William W. Hay Railroad Engineering Seminar

Topic #1 "Introducing Hybrid Optimization of Train Schedule (HOTS) Model as Timetable Management Technique"

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Michigan Technological University



Topic #2 "Hazards Associated with Shared-Use Rail Corridor Operations"

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Hazards Associated with Shared-Use Rail Corridor Operations



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William W. Hay Railroad Engineering Seminar 3rd April 2015





Outline

- Shared-use rail corridor safety challenges
- Risk management for shared-use rail corridor hazards
- Conclusion and future work







Increasing Passenger Train Service Demand



Two key decisions in HSR development

- Approach to HSR
 - Incremental upgrade of existing line
 - New dedicated line
- Track and right-of-way usage
 - Shared Track
 - Shared Right of Way
 - Shared Corridor
- Each has different implications regarding speed, performance, cost, operational, institutional and regulatory considerations





Shared-Use Rail Corridor

- Shared track: passenger and freight trains (or other rail service) use the same track.
- Shared right-of-way (ROW): passenger trains operate on dedicated tracks separated from freight or other service tracks up to 7.62 meters (25 feet).
- Shared corridor: passenger trains operate on dedicated tracks separated from freight or other service tracks by 7.62 – 60.96 m (25 – 200 feet).

Shared track & shared ROW



Adjacent track centers $\leq 25'$

Shared corridor



Adjacent track centers > 25' and \leq 200'

Shared-Use Rail Corridor Risk Management

- Risk Management Planning
- Risk Identification
- Risk Assessment
 - Qualitative Risk Assessment
 - Quantitative Risk Assessment
- Development and Evaluation of Risk Mitigation Strategies
- Risk Monitoring





Guidance Document for Risk Management of Shared-Use Rail Corridors

- The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) set out to develop a Guidance Document which provides guidance and procedures for the risk assessment of potential hazards on shared-use rail corridors
- The document is divided in two parts:
 - General hazard assessment procedure
 - Detail risk assessment for identified hazards





Guidance Document for Risk Management of Shared-Use Rail Corridors

Development of the document and its final contents consider the following issues:

- Minimum track and Right-of-Way (ROW) spacing
- Use of intrusion detection or protection devices
- Use of physical barriers or crash walls
- Other relevant considerations such as protection from activities along ROW access roads, etc.

Hazards are identified and specified in the guidance document and their relevance to those issues are discussed for further risk assessments





List of Hazards Associated with Shared-Use Rail Corridors

- Derailment on adjacent tracks
- Shifted load on an adjacent track
- Aerodynamic interaction between trains on adjacent tracks
- Ground borne vibration and its effect on HSR track geometry
- Intrusion of maintenance of way staff and equipment working on the adjacent track
- Obstruction hazard resulting from an adjacent track (non-derailment and grade-crossing collisions)
- Drainage problem affecting either the HSR track or the adjacent track
- Evacuation of passengers from trains on the adjacent track
- Hazardous Materials on the adjacent track
- Fire on the adjacent track
- Electromagnetic interference between trains and wayside equipment on adjacent tracks

Shared-Use Rail Corridor Hazard Framework





Fault-Tree Analysis

- A deductive process to break down a top event and all possible ways for this event to occur are systematically deduced
- A graphical representation of the various contributions of failures that lead to the occurrence of the dangerous event
- The probability of the top event can be calculated by calculating the probabilities of basic events







Fault-Tree Analysis Configuration

- Event symbols
 - Basic Event
 - Conditioning Event
 - Undeveloped Event
- Gate (Logic) Symbols
 - AND
 - OR
 - EXCLUSIVE OR
 - PRIORITY AND
 - INHIBIT (

- Intermediate Event



- External Event

Transfer Symbols









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An Example of Fault-Tree Analysis: Derailment on Adjacent Tracks





