# ANALYSIS OF DAISY TRACK HUMAN TOLERANCE TESTS

Final Report Draft

James H. McElhaney Verne L. Roberts D. Hurley Robbins

February 10, 1971

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February 10, 1971

Final Report No.

Federal Highway Administration U.S. Department of Transportation Nassif Building 7th and E Streets, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20591

| 1. Report No.   | 2. Government Accessi  | on No.   | 3. Recipient's Catalog N   | 10.   |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|--|
|   |  |  |  |   |  |  |
| 4. Title and Subtitle   |  |  | 5. Report Date   |   |  |  |
| Analysis of Daisy Track Hur   | ests   | 10 February  | 1971   |   |  |  |
|   |  |  | 6. Performing Organizat  | tion Code   |  |  |
| 7. Author(s)  |  |  | 8. Performing Organizat  | tion Report No.   |  |  |
| James H. McElhaney, Verne I   | Roberts & D.   | HurleyRobbins  | Bio M-71-1   |   |  |  |
| 9. Performing Organization Name and Address   |  |  | 10. Work Unit No.  |   |  |  |
| Highway Safety Research Ins   | stitute  |  |  |   |  |  |
| Huron Parkway and Baxter R  | had  |  | 11. Contract or Grant N  | No.   |  |  |
| Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105   | Jau  |  | FH-11-6962   |   |  |  |
| ,   |  |  | 13. Type of Report and   | Period Covered  |  |  |
| 12. Sponsoring Agency Name and Address  |  |  | Final Report   |   |  |  |
| Federal Highway Administrat   | tion   |  |  |   |  |  |
| 7th and E Streets. S.W.   |  |  | 14. Sponsoring Agency  | Code  |  |  |
| Washington, D.C. 20591  |  |  |  |   |  |  |
| 15. Supplementary Notes   |  |  |  |   |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |   |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |   |  |  |
| 16. Abstract  |  |  |  |   |  |  |
| This report contains t<br>from a series of impact tes<br>medical Research Laboratori<br>of the test program was to<br>restraint systems. The ana<br>flated air cushion performe<br>ducing head motion, linear h<br>and head injury. | the results of<br>ts on human vo<br>ies at Holloman<br>compare lap be<br>alyses indicate<br>ed significantl<br>head accelerati | an analysis of<br>lunteers conduc<br>Air Force Base<br>lt versus lap<br>d that the lap<br>y better than<br>on, shoulder me | film and trans<br>cted by the 657<br>e, New Mexico.<br>belt plus air of<br>belt plus a ra<br>the lap belt a<br>otion and resul | sducer records<br>71st Aero-<br>The purpose<br>cushion<br>apidly in-<br>lone by re-<br>ltant neck |  |  |
| 17. Key Words   |  | 18. Distribution Statem  | ient   |   |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |   |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |   |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |   |  |  |
| 19. Security Classif.(of this report)   | 20. Security Classif.(of   | this page)   | 21. No. of Pages   | 22. Price   |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |   |  |  |

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# INTRODUCTION

This report contains the results of an analysis of film and transducer records from a series of impact tests on human volunteers conducted by the 6571st Aeromedical Research Laboratory at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico. The purpose of the test program was to compare and evaluate lap belt versus lap belt plus air cushion restraints. Particular reference should be given to the final report on the test program entitled "Department of Transportation Daisy Track Human Tolerance Tests," by Charles D. Bendixen, Capt., USAF. The following description of the test method has been abstracted from that report.

# TEST METHODS

Six male human volunteers were subjected to increasingly severe impacts in each of the two restraint configurations being compared until in the subject's (subjective tolerance) or the medical monitor's opinion the testing should be terminated. Testing with the other restraint was to be continued until a similar level was reached.

The volunteers were seated on the Daisy Decelerator impact sled using each of the restraint systems being tested. The seat used on the sled during all of these tests was one designed for other ARL human impact tests and contained instrumentation capable of measuring all forces transmitted to it by the subject during impact. The seat pan was horizontal and the seat back was angled backwards 13° from vertical. (See Figure 3). All tests were conducted with a 0-0-0 seat orientation.

The Type I lap belt restraint used consisted of a 1 3/4 inch-wide webbed dacron belt rated at 6000 lbs. The belt angle at its attach point approximated 50° to the horizontal at the initiation of the run.

