

Optimal Velocity Model with Dual Boundary Optimal Velocity Function

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- 1 INTRODUCTION**
- 2 BASIC DUAL BOUNDARY OPTIMAL
VELOCITY MODEL**
- 3 GENERAL DUAL BOUNDARY OPTIMAL
VELOCITY MODEL**
- 4 SUMMARIES**

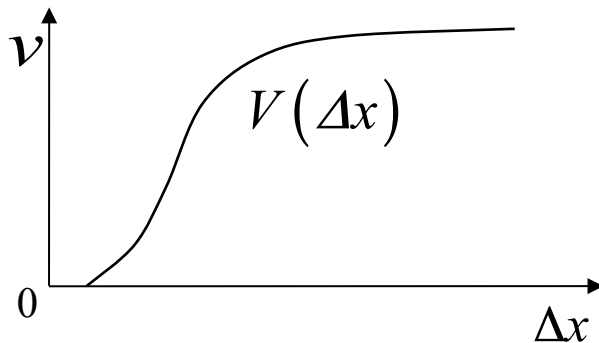
1. Introduction

Optimal Velocity Model (OVM, *Bando et al. 1995*)

- Contains an equilibrium (steady) speed-spacing relation
- No explicit time delay
- Simple structure, convenient for analytical analysis

Governing Equation $\dot{x}_n(t) = K \left\{ V(\Delta x_n) - \dot{x}_n(t) \right\}$

Optimal Velocity Fun. $V(\Delta x) = V_1 + V_2 \tanh[C_1 \Delta x - C_2]$

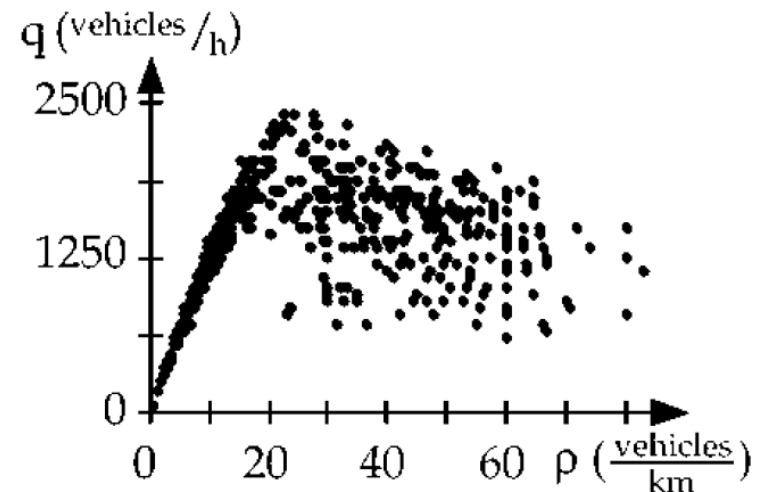
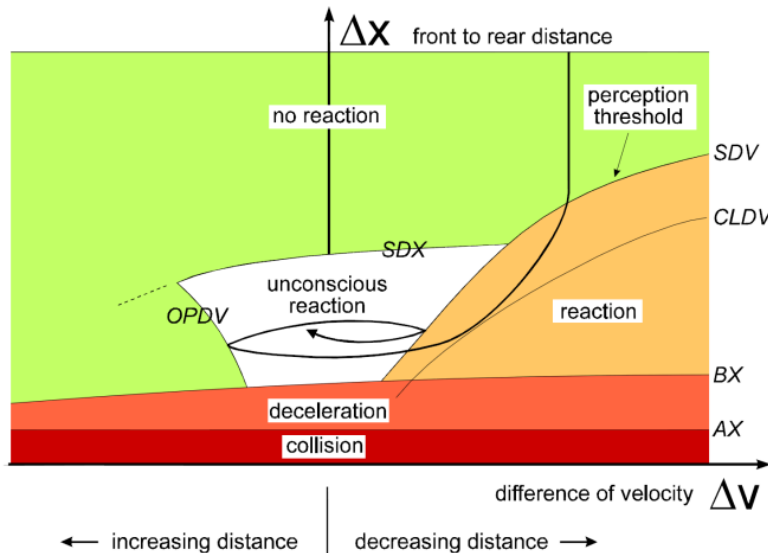


Assumption:
one to one correspondence between
the spatial headway and the optimal
driving speed in steady traffic state

1. Introduction

Questions:

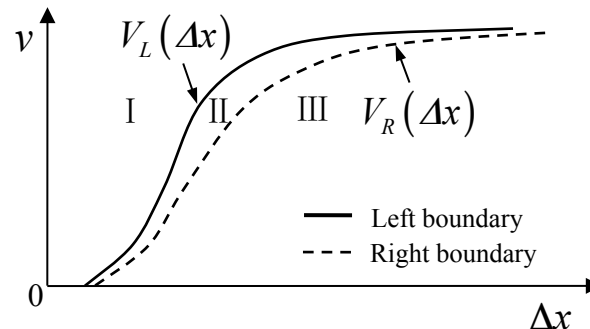
- Drivers are satisfied with a range of conditions instead of an accurate optimal performance (*Boer 1999*)
- The two-dimension zone in the “spacing-relative speed” diagram (*Psychophysical or Action Point models*)
- Wide scattering in the fundamental diagram (*Kerner and Rehborn 1996~2003*)



Basic Dual-Boundary-Optimal-Velocity-Model (DBOVM) is proposed as follows:

$$\mathfrak{x}_n(t) = \begin{cases} \kappa \{V_L(\Delta x_n) - \mathfrak{x}_n(t)\} & \text{if : } \mathfrak{x}_n(t) > V_L(\Delta x_n) \\ 0 & \text{if : } V_R(\Delta x_n) \leq \mathfrak{x}_n(t) \leq V_L(\Delta x_n) \\ \kappa \{V_R(\Delta x_n) - \mathfrak{x}_n(t)\} & \text{if : } \mathfrak{x}_n(t) < V_R(\Delta x_n) \end{cases}$$

Here $V_L(\Delta x_n)$ and $V_R(\Delta x_n)$ are the Optimal-Velocity-Functions (OVF) of left boundary and right boundary respectively:



Bando et al. proposed a S-shape **Optimal-Velocity-Function** in their work (1995 & 1998):

$$V(\Delta x) = V_1 + V_2 \tanh[C_1 \Delta x - C_2]$$

Based on that, a simple **Dual-Boundary-Optimal-Velocity-Function** is established as follows:

$$V(\Delta x) = V_1 + V_2 \tanh[C_1 \Delta x - C_2] \quad C_1 \in [C_{1R}, C_{1L}]$$

Left boundary: $V(\Delta x) = V_1 + V_2 \tanh[C_{1L} \Delta x - C_2]$

Right boundary: $V(\Delta x) = V_1 + V_2 \tanh[C_{1R} \Delta x - C_2]$

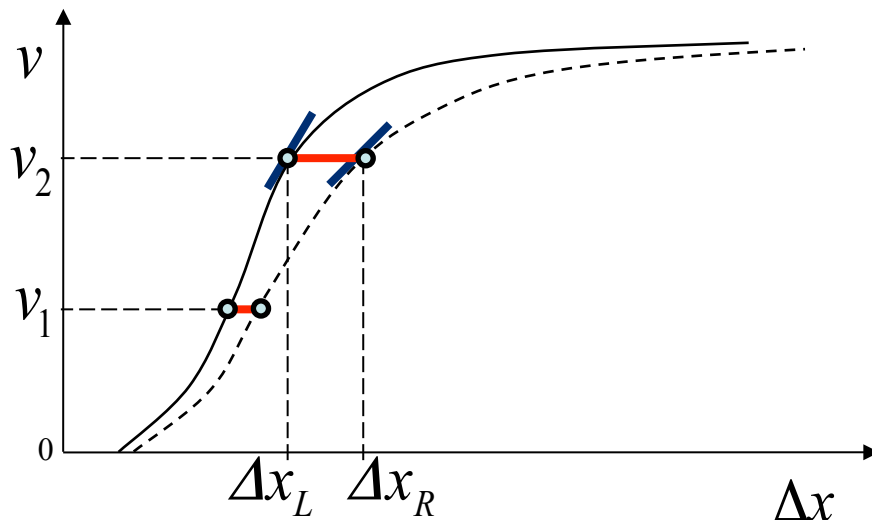
This simple **Dual-Boundary-Optimal-Velocity-Function** has two reasonable properties:

(1) The steady range increases with the speed increasing

$$\frac{d}{dv} \left(V_R^{-1}(v) - V_L^{-1}(v) \right) > 0$$

(2) The derivative at the left boundary is larger than that at the right boundary

$$\left. \frac{dV_L(\Delta x)}{d\Delta x} \right|_{\Delta x = \Delta x_L} > \left. \frac{dV_R(\Delta x)}{d\Delta x} \right|_{\Delta x = \Delta x_R}$$



