

MOVES-Matrix: Setup, Implementation, and Application

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Abstract: The MOtor Vehicle Emission Simulator (MOVES) model is published by the USEPA to estimate emissions from on-road vehicles in the United States. Traffic simulation model outputs and smart phone GPS data can provide detailed vehicle activity information in time and space. Coupling MOVES emission rates with various sources of high-resolution vehicle activity data can further advance research efforts designed to assess the environmental impacts of transportation design and operation strategies. However, the MOVES interface is complicated and the structure of input variables and algorithms involved in running MOVES to assess operational improvements makes the analyses cumbersome and time consuming. The MOVES interface also makes it difficult to assess complicated transportation networks and to undertake analyses of large scale systems that are dynamic in nature. The MOVES-Matrix system developed by the authors can be used to conduct the same emissions modeling in a fraction of the time, using a multidimensional array of MOVES outputs. The researchers configured MOVES to run on a distributed computing cluster, obtaining MOVES emission rate outputs for Atlanta for each vehicle class and model year at each operations, as a function of calendar year 2010-2020 (1-year interval) and 2025-2050 (5-year interval), local fuel (Summer fuel, Winter fuel, and Transition fuel), local I/M, meteorology (Temperature: 10-110 F with 5F-bin; Humidity: 0%-100% with 5%-bin), and other variables of interest. For Atlanta, MOVES was run 22,491 times to generate the speed-bin and operating mode-bin emission rate matrices. The emission rate matrices allow users to employ big data inputs to and evaluate changes in emissions for dynamic transportation systems in near-real-time. In the case study, emission rate generation with MOVES-Matrix is 200-times faster than using the MOVES GUI in the same computer environment and predicts the same emissions results.

Keywords: MOVES, MOVES-Matrix, Emission Modeling

1 **Introduction**

2 The USEPA created MOVES to estimate emissions from on-road vehicles in the United States.
3 The “binning” approach enables MOVES to model emissions for different fleet activities. New
4 data sources have the potential to provide fleet activity information for use in emissions
5 modeling, such as GPS data from instrumented vehicles (1), traffic simulation outputs (2), and
6 cell phone tracking. Coupling MOVES emission rates with various sources of big data for
7 vehicle activity can further advance research efforts designed to assess the environmental
8 impacts of transportation design and operation strategies. Hot spot analysis and near-road air
9 quality modeling for environmental impact assessment will also benefit from the use of more
10 accurate vehicle activity data.

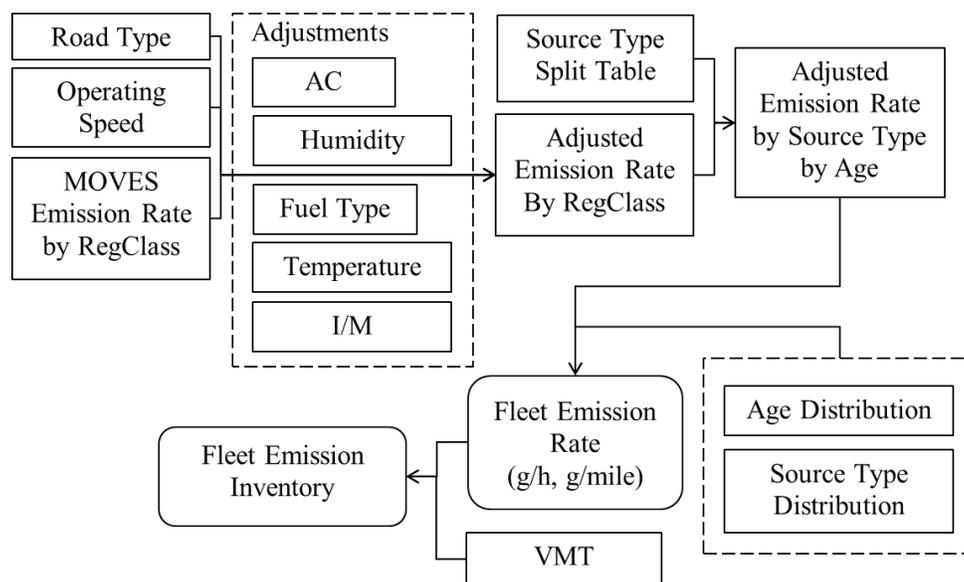
11 However, the MOVES interface is complicated and the structure of input variables and
12 algorithms involved in running MOVES to assess operational improvements makes the analyses
13 cumbersome and time consuming. The MOVES interface also makes it difficult to assess
14 complicated transportation networks and to undertake analyses of large scale systems that are
15 dynamic in nature. For example, the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) Travel Demand
16 Model employs a network of 74,500 roadway links. It is nearly impossible to dynamically model
17 emissions for a network this size using MOVES runs. Even estimating emissions of a single
18 scenario of the entire Atlanta network takes a lot effort. On a typical mid-range PC, a MOVES
19 run takes about 11 seconds to process emissions for one link for each unique environment and
20 fleet scenario. Assuming that an analyst needs to obtain a set of composite emission rates for
21 1000 roadway links in Atlanta, where the fleet composition and operating conditions differ every
22 hour on each road segment, temperatures and humidity values vary throughout the day and year,
23 and three different fuel blends are offered in a year (summer, winter, and transition), a total of
24 31,752,000 individual moves runs are required $((1000 \text{ segments}) * (24 \text{ hours}) * (21 \text{ temperature}$
25 $\text{bins, } 0\text{-}100 \text{ F in } 5 \text{ F-bin}) * (21 \text{ humidity bins, } 0\%\text{-}100\% \text{ in } 5\%\text{-bin}) * (3 \text{ Atlanta fuels}))$, which
26 would take a single PC more than ten years to complete. A high-performance model providing
27 the same results as the regulatory model (i.e., MOVES model) is needed for dynamic analysis of
28 large roadway networks.

