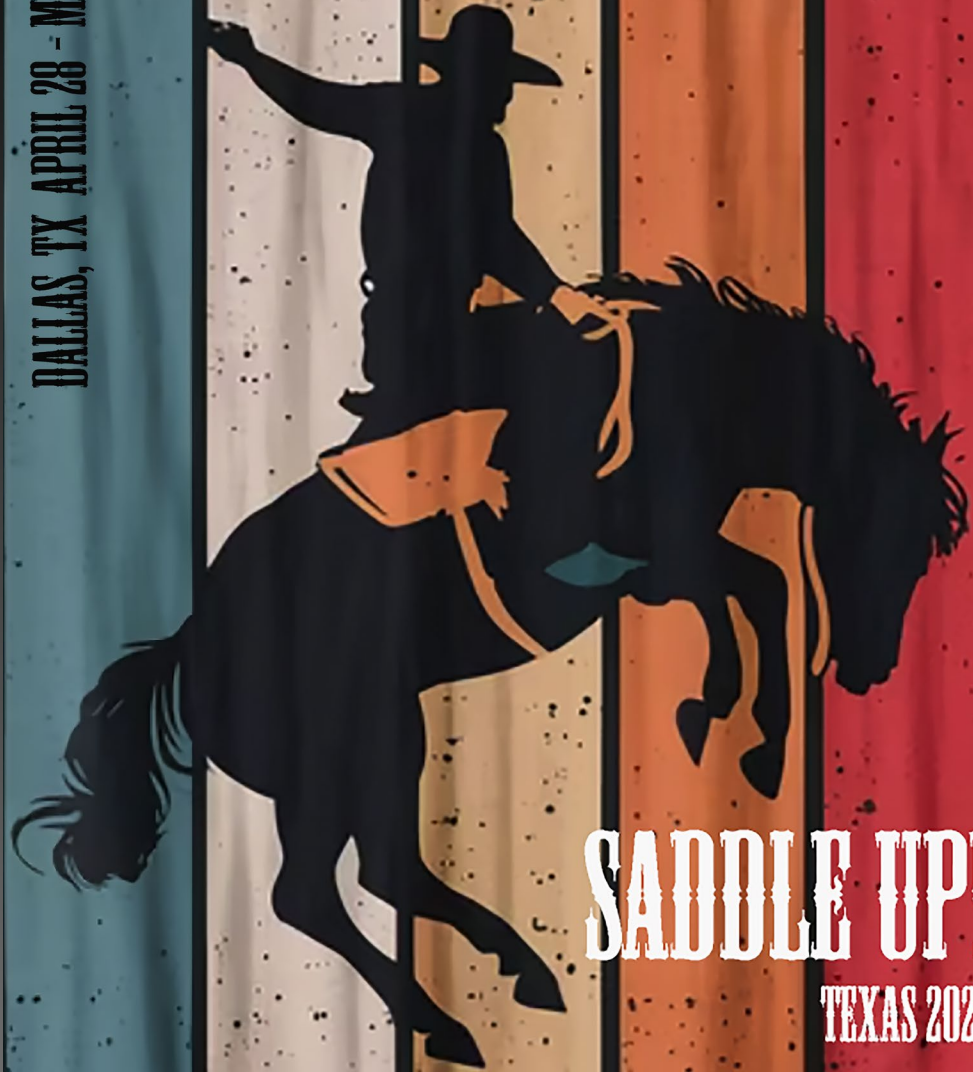


DALLAS, TX APRIL 28 - MAY 1 2025



**SADDLE UP!**  
TEXAS 2025

# AUTOMATED PROJECT-LEVEL MAINTENANCE AND REHABILITATION PLANNING AND DESIGN FOR JOINTED PLAIN CONCRETE PAVEMENTS USING 3D PAVEMENT SURFACE DATA

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**YICHANG (JAMES) TSAI, PHD, PE**  
*PROFESSOR, GEORGIA TECH*



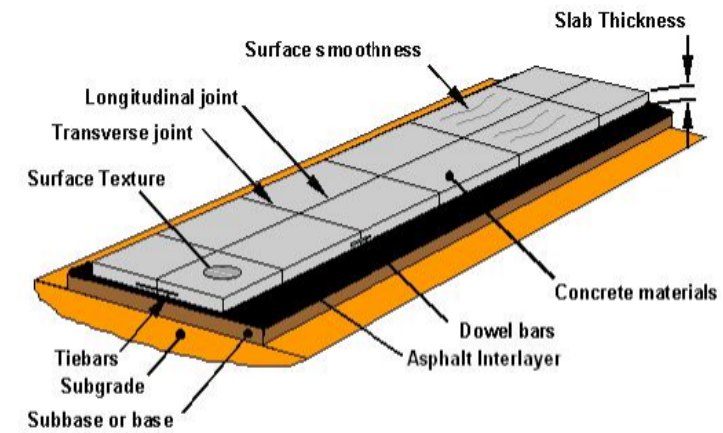
# OUTLINE

- **BACKGROUND & CHALLENGES OF CURRENT PRACTICES**
- **RESEARCH OBJECTIVES**
- **METHODOLOGY & CASE STUDY**
- **CONCLUSION**



# JOINTED PLAIN CONCRETE PAVEMENTS, A CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- **LIMITED MILES, HIGH IMPACT**
  - SMALL PORTION OF THE ROAD NETWORK
  - PREDOMINANTLY INSTALLED ON CRITICAL ROUTES (INTERSTATES, FREIGHT CORRIDORS)
    - 24% OF THE 47,684 MI OF US INTERSTATES
    - 4.36% OF GEORGIA'S 17,959 MI OF STATE ROUTES → 20% OF TRUCK TRAFFIC
- **DURABILITY AND LONG SERVICE LIFE**
  - DESIGNED TO SUPPORT HEAVY TRAFFIC FOR 40–50+ YEARS WITH PROPER PRESERVATION





# INCREASING MAINTENANCE AND REHABILITATION (M&R) NEEDS FOR AGING JPCP



- **AS JPCPs AGE, THEIR MAINTENANCE AND REHABILITATION (M&R) NEEDS GROW AFFECTING**
  - FUNCTIONAL PERFORMANCE
  - STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY
- **MAJOR DISTRESSES:**
  - SLAB CRACKING
  - JOINT AND CRACK FAULTING
  - JOINT AND CRACK SPALLING



*Slab cracking*



*Joint faulting*



*Joint spalling*



# JPCP M&R ALTERNATIVES

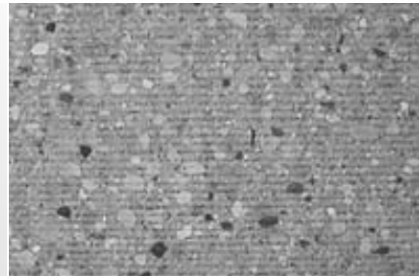


## CONCRETE PAVEMENT RESTORATION (CPR)

- EXTEND PAVEMENT LIFE AND DELAY MAJOR REHABILITATION



**Slab Replacement (Full-depth repair)**



**Diamond Grinding**



**Joint and Crack Sealing**

## LANE RECONSTRUCTION (LR)

- NEW PAVEMENT WITH LONG DESIGN LIFE (40+ YEARS)

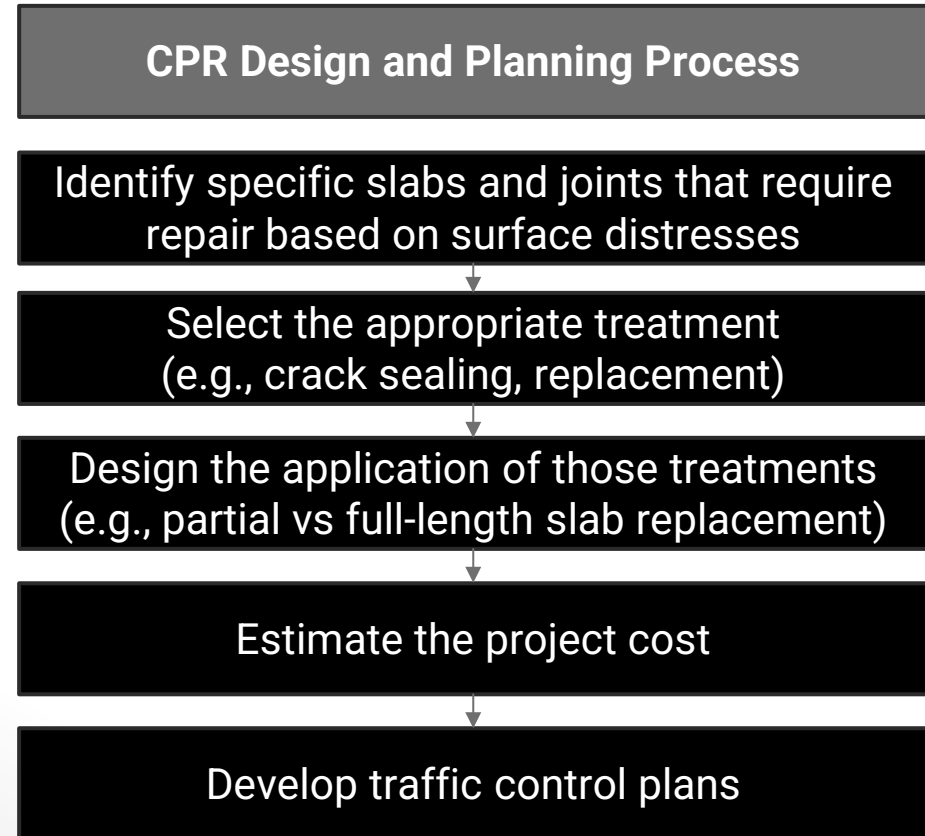


**JPCP Construction using  
Slipform Paver**

# CPR PROJECT PLANNING & DESIGN



- **MOST JPCPs ARE LOCATED ON HIGH-TRAFFIC VOLUME ROUTES, THUS M&R ACTIVITIES MUST BE:**
  - **TIMELY** TO MAINTAIN GOOD CONDITION AND PREVENT FURTHER DETERIORATION
  - **EFFECTIVE** TO ADDRESS DISTRESSES, EXTEND PAVEMENT LIFE, AND DELAY FUTURE INTERVENTIONS
  - **CONDUCTED WITH MINIMAL TRAFFIC INTERRUPTIONS**





