



# How Artificial Intelligence is Transforming Transportation Asset Evaluation and Management

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**University of Missouri-Columbia &**  
**Tiger Eye Engineering**

TEAM Conference, Branson MO  
March 14, 2024

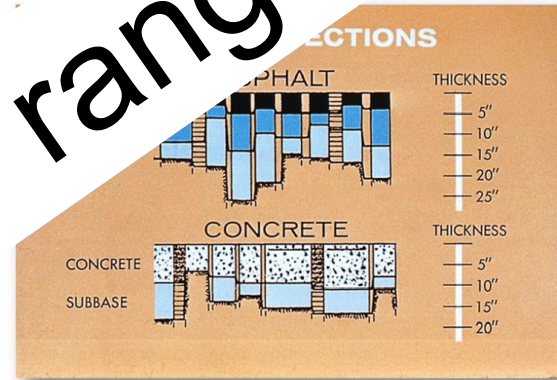
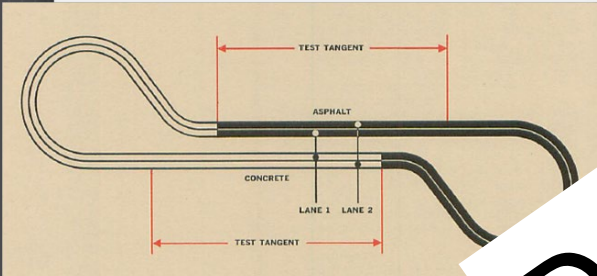
# Topics du jour

- Data science in pavements...historical perspective
- Crowd-sourcing, pavement roughness
- Learning and predicting lab performance data
- Assessing field performance



# Pavement Data – 1950's

- AASHO road test: Ottawa, IL, late 1950s
- Design guide finished in 1961; revised in 1972, 1986 (revision)



Data ~ KB range

- No electronic sensors or PCs

Benkelman Beam  
Testing of Pavement  
Deflection



# Modern Pavement Data Streams



Data Collection Vehicles



Rest Roads, ALFs



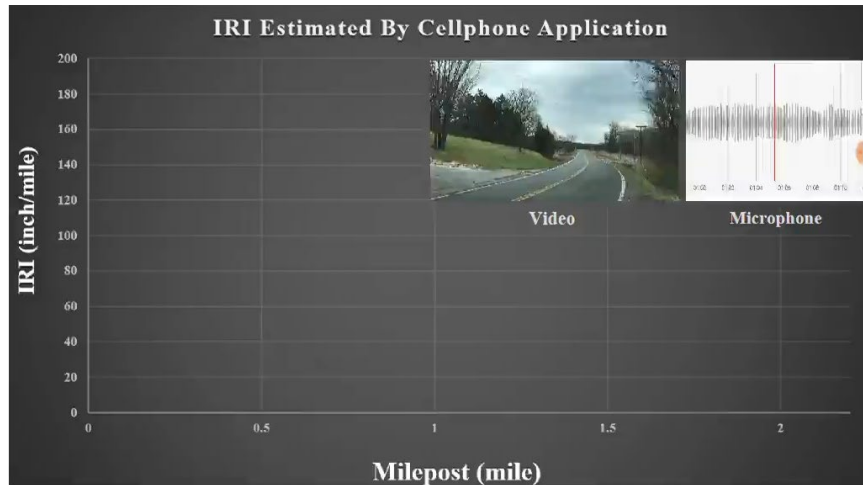
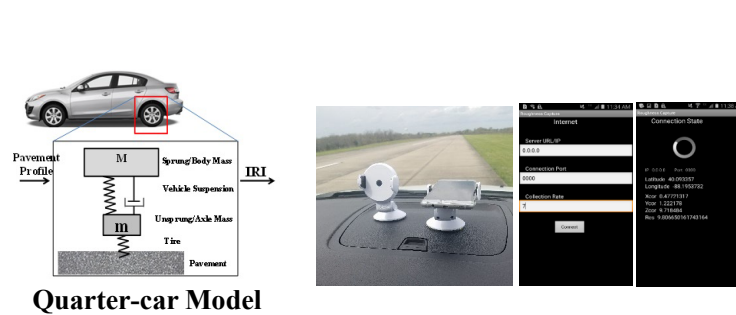
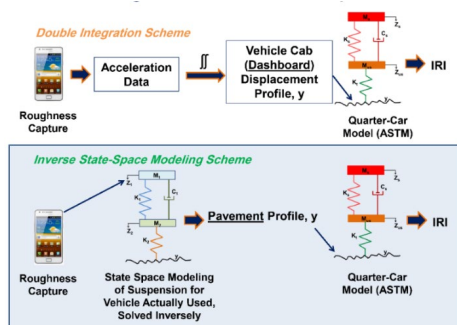
Fixed Sensors



Modern Vehicle Fleet (Moving Sensors, Crowd Sourcing)

Can be... Messy ed

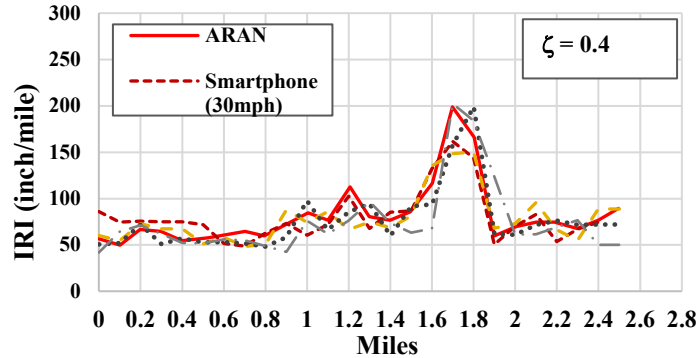
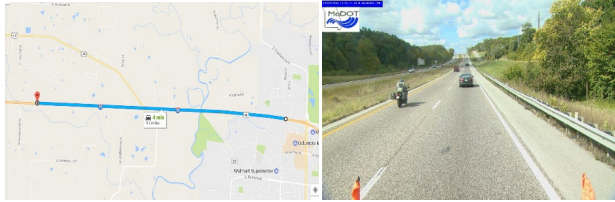
# Measuring International Roughness Index (IRI) w/ Smartphone



