

MONITORING PAVEMENT SURFACE TEXTURE AND FRICTION, A CASE STUDY

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The following topics will be covered

- 1. Friction Testing
- 2. Texture Testing
- 3. Texture-Friction Relationship
 - Case Study, Louisiana DOTD
 - Implications for Network Condition Monitoring
- 4. Insights and Future Research



Friction Testing (What and Why?)

- Friction testing helps determine if
 - Adequate skid resistance exists
 - Or if corrective measures are warranted
- Friction is an important pavement parameter
 - One of the primary highway safety metrics
 - Inadequate pavement friction \rightarrow higher rate of accidents
 - Can be used to evaluate Material types & Construction practices
- Value
 - Accident Reduction





Friction Testing (How and When?)

- Test Method: ASTM E274-97
 - Locked Wheel Method Using Full Scale Tire
 - Equipment of choice for DOTs
- Pavement friction changes over time
 - Typically increases the first two years after construction
 - Decreases as aggregates become more polished
- Many factors affect friction
 - Weather
 - Surface Texture
 - Surface Distresses
 - Surface Treatment





Friction Testing

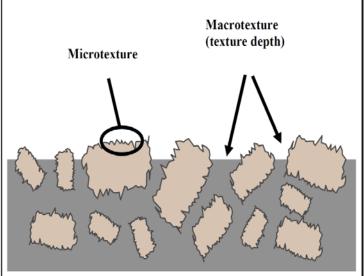


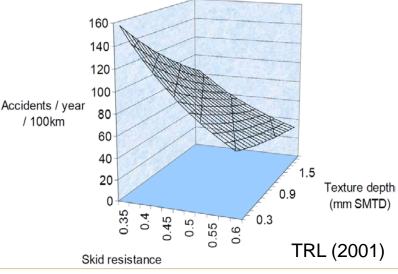
Low Reliability, High Operations Cost and Safety Risk



Texture Testing (What and Why?)

- Macro-Texture
 - A component of surface friction
 - Related to splash and spray
 - Determine corrective measures
- Texture is an important parameter
 Contributes to Friction
- Value in Texture Testing
 - Contributes to safety evaluation in conjunction with friction data
 - Evaluation of noise
 - Identifying different surface types and patches for automated surveys

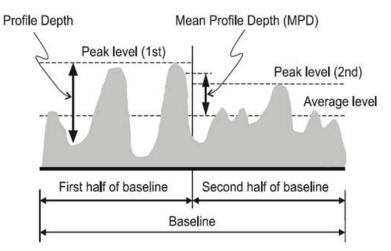






Texture Testing (How and When?)

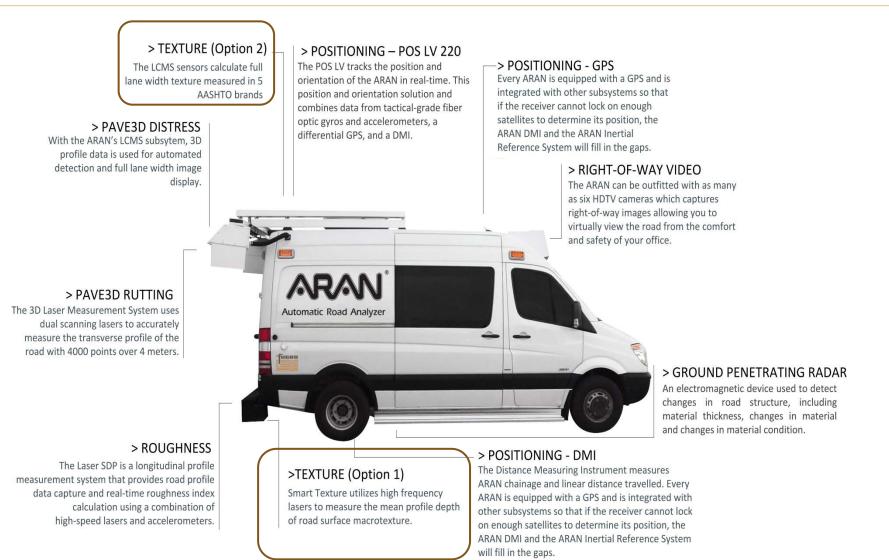
- Test Method: ASTM E1845
 - Using a laser profiler
 - At highway speeds
 - mean profile depth (MPD)
- Texture changes over time
 - Micro-particles clogging surface
 - Traffic abrasion
 - Oxidation of asphalt surfaces
- Many factors affect macro-texture
 - Weather
 - Surface Aggregates and Mix Design
 - Surface Distresses
 - Surface Treatment







