

1 **PEDESTRIAN CROSSING BEHAVIOR AT SIGNALIZED CROSSWALKS**

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16

17 **ABSTRACT**

18

19 This study investigated pedestrian jaywalking at signalized crosswalks. Observational
20 surveys were conducted at 7 crosswalks in different areas in Hong Kong, after which
21 pedestrian information and site condition data were incorporated into a database. A binary
22 logit model was used to identify possible factors that determine the probability of pedestrian
23 jaywalking. To address the variation in the effects of the explanatory variables among

24 pedestrians and the unobserved heterogeneity across sites, we used a random parameter
25 model and a random effect model, respectively. The results showed that the random
26 parameter model performed the best in terms of goodness-of-fit. It was found that the signal
27 when a pedestrian arrives at the crosswalk is critical for decision making, and the jaywalking
28 of surrounding pedestrians also influences the pedestrian's decision to cross. The gender and
29 walking speed of the pedestrian, vehicle flow, and site location and condition of the
30 crosswalk were also found to significantly determine the probability of pedestrian jaywalking.

31

32 **Keywords:** Pedestrian crossing behavior; Jaywalking; Signalized crosswalks; Random
33 parameter model; Random effect model

34

35 **INTRODUCTION**

36

37 Signal control has been widely used around the world for more than 100 years. It provides a
38 safe, economic, and efficient means of coordinating conflicting traffic flows at junctions, and
39 is particularly popular in densely populated cities with heavy vehicle and pedestrian traffic
40 loads. Signalized junctions are the most common type of junction in Hong Kong. Although
41 pedestrian-vehicle collisions at signalized junctions have been reduced by 35% in the past 5
42 years, 387 pedestrian-vehicle crashes were still recorded, which comprised nearly 25% of the
43 accidents that occurred at signalized junctions. Drivers should be aware of the traffic
44 regulations as they must pass a written test on the Road Users' Code before obtaining their
45 licenses, so pedestrian jaywalking is the most likely cause of pedestrian-vehicle accidents at
46 signalized junctions in Hong Kong.

47

48 Studies have attempted to identify the factors that influence pedestrian crossing behavior. In
49 terms of individual characteristics, it was observed that male pedestrians tend to jaywalk
50 more than female pedestrians (Tiwari et al., 2007, Rosenbloom, 2009, Brosseau et al., 2013).
51 A similar tendency was observed in questionnaire surveys based on the theory of planned
52 behavior, which investigated pedestrians' attitudes toward jaywalking (Diaz, 2002, Zhou et
53 al., 2009). However, Ren et al. (2011) observed that middle-aged female pedestrians had the
54 lowest compliance rate in China. The elderly were also found to be more patient and less
55 likely to jaywalk (Guo et al., 2011, Zhuang & Wu, 2011, Ren et al., 2011, Brosseau et al.,
56 2013). Oxley (1997) conducted an experiment on pedestrian traffic judgment and observed
57 that older adult pedestrians generally adopted a less safe crossing strategy and performed
58 worse than younger pedestrians on two-way undivided roads, although their performance was
59 similar to that of younger pedestrians on one-way divided roads. The differences associated

60 with age-related physical, perceptual, and cognitive deficits were further discussed and
61 validated in an experimental study of the age differences in pedestrians' gap selection (Oxley,
62 2005). Holland and Hill (2009) pointed out that driving experience also affected pedestrians'
63 decisions to make unsafe crossings. Surprisingly, pedestrians with driving experience left
64 smaller safety margins, although they were more likely to look both ways before crossing
65 than non-drivers. Ren et al. (2011) suggested that a possible reason for the low compliance
66 rate of female pedestrians in China was that fewer of them had driving licenses. They showed
67 that individual characteristics affect pedestrians' judgement of the traffic conditions and gap
68 selection. In view of this, Koh and Wong (2014) used a binary logit model to predict the
69 proportion of pedestrians who accept a gap, and hence jaywalk. They found that the type of
70 gap (location and sequence of oncoming vehicles) and the stage of crossing (near end or far
71 end) influenced pedestrians' crossing decisions.

