

# EARN – Effects on Availability of Road Network

EARN background data

Sachgebiet Bau und Erhaltung von Verkehrswegen  
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Conférence Européenne  
des Directeurs des Routes  
Conference of European  
Directors of Roads

## Service lifetime and availability of road materials and structures



- **LCA study conducted during Re-Road:**
  - Durability has same effect as high recycling rate
  - Benefits of recycling can be reverted in case of reduced durability
- **Objectives and promised results: Empirical evaluation of effects on pavements durability**
  - Effect of high proportions of reclaimed road materials
  - Road works conditions (weather, season, day/night)
  - Materials with high contents of reclaimed and secondary materials
  - Warm-mix asphalt
  - Working time and availability effects of road maintenance

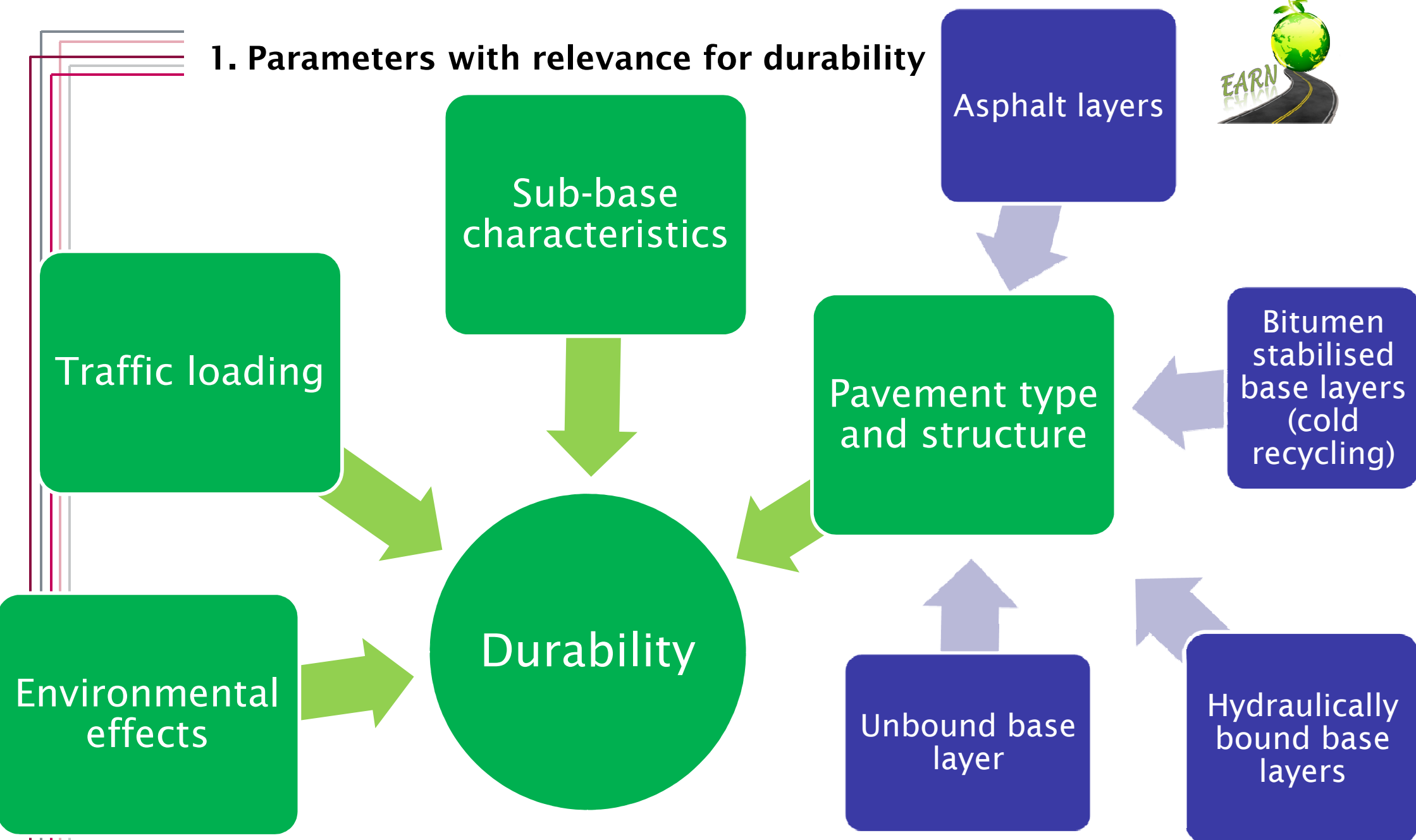
# Methodology



- 1. Synthesis of relevant parameters affecting pavements durability**
- 2. Review of existing service lifetime estimations**
- 3. Identification and analysis of databases for empirical assessment of durability effects of:**
  - RA use and
  - Construction work conditions



## 1. Parameters with relevance for durability





# Asphalt layers

- Type of mixture
- Aggregate grading
- Binder type
- Binder content
- Volumetric properties
- Additives
- RA quality and content
- Construction conditions
- Performance properties

## durability

### Asphalt layers

- Type of mixture
- Aggregate grading
- Binder type
- Binder content
- Volumetric properties
- Additives
- RA quality and content
- Construction conditions
- Performance properties

### Pavement type and structure

- Flexible or rigid
- Number of layers
- Layer thicknesses
- Interlayer bonding

### Bitumen stabilised base layers (cold recycling)

- ... (see CoRePaSol project)

## Durability

### Environmental effects

- Temperature
- Sun exposure
- Humidity
- Frost-thaw cycles
- High-depth frosting

### Unbound base layer

- Composition (grading, type of aggregates)
- Degree of compaction
- Moisture
- Bearing capacity

### Hydraulically bound base layers

- Grading of aggregates
- Binder type
- Binder content
- Void content
- Stiffness
- Strength
- Construction conditions

.... Additives, e. g. for warm mix asphalt

2 Zeolite additives

4 Organic (wax) additives

2 Fatty acid derivatives

7 Chemical additives

2 Other specified additives

2 Emulsions

14 Foamed bitumen technologies

2 Other processes

(after D'Angelo et al., 2009; Zemanis, 2010; Bonaquist, 2011; Rubio et al., 2012; Nicholls and James, 2012; Lewis et al., undated)

**Table 4. Summary of Warm and Half-Warm Systems**

Product	Company	Description	Dosage of additive	Country used	Production Temperature or reduction ranges	Website
<b>Zeolite additives</b>						
Advera	PGC Corporation	Water containing long Zeolite	0.25 % of mixture by mass	USA	(10-30) °C	<a href="http://www.pgc.com/products/AdveraWMA.asp">www.pgc.com/products/AdveraWMA.asp</a>
Aspha-Min	Euromin	Water containing Zeolite	0.3 % of mixture by mass	Worldwide including France, Germany and USA	(20-30) °C	<a href="http://www.euromin.fr/en/produit/135.aspx?print=y">www.euromin.fr/en/produit/135.aspx?print=y</a>
<b>Organic (Wax) additives</b>						
Asphaltan A	Romonta	Montan wax for mastic asphalt	(1.5-2.0) % of bitumen by mass	Germany	20 °C	<a href="http://www.romonta.de/ie4/english/romonta/wac_hse.htm">www.romonta.de/ie4/english/romonta/wac_hse.htm</a>
Romonta N	Sasol	Montan wax with fatty acid amide for rolled asphalt	(2-4) % by mass	Germany	(20-30) °C	<a href="http://www.sasolwax.us.com/sasobit.html">www.sasolwax.us.com/sasobit.html</a>
Asphaltan B	Sasol	Fischer-Tropsch wax	(2.5-3.0) % of bitumen by mass in Germany; (1.0-1.5) % of bitumen by mass in USA	Worldwide including EU, RSA and USA	(20-30) °C	<a href="http://www.sasolwax.us.com/More_about_Sasolwax_Flex.html">www.sasolwax.us.com/More_about_Sasolwax_Flex.html</a>
Sasobit	Sasol	Fischer-Tropsch wax plus polymer (choice of type)	Unspecified	At least 28 °C		
Sasolwax Flex	Sasol					

In total, 35 WMA variations with distinct approaches

... how to generalise their effect on durability?



