

Road Accident Investigation in Highway

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Abstract

Accidents are not natural but they are caused is a common saying in the area of traffic safety. Thus, if accidents are caused by some factors, those can be identified and appropriate remedial measures can be developed and implemented to the extent feasible. The spectacular increase in the number of motor vehicles on the road has created a social problem i.e. the loss of human lives through the road accidents. Road accidents have been a major social problem in the developed countries of the world for fifty years. It only the fast decade the developing countries like India begun to experience large increase in the number of road accidents taking place and have found it necessary to institute road safety programs. In the present study, the accident data of the proposed stretch from the year 2010-2014 has been collected from concerned police stations in prepared data formats. The data sheet covers all the accident details. At each police station First Information Reports were referred to note down the accident particulars. The analysis work was carried out for the proposed stretch and black spots were identified. After this, the main data required is the geometrics of the road.

1. INTRODUCTION

People, roads and vehicles form the same important combination all over the world that of being able to transfer themselves or goods from one place to the other. Road accidents became a serious problem throughout the world, in social, health and economic terms. Over twenty million people are injured and over one million are killed every year globally due to road traffic crashes. Developing countries account for up to 85% of all the fatalities. Traffic accidents in developing countries have been increasing rapidly and have in some cases become more deadly than the diseases that historically affected the population.

ACCIDENT SCENARIO

It has been estimated that every year about 10 lakh people are killed worldwide due to road accidents and another 10-15 million injured. The economical loss due to road accidents has been estimated to be more than 500 billion dollars. The social losses due to these accidents are too many and hard to be substituted or compensated. Among the men aged between 15-44 the road accidents are the main killer elements [Jacobs et al. 2002] .

In India the number of accidents per 1000 vehicles is 2 times than that of UK, 5 times than that of Italy, 10 times as that of Australia. The fatality rate is 15 to 20 times than that of developed countries [Mittal, 2001] . Poor enforcements, lack of awareness and discipline as also the bad road conditions are some of the significant factors contributing to the high accident rates.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

There are three components in the highway system; the driver, the vehicle and the road environment. Accidents may occur due to the failure on the part of any of these components or a combination of these. Analysis of previous data indicates that 65% of the accidents occur due to human error, 2.5% due to vehicle factors and road environment factors account for about 2.5%. Another 4% of accidents occur due to a combination of vehicle and road user factors and the rest of about 26% is due to a combination of road environment and road user factors [Schelling, 1997] .

India has a road network of 3.3 million km consisting of National Highway (NH), State Highway (SH), Major District Roads (MDR), Other District roads (ODR) and Village roads (VR). National Highways constitute 2% of the total road length and carries more than 40% of passenger traffic and 85% of goods traffic, has registered more accidents accounting for 20%, as compared to other roads.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

BLACK SPOT IDENTIFICATION METHODS

Accident prone locations on the roads are those places, where accidents often appear to cluster or concentrate. These stretches are termed as black spots. Studies conducted in the developed countries show that identification and improvement of black spot locations reduces the occurrence of accident significantly. The broad techniques for the identification of black spot may be categorized as [Yulong PEI, Jianmei DING, 2005].

STATISTICAL METHODS [Yulong PEI, Jianmei DING, 2005]

Accident statistics are intended to provide insight in to the general safety of highway safety and systematic contributing causes of accidents. Although use of statistics and statistical analysis can yield valuable information for the engineer, providing insight that help in the development of corrective measures.

Crash Frequency Method [Yulong PEI, Jianmei DING, 2005]

The Crash Frequency Method summarizes the number of crashes at location and the stretches having the more number of crashes are taken as accident prone stretches. The main advantage to this method is that it is simple to use and doesn't require additional information beyond number and location of crashes. Locations are ranked by descending crash frequency and those with more than a predetermined number of crashes are classified as high-crash locations to be further scrutinized for statistical significance.

Crash Density Method [Vivian Robert R, A. Veeraragavan 2004]

The Crash Density Method is closely related to the crash frequency method. The crash density method summarizes the number of crashes per mile of kilometer for highway sections. Sections are defined as a minimum length of roadway with consistent characteristics, with the minimum distance used frequently being one mile or kilometer.

Crash Rate Method [Yulong PEI, Jianmei DING, 2005]

The crash rate method does account for both exposure and the total number of crashes. For links, crash rate is a function of the number of crashes, traffic volume, and the length of the segment. At nodes, crash rate is a function of the number of crashes and daily entering vehicles. Crash rate is typically expressed as the number of crashes per million vehicle miles traveled for road segments and number of crashes per million daily entering vehicles for intersections.

Frequency- Rate Method [Vivian Robert R, A. Veeraragavan 2004]

This method is a combination of the Crash Frequency and Crash Rate Methods. Locations are first ranked by Crash Frequency and the worst locations re-ranked using Crash Rate. The rationale of combining Crash Frequency and Crash Rate is to eliminate or minimize the bias of the two individual methods. The frequency-rate method is a combination of crash frequency/crash density methods and the crash rate method.

3. STUDY METHODOLOGY

PREPARATION ACCIDENT DATA FORMAT

The First stage of the study includes preparation of accident data format to collect the accident data from the police stations. The forms are prepared as per IRC: 53 1982. These forms if filled properly provide the necessary information about the accidents like date of occurrence, day of occurrence, time of accident, type of area, chainage, weather condition, Classification of the accident, number of deaths, number of injured, nature of accident, accused vehicle driver gender and age, person driving vehicle, type of accused and victim vehicles, type of license, type of maneuver, responsibility of driver, type of junction, type of traffic control, cause of accident, and collision diagram.

ACCIDENT DATA COLLECTION FROM SECONDARY SOURCES

The accident data of AH45 through Nellore to Kavali for five consecutive years i.e. 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014 has to be collected from FIR reports. In the FIR reports the complete details about the accidents

will be available, and whatever data is necessary to fill the accident data sheet that has to be noted down for each accident that was recorded in that police station. In the same way in all the police stations covering AH45 through Nellore to Kavali, the accident data has to be collected.

TABULATION AND GENERAL ANALYSIS OF ACCIDENT DATA

The collected data has to be tabulated in MS-Access and General analysis has to be carried out. General analysis includes finding out total number of accidents in police station regions, Composition of vehicles involved in the accidents, Nature of accidents occurred, based on type of area, type of accused and victim vehicles, type of manoeuvre, responsibility of driver etc. Then cross analysis has to be carried out for relating two or more categories at a time with the number of accidents occurred.

