**Fransportation with Technology** riving

An Exploratory Analysis of Motorcyclist Apparel Using Naturalistic Riding Data October 17, 2013

Vicki Williams and Shane McLaughlin Virginia Tech Transportation Institute, Motorcycle Research Group Sherry Williams Motorcycle Safety Foundation

Motorcycle Research Group

# **Fransportation with Technology** 5

# Data Collection

- Participants volunteered to ride normally as video and sensor data were collected for every trip (key on/key off)
- 46 participants' data analyzed (1211 trips)
  - These were riders with videos available for a substantial number of their completed trips
  - Trips representative of unique month/day/time of day
- At the time of analysis, participation ranged from 5 to 16 months
- Bike types: Cruiser, Touring, Sport
- Installation sites: California, Florida, Virginia



# Video Reduction

- Five video views (rider's face, forward, rear, left, right)
- Video review to characterize rider apparel
  - Torso clothing
  - Helmet
  - Gloves
  - Eyewear
- Reductionist coded conditions that existed for most of the trip
  - If indeterminable, coded where speed first exceeded 20 mph (or highest speed if trip speed remained < 20 mph)</li>



## Variables

- Weather
- Time of Day
- Clothing (Torso)
  - Type (based on material/coverage)
  - Armor
  - Color
  - Reflectivity

- Helmet
  - Usage
  - Туре
  - Color
- Gloves
  - Usage
  - Туре
  - Color
- Eyewear
  - Usage
  - Туре

# Sample Descriptors

## Trip and Participant Distribution

Time of Day	Number of Trips	Percentage of Trips	Number of Participants	Percentage of Participants
Twilight AM	51	4.2%	16	34.8%
Day	653	53.9%	46	100.0%
Twilight PM	219	18.1%	39	84.8%
Night	288	23.8%	36	78.3%
	1211	100%		

Driving Transportation with Technology

# Sample Descriptors

## 1211-Trip Distribution Across Month and Time of Day



Driving Transportation with Technology

Transportation with Technology Driving



#### Percentage of Trips Including Each Clothing Type











#### **Percentage of Trips With Armor Category**

**Observed Armor Usage** 



#### **Percentage of Participants For Each Armor Category**





### Percentage of Trips Including Each Helmet Type









## Percentage of Trips Including Glove Type



**Transportation with Technology** bg

#### Percentage of Participants Observed Wearing Glove Type



**Glove Type** 

## Percentage of Trips Including Eyewear Type



#### Percentage of Participants Observed Wearing Eyewear Type



**Eyewear Type** 



# Conclusions

- Majority of the participants (43 of 46) tended to ride more during the day
- Wide variation in torso clothing
  - 93% of riders at some point wore full zipped jackets; 67% at some point wore shortsleeved shirts or tank tops
  - 72% of participants wore armor sometimes or always; 28% never wore armor
- 33% of participants always wore gloves;
  11% never wore gloves



## Conclusions

- Helmet usage, even in states with no helmet law, was common
  - 78% of participants always wore helmets; no participant was always without a helmet
  - Only 4 out of the 10 riders based in states with no helmet law were observed at some point without a helmet
  - Observational data indicate that participants tended to vary their choices in clothing and protective gear



## Questions?



## **Corresponding Author**

Vicki Williams Human Factors Engineer Motorcycle Research Group (540) 231–1572 williams@vtti.vt.edu

http://www.motorcycle.vtti.vt.edu/

