

# Revision of the South African Pavement Design Method

## SAPDM: Environmental Monitoring

RPF, Pretoria

6-7 November 2012

Project SAPDM/E-1

P Paige-Green

Presented by R Leyland

# Objectives

- Monitor seasonal road/air temperature & moisture changes
- Current status
  - Matrix developed
  - Sites selected, inspected and 43 (39) installed
  - Test pitting done at 27 sites (32 by next week)



Site 28

# Current matrix (Granular)

Climate				
	Good		Poor	
	Deep	Shallow	Deep	Shallow
Arid		N1-8 (24) Beaufort North	N00106N (25) Leeu-Gamka	N01402 (8) Kakamas
Semi-arid	N00808E (27) Kimberly	N00125N (19) (Pietersburg) (actually dry sub humid outlier but Semi-arid region)	N00112S (23) Colesberg	N00113S (22) Gariepdam
Dry sub Humid	N4 01E (1) Pretoria N1-18N (12) Kroonvaal	N00412E (2) Pelindaba	N01217N (11) Potch SS91 (42) Bethlehem	N01217N (10) Potchefstroom
Moist sub humid	N00229N	N00222N N01103N		N01103N,
Humid	N00228N	N00125N (18) (Potgietersrus)		P10/2 (43) Bergville

# Current matrix (Treated)

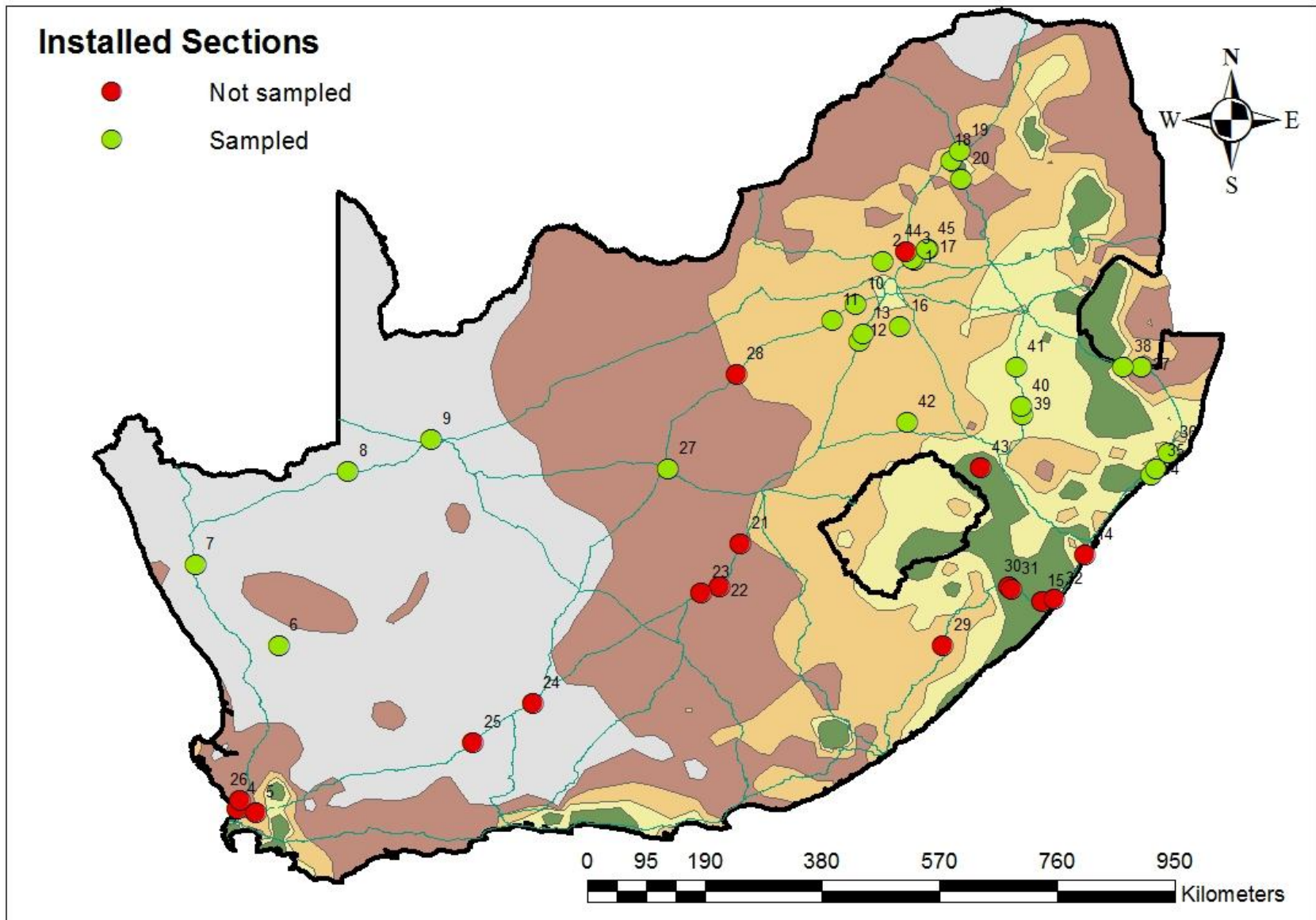
Climate	Young		Old	
	Good	Poor	Good	Poor
Arid	R27-8 (6) Niewoudtville		N7-7 (7) Kamieskroon	N01405E (9) (Upington)
Semi-arid	N00114S (Trompsburg FS) EBT/cem?		N7-1 (4) Malmesbury	N011-12N (20) (Roedtan) Actually Dry sub humid but close)
Dry sub humid			N00401 on ramp (3) (Pretoria)  P243/1 (16) Vereeniging LTPP  R2388 (17) Cullinan LTPP	N00101 (5) Paarl
Moist sub humid			N00224N (14) (Amanzimtoti)	
Humid	N00222N (15) (Paddock KZN)			

# Current matrix (Asphalt)



Climate				
	Good		Poor	
	Deep	Shallow	Deep	Shallow
Arid				
Semi-arid		N00701N (26) Malmesbury		N01214N (28) Bloemhof (very close to dry sub humid)
Dry sub Humid		N00118N (13) Vaal plaza		N00219E
Moist sub humid		N00229N		
Humid		N00221N		N00221N

