

# Development of a damage-based phenomenological fatigue model for asphalt pavement

**Dr. Haifang Wen**  
**Washington State University**

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# Outline

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- Introduction to fatigue model
- Experiments and data collection
- Verification of damage-based model
- Conclusions and recommendations



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# Primary Pavement Distresses

- Fatigue Cracking
- Rutting
- Thermal Cracking



# Fatigue Cracking

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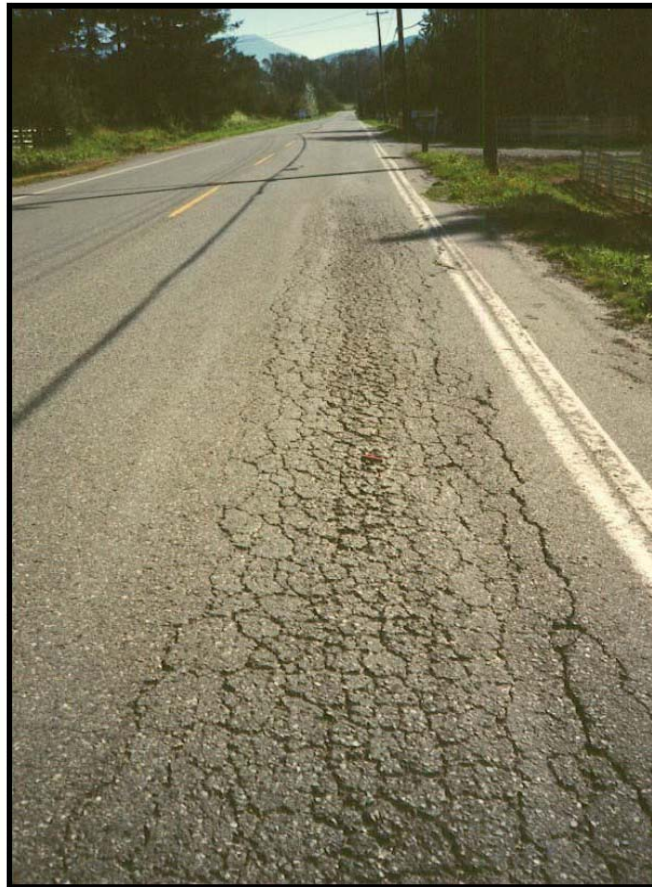
- Bottom-up Fatigue Cracking
- Top-down Fatigue Cracking



# Bottom-up Fatigue Cracking

- Cracking initiates at the bottom of the HMA layer where the tensile stress is the highest then propagates to the surface as one or more longitudinal/transverse cracks

# Bottom-up fatigue cracking



# Mechanistic-empirical Design

$$N_f = Ck_1 \left( \frac{1}{\varepsilon_t} \right)^{k_2} \left( \frac{1}{E} \right)^{k_3}$$

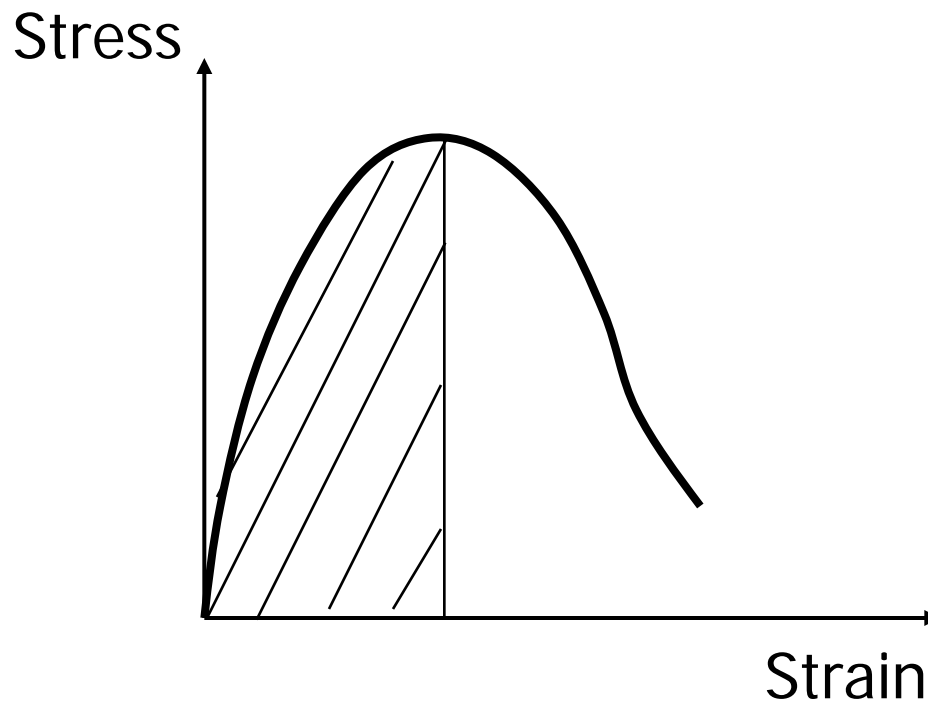
$$k_1 = \frac{1}{0.000398 + \frac{0.003602}{1 + e^{11.02 - 3.49h_{ac}}}}$$

