

# Evaluation of Economic, Environmental and Safety Impact of At-Grade Railway Crossings on Urban City of Developing Country

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## Abstract

Running through the densely populated urban areas railway has an inherent weakness of generating congestions at the at-grade crossings or level crossings (LC). It is responsible for economic losses, emission of harmful gases, and increase in accident risks for roadway traffic. Realizing these effects many of the developed countries have adopted various solutions starting from automatic gates installation to grade separation. However, developing countries have either failed to address the congestion problems caused by LCs, or yet to adopt appropriate measures to counteract them. Dhaka, the most densely populated megacity of the world has 42 level crossings in the city. This study reveals the economic losses, environmental impact and safety hazard of the busiest 7.15 kilometer railway corridor which has six level crossings. Primary field data have been utilized to find the delays and emission incurred by individual LC using available methods with slight modifications. Yearly economic losses incurred by studied LCs are estimated to be 32.95 million USD. With 1,412,128 kilograms of harmful gases (volatile organic compound, NO<sub>x</sub> and CO) emitted in a year, these LCs pose serious threats to the public health of the surrounding neighborhoods. Hazardous locations have been identified by assigning Hazard Index values. In light of these results, suitable solutions have been proposed to reduce congestion at the level crossings, and to enhance public health and roadway safety.

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*Index terms*— level crossing, developing country, economic loss, emission, hazard index.

## 1 I. Introduction

ailway has been the most efficient way to meet the transportation demand of the mega cities throughout the world. Running through the densely populated urban areas, railway has an inherent weakness of producing congestions at the at-grade crossings (level crossing or LC). Especially near intersections, at-grade crossings create numerous conflict points for road-traffic, trains, and pedestrians. These crossings force both road traffic and trains to reduce their speed, increasing travel time, and congestion and decreasing overall efficiency of the rail network. The at-grade crossings are also a major source of traffic accidents in the urban areas, thus producing a significant threat to economy as well as to public safety.

Grade separations have been adopted in different countries to eliminate the at-grade crossings. Different criteria are used as base for the consideration of grade separation of level crossings in different countries. Australia, Germany, Great Britain, USA, Spain, Canada and various other countries used train speed as a criterion. In Japan the official regulation is followed as a grade separation criterion which states that if the product of daily vehicle traffic and the number of hours when the crossing is closed because of trains exceeds 10,000, the crossing is to be grade separated (Katz and Guttman, 1991). Like the developed country, developing economies may

not be able to adopt this solution as grade separation is very costly. Installing automatic level crossing gates, synchronizing the arrival time of trains with roadway traffic signals, appropriate platform arrangement near to the crossings are some of the less costly alternatives.

Dhaka is one of the most densely populated megacities of the world. It has a population of over 15 million with a staggering density of nearly 43,000 people per square kilometer area. Bangladesh Railway (BR) is the state-owned rail transport agency of Bangladesh. Both inter-city and suburban rail systems are operated under the state owned BR on a multi-gauge network of broad, meter and dual gauges. Presently, BR has about 2541 (1413 Approved & 1128 Un-approved) level crossing gates all over the country (Bangladesh Railway, 2008). In Dhaka, there are 29 authorized level crossings which are devised with manually operated gates. Daily on an average 90 trains travels to and from the Kamalapur Railway Station situated near the central business district (CBD). Most of the trains travel to the northern part and out of the city; only few passenger trains and DEMU trains travel south from the Kamalapur Railway Station. This creates severe congestions at the level crossings and is responsible for road-rail accidents. Some of the level crossings located in the busiest roadways are responsible for huge economic and travel time losses, and poses threat to roadway safety.

With the population growth traffic are growing faster than ever. This is high time to address the economic losses and safety issues related level crossings of Dhaka city. This study aims at finding out the economic losses, environmental pollution and threats to public safety associated with some of the most congested and accident prone level crossings of Dhaka. With some modifications, available methods are used to estimate the economic losses, environmental pollution and safety threats using primary field data. Also, some probable solutions are reviewed and the suitable ones are recommended.

This research paper is divided into several sections. The next section describes the available methods to estimate delays and their economic implications, which is followed by the selection of study locations and study methodology. The analyses of the study have been divided into three sections afterwards. In light of the findings some suitable solutions have been recommended in the section before the conclusion.

## 2 II. Literature Review

The literature review section focuses on the available methods to calculate vehicle delay and to estimate economic losses incurred by the at-grade crossing. The available methods of risk assessment on the at-grade crossings are also discussed here.

### 3 a) Delay Estimation of Isolated Crossing

Most of the grade crossings were somewhat isolated from traffic signalized intersections, thus making them well-suited for use of a mathematical model such as the Webster uniform delay model (Okitsu et al. 2010), which is based on classical deterministic queuing theory. Total vehicle delay caused by each blockage event is calculated using the formula below:  $D = [AR * Q * (B + LT)]/2$  (1)

Where Queue duration is the period starting when the gates begin their descent and ending when the vehicles queued at a crossing dissipate after a gate blockage event. Queue duration is estimated based on the following formula:  $Q = (\text{Blockage Event Duration} + \text{Lost Time}) / [1 - (\text{Arrival Rate} / \text{Saturation Flow Rate})]$  (2)

A traffic delay calculation model was proposed by Hakkert and Gitelman (1997) from slight adjustment of a previous model by Ayan and Erdman (1985). That model includes:  $\sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=1}^m \frac{t_{ij} \cdot \lambda_{ij}}{\mu_{ij} - \lambda_{ij}}$  (3)

Where, m = number of train categories for the period; k = number of time intervals with different traffic volumes;  $t_{ij}$  = blockage time caused by i-type trains;

$\lambda_{ij}$  = queue release time after i-type trains for the interval with j traffic volume;  $\mu_{ij}$  = vehicle arrival rate at the crossing during the interval with j traffic volume; and  $\lambda_{ij}$  = number of i-type trains during the interval with j traffic volume. Equation 2 provides simpler means to measure the delays than equation 3. In this study equation 2 has been used to estimate the delays of individual level crossing.

