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effects.

#### 1 ABSTRACT

2 The current approaches for crash frequency and severity prediction in the Highway Safety Manual 3 (HSM) do not employ vehicle mix information. In this research effort, we build advanced 4 alternatives to HSM methods while incorporating vehicle mix information. Two model systems: 5 (a) multivariate Poisson-lognormal model (MVPLN) and (b) negative binomial – ordered probit 6 fractional split model (NB-OPFS) are estimated by incorporating vehicle mix variables. The 7 developed model systems can also capture the influence of observed and unobserved heterogeneity 8 of different independent variables including vehicle mix variables. We estimate the models for 9 three facility types including Urban Arterial 4-Lane Divided segments, Rural 3-Leg STOP 10 Controlled and Rural 4-Leg STOP Controlled intersections using data from four Highway Safety Information System (HSIS) states including California, Illinois, Minnesota, Washington, and three 11 Non-HSIS states including Connecticut, Florida and Texas. For modeling crashes at each facility 12 13 level, we adopt a pooled modeling technique that accounts for state specific observed and 14 unobserved heterogeneity in the pooled datasets. A comprehensive set of independent variables including traffic volume, vehicle mix indicators, roadway characteristics and state specific 15 16 indicators are considered in the analysis. The model comparison exercise is conducted based on a 17 comprehensive set of quantitative and qualitative metrics. The study highlights how different methodological approaches perform better for different facilities. The study findings also 18 19 underscore how capturing the observed and unobserved impacts of vehicle mix variables improves 20 model performance in crash frequency and severity dimensions across the facility types. 21

Keywords: Crash frequency, Crash severity, Vehicle mix variables, Pooled model, Unobserved
 effects.

#### 1 1. BACKGROUND

2 Transportation safety literature employs statistical or econometric models to examine crash 3 occurrences and their consequences at various spatial levels such as site level, corridor level and 4 area level. The site level and corridor level analysis are conducted to identify geometric design 5 specific and/or engineering solutions to reduce the impact of crashes for the examined road entities 6 (segment, intersection or network) while the area level (state, zone or block) studies facilitate the 7 identification of regional hotspots, and adoption of area-wide planning and remedial solutions. The 8 different types of crash models employed include univariate count models (where a single count 9 variable such as total crashes is examined for a spatial unit (1-3), simulation based multivariate 10 and/or unobserved heterogeneity incorporated count models (where multiple crash count variables by crash type and/or severity are analyzed for a spatial unit in multivariate models including means 11 and variances approaches (4-13), latent class models to incorporate class-specific heterogeneity 12 13 (14, 15)), analytically closed form based count models (where multivariate distributions or 14 approximations of multivariate distributions with an analytical closed form probability expression 15 are employed (16, 17)), count-fractional split models (where the count component models total 16 crashes and the fractional split component models fraction of crashes by severity/crash type (18-17 20)), and integrated multi-resolution crash frequency models (where crash data from multiple 18 observational resolutions are considered simultaneously within a unified system (21-24)).

19 The findings from these research studies traditionally form the basis for safety planning 20 and guidance provided by transportation agencies across the country. The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) released the first edition of the 21 22 Highway Safety Manual (HSM) in 2010 that provides a uniform guidance documenting methods 23 and procedures for estimating total crashes, crashes by type and crashes by severity at the site 24 level, project level and corridor level (25). While the HSM approaches are widely employed in 25 transportation agencies, researchers are continuing to develop enhanced approaches that are 26 practical and reliable for application across transportation jurisdictions in the country. Several 27 research studies identified vehicle mix information as a relevant variable for inclusion in applied 28 crash frequency and severity models (19, 20, 22, 26, 27). Vehicle mix, in this context, is defined 29 as traffic volume (AADT) by vehicle type. The vehicle type information can be considered at a 30 coarser resolution such as passenger car and truck AADT (or percentage). A finer resolution vehicle mix variable can include detailed information such as types of buses, trucks, utility 31 vehicles, SUV and other vehicle classes (see (1, 2, 28-32) for studies employing this resolution 32 33 for modeling).

34 In the NCHRP project titled "The Effect of Vehicle Mix on Crash Frequency and Crash 35 Severity", we developed a practical approach to systematically incorporate the impact of vehicle 36 mix on crash occurrence and severity (33). In this project, we considered the impact of different 37 vehicle mix variables (coarse and fine resolution) on crash frequency and severity analysis. While 38 the negative binomial model system is the most commonly incorporated framework in HSM, 39 several competing frameworks have emerged in recent years. Eluru et al. (2024) tested two 40 emerging methods: (a) multivariate Poisson-lognormal model and (b) negative binomial – ordered 41 probit fractional split model (33). The model estimation procedures were implemented for a large 42 number of facilities using data from multiple states and a user guidebook was developed. The 43 current study builds on the NCHRP project effort along the following ways. First, the 44 methodological frameworks developed in the NCHRP project were limited by practical considerations. Hence, the model building process was limited to a smaller set of variables with 45 few interactions i.e., limited observed heterogeneity. Further, the models estimated did not account 46

1 for random parameters and/or common unobserved factors affecting the dependent variables. 2 Thus, in our current research effort, we developed advanced variants of the modeling frameworks 3 that account for additional observed and unobserved heterogeneity while accounting for the impact 4 of vehicle mix. Second, the study builds on the pooled modeling approach employed in NCHRP 5 project by incorporating additional interactions of jurisdiction-specific variables with other 6 independent variables. For example, we examine how the impact of independent variables such as 7 AADT vary by jurisdiction. The approach allows for custom development of jurisdiction specific 8 models without the disadvantages of partitioning data by jurisdiction. Thus, the proposed approach 9 accommodates state specific observed and unobserved heterogeneity. Finally, we recognize that a 10 single model structure cannot outperform all alternatives for all facility types. Hence, in the current study we employ a detailed model comparison exercise based on a comprehensive set of 11 quantitative and qualitative metrics to identify the most appropriate model system for each facility 12 13 type. We compare the two novel frameworks with the current state of the art models employed in 14 practice through the HSM model.

15 For our analysis, we consider data from four Highway Safety Information System (HSIS) 16 states including California, Illinois, Minnesota, Washington and three Non-HSIS states including 17 Connecticut, Florida, and Texas. Finally, the guidance exercise is undertaken for different facility types to illustrate how there is no universal model system that offers enhanced fit across different 18 19 facility types. In our analysis, we developed models for three different facility types based on HSM 20 facility guidelines (see (33)). In this paper, we select Urban Arterial 4-Lane Divided segment (UA4LD) facility, Rural 3-Leg STOP Controlled (R3ST) and Rural 4-Leg STOP Controlled 21 22 (R4ST) intersection facilities for our comparison exercise. We wanted to select different facility 23 types to examine if and how the impact of vehicle mix varies by location (urban and rural) and 24 facility type (segment and intersection). Further, we considered three facility types to highlight 25 how a single framework does not necessarily offer improvement for all facility types. The 26 comparison exercise allows us to see how different model systems might offer enhanced 27 performance across facility types.

28

# 29 **2. METHODOLOGY**

In this study, we consider two advanced frameworks: a) negative binomial-fractional split
 framework (NB-OPFS), and b) multivariate Poisson-lognormal (MVPLN) model. The equation
 systems for NB-OPFS and MVPLN models are discussed in the following sections.

33

# 34 2.1 Negative Binomial-Ordered Probit Fractional Split (NB-OPFS) Model

In the NB-OPFS framework, NB component models the total crashes and the OPFS componentestimates the fraction of crashes by severity levels.

