



Forecast based on different data types: A before and after study (Stated preference Mode choice)

M Vrtic

Travel Survey Metadata Series

Forecast based on different data types: A before and after study (Stated preference Mode choice)

M Vrtic
IVT
ETH Zürich
Zürich

Phone: 01-633 31 07
Fax: 01-633 10 57

vrtric@ivt.baug.ethz.ch

Abstract

In addition to adequate data, the formulation of transport forecasts relies upon a knowledge of the relationships between the demand for transport and those factors which influence it. These relationships are described with mathematical functions and their model parameters. The parameters derived from revealed preference (RP) data are often subject to too many imperfections and are thus of only limited value in many cases. The main cause of this uncertainty is data which is either insufficiently detailed or unsuitable for estimating transport demand functions. For this reason, an earlier SVI study concerning the sensitivity of passenger transport to supply-side and price changes recommended that research should be conducted in parallel with major transport infrastructure investments. In this way this recommended project would be able to check and validate the quality of the findings from alternative or supplementary stated preference (SP) (Vrtic et al., 2000), as both forecast and actual changes in demand would be known to it. The launch of intercity tilting-trains (known as ICNs) in 2001 and further supply-side improvements to road and rail transport supply offered an opportunity to conduct ex ante/ex post surveys in order to verify the forecasting approaches in a defined period. This mix of qualitative and quantitative changes is a particular challenge for forecasting and the attendant data collection process. Nonetheless, it is a challenge that must be overcome again and again in day-to-day practice. As the supply-side changes are generally small, it was expected that changes on the demand side will be concentrated at the level of mode and route choice. The principal aim of this research remit was to verify and identify the limits and possibilities of the three data sources for forecasting by means of an ex ante/ex post analysis. However, this study also offered an opportunity to analyse other aspects of importance to transport forecasting. Here, in addition to the study methodology, the quality and accessibility of the available bodies of data proved to be crucial factors in modelling transport movements and events. In a first stage the study estimated a detailed public transport route choice model and calibrated national network models for both road and rail demand. This is an essential preliminary stage to the calculation of modal shifts in demand for transport and the subsequent review of the different forecasts. In the case of mode choice changes, the three most common approaches to forecasting were to be tested: • Direct elasticity, known from previous studies • RP models, i.e. model parameters based on RP data • SP models, i.e. model parameters based on SP data The primary benefits of this study can be summarized as follows: - It sets out the opportunities and limits, as well as the advantages and disadvantages, of the three data sources for forecasting under review. - This is the first study to provide models of route and mode choice which have been estimated from SP data. The model parameters estimated using this data provide the basis for the practical application of

mode and route choice models following supply-side transport changes. - The estimated model parameters, current figures and the relative valuations demonstrate the importance of individual variables to mode and route choice. They were estimated for each trip purpose. - The study showed that in this case the forecasts derived from the SP-data were more consistent and more precise than either the estimates from the direct elasticities or the RP data. - Verifying transport forecasts shows how and where further improvements can or must still be made with regard to both data bases and methodology. - The study describes the possibilities and methodical foundation for common SP/RP estimates of model parameters.

Keywords

Route and mode choice

Preferred citation style

Vrtic, M. (2004) Forecast based on different data types: A before and after study (Stated preference Mode choice), *Travel Survey Metadata Series*, **4**, Institute for Transport Planning and Systems (IVT); ETH Zürich, Zürich.

1.0 Document Description

Citation

Title: Forecast based on different data types: A before and after study
(Stated preference Mode choice)

Identification Number: KEP SP MC

Authoring Entity: Institute for Transport planning and Systems (IVT) (ETH Zurich)

Other identifications and acknowledgements: Vtric M.

Producer: Vtric M.
Prof. Axhausen K.W.

Copyright: Institute for Transport planning and Systems (IVT), ETH Zurich

Date of Production: 2003-06-17

Software used in Production: Nesstar Publisher

2.0 Study Description

Citation

Title: Forecast based on different data types: A before and after study
(Stated preference Mode choice)

Identification Number: KEP SP MC

Authoring Entity: Mr. M. Vrtic (Institute for Transport Planning and Systems, ETH Zurich)
Prof. KW Axhausen (Institute for Transport Planning and Systems, ETH Zurich)

