



**2020**

# WEBINAR SERIES



**RPUG**  
Road Profile Users' Group

The main title is centered on the page. It consists of the year '2020' in a bold, black, sans-serif font at the top. Below it, the words 'WEBINAR SERIES' are written in a large, bold, grey, sans-serif font. Underneath the title is the RPUG logo, which includes a stylized road icon and the text 'RPUG Road Profile Users' Group'.

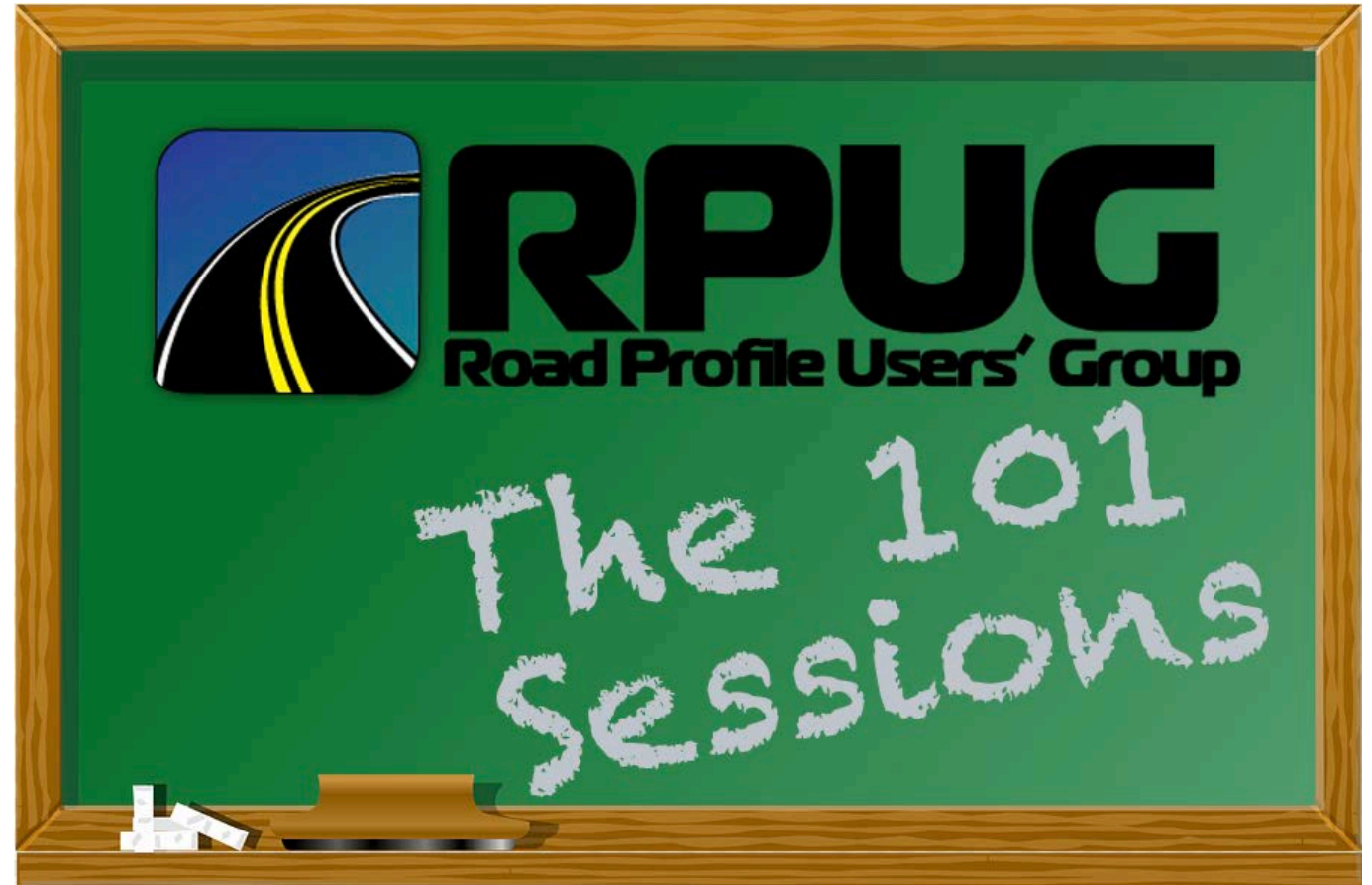
## **Rolling resistance 101**

Richard Wix, Australian Road Research Board, 16 September 2020

# A **brief** introduction to rolling resistance

The TDF edition

- Who cares about rolling resistance?
- What is it?
- How is it measured?
- How can we reduce rolling resistance?

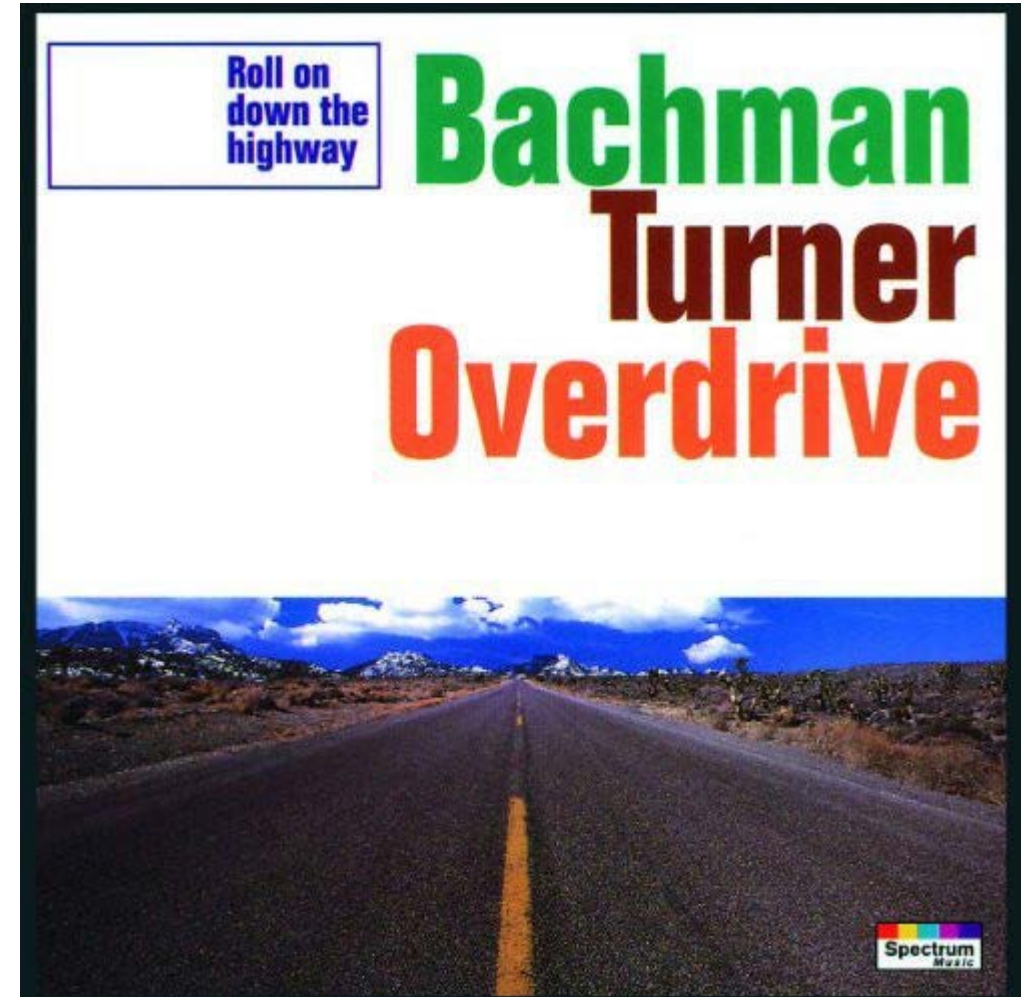


# Roll on down the highway

Theme song

*We rented a truck and a semi to go,  
Travel down the long and the  
winding road.....*

*Let it roll down the highway  
Let it roll down the highway  
Let it roll  
Let it roll  
Let it roll  
Let it roll*



# Who cares about rolling resistance?

Cyclists





# Who cares about rolling resistance?

Hotwheels



# Who cares about rolling resistance?

Roller skaters



<https://www.lifehacker.com.au/2020/05/how-to-start-roller-skating-without-breaking-anything/>



# Who cares about rolling resistance?

Trains



# Who cares about rolling resistance?

The environment





# Who cares about rolling resistance?

Electric vehicles



# Question time - number 1

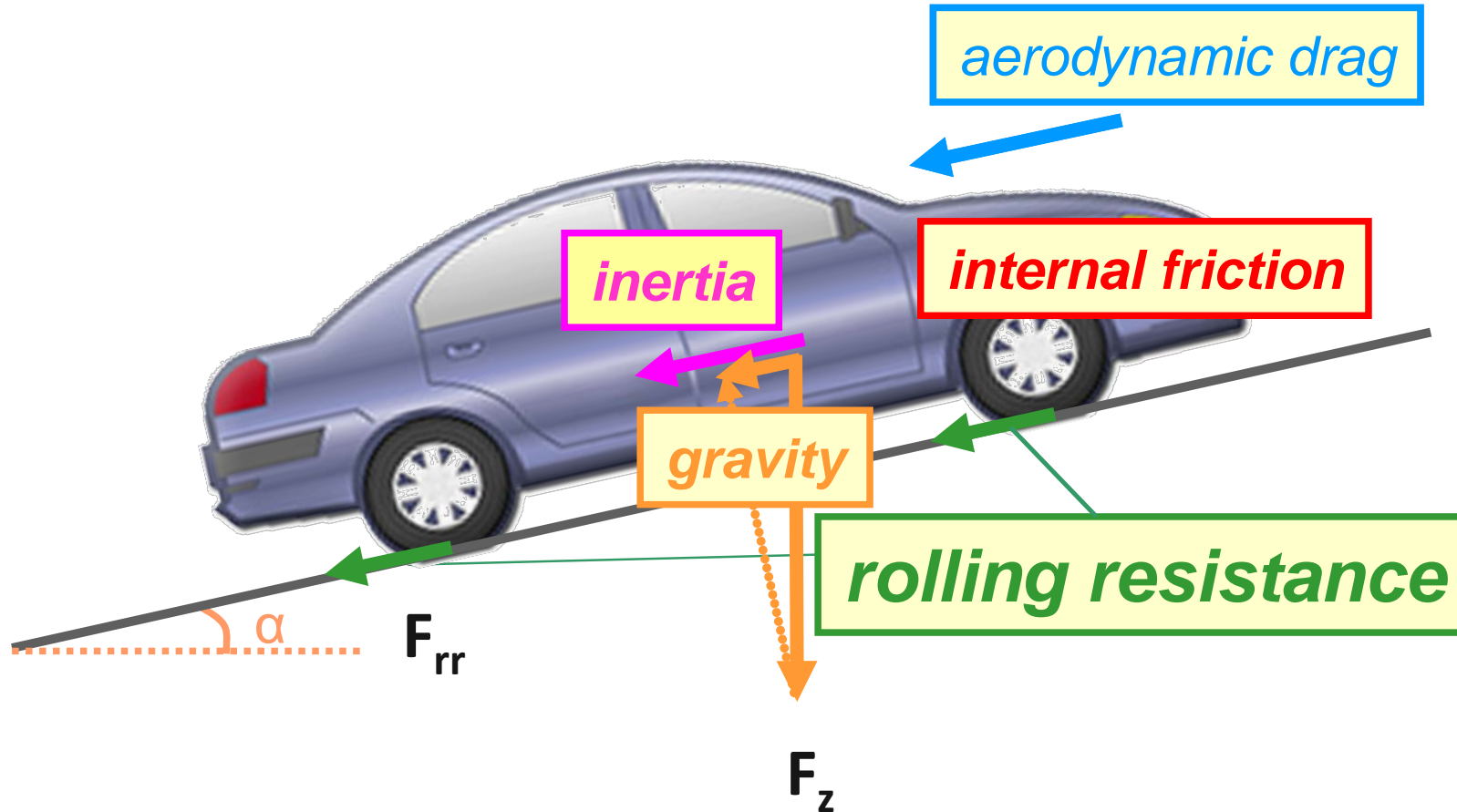
What are 5 things that stop us from rolling down the highway?