72

73 In addition to the pedestrian characteristics and types of gap, the environment and site
74 conditions may also affect the decision making of pedestrians. Lavalette et al. (2009) found
75 that the number of lanes of traffic, the presence of pedestrian crossing signals, and the
76 presence of a central traffic island influenced pedestrians' decision making at crossings.
77 Kruszyna and Rychlewski (2013) investigated the influence of approaching trams on
78 pedestrian behavior at signalized crosswalks in Portland. Li and Fernie (2010) suggested that
79 the weather also influenced the compliance rate, particularly for pedestrians crossing a
80 signalized two-stage crossing with a center refuge island in the winter. The waiting time was
81 also found to increase the probability of pedestrians jaywalking (Tiwari, 2007, Li and Fernie,
82 2010), and Li (2013) proposed a model for pedestrians' intended waiting time. To reduce the
83 high incidence of jaywalking and, hence, improve pedestrian safety at signalized crosswalks,
84 pedestrian countdown signals have been introduced in recent years to prevent pedestrians

85 from overestimating the waiting time (Keegan and Mahony, 2003) and taking the risk to
86 jaywalk. This measure has been proven to effectively reduce the number of pedestrians
87 starting to cross before the signal eventually turns green (Schattler et al., 2002).

88

89 Among the approaches used to identify the factors associated with pedestrian jaywalking
90 behavior, ANOVA has been used to analyze the differences among groups of pedestrians (Li
91 and Ferinie, 2010, Ren, et al., 2011) and logistic regression has been used to represent the
92 effects of explanatory variables in determining the probability of jaywalking (Rosenbloom,
93 2009, Brosseau et al., 2013). ANOVA is useful for evaluating the influence of demographic
94 factors, whereas logistic regression models are capable of linking the effects of the factors
95 with the probability of jaywalking. However, the effects of explanatory variables are
96 considered to be constant and fixed among all pedestrians in the simple logistic regression
97 models, which may lead to misleading outcomes if considerable variation exists in the effects
98 among individual pedestrians. In addition, although numerous previous studies have observed
99 pedestrian crossing behavior at different sites, few studies have discussed the possible
100 unobserved site differences.

101

102 In this study, observational surveys were conducted in 7 crosswalks in Hong Kong. The
103 relevant individual-specific factors and site-specific factors were extracted and incorporated
104 into a binary logit model to identify the contributory factors that determine the probability of
105 jaywalking. To address the heterogeneity across pedestrians and sites, a random parameter
106 model was used to accommodate the variation in the effects of the explanatory variables, and
107 a random effect models was used to account for the unobserved heterogeneity across sites.

108

109 In Hong Kong, the sequence of pedestrian signals is a steady green signal, a flashing green
110 signal, and a steady red signal. Pedestrians are only allowed to start crossing when the steady
111 green signal is illuminated. The flashing green signal indicates that the pedestrians already on
112 the crosswalk should continue and finish crossing at a reasonable speed. However,
113 pedestrians who have not started crossing should wait until the next steady green signal. No
114 pedestrians are allowed to cross during the red signal. In this study, pedestrians who entered a
115 crosswalk during the flashing green signal or the red signal were regarded as jaywalkers
116 according to the traffic regulations in Hong Kong. No countdown signals are provided at
117 pedestrian crosswalks.

118

119 **DATA**

120

121 In this study, seven signalized junctions were randomly selected from different areas of Hong
122 Kong (Table 1). There were 4 sites in urban areas, including 2 in Hong Kong Island and 2 in
123 Kowloon, and the other 3 were in the New Territories. Video recording was conducted at
124 each site for about 90 minutes, during which pedestrian movements were captured for further
125 analysis. Preliminary analysis had previously been conducted based on the Travel
126 Characteristic Survey 2011 to determine the period with the highest pedestrian flow on a
127 typical working day from the video recording. In total, 7230 pedestrians who arrived during
128 flashing green or red signals were recorded at the 7 sites. The number of observations varied
129 from site to site, mainly depending on the populations of the areas. Table 1 lists the numbers
130 of observations obtained at each site with the corresponding signal cycle time and average
131 flow. The signal cycle times ranged from 90 seconds to 130 seconds. The crosswalk at Hung
132 Hom had the lowest average pedestrian arrival rate at 2.7 ped/min, while the site at Tsuen
133 Wan had the highest at 79.7 ped/min.

134

135 **[Insert Table 1 Here]**

136

137 To identify the factors that influenced the pedestrians' decisions to jaywalk, the pedestrian
138 walking trajectories were manually tracked, and a series of variables were further extracted to
139 build the dataset, including the demographic characteristics of the pedestrians, the pedestrian
140 and traffic flow characteristics, the geometric design data, and the signal scheme of the
141 junctions. The variables included are listed as Table 2. The upper part gives the proportions
142 for the categorical variables, and the lower part provides the descriptive statistics of the
143 continuous variables.

