



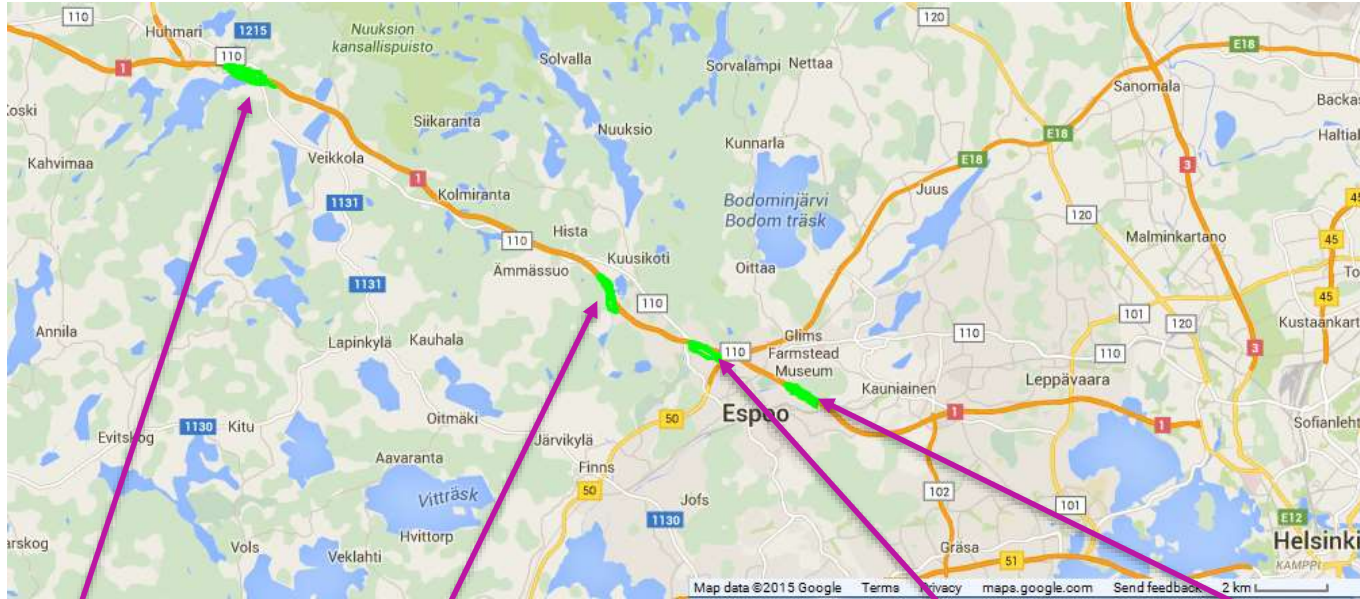
Aalto University
School of Engineering

REMIX - first results

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Maintenance on Highway No. 1 in 2013

- a unique opportunity to study triple recycling



HIPR
Cycle 1

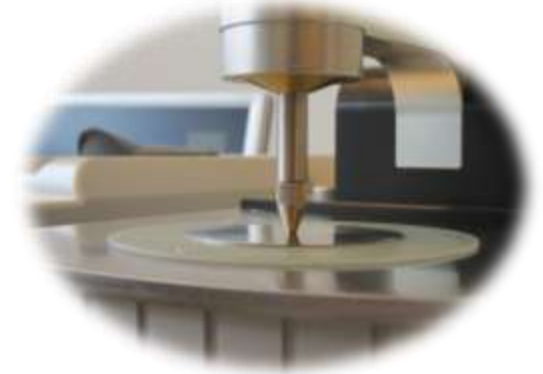
HIPR/HIPR
Cycle 2

HIPR/HIPR/HIPR
Cycle 3

HIPR
Cycle 1'

Identification of risk (construction site and laboratory works)

- **Bleeding problem**
- **Correct aggregate gradation?**
- **Rejuvenator amount and type?**
- **Addmixture amount and gradation**
 - Cannot be outside of real asphalt
 - Bridges, spots where 100% of admixture
- **Bitumen extraction**





Performance (a.k.a. rutting)

Visual evaluation

| | Area1 | Area2 | Area3 | Area4 |
|------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Before REM'13 | Cracked (TC=15 m) | Ravelling Segregation | Good | Cracked (TC=60 m) |
| After REM'13 | Bleeding | Bleeding | Bleeding | High air voids esp. joint porosity |
| 2years after REM'13 | Good, but segregation- like spots | Bleeding, Ravelling, cracking | Good condition, slight ravelling on the joint | Bleeding, high rutting, joint porosity |

Cycle 1

Cycle 2

Cycle 3

Cycle 1



AREA 1

Area 2

Before

2015

Area 3

Before



2015



Area 4

Before



2015



What do we know about VT1?

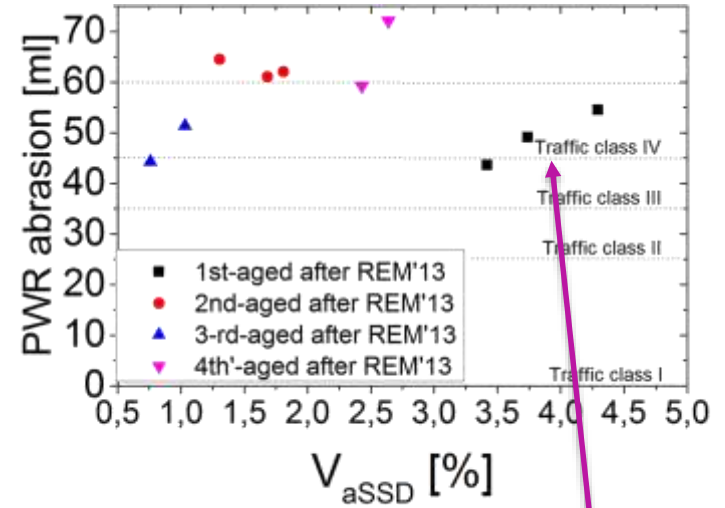
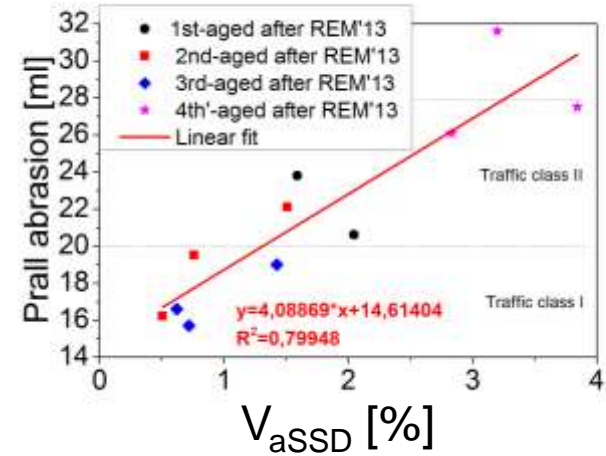
| | Area1 (Cycle 1) | Area 2 (Cycle 2) | Area 3 (Cycle 3) | Area 4 (Cycle 1') |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Rut* before HIPR'13 | 10.4 | 10.5 | 10.4 | 9.8 |
| Rut* after HIPR'13 | 1.7 | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.9 |
| Rut* 2015 | 5.1 | 6.8 | 7.2 (6.2-8.2→10.6) | 8.8 |
| Rejuvenator used | 190 g/m ² | 150 g/m ² | 150 g/m ² | 80 g/m ² |
| Pen before | 25 | 21 | 35 | 33 |
| Pen After | 33 ↑ | 28 ↑ | 32 ↓ | 28 ↓ |
| Type of filler | limestone | limestone fly ash | limestone fly ash | fly ash |
| Annual Daily Traffic | 36926 | 42604 | 42604 | 54652 |

