Optimization based control of networks of discretized PDEs: application to traffic engineering

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#### Outline

- Associated Team ORESTE
- 2 A macroscopic model for ramp metering
- 3 Discretized system
- Quick review of the adjoint method
- 5 Numerical results
- 6 Application to MPC-based ramp metering control
- Participation to optimal re-routing

#### 8 Perspectives



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## Associated Team "ORESTE"

ORESTE (Optimal RErouting Strategies for Traffic mangEment) is an associated team between Inria project-team OPALE and the Connected Corridors project at UC Berkeley.

- Paola Goatin (PI)
- Maria Laura Delle Monache

#### Other fundings:

- ERC Starting Grant TRAM3
- France Berkeley Fund





- Alexandre Bayen (PI)
- Jack Reilly
- Samitha Samaranayake
- Walid Krichene
- Nikolaos Bekiaris-Liberis

#### Traffic Modeling and Management: Trends and Perspectives Inria Sophia Antipolis, March 20-22, 2013



- 14 invited speakers
- 10 contributed talks
- $\sim$ 40 participants



### Road traffic congestion

- Congestion in the US in 2011 [Urban Mobility Report, 2012]
  - \$121 billions in wasted time and fuel (1% of GDP)
  - 5.5 billions hours of delay
  - 56 billions pounds of additional C02 emissions
- Federal Highway Administration forecast



• 37% of total delay occours outside the peak hours



### New opportunities

- Spread of smart phones and GPS navigation devices
  - US smartphone penetration is at 65%
- Real-time information
  - accurate live information (<5 minute delay)</li>
  - high granularity (>1 minute update frequency)
- Adaptive control
  - stochastic routing
  - dynamic re-routing







- Optimize traffic flow in corridors
  - ramp metering
  - re-routing strategies
- Modeling approach:
  - macroscopic traffic flow models
  - discrete adjoint method for gradient computation



## Other ramp-metering models

#### ALINEA

[Papageorgiou - Hadj-Salem - Blosseville, TRB, 1991]

- Closed-loop
- Only uses state estimation (no forward-sim model)
- Local policy (single ramp), extensions (HERO) for multi-ramp using heuristics
- Continuous adjoint approach [Jacquet - Canudas de Wit - Koenig, Proc IFAC, 2005]
  - Derive and discretize
  - Onramps modeled as source terms
  - Control the number of car entering the highway
- Link-node CTM with ramp metering problem as LP [Muralidharana - Horowitz, ACC, 2012]
  - For  $n \times m$  junctions
  - Priorities are proportional to demand (junction solver not "self-similar")
  - Relaxation of the junction model



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Three possible approaches

- Microscopic Models
  - ODE system: each single car is modeled
  - Large number of parameters
  - Numerical simulations

#### • Kinetic Models

- Distribution functions of the macroscopic quantities
- Boltzmann-like equations

#### • Macroscopic Models

- Traffic flow modeled as a fluid, i.e., PDEs from fluid dynamics
- Few parameters
- Analytical solutions
- Suitable for optimization and control problems



## LWR model

#### [Lighthill-Whitham '55, Richards '56]

Non-linear transport equation: PDE for mass conservation

 $\partial_t \rho + \partial_x f(\rho) = 0$   $x \in \mathbb{R}, t > 0$ 

•  $\rho \in [0, \rho_{\max}]$  mean traffic density •  $f(\rho) = \rho v(\rho)$  flux function

Empirical flux-density relation: fundamental diagram





#### Extension to networks





m incoming arcs n outgoing arcs junction

- LWR on arcs
- Maximization of flux through the junction subject to:
  - Mass conservation
  - Distribution/priority parameters

[Coclite-Garavello-Piccoli, SIAM J. Math. Anal., 2005]



- Two incoming roads:
  - Upstream mainline  $I_1 = ] \infty, 0[$
  - Onramp R<sub>1</sub>
- Two outgoing roads:
  - Downstream mainline  $I_2 = ]0, +\infty[$
  - Offramp R<sub>2</sub>



Figure : Junction modeled



Coupled PDE-ODE model:

• Classical LWR on each mainline  $I_1$ ,  $I_2$ 

$$\partial_t \rho + \partial_x f(\rho) = 0, \quad (t, x) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times I_i,$$

