# Organic Traffic Control Collaborative (OTC<sup>2</sup>)

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### Motivation Organic Traffic Control



### **OTC** architecture

- adapts autonomously to its changing environment,
- *learns new control strategies* when necessary, and thereby
- *limits manual intervention* and effort for setup and maintenance.

Evaluation in a *realistic scenario* showed *promising results*.



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Motivation

Organic Traffic Control Collaborative

#### Goals

- Investigate possibilities for collaboration
- Study different architectural variants

#### **Current focus**

- *Traffic-responsive* creation of Progressive Signal Systems (PSS)
- Decentralised operation



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## Outline

### • Decentralised Progressive Signal Systems

- Determine collaborating nodes
- Determine cycle time
- Determine offsets
- Experimental results
  - Arterial road
  - Manhattan network
- Conclusion

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Decentralised Progressive Signal Systems
1. Determine collaborating nodes

Traffic-dependent selection of suitable partners for a PSS

Algorithm running locally at each node *j*:

- **1**. Node *j* locally determines its strongest turning " $i \rightarrow k$ ".
- 2. Node *j* informs its desired predecessor *i*.
- 3. Local matching: Is *j* the desired predecessor of *k*?
- Yes  $\rightarrow$  Acknowledge partnership.
- No  $\rightarrow$  Reject partnership.

Result Nodes in PSS know their predecessor and successor. Start and end node know their special position.



### Decentralised Progressive Signal Systems 2. Determine cycle time

Common cycle time as a prerequisite for coordination

• Shorter cycles decrease the node capacity (due to clearance times)



- Longer cycles increase delays in undersaturated traffic conditions
- → Provide *sufficient capacity* while *keeping short delays*

#### How can this trade-off be realised?

Each node keeps track of

- its own desired cycle time (DCT) (determined by LCS invocation, tends to be short due to delay optimisation)
- an agreed cycle time (ACT) (maximum of other DCTs).

### Decentralised Progressive Signal Systems

# 2. Determine cycle time

### Echo algorithm for cycle time determination

- 1. Each node *i* determines *DCTi* and sets *ACTi* := *DCTi*.
- 2. Node 1 sends ACT<sub>1</sub> to its successor.
- 3. Node *i* receiving  $ACT_{i-1}$ 
  - sets ACTi := max {DCT<sub>i</sub>, ACT<sub>i-1</sub>}, and
  - sends ACT<sub>i</sub> to node i+1.
- 4. ACT is propagated back to node 1 when the last node was reached.



# Decentralised Progressive Signal Systems

### 3. Determine offsets

Starting at the first node, the nodes successively

- select TLCs (by LCS invocation with respect to ACT),
- determine/ communicate
  - the absolute start time s of the PSS at the first node,
  - the relative start  $p_i$  of their synchronised phase,
  - the travel time  $d_{i-1,i}$ , and
  - their relative offset  $o_i = o_{i-1} + p_{i-1} + d_{i-1,i} p_{i.i}$



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### Decentralised Progressive Signal Systems Establish synchronisation

#### **Establishing a PSS**

Intermediate traffic light controllers to implement offsets

#### **Technical requirements**

- Synchronised clocks at collaborating traffic nodes
- (Local) communication capability

#### Necessary extensions of the OTC architecture

- Cycle time constraint for LCS and EA
- Cycle time modification for existing traffic light controllers



### Experimental results Arterial road

#### Arterial road with 3-phased intersections



Comparison OTC nodes (Phase I) vs. collaborating OTC-DPSS nodes (Phase II) Criteria

- Network-wide travel time and number of stops
- Local delay times at nodes

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### Experimental results Arterial road

#### Network-wide results



#### Local delays





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**MFB** 

### Experimental results Manhattan network

Manhattan network with 4-phased intersections



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AIFBC

### Experimental results Manhattan network



Number of stops

7% reduction

#### **Travel times**

Mostly unaffected, but increased after abrupt traffic change

→ Improve traffic observation

IFB

### **Experimental results** Manhattan network





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### Conclusion

#### Extension of the OTC architecture

- *Traffic-responsive* Progressive Signal Systems
- Decentralised operation
- Promising results for test networks

#### **Remainder of Phase II**

- Refinement and further evalution of presented approach
- Development of hierarchical architecture



### **Recent publications**

	H. Prothmann, F. Rochner, S. Tomforde, J. Branke, C. Müller-Schloer, and H. Schmeck. Organic control of traffic lights. In <i>Proc. of the 5th International Conference on Autonomic and Trusted Computing (ATC-08)</i> , volume 5060 of LNCS, pages 219–233. Springer, 2008. <i>ATC08 BEST PAPER AWARD</i>
2008	S. Tomforde, H. Prothmann, F. Rochner, J. Branke, J. Hähner, C. Müller-Schloer, and H. Schmeck. Decentralised progressive signal systems for organic traffic control. In <i>Proc. of the 2nd IEEE International</i> <i>Conference on Self-Adaption and Self-Organization (SASO 2008)</i> , 2008. Accepted for publication.
·	U. Richter, H. Prothmann, and H. Schmeck. Improving XCS performance by distribution. In <i>Proc. of the 7th International Conference on Simulated Evolution And Learning (SEAL'08)</i> , 2008. Accepted for publication.
	J. Branke, P. Goldate, and H. Prothmann. Actuated traffic signal optimization using evolutionary algorithms. In Proc. of the 6th European Congress and Exhibition on Intelligent Transport Systems and Services (ITS07),

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H. Schmeck. Optimierungstechniken des Organic Computing in der Verkehrstechnik. In *Informatik bewegt! Informationstechnik in Verkehr und Logistik*, pages 11-38. Fraunhofer-IRB-Verlag, 2007.

F. Rochner, H. Prothmann, J. Branke, C. Müller-Schloer, and H. Schmeck. An organic architecture for traffic light controllers. In *Informatik 2006 – Informatik für Menschen*, volume P-93 of LNI, pages 120-127. Köllen Verlag, 2006.

J. Branke, M. Mnif, C. Müller-Schloer, H. Prothmann, U. Richter, F. Rochner, and H. Schmeck. Organic Computing – Addressing complexity by controlled self-organization. In *Post-Conference Proce. of the 2nd International Symposium on Leveraging Applications of Formal Methods, Verification and Validation (ISoLA* 2006), pages 185–191. IEEE, 2006.





