

**NCHRP Project 9-48:
Field versus Laboratory Volumetrics and
Mechanical Properties**

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Research Team



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 - Diamond B Const. Virginia DOT
 - Community Asphalt Wisconsin DOT
- Texas Transportation Institute
- University of Wisconsin

Outline

- Objective / Scope
- Conduct of Experiment
- Preliminary Data Analysis
 - Impacts of *process-based factors* on differences specimen types:
 - » Design (LL), Production (PL) and Construction (PF)
 - Compare *mechanistic properties* of 3 specimen types
 - » LL, PL, PF
 - » LWT, E* (Axial, Indirect)
 - » Develop shift factors
 - Compare *volumetric properties* of 3 specimen types
 - » LL, PL, PF
 - » Develop tolerance recommendation
- Summary

Objective

- Determine the *cause* and *magnitude* of differences and variances in measured *volumetric* and *mechanical* properties within and between three specimen types:
 - Laboratory-mixed and laboratory compacted (LL)
 - » Design
 - Plant mixed and laboratory compacted (PL)
 - » Production
 - Plant mixed and field compacted (PF)
 - » Construction

Experiment

- Five Process-Based factors
 - two contrasting levels -- low and high

Factor ID	Process	Low (-)	High (+)
1	Baghouse fine	No	Yes
2	Time delay in specimen fabrication (PL)	No	Yes
3	Aggregate absorption	Low	High
4	Aggregate degradation	Soft	Hard
5	Aggregate stockpile in situ properties Moisture Content	Low	High

Experiment

- **Volumetric properties**
 - AV, VMA, Gmm, AC (Solvent), gradation, Gsb
 - LL, PL, PF
- **Mechanistic properties**
 - Hamburg LWT
 - › LL, PL, PF
 - IDT Dynamic modulus
 - › LL, PL, PF
 - Axial Dynamic Modulus
 - › LL, PL

Experiment

- **Full Factorial design**
 - 2⁵ factor combinations x 3 specimen types
 - 96 test combinations
- **Volumetric properties**
 - 96 x 3 x 3 = 864
- **Mechanistic properties**
 - 96 x 4 x 3 = 1152
- **Total number of samples**

-2016


Experiment

- **Quarter fractional design**
 - 2⁵⁻² factor combinations x 3 specimen types
 - 24 test combinations
- **Volumetric properties**
 - 24 x 3 x 3 = 216
- **Mechanistic properties**
 - 24 x 4 x 3 = 288
- **Total number of samples**

-504

Introduction

- **Process-Based Factors**
 - Present during the production and testing of a mixture.
 - Source of the delivery of reclaimed fine material : baghouse fines, reclaimed asphalt pavement
 - Time delay in specimen fabrication: reheating, silo storage, sampling location, plant type, use of material transfer device
 - Aggregate properties: Absorption, Degradation, Angularity, Surface Texture
 - Aggregate stockpile in situ properties: moisture content



Outline

Introduction

Task 1: Literature

Task 2: Survey Collect and Analyze Data from Past Research

Task 3: Develop Experimental Factorial

Task 4: Execute Experimental Factorial

Task 5: Conduct Data Analysis

Task 6: Develop Specification Recommendations

Experiment

- **Fractional Factorial Design**
- **Only main effects will be evaluated**
 - Interactions may not be quantified

Mixture ID	Baghouse Fines	Reheating	Aggregate Absorption	Aggregate Degradation	Aggregate Moisture Content
Mix 1	No	No	Low	Soft	High
Mix 2	No	No	High	Hard	Low
Mix 3	No	Yes	Low	Hard	Low
Mix 4	No	Yes	High	Soft	High
Mix 5	Yes	No	Low	Hard	High
Mix 6	Yes	No	High	Soft	Low
Mix 7	Yes	Yes	Low	Soft	Low
Mix 8	Yes	Yes	High	Hard	High


Experiment

- **Fractional Factorial Design**
- **Only main effects will be evaluated**
 - Interactions may not be quantified

