

# Versatile **O**nboard **T**raffic **E**MBEDDED **R**oaming **S**ensors

## Network-wide Infrastructure Solutions

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Northeastern University

National Pavement Evaluation Conference 2014  
Blacksburg, Virginia

# **VOTERS**<sup>1</sup> Vision

Versatile Onboard Traffic Embedded Roaming Sensors

- **VOTERS Vehicle** collects Sensor Data, automatically measuring **Surface and Subsurface** Roadway Condition Information traveling around a city at **Traffic Speed**
- Accurately registers all data **geographically** and in **time**
- Data or Results are transferred to a **Control and Visualization Center** for further analysis, visualization, and decision making



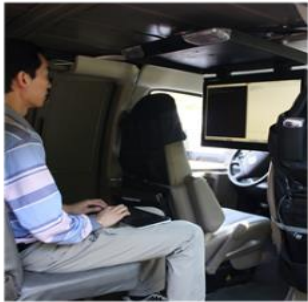
- No Traffic blockage
- Fully Automated (except driver)
- Fast (up to 100 miles/day, single lane)
- Very cost competitive
- Light weight sensor systems
- Frequent updates possible (e.g. 6 months)

<sup>1</sup> \$18M 5-year NIST funded project

# VOTERS Prototype



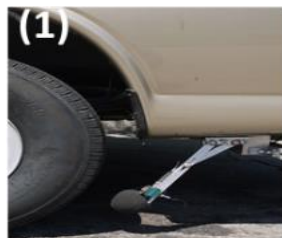
Portable real-time monitor



System control monitor



Data acquisition and processing



Directional Microphone








Dynamic tire pressure sensor



Rear axle accelerometer



Surface radar array (5 sensors)

Technology	Measurements	Specifications	Picture
<b>Directional Microphone</b>	Friction Raveling Bleeding Macro Texture Index Polished Aggregate	Sensor height: ½ - 3 inch Sampling Rate: 2 - 200 KHz Sensitivity: 44 - 52 mv/Pa	
<b>Dynamic Tire Pressure Sensor (DTPS)</b>	Roughness Road Profile Road Height Variations International Roughness Index (IRI)	Frequency: 0.5 Hz - 20 KHz Sampling Rate: 2 - 200 KHz Dynamic Pressure Resolution: 0.00002 psi	
<b>Camera</b>	Crack Density Crack Types Patch Density Potholes Shoving Other Surface Feature	Resolution: 2.82 Megapixel Speed: Gigabit Ethernet 40 Frames/sec	
<b>Millimeter-Wave Radar</b>	Rutting depth Bleeding Moisture Ice Material identification Longitudinal & Transversal Profile	Operation: 24 GHz Arrays: 5 channels	
<b>Ground Penetrating Radar</b>	Rebar Corrosion of Bridge Decks Layer Depth Vertical Profile Subsurface Feature Identification (delamination, potholes, etc.) Subsurface Moisture	Frequency: 0.8 - 5 GHz Data rate: 1000 trace/sec Low cost Low power Small	

# Patent Filed and Published

1. Roaming Mobile Sensing Platform for Collecting Geo-referenced Data and Thematic Maps
2. Real-Time Wireless Dynamic Tire Pressure Sensor and Energy Harvesting System
3. Real-Time Pavement Profile Sensing System Using Air-Coupled Surface Wave
4. Configurable mm-wave Integrated Array Radar in a Compact Package

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(74) Agents:  
HYMEL, Lin, J., et al.; Weingarten, Schrago, Capogioia & Lohovick, LLP, Two Post Office Square, Boston, MA 02109 (US)

(54) Title: ROAMING MOBILE SENSOR PLATFORM FOR COLLECTING GEO-REFERENCED DATA AND CREATING THEMATIC MAPS

(57) Abstract:  
A roaming sensor system collects data on the condition of roads and bridge decks and identifies and maps defects, including cracks, potholes, delimiting, cracking, delamination, surface ice, surface water, and other corrosion. Data are collected by a vehicle or a fleet of vehicles driven at normal traffic speeds. The vehicle is outfitted with sensors that collect data using acoustic surface waves, ground penetrating radar, non wave surface radar, audio video images. The data are transmitted to a central server for analysis and distribution.

FIG. 1

(1)

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(21) Appl. No.: 14/084,156

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Related US Application Data

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(56) Provisional application No. 61488,399, filed on May 20, 2011, provisional application No. 61488,407, filed on May 20, 2011.

(54) Title: REAL-TIME PAVEMENT PROFILE SENSING SYSTEM USING AIR-COUPLED SURFACE WAVE

(57) Abstract:  
A non-contact testing system and method using acoustic sensors and a mobile sensing system using this system and method is disclosed. The target surface wave is recorded with dispersive microphones. A fast inversion analysis algorithm is used to calculate the shear velocity profile and elastic modulus for the subsurface layers of pavement structures, using the dispersion curves obtained from the acoustic signals. An electrical harvester is used to produce signal micro-power. A mobile sensing system is integrated on a mobile cart to perform the mobile subsurface sensing for pavement structures.

FIG. 4

(2)

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FIG. 4

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PCT/US2012022016

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PCT REQUEST

The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

For receiving Office use only

International Filing Date

Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"

Applicant's or agent's reference (if any) of the international application to which the present international application is related

94411

Bo No. I TITLE OF INVENTION

CONFORMAL AND CONFIGURABLE MILLIMETER-WAVE INTEGRATED ARRAY RADAR IN A COMPACT PACKAGE

Bo No. II APPLICANT

Name and address (Please provide complete name and address for all designated States. The address must include postal code and country. The country of the address indicated in this box is used, applications issued in respect of this international application to file email address if those offices are willing to do so.)