General Locations Where Each Hazard Is Eminent

	Hazard			Locations			
	1	Derailment on adjacent tracks	Along	a shared-use rail corridor with multiple tracks			
	2	Shifted load on adjacent tracks	Along	Along a shared-use rail corridor with freight train services			
	3	Aerodynamic interaction between trains	Along	Nong a shared-use rail corridor with multiple tracks, tunnels and stations where			
		on adjacent tracks	trains	operate at high speed			
	4	Ground borne vibration and its effect on	Along a shared-use rail corridor where trains operating at high speed especia				
		HSR track geometry	at locations with subgrade and track infrastructure conditions susceptible to				
Hazard				Locations			
Derailment on adjacent tracks				Along a shared-use rail corridor with multiple tracks			
Shifted load on adjacent tracks				Along a shared-use rail corridor with freight train service			
		adjacent tracks (non-derailment collisions)	yards	s, grade crossings)			
	7	Drainage problem affecting either the HSR track or adjacent tracks	Along veget	g a shared-use rail corridor especially at high-precipitation/snow areas, tation and with insufficient drainage systems			
	8	Evacuation of passengers from trains on adjacent tracks	Along a shared-use rail corridor with multiple tracks				
	9	Hazardous material transportation on adjacent tracks	Along mate	long a shared-use rail corridor with freight trains transporting hazardous naterials			
	10	Fire on adjacent tracks	Along and/c statio	g a shared-use rail corridor with freight trains transporting flammable liquids or gases, and other locations near fuel-based activities (e.g. power ons, gas stations)			
	11	Electromagnetic interference between trains and wayside equipment on adjacent tracks	Along wires	g a shared-use rail corridor where the high-voltage overhead catenary present			

Key Influencing Factors of Hazards

	Hazard	Key Influencing Factors			
1	Derailment on adjacent tracks	Track center spacing, train speed, human factor, track geometry, type of rail infrastructure, train control systems			
2	Shifted load on adjacent tracks	Track center spacing, train speed, human factor, track geometry, train control systems			
3	Aerodynamic interaction between trains on adjacent tracks	Track center spacing, train speed, train equipment design, wind condition			
Λ	Cround horno vibration and its affast on USD track	Track contar aposing train aposed track coometry type of rail			
Dera	ilment on adjacent tracks	Track center spacing, train speed, human factor, track geometry, type of rail infrastructure, train control systems			
Shifte	ed load on adjacent tracks	Track center spacing, train speed, human factor, track geometry, train control systems			
	tracks (non-derailment collisions)	train control systems			
7	Drainage problem affecting either the HSR track or adjacent tracks	Track center spacing, soil foundation/subgrade characteristics, track geometry, type of rail infrastructure			
8	Evacuation of passengers from trains on adjacent tracks	Track center spacing, train equipment design, human factor			
9	Hazardous material transportation on adjacent tracks	Track center spacing, train equipment design, hazardous materials traffic volume			
10	Fire on adjacent tracks	Track center spacing, train equipment design, human factor, flammable product traffic volume			
11	Electromagnetic interference between trains and wayside equipment on adjacent tracks	Train equipment design, type of rail infrastructure, train control systems			



Proposed Risk Mitigation of Hazards

		Hazard	Potential Risk Mitigation Strategies			
	1	Derailment on adjacent tracks	Proper track center spacing, installation of intrusion detection systems, building physical barriers, improved employee training			
	2	Shifted load on adjacent tracks	Proper track center spacing, installation of intrusion detection systems, building physical barriers, improved employee training on cargo securement			
	3	Aerodynamic interaction between trains on adiacent tracks	Proper track center spacing, installation of intrusion detection systems. building physical barriers, reduced train speed			
Derailment on adjacent tracks			Proper track center spacing, installation of intrusion detection			
			systems, building physical barriers, improved employee training			
Shifted load on adjacent tracks			Proper track center spacing, installation of intrusion detection			
			systems, building physical barriers, improved employee training			
			cargo securement			
		tracks (non-derailment collisions)	systems, building physical barriers, improved employee training, grade crossing protection			
	7	Drainage problem affecting either the HSR track or adjacent tracks	or Proper track center spacing, soil improvement, improved drainage			
	8	Evacuation of passengers from trains on adjacent tracks	nt Proper track center spacing, installation of intrusion detection systems, building physical barriers, improved employee training on safe passenger evacuation, enhanced rail equipment design			
	9 Hazardous material transportation on adjacent tracks		Proper track center spacing, building physical barriers, temporal separation, enhanced rail car design to prevent hazardous material release			
	10	Fire on adjacent tracks	Proper track center spacing, building physical barriers, temporal separation, enhanced rail equipment design			
	11	Electromagnetic interference between trains and wayside equipment on adjacent tracks	Improved employee training, better rail equipment design to prevent or reduce electromagnetic field effect			

Shared-Use Rail Corridor Risk Management Guidance Document Outline

- Risk Management Planning
- Risk Identification
- Risk Assessment
 - Qualitative Risk Assessment
 - Quantitative Risk Assessment
- Development and Evaluation of Risk Mitigation Strategies
- Risk Monitoring





