

Integrating Replica Data into MPO Workflows

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Today's Session: What to Expect

- Replica Background & Overview
- Sample Illustrative Use Cases
- Leveraging Replica Data & New York's Regional Models
- Additional Opportunities to Integrate Replica Data into MPO Workflows
- Q&A



Replica Background & Overview

Our Mission

Organize the world's information about the built environment to make it accessible, valuable, and actionable.



What Makes Replica Different?



Depth and Breadth

- Depth: Mobility & demographic data
 - Trips: O/D pairs, start time, mode split, purpose, distance, duration, transit routes, and more
 - Trip takers: household income, race and ethnicity, age, employment status, private auto availability, working from home, and more

Breadth of data

- Land use, including parcel-level
- Economic activity
- Additional datasets:
 - Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT)
 - Turning Movement Counts (TMC)
 - Parking

Places



High-fidelity activity-based travel models, representing specific regions during specific seasons, with **data outputs down to the network link level**.

Trends

Nationwide activity-based model, with **near-real time data** at the census-tract level covering mobility, consumer spend, and land use.

Scenario

Forecast future conditions

based on potential changes to population/employment (available now), land use, and transportation infrastructure.







How it Works

Raw Data Layer

We leverage a diverse set of third-party source data to create our models.

This composite approach is both a risk-mitigation strategy and aligned with our objective to show a holistic view of the built environment.











Mobile Location Data Consumer & Resident Data Built Environment Economic Activity Ground Truth Data

How it Works

The Pipeline



Create a **synthetic population** matching the characteristics of a given region



Replica generates its data by running computationally intensive, large-scale simulations.

These simulations allow us to deliver granular data outputs that match behavior in aggregate, but don't compromise the privacy (or surface the actual movements) of any one individual.



Train a number of **behavior models** specific to that region



Run the s

Run **simulations** of those models applied to the synthetic population to create a "replica" of transportation and economic patterns



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Calibrate the outputs of the model against observed "ground-truth" to improve quality



Sample Illustrative Use Cases

Use Case: Internal & External Trip Flows

Case Study: Onondaga County, NY

Challenge: Quickly/easily obtaining trip origin and destination data, accompanied by trip taker characteristics.

Solution: Leverage the trip origin filter, trip destination filter, and trip passing through filter in Replica Places.

- On a typical weekday in Fall 2021, how many trips fit the following parameters for Onondaga County:
 - Internal/Internal (II)
 - Internal/External (IE)
 - External/Internal (EI)
 - External/External (EE)

Insight:

- Understand travel patterns to/from/through Onondaga County to inform a wide range of analyses (e.g., VMT and emissions estimates).
- Apply additional filters to query the data by trip mode, purpose, distance, duration, etc.



Use Case: Opportunities for Mode Shift to Active Transportation

Case Study: Nassau County, NY

Challenge: Identifying short-distance auto trips.

Solution: Leverage the primary mode filter and trip distance filter in Replica Places.

- Where are there concentrations of trip origins/destinations for auto trips of less than 1/2 mile in distance?
- What roadways are used for these trips?

Insight:

- Inform planning and capital projects to encourage walking and biking trips.
- Identify potential opportunities to mitigate traffic congestion through mode shift.



Additional Illustrative Use Cases (Inspired by MPO UPWPs)



Use Case: Corridor Study Case Study: Town of Brunswick Hoosick Road Corridor Study (CDTC)



Use Case: Freight Plan Case Study: Genesee-Finger Lakes (GTC)



Use Case: Transit Planning Case Study: Countywide Transit Feasibility Study (OCTC)



Use Case: Equity & EV Charging Stations Case Study: NEVI Formula Program



Use Case: Active Transportation Case Study: Bike/Ped Linkages (WJCTC)



Use Case: Safe Streets for All Case Study: Ulster County Location-Specific Road Safety Analyses (UCTC)

Leveraging Replica Data & New York's Regional Models



- There are 14 MPOs in New York, encompassing geographies that range from one to 10 counties.
- Most MPOs have their own travel demand models, which vary in geographic coverage and capabilities (i.e., activity-based model vs. traditional four-step model).
- Replica's North Atlantic Megaregion includes an activity-based model covering NY, NJ, CT, PA, DE.
- Opportunities to use Replica data:
 - Inform the calibration and validation of the base year for updates to regional models
 - Expand the geographic coverage of regional models



NYS MPOs



Replica North Atlantic Megaregion

Augmenting Regional Activity-Based Model Coverage with Replica Data

Example: NYMTC

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- The NYMTC region comprises 10 counties, including New York City, Long Island, and the Lower Hudson Valley.
- NYMTC's model the New York Best Practice Model (NYBPM) – is an activity-based model that covers 31 counties in NY, NJ, and CT.
- Replica can supplement the NYBPM by providing existing conditions data about trips and trip takers beyond the NYBPM counties.