144

145 As shown in Table 2, only the pedestrians who arrived at the crosswalks during the flashing
146 green (14.7%) or red (85.3%) signal were recorded. More than 60% of these pedestrians
147 entered the crosswalks before the pedestrian signal finally turned green, i.e. jaywalked. It was
148 found that 57% of the pedestrians who arrived at the crosswalks during the red signal
149 jaywalked, and 100% of those who arrived during the flashing green signal jaywalked
150 without waiting for another cycle. Some of the pedestrians may have thought that it was too
151 long to wait for another cycle, and some may have been confused about the exact meaning of
152 the flashing green signal and were unaware they were actually jaywalking.

153

154 The gender and age of the pedestrians were identified during the video tracking. The gender
155 was easy to identify according to the pedestrians' appearance, and more than 90% of the
156 observations were successfully distinguished. To accommodate the remaining unidentified
157 cases, two dummy variables M, F were used to represent male pedestrians as $M = 1$ and $F = 0$,
158 female pedestrians as $M = 0$ and $F = 1$, and the unidentified pedestrians as $M = 0$ and $F = 0$.

159 However, most of the pedestrians (96.1%) could not be identified as either elderly or children,
160 and they were thus generally regarded as adults. As previously mentioned, there were four
161 sites (two in Hong Kong Island and two in Kowloon) in urban areas, and three sites in the
162 New Territories. We obtained 5064 observations (70.0%) from the four urban sites and 2166
163 observations (30.0%) from the other three sites in the New Territories.

164

165 The walking speed of each pedestrian was measured at 1 s intervals and then the average
166 walking speed was computed. The mean of the average walking speed was 1.22 m/s, as
167 shown in Table 2, which is similar to the findings of Lam et al. (2002) on pedestrian walking
168 speeds at crosswalks in commercial areas in Hong Kong (75.38 m/min, i.e. 1.26 m/s).
169 However, according to the *Transport Planning and Design Manual* (Transport Department,
170 2001), an assumed walking speed of 1.2 m/s is generally used to determine the flashing green
171 period for the distance between the curbs in Hong Kong, although a walking speed of 0.9 m/s
172 may be considered in exceptional cases to accommodate the elderly, people with disabilities,
173 or exceptionally heavy pedestrian flows. Of the 1061 pedestrians who arrived during the
174 flashing green signal, 668 (63.0%) walked slower than 1.2 m/s, and 377 (35.5%) walked
175 slower than 0.9 m/s. This implies that the majority of pedestrians normally walk slower than
176 1.2 m/s, and that they are at risk of a vehicle accident if they do not pay attention to the
177 duration of the flashing green signal and fail to speed up.

178

179 The total number of pedestrians in the cycle was used in the dataset instead of the average
180 pedestrian arrival rate, as a simple number of pedestrians is more straightforward and easy to
181 observe. Russell et al. (1976) and Reed and Sen (2005) found that pedestrians were
182 encouraged to follow when observing someone else jaywalking. The percentage of
183 pedestrians who jaywalked in the same cycle was used as a proxy of a situation variable to

184 represent the follower behavior and estimate the influence of other jaywalkers on a pedestrian.
185 In addition to the surrounding pedestrians, the average vehicle flow in a cycle and the
186 pedestrian crossing time were used to measure the risk of vehicle-pedestrian accidents.
187 Finally, the geometric data of the junctions and the signal phasing scheme were taken into
188 account, as these represent the site conditions and the corresponding waiting times.

189

190 **[Insert Table 2 Here]**

191

192 **METHODS**

193

194 *Basic binary logit model*

195

196 The binary logit model was used to represent how the individual-specific and site-specific
197 factors influence the pedestrians' jaywalking behavior. The response variable for the i^{th}
198 pedestrian $Y_i = 1$ if he/she jaywalks, and $Y_i = 0$ if he/she does not. Denote the probability of
199 $Y_i = 1$ as π_i , then it follows a binomial distribution as

$$200 \quad \text{logit}(\pi_i) = \log\left(\frac{\pi_i}{1-\pi_i}\right) = \sum_{k=1}^p \beta_k X_{ik} \quad (1)$$

201 where X_{ik} is the k^{th} explanatory variable for the i^{th} pedestrian, and β_k ($k = 1, \dots, p$) are the
202 regression coefficients. In using the basic binary logit model, each pedestrian was regarded as
203 an individual observation, and parameters β were assumed to be constant for all individuals at
204 all sites, i.e., a fixed-parameter model.