1. Inertia
2. Gravity
3. Aerodynamic drag
4. Internal friction
5. Rolling resistance



# Driving resistance

## Forces

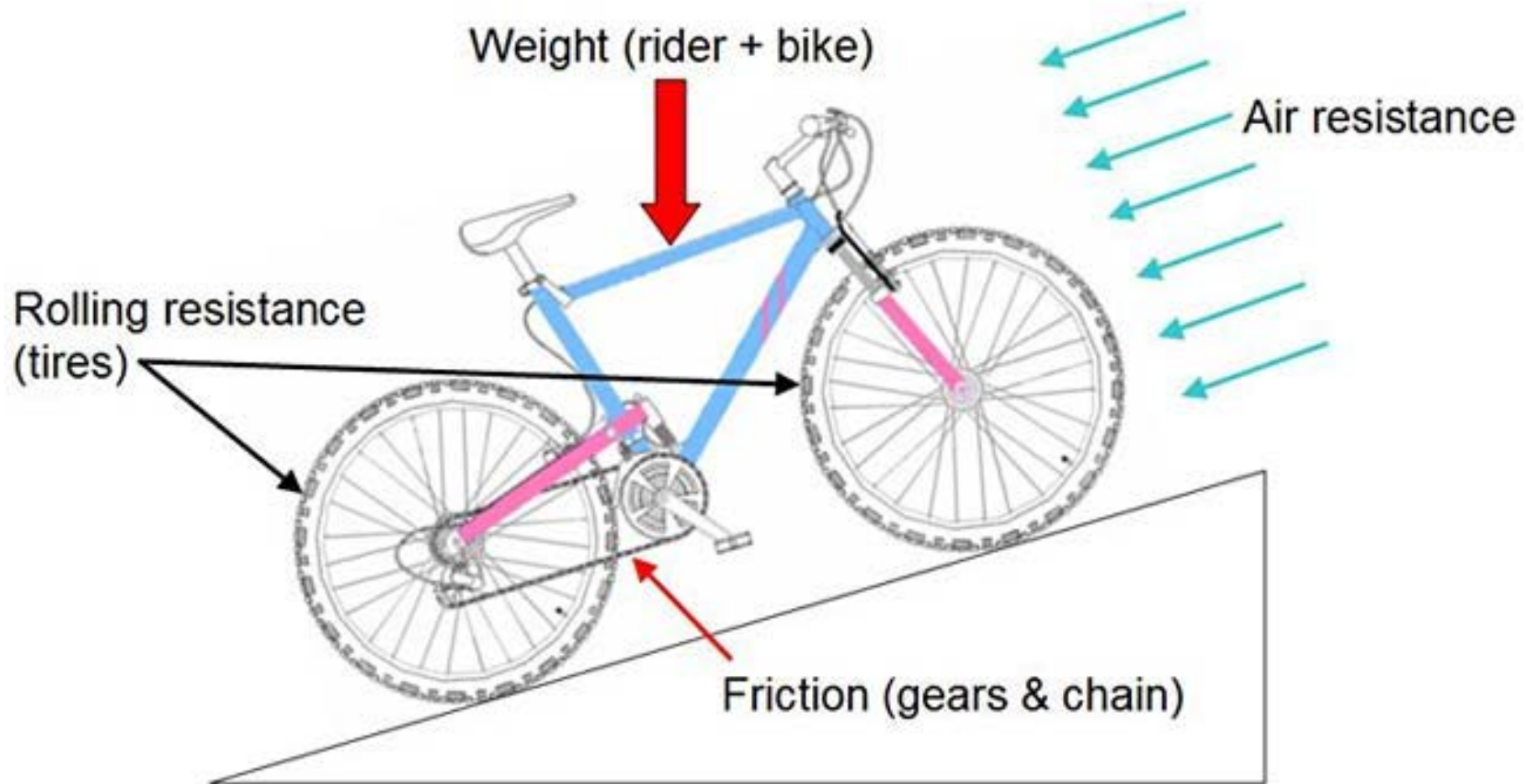


S. Köppen, ISO 28580 Working Paper No. STD-01-05, 1st STD meeting, 23 July 2009, agenda item 4



# Riding resistance

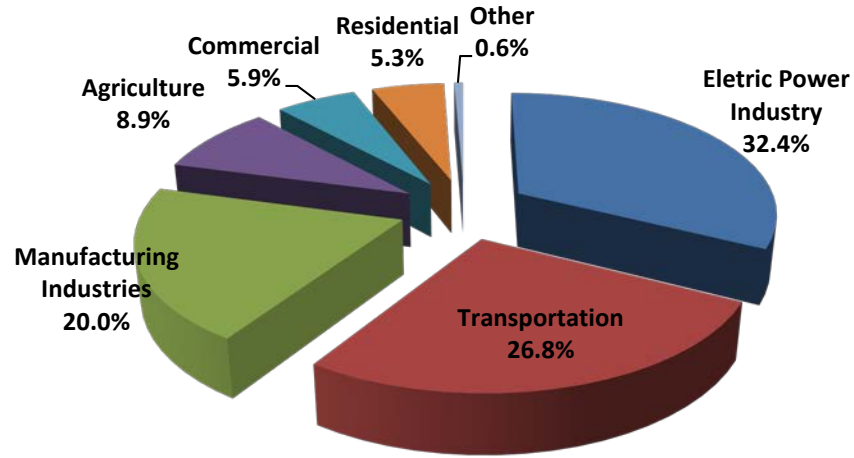
## Bike



*(mountain bike image credit: Wikimedia Commons, user Ralf Roletschek)*

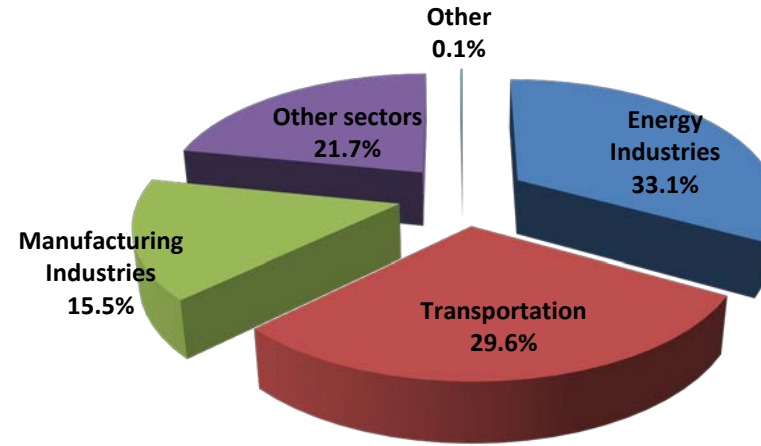
# Pavement Life Cycle Assessment

U.S. CO<sub>2</sub>-eq emission by sector (2011) [1]

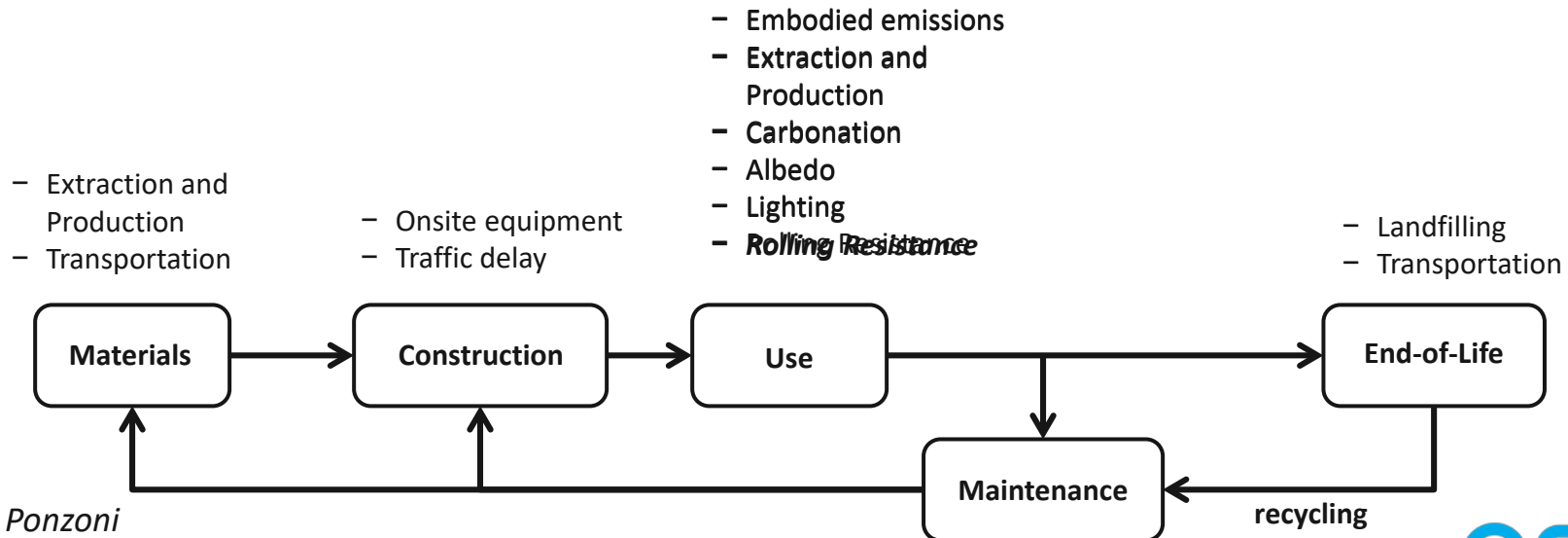


[1] U.S. EPA. Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2013. Technical report, U.S Environmental Protection Agency, 2015.

Italy CO<sub>2</sub>-eq emission by sector (2011) [2]



[2] ISPRA. Italian Greenhouse Gas Inventory 1990-2012 National Inventory. Technical report, Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale, 2014.

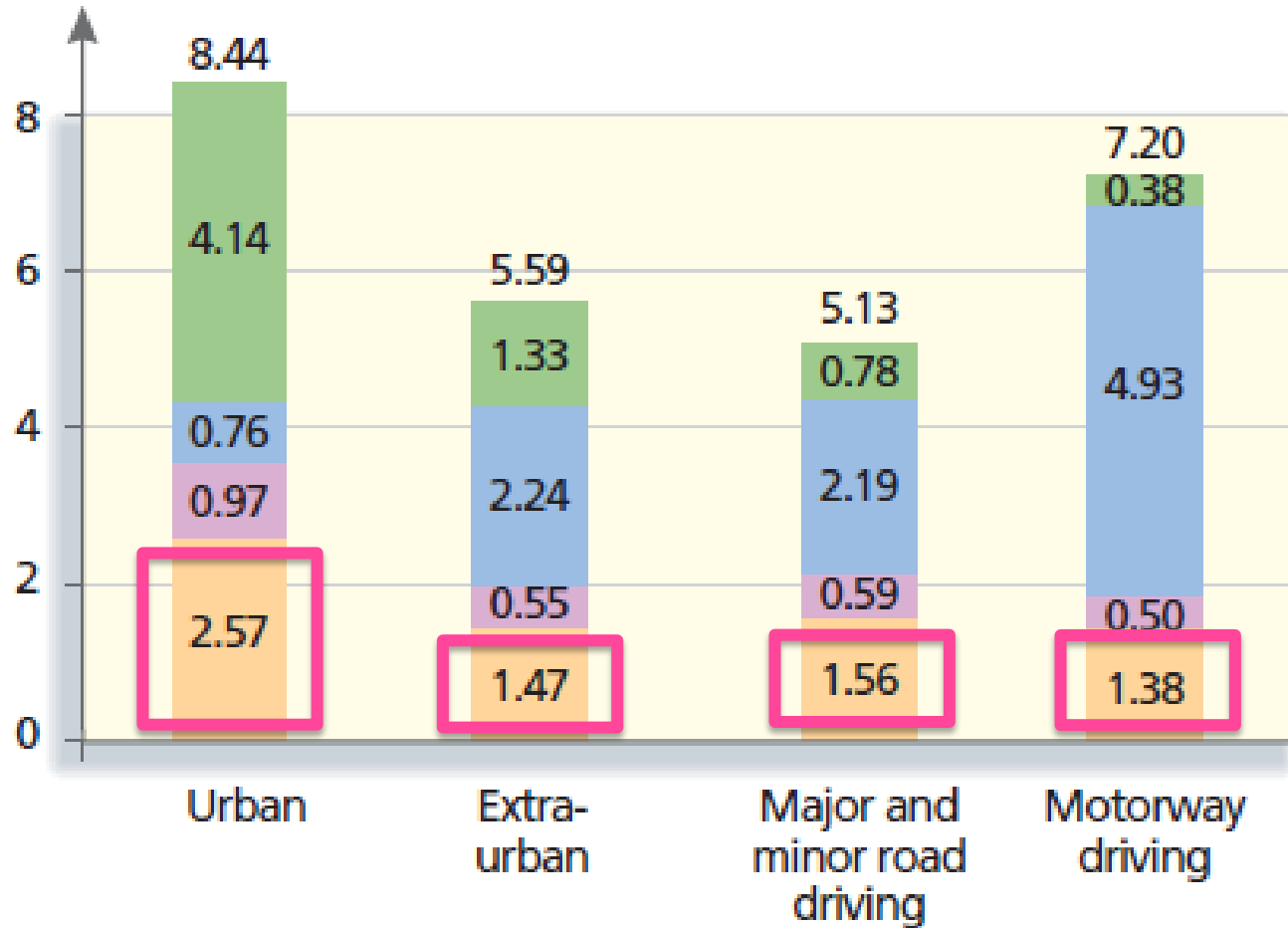


Slide courtesy of Federico Ponzoni

# Fuel consumption

Contributors to fuel consumption expressed in l/100 km (Michelin, 2003)

