



# Long-Life Concrete Pavement

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# Topics Addressed in Presentation

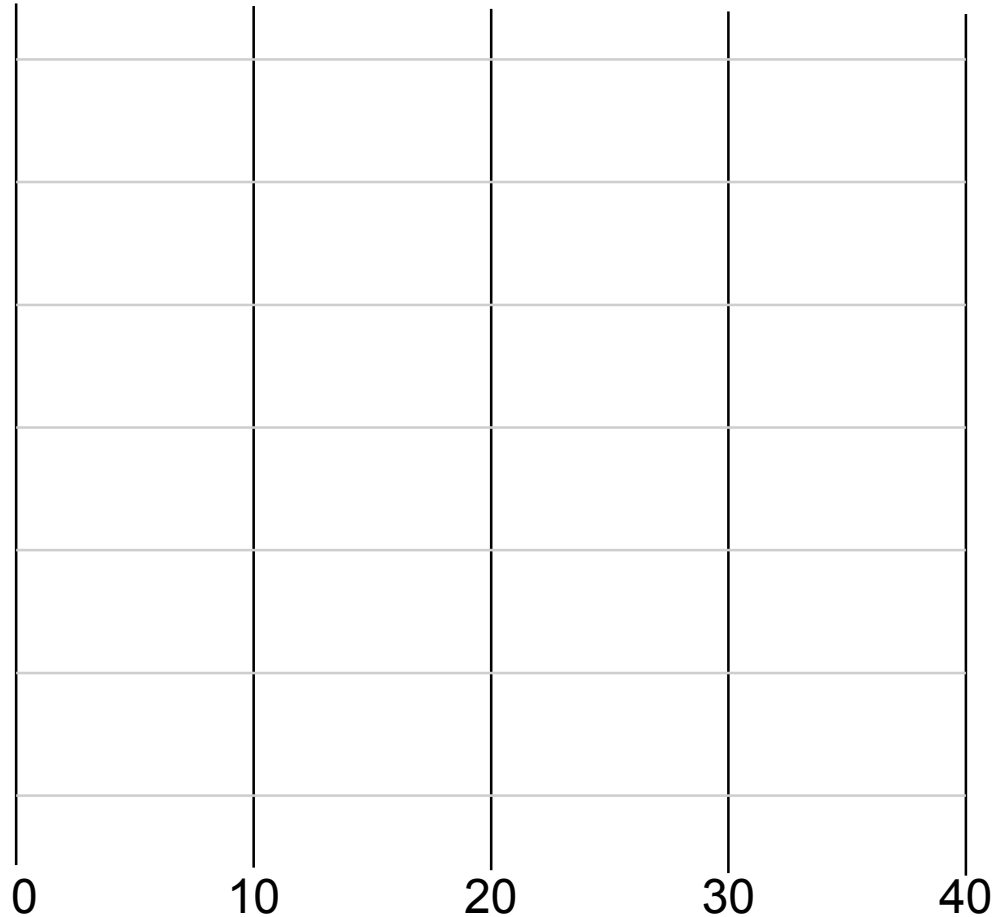
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- Long-life Pavement Perspective
- History
- High-Performance Concrete Pavement
- Improvements
  - Joint Design
  - Thickness?
  - Materials



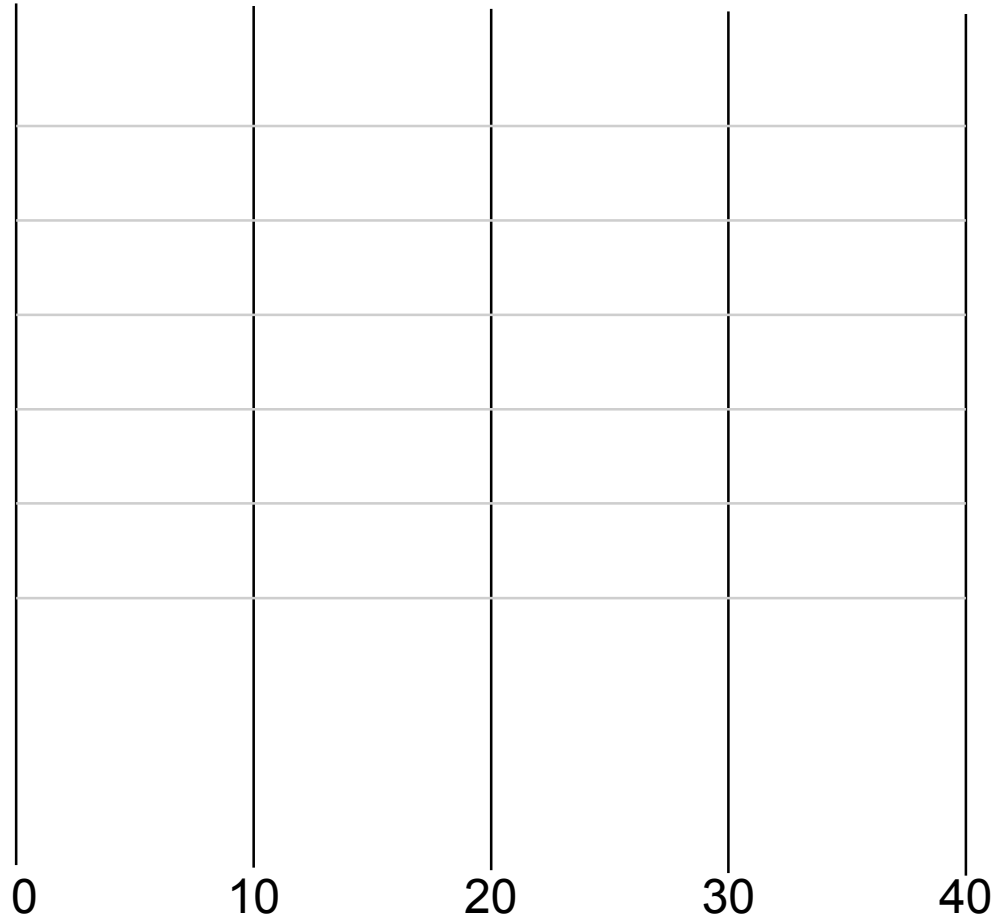
# What do you consider to be long life pavement?

- 0-10 yrs.
- 11-20 yrs.
- 21-30 yrs.
- 31-40 yrs.
- 41-50 yrs.
- 51-60 yrs.
- 61+ yrs.



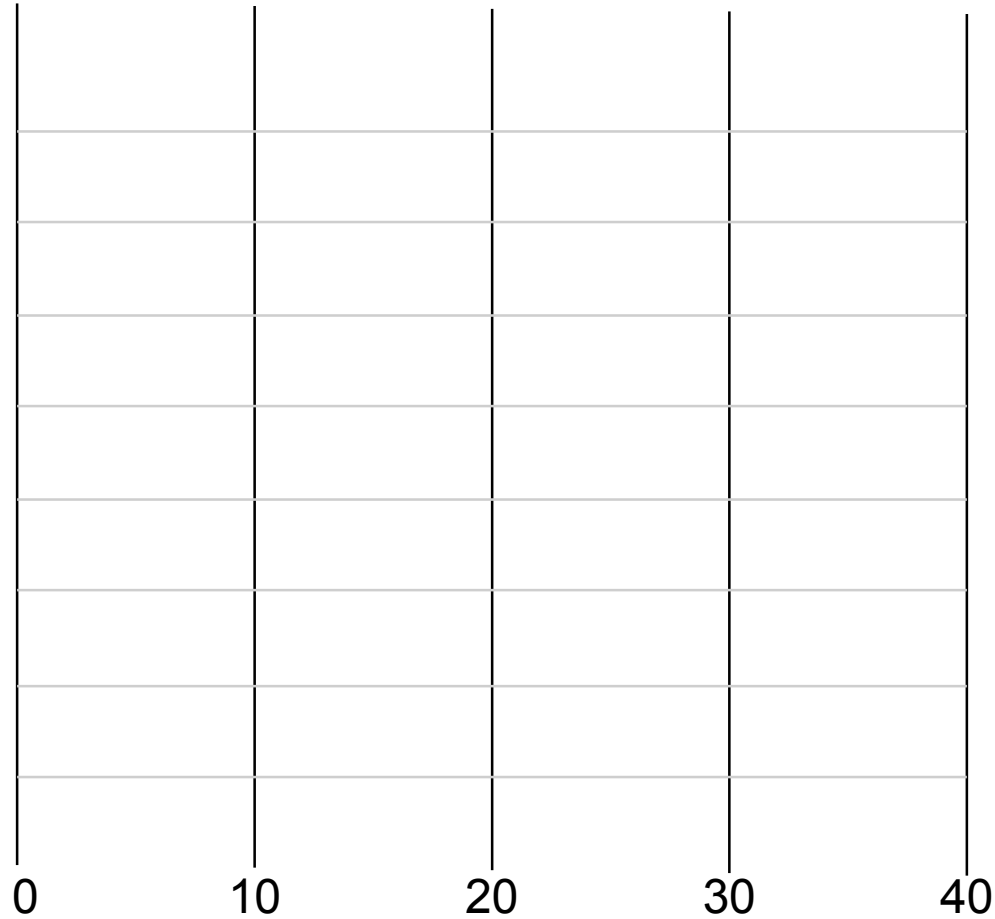
# How do you measure pavement life?

