



# Applications of LCA for Network-Level Pavement Management

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# Acknowledgements

## University of Coimbra & Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (Grant SFRH/BD/79982/2011)

MODAT – Multi-Objective Decision-Aid Tool for Highway Asset  
Management

EMSURE – Energy and Mobility for Sustainable Regions

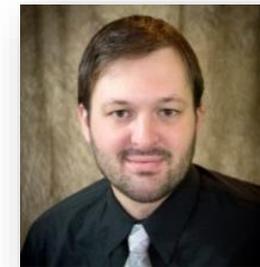
– *Joao Santos*

– *Adelino Ferreira*

## National Sustainable Pavement Consortium

Mississippi, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Virginia  
DOT, FHWA, and Virginia Tech

– *James Bryce*

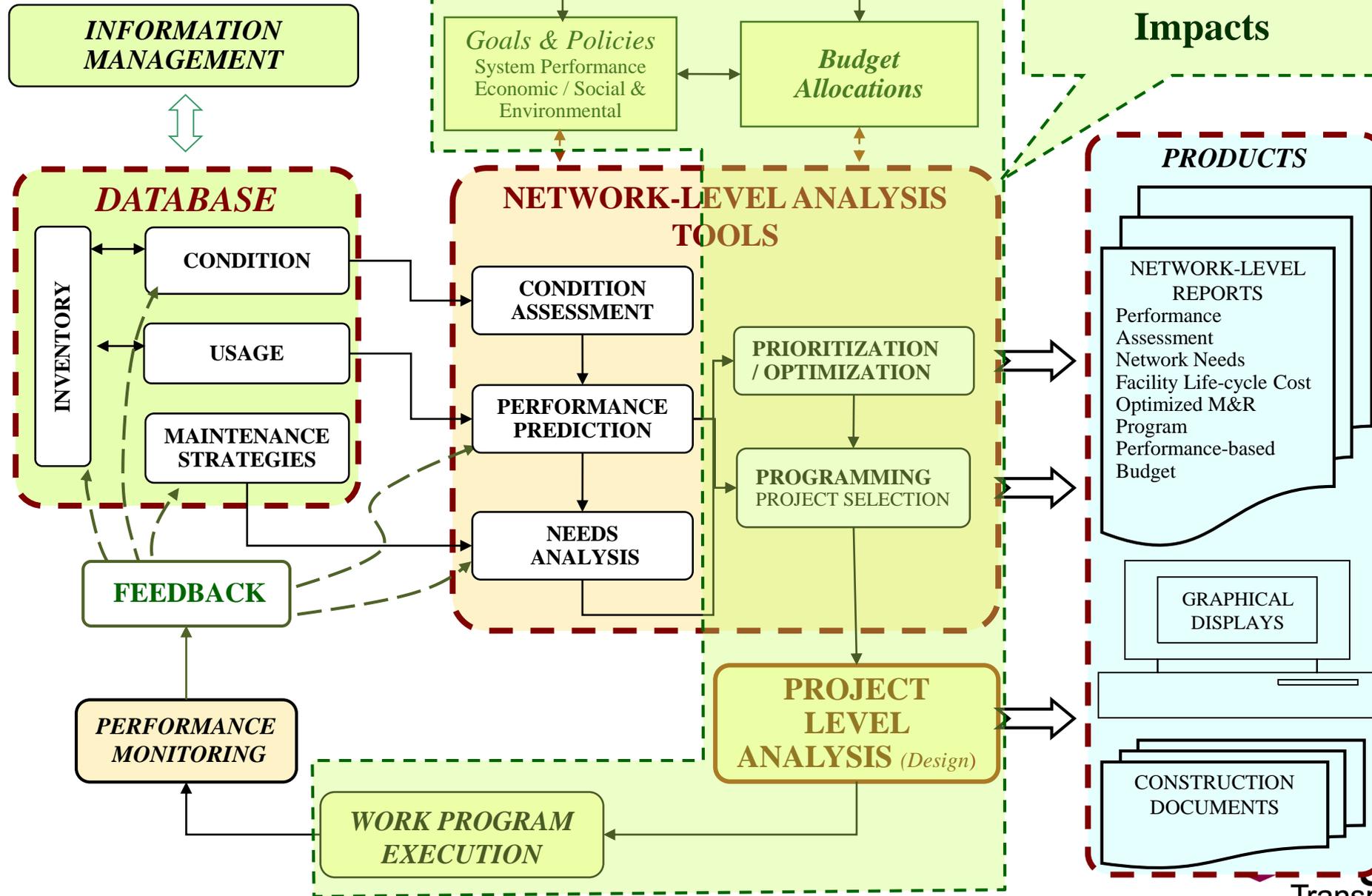


# Contents

- ✓ Background
- ✓ Framework
- ✓ Example Applications
- ✓ Conclusions

# Background

# The Asset Management Process



# National Sustainable Pavement Consortium

- ✓ **Objective:** To establish a research consortium focused on enhancing pavement sustainability
  - ✓ Identification and evaluation of novel products, practices, and pavement systems
  - ✓ Best practices for sustainable pavement management
  - ✓ Climatic changes adaptation

## Scope:

### Research

- ✓ Applied – Shorter term quick gains
- ✓ Basic – Answer fundamental questions

### Education

- ✓ Materials to support short courses
- ✓ Materials to help develop academic classes

