Assignment 8: Capacity and Demand Estimation

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Problem 1

An airport shown in Figure 1 is to be studied for capacity analysis. The airport has a standard airport surveillance radar (ASR) which tracks aircraft up to 60 nautical miles form the airport site. The radar has a scan rate of 4 seconds. Tables 1 and 2 show the typical ATC separations at the airport under IMC conditions. Assume the minimum separations under VMC conditions are reduced by 10% from those observed under IMC conditions. All five aircraft groups operate at the airport. The airport has the following technical parameters: a) in-trail delivery error of 14 seconds (because there is a radar at the site), b) departure-arrival separation for both VMC and IMC conditions is 2 nautical miles, c) probability of violation is 5%. Arriving aircraft are "vectored" by ATC to the final approach fix located 10 miles from the runway threshold. Arrivals follow in-trail after crossing the final approach fix. The airport aircraft mix, runway occupancy times and approach speeds are shown in Figure 2.

. Show me a few sample calculations for both opening and closing cases.

- a) Calculate the arrival-departure saturation capacity diagram (Pareto diagram) under IMC conditions (show all your work). In your diagram, include at least one point to estimate the departure capacity with 100% arrival priority under mixed runway operations. Show me sample calculations of Tij and Bij so that I can judge your analysis.
- b) Repeat part (a) for VMC conditions. Assume departure-departure headways are also reduced by 10% in VMC conditions. Comment on the differences observed. Specifically, comment on the number of departure values obtained with 100% arrivals. Show me sample calculations of Tij and Bij so that I can judge your analysis.

Minimum Separation Matrix (nm)		Arrivals-Arrivals			
		Trailing Aircraft (Header Columns)			
Lead (column 1)	Small	Large	B757	Heavy	Superheavy
Small					
Large					
B757					
Heavy	6				
Superheavy					

Table 1. Minimum arrival-arrival separations under IMC conditions. Values in are nautical miles. Values Shown Do Not Include Buffers.

Figure 1. Diagram for Airport of Problem 1.

Figure 2. Airport Arrival Occupancy Times and Fleet Mix for Problem 1.

A few operational rules apply to this airport:

- 1) Assume a typical acceleration rate on the runway of 2.5 m/s-s for takeoffs.
- 2) Assume a typical deceleration rate after touchdown of -2.3 m/s-s.
- 3) All landings on runway 09 occur after the intersection point.
- 4) Takeoffs on 03 are allowed as long as there is an arrival on 09 that is >=2.0 nm from the threshold 09.
- 5) Takeoffs on 09R or 14 are allowed as soon as another takeoff has crossed the runway intersection (no wake vortex effect as the aircraft are on the ground).
- 6) Takeoffs on03 are allowed as soon as an arrival on 09 has crossed the runway intersection (no wake vortex effect as the aircraft are on or very close to the ground). Allow the standard 10 second time lag for ATC to clear the departing aircraft on runway 03.

Break out the problem into two subproblems. The first subproblem is to solve the departures-only capacity for runway 11. The second subproblem solves the capacity of the two-runway intersection set (runways 03 and 09).

Runway 11 analysis can be carried out using the spreadsheet method provided in class. The expected value of the time between successive departures is estimated to be 80.4 seconds. This provides a saturation departure capacity for runway 11 of **44.8 operations per hour**.

$$
E(Td_{ij}) = P_{ij} * Td_{ij}
$$

where:

Pij = probability that aircraft type i is followed by aircraft type j.

 Td_{ij} = is the time between successive departures when an aircraft i is followed by an aircraft of type j.

and the values of Td_{ij} are given below.

Analysis of runways 03 and 09 requires the following steps:

- a) Estimate the arrival saturation capacity of runway 09.
- b) Estimate the maximum number of departures possible with 100% arrival priority on runway 03.
- c) Estimate the maximum number of departures on runway 03 alone.

The steps outlined above provide 3 data points to construct a Pareto diagram for the runway set 03 and 09.

Step (a) Arrival capacity of runway 09

Expected value of time between successive arrivals with buffer added is 122.2 seconds. This value is E(Tij + Bij). The arrival saturation capacity is 29 operations per hour.

$$
E(T_{ij} + B_{ij}) = P_{ij} * (T_{ij} + B_{ij})
$$

where:

Pij = probability that aircraft type i is followed by aircraft type j.

