



## About the Presenter



- **Steve Karamihas** is a senior research associate at the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI).
- Steve is a co-author of the Little Book of Profiling.
- Steve has conducted research related to vehicle dynamics, road profile measurement, and road profile interpretation for 30 years.
- Steve has a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from the University of Michigan.
- Steve is somewhat older than the photo to the right might imply.



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## About the Presenter



- **Jerod Gross** is a Senior Project Manager at Snyder and Associates, Inc.,
- Jerod has provided concrete pavement design, analysis and technical training for the CP Tech Center.
- He has completed research and guidance documents for cement stabilized subgrade soils, concrete trails, concrete overlays and subbase/subgrade foundation performance.
- He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Iowa State University and is a LEED Accredited Professional.
- Jerod now has less hair than what is shown.



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# Maintaining Smoothness

Jerod Gross, CP Tech Center and Steve Karamihas, University of Michigan

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Institute for Transportation

National Concrete Pavement  
Technology Center



## Maintaining Smoothness

### Discussion Items

- Background
- Literature Search
- State of Practice
- IRI Data

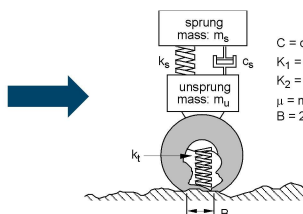
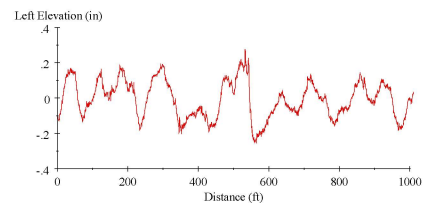
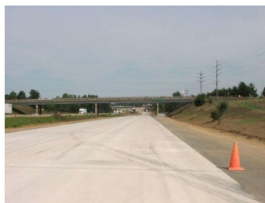
## Maintaining Smoothness: Background

### Topic Areas

- Profile Measurement
- International Roughness Index
- Measurement Issues
  - Texture
  - Curl and Warp
- Areas of Localized Roughness (ALR)

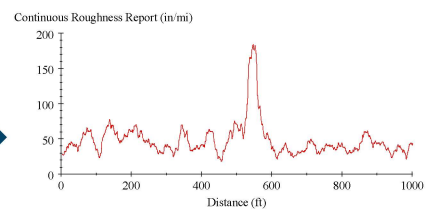
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## Profile Measurement



$$\begin{aligned}
 C &= c_s/m_s = 6.0 \text{ sec}^{-1} \\
 K_1 &= k_s/m_s = 653 \text{ sec}^{-2} \\
 K_2 &= k_t/m_s = 63.3 \text{ sec}^{-2} \\
 \mu &= m_u/m_s = 0.15 \\
 B &= 250 \text{ mm}
 \end{aligned}$$

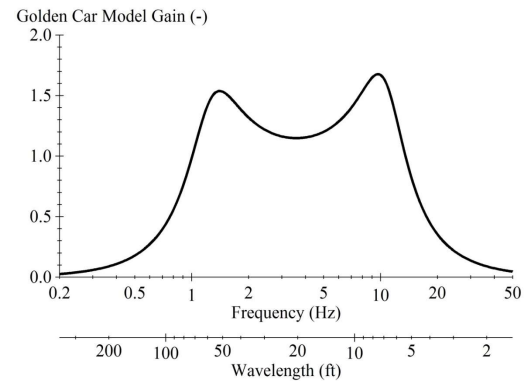
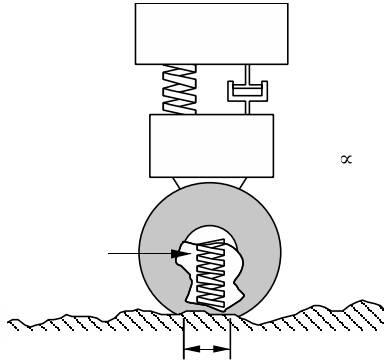
IRI



**Smoothness QA/QC:** "Measuring and Specifying Pavement Smoothness." *Tech Brief FHWA-HIF-16-032* (2016) 12 p.  
**Real-Time Smoothness:** <https://cptechcenter.org/real-time-smoothness/>

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## International Roughness Index (IRI)