# CONVENTIONAL CPR PROJECT DESIGN PRACTICE



## CPR DESIGN IS MOSTLY BASED ON SURFACE DISTRESS CONDITIONS

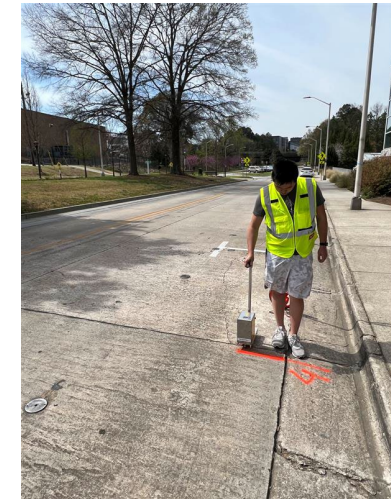
- LIMITED STRUCTURAL ASSESSMENT



Low-speed windshield surveys



Field assessment (shoulder/median) and marking

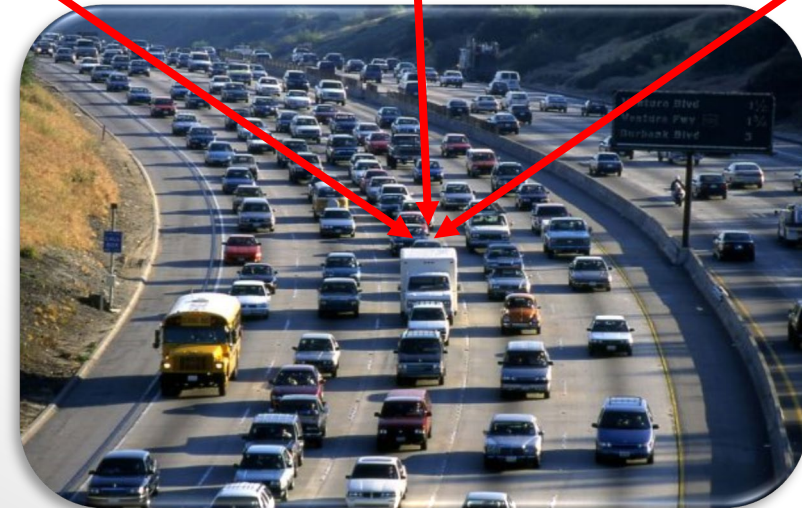
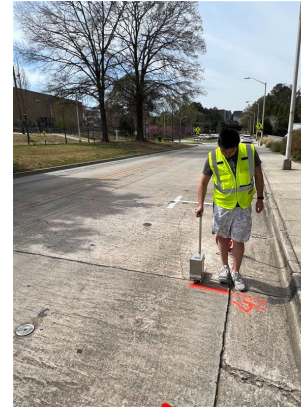


Limited field measurements (e.g., joint faulting)



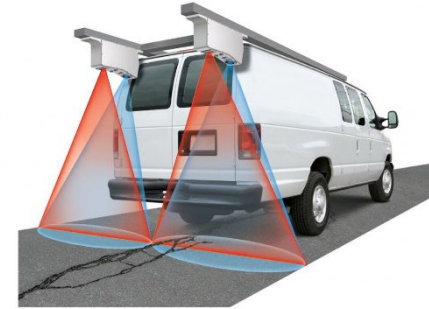
# CHALLENGES WITH CURRENT CPR PROJECT DESIGN PRACTICE

- **INABILITY TO PERFORM DETAILED SLAB-LEVEL CONDITION ASSESSMENT AND DISTRESS MEASUREMENTS**
  - HIGH COST FOR TRAFFIC CONTROL
- **CHALLENGES:**
  - SAFETY RISKS
  - TIME-CONSUMING AND TEDIOUS PROCESS
  - PRONE TO INACCURACIES
  - LIMITATIONS IN DESIGN OPTIMIZATION
  - DISTRESS DETERIORATION OUTDATING DESIGN

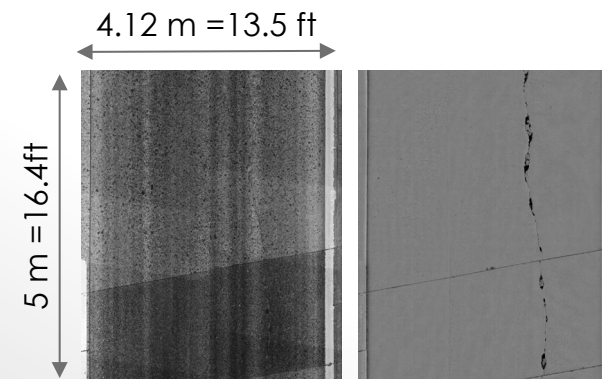


# ADOPTION OF 3D LASER IMAGING SYSTEMS

- **MAINSTREAM TECHNOLOGY AMONG STATE DOTs FOR AUTOMATED PAVEMENT SURVEYING AND CONDITION ASSESSMENT**
- SYSTEM OF 3D LASER SENSORS CAPTURING THE HIGH-RESOLUTION 3D PAVEMENT SURFACE DATA WITH FULL LANE COVERAGE AT HIGHWAY SPEED
- EXTRACT PAVEMENT SURFACE INDICATORS AND DISTRESSES USING IMAGE PROCESSING AND AI METHODS
  - E.G., CRACKING, RUTTING, FAULTING, IRI, POTHOLES



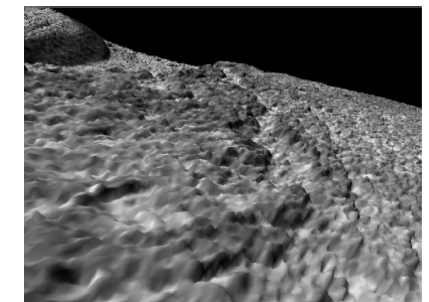
Georgia Tech Sensing Van with an installed 3D laser imaging system



Intensity (2D)

Range (3D)

Sample Pavement Image



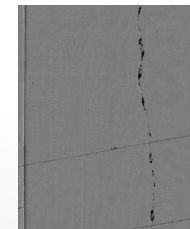
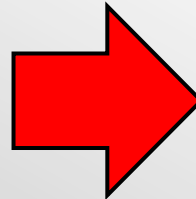
3D pavement surface texture data visualization



# MANUAL VS AUTOMATED JPCP DISTRESS SURVEYS



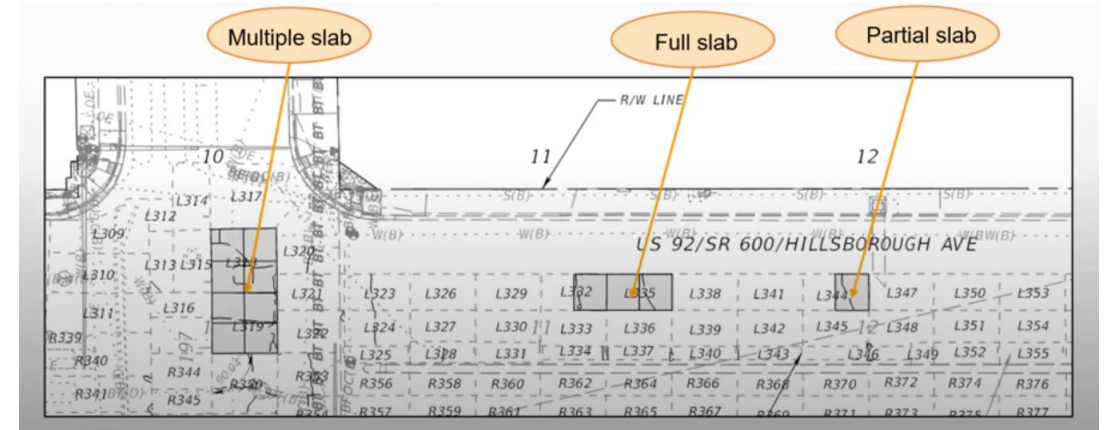
Manual Surveys	Automated Surveys using 3D Laser Systems
<b>Inaccurate:</b> Subjective and prone to human error	<b>Accurate:</b> Objective, based on high-resolution pavement images and automation
<b>Sampled:</b> E.g., GDOT faulting measured every 8 <sup>th</sup> joint at right edge)	<b>Full lane coverage:</b> Distress information for entire scanned pavement segment
<b>Rough distress measurements:</b> E.g., Count of slabs with transverse cracks	<b>High-resolution distress measurements:</b> E.g., Crack map and its measurements (length, width, orientation)
<b>Lack of distress spatial information:</b> Aggregated quantities recorded for long segments (e.g., 1-mi)	<b>Spatially-referenced distress information:</b> Ability to spatially locate high-resolution distresses along scanned segment