# 1. Parameters with relevance for durability

## Sub-base characteristics

- Bearing capacity
- Sub-base structure/drainage

## Asphalt layers

- Type of mixture
- Aggregate grading
- Binder type
- Binder content
- Volumetric properties
- Additives
- RA quality and content
- Construction conditions
- Performance properties



## Bitumen stabilised base layers (cold recycling)

(see CoRePaSol project)

## Traffic I

- Tyre/axle
- Axle nu
- Traffic
- Axle co

Interim result:  
Pavement durability is affected by a high number of parameters  
⇒ detailed analysis of **general** material-specific service lifetime from laboratory and modelling assessment is not possible

## Durability

## Environmental effects

- Temperature
- Sun exposure
- Humidity
- Frost-thaw cycles
- High-depth frosting



## Unbound base layer

- Composition (grading, type of aggregates)
- Degree of compaction
- Moisture
- Bearing capacity

## Stabilised base layers

- Composition of aggregates
- Binder type
- Binder content
- Void content
- Stiffness
- Strength
- Construction conditions



## 2. Review of existing service lifetime estimations

- **Who else needs to know about the durability of pavements?**
- **Pavement Management Systems**
  - Require service life estimations
  - Apply performance prediction models
  - Widely applied data available
  - Standardised approaches
- **Network databases**



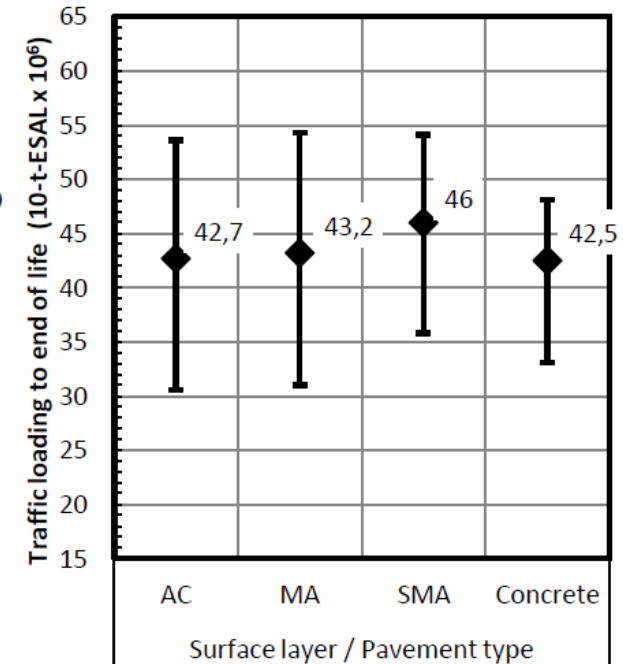
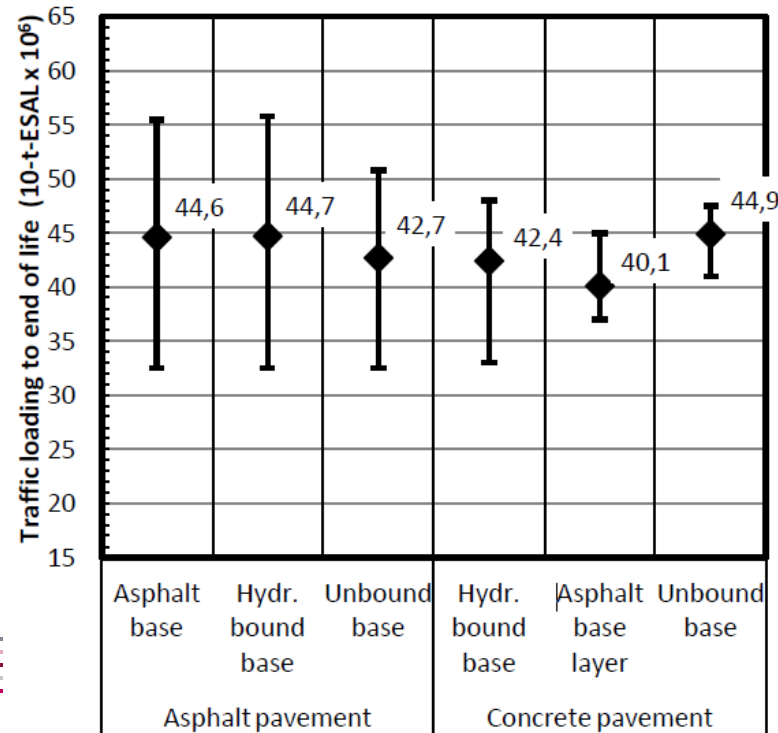
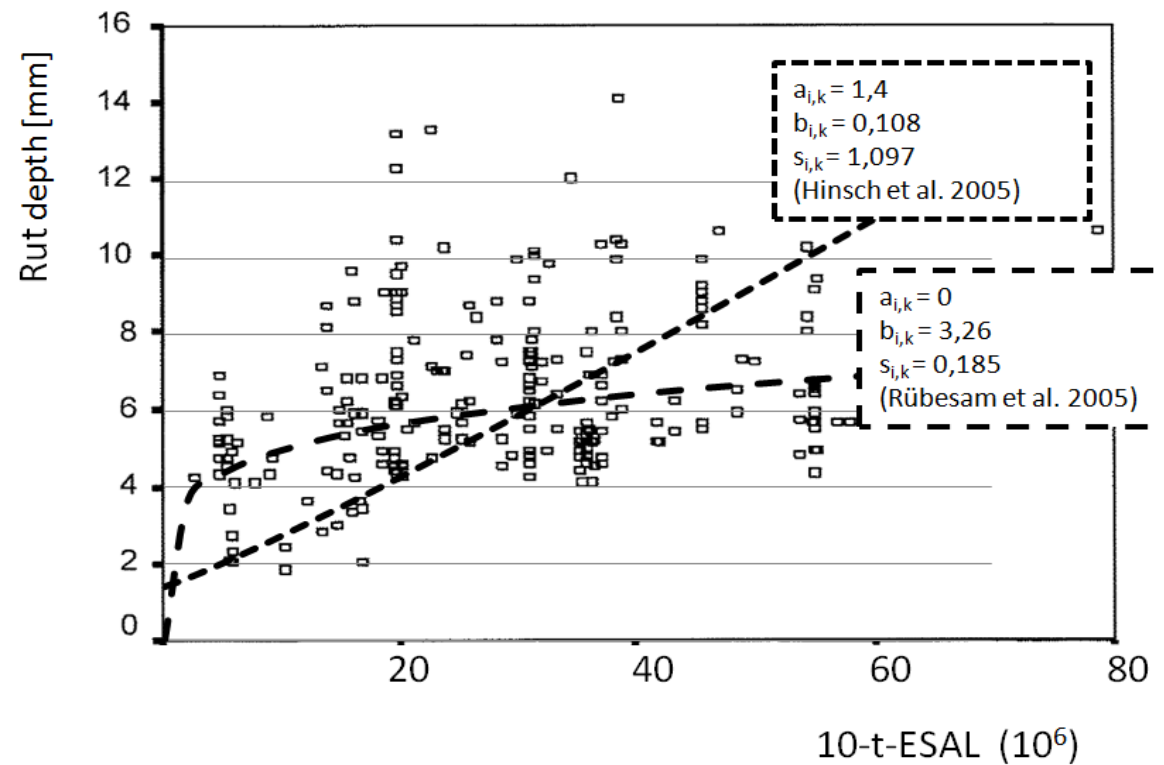


## Life cycle assumptions in PMS

Road layer	Pavement material	Germany (FGSV, 2001)		Netherlands (IVON, 2012)		UK (SWEEP Pavements, 2013)	
		≥ 300 ESAL/day	< 300 ESAL/day	Right hand lane	Full width	surface life	structural life
Surface asphalt layers	Asphalt concrete (AC)	12	18	12	18	8	—
	Very thin layer asphalt concrete (BBTM)	—	—	—	—		
	Hot rolled asphalt (HRA)	—	—	—	—		
	Stone mastic asphalt (SMA)	16	22	11	17		
	Mastic asphalt (MA)	19	26	—	—		
	Porous asphalt (PA)	—	—	10	18		
Asphalt base layers	Asphalt concrete (binder layer)	26	30	—	—	—	20
	Asphalt concrete (base layer)	55	75	*	*		
	Other base layers						
	Hydraulically bound base layer	60	80	*	*		
	Unbound base layer	55	75	*	*		
Rigid pavement	Concrete surface layer	26	30	*	*	10	40
	Hydraulically bound base layer	55	70	*	*		
	Asphalt concrete base layer	50	65	*	*		
	Unbound base layer	45	60	*	*		
Maintenance materials	Slurry surfacing	6	8	—	—	8	—
	Micro-surfacing	5	8	—	—		
	Thin hot-mix asphalt layer on sealing	8	10	—	—		