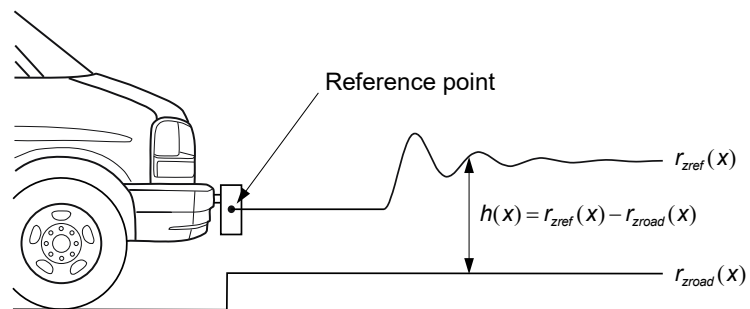
**Basics:** Sayers, M.W. and Karamihas, S.M. *The Little Book of Profiling*. University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (1998) 100 p.

**Algorithm:** Sayers, M.W., "On the Calculation of International Roughness Index from Longitudinal Road Profile." *Transportation Research Record 1501* (1995) pp. 1-12.

**Generality:** Karamihas, S.M., Gilbert, M.E., Barnes, M.A., and Perera, R.W., "Measuring, Characterizing, and Reporting Pavement Roughness of Low-Speed and Urban Roads." *National Cooperative Highway Research Program Report 914* (2019) 84 p. (See pages 59-61.)

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## Inertial Profiler Measurement Principle



$$r_{zroad}(x) = r_{zref}(x) - (r_{zref}(x) - r_{zroad}(x))$$

**Schematic Resembles:** Huft, D. L., "South Dakota Profilometer." *Transportation Research Record 1000* (1984) p. 1-8.

**Basics:** Sayers, M.W. and Karamihas, S.M. *The Little Book of Profiling*. University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (1998) 100 p.

**Pertinent Reference List:** Karamihas, S.M., *Improvement of Inertial Profiler Measurements of Urban and Low-Speed Roadways*. Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Michigan (2021) 214 p.

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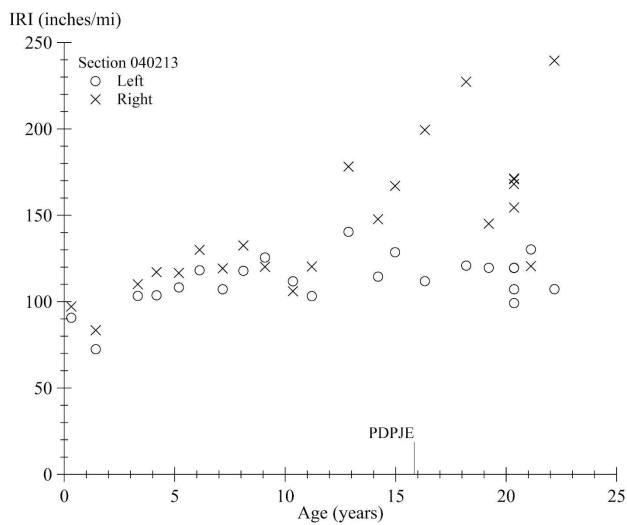
## Measurement Issues: Texture



**Start Here, Follow the Reference Chain:** Perera, R.W. and Karamihas, S.M., "Study for Establishing Regional Certification Centers for Inertial Profilers." Federal Highway Administration (2014).

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## Measurement Issues: Curl and Warp



LTPP Section 040213  
 Arizona SPS-2 section  
 Jointed plain PCC  
 15-ft joint spacing  
 lower flexural strength (550 ksi)  
 lower slab thickness (8 inches)  
 dense graded aggregate base

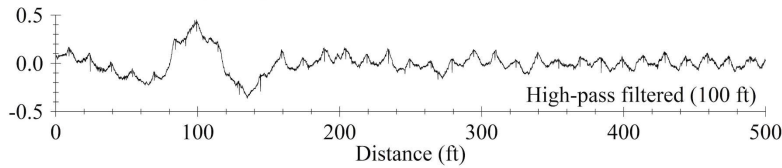
PDPJE – partial depth patching at joints and elsewhere

**Source:** Karamihas, S.M., Punnaackal, T., Dufalla, N, and Senn, K., "Advancing Profile-Based Curl- and Warp Analysis Using LTPP Profile Data." *Federal Highway Administration Report FHWA-HRT-20-066* (2020) 485 p.