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### 38 2.1.1 Count component (NB model)

For a spatial unit l (where l is segment s or intersection i), negative binomial (NB) model can be employed to estimate total crash count. The probability density function of NB model can be written as,

$$P(c_l) = \frac{\Gamma\left(c_l + \frac{1}{\alpha_l}\right)}{\Gamma(c_l + 1)\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{\alpha_l}\right)} \left(\frac{1}{1 + \alpha_l \mu_l}\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha_l}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{1 + \alpha_l \mu_l}\right)^{c_l} \tag{1}$$

42

1 where,  $c_l$  be the index for crashes occurring over a period of time in a spatial unit l (segment 2 or intersection).  $P(c_l)$  is the probability that unit l has  $c_l$  number of crashes.  $\Gamma(\cdot)$  is the gamma 3 function,  $\alpha_l$  is negative binomial overdispersion parameter and  $\mu_l$  is the expected number of 4 crashes occurring in the unit l over a given time period. The equation for  $\mu_l$  can be written as 5 follows,

$$\mu_l = E(c_l | \mathbf{Y}_l) = exp((\boldsymbol{\delta}_l + \boldsymbol{\zeta}_l) Y_l + \varepsilon_l + \eta_l)$$
<sup>(2)</sup>

6 where,  $\mathbf{Y}_l$  is a vector of explanatory variables associated with the analysis unit l.  $\boldsymbol{\delta}_l$  is a 7 vector of coefficients to be estimated.  $\boldsymbol{\zeta}_l$  a vector of unobserved factors on crash count propensity 8 for unit l.  $\varepsilon_l$  is a gamma distributed error term with mean 1 and variance  $\alpha_l$ .  $\eta_l$  captures the 9 influence of common unobserved factors that impact the total number of crashes and proportion 10 of crashes by severity for unit l.

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#### 12 2.1.2 Fractional split component (OPFS model)

13 The modeling of crash proportions by severity levels is undertaken using the ordered probit 14 fractional split model (OPFS). In the ordered outcome framework, the actual injury severity 15 proportions  $(y_{lk})$  are assumed to be associated with an underlying continuous latent variable  $(y_l^*)$ 16 as follows:

$$y_{l}^{*} = ((\boldsymbol{\beta}_{l} + \boldsymbol{\rho}_{l})\boldsymbol{F}_{l} + \xi_{l} \pm \eta_{l}), y_{lk} = k \text{ if } \tau_{l(k-1)} < y_{l}^{*} < \tau_{lk}$$
(3)

17 The latent propensity  $y_l^*$  is mapped to the actual severity proportion categories  $y_{lk}$  by  $\tau_l$ 18 thresholds ( $\tau_{l0} = -\infty$  and  $\tau_{lK} = +\infty$ ).  $F_l$  is a vector of attributes (not including a constant) that 19 influences the propensity associated with severity proportion categories for unit l.  $\beta_l$  is the corresponding vector of mean effects.  $\rho_l$  a vector of unobserved factors on severity proportion 20 21 propensity for unit l.  $\xi_l$  is an idiosyncratic error term assumed to be identically and independently 22 standard normally distributed across unit l.  $\eta_l$  term generates the correlation between equations 23 for total number of crashes and crash proportions by severity levels and also allows for considering 24 the influence of various unobserved factors affecting the frequency and proportion variables. The 25  $\pm$  sign in front of  $\eta_l$  indicates that the correlation in unobserved individual factors between total 26 crashes and crash proportions by severity levels may be positive or negative. A positive sign 27 implies that facilities with higher number of crashes are intrinsically more likely to incur higher 28 proportions for severe crashes. On the other hand, negative sign implies that facilities with higher 29 number of crashes intrinsically incur lower proportions for severe crashes. To determine the appropriate sign one can empirically test the models with both ' + ' and ' - ' signs independently. 30 31 The model structure that offers the superior data fit is considered as the final model.

32 It is important to note here that the unobserved heterogeneity between total number of 33 crashes and crash proportions by severity levels can vary across facilities. Therefore, in the current 34 study, the correlation parameter  $\eta_l$  is parameterized as a function of observed attributes as follows:

$$\eta_l = G_l \boldsymbol{Q}_l \tag{4}$$

where,  $Q_l$  is a vector of exogenous variables,  $G_l$  is a vector of unknown parameters to be estimated (including a constant).

37 To estimate the model presented in equation 3, we assume that:

$$E(y_{lk}|F_l) = H_{lk}(\beta_l, \tau_l), \ 0 \le H_{lk} \le 1, \sum_{k=1}^{K} H_{lk} = 1$$
(5)

 $H_{lk}$  in our model takes the ordered probit probability ( $\Lambda$ ) form for the severity category k.

Given these relationships across different parameters, the resulting probability (Λ) for the
 ordered probit fractional split model takes the following form:

$$\Lambda(y_{lk} = k) = \varphi\{\tau_{lk} - y_l^*\} - \varphi\{\tau_{l(k-1)} - y_l^*\}$$
(6)

where,  $\varphi(\cdot)$  is the standard normal cumulative distribution function.

#### 6 2.1.3 Model estimation

In examining the model structure of total crash count and proportions of crashes by severity level, it is necessary to specify the structure for the unobserved vectors **G**,  $\zeta$ ,  $\rho$  represented by Ω. In this study, it is assumed that the elements are drawn from independent realization from normal population:  $\Omega \sim N(0, (\sigma_1^2, \sigma_2^2, \sigma_3^2))$ . Thus, conditional on Ω, the likelihood function for the integrated probability can be expressed as:

$$L_{l} = \int_{\Omega} P(c_{l}) \times \prod_{k=1}^{K} \left( \Lambda(y_{lk} = k) \right)^{\varpi_{l} d_{lk}} d\Omega$$
<sup>(7)</sup>

12 where,  $w_l$  is a dummy variable taking a value of 1 if the corresponding unit *l* has at least 13 one crash over the study period and 0 otherwise.  $d_{lk}$  is the proportion of crashes in severity 14 category *k* for unit *l*. Finally, the log-likelihood function is:

$$LL = \sum_{l} Ln(L_{l}) \tag{8}$$

All the parameters in the model are estimated by maximizing the logarithmic function *LL* presented in equation 8. To estimate the proposed model, we apply Quasi-Monte Carlo simulation techniques based on the scrambled Halton sequence to approximate this integral in the likelihood function and maximize the logarithm of the resulting simulated likelihood function across individuals (please see (*34*, *35*) for details). We use the GAUSS matrix programming software to run the models (*36*).

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#### 22 2.2 Multivariate Poisson-Lognormal (MVPLN) Model

Multivariate Poisson-lognormal (MVPLN) model estimates the factors affecting crashes across severity levels. Let *n* be the number of observations in facility (segments or intersections), *J* be the number of severity levels, and *Y* be a matrix of crash counts, with  $Y_{ij}$  be the number of crashes at location *i* with severity *j*. The crash count of the *j*<sup>th</sup> severity type at the *i*<sup>th</sup> entity, *y*<sub>ij</sub>, follows a Poisson distribution with parameter  $\lambda_{ij}$ , as shown in equations below (*37*).

$$Y_{ij}|\lambda_{ij} \sim Poisson(\lambda_{ij}) \tag{9}$$

$$\lambda_{ij} = \exp\left(X_{ij}'\beta_j + \varepsilon_{ij}\right) \tag{10}$$

1 In this model,  $X_{ij}$  is a k-dimensional matrix of covariates, and  $\beta_j$  is a vector of parameters. 2 Notably, the parameter for some selected covariates  $X_t$ , for example  $\beta_{j,t}$ , are allowed to vary 3 according to a multivariate normal distribution across all severity levels, while the other 4 parameters remain constant.

$$\beta_{j,t} \sim N_J(\mu_t, \Omega) \tag{11}$$

5 Where  $\mu_t$  is a mean vector of coefficients of covariate  $X_t$  across all severities and  $\Omega$  is 6 corresponding variance-covariance matrix. All other parameters  $\beta_{j,k}$  (for  $k \neq t$ ) are constant. The 7 random effects  $\varepsilon_{ij}$  are assumed to follow a multivariate normal distribution as:

