

REPÚBLICA FEDERATIVA DO BRASIL

MINISTÉRIO DOS TRANSPORTES

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Research on the Interrelationships Between Costs of Highway Construction, Maintenance and Utilization

Final Report - 1981



VOLUME 6 – Study of Vehicle Behavior and Performance

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**Research on the Interrelationships
Between Costs of Highway
Construction, Maintenance
and Utilization**

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SPONSORED BY:

MINISTÉRIO DOS TRANSPORTES

SECRETARIA DE PLANEJAMENTO DA PRESIDÊNCIA DA REPÚBLICA

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WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF:

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Conteúdo: v.1 Summary of the ICR Research v.2 Methods and organization v.3 Instrumentation v.4 Statistical guide v.5 Study of road user costs v.6 Study of vehicle behavior and performance v.7 Study of pavement maintenance and deterioration v.8 Highway cost model (MICR) v.9 Model of time and fuel consumption (MTC) v.10 Model for simulating traffic (MST) v.11 Fundamental equations v.12 Index to PICR documents.

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PREFACE

This research project was funded through an agreement signed in January, 1975 by the Brazilian Government and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The Ministry of Transportation, acting through the Brazilian Transportation Planning Agency (GEIPOT), assumed the responsibility for the project on behalf of the Brazilian Government and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) acted as the executing agency for UNDP.

The research was carried out by GEIPOT and the National Highway Department (DNER), acting through its Road Research Institute (IPR). Funding from the Brazilian Government was channeled through the Institute for Economic and Social Planning (IPEA) and the Secretariat for International Economic and Technical Cooperation (SUBIN), along with the Ministry of Transportation.

The World Bank contracted the Texas Research and Development Foundation (TRDF) to organize the international technical staff and to select and purchase the imported equipment needed for the research. The participation of the TRDF continued until December of 1979.

This report is comprised of twelve volumes (each edited in both English and Portuguese) which summarize the concepts, methods and results obtained by December, 1981 by the project entitled "Research on the Interrelationships Between Costs of Highway Construction, Maintenance and Utilization (PICR)". It includes a documentary index volume which will aid researchers in locating topics discussed in this report and in numerous other documents of the PICR. This report contains much detailed analysis which is being presented for the first time, and also incorporates relevant parts of earlier reports and documents produced under the 1975 Agreement, updating them through the inclusion of new results and findings.

A special mention is due the Highway Departments of the States of Minas Gerais and Goiás, the Universities of Aston, Birmingham and Texas, and the Western Australia Main Roads Department which placed some of their best and most experienced personnel at the service of this project to fill many key positions on the research staff.

Finally, thanks are due to the Transport and Road Research Laboratory for its assistance during the initial stages of the project, along with specialists from various countries who periodically visited Brazil to discuss the work being done in the PICR and to assist the permanent research staff in conducting analyses.

JOSE MENEZES SENNA
President

VOLUMES IN THIS REPORT

- VOLUME 1 - SUMMARY OF THE ICR RESEARCH
- VOLUME 2 - METHODS AND ORGANIZATION
- VOLUME 3 - INSTRUMENTATION
- VOLUME 4 - STATISTICAL GUIDE
- VOLUME 5 - STUDY OF ROAD USER COSTS
- VOLUME 6 - STUDY OF VEHICLE BEHAVIOR AND PERFORMANCE
- VOLUME 7 - STUDY OF PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE AND DETERIORATION
- VOLUME 8 - HIGHWAY COSTS MODEL (MICR)
- VOLUME 9 - MODEL OF TIME AND FUEL CONSUMPTION (MTC)
- VOLUME 10 - MODEL FOR SIMULATING TRAFFIC (MST)
- VOLUME 11 - FUNDAMENTAL EQUATIONS
- VOLUME 12 - INDEX TO PICR DOCUMENTS

* Volume 1 contains a brief description of the contents of each volume, while Volume 12 provides a subject index to this report and all other PICR documents, including technical memoranda and working documents.