29 Some studies have been done on optimizing model running speed based on the regulatory
30 emission models. Guensler et. al. (3) ran MOBILE6, the predecessor of MOVES model, tens-of-
31 thousands of times to generate a matrix of emission rates (known as MOBILE-Matrix) by road
32 class, fleet composition, fuel, I/M, temperature, etc., for Metropolitan Atlanta, Georgia and
33 applied emission rates in conformity analysis and in CALINE4 dispersion model routines. The
34 emission matrices from MOBILE6 facilitated rapid analysis via scripts. With the release of the
35 more advanced MOVES model as the regulatory model replacing the MOBILE series models, it
36 would be useful to build a high-performance model that can efficiently obtain the same results as

1 MOVES. Liu and Frey (4) developed a simplified MOVES model called MOVES-Lite based on
 2 the ratio of operating mode bin as the cycle adjustment factor and the results are within 5%
 3 compared with MOVES output. Using the MOVES-Matrix process introduced in this study, the
 4 user can program a call of MOVES-Matrix emission rates and obtain the exactly the same
 5 emission output as obtained using the MOVES model, without ever having to launch MOVES or
 6 transferring MOVES outputs into the analyses.

8 **MOVES Background**

9 MOVES is the approved regulatory model released by the U.S. Environment Protection Agency
 10 (EPA) for estimating emissions from the vehicle fleet. In MOVES, a “binning” approach is
 11 applied where emission rate and vehicle activity module are connected through operating mode
 12 bin. MOVES includes an emission database with base emission rates for each pollutant under
 13 each operating mode bin, vehicle regulatory class, model year from 1960 and project to 2050,
 14 and at each age level. Through internal calculations, emission rates are weighted by operating
 15 mode distribution, and adjusted by air conditioning, fuel, I/M, and meteorology factors, and then
 16 aggregated by using fleet composition and VMT data to obtain comprehensive fleet emission
 17 rate and emission inventory. Figure 1 presents the MOVES process in project-level analysis.
 18 MOVES is capable of using self-defined driving cycle and allows users to incorporate local
 19 vehicle operation by importing local driving cycles and operating mode distributions directly.
 20 Other refined input is also required, including meteorology, calendar year, fuel type, inspection
 21 and maintenance program elements, traffic volume, fleet age distribution and vehicle type
 22 distribution.



24 **Figure 1. MOVES Data Processing in Project-Level**

1 Because emissions are a complex function of many locally-dependent variables, and because
2 MOVES integrates aggregation functions for emission estimation for states and counties, the
3 interface is complex and requires a lot of inputs to properly characterize a specific emission
4 scenario needed by a user. A lot of labor is required to prepare MOVES input files. In addition,
5 running MOVES is time consuming, because emission calculations always begins with base
6 emission rates, and for each run, emission data flow need to be adjusted by various indexes such
7 as temperature, humidity, fuel property, etc. This makes it difficult to use MOVES to assess
8 large-scale transportation networks that experience dynamic changes in on-road fleets and
9 operating conditions.

10

11 **MOVES-Matrix Development Approach**

12 The MOVES-Matrix system was created to obtain the same emissions modeling process, but in a
13 fraction of the time, by creating a multidimensional array of MOVES outputs. There are three
14 steps in preparation of MOVES-Matrix: 1) develop input files and running files for MOVES runs
15 to obtain multi-dimensional emission rates output; 2) run MOVES in advanced computing
16 cluster, and; 3) design algorithm for MOVES-Matrix. Atlanta served as the modeling test case.
17 Two MOVES-Matrix outputs were developed: 1) speed-bin MOVES-Matrix, in which MOVES
18 default driving cycles were applied, and users can just input average speed as operations; 2)
19 OpMode-bin MOVES-Matrix, in which users can input average speed and associated driving
20 schedules or operating mode distributions as operation information. The approach of developing
21 MOVES-Matrix can be easily applied in other regions. Speed-bin MOVES-Matrix can be
22 applied in regional scale analysis by linking with travel demand model. OpMode-bin Matrix can
23 be applied in project scale analysis by linking with traffic simulation or local fleet and operations.

24

25 **MOVES-Matrix Inputs and Run File Development**

26 MOVES-Matrix enables users to efficiently apply fleet composition data and activity data and
27 obtain emission result without spending time running MOVES because MOVES has effectively
28 been run tens of thousands of times in advance for a metro area. Individual MOVES emission
29 rate outputs are assembled in a multi dimension MOVES-Matrix emission database that includes
30 all combinations of possible emission rates scenarios. For Atlanta, we prepared a Matrix that
31 covers calendar years in intervals of 1 year from 2010 to 2020, and in intervals of 5 years for
32 2025 to 2050 (a total of 17 years, and I/M strategy applies by calendar year), for each local fuel
33 (Summer fuel, Winter fuel, and Transition fuel), meteorology (Temperature: 10-110° F with 5° F-
34 bin interval, 21 bins in total; humidity: 0%-100% with 5%-bin interval, 21 bins in total). A total
35 of 22,491 scenarios need to be created for analysis (17 years *3 local fuels for each year * 21
36 temperatures * 21 humidities). The 22,491 input files were prepared using a script language, and

1 each file contain several csv files that contain input values that need to be imported into MOVES
2 input database.

