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MICHIGAN'S STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION MODELING SYSTEM

A METHOD FOR FUNCTIONALLY LASSIFYING RURAL ARTERIAL HIGHWAYS

> STATEWIDE STUDIES SECTION Report no.13 September 1975

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MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

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OF

STATE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

MICHIGAN'S STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION MODELING SYSTEM

A METHOD FOR FUNCTIONALLY CLASSIFYING RURAL ARTERIAL HIGHWAYS

> STATEWIDE STUDIES SECTION Report no.13 September 1975

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CARL V. PELLONPAA

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

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JOHN P. WOODFORD, DIRECTOR

September 11, 1975

Mr. Sam F. Cryderman, Deputy Director Bureau of Transportation Planning Michigan Department of State Highways and Transportation P.O. Drawer K Lansing, Michigan 48904

Dear Mr. Cryderman:

The Highway Planning Division is pleased to present Volume XII in a series of reports dealing with Michigan's Statewide Transportation Modeling System. The report, entitled "A Method for Functionally Classifying Rural Arterial Highways", documents the potential application of the Statewide model in the functional classification of rural highways using two basic elements.

Population Centers and Other Travel Generators
 Highway Travel Characteristics

We have noted a recent concern in the Bureau of Transportation Planning pertaining to system level justification and also with the Federal Highway Administration in demonstrating the need for a project. It is felt that the elements contained within this report have the potential of supplying an answer to these questions and be of value in the state highway plan and regional planning process. It is also hoped that other states presently considering statewide transportation modeling have a chance to become familiar with potential multiple applications of a system such as this.

This report was prepared by Mr. James E. Carroll of the Statewide Transportation Planning Procedures Section, managed by Mr. Richard E. Esch.

Sincerely,

R. J. Lilly, Administrator Highway Planning Division

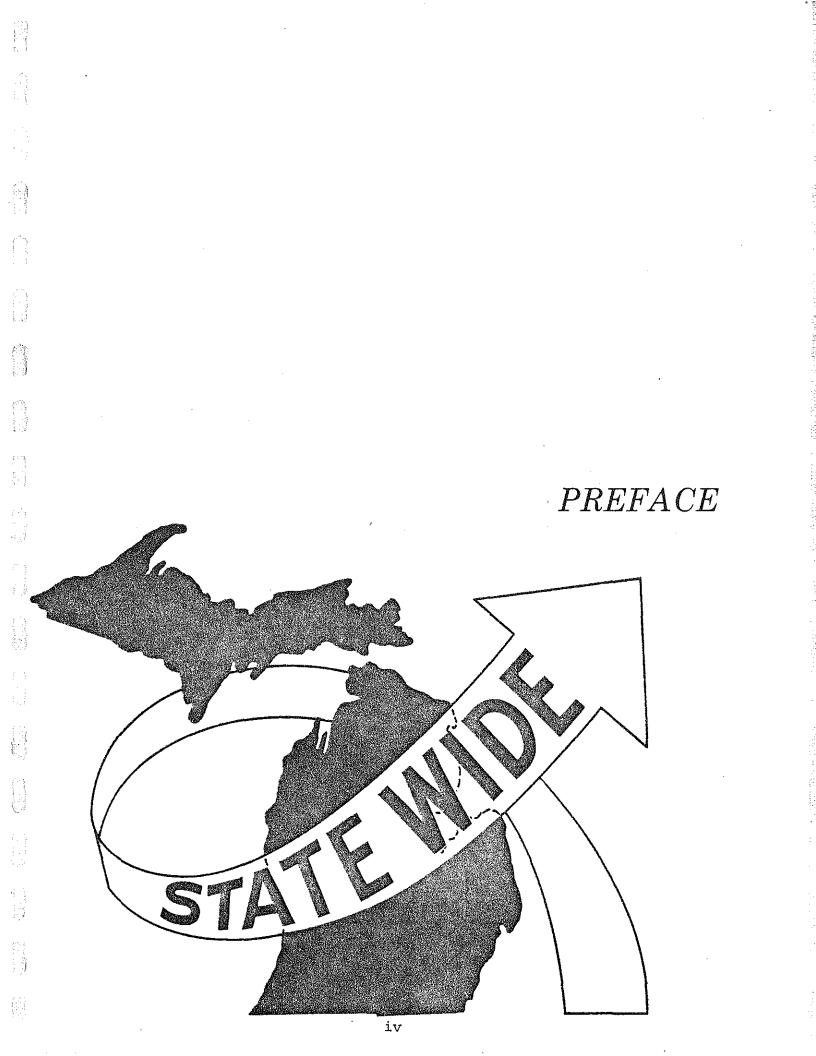




MICHIGAN The Great Lake State

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PREFACE

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The following is the twelfth report in a series of reports dealing with the development of the Statewide Transportation Modeling System for the State of Michigan. The preceding reports are:

Volume	I	Objectives and Work Program
Volume	I-A	Region 4 Workshop Topic Summaries
Volume	I-B	Single and Multiple Corridor Analysis
Volume	I→C	Model Applications: Turnbacks
Volume	I-D	Proximity Analysis: Social Impacts of Alternate
		Plans on Public Facilities
Volume	I-E	Model Applications: Cost-Benefit Analysis
Volume	I-F	Air and Noise Pollution System Analysis Model
Volume	I-G	Transportation Planning Psychological Impact Model
Volume	I-H	Level of Service Systems Analysis Model: A Public
•		Interaction Application
Volume	I-J	Service-Area Model
Volume	I-K	Effective Speed Model: A Public Interaction Tool
Volume	I-L	System Impact Analysis Graphic Display
Volume	II	Development of Network Models
Volume	III	Multi-Level Highway Network Generator ("Segmental Model")
Volume	III-A	Semi-Automatic Network Generator Using A "Digitizer"
Volume	v	Part ATravel Model Development: Reformation-Trip
		Data Bank Preparation
		Part BDevelopment of the Statewide Socio-Economic
		Data Bank for Trip Generation-Distribution
Volume	VI	Corridor Location Dynamics
Volume	VI-A	Environmental Sensitivity Computer Mapping
Vólume	VII	Design Hour Volume Model Development
Volume	VII-A	Capacity Adequacy Forecasting Model
Volume	VIII	Statewide Public and Private Facility File
Volume	IX	Statewide Socio-Economic Data File
Volume	X-A	Statewide Travel Impact Analysis Procedures
Volume	X-B	Statewide Social Impact Analysis Procedures
Volume	X-C	Statewide Economic Impact Analysis Procedures
Volume	XI	Computer Run Times - An Aid in Selecting Statewide
		Travel Model System Size

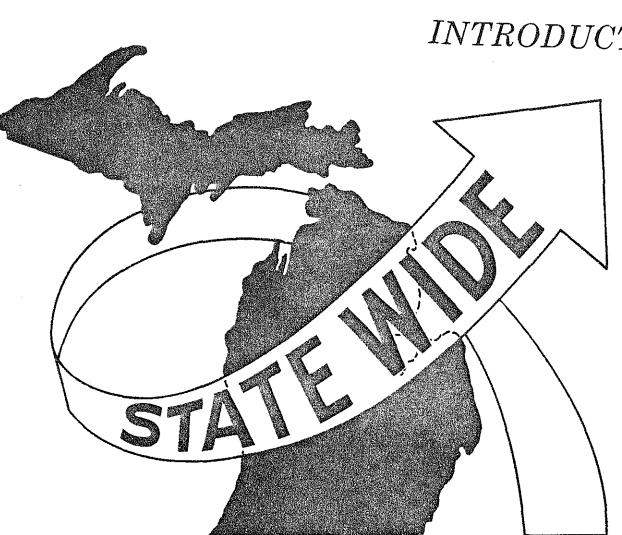
This report deals with a systematic analysis routine which could assist in the systematic functional classification of a state trunkline highway network in rural areas.

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Functional classification of the highway system is often difficult because the role a specific highway plays in society is continually changing. This change is due to the outside socio-economic change and also highway network changes. Many state transportation agencies find it necessary to rely on a vast array of manual techniques to complete the functional classification process. Monitoring the dynamic nature of this process often requires large amounts of time and staff. Therefore, because Michigan has developed a Statewide Transportation Modeling System that contains both the highway system and socio-economic data for the State, it was decided that a system such as this had the potential to systematically reduce the work load required to complete functional classification in future years. This report will deal with the initial phases in a long-range development project.

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INTRODUCTION

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INTRODUCTION

Functional classification is the process by which streets and highways are grouped into classes according to the function that they serve in a region or state. It is a basic fact that individual road segments do not serve travel independent of one another. Rather, most travel involves movement through a network of roads. Functional classification defines the part that any particular road segment plays in the flow of trips through a total highway network and the importance each of these segments plays in the connection of socioeconomic centers.

Separate classifications are generally made in urban and rural areas. The reason for the distinction between the two is due to different characteristics each has in regard to density, type of land use, density of road networks, nature of travel patterns and the way all these elements are related.

The following categories are typical of a general functional classification system. Some states may vary the terminology used or divide certain classes.

> RURAL AREAS Principal Arterials Minor Arterial Roads Collector Roads Local Roads

URBANIZED AREAS

Principal Arterials Minor Arterial Streets Collector Streets Local Streets

Depending on whether a state is dealing with an urban or rural functional system, the following guidelines as to the percentage of total miles in each class generally apply.

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RURAL FUNCTIONAL SYSTEMS

SYSTEMS	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL RURAL MILES
Principal Arterial System	2 – 4
Principal Arterial Plus Minor Arterial Road System	6 - 12
Collector Road System	20 - 25
Local Road System	65 - 75

URBAN FUNCTIONAL SYSTEMS

SYSTEMS	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL URBAN MILES
Principal Arterial System	5 - 10
Principal Arterial Plus Minor Arterial Street System	15 - 25
Collector Street System	5 - 10
Local Street System	65 - 80

The objective of this report is to show how Michigan's Statewide Transportation Modeling System could assist in classifying rural highways.

Michigan's Modeling System is a computerized process for simulating rural travel information using a typical gravity model distribution process. The statewide transportation modeling system process is based on three data files.

A. Statewide Network File - All highway link information is in this file, A-NODE, B-NODE, COORDINATES, and Link Data. (See Figure 1.)

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STATEWIDE HIGHWAY NETWORK LINK FILE

CONTENTS OF EACH HIGHWAY SEGMENT OR LINK

AVERAGE SPEED DISTANCE **URBAN-RURAL DESIGNATION** TYPE OF ROUTE TRAFFIC VOLUME CAPACITY AVERAGE ANNUAL DAILY TRAFFIC VOLUME COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC VOLUME **DESIGN HOUR VOLUME** ACCIDENT FATAL RATE ACCIDENT INJURY RATE ACCIDENT RATE NUMBER OF LANES LANE WIDTH SURFACE CONDITION RIGHT OF WAY SIGHT RESTRICTION

B. Statewide Socio-Economic Data File - This contains
 information from the 1970 census of population and housing.
 (See Figure 2.)

C. Statewide Facility File - A collection of information about the physical environment. (See Figure 3.)

These three files were developed so that the Statewide Transportation Modeling System could be a dynamic process that will monitor impacts on major elements in society. The term dynamic is submitted in the sense that the user may modify any of the three basic data files and monitor the corresponding impact on society. The computer program components of the total modeling system have been divided into four groups. (See Figure 4.)

Group I - General Utility (This group contains information display programs.)

