

Which Way Should We Go?

Objectives

Explain the benefits of using static routes.

Scenario

A huge sporting event is about to take place in your city. To attend the event, you make concise plans to arrive at the sports arena on time to see the entire game.

There are two routes you can take to drive to the event:

- Highway route - It is easy to follow and fast driving speeds are allowed.
- Alternative, direct route - You found this route using a city map. Depending on conditions, such as the amount of traffic or congestion, this just may be the way to get to the arena on time!

With a partner, discuss these options. Choose a preferred route to arrive at the arena in time to see every second of the huge sporting event.

Compare your optional preferences to network traffic, which route would you choose to deliver data communications for your small- to medium-sized business? Would it be the fastest, easiest route or the alternative, direct route? Justify your choice.

Complete the modeling activity .pdf and be prepared to justify your answers to the class or with another group.

Required Resources

None

Reflection

1. Which route did you choose as your first preference? On what criteria did you base your decision?
2. If traffic congestion were to occur on either route, would this change the path you would take to the arena? Explain your answer.
3. A popular phrase that can be argued is “the shortest distance between two points is a straight line.” Is this always true with delivery of network data? How do you compare your answer to this modeling activity scenario?