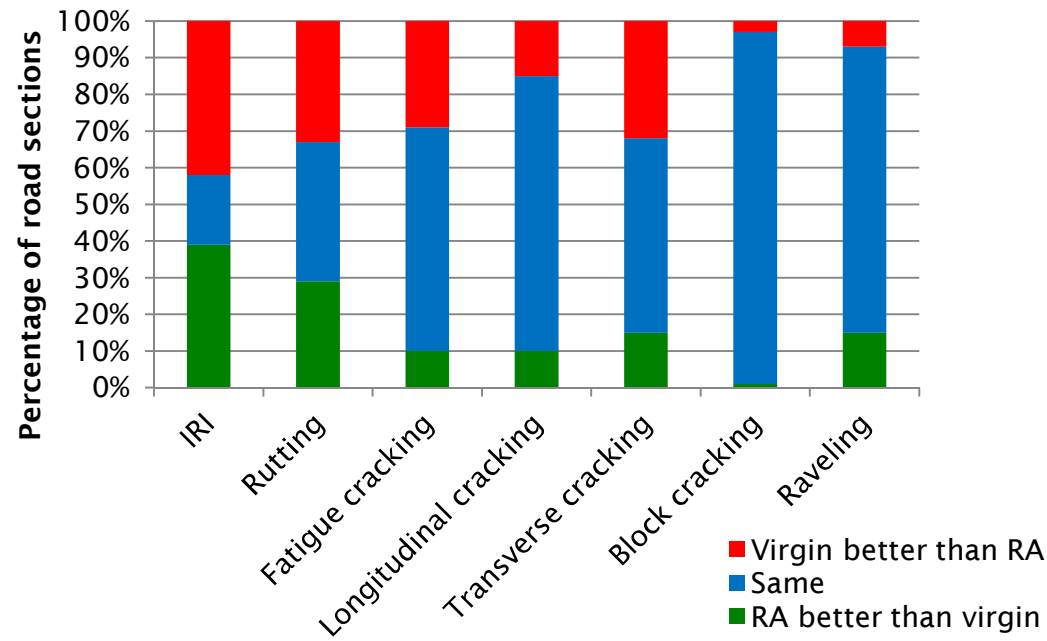
# PMS background data

- **High scatter in model trimming data**
  - Result of high number of parameters affecting the pavement performance & life
  - High risk for mistakes for individual road structures
  - Applicable only on network level



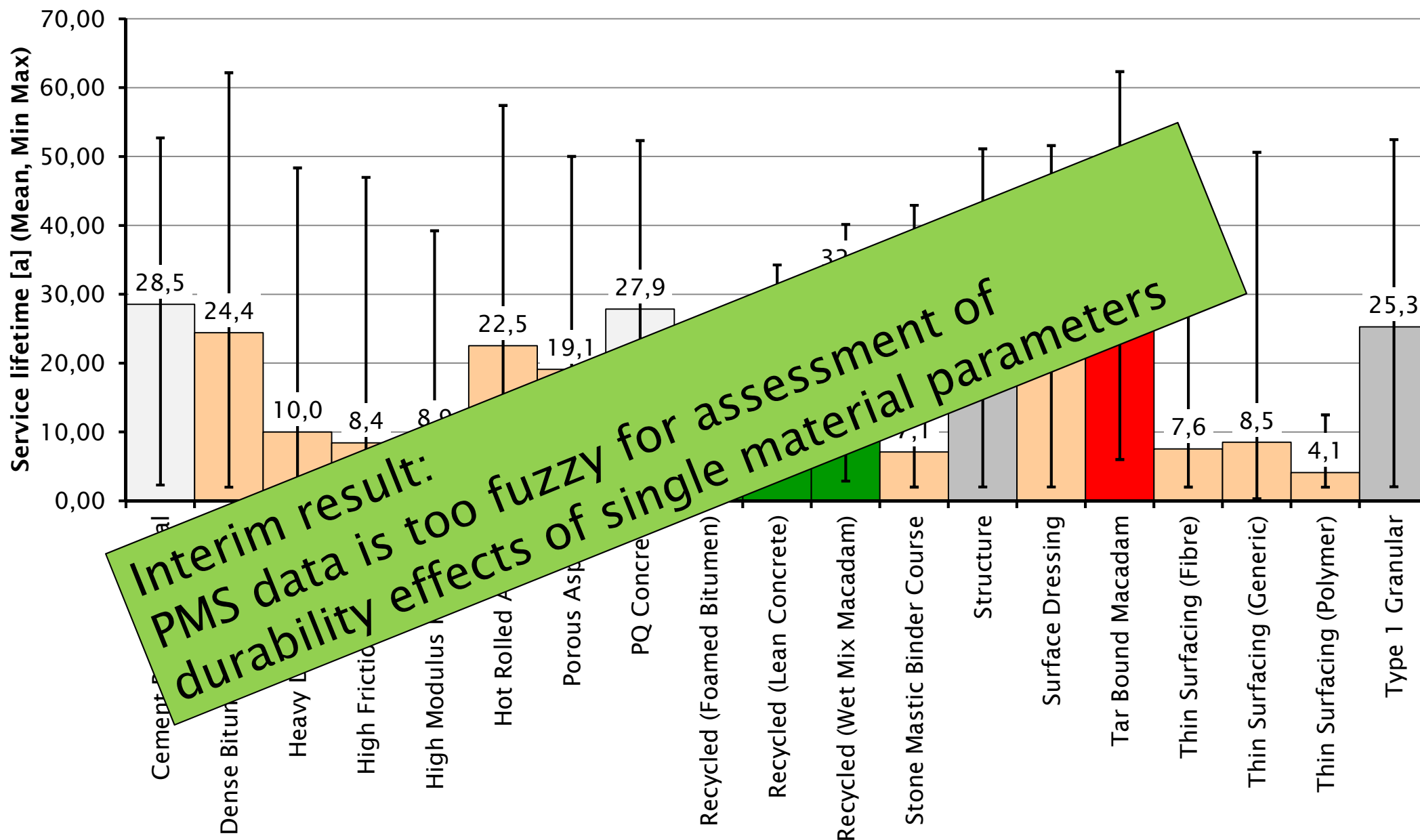
## Available data on durability effect of RA

- **Direct-Mat project:**
  - Majority of laboratory and full-scale studies result in same or better performance when RA is applied
- **West *et al.* (2011):**
  - Cracking risk is higher for mixtures with RA



Mixture type		HMA with x % RA has the same or better properties than comparable mix without RA		HMA with x % RA has worse properties than comparable mix without RA	
		Laboratory study	Full-Scale study	Laboratory study	Full-Scale study
Surface course asphalt	AC	20%(DRF4.2) 40%(DRF4.6) 50%(DRF4.1)			
	SMA	20%(DRF4.162) 30%(DRF4.14) 30%(DRF4.51)		30%(DRF4.162) <sup>3</sup>	
	ACTL		30%(DRF4.229)		
Binder course asphalt	AC	25%(DRF4.2); 30%(DRF4.15); 30%(DRF4.155);		30%(DRF4.155) <sup>1</sup>	
Base course asphalt	AC	30%(DRF4.12); 15%(DRF4.154)			
	HRA				
MA		30%(DRF4.222) 30%(DRF4.224) 35%(DRF4.160) 40%(DRF4.158) 45%(DRF4.159) 40%(DRF4.163) 50%(DRF4.225) 50%(DRF4.51) 70%(DRF4.181) 70%(DRF4.223) 100%(DRF4.228)	45%(DRF4.159)	30 % (DRF4.222) <sup>3</sup> 70%(DRF4.223) <sup>3</sup> 50%(DRF4.225) <sup>4</sup>	45%(DRF4.159) <sup>2</sup>
Analysis / at ce			(DRF4.161) 30%(DRF4.164) 20%(DRF4.165)		