 $\varepsilon_i | \Sigma \sim N_J(0, \Sigma) \tag{12}$ 

8 The unrestricted covariance matrix  $\sum$  captures the correlation between severity levels that 9 is modeled using a J-dimensional multivariate normal distribution  $N_I$ . A full Bayesian approach is adopted for estimation of parameters, and this involves solving multi-dimensional integrals 10 without a closed form solution and hence Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) simulation 11 12 approach is used to determine parameter estimates. The MCMC algorithm is implemented using 13 Just Another Gibbs Sampler (JAGS) to estimate posterior distributions of parameters (38). For all 14 the regression coefficients, noninformative normal prior with zero mean and very high variance is 15 used; and the inverse of variance-covariance is estimated using Wishart distributed prior as: 16

$$\Omega^{-1} \sim Wishart(I,J), \ \Sigma^{-1} \sim Wishart(I,J); \ I = J \ dimensional \ Identity \ matrix$$
(13)

17

#### 18 **3. DATA PREPARATION**

19 This study considers data from four Highway Safety Information System (HSIS) states including 20 California, Illinois, Minnesota, Washington and three Non-HSIS states including Connecticut, 21 Florida, and Texas for the analysis. The reader will note that we attempted to collect data from 22 other HSIS and non-HSIS states such as Michigan, Maine, Utah, North Carolina, Ohio and South 23 Dakota. However, data obtained from some states were outdated or had missing information for 24 very important variables such as lane width, shoulder type, shoulder width, and median width. 25 Hence, we did not include those states for our analysis. Based on the data availability by facility types, we considered data from California, Florida, Illinois, Minnesota, Texas, and Washington 26 27 states for segment facilities and California, Connecticut, Florida, and Minnesota states for 28 intersection facilities. This study considers Urban Arterial 4-Lane Divided (UA4LD) segment 29 facility, Rural 3-Leg STOP Controlled (R3ST) and Rural 4-Leg STOP Controlled (R4ST) 30 intersection facilities for the empirical analysis. For the analysis, we spatially assign the crashes 31 for segment and intersection facilities by using ArcGIS tools. In this process, for assigning 32 intersection-related crashes, a 250 feet buffer around the center of each intersection was considered 33 and the crashes were spatially assigned (see earlier studies that adopted this approach (21, 39-41)). 34 The information of the facility types and crash statistics across the facility types are shown in Table 35 1.

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- 37
- 38

IADLE I IIII	ormation of th	пе гаспиу	1 ypes				
		Urban 4-Lane Divided Arterial		Rural 3-	Leg STOP	Rural 4-Leg STOP Controlled	
State	Crash Data			Con	trolled		
	(Year)	Number	Total	Number	Total	Number	Total
		of Sites	Crashes	of Sites	Crashes	of Sites	Crashes
HSIS							
California	2013 - 2017	1,549	17,488	6,197	977	1,850	850
Illinois	2013 - 2017	21,600	160,786	<sup>a</sup>			
Minnesota	2011 - 2015	3,281	9,959	1,699	5,900	1,953	9,525
Washington	2014 - 2018	1,374	3,753				
Non-HSIS							
Connecticut	2015 - 2019	<sup>b</sup>		198	446	46	200
Florida	2015 - 2019	1,533	258,375	746	5,192	185	1,908
Texas	2015 - 2019	6,342	25,822				
To	tal	35,679	476,183	8,840	12,115	4,034	12,483
Estimation	n Samples	7,500	93,832	6,500	8,991	3,000	9,310
Validation	Samples	20,000	279,778	2,340	3,524	1,034	3,173

TABLE 1 Information of the Facility Types 1

Note: a) The intersection file is only available for 2 HSIS states including California and Minnesota and 2 non HSIS states including Connecticut and Florida. b) For Connecticut state, the crash counts for the selected segment facility were very low in addition to the missing information of some important variables. Hence, we excluded Connecticut state from segment facility.

2 3 4 5 6 7 For modeling crashes at each facility level by using data from all the analysis states, we 8 adopt a pooled modeling technique. In this technique, for each facility, we gather the datasets from 9 all the analysis states and prepare a single dataset for model estimation process. This single pooled 10 dataset is then split into estimation dataset (used for the model development) and validation dataset 11 (used for the model performance assessment) by randomly sampling the data. For instance, for 12 UA4LD segment facility, the data from all six states resulted in a pooled dataset of 35,679 13 segments. From these segments, 7,500 segments were randomly drawn for model estimation while 14 drawing 20,000 different segments for model validation. A similar procedure was followed for the 15 two intersection facilities. 16

#### 17 Variables Considered 3.1

18 In this study, a five-point severity scale KABCO is considered for the crash analysis by severity 19 type. KABCO is a widely used injury severity scale where K = fatal crashes (crashes which result 20 in at least a death within 30 days of crashes), A = incapacitating crashes (non-fatal crashes which 21 result in disabling injuries, such as broken bones, severed limbs, skull/chest/abdominal injuries, 22 etc. and usually require hospitalization and transport to medical facility), B = non-incapacitating 23 crashes (non-fatal crashes which result in non-disabling but evident injuries, such as lacerations, 24 scrapes, bruises, etc.), C = possible injury crashes (non-fatal crashes which result in no visible25 signs of injury but complaint of pain, momentary unconsciousness, nausea or hysteria), and O = no injury crashes (42-44). For NB-OPFS model framework, total crash counts and crash 26 27 proportion by each severity class are considered as dependent variables while for multivariate 28 Poisson-lognormal modeling approach, crash counts by each severity level are considered. The 29 severity proportion in the NB-OPFS model for a specific severity class is defined by crash counts 30 by that severity class divided by total number of crashes (total of all severity classes). The severity

1 proportions are: 1) proportion of fatal crashes (KP), 2) proportion of incapacitating crashes (AP),

3) proportion of non-incapacitating crashes (BP), 4) proportion of possible injury crashes (CP),
and 5) proportion of no injury crashes (OP).

4 In terms of independent variables, a comprehensive set of variables including traffic 5 volume information (aggregate level AADT), vehicle mix indicators (such as truck percentage, single unit truck percentage, and high truck zone indicator (a detailed definition of this variable is 6 7 provided in Section 3.1.1 Approaches and assumptions of vehicle mix data)), roadway 8 characteristics (such as lane width, median width, speed limit, shoulder type and width) and state 9 specific indicators (variables reflecting the state specific differences caused by the driver behavior, 10 roadway design and operations) are considered for the crash frequency analysis. The reader would note that we observed varying speed limit distributions across facility types in different states (see 11 12 Table 2). The variation in speed limit distributions could be attributed to several factors such as 13 state-specific geography, land-use, roadway environment, traffic intensity, and state-specific 14 regulations.

15

1110		in ibution of	Speca L	miles Here	bss the State	00			
		UA4LD			R3ST			R4ST	
State	SL<=40	SL 41-55	SL>55	SL<=40	SL 41-55	SL>55	SL<=40	SL 41-55	SL>55
	mph	mph	mph	mph	mph	mph	mph	mph	mph
CA	15.19	33.23	51.58	15.20	39.43	45.37	9.62	20.19	70.19
CT				55.48	44.52	0.00	54.76	45.24	0.00
FL	49.53	40.19	10.28	23.64	59.09	17.27	26.52	62.88	10.61
IL	51.52	35.36	13.12						
MN	0.00	100.00	0.00	3.98	90.46	5.56	2.29	92.17	5.54
TX	14.35	22.89	62.76						
WA	0.00	100.00	0.00						

#### 16 TABLE 2 Distribution of Speed Limits Across the States

Note: The values in the table indicate percentages; -- indicates that the state is excluded from the analysis for that
 facility type due to data unavailability.

