



FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY - CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BDV28 977-04

Development and Testing of the Miniaturized Pressuremeter Test for Use in Unbound Pavement Layers

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Project Manager: David J. Horhota, Ph.D., P.E.

[2016-GRIP MEETING]

Problem Statement

Testing Limitations of NDG



Radioactive source.



Usage requires significant administrative effort.



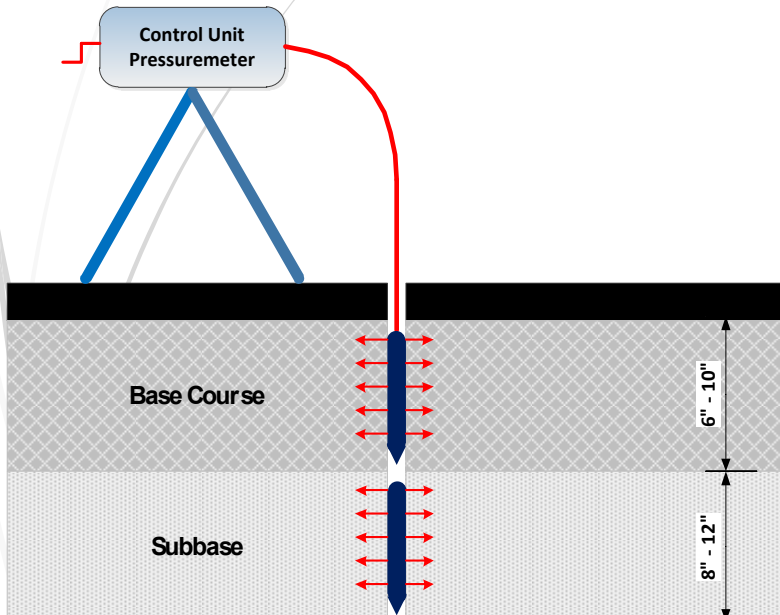
Produces density and moisture content not strength and stiffness.



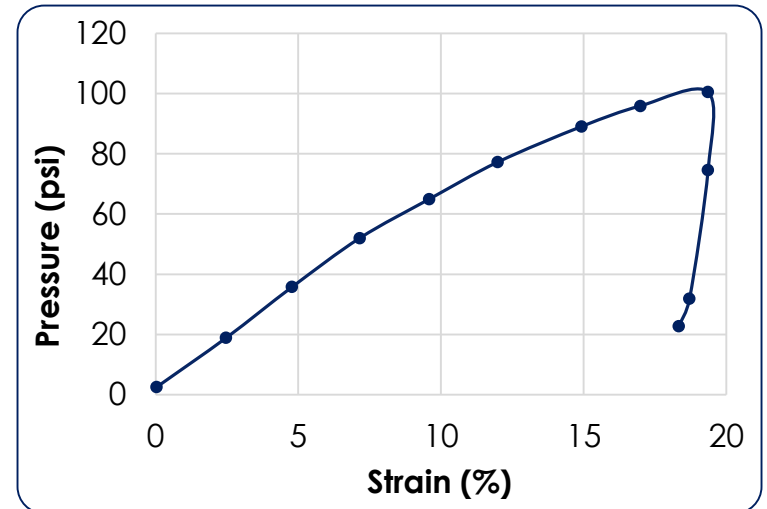
Nuclear Gauge

Research Objective

The objective is to develop a miniaturized PMT field test that can be completed in about five minutes to measure stress-strain pavement material responses.



