

TOOLS FOR MODELING URBAN FREIGHT DISTRIBUTION

Daniele Vigo – DEIS Univ. Bologna Bruxelles, May 4, 2011

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Talk outline

Backround and Motivation:

- CityPorts and Merope Interreg III/B projects
- Emilia-Romagna's towns logistic surveys

A unified modeling framework for Urban Logistics (CityGoods)

- Step 1: a demand generation model
- Step 2-3: distribution and assignment models
- Step 4: GityGoods modeling suite

Conclusions











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The CityPorts Project

CityPorts (EU INTERREG III/B 2003-05), coordinated by Regione Emilia-Romagna, proposed a general methodological framework for the design ad evaluation of City Logistics Actions (support initiatives):

Infrastructures

Policies and regulations …

The approach relies on the analysis of the different supply chains and their impact on the different zones of the urban area

Another twin project, Merope, involved other towns of the region with similar objectives











The Zones-Supply Chains Grid

Logistic characterization of towns is based on the construction of the Zones-Supply Chains (ZS) Grid as a "reading guide" of the town in Logistic terms









Logistic Actions and ZS Grid

A Logistic Action (Infrastructure, Policy) may be mapped into the ZS Grid to evaluate it effectiveness











Logistic Actions Evaluation

- Action mapping into a ZS Grid gives the basis for Action effect evaluation (and possible re-design)
- Need of a quantitative ZS Grid
- **Need of a Supply-Chain-based Demand Generation Model**
 - to define the ZS Grid
 - > to be used within classical transp. models















ER City logistic surveys

In the years 2003-05 Emilia-Romagna performed an extensive survey of City Logistics phenomenon for all ER towns

CityPorts, Merope, Regional programmes …

Huge and fine-grained data source

- Quite homogeneous (CityPorts survey model)
- ➤ 3 main surveys:
 - » Demand Generation (interviews at shops...),
 - » Demand Attraction (interviews at logistic operators)
 - » Flows/operations (interviews to vehicles)
- > 11 towns (all with > 50K inhabitants), thousands of interviews
 A unique modeling opportunity !











CityGoods Modeling framework

Unified modeling approach:

- Description of City Logistics phenomena
 - » For a specific town and for a regional territory
- Definition of qualitative and quantitative indicators of City Logistics in ER towns
- That may be used for evaluation and planning purposes
 - » CityPorts methodology and Classical transportation analysis
- **Classical modeling framework**

(Generation, Distribution, Assignment)

Demand Generation exploits the hierarchical structure of activity classification systems

Distribution takes into account that vehicles can perform more than one stop in a tour









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CityGoods package development

- The prototypes of the models were developed in 2004 for RER
- In 2005-06 models are validated on real-world data from RER surveys
- In 2006-07 the models were integrated into a unified package (CityGoods) tested and adopted by RER
- CityGoods is developed and commercialized by OPTIT and **Sistema**



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Demand Generation Models

General survey: Russo & Comi (2004)

- gravitational, 4 Phases (Hutchinson 1974, Odgen 1992, List & Turnquist 1994, Taylor 1997, He & Crainic 1998, Gorys & Hausmanis 1999 ...): more suited to a urban scale
- input-output (Harris & Liu, 1998)
- spatial price equilibrium (Oppenheim 1994, Nagurney, 2002)

Some problems:

- Generation:
 - » intrinsic approximation introduced by aggregating many economic activities into few categories
 - » a given economic activity generates movements belonging to different Supply Chains
- Distribution: a vehicle performs many deliveries/pickups in a tour



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Other experiences

FRETURB (L.E.T., Lyon, Fr): general model for the evaluation of the impact of Logistic Actions

- Based on 3 detailed surveys on French towns (Marseilles, Bordeaux) and Dijon)
- Regression-based model
- Software tool distributed by French Ministry of Transport to all French Municipality

VISEVA (Friedrich et al 2003), Good Trips (Boerkamps, 1999)









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Demand Generation Model

Objective: estimate the yearly number of operations generated by each SC - Zone

Starting Points:

- ER surveys on Demand Generators:
 - » Small samples wrt Universe (e.g. Bologna: 250-500 out of 35131)
 - » Rich of logistic information (operations generated per SC, time distribution, type of vehicles ...)

Universe

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- » Municipality, CCIAA Data ... ASIA ER Database
- » No Supply-chain related classification (only ATECO/NACE) economic classification, NAICS in USA ...)