Dominant rutting type can be established from cross section analysis



Area 4
- assumed abrasion

Abrasion increases with air void content



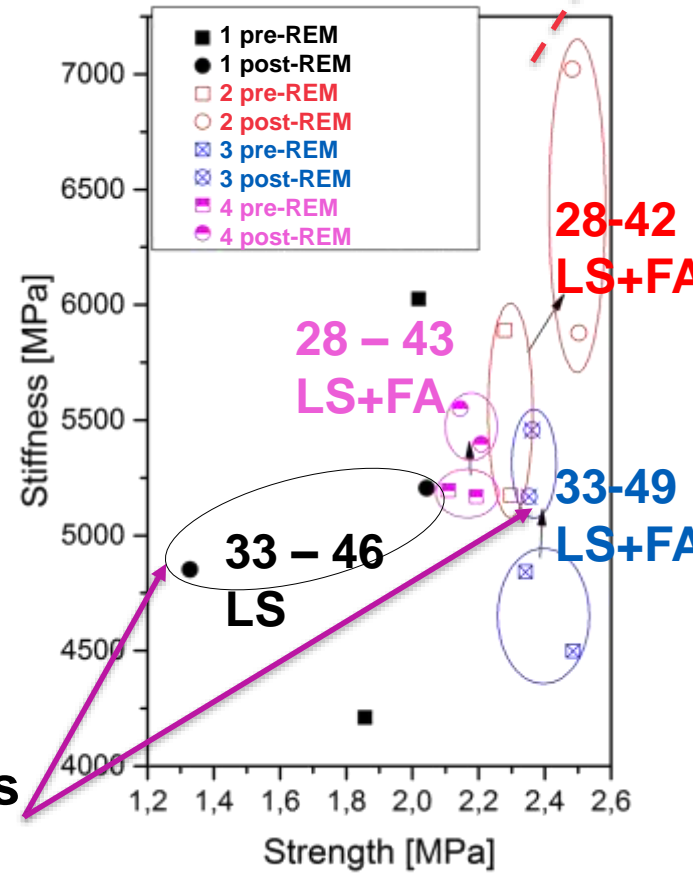
Stiffer more elastic bitumen could be a reason for a higher cracking, ravelling and abrasion

Low permanent deformation
High fatigue and cracking

Penetration after REM → **28 – 48** ← Phase angle at 20°C

LS- Limestone
FA- fly ash
Phase angle:
Elastic <45< viscous

Least rutted areas
(SRK, ura syvys)



If we used the same aggregate – bitumen is the reason

But: We had different aggregate and bitumen stiffness

Mixture analysis in the context of bleeding

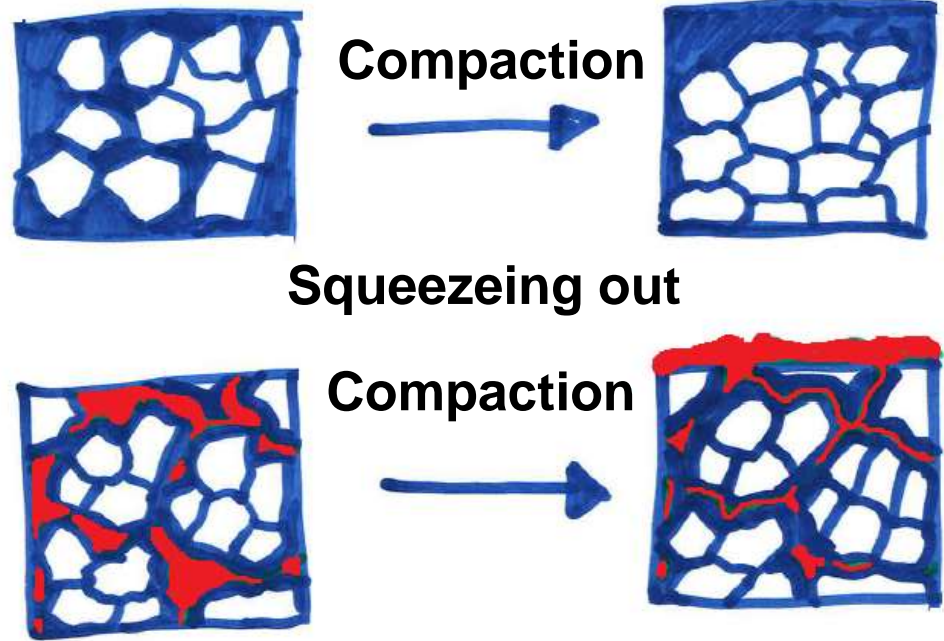
Bleeding in asphalt concrete

1. Excessive asphalt binder

2. Too low air voids

→ voids overfilled with bitumen

3. Non-uniform heating of the RAP before application of rejuvenator (RAP clusters)



What are the basics?

Finest, but sufficient bitumen

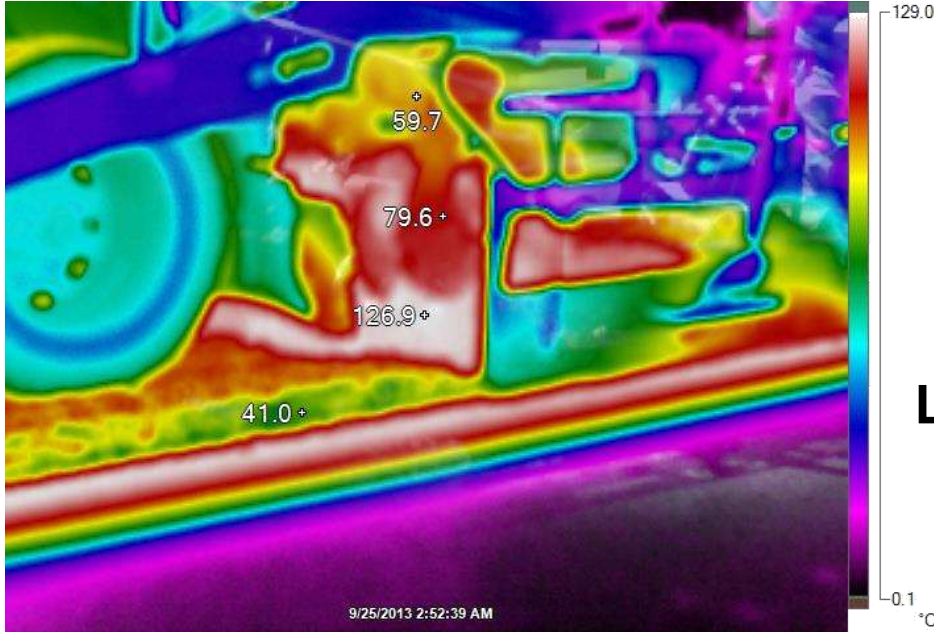
| | Area 1 before | Area 1 after | Area 2 before | Area 2 after | Area 3 before | Area 3 after | Area 4 before | Area 4 after |
|--|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Fines passing 0,125 mm [%] | 14,4 | 14,5 | 14,5 | 14,4 | 15,7 | 17,1 | 15,9 | 14,2 |
| V _{aSSD} | 2,5 | 2,9 | 1,4 | 1,2 | 0,7 | 1 | 0,6 | 2,8 |
| V _{aDIM} | 5,2 | 8,8 | 5,3 | 6,2 | 1,6 | 5,3 | 1,2 | 7,6 |
| SA ^{fines} [m ² /g] | 1,27 | 1,17 | 1,24 | 1,3 | 0,98 | 1,14 | 1,11 | 1,12 |
| P _b [%] | 5,9 | 6 | 6,2 | 6,1 | 6,6 | 6,6 | 6,3 | 5,9 |
| P _b /Fine area [g/m ²] | 0,32 | 0,35 | 0,34 | 0,33 | 0,42 | 0,34 | 0,35 | 0,37 |
| Density of fines [g/cm ³] | 2,67 | 2,69 | 2,57 | 2,6 | 2,6 | 2,6 | 2,4 | 2,5 |
| Volume of filler [%] | 48,37 | 47,94 | 48,26 | 48,20 | 48,39 | 50,53 | 51,87 | 49,67 |

?

