example, that a \$1.00 toll equates to 8.7 minutes of travel time for a traveler in income level 1. More generally, the table indicates that travelers commuting to work are less sensitive to tolls than non-work-bound travelers because the time valuation of commuters is relatively high. The table also reflects the intuitive generalization that lower income travelers are more sensitive to tolls than the higher income travelers.

Table 56 Time Valuation (Minutes/2007\$) by Purpose and Income Level

HH Income Quartile Range (1)	Assumed Mid-Point of HH Inc. Range	Hourly Rate per Worker (2)	2007 Time Valuation (Minutes per Dollar)	
			Work Trips (75% V.O.T.)	Non-work (50% V.O.T.)
\$ 0 - \$ 50,000	\$25,000	\$9.23	8.7	13.0
\$ 50,000 - \$ 100,000	\$75,000	\$27.70	2.9	4.3
\$100,000 - \$150,000	\$125,000	\$46.17	1.7	2.6
\$150,000 +	\$175,000	\$64.64	1.2	1.9

Notes:

(1) Income groups based on 2007 ACS-based quartiles

(2) Hourly rate based on 1,920 annual hours/worker * 1.41 workers/HH = 2,707 hrs/HH

(3) Median 2007 annual HH income for the TPB modeled area is \$84,280

Prepare_Internal_Ends.s reads the external trip tables created above, and summarizes the trip-ends from those trip tables. It also reads the internal trip-ends from the trip generation process. The script subtracts I-X trips from the total computed trip productions (by purpose), to arrive at "final" internal trip productions. An internal trip attraction trip scaling factor is next computed. The factor is computed by purpose as:

$$IntAttrScaleFtr = ("Final" Intl Ps + Extl. Ps - Extl. As) / Intl. "Computed" As$$

The internal Ps and As in the above equation includes both motorized and non-motorized trips. A summary of the initial and final/scaled trip-ends is provided in a small text file named `<iter>_Prepare_Internal_Ends.txt`.

Trip_Distribution_Internal.S: The final internal Ps and scaled As are run through trip distribution. The resulting internal trips are combined with the external trips developed above. The trip distribution process produces complete (internal and external) trip tables by purpose and produces internal-to-internal (I-I) trip tables which will be inputs to the mode choice model later in the model stream. A

complete set of jurisdictional trip tables by purpose is reported in a text file named <iter>_Trip_Distribution_Internal.tab.

21 Mode Choice

21.1 Travel modes represented in the mode choice model

The mode choice model in the Version 2.3 Travel Model includes 15 choices as shown in Figure 30 and described in Chapter 6 of the Calibration Report. The model includes three auto modes (drive alone, shared ride 2 person, and shared ride 3+ person) and four transit modes (commuter rail, all bus, all Metrorail, and combined bus/Metrorail). The four transit modes are stratified by three modes of access to transit (park and ride [PNR]; kiss and ride [KNR or “ride to transit”]; and walk). As discussed in the calibration report, the definition of high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) trips has changed, compared to the definition that was used in the Version 2.2 Travel Model. Previously, HOV trips coming out of the mode choice model referred to *only those that use HOV facilities for a substantial portion of their trip*. Similarly, in previous models, the definition of low-occupancy vehicle (LOV) included both drive-alone and carpools (provided the carpools did not use a preferential HOV facility). By contrast, in the Version 2.3 NLMC model, the term LOV refers to only the drive-alone trips. Similarly, HOV refers to all shared-ride 2 (2-person carpools) and shared-ride 3 (3+ person carpools), irrespective of whether they use an HOV facility or not.

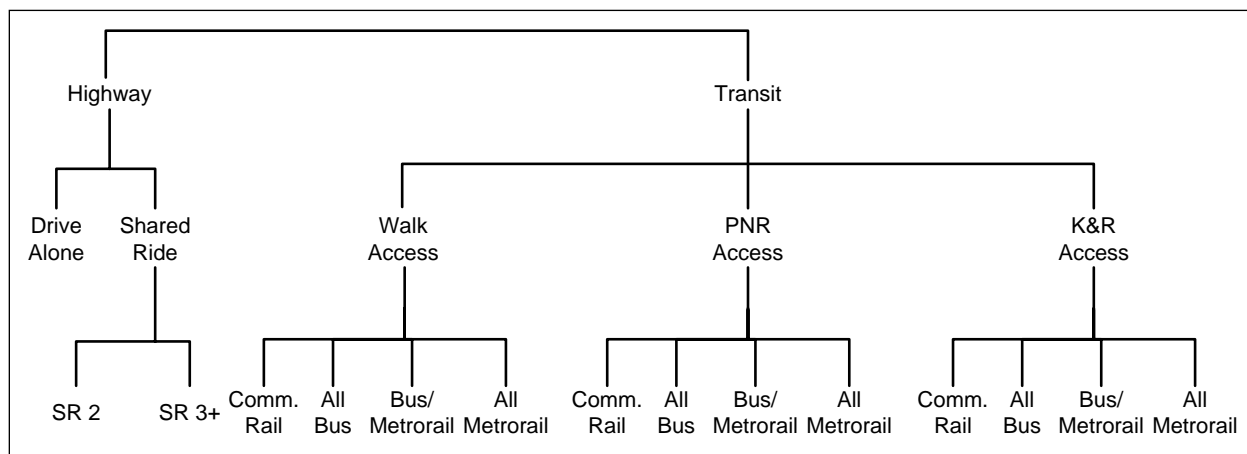


Figure 30 Nesting structure of the nested-logit mode choice model in the Version 2.3 travel model

Ref: "I:\ateam\nest_log\NestedChoice_Struct4.vsd"

21.1.1 Treatment of LRT, BRT, and streetcar

Note that the nesting structure of the TPB Version 2.3 NLMC model does not include branches for specialized transit modes, such as light-rail transit (LRT), bus rapid transit (BRT), and streetcar. From this, one might conclude that the mode choice model is not designed to deal with these special transit modes. In fact, the model is designed to deal with these special transit modes. This section of the report discusses how these modes are treated in both the mode choice model and the transit path skimming process that feeds the mode choice model. This is the scheme that was developed by AECOM in 2004-2005 and has been retained by TPB staff. One of the underlying assumptions is that “premium” transit modes (e.g., Metrorail, commuter rail, LRT, BRT, and streetcar) will typically travel faster than buses, since they have one or more of these characteristics:

- A dedicated right-of-way, at least for part, if not all, of the route
- Traffic signal priority
- Superior acceleration/deceleration (compared to buses)

21.1.1.1 Network representation: LRT, BRT, and streetcar

In terms of network representation, LRT is typically coded as “mode 5.” BRT and streetcar are coded as “mode 10,” referred to in some parts of the model as the “new” mode. The thought is that LRT will travel mainly on its own grade-separated right-of-way (ROW), where it does not have to interact with road traffic. By contrast, it is assumed that streetcar will travel mostly in mixed traffic, i.e., it will share its at-grade right-of-way with road traffic. It is believed that AECOM chose to include BRT with streetcar, since although BRT will often include some grade-separated rights-of-way for the trunk-line portion of the route, the beginning and ending of the BRT route are likely to be in mixed traffic, making it more similar to the streetcar.

In cases where a travel demand modeler is coding a new transit line representing a “premium” transit mode,⁸⁶ the modeler must add “transit-only” links to the transit network to represent the new service, since the line requires a dedicated ROW which is not part of the highway network. In the past, one would have added these transit-only links to the rail link file (rail_link.bse). However, with the advent of TPB staff using an ESRI geodatabase to manage the highway and transit networks, the rail_link.bse file no longer exists. For a modeler working at COG, one should add transit-only links directly into the highway/transit network geodatabase. For a modeler working external to COG (who will not have access to the COGTools ArcGIS add-in for managing the geodatabase), one should modify the text *.tb files that are output from the create_support_files.s Cube Voyager script.⁸⁷

The “station file” (station.dbf) contains information about transit stations in the modeled area. More formally, the station file contains information about Metrorail stations, commuter rail stations, light rail stations, bus rapid transit stations/stops, streetcar stations/stops, express-bus bus stops, and park-and-ride (PNR) lots that serve these stations/stops. One must add Mode 5 and Mode 10 station nodes to the station file using a mode code of “L” for LRT/Mode 5 and “N” for New/BRT/streetcar/Mode 10. Mode 5 and 10 stations do not require a station centroid number,⁸⁸ though the designated node number ranges in recent network documentation has designated the following range (7000-7999).⁸⁹ In cases where Mode 10 routes share a street segment with local bus and where one would like the Mode 10 routes to be “combined” in terms of TP+/Voyager computing effective headways, the station node numbers of the Mode 10 routes should be the same as those used for the bus stops on the link(s) of interest.

⁸⁶ Such as Metrorail (Mode 3), commuter rail (Mode 4), LRT (Mode 5), and BRT/streetcar (Mode 10).

⁸⁷ Meseret Seifu to Files, “Creating a station file,” Memorandum, July 11, 2011.

⁸⁸ Jain to Milone and Moran, “MWCOG Network Coding Guide for Nested Logit Model (First Draft: September 20, 2007; Updated February 2008 and October 2010),” 6.

⁸⁹ Robert Snead et al., *FY-2010 Network Documentation: Highway and Transit Network Development: DRAFT* (Washington, D.C.: National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, June 30, 2010), 86.

21.1.1.2 Transit path building and skimming, mode choice, and transit assignment: LRT, BRT, and streetcar

In transit path building and skimming, mode choice, and transit assignment, the following two rules apply:⁹⁰

Mode 5 is treated like Metrorail (Mode 3)

Mode 10 is treated like local bus (Mode 1)

21.1.1.3 Fares: LRT, BRT, and streetcar

Fares for Mode 5 and Mode 10 are computed like those for local bus (Mode 1).

21.1.1.4 Inclusion of LRT, BRT, and streetcar trips in trip tables

Following the mode choice step, the output trip table files (*.MTT) each contain 14 tables, as shown in Table 61. Any table that lists "MR" (Metrorail) actually includes both Metrorail and LRT, since Mode 5 [LRT] is treated like Metrorail (Mode 3) in transit path building/skimming, mode choice and transit assignment. Similarly, any table that lists "BU" (Bus) actually includes both bus and BRT/streetcar. The only way to get the actual breakout of the estimated level of LRT or BRT/streetcar travel is to look at the transit assignment results (keeping in mind that, although we assign all transit trips, we validated only Metrorail trips, and, at the current time, these are validated only to station groups, not to individual stations). So, after transit assignment, one is able to see how many trips/boardings/alightings occurred on a given LRT line, but, since we do not validate results at the LRT line level, model users are recommended to use caution when using these numbers.

21.1.2 Other issues relating to travel modes

Table 57 list the ten transit modes that are handled by the Version 2.3 mode choice model and lists the mode code used in the station file (station.dbf), which is an input to the parker.s script that is part of the transit_skim_all_modes.bat batch file (see 16). Note that the consolidated station file does not include bus stops, except for bus stops that have their own PNR lot (generally express bus service). Transit routes are represented in Cube Voyager's TRNBUILD module using the LINE command, which is usually placed in a *.LIN file or, using COG/TPB convention, in a MODE*.TB file (a "mode" file).

Table 57 Transit sub-modes represented in the Version 2.3 travel model

Mode #	Transit sub-mode	Mode code in station file
1	Local Metrobus	(not represented in the sta. file)
2	Express Metrobus	B
3	Metrorail	M
4	Commuter rail	C
5	Light rail transit (LRT)	L

⁹⁰ Jain to Milone and Moran, "MWCOG Network Coding Guide for Nested Logit Model (First Draft: September 20, 2007; Updated February 2008 and October 2010)," 10.

6	Other local bus in the WMATA service area	(not represented in the sta. file)
7	Other express bus in the WMATA service area	B
8	Other local bus beyond the WMATA service area	(not represented in the sta. file)
9	Other express bus beyond the WMATA service area	B
10	Bus rapid transit (BRT) and street car	N (for "New" mode)

In addition, there are five non-transit modes that are used to access transit and make transfers to, from, and between transit services. These are detailed in Table 58.

Table 58 Transit Access and Transfer Links

Mode #	Link Type
11	Drive access, for both PNR and KNR (from the zone centroid to a transit stop node)
12	Walk transfer link (between transit services or to/from transit station)
13	Sidewalk link
14	Unused
15	Walk transfer link between PNR lot and transit station
16	Walk access (from the zone centroid to a transit stop node)

All the modes described in Table 57 and Table 58 can be used in the path-building process (see 16). If no prohibitions are imposed, path building assumes that transfers between all modes are possible. For example, a person could theoretically access Metrorail by driving (mode 11) to the station, use Metrorail (mode 3), and egress Metrorail by driving (mode 11) as well. When trips are in production-attraction format, as is the case for transit path-building and mode choice, a person cannot egress from a station and take a car. To prevent the foregoing behavior in the model, some limitations with regard to transfers need to be imposed. These are described in Table 59. The mode interchanges where transfers are prohibited are denoted by "Y".

Table 59 Transfer Prohibitions (No Transfer or NOX)

From Mode	To Mode															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	Y	Y	n	Y	n	n	n	Y	n
2	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	Y	Y	n	Y	n	n	n	Y	n
3	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	Y	Y	n	Y	n	n	n	Y	n
4	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	Y	Y	n	Y	n	n	n	Y	n
5	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	Y	Y	n	Y	n	n	n	Y	n
6	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	Y	Y	n	Y	n	n	n	Y	n
7	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	Y	Y	n	Y	n	n	n	Y	n
8	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	Y	n	n	n	Y	n
9	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	Y	n	n	n	Y	n
10	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	Y	Y	n	Y	n	n	n	Y	n
11	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	Y	Y	n	Y	n	n
12	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	Y	Y	n	n	Y	n
13	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	Y	n	n	n	Y	n
14	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	Y	n	n	n	Y	n
15	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
16	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	Y	n	n	n	Y	Y

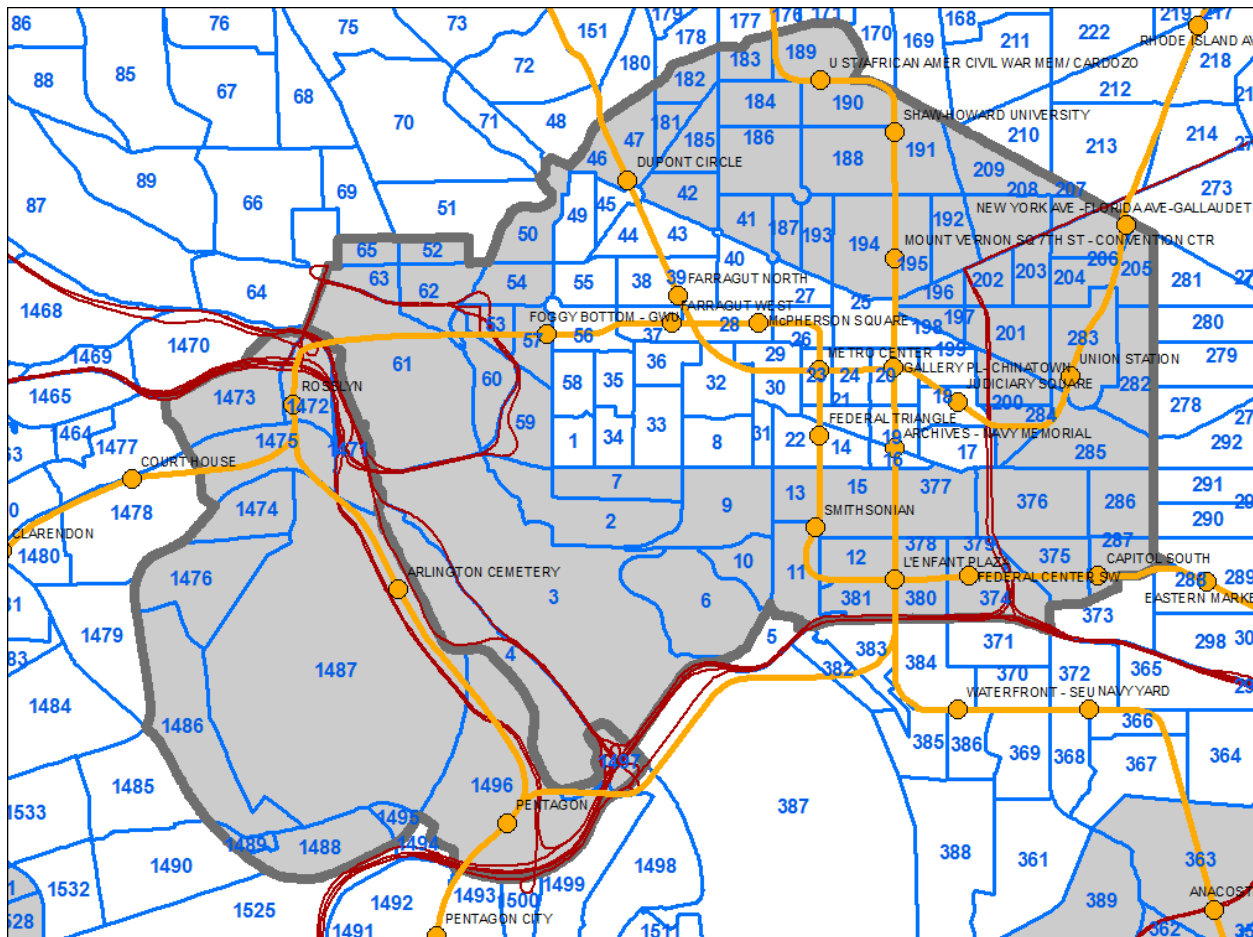
21.2 Transit constraint through the regional core

The transit constraint through the regional core, or simply the “transit constraint,” is a technical adjustment to the trip tables coming out of the mode choice process designed to reflect a WMATA policy assumption that, during peak periods, the Metrorail system may have insufficient capacity to handle all the demand traveling to and through the regional core. Typically, it is assumed that the Metrorail system will be able to handle all of the peak-period demand to and through the regional core in the near term, but, since demand is growing through time, the system might not be able to handle all the peak-period demand at some future time, depending on the amount of growth in demand and the number of rail cars available in a given year. The assumed year at which the Metrorail system will be at its peak capacity during the peak periods to and through the regional core is known as the “binding year.” For years beyond the binding year, it is assumed that any growth in peak-period Metrorail demand to and through the regional core will be forced to switch to other travel modes (specifically, auto person trips). The transit constraint was initiated by WMATA in 2000 to address funding shortfalls restricting the expansion of the rail fleet.⁹¹ WMATA policy sets the binding year, which is currently set at 2020. This means that, for any forecast year past 2020, the transit constraint is applied, i.e., forecasted peak-period Metrorail trips to and through the regional core are shifted to other travel modes

⁹¹ Ronald Milone, “TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model on the 3,722-TAZ area system: Status report” (presented at the September 23, 2011 meeting of the Travel Forecasting Subcommittee of the Technical Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, held at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Washington, D.C., September 23, 2011).

(specifically, auto person trips). The regional core is defined as the set of Metrorail stations in the central employment area, i.e., the portion of the system bounded by Dupont Circle, U Street, New York Avenue (NOMA), Capital South, L'Enfant Plaza, Pentagon, Arlington Cemetery, and Rosslyn stations. This area is also sometimes referred to by technical audiences as "Ring 0" and "Ring 1." In Figure 31, Ring 0 is shown as the white area shaped like a trapezoid in the center of downtown Washington, D.C. Ring 1 is shown as the gray area surrounding Ring 0. The two areas together comprise the regional core. Note that non-Metrorail-related transit trips and off-peak Metrorail trips are not affected by the transit constraint process.

Figure 31 Ring 0 (white trapezoid) and Ring 1 (gray polygon), which form the "core" area used in the transit constraint through the regional core



Ref: I:\ateam\gis\taz\taz_2191_3722.mxd

The transit constraint is applied in the following way (assuming that 2020 is the binding year). Model runs representing the binding year and years prior to the binding year are conducted in the normal fashion, i.e., using the **mode_choice.bat** batch file (see page A-13 of Appendix A). Model runs representing any year following the binding year, e.g., 2030, are conducted using the **mode_choice_tc_v23.bat** batch file (see page A-13 of Appendix A), as follows:

Peak 2020 Metrorail trips to and through the core are estimated using a time-of-day model.

Peak 2030 Metrorail trips to and through the core are estimated using a time-of-day model.
 Peak 2030 Metrorail trips to and through the core are adjusted (downward) to match 2020 ridership levels.

The “excess” 2030 Metrorail trips that cannot be accommodated are converted to auto person trips
 The constraint process occurs for each speed feedback iteration (“i1” through “i4”).

Thus, the mode choice model is executed normally with the mode_choice.bat batch file, which invokes the following:

Mode choice model application program (AEMS.EXE);
 Jurisdictional summary script (MC_NL_Summary.s);

By contrast, the mode choice model and transit constraint process are executed using the mode_choice_tc_v23.bat batch file, which invokes the following:

Mode choice model application program (AEMS.EXE);
 Jurisdictional summary script (MC_NL_Summary.s);

Constraint adjustment script (mc_constraint_v23.s);

21.3 Control/Support Files

The nested-logit mode choice (NLMC) model is applied using a Fortran program called AEMS.⁹² AEMS.EXE is the compiled version of the source code AEMS.FOR. In order to run, AEMS.EXE needs to have several DLL files. The model is run one for each of the five trip purposes, as shown on page A-13 of the flowchart in Appendix A. Each run of the mode choice model requires a “control file,” so there are five in total: HBW_NL_MC.CTL, HBS_NL_MC.CTL, HNS_NL_MC.CTL, NHW_NL_MC.CTL, and NHO_NL_MC.CTL. After the five mode choice models run, there is a Cube Voyager script, MC_NL_Summary.s, which is used to create jurisdiction-to-jurisdiction tabulations of the trip tables output from the mode choice model. The inputs to the AEMS mode choice application program are shown in Table 60. The outputs are shown in Table 61.

Table 60 Inputs to the AEMS mode choice application program

Daily person trips, stratified by income group (1, 2, 3, 4), in production/attraction format (INFILE 1)	hbw_income.ptt, hbs_income.ptt, hbo_income.ptt, nhw_income.ptt, nho_income.ptt	Binary
Highway skims, nine tables – SOV, HOV2, HOV3+ for time, distance, and tolls on non-variably-priced facilities (INFILE 2)	hwyam.skm, hwyop.skm	Binary
Commuter rail transit skims (INFILE 3)	trnam_cr.skm, trnop_cr.skm	Binary
All bus transit skims (INFILE 4)	trnam_ab.skm, trnop_ab.skm	Binary
Metrorail transit skims (INFILE 5)	trnam_mr.skm, trnop_mr.skm	Binary

⁹² AECOM Consult, Inc., *AECOM Consult Mode Choice Computation Programs, AEMS, Users Guide*, Draft report (Fairfax, Virginia: AECOM Consult, Inc., April 5, 2005).

Bus/Metrorail transit skims (INFILE 6)	trnam_bm.skm, trnop_bm.skm	Binary
Zonal data (INFILE 8)	zonev2.a2f	Text

Table 61 Outputs from the AEMS mode choice application program

<p>Daily person trips, stratified by travel mode (14 tables):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DR ALONE 2. SR2 3. SR3+ 4. WK-CR 5. WK-BUS 6. WK-BU/MR 7. WK-MR 8. PNR-CR & KNR-CR 9. PNR-BUS 10. KNR-BUS 11. PNR-BU/MR 12. KNR-BU/MR 13. PNR-MR 14. KNR-MR 	<p>hbw_nl_mc.mtt, hbs_nl_mc.mtt, hbs_nl_mc.mtt, nhw_nl_mc.mtt, nho_nl_mc.mtt</p>	Binary
---	--	--------

21.4 Market segmentation

Most mode choice models used in large urban areas in the U.S. have historically been estimated at a disaggregate level, but are applied at an aggregate level. Specifically, these models are typically estimated at the person-trip level, but applied at the zone-to-zone interchange level. Furthermore, in application mode, within each zone-to-zone interchange, many models subdivide the travel market into homogeneous groups, known as market segments. The nested-logit mode choice model (NLMC) that is used in the Version 2.3 Travel Model uses three types of market segmentation:

- Household income
- Geography
- Access to transit

Note that there has been a recent trend away from disaggregate estimation, due, in part to guidance from the FTA.⁹³

21.4.1 Market segmentation by household income

The income segmentation is the same that is used for the first two steps of the travel model (i.e., trip generation and trip distribution), namely households are segmented by the four household income quartiles, which are shown in Table 62.⁹⁴

Table 62 Household income quartiles computed from the ACS

Quartile	Income range (2007 dollars)
First	Less than \$50,000
Second	\$50,000 to \$99,999
Third	\$100,000 to \$149,999
Fourth	\$150,000 or more

21.4.2 Market segmentation by geography

When AECOM Consult, Inc. first developed a mode choice model for the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area in 2004-2005, it divided the modeled area into seven superdistricts:⁹⁵

1. DC core
2. VA core
3. DC urban
4. MD urban

⁹³ See, for example, Federal Transit Administration, "Discussion Piece #16: Calibration and Validation of Travel Models for New Starts Forecasting" (presented at the Workshop on Travel Forecasting for New Starts Proposals, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 2006), http://www.fta.dot.gov/planning/newstarts/planning_environment_5402.html.

⁹⁴ Hamid Humeida to Files, "Analysis of Data from the American Community Survey (ACS): Households by Household Income, Household Size, and Vehicle Availability," Memorandum, (March 19, 2010).

⁹⁵ Bill Woodford, "Development of Revised Transit Components of Washington Regional Demand Forecasting Model" (presented at the Transit Modeling Meeting, held at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Washington, D.C., December 1, 2004), 30.

5. VA urban
6. MD suburban
7. VA suburban

AECOM's mode choice model was applied as a post process to the COG/TPB travel model (the Version 2.1 Travel Model). COG/TPB staff used the AECOM post-process mode choice model as a starting point for its work on the Version 2.3 Travel Model in work done from 2008 to 2011. TPB staff integrated the mode choice model into the modeling chain (i.e., moved from a post process for the regional model to its normal position in the speed feedback loop, following trip distribution), and re-calibrated the model. **When COG/TPB staff retained and re-calibrated the NLMC model, it retained the same geographic market segmentation that had been developed by AECOM.**

These seven superdistricts are shown in Figure 32 and in Table 63. Table 63 shows the equivalency between the seven NLMC superdistricts and the new 3,722-TAZ area system.

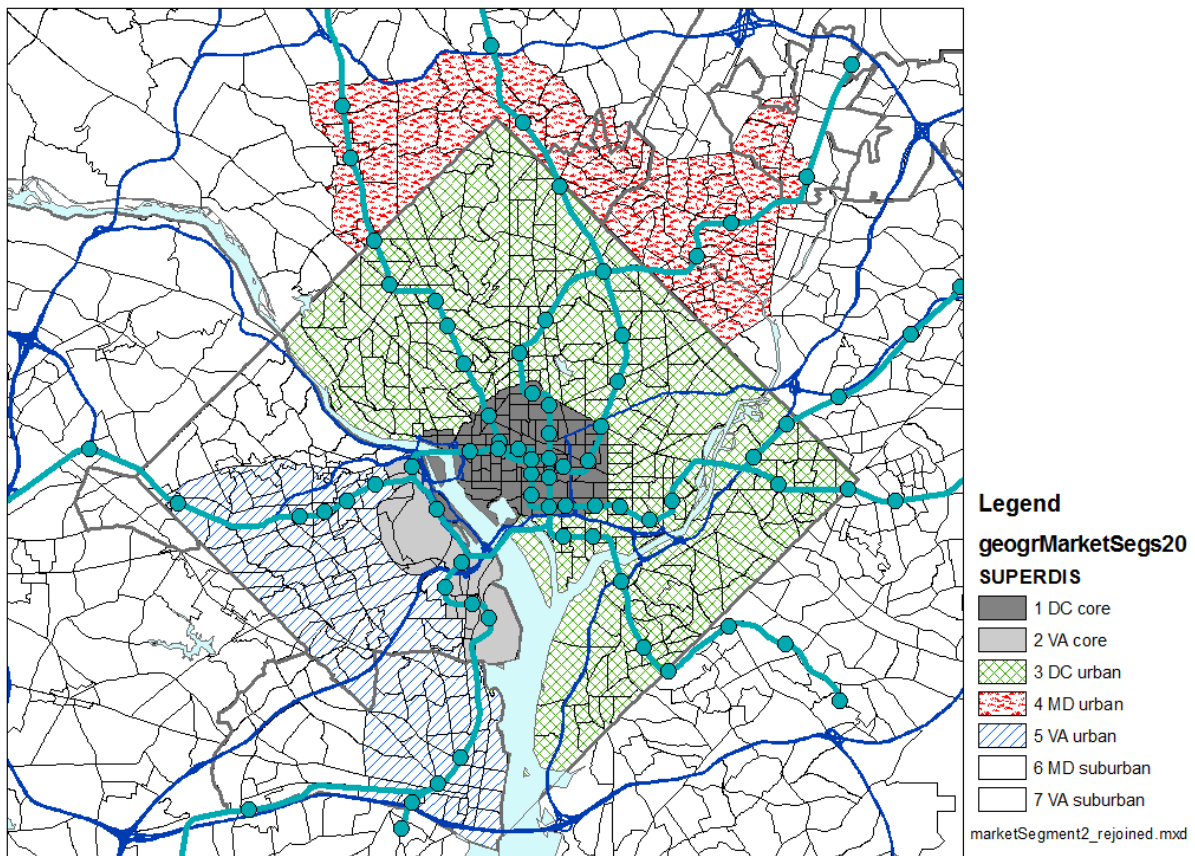


Figure 32 Seven superdistricts used in the Version 2.3 nested-logit mode choice model

Ref: "I:\ateam\nest_log\marketsegment2_rejoined.tif"

Table 63 Equivalency between nested-logit mode choice superdistricts and TPB TAZ 3,722

No.	Name	TAZs (TPB TAZ 3,722)
1	DC core	1-4,6-47,49-63,65,181-287,374-381
2	VA core	1471-1476,1486-1489,1493,1495-1504,1507,1508,1510,1511
3	DC urban	5,48,51,64,66-180,210-281,288-373,382-393
4	MD urban	603,606,612-628,630-640,662-664,669,670,913,916,917,939-957,959,961-982,985,
4	MD urban	986
5	VA urban	1405-1422,1427-1435,1448,1452,1454-1464,1477-1485,1490-1492,1494,1505,1506,
5	VA urban	1509,1512-1545,1569-1609
6	MD suburban	394-602,604,605,607-611,629,641-661,665-668,671-912,914,915,918-938,958,960,
6	MD suburban	983,984,987-1404,2820-3102,3104-3409
7	VA suburban	1423-1426,1436-1447,1449-1451,1453,1465-1470,1546-1568,1610-2554,2556-2628,
7	VA suburban	2630-2819,3410-3477,3479-3481,3483-3494,3496-3675

Ref: "I:\ateam\neat_log\equiv_tpbTaz3722_nlmc_superdistr.txt" and "I:\ateam\neat_log\Market_segment_NewTAZs_sorted.xlsx"

The TAZs in Table 63 are referred to as “TPB TAZ” to distinguish them from “COG TAZ.” In 2008 and 2009, the COG GIS staff developed a new system of transportation analysis zones (TAZs), which had more zones, but did not increase the size of the modeled area. In other words, the new zones were, on average, smaller than the previous zone system, which is useful for better modeling of transit trips. The old zone system had 2,191 TAZs and the new system has 3,722 TAZs. After the COG GIS staff was finished with their work, the COG models development group reviewed the new zone system and found a few cases where the zone boundaries needed adjustment.⁹⁶ The final result was that there were now two sets of zones for the 3,722-TAZ area system:

- COG TAZs: For land activity forecasts (COGTAZ3722_TPBMOD)
- TPB TAZs: For transportation modeling (TPBTAZ3722_TPBMOD)⁹⁷

Although seven market areas could lead to 49 (= 7 x 7) geographic interchanges, AECOM Consult, Inc. grouped them into the 20 paired production/attraction areas shown in Table 64 and Table 65. Another way to view the 20 geographic market segments is shown in Table 66.

