



**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
CENTER FOR TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH**

5-6005-01-P4

**CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP PRESENTATION
MATERIALS**

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*TxDOT Project 5-6005-01: Statewide Implementation of Total Pavement
Acceptance Device (TPAD)*

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Performed in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.	

Introduction

Project No. 5-6005-01: *Statewide Implementation of Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD)* is coming to completion. During the operating period of the TPAD (January 1, 2013 through August 31, 2014), the research team gave several presentations and demonstrations concerning TPAD operations and data analyses. Most demonstrations were performed in the districts where TPAD implementation testing was conducted or at symposia at CTR and TTI.

This product (P4) documents the project progress by conveying papers and PowerPoint presentations given at two major research conferences. The conference papers describe the TPAD components, functionality, and operation. The papers also discuss data analyses and results primarily associated with deflection and GPR profiles.

This product comprises the following documents:

- A poster displayed and discussed at the 2013 CTR Symposium
- Slide presentation given at the Transportation Research Board's (TRB) 92nd Annual Meeting, January 13–17, 2013, in Washington, DC
- Paper presented at the 2013 TRB meeting: *Development and Initial Testing of the Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD)*
- Slide presentation given at the 2014 FAA Worldwide Airport Technology Transfer Conference, August 5–7, 2014, in Galloway, New Jersey
- Paper presented at the 2014 FAA conference: *Demonstration of a New, Multi-Function, Nondestructive Pavement Testing Device*

Poster displayed at the 2013 CTR Symposium

Development and Initial Testing of the Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD)



Supported by Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) – Project 0-6005

Kenneth H. Stokoe, II, Jung-Su Lee, Tom Scullion, Joe Leidy and Edward Oshinski



What is the Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD)?

The Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD) is a new, multi-function pavement testing device which can be used to continuously assess pavement structural conditions. The TPAD has been developed by a joint effort between the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), the Center for Transportation (CTR) and the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI). The TPAD is a single testing device that includes the following capacities: (1) rolling dynamic deflectometer (RDD), (2) ground penetrating radar (GPR), (3) global positioning system (GPS), (4) pavement surface temperature measurement, (5) distance measurement instrument (DMI) and (6) digital video imaging of pavement and right-of-way conditions. The TPAD is currently designed to profile pavement conditions at speeds of 2 mph.



BACKGROUND OF TPAD

• TxDOT Project 0-6005

This Project was a 4-year project that ended in August, 2012. The project was a joint effort between TxDOT, the Center for Transportation research (CTR) at the University of Texas (UT) and the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) at Texas A&M University.

• Photograph of the TPAD

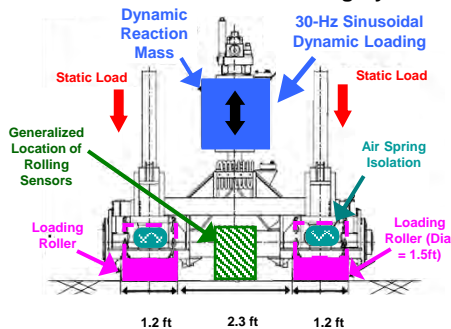


• Specifications of TPAD

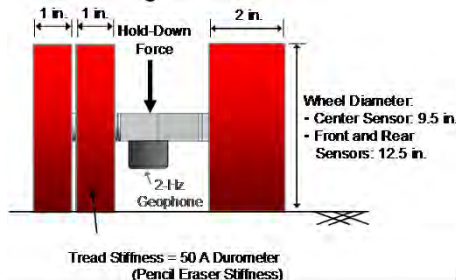
Operating Frequency Range	Gross Weight	Peak Dynamic Force	Targeting Speed	Expected Number of Rolling Sensor
20-50Hz (Typically 30 Hz)	18 kips	6 ± 3 kips	2 to 3 mph	3

RDD PORTION OF TPAD

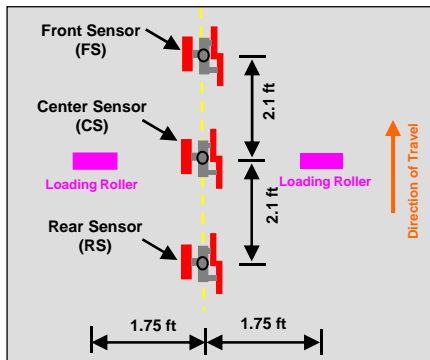
• Cross Section of TPAD Loading System



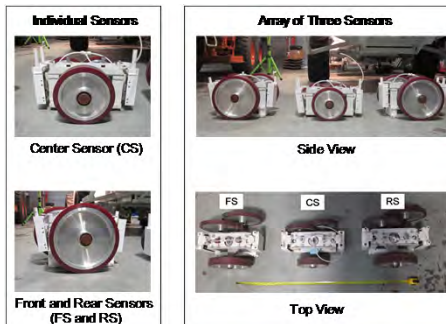
• TPAD Rolling Sensor



• Arrangement of Rolling Sensor



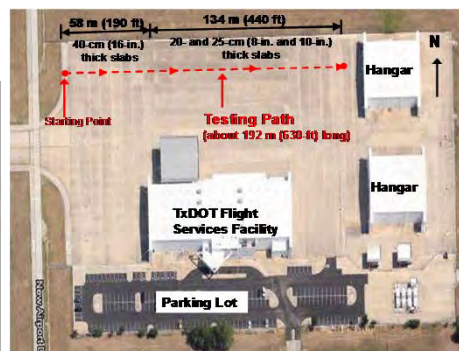
• Photographs of Rolling Sensors



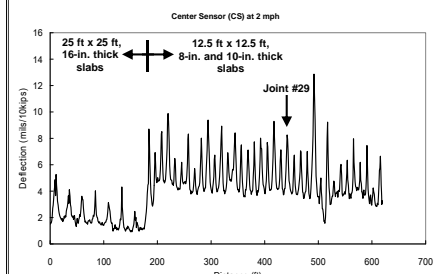
TPAD TESTING AT TXDOT FSF

A testbed has been developed at the TxDOT Flight Services Facility (FSF) at Austin Bergstrom International Airport (ABIA) for TPAD evaluation studies. The testbed is composed of jointed concrete pavements of different thicknesses.

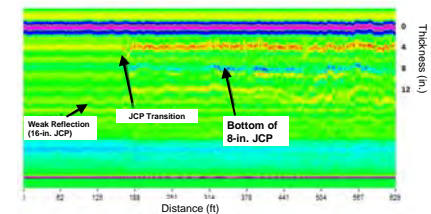
• Layout of Testbed



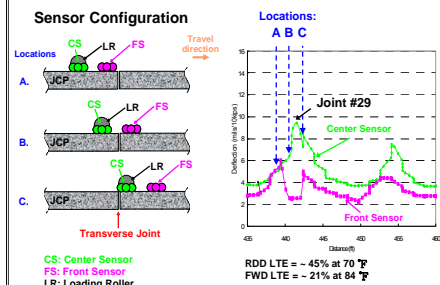
• Continuous Deflection Profile at FSF



• Continuous GPR Profile



• Identification of Joint with Poor Load Transfer Using Front Rolling Sensor



CONCLUSIONS

The new system, called the Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD), is developed by a joint effort of TxDOT, CTR, and TTI. The multi-functions of the TPAD can be used effectively to evaluate pavement structural conditions and to improve analyses in project-level studies. Currently, the RDD function of the TPAD with three rolling sensors permits measuring continuous deflection profiles at 2 mph. The future goals are to increase profiling speed and the number of rolling sensors.

**Slide presentation given at the Transportation Research Board's (TRB)
92nd Annual Meeting, January 13–17, 2013, in Washington, DC**

Development and Initial Testing of the Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD)

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Transportation Research Board – 92nd Annual Meeting
January 14, 2013

Outline

- 1. Brief Overview of Rolling Dynamic Deflectometer (RDD)**
- 2. Present Next-Generation Profiling Device**
 - **Called Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD)**
 - **Multi-Function Device**
- 3. TPAD Testing at TxDOT FSF in Austin**
 - **Jointed Concrete Pavement Testbed**
 - **RDD Deflection Profiles**
- 4. Concluding Remarks**

