



#### **Definition**

■ Traffic loads refer to the forces applied to pavement by vehicles in motion.



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# Traffic Loads

#### Impact

- Pavement deterioration is caused by the interacting damaging effects of traffic and the environment.
- Traffic loads, primarily those from heavy trucks, cause stresses/strains in pavement structures, whose effects accumulate over time, resulting in pavement deterioration,
- Such as rutting







# Traffic Loads

#### Quantification criteria

Pavement Damage depends on weight distribution

Truck traffic loads and their impact on pavements are Quantify using :

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# Axle and Tire

**Configuration** 











# Tire Configuration

#### Single Tire



# Tire Configuration

Dual Tire



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# Tire Configuration

#### Wide Base Tire

- Description: Extra wide tire designed to replace duals for weight savings.
- Typical Load per Tire: 60























- The collected traffic data must be summarized in a format that is suitable for direct input into the pavement design process, ensuring accurate traffic loading estimates for long-term pavement performance analysis.
- Available Approaches:
- ESALs appraoch (AASHTO 1986/1993 Pavement Design Approach ) Load spectra ( NCHRP 1-37A Pavement Design Approach)

# AASHTO 1993 Method

Equivalent Single Axle Load (ESAL)

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Equivalent Single Axle Loads (ESALs) Damage by each axle alone Damage from this vehicle [All quivalent Single Axle Loads (ESALs)<br>
Damage by each axle alone<br>
ESALs<br>
Damage from this vehicle [All<br>
Damage from this vehicle [All<br>
ESALs=1.179 × [Damage from SAL]<br>
ESALs=1.179 ESALs=1.179

# AASHTO 1993 Method

Equivalent Single Axle Load (ESAL)

 $(FE_i)$ : load equivalency factor for axle category

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#### Factors Affecting LEF

#### ■ Axle Load:

 $\triangleright$  Higher loads cause exponentially more damage.

#### ■ Axle Configuration:

Single axles concentrate more load, causing higher damage. Tandem and tridem axles distribute load, reducing damage. **Factors Affecting LEF**<br>
■ Axle Load:<br>
→ Higher loads cause exponentially more damage.<br>
■ Axle Configuration:<br>
→ Single axles concentrate more load, causing higher damage.<br>
→ Frandem and tridem axles distribute load, red

#### ■ Pavement Type:

Flexible and rigid pavements respond differently to axle loads.

- Thicker, stronger pavements can resist higher loads.
- $\triangleright$  Pavement thickness or structural capacity (SN)
- $\triangleright$  The terminal conditions at which the pavement is considered failed ( $P_t$ )





 $\bullet$   $p_t$ : Terminal serviceability index, representing pavement condition at the end of its design life.

# (FEi): load equivalency factor for axle category i

#### **Tables**

- Steps to Determine Load Equivalency Factor (LEF) from Table
- 
- 
- 3. Identify the Terminal Serviceability Index (pt).
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- 
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#### (F<sub>Ei</sub>): load equivalency factor for **axle category i (LEFs)**



Tandem Axles

 $\triangleright$  P<sub>t</sub> of 2.5

Different SN





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#### Example 5

Determination of LEFs for different axles

■ Determine the LEFs for the following the following axle loads, assume SN = 5 and  $P_1$  = 2.5

One Single axle (10,000 lb/axle) (10 kips)

One Tandem Axle (10,000 lb/axle) (10 kips)

#### Example 5

Determination of LEFs for different axles

■ Determine the LEFs for the following the following axle loads,

#### $\triangleright$  SN = 5 and Pt = 2.5, Single axle (10,000 lb/axle)









# AASHTO 1993 Method

Equivalent Single Axle Load (ESAL)

 $T_f$ : Truck factor

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# Key Components for Truck Factor Determination

- Axle Load :
- Weight carried by each axle of the truck.
- Axle Configuration:
- Single, tandem, or tridem axles distribute weight differently.

#### ■ Load Equivalency Factor (LEF):

Relative pavement damage caused by axle loads compared to an 18,000-lb axle.