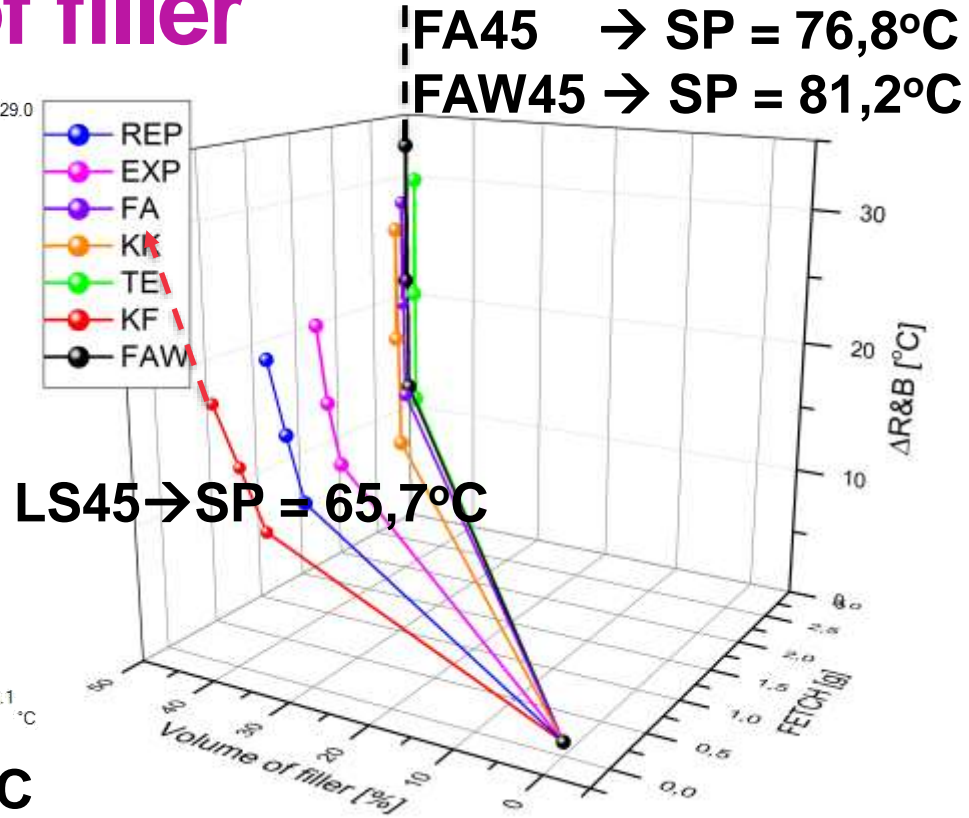
Most bleeding

11% more but P_b lowest, least fines, (stiffest mastic)

Mastic stiffening depends on Type and Amount of filler

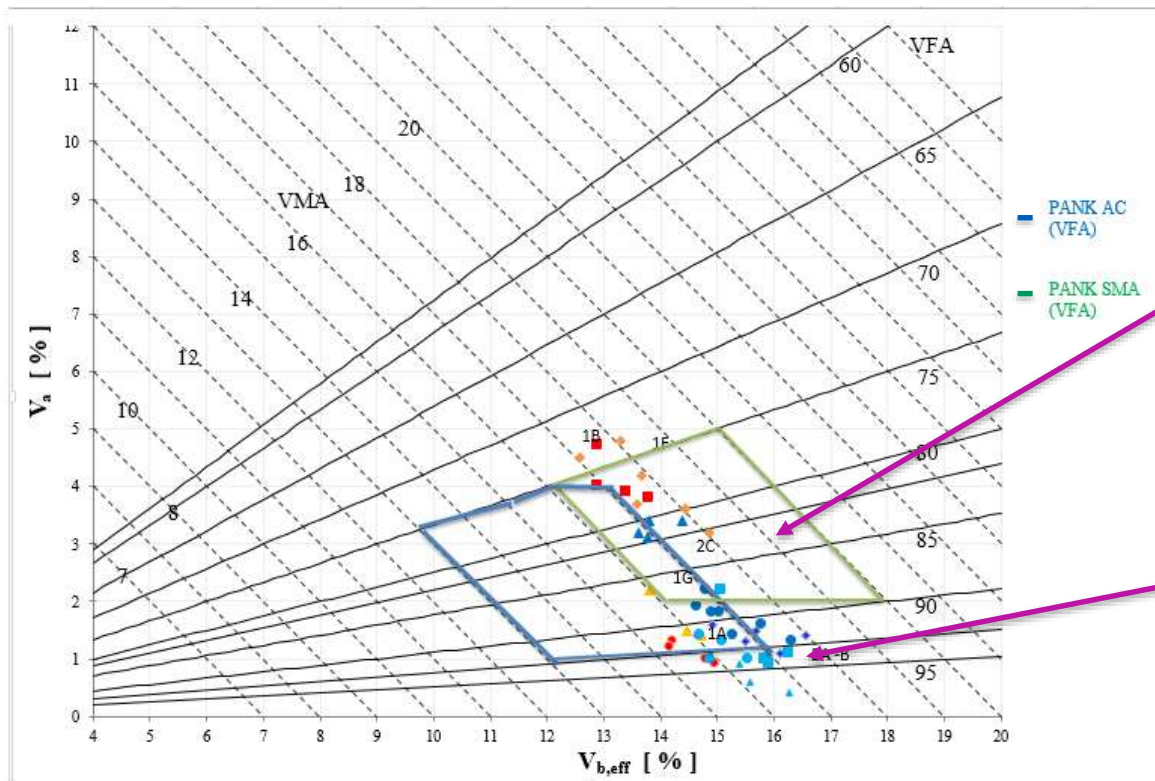


Surface under removed layer is 41°C



Segregation was implied by the results, but more apparent was overfilling of voids filled with bitumen (VFA)

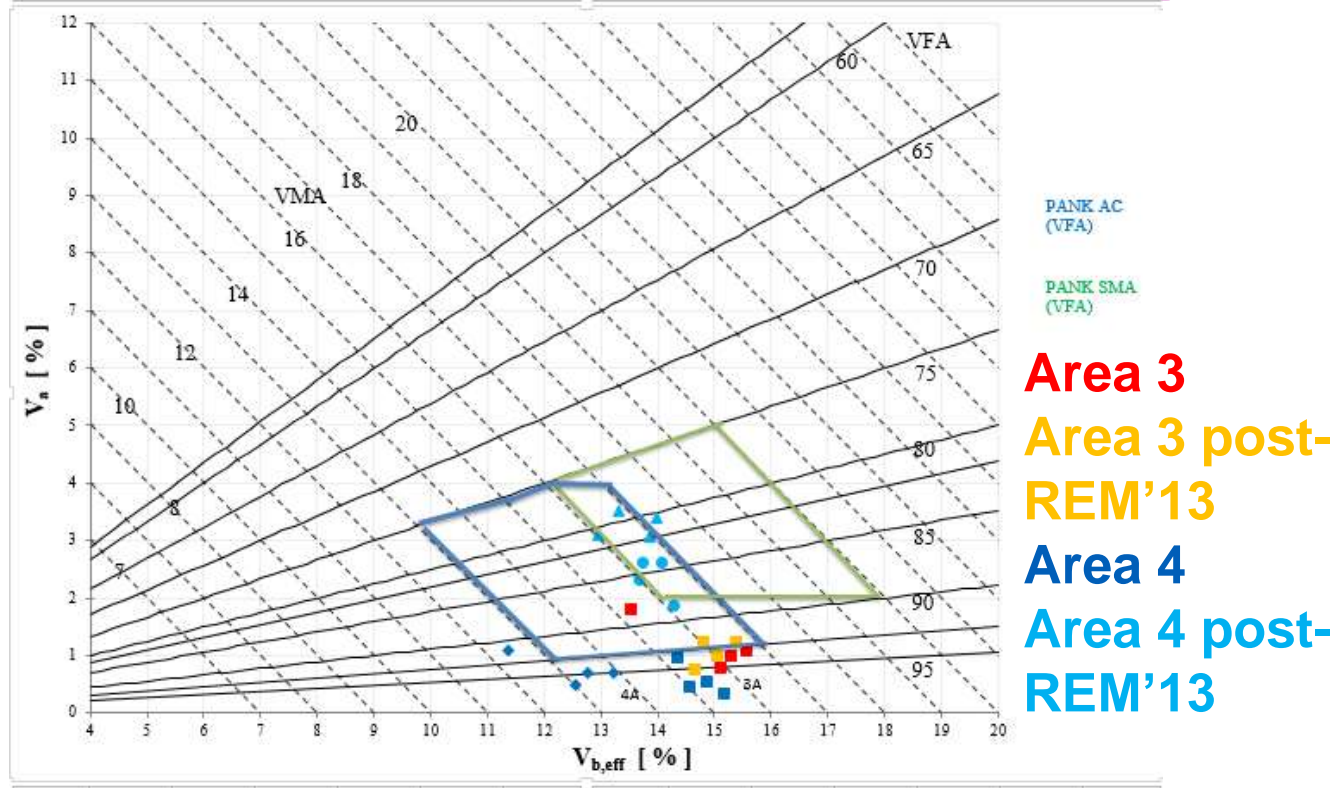
- Area 1
- Area 1 post-REM'13
- Area 2
- Area 2 post-REM'13