1. Brief Overview: Original Rolling Dynamic Deflectometer (RDD), approx. 1998 - 2012

Electro-Hydraulic Loading System

Diesel Engine: Powers Hydraulic Loading System

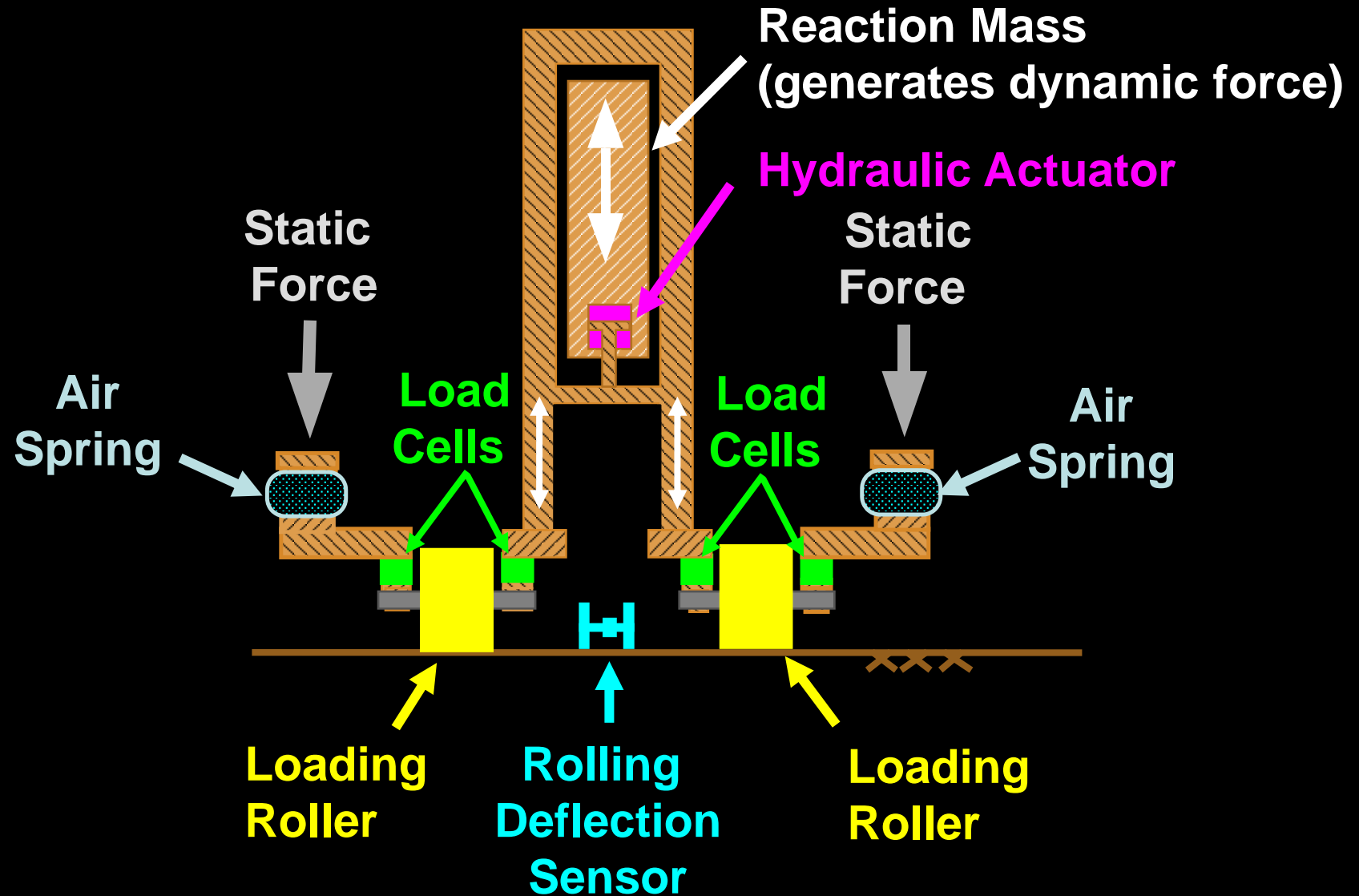


Rolling Sensors

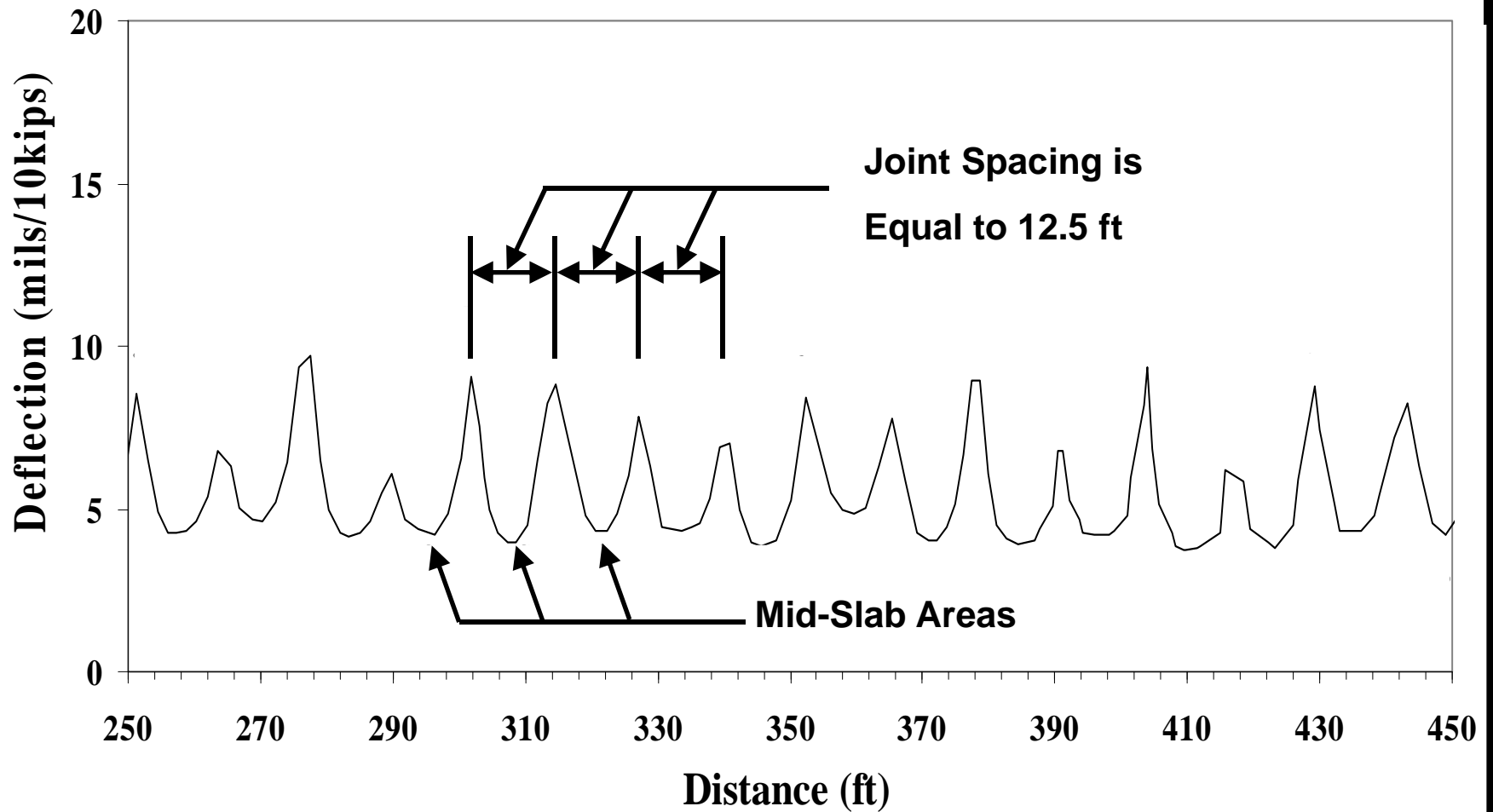
Two Loading Rollers

Distance Measurement

Cross Section of RDD



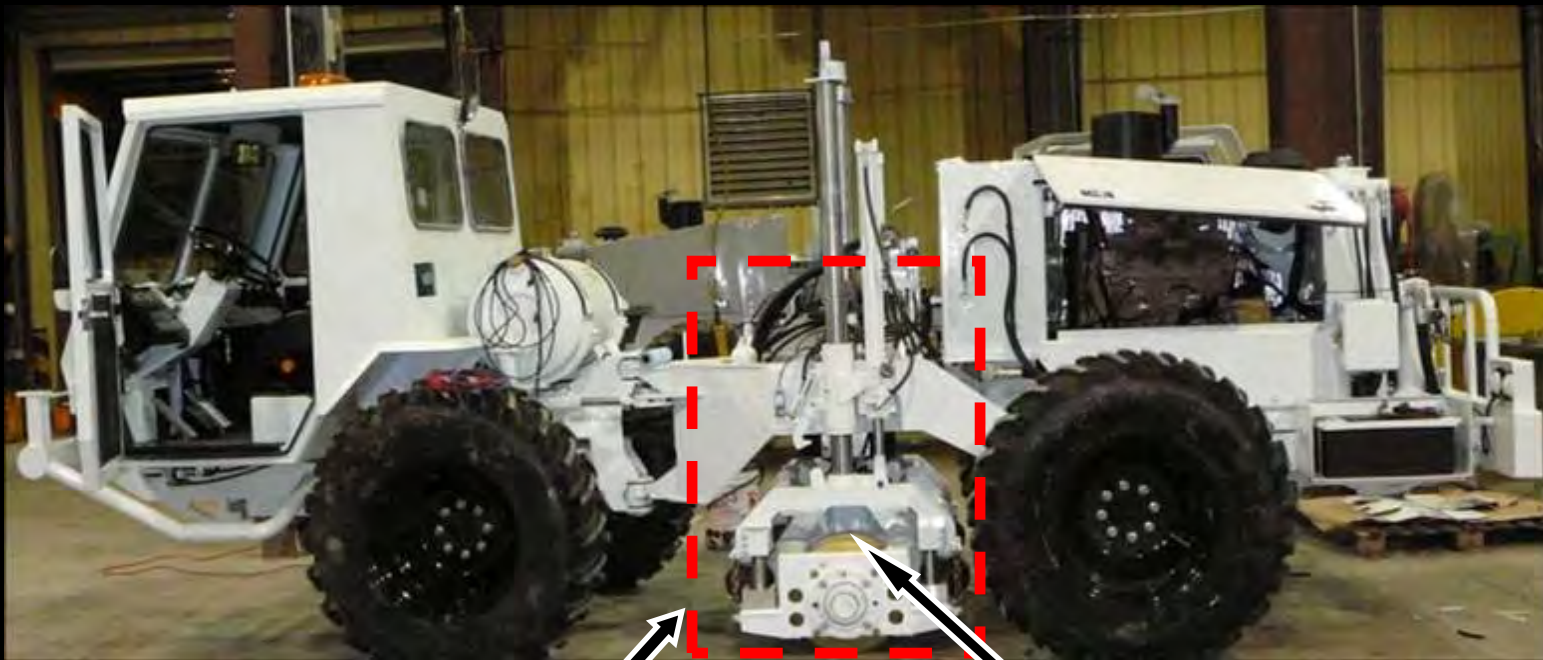
Continuous Deflection Profile



2. Next-Generation Profiling Device

- **Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD)**
 - **Project-level studies**
 - **Continuous testing at 2 to 3 mph**
 - **Multi-function device**
- **Testing Functions**
 - **RDD measurements**
 - **Ground penetrating radar (GPR)**
 - **Distance measurement along pavement (DMI)**
 - **High-precision differential GPS**
 - **Pavement surface temperature**
 - **Digital video imaging of pavement**

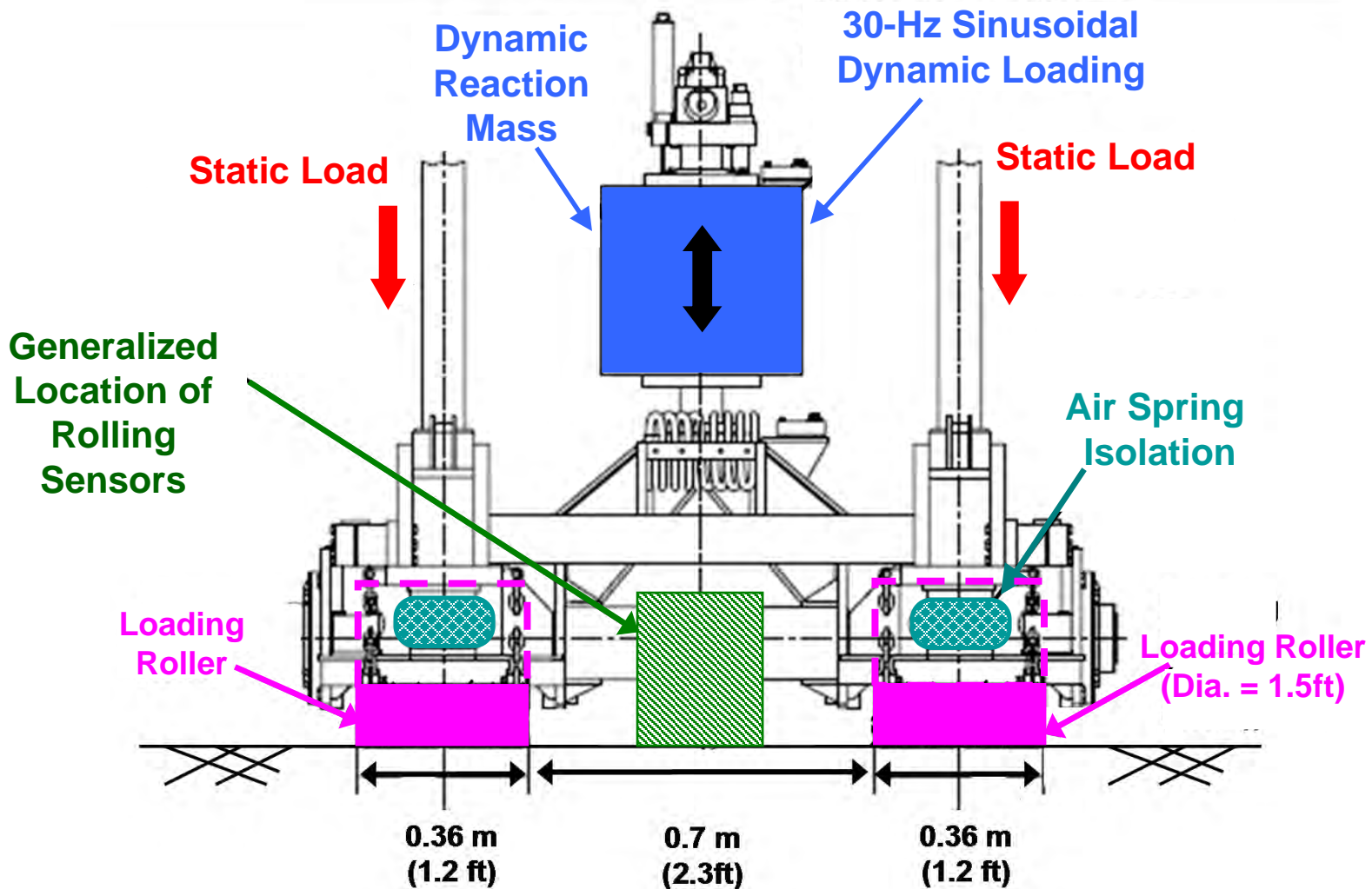
TPAD Mobile Platform: Adapted from a Minivibe



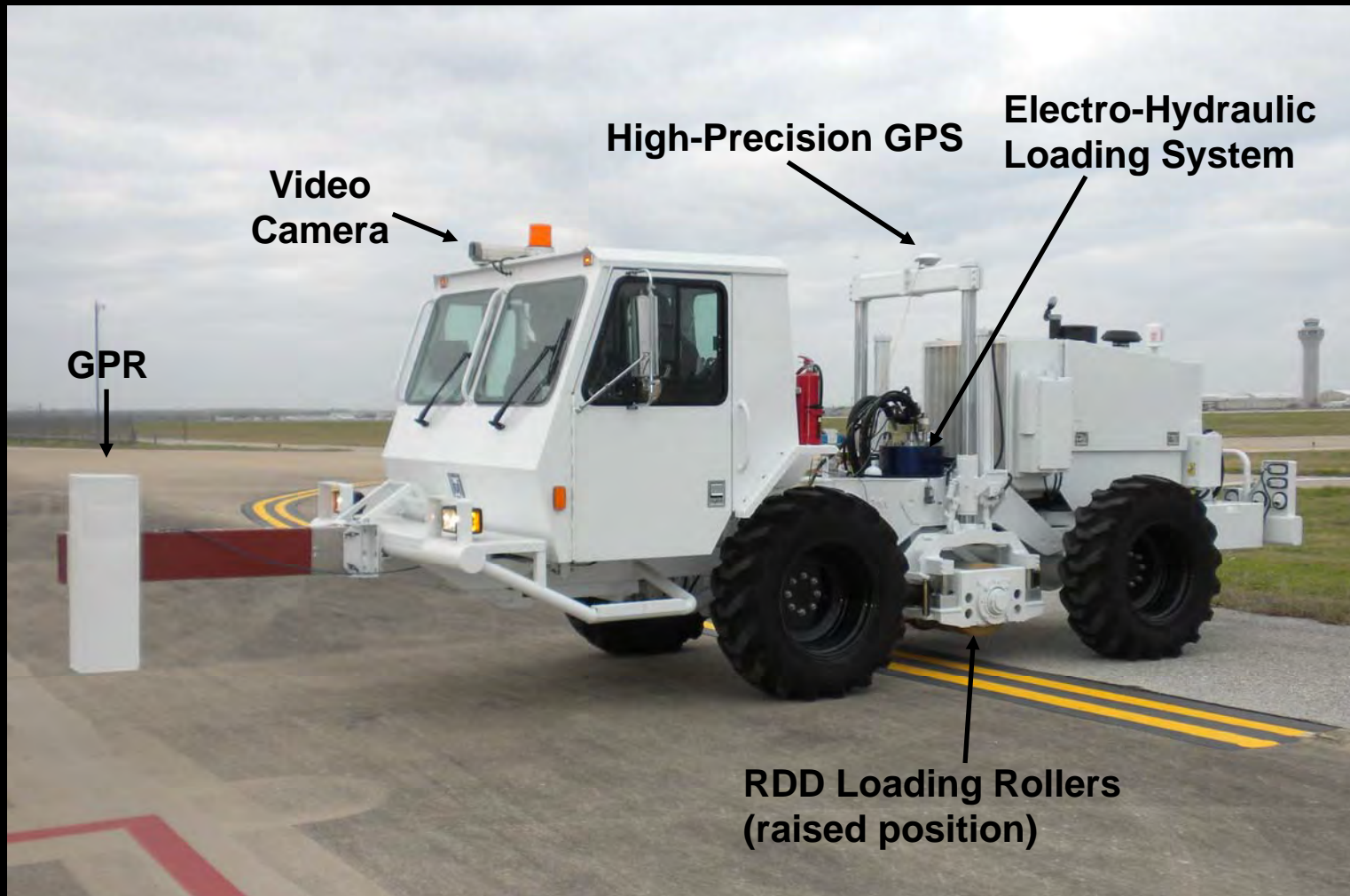
**Cross-Sectional View of Pavement
Loading System Shown in Next Slide**