<sup>1</sup> higher moisture sensitivity  
<sup>2</sup> more cracking  
<sup>3</sup> reduced fatigue resistance  
<sup>4</sup> reduced rutting resistance



# Asphalt mixtures and surface condition data in Lower Saxony

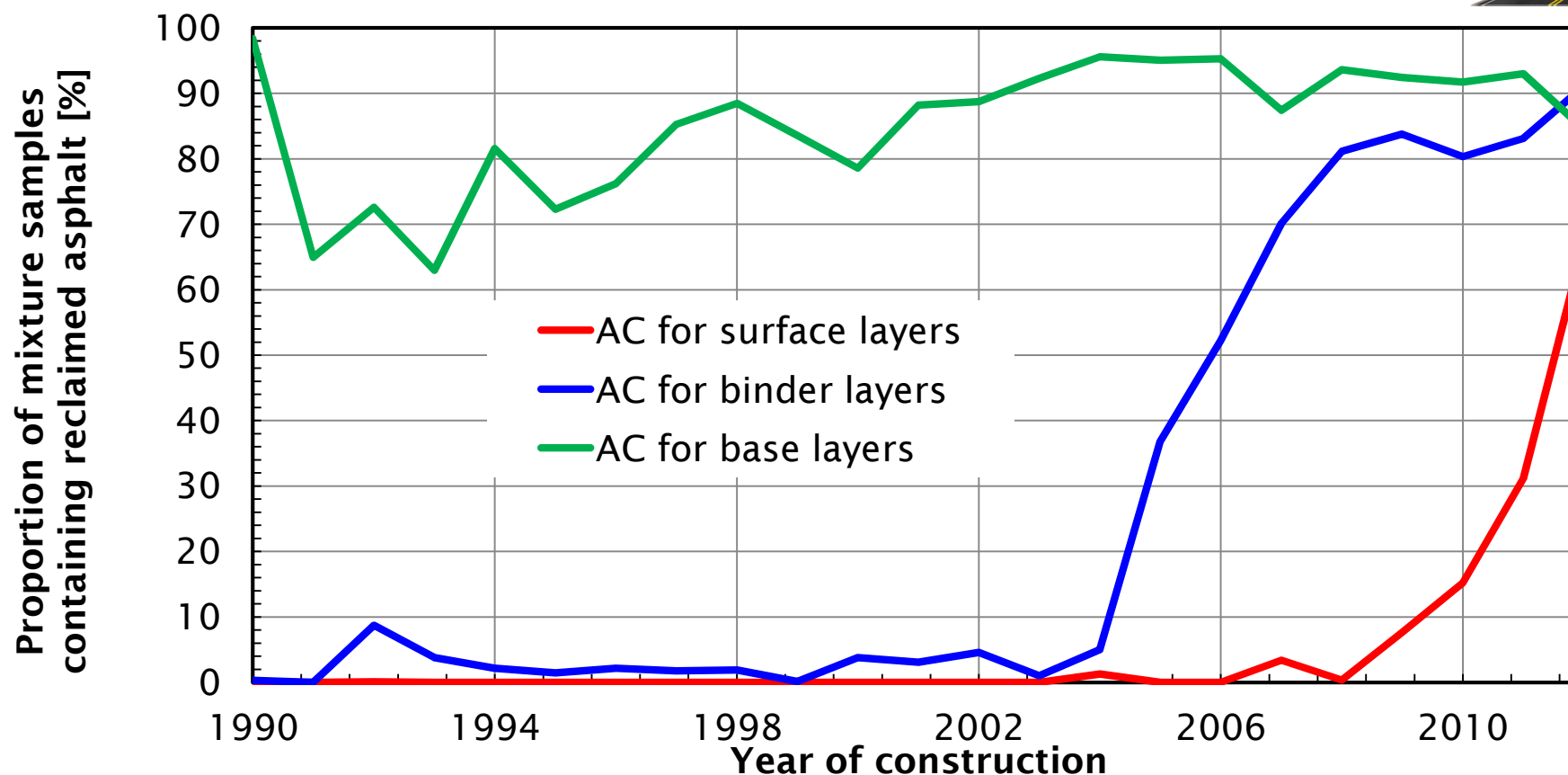


- **Asphalt mix database in Lower Saxony**
  - 80.000 asphalt mixture data from contractual compliance tests
  - Accurate binder properties, mix composition, binder content, type of aggregates, use of RA, ...
  - Data implemented by test laboratories
  - Less accuracy regarding site location  
(manual localisation necessary for each dataset)
- **Surface performance data**
  - Input for PMS models
  - Regular assessment of surface properties
  - Directly linked to actual pavement location



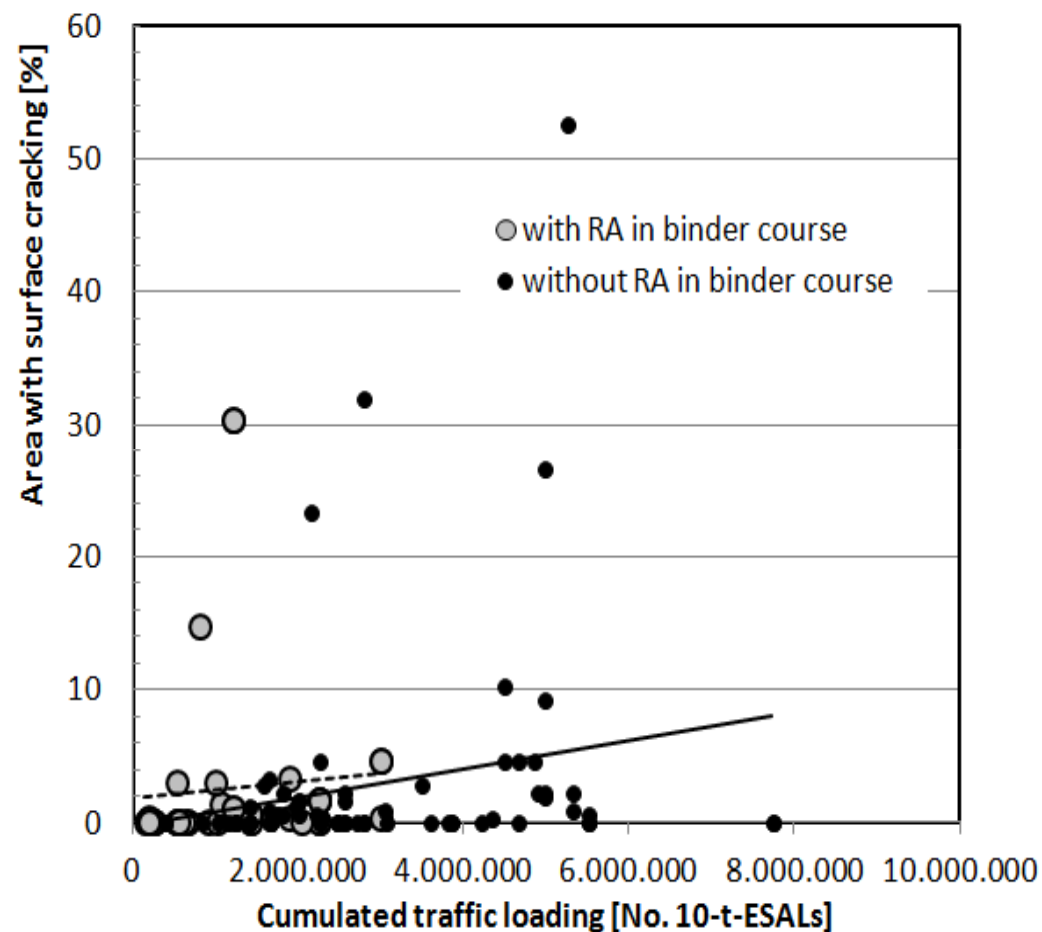
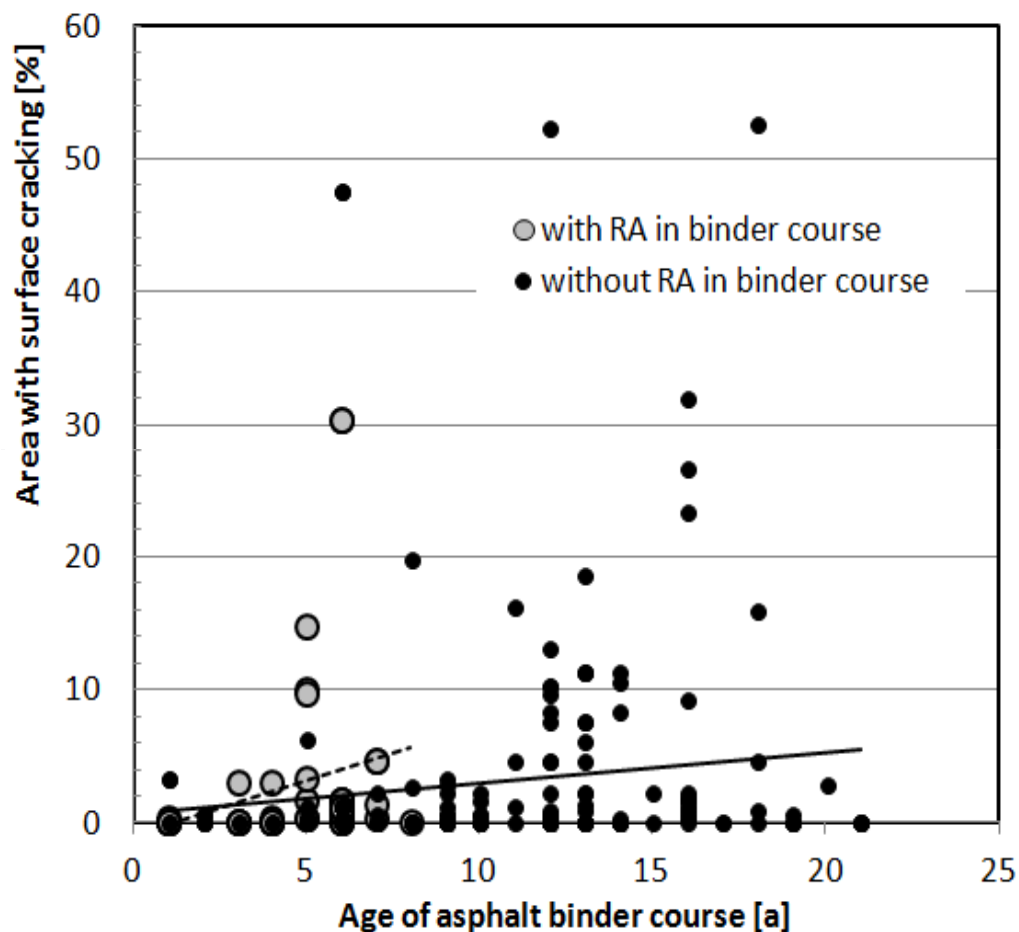
**Niedersächsische Landesbehörde  
für Straßenbau und Verkehr**

