

Integrated LCA Toolkits for Sustainable Transportation Infrastructure

Krishna Prapoorna

**Associate Professor, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering
Indian Institute of Technology Tirupati**

Session IV: LCA focusing on transport infrastructure in India

Workshop under the DTEE and NDC-TIA projects

Life cycle assessment methods to support India's efforts to decarbonise transport

International Transport Forum & NITI Aayog

14 April 2021



Strategic Visions: India & Global

Global Sustainable Innovation & Programs

- *Academia*
- *Research Centers*
- *Industry*
- *Education*
- *Training*

Materials: Advanced Testing & Characterization

- *Development of IRC / ASTM / CEN standards*
- *Laboratory Testing*
- *Round-robin*

Sustainability

- *Novel materials*
- *Recyclable products*
- *Rubber*
- *Plastic*
- *Waste resource*
- *Textile*
- *Etc.*

Energy & Environment: Global Impact / Climate Change

- *LCA*
- *LCCA*
- *Porous*
- *UHI*

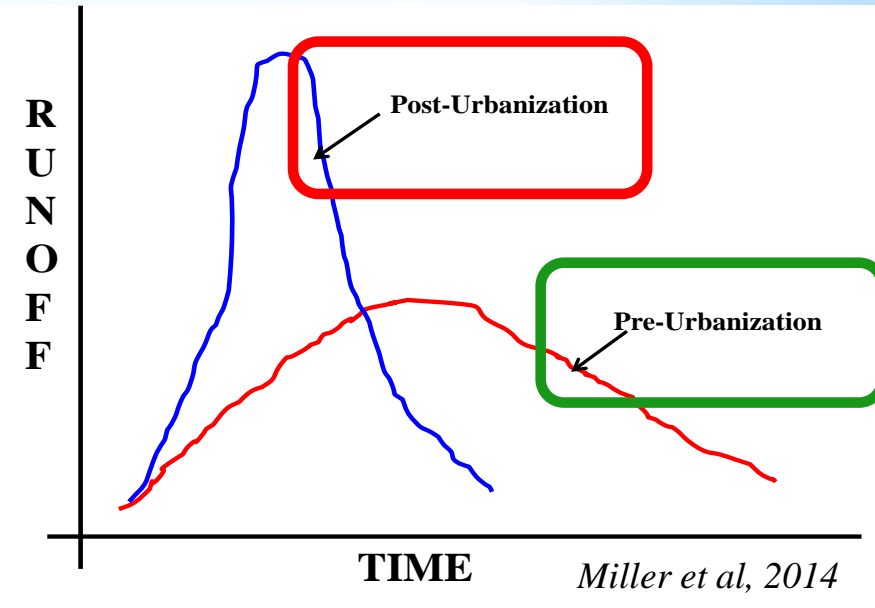
Holistic Approach: Constitutive Modeling / Fundamental Science

- *Mechanistic*
- *Lab-Field Correlations*
- *Numerical*
- *Analytical*

National / International Collaboration

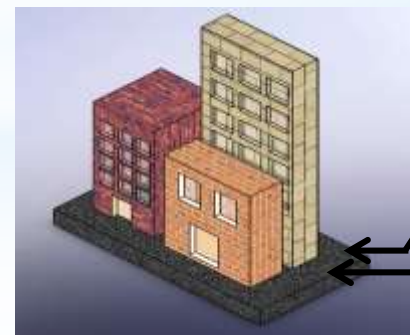
- *Centers of Excellence*
- *Research Institutes*
- *Ministry*
- *NHAI*
- *EU*
- *IUSSTF*
- *Virtual Centers*
- *ITF*

Smart Solutions: Climatic Impact & Decisions



Better
recharge,
reduced
runoff

Pervious
natural
ground



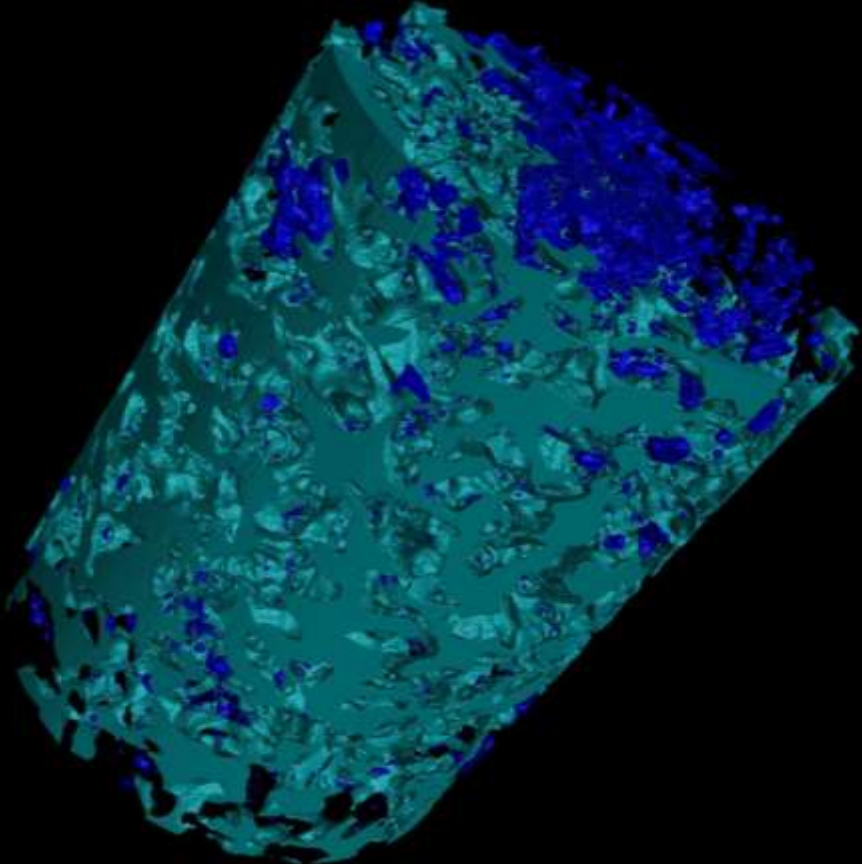
reduced
recharge,
increased
runoff

impervious
ground



PERVIOUS CONCRETE

Special type of concrete having characteristic inter-connected pore structure



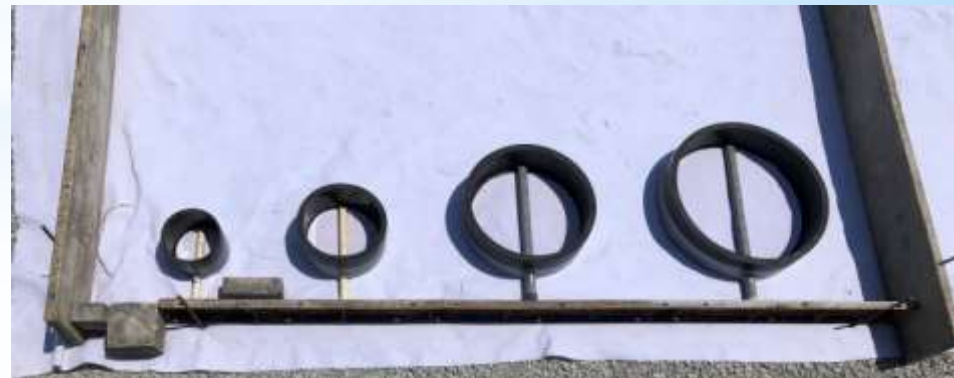
- *Interconnected pores*
- *Coarse aggregates*
- *No / limited fines*
- *Reduces runoff quantity*
- *High latent heat capacity*