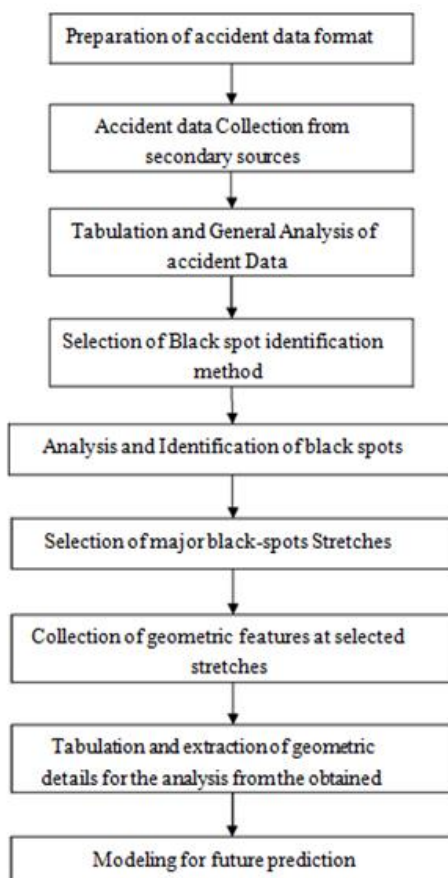


Figure 3.1: Proposed Study Methodology

SELECTION OF BLACK SPOT IDENTIFICATION METHOD

After the general analysis, depending up on data availability, two or more Black spot identification methods are to be selected for comparison among them. For the present study Crash Density and Crash Frequency methods are considered. From the Crash Density method a stretch (section of road under a police station area) can be selected in which more number of accidents occurred when compared with length of the stretch. From the Crash Frequency method accident prone locations in that stretch can be identified.

ANALYSIS AND IDENTIFICATION OF BLACK SPOTS

Black spots are to be identified according to crash density and crash frequency methods through the analysis of accident data collected. Critical crash density and critical crash frequency values are to be calculated for all the locations. The locations which are having the more crash frequency or crash density values than their critical values are said to be critical locations i.e, Blackspot locations.

SELECTION OF MAJOR BLACK SPOTS

From the identified black spots a few major black spots are to be selected which are having the highest crash frequency and crash density for the further continuation of work i.e collection of geometric features.

COLLECTION OF GEOMETRIC FEATURES AT SELECTED BLACK SPOT

In this section the geometric features of each selected black spot like cross-section details, camber, super elevation, signs and markings, drainage, sight distance, horizontal and vertical profiles and encroachment details will be collected. The total station instrument is going to be used for the present study to collect the geometrical details. From the total station instrument north- east coordinates of different locations has to be recorded.

TABULATION AND EXTRACTION OF GEOMETRIC DETAILS FROM THE COLLECTED DATA

The geometric details like camber, super elevation, distances, gradients etc are to be extracted from the data collected in the field and tabulated to proceed for further analysis.

MODELING FOR ACCIDENT PREDICTION

Statistical model has to be developed from the available data to give the predicted accident count when the geometric details of a particular section were known. For this, MINI TAB software is going to be used. MINI TAB software is statistical software from which all types of statistics can be performed based on the data available. For the present study multiple Regression equation is to be developed for the prediction of accidents for a section with known geometrical details. From the analysis and comparisons, the proposals for the accident reduction measures can be given.

4. ANALYSIS OF ACCIDENT DATA

In this Section the data collection and analysis of the accidents on AH45 through Nellore to Kavali will be discussed. The data collected consists of accident details which occurred on the AH45 through Nellore to Kavali during the years 2010 to 2014 that is for 5 years. The details will be like place of occurrence, characteristics of accused and victim vehicles, date and day of occurrence, time of accident, type of area, nature of the accident, cause of the accident, vehicles involved, classification of accident, No. of deaths, No. of injured, Type of manoeuvre, responsibility of the Driver etc.

STUDY AREA DESCRIPTION

AH 45 is a National Highway passing through the Nellore and Kavali, having a total length of 58 km, all with two lane bitumen surface. Layout of AH 45 is shown in the following figure.

COLLECTION OF ACCIDENT DATA AND GENERAL ANALYSIS

The accident data was collected from the FIR reports in the police stations covering the AH45 through Nellore to Kavali. For this data recording, an accident data format was prepared and all the data was recorded on those sheets. A total number of 804 accidents were recorded in the entire stretch. Accident data is summarized in Tables 4.1 and 4.8.

Table 4.1 shows the police station wise distribution of accidents throughout the AH45 through Nellore to Kavali. In the total accident data 9% accidents are recorded in Near Eenadu police station, and next 8.3% of accidents are recorded in Gowravaram police station area.

Name of the Police Station	Total no of accidents in 5 years
On AH-45 near Eenadu office Road	69
On AH-45 near Ayyappagudi Circle	17
On AH-45 Near Kanuparthipadu	64
On AH-45 Near Saakshi office	47
On AH-45 Near Narayana Engineering College	24
On AH-45 Near Prashanthi nagar	27
On AH-45 Near Bhagat Singh Colony	25
On AH-45 Near Simhapuri Hospitals	41
On AH-45 Near Maipadu Road	28
On AH-45 Near Penna Bridge	14
On AH-45 Near Jammipalem Road	8
On AH-45 Near Inamadugu Road	23
On AH-45 Near Chowdary Petrol Bunk Near Kovur Main Road	17
On AH-45 Near Maneguntapadu Road	19
On AH-45 Near North Rajupalem	29
On AH-45 Near Yallayapalem, Bucchi Road	21
On AH-45 Near North Rajupalem	7

Entrance	
On AH-45 Near B.v Palem Road	13
On AH-45 Near Kothapalle	15
On AH-45 Near Sunnambathi Village	31
On AH-45 Near Damavara Main Road	24
On AH-45 Near Alluru Road	29
On AH-45 Near Anantharam Road	9
On AH-45 Near Tellagunta circle	10
On AH-45 Near Bitragunta Main Road	8
On AH-45 Near Gowravaram Village	67
On AH-45 Near Chenchugoddu Palem Road	24
On AH-45 Near Musunuru Village	61
On AH-45 Near Thummalapenta Road	29
On AH-45 Near Bainatipalem Road	16

Table 4.2 briefs the total number of accidents and nature of accident. In this, rear end collisions and head on collisions are more in number with 44% and 29% respectively.