 T_{ij} + B_{ij} = is the time between successive arrivals to runway when an aircraft i is followed by an aircraft of type j. This value only considers the ATC buffer.

Step (b) Departures with 100% arrival priority requires a gap analysis of arrivals on runway 09.

The gap analysis measures the gaps between successive arrivals and compares them with the time needed to release a departure on runway 03. This analysis requires an estimate of the time for arrivals on runway 09 to cross the intersection of runways 09 and 03.

The table above shows that on average, **landing aircraft cross the intersection 4.22 seconds** after crossing threshold 09. Call this time $t_{a-cross} = 4.2$ seconds.

At the same time it requires an estimate of the time it takes for departing aircraft in runway 03 to cross the intersection 03-09. Using simple uniform accelerating motion formulas we find that on average it will take 22.1 seconds for a departing aircraft to cross the intersection between runways 03 and 09. Call this time $t_{d-cross} = 22.1$ seconds .

The critical time for the release of a departure on runway 03 requires consideration of the two times estimated above. However, we also need to factor two delays times that account for ATC and pilot time lags in the system. The first time is the delay time for the ATC controller to recognize when the landing aircraft has crossed the runway intersection ($t_{ATC-lag} = 10$ seconds). This time is usually assumed to be 10 seconds. The second time lag effect is perhaps 10 seconds between ATC clearing an aircraft for takeoff roll and its pilot responding ($t_{pilot-lag} = 10$ seconds). Adding all four effects, we realize that arriving aircraft to runway 09 would be 46.3 seconds closer than the time estimates done in the T_{ii} + B_{ij} matrix. The situation is illustrated graphically in Figures 1 and 2.

The gap analysis computations for each arrival gap are shown in Figure 3. These are carried out in a standard spreadsheet format. The calculations start with the arrival-arrival matrix (Tij + Bij). We then subtract the time required to clear one takeoff on runway 03 (calculated above as 46.3 seconds). The new matrix constitutes the critical time left before an arrival crosses the runway threshold of runway 09. These calculation are then converted into distance matrix to estimate how far each arrival is from threshold 09 at the time the departure crosses the intersection point between the two runways (see Figure 2). This calculation is shown in the third table of Figure 3. Finally, we inspect which arrival gaps allow the minimum 2 nm between an arrival and the departure on the intersecting runway (03). This analysis can be automated or carried out manually as shown in Figure 3.

It is important to check if arrival gaps are large enough to allow more than one departure on runway 03. For example, looking at the third matrix presented in Figure 3, we realize that gaps where a Small aircraft trails a Boeing 757, Heavy or Superheavy are large enough to allow 2 or even 3 departures on runway 03. For example, consider the cell Heavy-Small (i.e., a Heavy aircraft is trailed by a Small aircraft). The headway between a departure on runway 03 and the time when the Small aircraft arrives to the runway is estimated to be 201.4 (second matrix in Figure 3). This time translates into 6.41 nm flown at Small aircraft speeds (120 knots). You can verify that such gap allows 2 successive departures on runway 03 on average (verify that for 2 departures 3.7 nm will remain before the Small aircraft reaches the runway threshold 09). Similarly, when a Small aircraft trails a Superheavy, 3 departures are possible on runway 03 in such large gap. Collecting all cells estimated we produce the 4th matrix presented in Figure 3. The matrix shows the number of departures per gap on runway 03 with 100% arrival priority on runway 09.

Finally convert the estimated departures per gaps into Equivalent Departures per Gap (EDij) using the known formula:

$ED_{ii} = P_{ii}DG_{ii}NG$

The total number of departures in all gaps is the summation of the previous calculation. The analysis shows 30.4 departures with 100% arrivals.

Figure 2. Critical Condition for Release of Departure on Runway 03.

Figure 3. Gap Analysis to Estimate Number of Departures Allowed on Runway 03 for each Arrival Gap on Runway 09.

