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**VEHICLE HANDLING STUDY:  
AN ASSESSMENT  
OF TIRE CONDITIONS**

**Robert E. Scott  
Charles P. Compton**

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<p>16. Abstract</p> <p>Seven hundred sixty randomly selected accidents occurring in Washtenaw and part of Oakland Counties, Michigan were investigated. Data relevant to determination of the potential role of vehicle handling in accident causation, principally tire data, were collected on 1044 vehicles in these accidents.</p> <p>Limited tire data were also obtained during random Michigan State Police checklane inspections in the summer of 1976. The checklane and accident samples were compared on tire pressure, tread depth, and carcass construction. Additional comparisons were made between subsets of the accident sample.</p> <p>The data reveal generally poor tire maintenance practices in both samples, with evidence that mixed carcass constructions and large inflation pressure imbalances are overrepresented in accidents, and low tread depth is overrepresented in accidents on wet or slippery roads. These conclusions are tentative because of the limited number of vehicles in the accident sample, and because the control group may not adequately represent the population which generated the accident sample.</p> <p>More definitive control-group data and development of a definition of vehicle-handling accidents are recommended.</p>			
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF TABLES . . . . .	ii
LIST OF FIGURES. . . . .	v
SUMMARY. . . . .	1
1.0 INTRODUCTION . . . . .	7
2.0 DATA SET . . . . .	9
2.1 Selection Criteria . . . . .	9
2.2 Data Elements. . . . .	9
2.3 Accident Population. . . . .	10
2.4 Drivers. . . . .	10
2.5 Control Population . . . . .	13
3.0 RESULTS. . . . .	15
3.1 Univariate Distributions of Selected Variables . . . . .	16
3.2 Tire Inflation Pressure. . . . .	19
3.2.1 Accident Comparisons on Environmental Variables. . . . .	19
3.2.2 Accident Population Subsets. . . . .	24
3.2.3 Accident vs. Checklane . . . . .	26
3.3 Mixing of Types of Carcass Construction . . . . .	39
3.4 Tread Depth. . . . .	43
3.4.1 Tread Depth Comparisons of Accident and Checklane Samples . . . . .	43
3.4.2 Mean Tread Depths in the Accident Sample. . . . .	55
3.4.3 Tread Wear Patterns in the Accident Sample. . . . .	60
Appendix A: Control Population Data Collection Form with Selected Univariate Percentages. . . . .	75
Appendix B: Individual Case Summaries of Accident-Involved Vehicles with Radial Tires Mixed with Non-Radial Tires. . . . .	77
Appendix C: Mathematical Representation of Tread Wear Patterns . . . . .	99
Appendix D: Data Collection Form. . . . .	109

LIST OF TABLES

1	Percentage Distribution of Drivers by Age Group . . . . .	11
2	Percentage Distribution of Drivers by Accident Subsets and Impairment. . . . .	12
3	Percentage Distribution of Alcohol-Impaired Drivers by Age Groups. . . . .	12
4	Frequency of Drivers and Proportion of Alcohol-Impaired Drivers by Age Group. . . . .	13
5	Distributions of Selected Variables in the Accident File by Percentage of Cases . . . . .	16
6	Mean Tire-Pressure-Difference Variables Subset on Ran Off the Road Before First Impact . . . . .	20
7	Mean Tire Pressure Difference Variables Subset on Surface Slippery. . . . .	21
8	Mean of Maximum Pressure Differences for Vehicles in Single and Multi-vehicle Accidents on Slippery and Not-slippery Roads. . . . .	22
9	Mean of Maximum Pressure Difference of Accident Vehicles by Tread Depth and Surface Condition. . . . .	23
10	Mean of Maximum Placard Differences by Surface Condition . . . . .	23
11	Comparison of Accident Subsets on Mean Pressure Differences . . . . .	24
12	Manufacturers' Recommended PSI (at Maximum Loading) Minus Actual PSI by Tire Position for Accident Population Subsets . . . . .	25
13	Mean Maximum Pressure Differences for Accident Vehicles by Weight. . . . .	27
14	Accident and Checklane Tire Pressures by Tire Position . . . . .	29
15	Mean Pressure Differences for 1972-1977 Accident and Checklane Vehicles . . . . .	30
16	Comparison of Accident Subsets with the Control Population on Mean Tire Pressure Differences . . . . .	31

17	Accident and Control Populations by Mean Tire Pressure Differences by Model Year. . . . .	32
18	Mean Tire Pressure Differences by Model for 1972-1977 Vehicles in the Control Population. . . . .	33
19	Mean Tire Pressure Differences by Model for 1972-1977 Accident Vehicles. . . . .	34
20	Distributions of Front Average PSI Minus Rear Average PSI (D) for Accident and Checklane Samples of Passenger Cars . . . . .	35
21	Comparisons of the Tail of the Distributions of D . . . . .	36
22	Comparisons of the Tails of the Distributions of D for Station Wagons. . . . .	37
23	Mean Maximum Pressure Difference of Accident and Checklane Vehicles by Minimum Tread Depth . . . . .	37
24	Mixing of Carcass Types by Road Surface Condition. . . . .	41
25	Mixing of Carcass Types by Road Surface Conditions Discounting Mixes Possibly Resulting from the Use of Snow Tires . . . . .	42
26	Proportion of Vehicles in the Combined Accident and Checklane Samples with a Minimum Mean Tread Depth $2/32$ or less by Age . . . . .	48
27	Vehicle Age by Population. . . . .	49
28	Least Squares Regression of Tread Depth by Sample and Vehicle Age. . . . .	50
29	Weighted Least Squares Regression of Tread Depth Less Than $2/32$ by Sample and Vehicle Age. . . . .	52
30	Distribution of Model in Each Sample . . . . .	52
31	Proportion of Cars with Minimum Tread Depth of $0-2/32$ in Percent by Sample and Model. . . . .	53
32	Weighted Least Squares Regression of Tread Depth of $2/32$ or Less by Sample, Age, and Model. . . . .	53
33	Dummy Model Variables for Interaction. . . . .	54

34	Weighted Least Squares Regression of Tread Depth Less Than 3/32 by Sample, Age, and Model With Interaction. . . . .	55
35	Distribution of Mean Tread Depth . . . . .	57
36	Minimum Mean Tread Depth by Type of Collision. . . . .	58
37	Minimum Mean Tread Depth . . . . .	59
38	Comparison of Wet and Dry Surfaces with a Dichotomy of Minimum Mean Tread Depths . . . . .	60
39	Tread Depth Range On Each Tire . . . . .	61
40	Tread Wear Pattern Direction and Wheel Position . . . . .	64
41	Tread Wear Pattern Direction and Carcass Type (includes only tires of 3 to 8 grooves) . . . .	65
42	Tread Wear Pattern Direction and Tire Aspect Ratio. . . . .	66
43	Tread Wear Pattern Direction and Model Type. . . . .	67
44	Means Test of Inflation Pressure by Wear Pattern Direction. . . . .	68
45	Incidence of Tire Tread Wear Asymmetry . . . . .	69
46	Wear Pattern Asymmetry by Wheel Position . . . . .	69
47	Wear Pattern Asymmetry by Model Type . . . . .	70
48	Wear Pattern Asymmetry by Road Surface Condition. . . . .	71
49	Wear Pattern Asymmetry by Number of Vehicles in Accident. . . . .	72
50	Wear Pattern Asymmetry by Type of Collision for Two-Vehicle Accidents--Passenger Cars. . . . .	73

## LIST OF FIGURES

1	Distributions of Tire Pressures in Accident and Checklane Samples. . . . .	28
2	Distribution of Tread Depth of Each Tire 0-5 Year Old Vehicles. . . . .	45
3	Distribution of Minimum Tread Depth on Each Vehicle 0-5 Year Old Vehicles. . . . .	46
4	Mean Minimum Tread Depth by Vehicle Age Combined Checklane and Accident Data . . . . .	47
5	Depth of Tread Wear Pattern of Tires in Accidents. . . . .	63
C1	Sample Representation of a Tread Wear Pattern by a Second Order Curve. . . . .	102
C2	Cumulative Distribution of the Maximum Difference Between Observed and Predicted Groove Depth for Each Tire. . . . .	103
C3	Histogram of the Constant Term in the Second Order Equation for Tread Pattern . . . . .	104
C4	Histogram of the Coefficients of the First Order Term in the Equation for Tread Pattern. . . . .	105
C5	Histogram of the Coefficients of the Second Order Term in the Equation for Tread Pattern. . . . .	106



## SUMMARY

This final report of a project entitled "Vehicle Handling Study" describes work conducted during the period September 1, 1975 to April 1, 1978. It presents findings of analyses of tire data collected on 1054 vehicles involved in accidents in Oakland and Washtenaw Counties.

The analyses were conducted to assess the role of tires in accident causation. Given that under-inflated, mismatched, or worn tires negatively affect vehicle-handling properties, the tire data were examined to determine the frequency of such factors and whether they may relate to accident causation.

The data were obtained from cars and light trucks involved in 438 single-vehicle and 322 two-vehicle accidents. Comparative data were also obtained from the Michigan State Police checklane inspections conducted in the summer of 1976. Those inspected vehicles were randomly selected. Thus their tire data represent a quasi-control sample drawn from an exposed population.

The analytical approach consisted of comparing the checklane tire pressure and tread-depth data with similar data from the accident population and with the following subsets of the accident population: single-vehicle accidents; two-vehicle, intersection-type accidents; and two-vehicle, non-intersection-type accidents. More detailed data about the carcass type and about tread depth were available for the accident population, and further comparisons were made on these variables for the accident subsets.

### Findings

1. A statistically significant difference was found between the mean inflation pressures of the two samples for three of the four tire positions as well as all four tires combined, with the accident-involved vehicles having lower tire pressures than the non-accident involved vehicles. The difference in the means is less than 0.6 psi for each of the four tire positions and for the aggregate of all four tires. Although the differences in the means are statistically significant, they are so small that they would not be operationally significant and may result from instrumental errors (see page 290).

2. Vehicles involved in single-vehicle accidents had the highest

pressure imbalances, as measured by the difference between the tires with the highest and lowest pressure on each vehicle. The comparison of vehicles involved in single and multi-vehicle accidents was statistically significant. (Page 29).

3. Vehicles which ran off the road before impact had significantly higher pressure differences than those vehicles which did not, but this variable is highly correlated with single-vehicle accidents. (Page 20).

4. The tire pressure imbalances in the accident sample were significantly greater than those in the control sample. The significant difference resulted from higher differences among the vehicles in the single-vehicle subset of the accident sample. (Page 29).

5. In both the accident and checklane samples, pressure imbalances were greater in subcompacts and trucks than they were in compact, intermediate, and full-size body types. The greatest imbalances were found in vehicles in the smallest body type. For each body type, differences between the accident and checklane samples were insignificant. (Page 30.)

6. The difference between the average front pressure and the average rear pressure was computed for each passenger vehicle in the accident and checklane samples. The two resulting distributions differ significantly, with the checklane distribution being displaced in the direction of higher front minus rear differences, compared to the accident distribution. This difference is largely the result of cases near the center of the distributions, i.e., cases with front and rear pressure differentials of only 1 or 2 psi. These small differentials may not be operationally significant. The tails of the distribution are much more important--that is, the regions where the absolute value of the front to rear pressure differential is large. When the tails of the distributions of the two samples were compared, it was found that the accident sample has a higher incidence of front to rear differences of 5 or more psi, including both cases of the front pressure higher than the rear and vice versa. The accident sample also had significantly more cases of the rear pressure exceeding the front by 3.5 or more psi. (Page 32-36).

7. Tread depth was significantly correlated with maximum tire pressure imbalance in the accident and control samples. Vehicles with 0-2/32's of an

inch of tread had the highest tire pressure imbalances and as the amount of tread increased the maximum pressure imbalance decreased. The relationship was statistically significant in both samples. However, the accident sample had higher imbalances than the checklane. (Page 37).

8. Mixing tires of different types of carcass construction on the same vehicle is overrepresented in the accident sample. In the accident sample, 10.3 percent of the vehicles had tires with mixed construction, while only 1.6 percent of the vehicles in the checklane sample were equipped with mixes. Radial ply tires were mixed with non-radials on 1.0 percent of the checklane vehicles, but on 2.1 percent of the accident vehicles. Some of the mixing in the accident sample resulted from the use of snow tires (whereas the checklane data were collected only in summer months). Discounting such cases leaves mixing on 6.8 percent of the accident vehicles, or still four times the rate in the checklane sample. (Pages 39-40).

9. Comparisons of the accident and checklane samples show no significant difference in the amount of remaining tread (after controlling for differences in the ages of the vehicles in the two groups), or in the proportions of vehicles with 2/32 inch or less of tread remaining on at least one tire. (Pages 43-54).

10. Vehicles having a tire with 2/32 inches or less tread were overinvolved in accidents on wet roads by a factor of 1.8. No significant difference was found in the mean tread depth of the most-worn tire on vehicles involved in single-vehicle and two-vehicle crashes. However, those in head-on crashes had less tread than those in intersection collisions. (Pages 55-59).

11. The pattern of wear across individual tires was found to vary by wheel position. More rear tires wear with concave patterns (less tread in the center than near the sides) than do front tires. Twice as many radial tires had a linear wear pattern as did either regular-bias or belted-bias tires. Series 60 (aspect ratio equal to 0.6) tires had a substantially higher incidence of concave patterns than either series 70 or 78 tires. The pattern of wear has little association with observed inflation pressures. (Pages 62-67).

12. Front tires had the greatest tread wear on the inside more frequently on the left tire than on the right tire. Conversely, rear tires had the greatest wear on the inside more frequently on the right tire. (Pages 68-69).

#### Conclusions and Recommendations

Comparisons of the accident and checklane samples showed that cars with (1) a mix of tire carcass construction; or (2) an imbalance of 5 psi or more in the average inflation pressures of the front tires vs. the rear tires were overrepresented in accidents. Although the causal mechanism was not established on a case-by-case basis, the overrepresentation suggests a causal link between these factors and accidents. This conclusion must be tempered however, because the checklane sample was less than an ideal control group. The checklane data were collected in a separate county at a different time, and only during daylight hours. Thus the sample may not be truly representative of the at-risk population from which the accidents were drawn. In any case, the proportion of accidents which might be "caused" by the carcass mixes or inflation pressure differences is small. Evidence from the accident sample suggests that tires with no more than 2/32 inch of tread are overrepresented in accidents on wet roads.

The current lack of broad agreement on a practical definition of "a vehicle-handling accident" continues to inhibit development of methods for identifying such accidents and their causes. Certainly collection and analysis of more and better pre-crash data are essential to further progress in a study of vehicle handling, but the value of such data may still be limited without a better definition of vehicle-handling accidents.

More definitive control group data should be obtained. The statistical inference approach depends fundamentally on the ability to compare the characteristics of an accident sample with the characteristics of the exposed, at-risk population from which it comes. The pseudo-control group used in this study is not detailed enough to carry out the desired comparisons. It may also be insufficiently representative in time and space to serve as a definitive comparison group.

Manufacturers' recommended tire pressures at average load, and deviations from them, should be obtained for both accident and control

groups on a vehicle-by-vehicle basis.

Companion studies to define handling characteristics of the at-risk population of vehicles should be expanded (cf. MVMA Project 4.29, "Develop Accident Causation Investigation Techniques"). Those study results can be used in conjunction with results of studies such as this to clarify the role of vehicle handling as an accident-causation factor.



## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The purposes of this final vehicle handling report are to update the Second Interim Report with the inclusion of data collected since the previous report was issued, and to present the more important findings that have emerged from analysis of the enlarged set of data. This report is based on the aggregate of all data collected in the Vehicle Handling Study from its beginning on September 1, 1975 through termination of the field effort on April 1, 1978.

The previous reports reviewed accident investigation procedures relative to vehicle handling, discussed some of the various methodological approaches then under consideration, and identified various strengths and weaknesses of the several approaches. The full discussion contained in the previous reports will not be repeated here, but it is important to note some of the characteristics that underlie the approach that has been adopted.

Our basic approach to determining the potential role of vehicle handling as a possible contributing factor to accident causation has been the statistical inference approach. In general terms, data elements believed to be relevant to accident causation are identified, and these data elements are then collected on a representative sample of accidents. Ideally, the same data elements are also collected on a representative sample of the exposed, at-risk population of vehicles using the highways at the times and places where the accidents occur. The analysis in this approach consists essentially of comparing the two samples and looking for the overrepresentation or underrepresentation of selected variables in the accident population compared to the control population. Variables that are found to be overrepresented in the accident population with respect to their proportions in the control population are presumed, at the first level of analysis, to be causally related to the occurrence of accidents.

The extent to which the overall statistical inference approach can be implemented in any single project is governed primarily by practical issues. The amount of time that can be spent on any single accident by the field

investigators, the number of such cases that can be investigated, and the resources available for a detailed description of the control population are all highly relevant. In the present project it has been necessary to limit the scope of the overall investigation by focusing the data collection activities on a particular topic of interest. Tires were selected initially because it is well known that tires have a highly significant effect on vehicle handling characteristics, and presumably, on vehicle-handling accidents if such exist<sup>1,2</sup>. Further, it was believed that improperly maintained or used tires could be detected relatively easily (compared to other vehicular components that influence vehicle handling) in the accident population.

Project resources were allocated to accident and accident-involved vehicle investigations, and no resources were devoted to obtaining a comparably detailed description of the control population. A pseudo-control population was available, however, in the form of the checklane data collected by HSRI in its evaluation of the Michigan vehicle inspection program. The data from this program, sponsored by the Michigan Department of State Police, are described subsequently and compared to the accident data.

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<sup>1</sup>Bernard, James E. et al., Vehicle-In-Use Limit Performance and Tire Factors, Technical Report UM-HSRI-PF-75-1-2, Contract DOT-HS-031-3-693, Highway Safety Research Institute, The University of Michigan, January 1975.

<sup>2</sup>Bundorf, R.T. and R.L. Leffert, The Cornering Compliance Concept for Description of Directional Control (Handling) Properties, Engineering Publication 2771, General Motors Proving Ground, Milford, Michigan, 1971.

## 2.0 DATA SET

The data collection procedures and detailed information about the specific data elements, including data collection forms, were presented in the first interim report. These are reviewed briefly below, and the contents of the data set in its final form are given in terms of several descriptive variables.

### 2.1 Selection Criteria

At the beginning of the current project—September 1, 1975—the case-selection criteria were set to investigate all accidents in which one or two vehicles were involved and in which all involved vehicles were towed from the scene because of damage sustained during the accident sequence. Passenger cars and light trucks with four wheels were required to be among the five most recent model years, whereas all other trucks and buses could be up to ten model years old. Thus 1972 and subsequent model year cars and light trucks were eligible initially, and 1977 and 1978 vehicles were added as they were introduced into the driving population in late 1976 and 1977 respectively.

Simple random sampling from vehicles meeting both the accident and case-vehicle selection criteria given above was employed. This reduced the accidents and vehicles to be investigated to a number consistent with the size of the field investigation staff. The sampling fraction has been maintained at 0.2 in Washtenaw County. For the Oakland County jurisdictions--Bloomfield Township, Pontiac, Royal Oak, Southfield, Troy, and Waterford Township--the sampling fraction was set initially to 0.2 and subsequently increased to 0.3 on April 1, 1976. (It was reduced to 0.2 on April 11, 1977, and maintained at that level for the duration of the project).

### 2.2 Data Elements

All data elements have been collected on the Annotated Collision

Performance and Injury Report, Revision 3, Edition 1/76, VH/IC Study, 4/76. The entire form may be found in Appendix D. It should be noted that extensive data were collected for each wheel and tire. These data elements include whether the wheel was original equipment and if it was damaged, the tread type, intended use (passenger car, light truck, etc.), size, brand, DOT code, and load range of the tire. Tire construction information including carcass type, number of plies, ply material, and the presence of a tube or retread is also collected. The in-use condition of the tire is characterized by tread depth, cupping, and pressure, and the suspected loss of pressure, damage to the tire and involvement of the damage in accident causation are also noted.

### 2.3 Accident Population

The accident data set utilized in the subsequent analyses contains data from 760 accidents meeting the selection criteria and occurring between September 1, 1975 and April 30, 1978 in Washtenaw County and the six Oakland County jurisdictions given earlier. Of these 760 accidents, 438 (58%) were single-vehicle accidents and 322 (42%) were two-vehicle accidents.<sup>1</sup> Of the 322 two-vehicle accidents, data were obtained on both vehicles in 284 cases, and data were obtained on only one vehicle in 38 cases. The result is that the data set contains 1044 vehicles, 438 (42%) of which were involved in single-vehicle accidents, and 606 (58%) from two-vehicle accidents. Data are missing, of course, on variables even though the vehicle is contained in the file, with the result that the number of vehicles is reduced further in the analytical runs, particularly in those where several variables are used.

The majority--59%--of the 760 accidents occurred at night, with 41% occurring during the day. Of the single-vehicle accidents, 70% occurred at night, whereas only 43.2% of the two-vehicle accidents occurred at night.

### 2.4 Drivers

Of the 1044 vehicles involved, eleven were parked cars and one was a driverless moving vehicle, leaving 1032 involved drivers. For all

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<sup>1</sup> The requirement that both vehicles of two-vehicle accidents meet the model-year and tow-away criteria results in the disproportionately high number of single-vehicle accidents.

accidents, 68% of the involved drivers were male. This increases to 74% for male involvements in night-time accidents. Similarly, 73% of the drivers involved in single-vehicle accidents were male.

The mean age of all drivers is 31.4 years, and 43.7% of the drivers are 24 years old and younger. The youngest driver is 14 years old and the oldest is 83 years old. The percentage distribution of the drivers by bracketed age is given in Table 1.

Table 1  
Percentage Distribution of Drivers by Age Group

N	Age						
	14-17	18-20	21-24	25-29	30-39	40-59	60-83
1032	7.9	16.3	19.5	14.0	17.3	18.3	5.6

Alcohol was noted as an impairing factor by the accident investigators for 28.8% of the 960 drivers for whom an "impairment" judgement was made, and "asleep" was noted for an additional 4.3% as shown in Table 2. A further breakdown by number of vehicles involved and a simple day/night dichotomy shows that alcohol impairment was noted in 47.9% of the single-vehicle accidents, and "alcohol" and "asleep" together increase this to 57.1%. As expected, further subsetting of the single-vehicle accidents into "day" and "night" categories shows that 60.1% of the single-vehicle, nighttime accidents involve drinking to some degree.

The extent of impairment in those drivers for whom alcohol was noted cannot be inferred from the data on hand. This is principally because blood alcohol content (BAC)--in quantitative terms--is rarely determined for accident-involved drivers in Michigan. Only 18 drivers were tested, and results were available for only 9 of these. Further, it is known that not all drivers are equally impaired at the same BAC. Young drivers frequently experience greater impairment than do older drivers at the same BAC. Table 3 shows the distribution, by age, of the 276 drivers for whom impairment due

Table 2

Percentage Distribution of Drivers by Accident Subsets  
and Impairment

Drivers	N	Impairment*			
		None	Alcohol	Asleep	Other
All . . . . .	960	64.0	28.8	4.3	8.8
Sngl. Veh, Day .	123	64.2	19.5	5.7	13.8
sngl. Veh, Night	288	31.9	60.1	10.8	10.4
Sngl. Veh. . . .	411	41.6	47.9	9.2	11.4
Two Veh, Day . .	309	91.6	2.3	0.6	6.1
Two Veh, Night .	240	66.7	30.0	0.4	1.5

\* Rows do not add to 100% because impairment is a multiple-response variable and one driver may have two impairments (i.e., asleep and drinking).

to drinking was noted. The table shows that drinking-impairment occurs among all age groups, and the drivers in the 21-24 year age group account for nearly a quarter of all alcohol-impaired drivers.

Table 3

Percentage Distribution of Alcohol-Impaired  
Drivers by Age Groups

N	Age						
	14-17	18-20	21-24	25-29	30-39	40-59	60-83
276	4.7	15.6	24.3	14.5	19.9	18.8	2.2

Table 4 shows the frequency of all drivers by age and the proportion noted to be impaired by alcohol. The tabulated proportion is the number of alcohol-impaired drivers (from Table 3) in an age group divided by the total

number of accident-involved drivers in that age group. It can be seen that, except for the youngest and oldest age groups, the alcohol-impaired proportion ranges from about one-quarter to one-third. While it is highest for the 21-24 age group, it is only slightly higher for this group than for the 30-59 year groups.

Table 4  
Frequency of Drivers and Proportion of Alcohol-Impaired  
Drivers by Age Group

	Age							
	All Ages	14-17	18-20	21-24	25-29	30-39	40-59	60-83
N . .	960	68	161	199	136	168	173	55
Prop.	0.288	0.191	0.267	0.337	0.294	0.327	0.301	0.109

The purpose of the foregoing discussion is to provide a vantage point for considering the detailed analyses that are presented subsequently. The central point is not that alcohol-impaired drivers or young drivers are common among accident-involved drivers; those facts have been thoroughly demonstrated and driver analyses are not the focus of this report. A conclusive study of driver factors would require exposure (control) data on driver factors--data not available for this project. Nonetheless, driver and vehicle performance are so closely coupled in the vehicle-handling context that it is meaningful to consider vehicle/driver-handling performance as a single entity. The driver, in such a conceptualization, would be considered a component in the same sense as tires, brakes, steering linkages, and the like. In this context, differences between accident subsets--such as single-vehicle versus two-vehicle accidents--are shown more sharply by differences in the age and alcohol factors than they are by differences in the tires discussed in the subsequent sections.

## 2.5 Control Population

One of the basic analytic techniques in the following sections is the

comparison of the accident sample with a control population on selected variables available for both populations. The purpose of this comparison is to determine overrepresentation (or underrepresentation) of these variables in the accident sample, compared to an at-risk population of non-accident-involved vehicles.

Since May, 1975, HSRI has participated in the evaluation of the Michigan checklane vehicle inspection program. During the summer of 1975, tire pressures were measured on a random sample of all vehicles stopped at State Police random checklane sites in Monroe and Jackson Counties. These data, used as a sample of a control population, were compared with accident-involved vehicles, and the results were given in the first interim report.

During the summer of 1976 the State Police checklane sites, mainly 'feeder' routes with adequate traffic flow, were re-sampled in Jackson County. It became possible, with the cooperation of the Michigan State Police, to gather a small amount of additional data on checklane vehicles. A form designed to obtain more data pertinent to the current study was filled out on randomly selected vehicles. A copy of this form with selected univariate percentages may be found in Appendix A. The data represent primarily passenger cars, although some light trucks and utility vehicles are also included. These data on 1430 vehicles have been used for comparison with the accident population in the following sections.

Ideally the control sample used for comparison with the accident sample would be obtained from the same county, locale, and time as the accident population of vehicles. However, the Jackson County comparison population provided a convenient sample at no cost to the project and is certainly better than any alternatives available.

### 3.0 RESULTS

This section presents results from analyses of the cases now in the digital file. The digital file contains 1054 vehicles as of June 1, 1978. Of these, 1044 fully met the study criteria. (The other 10 vehicles were included because data collection had been completed and the data serve the injury-causation portions of the overall study). Univariate distributions of tire variables and other selected variables of interest are also contained in this section as well as analyses of selected variables pertaining to tires. Tire characteristics examined are (1) inflation pressures, (2) mixes of carcass type, and (3) remaining tread depth.

The basic analytic technique involves comparison of various subsets of the accident population and comparison of the accident population to a control population. The object of the analysis is to compare accident-involved vehicles with "at risk" vehicles on selected variables to determine overrepresentation or underrepresentation of tire parameters in the accident population. The first method, using subsets of the accident population, uses the "induced exposure" technique while the second method, comparison with a control population, uses a group external to the accident population.

Measurement of overrepresentation by comparing two populations is a common and appropriate analytical technique. There are cautions that should be observed in its use, however. Determination of real differences between the populations--rather than observed differences resulting from chance--is based on methods of statistical inference. If statistical significance is achieved, two questions must be addressed. One is whether the differences, even if real, are operationally significant, i.e., are important or relevant. The second is whether there is truly a deterministic relationship--a causal effect--as opposed to correlation with an unidentified causal factor whose influence has been neither controlled for nor studied.

### 3.1 Univariate Distributions of Selected Variables

The distributions of the principal variables--other than inflation pressure and tread depth--which have been added to the data collection form specifically for the vehicle-handling study are presented in Table 5. The total number of cases is 1044 and thus entries of 0.1 and 0.2 indicate frequencies of 1 and 2, respectively.

Table 5  
Distributions of Selected Variables in  
Percent of Cases

I. Variables on Wheels and Tires				
Variable	Tire Position			
	LF	RF	LR	RR
Wheel O.E.?				
(1) Yes	98.8	98.2	97.8	98.1
(2) No	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.5
(9) Unknown	1.0	1.2	1.6	1.4
Wheel Damaged?				
(1) Yes	12.6	12.5	6.1	5.8
(2) No	86.9	86.5	92.9	93.4
(9) Unknown	0.5	1.0	1.0	0.8
Tire Tread Type				
(1) Regular	96.4	96.1	81.5	81.6
(2) Non-studded Snow	3.3	3.3	17.5	17.5
(9) Unknown	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.8
Tire Intended Use				
(1) Passenger Car	95.0	94.8	94.7	94.7
(2) Light Truck	4.5	4.2	4.3	4.3
(9) Unknown	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.0
Tire Load Range				
(2) B	89.8	89.6	88.9	89.2
(3) C	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.3
(4) D	2.0	2.0	2.3	2.1
(5) E	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5
(9) Unknown	5.3	5.7	6.1	5.9

Table 5 (Continued)

Variable	Tire Position			
	LF	RF	LR	RR
Tire Retread?				
(1) Yes	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2
(2) No	98.5	98.1	97.7	97.3
(9) Unknown	1.3	1.6	1.9	2.5
Tire Tube?				
(1) Yes	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.8
(2) No	97.7	97.3	96.9	96.6
(9) Unknown	1.3	2.1	2.1	2.7
Tire Carcass Type				
(1) Bias Ply	18.5	18.9	19.3	18.9
(2) Belted-Bias Ply	25.6	24.7	24.3	24.6
(3) Radial Ply	54.8	54.6	54.0	54.1
(9) Unknown	1.1	1.8	2.4	2.4
Cupping?				
(1) Yes	2.7	2.5	1.8	1.5
(2) No	95.2	94.8	95.6	96.0
(9) Unknown	1.8	2.7	2.6	2.5
Pressure Loss Suspected?				
(1) None	81.2	82.0	89.9	91.1
(2) Pre-Crash	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
(3) At Crash	15.2	14.3	6.3	5.5
(4) Post Crash	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
(5) Loss Unknown Time	3.1	3.1	3.0	2.7
(9) Unknown If Loss	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.5
Tire Damaged?				
(1) Yes	6.7	6.2	2.5	2.5
(2) No	90.8	90.2	96.1	96.2
(9) Unknown	2.4	3.5	1.4	1.3
Damage Contributory to Accident?				
(1) Yes	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
(2) No	7.8	8.3	2.7	2.9
(3) Not Applicable (No Damage)	90.6	90.2	96.0	96.2
(9) Unknown	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.0

Table 5 (Continued)

II. Vehicle Variables	
Variable	Percent of Vehicles
Steering Wheel Original Equipment?	
(1) Original Equipment	98.7
(2) Non-original Equipment	0.2
(9) Unknown	1.1
Glazing Obstructions?	
(1) Glazing Obstructions	0.7
(2) No Glazing Obstructions	86.6
(9) Unknown	12.7
Suspension Alterations?	
(1) Suspension Alterations	0.5
(2) No Suspension Alterations	97.9
(9) Unknown	1.6
Fuel Level?	
(1) Full	10.3
(2) 3/4	14.6
(3) 1/2	23.9
(4) 1/4	23.8
(5) Empty	2.2
(9) Unknown	25.2
Air Conditioning?	
(1) Air Conditioning	58.0
(2) No Air Conditioning	39.9
(9) Unknown	2.1
Cargo?	
(1) Cargo	12.1
(2) No Cargo	83.4
(9) Unknown	4.5

### 3.2 Tire Inflation Pressure

Tire inflation pressure is one of the most important factors that determines tire performance, and it is by far the most important such variable completely under control of the motorist. In this section tire pressures of the accident and checklane samples are discussed, and pressure comparisons between accident subsets and between the accident and checklane samples are presented.