- Time to 1<sup>st</sup> Rehab.
- Time to Reconstruction
- Time to Threshold IRI
- Time to Threshold PSI
- No. of Trucks
- No. Loads to 50% cracking



# How much extra should we pay to get long pavement life?

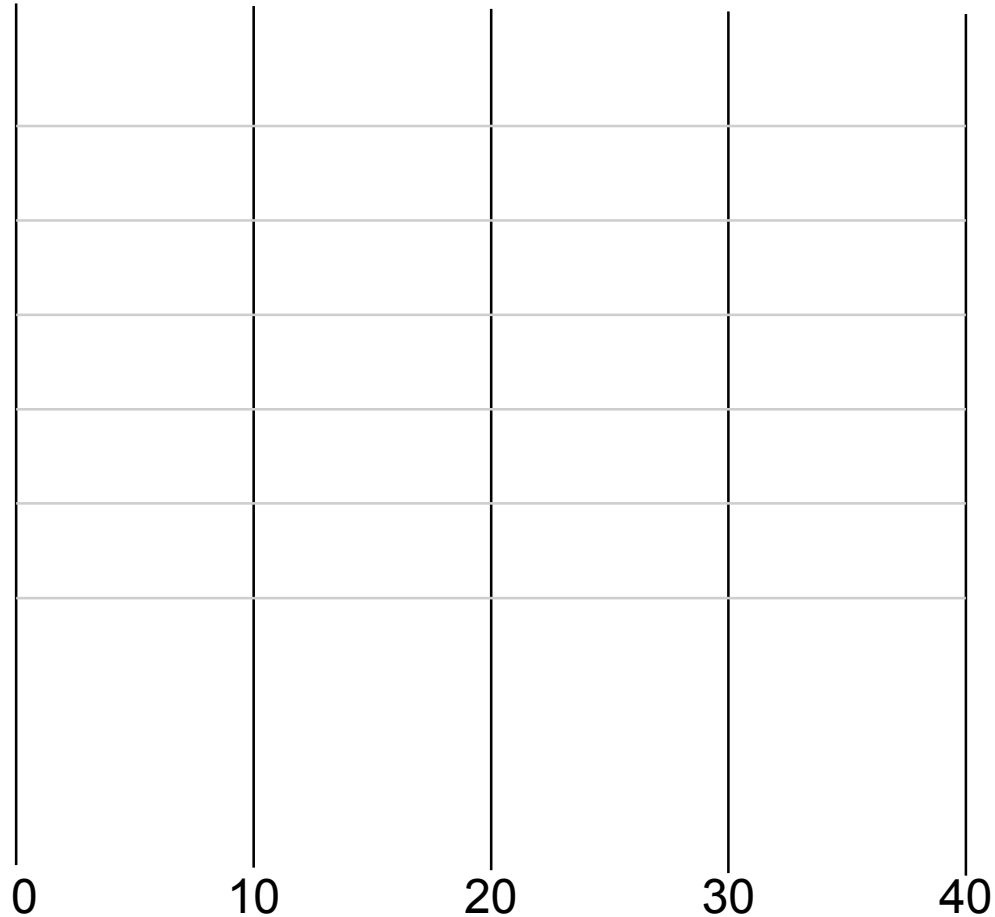
- 0%
- 5%
- 10%
- 15%
- 20%
- 25%
- 30%
- 35% +





# What is important to getting long pavement life?

- Roadbed or Grade
- Thickness Design
- Joint Design
- Concrete Materials
- Specifications
- Construction Quality





# Long-Life Pavement Perspective...

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What has to be done differently to meet your desires for longer pavement life, according to your requirements?

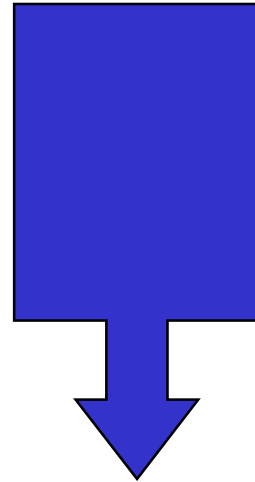




# Where do you start?

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- Design
- Materials
- Construction

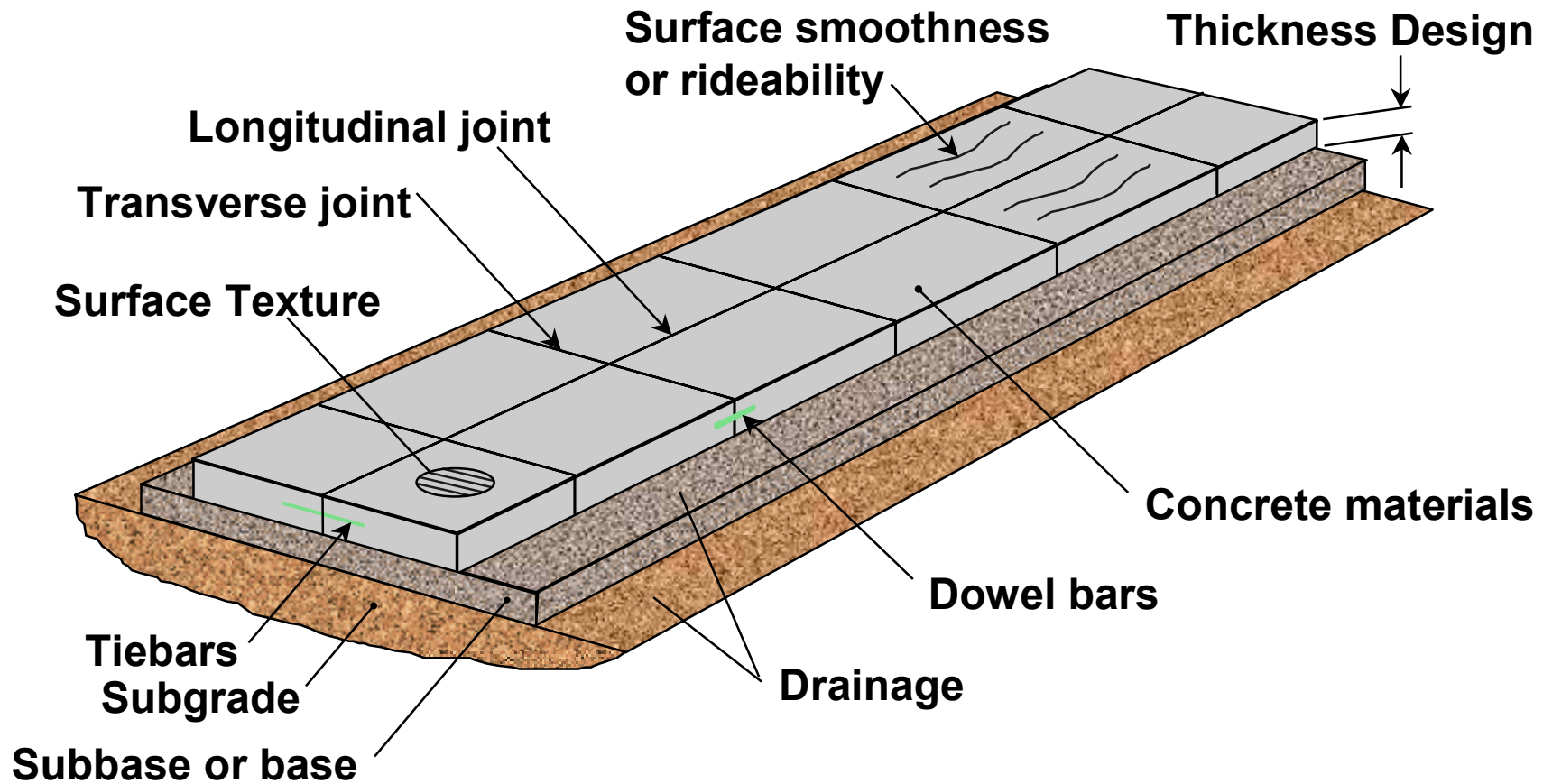


- Performance
- Current Needs
- Future Expectations

*NO SACRED COWS  
Everything goes on the table...*



# Basic Elements of a Modern Concrete Pavement





# Where to make biggest improvements?

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- Concrete Durability
  - Paste
  - Aggregates
- Joints
  - Dimensions
  - Dowels
- Subgrade/Subbase
- Specifications
  - Process Control not Strength-Based

WHY NOT THICKNESS???????



# Long-Life Concrete Pavement

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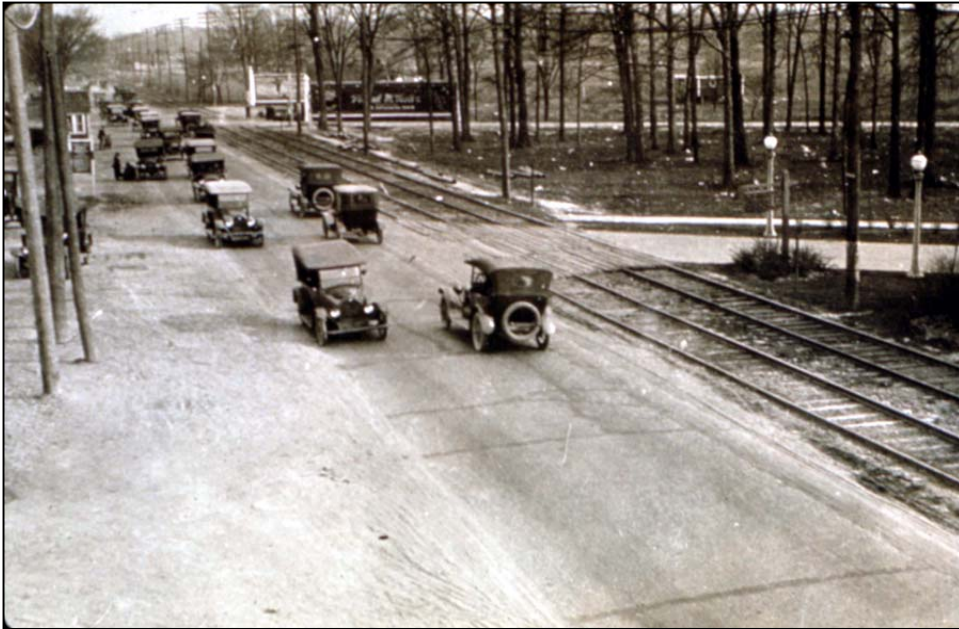
Aren't we really talking about  
High-Performance Concrete  
Pavement?



# Early Highway Pavements

## Front Street, Chicago

Built in 1905, Lasted 60 years



## Woodward Ave, Detroit

Built in 1909,  
First mile of PCC

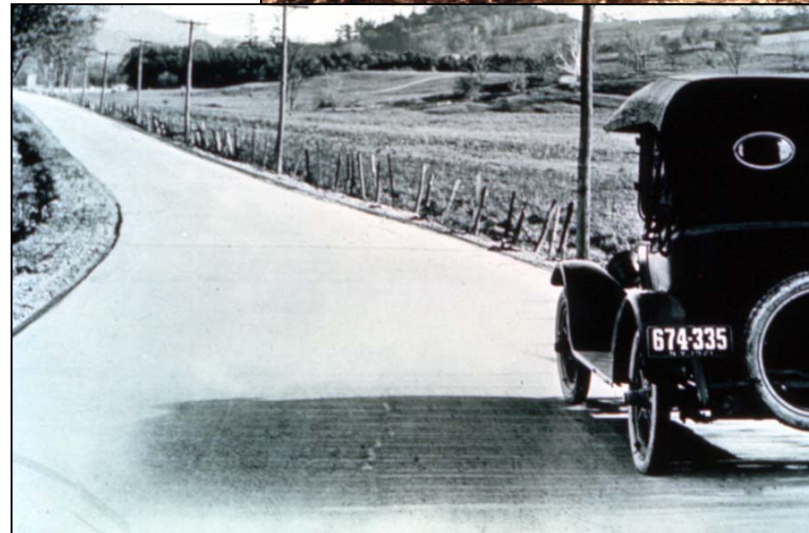
# Early Highway Pavements (cont.)

