## Marc Ross

Physics Dept., Univ, of Michigan, Ann Arbor MI 48109-1040
mhross@umich.edu 734 764-4459
Tom Wenzel
LBNL 90-4000 Berkeley CA 94720, TPWenzel@lbl.gov
510 486-5753 expert on FARS and vehicle safety in general

## Deena Patel

deenamp@umich.edu 734 846-8067
expert on CIREN, now working on congestion pricing in NYC
Abigail Mechtenberg amechten@umich.edu
modeling the vehicle fleet: US, Europe, \& Japan
Risks: Driver Deaths/Year per Million Vehicles (models shown below for 2000-2004) An exercise: consider model \& crash years 1997-2001. Risk-to-driver for Toyota Camry is the deaths of those Camry drivers, 234, divided by Camry "registration years" in the period, 5.51 million. So risk-to-driver is $234 / 5.51=42$. Risk-to-other-drivers is deaths of drivers in vehicles which crash with Camrys, over the same denominator, a risk of 29.


The two risks are sensitive to design \& equipment, shown by the MY 2002 Explorer

| "Risk by.......xls" | Excel row | Risk-in | Risk-by | Deaths-in | Deaths-by | sales |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| SUV model 02-04" | 12 | 62 | 72 | 191 | 221 | 3.07 |
| pop model 00-04" | 206 | 98 | 86 | 415 | 509 | 4.2 |
| pop model 97-01" | 90 | 91 | 61 | 496 | 336 | 5.47 |

## Readings from Our Work

## Wenzel \& Ross

"Safer Vehicles for People and the Planet"
American Scientist, March-April 2008, vol 96, pp 122-128
Patel \& Ross
"Intrusion in Side Impact Crashes"
SAE technical paper, 2007-0678
Ross, Patel \& Wenzel
"Vehicle Design \& the Physics of Traffic Safety"
Physics Today, vol 59, pp 49-54, Jan 2006
Wenzel \& Ross
The Effects of Vehicle Model \& Driver Behavior on Risk" Accident Analysis \& Prevention, vol 37, pp 479-494, 2005

The experience from 1980, shown below, gives hope that major fuel (and carbon) savings could be achieved relatively quickly by making vehicles lighter (and we argue with safety) if the US has the will.


