



The current issue and full text archive of this journal is available at <http://www.worldsustainable.org>

World  
Sustainable  
Development  
Outlook 2012

439

# REAL-WORLD DRIVING CYCLE IN HETEROGENEOUS TRAFFIC CONDITIONS IN DELHI FOR SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT SYSTEMS

Ravindra Kumar<sup>1</sup>, Purnima Parida<sup>1</sup>, Bhujang Kanga Durai<sup>1</sup>

CSIR-Central Road Research Institute, India

Wafaa Saleh<sup>2</sup>

Edinburgh Napier University, UK



World Sustainable  
Development Outlook  
2012

**Abstract:** *Purpose* - The purpose of this paper is to improve the understanding of driving conditions in India that are heterogeneous in nature.

*Design/methodology/approach* - The driving cycle data were collected using GPS on different types of both motorised and non-motorised modes of transport, e.g. car, auto rickshaw, bus, motorcycle and cycle rickshaw and bicycle on different traffic corridors in Delhi.

*Findings* - Research findings show that driving cycles differ for different types of vehicles. Therefore, each mode should be encouraged based on their average speed-time sequence in any traffic mix. The real-world driving cycle will be also useful for the understanding of fuel consumption and emissions in real-world scenarios in order to control vehicle emissions properly, achieve fuel efficiency and to obtain a more sustainable transport system.

*Originality/value* - This type of research has not been carried out in any Indian city.

**Keywords:** *Driving cycle, Emission, Fuel consumption, Heterogeneous, Mixed traffic*

**Paper type** Research paper

<sup>1</sup>Transport Planning, CSIR-Central Road Research Institute, Mathura Road, New Delhi-110025, INDIA, Email: [ravinder.crri@nic.in](mailto:ravinder.crri@nic.in)

<sup>2</sup>Transport Research Institute, Edinburgh Napier University, 10 Colinton Road, Edinburgh, UNITED KINGDOM, Email: [w.saleh@napier.ac.uk](mailto:w.saleh@napier.ac.uk)

---

## INTRODUCTION

Research into the driving cycles of different vehicles under different road traffic conditions is immensely useful for understanding fuel consumption, emissions, the planning and design of roadway systems and the operation of road traffic. Understanding real-world traffic behaviour regarding fuel consumption requires quantification of some of the basic vehicular driving characteristic in terms of time spent in different operating modes, speed and idling times. In general, emission and fuel consumptions factor estimates are not known accurately because emission factor prediction in India is based on the modified Indian driving cycle, which is developed based on the European driving cycle.

The driving cycle is expressed as the speed time sequence of vehicles for a region and city and is road- and driver-specific. Therefore, the European driving cycle, which is under highly homogeneous traffic conditions, wherein the difference in individual vehicle speeds and vehicle dimensions are negligible, cannot be adopted in India. In practice, however, even under homogeneous traffic conditions, there are significant differences in the said two characteristics (speed and acceleration) of vehicles. The measurement of driving cycles in European conditions hence becomes inapplicable for conditions with variations in the speed and acceleration of vehicles in the traffic stream. Therefore, the driving cycle measure needs to be redefined in order to make it appropriate for traffic conditions with significant variations in the vehicle type, road geometry and speed limit of vehicles in traffic streams.

The road traffic in countries like India is highly heterogeneous, comprising vehicles of wide-ranging static and dynamic characteristics. In addition, it is usual to establish emission factors on city-specific driving cycles, as there is continuous change in the road traffic pattern such as synchronization of traffic signals, lane upgradations, construction of flyovers, one-way traffic, restriction of entries of HCV in city areas and continuous increases in the density and technology of vehicles. Due to the widely varying vehicular type and speeds, the driving cycle measure, as applicable in Europe, is inappropriate for measuring vehicle driving cycles in roads carrying heterogeneous traffic. Here, the aim is to develop an appropriate driving cycle to represent traffic with potential for application to heterogeneous traffic conditions such as those prevailing on Indian roads.