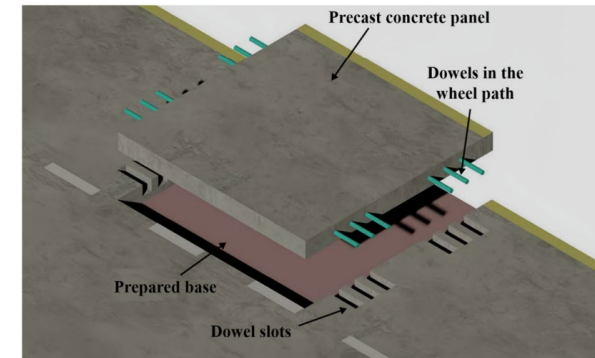


# RESEARCH NEED

- **NEED TO LEVERAGE HIGH-RESOLUTION 3D PAVEMENT SURFACE DATA TO ENHANCE AND AUTOMATE THE DESIGN PROCESS FOR CPR PROJECTS**
  - GENERATE ACCURATE SLAB REPLACEMENT DESIGN PLANS
- **BENEFITS:**
  - STREAMLINE DESIGN PROCESS, IMPROVE ACCURACY, AND RESULT IN MORE EFFECTIVE REHABILITATION PLANS
  - REDUCE SAFETY RISKS WHILE MINIMIZING DISRUPTIONS TO TRAFFIC
  - SUPPORT EMERGING PRECAST CONCRETE PAVEMENT FOR SLAB REPLACEMENT: DETAILED DIMENSIONS



Sample Slab Replacement Design Layout (FDOT, 2022)



Precast Slab Replacement (Tan et al., 2024)

# RESEARCH OBJECTIVE



- **DEVELOP A METHODOLOGY TO AUTOMATE THE CPR PRECONSTRUCTION DESIGN AND PLANNING PROCESS USING 3D PAVEMENT SURFACE DATA**
- **THE CORNERSTONE OF THE METHODOLOGY IS A SLAB-BASED CONDITION MONITORING SYSTEM, WHICH INCLUDES:**
  - SLAB LAYOUT INVENTORY
  - SLAB-BASED HIGH-RESOLUTION DISTRESS CONDITION DATA
- **CONDUCT A CASE STUDY ON A 10-MILE PROJECT ALONG I-16 NEAR MACON, GA USING 3D PAVEMENT SURFACE DATA COLLECTED BY GTSV IN 2018**

# CPR PROJECT DESIGN METHODOLOGY

1. Acquire 3D pavement surface scan data of the project prior to construction

2. Establish slab inventory and extract surface distresses at slab- and joint-level

3. Identify slabs and joints that require CPR treatment based on defined criteria

4. Design slab/joint replacement layout based on defined constraints

5. Perform design optimization

6. Generate spatially referenced repair design plans

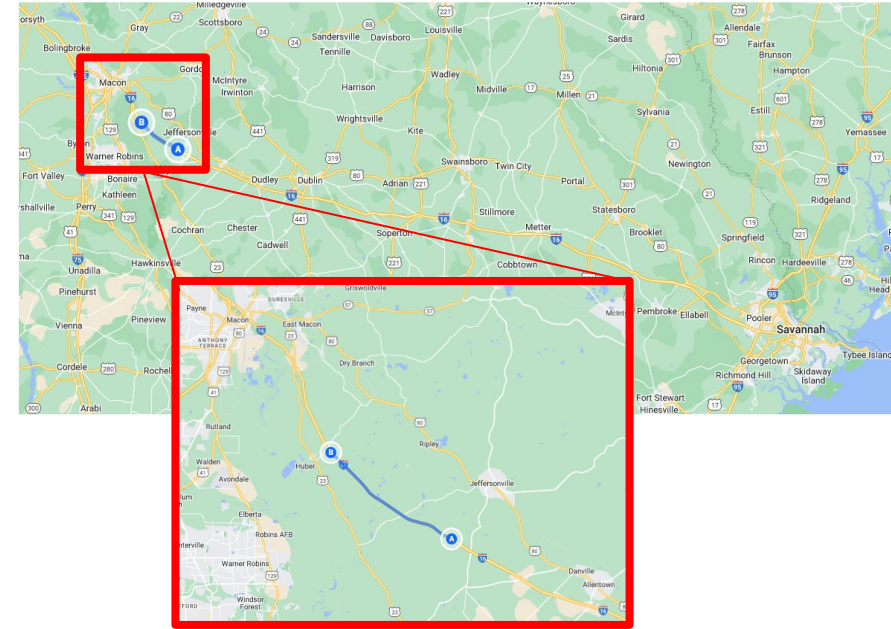
**Case Study on  
I-16 WB using  
2018 survey  
data**





# CASE STUDY

- **10-MILE SECTION ON INTERSTATE 16 FROM MP22 TO MP12 IN WESTBOUND DIRECTION**
- **TRAFFIC**
  - **AADT: 23,900 VEH/DAY**
  - **TRUCK PERCENTAGE: 24%**
- **BUILT IN 1972**
- **SLAB THICKNESS: 9-INCH**
- **JOINT DESIGN: UNDOWELED, SKEWED JOINTS, 16-23 FT SPACING**
- **BASE: CEMENT SOIL**
- **SHOULDER: ASPHALT PAVEMENT**
- **3D PAVEMENT DATA SURVEYS: 2013 – 2018**



# CPR PROJECT DESIGN METHODOLOGY

1. Acquire 3D pavement surface scan data of the project prior to construction

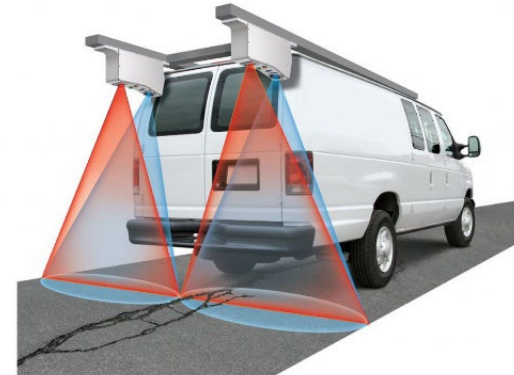
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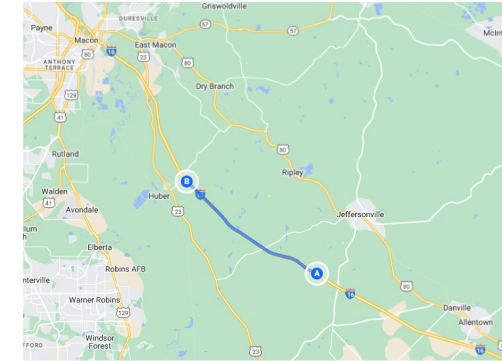
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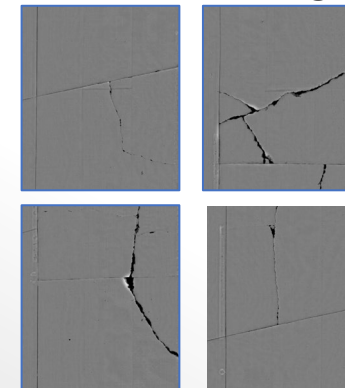