- Pine Bluff, Ark
  - Built in 1913
  - 24 miles long, 5" thick
  - Referred to as the "Dollarway"
  - Motorists would travel great distances to be able to drive up to 45 mph
  - It's preserved in a rest area along U.S. 6

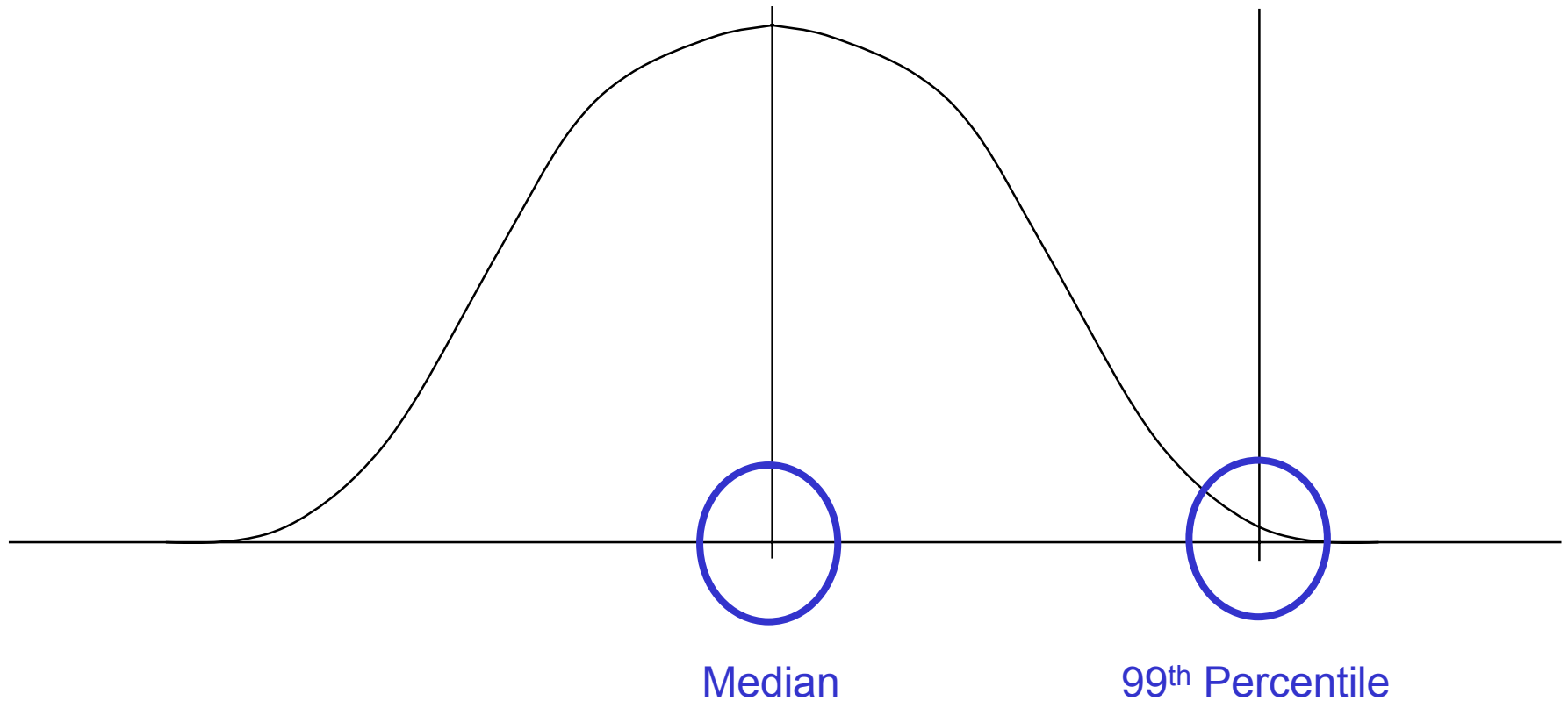


# The "First" Highway Bill

- In 1916 the Federal Highway Act was enacted
  - Lobbied by bicyclists organization "Wheelman of America"
- In 1916, there were 10,000 autos in the U.S.
- Some concrete roads built under the act are still in service



# Average versus Outstanding



# 1956 Interstate Highway Act

- A 41,000 mile interconnected network of limited access highways. The majority of interstate highways were constructed in the 1960's and 70's.
- Many concrete roads built under the act are still in service





# Comparative Performance Studies Overview

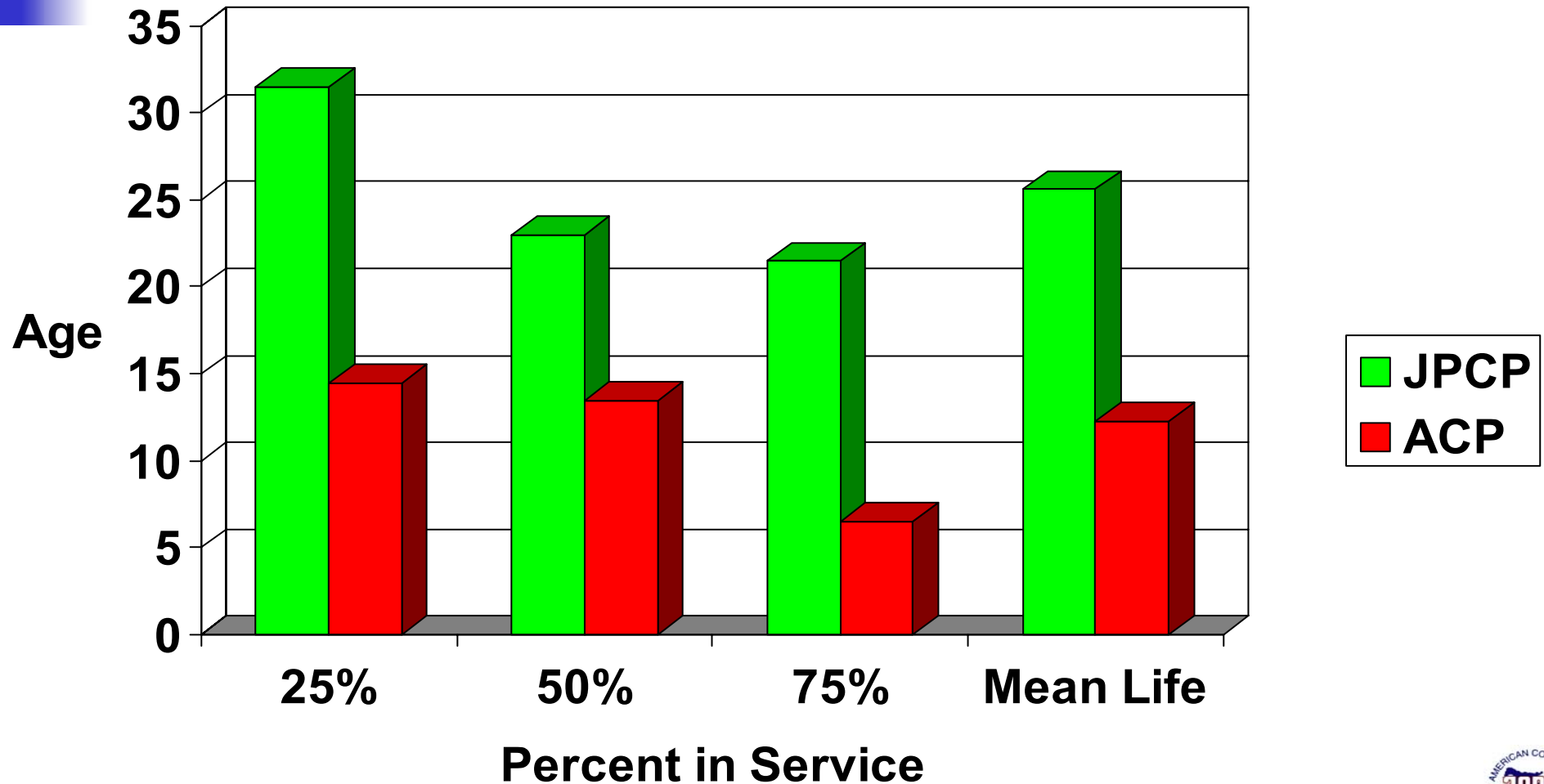


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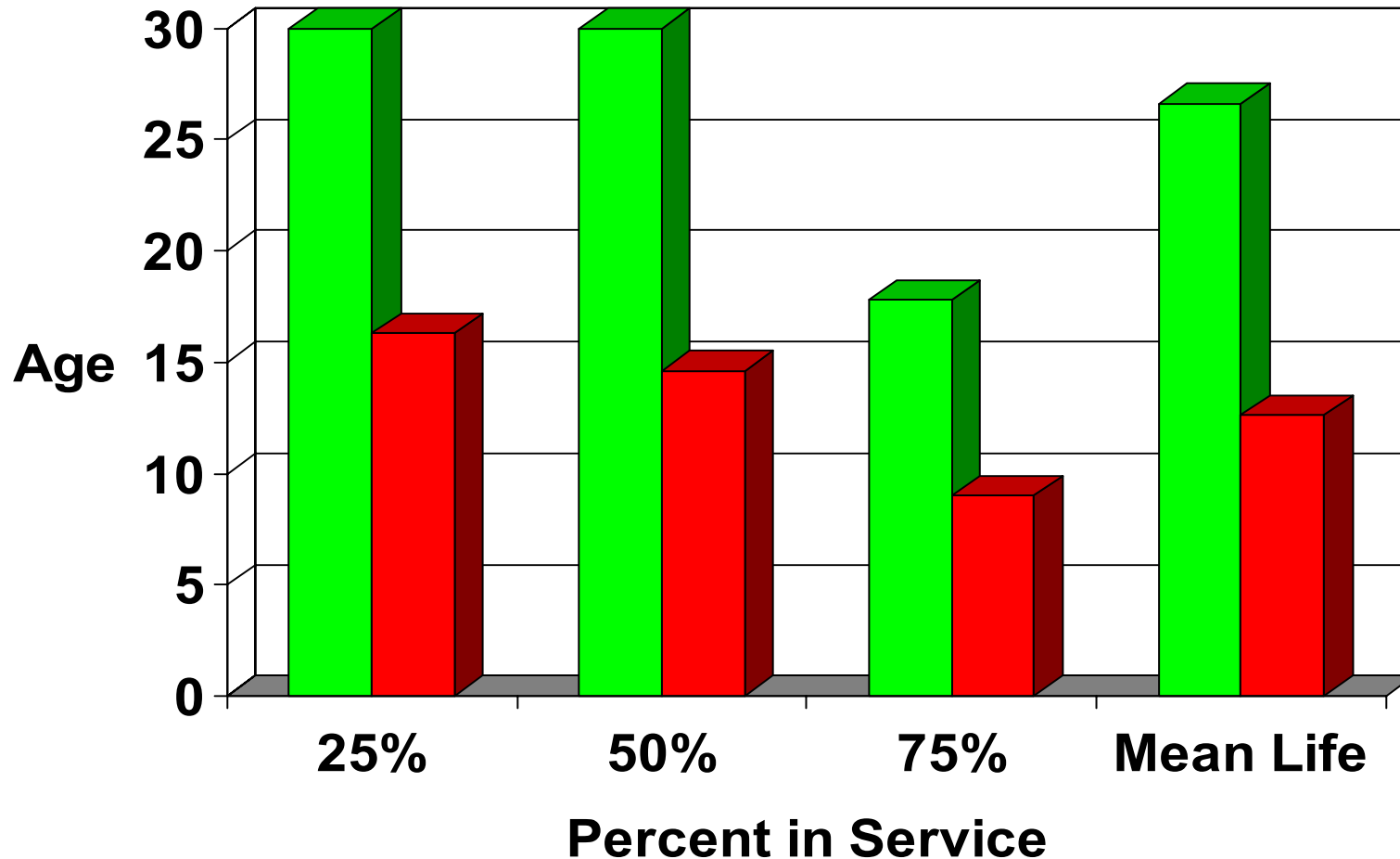
Selected highway corridors (interstate era):