3 In developing MOVES-Matrix, we noted that MOVES outputs multiple emission rate
4 elements for a single input link within each run, in about the same time that it takes to generate a
5 single composite emission rate. For each MOVES input element representing a single
6 transportation link, the user could assign a specific calendar year, road type and operating speed,
7 temperature, humidity, fuel, and I/M settings. However, in addition to the composite emission
8 rate, MOVES can output disaggregated emission rates for each vehicle source and model year
9 type (13 Source Types * 30 model years = 403) for the operational and meteorology settings
10 outlined above. Hence, we were able to obtain emission rates of various pollutants for 403
11 vehicle and model year types in a single MOVES link run. Not only are fewer runs required, but
12 significant time savings also accrue from not having to launch the model as frequently. Multiple
13 links can be applied for each MOVES run, with each link defined as a single speed bin between
14 5 mph to 77 mph for speed-bin MOVES-Matrix, or as single bin of 23 running operating mode
15 bins (5). For each link, emission rates can be further disaggregated by fuel types (e.g., diesel or
16 gasoline vehicle) when MOVES-Matrix is required to model emissions for different vehicle fuel
17 types, instead of just model vehicle emissions with mixed fuel type applied.

18 Table 1 outlines the model inputs for each independent MOVES run. From each run,
19 emission rate outputs are obtained for all criteria pollutants, GHG emissions, and energy
20 consumption for 13(source types)*31(model years) = 403 vehicle models under all operation
21 conditions (in 73 average speed bins 5-77 mph for speed-bin Matrix, or in 23 running operating
22 mode bins 0-40 OpMode-bin Matrix), for a single calendar year, fuel supply, temperature, and
23 humidity. A total of 22,491 MOVES runs are needed to obtain emissions for all combinations of
24 meteorology, fuel and calendar conditions. The researchers launched MOVES in project-level
25 mode in a computing cluster environment, allowing individual MOVES runs to be assigned to
26 the array of computer cores (multiple jobs running as batch mode). Each input file corresponded
27 to one MOVES run, and a importing xml file and a launching xml file were also created for each
28 run to allow MOVES to call relevant input files and conduct runs in batch mode.

1

Table 1 Content of Input File for Each MOVES Run

Input	Description
Link	Speed-bin Matrix: 73 links with each link assigned one speed bin OpMode-bin Matrix: 23 links with each link assigned one operating mode bin Set volume for each link as $13(\text{source types}) \times 31(\text{model years}) = 403$
Age Distribution	Set uniform age distribution (1/31 for each age group from age 0 to 30 years) for each source type
Source Type	Set uniform source type distribution (1/13 for each source type) for each link
I/M Strategy	Default from MOVES, determined by calendar
Fuel Supply	Default from MOVES, determined by calendar year and month
Fuel Formulation	Default from MOVES, determined by fuel supply
Fuel Usage Fraction	Default from MOVES
AVFT	Default from MOVES
Meteorology	Temperature: 10-110° F with 5° F-bin interval, 21 bins in total Humidity: 0%-100% with 5%-bin interval, 21 bins in total
OpMode Distribution	OpMode-bin Matrix: Set single 100% fraction of a specific operating mode bin for each link. No need for speed-bin Matrix
Year and Region	Year: each year in 2010-2020, 5-year intervals in 2025-2050, input in xml and mrs file. Region: Fulton county, Atlanta, input in xml and mrs file.

2

3 Fulton County can adequately represent Atlanta, because the fuel region and I/M programs of all
4 other counties in the Atlanta Metro area are the same.

5

6 **PACE Computing Cluster Runs**

7 As the name suggests, PACE (Partnership for an Advanced Computing Environment) is a
8 collaboration between the Georgia Tech faculty and the Office of Information Technology at
9 Georgia Tech, set up for the primary purpose of providing an environment for high performance
10 computing (6). Participating researchers can benefit from the large scale computing and storage
11 infrastructure, which is organized in the forms of shared queues. Dedicated technical services are
12 provided to manage the hardware and software infrastructure for the cluster. Participating faculty
13 members purchase additional nodes and storage through research funding, which are prioritized
14 for their use by the PACE system by managing user priorities over each shared queue. On its
15 largest shared queue, PACE manages around 22,450 cores, with over 1 Petabyte of online

1 commodity storage, and nearly 300 terabytes of high-performance scratch storage. PACE nodes
 2 (each machine is called a node) are divided into two types:

- 3 • Head Nodes – All PACE users have access to these head nodes. These nodes must be used to
 4 launch jobs. No computation is performed on these nodes.
- 5 • Cluster Nodes – These nodes are where the actual jobs run. A user has access to a particular
 6 cluster node only during the time the user’s job is running on the cluster. Various MOVES
 7 runs were conducted on the cluster nodes.

8
 9 Figure 2 provides an overview of MOVES launch design in PACE. The programming team
 10 created a cluster job launch program in Python to: 1) install MOVES and MySQL into the RAM
 11 of each cluster node; 2) launch MOVES jobs in batch mode at each not, and 3) output the
 12 emission rates. The number of jobs grouped together per node is based upon the maximum
 13 completion time allowed by PACE for each job. For example, if the maximum completion time
 14 is 6 hours, and each job takes about 25-30 minutes, then we group 6-hours/0.5-hour = 12 jobs
 15 and run the batch mode in a single node. PACE Persistent Storage (PPS) is used to store all input
 16 files created by the input file generator for use by MOVES. Once each MOVES run is completed,
 17 the output would to delivered to PPS through the job launch program, and we copied the output
 18 to external storage.