**Real-world  
driving cycle in  
heterogeneous  
traffic conditions  
in Delhi**

**440**

---

## EARLIER STUDIES

The Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI), along with the oil industry, developed a total of 62 emission factors depending on vehicle categories, vintages and engine cubic capacities out of the total 89 numbers of vehicles tested under the project for 450 numbers of emission tests. The emission factors (EF) reported by ARAI were based on prevailing driving cycles and a modified version of the EU driving cycle (ARAI, 2007). The driving pattern of one city or country may not be same as that for others for the reasons mentioned above. Use of the modified EU driving cycle will lead to EF that do not match a real-world scenario. Therefore, it is necessary to understand city-specific driving cycles and evolve emissions in the same way. As types of vehicle in Indian are expanding at a very rapid rate as more vehicle models are introduced, there is a need to evolve the emission factors on a continuous basis and on city-specific driving cycles, so that the information on emission factors is continuously upgraded to reflect the dynamic nature of the emissions scenario on account of continuous changes in the transport sector and traffic patterns of the city (ARAI, 2007; Saleh *et al.*, 2009; Kumar *et al.*, 2011, 2012).

## EXPERIMENTAL METHODOLOGY

### Study area

The study area comprises north, south, east and west Delhi, covering different roads as shown in Figure 6 and Tables 1 and 2. Table 1 shows the traffic flow on different roads in Delhi. For 12 hour traffic volume, the count ranges from 84,000 to 155,000 vehicles for 12 hours on different roads during week days, whereas the count was in the range of 57,000–131,000 vehicles in 12 hours for weekends. This shows that there is 15%–30 difference in weekend traffic volume. Road width varied from 25–45 meters. The selected roads cover the entire set of land use pattern in this study area. The traffic composition characteristics are as follows: 29% two-wheeled vehicles, 48% cars, 15% auto rickshaws, 4% buses and the remainder comprise trucks, cycles and LCVs. This indicates that the major traffic composition domination consists of cars, two wheel vehicles and auto rickshaws in both directions.

The survey was conducted at different hours of the day, including the morning peak (8.00–9.30 a.m.), the afternoon peak (1.00–3.00 p.m.) and the evening peak (5.00–8.00 p.m.) periods, which takes account of

| Road name                  | Road Width  |       | Road no | Hours | Week day | Hours | Weekend | Real-world driving cycle in heterogeneous traffic conditions in Delhi |
|----------------------------|---|-------|---------|-------|----------|-------|---------|---|
| Nehru Place to I.I.T. Gate | 40.17 meter   | (UP)  | 1       | 12    | 50578    | 12    | 29587   |   |
| I.I.T.Gate to Nehru Place  | 41 meter (2 meter median 41)                            | (DN)  | 1       | 12    | 94623    | 12    | 35210   |   |
|                            |   | Total |         |       | 145201   |       | 64797   |   |
| Baderpur to Ashram         | (11x2+ 6 meter median)                                  | (UP)  | 2       | 12    | 38039    | 12    | 39591   |   |
|                            |   | (DN)  | 2       | 12    | 46407    | 12    | 31107   |   |
|                            |   | Total |         |       | 84446    |       | 70698   |   |
| Ashram to Badarpur         |   |       |         |       |          |       |         |   |
| Ashram to Lagpat Nager     | (11x2+6 meter median)                                   | (UP)  | 3       | 12    | 94672    | 12    | 62671   |   |
| Lagpat Nager to Ashram     |   | (DN)  | 3       | 12    | 61016    | 12    | 68458   |   |
|                            |   | Total |         |       | 155688   |       | 131129  |   |
| Moolchand to Khanpur       | 24.0 meter (11.23 meter 4 lane + 11.23 (4 lane)         | (UP)  | 4       | 12    | 66612    | 12    | 34722   |   |
| Khanpur to Moolchand       | 44.00 (median 12 meter) + 3.23 median+1 1meter (4 lane) | (DN)  | 4       | 12    | 43555    | 12    | 22987   |   |
|                            |   | Total |         |       | 110167   |       | 57709   |   |

**Table I. Road and traffic characteristics of Delhi city**

daily variations. Differences in driving patterns due to the variation in activities at different periods are also expected.