Producer: Mr. M. Vrtic
Prof. KW Axhausen

Date of Production: 2003-06-17

Software used in Production: Nesstar Publisher

Funding Agency/Sponsor: Federal Office for Spatial Development

Funding Agency/Sponsor: Swiss Federal Railway

Grant Number: ARE, Bern

Grant Number: SBB, Bern

Distributor: Federal Office for Spatial Development

Distributor: Swiss Federal Railway

Study Scope

Keywords: Route and mode choice , Stated preference , Revealed preference , Public transport , Tilting trains , Institute for Transport Planning and Systems

Topic Classification: Revealed preference , Stated preference

Abstract: In addition to adequate data, the formulation of transport forecasts relies upon a knowledge of the relationships between the demand for transport and those factors which influence it. These relationships are described with mathematical functions and their model parameters. The parameters derived from revealed preference (RP) data are often subject to too many imponderables and are thus of only limited value in many cases. The main cause of this uncertainty is data which is either insufficiently detailed or unsuitable for estimating transport demand functions. For this reason, an earlier SVI study concerning the sensitivity of passenger transport to supply-side and price changes recommended that research should be conducted in parallel with major transport infrastructure investments. In this way this recommended project would be able to check and validate the quality of the findings from alternative or supplementary stated preference (SP) (Vrtic et al., 2000), as both forecast and actual changes in demand would be known to it. The launch of intercity tilting-trains (known as ICNs) in 2001 and further supply-side improvements to road and rail transport supply offered an opportunity to conduct ex ante/ex post surveys in order to verify the forecasting approaches in a defined period. This mix of qualitative and quantitative changes is a particular challenge for forecasting and the attendant data collection process. Nonetheless, it is a challenge that must be overcome again and again in day-to-day practice. As the supply-side changes are generally small, it was expected that changes on the demand side will be concentrated at the level of mode and route choice. The principal aim of this research remit was to verify and identify the limits and possibilities of the three data sources for forecasting by means of an ex ante/ex post analysis. However, this study also offered an opportunity to analyse other aspects of importance to transport forecasting. Here, in addition to the study methodology, the quality and accessibility of the available bodies of data proved to be crucial factors in modelling transport movements and events. In a first stage the study estimated a detailed public transport route choice model and calibrated national network models for both road and rail demand. This is an essential preliminary stage to the calculation of modal shifts in demand for transport and the subsequent review of the different forecasts. In the case of mode choice changes, the three most common approaches to forecasting were to be tested: • Direct elasticity, known from previous studies •

RP models, i.e. model parameters based on RP data • SP models, i.e. model parameters based on SP data The primary benefits of this study can be summarized as follows: - It sets out the opportunities and limits, as well as the advantages and disadvantages, of the three data sources for forecasting under review. - This the first study to provide models of route and mode choice which have been estimated from SP data. The model parameters estimated using this data provide the basis for the practical application of mode and route choice models following supply-side transport changes. - The estimated model parameters, current figures and the relative valuations demonstrate the importance of individual variables to mode and route choice. They were estimated for each trip purpose. - The study showed that in this case the forecasts derived from the SP-data were more consistent and more precise than either the estimates from the direct elasticities or the RP data. - Verifying transport forecasts shows how and where further improvements can or must still be made with regard to both data bases and methodology. - The study describes the possibilities and methodical foundation for common SP/RP estimates of model parameters.

Country: Switzerland

Geographic Coverage: Switzerland

Unit of Analysis: Person

Universe: All the individuals permanently residing in Switzerland.

Methodology and Processing

Time Method: 9 months (January 2001 to September 2001)

Sampling Procedure: Sample frame: All the individuals of age 15-84, residing permanently in Switzerland
Sample unit: Person or Individual
Sampling technique: Random sampling

Mode of Data Collection: Self-Administrative and structured written interview technique was implemented to capture the preference on pre-defined situations.

Sources Statement

Weighting: No weighting was done.

Other Study Description Materials

Related Materials

Citation

Title: Stated preference mode choice questionnaire

Holdings
Information: www.ivt.baug.ethz.ch/ethzda/kep/sp/mc/questionnaire.pdf

3.0 File Description

File: Stated Preference - Mode Choice.NSDstat

- Number of cases: 9028
- No. of variables per record: 23
- Type of File: NSDstat 200203

4.0 Variable Description

List of Variables:

- [Interview Number](#)
- [Person and Situation number \(key\)](#)
- [Week of the year](#)
- [Mode choice](#)
- [Stated preference situation number](#)
- [Comfort](#)
- [Train station access time \(in minutes\)](#)
- [Travel time with car \(in minutes\)](#)
- [Travel time with train \(in minutes\)](#)
- [Number of transfers](#)
- [Headway \(in minues\)](#)
- [Travel cost with train \(in CHF\)](#)
- [Travel cost with car \(in CHF\)](#)
- [Reliability with train \(delay in minutes\)](#)
- [Reliability with cars \(dealy in minutes\)](#)
- [Employed](#)
- [Car availability](#)
- [Age \(in years\)](#)
- [Gender](#)
- [Number of km in '000 travelled by car in the last year](#)
- [Season ticket availability](#)
- [Trip purpose](#)
- [Language](#)

Variables

***Variable:* Interview Number**

Location: **Summary Statistics:**

Width: 11 *Variable Format:* character

Variable: Person and Situation number (key)

Location: **Summary Statistics:**

Width: 11 *Variable Format:* character

Variable: Week of the year

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 11	13 .		295
	14 .		267
	15 .		431
	16 .		374
	17 .		579
	18 .		334
	19 .		344
	20 .		479
	21 .		245
	22 .		675
	23 .		521
	24 .		281
	25 .		160
	26 .		343
	27 .		246
	28 .		396
	30 .		254
	31 .		283
	32 .		587
	33 .		319
	34 .		222
	35 .		383
	36 .		220
	37 .		350
	38 .		243
	Sysmiss .		197

Range of Valid Data Values: 13 to 38

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Minimum : 13

Maximum : 38

Mean : 24.7

Variable Format: numeric

Variable: Mode choice

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 11	1 .	Car	6125
	2 .	Train	2903

Range of Valid Data Values: 1 to 2

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Minimum : 1

Maximum : 2

Mean : 1.322

Standard deviation : 0.467

Variable Format: numeric

Variable: Stated preference situation number

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 11	1 .		1140
	2 .		1134
	3 .		1127
	4 .		1131
	5 .		1134
	6 .		1125
	7 .		1121
	8 .		1116

Range of Valid Data Values: 1 to 8

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Variable Format: numeric

Variable: Comfort

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 11	1 .	Regional train	2286
	2 .	Inter regional train (double decker)	2259
	3 .	Inter-city	2254
	4 .	Tilting trains	2229

Range of Valid Data Values: 1 to 4

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Minimum : 1

Maximum : 4

Mean : 2.49

Standard deviation : 1.118

Variable Format: numeric

Variable: Train station access time (in minutes)

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 11	10 .		61
	11 .		156
	12 .		101
	13 .		88
	14 .		267
	15 .		493
	16 .		544
	17 .		639
	18 .		460
	19 .		522
	20 .		2010
	21 .		672
	22 .		209
	23 .		400
	24 .		477
	25 .		734
	26 .		222
	27 .		232
	28 .		71
	29 .		107
	30 .		502
	35 .		61

Range of Valid Data Values: 10 to 35

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Minimum : 10

Maximum : 35

Mean : 20.582

Standard deviation : 4.621

Variable Format: numeric

Variable: Travel time with car (in minutes)

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 11	3 .		1
	4 .		4
	5 .		93
	6 .		10
	7 .		25
	8 .		22
	9 .		57
	10 .		307
	11 .		65
	12 .		83
	13 .		88
	14 .		32
	15 .		188
	16 .		74
	17 .		76
	18 .		138
	19 .		44
	20 .		401
	21 .		78
	22 .		98
	23 .		70
	24 .		30
	25 .		201
	26 .		97
	27 .		90
	28 .		70
	29 .		32
	30 .		444
	35 .		209

40 .	576
45 .	222
50 .	513
55 .	202
60 .	233
65 .	369
70 .	319
75 .	104
80 .	285
85 .	125
90 .	249
95 .	95
100 .	217
105 .	90
110 .	202
115 .	93
120 .	108
125 .	148
130 .	213
135 .	73
140 .	157
145 .	59
150 .	153
155 .	35
160 .	124
165 .	21
170 .	114
175 .	41
180 .	53
185 .	103
190 .	86

195 .	34
200 .	53
205 .	18
210 .	48
215 .	19
220 .	60
225 .	16
230 .	19
235 .	12
240 .	12
245 .	22
250 .	41
255 .	10
260 .	21
265 .	4
270 .	10
275 .	10
280 .	5
285 .	4
290 .	10
305 .	7
310 .	13
315 .	2
330 .	7
340 .	4
350 .	10
355 .	5
380 .	6
385 .	1
390 .	5
395 .	2

