EVALUATION OF CROWDSOURCED EVENT REPORTS FOR REAL-TIME IMPLEMENTATION – SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL ACCURACY ANALYSIS

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Introduction & Background

Crowdsourced data

• Speed data

Users allow their location information to be collected while do not share any information actively. such as google, INRIX, Waze.

• Event reports

Users actively report geo-tagged real-time traffic status on social media, such as twitter.



Research Question

Reliability of WAZE reports

- 1. What is the likelihood of having a Waze report if an incident happened(coverage of Waze)?
- If a report is made, does it represent an actual event? (false report, duplicate report, retained report)
- 3. How accurate are Waze event reports in terms of time and space?



Data

Waze Data: Reported by Waze User.

LocateIM Data: Official records maintained by TDOT (Tennessee Department of Transportation)

Туре	Waze		LocateIM		Analysis Period
	# of reports	terminology	# of reports	terminology	
Accident	8,068	Accident	2,052	Crash, Overturned vehicle, Vehicle on fire	Aug.1 st – Dec. 27 th
Stopped vehicle	93,707	Stopped vehicle	5,459	Disabled vehicle, abandoned vehicle	Aug.1 st – Oct. 15 th

Study Area: I-40 In Tennessee State



Matching Methodology

Pseudocode

For each report in LocateIM:

For each report in Waze:

Compute $\Delta T = T_{WAZE} - T_{LocateIM}$ If $abs(\Delta T) < T_{thre}$: Compute $\Delta D = D_{WAZE} - D_{LocateIM}$ If $abs(\Delta D) < D_{thre}$:

Add the Waze reports to the matching list of LocateIM reports

Temporal-Spatial Threshold Selection

Accident reports

Stopped vehicle reports



Crash Matching Results



Stopped Vehicle Matching Results





Timeliness

On average, Waze reports are made **2.2 minutes** sooner than LocateIM reports for an accident, and **7.8** minutes for stopped vehicles.

Time difference(min) (T _{Waze} – T _{LocateIM})	Number of Reports	Percentage	Tin (*
(0, -3]	832	16%	
(-3, -5]	611	10%	
(-5, -10]	479	14%	
(-10, -15]	287	9%	
(-15, -20]	167	5%	
<-20	96	7%	

Time difference(min) (T _{Waze} – T _{LocateIM})	Number of Reports	Percentage
(0, -5]	3090	13%
(-5, -15]	2498	18%
(-15, -20]	1618	14%
(-20, -35]	1003	10%
(-35, -45]	533	7%
<-45	172	4%

Note: *, negative indicate Waze reports were made earlier than LocateIM reports

Spatial Accuracy

On average, the distance between LocateIM reports and Waze reports is **-0.001 miles** for accidents and **-0.025** miles for stopped vehicles



Cumulative Distribution of Absolute Distance Difference

Further Analysis of Spatial Accuracy



Further Analysis of Spatial Accuracy

- ↔Use the first report to represent the location of the accident.
- Average reports around the first report to represent the location of the accident.
- Average reports that clustered together to represent the location of the accident.







	Mean(feet)
Most accurate report	-8
First report	-5
Averaged report(first)	-8
Averaged report(clustered)	-11





	Mean(feet)
Most accurate report	-5
First report	-132
Averaged report(first)	-115
Averaged report(clustered)	-53

Coverage - Crash



	WAZE	LocateIM
Total Records	8068	2052
Matched	2066	1374
Percentage	26%	67%

6002 reports in Waze that can not be matched to LocateIM: %False report? %Duplicate report? %Event that not recorded by LocateIM?

Coverage – Stopped Vehicle



	WAZE	LocateIM
Total Records	93707	5459
Matched	13203	4674
Percentage	14%	85%

80194 reports in Waze that can not be matched to LocateIM: %False report? %Duplicate report? %Event that not recorded by LocateIM?

Findings

- ✤ WAZE Coverage: WAZE Covers 67% of crashes recorded by TDOT and 85% of stopped vehicles recorded by TDOT.
- Timeliness: Waze reports are made 2.2 minutes sooner than LocateIM reports (7.8 minutes for stopped vehicle). Forty percent of the crash reports (57% of stopped vehicle reports) in LocateIM are reported earlier by Waze than LocateIM.
- Spatial Accuracy: On average, the distance between LocateIM reports and Waze reports is
 -0.001 miles(-6 feet) for crashes and -0.025 miles(-132 feet) for stopped vehicles.

Future Study:

- ✤ Improve the location estimation accuracy.
- Propose method to remove Waze duplicate reports and analyze the percentage of reports reported by Waze but not recorded in LocateIM(contribution of WAZE).