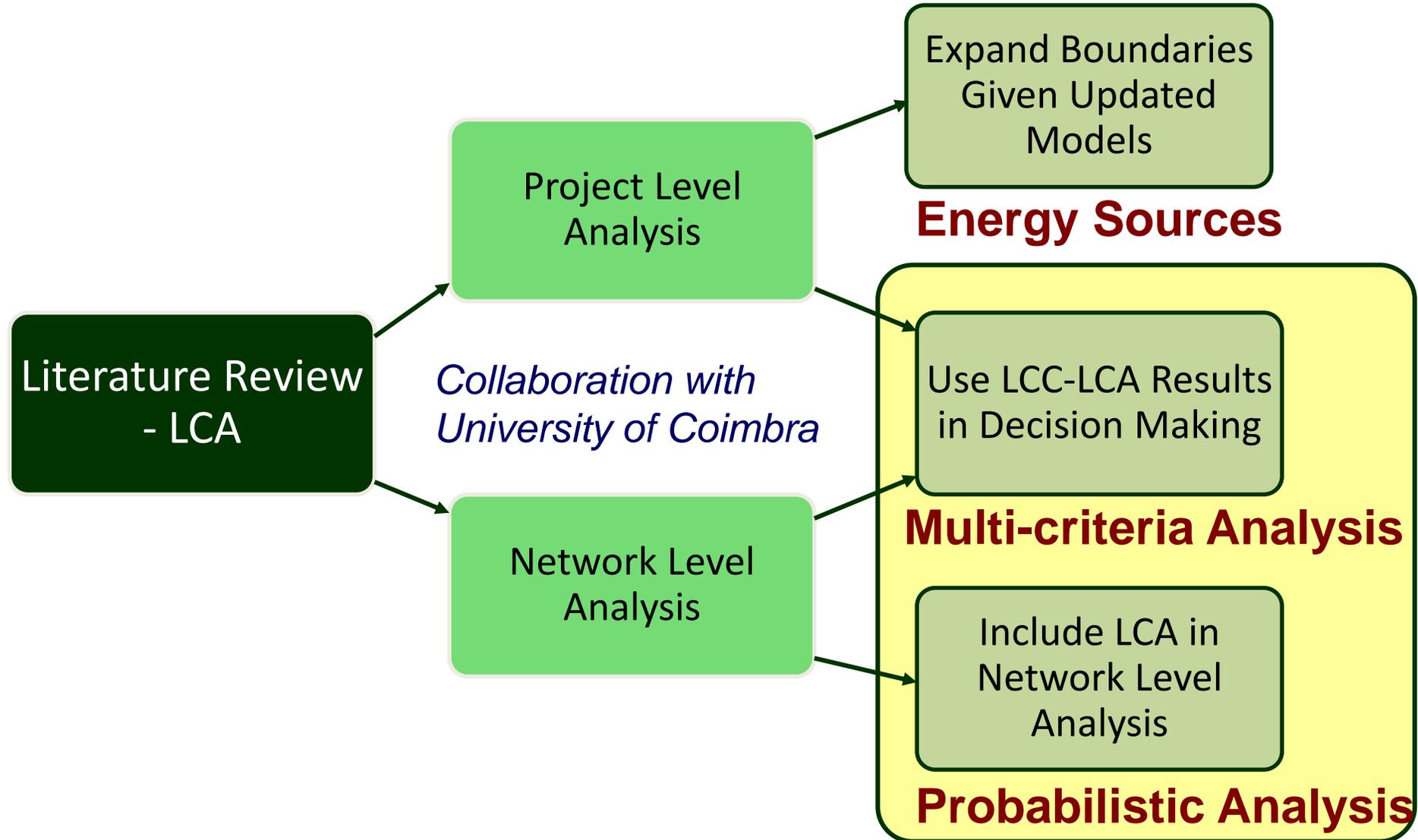
### Outreach

- ✓ Short courses, seminars, webinars and workshops



# National Sustainable Pavement Consortium

## LCA for Pavements Projects



# Objective

- ✓ To develop a comprehensive approach and supporting tools to calculate the life cycle impacts of pavement maintenance and rehabilitation projects and management approaches
  - Considers comprehensive and integrated pavement life cycle cost and (environmental) life cycle assessment models
  - Covers the whole pavement's life cycle (cradle to grave)
  - Balances performance, cost and environmental impacts
- ✓ To apply the model to improve the management of pavement assets

# Antecedent: Adding a 3<sup>rd</sup> Objective: Minimizing the Life Cycle Environmental Impact



## ✓ Objectives:

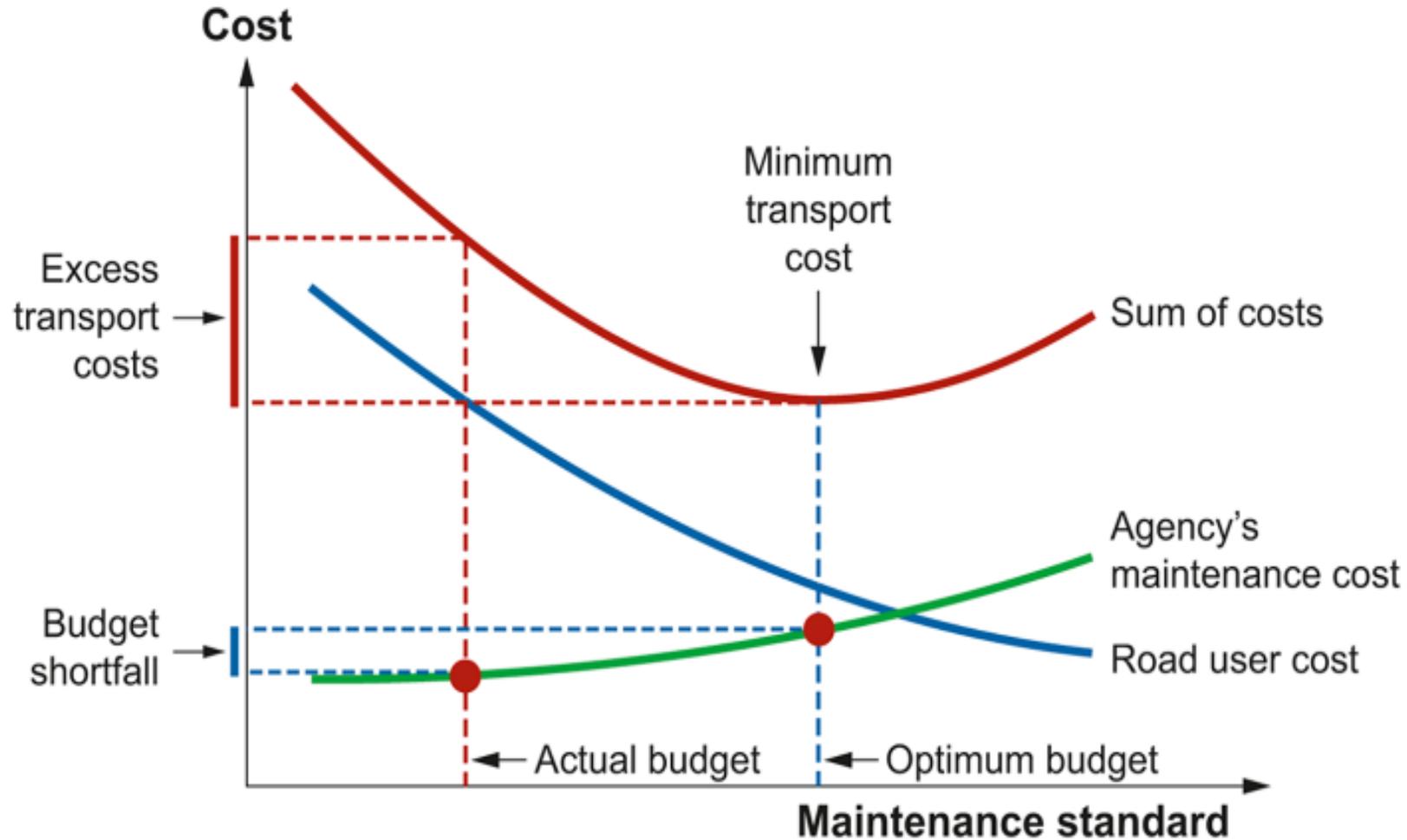
- Assess the environmental impacts of road-related practices, strategies, and materials
- Implement a procedure to include these eco-efficiency values into a more comprehensive decision support system



