

Uniaxial Thermal Stress and Strain Test (UTSST)

**2016 Pacific Coast Committee on Asphalt Specifications
Seattle, May 11, 2016**

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University of Nevada Reno (UNR)**

Acknowledgement and Disclaimer

- The contents of this research effort are part of the overall effort in the Asphalt Research Consortium (ARC).
- The contents do not necessarily reflect the official views and policies of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Thermal Cracking in AC Pavements (Cont'd)

Northern Nevada



Courtesy: Nevada DOT



Minden, NV



Reno, NV

09-23-2013 09:49



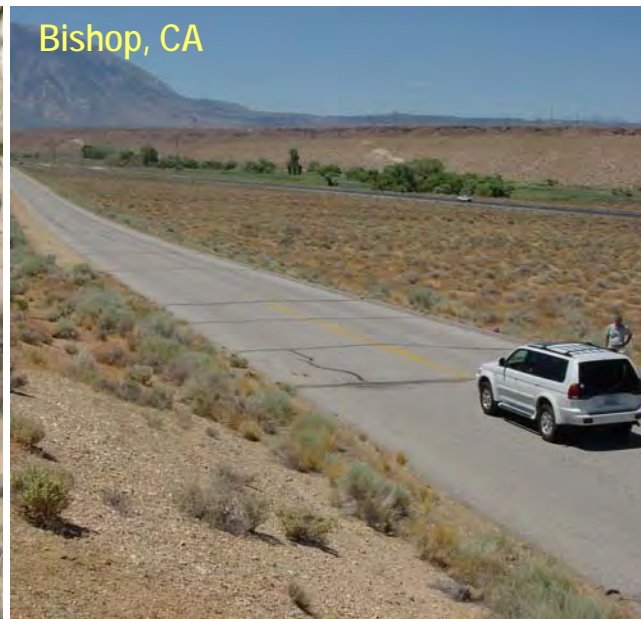
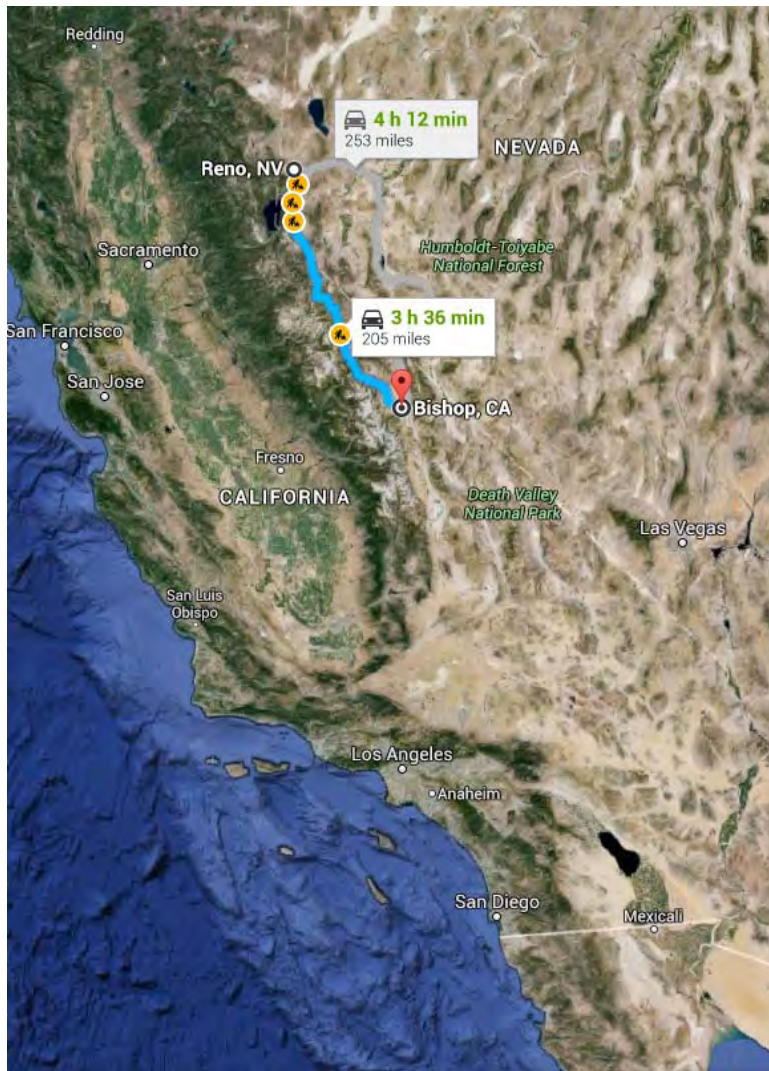
Reno, NV

09-23-2013 09:47

| | Jan. | Jul. |
|------------------------|------|------|
| Average Max. Temp (°C) | 7.6 | 33.8 |
| Average Min. Temp (°C) | -2.5 | 16.4 |

Thermal Cracking in AC Pavements (Cont'd)

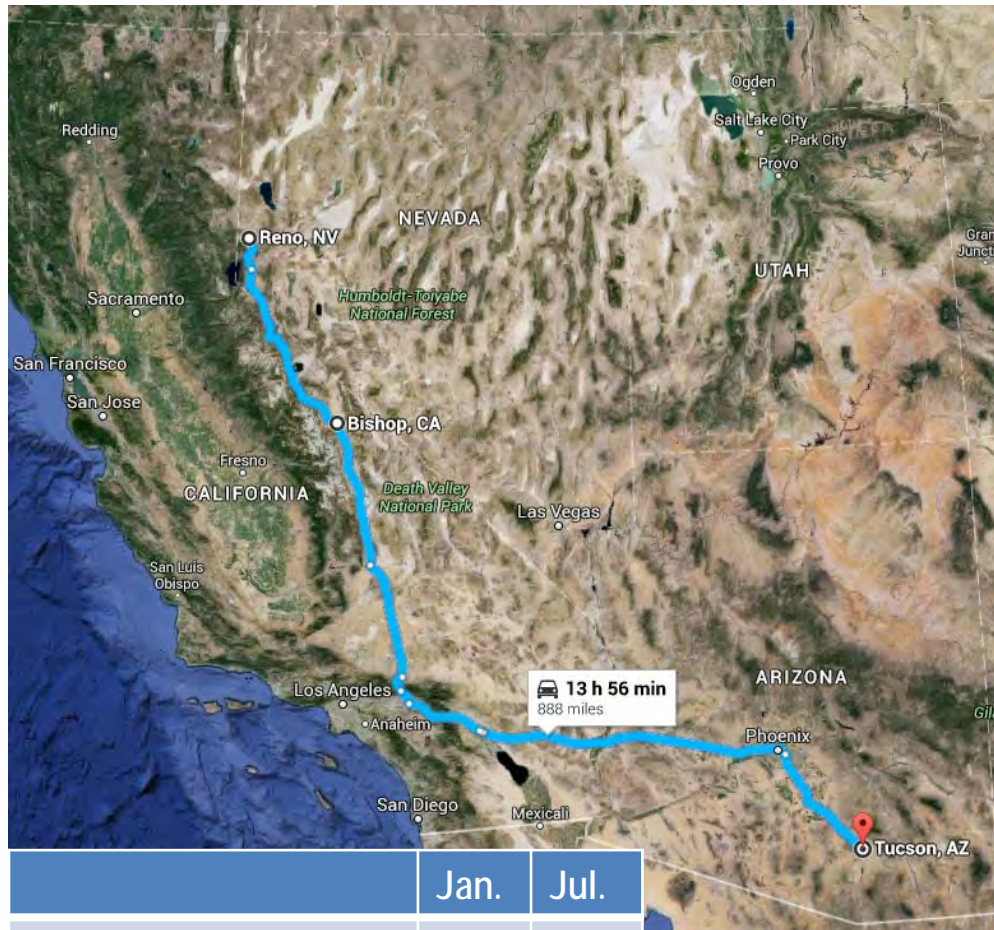
Bishop, CA



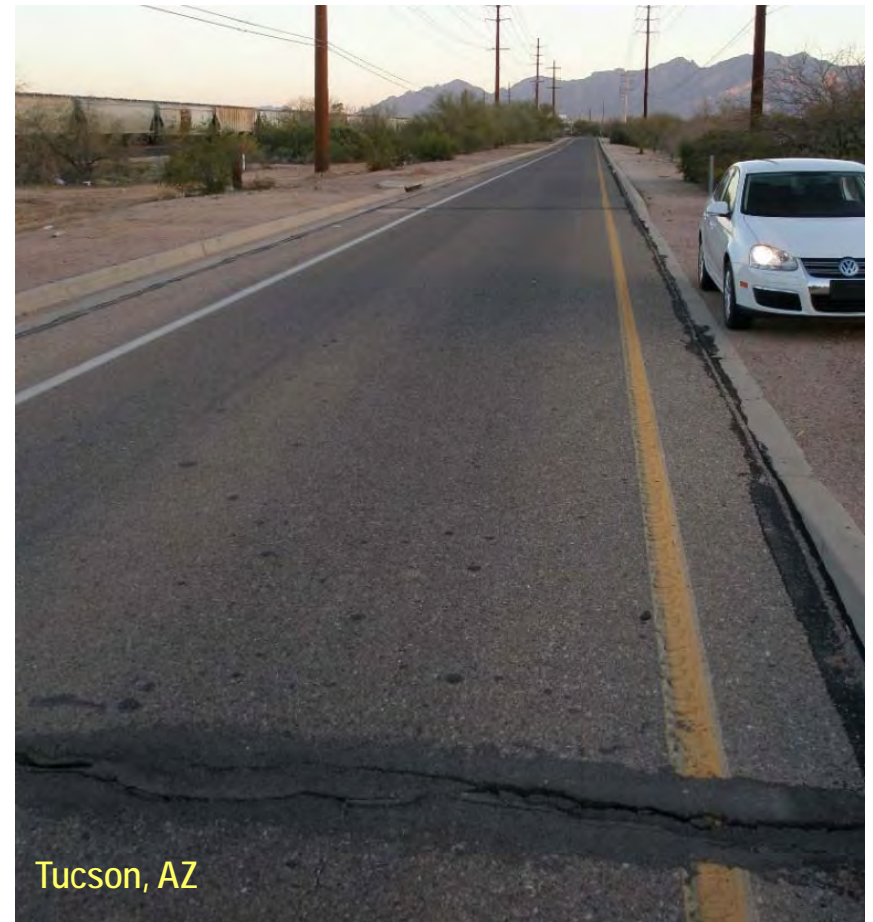
| | Jan. | Jul. |
|------------------------|------|------|
| Average Max. Temp (°C) | 11.7 | 36.5 |
| Average Min. Temp (°C) | -5.7 | 13.4 |

Thermal Cracking in AC Pavements (Cont'd)

Tucson, AZ

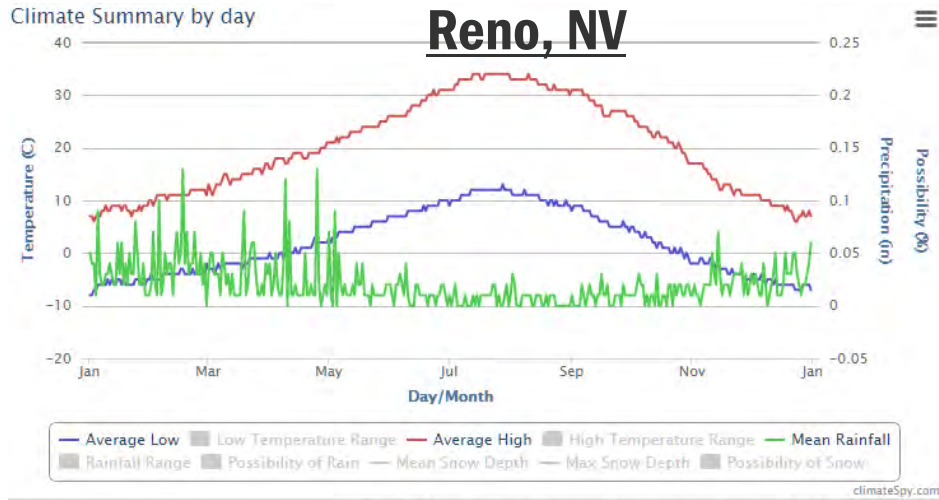


| | Jan. | Jul. |
|------------------------|------|------|
| Average Max. Temp (°C) | 18.6 | 37.8 |
| Average Min. Temp (°C) | 3.1 | 23.3 |

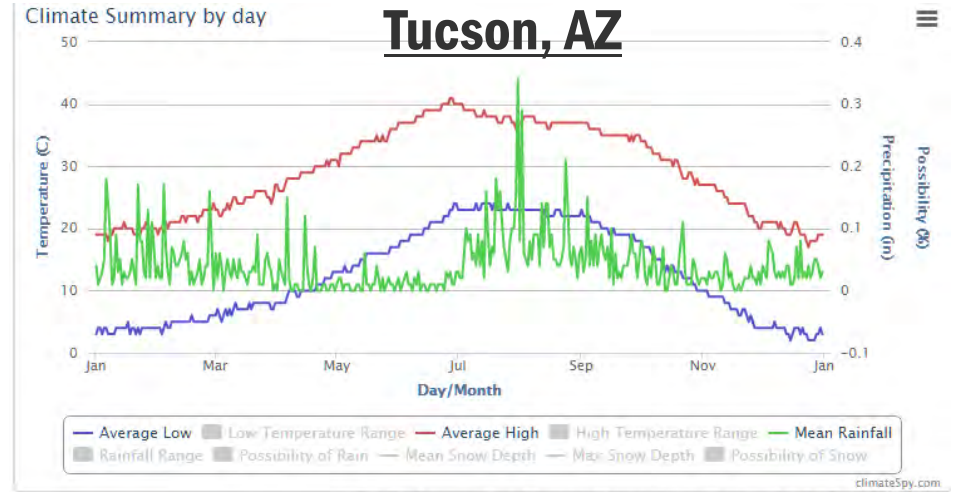


Thermal Cracking in AC Pavements (Cont'd)

Average Temperature Ranges: Reno vs. Tucson



Graph of average and extreme temperature ranges by day for Reno, NV



Graph of average and extreme temperature ranges by day for Tucson, AZ

RENO WFO, NEVADA (266791)

Period of Record Monthly Climate Summary

Period of Record : 05/01/1996 to 01/20/2015

| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Annual |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--------|
| Average Max. Temperature (F) | 45.7 | 48.3 | 56.6 | 61.2 | 72.4 | 82.3 | 92.9 | 90.7 | 82.2 | 67.6 | 54.4 | 44.8 | 66.6 |
| Average Min. Temperature (F) | 27.6 | 29.1 | 33.5 | 37.0 | 45.7 | 53.6 | 61.6 | 59.9 | 53.0 | 42.5 | 33.3 | 26.9 | 42.0 |
| Average Total Precipitation (in.) | 1.23 | 0.95 | 0.62 | 0.57 | 0.44 | 0.52 | 0.20 | 0.21 | 0.26 | 0.65 | 0.66 | 1.37 | 7.68 |
| Average Total SnowFall (in.) | 7.0 | 7.5 | 3.5 | 2.5 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 1.5 | 9.2 | 31.6 |
| Average Snow Depth (in.) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

TUCSON UNIV OF ARIZONA, ARIZONA (028815)

Period of Record Monthly Climate Summary

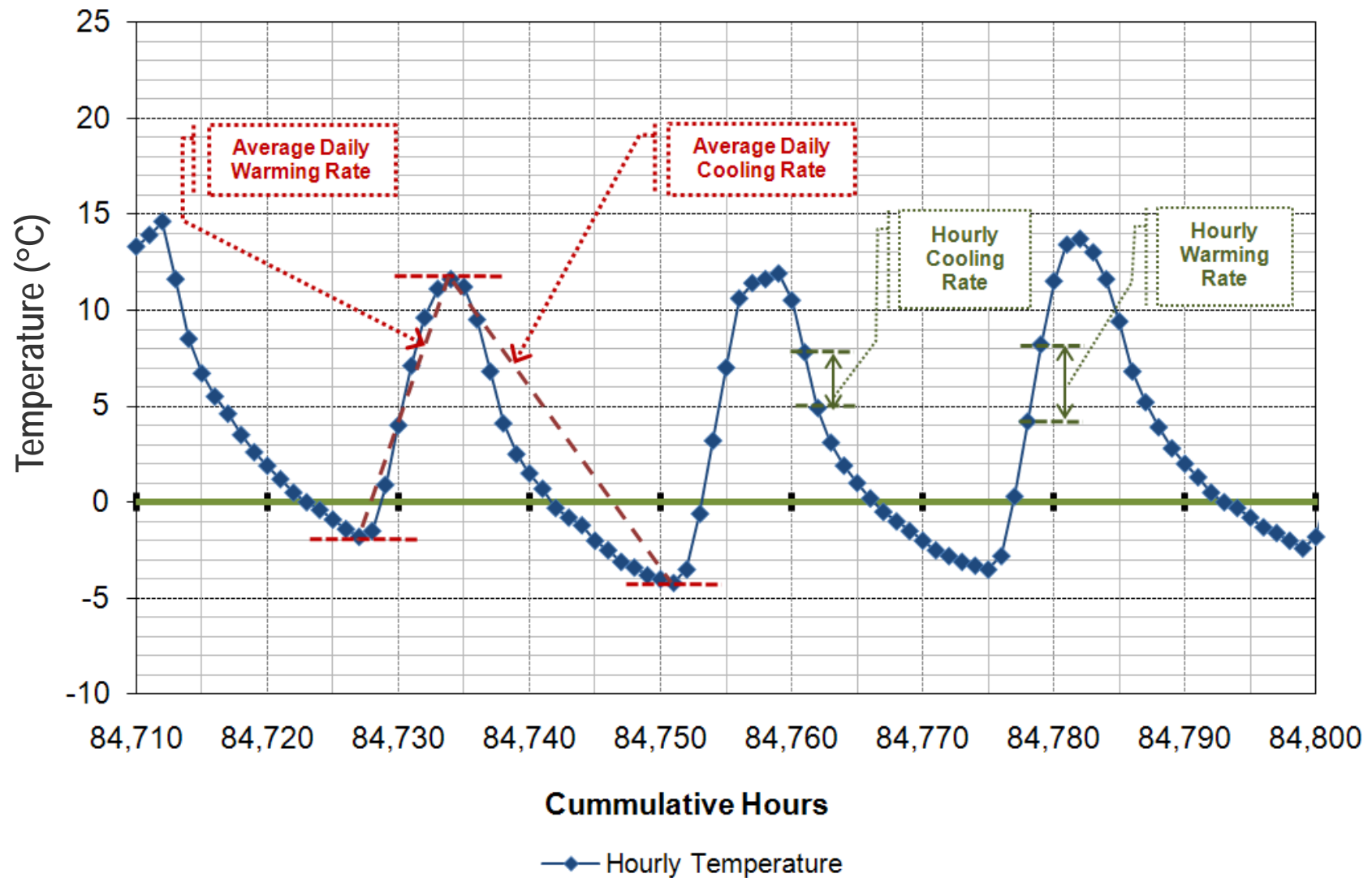
Period of Record : 9/1/1894 to 12/31/2005

| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Annual |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|--------|
| Average Max. Temperature (F) | 65.5 | 68.9 | 74.3 | 82.1 | 90.7 | 99.8 | 100.1 | 97.9 | 95.2 | 85.9 | 74.3 | 66.2 | 83.4 |
| Average Min. Temperature (F) | 37.6 | 40.2 | 44.0 | 49.8 | 57.5 | 66.8 | 73.9 | 72.4 | 66.9 | 54.9 | 43.8 | 38.1 | 53.8 |
| Average Total Precipitation (in.) | 0.89 | 0.84 | 0.76 | 0.39 | 0.18 | 0.27 | 2.02 | 2.16 | 1.16 | 0.75 | 0.77 | 0.97 | 11.15 |
| Average Total SnowFall (in.) | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.7 |
| Average Snow Depth (in.) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Data Sources: climateSpy.com, and *Western Regional Climate Center*