*facility type due to data unavaila* 19

### 20 3.1.1 Approaches and assumptions of vehicle mix data

21 We explored the vehicle mix data availability across our study states. We used the observed vehicle mix data in the model estimation process for the states where data are available. Alternatively, if 22 vehicle mix data was not available, we adopted the Quasi-induced exposure (QIE) technique for 23 24 generating the vehicle mix data across each facility type within the state, and then used the 25 generated vehicle mix data in crash frequency and severity models for the corresponding facility (please see (45, 46) for a detailed discussion on the QIE approach). By exploring the vehicle mix 26 27 data availability and resolution of the vehicle classification (coarse and fine) across the seven 28 states, we found that the data for passenger cars and trucks are available for the majority of the 29 states, at least at the coarser resolution. At a finer resolution, we did not obtain any data on 30 passenger cars. However, categorization of trucks is available for five states including California, 31 Illinois, Minnesota, Washington, and Texas. Among these states, 4 states have available data for 32 single unit trucks. Other finer resolutions such as combination unit or multi-unit are available for 33 1 or 2 states only. Therefore, in the current study, we used total truck percentage and single unit 34 truck percentage as the vehicle mix information variables. To examine the additional impacts of truck traffic, we tested the impact of trucks in locations with high truck volume, referred to as high 35 truck zone. These locations are defined as having truck percentage  $\geq 85^{\text{th}}$  percentile of truck traffic 36

percentage for the corresponding facility type. We considered 85<sup>th</sup> percentile value as it is a commonly used metric in transportation engineering, such as 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed. In addition to the direct vehicle mix variables, we incorporated several interaction variables between high truck zone and other geometric attributes to capture the non-linear effect of truck percentage on crash frequency and severity.

6 In estimating the model, several functional forms, and combination of variables are 7 considered and those that provide the best fit are retained in the final specification. The final 8 specification of the models is based on removing the statistically insignificant variables in a 9 systematic process based on 90% confidence level. The summary statistics of the variables 10 considered for the final model estimation across the facilities are presented in Table A4 to Table 11 A6 in the Appendix.

12 13

# 4. EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS

14

## 15 4.1 Model Specification and Overall Measure of Fit

16 In this study, a negative binomial-ordered probit fractional split (NB-OPFS) model framework and a multivariate Poisson-lognormal (MVPLN) model framework are employed to estimate crash 17 18 frequency for Urban Arterial 4-Lane Divided (UA4LD) segment facility, Rural 3-Leg STOP 19 Controlled, and Rural 4-Leg STOP Controlled intersection facilities while incorporating vehicle 20 mix information. We also estimate HSM predictive methods for three facilities by following the 21 equations described in Chapter 11 and Chapter 12 of part C of HSM 2010 (25). The HSM methods 22 provide the benchmark for newly developed model systems. Since three model systems are 23 different, instead of depending on log-likelihood and Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) value, 24 we evaluate model predictive performance by employing two statistical measures of fit: mean 25 absolute deviation (MAD) and mean squared prediction error (MSPE) (please see (23, 27) for a 26 detailed definition of these measures). The model with the lower values of MAD and MSPE 27 provides better predictions for the observed data. The MAD and MSPE values for all severity 28 levels by facility for the three models are presented in Table 3.

29 Table 3 presents the MAD and MSPE values for total crash frequency and crash frequency 30 by five severity classes. For each facility type, we obtained the values from both estimation and 31 validation datasets for the three model frameworks. The reader would note that a single framework 32 might not perform consistently better across all the dimensions for a facility type. Therefore, 33 identifying the best model for each facility type is challenging. To this end, we adopt two 34 approaches that consider the model performances across all the estimated dimensions. The first approach, defined as total crash approach considers MAD and MSPE values from total crash 35 36 frequency predictions (sum of crash frequency across all severity levels). Alternatively, the second 37 approach, defined as severity level scoring approach considers MAD and MSPE values from five 38 severity levels. The following sections discuss both approaches.

39

### 40 4.1.1 Total crash approach

In this approach, we identify the model that provides the lowest MAD and MSPE with respect to
 total crash frequency. The values of the MAD and MSPE measures are presented in the 10<sup>th</sup> column
 and the selected models based on this approach are presented in 12<sup>th</sup> column in Table 3.

44

### 45 4.1.2 Severity level scoring approach

46 In this approach, the model that performs better for the severity level is awarded a point and the 47 total score for each model across the severity levels is aggregated.

Facility	Dataset	Measures	Models	0	С	В	Α	K	Total	Severity Score	Total Crash App.	Severity Scoring App.	Final Model	
			HSM	9.977	1.507	1.087	0.898	0.075	12.581	1				
		MAD	NB-OPFS	8.909	1.450	1.080	1.057	0.086	11.479	3	NB-OPFS	NB-OPFSMVPLNNB-OPFSNB-OPFSNB-OPFSMVPLNNB-OPFSMVPLNNB-OPFSMVPLNNB-OPFSNB-OPFSNB-OPFSNB-OPFSNB-OPFSNB-OPFSNB-OPFSNB-OPFSNB-OPFSNB-OPFS		
	Estimation		MVPLN	9.976	1.346	1.006	0.788	0.065	12.662	4				
	Estimation		HSM	1,335.919	33.522	9.507	4.340	0.078	2,002.542	1		Total ash App.Severity Scoring App.Fin Model3-OPFSMVPLN		
		MSPE	NB-OPFS	1,127.443	31.901	8.041	7.023	0.077	1,680.627	3	NB-OPFS			
			MVPLN	2,315.543	56.700	10.661	3.146	0.066	3,566.045	2			NR OPES	
UA4LD			HSM	10.743	1.705	1.213	0.891	0.078	13.639	0			ND-OFF5	
		MAD	NB-OPFS	9.764	1.651	1.205	1.086	0.090	12.669	2	NB-OPFS	MVPLN		
	Validation		MVPLN	11.063	1.528	1.006	0.788	0.062	14.671	4				
	vandation		HSM	2,463.751	56.808	17.231	4.748	0.102	3,574.123	2		Severity Scoring App. MVPLN NB-OPFS MVPLN MVPLN MVPLN NB-OPFS NB-OPFS MVPLN NB-OPFS MVPLN NB-OPFS MVPLN MVPLN MVPLN		
		MSPE	NB-OPFS	2,352.022	63.135	16.816	3.010	0.100	3,427.745	2	NB-OPFS	MVPLN		
			MVPLN	2,963.729	78.095	10.661	3.146	0.068	4,651.209	3				
			HSM	1.094	0.372	0.279	0.111	0.039	1.677	1				
		MAD	NB-OPFS	0.751	0.287	0.211	0.091	0.043	1.110	4	NB-OPFS	MVPLN		
	Estimation		MVPLN	0.817	0.289	0.223	0.091	0.039	1.579	5				
	Estimation		HSM	10.338	0.921	0.512	0.161	0.027	23.462	1		ND ODES		
		MSPE	NB-OPFS	6.969	0.688	0.377	0.135	0.027	15.110	5	NB-OPFS	NB-OPFS		
DOCT			MVPLN	7.860	0.680	0.451	0.126	0.026	22.873	3		S MVPLN S NB-OPFS S NB-OPFS S NB-OPFS NB-OPFS	ND ODEC	
K351			HSM	1.175	0.402	0.294	0.110	0.044	1.799	1				
		MAD	NB-OPFS	0.809	0.308	0.234	0.097	0.047	1.214	4	NB-OPFS	NB-OPFS		
	37 1.1		MVPLN	0.891	0.314	0.248	0.097	0.042	1.334	4		/MVPLN		
	Validation		HSM	8.387	0.873	0.392	0.113	0.027	17.944	1				
		MSPE	NB-OPFS	6.236	0.746	0.343	0.102	0.027	13.177	5	NB-OPFS	NB-OPFS		
			MVPLN	7.801	0.759	0.403	0.103	0.027	15.958	3		S NB-OPFS /MVPLN		
			HSM	2.039	0.939	0.555	0.177	0.126	3.339	1				
		MAD	NB-OPFS	1.640	0.771	0.472	0.176	0.142	2.637	3	MVPLN	MVPLN		
	<b>F</b>		MVPLN	1.601	0.799	0.462	0.157	0.122	2.583	5				
	Estimation		HSM	328.781	60.992	3.149	0.332	0.091	780.322	3				
		MSPE	NB-OPFS	323.821	59.991	2.816	0.309	0.092	765.033	4	NBOPFS	MVPLN		
DACT			MVPLN	327.824	60.333	2.785	0.304	0.079	773.041	5				
R4ST			HSM	1.828	0.832	0.574	0.229	0.109	3.038	1			MVPLN	
		MAD	NB-OPFS	1.473	0.682	0.480	0.198	0.136	2.327	4	MVPLN	MVPLN		
	** ** * .		MVPLN	1.427	0.710	0.469	0.183	0.115	2.274	5				
	Validation		HSM	27.342	4.153	1.355	0.245	0.067	64.858	2				
		MSPE	NB-OPFS	22.833	4.070	1.105	0.206	0.073	54.896	4	MVPLN	MVPLN		
			MVPLN	22.973	3.976	1.096	0.204	0.062	54.889	5	1			

