



Overview of the Highway Alignment Optimization Model

Summary of the Paper

- Objective**
 - To demonstrate the applicability of the latest version of the HAO model to a real highway project with due consideration to issues arising in real-world applications.
 - To identify future research required for further enhancement of the model.

- Conclusion**
 - The model can efficiently evaluate numerous alignments reflecting user preferences.
 - The model can provide practical information about alignments, including the optimized one, to highway planners and designers.
 - Computation time and input data requirements are reasonable.

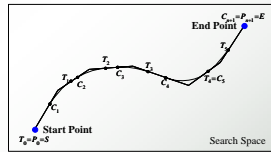
- Future Work**
 - Optimizing highway networks beyond the single alignment optimization
 - Optimizing various types of crossings with existing roads
 - Improvement of the tradeoff analysis
 - Improvement of the PI's selection algorithm
 - Improvement of the bridge analysis
 - Introduction of hydrologic analysis

Brief Review of the HAO Model

- The Main Purpose of the HAO Model**
 - Assisting highway planners and designers in identifying promising alignments and evaluating them

- The HAO Model Performance**
 - Considers all dominating sensitive costs and important constraints
 - Finds globally or near globally optimal solutions through complex terrain and land use
 - Simultaneously optimizes highway alignments (horizontal and vertical) with given endpoints
 - Works in continuous search space
 - Exploits the massive information in a GIS
 - Allows numerous combinations of objectives, constraints, and weighting factors
 - Provides trade-off analysis among various evaluation factors
 - Has an efficient solution algorithm
 - Has low storage requirements

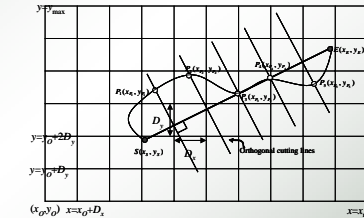
The HAO Problem Connecting Two Endpoints



The HAO Formulation

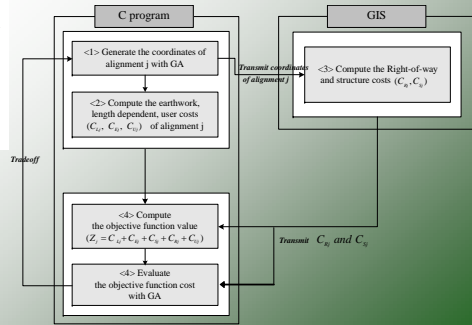
Minimize $C_i = C_a + C_c + C_s + C_e + C_r = \text{Sum of relevant costs}$
 subject to $x_0 \leq x_p \leq x_{max}, \forall i = 1, \dots, n$
 $y_0 \leq y_p \leq y_{max}, \forall i = 1, \dots, n$

Where, (x_p, y_p) = the X, Y coordinates of the bottom-left corner of the study region
 (x_e, y_e) = the X, Y coordinates of points of intersections, P_i
 (x_{max}, y_{max}) = the X, Y coordinates of the top-right corner of the study region



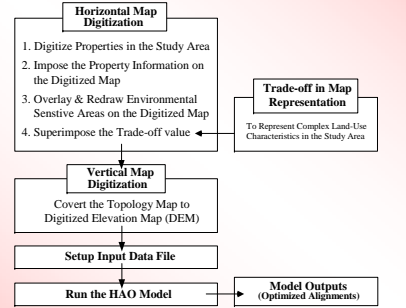
An Example of Points of Intersections (PI's), Tangency and Curvature

The HAO Model Process

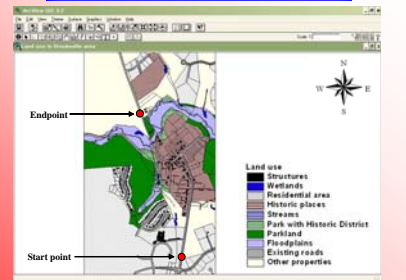


Application of Highway Alignment Optimization Model to the Brookeville Bypass Project

Model Application Procedure



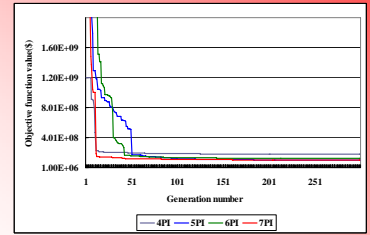
Land-Use in the Study Area



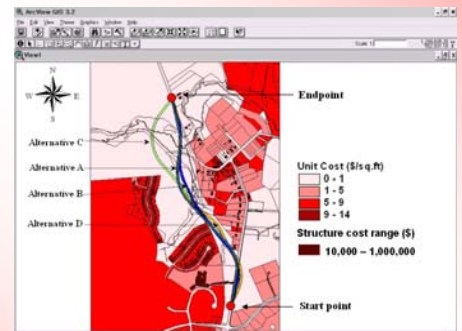
Type	Control areas	Characteristics
Type 1	Wetlands Historic places Residential areas Site of Community center Structures (Houses, Public Facilities, etc.)	The control area that the proposed alignment can avoid
Type 2	Streams Floodplains Parklands	The area that the proposed alignment cannot avoid

Result Summary

Changes in Objective Function Value over Successive Generation



Model Outputs (Sensitivity to No. of PI's)