### DATA ACQUISITION AND INSTRUMENTATION

The following were installed with the performance box: a car with an engine size of 1405 cc Baharat stage III, having a mileage of 152496 km; a motorcycle with an engine size of 125 cc; an auto rickshaw with an engine size of 145cc; buses with engine type BG & 230 Cummins BS III, water-cooled, turbo-charged inter-cooled CNG Engine 5883 cc; and non-motorized vehicles such as cycles and cycle rickshaws The performance box was a high performance 10hz global positioning system (GPS), which entailed 10hz logging of time, distance, speed, position, g-force, lap times and split times, as shown in Figures 1–5. The data were stored on a computer. Distance, speed, acceleration and time data were

**Table 2.** Summary  
of routes in  
Delhi- First Phase

| Sr. No. | Location Name   | Date       | Start Time | End Time | Total Time (minute) | Reason of Selection   |
|---------|---|------------|------------|----------|---------------------|---|
| 1       | Baderpur To India Gate  | 22-11-2010 | 11:00      | 12:53    | 113                 | NH 2 leading Boarder Haryana  |
| 2       | Baderpur To India Gate  |            | 3:47       | 5:30     | 103                 | Boarder in South Delhi Covering   |
| 3       | Alipur More To India Gate   | 23-11-2010 | 9:19       | 10:19    | 78                  | Office to Residential trip  |
| 4       | Baderpur To India Gate  |            | 11:13      | 12:34    | 81                  |   |
| 5       | Alipur More To India Gate   |            | 3:38       | 5:00     | 82                  |   |
| 6       | Baderpur To India Gate  | 27-11-2010 | 9:20       | 10:25    | 65                  |   |
| 7       | CRR1-Alipur-India Gate  | 29-11-2010 | 3:30       | 4:49     | 79                  |   |
| 8       | CRR1 –Ashram-Mayourvihar-1,2-D.N.D<br>Flyover:N.F.C-Ishver Nagar –Back CRR1 | 25-11-2010 | 9:14       | 10:16    | 62                  | Covering Residential Area and<br>Expressway and Noida area and part<br>East Delhi |
| 9       | CRR1 –Ashram-Mayourvihar-1,2-D.N.D<br>Flyover:N.F.C-Ishver Nagar –Back CRR1 |            | 11:42      | 12:33    | 52                  |   |
| 10      | CRR1 –Ashram-Mayourvihar-1,2-D.N.D<br>Flyover:N.F.C-Ishver Nagar –Back CRR1 |            | 4:08       | 5:04     | 56                  |   |
| 11      | CRR1 –Ashram-Mayourvihar-1,2-D.N.D<br>Flyover:N.F.C-Ishver Nagar –Back CRR1 | 26-11-2010 | 12:58      | 2:07     | 66                  |   |
| 12      | CRR1 –Ashram-Mayourvihar-1,2-D.N.D<br>Flyover:N.F.C-Ishver Nagar –Back CRR1 |            | 3:51       | 5:01     | 69                  |   |

**Continue**

| Sr. No. | Location Name                       | Date       | Start Time | End Time | Total Time (minute) | Reason of Selection  |
|---------|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|----------|---------------------|--|
| 13      | Mahrani Bagh to LPS Hauz Khas       |            | 10:39      | 11:15    | 35                  |  |
| 14      | Maharani Bagh To LPS Houj Khas      |            | 12:25      | 1:33     | 68                  | Covering Educational Hub, IIT LPS, Ring Road, and Residential Auditorium |
| 15      | Maharani Bagh To LPS Houj Khas      |            | 2:07       | 3:03     | 56                  |  |
| 16      | DND flyover                         | 28-11-2010 | 12:39      | 1:26     | 47                  |  |
| 17      | CRRJ To CRRJ                        |            | 10:52      | 11:53    | 61                  | Covering Market area North Delhi   |
| 18      | New Delhi To D.B.Gupta Road         | 30-11-2010 | 12:06      | 1:57     | 111                 |  |
| 19      | New Delhi To D.B.Gupta Road         | 1/12/2010  | 9:48       | 11:12    | 84                  |  |
| 20      | New Delhi To D.B.Gupta Road         |            | 11:58      | 1:35     | 95                  |  |
| 21      | New Delhi To D.B.Gupta Road         | 2/12/2010  | 10:59      | 12:31    | 91                  |  |
| 22      | New Delhi To D.B.Gupta Road         |            | 1:25       | 3:05     | 100                 |  |
| 23      | Dr.Ambedkar Nagar To Pragati Maidan | 3/12/2010  | 10:37      | 11:52    | 74                  | Newly Introduced BRT corridor in Delhi                                   |
| 24      | Dr.Ambedkar Nagar to Pragati Maidan |            | 3:00       | 4:33     | 93                  |  |
| 25      | Dr.Ambedkar Nagar to Pragati Maidan | 4/12/2010  | 10:40      | 11:44    | 64                  |  |
| 26      | Dr.Ambedkar Nagar to Pragati Maidan |            | 3:36       | 5:50     | 124                 |  |
| 27      | M.B.Road to Pragati Maidan          | 5/12/2010  | 10:23      | 11:18    | 55                  |  |

