Estimation Of Truck Platooning Effects On Fatigue Safety Of A Pavement Structure Based On Traffic Monitoring Data

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Traditional fatigue safety assessment and long-term health monitoring approaches of pavement-based structures such as roadways and bridges rely on a long period monitoring time of structure response. Simulation studies using finite element modeling of pavement structures, meanwhile, analyze dynamic responses under nonrealistic types of simplified loading patterns. Direct monitoring data in Weigh-in-Motion (WIM) data provides actual traffic loading actions in real-world traffic. In this study, finite element modeling of pavement structures with typical types of asphalt/concrete overlay is combined with simulated truck axle loading prototypes developed from long-term monitoring data of real-world traffic for the fatigue life assessment. The proposed approach constructs multi-axle traffic action models identified from long-term traffic monitoring of truck platoons. A loading model of long-term truck platoon excitation is developed using frequent types of truck platoon loading models summarized from yearly traffic data records. Then, a simulation of truck platoon loading models and their effects was conducted using a finite element model to estimate pavement fatigue damage. A 3D finite element model was employed to examine pavement dynamic response subjected to multiaxial loading models with different axle configuration and estimate fatigue damage of the pavement structure based on longterm traffic monitoring of truck platoons. The simulation results of fatigue damages under platoon loading scenario are evaluated comparing with the conventional ESAL-based pavement performance prediction method. Findings of this simulation analysis can be used to enhance long-term assessment of pavement fatigue safety of pavement with consideration of continuous axle dynamic loading based on monitoring data of real-world traffic.