TIME HEADWAY DISTRIBUTION OF TRAFFIC FLOW

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Arrival distribution of vehicles is one of the basic characteristics of traffic flow. Since average time headway is inversely proportional to the traffic volume it has been considered as an approach of the study of traffic capacity. Arrival distribution is essential to deal with the traffic flow stochastically in the problems such as queuing problems of crossing or merging traffic, and various traffic simulation.

The paper deals mainly with congested traffic flow which causes so many traffic problems. The objects of this study is to obtain and analyse the characteristics of actual traffic headway distributions and to find theoretical distribution models which fit well to them.

Several field observations were carried out and a theoretical distribution of traffic headway is proposed based on the observed data. The theoretical distribution fits very well to the actual ones.

1. BRIEF REVIEW ON PREVIOUS STUDIES^{3), 4)}

Many reports^{1), 2), 5)} have showed that distribution of arrivals in short period could possibly be represented by Poisson distribution. Adams showed that the Poisson distribution was applicable to the distribution of vehicle arrivals in 1936, and since then Poisson distribution has been extensively employed in many theories of traffic flow.

If the distribution of arrivals in short period is Poisson, the headway between successive arrivals should be distributed in the form of negative exponential distribution; therefore, negative exponential distribution has been often used to handle the time headway distribution problems.

In actual traffic flow, however, the assumption of Poisson arrival can be well applied only when traffic volume is small. There are two limiting factors in applying negative exponential distribution to the headway distribution. Firstly, negative exponential distribution spreads over entire range of time head-

way from zero to infinity and probability density is maximum at $t=0$, while there in fact exists an minimum finite headway since a vehicle has a finite length and finite speed. Secondly, it has also observed that as traffic volume increases platoons are formed and consequently headway tends to concentrate within a certain short range.

Various modifications of the basic Poisson distribution have been proposed to compensate these disagreements. For the first problem, Gerlough⁶⁾ proposed the shifted exponential distribution in which the exponential curve is shifted by a certain distance away from the origin along the time axis. Haight⁷⁾ mentioned that the Erlang distribution, or Pearson's type III distribution, could be applied.

This distribution is a generalization of negative exponential distribution and in applying the distribution the very small headway is improbable since the curve pass through the origin.

The probability density function of Erlang distribution is written as :

$$f(t) = (\lambda K)^K t^{K-1} \exp(-\lambda Kt) / (K-1)! \quad \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

where K and λ are parameters of the probability density function and K is a positive integer which is called a phase of Erlang distribution. It is obvious that when K is unity the distribution is identical to exponential distribution (random arrival), and when K approaches to infinity it approaches to unit distribution (regular arrival). Haight says that this theoretical distribution can fit a variety of field data through adopting suitable K values.

While a more generalised form of gamma probability density function⁹⁾ could of course be used and would fit better, computation becomes complicated and still not so much improved as compared with Erlang distribution.

For the second problem, the platooning effect of traffic, a composite exponential distribution was first proposed by Shuhl¹⁰⁾. He pointed out a traffic stream could be composed of a combination of free-moving and constrained vehicles each of which conforms to Poisson distribution.

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The equation of the composite distribution in this case is

$$p(h \geq t) = (1-a) \exp(-(t-\lambda)/(T_1-\lambda)) + a \exp(-(t-\tau)/(T_2-\tau)) \dots (2)$$

in which

$p(h \geq t)$ = probability of a headway h , greater than or equal to time t ;

a = proportion of the traffic stream in constrained group;

$1-a$ = proportion of the traffic stream in free-moving group;

T_1 = average headway of free-moving vehicles

T_2 = average headway of constrained vehicles

λ = minimum headway of free-moving vehicles

τ = minimum headway of constrained vehicles

This distribution is illustrated to compare with data observed on two-lane urban streets in Highway Capacity Manual¹⁰⁾ but it seems not to fit so well in the range of short headways as far as the figure in the Manual concerned. It does not seem reasonable in addition that the constrained group of traffic flow have exponentially distributed headways. Haight also showed various compound gap distributions in his book¹¹⁾.

