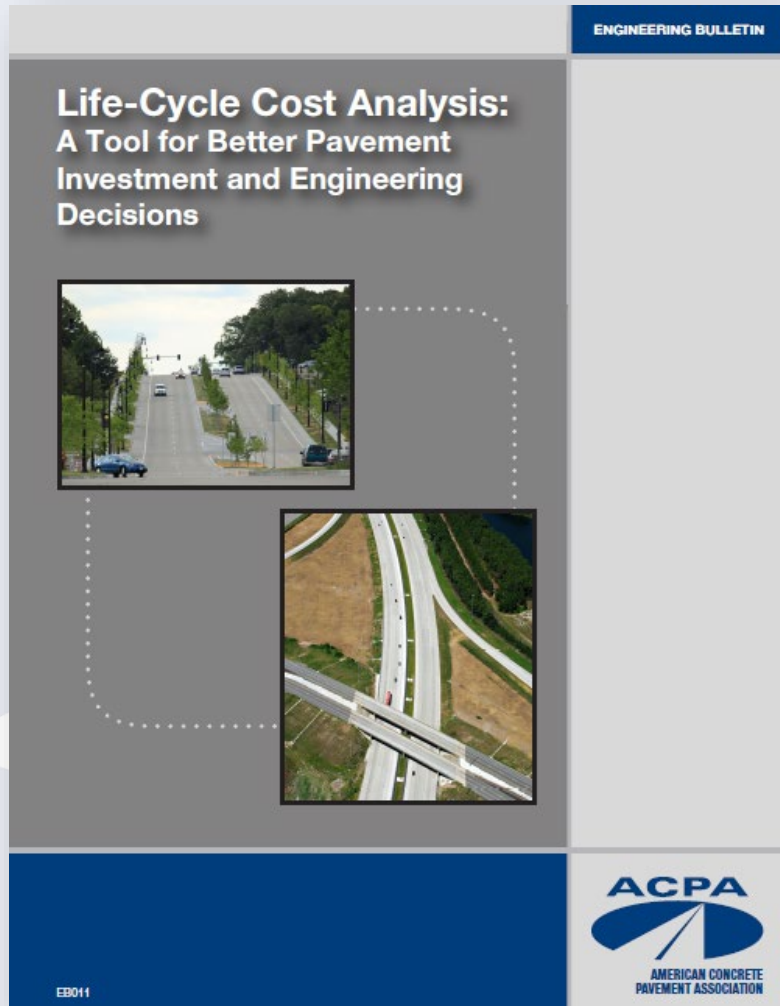


# Life-Cycle Cost Analysis for Pavements



June 13, 2023

Tim Martin, P.E.  
Senior Vice President of  
Technical Services

Life-Cycle Cost Analysis

# Introduction

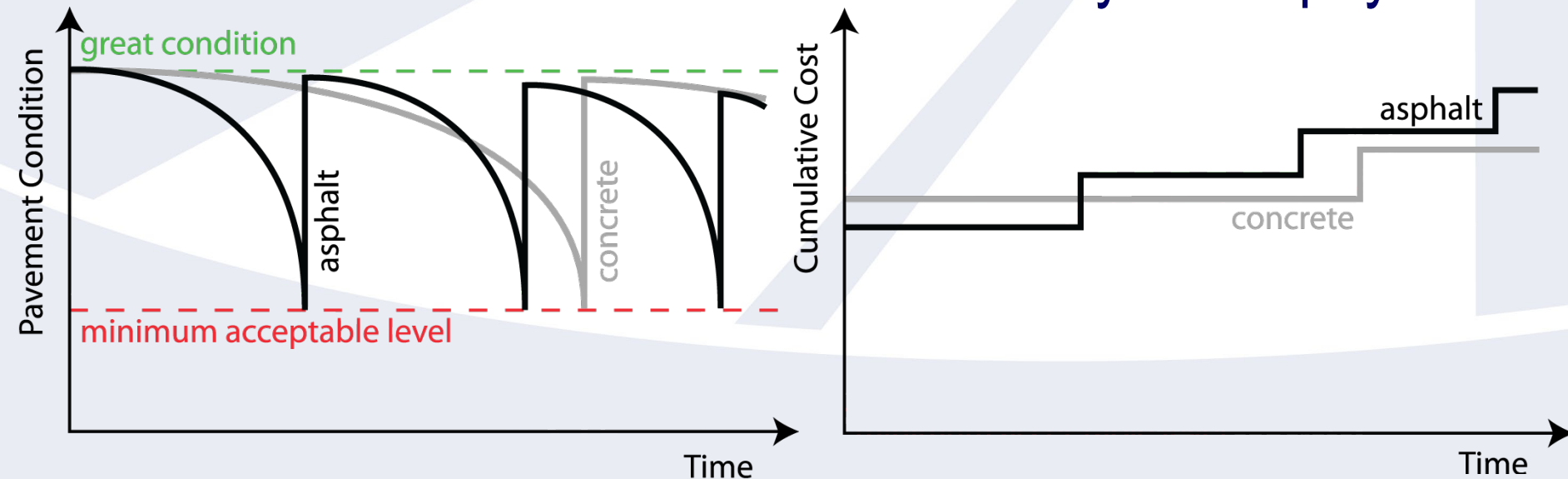


# What is Life-Cycle Cost Analysis?

- **Life-cycle cost analysis (LCCA):**
  - **An analysis technique** used to evaluate the overall long-term economic efficiency between competing alternate investment options (e.g., pavements).
  - Based on well-founded economic principles.
  - Identifies the strategy that will yield the **best value** by providing the expected performance **at the lowest cost** over the analysis period.
  - **Is not an engineering tool** for determining how long a pavement design or rehabilitation alternative will last or how well it will perform.

# Why Bother with an LCCA?

- Pavement types perform differently over time.
- Equivalent designs are not always achievable.
- LCCA compares the total discounted cost of each design over a specific analysis period to minimize the financial burden of the roadway on taxpayers.



# We Must Consider Life Cycle Costs!

- “Economic principles tell us that if we want to minimize the cost of a durable good that requires repair, maintenance and replacement over time, **we must minimize present value of those costs, not minimize initial costs.** If the myopic strategy is adopted to accept the lower up-front price despite higher [present value], the buyers are actually made worse off.”

- Dr. William Holahan

*Chair and Professor*

*Department of Economics*

*University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee*

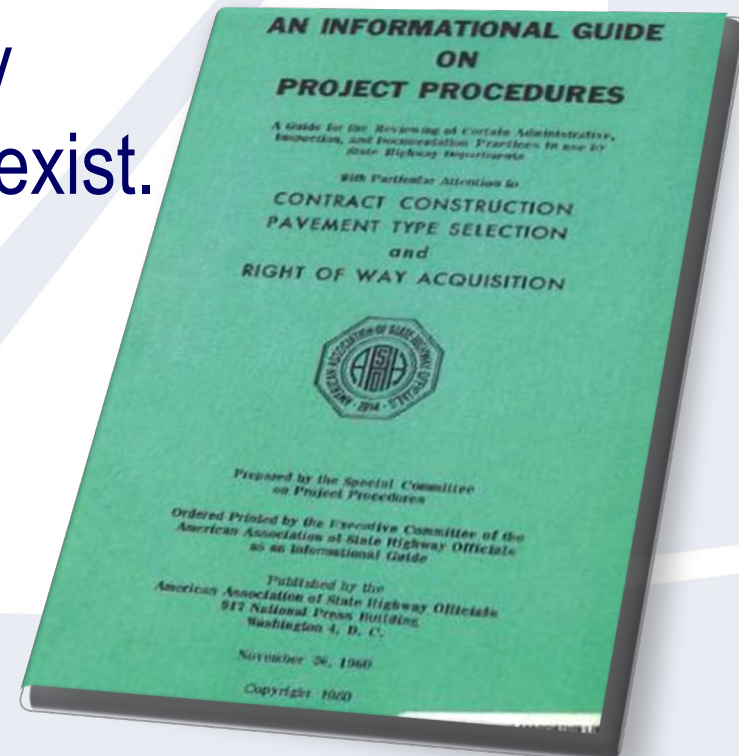


# LCCA in context of COMPETITION

- Greatest impediment to successful adoption?

**Lack of competition!**

- Acknowledged 63 years ago...
- LCCA cannot work effectively where “*monopoly situations*” exist.



# LCCA in context of COMPETITION

- LCCA can be a very powerful tool to help agencies make better long-term decisions for the public!
- BUT, only in the presence of competition can we *“ensure the tax-payers of this country are receiving full value of every highway dollar spent.”*

# History of LCCA

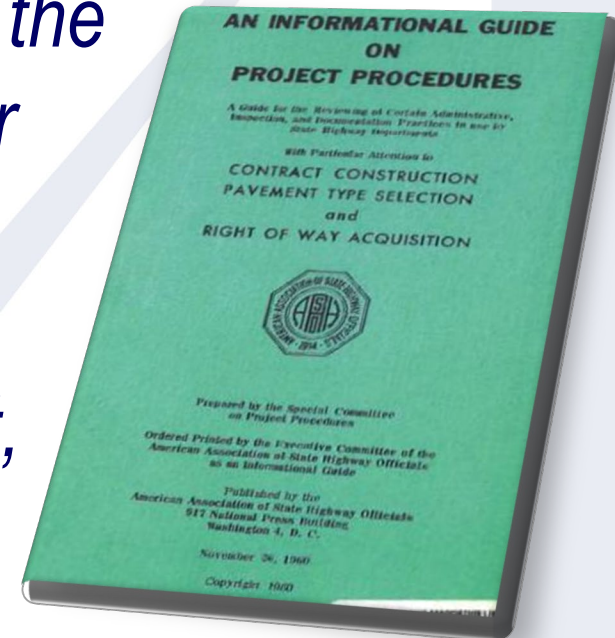
- *Manual of the Principles and Practices of Road Making*, Gillespie 1847
  - Defined the most cost-effective highway project as the one with the highest return to the cost associated with its construction and maintenance
- Concepts not widely used until 1950s and 1960s, the beginning of ...





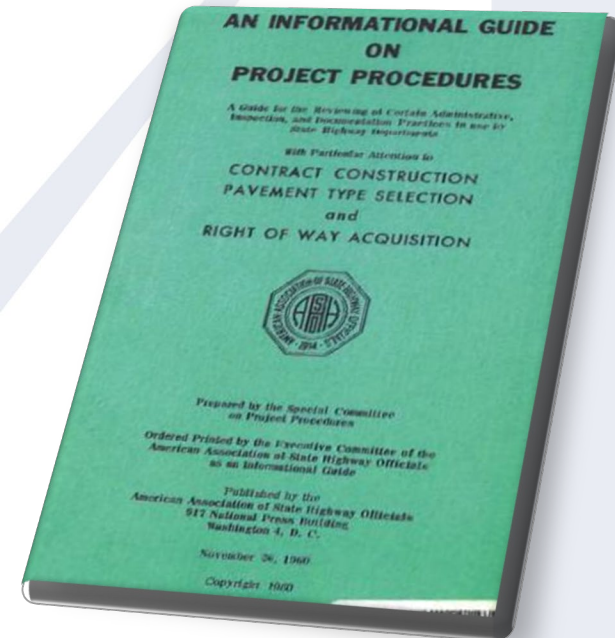
# AASHO 1960 Guide on Pavement Type Selection

- *V. Cost Comparison: Where circumstances permit, a better and more realistic measure would be the cost on the basis of service life or service rendered by a pavement structure. Such cost computation should reflect original investment, anticipated life, maintenance expenditures, and salvage value.*



# AASHO 1960 Guide on Pavement Type Selection

- It does caution however:  
*Original cost can be fairly accurately estimated. Doubt as to validity arises in the case where on(e) type of pavement has been given monopoly status by the long-term exclusion of a competitive type.*



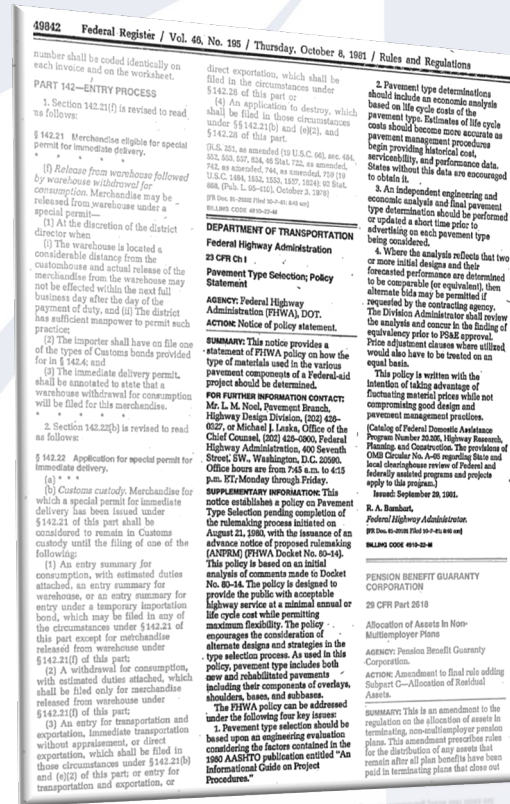
# AASHTO 1972 Pavement Design

- Pavement Design Guide
- Recommended the concept of life cycle costing
- Builds and refers to 1960 AASHO guide
- Carries to AASHTO 1983 and 1993 Design Guide recommendations endorsing LCCA use as a means for economic evaluation and decision support tool.

- *2. Pavement type determinations should include an economic analysis based on life cycle costs of the pavement type. Estimates of life cycle costs should become more accurate as pavement management procedures begin providing historical cost, serviceability, and performance data.*

## Selection Policy Statement (cont.)

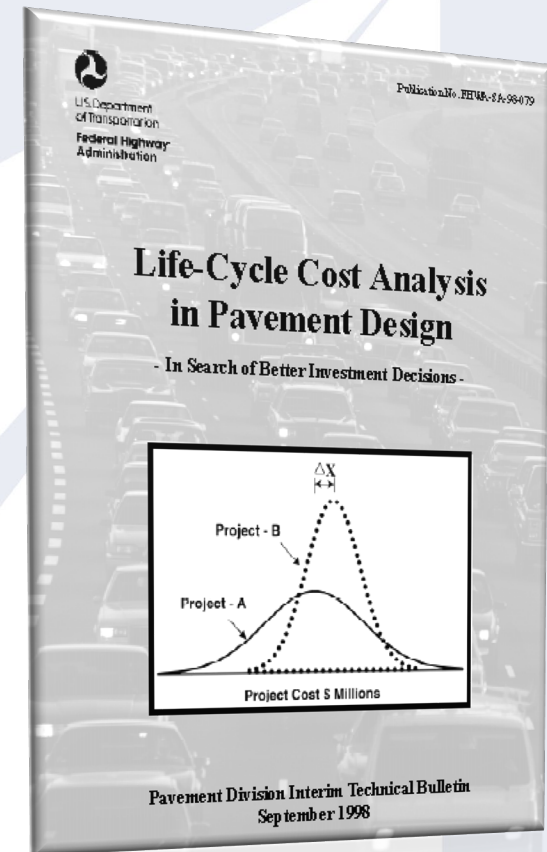
- 3. *An independent engineering and economic analysis and final pavement type determination should be performed or updated a short time prior to advertising on each pavement type being considered.*





# 1998 FHWA Interim Tech Bulletin

- Broad fundamental principles as well as detailed procedures
- Introduces probabilistic approach
- Demo Project 115 : *LCCA in Pavement Design*
- Foundation of later FHWA LCCA guidance and tools including RealCost (2004)



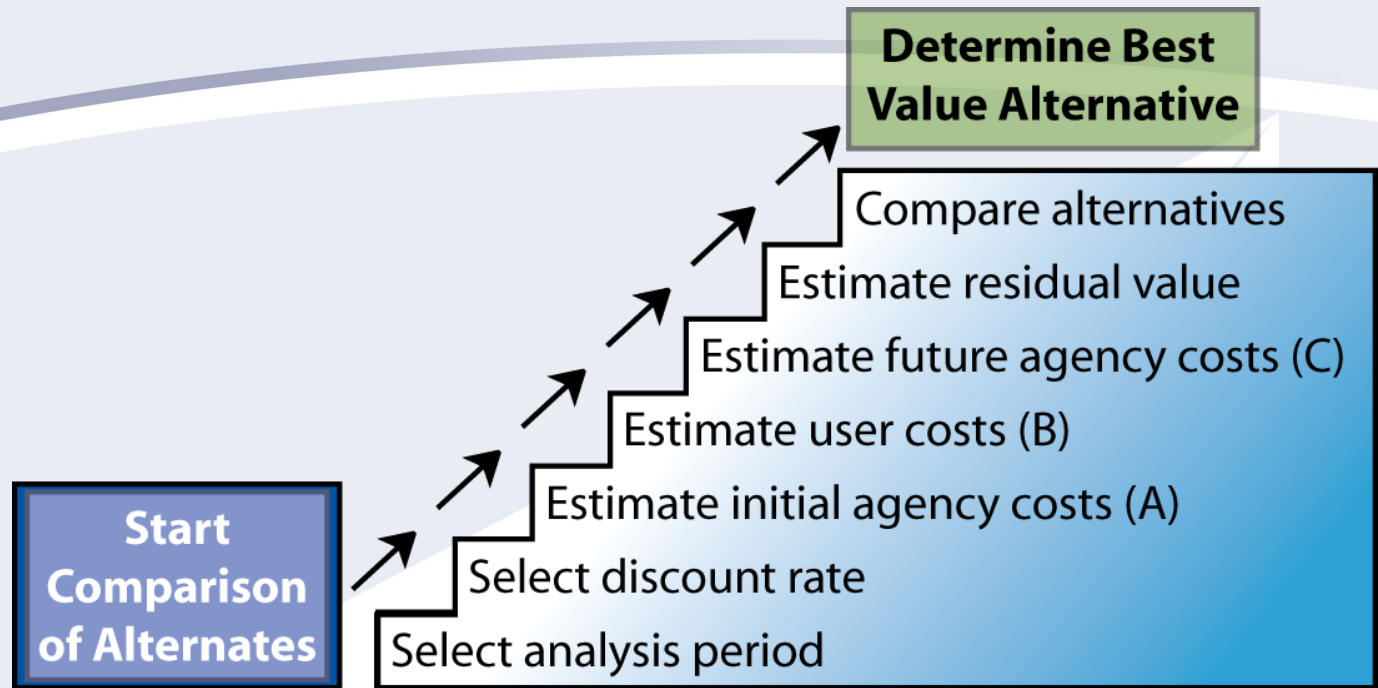
# **1998 FHWA Interim Tech Bulletin has a well-structured LCCA framework**

## **Establish LCCA Framework**

- **Establish analysis period**
- **Establish how inflation will be treated (nominal or real)**
- **Establish discount rate to be used (nominal or real)**

## **Perform LCCA**

- 1.Establish Alternative Pavement Designs**
- 2.Determine Timing of Required Rehabilitation Activities**
- 3.Estimate Agency and User Costs**
  - **Initial Construction Costs**
  - **Rehabilitation Costs**
- 4.Compute Life-Cycle Costs**
- 5.Analyze the Results**



Life-Cycle Cost Analysis

# Basic Steps in a Single Project LCCA



Life-Cycle Cost Analysis

# Selecting the Analysis Period

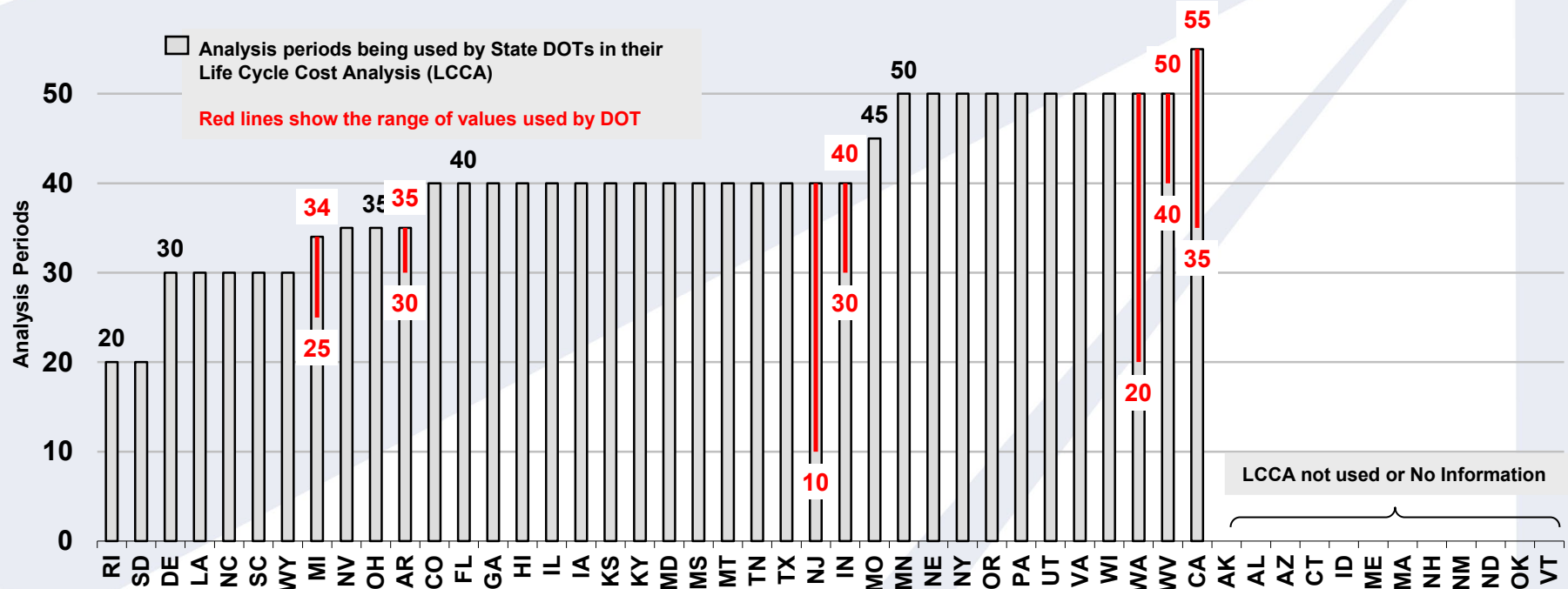
# LCCA Analysis Period

- The **analysis period** is the timeframe over which the alternative strategies/treatments are compared.
  - Must encompass the initial performance period and **at least one major follow-up** preservation/ rehabilitation activity for each strategy.
    - FHWA recommends an analysis period of at least 35 years for all pavement projects.
    - ***ACPA recommends an analysis period of 45-50+ years because common practice in many states is to design the concrete pavement alternate for 30+ years.***



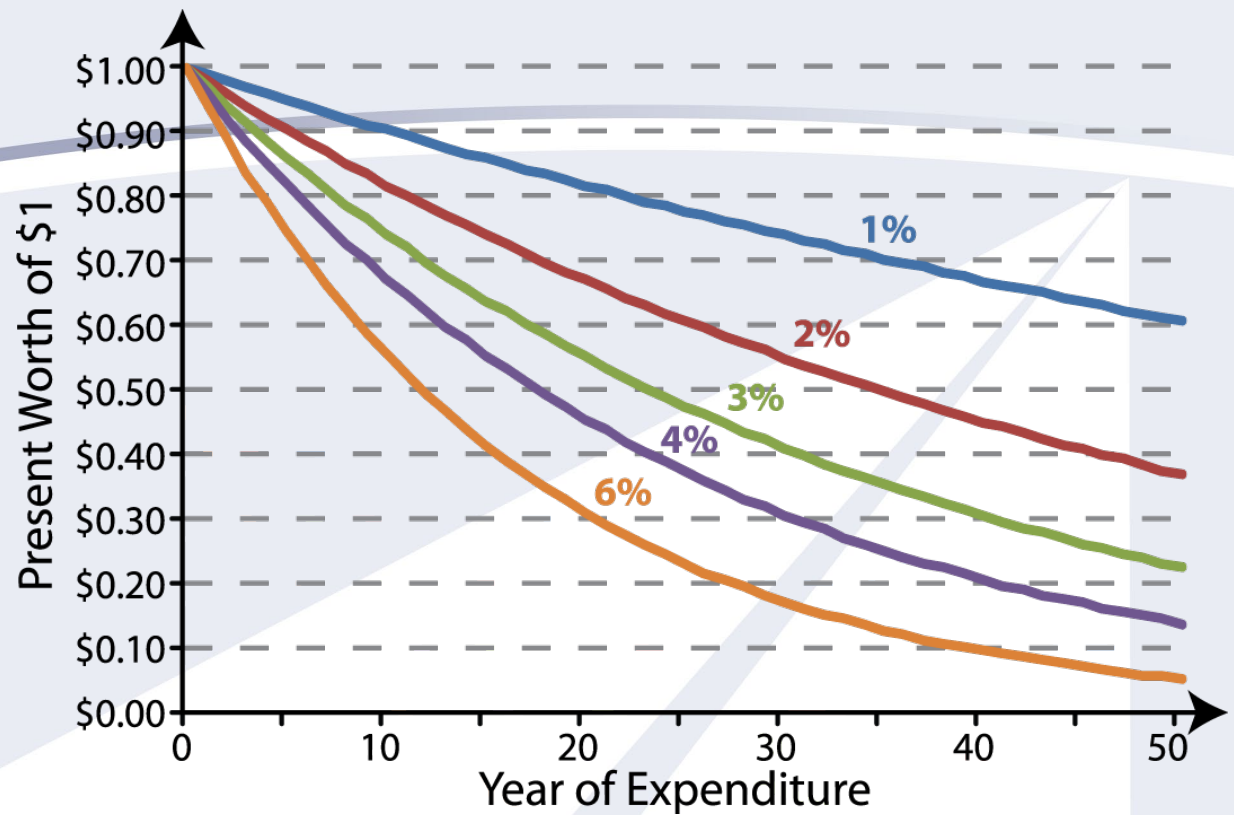
# Analysis Periods used by DOTS

In general, Analysis Periods have been getting longer



If changing the analysis period changes the results, **EXTEND** the analysis period

1. 2007 National LCCA Survey by Mississippi DOT
2. National LCCA Survey Conducted by South Carolina DOT
3. State DOT Pavement Design and/or Pavement Type Selection Manuals
4. Survey of American Concrete Pavement Association Chapter Executives
5. Performance Assumptions Used to Support LCCA - State Reports - Fall 2013 NCC Meeting