Pervious Concrete: Field Demonstration



Pervious Concrete: New Generation Designs

IIT Tirupati, India, March 2019



Pervious Concrete: New Generation Designs

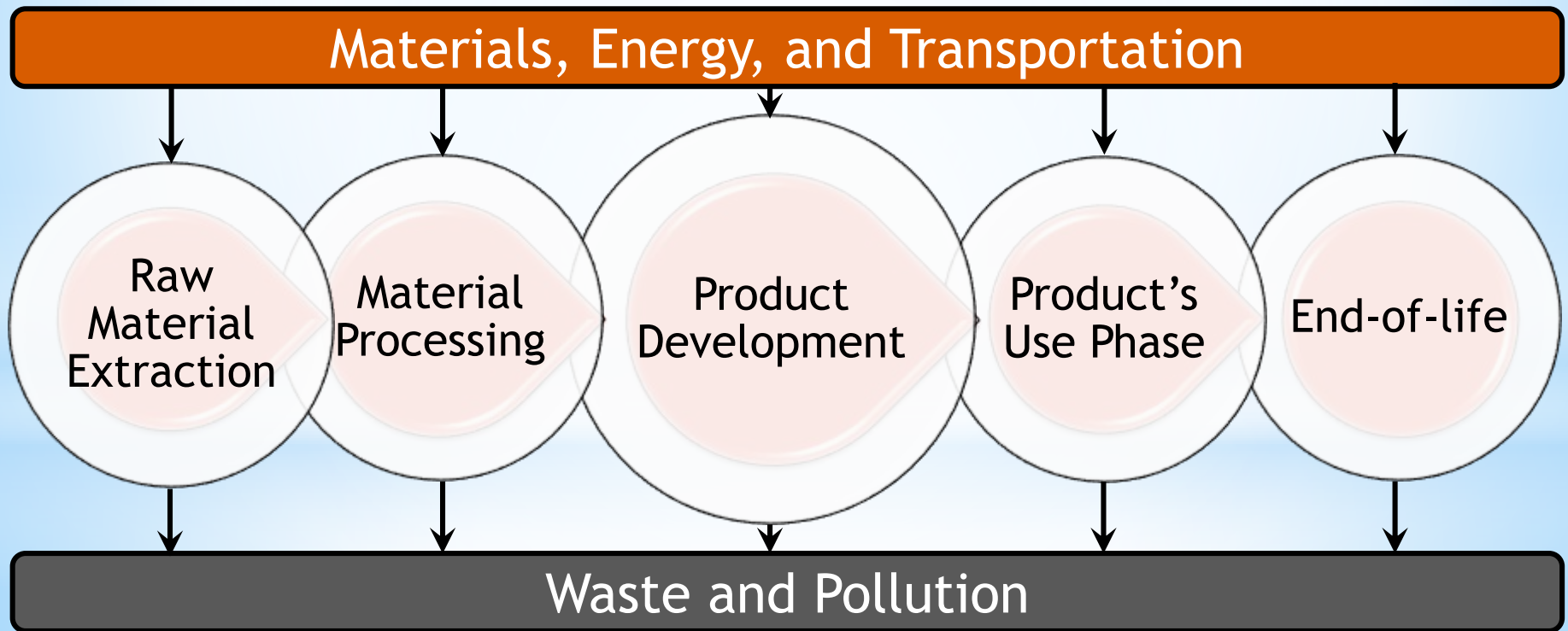


- *IIT Kharagpur, 2017: Chandrappa, A.K., Maurya, R., Biligiri, K.P., Rao, J.S., and Nath, S., 2018. Laboratory investigations and field implementation of pervious concrete paving mixtures. ASTM Int'l Advances in Civil Engineering Materials, 7: 447-462*
- *Tirupati Smart City, 2018: Singh, A., Jagadeesh, S.G., Sampath, P.V., and Biligiri, K.P., 2019. Rational approach for characterizing in-situ infiltration parameter in two-layered pervious concrete pavement systems. Journal of Materials in Civil Engineering, American Society of Civil Engineers, 31 (11): 04019258*
- *IIT Tirupati, 2019: Vaddy, P., Singh, A., Sampath, P.V., and Biligiri, K.P., 2020. Multi-scale in-situ investigation of infiltration parameter in pervious concrete pavements, ASTM International Journal of Testing and Evaluation (DOI: 10.1520/JTE20200052)*

Lifecycle Assessment Toolkit
Framework for *Energy Consumption*
& *Carbon Footprint* of *Building*
Materials* and *Infrastructure

Background to Lifecycle Assessment (LCA)

- *Structured framework to quantify environmental impacts of a product or system*
- *Identifies most critical environmental inputs and outputs: material acquisition to its end-of-life (EOL)*



Generic lifecycle stages of a product/system/process

Lifecycle Phases

- *System boundary*
- *Lifecycle stages*
- *Functional unit*
- *Analysis period*

- *Translate inventory into meaningful environmental & health indicators*

Goal & Scope
Definition

Lifecycle
Inventory

Impact
Assessment

Interpretation

- *Inputs & outputs*
- *Material flow & energy; waste & pollution*
- *Data collection - primary (site specific) & secondary (lifecycle databases, literature)*

- *Results & discussions*
 - *Conclusions & recommendations*
- *Data uncertainty & variance*
- *Decision making*

LCA: Indicator / Metric

- *Standards for LCA:* ISO:14040-2006; ISO:14044-2006
- *Types of LCA:* cradle-to-gate; cradle-to-grave; gate-to-gate; gate-to-grave; cradle-to-cradle
- *Commercial LCA software:* openLCA (freeware); SimaPro™; Ecochain; Mobius; Gabi; OneClickLCA, etc.
- *Standard LCA databases:* Ecoinvent® 3.7; UVEK® LCI; Environmental footprints®, etc.
- *LCA modeling approaches:* attributional versus consequential
- *Lifecycle impact assessment methods:* ReCiPe, Impact 2002+, Ecoindicator, CML, TRACI, IPCC, USEtox, etc.