Group II - Basic Traffic Forecasting and Evaluation Tools
 (This group contains traffic information programs.)
Group III - Specific-Impact Modeling Process (This group

contains specific-impact models developed from the traffic forecasting model.)

Group IV - Continuing Processes (This group contains the continuing analysis programs.)

The purpose of this report is not to add to the development of the modeling system; instead, it is directed at the application of the system in assisting the process of functional classification in any typical highway planning organization. (See Figure 5.) The following sections will show actual applications using the Michigan Statewide Transportation Model.

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STATEWIDE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA FILE *

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF POPULATION

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT BY TYPE OF SCHOOL YEARS OF SCHOOL COMPLETED CITIZENSHIP BY AGE

INCOME CHARACTERISTICS OF POPULATION

FAMILY INCOME INCOME BY OCCUPATION AND SEX RATIO OF FAMILY INCOME TO POVERTY LEVEL

LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS OF POPULATION

EMPLOYMENT BY AGE EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION AND SEX EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY AND SEX

SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF POPULATION

AGE BY SEX TYPE OF FAMILY MARITAL STATUS

AREA CHARACTERISTICS

LAKE FRONTAGE ASSESSED VALUATION WATER AREA

*THOSE ITEMS LISTED HERE ARE SAMPLES TAKEN FROM THE COMPLETE FILE WHICH CONTAINS OVER 700 ITEMS. -7-

STATEWIDE FACILITY FILE

AIRPORTS AMBULANCE SERVICE BANKS **BUS TERMINALS** CAMP GROUNDS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE **CERTIFIED INDUSTRIAL PARKS** CITIES OVER 5,000 POPULATION AND 30,000 POPULATION **CIVIL DEFENSE TERMINALS** COLLEGES, PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COMMERCIAL CENTERS, MAJOR CONVENTION CENTERS DENTISTS ELECTRICAL GENERATING PLANTS GAME AREAS **GOLF COURSES GRAIN ELEVATORS** HEALTH SCREENING CLINICS, EPSDT **HIGH SCHOOLS** HISTORIC SITES HOMES FOR THE AGED HORSEBACK ENTERPRISES HOSPITALS **ICE ARENAS** MANUFACTURERS MARINAS MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS NEWSPAPERS, DAILY NEWSPAPERS, WEEKLY AND BIWEEKLY NURSING HOMES **OIL PROCESSING AND STORAGE PLANTS** PHARMACIES PHYSICIANS POLICE DEPT'S, STATE AND LOCAL PORTS **RAIL TERMINALS** SECRETARY OF THE STATE. OFFICES SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITIES SKI RESORTS SNOWMOBILE TRAILS SOCIAL SERVICES OFFICES STATE PARKS STATE POLICE POSTS TOURIST ATTRACTIONS TRAILER ON FLAT CAR TEBMINALS TRANSIT SYSTEMS, BUS TREASURY OFFICES **TRUCK TERMINALS UNEMPLOYMENT OFFICES** WEATHER SERVICE STATIONS-NATIONAL WHOLESALE TRADE CENTERS

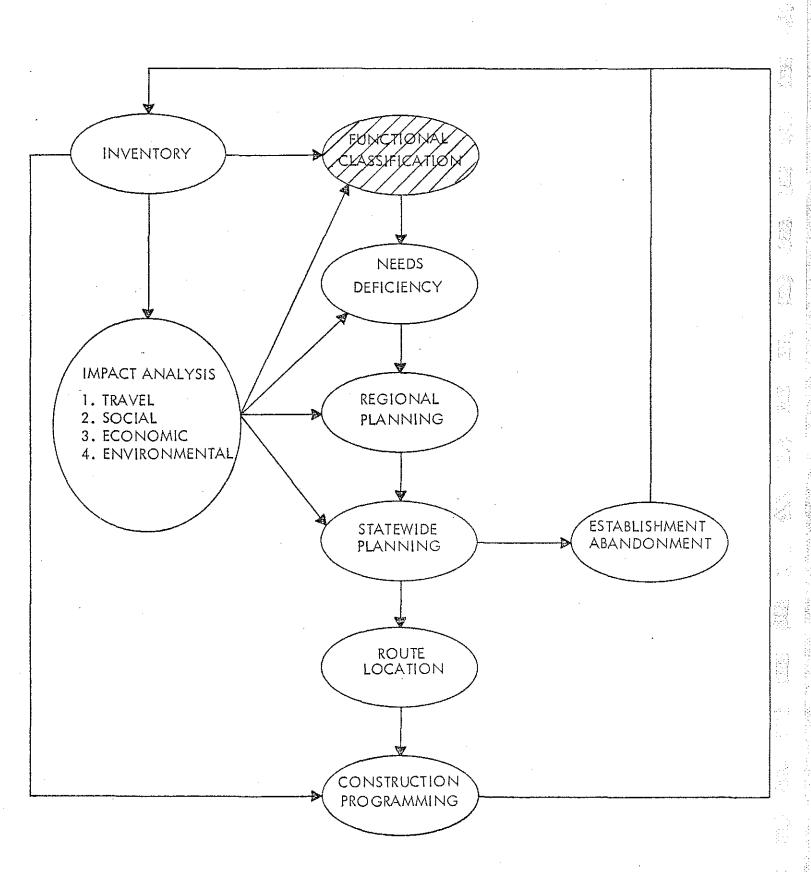
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COMPONENT DETAIL

GENERAL UTILITY 1. A. TP PACKAGE **B. STATISTICAL BATTERY** C. GRAPHIC DATA PRESENTATION BATTERY 2. BASIC TRAFFIC FORECASTING AND EVALUATION TOOLS A. TRIP GENERATION-DISTRIBUTION MODEL B. SEGMENTAL MODEL C. DHV MODEL D. MASS TRANSIT MODEL SPECIFIC-IMPACT MODELING PROCESSES 3. A. COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS B. SOCIAL IMPACT ANALYSIS C. PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT ANALYSIS D. LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS E. EFFECTIVE SPEED ANALYSIS F. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS G. HIGHWAY BREAKDOWN PROBABILITY MODEL **CONTINUING PROCESSES** 4 A. SINGLE-STATION O & D ANALYSIS B. CORRIDOR LOCATION MODEL

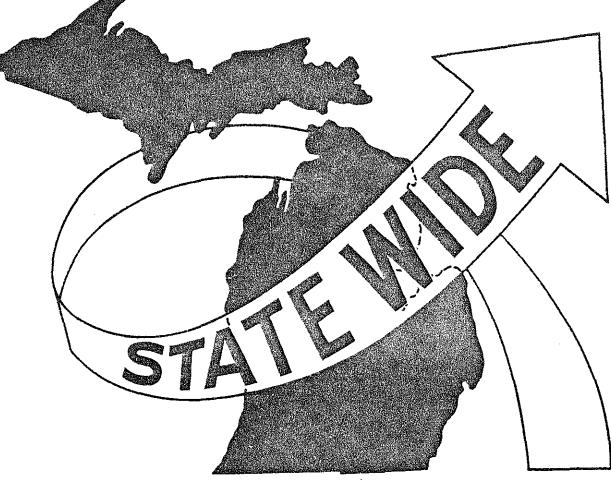
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TYPICAL PLANNING ACTIVITY RELATIONSHIPS



SUMMARY OF FHWA PROCESS

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SUMMARY OF FHWA PROCESS

The following procedures for rural functional classification have been summarized from the "National Highway Functional Classification Study Manual", presented by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

As a result of the major efforts on the part of the Federal Highway Administration and many states, the functional classification of any highway system involves identifying and ranking two basic elements.

1. Population Centers and Other Travel Generators

2. Highway Travel Characteristics

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Since most trips begin or end in an urban area, population centers are considered the primary traffic generators. The size of the population in these areas generally reflects its capacity for generating and attracting travel. This is why population centers should be ranked in groups according to their estimated population as recommended by the FHWA example in Figure 6.

Major travel generators other than cities, such as recreation centers, should be treated separately during the ranking process. Usual trip generation rates do not apply since they contain little or no resident population, commercial activity, or industrial activity. The annual number of visitors to such a major travel generator can be equated to an urban area's population. The travel generator can then be grouped with population centers of similar trip generation potential. FHWA's recommended visitor/trip rate graph appears in Figure 7.

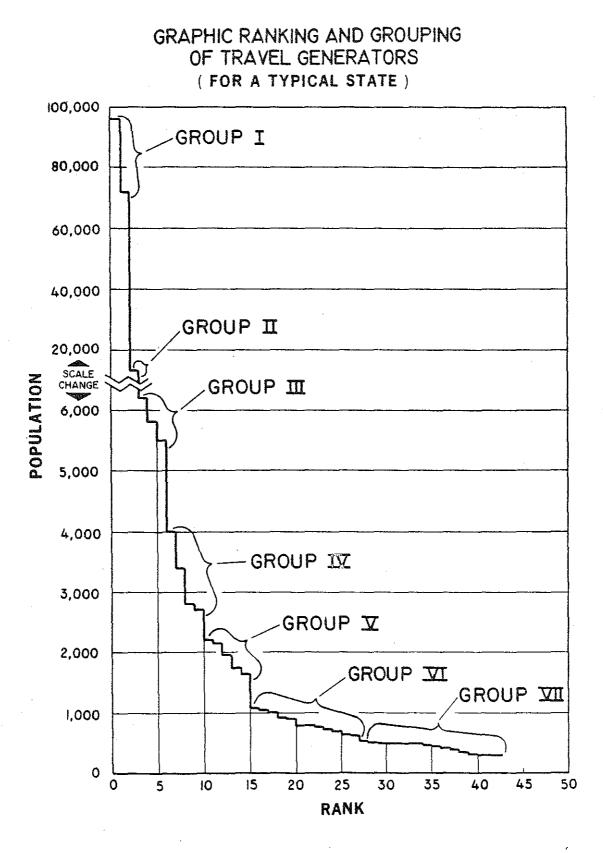
The procedure for functional classification of a rural system initially involves connecting travel generators in such a manner

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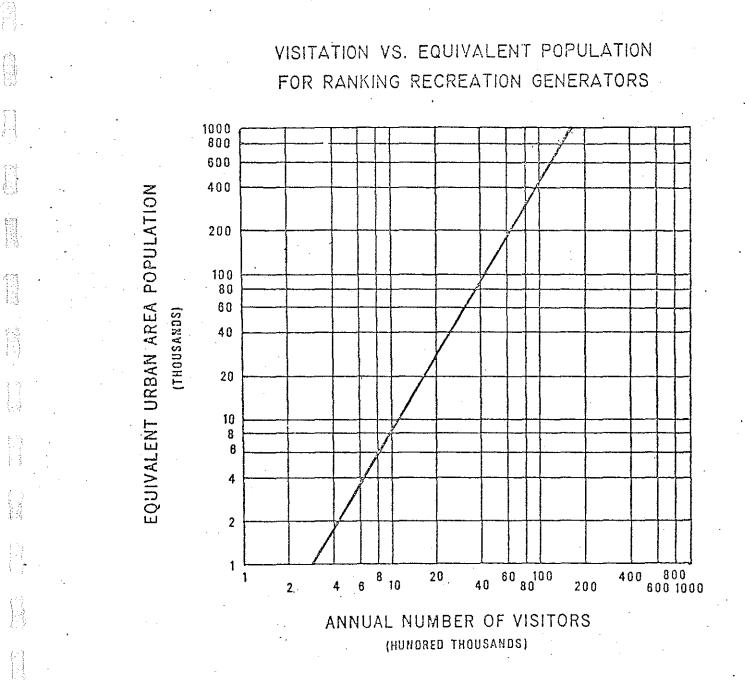
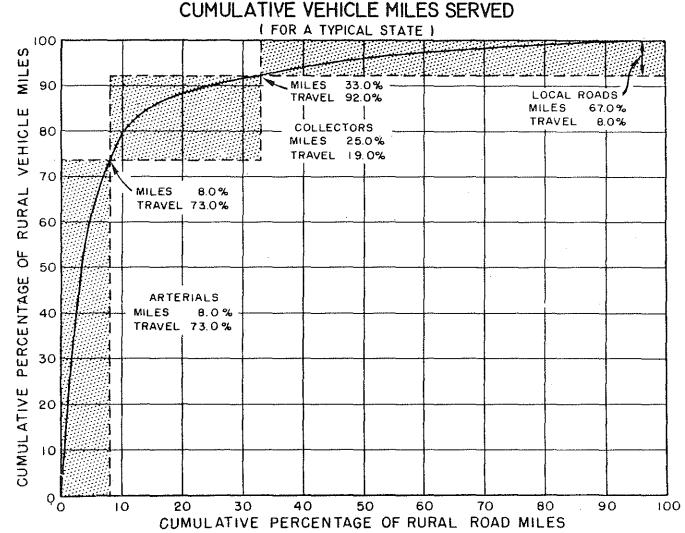