Some inside allowed range

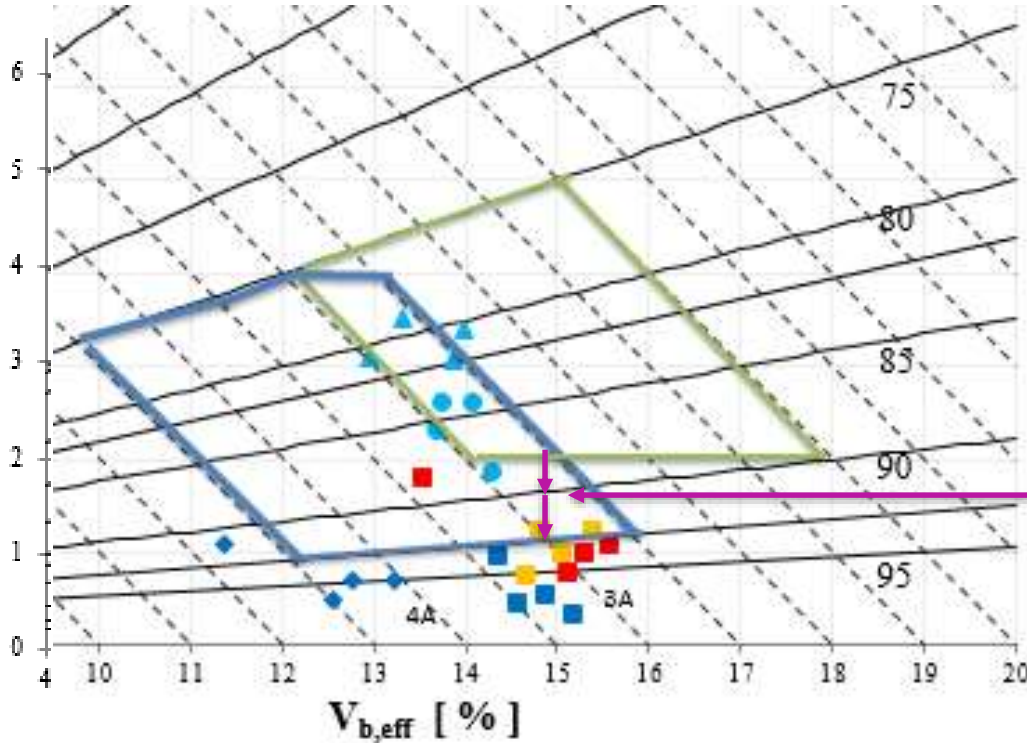
Outside and overfilled (post-REM'13 Area 2)

In Area 3 and 4 the voids were overfilled to start with and most likely this led to bleeding



Reducing rejuvenator springs it back to the window but doesn't recover bitumen properties

Comparison with the past studies



**Are we overfilling voids
in third REM?**

**Change between REM1,
REM2 and laboratory
REM3 in previous
research
→ High initial rut depth**

Bitumen - Straight run

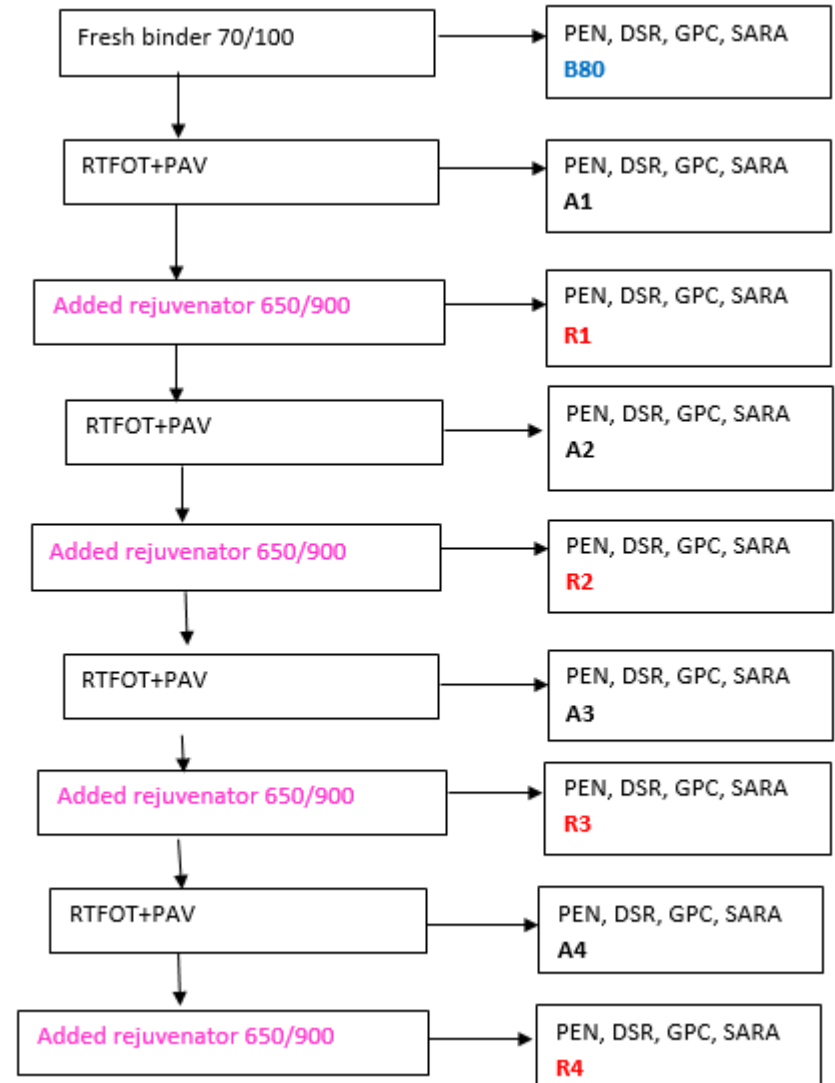


What was done?

- Laboratory studies in **Nynas Oy** laboratories (Finland) – straight run bitumen
 - *Rejuvenation and aging simulation*
- Laboratory analysis of field bitumens in **Nynas AB** (Sweden)
 - *Bitumen solubility in context of rejuvenator*
- Laboratory analysis of field bitumens in **Aalto University** laboratories
 - *Rheology and SARA fractions*

Multiple Aging Laboratory Simulation by Nynas Oy laboratories

“Laboratory simulation of bitumen aging and rejuvenation to mimic multiple cycles of reuse”, Blomberg T., Makowska M., Pellinen T., Transportation Research Arena 2016, Warsaw, Poland