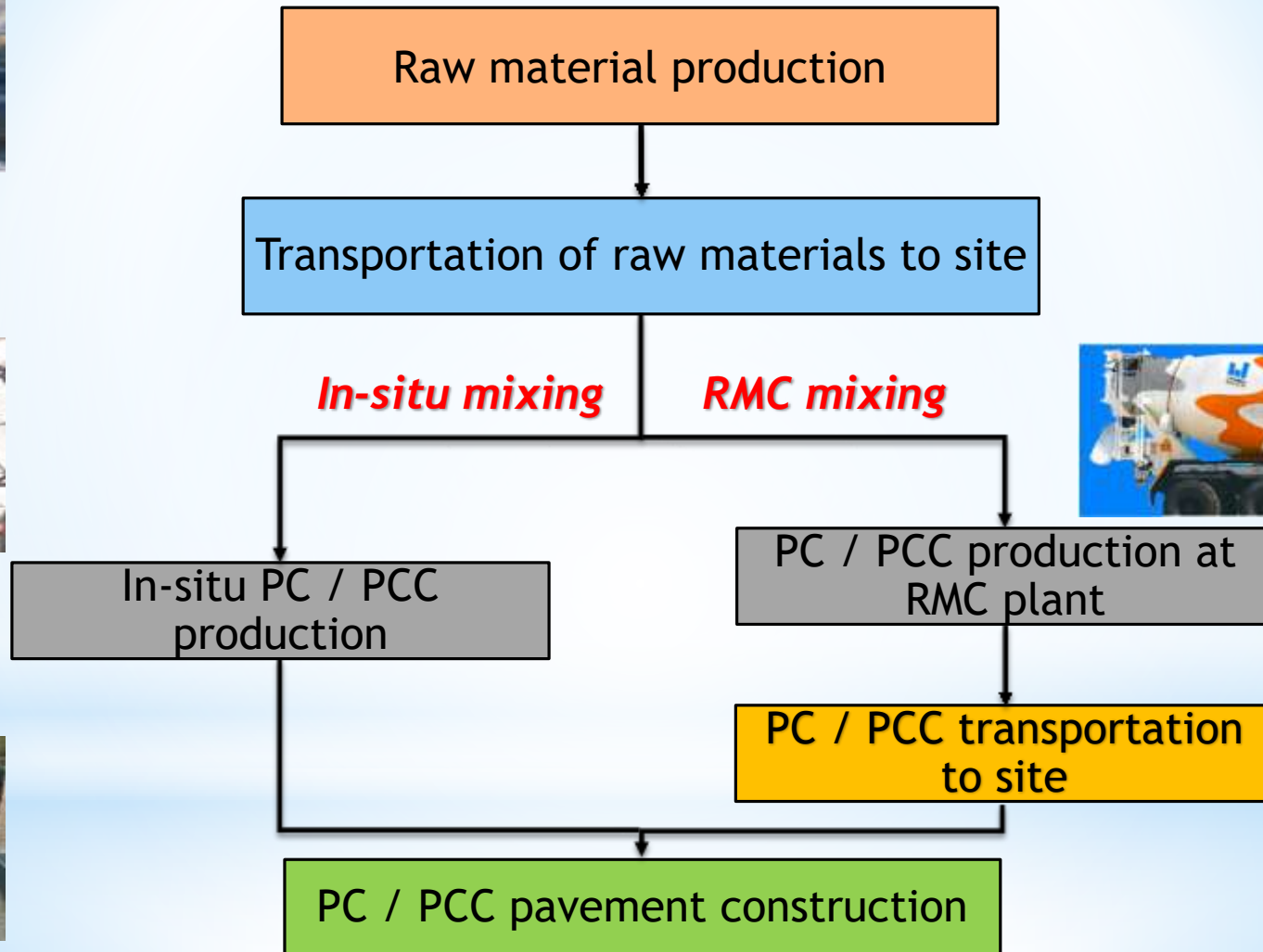
LCA of Pervious Concrete Pavements – *Goal & Scope*

Research Goal: Development of a systematic and user-friendly toolkit for rational assessment of environmental credibility of pavement systems

- **Comparative LCA study:** pervious concrete pavement (PCP) versus Portland cement concrete pavement (PCCP)
- **Study parameters:** embodied energy, kg CO₂ equivalent, and capital cost
- Cradle-to-gate LCA approach
- **Other potential areas for application of proposed framework:** building materials and infrastructure

Singh, A., Vaddy, P., and Biligiri, K. P., “Quantification of embodied energy and carbon footprint of pervious concrete pavements through a methodical lifecycle assessment framework”, Resources, Conservation and Recycling, Elsevier, 161 (2020) 104953

Environmental Impacts due to PC Technology



PC - Pervious concrete; PCC - Portland cement concrete; RMC - Ready mixed concrete

LCA of Pervious Concrete Pavements – *Inventory Analysis*

- **Data collection:**
 - **Primary - Construction Agency**
 - **Secondary - Literature; India construction materials database of embodied energy and global warming potential, 2017; CPCB**
- **Materials and pavement systems:**
 - **Ordinary Portland cement - 53 grade conforming to IS:12269**
 - **Crushed aggregates - 12.5 mm and finer size; M-sand**
 - **Target compressive strength - 25 MPa**