Loading Roller

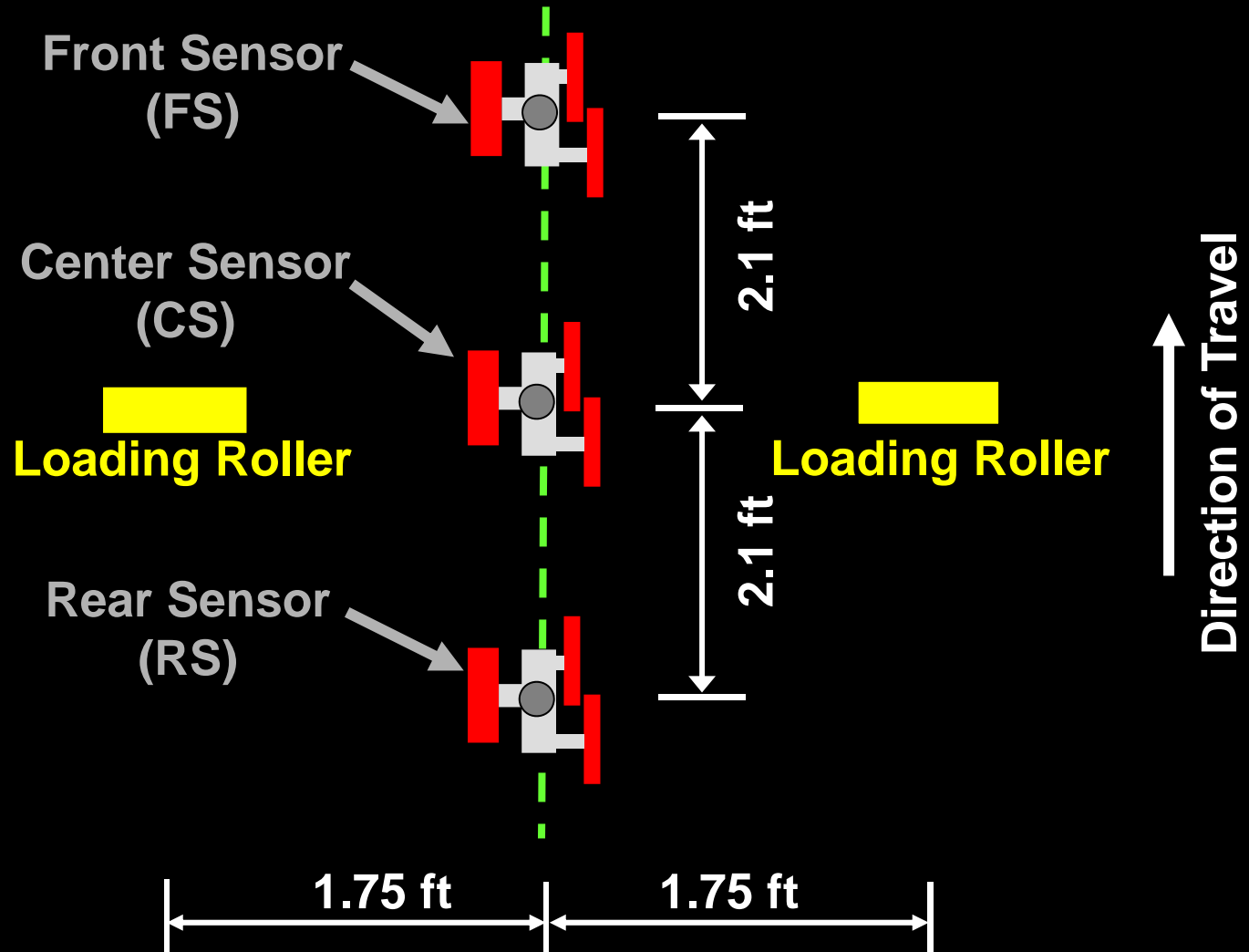
Cross Section of TPAD Loading System



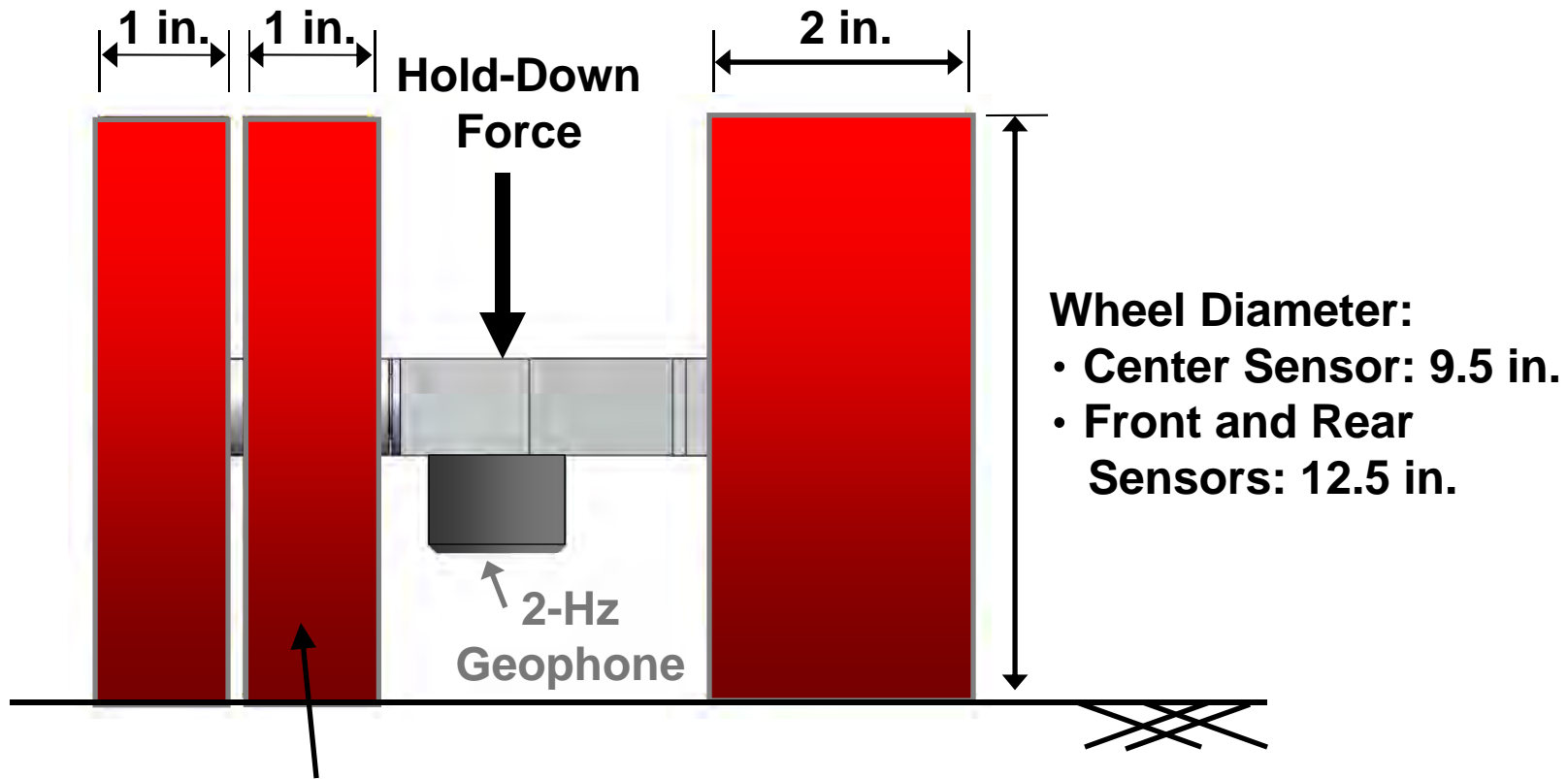
TPAD at TxDOT Flight Services Facility in Austin



Arrangement of Three TPAD Rolling Sensors

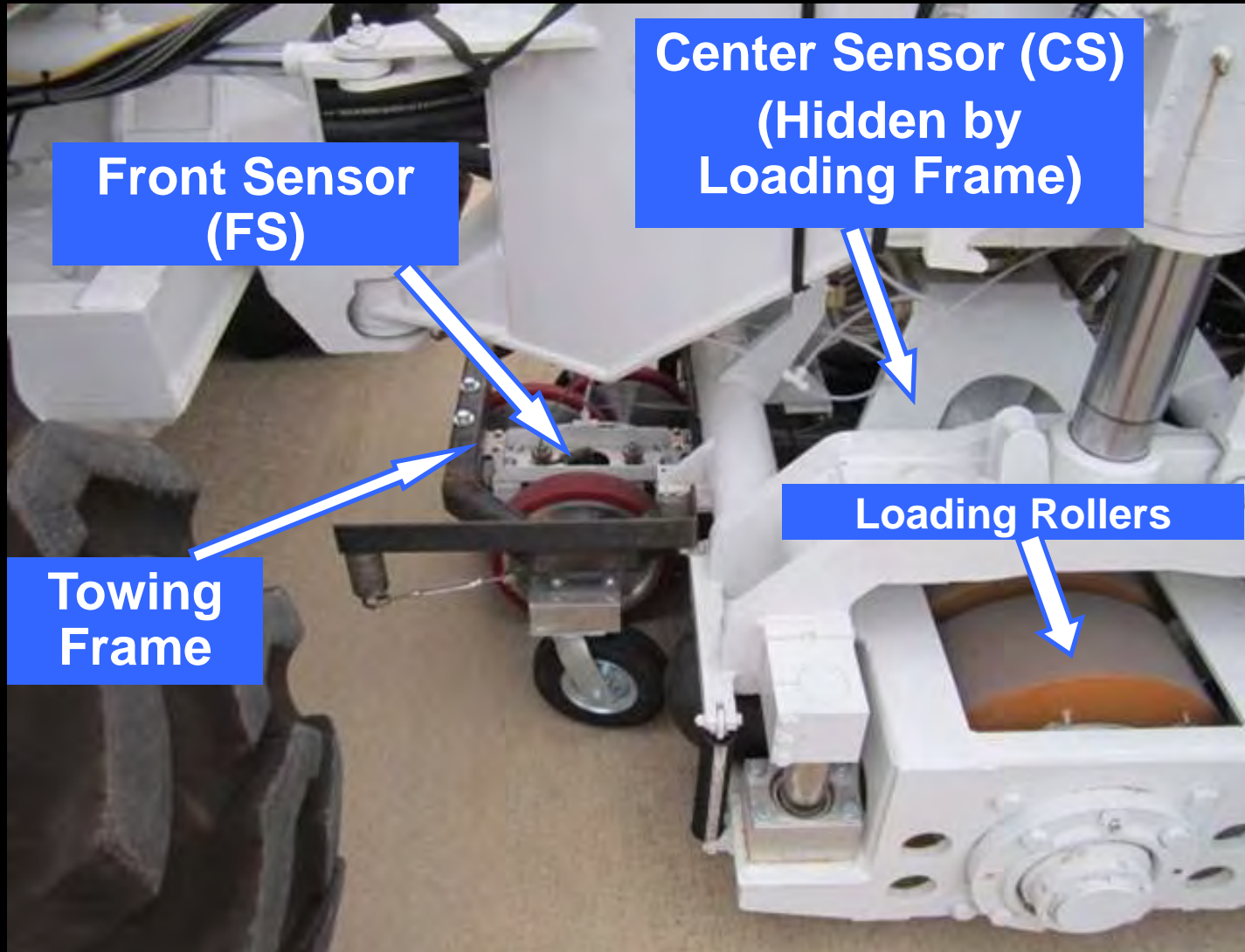


TPAD Rolling Sensor

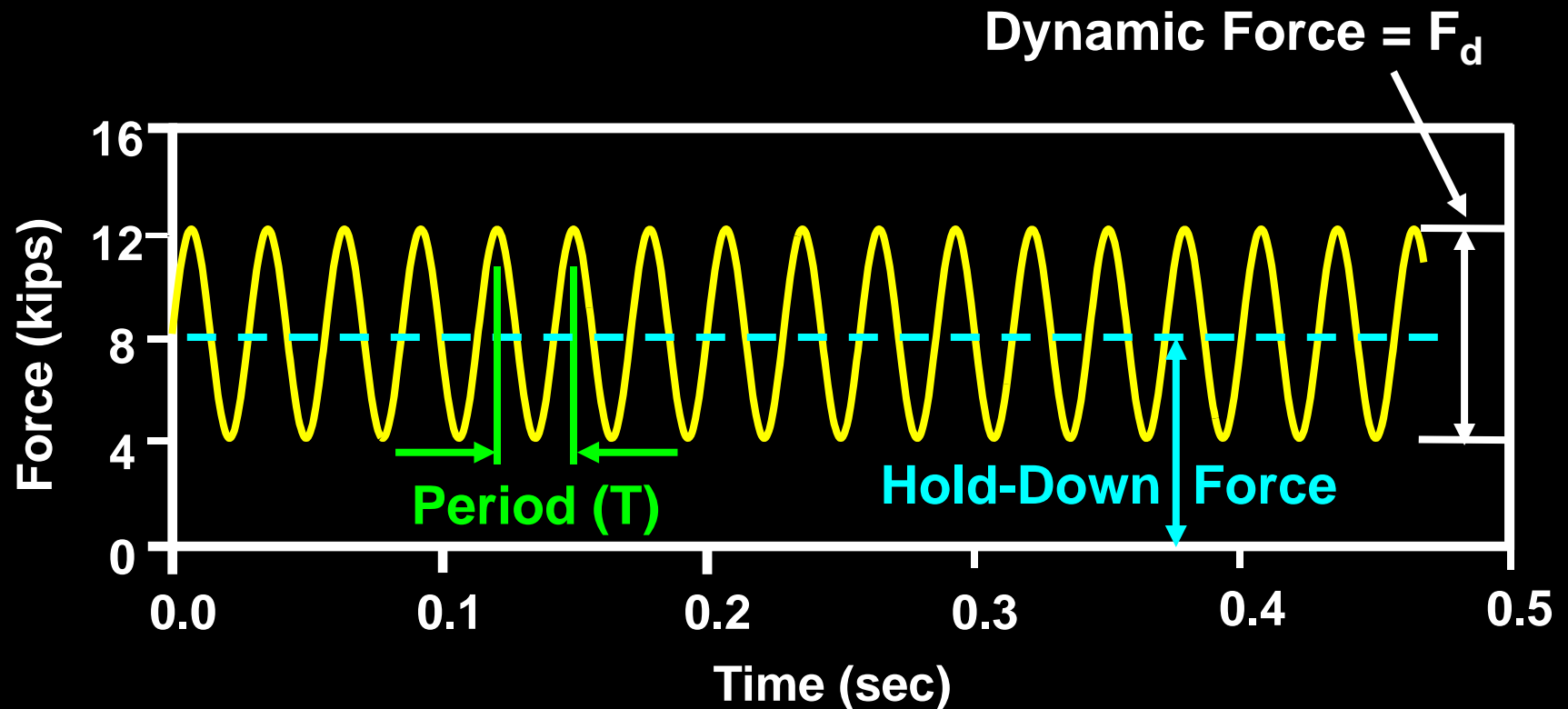


Tread Stiffness = 50 A Durometer
(Pencil Eraser Stiffness)

RDD Portion of TPAD



RDD Forcing Function



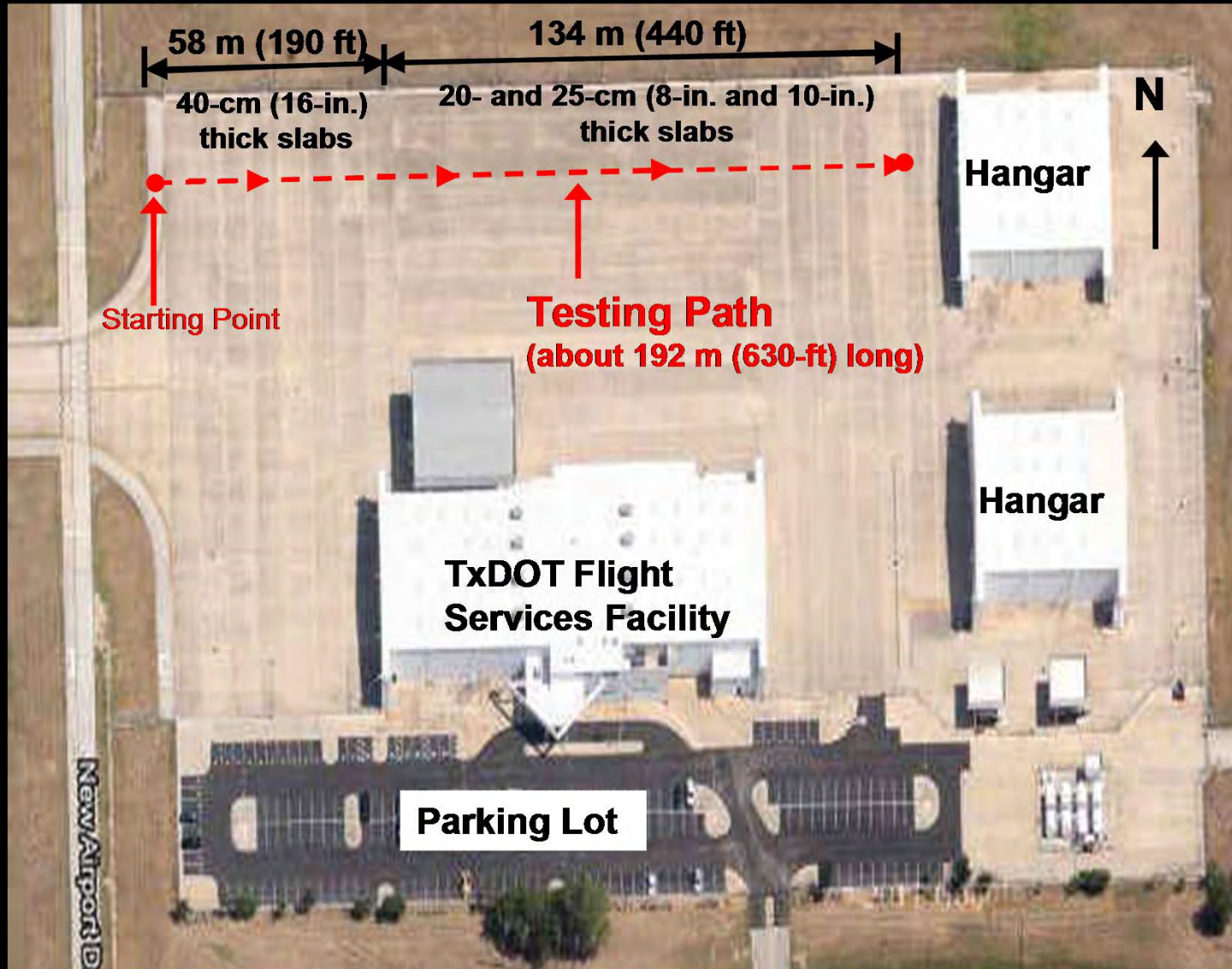
Notes:

1. Typical loading frequency = $1/T = 30$ Hz
2. Maximum hold-down force ≈ 14 kips
3. Measuring dynamic pavement deflections due to F_d

TPAD on Transportation System

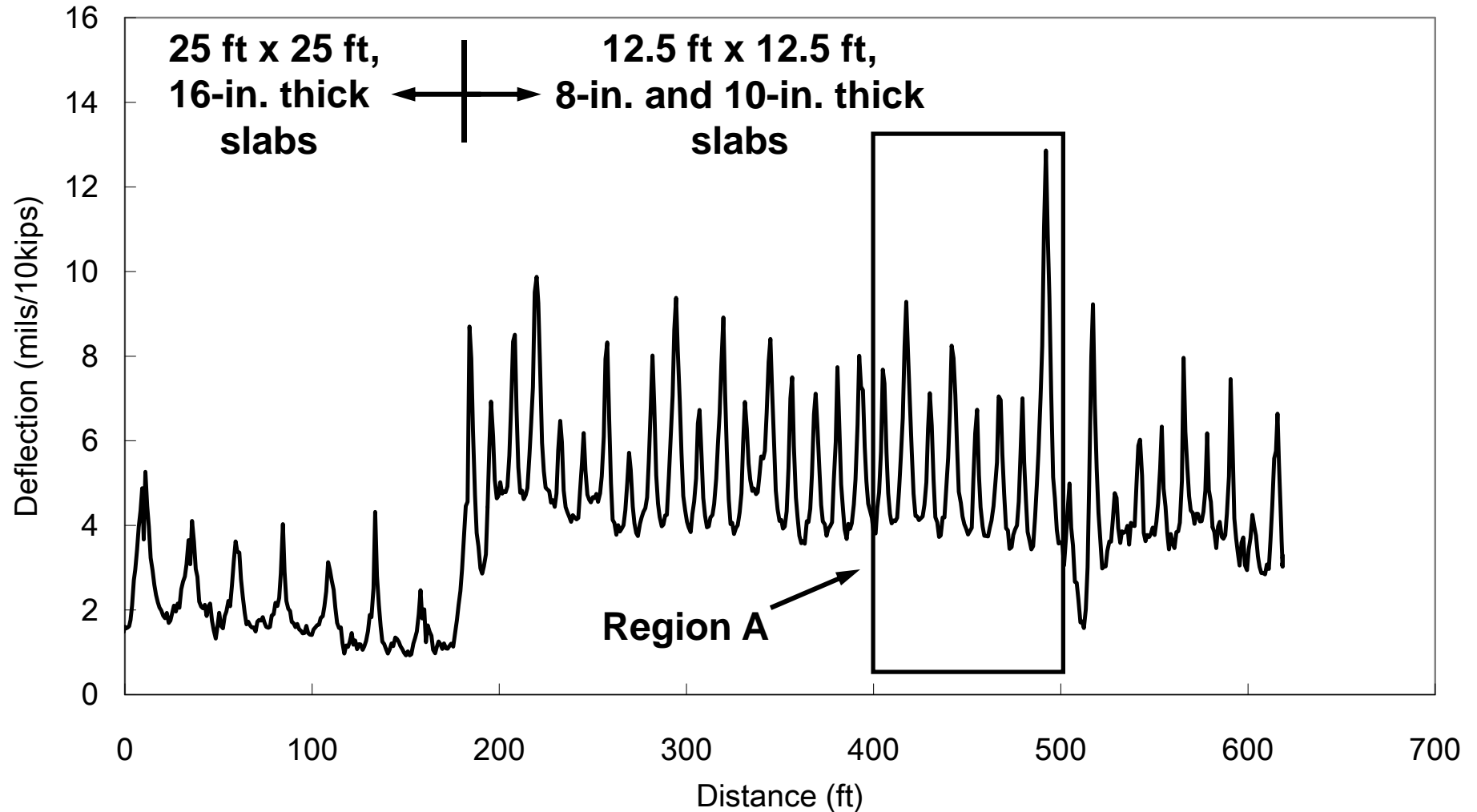


3. Testbed at TxDOT Flight Services Facility



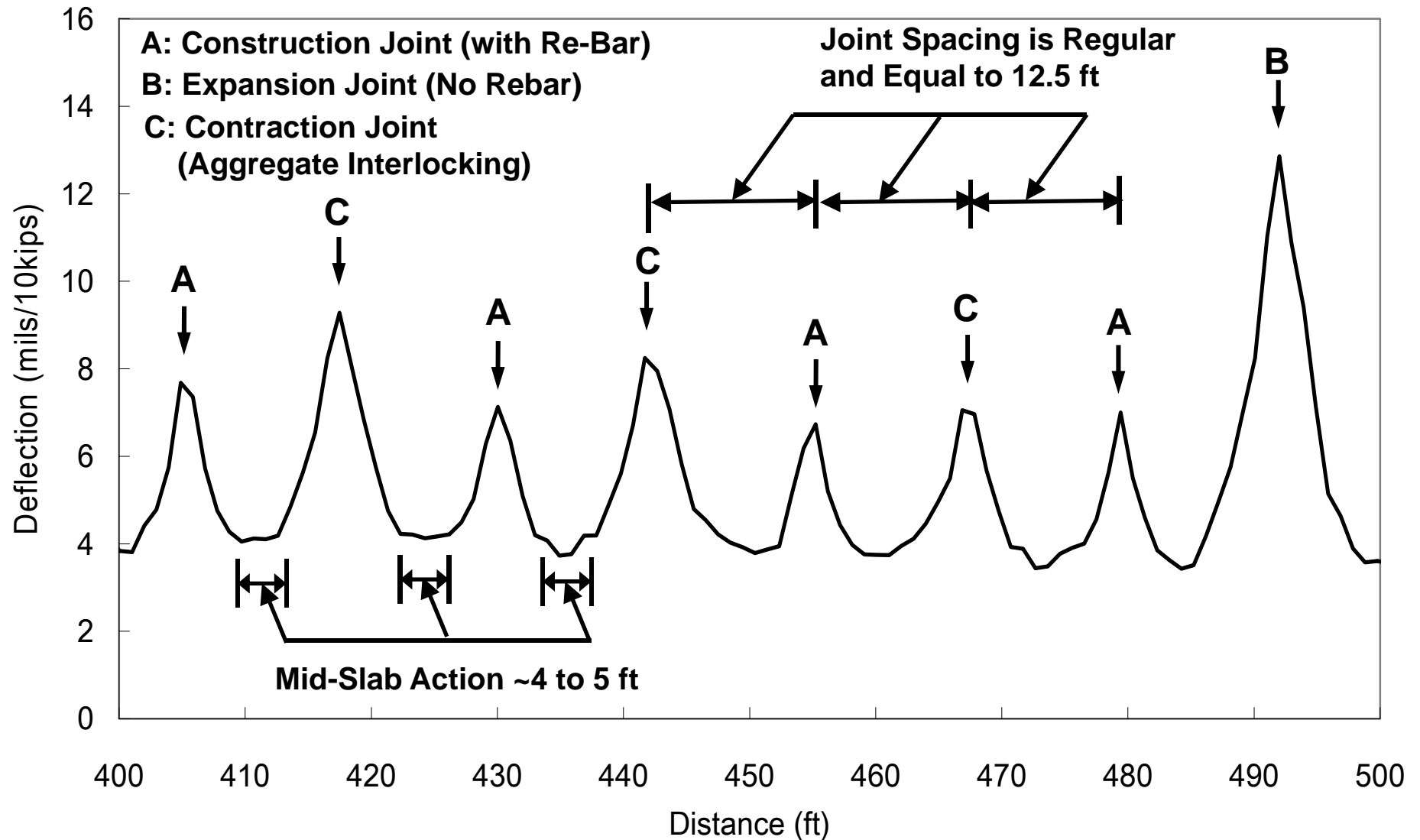
Continuous RDD Deflection Profile at 2 mph with Center Sensor (CS)

Center Sensor (CS)_March 28, 2012



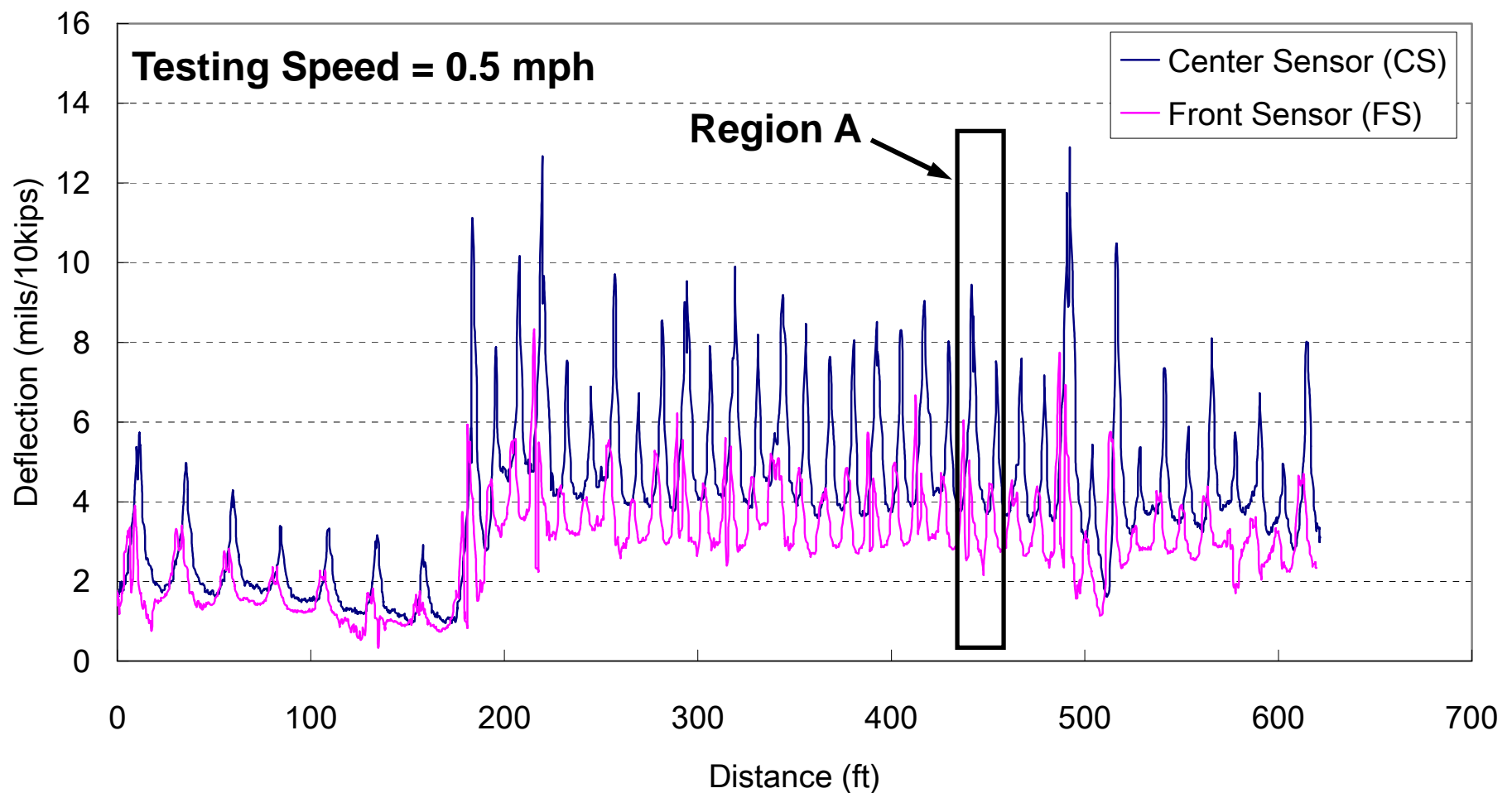
Expanded Profile of Region A

Center Sensor (CS)_March 28, 2012



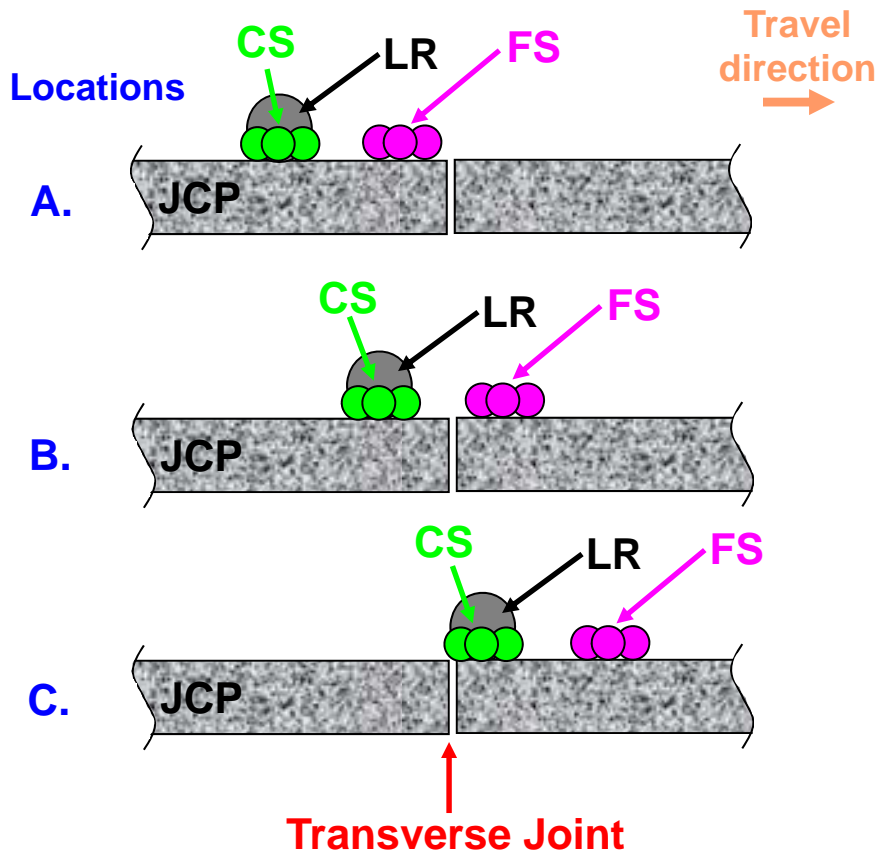
Identification of Joints with Bad Load Transfer Using Front Rolling Sensor