Contribution in litres/100 km



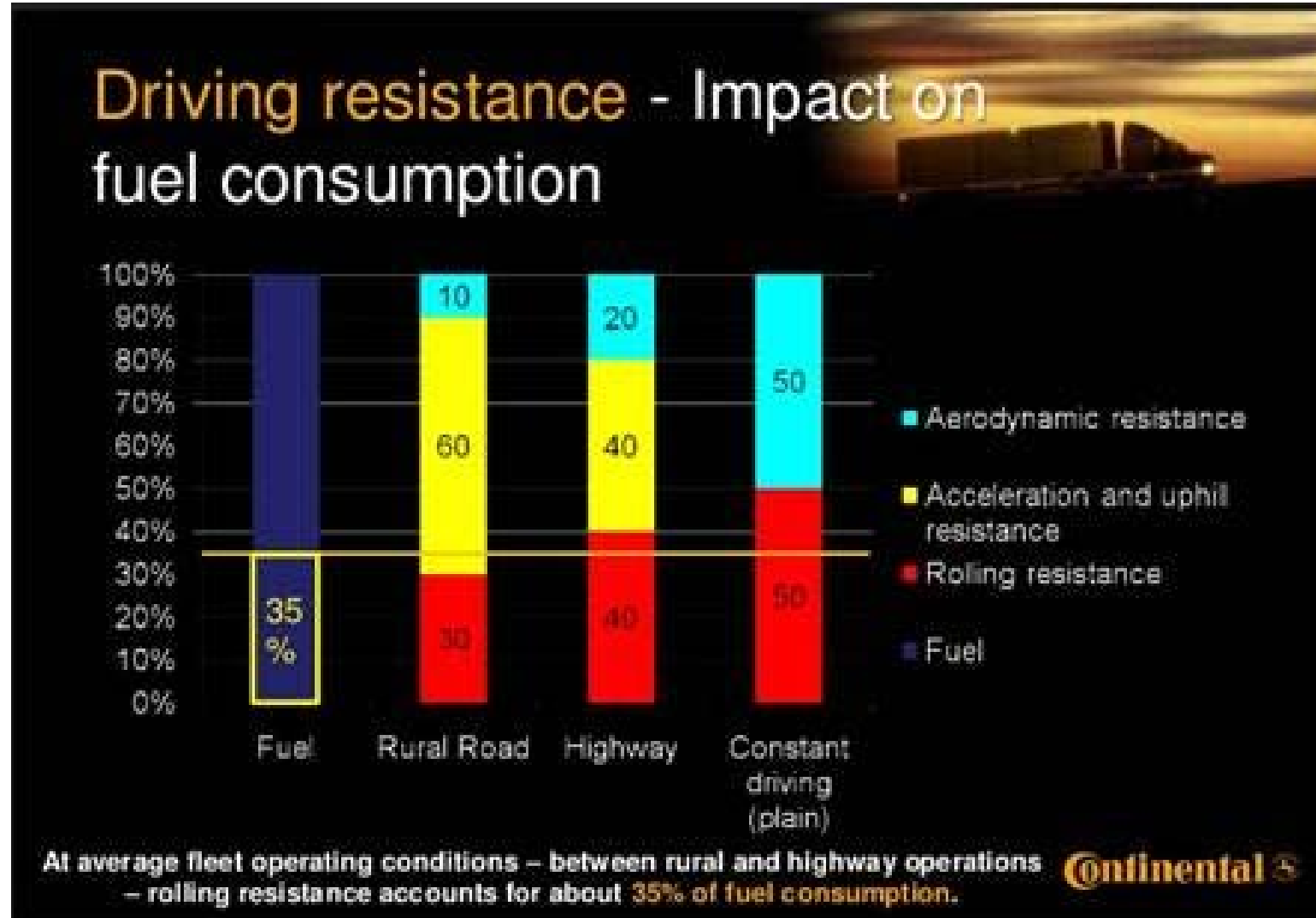
- Rolling resistance
- Internal friction
- Aerodynamic drag
- Inertia

30%



# Driving resistance

## Impact on fuel consumption



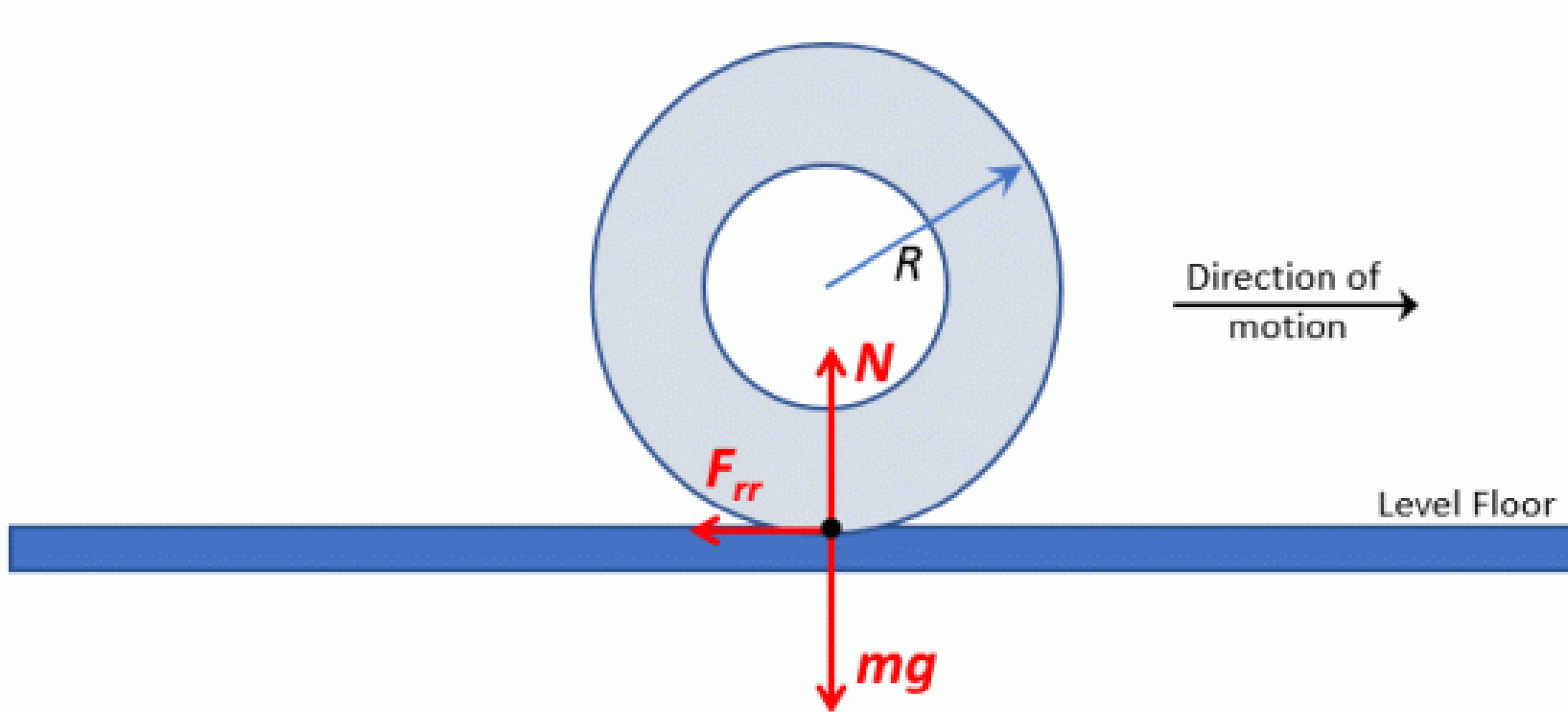
# Vehicle wheels

Progression through the ages



# Rolling resistance

Coefficient of rolling resistance coefficient ( $C_r$ )



$F_{rr}$  = force of rolling resistance  
 $N$  = normal force  
 $mg$  = gravitational force

$$F_{rr} = C_r \times N$$

$$C_r = F_{rr} / N$$



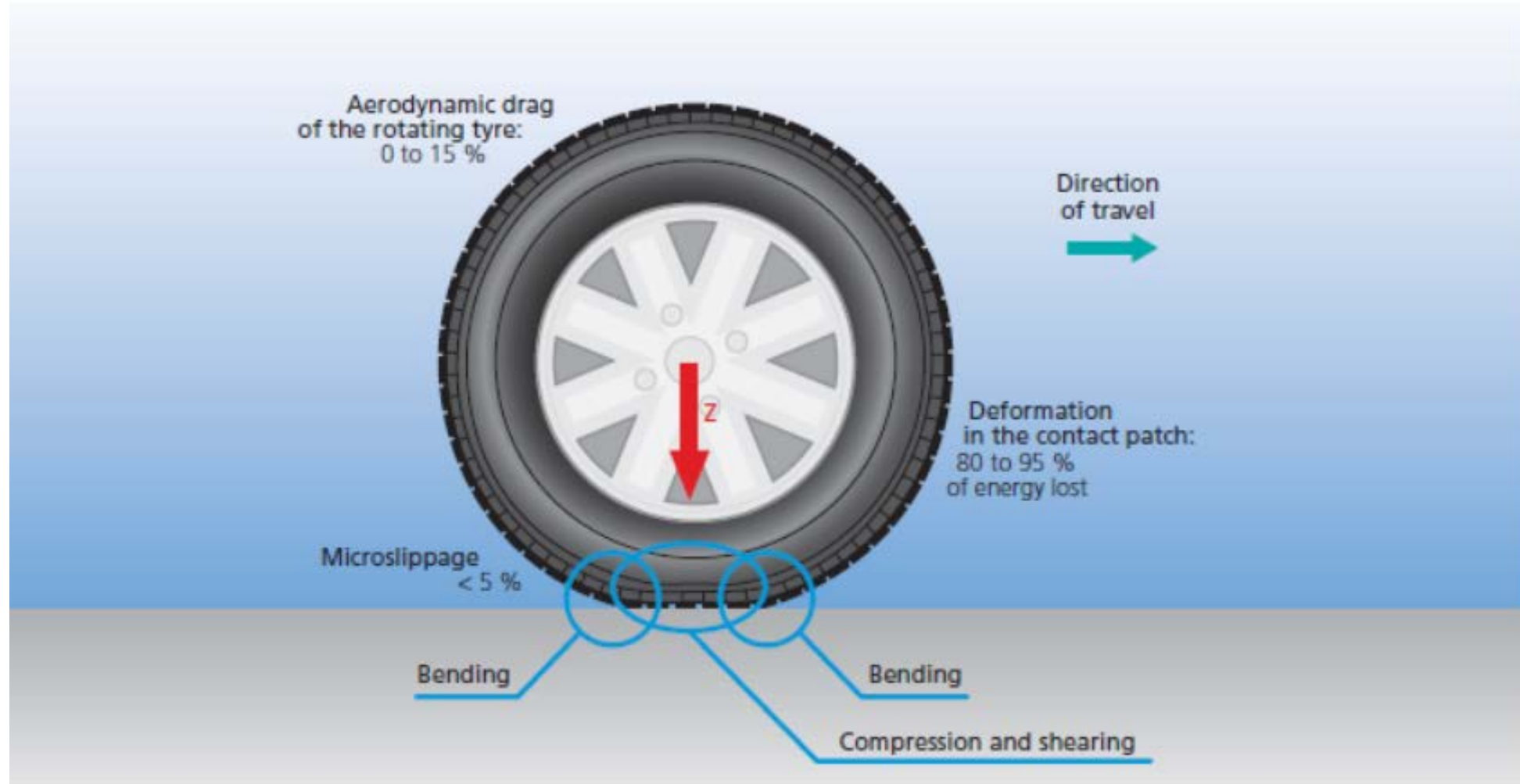
# Coefficient of rolling resistance

## Variations

Value ( $C_r$ )	Description
0.001 - 0.002	railroad steel wheels on steel rails
0.001	bicycle tire on wooden track
0.002 - 0.005	low resistance tubeless tires
0.002	bicycle tire on concrete
0.004	bicycle tire on asphalt road
0.005	dirty tram rails
0.006 - 0.01	truck tire on asphalt
0.008	bicycle tire on rough paved road
0.01 - 0.015	ordinary car tires on concrete, new asphalt, cobbles small new
0.02	car tires on tar or asphalt
0.02	car tires on gravel - rolled new
0.03	car tires on cobbles - large worn
0.04 - 0.08	car tire on solid sand, gravel loose worn, soil medium hard
0.2 - 0.4	car tire on loose sand

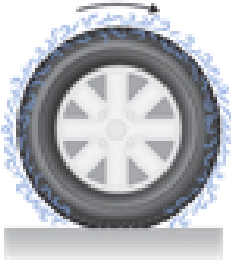

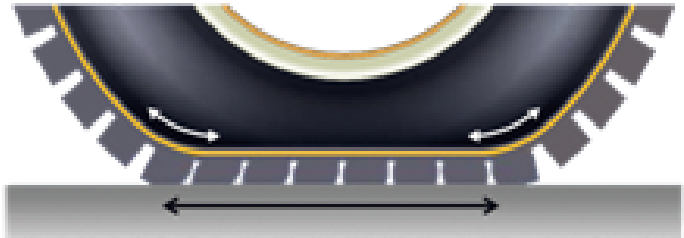
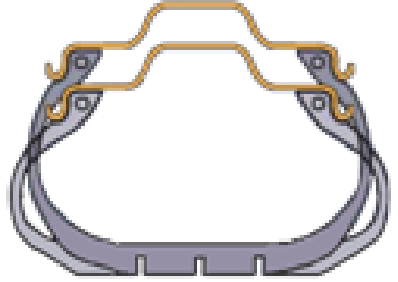
# What causes of rolling resistance?

Pneumatic tires



# What causes of rolling resistance?

Breakdown of tire properties contributing to rolling resistance

What	Surface of tire and air	Tire tread			Sidewall and bottom part		
How	Air circulation	Slippage on ground	Deformation hence dissipation of energy			bending	shearing
							
Contribution	< 15%	60 to 70%			20 to 30 %		

<https://thetiredigest.michelin.com/michelin-ultimate-energy-tire>

# Question time - number 2

What properties of a tire affect rolling resistance?