NMAS (mm)	Mixture ID	Baghouse Fines	Time Delay	Aggregate Water Absorption (%)	Aggregate Degradation (Mic.D/LA Abr.)	Stockpile Moisture Content
12.5	Mix 1	No	No	~ 1.0	> 30 / > 40	High
	Mix 2	No	No	~ 4.0	< 20 / < 20	Low
	Mix 3	No	Yes	~ 1.0	< 20 / < 20	Low
	Mix 4	No	Yes	~ 4.0	> 30 / > 40	High
	Mix 5 ^{a,b,c,d,e,f}	Yes	No	~ 1.0	< 20 / < 20	High
	Mix 6	Yes	No	~ 4.0	> 30 / > 40	Low
	Mix 7	Yes	Yes	~ 1.0	> 30 / > 40	Low
	Mix 8	Yes	Yes	~ 4.0	< 20 / < 20	High

Experiment – Field Project

- Survey
- DOTs
- Contractors
- On-going NCHRP Projects



Experiment

- LL Specimen Fabrication
 - Approximately 120 kg of loose mixture required



Experiment

- PL Specimen Fabrication
 - Approximately 120 kg of loose mixture required



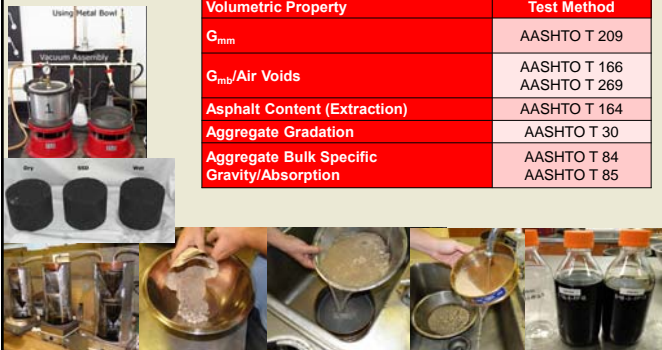
Experiment

- PF Specimen Collection
 - Roadway cores collected prior to trafficking
 - Each core is trimmed to required specimen size for testing



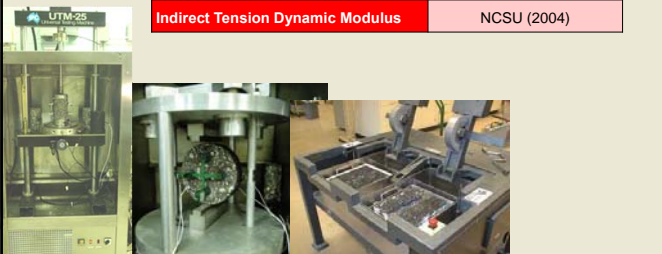
Experiment – Volumetric Properties

Volumetric Property	Test Method
G_{mm}	AASHTO T 209
G_{mb} /Air Voids	AASHTO T 166 AASHTO T 269
Asphalt Content (Extraction)	AASHTO T 164
Aggregate Gradation	AASHTO T 30
Aggregate Bulk Specific Gravity/Absorption	AASHTO T 84 AASHTO T 85



Experiment – Mechanistic Properties

Mechanistic Property	Test Method
Rut Depth (LWT)	AASHTO T 324
Axial Dynamic Modulus	AASHTO T 342
Indirect Tension Dynamic Modulus	NCSU (2004)



Individual Mixture Statistics

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Data Analysis Methodology

- For Each Parameter (i.e. Air Voids)
 - **Delta Analysis**
 - difference between means of two specimen types

$$\Delta_{\text{Air Voids, PL-LL}} = \text{Mean}_{\text{Air Voids, PL}} - \text{Mean}_{\text{Air Voids, LL}}$$

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Individual Mixture Analysis – Mix 1

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Mixture	Mixture Conditions				
	Baghouse Fines Used	Reheating	Aggregate Absorption, %	Aggregate Degradation (LA Abrasion)	Aggregate Moisture Content, %
Mix1WI	No (-)	Yes/No (-/+)	1.7 (-)	38 (+)	4.8 (+)

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Effect of Specimen Type: Asphalt Content Mix 1 -- WI