⁹⁶ Meseret Seifu, “Review of New Zone System: 3722 Transportation Analysis Zones (TAZ)” (presented at the January 22, 2010 meeting of the Travel Forecasting Subcommittee of the Technical Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, held at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Washington, D.C., January 22, 2010), 4, <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/Z15aV1dd20100122152445.pdf>.

⁹⁷ Ibid., 23.

Table 64 Production and attraction market segments used in the TPB Version 2.3 NLMC model

Production Areas	Attraction Areas
1. DC Core / Urban	1. DC Core
2. MD Urban	2. VA Core
3. VA Core / Urban	3. Urban
4. MD Suburban	4. Suburban
5. VA Suburban	

Ref: "I:\ateam\nest_log\marketSeg.xls"

Table 65 20 geographic market segments used in the TPB nested-logit mode choice model

Market Seg No.	Prod Superdis	Attr Superdis	Production Area	Attraction Area
1	1,3	1	DC	DC core
2	1,3	2	DC	VA core
3	1,3	3,4,5	DC	Urban DC, MD, VA
4	1,3	6,7	DC	Suburban MD, VA
5	4	1	MD urban	DC core
6	4	2	MD urban	VA core
7	4	3,4,5	MD urban	Urban DC, MD, VA
8	4	6,7	MD urban	Suburban MD, VA
9	2,5	1	VA core/urban	DC core
10	2,5	2	VA core/urban	VA core
11	2,5	3,4,5	VA core/urban	Urban DC, MD, VA
12	2,5	6,7	VA core/urban	Suburban MD, VA
13	6	1	MD suburban	DC core
14	6	2	MD suburban	VA core
15	6	3,4,5	MD suburban	Urban DC, MD, VA
16	6	6,7	MD suburban	Suburban MD, VA
17	7	1	VA suburban	DC core
18	7	2	VA suburban	VA core
19	7	3,4,5	VA suburban	Urban DC, MD, VA
20	7	6,7	VA suburban	Suburban MD, VA

Ref: "I:\ateam\nest_log\marketSeg.xls"

Table 66 Equivalency between seven super-districts and the 20 geographic market segments

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	DC core	VA core	DC urban	MD urban	VA urban	MD suburban	VA suburban
1 DC core	1	2	3	3	3	4	4
3 DC urban	1	2	3	3	3	4	4
4 MD urban	5	6	7	7	7	8	8
2 VA core	9	10	11	11	11	12	12
5 VA urban	9	10	11	11	11	12	12
6 MD suburban	13	14	15	15	15	16	16
7 VA suburban	17	18	19	19	19	20	20

Ref: "I:\ateam\nest_log\superDistr_marketSeg.xlsx"

21.4.3 Market segmentation by access to transit

The section of the report contains two subsections. The first includes a general discussion about how transit-access markets are developed in relatively simple mode choice models. It gives the example of the three transit access markets that are often used by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA): “can walk,” “must drive,” and “no transit.”⁹⁸ The second subsection describes the more specific case of the seven transit-access markets used in the mode choice model of the Version 2.3 Travel Model. In both the general discussion and the more specific case, zonal percent-walk-to-transit (PWT) values are used to develop the transit access markets. In the latter case, the mode choice model application program is AEMS.EXE, developed by AECOM.⁹⁹

21.4.3.1 General discussion

The purpose of a mode choice model is to predict the number and or share of trips that will be made by each major travel mode represented in a model. Transit, in one form or another, is usually one of the travel modes represented in most mode choice models. In order to use transit, one must be able to access it, either via non-motorized modes, such as walking and biking, or motorized modes, such as driving an automobile. Many mode choice models segment transit trips by walk access and drive access. A typical zonal metric for how easily one may walk to transit is the “percent walk to transit” (PWT) value, which is defined as the percent of a zone’s area that is within walking distance to transit service. So, for example, a PWT value of 20% means that 20% of the zone’s area lies within walking distance to transit service. If walking distance has been defined to be one mile, then this means that 20% of the zone lies within one mile of transit service. The walking distance threshold is set by the modelers in each urban area and should reflect the typical distance that people are likely to walk to reach transit. Typical values range from 0.5 miles to 1 mile. Some travel models, such as the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model, make use of two walk-to-transit threshold distances, e.g., a short-walk distance (e.g., 0.5 miles) and a long-walk distance (e.g., 1 mile). The TPB travel model is discussed in the next section of the memo. For this section of the memo, it is assumed that there is only one walk-to-transit threshold distance (e.g., 1 mile).

A typical method for calculating the percent walk to transit for each zone in the modeled area is the following:

1. Determine a threshold distance for walking to transit (or two threshold distances may be used).
2. Determine point locations where transit service can be accessed (i.e., transit stop nodes and transit stations). In other words, create a geographic data set that includes all the points representing transit stop nodes and transit stations.

⁹⁸ See, for example, Federal Transit Administration, “Discussion Piece #11: Illustrative Mode-Choice and Summit Calculations for Travel by One Market Segment between a Pair of Zones for Base and Build Alternatives” (presented at the Workshop on Travel Forecasting for New Starts Proposals, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 2006), http://www.fta.dot.gov/planning/newstarts/planning_environment_5402.html.

⁹⁹ AECOM Consult, Inc., *AECOM Consult Mode Choice Computation Programs, AEMS, Users Guide*.

3. Determine transit walksheds, which are polygons composed of circular areas around transit stop nodes. In other words, create a geographic data set that represents point buffers (i.e., circles of radius X = the threshold walking distance) around each transit stop node and transit station.
4. Given that there is already a polygon layer of TAZ boundaries, perform a polygon-on-polygon overlay (TAZ boundaries and walkshed boundaries) to create a new geographic data set that can be used to calculate the percent walk to transit value for each zone.
5. Calculate the percent walk to transit values for each zone.¹⁰⁰

For a number of years, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has used a simple transit-access market segmentation system that has three segments known as “can walk,” “must drive,” and “no transit.” These segments are defined at the zone-to-zone interchange level (the level used by most mode choice application programs) and can be determined using the percent-walk-to-transit (PWT) values in the production and attraction zones of the interchange. Before defining these three transit access markets, one must make a few assumptions:

1. Trips are in production/attraction format, not origin/destination format:
 - a. A trip **production** is defined as the **home**-end of a home-based trip, or the **origin** of a non-home-based trip.
 - b. A trip **attraction** is defined as the **non-home**-end of a home-based trip, or the **destination** of a non-home-based trip.
2. Travelers “access” transit at the production end of the trip and “egress from” transit at the attraction end of the trip.
3. At the production end of the trip, one may access the transit system by either walking or driving. Bike access is considered part of “walking.”
4. At the attraction end of the trip, the only egress option is walking, since it is assumed that travelers do not have an automobile available at the non-home end of the trip.
5. The zonal PWT value functions as a probability value. Thus, if the PWT is 20%, this can be interpreted as meaning that, for trips that start (are produced in) or end (are attracted to) this zone, there is a 20% chance of that the trips will access or egress from the transit system via walking.

The “can walk” market is defined as the set of trips, within a given zone-to-zone interchange, where one can walk to transit at the production end of the trip (One can also walk from transit at the attraction end of the trip, but this is not a distinguishing feature, since “must drive” trips also walk from transit at the attraction end of the trip). Even though a trip may be included in the “can walk” segment, it is understood that drive access to transit is also a possibility for this market. In probability theory, if two events, A and B, are independent, the probability of the intersection of A and B equals the product of the probabilities of A and B, i.e.,

$$P(AB) = P(A) * P(B)$$

¹⁰⁰ See, for example, Yuan, *Transit Walkshed Generator: A GIS Application to Generate Transit Walksheds*, Technical Report.

Since the PWT is considered a probability or likelihood of walking, and since the PWT for two given zones are considered to be independent, then, for a given zone-to-zone interchange, the probability of being in the “can walk” market -- $P(\text{“can walk”})$ or $P(CW)$ -- is simply the product of the PWT of the production zone and the PWT of the attraction zone:

$$P(\text{“can walk” for interchange } ij) = PWT(i) * PWT(j)$$

The “must drive” market includes trips that must access the transit market via driving since the trip begins outside of the transit walk-access threshold distance. The “no transit” market includes trips for which transit is not an option, since, at the attraction end of the trip, there is no transit available within walking distance. So, for a given interchange, the probability of being in the “must drive” market -- $P(\text{“must drive”})$ or $P(MD)$ -- is simply the product of the non-walkable share of the production zone and the PWT of the attraction zone:

$$P(\text{“must drive” for interchange } ij) = (1 - PWT(i)) * PWT(j)$$

Similarly, for a given interchange, the probability of being in the “no transit” market -- $P(\text{“no transit”})$ or $P(NT)$ -- is simply the non-walkable share of the attraction zone:

$$P(\text{“no transit” for interchange } ij) = (1 - PWT(j))$$

So, whereas the $P(CW)$ and $P(MD)$ are a function of the PWT in both the production and attraction zones, the $P(NT)$ is a function of only the PWT in the attraction zone. For a given interchange

$$P(CW) + P(MD) + P(NT) = 100\%$$

Table 67 presents 11 examples, or cases, of how various production and attraction PWT values are combined to get the probabilities of being in the “can walk,” “must drive” and “no transit” zone-to-zone interchange market segments. For example, in the case #1, both the production zone and the attraction zone have percent-walk-to-transit (PWT) values of 0%, which results in the all the trips in the interchange being in the “no transit” market segment. By contrast, in case #2, $PWT(i) = 0\%$ and $PWT(j) = 50\%$, which results in a 50%/50% split of trips in that interchange into the “must drive” and “no transit” markets. When, in case #3, $PWT(i) = 0\%$ and $PWT(j) = 100\%$, this results in all trips being allocated to the “must drive” market.

In any of these cases, the number of trips in each of the three markets is equal to the total number of person trips in the zone-to-zone interchange times each of the three probabilities. **After trips have been assigned to the three markets, then the mode choice model is applied**, as described FTA's Discussion Piece #11 (Discussion_11_Summit_Calcs.doc) and shown in its associated spreadsheet (Discussion_11_Summit_Example_Calcs.xls).¹⁰¹

¹⁰¹ Federal Transit Administration, “Discussion Piece #11: Illustrative Mode-Choice and Summit Calculations for Travel by One Market Segment between a Pair of Zones for Base and Build Alternatives.”

Table 67 Eleven examples showing how zonal percent-walk-to-transit values translate into probabilities of being in three transit-access markets: can walk, must drive, and no transit

	Zonal Attributes		Zone-to-Zone Interchange Attributes			Total Probability
	Percent Walk to Transit Prod. Zone	Percent Walk to Transit Attr. Zone	Probability "Can Walk"	Probability "Must Drive"	Probability "No Transit"	
	PWT(i)	PWT(j)	P(CW,ij)	P(MD,ij)	P(NT,ij)	
Case	A	B	A*B	(1-A)*B	(1-B)	
1	0%	0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
2	0%	50%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%	100.0%
3	0%	100%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
4	50%	0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
5	50%	50%	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%	100.0%
6	50%	100%	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%	100.0%
7	100%	0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
8	100%	50%	50.0%	0.0%	50.0%	100.0%
9	100%	100%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
10	75%	50%	37.5%	12.5%	50.0%	100.0%
11	100%	75%	75.0%	0.0%	25.0%	100.0%

Ref: "percent_walk_transit_can_walk.xlsx"

Table 68, Table 69, and Table 70 provide a more complete picture of how P(CW), P(MD), and P(NT) each vary with the production and attraction PWT values. For example, Table 68 shows the probability of being in the “can walk” market segment for a zone-to-zone interchange as a function of the production and attraction percent-walk-to-transit values. The probability of “can walk” is zero if either the production PWT or the attraction PWT equal zero. By contrast, the probability of “can walk” is 100% only if the production PWT and the attraction PWT equal 100%.

Table 68 Probability of being in the “can walk” market segment for a zone-to-zone interchange, based on the production and attraction percent-walk-to-transit values

		PWT(i)										
		0%	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
PWT(j)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	10%	0%	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%
	20%	0%	2%	4%	6%	8%	10%	12%	14%	16%	18%	20%
	30%	0%	3%	6%	9%	12%	15%	18%	21%	24%	27%	30%
	40%	0%	4%	8%	12%	16%	20%	24%	28%	32%	36%	40%
	50%	0%	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%
	60%	0%	6%	12%	18%	24%	30%	36%	42%	48%	54%	60%
	70%	0%	7%	14%	21%	28%	35%	42%	49%	56%	63%	70%
	80%	0%	8%	16%	24%	32%	40%	48%	56%	64%	72%	80%
	90%	0%	9%	18%	27%	36%	45%	54%	63%	72%	81%	90%
100%	0%	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%	

Ref: "percent_walk_transit_can_walk.xlsx"

Table 69 shows the probability of being in the “must drive” market segment for a zone-to-zone interchange as a function of the production and attraction percent-walk-to-transit values. The probability of “must drive” is zero if either the production PWT equals 100% or the attraction PWT equal zero. By contrast, the probability of “must drive” is 100% only if the production PWT equals zero and the attraction PWT equals 100%.

Table 69 Probability of being in the “must drive” market segment for a zone-to-zone interchange, based on the production and attraction percent-walk-to-transit values

		PWT(i)										
		0%	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
PWT(j)	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	10%	10%	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%	0%
	20%	20%	18%	16%	14%	12%	10%	8%	6%	4%	2%	0%
	30%	30%	27%	24%	21%	18%	15%	12%	9%	6%	3%	0%
	40%	40%	36%	32%	28%	24%	20%	16%	12%	8%	4%	0%
	50%	50%	45%	40%	35%	30%	25%	20%	15%	10%	5%	0%
	60%	60%	54%	48%	42%	36%	30%	24%	18%	12%	6%	0%
	70%	70%	63%	56%	49%	42%	35%	28%	21%	14%	7%	0%
	80%	80%	72%	64%	56%	48%	40%	32%	24%	16%	8%	0%
	90%	90%	81%	72%	63%	54%	45%	36%	27%	18%	9%	0%
100%	100%	90%	80%	70%	60%	50%	40%	30%	20%	10%	0%	

Ref: "percent_walk_transit_can_walk.xlsx"

Table 70 shows the probability of being in the “no transit” market segment for a zone-to-zone interchange as a function of solely on the attraction percent-walk-to-transit values. The probability of “no transit” is zero only if the attraction PWT equals 100%. By contrast, the probability of “no transit” is 100% only if attraction PWT equals zero.

Table 70 Probability of being in the “no transit” market segment for a zone-to-zone interchange, based solely on the attraction percent-walk-to-transit values

		PWT(i)										
		0%	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
PWT(j)	0%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	10%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	20%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%
	30%	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%	70%
	40%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%
	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%
	60%	40%	40%	40%	40%	40%	40%	40%	40%	40%	40%	40%
	70%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%
	80%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%
	90%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	

Ref: "percent_walk_transit_can_walk.xlsx"

21.4.3.2 Version 2.3 Travel Model and AEMS

Regarding the percent-walk-to-transit (PWT) values used by the mode choice model of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model, two distance thresholds are used:

- Short walk to transit: ≤ 0.5 mile
- Long walk to transit: > 0.5 mile and ≤ 1 mile

Furthermore, the mode choice model differentiates between peak period transit service and off-peak period transit service. When calculating average headways and run times for transit routes running during the peak and off-peak periods, the historical practice, which is continued to this day, has been to use a subset of the period to represent service during the entire period. Specifically, the one-hour time period from 7:00 AM to 7:59 AM is used to represent peak-period conditions, and the five-hour time period from 10:00 AM to 2:59 PM is used to represent off-peak-period conditions.¹⁰² It is also assumed that home-based-work (HBW) trips occur in the peak periods, and thus make use of the peak-period transit skims and peak-period PWT values. Similarly, it is assumed that the other trip purposes (HBO, HBS, NHW, and NHO) occur in the off-peak periods, and thus make uses of the off-peak transit skims and off-peak PWT values.

The mode choice model in the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model is a 15-choice, nested-logit mode choice (NLMC) model that includes

- Three auto modes (drive alone [DA], shared ride 2-person [SR2], and shared ride 3+person [SR3]);

¹⁰² Sneed et al., *FY-2010 Network Documentation: Highway and Transit Network Development*, 3.

- Four transit modes (commuter rail [CR], all bus [AB], all Metrorail [MR], and combined bus/Metrorail[BM]); and
- Three modes of access to transit (park and ride [PNR], kiss and ride [KNR], and walk [WK])

These 10 modes are combined in nests, in such a way that there are 15 choices in the mode choice model, as shown in

Figure 33.

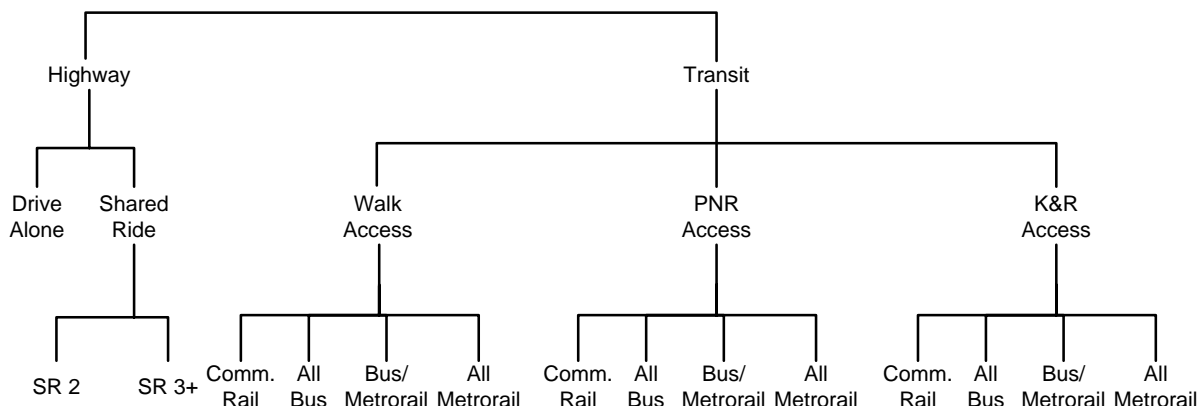


Figure 33 Nesting structure of the nested-logit mode choice model in the Version 2.3 Travel Model

Ref: "I:\ateam\nest_log\NestedChoice_Struct4.vsd"

The NLMC model is applied using the AECOM mode choice application program (AEMS).

Although light-rail transit (LRT), bus rapid transit (BRT), and streetcar are not explicit transit modes in the mode choice model, the model has, nonetheless, been designed to deal with these three special transit modes. Mode 5 is reserved for modeling LRT. Mode 10 is reserved for modeling BRT and streetcar. It is assumed that Mode 5 (LRT) will travel mostly on its own, dedicated right of way. By contrast, it is assumed that Mode 10 (BRT and streetcar) will travel mostly in mixed traffic on a shared right of way. Full details of how these three transit modes are modeled can be found in either the calibration report¹⁰³ or in section 21.1.1 of this report, but one of the key assumptions is the following:

- For transit path building/skimming, mode choice, and transit assignment
 - Mode 5 (LRT) is treated like Mode 3 (Metrorail)
 - Mode 10 (BRT or streetcar) is treated like Mode 1 (local bus)

When AECOM first developed the nested-logit mode choice model that TPB staff later adopted and recalibrated, AECOM used six percent-walk-to-transit values.¹⁰⁴

¹⁰³ Milone et al., *Calibration Report for the TPB Travel Forecasting Model, Version 2.3*, 6–3 to 6–5.

¹⁰⁴ AECOM Consult, Inc., *Post MWCOG – AECOM Transit Component of Washington Regional Demand Forecasting Model: User's Guide* (AECOM Consult, Inc., March 2005), 11.

- Percent of the zone within a short walk to Metrorail (Mode 3): PSWMET
- Percent of the zone within a long walk to Metrorail (Mode 3): PLWMET
- Percent of the zone within a short walk to any transit in the AM peak period: PSWALLAM
- Percent of the zone within a long walk to any transit in the AM peak period: PLWALLAM
- Percent of the zone within a short walk to any transit in the off-peak period: PSWALLOP
- Percent of the zone within a long walk to any transit in the off-peak period: PLWALLOP

However, TPB staff has recently become aware, thanks to work done by Dusan Vuksan and Feng Xie in September 2012, that **the first two PWT values should include both Metrorail and LRT, not simply Metrorail**. This oversight had not been notice before, since 1) LRT was not part of the base-year (year-2007) calibration networks, and 2) when LRT was modeled in close-in areas that already had significant transit service, the omission of LRT PWT values from the Metrorail/LRT group was hard to detect. However, in the work conducted by Dusan and Feng, the LRT service was in suburban areas without significant surrounding transit service, and it became apparent that the model was underestimating LRT ridership. The net effect is that the first two zonal PWT values now include both Metrorail and LRT together:

- Percent of the zone within a short walk to Metrorail (Mode 3) **or LRT (Mode 5)**: PSWMET
- Percent of the zone within a long walk to Metrorail (Mode 3) **or LRT (Mode 5)**: PLWMET
- Percent of the zone within a short walk to any transit in the AM peak period: PSWALLAM
- Percent of the zone within a long walk to any transit in the AM peak period: PLWALLAM
- Percent of the zone within a short walk to any transit in the off-peak period: PSWALLOP
- Percent of the zone within a long walk to any transit in the off-peak period: PLWALLOP

“Any transit” includes all transit, including Metrorail and LRT service.

In the past, TPB staff has developed a set of procedures for creating transit walksheds and calculating PWT values.¹⁰⁵ Now, given the recent realization that the term “Metrorail” should actually refer to both “Metrorail and LRT,” COG/TPB staff has updated the documentation to indicate this definitional change.¹⁰⁶ These new definitions have now been used in the automated ArcPy transit walkshed process that is part of the Ver. 2.3.57 model.

There are two other assumptions governing the use of the six PWT values that need to be kept in mind. The first is definitional and the second relates to differentiating between peak-period and off-peak-

¹⁰⁵ See, for example, Yew Yuan, *Walk Shed Generator: A GIS Application To Generate Transit Walk Sheds, Technical Report*, Draft (Washington, D.C.: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, May 2006); Yew Yuan, *Walkshed Generator User Guide* (Washington, D.C.: National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, August 25, 2010); Mark S. Moran, “Creating Transit Stop Node Shapefiles Needed as Inputs to the TPB Procedure for Generating Transit Walksheds and Calculating the Share of Each Zone within Walking Distance to Transit,” Memorandum, (September 6, 2011).

¹⁰⁶ Yuan, *Transit Walkshed Generator: A GIS Application to Generate Transit Walksheds, Technical Report*; Yuan, *Walkshed Generator User Guide*, November 16, 2012; Mark S. Moran to Files, “Creating Transit Stop Node Shapefiles Needed as Inputs to the TPB Procedure for Generating Transit Walksheds and Calculating the Share of Each Zone within Walking Distance to Transit,” Memorandum, (November 16, 2012).

period transit service. Regarding the definitional difference, when AECOM first developed the percent walk values, it defined them based on zonal areas:

$$\text{Percent} = \frac{\text{walkshed area}}{\text{total zonal land area}}$$

As an example, if a zone has half of its land area in the short-walk-to-Metrorail area and half of its land area in the long-walk-to-Metrorail area, one might expect that PSWMET = 50% and the PLWMET = 50%. However, the real PWT values for this scenario would be PSWMET = 50% and the PLWMET = 100%, since the short-walk area is always contained within the long-walk area. Consequently, if one wants the net area that is in the long walk area, one must subtract the two areas:

$$\text{Net Percent Long Walk} = (\text{Percent long walk}) - (\text{Percent short walk})$$

Evidence of this will be seen in later calculations discussed in this memo.

The second assumption about PWT values relates to the coverage of transit service in the peak period versus in the off-peak period. It is assumed that transit service is accessed at the transit stop nodes (e.g., bus stops) and transit stations. In the case of Metrorail, there are no examples of stations that operate in the peak period, but do not operate in the off-peak period. Instead, all stations operate in all periods, even though the frequency of service changes (peak versus off-peak), and there are some segments that exist in the off-peak but not in the peak (e.g., in 2006, WMATA began running the Yellow Line from Gallery Place to Fort Totten, but only in the off-peak). However, since the transit walkshed buffers are drawn around points, and not segments, this does not affect Metrorail, meaning that the percent-walk-to-transit values need not be calculated separately for peak and off-peak Metrorail. Furthermore, now that we are including LRT with Metrorail for determining walksheds and calculating PWT values, it is also assumed that there is no difference between LRT stations operating in the peak periods and those in the off-peak.

Finally, transit access markets are determined within the mode choice application program (AEMS) by combining information from the six PWT values already discussed. AEMS is a compiled Fortran program, which requires a control file (*.CTL) for each mode choice model. The Version 2.3 Travel Model uses five mode choice models (one per trip purpose), and so it requires five control files (e.g., HBW_NL_MC.CTL, HBS_NL_MC.CTL, HBO_NL_MC.CTL, etc.). Percent-walk-to-transit values are stored in a zonal data file (ZONEV2.A2F) that is read into AEMS.

The remainder of this section of the memo draws heavily from a recent memo from AECOM staff to COG/TPB staff.¹⁰⁷

In each of the AEMS control files, the six PWT values are referenced using the following 4-character pattern:

¹⁰⁷ David Roden to Mark S. Moran, "Memorandum for Task Order 7 (FY13 Task 1) of COG Contract 12-006, Interpreting AEMS Market Shares," Memorandum, (September 24, 2012).

<production or attraction indicator (1 char)><file number (1 char)><table number (2 char)>

The production or attraction zone status is indicated using the letter “i” (production”) or “j” (attraction). In the current AEMS control files, the file number for the zonal data file is “8.” Using current modeling conventions, the table numbers for the percent-walk-to-transit values go from 7 to 12 (and this information is noted in comment records in the AEMS control files). Thus, the following 3-digit codes refer to the six PWT values:

- 807: Percent of the zone within a short walk to Metrorail (Mode 3) or LRT (Mode 5): PSWMET
- 808: Percent of the zone within a long walk to Metrorail (Mode 3) or LRT (Mode 5): PLWMET
- 809: Percent of the zone within a short walk to any transit in the AM peak period: PSWALLAM
- 810: Percent of the zone within a long walk to any transit in the AM peak period: PLWALLAM
- 811: Percent of the zone within a short walk to any transit in the off-peak period: PSWALLOP
- 812: Percent of the zone within a long walk to any transit in the off-peak period: PLWALLOP

For example, if the control file refers to “i807”, this means the percent of the zone within a short walk to Metrorail or LRT for production zone “i”.

The aforementioned six percent-walk-to-transit values define the percentage of the zonal area that is within walking distance to transit, but they do not indicate the share of productions or attractions are assumed to walk. For example, not all transit trips that begin in a long-walk area will actually end up walking to transit (some will drive access). Consequently, the next step in the process is to calculate six values representing the likely walk-access markets. To do this, two assumptions are made:

1. 100% of the transit trips beginning or ending in the short-walk area will access transit via walking;
2. Only 25% of the transit trips beginning or ending in the long-walk area will access transit via walking (i.e., 75% are assumed to use drive access).

The six assumed walk markets are the following:

PCMI	Percent of trips assumed to access Metrorail/LRT via walking at the production zone
PCMJ	Percent of trips assumed to access Metrorail/LRT via walking at the attraction zone
PCTIAM	Percent of trips assumed to access all transit via walking at the production zone, AM peak per.
PCTJAM	Percent of trips assumed to access all transit via walking at the attraction zone, AM peak per.
PCTIOP	Percent of trips assumed to access all transit via walking at the production zone, off-peak per.
PCTJOP	Percent of trips assumed to access all transit via walking at the attraction zone, off-peak per.

Percent-walk-to-transit values are calculated using point buffers around transit stop nodes (i.e., stations, bus stops, etc.). As is the case with the original percent-walk-to-transit values, it is assumed that Metrorail and LRT service, in terms of stations in service, does not vary by time of day. By contrast, it is assumed that time-of-day variations in other transit modes, such as bus or commuter rail, will mean that the set of AM stop nodes will be different from the off-peak stop nodes. For this reason, there are two

sets of percent-walk-to-transit values for all transit (one for AM and one for off peak), but only one for Metrorail and LRT.

