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Impact of Vehicle Sequence Autocorrelation Function on Mixed Traffic Fundamental Diagram

Session: Traffic Flow Analysis

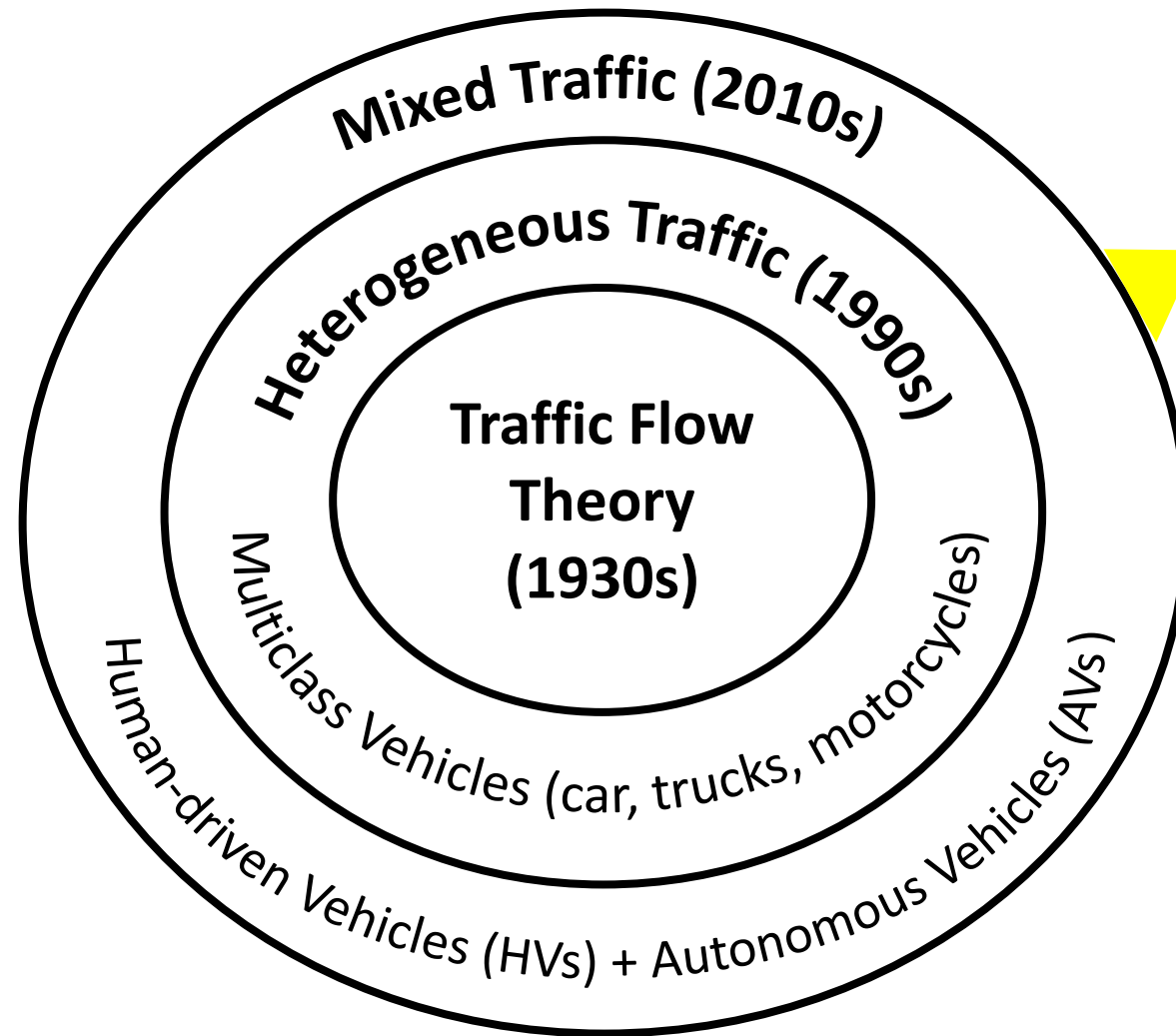
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09 Dec 2025