205

206 The same set of parameters β were applied to all observations at all sites. However, random
207 variations in the effects of the explanatory variables among pedestrians and random effects

208 across sites could have existed. Therefore, the random parameter binary logit model was used
 209 to account for the effect of the heterogeneity among pedestrians, and the random effect binary
 210 logit model was used to accommodate the unobserved heterogeneity across sites.

211

212 *Random parameter binary logit model*

213

214 To account for individual pedestrian's taste variations, a randomly distributed term was
 215 introduced for each coefficient, and the random parameter binary logit model was thus
 216 formulated as

$$217 \quad \text{logit}(\pi_i) = \log\left(\frac{\pi_i}{1 - \pi_i}\right) = \sum_{k=1}^p \beta_{ik} X_{ik} \quad (2)$$

$$\beta_{ik} = \beta_k + \mu_{ik}$$

218

219 where β_{ik} is the coefficient of the k^{th} explanatory variable for the i^{th} pedestrian, and μ_{ik} is
 220 normally distributed with a mean of 0 and variance σ_k^2 . In general practice, a random
 221 parameter β_{ik} is introduced if the corresponding standard deviation σ_k is significantly larger
 222 than 0, otherwise, a fixed coefficient β_k is used for the corresponding explanatory variable X_{ik} .

223

224 *Random effect binary logit model*

225

226 The pedestrian movements were captured from 7 crosswalks with different characteristics in
 227 Hong Kong. Therefore, observations in the same site were grouped as panel data, and a
 228 random effect binary logit model was used to account for both the within-site correlations and
 229 the inter-site heterogeneity. Hence, the random effect binary logit model is as follows:

$$230 \quad \text{logit}(\pi_{ij}) = \log\left(\frac{\pi_{ij}}{1 - \pi_{ij}}\right) = \sum_{k=1}^p \beta_k X_{ijk} + \mu_j \quad (3)$$

231 where π_{ij} is the probability that the i^{th} pedestrian at the j^{th} crosswalk jaywalks, X_{ijk} is the k^{th}
232 explanatory variable for the i^{th} pedestrian at j^{th} crosswalk, and μ_j is the random intercept with
233 a mean of 0 and variance σ_j^2 . Hence, the random effects μ_j vary across different crosswalks
234 but remain constant for all of the pedestrians at the same crosswalk.

235

236 *Goodness-of-fit*

237

238 The Akaike information criterion (AIC) is widely applied to evaluate the quality of models
239 for a given set of data. Although the likelihood values of models can always be improved by
240 adding predictors, a penalty term for the number of estimated parameters is introduced to deal
241 with the trade-off between the goodness of fit and the model complexity. The formula for
242 AIC is given as

$$243 \quad \text{AIC} = 2K - 2 \ln(L) \quad (4)$$

244 where K is the number of estimated parameters in the model and L is the maximum likelihood
245 of the given set of data for the model. Therefore, the model with a lower AIC value is
246 considered to be a better statistical fit.

247

248 To further evaluate the overall fit of the model, McFadden's adjusted pseudo R^2 is used to
249 compare the log-likelihood value of the model at convergence with that of the model with all
250 parameters set to zero. The formula for the index is

$$251 \quad R^2 = 1 - \frac{LL(\boldsymbol{\beta}) - K}{LL(\mathbf{0})} \quad (5)$$

252 where $LL(\boldsymbol{\beta})$ and $LL(\mathbf{0})$ are the log-likelihood values of the proposed and null models,
253 respectively. The value of the index varies between 0 for no fit and 1 for a perfect fit. In
254 practice, a value of around 0.4 is generally considered to be an excellent fit (Ortuzar and
255 Willumsen, 2011).

256

257 Finally, the likelihood-ratio test can be used to compare the goodness-of-fit of two competing
258 models and to decide whether the null model should be rejected in favor of the alternative
259 model. The test statistic is defined as twice the difference between the log-likelihoods:

$$260 \quad D = -2[LL(\boldsymbol{\beta}_{null}) - LL(\boldsymbol{\beta}_{alternative})] \quad (6)$$

261 Comparing the chi-square distribution with degrees of freedom $K_{alternative} - K_{null}$, the null
262 model can be rejected if the value exceeds the critical value at the 95% confidence level.

263

264 In this study, the likelihood-ratio test was first conducted to compare the basic binary logit
265 model with the random effect binary logit model. Then, a second likelihood-ratio test was
266 conducted between the random effect binary logit model and the random parameter binary
267 logit model. The degree of freedom had to be 1 for the first test, because the number of
268 parameters in the random effect binary logit model was one more than that of the basic model.
269 However, the degrees of freedom for the second test were dependent on the number of
270 random parameters in the random parameter binary logit model.