Table 4.2: Accident details based on Nature of accident occurred

Nature of accident	No of accidents	% of accidents
Over turning	56	7
Head on collision	118	14.46
Rear end collision	216	26.5
Collision brush / Side swipe	86	10.5
Right angled collision	54	6.25
Skidding	76	9.3
Right turn collision	12	1.5
Others	85	10.41

Accidents occurred at different places are categorized into different types of areas. Most of the accidents occurred at Near or inside a village (54%) and at open

area (22%). Table 4.3 summarizes the accident details with respect to type of area.

Table 4.3: Accident details based on Type of area

Type of Area	No of accidents	% of accidents
Near school or college	74	9.06
Near or inside a village	85	10.4
Near a factory / Industrial area	126	15.4
Near a religious place	201	24.6
In Bazaar	173	21.2
Near office complex	98	12.0
Residential areas	35	4.28
Open area	24	2.9

The analysis about type of accused vehicle gives the result of about 44% of accused vehicles are Lorry/DCM/Truck/Tractor and 22% are Car/Van/Jeep. Table 4.4 shows the percentages of different accused vehicles in the total accident data.

Table 4.4: Accident details based on Type of accused vehicle

Type of accused vehicle	No of accidents	% of accidents
Unknown	136	16.66
2W	124	15.19
3W/ AUTO	100	12.25
Lorry / DCM / Tractor / Truck	239	29.28
Car / Van / Jeep	123	15.07
Bus / Ambulance	94	11.51

In case of victim vehicles, two wheelers (31%) are the major category in the total accident details. Table 4.5 shows the variation in the accident details for different victim vehicles.

Table 4.5: Accident details based on Type of victim vehicle

Type of victim vehicle	No of accidents	% of accidents
Unknown	77	9.43
2W	133	16.29
3W/ AUTO	129	15.80
Lorry / DCM / Tractor / Truck	167	20.46
Car / Van / Jeep	94	11.5
Bus / Ambulance	101	12.37
Cycle	49	6.00
ADV	66	8.08

Table 4.6 shows the analysis of accident data based on the type of manoeuvre. In this case while crossing a vehicle (50%) majority of accidents are taking place.

Table 4.6: Accident details based on Type of manoeuvre

Type of maneuver	No of accidents	% of accidents
Unknown	99	12.13
Diverging	127	15.56
Merging	166	20.34
Crossing	146	17.89
Stationary	111	13.6
Temporary held up	100	12.25
Parked	67	8.21

Table 4.7 shows the variation in accidents based on the responsibility of driver. In this, exceeding lawful speed (88%) is the major factor that can be observed from the table.

Table 4.7: Accident details based on Responsibility of Driver

Responsibility of Driver	No of accidents	% of accidents
Consumption of Alcohol or Drugged	155	18.99
Exceeding lawful speed	96	11.76
Did not give right of way to vehicle	54	6.617
Did not give right of way to pedestrian	66	8.08
Improper overtaking	129	15.80
On wrong side of road	35	4.28
Failed to give signal	33	4.04
Gave improper signal	56	6.86
Improper turn	81	9.92
Attention diverted	74	9.06
Others	37	4.53

Classification of accident gives the effect of the accident occurred directly for the vehicle, driver and victims such that whether it is a major accident or minor accident. Table 4.8 shows the classification of accidents with respect to the total number of accidents.

Table 4.8: Accident details based on Classification of Accident

Classification of accident	No of accidents	% of accidents
Fatal	303	37.13
Grievous injury	346	42.40
Minor injury	167	20.47

Table 4.9 was prepared in such a way that in each characteristic which type of characteristic is standing top in total no of accidents was presented. In 5 th town police station area maximum no of accidents were recorded as 69 over a period of 5 years.

Table 4.9: Characteristic wise peak accident records out of 816 accidents

Characteristic	Type of Characteristic with max number of Accidents	No of accidents
Nature of accident	Rear end collision	216
Type of area	Near or inside a village	85
Type of accused vehicle	Lorry/DCM/Tractor/Truck	167
Type of victim vehicle	Two wheeler	133
Type of maneuver	Crossing	146
Classification of accident	Minor injury	167

From the above table it can be clearly observed that rear end collisions are occurring in maximum amount at near or inside a village. The main accused vehicle is lorry/truck and victim vehicle is two wheeler. The main reason for more number of accidents is exceeding lawful speed while crossing another vehicle.

CROSS ANALYSIS OF ACCIDENT DATA

In the above section general analysis has been done and each characteristic was compared with the total no of accidents. Where as in this section cross analysis has been done. Cross analysis means comparing one characteristic with another characteristic with total no of accidents. Such that the result of cross analysis will be, total no of accidents for a combination of two characteristics. This cross analysis has been done for Type of accused vehicle Vs Type of victim vehicle , Manoeuvre Vs Classification of accident , etc. Following tables 4.10 to 4.16 briefly summaries the cross analysis.

Table 4.10: Type of accused vehicle Vs Type of victim vehicle

Type of Accused Vehicle	Type of victim vehicle								Total
	Unknown	2W	3W/ Auto	Lorry/ Tractor	Car/ Van	Bus	Cycle	ADV	
Unknown	12	21	12	10	15	18	15	9	112
2W	20	23	17	25	22	5	10	11	133
3W/ Auto	9	15	20	45	10	15	5	10	129
Lorry/ Tractor	67	10	25	12	3	17	13	20	167
Car/ Van	42	10	20	30	23	15	2	3	145
Bus	50	5	5	15	13	17	10	14	130
Total	200	84	100	137	86	87	55	67	816

From the Table 4.10 it can be observed that highest accidents were observed when the accused vehicle is a Lorry and the victim vehicle is a Two wheeler (11.5%) or a Lorry (10.5%).

Table 4.11: Type of manoeuvre Vs Classification of accident

Type of maneuver	Classification of accident			Total
	Fatal	Greivous	Minor	
Diverging	23	24	21	68
Merging	22	15	23	60
Crossing	20	28	28	76
Stationary	15	24	29	68
Temporary held up	20	21	13	54
Parked	22	27	25	74
Stopping	25	25	39	89
Starting from near side	20	25	5	50
Starting from off side	17	38	15	70
Turning right	18	14	33	65
Going ahead overtaking	34	15	24	73
Unknown	34	18	17	69
Total	270	274	272	816

From the Table 4.11 it was observed that more number of fatal accidents (15%) and minor accidents (30%) occurred during the crossing type of manoeuvre.

