

# **The Role of Subbase Support in Concrete Pavement Sustainability**

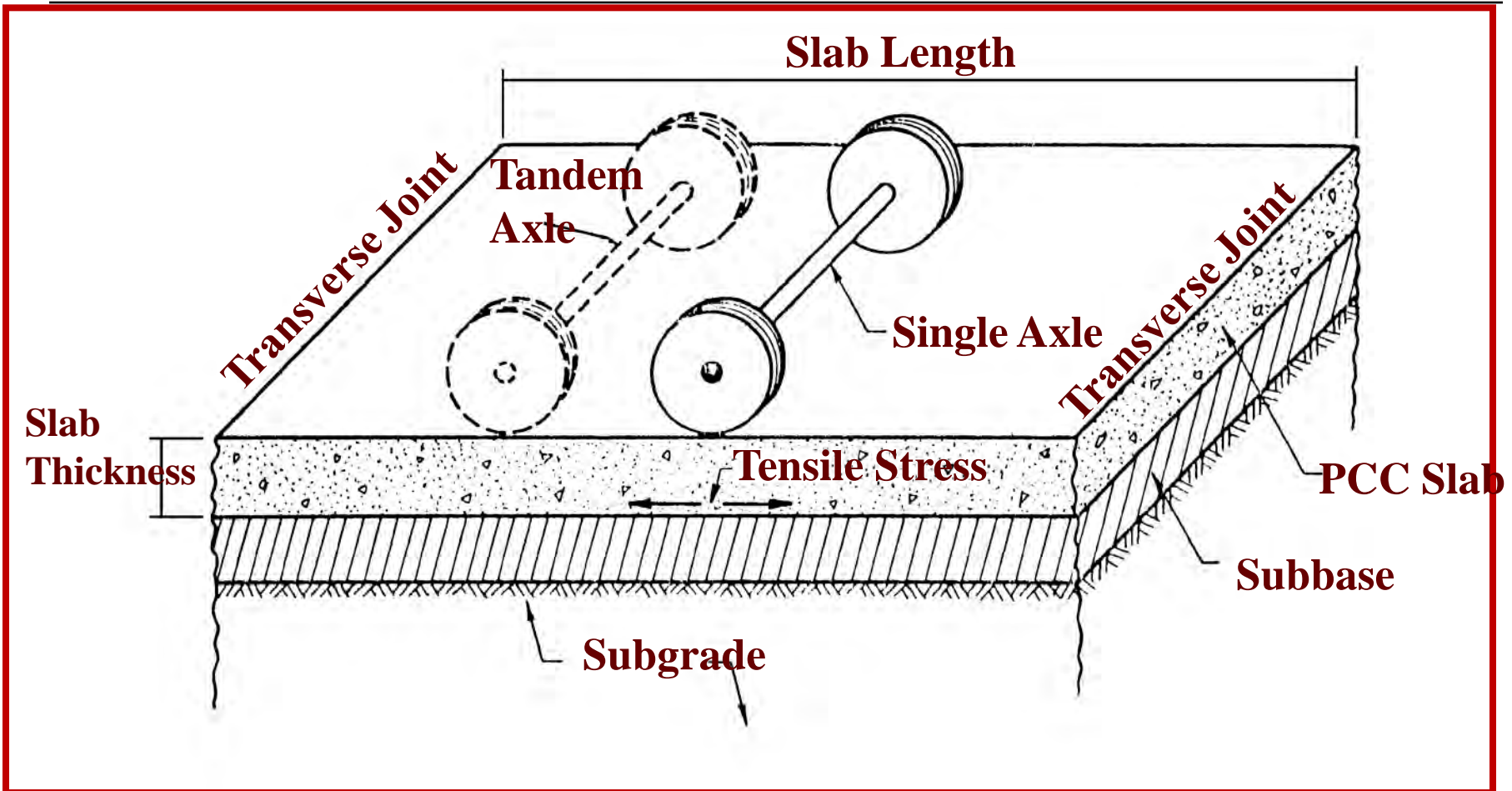
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*TxDOT Project 6037 - Alternatives to Asphalt Concrete  
Pavement Subbases for Concrete Pavement*

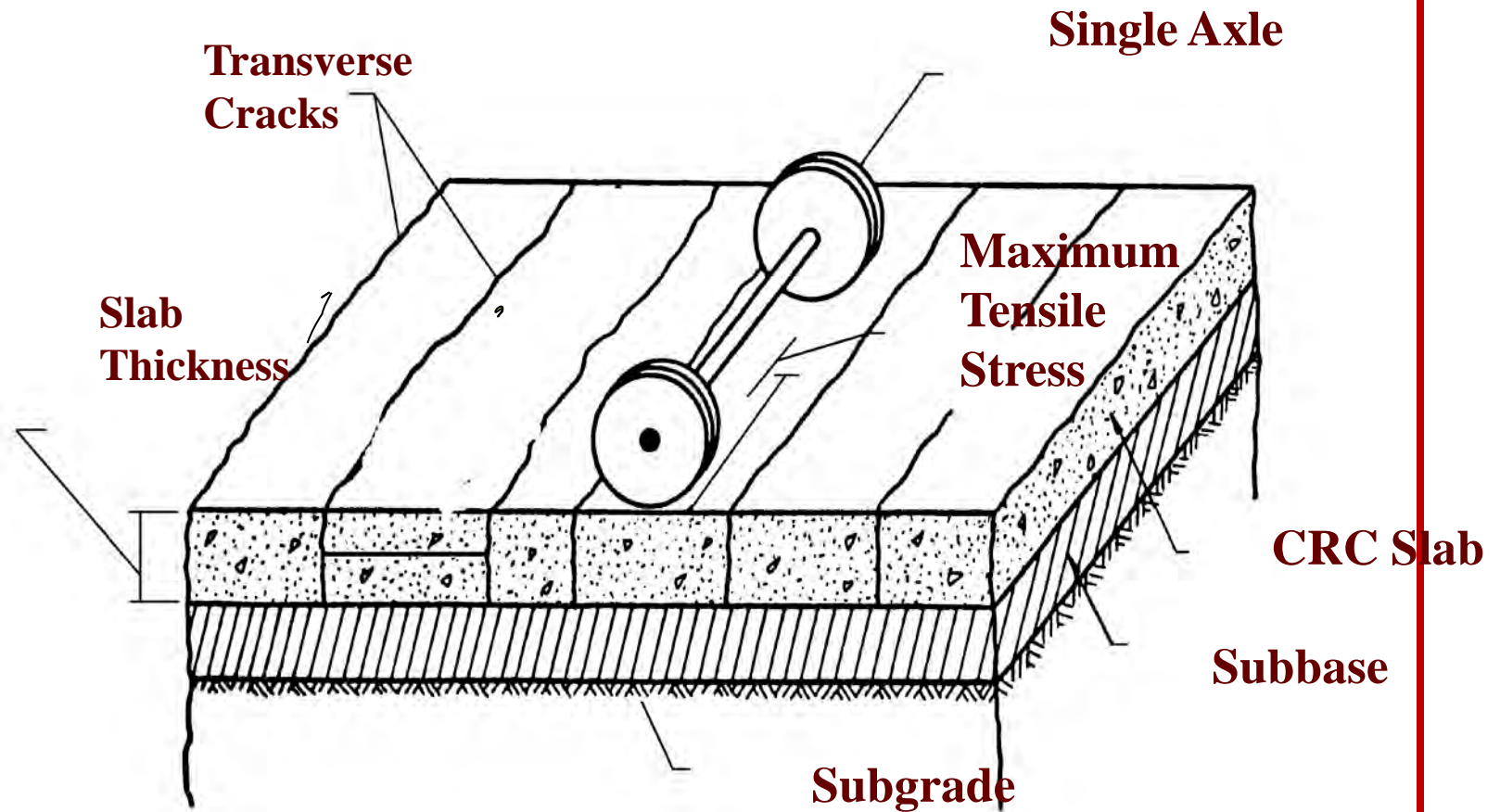
Youn su Jung  
Dan Zollinger  
Andrew Wimsatt

*Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2011*

# Jointed Pavement



# CRC Pavement



# Corner Failure

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# Adjacent Patch Deterioration

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# Keyway Failure

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# Drainage Swale

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09/09/2008 16:32



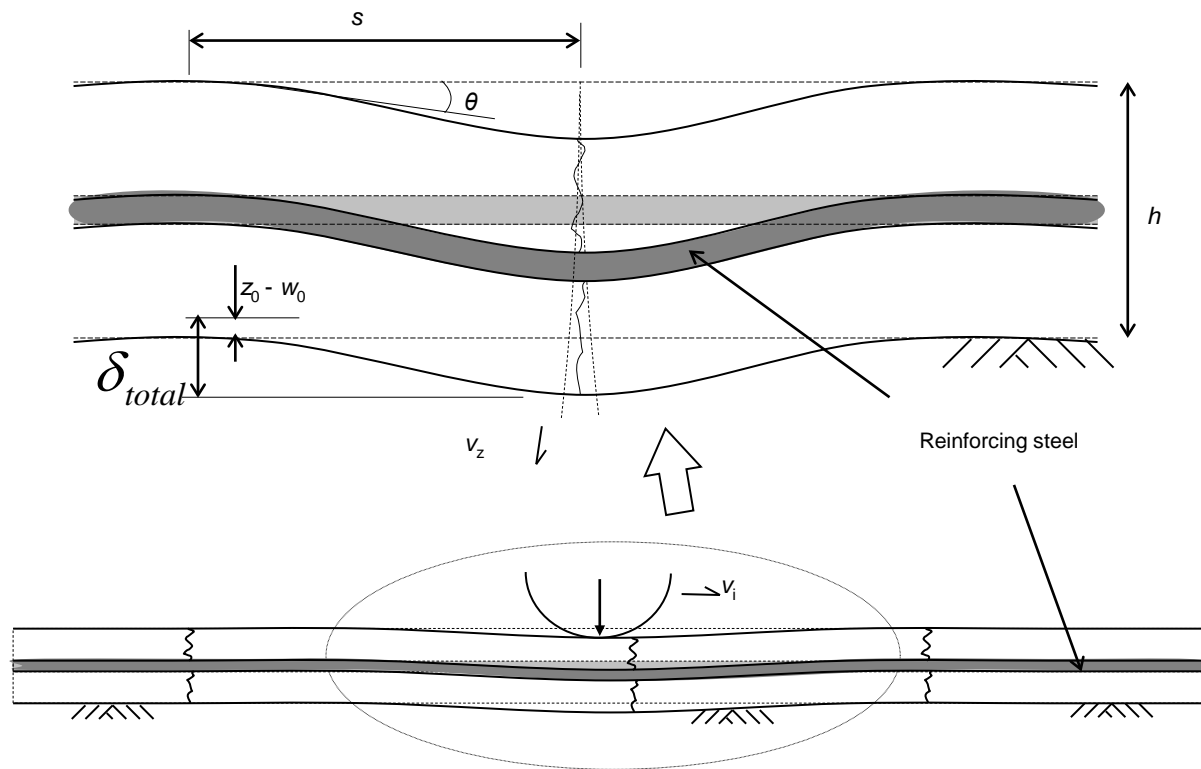


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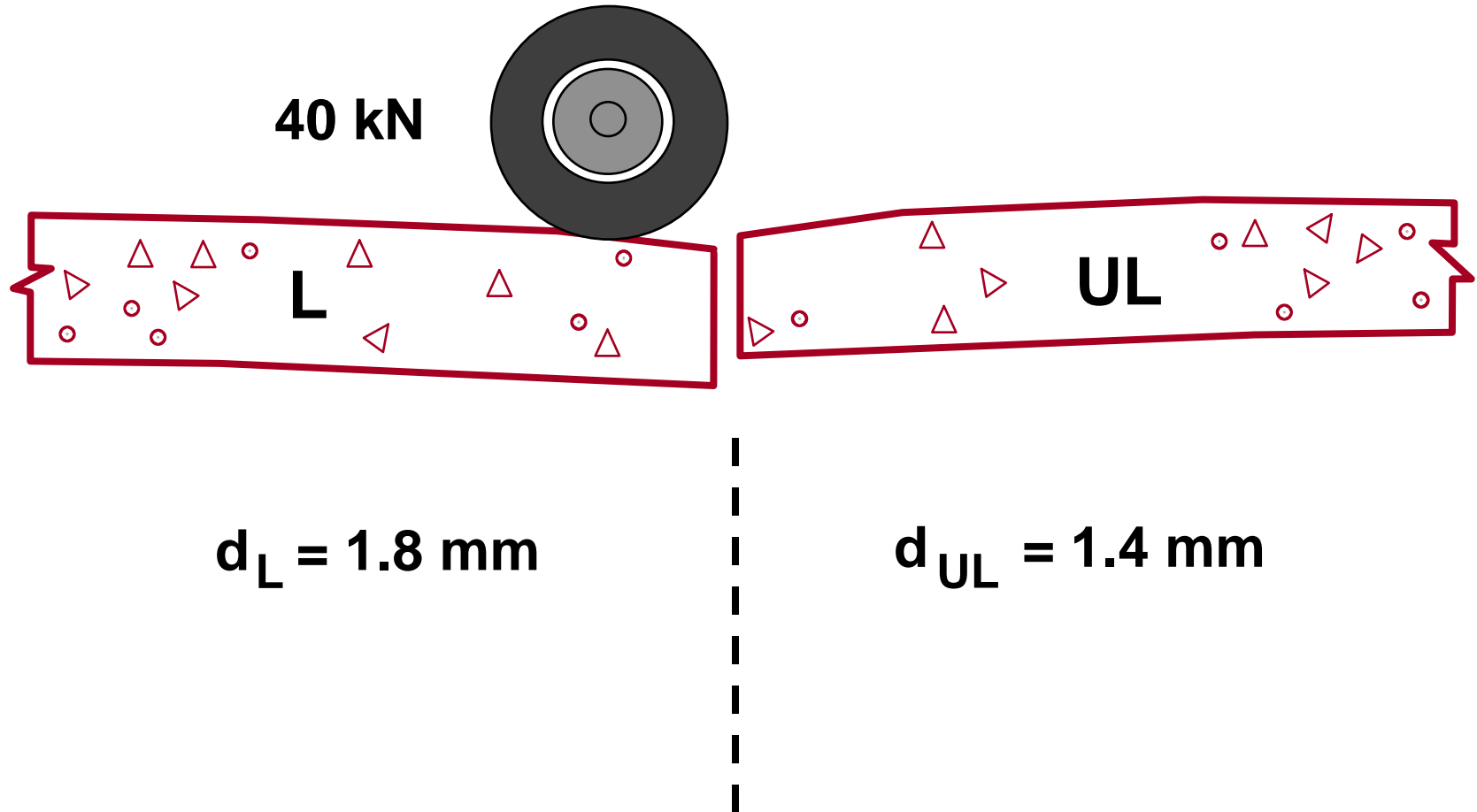
# Cracking on the dowel



# Erosion: Mechanically and Hydraulically Induced

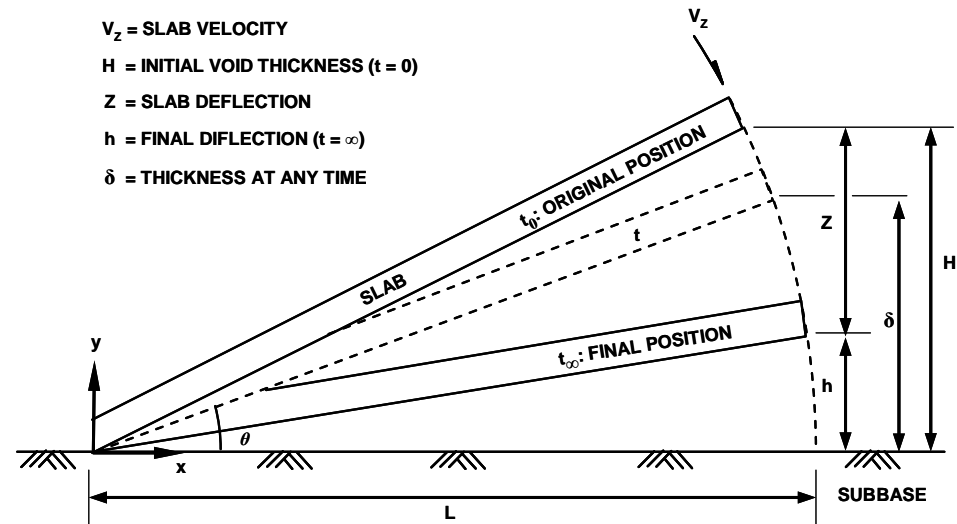


# Load Transfer Efficiency



# Matrix Erosion Model

$$f_i = f_0 e^{-\left(\frac{\rho}{N_i - \nu}\right)^a}$$



Where,  $f_i$  = Erosion depth (L)