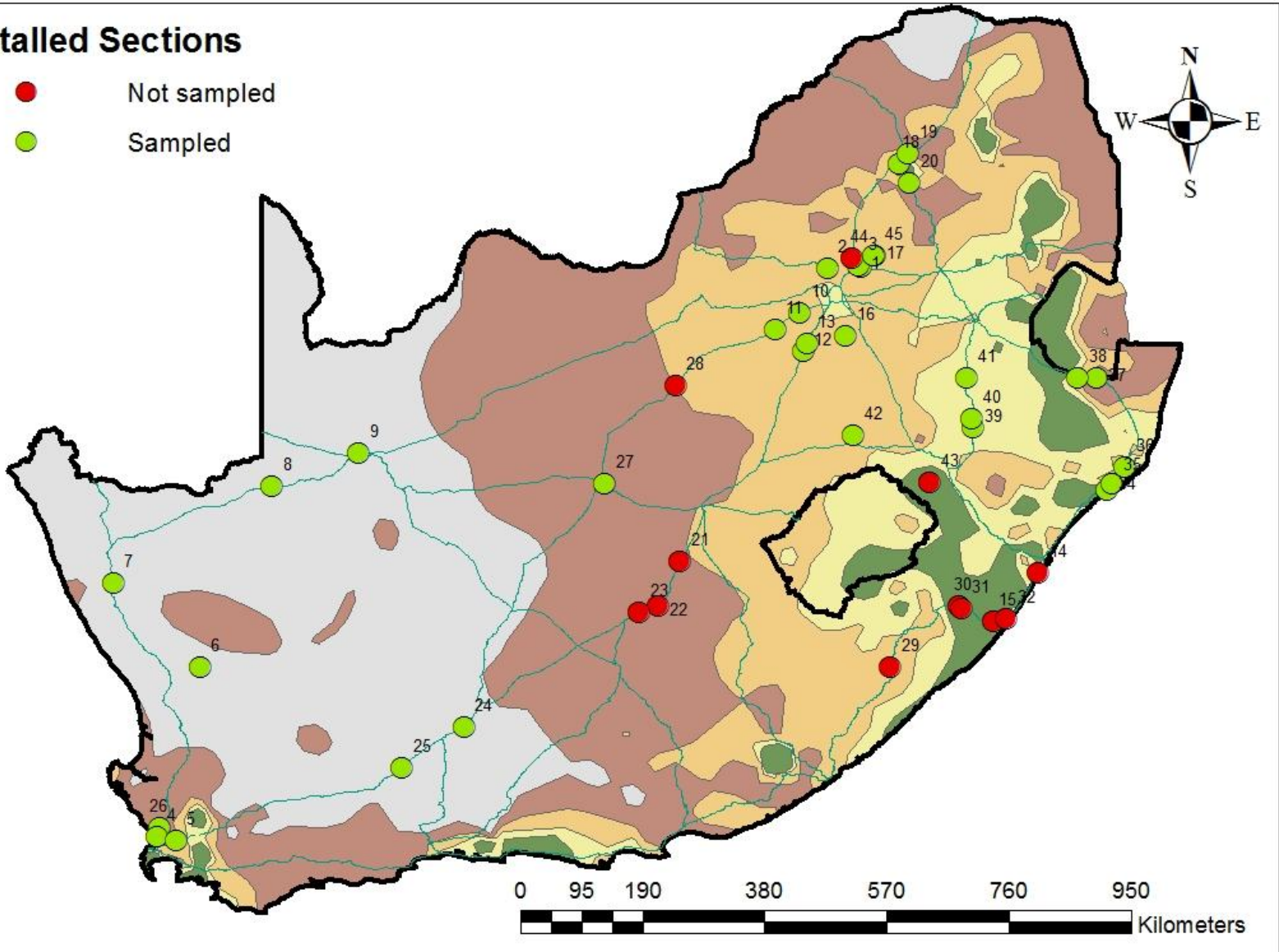
# Current sites



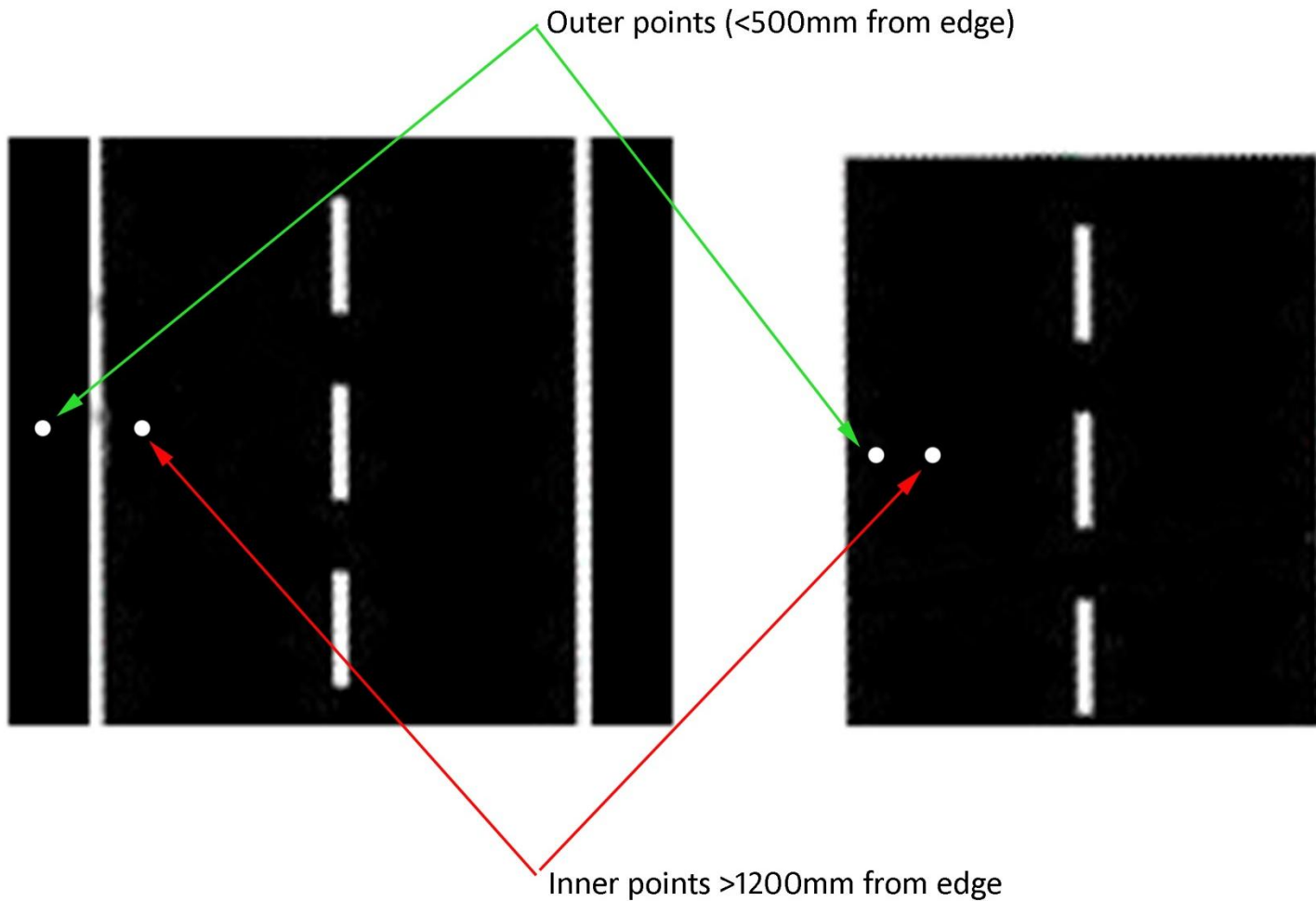
# Current sites

## Installed Sections

- Not sampled
- Sampled



# MC & Temperature monitoring



Temperature at 20 and 200 mm (between two points)  
and ambient air (shade)