**TABLE 3 Predictive Performance and Model Selection Process** 

2

1

Specifically, we identify the model with the lowest measures (MAD/MSPE) by severity level in the dataset and assigned a value of 1 while a value of 0 is given to the other models. In this process, two or all models are considered as similar performing models if the difference in the predictive measures are less than 10% relative to the top performing model. The final scores for each model are computed by adding the score across severity levels for each facility type (as shown in 11<sup>th</sup> column in Table 3). The model with the highest score at a facility type is considered as the top performing model for that facility type (as shown in 13<sup>th</sup> column).

8

### 9 4.1.3 Final model selection process

Based on the two approaches discussed above, the model that performs better across the measures and datasets is considered as the final model for the respective facility type. The final selected models across facility types are shown in the Final Model Column in Table 3. The results show that both NB-OPFS and MVPLN frameworks with vehicle mix data performed better than HSM predictive model that does not consider vehicle mix data. Within these advanced frameworks, the NB-OPFS models are selected for UA4LD segment and R3ST intersection facility while the MVPLN model is selected for R4ST intersection facility type.

17

#### 18 4.2 Accommodating Unobserved Heterogeneity in the Final Selected Models

To capture the parameter variability across the sample, we estimate the random parameters in our selected model system. We compare the random parameter models with their independent counterparts (fixed parameter models) in terms of log-likelihood (LL) and BIC values (as shown in Figure 1) to see the improvement of the models. Figure 1 shows that models that capture random parameter effects perform better than fixed parameter models across facility types.





Figure 1 Comparison between random parameters and fixed parameters model frameworks

#### 1 4.3 Model Estimation Results

2 This section provides a detailed discussion of the factors affecting crash count by severity levels 3 across the facility types considered in the analysis. Since random parameters models are found to 4 have improved data fit as evidenced by lower LL and BIC values in Figure 1, we discuss the results 5 of random parameter NB-OPFS and random parameter MVPLN models. Tables 4, 5 and 6 6 represent the final selected models with random parameter effects. The reader would note that a 7 positive (negative) sign for a variable in Tables indicates that an increase in the variable is likely 8 to result in more (less) crashes as well as exhibits a higher (lower) impact on severity. We discuss 9 the variables effects by facility types in the following sections. The results of the fixed parameter 10 models are presented in Table A1 to Table A3 in the Appendix.

11

#### 12 4.3.1 Urban arterial 4-lane divided (UA4LD) segment facility

13 In the crash count component of UA4LD segment facility, the model constant does not have any substantive interpretation. However, our model shows that the model constant value varies across 14 15 the jurisdictions (states). For Minnesota and Washington states, the values are different from the 16 other states as shown by state indicator variables in Table 4. For instance, for all the states other 17 than Minnesota and Washington, the constant value is -1.767, and for Minnesota and Washington, the constants are -9.538 (-1.767-7.771) and -7.968 (-1.767-6.201) respectively. These differences 18 19 highlight the region-specific influences on the estimates. It is to be noted that the segment length 20 and number of years (5) are used as an offset variable in the NB model specification.

21 With respect to the traffic characteristics, several variables were found to be significant in 22 our model. As expected, the parameter associated with AADT shows a positive impact on the 23 likelihood of total crashes. AADT serves as a surrogate for exposure for traffic volume and 24 therefore, with higher exposure, the likelihood of crash risk increases (see (21, 22, 47) for similar 25 results). The interactions of AADT variables and state variables indicate that the effect of the 26 AADT varies for Minnesota and Washington states. Further, the parameter associated with AADT 27 also exhibits significant variation across segments as evidenced by the significant random 28 parameter (indicated by the standard deviation variable in Table 4). Among the vehicle mix 29 variables, a higher percentage of truck traffic and percentage of single unit truck traffic are found 30 to decrease the crash risk in the UA4LD segments (see (48) for similar finding). The results possibly are the effects of cautious driving with the increased percentage of heavy vehicles on the 31 32 UA4LD segments. Additionally, the effect of the percentage of single unit truck traffic on crash 33 count propensity varies significantly across the segments as indicated by the standard deviation 34 parameter in Table 4.

35 With regards to the roadway characteristics, the results show that segments with wider lane (>12 feet) and wider median width (> 20 feet) show a negative impact on crash count compared 36 37 to the lane width  $\leq 12$  feet and median with  $\leq 20$  feet, respectively (as found in (49)). Interestingly, 38 a wider lane width (>12 feet) in the high truck zone is found to further reduce the crash risk. 39 Further, narrow outside and inside shoulder width (<8 feet) are found to increase crash risk in the 40 UA4LD segment facility compared to the wider shoulder width (>8 feet) (see (49) for similar 41 results). Again, the results show that the narrow outside shoulder (<8 feet) in the high truck zone 42 further increases the crash risk. The paved shoulder type is found to reduce crash risk in the 43 segments and the effect gets moderated for California state as indicated by the interaction variable. 44 The speed limit >55 mph variable also shows similar effect, perhaps reflecting the better roadway 45 facilities and design conditions on sections with higher speed limits (48, 50).

46

# TABLE 4 Model Estimation Results of Random Parameters NB-OPFS Model for UA4LD Segments (N=7,500)

Variable Names	Count Cor	nponent	Severity Proportion Component		
	Estimates	t-stat	Estimates	t-stat	
Constant	-1.767	-5.424			
State-Minnesota	-7.771	-6.146			
State-Washington	-6.201	-3.379			
Ln(Year = 5)	1.000				
Threshold Parameters		•			
Threshold between OP-CP			0.708	4.648	
Threshold between CP-BP			1.010	6.610	
Threshold between BP-AP			1.455	9.511	
Threshold between AP-KP			2.664	16.620	
Traffic Characteristics		•			
Ln (AADT)	0.436	13.860	0.033	2.279	
Standard Deviation	0.061	18.194			
Ln (AADT)* State-Florida			-0.013	-3.797	
Ln (AADT)* State-Minnesota	0.722	5.712			
Ln (AADT)* State-Washington	0.510	2.832			
%Truck	-0.026	-4.204	-0.007	-3.120	
%Single unit truck	-0.043	-4.128			
Standard Deviation	0.028	1.657			
Roadway Characteristics					
Ln (Segment length, miles)	1.000		0.036	3.136	
Lane width (base: ≤12 feet)					
LW>12	-0.171	-2.231			
HTZ*LW>12	-0.982	-4.089			
Median width (base: ≤20 feet)					
MW>20	-0.293	-5.187	-0.065	-2.252	
Outside shoulder width (base: ≥8 feet)					
OSW<8	0.449	8.226			
HTZ*OSW<8	0.433	4.453			
Inside shoulder width (base: $\geq 8$ feet)					
ISW<8	0.372	3.661	-0.133	-2.680	
Shoulder type (base: unpaved)					
Paved	-0.716	-8.899			
Paved* State-California	0.442	3.015			
Speed limit (base: ≤55 mph)		•			
SL>55	-0.725	-5.484	0.173	3.723	
SL>55* State-California	0.430	2.467			
Overdispersion Parameter					
Constant	1.810	32.108			
State-California	-0.950	-7.456			
State-Washington	-1.679	-17.085			
Unobserved Heterogeneity (Correlation between	n crash count and	severity com	ponent)		
%Truck	0.001	1.972	0.001	1.972	
Log-Likelihood: -24,122,100; BIC: 48,574,338;	Number of Parar	neters: 37			