3.2.1 Accident Comparisons on Environmental Variables. Environmental data, collected from the scene of each accident, include several roadway, weather, and location variables which potentially could be related to vehicle control. Subsets of the accident population, formed by the levels of these environmental variables, were tested by the analysis of variance technique (ANOVA) to see if the mean tire pressures and mean tire pressure differentials in the above mentioned subsets were significantly different. Three pressure difference variables were also computed for vehicles which have neither missing data nor a flat tire in any tire position. Front-to-rear difference is the maximum difference between the two front tires and the two rear tires, i.e., the largest of the absolute values of the differences. Side-to-side difference is the maximum difference in the two right tires and two left tires. The third variable, maximum difference, represents the maximum pressure differential between any two tires on the car and is, in effect, the maximum of the two previous variables for each vehicle.

Most environmental variables did not produce significantly different subsets (at the 0.05 level) of the accident population when tested on the difference variables mentioned above. Among these non-significant variables were type of road surface (asphalt, concrete, etc.), horizontal and vertical roadway alignment, precipitation type and rate, roadway surface condition, and the descriptive variable "Case Vehicle Speed." The mean tire pressure differentials of the subsets defined by the levels of these variables were not significantly different.

The descriptive variable "Ran Off The Roadway Before First Impact" is shown in Table 6. This variable is coded 'Yes' when the case vehicle leaves the normal travel lanes of the roadway before first impact (although the

vehicle may subsequently return to the roadway during the collision phase). The difference variables are all significant at the 5 percent level with the difference variable means of the vehicles running off the road about 1 psi higher than those not running off the road. Of the 176 vehicles which ran off the road, 169 were single-vehicle accidents, while of the 391 vehicles which did not run off the road, only 17 were single-vehicle accidents. There was no significant difference between the mean pressure differences on vehicles in single-vehicle crashes when subset on "Ran Off The Road." Only seven vehicles involved in multi-vehicle crashes ran off the roadway before impact and the mean psi differences of these vehicles were more than 2 psi higher than vehicles involved in multi-vehicle crashes which did not run off the road. This difference, however, is not statistically different due to the small cell size.

Table 6  
Mean Tire-Pressure-Difference Variables Subset  
on Ran Off the Road Before First Impact

Variable	Ran Off the Road	N	Mean	S.D.	Sig. (F Statistic)
Side-to-side Difference	Yes	176	6.17	5.91	0.036
	No	391	5.15	5.09	
Front-to-rear Difference	Yes	176	6.33	6.12	0.021
	No	391	5.20	5.05	
Maximum Difference	Yes	176	6.52	6.22	0.031
	No	391	5.43	5.28	

(Vehicles with missing data on one or more tire pressures or with non-load range B tires are excluded)

The "Surface Slippery" variable—with levels yes, no, and unknown—is shown in Table 7 for the three difference variables previously described. The significance is based on the comparison of the means and standard deviations of the subsets defined by the yes and no responses. The mean tire pressure differential of vehicles on slippery roads was significantly higher than those on non-slippery roads in the previous interim report but

is no longer so. The increase in the data set size resulted in increasing the mean pressure differentials of vehicles on non-slippery roads while lowering the means of the pressure differentials on slippery roads.

Table 7  
Mean Tire Pressure Difference Variables  
Subset on Surface Slippery

Variable	Surface Slippery	N	Mean	S.D.	Sig. (F Statistic)
Side-to-side Difference	Yes	150	5.96	5.68	0.202
	No	388	5.29	5.33	
Front-to-rear Difference	Yes	150	6.13	5.96	0.150
	No	388	5.37	5.30	
Maximum Difference	Yes	150	6.34	6.06	0.157
	No	388	5.57	5.52	

(Vehicles with missing data on one or more tire pressures or with non-load range B tires are excluded)

In Table 8 the mean maximum pressure imbalance is compared for vehicles in single- and two-vehicle accidents on slippery and non-slippery roads. There are 6 individual comparisons of pairs of means that are possible with the data in Table 8. None of these is significant at the 0.05 probability level. Nor does an F-test using ANOVA for the entire table indicate significant differences between the four individual groups.

Many tests, using the analysis of variance technique, were also done on combinations of pressure differentials, tread depth, and environmental variables. Very few of these produced significant differences. Most of these tables are not included in the present report because of this, and those tables which are included may or may not have operational meaning.

To investigate the interaction of tread depth and tire pressure imbalances, the minimum tread depth (in groove #3) of the four tires on each

Table 8  
 Mean of Maximum Pressure Differences for Vehicles  
 in Single and Multi-Vehicle Accidents on  
 Slippery and Not-slippery Roads

Surface Slippery	Single				Multi			
	N	Mean	S.D.	Sig.	N	Mean	S.D.	Sig.
Yes	69	6.64	6.58		81	6.09	5.61	
No	110	6.27	5.85	0.699	278	5.29	5.37	0.244

Overall sig.= 0.193

vehicle was determined. Table 9 shows mean maximum pressure imbalances for groupings of minimum tread depths dichotomized on surface slippery as well as the mean imbalances for all surfaces. Table 9 is highly significant (0.0000) and indicates that vehicles on non-slippery roads with at least one tire with 0-2/32 inch or less tread have the highest mean tire pressure imbalances (10.08 psi), and vehicles on slippery roads, with the same minimum tread depth, have the next highest mean pressure imbalance (9.57 psi). This is the reverse of the finding in the previous report where vehicles on slippery roads had higher psi differences. If vehicles in multi-vehicle accidents are removed from the dichotomized portion of Table 9 the table is no longer significant (sig. = 0.0589), but if single-vehicle accidents are removed (leaving only vehicles in multi-vehicle accidents) the table remains significant (sig. = 0.0006). Just as in Table 8, the mean pressure imbalance of single-vehicle-accident involved vehicles not on slippery roadways is higher than multi-vehicle-accident involved vehicles on any surface and partially accounts for the lack of significance for single-vehicle accidents only. The mean differences for vehicles on all surfaces is significantly different (sig.= 0.0000) by tread depth groupings and indicates that surface condition is not the critical factor, but rather simply that tire pressure imbalance on a vehicle is correlated with tread depth. Unlike the upper section, the lower portion of Table 9 is significant for both single-vehicle and multi-vehicle accidents.

The maximum placard difference variable, derived by taking the minimum

Table 9

Mean of Maximum Pressure Difference of Accident  
Vehicles by Tread Depth and Surface Condition

Surface		Minimum Tread Depth (groove #3) of 4 tires			
		0-2/32	3-5/32	6-8/32	9+/32
Slippery	N	14	39	50	31
	Mean	9.57	6.87	6.04	4.06
	SD	9.27	7.34	4.27	4.04
Not-Slippery	N	24	80	145	98
	Mean	10.08	6.51	5.49	4.07
	SD	8.67	7.21	4.55	3.96
sig.= 0.0000					
All Surfaces	N	40	124	206	137
	Mean	9.93	6.55	5.61	4.12
	SD	8.58	7.12	4.43	4.04
sig.= 0.0000					

pressures in the front and rear, subtracting them from the respective manufacturers' recommended pressures (at maximum load), and then taking the larger of the two differences for each vehicle, is shown in Table 10. In this case, vehicles having accidents on slippery roads had significantly higher (sig.= 0.0005) mean tire pressure deviations from recommended pressure than those on non-slippery roads.

Table 10

Mean of Maximum Placard Differences by Surface Condition

		N	Mean	SD	Sig.
Surface Slippery	Yes	127	6.57	5.83	0.0005
	No	342	4.57	5.33	

Another tire pressure difference, the difference between the mean front and mean rear tire pressures was also derived. This difference is, of course, highly correlated with other tire pressure differentials, but it was found not to be significantly different on levels of the environmental variables previously discussed. The collision configuration variable, however, did have statistically significant differences between types of collisions ( $f=2.45$ ,  $sig. =0.024$ ), but the differences in the means were less than 1 psi

3.2.2 Accident Population Subsets. In Table 11 subsets of the accident population, as defined by collision configuration, are compared on the three pressure imbalance variables. Single-vehicle accidents have the highest pressure imbalances of any of the configuration subsets, although the single-vehicle to non-intersection comparison is not statistically significant.

Table 11

Comparison of Accident Subsets on Mean Pressure Differences

Var.	Sngl	Multi	Sig.	Sngl	Int.	Sig.	Sngl	int	Sig.	Non-	Int.	Sig.
Max. S-S Diff.												
N	186	381	0.049	186	271	0.053	186	110	0.227	271	110	0.740
Mean	6.11	5.16		6.11	5.11		6.11	5.30		5.11	5.30	
S.D.	5.79	5.14		5.79	5.15		5.79	5.13		5.15	5.13	
Max. F-R Diff.												
N	186	381	0.030	186	271	0.037	186	110	0.165	271	110	0.787
Mean	6.26	5.21		6.26	5.16		6.26	5.32		5.16	5.32	
S.D.	5.99	5.10		5.99	5.17		5.99	4.93		5.17	4.93	
Max. Diff.												
N	186	381	0.042	186	271	0.050	186	110	0.196	271	110	0.778
Mean	6.45	5.43		6.45	5.39		6.45	5.55		5.38	5.55	
S.D.	6.08	5.34		6.08	5.43		6.08	5.14		5.43	5.14	

The manufacturers' recommended tire pressures (at maximum load) minus the actual tire pressures are shown by tire position for the accident population subsets in Table 12. Negative mean values are the result of average tire pressures higher than those recommended.

Most of the comparisons are not statistically significant and the means for the subsets are quite similar. Only the right-front tire comparisons between single-vehicle vs. multi-vehicle and single-vehicle vs. intersection accidents are significant. These cells represent the lowest means (single vehicle) compared with the highest front means (multi-vehicle and intersection accidents). The operational significance of these differences is unclear. Mean rear pressure differences are all 2-3 psi below recommended pressure. This is probably a result of the fact that, for maximum loading, rear recommended pressures are generally higher than front recommended pressures.

Table 12

Manufacturers' Recommended PSI  
(at Maximum Loading) Minus Actual PSI by  
Tire Position for Accident Population Subsets

Tire	Sngl	Multi	Sig.	Sngl	Int	Sig.	Sngl	Non- Int	Sig.	Int	Non- Int	Sig.
LF												
N	255	420	0.16	255	291	0.21	255	129	0.32	291	129	0.94
Mean	0.16	0.85		0.16	0.83		0.16	0.88		0.83	0.88	
S.D.	6.82	5.83		6.82	5.65		6.82	6.24		5.65	6.24	
RF												
N	255	427	0.00	255	299	0.00	255	128	0.12	299	128	0.25
Mean	-.35	1.19		-.35	1.39		-.35	0.73		1.39	0.73	
S.D.	6.54	5.47		6.54	5.25		6.54	5.95		5.25	5.95	
LR												
N	284	452	0.52	284	303	0.89	284	149	0.21	303	149	0.26
Mean	2.90	3.19		2.90	2.97		2.90	3.66		2.97	3.66	
S.D.	6.06	6.08		6.06	6.18		6.06	5.88		6.18	5.88	
RR												
N	279	462	0.76	279	314	0.69	279	148	0.99	314	148	0.75
Mean	2.94	3.07		2.94	3.13		2.94	2.95		3.13	2.95	
S.D.	5.93	5.61		5.93	5.69		5.93	5.45		5.69	5.46	

The comparisons involving inflation pressure differences have stressed differences of actual inflation pressures measured in the field. While the various observed pressure differences have been contrasted by partitioning the accident data, little has been done to compare observed pressures with manufacturers' recommended pressure.

Such comparisons are appropriate and indeed could be highly valuable, but have been severely limited by lack of data. Recommended pressures are given on a placard on all cars in accordance with S4.3 of FMVSS 110. Most manufacturers have elected to list the recommended inflation pressures for an "average" or "normal" load in addition to that required for the maximum load, and the data collection protocol includes recording the placard data.

The placard is usually affixed to the inside of the glove-box door, the rear edge of a front door, or to a B-pillar. Unfortunately, these locations are frequently inaccessible to the investigator because the glove-box or car is locked, or because doors are jammed closed. Consequently, the desired data are missing on about 70 percent of the cases.

Using published data, we have been able to obtain the recommended pressure for maximum load conditions for most vehicles and reduce the missing data to about 25 percent. We have not found a reference source for recommended inflation pressures for "average" or "normal" loads. This is unfortunate, as most cars involved in accidents (and probably in normal use) are lightly loaded. Since the recommended pressures, and in particular the front-to-rear differential that results from recommended practice, can vary substantially between average and maximum load conditions, use of the maximum-load recommendations can lead to inappropriate inferences.

Another method of partitioning the accident population, using the weight of the vehicle, also produced significant results. Table 13 shows the mean maximum pressure differences for 1000-pound weight groupings of the accident vehicles. The mean pressure differences decrease as the weight of the car increases. The weight of the car is correlated with the size, of course, and comparisons of the accident and control populations by size is made in the next section.

3.2.3. Accident vs. Checklane. Figure 1 shows the distributions of all tires with valid pressures for the accident and control populations.

Table 13

Mean Maximum Pressure Difference for  
Accident Vehicles by Weight

Weight	N	Mean	S.D.	Sig.
0-2500 lbs.	79	7.43	6.22	0.007
2501-3500	181	6.19	6.93	
3501-4500	224	5.24	4.57	
4501-5500	49	4.47	3.33	

The distributions are significantly different, (sig. = 0.0001) with the accident distribution being somewhat "flatter" than the control distribution.

Comparison of the accident population and the control population on actual tire pressure, by tire position, is shown in Table 14. Three of the four comparisons are statistically significant at the 5% level with the accident population having a lower mean pressure than the checklane by about 0.5 psi. The fourth tire position, right rear, is lower by 0.19 psi which is not statistically significant. The finding differs drastically from the finding in the first interim report where the earlier control population had pressure means about 3 psi higher in each tire position. We had postulated that the pressures in the first control population were higher due to the conditions under which the pressures were measured, hot vs. cold. The new control population, however, was measured in the same manner as the old and the difference between the accident and control populations was still expected to exist. It is possible that the two control populations were different, but this is not the most likely explanation. The difference in tire pressure gauges is the more likely explanation since the gauges used in the first checklane were not calibrated, while the gauges used by the HSRI investigators in the second checklane were calibrated and known to be accurate.

Despite the similarity of actual pressures in the two populations, the difference of tire pressures on wheels of the same vehicles is believed to be the best measure of tire pressure deviation, and we have continued to use the difference variables here. Table 15 shows the comparison of the

PERCENT OF TIRES

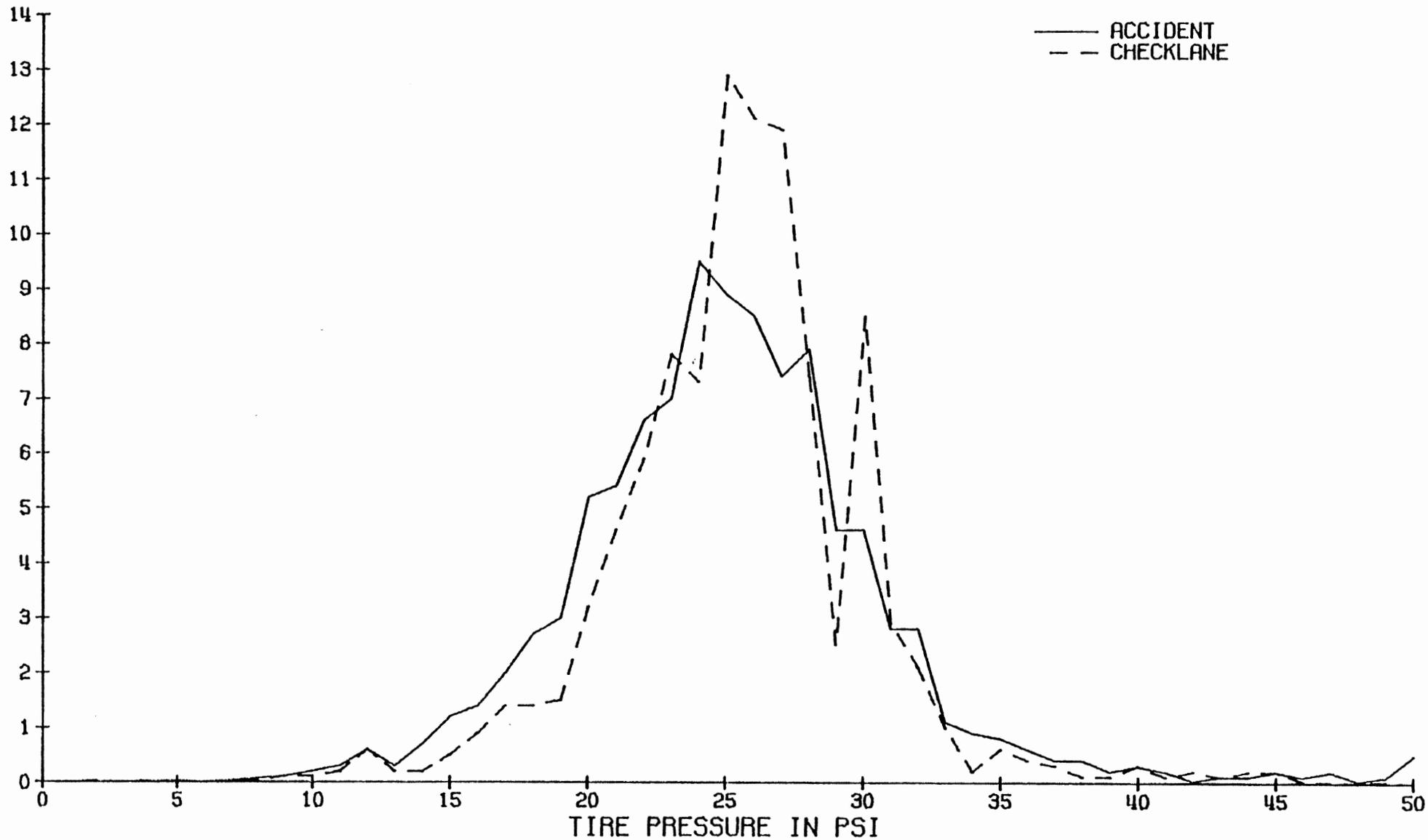


FIGURE 1  
DISTRIBUTIONS OF TIRE PRESSURES  
IN ACCIDENT AND CHECKLANE SAMPLES

Table 14

Accident and Checklane Tire Pressures  
by Tire Position

Tire Position	Accident			Control			(F-stat.)
	N	Mean	S.D.	N	Mean	S.D.	Sig.
LF	785	25.40	5.89	1340	25.83	4.25	0.0511
RF	784	25.41	5.70	1362	25.89	4.19	0.0248
LR	864	24.84	5.98	1312	25.38	4.72	0.0145
RR	872	24.89	5.58	1305	25.08	4.95	0.3960
All Tires	3305	25.12	5.79	5324	25.54	4.65	0.0001

accident and control populations on the pressure imbalance variables for 1972-1977 vehicles. All three variables are significantly different between the two populations, and the accident-involved vehicles have higher pressure differences than the control population for each variable.

Subsets of the accident population are compared to the control population for 1972-1977 vehicles in Table 16. Only the single-vehicle subset is significantly different from the control population and those differences are highly significant. A comparison of the two populations by model year (for the model years for which both have data) is shown in Table 17 on the same three variables. The accident population means are higher for each of the model years, however only the three 1972 cells and the front-to-rear and maximum difference cells for 1973 are significantly different ( $P < .05$ ). Comparisons of the populations on the difference variables with the 5 model years pooled are significant at the 0.01 level.

Comparisons of the tire pressure imbalances for the checklane sample are presented in Table 18 and the same comparisons are presented in Table 19 for the accident sample. Pressure imbalances are significantly different by body type within each sample, and subcompacts and truck (pickups, vans, utility vehicles) imbalances are higher in both data sets. A cell-to-cell comparison of the two tables showed no significant difference between the

Table 15

Mean Pressure Differences for 1972-1977  
Accident and Checklane Vehicles

	Accident	Checklane	Sig.
Side-to-side Difference			
N	567	708	0.0014
Mean	5.47	4.62	
S.D.	5.37	4.08	
Front-to-Rear Difference			
N	567	708	0.0012
Mean	5.55	4.68	
S.D.	5.42	4.20	
Maximum Overall Difference			
N	567	708	0.0014
Mean	5.77	4.88	
S.D.	5.61	4.29	

two samples for any body.

Another series of tests was performed on the distributions of the difference D formed by subtracting the average of the rear tire pressures from the average of the front tire pressures for each passenger car in the checklane and accident samples.<sup>1</sup> The difference D ranged from -14.5 psi to +15.5 psi for 622 checklane vehicles, with a mean of +0.55 psi and a standard deviation of 3.1 psi. Comparative figures for the 501 accident-vehicles are: range, -12.5 psi to +24.5 psi; mean, +0.50 psi; and standard deviation, 4.5 psi. Little operational meaning would be attached to a statistically significant difference between the means of the D measures for the two samples even if such existed. The fact is, however, that the two

<sup>1</sup> Vehicles in the accident sample were excluded if any of the four tires was suspected of having lost pressure during the accident sequence.

Table 16

Comparison of Accident Subsets with the Control Population  
(Model Years 1972-1978) on Mean Tire Pressure Differences

Var.	Single Check Sig.			Inter Check Sig.			Non-Int Check Sig.			Multi Check Sig.		
S-S												
N	186	708	.00	271	708	.12	110	708	.12	381	708	.06
Mean	6.11	4.62		5.11	4.62		5.30	4.62		5.16	4.62	
S.D.	5.79	4.08		5.15	4.08		5.13	4.08		5.14	4.08	
F-R												
N	186	708	.00	271	708	.13	110	708	.15	381	708	.07
Mean	6.26	4.68		5.16	4.68		5.32	4.68		5.21	4.68	
S.D.	5.99	4.20		5.17	4.20		4.93	4.20		5.10	4.20	
Max.												
N	186	708	.00	271	708	.13	110	708	.14	381	708	.06
Mean	6.45	4.88		5.38	4.88		5.55	4.88		5.43	4.88	
S.D.	6.08	4.29		5.43	4.29		5.13	4.29		5.34	4.29	

means do not differ in a statistical sense, and the difference in means of 0.05 psi is of no operational consequence. We note, however, that the positive means of the D measures require that, on the average, the front tires have higher pressures than the rear tires for both populations.

The two D distributions were also compared using Flora's RIDITS<sup>1</sup> on grouped data as shown in Table 20, and also using the Mann-Whitney U-statistic and the median test statistic on the individual measurements. The former was not significant at the 5% level while the latter two tests were significant. The difference is such that the checklane D distribution is "more positive" than the accident D distribution. In other words, the checklane D distribution is somewhat to the right of the accident D in a manner analogous to the mean of the checklane D (+0.55 psi) being more positive and to the right of the mean of the accident D (+0.50 psi). In terms of tire pressures, it can be inferred that the trend to having higher front pressures than rear pressures is stronger in the checklane sample than

<sup>1</sup> J.D. Flora, Jr. "RIDITS: A New Look at an Old Technique for the Analysis of Accident Injury Data," HIT LAB REPORTS, Vol. 5, NO. 3, Highway Safety Research Institute, The University of Michigan, November, 1974.

Table 17

Accident and Control Populations by  
Mean Tire Pressure Differences by Model Year

		Side Diff.		F to R Diff.		Max.Diff.	
		Acc.	Check	Acc.	Check	Acc.	Check
1972	N	87	154	87	154	87	154
	Mean	6.39	4.90	6.36	4.96	6.83	5.23
	S.D.	5.62	3.94	5.94	4.04	6.29	4.18
1973	N	104	177	104	177	104	177
	Mean	5.86	4.68	5.92	4.69	6.10	4.85
	S.D.	4.44	3.96	4.48	4.05	4.13	4.07
1974	N	112	164	112	164	112	164
	Mean	5.71	4.82	5.98	4.88	6.13	5.11
	S.D.	5.29	4.33	5.74	4.54	5.75	4.62
1975	N	93	121	93	121	93	121
	Mean	5.47	4.65	5.48	4.71	5.66	4.92
	S.D.	5.85	4.53	5.79	4.63	5.90	4.73
1976	N	96	92	96	92	96	92
	Mean	4.49	3.66	4.54	3.76	4.75	3.88
	S.D.	4.02	3.31	4.00	3.44	4.06	3.57

in the accident sample, but only slightly so.

However, the statistically significant difference that has been observed may have arisen from the numerous observations in the central part of the D distributions wherein the small pressure differences--2 or 3 psi--have little meaning in a vehicle dynamics context. Therefore the tails of the two D distributions were compared in a series of 2 x 2 Chi-square tests as shown in Table 21. It can be seen that only the test of the positive tail of the accident D versus that of the checklane D--with the positive tail defined by  $D \geq 3.5^1$ --did not show statistically significant differences between the accident and checklane samples at the 5 percent level. The negative tail of more than 3.5 psi absolute difference and both the positive and negative tails of more than 5 psi absolute difference are significant at

<sup>1</sup> Rear tire pressure less than front tire pressure by at least 3.5 psi

Table 18

Mean Tire Pressure Differences by Model for 1972-1977  
Vehicles in the Control Population

	Side-to-Side Difference	Front-to-Rear Difference	Maximum Difference
Full			
N	248	248	248
Mean	4.08	4.07	4.26
S.D.	3.39	3.33	3.47
Intermediate			
N	195	195	195
Mean	4.92	4.96	5.20
S.D.	4.48	4.48	4.52
Compact			
N	105	105	105
Mean	4.21	4.21	4.39
S.D.	3.37	3.27	3.39
Sub-Compact			
N	74	74	74
Mean	5.97	6.28	6.42
S.D.	5.50	5.90	5.93
Trucks			
N	59	59	59
Mean	5.42	5.51	5.75
S.D.	4.75	4.94	5.05
Sig.	0.0020	0.0004	0.0006

the 2 percent level. All of these observations support the inference that the two D distributions differ in the tails of their distributions as well as in the central regions.

Station wagons carry a wide range of loads compared to other passenger cars. Because of this, their handling properties can differ from other passenger cars, and vary over a wider range. These attributes make the inflation pressures on wagons particularly interesting. However, the number of wagons in the two data sets is small, 84 in the accident sample and 66 in the checklane sample. The wagons with no pressure loss in the accident and

Table 19  
 Mean Tire Pressure Differences by Model for  
 1972-1977 Accident Vehicles

	Side-to-Side Difference	Front-to-Rear Difference	Maximum Difference
Full			
N	132	132	132
Mean	4.80	4.84	5.06
S.D.	4.38	4.37	4.44
Intermediate			
N	117	117	117
Mean	4.94	4.89	5.07
S.D.	4.19	4.11	4.22
Compact			
N	123	123	123
Mean	4.81	5.26	5.32
S.D.	4.62	5.29	5.32
Sub-Compact			
N	142	142	142
Mean	7.06	7.10	7.37
S.D.	7.37	7.24	7.58
Trucks			
N	51	51	51
Mean	5.47	5.22	5.69
S.D.	4.46	4.21	4.60
Sig.	0.0015	0.0028	0.0025

with valid pressure measurements on all four tires, thus permitting computation of pressure differences among the tires on a vehicle, number 45 in the accident sample and 62 in the checklane sample.

A comparison of the tails of the distributions of D for station wagons in the accident and checklane samples is shown in Table 22. The structure of Table 22 is the same as Table 21. The results are similar to those for passenger cars. That is, the frequency of cars with rear and front means which differ by more than 3.5 or 5 psi (the tails of the distributions of D) is greater in the accident sample than in the checklane sample. While none

Table 20

Distributions of Front Average PSI Minus  
Rear Average PSI (D) for Accident and Checklane  
Samples of Passenger Cars

	Pressure Difference Interval (Inclusive)		Checklane		Accident	
			N	%	N	%
R>F	-15	-12	2	0.3	4	0.8
	-11.5	- 8.5	5	0.8	6	1.2
	- 8	- 5	12	1.9	21	4.2
	- 4.5	- 3.5	28	4.5	35	7.0
	- 3	- 2	56	9.0	56	11.2
	- 1.5	- 1	77	12.4	68	13.6
	- 0.5	+ 0.5	189	30.4	122	24.4
F>R	1	1.5	78	12.5	57	11.4
	2	3	81	13.0	37	7.4
	3.5	4.5	41	6.6	27	5.4
	5	8	44	7.1	44	8.8
	8.5	11.5	6	1.0	10	2.0
	12	15	2	0.3	9	1.8
	15.5	24.5	1	0.2	5	1.0
Total			622	100.0	501	100.0

RIDITS Test: Odds Ratio=1.14, Sig. Level=0.058;  $\chi^2$  sig. = 0.0004

of the comparisons is statistically significant because of the small number of cases, the results are comparable to those shown in Table 21 but with even greater differences between the two samples <sup>1</sup>.

Most manufactures recommend higher pressures in the rear than in the front for station wagons. This corresponds to a recommendation of a negative D. Thus the positive tails are particularly noteworthy since they represent higher pressure in the front, a condition that decreases the understeer coefficient. The accident sample of wagons has a substantial proportion with a mean front pressure greater than mean rear pressure by

<sup>1</sup> The Fisher exact probability was used because of the small numbers of cases.

Table 21

## Comparisons of the Tails of the Distributions of D

D=F-R	Tests of Positive Tails				Tests of Negative Tails			
	Tail		Tail		Tail		Tail	
	<3.5	≥3.5	<5	≥5	>-3.5	≤-3.5	>-5	≤-5
Checklane	528	94 (15.1%)	569	53 (8.5%)	575	47 (7.6%)	603	19 (3.1%)
Accident	406	95 (19.0%)	433	68 (13.6%)	435	56 (13.2%)	470	31 (6.2%)
Chi-Square	2.7		6.9		9.1		5.7	
Sig. Level	0.102		0.009		0.003		0.017	

five psi or more (15.6 percent). It is also interesting to note that nearly half of the station wagons in both samples have mean front pressures greater than the mean rear pressures (43.5 percent in the checklane sample and 42.2 percent in the accident sample). Thus a large proportion of wagon users are driving with pressures that are not consistent with the manufacturers' recommendations.

From Table 9 it is apparent that tread depth and maximum pressure difference are correlated. A comparison of the accident and checklane samples shows that the mean minimum tread depth for all vehicles (model years 1972-1978) is 5.5/32 inch for the checklane and 6.6/32 inch for the accident sample. Vehicles with missing data on one or more tire pressures are excluded from the above means so that the means represent mean minimum tread depths for the vehicles in Table 9 and Table 23. Table 23 shows the mean maximum pressure differences for vehicles in the checklane and the accident samples by minimum tread depth groupings. Note that within each sample the variation in mean maximum pressure difference among the minimum tread depth groupings is statistically significant (at less than the 0.01 level using an ANOVA F-test).

Table 22

Comparisons of the Tails of the  
Distributions of D for Station Wagons

D=F-R	Tests of Positive Tails (Front mean greater than rear)				Tests of Negative Tails (Rear mean greater than front)			
	Tail		Tail		Tail		Tail	
	<3.5	≥3.5	<5	≥5	>-3.5	≤-3.5	>-5	≤-5
Accident	36	9 (20.0%)	38	7 (15.6%)	41	4 (8.9%)	41	4 (8.9%)
Checklane	57	5 (8.15)	58	4 (6.5%)	52	10 (16.1%)	58	4 (6.5%)
Sig. Level (Fisher's exact prob.)	0.065		0.11		0.212		0.45	

Table 23

Mean Maximum Pressure Difference of Accident  
and Checklane Vehicles by Minimum Tread Depth

Sample		Minimum Tread Depth (groove #3) of 4 tires				
		Total	0-2/32	3-5/32	6-8/32	9+/32
Check- lane	N	1129	164	361	406	198
	Mean	5.57	8.15	5.74	5.02	4.27
	S.D.	5.02	5.87	4.65	4.63	4.91
Acci- dent	N	507	40	124	206	137
	Mean	5.78	9.93	6.55	5.61	4.12
	S.D.	5.71	8.58	7.12	4.43	4.04

Both distributions sig.=0.0000

Other variables, in particular environmental variables available in the accident file only, were tested using ANOVA (F-test) with the rear minus the front mean PSI of all passenger cars as the dependent variable. Most of the comparisons did not produce significant results, and the means of the subsets formed by these environmental variables were quite similar. Variables tested included surface slippery, precipitation and road surface condition variables, road alignment, and the derived variable wet/dry. The two descriptive variables ran off the roadway before first impact and collision configuration were both significant ( $p < .05$ ). However, the mean pressure differences on the levels of these variables were less than 1 psi

### 3.3 Mixing of Types of Carcass Construction

Mixing tires of different types of carcass construction (regular bias, belted bias, and radial ply) can substantially affect the handling characteristics of vehicles.<sup>1</sup> In general, the different types of construction provide different cornering stiffnesses, and altering the relative front/rear cornering stiffness changes the understeer characteristics. This can be most pronounced if radials are mixed with non-radials.