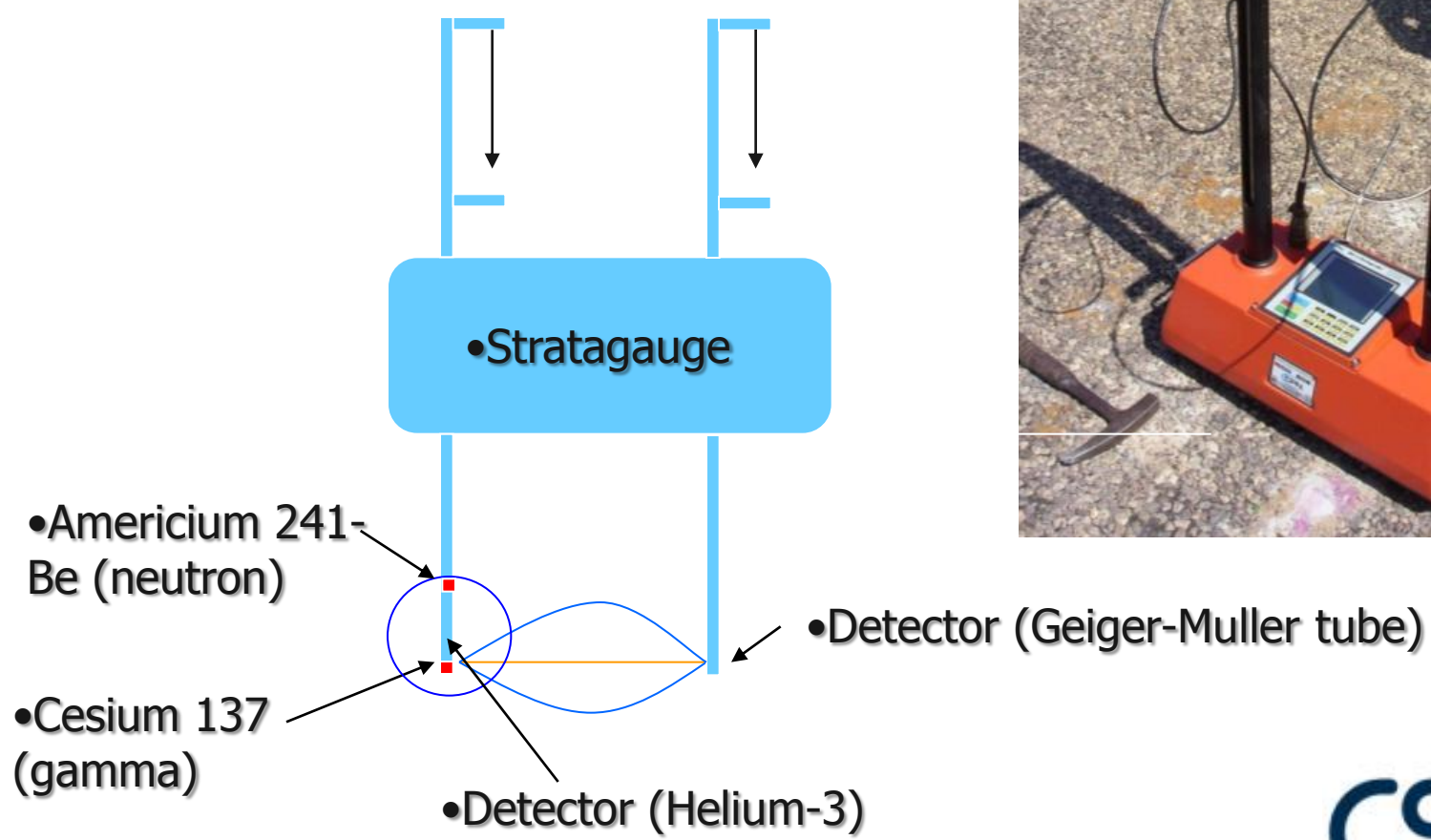


# Monitoring

- ± Once every 5 weeks (between 4 & 19 times)
- Moisture content & wet density using Stratagauge
- Temperature buttons

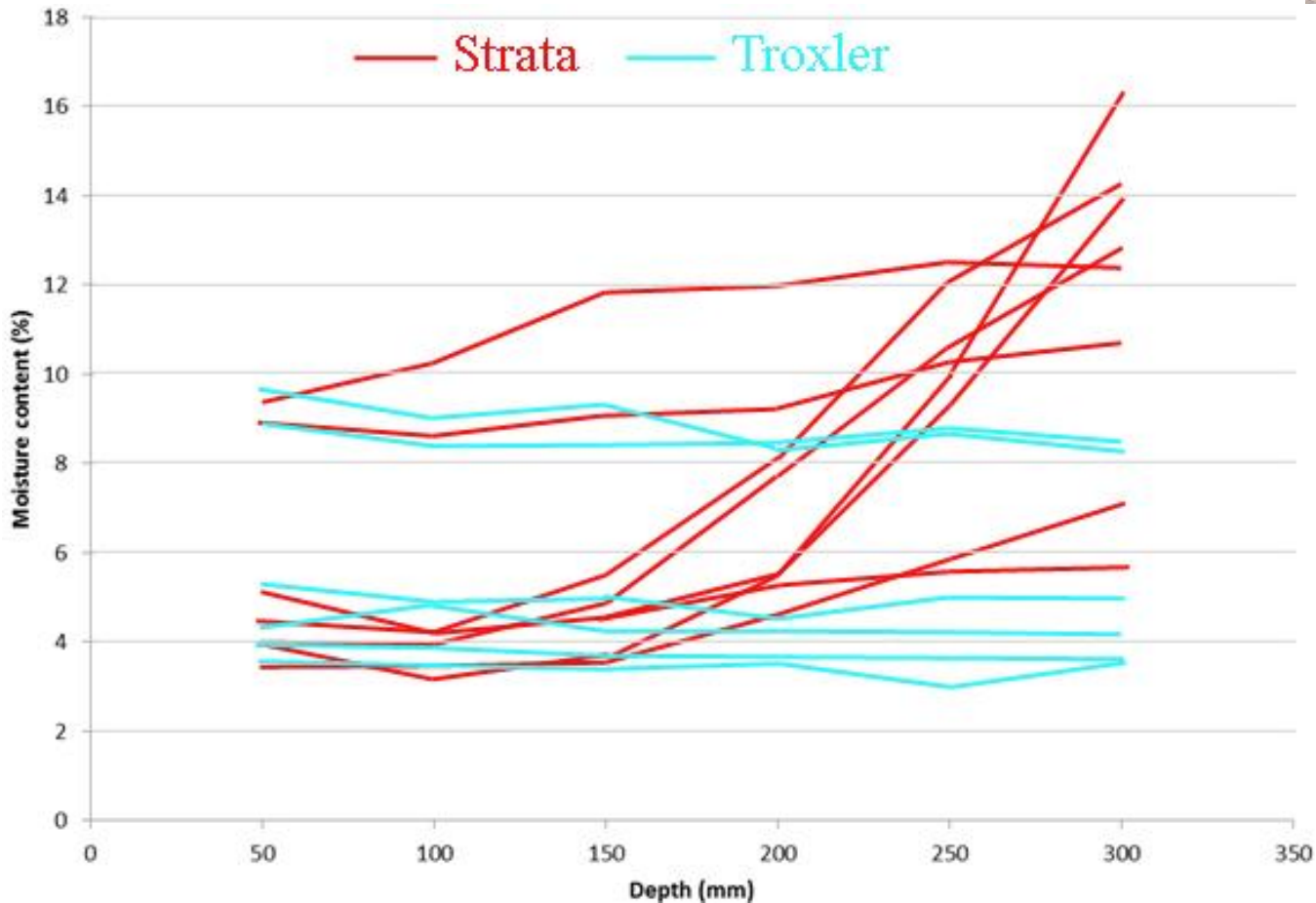


# Stratagauge



# Moisture content measurement

- Poor correlation between Troxler & StrataGauge
- Also at R35
- Compared results



