

1 **ON- AND OFF-STREET PARKING STRATEGIES AND OUTCOMES**
2 **FOR SHARED AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE FLEET OPERATIONS**
3

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1 **ABSTRACT**

2 As global demand for ride-hailing services rises, there is an increased urgency to study shared
3 autonomous vehicle (SAV) fleets and their impacts on regional travel. Most SAV studies
4 assume fleet vehicles idle in-place after trip completion, which severely limits understanding
5 the impacts of new parking demand on the expected supply and demand balance. Parking spots
6 are a premium commodity, especially in dense downtown settings, so this study examines the
7 service impacts of SAVs parking in legal on- or off-street locations when idle across the 6-
8 county Austin region (with nearly 2M travelers). Using an agent-based activity-based travel
9 demand model with dynamic traffic simulation, two restricted-parking scenarios for SAVs
10 were simulated, with and without personal vehicle parking. SAVs either found the nearest
11 available parking spot or one with the least-cost option (via a tradeoff of on parking fees and
12 distance-based costs). Using a supply of 8,400 aggregated parking locations in Austin, this
13 study simulated fleet performance with different trip demands, with SAV fares of \$1 per mile
14 plus a \$1 fixed pickup fee with dynamic ridesharing permitted. Parking costs averaged less
15 than \$4 per day (per SAV) using the nearest parking search strategy. Such low parking costs
16 are thanks to the region’s provision of mostly free parking. Requiring parking raised traveler
17 wait times (by about 1 min, on average). Requiring SAVs park off-street increases parking
18 costs for personal vehicle drivers by 22% as SAVs occupy some free parking spaces, especially
19 in the most probable least cost parking search strategy.

20

21 **Keywords:** Shared Autonomous Vehicles, Off-street Parking, On-street Parking, Parking
22 Demand, Agent-based Modeling

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1 INTRODUCTION

2 The demand for ride-hailing services (like Lyft, Uber, and Didi) is rising as they compete with
3 other modes. In 2017, 2.6 billion passengers used ride-hailing in the US, which is 37% higher
4 than the prior year's value (Schaller 2018). These companies provide the option to share rides
5 with a stranger. Ridesharing or pooling helps lower the number of low-occupancy private
6 vehicles and allows operators to provide a discount on ride-hailing fares (Wenzel et al., 2019).
7 Fleets of shared, fully automated, or "autonomous" vehicles (SAVs) can facilitate dynamic
8 ridesharing (DRS) by lowering ride-hailing costs and relying on central-fleet management
9 algorithms (Fagnant and Kockelman 2014, 2015). SAVs offering ridesharing among strangers
10 are already operating in San Francisco (via Cruise), Las Vegas (via Motional), and Phoenix
11 (via Waymo). While SAVs may enhance mobility options for many - while addressing some
12 congestion and emissions issues (Xia et al. 2021, Alessandrini et al. 2015, Parkin et al. 2018,
13 Fagnant and Kockelman 2014, Lee and Kockelman 2019, Loeb and Kockelman 2019), they
14 can contribute to traffic and create curb congestion in dense settings (where trip starts and ends
15 are concentrated, as in a central business district [CBD], for example) (Gurumurthy and
16 Kockelman 2022, Hunter et al. 2022, Yan et al. 2020).

17 To lower users' wait time, the fleet size for ridesharing or ride-hailing could be increased. Gao
18 et al. (2022) found an increase in fleet size would impose additional fuel cost and empty
19 vehicle-miles travelled (eVMT), if these vehicles cruise (or aimlessly idle) on streets until
20 routed to the next passenger. According to Schaller (2017), the number of ride-sourcing
21 vehicles and trips in New York City from 2013 to 2017 increased by 59% and 15%,
22 respectively. In the same period, the number of idle vehicles increased by 81% and ride-
23 sourcing drivers spent more than 40% of their time empty and cruising for passengers, which
24 increased VMT by 36%. The same trends are expected to happen for ridesharing using SAVs
25 if appropriate policies are not used to manage the empty VMT. A congestion charge or a cap
26 on fleet size are the policies that are being used to address these concerns in ride-sourcing
27 services (NYCTLC 2019, NYCTLC et al. 2019) currently. Gao et al. (2022) suggested forcing
28 these vehicles to park as the best strategy to control their extra VMT and eVMT. They proposed
29 a shared parking model for ridesharing that coordinates vehicle-to-passenger and vehicle-to-
30 garage pairings. They found that the parking enforcement increased passenger demand by 5.3%
31 (from 115 per min to 121 per min for the San Francisco network) and increased ride-sharing
32 revenue by 22% (from \$29,664/h to \$36,240/h). Their study focused only on ridesharing using
33 conventional cars and does not consider SAVs, which may be centrally coordinated.