400 .	1
420 .	3
435 .	5
440 .	5
455 .	5
475 .	5
495 .	5

Range of Valid Data Values: 3 to 495

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Minimum : 3

Maximum : 495

Mean : 75.922

Standard deviation : 66.183

Variable Format: numeric

Variable: Travel time with train (in minutes)

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 11	3 .		13
	4 .		17
	5 .		251
	6 .		66
	7 .		51
	8 .		67
	9 .		132
	10 .		445
	11 .		86
	12 .		70
	13 .		72
	14 .		84
	15 .		174
	16 .		74
	17 .		70
	18 .		116
	19 .		81
	20 .		218
	21 .		74
	22 .		71
	23 .		54
	24 .		68
	25 .		153
	26 .		67
	27 .		82
	28 .		45
	29 .		57
	30 .		290
	35 .		235

40 .	442
45 .	153
50 .	364
55 .	205
60 .	204
65 .	293
70 .	271
75 .	130
80 .	224
85 .	83
90 .	246
95 .	117
100 .	216
105 .	65
110 .	199
115 .	60
120 .	132
125 .	164
130 .	206
135 .	83
140 .	136
145 .	62
150 .	80
155 .	75
160 .	95
165 .	45
170 .	129
175 .	49
180 .	72
185 .	84
190 .	105

195 .	25
200 .	72
205 .	39
210 .	94
215 .	21
220 .	69
225 .	35
230 .	52
235 .	48
240 .	35
245 .	21
250 .	47
255 .	22
260 .	59
265 .	15
270 .	30
275 .	13
280 .	39
285 .	13
290 .	36
295 .	11
300 .	10
305 .	10
310 .	30
315 .	1
320 .	5
325 .	10
330 .	30
335 .	5
340 .	9
345 .	4

350 .	10
365 .	9
370 .	10
375 .	3
380 .	10
400 .	4

Range of Valid Data Values: 3 to 400

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Minimum : 3

Maximum : 400

Mean : 83.893

Standard deviation : 76.992

Variable Format: numeric

Variable: Number of transfers

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 11	0 .	None	4479
	1 .	One	2256
	2 .	Two	2293

Range of Valid Data Values: 0 to 2

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Minimum : 0

Maximum : 2

Mean : 0.758

Standard deviation : 0.832

Variable Format: numeric

Variable: Headway (in minues)

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 11	15 .		2221
	30 .		2273
	60 .		4534

Range of Valid Data Values: 15 to 60

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Mean : 41.376

Standard deviation : 19.441

Variable Format: numeric

Variable: Travel cost with train (in CHF)

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 11	2 .		1531
	3 .		622
	4 .		555
	5 .		518
	6 .		473
	7 .		258
	8 .		322
	9 .		256
	10 .		227
	11 .		254
	12 .		192
	13 .		256
	14 .		218
	15 .		182
	16 .		160
	17 .		149
	18 .		133
	19 .		140
	20 .		138
	21 .		122
	22 .		106
	23 .		137
	24 .		147
	25 .		96
	26 .		125
	27 .		100
	28 .		99
	29 .		94
	30 .		92

31 .	83
32 .	92
33 .	54
34 .	83
35 .	69
36 .	52
37 .	43
38 .	61
39 .	55
40 .	59
41 .	41
42 .	60
43 .	44
44 .	39
45 .	50
46 .	20
47 .	35
48 .	20
49 .	18
50 .	8
51 .	41
52 .	27
53 .	26
54 .	29
55 .	16
56 .	46
57 .	15
58 .	15
59 .	34
60 .	15
61 .	6

62 .	5
63 .	3
64 .	2
66 .	9
68 .	3
70 .	5
71 .	3
72 .	8
74 .	6
75 .	4
77 .	6
79 .	14
89 .	2

Range of Valid Data Values: 2 to 89

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Minimum : 2

Maximum : 89

Mean : 14.894

Standard deviation : 14.587

Variable Format: numeric

Variable: Travel cost with car (in CHF)

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 11	0 .		35
	1 .		802
	2 .		905
	3 .		609
	4 .		678
	5 .		541
	6 .		335
	7 .		344
	8 .		322
	9 .		292
	10 .		242
	11 .		311
	12 .		213
	13 .		220
	14 .		166
	15 .		169
	16 .		154
	17 .		169
	18 .		128
	19 .		137
	20 .		133
	21 .		168
	22 .		147
	23 .		137
	24 .		117
	25 .		114
	26 .		89
	27 .		113
	28 .		82