Quantitative Risk Assessment

- Probability and Consequence Assessment
- Historical Data Analysis
- Precursor Analysis
- Fault-Tree Analysis on Probability
- Risk Model Development
- Integrated Risk Framework





Adjacent Track Accidents (ATA)

- ATAs refer to train accident scenarios where a derailed railroad equipment intrudes adjacent tracks, causing operation disturbance and potential subsequent train collisions on the adjacent tracks.
- Other ATA scenarios include collisions between trains on adjacent tracks (raking between trains), turnouts, and railroad crossings.
- A typical adjacent track accident scenario:



Clearance Envelope Equipment Loading Gauge



Adjacent Track Accident

- Higher speed of proposed passenger rail services increases risk posed by derailed trains on adjacent tracks
- Warning of a derailed train fouling tracks may not always arrive soon enough.
- Use of barriers can create access problems for maintenance
- This research tends to answer the following questions:
 - What factors could affect the probability and/or consequence of adjacent track accidents
 - How to evaluate and mitigate adjacent track accident risk







Conceptual Framework for Adjacent Track Accident Risk



Proposed Semi – Quantitative ATA Risk Model

$R = P(A) \times P(I|A) \times P(T|I) \times C$

where

- **R**: Risk of Adjacent Track Accident (ATA)
- P(A): Probability of a derailment or collision occurring on multiple track territory
- P(I|A): Conditional probability of intrusion (CPI) given a derailment or collision on multiple track territory
- P(T|I): Conditional probability of the presence of a train on adjacent track given an intrusion
- C: The level of consequence



Holistic ATA Risk Analysis Framework

ATA Risk

					INSP		
२	=	P(A)	Х	P(I A)	Х	P(T I)	X C
		Derailment Collision		Intrusion		Train Presence	Consequence
		-Infrastructure Quality -Method of Operation -Traffic Density -Train Defect Detector -Elevation Dif -Containment -Adjacent Stru		-Track Center space -Train Speed -Track Alignment -Geographic Cond -Elevation Differen -Containment -Adjacent Structure	pacing -Tra -Me nt -Tra ondition -Int rential	-Traffic Density -Method of Operation -Train Speed -Intrusion Detection	-Train Speed -Equipment Damage Resistance -Containment -Hazmat
				-Derailment Mecha	anism		

Train Accident Analysis

Precursor Analysis

Potential Application of the Risk Model

 $R = P(A) \times P(I|A) \times P(T|I) \times C$

- Calculate and compare ATA risk of different segment on the sharedrail corridor network.
- Identify the "risk hotspot" of the network
- Evaluate the implementation of risk mitigation strategies.



Case Study

$R = P(A) \times P(I|A) \times P(T|I) \times C$





Case Study



:

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Conclusion and Future Work

- Shared-use rail corridor is one of the feasible solutions for implementing and increasing high or higher-speed passenger rail services in the Unites States
- Holistic risk assessment is able to identify the potential hazards for the shared-use rail corridors operations, including their eminent locations, influencing factors, and potential risk mitigation strategies
- Future work includes complete fault-tree analysis on hazards and quantitative risk model development as well as the development of an integrated risk assessment framework



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Thank you!

Questions and comments are Welcomed!

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Mainline Passenger Train Accident Analysis





Mainline Passenger Train Accident Analysis

The top ten accident cause groups with the highest risk are:

- Failure to Obey/Display Signals (05H)
- Wide Gauge (03T)
- Train Speed (10H)
- Turnout Defects Switches (10T)
- Broken Rails or Welds (08T)
- Use of Switches (11H)
- Joint Bar Defects (07T)
- Other Miscellaneous (05M)
- Misc. Track and Structure Defects (12T)
- Non-Traffic and Weather Causes (02T)



Mainline Freight Train Accident Analysis





Mainline Freight Train Accident Analysis

The top ten accident cause groups with the highest risk are:

- Broken Rails or Welds (08T)
- Buckled Track (05T)
- Track Geometry (excl. Wide Gauge) (04T)
- Wide Gauge (03T)
- Broken Wheels (Car) (12E)
- Bearing Failure (Car) (10E)
- Train Handling (excl. Brakes) (09H)
- Joint Bar Defects (07T)
- Track-Train Interaction (04M)
- Failure to Obey/Display Signals (05H)