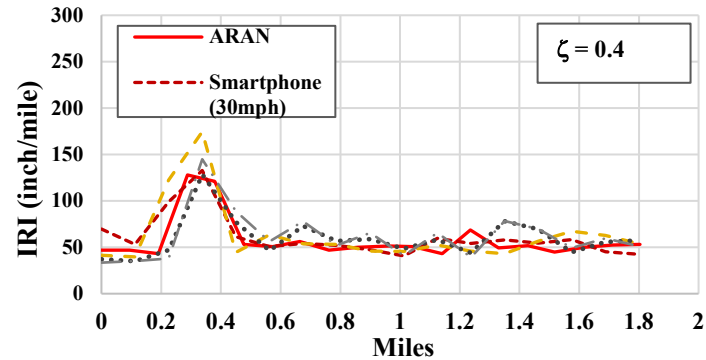
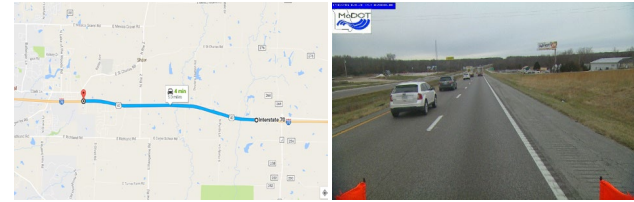
Islam, M.S., Buttlar, W.G., Aldunate, R.G., and W.R. Vavrik, "Measurement of Pavement Roughness Using an Android-Based Smartphone Application," TRR 2457 (2014).

Buttlar et al., MoDOT Report, Proj. TR201709, "Pavement Roughness Measurement Using Android Smartphones: Case Study of Missouri Roads and Airports" (2018).

# MoDOT Study - Validation

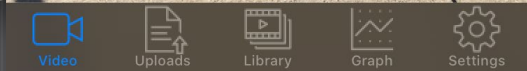
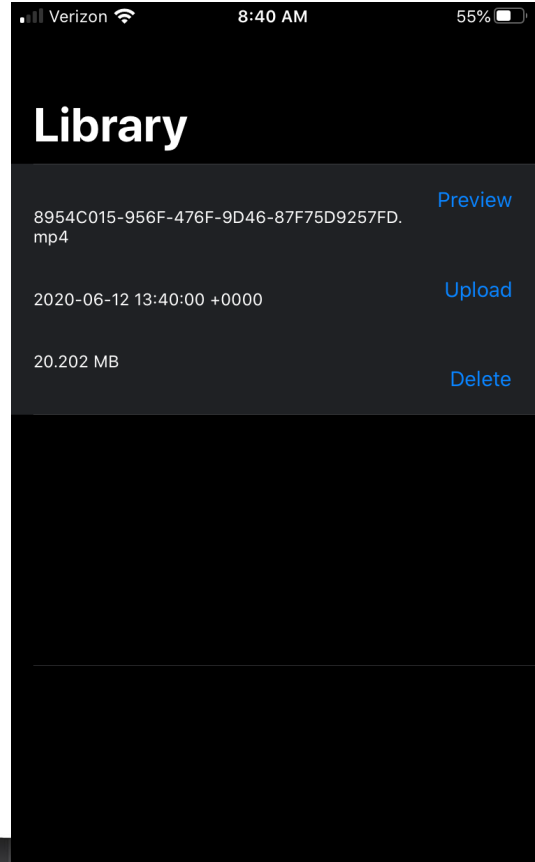
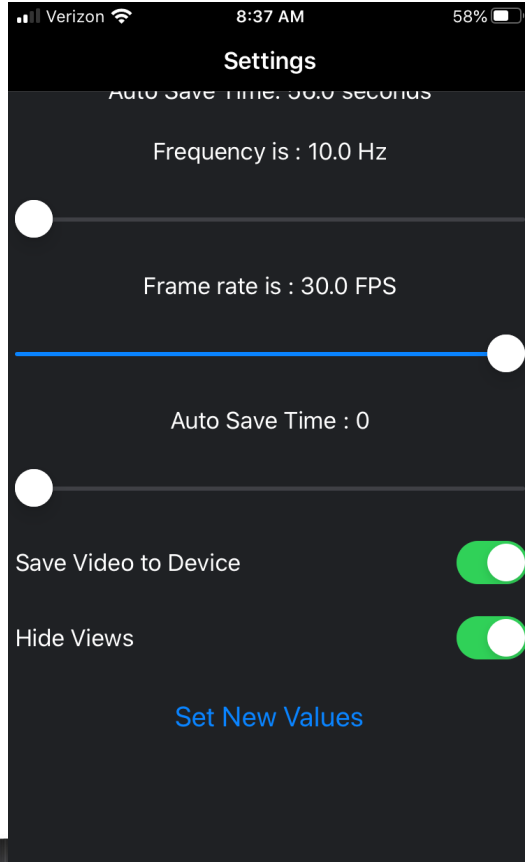


IS 70 W (Log 126 -129), Travelway Id 3506



IS 70 W (Log 113 -115), Travelway Id 3506

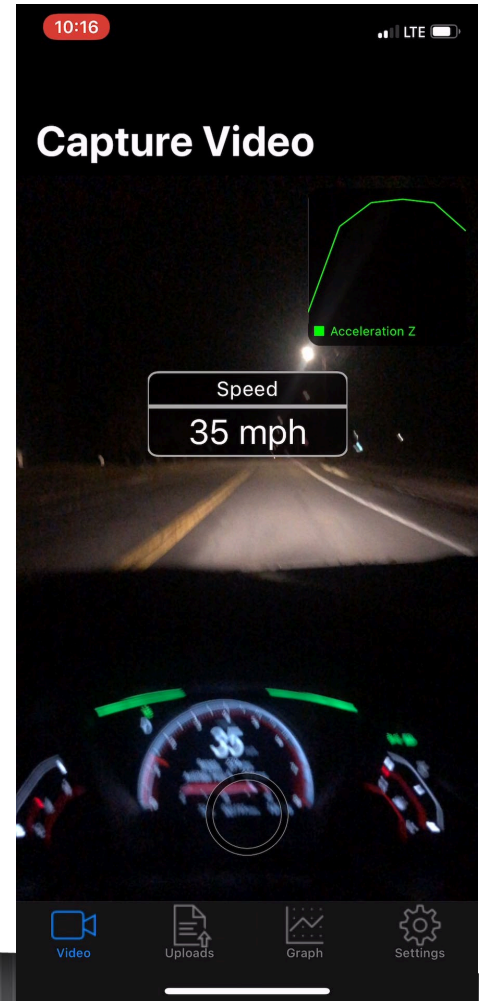
\* ARAN-based IRI measurements were taken 2 years earlier. Source: MoDOT's TMS (<https://vdi.modot.mo.gov>)