**GTSV**



**I-16 WB  
MP 22-12**

## High-resolution Pavement Images



# CPR PROJECT DESIGN METHODOLOGY

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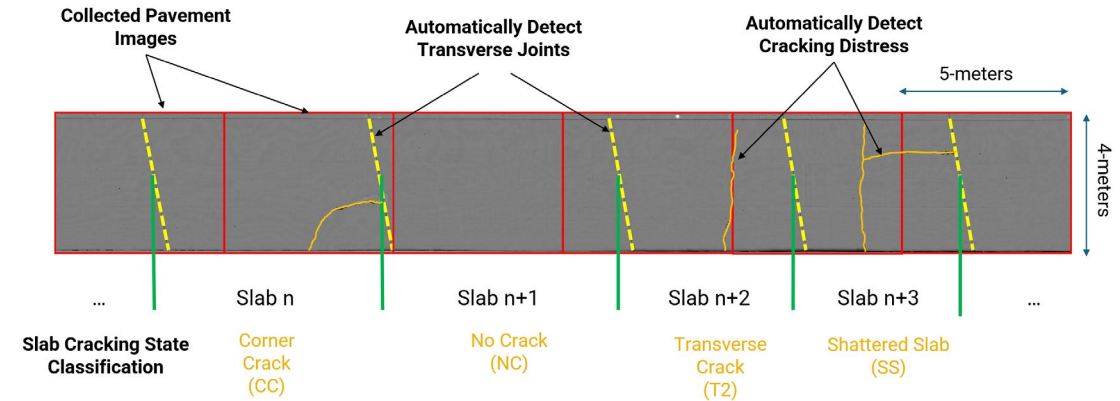
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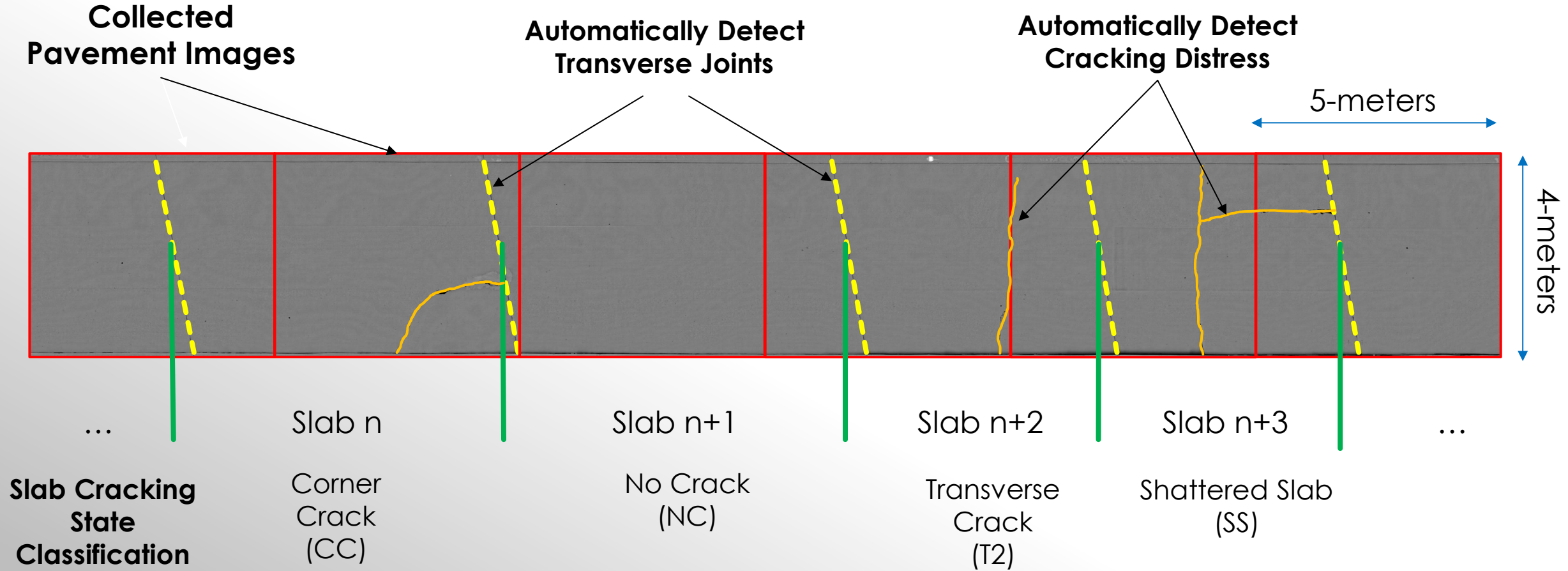


- **Cracking:**
  - Crack map illustrating the extent of cracking across the slab area
  - Crack length, crack width (95th percentile), and the slab's crack state classification (e.g., L1, T2, SS)
- **Joint Condition:**
  - Faulting measurements (median)
  - Spalling condition
  - Patching condition

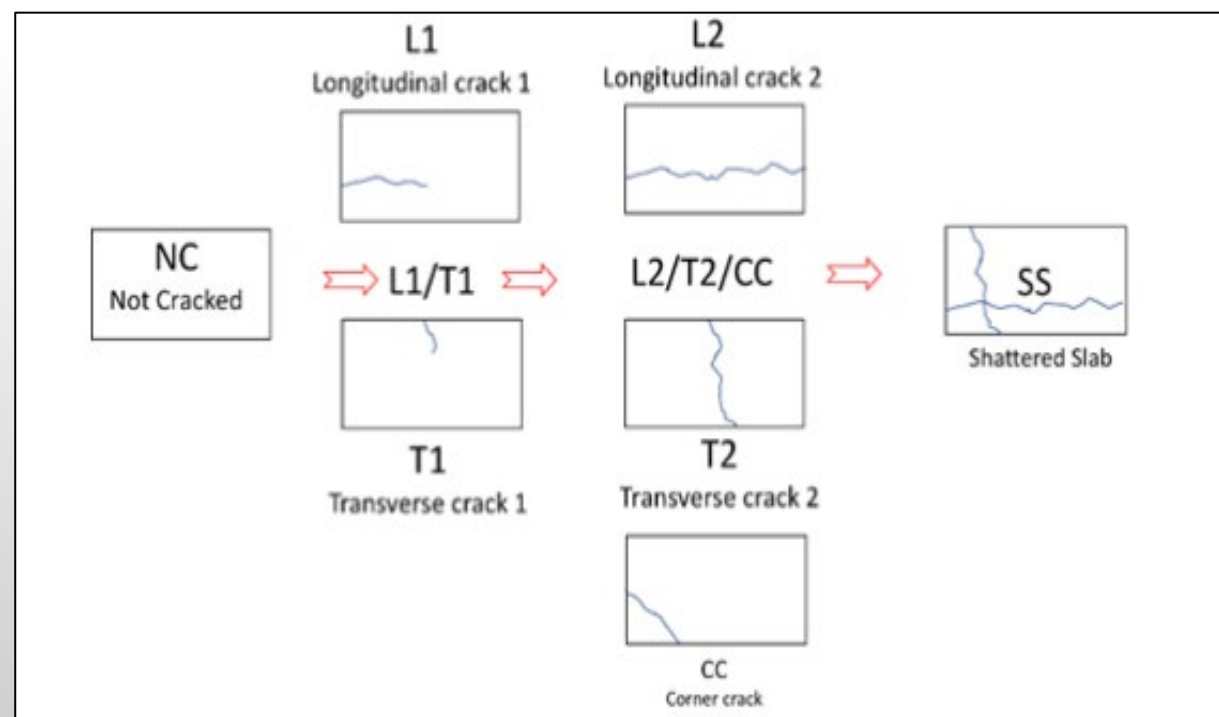
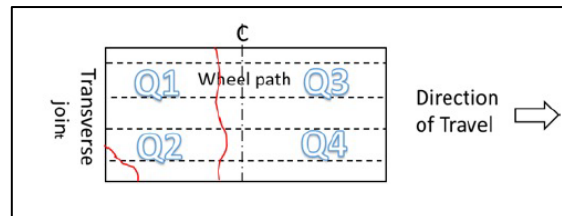




# SLAB-BASED DATA PREPARATION



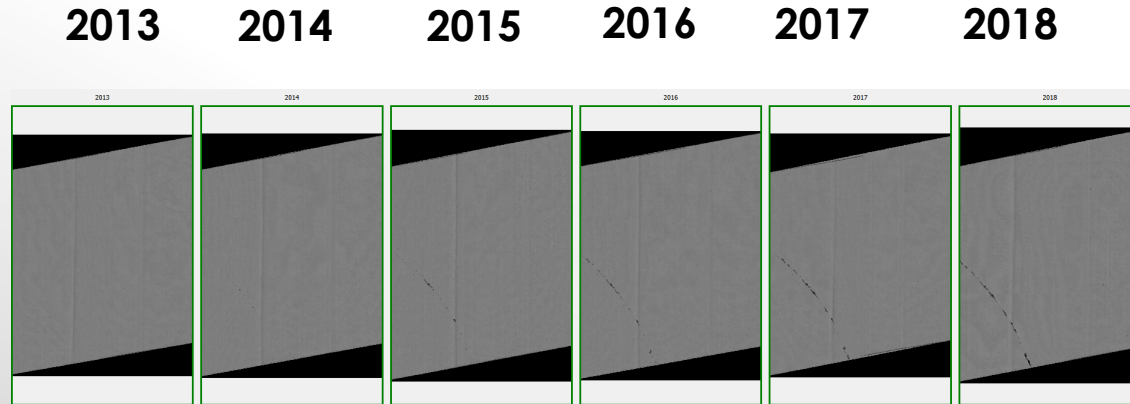
# CRACKING SLAB STATE PROGRESSION



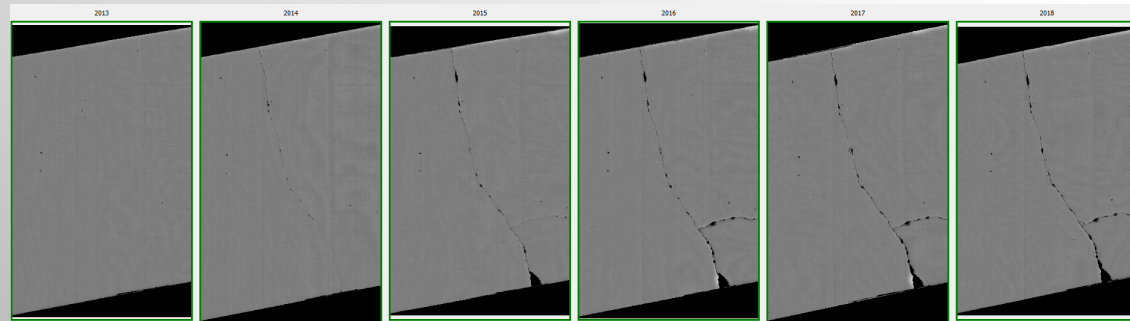
**3D Slab-based State Progression (Geary, 2019)**