$$a_{dec} = \kappa [V_L(\Delta x_L - \delta) - v_e]$$

$$a_{dec} = -\kappa \delta V'_L(\Delta x_L)$$

$$a_{acc} = \kappa \delta V'_R(\Delta x_R)$$

$$|a_{dec}| \geq |a_{acc}|$$

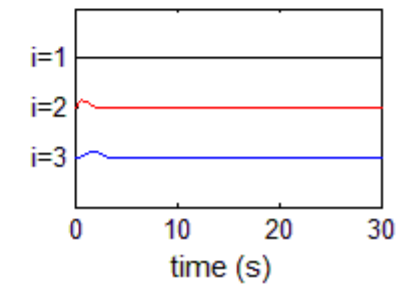
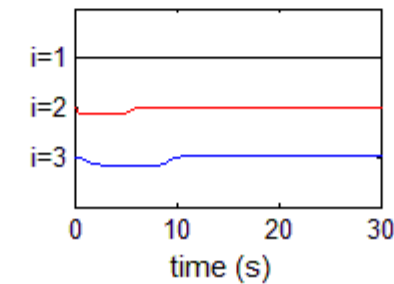
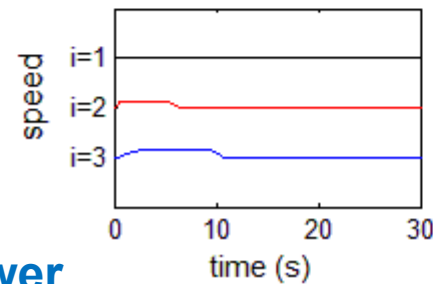
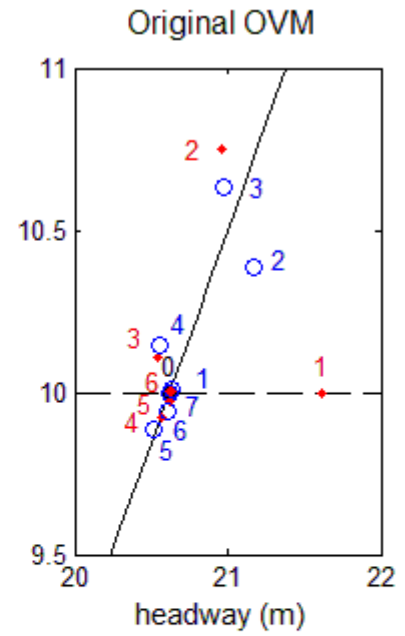
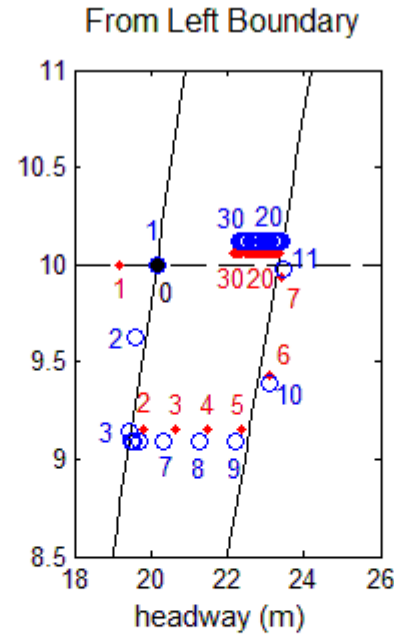
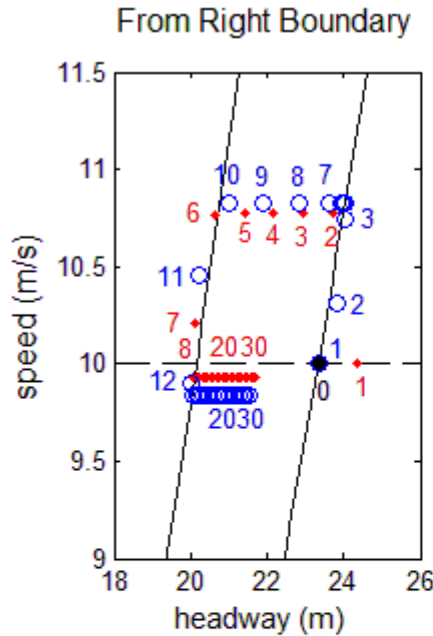
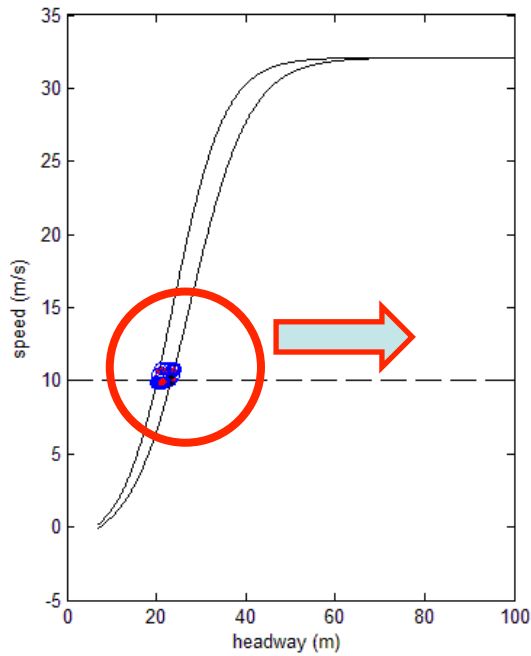
Condition of the simulations:

- Model parameters are set as in Bando's original studies:

$$V_1 = 15.3 \text{ m/s} \quad V_2 = 16.8 \text{ m/s} \quad C_1 = 0.086 \text{ m}^{-1} \quad C_2 = 2.1 \quad \kappa = 2.0 \text{ s}^{-1} \quad C_{1L} = 0.088 \text{ m}^{-1} \quad C_{1R} = 0.076 \text{ m}^{-1}$$

- Three vehicles are considered in the local stability studies
- The initial state of vehicles should satisfy either the left or the right boundary optimal velocity function (**initial speed = 10 m/s**)
- A small perturbation is added on the leading vehicle by giving its position an instantaneous change (**either increasing by 1 m or reducing by 1m**)
- Time step = 0.1 sec

Results of the simulations:



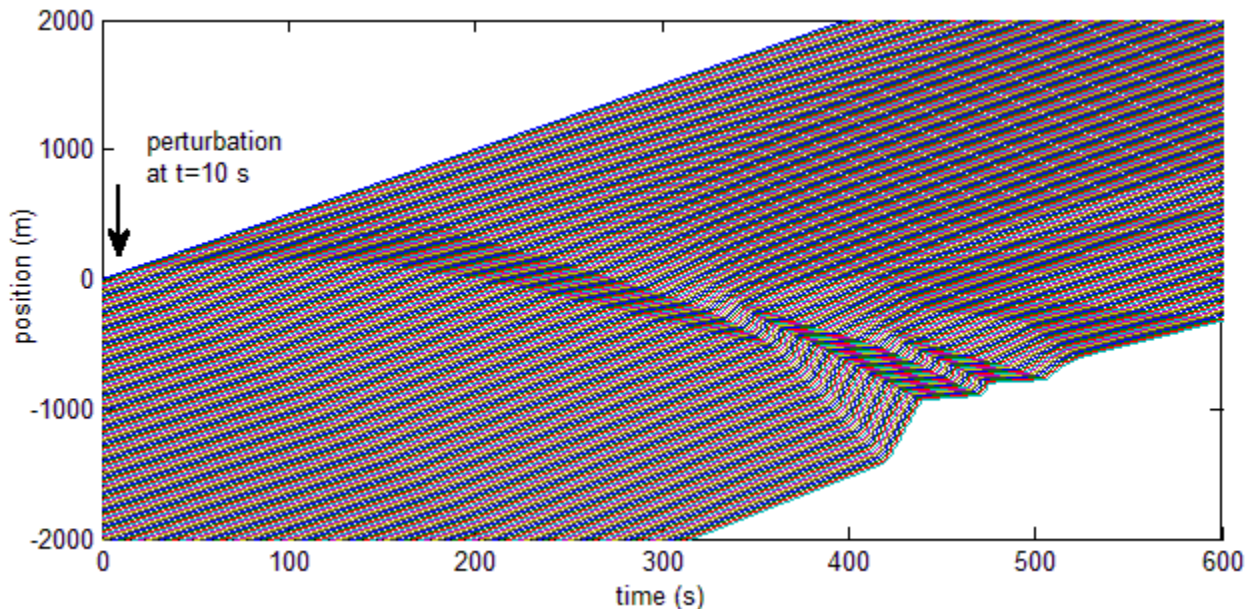
Red: the first follower

Blue: the second follower

Condition of the Simulations:

- Same model parameters as in local stability studies
- 200 vehicles in the platoon
- Initial speed = 5m/s; initial spacing = 18.2 m (on the right boundary)
- The initial condition satisfies the string stability criterion of OVM $V'(\Delta x) \leq \kappa/2$

Stop-and-go is found during the evolution



Model Modification

- Introducing the **speed adjustment mechanism** into Basic DBOVM
- Drivers are allowed to adjust their driving speeds towards the speed of leading vehicles within the dual boundary steady region
- It reduces to Basic DBOVM when $\lambda = 0$

$$\dot{x}_n(t) = \begin{cases} \kappa \{V_L(\Delta x_n) - x_n(t)\} & \text{if : } x_n(t) > V_L(\Delta x_n) \\ \lambda \{x_{n-1}(t) - x_n(t)\} & \text{if : } V_R(\Delta x_n) \leq x_n(t) \leq V_L(\Delta x_n) \\ \kappa \{V_R(\Delta x_n) - x_n(t)\} & \text{if : } x_n(t) < V_R(\Delta x_n) \end{cases}$$