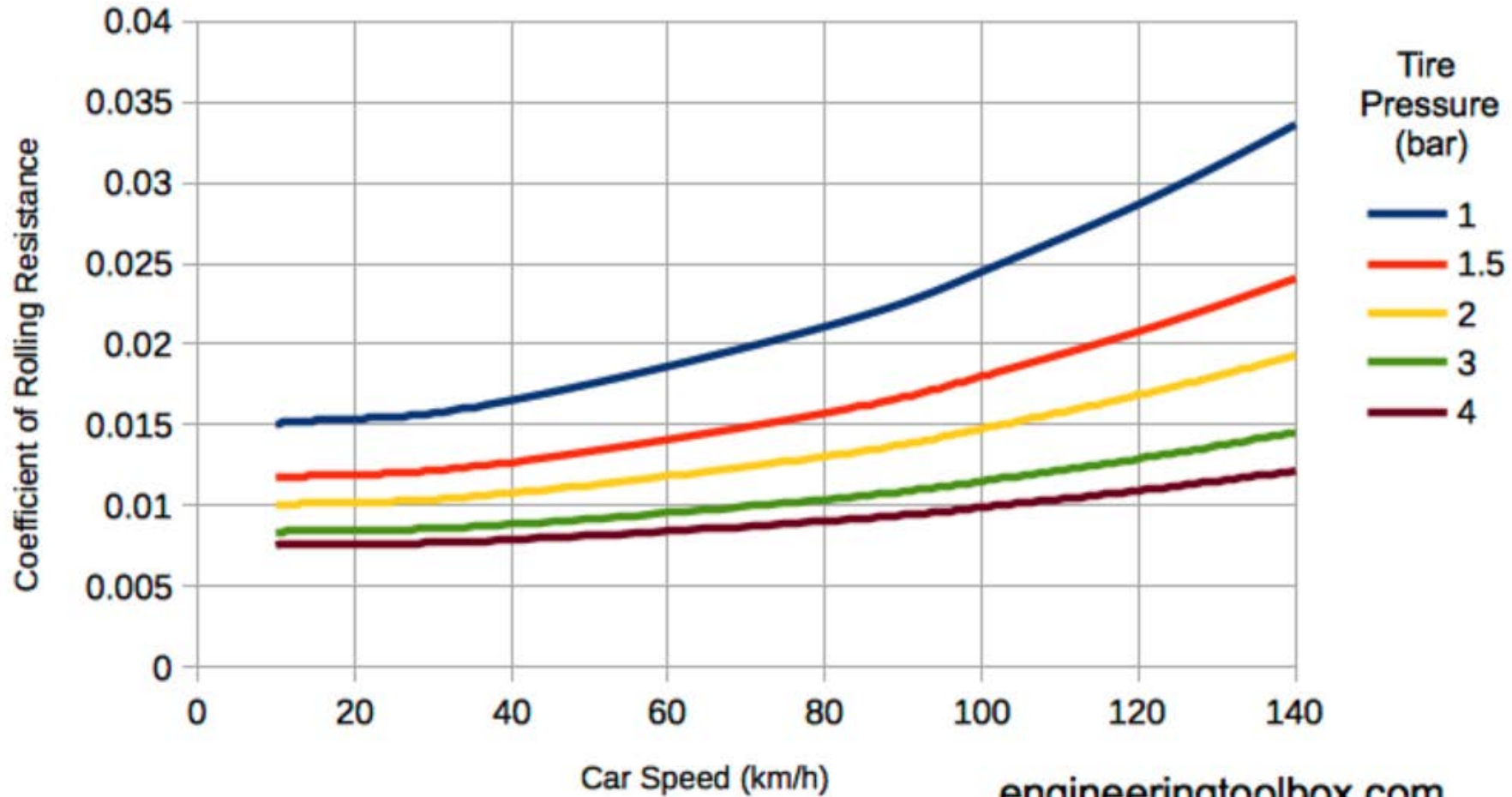
1. Tread
2. Compound (stiffness)
3. Pressure/contact area
4. Load
5. Speed
6. Temperature





# Vehicle speed & pressure

Passenger vehicles



engineeringtoolbox.com

# Vehicle speed & pressure

## Bikes

### Rolling Resistance Test Results

Rolling Resistance Test Results	
Inner Tube	Conti Race28 (100gr butyl)
Rolling Resistance 140 PSI / 9.7 Bar	<b>Not Tested</b> CRR: Not Tested
Rolling Resistance 120 PSI / 8.3 Bar	<b>18.0 Watts</b> CRR: 0.00540
Rolling Resistance 100 PSI / 6.9 Bar	<b>18.8 Watts</b> CRR: 0.00564
Rolling Resistance 80 PSI / 5.5 Bar	<b>21.0 Watts</b> CRR:0.00629
Rolling Resistance 60 PSI / 4.1 Bar	<b>24.7 Watts</b> CRR: 0.00740

All numbers are for a **single tire** at a speed of 29 km/h / 18 mph and a load of 42.5 kg / 94 lbs.

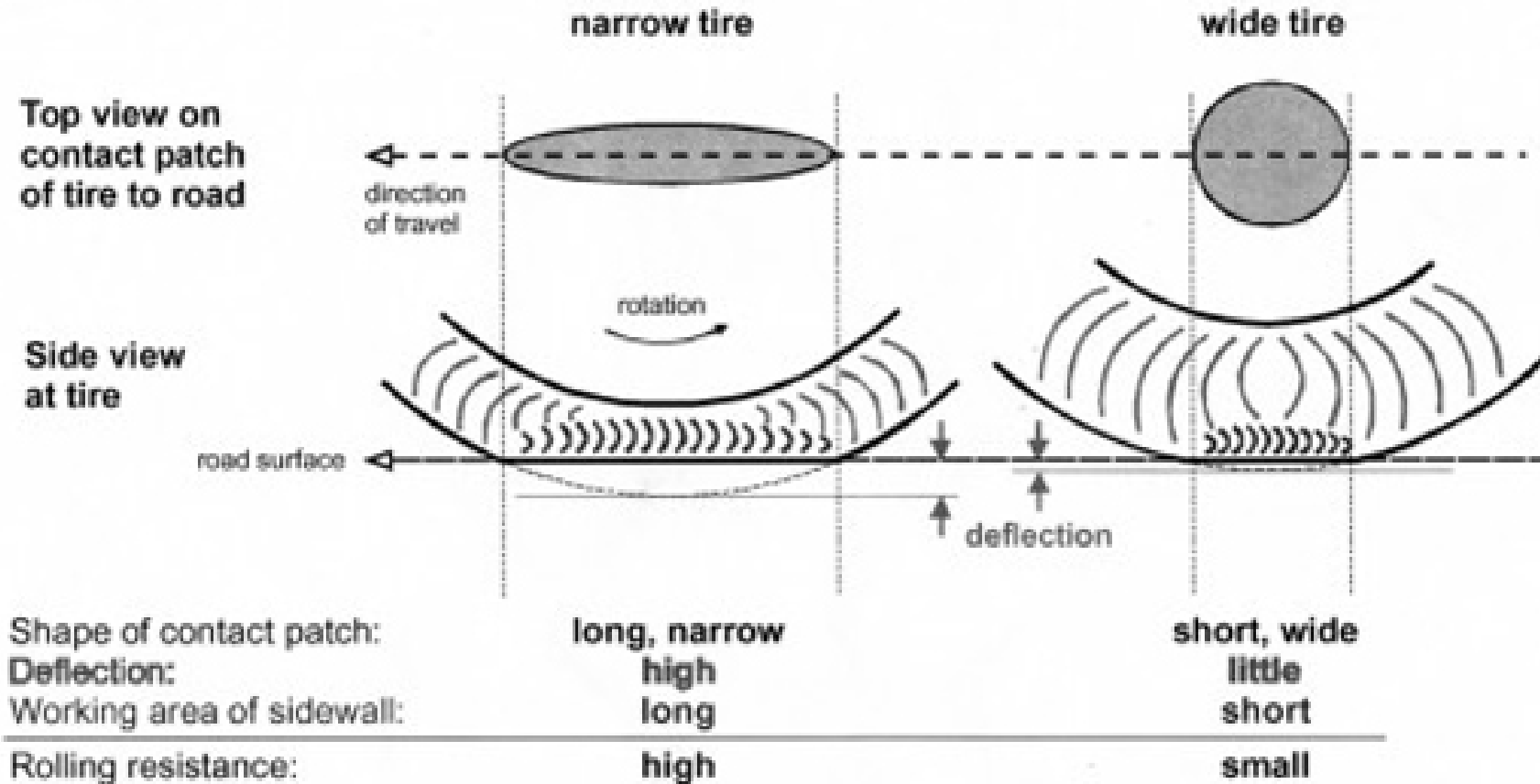
Use the formula: **RR (Watts) = CRR \* speed (m/s) \* load (N)** to calculate rolling resistance at a given speed and load.



<https://www.bicyclerollingresistance.com/road-bike-reviews/schwalbe-durano-2015>

# Question time – number 4

How does bicycle tire width relate to rolling resistance?



## Rolling resistance predominantly generates:

- Heat





# Time for some maths

Just how much difference does a lower coefficient of rolling resistance make?

$$C_r = 0.02$$

Car tires on tar or asphalt

$$C_r = 0.001 - 0.002$$

Railroad steel wheels on steel rails

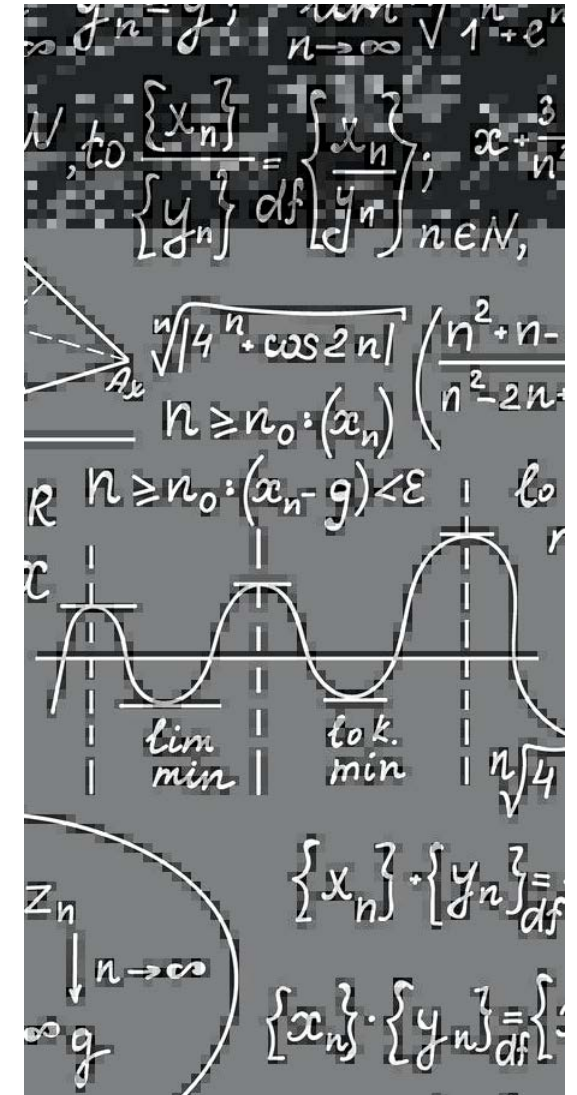
Force required to keep a 2 tonne passenger vehicle rolling:

$$\begin{aligned} F_{rr} &= 0.02 \times (2000 \text{ kg}) \times 9.81 \text{ m/s}^2 \\ &= 392 \text{ N} \end{aligned}$$

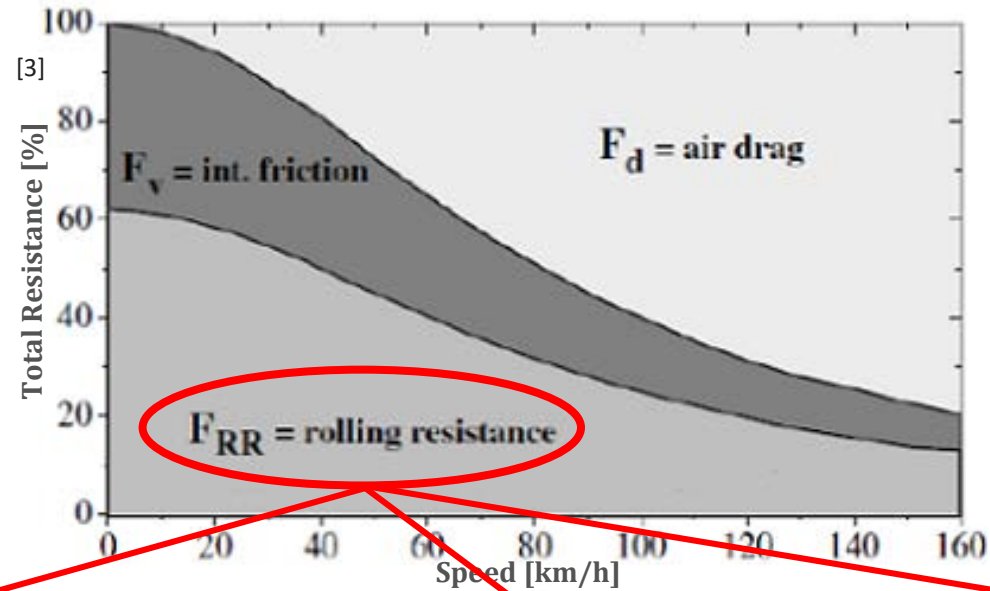
Force required to keep a 100 tonne railroad car rolling:

$$\begin{aligned} F_{rr} &= 0.001 \times (100,000 \text{ kg}) \times 9.81 \text{ m/s}^2 \\ &= 981 \text{ N} \end{aligned}$$

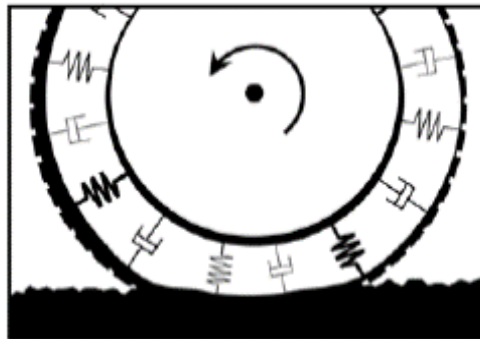
$$F_{rr} = C_r \times mg$$



# Pavement vehicle interaction

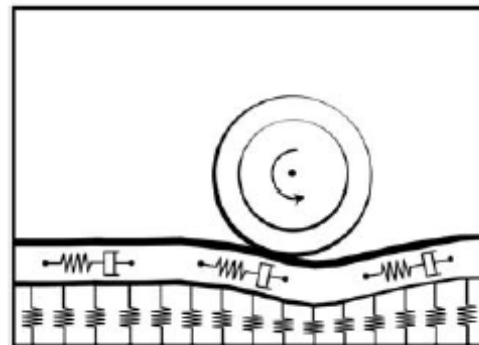


[3] E. Beuving, T. De Jonghe, D. Goos, T. Lindahl, and A. Stawiarski. Fuel efficiency of road pavements. Technical report, Eurasphalt and Eurobitume Congress, 2004.