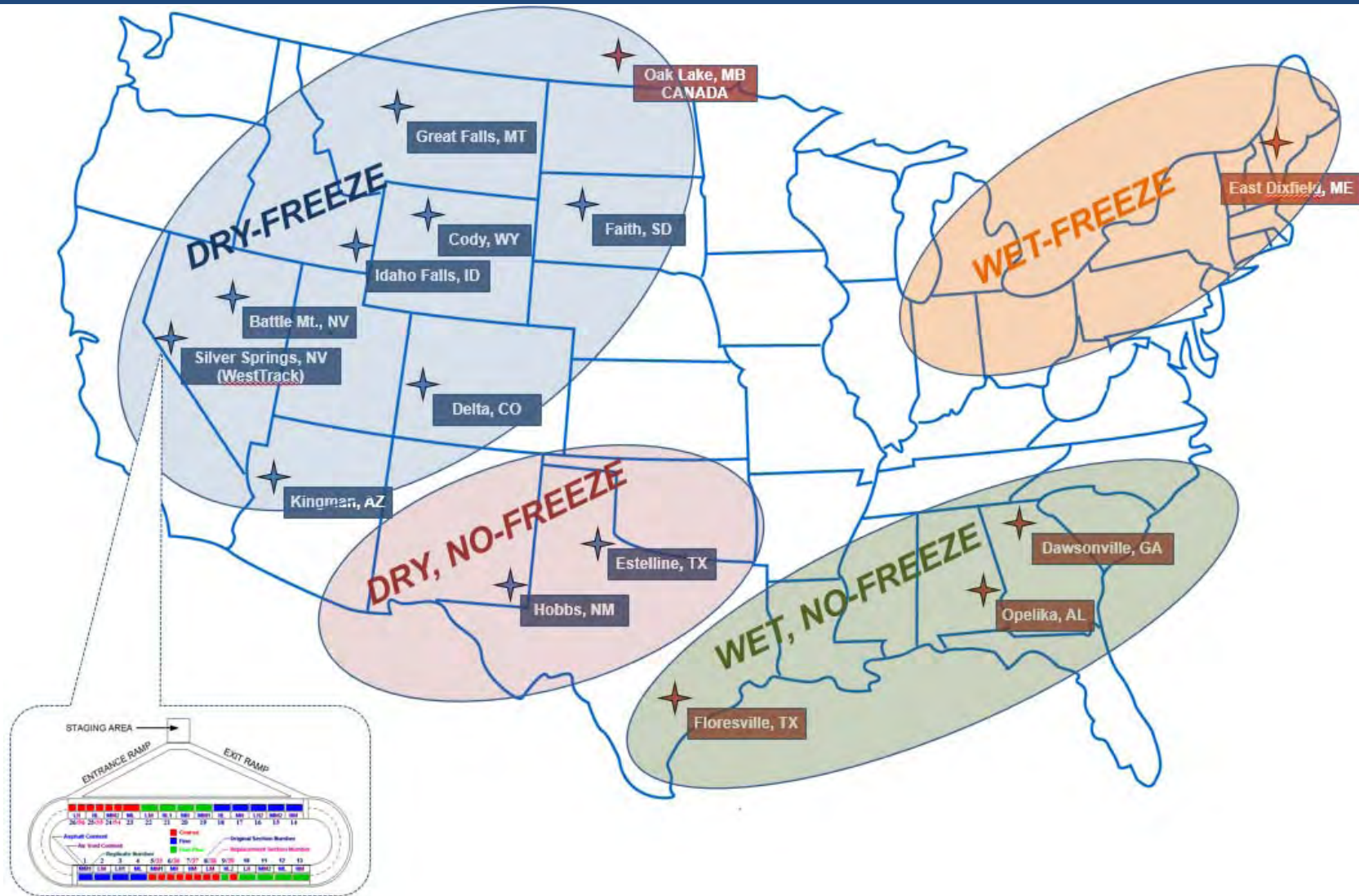
Pavement Temperature Rates

Average and Hourly Warming and Cooling Temperature Rates in AC



Pavement Temperature Rates (Cont'd)

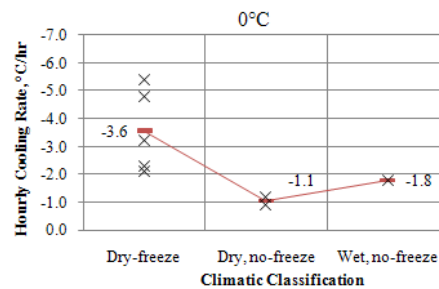
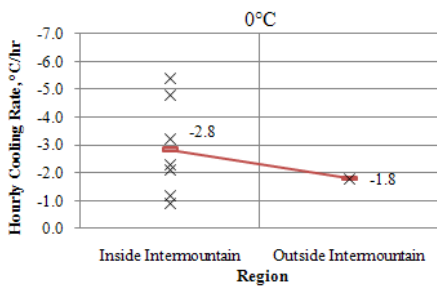
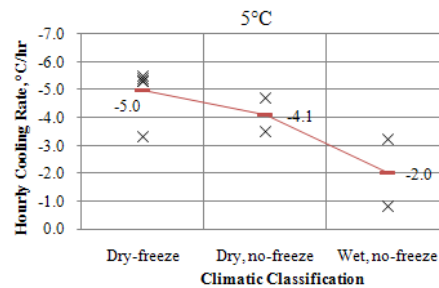
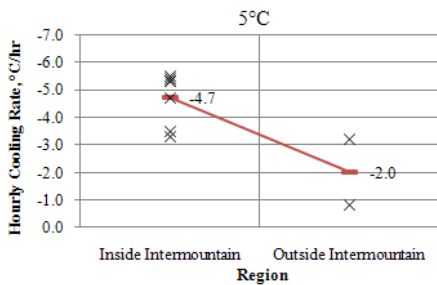
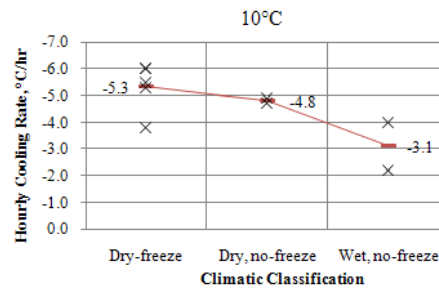
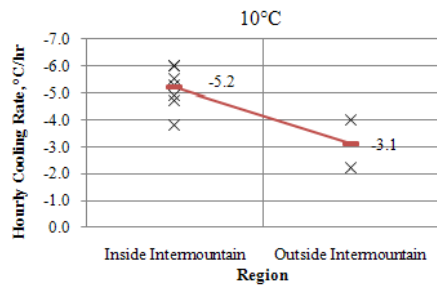
Average and Hourly Warming and Cooling Temperature Rates in AC



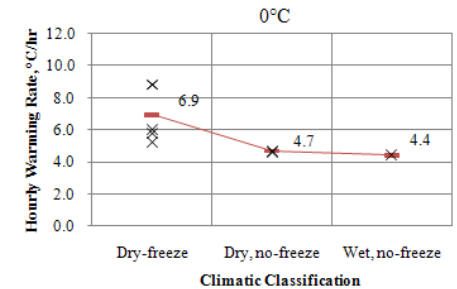
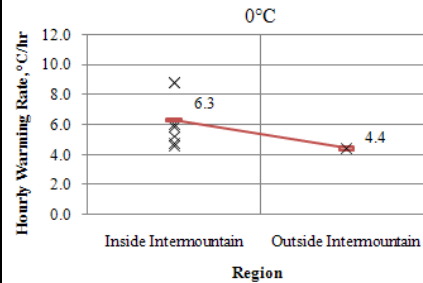
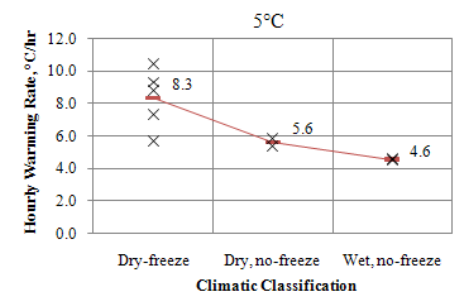
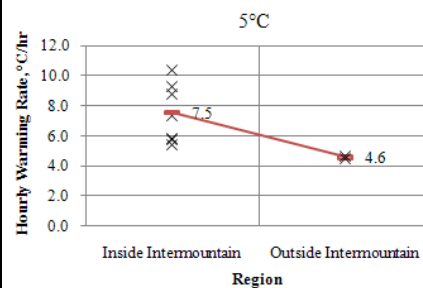
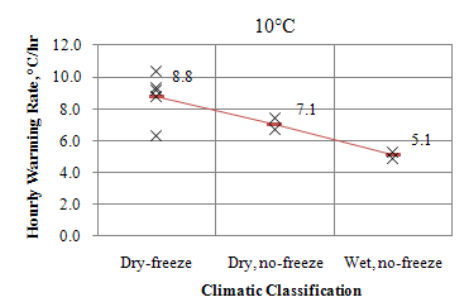
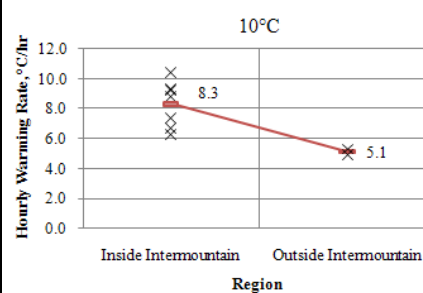
Pavement Temperature Rates (Cont'd)