March 29, 2012_9:00 AM, 70F

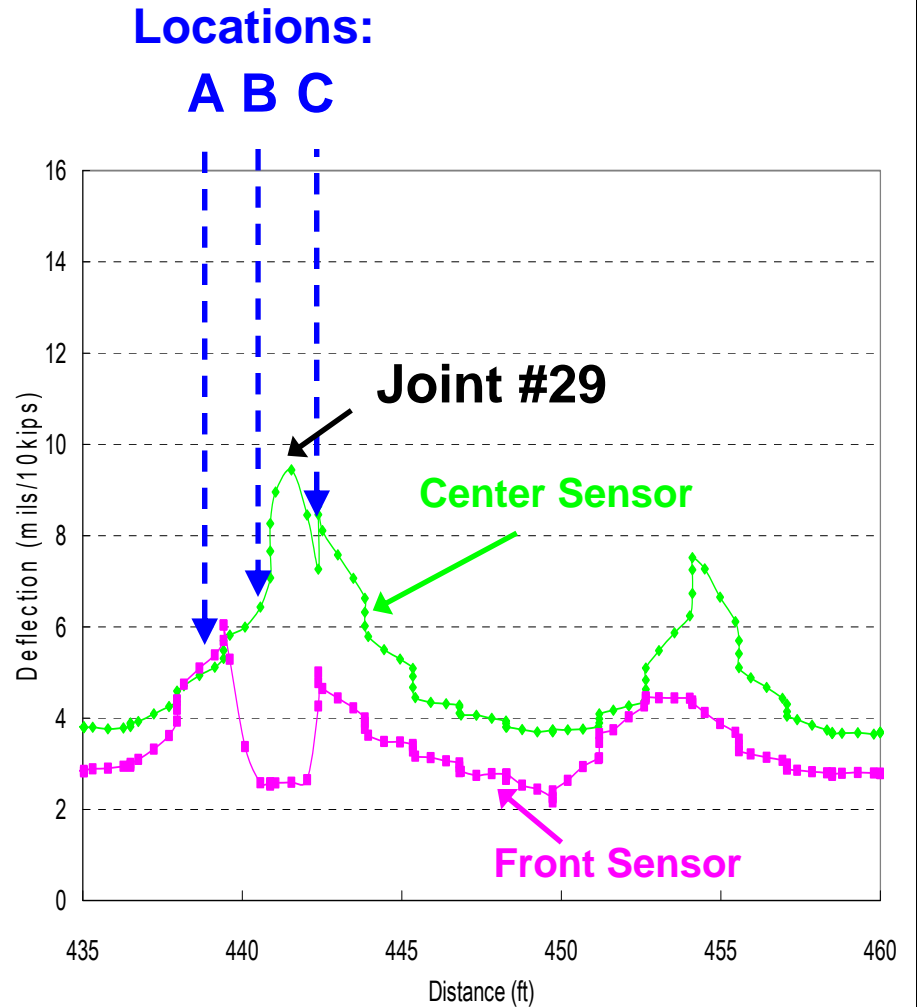


Expanded Profile of Region A

Sensor Configuration



CS: Center Sensor
 FS: Front Sensor
 LR: Loading Roller



RDD LTE = ~ 45% at 70 °F
 FWD LTE = ~ 21% at 84 °F

4. Concluding Remarks

- **Development of a next-generation, multi-function pavement profiling system by TxDOT is complete.**
- **Development was a joint effort (TxDOT, CTR and TTI).**
- **The new system is called the Total Pavement Acceptance Device, TPAD.**
- **Continuous profiles of pavement deflections increase resolution and improve analyses in project-level studies.**
- **The RDD function of the TPAD with three rolling sensors currently permits measuring continuous deflection profiles at 2 mph.**
- **The ultimate goal is to increase the profiling speed and add more sensors.**

Thank You

Acknowledgements

- Funding from TxDOT Research Project 0-6005 is greatly appreciated.

Paper presented at the 2013 TRB meeting: *Development and Initial Testing of the Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD)*

Development and Initial Testing of the Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD)

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Word Count: 4,016 words + $12 \times (250) = 7,016$

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ABSTRACT

A new, multi-function pavement testing device has been developed by a joint effort between the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), the Center for Transportation Research (CTR) at the University of Texas at Austin (UT) and the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) at Texas A&M University. This new device is called the Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD). The objective of TPAD testing is to nondestructively and nonintrusively investigate the total pavement's structural adequacy. The multiple functions of the TPAD presently include the following measurement capabilities: (1) rolling dynamic deflectometer (RDD), (2) ground penetrating radar (GPR), (3) global positioning system (GPS), (4) pavement surface temperature, (5) digital video imaging of pavement and right-of-way conditions, and (6) longitudinal survey offsets through a distance measurement instrument (DMI). The TPAD is designed to perform continuous measurements at speeds around 3.2 to 4.8 km/hr (2 to 3 mph), with increased speeds planned in future developments. The main developmental efforts have focused on developing: (1) a moving platform with precise speed control in the range of 0.8 to 16 km/hr (0.5 to 10 mph), (2) automated RDD pavement loading and deflection sensing systems, (3) an improved analysis scheme for processing RDD deflection data on the fly over incremental distances of 6 to 30 cm (0.2 to 1 ft) and (4) a new data collection system that integrates the results from all measurement functions and displays them in real time. Descriptions of the equipment and example sets of continuous RDD pavement deflections and GPR evaluations are presented.

INTRODUCTION

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has been evaluating the structural condition of pavements with various devices for more than four decades. In the past 15 to 20 years, new devices have been integrated into this pavement evaluation effort. One device is the rolling dynamic deflectometer (RDD). The RDD was developed through the TxDOT research program and the continuous deflection profiles have provided valuable input in pavement structural assessments. Field experience has proven that RDD deflection profiles can be used more effectively when combined with other data such as pavement thickness and subsurface conditions (Scullion, 2005, and Nam et al., 2011). Therefore, RDD profiling has been combined with a second NDT device, ground penetrating radar (GPR), which can supply this additional information. Also, pavement and right-of-way conditions from video cameras and accurate position locations have proven to be important because it is sometimes difficult to compare RDD deflection data with other NDT data, such as falling weight deflectometer measurements, logged by different equipment at different time combined with human errors. The goal of this project is to design and develop a single platform that combines the capabilities of RDD, GPR, video cameras, GPS, and DMI and moves along the pavement at speeds required for RDD testing. This device is called the Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD) which is used to collect all measurements in a single pass. In addition, data analysis software that can display and analyze all types of data on-the-fly is incorporated in the TPAD.

In this paper, a background on two of the nondestructive testing functions in the TPAD, the RDD and GPR systems, are briefly discussed. A description of the TPAD mobile platform and the loading system are then described. The developmental work for the speed-improved rolling sensors is also discussed.

Finally, RDD deflection profiles and GPR records at two pavement sites that were collected with the TPAD are presented. The two sites are the TxDOT Flight Services Facility in Austin, Texas and highway US 81/287 near Wichita Falls, Texas.

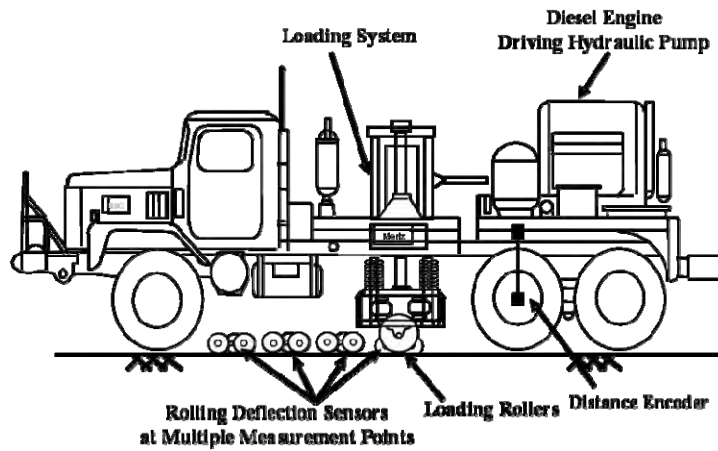
BACKGROUND: TPAD NONDESTRUCTIVE TESTING FUNCTIONS

As noted above, the TPAD has been built to perform, at this time, six functions while moving along the pavement at 1.6 to 4.8 km/hr (2 to 3 mph). These functions include: (1) measuring continuous pavement deflections based on the rolling dynamic deflectometer method, (2) generating ground penetrating radar profiles (pavement thickness and subsurface conditions), (3) logging global positioning (testing location), (4) measuring pavement surface temperature, (5) collecting digital video images of pavement and right-of-way conditions, and (6) logging distance measurements along the testing paths with a DMI. Two of these functions (RDD and GPR) are discussed below.

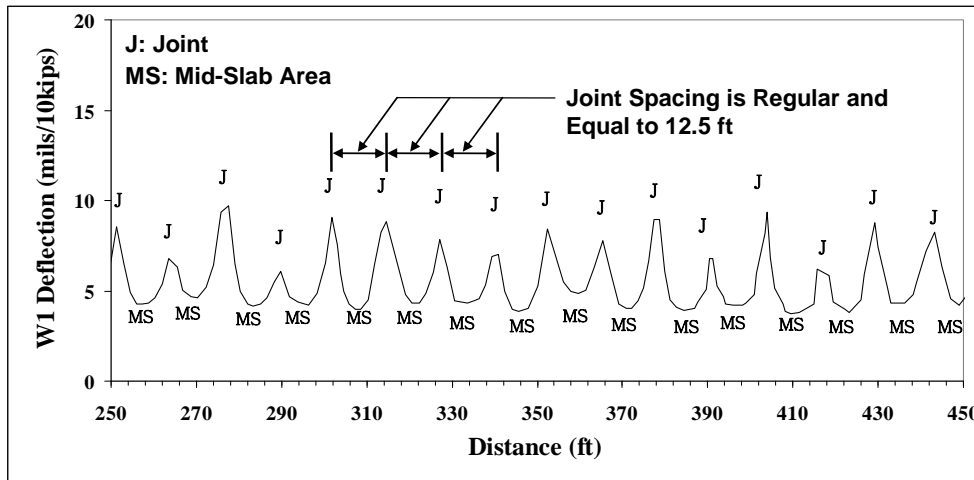
Rolling Dynamic Deflectometer (RDD) Deflection Profiling

The original rolling dynamic deflectometer (RDD) has been used as a single-function device by TxDOT for about 15 years. The RDD is a nondestructive testing (NDT) device that applies a static hold-down force combined with a dynamic sinusoidal force to the pavement surface with two loading rollers. An array of two to four rolling sensors is used to measure induced dynamic pavement deflections while the original device moved along the pavement at a speed of about 1.6 km/hr (1 mph). The RDD was developed by researchers at the

University of Texas at Austin (UT) in the 1990s. Dr James Bay led the developmental work and Dr. Jeffrey Lee advanced the rolling sensor design (Bay et al., 1995, Bay and Stokoe, 1998, and Jeffrey and Stokoe, 2006). As shown in Figure 1a, the original RDD is a truck-mounted device upon which an electro-hydraulic loading system delivers a combination of static and dynamic forces to the pavement through two loading rollers. The array of rolling sensors is positioned on the pavement along the longitudinal centerline of the truck, beginning mid-way between the loading rollers and extending ahead of the rollers. During RDD testing, a dynamic force is applied to the pavement as a single-frequency (typically 30 Hz) sinusoidal force. The RDD has been of great value in evaluating jointed concrete pavements. A typical continuous deflection profile, shown in Figure 1b,; (1) shows movements at all transverse joints and cracks, (2) allows joint types (construction vs. expansion vs. contraction) to be evaluated based on relative movements, (3) permits relative evaluation of load transfer at joints, and (4) permits evaluation of the extent and quality of mid-slab areas. RDD profiling has been used to: (1) delineate areas to be repaired, (2) help select possible rehabilitation treatments, (3) measure improvements due to rehabilitation, and (4) evaluate changes with time, environmental conditions, and trafficking (Bay et al., 2000 and Chen et al., 2007).



(a) Schematic of Original RDD Mobile Device

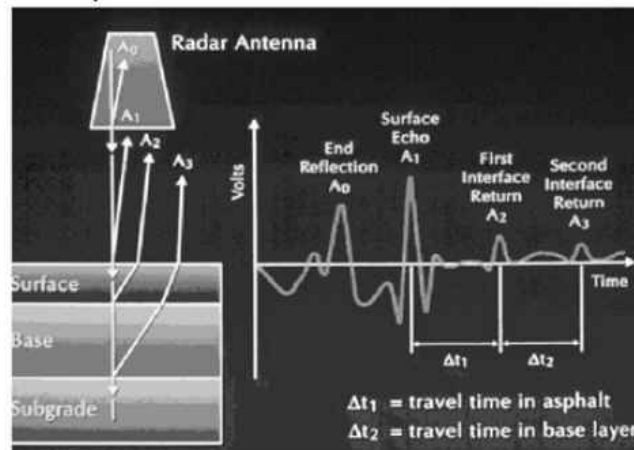


(b) Example of Continuous Deflection Profile along a Jointed Concrete Pavement

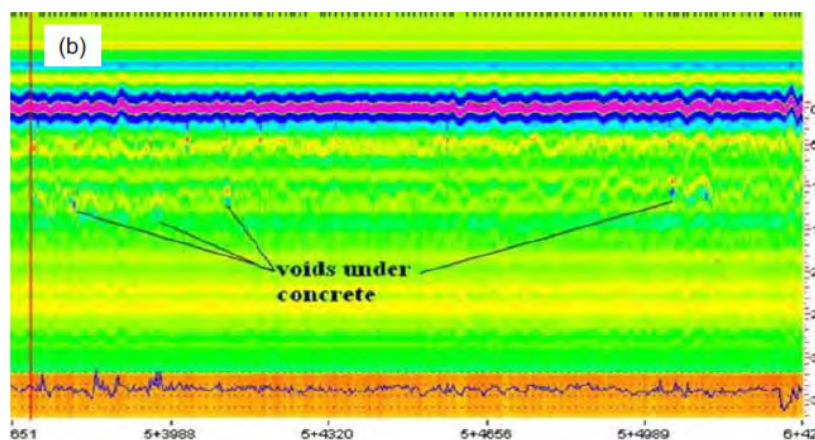
Figure 1 Investigating the Structural Condition of Pavements with RDD Deflection Profiles

Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR)

GPR uses an air-coupled antenna that is suspended about 25 to 35 cm (10 to 14 in.) above the surface of the pavement. The antenna generates electromagnetic waves (radio waves or microwaves) which can penetrate into the subsurface and detect subsurface conditions. An electromagnetic wave, a short pulse emitted from an antenna, travels through a material and is reflected at an interface with dissimilar dielectric properties. The reflected wave is collected by receivers. The arrival time and amplitude are related to the location and nature of the dielectric discontinuities in the material (Maser and Scullion, 1992). Since the layers of the pavement typically have different dielectric constants, the electromagnetic wave is reflected from the layer boundaries as illustrated in Figure 2a. Therefore, pavement layer thicknesses can be calculated using the differences in arrival times between subsequent reflections (Bandara and Briggs, 2004). The estimated layer thicknesses can be incorporated with deflection data to back-calculate the modulus of each layer. A typical GPR continuous profile along a jointed concrete pavement is shown in Figure 2b.



(a) Typical GPR Waveform at One Point on the Pavement (from Bandara and Briggs, 2004)



(b) Example of a Continuous GPR Profile along a Pavement (Nam et al., 2011)

Figure 2 Investigating Pavement Structure with Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR)

DESCRIPTION OF TPAD MOBILE PLATFORM AND PAVEMENT LOADING SYSTEM

The TPAD is a hydraulically operated mobile platform (see Figure 3a) with a total weight of the TPAD is about 80 kN (18 kips). The TPAD is 6.1 m (20 ft) in length, 2.3 m (7.5 ft) in width, and 2.4 m (7.8 ft) in height. The TPAD has a speed control system with a range of 0.8 to 16 km/hr (0.5 to 10 mph). The loading system (see Figure 3b) is capable of generating static forces of 15 to 62 kN (3.4 to 14 kips) and dynamic sinusoidal forces with a peak-to-peak amplitude of 8 to 106 kN (2 to 24 kips) over a frequency range of about 7 to 200 Hz. Static hold-down forces are measured based on hydraulic pressure measurements and dynamic forces are measured with accelerometers installed on the reaction mass and base frame of the loading rollers. The loading rollers (Figure 3b), which are used to apply both static and dynamic forces to the pavement, are 0.45 m (1.5 ft) diameter and 0.36 m (1.2 ft) wide and are made of a 92 durometer shore A polyurethane material.

