



# A General Approach to Equity in ATM and Mitigating Exemption Bias in GDPs

Speaker: Bob Hoffman, Metron Aviation

Joint work of Michael Ball, Thomas Vossen, Julien Bourget





#### Why all the Exemptions?

- Traffic Managers exempt flights from assigned ground delays during GDPs:
  - airborne flights (mandatory)
  - international flights (mandatory)
  - de-icing (sort of mandatory)
  - VIPs (optional)
  - close-to-departure (optional)
  - long-haul flights (optional)





#### The Struggle Between Equity and Efficiency

- These exemptions can create inequities
- Carriers with a lot of airborne flights or long-hauls get less delay
- This creates an inherent conflict between an ideal allocation and strategic mitigation of GDP end time uncertainty e.g.







#### Two thrusts of Work under M.Ball

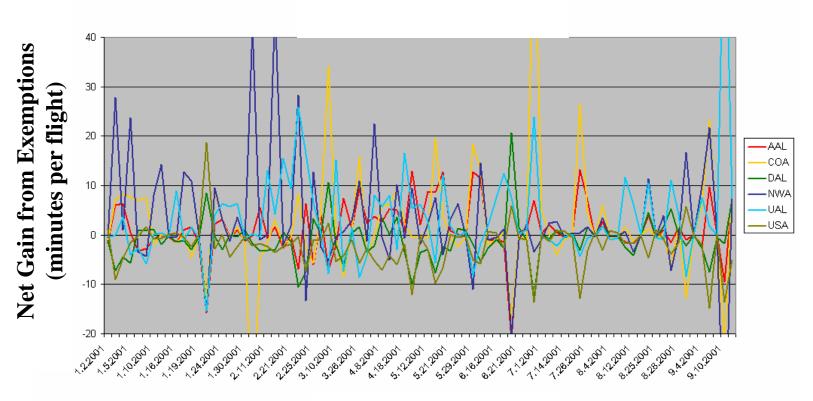
- Thomas Vossen Ph.D. thesis (2002)
  - Mini-study
  - Optimization Model for fair allocation
- Julien Bourget (2003)
  - Maxi-study
  - Simplified algorithm for fair allocation

Work distinguished by acknowledging a baseline for equity and working toward it (rather than just deeming it equitable)





## Systematic Biases



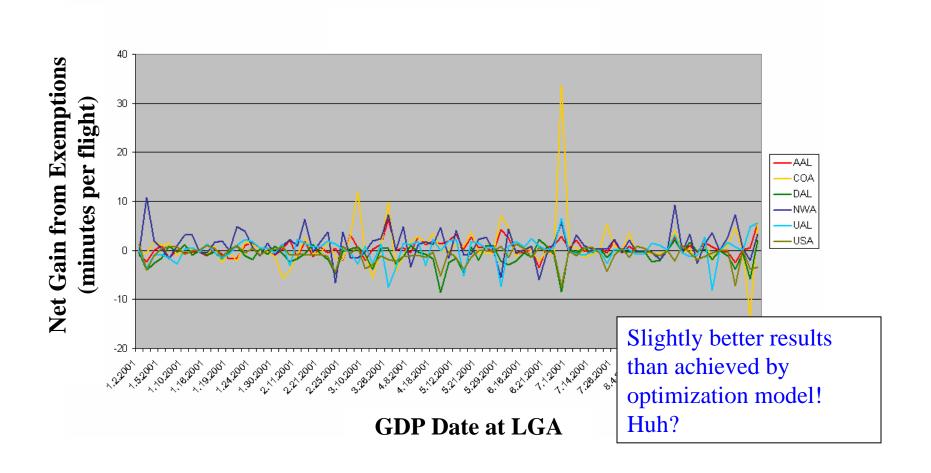
**GDP** Date at LGA

Similar results at other airports





## Bias Reduction From Algorithm







## How the Algorithm Works



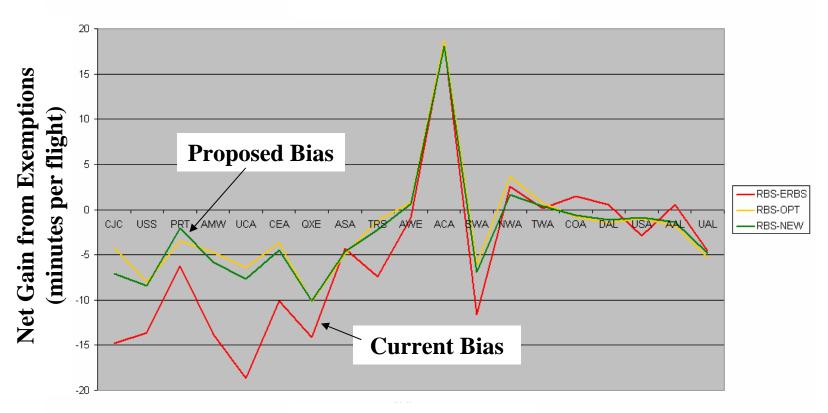








### The Lord Giveth and Taketh...



**Carrier Name** 

11 airports, and nation-wide study over 21 months (April 2000 to December 2001)





## Implementation Issues

- No cost solution!
  - can be implemented tomorrow
  - restores equity with no loss of efficiency
- Acceptance is an issue.
  - Not exactly met with open arms by GDP-E subgroup
  - Obligation on the part of the service provider?