Measurements in AC at a Depth of 12.5 mm below pavement surface

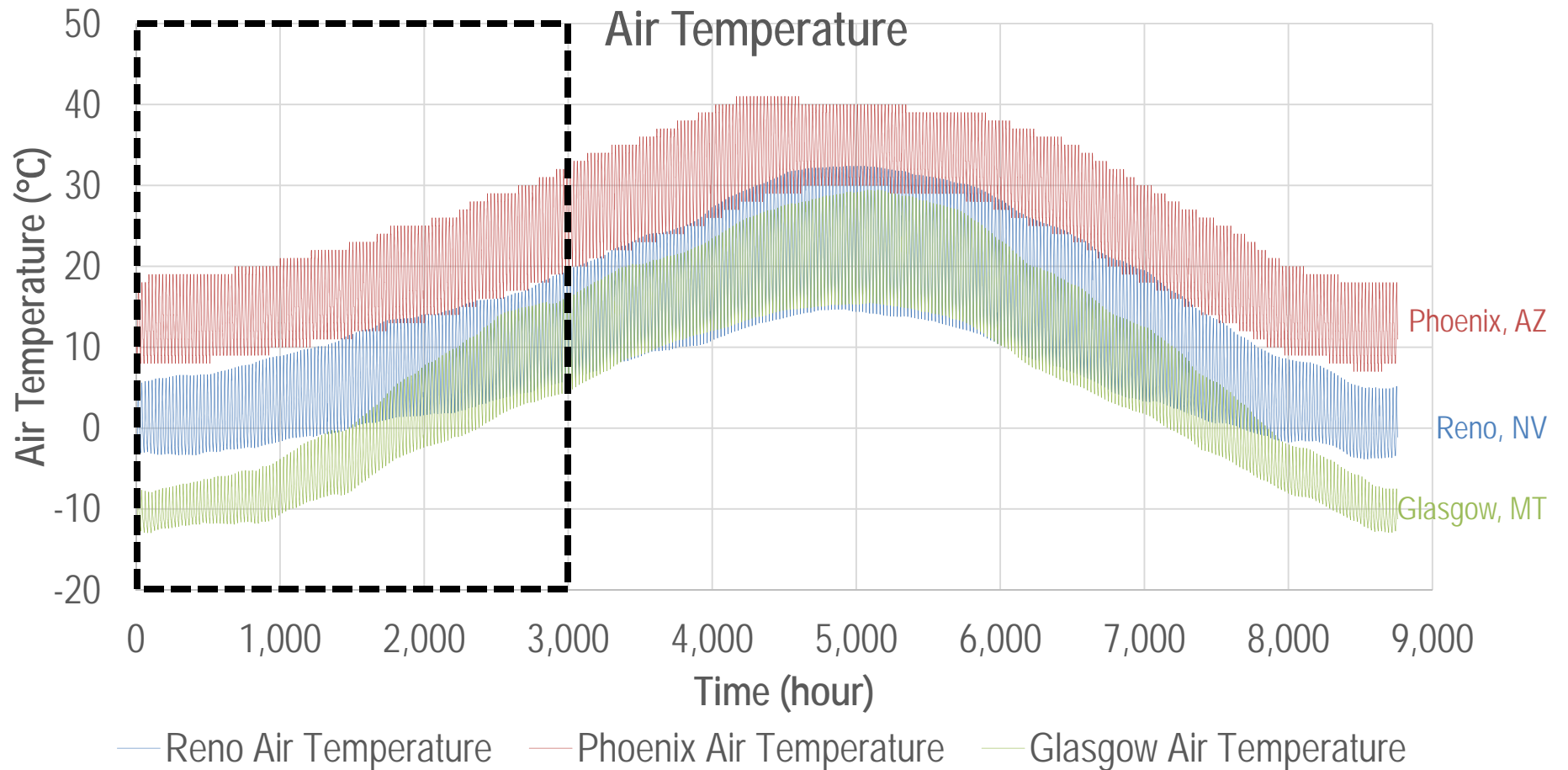
Cooling Rates



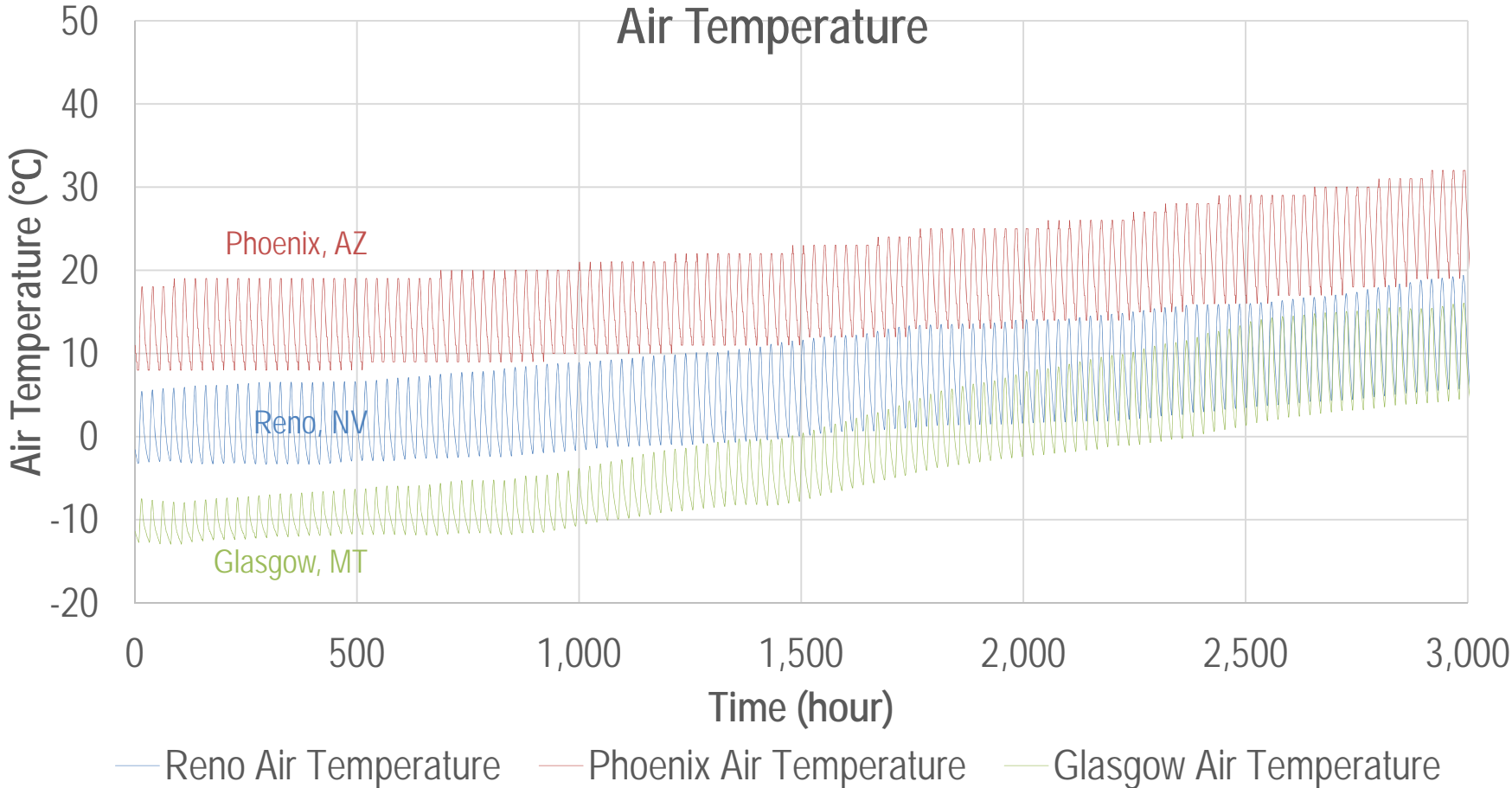
Warming Rates



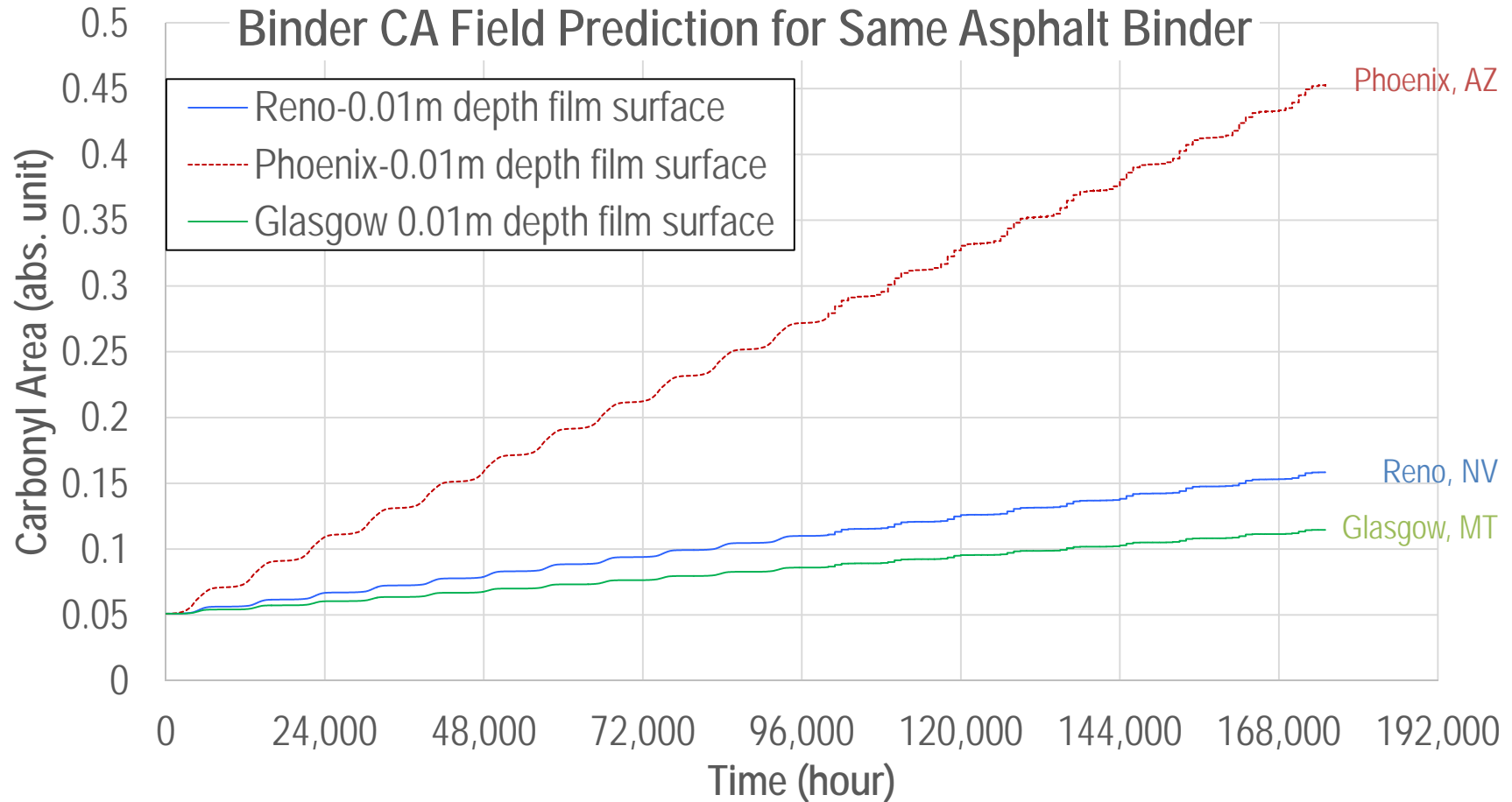
Impact of Temperature on Binder Aging



Impact of Temperature on Binder Aging (Cont'd)



Impact of Temperature on Binder Aging (Cont'd)



Thermal Cracking in AC Pavements

- Thermal cracking can be addressed by:
 - Selecting the appropriate asphalt binder grade coupled with the *proper rheological properties and aging characteristics*.
 - Selecting the appropriate aggregate properties and gradation.
 - Assuring the proper mixture volumetric and properties.

Thermal Stress Restrained Specimen Test (TSRST)

- Originally developed as a part of SHRP.
 - Mixture specimen is started at an initial temperature then subjected to a temperature drop until fracture while height of the specimen is kept constant.
- Has been successfully utilized in pavement research to evaluate low temperature cracking properties of asphalt mixtures.
 - Initially published as AASHTO TP10 (currently dropped from the AASHTO standards).
 - European standard EN12697-46 (2012) to characterize asphalt mixtures for thermal cracking resistance.

Thermal Stress Restrained Specimen Test (TSRST)

- Limitations/Potential Concerns
 - Compaction of prismatic specimens.
 - Variation in thermal stress build-up between replicate samples.
 - Variation in fracture stress and fracture temperature.
- Implemented Enhancements → UTSST
 - Sample geometry and preparation methods (cylindrical specimens/reduce edge effect).
 - Gluing technique (epoxy selection based on CTC and gluing jigs)
 - End platens and fixtures (reduce eccentricity)
 - Thermal strain measurements
 - Draft ASTM Standard (pending D04.26)

Test Procedure

Specimen Preparation

- Four 57mm (2 ¼ in.) diam. × 134mm (5 ¼ in.) height specimens
 - Cored 90° from the axis of compaction of a SGC sample or a field core sample.



Online Video: <http://www.unr.edu/wrsc/research/facilities/asphalt>

Test Procedure (Cont'd)

Loading Specimens into Testing Chamber



Test Procedure (Cont'd)

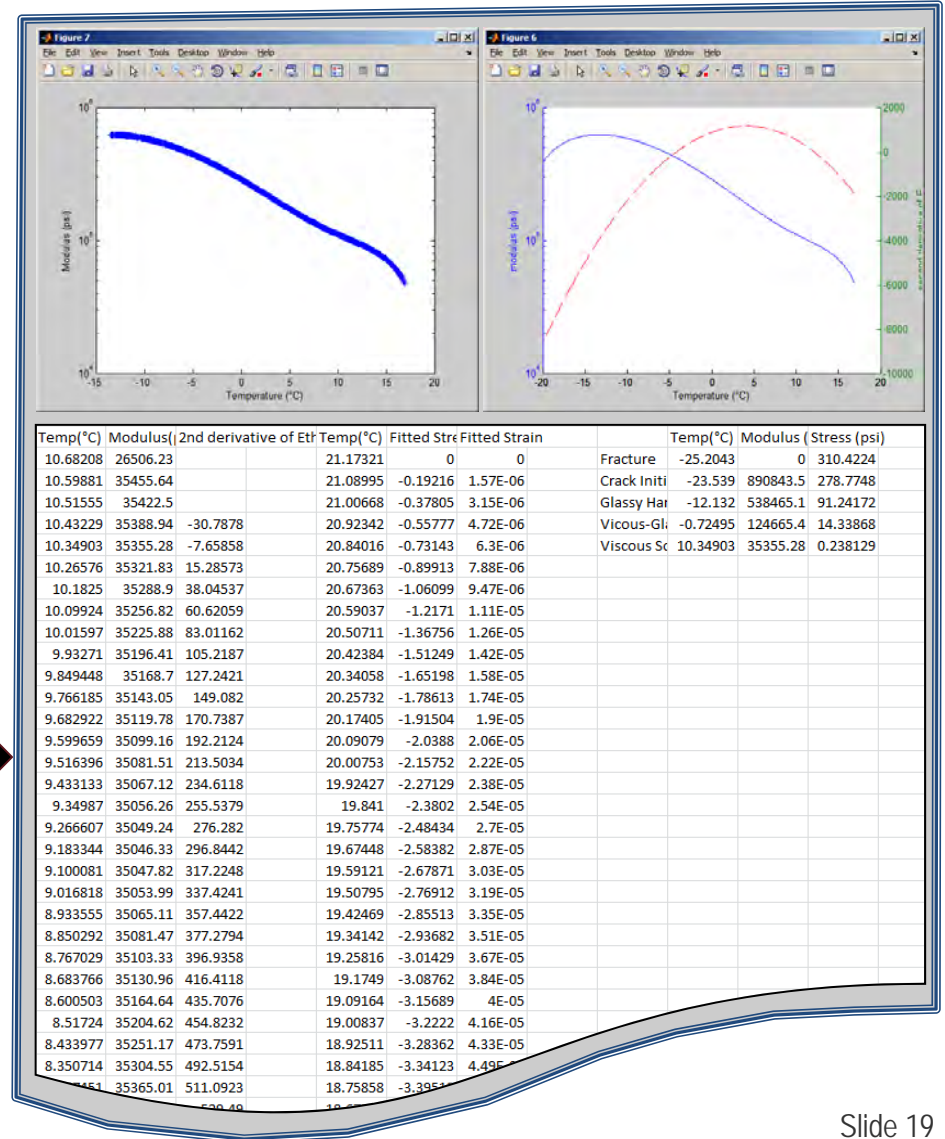
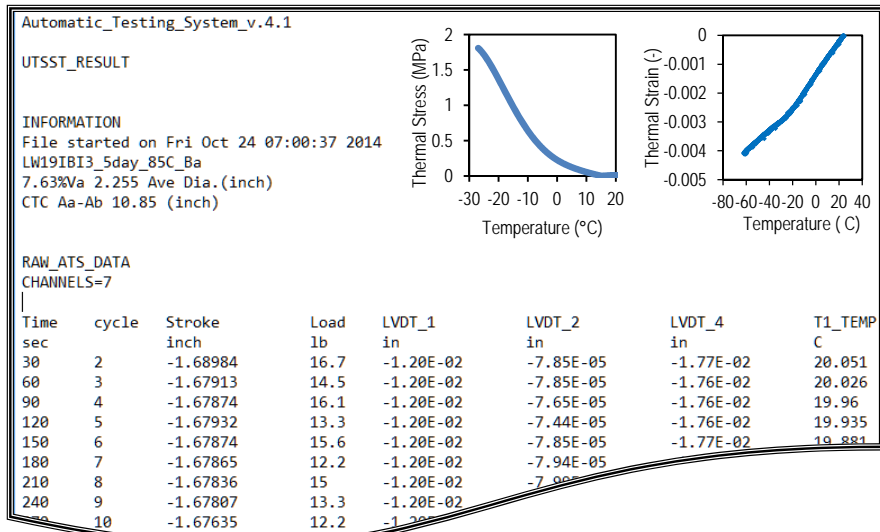
Running the Test

- Start test at room temperature (typically 20°C)
- Apply thermal loading at 10°C/hour or another predetermined cooling rate through -40°C.



Test Procedure (Cont'd)

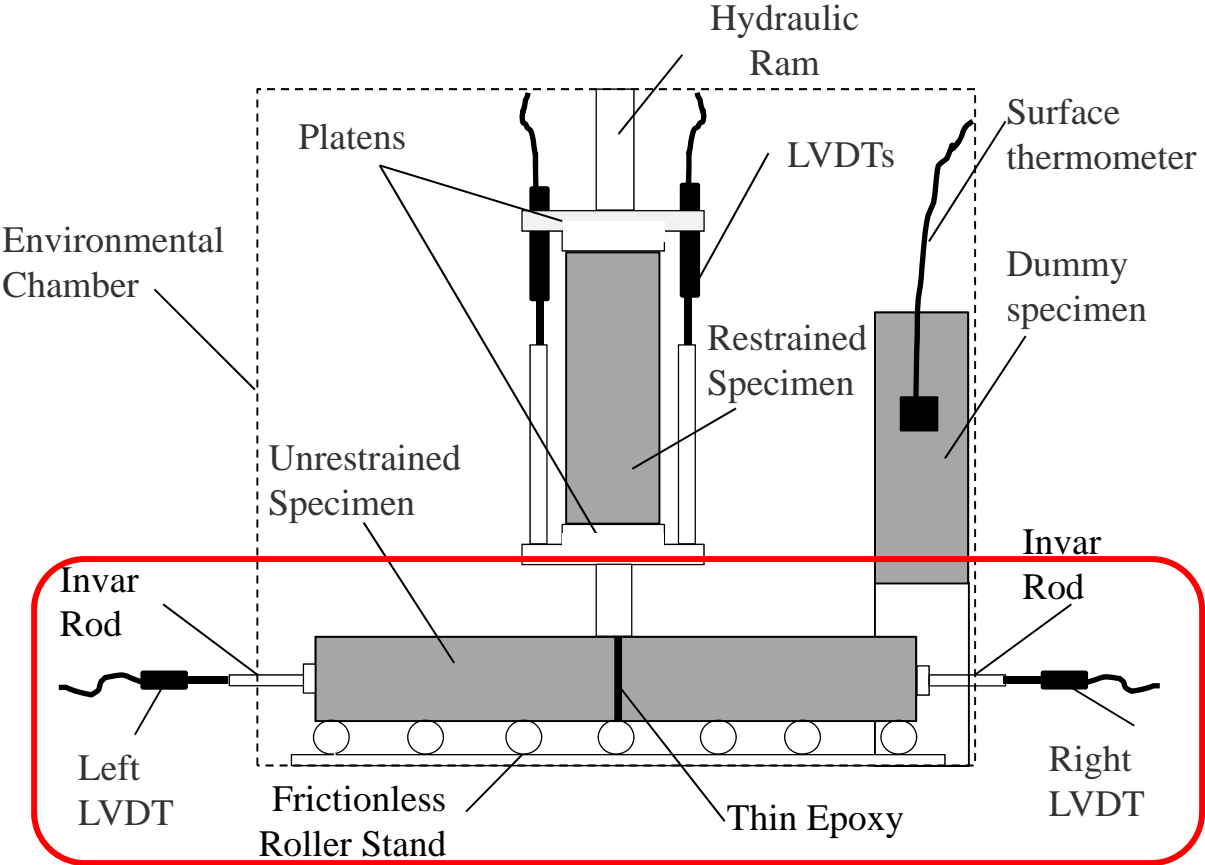
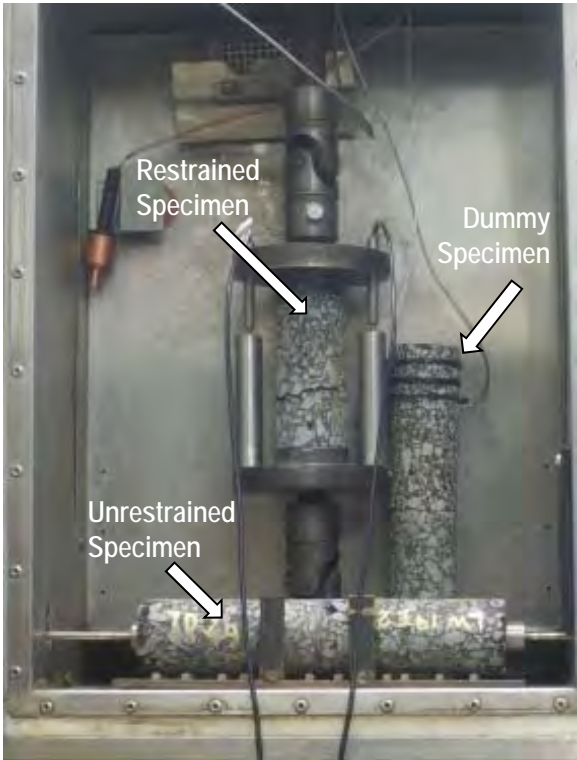
Data Collection and Analysis



Automatic Data Analysis
(MATLAB or MS Excel)

Test Description

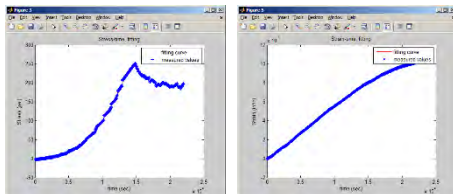
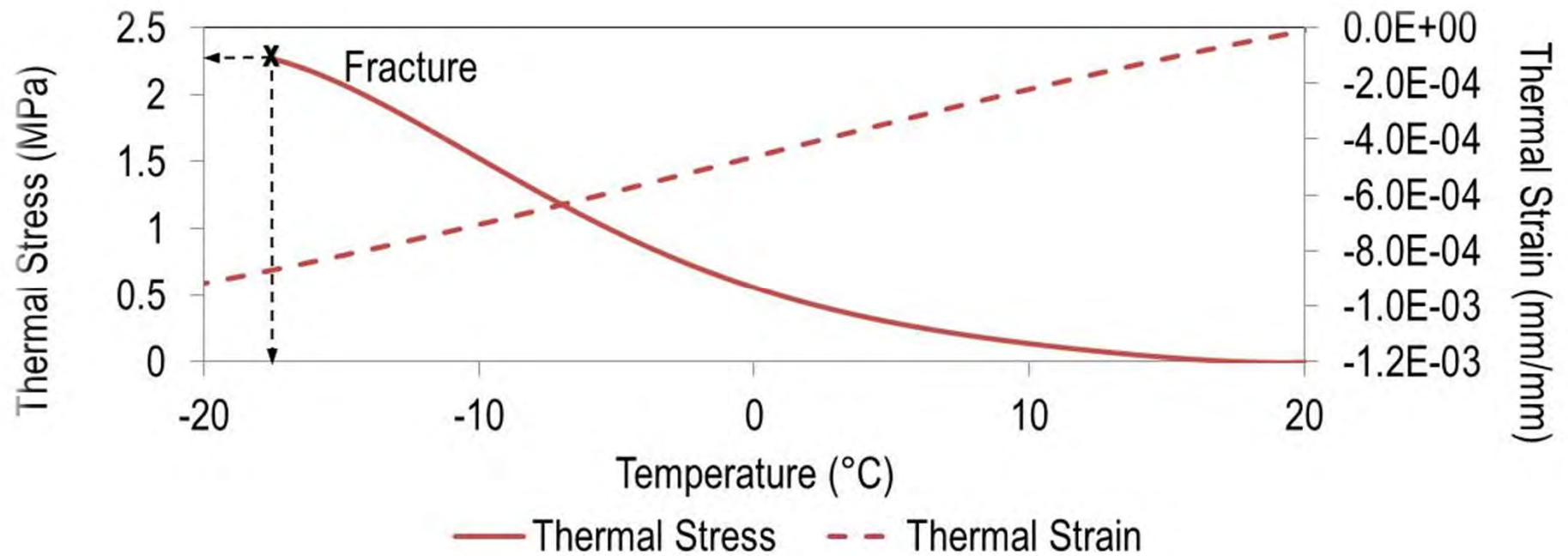
Uniaxial Thermal Stress and Strain Test (UTSST)



Test Description (Cont'd)