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Woburn, Massachusetts 01801  
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(4)



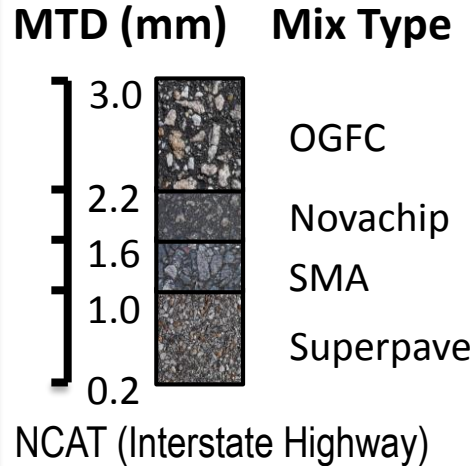
# VOTERS Sensor Systems

- Acoustic Microphone
- Dynamic Tire Pressure Sensor
- Optical Sensor
- K-band Surface Radar
- Subsurface Radar

# Acoustic Microphone

## Purpose

- Road Mean Texture Depth (*MTD*)
- Pavement Condition Rating (Raveling/Bleeding)
- Friction Coefficient



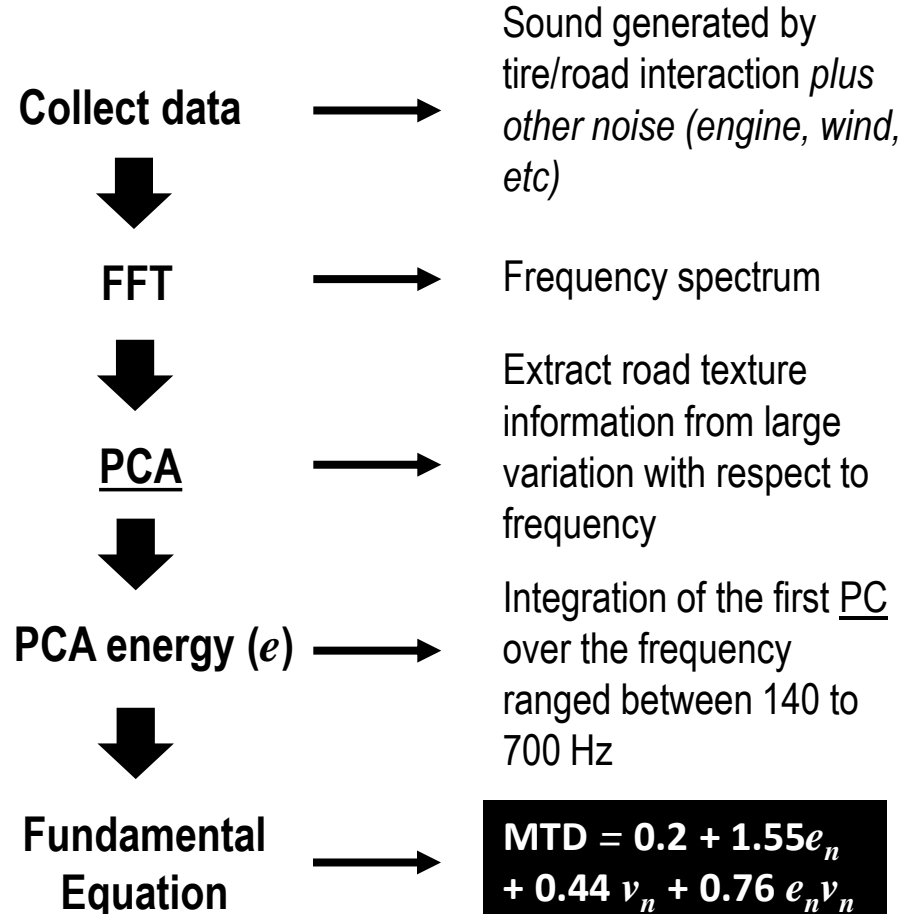
## Hardware



Microphone

- Sensor Location: driver side, rear tire
- Sensor Height: 1/2 to 3 inch
- Sampling Rate: 2 – 200 kHz
- Sensitivity: 44 – 52 mV/Pa

## Processing Flowchart



PCA – Principal Component Analysis

PC – Principal Component

$e_n$  – normalized PCA energy, 0~1

$v_n$  – normalized velocity, 0~1

# Dynamic Tire Pressure Sensor (DTPS)

## Purpose

- Road Profile Measurement
- International Roughness Index Assessment

## Hardware



Accelerometer



## Processing Flowchart

Collect data



DTPS and Acceleration  
Subtract DC gain



FFT



Frequency spectrum



Transfer Function



Calculate dynamic tire pressure due to road profile



iFFT



Road Profile



IRI

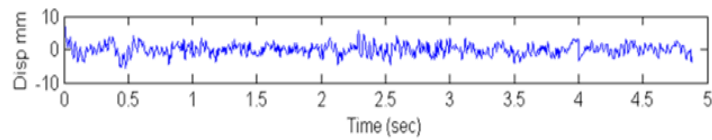
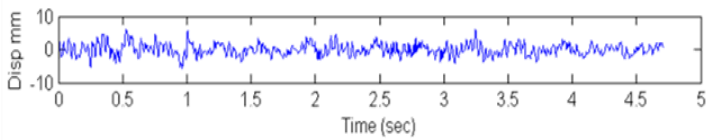


**Quarter Car Model Applied based on ASTM standard E1926-08**

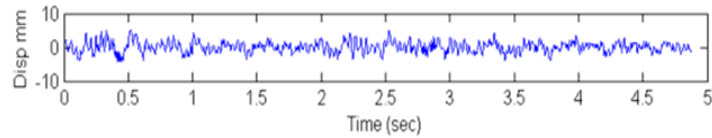
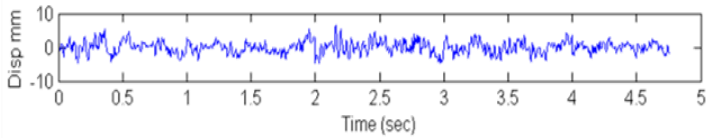


# IRI result of Site 3 (medium smooth)

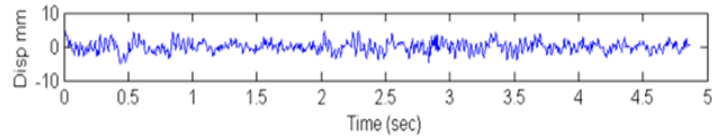
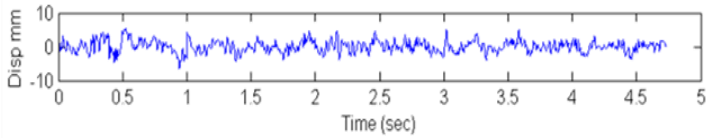
Speed mph	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	30	Average	Standard deviation
IRI in/mile	103.5	88.9	90.6	107.9	91.7	92.2	87.5	102.8	96.0	86.7	98.2		95.1	7.0
IRI m/km	1.63	1.40	1.43	1.70	1.45	1.46	1.38	1.62	1.52	1.37	1.55		1.50	0.11