FIGURE 7

as to logically channelize the trips on the road network to represent the "real world". States having a Statewide Traffic Assignment Network and a travel model may use highway travel characteristics (average trip length, volume trip length index and vehicle miles) to evaluate the rural arterial systems. An example using vehicle miles as the travel characteristics being evaluated is shown in Figure 8 where the cumulative system mileage has been plotted against a cumulative travel characteristics which is vehicle miles of travel.

The following sections will demonstrate how the Statewide Transportation Modeling System can systematically identify and rank population centers, other travel generators, and highway travel characteristics.



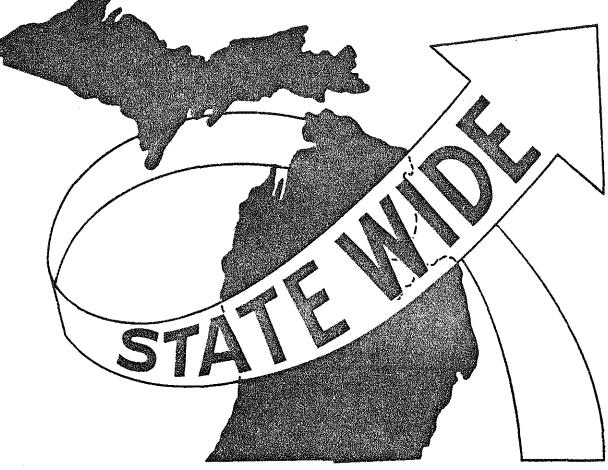
PLOT OF CUMULATIVE ROAD MILEAGE VERSUS CUMULATIVE VEHICLE MILES SERVED

-15-

FIGURE

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IDENTIFYING AND RANKING POPULATION CENTERS



IDENTIFYING AND RANKING POPULATION CENTERS

The previous section stated that the Federal Highway Administration found the evaluation of two elements necessary for the functional classification of any highway system. The two elements are:

1. Population Centers and Other Travel Generator Analysis

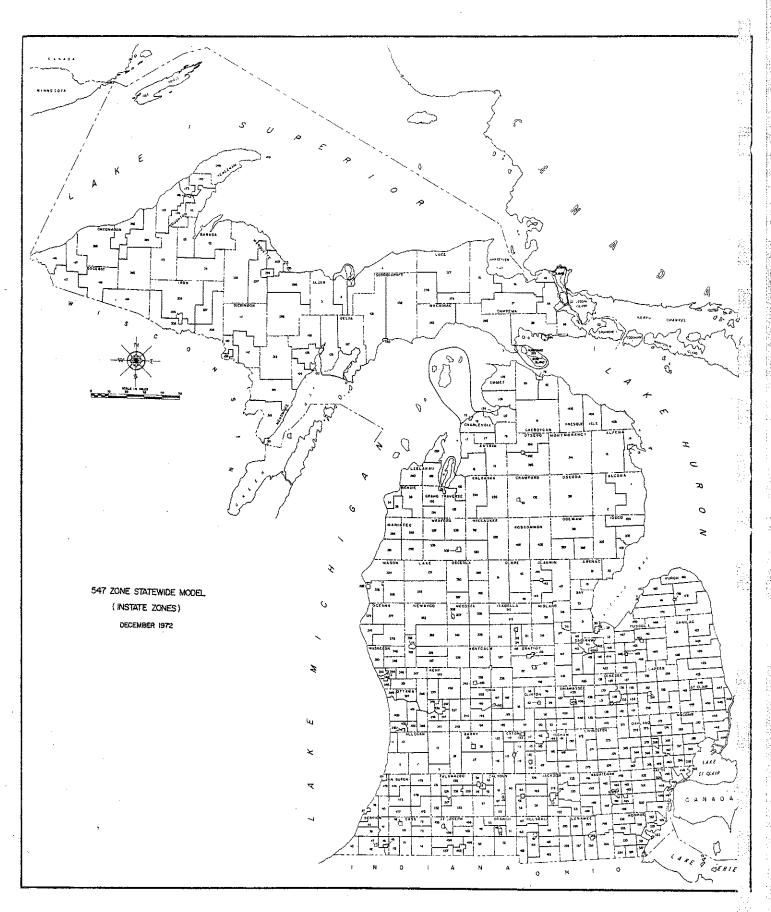
2. Highway Travel Characteristic Analysis

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This section will examine the ranking of population centers and other travel generators using a statewide model.

In order to evaluate population centers and the role each plays in functional classification for a state, the population for these areas must be readily available. The statewide transportation modeling system uses the census of housing and population information as the system data base. One of the variables applied in the trip generation equations is population. This makes population for the entire state accessible by the model on a zonal basis. States without a statewide transportation modeling system are forced to use the number of inhabitants as the only element when ranking population centers. This is where a system such as Michigan's can play an effective role, since the trip generation characteristics of each area more realistically portray the area's socio-economic importance. Figure 9 shows Michigan's statewide model's 547 zone system. One page of an actual output of population and trips generated by these zones is shown in Figure 10. This type of travel data is typically used in the travel forecasting process but may now serve a dual role in the identification and ranking of trip generators required for functional classification.

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ZONAL TRIP GENERATION OUTPUT

		GENERATION OF	
ZONE 1	101.	POPULATION 5466.000	TRIPS GENERATED 7453.500
2	102.	1188.000	4139.250
3	201.	547.000	5806.000
<u>ą</u>	202.	1842.000	1842 + 000
5	203.	2518.000	3791+500
6	204.	4000.000	5176.500
7	301.	10499.000	82285.000
8	302.	7225.000	20199.500
9	303.	13112.000	98584.750
10	304*	12241.000	60667.500
11	305.	4960.000	52135.750
12	306.	15273.000	87214.750
13	401.	6077.000	17798.500
14	402.	8768.000	27630.000
15	403.	14675.000	27630.000
16	501,	3295.000	7252.500
17	502.	4360.000	8216.000
18	503,	3415.000	10483.750
19	601*	4195+000	12850.000
20	602.	2842.000	11084.250
21	603.	3152.000	28222.750
22	701.	2345.000	6842.500
23	7020	4005.000	6596 250
24	703+	985.000	3158,750
25	801.	9995+000	62909.750
26	802.	10770.000	26669.250
27	803.	6450.000	50229.750
28	804 *	7670.000	18275+000

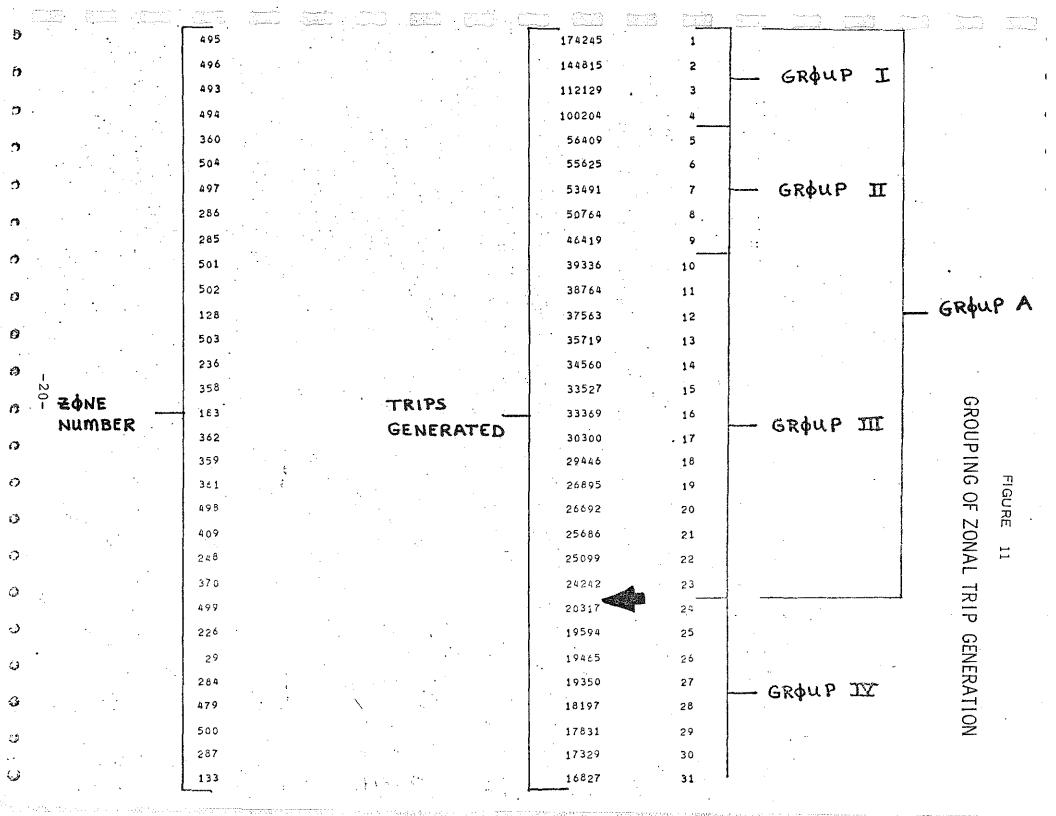
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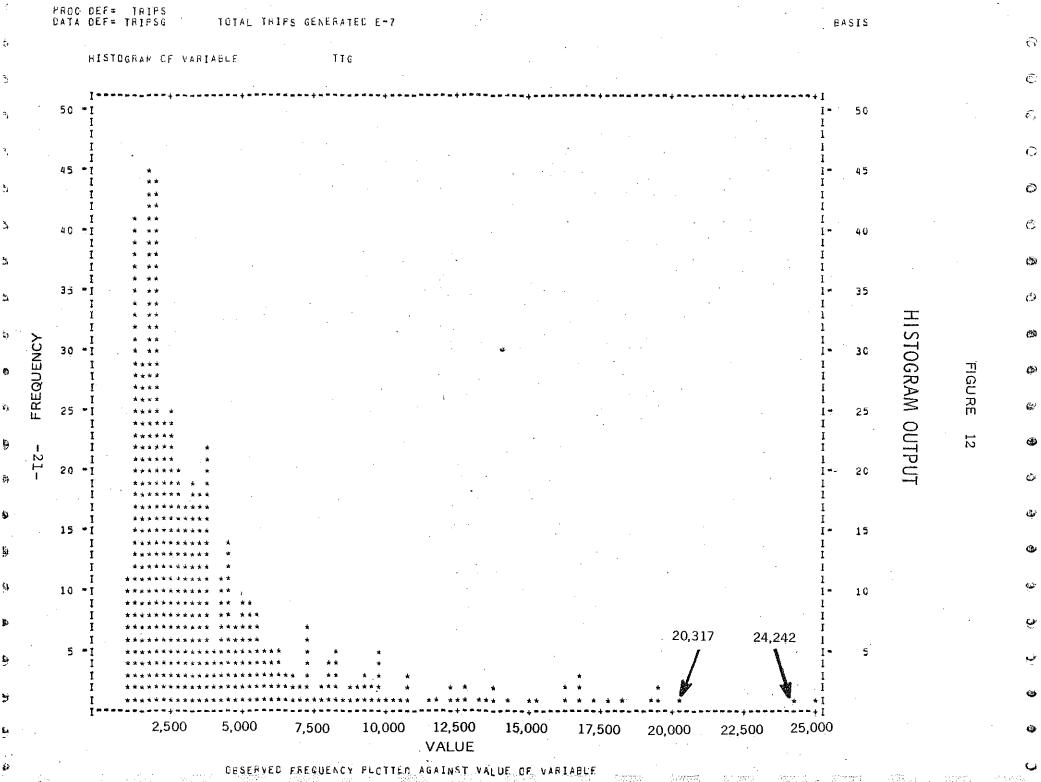
Analysis of trips is the key to functional classification of a specific highway. A significant part of this analysis is where the trips on each individual highway originate. Typically, the more inhabitants a population center has, the more trips generated by that population center. There are exceptions, such as a state park which has little opulation but generates many trips. This is the reason a study was made on the population centers which <u>generated</u> the larger number of trips. The file partially displayed in Figure 11 contains the generated trips per population center, or zone, sorted from high to low using the statewide model trip generation data. The grouping displayed on Figure 11 is for this test only and could have been changed according to individual trip generation characteristics in each state.