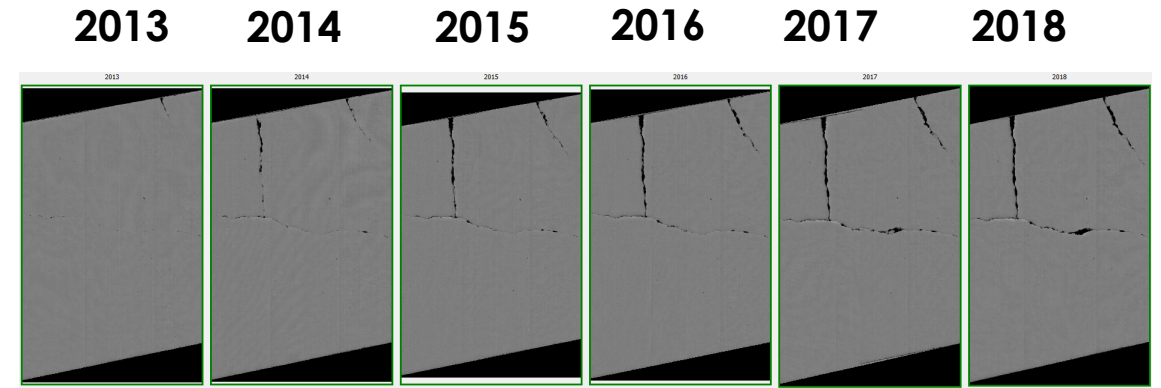
# SLAB CRACKING PROGRESSION (2013 – 2018)