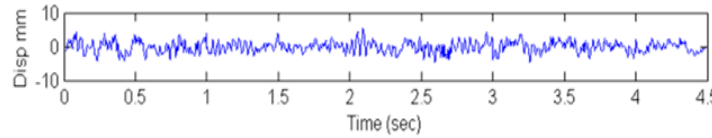
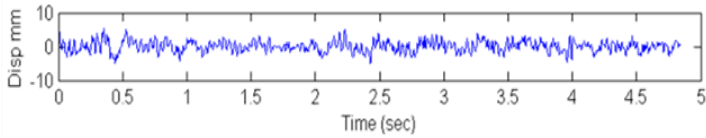
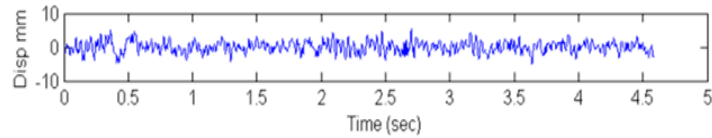
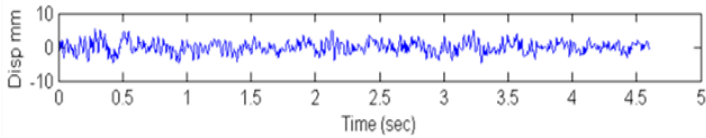
← Profile plot



Location reference: GPS

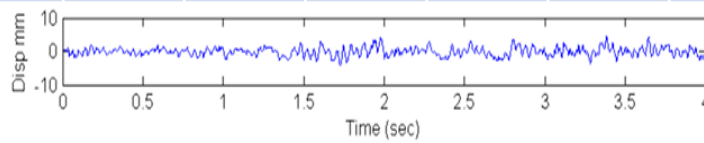
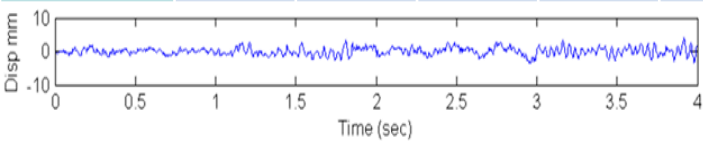


Position Accuracy 1 sec

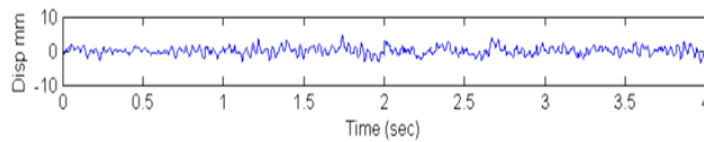
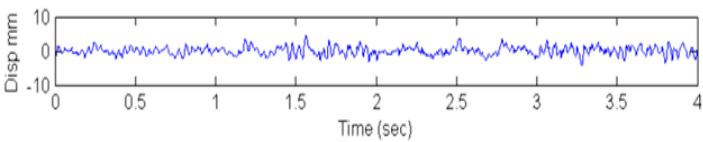


# IRI result of Site 5 (smooth)

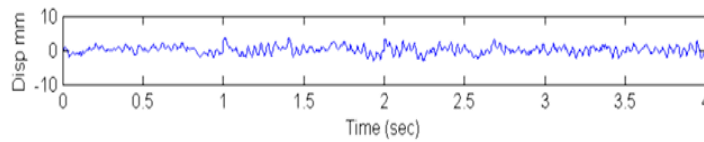
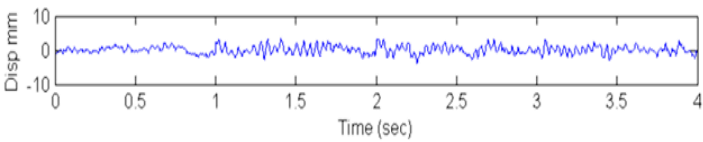
Speed mph	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	30	Average	Standard deviation
IRI in/mile	79.8	82.3	79.9	77.9	80.5	76.3	72.0	77.6	72.8	75.4	72.1		76.9	3.4
IRI m/km	1.26	1.28	1.26	1.23	1.27	1.20	1.14	1.23	1.15	1.19	1.14		1.21	0.05



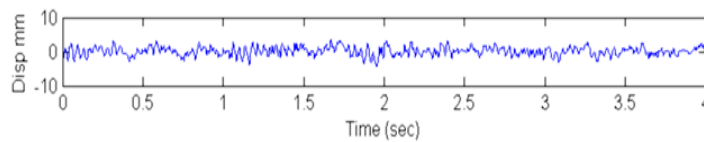
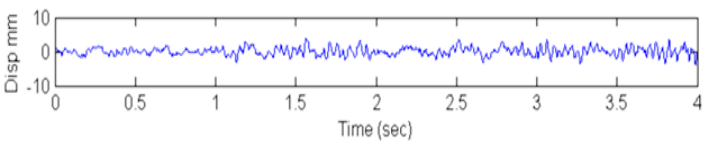
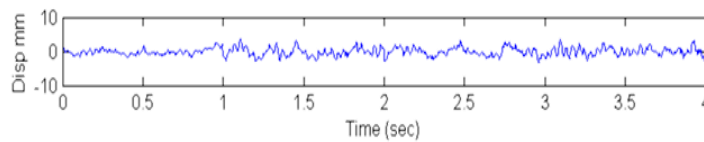
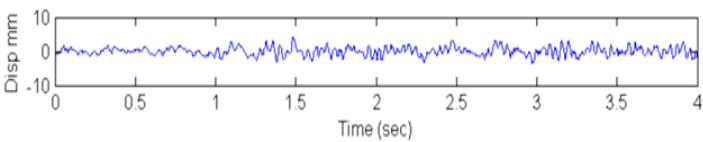
← Profile plot