**Table 2.** Summary of routes in Delhi- First Phase

**Figure 1.**  
Installation of  
equipment in  
motorcycle



**Figure 2.**  
Installation of  
equipment in  
passenger auto  
rickshaw



**Figure 3.**  
Installation of  
equipment in cycle





Real-world  
driving cycle in  
heterogeneous  
traffic conditions  
in Delhi

446

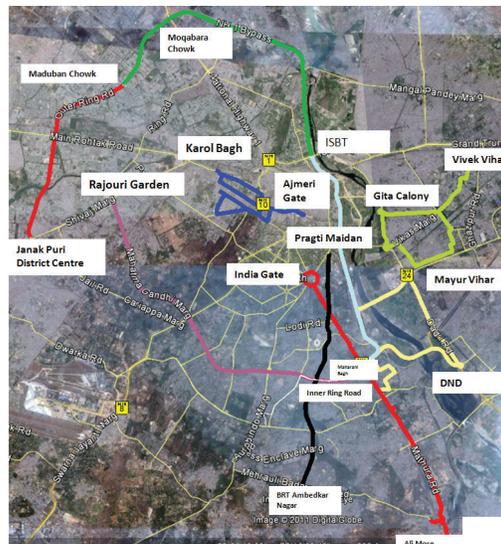
**Figure 4.** Installation of equipment in cycle rickshaw



Tata Indica-1400 cc  
Driver age 25-45  
Euro III

Performance Box  
installed on wind  
screen of car

**Figure 5.** Installation of equipment in car



**Figure 6.** Study area map in Delhi

collected using a volunteer/owner on the given routes. The time-scale resolution of this data-acquisition system was 0.1 seconds.

**DEVELOPMENT OF DRIVING CYCLE**

Once data were collected, the whole data-set was processed using coding and classifications in order to derive the driving cycle by considering following equations (1 to 4):

$$\bar{p}_w = \frac{(\sum r1piwj + \sum r2piwj)}{2} \dots\dots\dots (Eqn 1)$$

$$\bar{p}_k = \frac{(\sum r1piwk + \sum r2piwk)}{2} \dots\dots\dots (Eqn 2)$$

$$\Delta_i = \text{Error in each parameter for week days.} \\ = ((p_i - \bar{p}_w) / p_i) * 100 \dots\dots\dots (Eqn 3)$$

$$\Delta_k = \text{Error in each parameter for weekend.} \\ = ((p_i - \bar{p}_k) / p_i) * 100 \dots\dots\dots (Eqn 4)$$

$\sum \delta_i$  = Sum of the errors of all the parameters for each trip in both routes of week days.

$\sum \delta_k$  = Sum of the errors of all the parameters for each trip in both routes of weekend.

$R_1$  = Route from Yamuna sports complex to Karkarduma.  $R_2$  = route from Karkarduma to Yamuna sports complex.

$W_j$  = Number of week days ( $j = 1 - 5$ ).

$W_k$  = Weekend (Sunday).

$P_i$  = Driving cycle parameters obtained from the data collected ( $i = 1 - 12$ ).