Specimen Type	AVG	ST.Dev
LL	5.40	0.03
PL	5.57	0.07
PF	5.64	0.23

AC – Delta Summary, %		
LL - PL	LL - PF	PL - PF
-0.17	-0.24	-0.07

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Effect of Specimen Type: Air Voids Mix 1 -- WI

Specimen Type	AVG	ST. Dev
LL	4.2	0.6
PL	3.4	0.3
PLR	3.9	0.2

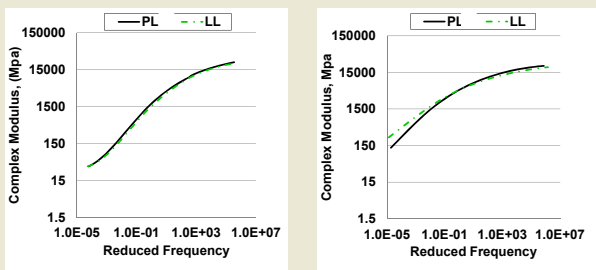
AV – Delta Summary, %		
LL - PL	LL - PLR	PL - PLR
0.8	0.3	-0.5

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Effect of Specimen Type: LWT Test

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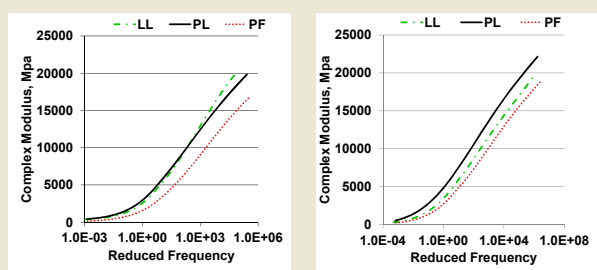
**Effect of Specimen Type:
Axial Dynamic Modulus**



Mix 5 SD

Mix 8 LA

**Effect of Specimen Type:
IDT Dynamic Modulus**



Mix 3MN

Mix 5VA

Combined Mixture Analysis

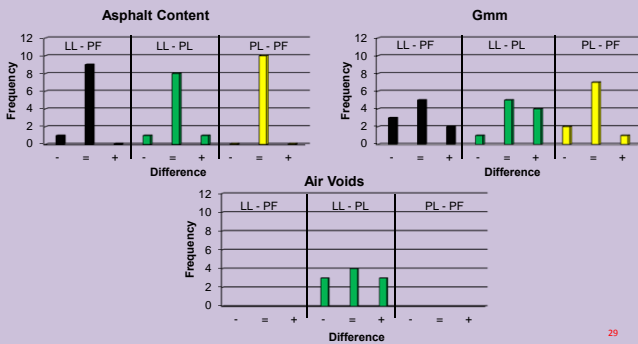
**Data Analysis Methodology –
Combined Analysis**

- Outline
- Introduction
- Task 1: Literature
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- **Meta-Analysis:**
 - A statistical technique used to **combine various data sets** into one meta-data set
 - **Objective:** to determine the **magnitude** and **cause** of variability between specimen types
- Combine delta analyses of individual mixtures.

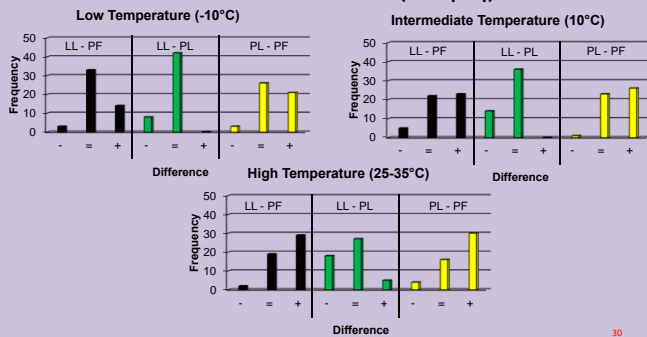
**Summary of Differences Among Specimen Types
Design (LL), Production (PL), Construction (PF),**