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## Measurement Issues: Curl and Warp

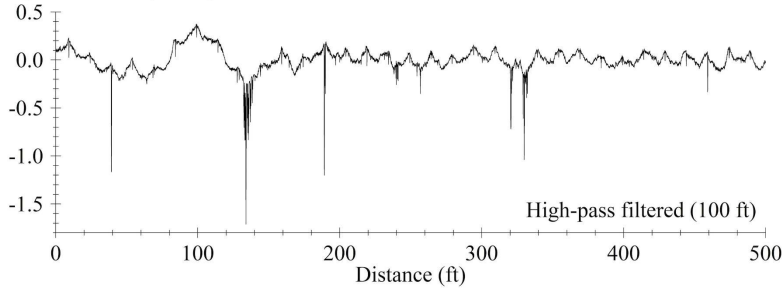
Left Elevation Profile (inches)



LTPP Section 040213  
14.3 years after construction

Left IRI: 114 in/mi  
Right IRI: 145 in/mi

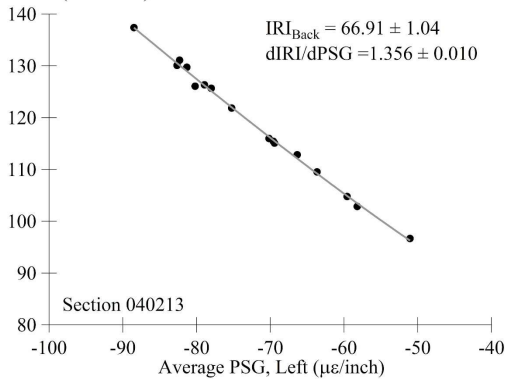
Right Elevation (inches)



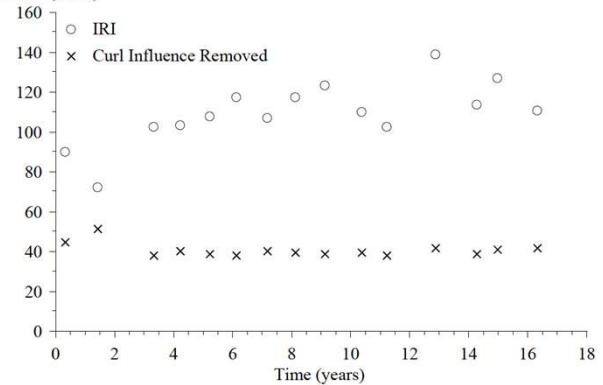
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## Measurement Issues: Curl and Warp

Left IRI (inches/mi)



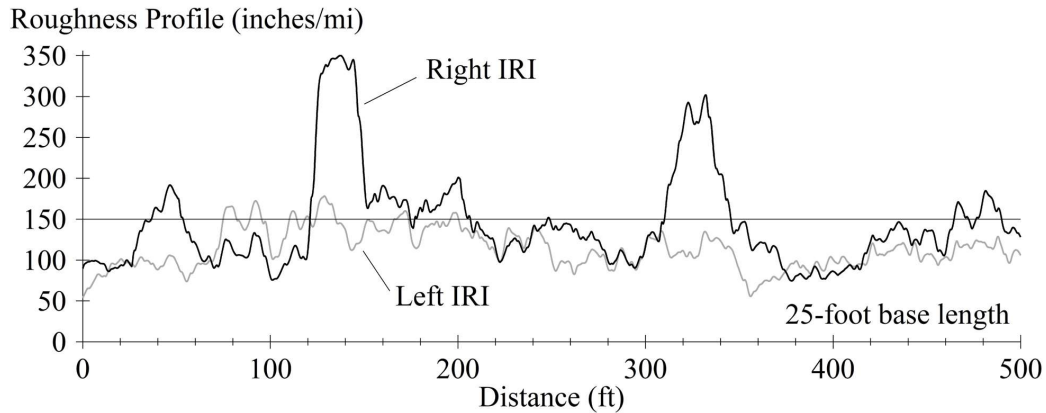
Left IRI (in/mi)



**Cyclic Roughness Data Source:** Chang, G.K., et al. *Impact of Temperature Curling and Moisture Warping on Jointed Concrete Pavement Performance. Volume I. Data Collection.* Contract DTFH61-02-C-00077, FHWA, Washington, DC. (2007).  
**Pertinent Reference List:** See FHWA-HRT-20-066 Appendix A.

