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DOI

[10.37528/FTTE/9788673954677/RailBelgrade.2023.ZE](https://doi.org/10.37528/FTTE/9788673954677/RailBelgrade.2023.ZE)

Publication date

2023

Document Version

Final published version

Citation (APA)

Li, T., & Goverde, R. (2023). *Periodic train timetable expansion: An integrated model of multi-period train service selection and rolling stock circulation with time-varying passenger demand*. Abstract from RailBelgrade 2023, Belgrade, Serbia. <https://doi.org/10.37528/FTTE/9788673954677/RailBelgrade.2023.ZE>

Important note

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Session 3.2A: Timetabling IV
Submission type: Research paper
Presentation type: Oral
Paper ID: [142]

Periodic train timetable expansion: An integrated model of multi-period train service selection and rolling stock circulation with time-varying passenger demand

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The periodic train timetable is one of the most widely used train timetables in passenger railway systems worldwide. However, how to expand well-coordinated daily train services from a single-period timetable pattern is rarely studied. This paper develops a multi-objective mixed integer programming model to solve the periodic train timetable expansion problem, aiming to optimize passenger waiting time and rolling stock operation costs. In our model, the time-varying passenger assignment, train service selection, and rolling stock circulation planning are integrated. Moreover, the rolling stock circulation is considered with a flexible composition mode for efficiency. An ϵ -constraint method is introduced to explore the Pareto frontier for the multi-objective model and analyze the trade-offs between the service quality and operating cost. The model and analyzing theorem are validated via the real-world case Guangzhou-Shenzhen Intercity Railway transit system.

Keywords

Periodic train timetable, Rolling stock circulation, Flexible train composition, Time-varying passenger demand, Integrated optimization