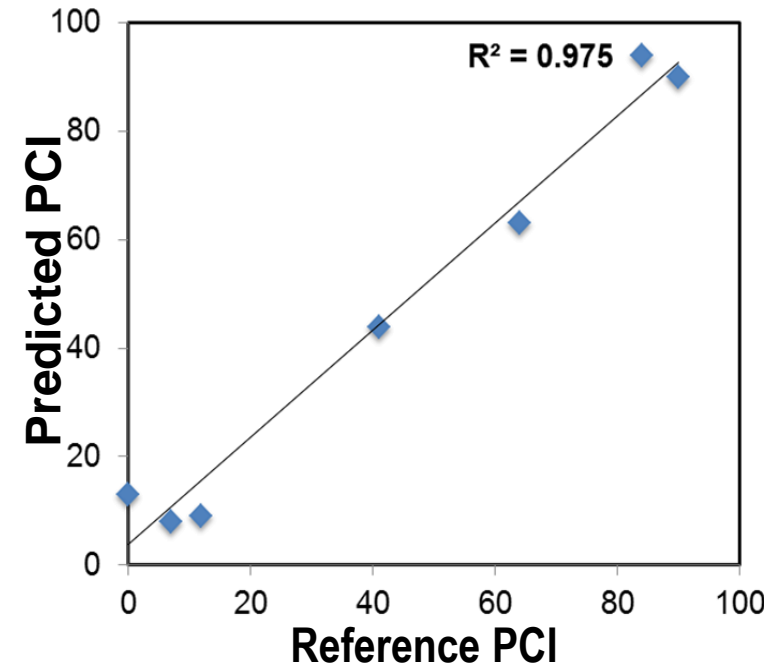
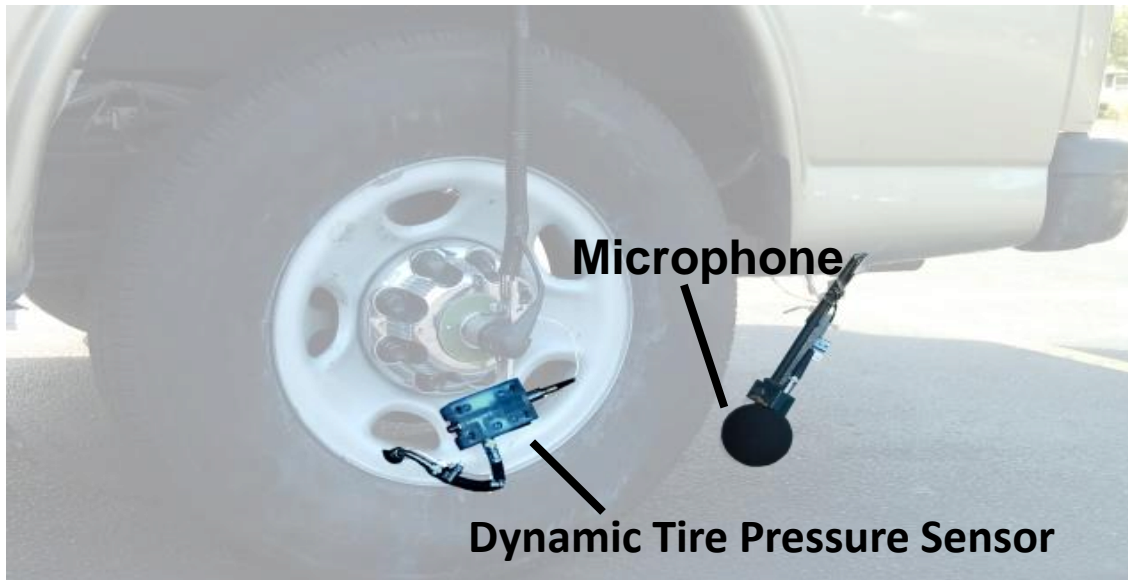
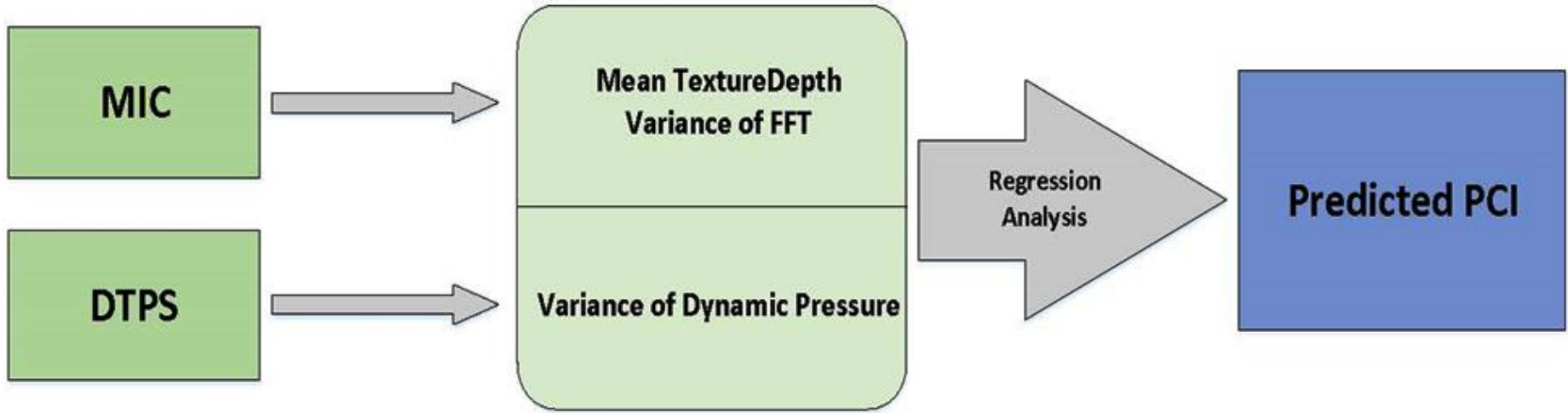


Location reference: GPS



Position Accuracy 1 sec





# Optical Sensor

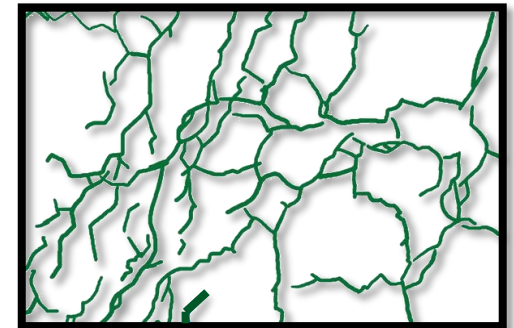
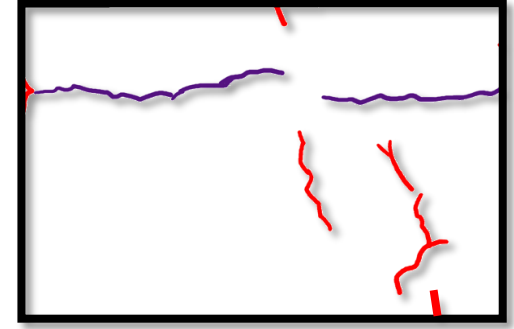
## Purpose

- Detecting Surface Cracks
- Identifying Type of Cracks
- Calculating Crack Density