# Mobile App Data Collection

**Data Capture: Store on phone → upload to database later.**

- Video
- Accelerations in x, y, z
- Rotations in x, y, z
- Heading
- Speed
- **Output:**
  - International Roughness Index





# IRI/Condition Crowd-sourcing in Sweden (NIRA, Univrses, Salbo AI, ISI)

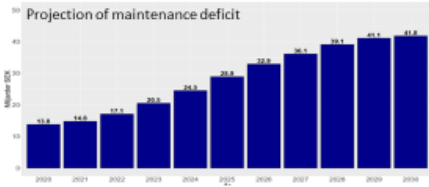
## KEY RESULTS



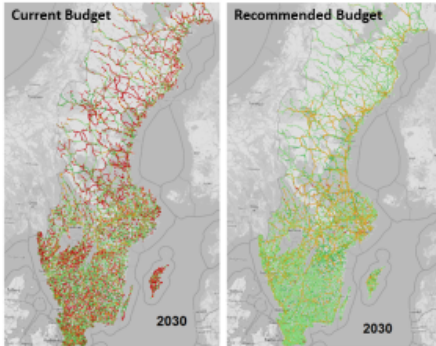
Without substantial budget increases, the maintenance deficit on the Swedish road network expects to increase from 19.7 billion SEK in 2020 to 41.8 billion SEK in 2030.



To further stem its deterioration and maintain the current condition and maintenance deficit of the road network, the maintenance budget would need to increase by 2 billion SEK per year, from an average of 3.4 billion to an average of 5.4 billion per year.



Map of the expected condition of Sweden's national paved road network in 2030 under the current and recommended budget.



Required increase in maintenance investment

**100%**



Improvement of roads in poor condition

**32%**



Practical and easy-to-use decision support tools that make the process of capital planning **transparent, defensible, and technically robust.**

## Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board

NATIONAL ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES ENGINEERING MEDICINE

Impact Factor: **1.7** / 5-Year Impact Factor: **1.9**



Restricted access | Research article | First published online August 19, 2023

## Lifetime Performance of Polymer-Modified Bitumen in Swedish Roads Evaluated With Survival Analysis

[Kristin Eklöf](#)  and [Mats Wendel](#)  [View all authors and affiliations](#)

OnlineFirst | <https://doi.org/10.1177/03611981231183713>

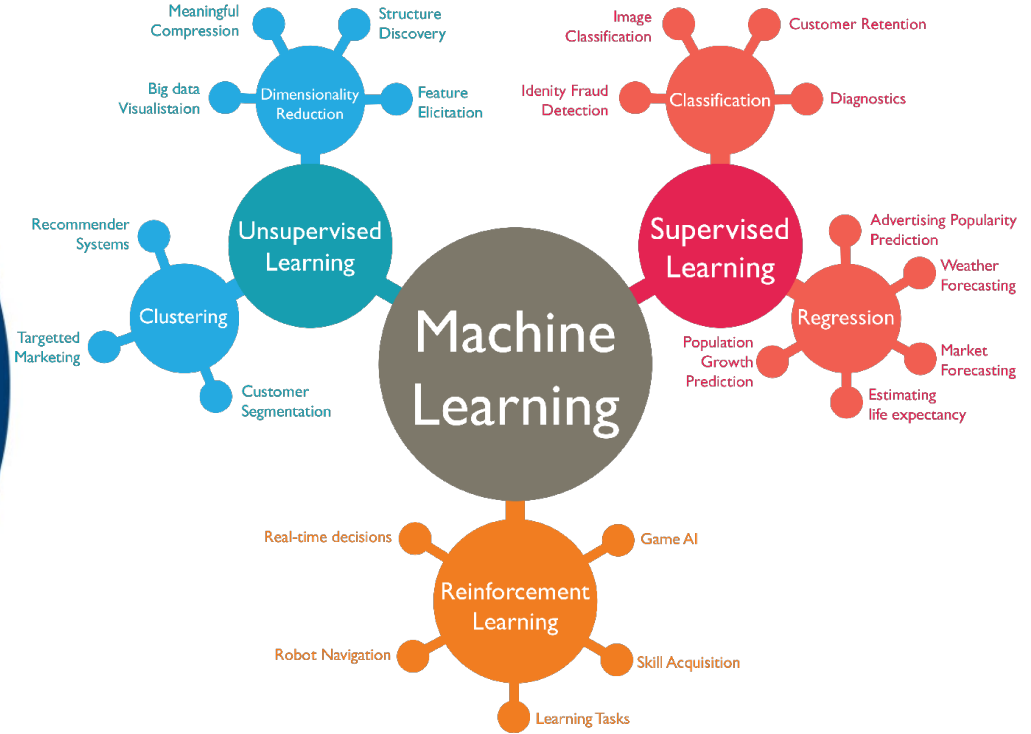
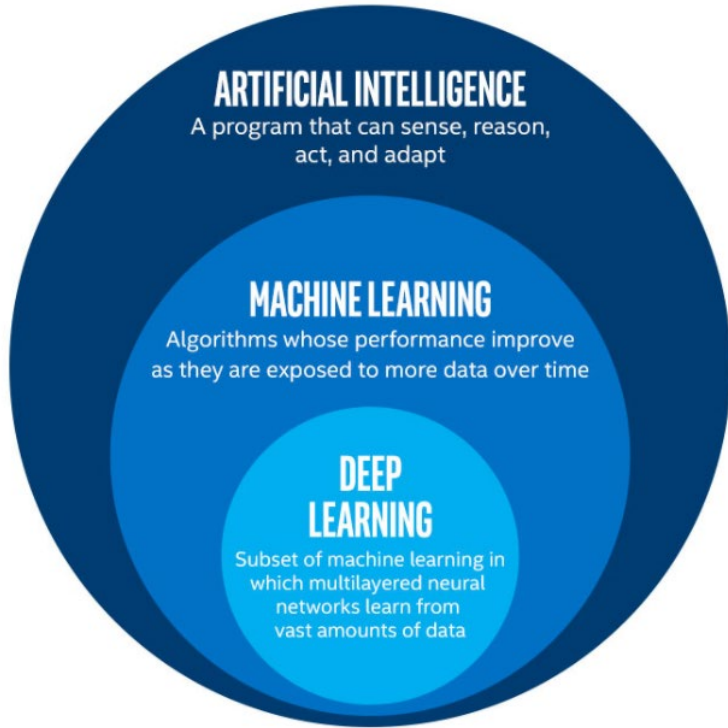
NIRA Dynamics' core product is its tire pressure indicator; however, NIRA is developing sensor fusion based systems for different vehicle applications. It is working on road surface conditions analysis using data from connected vehicles, RWIS, radar/satellite images and weather prognoses to provide a real-time picture of the road status.