The checklane data collected in 1976 contain 22 vehicles with mixed carcass types among 1381 vehicles with no missing data on construction, or 1.6 percent. The 1001 vehicles in the accident with complete data on carcass construction sample include 103 with mixed or 10.3 percent. The difference is statistically significant at less than the 0.000 percent level, with  $X^2=78$  and d.f.=1.

The accident data collection period includes winter months so a number of cars equipped with snow tires were investigated. Since the checklane data were collected in late summer, the greater mix of carcass constructions found in the accident sample could have resulted partly from the use of snow tires. If the vehicles in the accident sample with carcass mixes and snow tires (with snow tires and regular tread of different carcass types) are removed from the mixed category and treated as not-mixed, the frequency of mixes in the accident sample becomes 6.8 percent.<sup>2</sup> While 34 percent of the mixes in the accident sample are eliminated by this procedure (for purposes of a comparison with the summer checklane data), the frequency is still significantly greater than in the checklane sample at less than the 0.0001 level with  $X^2=45$  and d.f.=1.

There are alternative ways of dealing with the problem created by the snow tires in the accident sample. One is to exclude vehicles with snow

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<sup>1</sup> Bernard, James E. et al., Vehicle-In-Use Limit Performance and Tire Factors, Technical Report UM-HSRI-PF-75-1-2, Contract DOT-HS-031-3-693, Highway Safety Research Institute, The University of Michigan, January 1975.

<sup>2</sup> Vehicles with one or three snowtires and with mixed construction, cars with two snow tires but with construction mixed on the same axle, and cars with radials mixed with non-radials were included as cases of mixed construction.

tires completely, i.e., both from the numerator and denominator of the proportion representing mixed constructions. When this is done, the proportion of vehicles in the accident sample with mixed constructions becomes 55 out of 820 or 6.7 percent. This result is almost identical to that given in the paragraph above. Mixed constructions were found on 27 percent of the 180 vehicles equipped with snow tires. Another comparison is provided by including vehicles with snow tires, but restricting the proportion to vehicles in accidents during summer months. The proportion of vehicles in accidents from April through October inclusive with mixed constructions is 8.4 percent.

All of the results presented above indicate a much greater mixing of types of carcass construction among accident-involved vehicles than in the control sample.

The cases of mixed types of carcass construction discussed in the paragraphs above include all combinations of regular bias, belted-bias, and radial. Mixing radials with non-radials is frequently noted as a particularly dangerous practice. There are 14 such samples in the checklane data, or 1.01 percent of the vehicles. The accident sample contains 21 vehicles with radials mixed with non-radials, or 2.1 percent--twice the proportion in the checklane sample. The apparent overinvolvement of vehicle with tires of mixed carcass construction is of interest. When the vehicles in the accident sample are partitioned into those in single-vehicle crashes and those in multi-vehicle crashes, 11.5 percent of those in single-vehicles are found to have mixed carcass types, compared with 9.6 percent for those in multi-vehicle crashes. The difference is not significant.

A comparison of carcass mixing with a trichotomous variable for road surface condition is shown in Table 24. A greater proportion of the vehicles with mixes were involved on roads which were either wet or covered with ice or snow. The differences are significant at the 0.03 level ( $X^2=6.8$ , d.f.=2). When the carcass mixes resulting from the use of snow tires are treated as non-mixes the results shown in Table 25 are obtained. The differences are not significant ( $X^2=0.98$ , d.f.=2). Neither are the differences in surface condition mixes discounting snow tires (the left two columns of Table 25) compared to the distribution in cases without mixes

(the right two columns of Table 24). In this case the significance level is 0.55 with  $X^2=1.1$ , d.f.=2.

These results indicate that the association of mixed carcass construction with surface condition shown in Table 24 results from the use of snow tires in the winter months when there is a greater incidence of wet or snow covered roads.

Of the 35 cases of mixes of carcass constructions resulting from the use of snow tires, only four involved radials with non-radials. However, the four were cases of radials on the front and non-radials on the rear, a particularly unacceptable configuration.

The Interim report indicated a significant association between an indication of the use of alcohol and mixed carcass construction. The current data set of 1044 accident involved vehicles does not provide a significant association.

Table 24

Mixing of Carcass Types  
by Road Surface Condition

Surface	Carcass Types			
	Mixed		Non-Mixed	
	N	%	N	%
Dry	50	48.1	549	61.3
Wet/Water Covered	31	29.8	196	21.9
Ice/Snow	23	22.1	150	16.8

The Rubber Manufacturers Association publishes a wall chart for the use of tire dealers that describes acceptable and non-acceptable combinations of tire construction and aspect ratios.<sup>1</sup> Three categories of combinations are

<sup>1</sup> "Tire Application Guide for Passenger Cars," published by the Rubber Manufacturers Association, 1901 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Table 25

Mixing of Carcass Types  
by Road Surface Conditions  
Discounting Mixes Possibly Resulting  
from the use of Snow Tires

Surface	Carcass Type			
	Mixed		Non-Mixed	
	N	%	N	%
Dry	39	56.5	560	60.2
Wet/Water Covered	19	27.5	208	22.4
Ice/Snow	11	15.9	162	17.0

listed. These are "preferred" (for identical aspect ratio and carcass construction), "acceptable", and "no." The guide is rather liberal. For example, it lists as acceptable the use of radials on the rear and non-radials on the front unless the front tires are of the 50 or 60 series.

Using the RMA guide as criteria, 13 of the carcass mixes in the checklane sample are unacceptable mixes or a proportion of 0.9 percent, while 3.9 percent (25) of the vehicles in the accident sample have unacceptable mixes. While the incidence of unacceptable mixes is about half that for all mixes of carcass constructions, the difference between the two samples is still highly significant with  $X^2=29$ , d.f.=1.

The higher frequency of carcass mixes in the accident-involved vehicles compared to the checklane vehicles is just the sort of overrepresentation that would implicate carcass mixes as a factor associated with accidents, either causally or through correlation with a causal factor. However, a causal inference from the data presented here must be tempered. Basic differences between the populations from which the checklane and accident samples were taken may account for the difference in the observed carcass mixes. Evidence of this will be discussed relative to tread depth in

Section 3.4.1, where the analyses include control for the effects of confounding variables whose distributions differ in the two populations. The number of cases of mixes of types of carcass construction is too small to permit such statistical control.

The 21 vehicles having radial tires mixed with non-radial tires are insufficient for any but the cursory analysis given above. Because the number is small, a brief summary of each case is included in Appendix B. Of the 21 cases, 12 were unrelated to vehicle handling. It is not obvious that any did involve vehicle handling, but of the 9 for which it cannot be ruled out, 4 involved drinking drivers, another 3 were on roads covered by ice or snow, and one involved a puddle on an expressway.

#### 3.4 Tread Depth

This section presents an examination of tread depth measured on the accident sample. The section is divided into three subsections. Subsection 3.4.1 presents comparisons of the accident sample with the control (checklane) sample. Since only one measurement was made per tire in the checklane data collection, the comparisons are limited to the use of one groove measurement on each tire in the accident sample.

In 3.4.2, subsets of the accident sample are compared. The objective of 3.4.2 is to examine the overall tread depth in the accident sample. Since all grooves were measured on the accident vehicles, the mean depth of all grooves on each tire is used as the measure of overall tread depth. Much of the material in this section is based on the minimum mean depth on the vehicle--that is, the mean depth of the tire which had the lowest mean depth of all four tires.

Lastly, two characteristics of the pattern of wear that can be deduced from measurements of all grooves are examined in 3.4.3 for subsets of the accident sample. The two pattern characteristics are the concavity/convexity of the pattern, and lateral asymmetry of wear on each tire.

3.4.1 Tread Depth Comparisons of Accident and Checklane Samples. Tread depths were measured in both the accident and control samples. The measurement for the control group was made while the cars were waiting in line for the Michigan State Police checklane, and thus the time available

was limited. Because of this, only one tread depth measurement was made on each of the four tires. The single measurement was made in the center groove of tires with an odd number of grooves, or in the groove nearest the center on the side toward the observer (outside) in the case of an even number of grooves. The observer was instructed to take the time necessary to be sure the measurement was not over a tread wear indicator. All comparisons of tread depths in the accident and control groups are based on a consistent depth measurement. This is accomplished by using the depth of the groove in the accident data that corresponds to the groove measured in the checklane data.

The checklane sample collected in the summer of 1976 included vehicles over 20 years old. Tread depth is correlated with age, and since the vehicles in the accident sample are no more than 6 years old (model years 1972-1978), the use of the checklane data has been limited to those vehicles that were no more than 6 years old at the time of the data collection.

The distributions of tread depths on the tires in the two samples are shown in Figure 2. Since the checklane data were collected in the summer, presumably with few snow tires, snow tires which have deep treads have been deleted from the accident data in Figure 2. Tires with missing data on tread depth are also excluded. Consequently, Figure 2 is based on 4191 tires from the checklane sample and 3278 tires from the accident sample. The distributions are very similar in both samples, with both having a mode at 9/32. However, the curve for the accident sample is displaced slightly to the right above 4/32, indicating the tires in the accident population had slightly more tread. The difference between the two distributions is statistically significant at the 0.0000 level.<sup>1</sup> The proportion of tires with tread depths of 0-2/32 is 3.78% in the accident sample, and 4.15% in the checklane sample. This difference is not significant ( $\chi^2=0.7$ , d.f.=1).

Figure 3 gives the distribution of the minimum tread depth on each vehicle, i.e., the minimum of the four tires. Those vehicles are included

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<sup>1</sup> The RIDITS Technique of Flora was used for the tests. This technique was used because it is a distribution-free method of determining if the numbers (scores) of one population are greater than those of a second. The significance levels given by Flora's technique are the same as those given by the Mann-Whitney (U) test to which it is closely related.

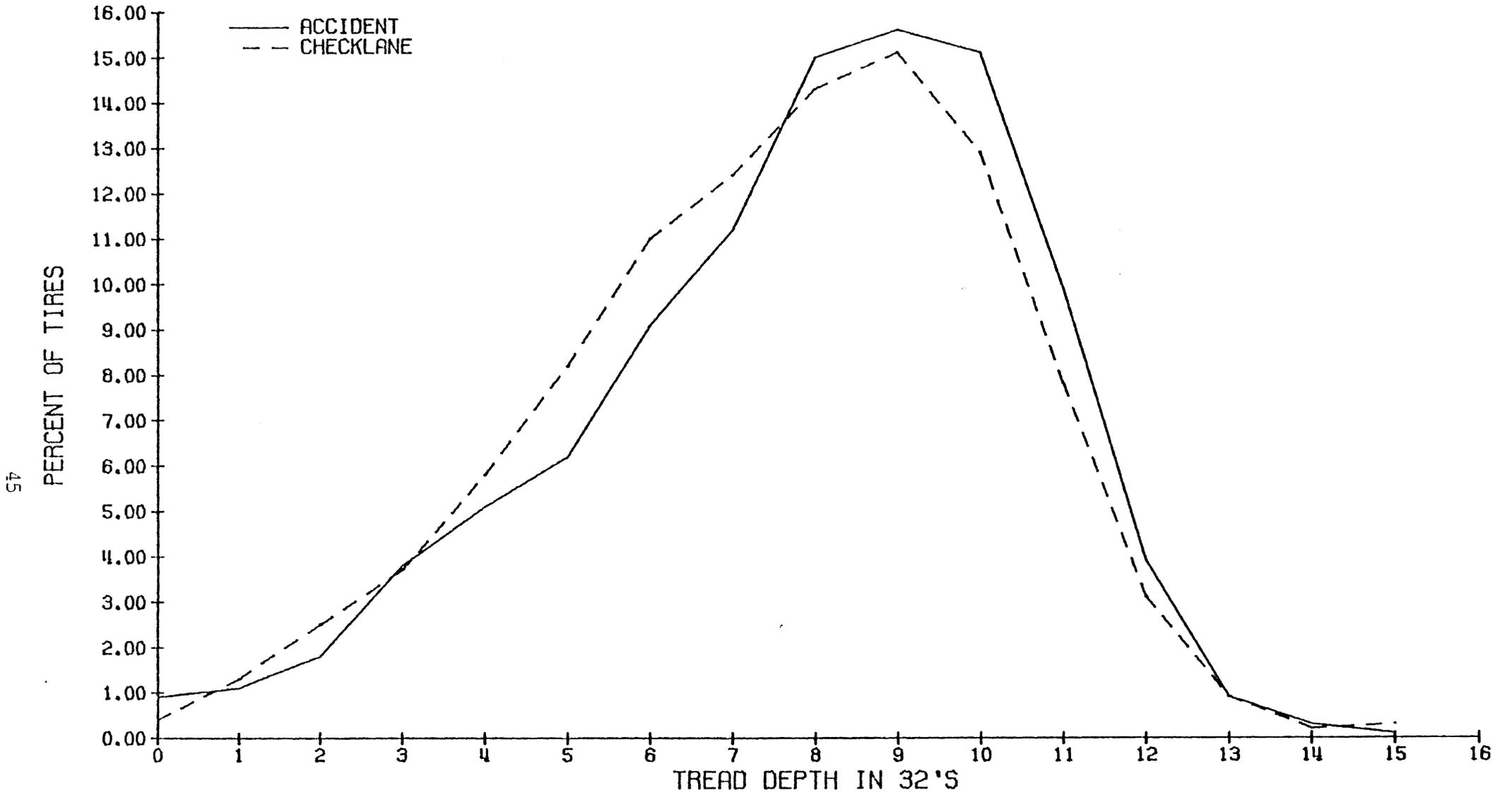


FIGURE 2  
 DISTRIBUTION OF TREAD DEPTH OF EACH TIRE  
 0-6 YEAR OLD VEHICLES

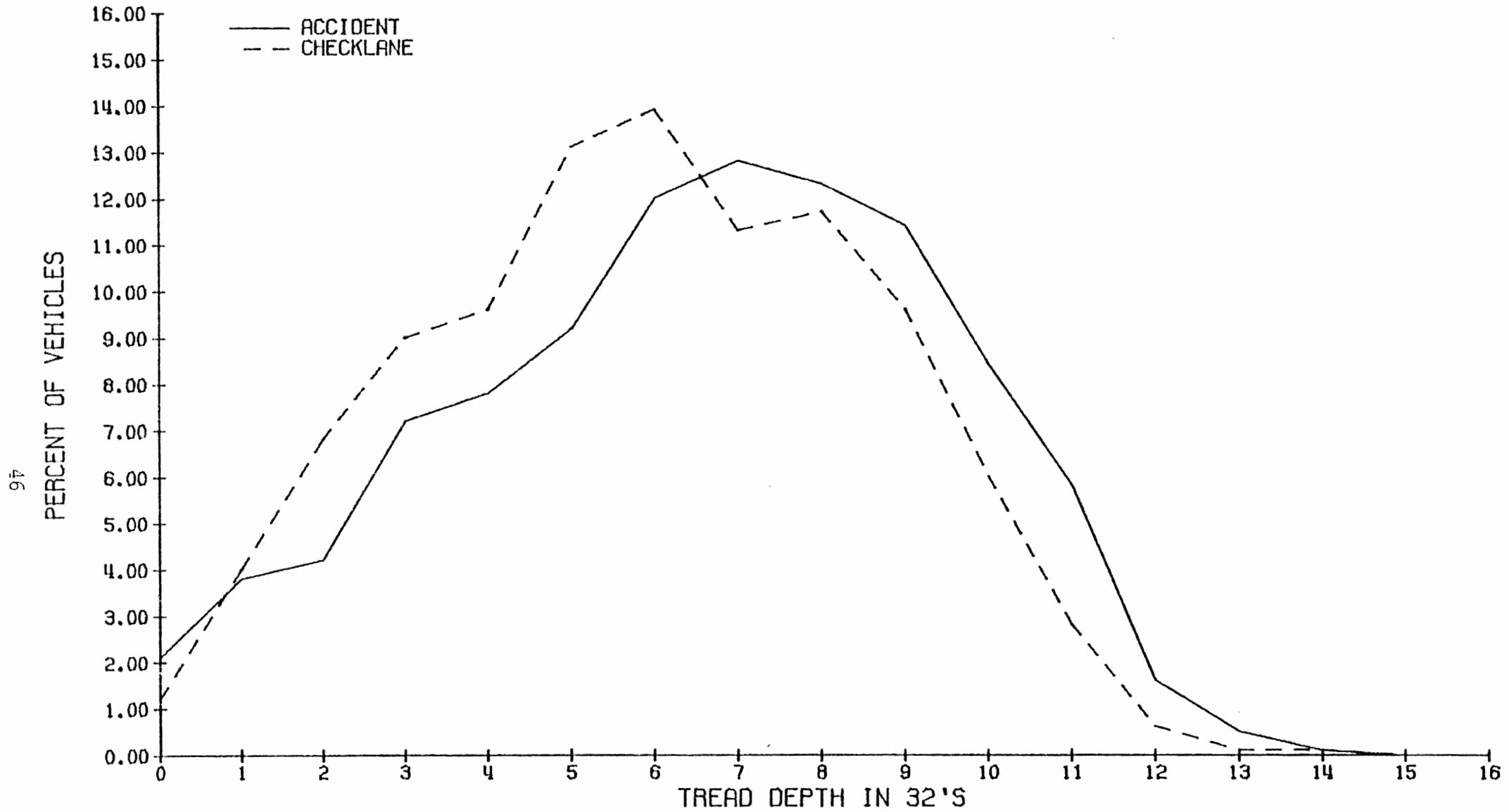


FIGURE 3  
 DISTRIBUTION OF MINIMUM TREAD DEPTH  
 ON EACH VEHICLE. 0-6 YEAR OLD VEHICLES

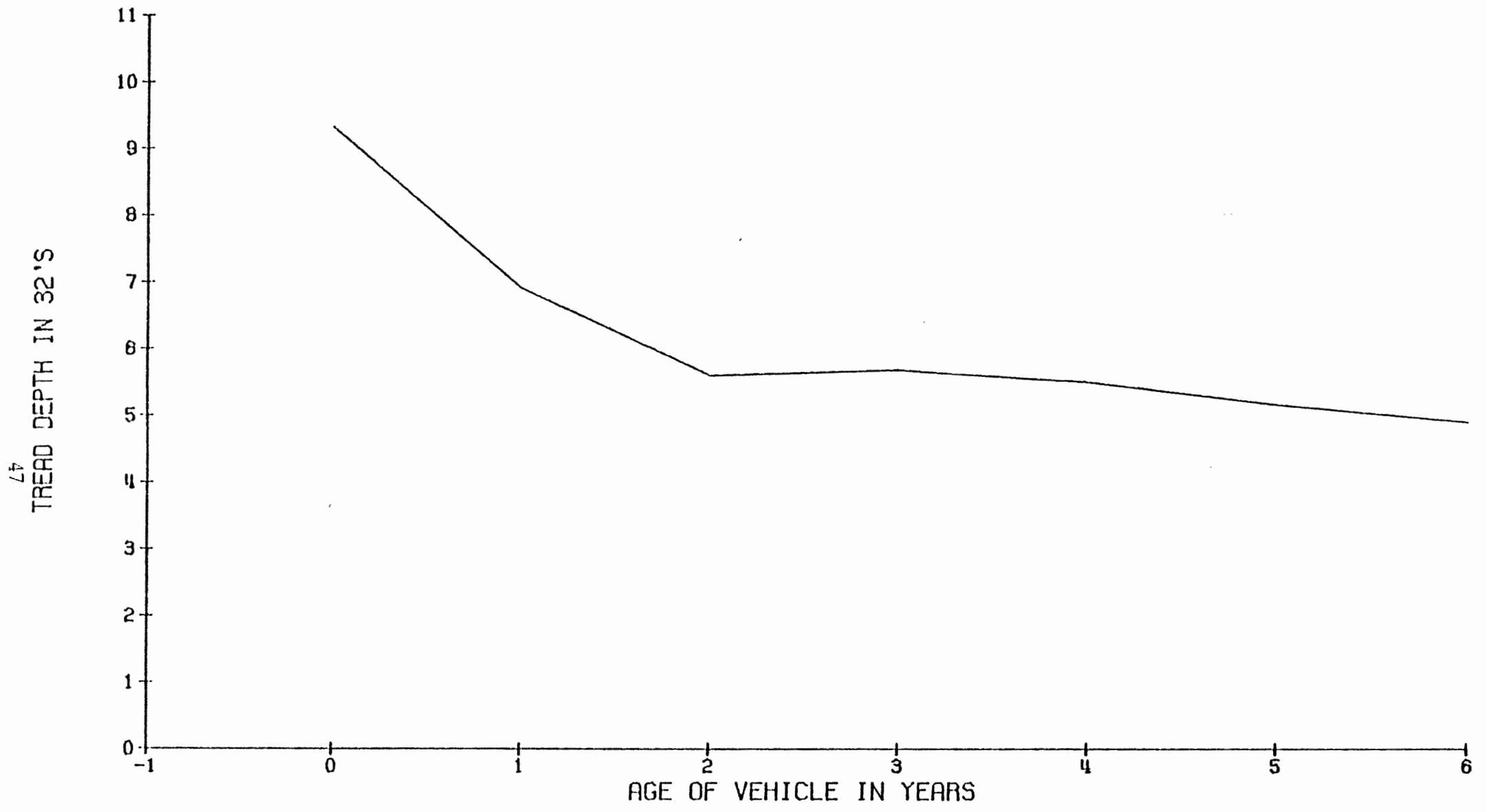


FIGURE 4  
MEAN MINIMUM TREAD DEPTH BY VEHICLE AGE  
COMBINED CHECKLANE AND ACCIDENT DATA

for which all four tires met the requirements given relative to the previous figure, 1042 vehicles in the checklane and 807 in the accident samples. Almost all observations made with regard to Figure 2 also apply to Figure 3. The difference in the two distributions is significant at the 0.000 level using Flora's technique. The mean minimum depth in the accident sample is 6.5 (32's) and 5.9 for the checklane sample. While the difference is significant (at the 0.0001 level using the Students test), it is small.

The proportion of accident-involved vehicles with minimum tread of 0-2/32 is 10.9% and 12.1% for the checklane sample, although the difference in the two proportions is not significant ( $\chi^2=0.63$ , d.f.=1).

The greater tread depths on tires of the accident-involved vehicles shown in Figure 2 are surprising, but can be explained in part by differences in the two samples. It was noted earlier that tread depth is correlated with vehicle age. Figure 4 indicates the mean of the minimum depth (of four tires) decreases with age, particularly in the first two years. The proportion of vehicles with at least one tire with a tread depth of 0-2/32 also increases with age, even more markedly than the mean. This is shown in Table 26.

Table 26

Proportion of Vehicles in the Combined Accident and Checklane Samples with a Minimum Mean Tread Depth 2/32 or less by Age.\*

Age in Years	Proportion in Percent
0	0.8
1	5.2
2	12.0
3	14.2
4	15.5
5	17.3
6	23.6
Mean	11.4
Total N	1849

\*Vehicles with snowtires have been excluded from the accident sample

The age of vehicles in the two samples is different. Table 27 shows that a greater proportion of the vehicles in the accident sample is less than two years old. The associations between sample (accident, checklane) and age, and between tread depth and age, suggest that comparisons of tread depth in the two samples could be confounded by vehicle age and that the comparisons should be controlled for the effects of age. Multivariate linear regressions were used to provide such control.

Table 27

Vehicle Age By Population

Age in Years	Proportion of vehicles of each age in percent for:	
	Checklane	Accident*
0	14.3	20.3
1	16.9	22.0
2	18.5	18.1
3	19.3	18.1
4	15.7	13.0
5	9.7	7.9
6	5.6	0.6
Total %	100.0	100.0
N	1051	838

\*Vehicles with snowtires have been excluded.

In the regressions to be discussed below for comparing tread depths in the accident sample with those in the checklane sample, tires on trucks in both samples, and snowtires on cars in the accident sample were excluded. Only vehicles in a common range of ages--0-5 years old--were included. The tread depths in the regressions are of the tire with the minimum tread on the vehicle (there were 1606 such vehicles in the two samples). Consequently, the basic observational unit is a vehicle. The regressions provide predicted values of a dependent variable  $Y$  (in this case tread depth) as a linear function of several dependent variables  $X_i$ ,

$$Y = b_0 + b_1X_1 + b_2X_2 \dots$$

The least squares method selects the coefficients such that the sum of squares of the differences between the predicted and observed values of Y is minimized.

A regression of tread depth (in 32's) against sample (1=checklane, 2=accident) and age gives the results in Table 28.

Table 28  
Least Squares Regression  
by Tread Depth by Sample and Vehicle Age  
 $R^2=0.136$

Variable	Coefficient	Significance Level
Constant	8.225	---
Sample	0.132	0.32
Age	-0.647	0.00

These results indicate that after controlling for age, the difference in the two samples was not significant (sig. level=0.32), while the effect of age was, with each additional year of age, to reduce the mean tread depth by 0.65/32 inch. However, the conclusion must be tempered by the fact that the model only explained 14 percent of the variability in the data as indicated by the value of  $R^2$ . Nevertheless, the result is consistent with the observation that while the accident sample has more tread than the checklane sample, it also has more new cars which in general have more tread.

The regression using tread depth in 32's effectively examines differences in the means of the samples. Since the mean minimum tread depths are substantial, about 6/32, small differences in the means may have little influence on accident experiences. Therefore the remaining comparisons of tread depth will examine the proportions of the vehicles in each sample which have minimum tread depths of 0-2/32. For examining proportions, it is possible to use weighted least squares models.

Basically, the proportions used as the dependent variables are computed for the group of observations (vehicles) that fall in each of the population cells defined by the combinations of values of the independent variables. Each cell,  $i$ , has  $n_i$  observations with a cell proportion of  $p_i$ . In the weighted least squares, the variables are weighted for each cell by the square root of  $W_i$ , where

$$W_i = n_i/p_i(1-p_i),$$

resulting in a regression equation of the form:

$$Y_i(W_i) = B_0(W_i) + B_1(W_i) X_{1i} + B_2(W_i) X_{2i}$$

This weighting avoids problems associated with non-uniform variances in the cells.

The weighted least squares regression of the proportion of vehicles with a minimum tread depth of 0-2/32 against sample and vehicle age gives the information in Table 29. The coefficient for sample has a significance level of 0.324, indicating the difference in the samples may result from sampling and not represent true differences in the at-risk and accident populations.

The effects of confounding variables, such as vehicle age, is important. The apparent difference in tread depth of the accident and control samples shown in Figures 2 and 3 disappeared when vehicle age was included as a control variable. It is also possible for real differences to be marked or hidden by the effects of confounding variables. Therefore it is necessary to consider as many as possible control variables as the data will provide unless prior knowledge indicates they are irrelevant.

Model (body type) is also a candidate control variable. Table 30 gives the distribution of model in the two samples. Full sized cars occur about half as frequently in the accident sample. The four-level model variable for passenger cars results in 48 cells when crossed with sample (2 levels) and vehicle age (6 levels). This results in many empty or nearly empty cells with the quantity of data available. Hence a two-level model variable was used. Full sized and intermediate cars were pooled into level 1, while compacts and sub-compacts were pooled into level 2. The distribution given in Table 30 suggests this pairing.

Table 29

Weighted Least Squares Regression of Tread Depth  
less than 3/32 by Sample and Vehicle Age  
 $R^2=0.610$   
Total Degrees of Freedom = 14

Variable	Coefficient	Significance Level
Constant	-0.0455	0.008
Sample*	0.0116	0.324
Age**	0.0361	0.000

\*1=checklane sample, 2=accident sample  
\*\*The age variable used is the age of the vehicle plus one.

Table 30

Distribution of Model in Each Sample

Model	Distribution in Percent	
	Checklane	Accident
Full Size	38.1	21.8
Intermediate	28.0	20.4
Compact	14.7	22.5
Sub-Compact	10.2	23.4
Small Truck	8.9	11.9
Total	100.0	100.0

Table 31 substantiates the choice of the dichotomous model variable as a control since small cars have a greater incidence of little tread in both samples.

The weighted least squares regression using both vehicle age and the

two-level model variable—generating 24 cells in all—is given in Table 32.

Table 31

Proportion of Cars with Minimum  
Tread Depth of 0-2/32 in Percent by Sample and Model

Sample	Model	
	Large	Small
Checklane	9.35	14.80
Accident	7.97	12.75

Table 32

Weighted Least Squares Regression of Tread  
Depth of 2/32 or Less, by Sample, Age, and Model  
 $R^2=0.51$   
Total Degrees of Freedom = 28

Variable	Coefficient	Significance Level
Constant	-0.0677	0.000
Sample	0.00493	0.464
Age	0.0345	0.000
Model	0.0252	0.017

This regression indicates that controlling on model as well as vehicle age also results in no significant difference in the proportion of cars with low tread in the two samples. However, this regression does not explain as much of the variability as does the regression in Table 29. Nevertheless, it strongly suggests that model is an important control variable since it is highly significant, at the 0.017 level.

The less adequate "fit" could have several reasons. The introduction of model increases the number of cells from 12 to 24, thereby increasing the

variability. The high value of  $R^2$  in Table 29 could in fact result from too much pooling of the data. An interaction between independent variables of the regression including model could also result in the low  $R^2$ , e.g., interactions between model, sample, and tread depth.

The possibility of the above interaction was examined by a regression of tread against sample, age, and two variables representing model. The two model variables were structured as shown in Table 33. The same data structure of 24 cells was used.

Table 33

Dummy Model Variables for Interaction

Sample	Model	Model Variable 1	Model Variable 2
Checklane	Large	1	0
	Small	-1	0
Accident	Large	0	1
	Small	0	-1

By using this variable structure the effect of model can be examined separately for each sample.

The regression results are shown in Table 34. There is a moderate interaction between model and sample. The effect of model is not significant in the checklane sample, but is in the accident sample. Furthermore the estimated effect of model (as given by the coefficients) is 1.7 times as great in the accident sample as in the checklane sample. Again, the effect of the sample itself on the proportion with low tread depths is not significant. However, the addition of the interaction terms has resulted in a 1% increase in the unexplained variability-- $R^2$  has increased from 0.51 (Table 32) to 0.52.

Four different regressions have been presented which examine the differences in tread depth in the accident and control samples. The raw

Table 34

Weighted Least Squares Regression of Tread Depth  
Less than 3/32 by Sample, Age, and Model with Interaction

$$R^2=0.52$$

Total Degrees of Freedom = 28

Variable	Coefficient	Significance Level
Constant	-0.0364	0.035
Sample	0.00970	0.337
Age	0.0342	0.000
Model 1 (checklane)	-0.00957	0.174
Model 2 (accident)	-0.0161	0.037

data shown in Figures 2 and 3 indicate there are differences in the two samples. However, these differences are primarily in the regions of substantial remaining tread where we would not expect the differences to be important. These apparent differences are probably the result of differences in the population of cars in the two samples rather than in the tread depths of accident and non-accident cars. Although the regression analyses do not explain a large proportion of the variability of tread depth within the samples, they all fail to detect any real differences between the samples either in the amount of remaining tread or in the proportion of vehicles with a mean tread depth on any one tire of 2/32 in. or less.

3.4.2 Mean Tread Depths in the Accident Sample. Data are collected on the depth of each groove of each tire. One measurement is made in each groove at a point not over a tread wear indicator. Six of the 4176 tires currently in the accident data set have nine grooves; the others have from two to eight grooves or are missing data on the number of grooves.<sup>1</sup> Of the 4105 with two to eight grooves, tread depth measurements were completed for 4042.

The parameter selected as a measure of the amount of tread on each tire

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<sup>1</sup> One pickup had four snow tires with only one recorded. These four tires were deleted from all analyses of tread depth.

is the mean of the groove measurements. Since the number of grooves varies from 2 (on some snow tires) to 8, the means are based on 2 to 8 measurements. The comparisons to be presented for subsets of the accident-involved cars are based on cars rather than individual tires. In these cases, that tire which had the lowest mean tread depth was selected to represent the vehicle in the comparisons. This was done under the assumption that little tread would more likely be a causal accident factor than ample tread.