### 4 b) Estimation of Economic Cost at Grade Crossing

Economic cost incurred in grade crossings depends on several factors. Number of trains passing during the measured time (peak hour, a whole day etc.), total vehicular traffic using that crossing, blockage duration for each train event, reduction speed of vehicular traffic etc. The relationships between these factors and economic losses are linear in most cases. Hakkert and Gitelman (1997) proposed a linear regression formula for the approximate evaluation of the economic loss per crossing due to road traffic delay. The general formula is:  $y = a + bx$  (4)

Where, y = annual cost of vehicle delays in million NIS. a = coefficient derived from regression analysis.

x = variables used in the estimation (daily vehicular traffic, number of crossing per day, free speed of vehicle on road etc.) For a number of variables different values of coefficient were derived. Using equation 3, estimation of economic losses can be made by using at most five variables (Hakkert and Gitelman 1997). Without any speed data, the following equation was proposed (Hakkert and Gitelman 1997):  $y = 0.00014x_1 + 0.01038x_2 + 0.36115x_3$  (5)

Where,  $x_1$  = volume of daily vehicle traffic (vehicle per day, vpd)

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101  $x_2 =$  the number of crossing closing per day  $x_3 =$  the number of hours per day when the crossing is closed.  
102 Here,  $Y$  is the annual economic loss due to vehicle delays at a crossing in million NIS (New Israeli Sheqel; 1 USD  
103  $= 3.78$  NIS  $= 77.74$  Bangladeshi Taka or BDT and );  $V$  refers to variable used (daily traffic volume vehicles),  
104 trains means the total number of trains, and slowdown is the average vehicle speed reduction due to a crossing  
105 in km/h.

106 In this research a direct approach has been adopted to estimate the economic losses in terms of vehicle operating  
107 cost (VOC) and value of travel time (VOT).

## 108 5 c) Hazard Index Measurement

109 A recent study identified five success factors largely responsible for the reduction in crashes, namely: commercial  
110 driver safety, locomotive conspicuity, more reliable motor vehicles, sight lines clearance, and the Grade Crossing  
111 Maintenance Rule (2).

112 Based on four crossing characteristics a Hazard Index (HI) equation was proposed by (Gitelman and Hakkert  
113 1997). These characteristics included warning device, volume of vehicle traffic, and volume of train traffic and  
114 visibility conditions. Hauer (1986) proposed using an estimator  $T$ , where  $T$  is defined by:  $T=f(x),E(x),VAR(x)$ ;  
115 (7) This method supports the maximum likelihood estimate of expected accident numbers for entities with  
116 observed accident count  $x$ , the sample mean  $E(x)$  and the sample variance  $VAR(x)$ . In this manner, the influence  
117 of these characteristics on crossing safety is measured. The existing models ??Taggart et al.,1987;Tustin et  
118 al.,1986) use from three to thirty factors to predict the accident potential at a crossing.

119 In this study New Hampshire Hazard Index (Ogden, 2007) was calculated for each of the six crossings.  
120 Calculated Hazard Index (HI) ranks crossings in relative terms; i.e. the higher the calculated index, the more  
121 hazardous the crossing. This mathematical HI helps to enhance the objectivity.

122 The New Hampshire Index is as follows: $HI=(V)(T)(P f)(8)$

123 Where, HI = hazard index  $V =$  annual average daily traffic (AADT)  $T =$  average daily train traffic (ADTT)  
124  $P f =$  protection factor = 0.1 for automatic gates = 0.6 for flashing lights = 0.8 for flashing lights with manually  
125 operated gates. = 1.0 for signs only.

## 126 6 III. Selection of Study Locations

127 There are 42 railway level crossings and 6 railway stations in Dhaka city between Jurine and Abdullahpur of which  
128 29 level crossings are authorized and other 13 are of unauthorized ??Bangladesh Railway, 2008). 20 of these level  
129 crossings are associated with major roads and remaining 22 are associated with minor roads. For investigation,  
130 selection of crossings did not rely on an existing inventory, as it does not provide updated information about  
131 the level crossings. The major concern is to determine the economic losses, and have an estimate of the safety  
132 hazard of level crossing; following criteria are considered in selecting the study locations: Based on these criteria  
133 six level crossings have been identified as critical. These level crossings sites along with the section of the railway  
134 track considered in this study have been marked in the following figure.