$f_0$  = Ultimate erosion depth (L)

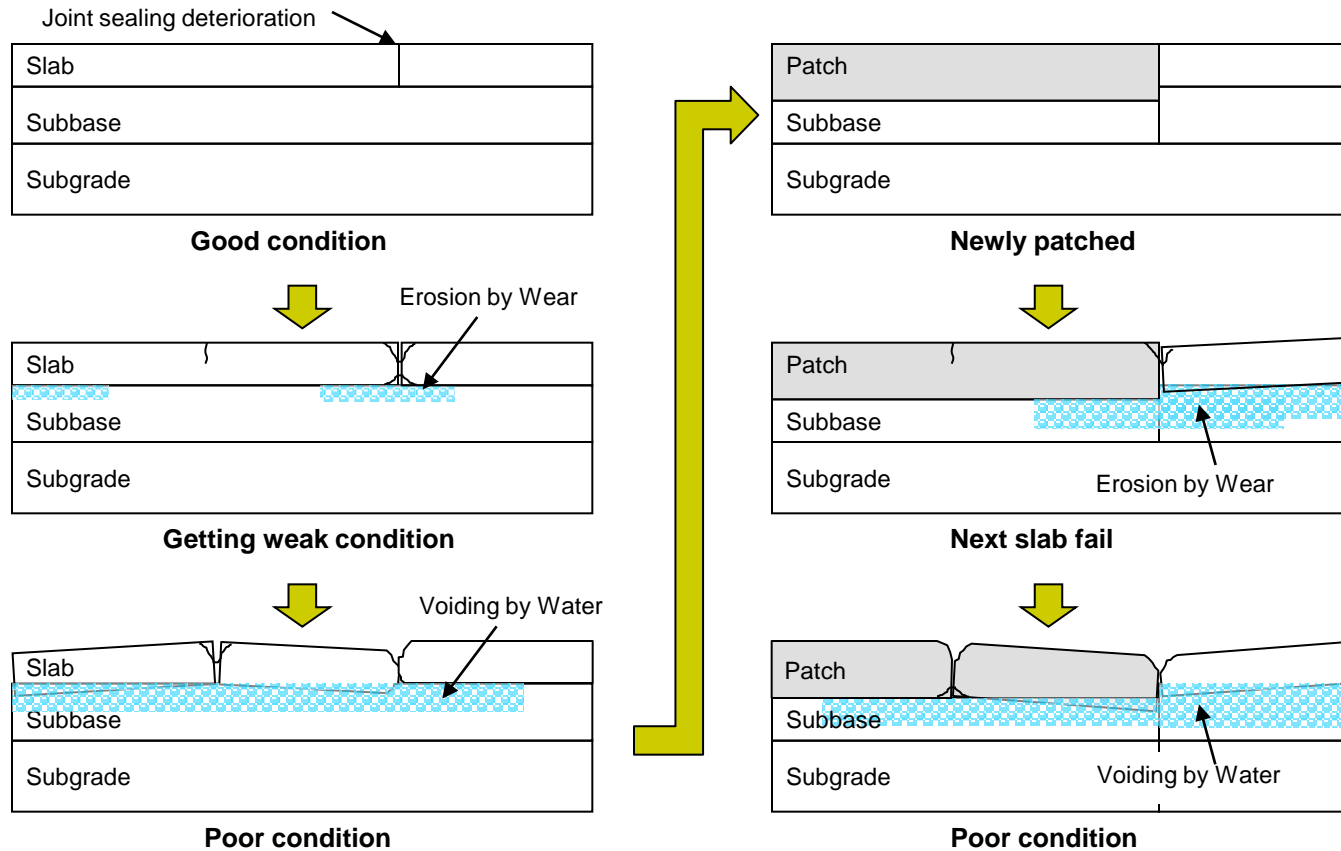
$N_i$  = Number of axle loads per load group contributing to erosion

$\rho$  = Calibration coefficient based on local performance

$\nu$  = Calibration coefficient represents the number of wheel loads (or time) for layer debonding to occur and erosion to initiate, 0 for lab test

$a$  = Inverse of the rate of void development

# Subbase Erosion and Pavement Deterioration Process

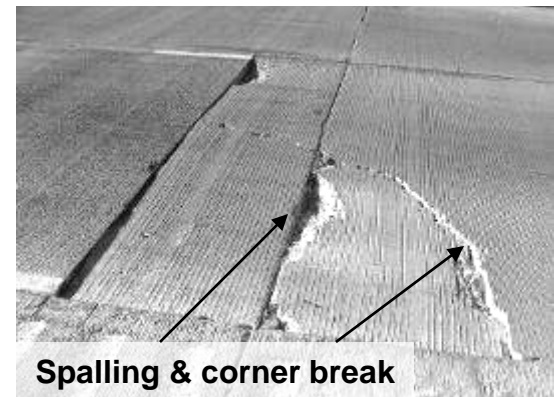




# Patched Area Deterioration

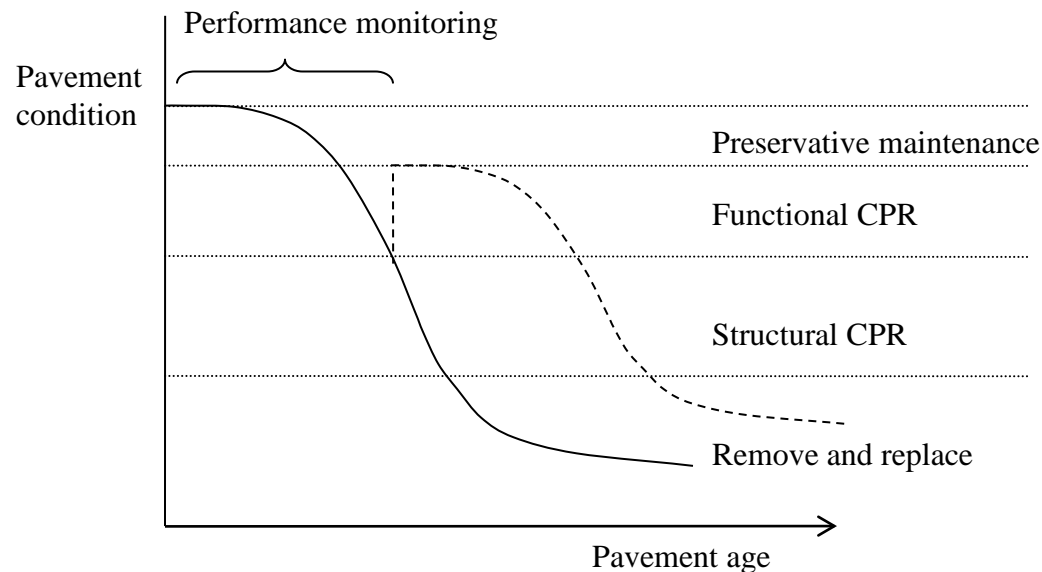


After 1 month



# Maintenance Strategy

- ❑ As pavement condition degrades,
  - Repair costs and time of repair go up
  - Future renewal options become limited
- ❑ Preservative maintenance extend pavement life cost effectively



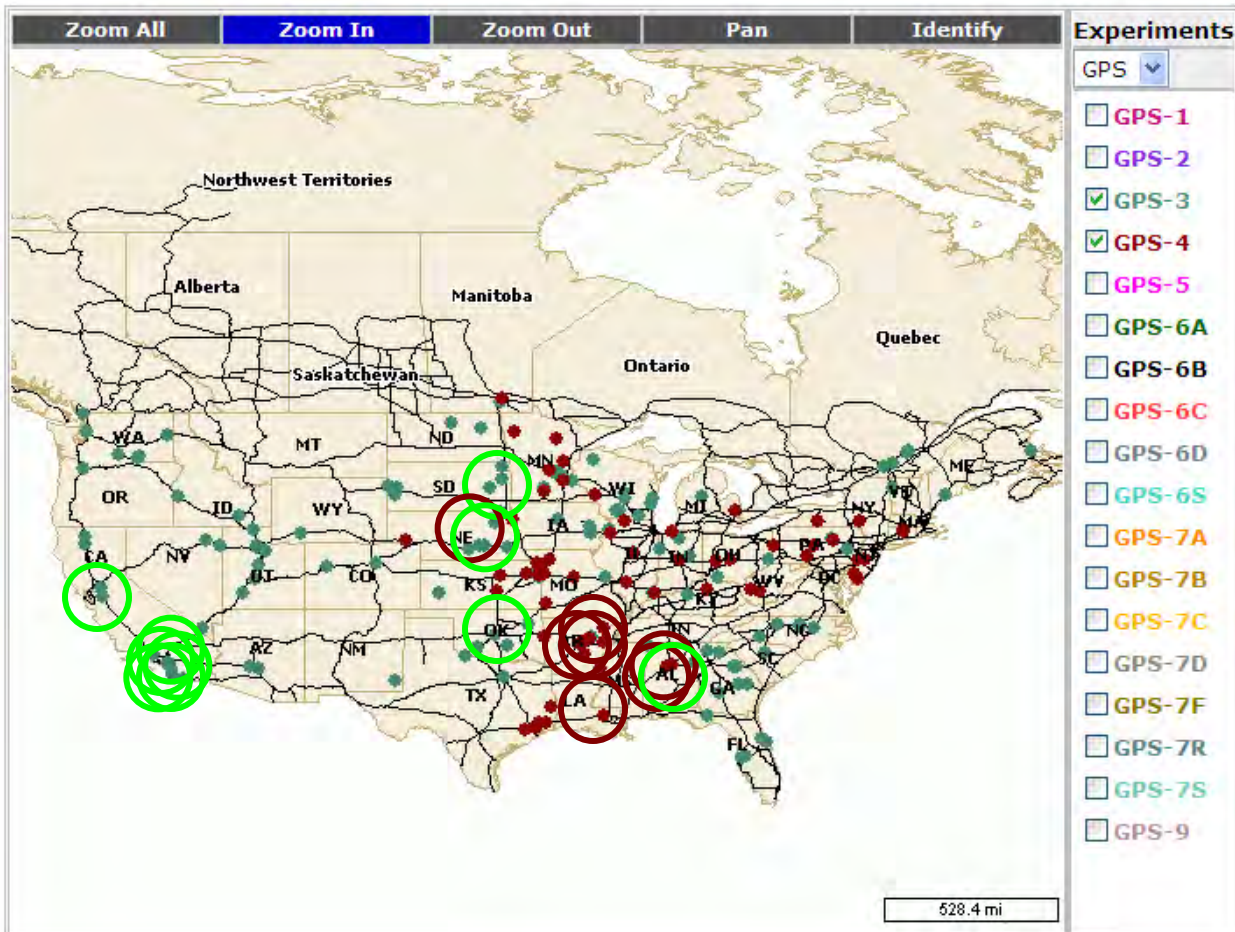
# LTPP Faulting Data Sections

LTPP DataPave Online

Release 23 - January 2009

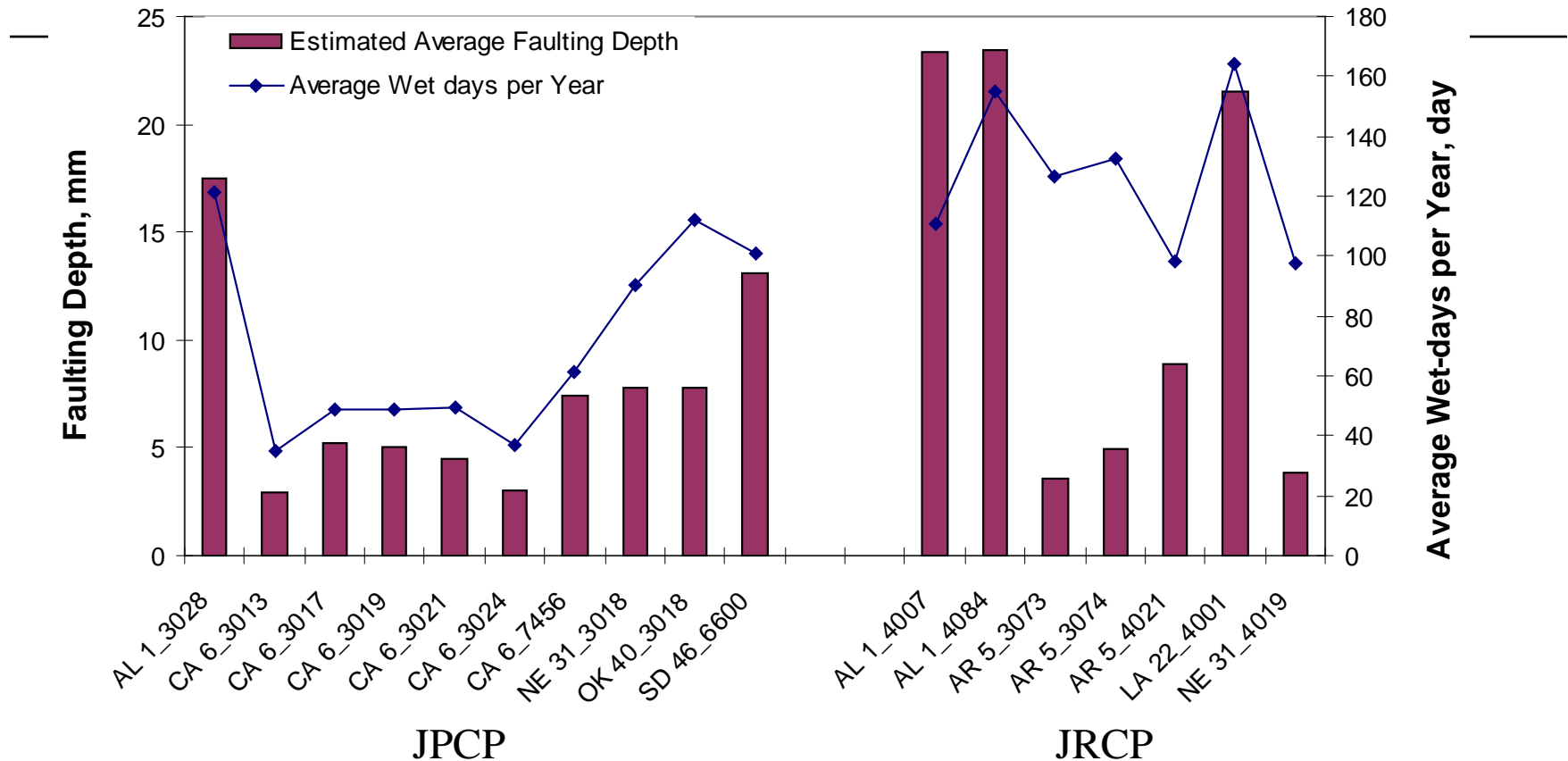
Your Access to the World's Largest Pavement Performance Database

