

The Centre for Transportation Research (CTR)

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Improving structural models of congestion

By

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<http://individual.utoronto.ca/jhall/>



Date: Wednesday, 6 November, 2019

Time: 10.30 am to 12:00 pm

Venue: EA #06-03

**Block EA, 9 Engineering Drive 1,
Singapore 117575**

Faculty of Engineering,

National University of Singapore

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER

or Visit <https://mysurvey.nus.edu.sg/EFM/se/543BE5C206377B25>

by 5th Nov 2019 or when all seats are taken up.

Abstract

We need structural models of traffic congestion to answer a wide variety of questions, but the standard models fail to match the data on travel times across the day. I establish the nature and magnitude of the problem, and show its source lies in how we model traveler preferences, not in the specifics of the congestion technology. The poor fit of the models suggests that we are abstracting away from features with a first-order impact on model predictions, which limits our ability to use these models to evaluate counterfactuals quantitatively and---when travelers are heterogeneous---qualitatively as well. I explore several ways of improving the fit of these models, concluding with recommendations for tractable and intuitive ways of doing so.

Speaker Biography



Jonathan Hall is an applied microeconomist at the University of Toronto, with appointments in the Department of Economics and Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy. He is affiliated with the University of Toronto Transportation Research Institute, School of Cities, and Urban Policy Lab. His research focuses on urban transportation, and his recent work has addressed how to design road tolls and the effects of new transportation technologies. His work has been published in the Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Urban Economics, and Transportation Research Part B. His dissertation was honored with the Best Dissertation Award by the Transportation and Public Utilities Group and the Best Paper Award at the Kumho-Nectar Conference on Transportation Economics. Professor Hall received his B.A. from Brigham Young University and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. Before coming to the University of Toronto, he completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Northwestern University.

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*****Seats are limited. Please register early. All are welcome and admission is free*****

Location Map