## Set-up

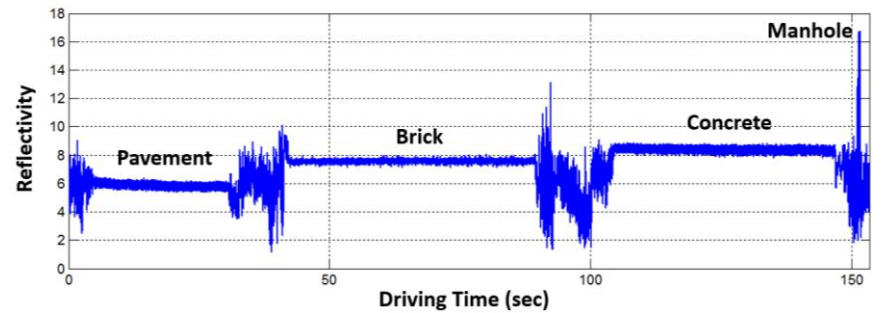
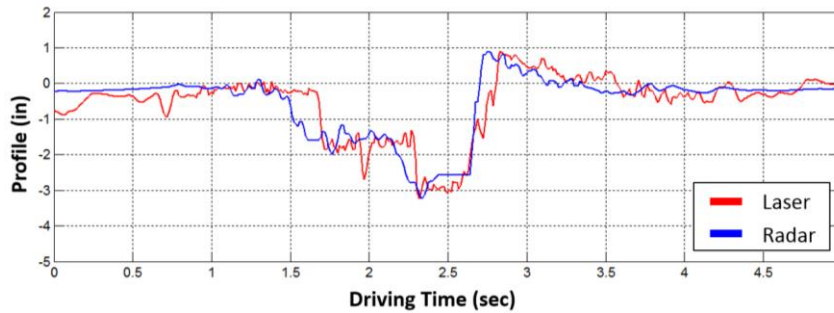


## Example Results



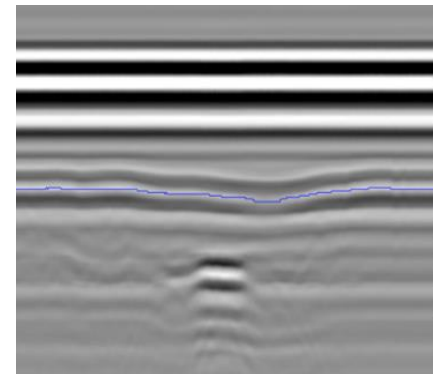
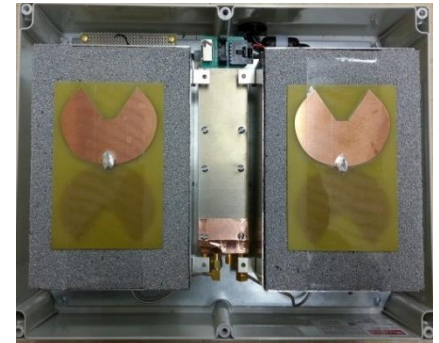
 Transversal  Longitudinal  Alligator

# K-Band Surface Radar



# Gen-3 GPR System

- This custom air-coupled GPR system is fast, low-cost, low-power, and small compared to similar COTS systems
- Features
  - Very good fidelity: **2-5 GHz**
  - Dynamic range: **105 dB**
  - Novel 100 GHz 1 bit sampler
    - Sampling rate: 1/32ps
  - Up to **1000 traces/s**, time or distance triggered
  - Power: 7W at 5 VDC
  - Dimensions: 300 x 230 x 85 mm
  - Uses NEU custom designed bow-tie antennas
  - Array Capabilities (16 x 16)
    - Diverse data sets in frequency, geometry, and polarization
    - Simultaneous recording on all receivers
  - Designed for FCC 02-48 compliance
  - HDF5 open file format for large datasets
- Applications
  - Pavement layer thickness and dielectric constant tracking, identification of subsurface voids, moisture pockets, and other defect



# Subsurface Radar System

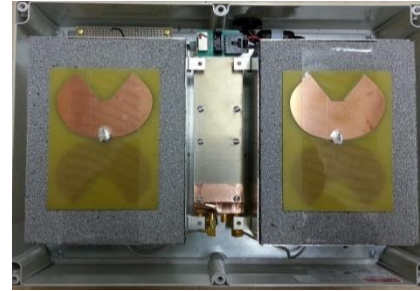
## Purpose

- Layer thickness and dielectric constant
- Location of distress or/and patches
- Pre-pothole conditions and internal moisture

## Hardware and Set-up



a. ESS Gen-3 Radar and Computer

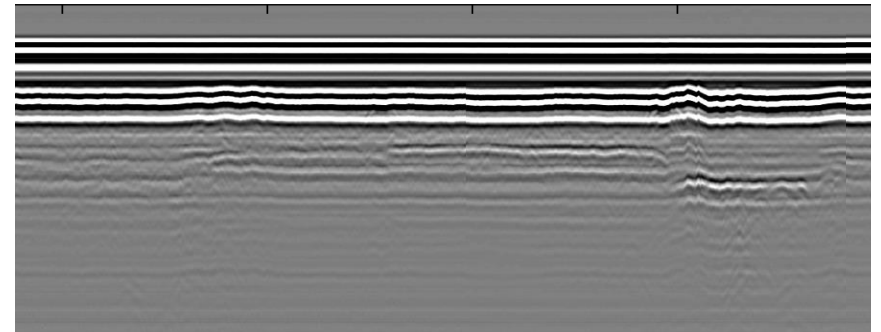


b. ESS Gen-3 radar (Inside box)



## Test Results

Forsyth St., Boston, MA



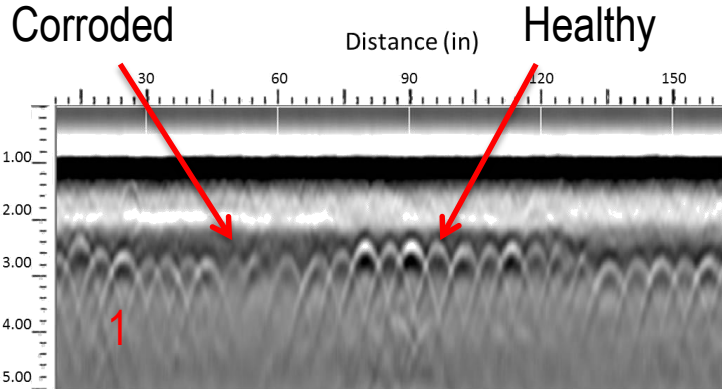
Asphalt,  $D=12\sim16$  cm,  $\epsilon_r=4\sim7.5$  (Avg=6.6)

