

**2006 Southeastern States  
Pavement Management  
And Design Conference**

**Panama City, Florida**

**May 8-10, 2006**

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**Texas A&M University**

**NCHRP Project 1-41**  
**Models for Predicting**  
**Reflection Cracking for**  
**Hot-Mix Asphalt Overlays**  
**Overview**

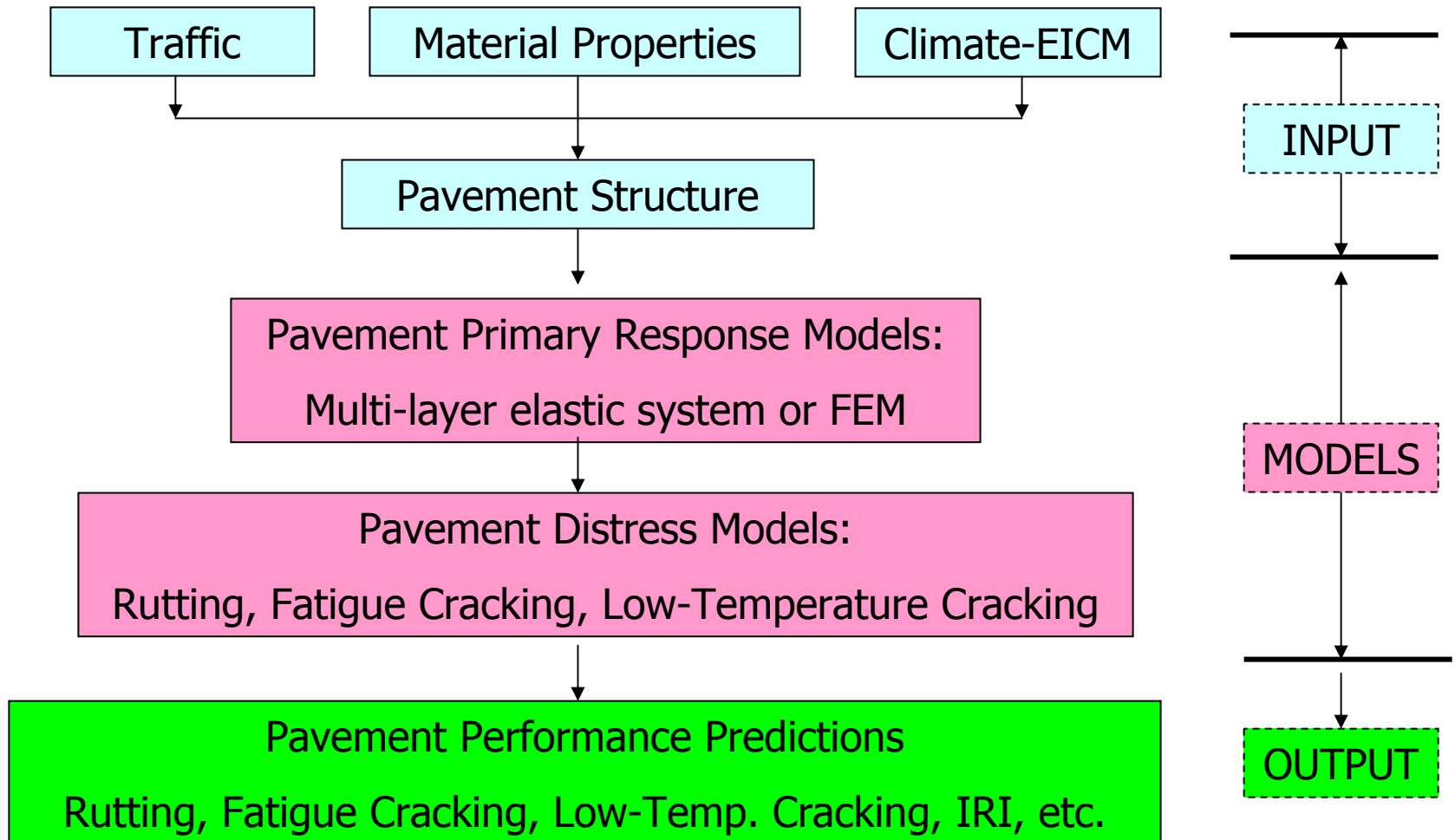
**Robert L. Lytton, Ph.D., P.E.**

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# Presentation Outline

- MEPDG
- Relationship: MEPDG to NCHRP1-41
- Reflection Cracking Field Data
- Reflection Cracking Modeling
- Summary and Conclusions

