

CHARITHA DIAS

Qatar Transportation and Traffic Safety Center
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EDUCATION

Monash University, Melbourne, Australia (2011 - 2015)

PhD, Civil Engineering, Specialized in Transportation Engineering, May 2015
Dissertation: "Crowd Dynamics at Turning Phenomena: Experiments and Modeling"
Supervisors: Prof. Majid Sarvi, A/Prof. Martin Burd

The University of Tokyo, Japan (2005 - 2007)

MEng, Civil Engineering, Specialized in Transportation and Traffic Engineering, Oct 2007
Thesis: "Self-learning Tool for Travel Time Estimation in Signalized Urban Networks Based on Probe Data"
Supervisors: Prof. Masao Kuwahara, Prof. Ryosuke Shibasaki, Dr. Marc Miska

University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka (2000 - 2004)

BSc (hons), First class, Civil Engineering, Specialized in Transportation Engineering, March 2005
Thesis: "Selection of the Best One Dimensional Consolidation Model for the Peaty Clay of the CKE (Colombo – Katukayake Expressway) Project"
Supervisors: Prof. U G A Puswewala

WORK EXPERIENCE (RESEARCH)

Qatar Transportation and Traffic Safety Center, Qatar University, Doha, Qatar

Assistant Professor for Research; April 2019 – To date

The University of Tokyo, Japan

Project Researcher; November 2015 – March 2019

Advisor: Prof. Takashi Oguchi

Projects/research works involved in:

Exploring personal mobility vehicle, pedestrian and cyclist interactions in mixed traffic conditions (microscopic modeling, operations and safety aspects)

Exploring the effects of expressway geometry on driver speeding behavior

Exploring pedestrian and vehicle (turning) movements and interactions at signalized intersections for safety related applications and to improve traffic simulation tools and driving simulators

Pedestrian crowd dynamics and modeling (under normal and evacuation conditions)

Other activities/ editorial:

Thesis examiner: External overseas examiner of two MEng theses of RMIT University, 2018

Journal reviewer: Transportation Research-Part B, Physica A, Journal of Advanced Transportation, Accident Analysis and Prevention, Safety Science, Complexity

Conference reviewer: Transportation Research Board (TRB) annual meeting, IEEE international Conference on Intelligent Transportation Systems (IEEE-ITS), IEEE International Conference on Vehicular Electronics and Safety (ICVES), Eastern Asia Society for Transportation Studies (EASTS) conference, Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers (IEICE) Transactions, World Conference on Transport Research (WCTR) conference, International Symposium of Transport Simulations (ISTS) & International Workshop on Traffic Data Collection and its Standardization (IWTDCS) conference

Involvement in Transport Research Board committee activities:

AHB45 - Standing Committee on Traffic Flow Theory and Characteristics

AHB65 - Standing Committee on Operational Effects of Geometrics

AP065 - Standing Committee on Rail Transit Systems

AHB15 - Standing Committee on Intelligent Transportation Systems

WORK EXPERIENCE (PROFESSIONAL)

Chodai Company Limited, Tokyo, Japan

Transport Engineer and Modeler; January 2008 – March 2011

Experience gained:

Traffic microscopic simulation using VISSIM® including VisVAP,

Four step modeling and trip assignments using JICA STRADA

GIS applications in transportation planning using MapInfo Professional®

Experience in Aimsun® traffic simulation software, PERL programming language

i-Transport Lab Company Limited, Tokyo, Japan

Transport Modeler (casual); September 2007 – December 2007

Experience gained:

Traffic simulation/assignment using Sound™ (a mesoscopic simulation tool)

WORK EXPERIENCE (TEACHING AND SUPERVISION)

The University of Tokyo, Japan

Project Researcher; November 2015 – present

Involvements in post-graduate supervision

MEng work on driver speed behavior on expressway curve sections

MEng and PhD work on pedestrian queuing behavior in front of different types of bottlenecks

MEng work on pedestrian safety under mixed traffic conditions

University of Peradeniya, Kandy, Sri Lanka

Senior Lecturer (Temporary); April 2015 – October 2015

Teaching:

Transportation Planning and Traffic Engineering (CE530) for 3rd year undergraduates

Traffic Engineering (CE663) for PG. Dip. And MSc students

Monash University, Melbourne, Australia

Teaching associate (casual); 2011 – 2014

Tutoring:

Road Engineering (CIV3283) for 3rd year undergraduates

Transport and Traffic Engineering (CIV2282) for 2nd year undergraduates

Engineering Investigation (CIV3204) for 3rd year undergraduates

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Postgraduate Publications Award (Faculty of Engineering and IT, Monash University), 2014

Outstanding Publication Award (Department of Civil Engineering, Monash University), 2014

Australian Road Research Board (ARRB)-Monash Transport Research Prize, 2013

MGS (Monash Graduate Scholarship) and MIPRS (Monash International Postgraduate

Research Scholarship) – Living stipend and tuition fee waiver for doctoral research at Monash University, 2011-2014

ADB–JSP (Asian Development Bank–Japan Scholarship Program) scholarship, 2005-2007

Mahapola Scholarship, 2000-2004

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Society of Civil Engineers (Associate member)

Institute of Transport Engineers (ITE Australia and New Zealand branch)

Engineers Australia

Institute of Engineers Sri Lanka

REFEREES

Prof. Majid Sarvi
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