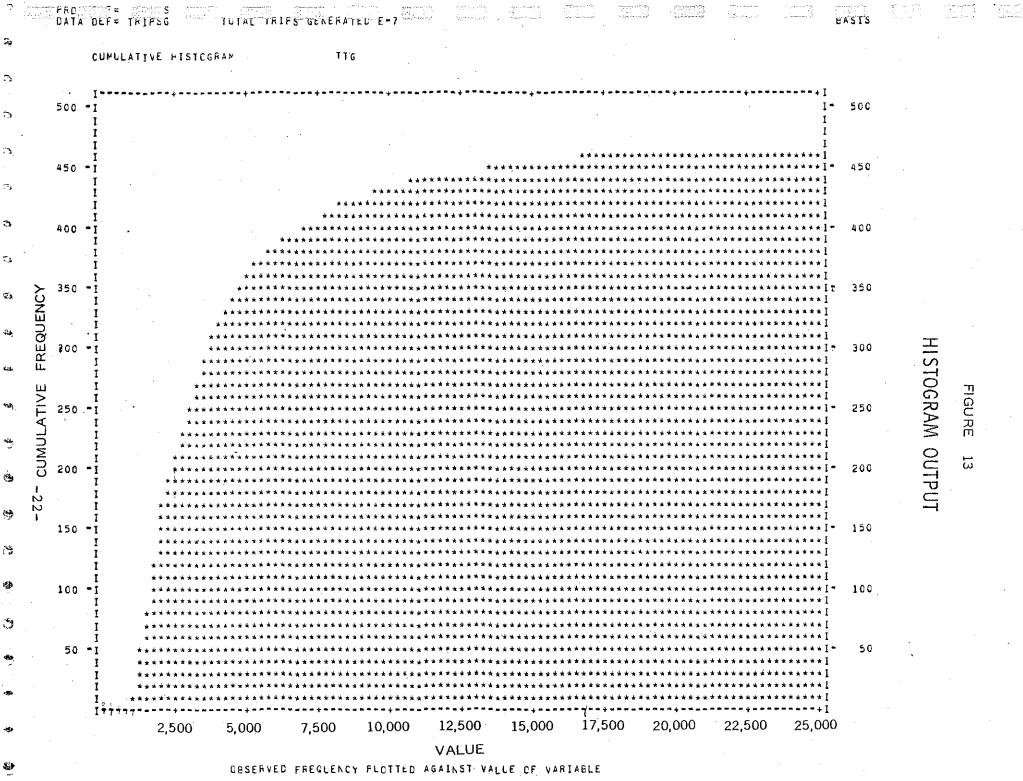
Further analysis can be made on the generated trips of each zone using histograms. (See Figures 12 and 13.) The histograms show the majority of the zones generating between 1,000 and 5,000 trips. Note the large gap in stratification in Figures 11 and 12 between the zone generating 20,317 trips and the zone generating 24,242 trips as indicated by the arrows. For test purposes, Michigan used this gap to define the large trip generators, i.e., any zone which generated more than 20,317 trips was considered as being a large trip generator. The resulting group will be titled Group A. In Michigan, Group A would include the following:

ZONE NUMBER	LOCATION
128	Flint
183	Lansing
236	Grand Rapids
248	Grand Rapids Area
285	St. Clair Shores, Roseville
286	Warren
358-362	Pontiac and Area
370	Pontiac Area
409	Saginaw
493-498	Detroit and Area
501-504	Detroit Area

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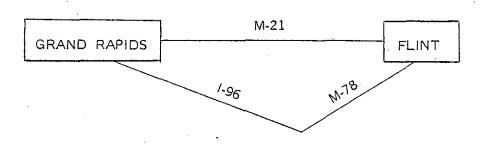
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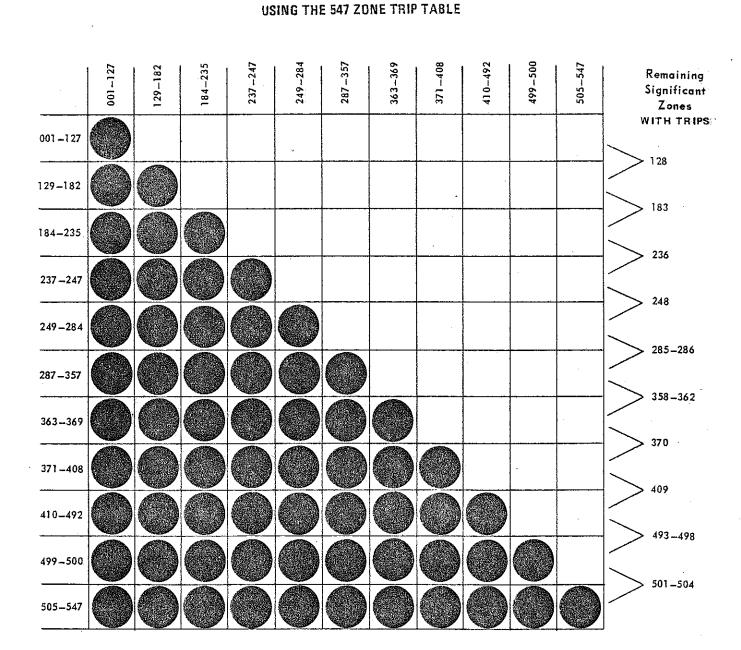
Once the major trip generators have been identified and ranked, the next step is to connect the routes on the highway network that serve them. This task is simple, provided that the connecting routes between major generators are obvious. But what if the connecting route is not obvious as shown in Figure 14.

FIGURE 14



Is the connecting route between Grand Rapids and Flint M-21, which is a shorter but slower route or I-96 to M-78, which is a longer but faster route? The decision cannot be an arbitrary one and must be based on facts. Other questions that arise include the following. What percent of the total traffic of each trunkline do the trips from these zones represent? How do these percents compare with other trunklines? The purpose of this test is to answer these and other questions about population centers and the routes connecting them. The test was conducted in the following manner. Since only the trips from the Group A zones are going to be used for this analysis, the 547 zone trip table was modified so that the trips from the selected zones remained. All other trips were zeroed out as shown in Figure 15. Trips generated by the selected zones were loaded to a statewide network tape which has total trips for each trunkline on it. (Keep in mind that the selected zones are the zones which represent the major trip generators.) A comparison was made to

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PROCESS OF ZEROING-OUT TRIPS FROM INSIGNICANT ZONES

1.

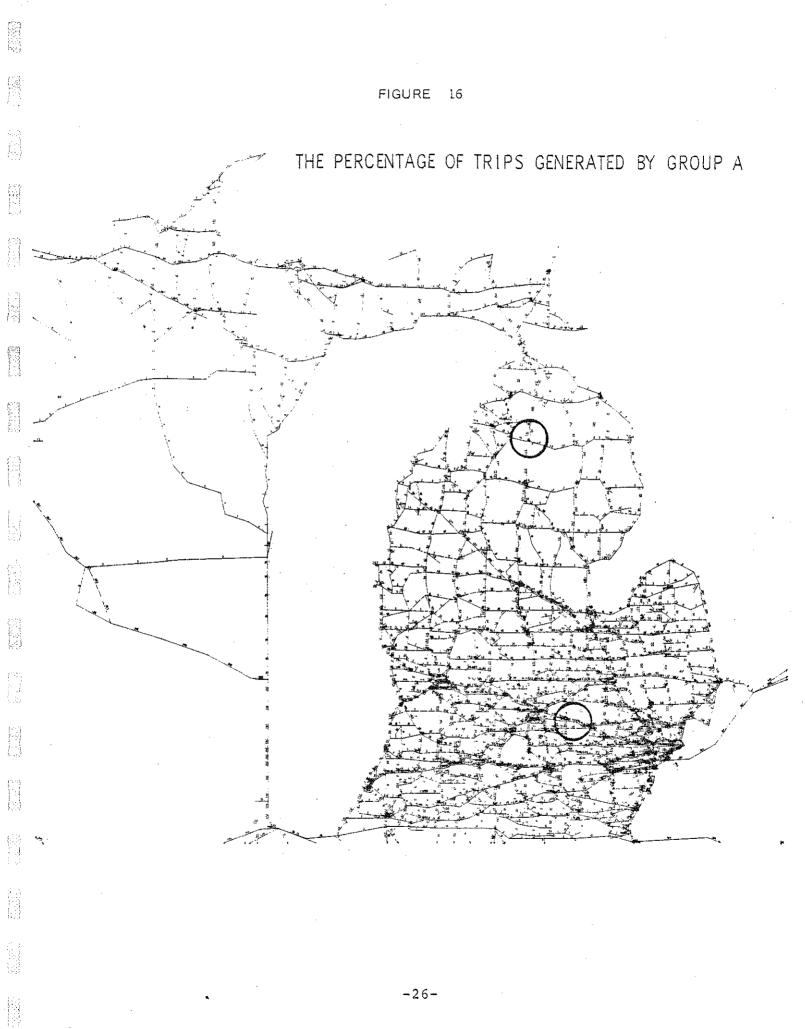
Follow each ROW across to each column. If a (•) appears in that column the zones for that respective ROW and column are multiplied by zero.

