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**Michael C Fu\*** (mfu@umd.edu), Smith School of Business, Van Munching Hall, College Park, MD 20742. *Escalator etiquette: Stand or walk? That is the question.* Preliminary report.

Users of escalators and moving walkways often follow an implied etiquette that there are two available lanes: one for walking and one for standing (in the US and many countries, the convention is “walk left, stand right”). When there is high volume, e.g., when exiting a subway or train station or athletic event, the escalators often experience bottleneck congestion that constitutes the primary source of delay. Recently, it has been suggested that in such cases it would actually be more efficient if everyone just stood, with empirical evidence used to support this counterintuitive finding. We use several mathematical models, from a very simple static “scheduling” model to more sophisticated flow/queueing models, to show under what condition this result holds. In particular, the biggest assumption is that no more than half of the users are walkers, which is likely the case for escalators (the longer the more likely) but not necessarily the case for moving walkways. (Received June 03, 2019)