## Proportion of AC mixtures with RA (1990 -2013)



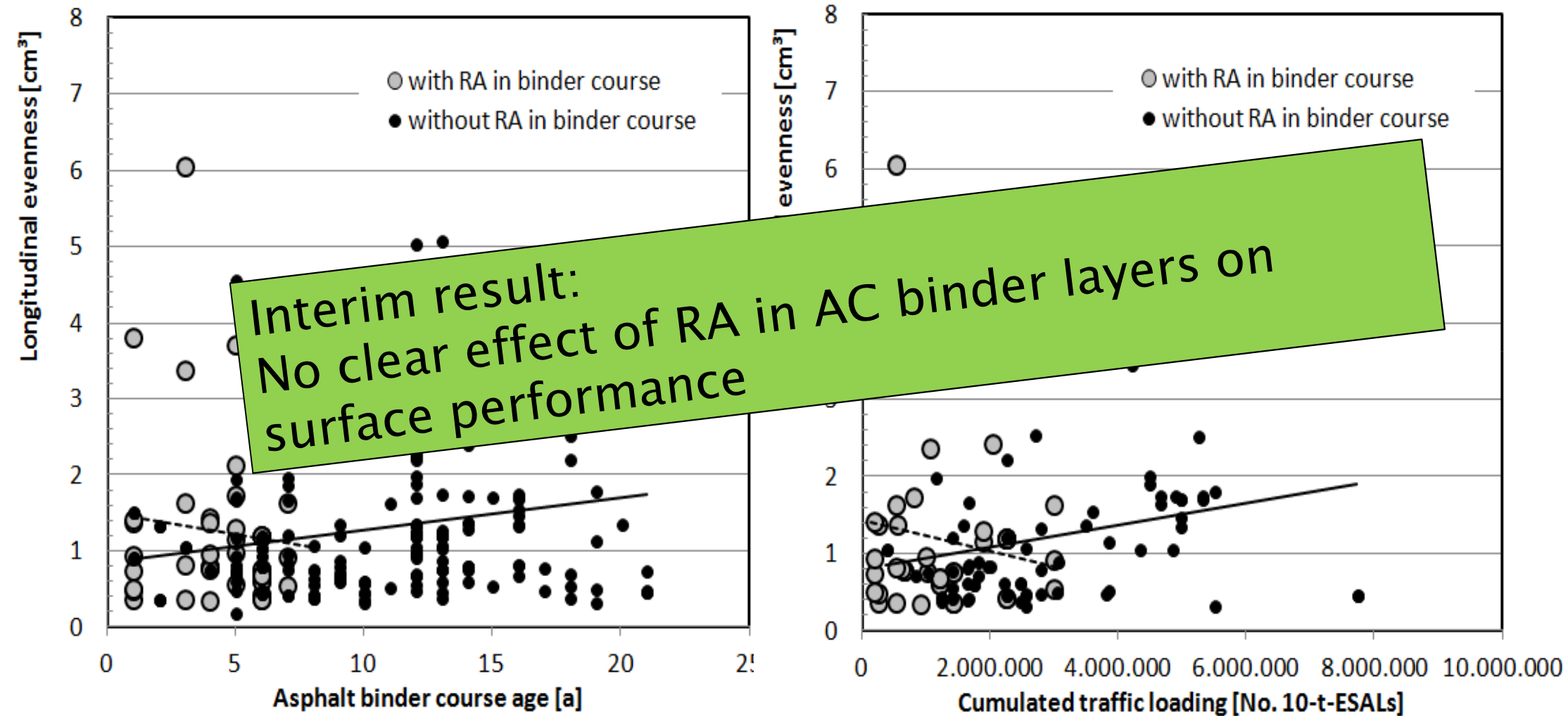
- Majority of base layer asphalt contains RA
- Minority of surface layer asphalt contains RA
- For quantitative assessment of RA effect on performance, binder courses seems to be best for evaluation

# Effect of RA in binder course on cracking





## Effect of RA in binder course on evenness





# Durability effects of construction site conditions



- **Weather effects**
  - Constraints for pavement works according to national specifications
- **Paving season effect**
  - Consequence of insufficient compaction and missing interlayer bonding
  - Proportion of insufficient compacted asphalt layers versus construction date
  - Proportion of insufficient interlayer bonding versus construction date