34 Millard-Ball (2019) stated that AVs' and SAVs' parking decisions are driven economically,
35 meaning that companies may prefer cruising if they find parking costly. On the other hand, free
36 curbside parking locations are limited, especially in large urban areas, such as Manhattan, NY,
37 which highlights the importance of considering metered curbside and off-street parking
38 locations. Off-street parking spaces can be used more efficiently with SAVs as these vehicles
39 can park back-to-back in multiple rows assuming communication capabilities between
40 vehicles, rather than in two separate rows in current parking structures. Nourinejad et al. (2017)
41 focused on AVs' optimal car-park layout and observed that their optimal AV parking structure
42 can reduce the required parking space by 87%. In addition, previous studies introduced AVs
43 and SAVs as a solution to the parking space problem. Okeke (2020) simulated demand with
44 2,181 parking slots on the University of the West of England, Frenchay campus and
45 investigated the impacts of different market shares of AVs and SAVs on free parking spaces
46 when forcing these vehicles to park far from the high parking demand area. While this study
47 observed an increase in the available parking spaces for conventional cars, it did not investigate

1 the impact of this strategy on the increased VMT and eVMT. They also applied their strategy
2 for a small campus network with an area of 80 acres and 23 accessible carparks.

3 City centers typically have complex rules governing curb use. Some blocks may allow for
4 unlimited free parking, others have time limits, whereas the remaining blocks require a permit
5 or hourly charge. Previous modeling of SAV parking policies and assignment strategies has
6 mostly simplified the problem by focusing on a few centralized parking structures or depots
7 instead of using existing paid or free curbside parking. For example, Yan et al. (2020) modeled
8 SAVs in the Minneapolis-Saint Paul metro. They compared scenarios where SAVs simply
9 idled in place after completing their trips versus requiring them to find and park at the nearest
10 synthesized garage (estimated based on trip starts and ends). Their analysis found that VMT
11 increased by 8% and eVMT increased by 9% when SAVs were redirected to parking locations
12 after dropping off all their passengers. This applied to the scenarios with and without DRS
13 enabled. A limitation of Yan et al. (2020) is that they modeled only 2-5% of the region's
14 estimated person-trips due to the limitations imposed by MATSim, another travel demand
15 simulator. Furthermore, in their parking implementation, SAVs assigned to a parking location
16 were locked and not available to serve passengers while enroute to the parking spot. Levin et
17 al. (2020) investigated the impact of zone-specific parking fee on AVs' repositioning and
18 cruising behavior and optimized parking fee and space over the Sioux Falls network. Their
19 results showed that optimizing parking fee significantly impacted the repositioning behavior
20 (total number of repositioning trips decreased by 6.5%) and decreased AVs' eVMT (eVMT
21 reduced by 18.5%). They assumed parking data and cost due to the lack of available data.

22 Zhang et al. (2015) modeled on-street curbside parking demand and minimized overall parking
23 cost (fuel cost to move to parking plus parking fee) to investigate the impacts of cruising on
24 VMT. They used a simple MATLAB grid-based model and simulated a small fraction of the
25 total trips in the City of Atlanta, Georgia.. Their results showed that DRS can reduce required
26 parking land by 4.5% in Atlanta at 5% SAV market share. Charging parking in congested areas
27 move the parking demand from downtown to adjacent neighborhoods. Finally, Bischoff et al.
28 (2018) used MATSim to model AV parking in Berlin. They used three parking search methods:
29 cruising without parking restrictions, choosing from designated AV parking sites similar to
30 Yan (2019), and a random search method where AVs randomly turn at intersections until they
31 find available parking adjacent to their links.

32 **Contributions**

33 The current study expands upon previous studies by applying parking search to SAVs that
34 behave very differently from private vehicles and have access to features such as DRS. In
35 addition, this study adds two additional SAV parking strategies: one where SAVs know current
36 parking availability and head directly to the closest available spot, and another where parking-
37 related costs to the fleet operator are minimized. Private vehicles park in the nearest available
38 parking space. An agent-based activity-based simulator called POLARIS is extended and used
39 in this study for the parking strategy. This robust tool allows for simulating a 100% of the
40 Austin area of around 1.9 million residents with features such as SAVs, dynamic traffic
41 assignment, and DRS. This study adds novelty by simulating real-world parking locations, and
42 simulates fleet choices across a large urban area, to understand the impacts of requiring off-
43 street parking on the SAV fleet's eVMT, response times, costs, and other performance metrics.

44 The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: The next section elaborates on the parking
45 strategy implemented in POLARIS to consider on- and off-street parking locations and to avoid
46 SAVs' idling in place on the street. Then, the specifications of the Austin 6-county network

1 and datasets used to simulate parking locations on this network are explained. Finally, the SAV
 2 operations, parking costs, and users' wait time are compared for different SAV fleet and
 3 parking search scenarios in the results section followed by conclusions and limitations of this
 4 study.