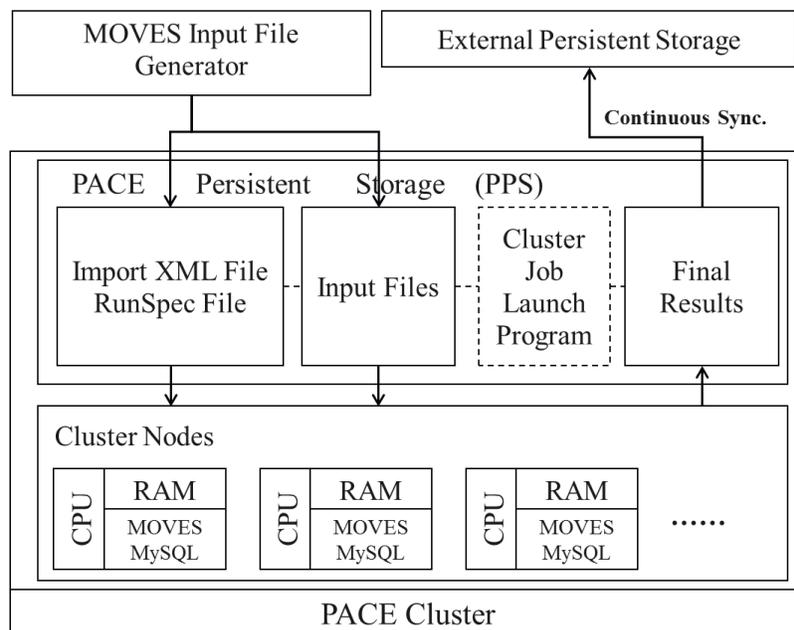
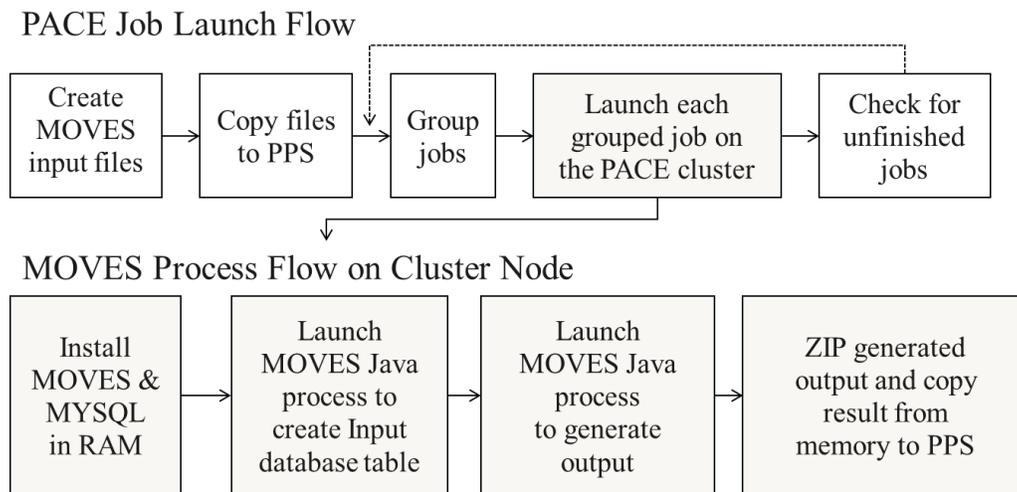


Figure 2. MOVES Launch Design on PACE

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1 Figure 3 presents MOVES process flow in PACE. When a MOVES job was launched on a
 2 cluster machine, it first installed MOVES on the machine by unzipping the MOVES source files
 3 on the disk. A thin version of MySQL is installed on the server by unzipping its files onto the
 4 disk and starting the SQL server on an available port. MOVES command line Java processes
 5 were then launched to create input and output database files respectively. MOVES then launched
 6 jobs based on input and obtained output. After each job is completed, the output files are zipped
 7 stored on the PACE persistent storage.
 8



9
 10 **Figure 3. MOVES Process Flow in PACE**

11
 12 Depending on the overall usage load, PACE would assign a certain number of nodes to each
 13 PACE users. We usually obtained 20 nodes for MOVES running. For speed-bin Matrix, each run
 14 took MOVES 30 minutes, so it would take in total of $(22,491 \text{ runs}) \cdot (0.5 \text{ hour/run}) / (20$
 15 $\text{nodes}) / (24 \text{ hours/day})$, i.e., 23.5 days to finish all runs for the multi dimension emission database
 16 of Atlanta speed-bin Matrix. For OpMode-bin Matrix, each run took MOVES 15 minutes, so in
 17 total, it would take about $(22,491 \text{ runs}) \cdot (0.25 \text{ hour/run}) / (20 \text{ cores}) / (24 \text{ hours/day})$, i.e., 12 days to
 18 finish all runs for the database of Atlanta OpMode-bin Matrix. Hourly e-mail notifications were
 19 sent to report the status of completed jobs for checking convenience. When an unfinished job
 20 was detected, the team would launch them in another round.
 21