Background



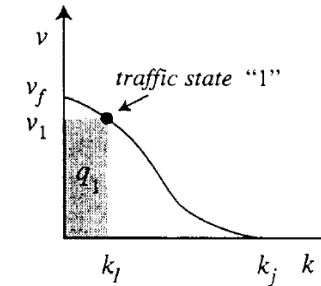
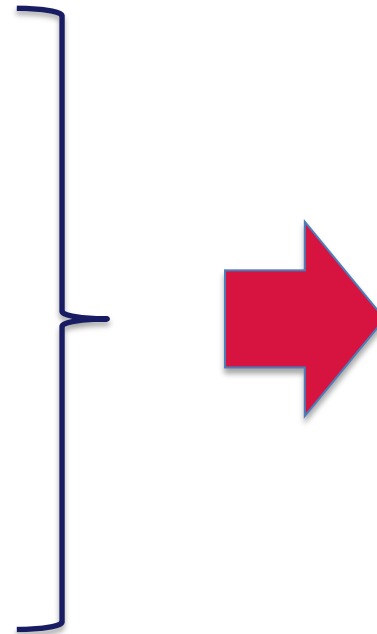
This research

Mixed Traffic Analysis

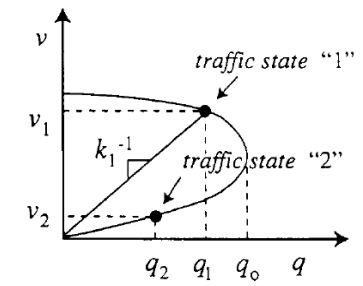


Mixed Traffic Characteristics

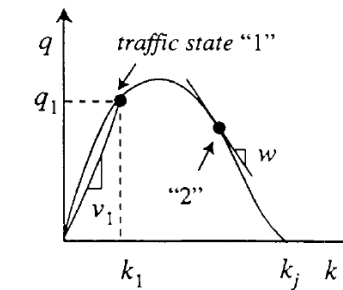
- Penetration Rate
- Platooning Intensity
- Platoon Size
- ...



(a)



(b)

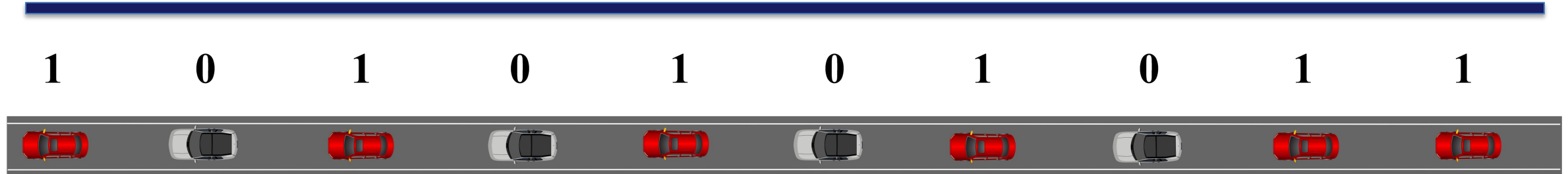


(c)

Traffic Flow Theory

- Capacity
- Jam Density
- Fundamental Diagram
- ...

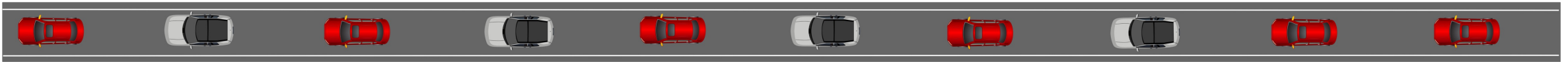
Modeling the Mixed Traffic



 **Human-driven Vehicle (HV)**  **Connected and Autonomous Vehicle (CAV)**

	HV	CAV
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human-driven 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensing surroundings Autonomous decision making Inter-vehicle Communication
Label	"0"	"1"
Penetration Rate	Proportion of HVs P_0	Proportion of CAVs P_1