Admittedly this is a simplistic--although not unreasonable--view of the role of tread. The combination of tires with different tread depths can have subtle effects on the handling performance of a car, e.g., the understeer coefficient (even on dry pavement), but this is difficult to study with the existing data structure. The effects of tire-to-tire differentials in tread depth on accident involvement can best be studied through dependent vehicle parameters such as the understeer coefficient.<sup>1</sup>

The distribution of the mean depth for each of the four wheel positions is given in Table 35. Since the data set includes a small number of light trucks and vehicles with snow tires, the means exceed the depths that would be found on new passenger car tires with regular highway tread. The break is quite evident at depths of 14/32 and greater. The mode is at 9/32 for all tire positions. The depth for new passenger car tires is about 11/32-13/32.

The two right-hand columns give the distribution of the minimum mean depth on the car. The mode is at 7/32, while the median is between 6/32 and 7/32. The mean minimum depth is 6.8(32's).

The number and percentage of tires with tread depths of 2/32 or less is given for each wheel position in the bottom row. Of the 4042 tires in the table, 127 or 3% have 2/32 or less. In general, the tires with low tread appear singly; they are distributed over 87 (8.9%) of the vehicles.

The distributions of the minimum mean tread depths (given in the right-hand column of Table 35 for the entire accident sample) have been compared

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<sup>1</sup> Segel, L. and L. Johnson, Development of Techniques for Investigating Accident Causation, UM-HSRI-78-4, Highway Safety Research Institute, University of Michigan, January 1978.

Table 35

## Distribution of Mean Tread Depth

Depth in 32's	Left Front		Right Front		Left Rear		Right Rear		Minimum Mean On Vehicle	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
0	2	0.2	6	0.6	4	0.4	3	0.3	11	1.1
1	9	0.9	7	0.7	7	0.7	13	1.3	28	2.9
2	21	2.1	21	2.1	19	1.9	13	1.3	48	4.9
3	26	2.6	43	4.2	26	2.6	25	2.5	53	6.5
4	51	5.0	50	4.9	41	4.1	41	4.1	72	7.4
5	62	6.1	54	5.3	48	4.8	49	4.9	95	9.7
6	97	9.6	91	9.0	81	8.0	82	8.1	109	11.2
7	124	12.4	119	11.7	87	8.6	101	10.0	128	13.1
8	126	12.4	128	12.6	121	12.0	116	11.5	110	11.3
9	150	14.8	148	14.6	159	15.8	151	15.0	108	11.1
10	133	13.1	131	12.9	125	12.4	132	13.1	77	7.9
11	113	11.2	123	12.1	149	14.8	133	13.2	79	8.1
12	55	5.4	48	4.7	59	5.8	56	5.6	23	2.4
13	20	2.0	21	2.1	27	2.7	35	3.5	3	0.8
14	7	0.7	9	0.9	23	2.3	22	2.2	4	0.4
15	5	0.5	4	0.4	16	1.6	16	1.6	4	0.4
16	3	0.3	3	0.3	7	0.7	5	0.5	2	0.2
17	4	0.4	2	0.2	4	0.4	3	0.3	3	0.3
18	2	0.2	2	0.2	1	0.1	4	0.4	1	0.1
19	1	0.1	0	0.0	3	0.3	2	0.2	1	0.1
20	0	0.0	3	0.3	1	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.1
21	1	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.1	2	0.2	0	0.0
22	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0
Total	1013	100.0	1013	100.0	1009	100.0	1007	100.0	975	100.0
0-2	32	3.2	34	3.4	30	3.0	31	3.1	87	8.9

for specific subsets of the accident population. Subsets were selected either to (1) compare those groups that might be expected to have the greatest difference in incidence of "handling" accidents or, (2) compare those in which tread depth could be expected to play a role with those in which it is least likely to be a factor. Since the data thin out at the higher tread depths, cases with depths of 15/32 or greater were pooled, thus giving 16 levels of depth. Two tests were used. The Students-T test of means, and the Mann-Whitney (U) test of ranks. Both methods are appropriate

and have their strengths and weaknesses. The means test is straightforward to interpret and simply tests for equality of means. However, it depends on the assumption of normality of the distributions. The Mann-Whitney test is distribution free, and tests for equality of ranks of scores (ordered variables). However, it is invalid if ties are frequent. With large data sets the difference in results of the two tests is small.

Table 36 gives the results for vehicles involved in several types of collision. The mean for those in single vehicle accidents (which might be expected to involve vehicle handling more frequently than other collisions) is lower than for those in two vehicle collisions. However, the difference is small and not statistically significant by either the mean test (sig. level = 0.16) or the Mann-Whitney test (sig. level = 0.18). The difference between the two most common subsets of two-vehicle collisions--head-on and intersection--are greater than the difference between single and two-vehicle collisions. The difference is statistically significant at the 0.01 level by both tests. Vehicles in head-on and single-vehicle crashes have mean minimum tread depths which differ by only one-half of a 32nd, a difference which is not significant (sig. level = 0.10). The greatest difference is the comparison between head-on and intersection. This difference (1/32) is statistically significant at the 0.00 level using both tests. The reason for this difference and its implications have not been identified.

Table 36

Minimum Mean Tread Depth  
by Type of Collision

Type of Collision	Mean (in 32.s)	N
Single Vehicle	6.74	404
Two-Vehicle	7.02	571
Head-On	6.21	110
Intersection	7.24	386

Table 37 gives the results of three comparisons of road surface conditions. Mean minimum tread depths are given for each subset along with significance levels for both tests.

Table 37  
Minimum Mean Tread Depth

Comparison	Mean in 32's	Sig. Level
Dry vs. Others		
Dry	7.06	0.051 mean test
Others	6.66	0.057 Mann-Whitney
Dry vs. Wet		
Dry	7.06	0.041 mean test
Wet	6.57	0.051 Mann-Whitney
Wet vs. Ice/Snow		
Wet	6.57	0.37 mean test
Ice/Snow	6.78	0.51 Mann-Whitney

Vehicles in crashes on dry roads have marginally significantly different minimum tread depths than those on other surfaces (wet, icy, or snow covered). The comparison of dry surfaces with wet surfaces was made to "sharpen" the contrast. If tread, regardless of depth, is unable to cope with ice or packed snow, the former comparison would be "diluted." Almost identical results were obtained when ice/snow were removed. This suggests that there is little difference--in minimum mean tread depth--between vehicles in accidents on wet roads and those on roads covered by snow or ice. Indeed, the last comparison of Table 37 indicates this is the case.

Carrying this reasoning one step further, the wet-dry comparison could also be "diluted" if moderate tread is sufficient to provide braking and cornering forces with the most frequently encountered degrees of wetness. Since only a small proportion of the vehicles had little tread, under the above conditions small differences in mean tread depths could not be expected to result in different accident experience.

Consequently a wet-dry comparison was made using a dichotomous minimum

tread depth variable. Vehicles with at least one tire with a mean depth of 0-2/32 were pooled, and compared with those with more tread. The result is shown in Table 38. Comparing wet and dry roads, the chi-square test of homogeneity gives  $X^2=6.6$  with d.f.=1 and a significance level of 0.010. Thus we may conclude that vehicles with a tire with less than 3/32 mean tread depth are overrepresented in accidents on wet roads by nearly 2 to 1. The last column of Table 38 gives the results for vehicles involved on snow or ice. The results are midway between "dry" and "wet", and because of this (or the smaller number of cases) are not significantly different from either. This would suggest that while performance on wet surfaces is degraded by tread depths of less than 3/32 in, degradation on ice or snow--if it exists--is at a greater tread depth. Unfortunately, the small number of cars involved on ice or snow makes it difficult to examine dichotomies of tread depth with a more equal "split" because the variance of an estimated proportion increases as the proportion becomes closer to 0.5.

Table 38

Comparison of Wet and Dry  
Surfaces with a Dichotomy  
of Minimum Mean Tread Depths

Tread Depth	Dry	Wet	Snow/Ice
Up to 2/32	7.4%	13.2%	8.8%
Over 2/32	92.6%	86.8%	91.2%
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0
N	583	220	155

3.4.3 Tread Wear Patterns in the Accident Sample. Since one depth measurement is made in each groove of a tire, the data are available to examine the pattern of tread wear, i.e., the pattern generated by differential wear across the surface of the tire in the lateral direction. The pattern itself may not be directly related to vehicle handling or accident causation. If it is, it would be through a complex relation

between cornering or braking forces and tire pressure, load, lateral acceleration, carcass construction, etc. However, the wear pattern is directly related to tire pressure maintenance practices and suspension system geometry, particularly toe and camber. These factors, in turn, directly affect handling characteristics. Thus one might expect to find some association between wear patterns and accident experience, albeit indirect.

Unfortunately, the large amount of data generated by the individual groove measurements is difficult to categorize and analyze. One of the more conveniently obtained measures of the pattern is the range of groove depths on each tire. The distribution of ranges for front and rear tires is given in Table 39. Although front tires have a slightly lower range (the odds of a front tire having a lower range than a rear tire is 1.0007),<sup>1</sup> the difference is insignificant.

The range of groove depths is a rather crude measure of the wear pattern. A more descriptive procedure is provided by least squares fitting a second order equation to the groove depths given for each tire. This technique provides a predicted (or estimated) pattern defined completely by the three coefficients of the second order equation. Appendix C describes the procedure and results, and the derivation of the pattern characteristics that will be discussed here.

Two pattern characteristics will be discussed. One is the concavity or convexity of the pattern. Convex patterns are those that have more tread in the middle grooves than on either side, and are characteristic of continual underinflation. Concave patterns are those that have less tread in the middle than on either side, characteristic of continual overinflation. The amount of concavity or convexity is measured by the depth of the pattern, i.e., the maximum distance from a straight line joining the outside groove depth and the inner groove depth as shown in Figure C of Appendix C.

The second pattern characteristic to be discussed is lack of symmetry about the lateral center--more wear on one side than the other. This

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<sup>1</sup> The odds ratio and significance level were obtained by Flora's RIDITS technique. J.D. Flora, op cit.

Table 39

Tread Depth Range on Each Tire  
(Maximum-Minimum Groove Depth)

Range in 32's	Front Tires		Rear Tires	
	N	%	N	%
0	429	20.9	484	24.0
1	668	33.0	596	29.6
2	468	23.1	412	20.4
3	244	12.0	238	11.8
4	111	5.5	137	6.8
5	47	2.3	69	3.4
6	39	1.9	40	2.0
7	16	0.8	21	1.0
8	4	0.2	11	0.5
9	4	0.2	6	0.3
10	1	0.0	0	0.0
11	0	0.0	2	0.1
Total	2026	100.0	2016	100.0
$\leq 2/32$	1565	77.2	1492	74.0

pattern is usually characteristic of improper toe, but can be caused by incorrect camber.

#### Pattern Concavity/Convexity

The distribution (density function) of the depth of concavity/convexity is shown in Figure 5. Concave patterns are more common than convex patterns. This is surprising since it is characteristic of continued overinflation, while one might expect underinflation to be more common. The mode is at zero, which represents a linear pattern. Note that new passenger car tires have outside grooves about 2/32 deeper than middle grooves. Thus, a new tire would be concave with a pattern depth of 2/32. This may account for the skewness of Figure 5.

In the discussions of concavity/convexity to follow, the patterns have been trichotomized into groups that are concave, convex, and linear. The linear group has been expanded to include those with pattern depths of  $-1/32$

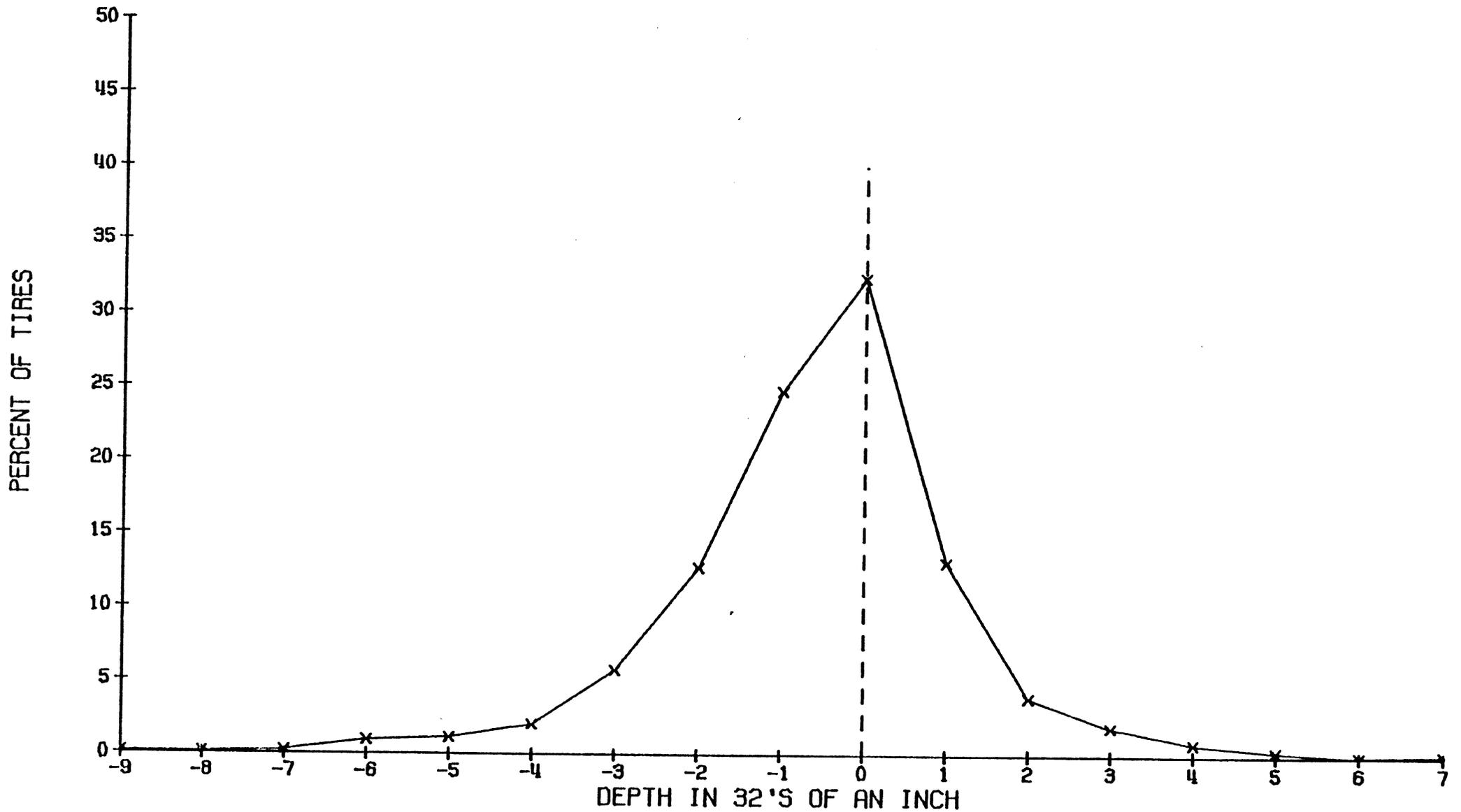


FIGURE 5  
DEPTH OF TREAD WEAR PATTERN  
OF TIRES IN ACCIDENTS  
NEGATIVE VALUES INDICATE TREAD LOW IN CENTER

to +1/32 inch inclusive. This represents the resolution of depth measurements and is probably not an operationally significant departure from linear.

Pattern direction by wheel position is given in Table 40. The rear tires have a higher incidence of concave patterns, with fewer linear and convex patterns. The differences are statistically significant at the 0.000 level. The side to side differences are small.

Table 40  
Tread Wear Pattern Direction  
and Wheel Position

Position	Number of Tires and Row Percent		
	Direction		
	Concave	Linear	Convex
Left Front	270 27.5	551 56.1	162 16.5
Right Front	287 29.2	522 53.2	173 17.6
Left Rear	377 43.1	418 47.8	79 9.0
Right Rear	369 42.4	435 50.0	66 7.6

Table 41 gives the pattern direction by carcass type and this table is also significant at the 0.000 level. Radials have a high (66.6%) incidence of linear patterns, while both bias and belted-bias tires have a high incidence of concave patterns. Consistent with this, the radial tires also have a higher incidence of uniform (flat) patterns (29% for radials, 7% for belted-bias, and 9% for bias). Since the radials are a newer construction, one might expect the higher incidence of uniform and linear patterns on radials to result from less wear on these tires and hence, less opportunity

to develop wear patterns. However, the mean groove depths (averaged over all grooves on all tires of each construction) differ little. They are 9.1 (32's) on the bias tires, 8.7 on belted-bias, and 9.2 on radials.

Table 41

Tread Wear Pattern Direction  
and Carcass Type

Carcass Type	Number of Tires and Row Percent		
	Direction		
	Concave	Linear	Convex
Bias Ply	386 60.9	193 30.4	55 8.7
Belted-Bias Ply	459 52.5	274 31.3	142 16.2
Radial Ply	446 20.5	1448 66.6	279 12.8

Table 42 gives the pattern direction by tire aspect ratio. Only two ratios are common, 0.70 and 0.78. The differences in the distributions of 0.70 and 0.78 are not significant ( $X^2=0.8$ , d.f.=2). Tires with an aspect ratio of 0.60 are likely to have a convex patterns, significantly more frequently than for series 70 tires ( $X^2=11.8$ , sig level = 0.003). The distributions for other ratios differ, but are based on small numbers of cases.

Pattern directions by model type are given in Table 43. Passenger cars and small trucks are significantly different ( $X^2=33$ , d.f.=1) with essentially an interchange of the incidence of concave and linear patterns. This is not surprising since truck tires are more likely to be inflated for load capacity than for comfort or handling characteristics. Differences among the four passenger car models are also significant at the 0.000% level with  $X^2=48$ , d.f.=6. Subcompacts have the highest incidence of concave,

Table 42

Tread Wear Pattern Direction  
and Tire Aspect Ratio

Aspect Ratio	Number of Tires and Row Percent		
	Direction		
	Concave	Linear	Convex
0.50	3 75.0	1 25.0	0
0.60	35 55.6	22 34.9	6 9.5
0.65	12 33.3	24 66.7	0
0.70	221 33.9	350 53.7	81 12.4
0.74	11 64.7	4 23.5	2 11.8
0.78	928 33.7	1456 52.9	366 13.3
0.80	21 43.8	20 41.7	7 14.6
0.88	54 54.5	36 36.4	9 9.1

while full size cars have the fewest. Conversely, full size cars have the greatest incidence of convex patterns and subcompacts the lowest. While these differences are statistically significant, they may not be operationally significant.

The pattern directions were also examined by inflation pressure. The tires used here were limited to load range B with no suspected loss of pressure during the accident. Table 44 gives the results of an ANOVA test of the means. The mean pressures do not differ significantly except between concave and linear. The Mann-Whitney test of ranks also indicates a

Table 43

Tread Wear Pattern Direction  
and Model Type

Model Type	Number of Tires and Row Percent		
	Direction		
	Concave	Linear	Convex
Full size	234 28.1	468 56.1	132 15.8
Intermediate	236 30.1	448 57.2	99 12.6
Compact	325 37.6	411 47.5	129 14.9
Sub-compact	339 38.6	461 52.4	79 9.0
Total of above	1134 33.7	1788 53.2	439 13.1
Small trucks	165 49.1	130 38.7	40 12.2

difference between the concave and linear groups (with a level of significance of 0.04). However, the difference in means is so small—0.46 psi—that it is very doubtful if it is of any consequence.

Lack of a more pronounced association between pattern direction and inflation pressure is surprising since relative inflation pressure is one of the primary mechanisms of pattern generation. However, the pattern is a function of the history of inflation over the entire period of wear, rather than the pressure at a single point in time.

#### Pattern Asymmetry

The second characteristic of wear pattern examined is asymmetry of wear. Asymmetric wear is simply the loss of more tread from one side of a

Table 44

Means Test of Inflation Pressure  
by Wear Pattern Direction

Load Range B tires with no suspected pressure loss		
Pattern Direction	Mean Pressure in PSI	Standard Deviation of the Mean
Concave	24.62	5.6
Linear	25.08	5.6
Convex	24.99	5.5

Between Group: F statistic = 2.2 Degrees of freedom = 2 Significance level = 0.12

tire than from the other. The derivation of this wear characteristic from the mathematical representation of the groove depth profile is discussed in Appendix C. Briefly, the asymmetry was classified into groups depending on whether they were worn more heavily on the outside, inside, flat (uniform depth), or were symmetrical but not flat. This was done by considering the location of the minimum depth of convex patterns, the maximum for concave patterns, or the sign of the slope of linear wear. The incidence of the asymmetry classifications for all tires in the accident data is presented in Table 45.<sup>1</sup> In this and subsequent tables the asymmetry will be classified by the location of maximum wear (minimum tread groove depth). Tires in the outside and inside categories include cases of convex or concave patterns with the axis of symmetry displaced laterally from the mid-point of the tire, and those with linear wear with a non-zero slope. In subsequent tables the tires with flat patterns will be aggregated with the symmetrical cases.

The distribution of the location of maximum wear is given for each wheel position in Table 46. Left-front tires are worn on the inside more

<sup>1</sup> Table 45 and subsequent tables on asymmetry exclude 193 tires for which the tread depth data are not complete.

Table 45

## Incidence of Tire Tread Wear Asymmetry

Location of Maximum Wear	Number of Tires	Percent
Outside	1012	26.8
Symmetrical	582	15.4
Inside	1421	37.7
Flat (uniform depth)	759	20.1
Missing Data	258	

frequently than right-front tires, and more frequently than they are on the outside. Right-front tires are worn on the inside and outside with equal frequency. The difference between right- and left-front tires is significant at the 0.0001 level ( $X^2=18.8$ , d.f.=2).

Table 46

## Wear Pattern Asymmetry by Wheel Position

Location of Maximum Wear	Number of Tires and Column Percent			
	Left		Right	
	Front	Front	Rear	Rear
Outside	253 25.6	329 33.3	226 25.1	204 22.8
Symmetrical	335 33.8	338 34.2	350 38.9	318 35.5
Inside	402 40.6	322 32.6	324 36.0	373 41.7

The difference in wear patterns on the two rear tires is statistically significant, but the magnitude of the difference is less than on the front tires. Similarly, the front tires as an aggregate have a distribution significantly different from that of the rear tires, but of a small magnitude.

Asymmetry by model type is given in Table 47. Differences in the table (5x3) are significant at the 0.0002 level with  $X^2=29.8$  and 8 degrees of freedom. Compacts have the highest incidence of low tread on the outside, while small trucks have the highest incidence on the inside. Nearly equal proportions of all cars have symmetrical wear patterns, although trucks have substantially fewer.

Table 47  
Wear Pattern Asymmetry by Model Type

Location of Maximum Wear	Number of Tires and Column Percent				
	Model				
	Full Size	Intermediate	Compact	Subcompact	Small Truck
Outside	203	209	209	258	130
	24.2	26.3	24.1	28.7	36.0
Symmetrical	311	274	310	336	105
	37.1	34.5	35.7	37.4	29.1
Inside	325	312	350	304	126
	38.7	39.2	40.3	33.9	34.9

The distribution of asymmetry for dry road surfaces is compared to all other surface conditions (wet, snow, ice) in Table 48 for passenger cars only. The differences are small, but they are significant at the 0.04 level with  $X^2=6.5$  and 2 degrees of freedom. The distribution for wet surfaces only is outside, 23.9%; symmetrical, 34.9%; inside, 41.2%. This distribution is not significantly different than for dry surfaces ( $X^2=2.2$ , d.f.=2). Thus, the significance in Table 48 is largely because of the

winter accidents on snow or ice.

Table 48

Wear Pattern Asymmetry by Road Surface Condition  
Passenger Cars

Location of Maximum Wear	Number of Tires and Column Percent	
	Surface	
	Dry	Other
Outside	557 26.5	318 24.6
Symmetrical	726 34.6	503 38.9
Inside	816 38.9	471 36.5

The associations of asymmetry with road surface coverings that are statistically significant are small, and it is not yet possible to identify them as causal accident factors.

The asymmetries of wear on tires of cars in one- and two-vehicle accidents are compared in Table 49. The differences are significant at the 0.0002 level ( $X^2=17.3$ , d.f.=2), with more tires with wear on the outside in single-vehicle accidents. Asymmetry is also significantly different among the types of two-vehicle collisions. This is shown in Table 50 for which  $X^2=28.3$ , d.f.=6. Vehicles involved in head-on or intersection accidents have a high incidence of maximum tread wear on the inside, while vehicles in rear-end collisions have a high incidence of symmetrical tread wear.

Table 49

Wear Pattern Asymmetry  
by Number of Vehicles in Accident

Passenger Cars

Location of Maximum Wear	Number of Tires and Column Percent	
	Number of Vehicles in Accident	
	1	2
Outside	404 28.6	475 23.9
Symmetrical	527 37.3	704 35.4
Inside	482 34.1	809 40.7

Table 50

Wear Pattern Asymmetry by Type of  
Collision for Two-Vehicle Accidents

## Passenger Cars

Number of Tires and Column Percent				
Location of Maximum Wear	Type of Collision			
	Head-on	Intersection (L and T)	Rear-end	Others
Outside	109 28.6	310 22.8	51 23.5	5 16.7
Symmetrical	118 31.0	484 35.6	98 45.2	4 13.3
Inside	154 40.4	566 41.6	68 31.3	21 70.0



APPENDIX A

Control Population Data Collection Form  
with  
Selected Univariate Percentages

TIRE CONDITION SURVEY

POLICE FORM

NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

CAR MODEL \_\_\_\_\_

	RF	RR	LR	LF
TIRE TYPE (check one):				
UNKNOWN	0.3%	0.2%	0.6%	3.2%
BIAS PLY	16.3	16.3	16.4	15.6
BELTED BIAS PLY	50.8	51.6	50.8	48.8
RADIAL PLY	32.5	31.9	32.2	32.3
TIRE PRESSURE (PSI)	— —	— —	— —	— —
TREAD DEPTH (Center groove, 32nd's inch)	— —	— —	— —	— —
CHECK IF PRESENT:				
CUPPING	6.5	3.5	3.1	4.3
UNEVEN TREAD WEAR	7.6	5.1	4.1	5.8
BULGES OR BREAKS	1.1	0.5	0.3	0.8
TREAD SEPARATION	7.3	4.5	3.9	6.0

SIZE: RF \_\_\_\_\_

RR \_\_\_\_\_

LR \_\_\_\_\_

LF \_\_\_\_\_

APPENDIX B

Individual Case Summaries of  
Accident-Involved Vehicles with  
Radial Tires Mixed with Non-Radial Tires

(Unless otherwise indicated,  
all tires have regular  
highway tread)

Case HS 2180

1974 Dodge Charger 2-door sedan. Drinking driver fell asleep on a gentle curve in an urban area. Spun to left, sideways into a tree at right front door. Speed before impact 45 mph.

CDC = 03RPAW4, crush 23 in.

One occupant, alcohol noted.

Dry asphalt pavement at 2:19 am.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Belted-Bias	Belted-Bias
Size	F78-14	F70-14
Tread Depth	5/32 in.	5/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	26 psi	24 psi
Rear - Construction	Radial	Radial
Size	HR78-14	HR78-14
Tread Depth	6/32 in.	5/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	25 psi	26 psi

Case OK 2415

1974 Chevrolet Van 20. Single vehicle collision on US-10. Ran through a puddle. Slew right over 5" curb, rolled to right, slid on right side, rolled down embankment onto left side, skidded on left side, rotated back on wheels.

CDC = OOLDA03 Prim. crush 7 in.  
OORDA01 Sec. crush 3 in.

One occupant, no alcohol noted.

6 lane divided depressed expressway, concrete - no rain, but pavement puddled.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Belted-Bias	Belted-Bias
Size	unknown	unknown
Tread Depth	5/32 in.	7/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	28 psi	Deflated in crash
Rear - Construction	Belted-Bias	Radial
Size	L78-15	LR78-15
Tread Depth	10/32 in.	2/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	33 psi	26 psi

Case OK 2805

1973 Cadillac Calais, Head-on collision with a 1973 Chevy pickup. Cadillac driver said she went over the centerline because of ice, struck other vehicle head-on. Other vehicle was driving without lights (at 1:40 a.m. on a December morning). Neither driver drinking.

2 lane asphalt road, snow covered in moderate snowfall.

Speed - case vehicle 15 mph at impact.  
other vehicle could not be located.

CDC = 12FREW1, crush 9 in.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Radial	Belted-Bias
Size	225-15	unknown
Tread Depth	7/32 in.	10/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	20 psi	20 psi
Rear - Construction	Radial	Radial
Size	225-15	225-15
Tread Depth	7/32 in.	2/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	20 psi	20 psi

Case HS 2272

1972 Buick Skylark 2-dr, H.T. Driver ran red light at intersection, struck in left side at "C" pillar. Driver & pass (unknown age, etc.) fled from scene. Speed before and at impact 26 mph.

CDC = 10LZEW3, crush 12 in.

Two occupants, asphalt pavement - slippery, snow covered at 4:40 p.m.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Radial	Radial
Size	GR70-14	GR70-14
Tread Depth	4/32 in.	3/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	unknown	22 psi
Rear - Construction	Belted-Bias	Belted-Bias
Size	H78-14	H78-14
Tread Depth	4/32 in.	0/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	Deflated in crash	21 psi

Case OK 2680

1973 Olds Toronado. Single vehicle collision. Driver went through a "T" intersection into a house. Told police brakes failed, but police tried them and said they worked OK. Driver also said accelerator stuck. Investigator could not check because of jammed hood.

Speed before impact 25, at impact 20 mph.

CDC = 12FDEW2 pri. house crush 18"  
12FLMS1 sec. chain link fence

One occupant, no alcohol noted.

Road: 2 lane asphalt, dry, no precip.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Radial	Radial
Size	LR70-15	LR70-15
Tread Depth	12/32 in.	12/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	25 psi	25 psi
Rear - Construction	Belted-Bias	Belted-Bias
Size	J78-15	J78-15
Tread Depth	4/32 in.	6/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	21 psi	27 psi

Case HS 2407

1972 Mercury Monterey, 4-Door Sedan. Two vehicle collision on Michigan Avenue east of Ypsilanti. The case vehicle pulled out of a private drive, across the Eastbound lanes of Michigan, into the path of a Westbound Vega. Was struck in the left rear door and rear wheel area.

CDC=03-RZEW-2, crush 6 in.

One occupant, no alcohol noted.

5 lane pavement, dry, clear, daylight

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Radial	Radial
Size	HR 78-15	HR 78-15
Tread Depth	5/32 in.	7/32 psi
Inflation Pressure	32 psi	31 psi
Rear - Construction	Radial	Bias (retread)
Size	LR 78-15	H 78-15
Tread Depth	6/32 in.	1/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	unknown	15 psi

Case HS 2450

1974 Mercury Montego, 2-dr. hardtop. Two vehicle collision on Hamilton. Case vehicle entered an intersection from the north and was struck by a westbound Volkswagen Rabbit which ran a stop sign on an intersecting two-lane street.

CDC=10-LPEW-3 crush 11 in.

4 occupants, no alcohol noted on part of case vehicle driver.

4 lanes, asphalt - raining, night

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Bias	Bias
Size	G 78-14	G 78-14
Tread Depth	0/32 in.	0/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	32 psi	33 psi
Rear - Construction	Belted-Bias	Radial
Size	G 78-14	FR 70-14
Tread Depth	4/32 in.	5/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	25 psi	15 psi

Case HS 2496

1974 AMC Gremlin. Single vehicle collision on Austin Road. Westbound on a rural road early in the morning. Drifted across the left lane, striking first a fence, then a barn.

CDC=03-RPEN-2 prim. crush 12 in.  
12-FDEW-1 sec. crush 14 in.

1 occupant, alcohol noted.

2-lane asphalt, damp, dark.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Radial	Radial
Size	DR 78-14	DR 78-14
Tread-Depth	8/32 in.	8/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	45 psi	Deflated in crash
Rear - Construction	Belted-Bias	Belted-Bias
Size	E 70-14 (snow)	E 70-14 (snow)
Tread Depth	14/32 in.	14/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	24 psi	23 psi

Case HS 2517

1975 Ford Custom Van. Single vehicle collision. Driver fell asleep, ran off left side of southbound lanes of US-23 into the median.