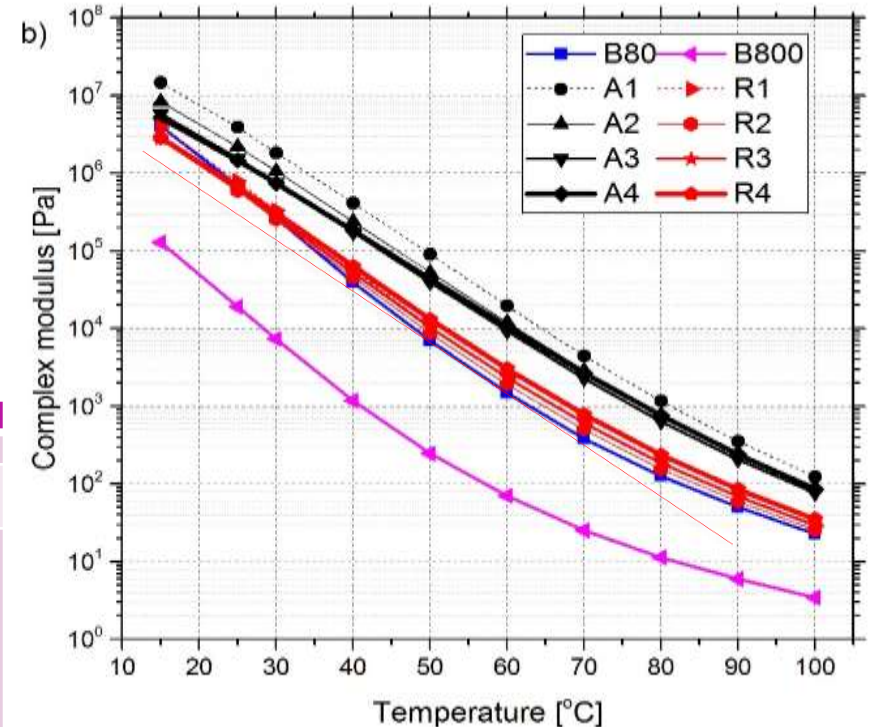
Chosen optimisation method

For the calculation of the amount of rejuvenator used:

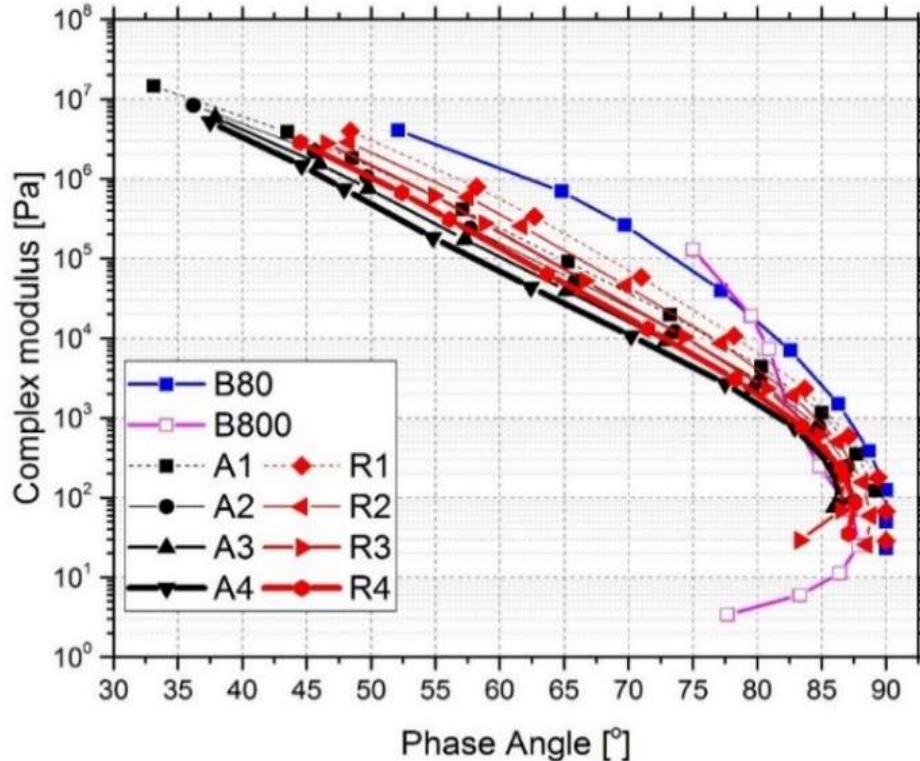
- By Penetration value
- Back to properties of fresh 70/100

$$\log G_{blend}^* = a_1 * \log G_{aged}^* + b_1 * \log G_{rejuv}^*$$

| | | R1 | R2 | R3 | R4 |
|---|---|------|------|------|-------------|
| B800 addition (executed) | | | | | |
| Recipe used based on Pen 25°C ¹⁾ | % | 33 | 28,5 | 23 | 21 |
| B800 addition (simulated) | | | | | |
| Recipe based on G* at 15°C ²⁾ | % | 27,1 | 17,5 | 9,7 | 6,7 |
| Recipe based on G* at 30°C ²⁾ | % | 34,4 | 27,6 | 22,7 | 22,5 |
| Recipe based on G* at 60°C ²⁾ | % | 45,7 | 40,6 | 37,5 | <u>39,2</u> |

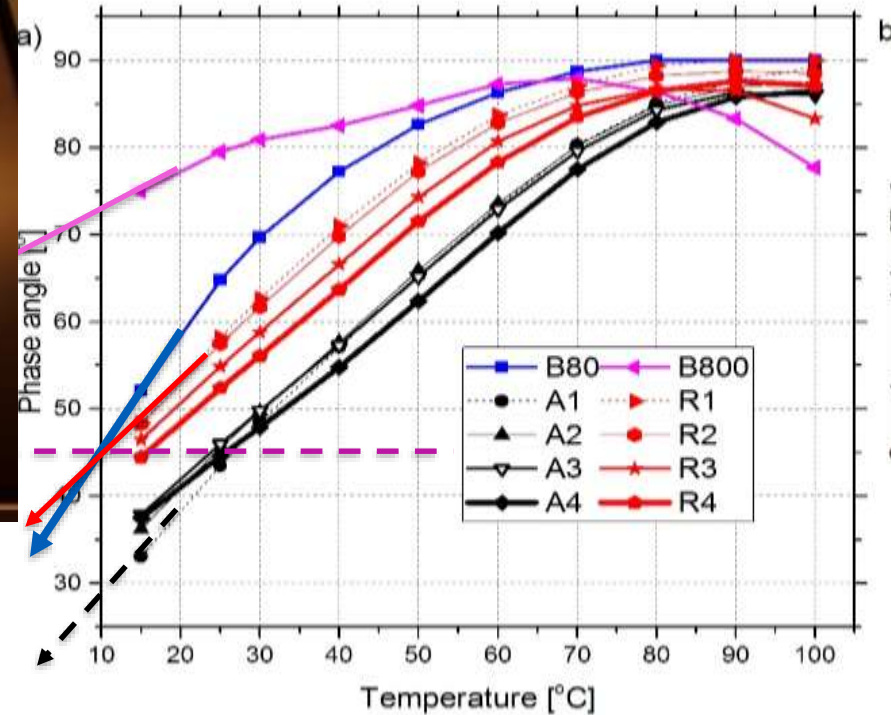
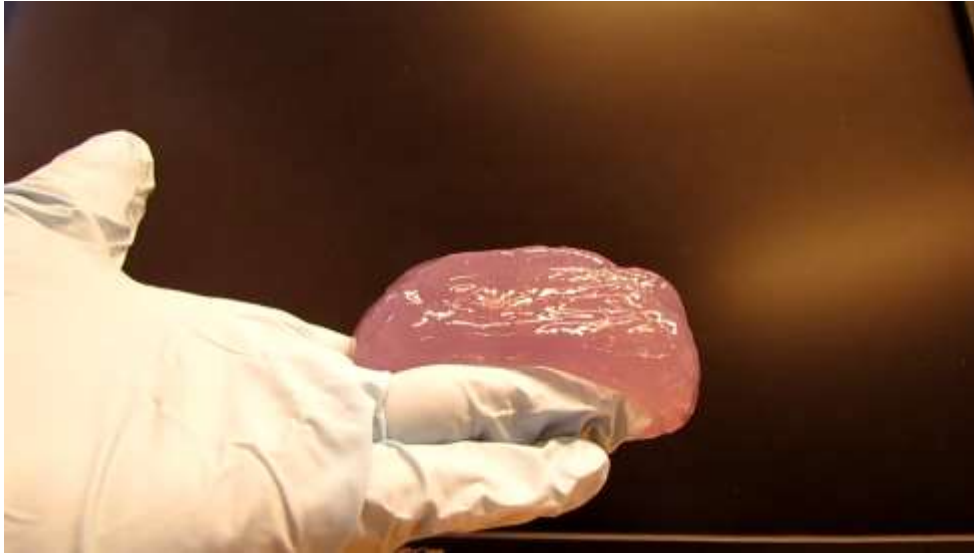