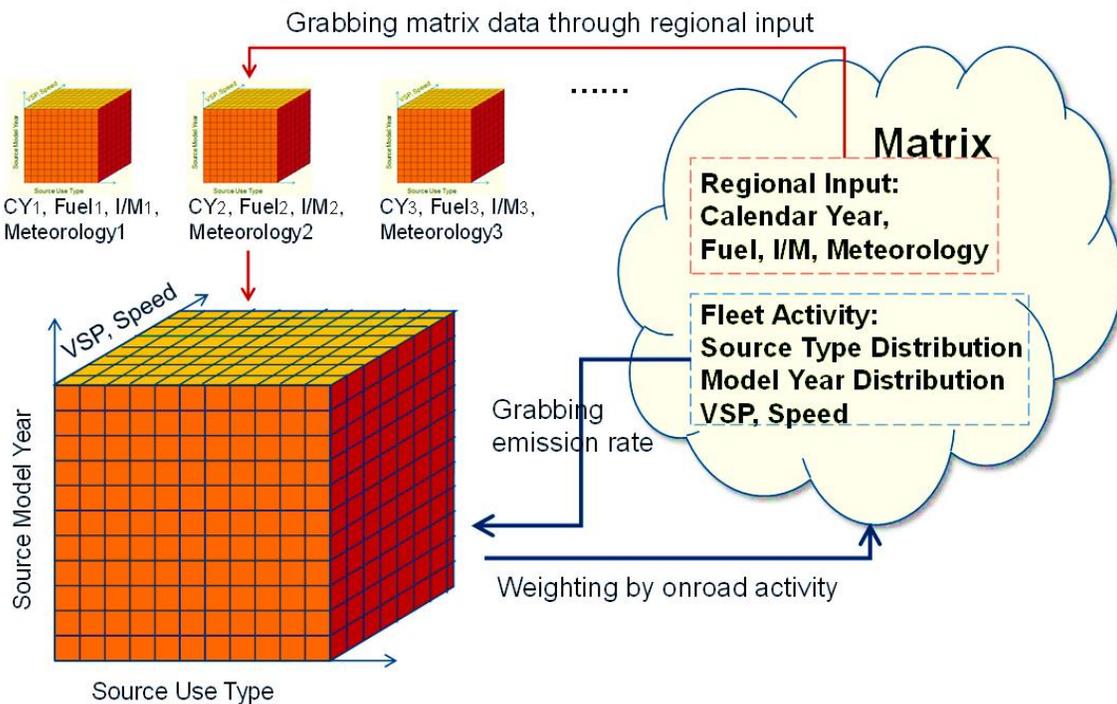
22 **MOVES-Matrix Design and Algorithm**

23 In designing MOVES-Matrix, it was important to first assess model user habits. Real-world
 24 applications of MOVES for emission inventory development or project-level conformity
 25 analyses always use a variety of simplification approaches to limit the number of MOVES runs
 26 that will be required. For example, analysts often assume that fleet composition does not vary

1 (using a default regional registration mix for model years and technology groups) with heavy-
 2 duty truck fractions quantized in specific percentages by road class (e.g., 0% or 1% on certain
 3 local roads and arterials and 3% or 5% on certain freeways). Planning inventories might also
 4 assume a single temperature, humidity, and fuel. Every time another transportation scenario
 5 needs to be assessed, a new set of emission rates (e.g., new meteorology or fuel scenario) needs
 6 to be developed for MOVES and connected with activity data.

7 Based on typical application, the MOVES-Matrix emission database was grouped into
 8 22,491 packages, with each package storing emission rates for all source types, all source model
 9 years, and in all operations (speed bins or operating mode bins), for specific calendar year,
 10 month, temperature, humidity, fuel supply (determined by year and month), and I/M strategy
 11 (determined by year). Figure 4 provides an overview of emission data structure in MOVES-
 12 Matrix. A small package (cells package in the figure) of emission rates were extracted based on
 13 user’s year, month, and meteorology input, and the emission rates were used to connect to
 14 vehicle activity data through MOVES-Matrix algorithm. This conforms to emission analysis of
 15 different strategies and sensitivity analysis, given that users tended to assume a single
 16 temperature, humidity, and fuel, and try to explore the traffic activity impact and hence effect to
 17 emissions. This structure was a contribution that helped speed up the emission generation
 18 process, because MOVES-Matrix emission rate searches only need to access a sub-matrix
 19 (package). In Figure 4, each cell grabs applicable emission rate, and emission rates need to be
 20 weight by onroad activity (per cell) to assemble fleet emission rates.

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22

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Figure 4. Emission Database Structure of MOVES-Matrix

1 After sub-matrix of emission rates is identified and accessed, the emission rate processing is very
 2 similar to the MOVES algorithms used in project-level modeling. MOVES-Matrix weighted
 3 emission rate source type age distribution to obtain comprehensive emission rate by each source
 4 type and by each operation bin. Source type distribution, operations, and VMT provided by each
 5 link are used to connect with source type emission rates and calculate emission rate and emission
 6 inventory for each link. The functions of emission rate and emission inventory are:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{Emission Rate} = \sum_{sourceType} \sum_{modelYear} \sum_{opMode} \frac{sourceType\% \times modelYear\%_{sourceType}}{\times opMode\%_{sourceType,modelYear}} \times Emission_{sourceType,modelYear,opMode}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Emission Inventory} = VMT \times \text{Emission Rate}$$

12 Figure 5 presented data processing of MOVES-Matrix. Because the individual emission rates in
 13 MOVES-Matrix were already adjusted by fuel, meteorology and I/M strategy, there is no
 14 adjustment calculation involved, which further speeds up the emission generation process.