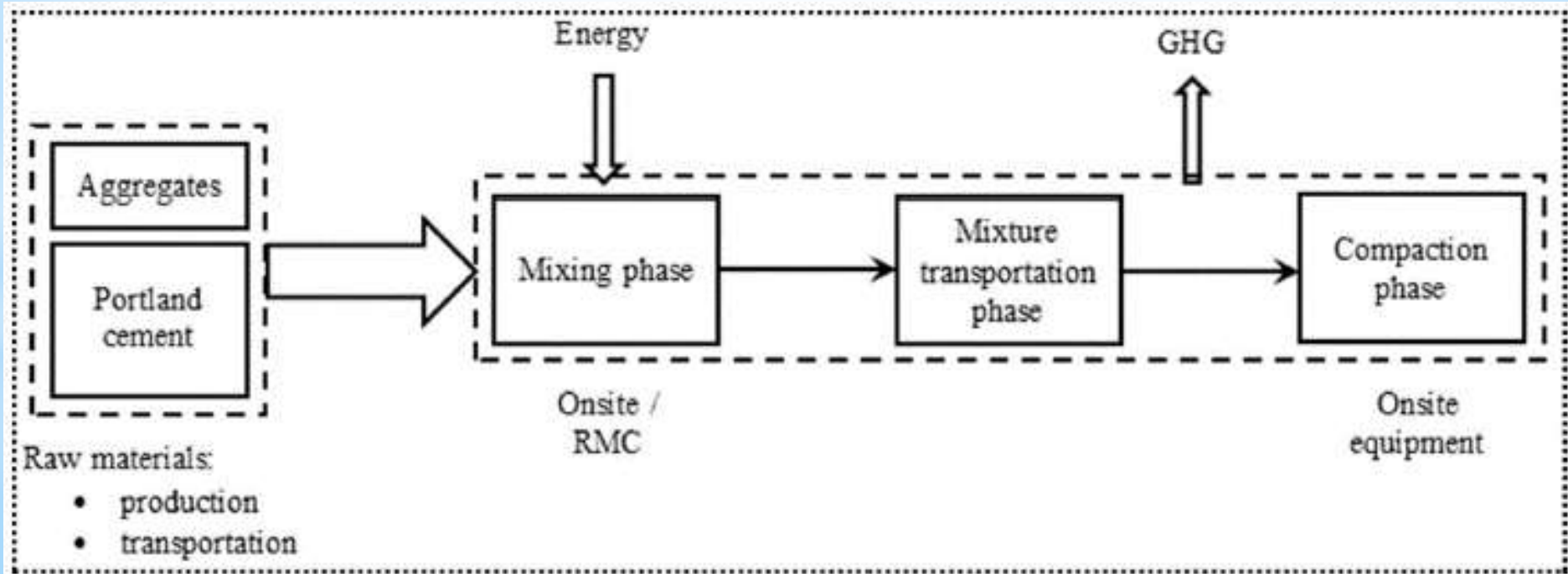
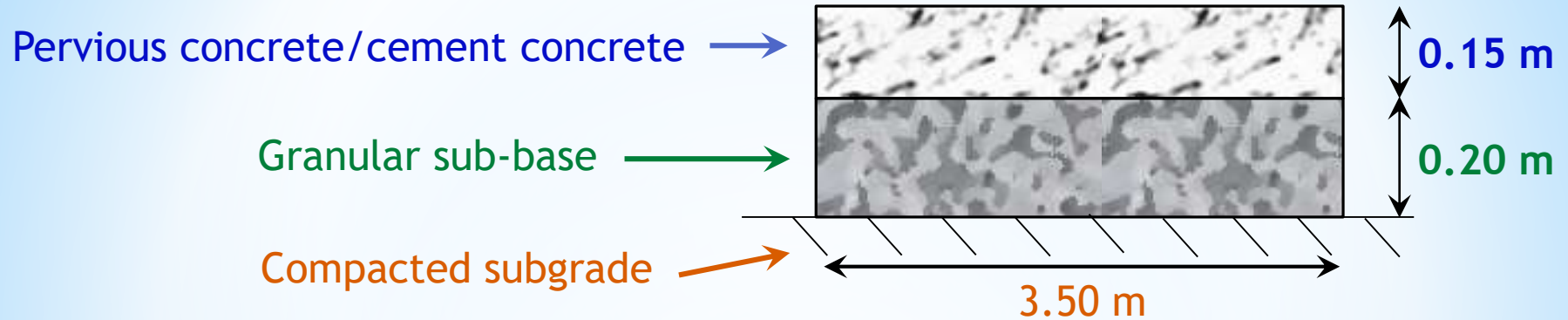


Configurations of different pavement systems with base layers and equal service life

Scenario	Surface course	Base layer	Mixing method
A	Pervious concrete	Granular	RMC
B	Portland cement concrete	Granular	RMC
C	Pervious concrete	Granular	In-situ
D	Portland cement concrete	Granular	In-situ

LCA of Pervious Concrete Pavements – *Inventory Analysis*

Functional unit - 1 km long single lane road, 3.5 m wide, and 0.35 m thick designed to handle low-volume traffic



Lifecycle phase and components within system boundary for different pavement systems

LCA of Pervious Concrete Pavements – *Impact Assessment*

LCA model: *Development of an MS Excel® toolkit*

- *Total embodied energy (MJ/km) = $\Sigma(1000 \times W \times (T \times D_n \times (P_e + M_e + (T_e \times D_i))) + C_e)$*
- *Total kg CO₂ eq./km = $\Sigma(1000 \times W \times (T \times D_n \times (P_g + M_g + (T_g \times D_i))) + C_g)$*

W = Width of the road in m; T = Thickness of layer in m

D_n = Density of pavement material in kg/m³

P_e = Material production value in MJ/kg

P_g = Material production value in kg CO₂ eq./kg

M_e = Material mixing value in MJ/kg

M_g = Material mixing value in kg CO₂ eq./kg

T_e = Transport from production site to application site in MJ/kg-km

T_g = Transport from production site to application site, kg CO₂ eq./kg-km

D_i = Distance from material production site to application site in km

C_e = Material compaction value in MJ/m²

C_g = Material compaction value in kg CO₂ eq./m²

LCA of Pervious Concrete Pavements – *Impact Assessment*

- **Material production values:** total energy consumed or emissions produced during production of a unit quantity of material
- **Material mixing value:** energy consumed (M_e) or quantity of emissions produced (M_g) due to mixing of a unit quantity of material

$$M_e \text{ (MJ/kg)} = \frac{3.6 \times \text{Engine power (kW)}}{\text{Mixing frequency (kg/hr)}}$$

$$M_e \text{ (MJ/kg)} = \frac{\text{Fuel consumption (l/hr)} \times \text{Thermal energy of fuel (MJ/l)}}{\text{Mixing frequency (kg/hr)}}$$

$$M_g \text{ (kg CO}_2\text{eq./kg)} = \frac{\text{Fuel consumption (l/hr)} \times \text{Emissions from fuel (kg CO}_2\text{ eq./l)}}{\text{Mixing frequency (kg/hr)}}$$

$$M_g \text{ (kg CO}_2\text{ eq./kg)} = E \times \text{Energy consumed in mixing (MJ/kg)}$$

Electric Energy – GHG Emission Factor =

% of Thermal Energy $\times ((1.90 \times \text{CO (kg/MJ)}) + (265 \times \text{NO}_x \text{ (kg/MJ))))$

LCA of Pervious Concrete Pavements – *Impact Assessment*

- Energy consumption and emissions generated during transportation:

$$T_e \text{ (MJ/kg – km)} = \frac{3.6 \times \text{Engine Power (kW)}}{\text{Speed of vehicle (kmph)} \times \text{Quantity of material transported (kg)}}$$

$$T_g \text{ (kg CO}_2 \text{ eq./kg – km)} = \frac{\text{Vehicular emissions (kg CO}_2 \text{ eq./km – hr)} \times \text{Travel time (hr)}}{\text{Quantity of material transported (kg)}}$$

- **Material compaction value:** energy consumed (C_e) or emissions generated (C_g) during compaction of unit surface area of a pavement layer