$\sum r1piwj$  = Average of the parameters of route 1 during weekend.

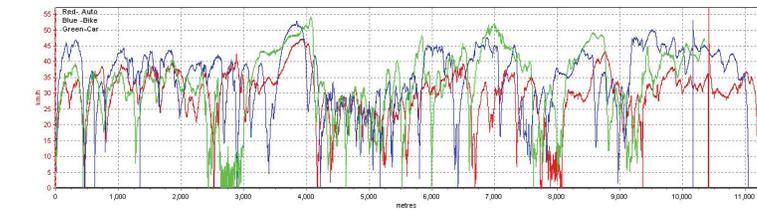
$\sum r2piwj$  = Average of the parameters of route 2 during weekend.

$\sum r1piwk$  = Average of the parameters of route 1 during weekend.

$\sum r2piwk$  = Average of the parameters of route 2 during weekend.

Finally, routes with minimum absolute error have been selected as the candidate driving cycle. Some typical driving cycles for different modes are shown in Figures 7–9.

**Figure 7.** Typical driving cycle of car, motorcycle and auto rickshaw



Figures 7, 8 and 9 show that the auto rickshaw driving pattern is not the same as that of the car and motorcycle. The auto rickshaw always has limited speed in spite of being used as a private mode of transport. Engine size and driver behaviour influence the speed pattern. Buses have a typical driving pattern showing frequent stop and go at every bus stop. Their speed is also limited to 40 kmph. In contrast, car and motorcycle speeds go beyond 55 kmph. In spite of the speed limit of 50 kmph, drivers were not able to control their speed while coming down the side of the flyover. Surprisingly, cycles have fewer stop and go operations, while cycle rickshaws show a similar driving pattern, except their speed was found to be lower than that of cycles.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Figures 10–24 show results obtained through analysis of data on different modes of transport.

**Bus:** Average driving speed was in the range 26.3–27.8 kmph. Average time spent in acceleration and deceleration was almost the same: 36–39%, idling was approximately 14%, which included bus stops and idling stoppages at intersections and in jam conditions. Their cycle length varied from 2 km to 12 km in terms of length. Times averaged at 2100 second (35.6 minutes).

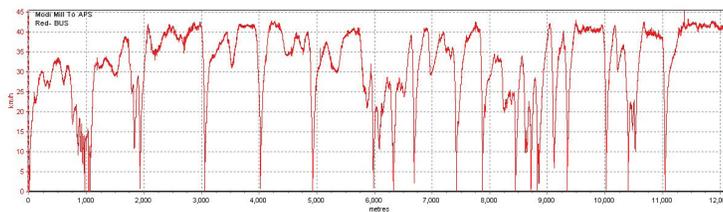


Figure 8. Typical driving cycle of bus

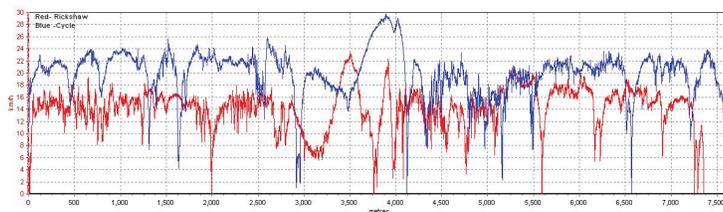
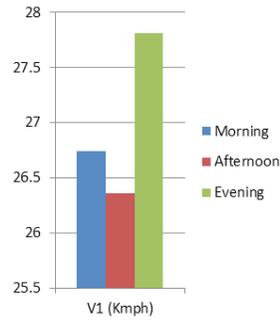
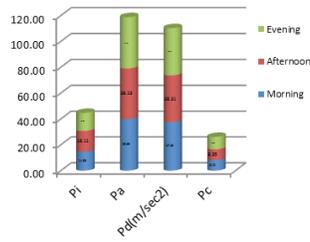


