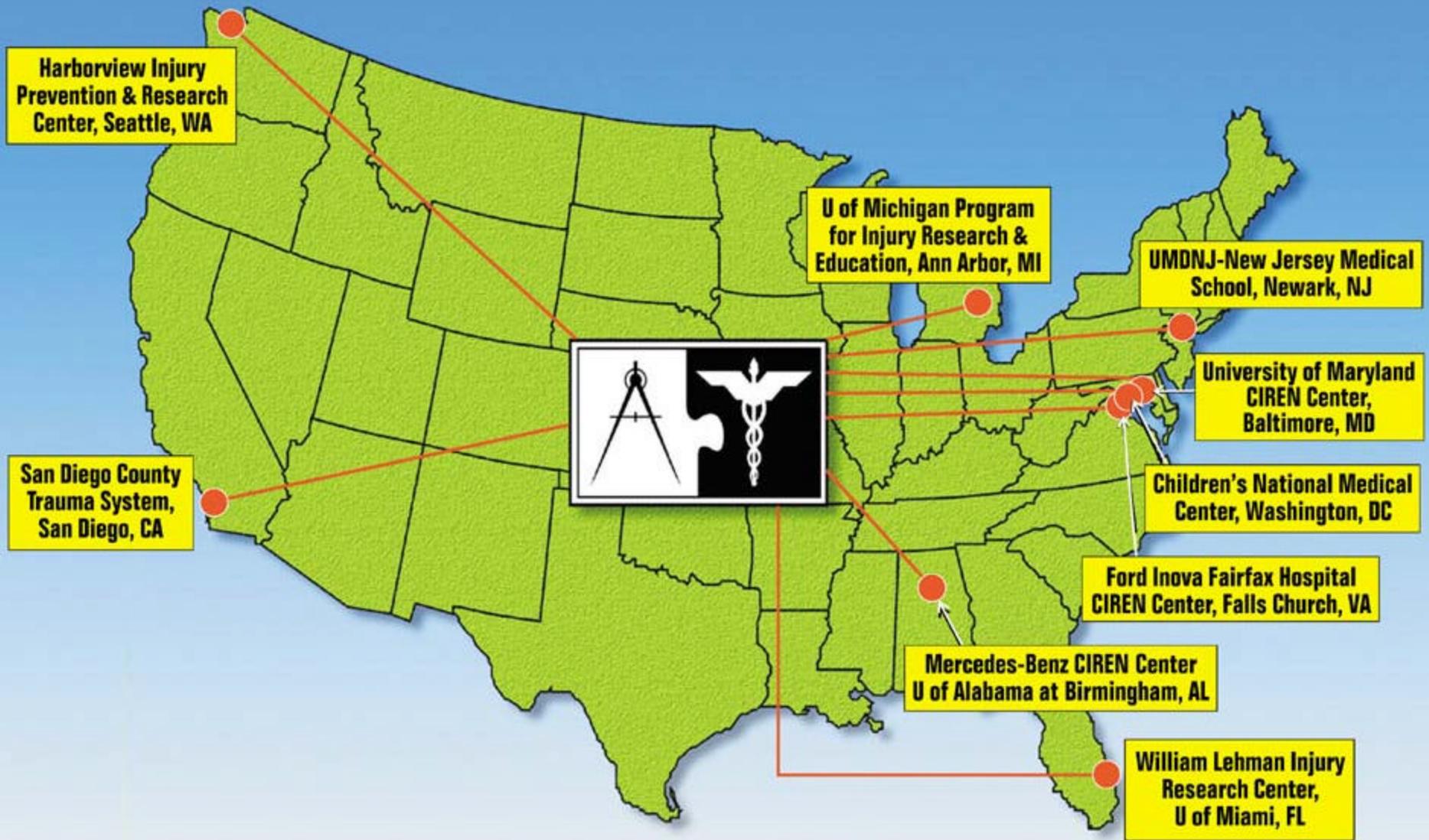


# CIREN Network



# **Real-Life Injuries in Offset Frontal Collisions**

**A. Brent Eastman, MD, FACS**

**Steve Erwin**

**San Diego CIREN Team**

**March 16, 2001**

# **SAN DIEGO CIREN PROGRAM**

## **Principal Investigators**

**Gail F. Cooper- San Diego EMS**

**A. Brent Eastman, MD, FACS- SCRIPPS**

**David B. Hoyt, MD, FACS- UCSD**

# **San Diego CIREN Centers**

**Children's Hospital**

**Palomar Medical Center**

**Scripps Memorial Hospital**

**Scripps Mercy Hospital**

**Sharp Memorial Hospital**

**University of California, San Diego Medical Center**

**San Diego County Emergency Medical Services**

# **San Diego CIREN Experience with FY (2/3 Left Frontal) Offset Collisions**

- **18 cases 1996 – 2000**
- **5 Femur fractures**
  - 3 right
  - 2 left
- **5 Pelvis fractures**
- **8 Lower extremity fractures (other than Femur)**
  - 5 right
  - 3 left
- **5 Upper extremity fractures**
  - 2 right
  - 3 left
- **Vehicle weights 2400 – 3900 lbs.**

# INSURANCE INSTITUTE FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY

## Frontal Offset Crash Test - Results



**BUICK LESABRE**  
**PONTIAC**  
**BONNEVILLE**  
**2000-01 models**  
**OLDSMOBILE**  
**AURORA**  
**2001 models**

These models are virtually identical except for their distinguishing styling and trim. Therefore, the crashworthiness ratings apply to each model listed.

Vehicle tested:  
2000 Buick LeSabre  
Custom

Class: Large family car  
Weight: 3,558 lbs.  
Fuel economy: 24/32/30 mpg



**TOP LEFT:** Action shot taken during the frontal offset crash test [Larger photo](#)

**TOP RIGHT:** The dummy's position in relation to the steering wheel and instrument panel after the crash test indicates that the driver's survival space was maintained well. [Larger photo](#)

**BOTTOM LEFT:** Smeared greasepaint indicates where the dummy's head contacted the head restraint and shoulder belt housing during rebound. Front lap/shoulder belts are mounted to the seats. [Larger photo](#)

### Frontal offset crash test results

<b>best pick</b> Overall	<b>G</b>
Structure/safety cage	<b>G</b>
Injury measures:	
Head/neck	<b>G</b>
Chest	<b>G</b>
Leg/foot, left	<b>G</b>
Leg/foot, right	<b>G</b>
Restraints/dummy kinematics	<b>A</b>

**IMPORTANT:** Compared with other **large family cars**-- compare ratings only among vehicles of similar weight.

**G** Good **A** Acceptable **M** Marginal **P** Poor

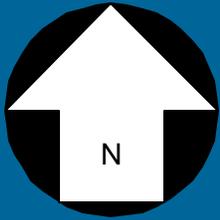
[What is a frontal offset crash](#)

INSURANCE INSTITUTE  
FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY

2000 Buick LeSabre  
Frontal Offset Crash Test  
Deformable Barrier  
64.3 kph (39.9 mph)  
40 Percent Overlap  
CF99015  
June 24, 1999