Path of State Transition

Follower's acceleration: $\ddot{x}_n(t) = \lambda \{ \ddot{x}_{n-1}(t) - \ddot{x}_n(t) \}$

Speeds at next time step: $\dot{x}_n(t + \tau) = \dot{x}_n(t) + \tau \ddot{x}_n(t)$

$$\dot{x}_{n-1}(t + \tau) = \dot{x}_{n-1}(t) + \tau \ddot{x}_{n-1}(t)$$

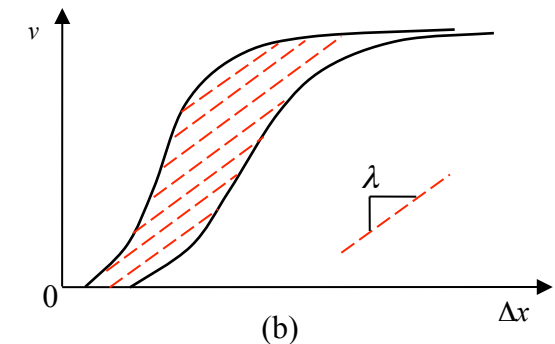
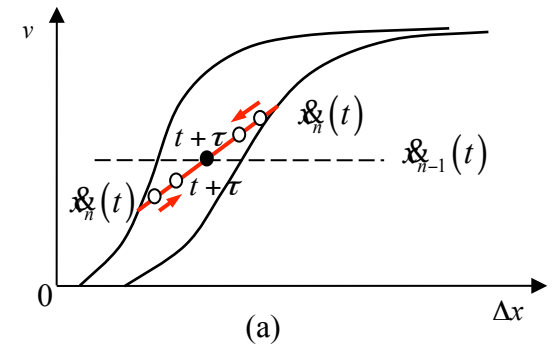
Spacing at next time step:

$$\Delta x_n(t + \tau) - \Delta x_n(t) = \tau \{ \dot{x}_{n-1}(t) - \dot{x}_n(t) \} + \frac{\tau^2}{2} \{ \ddot{x}_{n-1}(t) - \ddot{x}_n(t) \}$$

Slope of the state transition path:

$$\beta = \frac{\dot{x}_n(t + \tau) - \dot{x}_n(t)}{\Delta x_n(t + \tau) - \Delta x_n(t)}$$

$$\beta = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{\lambda} + \frac{\tau}{2} \left(\frac{\ddot{x}_{n-1}(t)}{\ddot{x}_n(t)} - 1 \right)} \approx \lambda$$



The slope approximates to λ when (1) time step τ approaches zero; (2) follower and leader have similar accelerations

Convergence of Traffic State

Suppose $x_n(t_0) > x_{n-1}(t_0)$

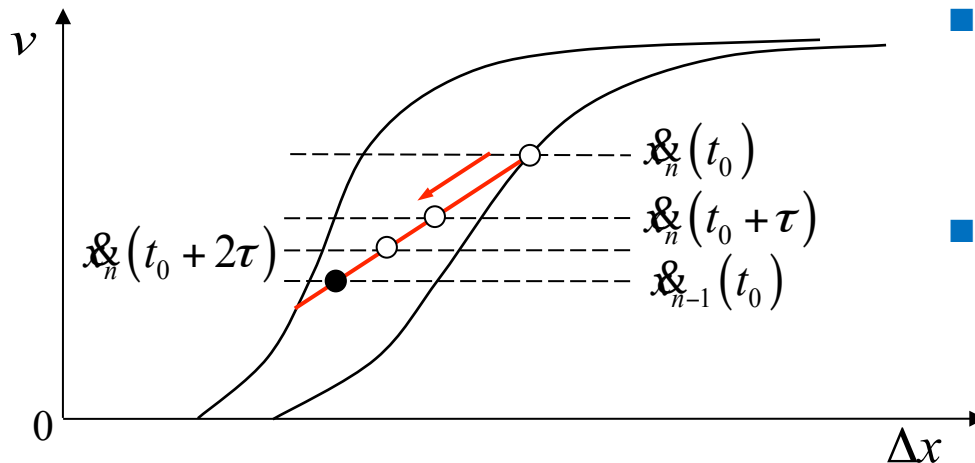
Then, $x_n(t_0 + \tau) = x_n(t_0) - \lambda\tau \{x_n(t_0) - x_{n-1}(t_0)\}$