Life-Cycle Cost Analysis

## **Step 2 – Select a Discount Rate**

# LCCA Discount Rate

- The **real discount rate** (also known as the real interest rate) is used in pavement LCCAs.
  - Accounts for fluctuations in both investment **interest rates** and the **rate of inflation**.

$$d = \frac{1 + i_{int}}{1 + i_{inf}} - 1$$

$d$  = the real discount rate, %

$i_{int}$  = the interest rate, %

$i_{inf}$  = the inflation rate, %

# LCCA Discount Rate

- Low Discount Rate
  - Favors high initial cost and low future cost options
  - Long term (Concrete) solutions over short term solutions
  - Capital expansion over preservation
- High Discount Rate
  - Favors low initial cost and high future cost options
  - Short term solutions (asphalt) over long term solutions
  - Maintaining existing capacity over building new capacity (roads, ports etc)

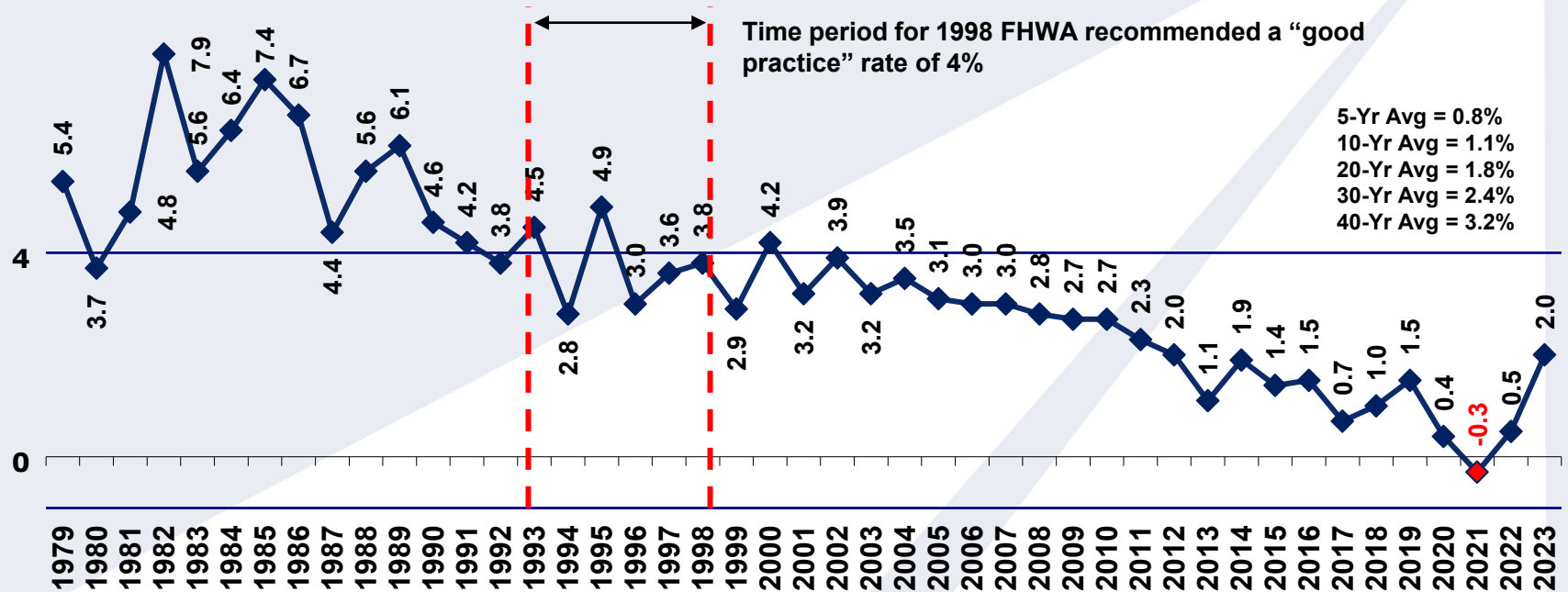
# Calculating the Real Discount Rate

- *ACPA supports the use of the United State's Office of Management and Budget (OMB) real discount rate.*
- If there is concern with the variability in the OMB real discount rate, a moving average of the value can be considered.



# Real Discount Rates from OMB Circular A-94

OMB 30-Yr Real Interest Rates on Treasury Notes and Bonds



**Best practice is to update and use OMB Discount Rates each year  
Ensure the analysis is line with current economic conditions**



Life-Cycle Cost Analysis

# **Step 3 – Estimate Initial Agency Costs (A)**

# Initial Agency Costs

- Only those **initial agency costs** that are **different** among the various alternatives need to be considered for reasonably similar alternates.
- **Pavement costs** include items such as subgrade preparation; base, subbase, and surface material; associated labor and equipment; etc.
- **When historical bid prices are used as estimates**, consider the impact of material price escalators, payment practices, and bidding practices.

# Initial Costs Drive the LCCA Results

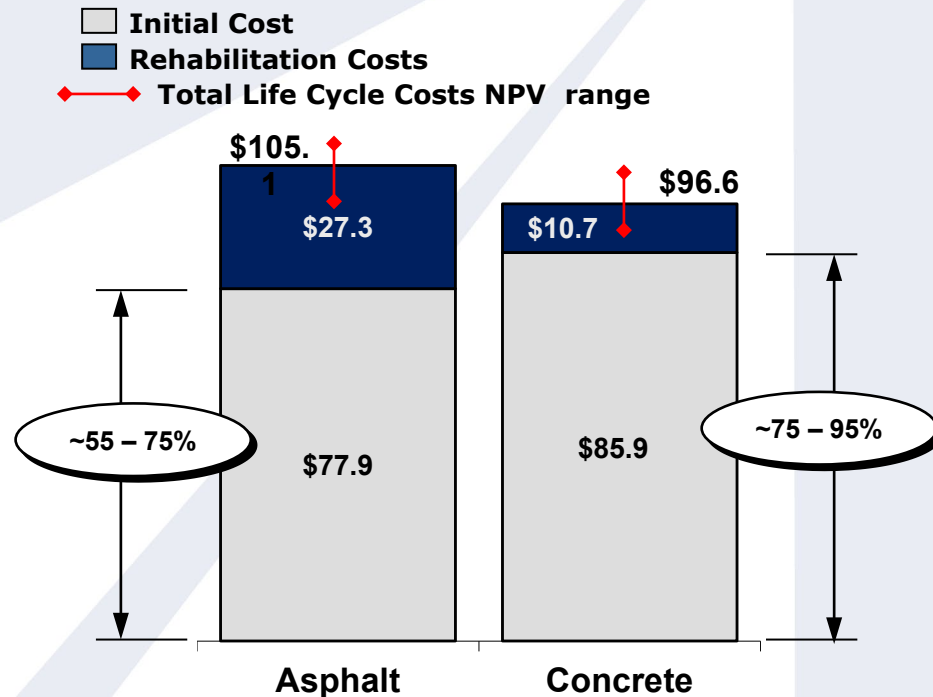
Initial costs account for

- 55-75% for Asphalt
- 75-95% for Concrete
  - *Depends on initial designs, rehabilitation activities, rehabilitation timing, discount rates, etc.*

Design and selection of features plays an important role

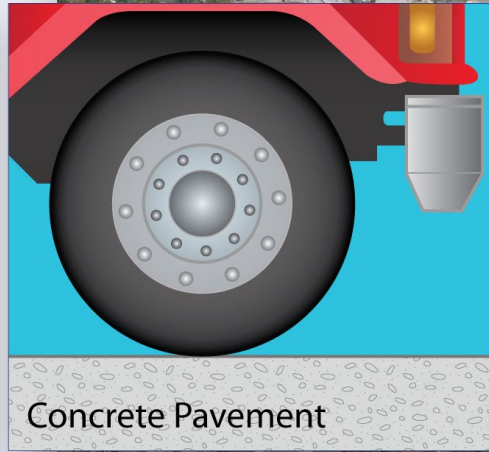
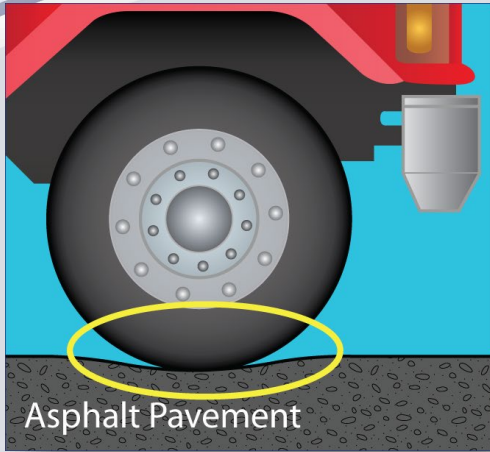
- Need to optimize designs (no unnecessary features)
- Need to account for improved pavement designs on performance life

Initial Cost as % of Total Life Cycle Costs



**Initial costs need to – as best as possible – accurately reflect the DOT most likely expenditures**





Life-Cycle Cost Analysis

# **Step 4 – Estimate User Costs (B)**



# User Costs

- Costs that are incurred by **users of the roadway** over the analysis period.
  - **Work zone costs:** Incurred during lane closures and other periods of construction, preservation/rehabilitation, and maintenance work.
  - **Vehicle operating costs:** Incurred during the normal use of the roadway.
  - **Delays due to capacity issues:** Primarily a function of demand for use of the roadway with respect to roadway capacity (not likely to vary between alternates).
  - **Accidents:** Damage to the user's/other's vehicle and/or public or private property; injury costs.

# A Not Uncommon User Costs Example

When User's costs are this high, need to re-look at the options being evaluated

- 6 Lane Facility (3 Lane per dir.)
- Work Zone 1 Lane Open
- 30 Year Analysis Period
- Initial AADT = 110,000 vpd
- 2 Rehabs including maint. plan

**User Cost = \$12 Billion**



**If user costs are included, recommend to NOT combine agency & user costs  
(Keep separate - each tells a different story)**



Life-Cycle Cost Analysis

# **Step 5 – Estimate Future Agency Costs (C)**

# Future Agency Costs

- **All cost components must be considered** because the present value of costs associated with engineering, administrative, and traffic control are impacted by the time value of money.
- Future activities are dependent on the initial pavement design.
- Must consider both maintenance/operation and preservation/rehabilitation costs and timing.

# Maintenance and Operation Costs

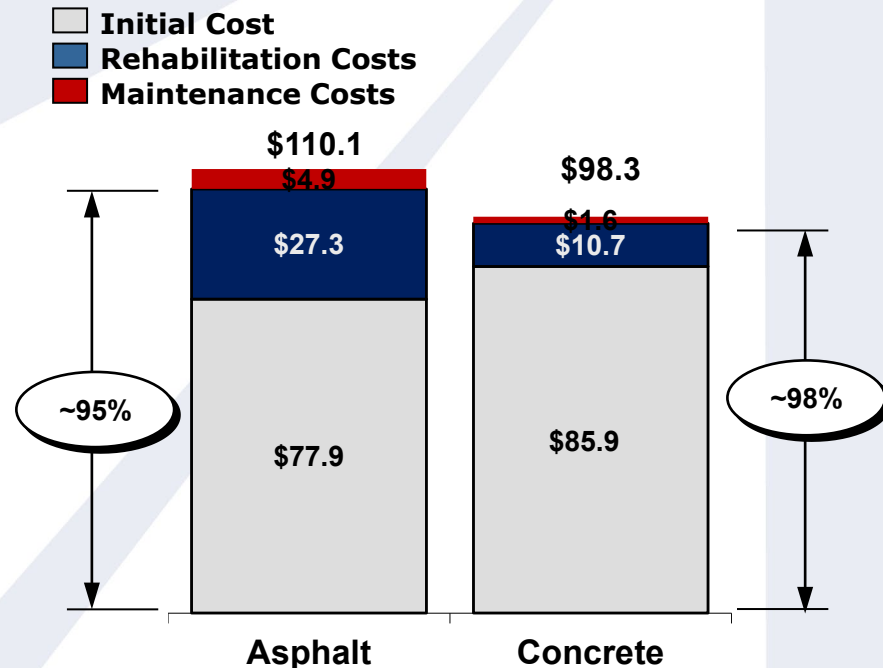
- **Daily costs** associated with keeping the pavement at a given level of service.
- **Several billion dollars** are spent each year on pavement maintenance by highway agencies in the U.S.
- Short-term solutions typically have significantly larger maintenance requirements than long-life solutions, regardless of the size of the project.

# Still, Maintenance Costs have Minimal Effect on the Results

While the outlay of Maintenance costs is high, they have minimal effect on the results

- Initial construction costs  
~ \$1,000,000 / mi
- Rehabilitation costs  
~ \$150,000 – \$300,000 / mi
- Yearly maintenance costs  
~ \$1,000 to \$5,000 / mi

Maint. Cost as % of Total Life Cycle Costs



Standard practice is to exclude maintenance costs as they are small compared to initial and rehabilitation costs



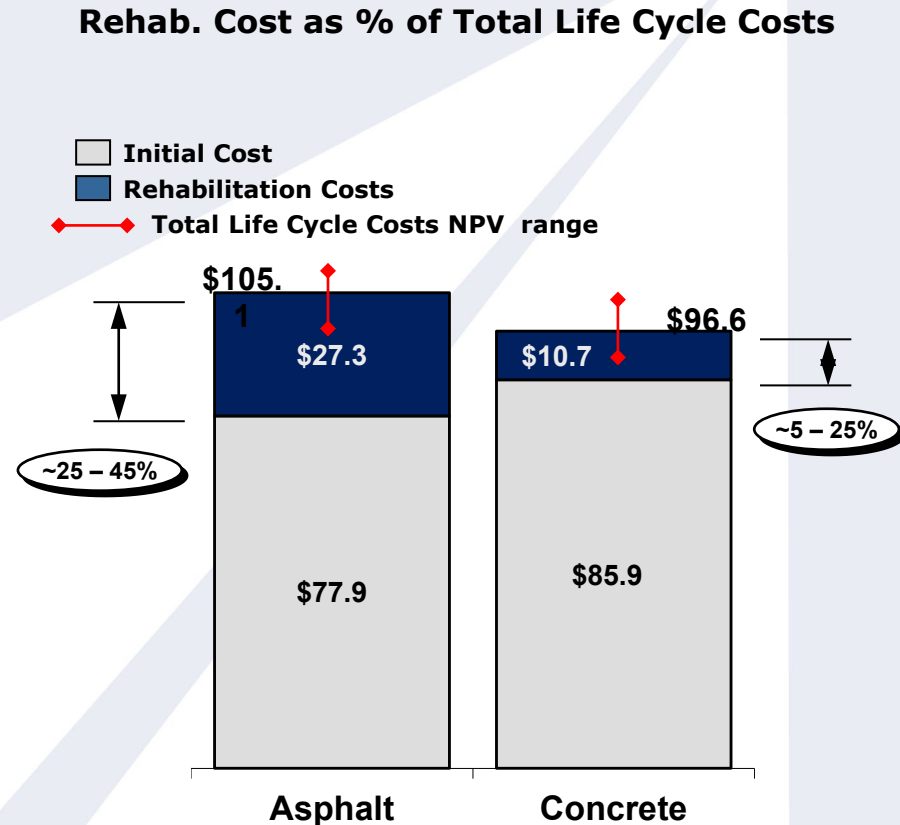
# Preservation and Rehab. Costs

- **Large future agency costs** associated with improving the condition of the pavement or extending its service life.
- Preservation and rehabilitation **activities and their timing** should be based on the distresses that are predicted to develop in the pavement.
- One approach to developing performance predictions is to **rely on local performance data**
- Otherwise, software such as Pavement-ME™ can be used.

# Preservation and Rehab. Costs

The longer a rehabilitation activity is delayed, the less impact it has on NPV (eg. discounted more)

- Being off with early rehabilitation activities is more “wrong” than being off on later activities



Because concrete rehab's NPV are typically low, extending life of the pavement has little impact on Life Cycle Costs

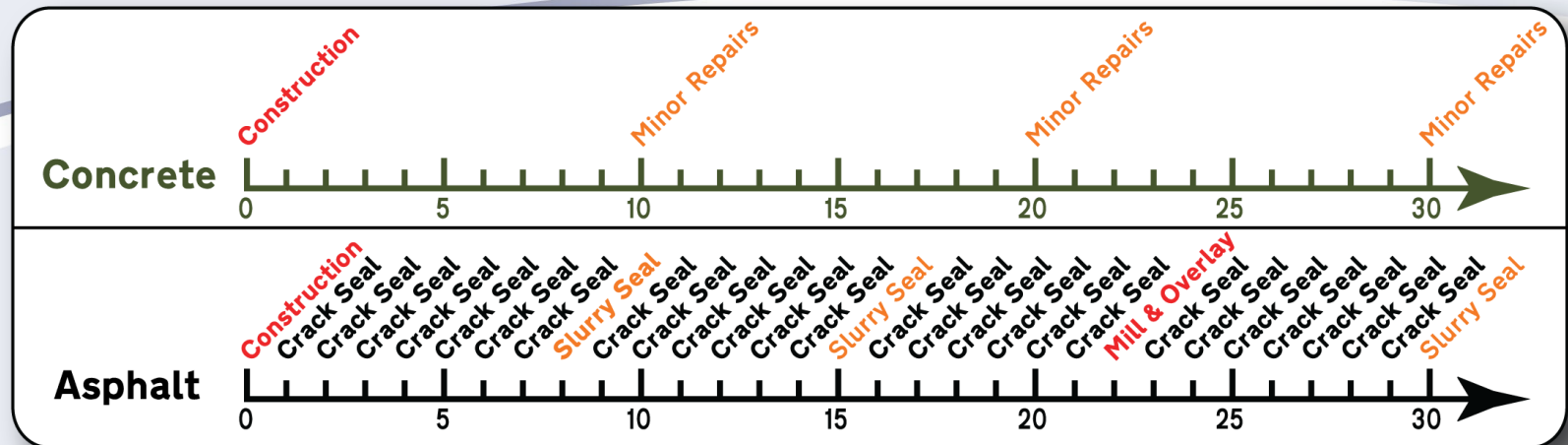


Life-Cycle Cost Analysis

# **Step 6 – Estimate Residual Value**

# Residual Value

- Defined in one of two ways:
  - The net value that the pavement would have in the marketplace if it is **recycled at the end of its life** (also known as salvage value),
  - The value of the **remaining service life (RSL)** at the end of the analysis
    - $RSL = (\text{Remaining Life} / \text{Last Rehabilitation Life}) \times \text{Last Rehabilitation Cost}$
- Residual value **must be defined the same way** for all alternatives.



*Pavement Management Plan from City of Leawood, Kansas*

Life-Cycle Cost Analysis

## **Step 7 – Compare Alternatives**

# Compare Alternatives

- Alternatives considered must be compared using a **common measure of economic worth**.
- Investment alternatives such as pavement strategies are most commonly compared on the basis of:
  - Present worth (also called net present value [**NPV**])
  - Annual worth (also called equivalent uniform annual cost [**EUAC**])
  - NPV and EUAC will provide the same ranking!



# Net Present Value (NPV)

- NPV analyses are directly applicable only to **mutually exclusive alternates** each with the **same analysis period**.
- The formula for the **present value or worth (\$P)** of a **one-time future cost or benefit (\$F)** is:

$$\$P = \$F \times \left[ \frac{1}{(1 + d)^t} \right]$$

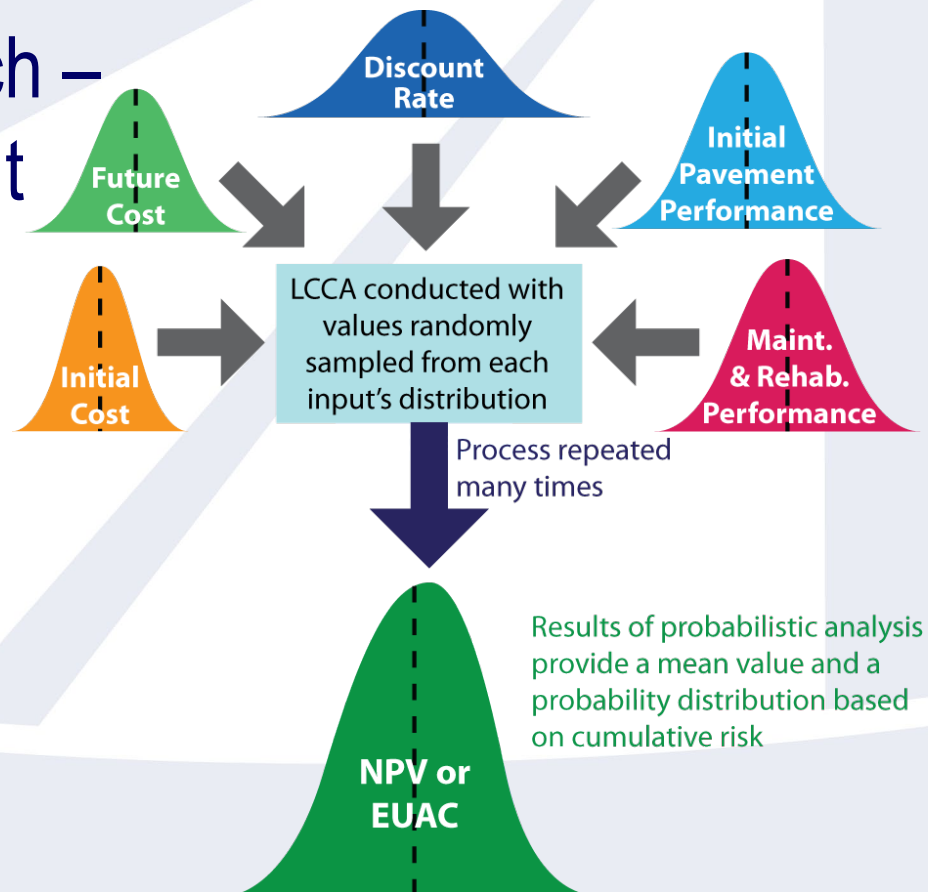
d = the real discount rate, %  
t = the year in which the  
one-time future cost  
or benefit occurs

# Accounting for Material Inflation

- **Material-specific real discount rates OR**
- **Escalating the future value** of an item before calculating its present or annual worth.
  - PennDOT uses an **Asphalt Adjustment Multiplier (AAM)** to adjust asphalt bid prices; current AAM is 1.7419, effectively escalating asphalt prices 74%.
  - MIT has proposed “**real price**” **escalators** that are dependent on the year in the LCCA in which the activity is conducted.

# Analysis Methods

- **Deterministic** approach – a single defined value is assumed and used for each activity.
- **Probabilistic** approach – variability of each input is accounted for and used to generate a probability distribution for the calculated life-cycle cost.



# Analysis Tools

- Most modern **spreadsheet software** include standard functions for calculating the present worth and annual worth.
- **Proprietary software** to compute LCCAs include:
  - AASHTO's DARWinME™ (deterministic)
  - FHWA's RealCost (deterministic and probabilistic)
  - ACPA's StreetPave & WinPAS (both deterministic)
  - CAC's CANPave (deterministic)
  - Asphalt Pavement Alliance's (APA's) LCCA Original and LCCA Express (both deterministic)

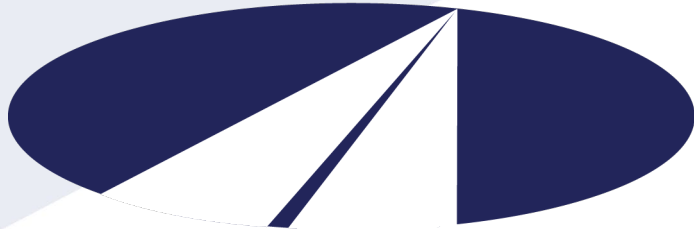
# **THANK YOU!**

## **Questions?**

**Tim Martin, PE**

**[tmartin@acpa.org](mailto:tmartin@acpa.org)**

# **ACPA**



**[www.acpa.org](http://www.acpa.org)**



# **IMPROVING LIFE CYCLE COST ANALYSIS (LCCA) TO MAKE THE RESULTS “ROBUST”**

**June 2023**

**Jim Mack, P.E.  
CEMEX**

**[jamesw.mack@cemex.com](mailto:jamesw.mack@cemex.com)**



## LIFE-CYCLE ANALYSIS IS USED TO EVALUATE THE TOTAL IMPACTS OVER THE LIFE OF AN ASSET

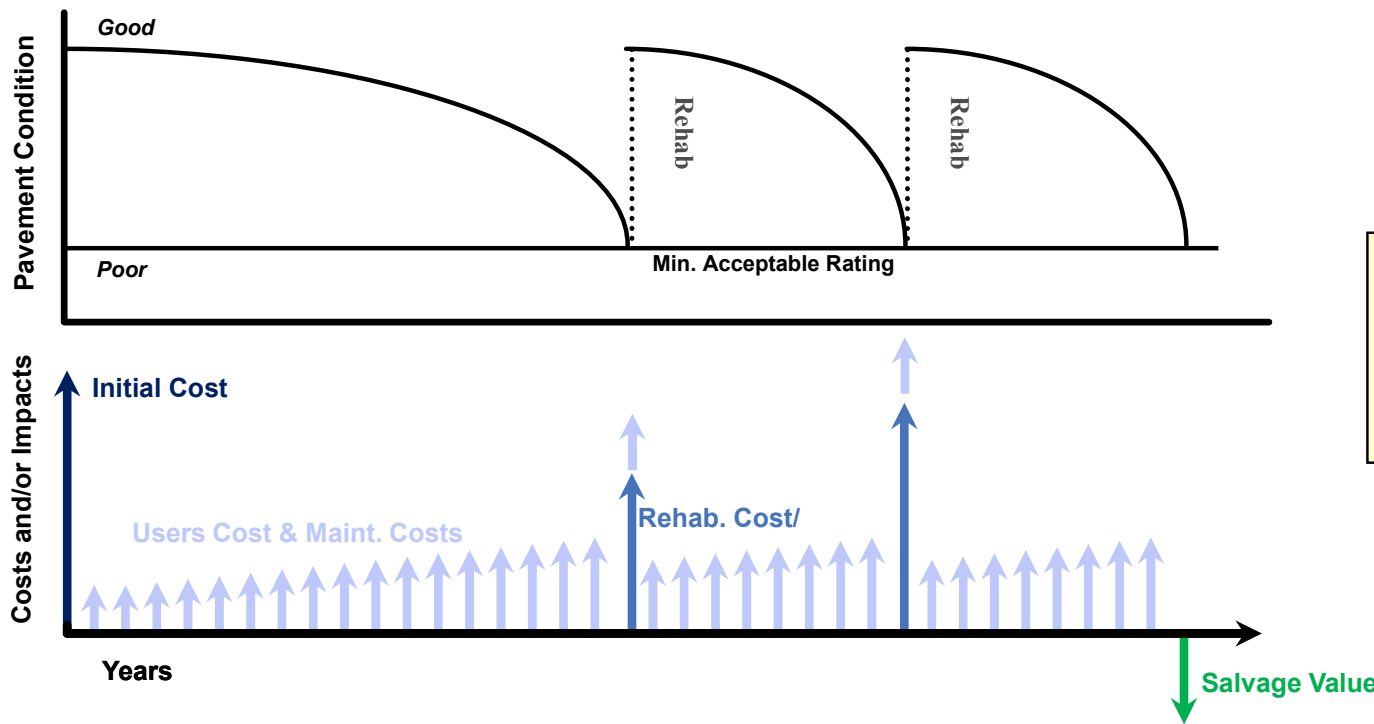
Impacts can be Cost or Environmental

Life-Cycle Cost Analysis (LCCA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An <b>economic</b> analysis tool that quantifies the differential costs of alternative investment options for a given project<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• LCCA determines which pavement design is most cost effective</li></ul></li></ul>
Life-Cycle Assessment (LCA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An <b>environmental</b> analysis that evaluates the material and energy flows for a product from cradle to grave, which includes raw material extraction, material processing, manufacturing, distribution, use, repair and maintenance, and disposal<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• LCA determines which pavement design is most “sustainable”</li></ul></li></ul>

To be meaningful and reliable, the analysis needs to – as best as possible – accurately represent the Agency’s expected pavement activities for each alternative over the analysis period.