• Typical PMT Stress-Strain Curve



Project Tasks



Literature Search



Miniaturize the Pressuremeter Probe



Determine Field Testing Sites



Conduct Field Comparison Testing



Conduct Laboratory Comparison Testing



Analyze and Finalize MiniPMT Testing Results



Complete Final Report

Project Schedule

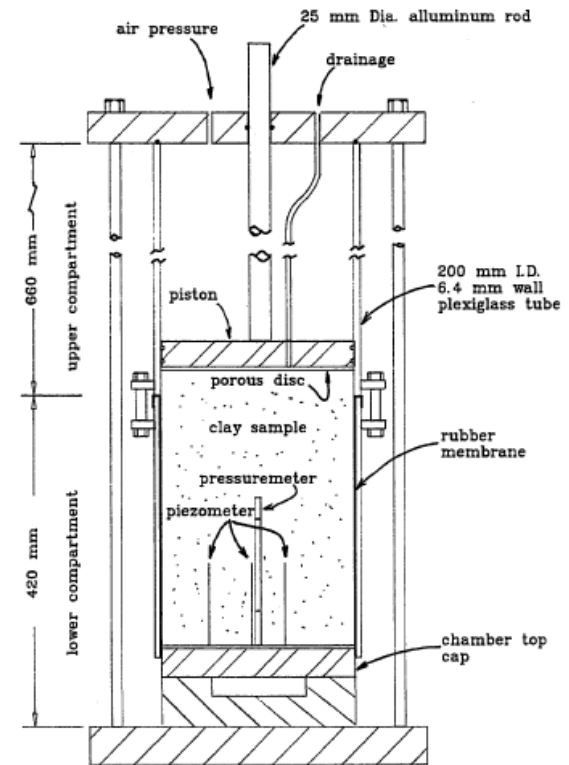
RESEARCH TASK	1-Nov 2015	1-Dec 2015	1-Jan 2016	1-Feb 2016	1-Mar 2016	1-Apr 2016	##### 2016	1-Jun 2016	1-Jul 2016	1-Aug 2016	1-Sep 2016	1-Oct 2016	1-Nov 2016	1-Dec 2016	1-Jan 2017	1-Feb 2017	1-Mar 2017	1-Apr 2017	##### 2017	1-Jun 2017	1-Jul 2017	1-Aug 2017	1-Sep 2017	1-Oct 2017
Task 1 Literature Search	1	2	3	4																				
Task 2 Miniaturization of PMT Probe		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10													
Task 3 Determine Field Testing Sites				1	2	3	4	5	6															
Task 4 Conduct Field Comparison Testing					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14						
Task 5 Conduct Laboratory Comparison Testing		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15								
Task 6 Draft Final Report and Technology Transfer																		1	2	3	4			
Task 7 Final Report																						1	2	3

[Deliverables/Schedule]

-  **TASK 1**
FEB 2016
-  **TASK 2**
SEP 2016
-  **TASK 3**
JUL 2016
-  **TASK 4**
APR 2017
-  **TASK 5**
FEB 2017
-  **TASK 6**
JUL 2017
-  **TASK 7**
OCT 2017

Background / Lit Search

- ▶ Field Quality Control
 - ▶ Falling Weight Deflectometer
 - ▶ Lightweight Deflectometer
 - ▶ Klegg Impact Hammer
 - ▶ Nuclear Density Gauge
 - ▶ Dynamic Cone Penetrometer
- ▶ Miniature Pressuremeter
 - ▶ Purdue University
 - ▶ 4.73 inches x 0.473 inches

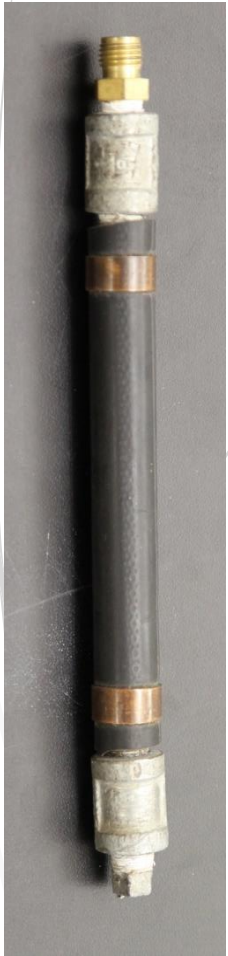




Miniaturization of PMT Probe

- ▶ Should fit into the same size hole as the NDG.
- ▶ Should test the entire pavement layer.
 - ▶ Research limited to 6 & 12 inch probes.
- ▶ Prove the new probe provides consistent results.
- ▶ Determine if correlations exist between other field tests and mini-PMT.