5 **DATASETS USED**

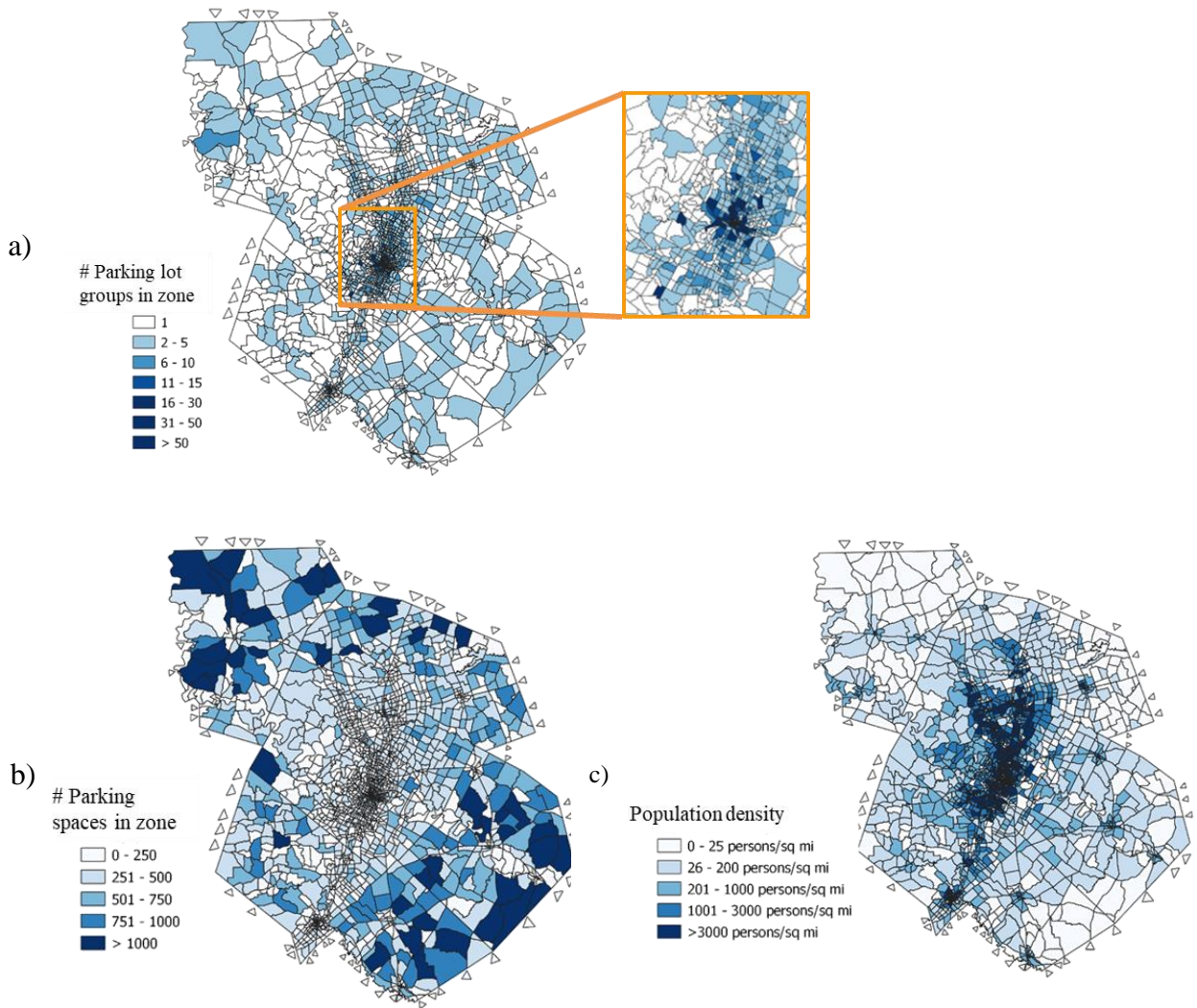
6 To simulate parking locations, the City of Austin's geographic information system (GIS)
 7 database of on-street parking locations (Austin Transportation Department, 2021) was used.
 8 This data was processed with context gleaned from Google Street View to fill in the gaps in
 9 on-street parking in the CBD. An index of off-street lots and parking garages with their
 10 respective capacities were then compiled from datasets provided by the Texas Facilities
 11 Commission and the Downtown Austin Alliance. Finally, since an exact accounting of parking
 12 on all streets in the region would be impractical and unnecessary, OpenStreetMap data was
 13 downloaded to provide a rough estimate of on-street parking across the rest of the six-county
 14 metro area. A total of 8,425 on- and off-street parking lots, with 550,799 available spaces, were
 15 generated for this network, as shown in Figure 1. Dense zones have about 5.4 lots per acre,
 16 while those at the periphery may have only one parking lot but there is always one within at
 17 the most 5 miles of an origin (which is mostly true only in the periphery of the network). Figure
 18 2 illustrates the spatial distribution of parking lots, their spaces, and population density for all
 19 zones across the Austin 6-county network. Parking lots are denser in the populated area (i.e.,
 20 in the CBD), while available spaces on the periphery are high given the larger area of those
 21 zones. The average and median distance of addresses to their closest parking lot are 0.29 and
 22 0.20 miles, respectively.

23 The 5,300 square mile 6-county region's network contains 16,059 road links, 10,435 nodes,
 24 and 39,638 origins and destinations, and contains roughly 93% of all addresses (with the final
 25 7% being in low-density residential settings, very close to coded links and addresses). The
 26 entire 1.9 million population of Austin's 6-county region was simulated. POLARIS, an agent-
 27 based model developed by Argonne National Lab, can micro-simulate SAV operations across
 28 in complex/realistic network for a wide region (Auld et al., 2016; Gurumurthy et al., 2020. Like
 29 MATSim and other agent-based models, POLARIS lets users track individual vehicles and
 30 travelers across roadways, walkways, and bikeway links linked to specific destinations
 31 (typically individual addresses). This gives far more detailed results than zone-based demand
 32 models. Travel demand for scenario runs were created using calibrated travel demand choice
 33 models for a synthetic population in POLARIS.