- $N_f$ =fatigue life in lab
- $E$ =dynamic modulus of HMA
- $\varepsilon_t$ =strain at bottom of HMA
- $K_1, k_2, k_3$ =regression coeff.
- $C$ =shift factor from lab to field

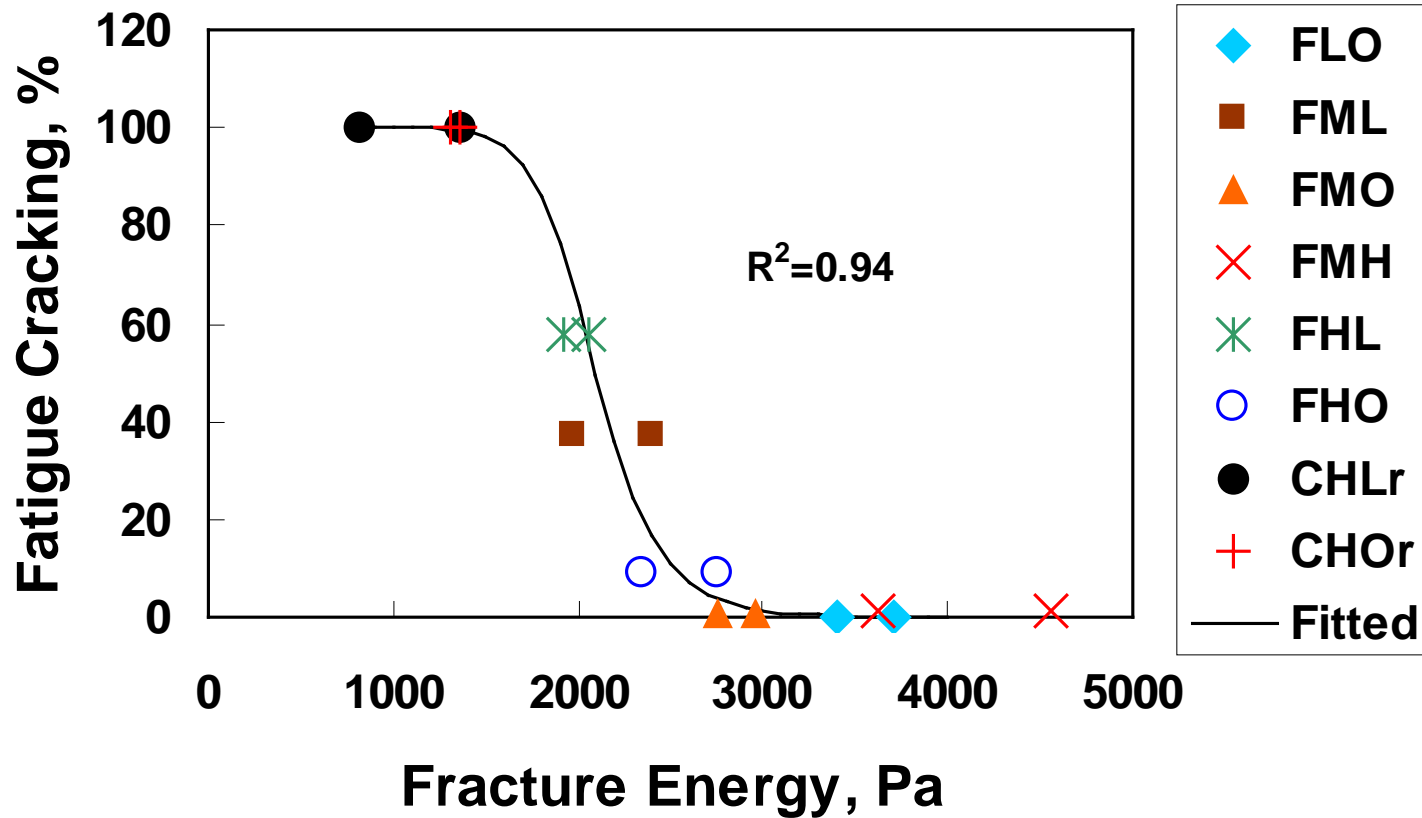
# Concern on $E^*$ for fatigue

- $E^*$  is not a damage property, while fatigue is due to damage
- High modulus materials not necessarily fatigue resistant, e.g. paper clip vs. rubber band,
- Or vice versa, e.g. glass vs. steel

# Fracture Energy from IDT Strength Test



# Fracture Energy vs. Performance (Field Cores/5 million ESALs) (Wen & Kim)



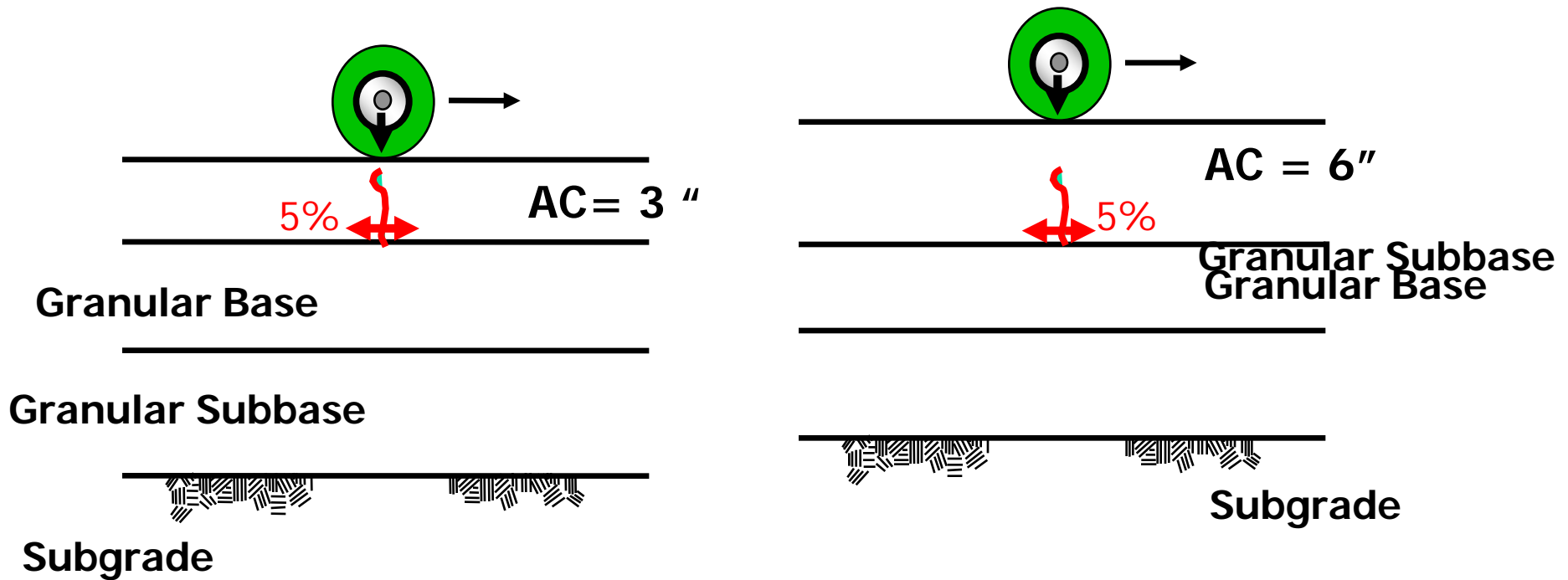
# Damage-based model

$$N_f = Ck_1 \left( \frac{1}{\varepsilon_t} \right)^{k_2} \left( \frac{1}{E} \right)^{k_3}$$

Fracture Energy from IDT

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# Effect of HMA Layer Thickness



# HMA Layer Thickness

$$N_f = Ck_1 \left( \frac{1}{\varepsilon_t} \right)^{k_2} \left( \frac{1}{E} \right)^{k_3}$$

Fracture Energy from IDT

Proposed Fatigue Model:

$$N_f = a \left( \frac{1}{\varepsilon_t} \right)^b \left( \frac{1}{FE} \right)^c h^d$$