The shape of the master curve flattens but is partially recovered



R4 is similar to A2

The phase angle did not recover completely



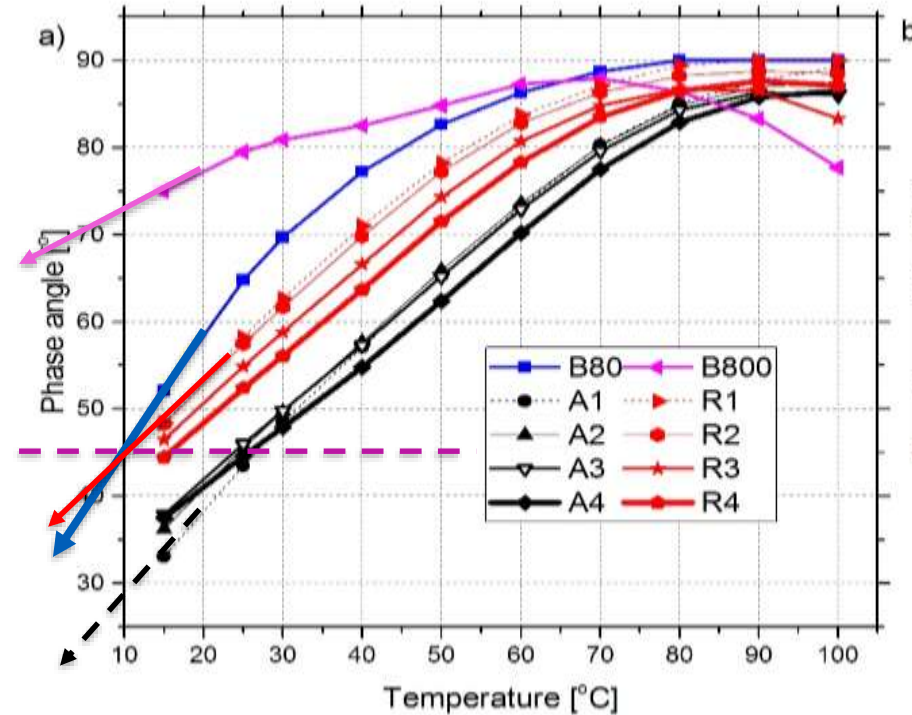
The phase angle did not recover completely

Crucial aspects of REMIX:

-rejuvenation

-recovering phase angle

Softer rejuvenator could perhaps aid phase angle recovery?



Rejuvenator

-solubility studies executed in Nynashamn

Finnish rejuvenator studies up to date suggest that soft bitumen 650/900 is the best rejuvenator for this process (abrassion)

- Other tested materials up to date: tall oil, heavy oil, bitumen emulsions, V1500, V3000
- Studies from 1990's – **these products no longer exist (but bitumen)**
- Can we determine initial rejuvenator definition before expensive road evaluations?

Can the evergreen rejuvenation rules be defined with Hansen Solubility Parameters



Bitumen
+ ethanol

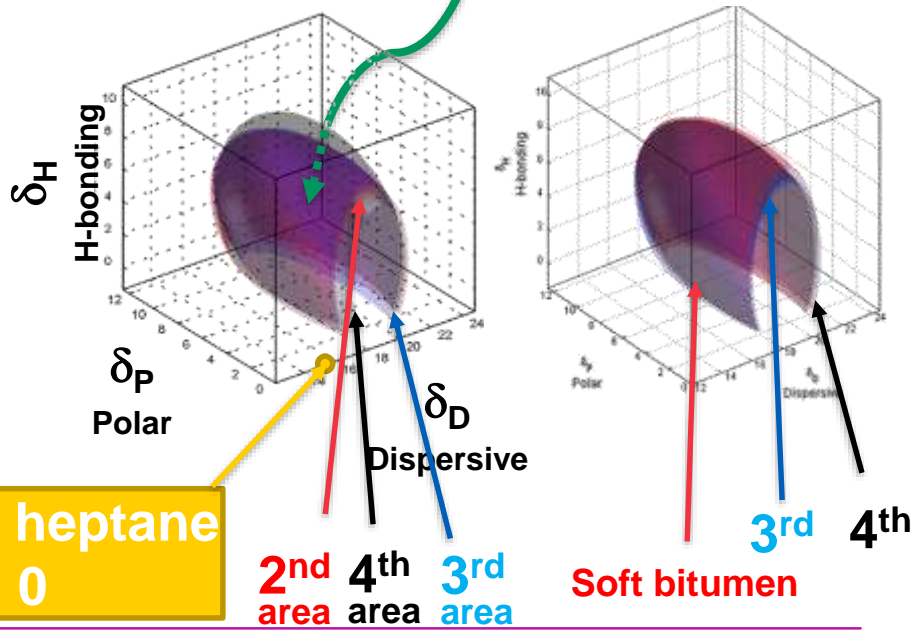
Bitumen
+ heptane

Bitumen
+ chloroform

HSP of ethanol
15.8, 8.8, 19.4

HSP of chloroform
17.8, 3.1, 5.7

HSP of heptane
15.3, 0, 0



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Rejuvenator – extension of the continuum of molecules
– HSP within the HSP of bitumen

Bitumen - field samples

Without fixing mistakes of field bitumen extraction... optimization is useless



FT-IR with ATR (Attenuated Total Reflectance) as a quality control and research tool

- **No need for separate sample preparation**
- **48 seconds per measurement**
- **Bitumen quality after extraction**
 - Presence of filler
 - Presence of solvent
 - Presence of impurities (e.g. paint)
- **Composition of filler (presence of limestone/hydrated lime)**

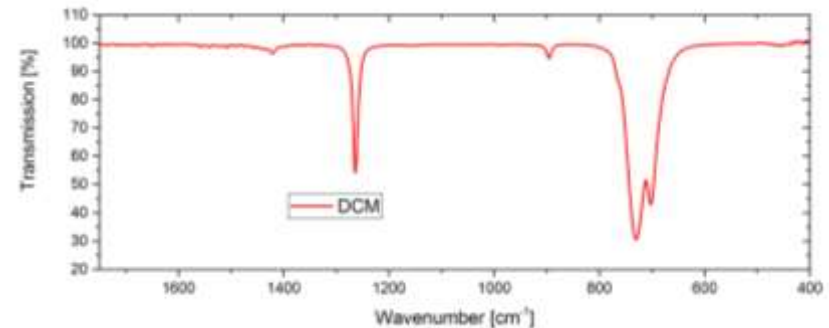
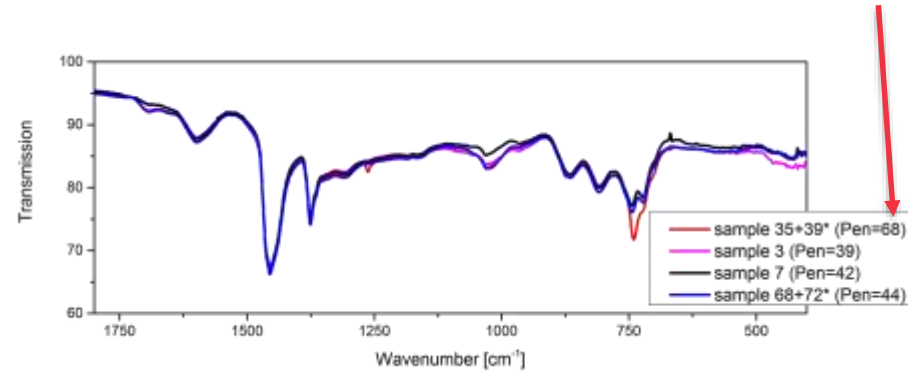