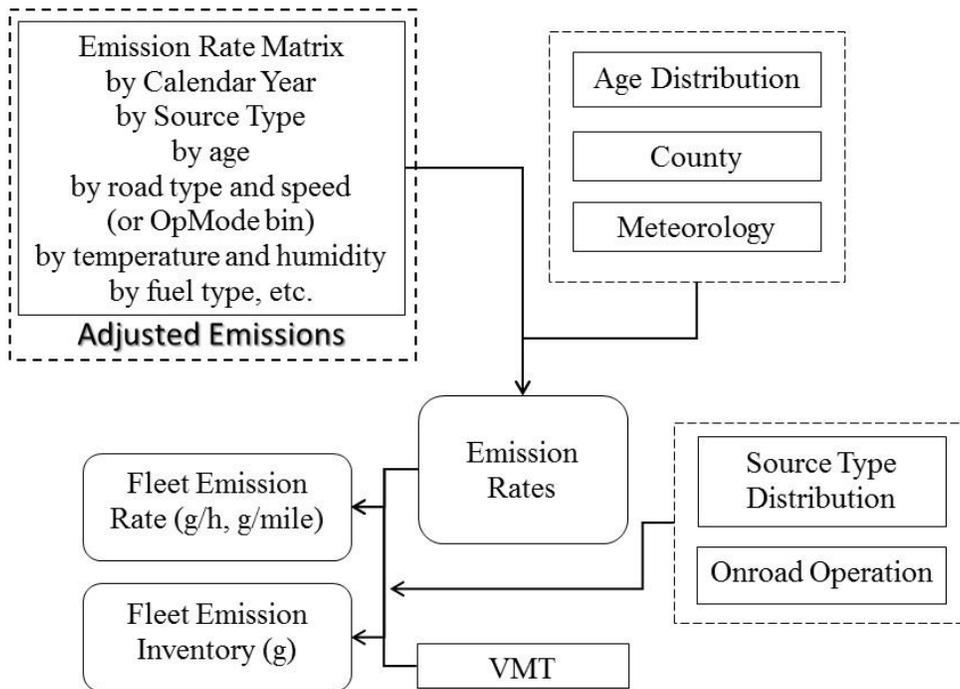


Figure 5. MOVES-Matrix Data Processing

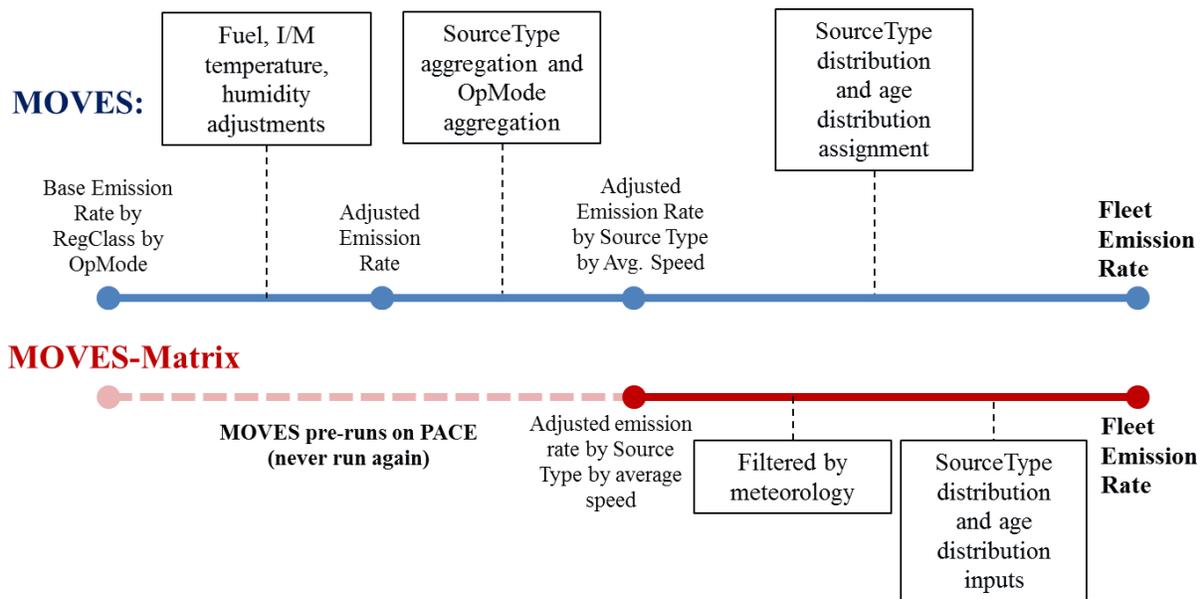
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Figure 6 compared MOVES with MOVES-Matrix in terms of overall working mechanism. MOVES begins from base emission rate and these rates need to be adjusted for each run before it is connected to activity data. MOVES-Matrix stores adjusted emission rates for all scenarios, and

1 for scenario of interest. MOVES-Matrix filtered the emission rates in the specific scenario rather
 2 than doing adjustment calculation. In summary, there are two characteristics in terms of design
 3 that contributed fast running speed in MOVES-Matrix.

- 4
- 5 • Directly applying emission rates that have already been adjusted by fuel, meteorology and
 - 6 I/M strategy, in which there is no further adjustment calculation within MOVES-Matrix.
 - 7 • Packaging the emission matrix (database) by calendar year, fuel scenario, and meteorology,
 - 8 and filtering the emission rates sub-matrix in the specific scenario of interest, narrows the
 - 9 emission rate search process and speeds up the emission assignment process.

10



11

12

Figure 6. MOVES vs. MOVES-Matrix Working Mechanism

13

14 **MOVES-Matrix Application Test**

15 We developed speed-bin Matrix and OpMode-bin Matrix for Atlanta. To demonstrate the
 16 effectiveness and efficiency of MOVES-Matrix, the researchers developed a set of comparative
 17 test runs to compare the performance of MOVES-Matrix with the MOVES GUI for results
 18 values and run speeds. Table below listed the coverage of Atlanta MOVES-Matrices, and total
 19 emission rates values.

20

1

Table 2 Coverage of Atlanta Speed-bin and OpMode-bin Matrix

Index	Speed-bin Matrix	OpMode-bin Matrix
Calendar year	2010-2020 (1-year interval) 2025-2050 (5-year interval)	2010-2020 (1-year interval) 2025-2050 (5-year interval)
Fuel type	Winter (Nov - March), Summer (May - September) Transition (April, October)	Winter (Nov - March), Summer (May - September) Transition (April, October)
Source types	all 13 source types	all 13 source types
Age	age 0~30 years	age 0~30 years
Temperature	0F - 110F (5F bins interval)	0F - 110F (5F bins interval)
Humidity	0% - 100% (5% bins interval)	0% - 100% (5% bins interval)
Road type	urban restricted access (highway) urban un-restricted access (local)	not applicable
Operation	5-77 mph, 1mph speed bins	23 running operating mode bins
Pollutant	HC, CO, NO _x , CO ₂ , CH ₄ , CO _{2e} *, PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , Energy	HC, CO, NO _x , CO ₂ , CH ₄ , CO _{2e} *, PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5} , Energy
# of emission rates	41 billion	5.4 billion
# of emission packages	22,491	22,491

2 *GHGs emissions in CO₂ equivalent (CO_{2e}) in 100 years lifetime.