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# FHWA ALF Test Sections

| Lane 1   | 2  | 3             | 4         | 5         | 6               | 7     | 8                             | 9            | 10            | 11        | 12              |
|--|--|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-------|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-----------|-----------------|
| CR-AZ  | PG<br>70-22                                  | Air-<br>Blown | SBS<br>LG | CR-<br>TB | Ter-<br>polymer | Fiber | PG<br>70-22                   | SBS<br>64-40 | Air-<br>Blown | SBS<br>LG | Ter-<br>polymer |
| PG<br>70-22  |  |               |           |           |                 |       |                               |              |               |           |                 |
| Removed 100 mm   | 100 mm of New No. 21A CAB Under All 12 Lanes |               |           |           |                 |       |                               |              |               |           |                 |
| Of Existing CAB  |  |               |           |           |                 |       |                               |              |               |           |                 |
|  |  |               |           |           |                 |       | Removed 50 mm of Existing CAB |              |               |           |                 |
| Existing VDOT No. 21A Crushed Aggregate Base (CAB)<br>(25-mm Nominal Maximum Aggregate Size) |  |               |           |           |                 |       |                               |              |               |           |                 |
| <i>Bottom of CAB to Pavement Surface is 660 mm</i>   |  |               |           |           |                 |       |                               |              |               |           |                 |
| Re-compacted AASHTO A-4 Subgrade Soil  |  |               |           |           |                 |       |                               |              |               |           |                 |

# Experiments and data collection (FHWA)

- Dynamic modulus (Uniaxial)
- IDT strength tests
- Tensile strain at bottom of HMA layer from instrumentation

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- Dynamic Modulus (Uniaxial)
- IDT Strength Tests
- Tensile strain at bottom of HMA layer from instrumentation
- No of passes to 3% fatigue cracking

# Data collected

| <b>Materials</b>  | <b>Fracture Energy, Pa</b> | <b>No of Passes to 3% Fatigue Cracking</b> | <b>Transverse Tensile Strain</b> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Lane 4/SBS LG     | 1495271                    | 160000                                     | 970                              |
| Lane 5/CR-TB      | 865994                     | 60000                                      | 1524                             |
| Lane 6/Terpolymer | 841847                     | 85000                                      | 927                              |
| Lane 7/Fiber      | 985263                     | 225000                                     | 540                              |
| Lane 8/PG 70-22   | 1248486                    | 420000                                     | 475                              |
| Lane 10/Air-Blown | 394186                     | 120000                                     | 488                              |