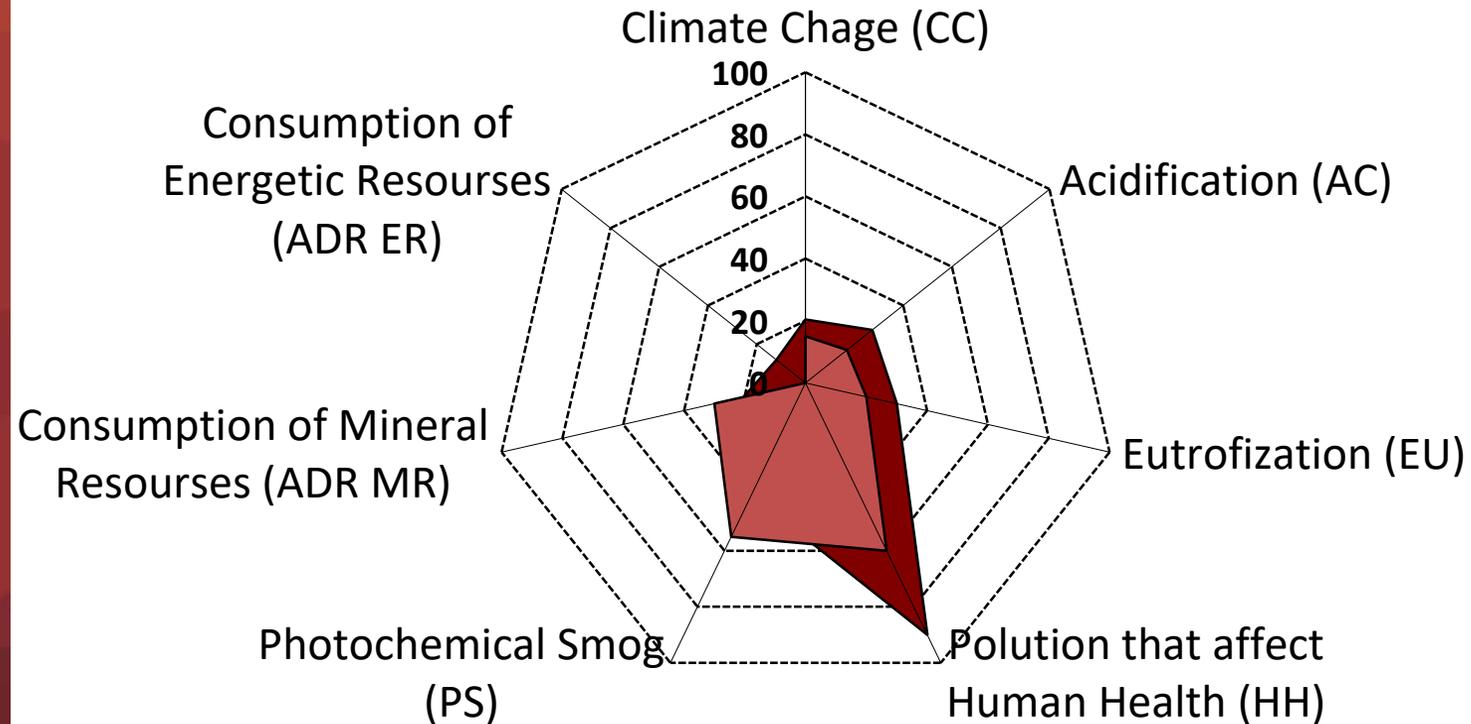
# Framework

# LCCA

## Optimization of Transportation Costs



# Life Cycle Assessment

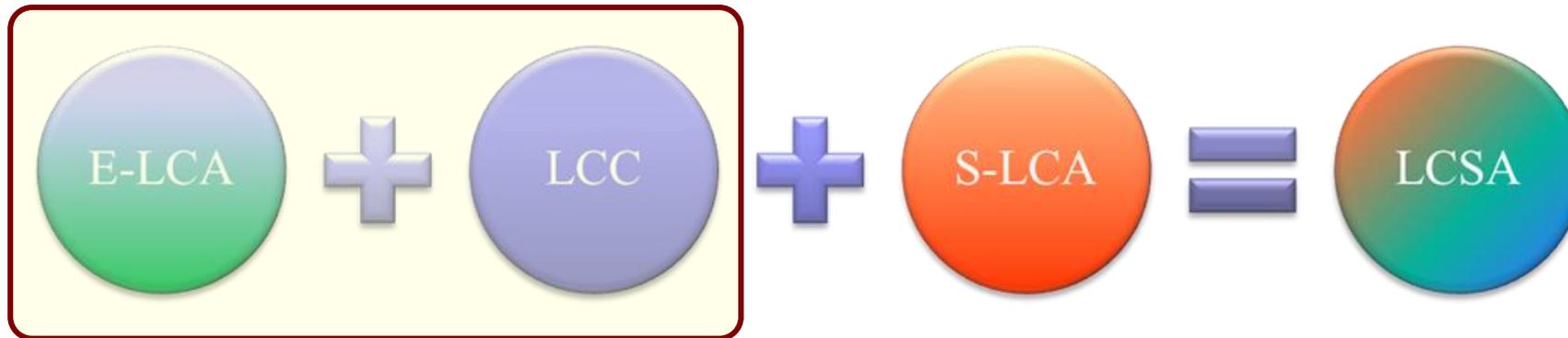


- ✓ What factors are important?
- ✓ How Important?
- ✓ How we account for them?

Santos, J., Ferreira, A. and Flintsch, G.W., "A life cycle assessment model for pavement management: methodology and computational framework," International Journal of Pavement Engineering, 2014, pp. 1-20

# Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment (LCSA)

- ✓ The evaluation of all environmental, social and economic negative impacts and benefits in decision-making processes towards more sustainable products throughout their life cycle.



Source: UNEP (2012) *Social Life Cycle Assessment and Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment*

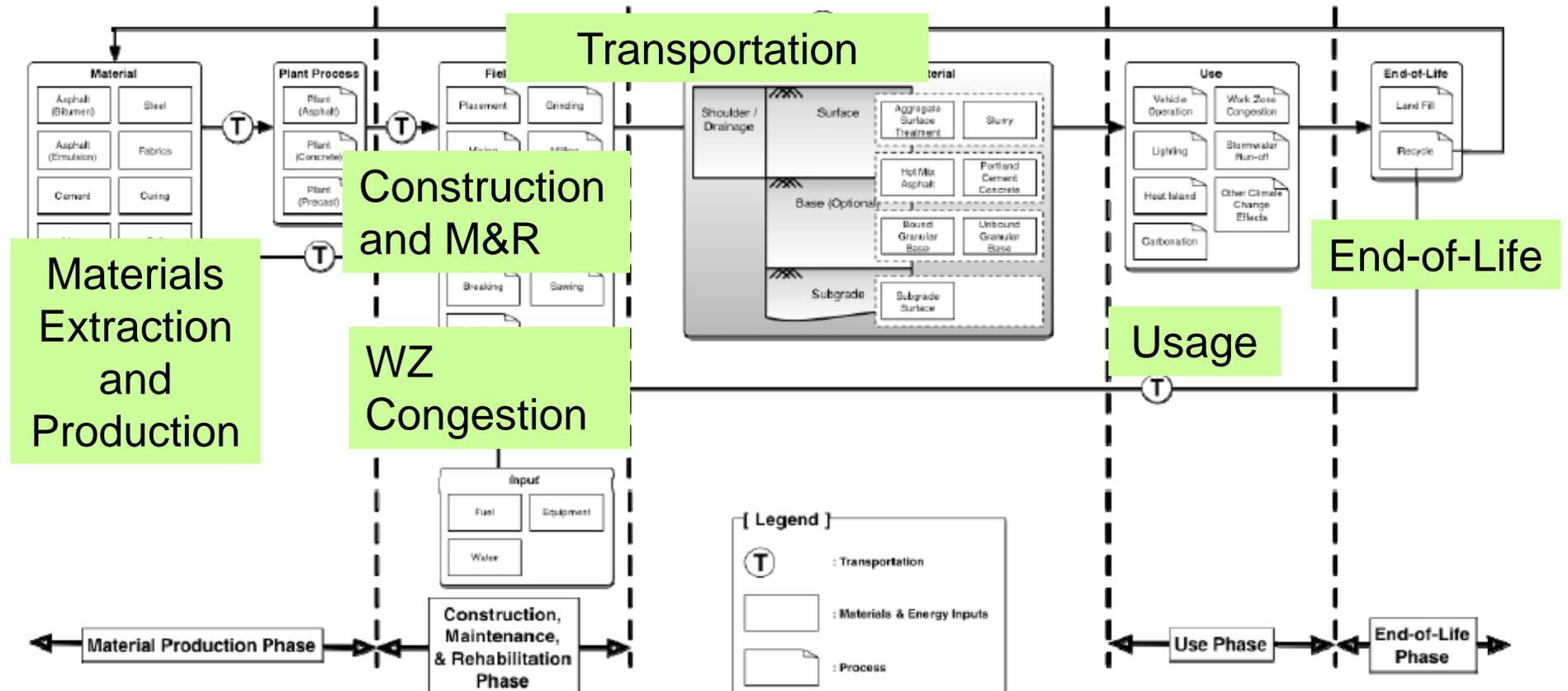
# Pavement Phases Considered in the LCCA/LCA

