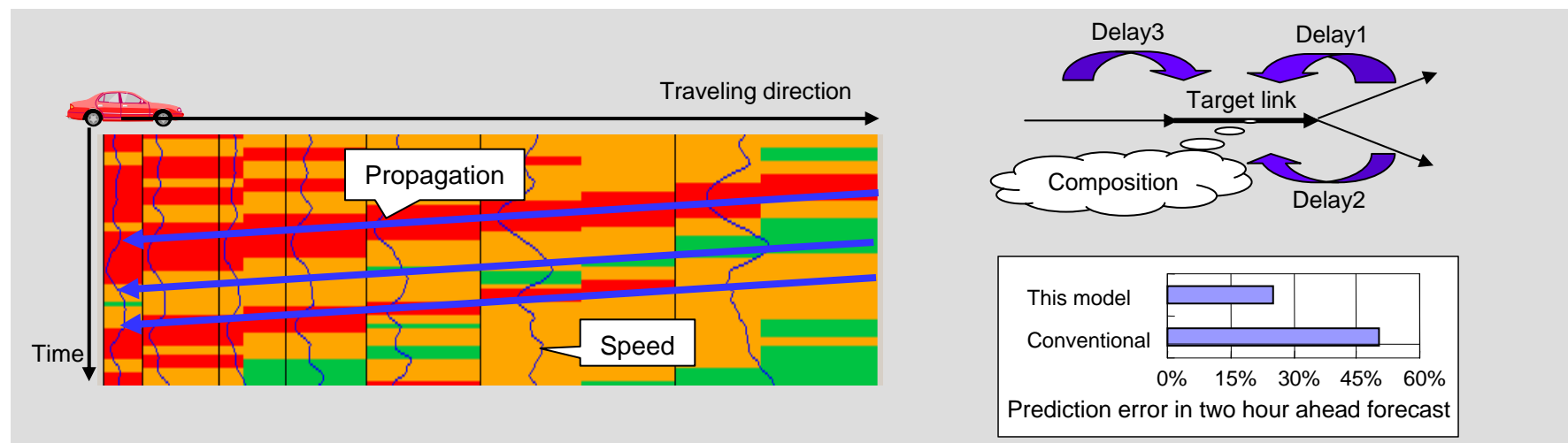


2006/10/5 Release

## Highly accurate traffic prediction method for expressways in large metropolitan areas - Predicting estimated time to arrival by analyzing congestion dispersion time and distance -



The Hitachi Research Laboratory of Hitachi, Ltd. and Xanavi Informatics Corporation, have developed a highly accurate prediction method to determine changes in traffic conditions a few minutes to a few hours ahead, by analyzing the propagation speed of congestions on expressways. The method analyzes the propagation time and distance of a congestion based on past traffic data available from road sensors, and provides a highly accurate prediction of the effects of the congestion. Using this method, it is possible to accurately predict the probability of traffic congestion arising even on heavy traffic routes where it is difficult to make a prediction based on past statistical data, by taking into account the propagation time of congestion from nearby routes. Further, the new method decreased prediction error by a maximum of 50% in predicting the time to arrival. The technology developed is suited to the prediction of congestions on expressways in large metropolitan areas where a small change in traffic volume may have a large effect on traffic conditions. This technology is expected to contribute to increased fuel-efficiency, decreased environmental burden and a more comfortable drive for expressway users by assisting them in avoid congestion.

Results of this research will be presented at the 13th ITS World Congress (sponsored by ERTICO) to be held from 8th -12th October 2006, in London, U.K.