# LIFE CYCLE COST ANALYSIS IS PROJECT ANALYSIS TOOL THAT QUANTIFIES THE TOTAL “COSTS OF OWNERSHIP”

Accounts for initial costs and discounted future rehabilitation costs



LCCA compares different options for a given project and determines which pavement design is most cost effective over the analysis period

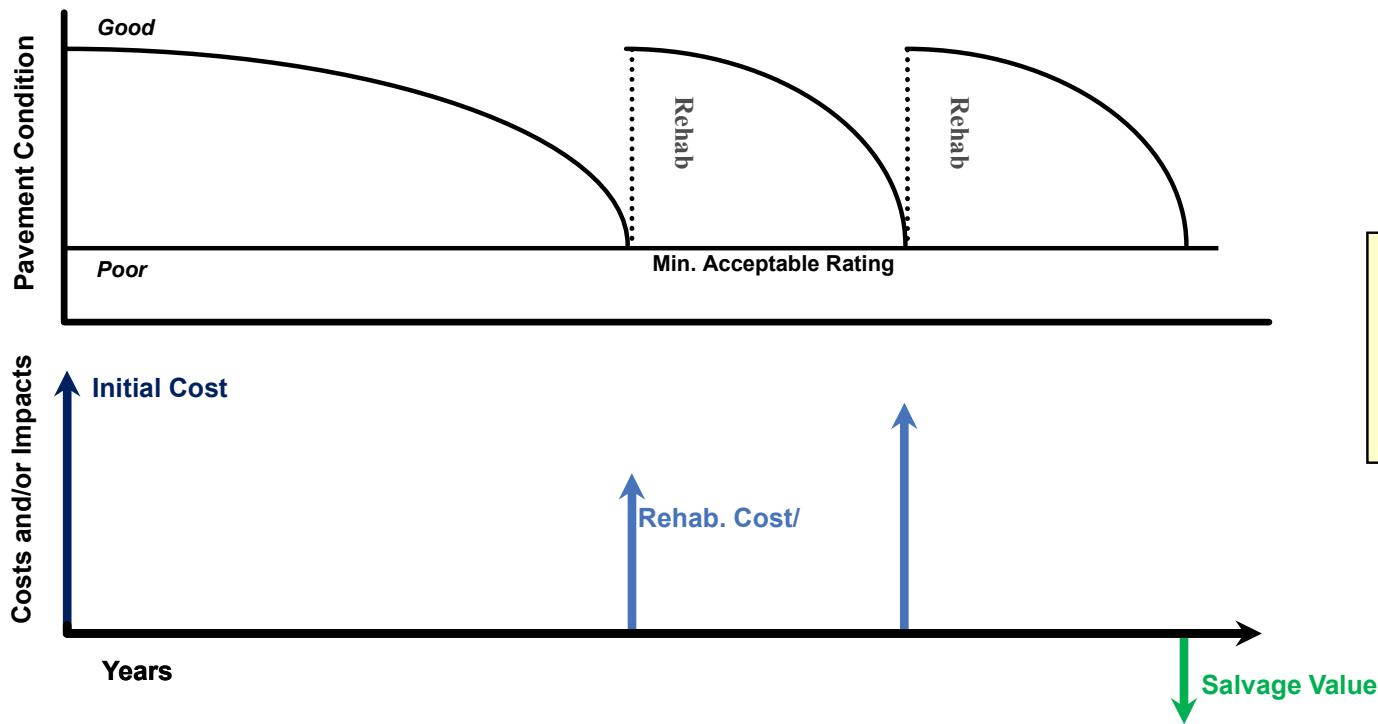
$$NPV = \text{Initial Cost} + \sum \text{Rehab cost} \times \frac{1}{(1+d)^{n_k}} + \sum \text{Maint cost} \times \frac{1}{(1+d)^{n_k}} + \sum \text{User cost} \times \frac{1}{(1+d)^{n_k}} - \text{Salvage Value} \times \frac{1}{(1+d)^{n_k}}$$

Where

NPV = Net Present Value; d = real discount rate;  $n_k$  = year of expenditure

# LIFE CYCLE COST ANALYSIS IS PROJECT ANALYSIS TOOL THAT QUANTIFIES THE TOTAL “COSTS OF OWNERSHIP”

Accounts for initial costs and discounted future rehabilitation costs



LCCA compares different options for a given project and determines which pavement design is most cost effective over the analysis period

$$NPV = \text{Initial Cost} + \sum \text{Rehab cost} \times \frac{1}{(1+d)^{n_k}} - \text{Salvage Value} \times \frac{1}{(1+d)^{n_k}}$$

Where

NPV = Net Present Value; d = real discount rate;  $n_k$  = year of expenditure

# TO GET CREDIBLE AND RELIABLE LCCA RESULTS

The Process, Engineering and Economics need to be correct

- 1 **Process** needs to be well-structured and follows best practices
- 2 **Engineering** must be fundamentally sound and pertain to that specific design for a particular project
  - Equivalent designs with similar performance
  - Realistic rehabilitation strategies for each particular design based on anticipated performance
- 3 **Economics** needs to accurately represent – as best as possible – the current economic conditions
  - **Cost** need to accurately represent the Agency's probable expenditures for the expected rehabilitation strategy for that specific design

The LCCA must be based on the designs “Being Proposed” for the Project  
(Not on a “Average or Standard Pavement”)

## **FHWA HAS A WELL-STRUCTURED FRAMEWORK AND 5-STEP PROCESS FOR PERFORMING A LCCA**

### **Establish LCCA Framework**

- Establish analysis period
- Establish how inflation will be treated (nominal or real)
- Establish discount rate to be used (nominal or real)

### **Perform LCCA**

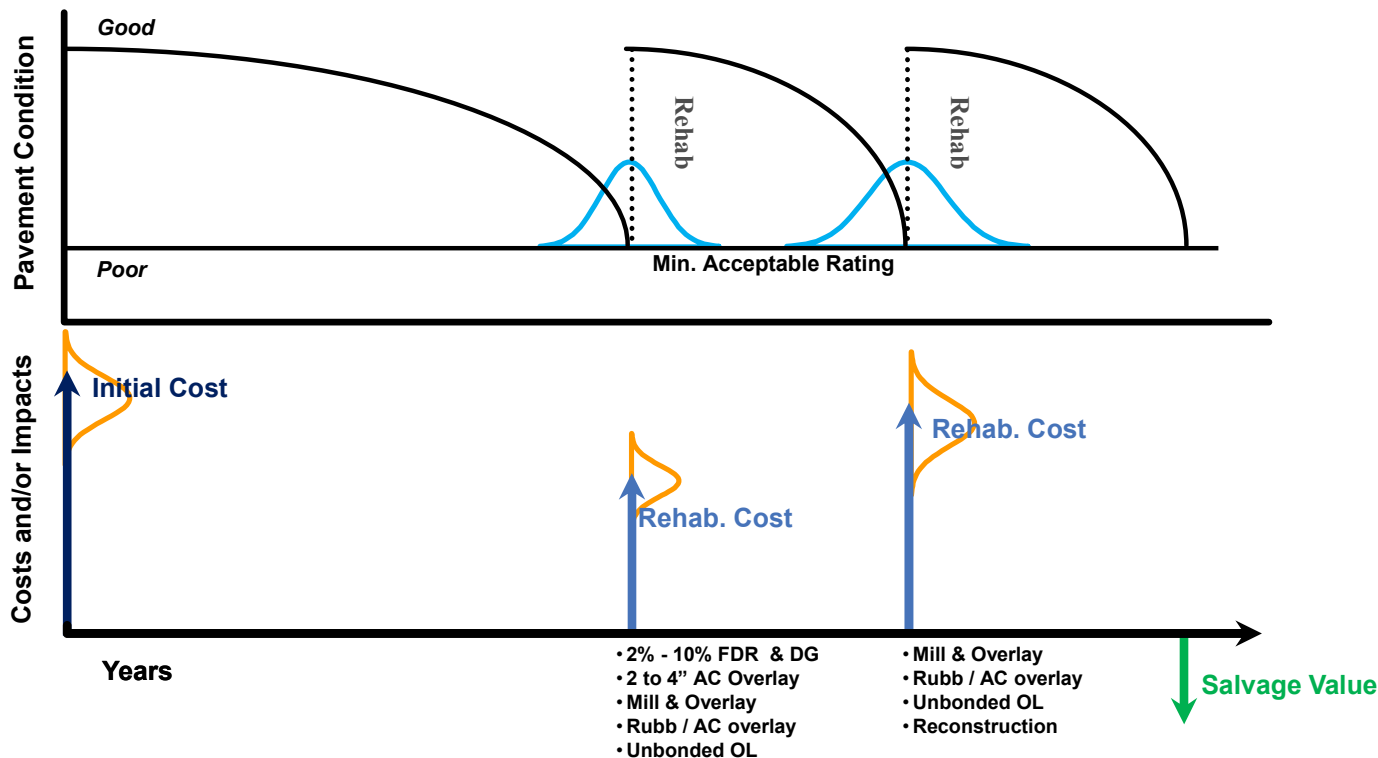
1. Establish Alternative Pavement Designs
2. Determine Timing of Required Rehabilitation Activities
3. Estimate Agency and User Costs (often considered optional)
  - Initial Construction Costs
  - Rehabilitation Costs
4. Compute Life-Cycle Costs
5. Analyze the Results

**State DOTs and the Concrete & Asphalt Industries generally agree with this Structure and Process**



# WHILE THERE IS GENERAL AGREEMENT ON THE PROCESS

There is “lack of trust” in the results because of disagreements over the “correctness” of the inputs



## Sources of Uncertainty & Variability

1. Temporal - Timing of Rehabilitation Activities
  - Initial Performance
  - Rehabilitation Performance
2. Scenario – Which rehabilitation activities are done
  - Preservation Options
  - Overlay Options
3. Measurement - Cost
  - Inflation
  - Price Adjustment Clauses
  - Unit Price
  - Material Quantities
  - Bidding Practices (Incentives/Disincentives, SY vs Tons, etc.)

Goal is to develop a Robust Process to reflect the broadest sets of activities for each specific alternative being evaluated

# **AGENDA**

**Improving “Timing of Rehabilitation Activities”**

**Improving “Which rehabilitation activities are done”**

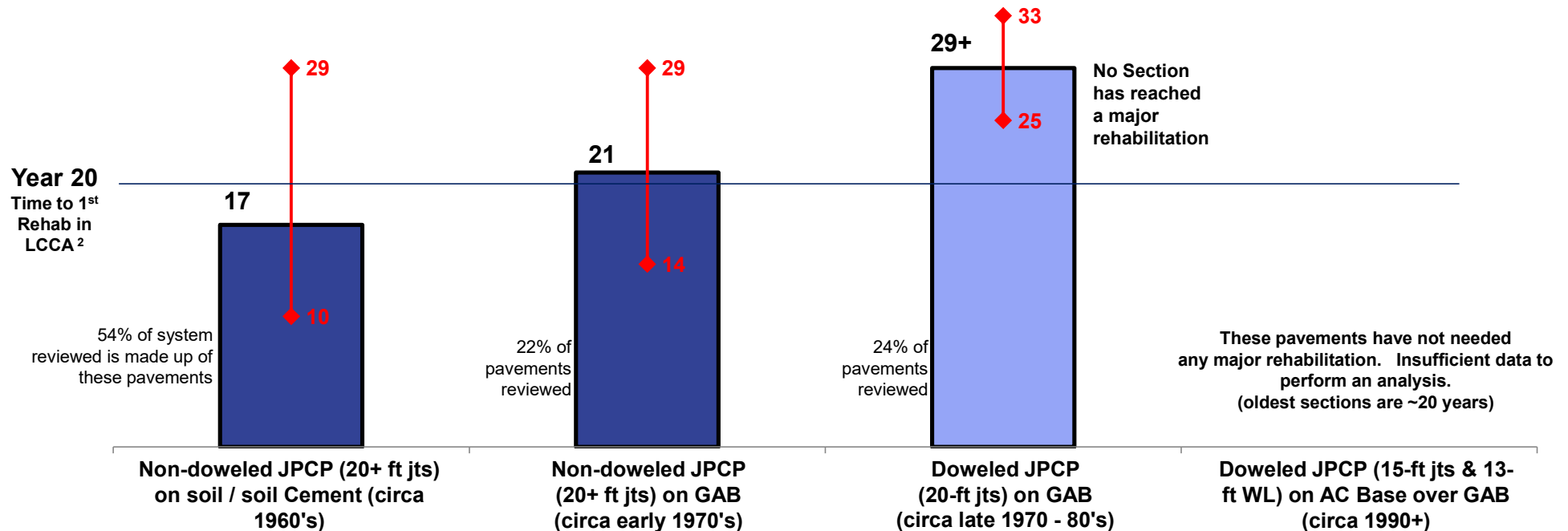
**Improving “Cost Estimates”**

**Combining Parts to Develop a Robust LCCA**

# BE WARY OF BASING REHAB TIMING ON HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE

Basing timing on pavement designs no longer used will bias the results

Average Time to First Major Rehabilitation of Concrete Pavement in Georgia <sup>1</sup>



Historical performance must be based on data from “like roadways” to avoid biasing the results

1. Georgia Concrete Pavement Performance and Longevity, Final Report, GDOT Research Project No. 10-10, Task Order No. 02-74  
Dr. James (Yichang) Tsai, P.E., Yiching Wu, Chieh (Ross) Wang, Georgia Institute of Technology, February 2012
2. Time to 1<sup>st</sup> Rehabilitation in GDOT LCCA procedure = 20 years, time to 2<sup>nd</sup> Rehabilitation = 40 years

# PAVEMENT ME IS THE MOST ADVANCED DESIGN PROCEDURE

Covers a wide range of applications, including nearly all new & rehabilitation options  
Can account of new and diverse materials and various failure mechanisms

State-of-the practice design procedure based on advanced models & actual field data

- Calibrated to more than 2,400 asphalt & concrete pavement test sections across the U.S. and Canada, ranging in ages up to ~37 years

Uses mechanistic-empirical principles that account for site specific:

- Traffic
- Climate
- Materials
- Proposed structure (layer thicknesses & features)

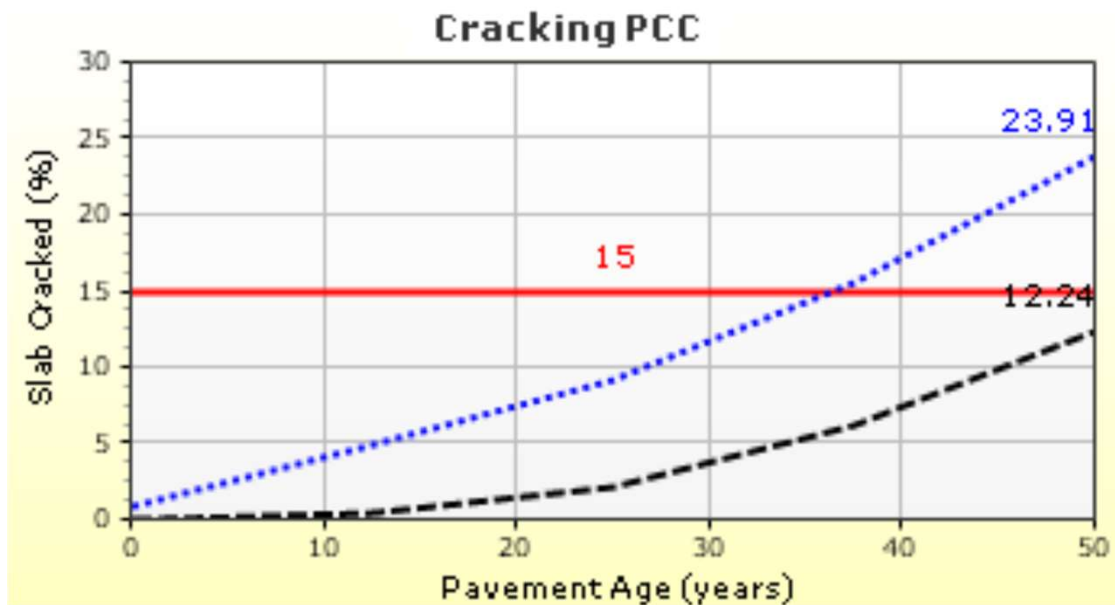
Provides estimates of cracking, faulting, IRI, and other distresses during the analysis period



Performance modeling allows designers to create specific pavement designs to meet performance objectives

## PAVEMENT-ME DEFINES A SPECIFIC PAVEMENT'S PERFORMANCE

Predicting performance for key distresses improves designs and allows for trade-off analysis of features with Life Cycle Cost Estimates



**Red Line** – Predefined Distress Threshold Value. When major rehabilitation is needed (i.e. patching & DG or overlay).

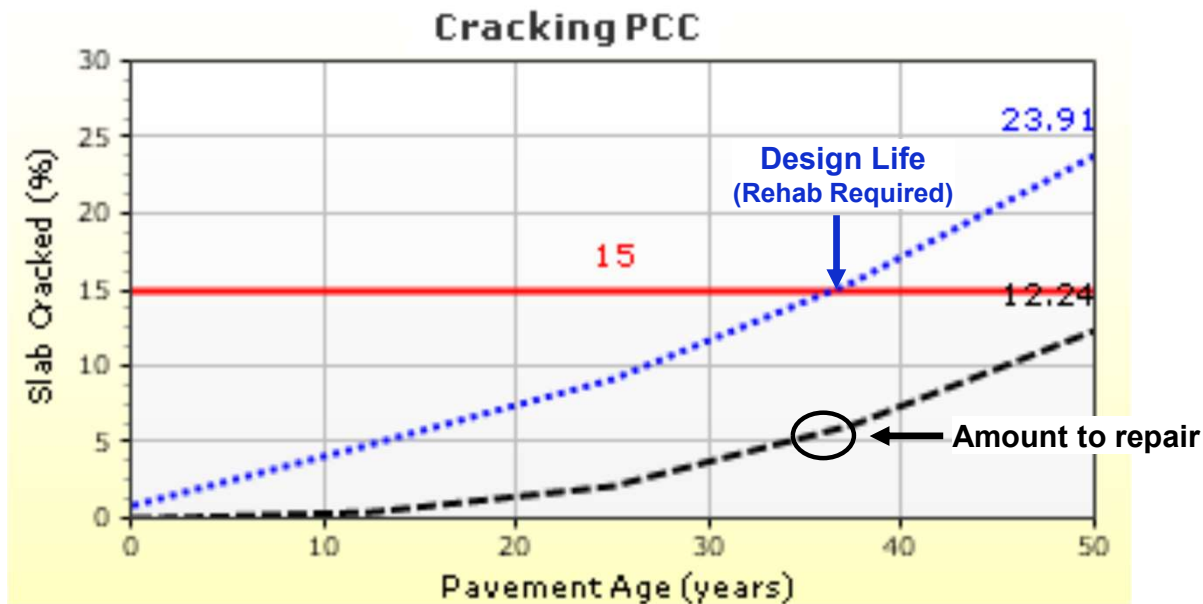
**Black Dashed Line** - The 50% Reliability (most likely) level of distresses predicted

**Blue Dotted Line** - The predicted distresses at the Specified Reliability Level (i.e. 90%). Designs are based on when this line hits the defined distress limit

*Design life is when the Blue Reliability curve hits red Predefined Threshold Value (~37 years in this case)*

## PAVEMENT-ME DEFINES A SPECIFIC PAVEMENT'S PERFORMANCE

Predicting performance for key distresses improves designs and allows for trade-off analysis of features with Life Cycle Cost Estimates



**Red Line** – Predefined Distress Threshold Value. When major rehabilitation is needed (i.e. patching & DG or overlay).

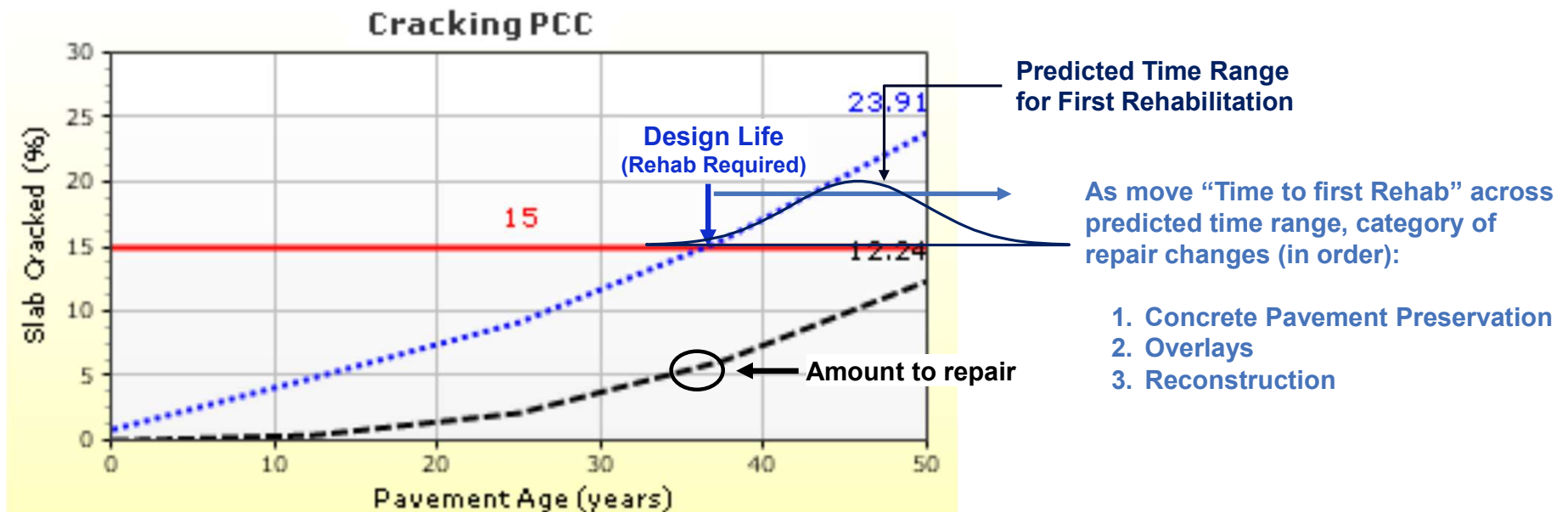
**Black Dashed Line** - The 50% Reliability (most likely) level of distresses predicted

**Blue Dotted Line** - The predicted distresses at the Specified Reliability Level (i.e. 90%). Designs are based on when this line hits the defined distress limit

*Design life is when the Blue Reliability curve hits red Predefined Threshold Value (~37 years in this case)*

# PAVEMENT ME DEFINES A SPECIFIC PAVEMENT'S PERFORMANCE

Predicting performance for key distresses allows for trade-off analysis of Features with Life Cycle Analysis



**Red Line** – Predefined Distress Threshold Value. When major rehabilitation is needed (i.e. patching & DG or overlay).

**Black Dashed Line** - The 50% Reliability (most likely) level of distresses predicted

**Blue Dotted Line** - The predicted distresses at the Specified Reliability Level (i.e. 90%). Designs are based on when this line hits the defined distress limit

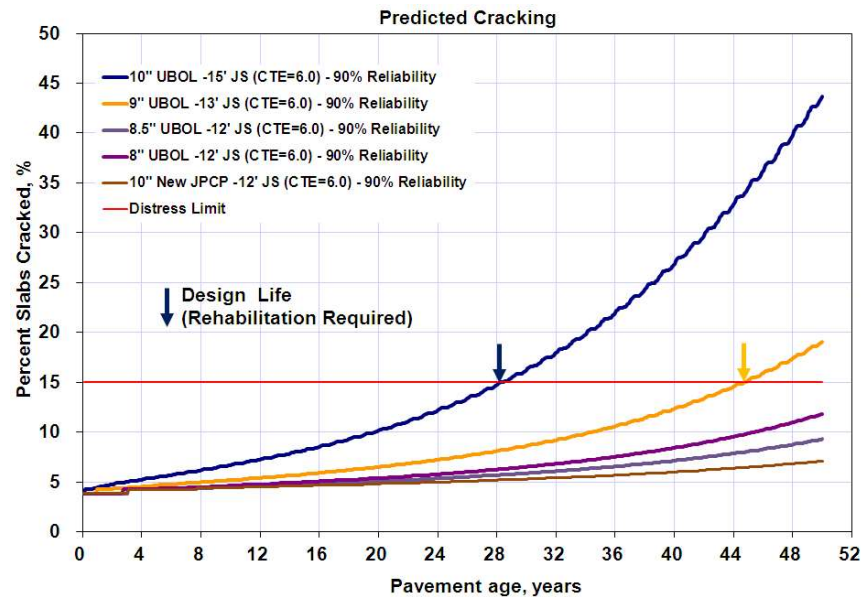
*Design life is when the Blue Reliability curve hits red Predefined Threshold Value (~33 years in this case)*