#### ■ Traffic Volume:

 $\triangleright$  Number of trucks passing over the design lane daily.



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# Cumulative ESALS determinations

#### inputs

- ESAL<sub>i</sub> : ESAL for axle category i
- AADT<sub>i</sub>: First year annual average daily traffic for axle category i.
- (T): The percentage of trucks in the ADT
- $\blacksquare$  (G<sub>it</sub>): Growth rate factor for a given growth rate j and design period t.
- $\blacksquare$  ( $F_d$ ) = Design lane factor
- $\blacksquare$  (FE<sub>i</sub>): load equivalency factor for axle category
- $\blacksquare$  (T<sub>f</sub>): Truck factor

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# Cumulative ESALS determinations

**Inputs** 

 $AADT_i$  (i = for each axle category )



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# (T): The percentage of trucks in the AADT

- Represents the proportion of truck traffic in the total vehicle count.
- A critical input for estimating the impact of heavy vehicles on pavement damage.





 $\Gamma$ 

#### (T): The percentage of trucks in the AADT

If actual traffic data are not available,

Table 6 .9 can be used as a guide to determine the distribution of ADTT on different classes of highways in the United States .



# Cumulative ESALS determinations 96 **Inputs**  $(G_{jt})$ : Growth rate factor for a given growth rate j and design period t.



# Traffic Growth Factor (Gjt)

#### Formula for Traffic Growth Factor

- The AASHTO design guide recommend the use of traffic over the entire design period
- To determine the total growth factor

$$
\geqslant (G_{jt})=\frac{(1+j)^t-1}{t}
$$

 $\triangleright$ t is the design period (Usually 20 years)





# Cumulative ESALS determinations **Inputs** Design lane factor  $(F_d)$ ) and the state  $\mathcal{L}$

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# Design lane factor (Fd)

- The initial daily traffic is in two directions over all traffic lanes
- Design lane Factors:
- $\triangleright$  Adjustments made to traffic data to account for the uneven distribution of traffic:
	- $\triangleright$  Between opposing directions of travel (\*\*Directional Factor\*\*).
	- $\triangleright$  Across multiple lanes in the same direction (\*\*Lane Factor\*\*).
- Why is it Needed?
- Accurate Load Distribution:
- Cost-Efficient Design:
	- $\triangleright$  Avoids overdesigning lanes that carry less traffic.



#### Design lane factor (F<sub>d</sub>) ) Why is it Needed?

#### ■ Accurate Load Distribution:

 $\triangleright$  Helps engineers focus on the critical lane with the heaviest traffic and load concentration.

#### ■ Cost-Efficient Design:

 $\triangleright$  Avoids overdesigning lanes that carry less traffic.



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# Design lane factor (Fd)

- The design lane adjustments is performed
	- $\triangleright$  Between opposing directions of travel (Directional Factor).
	- Across multiple lanes in the same direction (Lane Factor).

#### $\blacksquare$  Fd = D x L

 $P(D)$ : D is the directional distribution factor  $E(L)$ : L is the lane distribution factor



## Directional Distribution Factor (D)

Traffic Distribution

- D represent percentage of trucks traffic traveling in one direction
- D usually assumed to be 0.5 unless the traffic in two directions is different



Design for worst case!!

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# Lane Distribution Factor (L)

■ Design lane:

>Lane expected to receive the severe service

- For two-lane highways,
- $\triangleright$  The lane in each direction is the design lane, so the lane distribution factor is 100%
- For multilane highways,
- $\triangleright$  The design lane is the outside lane



#### Design for worst case!!

# Lane Distribution Factor (L)

For two-lane highways,

■ The lane in each direction is the design lane, so the lane distribution factor is 100%

#### ■ Design lane:

Lane expected to receive the severe service





#### Example Calculation

■ Given Data:

Total AADT = 20,000 vehicles/day  $\triangleright$  Directional Factor (D) = 60%  $\blacktriangleright$  Lane Factor (L) = 80% **Example Calculation**<br>
■ Given Data:<br>
> Total AADT = 20,000 vehicles/day<br>
> Directional Factor (D) = 60%<br>
■ Solution:<br>
■ Solution:<br>
> Traffic in Design Direction = AADT × D = 20,000 × 0.60 = 12,000 vehicles/day<br>
> Traffic **Example Calculation**<br> **Example 2018**<br>
Fote *AADT* = 20,000 vehicles/day<br>
Place Factor (L) = 80%<br> **Example Factor (L) = 80%**<br> **Example Factor (L) = 80%**<br> **Example:** Solution:<br>
Fore in Design Direction = AADT x D = 20,000

#### ■ Solution:

#### ■ Interpretation:

The design lane carries 9,600 vehicles/day.



Equivalent Single Axle Loads (ESALs) for category i ■ ESAL<sub>i</sub> = (AADT)<sub>0</sub> (T) (G<sub>rn</sub>) (F<sub>d</sub>) (365) (N<sub>i</sub>) (F<sub>Ei</sub>)  $\triangleright$  ESAL<sub>i</sub> : ESAL for axle category i AADTi: First year annual average daily traffic for axle category i.  $\triangleright$ (T): the percentage of trucks in the ADT  $\triangleright$  (G<sub>it</sub>): growth rate factor for a given growth rate j and design period t.  $\triangleright$  (F<sub>d</sub>) = Design lane factor  $P(N_i)$  = number of axles on each vehicle in category i  $\triangleright$  (F<sub>Ei</sub>) = load equivalency factor for axle category i If the axle weight is **known** 





# Total ESAL Calculation for mixed traffic

■ ESAL =  $\sum_{i=1}^{i=n} ESAL_i$ > ESAL : ESAL for *all vehicles* during the design period. ESALi : ESAL for axle category i n= number of truck categories

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## Total ESAL Calculation for mixed traffic









# Step-2

#### Determine design lane factor ( $F_d$ ) ) and the state  $\mathcal{L}$

■ The percent of traffic on the design lane is 45%,

 $\triangleright$  Thus, the design lane factor (F<sub>d</sub>) = 45%

### Step-2

Determine the percentage of trucks in the ADT (T)

Passenger cars (1000 lb/axle) = 50%

2-axle single-unit trucks (6000 lb/axle) = 33%

3-axle single-unit trucks (6000 lb/axle) = 17%













#### Equivalent Single Axle Loads (ESALs) for category i

For 3-axle single-unit trucks (6000 lb/axle)

- $ESAL<sub>3-axle</sub> single-unit trucks = (AADT)<sub>0</sub> (T) (G<sub>rn</sub>) (F<sub>d</sub>) (365) (T<sub>f</sub>)$
- ESAL<sub>3-axle single-unit trucks</sub> =  $(12,000)$ <sub>0</sub>  $(17%)$  (29.78) (45%) (365) (0.264) =
- $ESAL<sub>3-axle</sub> single-unit trucks =  $2.6343 \times 10^6$$

■ **■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■** 

### **Solution**

#### Total ESAL Calculation for mixed traffic

















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المـادة٣- تكـون الاحمـال المحوريــة علـى كـل محـور مـن محـاور المركبـة كمـا
                      ِيلسي :-<sub>.</sub>
               ۲ اطنان لکل محور
                                  ٢ ـ محاور متعاقبة
                          ب۔ محاور غير قابلة للتوجيه :-
                     ۱۳ طنا
                                   ۱ ـ محور منفرد
                          ٢ ـ محور مزدوج کما يلي :-
ـ اذا كانت المسافة المحورية اقل من مترين ١٠ اطنان لكل
                                        محور
ـ اذا كانت المسافة المحورية لا تقل عن مترين ١٣ طنـا لكل
                                       محور
                       ٣ <sub>- ا</sub>لمحور الثلاثي<br>٣ - المحور الثلاثي
            ۸ اطنان لکل محور
            ۷ اطنان لکل محور
                                ٤ ـ المحور الرباعي
ەر ۷ طن لكل محور
                                  ۲ ـ محور مزدوج
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