271

272 **RESULTS**

273

274 STATA 13 was used to estimate the three binary logit models. Before the models were
275 finalized, a Pearson's correlation test was conducted to identify the explanatory variables that
276 were independent of each other and to eliminate the highly correlated variables to ensure an
277 unbiased estimation (Table 3). Not surprisingly, the correlation analysis indicated that the two
278 dummy variables of gender, M and F, were highly correlated. This meant that either of the
279 two dummy variables could be included in the model to represent pedestrian gender. Average
280 vehicle flow was found to be highly correlated with cycle time and pedestrian red signal time,

281 as the longer the time for vehicles, the larger the average vehicle flow. High correlations also
282 existed among the geometric design variables and the signal phasing variables, including the
283 number of lanes at the crosswalk, the numbers of approaches and approach lanes at the
284 junction, the number of traffic streams at the junction, the number of signal stages, the cycle
285 time, and the red signal time. These are all related to the size of the junction; i.e., the larger
286 the junction, the longer the time to clear the vehicle traffic, and hence the longer the red
287 signal time for pedestrians and the longer the cycle time. Only one or two of these variables
288 can be included in the model.

289

290 **[Insert Table 3 Here]**

291

292 Finally, 8 explanatory variables (gender, signal at arrival, walking speed, number of
293 pedestrian in the cycle, percentage of pedestrian jaywalking in the cycle, average vehicle
294 flow in the cycle, crossing time, and number of stage) were included in the model. The
295 estimation results and the average marginal effects for the basic (fixed parameter), random
296 effect, and random parameter binary logit models are shown in Tables 4 and 5, respectively.
297 The parameter estimates of all modeling approaches are significant at the 5% level. The signs
298 of all parameters are consistent across the three models.

299

300 In terms of goodness-of-fit, all three models have acceptable overall fit with the McFadden's
301 adjusted pseudo R² values in the 0.26 ~ 0.29 range. Both the random effect and random
302 parameter binary logit models have lower AIC values and larger values of McFadden's
303 adjusted pseudo R² than the basic binary logit model. Unobserved heterogeneities thus exist
304 across sites and also among pedestrians, and hence the two models provide statistically
305 superior fit compared to the basic binary logit model. The statistic of the likelihood-ratio test

306 between the basic model and the random effect models is 240.66, which is much greater than
307 $\chi^2 (1, 99\%) = 6.64$, i.e., the basic model is rejected in favor of the random effect model.
308 Similarly, the statistic of the likelihood-ratio test between the random effect model and the
309 random parameter model is 103.50, which again is much larger than $\chi^2 (3, 99\%) = 11.34$.
310 This result shows that the random parameter model is statistically superior to the random
311 effect model. Therefore, we mainly focus on the latter model in the following section.

312

313 **DISCUSSION**

314

315 In the random parameter model, 4 of the 8 variables (gender, walking speed, percentage of
316 pedestrians jaywalking, and crossing time) produced statistically significant random
317 parameters (all were normally distributed). Table 4 shows that the gender variable (M: 0, F: 1)
318 resulted in a random parameter with a mean of -0.360 and a standard deviation of 0.156
319 (98.95 % of the distribution is negative). This suggests that male pedestrians were less patient
320 and more likely to jaywalk than female pedestrians, which is in line with the findings of most
321 previous studies (Tiwari et al., 2007, Rosenbloom, 2009, Brosseau et al., 2013). The average
322 marginal effect shows that female pedestrians are 5% less likely to jaywalk.

323

324 The signal at arrival resulted in a fixed parameter and was found to significantly determine
325 the probability of jaywalking. According to the marginal effects in Table 5, the pedestrians
326 who arrived at the crosswalk during the red signal were 33.9% less likely to jaywalk. This
327 suggests that those who arrived at the crosswalks during the flashing green periods probably
328 seized the remaining time before the vehicle traffic discharged, and directly walked across to
329 avoid waiting for one more cycle time.

330

331 The average walking speed resulted in a random parameter with a mean of 3.251 and a
332 standard deviation of 0.978 (nearly 100% of the distribution is greater than 0), which implies
333 that there was considerable variation in the effect of walking speed. However, jaywalking
334 pedestrians were found to walk faster, as they had to seize gaps in the traffic flow when
335 crossing to avoid having accidents. The average walking speed was 1.22 m/s, as reported in
336 Table 2, so the marginal effect (0.349 in the random parameter model) can be interpreted as
337 indicating that a 0.1 m/s increase in walking speed resulted in a 3.49% increase in the
338 probability of jaywalking.