# Moisture reading mechanisms

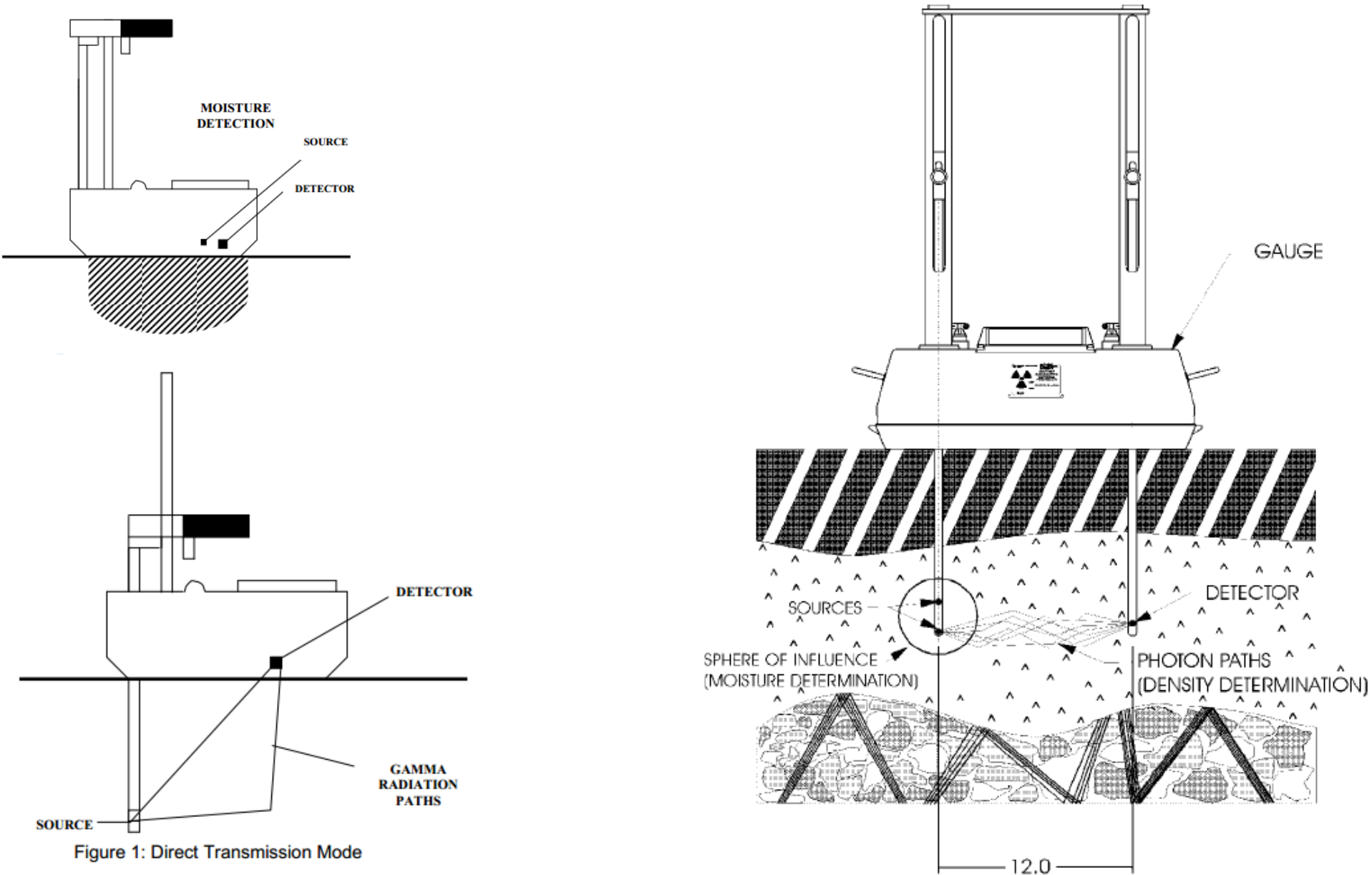
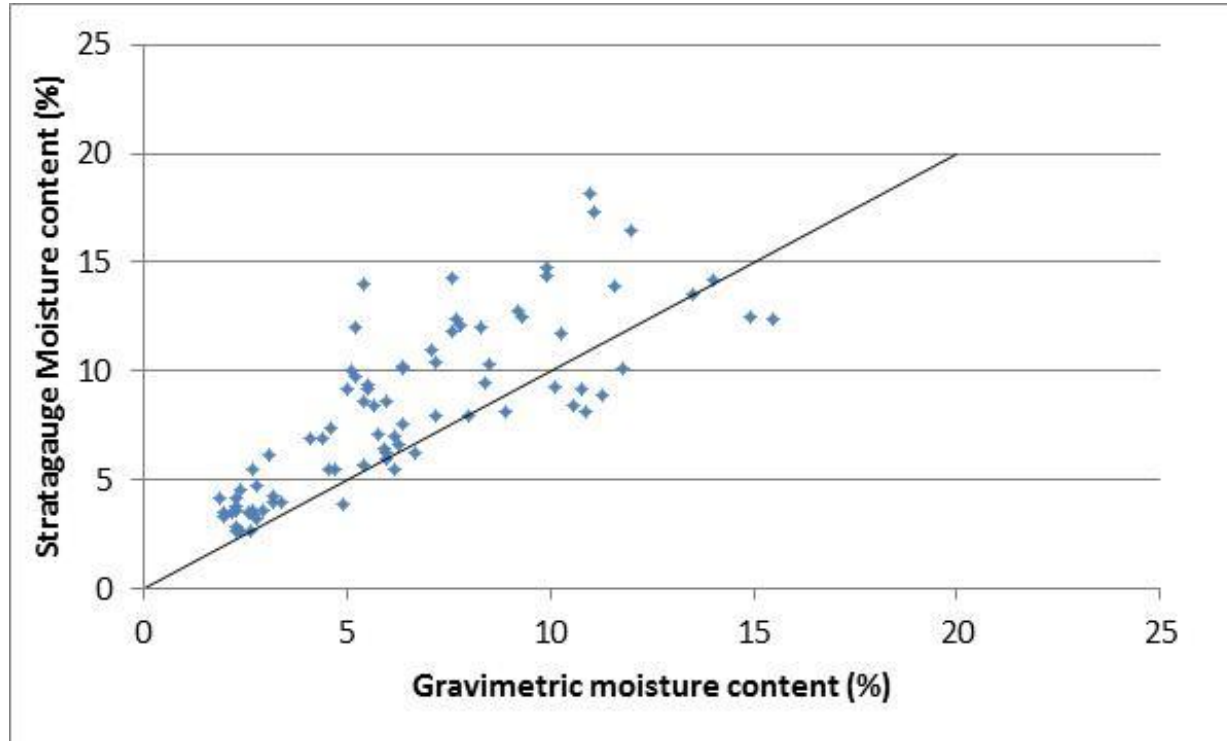


Figure 1: Direct Transmission Mode

# Typical analysis



- Depth of measurement (mm) =  $280 - (0.27m)$

where  $m$  = moisture in  $\text{kg/m}^3$

# Stratagauge & gravimetric MC



•30 mm AC

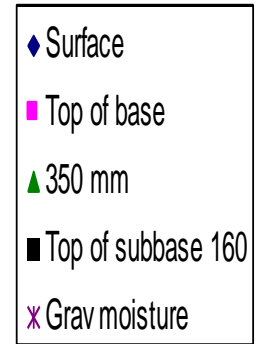
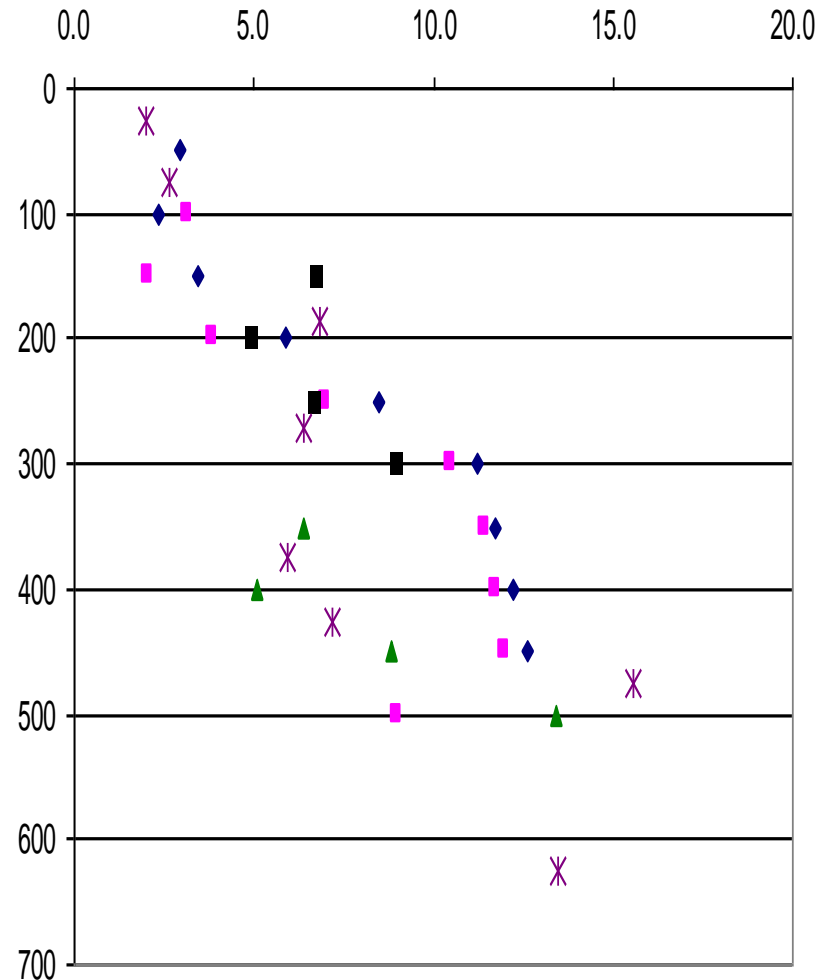
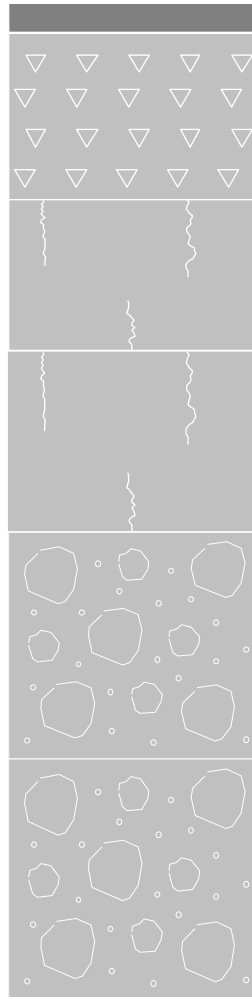
•125 mm  
G1

•125 mm C2

•125 mm C2

•150 mm  
G5

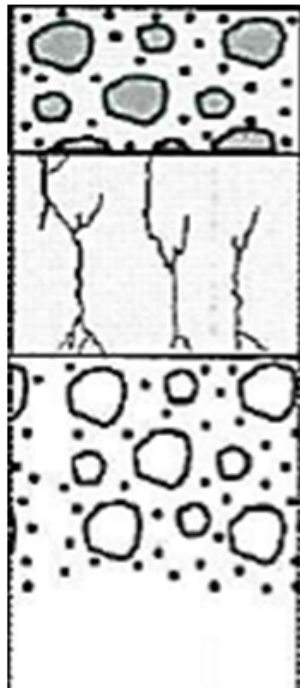
•150 mm  
G5





# Typical analysis

- Site 17 Brandbach – R2388
- Old HVS site
  - Labour based with emulsion treated ash



100 mm Emulsion treated Sasol ash

125 mm cemented treated (C4) residual sandstone

Imported granular selected layer (G7) ferruginised soil

## SOIL PROFILE:

Dry, dark grey mottled white, loose, intact, sandy gravel. SASOL ASH.