In order to assure that a subject would not contact the rigid airbag supporting structure and simulated windshield in the event of an airbag failure during impact, this structure was mounted so as to provide a 6-inch clearance from the maximum excursion envelope of the subject's head. This necessitated use of a bag of larger dimensions than would be found in a standard automobile. The airbag was enlarged enough to fill the space between the subject and simulated windshield structure. The change in bag volume also necessitated larger blow-out ports to allow the increased volume of gas to escape following bag deployment.

A second modification of the airbag test series which was initially specified by the ARL medical monitor specified use of a pre-inflated bag. Its purpose was to eliminate any possibility of bag deployment failure and subsequent injury during an airbag test at a level exceeding the injury level for the lap belt alone.

After the first series of runs using the pre-inflated airbag, it was seen that the pre-inflated bag was too soft and did not provide comparable support for the subject as a rapidly inflating bag. This resulted in the development by Eaton, Yale and Towne engineers of a "hybrid airbag" consisting of a pre-inflated bag into which additional gas was discharged during impact. It provided a "stiffer" bag response, more closely duplicating the rapidly inflating bag.

When films of the "hybrid bag" tests were reviewed, an excessive amount of rebound accompanied by hyperextension of the neck was noted and the medical monitor decided to cancel further tests with this system.

At this point it appeared obvious that a pre-inflated bag did not simulate an actual operational bag. Therefore, the 6571st ARL made the decision to use a rapidly inflating bag since previous tests showed less likelihood of injury in the event of bag failure than was originally anticipated.

The first series of human tests was conducted at a peak deceleration of 9 g's. The five runs conducted at this level included two with lap belt only restraints and three with lap belt plus pre-inflated airbag restraints. Although subjective reports from all riders indicated that each system was tolerable, a decision was made not to proceed to higher "g" levels with the pre-inflated bag because it was found to react too softly and poorly simulated a rapidly inflating airbag. To continue would have produced data of questionable value.

The test series was resumed using the "hybrid" airbag at the 12 g level since it had already been shown that 9 g's had not reached the tolerance level for the lap belt series. Six subjects were impacted at approximately 12 g's with each restraint, lap belt only and lap belt plus "hybrid" airbag. Subjective reports indicated that each system was tolerable at this level and all subjects were willing to proceed to the 15 g level. Review of test run films and seat back loadings, however, indicated an amount of rebound with the hybrid bag which was considered potentially hazardous with the rigid seat used on the test sled. Further increases in "g" levels using the hybrid bag were therefore cancelled by the project medical monitor.

While the decision of further airbag runs was re-evaluated, lap belt only runs were conducted at the 15 g level. At this level, more complaints of postrun neck and pelvis pains were being reported by the subjects although none felt that they had reached their tolerance limit with this system. Following analysis of impact data, however, several items were noted by the medical monitor. First, there was a marked increase in severity of post-run neck and hip pain complaints and second, the mean lap belt load peak had risen from 760 lbs at 12 g's to 975 at 15 g's with one subject's belt loading as high as 1163 lbs. Assuming a linear



# Figure 1. OVERALL VIEW of DAISY DECELERATOR



FIGURE 2. TYPICAL LAP BELT TEST SETUP



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Human Air Bag Configuration Figure 3.

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extrapolation to a 18 g level, it was felt that a proper safety factor of belt strength to belt load could not be maintained. The combination of these two items led the medical monitor to limit further increases in the lap belt only test levels.

The 6571st ARL then decided to proceed with a rapidly inflating airbag. Six tests were conducted at the 12 g level utilizing this system. ANALYSIS METHODS

A careful and detailed photometric analysis was performed on the high speed movie film of the tests previously described. The basic measuring device used in this work was the Van Guard film analyser model M-160 W (Fig. 4). Four-place accuracy in linear and angular measurements is obtainable with this instrument. The linear and angular displacements of the target points on the head, shoulder, hip and thigh were measured frame by frame. The film analyser was coupled to an IBM 29 card punch unit and computer cards were automatically punched with the displacement data. Several computer programs have been developed to analyze photometric data at HSRI, including routines to compute linear and angular velocities and accelerations with appropriate smoothing and filtering operations. The digitized displacement data was analyzed using these programs and the linear and angular head target velocities and acceleration computed. RESULTS

The results of these analyses are presented in two ways. There are sets of curves showing the time history of the appropriate motion parameter and tables listing peak values and statistical data.