# Flow Chart of the MEPDG



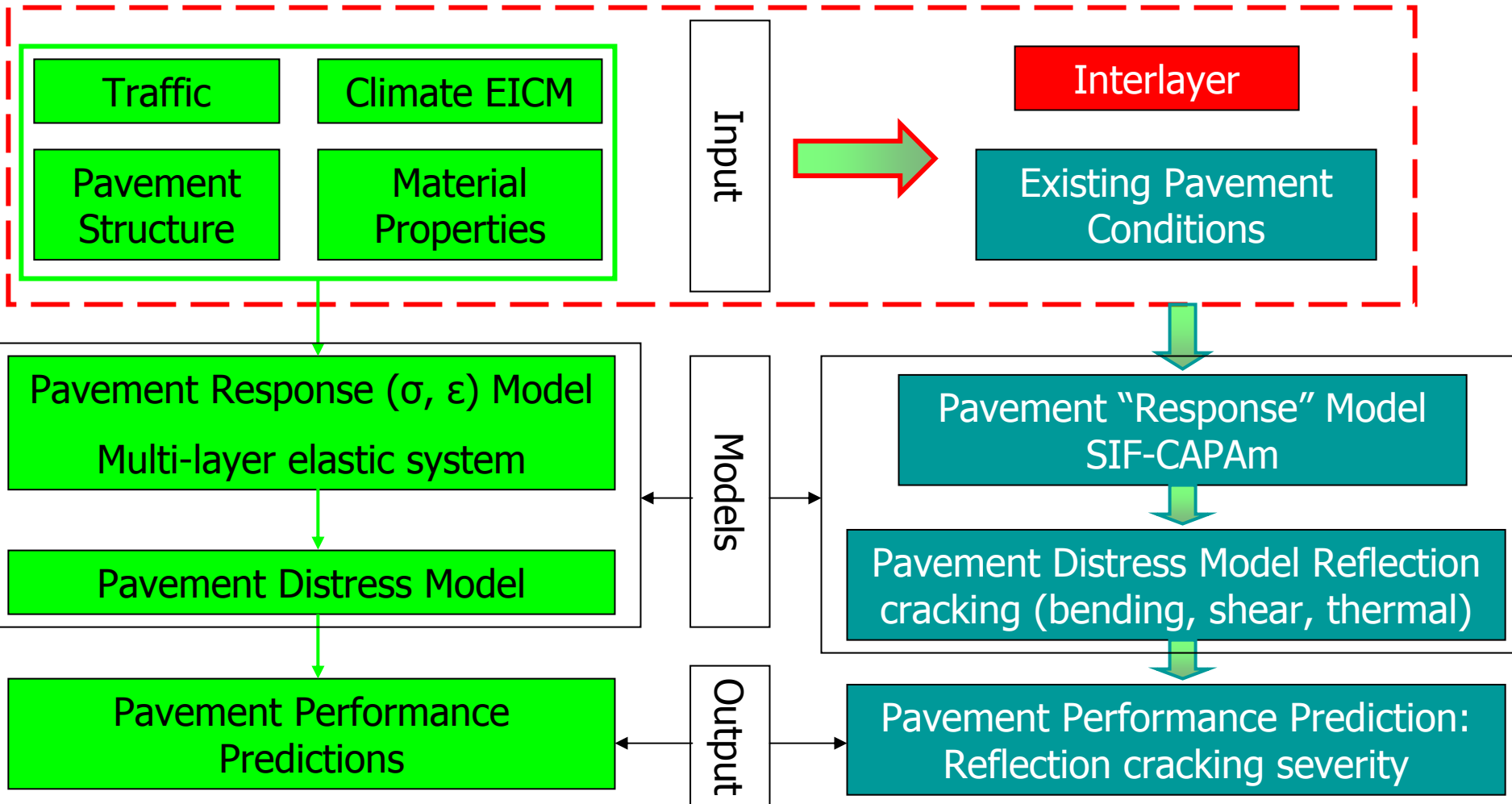
# Relationship between NCRHP 1-41 and the MEPDG

- How will the asphalt overlay design program be **incorporated into the MEPDG?**

# MEPDG

vs.

# NCHRP 1-41



# Reflection Cracking Modeling

- Traffic input
- EICM
- Load Transfer Efficiency
- Fracture Property of Asphalt Mixes (A and n)
- Pavement “Response” Model: (SIF and CAPA-3D/CAPAm)
- Reflection Cracking Models
- Model Calibration and Validation