1 In the severity proportion component, interestingly the parameter associated with the 2 AADT shows positive effect. While this finding is counterintuitive, it requires further 3 investigation. The results also show that the effect of AADT is different for Florida state as 4 indicated by interaction variable. Among the vehicle mix variables, a higher percentage of truck traffic is found to reduce the severity risk. In contrast, the longer urban arterial segments are found 5 6 to contribute to increased severity. Usually, drivers in the longer segments with no/little change in 7 geometry tend to drive at a higher speed than usual, which might increase the risk of severe crashes. 8 Wider median width (> 20 feet) and narrow inside shoulder width (<8 feet) are found to decrease 9 severity of crashes. A wider median may provide additional safety zone in crashes while narrow 10 shoulders may discourage higher operating speed. Alternatively, as expected, urban arterial segments with speed limit higher than 55 mph have higher probability of severe crashes. 11

12 The proposed model system can capture the unobserved correlation between total crash 13 count and crash proportion by severity levels. In our testing, we found the percentage of truck 14 traffic exhibit significant unobserved correlation that affects both crash count and crash severity.

15

### 16 4.3.2 Rural 3-leg STOP controlled (R3ST) intersection facility

In the crash <u>count component of R3ST intersections</u>, the model constant does not have any substantive interpretation. However, our model shows that the model constant is not same across the states and the value is different for Florida and Minnesota states as indicated by state indicator variables in Table 5. These deviations highlight the region-specific influences on the estimates. We use the number of years (5) as an offset variable in the NB model specification.

22 Among the traffic characteristics, variables associated with both major road AADT and 23 minor road AADT are found to have positive association with total crash count for R3ST 24 intersections (as found in (51)). Further, the impact of major road AADT varies across R3ST 25 intersections as indicated by significant standard deviation parameter in Table 5. In the case of 26 Minnesota state, the net impact of major road AADT on crashes is further moderated. Among the 27 vehicle mix indicators, the results show that a higher percentage of major road trucks is more likely 28 to increase the number of intersection crashes (as found in (6, 51)). This could be due to the 29 visibility issues as wider space is required by heavy vehicles for turning movement and differential speeds with other vehicles at the intersections. Among the roadway attributes, intersections with 30 major road speed limit higher than 55 mph are more likely to increase the total number of crashes 31 32 (as found in (52)).

In the <u>severity component for R3ST intersections</u>, major road AADT is found to have a negative impact on crash severity. This could be due to the lower operating speed in the presence of higher volume of traffic at the intersection (6, 51). Further, intuitively, intersections with major roads posted speed limit  $\leq$  40 mph are found to be associated with lower probability of severe crashes.

38

# TABLE 5 Model Estimation Results of Random Parameters NB-OPFS Model for R3ST Intersection (N=6,500)

Variable Names	Count Co	mponent	Severity Proportion Component		
	Estimates	t-stat	Estimates	t-stat	
Constant	-10.880	-34.999			
State-Connecticut			-0.291	-2.838	
State-Florida	2.795	34.291			
State-Minnesota	2.989	5.844			

Variable Names	Count Co	mponent	Severity Proportion Component		
	Estimates	t-stat	Estimates	t-stat	
Ln(Year = 5)	1.000				
Threshold Parameters					
Threshold between OP-CP		-	-0.124	-0.673	
Threshold between CP-BP			0.451	2.429	
Threshold between BP-AP		-	1.128	6.124	
Threshold between AP-KP			1.633	8.686	
Traffic Characteristics					
Ln (Major road AADT)	0.588	15.338	-0.041	-2.004	
Standard Deviation	0.061	7.054			
Ln (Major road AADT) * State-Minnesota	-0.125	-2.219			
Ln (Minor road AADT)	0.502	25.117			
% Major road truck	0.012	3.108			
Roadway Characteristics					
Major road speed limit (base: 41-55 mph)					
Maj SL<=40			-0.242	-3.574	
Maj SL >55	-0.237	-3.815			
Overdispersion Parameter					
Constant	0.690	6.487			
State-Florida	-0.251	-2.569			
Log-Likelihood: -8,174.985; BIC: 16,516.782; Numb	er of Paramet	ers: 19			

*Note: -- denotes that the variable is not significant at 90% significant level.* 

### 4.3.3 Rural 4-leg STOP controlled (R4ST) intersection facility

The results of the RPMVPLN model show that the model constant in the framework is not the same across the states and the values are different for California and Florida states as indicated by state indicator variables in Table 6. These deviations highlight the region-specific influences on the estimates. We use the number of years (5) as an offset variable in the model specification.

8 With respect to the traffic characteristics, the findings show that the parameters associated 9 with AADT on both major and minor roads are positively correlated with crash counts across all 10 severities (similar results are found in (6, 51)). Interestingly, a higher percentage of trucks on major 11 roads generally reduces crash counts, especially for more severe crashes, while the same percentage on minor roads increases fatal crash counts in R4ST intersections. The random 12 13 parameter effects for the percentage of trucks on major roads show variability across intersections 14 and severity levels, as indicated by the main-diagonal values. The non-diagonal values represent the covariance among severity levels due to these random parameter effects, suggesting 15 16 interdependencies influenced by the truck percentage.

17

 18
 TABLE 6 Model Estimation Results of Random Parameters MVPLN Model for R4ST

 19
 Intersection (N=3,000)

Variable Names	0	С	В	Α	K
Constant	-10.447	-10.628	-10.683	-10.262	-8.873
State-California	-1.789	-2.026	-2.162	-1.797	-1.165
State-Florida	1.659	1.092	1.533	1.903	1.006
Ln (Year = 5)	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
Traffic Characteristics					

1

	0	ν	A	N			
0.717	0.647	0.642	0.384	0.302			
0.469	0.481	0.408	0.458	0.352			
-0.045	-0.066	-0.062	-0.129	-0.196			
				0.138			
-0.545	-0.374						
0.536							
				-0.464			
Variance-Covariance Matrix for Random Effects (% Major road truck)							
0	С	В	А	K			
0.007	0.002	0.002					
	0.009	0.002					
		0.010					
			0.022				
				0.026			
Heterogeneit	<i>y</i>						
0.679	0.676	0.617	0.677	0.631			
	0.778	0.657	0.737	0.683			
		0.694	0.679	0.649			
			0.916	0.689			
				0.873			
	0.717 0.469 -0.045  -0.545 0.536  ects (% Majo 0 0.007  Heterogeneit 0.679	0.717       0.047         0.469       0.481         -0.045       -0.066             -0.545       -0.374         0.536  0.007       0.002         0.009                                      <	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	0.717 $0.047$ $0.042$ $0.364$ $0.469$ $0.481$ $0.408$ $0.458$ $-0.045$ $-0.066$ $-0.062$ $-0.129$ $$ $$ $$ $$ $0.536$ $$ $$ $$ $0.536$ $$ $$ $$ $0.536$ $$ $$ $$ $0.536$ $$ $$ $$ $0.536$ $$ $$ $$ $0.536$ $$ $$ $$ $0.536$ $$ $$ $$ $0.536$ $$ $$ $$ $0.536$ $$ $$ $$ $0.536$ $$ $$ $$ $$ $$ $$ $$ $0.536$ $$ $$ $$ $0.002$ $0.002$ $$ $$ $0.007$ $0.002$ $$ $$ $0.009$ $0.002$ $$ $$ $0.679$ $0.676$			

11

1

Log-Likelihood: -7,215.850; BIC: 15,232.337; Number of Parameters: 100

*Note: -- denotes that the variable is not significant at 90% significant level.* 

With regards to the roadway characteristics, higher speed limit on major roads (>55 mph relative to <55mph) is associated with reduction of crash counts of lower severities but increase them in California for O crashes. The results align with the expectation because collisions occurring at high speed usually result in higher severity and there is slim possibility to those resulting in property damage only or just a possible injury. The presence of lighting is found to reduce fatal crashes significantly. Furthermore, the statistically significant variance-covariance matrix for unobserved heterogeneity further underscores significant correlations across severity 10 levels, pointing to underlying factors affecting multiple crash severities at an intersection.