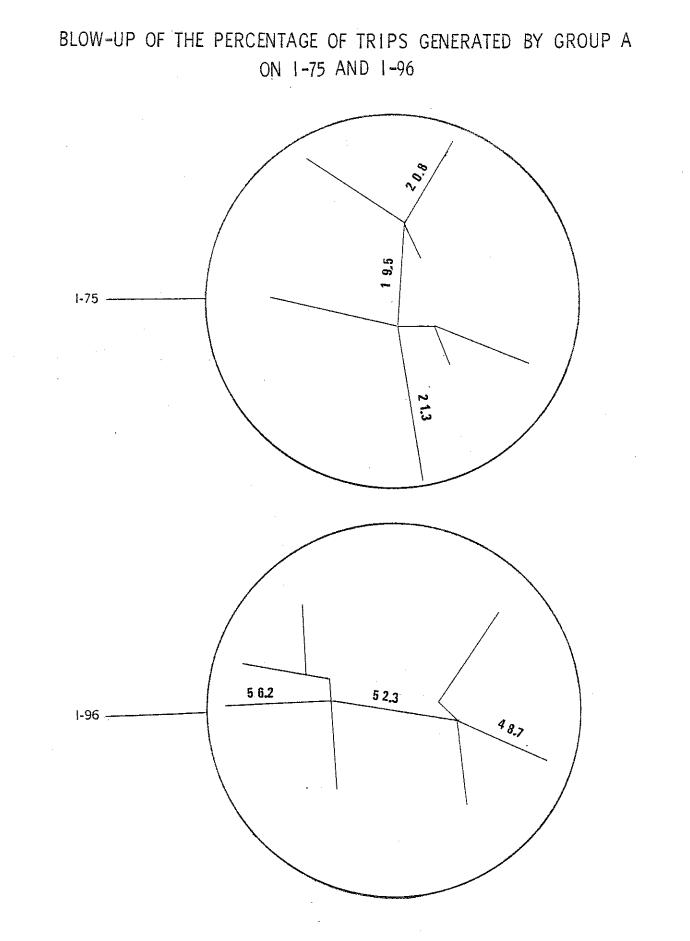
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determine the percentage of trips that the select zones contribute to the total trips on each trunkline. This percentage was plotted for the entire state and is shown in Figure 16. If the rural trunklines were functionally classified based only on this percentage, this figure could represent a classification of state trunklines based on the percent of travel on a route originating from major trip generators. The percentage in Figure 16 has one assumed decimal point. The higher the percent on a trunkline, the more important is the trunkline to the population centers. In this test, that would be population centers in Group A. Compare the percent on two trunklines, I-75 and I-96 (see Figure 17). Approximately fifty percent (50%) of the travel on I-96 is from Group A. I-75 has approximately twenty percent (20%). Both are interstate routes but I-96 has a more important function in regard to the selected population centers. If desired, another group of population centers could be selected. The process would then be repeated and could be applied to all the generated trips from each of the population groups.

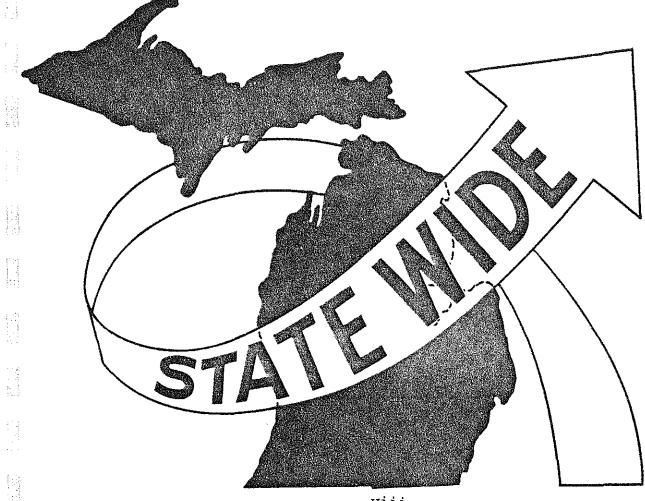
This type of analysis is useful in determining how important each section of road is to a state and what its function might be in regard to major trip generators. This is obviously not enough by itself so the next section will deal with functional classification from the standpoint of travel characteristics.

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IDENTIFYING AND RANKING HIGHWAY TRAVEL CHARACTERISTICS



Viii

IDENTIFYING AND RANKING

HIGHWAY TRAVEL CHARACTERISTICS

The type of travel a trunkline serves varies from recreational trips, to commercial trips, to work trips. The kind of travel on a trunkline identifies the trunkline characteristics. Trunklines with similar travel characteristics often carry the same functional classification. Some examples of travel characteristic data which are useful in functional classification are average trip length, vehicle miles, and volume data. This type of data is readily available from any statewide transportation modeling system as independent variables in the analysis of functional classification.

The Federal Highway Administration has developed a procedure using a combination of these variables for determining a volume - trip index measurement using a computerized highway network and a combination of these values. (See Figure 18.) This procedure was followed using Michigan's Statewide Transportation Modeling System as described in the following paragraphs.

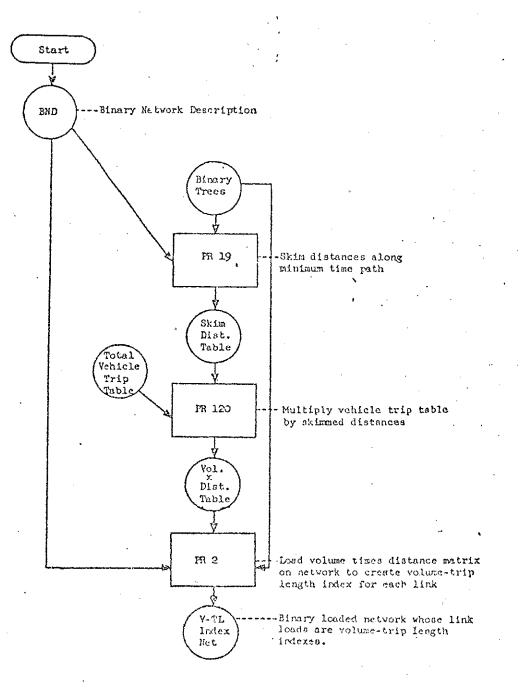
A skim tree was built from an existing loaded network. The skim trees were determined by the shortest distance. The output consists of a zone to zone distance matrix over the minimum time path for each zone. Figure 19 is an example of the skim tree output for zone number 1. The circled area in Figure 19 shows that the shortest distance from Zone 1 to Zone 102 is 91 miles.

The total trip table matrix from the loaded network is shown in Figure 20. The circled area in Figure 20 shows that the total trips from Zone 1 to Zone 102 is 1,380. This matrix is multiplied by the

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FLOW OF OPERATIONS FOR COMPUTING VOLUME-TRIP LENGTH INDEX



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:	2	286 61	. 77	390	394	379	236	241	232	250	101 315	
	. 3.	-98 3n5	102 320	105 334	83 341	175 319	169 324	164 326	317 330	331 260	274	
· ·	5	273	266	268 243	263 238	261 232	241	242	258 236	244 309	243 312	
	° 7	238 324	238 322	296	308	310	153	134	134	157	115	
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skim tree matrix, which will result in a new matrix of zone-to-zone trips times zone-to-zone distance. (See Figure 21.) The circled area shows that the value from Zone 1 to Zone 102 is 125,580. The resulting matrix is loaded to the network. The value assigned to each link is that links "volume - trip length index". A plot of the assigned value was prepared for the entire state. A portion of that plot appears in Figure 22.

The "average trip length" per link was computed by dividing the volume trip length index per link by the total traffic assigned per link. This value was plotted for the entire state. (See Figure 23.)

The average trip length for each link is also shown in a bandwidth plot for the entire state. (See Figure 24.) Bandwidth is a plotting technique used as a visual aid. The width of the band for each link is determined by the value or range of values being plotted as specified. For our plots, the value or range of values for each band will be listed in the title block.

The average trip length is in miles and is in a network file which is sorted from largest to smallest average trip length. If classification were to be made based on average trip length, the higher values would indicate the more important roads in a state trunkline system.

The term "vehicle miles" refers to the amount of travel by one motor vehicle traveling one mile and includes all highways and streets. As it was stated earlier, the guidelines for cumulative vehicle miles and cumulative road mileage in classification studies remain consistent for a typical state. They are as follows:

-32-

a per

MICHIGAN STATEWIDE 547 ZONE AVERAGE TRIP LENGTH PRINTOUT ZONE TO ZONE

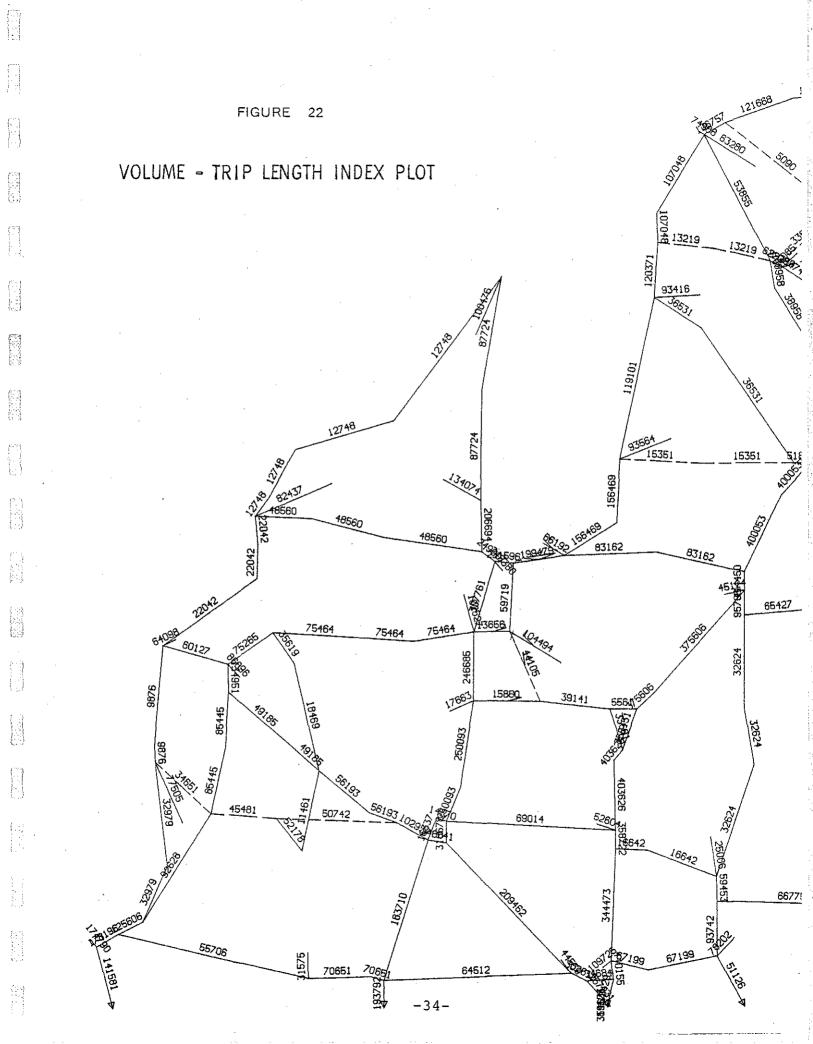
INTERCHANGE VALUES FROM ZONE 1 TO ALL OTHER ZONES . TABLES NUMBER 101

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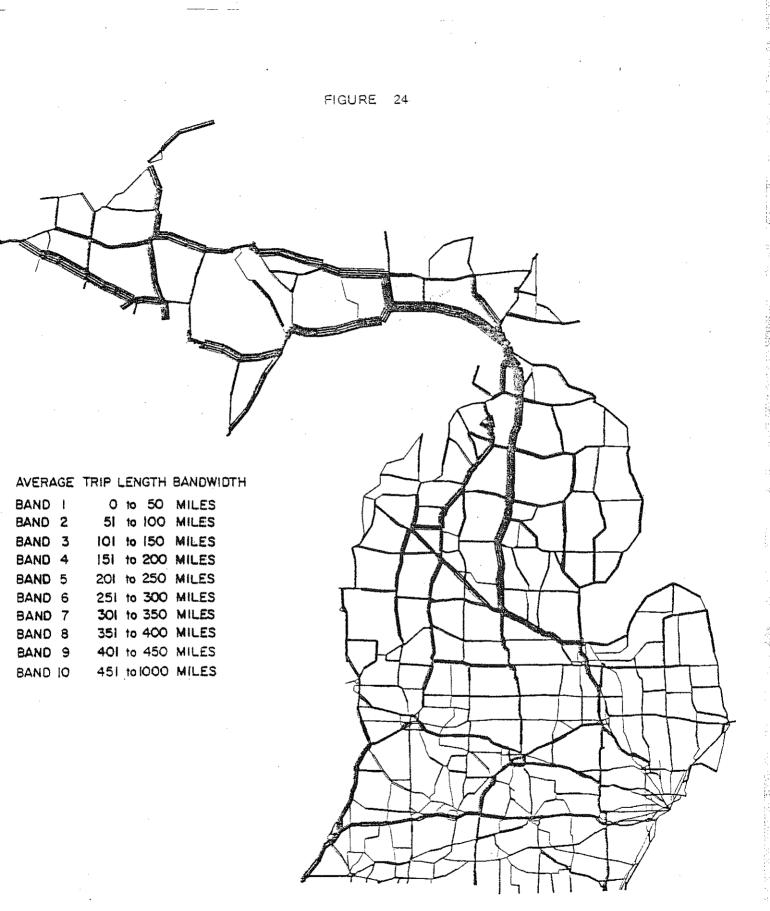
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Arterials	~	Repr	eser	nt i	8%	of	the	tot	al	rural	road	miles
		and	73%	of	th	e '	vehic	le	mil	les		

Collectors - Represent 25% of the total rural road miles and 19% of the vehicle miles

Local Roads - Represent 67% of the total rural road miles and 8% of the vehicle miles The application of these guidelines using the Statewide Transportation Modeling System was made in the following manner.

The vehicle miles per link were added to the network by multiplying the link mileage times the link assignment. The results were totaled by a summary program and that total was also added to each link of the network. Each link's vehicle miles were divided by the total vehicle miles for the entire state starting with the link with the highest average trip length and proceeding to the smallest. The percentage that each link was of the total was cumulated after each division. The network's links remain sorted by average trip length so the links with higher average trip length are cumulated first. (See Figure 25.)

Using the vehicle mile guidelines, the cumulative percentage was separated at eight percent (8%) and thirty-three percent (33%). A number was assigned each percentage group as follows:

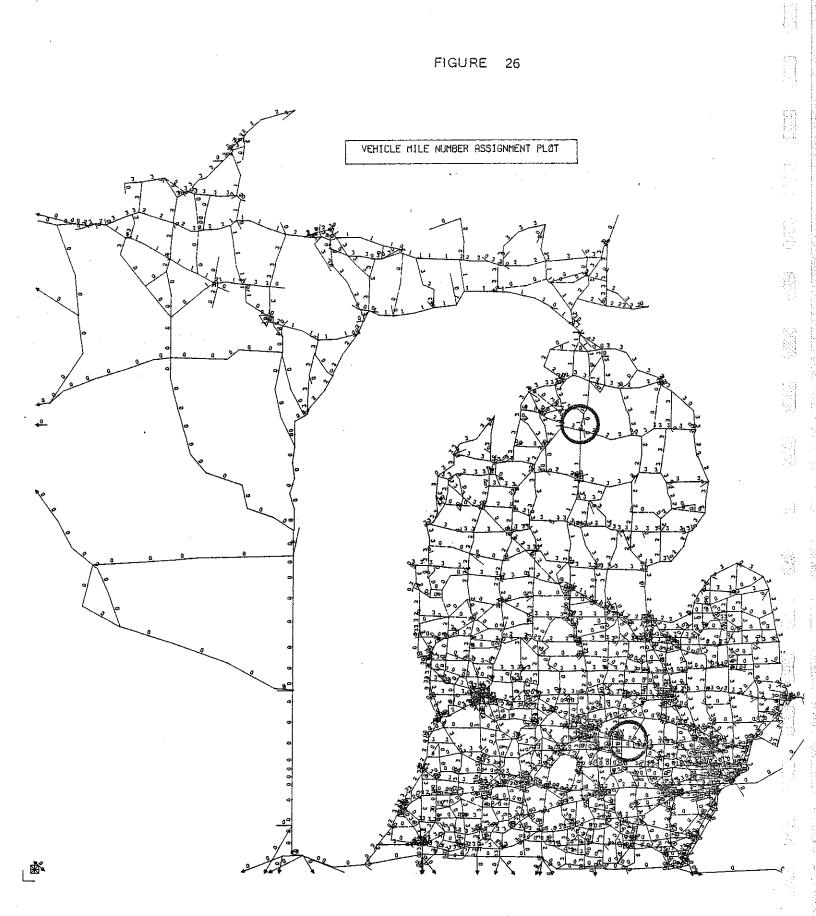
- Number 1 Assigned to all links with a cumulative vehicle mile percentage between 0% and 8%
- Number 2 Assigned to all links with a cumulative vehicle mile percentage greater than 8% but less than 33%
- Number 3 Assigned to all links with a cumulative vehicle mile percentage greater than 33%.

The number assignment for each link was loaded to the network and plotted. (See Figure 26.) Compare the circled areas of two roads,

-37-

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<u><u></u></u>		 . LI I	NK V.M.T.	A.T.L.	TOTAL V.M.	\$ TOTAL	CUM TOTAL	¥				~
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			3886480	.00000489	2382679192	0.16	0.24					
~			2586610	00000489	2382679192	0,11	0.34					-
-			1574400	00000489	2382679192	0.07	0.40		· .			
			3904600	00000473	2382679192	0.16	0.57					L.
			836100	00000473	2382679192	0.04	0.60					
<u>_</u>			1134236	00000465	2382679192	. 0,05	0.65		AVERAGE			.•
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· · ·			2477700	00000405	2382679192	0.10	0.86		Ĝ			-
			1238680	00000463	2382679192	0+05	0.91		뉢			
		· · ·	592620	00000462	2382679192	0.02	0.93		TRIP			
~	· · · ·		243390	00000457	2382679192	0.01	0.94			Ξ		
	۰ .		4750350	00000451	2382679192	0.20	1.14		NG	FIGURE		
	၊ ယ ထ		2228700	00000450	2382679192	0.09	1.24		LENGTH	, ñ		
	α I		2639250	00000450	2382679192	0.11	1.35			25		
			1839600	00000449	2382679192	0.08	1.42		Fri			
			529000	00000441	2382679192	0.02	1.45	·	OS			
			486680	00000441	2382679192	0.02	1.47		ORTED		. •	
		•	1597580	00000441	2382679192	0.07	1.53	•				
		•	5313000	00000440	2382679192	0.22	1.76		HIGH			
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		· •	160020	00000438	2382679192	0+01	2.03		10			ξ.,
Č			1606020	00000428	2382679192	0.07	2.10	•				وبعز
U.		•	1276580	00000428	2382679192	0.05	2.15		LOW			لمب
¢,p		•	152829	00000423	2382679192	0.01	2.10					. 1.
-			2998230	00000422	2382679192	0.13	2.28					. '
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Ð			883920	00000408	2382679192	0.04	2.41		-			ú
•••••		•	1572089	00000406	2382679192	0.07	2.47					-

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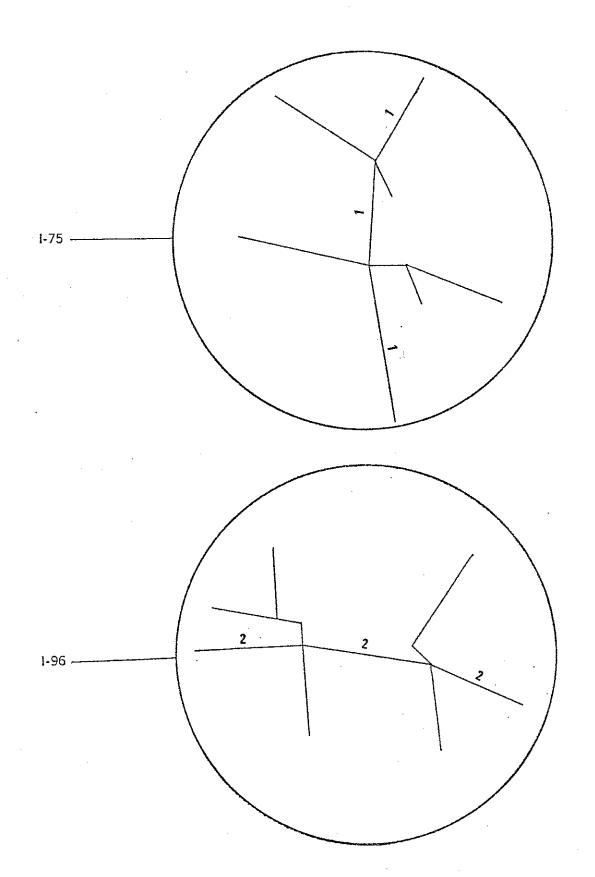
I-96 and I-75 in Figure 27. It is known that both roads are interstate routes, and it is expected that they would be functionally classified the same, but, the plot shows that if a classification were to be made based on travel characteristics alone, the two roads would differ.

All and a second second

The exercise above has shown, however, that data such as the volume - trip length index, average trip length, and vehicle miles of a road, can be measured on a link by link basis using Michigan's Statewide Transportation Modeling System. The next portion of the report is a preliminary attempt at combining the analysis completed in the previous section with the travel characteristic analysis in this section to obtain a total data base for functional classification. FIGURE 27

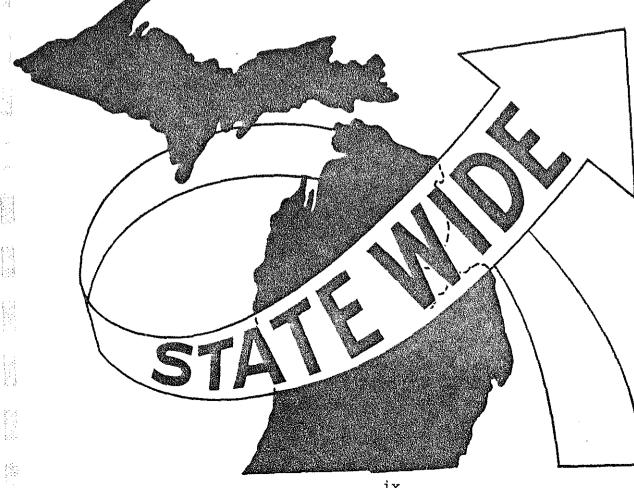
BLOW-UP OF VEHICLE MILE NUMBER ASSIGNMENT FOR 1-75 AND 1-96

К. 1 -



-41-

COMBINING THE ANALYSIS OF POPULATION CENTERS AND HIGHWAY TRAVEL CHARACTERISTICS



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COMBINING THE ANALYSIS OF POPULATION CENTERS AND HIGHWAY TRAVEL CHARACTERISTICS

Functional classification of a road according to its character of service requires looking at more than one variable. This section will deal with the combining of both zonal ranking data and individual route travel characteristics. The combination could be used to assist in functional classification of rural state trunkline networks on a system level.