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## ALR: Roughness Profile



**Basics:** Sayers, M. W. "Profiles of Roughness." *Transportation Research Record 1260*. (1990) pp. 106–111.  
**ALR on Jointed PCC:** See FHWA-HRT-20-066 Appendix J.

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## Literature Search

### NCHRP 1-31, Smoothness Specifications for Pavements, 1997

- Smoother pavements last longer
- Data showed initial pavement smoothness has a significant effect on future smoothness

Average Percent Increase in Performance Life			
Reduction in roughness	10%	25%	50%
Alabama PCC	11	28	55
Arizona PCC	7	18	36
Illinois CRC	5	11	22
Minnesota PCC	6	15	30
Illinois AC/PCC	4	9	18
Alabama AC	8	20	39
Arizona AC	3	9	18
Minnesota AC	5	11	23

### Smoothness Modeling Sensitivity Analysis

Reduction in Roughness	Average % Increase in Pavement Life		
	10%	25%	50%
HMA	5.3	13.3	26.7
PCC	7.3	18	36

The Transtec Group

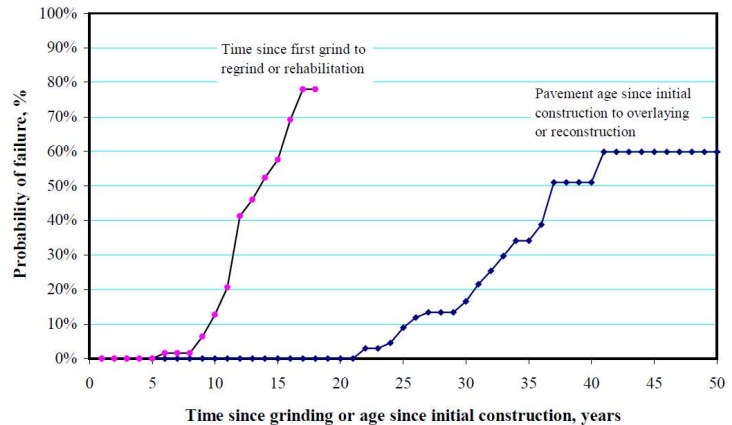
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## Literature Search

### Longevity of Diamond-Ground Concrete Pavements, Rao et al., 1999

- 60 pavement sections in 18 states + 133 sections from earlier study along with LTPP
- LTPP allowed for comparison of diamond ground pavements with other CPR alternatives
- Evaluated performance of diamond-grinding and faulting as well as longevity of texture



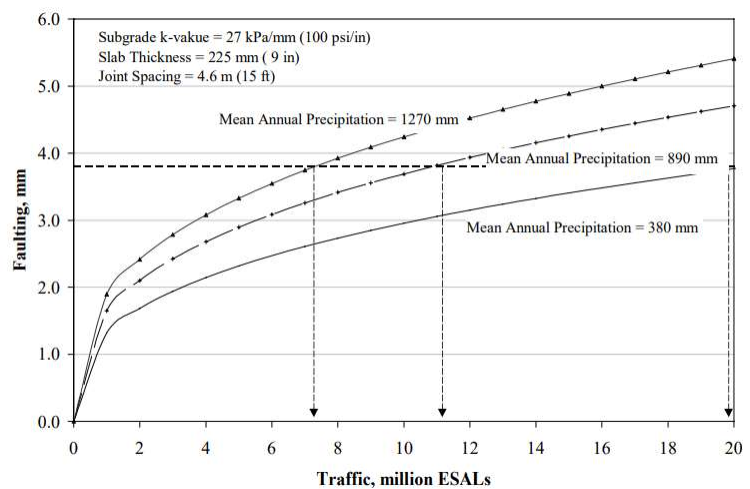
Survival Curves for Diamond-Ground Concrete Pavements

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## Literature Search

### Longevity of Diamond-Ground Concrete Pavements, Rao et al., 1999

- Mechanical Empirical performance model
- Support structure plays a role



Effect of Precipitation on Faulting for Non-Doweled Pavements after Diamond Grinding

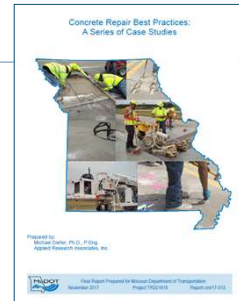
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## Literature Search