# PAVEMENT ME ALLOWS FOR COMPARISONS OF DIFFERENT DESIGNS

## Predicted Performance Curves for Pavement Designs

- Many pavement designs will meet the design criteria
  - Pavement ME predicts what the actual performance could be
  - Allows for comparisons and evaluation of different design features / thickness
- Performance estimates help determine the “when” and “what” rehabilitation activities to perform



## Comparing Designs

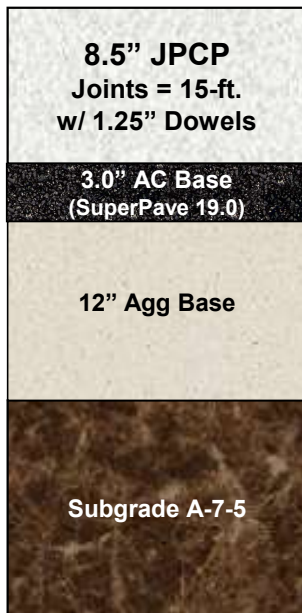
- Pavement ME output was set for 50 years to give long term performance for each design
- Pavement design must meet the “design criteria” (eg less than 15% cracking at year 30)

Combining performance with the LCCA finds the design that best balances the costs, sustainability impacts, and performance over the full life cycle

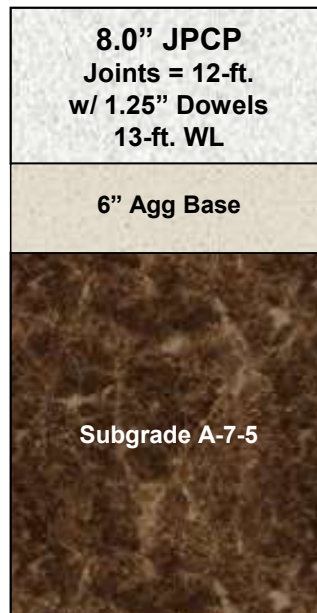
# MANY PAVEMENT DESIGNS WILL MEET THE DESIGN CRITERIA

Pavement ME allows for comparisons of different designs so different features can be evaluated

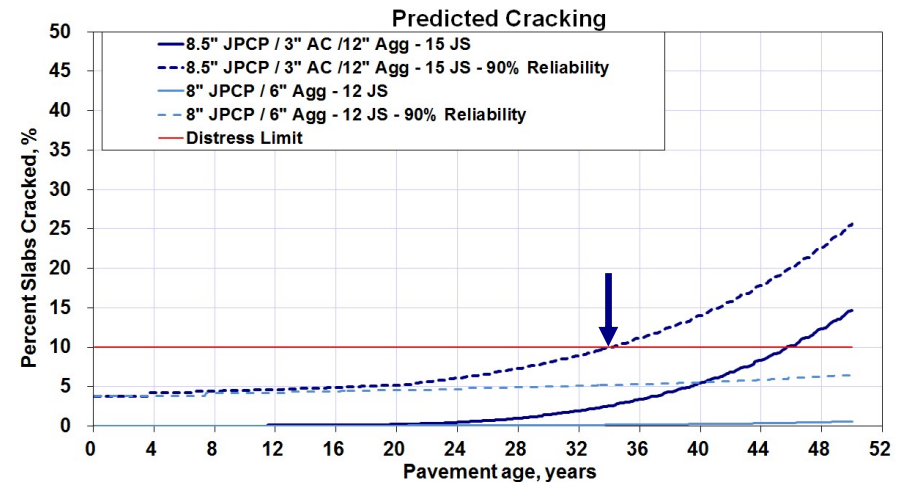
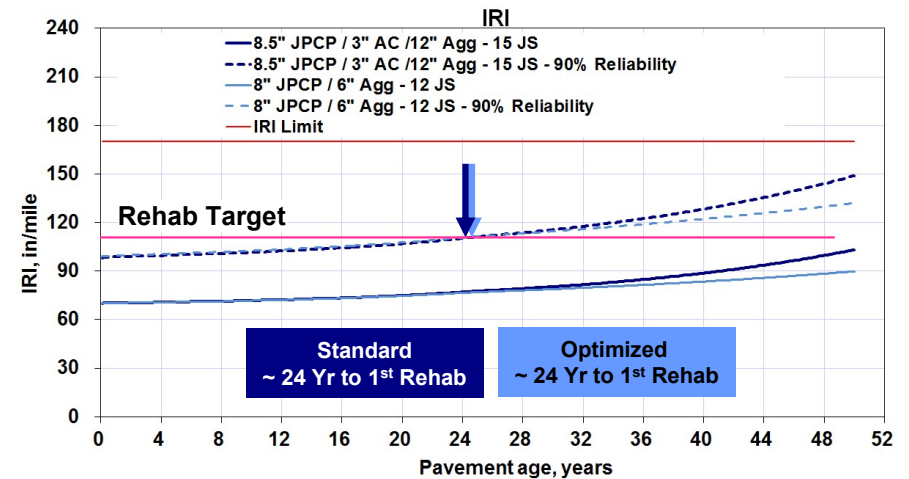
## Original Concrete Design



## Optimized Concrete Design



Pavement ME gives a repeatable, un-biased process that shows how a specific pavement design will perform



# **AGENDA**

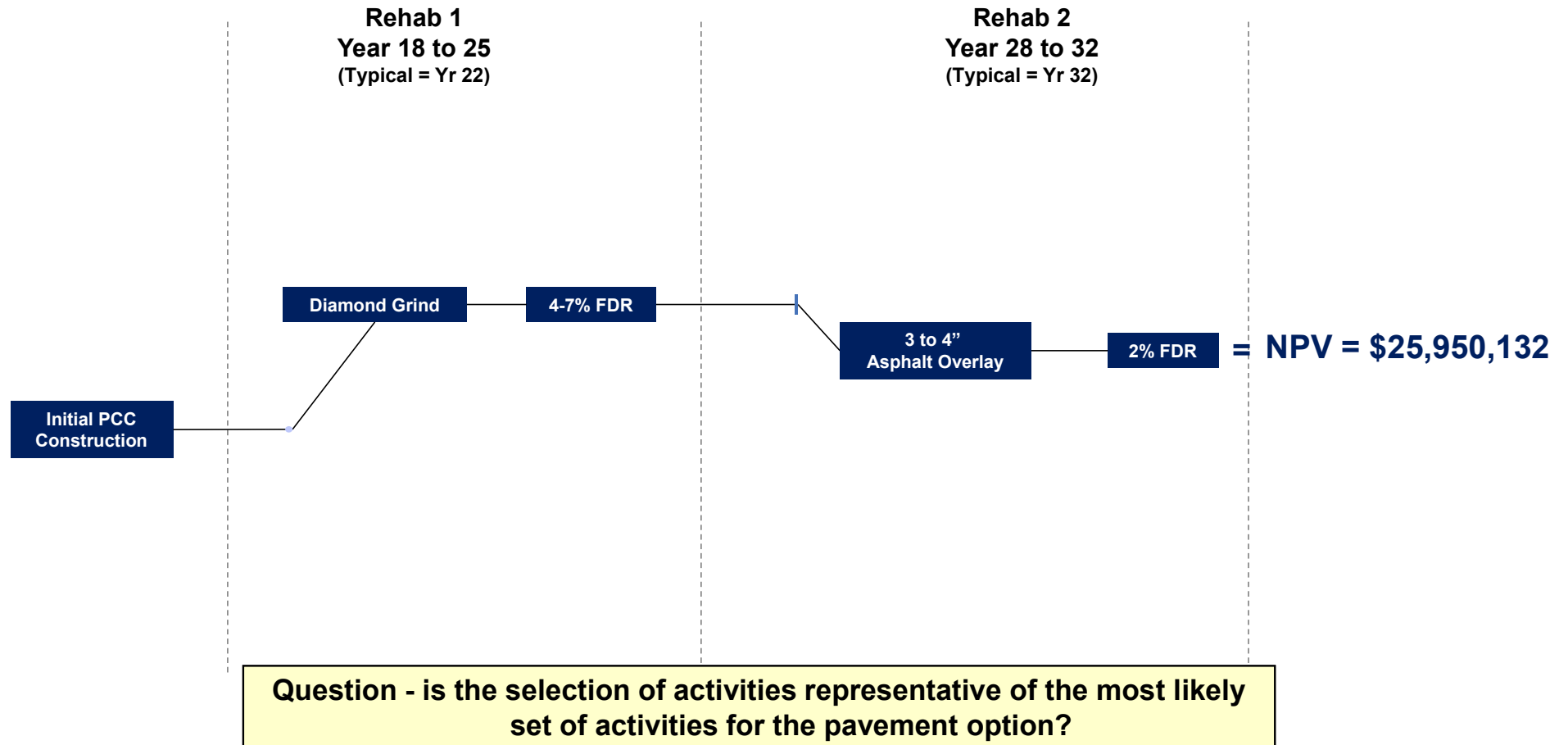
**Improving “Timing of Rehabilitation Activities”**

**Improving “Which rehabilitation activities are done”**

**Improving “Cost Estimates”**

**Combining Parts to Develop a Robust LCCA**

# MOST LCCA GUIDELINES PROVIDE A SINGLE SET OF ACTIVITIES





# Predictive Models for Pavement Treatment Timings Utilizing Decision Tree Analysis (Paper 13-4983)

Saeed Abdollahipour; David Jeong, PhD

School of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma



## Introduction

Fact

- Lack of consensus on life-cycle cost analysis (LCCA) models of different pavement families.
- A large amount of highway project data is stored throughout the life cycle of highway projects.

Need

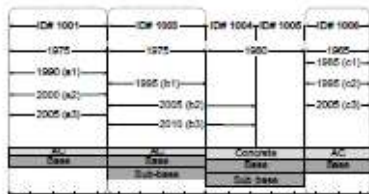
- Identify the factors influencing the performance of pavements.
- Determine timing of maintenance and rehabilitation (M&R) activities.

## Objective

- To predict the timing of treatment activities of flexible and rigid pavements for the Interstate 40.
- To identify the factors influencing the performance of pavement segments during their lifecycle

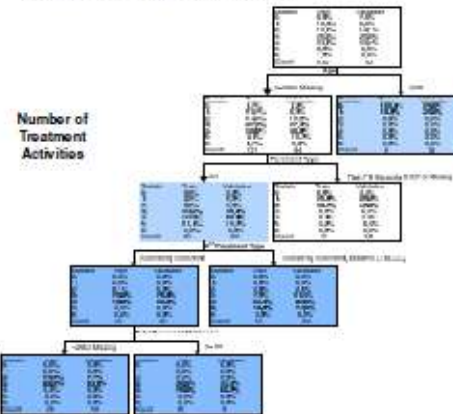
## Data

- Historical pavement treatment data set (I-40)

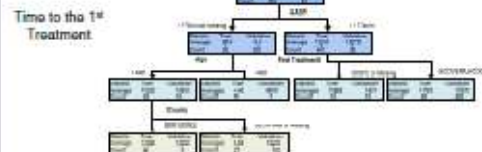


## Decision Tree Analysis

- The 222 sections of the data set are divided into training and validation data sets with the ratio of 60:40.



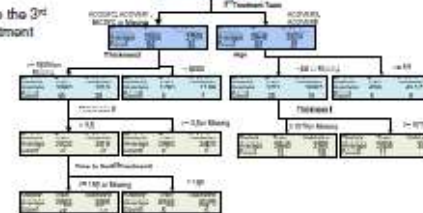
## Flexible Pavement Treatment Timing



## Time to the 2nd Treatment

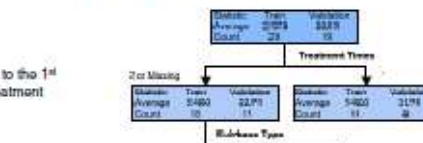


## Time to the 3rd Treatment



## Rigid Pavement Treatment Timing

## Time to the 1st Treatment



## Time to the 2nd Treatment



## Results

This paper focused on identifying new factors to reclassify pavement sections using the historical pavement treatment data set of Interstate 40 in Oklahoma.

- Number of times a pavement is treated and time to the first, the second, and the third treatment are predicted with decision tree models.
- Unlike traditional approach that only uses the average values to determine the timing of treatment activities, this study suggests that the timings of LCCA models can be determined utilizing predictive decision trees that are learned based on the historical treatment activities.

## Range of Treatment Timings for Flexible and Rigid Pavements

Pavement Type	1st Treatment	2nd Treatment	3rd Treatment
Flexible Pavement	4 - 15 years	11.3 - 23.3 years	17.9 - 45.2 years
Rigid Pavement	4 - 31.8 years	35.2 - 41 years	-

## Factors Influencing the Performance of Pavements

Pavement Type	Factors Influencing Performance
Flexible	AADT; Age; 1st Treatment; County; 2nd Treatment; Thickness of 3rd Treatment; Thickness of 1st Treatment; Time to the 2nd Treatment
Rigid	Treatment Times; Sub-base Type; 1st Treatment Type

## Conclusions

- Number of treatments depends on the Age, Pavement Type, 2nd Treatment Type, and Total Pavement Thickness.
- Assuming the same performance for pavement sections that fall under the same pavement family can result in suboptimal results. Therefore, pavement performance is not only dependent on the pavement type, traffic, county, sub-base type, but also on the factors such as the timing and the type of treatment activities that is applied on the pavement through the lifecycle of pavement.

## Acknowledgments

This authors would like to acknowledge the financial support from the Oklahoma Transportation Center (OTC) for the research study.



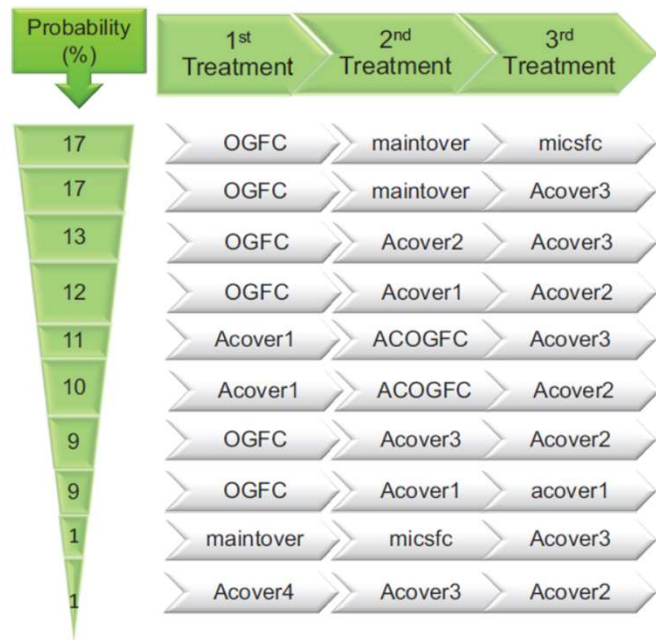
Saeed Abdollahipour  
Email: [saeed@okstate.edu](mailto:saeed@okstate.edu)  
Phone: 405-762-3696



David Jeong, PhD  
Email: [djeong@okstate.edu](mailto:djeong@okstate.edu)  
Phone: 515-294-7271



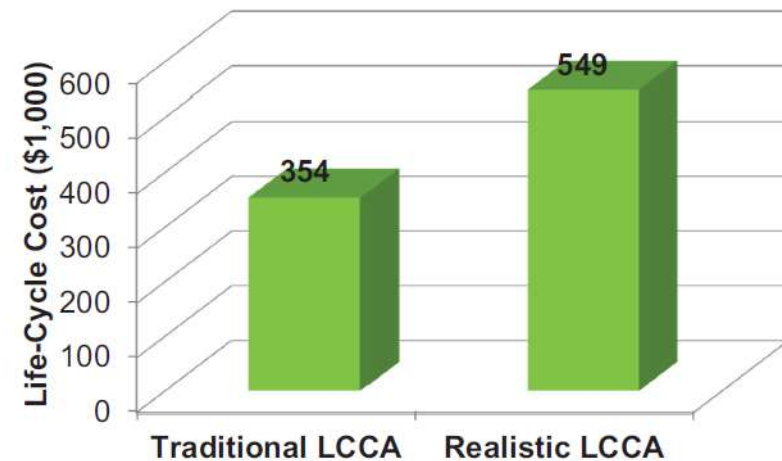
## RESEARCH AT OKLAHOMA STATE UNIV. LOOKED AT THIS FOR OKLAHOMA Interstate 40



Realistic Life-Cycle Cost Analysis model for AC pavements

$$\text{Traditional LCC} = NPV = \sum_{j=1}^J F_j \left[ \frac{1}{(1+i)^{n_j}} \right]$$

$$\text{Realistic LCC} = \sum_{k=1}^K ((\text{Probability})_k * NPV_k)$$

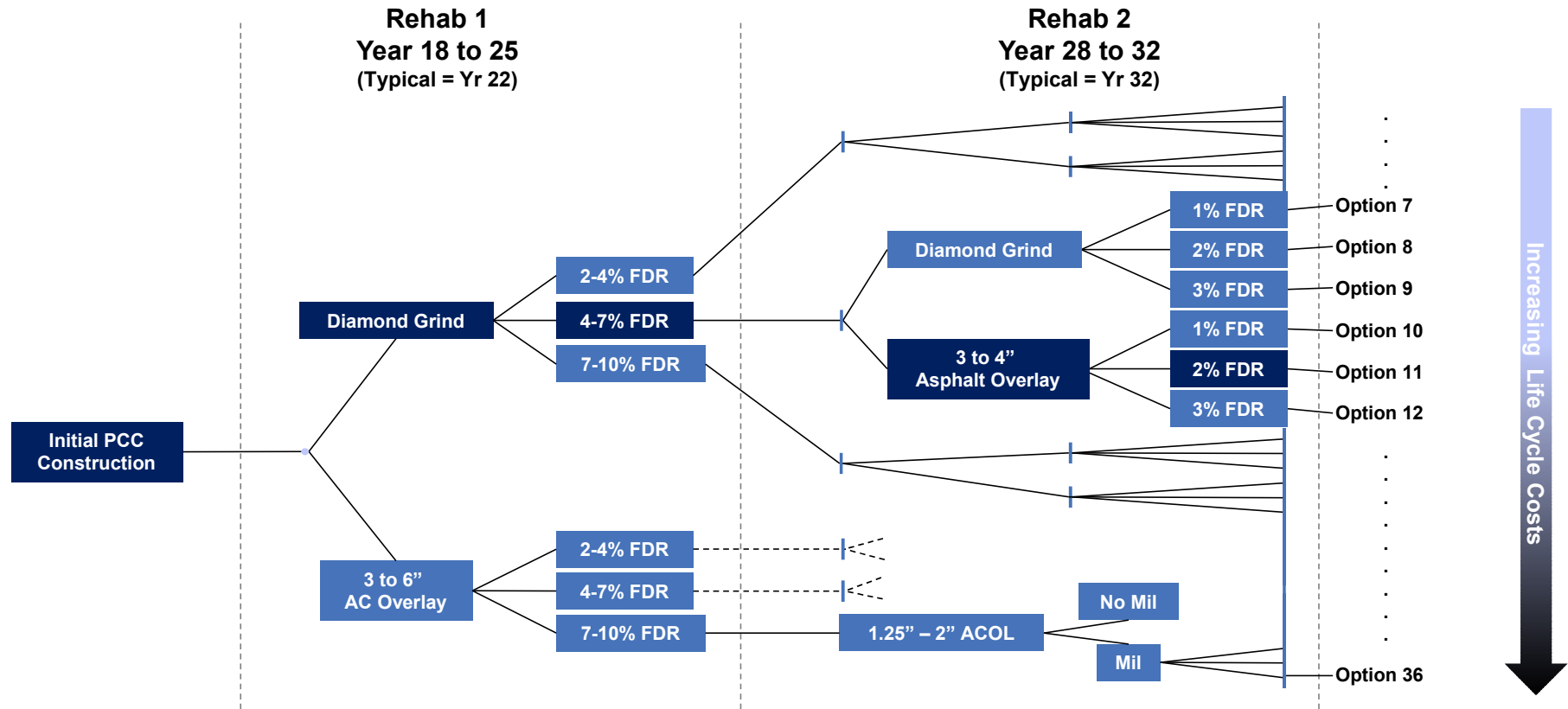


1. Realistic Life-Cycle Cost Analysis Using Typical Sequential Patterns of Pavement Treatments via Association Analysis (TRB Paper 12-3390)
2. Predictive Models for Pavement Treatment Timings Utilizing Decision Tree Analysis (TRB Paper 13-4983)

Saeed Abdollahi Pour and Dr. David Jeong, PhD, School of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma

# THE FACT IS THERE ARE MANY POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES

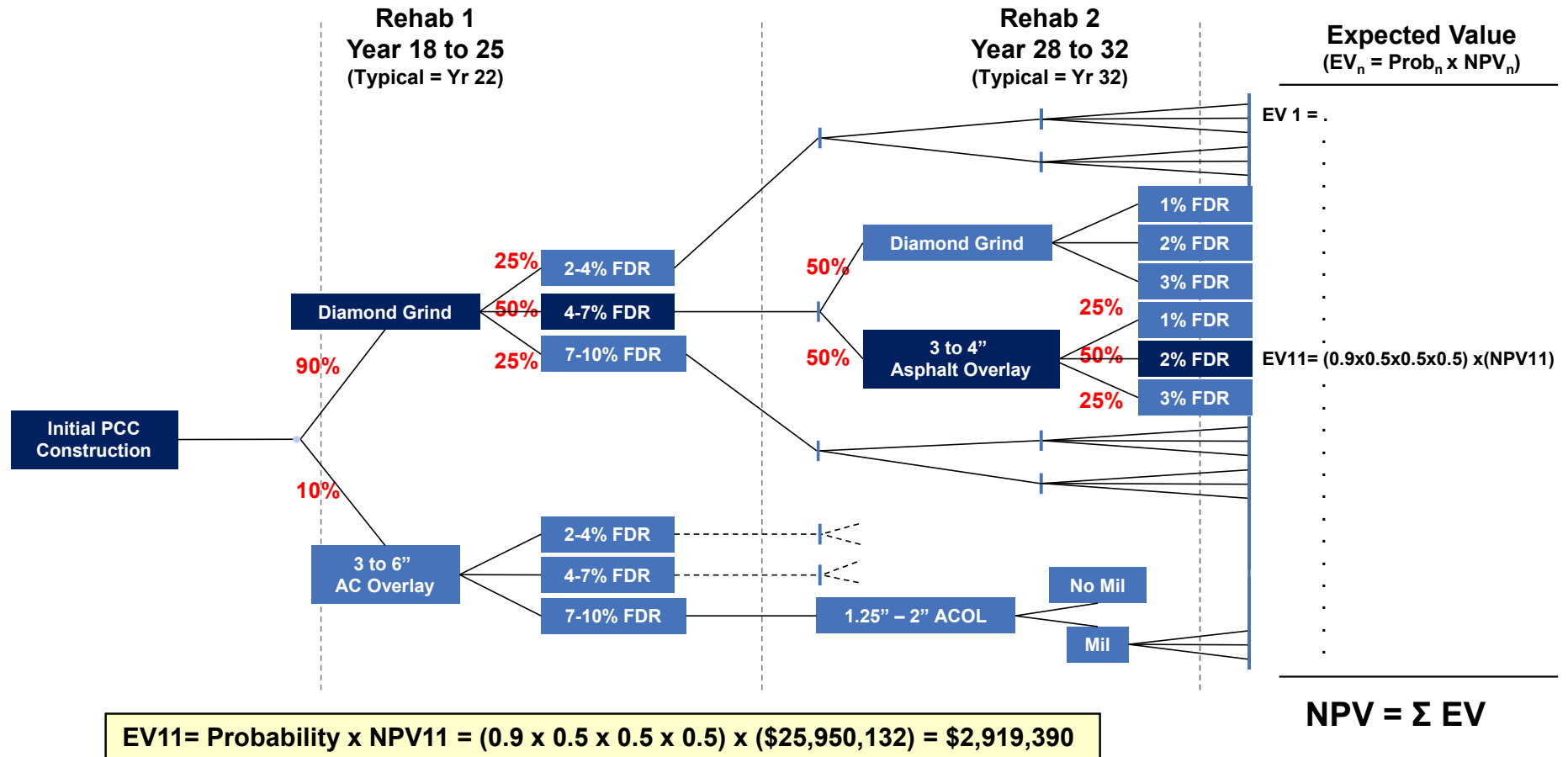
Some agencies provide a series of activities, but still use a “standard”