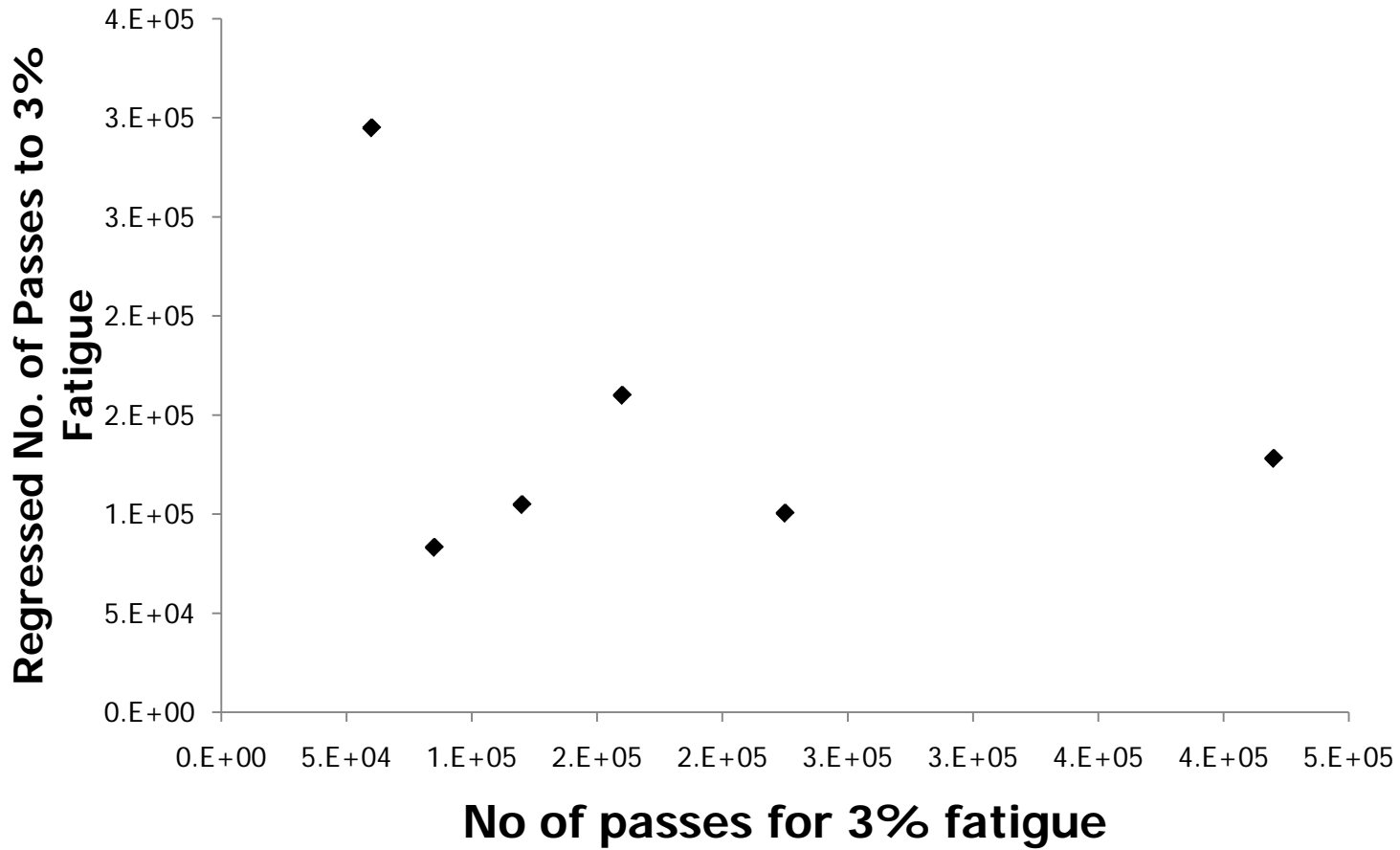


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# M-E Fatigue Model



$\tau = +0.28, n=9, S=N_C-N_D = +10$

$$0.00756 C_H C\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)^{3.9492} \left(\frac{1}{E}\right)^{1.281}$$