• **Volumetric Parameters**



**Summary of Differences Among Specimen Types
Design (LL), Production (PL), Construction (PF),**

• **Mechanistic Parameters (IDT |E*|)**



Summary of Differences Among Specimen Types
Design (LL), Production (PL), Construction (PF),

- Volumetric Parameters**

Comparison	VTM	VMA	VFA	Gmm	AC	Gsb
LL vs PF		----		50%/20%	10%/0%	20%/20%
LL vs PL	60%/20%	30%/10%	80%/50%	70%/20%	20%/20%	40%/10%
PL vs PF		----		30%/20%	10%/10%	10%/10%

- Mechanistic Parameters**

Comparison	LWT	Axial E*	IDT E*
LL vs PF	38%	----	57%
LL vs PL	18%	55%	29%
PL vs PF	52%	----	61%

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Summary of Differences Among Specimen Types
Design (LL), Production (PL), Construction (PF),

- Volumetric Testing:**
 - Statistically significant volumetric differences observed throughout 10 mixtures tested.
 - Effect of time delay was not significant for volumetric for mixtures evaluated.
 - Asphalt content**
 - Specimens type were not statistically different.
 - Gmm**
 - Statistical differences were noted for Gmm between three specimen types
 - Air voids**
 - Significant differences mainly due to Gmm influences

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Summary of Differences Among Specimen Types
Design (LL), Production (PL), Construction (PF),

- Mechanistic Testing:**
 - Field cores exhibited statistically significant differences when compared to laboratory compacted specimens.
 - LWT:**
 - Lab compaction vs Field compaction exhibited large and significant differences
 - Axial Dynamic Modulus:**
 - in general, no difference between design (LL) and production (PL) specimens for low and intermediate temperatures.
 - IDT Dynamic Modulus:**
 - 4 to 50% differences between three sample types.

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Effect of Process-Based Factors

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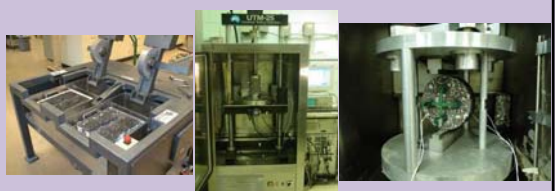
Effect of Process-Based Factors
Design (LL), Production (PL), Construction (PF),

Property	Comparison	Significant Process
AV, %		Stockpile Moisture
VMA, %	Design (LL) - Production (PL)	None
VFA, %		None
AC	Design (LL) - Production (PL)	Baghouse fine return and aggregate absorption
	Design (LL) - Construction (PF)	Baghouse fine return
	Production (PL) - Construction (PF)	None
Gmm	Design (LL) - Production (PL)	
	Design (LL) - Construction (PF)	None
	Production (PL) - Construction (PF)	
Gsb	Design (LL) - Production (PL)	
	Design (LL) - Construction (PF)	None
	Production (PL) - Construction (PF)	
Gradation	Design (LL) - Production (PL)	Baghouse fine return and aggregate hardness
	Design (LL) - Construction (PF)	Baghouse fine return, aggregate hardness, and stockpile moisture
	Production (PL) - Construction (PF)	None

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Effect of Process-Based Factors
Design (LL), Production (PL), Construction (PF),

- Mechanistic:**
 - No effect of process-based factors for all specimen comparisons



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Magnitude of Volumetric Differences

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Volumetric Properties Comparison Tolerance Recommendation

Outline

- Compare volumetric properties of three specimen types
 - LL, PL, and PF
- Determine **magnitude of differences** among specimen types
- Develop tolerance recommendations
- Determined by **averaging differences** for all mixtures and **applying confidence interval** based on combined standard deviation

Task 1: Literature

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Volumetric Properties Comparison Tolerance Recommendation – Design vs Production

Outline

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Comparison	Property	Avg	Min	Max	Confidence Limit 95%
Design (LL) / Production (PL)	AV,%	0.6	0.0	1.3	0.8
	VMA,%	0.4	0.0	2.1	1.2
	VFA,%	4.0	0.3	9.9	5.4
	AC,%	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.2
	Gmm	0.014	0.002	0.039	0.020
	Gsb	0.011	0.002	0.025	0.014
Passing 0.075 mm, %	0.4	0.0	0.9	0.5	