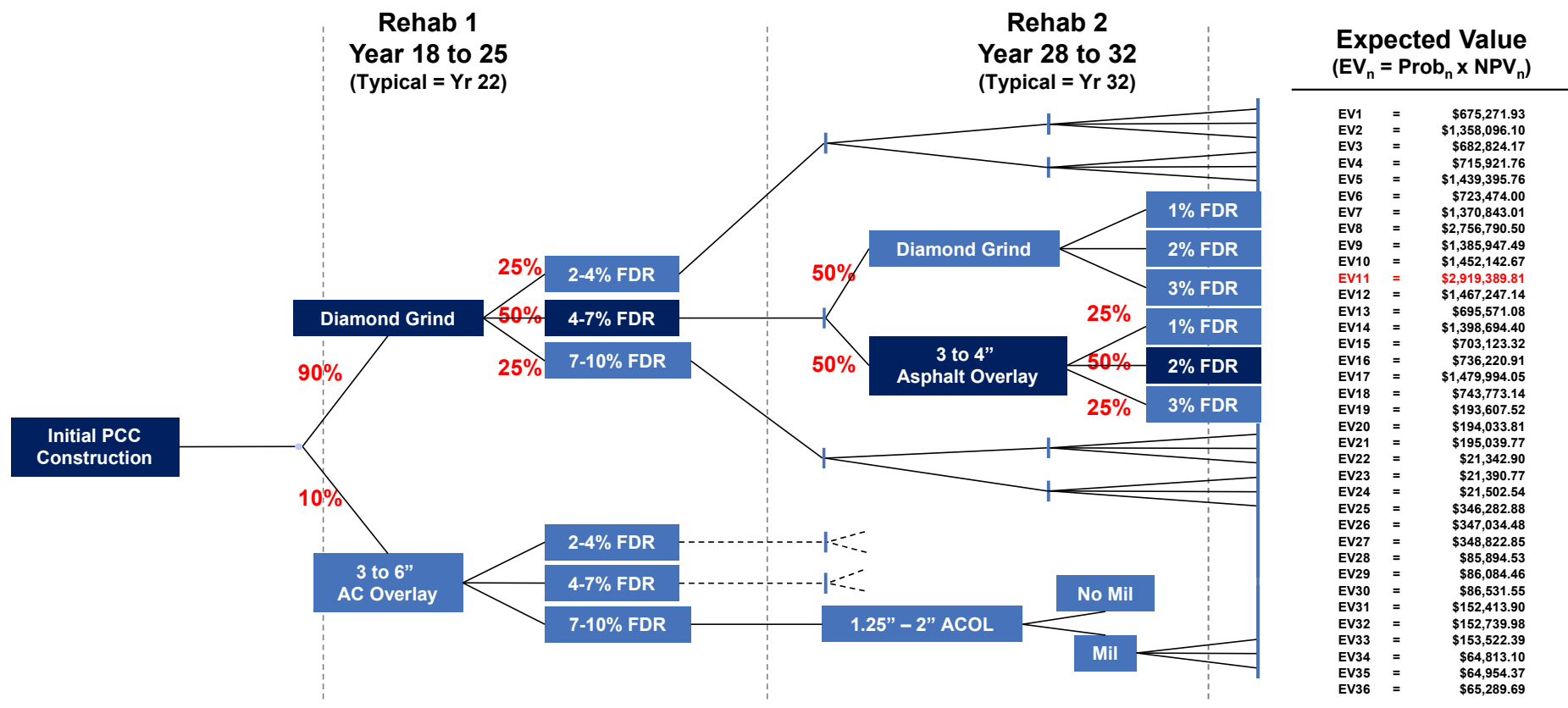
**Decision Trees can evaluate the “Cost Impacts” of all Alternate Rehabilitation Options**



## ASSIGN PROBABILITIES TO THE DECISION TREE TO DETERMINE THE “MOST LIKELY” LIFE CYCLE COSTS



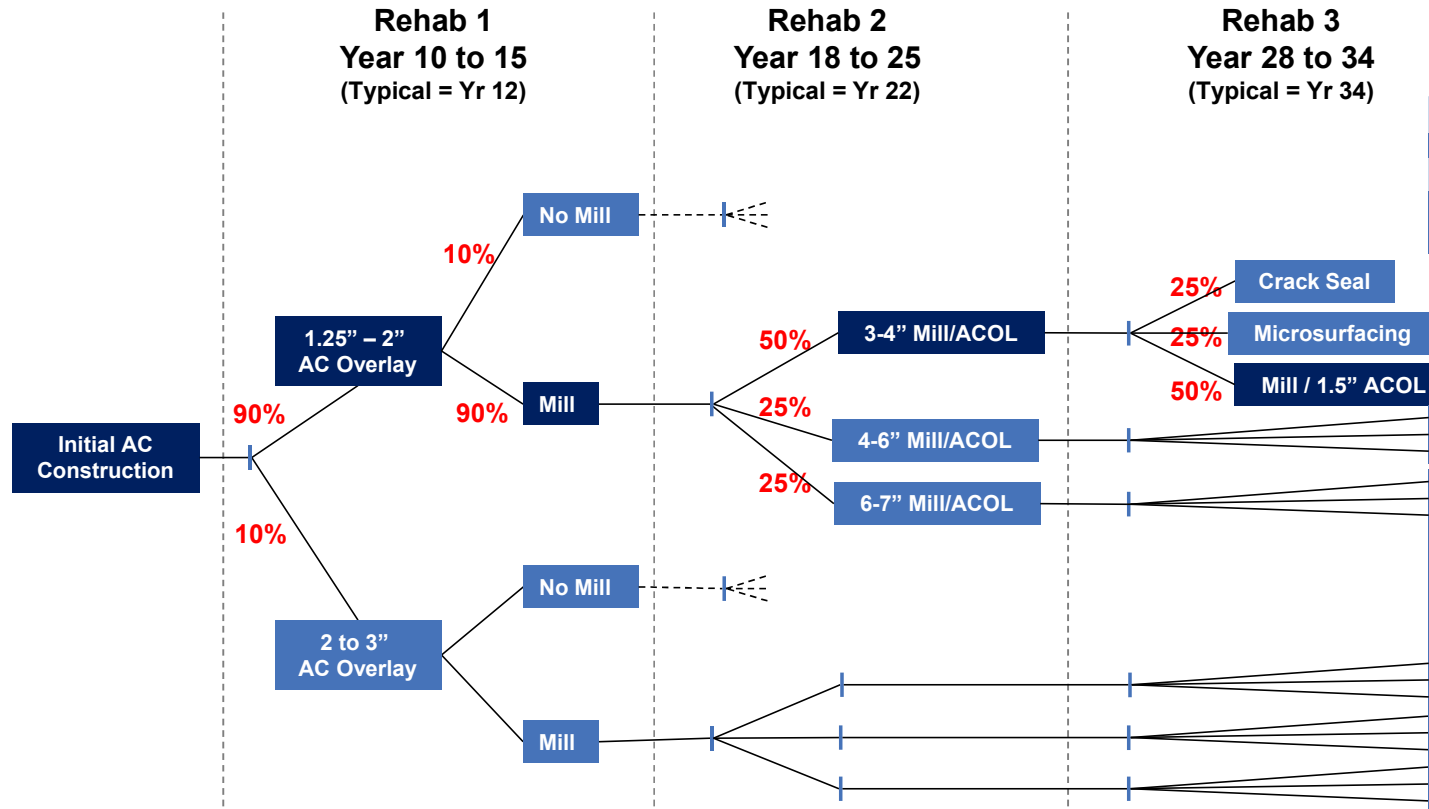
## ASSIGN PROBABILITIES TO THE DECISION TREE TO DETERMINE THE “MOST LIKELY” LIFE CYCLE COSTS



$$EV11 = \text{Probability} \times NPV11 = (0.9 \times 0.5 \times 0.5 \times 0.5) \times (\$25,950,132) = \$2,919,390$$

$$NPV = \sum EV = \$25,306,023$$

# SAME PROCESSES IS DONE FOR ASPHALT



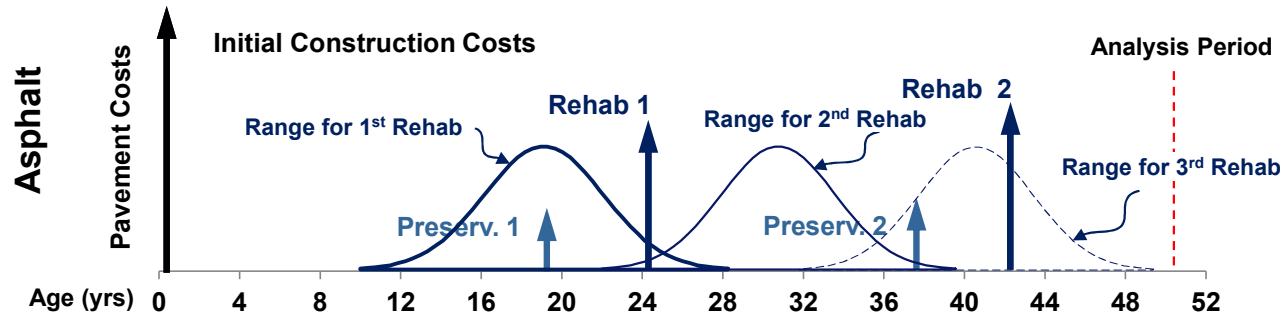
## Expected Value ( $EV_n = Prob_n \times NPV_n$ )

EV1	=	\$195,133.40
EV2	=	\$196,732.50
EV3	=	\$399,861.39
EV4	=	\$102,518.67
EV5	=	\$103,318.22
EV6	=	\$209,834.63
EV7	=	\$107,470.64
EV8	=	\$108,270.19
EV9	=	\$219,738.58
EV10	=	\$1,775,397.15
EV11	=	\$1,789,789.04
EV12	=	<b>\$3,637,145.62</b>
EV13	=	\$932,266.31
EV14	=	\$939,462.25
EV15	=	\$1,907,708.28
EV16	=	\$976,834.05
EV17	=	\$984,029.99
EV18	=	\$1,996,843.75
EV19	=	\$90,147.82
EV20	=	\$90,833.14
EV21	=	\$184,407.60
EV22	=	\$47,196.18
EV23	=	\$47,538.85
EV24	=	\$96,448.35
EV25	=	\$49,318.45
EV26	=	\$49,661.12
EV27	=	\$100,692.89
EV28	=	\$819,557.45
EV29	=	\$825,725.40
EV30	=	\$1,676,122.61
EV31	=	\$428,879.18
EV32	=	\$431,963.16
EV33	=	\$876,262.22
EV34	=	\$447,979.64
EV35	=	\$451,063.62
EV36	=	\$914,463.14

$$EV12 = \text{Probability} \times NPV12 = (0.9 \times 0.9 \times 0.5 \times 0.5 \times 0.5) \times (\$23,092,988) = \$3,637,146$$

$$NPV = \sum EV = \$24,210,615$$

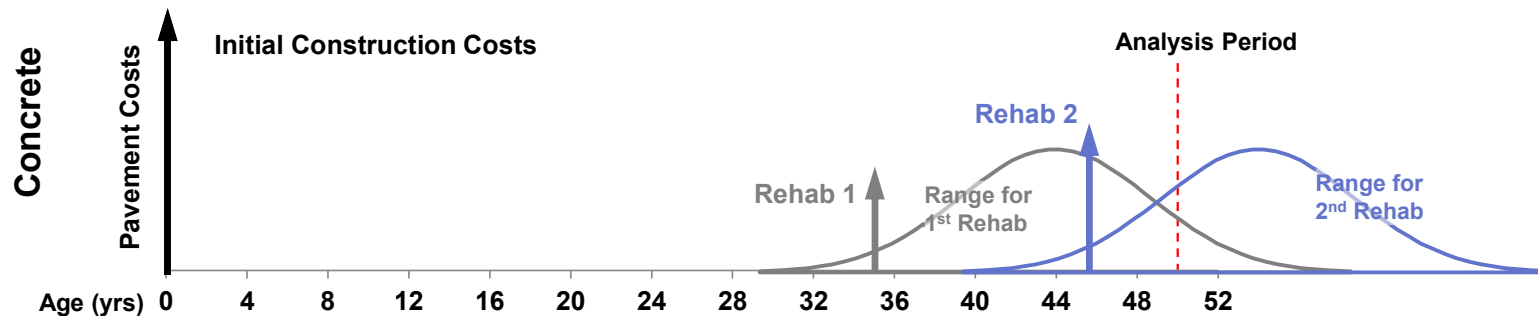
# WHEN COMPARING ALTERNATIVES, RISK ASSUMPTIONS FOR REHABILITATION ACTIVITIES & TIMING NEED BE SIMILAR



## Proposed Schedule

Yr 19: Pres. 1 - Crack Seal  
 Yr 24: Rehab 1 - Mill & Fill  
 Yr 37.5: Pres. 2 - Microsurface  
 Yr 42.5: Rehab 2 - Mill & Fill

**Asphalt Designs have greater risk for the timing of their rehabilitation activities  
 (Second major rehab is outside of the historical ranges)**

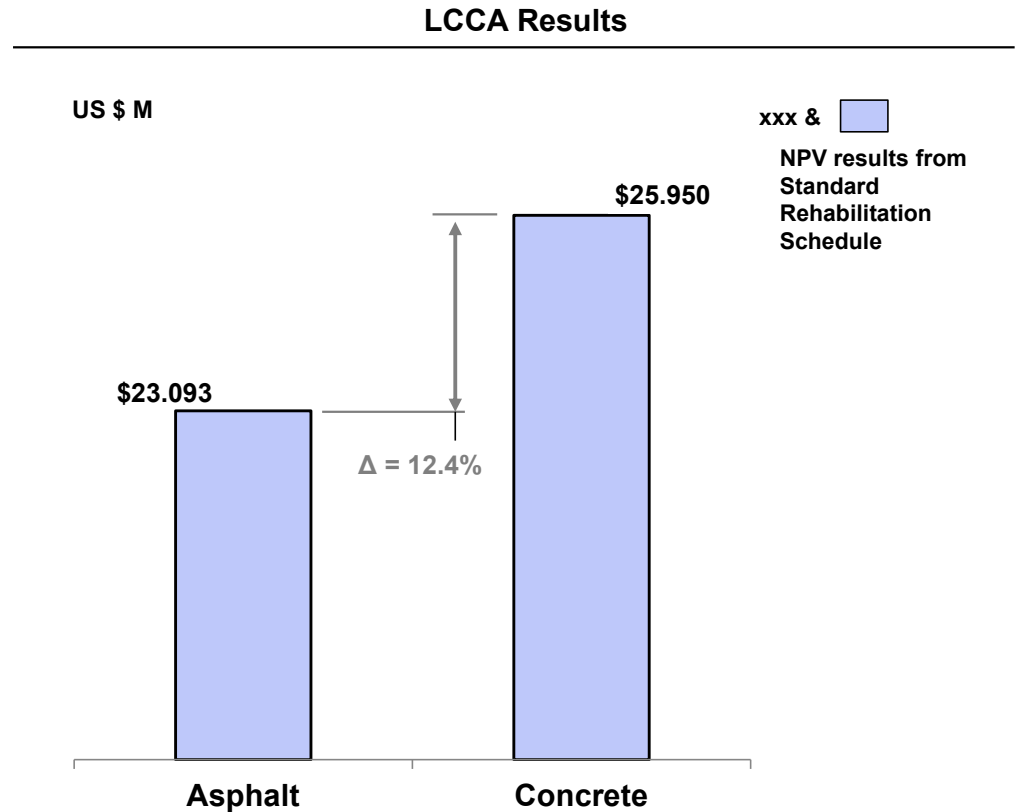
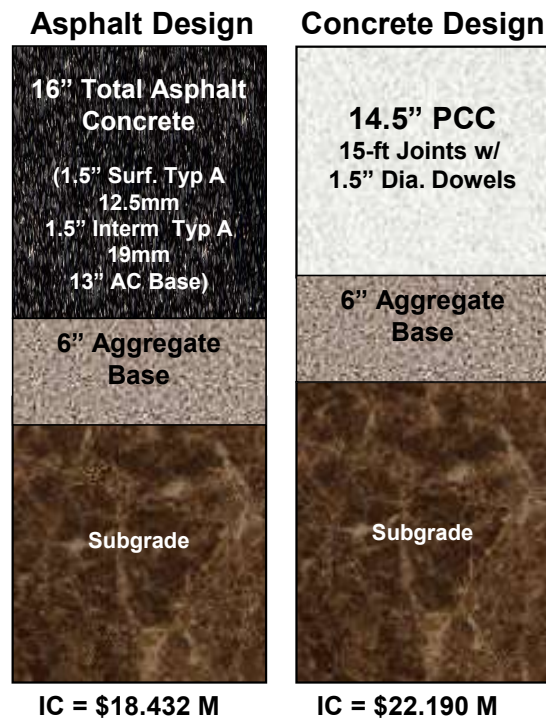


## Proposed Schedule

Yr 35: Rehab 1 - Patch & DG  
 Yr 45: Rehab 2 - Patch & DG

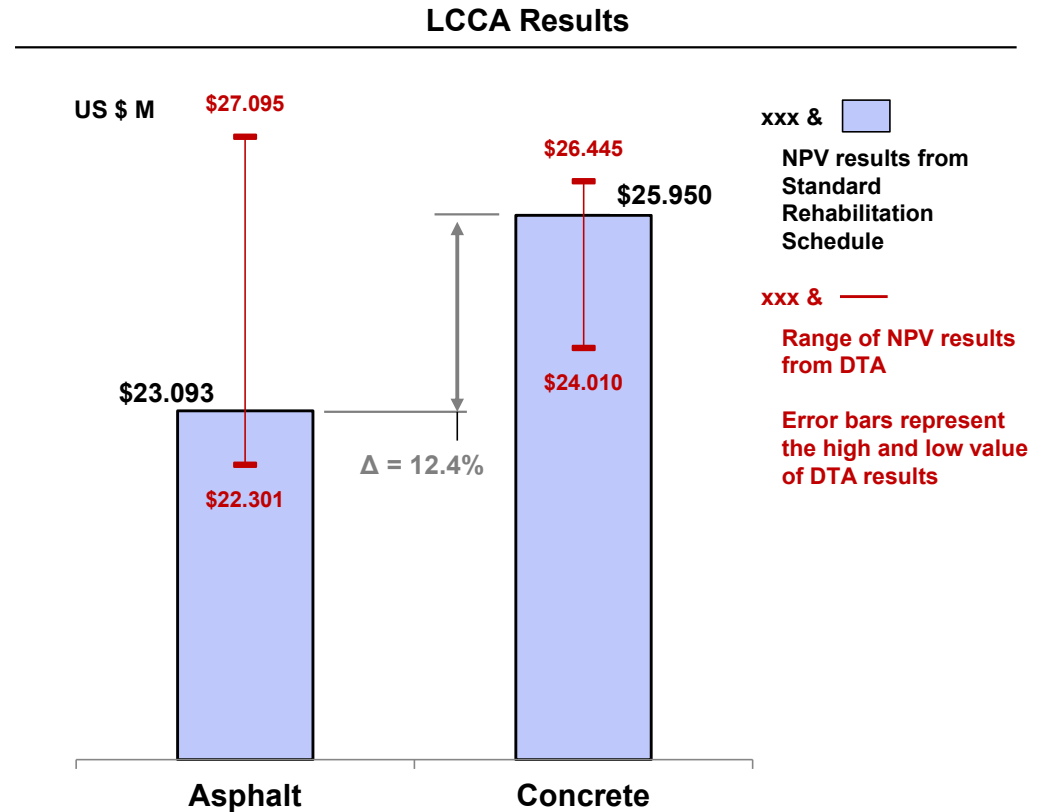
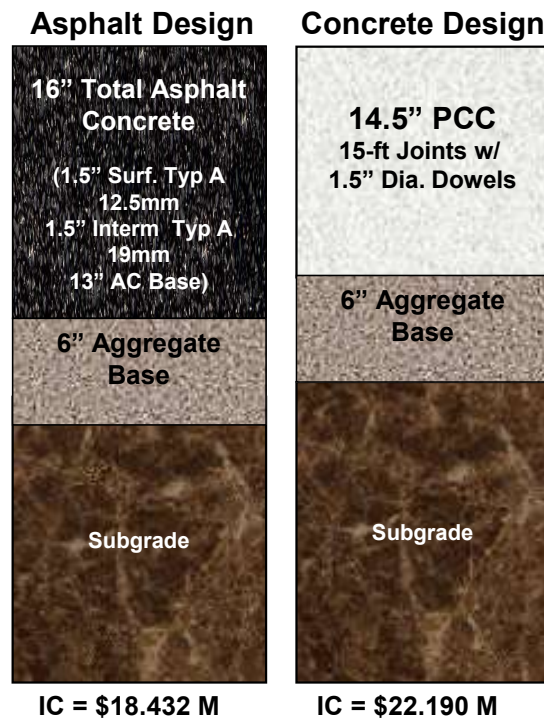
**Concrete Designs are conservative on the timing of their rehabilitation activities**

# PROBABILITY AND DECISION TREE ANALYSIS CAN IDENTIFY “RISKS” IN THE LCCA RESULTS



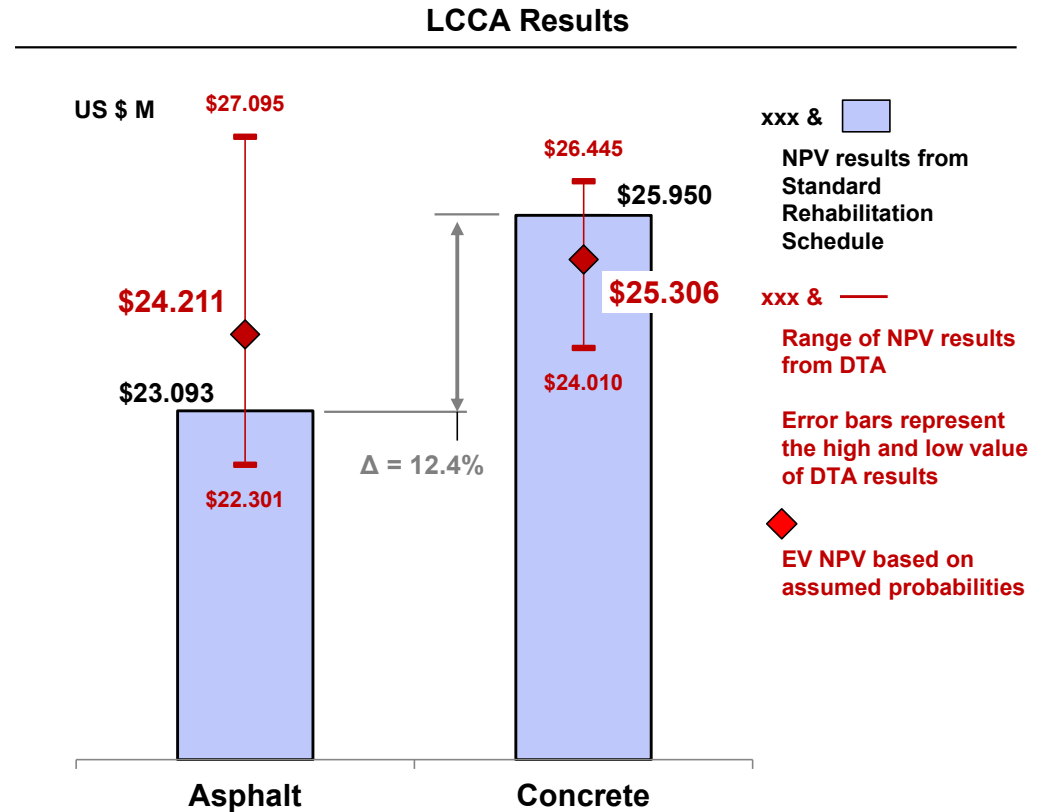
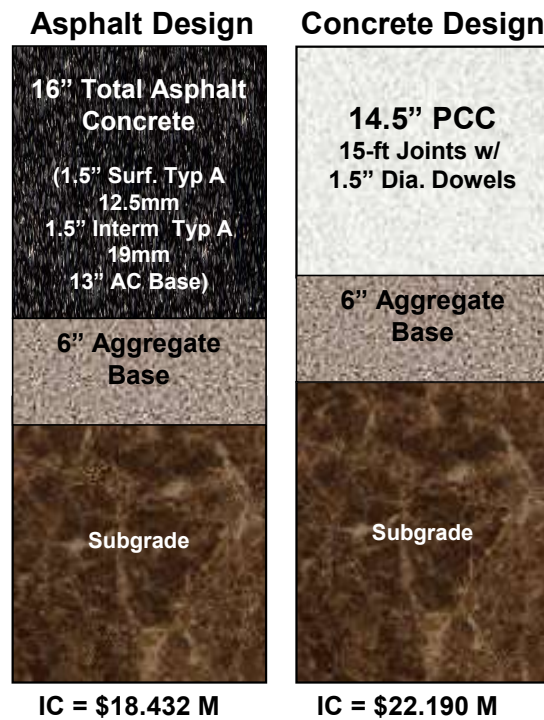
Standard LCCA provides basic results – but just gives an “A” is better than “B”

# PROBABILITY AND DECISION TREE ANALYSIS CAN IDENTIFY “RISKS” IN THE LCCA RESULTS



Range of results shows the “Risks” between the two alternates are not balanced

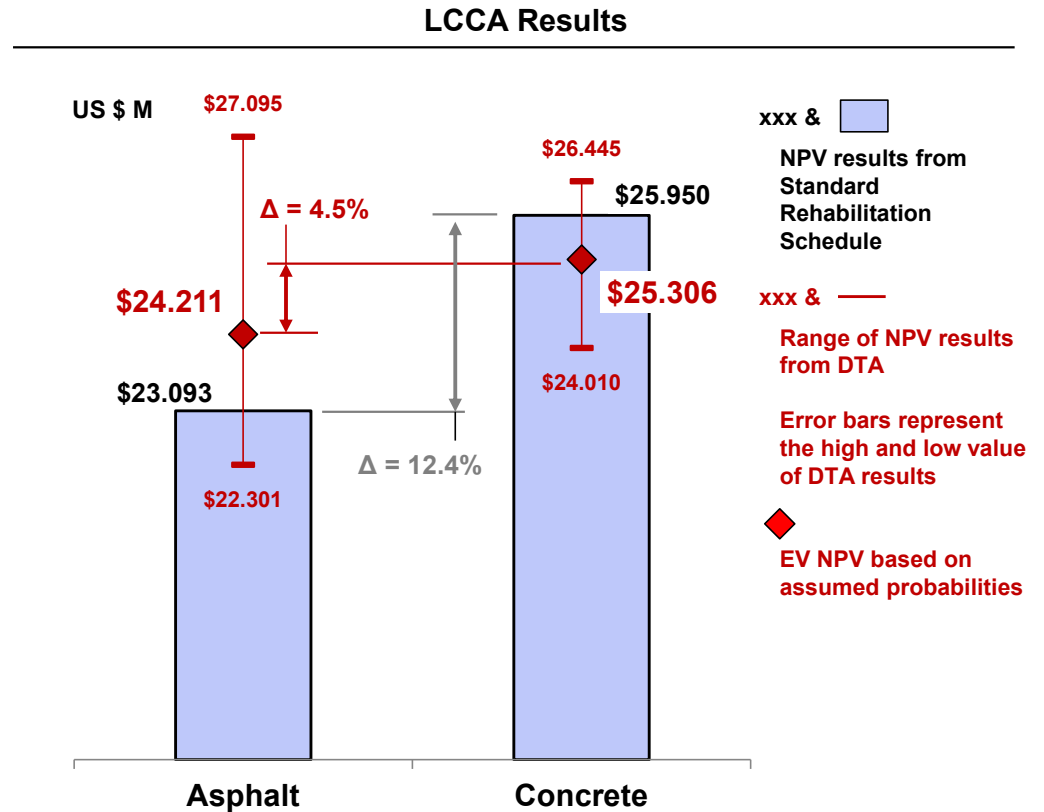
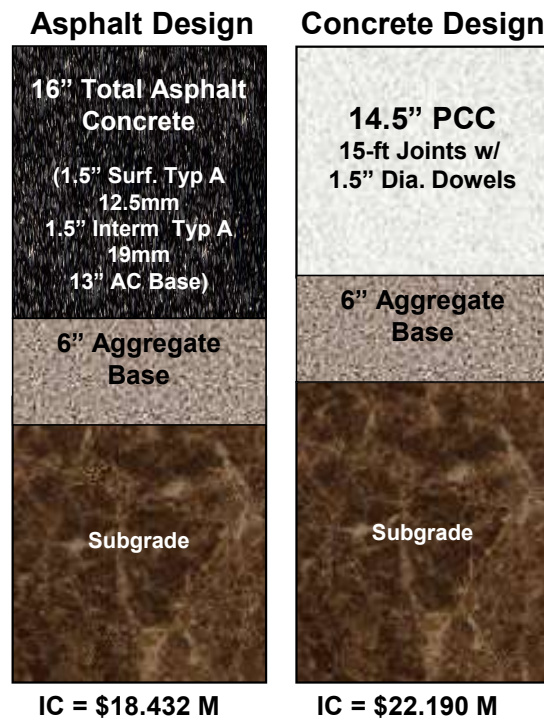
# PROBABILITY AND DECISION TREE ANALYSIS CAN IDENTIFY “RISKS” IN THE LCCA RESULTS