Select By Location



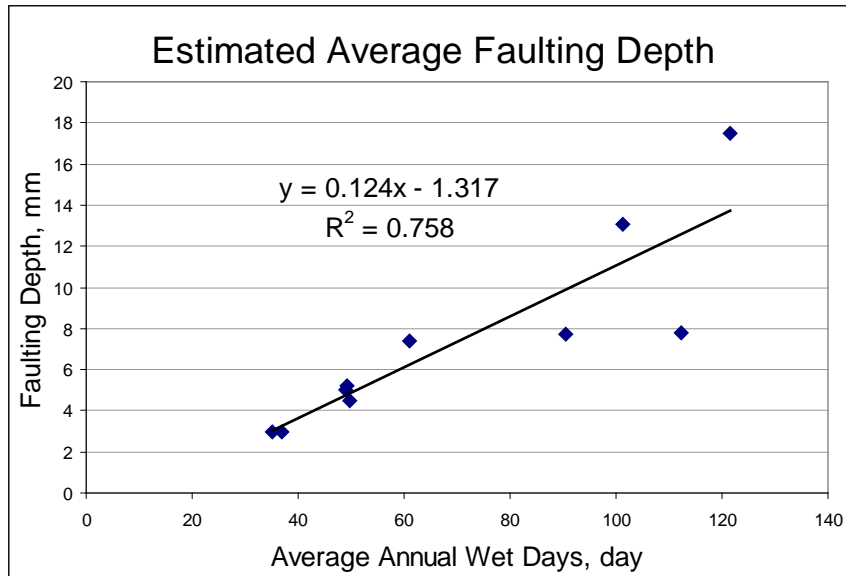
State and Section ID	Pavement Type
AL 1_3028	JPCP
CA 6_3013	JPCP
CA 6_3017	JPCP
CA 6_3019	JPCP
CA 6_3021	JPCP
CA 6_3024	JPCP
CA 6_7456	JPCP
NE 31_3018	JPCP
OK 40_3018	JPCP
SD 46_6600	JPCP
AL 1_4007	JRCP
AL 1_4084	JRCP
AR 5_3073	JRCP
AR 5_3074	JRCP
AR 5_4021	JRCP
LA 22_4001	JRCP
NE 31_4019	JRCP

# Estimated Average Faulting Depth

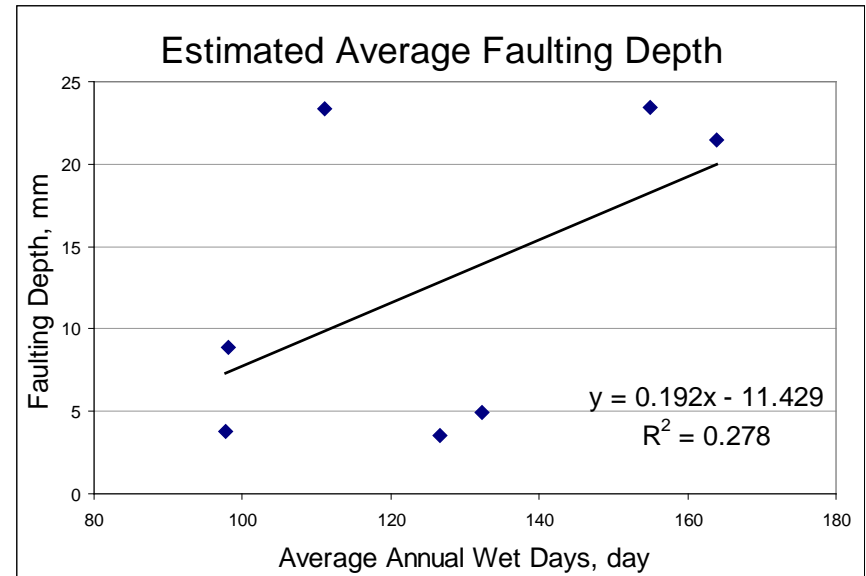


Wet days in LTPP database is defined as the number of days for which precipitation was greater than 0.25 mm for year

# Relationship between Faulting and Number of Wet days

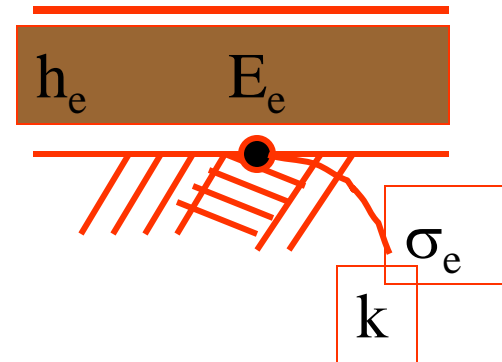
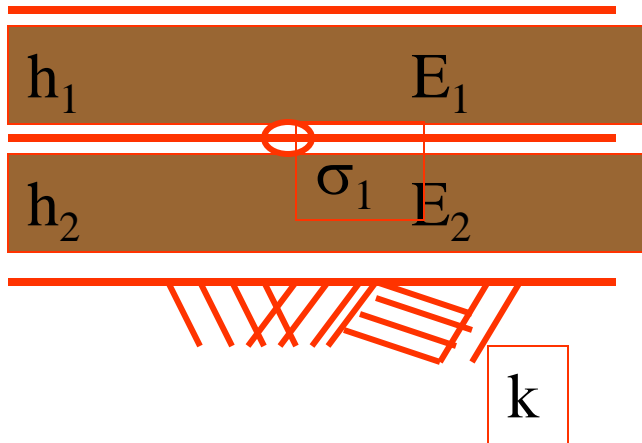
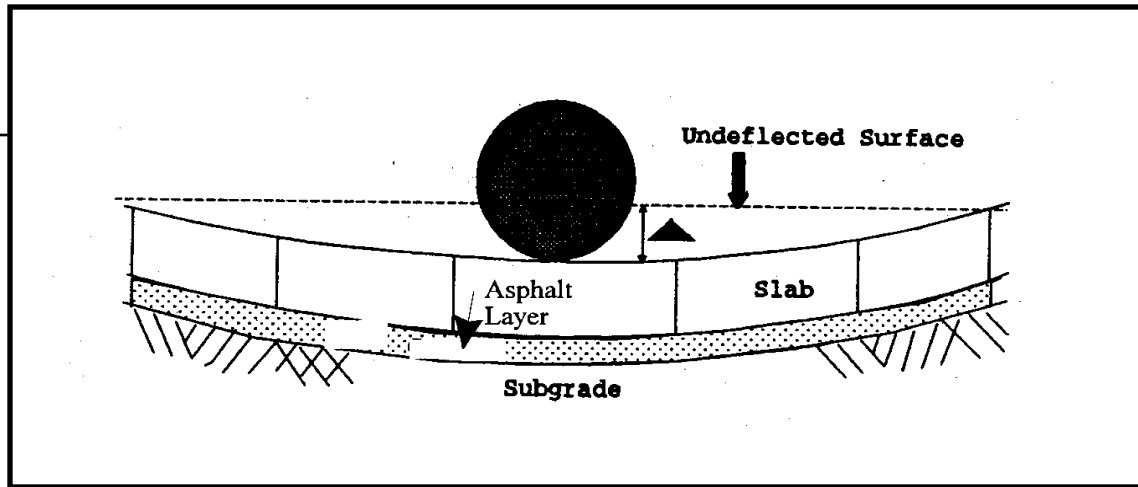


JPCP Sections



JRCP Sections

Average faulting depth is estimated at the 100 million ESAL repetitions based on LTPP faulting data







$$Basin\ Area = \frac{SS}{2 * \delta_0} \left[ \delta_0 + 2 \left( \delta_1 + \delta_2 + \dots + \delta_{j-1} \right) + \delta_j \right]$$

# Falling Weight Deflectometer (cont.)

## □ LTE Testing

### ■ Measure of independent action

$$LTE = \frac{d_U}{d_L} \times 100$$

Where, LTE = Load transfer effectiveness, percent

$d_U$  = Deflection on the unloaded side of the joint or crack, mils

$d_L$  = Deflection at the loaded side of the joint or crack, mils



$d_U$

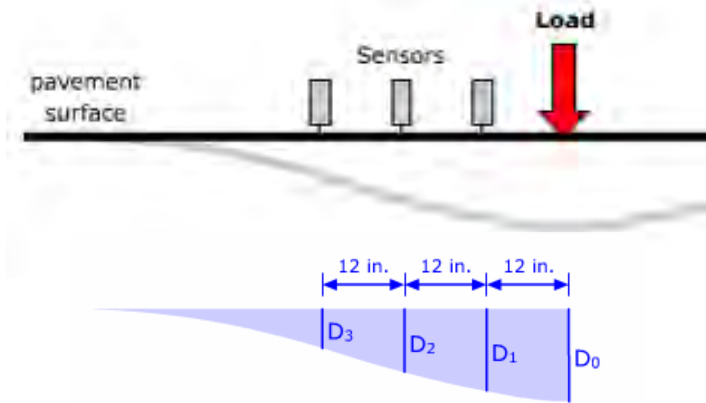
$d_L$

LTE < 70% ➡ Retrofit load transfer

# Falling Weight Deflectometer (cont.)

## □ Deflection Testing

$$AREA = \frac{6(D_0 + 2D_1 + 2D_2 + D_3)}{D_0}$$



Where,  $AREA$  = FWD deflection parameter, in.

$D_0$  = Deflection at the loading position, mils

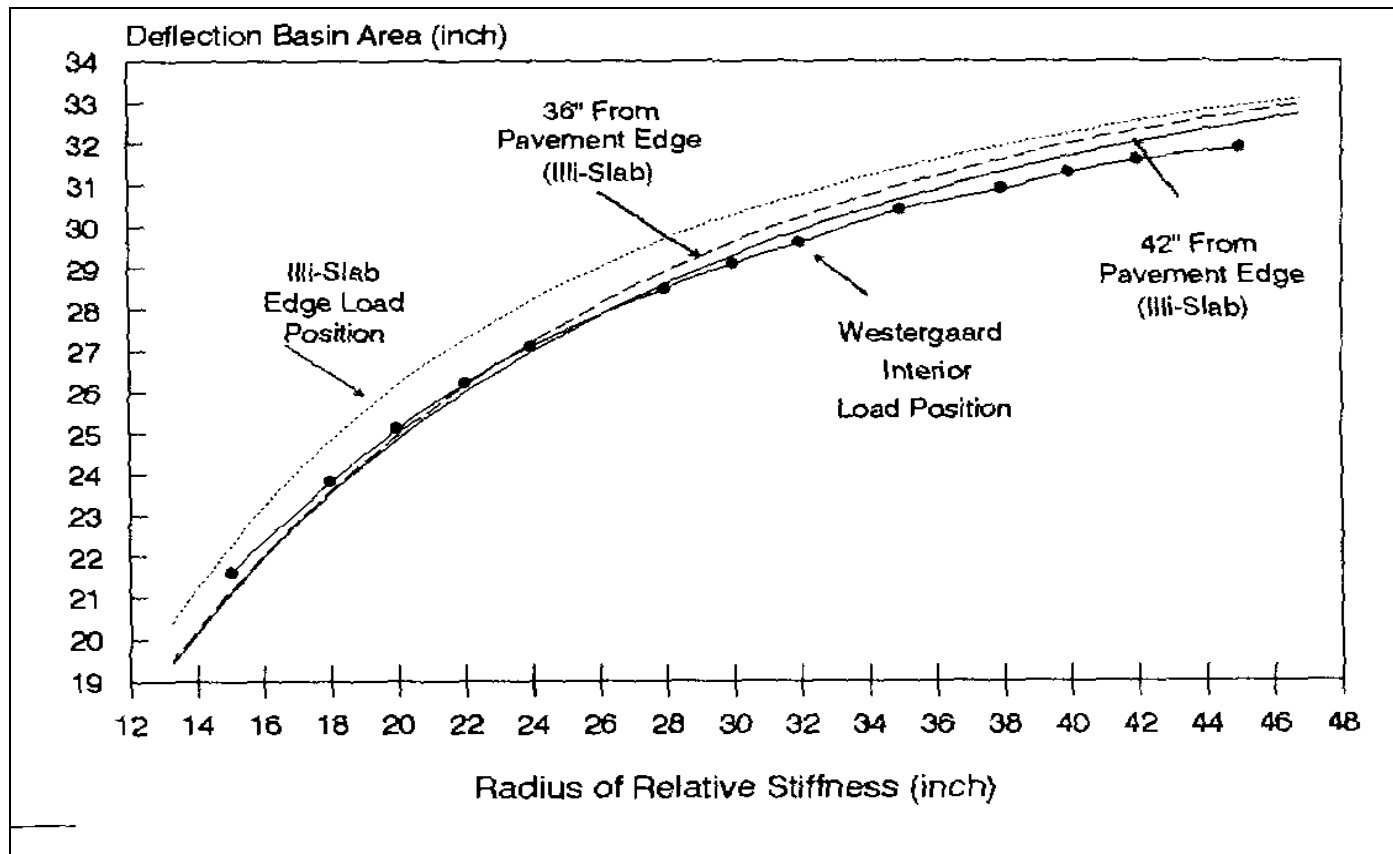
$D_1$  = Deflection at 12 in. from the loading position, mils

$D_2$  = Deflection at 24 in. from the loading position, mils

$D_3$  = Deflection at 36 in. from the loading position, mils

Basin area < 25 ➡ Check base/subgrade support

# Slab Action: $\ell$ - Value



## Equivalent Thickness

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$$h_{e-p}^3 = 12\ell_m^4 (1 - \nu^2) \left( \frac{k_b}{E_c} \right)$$

$h_{e-p}$   $\Rightarrow$  Equivalent Thickness

$\ell_m$   $\Rightarrow$  Measured Value

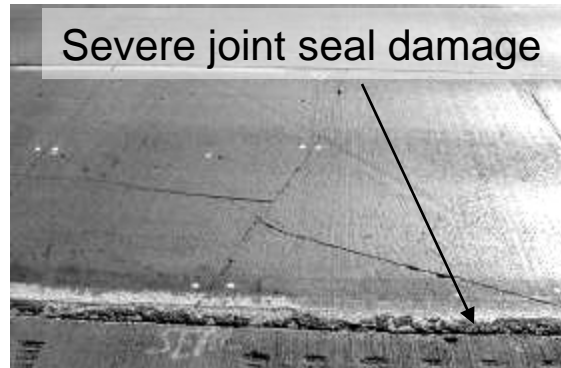
$k_b$   $\Rightarrow$  Back-calculated

$E_c$   $\Rightarrow$  Based on Cores

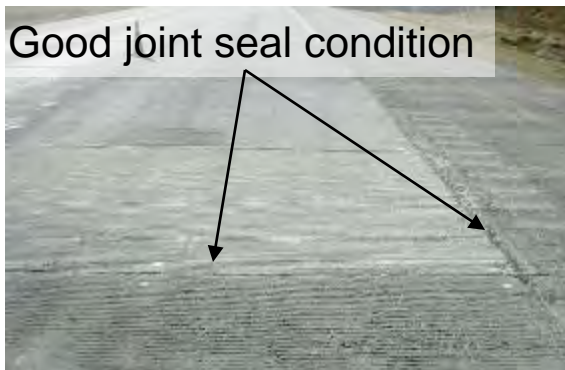
# US 75 (Sherman District)



Good Performing Section



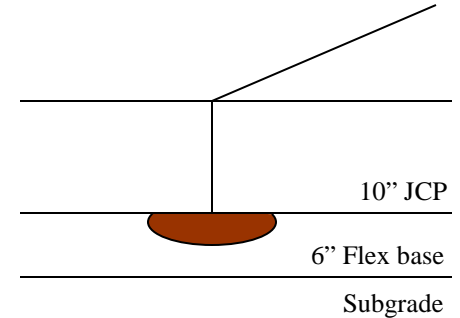
Poorly Performing Section



Newly Patched Section



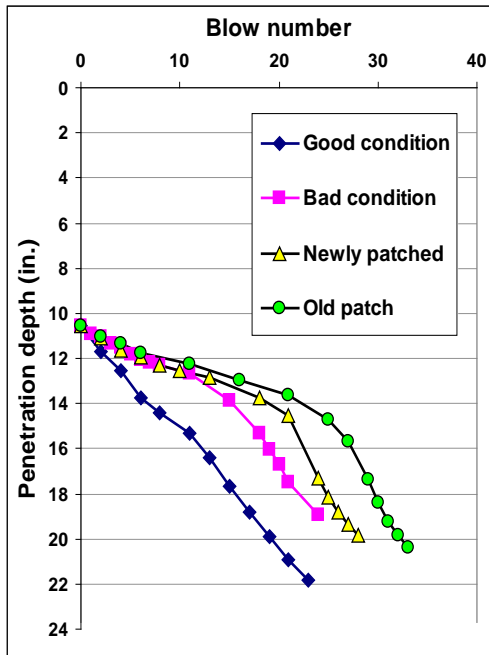
Old Patched Section



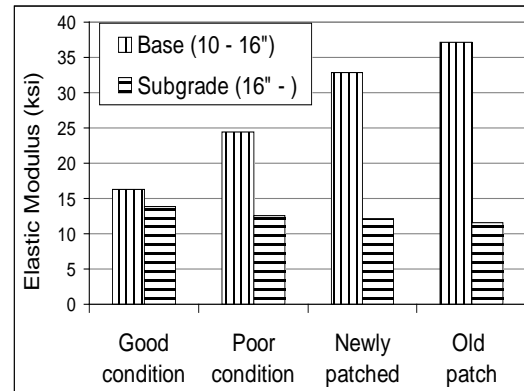
- Built in 1983
- ADT: 42,760
- Severe shoulder joint seal damage
- Flex base weakening