# Reflection Cracking Modeling-

## Data for calibration and validation

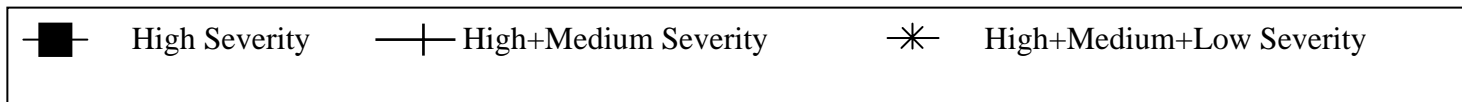
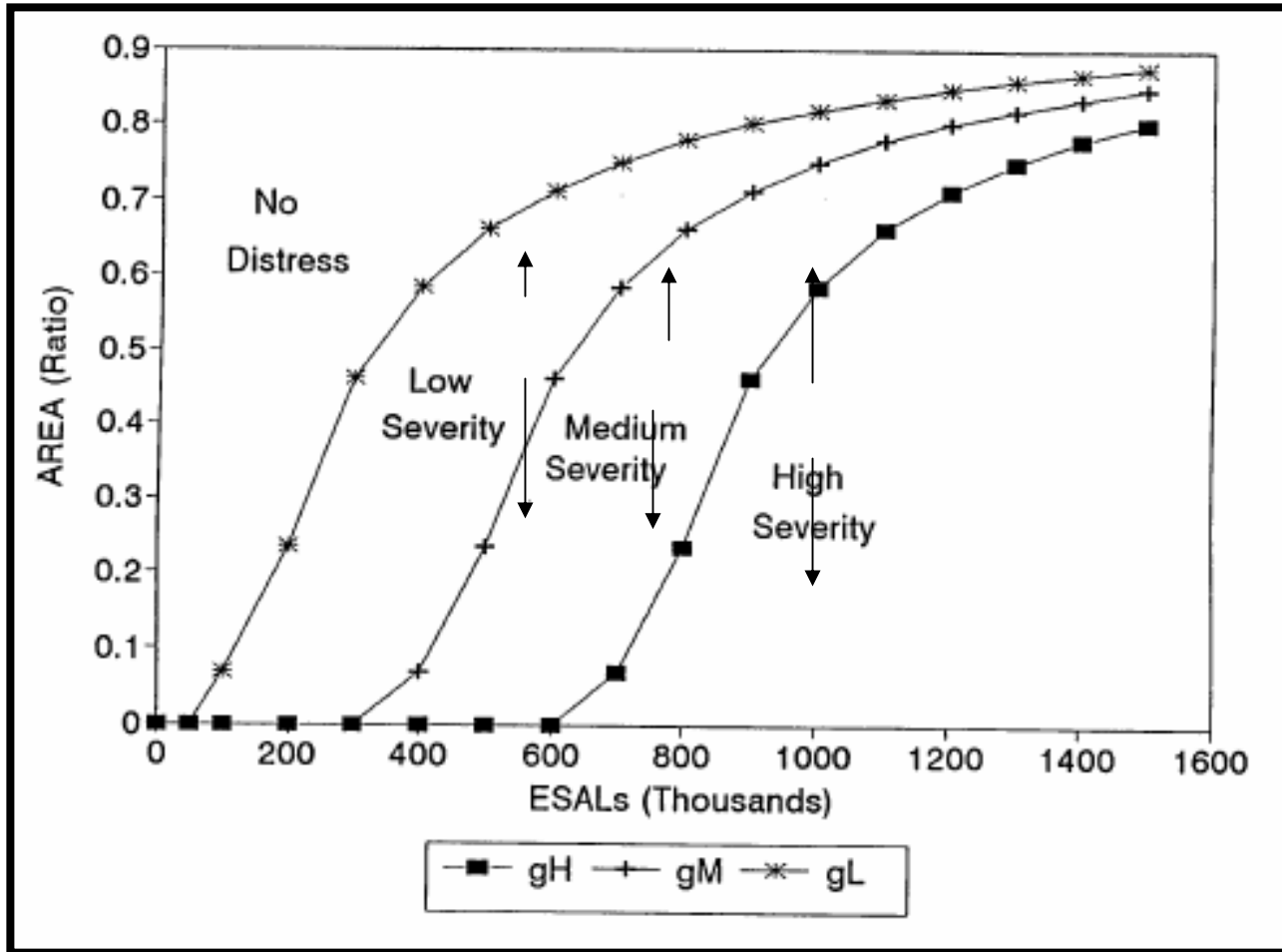
- **Data have been collected from:**
  - **LTPP database**
  - **Texas reflection cracking studies**
  - **New York city – ARA reflection cracking study**