Table 4.12: Type of manoeuvre Vs Type of accused vehicle

Type of maneuver	Type of accused vehicle						Total
	Unknown	2W	3W/ Auto	Lorry/ Tractor	Car/ Van	Bus	
Diverging	13	12	15	15	7	6	68
Merging	9	8	12	10	11	10	60
Crossing	13	12	9	6	18	18	76
Stationary	12	13	5	10	17	11	68
Temporary held up	10	12	18	5	6	3	54
Parked	12	15	15	8	16	8	74
Stopping	10	10	10	12	16	31	89
Starting from near side	13	9	8	7	7	6	50
Starting from off side	8	10	10	13	15	14	70
Turning right	11	15	9	11	10	9	65
Going ahead overtaking	9	13	9	18	15	9	73
Unknown	10	13	9	15	12	10	69
Total	130	142	129	130	150	135	816

From the Table 4.12 it can be observed that more no of accidents occurred when a Lorry (22%) / Car (12%) cross another vehicle

Table 4.13: Type of manoeuvre Vs Type of victim vehicle

Type of Maneuver	Type of victim vehicle								Total
	Unknown	2W	3W/ Auto	Lorry/ Tractor	Car/ Van	Bus	Cycle	ADV	
Diverging	12	4	0	13	21	9	4	5	68
Merging	16	3	7	0	4	8	2	6	46
Crossing	19	11	20	23	9	16	2	14	114
Stationary	0	4	2	7	0	3	18	1	36
Temporary held up	21	19	17	5	68	4	2	3	139
Parked	4	10	11	0	21	7	8	10	73
Stopping	2	4	7	0	9	12	2	5	41
Starting from near Side	0	2	4	7	0	7	5	3	28
Starting from off Side	0	8	34	5	31	36	10	2	102
Turning right	1	2	11	0	17	11	2	3	56
Going ahead Overtaking	8	1	32	7	18	20	2	1	84
Unknown	3	6	6	1	4	3	1	5	29
Total	86	74	152	68	202	136	58	40	816

From the Table 4.13 it was observed that more no of accidents were occurred when a vehicle crosses a two wheeler (10.5%) / Lorry (10%).

Table 4.14: Responsibility of driver Vs Type of accused vehicle

Responsibility of driver	Type of accused vehicle						Total
	Unknown	2W	3W/ Auto	Lorry/ Tractor	Car/ Van	Bus	
Consumption of alcohol	10	15	40	23	22	20	130
Exceeding lawful speed	5	2	10	8	9	16	50
Did not give ROW to vehicle	15	35	8	3	3	4	68
Did not give ROW to pedestrian	17	18	5	20	7	7	74
Improper overtaking	5	8	1	10	30	0	54
On wrong side of road	17	2	2	15	22	0	58
Failed to give signal	3	10	37	8	13	3	74
Gave improper signal	9	1	4	27	1	8	50
Improper turn	2	8	11	4	8	7	40
Attention diverted	12	28	4	14	14	27	99
Others	25	18	8	4	14	50	119
Total	120	145	130	136	143	142	816

From the Table 4.14 it was observed that more no of accidents were occurred because of exceeding lawful speed and the major

Table 4.15: Responsibility of driver Vs Type of manoeuvre

Responsibility of driver	Type of manoeuvre														Total
	Unknown	Diverging	Merging	Crossing	stationary	reversing	yielding	Parked	Stopping	Starting	turning	side	turning	in	
Consumption of alcohol	13	9	13	12	10	12	10	13	8	11	9	10	10	130	
Exceeding lawful speed	15	7	4	5	1	3	4	2	1	1	4	3	3	50	
Did not give ROW to vehicle	13	3	7	10	5	1	18	2	4	2	2	1	1	68	
Did not give ROW to pedestrian	12	11	3	5	4	11	20	3	5	2	1	1	1	74	
Improper overtaking	15	5	1	1	1	12	3	11	2	1	1	1	1	54	
On wrong side of road	14	9	2	15	10	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	58	
Failed to give signal	6	3	4	5	3	1	20	2	4	4	2	1	1	74	
Gave improper signal	7	12	2	1	2	6	2	2	2	5	5	4	4	50	
Improper turn	11	3	6	2	7	1	1	5	2	4	2	2	2	40	
Attention diverted	12	3	2	17	7	10	9	10	9	8	11	1	1	99	
Others	12	3	6	17	40	6	20	10	2	1	1	1	1	119	
Total	130	68	50	90	90	54	89	80	40	40	39	26	26	816	

From Table 4.15 it can be observed that exceeding lawful speed and crossing another vehicle (46%) became major cause for more no of accidents.

BLACK- SPOT IDENTIFICATION

Accident prone locations on the roads are those places, where accidents often appear to cluster or concentrate. These stretches are termed as “black spots”. Studies conducted in the developed countries show that identification and improvement of black spot locations reduces the occurrence of accident significantly. In chapter 2.3 a brief description of different black-spot identification methods were discussed. In the present analysis “Crash Density” and “Crash Frequency” methods were selected, as further analysis requires finding out the geometric details of the black-spot locations.

Crash density Method

Crash density is nothing but the average no of accidents per year per km in a stretch. In this crash density method total AH45 through Nellore and Kavali section is divided into stretches based on the number of police stations covering the entire section. Such that each police station covering area is taken as one stretch. In each stretch crash density was calculated based on the length of the stretch and no of accidents occurred on that stretch. Then critical crash density was calculated to identify the black-spot stretches among all the stretches available. Such that those stretches having more crash density value than critical crash density are identified as black-spots.

$$\text{Critical crash density} = \text{Average crash density} + \text{Standard deviation of crash density}$$

Table 4.16 summarises crash density analysis results.