- I-40 in Western Tennessee
- I-15 in Utah, South of Salt Lake City
- I-40 in Eastern Oklahoma

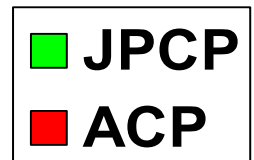
# Survival Analysis Results - I-40 in TN



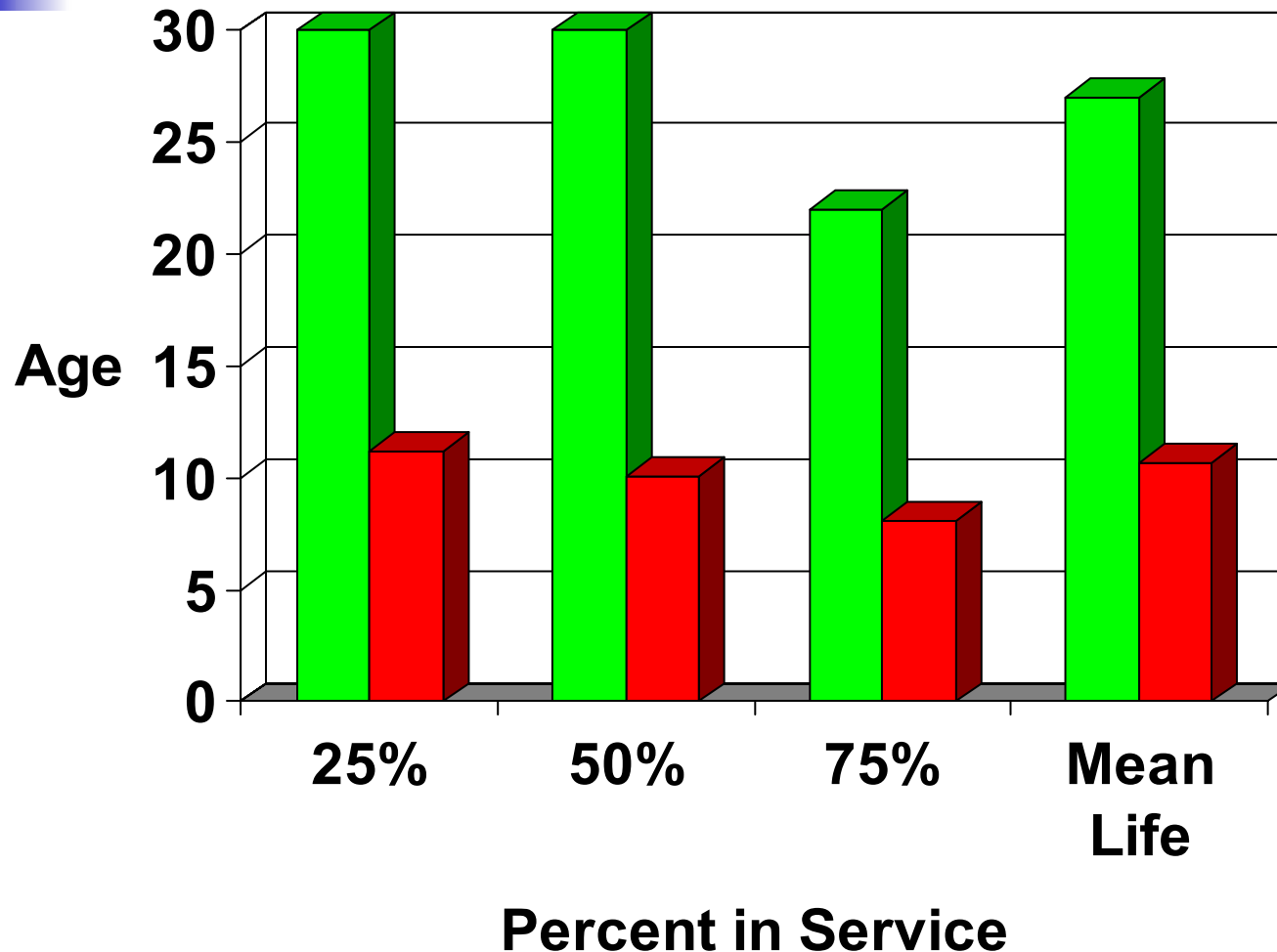
# Survival Analysis Results - I-15 in UT



Note: Over 50% of Concrete Sections Have Not Failed (>32 Years)



# Survival Analysis Results - I-40 in OK



Note: Over 50% of Concrete Sections Have Not Failed (>30 Years)





# Long-Life Concrete Pavements

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- Do not necessarily require elements of high-performance concrete pavement (HPCP)
- Would benefit from from HPCP techniques
  - Narrow the variability of performance
  - Address key elements
- May include improvements HPCP cases have not considered

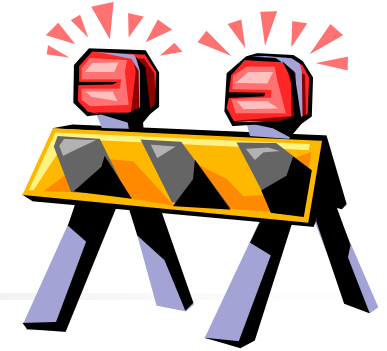


# High-Performance Concrete Pavement

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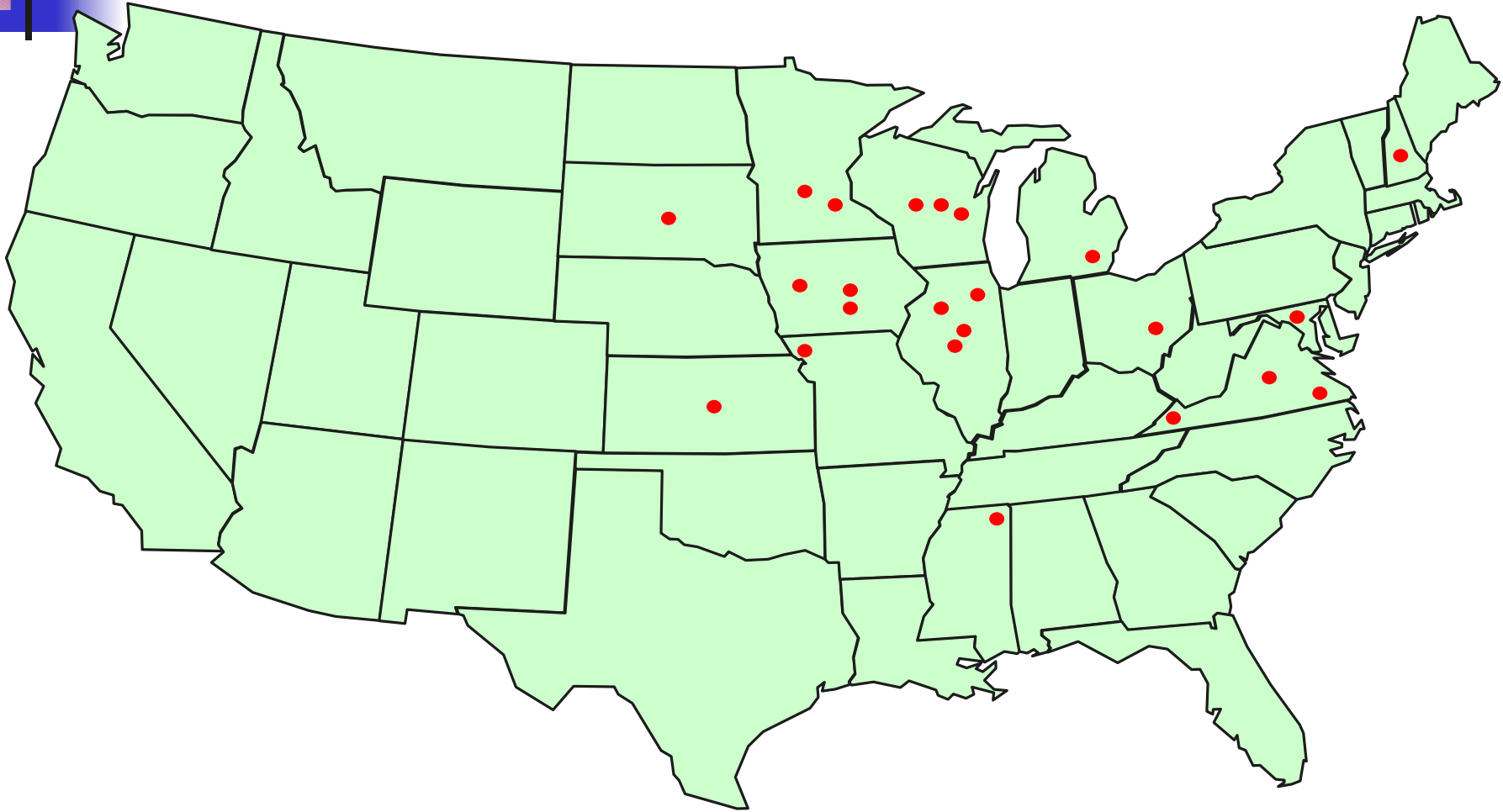
- Goal of HPCP Program per FHWA
  - Explore applicability of design and construction innovations to provide long-lasting, economical PCC pavements
- HPCP program is not “high strength” concrete
- HPCP is the combination of: materials, mix design, structural design, and construction activities...
  - to ensure long-term pavement performance in a specific application