Probability provides a “risk adjusted” NPV that is more represented of potential future costs



# PROBABILITY AND DECISION TREE ANALYSIS CAN IDENTIFY “RISKS” IN THE LCCA RESULTS



Probability provides a “risk adjusted” NPV that is more represented of potential future costs

# **AGENDA**

**Improving “Timing of Rehabilitation Activities”**

**Improving “Which rehabilitation activities are done”**

**Improving “Cost Estimates”**

**Combining Parts to Develop a Robust LCCA**

# DISCOUNT RATES ACCOUNT FOR THE “TIME VALUE OF MONEY”

Current Practice is to use Real Discount Rates

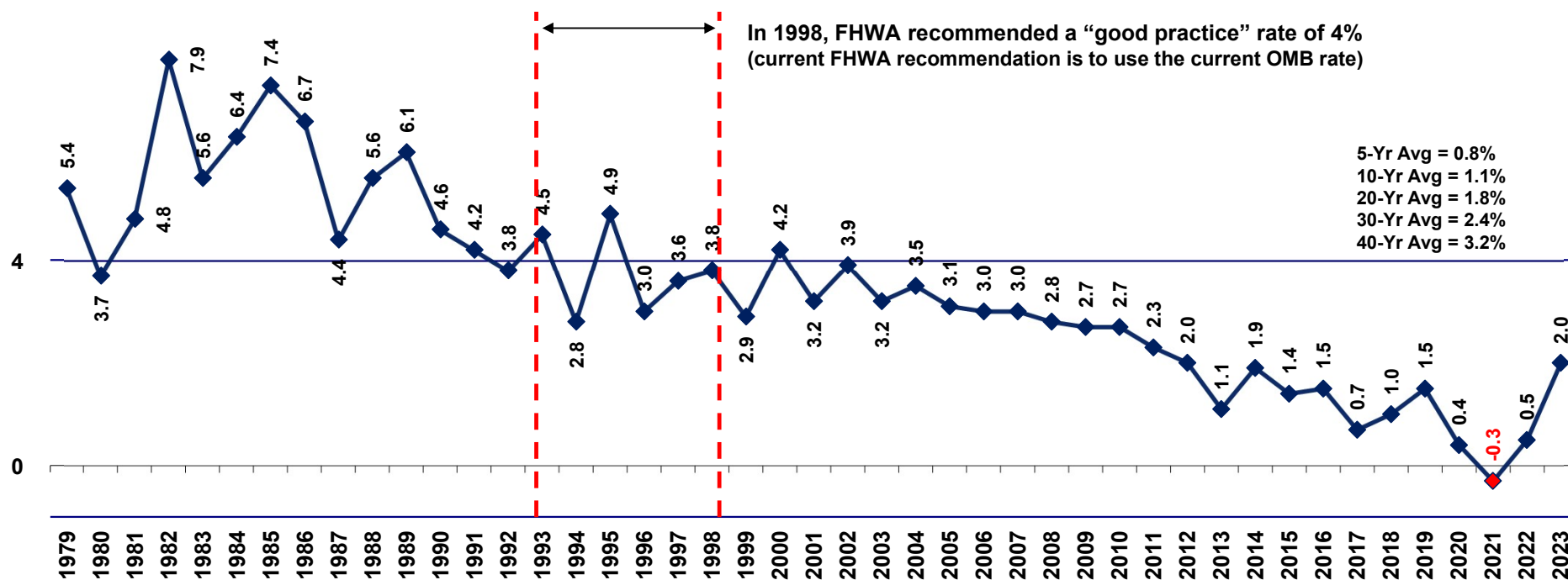
	Description	Cash Flow Diagram of \$1000 (today's \$) Expenditure every 10 years																				
Real Discount Rates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Reflects the time value of money with no inflation<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Used with non-inflated cost estimates (i.e. use “today’s dollars” in the LCCA)</li></ul></li><li>Real DR ≈ Interest Rate – Inflation Rate <sup>1</sup></li><li>NPV = Σ Discounted Cash Flows<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>NPV<sub>10</sub> = 1000/(1+.02)<sup>10</sup> = \$820.3</li></ul></li></ul>	<p>Real Discount Rate = 2%</p> <table><thead><tr><th>Yr</th><th>0</th><th>5</th><th>10</th><th>15</th><th>20</th><th>25</th><th>30</th><th>35</th><th>40</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Expenditure (\$)</td><td>1,000.0</td><td></td><td>820.3</td><td></td><td>673.0</td><td></td><td>552.1</td><td></td><td>452.9</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>NPV = \$3,498</p>	Yr	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	Expenditure (\$)	1,000.0		820.3		673.0		552.1		452.9
Yr	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40													
Expenditure (\$)	1,000.0		820.3		673.0		552.1		452.9													
Nominal Discount (Interest) Rates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Reflects the amounts of actual payables<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Includes an inflation component and used with inflated future cost estimates</li></ul></li><li>Costs are inflated at the Inflation rate and discounted to NPV using Nominal Interest Rate<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cost<sub>10</sub> = 1000*(1+.02)<sup>10</sup> = \$1219.0</li><li>NPV<sub>10</sub> = 1219.0/(1+.04)<sup>10</sup> = \$825.3</li></ul></li></ul>	<p>Nominal Inflation Rate = 2% Nominal Discount (Interest) Rate = 4%</p> <table><thead><tr><th>Yr</th><th>0</th><th>5</th><th>10</th><th>15</th><th>20</th><th>25</th><th>30</th><th>35</th><th>40</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Expenditure (\$)</td><td>1,000.0</td><td></td><td>1,219.0</td><td></td><td>1,485.9</td><td></td><td>1,811.4</td><td></td><td>2,208.0</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>NPV = \$3520</p>	Yr	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	Expenditure (\$)	1,000.0		1,219.0		1,485.9		1,811.4		2,208.0
Yr	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40													
Expenditure (\$)	1,000.0		1,219.0		1,485.9		1,811.4		2,208.0													

**Real Discount Rates assumes the difference between Interest and inflation is relatively constant**  
Allows agencies to use “today’s cost estimates” in the LCCA

1. The actual equation for real DR is  $DR = (Interest - Inflation) / (1 + Inflation)$ . This simplification introduces small error. If the actual equation were used, the results would be equal.

# FHWA GUIDANCE IS TO USE REAL DISCOUNT RATES FROM OMB CIRCULAR A-94

OMB 30-Yr Real Interest Rates on Treasury Notes and Bonds



**Best practice is to update and use OMB Discount Rates each year**  
Ensure the analysis is line with current economic conditions

1. Guidelines and Discount Rates For Benefit-Cost Analysis Of Federal Programs, OMB , Circular A-94, Appendix C. ([http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars\\_a094\\_a94\\_appx-c/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars_a094_a94_appx-c/)),
2. FHWA Technical Advisory on "Use Alternate Bidding for Pavement Type Selection, December 20, 2012. See <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/pavement/t504039.cfm>

# IMPACTS OF DISCOUNT RATE ON NPV OF EXPENDITURES IN THE LCCA

$$NPV = (\text{Today's Cost}) / (1+DR)^{\text{Year}}$$

	Short Life Solution				Long Life Solution			
	Estimated Life Cycle Costs				Estimated Life Cycle Costs			
	Today's Cost	Real DR =1%	Real DR =3%	Real DR =5%	Today's Cost	Real DR =1%	Real DR =3%	Real DR =5%
Year 0 - Initial Costs	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000
Year 10 - Rehab Cost	\$ 150,000	\$ 135,793	\$ 111,614	\$ 92,087				
Year 20 - Rehab Costs	\$ 150,000	\$ 122,932	\$ 83,051	\$ 56,533				
Year 30 - Rehab Cost	\$ 150,000	\$ 111,288	\$ 61,798	\$ 34,707	\$ 150,000	\$ 111,288	\$ 61,798	\$ 34,707
Year 40 - Rehab Costs	\$ 150,000	\$ 100,748	\$ 45,984	\$ 21,307	\$ 150,000	\$ 100,748	\$ 45,984	\$ 21,307
Year 50 - Rehab Cost	\$ 150,000	\$ 91,206	\$ 34,216	\$ 13,081	\$ 150,000	\$ 91,206	\$ 34,216	\$ 13,081
55 Year Total LCCA		\$ 1,561,967	\$ 1,336,663	\$ 1,217,714		\$ 1,503,242	\$ 1,341,998	\$ 1,269,094

Difference in 55 year estimated Life cycle Costs (Short life – Long Life)	\$ 58,725	\$ (5,335)	\$ (51,380)
---	-----------	------------	-------------

Positive = Long life the optimal solution

**Low Discount Rate - NPV of future expenditure is reduced less**

- Favors high initial cost and low future cost options (Long term (Concrete) solutions over short term solutions)
- Capital expansion over preservation

**High Discount Rate - NPV of future expenditure is greatly reduced**

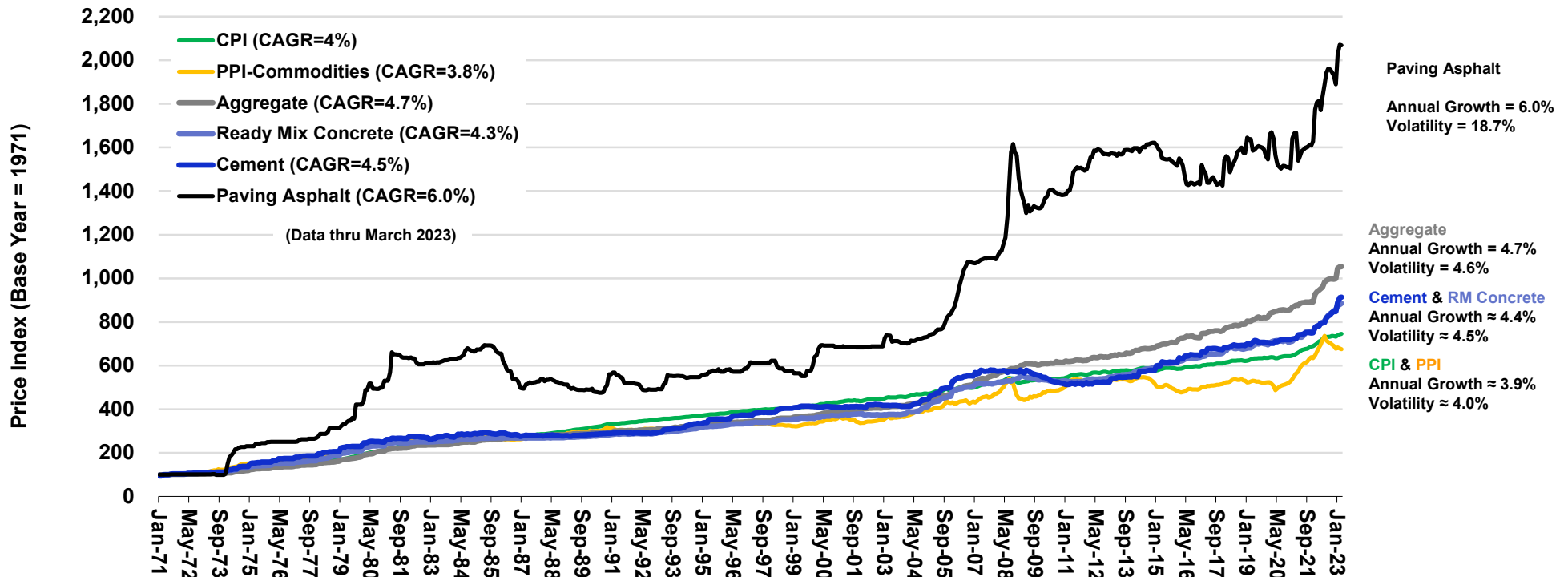
- Favors low initial cost and high future cost options (Short term solutions (asphalt) over long term solutions)
- Maintaining existing capacity over building new capacity (roads, ports, etc.)

# REAL DISCOUNT RATES ASSUME THAT INFLATION IS THE SAME

It is intended to show “constant dollars” and “constant purchasing power”

“Real price change” is the difference between a specific product’s inflation rate & the general rate of inflation

BLS Inflation Indexes since Jan 1971



Asphalt Inflation Rates are significantly higher than General Inflation (& Concrete)  
Not accounting for “real price change” when estimating Costs biases the results

1. Real Price change is also known as aka changes in relative prices, differential Inflation rates, material specific inflation, & constant dollar changes.
2. U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, <http://www.bls.gov/ppi/home.htm>
3. CAGR = Compound Annual Growth Rate

# ASPHALT INFLATION vs. PPI ALL COMMODITIES RATE

Chart shows the difference in inflation rates between **Paving Asphalt** and **PPI-All commodities (general inflation)** over any 10 year or greater period, by month since 1970

- Each line starts a new base month / year
  - 1<sup>st</sup> line – Jan 1971 to Jan 1981, Feb 1981, etc.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> line – Feb 1971 to Feb 1981, Mar 1981, etc.
  - 13<sup>th</sup> line – Jan 1972 to Jan 1982, Feb 1982, etc.
  - etc.

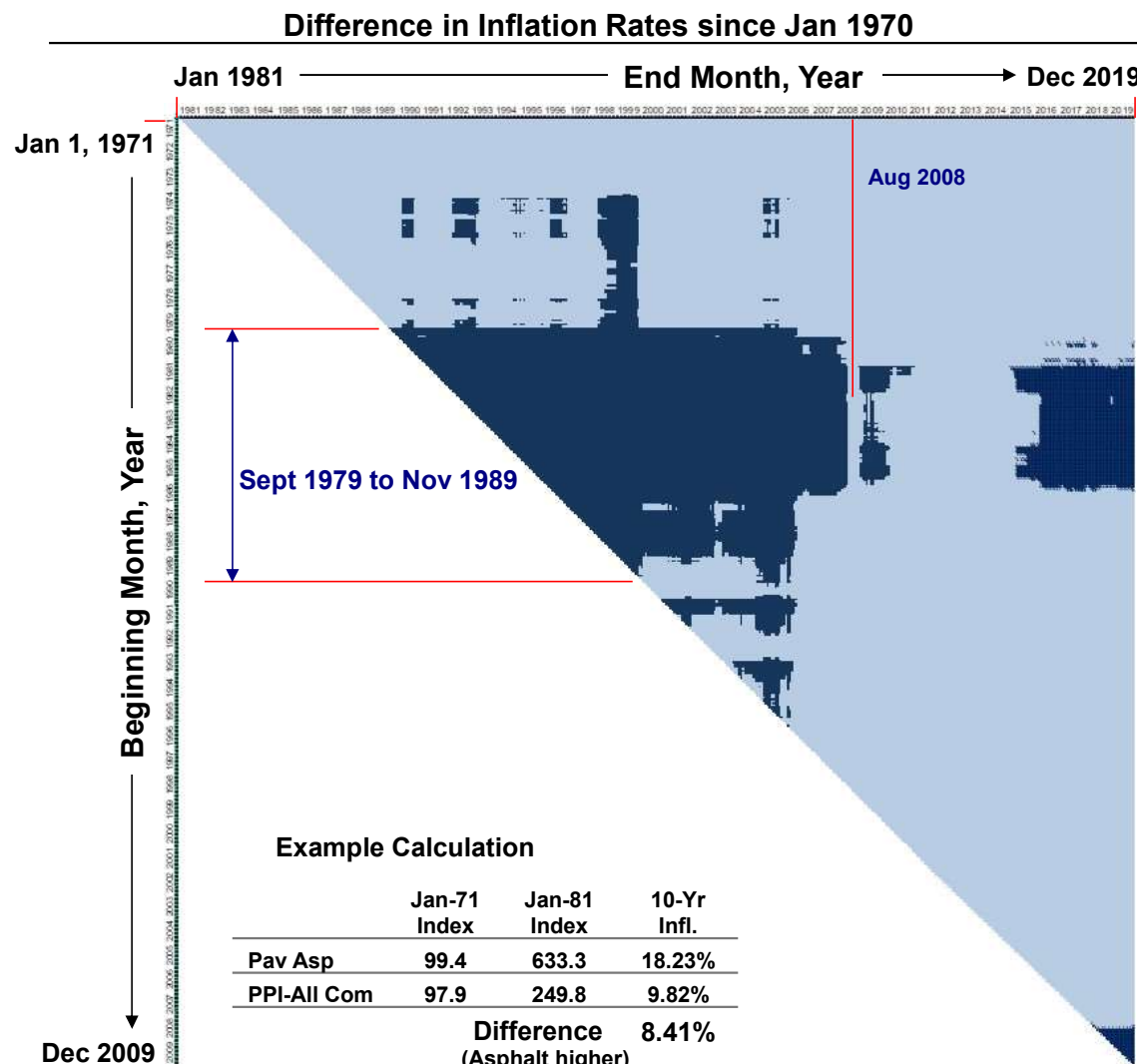
■ Light Blue = Asphalt Higher

- Occurs 85% of the time
- Average % higher = 2.12%

■ Dark Blue = PPI-All Commodities Higher

- Occurs 15% of the time
- Average % higher = 1.31%

**Average Difference of All Data = 1.60%**  
(asphalt higher)



1. U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, <http://www.bls.gov/ppi/home.htm> (Data thru Dec 2019)
2. Difference is calculated as Asphalt inflation – Concrete Inflation



# CONCRETE INFLATION vs. PPI ALL COMMODITIES RATE

Chart shows the difference in inflation rates between **Ready Mix Concrete** and **PPI-All commodities (general inflation)** over any 10 year or greater period, by month since 1970

- Each lines starts a new base month / year
  - 1<sup>st</sup> line – Jan 1971 to Jan 1981, Feb 1981, etc.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> line – Feb 1971 to Feb 1981, Mar 1981, etc.
  - 13<sup>th</sup> line – Jan 1972 to Jan 1982, Feb 1982, etc.
  - etc.

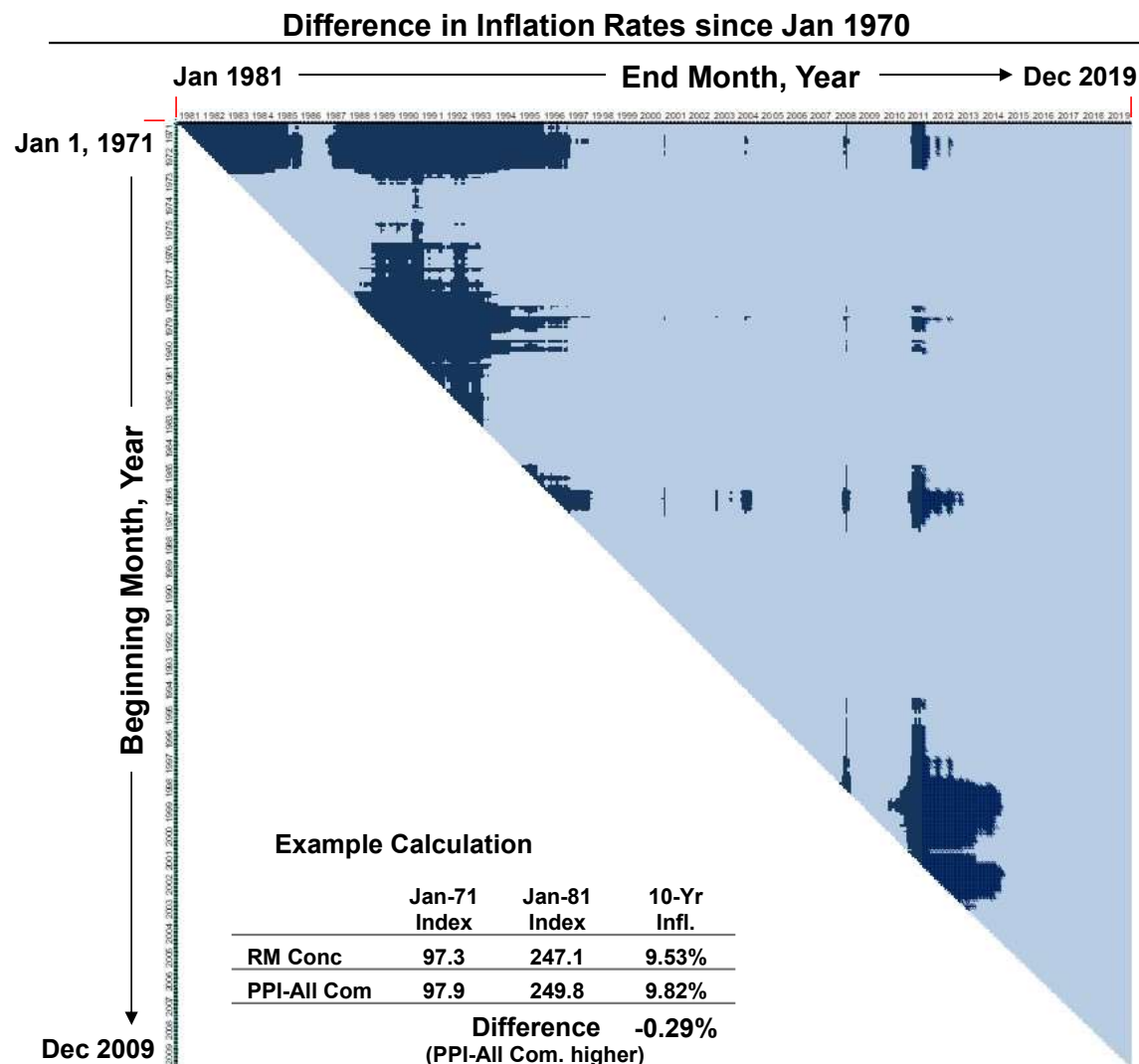
■ Light Blue = Concrete Higher

- Occurs 89% of the time
- Average % higher = 0.66%

■ Dark Blue = PPI-All Commodities Higher

- Occurs 11% of the time
- Average % higher = 0.27%

Average Difference of All Data = 0.56%  
(concrete higher)



1. U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, <http://www.bls.gov/ppi/home.htm> (Data thru Dec 2019)
2. Difference is calculated as Asphalt inflation – Concrete Inflation

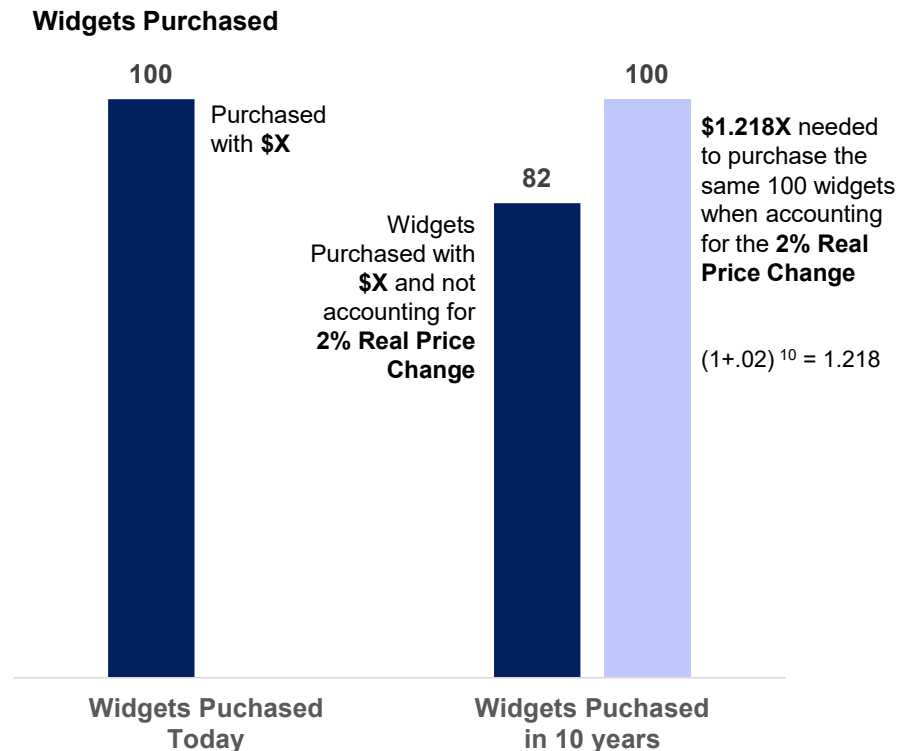
## ACCOUNTING FOR REAL PRICE CHANGER ENSURES “CONSTANT PURCHASING POWER”

If I buy a 100 widgets with \$X dollars today, I still need to be able to buy that same 100 widgets in the future.

If widgets inflate at a higher (or lower rate) then the general rate of inflation, the same dollars (\$X) will not buy the same amount widgets.

- To get the same 100 widgets in the future, I need spend more (or less) dollars ( $\$X \pm z\%$ )

The amount of actual payables can go up or down depending on whether the widgets inflate faster of slower than the general rate of inflation.