Figure 9. Typical driving cycle of cycle and cycle rickshaw

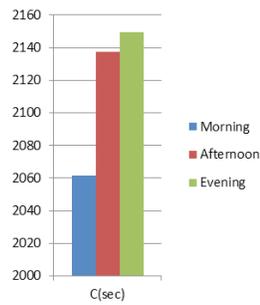
**Figure 10.** Speed of bus



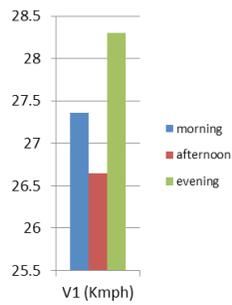
**Figure 11.** Time spent by bus in vehicle operating mode



**Figure 12.** Cycle length (S) of bus



**Figure 13.** Speed of car



**Car:** Average speed was 28 kmph, which was higher than buses. Time spent in different vehicle operating modes was significantly different to buses. Time spent in acceleration and deceleration was 37–39%, cruising 9–10% and idling 13–14%, while their cycle time was 2400 second (40 minutes). Bus passengers have smaller trip times when compared to car passengers.

**Motorcycle:** Average speed was 30 kmph in the morning and 27.5 kmph at other times. Idling was less than modes of transport, at 3–4%. Cruising was 6–7%, while it was observed that more time was spent in acceleration and deceleration activity (46%). Cycle time was 1700 seconds (24 minutes), which was the shortest of all modes of transport existing on the roads. Two-wheeled vehicles are therefore popular in congested traffic environments.

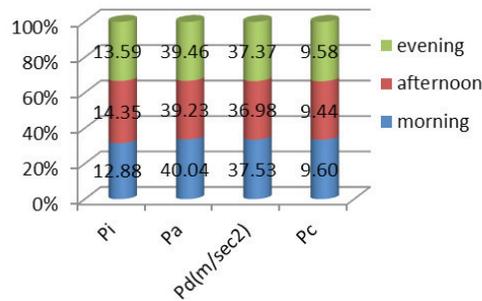


Figure 14. Time spent by car in vehicle operating mode

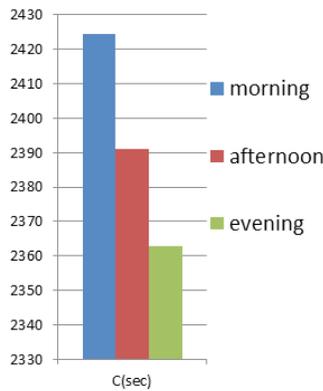
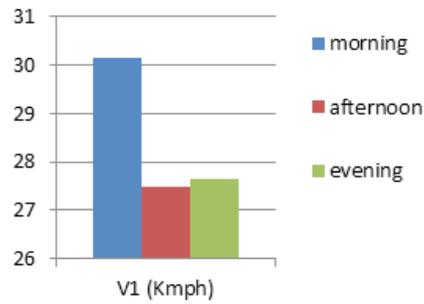
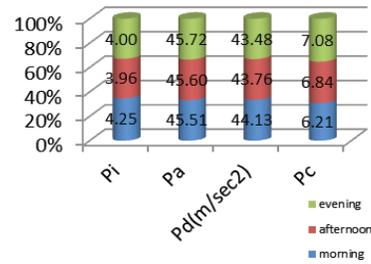


Figure 15. Cycle length (S) of car

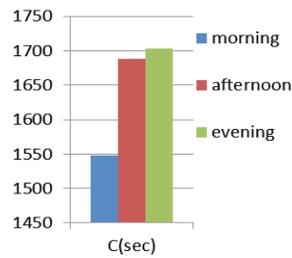
**Figure 16.** Speed of motorcycle



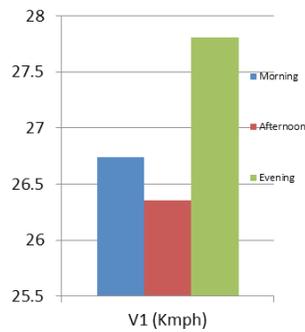
**Figure 17.** Time spent by motorcycle in vehicle operating mode