As calibrated from 1-40D

$R^2 = 0.41$

Nf - MEPDG Model

2,500,000



2,000,000

1,500,000

1,000,000

500,000

-

100,000

200,000

300,000

400,000

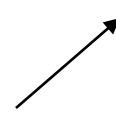
500,000

600,000

700,000

Nf -15% ALF Cracked Area

Extrapolated  
Lane 8



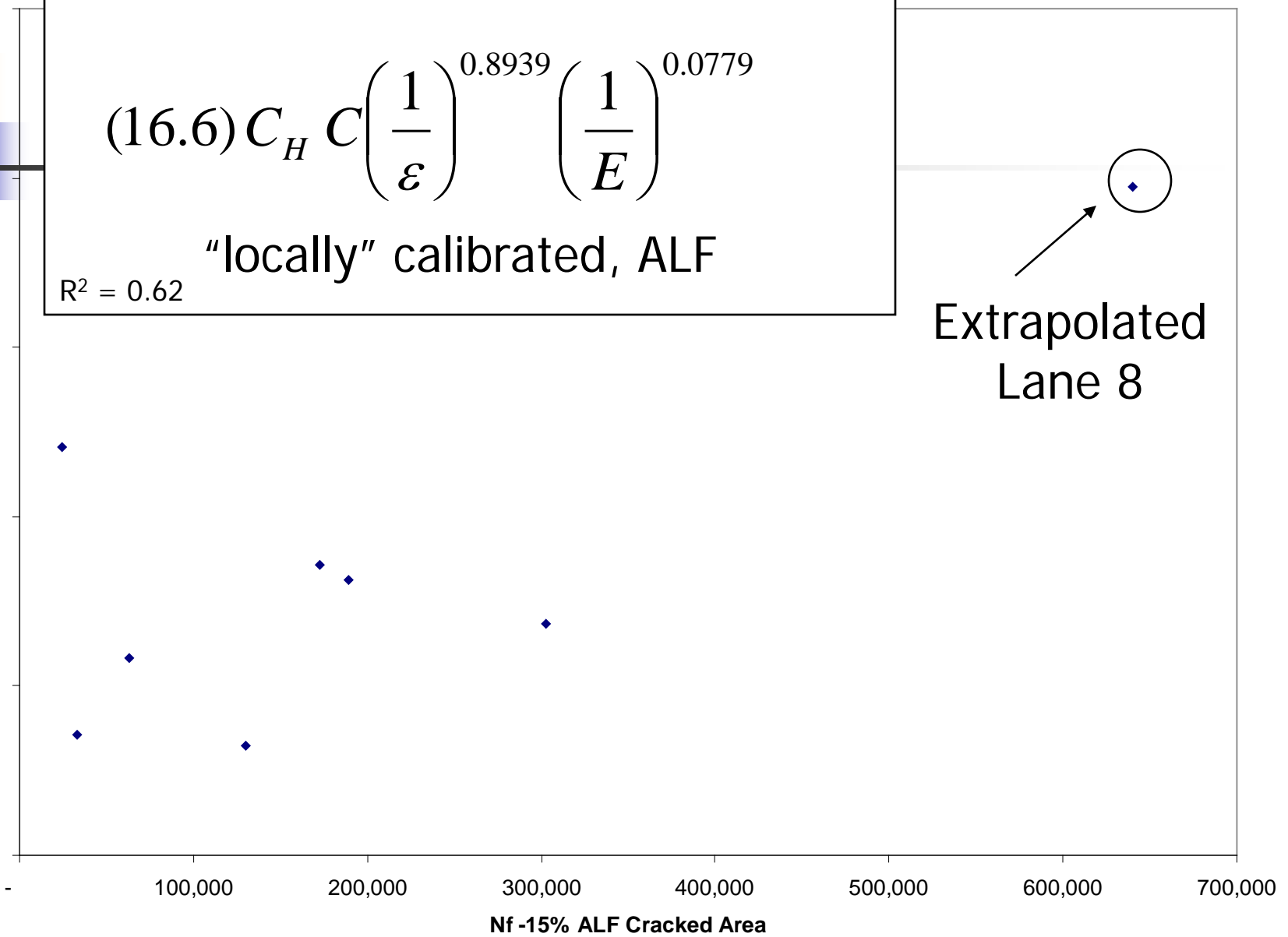
$\tau = +0.39, n=9, S=N_C-N_D = +14$

$$(16.6) C_H C \left( \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \right)^{0.8939} \left( \frac{1}{E} \right)^{0.0779}$$