# US 75 – DCP, Core



Penetration ratio



Depth	Good condition	Poor condition	Newly patched	Old patch
Base (10 - 16")	16.3 ksi	24.4 ksi	32.8 ksi	37.1 ksi
Subgrade (16" - )	13.9 ksi	12.6 ksi	12.1 ksi	11.6 ksi

Elastic Modulus

## Base Voiding



Good



Poor



New Patch



Old Patch

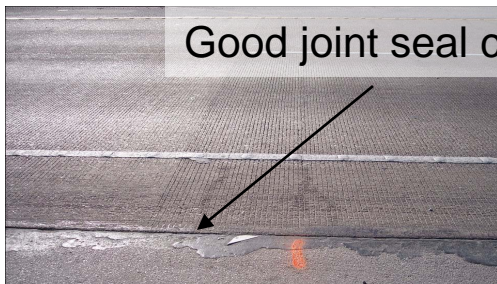
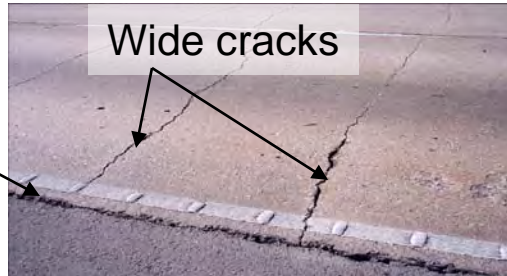
# US 81/287 (Wise County)



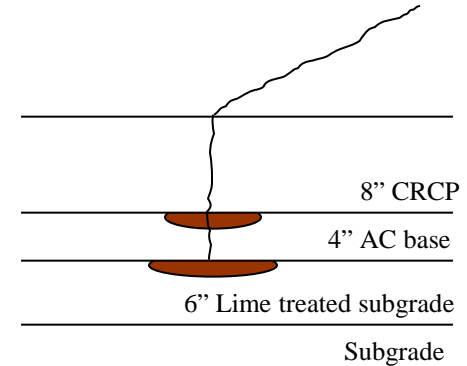
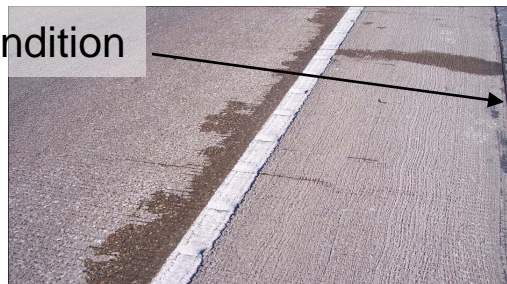
Section 1



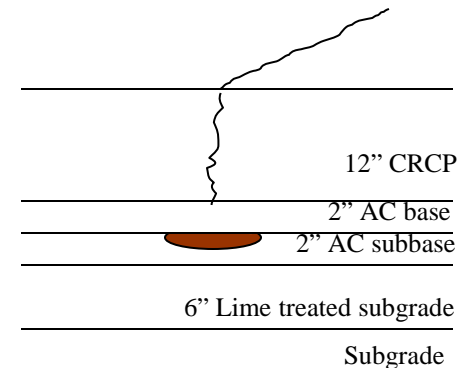
Section 2



Section 3

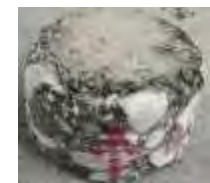
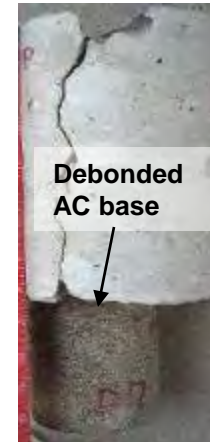
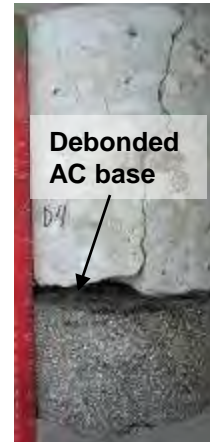
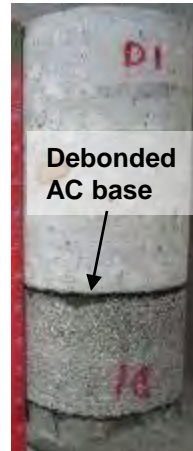
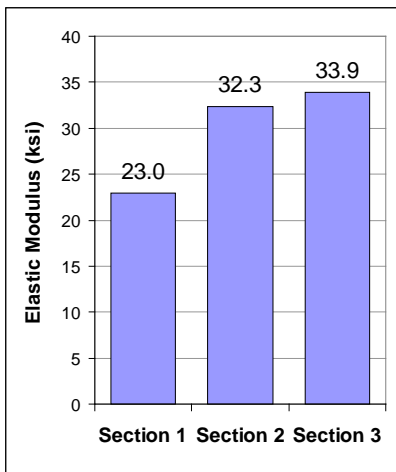
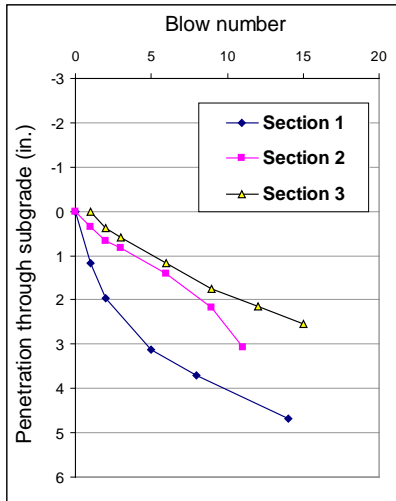


- Section 1&2, Built in 1971
- ADT: 23,000 (23% truck)
- AC base and lime treated subgrade erosion



- Section 3, Built in 1985
- ADT: 23,000 (23% truck)
- Debonded AC subbase erosion

# US 81/287 – DCP, Core



AC base bottom

AC base bottom

AC base bottom

AC base bottom

AC subbase top

Section 1

Section 2

Section 3



# US 287 (Vernon District)

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Good performing area



Poor performing area



Joint & crack sealant deterioration



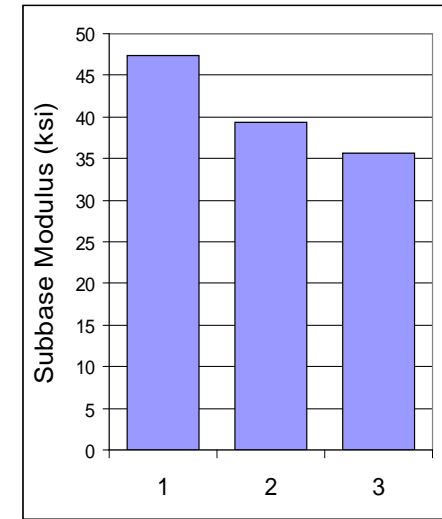
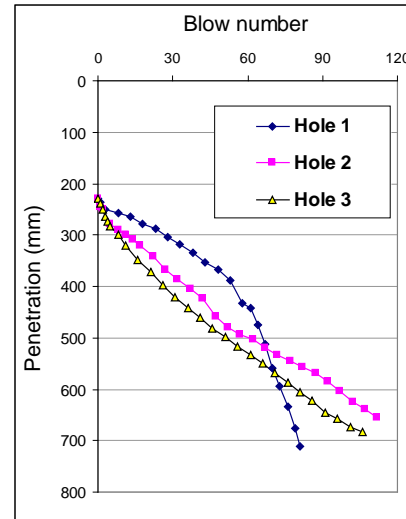
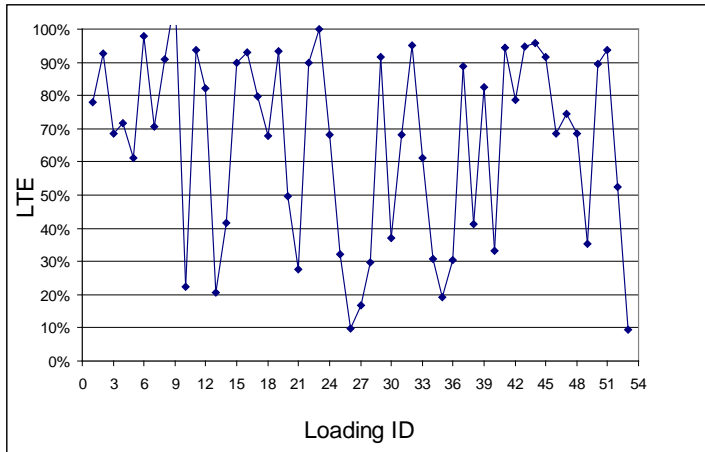
## Good performing area

- No crack
- Good joint sealing condition

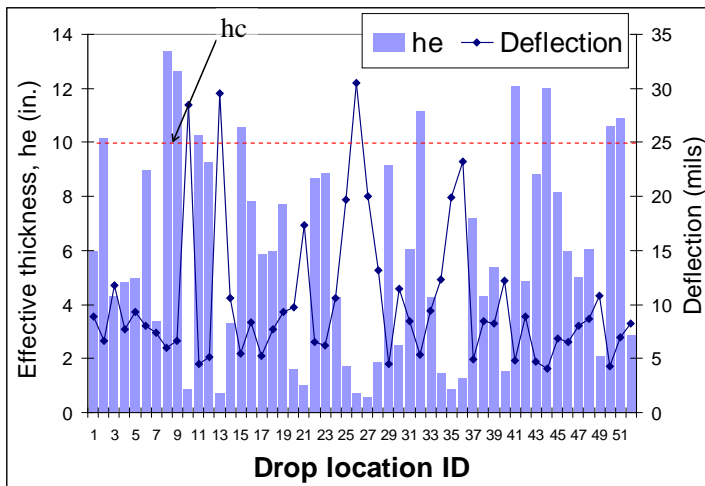
## Poor performing area

- Sever joint and crack sealant deterioration
- Wide shoulder joint opening ( > ½ in.)
- Base erosion under crack

# US 287 – FWD, DCP, Core



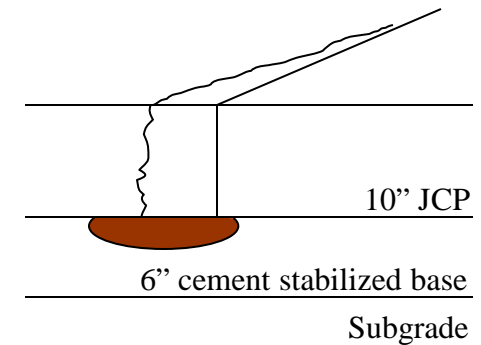
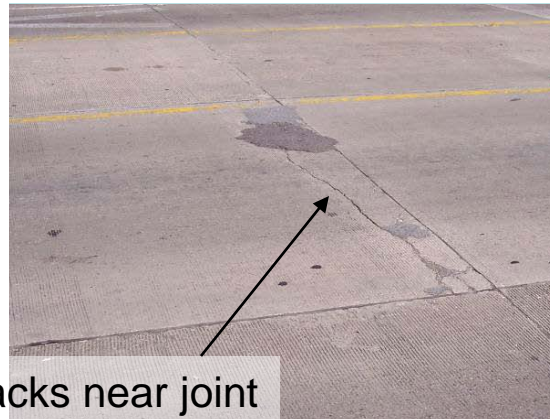
DCP penetration and Subbase Modulus



# FM 364 (Beaumont District)



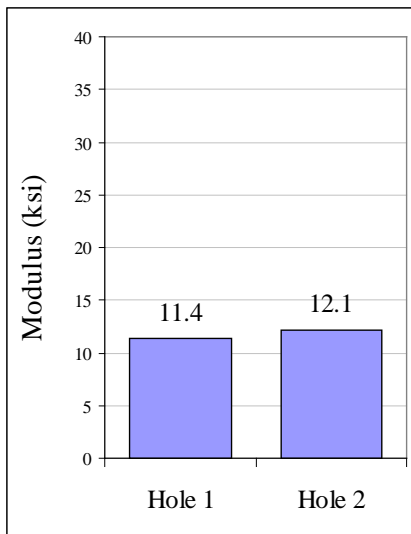
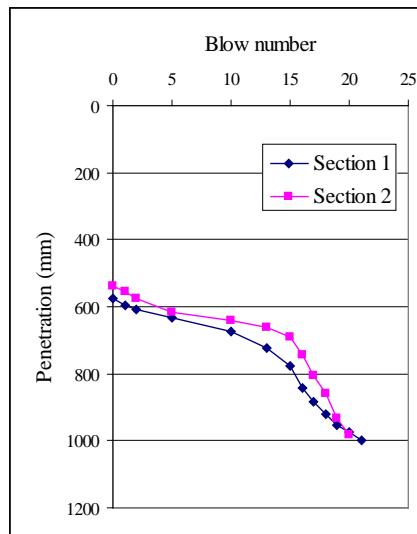
Transverse cracks near joint



- Built in 1985
- ADT: 21,000 (2.5% truck)
- Transverse cracks near joint (no crack sealing)
- Cement treated base erosion under crack

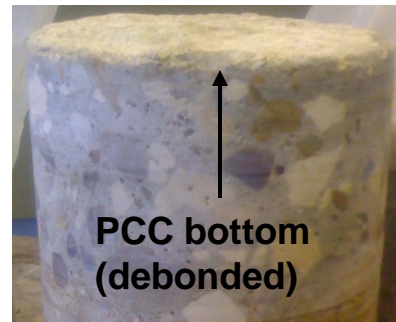


# FM 364 – DCP, Core



DCP result of subgrade

Debonded CSB





# IH 635 (Dallas District)



FDR patch spalling



Widened longitudinal joint



FDR patch



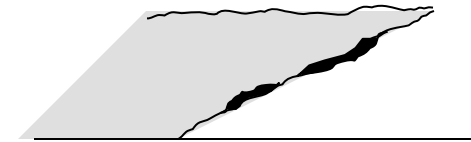
Longitudinal crack



FDR patch spalling



Patch spalling



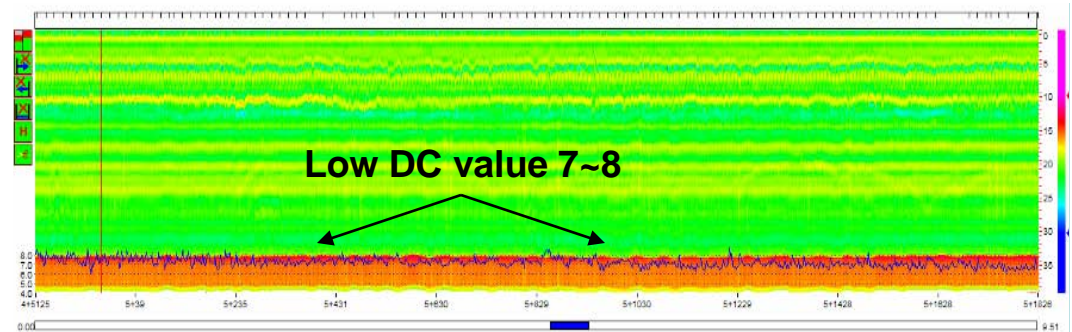
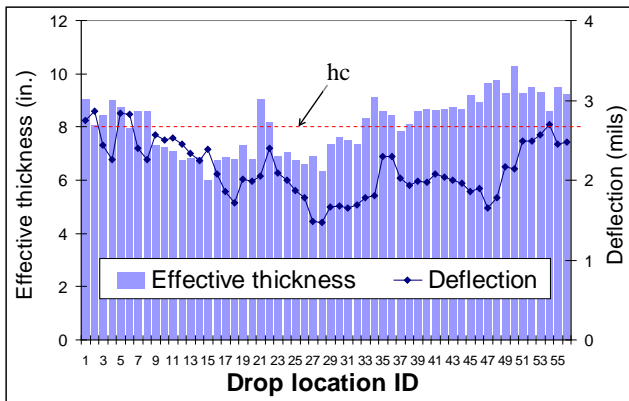
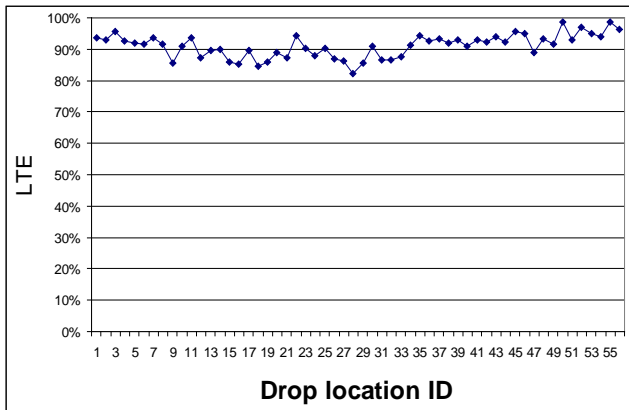
8" CRCP