For each of the five mode choice models (HBW, HBS, HBO, NHW, NHO), only four of these values are used at once (HBW gets AM and the other purposes get off-peak):

- PCMI: Percent of trips assumed to access Metrorail/LRT via walking at the production zone
- PCMJ: Percent of trips assumed to egress from Metrorail/LRT via walking at the attraction zone
- PCTI: Percent of trips assumed to access all transit via walking at the production zone
- PCTJ: Percent of trips assumed to egress from all transit via walking at the attraction zone

In all four cases, the following is assumed:

Percent of trips in the interchange assumed to be in one of the four categories =

$$(100\% \text{ of the trips in the short-walk area}) + (25\% \text{ of the trips in the long-walk area})$$

In terms of equations in the mode choice control files, one finds:

- PCMI: Percent of trips assumed to access Metrorail/LRT via walking at the production zone
 - $= (i807 + 0.25 * (i808 - i807)) / 100$
- PCMJ: Percent of trips assumed to egress from Metrorail/LRT via walking at the attraction zone
 - $= (j807 + 0.25 * (j808 - j807)) / 100$
- PCTI: Percent of trips assumed to access “all transit” via walking at the production zone
 - $= (i809 + 0.25 * (i810 - i809)) / 100$ for AM (used for HBW purpose)
 - $= (i811 + 0.25 * (i812 - i811)) / 100$ for off-peak (used for non-work purposes)
- PCTJ: Percent of trips assumed to egress from “all transit” via walking at the attraction zone
 - $= (j809 + 0.25 * (j810 - j809)) / 100$ for AM (used for HBW purpose)
 - $= (j811 + 0.25 * (j812 - j811)) / 100$ for off-peak (used for non-work purposes)

A distinction is drawn between Metrorail/LRT and “other transit” (i.e., transit that is neither Metrorail nor LRT). In the “can walk” market, there are four sub-markets, as shown in Table 71. Similarly, in the “must drive” market, there are two sub-markets, as shown in Table 72. Lastly, there is the “no access to transit” market, which is not part of either table.

Table 71 Four “can walk” sub-markets

Sub-mkt	Transit Service Available		Description
	Production TAZ	Attraction TAZ	
WM	MR/LRT	MR/LRT	Share that can use MR/LRT at both ends of the trip
W1	Other transit	MR/LRT	Share that can use “other transit” at production end and MR/LRT at attraction end of the trip
W2	Other transit	Other transit	Share that can use “other transit” at both ends of the trip
W3	MR/LRT	Other transit	Share that can use MR/LRT at production end and “other transit” at attraction end of the trip

Table 72 Two "must drive" sub-markets

Sub-mkt	Transit Service Available		Description
	Production TAZ	Attraction TAZ	
M1	Any transit	MR/LRT	Share that must drive to any transit at the production end and can use MR/LRT at the attraction end of the trip
M2	Any transit	Other transit	Share that must drive to any transit at the production end and can use "other transit" at the attraction end of the trip

AEMS makes use of WALK SEG commands to allow the model users to specify subzone segmentation such as "can walk," "must drive," and "no transit,"¹⁰⁸ so **the six sub-markets above, along with the "no transit" segment, are represented with seven WALK SEG (WS) variables in the AEMS control files**, and these six variables are calculated as follows from the previously-defined walk percentages:

"Can walk" market

- WSWM – Share of the "walk segment" that can use Metrorail/LRT at both ends of the trip
= PCMI * PCMJ
- WSW1 – Share of the "walk segment" that can use "other transit" at production end and MR/LRT at attraction end of the trip
= (PCTI – PCMI) * PCMJ
- WSW2 – Share of the "walk segment" that cannot walk to Metrorail/LRT at either end of the trip (i.e., can use "other transit" at both ends of the trip)
= (PCTI – PCMI) * (PCTJ – PCMJ)
- WSW3 – Share of the "walk segment" that can use MR/LRT at production end and "other transit" at attraction end of the trip
= PCMI * (PCTJ – PCMJ)

"Must drive" market

- WSM1 – Share of the "walk segment" that must drive (to any transit) at the production, but can walk to Metrorail/LRT at the attraction
= (1 – PCTI) * PCMJ
- WSM2 – Share of the "walk segment" that must drive (to any transit) at the production, but cannot walk to Metrorail/LRT at the attraction (i.e., must use "other transit" at the attraction)
= (1 – PCTI) * (PCTJ – PCMJ)

"No transit" market

- WSNT – Share of the "walk segment" with no access to transit at the attraction end (thus, no access to transit for this zone-to-zone interchange)
= (1 – WSWM – WSW1 – WSW2 – WSW3 – WSM1 – WSM2)

¹⁰⁸ AECOM Consult, Inc., *AECOM Consult Mode Choice Computation Programs, AEMS, Users Guide*, 29–31.

As was the case before with just three transit-access markets, the sum of the seven transit-access shares must equal 100% for any given interchange.

$$WSWM + WSW1 + WSW2 + WSW3 + WSM1 + WSM2 + WSNT = 100\%$$

Application of seven transit market segments to travel modes in the mode choice model

Given the aforementioned definitions of the transit-access market segments, the mode choice model must be applied to estimate the mode shares for each zone-to-zone interchange. In this case, the seven transit-access markets are applied in AEMS to the travel modes represented in the Ver. 2.3 nested-logit mode choice model as shown in Table 73.

Table 73 Application of the seven transit-access segments to travel modes represented in the Ver. 2.3 mode choice model

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		SOV	SR2	SR3+	WK-CR	WK-BUS	WK-BU/MR	WK-MR	PNR-CR	KNR-CR	PNR-BUS	KNR-BUS	PNR-BU/MR	KNR-BU/MR	PNR-MR	KNR-MR
1	WM Can walk MR/LRT	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
2	W1 Can walk 1	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
3	W2 Can walk 2	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		
4	W3 Can walk 3	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x		
5	M1 Must drive 1	x	x	x					x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
6	M2 Must drive 2	x	x	x					x	x	x	x	x	x		
7	NT No transit	x	x	x												

Ref: "percent_walk_transit_can_walk.xlsx"

Where

- SOV = Drive Alone / single occupancy vehicle
- SR2 = Shared Ride with 2 persons
- SR3+ = Shared Ride with 3 or more persons
- WK-CR = walk to commuter rail
- WK-BUS = walk to bus
- WK-BU/MR = walk to/from bus and Metrorail/Light Rail
- WK-MR = walk to/from Metrorail/Light Rail only
- PNR-CR = park-n-ride to commuter rail
- KNR-CR = kiss-n-ride to commuter rail
- PNR-BUS = park-n-ride to bus
- KNR-BUS = kiss-n-ride to bus
- PNR-BU/MR = park-n-ride to bus and Metrorail/Light Rail
- KNR-BU/MR = kiss-n-ride to bus and Metrorail/Light Rail
- PNR-MR = park-n-ride to Metrorail/Light Rail

KNR-MR = kiss-n-ride to Metrorail/Light Rail

21.5 Transit access coding

In addition to the expanded set of transit submodes in the mode choice model, the Version 2.3 model includes new transit access coding enhancements which cover five areas:

1. The station file;
2. Sidewalk links and zonal walk links;
3. Zonal auto-access links;
4. Station transfer links; and
5. Zonal percent-walk-to-transit calculations.

21.5.1 Station file

The station file is a dBase file (station.dbf) that contains information about Metrorail stations, commuter rail stations, light rail stations, bus rapid transit stations/stops, street car stations/stops, express-bus bus stops, and park-and-ride lots that serve these stations/stops. Each station file is associated with one scenario, with the most typical scenarios being the “modeled year” (e.g., 2007, 2020, 2040). This file contains information such as:

The mode code, a single-letter code indicating Metrorail (M), commuter rail (C), etc.

A flag indicating whether the station is active in the given year/scenario (Y/N)

A flag indicating whether the station PNR lot is active (Y/N)

Station name

Six new columns/variables were added to the station file that were not present in earlier versions of the regional travel model (e.g., Ver. 2.2 and before). Only the first four of these six variables are currently used:

1. Access distance code (NCT)
2. Parking capacity
3. Peak-period parking cost
4. Off-peak-period parking cost
5. Peak-period shadow price (not used)
6. Off-peak-period shadow price (not used)

The full list of variables in the station file is described in Table 34 on page 132, with the new variables in bold font.

The “access distance code,” known as NCT in the autoacc4.s script, is a newly added variable in the station file that controls the number, extent, and directionality of PNR/KNR access links generated for each parking lot (in the case of PNR) or each station (in the case of KNR). Table 35 describes the meaning of each of the six access distance codes.

The access distance code, along with the transit mode, determines the maximum link distance for the drive-access-to-transit links generated by autoacc4.s for the TPB nested-logit mode choice model. The maximum link distances for PNR are shown in Table 75. Although not shown in the table, the maximum allowed link distance for KNR links is 3 miles. It is also important to note that the KNR links are generated to Metrorail stations, light rail stations, streetcar stops, and bus stops with parking lots, but not commuter rail stations.

Table 74 shows the mode codes that are used in the station file. “Station centroids” are used to build minimum-impedance paths to all Metrorail and commuter rail stations. In the table below, even though

modes 5 and 10 are shown as having a range of numbers designated for station centroids, only Metrorail and commuter rail actually require station centroids.

Table 74 Mode codes used in the consolidated station file/database (station.dbf)

Mode	Mode Code	Station Centroid Range	Station Node Range
Metrorail (Mode 3)	M	5000-5999	8000-8999
Commuter rail (Mode 4)	C	6000-6999	9000-9999
Light rail transit (Mode 5), Bus rapid transit/streetcar (Mode 10)	L, N	7000-7999*	10000-10999
Bus (Modes 1, 2, 6-9)	B	Not used	Not used

Notes: * Station PNR centroids (a.k.a. dummy station centroids) are not required for Mode 5 (LRT) or Mode 10 (BRT/streetcar).¹⁰⁹ For the sake of consistency, the current COG coding practice is to refrain from using station PNR centroids for LRT, BRT, and streetcar. In other words, in the station file, the STAC variable is coded with a value of zero.

21.5.2 Sidewalk links and zonal walk links

In the Version 2.2 travel model and earlier models, there was a walk network (sidewalk network), used for transferring from one transit line to another, in downtown DC and downtown Silver Spring, Maryland. In the Version 2.3 travel model, there is a sidewalk network in almost the entire modeled area. The regional sidewalk network is generated automatically using a script walkacc.s (see p. A-5 of the flowchart in Appendix A). Walkacc.s creates a sidewalk network by converting all suitable highway links into sidewalk links (Mode 13). Examples of highway links that are not converted into sidewalk links include freeways, parkways, and ramps (Facility Type = 1, 5, or 6). In order to limit the size of the sidewalk network to links that are likely used for walking, walkacc.s eliminates sidewalk links from zones where the “percent walk to transit” is zero. There is also a way to supply the program with a list of sidewalk links to be manually added or subtracted to the automated list of sidewalk links. For example, one can manually add a sidewalk link for Memorial Bridge, and one can manually remove sidewalk links that should not exist due to a physical barrier. See Jain (2010)¹¹⁰ for more details.

Walkacc.s also generates zonal walk-access-to-transit links (Mode 16 links). It automatically sweeps each TAZ, generating walk-access links from the zone centroid to all highway network nodes within a maximum walk distance (See Equation 3).

Equation 3 Maximum walk distance formula, used for generating walk-access-to-transit links

$$(\text{maximum walk distance}) = \sqrt{(\text{zonal area})} * 0.75$$

So, for a small, downtown zone with an area of 0.1 square miles, the program would calculate a maximum walk distance of 0.237 miles and connect all highway network stop nodes that lie within that distance from the zone centroid. There is an absolute maximum of 1.0 mile, which would be obtained

¹⁰⁹ Jain to Milone and Moran, “MWCOG Network Coding Guide for Nested Logit Model (First Draft: September 20, 2007; Updated February 2008 and October 2010),” 6 and 10.

¹¹⁰ Manish Jain to Ronald Milone and Mark Moran, “MWCOG network coding guide for Nested Logit Model (First draft: September 20, 2007; Updated February 2008 and Oct. 2010),” Memorandum, October 2010, 7.

for zones with a size of 1.78 square miles or greater. The actual calculated (straight-line) distance and computed walk time are stored on each link. No walk-access links are generated for zones with a zero percent walk to transit. Figure 34 shows zonal walk access links and sidewalk links in downtown Washington, D.C., near Farragut Square (TAZ 37, which is in the center of the figure). The thickest gray lines are the TAZ boundaries, which are not part of the actual highway or transit network, but are shown for reference. The lines emanating from each TAZ centroid (dark-blue, when the figure is viewed in color) are the zonal walk access links (Mode 16). The rectilinear (green) lines over many, but not all roads, are the sidewalk links (Mode 13). Mode 13 and 16 links can be shown in Cube Base by adding the four files "support link" files associated with walk-access to transit

supl??wkam.asc for AM: suplABWKAM.asc, suplBMWKAM.asc, suplCRWKAM.asc,
suplMRWKAM.asc

supl??wkop.asc for off peak: suplABWKOP.asc, suplBMWKOP.asc, suplCRWKOP.asc,
suplMRWKOP.asc

If prompted to give a coordinate file for 8,000-series nodes (Metrorail), use the following "support node" file: supnmrwkam.dbf. If prompted to give a coordinate file for 9,000-series nodes (commuter rail), use the following "support node" file: supncrwkam.dbf.

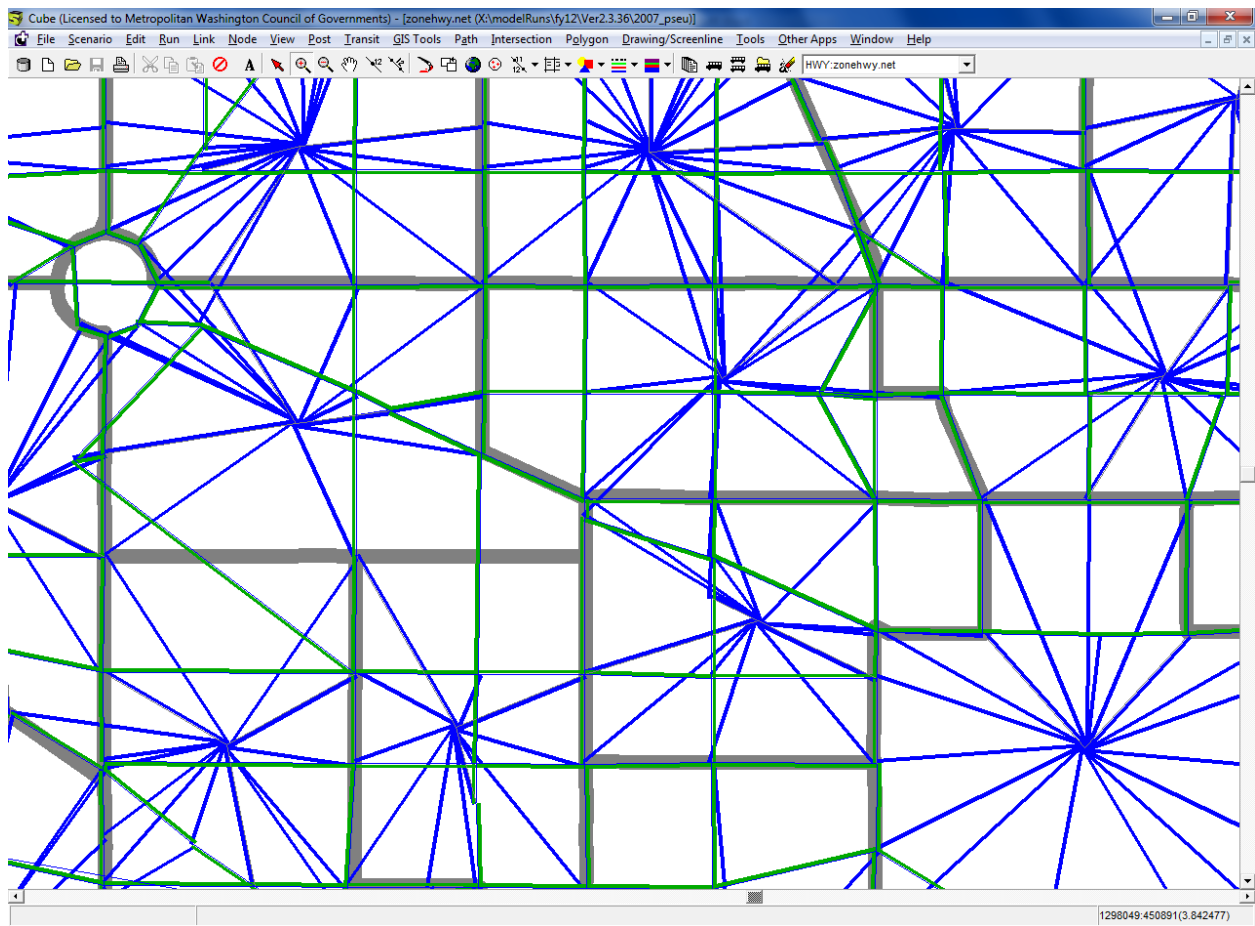


Figure 34 Zonal walk access links and sidewalk links in downtown DC near Farragut Square (Ver. 2.3 NL MC model)

21.5.3 Zonal auto-access links

The Cube Voyager script autoacc4.s, originally created by AECOM Consult as a Fortran program and later transferred to Voyager script by TPB staff, is used to generate auto-access-to-transit links. Zonal auto access links are generated by transit mode (Metrorail, commuter rail, light rail, BRT, streetcar, and bus) for both the peak ("AM") and off-peak ("mid-day") time periods. Auto access links (Mode 11) are a function of multiple criteria:

- Orientation toward downtown (defined as TAZ 35, centered at 20th and F Streets, NW)
- A backtracking penalty and a prohibition of crossing the Potomac River (except for trips from Loudoun County to MARC commuter rail);
- A maximum link distance, which is a function of station type (e.g., terminal vs. non-terminal) and transit mode;
- Manually specified overrides; and
- Distances based on the highway skims from the highway network that includes dummy centroids representing Metrorail and commuter rail stations.

Table 75 Maximum link distances for drive-access-to-transit links: Ver. 2.3 NL MC model

Mode	Access Dist. Code	Maximum Connect. Length (miles)
Metrorail station PNR	1	15
Metrorail station PNR	2	5
Metrorail station PNR	3	3
Metrorail station PNR	0	3
Commuter rail station PNR	1	15
Commuter rail station PNR	2	10
Commuter rail station PNR	0	5
Bus PNR	1	5
Bus PNR	0	3
BRT/Street car PNR	1	5
BRT/Street car PNR	0	3
LRT PNR	1	5
LRT PNR	0	3

Ref: I:\ateam\meetings_conf\transitModelingGroup\2007-11-07\maxDistForAutoAccConnect.xls

Figure 35 shows kiss-and-ride (KNR) auto-access-to-transit links for the AM period associated with Metrorail stations in Northern Virginia.

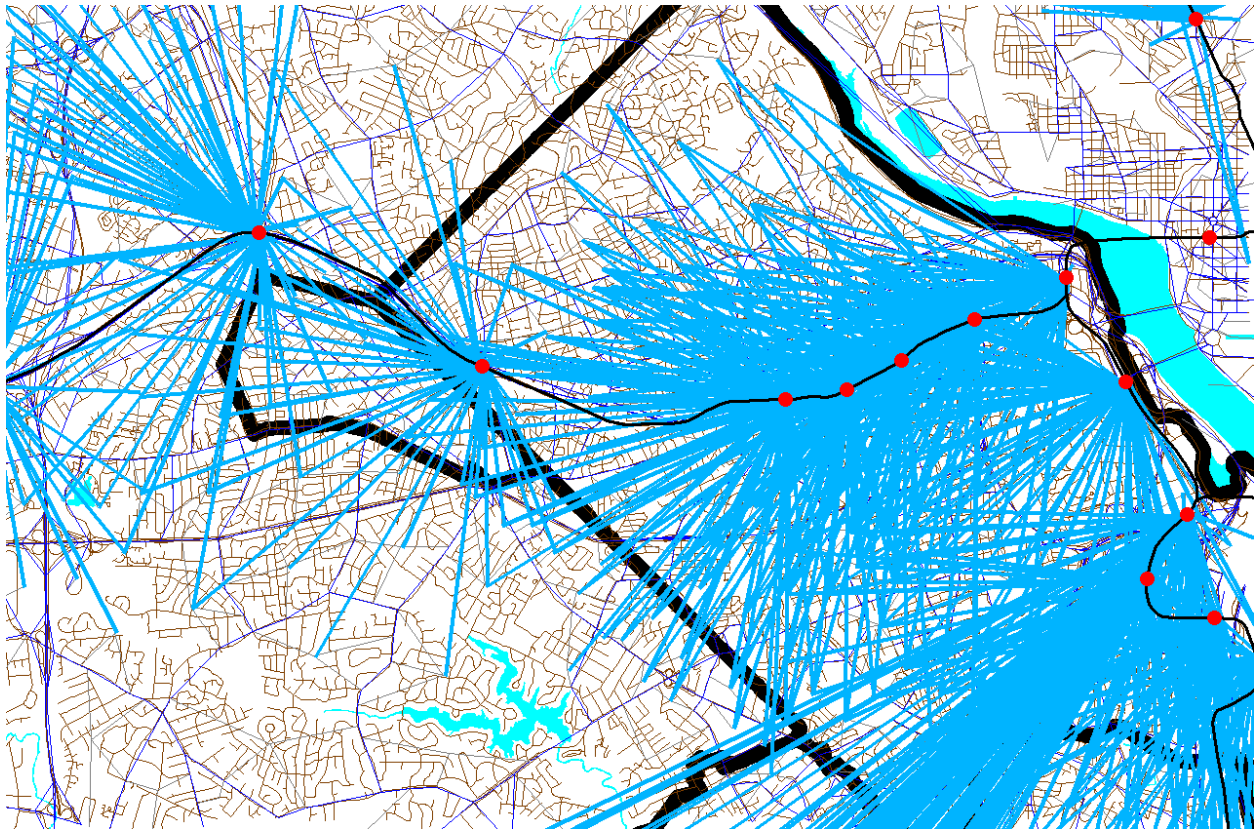


Figure 35 Kiss-and-ride (KNR) auto access links to Metrorail stations in Northern Virginia

Ref: "X:\modelRuns\fy12\Ver2.3.36\2007_pseu\zonehwy.net"

Figure 36 shows park-and-ride (PNR) auto-access-to-transit links for the AM period associated with Metrorail stations in Northern Virginia. Notice that the Orange Line stations from Clarendon to Rosslyn do not have PNR-access links, since they do not have PNR lots. By contrast, these stations do have KNR-access links, since these stations can have KNR access. The Pentagon Metrorail station is another example of a station where the model does not allow travelers to have PNR access, but they may have KNR access. Notice that the KNR-access links and PNR-access links are not shaped like a circular “starburst,” but are somewhat flattened, due to the backtracking penalty. This was done to mimic the behavior of travelers who tend not to want to backtrack when driving to park at or be dropped off at a Metrorail or commuter rail station.

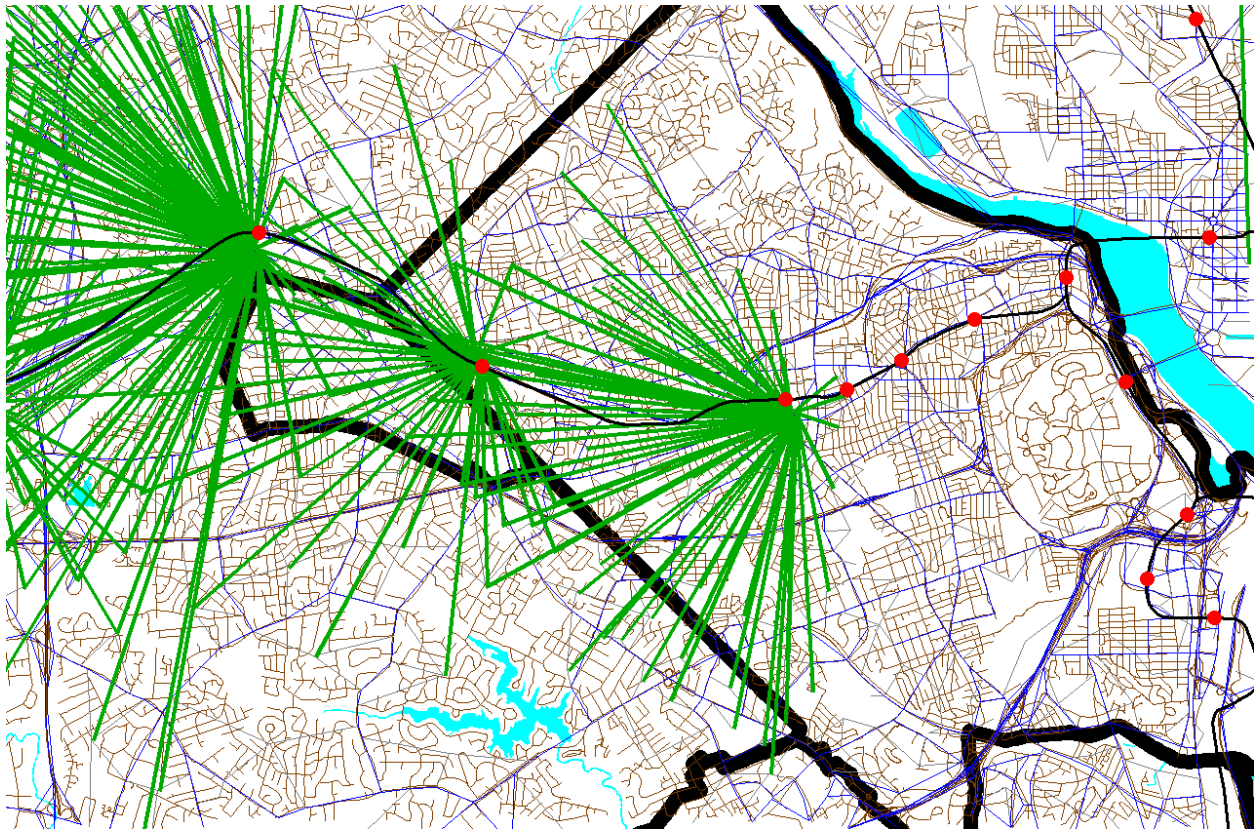


Figure 36 Park-and-ride (PNR) auto access links to Metrorail stations in Northern Virginia

Ref: "X:\modelRuns\fy12\Ver2.3.36\2007_pseu\zonehwy.net"

21.5.4 Station transfer links

Station transfer links are walk links connecting:

- Stations and sidewalks (Mode 12)
- Stations and bus service (Mode 12)
- Stations and PNR lots (Mode 15)

These links are generated automatically from data in the station file. **For PNR-station transfer links, the walk time is a function of parking capacity and parking cost, since it is reasoned that bigger parking lots and more costly parking lots make them more burdensome to use.**¹¹¹ The Mode 15 links are generated by the script `parker.s` (see page A-5 of the flowchart in Appendix A). The following files contain the mode 15 links:

```
busampnr.tb  
busoppnr.tb  
comampnr.tb  
comoppnr.tb  
lrtampnr.tb
```

¹¹¹ Ibid., 6.

lrtoppnr.tb
metampnr.tb
metoppnr.tb
newampnr.tb
newoppnr.tb

The mode 12 links are developed manually using the TPBMAN geodatabase. These links can be found in the following files (see page A-5 of the flowchart in Appendix A):

Com_Bus.tb
LRT_bus.tb
Met_Bus.tb
NEW_bus.tb

21.5.5 Zonal percent walk to transit calculations

The zonal percent walk is the percent of a zone's area that lies within walking distance to transit service (i.e., a transit stop node, such as a bus stop or rail station). A short walk is defined as one that is less than or equal to 0.5 miles and a long walk is defined as one that is less than or equal to one mile. The following walk designations are used:

- Short walk to Metrorail (≤ 0.5 miles);
- Long walk to Metrorail (>0.5 and ≤ 1.0 miles);
- Short walk to AM transit;
- Long walk to AM transit;
- Short walk to off-peak transit;
- Long walk to off-peak transit.

These walk-to-transit areas are sometimes called transit walksheds. Under contract with COG, AECOM has developed a new, automated/integrated Python/ArcPy walkshed process that is describe in Chapter 11 ("Building transit walksheds and calculating zonal walk percentages") on p. 107.

21.6 Transit path-building procedures

Given the segmentation in the model, 24 separate transit paths can be enumerated between each production zone and attraction zone:

Three modes of access to transit

1. Walk
2. Park and ride (PNR driver)
3. Ride to transit/KNR (drop-off/pick-up, or ride with a PNR driver)

Four transit modes/combinations

4. Commuter rail (alone and in combination with bus and/or Metrorail)
5. Bus-Metrorail (bus and Metrorail used in combination)
6. All bus (buses only)
7. All Metrorail (Metrorail only)

Two time-of-day periods

8. Peak (represented by transit service in the AM peak hour)
9. Off-peak (represented by transit service in the five-hour midday period)

However, at present, PNR and KNR to commuter rail are combined as a single path, since, for commuter rail, the PNR- and KNR-access links are identical. Consequently, the number of transit paths built between each production/attraction zone pair is 22. Table 76 summarizes the paths and available transit sub modes in each path. Again, in this figure, “drive to commuter rail” and “KNR to commuter rail” are combined into one category.