Its not about the Dollars being the Same - It's about what is Purchased with those Dollars being the Same

## TO ACCOUNT FOR REAL PRICE CHANGES IN A LCCA REQUIRES TWO ITEMS

### Items

---

- 1** LCCA process must be able to account for “real price changes” when it does exists.
  - Current FHWA / DOT guidelines for pavement LCCAs do not
  - Most other non-pavement applications of LCCA do
- 2** Need to be able to predict future “real price” changes
  - MIT has developed “real price” forecasting models” that are ready to be implemented

**Inflation and Real Price Changes does exist and the process must be able to account for these changes for the LCCA process to be reliable**

# ESCALATION IS NOT A NEW PROCESS

It was presented at the January 1965 TRB meeting in Washington DC

First described for pavement type selection in the paper *Inflation and Highway Economy Studies* by Lee and Grant <sup>1</sup>

- Stated that differential price changes should be included in the analysis, but at the time it, there was no price differential and so it was ignored

“Real price changes” guidelines used by other Governmental Agencies:

- The Office of Management & Budget (OMB) Circular A-94, section 7
- GAO Cost Estimating and Assessment Guide: Best Practices for Developing and Managing Program Costs
- Economic Analysis Primer, FHWA Publication Number FHWA-IF-03-032, August 2003 (pp. 10-11)
- Economic Analysis of Investment and Regulatory Decisions – Revised Guide, FAA Report No: FAA-APO-98-4, January 1998 (Chapter 7)
- ASTM standard E 917 “Standard Practice for Measuring Life-Cycle Costs of Buildings and Building Systems.”
- Life-Cycle Costing Manual for the Federal Energy Management Program, Department of Commerce,
- Department of Army, Economic Analysis: Description and Methods, Army Pamphlet 415-3

**Rehabilitation Costs need to be escalated to account for Real Price Change (otherwise the cost estimates will severely underestimate future costs)**



## Inflation and Highway Economy Studies

ROBERT R. LEE and E. L. GRANT

Respectively, Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering, and Professor Emeritus of Economics of Engineering, Stanford University

The nature of inflation and other price changes is investigated to determine procedures for treating them in highway economy studies. Long-and short-term trends of general inflation and highway costs are calculated to aid in future prediction. Current prices should be used for estimates of future costs and benefits because it is difficult to predict inflation or differential highway cost trends. In instances of great certainty of differential price trends, they should be used, but only in a sensitivity analysis.

\*THE FACT that inflation has been a feature of the American economy for many years is a matter of record. For example, food purchased for \$1.00 in 1940 cost about \$2.60 in 1963. Clothing prices increased about 110 percent during the same period. In the highway field, construction costs had an average compounded annual increase of about 4 percent for the same period (Tables 1 and 2). Figure 1 shows the general rise in prices as measured by the Consumer Price Index, the Wholesale Price Index and Gross National Product Deflators.

TABLE 1  
WHOLESALE PRICE, CONSUMER PRICE, AND GNP DEFLATOR  
INDEXES, 1913-1963

Year	Wholesale <sup>a</sup> Price	Consumer <sup>b</sup> Price	GNP <sup>b</sup> Deflator	Year	Wholesale Price	Consumer Price	GNP Deflator
1913	38.2	34.5	-	1938	43.9	49.1	48.7
1914	37.3	35.0	-	1939	42.5	48.4	46.1
1915	38.0	35.4	-	1940	43.0	48.8	48.9
1916	40.8	38.0	-	1941	47.8	51.3	52.9
1917	64.3	44.7	-	1942	54.0	56.8	59.6
1918	71.7	52.4	-	1943	56.5	60.3	64.0
1919	75.8	60.3	-	1944	58.9	61.3	66.5
1920	84.5	69.8	-	1945	57.9	62.7	68.0
1921	52.4	62.2	-	1946	66.1	68.0	74.6
1922	52.9	56.4	-	1947	81.2	77.8	83.0
1923	55.1	59.4	-	1948	87.9	83.8	88.5
1924	53.6	59.6	-	1949	83.5	83.0	88.2
1925	56.6	61.1	-	1950	86.8	83.8	89.5
1926	54.8	61.5	-	1951	96.7	90.5	96.2
1927	52.3	60.5	-	1952	94.0	82.5	96.1
1928	53.0	59.7	-	1953	92.7	83.2	99.0
1929	52.1	59.7	57.4	1954	92.9	83.6	100.0
1930	47.3	56.2	55.4	1955	93.2	83.3	101.2
1931	50.0	53.0	49.9	1956	96.2	84.7	104.6
1932	35.6	47.6	44.9	1957	99.0	88.0	106.4
1933	36.1	45.1	44.2	1958	100.4	100.7	110.8
1934	41.0	46.6	46.9	1959	100.6	101.5	112.6
1935	43.8	47.8	47.4	1960	100.7	103.1	114.2
1936	44.2	48.2	47.7	1961	100.3	104.2	115.7
1937	47.2	50.0	49.5	1962	100.6	105.4	116.9
				1963	99.9	106.2	118.7

<sup>a</sup>Data derived from Ref. 8.  
<sup>b</sup>Data derived from Ref. 6.

Paper sponsored by Committee on Highway Engineering Economy.

20

1. R. R. Lee and E.L. Grant, *Inflation and Highway Economy Studies*, In Highway Research Record 100,, Washington, D.C., 1965, pp. 20-37.

# THE ECONOMIC PROCEDURE USED TO ACCOUNT FOR REAL PRICE CHANGES IS A CALLED ESCALATION or INDEXING

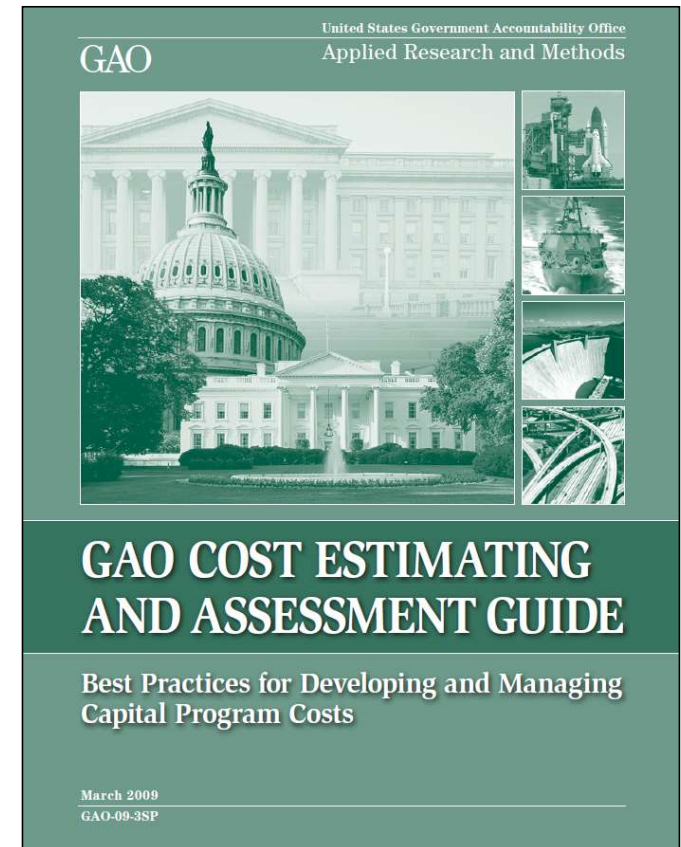
Escalation / Indexing takes into account inflation by increasing (decreasing) future year costs

Index Values are used to escalate costs in any given future year

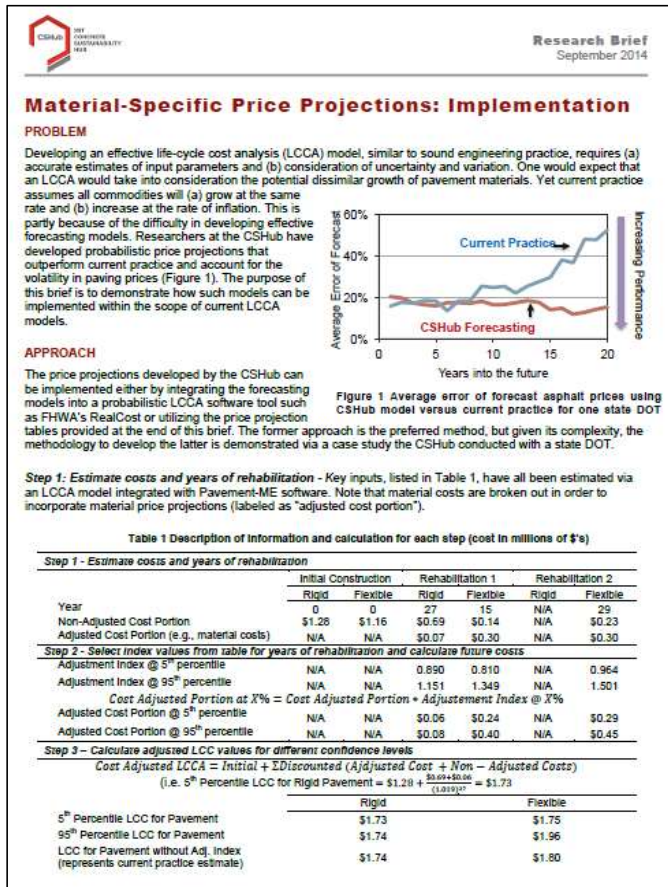
$$\text{Cost in Yr X} = \frac{\text{Yr X Index}}{\text{Base Year Index}} \times \text{Base Year Costs}$$

## Steps:

1. *Estimate current costs and year of rehabilitation*
2. *Select index values for year of rehabilitation and calculate future costs using above formula*
  - Key aspect is determining the correct index values to determine future price projections for concrete & asphalt.
3. *Calculate adjusted LCC values for different confidence levels (optional)*
  - eg. 5th/95th percentile estimates.



# MIT HAS DEVELOPED REAL PRICE PROJECTIONS MODELS FOR USE IN PAVEMENT LIFE CYCLE COST ANALYSIS



## Concrete (Constituent model)

Year	5th	Mean	95th
0	100	100	100
1	88	101.3	114.6
2	86.5	102.2	118.1
.	.	.	.
10	86.7	106.2	126.5
11	86.5	106.4	126
12	86.9	107.1	127.3
13	86.9	106.9	126.7
14	86.2	106.9	127.1
15	86.2	106.9	127.3
16	87	107.3	127.7
17	85.9	107.3	129
18	86.3	107.3	128.5
19	87.7	107.8	129.2
20	87.9	108	128.3
21	86.3	107.7	128.8
.	.	.	.
48	86.3	107.7	129.4
49	86.9	107.7	128.8
50	86.8	107.5	129.1

## Asphalt (Constituent Based)

Year	5th	Mean	95th
0	100	100	100
1	85	100	116.7
2	80.7	99.5	119.8
.	.	.	.
10	76.4	102.8	133.5
11	78	103.6	136
12	77.3	105	137.5
13	78.4	106	140.3
14	78.9	107.3	140.1
15	79.3	108.6	144.4
16	80.2	110.2	145.5
17	81.3	111.3	147.3
18	81.9	113.1	149
19	83.3	114.6	151.1
20	84.1	116.8	152.2
21	86.8	119	154.9
.	.	.	.
48	125.4	144.5	164.4
49	126	144.4	163.6
50	125.3	144.3	163.6

# MIT HAS DEVELOPED REAL PRICE PROJECTIONS MODELS FOR USE IN PAVEMENT LIFE CYCLE COST ANALYSIS

## Concrete (Constituent model)

Year	5th	Concrete Mean	95th
0	100	100	100
1	88	101.3	114.6
2	86.5	102.2	118.1
.			
.			
.			
10	86.7	106.2	126.5
11	86.5	106.4	126
12	86.9	107.1	127.3
13	86.9	106.9	126.7
14	86.2	106.9	127.1
15	86.2	106.9	127.3
16	87	107.3	127.7
17	85.9	107.3	129
18	86.3	107.3	128.5
19	87.7	107.8	129.2
20	87.9	108	128.3
21	86.3	107.7	128.8
.			
.			
.			
48	86.3	107.7	129.4
49	86.9	107.7	128.8
50	86.8	107.5	129.1

Mean Index Values are used to forecast the “most likely” costs in any given future year

$$\text{Cost in Yr X} = \frac{\text{Yr X Index}}{\text{Base Year Index}} \times \text{Base Year Costs}$$

To bracket the range of potential values, use 5<sup>th</sup> and 95<sup>th</sup> Index values

### Example

- \$1 M concrete expenditure at year 20 (mean value)  
Forecasted cost =  $108/100 \times \$1,000,000 = \$1,080,000$ .
- \$1 M Concrete expenditure at year 20 (5<sup>th</sup> and 95<sup>th</sup> values)  
Forecasted cost =  $84.1/100 \times \$1,000,000 = \$879,000$   
Forecasted cost =  $128.3/100 \times \$1,000,000 = \$1,283,000$ .



# MIT HAS DEVELOPED REAL PRICE PROJECTIONS MODELS FOR USE IN PAVEMENT LIFE CYCLE COST ANALYSIS

## *Asphalt* (Constituent Based)

Year	5th	Asphalt Mean	95th
0	100	100	100
1	85	100	116.7
2	80.7	99.5	119.8
.			
.			
.			
10	76.4	102.8	133.5
11	78	103.6	136
12	77.3	105	137.5
13	78.4	106	140.3
14	78.9	107.3	140.1
15	79.3	108.6	144.4
16	80.2	110.2	145.5
17	81.3	111.3	147.3
18	81.9	113.1	149
19	83.3	114.6	151.1
20	84.1	116.8	152.2
21	86.8	119	154.9
.			
.			
.			
48	125.4	144.5	164.4
49	126	144.4	163.6
50	125.3	144.3	163.6

Mean Index Values are used to forecast the “most likely” costs in any given future year

$$\text{Cost in Yr X} = \frac{\text{Yr X Index}}{\text{Base Year Index}} \times \text{Base Year Costs}$$

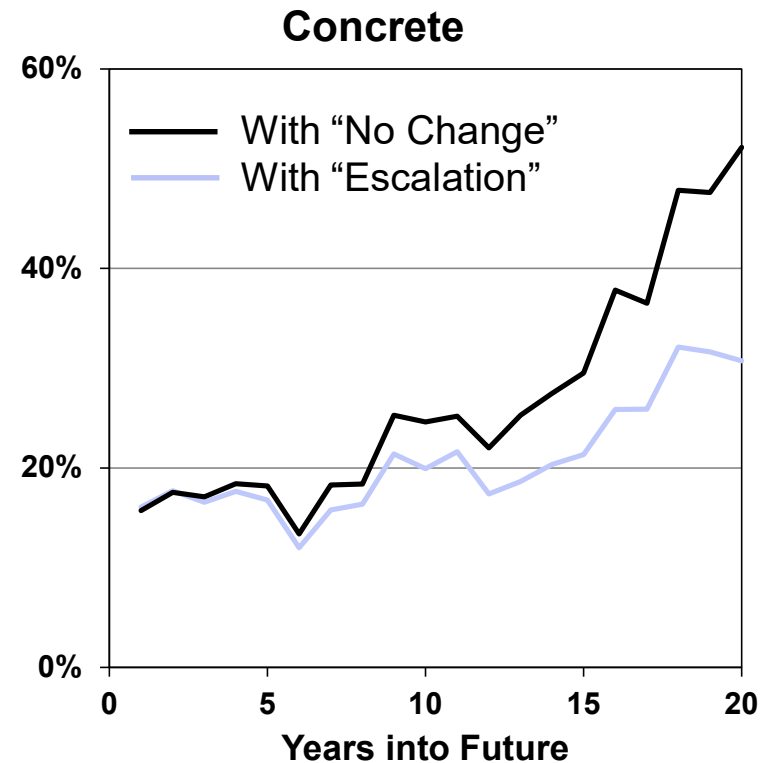
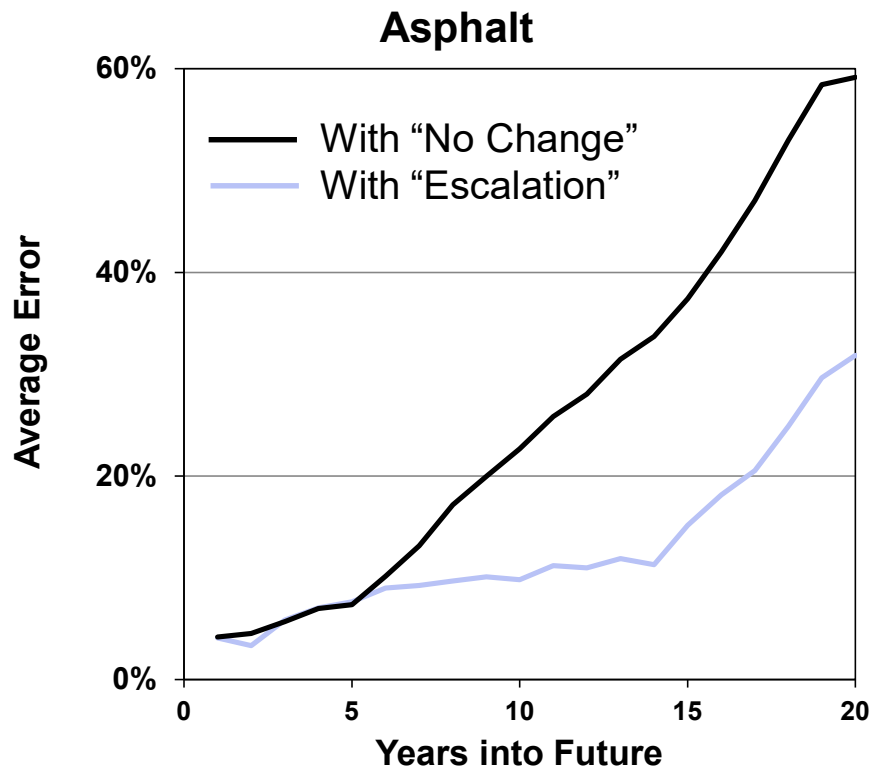
To bracket the range of potential values, use 5<sup>th</sup> and 95<sup>th</sup> Index values

### Example

- \$1 M asphalt expenditure at year 20 (mean value)  
Forecasted cost =  $116.8/100 \times \$1,000,000 = 1,168,000$ .
- \$1 M asphalt expenditure at year 20 (5<sup>th</sup> and 95<sup>th</sup> values)  
Forecasted cost =  $84.1/100 \times \$1,000,000 = \$841,000$   
Forecasted cost =  $152.2/100 \times \$1,000,000 = \$1,522,000$ .

## MIT FORECASTS HAVE SHOWN USING ESCALATION IS MORE ACCURATE THAN CURRENT PRACTICE

Average error of price forecasts made between 1976-1990 for Colorado using current-practice (labeled “No Change”) and CSHub method (labeled “National – Scaled”).



Increasing Accuracy

# **AGENDA**

**Improving “Timing of Rehabilitation Activities”**

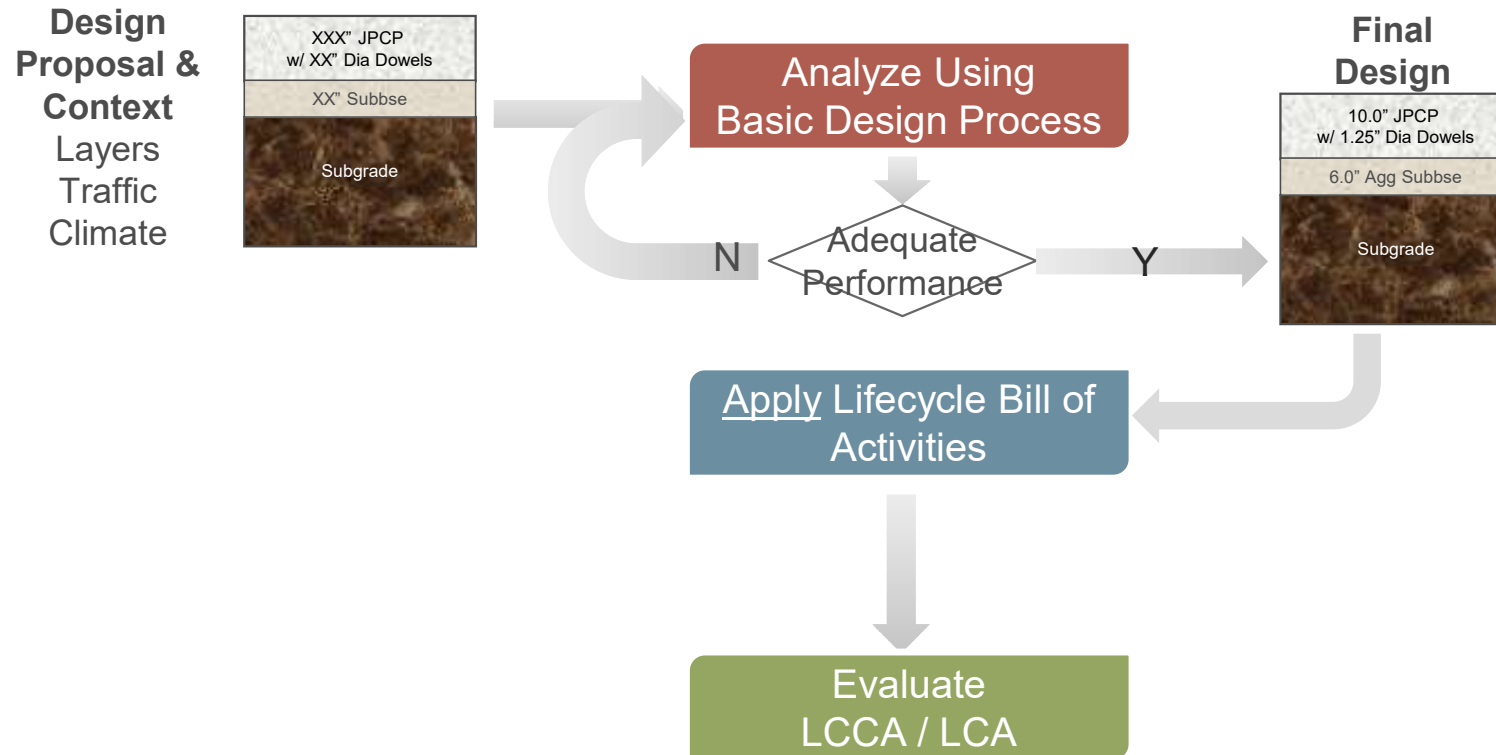
**Improving “Which rehabilitation activities are done”**

**Improving “Cost Estimates”**

**Combining Parts to Develop a Robust LCCA**

# CURRENTLY LCCA IS DONE IN A “STATIC” MODE

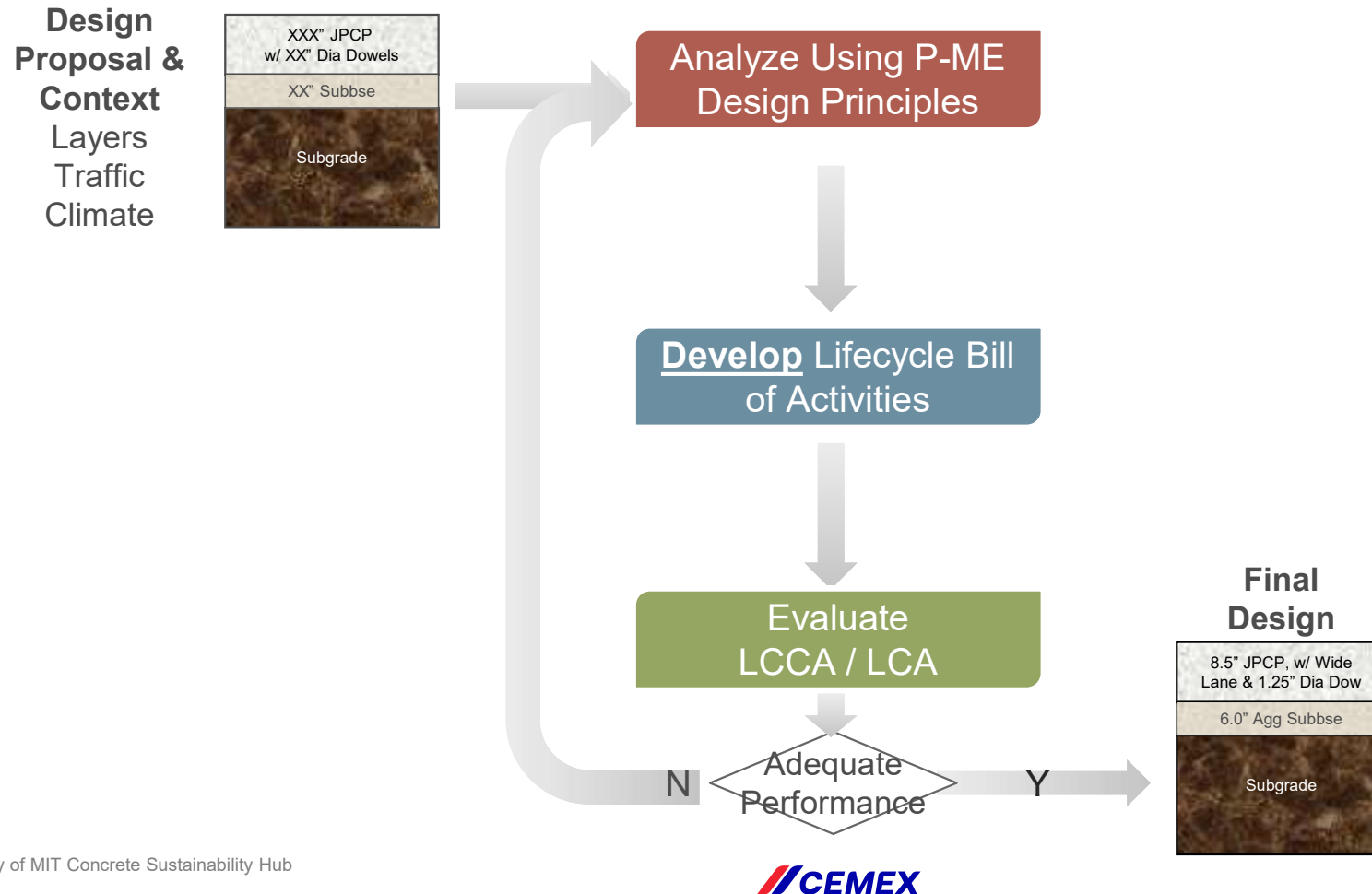
LCCA done after designs are developed to select the final pavement design