## 135 7 Global

136 The selected six level crossings fall in a line starting from Mohakhali and finishing at the Kamalapur Railway  
137 Station. Length of this corridor is 7.15 km; that makes 1 LC at every 1.2 km within this densely populated area.  
138 Specially, starting from Truck Stsand to Mogbazar, there is three LC within 1.22 km of railway track. Mohakhali  
139 and Khilgaon LC have flyover (Fig. ??) running over them. But still the congestion is high in these two locations.  
140 Another flyover: Mouchak-Mogbazar flyover, is under construction which will pass over Mogbazar and Malibag  
141 LC and also will have an on and off ramps close to Karwan Bazar LC. Analyzing the aftermath of flyovers at  
142 Mohakhali and Khilgaon will help to assess the near-future scenarios at Mogbazar, Malibag and Karwan Bazar  
143 LC when Mouichak-Mogbazar flyover will be in operation.

## 144 8 IV. Study Methodology

145 The vehicle delay for the peak hours; (morning peak of 3 hours and evening peak of 3 hours, total 6 hours) is  
146 calculated for each blockage event and for each direction recorded during a single working day. Equation 1 is  
147 used to calculate the delay. The total daily (24 hours) vehicle delay is then estimated. The vehicle delay for the  
148 off-peak hours (18 hours) is taken to be half of the total peak 6 hour delay.

149 This mathematical model relies on only a few parameters, such as motor vehicle traffic, duration of the  
150 blockage, and the saturation flow for departing vehicles once the blockage is removed. This makes it easy to  
151 calculate delay for a given direction of traffic. The formula fits in a cell of a computer spreadsheet.

152 Primary field data were collected for the frequency and duration of the crossing gate blockage events in May  
153 2015. It was observed that vehicles continued to traverse through the crossing when the warning lights flashed;  
154 in some events vehicles were found to traverse until the gate arm had fully closed the crossing. As soon as the  
155 gate arm began to rise, the vehicles in the queue began to traverse through the crossing. Therefore, for the  
156 delay analysis, the gate blockage event duration is considered to be the time when the gate arm was completely  
157 down until the gate arm begins to rise. Most of the time, a single train was observed to traverse through the  
158 crossings during the blockage events. In some cases, two trains traversed Vehicular arrival rate is the number of

159 vehicles arriving at the grade crossing within an identified time period. The arrival rate is based on the traffic  
160 count data collected with from field in May 2015 at each crossing over a 6-hour period (morning peak 3 hours  
161 and evening peak 3 hour). As the traffic stream consisted of different types of vehicles, to have the vehicular  
162 rate Passenger-car-equivalent (PCE) factor was used. However, for delay estimation in vehicle-hour at the rail  
163 crossings during a gate blockage event, the number of vehicle arrivals during the hour when the gate was down  
164 was recorded as the vehicular arrival rate. Delay in vehicle-hour was calculated for a single event and multiplied  
165 by the total number of gate blockage events observed during the peak 6 hours.

166 The maximum flow rate of the vehicles of a lane group observed during the traverse immediately after the  
167 gate blockage event is the saturation flow rate. Any start-up lost time prior to queue dissipation after the end of  
168 a gate blockage event is excluded in saturation flow rate. For the six different grade crossings different values of  
169 saturation flow were observed. Saturation flow rate was calculated in PCU per hour.

170 The time difference between the gates starts to rise and saturation flow stabilizes is the lost time. From the  
171 observation it was found that it took as long as 30 seconds to restore the normal traffic flow after the gate arm  
172 starts to rise. The lost time was added to the total blockage event duration.

173 The queue length was determined at the end of blockage event duration plus the lost period. Maximum total  
174 queue is the maximum number of vehicles waiting at the crossing during a single event. From the field the  
175 maximum queue length for each event was observed and recorded.

## 176 9 V. Economic Losses and Emission

177 Cost of Delay

### 178 10 All the costs at 2015 prices. a = based on 260 working days 179 and Peak 6 hours of the day. b = for peak and off peak hour 180 combined

181 The total vehicle-hour lost in a year (in 260 working days) is 9.13 million. In monetary value the total loss in  
182 VOC and VOT combined is 32.95 million USD. The highest loss is suffered at Mogbazar LC with 13.46 million  
183 USD in a year. The Mohakhali LC is in the second and Khilgaon LC is in the third position with 9.31 million  
184 USD and 3.49 million USD losses in a year respectively. Interesting to mention that, both of these level crossings  
185 have flyover passing over them. The flyovers were supposed to reduce the at-grade congestion and reduce the  
186 travel time and economic losses. Instead, these two locations suffer more losses than the remaining three LCs.  
187 Another flyover is under construction which will pass over the Mogbazar and Malibag flyover. Due to the on-going  
188 construction works congestion is high in Mogbazar LC.

189 The emissions from the vehicles waiting in the queue during the closing period of the level crossing gates  
190 have been calculated. Three of the most common and harmful gases emitted from motor vehicles are considered:  
191 Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC), Carbon Monoxide (CO), and Nitrous Oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) are Global Journal  
192 of Researches in Engineering ( ) Volume XVI Issue IV Version I considered in emission cost estimation. Idle  
193 vehicle emissions have been considered in the estimation (EPA, 1998). Table 2 summarizes the total emissions  
194 in kilograms and their costs for the six level crossings. Total yearly emission cost for six level crossings is 1.64  
195 million USD. Emission is highest at Mogbazar LC. That is because the percentage of motorized vehicles are  
196 high in this level crossing and also the waiting time and queue length is higher in this level crossing due to the  
197 on-going flyover construction. These emissions have serious adverse effect on public health (Krzysztof 2005  
198 Kunzli et al. 2000, Wjst et al. 1993). Starting from various respiratory diseases these are responsible for  
199 cancer if exposed for a long period of time. The emissions not only affect the passengers and riders, but also  
200 have severe effect on the people living close to the level crossing junctions. Studies have proven that proximity  
201 to traffic sources escalates the risk for asthma and asthma exacerbations on the residents (Salam et al. 2008).  
202 As one of them most densely populated urban area in the world the risks are even higher in Dhaka. Specially,  
203 at Karwan bazar, Truck Stand, and Khilgaon which have relatively high population density in the surrounding  
204 areas compared to the other three level crossings, are more vulnerable to air pollution.