1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 1

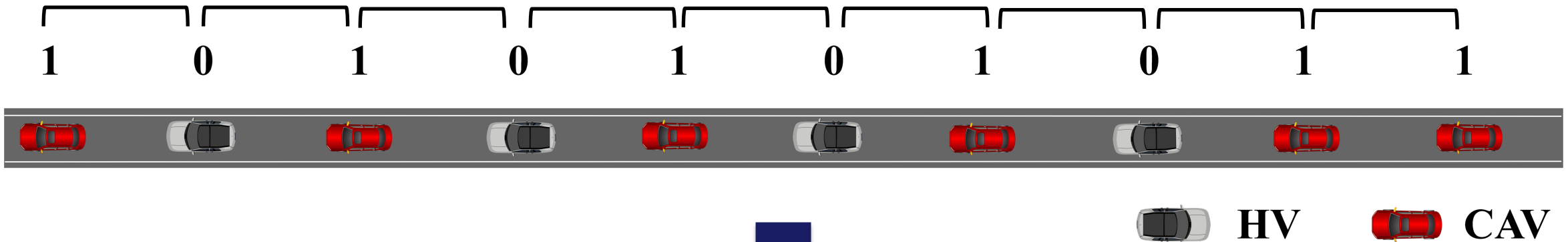


 Human-driven Vehicle (HV)  Connected and Autonomous Vehicle (CAV)

1st order Sequence Autocorrelation ?

Insights from 1st order Sequence Autocorrelation

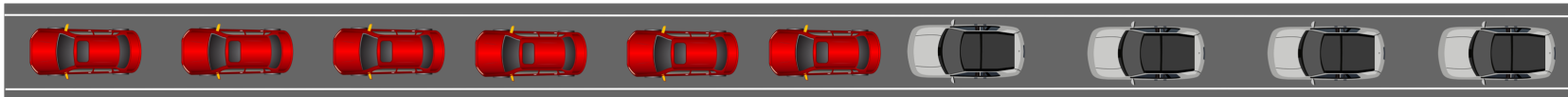
- 1st order Sequence Autocorrelation (ACF):
 - Relationship** between a variable's present value and its lagged values



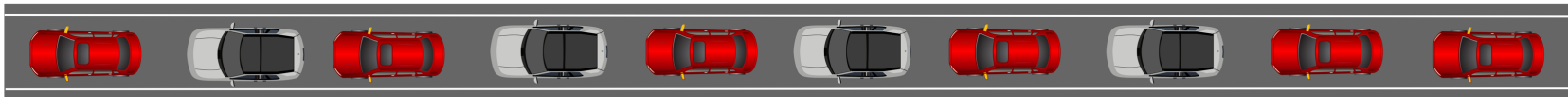
- Vehicle Sequence: Similarity of 2 consecutive vehicle types.

$$\rho = \frac{P_0}{(N-1)P_1} \cdot N_{11} + \frac{P_1}{(N-1)P_0} \cdot N_{00} - \frac{N_{01} + N_{10}}{N-1}$$