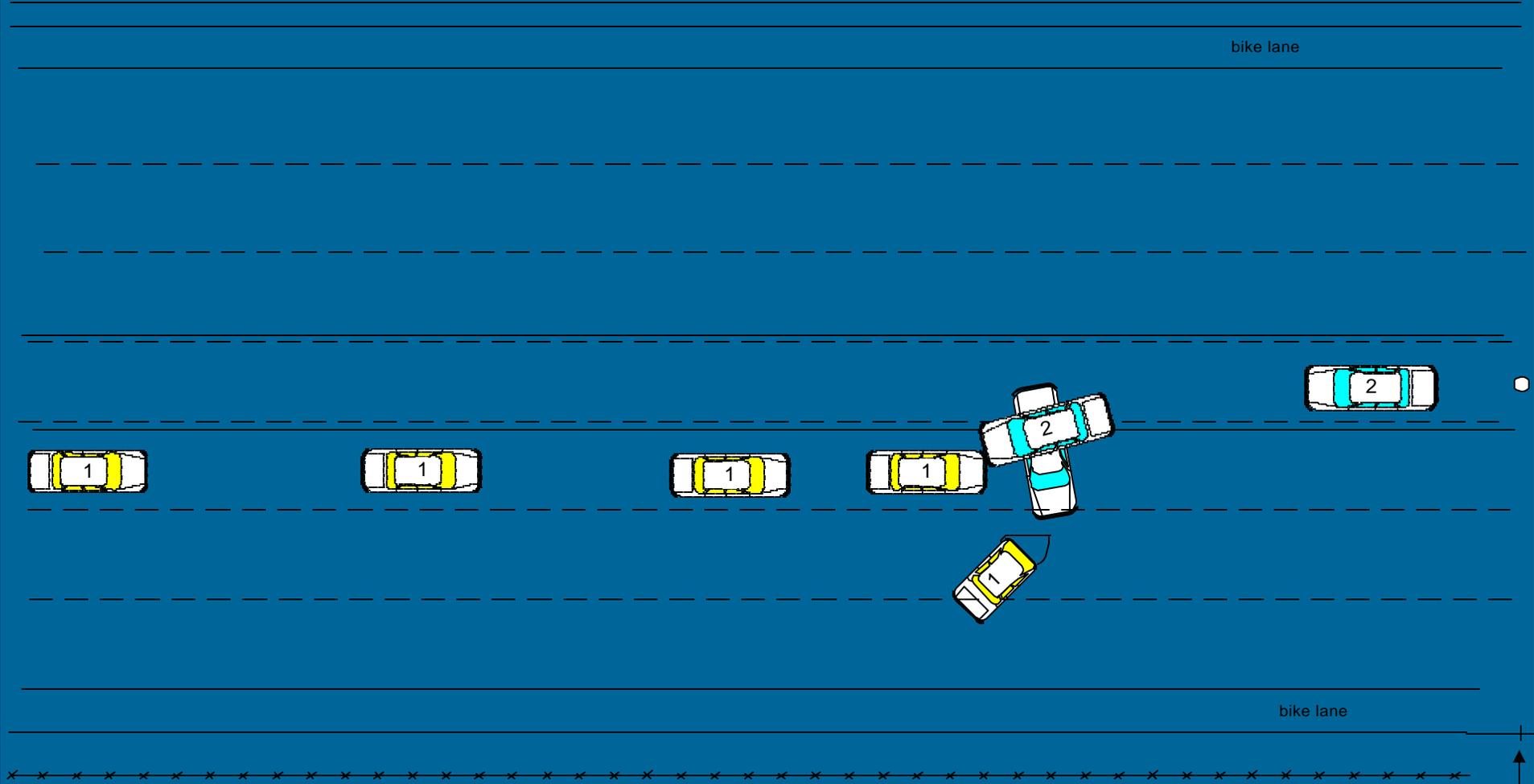




# Offset Frontal Case # 1

Scale:  
1cm = 2.5m  
0 2.5 5

Opposing Vehicle:  
1989 Acura Legend  
Attempting U-turn



Subject Vehicle:  
1999 Buick LeSabre

RP



**Subject Vehicle**



**Direction of Travel**



**Opposing Vehicle**

**Direction of Travel**





# Subject Vehicle

## 1999 Buick LeSabre

Direct Damage = 60 cm (40% offset)

PDOF = Zero

Maximum Crush = 97 cm

WinSmash Delta V (ROLDMISS)

Total = 87.8 kph (55 mph)

Longitudinal = -87.8 kph

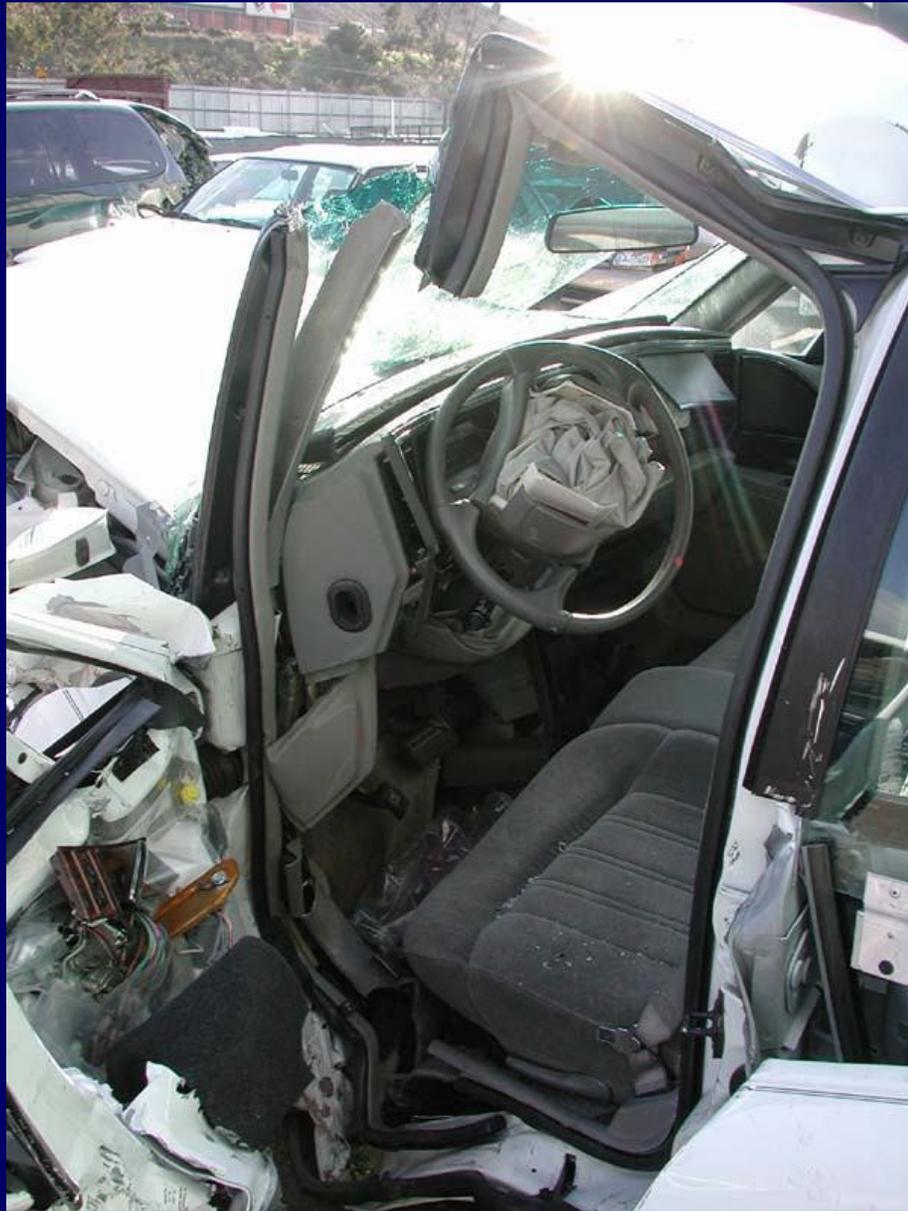
Barrier Equivalent = 69 kph (43 mph)





## Intrusions Include:

LF Toe Pan - 28 cm/ LF Dash - 26 cm





Contact Points Include:  
Steering Wheel Rim (deformed)  
Steering Column Base (transfer)



Suspected contact to driver door panel  
(contaminated during extrication)

# Occupant Contact Points (cont:)

Air bag (fluid transfer)



