# Comparison of Taxi Time Prediction Performance Using Different Taxi Speed Decision Trees 

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- Off time in unimpeded taxi-out condition
- Spot/In time for arrivals
- Summary

- Unimpeded taxi time estimates
- Provide earliest feasible takeoff times for departures and earliest gate-in times for arrivals
- (Remaining taxi distance) / (Nominal taxi speed)
- Airport node-link model and taxi routes
- Taxi speed decision trees
- Taxi speed decision trees in STBO system
- Two decision trees for estimating taxi-out times of departures and taxi-in times of arrivals
- Each branch has two taxi speed values both in AMA and Ramp
- Various taxi speed values for each branch
- Based on previous studies for taxi time analysis at CLT
- Four criteria applied
- Runway
- Spot
- Ramp area (subdivided sectors in each concourse)
- Weight class
- Used actual surface surveillance data at CLT in May through December, 2015 and taxi route data
- $10^{\text {th }}$ percentile taxi time values $\left(90^{\text {th }}\right.$ percentile taxi speed)
- Research motivation
- Initial taxi speed decision trees have not been updated.
- Based on old surface surveillance data
- More reliable data from STBO systems become available.
- Taxi time prediction accuracy is not satisfactory.
- Large variations on the difference between actual and predicted times
- Longer taxi time prediction even in unimpeded conditions
- Wrong takeoff sequence prediction (see the next slide)
- Objective
- To find optimal taxi speeds for better taxi time estimation


## ATD2 Inaccurate Off Time Estimation: Example Nasor



< STBO Client Timeline and Map >

- Experiment procedure
- Install STBO system software with different taxi speed settings in three test machines
- Run 1: initial taxi speed decision trees (baseline)
- Run 2: various taxi speeds by runway-spot-ramp area pairs
- Run 3: constant taxi speed per runway
- Run them with live data for a few days
- Archive output data
- Actual Spot/Off/In times
- Undelayed Spot/Off/In times (unimpeded time estimates)
- Test run data
- 2/13/2017 2PM ~ 2/20/2017 1AM (155 hours in total)


## ATD Three Different Taxi Speed Settings

- Run 1: initial taxi speed values (baseline)
- Use old surface surveillance data ( $5 / 1 / 2015-12 / 31 / 2015$ )
- Run 2: various taxi speed values by runway-spot-ramp area pairs
- Use recent STBO data (9/18/2016-12/31/2016)
- $90^{\text {th }}$ percentile taxi speeds in the Ramp and AMA for each runway-spot-ramp area pair
- AMA taxi speed adjusted to avoid overtaking on taxiways
- Run 3: constant taxi speed values per runway
- Simplified version of Run 2
- Use recent STBO data (9/18/2016-12/31/2016)
- $90^{\text {th }}$ percentile taxi speeds in the Ramp and AMA for each runway


Run 1: Initial Taxi Speeds for Arrivals


## ATD <br> Run 2: Various Taxi Speeds for Departures

- 72 branches depending on runway-spot-ramp area pair
- Constant AMA taxi speeds per runway assumed to prevent flights toward the same runway from overtaking on taxiways
--Unimpeded Ramp Speed
$\rightarrow-$ Unimpeded AMA Speed



0.0



## ATD2 Run 3: Constant Taxi Speed per Runway Naser

- Departures: $90^{\text {th }}$ percentile value of taxi-out speeds for all departures going to each runway
- Arrivals: $90^{\text {th }}$ percentile value of taxi-in speeds for all arrivals from each runway

| Departure <br> Runway | Taxi Speed (in knots) |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | AMA | Ramp |
| 18C | 10.2 | 8.3 |
| 18L | 16.4 | 8.9 |
| 36C | 14.0 | 8.4 |
| 36R | 13.4 | 7.9 |
| Default | 13.6 | 8.3 |


| Arrival <br> Runway | Taxi Speed (in knots) |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | AMA | Ramp |
| 18C | 17.2 | 10.5 |
| 18L | 13.9 | 8.5 |
| 18R | 18.3 | 10.2 |
| 23 | 23.0 | 9.2 |
| 36C | 24.8 | 10.3 |
| 36L | 18.9 | 10.7 |
| 36R | 25.4 | 7.4 |
| Default | 20.6 | 9.6 |