## 205 11 VI. Hazard Index

206 Hazard index is measured based on New Hampshire equation (equation7) with slight modification. As visibility  
207 is an important criteria in urban areas and from the field observation and questionnaire data the visibility was  
208 found to be responsible for several collision; this factor is included in this study.

209  $V_f =$  Visibility factor = 0.5 for good visibility = 1 for poor visibility = 1.25 for very poor visibility.

210 With  $V_f$  the modified equation becomes:  $HI = (V) (T) (P_f) (V_f) (9)$

211 The HI of the studied level crossings is given in Table 3. As seen from the Table 3, most hazardous location  
212 is Khilgaon LC and the least hazardous location among the seven is Truck Stand LC. Both the level crossings  
213 have same values of  $P_f$  and  $V_f$ , but as more road-way traffic passes in the Khilgaon LC it has higher values  
214 of HI. Mohakhali LC is the fifth hazardous location among the seven. This is an interesting finding, although  
215 Mohakhali and Khilgaon both have flyover running over them which were built to reduce the at grade congestion.

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216 Even though, Khilgaon is the most vulnerable location for road way accident. A new flyover Mouchak-Mogbazar  
217 flyover is under construction, which will pass over the Mogbazar and Mailbag LC.

## 218 **12 Fig. 2: Economic and Emission Costs and Hazard Index of** 219 **Level Crossings**

220 The values are high for Mohakhali and Mogbazar LC. As it was mentioned earlier, both of these level crossings  
221 have flyover running over them, still these two level crossings suffer the most. The daily vehicle traffic is higher  
222 in these locations which also escalates the risk of accidents. At Karwan Bazar and truck Stand LC the visibility  
223 is very poor. Slums and shops are located very close to the tracks from Truck Stand to Karwan Bazar LC. At  
224 the Mogbazar LC corner plots are occupied by large buildings (Fig. ??). In very recent times, several accidents  
225 took place in this sort section. Slums and hawkers are also found in the surrounding area of Khilgaon LC. These  
226 increase the accident probability in many folds. According to national dailies, 238 people have lost their lives in  
227 level crossing related accidents only inside Dhaka city from January 2014 to September 2014. Accident rates are  
228 higher for Mogbazar, Karwan Bazar and Khilgaon LC.

## 229 **13 Global**

## 230 **14 VII. Recommendations**

231 To mitigate the congestion and safety problems associated with the grade crossing various countries have adopted,  
232 and still adopting the solution of grade separated road-rail crossing. In different countries, different criteria are set  
233 to determine the warrant of grade separation. Most widespread parameter defining the need of grade separation  
234 is operating speed of trains. Grade separation is warranted if the trains operate at 160 kmph or higher speed  
235 (Katz and Guttman, 1991). In Israel the criteria decisive parameter is the product of daily vehicle traffic and  
236 the number of trains per crossing per day. These values vary from state to state and lie in the range of 20,000 to  
237 35,000 and 50,000 to 75,000 for a rural and urban crossing respectively (Hakkert and Gitelman, 1997). In India  
238 a value of 100000 of this product (known as traffic moment) is used as a threshold to prioritize the sites for grade  
239 separation (UNESCAP 2000). In Japan, the criteria for grade separated crossing is set to be product of daily  
240 vehicle traffic and the number of hours when the crossing is closed because of trains; if that product exceeds  
241 10,000, the grade separation is warranted (Katz and Guttman, 1991).

242 Elimination of all the level crossing is the only true way to address the economic losses and the safety issues  
243 ??VicGov, 2009). It has been suggested to be the most effective measure of ensuring safety and reducing the  
244 risk of collision at level crossings (LCSC, 2013). However, due to the built up urban areas elimination of all  
245 level crossings altogether may not be feasible. From the analysis, grade separation is warranted for all the 7  
246 level crossings. Following table summarizes the criteria for grade separation used in different countries and the  
247 corresponding values for the selected seven level crossings. In terms of vehicular traffic and train traffic, all the  
248 level crossings need grade separation as found from Table 4. Although the train velocity is low and thus does not  
249 poses any significant threat to the roadway traffic. But again, due to the high roadway traffic and poor methods  
250 of gate operation, the trains are compelled to run at a speed lower than the average to avoid any collisions. Thus,  
251 this also delays the trains and reduces the efficiency of train movement.