Uniaxial Thermal Stress and Strain Test Results

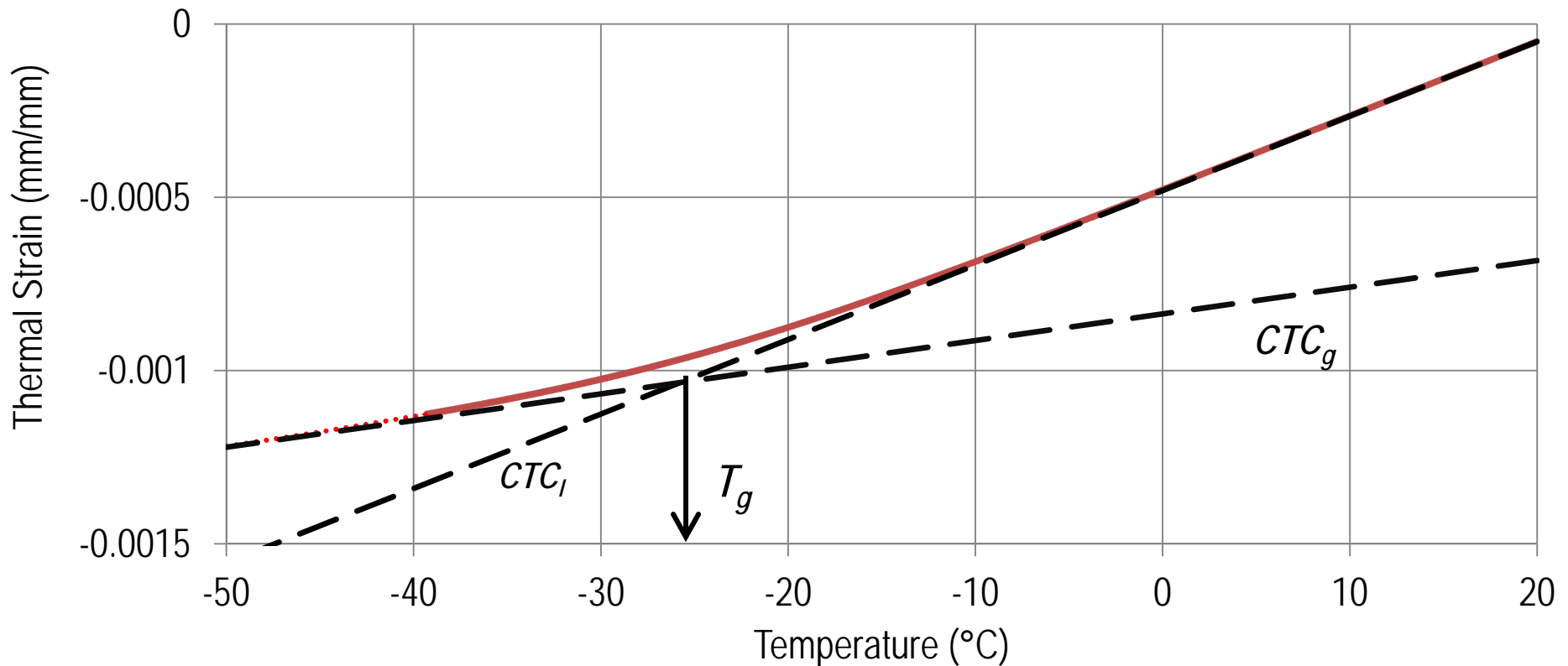
Thermal Stress Build-up and Thermal Strain



Test Description (Cont'd)

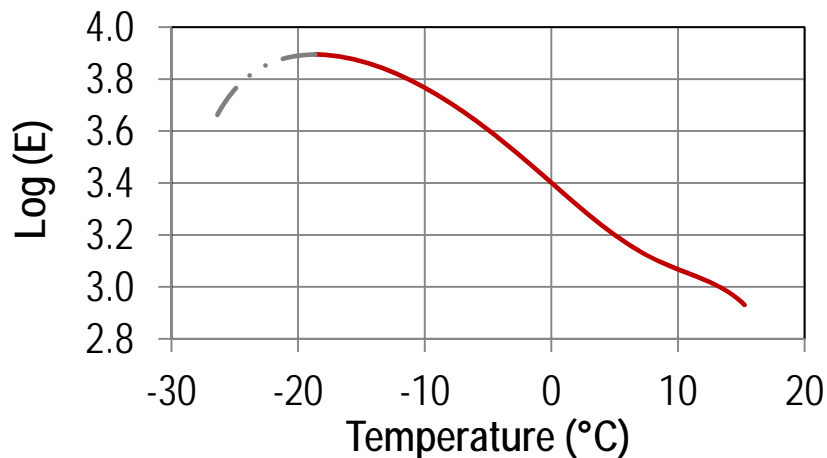
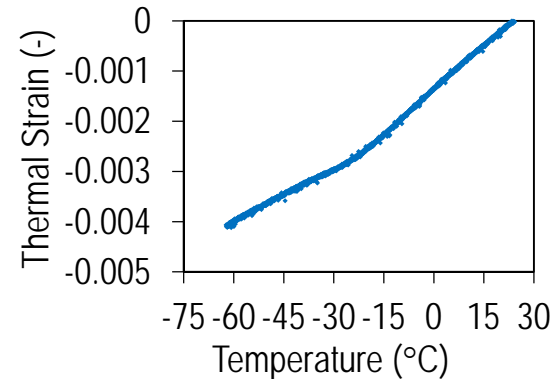
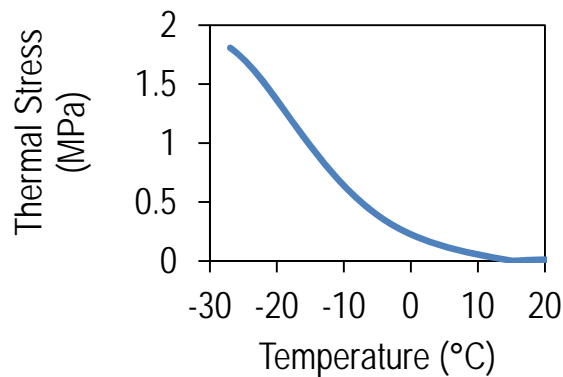
Data Analysis: Coeff. Of Thermal Contraction (CTC)

$$\varepsilon_{th} = \frac{\Delta l}{l_0} = C + CTC_g(T - T_g) + \ln \left\{ \left[1 + e^{\frac{(T-T_g)}{R}} \right]^{R(CTC_l - CTC_g)} \right\}; \quad CTC(T) = CTC_g + \frac{(CTC_L - CTC_g) \times e^{\frac{(T-T_g)}{R}}}{(1 + e^{\frac{(T-T_g)}{R}})}$$



Test Description (Cont'd)

Data Analysis: Calculation of Modulus



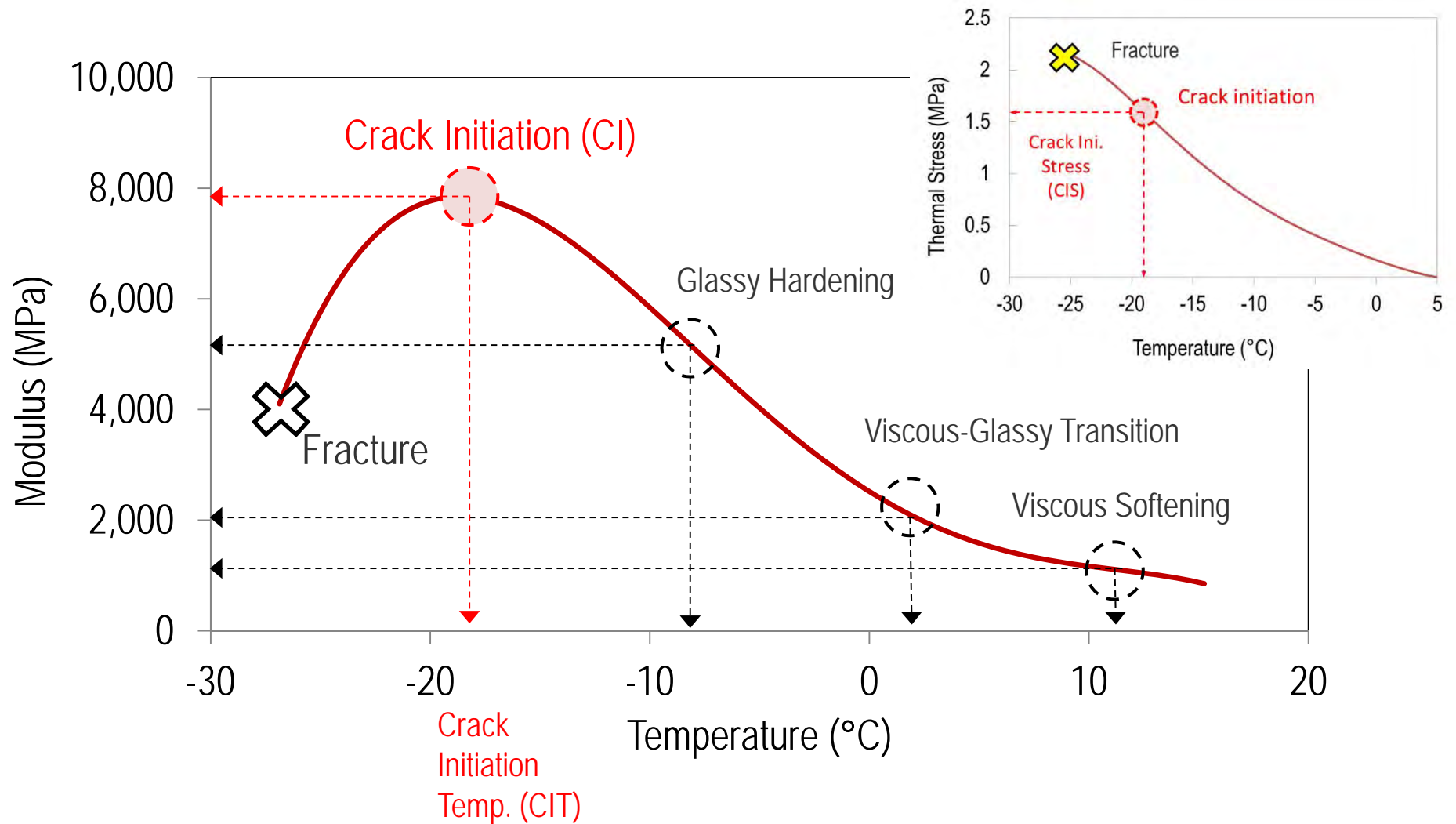
Boltzmann's Superposition Principle

$$\sigma(t) = \int_0^t E_r(t-t') \frac{\partial \varepsilon(t')}{\partial t'} dt'$$

$$E(T(t_n)) = \frac{(\sigma(t_{n+1}) - \sum_{i=2}^{n+1} E(t_{n+1} - t_i) (\varepsilon(t_i) - \varepsilon(t_{i-1})))}{\varepsilon(t_1)}$$

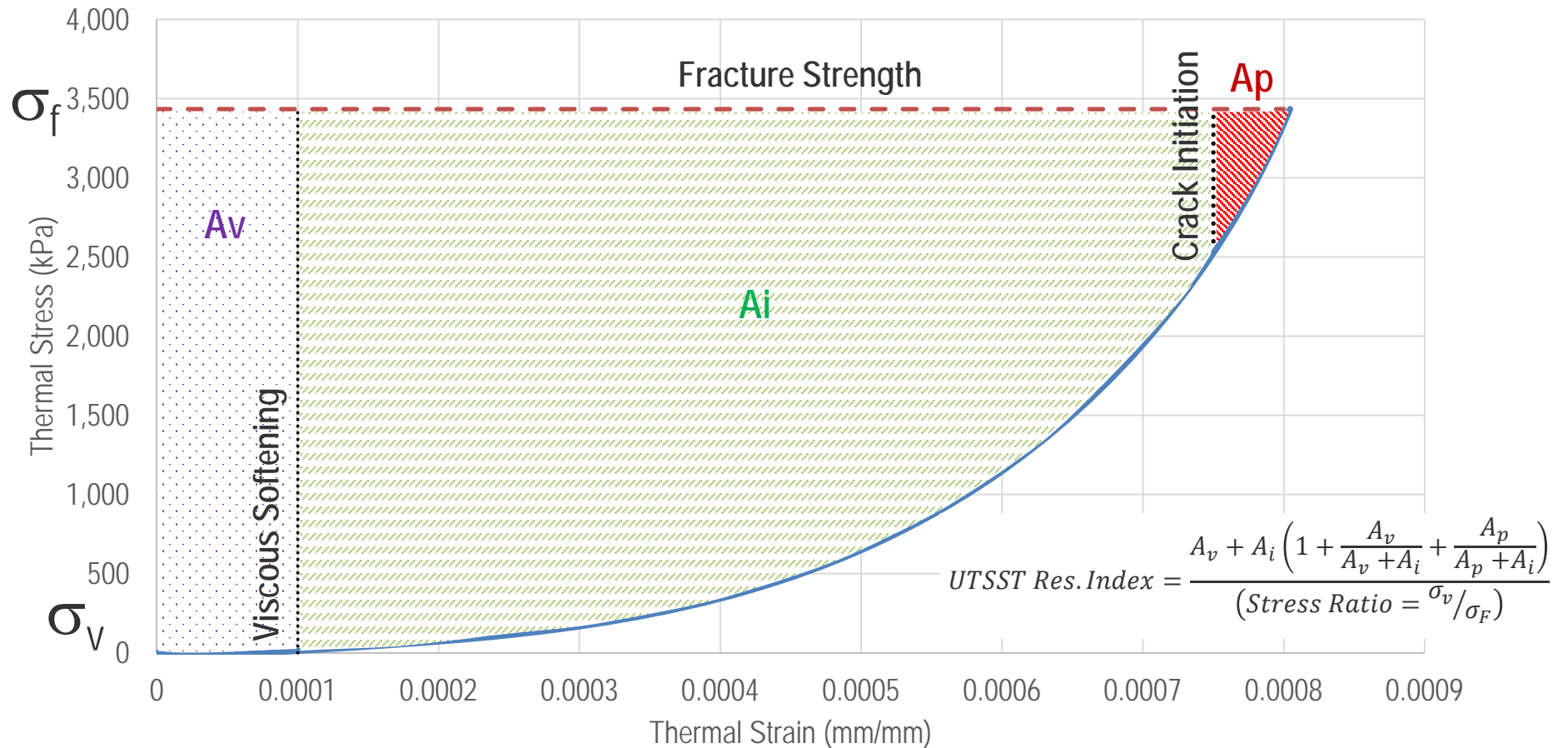
Test Description (Cont'd)

Data Analysis: Modulus as a Function of Temperature



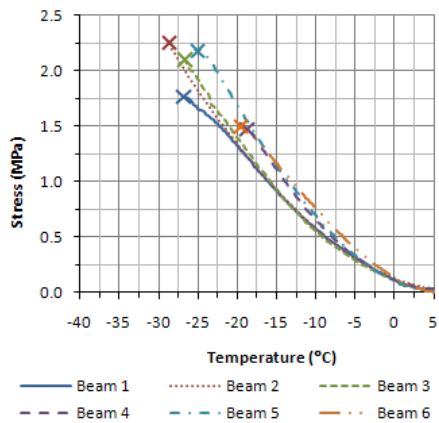
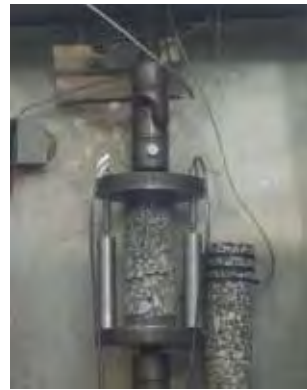
Test Description (Cont'd)

Data Analysis: UTSSST Resistance Index

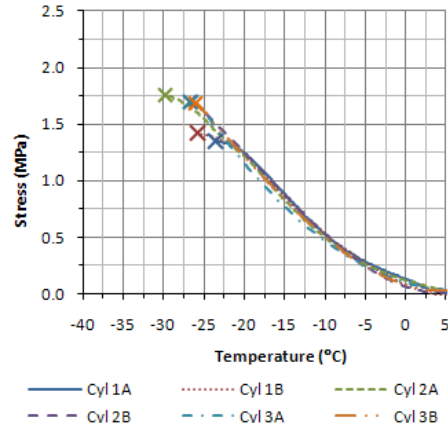


Test Variability

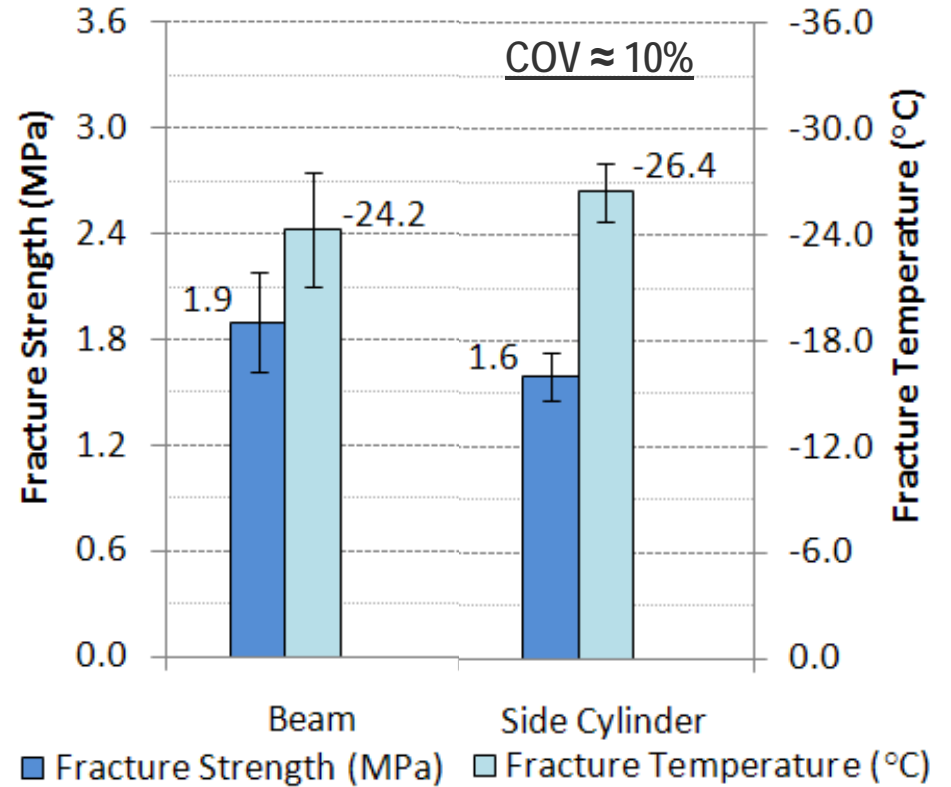
Prismatic versus Cylindrical Side Specimens



(a) Beam Specimens



(d) Side Cylinder Specimens



(Whiskers represent 95% confidence interval)

Test Variability

Fracture Location

- Failure Plane/Breakage Face
 - Specimen alignment is critical such as with any tension test.
 - The new gluing jig/technique reduced this issue significantly.