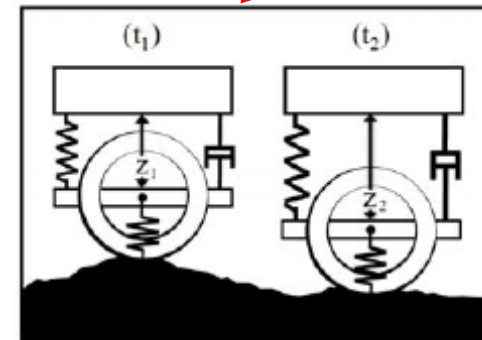
### Pavement Texture

Tire-pavement contact area.  
Critical for safety.



### Pavement Deflection

Speed, temperature and traffic dependent. Of critical importance for pavement design (stiffness and thickness).



### Pavement Roughness

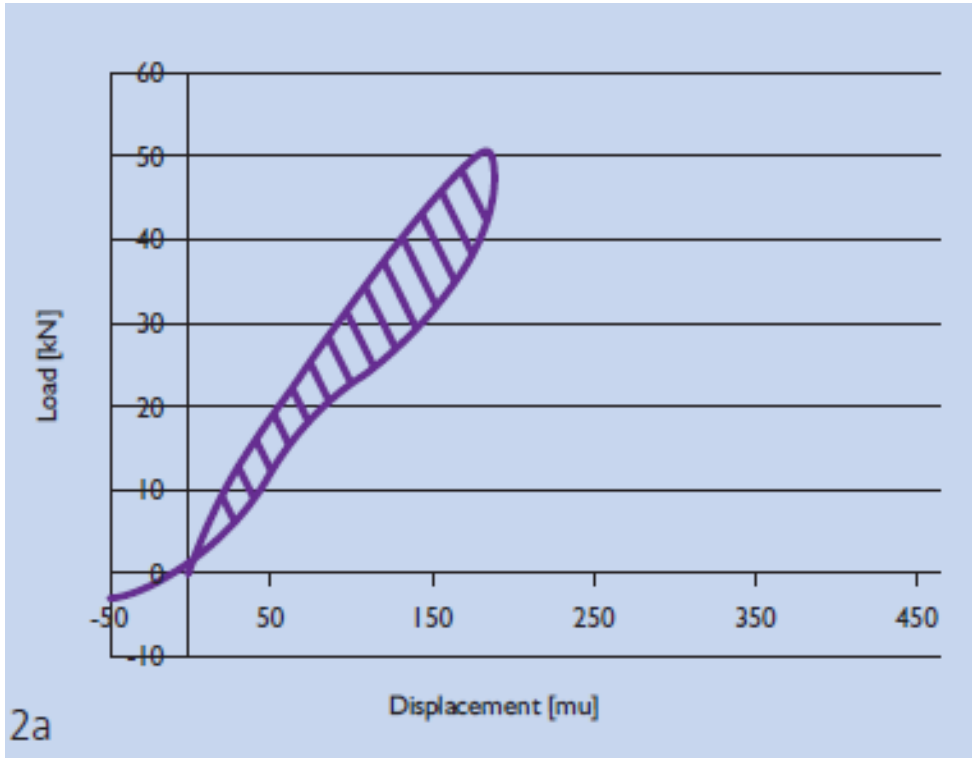
The absolute value is vehicle dependent. Evolution over time is material specific.

Slide courtesy of Federico Ponzoni

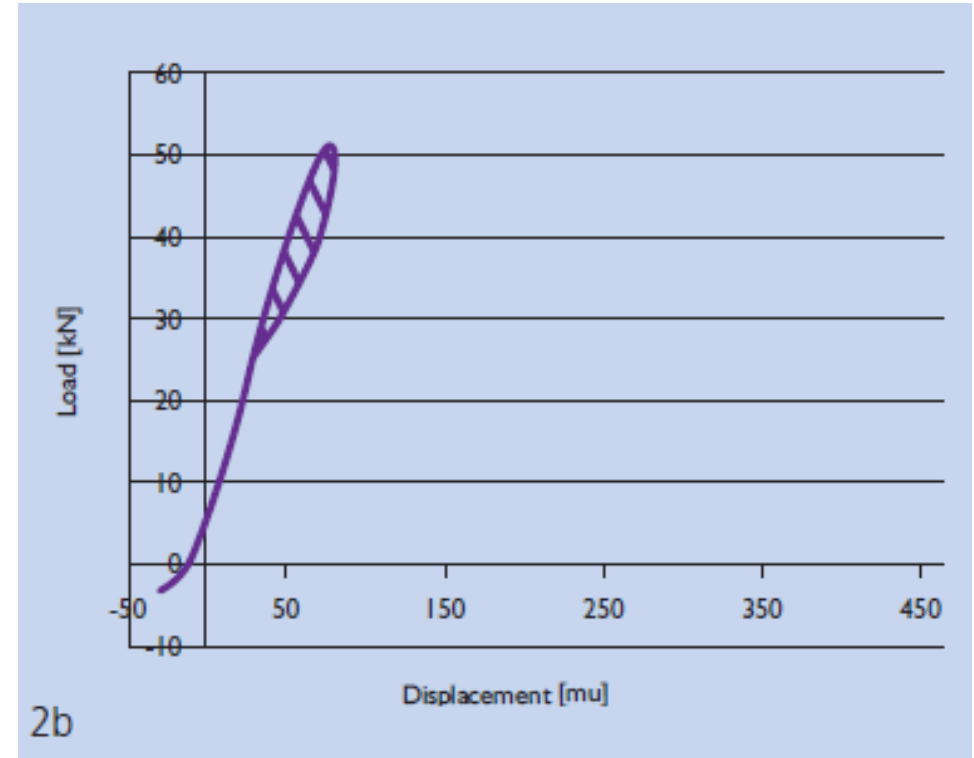
# Pavement stiffness/deflection

## Load deflection graphs

FWD load-deflection on a typical asphalt motorway (Lund University)