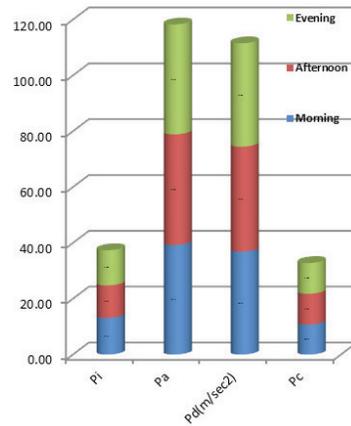


**Figure 18.** Cycle length (S) of motorcycle



**Figure 19.** Speed of auto rickshaw





Real-world driving cycle in heterogeneous traffic conditions in Delhi

452

Figure 20. Time spent by auto rickshaw in vehicle operating mode

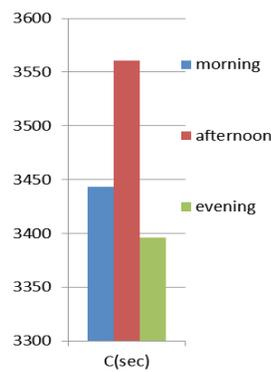


Figure 21. Cycle length (S) of auto rickshaw

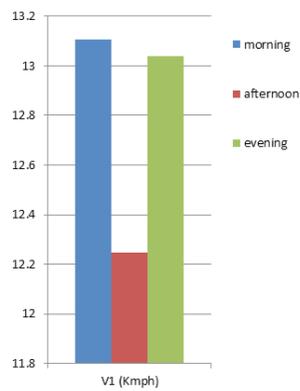
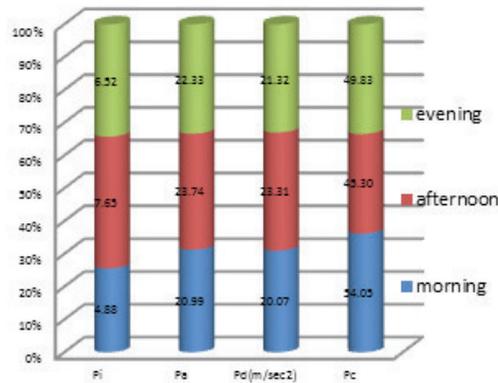
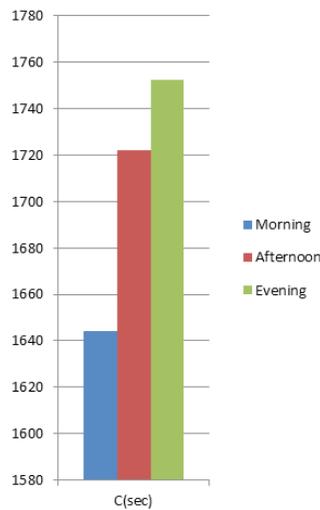


Figure 22. Speed of cycle

**Figure 23.** Time spent by cycle in vehicle operating mode



**Figure 24.** Cycle length (S) of cycle



**Auto rickshaw:** Average speed was 26–27 kmph, which was as fast as cars and motorcycles. However, their idling time was higher than cars and motorcycles at 11–13%. Their cycle length was 60 minutes. Auto rickshaws are normally used for longer trip lengths.

**Cycle:** Cycles are used for smaller trip lengths, therefore their cycle time was found to be less than that for auto rickshaws at 27 minutes. The important non-motorised operation had a higher time spent cruising (49–50%), as it is clear that acceleration and deceleration activities are minimised in manual transport. In addition, idling was 4–6%, which is

---

similar to that of the motorcycle, but the average speed was 12–13 kmph, which is indicative of a limitation of the manual mode of transport.

### **CONCLUSION**

Indian traffic compositions are heterogeneous in nature. Their driving patterns differ and result in variations in impedance and solutions to traffic problems. The driving speed of motorcycles was found to be higher than other modes of transport, whereas cyclists enjoy cruising and less idling time in spite of their lower average speed. The pattern of cycle rickshaw driving was found to be similar to that of cyclists, except for lower speeds. Buses have good average running speeds but a higher number of stop and go operations, hence higher idling time on journeys. In order to make the policy decision on corridor traffic management, it is important to know the driving pattern of different modes of transport, together with their journey speeds and delays. These parameters can be used to determine the performance of the corridor. Since the driving cycle also identifies the spot-location of congestion, it is highly useful in improving the traffic demand. The accurate estimation of driving cycles will provide realistic emission and fuel consumption patterns for different vehicle running times spent in different vehicle operating modes.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The authors are thankful to the Director of CRRI New Delhi in publishing this paper, and help supplied by Mr Satyabir Singh, Ms Kamini Gupta, TOB and Darshan Singh at CRRI is duly acknowledged. The authors are indebted to CSIR Headquarters for funding this research under the EMPWOPER scheme.