Lab-Mix Lab-Compacted



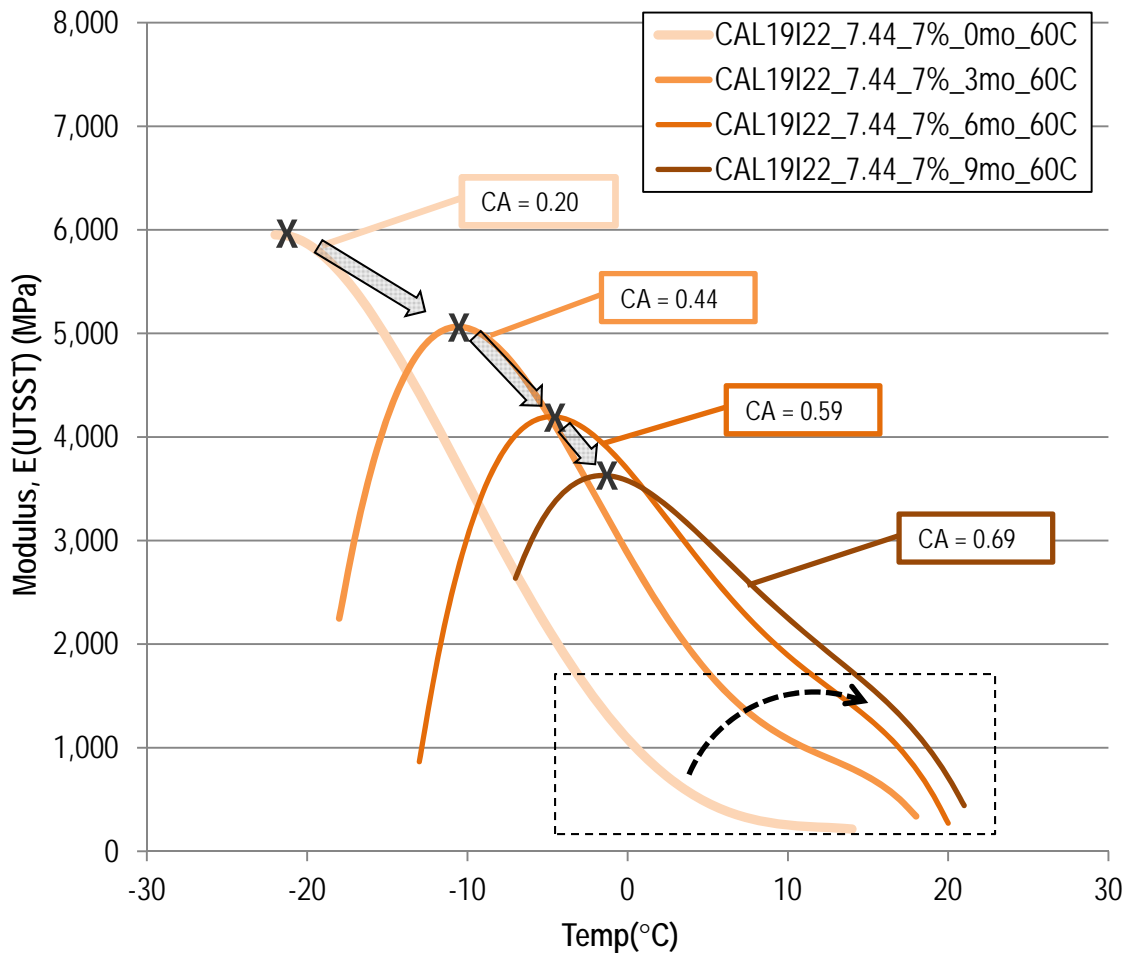
Field-Mix Field-Compacted/Cores

Test Sensitivity

- Examples highlighting the test sensitivity to:
 - Long-term aging;
 - Air void level;
 - Asphalt binder content;
 - Aggregate mineralogy;
 - Asphalt binder modification;
 - Recycled materials.

Test Sensitivity (Cont'd)

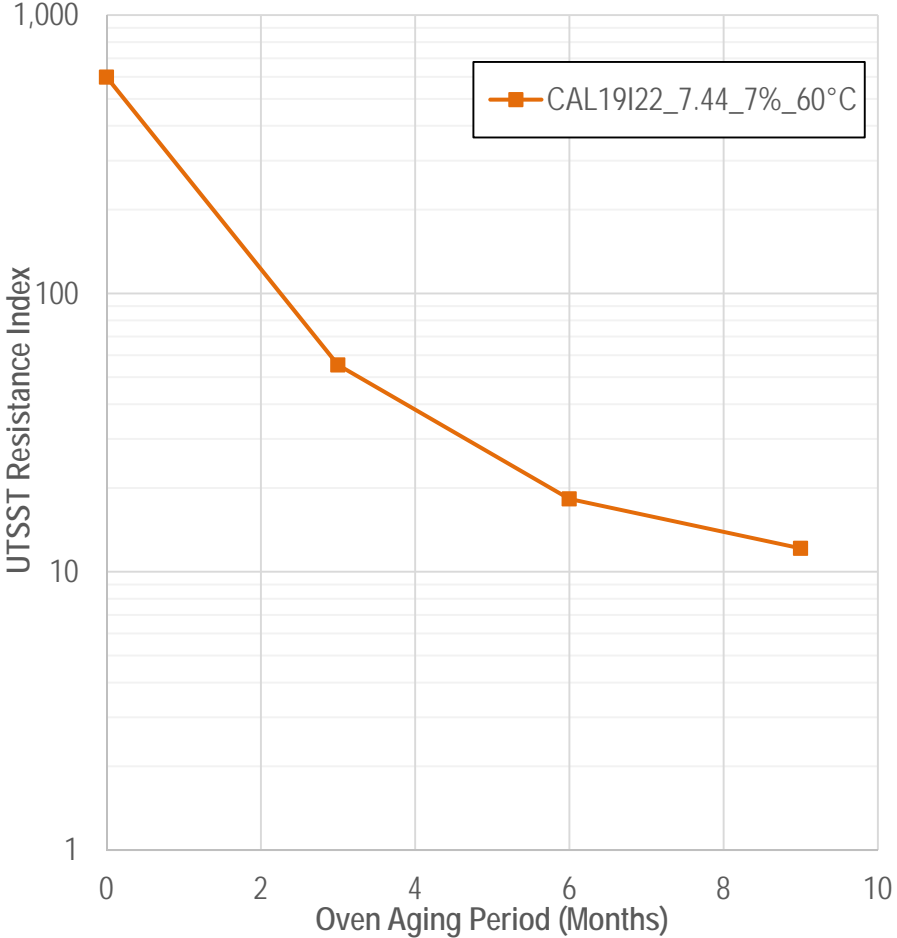
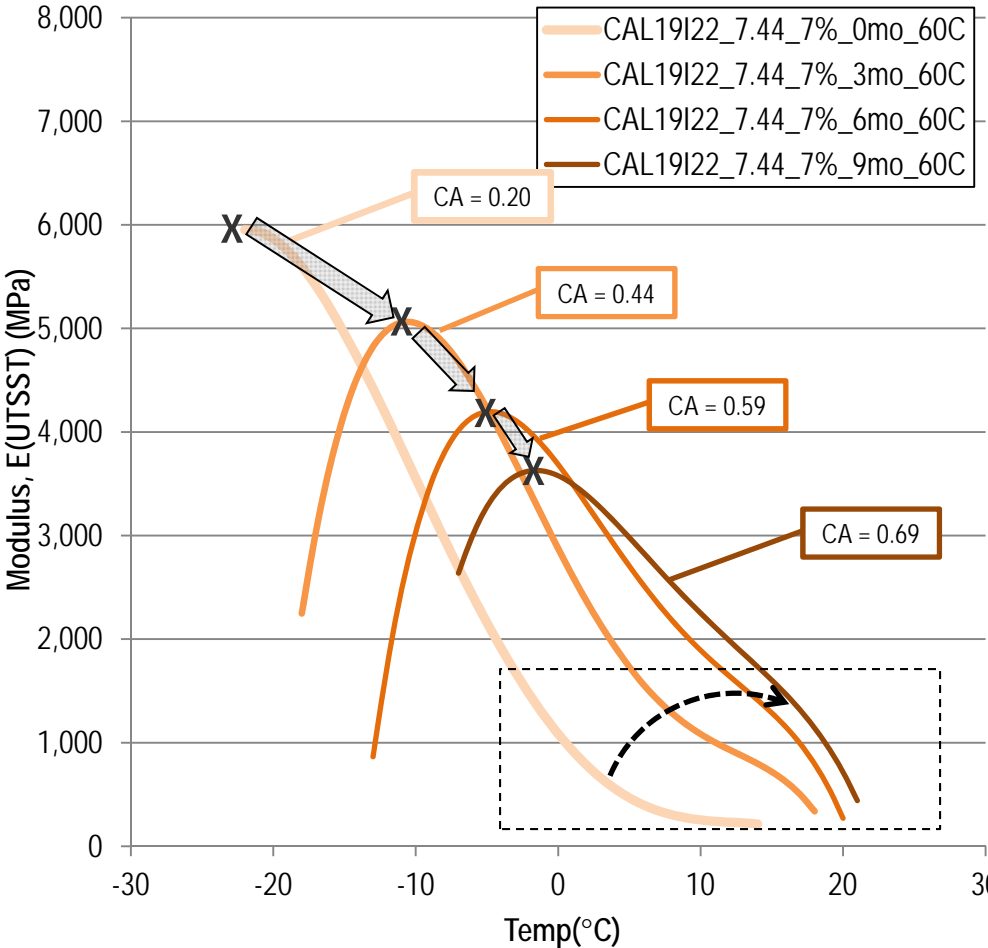
Effect of Aging



| Property | PG64-22 (7% Va) | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|-------|-------|------|
| | 0 M | 3 M | 6 M | 9 M |
| Fracture Temp (°C) | -23.3 | -18.2 | -13.2 | -7.7 |
| Fracture Stress (MPa) | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 1.6 |
| Crack Initiation Temp, CIT (°C) | -22.3 | -10.7 | -4.8 | -1.5 |
| Crack Initiation Stress, CIS (MPa) | 2.2 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.2 |
| Glassy Hardening (°C) | -10.4 | -2.0 | +2.8 | +7.5 |
| Viscous-Glassy Transition (°C) | +1.2 | +5.6 | +8.1 | +9.4 |
| UTSST Resistance Index | 599 | 55 | 18 | 12 |

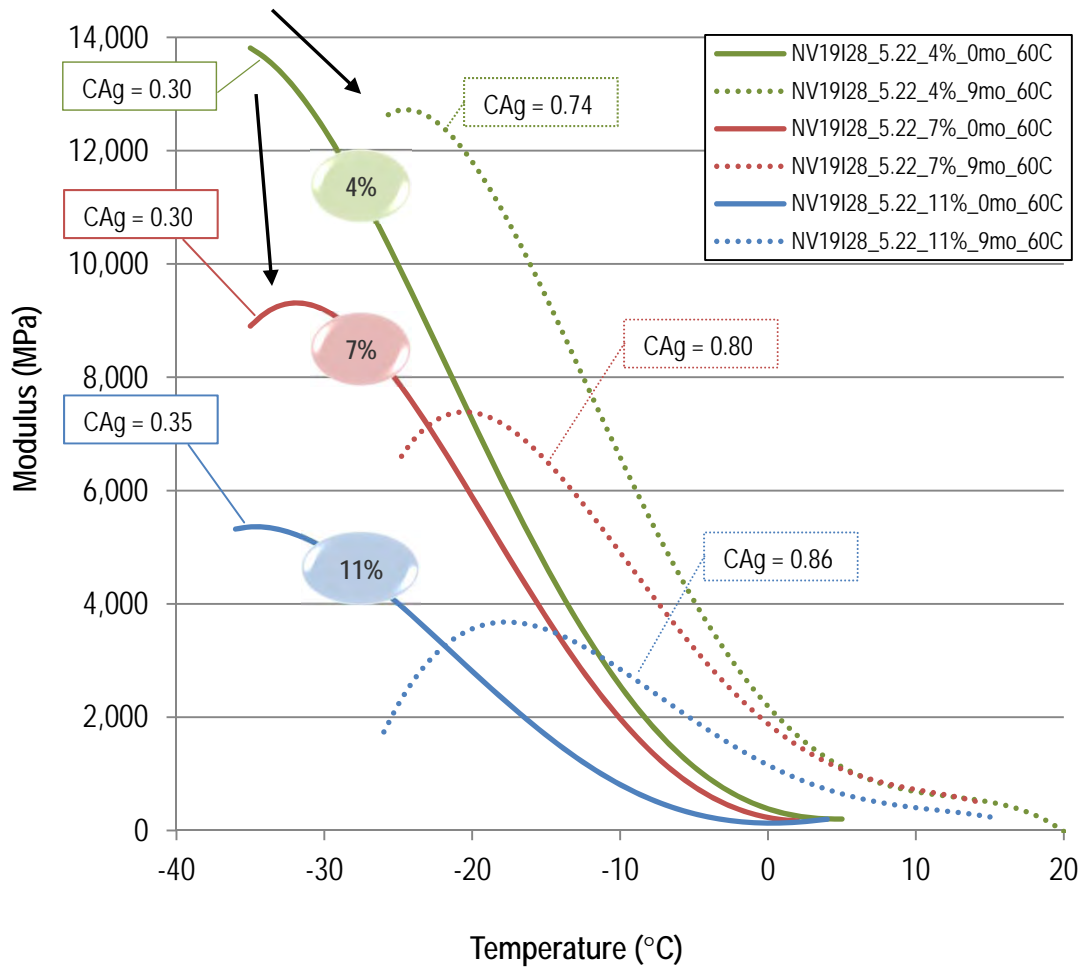
Test Sensitivity (Cont'd)

Effect of Aging



Test Sensitivity (Cont'd)

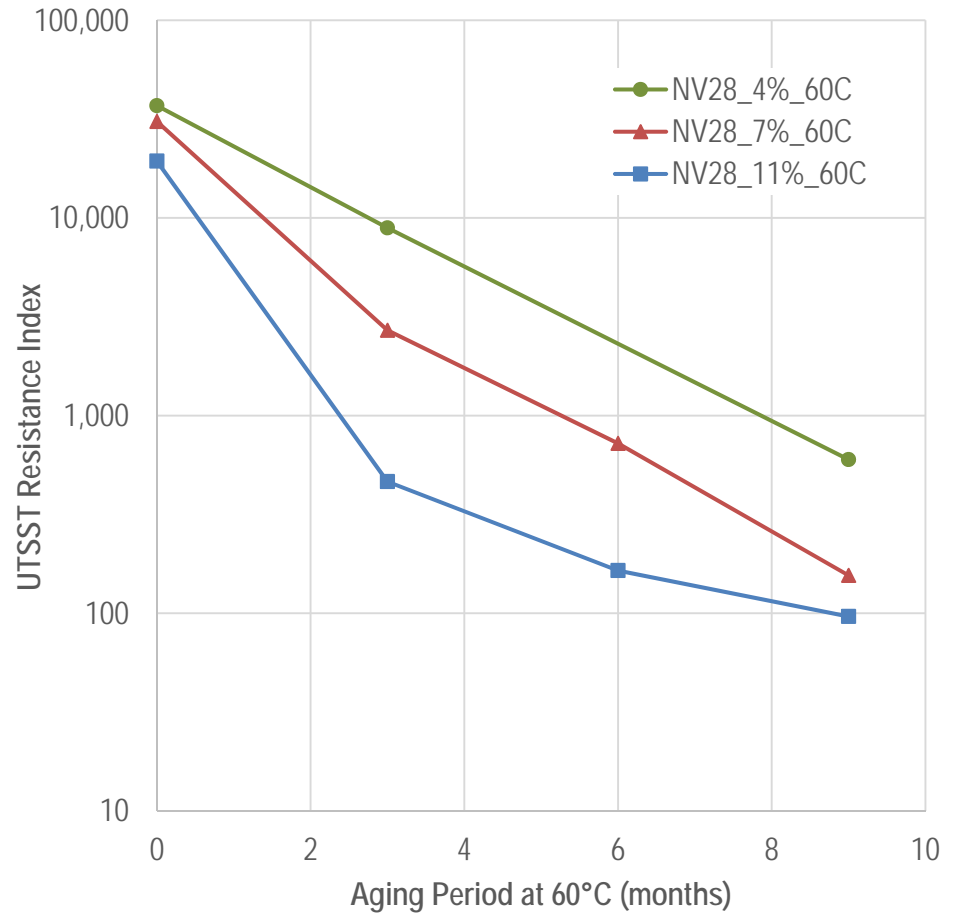
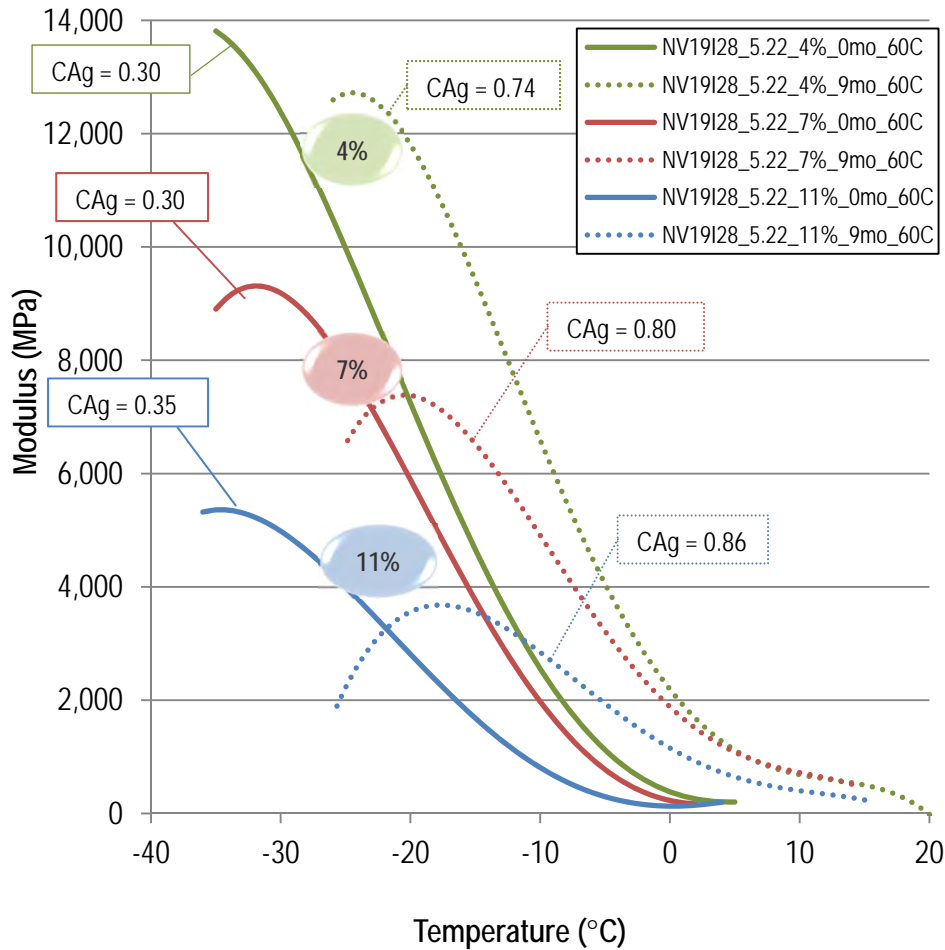
Effect of Air Void Level



| Property | 4% Va | | 7% Va | | 11% Va | |
|------------------------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| | 0 M | 9 M | 0 M | 9 M | 0 M | 9 M |
| Fracture Temp (°C) | -34.4 | -27.2 | -35.4 | -26.2 | -36.5 | -26.6 |
| Fracture Stress (MPa) | 4.2 | 4.0 | 3.2 | 2.7 | 2.1 | 1.6 |
| Crack Initiation Temp, CIT (°C) | -34.3 | -23.3 | -32.1 | -20.5 | -35.1 | -17.7 |
| Crack Initiation Stress, CIS (MPa) | 4.1 | 3.2 | 2.7 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 1.1 |
| UTSST Resistance Index | 36,973 | 599 | 30,728 | 156 | 19,358 | 96 |