Slightly moist, brown mottled white and red-brown, loose, intact, sandy coarse gravel with cobbles and boulders. Residual SANDSTONE

Moist, dark brown mottled red brown and orange, stiff, intact, sandy clay with ferricrete nodules. FERRUGENISED SOIL

Figure 1: Pavement structure at Brandbach (site 17)



# Brandbach

## ■ Testing

- 3 points at each site tested in field
  - Stratagauge (Density & MC), Troxler, LWD, FWD, DCP
  - On each layer where appropriate
  - Moisture content and bulk samples of each layer
  - Undisturbed where possible for in situ bulk density
  - Profile
- Laboratory testing
  - MDD and OMC
  - Grading and Atterbergs
  - BRD and ARD



# DCP

## ■ Results

- Some quite consistent, others quite variable
  - Deep pavement
  - Base strength increases inwards (end of wet season)
  - Subgrade strengths surprisingly variable (opposite of base)

Property	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3
Location (from edge of seal) (mm)	250	750	1250
DSN <sub>800</sub>	183	167	189
DN base (mm/blow)	3.34	2.66	2.41
CBR base (%)	89	118	134
DN subbase (mm/blow)	2.24	2.53	1.76
CBR subbase (%)	147	126	189
DN selected subgrade (mm/blow)	4.17	5.89	7.27
CBR selected subgrade (%)	67	43	33
Balance number (A)	2820	2390	3560
Balance number (B)	22	25	31

# LWD

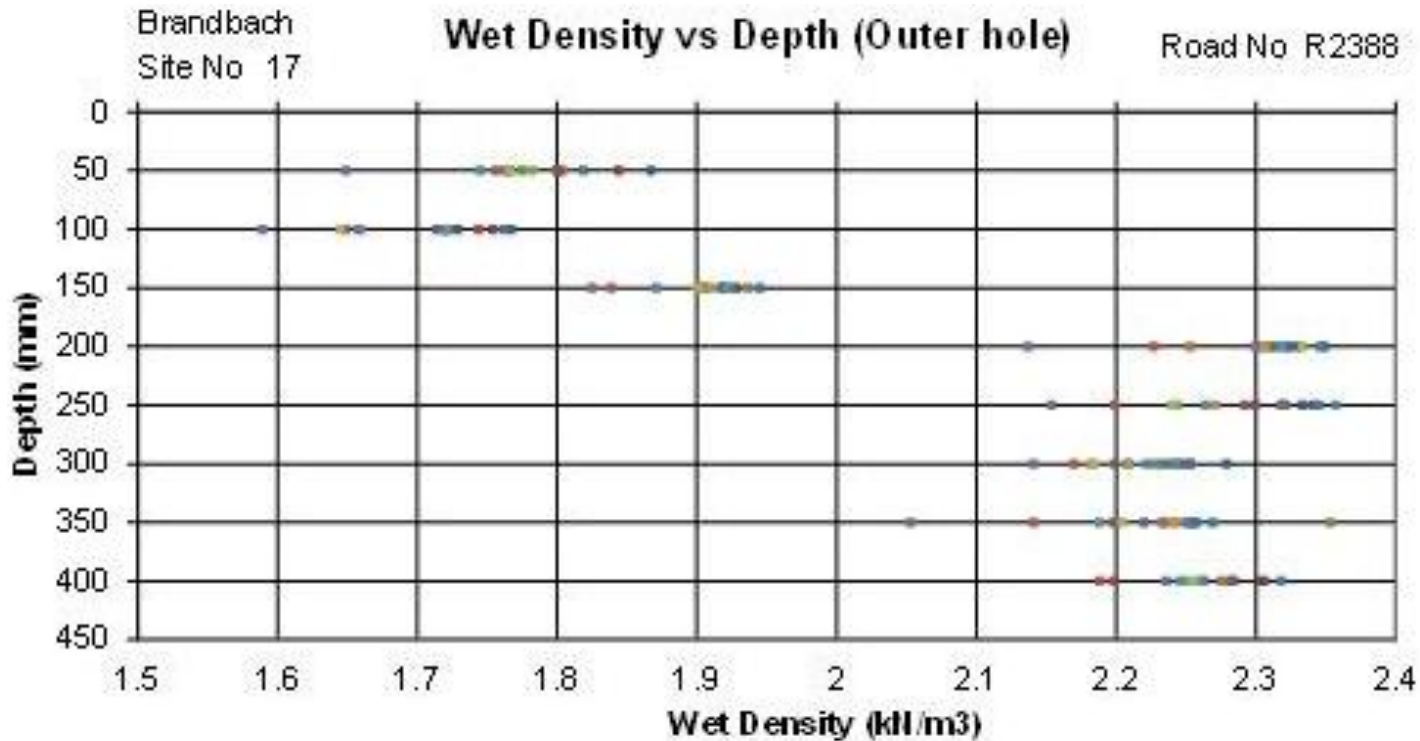
## ■ Results

- Some interesting aspects – not explained yet
  - Decrease in deflection at top of subbase
  - Relatively consistent at different positions on surface

Property	Position 1 (A)	Position 2 (B)	Position 3 (C)
Deflection (on asphalt) ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	425	439	429
Deflection at top of base ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	493	-	-
Deflection at top of subbase ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	270	-	-
Deflection at top of selected layer ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	538	-	-
Stiffness (on asphalt) (MPa)	209	205	210
Stiffness at top of base (MPa)	182	-	-
Stiffness at top of subbase (MPa)	342	-	-
Stiffness at top of selected layer (MPa)	167	-	-