Run times for transit routes are controlled by the RUNTIME keyword (TRNBUILD) and output bus IVT skims are adjusted to reflect the general level of road congestion using a factor table (LBUS_TimFtrs.ASC). As stated previously, path weights are consistent with the weights used in the mode choice model:

- Drive access time: Equal to 1.5 times the in-vehicle time
- Walk access time: Equal to 2.0 times the in-vehicle time
- Other out-of-vehicle time: Equal to 2.5 times the in-vehicle time

Headway combination between two or more transit routes is allowed to occur provided 1) the routes share the same transit mode code and 2) the difference between the run time and the minimum run time is less than a designated number of minutes (5 minutes for AM and 10 minutes for off peak). A maximum path time is set at 360 weighted minutes. There is no weighting of in-vehicle time by transit sub-modes (i.e., all transit modes have an IVT weight of 1.0). The maximum initial wait time for all ten transit modes is set at 60 perceived minutes. The minimum transfer wait time is 4.0 minutes for bus (Modes 1, 2, 6, 7, 8), 0 minutes for Metrorail (Mode 3), 4.0 minutes for commuter rail (Mode 4), 0 minutes for LRT (Mode 5), 10.0 minutes for express bus (Mode 9), and 4.0 minutes for Mode 10 (streetcar and/or BRT).

Table 76 Path-specific parameters used in transit path building

Path	Path Parameter	Transit Submodes			
		Comm Rail	Express Bus	Local Bus	Metrorail
Walk-to-Commuter Rail	Modes Available	X		X	X
	Weight	1.0		1.0	1.0
	Path Testing	must appear		can appear	can appear
Walk-to-Bus/Metrorail	Modes Available		X	X	X
	Weight		1.0	1.0	1.0
	Path Testing		either must appear		must appear
Walk-to-Bus	Modes Available		X	X	
	Weight		1.0	1.0	
	Path Testing		either must appear		
Walk-to-Metrorail	Modes Available				X
	Weight				1.0
	Path Testing				must appear
Drive-to-Commuter Rail	Modes Available	X		X	X
	Weight	1.0		1.0	1.0
	Auto access links to Path Testing	CRsta. w/ parking must appear		no can appear	no can appear
K&R-to-Commuter Rail	Modes Available	X		X	X
	Weight	1.0		1.0	1.0
	Auto access links to Path Testing	CRsta. w/ parking must appear		no can appear	no can appear
Drive-to-Bus/Metrorail	Modes Available		X	X	X
	Weight		1.0	1.0	1.0
	Auto access links to Path Testing		all Bus park-ride lots either must appear		MRsta. w/ parking must appear
K&R-to-Bus/Metrorail	Modes Available		X	X	X
	Weight		1.0	1.0	1.0
	Auto access links to Path Testing		all Bus park-ride lots either must appear		all MRsta. must appear
Drive-to-Bus	Modes Available		X	X	
	Weight		1.0	1.0	
	Auto access links to Path Testing		all Bus park-ride lots either must appear		MRsta. w/ parking
K&R-to-Bus	Modes Available		X	X	
	Weight		1.0	1.0	
	Auto access links to Path Testing		all Bus park-ride lots either must appear		all MRsta.
Drive-to-Metrorail	Modes Available				X
	Weight				1.0
	Auto access links Path Testing				MRsta. w/ parking must appear
K&R-to-Metrorail	Modes Available				X
	Weight				1.0
	Auto access links Path Testing				all MRsta. must appear

Source: AECOM Consult, Inc.¹¹²

¹¹² AECOM Consult, Inc., *Post MWCOG – AECOM Transit Component of Washington Regional Demand Forecasting Model: User's Guide* (AECOM Consult, Inc., March 2005).

21.7 Treatment of Parking Costs and Terminal Times

21.7.1 Parking costs

In applying the Version 2.3 model, prior to the execution of the mode choice model, a Voyager script (prefarv23.s) is used to generate zonal files containing zonal parking costs and highway terminal times (the time to park and “un-park” a vehicle). The files are, in turn, read into the mode choice model upon execution. The Version 2.3 model includes a new parking cost model estimated based on the 2007/2008 HTS.¹¹³ HBW trip purpose utilizes the daily parking rate, while all other purposes use the hourly parking rate. Thus, two separate parking cost models were estimated, one for daily rates and one of hourly rates. For the daily rates model, the observed data indicated that it is rare for a traveler to incur parking costs in area types 4 and above, thus the model was estimated only for area types 1-3. A daily parking cost was estimated to be:

Equation 4 Daily Parking Cost for Area Types 1-3

$$\text{Parking cost} = 2.1724 * \ln(\text{floating employment density}) - 15.533$$

The resulting parking costs are also shown in Figure 37.

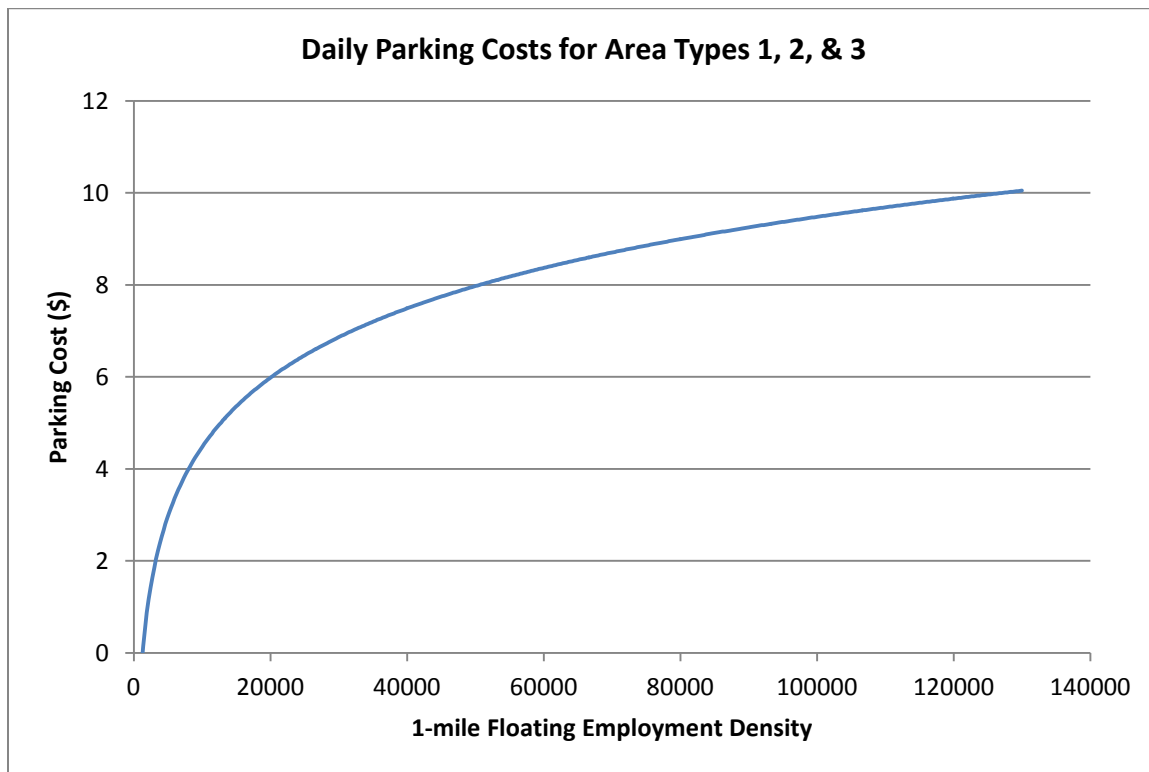


Figure 37 Daily Parking Cost Model for the Version 2.3 Model

Ref: I:\ateam\docum\FY11\Ver2.3\modelDoc_v3\02_userGuide\parking_scatterplots.xlsx

¹¹³ Mary Martchouk to Mark S. Moran, “Developing a Parking Cost Model for Automobile Modes in the Version 2.3 Travel Model,” Memorandum, June 14, 2010.

For hourly rates, there was insufficient data to estimate a reliable model. Thus, a decision was made to assign a flat rate based on the prevalent metered rates for each area type. For area type 1, the most prevalent metered rate of parking is \$2.00 and thus that value was selected. For area type 2, the average hourly parking cost is anticipated to be \$1.00. For area type 3, the value of \$0.25 per hour was selected. For area types 4 and higher, no parking cost was anticipated.

21.7.2 Highway terminal time assumptions

Highway terminal time is typically associated with the average time spent parking or “un-parking” an automobile. The current mode choice model application program considers highway terminal time only at the attraction end. Highway time is calculated as a function of employment density, as shown in Table 77.

Table 77 Highway terminal time as a function of employment density

Employment density range (Emp/Sq. Mi.)	Highway terminal time (minutes)
0 - 4,617	1
4,618 - 6,631	2
6,632 - 11,562	4
11,563 - 32,985	6
32,986 +	8

21.8 Auto Operating Costs

The auto operating cost in the mode choice model relate to out-of-pocket expenditures directly associated with the requirements of an automobile trip, including fuel, oil, maintenance, tire wear, etc. (auto ownership costs including insurance, registration fees, etc. are not included). The mode choice model expresses operating costs as a per-mile rate (2007 cents) that is specified as a parameter in the nested-logit mode choice model control files. We are currently using 10 cents per mile and this rate is not varied over time (i.e., the auto operating cost for 2002 and 2030 are both assumed to be 10 cents per mile).

22 Time-of-Day Processing

22.1 Overview

The time of day process is applied to convert daily vehicles among the four modeled time periods, prior to being assigned to the network. The process is applied with the Time-of-Day.s and Misc_Time-of-Day.s scripts. The Prepare_Trip_Tables_for_Assignment.s script is used to combine the various trips by time period into combined trip tables for the traffic assignment process. The input and output files are listed in Table 78 and Table 79.

Table 78 Inputs to time-of-day process

Daily Auto Driver Trips, by Occupancy Levels	HBW<ITER>.ADR, HBS<ITER>.ADR, HBO<ITER>.ADR, NHW<ITER>.ADR, NHO<ITER>.ADR	Binary
Daily Miscellaneous and Truck Trips (From the \Inputs subdirectory)	VISI.ADR, TAXI.ADR, SCHL.ADR, AIRPAX.ADR, XXCVT.VTT, XXAUT.VTT,	Binary
Truck and commercial vehicle trip tables	MTK<ITER>.PTT, HTK<ITER>.PTT, COM<ITER>.PTT	Binary
Adjustment or 'delta' trip tables used for commercial and truck models	CVDelta_3722.trp TKDelta_3722.trp	Binary
Time of Day Percent File by Purpose, Mode, and Direction	todcomp_2008HTS.dbf	DBF

Note: <ITER> =PP, i1...i4

Table 79 Outputs of time-of-day process

Trip Tables by Time Period	AM<ITER>.ADR, MD<ITER>.ADR, PM<ITER>.ADR, NT<ITER>.ADR,	Binary
Miscellaneous Time-of-Day Files	MISCAM<ITER>.TT, MISCMD<ITER>.TT, MISCPM<ITER>.TT, MISCNT<ITER>.TT	Binary
Total Vehicle Trips by Six Markets T1 – SOVs T2 – 2 occ. vehicles T3 – 3+ occ. vehicles T4 – Commercial vehicles T5 – Medium + Heavy Trucks Combined T6 – Airport passenger auto-driver trips/vehs.	<ITER>AM.VTT, <ITER>MD.VTT, <ITER>PM.VTT, <ITER>NT.VTT	Binary

23 Traffic Assignment

23.1 Overview

As mentioned in section 2.3 (“Modeling steps and the speed feedback loop”), the Version 2.3 Travel Model uses a user-equilibrium (UE) traffic assignment, which is the generally accepted method for static traffic assignments. The user equilibrium condition was defined by Wardrop in 1952.¹¹⁴ According to Wardrop’s first principle, in the case where all trip makers perceive costs the same way (i.e., no stochastic effects):

*Under equilibrium conditions, traffic arranges itself in congested networks such that all used routes between an O-D pair have equal and minimum costs, while all unused routes have greater or equal costs.*¹¹⁵

Furthermore, the assignment process is a multi-class UE assignment, meaning that separate user classes can be assigned at the same time. The Version 2.3 model includes six user classes:

1. Single-occupant vehicle (SOV)
2. High-occupant vehicle with two persons (HOV2)
3. High-occupant vehicle with three+ persons (HOV3+)
4. Medium and heavy trucks
5. Commercial vehicles
6. Airport passengers traveling to/from the three commercial airports

In Version 2.2, there were only five user classes, since the commercial vehicles category was grouped with medium/heavy truck. The primary reason for distinguishing truck markets is to allow for the option of using passenger car equivalents (PCEs) in the traffic assignment process. The use of PCE’s has not yet been implemented, but they will be considered in future developmental work.

Additionally, the Version 2.3 model includes four time-of-day periods for traffic assignment:

- AM peak period (3 hours: 6:00 AM to 9:00 AM)
- Midday period (6 hours: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM)
- PM peak period (4 hours: 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM)
- Night/early morning period (11 hours: 7:00 PM to 6:00 AM)

Most MPOs use a UE traffic assignment that relies on an optimization algorithm known as the Frank-Wolfe (FW) algorithm.¹¹⁶ The FW algorithm is essentially a series of all-or-nothing traffic assignments where flows are combined using weights from an optimization process whose goal is to minimize an

¹¹⁴ John Glen Wardrop, “Some Theoretical Aspects of Road Traffic Research,” *Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers* 1, no. 3 (January 1952): 325–62, doi:10.1680/ipeds.1952.11259.

¹¹⁵ Juan de Dios Ortúzar and Luis G. Willumsen, *Modelling Transport*, 2nd ed. (John Wiley & Sons, 1994), 304.

¹¹⁶ Frank and Wolfe, “An Algorithm for Quadratic Programming.”

objective function. The process stops when a stopping criterion is met. Previously, the Version 2.3 Travel Model used the following UE stopping criterion: When the relative gap $\leq 10^{-3}$ OR the number of UE iterations ≥ 300 . The relative gap threshold was always intended to be the primary stopping criterion, with the number of UE iterations functioning as a backup criterion. Now, however, we have moved to what we call a “progressive” relative gap stopping criterion. The idea is that, in the early SFB iterations, the UE closure criterion will be relatively loose, but, in the later SFB iterations, the UE closure criterion will tighten, as shown in Table 4.

Table 80 User equilibrium closure criterion (relative gap) varies by speed feedback iteration

Speed feedback iteration	Primary closure criterion for UE traffic assignment	Secondary closure criteria for UE traffic assignment
Pump prime	Relative gap $\leq 10^{-2}$ (i.e., 0.01)	Number of UE iterations ≥ 1000
1	Relative gap $\leq 10^{-2}$ (i.e., 0.01)	Number of UE iterations ≥ 1000
2	Relative gap $\leq 10^{-2}$ (i.e., 0.01)	Number of UE iterations ≥ 1000
3	Relative gap $\leq 10^{-3}$ (i.e., 0.001)	Number of UE iterations ≥ 1000
4	Relative gap $\leq 10^{-4}$ (i.e., 0.0001)	Number of UE iterations ≥ 1000

By using the higher value for UE iterations (1000 vs. 300), we were able to ensure that this secondary criterion is unlikely to be used as the stopping criterion. Based on a series of sensitivity tests,¹¹⁷ we found that the new progressive relative gap scheme results in a relatively converged traffic assignment, without the extremely lengthy model run times that would be needed if one were to use a high threshold (e.g., 10^{-4} relative gap) for each of the five SFB iterations. The Version 2.3 Travel Model uses a slight variation of the FW algorithm, called the *bi-conjugate* Frank-Wolfe algorithm, which converges marginally faster than the classic FW algorithm.

23.2 Two-step assignment

The Version 2.2 traffic assignment process prior to the fall of 2008 consisted of three separate assignment executions for each speed feedback (SFB) loop: AM peak period, PM peak period, and the off-peak period (see Table 81). To respect the various highway path options and prohibitions in the Washington region, five separate markets or “user classes” (trip tables) were loaded during each assignment execution:

1. Single-occupant vehicles, including commercial vehicles (SOV),
2. 2-occupant vehicles (HOV2),
3. 3+occupant vehicles (HOV3+),
4. Trucks (medium and heavy), and
5. Airport passenger vehicles.

¹¹⁷ Moran and Milone, “Status Report on the Version 2.3 Travel Model: Updates to the Model and Year-2010 Validation,” 7–11.

Table 81 Traffic assignment in the Version 2.2 Travel Model prior to fall 2008: Three multiclass assignments

For each SFB loop	Assignment period	Trip markets assigned
Assignment 1	AM peak	1. SOV 2. HOV2 3. HOV3+ 4. Trucks 5. Airport passengers
Assignment 2	PM peak	1. SOV 2. HOV2 3. HOV3+ 4. Trucks 5. Airport passengers
Assignment 3	Off-peak	1. SOV 2. HOV2 3. HOV3+ 4. Trucks 5. Airport passengers

In the fall of 2008, as part of air quality conformity work, the traffic assignment process was modified to improve the assignment of HOV/HOT traffic on the Capital Beltway in Virginia and the I-395 Shirley Highway.¹¹⁸ In the revised process, shown in Table 82, the AM traffic assignment was split into two parts: non-HOV 3+ (i.e., SOV, HOV2, trucks, and airport passengers) and HOV 3+. Similarly, the PM traffic assignment was also split into two parts: non-HOV 3+ and HOV3+. This new traffic assignment process is sometimes referred to as the “two-step assignment,” since it splits the AM and PM assignment each into two parts.¹¹⁹

Table 82 Traffic assignment in the Version 2.2 Travel Model prior to fall 2008: Five multiclass assignments

For each SFB loop	Assignment period	Trip markets assigned
Assignment 1	AM peak (non-HOV3+)	1. SOV 2. HOV2 3. Trucks 4. Airport passengers
Assignment 2	AM peak (HOV3+)	1. HOV3+
Assignment 3	PM peak (non-HOV3+)	1. SOV 2. HOV2 3. Trucks 4. Airport passengers
Assignment 4	PM peak (HOV3+)	1. HOV3+
Assignment 5	Off-peak	1. SOV 2. HOV2 3. HOV3+ 4. Trucks 5. Airport passengers

¹¹⁸ Ronald Milone and Mark S. Moran, “TPB Models Development Status Report” (presented at the November 21, 2008 meeting of the Travel Forecasting Subcommittee of the Technical Committee of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board, held at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Washington, D.C., November 21, 2008).

¹¹⁹ Jinchul Park to Files, “Two Step Traffic Assignment for HOT Lane Modeling in 2008 CLRP,” Memorandum, (December 2, 2008).

The result was five (not three) traffic assignments, with either four, one, or five user classes, depending on which assignment was being conducted. The fifth traffic assignment, representing the off-peak period, included all five trip markets (it was only the two peak-period assignments where the non-HOV 3+ and HOV 3+ were split out).

In the first step of the two-step assignment (assignments #1 and #3), non-HOV 3+ traffic (i.e., SOV, HOV 2, truck, and airport passenger trips) is assigned to all facilities (HOV and general purpose). In the second step, HOV 3+ traffic is assigned to HOT lanes and other facilities on the partially loaded network. The pre-assignment of non-HOV 3+ traffic results in congested link speeds for the general purpose lanes. This means that HOV 3+ traffic has a greater incentive to use HOV facilities, which results in improved HOV 3+ loadings on priority-use and general-use facilities.

The Version 2.3.52 Travel Model continues to use the same two-step assignment, but there are now six assignments in each speed feedback loop, since the off-peak period has been split into midday and nighttime. Also, commercial vehicles are split out from trucks, as shown in Table 83. Both of these changes occurred in earlier builds of the Version 2.3 Travel Model.

Table 83 Traffic assignment in the Version 2.3.52 Travel Model: Six multiclass assignments

For each SFB loop	Assignment period	Trip markets assigned
Assignment 1	AM peak (non-HOV3+)	1. SOV 2. HOV2 3. Trucks 4. Commercial vehicles 5. Airport passengers
Assignment 2	AM peak (HOV3+)	1. HOV3+
Assignment 3	PM peak (non-HOV3+)	1. SOV 2. HOV2 3. Trucks 4. Commercial vehicles 5. Airport passengers
Assignment 4	PM peak (HOV3+)	1. HOV3+
Assignment 5	Off-peak, midday	1. SOV 2. HOV2 3. HOV3+ 4. Trucks 5. Commercial vehicles 6. Airport passengers
Assignment 6	Off-peak, nighttime	1. SOV 2. HOV2 3. HOV3+ 4. Trucks 5. Commercial vehicles 6. Airport passengers

23.3 Application details

The traffic assignment process is shown on page A-10 of the flowchart in Appendix A. The Highway_assignment_parallel.bat batch file calls the highway_assignment_parallel.s script. As described in Chapter 8 (“Use of parallel processing to reduce model run times”), the highway

assignment process has been “parallelized” by using Cube Cluster (both IDP and MDP), which is Cube’s implementation of distributed processing. See section 8.2.1 for terminology related to distributed processing, and see section 8.2.4 for details about how Cube Cluster has been implanted in the Version 2.3.52 model, including the traffic assignment step.

The highway assignment process uses a generalized cost or impedance, which is function of both travel time and cost. Cost is converted to travel time based on the vehicle class and time of day, as described in Table 84. These minutes/per-dollar factors are used for both variably-priced facilities, such as the I-495 HOT lanes in Virginia, and for fixed-price facilities, such as the Governor Nice Bridge.

Table 84 Time Valuation by Vehicle Type and Time Period (minutes/dollar, in year-2007 prices)

Mode	Equivalent Minutes per Dollar			
	AM Peak	Midday	PM Peak	Night
SOV	2.5	3.0	3.0	3.0
HOV 2-occupant auto	1.5	4.0	2.0	4.0
HOV 3+occupant auto	1.0	4.0	1.0	4.0
Light duty commercial vehicle	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Truck	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Auto serving airport passenger	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0

(Time_Valuation_V2.3.xls)

The inputs and outputs of the highway_assignment_parallel.s script are shown in Table 85 and Table 86, respectively.

Table 85 Inputs to traffic assignment process

Volume delay parameters and free-flow speed assumptions	support\hwy_assign_Conical_VDF.s support\hwy_assign_capSpeedLookup.s	Script block
Total vehicle trips by 4 time-of-day periods and 6 user classes	<ITER>_AM.VTT, <ITER>_MD.VTT, <ITER>_PM.VTT, <ITER>_NT.VTT	Binary
Toll minutes equivalence file	support\toll_minutes.txt	Text
AM Toll Factors by Vehicle Type	Inputs\AM_Tfac.dbf	DBF
Midday Toll Factors by Vehicle Type	Inputs\MD_Tfac.dbf	DBF
PM Toll Factors by Vehicle Type	Inputs\PM_Tfac.dbf	DBF
Night Toll Factors by Vehicle Type	Inputs\NT_Tfac.dbf	DBF
Network files	ZONEHWY.NET, <ITER>_HWY.NET	Binary

Note: <ITER> =PP, i1...i4

When the traffic assignment process is run, the script creates a series of user equilibrium convergence report files, as shown in Table 86. Each file contains the relative gap by user equilibrium iteration. By using these files with a spreadsheet, one can make plots of the rate of convergence of the traffic assignment.

Table 86 Outputs of traffic assignment process

Loaded-link files by time period	<ITER>_am_load_link.asc, <ITER>_md_load_link.asc, <ITER>_pm_load_link.asc, <ITER>_nt_load_link.asc,	Text
Loaded Highway Network	<ITER>_Assign_output.net	Binary
UE convergence report files	<iter>_ue_iteration_report_AM_nonHov.txt <iter>_ue_iteration_report_AM_hov.txt <iter>_ue_iteration_report_PM_nonHov.txt <iter>_ue_iteration_report_PM_hov.txt <iter>_ue_iteration_report_MD.txt <iter>_ue_iteration_report_NT.txt	Text

Note: <ITER> =PP, i1...i4

Table 87 provides further details regarding the attributes of the final loaded highway network.

Table 87 Variables included in the final iteration, loaded highway network (i4_Assign_output.net)

Variable Name	Description
A	A-Node
B	B-Node
DISTANCE	Link Distance in miles (x.xx)
SPDC	(Not used)
CAPC	(Not used)
JUR	Jurisdiction Code (0-23) 0/dc, 1/mtg, 2/pg, 3/alr/, 4/alx,5, ffx, 6/ldn, 7/ pw, 8/(unused), 9/frd, 10/how, 11/aa, 12/chs, 13/(unused), 14/car, 15/cal, 16/stm, 17/kg, 18/fbg, 19/stf, 20/spts, 21/fau, 22/clk, 23/jef
SCREEN	Screenline Code (1-38)
FTYPE	Link Facility Type Code (0-6)
	0/Centroids, 1/Freeways, 2/Major Art., 3/Minor Art, 4/ Collector, 5/ Expressway, 6/ Ramp
TOLL	Toll Value in current year dollars
TOLLGRP	Toll Group Code (1-9999)
<Period> LANE	<Period> No. of Lanes
<Period>LIMIT	<Period> Limit Code (0-9)
EDGEID	Geometry network link identifier
LINKID	Logical network link identifier
NETWORKYEA	Planning year of network link
SHAPE_LENG	Geometry length of network link (in feet)
PROJECTID	Project identifier
TAZ	Nearest TAZ centroid to midpoint of link (1-3,722)
ATYPE	Area Type (1-6)
SPDCCLASS	Speed Class

CAPCLASS	Capacity Class
DEFLATIONFTR	Factor for deflating current year tolls to constant year tolls
<Period>TOLL	<Period> Toll Value in current year dollars - all tolled facilities
<Period>TOLL_VP	<Period> Toll Value in current year dollars - Variably priced tolled facilities only
<Period> HTIME	<Period> Highway Time - based on initial highway lookup speeds
I4<Period>SOV	Iteration 4 <Period> assigned SOV Volume
I4<Period>HV2	Iteration 4 <Period> assigned HOV2 Volume
I4<Period>HV3	Iteration 4 <Period> assigned HOV3 Volume
I4<Period>CV	Iteration 4 <Period> assigned Commercial Vehicle Volume
I4<Period>TRK	Iteration 4 <Period> assigned Truck Volume
I4<Period>APX	Iteration 4 <Period> assigned Airport Passenger Volume
I4<Period> VOL	Iteration 4 <Period> assigned Volume
I4<Period>VMT	Iteration 4 <Period> Vehicle Miles Travelled (VMT)
I4<Period>FFSPD	Iteration 4 <Period> free flow speed (mph)
<Period>HRLKCAP	<Period> hourly link capacity
<Period>HRLNCAP	<Period> hourly lane capacity
I4<Period>VC	Iteration 4 <Period> Volume Capacity ratio
I4<Period>VDF	Iteration 4 <Period> Volume Delay function
I4<Period>SPD	Iteration 4 <Period> Speed (mph)
I424VOL	Iteration 4 Daily (24 hour) Volume
KEY	
<Period>= AM	AM Peak Period (6:00-9:00 AM)
MD	Mid Day (9:00 AM - 3:00 PM)
PM	PM Peak Period (3:00 - 7:00 PM)
NT	All remaining hours

Since the travel model includes speed feedback, in order to ensure that highway volumes and hence speeds are stabilizing with each successive speed feedback iteration, it is necessary to apply a link-level “method of successive averaging” (MSA) process. The MSA averaging is performed on the basis of total (non-segmented) link volumes, and is performed individually for each time period. This process is performed after each successive highway assignment process using the Average_Link_Speeds.bat file that includes the Average_Link_Speeds.s script. This script uses the current iteration and previous iteration loaded networks to develop a network with volume averaging named <ITER>_HWY.net.

24 Transit Assignment, Including Summary Process (LineSum)

24.1 Transit assignment process

Transit assignment is a new feature of the Version 2.3 Travel Model that was not part of the Version 2.2 Travel Model. Transit assignment is where transit trips are loaded on to the transit network. Although highway and transit assignment have some similarities, it is useful to point out some of the differences between these two assignment procedures. First, whereas highway assignment is done with trip tables in origin/destination (O/D) format, transit assignment is done with trip tables in production/attraction (P/A) format. Second, whereas highway assignment is capacity constrained, transit assignment is not. Lastly, whereas highway assignment is done in each of the five speed feedback loops (i.e., pump prime, i1, i2, i3, and i4), transit assignment is conducted only at the conclusion of the i4 speed feedback loop (See Figure 10 and Figure 11).

Procedures for transit assignment are shown on pages A-15 through A-17 in the flowchart in Appendix A. The transit assignment is run using the `Transit_Assignment_Parallel.bat` and `Transit_Assignment_LineHaul_Parallel.bat` batch files, the first of which is called from the "run model steps" batch file. Prior to transit assignment, the five mode choice trip tables (HBW, HBS, HBO, NHW, and NHO) are combined into two trip tables (AM = HBW; and OP = HBS + HBO + NHW + NHO), using the `Combine_Tables_For_TrAssign_Parallel.s` script. After the transit assignment has been run, the transit assignment output files are summarized using the LineSum program. This is also called from the `Transit_Assignment_Parallel.bat` batch file via the `TranSum.bat` batch file. The transit assignment process is run in the standard scenario/output folder (e.g., `L:\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal\2010_Final`), but the transit assignment summary files are stored in a sub-folder called "transum." The inputs to the `Transit_Assignment_Parallel.bat` batch file are shown in Table 88 and the outputs are shown in Table 89.

Table 88 Inputs to transit assignment process

Trip tables segmented by mode (coming from the mode choice model)	i4_HBW_NL_MC.MTT i4_HBS_NL_MC.MTT i4_HBO_NL_MC.MTT i4_NHW_NL_MC.MTT i4_NHO_NL_MC.MTT	Binary
Local bus future time degradation factors	Inputs\LBus_TimFTRS.ASC *	Text
Highway network	Zonehwy.net	Binary
AM peak transit lines	Inputs\MODE1AM...MODE10AM.TB	Text
Off peak transit lines	Inputs\MODE1OP...MODE10OP.TB	Text
Transit network files	met_node.tb, met_bus.tb, met_link.tb, com_node.tb, com_bus.tb, com_link.tb, lrt_node.tb, lrt_bus.tb, lrt_link.tb new_node.tb, new_bus.tb, new_link.tb met_pnrn.tb, com_pnrn.tb, bus_pnrn.tb, lrt_pnrn.tb, new_pnrn.tb met_[AM OP]_pnr.tb, com_[AM OP]_pnr.tb, bus_[AM OP]_pnr.tb, lrt_[AM OP]_pnr.tb, new_[AM OP]_pnr.tb met_[AM OP]_pnr.asc, com_[AM OP]_pnr.asc, bus_[AM OP]_pnr.asc, lrt_[AM OP]_pnr.asc, new_[AM OP]_pnr.asc met_[AM OP]_knr.asc, bus_[AM OP]_knr.asc, lrt_[AM OP]_knr.asc, new_[AM OP]_knr.asc met_bus.tb, com_bus.tb, lrt_bus.tb, new_bus.tb	Text
Transit network walk links	walkacc.asc, sidewalk.asc	Text

Note: <ITER> =PP, i1...i4

* See discussion of LBus_TimFTRS.ASC on p. 138.