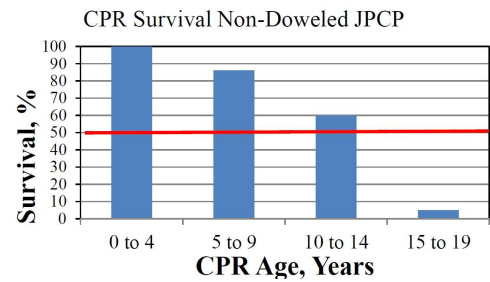
**Concrete Repair Best Practices: A series of case studies, Darter, 2017 (MODOT – Const. Materials Division)**

Includes CPR best practices (cross-stitching, DBR, Diamond Grinding, Full and Partial Depth Repairs, Slab stabilization)



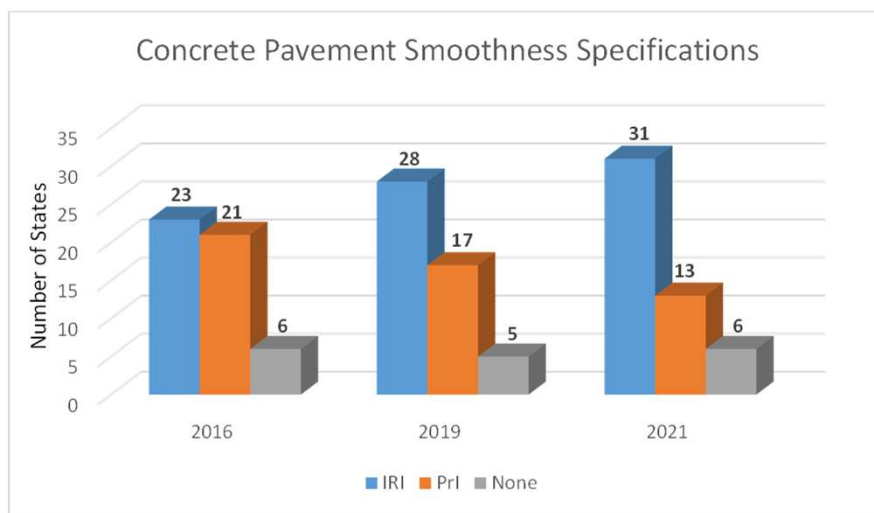
Best Practices for Diamond Grinding focuses on Utah DOT specifications, case histories and data

- Diamond grinding in Utah shows a service life ranging from 10 to 20 years for undoweled JPCP.



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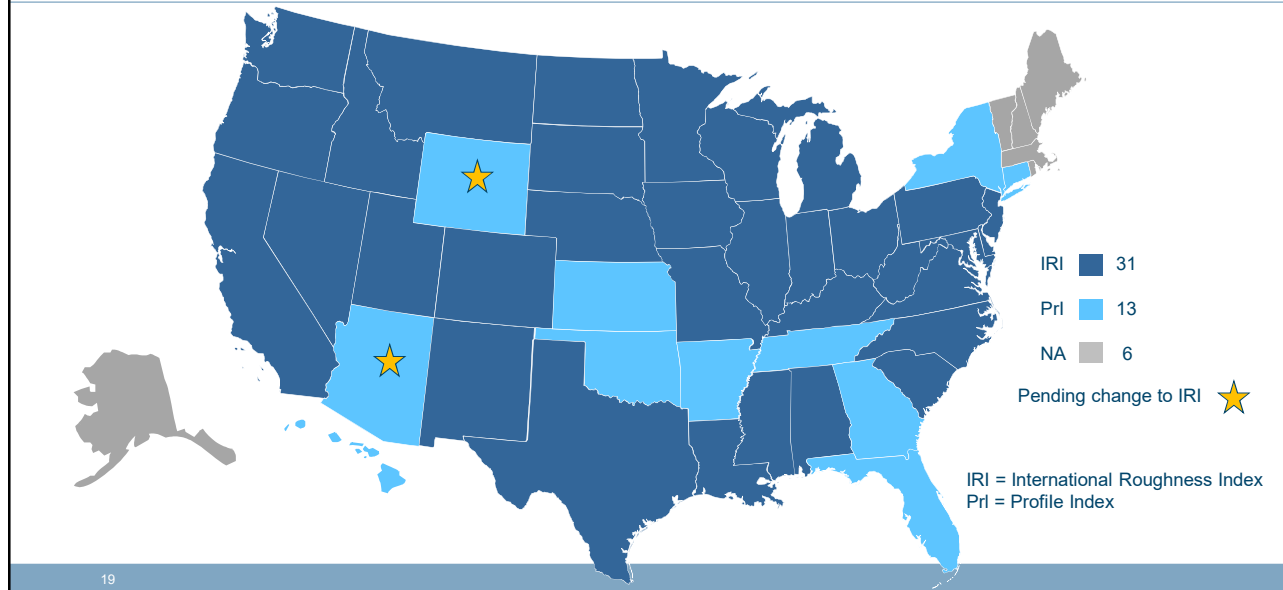
## State of Practice Concrete Pavement Smoothness Specs (2021)