#### 12 5. CONCLUSIONS

13 The vehicle mix information, defined as traffic volume by vehicle type, has been identified as a significant contributing factor to crash frequency analysis. However, the current version of the 14 15 HSM predictive methods does not incorporate the vehicle mix information when estimating 16 crashes. The current study estimates and compares the performance of crash frequency and severity systems with vehicle mix information incorporated in different methodological 17 frameworks. Specifically, we build on the HSM approach with two model systems: (a) multivariate 18 19 Poisson-lognormal model (MVPLN) and (b) negative binomial – ordered probit fractional split 20 model (NB-OPFS). The MVPLN model estimates crash counts by each severity level while NB 21 component estimates total crashes and OPFS component models crash proportion by severity class 22 in the NB-OPFS model framework. We developed advanced variants that account for additional 23 observed and unobserved heterogeneity while accounting for the impact of vehicle mix data. Further, using data from multiple jurisdictions, we develop pooled models that accommodate for 24

1 jurisdiction-specific observed and unobserved heterogeneity. The models developed are compared 2 with each other and the HSM benchmark model based on a comprehensive set of quantitative and 3 qualitative metrics to identify the most appropriate model system for each facility type. The 4 proposed models are estimated using data from multiple states that include four Highway Safety 5 Information System (HSIS) states including California, Illinois, Minnesota, Washington and three 6 Non-HSIS states including Connecticut, Florida, and Texas. We selected Urban Arterial 4-Lane 7 Divided segment facility (UA4LD), Rural 3-Leg STOP Controlled (R3ST) and Rural 4-Leg STOP 8 Controlled (R4ST) intersection facilities for our analysis.

9 In the current study, we consider five severity levels for crash frequency estimation 10 including fatal, incapacitating, non-incapacitating, possible injury and no injury crashes. A comprehensive set of independent variables including traffic volume, vehicle mix indicators (truck 11 percentage, single unit truck percentage, and high truck zone), roadway characteristics and state 12 13 specific indicators are considered. We evaluate the model performance by employing two 14 statistical measures of fit: mean absolute deviation (MAD) and mean squared prediction error (MSPE). A single framework might not perform best across all the dimensions at a facility type. 15 16 Therefore, we adopt two approaches (total crash approach and severity level scoring approach) 17 that consider the model performances across all the estimated dimensions for final model selection. The total crash approach considers MAD and MSPE values from total crash frequency predictions 18 19 while the severity level scoring approach considers MAD and MSPE values from five severity 20 levels. Based on the two approaches, the model that performs better across the measures is selected 21 for the respective facility type. The results show that both NB-OPFS and MVPLN frameworks 22 with vehicle mix data performed better than the HSM predictive models that do not consider 23 vehicle mix data. Within these advanced frameworks, the NB-OPFS model performed better for 24 UA4LD segment and R3ST intersection facility while the MVPLN model showed better 25 performance for R4ST intersection facility. Further, within all the frameworks, vehicle mix 26 variables show statistically significant observed and unobserved effects in crash frequency 27 dimensions across the facility types.

28 The study found that higher truck traffic reduces crash frequency and severity at UA4LD 29 segments. This may be due to factors like lower truck speeds, less disruptive flow, fewer abrupt 30 lane changes, designated truck lanes, advanced traffic management systems (ITS), and strict law enforcement. Further, for R4ST, higher truck traffic decreased crashes, while for R3ST it increased 31 32 crashes. This difference may be due to the larger intersection areas, more maneuvering space and 33 wider turning radius at 4-leg intersections compared to 3-leg intersections. Taking these results 34 into consideration, transportation engineers and safety planners may prioritize infrastructure 35 investment and road safety initiatives at road segments and intersections with high truck traffic. These investments and initiatives could include dedicated truck lanes, wider lanes, curb 36 37 adjustments, better signage, ITS, and stricter enforcement. In areas with heavy truck traffic, 38 additional measures for vulnerable road users, such as improved crosswalks, pedestrian signals, 39 and barriers, could also be considered. Additionally, promoting safe driving behaviors through 40 education, driver training programs, and public awareness campaigns can further reduce crash 41 frequency and severity at segments and intersections.

This study is not without limitations. The study considers crash data from multiple years. Due to the lack of detailed multi-year independent variables information, temporal heterogeneity could not be accommodated in the current model estimation. However, the characteristics of the explanatory variables may change over time, affecting the crash frequency/severity along different sections of a facility (*53*). For example, driver behavior may change over the years due to the advancement of the vehicle's technological features, traffic management dynamics, and infrastructure improvements impacting crash patterns. Future research efforts could address this issue by incorporating data from additional states while also accounting for temporal effects with multi-year independent variables information to obtain more precise inference and enhanced predictive power. Further, it would be interesting to explore the effects of the factors including technological advancements, changes in driver behavior, infrastructure development, and societal responses in response to the emergence of electric and autonomous vehicles (EVs and AVs) in

- 8 addition to more finer resolution vehicle mix information on crash frequency and severity.
- 9

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## 23 AUTHORS CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

The authors confirm contribution to the paper as follows: study conception and design:, Naveen Eluru, Tanmoy Bhowmik, Shahrior Pervaz, Dewan Ashraful Parvez, John N. Ivan, Kai Wang, Manmohan Joshi; data collection: Shahrior Pervaz, Manmohan Joshi, Tanmoy Bhowmik; model estimation and validation: Shahrior Pervaz, Manmohan Joshi, Tanmoy Bhowmik, Dewan Ashraful Parvez, Kai Wang; analysis and interpretation of results: Shahrior Pervaz, Manmohan Joshi,

29 Tanmoy Bhowmik, Dewan Ashraful Parvez, Naveen Eluru, John N. Ivan, Kai Wang; draft

- 30 manuscript preparation: Shahrior Pervaz, Manmohan Joshi, Tanmoy Bhowmik, Dewan Ashraful
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- 32 33

# 34 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTING INTERESTS

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# APPENDIX

# TABLE A1 Model Estimation Results of Fixed Parameter NB-OPFS Model for UA4LD Segments (N=7,500)

Variable Names	Count Co	mponent	Severity Proportion Component		
	Estimates	t-stat	Estimates	t-stat	
Constant	-1.836	-5.487			
State-Minnesota	-6.926	-5.345			
State-Washington	-6.963	-3.598			
Ln(Year = 5)	1.000				
Threshold Parameters		•	•		
Threshold between OP-CP			0.711	4.646	
Threshold between CP-BP			1.013	6.601	
Threshold between BP-AP			1.458	9.490	
Threshold between AP-KP			2.667	16.574	
Traffic Characteristics		•	•		
Ln (AADT)	0.461	14.415	0.033	2.280	
Ln (AADT)* State-Florida			-0.013	-3.796	
Ln (AADT)* State-Minnesota	0.622	4.822			
Ln (AADT)* State-Washington	0.582	3.058			
%Truck	-0.030	-4.548	-0.007	-3.114	
%Single unit truck	-0.033	-2.486			
Roadway Characteristics		•	•		
Ln (Segment length, miles)	1.000		0.036	3.133	
Lane width (base: ≤12 feet)					
LW>12	-0.167	-1.835			
HTZ*LW>12	-1.015	-4.248			
Median width (base: ≤20 feet)					
MW>20	-0.299	-3.863	-0.065	-2.242	
Outside shoulder width (base: $\geq 8$ feet)					
OSW<8	0.418	6.388			
HTZ*OSW<8	0.422	3.583			
Inside shoulder width (base: $\geq 8$ feet)					
ISW<8	0.402	3.557	-0.133	-2.675	
Shoulder type (base: unpaved)					
Paved	-0.632	-6.538			
Paved* State-California	0.350	2.088			
Speed limit (base: ≤55 mph)		•			
SL>55	-0.650	-4.336	0.173	3.728	
SL>55* State-California	0.339	1.683			
Overdispersion Parameter					
Constant	2.208	38.717			
State-California	-1.028	-7.531			
State-Washington	-1.686	-13.198			
Log-Likelihood: -24.228.525; BIC: 48.760.420; Num	ber of Parameters:	: 34			