## 252 **15 Global**

253 Grade separation is the engineering process of separating roadway traffic modes and railway traffic by way of  
254 building a tunnel or a bridge. It reduces road congestion and its bi-products ??Guzman et al. 2015). Removal  
255 of the level crossing through the construction of a road overpass might have the potential to reduce headways to  
256 a significant amount, but in order for the additional line capacity benefits to be realized all other level crossings  
257 on the line would also have to be replaced by road overpasses. To adopt this in Dhaka all the level crossing  
258 must be replaced by road over-pass or underpass. Installing overpass only in selected locations will not solve the  
259 problem as it is evident from the study of Mohakhali and Khilgaon level crossing. While grade separation is the  
260 most effective alternative, it is also an extremely costly solution. For example, in Australia, the cost of removing  
261 all level crossings in Victoria has been calculated to cost between USD 60 billion and USD 80 billion (NPV)  
262 (Lucas, 2009) Several regulatory reforms in the operation of railway can be considered to reduce congestions at  
263 the level crossings. A study on the typical railway firm of Japan found some effective regulatory methods to  
264 reduce congestion without reducing the firm's cost reducing efforts based on price cap (PC) regulation ??Kidokoro  
265 2006). This study, PC regulation with a cap contingent on transportation quality (inverse of congestion rate),  
266 was found to relieve congestion without distorting cost-reducing efforts (Kidokoro 2006). The study also found  
267 that PC regulation, with fixed investment levels and allowing cost pass-through for investments, can correct  
268 the congestion without damaging cost-reducing efforts, ensuring low elasticity of substitution among inputs and  
269 proper determination of the target investment levels by the regulator (Kidokoro 2006). Using micro-simulation  
270 models, Mitrovik et al. (2012) found that optimizing light rail transit (LRT) schedule with preemption to LRT  
271 can reduce at grade congestion. In Dhaka, the railway is operated by Ministry of Railway (MoR) not by any  
272 private organization. To learn from Japan, the MoR must conduct a detail study to best meet the demand by  
273 reducing congestion in cost-effective way.

274 Modification of platform arrangements and warning methods can reduce the gate closing time and accident  
275 probability. A study by Guzman et al. (2015) proposed that congestion at station level crossings is not caused  
276 by the level crossing intersection closure operation, but rather by trains at the platform and/or arriving, forcing  
277 the intersection to remain closed for long intervals. At an Arrival Side Platform (ASP) platform, Global Journal  
278 of Researches in Engineering ( ) Volume XVI Issue IV Version I a train travelling east to west or up-line, triggers  
279 the intersection closure, arriving at the ASP platform before crossing the level crossing intersection, passenger's  
280 disembark and board. During this process, the intersection remains closed to all road and pedestrian traffic; the  
281 train then proceeds through the level crossing opening the intersection to road traffic. But that is not the case  
282 for a Departure Side Platform (DSP). In DSP the passenger boarding and onboarding is done after the train has  
283 crossed the level crossing. By installing DSP the congestion can be reduced by a significant amount (Guzman  
284 et al. 2015). For the case of Truck Stand LC this method can significantly reduce the gate closing time.

## 16 VIII. Conclusions

285 This study focused on the economic, environmental and safety impact of level crossings inside densely populated  
286 urban city. From available methods, simple estimations have been made by minor modification to meet the  
287 actual scenario. Field data have been used to estimate the economic losses in terms of VOT and VOC, the  
288 environmental effect in terms of emissions and safety threats in terms of Hazard Index. By quantitatively stating  
289 all the problems associated with at grade rail crossings, most vulnerable sites have been identified. Also, reviewing  
290 the available solutions, some suitable solutions have been proposed in this study. 9.13 million vehicle-hours are  
291 lost in a single year in six level crossings. The economic value of lost travel times and vehicle operating cost is  
292 32.95 million USD or 25.62 billion BDT per year. Total yearly emission cost for six level crossings is 1.64 million  
293 USD or 1.275 billion BDT per year. Yearly 1412128 kilograms of harmful gases (volatile organic compound,  
294 NO<sub>x</sub> and CO) are emitted during the delays in six level crossings. Khilgaon LC has the highest HI followed by  
295 Mogbazar and Karwan Bazar LC.

297 From all the analysis Mogbazar LC has been identified as the most vulnerable LC as the economic costs,  
298 emission values and HI are higher than most of the other level crossings analyzed in this research. Surely,  
299 this LC draws the primary attraction for improvement to reduce congestion and economic losses. Mohakhali  
300 LC and Khilgaon LC have flyover running over them, but still do not manage to control the congestions to a  
301 significant level. Similarly, Mogbazar LC and Malibag LC may face similar consequences as another flyover is  
302 under construction in this corridor.

303 From this study it is obvious that all of the six level crossings require grade separation. But with limited  
304 resources and already developed urban establishments this is not the suitable solution for Dhaka. Using automatic  
305 barriers, rearrangements of ASP and DSP or adoptions of regulatory measures are some of the recommended  
306 solutions.

307 For staged improvement of the congestion scenario a more detailed research with cost-benefit studies of  
308 alternative solution is required. This study has identified the present situation of six level crossings in terms  
309 of economic losses and road-rail safety indicators.