Bitumen extraction – presence of solvent → softening

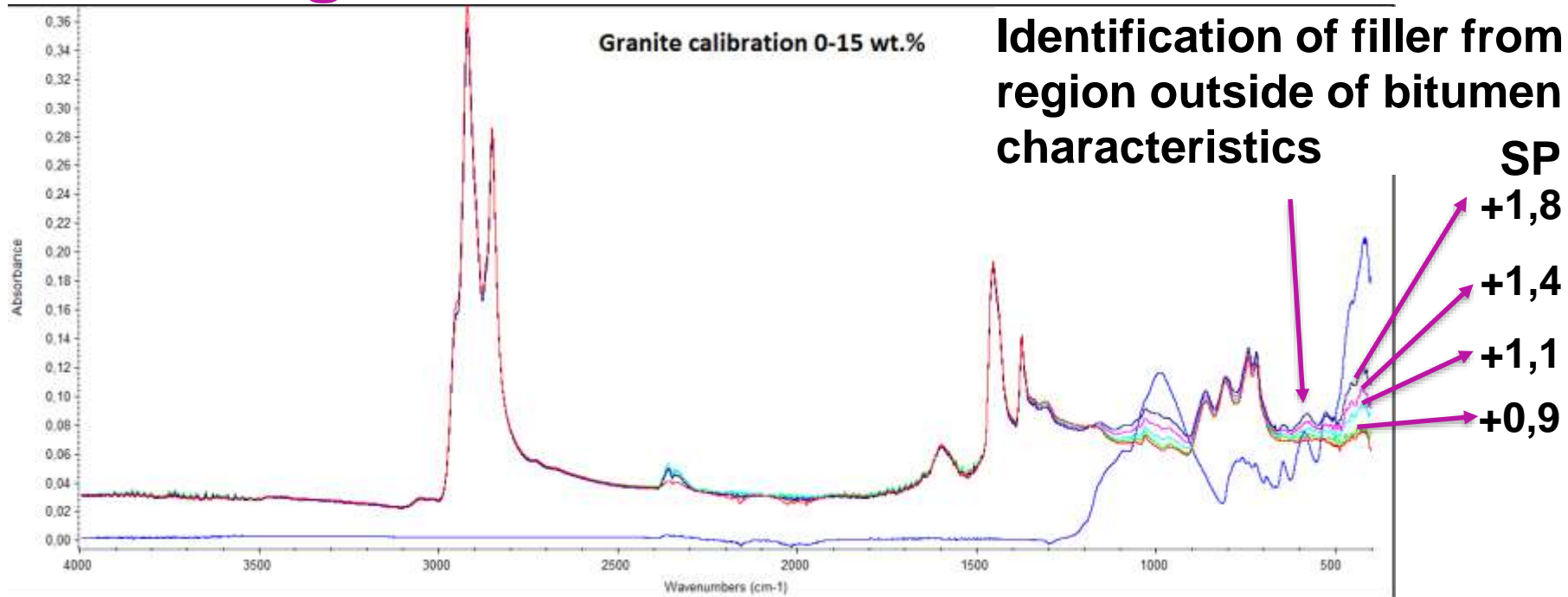
DCM peaks are visible in extracted bitumens

- This is **not only** Aalto's problem
- This is **not only** Finland's problem

Optimising for Pen value without checking DCM may result in errors and construction failures



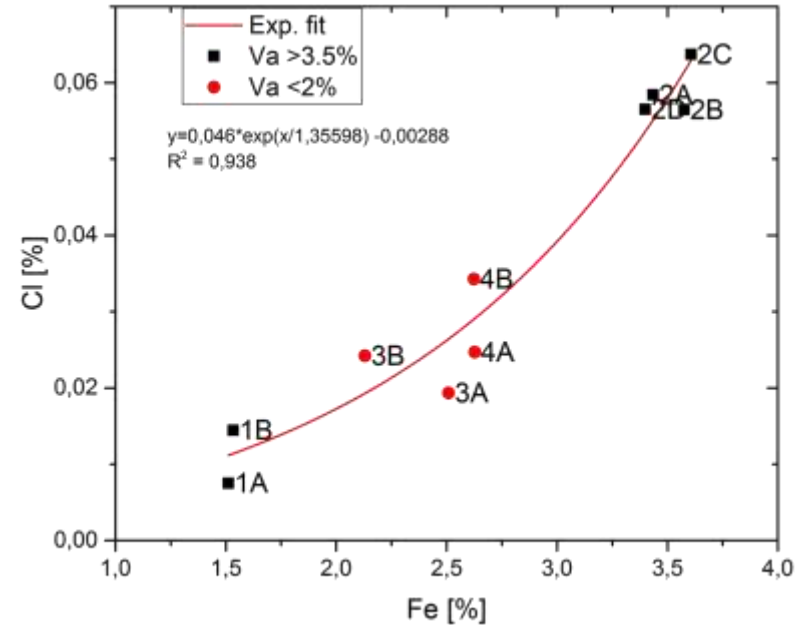
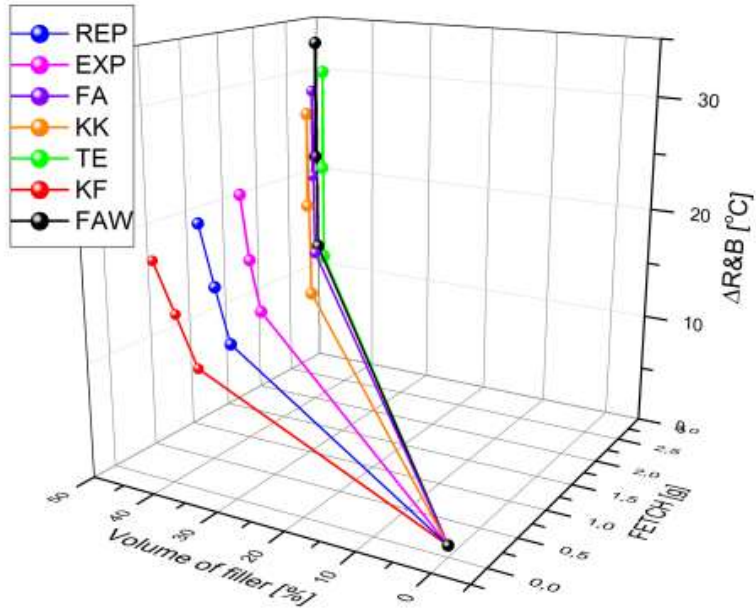
Bitumen extraction – presence of fines → hardening



The more fines in sample the higher possible fine transfer

Aging over aggregate and salts

The effect of mineralogy on the life cycle of the asphalt concrete?



More iron = more stiffening

More iron = more chloride accumulation

Upon heating a thin film at 163°C carbonyl and sulfoxyl groups are introduced into bitumen =chemical aging

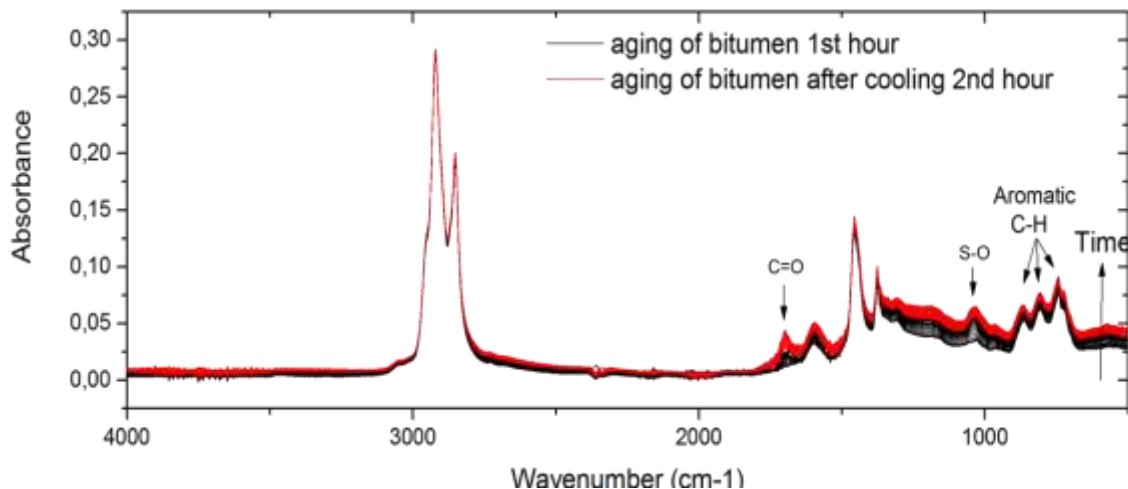
Experiment:

60 minutes – spectra collected every 4 min.

Cool down 20 min.