# HPCP Projects



- Twenty three (23) projects in 13 States
- Range of design features and construction innovations
  - Alternate Dowel Bars
  - Durable Concrete Mixes
  - Improved Materials (including fiber-reinforced PCC)
  - Optimized Surface Textures
  - Joint Sealing Variations

# HPCP Project Locations







# Long-Life Pavements

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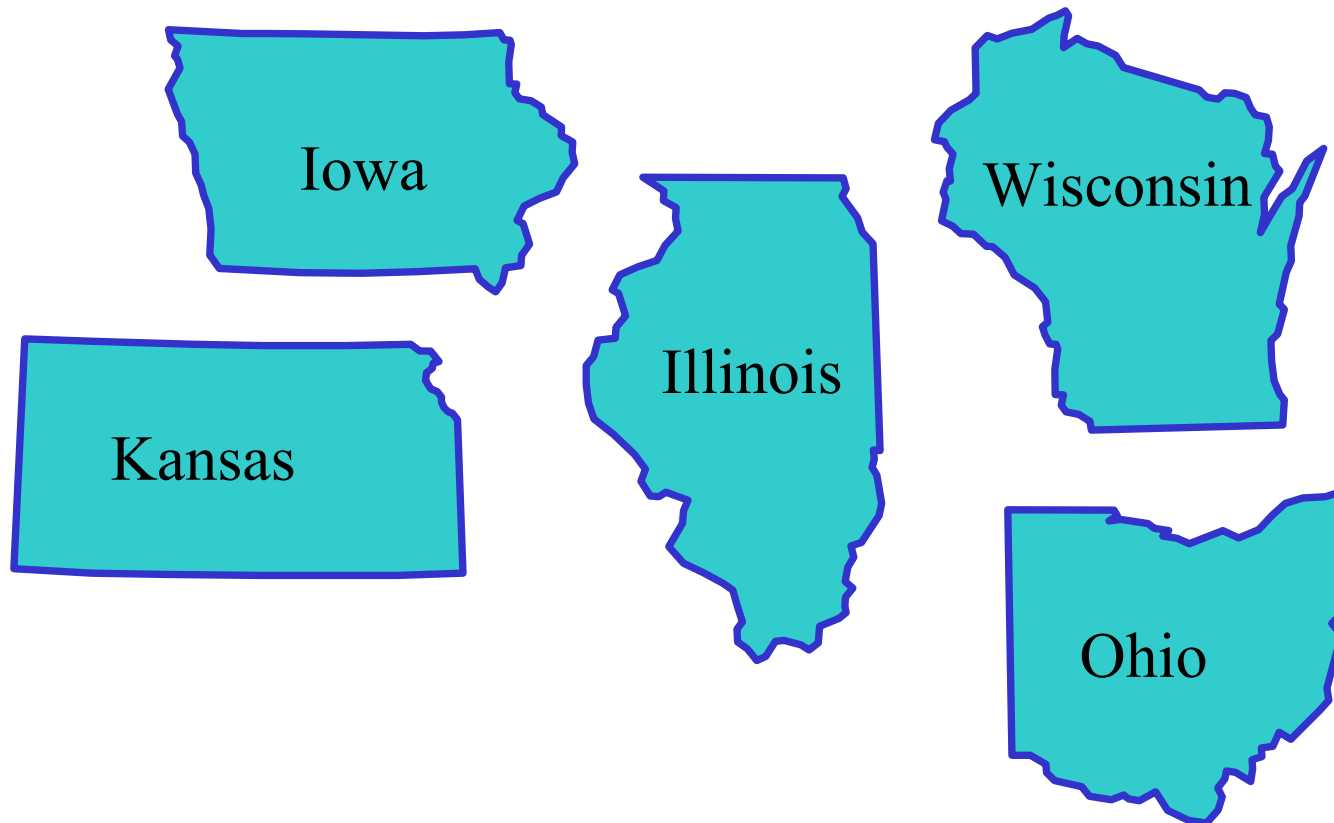
## Joint Design Improvements





# Alternate Dowel Bars

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# Dowel Bar Corrosion



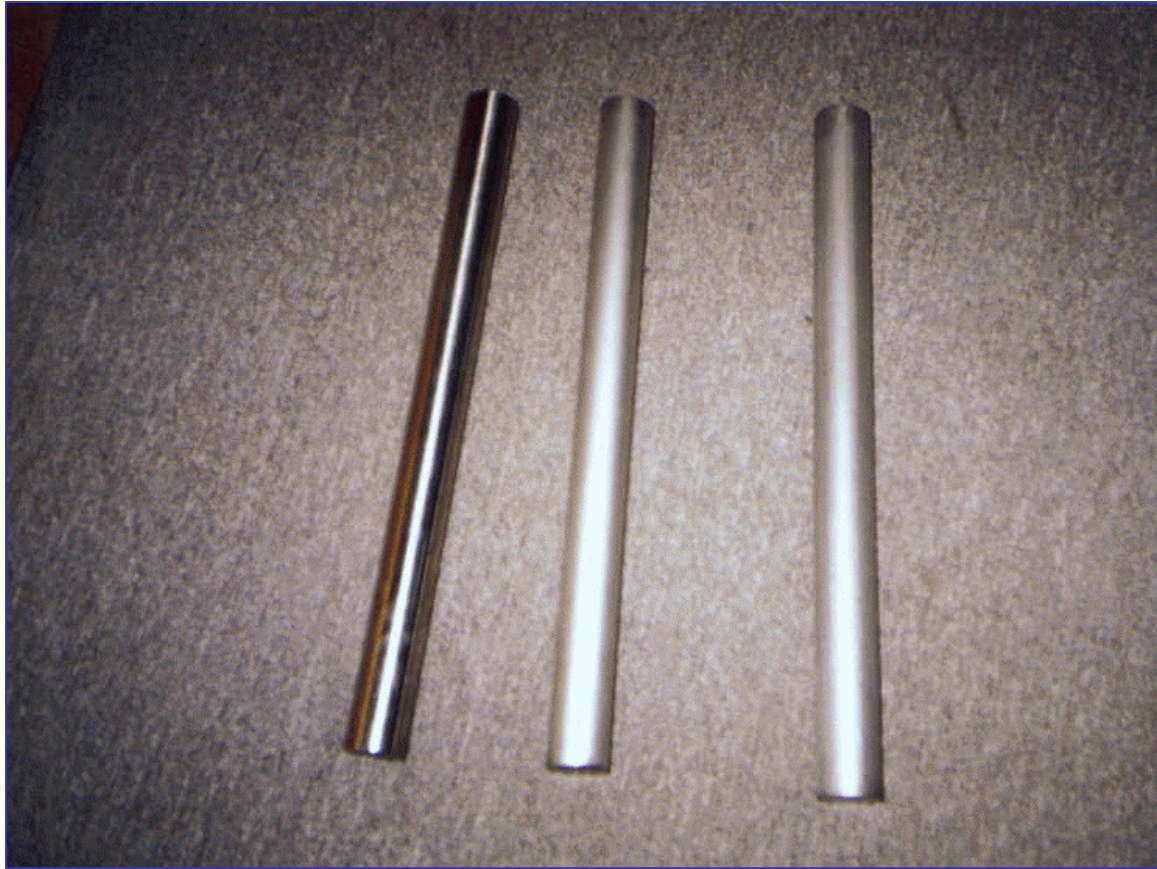


# Alternate Dowel Bars

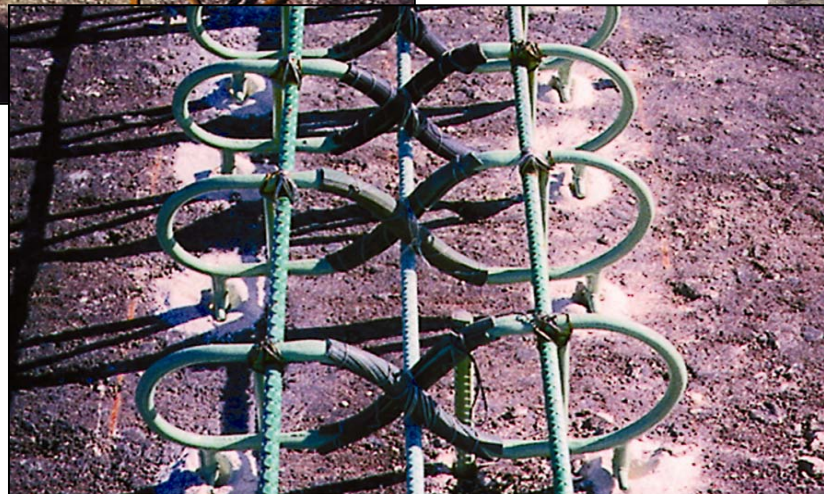
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- Materials
  - Fiber-Reinforced Composite (FRC)
  - Grout-filled FRC
  - Stainless Steel
  - Stainless Steel Clad
  - Grout-filled Stainless Steel tubes
  - MFMX Steel
- Elliptical Shapes

# Alternate Dowel Bars



# Alternate Dowel Bars





# Long-Life Pavements

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Thickness Design?





# Empirical Design

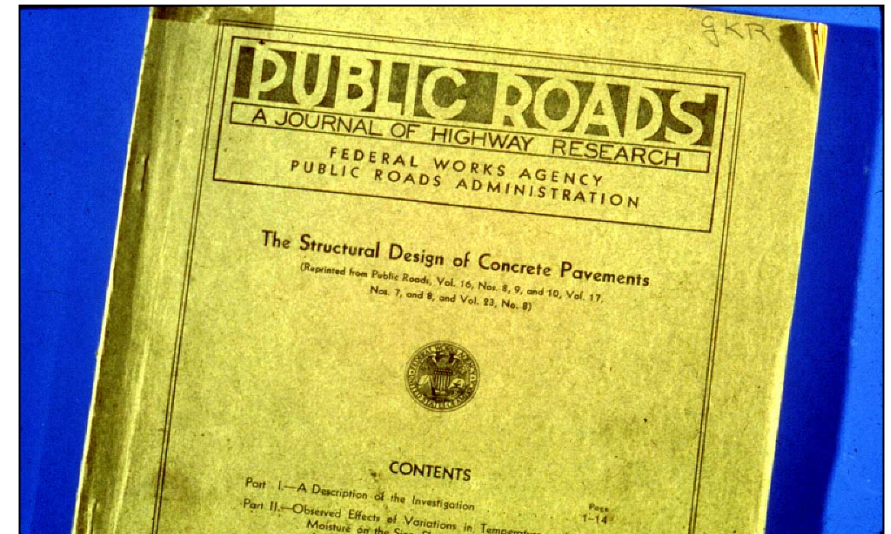
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- Early pavement design methods were empirical and based on the results of various road tests
  - Bates Road Test
  - Maryland Road Test
  - AASHO Road Test
  - Others