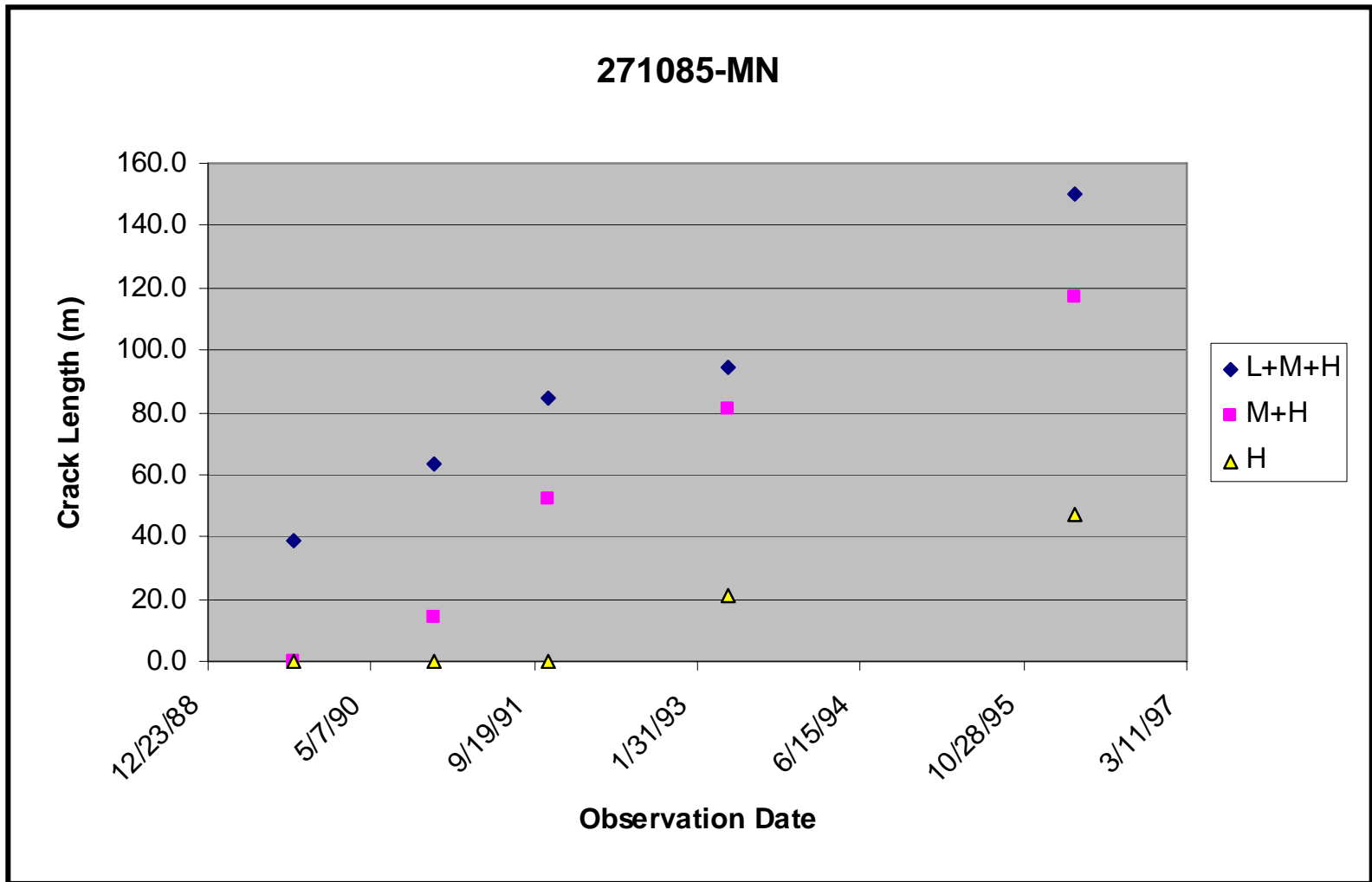


**Table 20. Realistic AC Overlay Test Sections.**

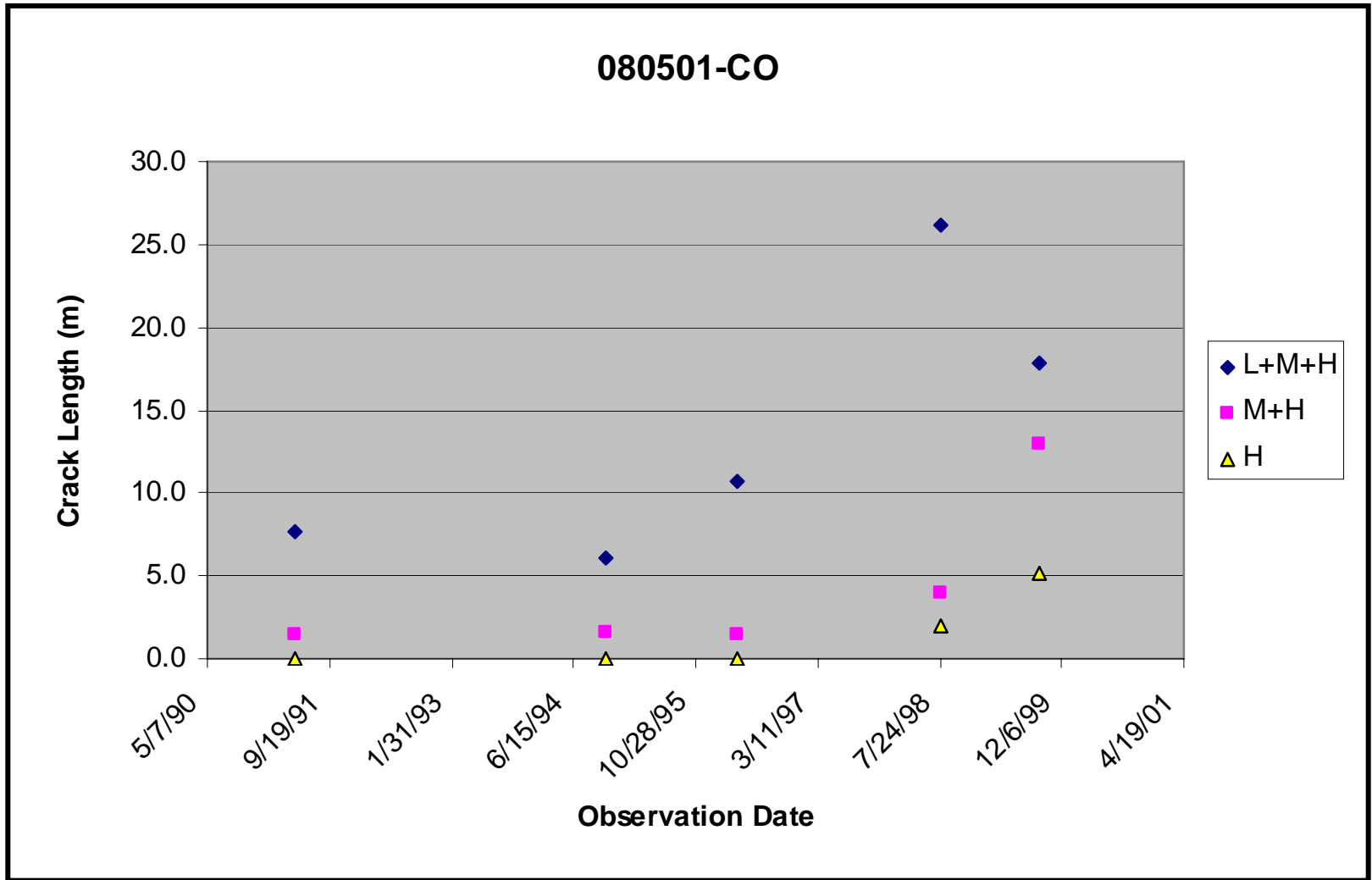
Category	Description	Total test sections	No. of test sections at each climatic zone			
			WF	DF	WNF	DNF
AC/OL	AC, then AC overlay	110	59	16	33	
AC/Mill/OL	AC, then Mill+AC Overlay	133	109			
CRC/OL	CRC, then AC Overlay	26	21			
JPC/OL + JRC/OL	JRC, then AC Overlay	55	54			
Total		19	15			