The cab at the front of the TPAD is approximate 4 cubic meter (142 cubic feet), air-conditioned and houses the driver, operator of the data collection activities, and hardware and software systems. Electrical power is generated with an on-board 2,000 watt pure sine wave inverter. All movements of the mobile platform, RDD loads imparted to the pavement and raising/lowering of the rolling sensor system (discussed below) are hydraulically operated.

Currently, the TPAD has three RDD rolling sensors. These sensors are arranged in a linear array as shown in Figure 4a. The array is oriented along the longitudinal axis of the TPAD and is centered mid-way between the loading rollers. The sensors are named according to their locations relative to the loading rollers. The center sensor (CS) is located mid-way between the two loading rollers while the front (FS) and rear (RS) sensors are located 0.635 m (25 in.) forward of and to the rear of the center sensor (CS), respectively. Figure 4b shows a photograph of one of the rolling sensor, three-wheel cart. To position the rolling sensors, a towing system is used, which pulls the sensors along with the TPAD. The towing system is isolated from the TPAD mobile platform as much as possible to prevent transmission of vibrations from the dynamic loading system to the rolling sensors.

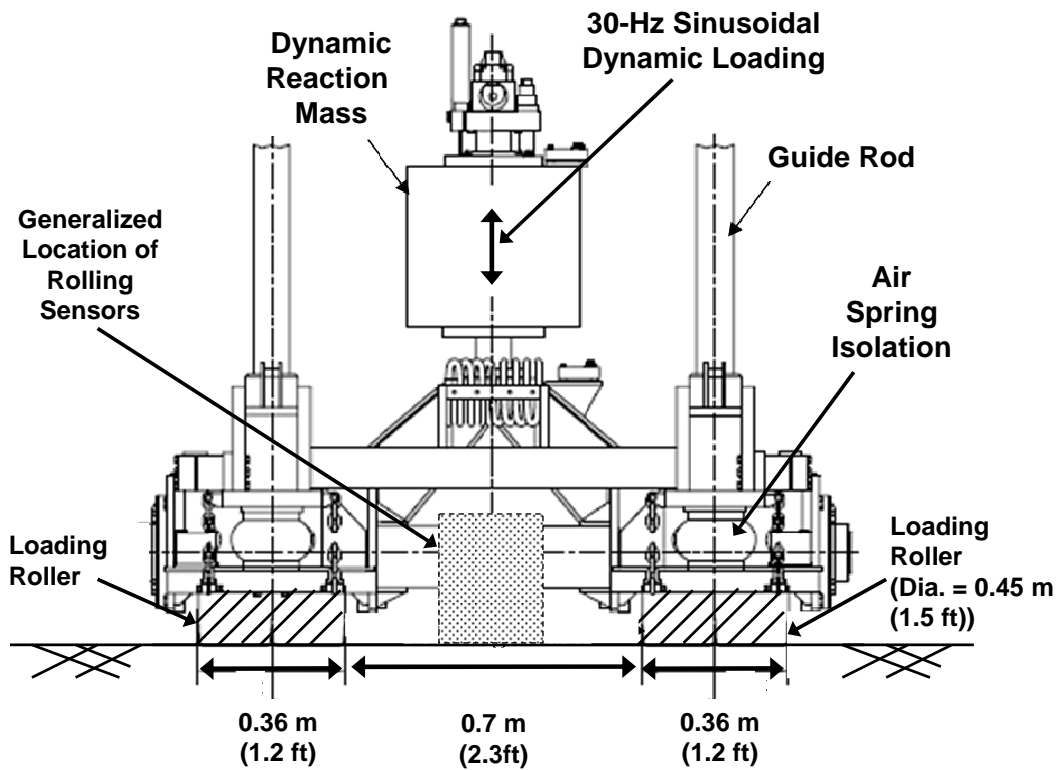
Speed-Improved Rolling Sensor for RDD Measurements

One testing function of the TPAD is to perform RDD deflection profiling of the pavement while continuously moving at speeds around 3.2 to 4.8 km/hr (2 to 3 mph). To accomplish the target speed, the original RDD rolling sensor needed to be improved. Based on earlier studies (Bay and Stokoe, 1998), larger and wider wheels were recommended. During prototype testing and analysis of speed-improved rolling sensors, it was found that using a higher tread compliance could reduce rolling noise. The improvements made to the speed-improved rolling sensors include: (1) incorporating better bearing to reduce rolling noise and to provide better tracking, (2) using wider wheels to reduce rolling noise, (3) making the tread contact area on each side equal for better tracking, and (4) reducing the modulus of the rolling wheel treads to reduce the rolling noise. The speed-improved rolling sensor is shown in Figure 5a. A photograph of the front rolling sensor (FS) in the towing frame and ready for RDD profiling is shown in Figure 5b. The location of the center sensor is also noted in Figure 5b.



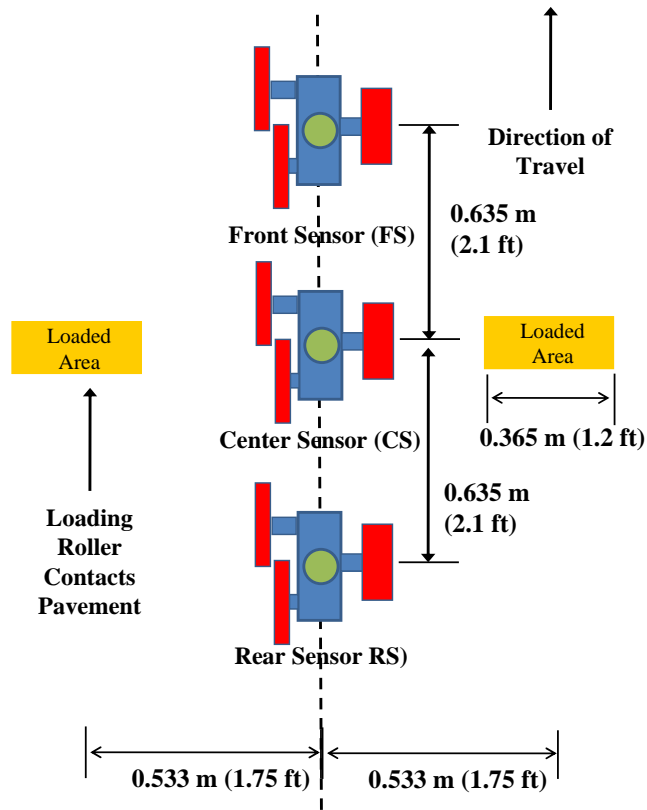
Cross-Sectional View of Pavement Loading System Shown in Figure 3(b)

(a) TPAD Mobile Platform



(b) Cross-Sectional View of TPAD Loading System

Figure 3 Mobile Platform with Combined Static Hold-Down Force and Dynamic Loading System of the Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD) (from Stokoe et al., 2010)

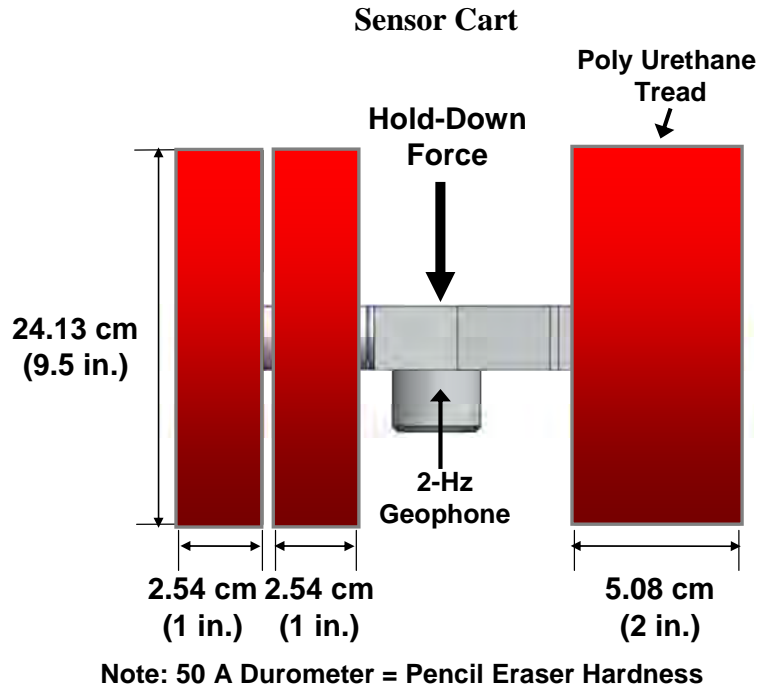


(a) Arrangement of Current Array of Three RDD Rolling Sensors

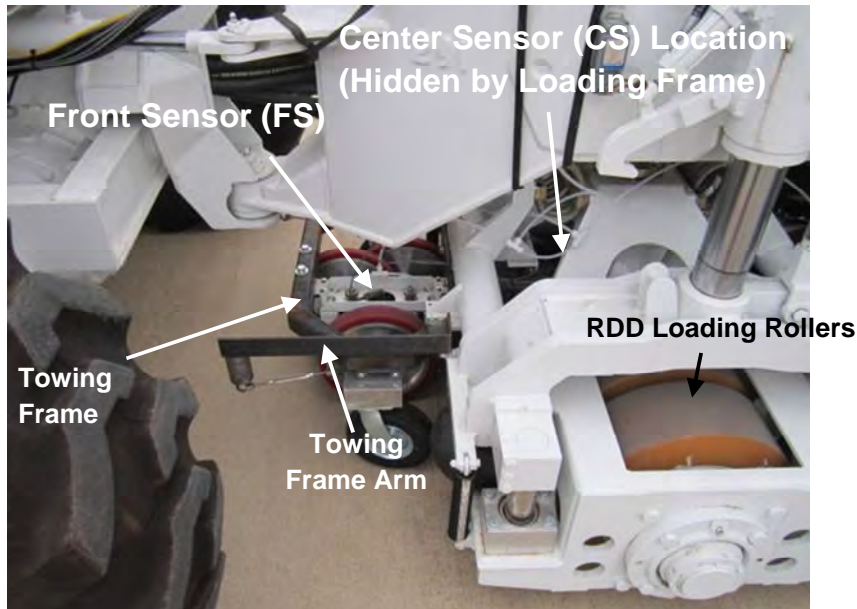


(b) Photograph of Rolling-Sensor Three-Wheel Cart

Figure 4 Rolling Sensor Array Configuration and Photograph of a Three-Wheel



(a) Schematic of Speed-Improved Rolling Sensor (from Stokoe et al., 2011)



(b) Photograph of the RDD Portion of the TPAD Showing Towing Frame, Front Sensor, and Location of Center Sensor

Figure 5 Speed-Improved Rolling Sensor

EXAMPLE: TPAD TESTING AT TxDOT FLIGHT SERVICES FACILITY (FSF)

In this example, same results from RDD and GPR measurements with the TPAD are presented. Testing was performed at the TxDOT Flight Services Facility (FSF) in Austin, Texas. A testbed has been developed at the FSF where numerous tests with various devices have been and continue to be conducted.

Site Description

The pavement at the TxDOT FSF is a jointed concrete pavement (JCP). TPAD testing was performed along the testing path shown in Figure 6. This path was selected because it transverses three different slab thicknesses as well as different joint types. The testing path can be divided into two regions: (1) the first 58-m (190-ft) long section with 40-cm (16-in.) thick slabs and (2) the remaining 134-m (440-ft) long section with 20- and 25-cm (8- and 10-in.) thick slabs. The 40-cm (16-in.) thick slabs are 7.6-m (25-ft) long and 7.6-m (25-ft) wide while the 20- and 25-cm (8- and 10-in.) thick slabs are 3.8-m (12.5-ft) long and 3.8-m (12.5 ft) wide. The concrete slabs are underlain by 15 cm (6 in.) of base, 15 cm (6 in.) of cement treated subgrade and natural clayey subgrade.

The TPAD on the tractor-trailer rig used to transport it from site to site is shown arriving in the parking lot at the FSF in Figure 7a. The TPAD positioned at the starting point of the testing path at the FSF is shown in Figure 7b.

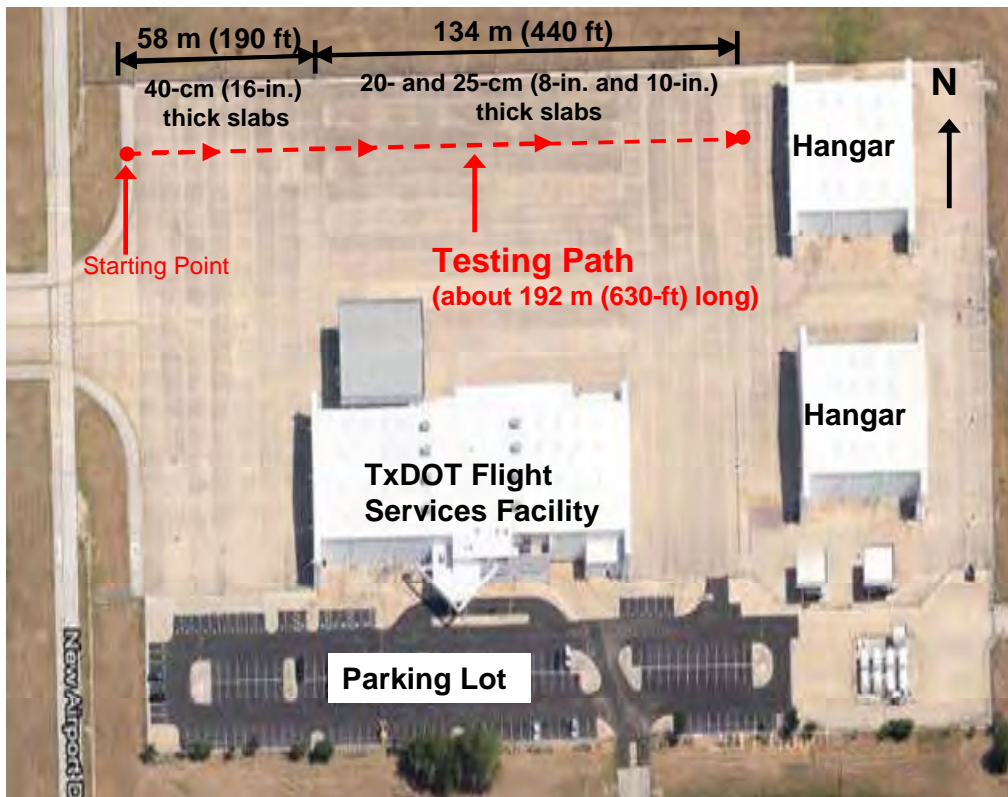
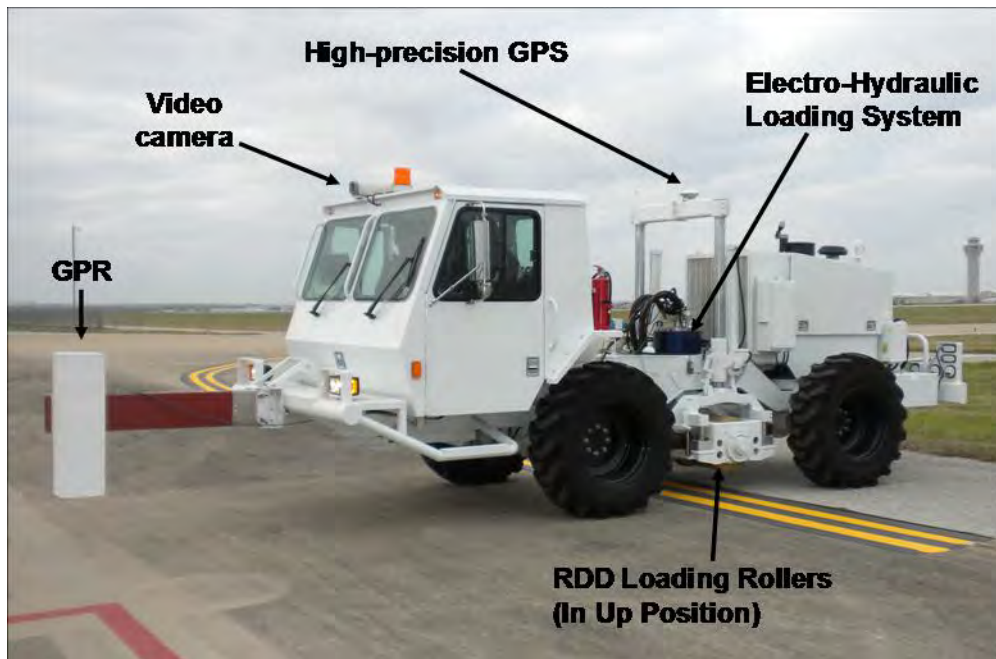