Generally, density function of such distribution as the combination of two phenomena can be written in the following form,

$$g(t) = (1-a)g_L(t) + ag_F(t) \dots (3)$$

where

$g(t)$ = probability density function of time headway of all traffic

$g_L(t)$ = probability density function of time headway of free-moving vehicles (leaders)

$g_F(t)$ = probability density function of time headway of constrained vehicles (followers)

a = proportion of the constrained vehicles in the total traffic

$1-a$ = proportion of the free-moving vehicles

Although this relationship may be understood intuitively, there might be some doubt if a , in terms of the proportion of vehicular volumes, could be directly used in the equation of probability density functions. It will be shown after in the appendix that this equation can be proved generally from the relationship between counting distribution and gap distribution.

Free-moving vehicles are either isolated vehicles or head vehicles of platoons, thus they are referred as leaders while constrained vehicles are called followers.

There are two difficulties in applying this theoretical distribution to actual headway distribution. What kind of distribution should be applied for $g_L(t)$ and $g_F(t)$, and how the values of a , proportion of platoon, could be obtained?

Since leaders are free-moving vehicles truncated

negative exponential distribution can also be applied to their headways. In adopting the composite exponential distribution, the truncated exponential distribution can also be applied to followers' headways. Since headways of followers tend to be more or less alike with each other, distributions other than negative exponential might be applied. Prof. Takada¹²⁾ proposed phase of 6 Erlang distribution.

The second question is more difficult because criteria on which leaders and followers should be distinguished from each other have not been established yet. They can not be clearly distinguished in actual traffic flow through conventional observations since vehicles are always changing their state from leader to follower.

In the above mentioned compound distribution platooning is represented by the proportion of followers which are defined as those headways are less than a certain empirical value. In this report, however, platooning factor a is not determined by classifying vehicles into two categories, followers and leaders, but is induced as a result of fitting a theoretical distribution which composed of two Erlang distributions of different K_s' to the actual ones, since this report is interested in obtaining a theoretical distribution.

2. CHARACTERISTICS OF OBSERVED HEADWAYS

(1) Field observations

Table 1 shows the observations carried out for this study. The time interval of vehicles passing at a point were measured from photographs which were taken at a constant interval by a 35 mm motor-driven camera and a 16 mm cine camera.

Observations were made when traffic was heavy since the author is mainly interested in heavy traffic. The influence of traffic composition was not regarded because the headway distribution characteristics of flows of a particular kind of vehicles cannot be deduced from actual data and in fact majority of vehicles observed were passenger cars. An observation at Yokohama By-pass was made when the traffic density was over the critical density and stop-and-go condition was observed for a few moment. Full capacity condition at peak period was observed at Tokyo Expressway Route 4.

(2) Results of analysis

The time headway characteristics obtained from the observations on actual traffic flow are as follows;

- a) Coefficient of variance of headway distributions

Table 1 Observations

Date	Road	Instrument	Road and Traffic Condition
10 th. Dec. 1964 p.m. 1:20~1:50	Tokyo Expressway Route No. 1	35 mm Motor Driven Camera	Level, Straight, Devided 4-lane Urban Expressway. Lane width=3.25 m
25 th. Dec. 1964 a.m. 11:05~11:40	National Route 14 Chiba Highway	"	Level, Straight, 2-lane Highway Roadway width=9 m
3 rd. Jan. 1965 p.m. 3:30~4:20	Meishin Expressway	"	Level, Straight, Devided 4-lane Freeway. Lane width=3.60 m
1 st. Aug. 1965 a.m. 9:30~10:00	Yokohama By-pass	16 mm Cine Camera	Level, almost Straight, Undevided 4-lane Highway. Lane width=3.25 m High Density Condition
11 th. May 1967 a.m. 8:10~9:20	Tokyo Expressway Route No. 4		Downgrade (3%), Straight, Devided 4-lane Urban Expressway. Lane width=3.25 m Full Capacity Condition
15 th. July 1969 a.m. 9:30~10:30	Tokyo Expressway Ring Route	16 mm cine camera Event Oscillograph	Level, Straight, Devided 4-lane Urban Expressway. Lane width=3.25 m

If traffic flow is random the headway distribution can be represented by negative exponential function and standard deviation is equal to the mean and then the coefficient of variance is equal to unity. In the actual traffic, however, outer lane (1st lane) and inner lane (2nd lane) of a 4-lane highway have different characteristics. In the outer lane the coefficient of variance is generally less than 1 and is about 0.7 to 0.8. In the inner lane, on the other hand, it is more than 1 and about 1.2 to 1.3. When traffic volume increases the coefficient of variance of inner lane becomes also less than 1 as observed at Tokyo Expressway Route 4. When stop-and-go condition occurs at the over critical density the coefficient of variance increases and exceeds 1 even in the outer lane in the observation at Yokohama By-pass.