## ✓ Following

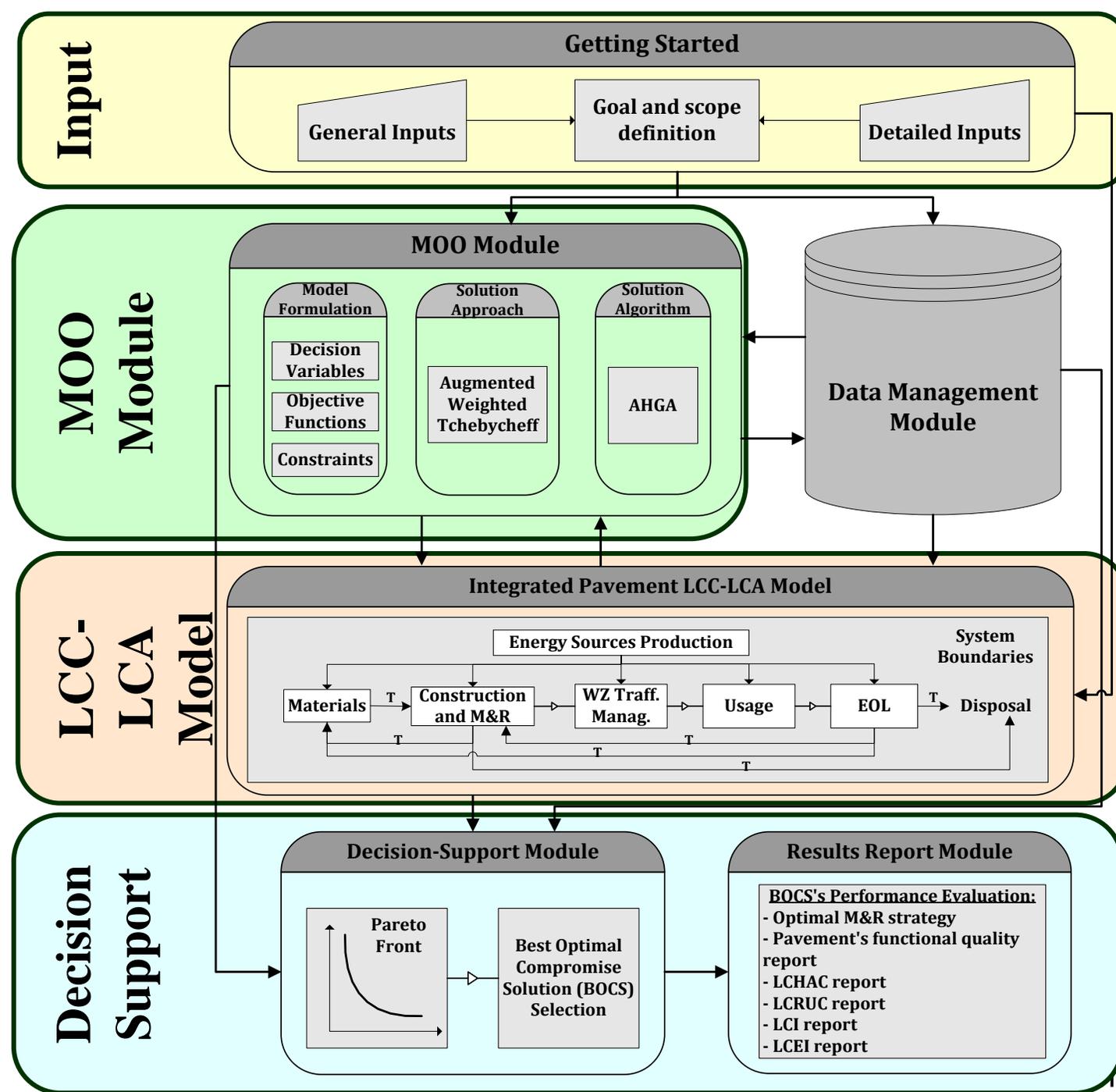
- International Standard Organization (ISO, 2006) & UCPRC Pavement LCA (Harvey et al., 2010)

### PROPOSED FRAMEWORK FOR PAVEMENT LCA

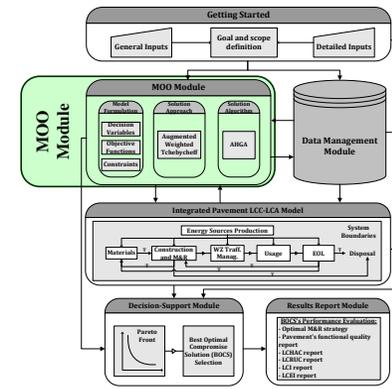
*Prepared by the Pavement LCA Group at UC Davis*



# Multi-Objective Optimization-Based Decision Support System for Sustainable Pavement Management



# Multi-Objective Optimization Model Formulation



## Objective Functions

Agency Cost

$$\text{Minimize } OF_1 = \sum_{t=1}^{50} \frac{1}{(1+d)^t} \times \sum_{r=1}^6 (C_{rt}^{MatExtProd} + C_{rt}^{C.M\&R} + C_{rt}^{TM}) \times X_{rt}$$

User Costs

$$\text{Minimize } OF_2 = \sum_{t=1}^{50} \frac{1}{(1+d)^t} \times \left\{ \sum_{r=1}^6 (VOC_{rt}^{WZIM} + TDC_{rt}^{WZIM}) \times X_{rt} \right\} + VOC_t^{Usage}$$

## Env. Impacts

$$\text{Minimize } OF_3 = \sum_{i=1}^3 CF_i^{CC} \times \left\{ \sum_{t=1}^{50} \left[ \sum_{r=1}^6 (LCI_{int}^{MatExtProd} + LCI_{int}^{C.M\&R} + LCI_{int}^{TM} + LCI_{int}^{WZIM}) \times X_{rt} \right] + LCI_t^{Usage} \right\}$$

## Constraints

$$CCI_t = \Phi(CCI_0, X_{11}, \dots, X_{1t}, \dots, X_{r1}, \dots, X_{rt}), \quad r = 1, \dots, 6; \quad t = 1, \dots, 50$$

$$X_{rs} \in \Omega(CCI_t), \quad r = 1, \dots, 6; \quad t = 1, \dots, 50$$

$$CCI_t \geq CCI_{min}, \quad t = 1, \dots, 50$$

$$\sum_{r=1}^6 X_{rt} = 1, \quad t = 1, \dots, 50$$

...

# Multi-Objective Optimization Model Solution Approach

**Define a combined  
Objective Function**

$$\max_{i=1,\dots,3} \left[ w_i \times \frac{f_i(\vec{X}) - f_i^{\min}}{f_i^{\max} - f_i^{\min}} \right] + \rho \times \sum_{i=1}^{N_{obj}} \frac{f_i(\vec{X}) - f_i^{\min}}{f_i^{\max} - f_i^{\min}}$$

with additional constraints

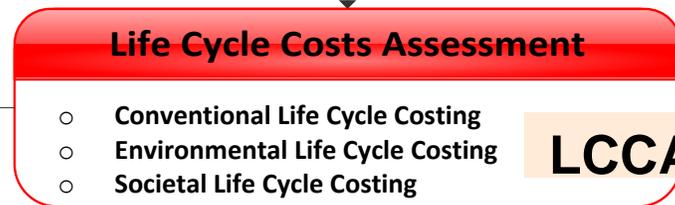
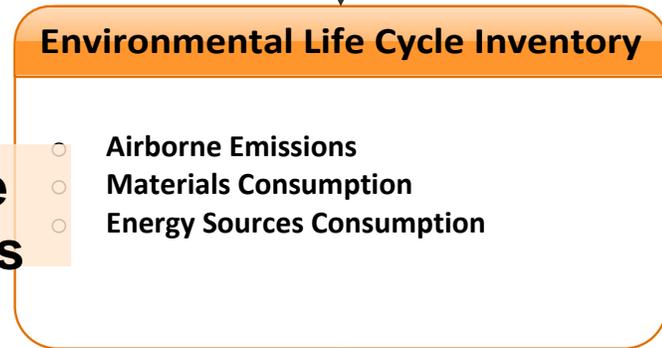
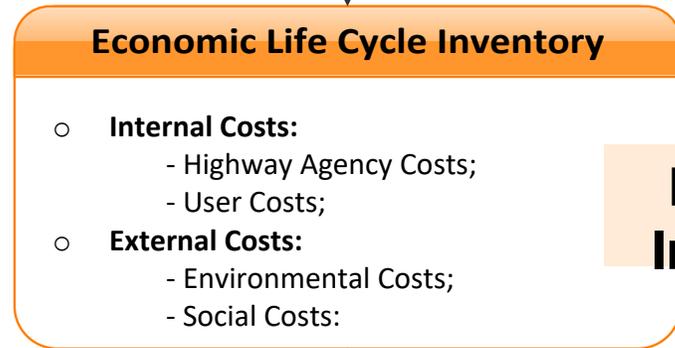
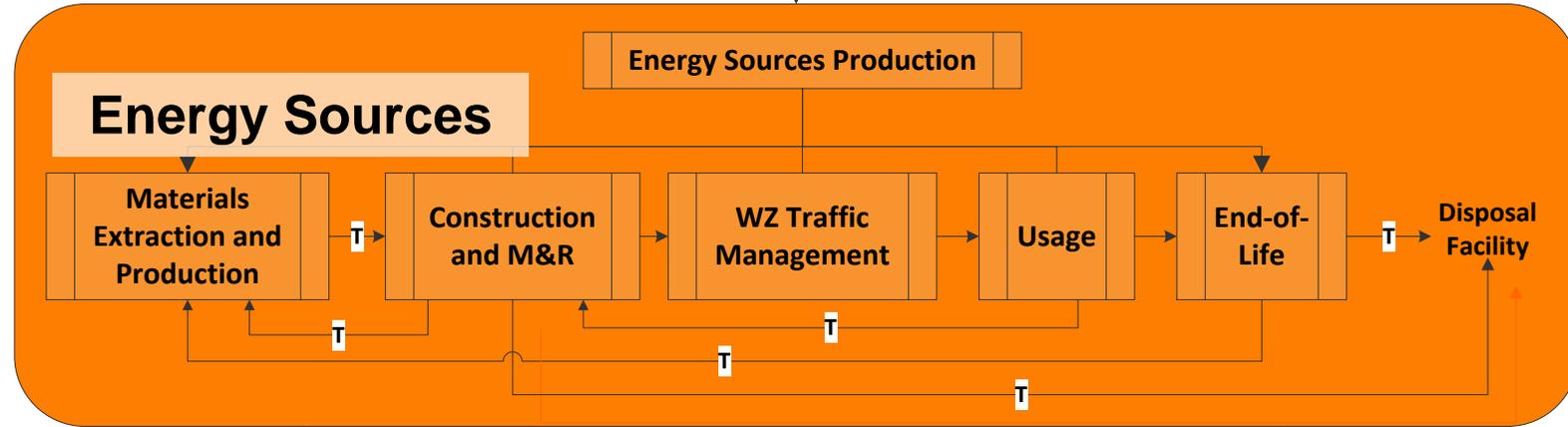
Subjected to:

$$w_i + \rho > 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, N_{obj}$$

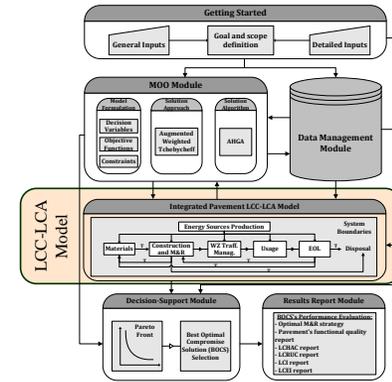
$$w_i \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, N_{obj}, \quad \sum_{i=1}^{N_{obj}} w_i = 1, \quad \rho \in \mathfrak{R}$$

**Solve using and Adaptive  
Hybrid Genetic Algorithm**

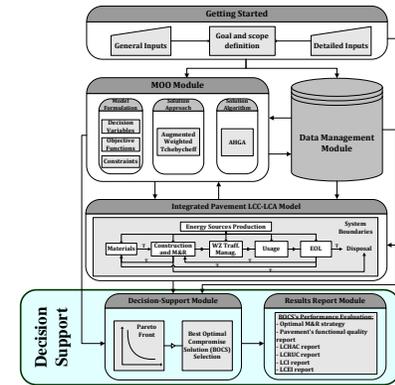
# LCC-LCA Model



## Life Cycle Inventories



# Decision Support Model



- ✓ Choose the solution in the Pareto front furthest from the most inferior solution, according to the membership function concept in the fuzzy set theory
- ✓ The solution with the maximum value of  $\beta_j$  is considered as the best optimal compromise solution (BOCS)

$$u_i^j = \frac{f_i^{max} - f_i^j}{f_i^{max} - f_i^{min}}$$

$\beta_j$  = the fuzzy cardinal priority ranking of each non-dominated solution

$$\beta_j = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{obj}} u_i^j}{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{obj}} \sum_{j=1}^M u_i^j}$$

# Example Applications

# Example I – LCCA/LCA Model only

## Life-Cycle Assessment of I-81 Recycling Project in Virginia, USA



Functional unit: Section of  
Interstate 81:

- 5.89 km long
- 2 lanes
- Directional AADT in 2011:  
25000 (28% trucks)
- Annual traffic growth rate: 3%
- Project analysis period: 50  
years

50 year time horizon

All phases except EOL

- Use phase evaluated using Chatti  
and Zaabar's NCHRP models and  
MOVES
- Traffic congestion effects  
considered using MOVES
- Impact Assessment using TRACI

Each alternative had different  
rehab. schedules

# Compared 3 Strategies



## Recycling-based

- Initial Intervention: *In-Place* recycling;
- M&R plan: VDOT's maintenance actions performed in years 12, 22, 32 and 44

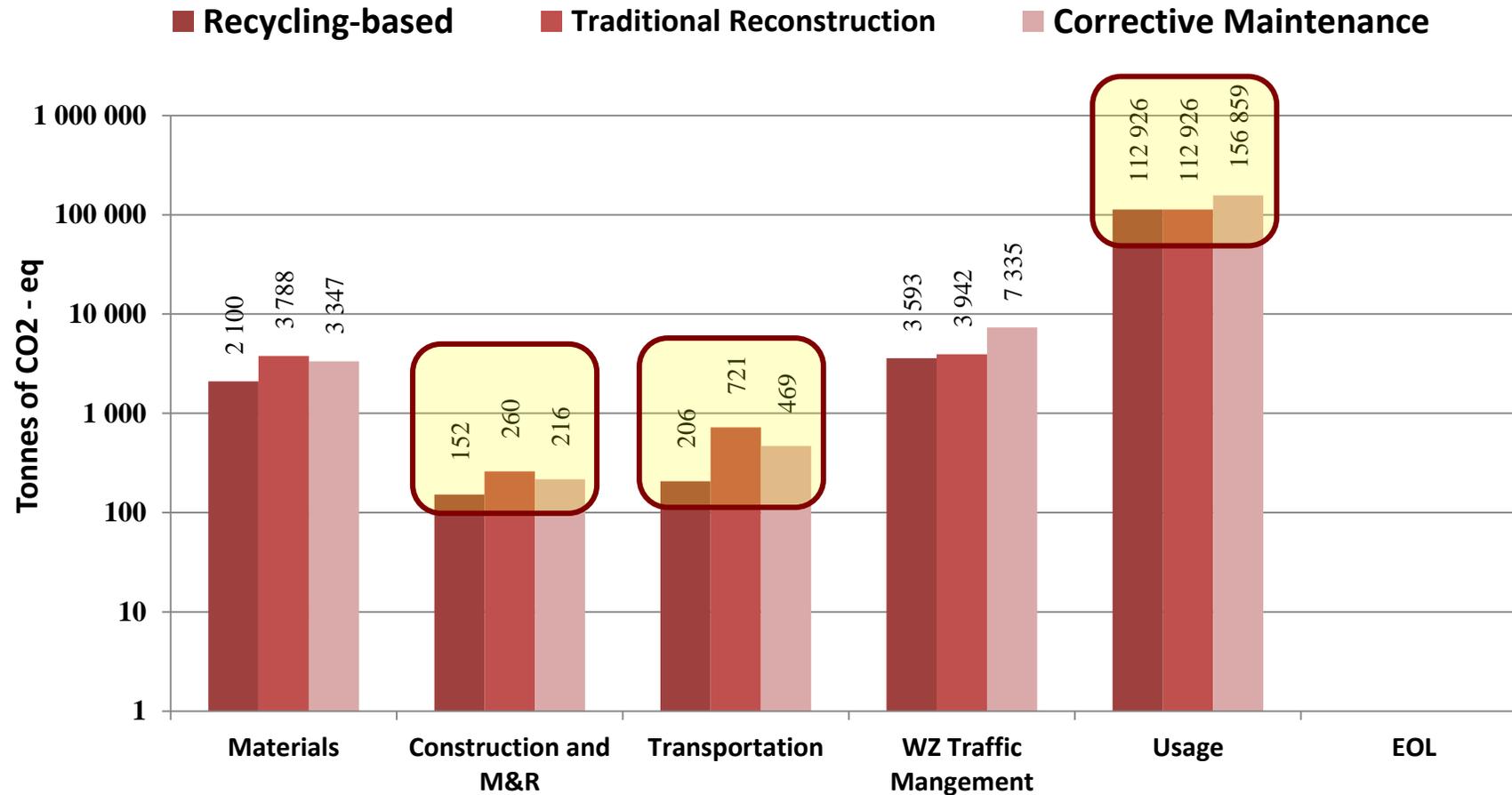
## Traditional Reconstruction

- Initial Intervention: Traditional reconstruction
- M&R plan: VDOT's maintenance actions performed in years 12, 22, 32 and 44