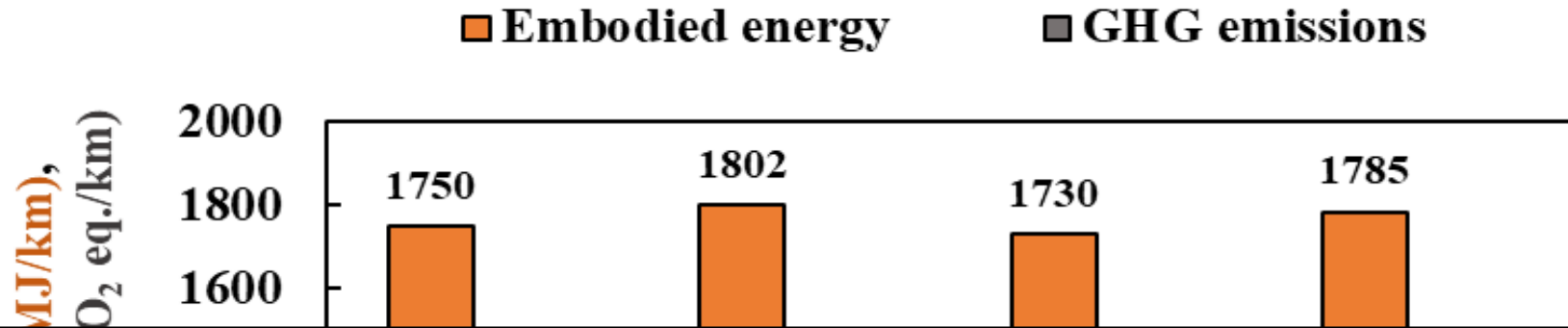
$$C_e \text{ (MJ/m}^2\text{)} = \frac{0.0036 \times \text{Number of passages} \times \text{Engine power (kW)}}{\text{Speed of vehicle (kmph)} \times \text{Width of roller (m)}}$$

$$C_e \text{ (MJ/m}^2\text{)} = \frac{\text{Engine power (kW)}}{\text{Compaction rate (m}^2\text{/s)} \times 1000}$$

$$C_g \text{ (kg CO}_2 \text{ eq./m}^2\text{)} = \frac{\text{Number of passes} \times \text{Emissions from fuel (kg CO}_2 \text{ eq./l)}}{\text{Width of compactor (m)} \times \text{Mileage of vehicle (m/l)}}$$

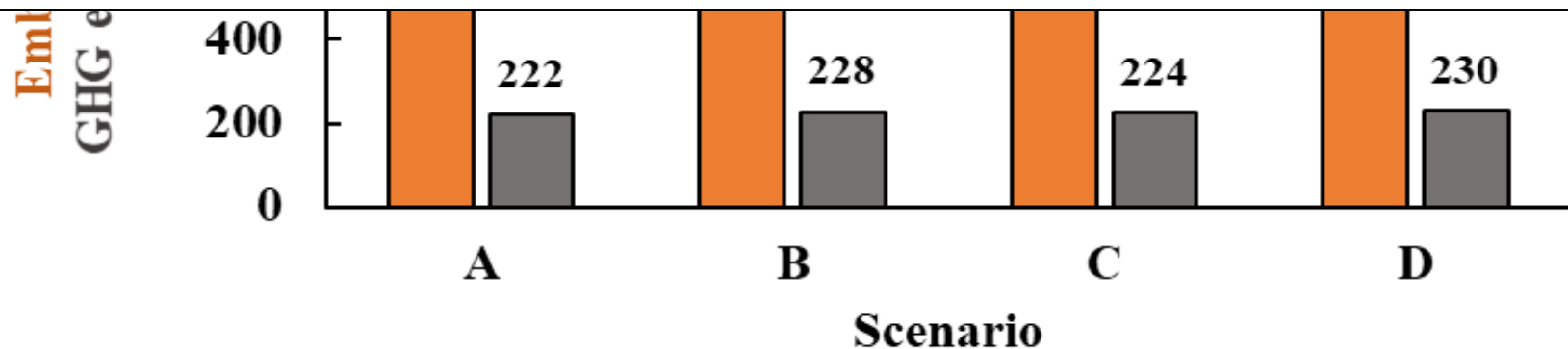
$$C_g \text{ (kg CO}_2 \text{ eq./m}^2\text{)} = E \times \text{Compaction energy (MJ/m}^2\text{)}$$

LCA of Pervious Concrete Pavements – *Interpretation*



RMC mixing: Embodied energy and kg CO₂ equivalent - PCP < PCCP by 2.97% and 2.84%, respectively

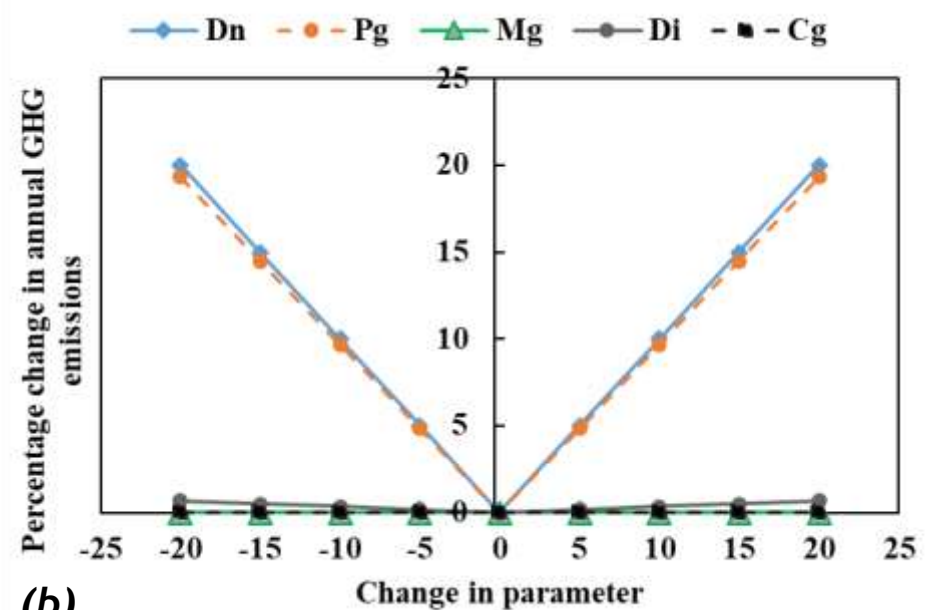
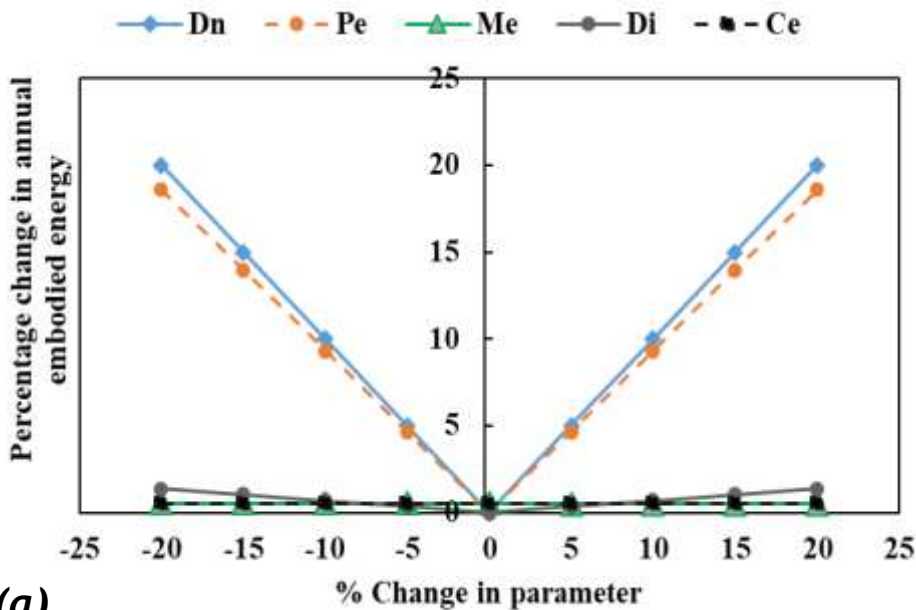
In-situ mixing: Embodied energy and kg CO₂ equivalent - PCP < PCCP by 3.16% and 2.94%, respectively