Gravel,  $D=10\sim12$  cm,  $\epsilon_r=6\sim10$

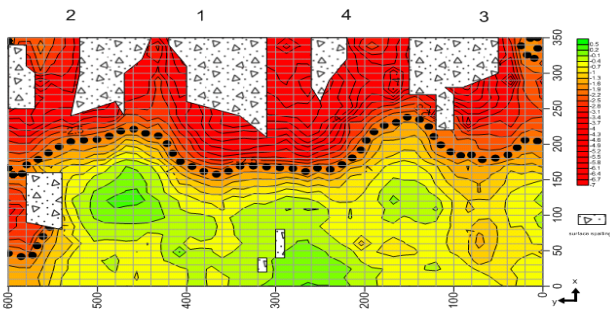
Stabilized soil,  $D\sim\text{INF}$ ,  $\epsilon_r=7\sim13$

Patch  
 $D=18\text{cm}$ ,  $\epsilon_r=6.1$

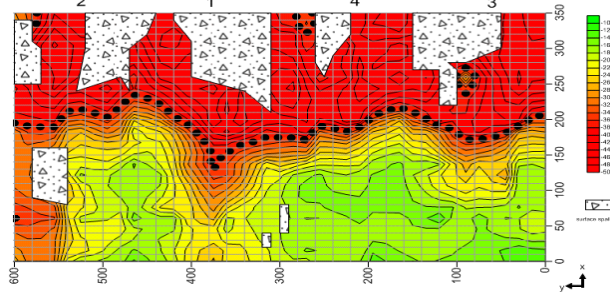
# Drive-by Bridge Deck Assessment



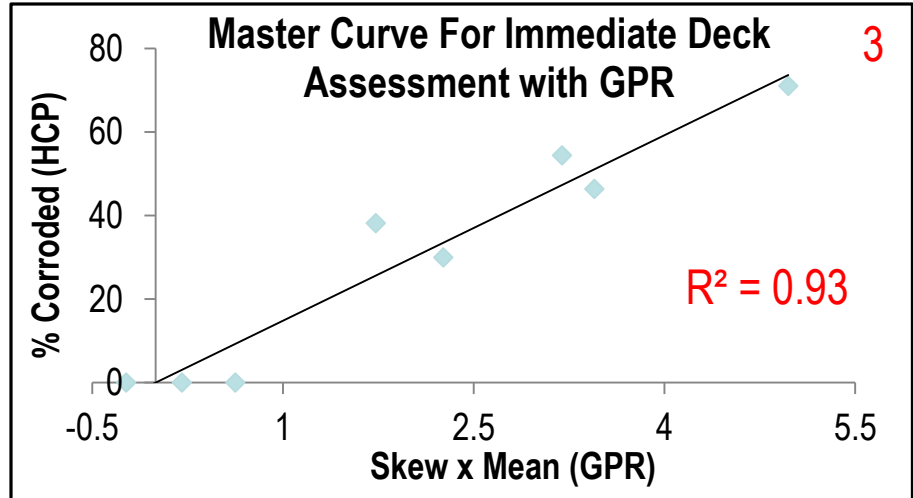
GPR Threshold: -1.8788  
2



HCP Threshold: -350mV



- **Rebar reflection amplitudes** of corroded areas are much lower (faint) than healthy areas (1)
- GPR can detect corroded and healthy areas by comparing the reflection amplitudes to half-cell potential (2)
- Statistical analysis of GPR rebar amplitudes allow for immediate deck condition assessment using mobile high-speed radar (3)