A typical set of these curves is presented in Figures 5, 6, 7 and 8. Figure 5 shows the head motion in x and y coordinates relative to a horizontal and vertical set of axes fixed in the sled. Figures 6 and 7 show the linear velocity and

acceleration of the head relative to a coordinate system fixed to the earth. Figure 8 gives the angular displacement, velocity and acceleration of the head relative to a fixed set of axes in the earth. Since the sled does not rotate with respect to the earth, these are also relative to the sled. Because of difficulties in camera coverage and targeting it was not possible to measure the angular displacement of the head relative to the torso and this must be kept in mind in interpreting the angular head motion curves.

Appendix 1 contains these curves for the runs in this test series. A problem that occurred with most of the airbag runs, was the disappearance of the head target as the head moved into the bag. This problem was overcome by using the back of the head as a target, by interpolating the displacement curves through those frames where the head was completely obscured and by analyzing the film from the diagonally placed camera.

Table I presents the peak values of the various test parameters as measured during the test or determined from the film analysis. Only three of the test configurations are directly comparable. These are the 12 g (nominal) runs with the lap belt only, the lap belt plus hybrid airbag and the lap belt plus rapidly inflating airbag restraint systems. Table II presents a statistical comparison of these three restraint systems. In determining a weighted index for the neck and pelvis pain observations the value 1 was assigned for "no reported symptom," 2 for "immediate symptom only," 3 for "persisting symptom 24 hours," and 4 for "persisting symptom 48 hours." A comparison of the mean values that takes into account the number of observations and the standard deviation was made utilizing a paired data "t" test at the 5% level of significance. In view of the limited number of tests, this significance level was considered appropriate. Thus, the column  $T_1$  compares the lap belt only tests with the other two test series and the

 $T_2$  column compares the hybrid bag with the rapidly inflating bag. A no in either the  $T_1$  or  $T_2$  columns indicates that there was no significant difference between the test parameter for the two series being compared. A yes indicates that there was a significant difference at the 5% level.

# ERROR ESTIMATION

For several years HSRI has been developing methods and analyses for photometric data reduction. Included in this work has been a detailed error analysis. Figure 9 shows a calibration curve that was developed for the HSRI photometric measuring system. This curve includes consideration of the effect of measurement errors, round-off errors, standard differentiation routines and smoothing operations. The division or frame per pulse is the basic variable. From this number and the smoothing routine used, the error in estimating the pulse peak value can be estimated.

## SUMMARY

The analyses described above indicate that the lap belt plus a rapidly inflating bag performed significantly better than the lap belt alone in the following ways:

- 1. reduced head motion both linear and angular
- 2. reduced linear head acceleration
- 3. reduced shoulder motion
- 4. reduced neck pain

There were however, no significant differences in

- 1. angular acceleration of the head
- 2. chest linear acceleration
- 3. lap belt load
- 4. pelvis pain

# 5. foot pan load

6. seat back rebound load

It should be emphasized that the statistical indicators used here imply significance on a necessary basis only not on a "necessary and sufficient" basis. Thus if more tests of comparable types are performed it may well happen that some of the non-significantly different mean comparisons would move to the significant category but it would be highly improbable that significantly different mean comparisons would move into the non-significant category. 12