LCA of Pervious Concrete Pavements – *Interpretation*

Sensitivity analysis

- Model inputs parameters tested for sensitivity variations ($\pm 20\%$):
transportation distance, material production, material mixing, material compaction, and density of materials



*Sensitivity of density, production, mixing, compaction, and transportation distance for:
(a) Embodied energy; (b) GHG emissions*

Capital Cost Analysis

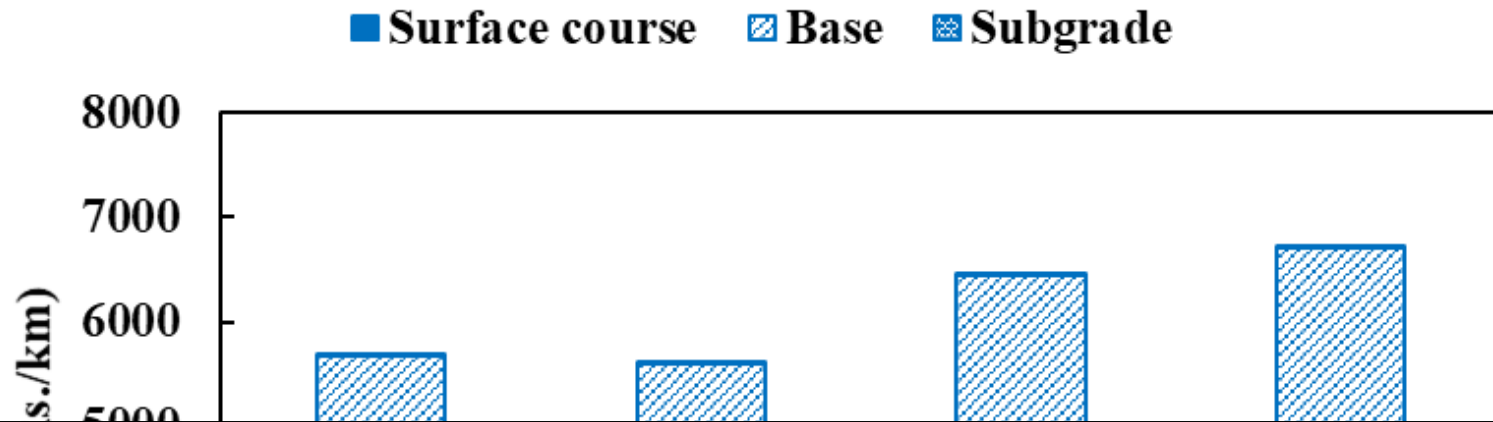
- **Cradle-to-gate study:** cost analysis restricted to expenditure incurred up to pavement construction stage alone
- **Locally available materials and labor costs**
- **Excel program:** *set of computational tools and models*

$$\text{Total cost (Rs./km)} = \sum (T \times W \times (M_c + T_c + C_c))$$

where,

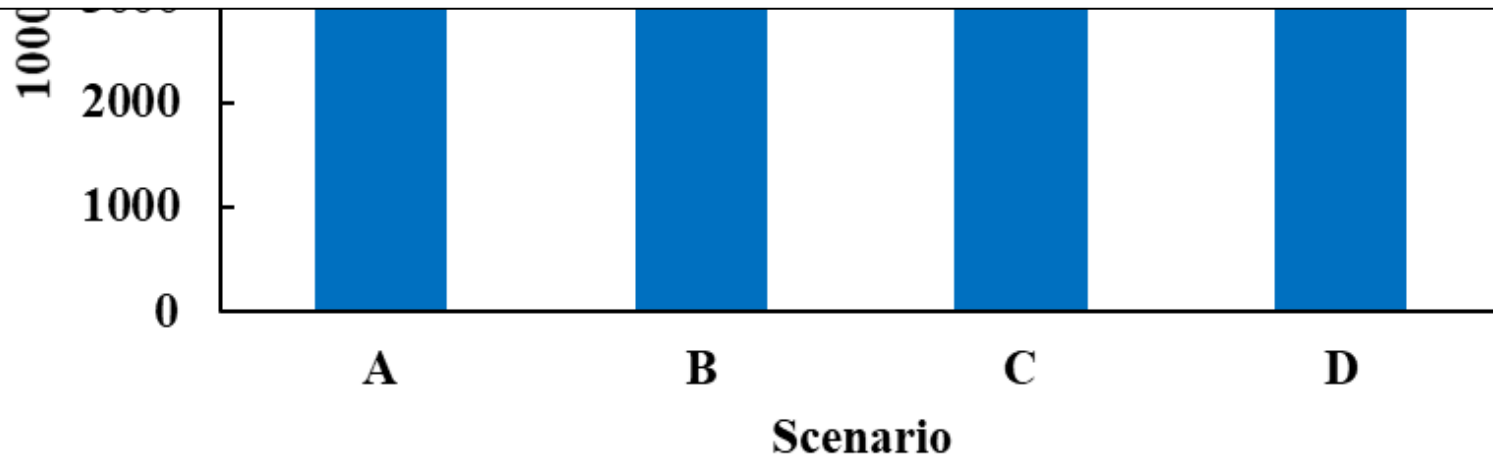
- T = *Thickness of layer in m*
- W = *Width of the road in m*
- M_c = *Material cost in Indian Rs./km/m²*
- T_c = *Material transportation cost in Indian Rs./km/m²*
- C_c = *Construction cost in Indian Rs./km/m² = Σ [mixing cost, equipment (concrete mixer and vibrator), rental charges, and labor cost]*