CDC=12-FDEW-1 crush 1 in. (damage tie rod).

1 occupant, alcohol noted.

4 lanes, divided expressway, concrete, dry, dark.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Radial	Radial
Size	H 70-15	H 70-15
Tread Depth	8/32 in.	8/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	26 psi	unknown (deflated)
Rear - Construction	Belted-Bias	Radial
Size	H 78-15	H 70-15
Tread-Depth	7/32 in.	5/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	21 psi	34 psi

Case OK 2886

1975 Ford Granada 2-door hardtop. Single vehicle collision. Ran off right side of road, struck a tree in right front corner, then rolled onto roof.

CDC=01-FZEW-3 prim. crush 25 in. (tree)  
00-TYHO-1 sec. crush 5 in.

2 occupants, both had been drinking.

2-lane, asphalt covered with snow or ice, dark.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Radial	Radial
Size	DR 78-14	DR 78-14
Tread Depth	4/32 in.	5/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	unknown (deflated in crash)	15 psi
Rear - Construction	Bias	Bias
Size	G 50-14 (snow)	G 50-14 (snow)
Tread Depth	10/32 in.	10/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	24 psi	23 psi

Case OK 2991

1973 Chevrolet Caprice Classic S/W. Two vehicle collision. Case vehicle turned left into right hand lane of 5-lane road from a parking lot driveway into path of another vehicle, and was struck in the right side (sideswipe).

CDC=04-RZES-2 crush 9 in. on right side.

4 occupants, no alcohol involved.

5 lane asphalt, raining, dark.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Belted-Bias	Radial
Size	L 78-15	LR 78-15
Tread Depth	11/32 in.	5/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	49 psi	29 psi
Rear - Construction	Belted-Bias	Belted-Bias
Size	G 70-15	G 70-15
Tread Depth	10/32 in.	11/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	26 psi	unknown (deflated in crash)

Case OK 2919

1976 Ford F-150 pickup. Two vehicle accident. Case vehicle ran a stop light and struck other vehicle which was completing a left turn.

CDC=10-FZEW-2 crush 14 in.

1 occupant, no alcohol involved.

5 lane asphalt, dry.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Radial	Radial
Size	230-15X	230-15X
Tread Depth	10/32 in.	9/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	25 psi	26 psi
Rear - Construction	Belted-Bias	Belted-Bias
Size	L 78-15 (snow)	L 78-15 (snow)
Tread Depth	5/32 in.	10/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	31 psi	25 psi

Case OK 2969

1974 Ford LTD 4-dr. Sedan. Single vehicle accident. Turning left from 5 lane highway into service station. Driver was blinded by sun (turning from South to East at 7:15 am in May) and struck light pole which was in middle of station drive.

CDC=12-FCEN-1 crush 5 in.

5 land asphalt, dry.

1 occupant, no alcohol involved.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Radial	Radial
Size	HR 78-15	HR 78-15
Tread Depth	11/32 in.	8/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	31 psi	31 psi
Rear - Construction	Belted-Bias	Belted-Bias
Size	G 78-15 (snow)	G 78-15 (snow)
Tread Depth	9/32 in.	7/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	25 psi	30 psi

Case OK 3022

1975 AMC Pacer. Single vehicle accident. Driver claims he was distracted by vehicle encroaching on his left, ran off road to right and struck wrought iron fence.

CDC=02-RFEN-1 crush 1 in.

1 occupant, no alcohol involved.

4 lane concrete, dry.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Radial	Bias
Size	DR 78-14	D 78-14
Tread Depth	5/32 in.	9/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	unknown (deflated in accident)	29 psi
Rear - Construction	Radial	Radial
Size	DR 78-14	DR 78-14
Tread Depth	5/32 in.	6/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	unknown (deflated in accident)	28 psi

Case OK 3035

1973 Chevrolet Monte Carlo single vehicle crash. Vehicle ran off road, to right and struck guardrail/bridge rail.

CDC=01-FREE-9 crush 98 in. (sideswipe).

6 lane (divided) concrete, dry.

1 occupant, alcohol involved.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Radial	Belted-Bias
Size	GR 70-15	H 78-15
Tread Depth	8/32 in.	4/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	unknown (deflated)	unknown (deflated)
Rear - Construction	Radial	Radial
Size	GR 70-15	GR 70-15
Tread Depth	9/32 in.	10/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	22 psi	unknown (deflated)

Case OK 3124

1973 Chevrolet Chevyvan 10. Two vehicle collision. In turning left, pulled out from stop sign and stopped in near lane while waiting for far lane to clear. Struck in left side.

CDC=09-LPEW-3 crush 18 in.

1 occupant, no alcohol involved.

2-lane concrete, dry.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Radial	Radial
Size	FR 78-14	FR 78-14
Tread Depth	8/32 in.	7/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	30 psi	unknown (deflated in accident)
Rear - Construction	Bias	Bias
Size	H 78-14	H 78-14
Tread Depth	9/32 in.	9/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	30 psi	unknown (deflated in accident)

Case OK 3198

1972 Chevrolet Sportvan 20. Single vehicle accident. Skidded to left across left lane into concrete bridge rail.

CDC=02-RYEN-4 crush 20 in.

2-lane, asphalt, covered with snow.

3 occupants, no alcohol involved.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Radial	Radial
Size	JR 70-15	JR 70-15
Tread Depth	10/32 in.	10/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	16 psi	21 psi
Rear - Construction	Belted-Bias	Radial
Size	H 78-15	JR 70-15
Tread Depth	10/32 in.	10/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	16 psi	21 psi

Case OK 3239

1976 Chevrolet Monte Carlo. Single vehicle accident. "Lost control" and ran off road to right into light pole.

CDC=10-LFEW-3 crush 20 in.

3 lane concrete ramp, covered with snow, dark.

1 occupant, no alcohol involved.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Radial	Radial
Size	GR 70-15	GR 70-15
Tread Depth	7/32 in.	10/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	36 psi	33 psi
Rear - Construction	Radial	Belted-Bias
Size	GR 70-15	unknown
Tread Depth	6/32 in.	2/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	unknown (deflated in accident)	29 psi

Case OK 3275

1975 Ford LTD 2-dr. Two vehicle collision. Vehicle proceeded through intersection on red stop light, struck other vehicle crossing with green light.

CDC=10-LFEW-3 prim. crush 17 in.  
09-LZEW-1 sec. crush 7 in.

4 lane concrete, wet.

4 occupants, no alcohol involved.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Belted-Bias	Belted-Bias
Size	H 78-15	H 78-15
Tread Depth	11/32 in.	10/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	13 psi	21 psi
Rear - Construction	Radial	Radial
Size	HR 78-15	HR 78-15
Tread Depth	9/32 in.	8/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	24 psi	21 psi

Case OK 3322

1975 Pontiac Astre S/W. Single vehicle accident. Lost control on ice while changing lanes, ran off road to left and struck marker barrel with front left.

CDC=01-RFEN-2 crush 6 in.

4-lane, divided concrete, ice covered.

2 occupants, no alcohol noted.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Radial	Bias
Size	BR 78-13	B 78-13
Tread Depth	5/32 in.	8/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	30 psi	23 psi
Rear - Construction	Bias	Bias
Size	B 78-13	B 78-13
Tread Depth	10/32 in.	9/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	15 psi	13 psi

Case OK 3331

1972 Oldsmobile Toronado. Two vehicle collision. Vehicle was traveling on 8-lane divided artery and struck a vehicle that was turning from a drive on the right.

CDC=01-FDEW-1 crush 12 in.

One occupant who had been drinking.

8-lane divided asphalt, dry.

Tires:	<u>Right</u>	<u>Left</u>
Front - Construction	Radial	Radial
Size	225-15	225-15
Tread Depth	7/32 in.	7/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	22 psi	21 psi
Rear - Construction	Bias	Radial
Size	J 78-15	LR 78-15
Tread Depth	10/32 in.	7/32 in.
Inflation Pressure	25 psi	26 psi

APPENDIX C

Mathematical Representation of  
Tread Wear Patterns

The tread on each tire is described by a simple measurement of the depth of each groove in a location not over a wear indicator. This gives substantial data on each tire, sufficient to describe wear patterns. However, the fact that each tire is described by up to ten variables makes analysis cumbersome. The technique that was used to represent the wear pattern of each tire for analytical purposes is described below.

The wear pattern given by a depth measurement in each groove can be conceptualized in the framework of a cartesian coordinate system in which the groove number is the abscissa and the depth (in 32nds of an inch) is the ordinate.

These points can be represented—i.e., the pattern they describe can be characterized—by a curve (envelope) passing through them. The curve used in this study is the second order equation:

$$Y = a_0 + a_1X + a_2X^2$$

where: Y = the estimated depth of groove X in 32's  
of an inch

X = the groove number ( $1 \leq X \leq N$ )

$a_0, a_1, a_2$  = constants unique to each tire

Groove 1 is the outside groove of the mounted tire and N is the number of grooves on the tread (the sidewall "grooves" of radial tires were not included in the data collection).

The constants  $a_0$ ,  $a_1$ , and  $a_2$  were determined by a least squares fit for each tire in the accident sample. The number of grooves on tires in the data set ranges from 2 (136 tires) to 9 (2 tires). The tires with 2 grooves are snow tires and 80% of them were on rear wheels. For the sake of simplicity only tires with 3 to 8 grooves were fit with the quadratic. Thus 1859 of the 2052 tires in the accident data file were "fit," with missing data for each coefficient for 193 tires.

An example is shown in Figure C1. The circled points are the depth of each groove—eight in this example—as measured in the field. Values of the constants for the least squares fit are:

$$a_0 = 7.321$$

$$a_1 = 2.262$$

$$a_2 = -0.333$$

The curve of predicted values given by these constants is the solid line of the figure. Other features of the figure will be explained later. For this tire the fit is excellent.

In general the second order function was successful in representing the profile (or pattern) of worn tires. The root-mean-square error (residuals) for all grooves of all 1859 tires was 0.0183 inches. Figure C2 gives the cumulative distribution of the maximum error for each tire. Thus 50% of the tires have maximum errors in the predicted pattern of 0.17/32 or less,<sup>1</sup> while 90% have maximum errors of 0.69/32 or less. Figures C3 and C4 give histograms of the computed values of  $a_0$  and  $a_1$  respectively, while Figure C5 gives the distribution of  $a_2$ .

It may be noted that  $a_1$  can have large absolute values. These should not be interpreted as high slopes. The constant  $a_1$  can be interpreted as a slope only when  $a_2=0$ , in which case the wear pattern is linear. If  $a_2 \neq 0$ , the predicted pattern is parabolic, and much of  $a_1$  results from translation of the axis of the parabola away from the origin, usually to a location between the outside groove ( $X=1$ ) and the inside groove ( $X=N$ ).

#### Interpretation of the Mathematical Representation

The parabolic representation of tread wear patterns is convenient because only three parameters are required—rather than a variable number ranging up to eight—and because certain key features of the patterns can be readily determined. Two particular features are addressed in this study. One is the concavity or convexity of the pattern, the other is unsymmetrical wear.

The example shown in Figure C1 has higher tread in the center. As a result, the parabola fitting the pattern opens downward. Such a pattern will be denoted as convex, and exemplifies the classical pattern from under-

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<sup>1</sup> This strange notation is used because the basic unit of measurement was 1/32 of an inch, and all computations are in terms of this basic unit.

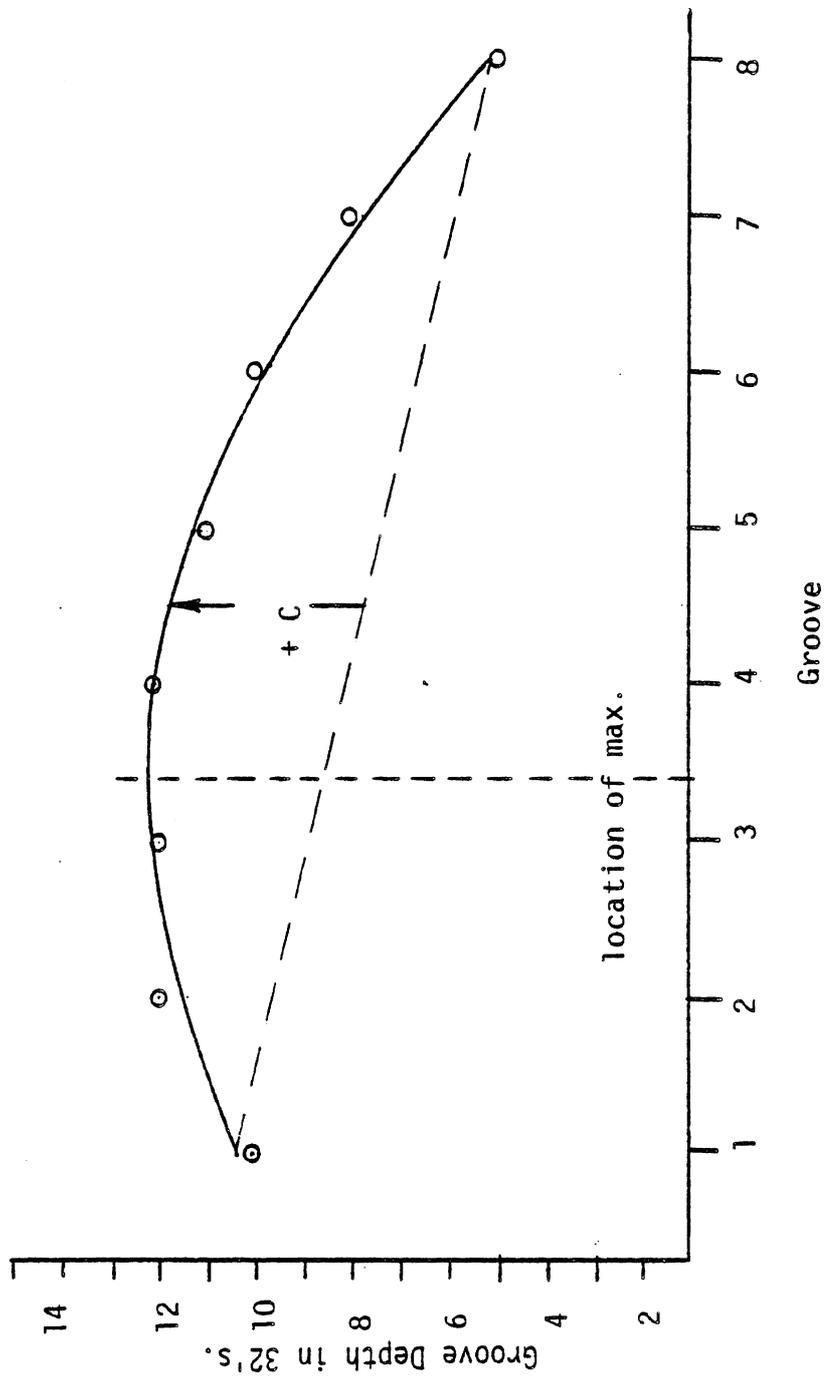


Figure C1  
 Sample Representation of a Tread Wear Pattern  
 by a Second Order Curve

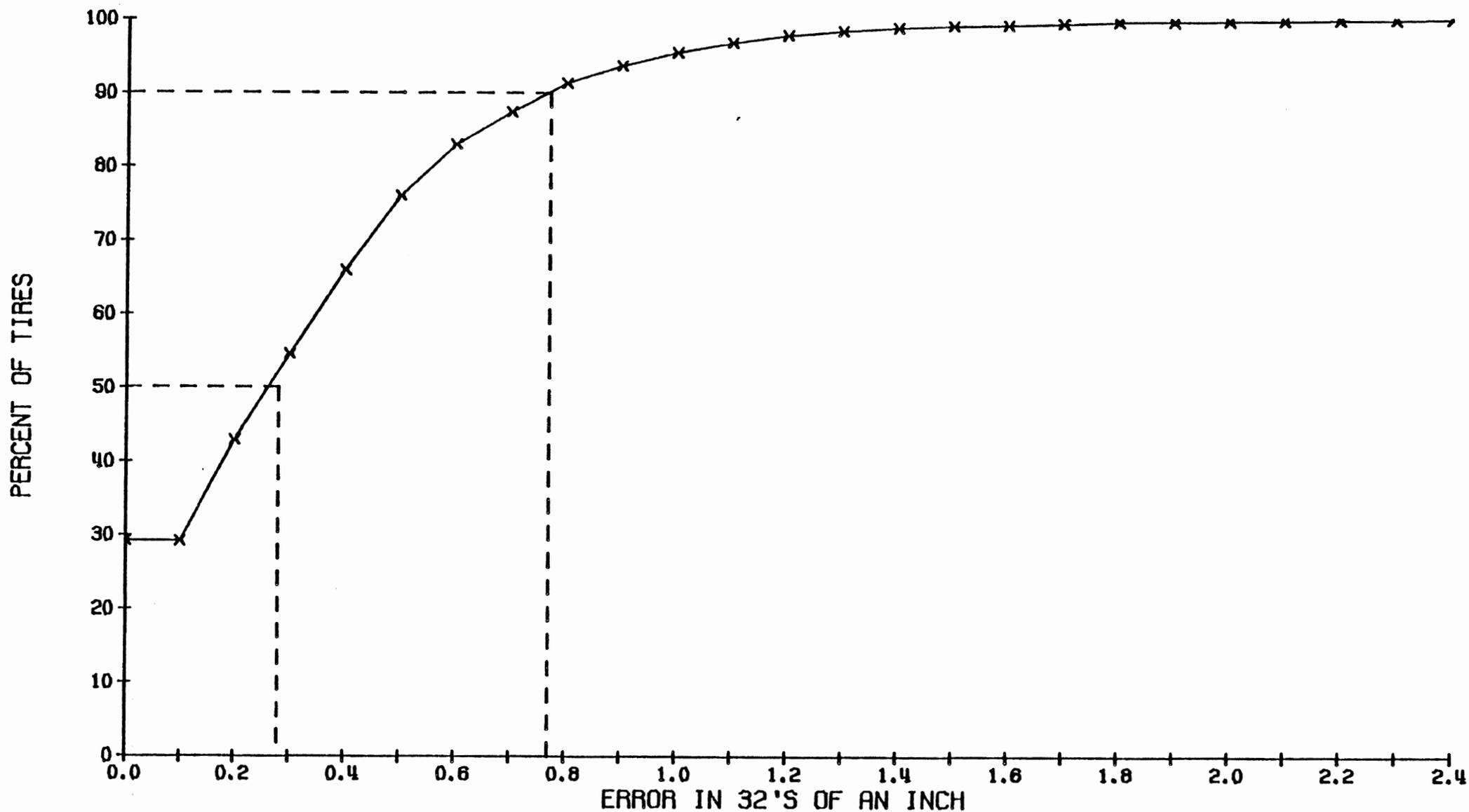


FIGURE C2  
CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF THE MAXIMUM  
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OBSERVED AND PREDICTED  
GROOVE DEPTH FOR EACH TIRE

Midpoint	Percent	Count for A0	(Each X=12)
-13.000	0.0	1 +X	
. . .			
-9.0000	0.0	1 +X	
-8.0000	0.0	1 +X	
. . .			
-6.0000	0.0	1 +X	
-5.0000	0.1	2 +X	
-4.0000	0.2	9 +X	
-3.0000	0.3	10 +X	
-2.0000	0.5	19 +XX	
-1.0000	0.4	16 +XX	
0.	0.6	24 +XX	
1.0000	1.2	47 +XXXX	
2.0000	1.4	52 +XXXXX	
3.0000	2.0	74 +XXXXXXXX	
4.0000	2.2	84 +XXXXXXXX	
5.0000	3.5	132 +XXXXXXXXXXXX	
6.0000	3.9	148 +XXXXXXXXXXXX	
7.0000	5.5	209 +XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	
8.0000	6.1	232 +XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	
9.0000	8.7	328 +XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	
10.000	9.5	360 +XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	
11.000	11.1	418 +XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	
12.000	12.0	452 +XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	
13.000	8.3	312 +XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	
14.000	6.9	261 +XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	
15.000	5.6	211 +XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	
16.000	3.6	134 +XXXXXXXXXX	
17.000	2.4	90 +XXXXXXXX	
18.000	1.1	40 +XXXX	
19.000	0.8	31 +XXX	
20.000	0.6	22 +XX	
21.000	0.2	7 +X	
22.000	0.2	8 +X	
23.000	0.2	6 +X	
24.000	0.2	7 +X	
. . .			
26.000	0.1	3 +X	Note: The width of each interval is 1.0.
27.000	0.1	2 +X	
28.000	0.1	2 +X	
29.000	0.1	2 +X	
30.000	0.1	3 +X	
31.000	0.1	2 +X	
32.000	0.0	1 +X	
33.000	0.1	2 +X	
. . .			
35.000	0.1	3 +X	Figure C3
36.000	0.1	2 +X	
37.000	0.0	1 +X	Histogram of the Constant
. . .			Term in the Second Order
39.000	0.0	1 +X	Equation for tread Pattern
. . .			
44.000	0.0	1 +X	
Missing		402	
Total		4176	

Midpoint	Percent	Count for A1	(Each X=29)
-36.000	0.0	1	+X
. . .			
-30.000	0.0	1	+X
-29.000	0.1	2	+X
-28.000	0.0	1	+X
. . .			
-26.000	0.0	1	+X
-25.000	0.1	2	+X
-24.000	0.0	1	+X
. . .			
-21.000	0.1	2	+X
-20.000	0.1	3	+X
. . .			
-17.000	0.0	1	+X
-16.000	0.1	5	+X
. . .			
-14.000	0.1	2	+X
-13.000	0.2	6	+X
-12.000	0.4	14	+X
-11.000	0.1	3	+X
-10.000	0.2	7	+X
-9.0000	0.2	8	+X
-8.0000	0.4	15	+X
-7.0000	1.0	39	+XX
-6.0000	1.1	41	+XX
-5.0000	2.9	110	+XXXX
-4.0000	3.9	147	+XXXXXX
-3.0000	6.1	231	+XXXXXXXX
-2.0000	15.8	596	+XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
-1.0000	16.7	632	+XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
0.	30.7	1159	+XX
1.0000	10.1	383	+XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
2.0000	4.7	179	+XXXXXXX
3.0000	3.0	113	+XXXXX
4.0000	1.0	36	+XX
5.0000	0.4	14	+X
6.0000	0.3	10	+X
7.0000	0.0	1	+X
8.0000	0.1	3	+X
9.0000	0.0	1	+X
. . .			
11.000	0.0	1	+X
12.000	0.0	1	+X
. . .			
18.000	0.0	1	+X
. . .			
23.000	0.0	1	+X
Missing		402	
Total		4176	

Note: The width of each interval is 1.0.

Figure C4

Histogram of the coefficients of the First Order Term in the Equation for Tread Pattern

Midpoint	Percent	Count for A2	(each X=38)
-4.4000	0.1	2	+X
. . .			
-2.2000	0.1	2	+X
-2.0000	0.0	1	+X
-1.8000	0.0	1	+X
. . .			
-1.4000	0.0	1	+X
-1.2000	0.1	3	+X
-1.0000	0.2	7	+X
-.80000	0.5	18	+X
-.60000	0.7	25	+X
-.40000	5.0	187	+XXXXXX
-.20000	9.8	369	+XXXXXXXXXX
.0	39.4	1486	+XX
.20000	19.9	750	+XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
.40000	8.3	314	+XXXXXXXXXX
.60000	7.5	282	+XXXXXXXXXX
.80000	2.7	102	+XXX
1.0000	3.0	112	+XXX
1.2000	0.6	24	+X
1.4000	0.1	2	+X
1.6000	0.6	24	+X
1.8000	0.1	5	+X
2.0000	0.3	11	+X
2.2000	0.2	6	+X
2.4000	0.0	1	+X
2.6000	0.2	9	+X
2.8000	0.1	2	+X
3.0000	0.2	7	+X
. . .			
3.6000	0.0	1	+X
. . .			
4.0000	0.1	5	+X
. . .			
4.6000	0.0	1	+X
. . .			
5.0000	0.1	3	+X
. . .			
5.6000	0.1	2	+X
. . .			
6.0000	0.1	2	+X
. . .			
6.6000	0.1	2	+X
. . .			
7.0000	0.0	1	+X
. . .			
7.6000	0.1	3	+X
. . .			
9.0000	0.0	1	+X
Missing		402	
Total		4176	

Notes: The width of each interval is 0.2.  
889 cases equal exactly zero. 597 additional cases range from -0.15 to +0.15

Figure C5  
Histogram of the Coefficients of the Second Order Term in the Equation for Tread Pattern

inflation. Convex patterns result in negative values of  $a_2$ , while positive values indicate concave patterns. A measure of the concavity/convexity is the depth of "dishing" shown by  $C$  in Figure C1, where  $C$  is the maximum distance from a straight line through the predicted depths of the outer two grooves and the parabola between the outer grooves. The sign of  $C$  is arbitrarily chosen to be positive when the pattern is convex.

$$C = -a_2(N-1)^2/4$$

and is 3.39 in the example shown. The location of  $C$  (groove number) is

$$\text{Groove}_C = (N+1)/2$$

which is the center of the tread.

In the analysis reported in Section 3.4.3, the patterns were treated as a trichotomy, those that are concave, convex, or linear. The linear group was expanded to include cases in which

$$-1/32 \leq C \leq 1/32$$

since the measurements of depth have a resolution of  $1/32$ , and such small deviations from linearity are probably irrelevant.

The other pattern characteristic examined is its lateral symmetry. If  $a_2 \neq 0$ , indicating a parabola, the wear is symmetrical if the vertical axis of the parabola is located in the center of the tread. If the axis is off-center, the wear is greater on one side—the classical wear pattern of improper toe or camber. The axis of the parabola is located at the point of maximum or minimum tread depth given as a groove number by

$$G_{M/M} = -a_1/2a_2 \quad a_2 \neq 0,$$

or as the proportion of the distance from groove 1 to the inner groove,  $N$  by

$$\text{Location of } G_{M/M} = -(a_1/2a_2+1)/(N-1) \quad a_2 \neq 0$$

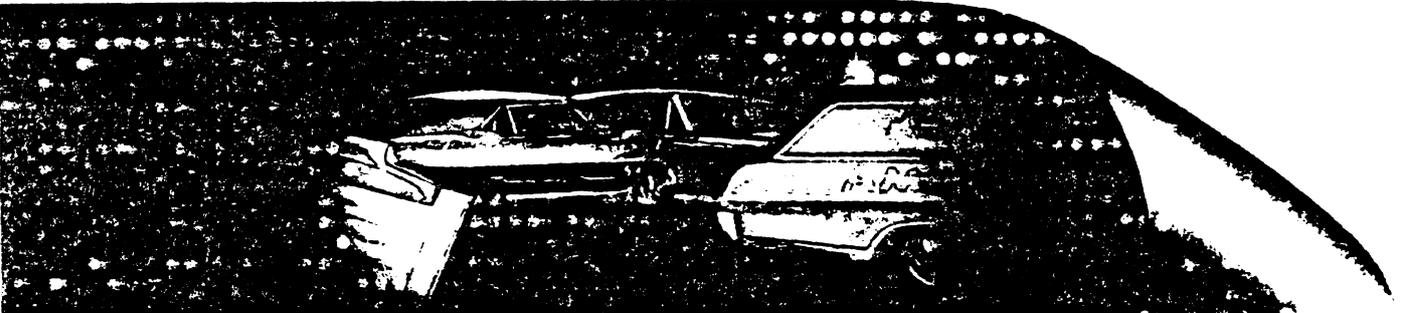
The location of the maximum or minimum—greater or less than 0.5—in combination with the sign of  $a_2$  indicating whether a maximum or minimum—can be used to determine whether the inside or outside has lower tread.

If  $a_2=0$ , the pattern is linear. In this case the sign of the slope ( $a_1$ ) indicates the side with the greater wear. If  $a_2 \neq 0$  and the location of the maximum or minimum is at 0.5, the pattern is symmetrical. If both  $a_1=0$

and  $a_2=0$ , the pattern is uniform (flat) and hence also symmetrical.