339

340 In addition to the abovementioned individual-specific factors, individual pedestrians were
341 likely to be influenced by surrounding pedestrians who arrived during the same cycle. The
342 results in Table 4 indicate that both a larger number of pedestrians in the cycle and a higher
343 percentage of those jaywalking in the cycle increased the probability that a particular
344 pedestrian would jaywalk. The number of pedestrians in the cycle resulted in a fixed
345 parameter of 0.005, and the percentage of pedestrians jaywalking in the cycle resulted in a
346 random parameter with a mean of 5.276 and a standard deviation of 0.964 (nearly 100% of
347 the distribution is greater than 0). The marginal effects of the random parameter model (0.001
348 for the total number of pedestrians and 0.567 for the percentage of pedestrians jaywalking)
349 indicated that 1 additional jaywalking pedestrian resulted in a much greater increase in the
350 probability of a particular pedestrian jaywalking than simply one more pedestrian in the same
351 cycle. The two parameter estimates imply that the more pedestrians in a cycle, the greater the
352 likelihood an individual will jaywalk, and the other pedestrians would then be encouraged by
353 the first rule breaker and proceed to jaywalk. This result is the opposite of Rosenbloom's
354 (2009) finding that the tendency to cross on a red signal is lower when there are more people
355 waiting at the curb, due to the power of social control.

356

357 **[Insert Table 4 Here]**

358 **[Insert Table 5 Here]**

359 Pedestrians also typically observe and assess the site conditions. The average vehicle flow
360 resulted in a fixed parameter of -0.025 , indicating that a higher average vehicle flow
361 decreased the probability of jaywalking, as the higher the vehicle flow, the shorter the gaps
362 between vehicles, and hence the higher the risk of an accident. Crossing time was also found
363 to be crucial in determining the probability of jaywalking and resulted in a random parameter
364 with a mean of 0.194 and a standard deviation of 0.054 (nearly 100% of the distribution is
365 greater than 0). The marginal effect (0.021 in the random parameter model) implies that a
366 second increase in crossing time resulted in a 2% increase in the probability of jaywalking.
367 The number of stages resulted in a fixed parameter of 1.734 . The marginal effect (0.186 in
368 the random parameter model) implies that one additional stage of the signal scheme resulted
369 in an 18.6% increase in the probability of jaywalking. The results of both crossing time and
370 number of stages indicated that pedestrians may be more likely to jaywalk at larger signalized
371 intersections with longer kerb-to-kerb distance and more signal stages.

372

373 **CONCLUSION**

374

375 This study investigated the contributory factors of pedestrians' jaywalking behavior at
376 signalized crosswalks. The crossing movements of 7230 pedestrians were captured at 7
377 crosswalks in Hong Kong. The information on the pedestrian behavior, the vehicle traffic
378 flow, and the site-specific factors were incorporated into our proposed binary logit models to
379 determine the probability of pedestrian jaywalking. To address the heterogeneity issues, the
380 random parameter model was used to accommodate the variation in the effects of the

381 explanatory variables among pedestrians, while the random effect model was used to account
382 for the unobserved heterogeneity across sites.

383

384 The random parameter model was found to be more suitable for addressing the heterogeneous
385 effects of the explanatory variables among pedestrians. The pedestrian characteristics (gender,
386 walking speed), the behavior of surrounding pedestrians (total number of pedestrians and the
387 proportion of jaywalkers), the vehicle traffic, the timing of arrival and the length of signal,
388 and the location of the crosswalk were found to significantly determine the probability of
389 pedestrian jaywalking. The results imply that pedestrians with superior physical ability are
390 generally less patient and more likely to take the risk of jaywalking.