In the observation on a two lane highway at National Route 14 the coefficient of variance exceeds 1 also. Perhaps the adjacent traffic signal seems to influence the headway distribution, although observation site was located as far as possible from the signalised intersection.

b) The mode and the minimum value of headway distribution

The modes (most frequent values) appear between 1.5 seconds and 2.0 seconds for both outer lane traffic of 4-lane highways and a 2-lane highway as seen in Table 2. They are between 0.5 to 1.0 seconds for inner lane traffic of 4-lane highways.

Abscissa of the histograms of headway distribution is divided into 0.3 seconds in Fig. 1 in order to determine the modes more accurately instead of 0.5 seconds. The modes are 1.5 to 1.7 seconds in the outer lanes and 0.9 to 1.1 seconds in the inner lanes.

The above mentioned results on modes may apply to almost all types of roads and all traffic conditions except over-critical density condition. The difference in modes of headway distribution between inner and outer lanes at ordinary conditions disappears when traffic density becomes over critical as shown in Fig. 2 (d) and 2 (c), the examples of Yokohama By-pass or Tokyo Expressway Route 4. The figures also show that the headways of the traffic in inner lanes tend to concentrate around the modes more sharply than the outer lane traffic.

As to the minimum time headway, 0.1 seconds

Fig. 1 The Histograms of Headway Distribution
Divided into 0.3 sec

Table 2 Observed Characteristics of Time Headway

Road & Lane	<i>T</i> (sec)	Size of Samples	Mean (sec)	Variance (sec ²)	S.D. (sec)	C.V.	Median (sec)	Median Mean	Mode (sec)
Meishin Expwy No. 1	22	453	2.94	3.93	1.98	0.67	2.2	0.75	1.0~1.4
Down Outer No. 2	16	332	2.92	4.87	2.21	0.76	2.1	0.72	1.5~1.9
Meishin Expwy No. 1	22	299	4.43	8.88	2.99	0.68	3.5	0.79	1.5~1.9
Up Outer No. 2	16	225	4.28	11.82	3.44	0.80	3.2	0.75	1.5~1.9
Meishin Expwy No. 1	22	316	4.21	26.49	5.17	1.22	2.0	0.47	0.5~0.9
Down Inner No. 2	16	222	4.30	36.67	6.06	1.40	1.9	0.42	1.0~1.4
Meishin Expwy No. 1	22	168	7.90	86.64	9.31	1.18	3.7	0.47	0.5~0.9
Up Inner No. 2	16	120	7.68	91.39	9.57	1.24	3.2	0.42	1.0~1.4
Tokyo Expwy Outer	12	217	3.22	6.22	2.49	0.77	2.4	0.75	1.5~1.9
Rt. 1 Down Inner	12	220	3.16	21.03	4.59	1.42	1.7	0.54	1.0~1.4
Yokohama Outer	19	406	2.87	11.49	3.39	1.18	2.2	0.77	1.5~1.9
Bypass Down Inner	19	372	3.14	14.44	3.80	1.20	2.2	0.70	1.5~1.9
National Down	24	398	3.55	17.04	4.13	1.16	2.05	0.58	1.5~1.9
Route 14 Up	24	365	3.76	21.47	4.63	1.23	2.10	0.56	1.5~1.9
Tokyo Expwy No. 1	6	203	1.83	0.72	0.85	0.46	1.6	0.87	1.0~1.4
Route 4 Up No. 2	25	617	2.40	3.32	1.82	0.76	1.8	0.75	1.0~1.4
Outer lane No. 3	7	158	2.60	3.63	1.91	0.73	1.9	0.73	1.0~1.4
Tokyo Expwy No. 1	6	233	1.69	0.19	0.44	0.28	1.5	0.94	1.0~1.4
Route 4 Up No. 2	25	907	1.65	2.50	1.58	0.96	1.4	0.85	1.0~1.4
Inner lane No. 3	7	210	1.97	3.95	1.99	1.01	1.4	0.71	1.0~1.4
Tokyo Expwy No. 1	24	542	2.69	3.58	1.89	0.70	2.1	0.78	1.5~1.9
Ring Rt. Outer No. 2	24	557	2.65	3.29	1.81	0.68	2.1	0.79	1.0~1.4
Tokyo Expwy No. 1	24	634	2.30	3.72	1.93	0.84	1.7	0.74	1.0~1.4
Ring Rt. Inner No. 2	24	706	2.10	2.88	1.70	0.81	1.6	0.76	1.0~1.4