## Corrective Maintenance

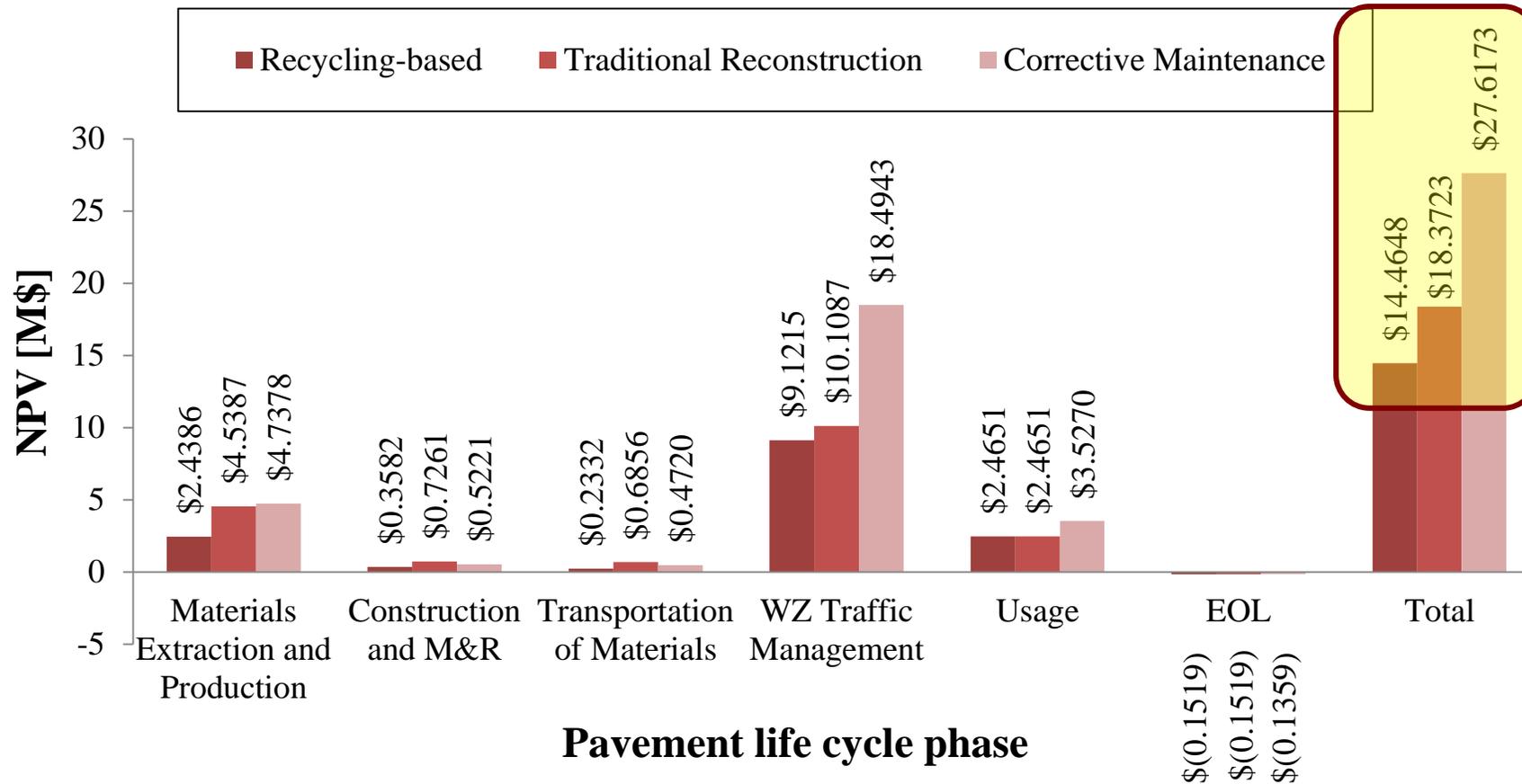
- Initial Intervention: Corrective Maintenance
- M&R plan: VDOT's maintenance actions performed in years 4, 10, 14, 18, 24, 28, 34, 38, 44 and 48

# Example of LCA Results Impact on Climate Change



Santos, J., Bryce, J., Flintsch, G., Ferreira, A. and Diefenderfer, B. (2014). A life cycle assessment of in-place recycling and conventional pavement construction and maintenance practices. *Structure and Infrastructure Engineering: Maintenance, Management, Life-Cycle Design and Performance*, 1-19.

# LCCA Comparison

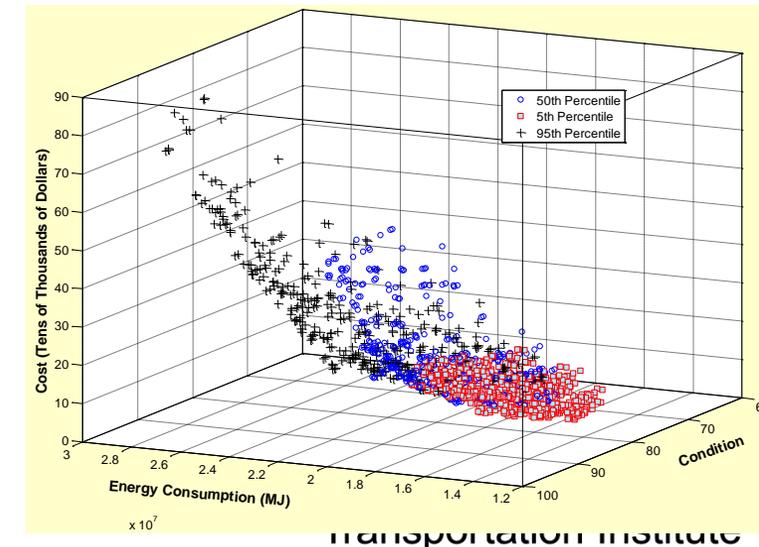


Santos, J., Bryce, J., Flintsch, G. and Ferreira, A. (2015). A comprehensive life cycle costs analysis of in-place recycling and conventional pavement construction and maintenance practices. *International Journal of Pavement Engineering* (online)

## Example II - Incorporating the use-phase into LCA for pavements

- ✓ Project-level LCA tool
- ✓ Compared energy consumption at network level for use (mainly roughness) and maintenance phases
- ✓ Probabilistic Network-level LCA
- ✓ Multi-criteria Analysis
  - Incorporating Stakeholder's input