34

35 **Figure 1. On-street and Off-street Parking Lots for SAV Use, as Simulated across the 6-**
 36 **County Austin, Texas Region**



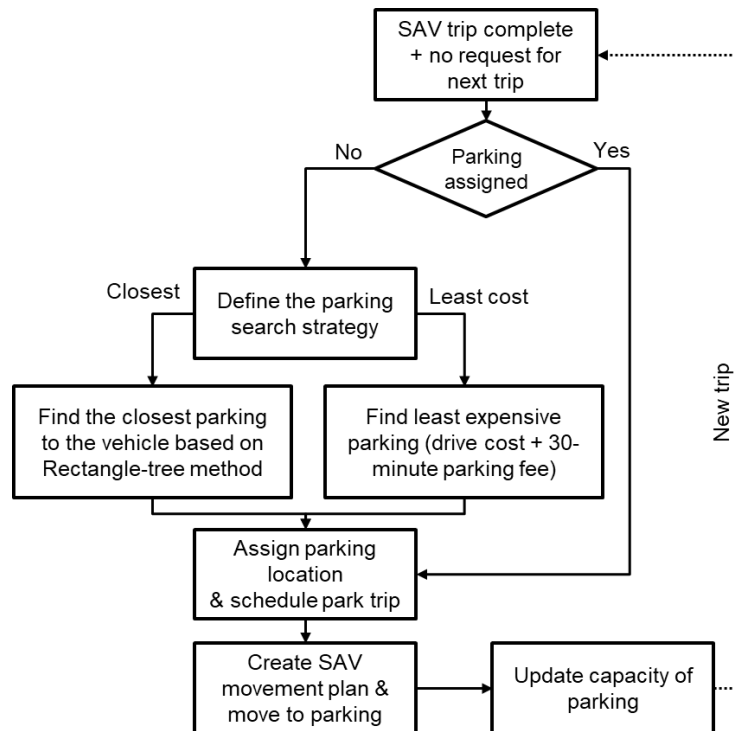
1 **Figure 2. Spatial Distribution of Parking Lots (a), Available Parking Spaces (b), and**
 2 **Population Density (c)**

3 **PARKING STRATEGY MODEL**

4 In the real-world, many ride-hailed vehicles (or SAVs) cannot simply idle in place after
 5 dropping off passengers and should find a more suitable place to park and wait for a new
 6 assignment. In far-flung rural and suburban parts of Austin and most other U.S. settings,
 7 parking is free and in ample supply. In dense downtowns, however, it is often restricted and
 8 priced. The strategy developed here requires SAVs to seek the closest or lowest (total) cost
 9 parking spots when starting to idle after completing a trip. The parking search strategy starts
 10 after an SAV drop-off. Two different parking search objectives are adopted in this study: first,
 11 finding the closest parking space using Euclidean distances, and second, minimizing a
 12 combination of the expected parking cost and the cost to drive to the parking location. This
 13 second objective could be expanded in the future to include parameters like proximity to SAV
 14 trip demand and extra penalties for egress from multi-story parking garages when going to
 15 serve the next trip. The basic format used in the scenarios for this study is as follows:

$$\min (C_p t + C_r d) \text{ s.t. } d < d_m \tag{1}$$

1 where C_p is the hourly parking fare in each parking location, which was gathered as a part of
 2 the data collection, and t is the time parked. C_r represents the cost of an SAV traveling one mi
 3 to park, d is the distance to the parking lot (in miles), and d_m is the maximum parking distance
 4 that is allowed. The parking finder reads in several scenario settings and a maximum search
 5 distance prevents extreme distances (to find a parking spot). Figure 3 summarizes the parking
 6 search process.