Optimized alignment	# of PI's	Initial construction costs (\$)	Environmental impact		Residential relocation (No.)	Length (ft)	Computation time (hr)	
			Type 1	Type 2				
A	4	5,148,404	458.34	70,674.2	71,132.6	0	4,251.88	4.41
B	5	4,629,708	0	63,030.4	63,030.4	0	4,194.00	4.68
C	6	5,956,983	0	82,017.4	82,017.4	0	4,499.26	4.95
D	7	5,220,679	0	64,489.3	64,489.3	0	4,314.88	5.01

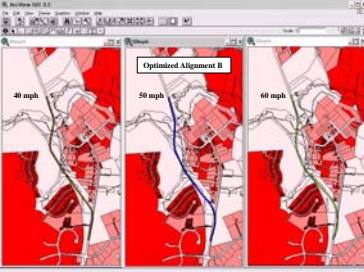
Sensitivity to Major Input Parameters

Type of Sensitivity Analysis Conducted in The Study

Type of sensitivity analysis	Value
Sensitivity to grid size	40 ft * 40 ft, 80 ft * 80 ft, 120 ft * 120 ft
Sensitivity to design speed	50 mph, 40 mph, 60 mph
Sensitivity to cross-section spacing	40 ft, 30 ft, 60 ft
Sensitivity to penalty cost for parklands	100 * X, 50 * X, 10 * X
Sensitivity to	Start point (X, Y) 1295645, 548735; End point (X, Y) 1295750, 549000
Start and End points	End point (X, Y) 1294512, 552374; Start point (X, Y) 1294490, 552069
Sensitivity to unit length-dependent cost	400 \$/ft, 300 \$/ft, 200 \$/ft
Sensitivity to crossing type with the existing roads	Grade Separation, Interchange (Diamond), Intersection (4-leg)

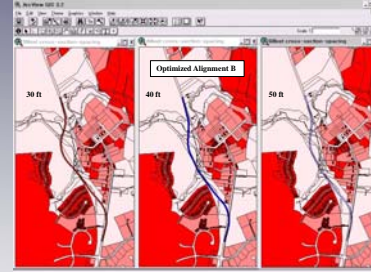
Input data values, used for the optimized alignment B, which is the most preferable based on the sensitivity analysis to number of PI's

Sensitivity to Design Speed



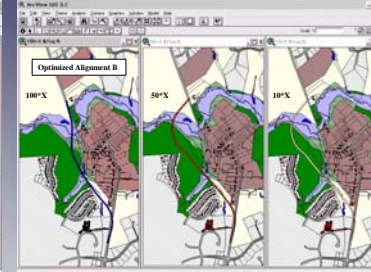
Design speed (mph)	Initial construction cost (\$)	Minimum curve radius (ft)	The type 1 area taken by alignments (sq.ft.)	Residential relocation (No.)	Alignment length (ft)	Computation time (hr)
40	4,629,708	458	0	63,030.4	4,252.06	4.68
50	4,629,708	558	0	63,030.4	4,194.00	4.68
60	4,629,958	1,032	0	0	4,252.22	4.67

Sensitivity to Cross-Section Spacing



Cross-section spacing (ft)	Initial construction cost (\$)	Earthwork cost (\$)	The type 1 area taken by alignments (sq.ft.)	Residential relocation (No.)	Alignment length (ft)	Computation time (hr)
30	4,973,666	1,858,877	0.005	0	4,282,792	4.77
40	4,629,708	1,831,516	0.007	0	4,194,001	4.68
60	4,708,533	1,833,714	0	0	4,211,455	4.64

Sensitivity to Penalty Cost for Parklands



Penalty cost to Parklands (\$/sq.ft.)	Initial construction cost (\$)	Parklands affected (sq.ft.)	Floodplains affected (sq.ft.)	Environmental impact	Residential relocation (No.)	Alignment length (ft)
100 * X	4,629,708	34,862.80	0	63,030.4	0	4,194.00
50 * X	4,629,708	34,862.80	0	63,030.4	0	4,194.00
10 * X	4,629,708	34,862.80	0	63,030.4	0	4,194.00

Environmental Impact Summary for Optimized Alignments A to D

Optimized alignment	A	B	C	D	
Number of PI's	4	5	6	7	
Initial construction costs (\$)	5,148,404	4,629,708	5,956,983	5,220,679	
Length of the optimized alignment (ft)	4,251.88	4,194.00	4,499.26	4,314.88	
Computation time (hr)	4.41	4.68	4.95	5.01	
Environmental Impact					
Socio-economic resources	Affected residential area (sq.ft.)	305.96	0	0	0
	Residential relocations (no.)	0	0	0	0
	Affected Community Center (sq.ft.)	152.38	0	0	0
	Affected properties in Historic Districts (sq.ft.)	0	0	0	0
Natural resources	Affected Montgomery County reserved area (sq.ft.)	4,189.6	45,295.9	45,286.0	45,260.0
	Affected existing roads (sq.ft.)	39,152.1	29,609.1	17,037.6	25,227.4
	Affected wetlands (sq.ft.)	0	0	0	0
	Affected floodplains (sq.ft.)	23,259.8	17,260.3	16,689.7	14,883.5
Affected streams (sq.ft.)	690.5	777.6	634.9	610.7	
Affected parkland in Historic Districts (sq.ft.)	11,662.2	20,109.9	9,231.7	18,336.5	
Affected parkland (sq.ft.)	35,061.6	24,882.6	45,461.0	30,658.7	