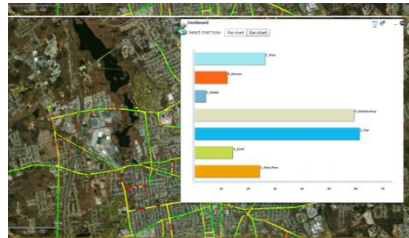






# VOTERS GIS SYSTEMS

# PAVEment MONitoring System



Mapping and Reporting



Web-access

Data Creation

Analysis

PAVEMON

Visualization

Database

Real-time Display



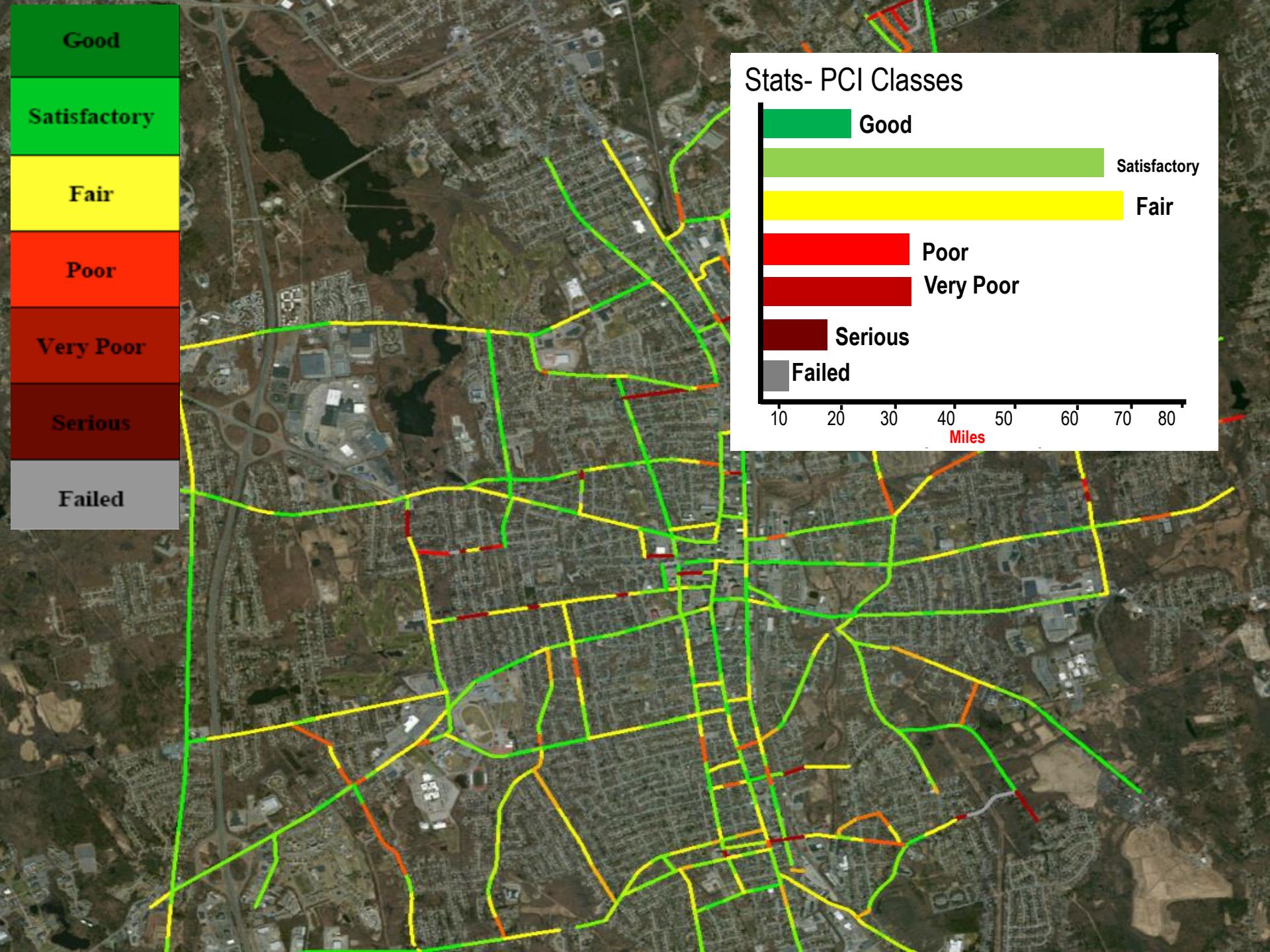
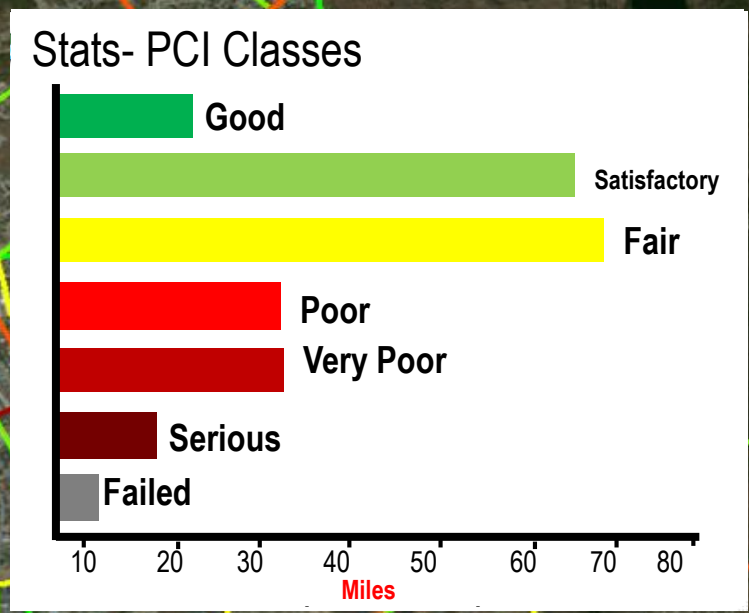
ORACLE  
DATABASE