4" cement stabilized base

Subgrade

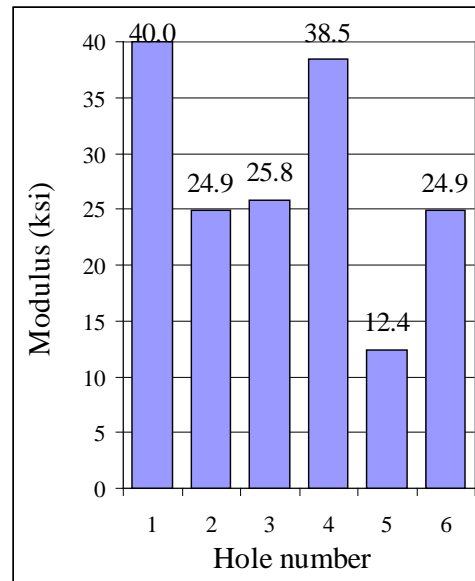
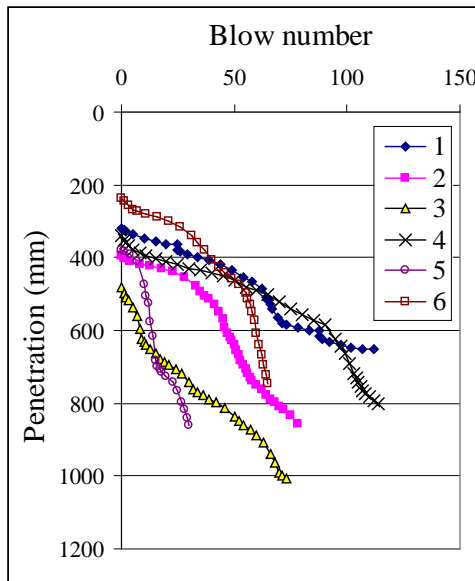
- Built in 1967
- ADT: 200,000 (12% truck)
- Spalling on cracks and patches
- Widened longitudinal joint
- No sever erosion

# IH 635 – FWD, GPR



GPR along Edge Side Wheel Path

# IH 635 – DCP, Core



# 1



# 2



# 3



# 4



# 5



# 6



# Erosion Factors:

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- Moisture
- Traffic
- Erodible Subbase Layer



# Functions of Subbase?

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- 1) Provide a stable construction platform
- 2) Prevent erosion of the pavement support
- 3) Reduce early bonding stress
- 4) Provide uniform slab support
- 5) Facilitate drainage
- 6) Provide increased slab support

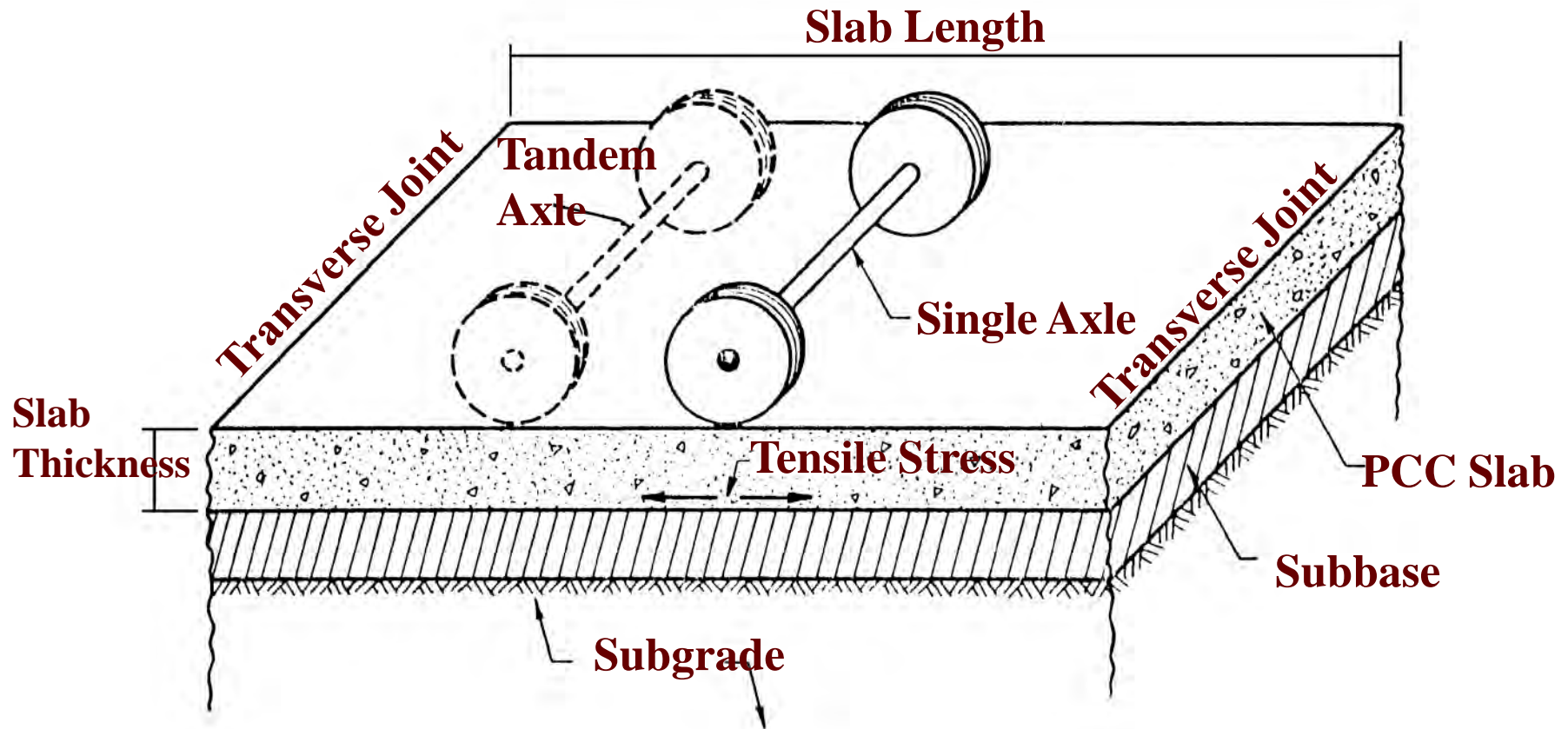


# Is this surface type a good idea?

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# What distress types do present design methods address??





# MEPDG

- Fatigue Cracking
- Faulting (Jointed)
- Punchouts (CRC)
- Roughness
- Spalling

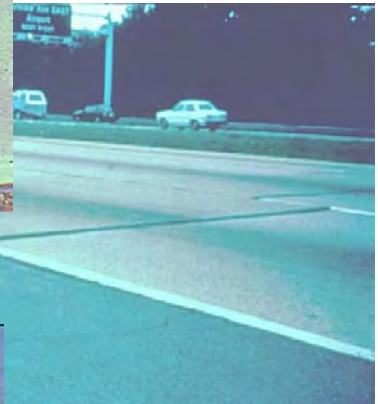


Figure 1-1 Spalling in concrete pavements [Soares and Zollinger 1998].

# Erosion in Design Procedures – MEPDG design method

- Included to faulting model by 5 classes of erodibility based on percent of stabilizer and compressive strength

$$FAULTMAX_i = FAULTMAX_0 + C_7 * \sum_{j=1}^m DE_j * \text{Log}(1 + C_5 * 5.0^{EROD})^{C_6}$$

$$FAULTMAX_0 = C_{12} * \delta_{curling} * \left[ \text{Log}(1 + C_5 * 5.0^{EROD}) * \text{Log}\left(\frac{P_{200} * \text{WetDays}}{P_s}\right) \right]^{C_6}$$

Where,  $FAULTMAX_i$  = maximum mean transverse joint faulting for month i, in

$FAULTMAX_0$  = initial maximum mean transverse joint faulting, in

$EROD$  = base/subbase erodibility factor

$DE_i$  = differential deformation energy accumulated during month i

$C_{12}$  =  $C_1 + C_2 * FR^{0.25}$

$C_i$  = calibration constants

$FR$  = base freezing index defined as percentage of time the top base temperature is below freezing (32 °F) temperature

$\delta_{curling}$  = maximum mean monthly slab corner upward deflection PCC due to temperature curling and moisture warping

$P_s$  = overburden on subgrade, lb

$P_{200}$  = percent subgrade material passing #200 sieve

$WetDays$  = average annual number of wet days (greater than 0.1 in rainfall)

# Erosion in Design Procedures – PCA Design Method

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- **Empirical erosion model** based on outdated highly erodible subbase type in the AASHO Road Test

$$\log N = 14.524 - 6.777(C_1 P - 9.0)^{0.103}$$

$$\text{Percent erosion damage} = 100 \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{C_2 n_i}{N_i}$$

Where,  $N$  = allowable number of load repetitions based on a PSI of 3.0

$C_1$  = adjustment factor (1 for untreated subbase, 0.9 for stabilized subbase)

$$P = \text{rate of work or power} = 268.7 \frac{p^2}{hk^{0.73}}$$

$p$  = pressure on the foundation under the slab corner in psi,  $p = kw$

$k$  = modulus of subgrade reaction in psi/in

$w$  = corner deflection in in

$h$  = thickness of slab in in

$m$  = total number of load groups

$C_2$  = 0.06 for pavement without concrete shoulder, 0.94 for pavements with tied concrete shoulder

$n_i$  = predicted number of repetitions for  $i$ th load group

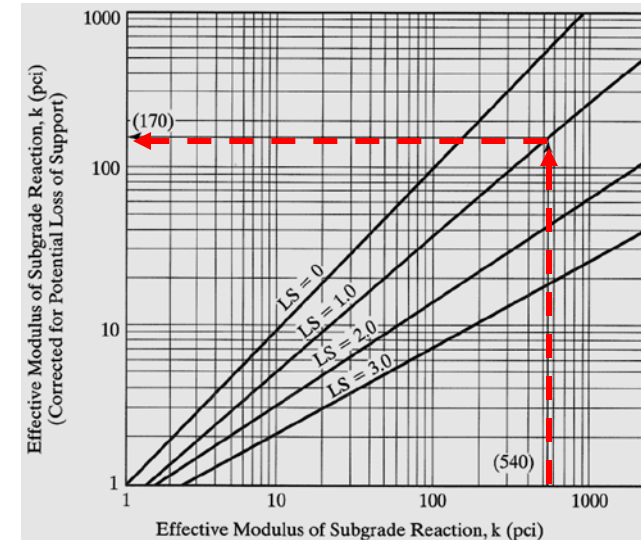
$N_i$  = allowable number of repetitions for  $i$ th load group

# Erosion in Design Procedures – AASHTO design method

- **loss of support factors** affecting to the modulus of subgrade reaction – subjective range of modulus

## Typical Ranges of LS Factors for Various Types of Materials

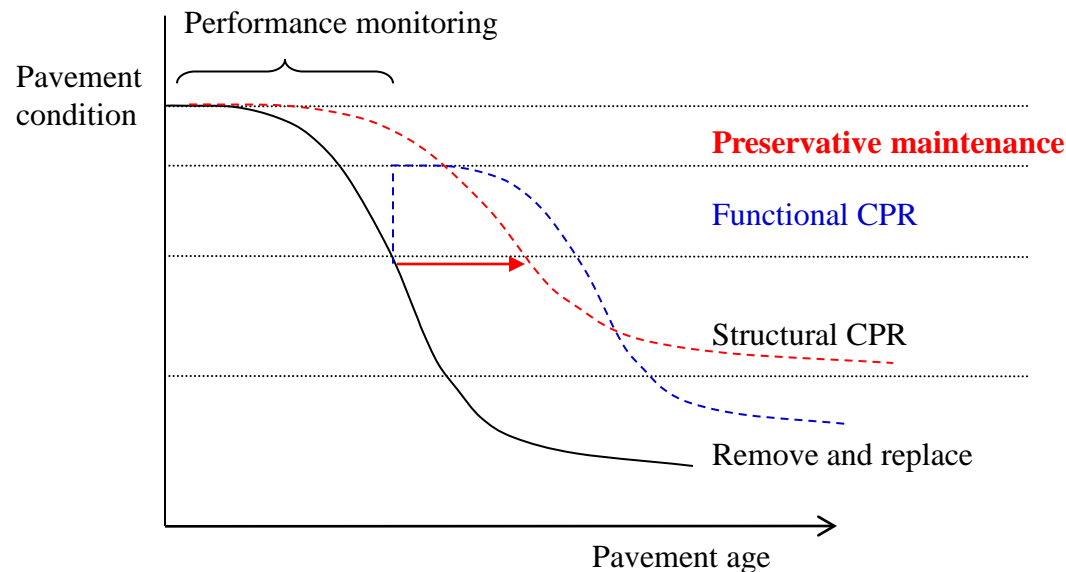
Type of Material	Loss of Support
Cement-treated granular base ( $E = 1 \times 10^6$ to $2 \times 10^6$ psi)	0.0 to 1.0
Cement aggregate mixtures ( $E = 500,000$ to $1 \times 10^6$ psi)	0.0 to 1.0
Asphalt-treated bases ( $E = 350,000$ to $1 \times 10^6$ psi)	0.0 to 1.0
Bituminous-stabilized mixture ( $E = 40,000$ to $300,000$ psi)	0.0 to 1.0
Lime-stabilized materials ( $E = 20,000$ to $70,000$ psi)	1.0 to 3.0
Unbound granular materials ( $E = 15,000$ to $45,000$ psi)	1.0 to 3.0
Fine-grained or natural subgrade materials ( $E = 3,000$ to $40,000$ psi)	2.0 to 3.0



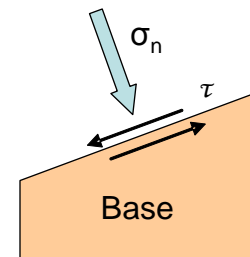
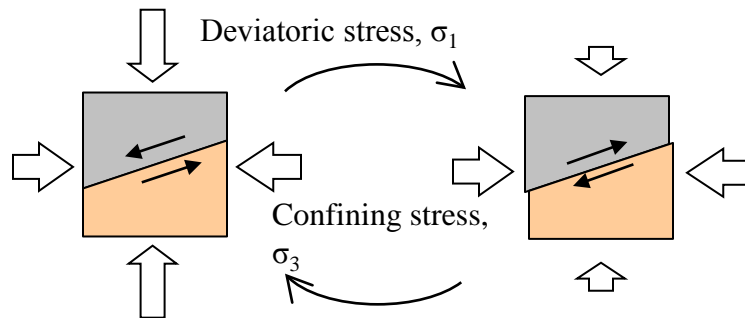
**Correction of Effective Modulus  
of Subgrade Reaction due to Loss  
of Support**

# Maintenance Strategy

- As pavement condition degrades,
  - Repair costs and time of repair go up
  - Future renewal options become limited
- Preservative maintenance extend pavement life cost effectively