# Allowed weather conditions for pavement works

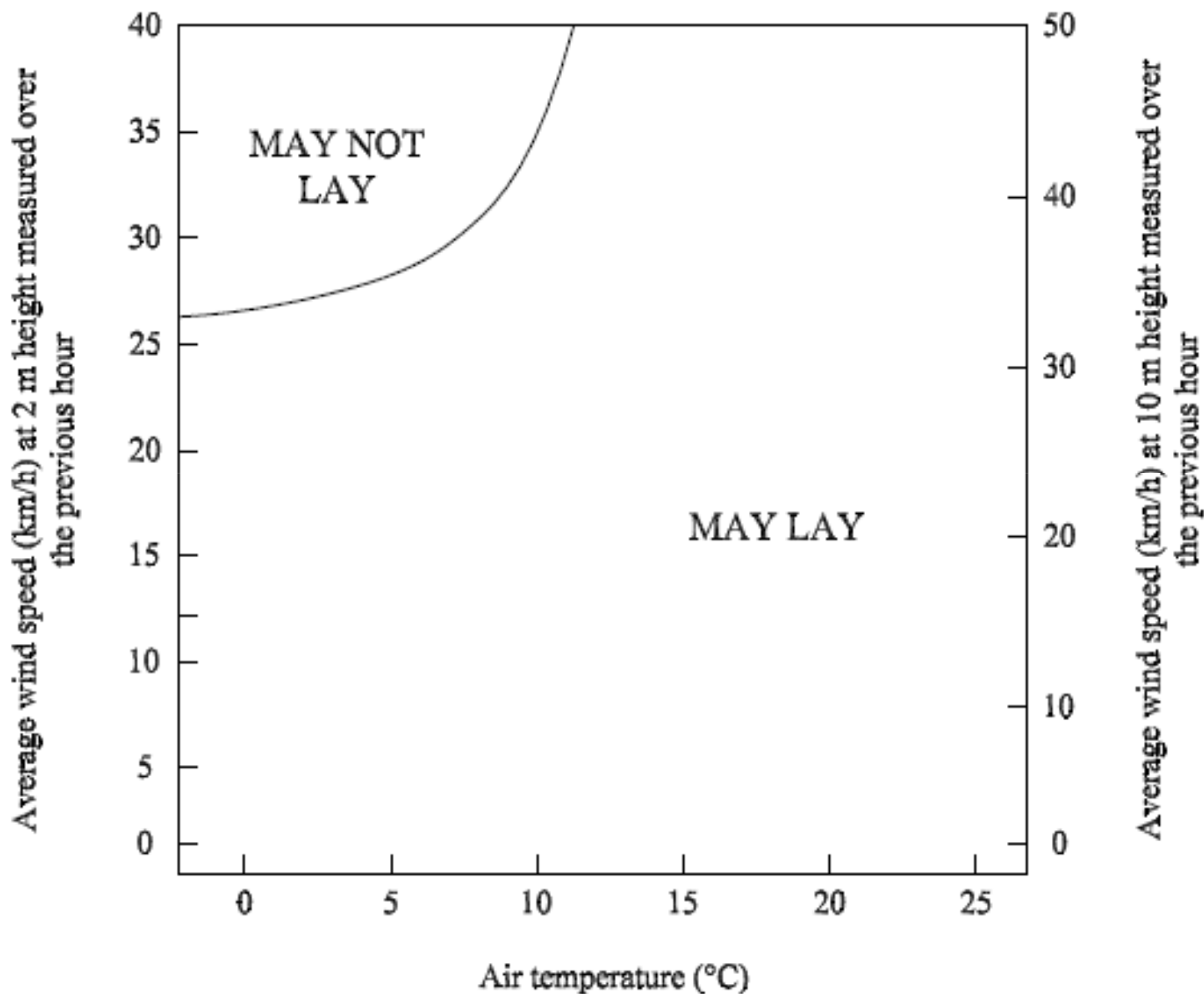
Country	Minimum allowed air temperature for paving of							Rainfall
	AC base layer	AC binder layer	asphalt surface ≥ 30 mm	asphalt surface < 30 mm	PA	MA ≥ 30 mm	HRA & PCC	
Germany	-3 °C	0 °C	+5 °C	+ 10 °C	+10 °C*	0 °C	-/-	allowed, no closed water film
The Netherlands	-**	-**	-**	-**	T <sub>air</sub> ≥ W+5 (°C)***	-**	-**	
UK and Ireland	Combination of wind and rainfall for layers less than 50 mm to Figure 14						0 °C	-/-

\* Paving of PA is restricted at high wind velocities (not further defined)

\*\* There are no specific requirements for other types of asphalt pavements than PA. However, the contractor is obliged to monitor and report on the conditions during construction and indicate how the quality of the paving work was ensured.

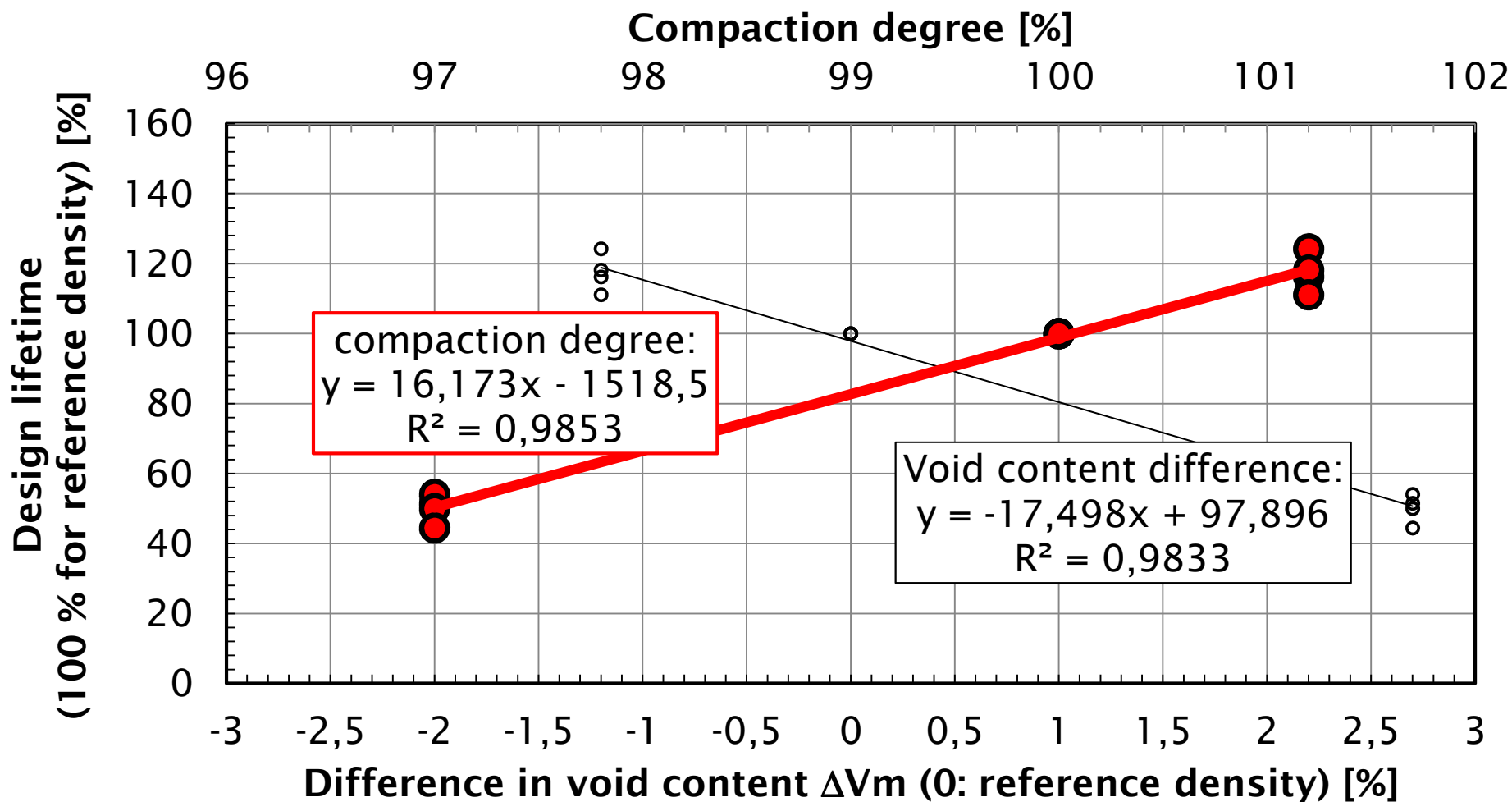
\*\*\* PA pavements can only be constructed when the air temperature is above 5°C plus the wind velocity (T is the air temperature in °C; W is the wind velocity in m/s).