[Source: www.worldhighways.com/wh1/news/nira-and-univrses-swedish-road-data-project](http://www.worldhighways.com/wh1/news/nira-and-univrses-swedish-road-data-project)

# Machine Learning Is Changing The World



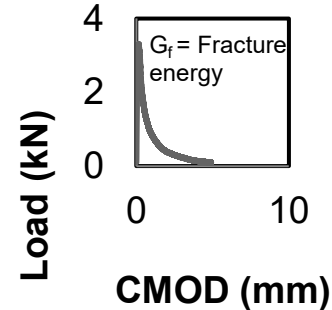
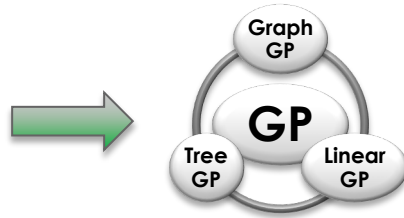
# AI and Machine Learning



# Machine Learning in Materials

Example: Development of a model using an innovative machine learning technique ~ **Genetic Programming (GP)**, to predict the **fracture energy of asphalt** mixture specimens at **low temperatures**

**Mix Quality Characteristics:**  
(voids, aggr. structure, asphalt content, recycling type/amt....)



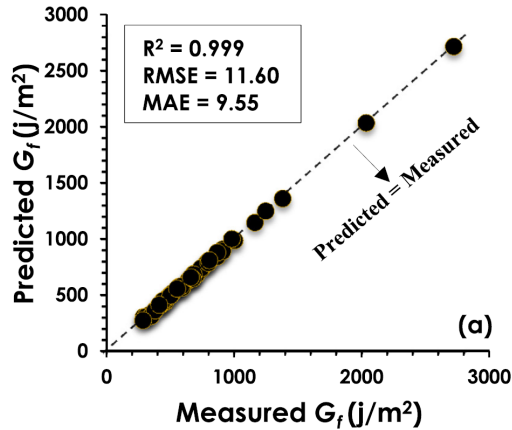
# Our initial GEP-based prediction model

$$\begin{aligned} G_f \left( \frac{j}{m^2} \right) = & \left( \left( ( ( ( NMAS - 9 ) AT - RAP ) ( 5.36 + T - LTPG ) \right) - LTPG \right) \\ & + AT ( G^4 - 1.7 + UTI ) + \frac{NMAS - UTI}{( ( T + NMAS ) AT ) - AT + 6.45} - RAS + RAP \\ & + \frac{LTPG}{AT} + LTPG^2 + 3.49T + AC \times RAP \\ & + T \sqrt{CRC^3 - 10T - RAP \times AC - 6.461 + UTI} \end{aligned}$$

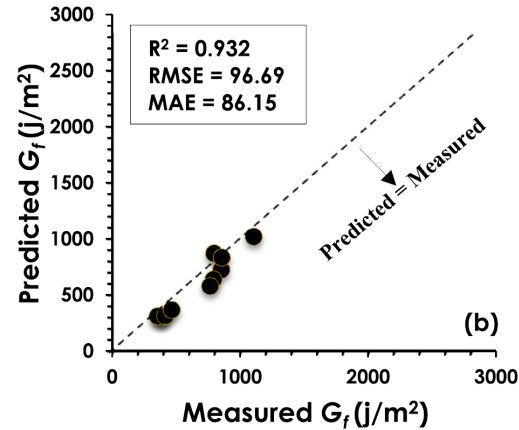
\* Derived after controlling millions of highly nonlinear models, which is not feasible via other nonlinear regression approaches



# Measured vs. Predicted $G_f$



Training data



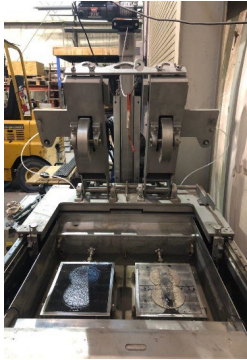
Testing data

Actually, three portions – Learning (70%), Validation (10%), and Testing (20%). Here we combined Learning and Validation in the figure (both are involved in model selection process).

Majidifard, H., Jahangiri, B., Buttlar, W. G., & Alavi, A. H. (2019). New machine learning-based prediction models for fracture energy of asphalt mixtures. *Measurement*, 135, 438-451.