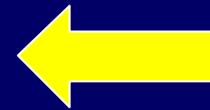
Left shear capsule

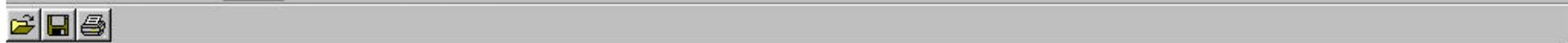


Right shear capsule



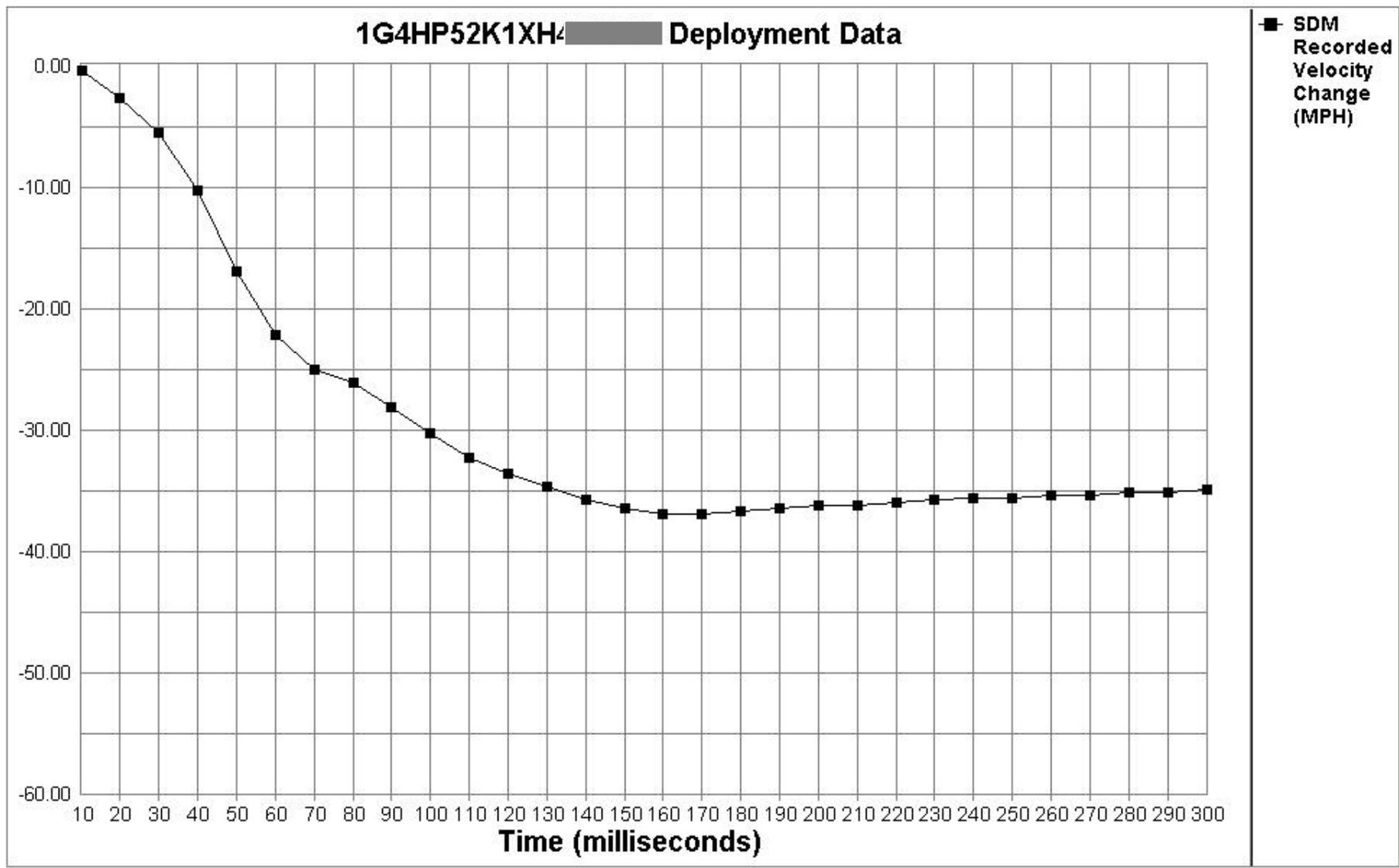
Driver  
seat,  
subject's  
location.





1G4HP52K1 System Status At Deployment	
SIR Warning Lamp Status	OFF
Driver's Belt Switch Circuit Status	BUCKLED
Passenger Front Air Bag Suppression Switch Circuit Status	ON
Ignition Cycles At Deployment	3338
Ignition Cycles At Investigation	3340
Time From Algorithm Enable To Deployment Command (msec)	10
Time From Near Deployment To Deployment (msec)	N/A

Time (milliseconds)	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	130	140	150
Recorded Velocity Change (MPH)	-0.44	-2.63	-5.49	-10.31	-16.89	-22.16	-25.01	-26.11	-28.08	-30.28	-32.25	-33.57	-34.67	-35.76	-36.42
Time (milliseconds)	160	170	180	190	200	210	220	230	240	250	260	270	280	290	300
Recorded Velocity Change (MPH)	-36.86	-36.86	-36.64	-36.42	-36.20	-36.20	-35.98	-35.76	-35.54	-35.54	-35.32	-35.32	-35.10	-35.10	-34.88



# Vehicle Occupant

- **39 year old male**
- **Restrained Driver**
  - **Lap/Shoulder belt**
  - **Airbag**
- **6 feet, 190 pounds**
- **Wearing sunglasses**
- **Full recall of crash**

# Patient Injuries

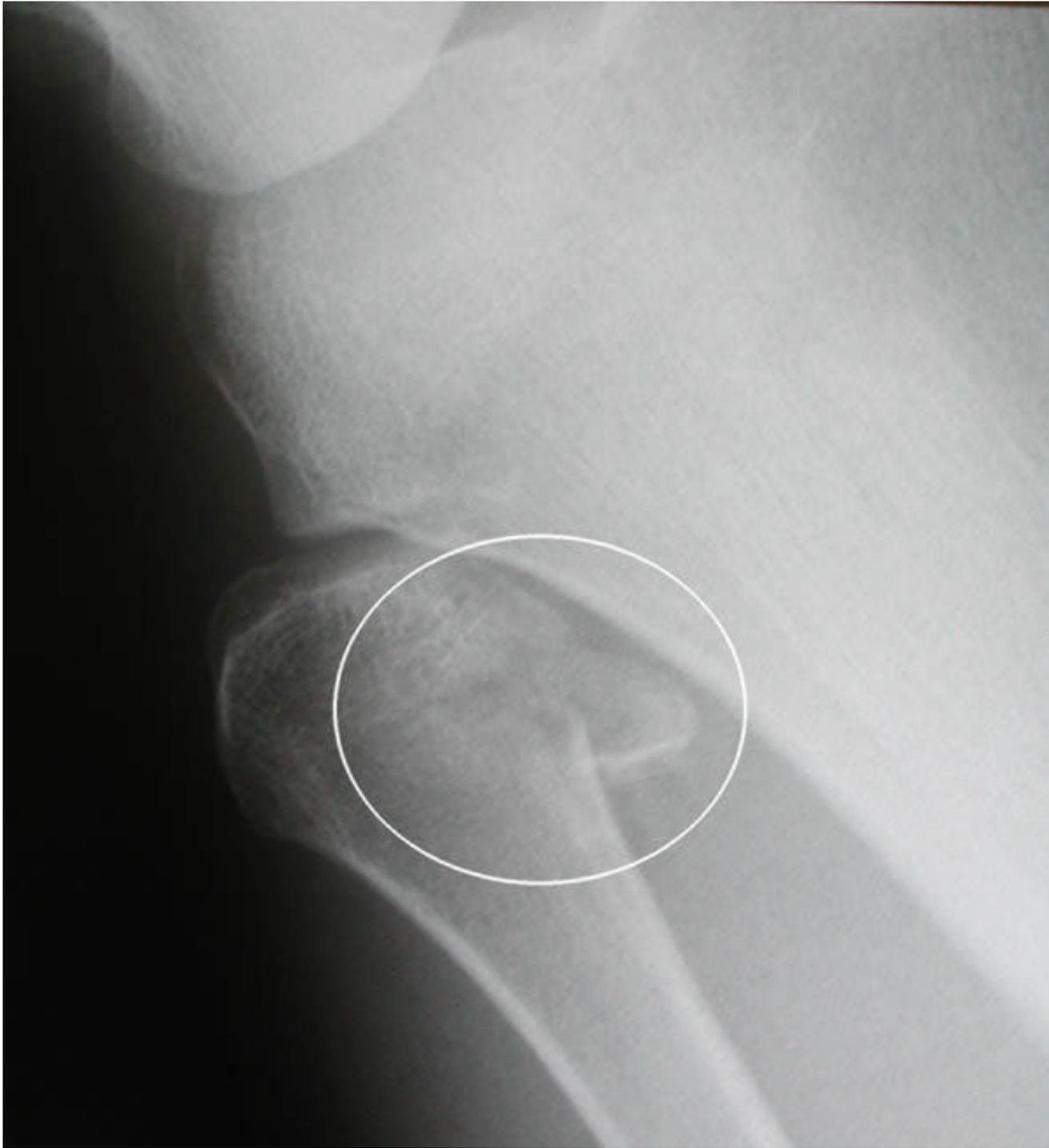
- **Left humerus fracture – distal shaft with radial nerve palsy**
- **Right midshaft femur fracture**
- **Right comminuted fibular head fracture**
- **Right elbow contusion**
- **Bilateral shin contusions**
- **Right thigh, knee, and ankle contusion**
- **Left lateral ankle contusion**