# Allowed weather conditions for pavement works

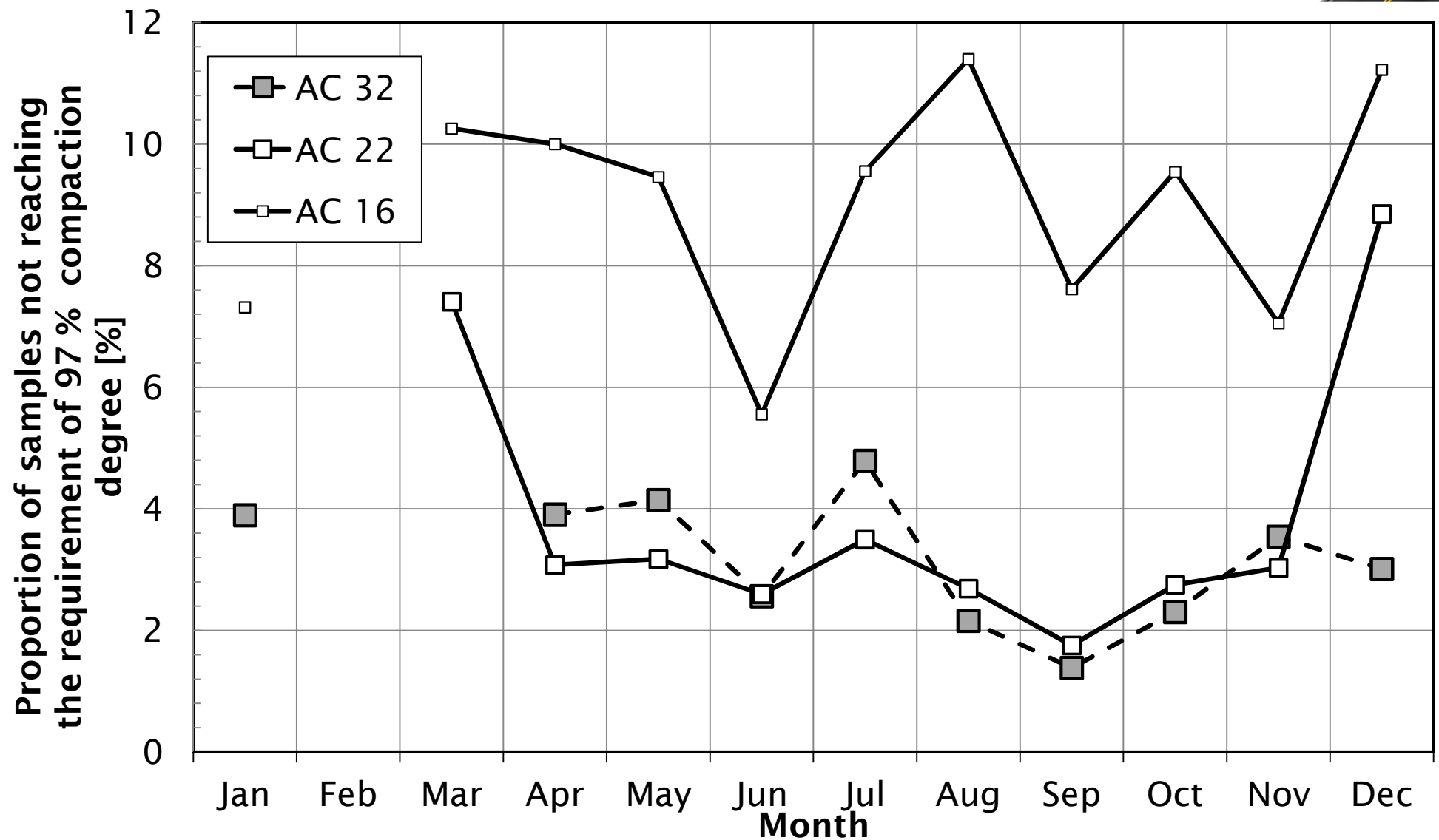


# Effect of compaction quality on calculated lifetime

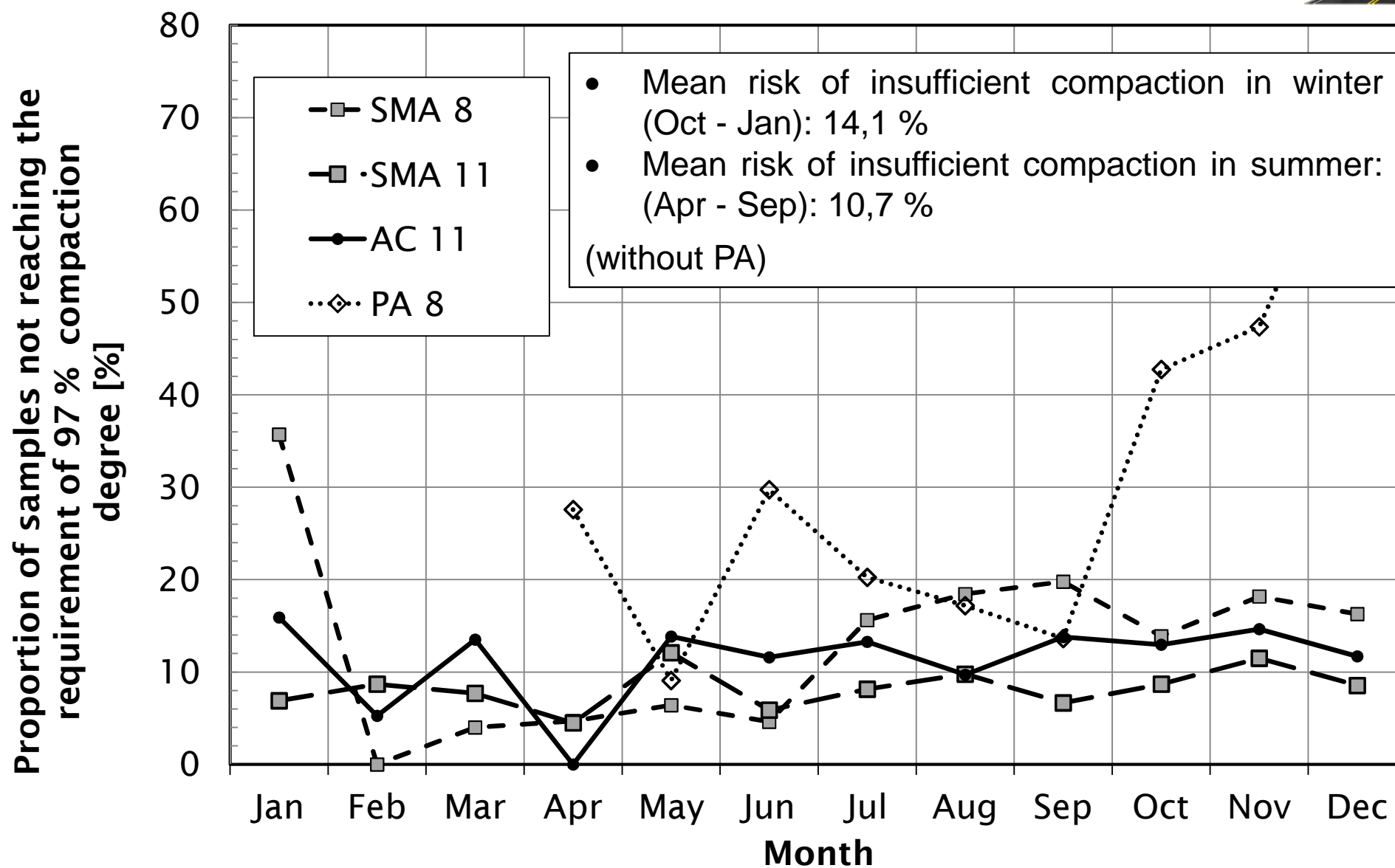
Based on lifetime calculations by applying German mechanistic-empirical pavement design guide