In the travel characteristic section, a number assignment was given to the cumulative vehicle mile percentage on each link. The number assignment was as follows:

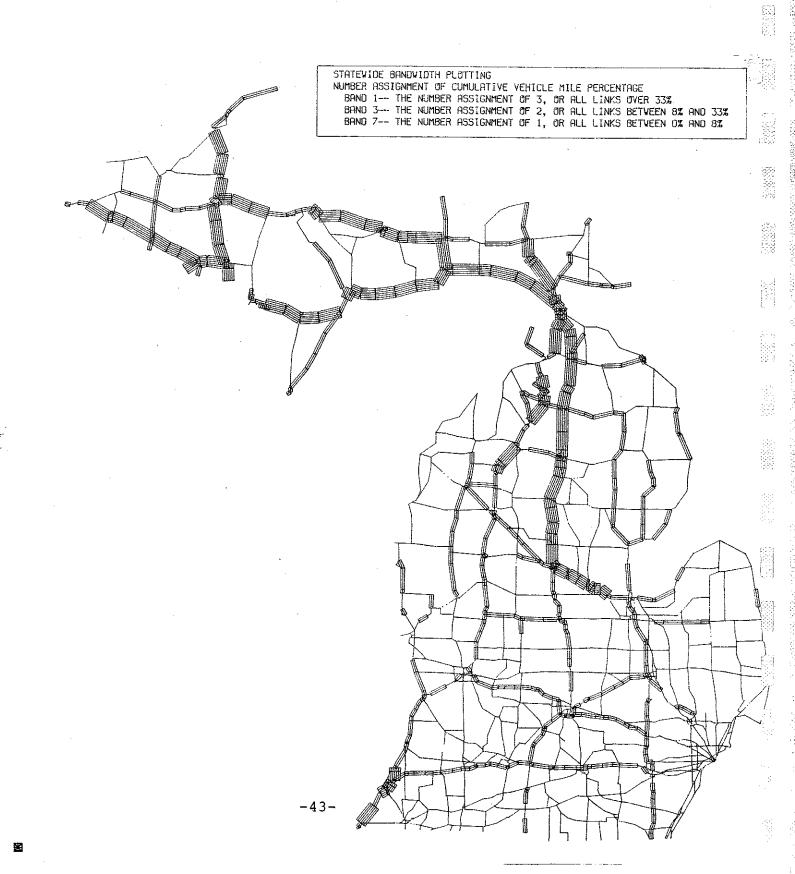
- Number 1 Assigned to all links with a cumulative vehicle mile percentage between 0% and 8%
- Number 2 Assigned to all links with a cumulative vehicle mile percentage greater than 8% but less than 33%

Number 3 - Assigned to all links with a cumulative vehicle mile percentage greater than 33%.

Figure 28 is a Statewide bandwidth plot of this number assignment. If a similar number assignment were given to the link percentage of trips generated by zones of Group A in the zonal importance section, a combination of the two number assignments could be made.

For test purposes, the following number assignment was made for the percentage of trips generated from zones in Group A. (The higher the percentage, the more important a link is to the zones in Group A.) This number assignment was loaded to the network and plotted FIGURE 28

THE NUMBER ASSIGNMENT OF THE CUMULATIVE VEHICLE MILE PERCENTAGE



using bandwidth for the entire state. (See Figure 29.)

Number 1 - Assigned to all links 30% and over Number 2 - Assigned to all links between 20% and 30% Number 3 - Assigned to all links between 0% and 20%.

Each link on the network has a number assigned to it for zonal importance and one for travel characteristics. The two were utilized in combination by averaging. This average was plotted in bandwidth for the state. (See Figure 30.)

Figure 30 shows the results of the preceding two sections on one plot. The user now has the ability to look at as many variables, for assisting him in functional classification of rural trunklines, as are available to the Statewide Transportation Modeling System. Variables such as zonal importance and route characteristics can be monitored separately or in combination. Figure 30 demonstrates that the Statewide Transportation Modeling System can greatly assist in functional classification of areas where the generated trips from population centers follow typical trip generation patterns. The areas which do not follow these patterns have a relatively small population but generate a large number of trips. They are known as special interest areas. So far, they have not been examined for functional classification purposes using a Statewide Model.

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THE NUMBER ASSIGNMENT OF THE PERCENTAGE OF TRIPS GENERATED BY GROUP

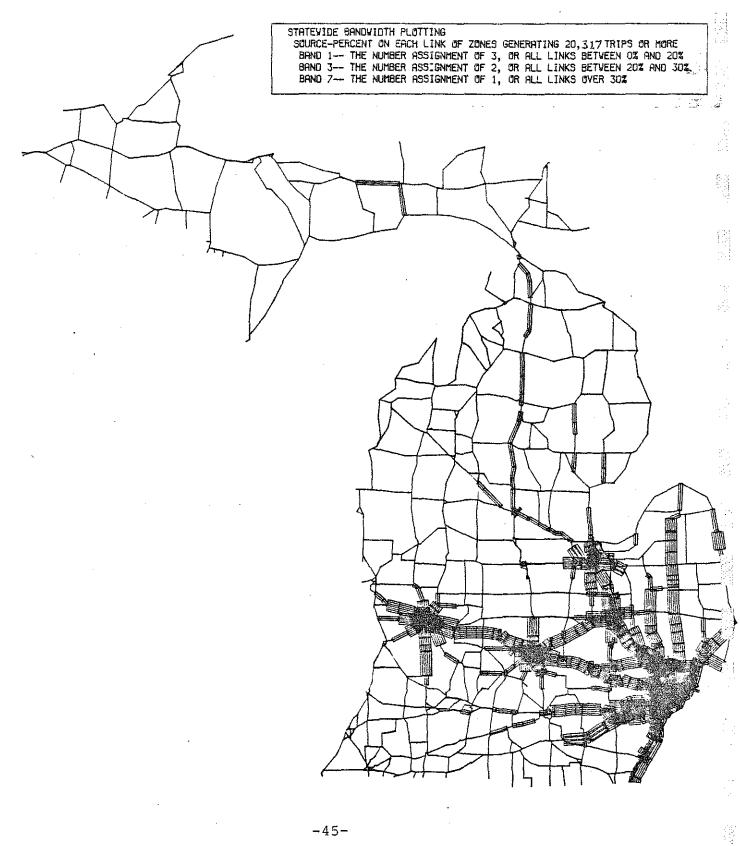
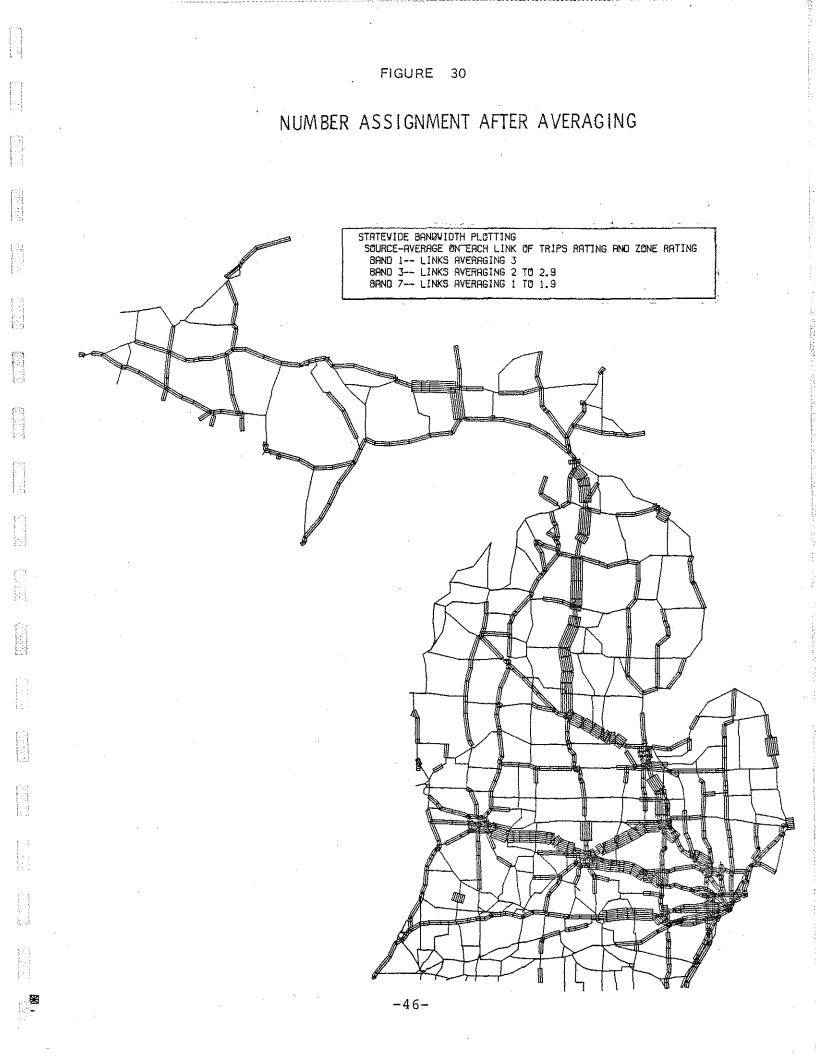


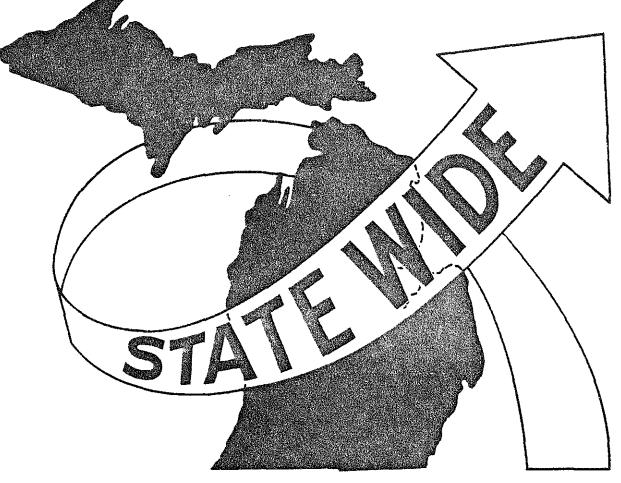
FIGURE 29

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PLACE CLASSIFICATION



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PLACE CLASSIFICATION

Place classification is a means of ranking cities or special interest areas in the state according to its importance as a traffic attractor. In the report, <u>Highway Classification in Michigan</u>, the Michigan Department of State Highways and Transportation considered 147 places as warranting state trunkline service. The places were ranked and separated into classes by differences in socio-economic characteristics. (See Figure 31.) Since this requires a tedious, time consuming process, it was felt that the Statewide Transportation Modeling System would be of value in this area as it relates directly to functional classification. This section is a brief demonstration of some of the model's potential application using its own socio-economic data files. These files are the same ones used in ranking zones by generated trips and also in the travel characteristic analysis.

The two major factors typically used in ranking a place are its population and the relationship to surrounding population. With the Statewide Transportation Modeling System, each can be examined quickly and efficiently because they are the same elements used in the statewide trip generation-distribution analysis.

The statewide 547 zone network system is used in the place classification development process discussed in the next few pages. The 147 places classified by the Michigan Department of State Highways and Transportation in the previously mentioned report were used for this test. The original place classification and population of the initial 147 areas were given to the zone in the transportation modeling system which represented that area.