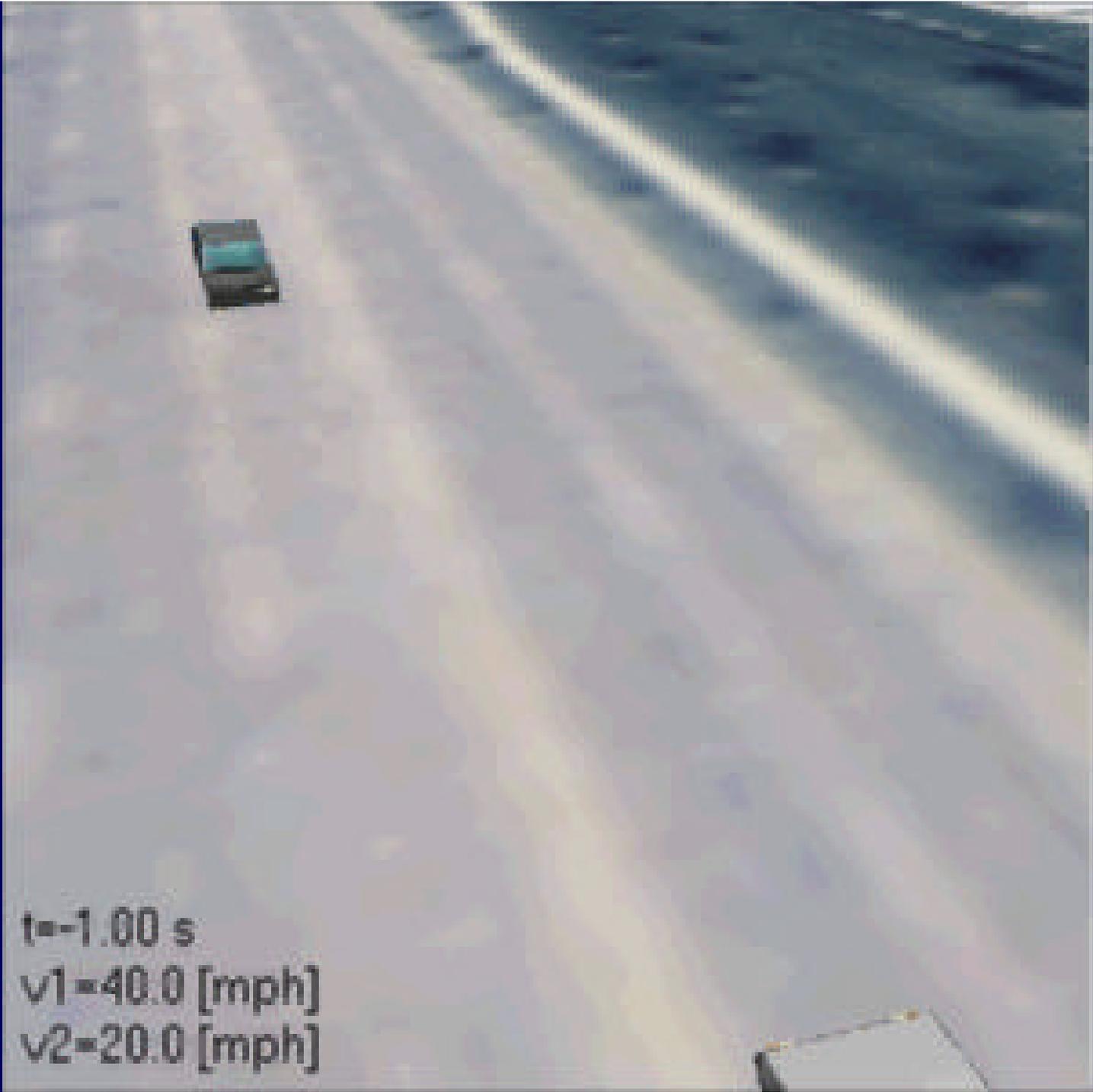
**Left Humerus**



**Right Femur**



**Right Fibula**

An aerial photograph of a two-lane road with a dashed white center line. A dark-colored car is driving in the left lane, away from the camera. In the bottom right corner, the front corner of a white truck is visible. The road is flanked by green grass and trees. The image is framed by a dark blue border.