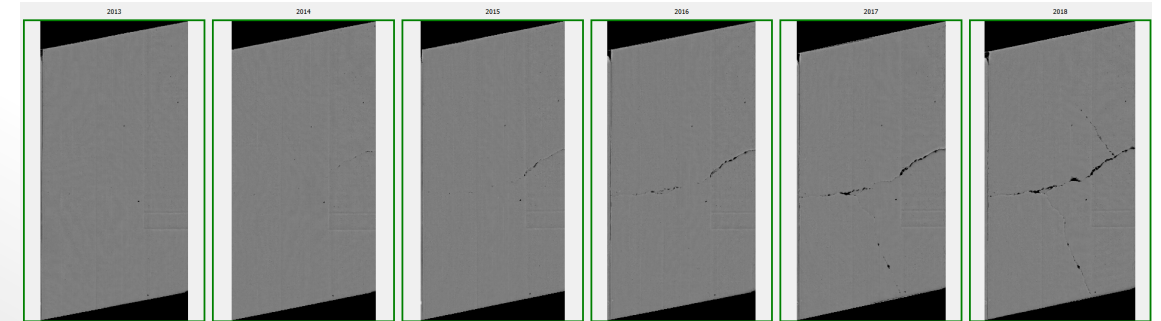
NC NC CC CC CC CC



L1 L2 SS SS SS SS



T2 SS SS SS SS SS

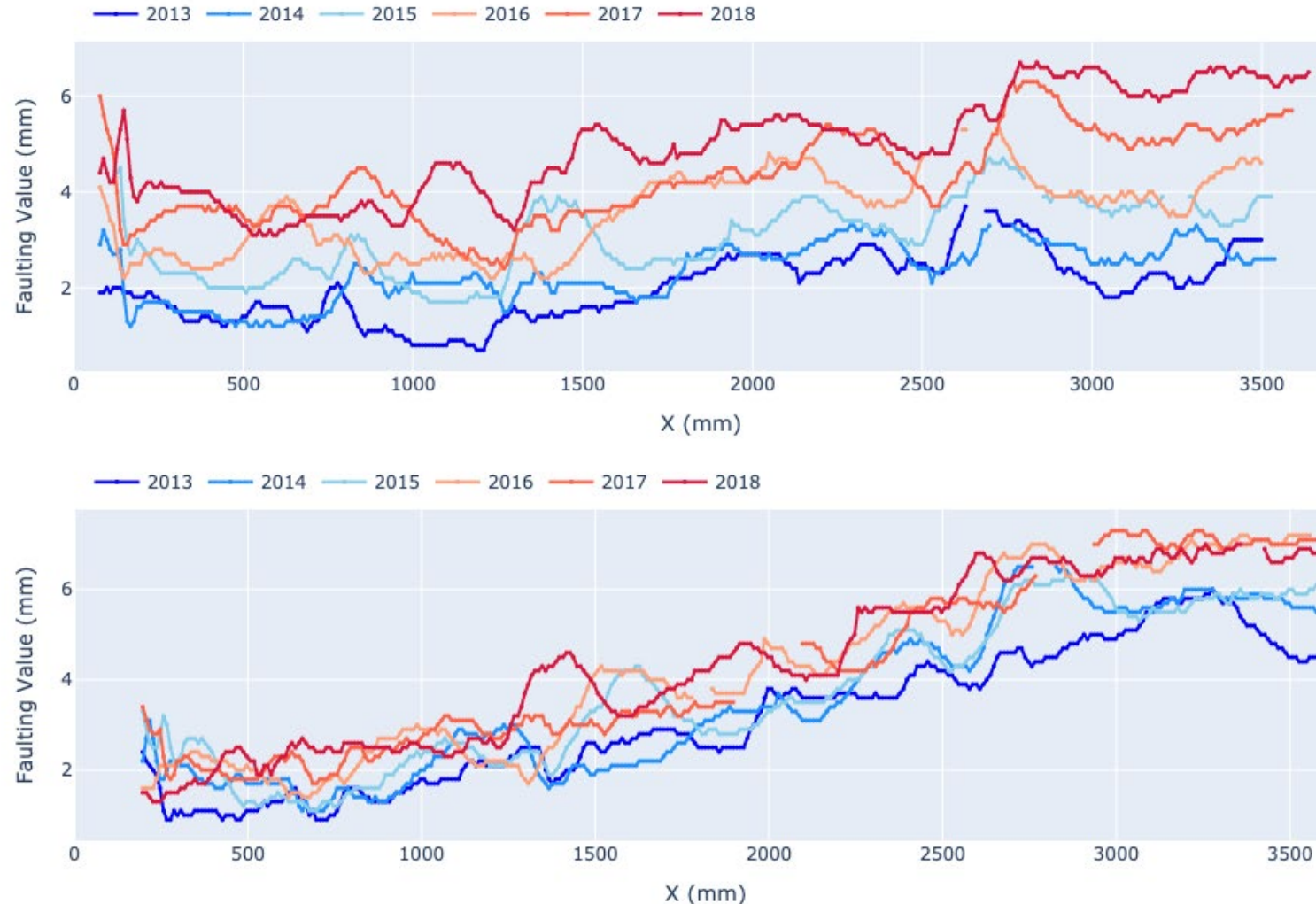


NC T1 T2 T2 SS SS

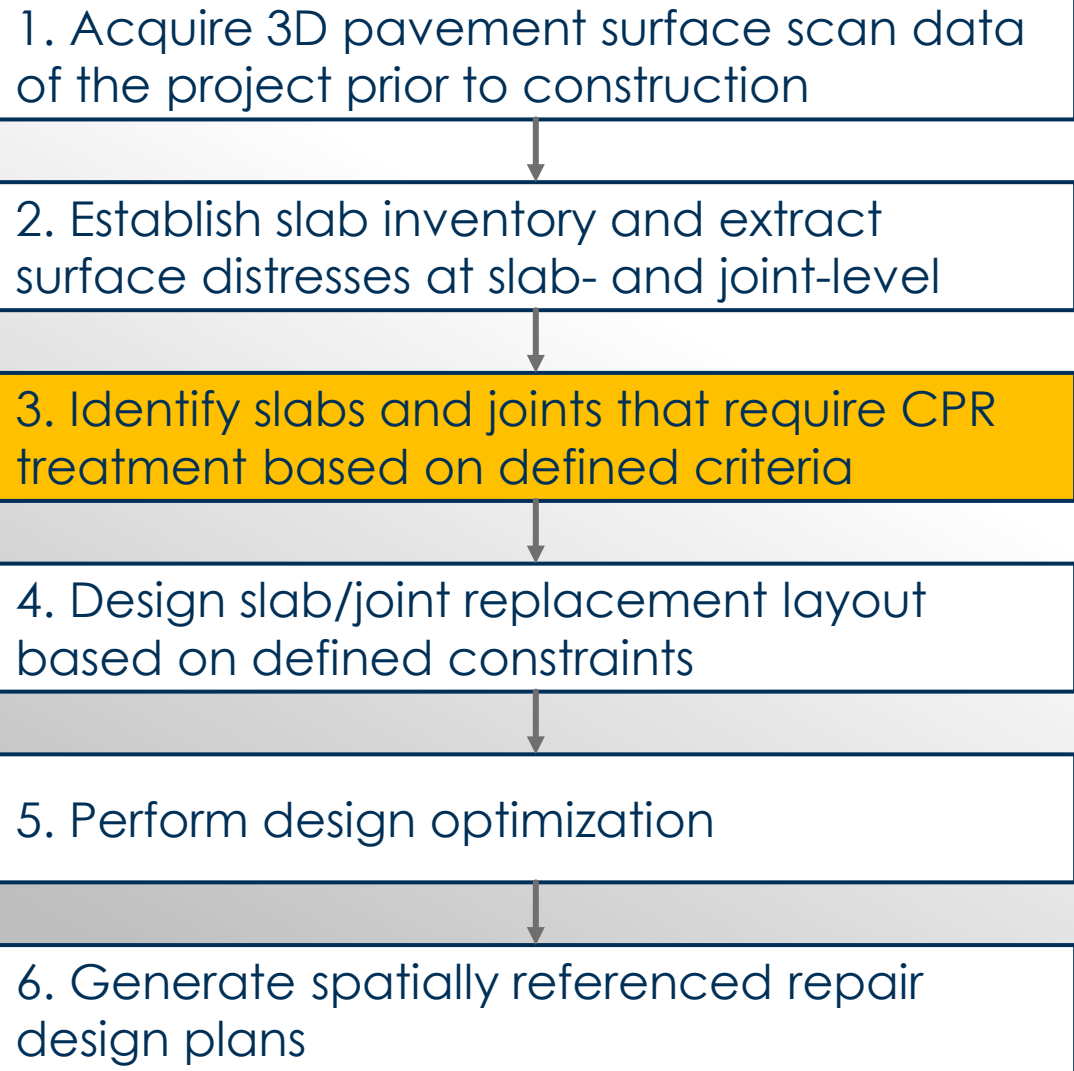
Data Collected by Georgia Tech Sensing  
Van on I-16 Westbound (2013 – 2018)



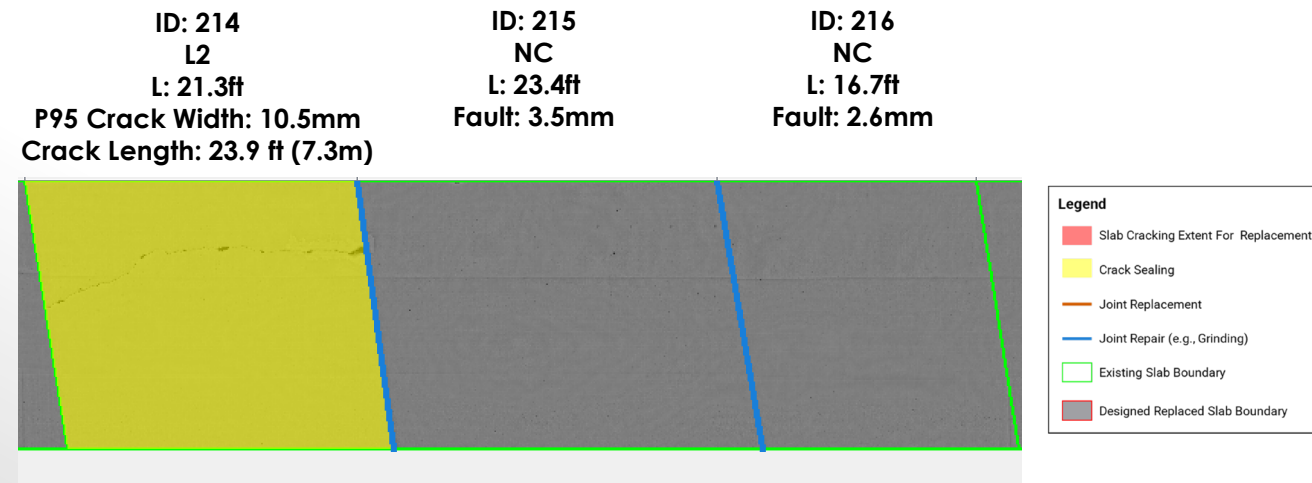
# JOINT FAULTING MEASUREMENT PROFILE PROGRESSION (2013 – 2018)



# CPR PROJECT DESIGN METHODOLOGY



M&R Treatments	Criteria		
Cracking Related	Slab State	Crack Width	
Crack Sealing	L1, T1, L2	3mm - 12.7mm	
Slab Replacement (Full-depth Repair)	L1, T1, L2	> 12.7mm	
	T2, CC, SS	Any width	
	Criteria		
Joint Related	Faulting	Spalling	Failed Patching
Joint Repair (e.g., Diamond Grinding, Dowel Bar Retrofitting, etc.)	2.54mm – 12.7mm	✗	✗
Joint Replacement (Partial or Full-depth repair)	> 12.7mm	✓	✓



**Crack Sealing and Joint Repair Examples**

# CPR PROJECT DESIGN METHODOLOGY



1. Acquire 3D pavement surface scan data of the project prior to construction

2. Establish slab inventory and extract surface distresses at slab- and joint-level

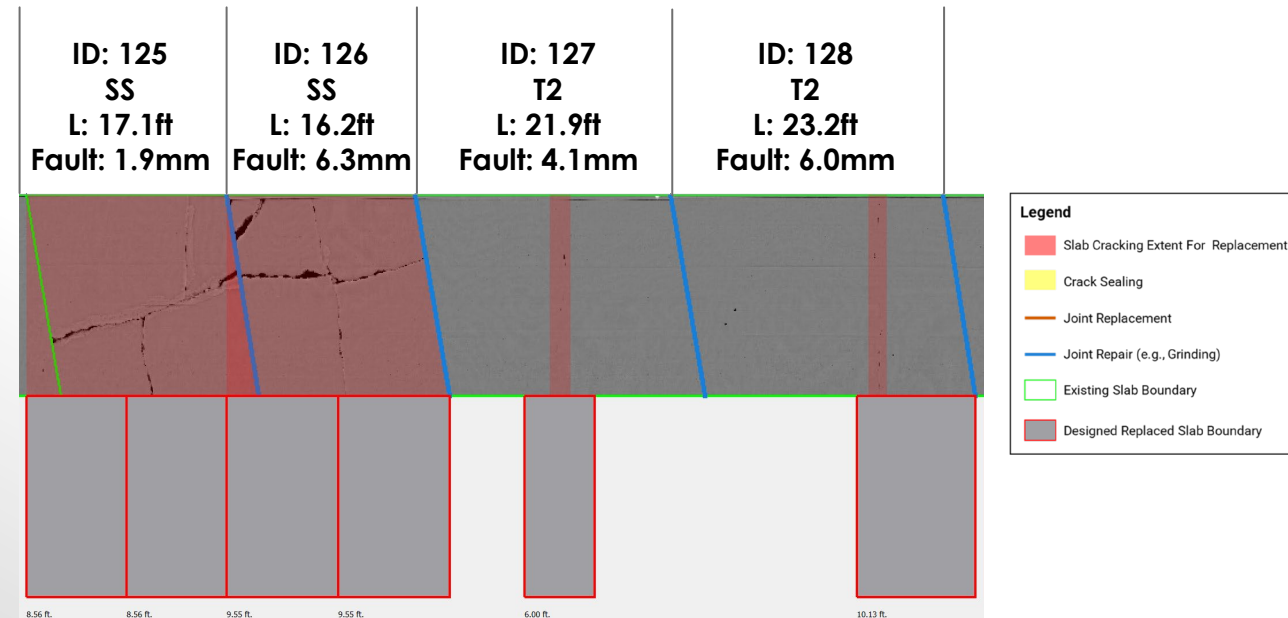
3. Identify slabs and joints that require CPR treatment based on defined criteria

4. Design slab/joint replacement layout based on defined constraints

5. Perform design optimization

6. Generate spatially referenced repair design plans

- **Minimum slab length for replaced slabs and residual original slabs:** 6 ft
- **Maximum replaced slab length:** 15 ft
- **Base Scenario:** Limit slab replacement within boundaries of existing slabs



