# PRE-CRASH PATH DETERMINATION USING STABILITY CONTROL DATA 

Provincial Constable Amir Agha-Razi, P.Eng

Ontario Provincial Police (O.P.P.)

## Objectives

- To determine the path of a vehicle prior to the crash without utilizing road evidence
- To verify the intrusion path and determine exact time and location where the vehicle crossed the centerline


## Requirements

- At least one vehicle with Event Data Recorder (EDR) is required to obtain:
- Vehicle Velocity
-Electronic Stability Control Data
- Area of Impact
- Scaled scene diagram


## How does it work?

- Use Speed of the vehicle over 0.1 second intervals
- Translate ESC data to lateral and longitudinal "movement" every 0.1 second
- Assemble the points to form a curve for desired length of time
- Project the plotted path on the roadway using area of impact as reference
- Adjust for road geometry
- Verify movement along a curve using steering data if available


## "Movement"

- Requires:
- Object to travel from point A to point B
- Travel the distance between $A$ and $B$ at a velocity during a time interval

BASICALLY, VELOCITY VECTOR WITH DIRECTION AND MAGNITUDE

## Example

Pre-Crash Data -5 to 0 sec [10 samples/sec] (Second Record)

| Times <br> $(\mathbf{s e c})$ | Steering <br> Wheel Angle <br> (degrees) | Stability <br> Control <br> Lateral <br> Acceleration <br> $(\mathrm{g})$ | Stability <br> Control <br> Longitudinal <br> Acceleration <br> $(\mathrm{g})$ | Stability <br> Control Yaw <br> Rate (deg/sec) | Stability <br> Control Roll <br> Rate (deg/sec) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| -5.0 | 5.0 | -0.085 | -0.069 | -0.37 | 0.62 |
| -4.9 | 3.7 | -0.066 | -0.049 | -0.12 | 0.25 |
| -4.8 | 4.2 | -0.062 | -0.09 | -1.0 | -0.25 |

## Stability Control Yaw Rate (deg/sec)

- Represents the angular velocity ( $\omega$ ) around the vertical axis of the vehicle
- Rate of change in the heading (deg/sec)



## Stability Control Yaw Rate (deg/sec)



## Stability Control Yaw Rate (deg/sec)

1. $\frac{v \Delta t}{\theta}=r$
2. $\sin \theta x r=\sin \beta x d$
3. $\beta=90-\alpha$
4. $\theta=2 \alpha$ or $\alpha=\frac{\theta}{2}$
5. $2 \sin \alpha x r=d$
6. $d=2 \sin \alpha x \frac{v \Delta t}{\theta}$
7. $d=2 \sin \alpha x \frac{v \Delta t}{2 \alpha}$
8. $d=\sin \alpha x \frac{v \Delta t}{\alpha}$


## $X$ and $Y$

$$
\begin{gathered}
x=d \cos \alpha \\
y=d \sin \alpha \\
d=\sin \alpha x \frac{v \Delta t}{\alpha}
\end{gathered}
$$

Where:
$\alpha=$ heading change(deg)
$v=$ instantaneous velocity $(\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{s})$
$\Delta t=$ time period (s)


## Crash Test

- Low speed, head-on collision
- Encroachment of one vehicle into path of another
- Comparison between EDR data analysis, road evidence and data obtained from onboard data recorders


## Test Location

-City of Kingston, Ontario
-Fire Department training facility
-2 lanes, 3.85 meters each
-Slight curve to north west


## Test Vehicles



2008 Chevrolet Uplander


1998 Volkswagen Jetta

## Instrumentation

- Stock EDR
- CAN BUS data logger
- Delphi OBDII harness
- Two 3D accelerometers
- Positioning/tracking system
- 12 satellite GPS
- 6 satellite GLONASS

$\square$ EDR MOUNT LOCATION

POSITIONING SYSTEMLOGGER/ACCELEROMETERLOGGER/ACCELEROMETER

Wheelbase $=287 \mathrm{~cm}$
Overall length $=485 \mathrm{~cm}$
Overall width $=183 \mathrm{~cm}$
Weight distribution 55/44