$t = -1.00 \text{ s}$

$v_1 = 40.0 \text{ [mph]}$

$v_2 = 20.0 \text{ [mph]}$

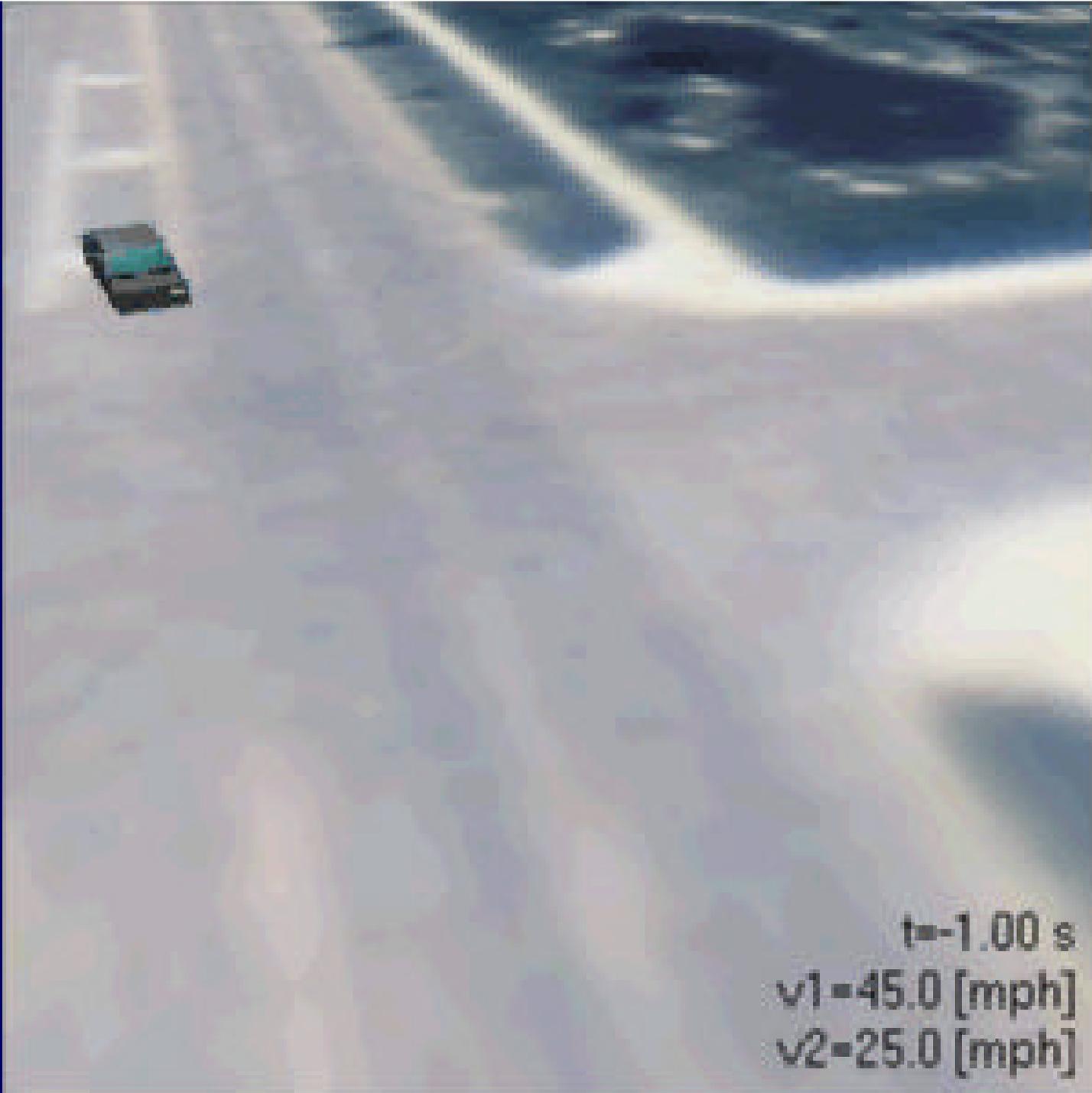


$t = -0.10 \text{ s}$   
 $v_1 = 40.0 \text{ [mph]}$   
 $v_2 = 20.0 \text{ [mph]}$



$t = -0.10$  s  
 $v_1 = 40.0$  [mph]  
 $v_2 = 20.0$  [mph]

**Frontal Offset (FY)  
Collision with Clockwise  
Rotation**



$t = -1.00 \text{ s}$

$v_1 = 45.0 \text{ [mph]}$

$v_2 = 25.0 \text{ [mph]}$



$t = -0.10 \text{ s}$   
 $v_1 = 45.0 \text{ [mph]}$   
 $v_2 = 25.0 \text{ [mph]}$



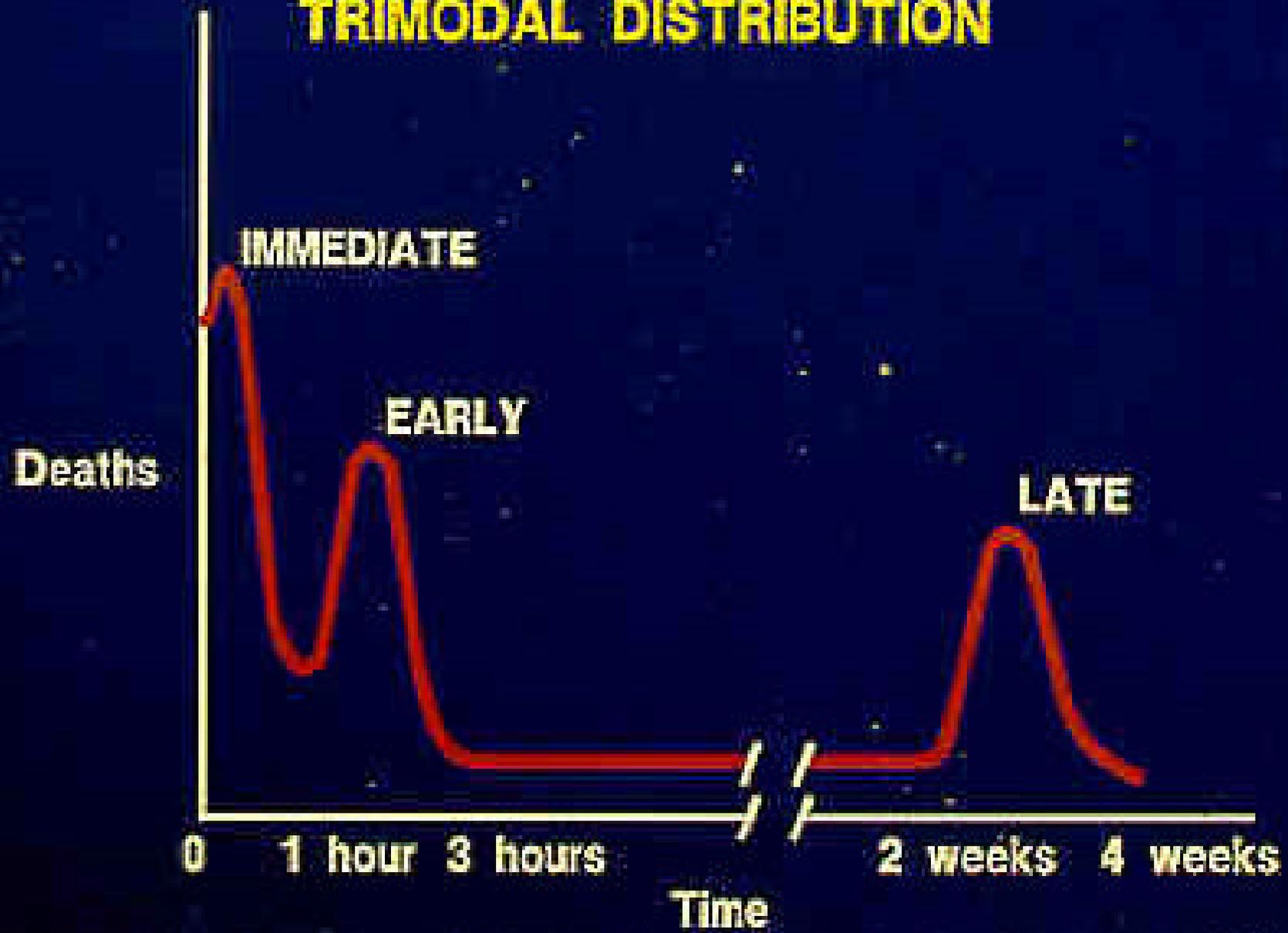
$t = -0.10$  s  
 $v_1 = 45.0$  [mph]  
 $v_2 = 25.0$  [mph]