Asphalt



Concrete

Slide courtesy of Gerardo Flintsch

# Pavement deflection

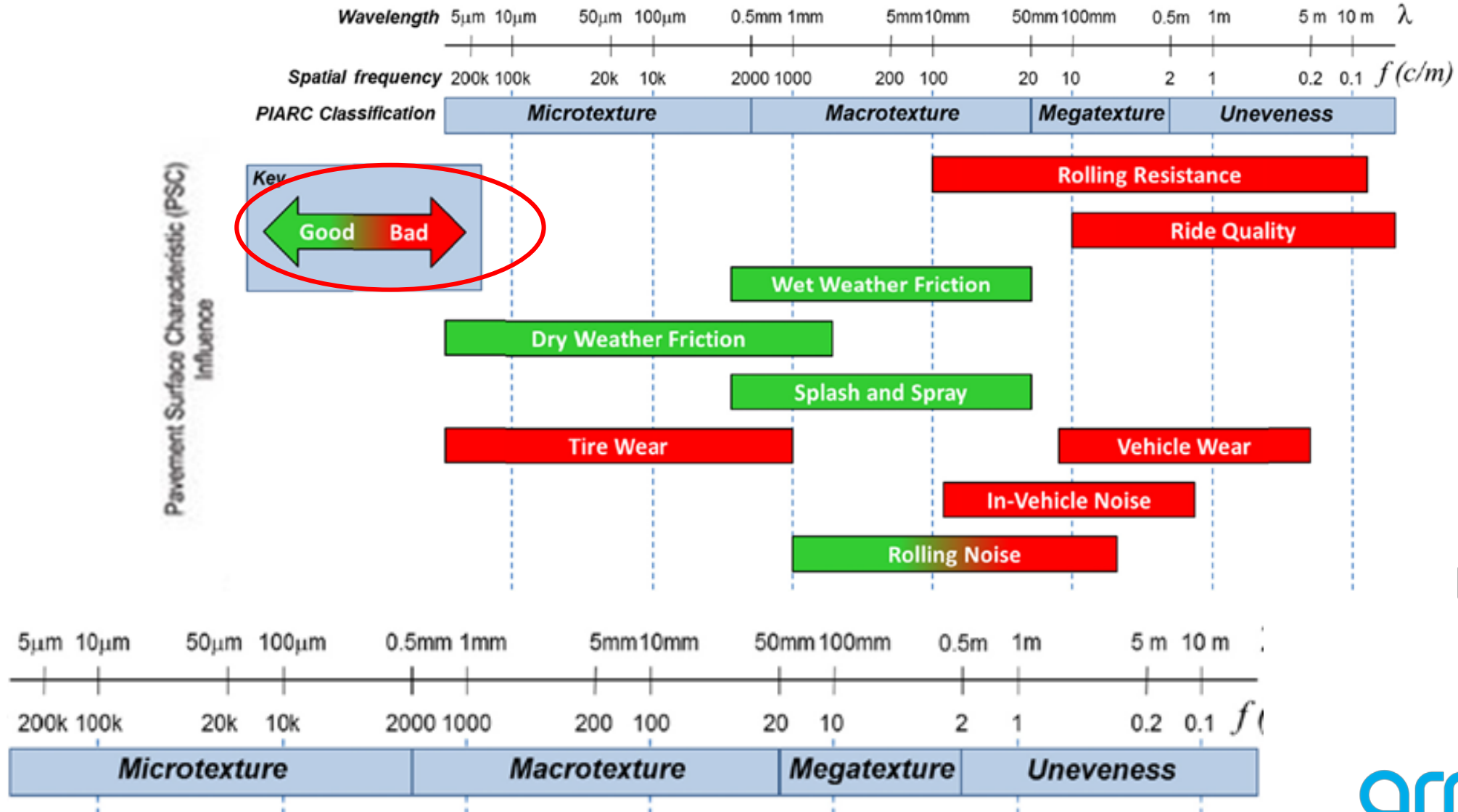
## Network level assessment



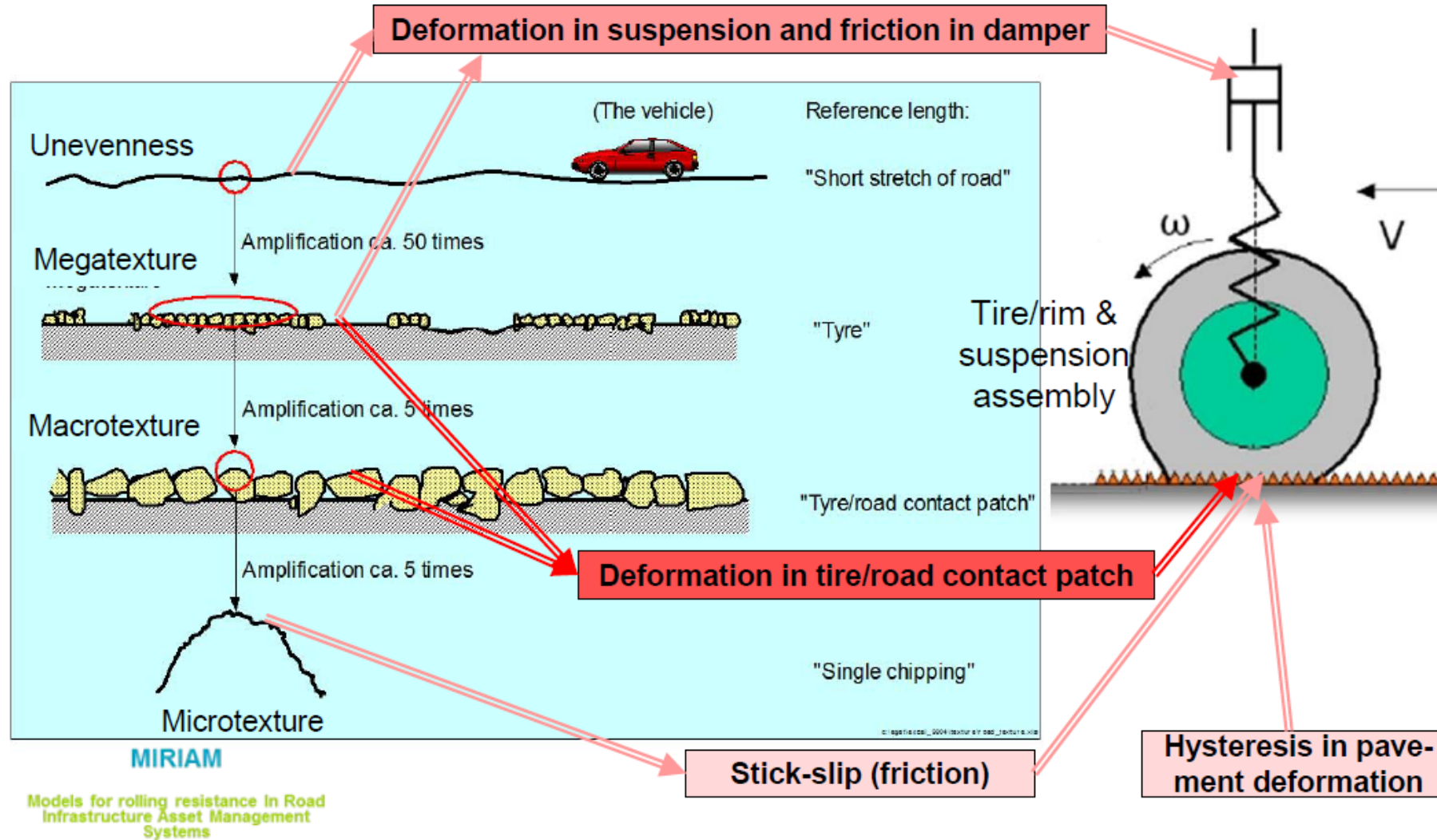


# Pavement Interaction

## PIARC classification and impact on pavement vehicle interaction



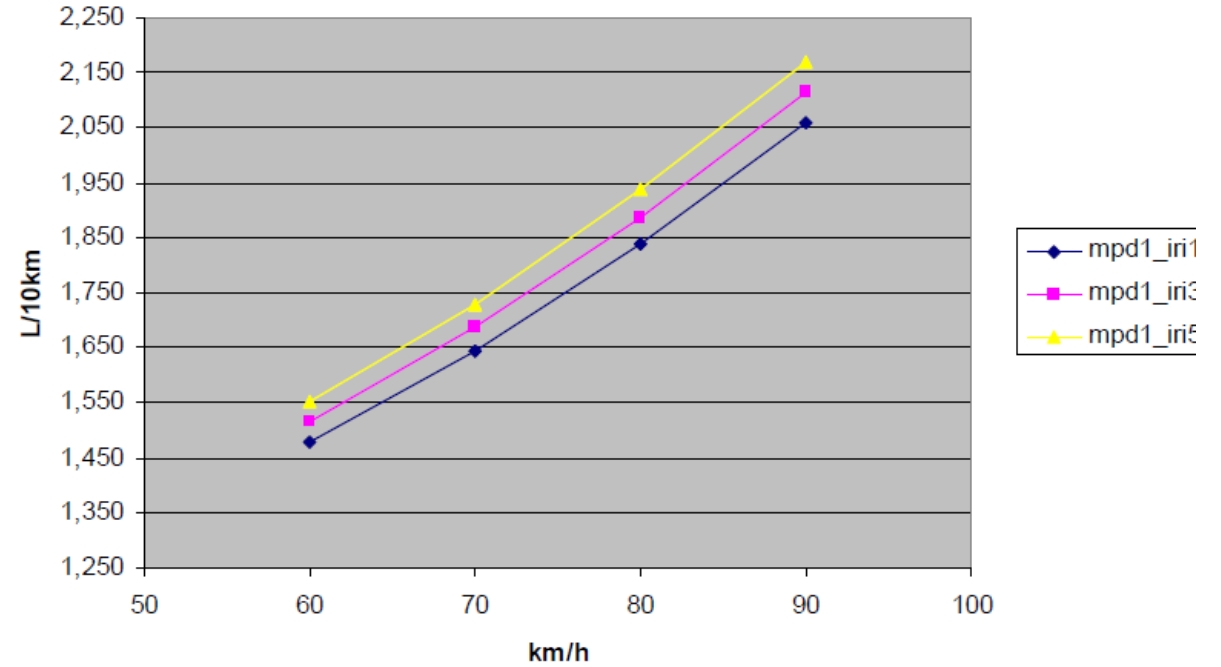
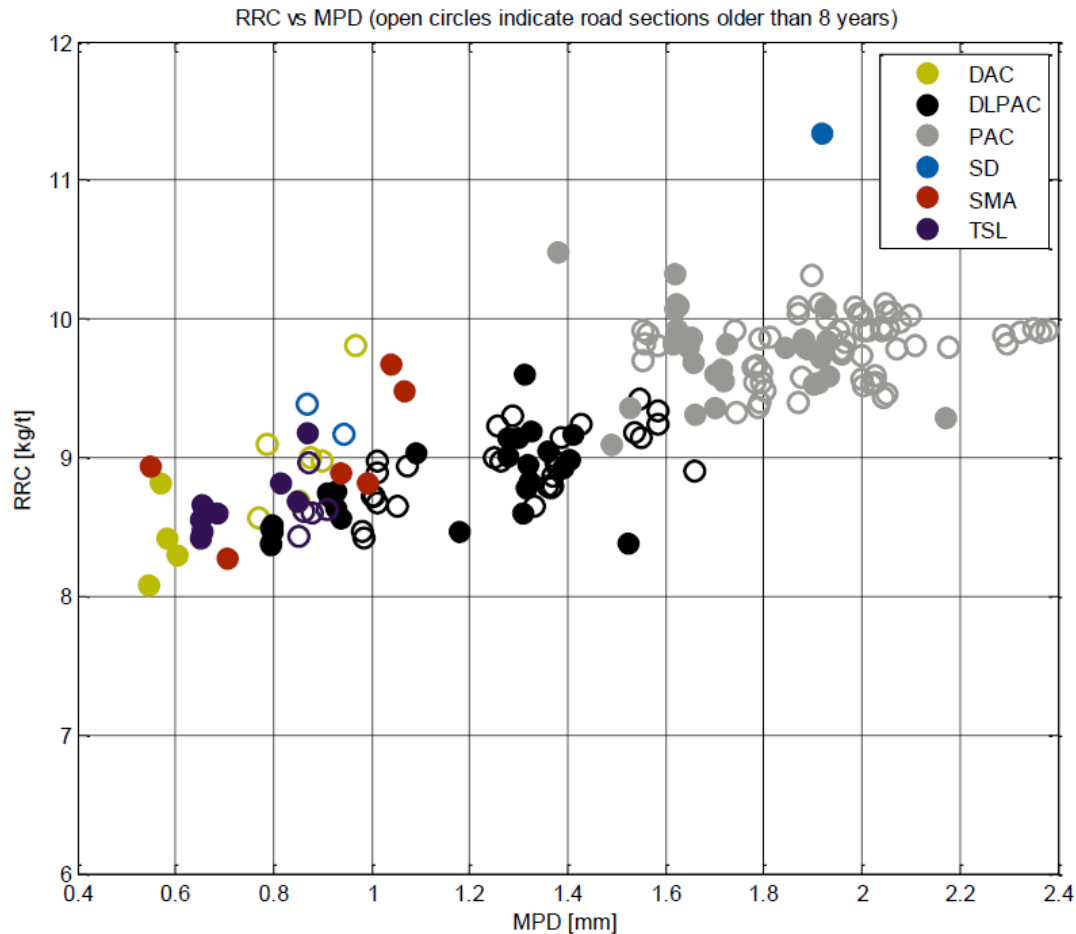
# Pavement interaction



Slide taken from 'Trade-offs Between Rolling Resistance and Other Pavement Properties', Presentation by Dr Ulf Sandberg, Swedish National Road and Transport Research Institute (VTI), TRB 2012

# Effect of MPD and IRI on rolling resistance

Rolling resistance vs. macrotexture (not corrected for tire temperature) on 69 Dutch road sections. (Hooghwerff et al, 2013)

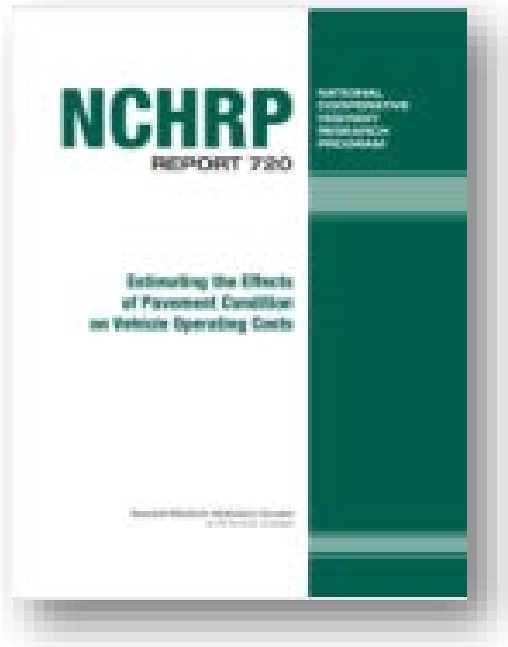


IRI influence on fuel consumption for a heavy truck at constant macrotexture (MPD) and road alignment. (Hammarström, et al., 2012)

Slide courtesy of Gerardo Flintsch

# Estimating the Effects of Pavement Condition on VOC

## NCHRP 720



- VOCs increase with pavement roughness for all types of vehicles and road pavement types investigated.
- IRI increase of 1 m/km →
  - Cars: 2% increase in fuel consumption of passenger cars regardless of their speed
  - Heavy trucks: 1% at highway speeds (96 km/h) and 2% at low speeds (56 km/h)
- Macrotexture only affect trucks
- MPD 1 mm increase →
  - at 88 km/h increases fuel consumption by about 1.5% and about 2% at 56 km/h

*Slide courtesy of Gerardo Flintsch*



# Influence on rolling resistance

Property	Influence on rolling resistance	Trade-off
Macrotexture	Deeper macrotexture = higher rolling resistance	Worse wet skid resistance, can compromise safety
Tire pressure	Higher tire pressure = smaller contact patch = lower rolling resistance	
Smoothness	Worse smoothness = higher rolling resistance	Higher maintenance costs
Noise	Rougher macrotexture = louder pavement (except in PA courses)	
Stiffness	Higher stiffness = Less rolling resistance	Worse riding comfort

Slide courtesy of Gerardo Flintsch

How do you  
measure  
rolling  
resistance?



(Bergiers et al., 2011)

- **Laboratory drum method**
  - On the steel surface, sandpaper, replica road surfaces, etc.
- **Trailer method**
  - Special trailer equipped with a test tire
- **Coastdown**
  - Neutral and let roll until stop or until a certain speed
- **Fuel consumption**
  - influence of driving style of the driver

(Sandberg et al., 2012)

# Measurement

## Trailer methods



BAST



TUG



BRRC

Angle based (BRRC, TUG)

Force based (BAST)