# Erosion Test of Cement Treated Samples



Cement treated  
flexbase



30% recycled  
asphalt

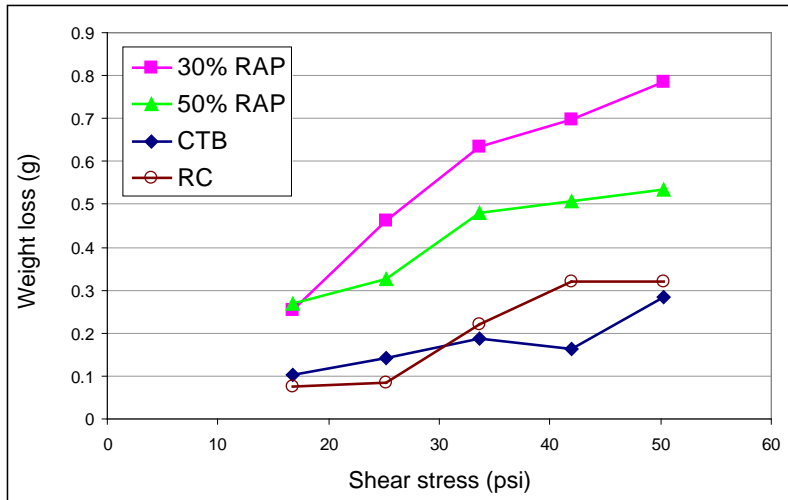


50% recycled  
asphalt

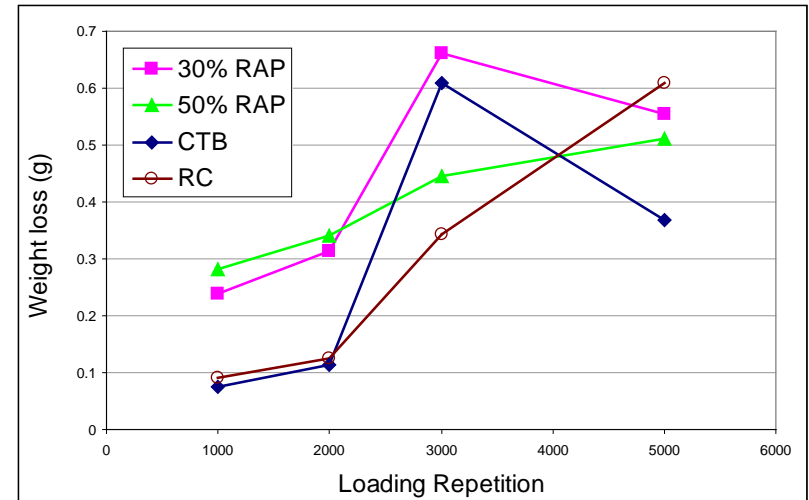


Crushed recycled  
concrete

# Erosion Test Results



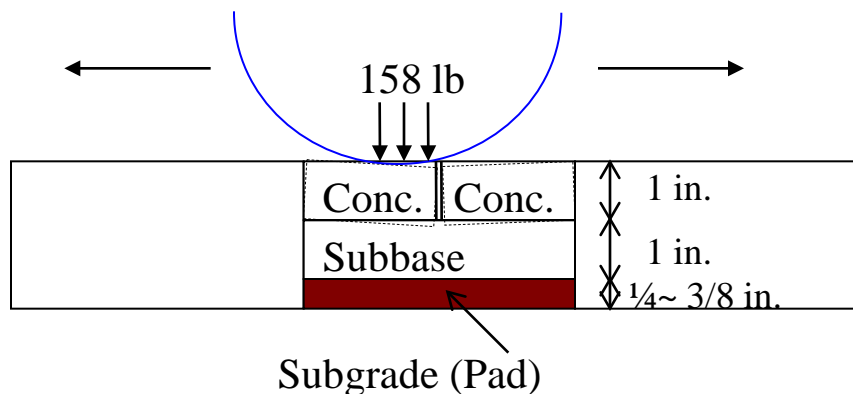
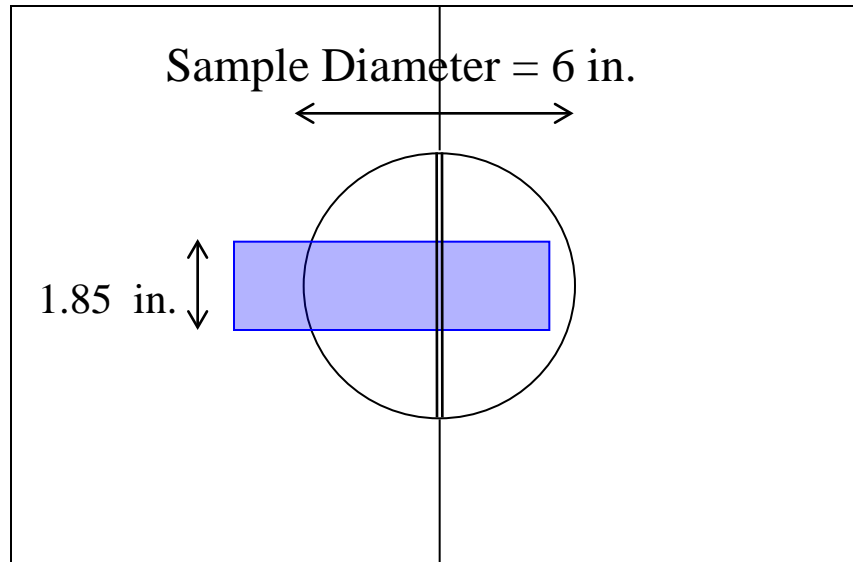
Weight Loss vs. Shear Stress Levels



Weight Loss vs. Load Repetitions

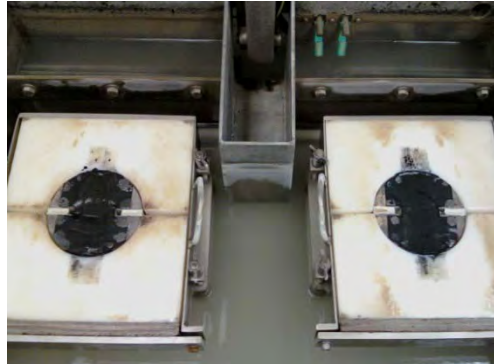


# Hamburg Wheel-tracking Test

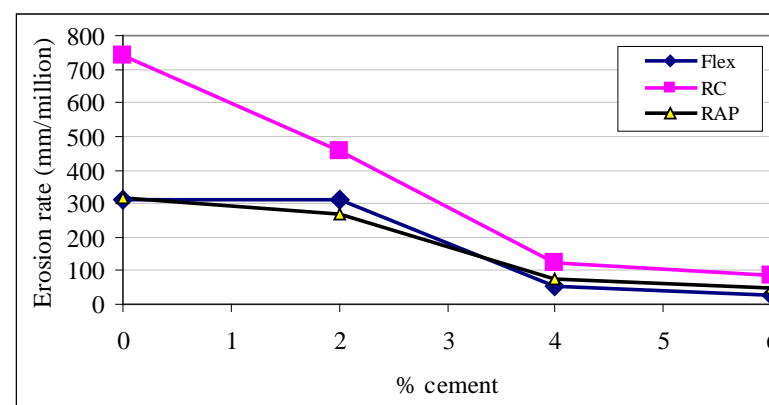
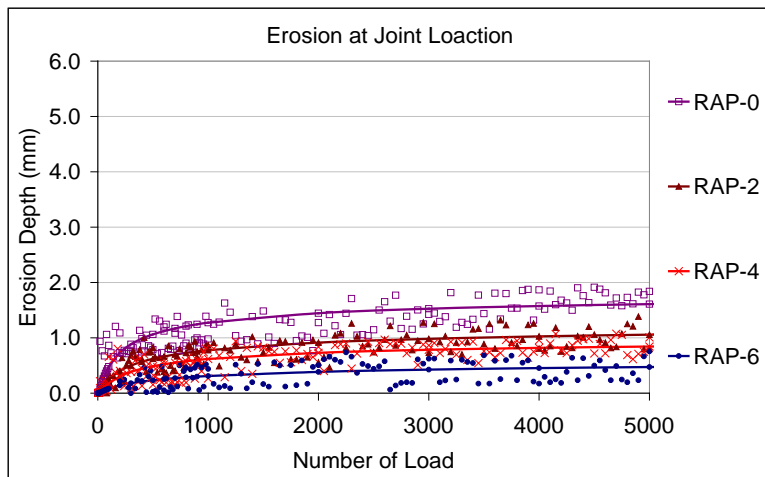
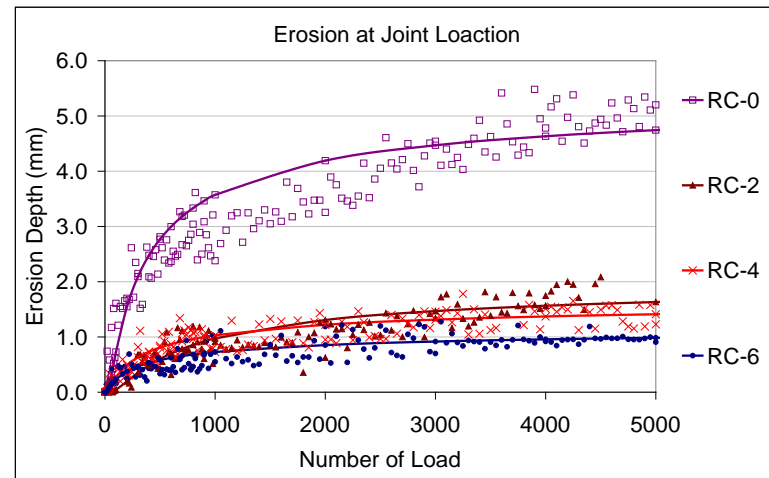
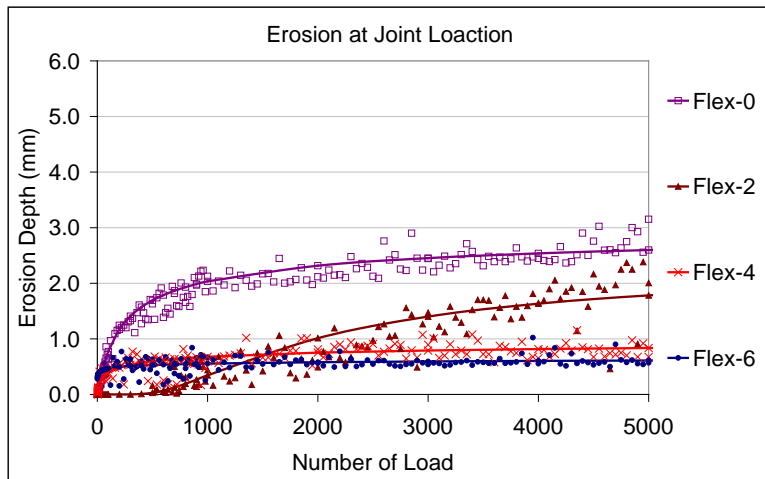


- Layer Profile
  - 1 in. Jointed Concrete
  - 1 in. Subbase Layer
  - 3/8 in. Artificial Subgrade (Rubber Pad )
- 60 ppm Load Frequency
- 25 °C Water temperature
- 5,000 or 10,000 Load Repetition
- Deflection Measurement by 11 Spots along Wheel Load

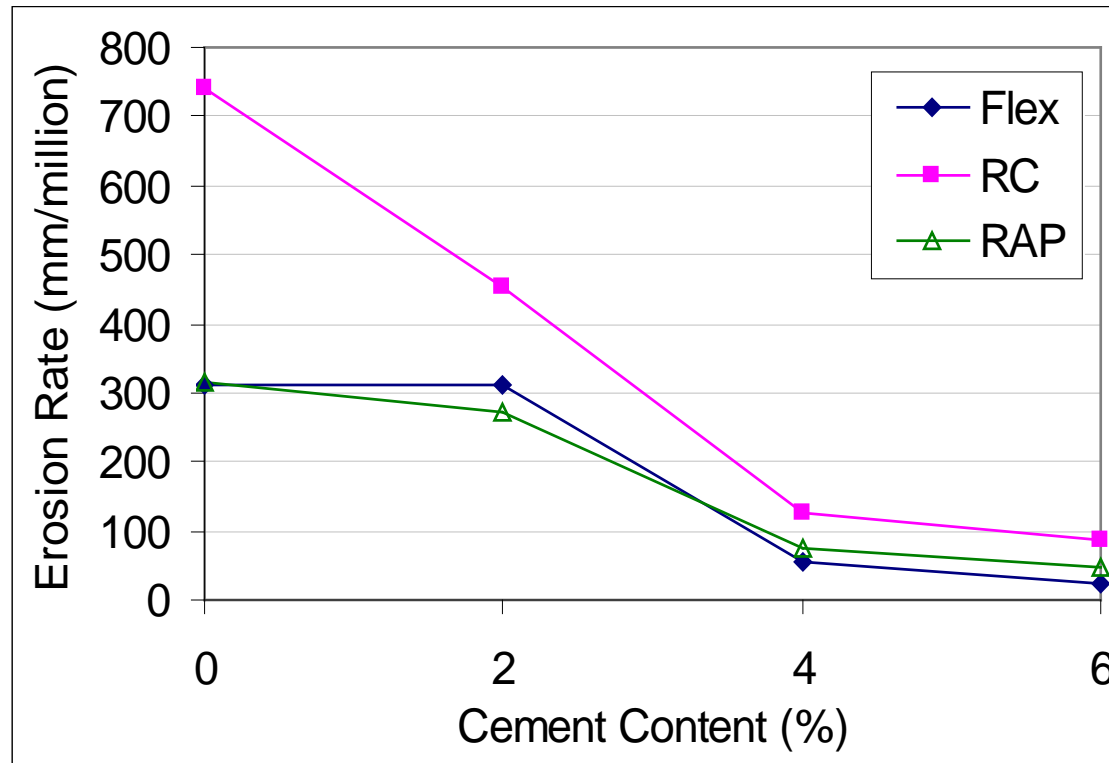
# Hamburg Wheel-tracking Test



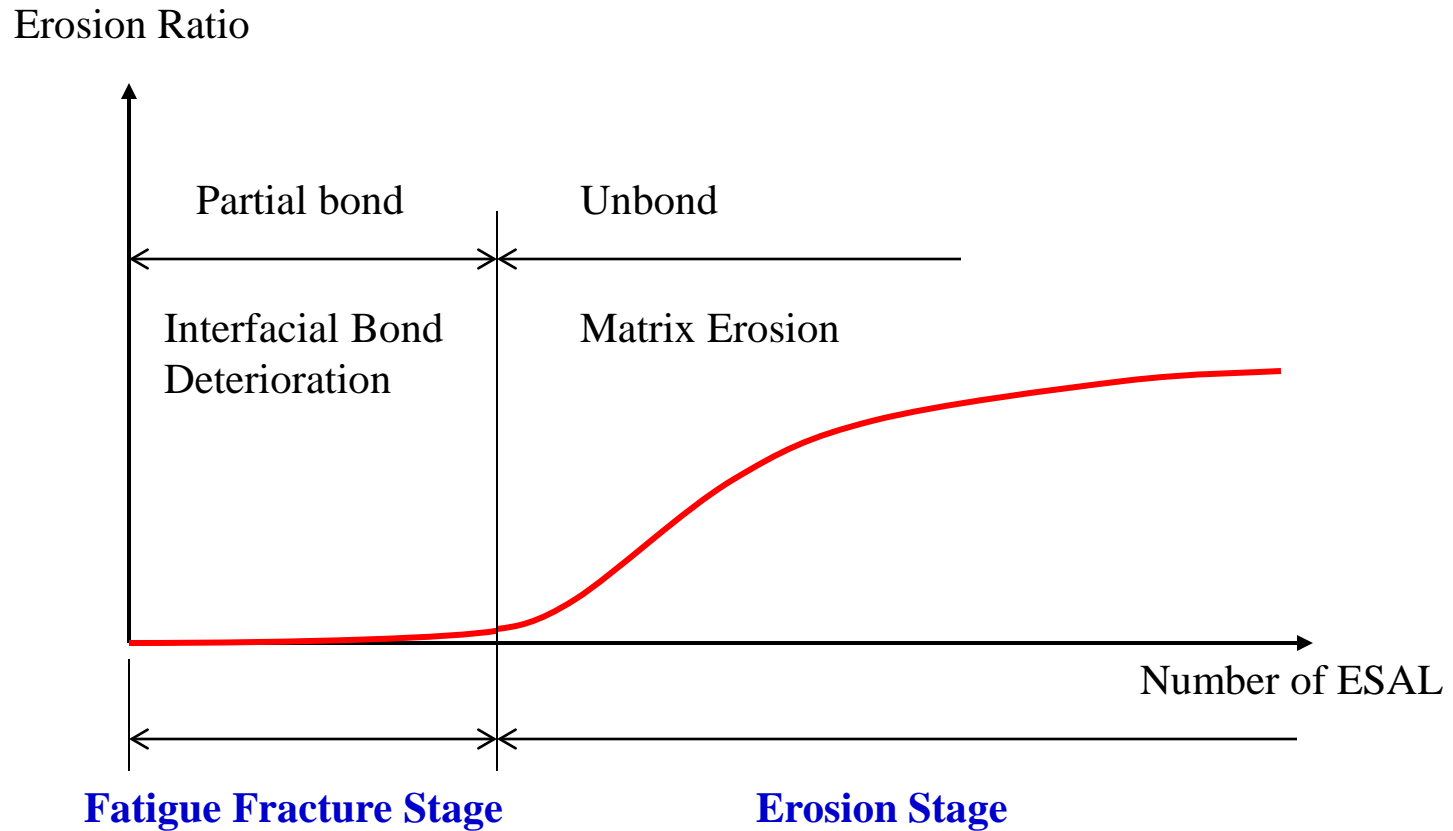
# Matrix Erosion Model Fitting to HWTD Test Results