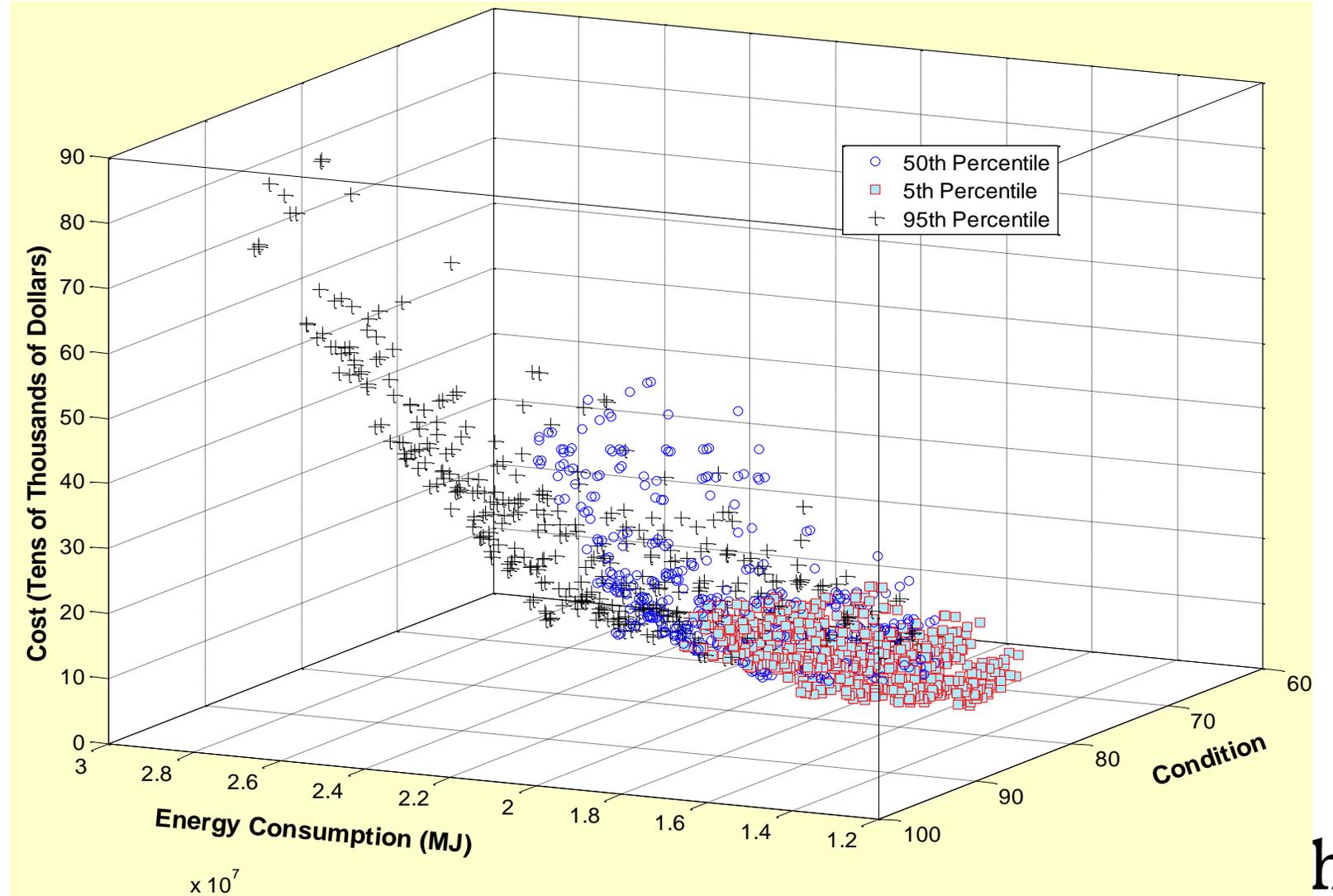
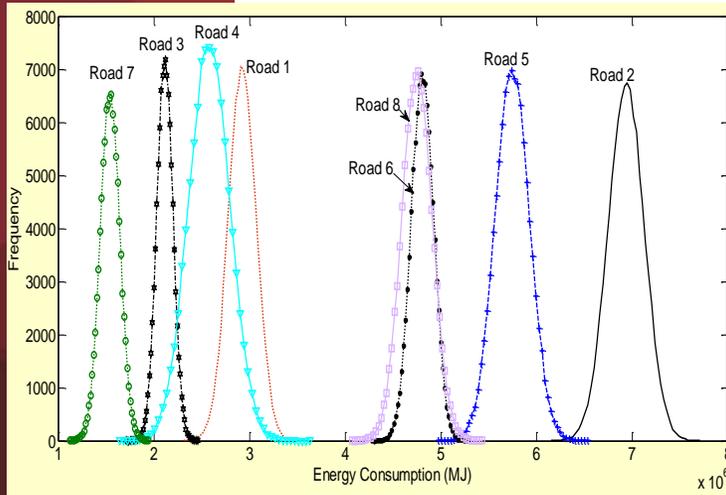
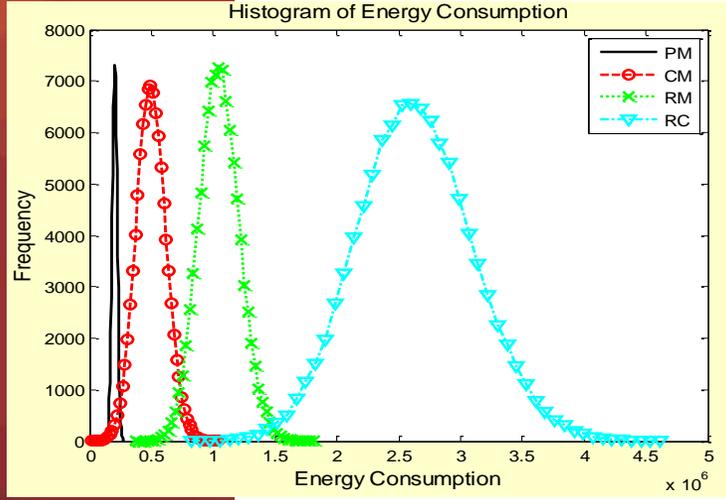
Bryce, J., Katicha, S., Flintsch, G.W., Sivaneswaran, N., Santos, J. "Probabilistic Lifecycle Assessment as a Network-Level Evaluation Tool for the Use and Maintenance Phases of Pavements." *Journal of the Transportation Research Board*, 2014, vol. 2455 (1), pp. 44-53



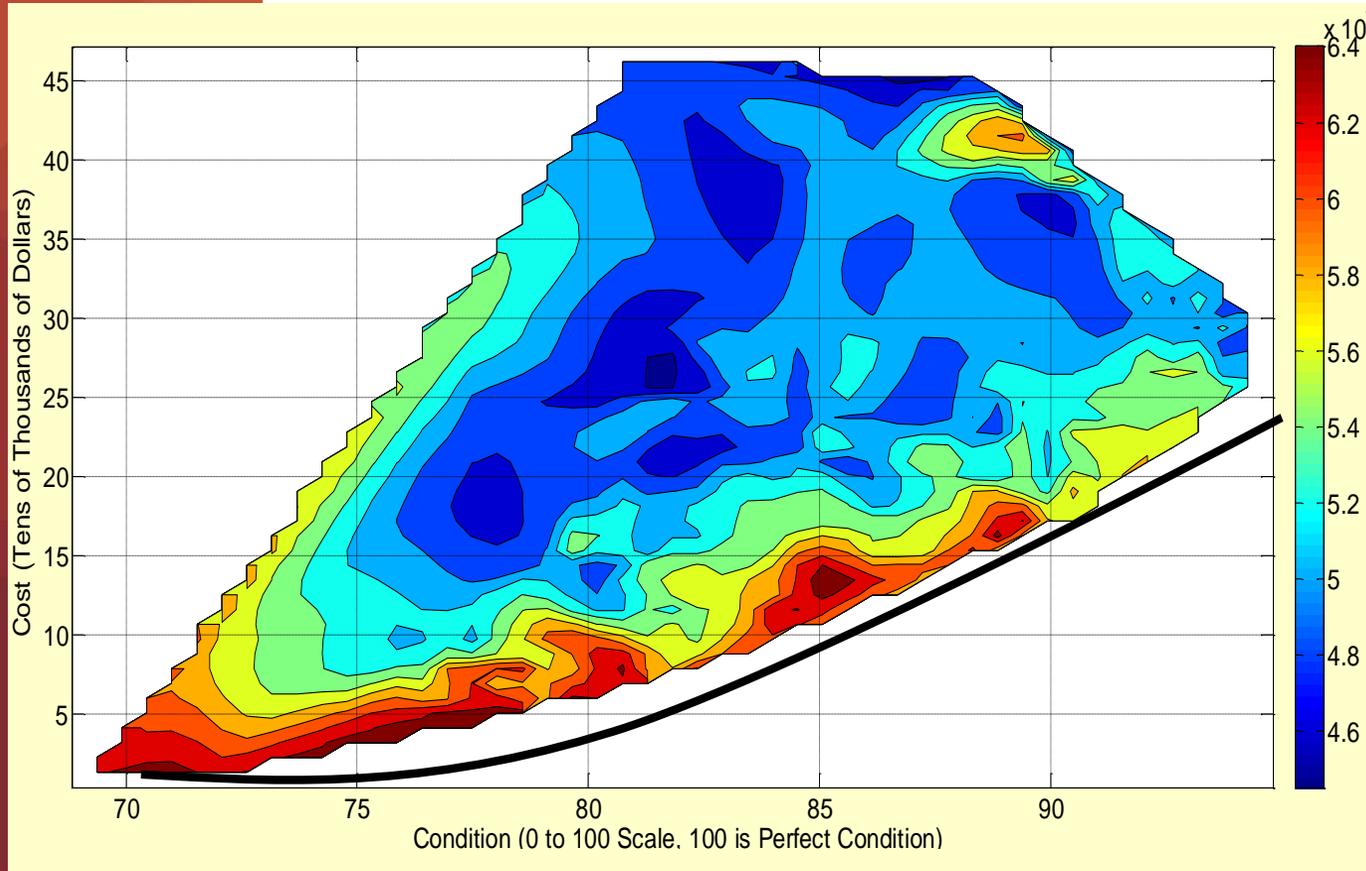
# Methodology

- ✓ Defined a marginal energy consumption
  - RR energy
  - EM energy consumption due to maintenance action
    - Materials and Construction, Impact of roughness on vehicles
- ✓ Evaluate tradeoff between cost, condition and energy consumption
  - Each variable has uncertainty
  - Used a simple synthetic network
  - Monte Carlo Simulation
  - Assumed that preventive maintenance impact condition but not pavement roughness