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Volumetric Properties Comparison Tolerance Recommendation – Design vs Production

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Design (LL) / Production (PL)	AV,%	0.6	0.0	1.3	0.8
	VMA,%	0.4	0.0	2.1	1.2
	VFA,%	4.0	0.3	9.9	5.4
	AC,%	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.2
	Gmm	0.014	0.002	0.039	0.020
	Gsb	0.011	0.002	0.025	0.014
Passing 0.075 mm, %	0.4	0.0	0.9	0.5	

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Volumetric Properties Comparison Tolerance Recommendation – Design vs Construction

Outline

Task 1: Literature

Task 2: Survey Collect and Analyze Data from Past Research

Task 3: Develop Experimental Factorial

Task 4: Execute Experimental Factorial

Task 5: Conduct Data Analysis

Task 6: Develop Specification Recommendations

Comparison	Property	Avg	Min	Max	Confidence Limit 95%
Design (LL) / Construction (PF)	AC,%	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.2
	Gmm	0.011	0.000	0.020	0.013
	Gsb	0.010	0.001	0.033	0.019
	Passing 0.075 mm, %	0.7	0.1	1.3	0.7

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Volumetric Properties Comparison Tolerance Recommendation – Production vs Construction

Outline

Task 1: Literature

Task 2: Survey Collect and Analyze Data from Past Research

Task 3: Develop Experimental Factorial

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Task 5: Conduct Data Analysis

Task 6: Develop Specification Recommendations

Comparison	Property	Avg	Min	Max	Confidence Limit 95%
Production (PL) / Construction (PF)	AC,%	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.2
	Gmm	0.009	0.001	0.027	0.018
	Gsb	0.008	0.000	0.031	0.017
Passing 0.075 mm, %	0.5	0.1	0.8	0.5	

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Volumetric Properties Comparison

Tolerance Recommendation – Asphalt Content

- Design (LL) vs Production (PL): $\pm 0.2\%$
- Design (LL) vs Construction (PF): $\pm 0.2\%$
- Production (PL) vs Construction (PF): $\pm 0.2\%$

- Above Tolerance
- At Tolerance
- Below Tolerance
- Not Specified

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Magnitude of Mechanistic Differences

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Mechanistic Properties Comparison

Shift Factors

- Compare mechanistic properties of three specimen types
 - LL, PL, and PF
- Develop Shift Factors
 - Loaded Wheel Tracking Test
 - Axial Dynamic Modulus
 - IDT Dynamic Modulus
- Developed by comparing average values to each specimen type.
 - For example:
 - LL avg / PL avg (for each parameter)
 - Repeat for other specimen comparisons

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Mechanistic Properties Comparison

Shift Factors – LWT

- Recommended Shift
 - Design (LL) to Production (PL): **1.0**
 - Design (LL) to Construction (PF) : **0.75**
 - Production (PL) to Construction (PF): **0.75**
- Specification Requirement: **12 mm**
- Lab Design ≤ 9 mm

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Mechanistic Properties Comparison

Shift Factors – Axial Dynamic Modulus

- Recommended Shift
 - Shift may need to be utilized at **higher temperatures**
 - » May relate to binder oxidation in plant produced mixtures

Comparison	Temperature, °C	Average Shift	Shift Range	
			Minimum	Maximum
Design (LL) / Production (PL)	-10.0	1.0	0.7	1.1
	4.4	1.0	0.7	1.1
	25.0	0.9	0.6	1.1
	37.8	0.8	0.5	1.1
	54.4	0.8	0.5	1.2

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Mechanistic Properties Comparison

Shift Factors – IDT Dynamic Modulus

- Recommended Shift
 - Need for shift increase with test temperature.
 - » IDT Dynamic modulus is highly sensitive to binder properties and aggregate orientation at elevated temperatures