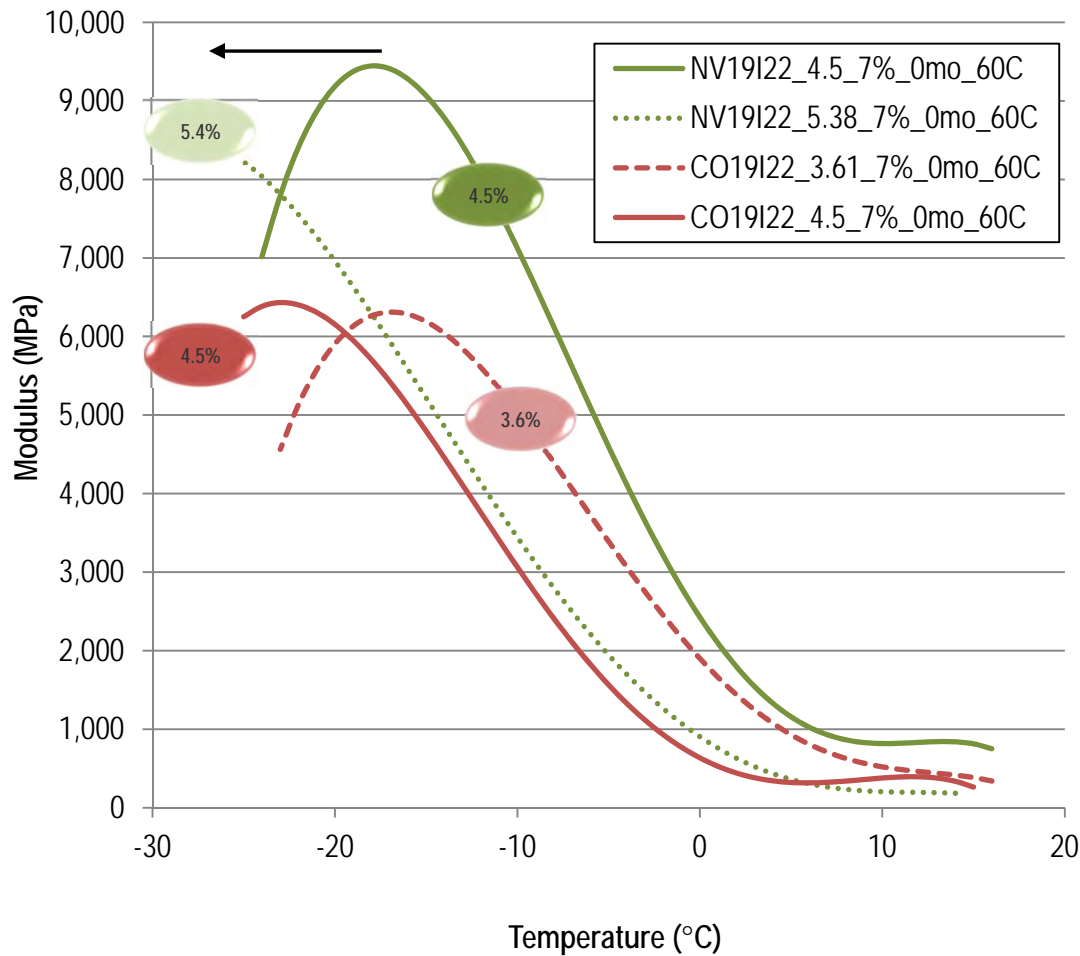
Test Sensitivity (Cont'd)

Effect of Air Void Level



Test Sensitivity (Cont'd)

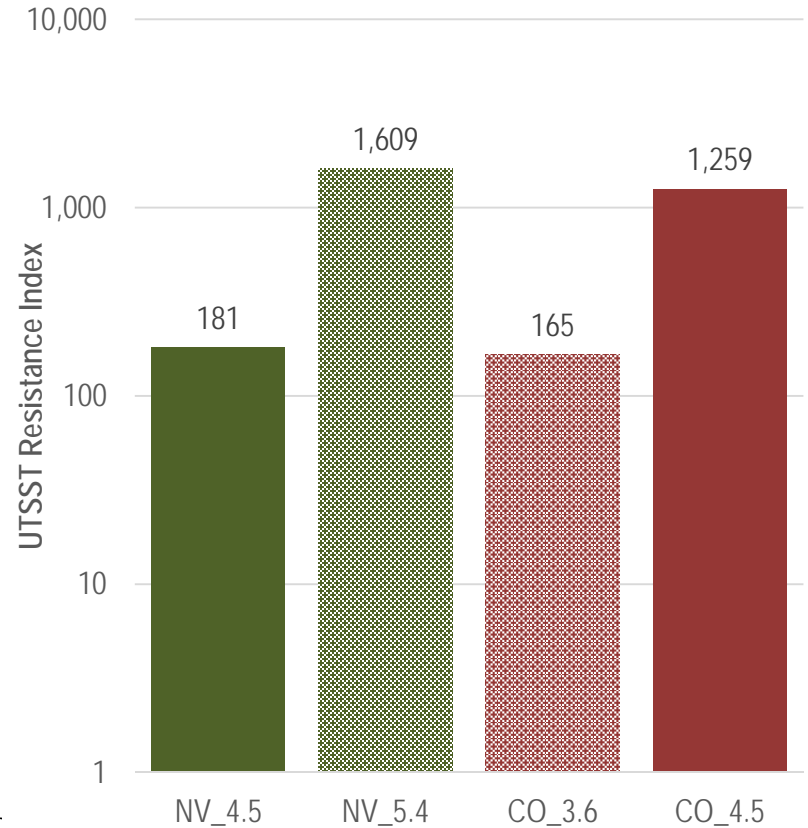
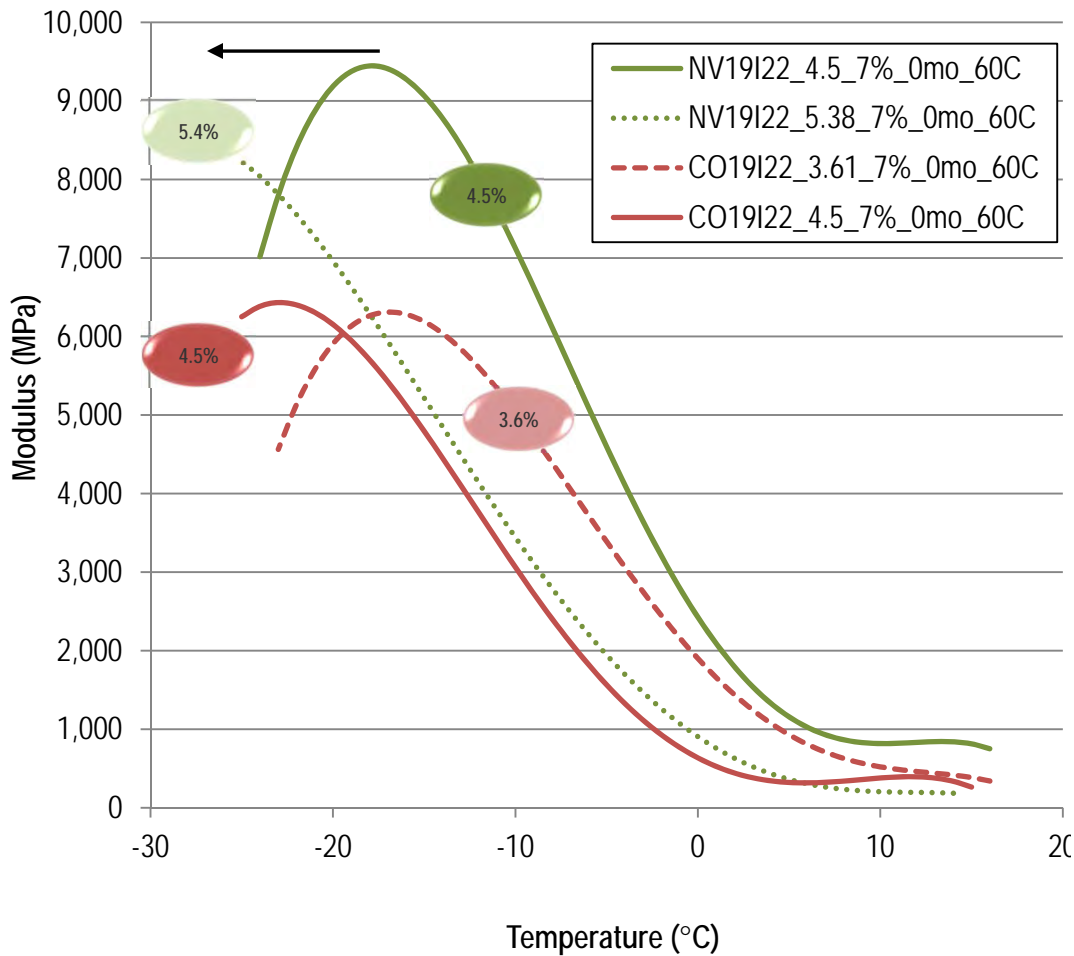
Effect of Asphalt Binder Content & Aggregate Mineralogy



| Property | Colorado | | Nevada | |
|------------------------------------|----------|-------|--------|-------|
| | 3.6% | 4.5% | 4.5% | 5.4% |
| Fracture Temp (°C) | -22.3 | -25.1 | -24.2 | -25.4 |
| Fracture Stress (MPa) | 1.6 | 2.2 | 2.6 | 3.0 |
| Crack Initiation Temp, CIT (°C) | -17.3 | -22.9 | -17.9 | -25.3 |
| Crack Initiation Stress, CIS (MPa) | 1.2 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 3.0 |
| UTSST Resistance Index | 165 | 1,259 | 181 | 1,609 |

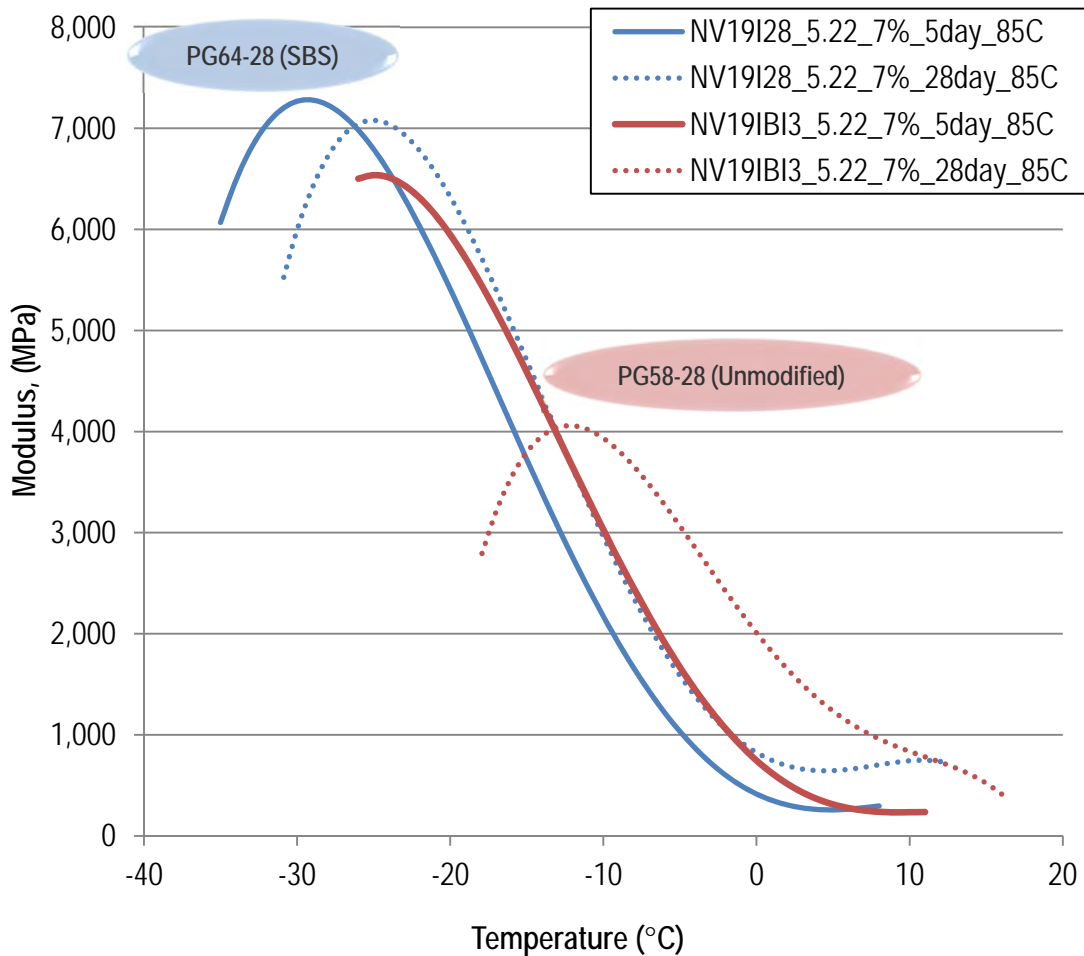
Test Sensitivity (Cont'd)

Effect of Asphalt Binder Content & Aggregate Mineralogy



Test Sensitivity (Cont'd)

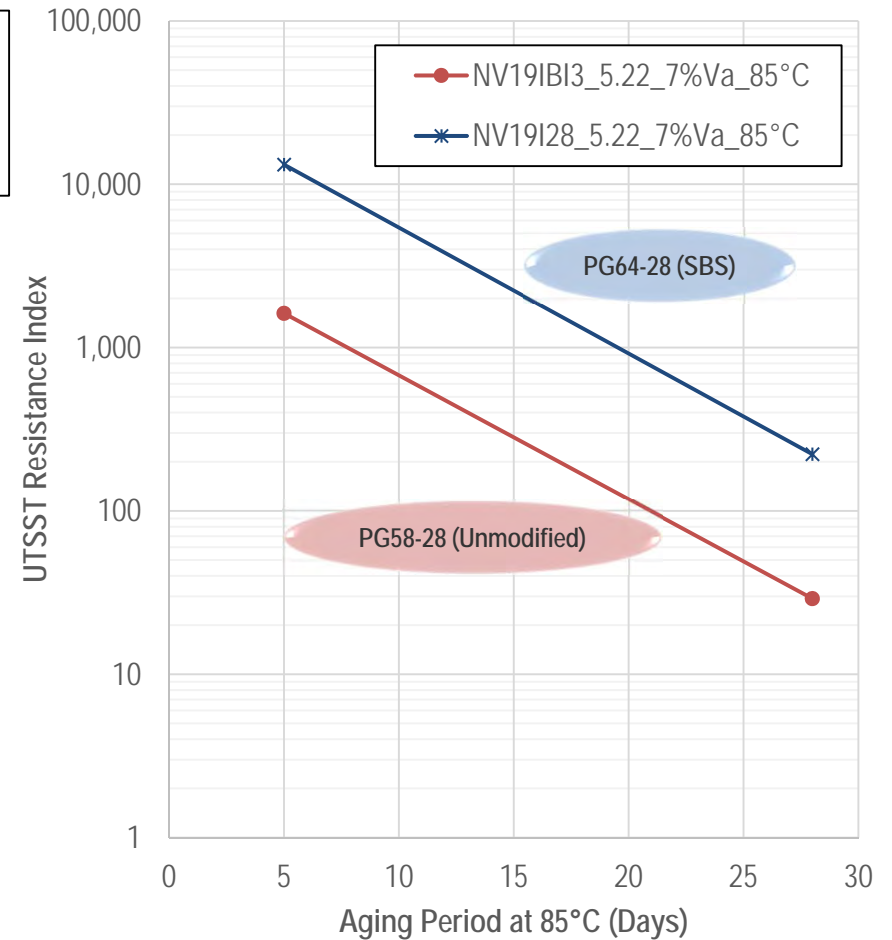
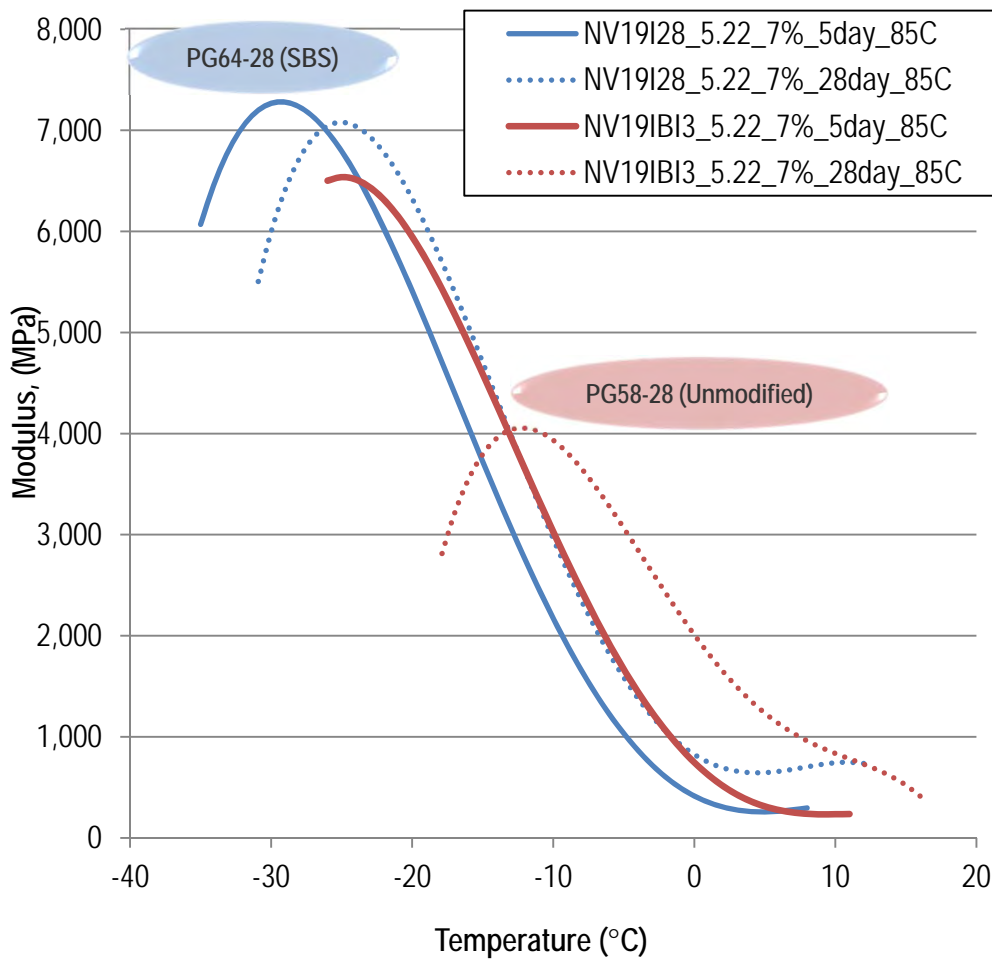
Effect of Asphalt Binder Modification



| Property | PG64-28 (SBS) | | PG58-28 (Unmodified) | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|--------|----------------------|--------|
| | 5 day | 28 day | 5 day | 28 day |
| Fracture Temp (°C) | -35.4 | -31.8 | -25.7 | -18.8 |
| Fracture Stress (MPa) | 3.2 | 2.7 | 2.3 | 1.6 |
| Strain at Fracture (me) | 1,050 | 505 | 960 | 766 |
| Crack Initiation Temp, CIT (°C) | -29.3 | -25.1 | -24.8 | -12.4 |
| Crack Initiation Stress, CIS (MPa) | 2.3 | 1.9 | 2.1 | 1.1 |
| UTSST Resistance Index | 13,181 | 223 | 1,620 | 29 |