2016 data: Merritt et al., 2015. 2019 data: The Transtec Group, 2020 CP Tech webinar

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## State of Practice Concrete Pavement Smoothness Specs (2021)



## State of Practice - The Move to IRI

Research related to assist in the conversion from Profile Index to IRI specification / development of Smoothness Specification

- Pavement Smoothness Index Relationships, Smith, et al., 2001
- Evaluation of INDOT Construction Smoothness Specifications, Pellinen and Chou, 2003
- Implementation of an International Roughness Index for MNDOT Pavement Construction and Rehabilitation, Wilde, 2007
- ACPA/IGGA Guide-Pavement Smoothness Requirements, 2013 Task Force

## State of Practice – Survey of NCC States

Category	Number of States
Incentives / Disincentives	34
Areas of Localized Roughness	16
Specify wide laser	9
Specify wheel base for grinder	7 (5 states min. 12', 2 states 25')

	< 150 Inches per mile	> 150 Inches per mile
Trigger to Grinding (Preservation)	6 states	4 states

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## State of Practice – State Specifications

IRI Acceptance	Number of States Low Speed (<45 mph)	Number of States High Speed (≥45 mph)
<40 inches per mile		4
40 – 60 inches per mile		4
60 – 90 inches per mile	5	20
115 – 135 inches per mile	3	
10' straight edge	3	
16' straight edge	3	

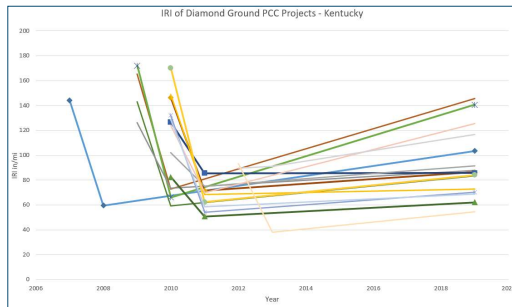
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## State IRI Data

- Aug 2015 IGGA Case Study: [https://www.igga.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/CSAug2015\\_KY\\_diamond\\_grinding\\_CPP\\_PMS.pdf](https://www.igga.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/CSAug2015_KY_diamond_grinding_CPP_PMS.pdf)
- From 2007 and 2012, 536 interstate lane miles were diamond ground statewide (Louisville area)
- IRI performance from 307 of the 536 lane miles was studied
  - After grinding, the IRI decreased from an average of 134 (in./mi.) to 64 (in./mi.)
  - Based on the 2019 IRI data, the average increase in IRI was 2.7 (in./mi.) per year over an average of 9.4 years after grinding.



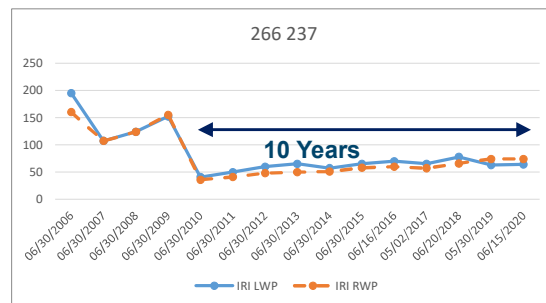
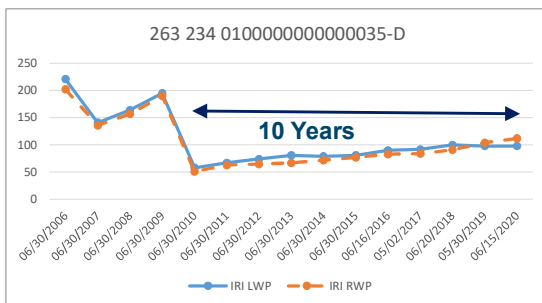
IRI > 130 in./mi. general trigger