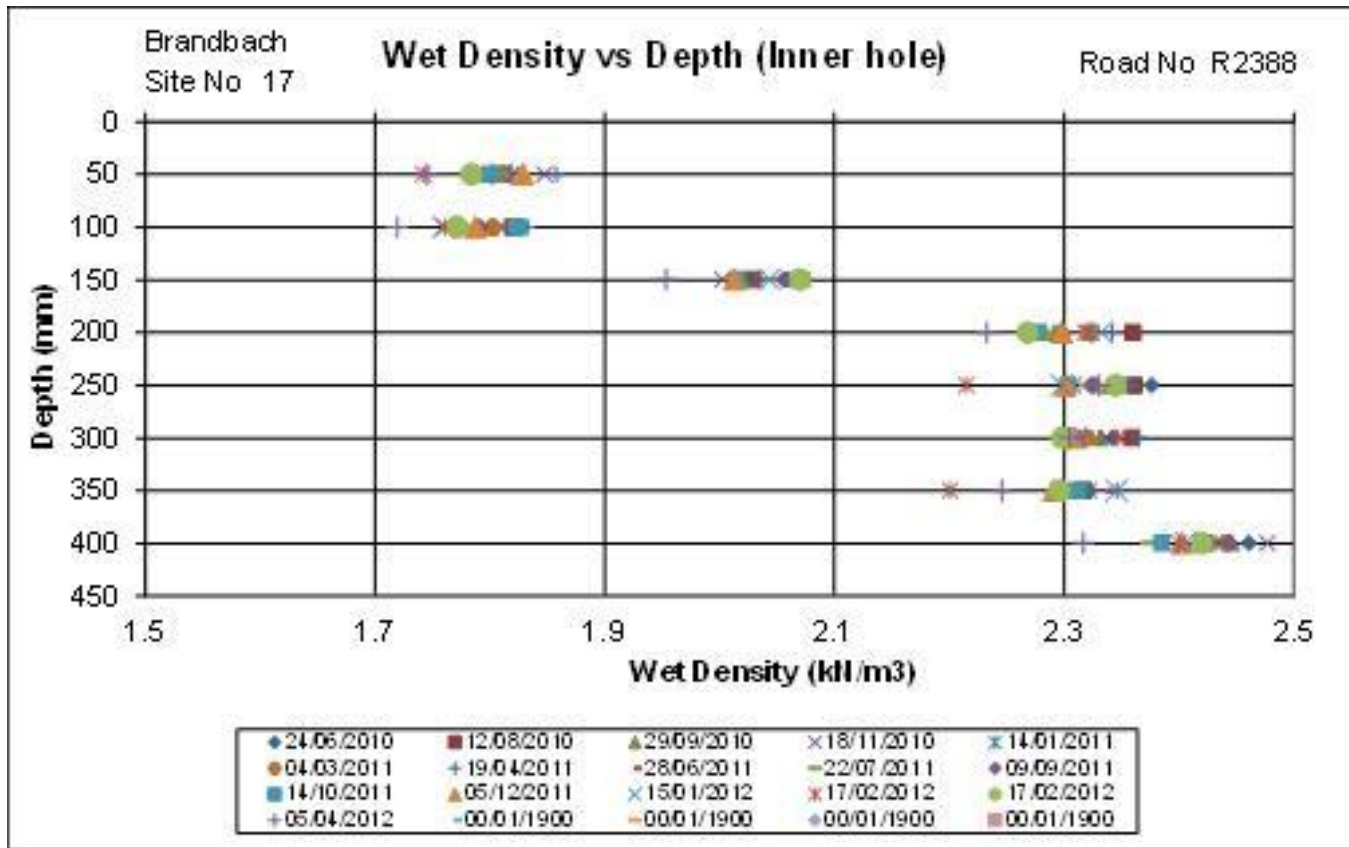
# Wet density

- Results (outer holes)
  - Strong trends
    - Expected variation
    - Related to seasonal moisture variation



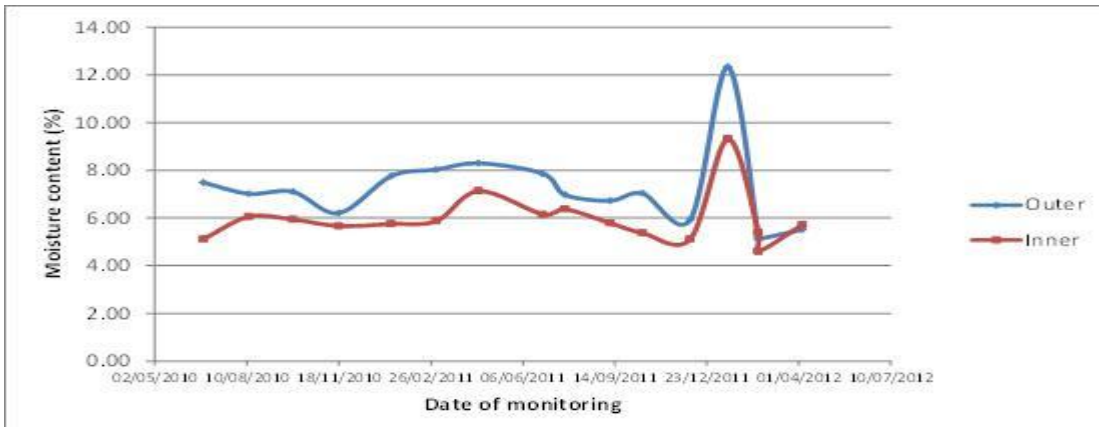
# Wet density

- Results (inner hole)
  - Strong trends
    - Variation is less
    - Even so, more than expected 1500 mm from edge of seal