Table 4.16: Crash density for AH45 through Nellore and Kavali

Location of Accident	No. of Accidents	Average	Length of stretch(km)	Crash Density
On AH-45 near Eenadu office Road	67	13.4	0.8	16.75
On AH-45 near Ayyappagudi Circle	17	3.4	1.2	2.83
On AH-45 Near Kanuparthipadu	64	12.8	3	4.26
On AH-45 Near Saakshi office	47	9.4	0.6	15.66
On AH-45 Near Narayana Engineering College	24	4.8	0.5	9.6
On AH-45 Near Prashanthi nagar	27	5.4	0.4	13.5
On AH-45 Near Bhagat Singh Colony	25	5	1.2	4.16
On AH-45 Near Simhapuri Hospitals	41	8.2	2.1	3.90
On AH-45 Near Maipadu Road	28	5.6	1.8	3.11
On AH-45 Near Penna Bridge	14	2.8	1.6	1.75
On AH-45 Near Jammipalem Road	8	1.6	2.4	0.66
On AH-45 Near Inamadugu Road	23	4.6	1.6	2.87
On AH-45 Near Chowdary Petrol Bunk Near Kovur Main Road	17	3.4	1.9	1.78
On AH-45 Near Maneguntapadu Road	19	3.8	2.8	1.35
On AH-45 Near North Rajupalem	29	5.8	3.2	1.81

On AH-45 Near Yallayapalem, Bucchi Road	21	4.2	4	1.05
On AH-45 Near North Rajupalem Entrance	7	1.4	0.5	2.8
On AH-45 Near B.v Palem Road	13	2.6	1.8	1.44
On AH-45 Near Kothapalle	15	3	0.3	10
On AH-45 Near Sunnambathi Village	31	6.2	3.3	1.87
On AH-45 Near Damavara Main Road	24	4.8	4	1.2
On AH-45 Near Alluru Road	29	5.8	1.1	5.27
On AH-45 Near Anantharam Road	9	1.8	2.8	0.64
On AH-45 Near Tellagunta circle	10	2	1.7	1.17
On AH-45 Near Bitragunta Main Road	8	1.6	1.9	0.84
On AH-45 Near Gowravaram Village	69	13.8	0.8	17.25
On AH-45 Near Chenchugoddu Palem Road	24	4.8	6.2	0.77
On AH-45 Near Musunuru Village	61	12.2	1.9	6.42
On AH-45 Near Thummalapenta Road	29	5.8	1.5	3.86
On AH-45 Near Bainatipalem Road	16	3.2	1.1	2.90

Average crash density = 4.71

Standard deviation of crash density = 2.41

Critical Crash Density = $4.71 + 2.41 = 7.12$

From the above crash density analysis the stretches under Gowravaram police station (Crash Density 17.25) and 5th town police station (On AH-45 near Eenadu office Road) (Crash Density 16.75) were identified as highest accident prone locations. So in those two, Gowravaram stretch was taken for the further work i.e., to collect the geometric details.

Crash frequency Method

Crash frequency is nothing but the average number of accidents per year in a location. In this crash frequency method at each location of accident data available crash frequency will be calculated and compared with critical crash frequency, such that those locations having crash frequency more than critical crash frequency are identified as black-spot locations.

$$\text{Critical crash frequency} = \text{Average crash frequency} + \text{Standard deviation of crash frequency}$$

For the crash frequency analysis a total no of 30 locations are there. In the following table 4.18 those locations having crash frequency more than critical crash frequency are only given such that 25 black-spots were identified.

Table 4.17: Crash frequency of black-spots on AH45 through Nellore to Kavali

Location of Accident	No. of Accidents	Acc per year
On AH-45 near Eenadu office Road	67	13.4
On AH-45 Near Kanuparthipadu	64	12.8
On AH-45 Near Saakshi office	47	9.4
On AH-45 Near Gowravaram Village	69	13.8
On AH-45 Near Musunuru Village	61	12.2

$$\text{Average Crash Frequency} = 5.44$$

$$\text{Standard Deviation of Crash Frequency} = 3.51$$

$$\text{Critical Crash Frequency} = 5.44 + 3.51 = 8.95$$

From the above table, for the present study of geometric details only five locations having more crash frequency than critical crash frequency.

5.ACCIDENT PREDICTION MODEL

In this Section the collection of basic geometric details and extraction of all other geometric details from collected data and developing a model for accident prediction will be discussed. These geometric details were collected in the stretch covered under

Gowravaram Rural police station which was standing first in crash density method of identifying black-spots.

DESCRIPTION OF GOWRAVARAM STRETCH

Gowravaram rural police station covers around 6km stretch in which maximum number of accidents were recorded .

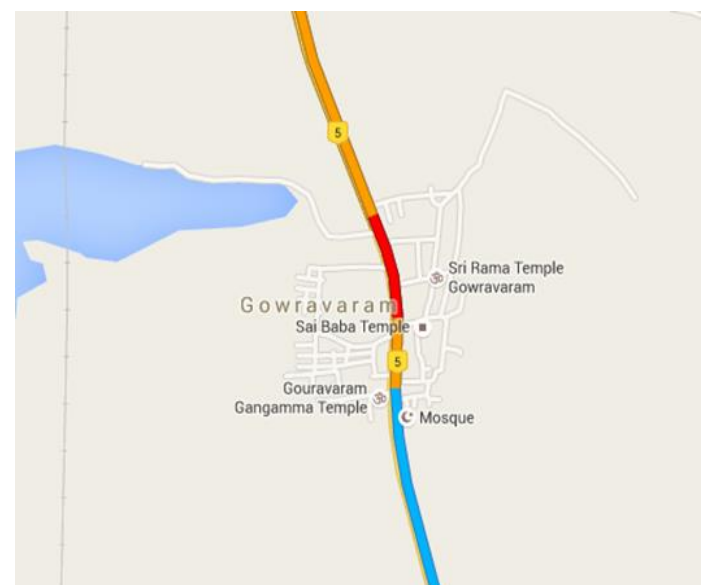
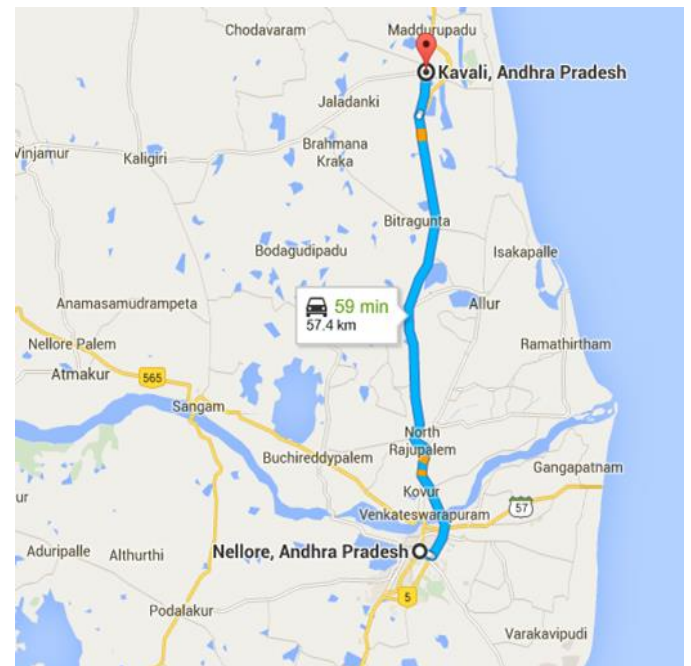


