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Research Motivation and Need

- Transportation = 18% of Gross National Product
- \$2.72 trillion, 10% of workforce
- Roadways:
- 4 million miles of public roads
- 3 trillion veh. miles/year
- 169 billion gallons of fuel consumption/year
- ASCE Grade for Roads: D (\$101 billion wasted)
- Urgent need for improvement:
- Replacement Cost > \$3.5 trillion
- Current level of investment into roadways = \$91 billion
- Cost to improve conditions and performance: \$170 billion/year (FHWA)

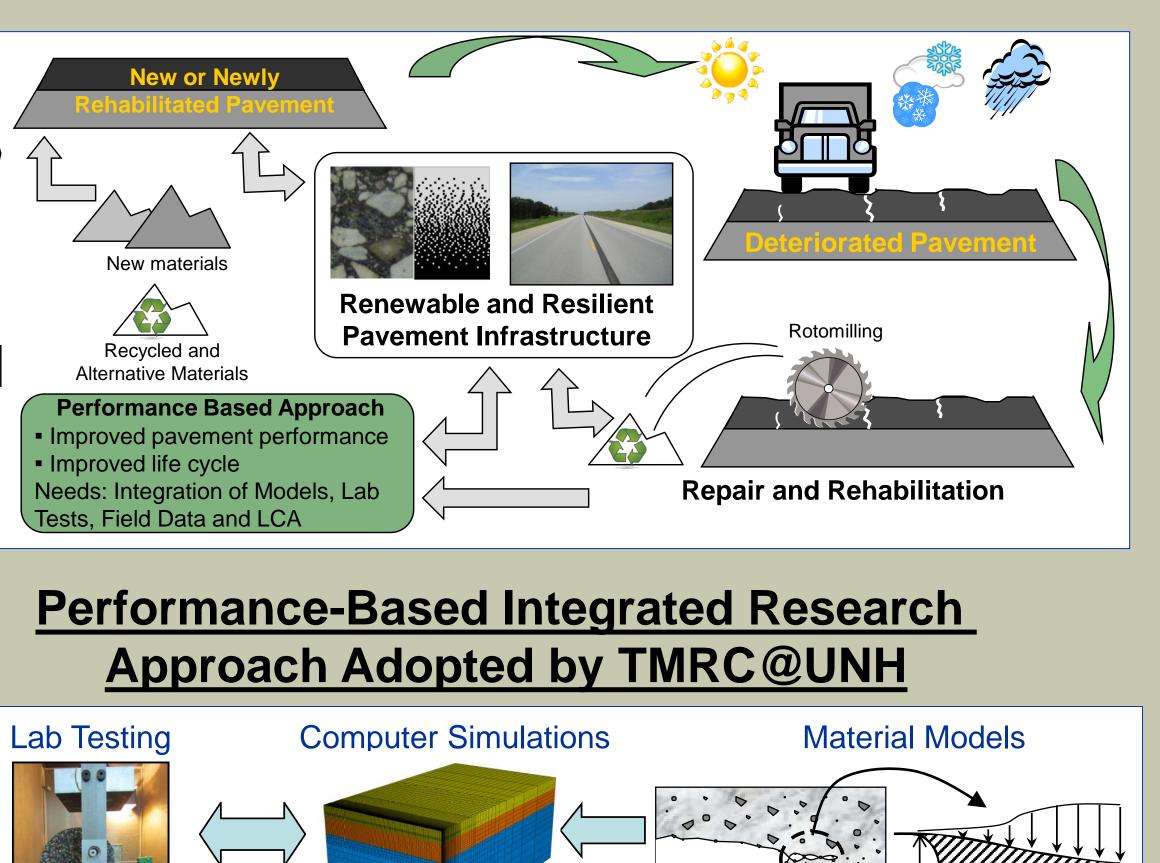


Research Challenges and Opportunities

- Lack of reliable performance predictions models for comprehensive pavement life-cycle assessment (LCA)
- Increased propensity of extreme climate events and their adverse impacts on transportation infrastructure
- Need for engineered pavement maintenance, repair and rehabilitation methods
- Lack of validated laboratory tests for material truly performance based specification
- Requisite for substantial renewability and sustainability improvements of infrastructure materials
- Deficiency performance criteria of based for assessment of newer material and construction technologies

Transportation Materials Research Group





• For design of sustainable and resilient pavement infrastructure it is necessary to integrate:

Life Cycle Analysis

• Source

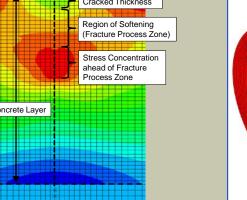
• Processing

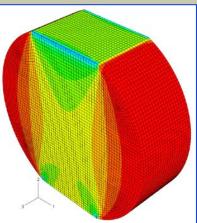
Transportation

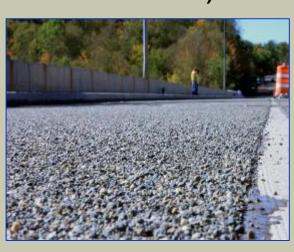
• Recycling/Salvage

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- Models (Mechanics and Physics)
- Laboratory Testing (Material Properties)
- Life Cycle Analysis (Comprehensive evaluation)
- Field Data and Performance (Calibration and Validation)







Cohesive Zone



Laboratory Facilities Material Processing and Specimen Fabrication



State of the Art Mechanical Testing Equipment



On-going Research

- Group size: 2 faculty members, 7 graduate students and 2 undergraduate students
- Ongoing studies:
 - Performance based specifications for asphalt concrete
 - Evaluation of recycled asphalt on pavement performance
 - Flooded pavement evaluation
 - Effects of climate change on pavement longevity
 - Regionalization of QA processes