# First Design Equations

- In 1926, Prof. Westergaard, University of Illinois published equations for stresses and deflections of concrete pavement
- To test Westergaard's equation, the Bureau of Public Roads (forerunner of FHWA) conducted four years of testing and published a very complete report on the "Structural Design of Concrete Pavements".



$$d = \sqrt{\frac{cp}{s}}$$

d = thickness

c = stress coefficient

p = wheel load

s = allowable tensile stress

# AASHO Road Test - Extended Design Equation

- Developed mechanistic-empirical relationship between Log  $W$  and stress ratio.

$$\text{Log}(W) = A + B \text{Log} \frac{S'c}{\sigma}$$

$W$  = Number of axle loads to terminal serviceability  
(from main loop equation)

$A$  = Regression constant

$B$  = Slope of Log  $W$  vs. Log  $S'c/\sigma$  curve

$S'c$  = 28-day flexural strength, 3rd point loading

$\sigma$  = Spangler's corner stress

# 1986-93 Rigid Pavement Design Equation

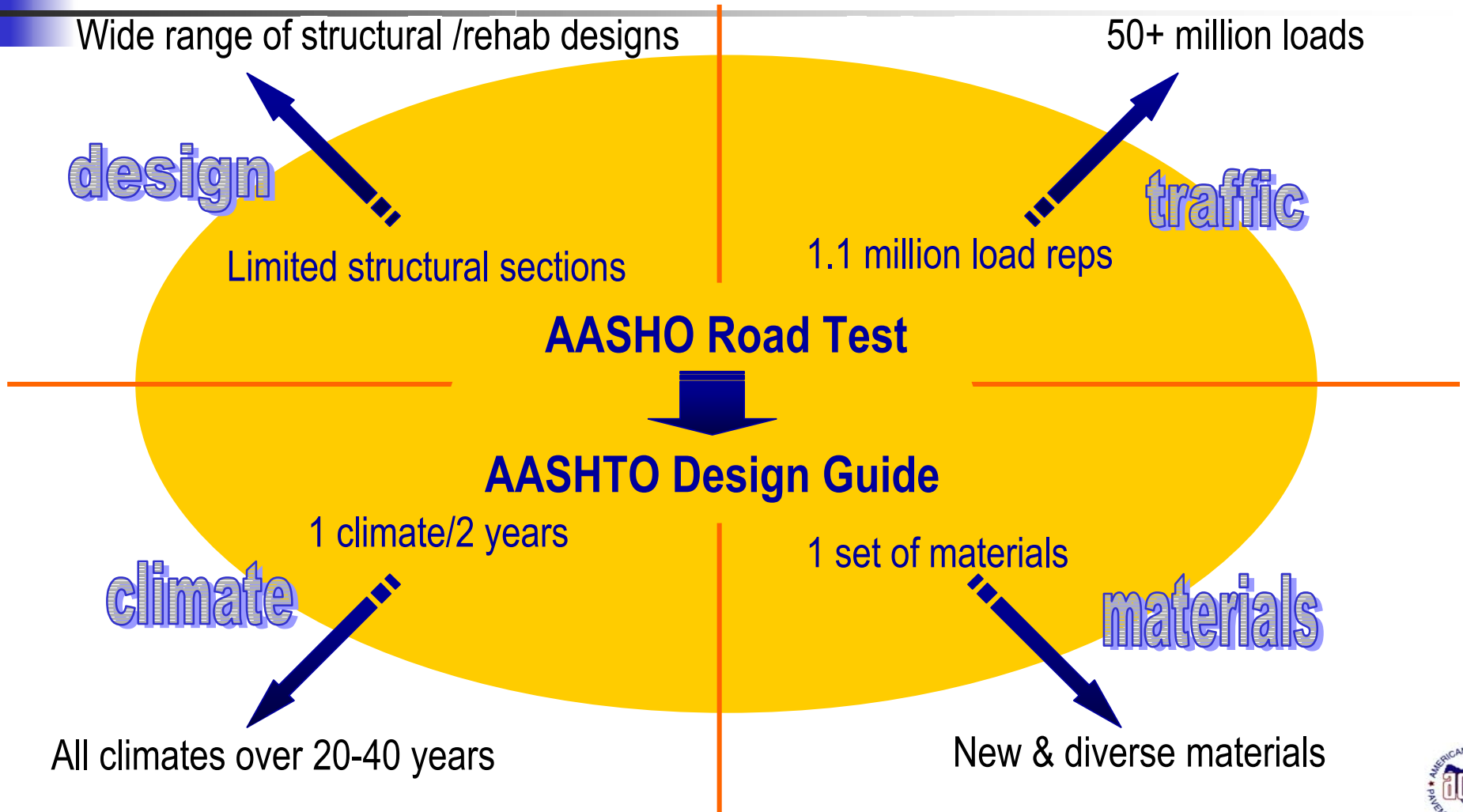
The diagram illustrates the 1986-93 Rigid Pavement Design Equation, showing the relationship between Log(ESALs) and various design parameters. The equation is annotated with labels and arrows pointing to specific terms:

- Standard Normal Deviate** ( $Z_R$ )
- Overall Standard Deviation** ( $s_o$ )
- Depth** ( $D$ )
- Change in Serviceability** ( $\Delta PSI$ )
- Terminal Serviceability** ( $p_t$ )
- Modulus of Rupture** ( $S'_c$ )
- Drainage Coefficient** ( $C_d$ )
- Load Transfer** ( $J$ )
- Modulus of Elasticity** ( $E_c$ )
- Modulus of Subgrade Reaction** ( $k$ )

$$\text{Log(ESALs)} = Z_R * s_o + 7.35 * \text{Log}(D + 1) - 0.06 + \left[ \frac{\text{Log} \left[ \frac{\Delta PSI}{4.5 - 1.5} \right]}{1 + \frac{1.624 * 10^7}{(D + 1)^{8.46}}} \right]$$

$$+ (4.22 - 0.32p_t) * \text{Log} \left[ \frac{S'_c * C_d * [D^{0.75} - 1.132]}{215.63 * J * \left[ D^{0.75} - \frac{18.42}{(E_c / k)^{0.25}} \right]} \right]$$

# Current AASHTO vs. 2002 Design





# Thickness Design Impact?

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- Mechanistic-empirical design
  - Offers a more scientific and potentially “reasonable” approach
- To implement AASHTO 2002 successfully
  - Must calibrate
  - Must develop realistic inputs
  - Must have working knowledge of mechanistic-empirical design fundamentals
- But... do not expect large changes in required thicknesses
  - Could even go down for long-life timeframes



# Long-Life Pavements

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## Concrete Materials





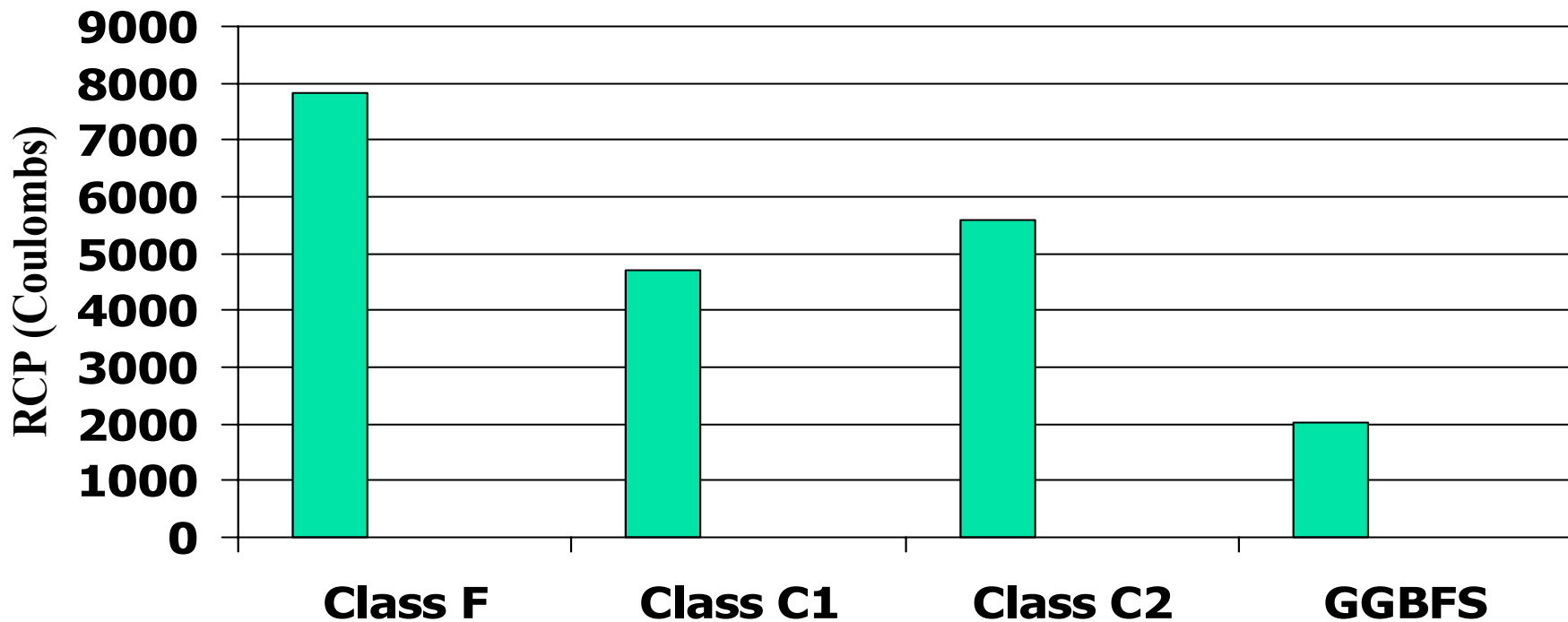
# Paste Durability – Minnesota Case

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- Required Maximum 28 day Rapid Chloride Permeability to be 2500 coulombs
- Increased Target Plastic Air Content from 6.5% to 8.5% ( $\pm 1.5\%$ )
- Require max W/C = 0.40 (same as current)
- Use Poly-alpha-methylstyrene curing compound

# Rapid Chloride Permeability Results of HPC Mixes

(w/c = 0.365, sample @ 28 days)



All fly ash 25% replacement, GGBFS 35%





# Aggregate Durability – Minnesota Case

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- Maximum of 20% limestone in gravel, with incentives to reduce to 10%
- Incentives to use Class A aggregate (quarried igneous, metamorphic)
- Well graded aggregate required
  - reduce paste, improve workability
  - 8 to 18 specification.