Insights from 1st order Sequence Autocorrelation



(a) High ACF Value



(b) Low ACF Value

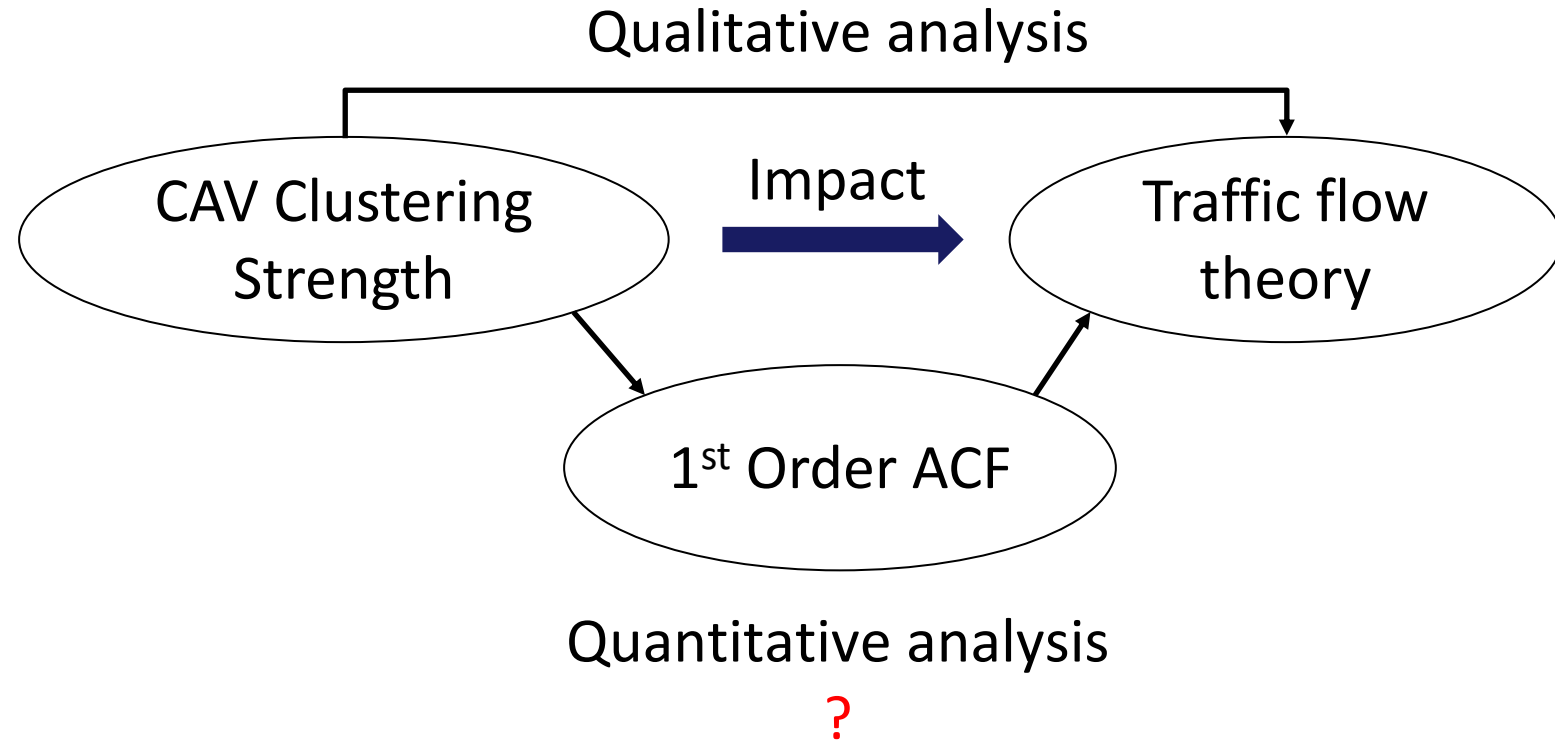
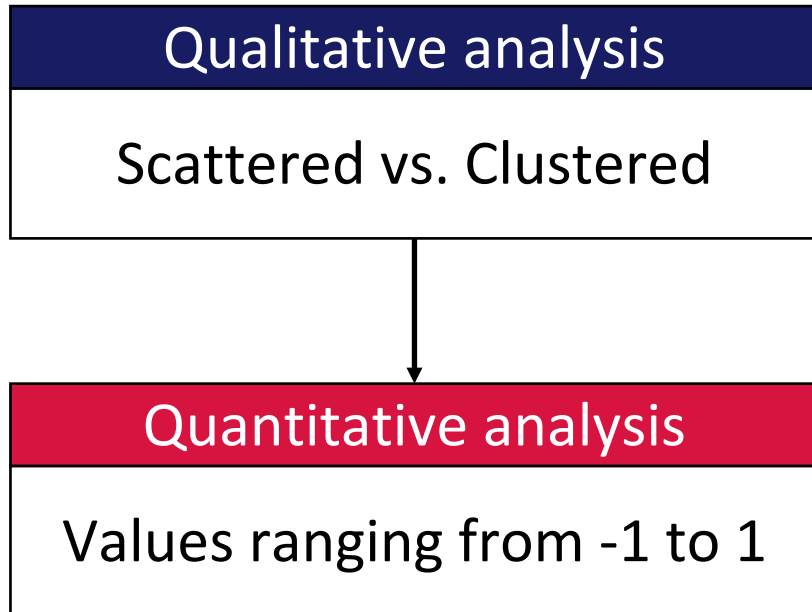


1st order Sequence Autocorrelation reflects the degree of clustering of CAVs.