• Dynamics of the onramp described by an ODE (buffer)

$$rac{dl(t)}{dt} = F_{\mathrm{in}}(t) - \gamma_{\mathrm{r1}}(t), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}^+,$$

- $l(t) \in [0, +\infty[$  length of the onramp queue
- $F_{in}(t)$  flux entering the onramp
- $\gamma_{r1}(t)$  flux leaving the onramp (through the junction)
- Coupled at junction



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#### Junction solver: Demand & Supply

$$\delta(\rho_1) = \begin{cases} f(\rho_1) & \text{if } 0 \le \rho_1 < \rho^{\text{cr}}, \\ f^{\text{max}} & \text{if } \rho^{\text{cr}} \le \rho_1 \le 1, \end{cases}$$



$$d(F_{\mathrm{in}}, l) = \begin{cases} \gamma_{\mathrm{r1}}^{\max} & \text{if } l(t) > 0, \\ \min(F_{\mathrm{in}}(t), \gamma_{\mathrm{r1}}^{\max}) & \text{if } l(t) = 0, \end{cases}$$

$$\sigma(\rho_2) = \begin{cases} f^{\max} & \text{if } 0 \le \rho_2 \le \rho^{\text{cr}}, \\ f(\rho_2) & \text{if } \rho^{\text{cr}} < \rho_2 \le 1, \end{cases}$$





#### Junction solver: flux maximization

- **9** Mass conservation:  $f(\rho_1(t, 0-)) + \gamma_{r1}(t) = f(\rho_2(t, 0+)) + \gamma_{r2}(t)$
- 2  $f(\rho_2(t, 0+))$  maximum subject to 1 and

$$f(
ho_2(t,0+)) = \min\left((1-eta)\delta(
ho_1(t,0-)) + d(F_{\mathrm{in}}(t),l(t)),\sigma(
ho_2(t,0+))
ight)$$

**3** Right of way parameter  $P \in ]0, 1[$  to ensure uniqueness:

$$f(\rho_2(t,0+)) = P f_1(\rho(t,0-)) + (1-P) \gamma_{r1}$$

- Offramp treated as a sink (infinite capacity)
- So flux from the onramp to the offramp is allowed



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## Ramp metering discretized system $H(\vec{\rho}, \vec{u}) = 0$



- Dynamics and junctions solutions based on the model described earlier
- Piecewise affine system
- Control parameter  $u_i$  is a constraint on the ramp inflow  $r_i(k)$



Lower triangular forward system  $H(\vec{\rho}, \vec{u}) = 0$ :

- $h_{i,k} = \rho_i(k) \rho_i(k-1) \{ \text{flux update equations for cell } i \text{ and time step } k \}$
- *H* system of concatenated *h*<sub>*i*,*k*</sub>
- H lower triangular
- Very efficient to solve  $H^T x = b$



## Ramp metering discretized system $H(\vec{\rho}, \vec{u}) = 0$



Figure : Dependency diagram of the variables in the system.

(nia-10)

## Lower triangular forward system $H(\vec{\rho}, \vec{u}) = 0$



Figure : 
$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{\rho}}$$
 matrix



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#### Optimization problem

minimize  $_{\vec{u} \in \mathcal{U}} \quad J(\vec{\rho}, \vec{u})$ subject to  $H(\vec{\rho}, \vec{u}) = 0$ 

- $\vec{\rho} \in \mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{NT}$ : state variables
- $\vec{u} \in \mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{MT}$ : control variables

Want to do gradient descent: How to compute the gradient  $\frac{\partial J}{\partial \vec{\sigma}} \nabla_{\vec{u}} \vec{\rho} + \frac{\partial J}{\partial \vec{u}}$ ?