Slab Replacement & Joint Repair Examples



# CPR PROJECT DESIGN METHODOLOGY



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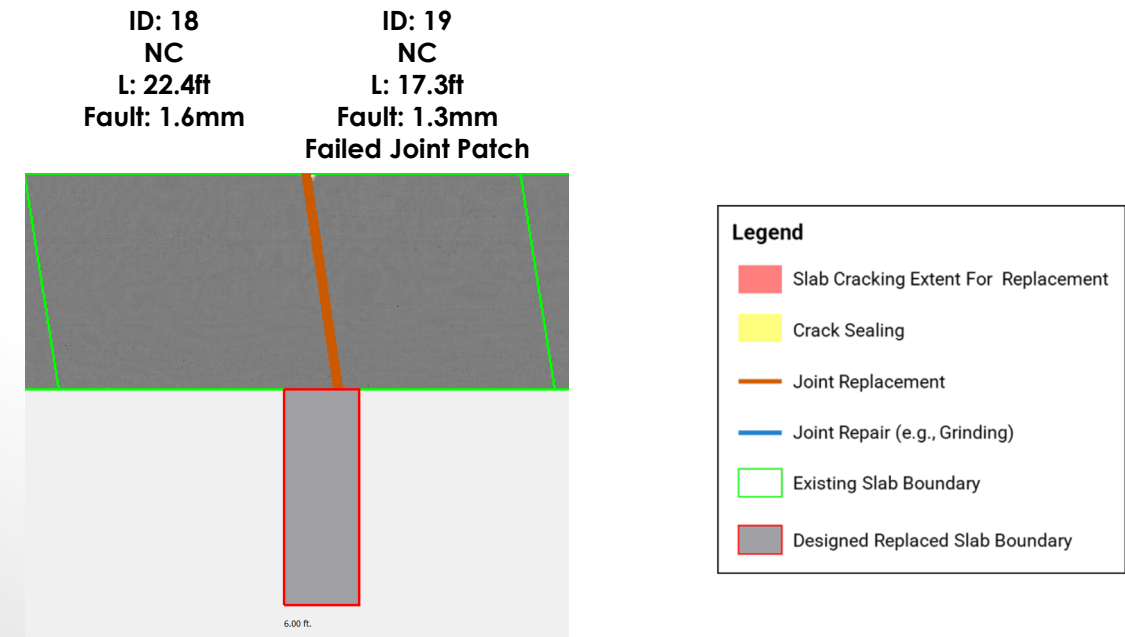
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Joint Replacement Example

# CPR PROJECT DESIGN METHODOLOGY

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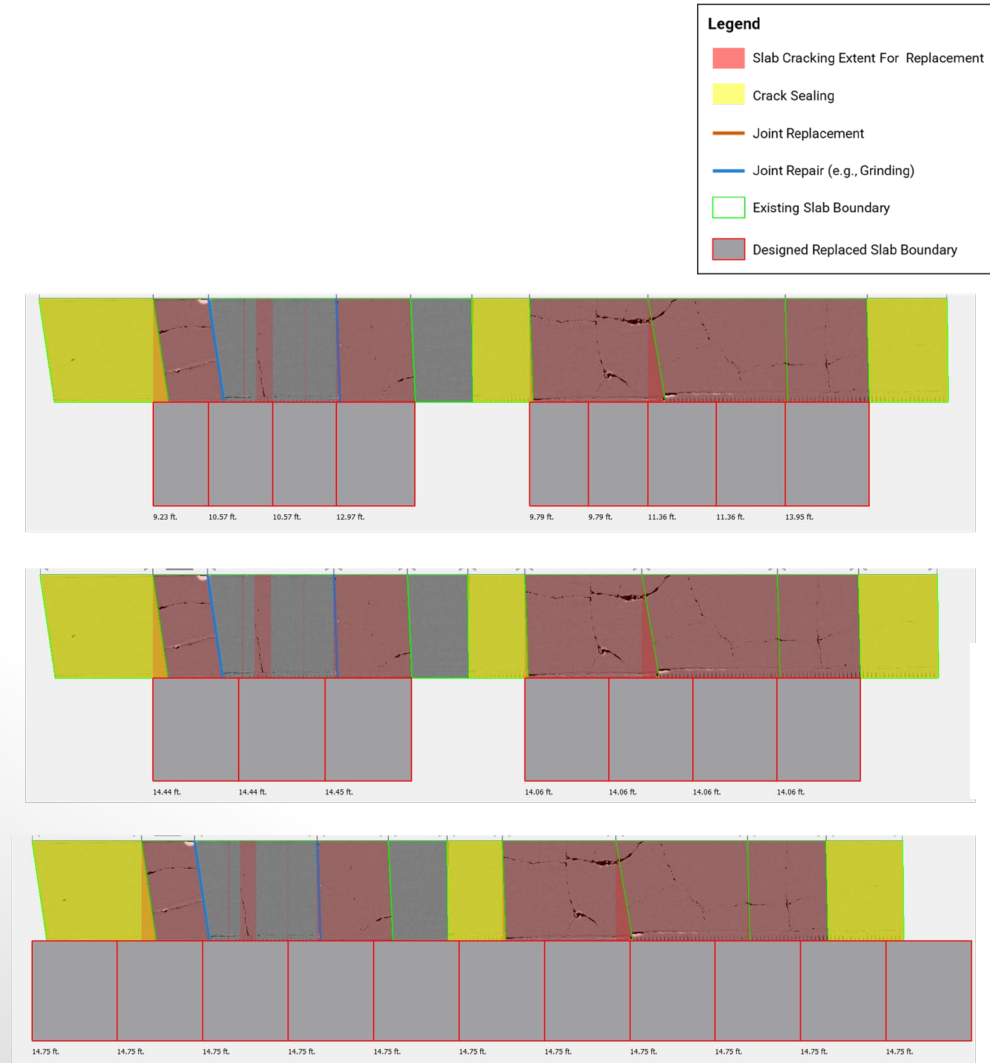
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Optimization Scenarios



# CPR PROJECT DESIGN METHODOLOGY



1. Acquire 3D pavement surface scan data of the project prior to construction

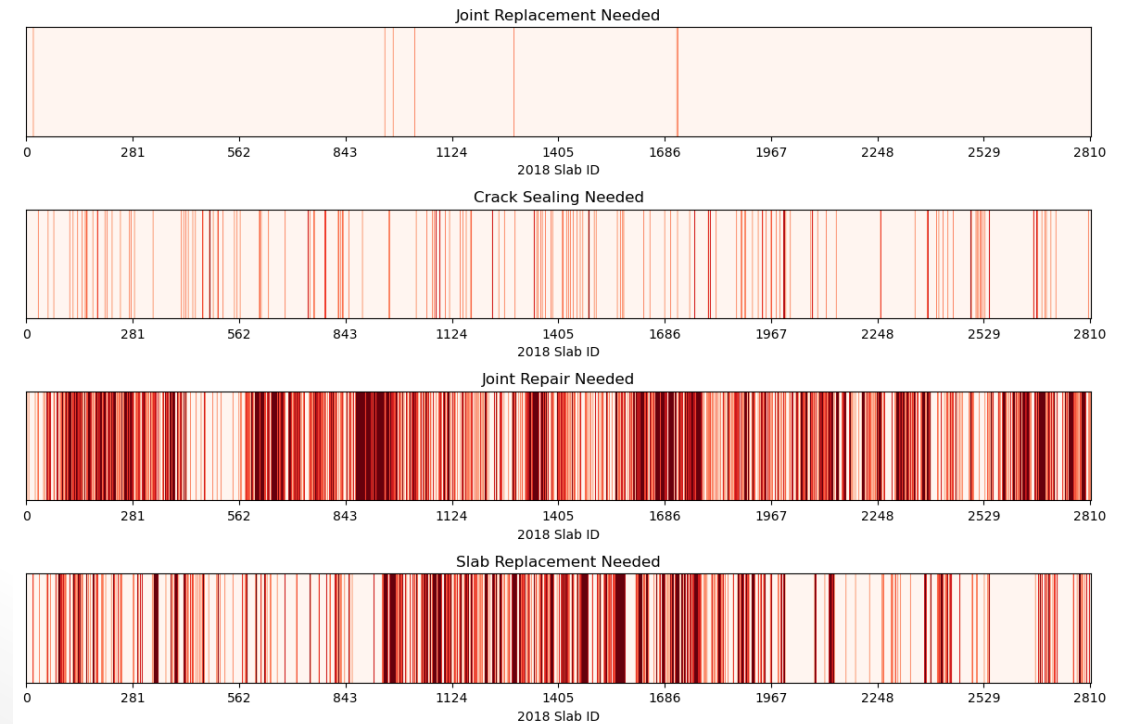
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6. Generate spatially referenced repair design plans



**Mapped Repairs by Slab ID**



# SPATIALLY REFERENCED REPAIR DESIGN PLANS

- **SLAB REPLACEMENT REPORT**
  - SLAB REMOVAL LOCATIONS
  - NEW SLAB JOINT LOCATIONS
- **JOINT REPLACEMENT REPORT**
- **CRACK SEALING REPORT**
- **JOINT REPAIR REPORT**

Slab Replacement Report	
Part 1: Slab Removal Design Output	
OID	Unique ID for removal area
From MP	Precise start and end location of removal area
To MP	
From Station	
To Station	
From Slab ID	Target Existing Slab IDs and Joint Alignment Type of Slabs on Extremities of Removal Area
To Slab ID	
First Joint Alignment Type	
Last Joint Alignment Type	
Total Removal Length	Sum of existing slab lengths removed
Part 2: Replaced Slabs Design Output	
Replaced Slab ID	Unique ID for replaced slab
MP From	Precise start and end location of replaced slabs (new joints)
MP To	
From Station	
To Station	
From Slab ID	Target Existing Slab IDs and Joint Alignment Type of Slabs on Extremities of Replaced Slab
To Slab ID	
First Joint Alignment Type	
Second Joint Alignment Type	
Replaced Slab Length (ft)	New slab length

Joint Replacement Report	Crack Sealing Report	Joint Repair Report
Slab ID	Slab ID	Slab ID
MP	MP From	MP
Station	MP To	Station
Spalling Condition	From Station	Faulting Value (mm)
Patching Condition	To Station	
Faulting Value (mm)	Total Crack Length in Slab (mm)	
Replaced Slab ID	P95 Crack Width (mm)	
	Median Crack Width (mm)	