- Higher ACF -> Clustered
- Lower ACF -> Scattered

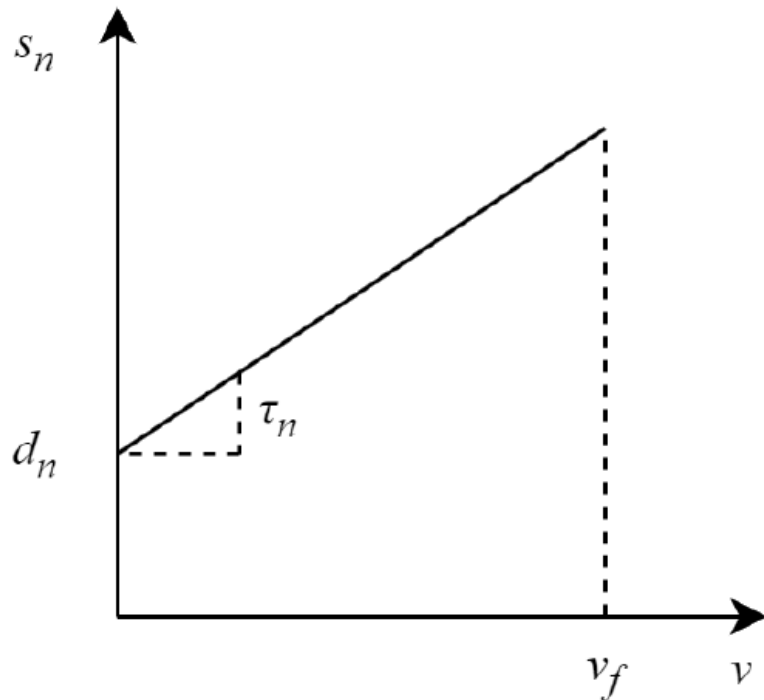
Practically:

- Spatial clustering could provide more chances and positions for CAV inter-vehicle communications.

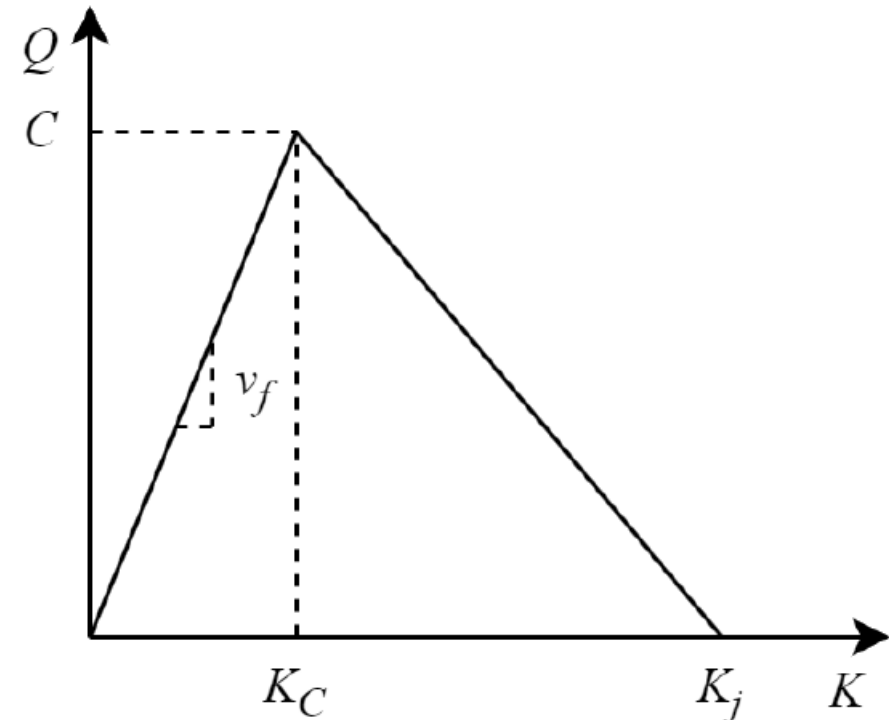


Linear spacing-speed relation and triangular FD

- Under stationary and steady flow:

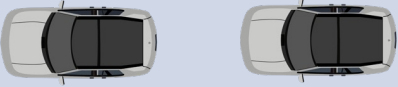

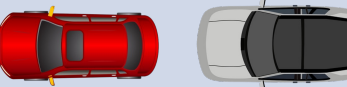
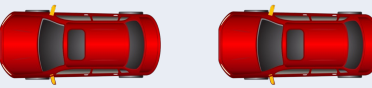


$$\bar{s} = \bar{d} + v\bar{\tau}$$



$$Q(K) = \begin{cases} v_f K, & 0 < K < K_C \quad \text{free flow branch} \\ \frac{1}{\bar{\tau}} - \frac{\bar{d}}{\bar{\tau}} K, & K_C \leq K < K_j \quad \text{congested branch} \end{cases}$$

Estimated value of \bar{d} and $\bar{\tau}$

Scenarios	Description	Digitalization
	An HV being followed by another HV	00
	An HV being followed by a CAV	01
	A CAV being followed by an HV	10
	A CAV being followed by another CAV	11

$$\bar{d} = P_{00}d_{00} + P_{01}d_{01} + P_{10}d_{10} + P_{11}d_{11}$$

$$\bar{\tau} = P_{00}\tau_{00} + P_{01}\tau_{01} + P_{10}\tau_{10} + P_{11}\tau_{11}$$

Estimated value of \bar{d} and $\bar{\tau}$

Range of d_{sr} and τ_{sr} in the existing research

Space Displacement	Range	Time displacement	Range
d_{00}	[6.06,10.00]	τ_{00}	[1.00, 2.00]s
d_{01}	[6.10,10.00]	τ_{01}	[0.50, 1.50]s
d_{10}	[6.10,10.00]	τ_{10}	[1.00, 1.80]s
d_{11}	[4.50,15.00]	τ_{11}	[0.60, 1.00]s

1. Treiber, M., Hennecke, A. and Helbing, D. (2000) "Congested traffic states in empirical observations and microscopic simulations", Phys. Rev. E.
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5. Levin, M. W. and Boyles, S. D. (2016) "A Multiclass Cell Transmission Model for Shared Human and Autonomous Vehicle Roads", Transp. Res. C.
6. Zhu, F. and Ukkusuri, S. V. (2017) "An Optimal Estimation Approach for the Calibration of the Car-Following Behavior of Connected Vehicles in a Mixed Traffic Environment", IEEE ITS.
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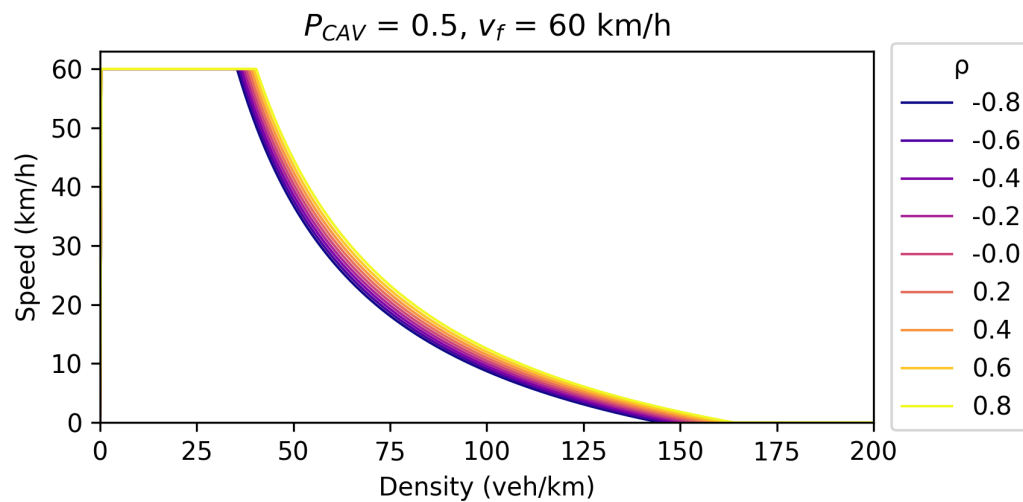
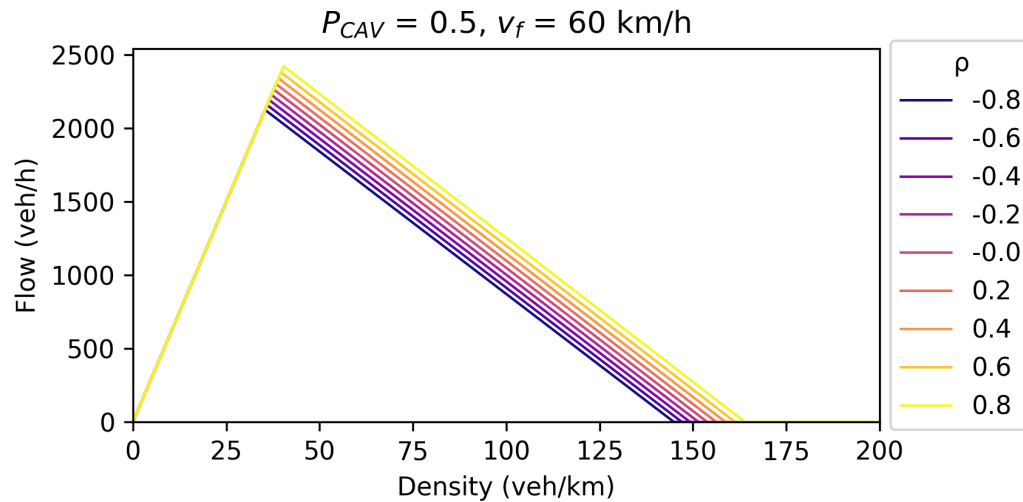
Estimated value of \bar{d} and $\bar{\tau}$