Table 89 Outputs of transit assignment process

Combined transit trip file	<ITER>_<Prd>MS.TRP	Binary
Transit assignment node file	<ITER>_<AA><??><Prd>node.dbf	DBF
Transit assignment Link file	<ITER>_<AA><??><Prd>link.dbf	DBF
Support links	Supl_<??>_<AA>_<Prd>.asc	Text

Note: <ITER> =PP, i1...i4, <AA>= WK, DR, KR ??= CR, MR, AB, BM, Prd=AM, OP

The transit assignment is done for two time-of-day periods: the peak period and the off peak period. The peak period is represented by the three-hour AM peak period. The off-peak period is represented by the five-hour midday period. Thus, when calculating peak-period travel times on transit (“skims”) the

AM peak period is used to represent the level of service in both the AM and PM peak period. Similarly, when calculating the average headway and average run time for each transit route, these calculations are done for the peak period (represented by the AM peak) and the off-peak period (represented by the midday period). It is assumed that the majority of HBW trips will occur in the peak periods and that the majority of non-work trips will occur in the off-peak periods. Consequently, prior to the actual transit assignment, the five trip tables coming out of mode choice are combined into two tables: one for the peak period and one for the off-peak period. The peak-period trip table ("AM") contains only one trip table (HBW). By contrast, the off-peak period trip table ("OP") contains the trip tables from the other four trip purposes (HBS, HBO, NHW, NHO) as shown in Table 90.

Table 90 Mapping/concatenation of trip tables by trip purposes into peak and off-peak period trip tables prior to transit assignment

Before combining trip tables	After combining trip tables
i4_HBW_NL_MC.MTT	i4_AMMS.TRP
i4_HBS_NL_MC.MTT	i4_OPMS.TRP
i4_HBO_NL_MC.MTT	
i4_NHW_NL_MC.MTT	
i4_NHO_NL_MC.MTT	

This is mapping/concatenation of trip tables done with the Cube Voyager script Combine_Tables_For_TrAssign.s script. There are 11 tables on the *.TRP files, not 12, since, for commuter rail, KNR and PNR are combined:

WK_CR, WK_BUS, WK_BUS_MR, WK_MR,

PNR_KNR_CR, PNR_BUS, KNR_BUS, PNR_BUS_MR, KNR_BUS_MR, PNR_MR, KNR_MR

There are four transit assignment scripts, one for each transit submode (commuter rail, Metrorail, all bus, and bus/Metrorail):

transit_assignment_CR.s
 transit_assignment_MR.s
 transit_assignment_AB.s
 transit_assignment_BM.s

24.1.1 Inputs to the transit assignment

As can be seen on page A-15 of Appendix A, the specific list of inputs for transit assignment varies for each of the four transit submodes.

24.1.2 Outputs of the transit assignment

The output of the four transit assignment scripts are a series of transit link files and transit node files in dBase (DBF) format. These files are generated in Cube Voyager's TRNBUILD module using the LINKO and NODEO keywords. The transit node files (NODEO) simply contain the node number and its X and Y coordinates, as shown in Figure 38.

	A	B	C
1	N	X	Y
2	1	1298543	446898
3	2	1298807	445281
4	3	1297889	443318
5	4	1296811	441898
6	5	1303089	442174
7	6	1301409	443113
8	7	1299596	445914
9	8	1301916	446878
10	9	1302004	445336
11	10	1302622	443982
12	11	1303826	443797
13	12	1305207	444137
14	13	1303781	445659
15	14	1304865	446730

Figure 38 Excerpt from one of the transit node DBF files output from transit assignment (i4_WKM RAMnode.dbf)

Ref: "X:\modelRuns\fy12\Ver2.3.36\2007_pseu\i4_WKM RAMnode.dbf"

Transit link files (LINKO) files include the following attributes:¹²⁰

- A: A-node of link
- B: B-node of link
- TIME: A-B time (hundredths of minutes)
- MODE: Mode of link (1-255)
- COLOR: User designated drawing color
- STOP_A: 1 = A is a stop node
- STOP_B: 1 = B is a stop node
- DIST: A-B distance
- NAME: Name of line on this link
- FREQ: Service frequency (min)
- PLOT: Always = 0

The following additional attributes are included due to transit assignment:

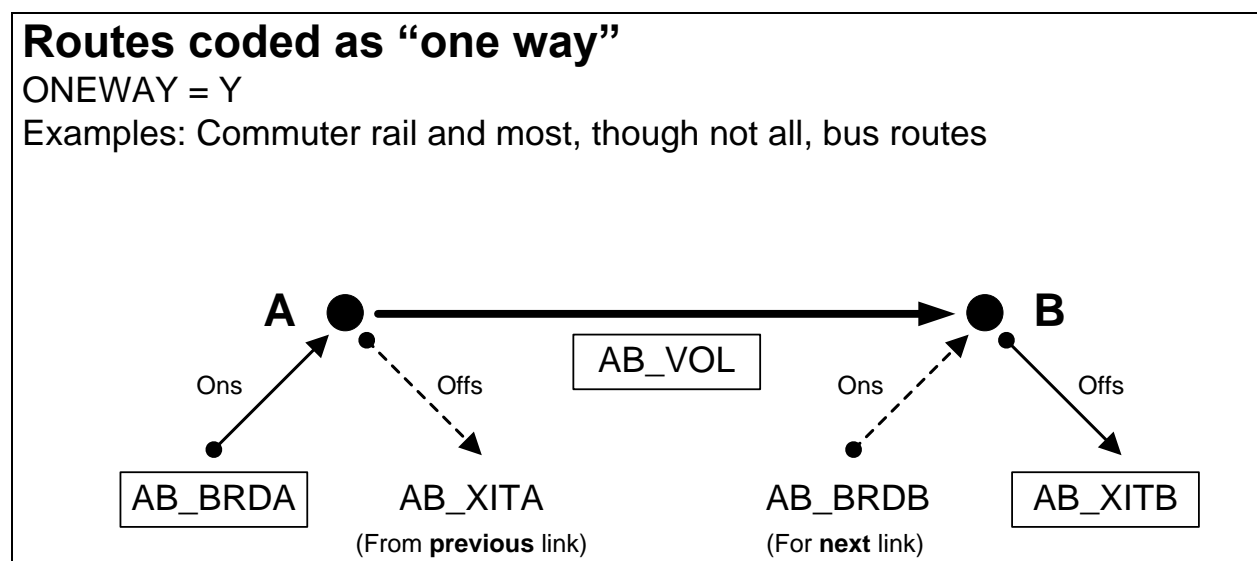
- SEQ: Link sequence in the line
- OWNER: Line owner (first ten characters)
- AB_VOL: Volume
- AB_BRDA: Number of trip boardings at A

¹²⁰ Citilabs, Inc., *Cube Voyager Reference Guide, Version 6.0.2*, 958.

- AB_XITA: Number of exits at A
- AB_BRDB: Number of boardings at B
- AB_XITB: Number of exits at B
- (last 5 variables are also repeated for B-A direction)

Figure 39 and Figure 40 show the naming conventions used for transit volumes from a TRNBUILD-based transit assignment. Both figures show the associated volumes (“ons,” “throughs,” and “offs”) for a hypothetical transit link AB. Figure 39 is for the case of a one-way transit route, and Figure 40 is for the case of a two-way transit route. These figures can also be useful when interpreting reports from the LineSum transit assignment summary program (covered in the next section of the report).

Figure 39 Transit volumes from transit assignment using TRNBUILD: One-way route



Ref: transit_volumes_ab_ba_trnbuild_v2.vsd

Note: For a description of AB_VOL, AB_BRDA, AB_XITA, etc., see page 958, Cube Voyager Reference Guide, Version 6.0.2. Citilabs, Inc., July 26, 2012.

The simplest case is the one-way route (Figure 39). In this case, the three important values for the link AB are:

- AB_VOL: Transit person trips on link AB (“throughs”)
- AB_BRDA: Transit person boardings (“ons”) at the “from” node (node A in the figure)
- AB_XITB: Transit person alightings (“offs”) from the “to” node (node B in the figure)

All three of these variables are shown in rectangular boxes in Figure 39. The other two values shown in Figure 39 (AB_XITA and AB_BRDB) are associated with the **link prior to link AB** (AB_XITA) and the **link after link AB** (AB_BRDB).

For routes coded as two-way (Figure 40), the situation is similar, but a bit more complex. When traveling in the A-to-B direction, the three important variables for transit volumes are the same as before:

- AB_VOL: Transit person trips on link AB (“throughs”)

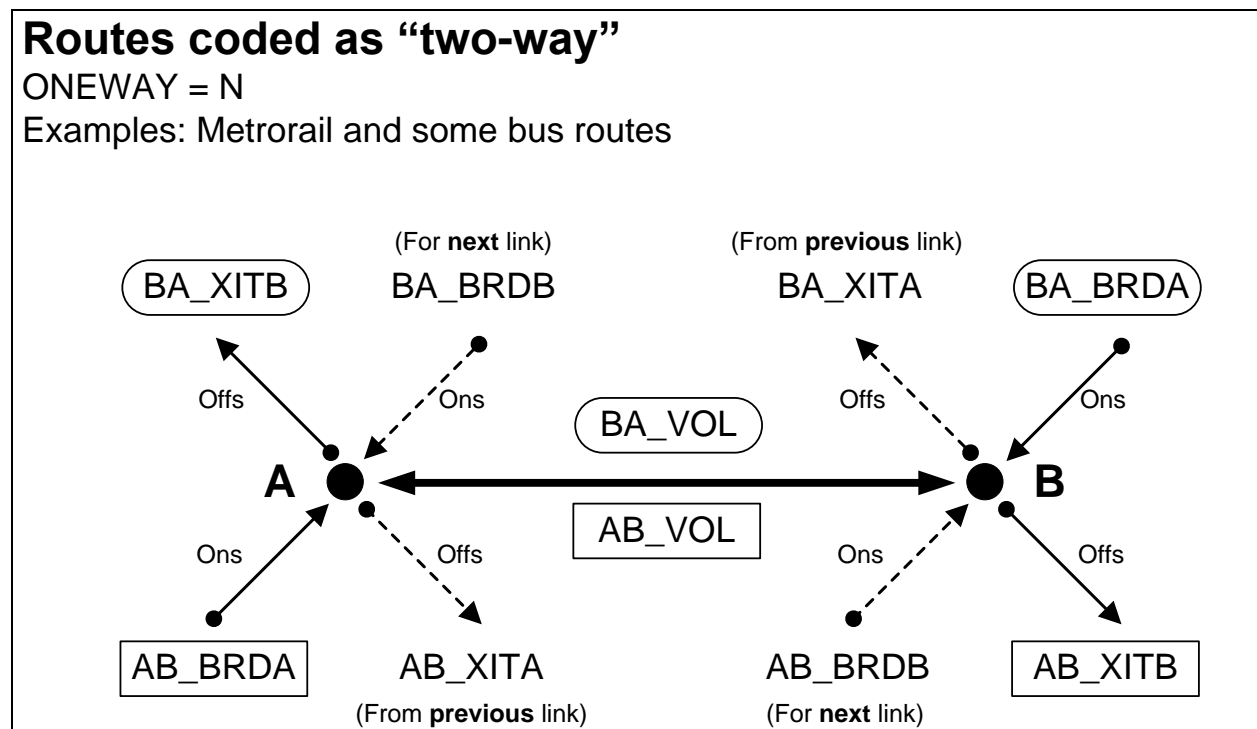
- AB_BRDA: Transit person boardings (“ons”) at the “from” node (node A in the figure)
- AB_XITB: Transit person alightings (“offs”) from the “to” node (node B in the figure)

However, when travelling in the B-to-A direction, the three relevant variables are:

- BA_VOL: Transit person trips on link AB in the B-to-A direction (“throughs”)
- BA_BRDA: Transit person boardings (“ons”) in the B-to-A direction at the “from” node (node B in the figure)¹²¹
- BA_XITB: Transit person alightings (“offs”) in the B-to-A direction from the “to” node (node A in the figure)

These are indicated in Figure 40 with rectangular boxes that have rounded corners.

Figure 40 Transit volumes from transit assignment using TRNBUILD: Two-way route



Note: For a description of AB_VOL, AB_BRDA, AB_XITA, etc., see page 958, Cube Voyager Reference Guide, Version 6.0.2. Citilabs, Inc., July 26, 2012.

Keep in mind that, since transit path-building and assignment are conducted in production/attraction (P/A) format, **all of the values on these tables are also in P/A format.** Conducting transit assignment in production/attraction format is state of the practice for transit assignments and has the benefit of

¹²¹ Typically, the convention is that the “from” node is the A node and the “to” node is the B node. However, in Figure 40, for movement in the B-to-A direction, the “from” node is labeled B and the “to” node is labeled A, since those were the labels used for movement in the A-to-B direction.

showing the peak orientation of the transit line. **To estimate the boardings at a given station in origin/destination format, you need to add the “ons” and “offs” together and divide by two.**¹²²

Some examples of the LINKO attribute values can be found in Figure 41 through Figure 43. For example, Figure 41 shows a portion of the AM walk-access to Metrorail LINKO file (i4_WKMRAMlink.dbf) that has mode-16 links (walk access to transit). Similarly, Figure 42 shows a portion of the AM walk-access to Metrorail LINKO file (i4_WKMRAMlink.dbf) that has mode-3 links (Metrorail line segments). Lastly, Figure 43 shows a portion of the AM walk-access to Metrorail LINKO file (i4_WKMRAMlink.dbf) that has mode-12 links (walk transfer links).

¹²² AECOM, *LineSum (Version 5.0.17)* (Arlington, Virginia: AECOM, June 13, 2012), 14.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W
1	A	B	TIME	MODE	FREQ	PLOT	COLOR	STOP_A	STOP_B	DIST	NAME	SEQ	OWNER	AB_VOL	AB_BRDA	AB_XITA	AB_BRDB	AB_XITB	BA_VOL	BA_BRDA	BA_XITA	BA_BRDB	BA_XITB
2	1	20263	280	16	0.00	0	6	0	0	14	*16	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	1	20266	200	16	0.00	0	6	0	0	10	*16	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	1	20269	180	16	0.00	0	6	0	0	9	*16	0		0	0	0	0	0	1344	0	0	0	0
5	1	20341	300	16	0.00	0	6	0	0	15	*16	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	1	20344	240	16	0.00	0	6	0	0	12	*16	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	1	20346	300	16	0.00	0	6	0	0	15	*16	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	1	20442	60	16	0.00	0	6	0	0	3	*16	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Figure 41 Excerpt from one of the transit link DBF files output from transit assignment (i4_WKMRAMlink.dbf) showing mode-16 links

Ref: "X:\modelRuns\fy12\Ver2.3.36\2007_pseu\i4_WKMRAMlink.dbf"

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W
1	A	B	TIME	MODE	FREQ	PLOT	COLOR	STOP_A	STOP_B	DIST	NAME	SEQ	OWNER	AB_VOL	AB_BRDA	AB_XITA	AB_BRDB	AB_XITB	BA_VOL	BA_BRDA	BA_XITA	BA_BRDB	BA_XITB
2	8001	8002	406	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	261	WMREDA	1	WMATA;SHAD	601	601	0	813	28	138	0	138	9	568
3	8002	8001	406	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	261	WMREDA-	26	WMATA;SHAD	138	9	568	0	138	601	813	28	601	0
4	8002	8003	329	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	213	WMREDA	2	WMATA;SHAD	1385	813	28	970	93	697	9	568	54	994
5	8003	8002	329	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	213	WMREDA-	25	WMATA;SHAD	697	54	994	9	568	1385	970	93	813	28
6	8003	8004	308	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	109	WMREDA	3	WMATA;SHAD	2263	970	93	593	89	1637	54	994	54	940
7	8004	8003	308	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	109	WMREDA-	24	WMATA;SHAD	1637	54	940	54	994	2263	593	89	970	93
8	8004	8005	203	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	135	WMREDA	4	WMATA;SHAD	2767	593	89	814	8	2523	54	940	143	47
9	8005	8004	203	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	135	WMREDA-	23	WMATA;SHAD	2523	143	47	54	940	2767	814	8	593	89
10	8005	8006	305	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	219	WMREDA	5	WMATA;SHAD	3573	814	8	344	213	2427	143	47	50	825
11	8005	8006	306	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	219	WMREDB	1	WMATA;GROS	801	801	0	337	63	44	0	44	1	697
12	8006	8005	305	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	219	WMREDA-	22	WMATA;SHAD	2427	50	825	143	47	3573	344	213	814	8
13	8006	8005	306	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	219	WMREDB-	19	WMATA;GROS	44	1	697	0	44	801	337	63	801	0
14	8006	8007	201	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	102	WMREDA	6	WMATA;SHAD	3704	344	213	1362	383	3202	50	825	266	1886
15	8006	8007	201	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	102	WMREDB	2	WMATA;GROS	1074	337	63	1329	117	740	1	697	62	1656
16	8007	8006	201	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	102	WMREDA-	21	WMATA;SHAD	3202	266	1886	50	825	3704	1362	383	344	213
17	8007	8006	201	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	102	WMREDB-	18	WMATA;GROS	740	62	1656	1	697	1074	1329	117	337	63
18	8007	8008	308	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	170	WMREDA	7	WMATA;SHAD	4683	1362	383	1739	169	4822	266	1886	401	845
19	8007	8008	309	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	170	WMREDB	3	WMATA;GROS	2286	1329	117	1706	97	2334	62	1656	254	771
20	8008	8007	308	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	170	WMREDA-	20	WMATA;SHAD	4822	401	845	266	1886	4683	1739	169	1362	383
21	8008	8007	309	3	6.00	0	0	1	1	170	WMREDB-	17	WMATA;GROS	2334	254	771	62	1656	2286	1706	97	1329	117

Figure 42 Excerpt from one of the transit link DBF files output from transit assignment (i4_WKMRAMlink.dbf) showing mode-3 links

Ref: "X:\modelRuns\fy12\Ver2.3.36\2007_pseu\i4_WKMRAMlink.dbf"

1	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W
	A	B	TIME	MODE	FREQ	PLOT	COLOR	STOP_A	STOP_B	DIST	NAME	SEQ	OWNER	AB_VOL	AB_BRDA	AB_XITA	AB_BRDB	AB_XITB	BA_VOL	BA_BRDA	BA_XITA	BA_BRDB	BA_XITB
256	8001	22395	20	12	0.00	0	2	0	0	1	*12	0	WMATA;SHAD	138	0	0	0	0	601	0	0	0	0
257	8002	9005	20	12	0.00	0	2	0	0	1	*12	0	WMATA;SHAD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
258	8002	22351	20	12	0.00	0	2	0	0	1	*12	0	WMATA;SHAD	160	0	0	0	0	236	0	0	0	0
259	8002	22370	20	12	0.00	0	2	0	0	1	*12	0	WMATA;SHAD	436	0	0	0	0	586	0	0	0	0
260	8003	22344	20	12	0.00	0	2	0	0	1	*12	0	WMATA;SHAD	542	0	0	0	0	776	0	0	0	0
261	8003	22672	20	12	0.00	0	2	0	0	1	*12	0	WMATA;SHAD	545	0	0	0	0	248	0	0	0	0
262	8004	22332	20	12	0.00	0	2	0	0	1	*12	0	WMATA;SHAD	830	0	0	0	0	613	0	0	0	0
263	8004	22670	20	12	0.00	0	2	0	0	1	*12	0	WMATA;SHAD	199	0	0	0	0	34	0	0	0	0
264	8005	22327	20	12	0.00	0	2	0	0	1	*12	0	WMATA;GROS	99	0	0	0	0	1757	0	0	0	0

Figure 43 Excerpt from one of the transit link DBF files output from transit assignment (i4_WKMRAMlink.dbf) showing mode-12 links

Ref: "X:\modelRuns\fy12\Ver2.3.36\2007_pseu\i4_WKMRAMlink.dbf"

24.2 Transit assignment summary process

The purpose of the transit assignment *summary* process is to summarize the output from the transit assignment process. The process is run with the `transum.bat` batch file, which, like the `Transit_Assignment_Parallel.bat` batch file, is called from the “run model steps” batch file (see page A-16 of Appendix A). Whereas the transit assignment process is run in the scenario/output folder (e.g., `Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal\2010_Final`), the transit assignment *summary* process is run in the **transum** folder (e.g., `Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal\2010_Final\transum`), which is a subfolder of the scenario/output folder. In the past, such as the Version 2.3.36 model, there were two transit assignment summary programs (`LineVol` and `LineSum`). `LineVol` was used to merge transit assignment output files into peak and off-peak files. Now, there is only one of these (`LineSum`, ver. 6.0.2),¹²³ since `LineSum` performs all the functionality needed, including the merging of output files.

An excerpt from the `transum.bat` batch file is shown in Figure 44 and the complete batch file can be found in Appendix B. When the model run is begun, the “transum” folder must exist under the scenario folder (e.g., `2010_Final\transum`), **but the folder is completely empty**. The control files needed to run `LineSum` are stored in the “controls” folder. The station names file (`station_names.dbf`) is also stored in the “controls” folder. This file includes Metrorail stations, commuter rail station, and other “named” nodes, such as:

Metrorail		Commuter rail		Other named nodes	
8001	Shady Grove	9001	Union Station	45558	Bristol
8002	Rockville	9002	Silver Spring	44132	Broken Land Pkwy
8003	Twinbrook	9003	Kensington	22539	Burtonsville Crossi
8004	White Flint	9004	Garrett Park	26130	Capital Plaza
8005	Grosvenor	9005	Rockville	20811	Carter Barron
8006	Medical Center	9006	Washington Grove	49556	Charlotte Hall
8007	Bethesda	9007	Gaithersburg	27208	Clinton

Once the transit assignment summary process is finished, the folder will include both a copy of the control files that were used and the report files generated by `LineSum`.

The following control files, associated with `LineSum`, are stored in the “controls” folder and are called by the `transum.bat` batch file:

```
LineSum_Volume.ct1
lineSum_MR_access.ct1
lineSum_MR_line.ct1
```

These files are described below and the model user can always develop more control files to generate more reports.

At the beginning of the `transum.bat` batch file (line 8 in Figure 44), the change directory command is used to change the working directory to the “transum” folder. In line 11, a local copy of the `LineSum`

¹²³ AECOM, *LineSum*, version 6.0.2 (Arlington, Virginia: AECOM, 2014).

control files is made in the tranSum folder. In line 14, we create a peak-period and off-peak period file containing the transit assignment. In line 18 of Figure 44, we generate a Metrorail station access report. This station access report does not include transfers from one Metrorail line to another, just the number of boardings at each station. Lastly, in line 22, we create line summaries for the Metrorail system.

Figure 44 An excerpt of tranSum.bat transit summary batch file

```
1  :: TranSum.bat
2  :: To be run from the root directory (e.g., E:\modelRuns\fy13\Ver2.3.46)
3
4
5  REM Change to the TranSum folder, under the scenario-specific folder
6  REM Output report files will be stored in the TranSum folder
7  REM The TranSum folder starts out empty, since station_names.dbf is stored in Controls
8  CD %1\TranSum
9
10 REM Copy the lineSum control files from the Controls folder to the TranSum folder
11 copy ..\..\Controls\LineSum_*.ctl
12
13 REM Consolidate peak and off-peak volumes from transit assignment
14 ..\..\software\LineSum.exe LineSum_Volume.ctl
15 if %ERRORLEVEL% == 1 goto error
16
17 REM Metrorail station access (does not include transfers)
18 ..\..\software\LineSum.exe lineSum_MR_access.ctl
19 if %ERRORLEVEL% == 1 goto error
20
21 REM Metrorail line summaries
22 ..\..\software\LineSum.exe lineSum_MR_line.ctl
23 if %ERRORLEVEL% == 1 goto error
24
25 (etc.)
```

Ref: L:\modelRuns\fy14\Ver2.3.52_Conformity2013CLRP_Xmittal\TranSum.bat

24.2.1 Consolidating transit assignment output and displaying results

As shown on page A-16 of Appendix A, the LineSum_Volume.ctl (Figure 45) control file is used to consolidate the transit assignment volume DBF files into two summary volume files, one for the peak period (PK_VOL.DBF, equal to the HBW transit volumes) and one for the off-peak period (OP_VOL.DBF, equal to the sum of the HBS, HBO, NHW, and NHO transit volume files).

Figure 45 Consolidating peak and off-peak transit assignment volumes (LineSum_Volume.ctl)

1	TITLE	Merge the Transit Volumes
2		
3	DEFAULT_FILE_FORMAT	DBASE
4		
5	PEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_1	..\i4_DRABAMlink.dbf //DRIVE ACCESS
6	PEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_2	..\i4_DRBMAMlink.dbf
7	PEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_3	..\i4_DRCRAMlink.dbf
8	PEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_4	..\i4_DRMRAMlink.dbf
9	PEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_5	..\i4_KRABAMlink.dbf //KISS AND RIDE ACCESS
10	PEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_6	..\i4_KRBMAMlink.dbf
11	PEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_7	..\i4_KRMRAMlink.dbf
12	PEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_8	..\i4_WKABAMlink.dbf //WALK ACCESS
13	PEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_9	..\i4_WKBMAMlink.dbf
14	PEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_10	..\i4_WKCRAMlink.dbf
15	PEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_11	..\i4_WKMRAMlink.dbf
16		
17	OFFPEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_1	..\i4_DRABOPlink.dbf //DRIVE ACCESS
18	OFFPEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_2	..\i4_DRBMOPlink.dbf
19	OFFPEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_3	..\i4_DRCROPlink.dbf
20	OFFPEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_4	..\i4_DRMROPlink.dbf
21	OFFPEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_5	..\i4_KRABOPlink.dbf //KISS AND RIDE ACCESS
22	OFFPEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_6	..\i4_KRBMOPlink.dbf
23	OFFPEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_7	..\i4_KRMROPlink.dbf
24	OFFPEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_8	..\i4_WKABOPlink.dbf //WALK ACCESS
25	OFFPEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_9	..\i4_WKBMOPlink.dbf
26	OFFPEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_10	..\i4_WKCROPlink.dbf
27	OFFPEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_11	..\i4_WKMROPlink.dbf
28		
29	NEW_PEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE	PK_VOL.dbf
30	NEW_PEAK_RIDERSHIP_FORMAT	DBASE
31	NEW_OFFPEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE	OP_VOL.dbf
32	NEW_OFFPEAK_RIDERSHIP_FORMAT	DBASE

The output from the LineSum_Volume.ctl process is pk_vol.dbf and op_vol.dbf. Either of these transit loaded link files can be brought into Cube Base as the transit layer, as is shown in Figure 46 through Figure 50.