# Hamburg Machine Learning Project @ MAPIL

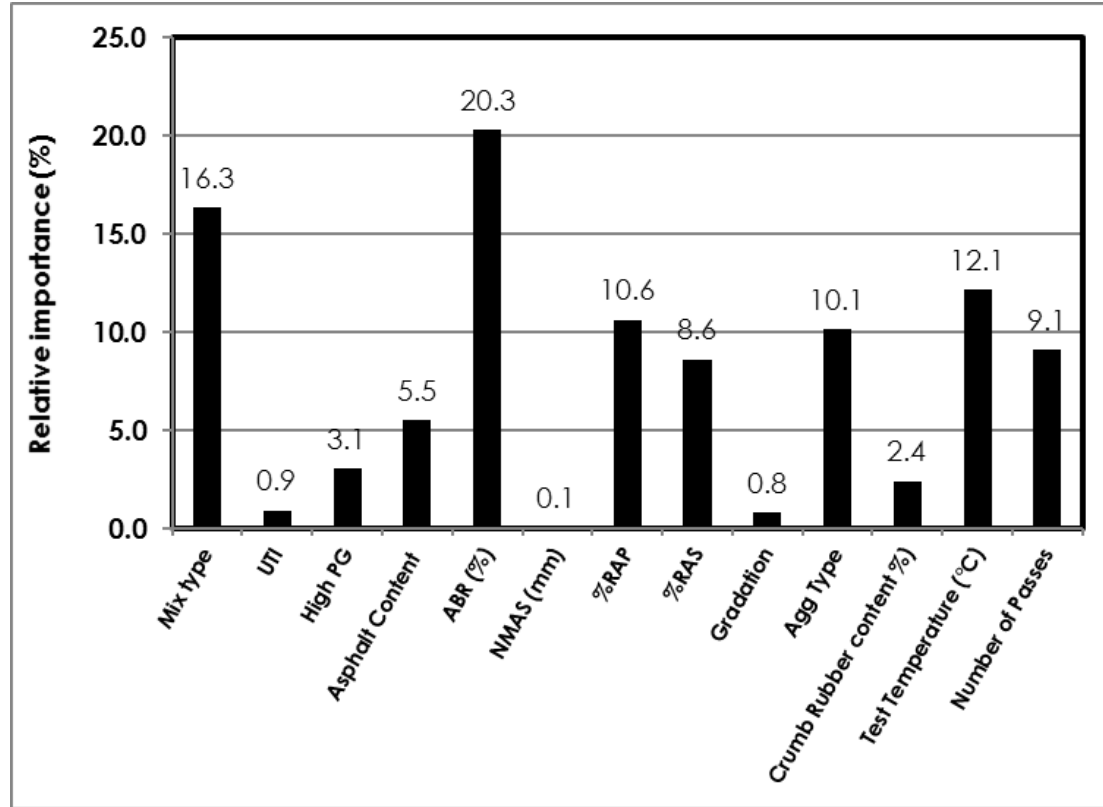


	Parameter	Setting
General	Chromosomes	20, 30, 50
	Genes	3, 4, 5
	Head size	8, 10, 15
	Linking function	Addition +, -, *, /, √, 3√, ln, Log, Power, exp, Min, Min 3, Min 4
	Function set	
	Generation without change	2000
Complexity increase	Number of tries	3
	Max. complexity	5
Genetic operator	Mutation rate	0.00138, 0.044
	Inversion rate	0.00546
	Data type	Floating-point
Numerical constants	Lower bound	-10
	Upper bound	10

**Table 1.** Statistical parameters of the dependent and independent variables.

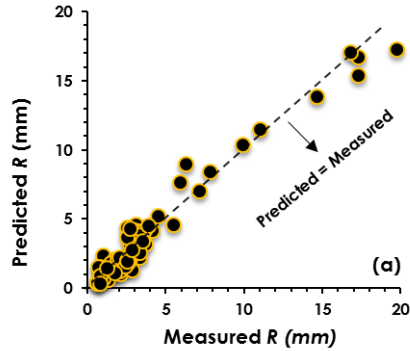
	Mix type	UTI (°C)	HTPG (°C)	AC (%)	ABR (%)	NMAS (mm)	RAP (%)	RAS (%)	G	AT	CRC (%)	T (°C)	Passes	R (mm)
Mean	1.1	87.8	58.9	5.9	28.8	11.3	20.9	8.0	1.2	1.2	2.3	52.2	13131	3.8
Median	1.0	86.0	58.0	5.7	32.5	12.5	20.4	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	50	10000	2.7
Range	1.0	18.0	24.0	2.8	48.4	14.3	35.3	33.0	1.0	1.0	10.0	24	15000	19.2
Max	2.0	98.0	70.0	7.9	48.4	19.0	35.3	33.0	2.0	2.0	10.0	64	20000	19.7
Min	1.0	80.0	46.0	5.1	0.0	4.8	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	40	5000	0.6

# Sensitivity of Variables

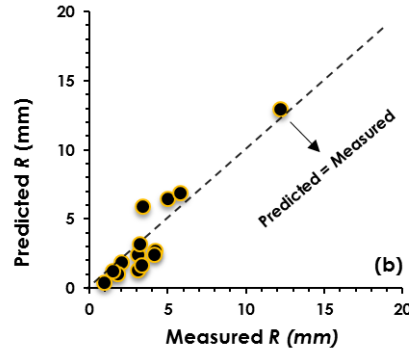




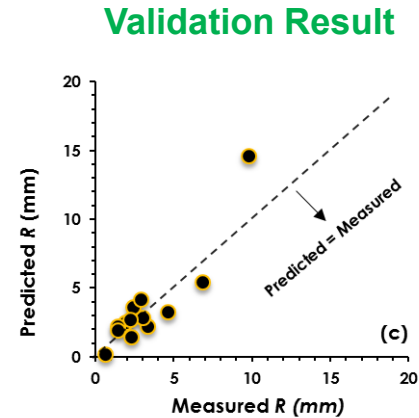
# Initial Hamburg Machine Learning Model Results



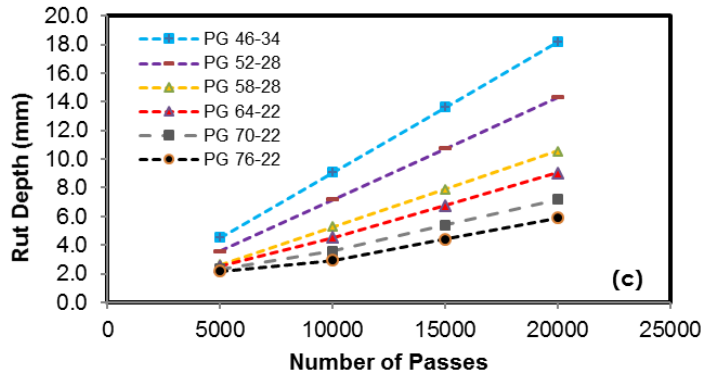
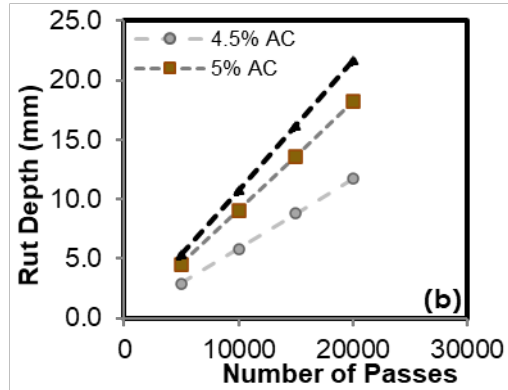
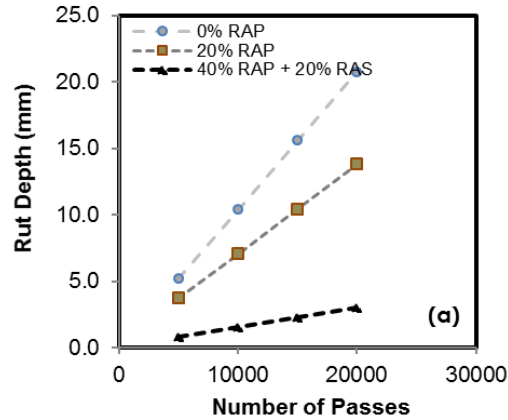
Learning Result



Testing Result



# Trends Predicted by Machine Learning Model



Majidifard, H., Jahangiri, B., Rath, P., Contreras, L. U., Buttlar, W. G., & Alavi, A. H. (2021). Developing a prediction model for rutting depth of asphalt mixtures using gene expression programming. *Construction and Building Materials*, 267, 120543.