Space Displacement	Value	Time displacement	Value
d_{00}	7 m	τ_{00}	1.60 s
d_{01}	7 m	τ_{01}	1.10 s
d_{10}	7 m	τ_{10}	1.50 s
d_{11}	5 m	τ_{11}	0.60 s

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_{11} &= P_1 [\rho(1 - P_1) + P_1] \\
 P_{10} &= P_1 (1 - P_1)(1 - \rho) \\
 P_{01} &= (1 - P_1)P_1(1 - \rho) \\
 P_{00} &= (1 - P_1)(\rho P_1 + 1 - P_1)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bar{d} &= P_{00}d_{00} + P_{01}d_{01} + P_{10}d_{10} + P_{11}d_{11} \\
 \bar{\tau} &= P_{00}\tau_{00} + P_{01}\tau_{01} + P_{10}\tau_{10} + P_{11}\tau_{11}
 \end{aligned}$$

Mixed Traffic Fundamental Diagram



ρ	Jam density (veh/km)	Critical density (veh/km)	Capacity (veh/h)
-0.8	144.928	35.419	2125.148
-0.6	147.059	35.971	2158.273
-0.4	149.254	36.541	2192.448
-0.2	151.515	37.129	2227.723
0	153.846	37.736	2264.151
0.2	156.250	38.363	2301.790
0.4	158.73	39.012	2340.702
0.6	161.29	39.683	2380.952
0.8	163.934	40.377	2422.611

Conclusions

1. Sequence ACF could be used for quantifying the degree of CAV clustering
 - Higher value of ACF indicates that CAVs are clustering together
 - The introduction of ACF promotes the quantitative analysis on the impact of clustering strength in mixed traffic environment
2. Under the conditions in this study, a higher ACF could increase the traffic efficiency
 - A higher ACF increases the mixed traffic capacity and jam density
 - A higher ACF maintains the free flow speed when density is relatively high
 - In congested branch, higher ACF increase the flow and speed for a same density.
 - Given that ACF is an indicator of clustering strength, these findings are insightful for controlling CAV clustering to tune the value of ACF on the road.
3. This research utilizes simplified equations and triangular FD under the stationary and steady condition, more complex scenarios, including nonlinear effects and dynamic terms, could be discussed in the future



Thank you

Welcome the feedback to make us work better.

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