## 17 IX. Acknowledgement

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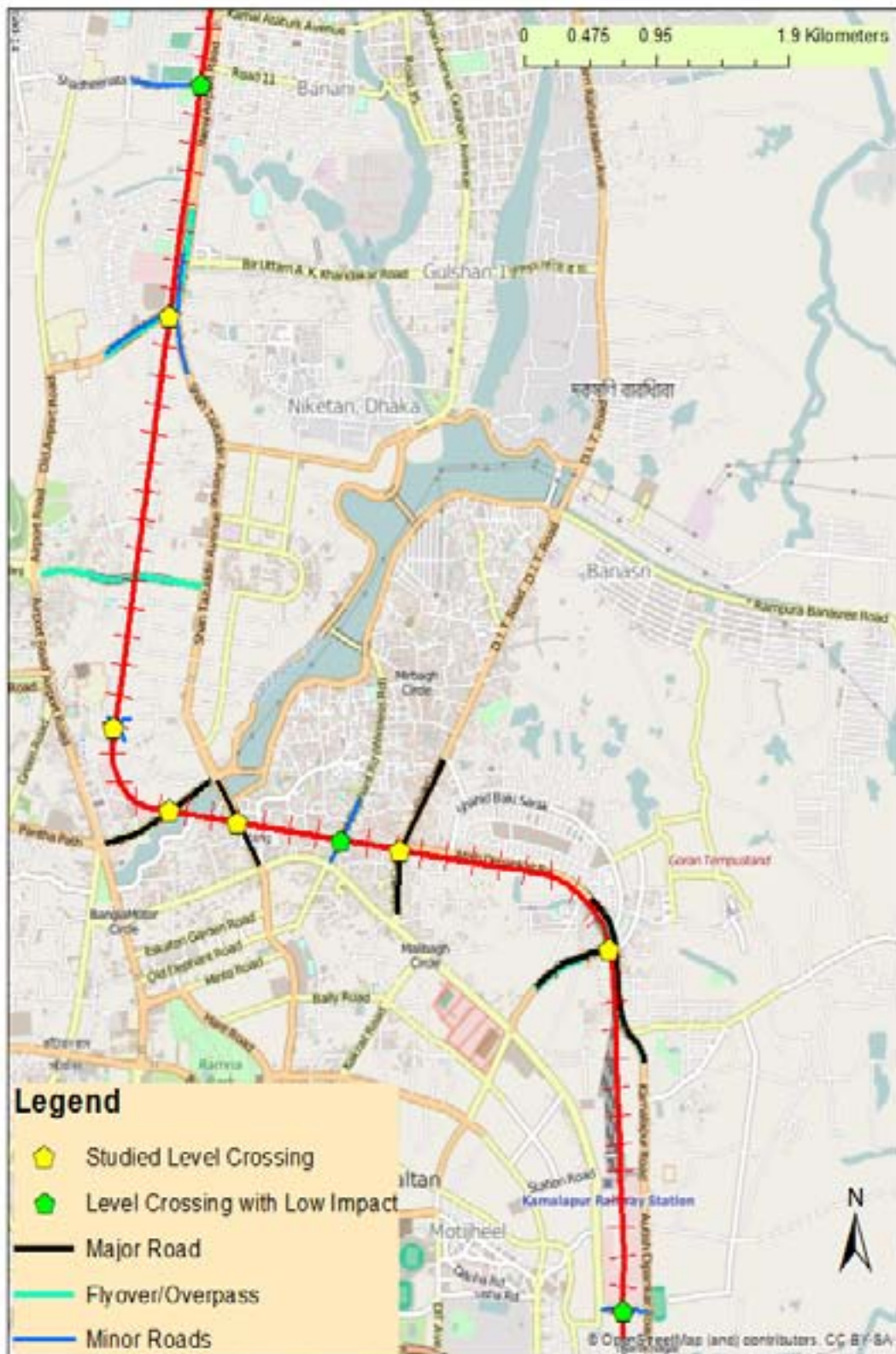


Figure 1:

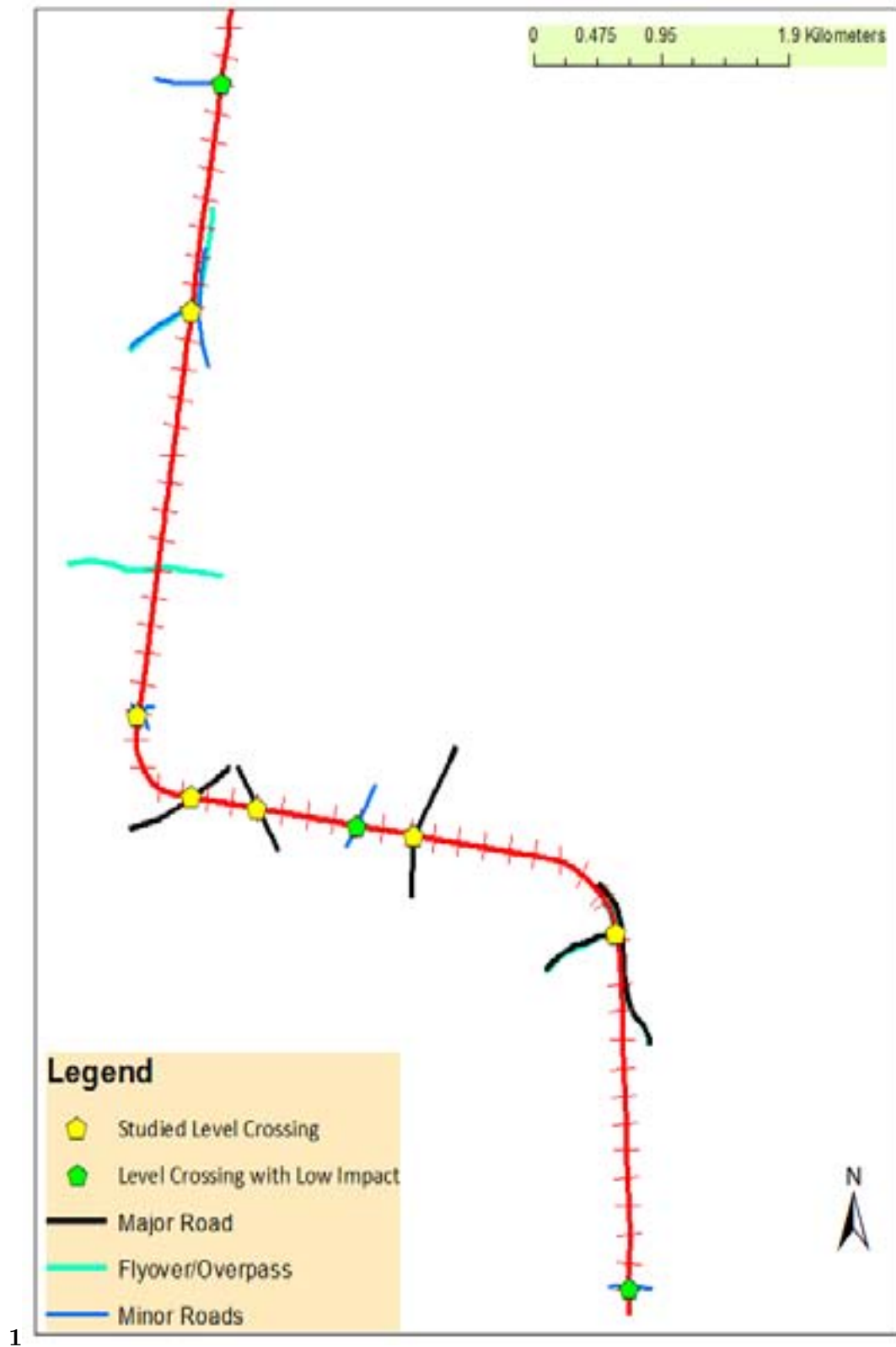
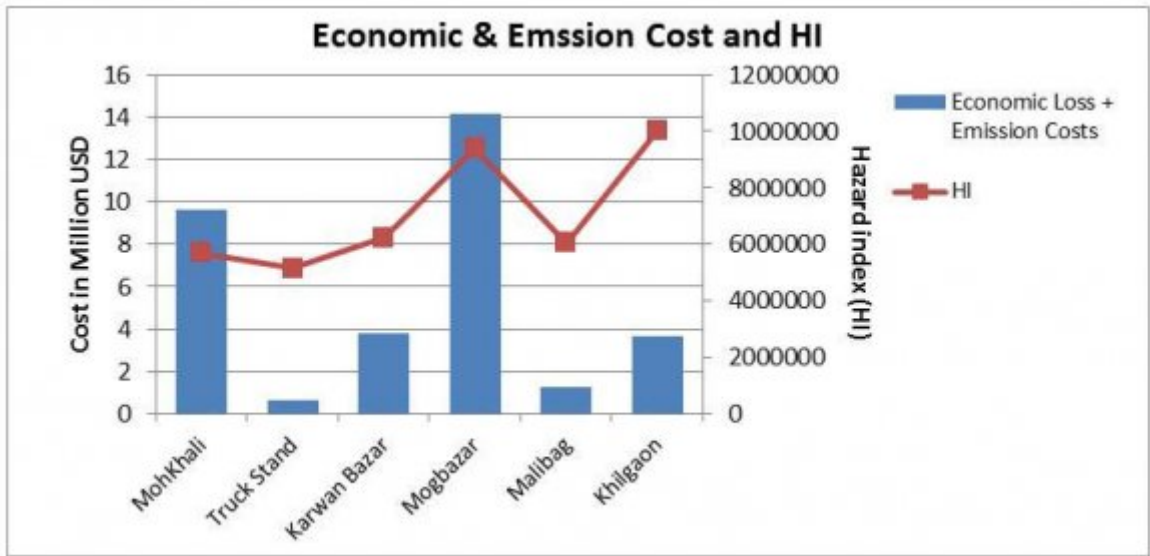


Figure 2: Fig. 1 :