## ATD Test Dataset Analysis - Departures

- Taxi-out time histograms
- Very short ramp taxi time from Concourse A to Runway 18C/36C
- Short AMA taxi time to Runway 18L
- Long AMA taxi time to Runway 36C




## Test Dataset Analysis - Arrivals

- Taxi-in time histograms
- Shorter taxi times both in the Ramp and AMA, compared to departures
- Longer taxi-in time from West due to longer taxi distance




## ATDP

## Spot Time Prediction Errors for Departures

- Box plots for spot time difference at gate by concourse
- Show ramp taxi-out time prediction accuracy
- (Actual spot time) - (Undelayed spot time estimate) $)_{@ p u s h b a c k}$
- Run 1: longer ramp taxi times predicted
- Negative values on y-axis for most flights


Off Time Prediction Errors at Spot

- Box plots for takeoff time difference at spot by runway
- Show AMA taxi-out time prediction accuracy
- (Actual off time) - (Undelayed off time estimate) $)_{\text {@spot }}$
- Positive mean values are expected because runway separations are accumulated in actual off times.




Off Time Prediction Errors at Gate (1/2)

- Box plots for takeoff time difference at gate by runway
- Show total taxi-out time prediction accuracy
- (Actual off time) - (Undelayed off time estimate) @pushback
- No significant difference by departure runway



R3: Constant speed


Off Time Prediction Errors at Gate (2/2)

- Box plots for takeoff time difference at gate by concourse
- Show total taxi-out time prediction accuracy
- (Actual off time) - (Undelayed off time estimate) $)_{@ p u s h b a c k}$
- Large variations observed in Concourse A and Etc.



R3: Constant speed


## Departures by Queue Size

- Departure queue size histogram from test dataset
- Count the number of departures going to the same runway on the surface when a flight pushes back from its gate
- Queue size less than 4 aircraft is assumed to be in unimpeded taxi conditions.
- Enable to better compare actual and undelayed OFF times

Queue size < 4:
~17\%


## Off Time Prediction Errors at Gate

- Box plots for takeoff time difference at gate by runway
- Departures only in queue size < 4 (from gate to runway)
- Longer taxi-out times predicted in Run 1 (baseline)



R3: Constant speed


## Off Time Prediction Errors at Spot

- Box plots for takeoff time difference at spot by runway
- Departures only in queue size < 4 (from gate to runway)
- Better prediction accuracy in Run 2 and 3 for Runway 36R



- Box plots for spot time difference when landing, grouped by runway
- Show AMA taxi-in time prediction accuracy
- (Actual spot time) - (Undelayed spot time estimate) @landing
- Better prediction performance for arrivals than departures

R1: Baseline


R2: Various speeds


R3: Constant speed


- Box plots for gate-in time difference at spot by concourse
- Show ramp taxi-in time prediction accuracy
- (Actual gate-in time) - (Undelayed gate-in time estimate $)_{@ s p o t}$
- No significant difference between three runs
- Relatively poor performance for Concourse A



R3: Constant speed


- Box plots for gate-in time difference when landing, grouped by concourse
- Show total taxi-in time prediction accuracy
- (Actual gate-in time) - (Undelayed gate-in time estimate) $)_{\text {@landing }}$



R3: Constant speed


## ATDP

- Box plots for gate-in time difference when landing, grouped by runway
- Show total taxi-in time prediction accuracy
- $(\text { Actual gate-in time) - (Undelayed gate-in time estimate })_{@ l a n d i n g ~}$



R3: Constant speed


## ATD2 Better Off Time Estimation in Run 3


< STBO Client Timeline and Map >

Summary

- Three different taxi speed settings were tested to obtain the better taxi time prediction.
- Test results showed that
- The best prediction performance was obtained when using constant taxi speed for each runway (Run 3).
- Arrivals showed the better prediction accuracy, but there was no significant difference between three runs.
- We still have much room to improve the prediction for:
- Ramp taxi-out time for non-AAL flights
- AMA taxi-out time with congestion factor in runway queues
- Ramp taxi-in time for Concourse A
- AMA taxi-in time from West (Runway 18C/18R/36L)