Figure 6 TxDOT Flight Services Facility



(a) Photograph of the TPAD on the Tractor-Trailer Rig



(b) Photograph of the Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD) at the Starting point of the Testing Path

Figure 7 Photographs of the TPAD and Tractor –Trailer Rig (from Stokoe et al., 2011)

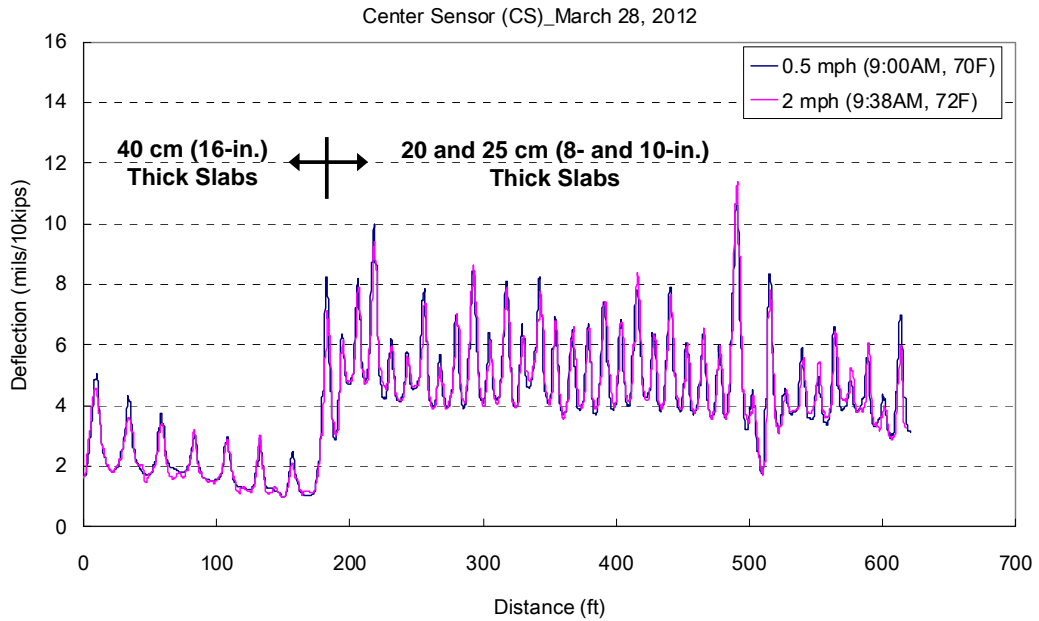
Continuous RDD Deflection Profiles with Center Sensor (CS)

As an example of continuous RDD deflection profiles along the testing path collected with the center sensor (CS) with speeds of 0.8 to 3.2 km/hr (0.5 and 2 mph) are shown in Figure 8a. The testing was performed during the morning time to mitigate the potential of concrete slab curling and the pavement surface temperature was measured. As shown in Figure 8a, the difference in pavement surface temperature is very small so no effect of temperature on pavement deflections was assumed. The deflection profile shows a clear pattern of joint and mid-slab deflections: peaks at joint locations and troughs at mid-slab areas. The first 58-m (190-ft) long section with 40-cm (16-in.) thick slabs shows much lower mid-slab movements while the remaining 134-m (440-ft) long section with 20- and 25-cm (8- and 10-in.) thick slabs shows considerably higher mid-slab movements.

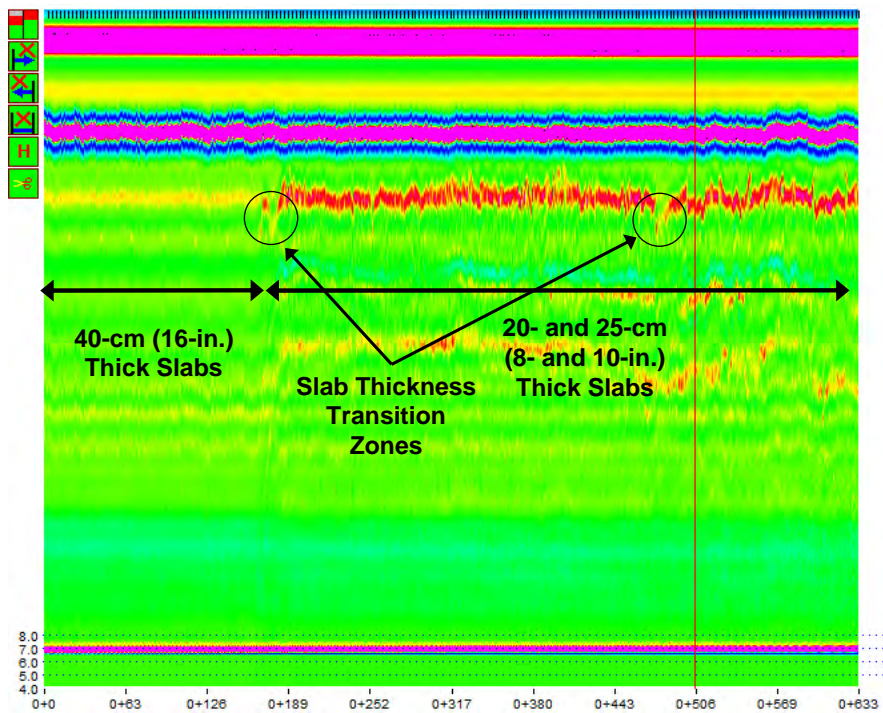
As seen in the Figure 8a, the two deflection profiles using different collection speeds showed nearly the same profile. A third profile collected at 4.8 km/hr (3 mph) is also matched well with the deflection profile determined at a speed of 0.8 km/hr (0.5 mph).

Continuous GPR Profile

Continuous ground penetrating radar profile collected at TxDOT FSF is shown in Figure 8b. The x-axis of the figure is the distance along the testing path. As seen in the figure, the section with 20- and 25-cm (8- and 10-in.) thick slabs is clearly seen while the thickness of 40-cm (16-in.) is not seen as clearly. It seems that the pulse from the radar could not be penetrated deep enough to detect the 40-cm (16-in.) thick slab thickness.



(a) Continuous RDD Deflection Profiles with testing speeds of 0.5 and 2 mph



(b) Continuous GPR Profile at TxDOT FSF

Figure 8 Continuous RDD and GPR Profiles at TxDOT FSF

Continuous Deflection Profiles for Identification of Joints with Bad Load Transfer Using the Center and Front Rolling Sensor

Figure 9 shows the deflection profiles of the center and front sensors collected at a testing speed of 3.2 km/hr (2 mph). Since the front sensor (FS) is about 0.635 m (2.1 ft) ahead of the loading rollers and center sensors (CS), lower deflections are measured with the front sensor. The front sensor showed relative peaks at joint locations and troughs at mid-slab areas just like the center sensor. It is to observe that, at the TxDOT FSF, the front sensor generally shows mid-slab deflections that, for a 45 kN (10-kip) loading function, are about 1 mil less than the center sensor and, at joints exhibiting good load transfer, about 3 mils less than the center sensor (see Figure 10a). In the case of joints exhibiting poor load transfers, the center sensor shows high relative deflections and the front sensor shows double peaks. These profiles are shown in Figure 10c. Further studies are planned and continued for the front sensor deflections according to the conditions of the joint load transfer.

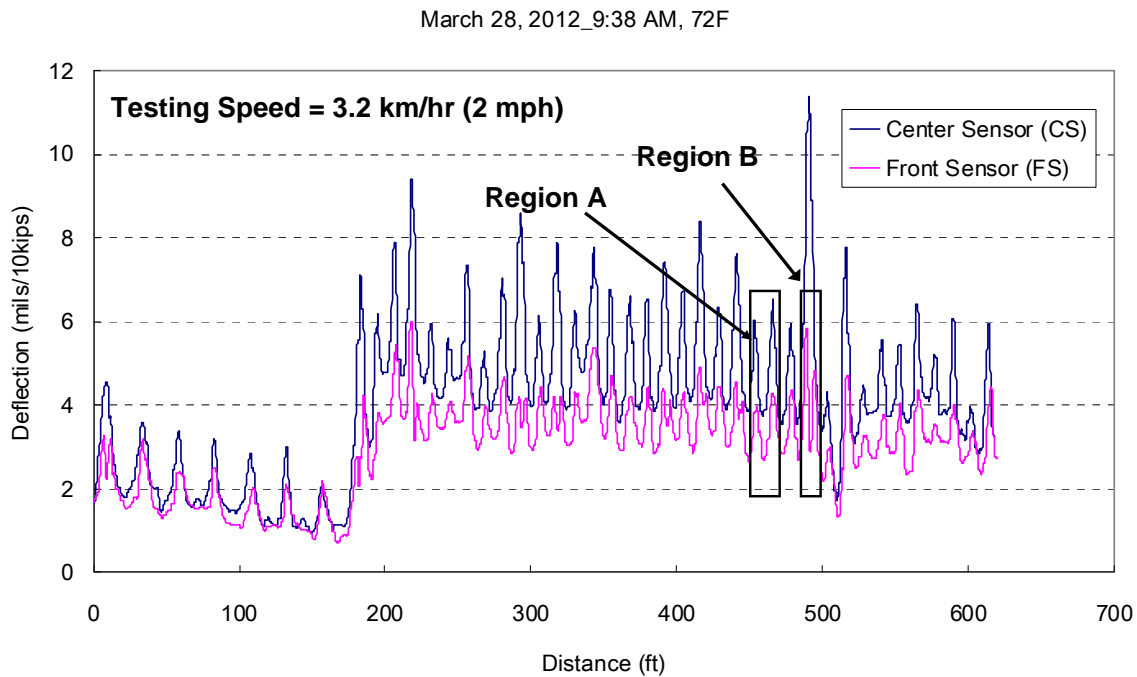
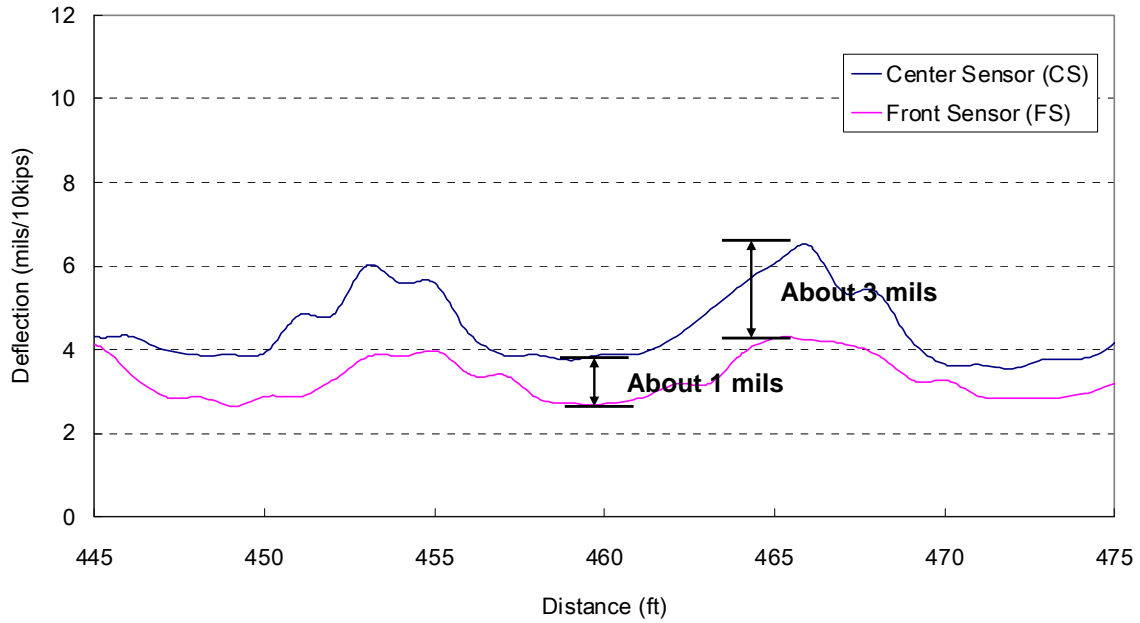
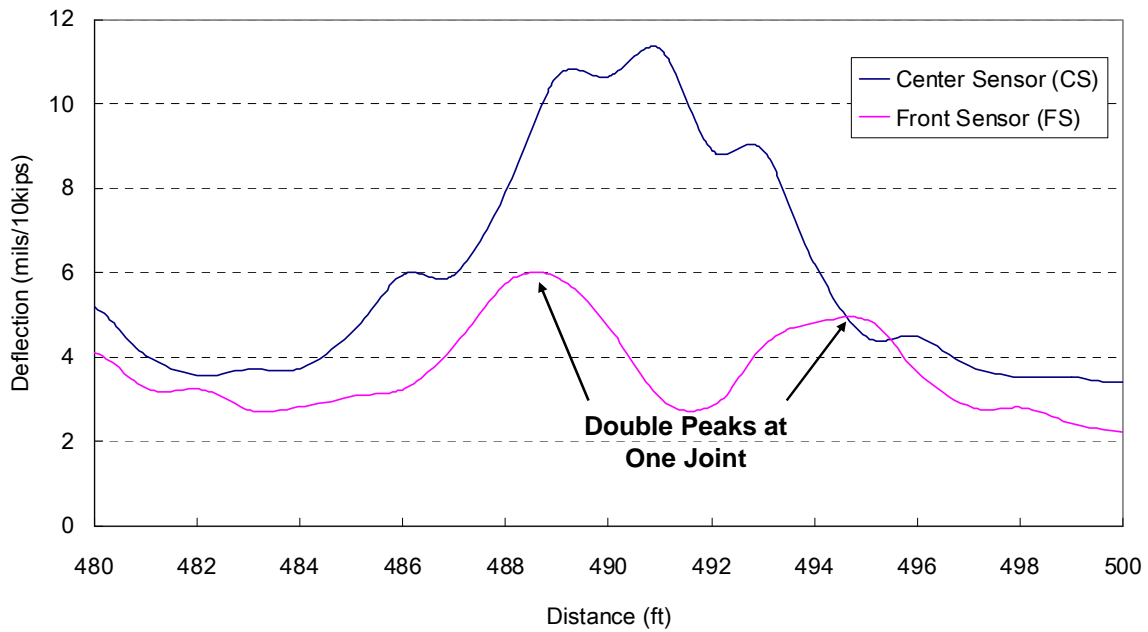