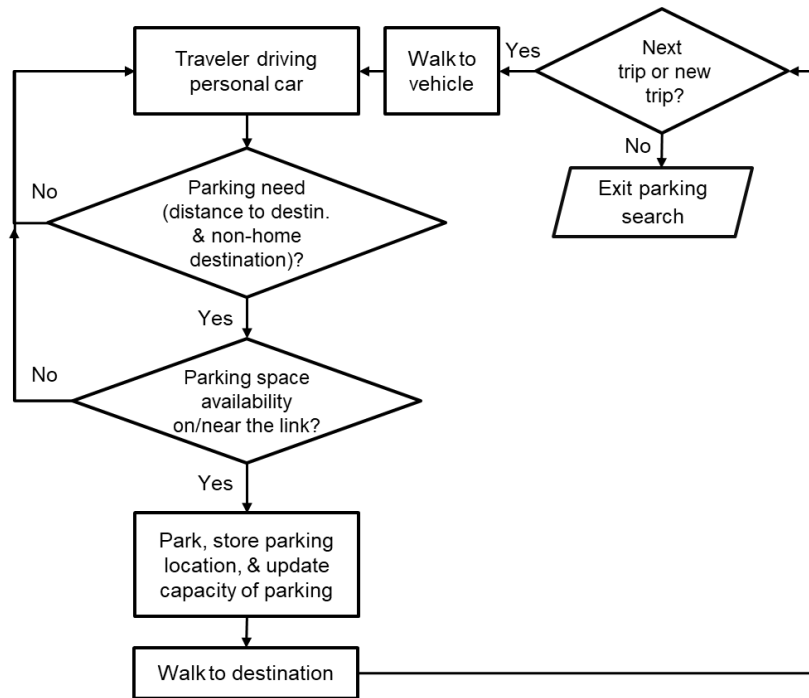


7
8 **Figure 3. Parking Search Program Logic for SAVs**

9 The cost of SAV travel per mile is another key parameter, with the default set to \$1/mile here.
 10 This is reflective of a composite cost for fuel, depreciation, and maintenance, and thanks to the
 11 absence of human drivers. A final input parameter is the expected time per parked position (in
 12 hours). This value is multiplied by each parking lot's cost per hour (per SAV) (defined in the
 13 data collection) and used in the cost-minimization scenario. Once all these values have been
 14 initialized, the current coordinates of the SAV searching for parking are found, and POLARIS
 15 begins iterating through possible parking spaces when a parking request is made. At the start
 16 of each simulation run, a list of available parking spots at each parking location is initialized to
 17 the total number of spaces. During a parking request, the model checks if a parking space is
 18 indeed available. When each vehicle parks and or "unparks," parking lot capacity is updated.
 19 Next, the chosen parking ID is fed into the parking trip scheduler. This signals the SAV to start
 20 its parking trip.

21 While traveling on the network, the SAV is routed using the dynamic traffic assignment (DTA)
 22 methods employed by POLARIS. However, enroute switches can be triggered at any time to
 23 pick up new travelers (in which case the current parking trip is canceled, and a pickup trip is
 24 created to route the SAV to the user's location). If a parking event does happen, then the
 25 parking data (e.g., lot ID, vehicle ID, parking price per hour, and parking durations) are added
 26 to the record, and then combined with other parking records (to provide a register of all parking
 27 sessions for the SAV fleet over the course of the day). This can be used to determine the fleet's
 28 total parking cost, time spent parked, and - most importantly - where vehicles park.

1 To better reflect real-world parking supply conditions, all personal vehicles are also allowed to
 2 park using the nearest parking search strategy. Drivers of private vehicles evaluate parking
 3 urgency (depending on proximity to a non-home destination) and parking availability on or
 4 nearby the current link while they are moving on the network close to their destination. If the
 5 agent finds an empty parking space near the final destination, they park, and the parking
 6 location's capacity is updated (Figure 4).



7
8 **Figure 4. Parking Search Program Logic for Private Vehicles**

9 **MODEL AND SCENARIOS**

10 Two restricted parking configurations were tested for SAV service and compared with a
 11 scenario where SAVs were allowed to simply idle after drop-offs. These scenarios restrict
 12 parking to legal, known parking locations. In the first restricted parking scenario, which is
 13 useful in areas with high curb demand and good parking information such as the CBD and
 14 surrounding regions, SAVs must move to the nearest parking location with available spaces
 15 considering the parking supply minus occupied spaces by other vehicles. In the second parking
 16 scenario, more cost-related parameters are used in the parking search model to find a lot that
 17 minimizes price and distance. The same cost per mile to operate the SAV to pickup/drop-off
 18 users (\$1/mile in the scenarios of this paper) was used, and the parking option with the lowest
 19 combination of hourly price and cost of driving was selected to park. The minimum cost of
 20 half an hour of parking was used even though the average idle time is lower than the minimum
 21 amount of paid parking time. The maximum distance that an SAV can go to park is assumed
 22 to be 6 miles. SAVs are only allowed to serve trips starting in the Travis County geofence,
 23 which has the highest demand in the Austin network. This geofence includes the City of Austin
 24 (except for a small section in Williamson County) and some of its suburbs, such as Pflugerville,
 25 Manor, and Bee Caves.

26 This study simulates SAV trips in a geofence as the fleet is mostly profitable in high-density
 27 demand areas. These two restricted SAV parking search strategies were compared with the
 28 scenarios without parking restrictions for SAVs for different SAV fleet sizes. SAV fleet size

1 of 5,000, 10,000, and 15,000, which provides 1 SAV for 100 to 300 residents, were compared
 2 to show the parking functionality for different SAV fleet sizes. Rideshare cost was also
 3 assumed to be \$1 upfront plus a cost per mile of \$1/mile. Human-driven vehicles (HVs) are
 4 simulated across the entire 6-county Austin network and park at designated on-street and off-
 5 street locations if their destinations are in the urban core where free street parking is limited.
 6 This paper first simulates two fixed demand scenarios (i.e., reading demand from database) to
 7 compare SAV operations with and without restricted parking (Table 1). Then, to compare two
 8 SAV parking search strategies and the personal vehicle parking, simulations without fixed
 9 demand were run and parking-related operations were compared (Table 2).

10 APPLICATION AND RESULTS

11 Table 1 shows SAV operation details for different fleet-size scenarios when using the
 12 minimum-distance (to closest parking lot) strategy compared to idling in-place scenario. To
 13 compare these two scenarios, traffic was first simulated without restricted parking for 5000
 14 SAVs. Demand was then fixed to compare SAV operations for different fleet sizes with and
 15 without restricted parking. The results suggest that restricted parking implementation increases
 16 users' wait times (from 3.0-4.7 min to 3.9-6.3 min). SAV profit becomes smaller with restricted
 17 parking scenarios due to parking costs and smaller trips served. Idle time falls slightly from 8.9
 18 hours (5000 fleet size) to 18.1 hours (15,000 fleet size) per day per SAV to 8.3 to 17.7 hours
 19 and AVO falls from 1.59-1.97 to 1.62-1.87 after restricted parking implementation.