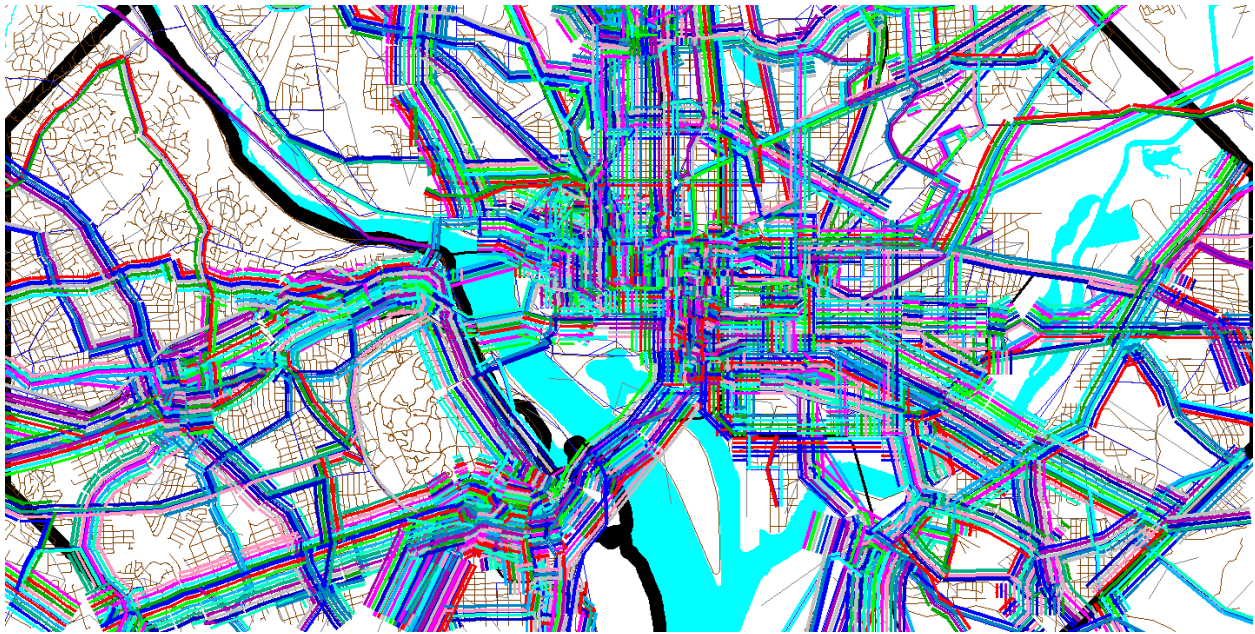


Figure 46 Using the pk_vol.dbf file in Cube Base as the transit layer: All transit routes turned on, but non-transit links (modes 11-16) turned off

Ref: "X:\modelRuns\fy12\Ver2.3.36\2007_pseu\zonehwy.net"

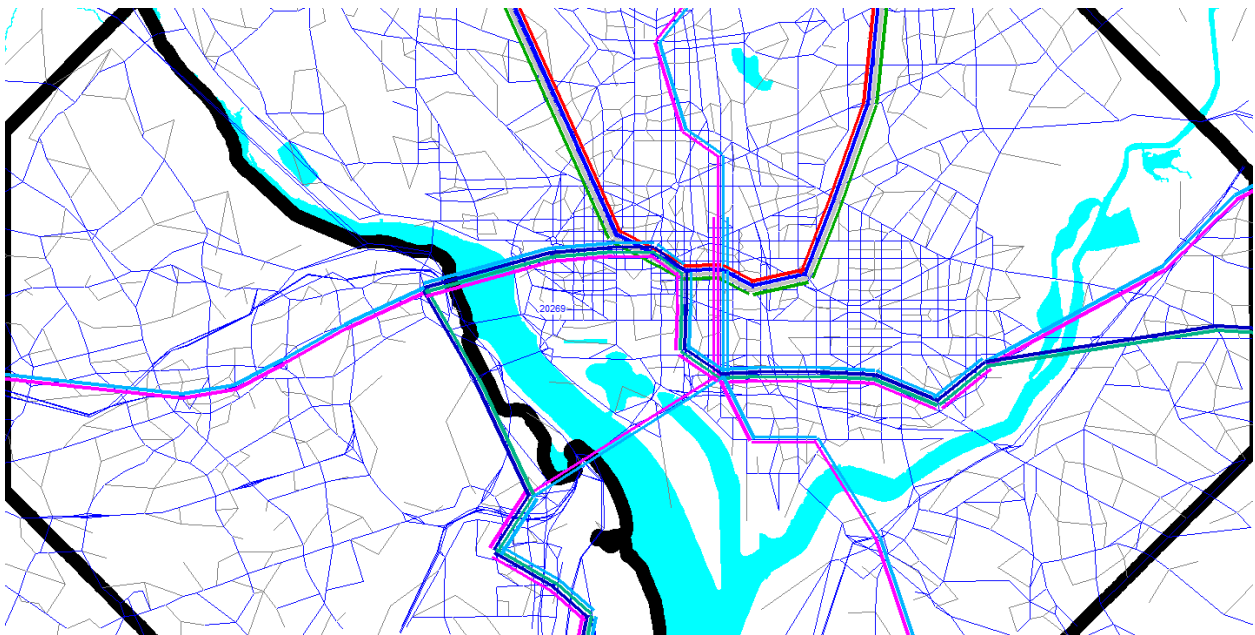


Figure 47 Using the pk_vol.dbf file in Cube Base as the transit layer: Only mode-3 (Metrorail) links turned on

Ref: "X:\modelRuns\fy12\Ver2.3.36\2007_pseu\zonehwy.net"

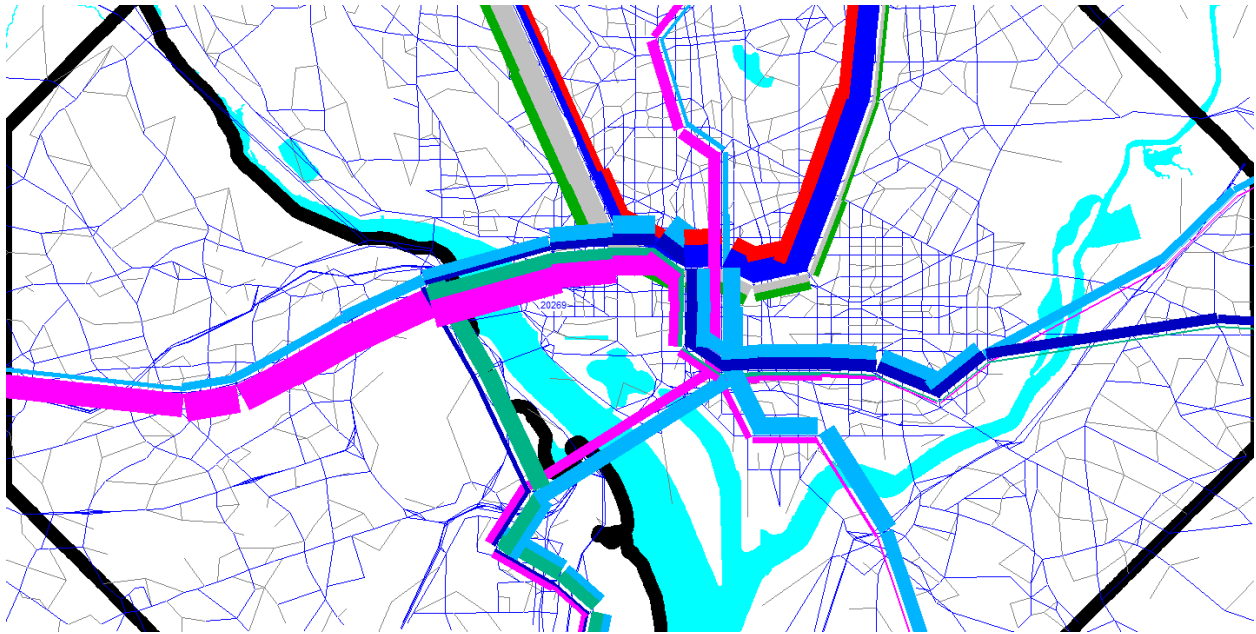


Figure 48 Using the pk_vol.dbf file in Cube Base as the transit layer: Only mode-3 (Metrorail) links turned on; using multi-bandwidth to represent transit loads (ab_vol): Arlington and DC

Ref: "X:\modelRuns\fy12\Ver2.3.36\2007_pseu\zonehwy.net"



Figure 49 Using the pk_vol.dbf file in Cube Base as the transit layer: Only mode-3 (Metrorail) links turned on; using multi-bandwidth to represent transit loads (ab_vol): Metrorail system

Ref: "X:\modelRuns\fy12\Ver2.3.36\2007_pseu\zonehwy.net"

Transit Layer Link Band Width Settings

Set: 1: Name:

Attributes	Color Settings	value/pixel	Value Range
AB_VDL <input type="text"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Link Color <input type="radio"/> Fix Color <input type="radio"/> Dynamic Color	2000	0-66856
<input type="text"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Link Color <input type="radio"/> Fix Color <input type="radio"/> Dynamic Color	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Link Color <input type="radio"/> Fix Color <input type="radio"/> Dynamic Color	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Link Color <input type="radio"/> Fix Color <input type="radio"/> Dynamic Color	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Link Color <input type="radio"/> Fix Color <input type="radio"/> Dynamic Color	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Link Color <input type="radio"/> Fix Color <input type="radio"/> Dynamic Color	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Link Color <input type="radio"/> Fix Color <input type="radio"/> Dynamic Color	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Link Color <input type="radio"/> Fix Color <input type="radio"/> Dynamic Color	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Selection Criteria:

Scale Range to Show Posting to

Key Value Key1 Key2 Key3 Key4

Key Min. Width Key1 Key2 Key3 Key4

Figure 50 Using the multi-bandwidth option in Cube Base to show transit volumes on the Metrorail system.

24.2.2 Generating transit assignment summaries using LineSum

The LineSum Fortran program summarizes transit line volume data stored in a TRNBUILD loaded link DBF file. It can be used to create the following summaries:

- Boarding/alighting information
- Station access information
- Link-based summaries (i.e., between stations).
- Transit route/line summaries

An example of a control file used to generate an access report showing riders who arrive at and depart from Metrorail stations (via transit access links) can be seen in Figure 51.

Figure 51 Generating a Metrorail station access report (lineSum_MR_access.ctl)

```

1  ## Access reports focus on riders who arrive or depart using transit access links
2  ## i.e., the summary does not include transfers
3  TITLE                               Metrorail Station Access Summary
4  DEFAULT_FILE_FORMAT                 DBASE
5
6  PEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_1               PK_VOL.DBF
7  PEAK_RIDERSHIP_FORMAT_1             DBASE
8  OFFPEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_1           OP_VOL.DBF
9  OFFPEAK_RIDERSHIP_FORMAT_1         DBASE
10
11 STOP_NAME_FILE                      ..\..\controls\station_names.dbf
12 STOP_NAME_FORMAT                    DBASE
13
14 ACCESS_REPORT_TITLE_1               All
15 ACCESS_REPORT_STOPS_1               8001..8100, 8119..8140, 8145..8148, 8150..8154,
16 8160..8166, 8169..8182
17 ##ACCESS_REPORT_MODES_1             11,12,14,15,16
18 ACCESS_REPORT_MODES_1               ALL
19 ##ACCESS_REPORT_DETAILS_1          MODE
20 NEW_ACCESS_REPORT_FILE_1            MR_access.txt
21 NEW_ACCESS_REPORT_FORMAT_1          TAB_DELIMITED

```

Similarly, an example of a control file used to generate a Metrorail line summary can be seen in Figure 52.

Figure 52 Generating a Metrorail line summary (lineSum_MR_line.ctl)

```

1  ## Line reports summarize boardings, alightings, and ridership for one or more line
2  TITLE                               Metrorail Line Summary
3  DEFAULT_FILE_FORMAT                 DBASE
4
5  PEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_1               PK_VOL.DBF
6  PEAK_RIDERSHIP_FORMAT_1             DBASE
7  OFFPEAK_RIDERSHIP_FILE_1           OP_VOL.DBF
8  OFFPEAK_RIDERSHIP_FORMAT_1         DBASE
9
10 STOP_NAME_FILE                      ..\..\controls\station_names.dbf
11 STOP_NAME_FORMAT                    DBASE
12
13 LINE_REPORT_TITLE_1                 All
14 LINE_REPORT_LINES_1                 All
15 LINE_REPORT_MODES_1                 3
16 NEW_TOTAL_RIDERSHIP_FILE_1          MR_line.txt
17 NEW_TOTAL_RIDERSHIP_FORMAT_1        TAB_DELIMITED

```

An example of the report generated by the lineSum_MR_ **access**.ctl control file can be found in Figure 53. Similarly, an example of the report generated by the lineSum_MR_ **line**.ctl control file can be found Figure 54.

More information about using LineSum can be found in its documentation:

- AECOM. (2013). LineSum, Quick Reference, Version 5.0.17. Arlington, Virginia: AECOM.
- AECOM. (2014). LineSum (Version 6.0.2). Arlington, Virginia: AECOM.

Figure 53 An excerpt from the report file generated by lineSum_MR_access.ct

```

*****
|                                     |
|      LineSum - Version 5.0.17      |
|      Copyright 2012 by TRANSIMS Open-Source |
|      Fri Jul 26 08:42:13 2013      |
|                                     |
*****

Control File = lineSum_MR_access.ct1
Report File = lineSum_MR_access.prn (Create)

Metrorail Station Access Summary

Default File Format = DBASE

LineSum Control Keys:

Peak Ridership File #1 = PK_VOL.DBF

Offpeak Ridership File #1 = OP_VOL.DBF

Stop Name File = ..\..\controls\station_names.dbf

Access Report Title = All
Access Report Stops = 8001..8100, 8119..8140, 8145..8148, 8150..8154, 8160..8166, 8169..8182
Access Report Modes = ALL
New Access Report File #1 = MR_access.txt
New Access Report Format #1 = TAB_DELIMITED

Number of Stop Names = 267 Metrorail Station Access Summary
Fri Jul 26 08:42:13 2013 LineSum page 2

Title: All
Modes: All

      ---- Peak ----  -- Offpeak ---  ---- Daily ---
Stop  Arrive Depart Arrive Depart Arrive Depart
8001  25762  1323  2216  773  27978  2096 Shady Grove
8002  12652  2238  1363  889  14015  3127 Rockville
8003  4537  2836  1376  1500  5913  4336 Twinbrook
8004  3589  2952  1009  1437  4598  4389 White Flint
8005  8768  213  1775  845  10543  1058 Grosvenor
8006  3979  8967  1016  2060  4995  11027 Medical Center
    
```

8007	10802	14528	3884	5686	14686	20214	Bethesda
8008	9886	6177	3634	2954	13520	9131	Friendship Heights
8009	7559	3581	2565	1654	10124	5235	Tenleytown
8010	5066	2765	1945	1510	7011	4275	Van Ness-UDC
8011	4066	885	1653	840	5719	1725	Cleveland Park
8012	6790	2388	2934	1636	9724	4024	Woodley Park-Zoo
8013	9104	27194	3486	7314	12590	34508	Dupont Circle
8014	2588	38091	764	7571	3352	45662	Farragut North
8015	2071	21835	446	3509	2517	25344	Metro Center
8016	814	13274	1662	3035	2476	16309	Gallery Place
8017	304	17877	1303	3823	1607	21700	Judiciary Square
8018	19955	22256	3818	6521	23773	28777	Union Station

Figure 54 The report file generated by lineSum_MR_line.ct1

```

*****
|                                     |
|      LineSum - Version 5.0.17      |
|      Copyright 2012 by TRANSIMS Open-Source |
|      Fri Jul 26 08:42:13 2013      |
|                                     |
*****

Control File = lineSum_MR_line.ct1
Report File = lineSum_MR_line.prn (Create)

Metrorail Line Summary

Default File Format = DBASE

LineSum Control Keys:

Peak Ridership File #1 = PK_VOL.DBF

Offpeak Ridership File #1 = OP_VOL.DBF

Stop Name File = ..\..\controls\station_names.dbf

Line Report Title = All
Line Report Lines = All
Line Report Modes = 3

Number of Stop Names = 267      Metrorail Line Summary
Fri Jul 26 08:42:14 2013 LineSum page 2

Title: All
Lines: All
Modes: 3

----- A->B Direction (Read Down) ----- B->A Direction (Read Up) -----Total-----
-----Peak----- -----Off-Peak----- -----Daily----- -----Peak----- -----Off-Peak----- -----Daily----- -----Daily-----
Stop      Dist  Time  On  Off  Ride  On  Off  Ride  On  Off  Ride  On  Off  Ride  On  Off  Ride  On  Off  Ride
(miles) (min)
Franconia- 3.49 6.14 12595 0 12595 1332 0 1332 13927 0 13927 0 718 718 0 288 288 0 1006 1006 13927 1006 14933
Van Dorn S 3.86 4.95 7805 98 20300 1453 23 2760 9258 121 23060 119 432 1027 19 543 812 138 975 1839 9396 1096 24899
King Stree 0.68 2.02 4245 3189 37000 950 445 5882 5195 3634 42882 341 2076 5614 191 967 2937 532 3043 8551 5727 6677 51433
Braddock R 2.80 4.46 5735 1215 41522 1637 857 6661 7372 2072 48183 393 2863 8083 460 1567 4042 853 4430 12125 8225 6502 60308
National A 0.49 2.59 1 971 40554 422 131 6954 423 1102 47508 7 2720 10796 85 895 4851 92 3615 15647 515 4717 63155
Crystal Ci 0.76 2.02 3898 5097 39352 2678 1197 8434 6576 6294 47786 340 18366 28824 608 6286 10532 948 24652 39356 7524 30946 87142
Pentagon C 0.61 0.99 6870 1249 44973 2106 796 9743 8976 2045 54716 1391 4273 31705 1251 2124 11401 2642 6397 43106 11618 8442 97822
Pentagon A 1.24 2.91 12252 5065 32508 1345 1073 6066 13597 6138 38574 3152 2920 11440 1250 1053 5292 4402 3973 16732 17999 10111 55306
Arlington 0.99 2.08 48 0 32556 42 0 6107 90 0 38663 69 0 11370 35 0 5257 104 0 16627 194 0 55290
Rosslyn 1.35 3.12 6219 12112 81284 1574 3597 13273 7793 15709 94557 9984 11122 29578 3809 3735 10601 13793 14857 40179 21586 30566 134736
Foggy Bott 0.57 2.08 1498 12600 70182 1533 2568 12242 3031 15168 82424 813 19224 47990 629 5194 15171 1442 24418 63161 4473 39586 145585
Farragut W 0.38 0.97 642 17242 53580 313 1808 10748 955 19050 64328 1196 12655 59447 358 1750 16567 1554 14405 76014 2509 33455 140342
McPherson 0.46 1.09 3139 14641 42079 643 2224 9170 3782 16865 51249 2359 23637 80724 1134 3172 18603 3493 26809 99327 7275 43674 150576
    
```

Metro Cent	0.29	0.91	17354	26186	33246	3467	4922	7712	20821	31108	40958	47485	12680	45918	7260	5084	16430	54745	17764	62348	75566	48872	103306
Federal Tr	0.41	2.10	3	6320	26929	50	515	7246	53	6835	34175	694	1046	46267	119	292	16601	813	1338	62868	866	8173	97043
Smithsonia	0.59	2.28	0	9206	17725	294	1887	5652	294	11093	23377	160	2539	48645	720	1003	16883	880	3542	65528	1174	14635	88905
L'Enfant P	0.33	1.94	8801	5767	20763	3261	1611	7299	12062	7378	28062	12486	14347	50504	4154	4982	17712	16640	19329	68216	28702	26707	96278
Federal Ce	0.57	1.91	116	7440	13438	215	2102	5413	331	9542	18851	804	2457	52155	1282	880	17312	2086	3337	69467	2417	12879	88318
Capitol So	0.50	1.94	61	8224	5276	248	2434	3226	309	10658	8502	775	2721	54104	1378	1198	17133	2153	3919	71237	2462	14577	79739
Eastern Ma	0.63	1.97	186	1375	4089	228	894	2561	414	2269	6650	3635	945	51416	1967	569	15735	5602	1514	67151	6016	3783	73801
Potomac Av	0.66	0.97	183	778	3493	159	548	2169	342	1326	5662	5087	390	46714	2110	298	13924	7197	688	60638	7539	2014	66300
Stadium Ar	2.69	3.09	332	929	1164	213	665	822	545	1594	1986	6612	1272	19993	2725	443	6474	9337	1715	26467	9882	3309	28453
Benning Ro	1.42	2.83	188	224	1127	120	271	671	308	495	1798	4804	132	15320	2559	184	4098	7363	316	19418	7671	811	21216
Capitol He	0.97	2.88	64	230	962	39	239	471	103	469	1433	3567	38	11792	1904	39	2232	5471	77	14024	5574	546	15457
Addison Ro	1.77	3.04	78	154	886	21	100	394	99	254	1280	2212	39	9618	818	17	1431	3030	56	11049	3129	310	12329
Morgan Bou	1.23	2.72	75	307	652	19	136	277	94	443	929	4181	27	5461	584	15	864	4765	42	6325	4859	485	7254
Largo Town				652			277			929		5461			864			6325		6325		929	
College Pa	1.94	3.02	2044	0	15231	886	0	2095	2930	0	17326	0	1286	1999	0	407	613	0	1693	2612	2930	1693	19938
PG Plaza	1.24	3.14	3195	275	18151	1226	172	3148	4421	447	21299	205	1249	3043	130	372	855	335	1621	3898	4756	2068	25197
West Hyatt	1.99	2.92	4226	102	22275	2017	142	5023	6243	244	27298	220	307	3128	104	266	1018	324	573	4146	6567	817	31444
Fort Totte	1.62	2.89	3112	14213	11176	2082	3389	3716	5194	17602	14892	1771	1852	3210	528	1303	1794	2299	3155	5004	7493	20757	19896
Georgia Av	0.86	3.11	6191	1040	16329	2693	640	5770	8884	1680	22099	1309	1469	3369	728	951	2016	2037	2420	5385	10921	4100	27484
Columbia H	0.95	2.02	7365	620	23074	2863	570	8064	10228	1190	31138	664	1185	3891	470	1090	2637	1134	2275	6528	11362	3465	37666
U-Street-C	0.51	2.05	2695	1660	24111	1657	661	9059	4352	2321	33170	263	3424	7051	245	1592	3985	508	5016	11036	4860	7337	44206
Shaw-Howar	0.56	1.13	2276	459	25927	1764	320	10503	4040	779	36430	347	1114	7820	243	925	4670	590	2039	12490	4630	2818	48920
Mt Vernon	0.49	1.66	4622	3973	26578	1471	697	11277	6093	4670	37855	1157	5066	11726	196	1615	6090	1353	6681	17816	7446	11351	55671
Gallery Pl	0.36	1.92	24873	12888	38559	6139	5673	11745	31012	18561	50304	6040	26962	32650	2301	7822	11610	8341	34784	44260	39353	53345	94564
Archives	0.58	1.97	1192	2786	36968	376	799	11317	1568	3585	48285	509	7690	39833	118	1836	13331	627	9526	53164	2195	13111	101449
L'Enfant P	0.79	1.91	5381	13546	12564	1692	4425	4248	7073	17971	16812	4103	19570	36882	2930	8210	15902	7033	27780	52784	14106	45751	69596
WaterFront	0.59	1.80	220	2660	10123	454	663	4039	674	3323	14162	2516	695	35060	1604	827	15125	4120	1522	50185	4794	4845	64347
Navy Yard	1.20	2.06	74	6937	3263	227	2137	2129	301	9074	5392	714	1597	35942	1814	685	13997	2528	2282	49939	2829	11356	55331
Anacostia H	1.38	2.98	163	1528	1896	246	679	1695	409	2207	3591	5782	324	30485	5210	194	8979	10992	518	39464	11401	2725	43055
Congress H	0.97	1.78	72	752	1214	80	495	1281	152	1247	2495	2591	22	28115	1947	141	7175	4538	363	35290	4690	1610	37785
Southern A	1.24	2.76	123	138	1198	79	343	1015	202	481	2213	6408	33	21741	3369	91	3896	9777	124	25637	9979	605	27850
Naylor Roa	1.48	2.34	147	230	1114	64	349	729	211	579	1843	8264	46	13524	1217	48	2726	9481	94	16250	9692	673	18093
Suitland	1.64	2.66	33	802	343	14	579	163	47	1381	506	3718	59	9864	1635	17	1108	5353	76	10972	5400	1457	11478
Branch Ave				343			163			506		9864			1108			10972		10972		506	
Vienna	2.39	3.69	28760	0	28760	2662	0	2662	31422	0	31422	0	1295	1295	0	378	378	0	1673	1673	31422	1673	33095
Dunn Lorin	2.49	3.99	5557	211	34106	1122	65	3720	6679	276	37826	84	1287	2497	32	912	1257	116	2199	3754	6795	2475	41580
West Falls	2.09	2.93	13426	570	46964	2162	51	5831	15588	621	52795	228	3328	5598	39	746	1965	267	4074	7563	15855	4695	60358
East Falls	2.51	3.96	7789	196	54558	1765	97	7500	9554	293	62058	174	733	6158	64	744	2646	238	1477	8804	9792	1770	70862
Ballston	0.49	1.67	11845	3471	62933	3963	721	10741	15808	4192	73674	448	9172	14881	403	2727	4972	851	11899	19853	16659	16091	93527
Virginia S	0.49	2.01	2145	1773	63305	912	510	11144	3057	2283	74449	436	3058	17502	150	1126	5949	586	4184	23451	3643	6467	97900
Metrorail Line Summary																							
Fri Jul 26 08:42:14 2013 LineSum page 3																							
----- A->B Direction (Read Down) -----																							
----- B->A Direction (Read Up) -----																							
-----Total-----																							
Stop	Dist (miles)	Time (min)	-----Peak-----	-----Off-Peak-----	-----Daily-----	-----Peak-----	-----Off-Peak-----	-----Daily-----	-----Peak-----	-----Off-Peak-----	-----Daily-----	-----Peak-----	-----Off-Peak-----	-----Daily-----	-----Peak-----	-----Off-Peak-----	-----Daily-----	-----Peak-----	-----Off-Peak-----	-----Daily-----	-----Peak-----	-----Off-Peak-----	-----Daily-----
Clarendon	0.67	2.52	4462	1240	66528	1916	572	12488	6378	1812	79016	775	2859	19588	426	1138	6660	1201	3997	26248	7579	5809	105264
Court Hous	0.91	1.69	4905	2541	68891	1829	1190	13128	6734	3731	82019	977	5632	24242	731	2248	8177	1708	7880	32419	8442	11611	114438
Rosslyn			14273			3937			18210			7178			2756			9934					
Stadium Ar	2.19	3.99	394	0	2125	194	0	1093	588	0	3218	0	424	21805	0	192	5363	0	616	27168	588	616	30386
Minnesota	0.91	1.95	156	647	1635	90	326	855	246	973	2490	4879	215	17143	1900	147	3611	6779	362	20754	7025	1335	23244
Deanwood	1.15	1.90	153	405	1382	81	161	776	234	566	2158	2257	122	15007	1248	37	2399	3505	159	17406	3739	725	19564
Cheverly	1.89	2.99	43	270	1155	13	154	636	56	424	1791	2997	53	12064	361	14	2056	3358	67	14120	3414	491	15911
Landover	1.36	2.69	105	225	1037	19	163	491	124	388	1528	3295	55	8823	508	13	1559	3803	68	10382	3927	456	11910

New Carroll				1037			491		1528		8823		1559		10382		10382	1528					
Shady Grov	2.61	4.06	25767	0	25767	2221	0	2221	27988	0	27988	0	1321	1321	0	775	775	0	2096	2096	27988	2096	30084
Rockville	2.13	3.29	12366	544	37590	1209	200	3230	13575	744	40820	282	1694	2734	157	689	1307	439	2383	4041	14014	3127	44861
Twinbrook	1.09	3.08	4076	1021	40645	1120	359	3992	5196	1380	44637	460	1816	4089	258	1142	2191	718	2958	6280	5914	4338	50917
White Flin	1.35	2.03	3266	951	42965	794	325	4460	4060	1276	47425	322	2005	5773	218	1112	3084	540	3117	8857	4600	4393	56282
Grosvenor	2.19	3.05	8329	56	51234	1532	245	5748	9861	301	56982	438	156	5488	239	600	3445	677	756	8933	10538	1057	65915
Medical Ce	1.02	2.01	3812	2635	52409	830	629	5951	4642	3264	58360	164	6334	11655	180	1432	4694	344	7766	16349	4986	11030	74709
Bethesda	1.70	3.08	9559	4214	57756	2972	1957	6966	12531	6171	64722	1240	10313	20724	911	3730	7513	2151	14043	28237	14682	20214	92959
Friendship	0.91	2.41	7458	1654	63560	2132	876	8224	9590	2530	71784	2429	4523	22820	1502	2076	8088	3931	6599	30908	13521	9129	102692
Tenleytown	1.09	2.03	5604	1101	68064	1684	394	9509	7288	1495	77573	1949	2480	23351	884	1257	8460	2833	3737	31811	10121	5232	109384
Van Ness-U	0.55	1.82	4258	762	71558	1368	330	10546	5626	1092	82104	803	2003	24548	573	1180	9066	1376	3183	33614	7002	4275	115718
Cleveland	0.80	2.33	3126	209	74474	1184	217	11519	4310	426	85993	941	676	24285	472	625	9222	1413	1301	33507	5723	1727	119500
Woodley Pa	1.15	1.99	5926	589	79815	2321	406	13433	8247	995	93248	866	1801	25216	613	1230	9836	1479	3031	35052	9726	4026	128300
Dupont Cir	0.56	2.28	7870	9817	77865	2744	2025	14150	10614	11842	92015	1235	17374	41357	739	5287	14382	1974	22661	55739	12588	34503	147754
Farragut N	0.79	2.22	1309	19637	59536	487	2457	12183	1796	22094	71719	1280	18453	58531	276	5113	19219	1556	23566	77750	3352	45660	149469
Metro Cent	0.33	1.18	20227	29041	50724	5828	4273	13738	26055	33314	64462	12940	49862	95453	3194	8528	24551	16134	58390	120004	42189	91704	184466
Gallery Pl	0.33	0.92	11227	20619	41334	4283	5359	12658	15510	25978	53992	23308	17434	89580	9071	4309	19792	32379	21743	109372	47889	47721	163364
Judiciary	0.67	2.14	40	13077	28296	201	3000	9858	241	16077	38154	265	4801	94117	1102	823	19510	1367	5624	113627	1608	21701	151781
Union Stat	0.73	1.06	2033	13743	16591	753	4285	6327	2786	18028	22918	17921	8514	84710	3063	2240	18688	20984	10754	103398	23770	28782	126316
New York A	0.96	1.86	245	5411	11422	393	2205	4515	638	7616	15937	3061	2536	84182	2714	998	16972	5775	3534	101154	6413	11150	117091
Rhode Isla	0.93	2.23	710	2733	9401	748	1058	4205	1458	3791	13606	9161	1445	76467	4792	515	12696	13953	1960	89163	15411	5751	102769
Brookland-	1.30	2.98	254	1592	8068	437	894	3747	691	2486	11815	2530	1142	75078	1477	566	11781	4007	1708	86859	4698	4194	98674
Fort Totte	1.89	3.10	2605	1559	9114	1334	1233	3848	3939	2792	12962	23481	2281	53882	5236	871	7420	28717	3152	61302	32656	5944	74264
Takoma	1.47	3.22	526	2248	7393	382	1161	3070	908	3409	10463	6525	574	47931	2311	344	5451	8836	918	53382	9744	4327	63845
Silver Spr	1.75	3.25	293	6150	1537	432	2041	1462	725	8191	2999	20366	1595	29160	3496	752	2705	23862	2347	31865	24587	10538	34864
Forest Gle	1.58	4.07	51	816	771	33	692	801	84	1508	1572	4929	130	24361	994	70	1782	5923	200	26143	6007	1708	27715
Wheaton	1.75	3.31	24	580	215	22	583	241	46	1163	456	12782	125	11705	626	37	1193	13408	162	12898	13454	1325	13354
Glenmont				215			241			456		11705			1193			12898		12898		456	
L'Enfant P	2.35	4.84	10676	0	26918	4116	0	8451	14792	0	35369	0	12704	31123	0	2375	5084	0	15079	36207	14792	15079	71576
Pentagon				6887			2540			9427		11472			1136			12608		12608		9427	
King Stree	0.64	1.78	657	0	3507	179	0	1532	836	0	5039	0	464	16108	0	367	2984	0	831	19092	836	831	24131
Eisenhower	0.55	1.01	26	2821	709	31	1007	556	57	3828	1265	2277	456	14288	757	312	2541	3034	768	16829	3091	4596	18094
Huntington				709			556			1265		14288			2541			16829		16829		1265	
Greenbelt	2.44	2.88	0	0	0	1268	0	1268	1268	0	1268	0	0	0	0	231	231	0	231	231	1268	231	1499
College Pa				0			59			59		0			25			25		25		59	
Total	107.28	219.61		392452		110158		502610		396543		125097		521640			1024250						
Max	3.86	6.14	28760	29041	81284	6139	5673	14150	31422	33314	94557	47485	49862	95453	9071	8528	24551	54745	58390	120004	75566	91704	184466
Passenger Miles				2603041		478079		3081120		2110201		565601		2675802			5756922						
Passenger Hours				95058		18514		113572		82904		22839		105743			219315						
Average Trip Length (miles)				6.6		4.3		11.0		5.3		4.5		9.8			20.8						
Average Trip Length (minutes)				14.5		10.1		24.6		12.5		10.9		23.5			48.1						
Fri Jul 26 08:42:14 2013 -- Process Complete (0:00:01)																							

Appendix A. Flowcharts

Ref: Ver2.3.57_flowchart_v1.vsd

Flowchart Numbers associated with Flowchart Steps

This Appendix contains detailed data processing flow charts showing the relationship of input and output files to the processing steps comprising the Version 2.3 travel model. The flowcharts are arranged on the basis of the 17 batch files used in the model application. Many of the batch files are reused during the application of the model. The table below describes the sequence of each batch file used by iteration. The flowcharts are numbered in accordance with the numbering system (1-17), shown in the table below.