On trajectories,  $H(\vec{\rho}, \vec{u}) = 0$  constant, thus  $\frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{\rho}} \nabla_{\vec{u}} \vec{\rho} + \frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{u}} = 0$ Adjoint system:

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{\rho}}^{T} \lambda = -\frac{\partial J}{\partial \vec{\rho}}^{T}$$

Then

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial \vec{\rho}} \nabla_{\vec{u}} \vec{\rho} = -\lambda^T \frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{\rho}} \nabla_{\vec{u}} \vec{\rho} = \lambda^T \frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{u}}$$



#### Exploiting system structure

The structure of the forward system influences the efficiency adjoint system solving Solving for  $\lambda$ 

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{\rho}}^T \lambda = -\frac{\partial J}{\partial \vec{\rho}}^T$$

Since  $\frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{\rho}}$  is lower triangular,  $\frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{\rho}}^T$  is an upper triangular matrix

 $\implies$  The adjoint system can be solved efficiently using backward substitution

Complexity reduction from  $O((NT)^2MT)$  to  $O((NT)^2 + (NT)(MT))$ 





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Sparsity 
$$\implies O(NT + MT)$$



Algorithm 1 Gradient descent loopPick initial control  $\vec{u}_{init} \in U_{ad}$ while not converged do $\vec{\rho} = forwardSim(\vec{u}, IC, BC)$  $\lambda = adjointSln(\vec{\rho}, \vec{u})$  $\nabla_u J = \lambda^T \frac{\partial H}{\partial \vec{u}} + \frac{\partial J}{\partial \vec{u}}$  $\vec{u} \leftarrow \vec{u} - \alpha \nabla_u J, \ \alpha \in (0, 1) \text{ s.t. } \vec{u} \in U_{ad}$ end while



#### Strengths:

- Requires only one solution of adjoint system, independent of  $\dim(\vec{u})$  (unlike finite differences or sensitivity analysis).
- Extends existing simulation code
- General technique, can be applied in very different settings

#### Weaknesses:

• Optimization of the discretized problem, rather than approximation of the optimal solution of the continuous problem



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#### Numerical Results: case study



Figure : I15 South, San Diego: 31 km

- N = 125 links
- M = 9 onramps
- T = 1800 time-steps
- $\Delta t = 4$  seconds (120 minutes time interval)



#### Numerical Results





Figure : Density and queue lengths without control

#### Numerical Results





Figure : Density and queue difference with control

#### Model Predictive Control

Performance under noisy input data: MPC loop

- initial conditions at time t and boundary fluxes on  $T_h$  (noisy inputs)
- optimal control policy on  $T_h$
- forward simulation on  $T_u \leq T_h$  using optimal controls and exact initial and boundary data
- $t \rightarrow t + T_u$

Comparison with ALINEA (local feedback control without boundary conditions)



Figure : Congestion reduction and noise robustness



## Running time





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# Predictive/Coordinated Ramp Metering in Connected Corridors

## **UC Berkeley - PATH**







## **Connected Corridors Framework**

**Decision Support** 



## **Simulation Framework**



## Model Predictive Control: Ramp Metering



Actuated Metering Policy

## **I15 South Simulation**



No Control

No Control

## I15 South: Total Travel Time-Mainline



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Multi-commodity flow:

$$\rho_i(k) = \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \rho_{i,c}(k)$$

accounting for compliant  $c_c \in \mathcal{CC}$  and non-compliant  $c_n$  users

#### Goal:

Control compliant users to optimize traffic flow



### Application to optimal re-routing

#### Example [Ziliaskopoulos, 2001]:



• Normal conditions: link capacity between cell 3 and cell 4 = 6 Optimal total travel time: 190.9875

 Incident between cell 3 and cell 4: capacity goes to 0 Optimal total travel time: 229.1973 (otherwise 254.758)



### Application to optimal re-routing

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### Application to optimal re-routing

With partial control:



Total travel time reduction as a function of the percentage of vehicles that are rerouted:

almost optimal allocation can be achieved by controlling  ${\sim}60\%$  of the demand



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#### California Connected Corridors project



Ínría

#### Testbed for deployment in California: SCOPE





### CPS operational decision support system: SENSING





#### CPS operational decision support system: CONTROL





## CPS operational decision support system: DSS





### Perspectives for the future of ORESTE

- Models developed as part of the project feed "estimation" and "prediction"
- Accurate modeling is required to perform efficient traffic management
- Perspectives for 2014 2015:
  - New member on secondment at Inria Sophia
  - 2015: IPAM workshop at UCLA, co-organized by Berkeley and Inria Sophia as part of "New Directions in Mathematical Approaches for Traffic Flow Management" trimester
- $\bullet$  ~10 joint publications (journals, conferences)

## Thank you for your attention!



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