



Trimming Taxiing Time

It's hard to choose which part of air travel is the most fun—body scans, removing your shoes, fighting for the armrest, middle seats—but waiting on the runway is a worthy candidate. Controllers often let jets leave the gate when ready, regardless of existing runway lines, which can lead to long waits. Mathematical models that rely on probability and dynamic programming estimate travel time to the runway and wait time on the runway, allowing controllers to see the effect that the different options open to them have on flights' departure times. In tests at different airports the models have demonstrated the ability to shorten runway wait times, which reduces congestion and saves tons of fuel.



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MM/124.s



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