CONTENTS OF THIS VOLUME

	<u>PAGE</u>
PREFACE	iii
VOLUMES IN THIS REPORT	v
LIST OF FIGURES	ix
LIST OF TABLES	xi
SUMMARY	xiii
CHAPTER 1 - INTRODUCTION	1
CHAPTER 2 - INFLUENCE OF SPEED LIMIT ON DATA COLLECTED	7
CHAPTER 3 - INFLUENCE OF ROAD RIDING QUALITY	11
CHAPTER 4 - RESULTS OF FREE-FLOW SPEED SURVEYS	19
4.1 - Free-flow conditions on positive grades (TB-1) and negative grades (TB-2)	21
4.2 - Free-flow conditions on curves (TB-4)	27
CHAPTER 5 - RESULTS OF SPEED-MODE SURVEY AS VEHICLES APPROACH OBSTACLES OR SMALL-RADIUS CURVES (TB-3)	33
CHAPTER 6 - RESULTS OF THE EXPERIMENT ON VEHICLES-ACCELERATION MEASUREMENT ON POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE GRADES (TB-3)	39
CHAPTER 7 - INFLUENCE OF ADDING ALCOHOL TO GASOLINE	45
CHAPTER 8 - RESULTS OF THE EXPERIMENTS ON FUEL-CONSUMPTION MEASUREMENT AT STEADY-STATE SPEED	51
8.1 - Fuel Consumption on Tangentes (FC-1)	53
8.2 - Fuel Consumption on Curves (FC-3)	62
8.3 - Fuel Consumption for Large Cars	63
CHAPTER 9 - INFLUENCE OF MOMENTUM ACQUIRED BY VEHICLES ON NEGATIVE GRADES	69
CHAPTER 10- RESULTS OF THE EXPERIMENT ON FUEL-CONSUMPTION MEASUREMENT IN DECELERATION MODE (TBS-6)	73
CHAPTER 11- RESULTS OF THE EXPERIMENT ON FUEL-CONSUMPTION MEASUREMENT IN ACCELERATION MODE (FCS-4)	77
REFERENCES	81

LIST OF FIGURES

	<u>PAGE</u>
FIGURE 3.1 - INFLUENCE OF ROUGHNESS ON FREE-FLOW SPEED GRADE = 0,2%	14
FIGURE 3.2 - EFFECT OF ROUGHNESS ON FUEL CONSUMPTION	17
FIGURE 4.1 - VEHICLE PERFORMANCE ON UNIFORM GRADES (STEADY-STATE SPEED).....	25
FIGURE 4.2 - VARIATION OF FREE-FLOW SPEED ON CONSTANT GRADES ..	26
FIGURE 4.3 - SPEED ON CURVES	31
FIGURE 6.1 - CHANGE IN SPEED AS A FUNCTION OF DISTANCE RUN BY VEHICLE	44
FIGURE 7.1 - GRAPH COMPARING THE CONSUMPTION OF PURE GASOLINE WITH THAT OF GASOLINE + ALCOHOL (LIGHT GASOLINE TRUCK)	48
FIGURE 7.2 - GRAPH COMPARING THE CONSUMPTION OF PURE GASOLINE WITH THAT OF GASOLINE + ALCOHOL (CAR VW 1300)	49
FIGURE 7.3 - GRAPH COMPARING THE CONSUMPTION OF PURE GASOLINE WITH THAT OF GASOLINE + ALCOHOL (UTILITIES)	50
FIGURE 8.1 - EFFECT OF SPEED ON FUEL CONSUMPTION	57
FIGURE 8.2 - EFFECT OF GEARS, LOAD AND TYPE OF FUEL ON CONSUMPTION	59
FIGURE 8.3 - EFFECT OF LOAD-SPEED INTERACTION ON FUEL CONSUMPTION	60
FIGURE 8.4 - EFFECT OF GRADE-SPEED INTERACTION ON FUEL CONSUMPTION	61
FIGURE 8.5 - FUEL CONSUMPTION OF VW 1300, DODGE AND OPALA AS A FUNCTION OF SPEED	65
FIGURE 8.6 - FUEL CONSUMPTION OF VW 1300, DODGE AND OPALA AS A FUNCTION OF GRADE	66