Majidifard, H., Jahangiri, B., Rath, P., Alavi, A. H., & Buttlar, W. G. (2021). A deep learning approach to predict Hamburg rutting curve. *Road Materials and Pavement Design*, 1-22.



# New AI-Based Tools for Rapid Pavement Evaluation





University of California  
**Berkeley**  
Haas School of Business



**Stanford**  
University

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'T. Morrill'.

TODD MORRILL  
INSTRUCTOR

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rhonda Shrader'.

RHONDA SHRADER  
INSTRUCTOR

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Alexis Slupe'.

ALEXIS SLUPE  
INSTRUCTOR



# Data collection

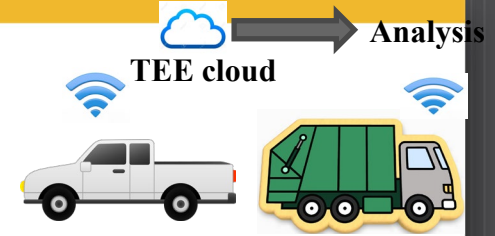
Option 1. Using series of high-resolution cameras and Lidar to capture videos in top-down view



<https://www.blankenshipasphalttech.com/batt-vision>

# Data collection

Option 2) Mount phone, camera and/or GoPro to a vehicle to collect wide-view video (can be collected by city/public vehicles)

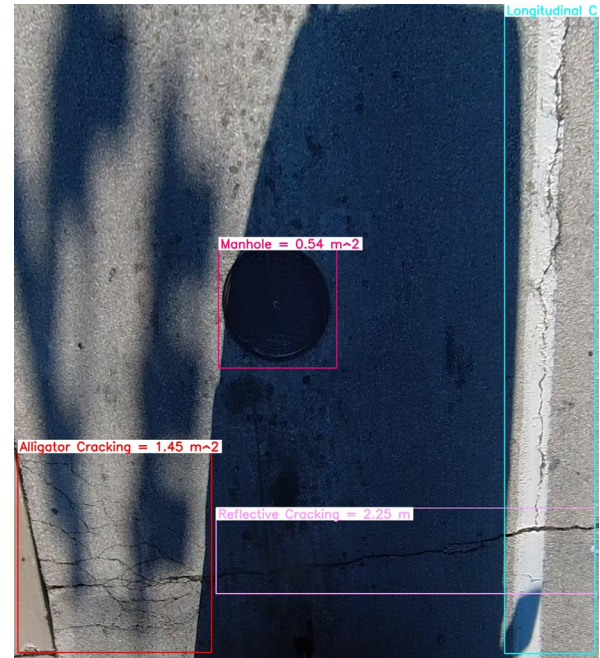
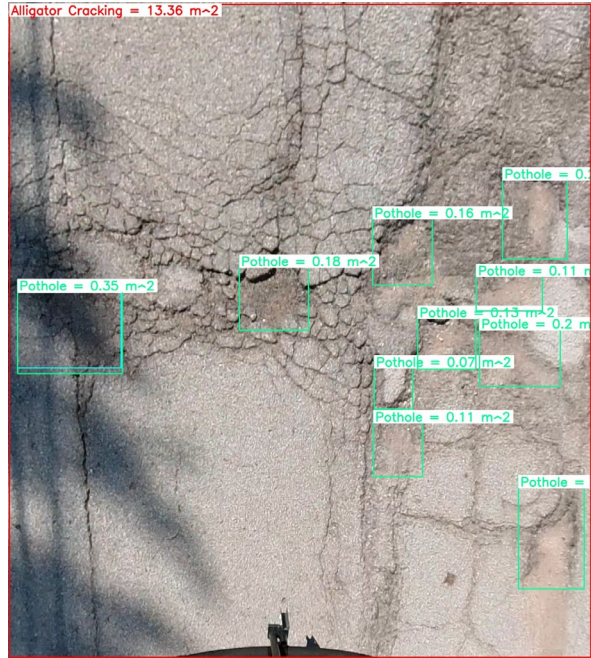


Perspective correction



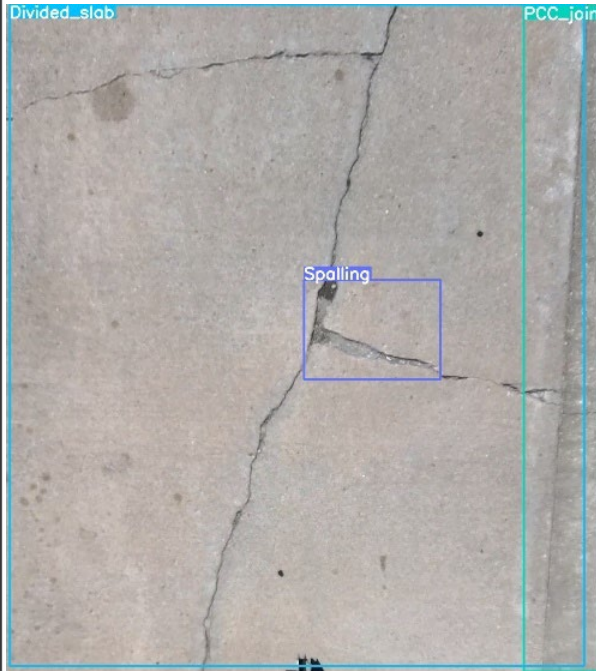
# Prediction Results (Flexible Pavement)