Figure 55. Pavement Distress vs. Number of Load Repetitions (106).

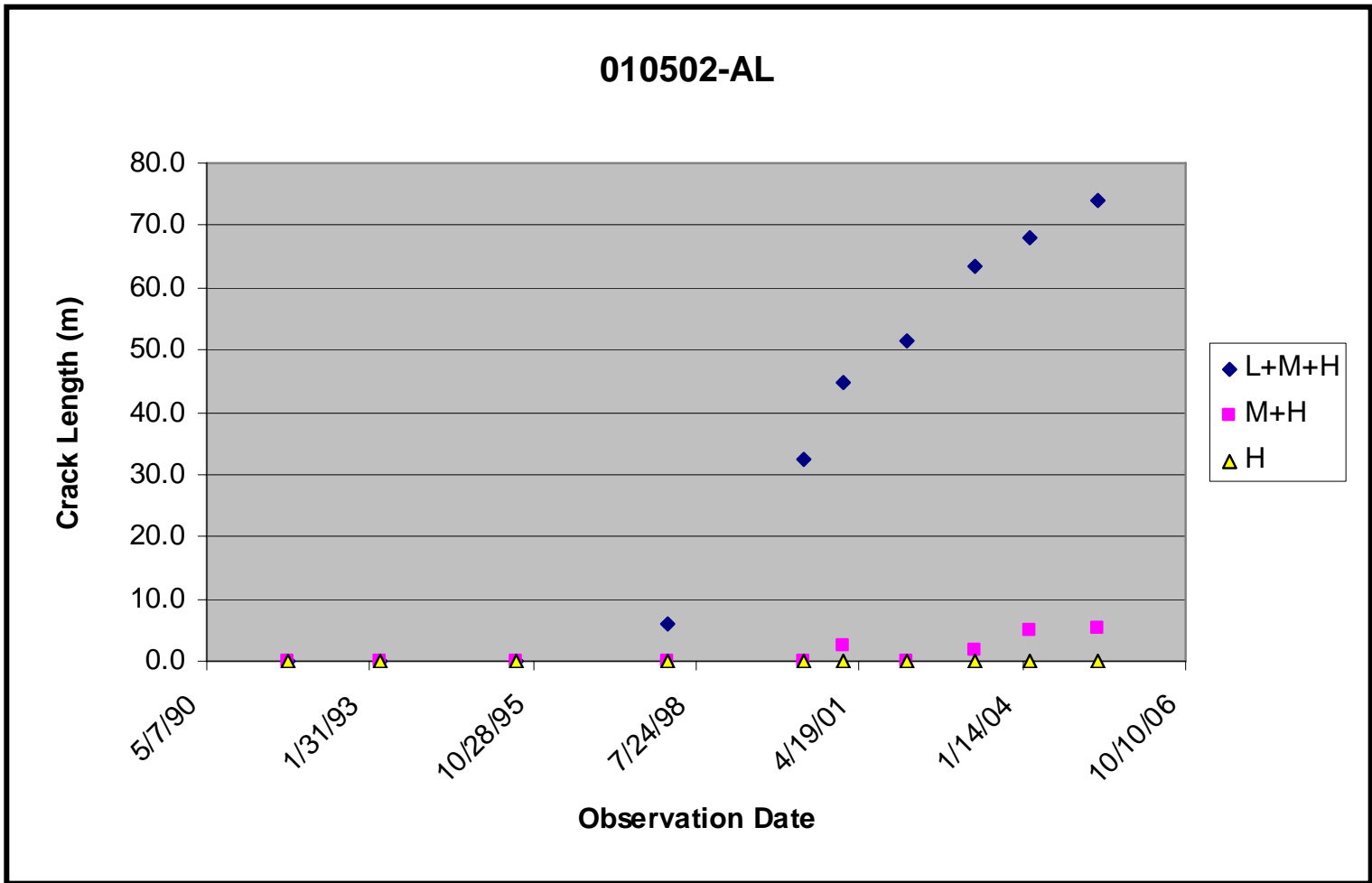




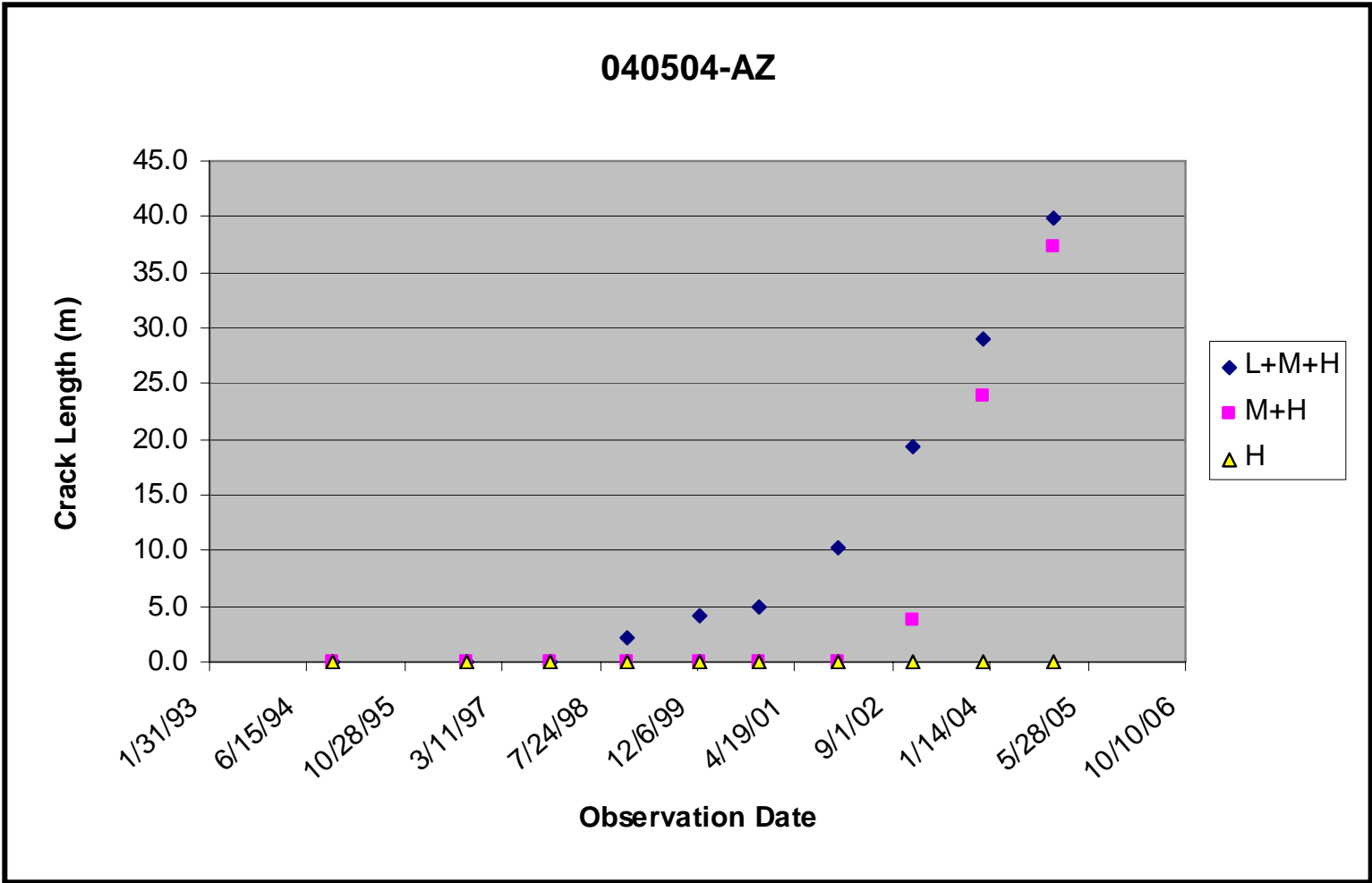
**Figure 57. Reflection Cracking of AC/AC Overlay at WF Zone: Case 271085-MN.**



**Figure 58. Reflection Cracking of AC/AC Overlay at DF Zone: Case 080501-CO.**



**Figure 60. Reflection Cracking of AC/AC Overlay at WNF Zone: Case 010502-AL.**



**Figure 66. Reflection Cracking of AC/Mill/AC Overlay at DNF Zone: Case 040504-AZ.**

# Reflection Cracking Modeling- traffic input

- Traffic input: as indicated previously, traffic input will be the same as the MEPDG. Reflection cracking subroutine program will directly use the MEPDG traffic summary results.
  - No. of single axle load
  - No. of tandem axles load
  - No. of tridem axles load
  - No. of quad axles load