T = Observed Period ; S.D. = Standard Deviation ; C.V. = Coefficient of Variance

headway was observed but it is thought to be due to either observation error or a special case where the following car was changing the lane. Headways less than 0.5 seconds were found quite seldom in the observations. The minimum headway could be considered, therefore, to be 0.4 to 0.5 seconds, even though the value may be longer, of course, for slower speed traffic as observed at Yokohama Bypass and National Route 14.

c) Median of headway distribution

The time headway distribution curves show that the median values are always smaller than mean values such as in the case of modes. The medians are about 50% and between 70% and 80% of the mean values for inner and outer lane traffic respectively in moderate traffic volume.

(3) Conclusion

The results of headway characteristics described above are summarized in Table 2.

3. PROPOSED THEORETICAL DISTRIBUTION

The author proposes a theoretical headway distribution which fits well to the actual ones based on the observation results described above.

The distribution is a composite of two different

distributions which is based on the assumption that a traffic flow is composed of free flow (leaders) and constrained flow (followers) as prescribed Equation (3) which is

$$g(t) = (1-a)g_L(t) + ag_F(t) \dots\dots\dots (3)$$

Erlang distribution function including exponential is applied to each of the probability density functions, $g_L(t)$ and $g_F(t)$, because it is relatively easy to handle in computations.

The probability density function of Erlang distribution is given as

$$e(t) = (K\lambda)^{K-1} \exp(-\lambda Kt) / (K-1)! \dots\dots\dots (4)$$

and its mean (M) and variance (V) are

$$M = 1/\lambda, V = M^2/K \dots\dots\dots (5)$$

There is the relationship between mode (M_0) and mean (M) as

$$M_0 = M \times (K-1)/K \dots\dots\dots (6)$$

The Erlang distribution applied to followers, headway can be estimated from the mode and the mean considering as follows: The modes are considered to be dominantly affected by followers, because it seems to be caused by platoon forming that the modes are smaller than the mean. If we can consider that each of the followers drive at its own minimum safe headway and moreover, the capacity condition is the one where almost all vehicles become followers, the mean of the followers' headways may be always close to the headway at

(a) MEISHIN EXPRESSWAY Downward

(b) TOKYO EXPRESSWAY ROUTE 1. Downward

(c) NATIONAL ROUTE 14. (2-Lane Highway)

(d) YOKOHAMA BYPASS Downward

(e) TOKYO EXPRESSWAY ROUTE 4. Upward

(f) TOKYO EXPRESSWAY RING ROUTE

Fig. 2 Headway Distributions

the capacity of the road. The mean of followers' headway may then be about 1.8 seconds which corresponds to 2000 vehicles/hour and the mode may be close the mode of actual headway distribution of all traffic flow.

As for the headways of leaders, if we assume free flow they may generally be of negative exponential distribution or phase 1 Erlang distribution. In the case of outer lane traffic, however, since their coefficients of variance are less than unity, Erlang distribution of phase 2 may be applied to them.

Truncated distribution have to be used for leaders' headways of both inner and outer lane traffic since the minimum headway is about 0.5 seconds as described in the preceding section. For the followers' headways, on the other hand, the minimum headway need not be considered just for simplicity of handling, since the Erlang distribution applied are of large phase number and probability density of the headway near origin is very small.