Representative images and automated distress detection results



# Prediction Results (Rigid Pavement)

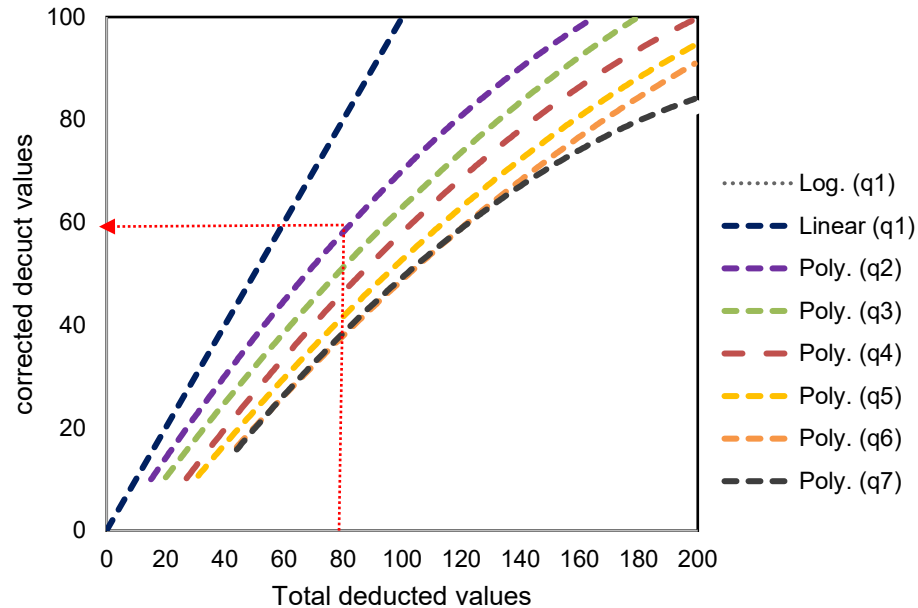
Representative images and automated distress detection results





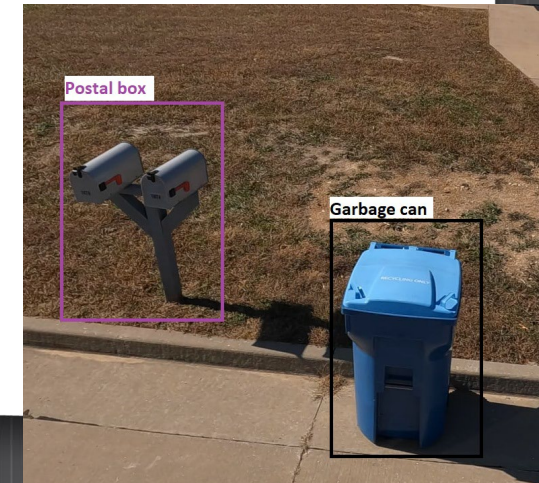
# IRI Computation – Instructional Video

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7149713049401163776>



# Asset Inventory & Evaluation

- Curb and gutter evaluation
- Fire hydrant locations
- Garbage can/bin locations (& tags)
- Guardrails, sidewalk inspection
- Sign condition inventory and evaluation
- Pavement marking detection & evaluation
- Utilities, etc...



# Visualization Dashboard



# Sidewalk evaluation

Can quantify faulting, buckling (or blow-ups), and slope variance, including geometrical details of ADA ramps



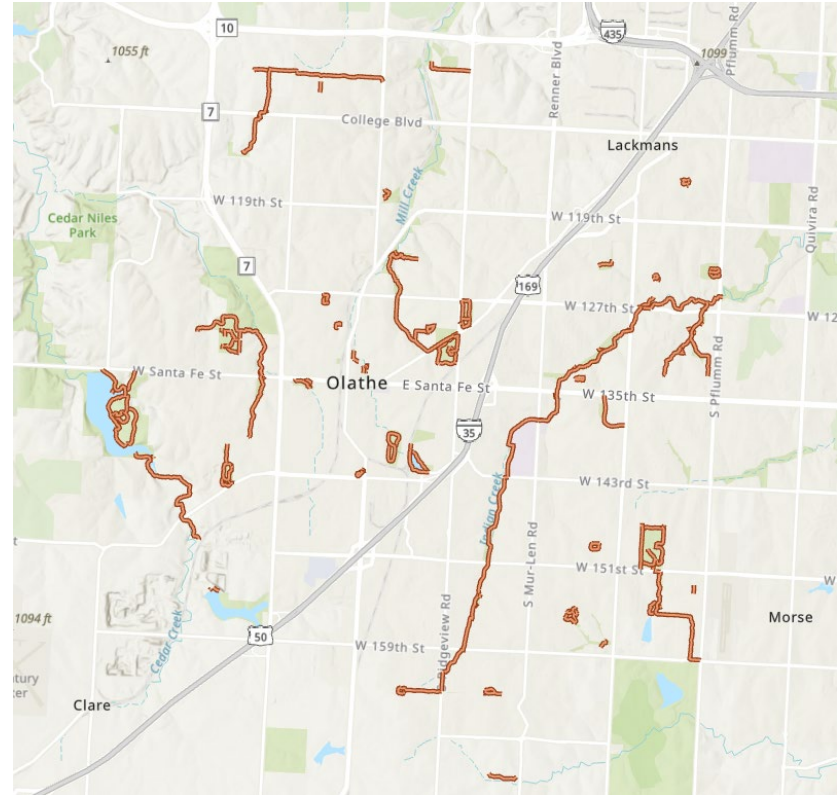
# Trail Condition Assessment

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# City of Olathe, Trail Inspection

Network size: 40 miles



# Data Collection for Trails/Sidewalks (Via eBike)



Video



Frames



Sidewalk surface condition



GPS



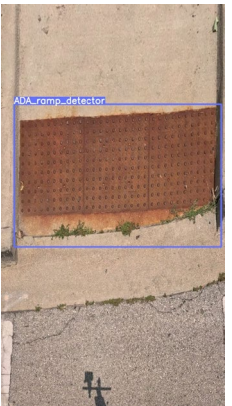
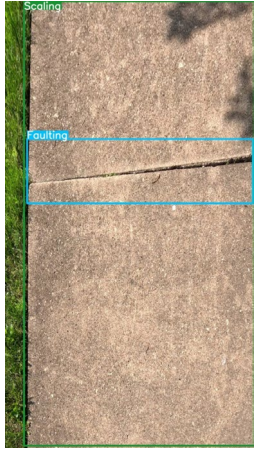
Slope evaluation



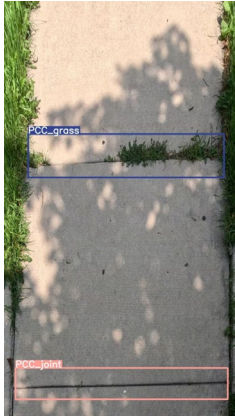
Buckling detection (roughness)