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|                             |                |          |             |               |        | -        |       | -            | F            | Γ    |      | L          |         |          |              | 1001        |                |              |   | Show     | der    | K        | 000 |     | 1110         | 4                                       |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------|-------------|---------------|--------|----------|-------|--------------|--------------|------|------|------------|---------|----------|--------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|---|----------|--------|----------|-----|-----|--------------|---|
|                             | 1              |          | 1-2-1-2     | 11-2-1-       |        | Lap      | Foot  | Seat Back    |              |      |      | ŀ          |         | •.       |              | nead        | 01             | 0            | 01 00                                     |          |        | -        | 2   | ł   |              |   |
| System                      | n .<br>Vo<br>V | V Dect   | weignt<br># | нетдит<br>ст. | g's    | ter<br># | с#    | Kebound<br># | Neck<br>Pain | Pain | g's  | 1 1<br>1 1 | in degr | ees ft/s | x<br>ec ft/  | y<br>sec ra | ∆9<br>d/sec  g | × 0,<br>s 9, | y <sup>DB</sup><br>s rad/sec <sup>2</sup> | ∆x<br>1n | Ş÷     | ∆∆<br>ri | Śċ  | X E | 명<br>고드      | ∆ <sup>0</sup><br>grees                 |
| Lap Belt Only               | 4795           | 144      | 158         | 169           | 8.3    | 240      | 717   | 594          | 1            | 1    | 7.0  | 13         | 4       | 7 29     | ŕ            |             | 8              | -            | 5 200                                     | 2        | 2      | -        | -   | -   | -            | ъ                                       |
|                             | 4796           | 146      | 199         | 176           | 9.8    | 563      | 384   | 975          | ŧ            | 1    | 8.8  | 18 1       | 18 7    | 5 34     | <del>ر</del> |             | 50<br>         |              | 4 800                                     | 15       | Q      | ε        | m   | m   | ÷            | 12                                      |
| Pre-Inflated Bag            | 4800           | 151      | 178         | 177           | 9.4    | 683      | 131   | 140          | 1            | 1    | 9.6  | 18         | ور<br>ت | <br>     |              |             | 22             | 0            | 4 1100                                    | =        | 2      | 0        | -   | 2   | -            | 21                                      |
| Lap Belt Omly               | 5082           | 118      | 136         | 180           | 11.6   | 666      | 150   | 410          | 1            | 1    | 10.5 | 25 2       | 27 10   | 8 37     | 4            |             | 33             | 8            | 6 400                                     | 21       | 13     | 4        | 4   | 4   | <del>ر</del> | =                                       |
| •                           | 5081           | 128      | 155         | 171           | 12.4   | 949      | 245   | 163          | ‡            | 1    | 18.3 | 28 2       | 27 12   | 7 39     | 4            |             | 45             | 4            | 8 1600                                    | 61       | œ      | S        | ŝ   | 4   | ~            | 20                                      |
|                             | 5077           | 144      | 158         | 169           | 12.6   | 687      | 445   | 673          | ŧ            | 1    | 12.6 | 21         | 10 91   | 0 32     | _            |             | 10             | =            | 8 500                                     | 14       | m      | -        | 2   | -   | -            | <br>                                    |
|                             | 5078           | 127      | 177         | 185           | 11.5   | 703      | 340   | 551          | ‡            | ı    | 8.5  | 171        | 12 8    | 5 32     | ~            |             | 24             | -            | 8 500                                     | 14       | ۍ<br>۲ |          | 2   | ~   |              | 10                                      |
|                             | 5079           | 151      | 178         | 177           | 11.4   | 1030     | 282   | 760          | ‡            | +    | 22.1 | 191        | 16 10   | 0 37     | Ñ<br>        |             | 45             |              | 8 1700                                    | 16       | 9      | -        | m   |     |              | 16                                      |
|                             | 5080           | 146      | 199         | 176           | 10.1   | 530      | 605   | 949          | ‡            | 1    | 17.3 | 15 1       | 14 7    | 2 31     | ~`<br>       |             | 24 1           | -            | 400                                       | =        | 9      | -        | ~   | -   | -            | 6                                       |
| Lap Belt Plus               | 5095           | 118      | 136         | 180           | 11.0   | 603      | 101   | 240          | +            | ı    | 15.2 | 13         |         | 0 36     |              | <br>M       | 14             | <u>ې</u>     | 3 550                                     | ~        | -      | -        |     | -   |              | ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ |
| hyprid Airbag               | 5094           | 128      | 155         | 171           | 11.9   | 147      | 283   | 880          | 1            | 1    | 15.0 | Ξ          | 2 6     | 2 36     |              |             |                | 6            | 5 1000                                    | 4        | -      |          | 2   |     | -            | 14                                      |
|                             | 5097           | 144      | 158         | 169           | 12.4   | 500      | 920   | 808          | ‡            | +    | 16.2 | 17         | 6 10    | 0 44     | <b>–</b>     | <br>        | #3             |              | 4 1200                                    | -        | -      | -        | -   | -   | ~            | ~                                       |