3

4 **Result Validation**

5 Because MOVES is the official regulatory emissions model, it is important that results from
6 implementing MOVES-Matrix match the results obtained by the MOVES model. This section
7 set several links with multi combination of fleet composition and operations, and emissions of
8 these links were run in MOVES and MOVES-Matrix. Results were compared to assess MOVES-
9 Matrix performance.

10

11 Speed-bin Matrix

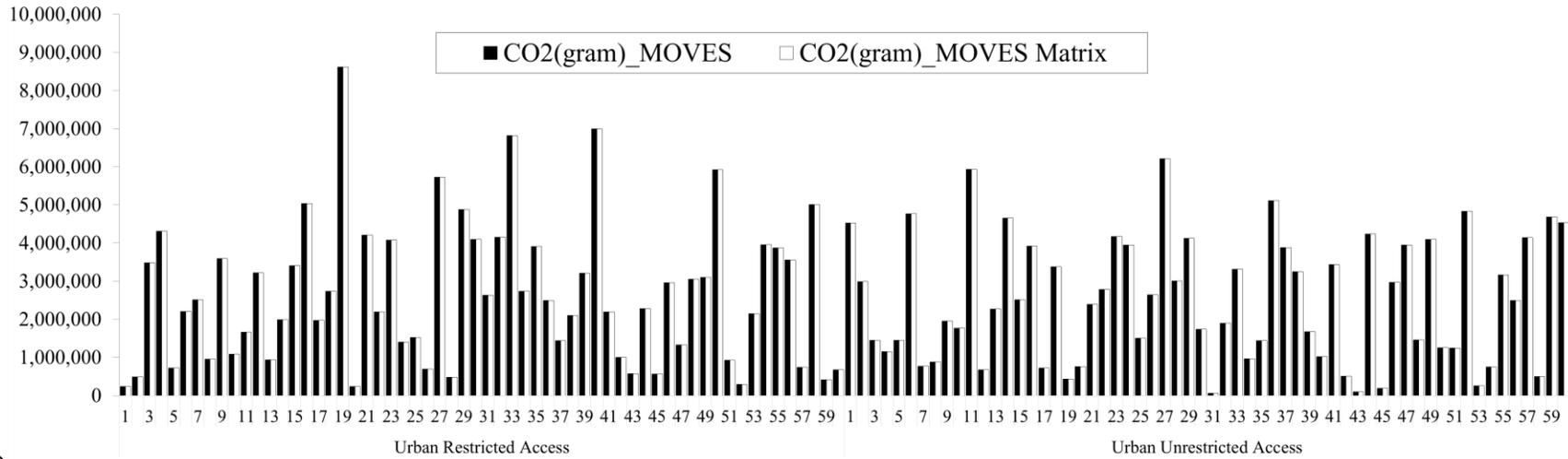
12 The team created 120 links with 60 of them are restricted access roads (freeways) and 60 are un-
13 restricted access roads (local roads). Each link were randomly assigned VMT, fleet composition,
14 and average speed inputs (in range of 5-75 mph). Calendar year is set to 2012 with a summer
15 fuel supply. Temperature is set as 75F, and humidity is set as 80%. HC, CO, NO_x, CO₂, CH₄,
16 CO_{2e}, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5} and energy were generated and compared. The 120 links were run using both
17 the speed-bin Matrix and MOVES GUI, and compared rates for all pollutants and energy. The

1 speed-bin Matrix results equal the results from MOVES GUI (difference \leq 0.0001%). Figure 7
2 presented the comparison of CO₂ emissions from MOVES and MOVES-Matrix.

