

Forecasting parcel deliveries in an urban freight simulator for the province of Zuid Holland

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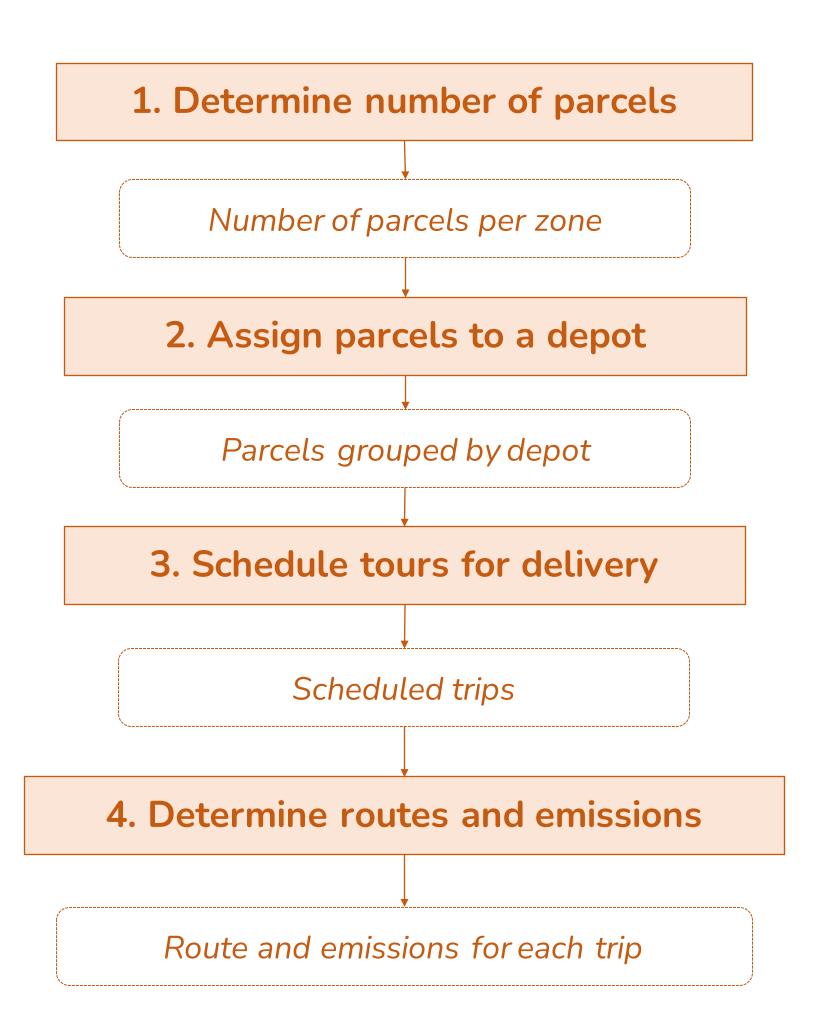
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Summary

- Delivery traffic grows fast, but is not often included in strategic transport models
- 5.5% of all van km in the Netherlands are ecommerce (CBS, 2018)
- Unique nature of the segment (e.g., specific depot locations, strong growth rates) requires targeted approach to forecasts van traffic
- We developed a simulation model for parcel deliveries in the context of transportation demand forecasting.

Methodology

- 1. Determine for each zone the number of B2B and B2C parcels. For B2B a generic factor for number of parcels per job is used. For B2C we estimated an Ordered Logit Model based on the number of inhabitants by age and income.
- 2. Parcels are assigned to different couriers based on observed market shares and then assigned to the nearest depot of the respective courier.
- 3. Tours are scheduled by forming spatial clusters and determining the route sequence with a nearestneighbor and 2-opt approach.
- 4. Each tour is assigned to the road network and emissions are calculated based on vehicle type, road type and loading rate.



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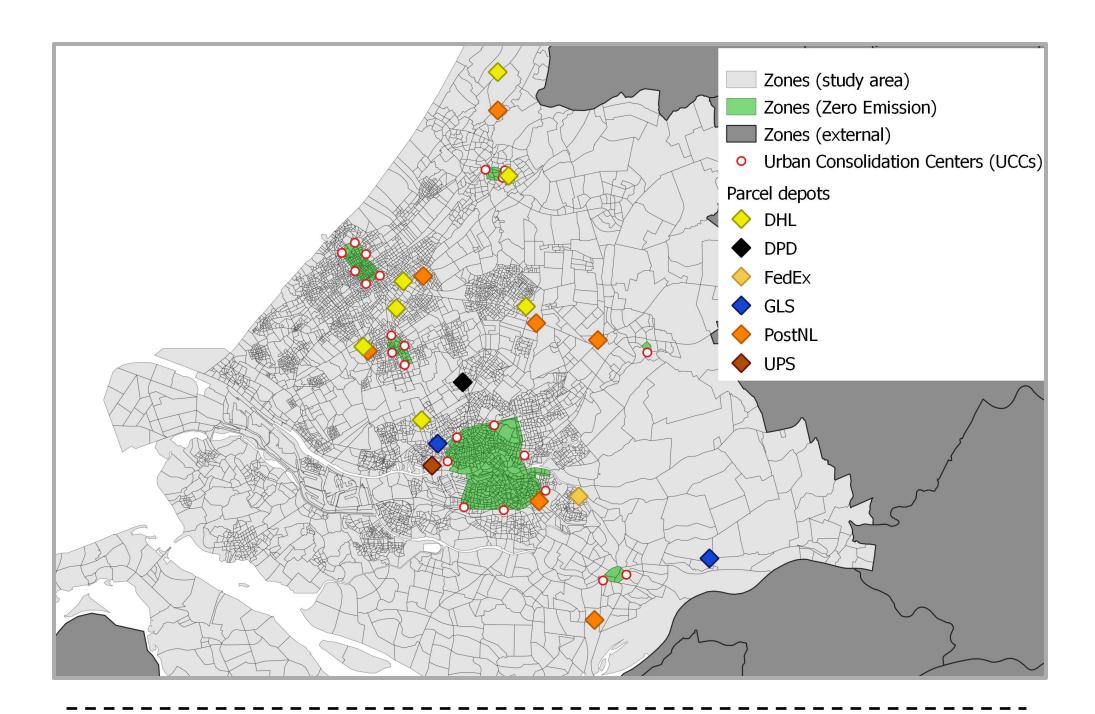
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Simulations

- Forecast 2030 with increased parcel demand (+11%) annually)
- Horizontal collaboration between couriers with shared use of depots
- 3) A zero-emission zone in several cities in combination with Urban Consolidation Centers at city outskirts



Results

	Ref.	(1) Forecast	(2) Hor. coll.	(3) ZEZ
No. of parcels	356,197	+339%	-0.1%	+5.3%
Distance [km]	123,673	+188%	-58.2%	+116.7%
CO ₂ [kg]	22,937	+203%	-55.7%	-0.05%

- 1) In the forecast scenario, we see a smaller increase in driven kilometers than in number of parcels. This is due to economies of scale in the tour scheduling.
- Under constant demand, shared use of depots could reduce the vehicle kilometers of the last-mile deliveries with more than 50%.
- 3) While emissions are reduced by 100% inside the Zero Emission Zones, at regional level the emission reduction is minimal due to rerouting of trucks and vans.

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