Using the results obtained before we construct the complete Pareto diagram for the airport with 3 runways. The results are presented in Figure 4. The diagram shows 29 arrivals per hour and a maximum of 89 departures per hour at saturation using both runways 03 and 11 for simultaneous and independent departures (with no arrivals). When 100% priority is given to arrivals on runway 09, runway 03 can service 30.4 departures. Add 44.8 departures on runway 11 and the airport can service 75.2 departures per hour simultaneously besides arrivals. Note that the Pareto (capacity) diagram has a small tradeoff region beyond 75.2 departures because the only way to increase the departure rate is to reduce the number of arrivals on runway 09. The slope of the tradeoff region is steep because the difference between maximum saturation departures and departures with 100% priority is only 15 operations.

Figure 4. Complete Airport Pareto Diagram.

Problem 2

Familiarize yourself with the passenger data presented below for Cheju International Airport in South [Korea. The passenger data has been collected from Wikipedia \(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeju_International_Airport) Jeju_International_Airport).

- a) The airport has 14 gate positions to service aircraft at the terminal (includes 4 ramp positions). Assume that the ultimate passenger capacity of the existing airport is 29 million passengers per year. Estimate the best parameters of a Logistic forecast demand model for this airport. Use Excel solver in your analysis.
- b) Comment on the goodness of fit of the proposed Logistic model.

Use Excel Solver to obtain the best coefficients of the logistic regression model.

a=0.1035 b=3.3776 $k = 29e6$ (given as the capacity of the airport)

Figure 5. Jeju International Airport Data and Logistic Regression (shown as values after year 2013). Note that the logistic regression is not able to replicate the rapid growth experienced at the airport. For this reason, the solution shows a reduction in annual passengers after between year 2013 and 2014. This is unlikely to happen unless some large shock occurs.

Problem 3

Before building its seventh runway, the Dallas-Forth Worth Airport had a departure saturation capacity of 23 departures per 15 minute period (see red line in Figure 3). The airport is a major hub for American Airlines and back in 2001 had a departure demand as shown in Figure 3. The departure saturation capacity has been estimated using two fully independent runways for departures.

Figure 3. IMC Departure Saturation Capacity (red line) and Scheduled Departure Profile for DFW Airport. Source: FAA Airport Capacity Benchmarks.

- a) Convert the graph shown to numerical values of departure demand over time. The conversion is shown below. Note that all demand values are multiplied by 4 because the deterministic queueing model accepts values for capacity and demand rates in aircraft per hour.
- % Data for DFW airport

 $time = 7:0.25:21.75$; $%$ values of time (time vector)

demand = [11 4 22 11 53 1 9 0 37 43 10 14 13 19 38 ...

31 12 13 5 5 5 3 40 58 18 10 4 2 44 32 11 6 9 11 26 57 ...

18 3 10 5 19 45 20 3 7 0 18 62 12 24 15 4 4 30 42 13 11 2 1 1] * 4; % values of demand over

noPoints = length(time);

capacity = ones(1,noPoints) *23 * 4; % values of capacity over time (baseline capacity of 23 per 15 minute period)

b) Estimate the aircraft departure queues that were likely to be experienced before the 7th runway was built.

Figure 3.1 Departure Queues Estimated (in Green) Using a Deterministic Queueing Model. DFW without New Runway.

c) Estimate the average delay per departure at DFW using the unsteady queueing model.

The total departure delays based on the deterministic queueing model is estimated to be: 143 aircraft hours. The maximum queue length is 45 aircraft during the period 13:00 hrs as shown in Figure 3.1. The total number of departures at DFW is 1052 aircraft in 24 hours. This translates into an 8.12 minutes of delay per aircraft (counting all aircraft operated in the 24-hour period).

d) Suppose that after adding the 7th runway was constructed, the departure capacity increased by another 35 departures per hour (in IMC conditions). Estimate the new delays at the airport. Assume the demand function remained the same. Was the additional runway justified?

35 departures per hour is equivalent to another 8.75 (35/4) departures in a 15-minute period. Work the problem again with the new parameters. Figure 3.2 shows the new results. Note that the total delay is 38.4 aircraft-hours and the average delay is estimated to be 2.2 minutes. A substantial reduction from the baseline case.

Figure 3.2 Departure Queues Estimated (in Green) Using a Deterministic Queueing Model. DFW with New Runway.

e) Estimate the total delay reductions due to the 7th runway.

The total delay reductions are substantial. From 143 to 38.2 aircraft-hours. The new runway seems to be very useful at reducing departure delays at the airport.