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(57) Abstract :

Congestion and the potential for accidents are particularly bad at freeway bottlenecks. A variable speed limit can help reduce traffic and make roads safer in these situations. Existing variable speed restriction guidelines in the associated literature tend to be narrowly focused and rarely provide hard and fast numerical limits. The purpose of this research was to develop a variable speed limit system appropriate for motorway bottleneck locations. The criteria for freeways were established, and variable speed restriction rules were devised for use in various traffic and weather conditions. Then, two bottleneck scenarios—a tunnel area and a merging area—were constructed in the VISSIM microscopic traffic simulation program and put to the test. Evidence from these two cases reveals that, at traffic flow ranges appropriate speed limitations can successfully reduce roadway delays and increase the operating efficiency of bottleneck zones. The efficiency of freeways is substantially hampered by unreasonable speed limits during periods of low volume. When congestion has already established due to heavy traffic, lowering the speed limit won't do much to alleviate the situation. These findings on variable speed limit systems for motorway bottlenecks can serve as a theoretical reference for their design and implementation. This helps in some little way toward long-term traffic stability.

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