Batch File	Initial (Pump Prime) Iteration				
	PP	1	2	3	4
ArcPy_Walkshed_Process.bat	1				
Set_CPI.bat	2				
PP_Highway_Build.bat	3				
PP_Highway_Skims.bat	4				
Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat					
Transit_Skim_LineHaul_Parallel.bat			5		
Trip_Generation.bat			6		
Trip_Distribution.bat			7		
PP_Auto_Drivers.bat	8				
Time-of-Day.bat			9		
Highway_Assignment_Parallel.bat			10		
Highway_Skims.bat / HSR_Highway_Skims.bat			11		
Transit_Fare.bat				12	
Mode_Choice_Parallel.bat					
/Mode_Choice_TC_V23_Parallel.bat				13	
Auto_Driver.bat				14	
Transit_Assignment_Parallel.bat					
Transit_Assignment_LineHaul_Parallel.bat					15
Transum.bat					16-17

Ref: V23_Flowchart_Table_V2.3.57_v1.xls



TITLE: Process flowchart: Application of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model (Build 57)

COMPANY: COG/TPB

CREATOR: RM, MS, MSM

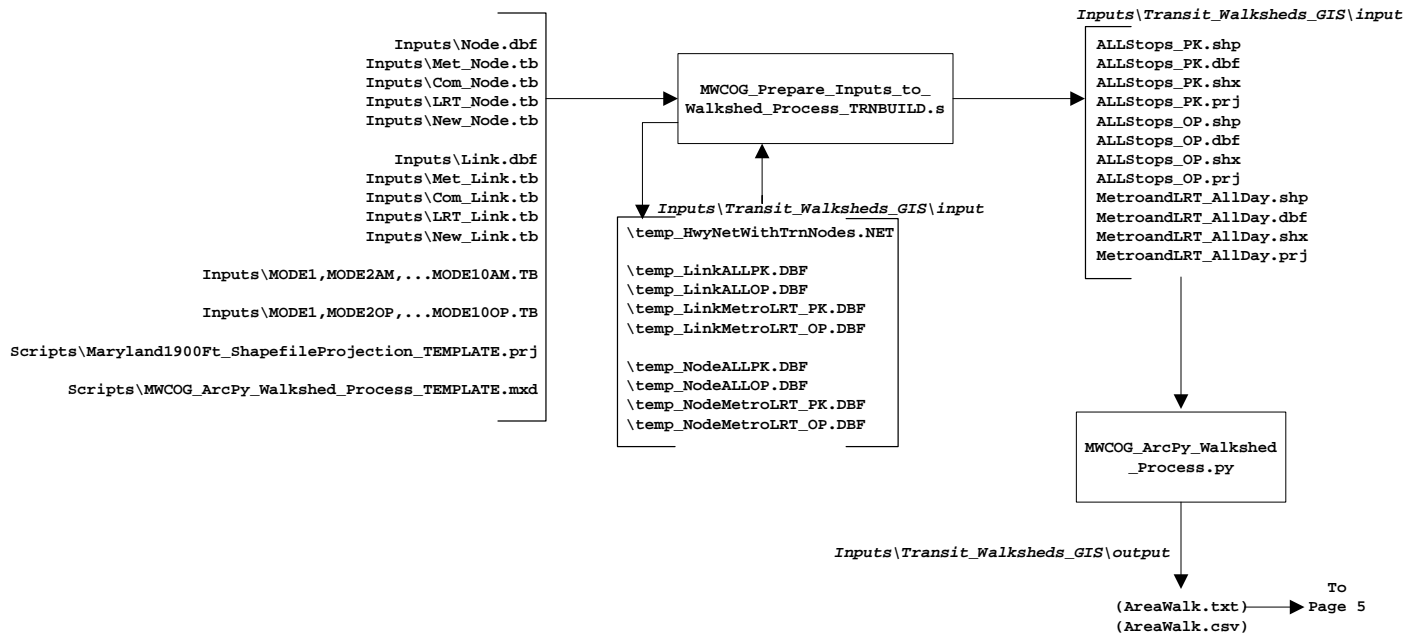
DATE: 2014-10-16

PG: 1

OF 17

FILENAME: Ver2.3.57_flowchart.vsd

ArcPy_Walkshed_Process.bat



Report Files Generated by ArcPy_Walkshed_Process.bat:
AreaWalk_REPORT.prn



TITLE: Process flowchart: Application of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model (Build 57)

COMPANY: COG/TPB

CREATOR: RM, MS, MSM

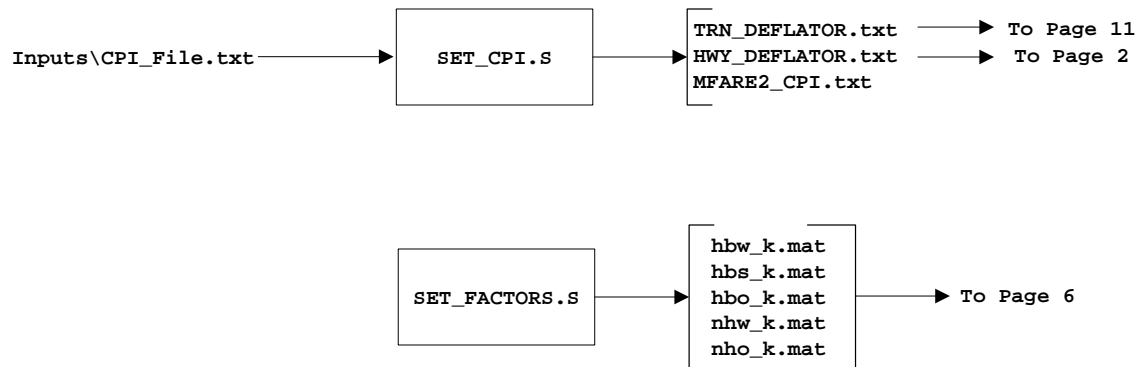
DATE: 2014-10-16

PG: 2

OF 17

FILENAME: Ver2.3.57_flowchart.vsd

Set_CPI.bat: Develop CPI and K-factors



Report Files Generated by Set_CPI.bat:

Set_CPI.rpt
Set_Factors.rpt



TITLE: Process flowchart: Application of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model (Build 57)

COMPANY: COG/TPB

CREATOR: RM, MS, MSM

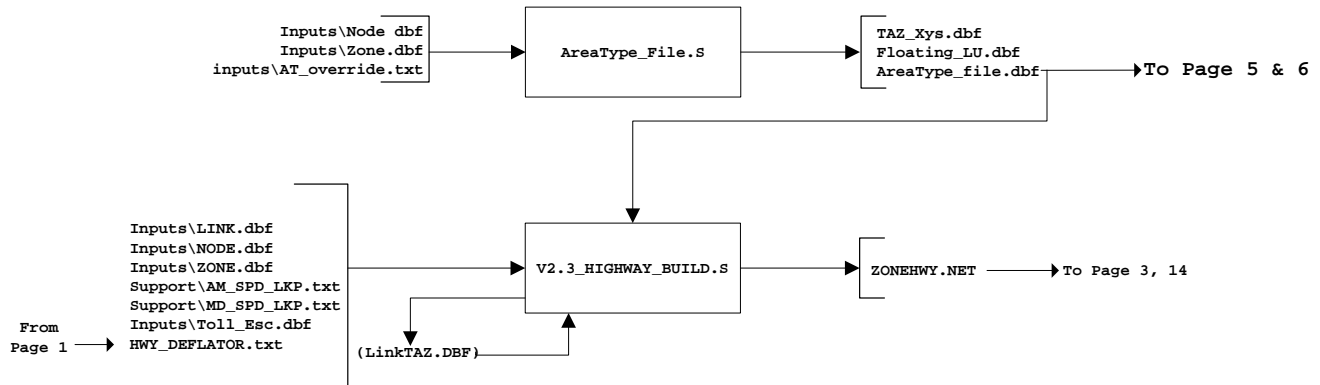
DATE: 2014-10-16

PG: 3

OF 17

FILENAME: Ver2.3.57_flowchart.vsd

PP_Highway_Build.bat



Optional

True shape display

In Cube Open:

ZONEHWY.NET
i1..i4_HWY.NET
i4_Assign_Output.net

Open the "Layer Control"
- Double Click on "Polyline"
- browse to ..support\2007_HwyNet.shp

From the "GIS Tools" pull down
menu select "True shape display"
and click the "ON" tab.

Save the project with the same
file name as the network file
(ZONEHWY.VPR,i1HWY.VPR..i4HWY.VPR)
in the same subdirectory.

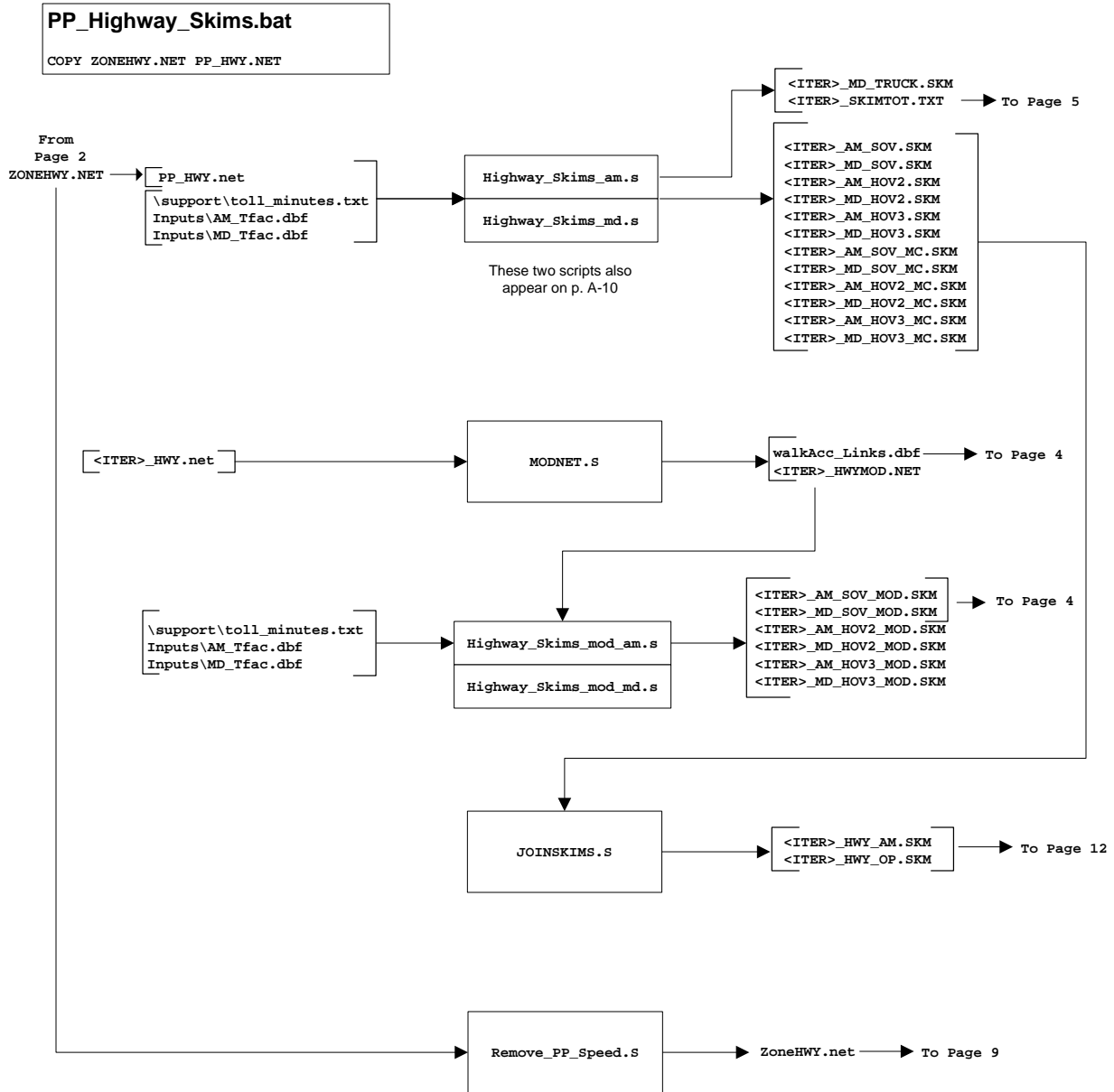
Report Files Generated by PP_Highway_Build.bat:

AreaType_File.rpt
V2.3_highway_build.rpt



PP_Highway_Skims.bat

(See also page A-10 for highway skimming process used in speed feedback iterations 1-4)



Report Files Generated by PP_Highway_Skims.bat:

- pp_Highway_skims.rpt
- pp_Joinskims.rpt
- pp_Modnet.rpt
- pp_Highway_skims_mod.rpt
- pp_RemovePPSpeed.rpt



TITLE: Process flowchart: Application of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model (Build 57)

COMPANY: COG/TPB

CREATOR: RM, MS, MSM

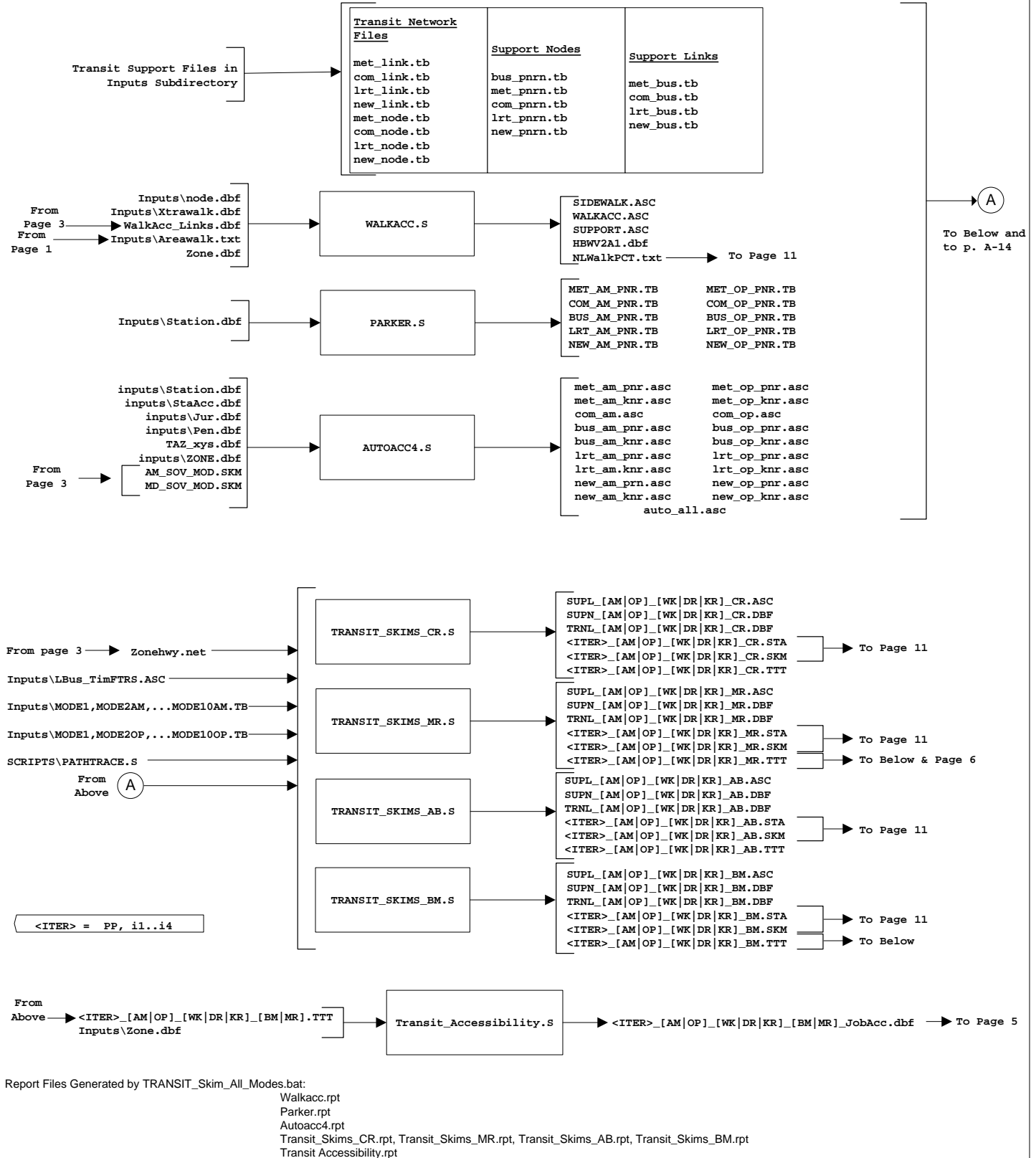
DATE: 2014-10-16

PG: 5

OF 17

FILENAME: Ver2.3.57_flowchart.vsd

Transit_Skim_All_Modes_Parallel.bat Transit_Skim_LineHaul_Parallel.bat





TITLE: Process flowchart: Application of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model (Build 57)

COMPANY: COG/TPB

CREATOR: RM, MS, MSM

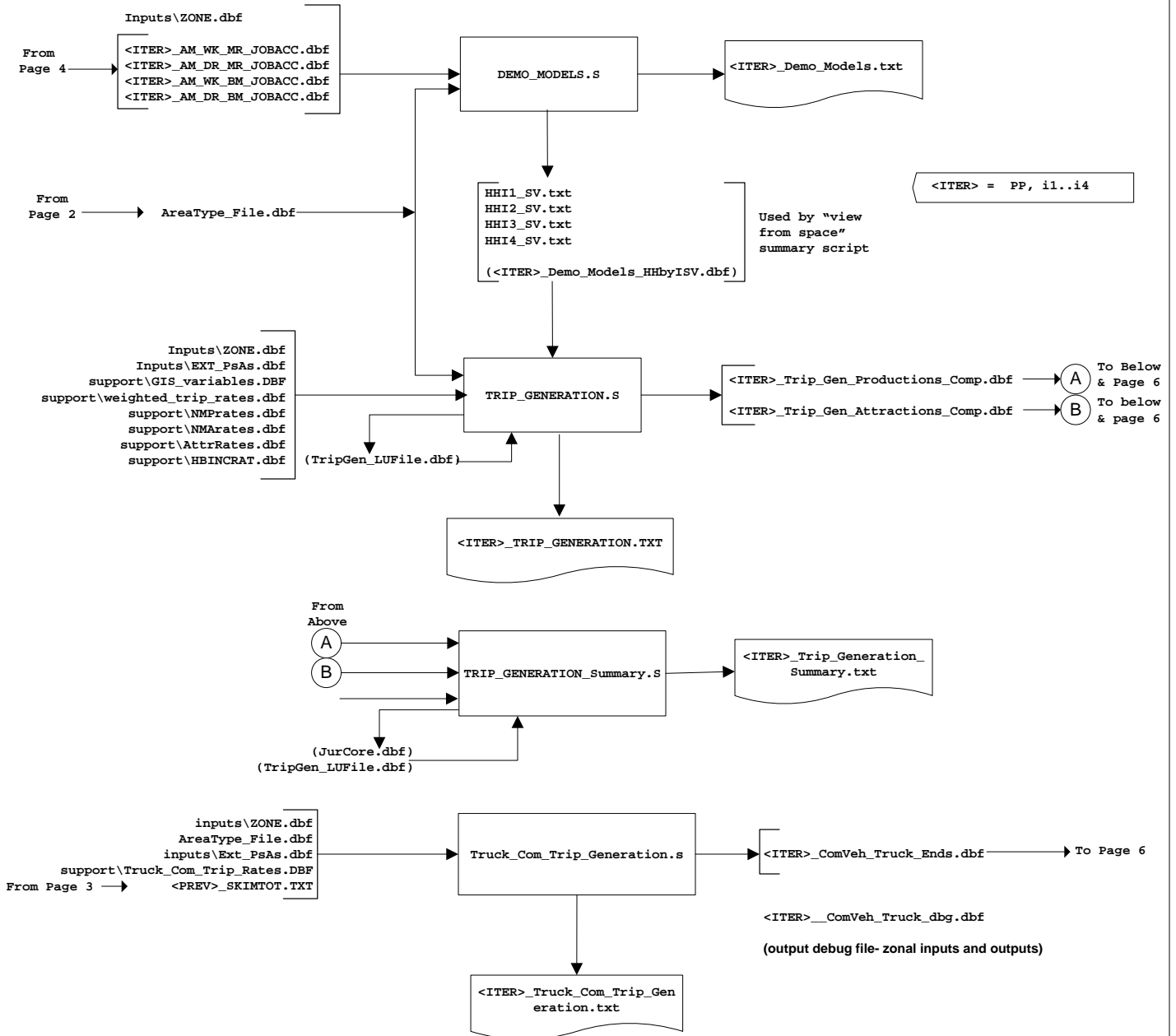
DATE: 2014-10-16

PG: 6

OF 17

FILENAME: Ver2.3.57_flowchart.vsd

Trip_Generation.bat



Report Files Generated by Trip_Generation.bat:

- <ITER>_Demo_Models.rpt
- <ITER>_Trip_Generation.rpt
- <ITER>_Trip_Generation_Summary.rpt
- <ITER>_Truck_Com_Trip_Generation.rpt



TITLE: Process flowchart: Application of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model (Build 57)

COMPANY: COG/TPB

CREATOR: RM, MS, MSM

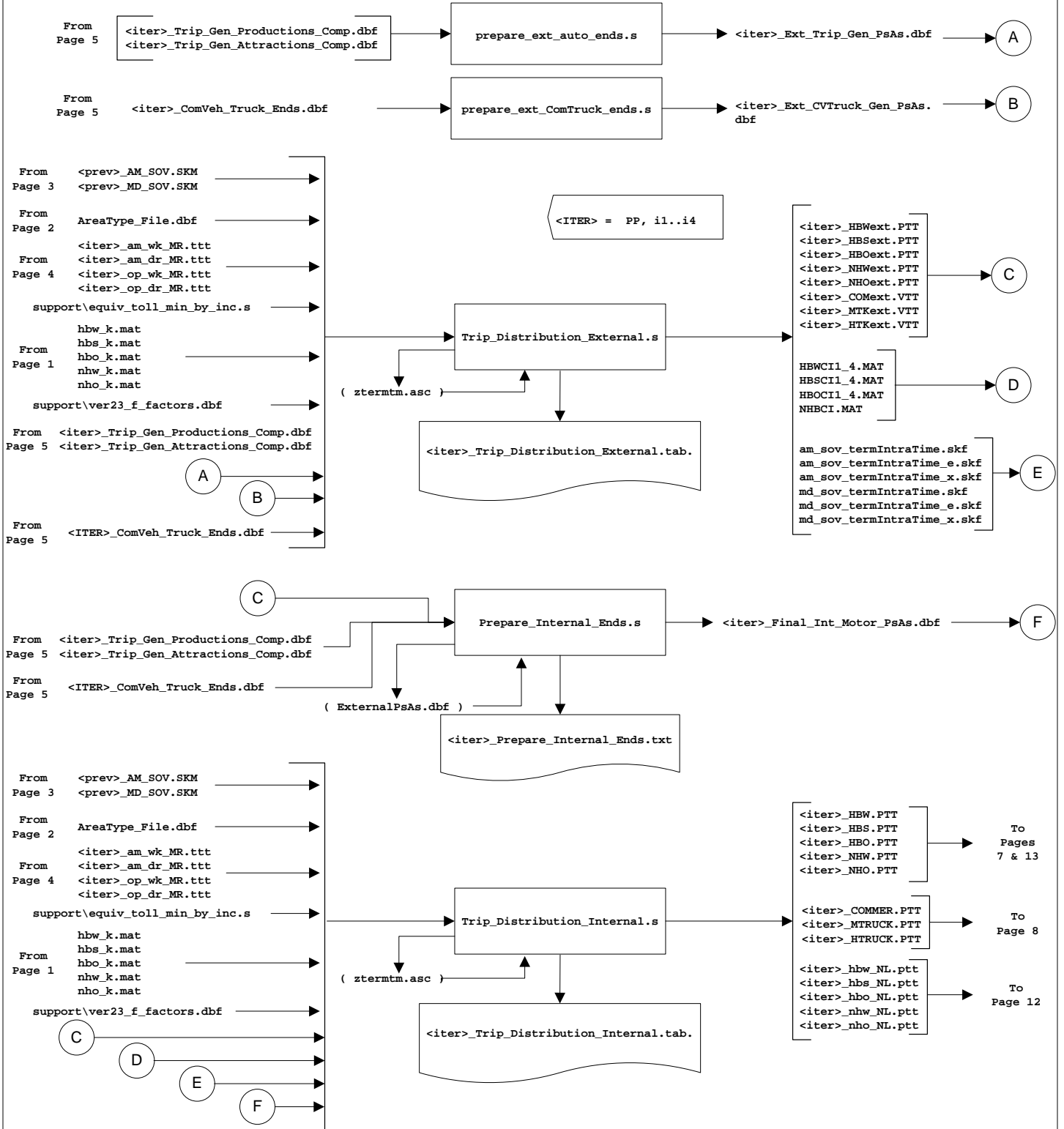
DATE: 2014-10-16

PG: 7

OF 17

FILENAME: Ver2.3.57_flowchart.vsd

Trip_Distribution.bat



Report Files Generated by Trip_Distribution.bat:
Trip_Distribution.rpt



TITLE: Process flowchart: Application of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model (Build 57)

COMPANY: COG/TPB

CREATOR: RM, MS, MSM

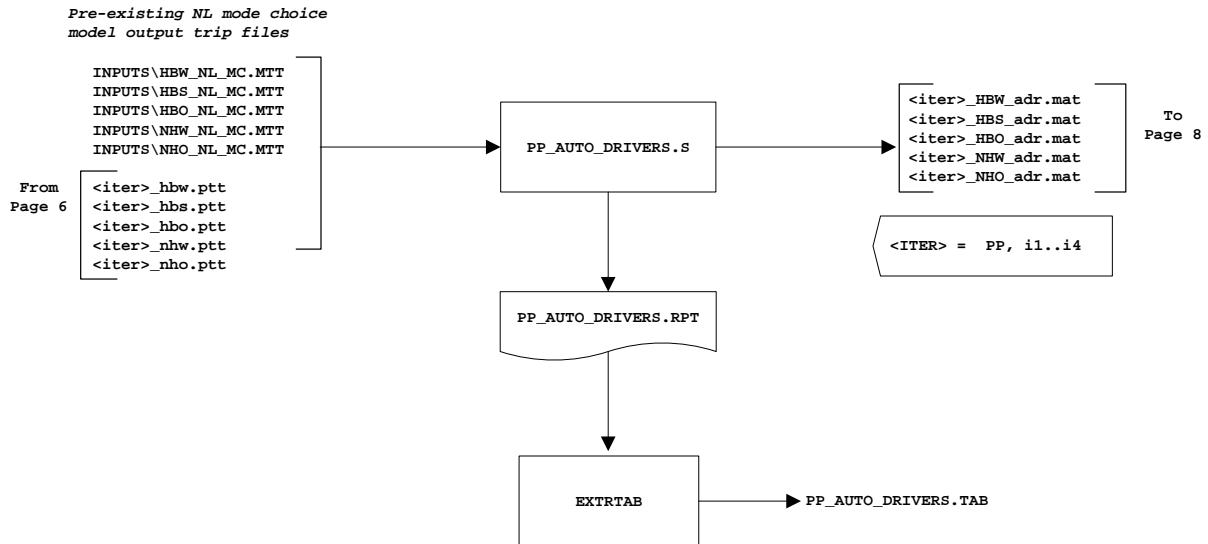
DATE: 2014-10-16

PG: 8

OF 17

FILENAME: Ver2.3.57_flowchart.vsd

PP_Auto_Drivers.bat



Report Files Generated by PP_Auto_Drivers.bat:
PP_Auto_Drivers.rpt



TITLE: Process flowchart: Application of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model (Build 57)

