

The study on optimization measures of congestion on main roads in ChongQing

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Abstract : to relieve the congestion of main roads with many two-phase intersections, build the simulation platform with data of actual congested road. By simulating different traffic volume, found: when traffic is in a high level, the added left-turning lane leads to congestion indirectly. So, put forward two solutions, after evaluating with DEA/AHP, found: execute "closed to turn left", use "U-Turn" to reduce crossing conflicts and coordinate intersections with SYNCHRO is the best.

I. Introduction

Urban traffic congestion seriously restricts the social and economic development, to break this bottleneck, domestic and foreign scholars have done a lot of researchs on urban road congestion control measures. Although relevant research results have become a relatively complete system, some problems as follow still exist:

1) rare researchs on a specific city, like ChongQing, to meet the access of district vehicles and pedestrians, many two-phase intersections was set on main road, congestion often occurs on this type of

road section.

2) lack of security considerations in congestion analysis.

The aim of this dissertation is to explore effective strategies to control traffic congestion of ChongQing main road with simulation method.

1. data investigation and simulation platform

1.1 geometrical data

The road section locates in ChongQing host city, surrounded by colleges and living areas, 3 two-phase intersection was set on the section, as shown in Fig 1.

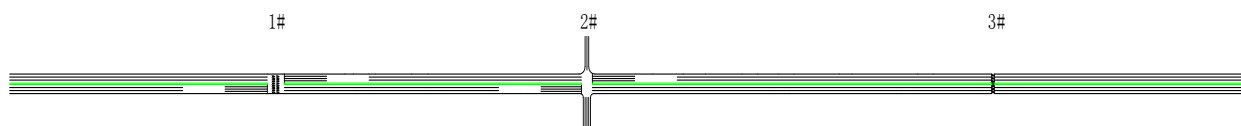


Fig 1 Intersection distribution

- (1) The section is 2053m long, belong to long straight ramp section.
- (2) The distance between 1# and 2# intersection is 508m, the distance between 2# and 3# intersection is 666m.
- (3) The trunk is a two-way six-lane road. At 1#, 2# intersection, pavement width remains the

- same, the trunk was channelized to add one left-turning lane, the lane width became 2.81m.
- (4) northern and southern entrance of 1# intersection are sidewalks with 3.5m width, a 4m wide sidewalk was set at 3# intersection. Southern entrance of 2# intersection has 4 lanes, every lane is 3m

wide, then the northern entrance only has one lane with 4m width.

1.2. Signal Timing

ALL intersections on this road use

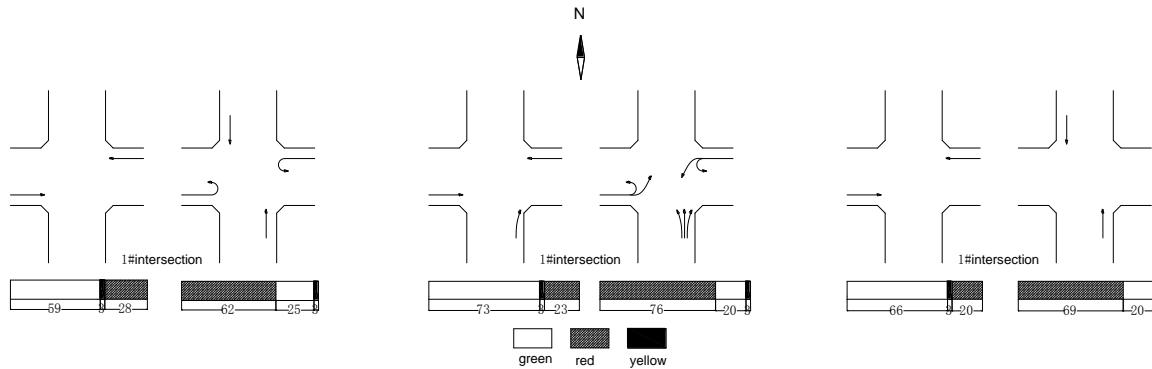


Fig 2 Signal Timing

1.3 Traffic data

Congestion usually appears at the evening peak, during 17:30-18:30. Collect traffic data with video cameras, statistical results are shown in Table 1.

Table 1 Traffic data pcu/h

Intersection	Direction	Straight	Left	Right	U-turn
1#	East	1909	-	-	24
	West	1245	-	-	156
	South	321	-	-	-
	North	133	-	-	-
2#	East	1937	-	18	82
	West	1042	115	28	82
	South	96	130	20	-
	North	-	-	-	-
3#	East	2227	-	-	-
	West	1101	-	-	-
	South	242	-	-	-
	North	89	-	-	-

1.4 Simulation platform

Use VISSIM to build the platform, input collected data, then adjust relevant parameters until it is consistent with the reality.

two-phase fixed signal timing, define 1# intersection as the master intersection, the offset of 2# intersection is 51s, the offset of 3# intersection is 28s, more details as shown in Fig 2.

II. Congestion Causes

The congestion occurred in eastern main road, analysis showed:

1) queues existed in eastern entrances of 1#, 2# intersection, the increasing traffic volume intensifies queues, because straight vehicles on the left-turn lane waited for an appropriate time headway to change lanes and surrounding vehicles had to stop when they changed lanes. so, congestion appeared.

2) At 2# intersection, left-turning vehicles of western entrance and southern entrance caused lots of crossing conflicts, aggravated the congestion.

3) Didn't implement traffic signal coordination, the road capacity was reduced.