20 As expected, vehicle utilization and idle time are inversely related. The larger the fleet, the
 21 fewer trips are served per vehicle on average (since there is less than 1 SAV for every 100
 22 person-trips in the simulation). On the other hand, increasing SAV fleet size decreased the
 23 average users' wait time (from 5 to 3 minutes with unrestricted parking and from 6 to 4
 24 minutes with restricted parking). By having a higher fleet size, average SAVs' daily revenue
 25 fell from almost \$500 to \$200, and AVO with DRS option fell from 1.90 to 1.60 persons per
 26 SAV. Note that more than 99.8% of all person-trips requested in all scenarios were met
 27 during the simulation horizon in less than 10 minutes waiting time. The SAV mode share
 28 within the geofence was 25% with and without restricted parking in two fleet size scenarios
 29 (i.e., 10,000 and 15,000 SAVs). Increasing SAVs fleet size increased the SAV mode share
 30 from 20% (with restricted parking) and 23% (unrestricted parking) to 25%.
 31

32 **Table 1. SAV Operations with and without Restricted Parking with a Fixed Demand**

SAV Fleet Size:	Unrestricted Parking			SAV Parking Restricted		
	5000	10,000	15,000	5000	10,000	15,000
Profit per day per SAV (\$)	\$353	163	113	\$342	149	101
Wait time for users, avg. (min)	4.7 min	3.1	3.0	6.3 min	4.3	3.9
SAV trips/vehicle/day	77 trips	43	30	65 trips	43	30
AVO (per revenue-mile)	1.97 occupants	1.64	1.59	1.87 occupants	1.66	1.62
Idle time per day (hr/vehicle)	8.9 hr	15.4 hr	18.1 hr	8.3 hr	14.6 hr	17.7 hr
SAV mode share in geofence (%)	23%	25%	25%	20%	25%	25%
%Empty VMT (%eVMT)	17.6%	12.5%	11.9%	13.6%	14.3%	14.4%
Demand (person-trips per day)	386,887 trips	433,057	434,439	322,805 trips	431,357	433,673
Avg travelled distance (mi)	8.72 mi	7.82	7.73	11.19 mi	8.51	8.32
Avg travel time (min)	18.3 min	15.9	15.6	20.6 min	17.2	16.7

1
 2 Table 2 shows fleet parking costs, times, and number of trips for two SAV parking search
 3 strategies, as well as the nearest parking strategy for private vehicles (with idling in-place for
 4 SAVs). The number of parking trips by private vehicles is higher when SAVs do not park on
 5 off-street and on-street parking spaces, probably due to more spaces available for HVs.
 6 Restricted parking implementation for SAVs slightly increase the parking fee for private
 7 vehicles as SAVs occupy some free parking spaces across the network, especially in the least-
 8 cost parking search strategy. However, due to the availability of free parking spaces across the
 9 Austin 6-county region, parking fee is still negligible (\$0.55 per parking trip of private vehicles
 10 without SAV restricted parking vs \$0.65 per parking trip with SAV restricted parking). SAVs
 11 park in off-street parking spaces on average 5 hours per day where the average parking duration
 12 is half an hour. All vehicles' average parking duration is 4 hours per parking trip, which falls
 13 to 3 hours per parking trip after implementation of restricted SAV parking search strategies, as
 14 average parking duration of SAVs is half an hour. Parking costs using the least-cost parking
 15 search strategy were less than \$3 per day for all SAV fleet scenarios and less than \$4 using the
 16 nearest parking search strategy for SAVs. Use of free parking location, with a marginal tradeoff
 17 for distance, did not increase the empty VMT (14% for both SAV parking search strategies)
 18 and average idle time of vehicles (8 to 16 minutes for both SAV parking search strategies).