Doing a LCCA at the end misses the opportunities to make design changes

# TO IMPROVE THE LCCA PROCESS (& PAVEMENT DESIGNS)

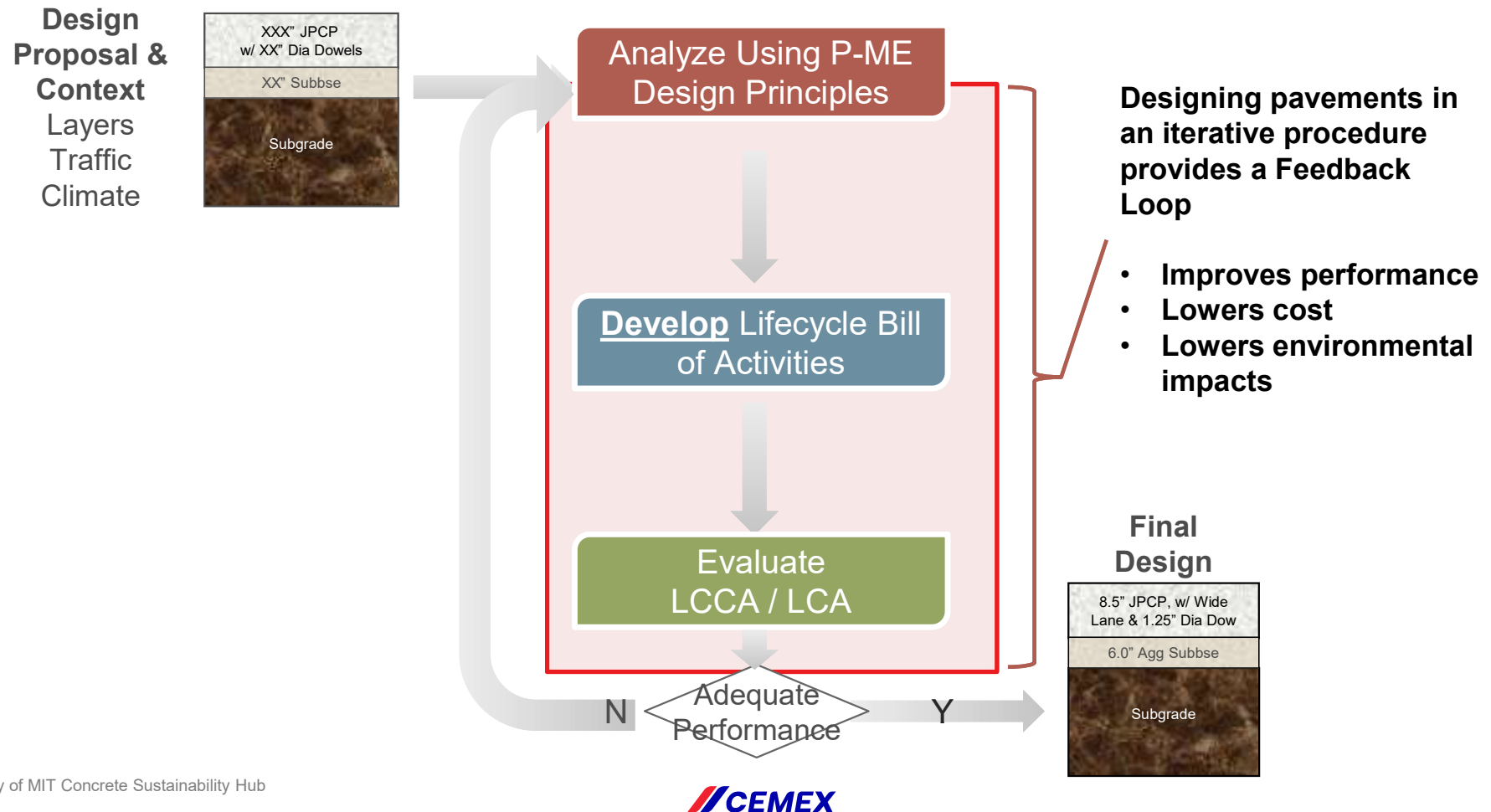
Need to create a link between Design and Evaluation in an iterative design process



Slide: Courtesy of MIT Concrete Sustainability Hub

# TO IMPROVE THE LCCA PROCESS (& PAVEMENT DESIGNS)

Need to create a link between Design and Evaluation in an iterative design process



## TO MAKE FHWA'S LCCA PROCESS MORE ROBUST REQUIRES MINOR MODIFICATIONS

### Establish LCCA Framework

- Establish analysis period
- Establish how inflation will be treated (nominal or real)
  - **Verify material inflation rates are similar to the general rate of inflation**
  - **Select “escalation indexes” as needed**
- Establish discount rate to be used (nominal or real)

### Perform LCCA

1. Establish Alternative Pavement Designs
2. Determine Timing of Required Rehabilitation Activities
  - **Develop multiple scenarios representing “good–poor–expected” performance”**
3. Estimate Agency and User Costs (often considered optional)
  - Initial Construction Costs
  - Rehabilitation Costs
  - **Escalate cost to the activity year using the appropriate escalation index**
4. Compute Life-Cycle Costs **(use probabilistic analysis)**
5. Analyze the Results

Updating LCCA Procedures to account for these changes will make LCCA more reliable and informative

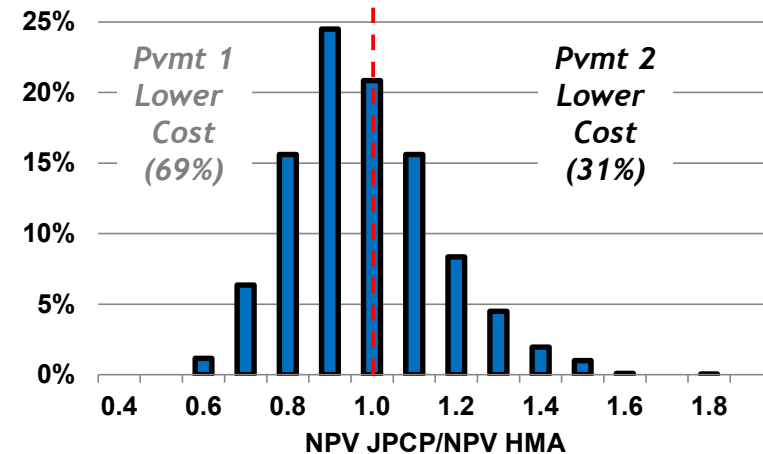
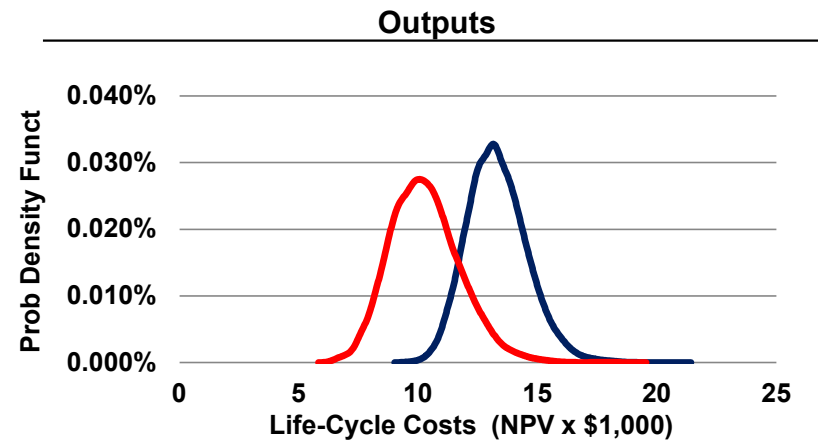
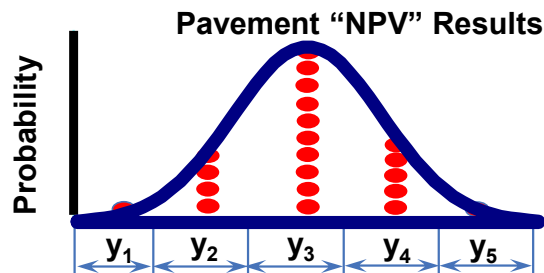
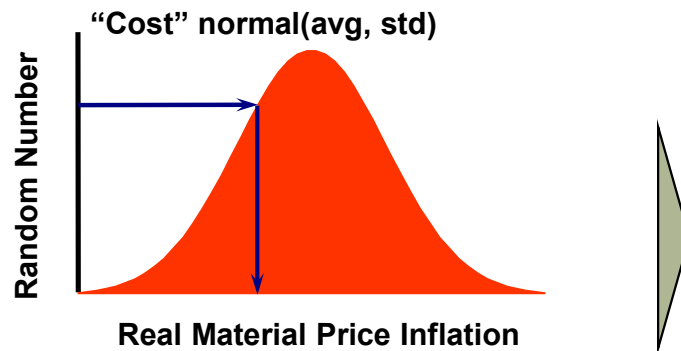


# A ROBUST LCCA LOOKS AT MANY POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Use Probabilistic Analysis to runs 1000's of LCCAs to create a distribution of outcomes

Inputs & Sampling

$$NPV = f( \text{Initial Cost}, \text{Rehab Cost}, \text{Year Rehab}, \text{etc} )$$

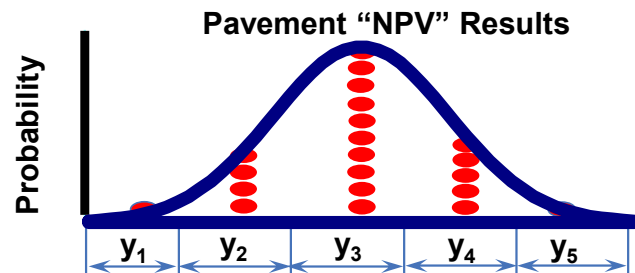
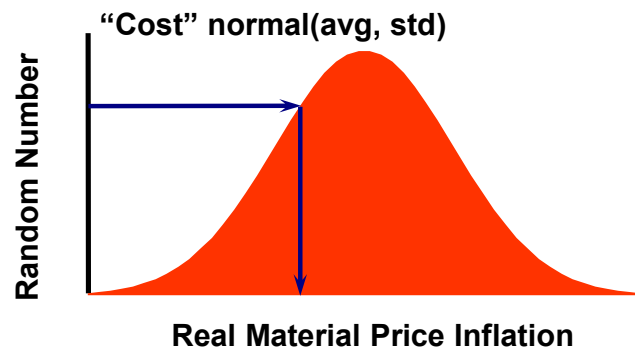


# A ROBUST LCCA LOOKS AT MANY POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

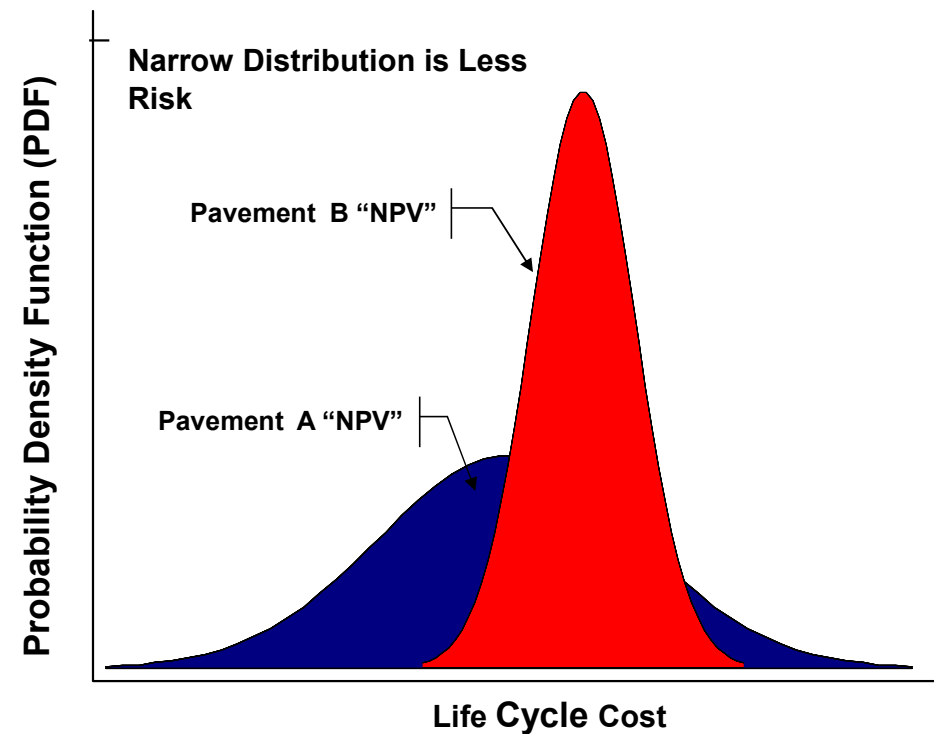
Use Probabilistic Analysis to run 1000's of LCCAs to create a distribution of outcomes

## Inputs & Sampling

$$NPV = f( \text{Initial Cost}, \text{Rehab Cost}, \text{Year Rehab}, \text{etc} )$$



## Outputs

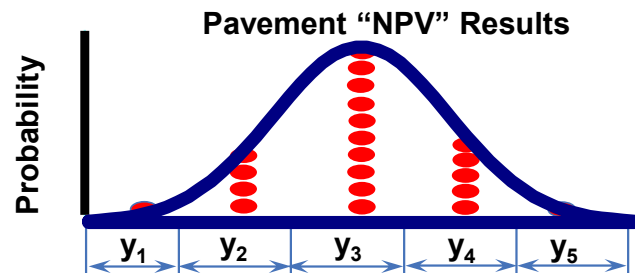
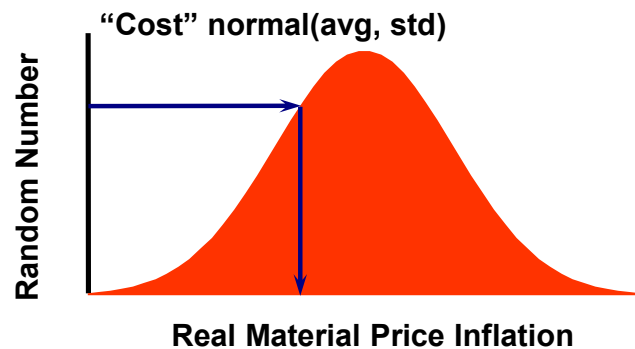


# A ROBUST LCCA LOOKS AT MANY POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

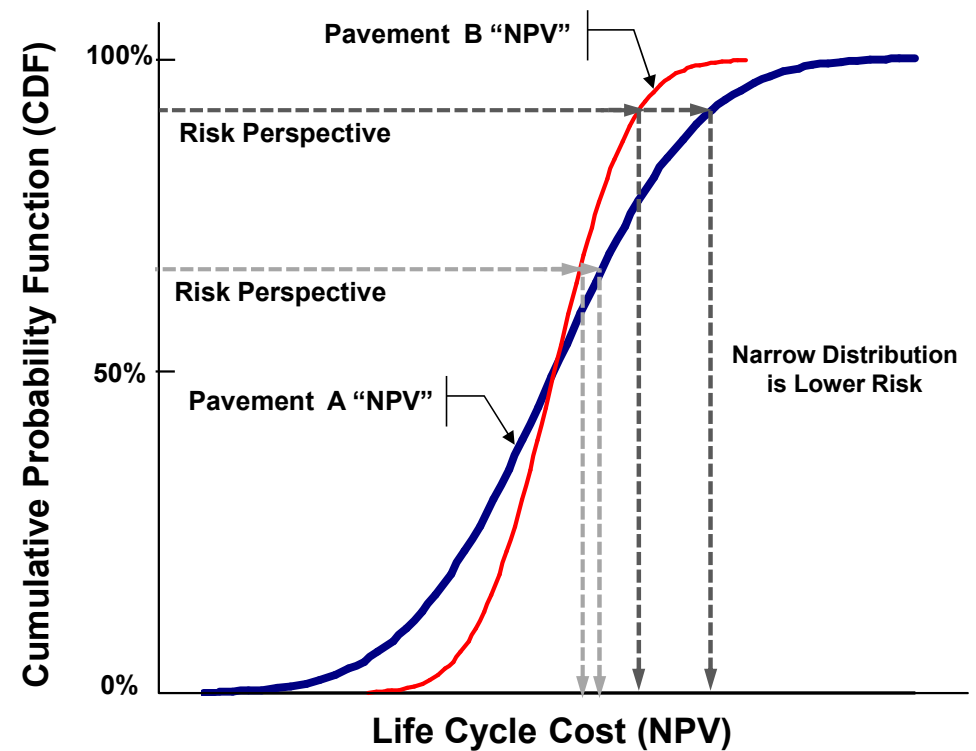
Use Probabilistic Analysis to runs 1000's of LCCAs to create a distribution of outcomes

## Inputs & Sampling

$$NPV = f( \text{Initial Cost}, \text{Rehab Cost}, \text{Year Rehab}, \text{etc} )$$

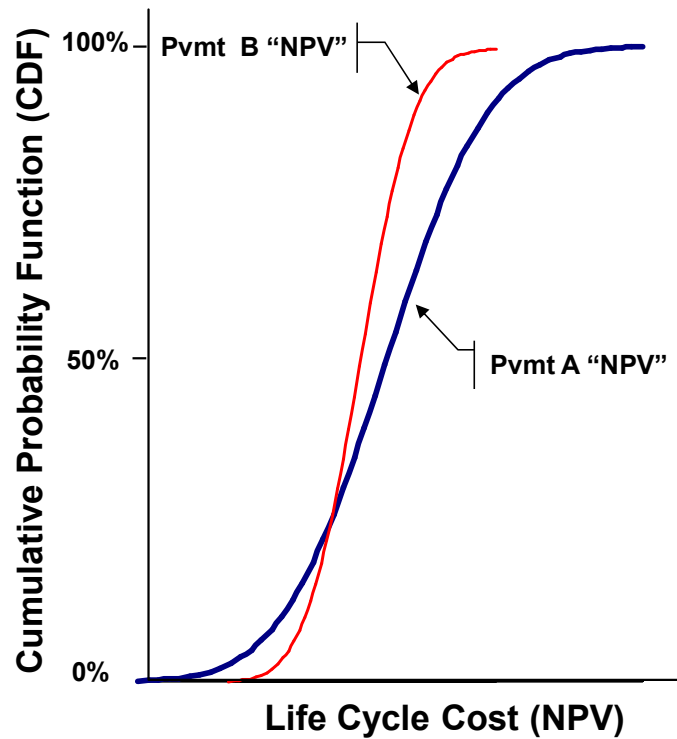


## Outputs

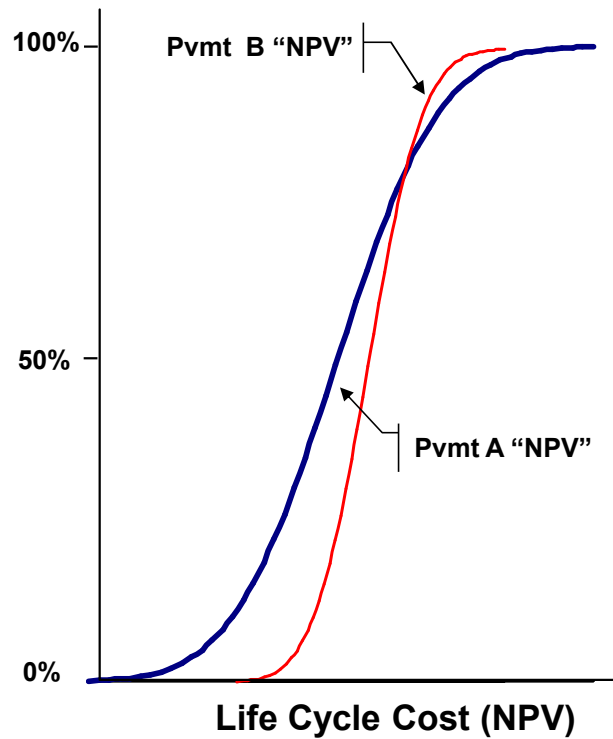


## A PROBABILITY ANALYSIS ALLOWS FOR DIFFERENT RISK PERSPECTIVES TO BE EVALUATED

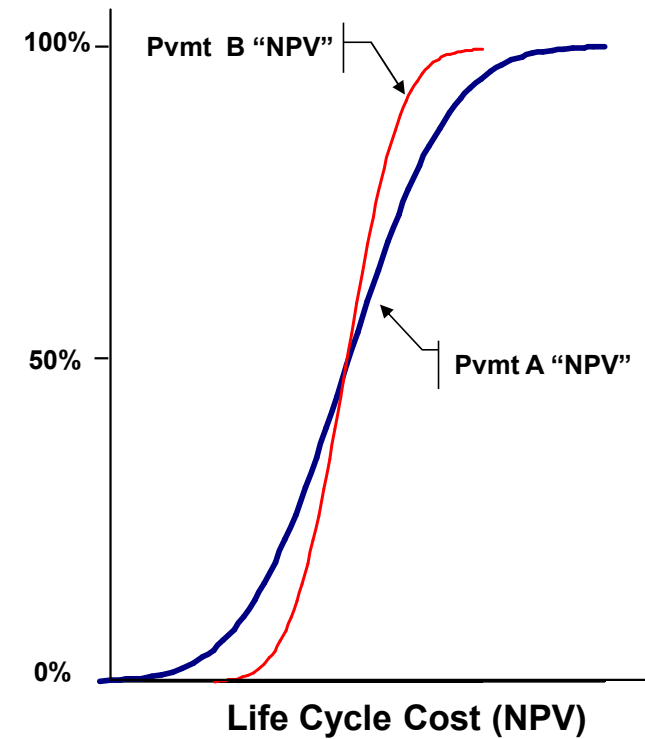
**Pavement B = Better**  
(Lower NPV and lower risk)



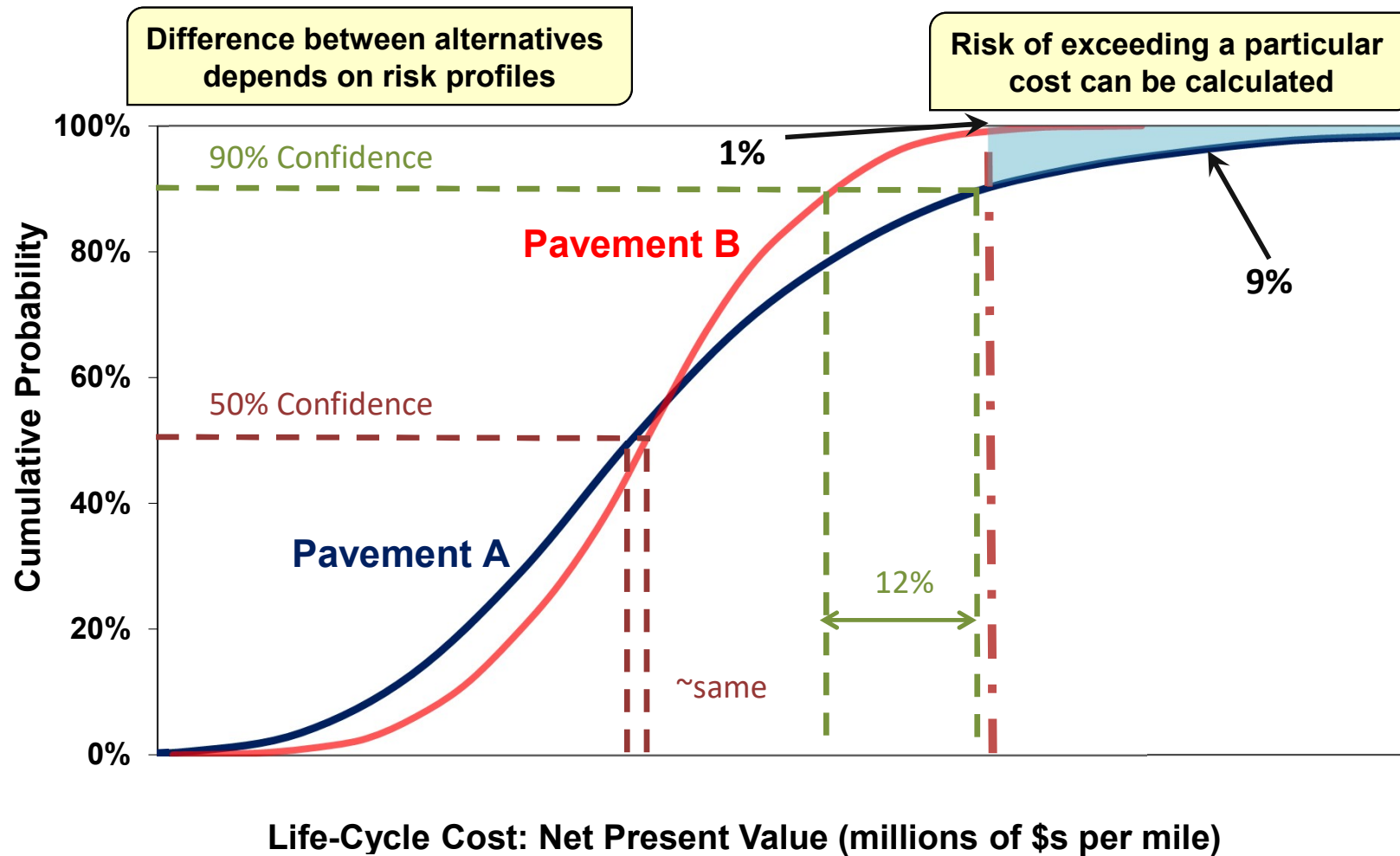
**Pavement A = Better**  
(Lower NPV, but more risk)



**Pavement B = Better**  
(Same 50% NPV, but less risk)



## A PROBABILITY ANALYSIS ALLOWS FOR DIFFERENT RISK PERSPECTIVES TO BE EVALUATED



## **CONCLUSIONS**

**The true benefit of LCCA is it makes designers ask questions about their designs**

- 1 There is “lack of trust” in LCCA results because of disagreements over the inputs**
  - **Uncertainty about timing of activities, which activities are done, and costs**
- 2 There are tools that can be used to evaluate these uncertainties to make LCCA results Credible and Reliable**
  - **Pavement ME can help inform “when activities will be done”**
  - **Decision Tree Analysis looks at many potential rehabilitation options**
  - **Escalation accounts for real price changes**
- 3 Probabilistic Analysis can be used to account for all these uncertainty / variabilities by running 1000’s of LCCA simulations to see how different inputs change the results**

**A “Robust LCCA” addresses the inherent uncertainty in LCCA’s to balance the risk assumptions to make them more transparent, credible, and defensible**