COMPANY: COG/TPB

CREATOR: RM, MS, MSM

DATE: 2014-10-16

PG: 9

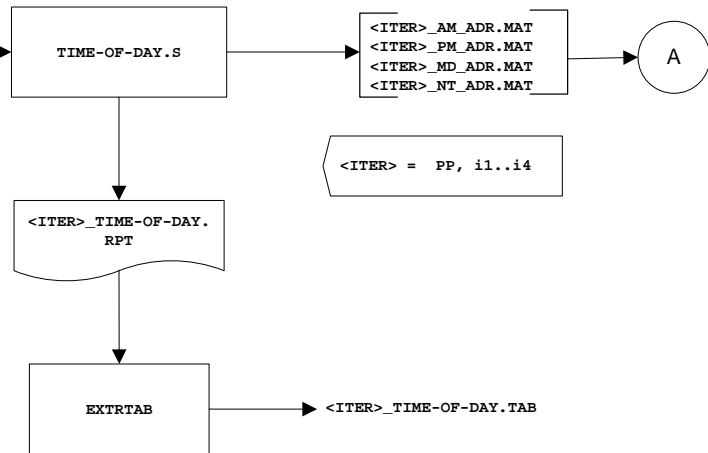
OF 17

FILENAME: Ver2.3.57_flowchart.vsd

Time-of-Day.bat

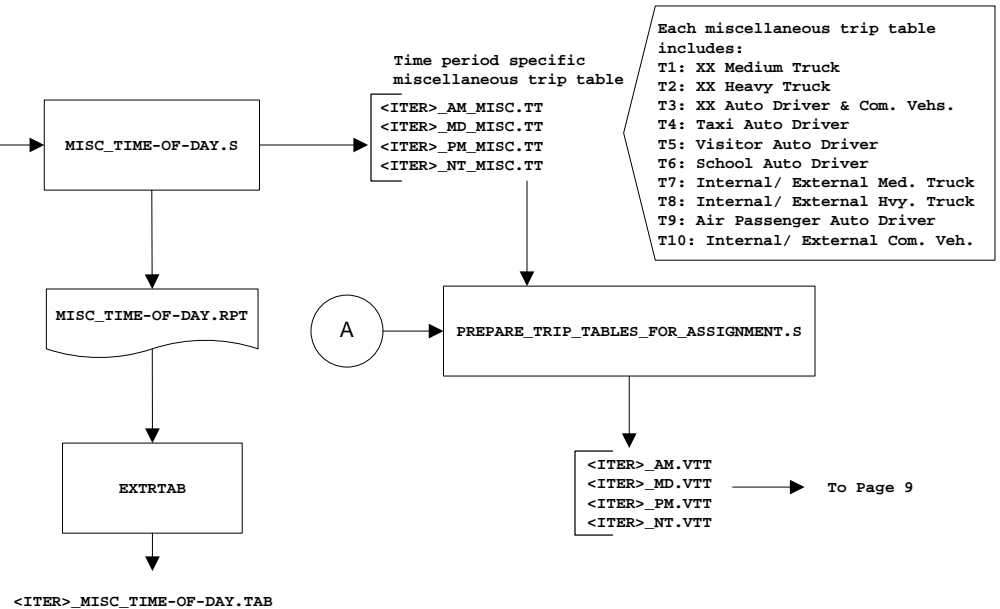
From Page 7 (pp Iter)
From Page 13
(i1 to i6 iter)

```
<iter>_HBW_adr.mat  
<iter>_HBS_adr.mat  
<iter>_HBO_adr.mat  
<iter>_NHW_adr.mat  
<iter>_NHO_adr.mat  
..\support\todcomp_2008HTS.dbf
```



From Page 6

```
Inputs\XXCVT.VTT  
Inputs\XXAUT.VTT  
Inputs\TAXI.ADR  
Inputs\SCHL.ADR  
Inputs\VISI.ADR  
Inputs\AIRPAX.ADR  
<iter>_COMMER.PTT  
<iter>_MTRUCK.PTT  
<iter>_HTRUCK.PTT  
..\Support\cvdelta_3722.trp  
..\Support\tkdelta_3722.trp
```



Report Files Generated by Time-of-Day.bat:

```
<ITER>_Time-of-Day.rpt  
<ITER>_Misc_Time-of-Day.rpt
```



TITLE: Process flowchart: Application of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model (Build 57)

COMPANY: COG/TPB

CREATOR: RM, MS, MSM

DATE: 2014-10-16

PG: 10

OF 17

FILENAME: Ver2.3.57_flowchart.vsd

Highway_Assignment_parallel.bat

<ITER> = PP, i1..i4

```
..\support\hwy_assign_Conical_VDF.s  
..\support\hwy_assign_capSpeedLookup.s  
  
Support\toll_minutes.txt  
Inputs\AM_Tfac.dbf  
Inputs\PM_Tfac.dbf  
Inputs\MD_Tfac.dbf  
Inputs\NT_Tfac.dbf  
  
Zonehwy.net
```

From
Page 8

```
<ITER>_AM.VTT  
<ITER>_MD.VTT  
<ITER>_PM.VTT  
<ITER>_NT.VTT
```

HIGHWAY_ASSIGNMENT_parallel.s

```
<ITER>_am_load_link.asc  
<ITER>_md_load_link.asc  
<ITER>_pm_load_link.asc  
<ITER>_nt_load_link.asc  
<ITER>_HWY.NET
```

To Page 10
For iter PP, i1

<ITER>_HIGHWAY_ASSIGNMENT.
RPT

UE convergence report files:

<iter>_ue_iteration_report_AM_nonHov.txt
<iter>_ue_iteration_report_AM_hov.txt
<iter>_ue_iteration_report_PM_nonHov.txt
<iter>_ue_iteration_report_PM_hov.txt
<iter>_ue_iteration_report_MD.txt
<iter>_ue_iteration_report_NT.txt

Temporary files:

```
temp1_@prd@.net  
temp2_@prd@.net  
temp_@prd@.net  
temp_AM.net  
temp_MD.net  
temp_PM.net  
temp_NT.net
```



Average_Link_Speeds.bat



COPY
<ITER>_HWY.NET
For iterations
i2..i4

```
<iter>_Assign_Output.net  
"Current" iteration assignment  
output  
  
<iter>_HWY.tem1  
"Previous" iteration loaded  
network
```

Average_Link_Speeds.s

Final loaded-link network is
i4_Assign_Output.net

<ITER>_HWY.net

To
Page 10
For iterations
i2..i4

Report Files Generated by Highway_Assignment.bat:

```
<ITER>_Highway_assignment.rpt  
Average_Link_Speeds.rpt
```




TITLE: Process flowchart: Application of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model (Build 57)

COMPANY: COG/TPB

CREATOR: RM, MS, MSM

DATE: 2014-10-16

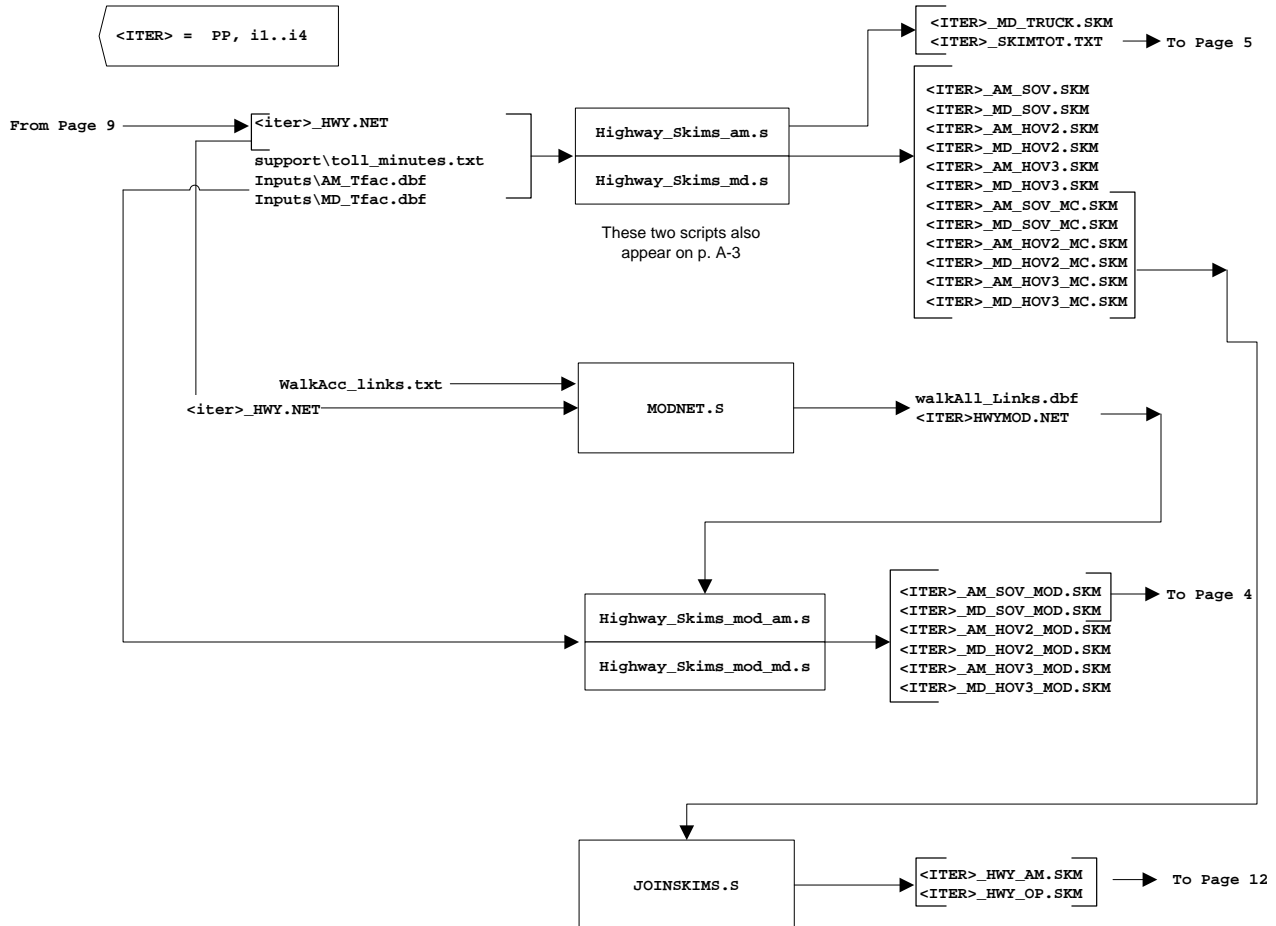
PG: 11

OF 17

FILENAME: Ver2.3.57_flowchart.vsd

Highway_Skims.bat (or HSR_Highway_Skims.bat for analysis years with HOT lanes)

(See also page A-3 for highway skimming process used in the "pump prime" speed feedback iteration)



Report Files Generated by Highway_Skims.bat:

<ITER>_Highway_skims.rpt
<ITER>_Joinskims.rpt
<ITER>_Modnet.rpt
<ITER>_Highway_skims_mod.rpt



TITLE: Process flowchart: Application of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model (Build 57)

COMPANY: COG/TPB

CREATOR: RM, MS, MSM

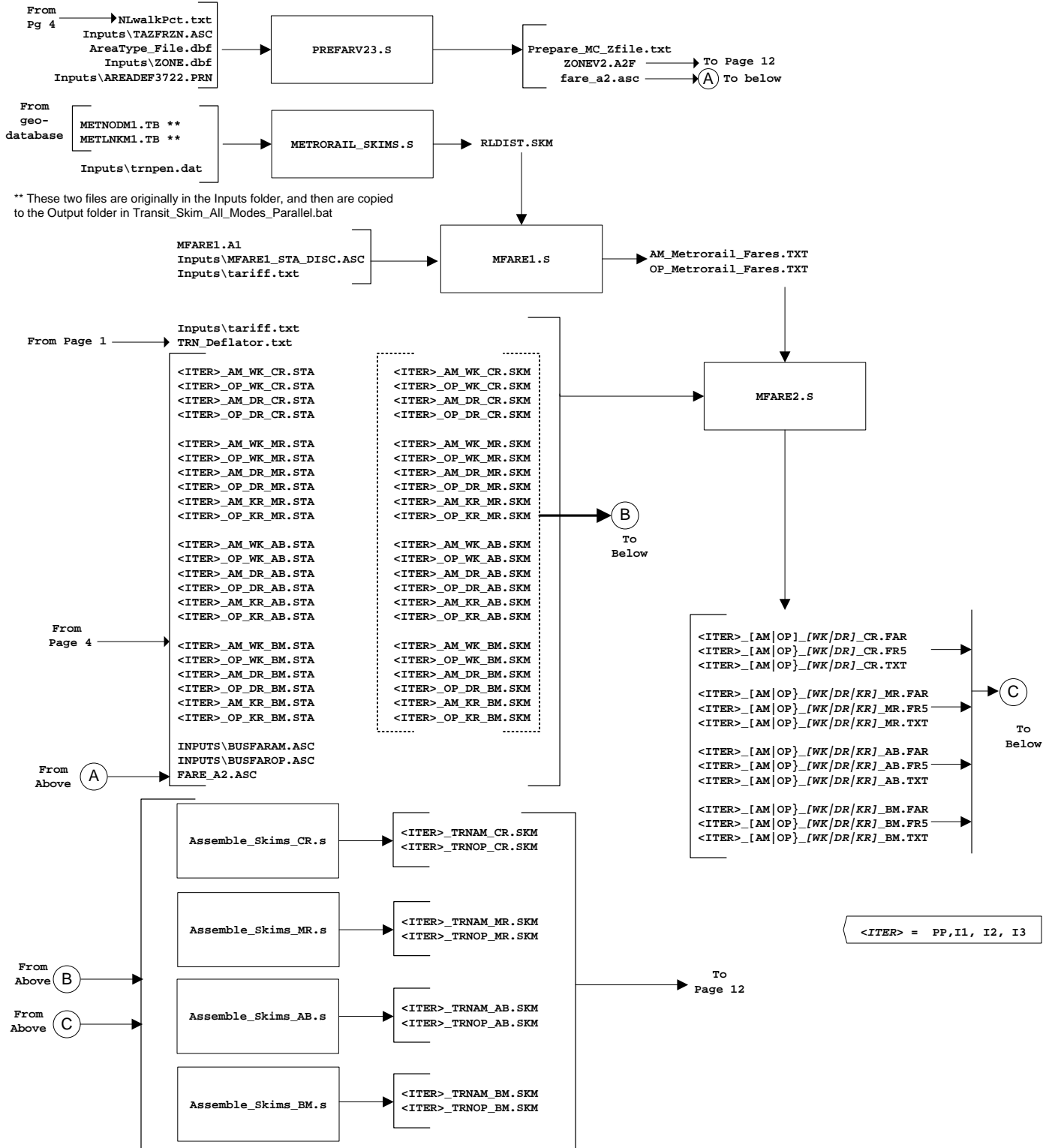
DATE: 2014-10-16

PG: 12

OF 17

FILENAME: Ver2.3.57_flowchart.vsd

Transit_Fare.bat



Report Files Generated by Transit_Fare.bat:

<ITER>_prefarV23.rpt
<ITER>_Metrorail_Skims.rpt
<ITER>_Mfare1.rpt
<ITER>_Mfare2.rpt
<ITER>_Assemble_Skims_CR.rpt, Assemble_Skims_MR.rpt, Assemble_Skims_AB.rpt, Assemble_Skims_BM.rpt



TITLE: Process flowchart: Application of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model (Build 57)

COMPANY: COG/TPB

CREATOR: RM, MS, MSM

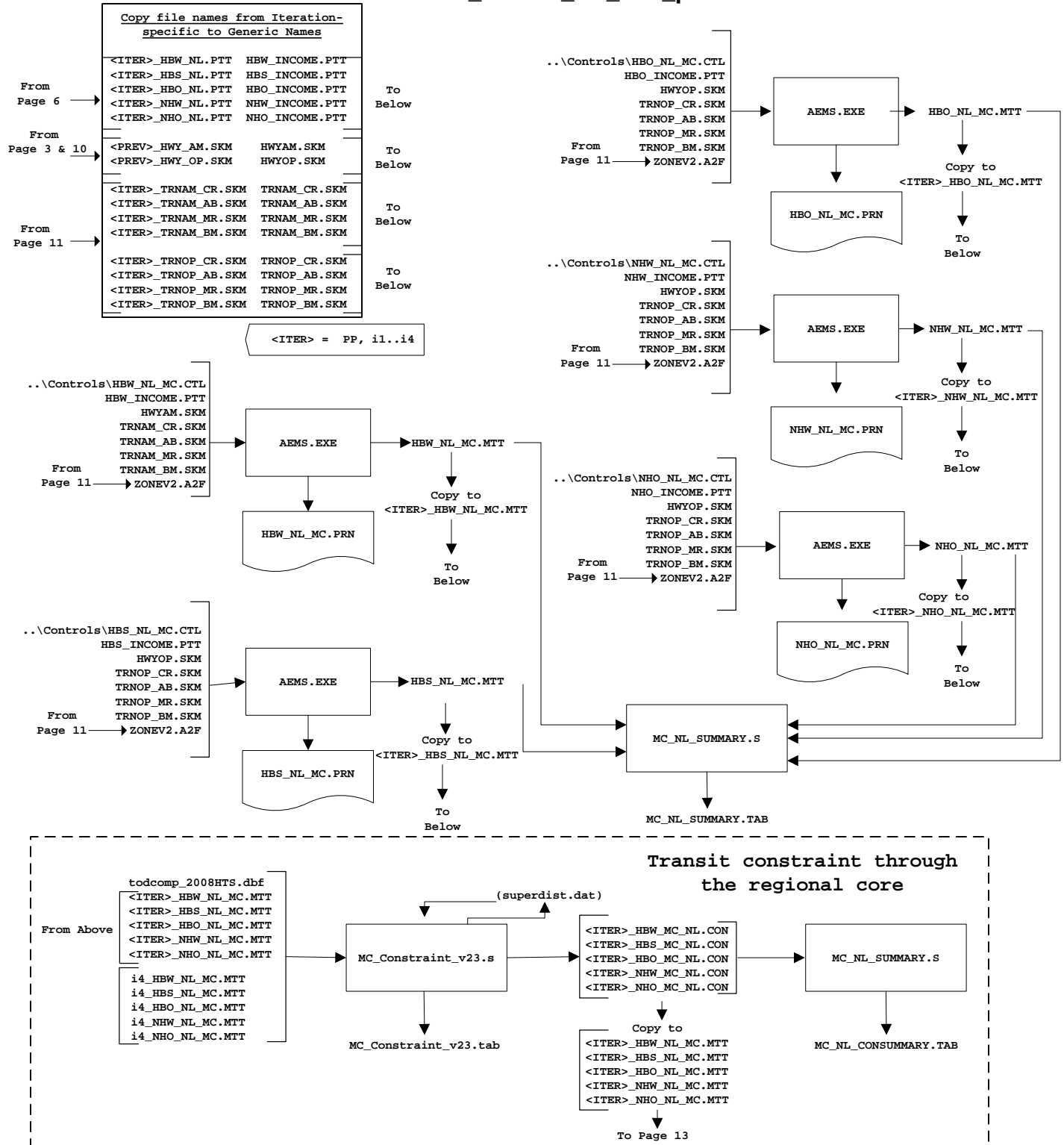
DATE: 2014-10-16

PG: 13

OF 17

FILENAME: Ver2.3.57_flowchart.vsd

Mode_Choice_parallel.bat/ Mode_Choice_TC_V23_parallel.bat



Report Files Generated by Mode_Choice.bat/Mode_Choice_TC_V23.bat:

- <ITER>_MC_NL_Summary.rpt
- <ITER>_MC_Constraint_v23.rpt
- <ITER>_mc_NL_CONSUMMARY.rpt



TITLE: Process flowchart: Application of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model (Build 57)

COMPANY: COG/TPB

CREATOR: RM, MS, MSM

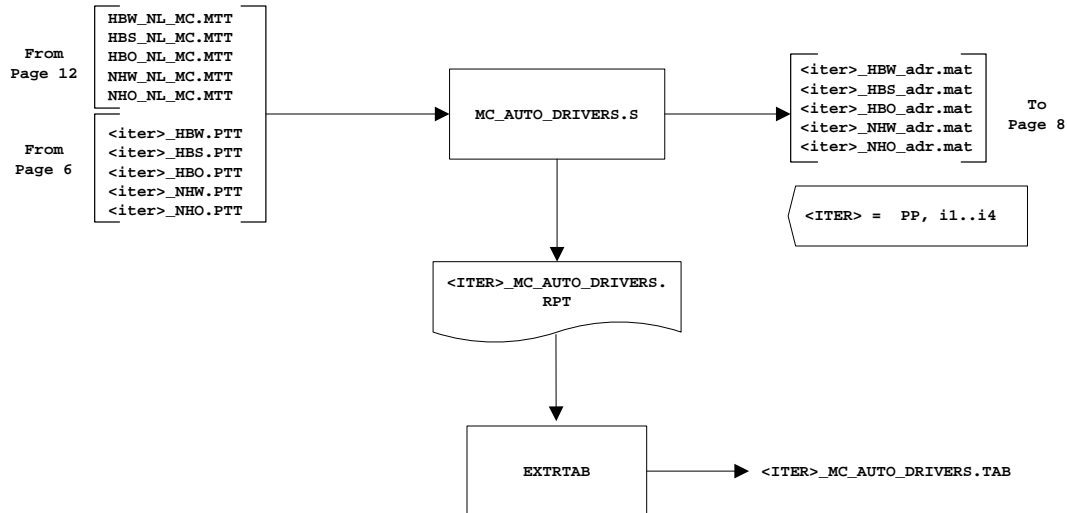
DATE: 2014-10-16

PG: 14

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FILENAME: Ver2.3.57_flowchart.vsd

Auto_Driver.bat



Report Files Generated by Auto_driver.bat:
<ITER>_MC_Auto_Drivers.rpt



TITLE: Process flowchart: Application of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model (Build 57)

COMPANY: COG/TPB

CREATOR: RM, MS, MSM

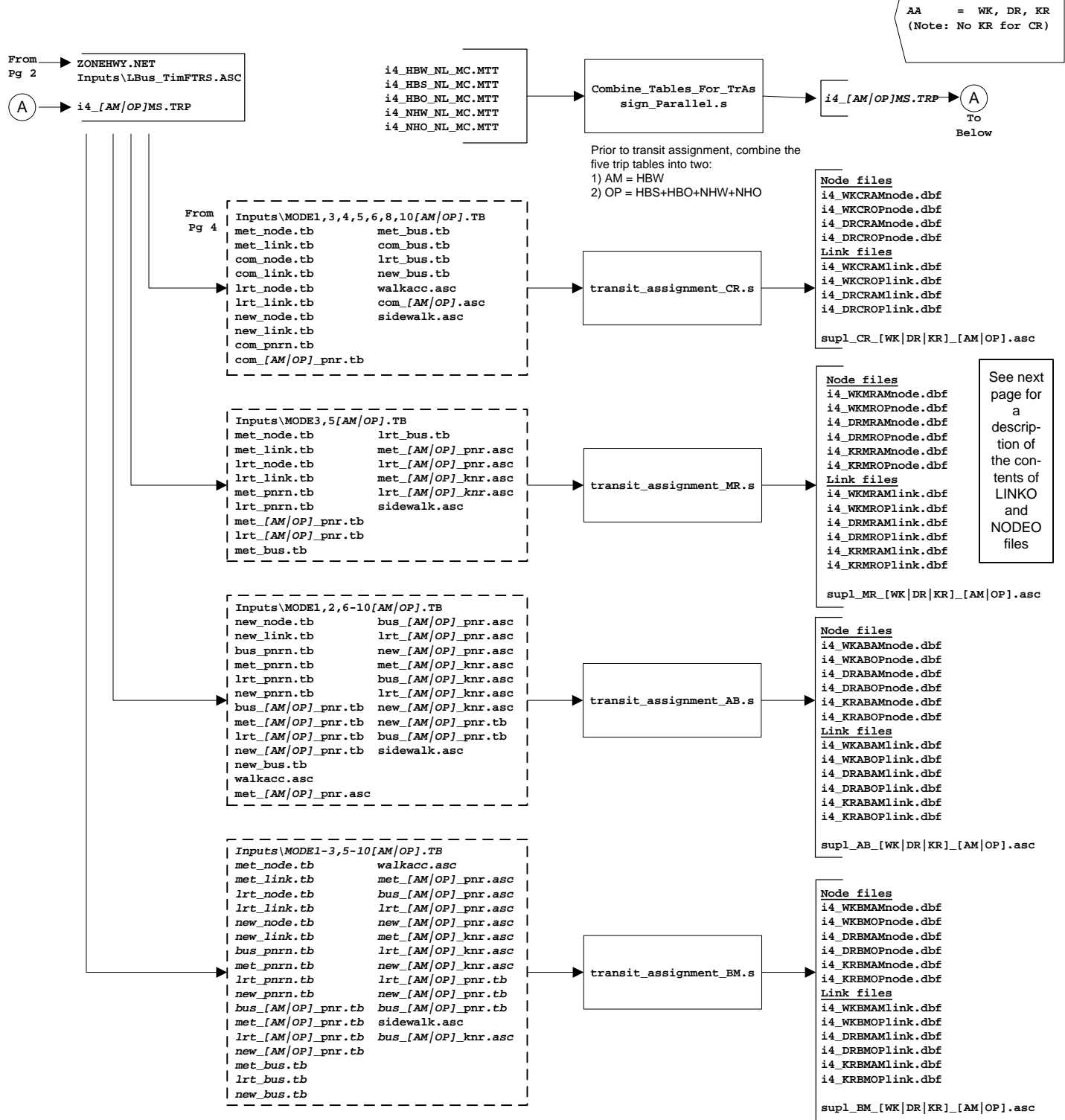
DATE: 2014-10-16

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FILENAME: Ver2.3.57_flowchart.vsd

Transit_Assignment_Parallel.bat Transit_Assignment_LineHaul_Parallel.bat



Report Files Generated by Transit_Assignment.bat:

Combine_Tables_For_TrAssign_Parallel.rpt

transit_assignment_CR.rpt, transit_assignment_MR.rpt, transit_assignment_AB.rpt, transit_assignment_BM.rpt



TITLE: Process flowchart: Application of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model (Build 57)

COMPANY: COG/TPB

CREATOR: RM, MS, MSM

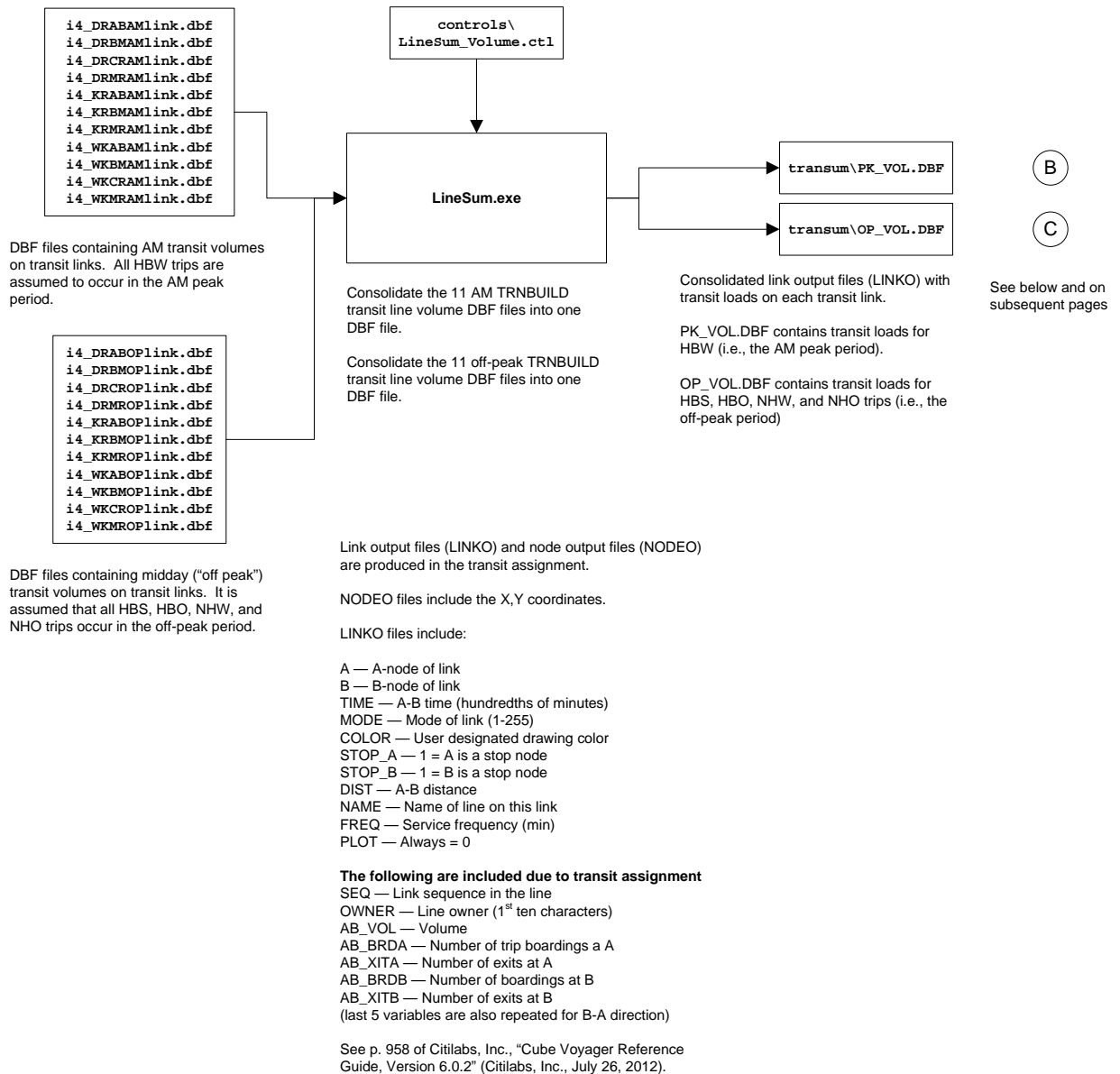
DATE: 2014-10-16

PG: 16

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FILENAME: Ver2.3.57_flowchart.vsd

Transum.bat (page 1 of 2)





TITLE: Process flowchart: Application of the TPB Version 2.3 Travel Model (Build 57)

COMPANY: COG/TPB

CREATOR: RM, MS, MSM

DATE: 2014-10-16

PG: 17

OF 17

FILENAME: Ver2.3.57_flowchart.vsd

Transum.bat (page 2 of 3)