391

392 The results also revealed some critical issues relating to the current policies and design of
393 signalized pedestrian crosswalks in Hong Kong. The significance of the flashing green signal
394 is ambiguous to some pedestrians, as it seems that most pedestrians are not aware that starting
395 to cross during the flashing green signal period is also illegal. Because Hong Kong is a
396 densely populated city, it would be well worth considering providing more informative
397 signals rather than simply promoting the regulation. Furthermore, it was also found that the
398 majority of pedestrians normally walked slower than 1.2 m/s, which is the speed commonly
399 used in the design of signalized pedestrian crossings to determine the length of the flashing
400 green signal. This may lead pedestrians to overestimate the remaining time before the vehicle
401 traffic streams discharge, and hence rather take the risk of jaywalking than wait for the length
402 of another cycle. A possible measure that policy makers could consider is to introduce a
403 signal countdown with the conventional graphic signal, which has been shown to
404 significantly increase the proportion of pedestrians who start to cross during the green signal
405 (Keegan and O'Mahony, 2003) and to effectively enhance pedestrian safety (Schattler et al.,

406 2002). The text “Don’t walk/Walk” may also be considered to give clear instructions to
407 pedestrians.

408

409 Overall, our findings show that pedestrian crossing behavior is dependent on individual-
410 specific factors and site-specific factors. In the future, observational surveys conducted at
411 more sites with different geometric features and signal phasing schemes would enable further
412 insights to be obtained on the effects of site-specific factors. Other environmental factors,
413 including weather, temperature, noise, and type of land use, would be well worth
414 investigating with a more comprehensive dataset.

415

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486 **Table 1** Site locations

Area	District (Land use)	Junction	No. of Obs.	Signal cycle time (s)	Average pedestrian arrival rate (ped/min)
West Island	Central (Commercial)	Queen's Rd. Central* Pedder St.	1832	120	31.0
East Island	Causeway Bay (Commercial)	Morrison Hill Rd.* Leighton Rd.	1984	120	25.2
West Kowloon	Jordan (Commercial)	Jordan Rd.* Nathan Rd.	1142	130	73.5
East Kowloon	Hung Hom (Residential)	Hung Lok Rd.* Hung Lai Rd.	106	90	2.7
West New Territories	Tsuen Wan (Commercial /Residential)	Sha Tsui Rd.* Chung On St.	1142	95	79.7
Middle New Territories	Sha Tin (Industrial)	Ngan Shing St.* Siu Lek Yuen Rd.	128	110	5.1
East New Territories	Tseung Kwan O (Residential)	King Ling St.* Choi Ming St.	896	110	8.6

487 **The selected crosswalk*

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489 **Table 2** Summary of data

Categorical variables	Attributes	Count (Proportion)	
Jaywalking	Yes: 1 No: 0	4586 (63.4%) 2644 (36.6%)	
Gender <i>Represented by two dummy variables (M, F)</i>	Male: (1, 0) Female: (0, 1) Unidentified: (0, 0)	3357 (46.4%) 3265 (45.2%) 608 (8.4%)	
Age	Adults: 0 Kids: 1 Elderly: 2	6948 (96.1%) 140 (1.9%) 142 (2.0%)	
Signal at arrival	Flashing green: 0 Red: 1	1061 (14.7%) 6169 (85.3%)	
District	Urban: 1 New Territories (NT): 0	5064 (70.0%) 2166 (30.0%)	
Continuous variables	Range	Mean	S.D.
Walking speed (m/s)	Min: 0.16; Max: 4.56	1.22	0.41
Total number of pedestrians in the cycle	Min: 1; Max: 207	84.44	58.26
Percentage jaywalking in the cycle	Min: 0; Max: 1	0.42	0.19
Average vehicle flow in the cycle (veh/min)	Min: 0.6; Max: 20.4	10.80	4.10
Crossing time (s)	Min: 2; Max: 85	10.5	7.98
Geometric design			
Number of lanes at the crosswalk	Min: 1; Max: 6	3.14	1.42
Number of approaches at the junction	Min: 1; Max: 4	2.79	1.13
Number of approach lanes at the junction	Min: 3; Max: 13	8.51	3.94
Number of traffic streams at the junction	Min: 1; Max: 9	4.50	2.47
Signal phasing scheme			
Number of signal stages	Min: 2; Max: 4	3.34	0.85
Cycle time (s)	Min: 90; Max: 130	119.72	6.56
Pedestrian red signal time (s)	Min: 67; Max: 100	93.90	8.61

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Table 3. Pearson correlation test of variable