NYMTC Example Continued: Activity-Based Model Coverage O/D Pairs

| | NYMTC Region | Dutchess, Orange, Sullivan & Ulster Counties, NY | Rest of NY | Fairfield, New Haven & Litchfield Counties, CT | Rest of CT | 14 Counties in NJ | Rest of NJ | PA & DE |
|---|-----------------|--|-------------------------|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| NYMTC Region | NYBPM | NYBPM | | NYBPM | | NYBPM | | |
| Dutchess, Orange, Sullivan & Ulster Counties, NY | NYBPM | NYBPM | Outside NYMTC Region | NYBPM | Outside NYMTC Region | NYBPM | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region |
| Rest of NY | | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region |
| Fairfield, New Haven & Litchfield Counties, CT | NYBPM | NYBPM | Outside NYMTC Region | NYBPM | Outside NYMTC Region | NYBPM | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region |
| Rest of CT | | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region |
| 14 Counties in NJ | NYBPM | NYBPM | Outside NYMTC Region | NYBPM | Outside NYMTC Region | NYBPM | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region |
| Rest of NJ | | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region |
| PA & DE | | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region | Outside NYMTC Region |

Replica can augment the NYBPM by expanding model coverage for existing conditions

Expanding Model Coverage with Replica Data

Visualizing O/D Flows

- Replica provides disaggregated data from our activity-based model that spans the entire North Atlantic Megaregion.
- Data downloads in multiple file formats enable quick and easy out-of-app analysis in third-party platforms.
- Replica data can inform a comprehensive and granular understanding of statewide and interstate O/Ds to guide short- and long-range planning.



Additional Opportunities to Integrate Replica Data into MPO Workflows

Advancing Projects in the UPWP

- Support core program activities related to short- and long-range transportation planning:
 - Transportation
 Improvement Program
 (TIP)
 - Regional Transportation Plan (**RTP**)
 - Congestion Management Process (CMP)
 - Transportation
 Performance Management
 (TPM)
 - Data collection
 - Model development / enhancement
 - Public participation
- Support discretionary program activities
 - MPO staff projects
 - Member agencies' projects



Work Program

February 26, 2023

Advancing the Federal Planning Emphasis Areas (PEAs)

- Updated PEAs jointly issued by FTA and FHWA Offices of Planning in December 2021
- Relevant to UPWPs and Statewide Planning and Research Program
- Complements the National Performance Goals:
 - Safety
 - Infrastructure Condition
 - Congestion Reduction
 - System Reliability
 - Freight Movement and Economic Vitality
 - Environmental
 Sustainability
 - Reduced Project
 Delivery Delays

- Tackling the **Climate** Crisis Transition to a Clean Energy, Resilient Future
- Equity and Justice40 in Transportation Planning
- Complete Streets
- Public Involvement
- Strategic Highway Network (STRAHNET) / U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) Coordination
- Federal Land Management Agency (FLMA) Coordination
- Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL)
- Data in Transportation Planning



Advancing Priorities of NYSAMPO Working Groups

- Bicycle & Pedestrian Working Group
- Climate Change Working
 Group
- Freight Working Group
- **GIS** Working Group
- Modeling Working Group
- Safety Working Group
- Transit Working Group
- Transportation Systems
 Management and
 Operations Working
 Group



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS

2022-2023 Working Groups Work Program







Appendix – Additional Illustrative Use Cases

Use Case: Corridor Study

Case Study: Town of Brunswick Hoosick Road Corridor Study (CDTC)



Challenge: Understanding travel patterns and trip taker characteristics along a priority corridor.

Solution: Use Replica's mobility data to derive insights about travel activity:

- What are the origins/destinations of the trips that pass through the corridor?
- What is the distance and duration of those trips?
- What is the mode split along the corridor, and how does this differ by trip purpose?
- What is the socioeconomic and demographic makeup of the trip takers?

Further analysis:

- What is the predominant land use in the area around the corridor?
- What are the characteristics of freight activity along the corridor?
- How has travel activity changed since before the pandemic?



Potential application to other sample MPO projects:

- NYS Route 17M and US Route 6 Corridor Study (OCTC)
- Village of Elmira Heights: 14th Street Circulation and Traffic Study (ECTC)
- US Route 11 Corridor Plan Mattydale (SMTC)
- Route 44/55 Corridor Management Plan (UCTC)
- Route 5 Corridor South Land Use & Mobility (GBNRTC)

Use Case: Freight Plan

Case Study: Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Freight Plan Update (GTC)



Challenge: Accessing near-real-time data to track freight demand.

Solution: Utilize Replica Trends data to monitor weekly changes in online retail spending:

- How has the pandemic affected online retail spending countywide and by census tract?
- To what extent does the change in online retail spending reflect a change in shopping trips?
- What is the geographic distribution of online retail spending within the county, and to what extent does it reflect existing land use?

Further analysis:

- Where are commercial vehicle origins/destinations in the county and to/from the Finger Lakes?
- What roadways are most traveled by commercial vehicles?
- What is the time-of-day distribution for commercial vehicle trips in the county?