3

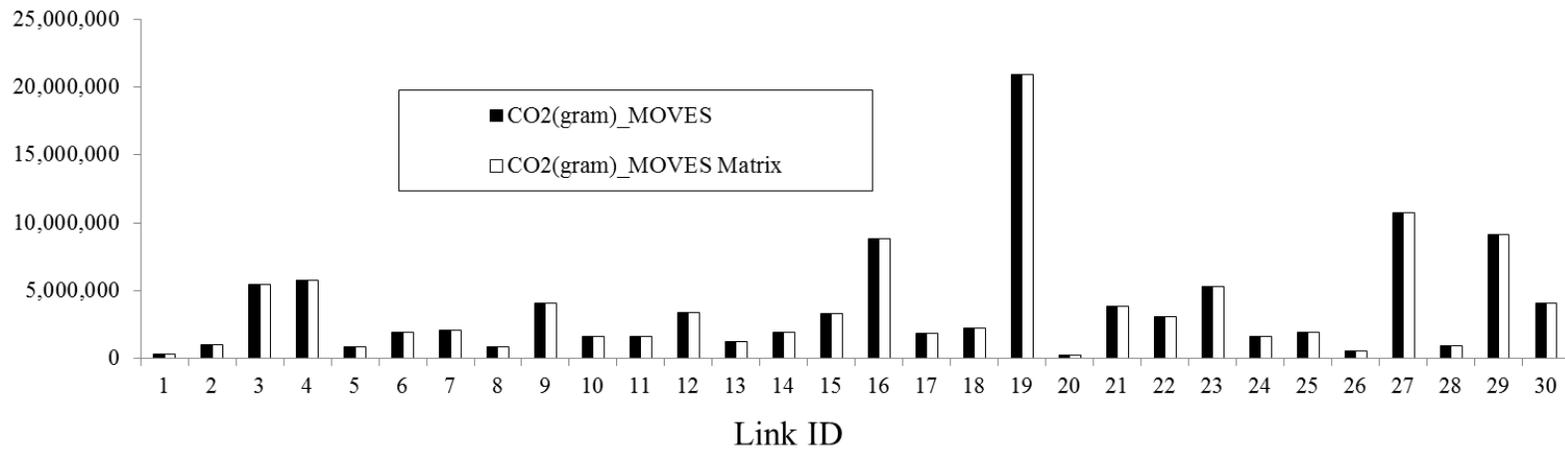
4 OpMode-bin Matrix

5 To test the OpMode-bin Matrix, the team created 30 links. Each link randomly assigned a set of
6 VMT, fleet composition, average speed (in range of 5-75 mph) and associated operating mode
7 distribution. To match the speed-bin Matrix test, calendar year is set to 2012 with a summer fuel
8 supply. Temperature is set as 75F, and humidity is set as 80%. HC, CO, NO_x, CO₂, CH₄, CO_{2e}*,
9 PM₁₀, PM_{2.5} and energy were generated and compared. The emission rates for all pollutants and
10 energy consumption were compared, and the results from OpMode-bin Matrix are equal to the
11 results from MOVES GUI for each link (difference \leq 0.0001%). Figure 8 shows the comparison
12 of CO₂ emissions from MOVES and MOVES-Matrix.



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Figure 7. Emission Results from MOVES and Speed-bin MOVES-Matrix



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Figure 8. Emission Results from MOVES and OpMode-bin MOVES-Matrix

1 MOVES-Matrix Run Time

2 In addition to results, we also compared model running time between MOVES GUI and
3 MOVES-Matrix. The two models are set and run in the same computer with configuration of
4 Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU W3550 @3.07GHz, windows 7 64-bit, RAM: 6 GB. Based on the same
5 data input and number of tasks, the authors recorded the total running time for these runs in
6 MOVES GUI and MOVES-Matrix. The comparison is shown as table below.

7
8 **Table 3 Model Running Time Comparison**

Model	Running 120 links in Speed-bin Matrix		Running 30 links in OpMode-bin Matrix	
	Run Time	Run Speed*	Run Time	Run Speed*
MOVES GUI	24.25 minutes	2.42 seconds	8.3 minutes	3.35 seconds
MOVES-Matrix	12 seconds	0.02 seconds	4 seconds	0.026 seconds

9 * Running speed refers that average time to generate emission value for one pollutant in one link.

10
11 In this case, MOVES-Matrix is observed to save a lot of running time relative to MOVES GUI.
12 The 120 Speed-bin Matrix runs took the MOVES GUI 24 minutes to complete, while it took
13 MOVES-Matrix only 2.42 seconds. The 30 OpMode-bin Matrix runs took MOVES GUI 8.3
14 minutes to complete, while it took MOVES-Matrix only 3.35 seconds. The fast calculation speed
15 of MOVES-Matrix provides a potential platform to utilize newer and bigger datasets and conduct
16 dynamic emission modeling.

18 Discussion

19 This study introduced MOVES-Matrix, a high-performance emission modeling system. The
20 MOVES-Matrix database for Atlanta was constructed from tens of thousands of MOVES runs.
21 The scenario runs demonstrate that MOVES-Matrix can finish the emissions computation tasks
22 200 times faster than using the MOVES GUI and the generated results were exactly the same. In
23 addition to its high-performance in calculation speed, we believe there are also other benefits
24 below in applying MOVES-Matrix:

- 25
26 1) MOVES emission rates are employed directly for MOVES-Matrix (no code modification,
27 use of correction factors, or any approximations are employed);
28 2) In project-level emissions analysis, users usually assume a single temperature, humidity, and
29 fuel, and estimate the emissions impact of the changes in vehicle operations and fleet

- 1 composition. Because the database is organized into multi packages, and each was applied in
2 specific meteorology and year, MOVES-Matrix fits the users' work scheme, and allows users
3 to conveniently assess impacts of changes in onroad operating conditions and fleet
4 composition;
- 5 3) The algorithm of MOVES-Matrix can be realized in Java, Python, Perl or any similar
6 program;
- 7 4) Scripts in MOVES-Matrix can be programed to link travel demand for regional scale analysis,
8 traffic simulation for project scale analysis, and dispersion models with applicable MOVES
9 emission rates;
- 10 5) Because the emission database of MOVES-Matrix is based on MOVES output, MOVES-
11 Matrix is an open source system. The authors plan to build an online version of MOVES-
12 Matrix to allow users to implement emission analysis without running MOVES.

13

14 For regional-scale scenarios involving large amount of (e.g., 74,500 in Atlanta) roadway links,
15 we recommend users to identify fleet composition by road type and traffic analysis zones. Link
16 speed and volume could be obtained from travel demand model based on dynamic traffic
17 assignment. MOVES-Matrix supports batch mode process and enable multi task runs just like
18 how MOVES model works. Each task specifies a single calendar year, meteorology, fuel supply,
19 and fleet model year distribution. Links levels that has the same fleet compositions could be
20 grouped in the same task. In that way, users should be able to obtain emission rate for all speed
21 level and for required fleet composition under multi calendar years and meteorology scenarios.
22 These emission rates are then mapped with links based on traffic analysis zone and link speed,
23 and multiplied by volume to obtain fuel and emission inventory for each link. We are conducting
24 a research on MOVES-Matrix connection with travel demand model, which could serve as a
25 guideline of MOVES-Matrix application in regional scale.

26 Overall, the development of MOVES-Matrix makes the involvement of large scale of traffic
27 activity data in emission modeling easier, and especially, makes real-time or near real-time
28 modeling possible.

29

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35

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