"locally" calibrated, ALF

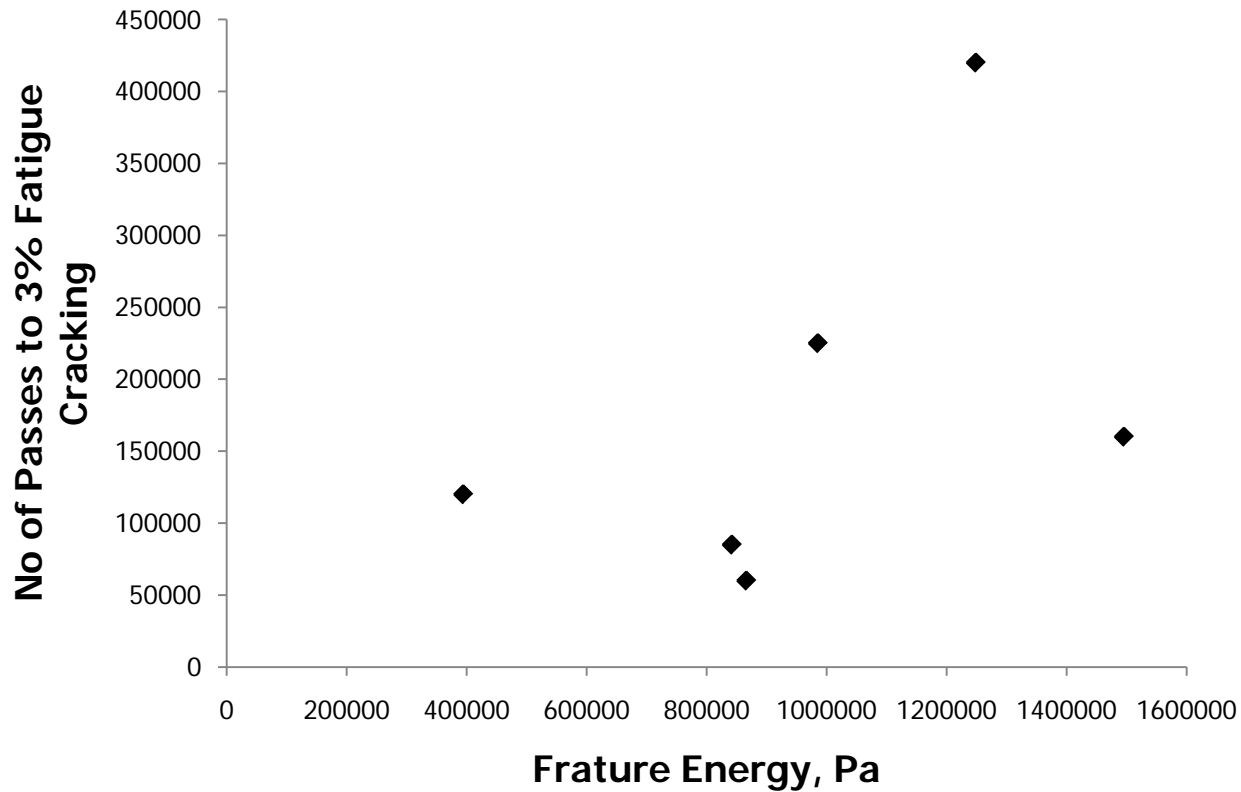
$R^2 = 0.62$

Nf - MEPDG Model

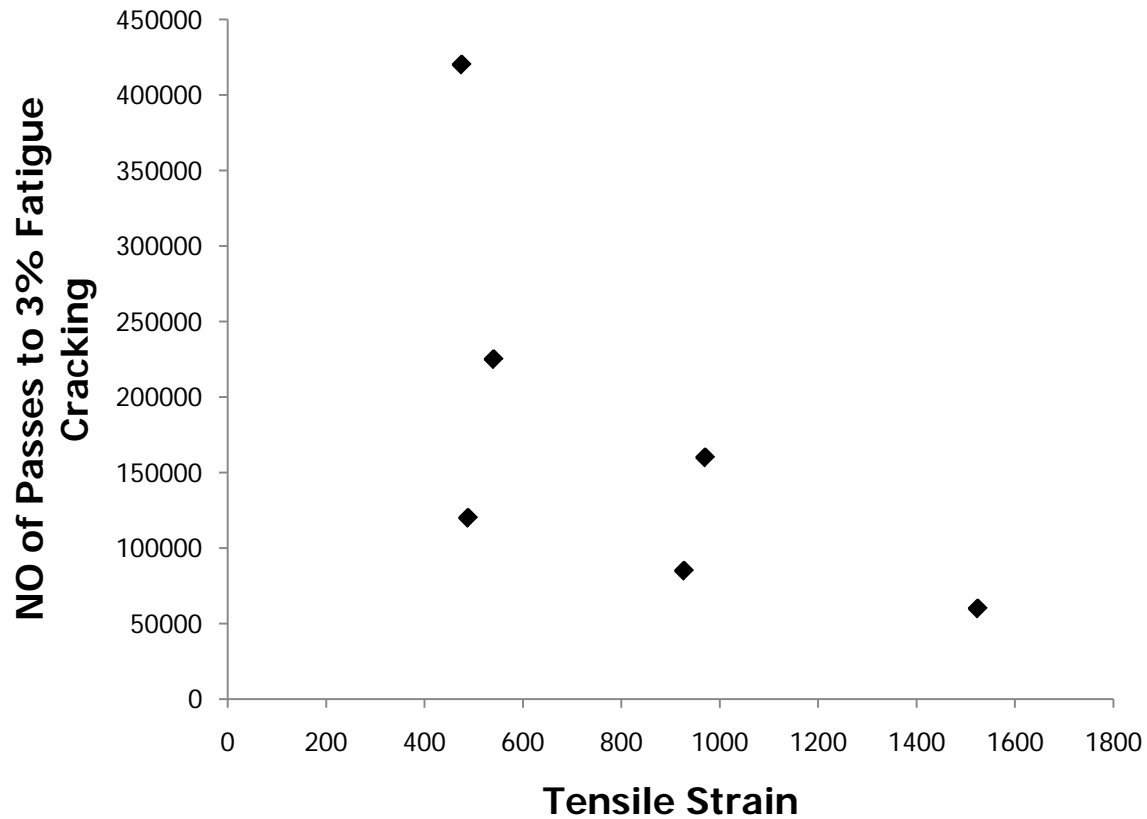


Extrapolated Lane 8

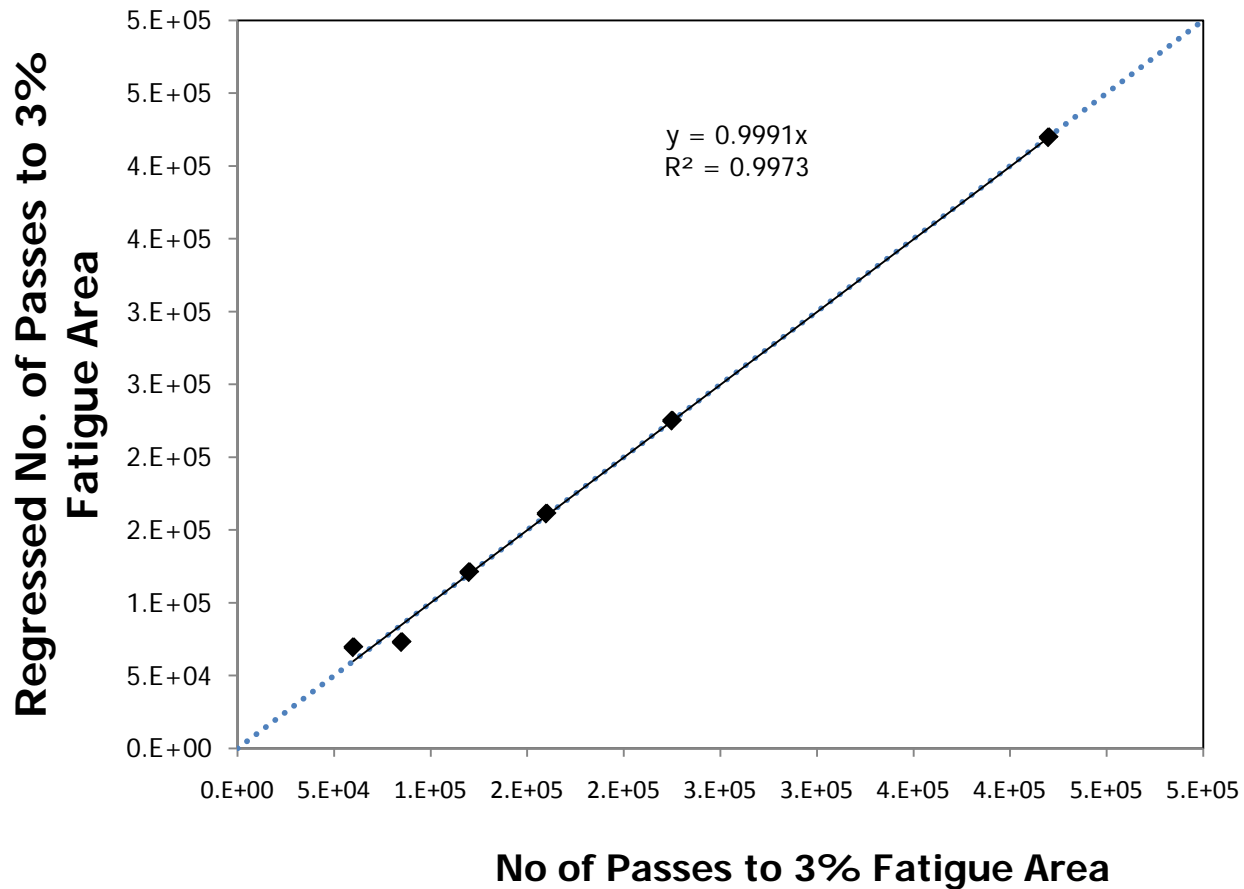
# Fracture energy vs. No. of Passes



# Tensile Strain vs. No. of Passes



# Damage-based Model





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# Conclusions

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- Currently, MEPDG is based on asphalt institute fatigue model
- Dynamic modulus is a key parameter of the model
- Dynamic modulus has limitations to be used as fatigue indicator
- MEPDG fatigue model did not work well for ALF pavements



# Conclusions

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- Damage-based fatigue model worked well for ALF pavement and has shown great potential to be implemented
- The damage-based model needs to be validated by large database, such as LTPP materials and performance data



# Acknowledgement

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- Nelson Gibson and Jack Youtcheff of FHWA for providing data
- Emin Kutay of Michigan State University

*Thank you!*