	M	F	Age	Signal at arrival	District	Walking speed	No. of pedestrians in the cycle	Percentage of jaywalking	Average vehicle flow	Crossing time	No. of lanes at the crosswalk	No. of approaches at the junction	No. of approach lanes at the junction	No. of traffic streams at the junction	No. of signal stage	Cycle time	Pedestrian red signal time
M	1.00																
F	-0.84	1.00															
Age	0.04	-0.03	1.00														
Signal at arrival	0.04	0.00	0.02	1.00													
District	0.00	0.06	-0.03	0.01	1.00												
Walking speed	0.16	-0.06	-0.07	0.08	0.19	1.00											
No. of pedestrians in the cycle	-0.14	-0.08	0.09	-0.07	-0.10	-0.46	1.00										
Percentage of jaywalking	0.07	0.05	-0.05	-0.02	0.07	0.15	-0.51	1.00									
Average vehicle flow	-0.07	-0.03	0.04	0.03	0.32	0.00	0.45	-0.40	1.00								
Crossing time	-0.10	-0.03	0.10	-0.01	0.08	-0.54	0.49	-0.30	0.13	1.00							
No. of lanes at the crosswalk	-0.02	-0.07	0.05	0.02	0.14	-0.11	0.30	-0.30	0.11	0.78	1.00						
No. of approaches at the junction	0.01	-0.11	0.07	0.06	-0.36	-0.04	0.19	-0.35	0.03	0.49	0.69	1.00					
No. of approach lanes at the junction	0.07	-0.07	0.04	0.14	0.11	0.32	-0.11	-0.26	0.24	0.26	0.57	0.76	1.00				
No. of traffic streams at the junction	0.05	-0.09	0.03	0.07	-0.43	0.09	-0.10	-0.18	-0.19	0.35	0.62	0.93	0.73	1.00			
No. of signal stage	0.05	-0.09	0.05	0.11	-0.51	0.19	-0.05	-0.26	0.09	-0.05	0.10	0.74	0.71	0.73	1.00		
Cycle time	-0.08	-0.04	0.06	0.00	0.44	-0.18	0.67	-0.39	0.60	0.51	0.49	-0.02	0.10	-0.24	-0.31	1.00	
Pedestrian red signal time	-0.08	0.02	0.02	-0.02	0.61	-0.12	0.51	-0.21	0.60	0.13	-0.01	-0.50	-0.24	-0.71	-0.55	0.84	1.00

493 **Table 4** Estimates and goodness-of-fit for the basic, random effect, and random parameter
 494 binary logit models

	Basic	Random Effect	Random Parameter
Variables			
Gender (M:0, F:1)	- 0.408*	- 0.405*	- 0.360*
<i>s.d. Gender</i>			0.156*
Signal at arrival (Flashing green:0, Red:1)	- 5.266*	- 8.700*	- 12.905*
Walking speed (m/s)	1.267*	2.654*	3.251*
<i>s.d. Walking speed</i>			0.978*
No. of pedestrians in the cycle	0.161*	0.005*	0.005*
Percentage of jaywalking	4.890*	4.580*	5.276*
<i>s.d. Percentage of jaywalking</i>			0.964*
Average vehicle flow (veh/min)	- 0.094*	- 0.029*	- 0.025*
Crossing time (s)	0.047*	0.110*	0.194*
<i>s.d. Crossing time</i>			0.054*
Number of stage	0.417*	0.954*	1.734*
σ_j		1.095*	
Goodness-of-fit			
No. of observations	7230	7230	7230
No. of parameters, K	8	9	12
Log likelihood at zero, $LL(0)$	- 5011.45	- 5011.45	- 5011.45
Log likelihood at convergence, $LL(\beta)$	- 3686.96	- 3566.63	- 3514.88
AIC	7389.91	7151.25	7066.47
McFadden's adjusted pseudo R^2	0.26	0.29	0.30
<i>Likelihood-ratio test</i>		<i>vs. basic model</i>	<i>vs. random effect model</i>
$\chi^2 = -2[LL(\beta_{null}) - LL(\beta_{alternative})]$		240.66	103.50
Degrees of freedom		1	3
Significance level		< 0.01	< 0.01

Note: * = Significance at the 5% level

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497 **Table 5** Average marginal effects for the basic, random effect, and random parameter binary
 498 logit models

Variables	Basic	Random Effect	Random Parameter
Gender (M:0, F:1)	- 0.072*	- 0.405*	- 0.039*
Signal at arrival (Flashing green:0, Red:1)	- 0.421*	- 8.699*	- 0.339*
Walking speed (m/s)	0.221*	2.654*	0.349*
No. of pedestrians in the cycle	0.003*	0.005*	0.001*
Percentage of jaywalking	0.839*	4.580*	0.567*
Average vehicle flow (veh/min)	- 0.016*	- 0.029*	- 0.003*
Crossing time (s)	0.008*	0.110*	0.021*
Number of stage	0.073*	0.954*	0.186*

*Note: * = Significance at the 5% level*