Miniature Probe Designs






New Mini-PMT Test Procedure

- ▶ Develop and Validate a Continuous PMT Test
 - ▶ Constant Strain Rate Test
 - ▶ 20 – 50 cc injected volume
 - ▶ Automatic Estimation of E_0 , P_0 and P_L^*
 - ▶ Software Guides Operator Through Test Sequence



Continuous Test Software

Florida Tech Automated Pressuremeter Test - Continuous

 Check Device Connection

Trigger Wait Test Running Inflate Probe Deflate Probe Test Done

Reset Presure Vs. Volume Graph on Next Reading

Raw 
Reduced 


Test Parameters

Sounding Number:

Sounding Depth: ft


Data Collection Controls

Injection Rate



Current Data

	Raw	Reduced
Volume	<input type="text" value="0.00"/> in ³	<input type="text" value="0.00"/> in ³
Pressure	<input type="text" value="0.00"/> psi	<input type="text" value="0.00"/> psi

 Testing Complete
Return to Main Menu
(F8)

Determine Field Testing Sites

- ▶ Field Testing Sites approximately 60 minutes from Melbourne, FL
- ▶ Site should have 6 or 12 inch Base and / or Subbase Layers
- ▶ Ability to conduct:
 - ▶ Standard Pencil and Mini PMT
 - ▶ Lightweight / Falling Weight Deflectometers
 - ▶ Dynamic Cone Testing
 - ▶ Density Testing
- ▶ Current Site
 - ▶ Campus test sites – Preliminary equipment evaluation
 - ▶ Heritage Parkway, Palm Bay



Field Comparison Testing

Miniaturized Pressuremeter Test

P_0 = Lift-off Pressure

E_i = Initial Modulus

P_L = Limit Pressure

Light Weight Deflectometer

S_d = Surface Deflection

D_c = Degree of Comp

E_d = Dynamic Modulus

Nuclear Density Gauge

γ_w = Wet Unit Weight

W = Moisture Content

γ_d = Dry Unit Weight

Dynamic Cone Penetrometer

DCPI = Pen. Index

CBR = Bearing Ratio

M_r = *Resilient Modulus*

Field Testing Measurements

Pavement Layer	Modulus Parameters			Strength Parameters			Compaction Parameters		
Soil Property	Mr	Ed	Ei	CBR	PL	Po	DC	Y _d	w
Subgrade Soils	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
Base Course	DCP	LWD	MPMT	DCP	MPMT	MPMT	LWD	NDG	NDG
	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{\sum x_i}{N}$$