PAVEment MANagement System

Damaged Area  
Repair Activity  
Cost (\$)  
Priority





# PAVEment MANagement System

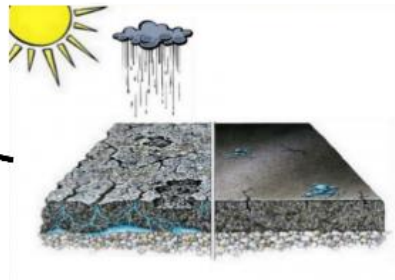
Pavement Evaluation



Database Configuration

## PAVEMAN

Budget Planning



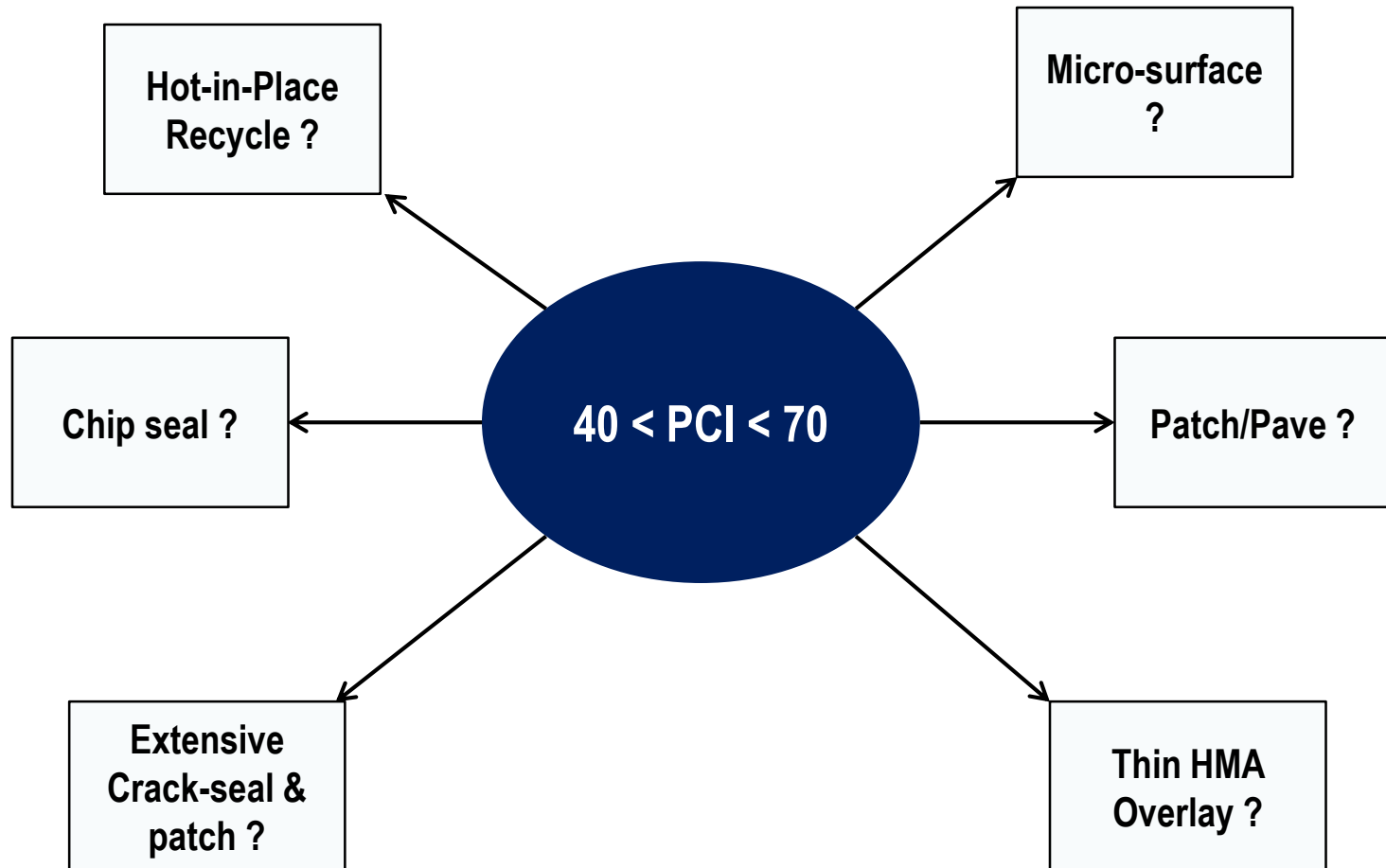
Deterioration Model



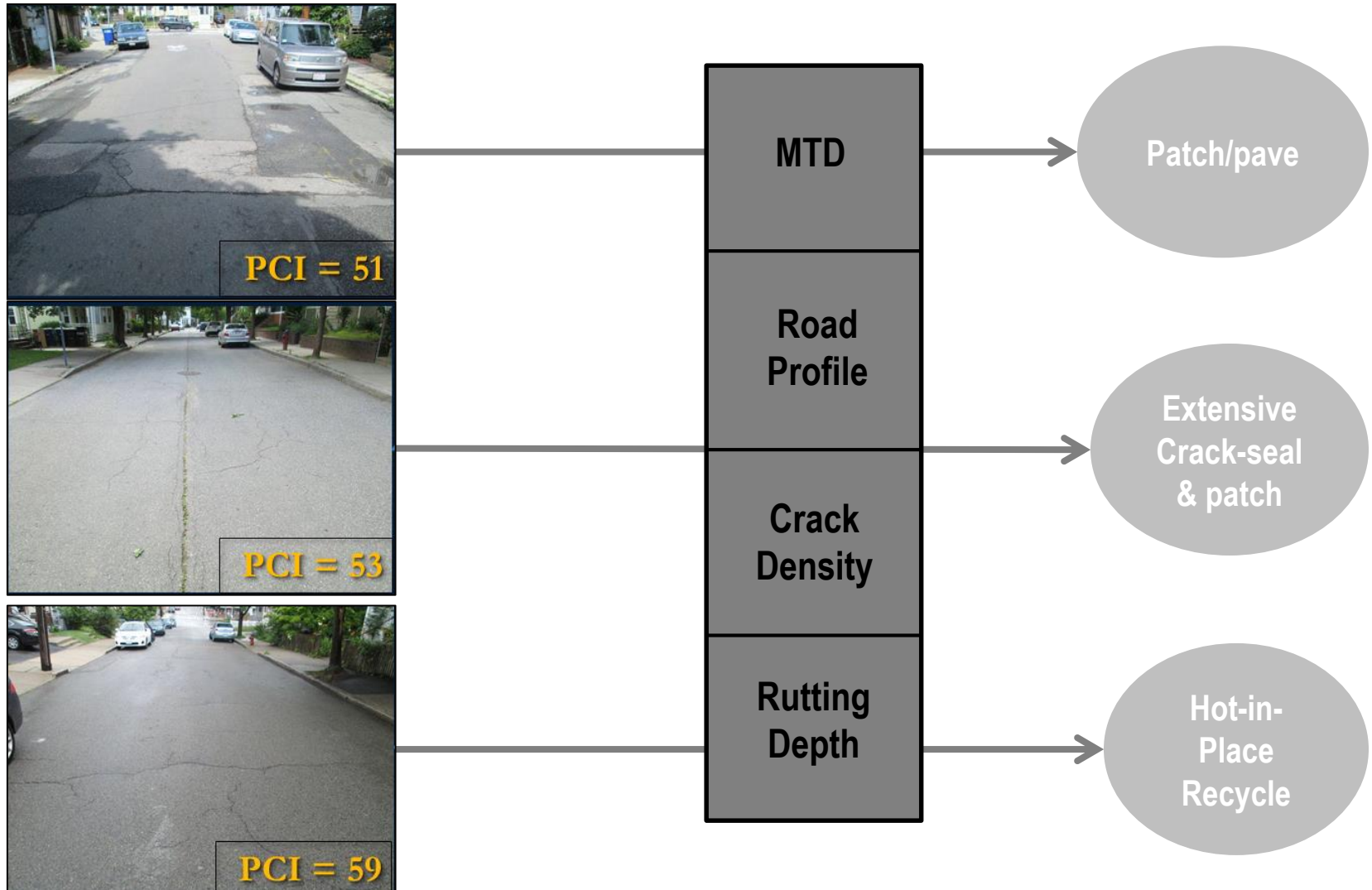
Maintenance Suggestions  
& Priority Assessments



# Possible treatments for intermediate PCI



# Suggest the best treatment using VOTERS data



- Road surface assessment by listening to the tire-road interaction with microphones (inside and outside the tire)
- IRI (roughness) from Dynamic Tire Pressure Sensor even on urban roads
- PCI equivalent from fused multi-modal sensor data
- Road subsurface information through fast air-coupled GPR at traffic speeds providing layering, defects, and moisture information
- K-band radar for pavement surface inspections
- Scalable software architecture for an intelligent multi-modal multi-sensor mobile platform<sup>1</sup>
- Automation of many processing and interpretation algorithms
- PAVEMON – GIS-based online PAVement MONitoring System
- PAVEMAN – GIS-based online PAVement MANagement System
  - Data-driven approach for maintenance and repair suggestions

<sup>1</sup>Zhang, Jiaying, Qiu, Hanjiao, Shahini Shamsabadi, Salar, Birken, Ralf, and Schirner, Gunar, 2014, SIROM<sup>3</sup>: A scalable intelligent Roaming Multi-Modal Multi-Sensor Framework: Proceedings of ACM/IEEE 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Cyber-Physical Systems (ICCPS), Berlin, Germany, April 14-17, 2014.

# VOTERS

Versatile Onboard Traffic Embedded Roaming Sensors

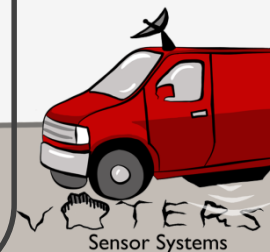
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## Thank you!



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Supporting Organizations



Northeastern