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Data from Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

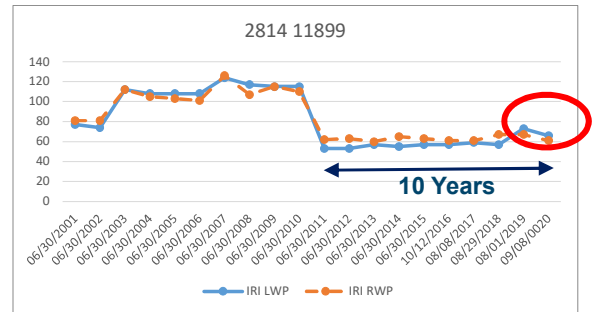
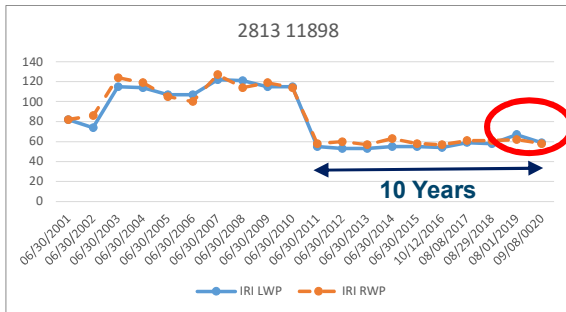
## State IRI Data



Data indicates at least a 10 year performance

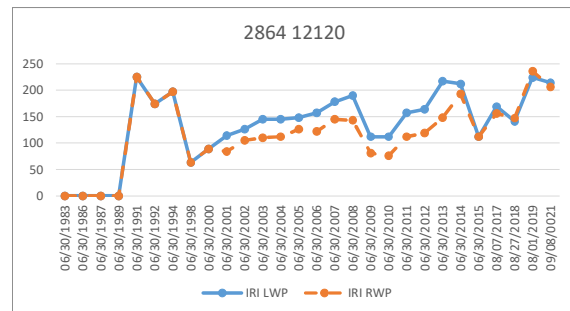
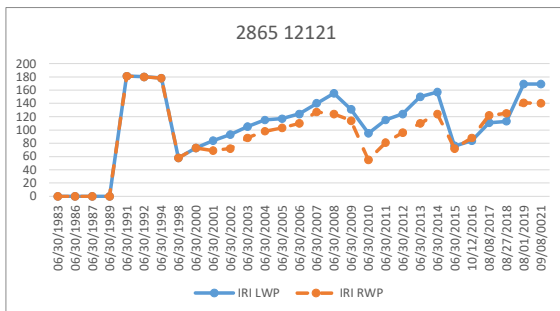
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## State IRI Data



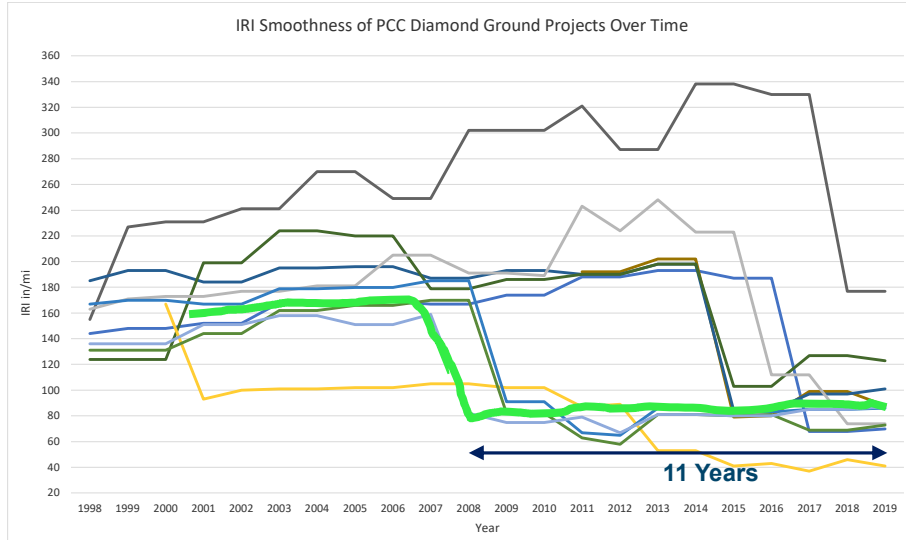
Single point lasers until 2019, Wide line lasers used in collection starting in 2020