Variable Names	Count Co	mponent	Severity Pro           Compon           Estimates              -0.291	oportion nent
	Estimates	t-stat	Estimates	t-stat
Constant	-10.930	-36.493		
State-Connecticut			-0.291	-2.838
State-Florida	2.764	33.497		
State-Minnesota	2.917	5.534		
Ln(Year = 5)	1.000			
Threshold Parameters				
Threshold between OP-CP			-0.124	-0.675
Threshold between CP-BP			0.451	2.438
Threshold between BP-AP			1.128	6.145
Threshold between AP-KP			1.633	8.715
Traffic Characteristics				
Ln (Major road AADT)	0.611	16.896	-0.041	-2.011
Ln (Major road AADT) * State-Minnesota	-0.118	-2.049		
Ln (Minor road AADT)	0.504	24.418		
% Major road truck	0.012	2.853		
Roadway Characteristics				
Major road speed limit (base: 41-55 mph)				
Maj SL <=40			-0.242	-3.576
Maj SL >55	-0.245	-3.852		
Overdispersion Parameter				
Constant	1.077	16.012		
State-Florida	-0.439	-4.519		
Log-Likelihood: -8.192.925; BIC: 16.543.882; N	umber of Paramet	ers: 18		

### TABLE A2 Model Estimation Results of Fixed Parameters NB-OPFS Model for R3ST Intersection (N=6,500)

Variable Names	0	С	В	Α	K
Constant	-10.421	-10.568	-10.62	-10.026	-8.978
State-California	-1.708	-1.865	-2.096	-1.839	-1.003
State-Florida	1.670	1.061	1.530	1.716	0.890
Ln (Year = 5)	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
Traffic Characteristics					
Ln (Major road AADT)	0.703	0.610	0.620	0.308	0.247
Ln (Minor road AADT)	0.458	0.491	0.401	0.481	0.379
% Major road truck					
% Minor road truck					
Roadway Characteristics					
Major road speed limit (base: ≤55 mph)					
Maj SL $> 55$ mph	-0.525	-0.311	-0.348		
Maj SL >55 * State-California	0.548		0.704		
Light (Base: No Lighting)					-0.417
Variance-Covariance Matrix					
	0	С	В	Α	K
0	0.793	0.771	0.685	0.747	0.662
С		0.886	0.729	0.805	0.714
В			0.778	0.739	0.703
А				0.986	0.690
K					0.947
Correlation					
0		0.920	0.873	0.845	0.763
С			0.878	0.861	0.780
В				0.845	0.819
А					0.714
K					
Log-Likelihood: -7,549.000; BIC: 15,899.000					

TABLE A3 Model Estimation Results of Fixed Parameters MVPLN Model for R4ST Intersection (N=3,000)

Variables	Min.	Max.	Sum	Mean	Std. Dev.
State- California (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	316.000	0.042	0.201
State- Florida (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	321.000	0.043	0.202
State- Illinois (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	4,567.000	0.609	0.488
State- Minnesota (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	692.000	0.092	0.289
State- Texas (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	1,324.000	0.177	0.381
State- Washington (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	280.000	0.037	0.190
Total segment crashes	0.000	1,078.000	93,832.000	12.511	53.140
Proportion of fatal crashes (KP)	0.000	1.000	24.035	0.003	0.033
Proportion of incapacitating crashes (AP)	0.000	1.000	396.040	0.053	0.137
Proportion of non-incapacitating crashes (BP)	0.000	1.000	461.118	0.061	0.151
Proportion of possible injury crashes (CP)	0.000	1.000	448.120	0.060	0.163
Proportion of no injury crashes (OP)	0.000	1.000	3,812.687	0.508	0.413
Ln (AADT)	2.303	12.459	73,150.499	9.753	0.770
%Truck (Truck AADT*100/AADT)	0.000	49.793	39,064.819	5.209	6.204
%Single Unit Truck (Single Unit Truck AADT*100/AADT)	0.000	24.638	18,270.740	2.436	3.231
Ln (Segment length, mile)	-4.605	2.199	-20,148.390	-2.686	1.150
Paved shoulder type (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	2,019.000	0.269	0.444
Lane width >12 ft (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	608.000	0.081	0.273
Median width >20 ft (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	2,015.000	0.269	0.443
Outside shoulder width < 8 ft (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	4,612.000	0.615	0.487
Inside shoulder width $< 8$ ft (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	6,724.000	0.897	0.305
Speed limit >55 mph (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	573.000	0.076	0.266
Hight Truck Zone (HTZ) (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	1,134.000	0.151	0.358

 TABLE A4 Descriptive Statistics of the Variables for UA4LD Segment Facility

#### TABLE A5 Descriptive Statistics of the Variables for R3ST Intersection Facility

Variables	Min.	Max.	Sum	Mean	Std. Dev.
State- California (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	4,598.000	0.707	0.455
State- Connecticut (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	146.000	0.022	0.148
State- Florida (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	550.000	0.085	0.278
State- Minnesota (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	1,206.000	0.186	0.389
Total intersection crashes	0.000	199.000	8,991.000	1.383	5.164
Proportion of fatal crashes (KP)	0.000	1.000	41.625	0.006	0.065
Proportion of incapacitating crashes (AP)	0.000	1.000	82.370	0.013	0.083
Proportion of non-incapacitating crashes (BP)	0.000	1.000	259.456	0.040	0.151
Proportion of possible injury crashes (CP)	0.000	1.000	373.153	0.057	0.185
Proportion of no injury crashes (OP)	0.000	1.000	1,174.397	0.181	0.343
Ln (Major road AADT)	4.248	11.478	53,624.442	8.250	1.085
Ln (Minor road AADT)	0.000	10.235	30,744.337	4.730	1.655
%Major road truck (Major road truck	0.000	72.196	26,126.607	4.019	6.031
AADT*100/Major road AADT)					
Speed limit $\leq$ 40 mph (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	958.00	0.147	0.354
Speed limit >55 mph (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	2,248.000	0.346	0.476

THEE TO DESCRIPTIVE Statistics of the	, anabies for it is i intersection i achieg				
Variables	Min.	Max.	Sum	Mean	Std. Dev.
State- California (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	1,382.000	0.461	0.499
State- Connecticut (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	42.000	0.014	0.118
State- Florida (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	132.000	0.044	0.205
State- Minnesota (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	1,444.000	0.481	0.500
Total intersection crashes	0.000	1,525.000	9,310.000	3.103	28.428
Proportion of fatal crashes (KP)	0.000	1.000	57.561	0.019	0.103
Proportion of incapacitating crashes (AP)	0.000	1.000	66.920	0.022	0.113
Proportion of non-incapacitating crashes (BP)	0.000	1.000	230.068	0.077	0.194
Proportion of possible injury crashes (CP)	0.000	1.000	339.911	0.113	0.238
Proportion of no injury crashes (OP)	0.000	1.000	835.539	0.279	0.373
Ln (Major road AADT)	4.700	11.446	25,360.259	8.453	0.986
Ln (Minor road AADT)	0.000	10.077	16,606.961	5.536	1.582
%Major road truck (Major road truck AADT*100/Major road AADT)	0.000	48.847	19,360.128	6.453	6.741
%Minor road truck (Minor road truck AADT*100/Minor road AADT)	0.000	23.913	2,789.775	0.930	1.672
Speed limit >55 mph (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	1,064.000	0.355	0.478
Presence of light (1 if yes, 0 otherwise)	0.000	1.000	514.000	0.171	0.377

 TABLE A6 Descriptive Statistics of the Variables for R4ST Intersection Facility