Capital Cost Analysis



RMC mixing: Capital cost of PCP > PCCP by 1.21%

In-situ mixing: Capital cost of PCP < PCCP by 4.13%



Total and layer-wise cost of pavement systems

LCA of Pervious Concrete Pavements – *Futuristic Scope*

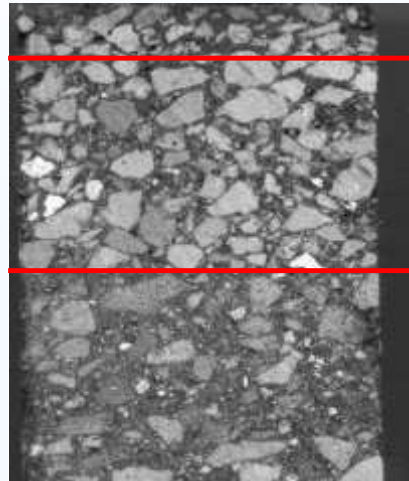
- Embodied energy and kg CO₂ eq. of PCP lower than PCCP by about 3%
- RMC mixing *slightly expensive* (capital cost) than in-situ mixing
- Proposed LCA methodology:
 - practical and convenient toolkit with *well-defined system boundaries* and *elaborated calculation procedures* that allows for easy adoption by researchers and agencies across the world
 - suitable for computation of energy consumed and emissions generated during various phases such as building material production, construction, maintenance and repair, and end-of-life
- Futuristic measures to reduce heterogeneity in functional units, processes, phases, and other LCA components
- LCA: essential to guide planning and decision-making
- Full lifecycle cost analysis: economic perspectives; big-data

Asphalt-Rubber Technology: LCA



1/2 - 1" ARFC

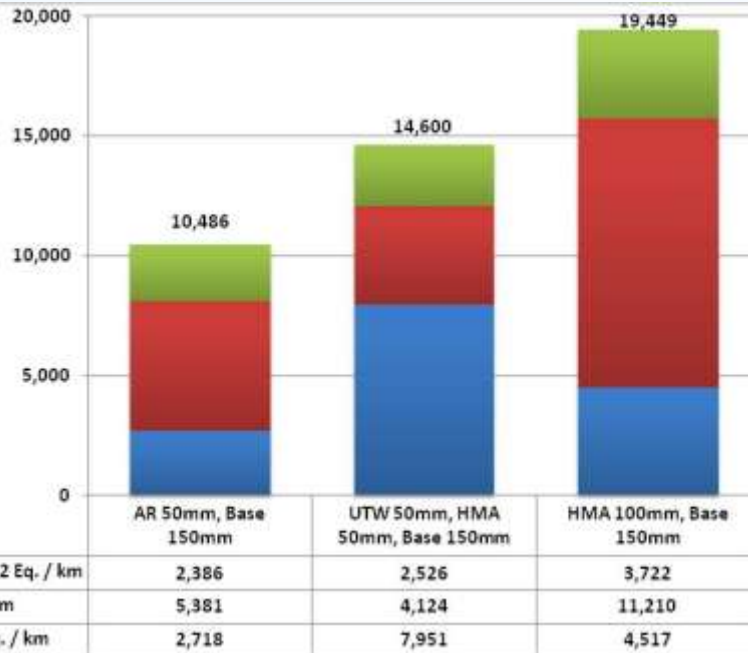
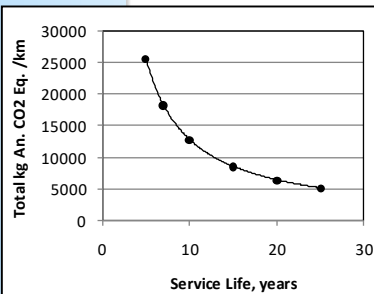
PCC



12 1/2 - 50 mm ARFC

50 - 75 mm ARAC

Existing / New AC



White, P., Golden, J. S., Biligiri, K. P., and Kaloush, K. E. "Impacts of Alternative Pavement Designs on Climate Change", *Journal of Resources, Conservation and Recycling*, Volume 54, Issue 11, September 2010, pp. 776-782

PAMS Objectives

Performance Data Collection

Database Management : Inventory

Distress Detection and Analysis

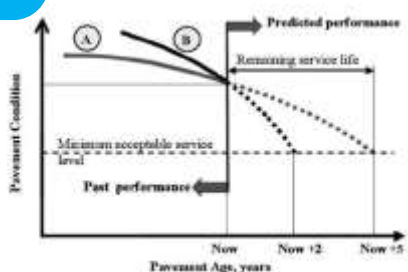
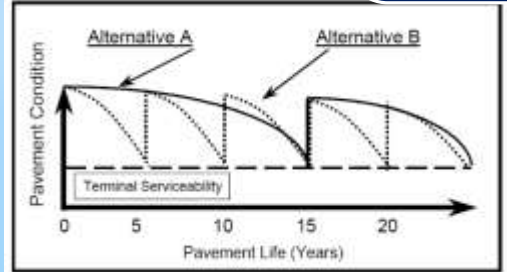
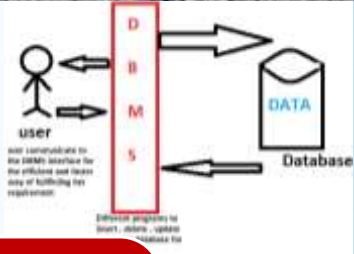
Pavement Performance Prediction

Alternative Rehabilitation Strategies

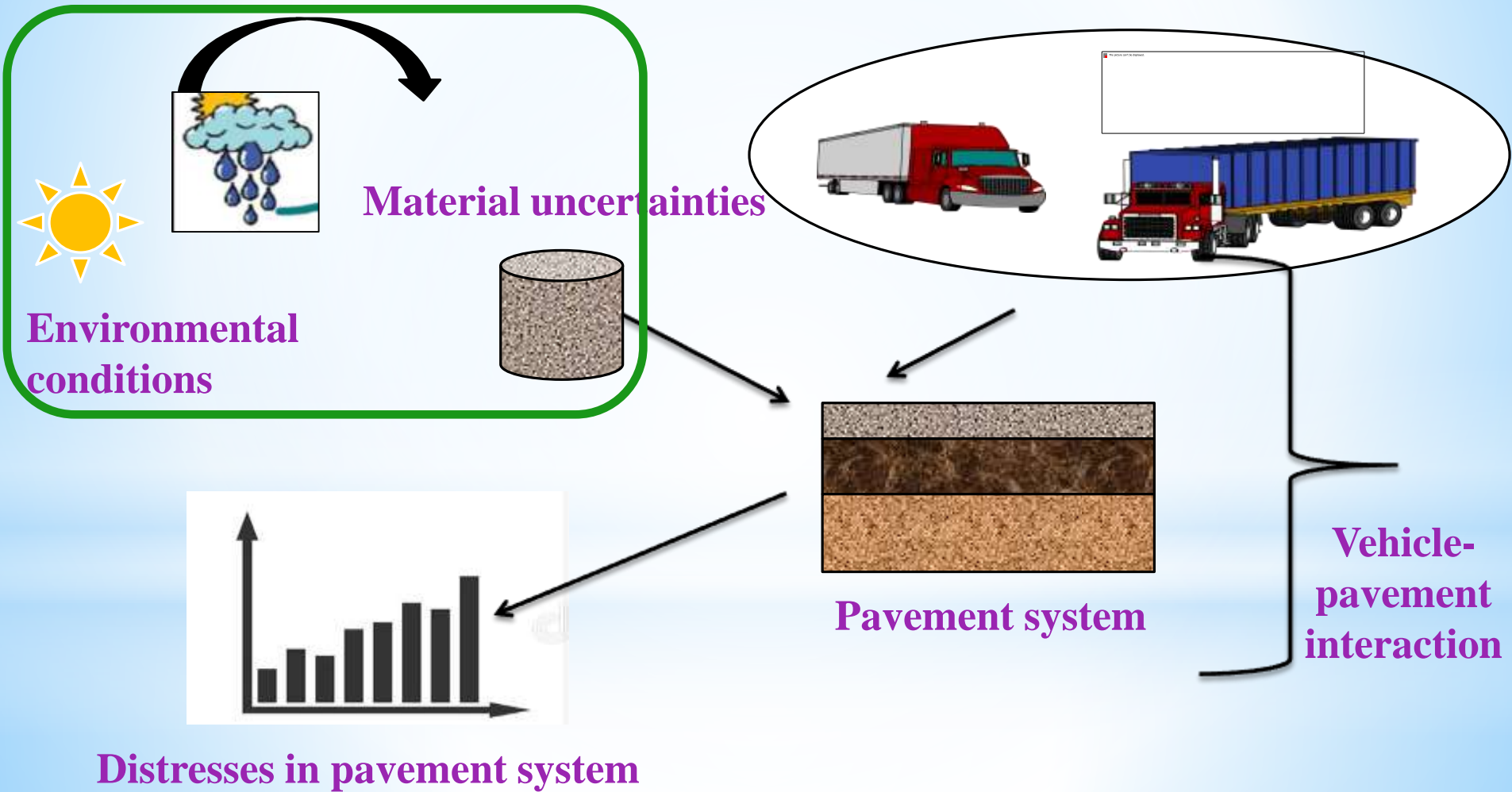
Environmental Lifecycle & Cost Comparisons of Alternatives