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FIGURE 31

PLACE CLASSIFICATION FROM THE REPORT HIGHWAY CLASSIFICATION IN MICHIGAN



The place classification assigned each area was sorted from most important place classification to least important. (See Figure 32.) This file is used as a comparison with the order of importance given by the model analysis process.

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The first attempt at place classification by the model was done by ranking the population of each area. Only the statewide model zones containing the study areas were sorted by population size. The zones were sorted from highest population to lowest. (See Figure 33.)

It should be mentioned at this time that only the first page of the output will be shown in these figures. They contain enough information to demonstrate the point we are making and save printing the extra pages.

Compare Figure 32 with Figure 33. Note that the seven highest population areas match the seven highest place classifications. Also, note that when the population is below 50,000, that the match ceases. Why is the city of Bay City with a population of 49,449 less important in place classification than the city of Alpena which has a population of 13,805? The reason is the surrounding population.

Typically, the importance or role an area has in the hierarchy of a state is directly related to the function it plays to the surrounding population. An area like the city of Alpena is a perfect example of this. It is rated high in place classification because of the type of service provided to the surrounding population. Therefore, if the statewide modeling system is going to assist in place classification, it must be capable of analyzing the type, as well as the magnitude, of services provided to the surrounding population.

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FIGURE 32

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Surrounding population can be examined with a process called proximity analysis. Proximity analysis documents the potential of the modeling technqiue in describing the degree to which any socioeconomic characteristic - for example, population - is concentrated around a zone of interest. This is accomplished by using the average driving time between zones based on an actual road network. Any individual wishing further information on proximity analysis may review the publication entitled: Volume 1-D Proximity Analysis: Social Impacts of Alternate Highway Plans on Public Facilities, May 1974. In the Alpena-Bay City situation, this process would evaluate the relationship of each of these cities and their surrounding areas.

In the tests, the populations for all urban zones within sixty (60) minutes of each study area were totaled. (This sixty minute time band was considered the "surrounding population" but could have been set to any other user time specification.) The surrounding population totals were listed by study area and the population of the urban zones within the sixty minute time band of the study area. A ratio was calculated to determine what percent the population of the study was of the urban population within the surrounding population for each study area. This ratio was sorted from high to low. (See Figure 34.)

The higher the ratio, the more important this area is to the surrounding population. In other words, the higher ratio has a smaller total of urban population within the 60 minute time band. The converse is also true.

When comparing Figure 32 with Figure 34, the match is very poor. However, note that the first ten cities listed in Figure 34 are important in place classification.

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Now look at Figure 33 and Figure 34. Figure 33 lacks the areas important to surrounding population in its place classification order. Figure 34 lacks the areas of population importance in its order. A combination of the two is needed to get a variable which will include both.

The variable was attained by multiplying the ratio times the population. The new variable was sorted from high to low and listed. (See Figure 35.)

Compare Figure 32 with Figure 35. Note that this match is much closer than the previous two. Most differences now are due to a socioeconomic characteristic of that area. Measuring these additional socio-economic characteristics is not beyond the statewide model's capabilities as the socio-economic data file contains over 1,000 pieces of information about each of the 508 instate zones.

Proximity analysis also allows the use of any facility available in the facility file on a zonal basis. Examples of facility file data are newspaper circulation, number of hospitals, airports, etc., per zone. (See Figures 36 and 37.) Both the facility file data and the socio-economic data may also be graphically displayed as Figures 36 and 37 indicate. The facility file contains many variables which could be measured and used for place classification by the user.

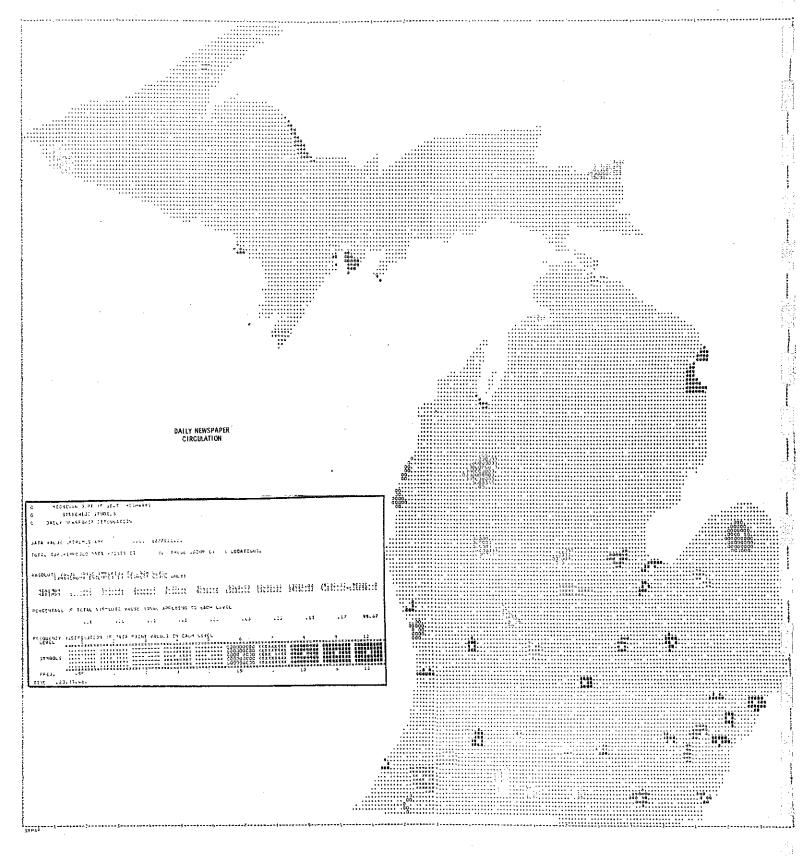
Place classification is important in the functional classification of a road because it indicates the road service needed for that area. The purpose of this section is to show the model's potential as a tool of assistance in making a decision on place classification. Although it is realized that the Statewide Transportation Modeling System is

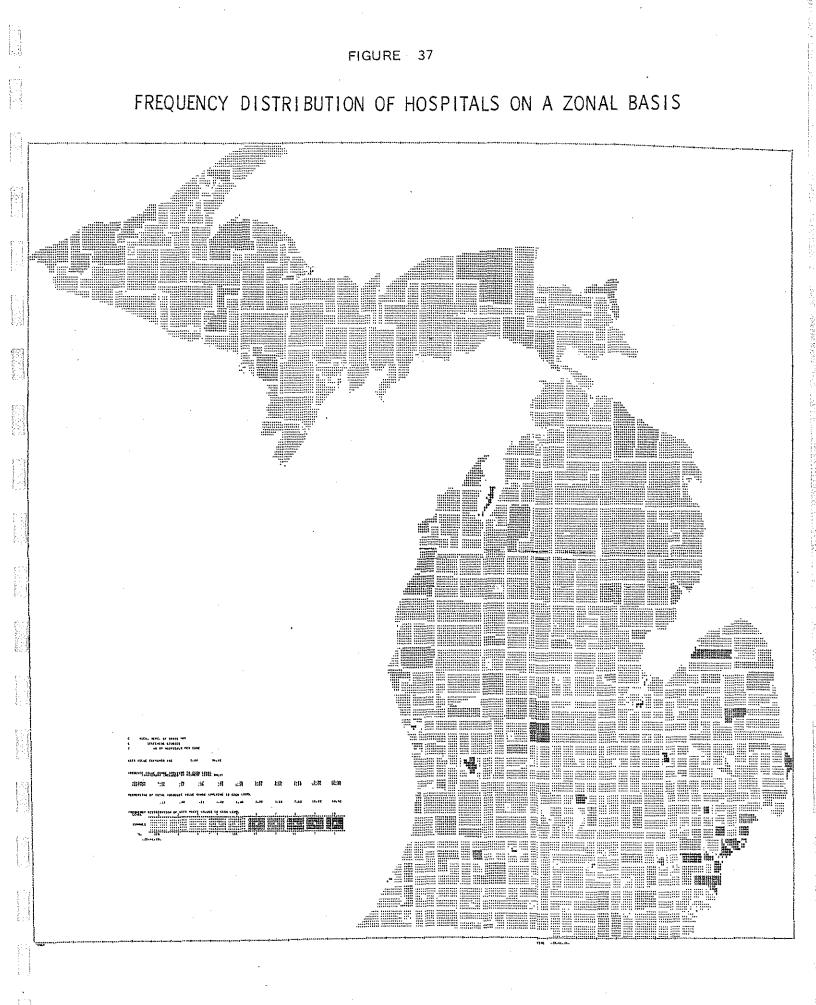
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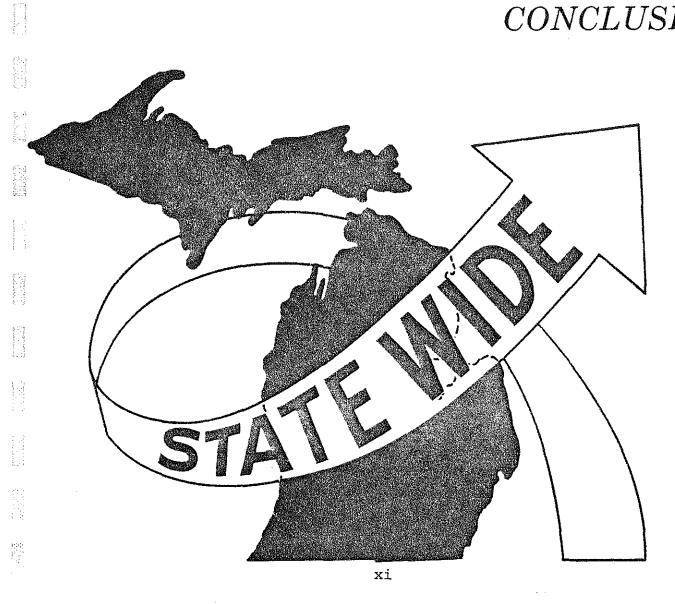
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limited in doing the entire job of place classification, it is felt that it can contribute a large part to it. $\left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N}$

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CONCLUSION

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The process of functional classification using present techniques places extreme pressures upon the staff of every state. Every year, a more detailed project arises with the additions of future roads throughout the state. Now, more than ever before, a highway department must provide system level justification or need for a project. The present process for functional classification remains mostly manual. All of this requires time and time is expensive. This is why a system application of the statewide transportation modeling system can be beneficial to the functional classification process, state highway plan, and regional planning process.

Certain limitations do exist using Michigan's statewide model. The analysis is limited to state trunklines in rural areas. Another limitation is that certain zones are not fine enough, i.e., the zone's total area is too large for the detail needed. But, these limitations are offset by the advantage of having an added tool to assist in the functional classification process.

All information is on a link by link basis for the entire state. It can be displayed in listing or plot form. The biggest advantage to using an automated system to get trip characteristics versus manual methods is the time savings. Additionally, the entire process is "dynamic" in that as new highways are constructed, the functional classification of the total Statewide Transportation Modeling System can automatically be updated. The tests presented in this report were made on the 1965

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highway network. But, if it were necessary to get trip characteristics on the 1975 highway network, all that is required is that the old network be updated and the process rerun with the new network and new population data. A 2300 zone statewide modeling system is in the preliminary stages. When that model becomes operational, the same process described above can be applied to provide more refined data eliminating the present limitations of the 547 zone system. It is felt that Michigan's statewide model has the potential of being most helpful in the process of functional classification in the future.