Figure 5.1: Gowravaram Rural stretch map

GEOMETRIC DETAILS

To collect the geometric details of the road section, Total Station instrument was used, such that it directly stores the northing, easting, and elevation of prism station with respect to the instrument station. Throughout the stretch north, east, and elevations were stored in the instrument, such that at each section readings were taken at three locations as left edge, center, and right edge of the road. At straight sections less no of sections were taken and at curves more no of sections data was taken.

At the same time the data regarding unpaved shoulder width, paved shoulder width, horizontal sight distance, vertical sight distance were measured using a tape. In the same way number of culverts, number of cross roads or junctions, and number of horizontal curves were also noted down in the data sheet.

From the obtained north, east, and elevation values horizontal profile and vertical profile were drawn for the entire stretch. And other geometrics like camber, super elevation, radius of curves, gradients, and rise and fall were calculated.

The following tables show the data regarding different geometric details.

Horizontal Profile

To get the horizontal profile, the data points were first separated into three sets such as right edge, center, and left edge. Those values were shown in Table 5.1.

Table 5.1: Horizontal profile of Gowravaram Rural stretch

Sig no	Northing	Easting	Sig no	Northing	Easting	Sig no	Northing	Easting
	Right edge			Center			Left edge	
1	4.597	2.055	2	2.888	6.848	3	0.581	11.091
4	-133.51	-76.347	5	-39.813	-17.11	6	-42.683	-12.696
7	-193.465	-110.393	8	-195.924	-106.215	9	-198.29	-101.692
10	-224.133	-128.07	11	-226.866	-123.752	12	-229.85	-119.802
14	-257.107	-125.952	17	-279.213	-124.837	13	-229.85	-119.802
16	-278.912	-128.181	20	-300.459	-125.686	15	-257.942	-119.468
19	-299.831	-130.315	23	-325.52	-127.673	18	-279.85	-119.894
22	-324.488	-132.571	26	-353.401	-130.794	21	-300.757	-120.649
25	-352.58	-135.866	29	-393.655	-136.433	24	-326.379	-122.62
28	-392.531	-141.381	32	-459.512	-146.73	27	-354.265	-125.877
31	-458.269	-151.436	35	-555.104	-161.137	30	-394.52	-131.412
34	-554.885	-166.265	38	-600.381	-167.351	33	-460.357	-141.432
37	-599.963	-172.302	41	-653.987	-171.73	36	-555.734	-156.192
40	-654.343	-176.631	44	-695.511	-172.138	39	-600.342	-162.159
43	-696.139	-176.968	45	-695.511	-172.138	42	-654.313	-166.628
47	-770.085	-212.646	48	-772.351	-209.022	46	-698.174	-168.421
50	-800.494	-226.019	51	-803.112	-222.738	49	-775.403	-204.766
53	-829.034	-239.103	54	-831.708	-235.605	52	-805.916	-218.433
56	-898.773	-270.888	57	-901.115	-266.474	55	-835.062	-231.456
59	-979.649	-306.812	60	-981.548	-302.267	58	-903.679	-261.965
62	-1071.6	-347.696	65	-1143.29	-374.49	61	-983.568	-297.637
64	-1141.98	-379.029	68	-1217.69	-407.564	63	-1076.64	-338.94
67	-1215.89	-412.335	71	-1311.24	-448.709	66	-1145.94	-369.84
70	-1310.1	-453.661	79	-1446.08	-469.335	69	-1219.7	-402.945
74	-1394.1	-466.944	82	-1489.8	-472.246	72	-1313.24	-444.335
76	-1422.53	-470.967	87	-1555.76	-467.597	73	-1313.24	-444.335
78	-1445.35	-473.871	90	-1580.5	-462.93	75	-1395.66	-456.945
81	-1488.49	-476.888	93	-1654.72	-442.68	77	-1423.85	-461.202
84	-1526.23	-475.773	109	-2326.71	-232.613	80	-1446.79	-464.108

Sig no	Northing	Easting	Sig no	Northing	Easting	Sig no	Northing	Easting
	Right edge			Center			Left edge	
86	-1557.62	-472.269	112	-2422.17	-199.25	83	-1490.14	-467.2
89	-1580.73	-467.871	115	-2581.85	-143.811	85	-1525.31	-466.33
92	-1657.34	-446.886	132	-3731.02	271.039	88	-1554.93	-462.738
95	-1715.75	-428.629	136	-3954.9	369.438	91	-1580.07	-457.95
97	-1851.42	-389.743	138	-4015.61	395.976	94	-1653.28	-437.675
99	-1974.44	-353.155				96	-1713.59	-420.378
101	-2023.32	-339.703				98	-1849.31	-381.997
103	-2201.36	-287.425				100	-1971.95	-346.287
105	-2289.19	-261.684				102	-2020.7	-331.254
110	-2328.02	-237.377				104	-2198.19	-278.314
113	-2424.21	-203.877				106	-2286.88	-251.752
116	-2583.65	-148.456				107	-2286.88	-251.752
118	-2900.13	-38.032				108	-2323.57	-228.313
120	-3137.54	44.68				111	-2421.05	-194.394
122	-3306.22	103.192				114	-2580.08	-139.192
124	-3357.92	118.157				117	-2898.23	-28.767
127	-3431.73	133.897				119	-3134.6	53.934
129	-3491.52	160.363				121	-3303.57	112.372
131	-3585.04	201.394				123	-3355.8	127.792
133	-3732.61	266.427				125	-3427.36	142.676
137	-3957.05	365.148				126	-3427.36	142.676
139	-4017.3	391.746				128	-3486.58	169.144
						130	-3580.74	210.486
						134	-3729.55	275.88
						135	-3953.46	374.227
						140	-4013.33	400.606

From the values in the table 5.1, a graph was drawn for the northing and easting values which give the horizontal profile of the stretch and was shown in Figure 5.1.