LIST OF TABLES

	<u>PAGE</u>
TABLE 1.1 - SURVEYS FOR THE STUDY OF TRAFFIC BEHAVIOUR	5
TABLE 1.2 - TRAFFIC EXPERIMENTS PERFORMED WITH THE TEST FLEET	6
TABLE 3.1 - CHARACTERIZATION OF THE STATE OF MAINTENANCE OF HIGHWAYS	13
TABLE 4.1 - STEADY-STATE SPEEDS ON UNIFORM GRADES (km/h)	22
TABLE 4.2 - SPEED VARIATION ON POSITIVE GRADES (km/h)	23
TABLE 4.3 - EXPRESSIONS FOR FREE-FLOW SPEEDS ON CURVES	29
TABLE 4.4 - DEFINITIONS OF VARIABLES IN EXPRESSIONS OF FREE- FLOW SPEEDS ON CURVES	30
TABLE 5.1 - AVERAGE DECELERATION OF VEHICLES APPROACHING CURVES OR INTERSECTIONS	36
TABLE 5.2 - AVERAGE DECELERATIONS IN M/S^2	37
TABLE 6.1 - EQUATIONS OF SPEED INCREMENTS (PAVED SURFACE)	42
TABLE 6.2 - EQUATIONS OF SPEED INCREMENTS (UNPAVED SURFACE) ..	42
TABLE 7.1 - FACTORS AND LEVELS OF EXPERIMENT FCS-6	47
TABLE 8.1 - MAIN SPECIFICATIONS OF TEST-FLEET VEHICLES	54
TABLE 8.2 - FACTORS AND LEVELS CONSIDERED IN THE ANALYSIS OF THE FC-1	55
TABLE 8.3 - CONSUMPTION EQUATIONS FOR STEADY-STATE SPEED	56
TABLE 8.4 - FACTORS AND LEVELS OF THE EXPERIMENT	62
TABLE 8.5 - FUEL CONSUMPTION OF LARGE CARS (ml/sec)	64
TABLE 9.1 - FUEL CONSUMPTION DURING GRAVITY-EFFECTED	72
TABLE 9.1 - FUEL CONSUMPTION DURING GRAVITY-EFFECTED DECELERATION (FC-2)	72
TABLE 10.1- FACTORS AND LEVELS CONSIDERED IN THE TBS-6 ANALYSIS	75
TABLE 10.2- FUEL CONSUMPTION DURING DECELERATION (TBS-6)	76
TABLE 11.1- FUEL CONSUMPTION DURING ACCELERATION (FCS-4)	79

SUMMARY

The type of vehicle, its operating speed, and highway characteristics, such as grades, curves and surface roughness, are key variables in determining fuel consumption and travel times. The Research on the Interrelationships Between Costs of Highway Construction, Maintenance and Utilization (PICR) thus sought to specify the relationships among these variables by conducting controlled experiments and by observing vehicle behavior on highways with given characteristics. This knowledge enabled the PICR team to utilize the Model of Time and Fuel Consumption (MTC) to calculate travel time and fuel consumption for any normal highway design or existing roadway whose characteristics are known. If congestion is present, the MTC can be used in the Model for Simulating Traffic (MST) to achieve similar goals. This Volume describes those experiments and observations and their results (the MTC and MST are described in Volumes 9 and 10 of this Report, respectively).

The road test sections were selected in such a way as to ensure the inclusion of principal characteristics of different types of roads comprising the Brazilian highway network. These characteristics included type of road surface (paved or unpaved), grades (from 0 to $\pm 8\%$) and curves (radii from 20 m to 3,000 m).