# **TRAUMA IS NO ACCIDENT**

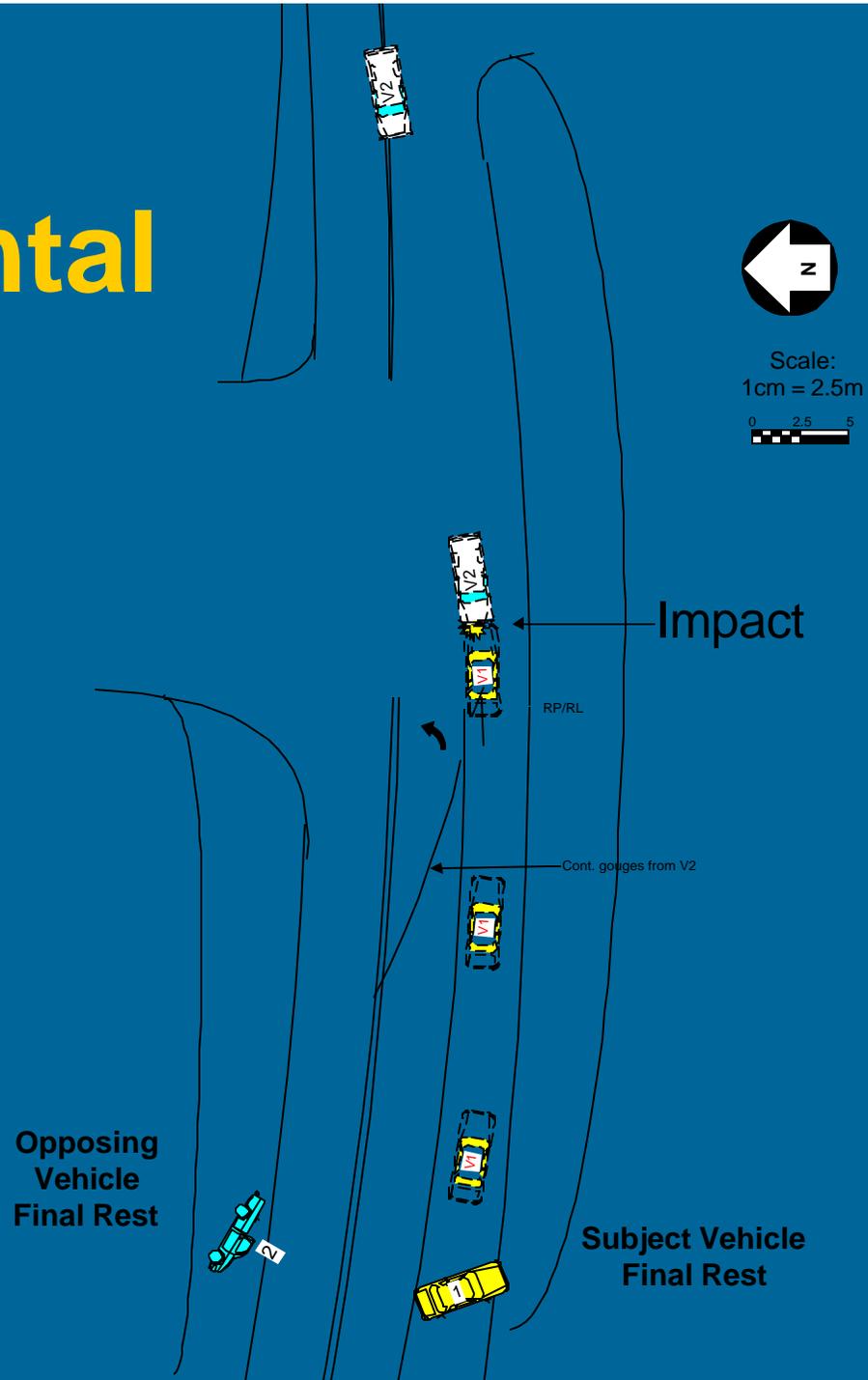
**Think of Trauma as a Disease**

- **It has a cause**
- **It has a cure**
- **And it can be PREVENTED !**

# TRAUMA DEATHS TRIMODAL DISTRIBUTION

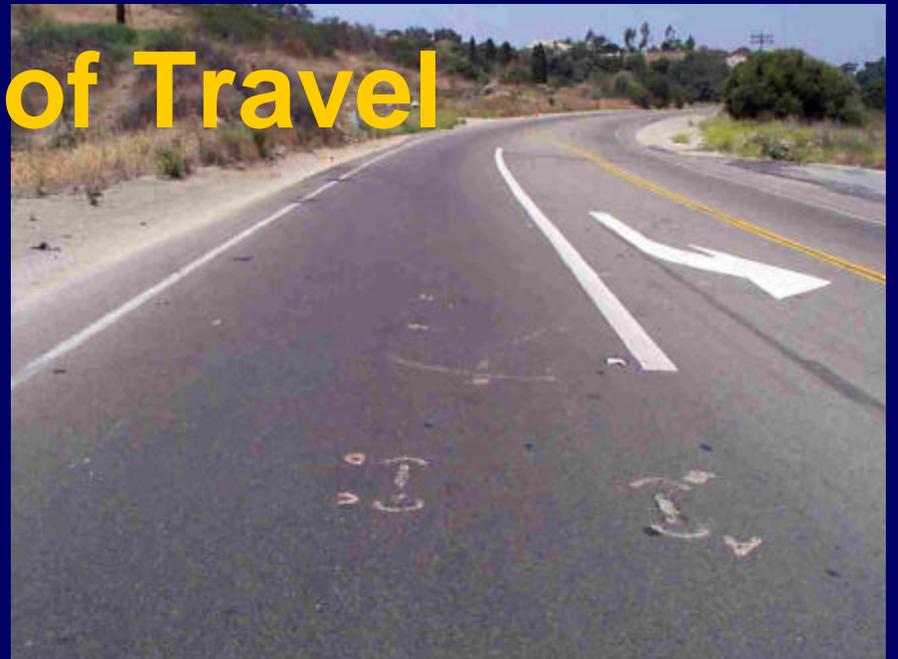


# Offset Frontal Case #2





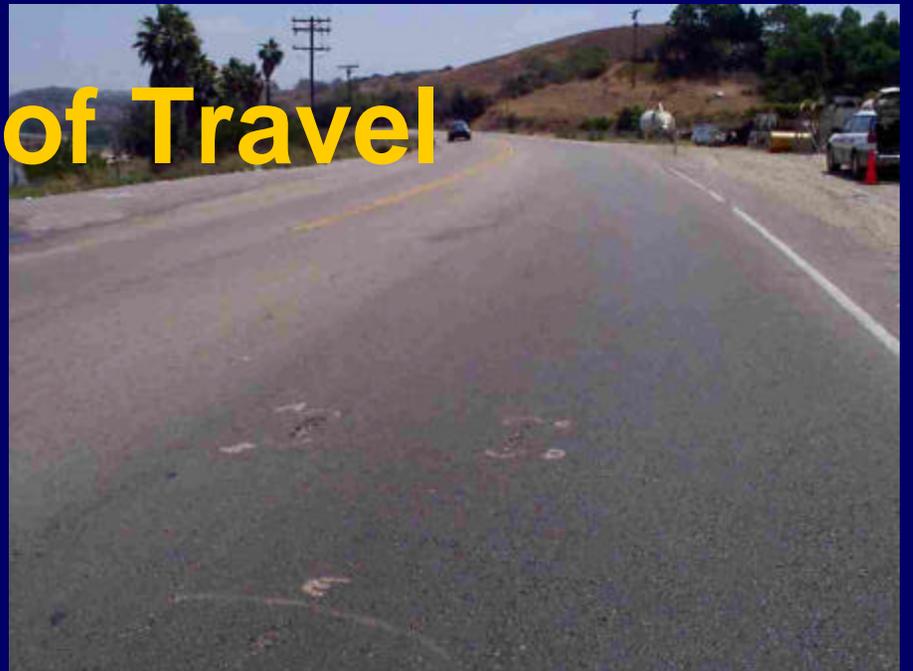
**Opposing Vehicle**



**Direction of Travel**



**Subject Vehicle**



**Direction of Travel**



**Subject Vehicle**

**Maximum Crush**

**104 cm**

**PDOF -10 degrees**

Total Delta V (ROLDMISS)