# Reflection Cracking Modeling- EICM

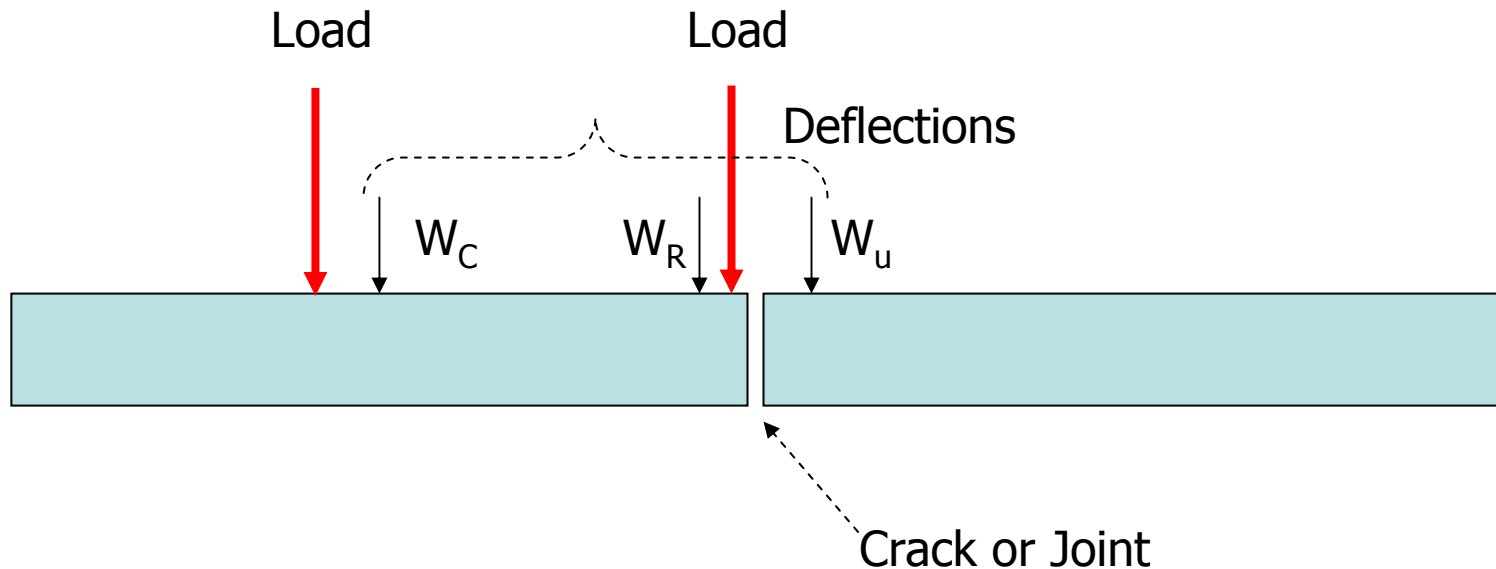
- EICM: Reflection cracking subroutine program will directly use the temperature data from ECIM of the MEPDG.
  - Monthly (or half monthly) temperature data for traffic load (**bending and shear**) reflection cracking
  - Daily temperature data for **thermal** reflection cracking



# Reflection Cracking Modeling-

## Load transfer efficiency

- Deflection measurement:  $W_l$ ,  $W_u$ ,  $W_c$



# Reflection Cracking Modeling-Load transfer efficiency (cont'd)

- Load transfer efficiency (LTE):

$$LTE = \frac{W_u}{W_l}$$

- The shear and moment transfer efficiency ratios

- For shear ( $p$ ):

$$p = \frac{W_l}{W_l + W_u} = \frac{1}{1 + LTE}$$

- For moment ( $f$ ):

$$f = 2 - \frac{(W_u + W_l)}{2W_c} = 2 - \frac{1 + LTE}{2\left(\frac{W_c}{W_l}\right)}$$

# Reflection Cracking Modeling-Load transfer efficiency (cont'd)

## Ranges of Values of Load Transfer

	Good	Fair	Poor
LTE	0.8-1.0	0.6-0.8	0.0-0.6
Shear (p)	0.56-0.50	0.63-0.56	1.00-0.63
Moment (f)	0.8-1.0	0.67-0.80	0-0.67
Joint/Crack model	Interface Element with Normal and Shear Stiffnesses		

# Reflection Cracking Mechanisms

- Three mechanisms of reflection cracking
    - Bending
    - Shearing
    - Thermal
- } Load transfer affects these  
Stress Intensity Factors

# Reflection Cracking Modeling- Fracture property of asphalt mixes (A and n)

- Fracture mechanics is necessary (Paris Fracture Model)

$$\frac{dc}{dN} = A(K)^n$$

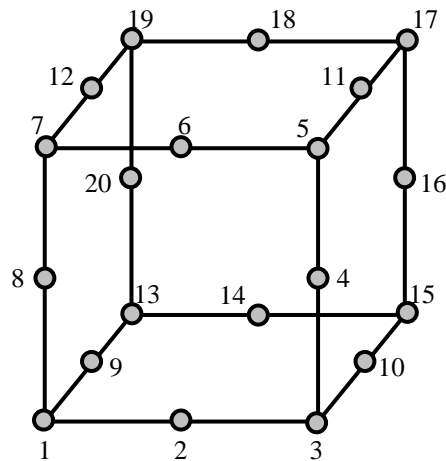
- Laboratory Test Data (Delft)-Regression Equations

$$\log A = 4.830744 - 2.058768 \log|E^*| - 0.280849n \log|E^*|$$

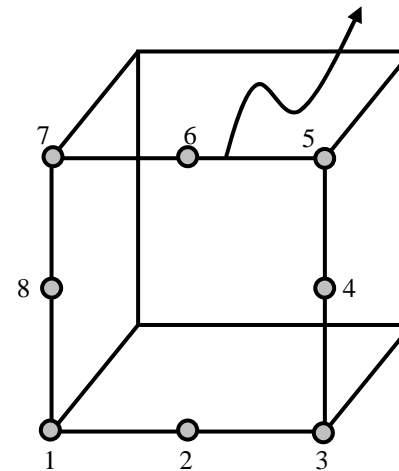
$$n = \frac{2}{m \left( 0.541 + \frac{0.346}{m} - 0.03524Va \right)}$$

# Reflection Cracking Modeling- Pavement “Response” Model: (SIF and CAPA-3D/CAPAm)

- SIFs: thermal, bending and shear calculated by CAPA-3D/CAPAm.