APPENDIX D  
Data Collection Form





ANNOTATED  
**COLLISION  
PERFORMANCE  
and  
INJURY REPORT**

REVISION 3

EDITION 1/76

VH/IC STUDY

4/76





LEFT-FRONT WHEEL AND TIRE

WHEEL

**WHEEL**

INSPECTED <sup>12</sup> ( ) Yes ( 2 ) No, why \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Unk

ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT <sup>13</sup> ( ) Yes ( 2 ) No, describe \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Unk

DAMAGED <sup>17</sup> ( ) No ( 1 ) Yes, describe \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Unk

TIRE

**TIRE**

POSITION <sup>5</sup> ( ) This Position ( 4 ) Unknown Position

INSPECTED <sup>6</sup> ( ) Yes ( 2 ) No, why \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Unk

TREAD TYPE \_\_\_\_\_ INTENDED USE \_\_\_\_\_

(1) Regular (3) Studded Snow (5) Reg/Chains (8) Other (1) Pass. Car (3) Off Road (8) Other  
 (2) M/S Snow (4) Snow/Chains (6) Stick (9) Unknown (2) Light Truck (4) Trailer (9) Unknown

**IDENTIFICATION**

SIZE: \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>19</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>28</sup>

BRAND \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>29</sup>

MODEL \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>32</sup>

DOT CODE \* \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>35</sup>

LOAD RANGE \* \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>47</sup> MAXIMUM LOAD \* \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>48</sup> MAXIMUM PSI \* \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>52</sup>

RETREAD <sup>54</sup> ( 2 ) No ( 1 ) Yes ( 9 ) Unk TUBE <sup>55</sup> ( 2 ) No ( 1 ) Yes ( 7 ) Unk

**CONSTRUCTION**

CARCASS TYPE <sup>56</sup> ( ) Bias ( 2 ) Belted-Bias ( 3 ) Radial ( 3 ) Other ( 9 ) Unk

NO. TREAD PLYS \* \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>57</sup> BELT MATERIAL \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>58</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>59</sup> 0 <sup>60</sup>

NO. SIDEWALL PLYS \* \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>61</sup> SIDEWALL MATERIAL \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>62</sup>

UNKNOWN = 9

(0) None (2) Rayon (4) Polyester (8) Other  
 (1) Nylon (3) Fiberglass (5) Steel (9) Unk

**CONDITION**

OUTER GROOVE \_\_\_\_\_ TREAD DEPTH \* \_\_\_\_\_ NO. GROOVES \* \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>72</sup>

\_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>73</sup>

UNKNOWN = 9's

CUPPING <sup>34</sup> ( 2 ) No ( 1 ) Yes ( 9 ) Unk PRESSURE LOSS SUSPECTED <sup>35</sup>

PSI \* \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>36</sup> ( 1 ) None ( 2 ) Pre-crash ( 3 ) Crash

NUMBER OF SLIDES \* \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>38</sup> ( 4 ) Post-crash ( 8 ) Unknown time

DAMAGED <sup>37</sup> ( 2 ) No ( 1 ) Yes, describe \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Unk

DAMAGE CONTRIBUTORY TO ACCIDENT <sup>40</sup> ( 3 ) Not Damaged ( 2 ) No ( 1 ) Yes ( 9 ) Unk

\* UNKNOWN = 9's

RIGHT-FRONT WHEEL AND TIRE

WHEEL

INSPECTED <sub>12</sub> ( ) Yes ( ) No, why \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Unk  
 ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT <sub>13</sub> ( ) Yes ( ) No, describe \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Unk  
 DAMAGED <sub>17</sub> ( ) No ( ) Yes, describe \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Unk

TIRE

POSITION <sub>5</sub> ( ) This Position ( ) Unknown Position  
 INSPECTED <sub>6</sub> ( ) Yes ( ) No, why \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Unk  
 TREAD TYPE \_\_\_\_\_ INTENDED USE \_\_\_\_\_  
 (1) Regular (3) Studded Snow (5) Reg/Chains (8) Other (1) Pass. Car (3) Off Road (8) Other  
 (2) R/S Snow (4) Snow/Chains (6) Slick (9) Unknown (2) Light Truck (4) Trailer (9) Unknown  
 SIZE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 BRAND \_\_\_\_\_  
 MODEL \_\_\_\_\_  
 DOT CODE\* \_\_\_\_\_  
 LOAD RANGE\* \_\_\_\_\_ MAXIMUM LOAD\* \_\_\_\_\_ MAXIMUM PSI\* \_\_\_\_\_  
 RETREAD <sub>57</sub> ( ) No ( ) Yes ( ) Unk TUBE <sub>53</sub> ( ) No ( ) Yes ( ) Unk

CARCASS TYPE <sub>5a</sub> ( ) Bias ( ) Belted-Bias ( ) Radial ( ) Other ( ) Unk  
 NO. TREAD PLYS\* \_\_\_\_\_ BELT MATERIAL \_\_\_\_\_  
 NO. SIDEWALL PLYS\* \_\_\_\_\_ SIDEWALL MATERIAL \_\_\_\_\_  
 UNKNOWN = 9 (0) None (2) Rayon (4) Polyester (8) Other  
 (1) Nylon (3) Fiberglass (5) Steel (9) Unk

OUTER GROOVE \_\_\_\_\_ TREAD DEPTH\* \_\_\_\_\_ NO. GROOVES\* \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
 UNKNOWN = 9's  
 CUPPING <sub>34</sub> ( ) No ( ) Yes ( ) Unk PRESSURE LOSS SUSPECTED <sub>35</sub>  
 ( ) None ( ) Pre-crash ( ) Crash  
 PSI\* \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Post-crash ( ) Unknown time  
 NUMBER OF SLIDES\* \_\_\_\_\_  
 DAMAGED <sub>37</sub> ( ) No ( ) Yes, describe \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Unk  
 DAMAGE CONTRIBUTORY TO ACCIDENT <sub>40</sub> ( ) Not Damaged ( ) No ( ) Yes ( ) Unk

\* UNKNOWN = 9's

LEFT-REAR WHEEL AND TIRE

WHEEL

WHEEL	<u>INSPECTED</u> <sub>12</sub> ( ) Yes ( <sub>2</sub> ) No, why _____ ( ) Unk
	<u>ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT</u> <sub>13</sub> ( ) Yes ( <sub>2</sub> ) No, describe _____ ( ) Unk
	<u>DAMAGED</u> <sub>17</sub> ( ) No ( ) Yes, describe _____ ( ) Unk

TIRE

IDENTIFICATION	<u>POSITION</u> <sub>5</sub> ( ) This Position ( ) Unknown Position
	<u>INSPECTED</u> <sub>6</sub> ( ) Yes ( <sub>2</sub> ) No, why _____ ( ) Unk
	<u>TREAD TYPE</u> _____
	<u>INTENDED USE</u> _____
	(1) Regular (3) Studed Snow (5) Reg/Chains (8) Other (1) Pass. Car (3) Off Road (8) Other
	(2) N/S Snow (4) Snow/Chains (6) Slick (9) Unknown (2) Light Truck (4) Trailer (9) Unknown
	<u>SIZE</u> : _____
	<u>BRAND</u> _____
	<u>MODEL</u> _____
	<u>DOT CODE</u> * _____
<u>LOAD RANGE</u> * _____ <u>MAXIMUM LOAD</u> * _____ <u>MAXIMUM PSI</u> * _____	
<u>RETREAD</u> <sub>54</sub> ( ) No ( ) Yes ( ) Unk <u>TUBE</u> <sub>53</sub> ( ) No ( ) Yes ( ) Unk	

CONSTRUCTION	<u>CARCASS TYPE</u> <sub>56</sub> ( ) Bias ( <sub>2</sub> ) Belted-Bias ( <sub>3</sub> ) Radial ( <sub>9</sub> ) Other ( ) Unk	
	<u>NO. TREAD PLYS</u> * _____ <u>BELT MATERIAL</u> _____	
	<u>NO. SIDEWALL PLYS</u> * _____ <u>SIDEWALL MATERIAL</u> _____	
	UNKNOWN = 9	(0) None (2) Rayon (4) Polyester (8) Other (1) Nylon (3) Fiberglass (5) Steel (9) Unk

CONDITION	<u>OUTER GROOVE</u> _____ <u>TREAD DEPTH</u> * _____ <u>NO. GROOVES</u> * _____
	_____ : _____ : _____ : _____ : _____ : _____ : _____ : _____ : _____ : _____
	<u>CUPPING</u> <sub>34</sub> ( ) No ( ) Yes ( ) Unk <u>PRESSURE LOSS SUSPECTED</u> <sub>35</sub>
	<u>PSI</u> * _____ ( ) None ( <sub>2</sub> ) Pre-crash ( <sub>3</sub> ) Crash
	<u>NUMBER OF SLIDES</u> * _____ ( ) Post-crash ( <sub>8</sub> ) Unknown time
	<u>DAMAGED</u> <sub>37</sub> ( ) No ( ) Yes, describe _____ ( ) Unk
	<u>DAMAGE CONTRIBUTORY TO ACCIDENT</u> <sub>38</sub> ( ) Not Damaged ( <sub>2</sub> ) No ( ) Yes ( ) Unk

\* UNKNOWN = 9's

RIGHT-REAR WHEEL AND TIRE

WHEEL

WHEEL	INSPECTED <u>12</u> ( <u>1</u> ) ✓ ( <u>2</u> ) No, why _____ ( ) Unk
	ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT <u>13</u> ( <u>1</u> ) Yes ( <u>2</u> ) No, describe _____ ( ) Unk
	DAMAGED <u>7</u> ( <u>2</u> ) No ( <u>1</u> ) Yes, describe _____ ( ) Unk

TIRE

IDENTIFICATION	POSITION <u>5</u> ( <u>1</u> ) This Position ( <u>9</u> ) Unknown Position
	INSPECTED <u>6</u> ( <u>1</u> ) Yes ( <u>2</u> ) No, why _____ ( ) Unk
	TREAD TYPE _____ INTENDED USE _____
	(1) Regular (3) Studded Snow (5) Reg/Chains (8) Other (1) Pass. Car (3) Off Road (8) Other
	(2) N/S Snow (4) Snow/Chains (6) Slick (9) Unknown (2) Light Truck (4) Trailer (9) Unknown
	SIZE: _____
	BRAND _____
	MODEL _____
	DOT CODE* _____
	LOAD RANGE* _____ MAXIMUM LOAD* _____ MAXIMUM PSI* _____
RETREAD <u>54</u> ( <u>2</u> ) No ( <u>1</u> ) Yes ( <u>9</u> ) Unk TUBE <u>55</u> ( <u>2</u> ) No ( <u>1</u> ) Yes ( <u>9</u> ) Unk	
CONSTRUCTION	CARCASS TYPE <u>56</u> ( <u>1</u> ) Bias ( <u>2</u> ) Belted-Bias ( <u>3</u> ) Radial ( <u>8</u> ) Other ( <u>9</u> ) Unk
	NO. TREAD PLIES* _____ BELT MATERIAL _____
	NO. SIDEWALL PLIES* _____ SIDEWALL MATERIAL _____
UNKNOWN = 9 (0) None (2) Rayon (4) Polyester (8) Other (1) Nylon (3) Fiberglass (5) Steel (9) Unk	

CONDITION	OUTER GROOVE _____ TREAD DEPTH* _____ NO. GROOVES* _____
	_____ : _____ : _____ : _____ : _____ : _____ : _____ : _____ : _____ : _____
	CUPPING <u>34</u> ( <u>2</u> ) No ( <u>1</u> ) Yes ( <u>9</u> ) Unk PRESSURE LOSS SUSPECTED <u>35</u>
	PSI* _____ ( <u>1</u> ) None ( <u>2</u> ) Pre-crash ( <u>3</u> ) Crash
	NUMBER OF SLIDES* _____ ( <u>4</u> ) Post-crash ( <u>8</u> ) Unknown time
	DAMAGED <u>37</u> ( <u>2</u> ) No ( <u>1</u> ) Yes, describe _____ ( ) Unk
DAMAGE CONTRIBUTORY TO ACCIDENT <u>38</u> ( <u>3</u> ) Not Damaged ( <u>2</u> ) No ( <u>1</u> ) Yes ( <u>9</u> ) Unk	

\* UNKNOWN = 9's

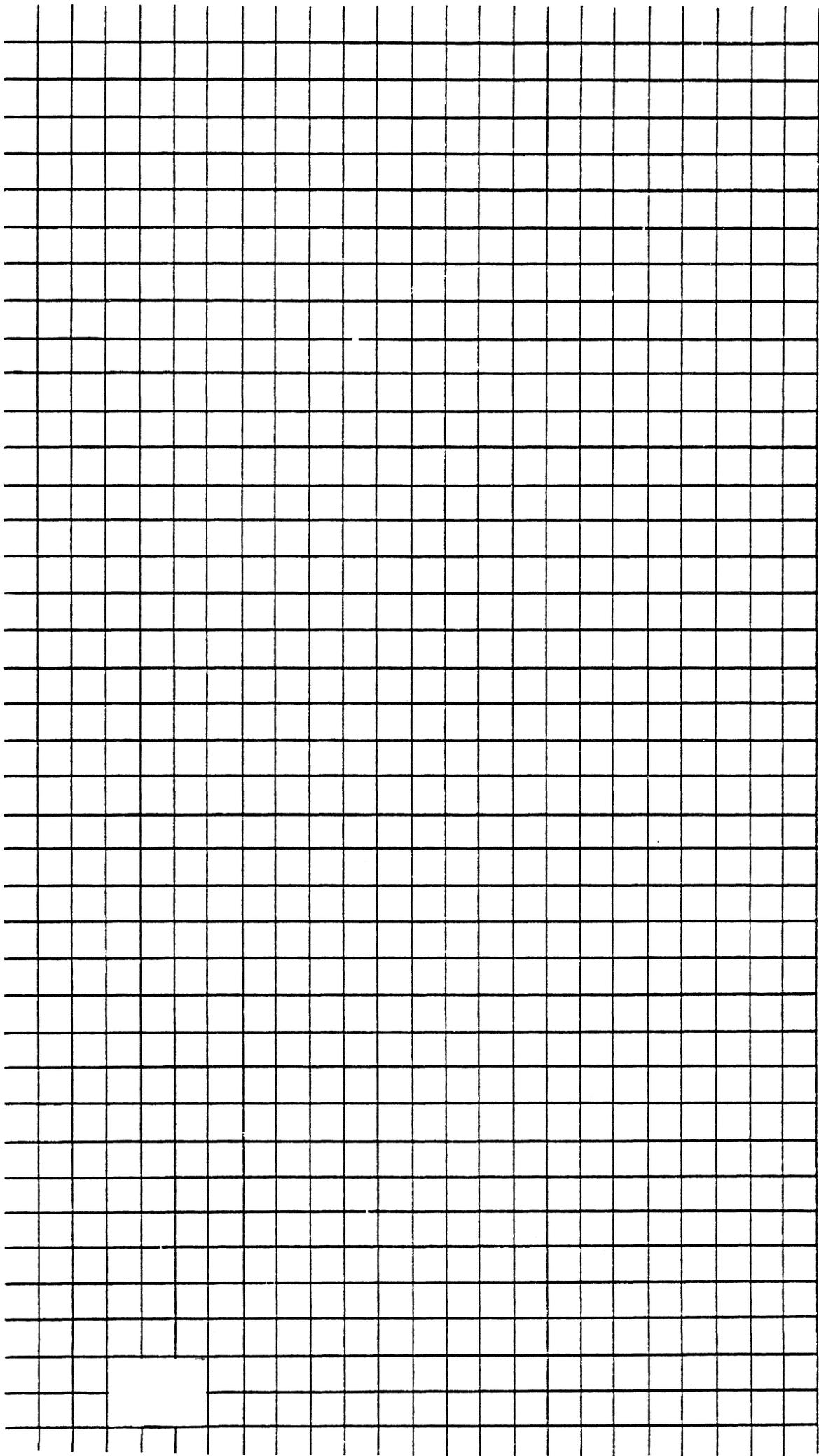


ACCIDENT SCHEMATIC

CASE VEHICLE (A): \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER VEHICLE (B): \_\_\_\_\_

ACCIDENT DESCRIPTION: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_







RIGHT-FRONT SEATING SYSTEM

DAMAGE TO ADJUSTERS (0,1,2,3)	<u>34</u>
TYPE OF DAMAGE (2) None (4) Chucking (5) Deformed and Released (6) Separated (8) Swivel Damage (0) Unknown	<u>35</u>
LOCATION OF SEPARATION (3) Not Applicable (4) At Floor (5) At Adjuster (6) At Seat (0) Unknown	<u>36</u>
HEAD RESTRAINTS (Right Front) Equipped (1,2,0) Removed Prior to Collision (1,2,3,0) Retained During Collision (1,2,3,0) Damaged (1,2,3,0) Occupant Contact (1,2,3,0)	_____ 37 _____ 38 _____ 39 _____ 40 _____ 41
HEAD RESTRAINT ADJUSTMENT AT TIME OF COLLISION (3) Not Applicable, None (4) UP From Seat Top (5) Down on Seat Top (6) Integral (0) Unknown	<u>42</u>
WAS THIS SEATING POSITION OCCUPIED? (1,2,0)	<u>43</u>

CASE VEHICLE MALFUNCTION	
(0) Unknown (1) Malfunction definite (2) No Malfunction (4) Malfunction probable (5) Malfunction possible (6) Driver claimed malfunction-No investigation	
	Code
(01) Brake System	<u>    </u> 44
(02) Exhaust System	<u>    </u>
(03) Steering System	<u>    </u>
(04) Suspension System	<u>    </u>
(05) Tires	<u>    </u>
(06) Electrical System	<u>    </u>
(07) Throttle System	<u>    </u>
(08) Driver Controls	<u>    </u>
(09) Power Train	<u>    </u>
(10) Fuel System	<u>    </u>
(11) Visibility Items	<u>    </u>
(12) Other: _____	<u>    </u>
(13) Applicable, but Unknown	<u>    </u>
Primary Item Noted Above (01 to 13) from above (00) None (99) Unknown	_____ _____ 57 58
HAD ROUTINE MAINTENANCE BEEN PERFORMED (0,1,2)	<u>    </u> 59

FORM VERSION NUMBER	<u>3</u> 1	TIME OF COLLISION _____ AM PM	KEYPUNCH ONLY: DATE REC'D.  PUNCHED  VERIFIED
REPORT NUMBER	<u>2</u> <u>3</u> <u>4</u> <u>5</u> <u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>8</u> <u>9</u>	DATE OF FIELD INVESTIGATION _____	
CARD NUMBER	<u>0</u> <u>1</u> 10 11	INVESTIGATOR _____	
DATE OF COLLISION	MO. / DAY / YR. <u>12</u> <u>13</u> / <u>14</u> <u>15</u> / <u>16</u> <u>17</u>	CIRCLE PHOTO RECORDS MADE: SLIDES NEGATIVES POLAROIDS	
(99/99/99) Unknown		LOCATION WHERE VEHICLE WAS EVALUATED: _____	
REPORT PREPARED BY _____			

	PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.	Case Vehicle ONLY	PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
LOCATION STATE: (FIPS Code)			ROAD ALIGNMENT VERTICAL PLANE		
CITY, TOWNSHIP, ETC.:	-- --	18-19	(1) LEVEL (2) CREST OF HILL (3) SLOPE- 2% grade (4) BOTTOM OF HILL (0) UNKNOWN	---	26
AREA (1) URBAN (2) RURAL (0) UNKNOWN	---	20	HORIZONTAL PLANE (1) STRAIGHT (2) CURVE (0) UNKNOWN	---	27
LOCALITY (1) MANUFACTURING OR INDUSTRIAL (2) SHOPPING OR BUSINESS (3) APARTMENTS (4) SCHOOL OR PLAYGROUND (5) RESIDENTIAL (6) FARM (7) UNDEVELOPED (0) UNKNOWN	---	21	SURFACE COVERING (01) DRY WATER (02) DAMP (03) WET (04) PUDDLED (05) UNKNOWN AMOUNT SNOW (06) LOOSE (07) PACKED (08) CONDITION UNKNOWN (09) ICE (10) SLUSH (11) SPILLED GRAVEL (12) OTHER: _____ (00) UNKNOWN	-- --	28-29
ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS LIMITED ACCESS HIGHWAY (1) YES (2) NO (0) UNKNOWN	---	22	PRECIPITATION (1) NONE (2) RAIN (3) SNOW (4) HAIL (5) SLEET (6) OTHER: _____ (0) UNKNOWN	---	30
ROAD TOTAL TRAFFIC LANES (1) 1-Lane (2) 2-Lane Case Vehicle (3) 3-Lane (4) 4 or More Lanes (5) 4 or More Lanes Divided (6) Parking Lot, Driveway (7) Other, e.g. RR Tracks, Ramps (0) Unknown	---	23	RATE OF PRECIPITATION (3) NOT APPLICABLE (4) LIGHT, MIST (5) MODERATE (6) HEAVY (0) UNKNOWN	---	31
OTHER ROAD TOTAL TRAFFIC LANES (IF AT INTERSECTION) CHOOSE FROM ABOVE LIST OR (9) NOT APPLICABLE	---	24	SURFACE SLIPPERY (1) YES (2) NO (0) UNKNOWN	---	32
TYPE OF ROAD SURFACE (1) Asphalt, Bituminous Concrete (2) CONCRETE (3) GRAVEL (4) MORE THAN ONE TYPE (5) OTHER: _____ (0) UNKNOWN	---	25			

COLLISION DESCRIPTION





GENERAL INFORMATION

COLLISION CONFIGURATION (of case vehicle)	PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.	CASE VEHICLE DRIVER'S ABILITY TO DRIVE IMPAIRED BY (CHOOSE NO MORE THAN TWO)	PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
VEHICLE TO OBJECT (1,2,0)*	---	42	(00) UNKNOWN (02) NONE (03) DRINKING INVOLVED (Broad) (04) Drunk By Local Legal Standards (05) ASLEEP (BAC given) (06) FATIGUE (07) RECKLESSNESS (08) INATTENTION (09) LACK OF TRAINING (10) EMOTIONAL STATE (11) MEDICATION (12) Drugs (narcotic) (13) ILLNESS (or otherwise) (14) INFIRMITIES (15) PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED (16) OTHER: _____	---	58-59
ROLLOVER (1,2,0)* (90° or more)	---	43		---	60-61
RAN OFF THE ROADWAY (1,2,0)* (Before first impact)	---	44			
VEHICLE TO VEHICLE (1) Yes, Configuration unknown (2) No (3) Head-on (F to F) (4) Intersection type L  (5) Side-swipe (6) Rear-impact (F and B) (7) Other: _____ (8) Intersection type T (9) Unknown	---	45	SOURCE OF INFORMATION: _____ _____		
VEHICLE TO STOPPED VEHICLE (1,2,0)* (Either vehicle)	---	46			
VEHICLE TO MOVING VEHICLE (1,2,0)*	---	47			
OTHER CONFIGURATION (1,2,0)* (5) Non-Collision only (6) Vehicle-part to Vehicle (7) Vehicle to O.V. Trailer (8) Self-induced (9) Veh to Object to Veh	---	48	TRAFFIC VIOLATION (EITHER DRIVER) (1) YES (2) NO (0) UNKNOWN DESCRIBE VIOLATION: _____	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	62
VEHICLES INVOLVED TOTAL NUMBER (INCLUDING CASE VEHICLE) In Accident (0) Unknown	---	49	Citation need not be issued, but only indicated.		
OBJECTS CONTACTED (02) None (00) Unknown Object (03) Other Automobile (04) Ground (rollover only) (05) Guardrail (06) Bridge (rail) (07) Sign (08) Ditch (09) Embankment (snowbank) (10) Culvert (11) Fence (12) Pole or Tree (13) Pedestrian (14) Large Animal (15) Motorcycle (16) Large Truck--Type Unknown (see 20-25) (17) Train (18) Pedalcycle (bicycle+) (19) Building (20) Light/Pickup Truck, Small Van, Carryall (22) Tractor without trailer (23) Van delivery (walk-in/step van) (24) Straight truck, motor home (25) Tractor-trailer combination (26) Multi-purpose vehicle (Jeep) (28) Bus (29) Trailer (40) Object disengaging from other vehicle (50) Hydrants, short posts, stumps (51) Mailbox (rural), small posts/trees (52) Pier, Pillar (e.g., bridge support) (53) Retaining wall, abutment, Hiway fixtures (54) Impact attenuator (55) Breakaway Fixtures (99) Other		Enter Only Damage- or Injury-Producing Objects in Order of Contact	LEGAL ACTION WAS TRAFFIC VIOLATION CITATION ISSUED TO ANYONE? (1,2,0)* IF "YES", CIRCLE VIOLATOR: DRIVER OF CASE VEHICLE DRIVER OF OTHER VEHICLE PEDESTRIAN OTHER: _____	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	53
	---	50-51			
	---	52-53			
	---	54-55	(Accident Point of View) TYPE OF LOSS PERSONAL INJURY (1,2,0)* PROPERTY DAMAGE (1,2,0)*	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	64
	---	56-57		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	65

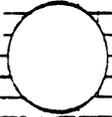
\*WHERE (1,2,0) IS INDICATED, USE 1 FOR YES  
2 FOR NO  
0 FOR UNKNOWN

# COLLISION SKETCH

Based on Information From \_\_\_\_\_

1. Draw heavy lines to show highway detail at the location of collision.
2. Give name of streets and highways and US, State and Interstate Route numbers, if any.
3. Identify all objects in sketch. Case vehicle should always be labeled "A". Time sequence numbers may be added (e.g., A1, A2).
4. Include dimensions when possible.

INDICATE NORTH  
BY ARROW



**DESCRIBE COLLISION EVENTS** \_\_\_\_\_

**INFORMATION SOURCES:** \_\_\_\_\_

**REPORTED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Attach Police Report)

**COMMENTS (include 3rd vehicle speed estimate)** \_\_\_\_\_

CASE VEHICLE	PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.	OTHER VEHICLE	PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
ESTIMATED SPEED* (MPH)			ESTIMATED SPEED* (MPH)		
PRIOR TO IMPACT	_____	66-68	PRIOR TO IMPACT	_____	72-74
ESTIMATED BY:			ESTIMATED BY:		
At FIRST Impact	_____	69-71	At FIRST Impact	_____	75-77
ESTIMATED BY:			ESTIMATED BY:		

\*IF SPEEDS ARE UNKNOWN, ENTER 999: (388) for Other Vehicle "not applicable"

COLLISION SKETCH SPEEDS





EXTERIOR DAMAGE

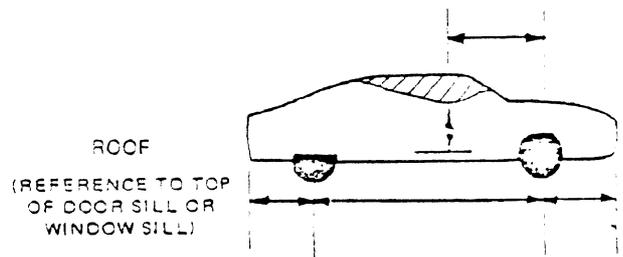
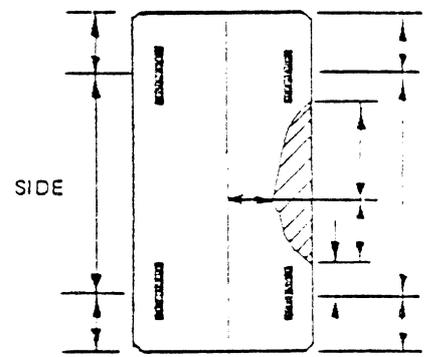
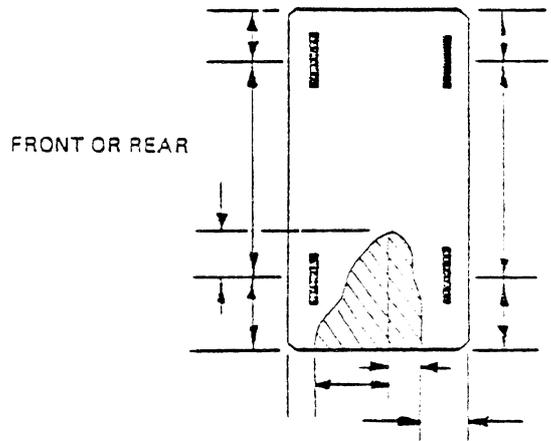
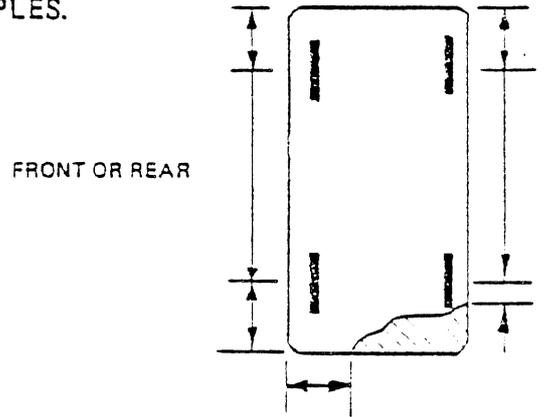
DUPLICATE COLUMNS 1-9 FROM PRECEDING CARD

0 4  
10 11

SHEET METAL DAMAGE (Direct)	PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
FRONT (1,2,0)*	0	12
REAR (1,2,0)*	0	13
LEFT SIDE (1,2,0)*	0	14
RIGHT SIDE (1,2,0)*	0	15
ROOF (1,2,0)*	0	16
OTHER (1,2,0)*: _____	0	17
REMARKS: _____		
_____		
_____		

SHEET METAL CRUSH (Direct)		
INSERT MAXIMUM CRUSH DIMENSION TO THE NEAREST INCH. DIMENSIONS MUST AGREE WITH DIAGRAMS ON FACING PAGE. (INSERT "99", IF UNKNOWN INSERT "98", IF 98 INCHES OR OVER)		
FRONT (INCHES)	— —	18-19
REAR	— —	20-21
LEFT SIDE	— —	22-23
RIGHT SIDE	— —	24-25
ROOF	— —	26-27
OTHER:	— —	28-29

EXAMPLES.

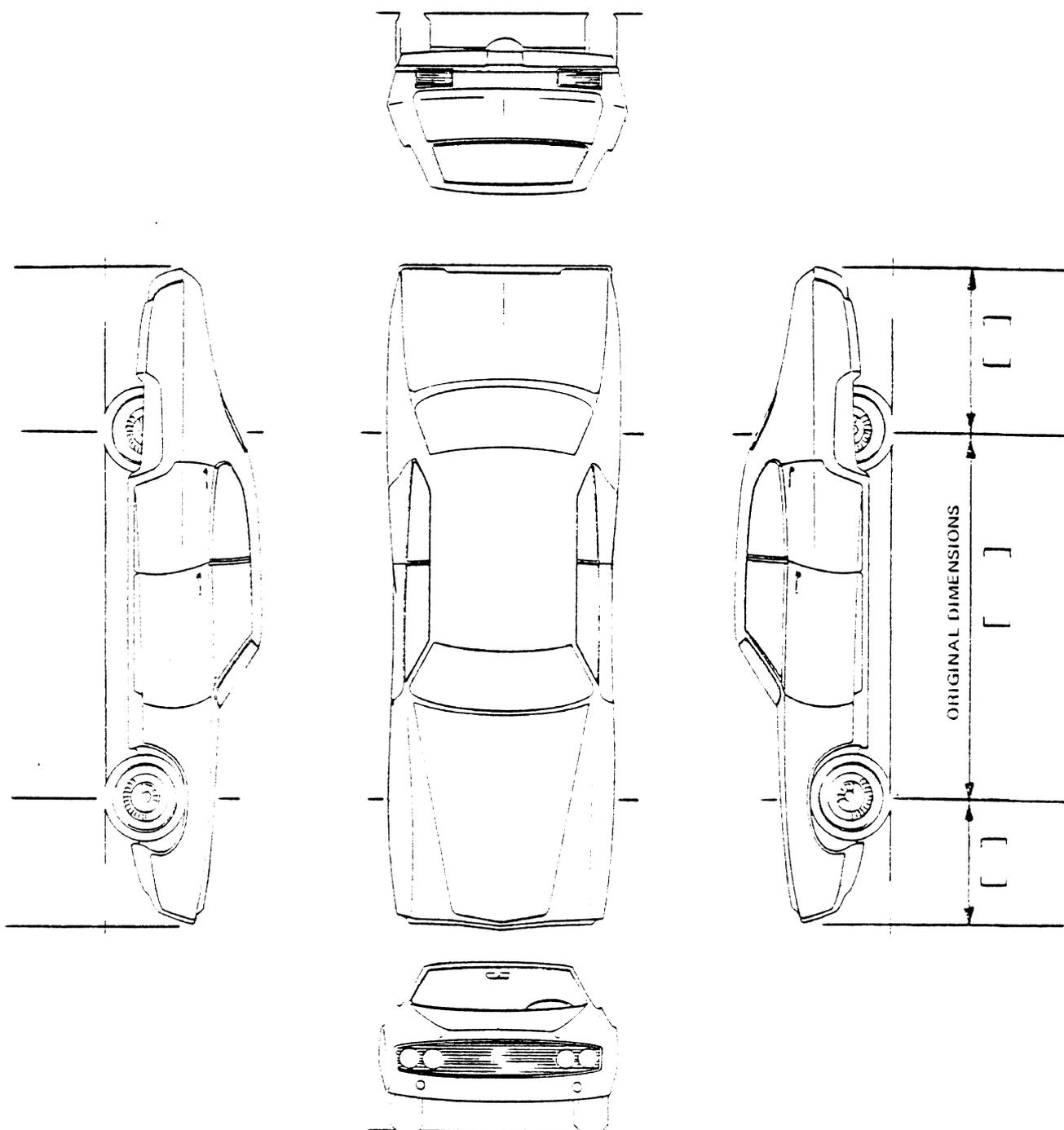


\*WHERE (1,2,0) IS INDICATED, USE 1 FOR YES  
2 FOR NO  
0 FOR UNKNOWN

## EXTERIOR DAMAGE

### FIELD INVESTIGATOR INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Indicate crushed areas by outlining new perimeter of vehicle and shading the damaged areas on the large sketch below. Use as many sketches as necessary to completely describe the damage.
2. Enter the dimensions on the sketch(es) measured to the point of maximum penetration by the object(s) contacted. Use the examples on the facing page as a guide.
3. Enter the three dimensions to the center of the wheels (wheelbase, front and rear overhangs) on both sides of the car.
4. Add other dimensions as necessary to completely describe the damage.



VEHICLE SKETCH

WHEELS AND TIRES

WHEELS	PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT TYPE		
FRONT (1,2,0)*	—	30
REAR (1,2,0)*	—	31
DAMAGED (1,2,0)*	—	32
DESCRIBE DAMAGE AND NON O.S. WHEELS		
TIRES		
TREAD TYPE		
(4) REGULAR	FRONT	— 33
(5) NON-STUDED SNOW		
(6) STUDED SNOW		
(7) 'SLICK'		
(8) LEFT AND RIGHT SIDES DIFFERENT	REAR	— 34
(9) OTHER: _____		
(0) UNKNOWN		
TREAD WEAR		
(4) LIGHT	FRONT	— 35
(5) MEDIUM		
(6) HEAVY		
(7) BALD		
(8) LEFT AND RIGHT SIDES DIFFERENT	REAR	— 36
(9) OTHER: _____		
(0) UNKNOWN		
PROFILE		
(4) REGULAR 90,78	FRONT	— 37
(5) WIDE OVAL 70, 60, 50		
(6) LEFT AND RIGHT SIDES DIFFERENT		
(7) OTHER: _____	REAR	— 38
(0) UNKNOWN		
CARCASS TYPE		
(4) BIAS PLY	FRONT	— 39
(5) BELTED-BIAS PLY		
(6) RADIAL PLY		
(7) LEFT AND RIGHT SIDES DIFFERENT		
(8) OTHER: _____	REAR	— 40
(0) UNKNOWN		

TIRES (CONT'D.)		SIZE
FRONT	LEFT	_____
	RIGHT	_____
REAR	LEFT	_____
	RIGHT	_____
MANUFACTURER		
FRONT	LEFT	_____
	RIGHT	_____
REAR	LEFT	_____
	RIGHT	_____
MODEL		
FRONT	LEFT	_____
	RIGHT	_____
REAR	LEFT	_____
	RIGHT	_____
CODE		
FRONT	LEFT	_____
	RIGHT	_____
REAR	LEFT	_____
	RIGHT	_____
LOAD RANGE		
FRONT	LEFT	_____
	RIGHT	_____
REAR	LEFT	_____
	RIGHT	_____

\*WHERE (1,2,0) IS INDICATED, USE 1 FOR YES  
 2 FOR NO  
 3 FOR UNKNOWN

FRONT EXTERIOR

HOOD PERFORMANCE (FRONT OF VEHICLE)	PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
HOOD LATCH(ES)		
RELEASED (1,2,3,0)*	—	41
DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*	—	42
JAMMED (1,2,3,0)*	—	43
HOOD HINGES		
LEFT { DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)	—	44
SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)**	—	45
RIGHT { DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)	—	46
SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)**	—	47
HOOD REMAINED ON VEHICLE (1,2,3,0)	—	48
REAR EDGE OF HOOD		
ELEVATED (1,2,3,0)	—	49
CONTACTED WINDSHIELD (1,2,3,0)	—	50
PENETRATED WINDSHIELD (1,2,3,0)*	—	51
OPTIONAL HOOD INSTALLED (1,2,3,0)	—	52
ENGINE OR TRANSMISSION MOUNT SEPARATION (1,2,3,4,5,0)	—	53
STEERING COLUMN FLEXIBLE COUPLING		
EQUIPPED (2) No →	—	54
Yes		
(1) Type Unknown	—	55
(6) Rag		
(7) Pot		
(8) Universal		
(9) Other		
(0) Unknown	—	56
SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)**	—	
OTHER DAMAGE (1,2,3,0)*		
DESCRIBE: _____		

**ENGINE COMPARTMENT TELESCOPING UNIT**  
(SEE DRAWING ON PAGE 18 FOR LOCATION)

FRONT OF VEHICLES

TYPE OF UNIT

(5) None Installed  
(1-6) See Sketch Above  
(8) Double U-Joint or Flexible Cable Joint  
(9) Others \_\_\_\_\_  
(0) Unknown \_\_\_\_\_

PUNCH

57

ORIGINAL LENGTH, (F) \_\_\_\_\_

TELESCOPED LENGTH, (G) \_\_\_\_\_

DIFFERENCE (F-G) \_\_\_\_\_  
- (tolerance ± 0.5 in.)