The parameters in the equation of theoretical distribution can then be determined and the two Erlang distribution are combined through the following steps adopting the characteristics of Erlang distribution shown in Eq. (5) and Eq. (6) :

(1) a) Presume the mean (M_F) and phase (K_F) of followers, within the range shown in (2).

b) Presume the minimum headway (T_L) and the phase (K_L) of leaders within the range shown in (2).

c) Using those values determine the mean headway (M_L) of leaders and proportion of followers or platoon ratio, a , by solving the simultaneous equations below, which represent that the mean and the variance of theoretical composite distribution should coincide with those of the actual observed distribution.

$$M_F a + M_L (1-a) = M \dots\dots\dots (7)$$

$$(M_F^2 + V_F) a + (M_L^2 + V_L) (1-a) = M^2 + V \dots\dots\dots (8)$$

where,

M_F = mean of followers' headways

V_F = variance of followers' headways

M_L = mean of leaders' headways

V_L = variance of leaders' headways

M = mean of observed headways

V = variance of observed headways

(2) The procedure mentioned above in (1) is repeated changing the constants M_F , K_F , K_L , T_L , with the range of the value shown in Table 3.

Table 3 The range of tested constant

	K_F	M_F (sec)	K_L	T_L (sec)
Outer lane	5 ~ 13	1.5 ~ 2.4	1, 2	0.5 ~ 0.8
Inner lane	3 ~ 13	1.2 ~ 1.8	1, 2	0.4, 0.5
Increment	1	0.1	1	0.1

(3) The best fitting theoretical distribution can be obtained through chi-square goodness-of-fit test with the observed data.

The procedures (1) through (3) were carried out by a computer. Table 4 shows the result of computations.

Figure 2 shows the observed distributions at various roads and the theoretical distributions for them. The broken lines in it show the best fitting theoretical probability density distribution obtained by the above procedures. The cumulative distributions are shown in it by $\times$ for the theoretical distribution and by $\bullet$ for observed one. It could be said from the table and figure that the proposed theoretical distribution has good fitness to the actual headways.

For Tokyo Expressway Route 4, however, the proposed theoretical distribution did not fit well to the some part of the observed data. The reason may be that the traffic flow on the road did not seem consistent. There was an apparent decreasing trend in volume and was no consistent mean nor variance in the observation at Tokyo Expressway Route 4. Such falling trend and fluctuations are obvious in the Fig. 3 of 1-minute flow fluctuation pattern. The shape of probability density function of proposed distribution, however, is still similar to actual one even in such case.

4. CONCLUSIONS AND SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR PRACTICAL APPLICATION

The conclusions of the study can be summarized as follows.

1. Conclusions obtained from observed time headway distributions are shown in Table 5.

a) The table shows that the modes and coefficients of variance are nearly constant, but there are differences between lanes when the density is below critical. The mode is about 0.9 to 1.1 seconds in the inner lane, and 1.5 to 1.7 seconds in the outer lane. The coefficients of variance are less than unity in the outer lane but larger than unity in the inner lane.

b) When the density is critical, however, no difference has been observed between lanes. The modes of headways are 1.2 to 1.4 seconds and coefficient of variance in the inner lane becomes also less than unity.

c) When the density exceeds critical the modes in both inner and outer lanes are 1.5 to 2.3 seconds, and the coefficients of variance become larger than unity for both lanes.