|                             | 5096           | 127      | 177         | 185           | 13.0   | 056      | 262   | 980          | ‡            | ł    | 17.2 | 15         | 6 7     | 0 41     |              |             | 30             | -            | 4 700                                     | m        | ~      | _        | -   | -   | _            | 9                                       |
|                             | 5099           | 151      | 178         | 177           | 12.1   | 1126     | 122   | 430          | I            | +    | 14.8 | 6          | 2       | 2 6      | м́           |             | - 1            | 8            | 8 250                                     | 4        | 2      |          | -   | ~   |              | 29                                      |
|                             | 5100           | 146      | 661         | 176           | 10.0   | 500      | 590   | 1348         | ,            | +    | 17.2 | œ          |         | 6        |              | <br>œ       |                | 5            | 0 1000                                    | 0        | 0      | m        | ŝ   | m   | -            | 14                                      |
| Lap Belt Only               | 5179           | 118      | 136         | 180           | 14.6   | 800      | 540   | 360          | ‡            | 1    | 11.4 | 18 2       | 20      | 3 33     | Ň            | <br>6       | 36 1           |              | 0 550                                     | 15       | 13     | 0        | 4   |     | ~            | 12                                      |
|                             | 5175           | 128      | 155         | 171           | 15.3   | 805      | 404   | 500          | ‡            | 1    | 16.4 | 25 2       | 27 13   | 38       | 4            |             | 36 1           | - 6          | 1 700                                     | 15       | =      |          | m   | 0   |              | 13                                      |
|                             | 5177           | 144      | 158         | 169           | 15.4   | 808      | 755   | 440          | 1            | +    | 14.6 | 22         | 18 12   | 2 36     | 5            |             | <br>55         |              | 2 1050                                    | 16       | 2      | 0        | m   | 0   | 5            | 6                                       |
|                             | 5174           | 127      | 177         | 185           | 16.8   | 1050     | 474   | 640          | ‡            | ‡    | 15.9 | 25 2       | 25 12   | 8 36     | ё<br>        |             | 35 _ 1         |              | 3 900                                     | 16       | 01     | -        | m   | 0   | 2            | 12                                      |
|                             | 5178           | 151      | 178         | 177           | 15.0   | 1163     | 370   | 860          | ‡            | ı    | 18.3 | 18         | 18 2    | 33       | Ñ            |             | <br>=          | 4            | 1 650                                     | 18       | 6      | 0        | e   | -   | 2            | 16 <sup>.</sup>                         |
|                             | 5176           | 146      | 199         | 176           | 15.4   | 1120     | 714   | 760          | 1            | ŧ    | 23.4 | 23 2       | 22 10   | 2 31     | Ň            |             | 68             |              | 0 1500                                    | 19       | =      | -        | 4   | -   | 2            | 13                                      |
| Lap Belt Plus               | 5225           | 118      | 136         | 180           | 11.6   | 600      | 301   | N/A          | 1            | ı    | 12.1 | ~          | 3       | 90<br>0  |              |             | 26 J           | 2            | 0011                                      | m        | -      | -        | 5   | 2   | _            | 15                                      |
| Rapidly<br>Inflating Airbag | 5224           | 128      | 155         | 171           | 11.3   | 780      | 560   | N/A          | +            | 1    | 12.1 | ~          | 4 3     | 8 30     |              |             | 27             | 8            | 4 480                                     | ∞        | 2      | 0        | 2   | 0   |              | 12                                      |
|                             | 5226           | 144      | 158         | 169           | 11.8   | 510      | 686   | N/A          | ı            | I    | 11.6 | 10         | 3 7     | 6 34     | -            |             | 52             | 8            | 5 600                                     | Q        |        | _        | 2   | 0   | -            | e                                       |
|                             | 5227           | 127      | 171         | 185           | 11.8   | 600      | 368   | N/A          | +            | 1    | 11.6 | ~          | 1       | 3 32     |              | ~           | -<br>-         | 0            | 600                                       | 4        | 2      | 2        | -   | 2   | _            | <b>6</b>                                |
|                             | 5228           | 151      | 178         | 177           | 11.8   | 890      | 144   | N/A          | +            | ı    | 16.2 | ~          | 9<br>   | 1 27     | -            |             | 50             | 6            | 4 eo0                                     | m        | 2      | 0        | m   |     | ~            | 01                                      |
| - = No reported             | sympton        | SE<br>SE |             | ď = +         | ersist | fng sy   | mptom | s 24 hours   |              |      |      | 1          |         |          |              | 1           |                |              |   | ]        |        | ]        | 1   | 1   |              |   |