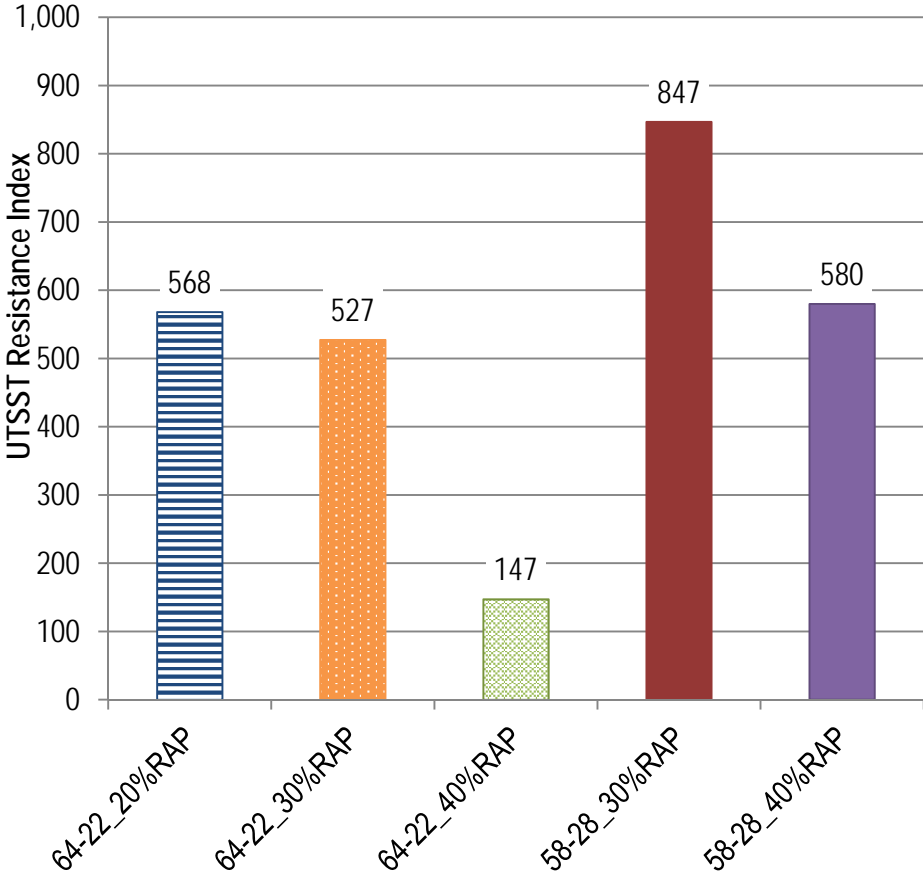
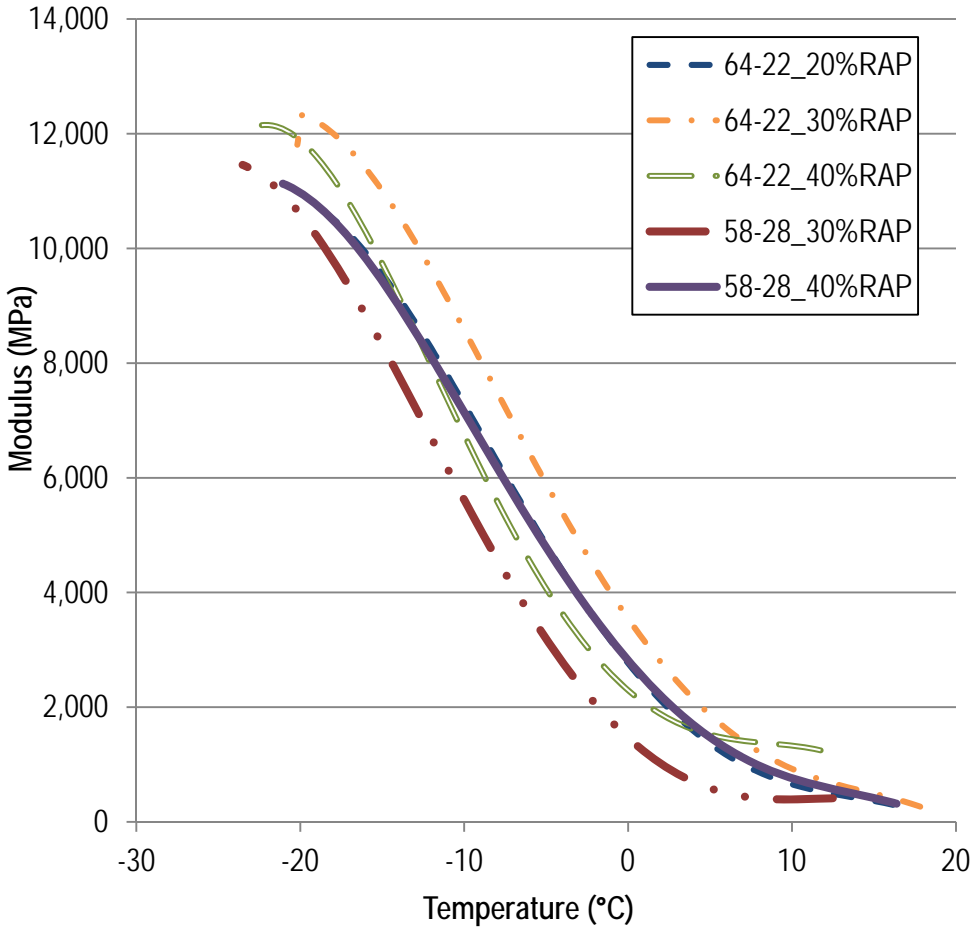
Test Sensitivity (Cont'd)

Effect of Asphalt Binder Modification



Test Sensitivity (Cont'd)

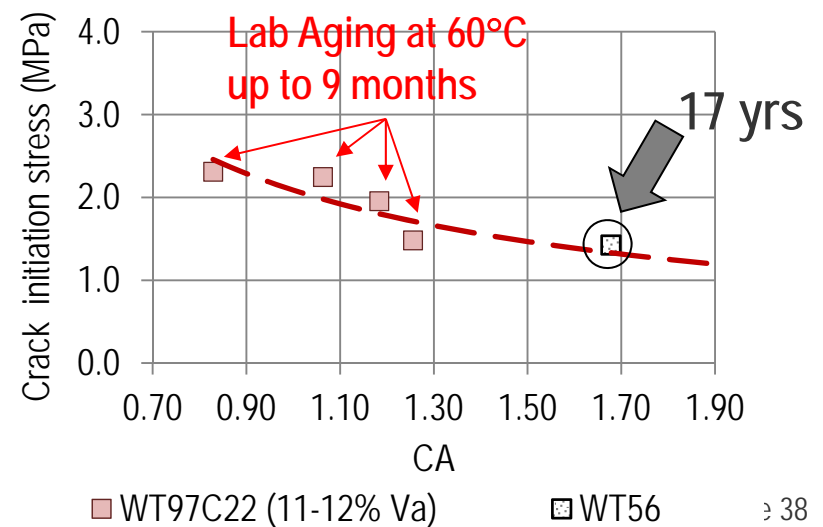
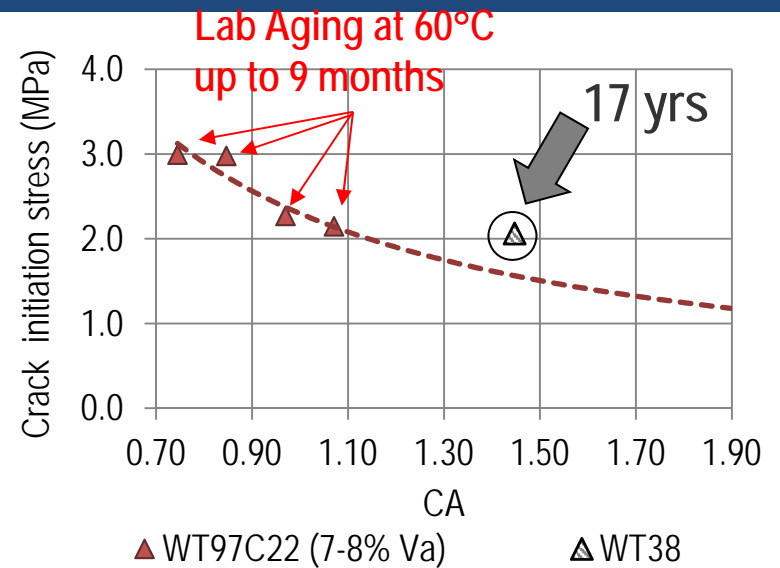
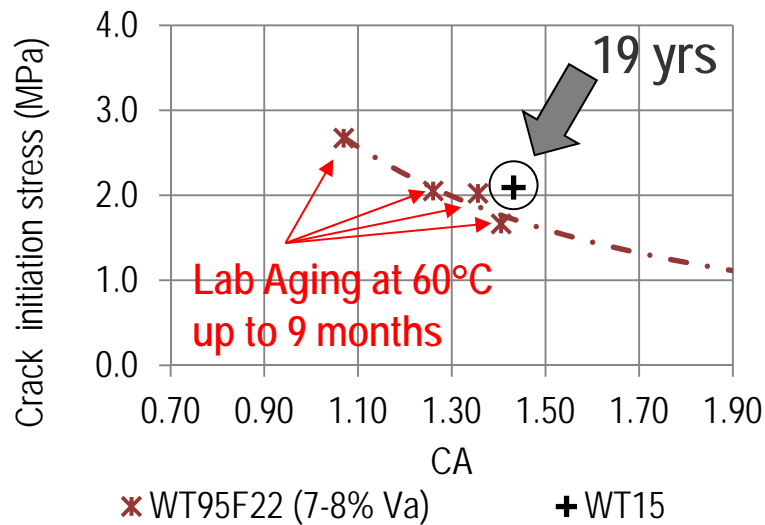
Effect of Recycled Materials



Lab to Field Correlation

WesTrack Mixes

- Consistencies observed between lab and field aging
 - Example: WesTrack Sections (Diff. Binder and Aggs.)
 - Section 15 – 1995 [19 yrs field aging]
 - Sections 38 & 56 – 1997 [17 yrs field aging]

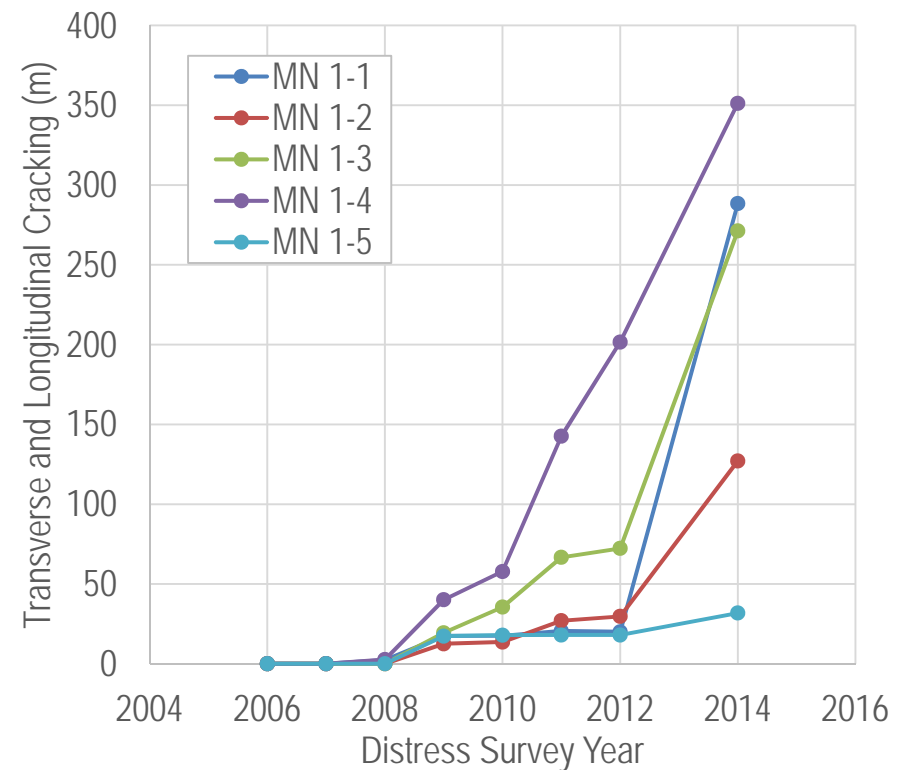


Lab to Field Correlation

CR 112 Olmsted County, Minnesota Sections

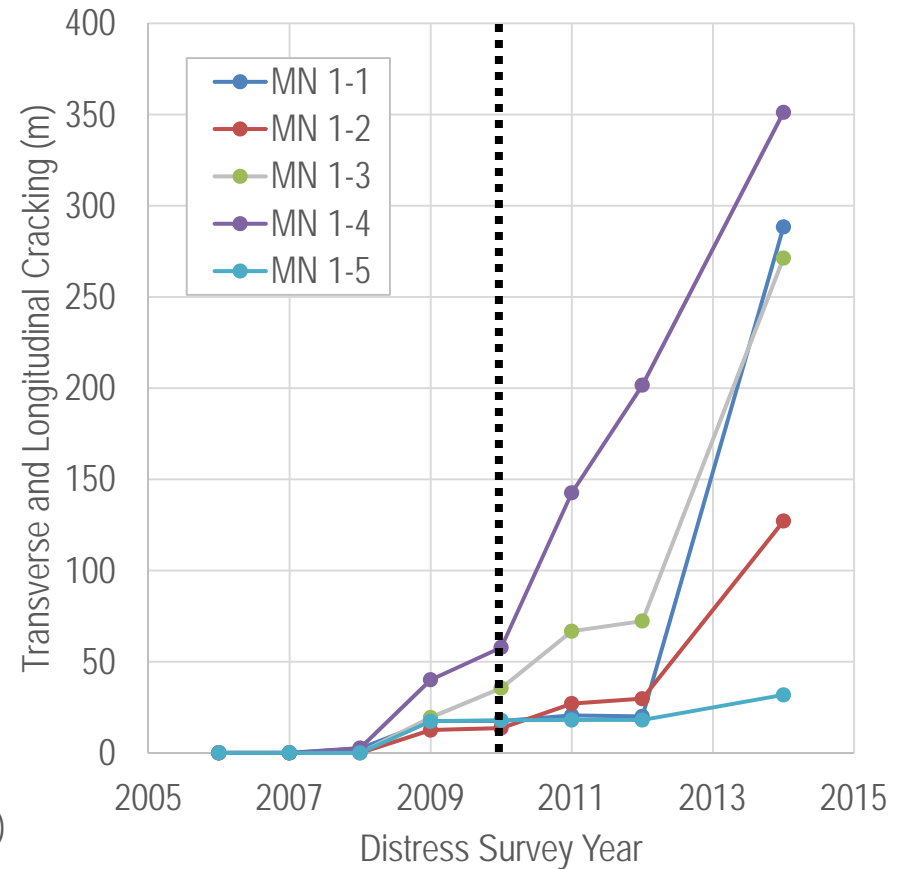
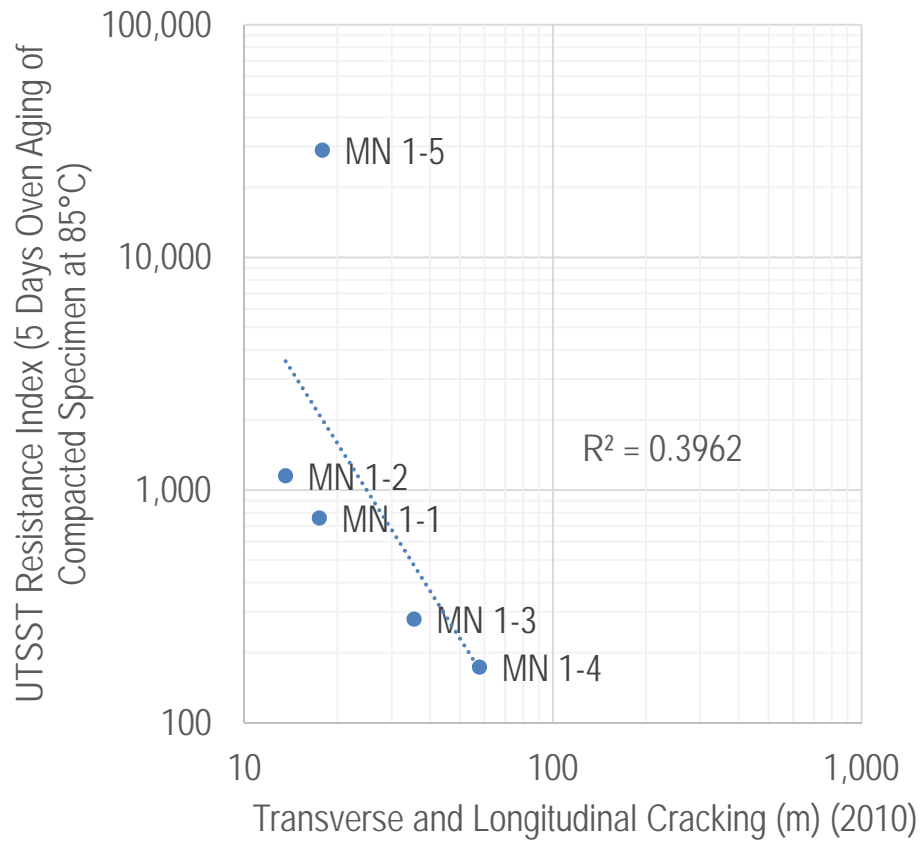
- Five test sections were constructed using same aggregate gradation and four binders from different sources.