2. The minimum headway could be considered to

Table 4 The Results of χ^2 Goodness-of-fit Test

Road & Lane		M	follower			leader			χ^2	D.F.	L.S. (%)
			K_F	M_F	a	K_L	M_L	τ_L			
Meishin Expressway Downward Outer lane	No. 1	2.94	5	1.7	0.302	2	3.46	0.5	2.46	12-3	98
	No. 2	2.92	5	1.7	0.495	2	4.12	0.6	21.04	12-3	1
Meishin Expressway Upward Outer lane	No. 1	4.43	7	2.0	0.176	2	4.97	0.7	13.99	12-3	10
	No. 2	4.28	5	2.2	0.429	2	5.84	0.5	15.71	12-3	5
Meishin Expressway Downward Inner lane	No. 1	4.21	3	1.7	0.511	1	6.83	0.5	6.11	12-3	70
	No. 2	4.30	3	1.7	0.625	1	8.63	0.5	16.15	12-3	5
Meishin Expressway Upward Inner lane	No. 1	7.90	3	1.9	0.308	1	10.58	0.5	6.82	12-3	50
	No. 2										
Tokyo Expressway Route 1 Downward	Outer lane	3.22	7	1.8	0.472	2	4.48	0.5	7.94	12-3	50
	Inner lane	3.16	3	1.7	0.779	1	8.30	0.7	13.98	10-3	5
Yokohama Bypass Downward	Outer lane	2.87	6	2.25	0.916	1	9.61	0.8	6.37	11-3	50
	Inner lane	3.14	5	2.45	0.917	1	10.77	0.9	9.63	11-3	25
National Route 14 Downward	Outer lane	3.55	5	2.25	0.753	1	7.51	0.8	19.26	12-3	2
	Inner lane	3.76	6	2.25	0.744	1	8.15	0.7	11.80	12-3	20
Tokyo Expressway Route 4 Upward	No. 1	1.83	9	1.75	0.964	2	3.97	0.5	4.51	9-3	60
	No. 2	2.40	7	1.65	0.666	2	3.90	0.5	19.34	12-3	2
	No. 3	2.60	9	1.55	0.487	2	3.60	0.5	7.88	9-3	25
Tokyo Expressway Route 4 Upward	No. 1	1.59	15	1.58	0.998	2	3.47	0.5	13.51	6-3	rejected
	No. 2	1.65	9	1.30	0.868	1	3.92	0.5	45.70	11-3	rejected
	No. 3	1.97	7	1.40	0.770	1	3.89	0.5	12.84	8-3	2
Tokyo Expressway Ring Outer lane	No. 1	2.69	7	1.6	0.419	2	3.48	0.5	8.90	12-3	30
	No. 2	2.65	7	1.7	0.453	2	3.44	0.5	7.14	12-3	50
Tokyo Expressway Ring Inner lane	No. 1	2.30	7	1.4	0.642	2	3.91	0.5	4.78	12-3	80
	No. 2	2.10	7	1.5	0.763	2	4.03	0.5	30.30	11-3	rejected

D.F. = Degree of Freedom ; L.S. = Level of Significance

Fig. 3 Traffic Flow Pattern**Table 5** The Characteristics of Time Headway

Traffic Flow Condition		Coefficients of Variance	Mode	Roads Observed
Under Critical	Inner lane	over 1 (1.2~1.3)	0.9~1.1	Meishin Expressway Tokyo Expressway
	Outer lane	under 1 (0.7~0.8)	1.5~1.7	
Critical (Full Capacity)		under 1 (0.3~0.8)	1.2~1.4	Tokyo Expressway Route 4
Over Critical Density		over 1 (about 1.1)	1.5~2.3	Yokohama Bypass

be about 0.5 seconds.

3. A theoretical headway distribution which fits well to the observed distribution can be given as a composite Erlang distribution in which the parameters can be determined easily by the procedures mentioned in the preceding section.

4. Almost same parameters are obtained from various observations when traffic conditions are in the same domain, as shown in Table 6.

a) When density is below critical, the mean of followers' headways is about 1.7 to 2.0 seconds and phase number K of Erlang distribution is about 5 to 7 for either outer lanes of 4-lane highways or 2-lane highways and about 3 for inner lanes of 4-lane highways.

Truncated Erlang distribution can be applied to leaders' headways. The phase $K=1$ is well fitted to inner lanes of 4-lane highways and 2-lane highways and $K=2$ to outer lanes of 4-lane highways.

b) At critical density, Erlang distribution of phase $K=7$ to 10 and of which mean is 1.4 to 1.7 seconds fits well to the followers' headways. The same distribution as mentioned in a) for below critical condition could be applied to leaders' headways.

c) When density exceeds critical, the phase number K of Erlang for followers' headways is about 6 and the mean may be 2.3 to 2.5 seconds. The negative exponential distribution truncated below 0.8 to 0.9 seconds might be applied to leaders' headways.