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+++ = Persisting symptoms 48 hours

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+ = Immediate Symptoms Only

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|--|-------|-----------------------|------|---------------------------|-----|------------|-------------------------|--------------|----------------|
|  | lap   | Belt Only             | Lap  | ) Belt Plus<br>Ivbrid Bag | 5   | L<br>Ranic | ap Belt P<br>llv Inflat | lus<br>ina l | Sag            |
| Parameter  | Mean  | Standard<br>Deviation | Mean | Standard<br>Deviation     | T   | Mean       | Standard<br>Deviation   | T            | T <sub>2</sub> |
| Pulse g's  | 11.6  | 0.81                  | 11.7 | 0.93                      | No  | 11.7       | 0.20                    | No           | No             |
| Lap Belt #   | 761   | 173                   | 644  | 327                       | No  | 676        | 138                     | No           | No             |
| Foot Pan #   | 345   | 147                   | 380  | 290                       | No  | 412        | 429                     | No           | No             |
| Seat Back #  | 584   | 252                   | 781  | 362                       | No  | N/A        | N/A                     | -            | -              |
| Chest g's  | 14.9  | 4.7                   | 15.9 | 1.0                       | No  | 12.7       | 1.8                     | No           | Yes            |
| Head ∆x in.  | 20.8  | 4.5                   | 12.2 | 3.2                       | Yes | 7.6        | 1.2                     | Yes          | Yes            |
| Head ∆y in.  | 18.6  | 6.0                   | 3.3  | 2.0                       | Yes | 2.8        | 1.0                     | Yes          | No             |
| Head $\Delta \theta$ degrees                         | 100.3 | 17.8                  | 49.7 | 30.0                      | Yes | 51.6       | 14.7                    | Yes          | No             |
| Head ∆x̂ ft/sec                                      | 34.7  | 3.1                   | 33   | 11.4                      | No  | 27.0       | 7.8                     | No           | No             |
| Head ⊿ý ft/sec                                       | 29.0  | 11.0                  | 13.2 | 10.3                      | Yes | 6.4        | 2.4                     | Yes          | Yes            |
| Head ∆θ rad/sec                                      | 31.1  | 11.0                  | 26.8 | 9.6                       | No  | 21.8       | 4.7                     | No           | No             |
| Head Åx̂ g's   | 15.3  | 4.9                   | 22.7 | 4.7                       | Yes | 9.4        | 1.5                     | Yes          | Yes            |
| Head Åŷ g's  | 13.0  | 4.4                   | 9.0  | 4.2                       | No  | 7.4        | 4.0                     | Yes          | No             |
| Head $\mathring{\Delta} \mathring{\theta}$ rad/sec 2 | 850   | 567                   | 783  | 319                       | No  | 676        | 218                     | No           | No             |
| Shoulder ∆x in.                                      | 15.8  | 3.3                   | 2.2  | 1.6                       | Yes | 4.8        | 1.9                     | Yes          | Yes            |
| Shoulder ∆y in.                                      | 6.8   | 3.1                   | 1.0  | 0.6                       | Yes | 1.6        | 1.5                     | Yes          | No             |
| Knee ∆x in.  | 2.2   | 1.7                   | 1.3  | 0.7                       | No  | 0.8        | 0.7                     | No           | No             |
| Knee ∆y in.  | 3.0   | 1.2                   | 1.5  | 0.8                       | Yes | 2.6        | 1.4                     | No           | No             |
| Thigh ∆x in.   | 2.0   | 1.4                   | 1.3  | 0.7                       | No  | 1.0        | 0.9                     | No           | No             |
| Thigh ∆y in.   | 1.5   | 0.8                   | 1.0  | 0.0                       | No  | 1.0        | 0.0                     | No           | No             |
| Thigh ∆0 degrees                                     | 12.0  | 4.7                   | 13.0 | 7.8                       | No  | 10.4       | 3.0                     | No           | No             |
| Neck Pain  | 3.0   | 1.0                   | 1.8  | 0.9                       | No  | 1.6        | 0.5                     | Yes          | No             |
| Pelvis Pain  | 1.2   | 0.4                   | 1.5  | 0.5                       | No  | 1.0        | 0.0                     | No           | No             |

TABLE II. STATISTICAL COMPARISON OF VARIOUS RESTRAINT SYSTEMS

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DIFFERENTIATION OF PHOTOMETRIC DATA

## ACKNOWLEGEMENTS

This research program was carried out by the staff of the Biosciences Division of the Highway Safety Research Institute, The University of Michigan. The program was under the direction of Dr. J. H. McElhaney with significant inputs by Drs. V. L. Roberts and D. H. Robbins. Modification of computer programs and data analysis was performed by Nabih Alem. We are also indebted to the several University of Michigan students who strained their eyes for many hours on the Van Guard Film Analyser, especially Bruce Goldman, Steve Fisher and George Person. APPENDIX A

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PITCH ANGLE, degrees


























































































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