### **REFERENCES**

- ARAI, (2007), Automotive Research Association of India, 2007, Air Quality Monitoring Project-Indian Clean Air Programme (ICAP) Project Rep No.: AFL/2006-07/IOCL/Emission Factor Project/Final Report.
- Gandhi, K.K. and Zvonow, V.A. (1983), "Development of a Driving Cycle for fuel economy in a developing country", *Transportation Research Part A*, Vol. 17, No. 1, pp. 1-11.

- Kumar, R., Durai, B.K., Saleh, W. and Boswell, C. (2011), "Comparison and evaluation of emissions for different driving cycles of motorcycles: A note", *Transport Research Part D*, Vol. 16, Issue 1, pp. 61-64.
- Saleh, W., Kumar, R., Kirby, H. and Kumar, P. (2009), "Real World Driving Cycle for motorcycle in Edinburgh, Transport Research Part D", *Transport Environment*, Vol. 14, Issue 5, pp. 326-333.
- Kumar R., Kamini, G. and Durai, B.K. (2012), "Real world driving cycle, emission and fuel economy for car- A case of East Delhi," *8th International Symposium On Fuels And Lubricants Organised by IOCL, March 5-7, 2012.*

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHORS**

**Dr Ravindra Kumar** earned his PhD (Engineering) at Edinburgh Napier University (UK) and a Master's degree (Engineering) at the University of Roorkee (now Indian Institute of Technology). He has worked for the premiere Central Road Research Institute India for the last 15 years and is a Senior Scientist in the Transport Planning department. His current research focuses on transportation and road network planning, evaluating and mitigating the environmental impacts assessment of road transport on urban air quality, with a special focus on rehabilitation and resettlement planning, real-world driving cycle and vehicular emission using advanced instruments and developing emission factors based on onboard, micro simulation and chassis dynamometer. He is supervising a number of under- and postgraduate project students, besides research and consultancy research.

**Dr Purnima Parida** is a Principal Scientist and Head at the Transportation Planning Division of Central Road Research Institute, New Delhi, India. Some of the significant projects handled by Dr Parida include research on the development of qualitative and quantitative Level of Service Models for Sidewalks, Estimation of Energy Loss due to Congestion, Development of Parking Norms for Residential and Commercial Areas, and connectivity of an airport terminal with the city transport system. For her work in planning for pedestrian facilities, she was invited by the World Bank to deliver a presentation in the Transforming Transportation workshop. She received the IRC Medal for her work on Estimation of Fuel Loss during Idling of Vehicles at Signalized Intersections in Delhi. She is a member of Urban Roads, Streets & Transport Committee (H-8 committee) of Indian Roads Congress. She has completed over 30

---

sponsored research and consultancy projects. She has published more than 70 research papers in various journals and presented at national and international conferences.

**Dr Bhujang Kanga Durai** is a Senior Principal Scientist at the CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) New Delhi, India. He has 25 years of experience in the areas of transportation planning and economics, including in rural roads. He completed his Master's Degree in Economics and Planning and a PhD in the area of planning and evaluation of rural road networks. He teaches Research Methodology and Transportation Economics for postgraduate programmes. Currently he heads research project planning, monitoring and evaluation activities at CRRI.

**Dr Wafaa Saleh** is an academic member of the Transport Research Institute at Edinburgh Napier University, UK. Dr Saleh is a Reader in Transportation at the School and teaches a number of modules, including transport modelling, traffic engineering, transport and the environment and transport telematics. He has gained wide experience in assessing the impacts of transport schemes, sustainability and traffic demand management.

**Real-world  
driving cycle in  
heterogeneous  
traffic conditions  
in Delhi**

**456**

---