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Figure 3: Global 4 2016 E



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Figure 4: Global 6 2016 E

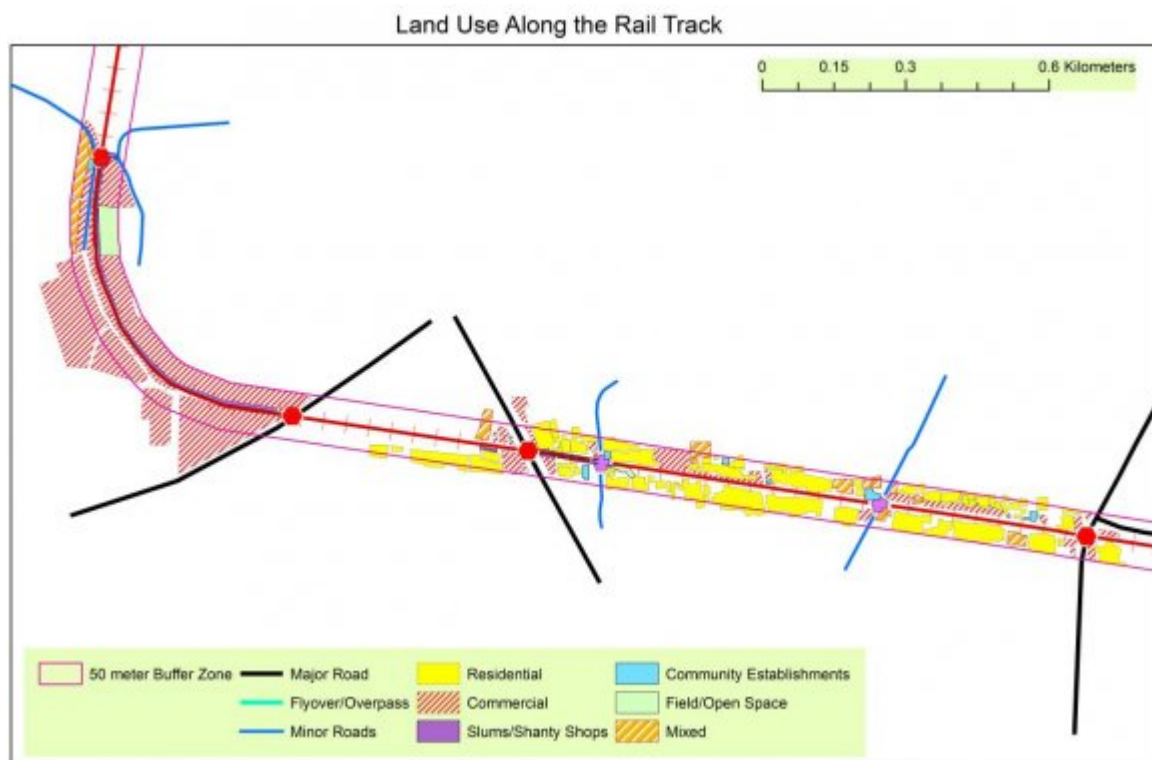


Figure 5:

1

Sl	Location	AADT	Average Delay (PCU/h) per Closing (second)	Average Delay (veh-hr) in a Year a	Total Delay (veh-hr) in a Year b	Annual VOC in USD	Annual VOT in USD	Total Yearly Economic Loss a in USD	Total Yearly Economic Loss b in USD
1	Mohakha	79099	172	1038977	1558465	1,922,275	4,283,667	6,205,943	9,308,914
2	Truck Stand	57279	200	302786	454179	144,808	253,454	398,263	597,394
3	Karwan Bazar	86414	222	1156900	1735350	1,145,876	2,117,879	2,291,753	3,437,629
4	Mogbazar	104465	219	1882394	2823591	2,869,598	6,106,272	8,987,478	13,463,805
5	Malibagh	84207	117	259078	388617	213,200	585,178	798,378	1,197,567
6	Khilgaon	111185	182	1447123	2170685	784,958	1,538,557	2,323,515	3,485,272
	Total			6,087,258	9,130,887	7,080,715	14,885,007	21,965,722	32,948,583

Figure 6: Table 1 :

**2**

Sl.	Location	Annual Emission in Kg VOC (Volatile Organic CO (Carbon Compound) Monoxide)	
1	Mohakhali	20470	206519
2	Truck Stand	1605	28401
3	Karwan Bazar	16116	287370
4	Mogbazar	32193	562674
5	Malibagh	2196	37748
6	Khilgaon	7744	135840
	Total	80324	1258552

Figure 7: Table 2 :

**3**

Grade Crossing	Traffic in PCU/hr a	AADT b	ADT	Protection Factor, P f	Visibility Factor, V f	HI	DEF	Max. Queue Length (meter)
Mohakhali	3190	79099	90	0.8	1	5695125	7.727	180
Truck Stand	2310	57279	90	0.8	1.25	5155070	6.528	120
Karwan Bazar	3485	86414	90	0.8	1	6221790	7.012	220
Mogbazar	4213	104465	90	0.8	1.25	9401865	6.528	210
Malibagh	3396	84207	90	0.8	1	6062897	7.012	195
Khilgaon	4484	111185	90	0.8	1.25	10006637	7.727	170

a = Traffic volume is the sum of all approaches of the crossing, measured from 10 am to 11 am.

b = Conversion to AADT is done by using expansion factors (Grabber and Hoel, 2014)

[HEF = 17.11, MEF = 1.395, DEF]

Figure 8: Table 3 :

4

A= Train Moment*	Israeli Criteria (A ? 75,000 for Urban)	Indian Criteria (A ? 100,000)	B= Product of Daily Traffic (PCU) and closing time (hr)	Japanese Train Speed (Kmph)
4,912,281	Y	Y	234701	? 30
3,557,169	Y	Y	197601	? 30
5,366,552	Y	Y	330937	? 30
6,487,599	Y	Y	395203	? 30
5,229,500	Y	Y	169959	? 30
6,904,912	Y	Y	348813	? 30
6,477,030	Y	Y	395819	? 30

\* Daily Traffic (PCU) times the Daily No. of Trains

Figure 9: Table 4 :

Automatic barrier is used in many railways (USA, . The Committee for Melbourne estimates USD 100 million per level crossing removal from the Melbourne metropolitan area (CfM, 2011). With 50 years of life time annual cost of a road over-pass is 32.753 Million INR (11.656 Million INR for the year of 2000) or 0.5 Million USD (United Nations ESCAP 2000). Building a crossing grade separation in Israel was estimated to be NIS (New Israeli Sheqel) 2.2 million to NIS 66 million per site. The analogous published estimates for the United States are USD 1.56 million to USD 4.2 million (Rozek et al. 1988) and for Sweden are 3.6 million to 10.8 million Swedish kroner (Asp et al. 1986) (all values converted to 2015 prices).

Figure 10:

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