# SAMPLE SLAB REPLACEMENT REPORT

## Slab Removal Locations *(After clustering)*

OID	From Slab ID	To Slab ID	First Joint Aligned	Last Joint Aligned	From Station	To Station	From MM	To MM	Total Removal Length (ft)
24	138	140	FALSE	TRUE	24+13	24+50	21.543	21.536	37.313
25	142	144	TRUE	TRUE	24+65	25+29	21.533	21.521	63.911
26	149	149	TRUE	TRUE	26+04	26+24	21.507	21.503	20.066
27	160	160	TRUE	TRUE	27+93	28+18	21.471	21.466	24.501
28	165	165	TRUE	TRUE	28+94	29+20	21.452	21.447	26.339
29	169	169	TRUE	TRUE	29+72	29+98	21.437	21.432	25.971



## New Slab Joint Locations

Replaced Slab ID	From Slab ID	To Slab ID	First Joint Aligned	Last Joint Aligned	From Station	To Station	From MM	To MM	Length (ft)
14	88	88	TRUE	FALSE	14+38	14+46	21.727	21.726	7.992
15	89	89	TRUE	FALSE	14+46	14+52	21.726	21.725	6.01
16	90	90	TRUE	FALSE	14+52	14+61	21.725	21.723	9.042
17	91	91	TRUE	FALSE	14+61	14+71	21.723	21.721	9.967
18	91	91	FALSE	TRUE	14+71	14+81	21.721	21.719	9.967
19	93	93	TRUE	FALSE	15+00	15+06	21.716	21.715	6.001



# SAMPLE OF OTHER REPORTS



## Crack Sealing Report

Slab ID	MP From	MP To	From Station	To Station	Total Crack Length (mm)	Median Crack Width (mm)	P95 Crack Width (mm)
176	21.415	21.413	30+90	30+99	2315.156	4.5	10.5
188	21.381	21.376	32+68	32+94	2178.42	2.5	6.5
189	21.376	21.373	32+91	33+11	6891.123	2	5.5

## Joint Repair Report (e.g., Diamond Grinding)

Slab ID	MP	Station	Median Faulting (mm)	P95 Faulting (mm)
54	21.835	8+72	4.8	6.2
55	21.832	8+85	5.9	17.725
56	21.831	8+94	4.2	6.6

## Joint Replacement Report

Slab ID	MP	Station	Replaced Slab ID
19	21.938	3+26	1
947	18.704	173+96	268
969	18.625	178+14	296



# SAMPLE OF OTHER REPORTS



<u>Reported Quantities</u>	Scenario		
	Preserve Joints	Reduce Slabs	Optimize Constructability
Number of Distressed Slabs		736	
Length of Distressed Slabs (ft.)		13783.61	
Number of Affected Slabs	749	749	852
Length of Affected Slabs (ft.)	13,947.28	13,947.28	15,528.43
Number of Replaced Slabs	1,209	1,006	1,101
Length of Replaced Slabs (ft.)	12,225.84	12,225.84	14,362.26
Number of Joint Faces for Dowel Bar Quantity Estimation	1,624	1,421	1,415
Number of Slabs that Need Crack Sealing		181	
Total Crack Length of Slabs that Need Crack Sealing (m)		575.3	
Number of Affected Joints (Joint Repair)		1398	



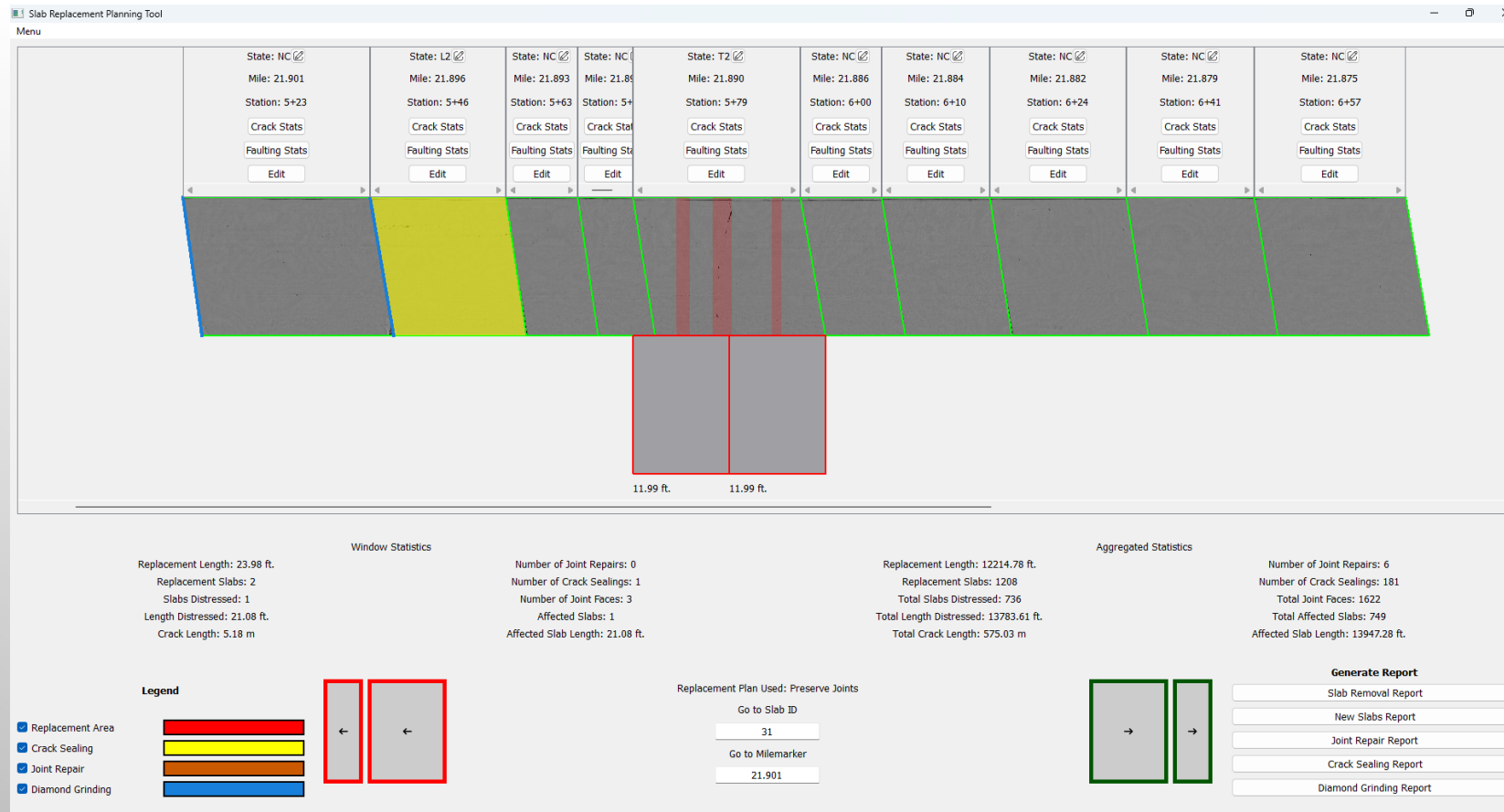
4,788 cubic yards of concrete



15,565 dowel bars

# CPR DESIGN TOOL

- Implementation of Automated CPR Design Methodology
- QC Tool (e.g., crack map detection errors)



# CONCLUSION



- **THE DEVELOPED METHOD AUTOMATES THE CPR DESIGN PROCESS WORKFLOW USING 3D PAVEMENT IMAGE-DERIVED SLAB-LEVEL DATA TO GENERATE OPTIMAL REPLACEMENT DESIGNS.**
  - IMPROVES PROCESS EFFICIENCY & ACCURACY, AND THE TREATMENT EFFECTIVENESS.
  - PRODUCES SCALABLE AND REPRODUCIBLE OUTPUTS.
  - ENABLES RAPID RE-ANALYSIS AND DESIGN UPDATES IMMEDIATELY AFTER NEW CONDITION SURVEY DATA IS COLLECTED.



# FUTURE RESEARCH RECOMMENDATIONS



- **PILOT STUDY FOR AUTOMATED CPR DESIGN METHODOLOGY:** CONDUCT A PILOT STUDY TO VALIDATE THE PRACTICAL FEASIBILITY OF THE DEVELOPED AUTOMATED CPR PRECONSTRUCTION DESIGN METHODOLOGY AND ASSESS ITS POTENTIAL TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY AND ACCURACY.
- **INCORPORATE OTHER FACTORS INTO THE DESIGN PROCESS**
  - DISTRESS DETERIORATION RATE
  - STRUCTURAL DATA AT THE SLAB-LEVEL USING FWD/TSD
  - ADJACENT LANE CONDITION BASED ON MULTI-LANE SURVEY

# REFERENCES



- ACPA (1995). CONCRETE PAVING TECHNOLOGY: GUIDELINES FOR FULL-DEPTH REPAIR, AMERICAN CONCRETE PAVEMENT ASSOCIATION.
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# THANK YOU !

## Q/A

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