# Hamburg Wheel-tracking Test Result

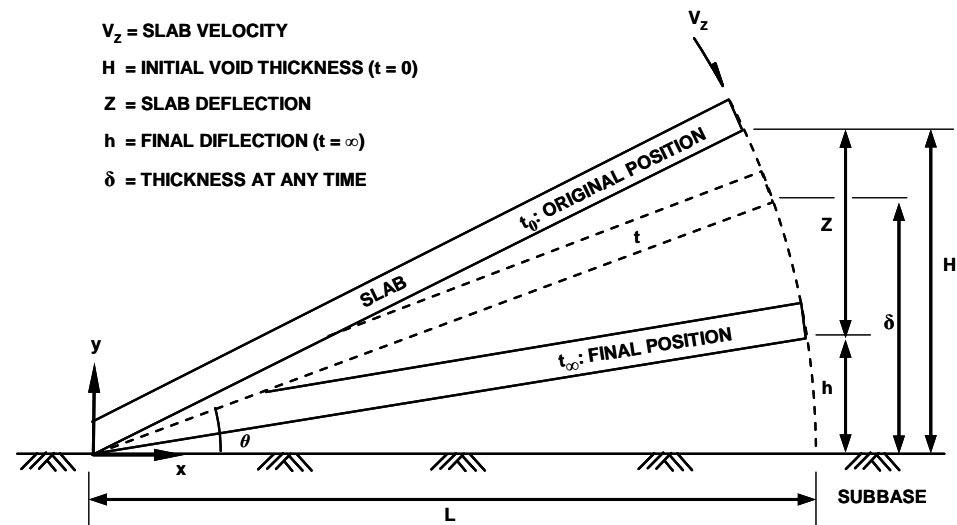


# Subbase Erosion Prediction Model



# Matrix Erosion Model

$$f_i = f_0 e^{-\left(\frac{\rho}{N_i - \nu}\right)^a}$$



Where,  $f_i$  = Erosion depth (L)

$f_0$  = Ultimate erosion depth (L)

$N_i$  = Number of axle loads per load group contributing to erosion

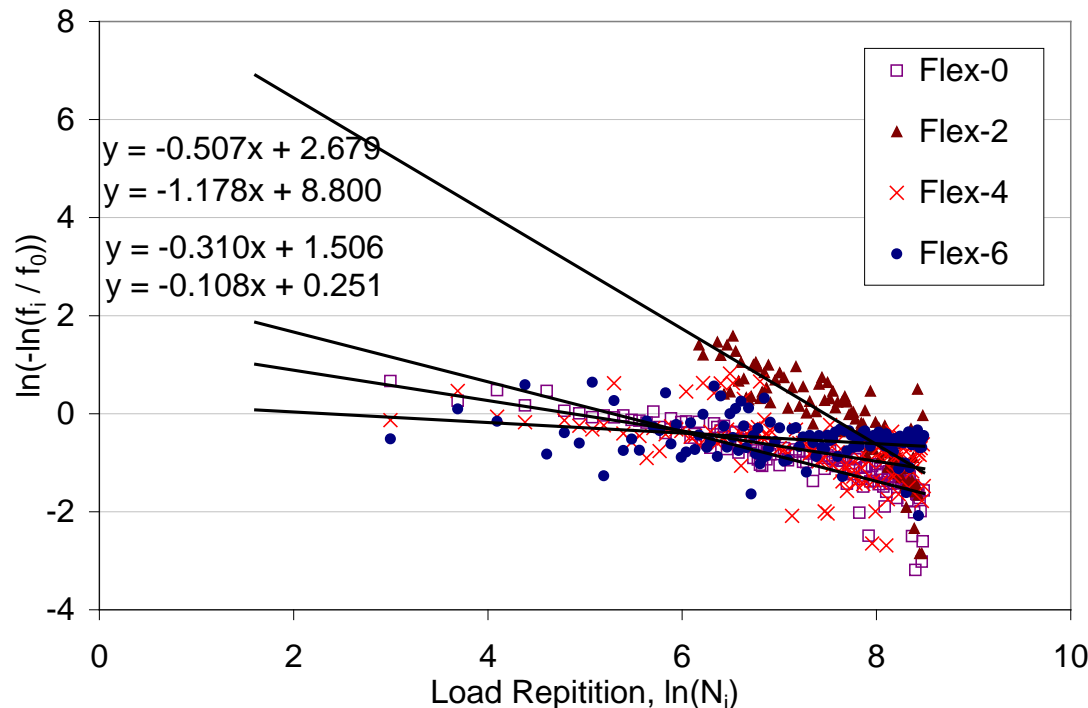
$\rho$  = Calibration coefficient based on local performance

$\nu$  = Calibration coefficient represents the number of wheel loads (or time) for layer debonding to occur and erosion to initiate, 0 for lab test

$a$  = Inverse of the rate of void development

# Aquiring $a$ and $\rho$ from HWTD Test

$$\frac{f_i}{f_0} = e^{-\left(\frac{\rho}{N_i}\right)^a} \Rightarrow \ln\left(\frac{f_i}{f_0}\right) = -\left(\frac{\rho}{N_i}\right)^a \Rightarrow \ln\left(-\ln\left(\frac{f_i}{f_0}\right)\right) = \underbrace{a \ln \rho}_b - \underbrace{a \ln N_i}_m$$



In figure,

$-a$  is the slope,  $m$

$a \ln \rho$  is the intercept,  $b$

Therefore,

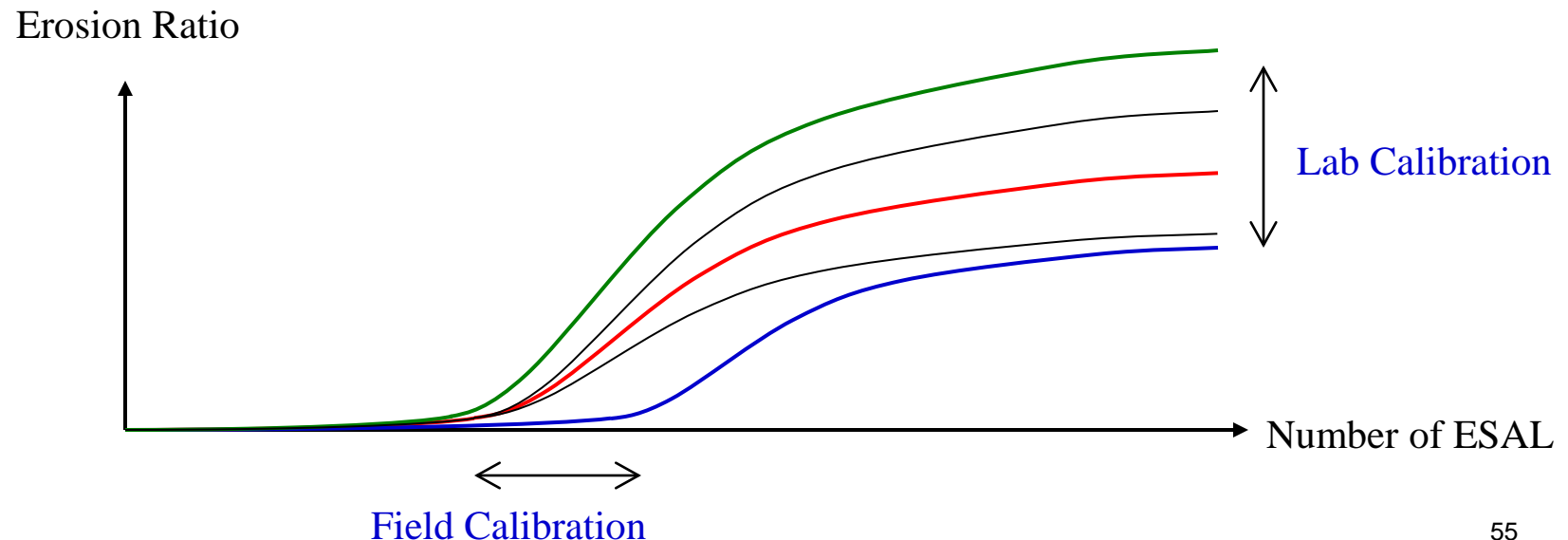
$$a = -m$$

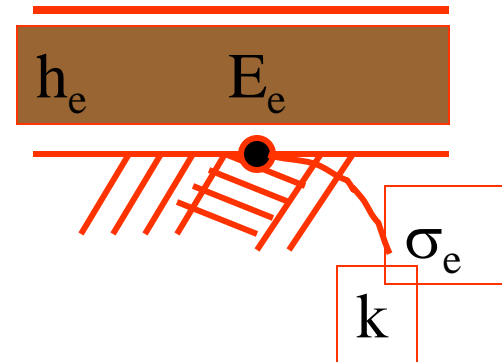
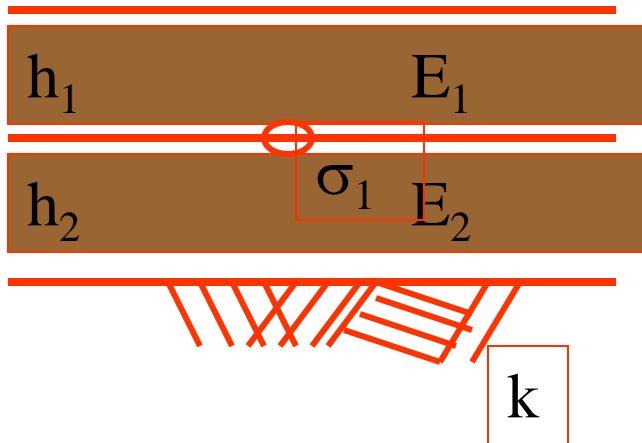
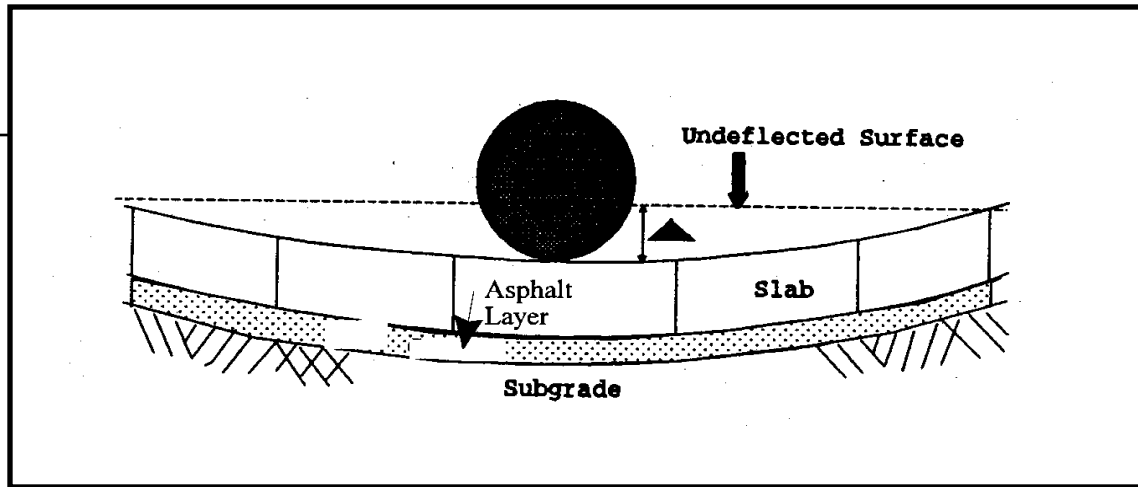
$$\rho = e^{\frac{b}{a}}$$



# Erosion Prediction Model Calibration

- ❑ Interfacial bond deterioration stage need to be calibrated using field performance data
- ❑ Matrix erosion stage need to be calibrated using lab test data





# Unbonded Layers

$$h_e = \sqrt[3]{h_1^3 + n h_2^3}$$

- No separation during bending

$$w_1(x,y) = w_2(x,y) = w_e(x,y)$$

$$m_e(x,y) = m_1(x,y) + m_2(x,y)$$

$$D_e = D_1 + D_2 \Rightarrow E_e h_e^3 = E_1 h_1^3 + E_2 h_2^3$$

$$m_e = \left(1 + \frac{D_2}{D_1}\right) m_1$$

$$\sigma_e = \frac{b}{h_e^2} \left(1 + \frac{D_2}{D_1}\right) m_1$$

$$= \frac{h_1^2}{h_e^2} \left( \frac{E_1 h_1^3 + E_2 h_2^3}{E_1 h_1^3} \right) \sigma_1$$

$$= \frac{h_e}{h_1} \frac{E_e}{E_1} \sigma_1 \Rightarrow \sigma_1 = \frac{h_1}{h_e} \sigma_e \Rightarrow \sigma_2 = \frac{h_2}{h_1} \sigma_1 = n \frac{h_2}{h_1} \sigma_1$$

# Bonded Layers

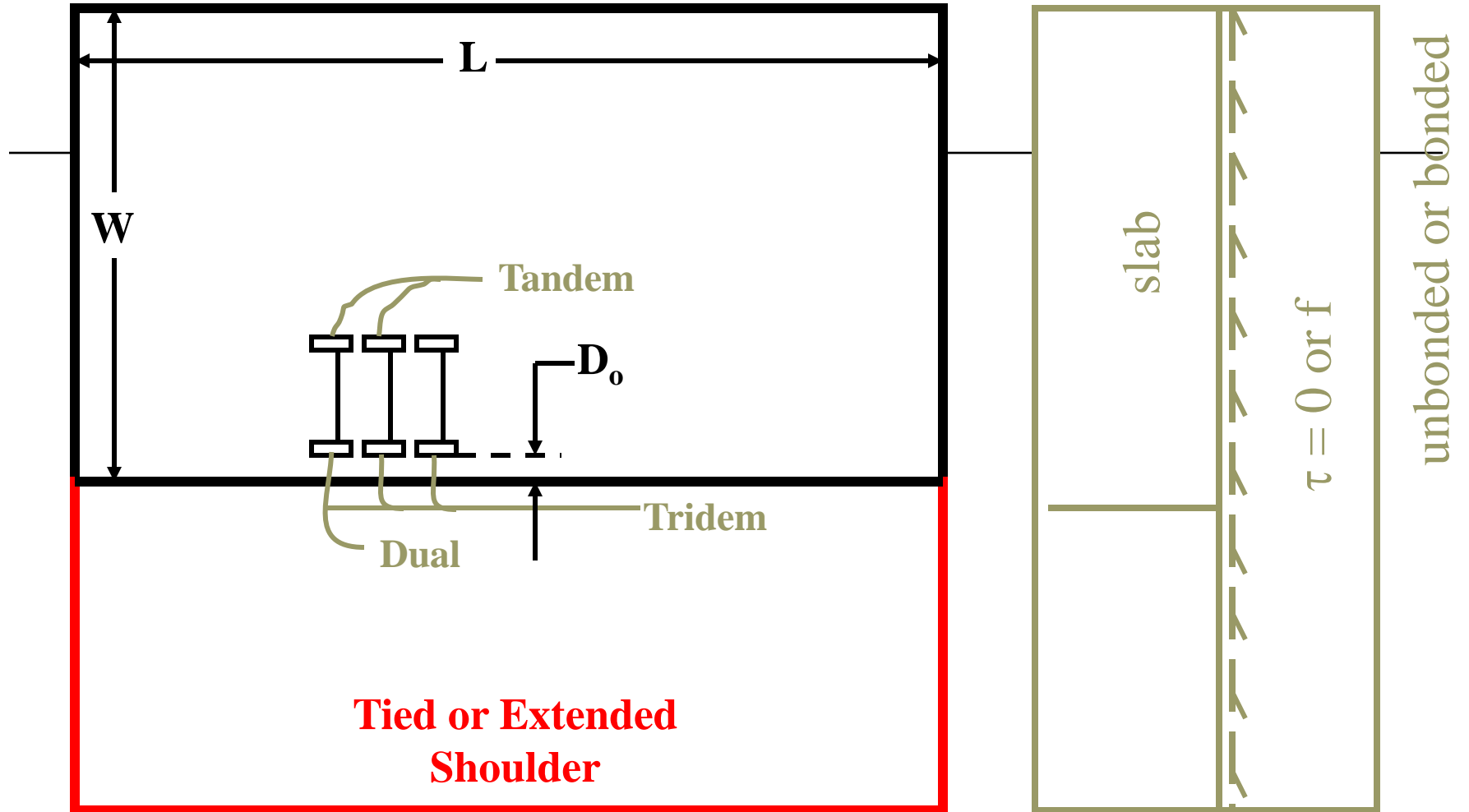
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$$h_e = \left[ h_1^3 + \frac{E_2}{E_1} h_2^3 + 12 \left[ \left[ x - \frac{h_1}{2} \right]^2 h_1 + \frac{E_2}{E_1} \left[ h_1 - x + \frac{h_2}{2} \right]^2 h_2 \right] \right]^{1/3}$$

$$E_e = E_1$$

$$x = \frac{\frac{E_1 h_1^2}{2} + E_2 h_2 \left( h_1 + \frac{h_2}{2} \right)}{E_1 h_1 + E_2 h_2}$$