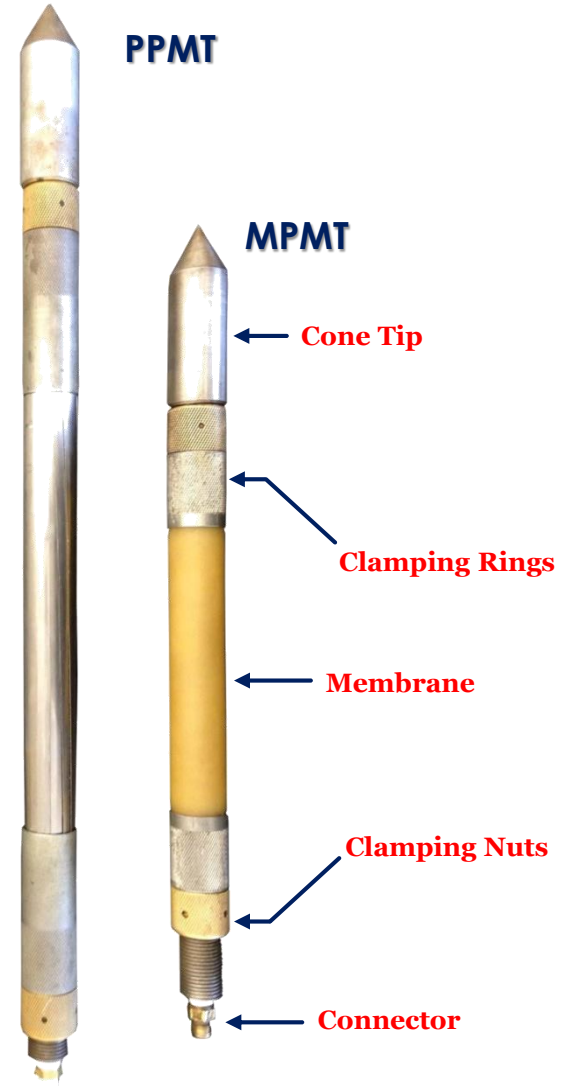
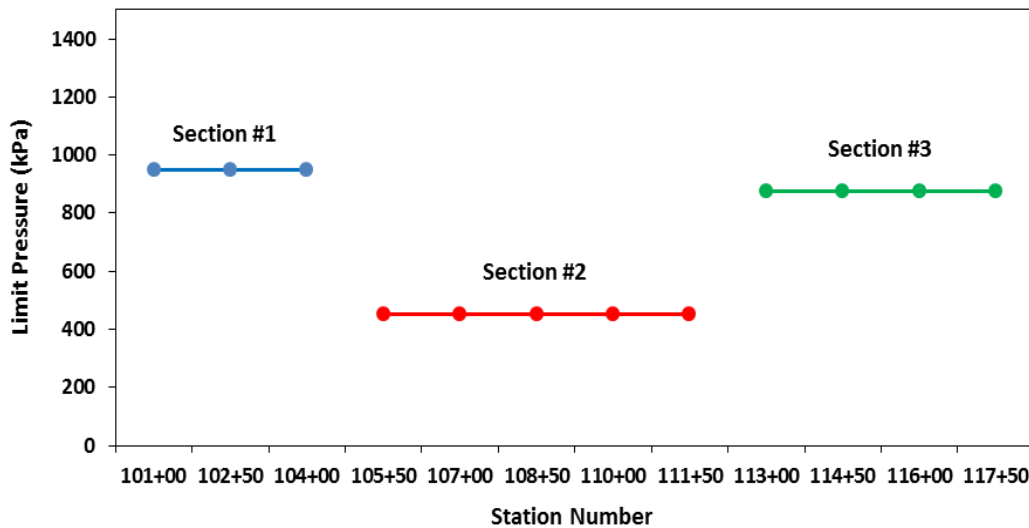
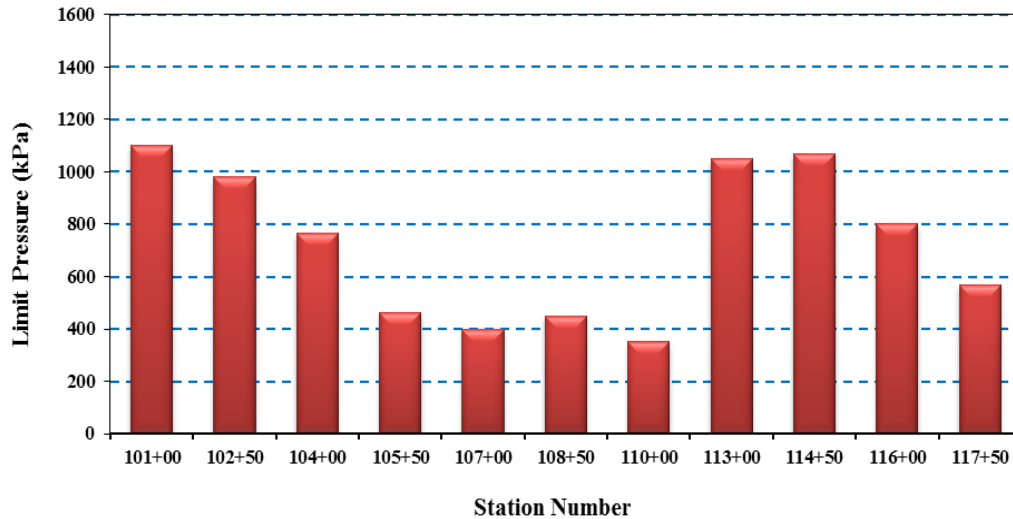


$$\text{Std.} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{N}}$$



$$\text{COV} = \frac{\text{Std.}}{\text{Mean}}$$

Determining Consistency of Field Testing Measurements



Laboratory Testing Measurements

Grain Size Distribution

- American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM D6913-2009)
 - American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO T 331)
-