III. Study on optimization measures

3.1 optimization measures

According to congestion causes, at the evening peak, the added left-turning lane led to congestion indirectly, there are 2 ways to improve the situation, ① execute "closed to turn left" at 1#, 2# intersection in the eastern main road. ② change the left-turn lane into a left-turn, straight lane, but the original 2 phases need to be adjusted and pedestrians are forbidden, as shown in Fig 3.

3.

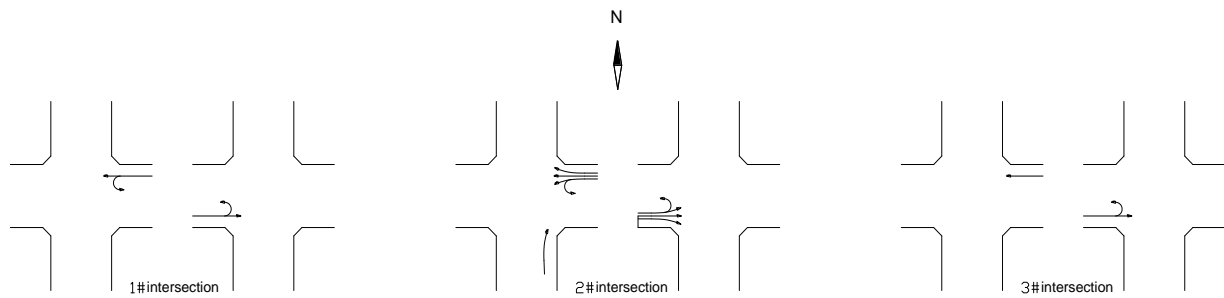


Fig 3 Phases of intersections

Then use “U-Turn”to clear the vehicles at southern entrance of 2# intersection, so as to reduce the number of crossing conflicts.Finally, coordinate the signal timing of all intersections with SYNCHRO.

Choose the passing rate , average stops and the number of conflicts as indexes, the number of conflicts can be got with SSAM(Surrogate safety analysis model)^[1],simulation data as shown in Table 2.

Table2 project data

plan	Passing rate	average stops	conflicts			
			crossing	rear	Lane change	total
①	0.95	1.11	38	6 6 7	159	86 4
②	0.93	1.56	22	6 8 9	135	84 6

3.2 Evaluation Method

From Table 2 ,can see plane ① doesn't have the absolute advantages over plan ② here use DEA/AHP model to compare plans.First ,use DEA to build the Judgment matrix,determine relative effectiveness of every index,then order the plans with AHP^[2].

Steps as follows :

- 1) build the Judgment matrix

If there are n decision making units, every unit has a input-indexes and b output-indexes, assume X_{ij} is the i th input-index (negative Index) and Y_{kj} is the i th

output-index (positive index) of the j th unit, $j=1,2,\dots,n$, $i=1,2,\dots,a$, $k=1,2,\dots,b$. Choose two different units randomly: L and M, determine relative effectiveness with DEA.:

$$E_{LL} = \text{Max} \sum_{k=1}^b u_k Y_{kL} = h_L$$

St.

$$\sum_{i=1}^a v_i X_{iL} = 1$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^b u_k Y_{kL} \leq 1$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^b u_k Y_{kL} - \sum_{i=1}^a v_i X_{iL} \leq 0$$

$$u_k \geq 0, v_i \geq 0$$

$$E_{ML} = \text{Max} \sum_{k=1}^b u_k Y_{kM}$$

St.

$$\sum_{i=1}^a v_i X_{iM} = 1$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^b u_i Y_{iM} \leq 1$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^b u_k Y_{kL} - E_{LL} \sum_{i=1}^a v_i X_{iL} \leq 0$$

$$u_k \geq \varepsilon, v_i \geq \varepsilon$$

Apparently ,in the two units DEA

model , $E_{LL}=E_{LM}, E_{MM}=E_{ML}$.

Build the Judgment matrix ,according to calculation results.Forany pair of decision making units,L and M:

$$a_{LM} = \frac{E_{LL} + E_{LM}}{E_{MM} + E_{ML}}$$

2)orderthe plans with AHPSolve the maximal eigenvalue λ_{max} and its Feature vector $\vec{\omega}$

$$\vec{\omega}=(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_3, \dots, \omega_n)^T$$

ω_j represents the relative impotence of the jthdecision making unit.So,the order is determined.

3.2project evaluation

Use passing rate as the positive index ,average stops and the number of conflits as negative indexes , the Judgment matrix as shown in Table 3.

Table 3 Judgmentmatrix

	①	②
①	1	1.00030009
②	0.99970009	1

$$\lambda_{max}=2$$

$$\vec{\omega}=(0.7072,0.7070)^T$$

consistency test :

$$CI=CR=0<0.1$$

According to the feature vector, plan①is better than plan②

IV. Conclusions

1)In ChongQing ,on the section with many two-phase intersections ,when traffic is in a high level,the added left-turnning lane ,local conflicts and unreasonable signal timing lead to the congestion together.

2)The number of conflicts was first used in DEA/AHP model ,so that the model can guarantee safety and capacity at the same time. With the model ,found the best optimization measure:execute” closed to turn left”,use “U-Turn”to reduce crossing conflits and coordinate intersections with SYNCHRO.

References

- [1] Douglass Gettman, Lili Pu, Tarek Sayed, etc. Surrogate Safety Assessment Models and Validation [M]. Siemens Energy & Automation, Inc. Business unit Intelligent Transportation Systems,2008.1: 14-21
- [2] Zhan Lin Xia. The Study on Factors of Establishment at the Exit and Entrance of Urban Ex Pressway [D]. Beijing Jiaotong University, 2008.