The following suggestions may be useful for practical applications of the proposed theoretical distributions as input data.

a) The mean and variance of time headways and the phase number of Erlang have to be given. The mean can easily be obtained by the inverse of traffic flow rate, which is most common parameters of traffic flow condition. When the variance is not given, Table 5 can be used to estimate the variance based on the mean value since the table lists the coefficients of variance in various traffic conditions. The phase number of Erlang can be estimated referring to Table 6 in accordance with the traffic

Table 6 The Parameters of the Theoretical Distribution

Traffic Flow Condition		M_F (sec)	K_F	K_L	τ_L (sec)
Under Critical	Inner lane	1.7~2.0	3	1	0.5
	Outer lane		5~7	2	0.5
Critical (Full Capacity)		1.4~1.7	7~10	1, 2	0.5
Over Critical		2.3~2.5	5~6	1	0.8, 0.9

conditions.

b) The length of time during which the same distribution can be applied must be carefully deter-

mined. When traffic volume is in increasing or decreasing trend, the mean of headways is not consistent and the distribution should be changed at a certain interval.

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APPENDIX

Probability Density Function of a Compound Distribution

Probability density function of the headway distribution as the combination of two different traffic flow can generally be represented in the following.

$$g(t) = (1-a)g_L(t) + ag_F(t) \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

where,

$g(t)$ = probability density function of time headways of all traffic

$g_L(t)$ = probability density function of headways of free-moving vehicles (leaders)

$g_F(t)$ = probability density function of headways of constrained vehicles (followers)

a = proportion of constrained group in the total traffic.

This equation can be induced from the probability of vehicle arrivals as follows.

When total traffic flow rate be Q and the proportion of followers be a , then the flow rate of followers is Qa and the proportion of leaders is $Q(1-a)$. The probability that no vehicles arrive in arbitrary interval θ is defined as follows.

$P_0(\theta)$ = Prob. (no vehicles arrival in θ)

$P_{L0}(\theta)$ = Prob. (no leaders arrival in θ)

$P_{F0}(\theta)$ = Prob. (no followers arrival in θ)

Since the probability that arbitrary θ exists in the gaps of leaders is $(1-a)Q\bar{t}_L$, and the one of followers is $aQ\bar{t}_F$,

$$P_0(\theta) = (1-a)Q\bar{t}_L P_{L0}(\theta) + aQ\bar{t}_F P_{F0} \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

where,

$\bar{t}_L$ = the mean headway of leaders

$\bar{t}_F$ = the mean headway of followers

The probability density function of the gap from arbitrary point to next arrival point is different from the one of the gap between successive arrival points and is called the starting density function. If mean gap size is $\bar{t}$ and cumulative distribution function is $G(t)$, then the starting density function $g_0(t)$ is

$$g_0(t) = (1-G(t))/\bar{t} \dots\dots\dots (3)$$

The probability $P_0(\theta)$ that no arrival in θ can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} P_0(\theta) &= \text{Prob. (no arrival in } \theta) \\ &= \text{Prob. (starting gap} > \theta) \\ &= \int_{\theta}^{\infty} g_0(t) dt = \int_{\theta}^{\infty} (1-G(t)) \bar{t} \cdot dt \dots (4) \end{aligned}$$

Differentiating this equation with two times, following relation is obtained

$$g(\theta) = \bar{t} \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} P_0(\theta) \dots \dots \dots (5)$$

Differentiating Eq. (2),

$$P''(\theta) = (1-a)Q\bar{t}_L P_{L0}''(\theta) + aQ\bar{t}_F P_{F0}''(\theta) \dots \dots \dots (6)$$

Substituting Eq. (5) into this equation,

$$1/\bar{t} \cdot g(\theta) = (1-a)g_L(\theta)Q + aQg_F(\theta) \dots \dots (7)$$

and because of $1/\bar{t} = Q$

$$g(\theta) = (1-a)g_L(\theta) + ag_F(\theta) \dots \dots \dots (8)$$

We have thus obtain the equation (1) and of course relationships between the means is

$$\bar{t} = \int_0^{\infty} t g(t) dt = (1-a)\bar{t}_L + a\bar{t}_F \dots \dots \dots (9)$$

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