Texture Measurement



Texture Measurement







Area

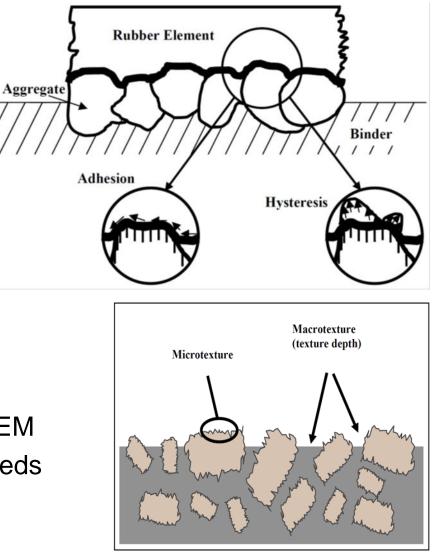
Line

High Reliability, Lower Operations Cost and Safety Risk

10

Surface Properties Contributing to Friction

- Friction
 - Macro-Texture: Hysteresis
 - Micro-Texture: Adhesion
- Macro-Texture
 - Measured: Laser Profiler
 - Important at Higher Speeds
- Micro-Texture
 - Measured: Lab imaging, Lab SEM
 - Important at Low and High Speeds





Texture-Friction Pilot Study

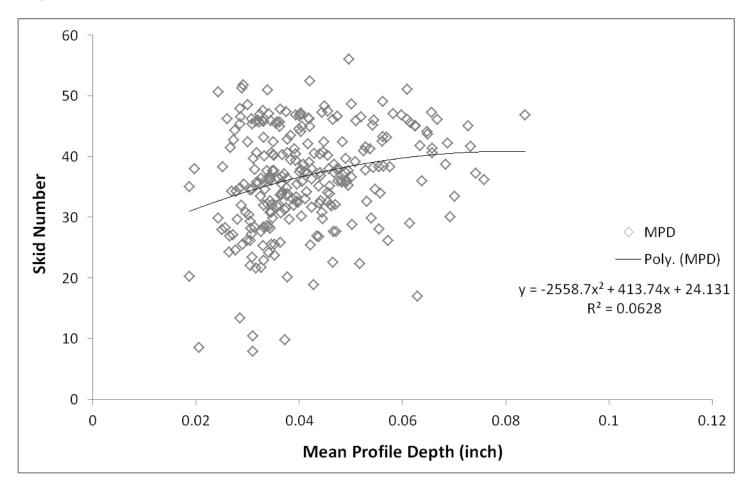


- Louisiana DOTD NHS network
- Relating Smooth Tire Skid Number to Macro-Texture
- Characteristic Length of Measurement
 - Every 0.5 Miles
 - Dynamic Segmentation
 - Average Along Each Section
- Friction Testing at Higher Speeds
- Texture-Friction Relationship
- Texture/Friction High and Low Thresholds