(777) Device Extended  
(888) Not Equipped, (999) Unknown  
(998) Compressed, Unknown Amount

58 59 60

\*USE: 1=YES 2=NO 3=NOT APPLICABLE 0=UNKNOWN \*\*USE: 1=YES, TYPE UNKNOWN 2=NO 3=NOT APPLICABLE 0=UNKNOWN 4=PARTIAL SEPARATION 5=COMPLETE SEPARATION 0=UNKNOWN



LEFT EXTERIOR

REAR EXTERIOR

SIDE STRUCTURE - LEFT SIDE		PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
LEFT BODY MOUNT SEPARATION (1,2,3,0)* <i>Unitised</i>		—	34
If door hinges and latches were not damaged and doors did not jam or open during collision, and continuity of the side structure was maintained, place a "1" in code column. Code remainder of column		—	35
DOOR LATCHES			
LEFT FRONT	DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*	—	36
	RELEASED (1,2,3,0)*	—	37
LEFT REAR	DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*	—	38
	RELEASED (1,2,3,0)*	—	39
DOOR HINGES			
LEFT FRONT	DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*	—	40
	SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)**	—	41
LEFT REAR	DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*	—	42
	SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)**	—	43
CONTINUITY OF SIDE STRUCTURE MAINTAINED (1,2,3,0)* i.e., <u>Is Side Boundary Broken</u> Not restricted to vehicles with reinforced side structure.		—	44
DOORS OPENED DURING COLLISION			
LEFT	FRONT (1,2,0)*	—	45
	REAR (1,2,3,0)*	—	46
DOORS JAMMED CLOSED			
LEFT	FRONT (1,2,0)*	—	47
	REAR (1,2,3,0)*	—	48

FUEL TANK AND LINES		PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
APPROXIMATE FUEL LEVEL AT TIME OF IMPACT  (4) LESS THAN 1/2 (5) 1/2 OR MORE (0) UNKNOWN		—	49
TANK RETENTION  (4) COMPLETE RETENTION (5) PARTIAL DISENGAGEMENT (6) COMPLETE DISENGAGEMENT (0) UNKNOWN		—	50
TANK DEFORMED (1,2,0)* includes neck		—	51
FUEL LEAKAGE PRESENT (1,2,0)*		—	52
LOCATION OF LEAKS			
FROM THE TANK (1,2,3,0)*		—	53
FROM THE NECK (1,2,3,0)*		—	54
FROM THE LINES (1,2,3,0)*		—	55
TRAILER AND HITCH (1) Yes, Type Unknown (2) No hitch (3) Ball and Socket, Temporary Bumper (e.g., rental clamp-on) (4) Ball and Socket, Bumper only (e.g., light truck) (5) Ball and Socket - Frame Hitch (e.g., frame and bumper) (6) Equalising, load distributing (7) Ring and Pintle (e.g., double tractor) (8) Fifth Wheel (e.g., semi) (9) Other (e.g., clevis and pin) (0) Unknown		—	56
TRAILER BEING TOWED (AT TIME OF COLLISION)  (1) Yes, Type Unknown (2) No (hitch, no trailer) (3) Not Applicable (no hitch) (4) Travel Trailer/Canper (5) Mobile Home (6) Boat/Snowmobile/ATV Trailer (7) Rental/Cargo Trailer (8) Car (9) Other: _____ (0) Unknown		—	57

TRAILER

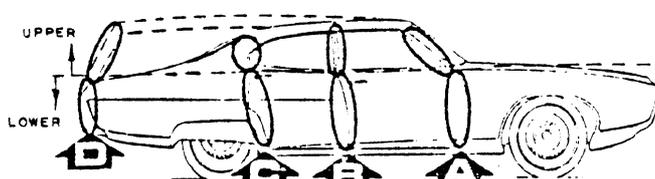
FUEL TANK

LEFT SIDE STRUCTURE

\*USE: 1=YES 2=NO 3=NOT APPLICABLE 0=UNKNOWN  
 \*\*USE: 1=YES, TYPE UNKNOWN 2=NO 3=NOT APPLICABLE

4=PARTIAL SEPARATION  
 5=COMPLETE SEPARATION  
 0=UNKNOWN

REAR EXTERIOR

		PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.	DUPLICATE COLUMNS 1-9 FROM PRECEDING CARD <u>0</u> <u>6</u> 10 11	
TAILGATE (HATCHBACK) PERFORMANCE Includes back doors of Vans				<del>TRUNK LID PERFORMANCE (REAR OF VEHICLE)</del>	
LATCHES					
RELEASED (1,2,3,0)*	_____	58			
DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*	_____	59		<del>LATCHES</del> RELEASED (1,2,3,0)* <u>0</u> 12 DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)* <u>0</u> 13 LATCH OR LID JAMMED (1,2,3,0)* <u>0</u> 14	
LATCH OR TAILGATE JAMMED (1,2,3,0)*	_____	60			
HINGES OR TRACKS (CLAM SHELL)				<del>HINGES</del> LEFT { DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)* <u>0</u> 15 SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)** <u>0</u> 16 RIGHT { DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)* <u>0</u> 17 SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)** <u>0</u> 18	
BOTTOM LEFT	{ DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)* _____	61			
	{ SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)** _____	62			
BOTTOM RIGHT	{ DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)* _____	63			
	{ SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)** _____	64			
TOP LEFT	{ DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)* _____	65			
	{ SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)** _____	66			
TOP RIGHT	{ DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)* _____	67			
	{ SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)** _____	68			
EQUIPPED WITH TWO-WAY TAILGATE (1,2,3,0)* (6) Disappearing Tailgate		_____	69	TRUNK or PARTITIONED LUGGAGE AREA DAMAGED (1,2,3,0) _____ 19 SPARE TIRE SEPARATION (1,2,3,4,0) (4) for spare tire not initially attached _____ 20 TRUNK - PASSENGER COMPARTMENT PARTITION DAMAGE (1,2,3,0)* _____ 21	
TAILGATE ELECTRIC WINDOW OPERABLE (1,2,3,0)*		_____	70	<del>BACKLIGHT HEADER (REAR WINDOW TOP FRAME)</del> BACKLIGHT HEADER DAMAGED OR BUCKLED (1,2,3,0)* <u>0</u> 22 — convertible	
END OF CARD 05				RIGHT PILLARS 	

\*USE: 1=YES 2=NO 3=NOT APPLICABLE 0=UNKNOWN

\*\*USE: 1=YES, TYPE UNKNOWN 2=NO 3=NOT APPLICABLE

4-PARTIAL SEPARATION 5-COMplete SEPARATION 0-UNKNOWN

RIGHT EXTERIOR

RIGHT PILLARS		PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
If right pillars were not damaged or separated or right roof side rail was not damaged or buckled, place a "1" in code column. Code remainder of column		0	23
<b>A-PILLARS</b>			
UPPER	{ DAMAGED (1,2,0)*	0	24
	{ SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)**	0	25
LOWER	{ DAMAGED (1,2,0)*	0	26
	{ SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)**	0	27
<b>B-PILLAR (ALSO REAR PILLAR ON PICK-UP TRUCK, CORVETTE, CAMARO, FIREBIRD)</b>			
UPPER	{ DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*	0	28
	{ SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)**	0	29
LOWER	{ DAMAGED (1,2,0)*	0	30
	{ SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)**	0	31
<b>C-PILLAR</b>			
UPPER	{ DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*	0	32
	{ SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)**	0	33
LOWER	{ DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*	0	34
	{ SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)**	0	35
<b>D-PILLAR (STATION WAGON &amp; LIMOUSINE)</b>			
UPPER	{ DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*	0	36
	{ SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)**	0	37
LOWER	{ DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*	0	38
	{ SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)**	0	39
<b>RIGHT ROOF SIDE RAIL</b>			
DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*		—	40
BUCKLED (1,2,3,0)*		—	41
<b>WINDSHIELD HEADER</b>			
DAMAGED OR BUCKLED (1,2,0)*		—	42

SIDE STRUCTURE – RIGHT SIDE		PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
RIGHT BODY MOUNT SEPARATION (1,2,3,0)*		—	43
↳ <i>Unitized</i>			
If door hinges and latches were not damaged and doors did not jam or open during collision, and continuity of the side structure was maintained, place a "1" in code column. Code remainder of column		—	44
<b>DOOR LATCHES</b>			
RIGHT FRONT	{ DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*	—	45
	{ RELEASED (1,2,3,0)*	—	46
RIGHT REAR	{ DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*	—	47
	{ RELEASED (1,2,3,0)*	—	48
<b>DOOR HINGES</b>			
RIGHT FRONT	{ DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*	—	49
	{ SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)**	—	50
RIGHT REAR (Hinge or track)	{ DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*	—	51
	{ SEPARATED (1,2,3,4,5,0)**	—	52
CONTINUITY OF SIDE STRUCTURE MAINTAINED (1,2,3,0)*		—	53
i.e., <u>Is Side Boundary Broken</u> Not restricted to vehicles with reinforced side structure.			
<b>DOORS OPENED DURING COLLISION</b>			
RIGHT	{ FRONT (1,2,0)*	—	54
	{ REAR (1,2,3,0)*	—	55
<b>DOORS JAMMED CLOSED</b>			
RIGHT	{ FRONT (1,2,0)*	—	56
	{ REAR (1,2,3,0)*	—	57

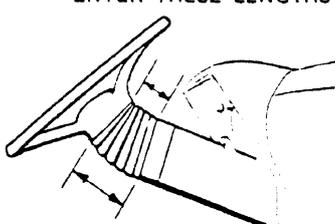
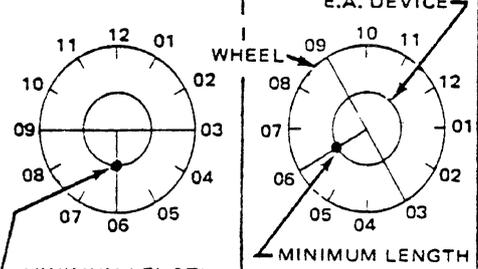
RIGHT SIDE STRUCTURE

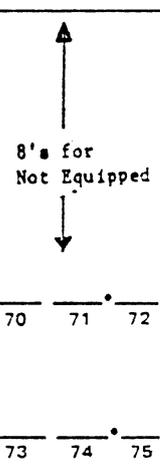
RIGHT PILLARS

\*USE: 1-YES 3-NOT APPLICABLE \*\*USE: 1-YES,TYPE UNKNOWN 4-PARTIAL SEPARATION  
 2-NO 0-UNKNOWN 2-NO 5-COMPLETE SEPARATION  
 3-NOT APPLICABLE 0-UNKNOWN

STEERING WHEEL

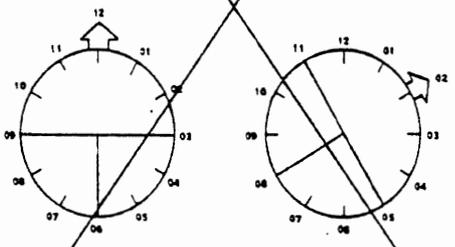
<b>STEERING WHEEL</b>	PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
<del>TYPE GM only, others and unknown use (99).</del>	<u>99</u>	58-59
NOTES ON NON-ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT STEERING WHEEL:		
<b>STEERING WHEEL RIM</b>		
DAMAGE		
(2) NONE (4) SLIGHTLY DEFORMED (5) SEVERELY BENT (6) BROKEN (0) UNKNOWN	_____	60
OCCUPANT CONTACT (1,2,3,0)	_____	61
<b>STEERING WHEEL SPOKES</b>		
NUMBER OF SPOKES (ENTER "0" IF UNKNOWN)	_____	62
DAMAGE		
(2) NONE (4) SLIGHTLY DEFORMED (5) SEVERELY BENT (6) BROKEN (0) UNKNOWN	_____	63
OCCUPANT CONTACT (1,2,3,0)	_____	64
<del>HORN RING, HORN BUTTON(S), OR SPOKE SHROUD OR DRIVER AIR BAG COVER DAMAGED (1,2,0)*</del>	<u>0</u>	65
OCCUPANT CONTACT (1,2,3,0)	<u>0</u>	66

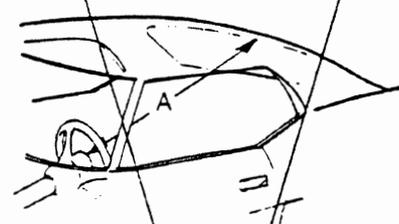
<b>STEERING WHEEL ENERGY ABSORBING DEVICE</b> (SEE DRAWING ON PAGE 18 FOR LOCATION) EQUIPPED (1,2,0)*	PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
	_____	67
<b>ENERGY ABSORBING DEVICE FINAL POSITION</b> MEASURE THE MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM OVERALL LENGTH OF THE ENERGY ABSORBING DEVICE (BETWEEN THE STEERING WHEEL AND STEERING COLUMN). ENTER THESE LENGTHS BELOW		
		
MAX. = _____ in.; MIN. = _____ in.		
THE E.A. DEVICE ROTATES WITH THE STEERING WHEEL. WE WANT TO KNOW WHERE THIS MINIMUM LENGTH OCCURRED (AROUND THE CIRCUMFERENCE OF THE E.A. DEVICE) WITH RESPECT TO THE SPOKES. RECORD BELOW THE O'CLOCK POSITION AT WHICH THIS MINIMUM LENGTH WAS MEASURED.		
EXAMPLES		
O'CLOCK = <u>06</u>   O'CLOCK = <u>06</u> E.A. DEVICE		
		
MINIMUM LENGTH   MINIMUM LENGTH		
"O'CLOCK" = _____		
(ENTER <u>00</u> IF UNKNOWN)	_____	69
<b>ENERGY ABSORBING DEVICE COMPRESSION</b> FOLLOWING TO BE FILLED IN BY ANALYSIS GROUP (ENTER <u>99.9</u> IF UNKNOWN)		
ORIGINAL LENGTH (H) _____ IN.		
DAMAGED MAX. LENGTH (X) _____ IN.		
DIFFERENCE (H-X) _____ IN.		
ORIGINAL LENGTH (H) _____ IN.		
DAMAGED MIN. LENGTH (Y) _____ IN.		
DIFFERENCE (H-Y) _____ IN.		
DEVICE EXTENDED (4) X GREATER THAN H (5) X AND Y GREATER THAN H (6) NEITHER (0) UNKNOWN (8) NOT APPLICABLE		
	_____	76



\*WHERE (1,2,0) OR (1,2,3,0) ARE INDICATED, USE 1 FOR YES 3 FOR NOT APPLICABLE  
2 FOR NO 0 FOR UNKNOWN

STEERING WHEEL AND COLUMN

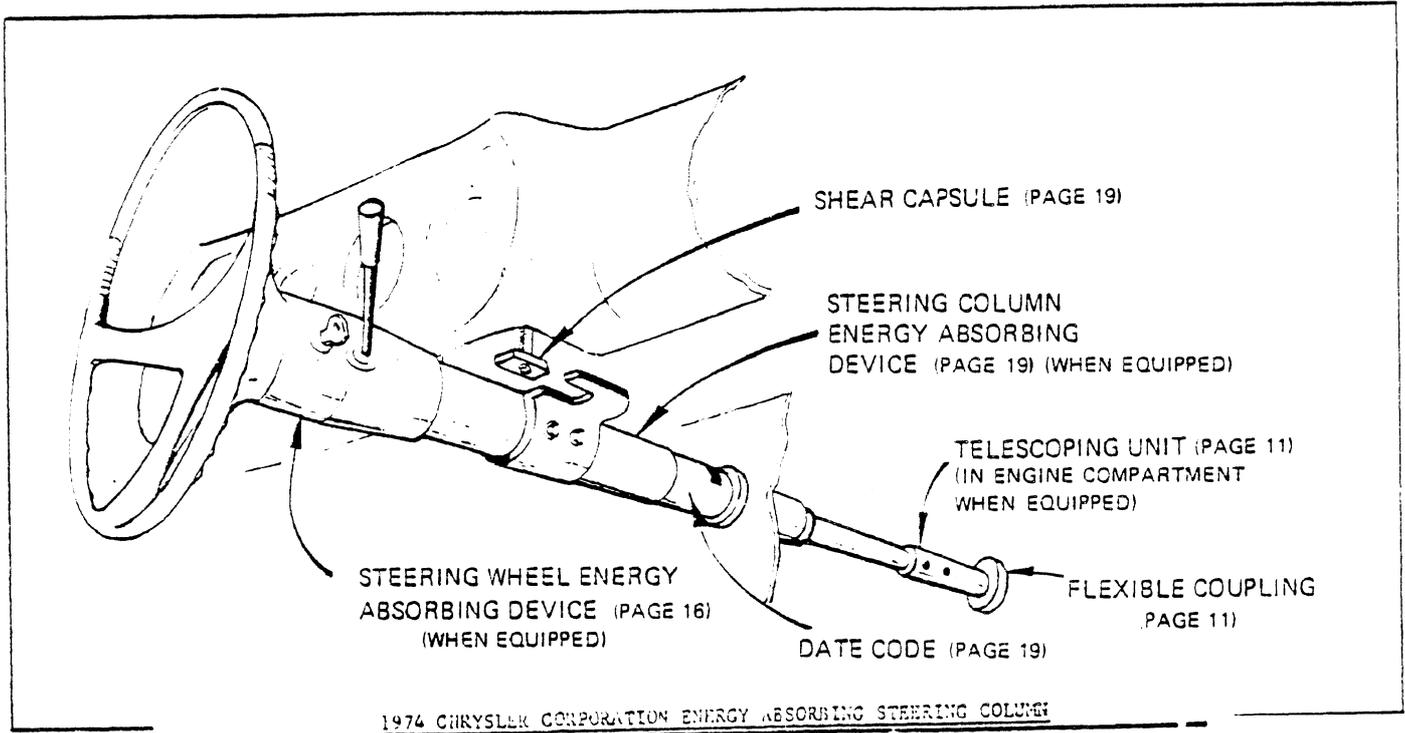
DUPLICATE COLUMNS 1-9 FROM PRECEDING CARD <u>07</u> 10 11	
<b>STEERING WHEEL POSITION AT TIME OF COLLISION</b>  IN WHAT O'CLOCK POSITION WAS THE NORMAL TOP OF THE WHEEL POINTED WHEN THE COLLISION OCCURRED?  EXAMPLES  O'CLOCK = <u>12</u> O'CLOCK = <u>02</u>    (NORMAL STRAIGHT AHEAD) (00) UNKNOWN      O'CLOCK = <u>00</u>	PUNCH CODE CARD COL.
<b>Steering Wheel Pad or Air Bag</b> S.W. Pad Equipped (1,2,0)* Steering Wheel Air Bag: (4) Deployment (5) Equipped-No Deployment (6) Deployment Unknown (9) Both Pad and Air Bag Unknown S.W. Pad Deformed or Contact to Driver Air Bag(1,2,3,0)*	_____ 14 _____ 15
<b>TILT FEATURE</b>  EQUIPPED (1,2,0)*  FINAL POSITION (3) NOT APPLICABLE (4) NORMAL (5) TILTED UP (6) TILTED DOWN (0) UNKNOWN	_____ 16 _____ 17
<b>TELESCOPING FEATURE</b>  EQUIPPED (1,2,0)*  FINAL POSITION (3) NOT APPLICABLE (4) NORMAL (5) ABOVE NORMAL (6) BELOW NORMAL (0) UNKNOWN	_____ 18 _____ 19

<b>SWING-AWAY FEATURE</b>  EQUIPPED (1,2,0)*  FINAL POSITION (3) NOT APPLICABLE (4) NORMAL (5) RIGHT OF NORMAL (0) UNKNOWN	PUNCH CODE CARD COL.
<b>FINAL COLUMN POSITION</b>  MEASURE THE DISTANCE FROM THE STEERING WHEEL CENTER TO THE TOP OF THE REAR WINDOW GLASS, DIRECTLY BEHIND THE HUB. ("A" IN SKETCH).  ENTER THIS DISTANCE IN BLANK "A".    A: _____ INCHES	_____ 20 _____ 21
<b>COLUMN MOVEMENT</b>  If top or rear window glass is displaced, then use (999)  (ENTER 99.9 IF UNKNOWN)  FROM A CORRESPONDING UNDAMAGED VEHICLE, MAKE A MEASUREMENT SIMILAR TO "A" ABOVE, AND RECORD IT IN BLANK "B". (PLACE TILT STEERING WHEEL IN MID-POSITION AND TELESCOPING COLUMNS IN FULL DOWN POSITION).  ORIGINAL DIMENSION (B) _____ IN. DAMAGED VEHICLE DIMENSION (A) _____ IN. DIFFERENCE  A-B  _____ tolerance ± 1.0  DIRECTION OF MOVEMENT (4) FORWARD (A GREATER THAN B) (5) REARWARD (A LESS THAN B) (6) NEITHER (0) UNKNOWN	_____ 22 _____ 23 _____ 24  _____ 25

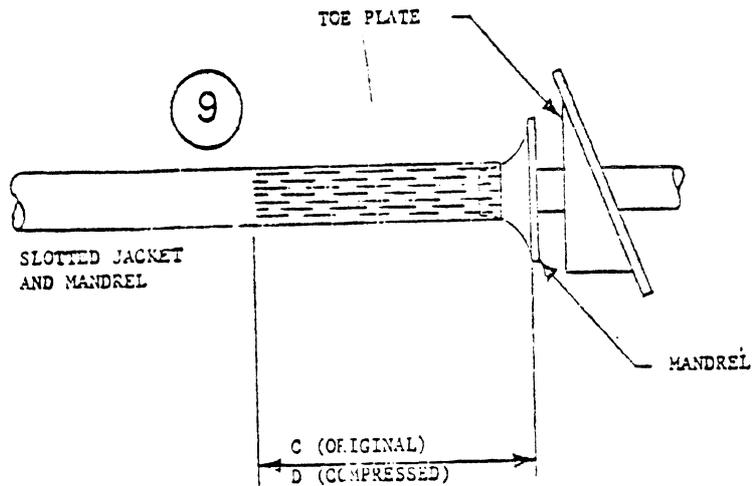
\*WHERE (1,2,0) OR (1,2,3,0) ARE INDICATED, USE 1 FOR YES 3 FOR NOT APPLICABLE  
 2 FOR NO 0 FOR UNKNOWN

STEERING WHEEL AND COLUMN

STEERING COLUMN (CONT'D.)



1974 CHRYSLER CORPORATION ENERGY ABSORBING STEERING COLUMN



FORD ENERGY ABSORBING "MINI" COLUMN

(1971-76 PINTO; 1972-76 TORINO, MONTEGO, T-BIRD, MARK IV) AND  
1975-76 BOBCAT; 1974-76 MUSTANG & COUGAR, AND 1975-76 GRANADA & MONARCH

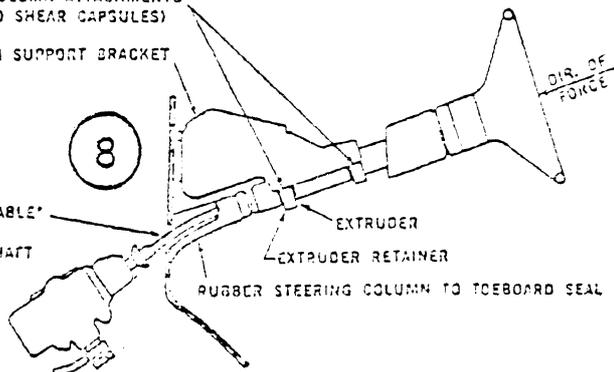
EXTRUDER AND UPPER COLUMN ATTACHMENTS  
DO NOT BREAK AWAY (NO SHEAR CAPSULES)

COLUMN SUPPORT BRACKET

USED IN:  
71 THRU 76 PINTO  
72 THRU 76 TORINO  
72 THRU 76 MONTEGO  
72 THRU 76 T-BIRD  
72 THRU 76 MARK IV

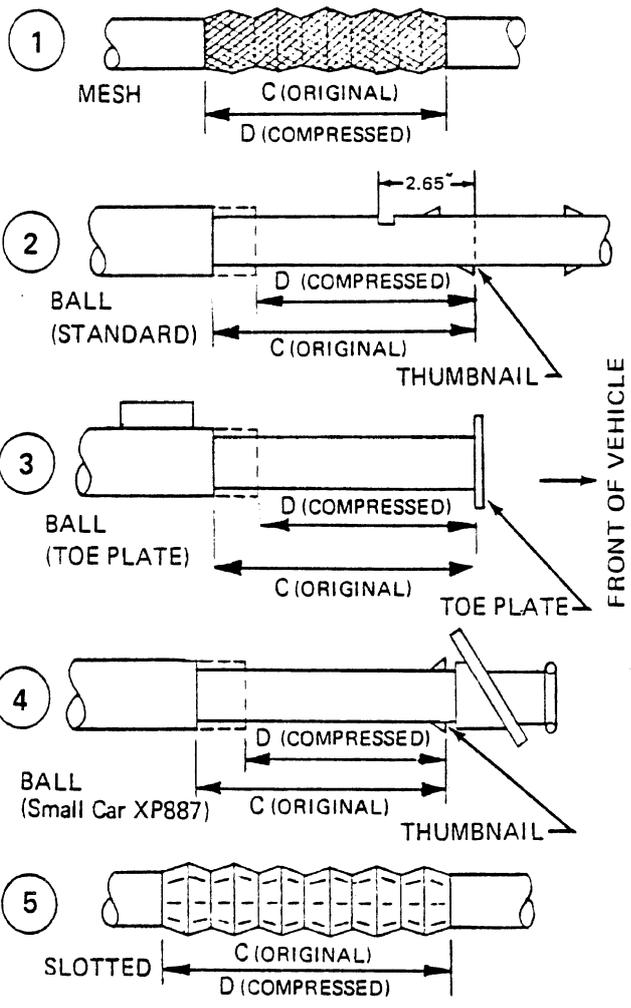
74 THRU 76 MUSTANG  
74 THRU 76 COUGAR  
74 THRU 76 BOBCAT

FLEXIBLE CABLE\*  
OR  
U-JOINT SHAFT



STEERING COLUMN (CONT'D.)

STEERING COLUMN ENERGY ABSORBING DEVICE SEE ALSO: page 18



**SHEAR CAPSULE SEPARATION**  
(SEE DRAWING ON PAGE 18 FOR LOCATION)

SHEAR CAPSULE (FASTENED TO INSTRUMENT PANEL)      SHEAR CAPSULE BRACKET (FASTENED TO STEERING COLUMN)

NOTE: WHEN CAPSULES HAVE SEPARATED IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO LIFT COLUMN ASSEMBLY INTO POSITION AGAINST INSTRUMENT PANEL BEFORE MEASURING.

SHEAR CAPSULE SEPARATION (E)	PUNCH		
	(888) Not Equipped, (999) Unknown	30	31
(998) Separated, Unknown Amount	32		

**STEERING COLUMN VERTICAL ANGLE**

MEASURE THE ANGLE THE STEERING COLUMN MAKES WITH THE HORIZONTAL ('F' IN DIAGRAM ABOVE), AND THE ANGLE THE DOOR SILL MAKES WITH THE HORIZONTAL ('G' IN DIAGRAM) AND ENTER THEM BELOW. ANGLES WHICH TILT DOWN TOWARD THE FRONT OF THE CAR ARE POSITIVE.

(NOTE: LIFT COLUMN INTO POSITION FOR MEASUREMENT)

F: \_\_\_\_\_ DEGREES; G: \_\_\_\_\_ DEGREES

<b>STEERING COLUMN ENERGY ABSORBING DEVICE</b> TYPE OF DEVICE (7) Not Equipped (1) Mesh (2) Ball (Standard) (3) Ball (with Toe Plate) (4) Ball (Vega) (5) Slotted (6) Other: _____ (e.g. Colt) (8) Ford Mini-Column (9) Chrysler Slotted Jacket and Mandrel (1974+) (0) Unknown	PUNCH
	26
ORIGINAL LENGTH, (C) _____	
COMPRESSED LENGTH, (D) _____	
COMPRESSION, (C-D) _____	
(777) Device Extended (888) Not Equipped, (999) Unknown (998) Compressed, Unknown Amount	27   28   29

<b>COLUMN VERTICAL ROTATION</b> FINAL COLUMN POSITION COLUMN ANGLE (F) _____ (Relative to Ground) VEHICLE ANGLE (G) _____ COLUMN ANGLE (F-G=H) _____ (Relative to Vehicle) FROM A CORRESPONDING UNDAMAGED VEHICLE, MAKE A MEASUREMENT SIMILAR TO "H" ABOVE AND RECORD IT IN BLANK "J" ORIGINAL DIMENSION (J) _____ DAMAGED VEHICLE DIMENSION (H) _____ COLUMN ROTATION (H-J) _____ (ENTER 99 IF UNKNOWN) tolerance ± 1° 98 Rotated - Unknown amount	PUNCH
	Either + or -
	33   34

STEERING COLUMN

PASSENGER COMPARTMENT

GENERAL INFORMATION	PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
PASSENGER COMPARTMENT REDUCED IN SIZE (1,2,0)*	_____	35
EXTERNAL OBJECT INTRUSION (1,2,0)* DESCRIBE ON FOLD-OUT FLY-LEAF	_____	36
INTERNAL LOOSE OBJECT (1,2,0)*	_____	37
VERTICAL ROTATION OF INSTRUMENT PANEL (1,2,0)*	_____	38
FIREWALL (COWL) DEFORMATION (1,2,0)*	_____	39
FLOORPAN DEFORMATION (1,2,0)* (INCLUDING TOEPAN)	_____	40
<b>WINDSHIELD</b>		
CRACKED (1,2,3,0)*	_____	41
BROKEN (1,2,3,0)* (Plastic Interlayer Torn)	_____	42
OCCUPANT CONTACT (1,2,3,0)*	_____	43
CRACKED OR BROKEN BY OCCUPANT CONTACT (1,2,3,0)*	_____	44
BOND SEPARATED (1,2,0)* (IF "YES", ESTIMATE PERCENT _____)	_____	45
<del>WINDSHIELD CODE</del> (YY) Unknown	Y Y	46-47

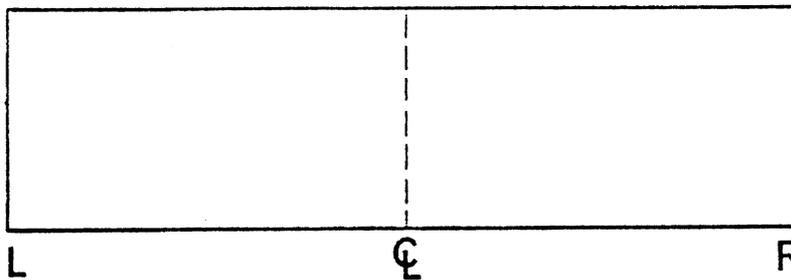
**WINDSHIELD MARK**

DRAW GLASS MANUFACTURER'S WINDSHIELD MARK WHICH IS LOCATED ALONG THE BOTTOM OF THE WINDSHIELD AT CENTER OR AT ONE CORNER.