By recursive method, speed of the n th vehicle at time $t_0 + m\tau$

$$x_n(t_0 + m\tau) = x_n(t_0)(1 - \lambda\tau)^m - x_{n-1}(t_0) \left\{ (1 - \lambda\tau)^m - 1 \right\}$$

The speed difference at time $t_0 + m\tau$ can be expressed as:

$$\Delta x_n(t_0 + m\tau) = x_{n-1}(t_0) - x_n(t_0 + m\tau) = \{x_{n-1}(t_0) - x_n(t_0)\} (1 - \lambda\tau)^m = \Delta x_n(t_0) (1 - \lambda\tau)^m$$

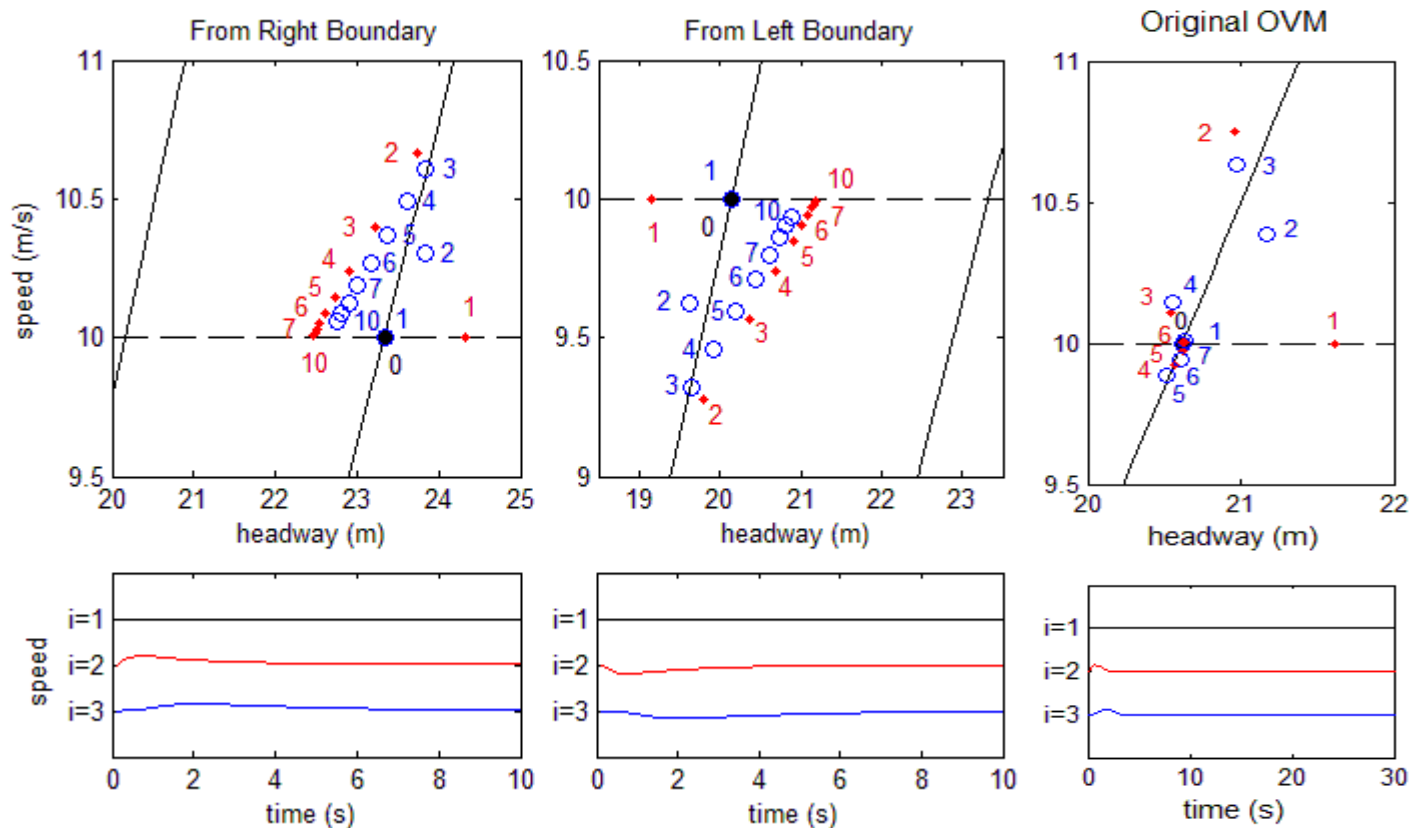


■ When $\lambda=0.5$, $\tau=1$ sec, the speed difference drops by half per second .