29 .	86
30 .	87
31 .	64
32 .	93
33 .	72
34 .	60
35 .	56
36 .	61
37 .	57
38 .	49
39 .	52
40 .	37
41 .	26
42 .	31
43 .	34
44 .	34
45 .	29
46 .	49
47 .	24
48 .	28
49 .	39
50 .	7
51 .	7
52 .	5
53 .	6
54 .	9
55 .	3
57 .	5
58 .	7
60 .	10
61 .	6

63 .	2
64 .	6
65 .	3
66 .	9
73 .	3

Range of Valid Data Values: 0 to 73

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Minimum : 0

Maximum : 73

Mean : 12.874

Standard deviation : 12.442

Variable Format: numeric

Variable: Reliability with train (delay in minutes)

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 11	0 .		2247
	5 .		2279
	15 .		4502

Range of Valid Data Values: 0 to 15

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Minimum : 0

Maximum : 15

Mean : 8.742

Standard deviation : 6.488

Variable Format: numeric

Variable: Reliability with cars (dealy in minutes)

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 11	5 .		2261
	10 .		2266
	20 .		4501

Range of Valid Data Values: 5 to 20

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Minimum : 5

Maximum : 20

Mean : 13.733

Standard deviation : 6.495

Variable Format: numeric

Variable: Employed

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 4	1 .	fulltime	4566
	2 .	parttime	1444
	3 .	unemployed	3018

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Variable Format: character

Variable: Car availability

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 4	1 .	always	5519
	2 .	after arrangement	1910
	3 .	no	1599

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Variable Format: character

Variable: Age (in years)

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 11	15 .		32
	16 .		143
	17 .		105
	18 .		119
	19 .		168
	20 .		136
	21 .		148
	22 .		96
	23 .		160
	24 .		72
	25 .		102
	26 .		136
	27 .		135
	28 .		152
	29 .		72
	30 .		223
	31 .		96
	32 .		165
	33 .		208
	34 .		190
	35 .		219
	36 .		182
	37 .		184
	38 .		279
	39 .		186
	40 .		277
	41 .		159
	42 .		295
	43 .		132

44 .	200
45 .	183
46 .	121
47 .	167
48 .	118
49 .	163
50 .	194
51 .	160
52 .	119
53 .	172
54 .	143
55 .	144
56 .	207
57 .	117
58 .	156
59 .	120
60 .	188
61 .	135
62 .	92
63 .	103
64 .	80
65 .	212
66 .	135
67 .	119
68 .	125
69 .	103
70 .	86
71 .	48
72 .	88
73 .	81
74 .	38

75 .	102
77 .	32
78 .	32
79 .	24
80 .	79
81 .	16
82 .	15
83 .	8
84 .	32

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Variable Format: character

Variable: Gender

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 4	1 .	male	4739
	2 .	female	4289

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Variable Format: character

Variable: Number of km in '000 travelled by car in the last year

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 11	0 .		1816
	1 .		48
	10 .		1113
	11 .		79
	12 .		463
	13 .		56
	14 .		63
	15 .		965
	16 .		16
	17 .		64
	18 .		112
	2 .		40
	20 .		670
	22 .		24
	23 .		7
	24 .		15
	25 .		327
	27 .		16
	3 .		102
	30 .		342
	35 .		112
	38 .		8
	4 .		56
	40 .		64
	45 .		8
	5 .		260
	50 .		88
	6 .		159
	60 .		32

7 .	222
70 .	8
72 .	8
74 .	8
75 .	8
8 .	301
80 .	8
9 .	158
90 .	8
99 .	96

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 7950

Summary Statistics:

Variable Format: character

Variable: Season ticket availability

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 4	0 .	Without PT-card	3801
	1 .	annual season tickets	951
	2 .	Half-price-discount card	3737
	3 .	Other PT-card	539

Range of Valid Data Values: 0 to 3

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Variable Format: numeric

Variable: Trip purpose

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 4	1 .	Commuters	1080
	2 .	Busines	650
	3 .	Shopping	1181
	4 .	Leisure/ vacation	6117

Range of Valid Data Values: 1 to 4

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Variable Format: numeric

Variable: Language

Location:	Value	Label	Frequency
Width: 11	0 .	others	2391
	1 .	german	6637

Range of Valid Data Values: 0 to 1

Total Responses: Summation of listed categories: 9028

Summary Statistics:

Variable Format: numeric