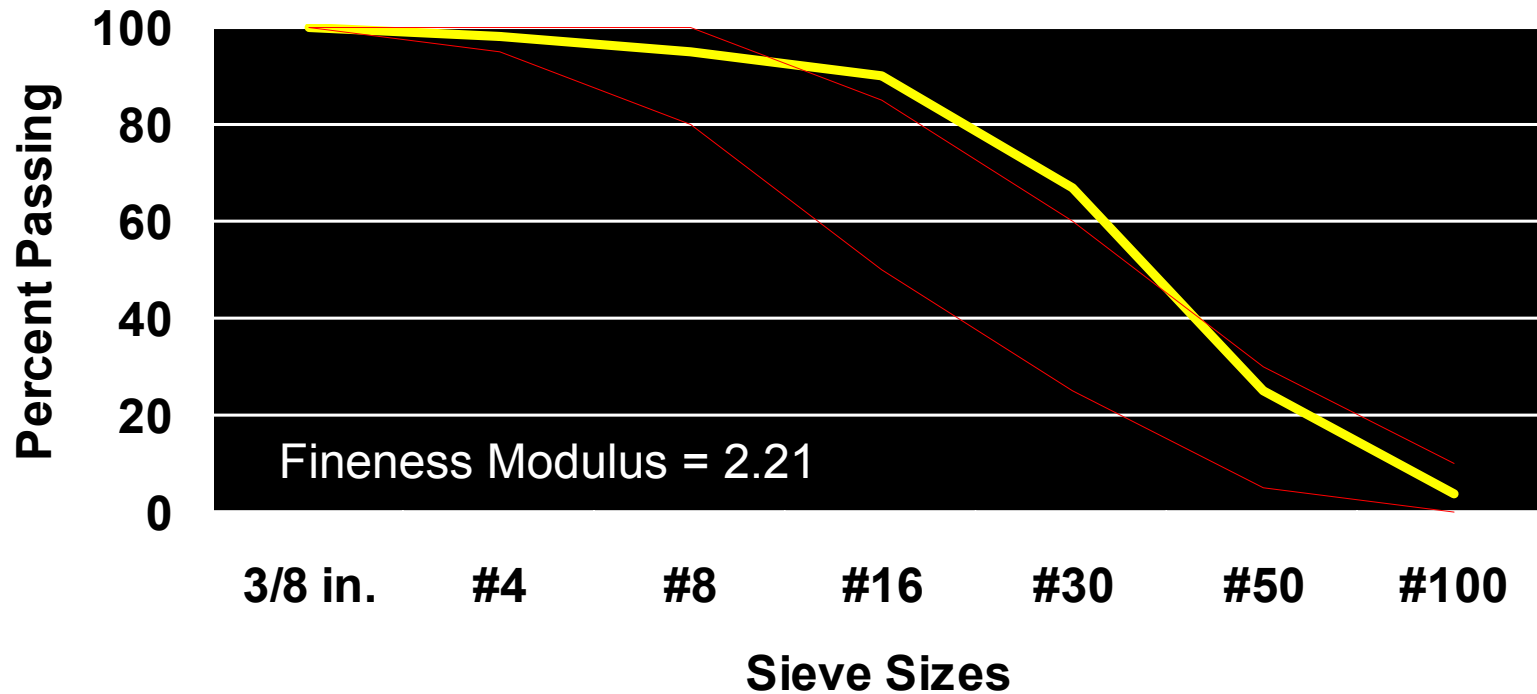
# Aggregate Selection

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- Watch for Water Demand
  - Fine aggregate gradation
  - Combined aggregate gradation
  - Cement content (+400 lb)
  - Supplementary Materials

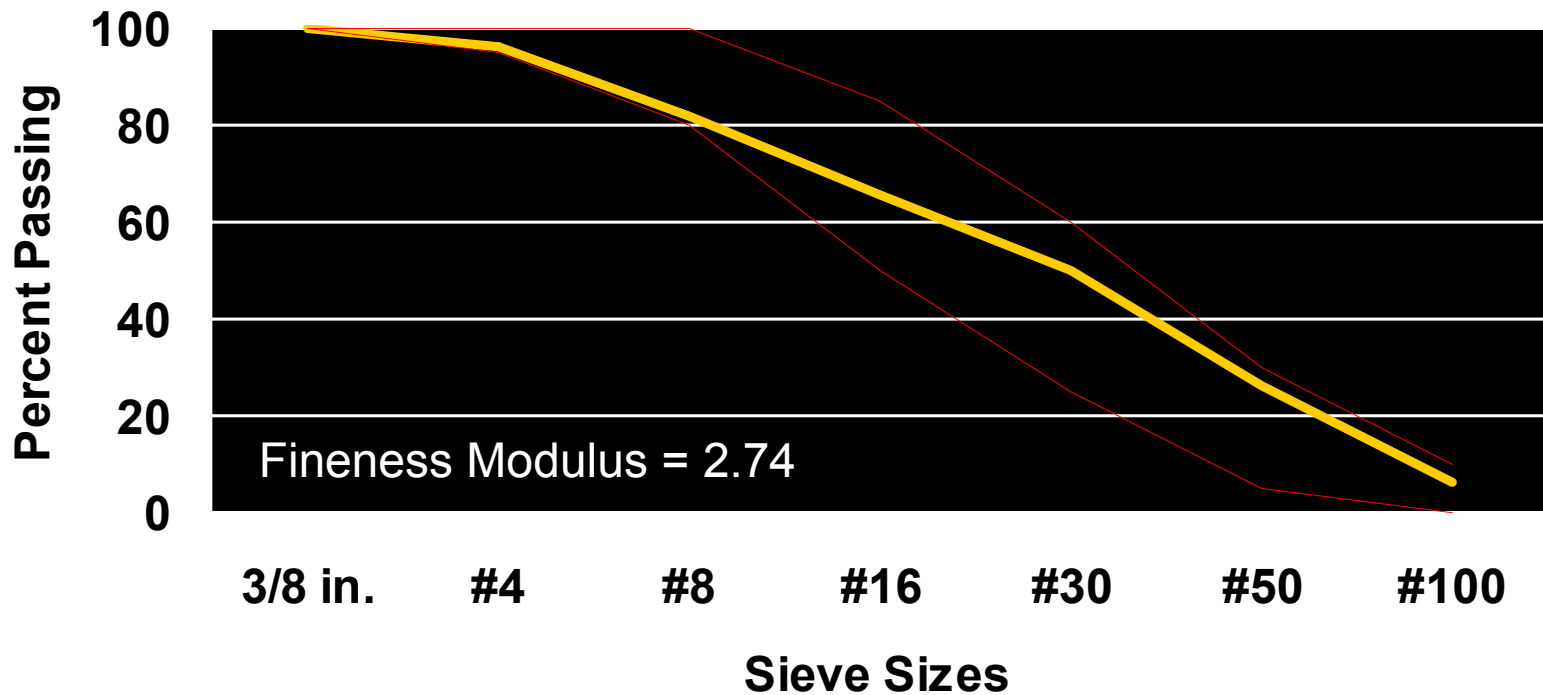
ASTM C33 requirements are not always favorable

# ASTM C33 ?



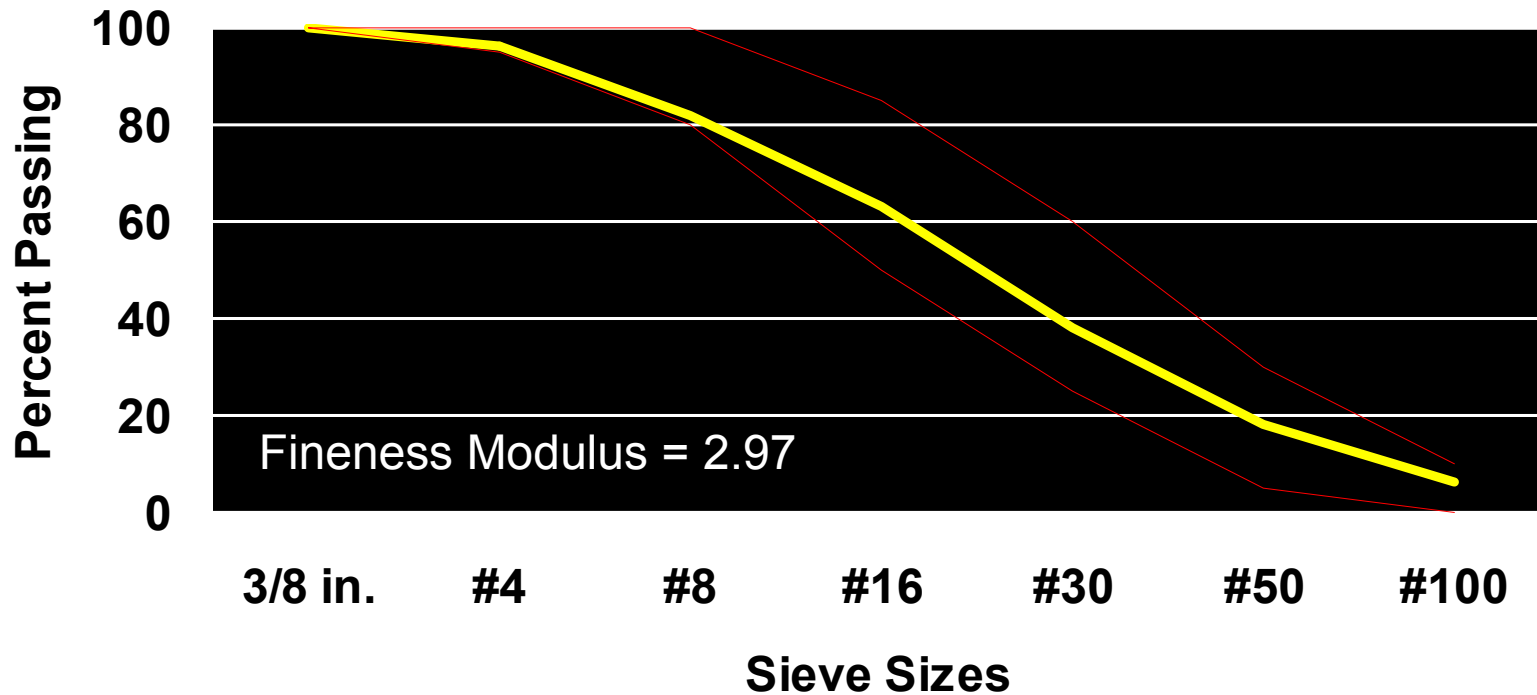
**Grading distribution of sand allowed by some states, but does not meet ASTM C-33 limits --- Results in a mixture prone to early problems**