# Results



# Discussion & Example of Findings



- ✓ Multi-criteria approach to pavement management
  - Tradeoff between maintenance and RR
  - Probabilistic approach facilitates the consideration of uncertainties and confidence for decision making

- Increasing maintenance costs up to a point decreases total energy consumption

# Example III – Environmental and Economic Assessment of Pavement Construction and Management Practices for Enhancing Pavement Sustainability

Functional unit:

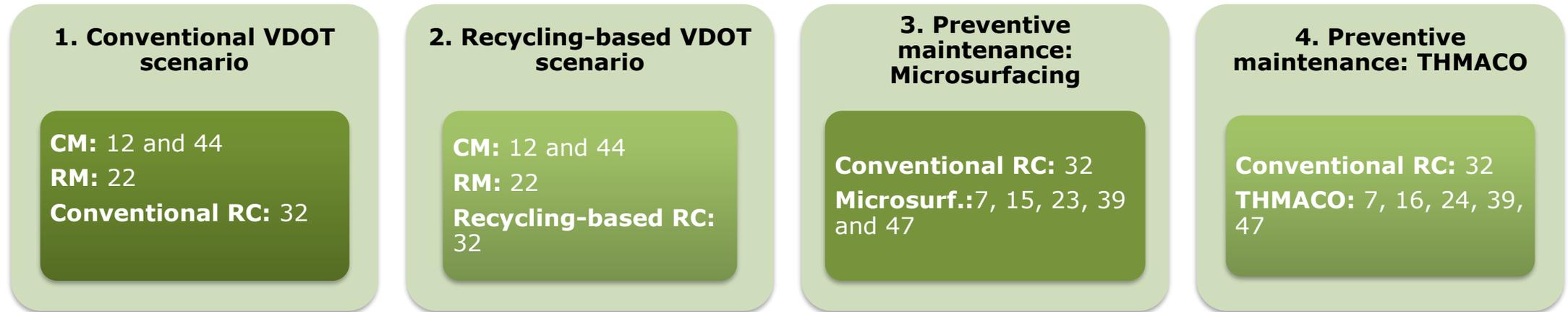
- 1 km-long 2-lanes asphalt section
- AADT: 20000
- Traffic Growth Rate: 3%
- PAP: 50 years

Santos, J., Flintsch, G. and Ferreira, A. “Environmental and economic assessment of pavement construction and management practices for enhancing pavement sustainability,” *Resources, Conservation & Recycling*, 2017, 116, pp. 15-31.

Type of scenario	ID	Scenario name
<b>Conventional VDOT</b>	1	HMA - 0% RAP
	2	HMA - 15% RAP
	3	HMA - 30% RAP
	4	Sasobit® WMA - 0% RAP
	5	Sasobit® WMA - 15% RAP
	6	Sasobit® WMA - 30% RAP
<b>Recycling-based VDOT</b>	7	HMA - 0% RAP
	8	HMA - 15% RAP
	9	HMA - 30% RAP
	10	Sasobit® WMA - 0% RAP
	11	Sasobit® WMA - 15% RAP
	12	Sasobit® WMA - 30% RAP
<b>Preventive maintenance</b>	13	Microsurfacing - 0% RAP
	14	THMACO - 0% RAP

# Formulation

✓ Maintenance and rehabilitation plans



✓ Pavement Performance Prediction Models:

– CM, RM and RC:

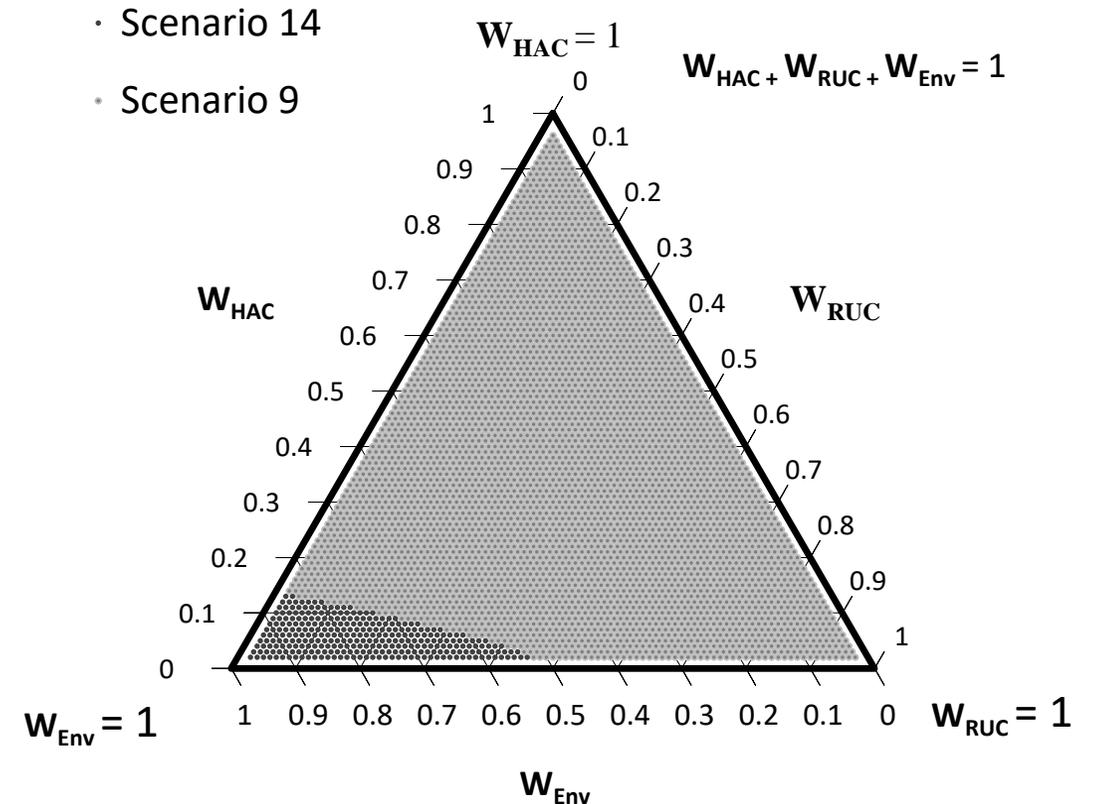
$$CCI(t) = CCI_0 - e^{a+b \times c} \ln\left(\frac{1}{t}\right)$$

M&R activity category	$CCI_0$	$a$	$b$	$c$
CM	100	9.176	9.18	1.27295
RM	100	9.176	9.18	1.25062
RC	100	9.176	9.18	1.22777

## Solution

Multi-criteria decision making approach:

- TOPSIS method;
- Combinatorial weight assignment method for the 3 main criteria: AC; RUC; Environmental Impacts
- Seven environmental sub-criteria weighted according to BEES software's weights.



## Some Findings

- ✓ Allowed to compare different pavement management strategies that can then be applied at the network level
- ✓ For the conditions considered in this case study
  - THMACO-based preventive maintenance strategy has proven to be the most environmentally-friendly solution.
    - It may be linked to current application criteria
  - Recycling-based VDOT M&R strategy (HMA containing 30% of RAP) provides a generally “optimal” balance in a MCDM.

Santos, J., Flintsch, G. and Ferreira, A. “Environmental and economic assessment of pavement construction and management practices for enhancing pavement sustainability,” *Resources, Conservation & Recycling*, 2017, 116, pp. 15-31.

# Conclusions

# Final Remarks

- ✓ Customizable optimization-based pavement management DSS:
  - Integrated pavement LCC-LCA model
  - An AHGA mechanism for optimizing the pavement life cycle
  - MOO-based pavement life cycle optimization model
- ✓ Application in real and simulated case studies
  - Demonstrated that is applicable and practical
  - Provided insights on the efficiency of pavement engineering and management solutions in improving and balancing environmental and economic impacts of pavement management



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