

Mid-year Summer Meeting
Committee on Traffic Flow Theory and Characteristics (AHB45)

DRAFT MINUTES

Tuesday, June 19, 2012, 1:00–3:00 pm
Hilton Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort, Fort Lauderdale, FL

1. Welcome and Call to Order **M. Zarrillo**

Marguerite Zarrillo called the committee to order at 1:10 p.m.

2. Introduction – Members and Friends **All Attendees**

Committee members and friends introduced themselves.

3. Brief Report on Joint Subcommittee on Traffic Simulation Models [1:14] **G. List**

George List briefly presented an updated on the SimSub including an introduction to the involved committees, SimSub mid-year meeting and annual meeting. George List highlighted the recent focus of the research community on safety and simulation.

4. Brief Report on Research Problem Statements [1:18] **M. Hadi**

Mohammed Hadi presented the Research Problem Statements of 2008-09 and mentioned a need for an updated list of problem statements.

5. Brief Report on Paper Review and Sessions [1:20] **N. Geroliminis**

Nikolas Geroliminis announced four special call for papers including:

1. Analytical Methods for Traffic Models for Calibration and Validation,
2. Interactions between Traffic Flow Modeling and BRT Systems,
3. Modeling Cooperative Traffic Management and ITS, and
4. Transient Behavior in Transportation Networks

Nikolas Geroliminis reported that in 2011, the committee received 165 papers. The return rate of the requests for reviewing papers were 93% and the committee members and friends performed a total of 550 reviews.

Hani Mahmassani stated that the committee has been the third largest TRB committee in terms of receiving papers.

Richard Cunard thanked and welcomed everyone and announced that the TRB annual meeting will move to the Washington D.C. Convention Center in 2015.

6. Greenshields Prize Announcement [1:25]

N. Gartner

Nathan Gartner announced the recipients of the 2012 Greenshields Prize:

1. LMRS: Integrated Lane Change Model with Relaxation and Synchronization by Schakel, W.J., Knoop, V.L., and Van Arem, B., and
2. May We Trust Results of Car-following Models Calibration Based on Trajectory Data? by Punzo, V., Ciuffo, B.F., and Montanino, M.

7. Mid-Year Meeting 2013 [1:30]

F. van Wageningen-Kessels

Femke van Wageningen-Kessels announced that the mid-year meeting of 2013 will be held in the Netherlands in conjunction with the ISTTT. For the ISTTT 2013, over 100 extended abstracts have been accepted.

8. Strategic Planning [1:35]

M. Zarrillo

Marguerite Zarrillo announced that the committee strategic plan is now available online. Feedback is requested from the members and friends.

9. Classic Papers [1:40]

N. Geroliminis

Nikolas Geroliminis announced that the list of the classic papers is ready and available online. He asked that how we can enhance the list. Jorge Laval suggested that the list can include links to download papers. Also, Mohammed Hadi suggested that we may ask TRB to put a link of the list on a newsletter.

10. Special Report on Traffic Flow Theory [1:45]

H. Mahmassani

Hani Mahmassani reported that a new chapter (chapter 4: macroscopic models) is included in the monograph. He suggested that we may ask FHWA for funding to revise the monograph and release an updated version. He also announced the 2nd international conference on evacuation modeling (August, 2012) in Evanston, IL.

11. Webinars [1:50]

J. Laval & M. Saberi

Meead Saberi reported a brief update on the webinars. He stated that the main challenge is recruiting speakers. Audience asked for a better dissemination of the webinars information through the committee email lists.

12. Liaison with Other Committees [2:00]

Mohammed Hadi and Alexander Skabardonis suggested more collaboration with the signal timing committee. Hani Mahmassani suggested more collaboration with the weather task force. Need for traffic data with higher resolution and quality to be used in weather and safety related studies are discussed. Also, need for models that incorporate safety related parameters and weather related factors are discussed.

13. International Liaison [2:05]

Peter Vortisch discussed some recent works on traffic flow breakdown and microsimulation.

14. Announcements and Future Meetings [2:10]

Hani Mahmassani re-announced the 2nd international conference on evacuation modeling (August, 2012) in Evanston, IL. Nikolas Geroliminis announced the 1st European Symposium on Quantitative Methods in Transportation Systems (LATSIS, September 2012) in Lausanne, Switzerland.

15. New Business [2:15]

Daiheng Ni asked for more collaboration among committee members and friends in sharing traffic data. Bob Sheehan commented that a portal is being developed at the FHWA in order to share as many datasets available with public.

16. Adjourn [2:30]

Marguerite Zarrillo thanked all the attendees and adjourned the meeting.