Tracts In Genesee County, NY Online: Retail Spend by home location in this geography, weekly total Week of Aug 29, 2022



Potential application to other sample MPO projects:

- Transportation element of LRTP
- Miscellaneous freight plans/studies

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Use Case: Transit Planning (1 of 2)

Case Study: Countywide Transit Feasibility Study (OCTC)

Challenge: Assessing the feasibility of expanding transit services to meet the mobility needs of residents.

Solution: Leverage Replica mobility and demographic data to create a shared understanding of existing conditions:

- What was the baseline transit demand among Orange County residents pre-pandemic, and how has that changed?
- Where do transit trip takers live, what are the destinations of the transit trips, and what is the breakdown of different trip purposes?
- What are the socioeconomic and demographic characteristics of the trip takers?

Further analysis:

- How do transit travel patterns differ between residents and workers?
- Are there concentrations of trip origins/destinations that are not served by the existing fixed-route transit network?
- To what extent do travel characteristics differ between transit trip takers and auto trip takers? (see next slide)





Potential application to other MPO projects:

- Exploring Tomorrow's Transit (SMTC)
- Analysis of Bus Routes and Origin/Destination Study (ECTC)
- TCAT Transit Development Plan (ITCTC)

Use Case: Transit Planning (2 of 2)

Case Study: Profile of the MTA Region

Challenge: Uncovering nuanced characteristics of trips and trip takers throughout a transit agency's service area.

Solution: Use Replica Places and Trends to analyze disaggregated and regionwide data:

- To what extent do travel characteristics differ between transit trip takers and auto trip takers?
- Are certain population groups in the region more likely than others to work from home?

Further analysis:

- How can travel patterns among disadvantaged communities / vulnerable populations (e.g., low-income minorities) inform project prioritization?
- How can telecommuting patterns by industry of employment inform regional planning?



Potential application to other MPO projects:

- Transportation element of LRTP
- Miscellaneous transit plans/studies

Use Case: Equitable Deployment of EV Charging Stations

Case Study: NEVI Formula Program & MPO Initiatives (multiple MPOs)



Challenge: Demonstrating how the benefits of EV charging station locations could accrue to USDOT-defined Disadvantaged Communities (DACs), consistent with the Justice40 Initiative.

Solution: Leverage a custom geography to understand travel behavior of DAC residents.

- What is the statewide distribution of trip origins and destinations among the DACs?
- How can Replica data supplement publicly available data on EV charging stations and Alternative Fuel Corridors?
 - Where are concentrations of DAC residents' auto trip destinations for specific trip purposes (that would be conducive to DC Fast Charging)?

Further analysis:

 How could we demonstrate the benefits of EV charging station locations to NYS-defined DACs (i.e., distinct from USDOT-defined DACs)?





Click here to view the Places Study [note: map on right prepared using Unfolded; DCFC and AFC data downloaded 09/22]

Potential application to MPO projects:

- Rural Warren County EV Charging Station Siting Assessment (A/GFTC)
- EV Charging Stations (ECTC)
- Ulster County EV Infrastructure Planning Project (UCTC)
- Misc. MPO initiatives to promote increased availability of EV charging stations

Use Case: Active Transportation

Case Study: Bicycle/Pedestrian Linkages Study (WJCTC)

Challenge: Identifying concentrations of school trips made by bike/ped to inform project planning and prioritization.

Solution: Apply filters for trip purpose and mode in Places to explore travel patterns.

- Where are common origins/destinations for school trips in Jefferson County?
- What is the mode split for trips to school? [note: Replica does not model school bus trips.]
- How far do bike/ped trip takers travel to get to school, and how does that compare to school trips by auto?
- Are there any concentrations of short-distance auto trips (that could serve as candidates for mode shift)?

Further analysis:

- What network links are most common for bike/ped trips to school?
- What is the socioeconomic and demographic makeup of bike/ped trip takers compared to all trip takers for school trips?





Potential application to other MPO projects:

- Alternative Transportation Promotion and Development (A/GFTC)
- Local Pedestrian Planning Initiative Town of Dover (DCTC)
- Complete Streets Study for Chestnut Street, City of Rome (HOCTC)
- NYC Pedestrian Planning Studies (NYMTC)

S|**S** Use Case: Safe Streets for All

4 A Case Study: Ulster County Location-Specific Road Safety Analyses (UCTC)

Challenge: Identifying locations for safety improvements that benefit disadvantaged/vulnerable populations.

Solution: Leverage Replica's disaggregated data to understand travel patterns of specific populations – do the following groups use the corridors/intersections prioritized for improvements?

- Low-income populations
- Minority populations
- Individuals without access to a private automobile
- Seniors

Further analysis:

 To what extent do residents of USDOT-defined Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) use the prioritized corridors/intersections?





Potential application to other sample MPO projects:

- Road Safety Assessments (BMTS)
- Corridor and Intersection Management Programs (DCTC)
- Traffic Calming and Control Initiative (ITCTC)
- Orange County Roadway Safety Action Plan (OCTC)
- Manlius Village Pedestrian Safety & Mobility Study (SMTC)