Atterberg Limits

- American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM D4318-2010)
 - American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO T 89)
-

Optimum Density and Moisture Content

- American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM D1557-2012)
 - American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO T 180)
-

Limerock Bearing Ratio

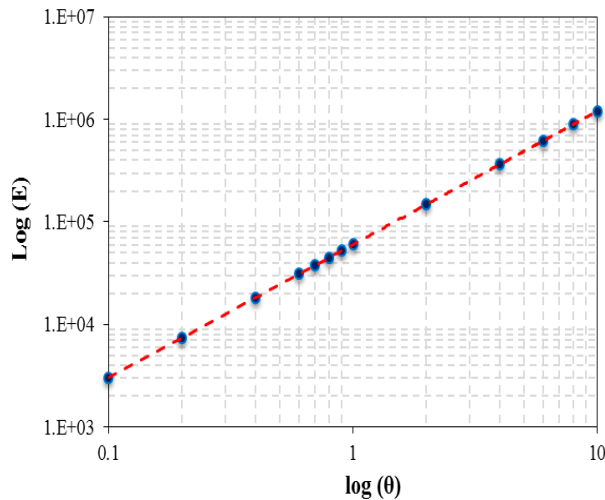
- Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT FM 5-515)
-

Laboratory Testing Measurements

Resilient Modulus Test

k-θ Model

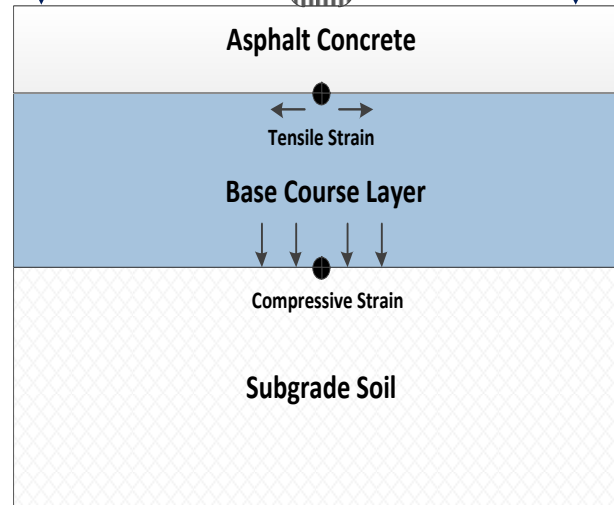
$$\left[E = k \left(\frac{\theta}{P_a} \right)^{n_s} \right]$$



ILLIPAVE 2005

Non-linear Finite Element Software for
Pavement Analysis and Design

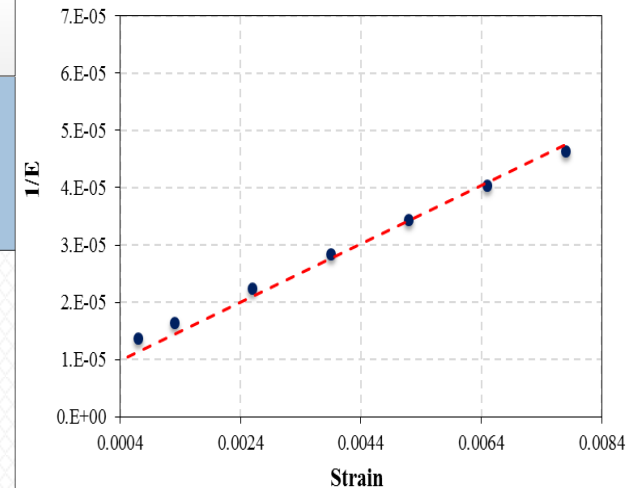
Single Axle with Single Wheel



Miniaturized PMT Test

Strain Model

$$\left[\frac{1}{E} = a + b\varepsilon \right]$$





QUESTIONS?