CAPA-3D



CAPAm

# Reflection Cracking Modeling- Calibration

- Reflection cracking model

$$N_f = N_{fT_1} \left( \alpha_1 - \alpha_2 \left( \frac{N_{fT_1}}{N_{fS_1}} \right) - \alpha_3 \left( \frac{N_{fT_1}}{N_{fB_1}} \right) \right) + N_{fT_2} \left( \alpha_4 - \alpha_5 \left( \frac{N_{fT_2}}{N_{fS_2}} \right) \right)$$

- Damage model

$$D = \frac{\sum \Delta c}{h}$$

- Reflection cracking amount and severity model

$$RC = \frac{100}{1 + e^{(\alpha_6 + \alpha_7 \log D)}}$$

# Reflection Cracking Modeling- Calibration (Cont'd)

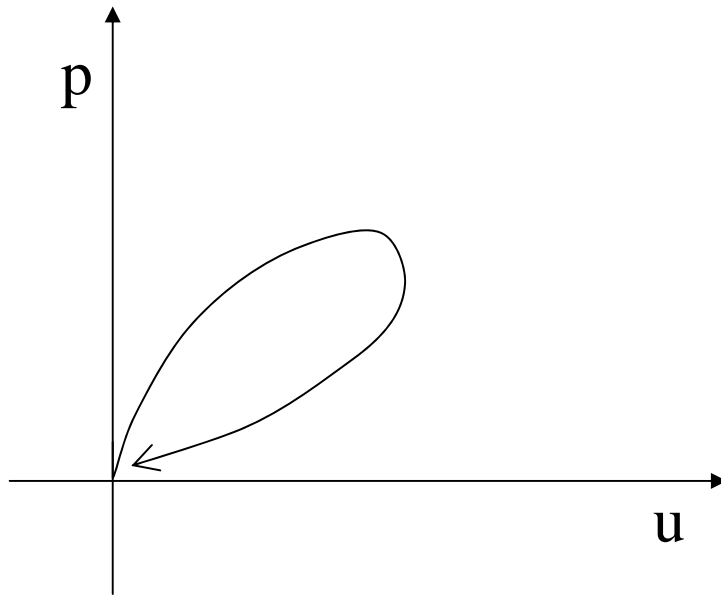
- Calibration Process
  - 5 coefficients
    - Thermal – 2
    - Shear – 2
    - Bending – 1
  - 10 pavements with good data of all types use SID to determine the 5 coefficients for each climatic zone



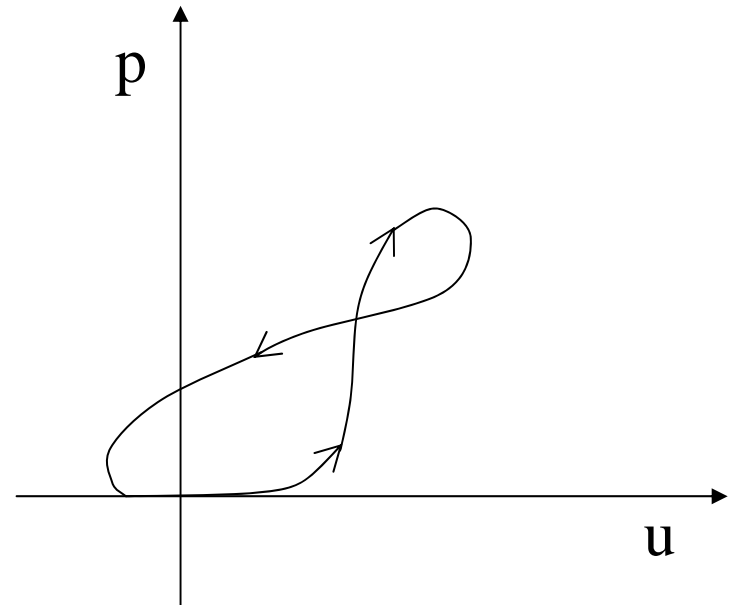
# Reflection Cracking Modeling- Calibration (Cont'd)

- Interlayers will require a different set of calibration coefficients:
  - Reinforcement factor
  - Grids
  - Fabrics
  - Interlayers

# Reflection Cracking (Cont'd)



Unreinforced



Reinforced

# Reflection Cracking Modeling- Validation

- 10 pavements with good condition, structure, materials, and traffic data to use for validation
- Examples for SHRP A-005 using the same process
  - 48 pavement sections – 4 climatic zones, 12 pavements per zone
  - 24 pavement sections – 2 climatic zones, 12 pavements per zone

# Reflection Cracking Modeling-

## Data for calibration and validation

- Data have been collected from:
  - LTPP database
  - Texas reflection cracking studies
  - New York city – ARA reflection cracking study

# Expected Model

- Fast.
- Based on current MEPDG parameter.
- Account for the three cracking mechanisms.
- Easy to calibrate locally.
- Easy to use in design.

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