19 **Table 2. Parking Costs and Counts for Different Parking Scenarios**

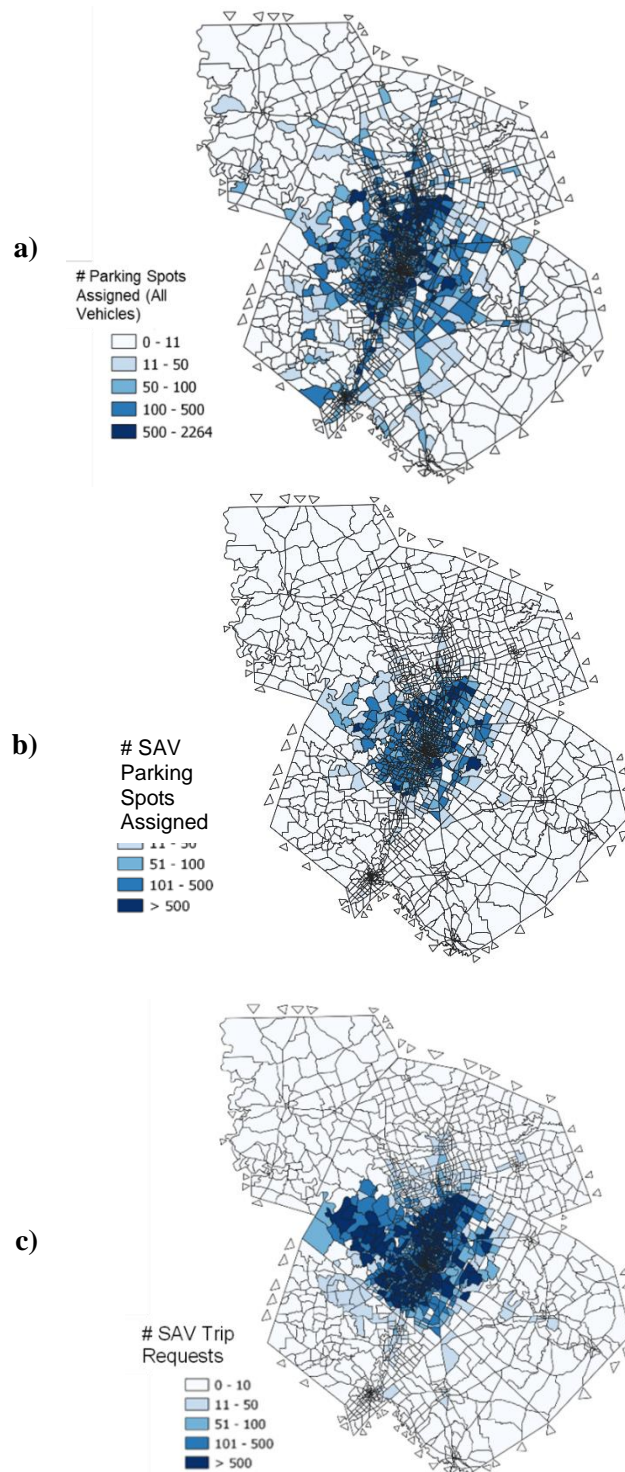
Scenario:	Closest Parking for all Vehicles			Min Cost for SAVs and Closest Parking for HVs			Unrestricted SAV Parking			
	SAV Fleet Size:	5000	10,000	15,000	5000	10,000	15000	5000	10,000	15,000
SAVs										
#Parking Stops per SAV per day	15.80 stops	18.83	15.72	15.80	18.86	15.63	-	-	-	-
\$Parking per SAV/day	\$2.46	\$2.31	\$3.49	\$1.52	\$1.60	\$2.28	-	-	-	-
HVs										
Parking Fee per HV Parking Stop (\$)	\$0.68	\$0.57	\$0.59	\$0.69	\$0.57	\$0.72	\$0.60	\$0.47	\$0.46	
# HV Parking Events	181,602 stops	155,547	143,739	182,794	155,732	144,107	185,094	174,091	172,624	

20 Note: Additional mobility metrics are shown in the "restricted" column in Table 1.

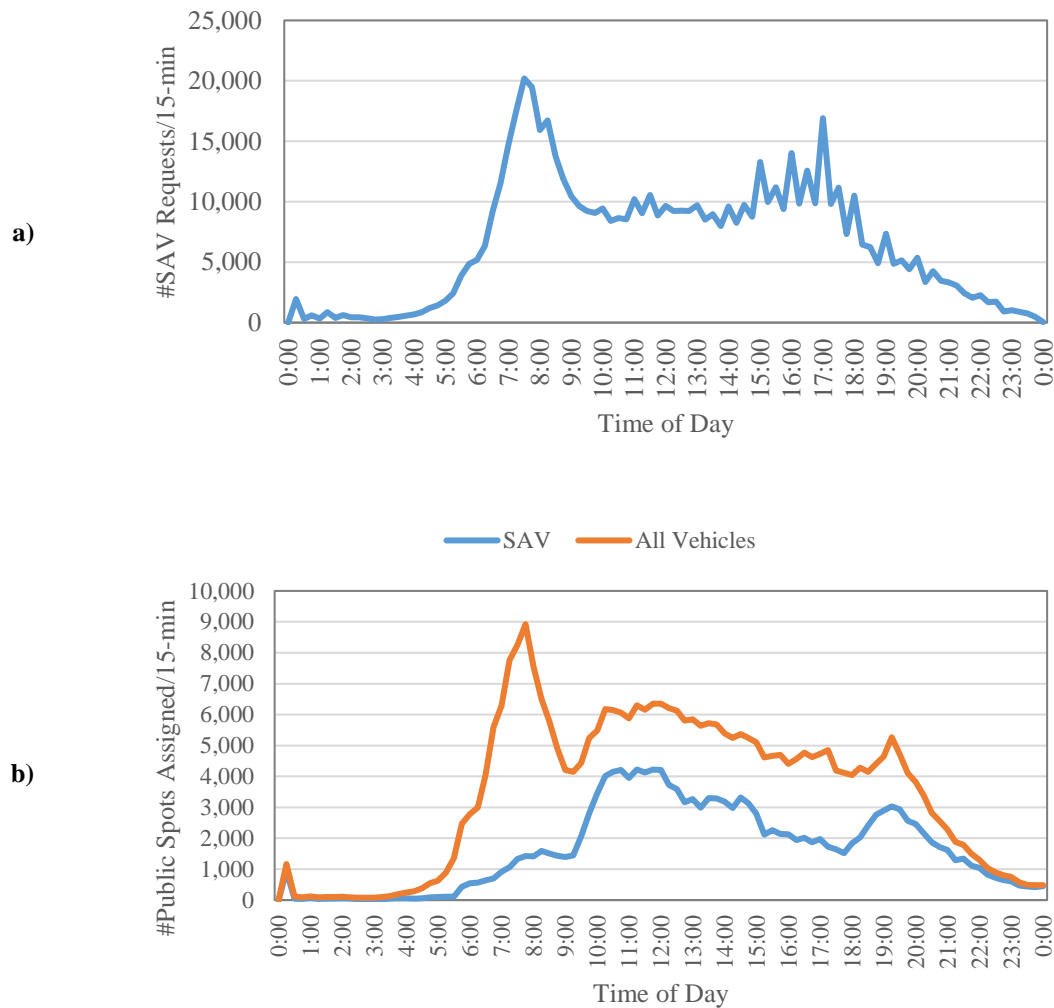
21 Figure 4 illustrates parking demand of all vehicles (Figure 4a) and SAVs (Figure 4b) and SAV
 22 trip requests distribution over the network for the 10,000-fleet with DRS and nearest parking
 23 strategy. SAV trip requests and parking demand are in the Travis County geofence, as these
 24 vehicles were limited to serve in this area in the simulations of this study. Other vehicles have
 25 trips across the entire 6-county Austin network, so their parking requests were distributed
 26 across the entire network (Figure 4a). As expected, SAVs' parking demand is more focused in
 27 the areas with higher trip requests, including the CBD. Figure 2 shows parking supply also
 28 follows parking demand, providing sufficient parking space for all SAVs in this study.
 29 Therefore, parking supply should match population density and trip requests, which was the
 30 case in this study, to accommodate different fleets across the network.