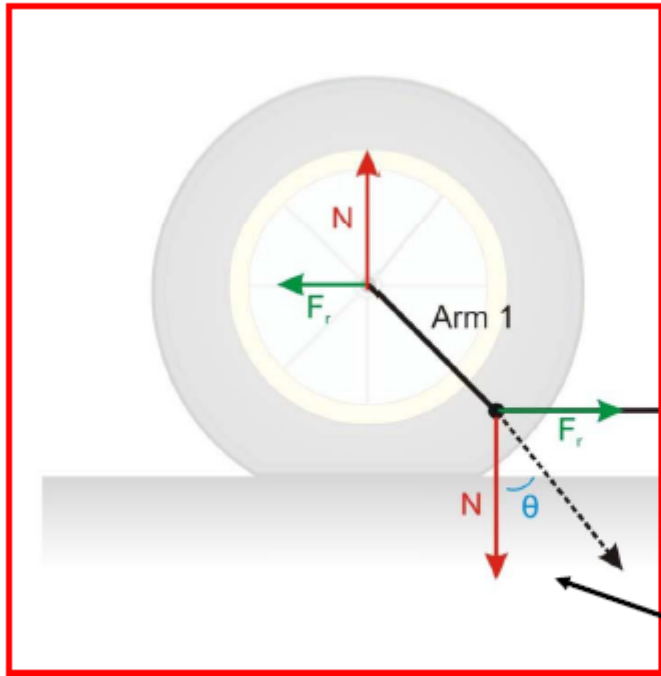


# Measurement

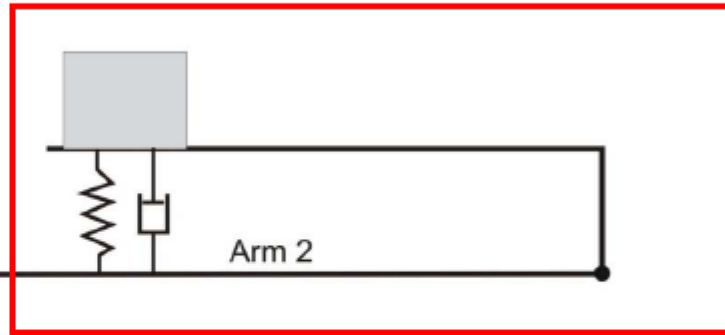
TUG angle based system



direct measurement system



load adjustment system



$$RRC = \frac{F_r}{N} = \tan(\theta)$$

$\theta$  : orientation of Arm 1



# Comparisons

## BASt versus TUG

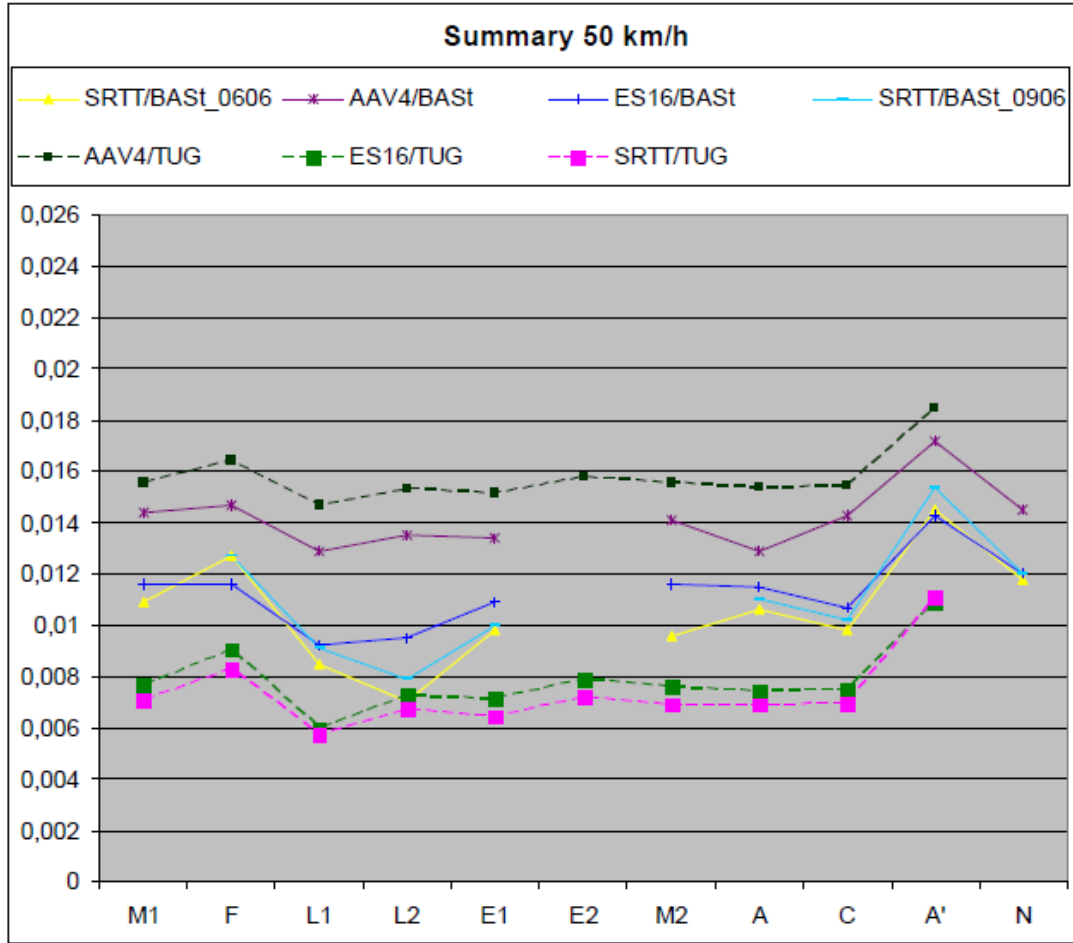


Figure 8.5:  $C_r$  for different test sections measured by BASt and TUG at 50 km/h

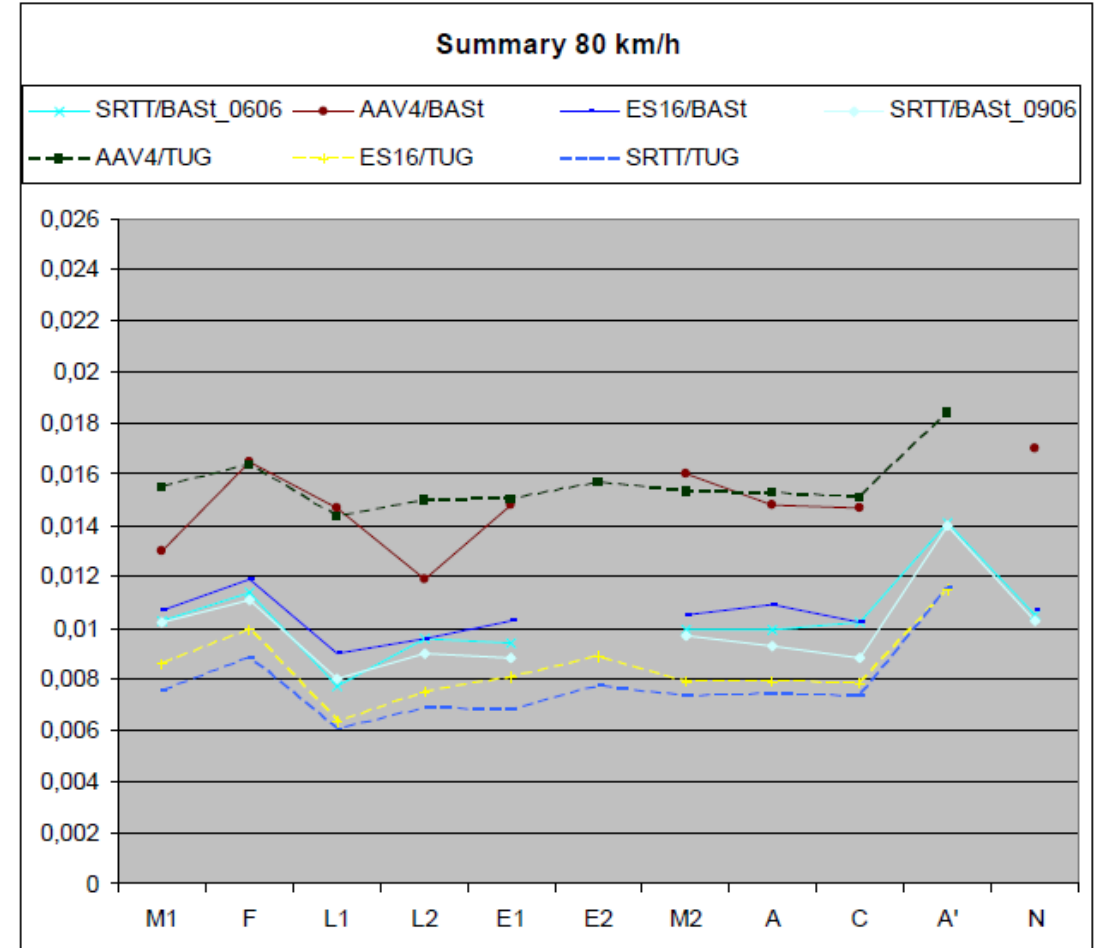


Figure 8.6:  $C_r$  for different test sections measured by BASt and TUG at 80 km/h

(Bergiers et al., 2011)

# Measurement

## Coast down

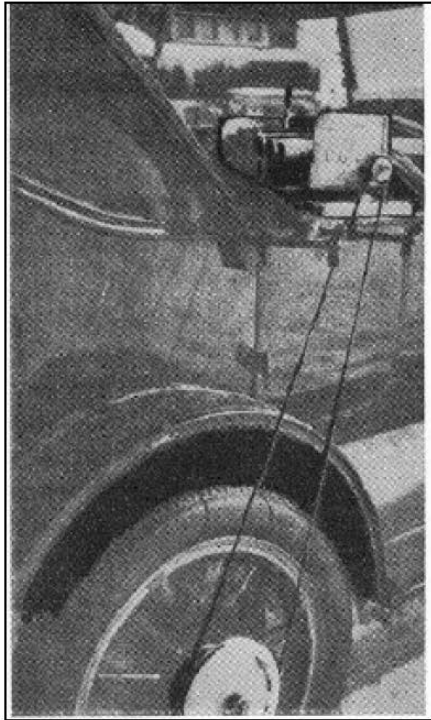
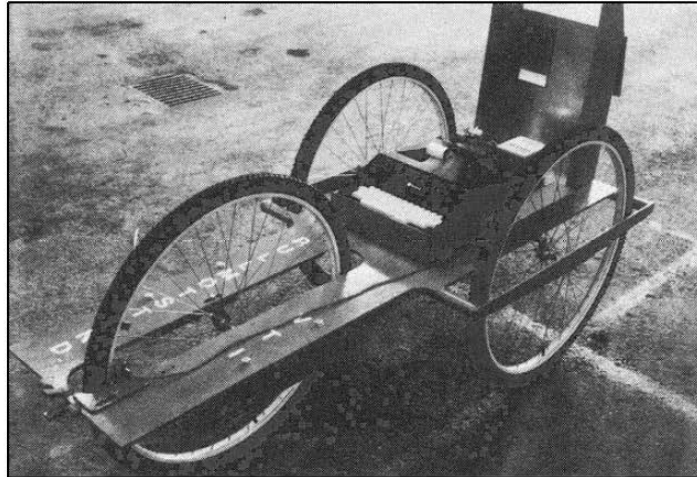


Fig. 11.1: Precision equipment "Ames Space-time Recorder" for measuring retardation (speed) during coastdown, as used by [Agg, 1928].

Fig. 11.2: Tricycle for testing RR of bicycle tyres at VTI [Arnberg et al, 1980]. The device was placed on a ramp, released and RRC was calculated from the coastdown.



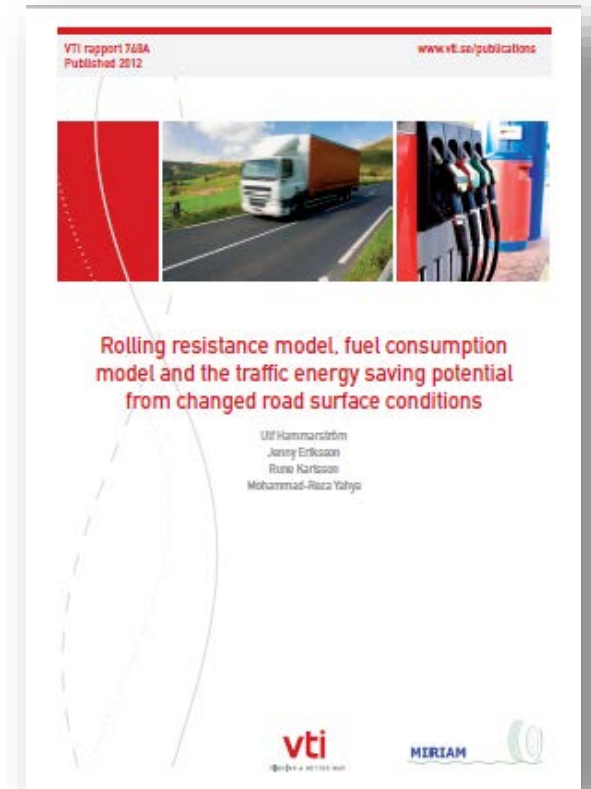
How is rolling  
resistance  
being used in  
modelling?



## Models for rolling resistance in road infrastructure asset management systems (2010 onwards)

$$F_{CS} = c1 \cdot (1 + k5 \cdot (F_r + F_{air} + d1 \cdot ADC \cdot v^2 + d2 \cdot RF + d3 \cdot RF^2))^{e1} \cdot v^{e2-1}$$

- $F_{CS}$ : Fuel consumption (N)
  - $F_{air}$ : Air resistance (N)
  - ADC: Average degree of curvature (rad/km)
  - RF: Rise and fall/gradient (m/km)
  - $v$  : Velocity (km/h)
  - $c1, k5, d1, d2, d3, e1$  and  $e2$ : Parameters
- IRI and MPD are part of the rolling resistance function ( $F_r$ ).



(Hammarström et al. 2012 )

Slide courtesy of Gerardo Flintsch



## Rolling resistance function ( $F_r$ )

Car:

- $F_r = m_1 * g * (0.00912 + 0.0000210 * iri * v + 0.00172 * mpd)$

Heavy truck:

- $F_r = m_1 * g * (0.00414 + 0.0000158 * iri * v + 0.00102 * mpd)$

Heavy truck with trailer:

- $F_r = m_1 * g * (0.00414 + 0.0000158 * iri * v + 0.00102 * mpd) + m_2 * g * (0.00306 + 0.0000158 * iri * v + 0.00102 * mpd)$

- Fuel consumption (90km/h) increases per increase of **MPD** unit:

- ✓ Car: 2.8%, Heavy truck: 3.4%, Truck+trailer: 5.3%

- Fuel consumption (90km/h) increases per increase of **IRI** unit:

- ✓ Car: 0.8%, Heavy truck: 1.3%, Truck+trailer: 1.7%

Slide courtesy of Gerardo Flintsch



# ROSE - 'Road Saving Energy' (2016)

Creating the scientific background for a 20% reduction in rolling resistance



Motorway exiting the greater area of  
Copenhagen northbound towards Elsinore

- This will contribute to an additional reduction in fuel consumption
- If successful it will lead to a 1.5% reduction in energy consumption in Denmark

*Slide courtesy of Bjarne Schmidt*

# Some ROSE results

## The value of a well maintained network

- Average state road condition in 2012:
  - Mean value of MPD: 1.08
  - Mean value of IRI: 1.27
- Average state road condition in 2015:
  - Mean value of MPD: 0.88
  - Mean value of IRI: 1.1
- Percentage reduction in fuel consumption:
  - Car: 0.65%
  - Truck: 1.02%

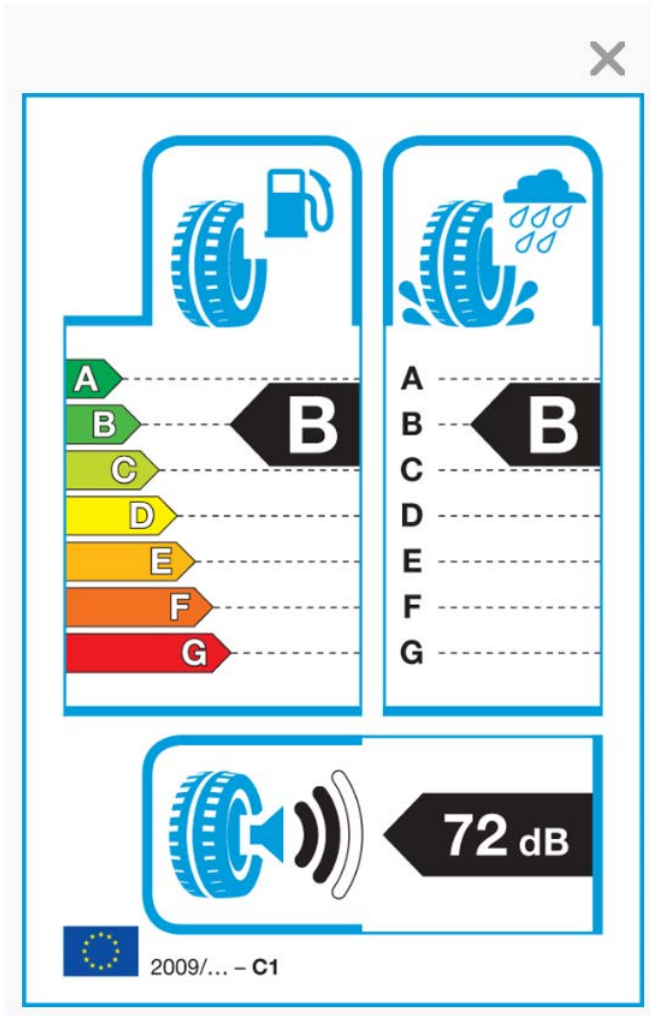
Increased investment by a factor 3 to 4 over a 3-year period maintaining 1/4 of the state roads to clear backlog

*Slide courtesy of Bjarne Schmidt*

How can we  
reduce rolling  
resistance?