■ When time step approaches zero

$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0} (1 - \lambda\tau)^{\frac{1}{\tau}} = \frac{1}{e^\lambda}$$

- Use the same model parameters as in aforementioned studies. Additionally, let $\lambda=0.5$.
- The new model shows a reasonable performance in convergence to the steady state.



Red: the first follower

Blue: the second follower

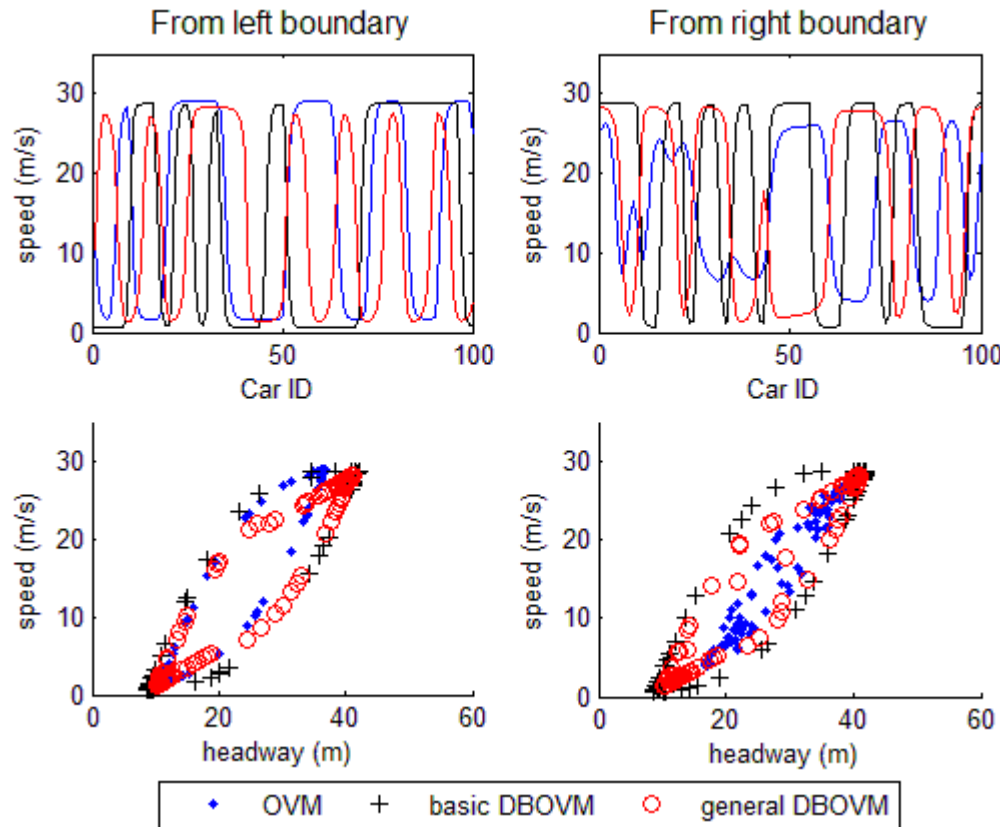
Condition of the Simulations:

- The periodical ring road is used as the simulation condition for studies on string stability.
- 100 vehicle are involved in the ring road simulation.
- Both the basic DBOVM ($\lambda=0$) and the general DBOVM ($\lambda=0.5$) are simulated.
- Time step = 0.1 sec

Two Studies:

- Comparison of the hysteresis features across the original OVM, basic DBOVM and general DBOVM.
- Comparison of string stability regions across the three models.

- The initial speed of the platoon is 16 m/s, which is **string unstable** for both the left boundary and the right boundary under the law of OVM.
- The hysteresis loop produced by the basic DBOVM is the largest one, the general DBOVM is smaller, and the original OVM is the smallest.



Snapshots at $t=5000$

- The dual boundary steady region in the DBOVM has similar effect as the explicit delay for the original OVM (*Bando et al. 1998*).
- The speed adjustment mechanism in the general DBOVM restrains such effect.

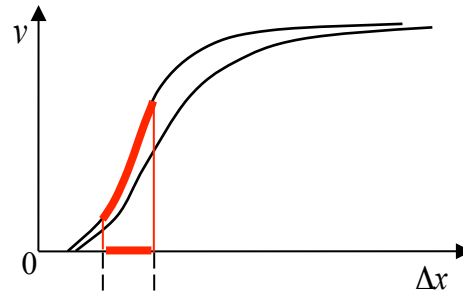
- Find the unstable regions of DBOVM by trial and error .
- A long simulation time (100000 s) is used, in order to ensure that the perturbation has sufficient time for evolution.
- The final steady speed is higher than the initial one in the order of 0.1 m/s, when the platoon starts from the right boundary. For the left boundary, the situation is quite the reverse.