31 Figure 5 illustrates the temporal distributions of parking demand for SAVs and all vehicles
 32 (i.e., SAVs and private vehicles) and trip requests over the simulation time. This figure is drawn
 33 based on the results of the 10,000-SAV fleet scenario with the closest parking search strategy
 34 for all vehicles. The highest number of SAV requests happens around 7:30-7:45 AM and 5-

1 5:15 PM, while the highest SAV parking demand occurs around noon and 7:30:7:45 PM (with
2 a temporal shift relative to the number of trip requests as vehicles are busy serving travelers at
3 AM and PM peak periods). The peak parking demand for all vehicles, including non-SAVs,
4 occurs at 7:45-8 AM.



5 **Figure 4. Spatial Distribution of All Vehicles' Parking Events (a), SAV Parking Events**
6 **(b) and SAV Trip Requests (c)**



1 **Figure 5. Temporal Distribution of SAV Trip Requests (a) and Parking Spots Assigned**
 2 **(b)**

3 CONCLUSIONS

4 This study examines the impacts of moving SAVs to park at permitted on-street (free and
 5 metered) and off-street spots while idling. Using POLARIS, an agent-based simulator, two
 6 restricted-parking scenarios were compared to scenarios without SAV parking restrictions
 7 (where SAVs can idle in place between trip assignments) with and without private vehicle
 8 parking. In the first scenario, SAVs move to the nearest available spot, and the second scenario
 9 sends SAVs to sites offering the best combination of parking fees (which are highest in central
 10 Austin) and distance traveled (which incurs vehicle operating costs). These parking policies
 11 were tested with SAVs serving the Travis County (the county with the highest demand in the
 12 entire 6-county Austin region). Private vehicles are simulated across the entire 6-county region
 13 with 8,452 aggregated parking sites and 5,300 square-miles of land.

14 Results of different fleet sizes and parking search strategies (including idling in place) were
 15 compared. Results suggest that parking costs will average less than \$4 per day (per SAV) with
 16 the nearest parking search strategy and \$3 per day using the least cost parking search strategy.
 17 All SAVs parking in free spots adds negligible VMT while offering the least expensive parking
 18 strategy. Parking restrictions increase traveler wait times (from about 4 to 5 minutes) and empty
 19 VMT (from about 12% to 14% of SAV-fleet VMT). As expected, idle-SAV parking demand

1 is higher in areas with more trip requests, including the region's CBD. SAV profit is smaller
2 when vehicles are sent to on-street or off-street parking locations, due to the parking costs and
3 smaller trips served. Allowing SAVs to park increases the average parking fee paid by other
4 vehicles by 22% (\$0.45-\$0.60 to \$0.57-\$0.72 per HV parking event). However, the fee is small
5 due to the high availability of free parking spaces in Austin. All SAVs parking in the least cost
6 parking adds negligible VMT while offering the least expensive parking strategy. Parking
7 prices can be used as a planning strategy to shift personal vehicle drivers to sharing rides and
8 reduce traffic congestion due to parking searches.

9 In general, SAV movements to permitted parking spots should be considered in future fleet
10 simulations, since vehicles sitting idle at drop-off points may not be permitted or acceptable in
11 many busy (and many residential) settings. This analysis had some limitations, which can be
12 addressed in future research. For example, the mode choice models used in this study had a
13 small taxi/SAV trip sample, leading to a low probability of choosing this mode. The mode
14 choice models were modified to address this issue, but real-world data should be used in future
15 research for this purpose. In addition, similar to carsharing vendors, SAVs may buy spaces in
16 the CBD to have dedicated staging areas, which should be considered in the future research.

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31 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

32 The authors confirm contribution to the paper as follows: study conception and design:
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34 collection: Hunter, C.; analysis and interpretation of results: Fakhrmoosavi, F., Gurumurthy,
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