Demand Generation Model (2)

Overall approach:

- No "a-priori" aggregation of activities into categories (SC)
- Characterize demand generation directly using the ATECO/NACE classification of the generators (\rightarrow operations per NACE code)
- \succ Hundreds of codes and small samples! \rightarrow Exploit the hierarchic structure of the classification within the model
- Use survey data to calibrate the model and define the specific SC generation models

Result:

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Very fine-grained information wrt to classical index-by-category approaches











ATECO-NACE classification tree

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5 Digits code with hierarchic structure











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ATECO-NACE tree (2)

Mapping of the Universe into the NACE tree gives immediate indicators of town structure (overall and spatial=per Zone)



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Bologna Universe

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NACE-Based Model

Main assumption

- The n. of operations generated by a specific NACE code (e.g. 502) Vehicle Maintenance) should take into account:
 - » Those generated by the "descendant" codes (5020, 5021, ... 50201,...,50205)
 - » Those generated by "parent" classes (50, 5)
- Measured by two contributes:
 - » the relative weight (n. of elements in the Universe) of the subtree rooted at the code
 - » relative weight of the path to the tree root











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Model Formulation

NACE tree structure:

- set of NACE codes Ν
- f(i) father of code $i \in N$
- $FS(j) = \{i \in N: f(i) = j\} j \in N$
- root of the tree r



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number of yearly operations of the supply chain Mis $s \in S$ generated by code $i \in N$ (model output) m_{is} number of yearly operations associated to the link entering $i \in N$ (parameters to be determined by calibration)









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Model Formulation (2)

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mathsf{M}_{is} = \mathsf{W}_{is} + \mathsf{H}_{is} & i \in \mathsf{N} \\ \mathsf{W}_{is} \mbox{ contribution to } \mathsf{M}_{i} \mbox{ of the subtree with root i} \\ \mathsf{H}_{is} \mbox{ contrib. to } \mathsf{M}_{i} \mbox{ of the path from i to r (for leaves } \mathsf{M}_{is} = \mathsf{H}_{is}) \\ \mathsf{H}_{is} = \mathsf{m}_{is} + \mathsf{H}_{f(i) \, s} & i \in \mathsf{N} \\ \mbox{ (computed in topological order)} \\ \mathsf{W}_{is} = \sum_{j \in FS(i)} \beta_{j} \cdot (\mathsf{W}_{js} + \mathsf{m}_{js}) & i \in \mathsf{N} \\ \mbox{ (computed in reverse topological order)} \\ \beta_{i} \mbox{ probability that the child of f(i) is } i \in \mathsf{N} \\ \mbox{ (computed statistically from the Universe)} \end{array}$













NACE-Based Model (2)

The overall model defines the total number of operations of a SC per year generated as a function of:

- ➤ the NACE code
- > the n. of employees in each local unit

Survey data are used to

- calibrate the model
- Solution of the different attributes (parking type, time of service...) for each SC



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NACE-Based Model (3)

A spatial model is derived by using

- user-defined Zones (Cityports Macro-Zones, Transportation studies) zones ...)
- distribution of the Universe in the Zones.
 - » through geocoding by using a commercial street network (Navteq) available for all towns
 - » Municipality-owned GIS ...











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CityGoods is a GIS application based on an ACCESS-like DBMS ...

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CityGoods Overview

... with specific tools to model CityLogisitcs



European Union

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It imports the street network (e.g. NavTeq shape file)



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It imports the City Zones (shape file)



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Geocodes the survey data ...



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Geocodes the Universe data ...



European Union

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Imports the surveys to obtain the movements per SC and other logistics attributes

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CityGoods Overview

Applies the generation model to obtain the number of movements per NACE Code and per year ...

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... and produces the ZS matrix ...



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Distribution model uses Logistic Portals (Geocoded)...

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Computes all the distances between inner points and Portals

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Distribution: Gravitational model modified to account for multiple deliveries within each Zone and applied for each supply chain

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... produces the OD matrices per supply chain that are assigned to the network (jointly with people movements)

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... obtaining the freight vehicles flows

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... data may be easily exported to be used by other applications (e.g. GIS)

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Typical Use-Cases

Construction of the specific model for a given town using "its" surveys

Construction of the "regional" model using all the surveys (often covering different SCs)

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Typical Use-Cases (2)

Application of the town or regional model to other towns (without additional surveys)

Requirements:

- ➢ Universe (ISTAT, CCIAA …)
- User-defined Zones
- GIS Cartography o Commercial Street Network

Conclusions ...

Very effective modeling tool

- Soft" data requirements:
 - » Simple Universe data, NACE tree, commercial street graphs
- Fine granularity of results and excellent quality of real-world testing
- Easy portability of the model to different towns with/without specific additional surveys

Thank you for your attention

Daniele Vigo Bruxelles, 04/05/2011