## State IRI Data



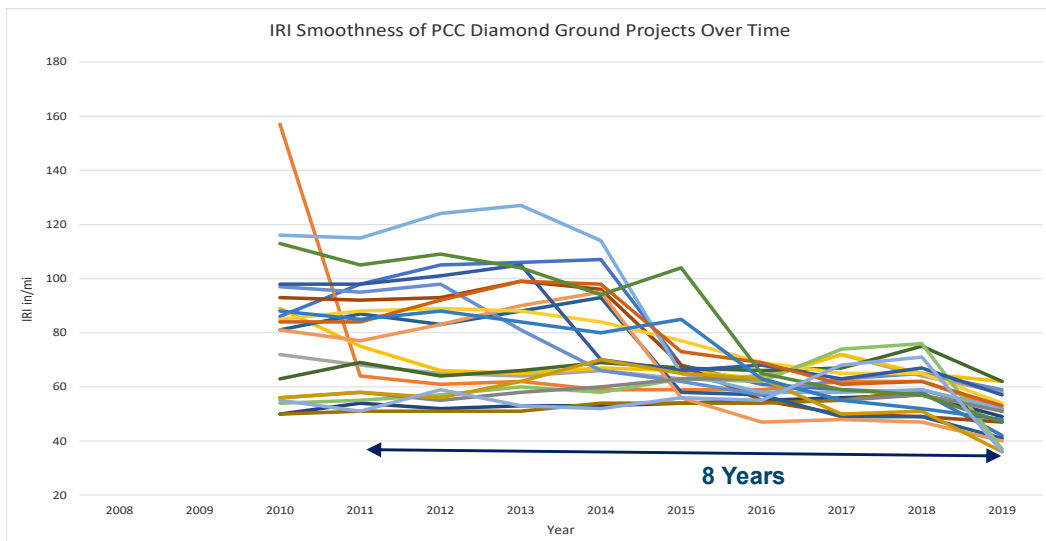
'Roller Coaster' - may indicate a structural deficiency, fatigue or support issue  
Note the variance between LWP and RWP IRI

## State IRI Data



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## State IRI Data



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## Evaluating Performance

Many variables effecting IRI data

- Traffic, age, environment, support
- Panel size (curling & warping)
- Load transfer (dowel bars)
- Sensor type (spot laser or line laser)
- Time and temperature of test



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## Evaluating Performance

We know the following:

- Public wants smooth pavements
- Building smooth pavements stay smoother
- Smoother pavements last longer
- Smoother pavements are safer
- Smoother pavements save money
- Advancements in technology provide more accurate data

Lets continue to collect and share data

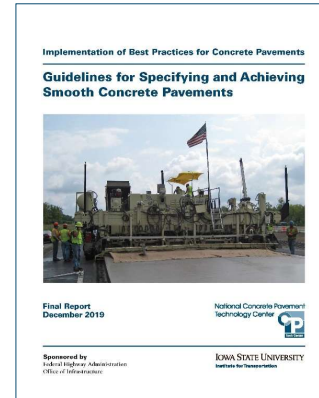


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## Achieving Smoothness

- Guidelines for Specifying and Achieving Smooth Concrete Pavements, Fick, Merritt, Taylor, 2019
  - Design
  - Construction
  - Measuring Smoothness
- Investigation of the Effect of Curling on as Constructed Smoothness and Ride Quality of KDOT Portland Cement Concrete (PCC) Pavements, Siddique, 2004
- Constructing Smooth Concrete Pavements, ACPA wikipave  
[https://wikipave.org/index.php?title=Constructing\\_Smooth\\_Concrete\\_Pavements](https://wikipave.org/index.php?title=Constructing_Smooth_Concrete_Pavements)



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## Other Resources

- Real-Time Smoothness (RTS) Webinars – CP Tech Center 2020
  - <https://cptechcenter.org/webinars-and-videos/>
- RTS Page
  - <https://cptechcenter.org/real-time-smoothness/>



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## Questions?

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