TABLE 1 String Unstable Regions in General DBOVM and Basic DBOVM

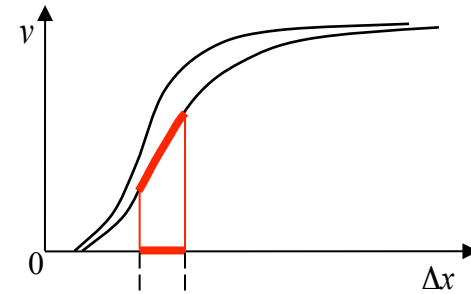
	Left Boundary OVF $V(\Delta x) = 15.3 + 16.8 \tanh[0.088\Delta x - 2.1]$	Right Boundary OVF $V(\Delta x) = 15.3 + 16.8 \tanh[0.076\Delta x - 2.1]$
General DBOVM $\lambda = 0.5$	$\Delta x \in (17.9, 31.7)$	$\Delta x \in (21.1, 31.8)$
	$v \in (7.2, 25.3)$	$v \in (7.6, 20.5)$
Basic DBOVM $\lambda = 0$	$\Delta x \in (14.3, 34.9)$	$\Delta x \in (15.4, 40.3)$
	$v \in (3.8, 27.9)$	$v \in (3.0, 27.8)$
OVM	$\Delta x \in (16.5, 31.2)$	$\Delta x \in (22.0, 35.2)$
	$v \in (5.7, 24.9)$	$v \in (8.5, 24.0)$

OVM

Left boundary

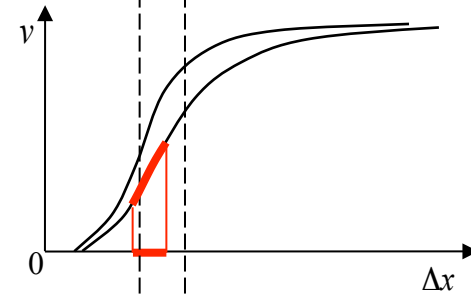
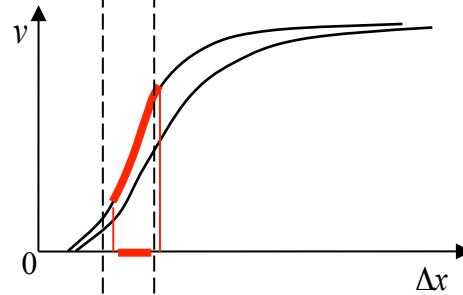


Right boundary



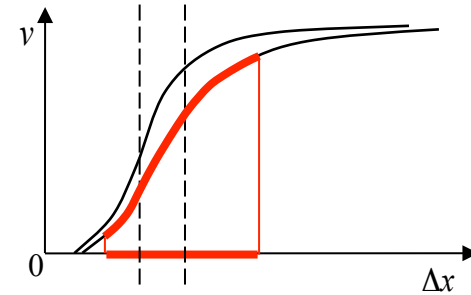
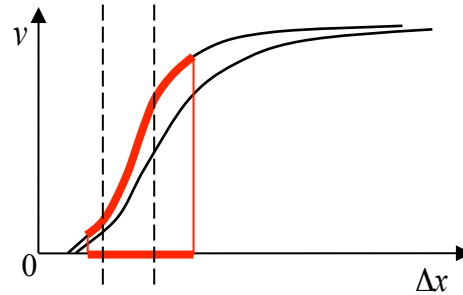
General DBOVM

$\lambda=0.5$



Basic DBOVM

$\lambda=0$



- This paper propose a Dual-Boundary-Optimal-Velocity-Model (DBOVM), which contains a **dual-boundary-steady-region** instead of the optimal speed-spacing relationship in the original OVM .
- The **speed adjustment mechanism** is an important part in the DBOVM, which allows traffic reaches the steady state everywhere inside the dual-boundary-steady-region.
- The **path of traffic state transition** is found within the dual-boundary-steady-region, with the slope equals to the sensitivity parameter of the speed adjustment term.
- The dual-boundary-steady-region in DBOVM has the **hysteresis effect**. The wider the region is, the stronger the hysteresis effect will be.
- The speed adjustment effect in general DBOVM restrains the hysteresis and improves the stability of traffic.
- The dual-boundary-steady-region in the general DBOVM allows the traffic flow to **reach a new steady state slightly apart from the initial one** under the effect of small perturbation.

- Explore the string stability condition of the DBOVM in an analytical way
- Calibrate the DBOVM with real traffic data
- Use the DBOVM to simulate real traffic phenomena.