# Tyre design

Operated under design conditions



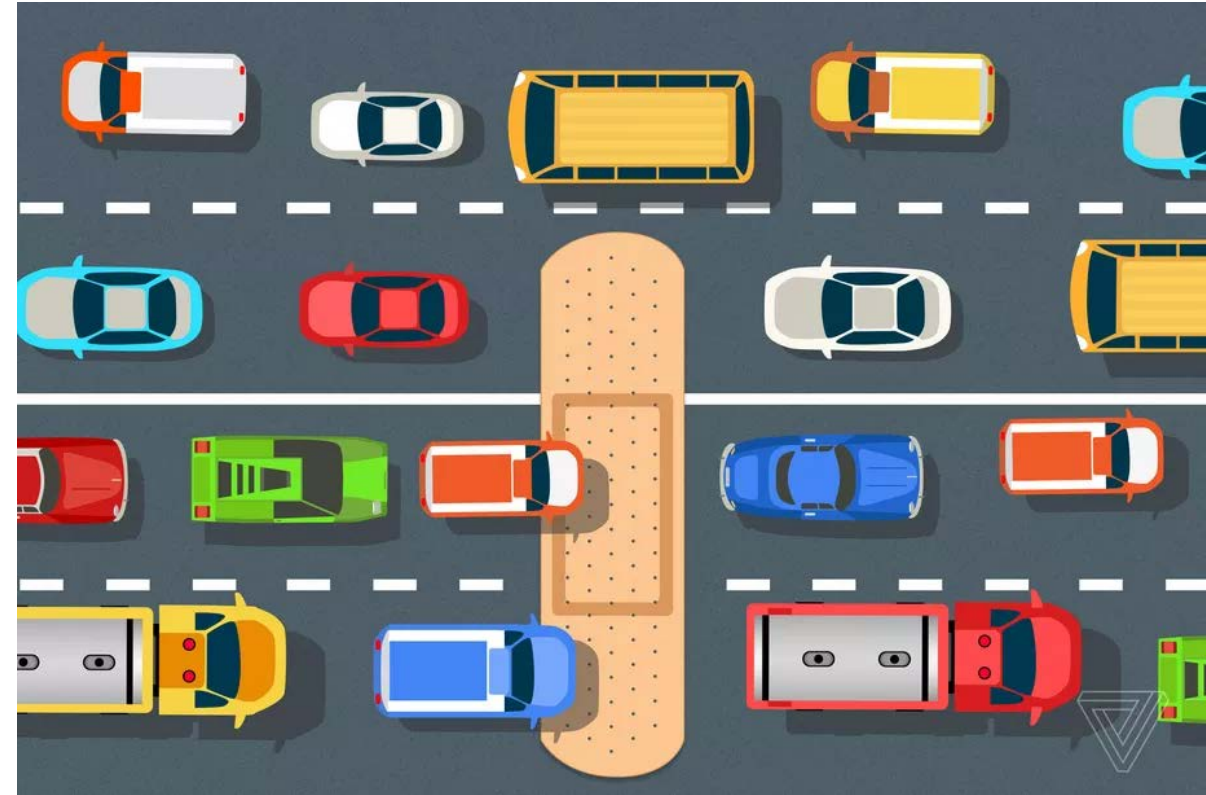
## 2. Fuel efficiency

Depending on the tire's rolling resistance, its fuel efficiency will range from class A (denoting the best fuel economy) all the way through to class G (delivering the worst fuel economy). Between classes, fuel consumption increases by approximately 0.1 liter for every 100 km driven.



Designed and constructed with the aim of reducing rolling resistance including maintenance strategy

- Road maintenance in general improves pavement surface characteristics and results in a reduction in vehicle CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
- By applying new surface layers developed and constructed with the aim of lowering rolling resistance, an even greater CO<sub>2</sub> reduction will be achieved- compared to traditional used asphalt pavements



Ref: <https://www.theverge.com/2017/5/4/15544156/potholes-self-healing-materials-infrastructure-transportation>

*Slide courtesy of Bjarne Schmidt*



# A well maintained road infrastructure.....

Contributes to a reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for a competitive price

- Socioeconomic calculations performed by the DRD shows that the cost for obtaining the CO<sub>2</sub> reduction, by using low rolling resistance pavements, are competitive in relation to other CO<sub>2</sub> reducing actions like renewable energy.
- Need to keep in mind:
  - road safety can not be jeopardised as a trade-off for CO<sub>2</sub> emission
  - tire/road noise seems to go hand in hand with rolling resistance.



*Slide courtesy of Bjarne Schmidt*

# Durability & ROI

The key to socioeconomic benefit

- Provide low rolling resistance over entire life time (15+ years)
- Retain grip
- No ravelling or stone loss
- The characteristics of the pavement material must be stable over time (rutting and climatic impact)



*Slide courtesy of Bjarne Schmidt*

# Low rolling resistance pavements

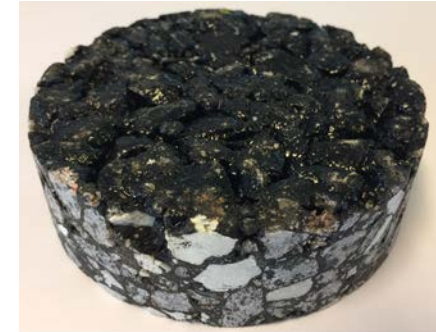
## Potential savings

### Savings by using low rolling resistance pavement on 50 km of motorways (per year)

CO <sub>2</sub>	3,300 ton
Fuel	1.1 million litre

Total annual CO<sub>2</sub> reduction if all state roads in Denmark consisted of low rolling resistance pavements = 160,000 ton

Traditional Asphalt (SMA 11)



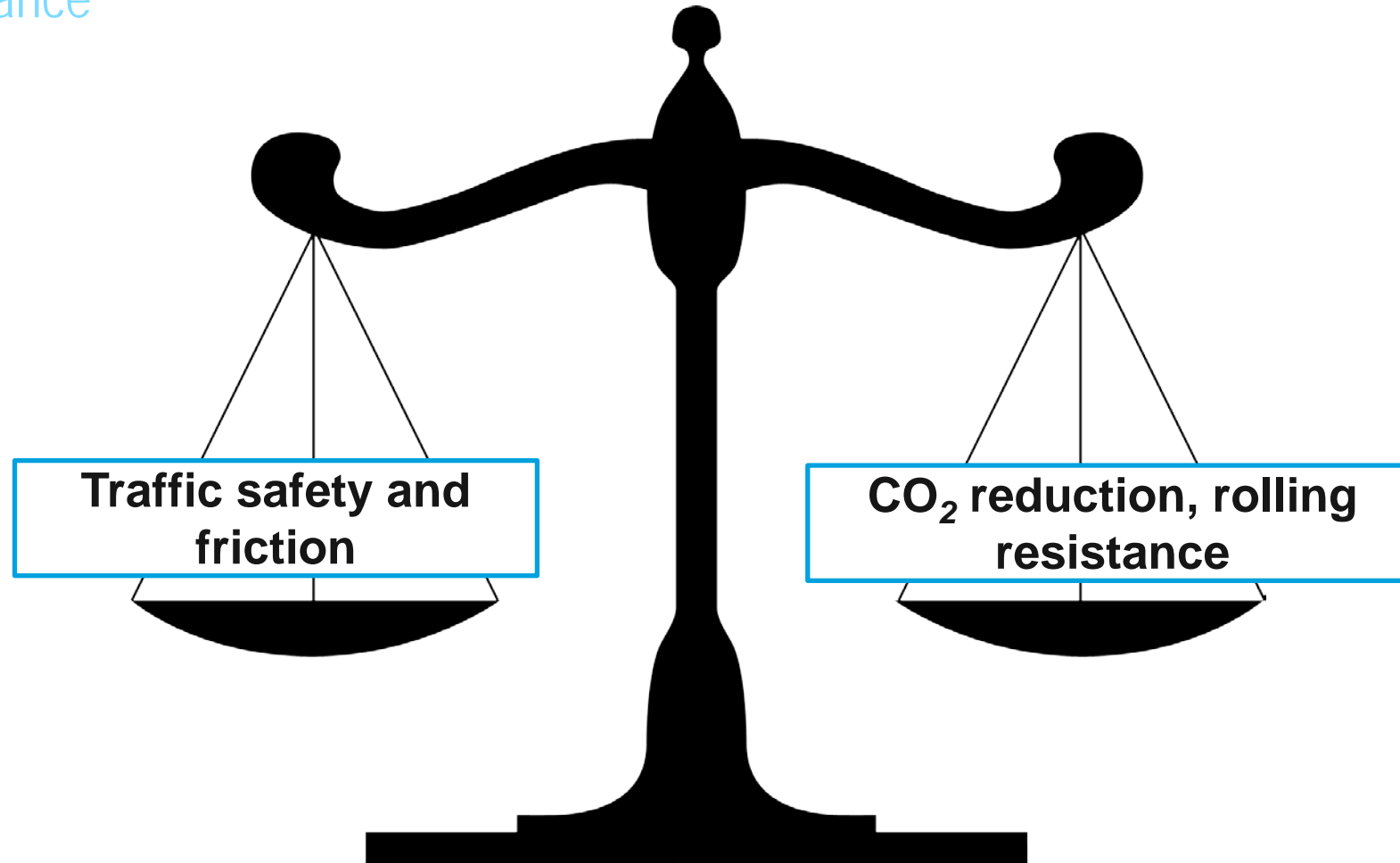
Low rolling resistance asphalt (SMA 8)



Slide courtesy of Bjarne Schmidt

# Challenges

Finding the right balance



*Slide courtesy of Bjarne Schmidt*



What did we  
learn today?



# Rolling resistance

## Some take-aways

- 1970s rock bands could have improved touring profits by using fuel efficient tires
- Is responsible for up to 30% of fuel consumption and generates significant levels of CO<sub>2</sub>
- Is predominantly caused by deformation of the tire (hysteresis)
- Lower rolling resistance can be achieved through tire and pavement design



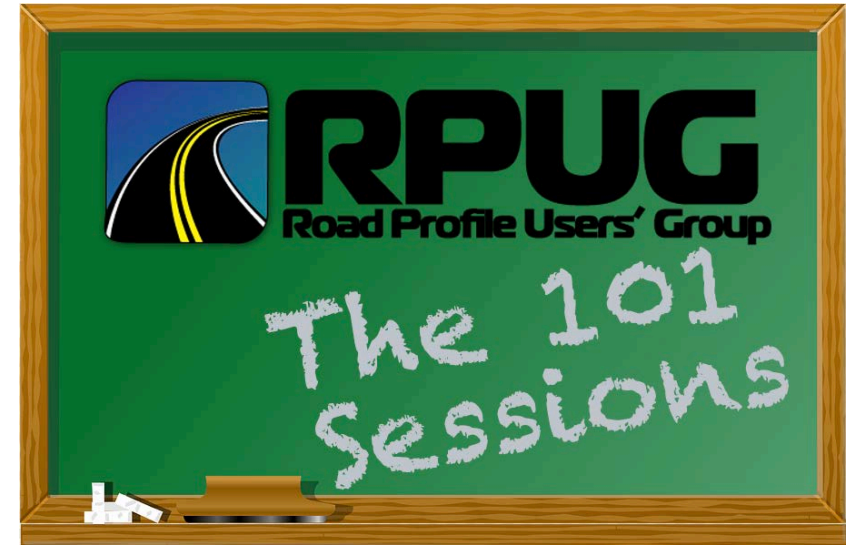
# Thank you

Provision of materials and expert guidance

- Bjarne Schmidt (ASPL)
- Gerardo Flintsch (VTTI)
- Filippo Giustozzi (RMIT)
- Matteo Pettinari (DRD)

Further information can be found here:

- <http://rose-project.dk/news-updates/danish/>
- <http://miriam-co2.net/>



[www.gtrdial-us.com](http://www.gtrdial-us.com)





QUESTIONS?



SHAPING  
OUR  
TRANSPORT  
FUTURE

Richard Wix  
National Discipline Leader  
Australian Road Research Board  
E: [richard.wix@arrb.com.au](mailto:richard.wix@arrb.com.au)