| Section | Binder |
|---------|--|
| MN 1-1 | MIF PG 58-34 (Elvaloy modified) with 20% RAP |
| MN 1-2 | MIF PG 58-34 (Elvaloy modified) without RAP |
| MN 1-3 | PG 58-28 Canadian blend |
| MN 1-4 | PG 58-28 Arab heavy/Arab medium/Kirkuk blend |
| MN 1-5 | PG 58-28 Venezuelan blend |



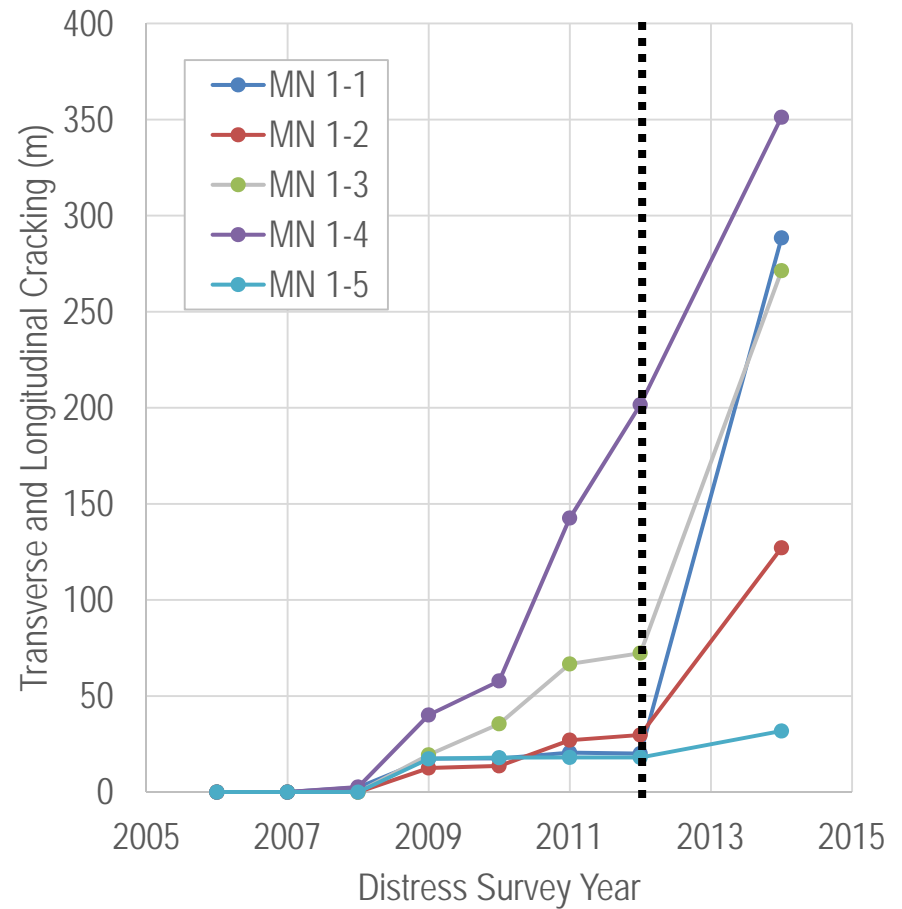
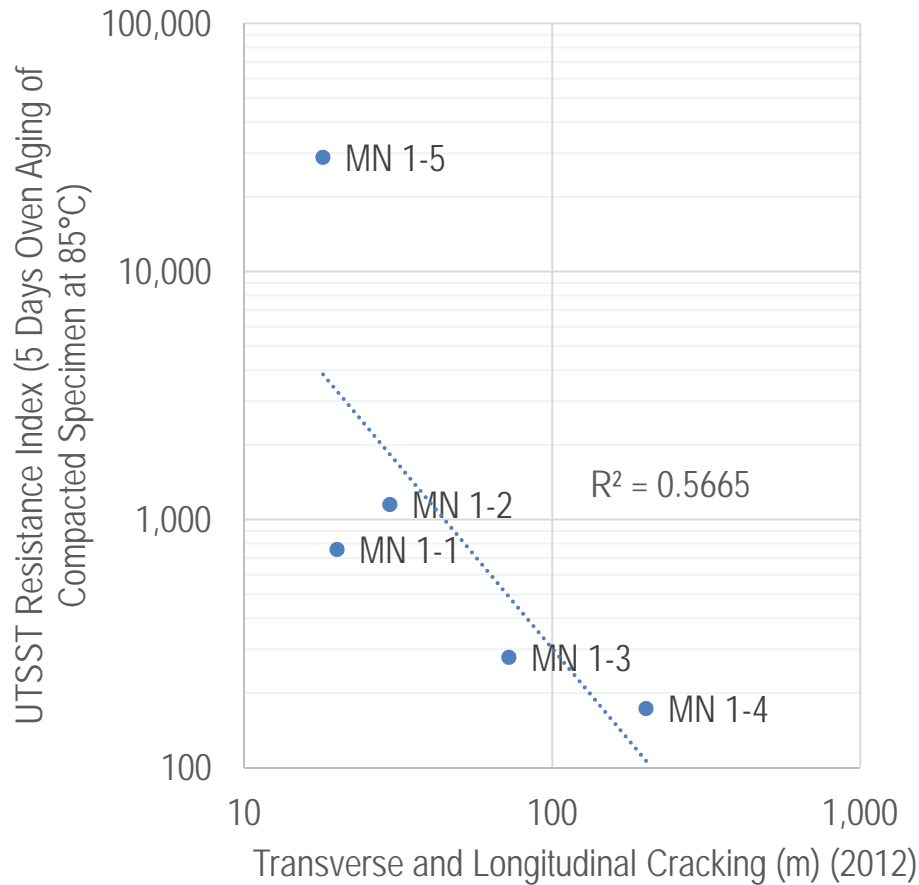
Lab to Field Correlation

CR 112 Olmsted County, Minnesota Sections (cont'd)



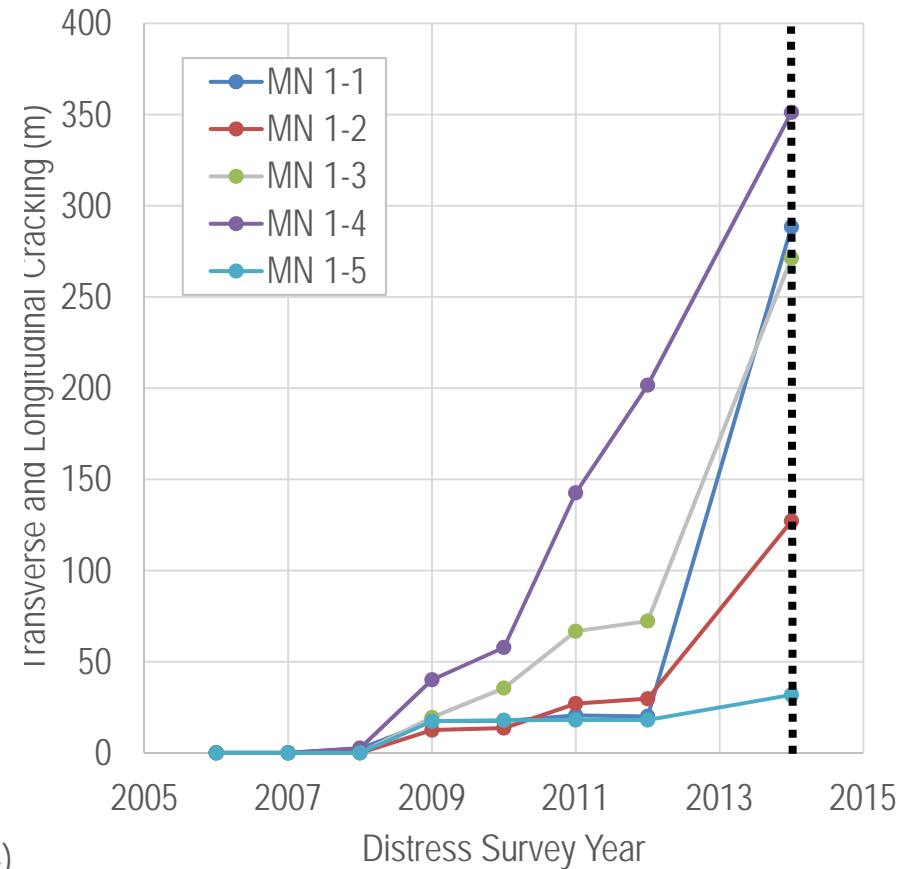
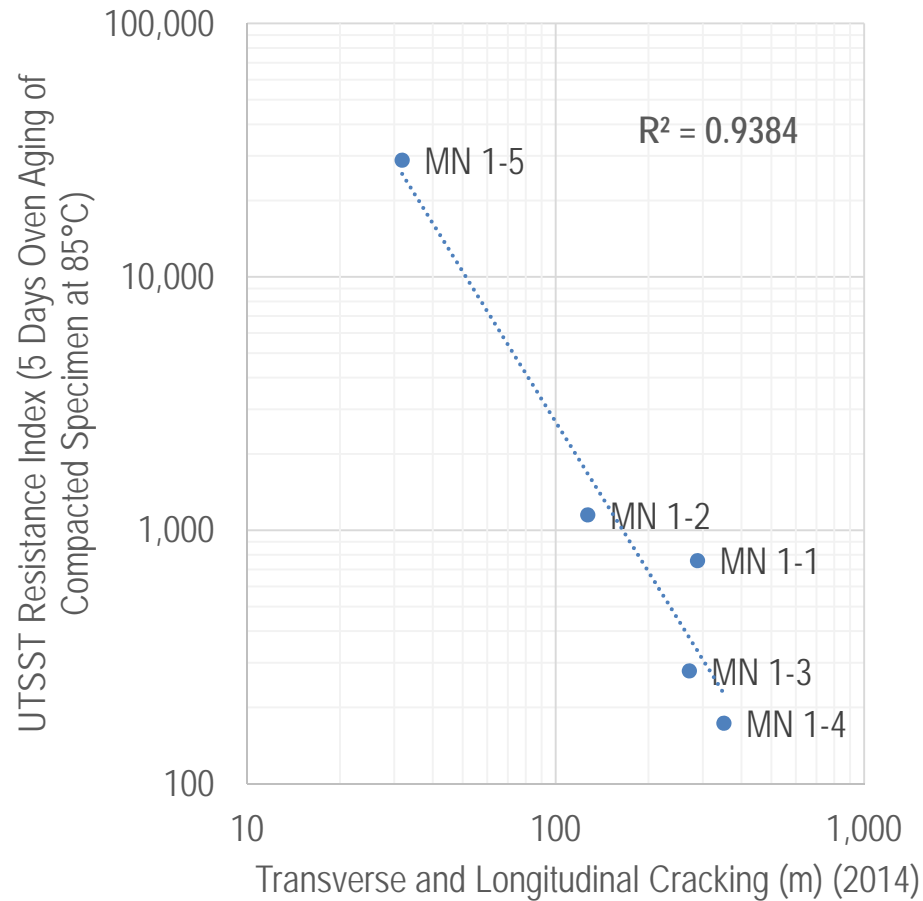
Lab to Field Correlation

CR 112 Olmsted County, Minnesota Sections (cont'd)



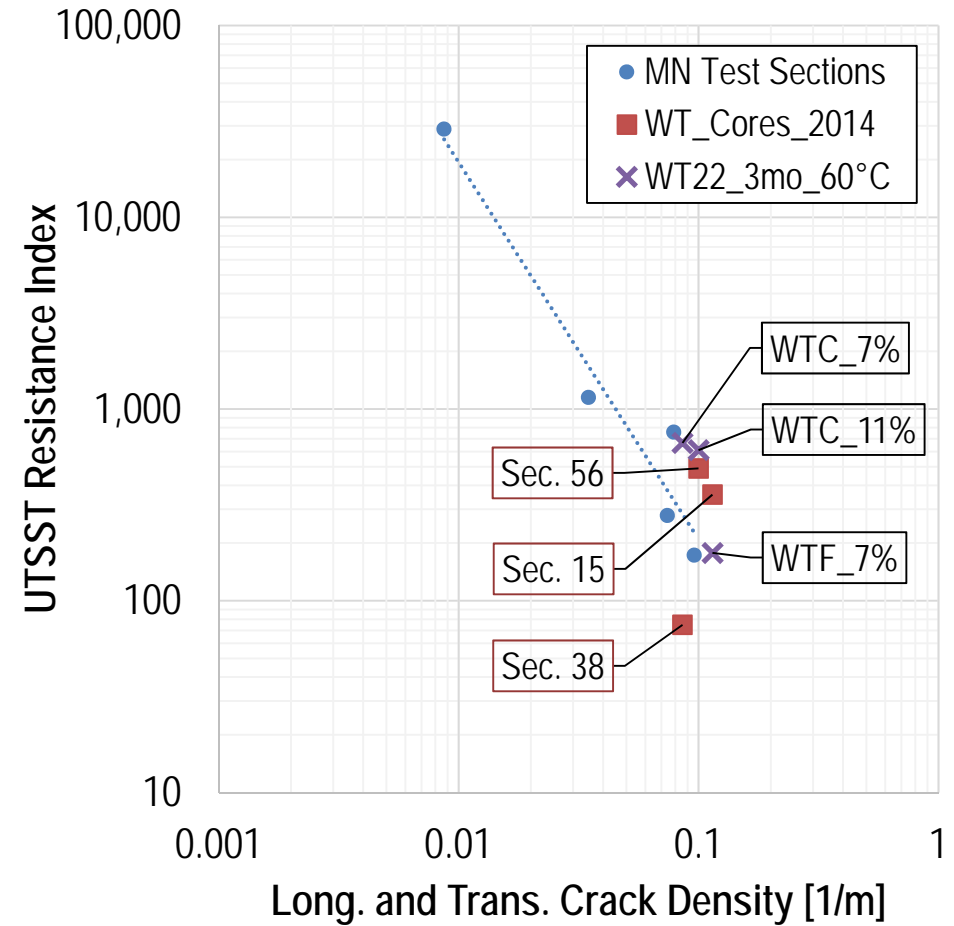
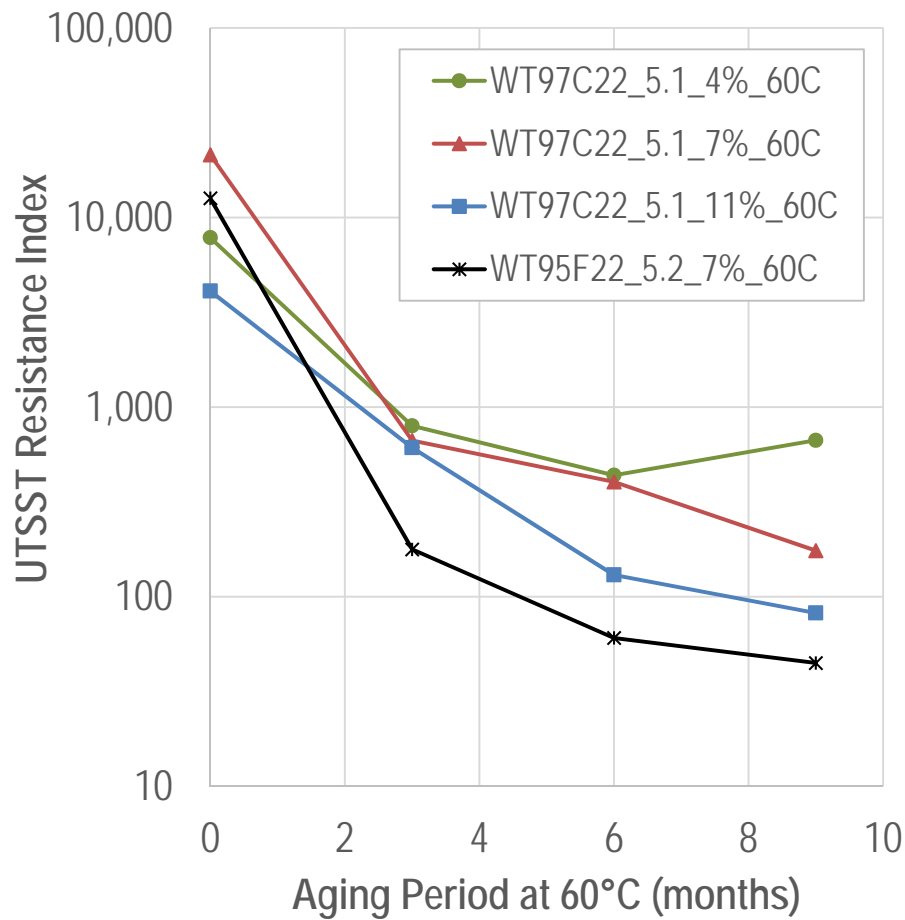
Lab to Field Correlation

CR 112 Olmsted County, Minnesota Sections (cont'd)



Lab to Field Correlation

CR 112 and WesTrack



Summary and Conclusions

Uniaxial Thermal Stress and Strain Test

- Test specimens obtained from SGC specimens or field cores.
 - Orientation of specimens is preserved by subjecting tensile stresses perpendicular to compaction direction.
- Allow for the determination of:
 - CTC, fracture strength/temperature, Crack initiation stress, UTSST Resistance Index, or other thermo-viscoelastic properties.
- Direct tension test under thermal loading.
 - Full characterization of asphalt mixtures as a function of temperature (various thermal transition zones).
 - Cooling rate can be selected to simulate field conditions.

Thank You!