# Sidewalk Evaluation via eBike



Examples of sidewalk distress/asset detections





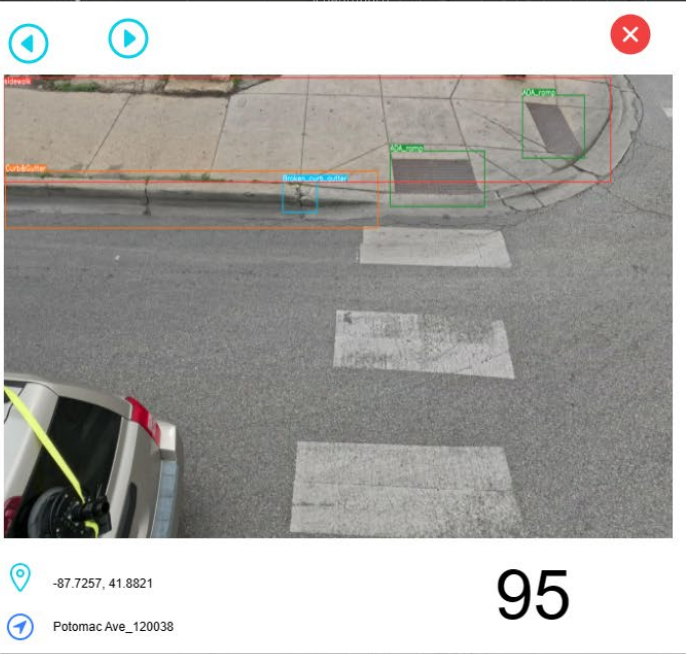
# Trail Evaluation, Olathe, KS

Search Street Here



# Asset Inventory Demonstration Chicago

Search Street Here



Navigation icons: back, forward, close.

Asset labels: Curb Cut, Broken curb, ADA ramp, Curb.

Coordinates: -87.7257, 41.8821

Address: Potomac Ave\_120038

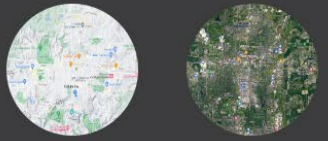
Asset ID: 95

Clear All Filters

ADA ramp ▾

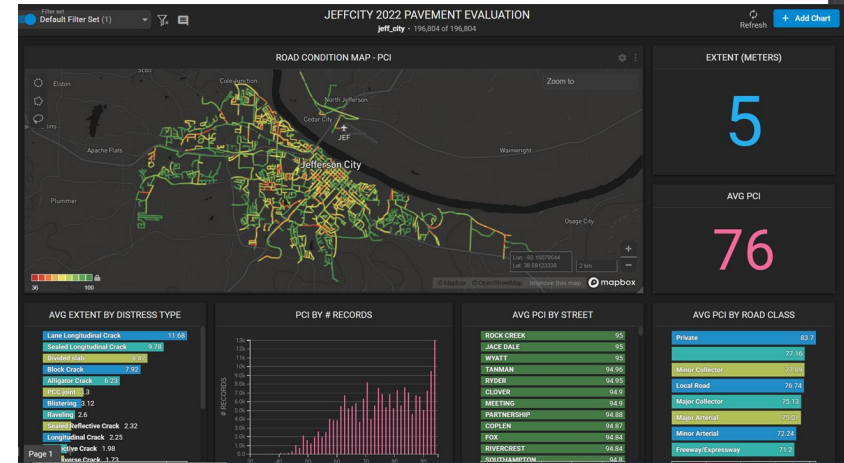
Filter By Year ▾

Filter By PCI



# Data-Driven Optimization of Maintenance, Rehabilitation, Sustainable Approaches

- Patching, crack sealing
- Fog seal, chip seal
- Slurry seal, cape seal
- Microsurfacing
- Diamond grinding
- Thin, bonded wearing courses
- Asphalt overlay (thin, thick/structural), BMD
- Reconstruction
- Use of recycled/sustainable materials
- Vetting of trial/experimental materials



# Decision Optimization Technology Platform



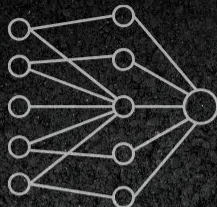
- Pavement Management and Optimization Tool, in partnership with Hanson
- Can be added to projects/pilots, when a formal pavement management system is desired (other assets can be managed on the same platform – mixed asset optimization )

# How AI is Transforming Asset Mgt...

- Machine learning is fast, unbiased, accurate
- Data architectures are cloud-centric, ingest unstructured data, capitalize on data fusion, compatible with GIS/ESRI databases
- Saves time
- Saves \$\$\$
- More data (100% coverage, more frequent inspections, crowd-sourcing possible)
- Easily visualized
- Leads to optimized, mixed-asset management



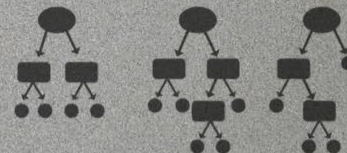
3rd International



Scan QR Code  
to Register



# Data Science for Pavements Symposium 2024



**March 11 - 14, 2024**

Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center McLean, Virginia, USA

## HYBRID EVENT



Workshops &  
DOT Presentations



Cutting-Edge  
Research



The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA),  
Missouri Center for Transportation Innovation  
and the University of New Hampshire invite you to an  
international symposium focused on advancing data science  
technology in the pavement field.  
For more information, visit our website.



Roundtable &  
Student Data  
Competition



Industry  
Networking

[pavementdatascience.com](http://pavementdatascience.com)

# Thank you!

[buttlarw@missouri.edu](mailto:buttlarw@missouri.edu)



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# References – AI and Machine Learning in Pavements

- Majidifard, H., Jahangiri, B., Buttlar, W. G., & Alavi, A. H. (2019). New machine learning-based prediction models for fracture energy of asphalt mixtures. *Measurement*, 135, 438-451.
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- Majidifard, H., Jahangiri, B., Rath, P., Alavi, A. H., & Buttlar, W. G. (2021). A deep learning approach to predict Hamburg rutting curve. *Road Materials and Pavement Design*, 1-22.
- Majidifard, H., Jin, P., Adu-Gyamfi, Y., & Buttlar, W. G. (2020). Pavement image datasets: A new benchmark dataset to classify and densify pavement distresses. *Transportation Research Record*, 2674(2), 328-339.
- Majidifard, H., Adu-Gyamfi, Y., & Buttlar, W. G. (2020). Deep machine learning approach to develop a new asphalt pavement condition index. *Construction and building materials*, 247, 118513.