Prioritization and Optimization

Implementation

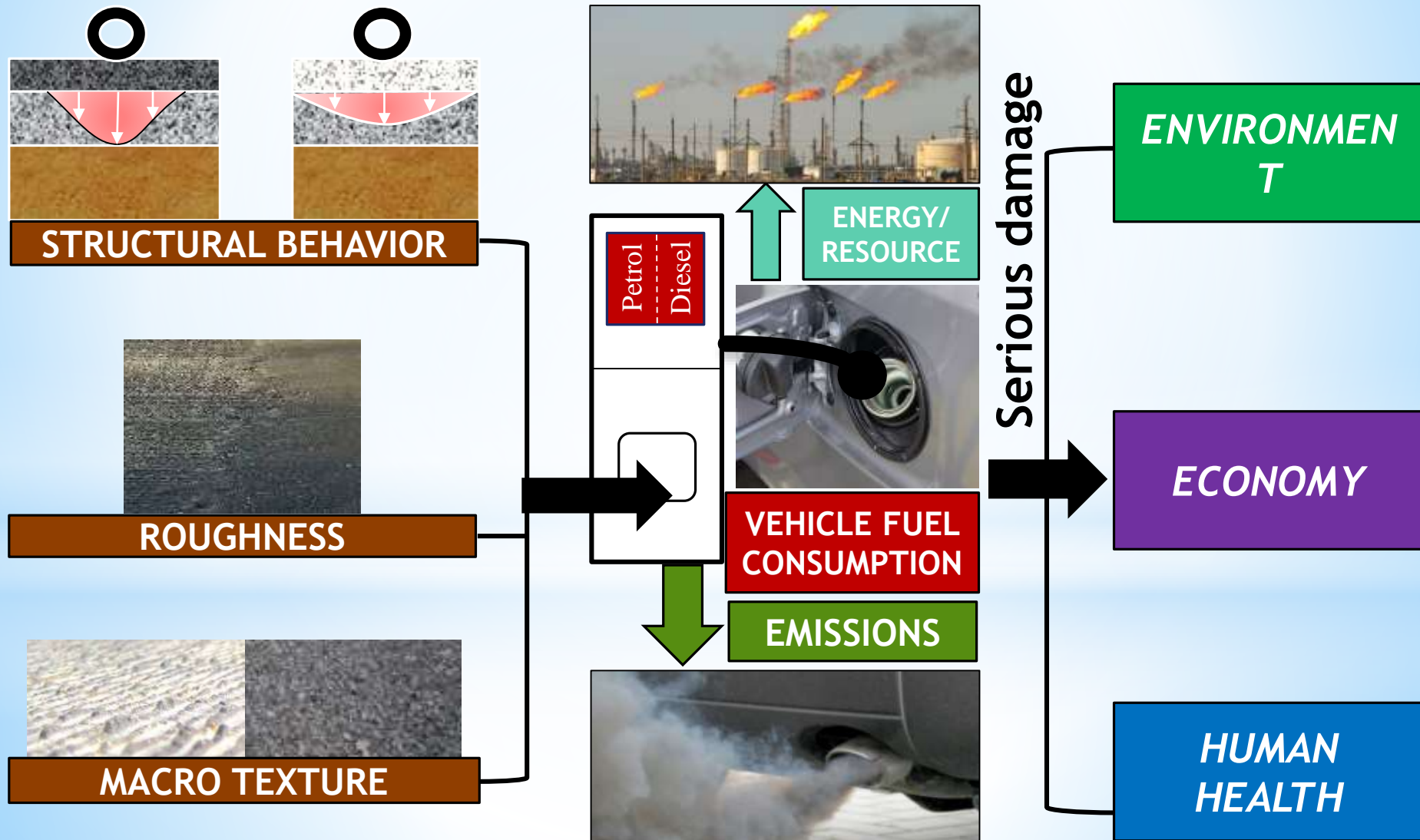


Integrated Lifecycle: Mechanistic Roadway Designs



Integrated Lifecycle: Mechanistic Roadway Designs

Cont'd...



FUTURE EXPECTATIONS

- *Performance monitoring of field pavement systems:*
 - *Test sections: all road classes*
 - *Long-term pavement performance*
 - *Automation in estimation & prediction*
 - *Use of AI / ML / IP, etc.: advanced tools*
- *Establish laboratory & field correlations*
- *Develop field design specifications for construction*
- *Sustainable roadway infrastructure: LID*
- *Financial implications: LCA; LCCA; B/C ratio*
- *Pavement Assets: Retrofitting & Econometrics*

Foster collaboration(s) between academia & industry to create SUSTAINABLE roads

IITT ADVANCED PAVEMENT SYSTEMS (APS) RESEARCH CLUSTER

<https://iitt-apsrc.weebly.com>

THANK YOU

Questions & Comments

Email: bkp@iittp.ac.in



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

GoI ME; IIT Kharagpur & IIT Tirupati Personnel; Andhra Pradesh Road Development Corporation; Avishreshth (IITT); Poornachandra (IITT); Dr. Anush (IITBBS); Dr. Prasanna (IITT); Harini Constructions, Tirupati; & Several others