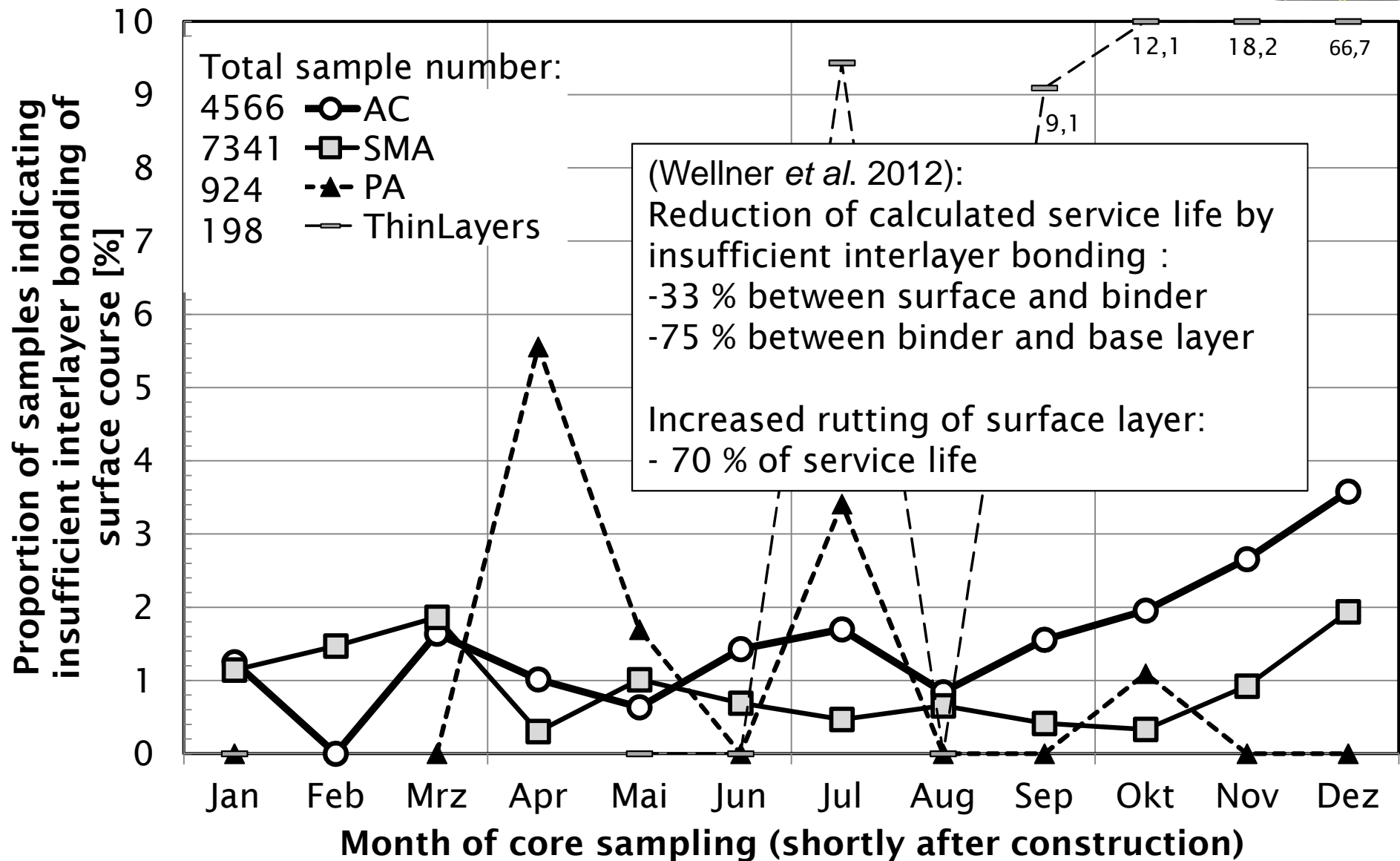
## Data base analysis: Seasonal effect on compaction degree



## Data base analysis: Seasonal effect on compaction degree



# Data base analysis: Seasonal effect on interlayer bonding



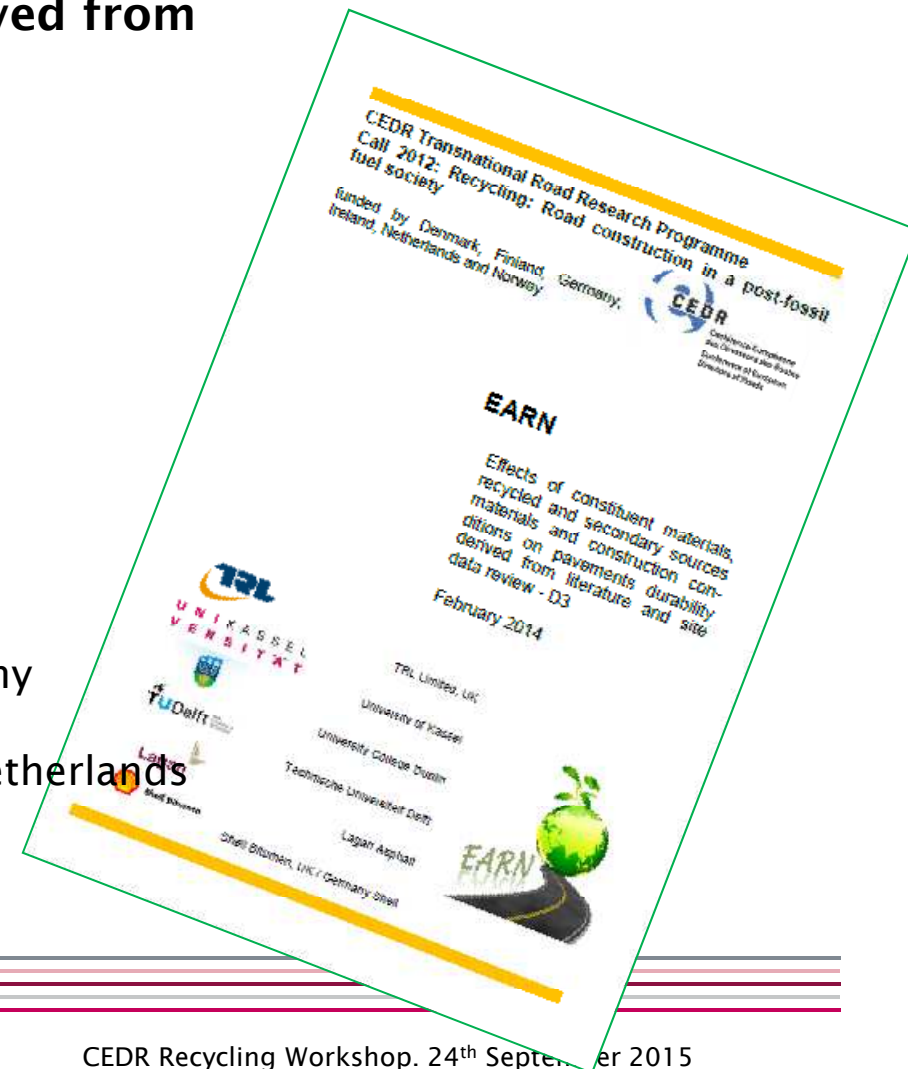


# Results summerised in EARN D3



**Deliverable D3:**  
**Effects of constituent materials, recycled and secondary sources materials and construction conditions on pavements durability derived from literature and site data review**

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# Conclusions from background data analysis (1)

## General

- **Pavement durability is affected by high number of parameters**
  - Detailed analysis of **general** material-specific service lifetime from laboratory and modelling assessment not possible
- **Reliable databases **combining** detailed on pavement structure and materials and long-term performance data not available**
  - Empirical data sources are limited in number and accuracy

## However...

### Regarding the application of RA in hot-mix asphalt

- **Empirical data identifies negative effect but with a large scatter**
- **Most international literature shows adequate material durability performance**
- **Some studies identified reduced durability**
  - Additional procedures (mix design, mix production) increases risk of reduced durability
  - Increased demand for high-quality approach in all productions stages



## Conclusions from background data analysis (2)

### Regarding new additives and mix designs (e. g. WMA)

- Additional additives will increase demand for quality by additional risks (e.g. incompatibilities to specific binders)
- Feasible **laboratory conditioning procedures** are required in order to allow the estimation of long-term properties during the mix design
- Laboratory test results with site-adapted laboratory tests will enable LCA and LCCA for single projects

### Regarding construction conditions

- **Construction season effect by adverse weather conditions**
  - Slightly increase the risk for insufficient compaction and interlaying bonding
  - Significant reductions of pavement and/or road material service lifetime.
  - Service lifetime decrease of -2,2 % for pavements constructed in autumn/winter months (October to January)
    - > -1,7 % by non-sufficient compaction
    - > -0,5 % by insufficient interlayer bonding

## References



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