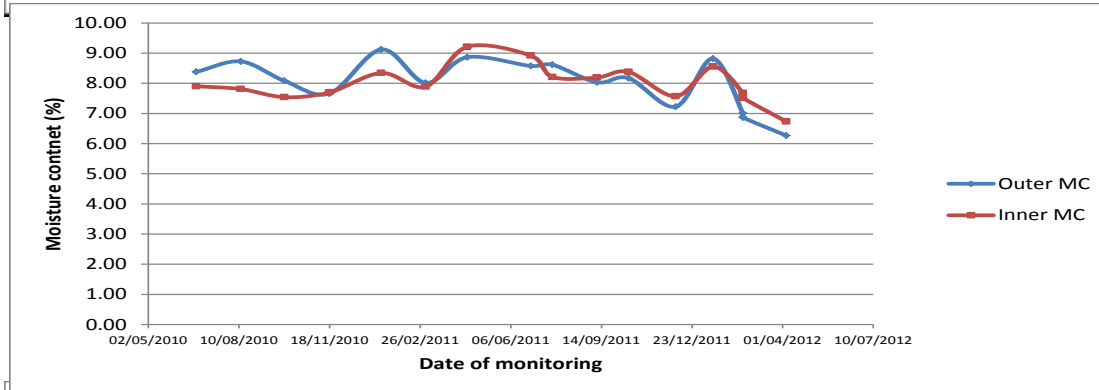




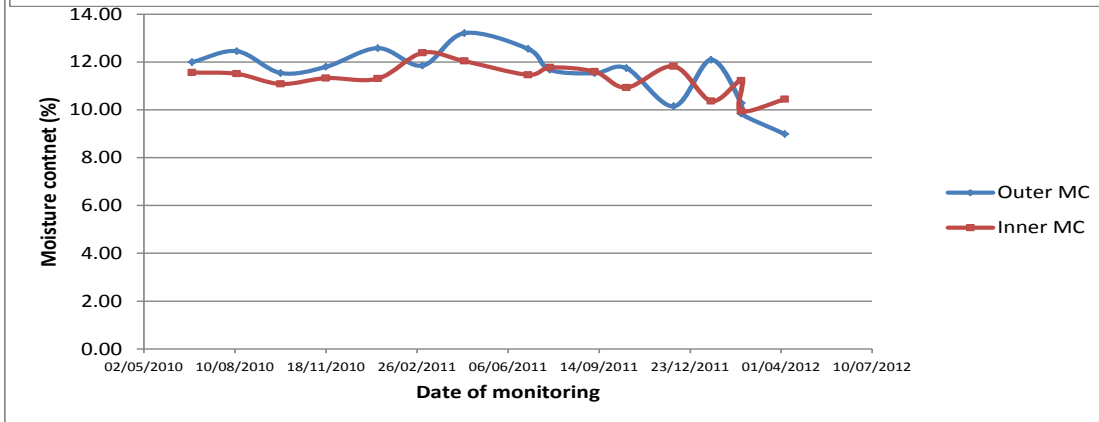
# Moisture



**BASE**



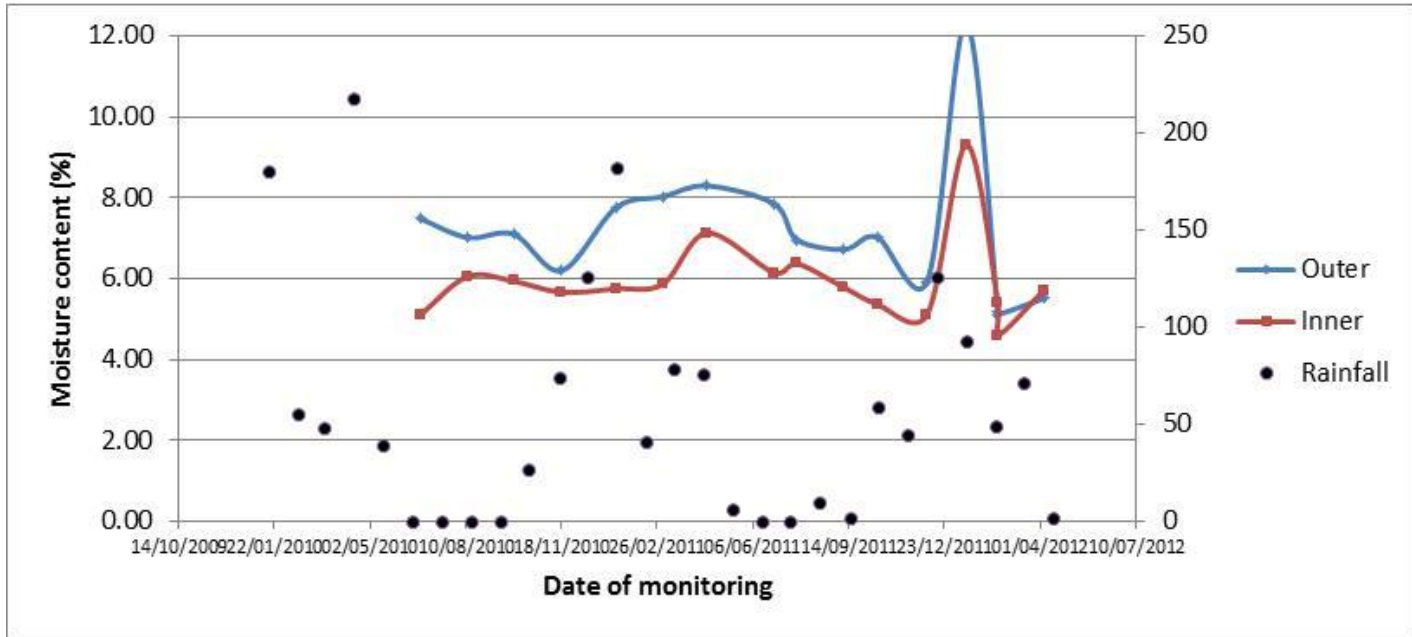
**SUBBASE**



**SUBGRADE**

# Moisture

**BASE**





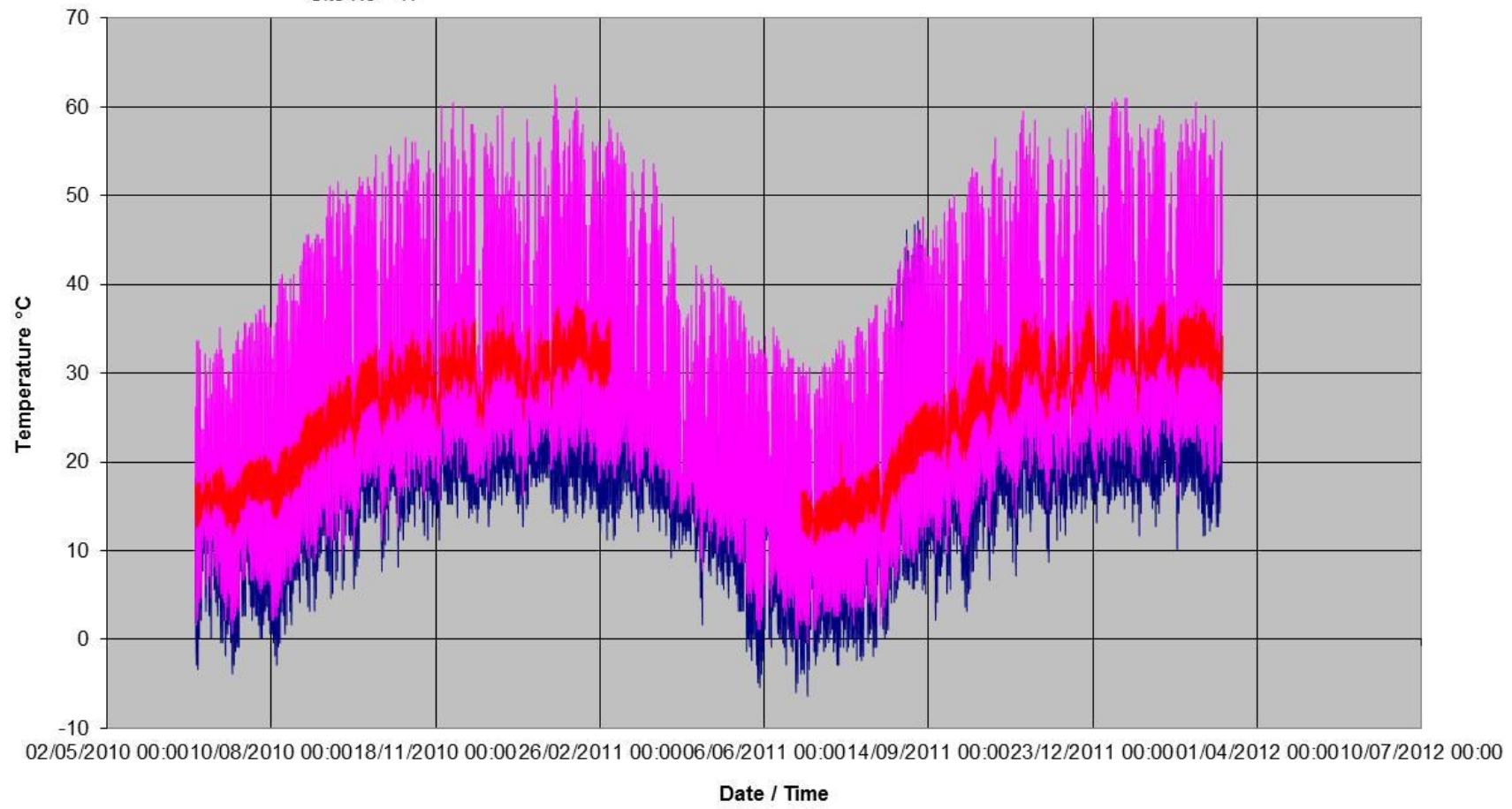
# Temperature (31 000 readings)



Brandbach  
Site No 17

## Temperature Measurements

Road No R2388



— Air — Top — Bottom

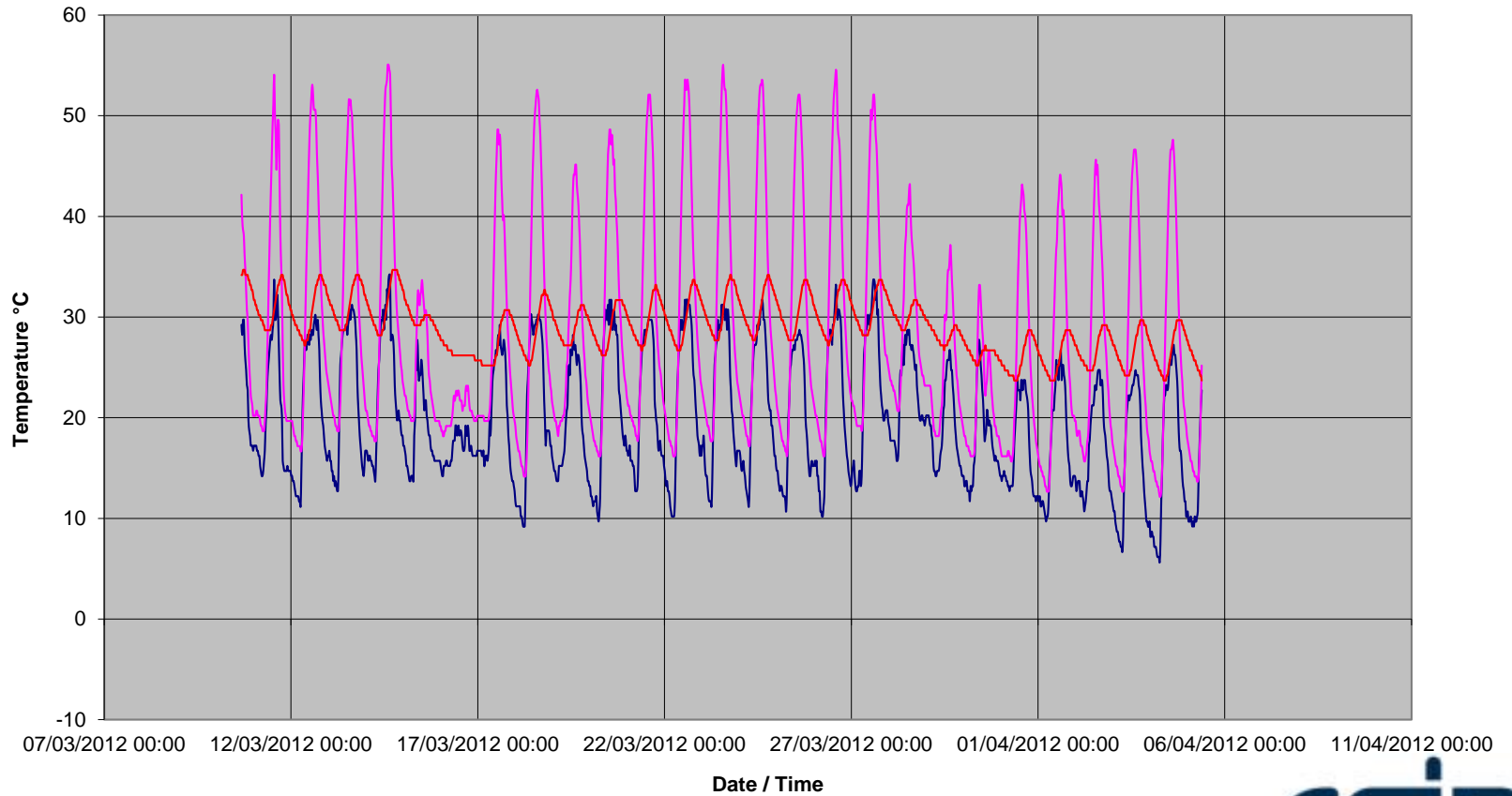
# Temperature (detail)