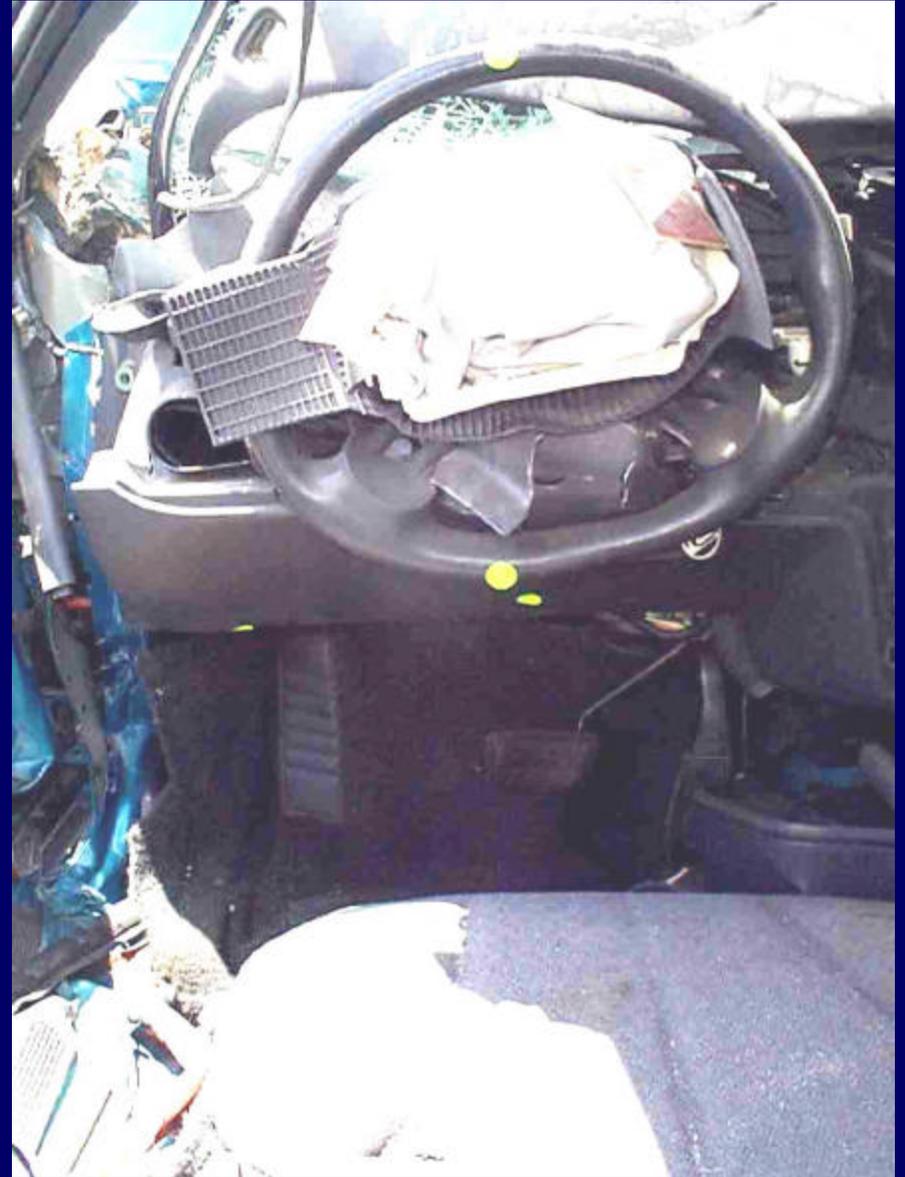
68 kph (42 mph)\*



# Intrusion



# Occupant Contact



# Restraints



# Vehicle Occupant

- 20 year old female
- Restrained Driver
  - Lap/Shoulder belt
  - Airbag
- 5 ft 5 in, 151 lbs

# Patient Injuries

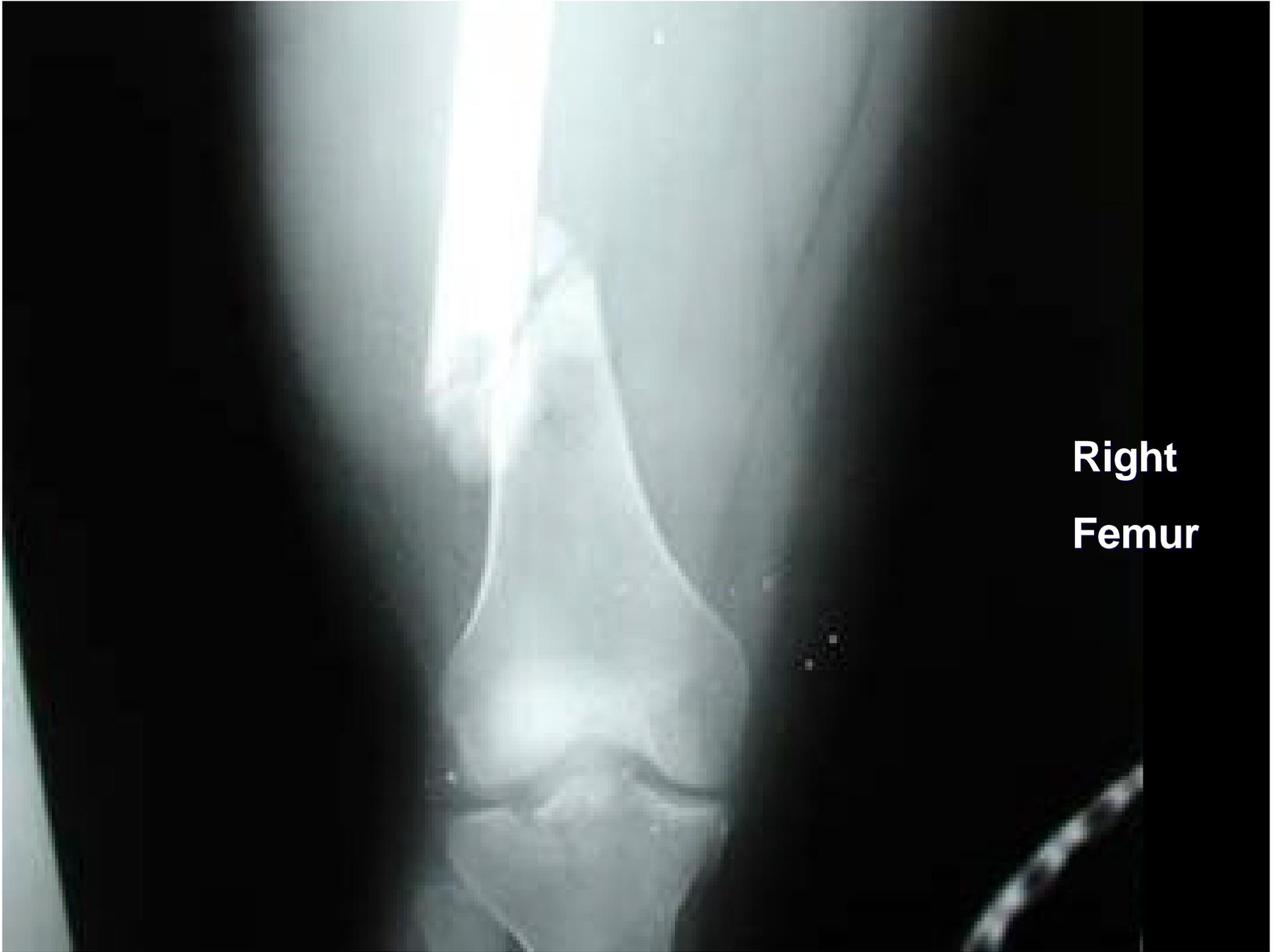
- **Atlanto-occipital fracture dislocation**
- **Spinal cord transection**
- **Fracture-separation C3-C4 vertebrae**
- **Bilateral lung contusions, minor**
- **Liver laceration, 3 capsular**
- **Spleen laceration, 2 capsular**
- **Right forearm fracture**
- **Right and left femur fractures**
- **Right & left fibula fractures**
- **Right ankle fracture**