| 4 | D | E | G | H | 1 | N | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | GPS Latitude (deg) | GPS Longitude (deg) | Distance <br> (m) | Speed <br> (mph) | EDR <br> Speed <br> (mph) | $\begin{gathered} \text { YawRate Z } \\ \text { (deg/sec) } \\ \text { - CCW } \end{gathered}$ | Distance <br> Moved (m) | Sideway Movement (cm / - To Left) | Forward Movement (m) | Cumulative <br> Sideways (cm) | Cumulative <br> Forward (m) | CM <br> Adjusted (cm) | Left Front Corner from centre line (cm) | Target Location (cm) | Overlap (cm) |  |
| 74 | 44.2634354 | -76.51699066 | 40.55 | 30.44 |  | 0.78 | 1.36 | 0.92 | 1.36 | 10.11 | 40.38 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 75 | 44.2634506 | -76.51698303 | 41.91 | 30.45 |  | 0.50 | 1.36 | 0.60 | 1.36 | 10.70 | 41.74 | LAT/LON | NG WHERE |  |  |  |
| 76 | 44.2634621 | -76.51698303 | 43.27 | 30.44 |  | 0.41 | 1.36 | 0.49 | 1.36 | 11.19 | 43.11 | THE CEN | NTRE LINE - |  |  |  |
| 77 | 44.2634735 | -76.5169754 | 44.63 | 30.50 | 31 | 0.47 | 1.36 | 0.56 | 1.36 | 11.75 | 44.47 | GPS/TRA | ACK MAP |  |  |  |
| 78 | 44.2634811 | -76.51696777 | 45.99 | 30.48 |  | 0.27 | 1.36 | 0.33 | 1.36 | 12.08 | 45.83 |  |  | LOCATION | F CM |  |
| 79 | 44.2634926 | -76.51696014 | 47.35 | 30.37 |  | -0.27 | 1.36 | -0.33 | 1.36 | 11.75 | 47.19 |  |  | CENTRE - SE | EE SLIDES |  |
| 80 | 44.263504 | -76.51695251 | 48.72 | 30.61 |  | -0.78 | 1.36 | -0.92 | 1.36 | 10.83 | 48.55 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 81 | 44.2635193 | -76.51695251 | 50.08 | 30.44 |  | -0.98 | 1.37 | -1.17 | 1.37 | 9.67 | 49.92 | -45 | -137 | -96 |  |  |
| 82 | 44.2635307 | -76.51694489 | 51.44 | 30.54 |  | -0.98 | 1.36 | -1.16 | 1.36 | 8.51 | 51.28 | -46 | -138 | -96 |  |  |
| 83 | 44.2635384 | -76.51693726 | 52.81 | 30.38 |  | -0.96 | 1.37 | -1.14 | 1.37 | 7.36 | 52.64 | -47 | -139 | -96 |  |  |
| 84 | 44.2635498 | -76.51692963 | 54.17 | 30.65 |  | -1.14 | 1.36 | -1.36 | 1.36 | 6.01 | 54.00 | -49 | -140 | -96 |  |  |
| 85 | 44.2635613 | -76.51692963 | 55.53 | 30.20 |  | -1.30 | 1.37 | -1.55 | 1.37 | 4.46 | 55.37 | -50 | -142 | -96 |  |  |
| 86 | 44.2635765 | -76.516922 | 56.86 | 29.44 |  | -1.19 | 1.35 | -1.40 | 1.35 | 3.05 | 56.72 | -52 | -143 | -96 |  |  |
| 87 | 44.263588 | -76.51691437 | 58.14 | 27.70 | 27 | -1.07 | 1.32 | -1.23 | 1.32 | 1.83 | 58.04 | -53 | -144 | -96 |  |  |
| 88 | 44.2635956 | -76.51690674 | 59.33 | 25.56 |  | -1.21 | 1.24 | -1.30 | 1.24 | 0.52 | 59.28 | -54 | -146 | -96 |  |  |
| 89 | 44.2636032 | -76.51690674 | 60.45 | 24.27 |  | -1.63 | 1.14 | -1.63 | 1.14 | -1.10 | 60.42 | -56 | -147 | -96 |  |  |
| 90 | 44.2636108 | -76.51689911 | 61.49 | 22.62 |  | -6.33 | 1.08 | -5.99 | 1.08 | -7.10 | 61.50 | -62 | -153 | -96 | 57 |  |
| 91 | 44.2636108 | -76.51689911 | 62.50 | 22.62 |  | -10.35 | 1.01 | -9.11 | 1.01 | -16.21 | 62.51 | -71 | -162 | -96 | 66 |  |
| 92 | 44.2636223 | -76.51689911 | 63.30 | 12.93 |  | -12.74 | 1.01 | -11.20 | 1.00 | -27.41 | 63.51 | -82 | -174 | -96 | 78 |  |






# Results of calculated position and data obtained from instruments are in good agreement - within 5 cm both laterally and longitudinally. 

For calculations and complete results visit https://www.yaworks.ca

## Summary

- Obtain pre-crash path using stability control data
- Draw a scaled diagram of the scene
- Identify the area of impact (this will be you reference point)
- Place end of the calculated path $(t=0)$ at centermass/location of the EDR of the vehicle at first contact
- Evaluate the following scenarios

1. Place the beginning of the path $(t=-5)$ on the centerline
2. Place the beginning of the path $(t=-5)$ on the right edge of the roadway

- Use this method as a tool to compliment your analysis and calculations!

Vehicle crossed the centerline between point $A$ and point $B$


Vehicle was travelling on the centerline prior to encroachment


Vehicle was travelling on the edge of the road prior to encroachment

## QUESTIONS?



## Special Thanks to:

Provincial Constable Chris Prent - Collision Reconstructionist OPP East Region Highway Safety Division

Brain Monk - Senior Collision Investigator
Transport Canada

Melanie Jones - Chief Training Officer
Kingston Fire and Rescue

Rogers Towing and Recovery

Carroll Towing and Recovery