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_e \frac{2(h_1 - x)}{h_e}$$



# Partially Bonded System

$$h_{e-p} = \frac{h_{e-u}}{2}(1-x) + (x)h_{e-b}$$

$$x = e^{-\left(\frac{A}{\mu}\right)^m} \quad (x = \text{degree of bond; } \mu = \text{coeff. of friction})$$

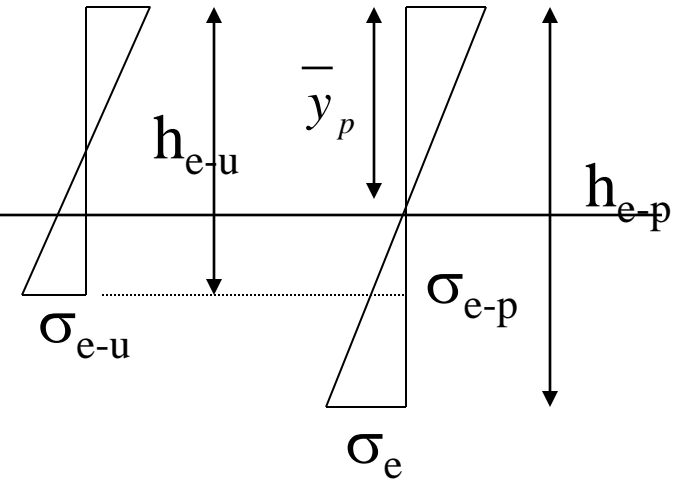
Notes on  $h_{e-p}$ :

$$1) \ell_e^4 = \frac{E_c h_{e-p}^3}{12(1-\nu^2)k}; h_{e-p}^3 = \ell_e^4 \frac{12(1-\nu^2)k}{E_c} = h_e^3; \ell_e^4 \text{ derived from basin area}$$

$$2) s_e = a + b\ell_e + c\ell_e^2; \sigma_e = \frac{s_e P}{h_e^2}$$

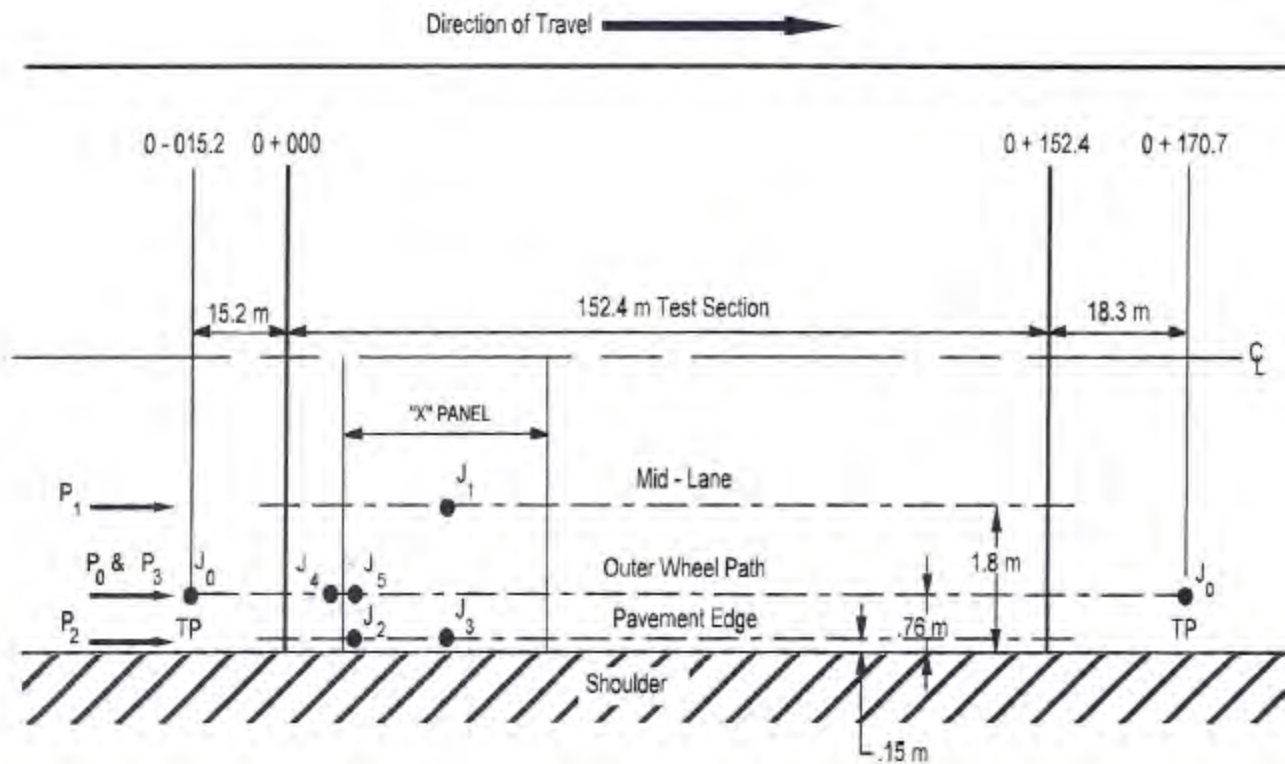
$$3) \sigma_{e-p} = \sigma_{e-u} - \tau_f; \sigma_{e-u} = \frac{s_{e-u} P}{h_{e-u}^2}; \tau_f = \mu \left( \frac{h_c}{12} + \sigma_v \right); \sigma_v = \text{load induced pressure}$$

$$4) \text{ and } \sigma_{e-p} = \sigma_e \left[ \frac{2(h_{e-u} - \bar{y}_p)}{h_{e-p}} \right] = \sigma_e \left[ \frac{2(h_{e-u})}{h_{e-p}} - 1 \right]$$

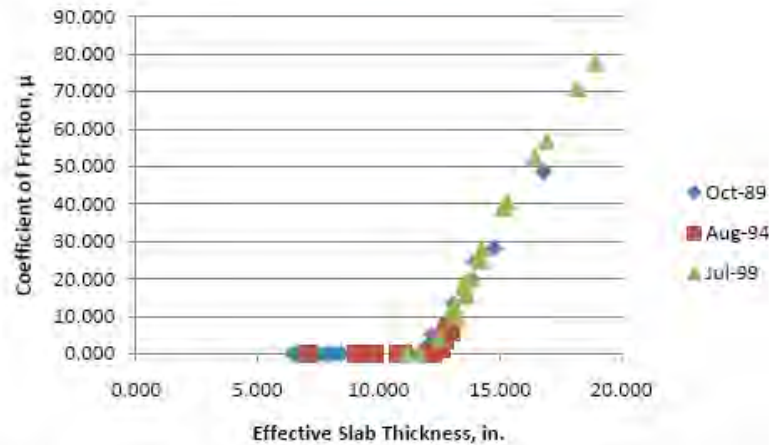


Transformed Section

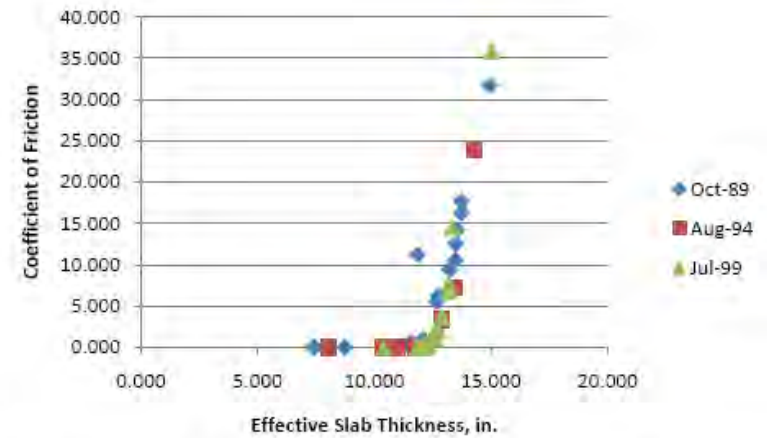




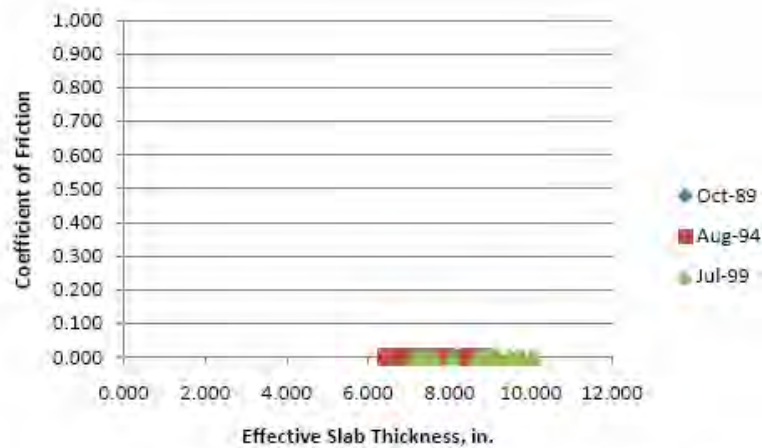
## Section 12 3804



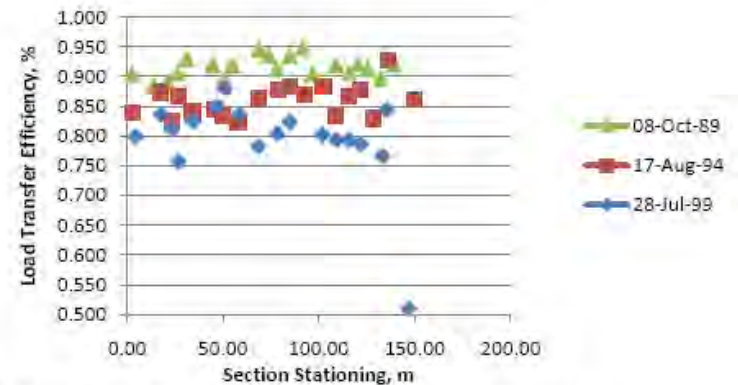
**Figure B.1** Friction vs. Effective Slab Thickness for Position J1 – 12 3804.



**Figure B.3** Friction vs. Effective Slab Thickness for Position J3 – 12 3804.



**Figure B.2** Friction vs. Effective Slab Thickness for Position J2 – 12 3804.

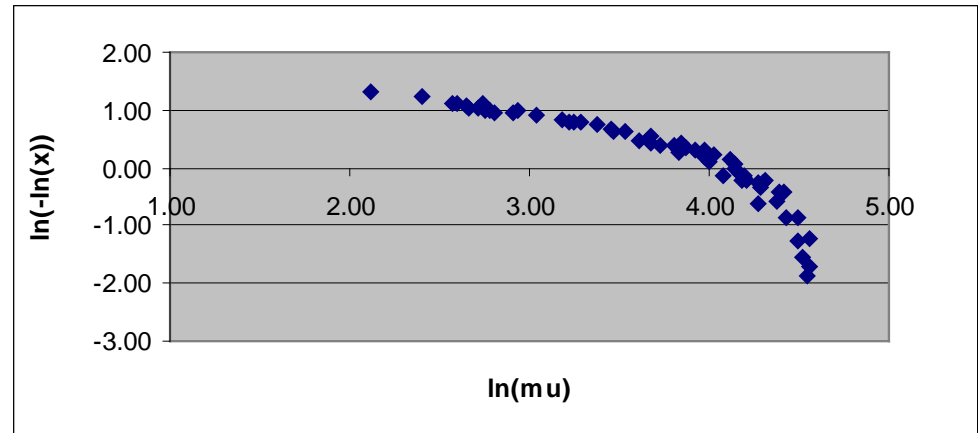


**Figure B.4** LTE vs. Section Stationing for Position J4 – 12 3804.

# Friction Model

$$x = \frac{h_{e-p} - h_{e-u}}{h_{e-b} - h_{e-u}} = e^{-\left(\frac{A}{\mu}\right)^B}$$

$$\mu = \frac{\sigma_{e-u} - \sigma_e \left[ \frac{2h_{e-u}}{h_{e-p}} - 1 \right]}{\frac{h_c}{12} + \sigma_v}$$



Where

$$\sigma_e = \frac{s_e P}{h_e^2}; s_e = a + b\ell_e + c\ell_e^2 \text{ (for FWD plate loading)}$$

P = Applied FWD load (F)

a, b, c = 0.0006, 0.0403, and -0.0002 (for FWD plate loading)

$h_c$  = Concrete slab thickness (L)

$\sigma_v$  = Load induced vertical pressure ( $\text{FL}^{-2}$ ) ( $\approx 0.7$  psi)

Where

$$A = e^{\frac{3-X\mu}{B}}$$

$$B = -(0.039y^2)$$

$$y = \text{Ln}(\mu)$$


# Friction Model Parameters

Base Type	Base Modulus (ksi)	Bonded $\mu$ ( $\mu_b$ )	$\frac{\bar{\mu}}{\mu_b}$	Base Type Friction Factor (X)
Thick HMA (>3.5 in) over flexible base	Temperature Dependant	100	0.43 – 1.31	0.13 – 0.15
Cement Stabilized (CS)	Stabilization Content Dependant	90	1.36	0.13
Cement Aggregate Mixture (CAM)	Stabilization Content Dependant	80	0.63 -1.43	0.15
Permeable AC	Density and Temperature Dependant	70	0.66	0.15
Soil Cement (SC)	Stabilization Content Dependant	45 - 70	0.36 -1.65	0.16 – 0.22
Thin HMA (<1.5 in) over stabilized-base	Temperature Dependant	28-55	1.83 – 2.40	0.25
Lime Rock (LR)	300 – 600	18-32	1.23 -2.19	0.22 – 0.45
Granular Base (GB)	30 - 50	8 - 37	2.40 – 4.55	0.22 – 0.63

# Summary

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1. Estimate erodibility using lab test data
2. Relate faulting data to # wet days
  - a. Related to presence of interfacial water
3. Estimate condition of the seal
  - a. Visually assess debonding
  - b. Moisture content vs. time
  - c. Related to infiltration rate
4. Need to know the condition of the joint
  - a. Inter-layer friction
  - b. Rate of infiltration



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Thank you  
Questions ?