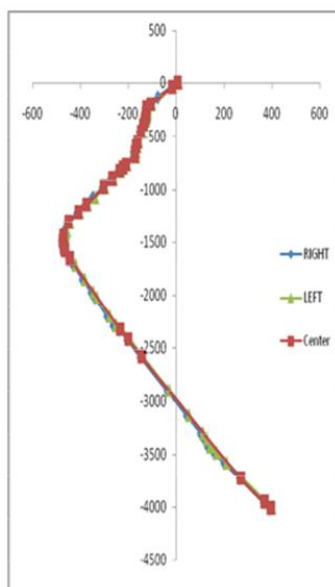


Figure 5.2: Gowravaram Rural stretch horizontal profile

Vertical Profile

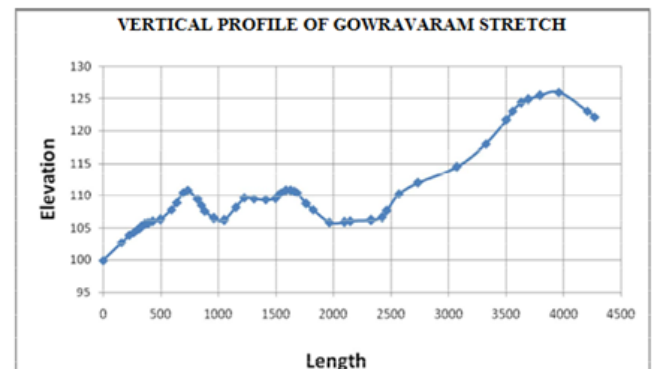
To determine the vertical profile, north and east values were used to find out the distances of signal locations and for each section, elevations are stored in it. By using those distances and elevations, gradients of each signal locations were found out.

Gradient = Distance between two locations / Elevation difference of two locations
Vertical profile details are presented in Table 5.2.

Table 5.2: Vertical profile of Gowravaram Rural stretch

P.No	Distance	Elevation	Gradient
1	0	99.897	
6	158.8254	102.714	1.773646
7	227.7804	103.926	1.757668
10	263.1754	104.335	1.15553
14	292.0684	104.735	1.384418
16	313.9794	104.928	0.880836
19	334.9954	105.258	1.570232
22	359.7274	105.585	1.322174
25	388.0014	105.696	0.392587
28	428.3284	106.012	0.783594
31	494.8314	106.265	0.380434
34	592.5774	107.737	1.505944
37	638.0534	108.829	2.401267
40	692.5244	110.38	2.847387
43	734.0904	110.857	1.147573
47	818.7504	109.407	-1.71273
50	851.9724	108.441	-2.90771
53	882.3674	107.523	-3.02023
56	960.0064	106.462	-1.36658
59	1048.51	106.16	-0.34123
62	1149.126	108.109	1.937068
64	1226.17	109.577	1.905405
67	1307.22	109.456	-0.14929
70	1410.11	109.286	-0.16522
74	1493.193	109.499	0.25637
76	1521.859	110.118	2.159353

P.No	Distance	Elevation	Gradient
78	1544.823	110.458	1.480578
81	1588.079	110.824	0.846125
84	1624.734	110.785	-0.1064
86	1658.089	110.63	-0.4647
89	1681.599	110.452	-0.75712
92	1760.989	108.719	-2.18289
95	1822.126	107.74	-1.60132
97	1963.249	105.833	-1.3513
99	2091.588	105.865	0.024934
101	2142.279	106.022	0.30972
103	2327.819	106.173	0.081384
105	2419.358	106.592	0.457728
108	2462.394	107.579	2.293429
111	2565.603	110.194	2.533694
114	2733.946	111.984	1.063305
117	3070.719	114.525	0.754514
119	3321.136	117.981	1.380098
121	3499.921	121.766	2.117068
123	3554.324	123.105	2.461261
126	3626.885	124.352	1.718554
128	3691.795	124.871	0.799569
130	3794.637	125.488	0.599949
134	3957.172	125.913	0.261482
135	4201.735	123.102	-1.1494
140	4267.157	122.196	-1.38486



Geometrical details of the stretch are summarised in Table 5.3.

Table 5.3: Camber, Super elevation, and Radius of curves for Gowravaram Rural stretch

Sl No	Points (R,C,L)	CW	Camber	Super Elevation	RAD	Sig Loc	Points (R,C,L)	CW	Camber	Super Elevation	Radius
1	1,2,3	10.3	0.981			26	74,0,75	10.4		1.183	
2	0,4,5	10.2	0.598			27	76,0,77	10.4		4.606	
3	6	10.2	0.813			28	78,79,80	10.4		5.663	
4	7,8,9	10.2	0.578			29	81,82,83	10.4		5.673	
5	10,11,12 / 13	10.2	0.564			30	84,0,85	10.4		5.538	463.44
6	14,0,15	10.2		1.696		31	86,87,88	10.4		5.635	
7	16,17,18	10.2		3.588		32	89,90,91	10.4		5.337	
8	19,20,21	10.2		3.922	186.55	33	92,93,94	10.15	0.714		
9	22,23,24	10.2		3.441		34	95,0,96	10.2	0.854		
10	25,26,27	10.2		3.441		35	97,0,98	10.2	0.83		
11	28,29,30	10.2		1.186		36	99,0,100	10.2	0.835		
12	31,32,33	10.2	0.603			37	101,0,102	10.2	0.852		
13	34,35,36	10.2	0.691			38	103,0,104	10.4		0.567	
14	37,38,39	10.2		4.48		39	105,0,106 / 107	10.4		0.452	160.63
15	40,41,42	10.2		5.098	184.18	40	108,109,110	10.2	1.025		
16	43,44/45, 46	10.2		3.922		41	111,112,113	10.2	0.613		
17	47,48,49	10.2	0.235			42	114,115,116	10.2	0.637		
18	50,51,52	10.3	0.325			43	117,0,118	10.2	0.867		
19	53,54,55	10.25	0.502			44	119,0,120	10.2	0.867		
20	56,57,58	10.2	0.627			45	121,0,122	10.2		3.853	
21	59,60,61	10.15	0.517			46	123,0,124	10.2		6.098	185.54
22	62,0,63	10.2	0.68			47	125/126,0,1 27	10.2		3.539	
23	64,65,66	10.2	0.48			48	128,0,129	10.2	0.65		
24	67,68,69	10.2	0.549			49	130,0,131	10.2	0.67		
25	70,71,72 / 73	10.4	0.437			50	134,132,133	10.2	0.505		
						51	135,136,137	10.2	0.588		
						52	140,138,139	10.2	0.534		

In the above table 5.2, continuous right edge points at each section were considered to obtain the lengths and elevations continuously.