# ASTM C33 ?



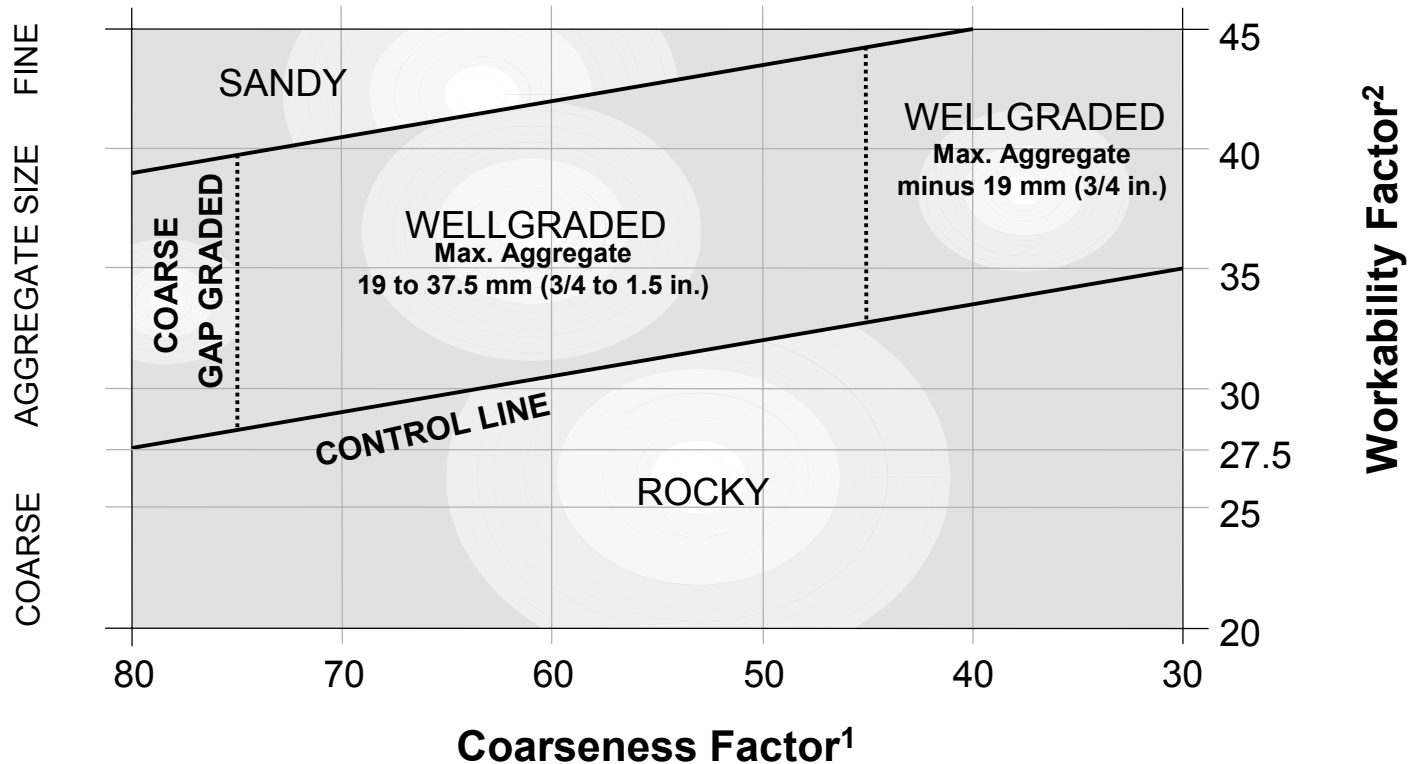
**Grading distribution of sand with high bulking volume that meets ASTM C-33 ---  
Results in a mixture prone to early problems**

# ASTM C33 ?



Grading distribution of well-graded sand that meets ASTM C-33 --- Results in mixture with little potential to contribute problems

# Combined Gradation



1. Coarseness Factor =  $\frac{\% \text{ RETAINED ABOVE } 3/8 \text{ in. (9.5 mm) SIEVE}}{\% \text{ RETAINED ABOVE } \#8 \text{ (2.36 mm) SIEVE}} \times 100$
2. Workability Factor =  $\% \text{ PASSING } \#8 \text{ (2.36 mm) SIEVE}$



# Long-Life Pavements

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## Kansas Demo Project





# HPCP – Kansas Demo Project

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- Alternative Dowel Materials and spacing,
  - Fiber reinforced and stainless steel dowel bars, Cross Flex
- New mix designs
  - Ground Granulated Blast Furnace Slag (GGBSF)
  - Recycled asphalt
- Joint sawing and sealing options
- Longitudinal Tining
- Curing
- Two lift construction



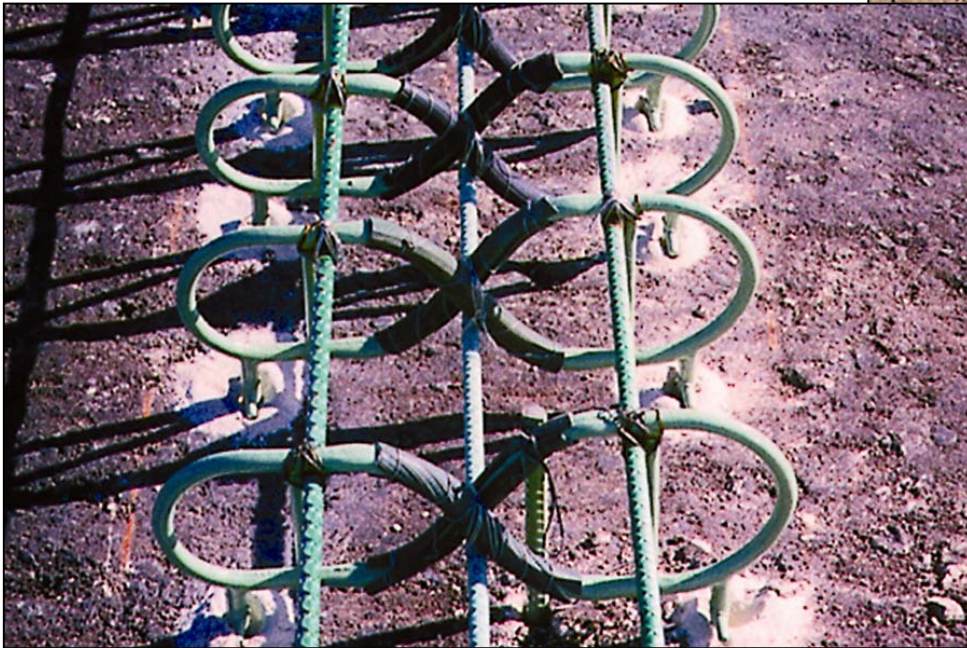
# Kansas HPCP Demonstration

Fiber Reinforced  
Polymer Dowels



# Kansas HPCP Demonstration

Cross-Flex



Not a Good Idea

# Kansas HPCP Demonstration



Soft-cut



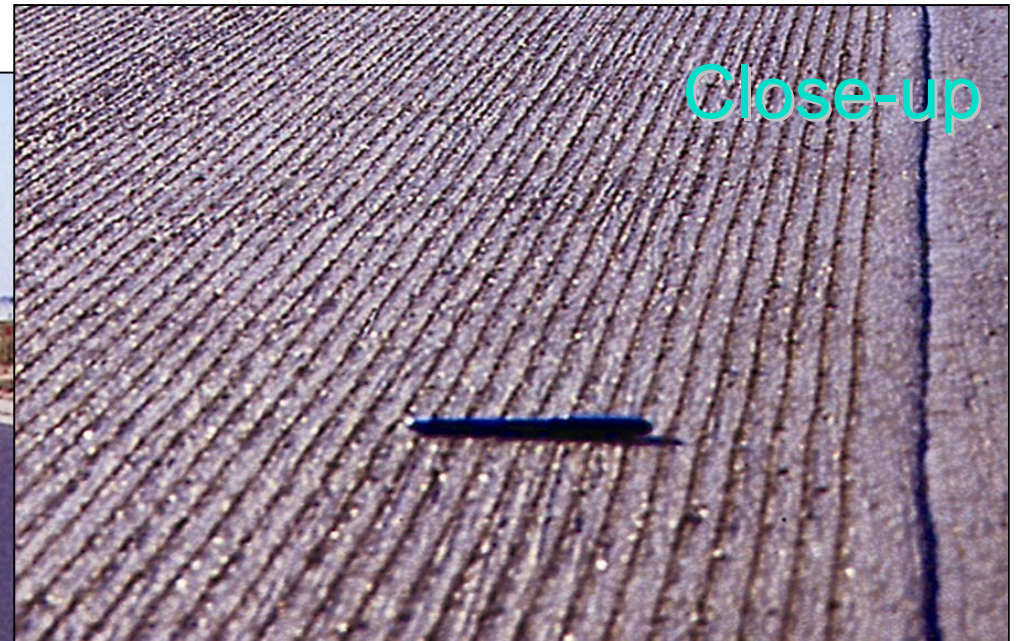
Magnum



Target

Other sections were  
Seal / No Seal

# Kansas HPCP Demonstration



# Kansas HPCP Demonstration

Fiber Reinforced Concrete  
3M Polyolefin Fibers



# Kansas HPCP Demonstration

Two lift construction  
With RAP



# Kansas HPCP Demonstration

Two lift construction  
With High Absorption  
Limestone





# How long will Kansas HPCP last?

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- Looking for 30-50 years.
- Pavement life is measured in terms of vehicle loading as well as time.
  - If subjected to a higher (or heavier) traffic than designed for, the service life will probably be shorter than expected.





# Summary

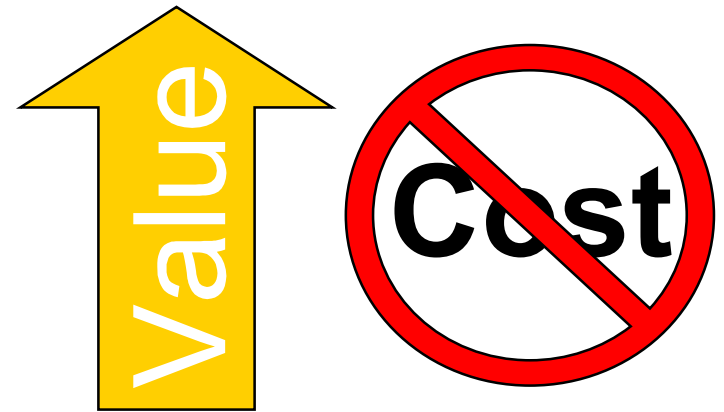
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- Long-life has different meanings
- Getting there requires improving design, materials and construction
- Lessons from HPCP work are of value
- Concrete is the long-life pavement

# Industry Perspective

Make the Goal of Long-Life Pavement:

- Structurally superior pavement
- Environmentally sound pavement
- Safer and quieter pavement
- Smoother pavement
- Cost-optimized pavement





# Additional Information

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- Contact ACPA
- Phone: 847-966-2272
- [www.pavement.com](http://www.pavement.com)

**THANK YOU!**