Reheat

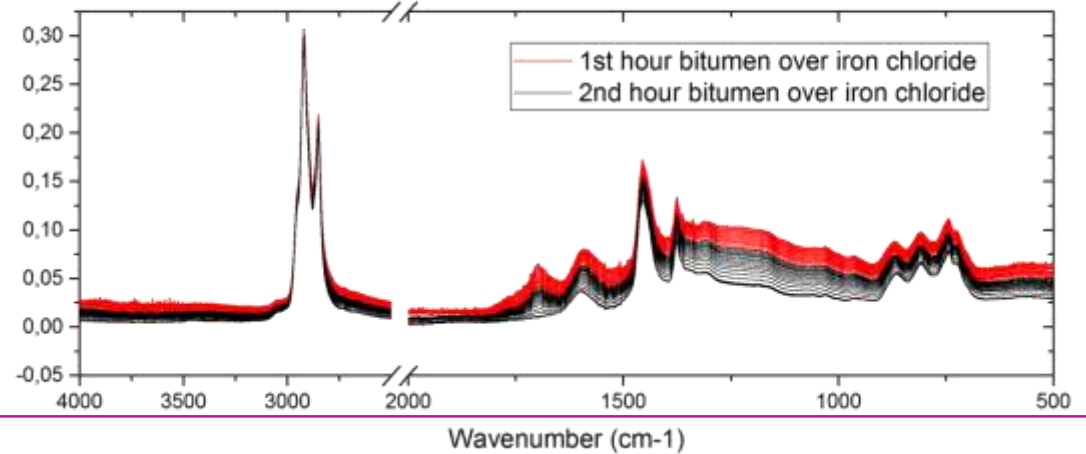
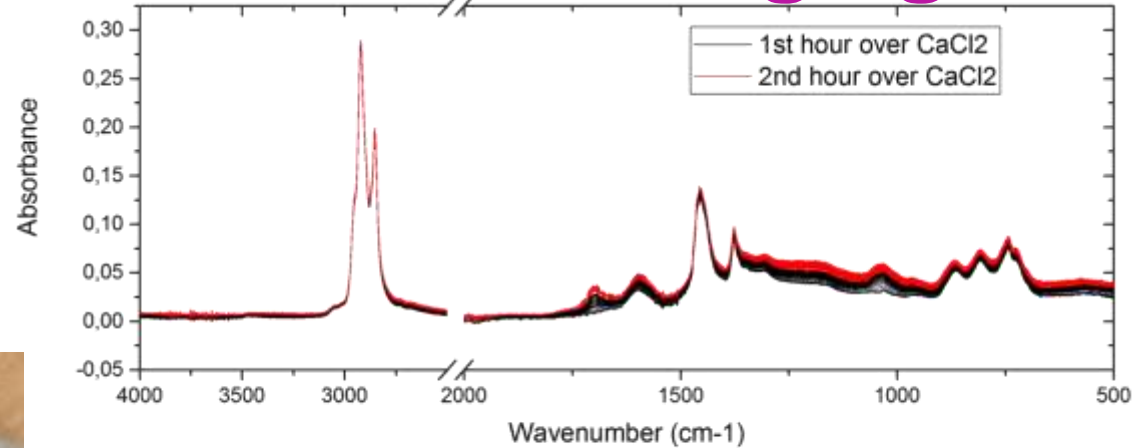
60 minutes – spectra collected every 4 min.



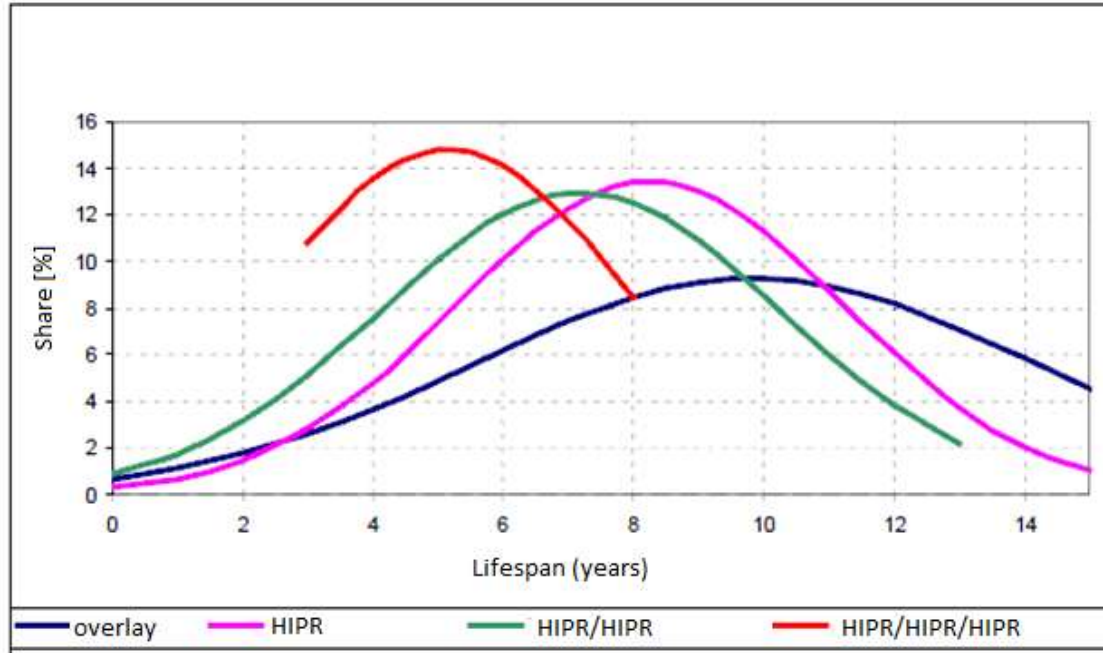
Analogy: Methan turns into mthanol upon "aging"

The chlorides induced faster aging

FeCl_3 is a known catalyst of air blowing of bitumen



A proof was found that heating bitumen over corroded aggregate can speed the aging



Accumulation of chlorides is a function of :

- **substrate availability** (iron presence, iron reactivity),
- **air voids** (penetration of moisture into the pavement)
- **time**

Conclusions

What we have learnt in this project?

- **Rejuvenation is crucial in recycling**
 - Extends the good performance period of the road
- **Bleeding is inhibiting the use of rejuvenators and bleeding as a problem should be dealt with**
 - Voids Filled with Bitumen (VFA) should be monitored and perhaps the information about them stored
 - Addmixture engineering as a potential mitigator of the problem
 - Control of the uniform heating during the process
- **Most bleeding observed from supposedly stiffest mastic and lowest P_b → explained by P_b/SA ratio**

What we have learnt in this project?

- **Rejuvenation is crucial in recycling**
 - First definition of rejuvenator was provided
 - Same HSP as bitumen and ability to restore phase angle
- **The optimization procedure of rejuvenation in Finland should be decided**
 - Are we aiming at low temperatures, high temperatures, intermediate temperatures, RTFOT values or straight run bitumen
- **For the optimization we need an engineering input from recovered bitumen**
 - quality control of the recovery process needs to increase!

What we have learnt in this project?

- **Rutting – abrasion by studded tires – may be a function of aggregate **and** bitumen**
- **Filler type and amount influence stiffness of the mastic**
 - Mastic stiffness → melting point of asphalt → homogenous mixing of the RAP in REMIX → Bleeding
- **Iron rich aggregates have tendency to**
 - Stiffen the mastic more
 - Corrode due to the deicing chemical action
 - *Resulting impurity may be **toxic** for bitumen during REMIX*
 - *Addmixture should aim at diluting the iron levels*

Project status and plans

Status

- Almost all analysis is done for cores on VT1
- Moving into RAP studies
- Cores collected from VT4 (MPKJ → REM)
- Cores collected from Kt52 (AB → REM)
- Analysis of data and dissemination

Plans

- Participation in some works during next paving season (heating, quality control)
- Heating studies

Questionnaire

The goal is to improve the success rate by improving knowledge about the material

1. Preparation of the tender [P]
2. Samples are collected [P] (Normal amount + 1)
3. Typical analysis (Penetration, gradation and air voids) [P]
4. Quality control (FT-IR of bitumen and fines) [A]
5. Additional analysis (VFA, DSR, melting) [upon agreement]
6. Survey with "supportive questions" [P]
7. Evaluation of the applied additional methods [P + A]

[P] – participant

[A] – Aalto



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Thank you