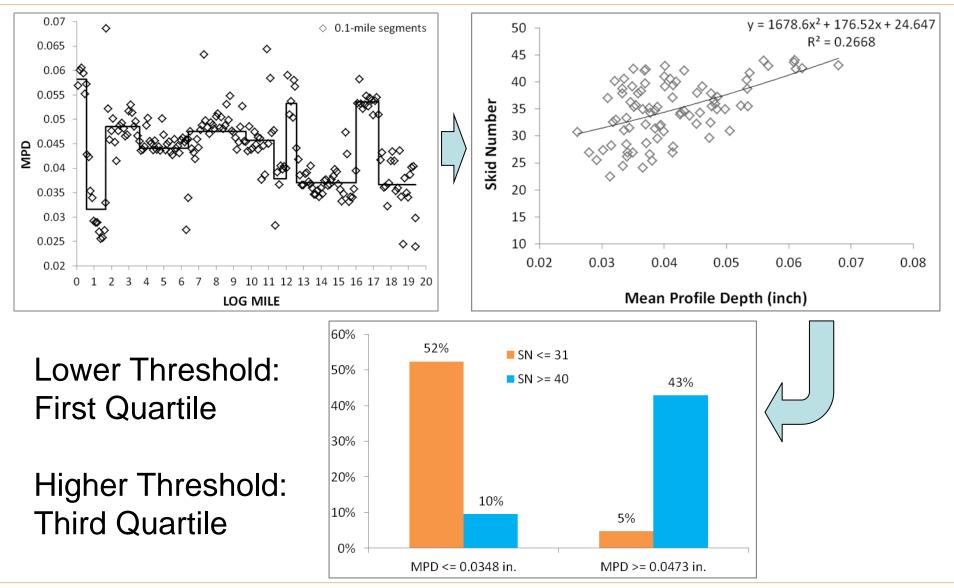
MPD vs. SN: Every 0.5 Miles

Example: Louisiana District 4, 2013



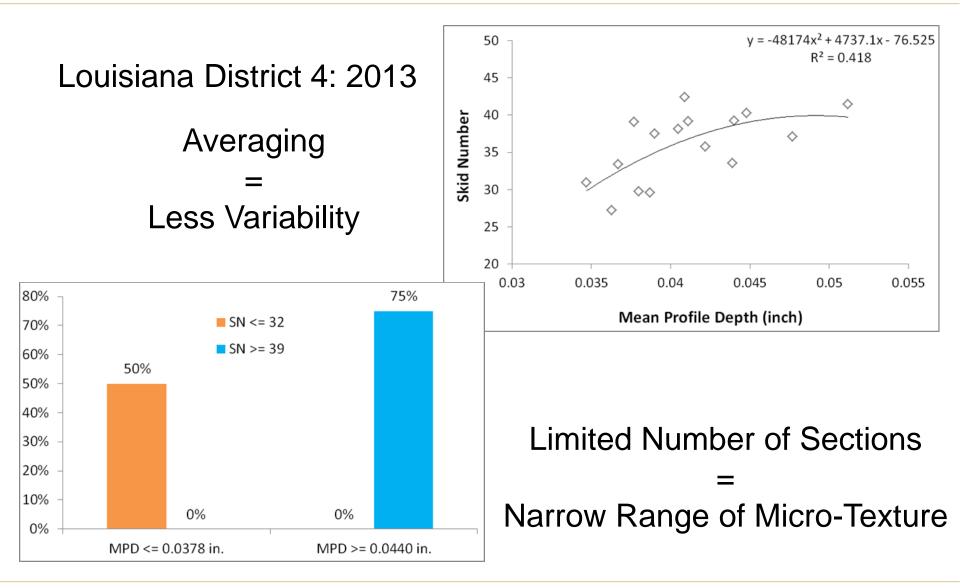


MPD vs. SN: Dynamic Segmentation



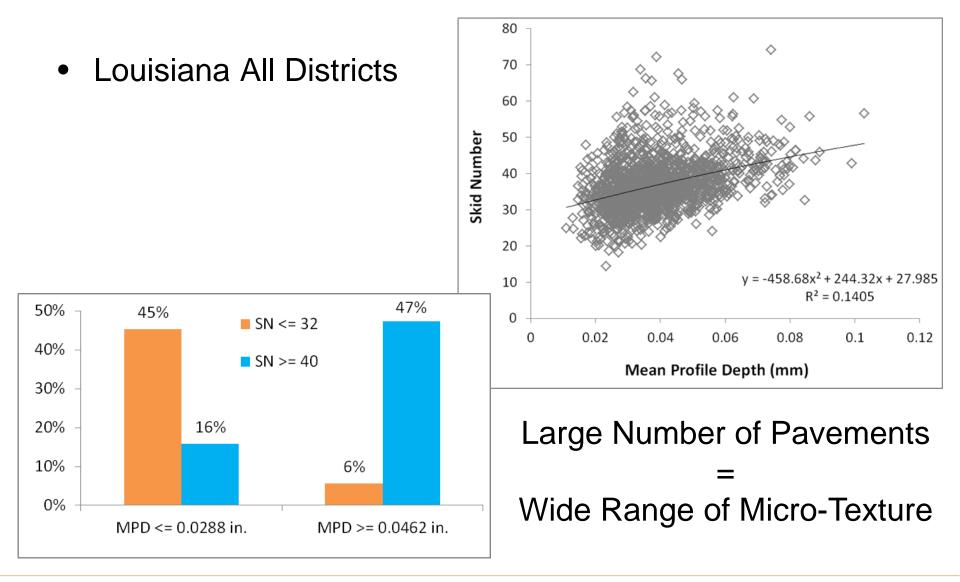


MPD vs. SN: Section by Section



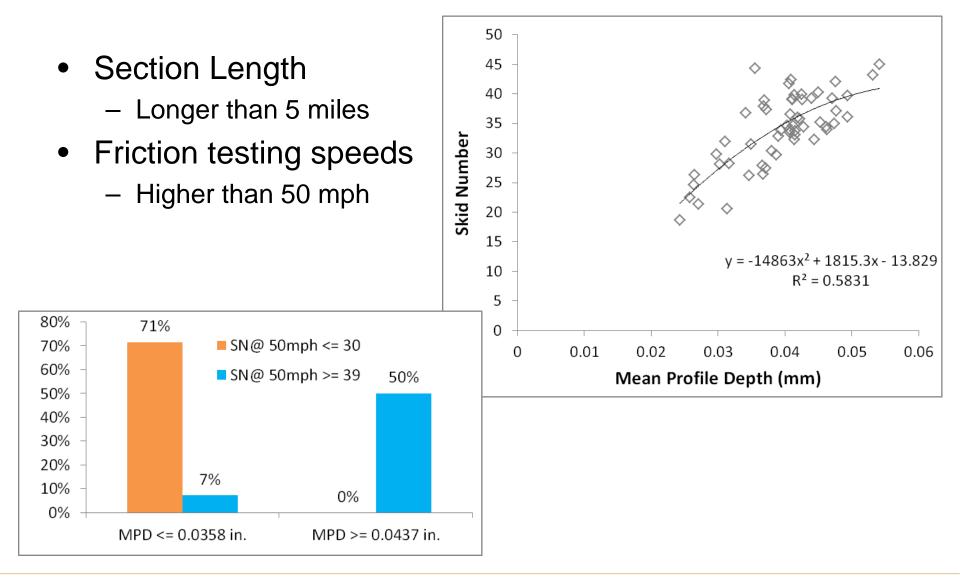


MPD vs. SN: Sections Longer Than 5 Miles





MPD vs. SN: Higher Speeds



Insights from the Pilot Study



- Need Consistent Micro-Texture
 - Aggregate Source and Age
 - Mix Properties
 - Surface Treatments
- Texture Depth Impacts Friction at Higher Speeds
- Need to Investigate Change Rate
- Texture Depth Can Guide Friction Testing Locations



Directions From Here

- Continue Collection of Friction and Texture Data
- Further Research Efforts
 - Isolate the Effect of Micro-Texture
 - One Aggregate Source
 - Same Surface Age (level of abrasion)
 - Identify another Macro-Texture Metric
 - Full Lane Width Texture?
 - Determine Micro-Texture Component
 - Lab Imaging Techniques
 - Lab SEM



Macro-Texture versus Skid Resistance?

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