Temperature, °C	Comparison	Average Correction	Correction Range	
			Minimum	Maximum
-10	Design (LL)/Production (PL)	1.0	0.8	1.1
	Design (LL)/Construction (PF)	1.0	0.9	1.3
	Production (PL)/Construction (PF)	1.1	0.9	1.4
10	Design (LL)/Production (PL)	0.9	0.8	1.1
	Design (LL)/Construction (PF)	1.2	0.8	1.5
	Production (PL)/Construction (PF)	1.3	0.9	1.7
35	Design (LL)/Production (PL)	1.0	0.6	1.4
	Design (LL)/Construction (PF)	1.4	0.9	2.1
	Production (PL)/Construction (PF)	1.5	0.8	2.2

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Mechanistic Properties Comparison Use of Shift Factor – IDT Modulus

- Apply shift factor
- PF to LL

Dynamic Modulus, PSI

Reduced Frequency, Hz

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Mechanistic Properties Comparison Use of Shift Factor – IDT Modulus

- Apply shift factor
- PF to LL

Dynamic Modulus, PSI

Reduced Frequency, Hz

Difference can be reduced with shift factor

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Mechanistic Properties Comparison Use of Shift Factor – IDT Modulus

- Apply shift factor
- PF to LL

Dynamic Modulus, PSI

Reduced Frequency, Hz

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Implementation Recommendations

- Design Recommendations
 - Introduce baghouse fines into laboratory produced mixtures

```

    graph TD
      A[Baghouse fines returned during production?] -- Yes --> B[Determine quantity returned]
      B -- "0.5 - 3%" --> C["Pepper" Laboratory Mixture with appropriate baghouse material]
    
```

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Implementation Recommendations

- Performance Based Specification
 - LWT – Consider shift factors when evaluating expected rut depth of field compacted specimens

Comparison	Conversion
Design (LL) / Production (PL)	1.0
Design (LL) / Construction (PF)	0.75
Production (PL) / Construction (PF)	0.75

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Implementation Recommendations

- Design Recommendations
 - Axial Dynamic Modulus – Consider shift factors when evaluating expected modulus values
 - May be important for performance prediction and pavement design

Comparison	Temperature, °C	Conversion
Design (LL) / Production (PL)	-10.0	1.0
	4.4	1.0
	25.0	0.9
	37.8	0.8
	54.4	0.8

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Implementation Recommendations

- Design Recommendations
 - Axial Dynamic Modulus** – Consider shift factors when evaluating expected modulus values
 - May be important for **performance prediction and pavement design**

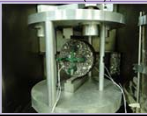
Comparison	Temperature, °C	Conversion
Design (LL)/ Production (PL)	-10.0	1.0
	4.4	1.0
	25.0	0.9
	37.8	0.8
	54.4	0.8

PL modulus 20% higher than LL at high temperature

Implementation Recommendations

- Design Recommendations
 - Indirect Tension Dynamic Modulus** – Consider shift factors when evaluating expected modulus values

Temperature, °C	Comparison	Average Correction	Correction Range	
			Minimum	Maximum
-10	Design (LL)/Production (PL)	1.0	0.8	1.1
	Design (LL)/Construction (PF)	1.0	0.9	1.3
	Production (PL)/Construction (PF)	1.1	0.9	1.4
10	Design (LL)/Production (PL)	0.9	0.8	1.1
	Design (LL)/Construction (PF)	1.2	0.8	1.5
	Production (PL)/Construction (PF)	1.3	0.9	1.7
35	Design (LL)/Production (PL)	1.0	0.6	1.4
	Design (LL)/Construction (PF)	1.4	0.9	2.1
	Production (PL)/Construction (PF)	1.5	0.8	2.2



Implementation Recommendations

- Design Recommendations
 - Indirect vs Axial Dynamic Modulus**
 - May be used to predict field core modulus from laboratory tested material

IDT vs. Axial	Conversion
Low Temperature Comparison, -10°C	0.81
Intermediate Temperature Comparison, 10°C	0.75
High Temperature Comparison, 25 - 35°C	0.90