EXAMPLE OF TYPICAL MARK:

MARK ON CASE VEHICLE:

LOCATE AREA OF WINDSHIELD INTEREST OR DAMAGE WITH DIMENSIONS (VERTICAL & HORIZONTAL) ON THIS DIAGRAM OF THE WINDSHIELD AS VIEWED FROM INSIDE.



KEYPUNCH:

Col. 48-75=0

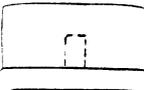
End of Card 07

Dup. 1-9 0 8  
10 11

Col. 12-34=0

\*WHERE (1,2,3,0) IS INDICATED, USE 1 FOR YES 3 FOR NOT APPLICABLE  
2 FOR NO 0 FOR UNKNOWN

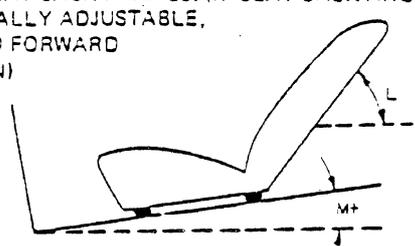
PASSENGER COMPARTMENT (CONT'D.)

SEATS		PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.	POSITION OF SEAT PRIOR TO CRASH		PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
<b>TYPE OF FRONT SEAT</b> (4)  (7) (5)  (8) (6)  (9)				<b>DRIVERS SEAT</b> (4) FORWARD (5) MIDDLE (6) REARWARD (0) UNKNOWN			
(0) UNKNOWN 3) Drivers Seat Only		—	35	<b>RIGHT FRONT PASSENGER'S SEAT</b> (3) NOT APPLICABLE (No Seat) (4) FORWARD (5) MIDDLE (6) REARWARD (0) UNKNOWN		code the same if bench seat	44
<b>FOLDING BACKS (1,2,0)*</b> <b>DELUXE ACCESSORIES</b> (1) Deluxe Accessories (2) None (4) Reclining Seatbacks (0) Unknown		—	36				
<b>TYPE OF SEAT ADJUSTERS</b> (4) MANUAL Driver's Side (5) POWER (6) RIGID (7) OTHER: _____ (0) UNKNOWN		—	38	<b>DAMAGE TO FRONT SEAT</b> BACKREST DAMAGE (1,2,0)* CUSHION DAMAGE (1,2,0)* CONTACTED BY REAR OCCUPANT (1,2,3,0)* If no rear occupant			46
<b>TYPE OF SEAT ADJUSTMENT</b> (3) NONE (NOT APPLICABLE) (4) 2-WAY (5) 4-WAY Driver's Side (6) 6-WAY (7) OTHER: _____ (0) UNKNOWN (8) Swivel Seats				<b>SEAT CENTER ARMRESTS (FRONT)</b> EQUIPPED (1,2,0)* DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*			47
<b>DAMAGE TO ADJUSTERS (1,2,0)*</b> Include Rigid		—	40	<b>HEAD RESTRAINTS Driver's Side (FRONT)</b> EQUIPPED (1,2,0)* Integral REMOVED PRIOR TO COLLISION (1,2,3,0)* RETAINED DURING COLLISION (1,2,3,0)* DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)* OCCUPANT CONTACT (1,2,3,0)*			48
<b>TYPE OF DAMAGE TO ADJUSTERS</b> (CHOOSE TWO: rank in order of severity) (2) None (4) Chucking (some free play) (5) Deformed (e.g. Released or Jammed) (6) Separated (0) Unknown (8) Swivel Damaged		—	41	<b>HEAD RESTRAINT Driver's Side ADJUSTMENT AT TIME OF COLLISION</b> (3) Not Applicable, None (4) UP from seat top (5) DOWN on seat top (0) Unknown (6) Integral			49
<b>LOCATION OF SEPARATION</b> (3) NOT APPLICABLE (4) AT FLOOR (5) AT ADJUSTER (6) AT SEAT (0) UNKNOWN		—	42				50
		—	43				51
							52
							53
							54
							55
							56

SEATS

PASSENGER COMPARTMENT (CONT'D.)

SEATS (CONT'D)		PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
FRONT SEAT BACK LOCKS			
LEFT or center	EQUIPPED (1,2,3,0)*	---	57
	HELD (1,2,3,0)*	---	58
RIGHT	EQUIPPED (1,2,3,0)*	---	59
	HELD (1,2,3,0)*	---	60

FRONT SEAT BACK ANGLE	
<p>MEASURE THE FRONT SEAT BACK ANGLE AT THE LEFT AND RIGHT SEAT BACK FRAMES. (IF SEAT BACK ANGLE IS NORMALLY ADJUSTABLE, MOVE TO FORWARD POSITION)</p>  <p>MEASURE THE ANGLE THE SEAT BACK MAKES WITH HORIZONTAL (L IN DIAGRAM), AND THE ANGLE THE DOOR SILL MAKES WITH HORIZONTAL (M IN DIAGRAM) AND ENTER BELOW.</p>	
LEFT SIDE	RIGHT SIDE
L ____ DEG. M ____ DEG.	L ____ DEG. M ____ DEG.

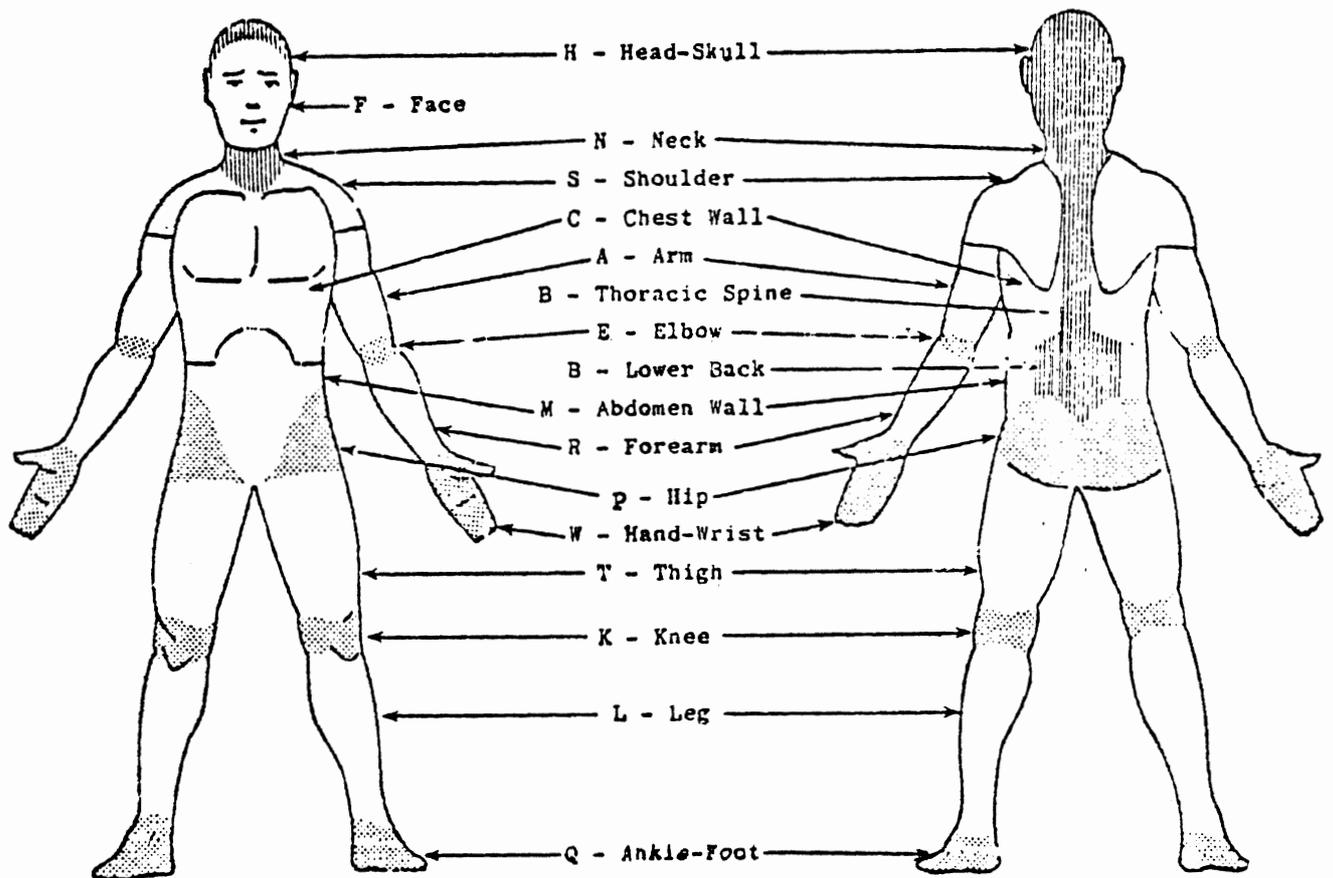
SEAT BACK ROTATION	DEGREES		PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
	LEFT	RIGHT		
FINAL SEAT ANGLE (ENTER 99 IF UNKNOWN)				
SEAT ANGLE (L) (Relative to Ground)	---	---		
VEHICLE ANGLE (M)	---	---		
SEAT ANGLE (L-M=P) (Relative to Vehicle)	---	---		
FROM A CORRESPONDING UNDAMAGED VEHICLE, MAKE A MEASUREMENT SIMILAR TO "P" ABOVE AND RECORD IT IN BLANK "R" BELOW.				
ORIGINAL ANGLE (R)	---	---		
DAMAGED SEAT ANGLE (P)	---	---		
DIFFERENCE (R-P)	---	---		
LEFT SEAT ANGLE DIFFERENCE			---	61-62
RIGHT SEAT ANGLE DIFFERENCE			---	63-64

TYPE OF REAR SEAT	PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
(2) NO SEAT		
(4) NON-FOLDING		
(5) FOLDING		
(0) UNKNOWN	---	65

DUPLICATE COLUMNS 1-9 FROM PRECEDING CARD			0	9
			10	11
DAMAGE TO REAR SEAT				
BACKREST DAMAGED OR LOOSENED (1,2,3,0)*			---	12
CUSHION DAMAGED OR LOOSENED (1,2,3,0)*			---	13
SEAT CENTER ARMRESTS (REAR)				
EQUIPPED (1,2,3,0)*			---	14
DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*			---	15
REAR SEAT BACK LOCKS				
LEFT OR CENTER	EQUIPPED (1,2,3,0)*	---	16	
	HELD (1,2,3,0)*	---	17	
RIGHT	EQUIPPED (1,2,3,0)*	---	18	
	HELD (1,2,3,0)*	---	19	
THIRD SEAT				
EQUIPPED (1,2,0)*			---	20
BACKREST DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*			---	21
CUSHION DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*			---	22
<del>BACKLIGHT (REAR WINDOW)</del>			<del>0</del>	<del>23</del>
<del>DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*</del>			<del>0</del>	<del>24</del>
<del>OCCUPANT CONTACT (1,2,3,0)*</del>			<del>0</del>	<del>24</del>
<del>BACKLIGHT HEADER</del>			<del>0</del>	<del>25</del>
<del>DAMAGED (1,2,3,0)*</del>			<del>0</del>	<del>25</del>
<del>OCCUPANT CONTACT (1,2,3,0)*</del>			<del>0</del>	<del>25</del>
WINDOWS CLOSED AT TIME OF COLLISION (3=no window)				
LEFT FRONT (1,2,3,0)*			---	27
LEFT REAR (1,2,3,0)*			---	28
RIGHT FRONT (1,2,3,0)*			---	29
RIGHT REAR (1,2,3,0)*			---	30
BACKLIGHT (1,2,3,0)*			---	31
ALL SIDE WINDOWS OPERABLE AFTER COLLISION (1,2,3,0)*			---	32
POWER SIDE WINDOWS EQUIPPED (1,2,0)*			---	33
(PUT NOTES ON FOLD-OUT FLY-LEAF)				

Case No. \_ \_ - \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ - \_ \_

Occupant Position \_\_\_\_\_



OCCUPANT INFORMATION

DUPLICATE COLUMNS 1-9 FROM PRECEDING CARD <u>  /  /  </u> 10 11			RESTRAINT SYSTEM		PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.
OCCUPANT NUMBER	PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.	LAP BELT			
	— —	12-13	EQUIPPED FOR THIS POSITION (1,2,0)*		—	27
SEAT LOCATION (3) EXTERNAL TO PASS. COMP. (e.g., bed of pickup) (4) FRONT (5) REAR (6) THIRD (7) OTHER: _____ (0) UNKNOWN			WORN BY OCCUPANT (1,2,3,0)*		—	28
			WORN CORRECTLY (1,2,3,0)*		—	29
POSITION ON SEAT (3) EXTERNAL TO PASS. COMP. (4) LEFT (5) LEFT CENTER (6) CENTER (7) RIGHT CENTER (8) RIGHT (9) ALL (Lying on seat) (0) UNKNOWN			LOCKING RETRACTOR (1,2,3,0)*		—	30
			UPPER TORSO RESTRAINT Upper Torso Belt and/or Air Bag Equipped			
POSTURE (1) SITTING ON SEAT (2) ON LAP OR IN ARMS (3) STANDING ON SEAT (4) STANDING ON FLOOR (5) IN BASSINET (6) IN CHILD SEAT (7) LYING ON SEAT (8) LYING OR SITTING ON FLOOR OR OTHER OBJECT (0) UNKNOWN			(1) No A/B & Upper Belt Equipped (2) No A/B & Upper Belt Not Equipped (0) No A/B & Upper Belt Unk if Equipped (4) A/B Equipped & Upper Belt Equipped (5) A/B Equipped & Upper Belt Not Equipped (6) A/B Equipped & Upper Belt Unk if Equipped (9) Both A/B & Upper Belt Unk if Equipped		—	31
			Upper Torso Belt and/or Air Bag Used			
AGE YEARS, OR MONTHS (INFANTS) to 24 months (ENTER "0" S IF UNKNOWN)			(1) No Deployment or No Bag; Upper Belt Worn (2) No Deployment or No Bag; Upper Belt Not Worn (3) No Deployment or No Bag; No Upper Belt (0) No Deployment or No Bag; Unknown if Worn (4) Deployment; Upper Belt Worn (5) Deployment; Upper Belt Not Worn (6) Deployment; No Upper Belt (7) Deployment; Upper Belt Unknown if Worn (9) Both Upper Torso Worn or Air Bag Deployed Unknown		—	32
			WORN CORRECTLY (1,2,3,0)*		—	33
WEIGHT, LBS. (ENTER "0" S, IF UNKNOWN)			INERTIA REEL (1,2,3,0)*		—	34
			LAP AND/OR UPPER TORSO RESTRAINT USAGE CODE		— —	35-36
HEIGHT, INCHES (ENTER "0" S, IF UNKNOWN)			TYPE OF UPPER TORSO RESTRAINT USED			
			(3) No Torso Restraint Used (4) 3-point (5) 4-point (6) Other (e.g. VW passive restraint system) (7) Air Bag Deployed & No Belts Used (8) Air Bag Deployed & Any Belts Used (9) Air Bag Deployed & Unknown Belt Use (0) Unknown		—	37
SEX (4) Male (5) Female (6) Large Animal (0) Unknown			CHILD RESTRAINT SYSTEM: NOTE MAKE AND MODEL NUMBER			
			CHILD RESTRAINT CODE (99 none)		— —	38-39
					—	40
					—	41

OCCUPANT

\*WHERE (1,2,0) OR (1,2,3,0) ARE INDICATED, USE 1 FOR YES 3 FOR NOT APPLICABLE  
2 FOR NO 0 FOR UNKNOWN

OCCUPANT INFORMATION

<b>EJECTION</b>  <b>DEGREE OF EJECTION</b>  (2) NONE (4) PARTIAL (5) COMPLETE (0) UNKNOWN	PUNCH CODE	CARD COL.	Dup 1-9	Card 8 0 78	Dup 12-13	0 14
<b>AREA OF EJECTION</b>  (3) NOT APPLICABLE (1) WINDOW, LEFT SIDE (2) " , RIGHT SIDE (4) " , REAR (5) DOOR, LEFT SIDE (6) " , RIGHT SIDE (7) TAILGATE (8) WINDSHIELD (9) ROOF OR OPEN CONVERTIBLE OR FROM EXTERNAL AREA (0) UNKNOWN		42	<b>POSTURE</b> (10) Sitting on Seat (11) Sitting on Seat in Abnormal Position (e.g., Feet on Dash, Sideways, Etc.) (12) Sitting on Console (20) On Lap or in Arms (30) Standing on Seat (40) Standing on Floor (47) Standing - External to Passenger Compartment (50) In Bassinet (60) In Child Seat (65) In Child Harness (70) Lying on Seat (80) Lying or Sitting on Passenger Floor (83) Lying or Sitting on Other Object in Passenger Compartment (85) On Station Wagon Cargo Floor or Fold Seat Back (87) Lying or Sitting - External to Passenger Compartment (98) Other: (00) Unknown			
		43				
<b>TREATMENT/MORTALITY</b>  (0) None (1) First Aid - On-scene or outpatient (2) Hospitalized - Observation under 24 Hours (3) Hospitalized - Significant Treatment or over 24 Hours (4) Fatal - Dead at Scene (5) Fatal - Dead on Arrival at Hospital (6) Fatal - Dead within 24 Hours (7) Fatal - Dead 24 hours to 1 year (8) Fatal - Time of Death Unknown (9) Unknown		44	<u>Occupant Alcohol Involvement/ Test</u>  (0) Unknown (999)..... NO TEST (1) Alcohol Not Suspected (000)..... (2) Alcohol Indicated & No Test Requested (999). (3) Test Requested & Refused (999)..... (4) Reason Unknown & Alcohol Indicated (999)... (5) Charged DWI, Booked Drunk (999)..... (6) Fled Scene (999)..... BAC TESTED (8) Results Not Given (999)... (9) Results Reported (____)....			
<b>OVERALL SEVERITY OF INJURIES</b> (USE 1976 AIS)  (00) NONE (01) MINOR (02) NON-DANGEROUS, MODERATE (03) NON-DANGEROUS, SEVERE (04) DANGEROUS, SERIOUS (05) DANGEROUS, CRITICAL (06) MAXIMUM, UNTREATABLE (98) INJURY UNKNOWN (99) INJURED, SEVERITY UNKNOWN		45-46	<u>Occupant Blood Alcohol Level (MG%)</u> (000) Had Not Been Drinking or Negative Test BAC=.000 ... _____ Record Actual BAC (MG%).... (999) Tested but results Unknown or No Results.....			
<b>END OF CARD</b>			<u>Occupant Alcohol Test</u> (2) None YES: (1) Type Unknown (4) Urine (5) Spinal (6) Breath (7) Blood (8) Other: (9) Several of Above (0) Unknown			

RECUPERATION AND TREATMENT FOR A PERIOD OF AT LEAST ONE DAY. "HELD FOR OBSERVATION ONLY" IS NOT CONSIDERED "HOSPITALIZED" IN THIS DEFINITION.

SEAT BELT BUZZER/INTERLOCK

EQUIPPED

23

- (0) Unknown if Equipped
- (1) Equipped, Type Unknown
- (2) Not Equipped
- (4) Non-Cycled Buzzer
- (5) Ignition Interlock
- (6) 4-second buzzer (post-interlock)
- (9) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

SEAT BELT BUZZER OPERATIONAL

24

- (0) Unknown if Operational
  - (1) Yes, Operational
  - (2) Not Operational, Reason Unknown
  - (3) Not Applicable, Not Equipped
- System Inhibited by:
- (4) Fastening Belts Together (Behind Occupant, Behind Seat, Under Seat, In Front of Seat, etc.)
  - (5) Disconnection, Removal, Intentional Destruction)
  - (6) Fixing in Pulled-Out Position (Knotted, Taped, Twisted, Folded Back, Tucked into Seat, Hooked To Upper Belt, etc.)
  - (7) Temporarily Fixing (Sitting on Belt, Holding onto Belt, Hook on Floor, etc.)
  - (8) Letting it Buzz
  - (9) Other: (Defective) \_\_\_\_\_

IGNITION INTERLOCK OPERATIONAL

25

- (1,2,3,0)

PASSIVE RESTRAINT SYSTEM EQUIPPED

26

- (2) No
- YES:
- (1) Type Unknown
- (4) Air Bag (5) Knee and Torso Restraint
- (9) Other: \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., VW)
- (0) Unknown

PASSIVE RESTRAINT SYSTEM ACTIVATED

27

- (3) Not Applicable, None
- (2) No
- (1) Yes
- (0) Unknown

INVESTIGATOR'S JUDGEMENT OF

RESTRAINT SYSTEM EFFECTIVENESS

29

- (0) Unknown
- (1) Reduced Injury Severity
- (2) Could Have Reduced Severity If Worn
- (3) No Opinion
- (4) Could Not Have Reduced Severity if Worn
- (5) Did Not Reduce Severity
- (6) Increased Severity
- (7) Would Have Increased Severity if Worn
- (8) More Restraints Would Have Reduced Severity

TREATMENT/MORTALITY

30

- (00) None
- (01) First Aid At Scene
- (02) Treated at Hospital/Clinic but not Admitted
- (03) Hospitalized (observation less than 24 hours)
- (04) Hospitalized over 24 Hours or Significant Treatment
- (05) Fatal--Dead at Scene
- (06) Fatal--OOA
- (07) Fatal--Dead within 24 Hours
- (08) Fatal--Dead 24 hrs to 1 yr
- (09) Fatal--Period Unknown
- (99) Unknown

EMS CONTRIBUTORY TO SEVERITY

32

- Due to delays and/or insufficient treatment on-scene or in transport?
- (2) No
  - (1) Yes
  - (0) Unknown
  - (4) Exemplary Service

AUTOPSY PERFORMED

33

- (3) Not Applicable/ Non-fatal
- (1) Yes
- (2) No
- (0) Unknown

248

OVERALL POLICE INJURY SEVERITY  
(KABC)

- (0) 0,0 No Injury
- (1) C Possible Injury
- (2) B Non-incapacitating Injury 34
- (3) A Incapacitating Injury
- (4) K Fatal
- (9) Unknown
- (5) Reported as Injured (severity not reported)

RESTRAINT SYSTEM CONDITION

Belts Operable (0,1,2,3)	Lap <u>35</u>	Shoulder <u>36</u>
Belts or Fittings Damaged (0,1,2,3)	Lap <u>37</u>	Shoulder <u>38</u>
Belts or Fittings Damaged by Occupant Loading (0,1,2,3)	Lap <u>39</u>	Shoulder <u>40</u>

RESTRAINT USAGE

SOURCE OF INFORMATION:

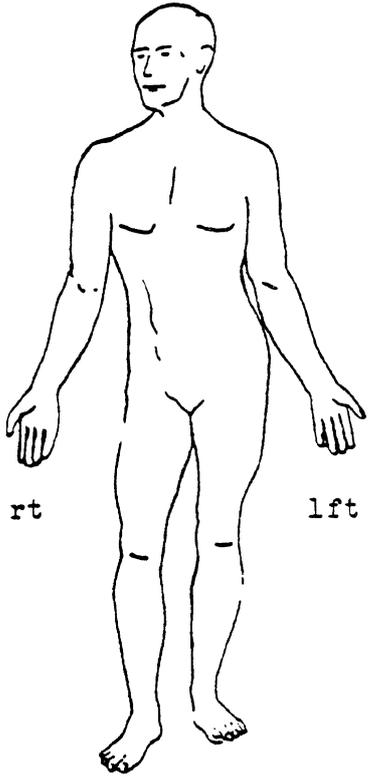
Vehicle (0,1,2,3)	<u>41</u>
Injury Data (0,1,2,3)	<u>42</u>
Occupant (0,1,2,3)	<u>43</u>
Other: _____ (0,1,2,3)	<u>44</u>

Restraint Usage Conclusion		Lap <u>45</u>	Shoulder <u>48</u>
Yes	No		
+3 Definite	-3		
+2 Probable	-2		
+1 Possible	-1		
00 Unknown	00		
99 Not Applicable	99		

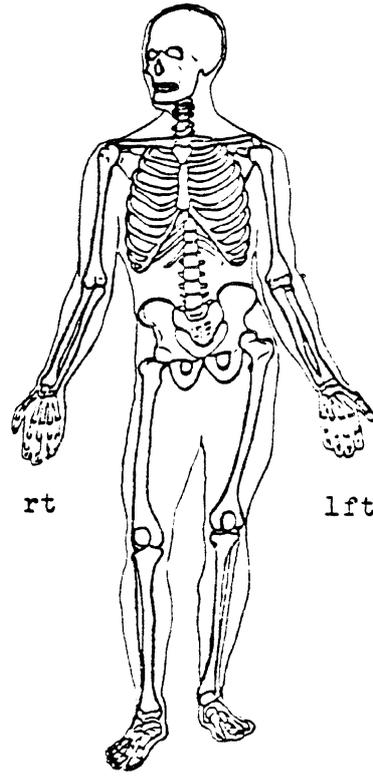
INDICATE LOCATION OF INJURIES, INCLUDING MAJOR BRUISES

( ) NO INJURIES  
( ) INJURED

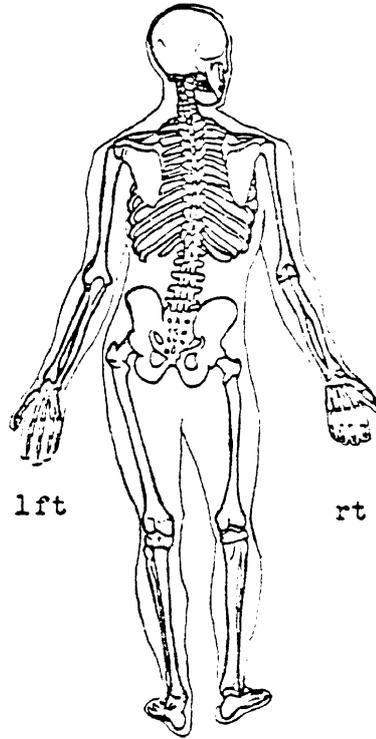
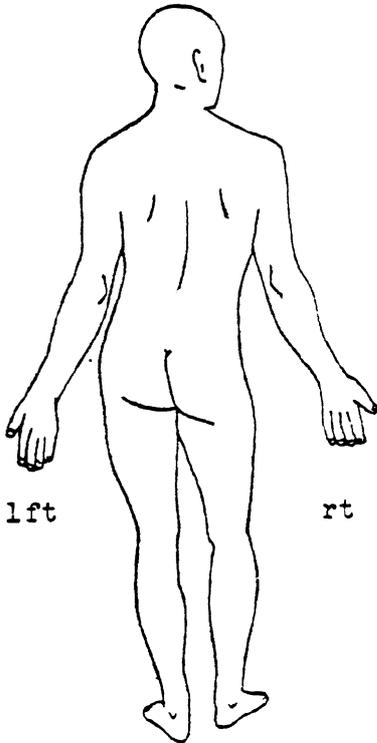
2/76



SOFT TISSUE INJURIES



SKELETAL INJURIES



X Rays: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Tests: \_\_\_\_\_

# INJURY INFORMATION

2/76

## BEST SOURCE OF INJURY INFORMATION

- 49
- ( ) 1 Hospital/Doctor
  - ( ) 2 Personal interview with occupant
  - ( ) 3 Personal interview with other occupant
  - ( ) 4 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

END CARD 80

\*  
\*  
\*

## OCCUPANT INJURY CLASSIFICATION

C A R D N U M B E R	O C C U P A N T N O.	Place contacts in order of probability (horizontally). Start with most probable in col. 14-15.  FOUR AREA(S) OF POSSIBLE CONTACT						PRIMARY OIC					ASSOCIATED OIC'S												
		1-6	10-11	12-13	14-15	16-17	18-19	20-21	BODY REGION	ASPECT	LESION	SYSTEM/ORGAN	SEVERITY	BODY REGION	ASPECT	LESION	SYSTEM/ORGAN	SEVERITY	BODY REGION	ASPECT	LESION	SYSTEM/ORGAN	SEVERITY		
D	81																								
U	82																								
P	83																								
L	84																								
I	85																								
C	86																								
A	87																								
T	88																								
E	89																								
R	90																								
O	91																								
M	92																								
P	93																								
R	94																								
E	95																								

NOTE areas of occupant contact.

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RESTRAINT DEVICE & USAGE

2/76

DEVICE STATUS

SOURCE USED	LAP BELT		SHOULDER BELT		OTHER DEVICE <sup>①</sup>		CHILD SEAT	
	11	Original Equipment 12	13	Original Equipment 14	15	Original Equipment 16	17	Mfg: Model:
EQUIPPED for this POSITION	1( ) Y 2( ) N 9( ) U							
BELTS OPERABLE	18	Malfunction 19	20	Malfunction 21	22	Malfunction 23	24	Malfunction 25
	1( ) Y 2( ) N 9( ) U	1( ) ② Defeat 2( ) ③	1( ) Y 2( ) N 9( ) U	1( ) ② Defeat 2( ) ③	1( ) Y 2( ) N 9( ) U	1( ) ② Defeat 2( ) ③	1( ) Y 2( ) N 9( ) U	1( ) ② Defeat 2( ) ③
INTERLOCK BUZZER FUNCTIONAL	26	Malfunction 27	28	Malfunction 29	30	Malfunction 31		
	1( ) Y 2( ) N 9( ) U	1( ) ② Defeat 2( ) ③	1( ) Y 2( ) N 9( ) U	1( ) ② Defeat 2( ) ③	1( ) Y 2( ) N 9( ) U	1( ) ② Defeat 2( ) ③		
					If ACRS --④			

DEVICE USAGE

	Response	Judgement	Response	Judgement	Response	Judgement	Response	Judgement
VEHICLE	11 (1)Y (2)N (7)UA	12,13		14,15	16 (1)Y (2)N (9)U	17,18		19,20
INJURY DATA	21 (1)Y (2)N (7)UA	22,23		24,25	26 (1)Y (2)N (9)U	27,28		29,30
INTERVIEW OCCUPANT	31 (1)Y (2)N (7)UA	32 1( ) Y 2( ) N 6( ) NR	33,34	35 1( ) Y 2( ) N 6( ) NR	36,37	38 1( ) Y 2( ) N 6( ) NR	39 1( ) Y 2( ) N 9( ) U	40,41 42 1( ) Y 2( ) N 6( ) NR
INTERVIEW:	45 (1)Y (2)N (7)UA	46 1( ) Y 2( ) N 6( ) NR	47,48	49 1( ) Y 2( ) N 6( ) NR	50,51	52 1( ) Y 2( ) N 6( ) NR	53 1( ) Y 2( ) N 9( ) U	54,55 56 1( ) Y 2( ) N 6( ) NR
INTERVIEW:	59 (1)Y (2)N (7)UA	60 1( ) Y 2( ) N 6( ) NR	61,62	63 1( ) Y 2( ) N 6( ) NR	64,65	66 1( ) Y 2( ) N 6( ) NR	67 1( ) Y 2( ) N 9( ) U	68,69
CONCLUSION		70,71		72,73	74 1( ) Y 2( ) N 9( ) U	75,76		77,78

YES NO  
+3 DEFINITE -3  
+2 PROBABLE -2  
+1 POSSIBLE -1  
00 UNKNOWN  
99 NOT APPLICABLE

Y = YES  
N = NO  
U = UNKNOWN  
NR = NO RESPONSE  
UA = UNAVAILABLE

Response = Literal response of interviewee.  
Judgement = Interviewer's best judgement of and confidence in interviewees response to question of restraint usage.

- ① Specify & describe device: \_\_\_\_\_  
Describe irrespective of source. Source of Information \_\_\_\_\_
- ② Malfunction: \_\_\_\_\_
- ③ Defeat: \_\_\_\_\_
- ④ Summarize status of ACRS: \_\_\_\_\_