From that distances and elevations available vertical profile was drawn as follows.

In the above table at each stretch of signal location, camber values, super elevations and radius of curves where ever those are present were found out.

MODEL DEVELOPMENT

This section deals with the development of an equation from the available accident details and geometric details to predict the future accidents when a set of geometric details are given. For this process the collected data was tabulated in such a way that entire data is consolidated for each accident location. Each accident location has covered a number of signal locations and those were consolidated as shown in Table 5.4.

Average of camber percentages, Maximum of shoulder widths, Degrees of curvature per kilometer and Maximum of super elevations, Minimum sight distances, Total rise and Total fall in the sections were taken and tabulated for each accident location. Length of each accident location can be obtained from the vertical profile table by knowing the starting and ending point of each location.

Finally the crash rate for each location is converted into crash rate per kilometer to normalize the data for all the sections. Table 5.4 presents consolidated data of geometrical details and accident details for each accident location. Then for each variable, scatter diagrams are drawn as shown in Figures 5.4 to 5.7. In those variables Degrees of Curvature per kilometer, Super Elevation, Sight Distance, Total Rise satisfied the logic with the variable and crash rate. And other variables like camber, shoulder widths didn't satisfy the logic as those are almost same throughout the section and not influencing the crash rate for a small change in those variables.

Table 5.4 Geometrical details of all the accident locations under Gowravaram Rural stretch

Location of Accident	Length of stretch (km)	No. of culverts	No. of CR/junction	No. of HC	CW WIDT H (m)	Camber (%)	SW unpaved (m)	SW paved (m)	Degree of curvature per Km	S.E (%)	Sight distance (m)	Total Rise (m)	Crashes	CR
On AH-45 near Eenadu office Road	165	0	1	0	7.5	1.7	1.6	2.3	0	2.9	130	2.3	11	1.5
On AH-45 Near Kanuparthipadu	690	0	1	0	7.5	1.8	1.3	1.6	0	3.2	125	5.6	2	1.7
On AH-45 Near Saakshi office	419	1	1	0	7.5	2	0.9	1.8	0	3.4	145	3.8	4	0.8
On AH-45 Near Gowravaram Village	1052.2	1	1	1	7.5	1.8	1.1	2.26	62.56	6.9	70	4.6	16	3.3
On AH-45 Near Musunuru Village	525	0	1	1	7.5	1.9	0.9	1.96	9.33	6.8	75	4.2	8	1.4

For the model development, general linear regression has been done for the four independent variables and one dependent variable using MINI TAB software. The following equation 5.1 was obtained from the MINI TAB software package.

$$CR = 0.006979X1 - 0.0892 X2 + 0.011731 X3 + 0.3783 X4 - 5.3888 \text{ ----- (5.2)}$$

R square value = 1,

Where

X1 = Length of the curve

X2 = Degree of Curvature

X3 = Sight Distance

X4 = Number of Crashes

Using the equation 5.2, crash rates are predicted for the same data from which the equation was developed. Those actual and predicted crash rates were given in table 5.5.

Table 5.5: Actual and Predicted crash rates

Location of Accident	Actual CR	Predicted CR
On AH-45 near Eenuadu office Road	1.5	1.449865
On AH-45 Near Kanuparthipadu	1.7	1.650485
On AH-45 Near Saakshi office	0.8	0.750396
On AH-45 Near Gowravaram Village	3.3	3.248922
On AH-45 Near Musumuru Village	1.4	1.349964

6.SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

SUMMARY

Road safety as a problem has been analysed in many ways, prominent amongst them are the four basic elements viz., the vehicle, the driver, road way, and the environment in which the accident takes place.

The present study is mainly intended to determine the causes for accidents in view of geometrics of the road and to develop an equation to predict the crash rate based on the existing field conditions.

For the present study, initially five years accident details were collected and general analysis has been done for the accidents. In the general analysis, for each characteristic the major type of characteristic which is having maximum number of accidents record are observed. And the cross analysis between different characteristics has been done such that in which combination of characteristics more number of accidents are occurring are observed. After that accident prone stretches were identified using Crash Density Method and Crash Frequency Method . In those identified stretches one stretch (Gowravaram

Rural stretch) was selected for finding out the geometrical details. All the geometrical details were collected by using a Total Station instrument. Finally multiple regression model was developed to predict the future accidents when a set of geometrical details were given.

CONCLUSIONS

The following conclusions are drawn from the present study.

1. From the analysis of the accident data it is clear that rear end collisions are occurring more (44%), accidents are occurring at near or inside a village (54%), while the major accused vehicle is a lorry (44%) and major victim is vehicle (31%) is two wheeler. Crossing is the major type of maneuver (50%), and exceeding lawful speed (88%) is the major characteristic when responsibility of driver is considered.
2. From the cross analysis of accident data it was observed that when the accused vehicle is a lorry and victim vehicle is a two wheeler (12%) more number of accidents have been taken place. In the same way, while crossing type of maneuver fatal accidents are recorded as 15% and minor accidents are recorded as 30%. And when lorry crosses any other vehicle, 22% of accidents were taken place. 10% of accidents occurred while some vehicle crosses two wheeler. While considering responsibility of driver, exceeding lawful speed is the major reason for which type of accused vehicle is lorry (38%), victim vehicle is two wheeler (28%), and type of maneuver is crossing (46%).
3. From the crash density method Gowravaram Ruralpolice station stretch was selected for analysis as its crash density is 17.25.
4. From the model developed it was observed that the relation between crash rate with degrees of curvature and total rise is positive and with super elevation and sight distance is negative.

- From the field observation it was observed that at cross roads or junctions the chances of occurrence of an accident is more.

LIMITATIONS

Geometric details like camber, shoulder widths, carriage way width etc were not considered in the equation development since those parameters are almost same throughout the selected stretch.

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