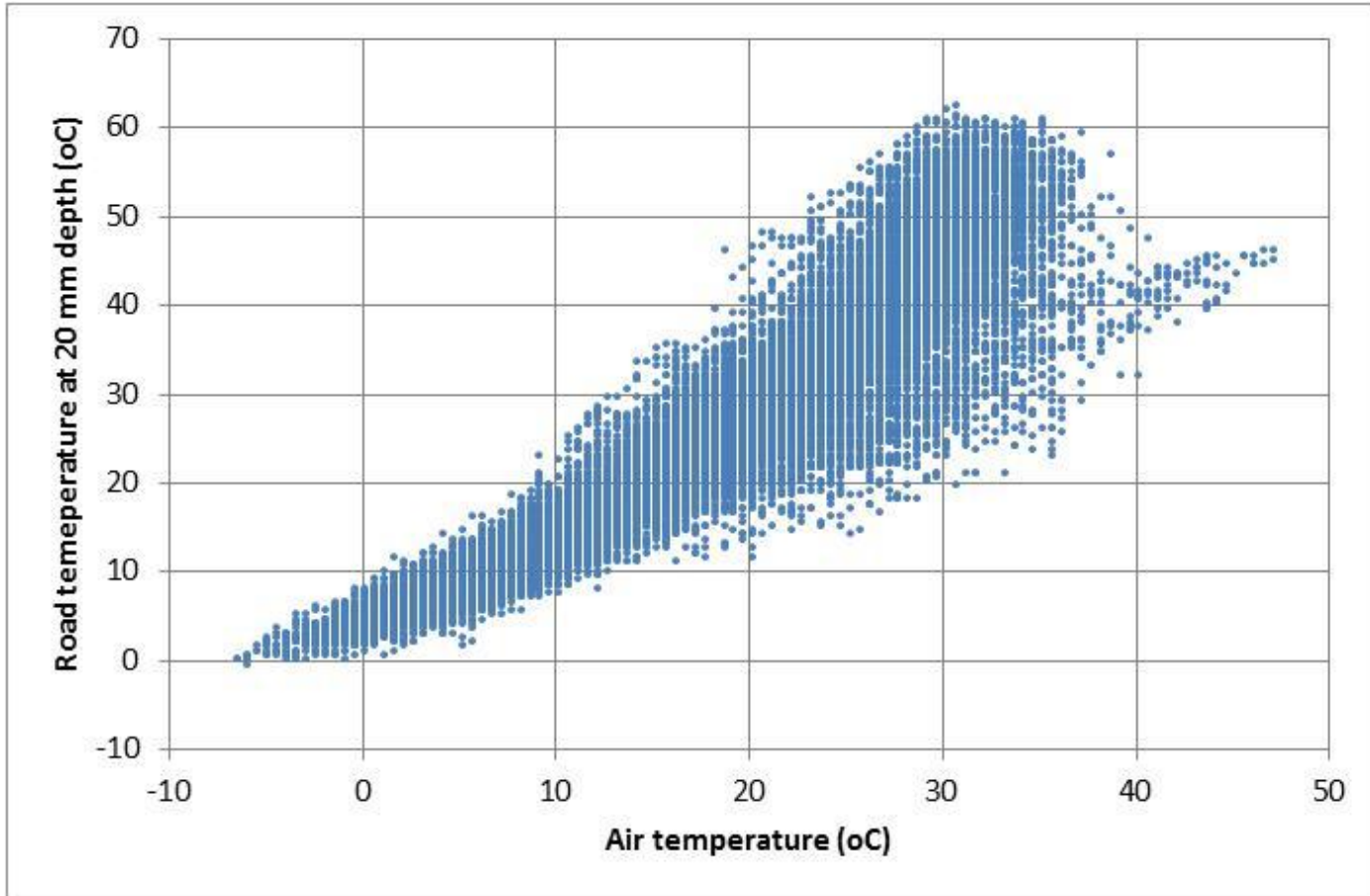
Brandbach  
Site No 17

## Temperature Measurements

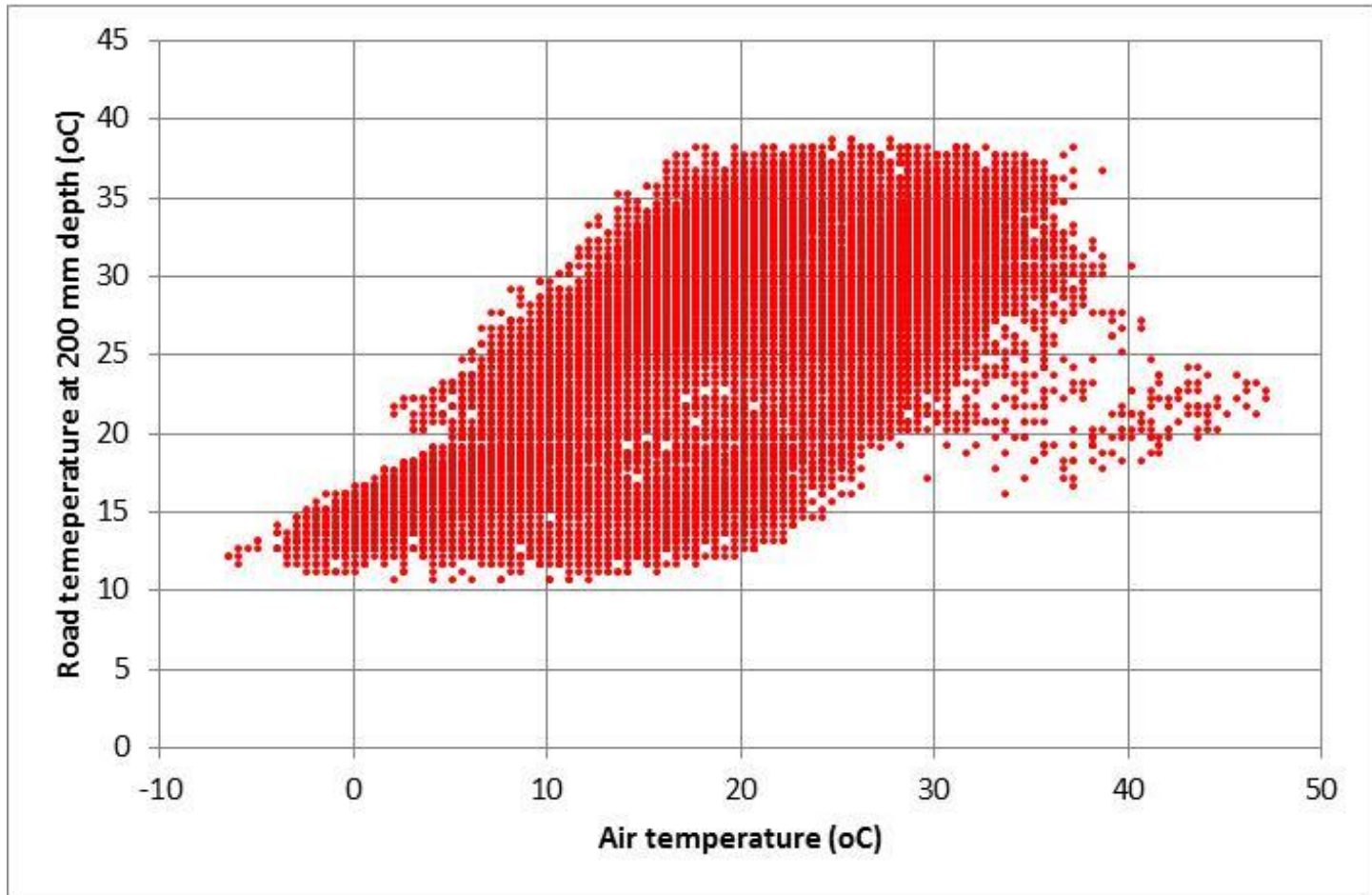
Road No R2388



# Temperature (air and road "surface")



# Temperature (air and road at 200 mm)



# Conclusions

- Preliminary analysis of 1 section
- New information emerging
- Moisture prediction models may not be as good as we think
- Moisture variation
  - material related
  - Seasonal variation more extensive than expected
  - Lateral variation more significant than expected
- New temperature relationships are emerging
- FWD analysis pending