**Right Radius/Ulna**



**Left  
Femur**



**Right  
Femur**



**Left  
Tibia/Fibula**

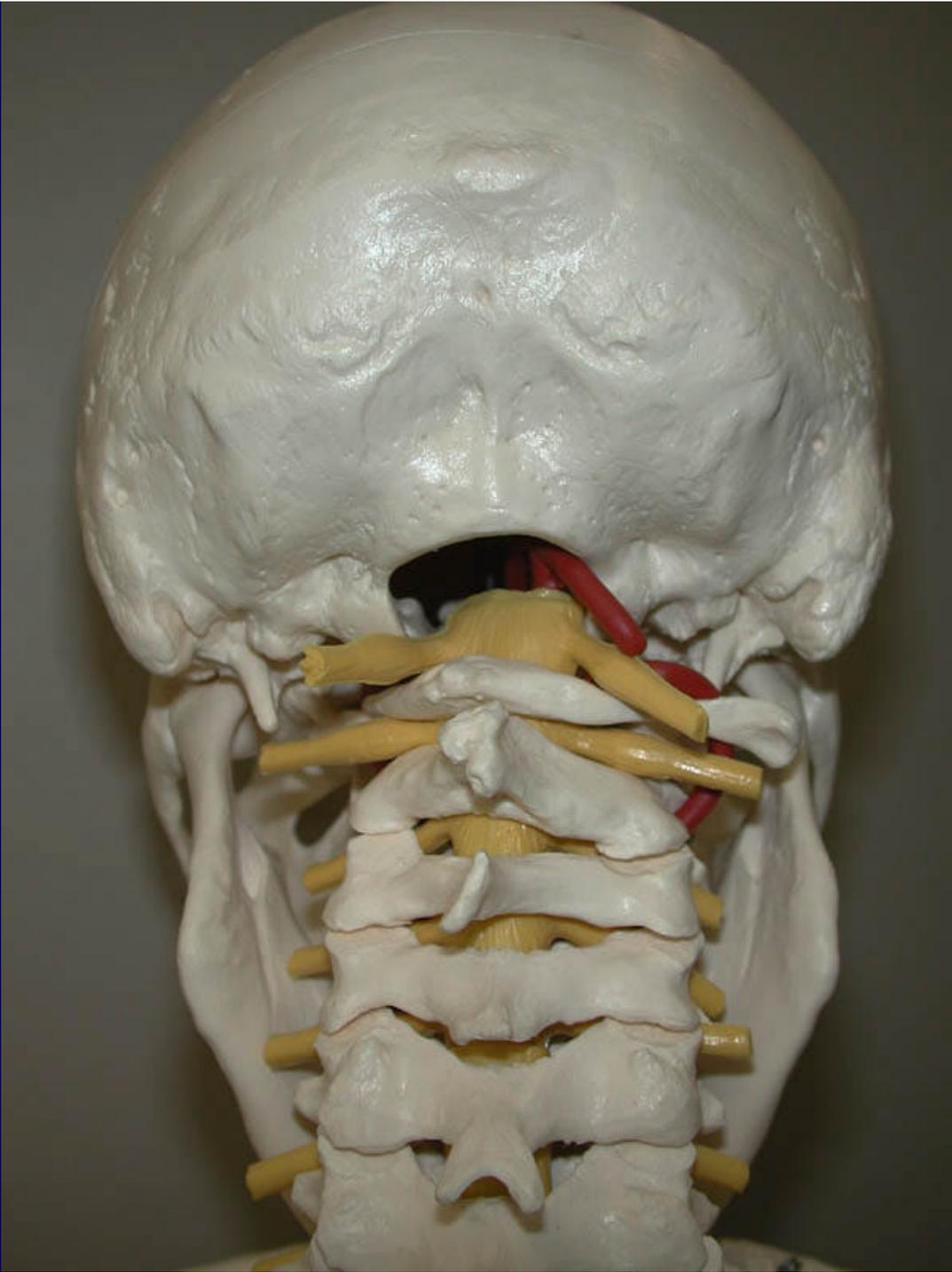
## Right Tibia/Fibula

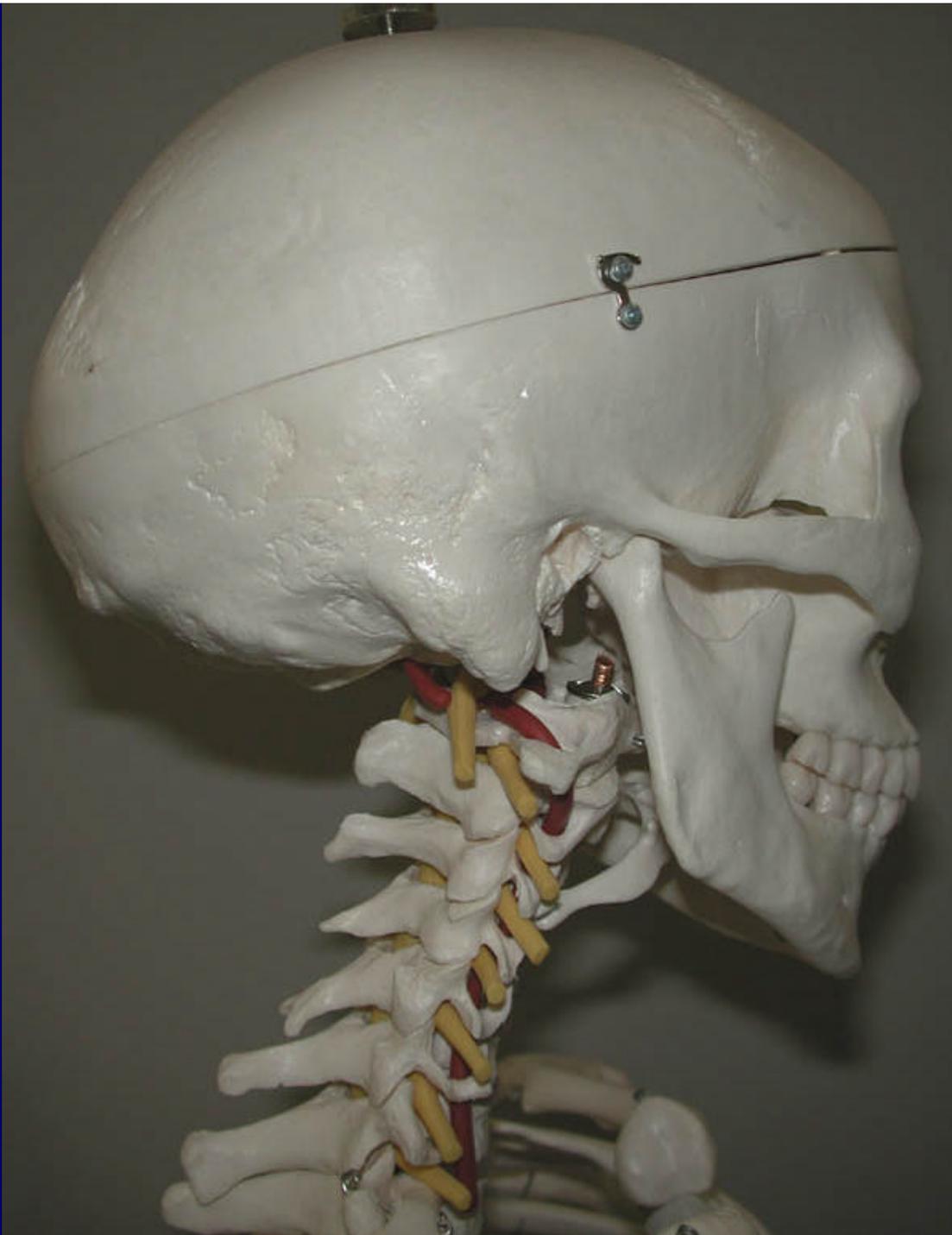




**Atlanto-Occipital  
Dislocation**









**Atlanto-Occipital  
Dislocation**