

IRG Activity Report

Date of Submission: 23 / Aug /2010

1. IRG code and name of IRG

- 1) IRG code: IRG -_13_ - 2008__
- 2) Name of IRG

Improving a tour travel demand forecasting method for Asian countries

2. List of research members

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3. Purpose and Mission of IRG

The goal of this program is to help researchers understand other countries' tourism activities and develop advanced models developed in economics and transportation to international and domestic tourism. Specifically, the discrete activity-based approach will be employed to enhance model capabilities. As proven in numerous transportation problems, the activity-based approach requires more information and analyzes details on traveler behavior. Based on the tour activity patterns identified through this research program, local governments and

private companies will be able to upgrade existing tour attractions and develop new tour activities and transportation services. Being compared with typical daily activity patterns, tourists' activities cover only limited number of destinations and affected by tour information. In addition, their travel objectives are simpler than commuters and substantial homogeneity is observable from tourists' activity pattern.

Another aspect in tourism is information systems for tourists' activities. Tourist information systems are expected to change tourists' activity patterns by giving opportunity for tourists to gain more satisfaction with less amount of time. When their saved time is used to buy additional utilities, the tour market system will help both tourists and the tour business. Advanced tour models will also be able to analyze such tourist activity changes through activity-based models. Therefore, applying the activity-based approach to enhance model capabilities by incorporating tour activity scheduling problem into new models. Researchers in this program will examine case studies in their own country and examine the model transferability among Asian counties. This program will publish research reports in a book in addition to papers in EASTS meeting.

4. Achievements of IRG in 2009-2010

- 1) Paper, report and book: (Title, Authors, Year, Name of journal etc.)
(You don't need to attach the files.)
- 2) Seminar, symposium and special session: (Title, Date, Venue & abstract)
- 3) Group meeting: (Date, Venue & abstract)
Date : 29-30 July, 2010
Venue : Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand
Abstract : Discussion of future IRG activities
- 4) Result of application for the research grants: (Name & result)
- 5) Promotional activities of your IRG: (Home page, Newsletter, Mailing list etc.)

Will you continue your IRG's activity after August 2010?

YES

5. Future research plan and including time frame with the following items:

- Possibility to hold seminar and symposium (Date & Venue)
Submit some papers to 2011 Easts conference
& hold special session in 2011 Easts conference
- Special considerations to young researchers