Figure 9 Continuous Deflection Profiles Collected with Center and Front Sensors with a Testing Speed of 2 mph at TxDOT FSF



(a) The Deflection Profiles Showing Joints Exhibiting Good Load Transfer

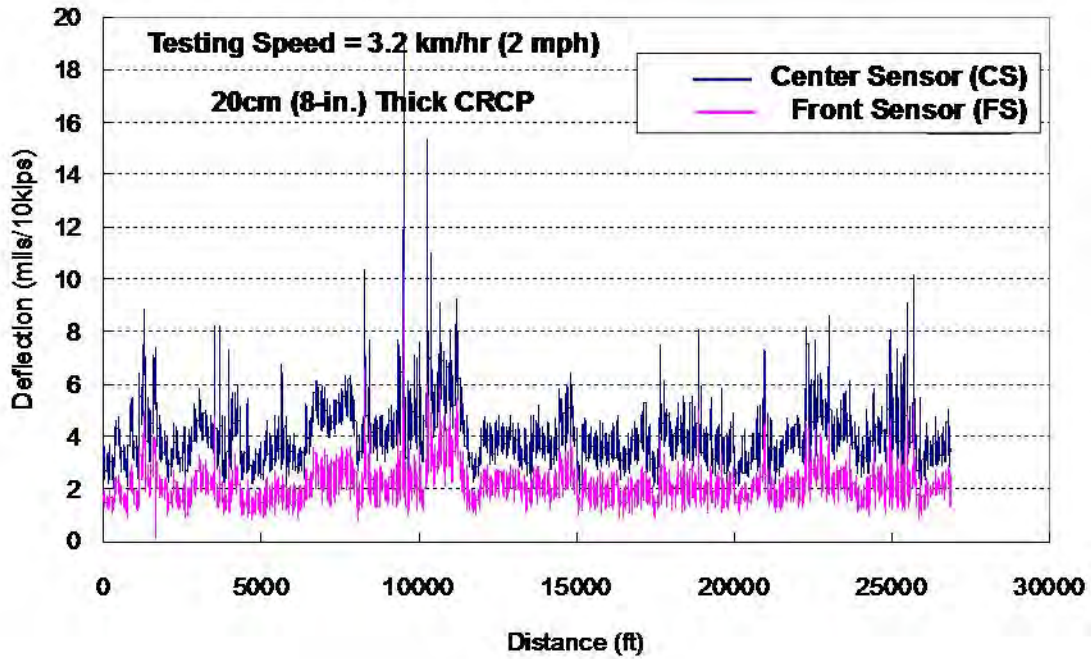


(b) The Deflection Profiles Showing Joints Exhibiting Poor Load Transfer

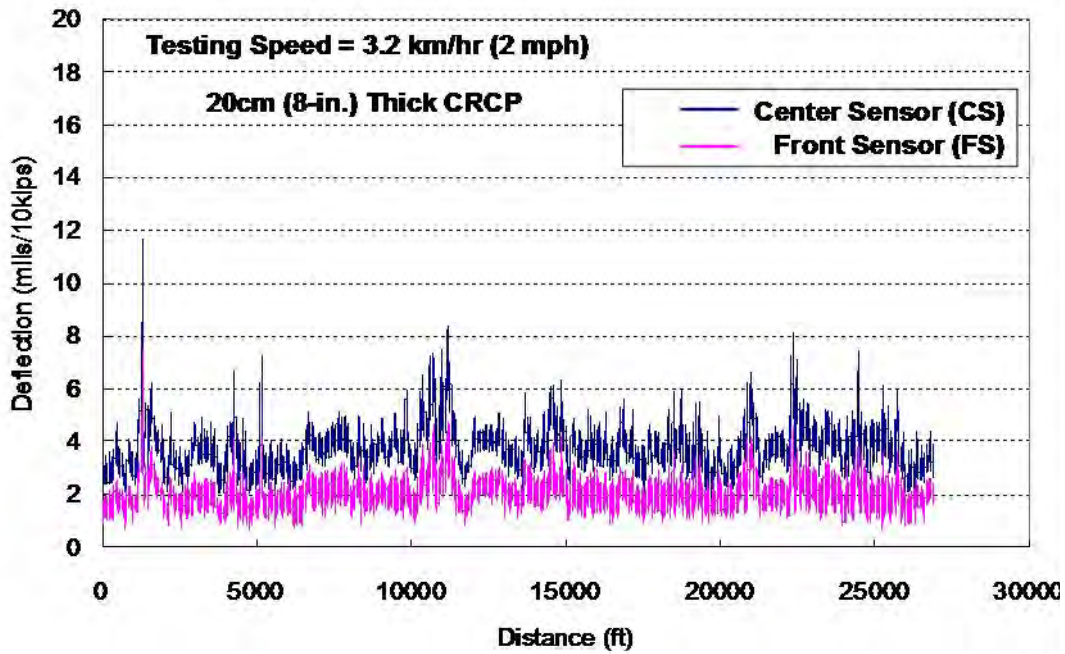
Figure 10 Continuous Deflection Profiles Showing Joints Exhibiting Good and Poor Load Transfer Expanded from Figure 9

TPAD TESTING ON US81/287 NEAR WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS

The first TPAD testing on an actual rehabilitation project was performed on US 81/287 near Wichita Falls, Texas in April, 2012. A testing speed of 3.2 km/hr (2 mph) was used. The pavement type is an 20-cm (8-in.) thick continuously reinforced concrete pavement (CRCP) and the district pavement engineers wanted to know locations with high levels of deflections that may potentially cause poor performance in a proposed 10-cm (4-in.) thick bonded concrete overlay that was scheduled to begin construction within four months. The primary interest was to evaluate the conditions of the inside and outside lanes in the southbound direction over a distance of about 5 miles. The deflection profiles for the outside and inside lanes in the southbound direction are shown in Figures 11a and 11b, respectively. In the figures, numerous peaks are shown that can be interpreted as regular stress induced transverse cracks, typical for CRCP. During testing, many pre-existing concrete patches were observed on the outside lane. Some high peaks in the deflection profile (see Figure 11a) might come from the edges of the concrete patches. By comparing the deflections of the inside and outside lanes collected with the center rolling sensor (CS), deflections in the outside lane are often higher, which seems reasonable due to more traffic loading in this lane. However, differences between the two lanes are not that great and overall deflection levels represent generally sound pavement. Continuous GPR profiling is shown in Figure 12a and the uniform thickness of the CRCP is confirmed. Figure 12b shows the temperature profile during testing. The negative spikes in the figure are from shading under the overpasses.

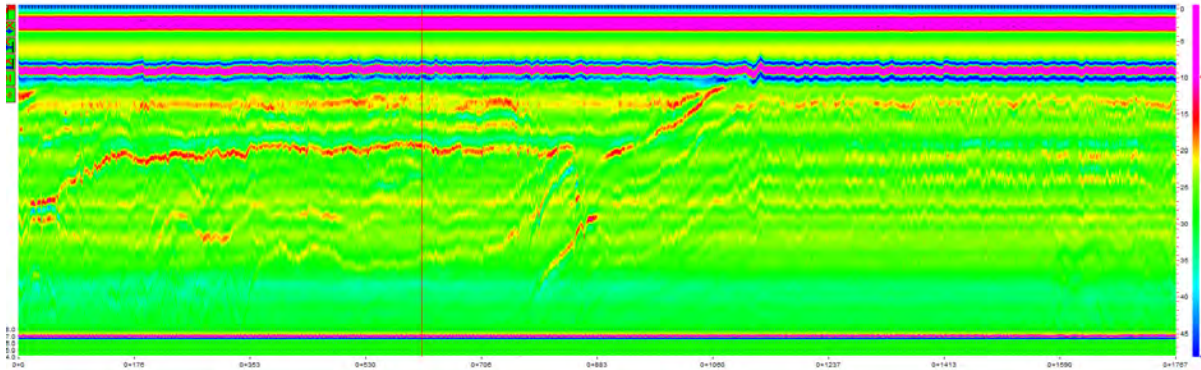


(a) RDD Deflection Profiles of Outside Lane with Center and Front Rolling Sensors

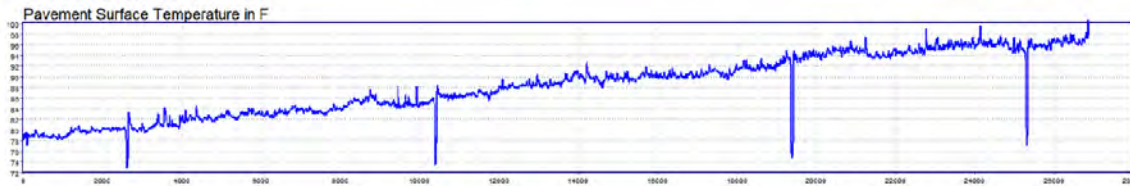


(b) RDD Deflection Profiles of Inside Lane with Center and Front Rolling Sensors

Figure 11 RDD Deflection Profiles of Southbound Lanes of US81/287 near Wichita Falls, TX



(a) GPR Profile of Southbound Lanes of US81/287 near Wichita Falls, TX



(b) Temperature Profile Collected during Testing of Southbound Lanes of US81/287 near Wichita Falls, TX

Figure 12 GPR and Temperature Profiles Southbound Lanes of US81/287 near Wichita Falls, TX

CONCLUSIONS

A new pavement testing device, called the Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD), has been developed with funding from TxDOT. The objective of TPAD testing is to nondestructively and nonintrusively investigate the total pavement’s structural adequacy. The TPAD performs multiple types of continuous measurements as it moves along the pavement at speeds around 3.2 to 4.8 km/hr (2 to 3 mph). The multiple measurements include: (1) measuring continuous pavement deflections based on the rolling dynamic deflectometer method, (2) generating ground penetrating radar profiles (pavement thickness and subsurface conditions), (3) logging global positioning (testing location), (4) measuring pavement surface temperature, (5) collecting digital video images of pavement and right-of-way conditions, and (6) logging distance measurements along the testing paths with a DMI. Two examples of testing real pavements are presented to illustrate the deflection (RDD) and thickness (GPR) profiling. This work was successfully completed and the TPAD is transitioning to implementation and project-level activities.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Support from the TxDOT research program over the past four years to develop the TPAD is gratefully acknowledged.

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**Slide presentation given at the 2014 FAA Worldwide Airport
Technology Transfer Conference, August 5–7, 2014, in Galloway, New
Jersey**

Demonstration of a New, Multi-Function, Nondestructive Pavement Testing Device

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Texas Department of Transportation

2014 FAA Worldwide Airport Technology Transfer Conference
August 07, 2014

Outline

1. Overview of Rolling Dynamic Deflectometer (RDD)

- Emphasis of Presentation is Deflection Measurements

2. Present New Profiling Device

- Called Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD)
- Multi-Function Device

3. TPAD Testing at TxDOT FSF in Austin

- Jointed Concrete Pavement Testbed
- RDD Deflection Profiles

4. Concluding Remarks

1. Overview:

Rolling Dynamic Deflectometer (RDD)

Electro-Hydraulic
Loading System

Diesel Engine: Powers
Hydraulic Loading System



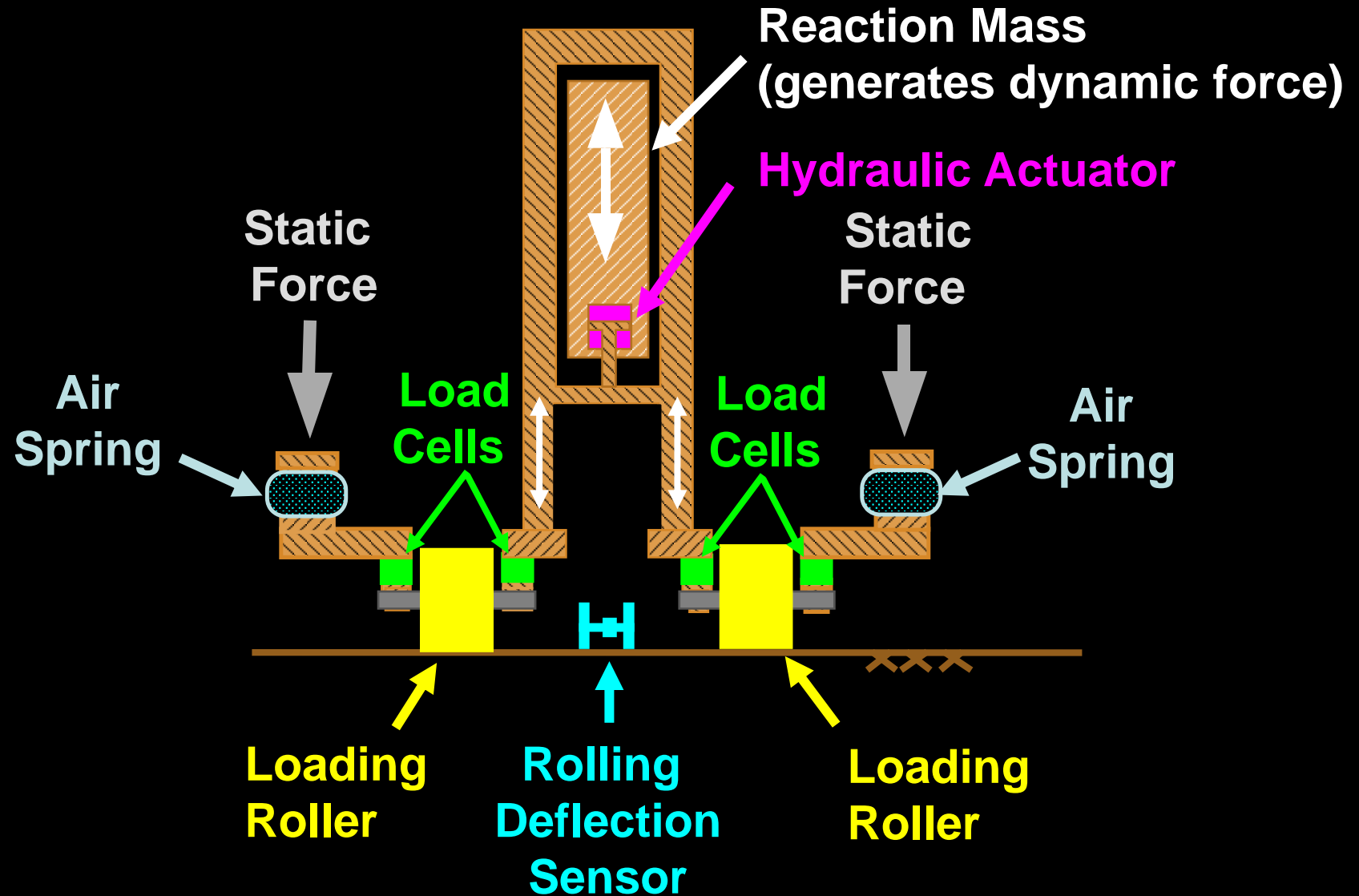
Rolling Sensors

Two Loading Rollers

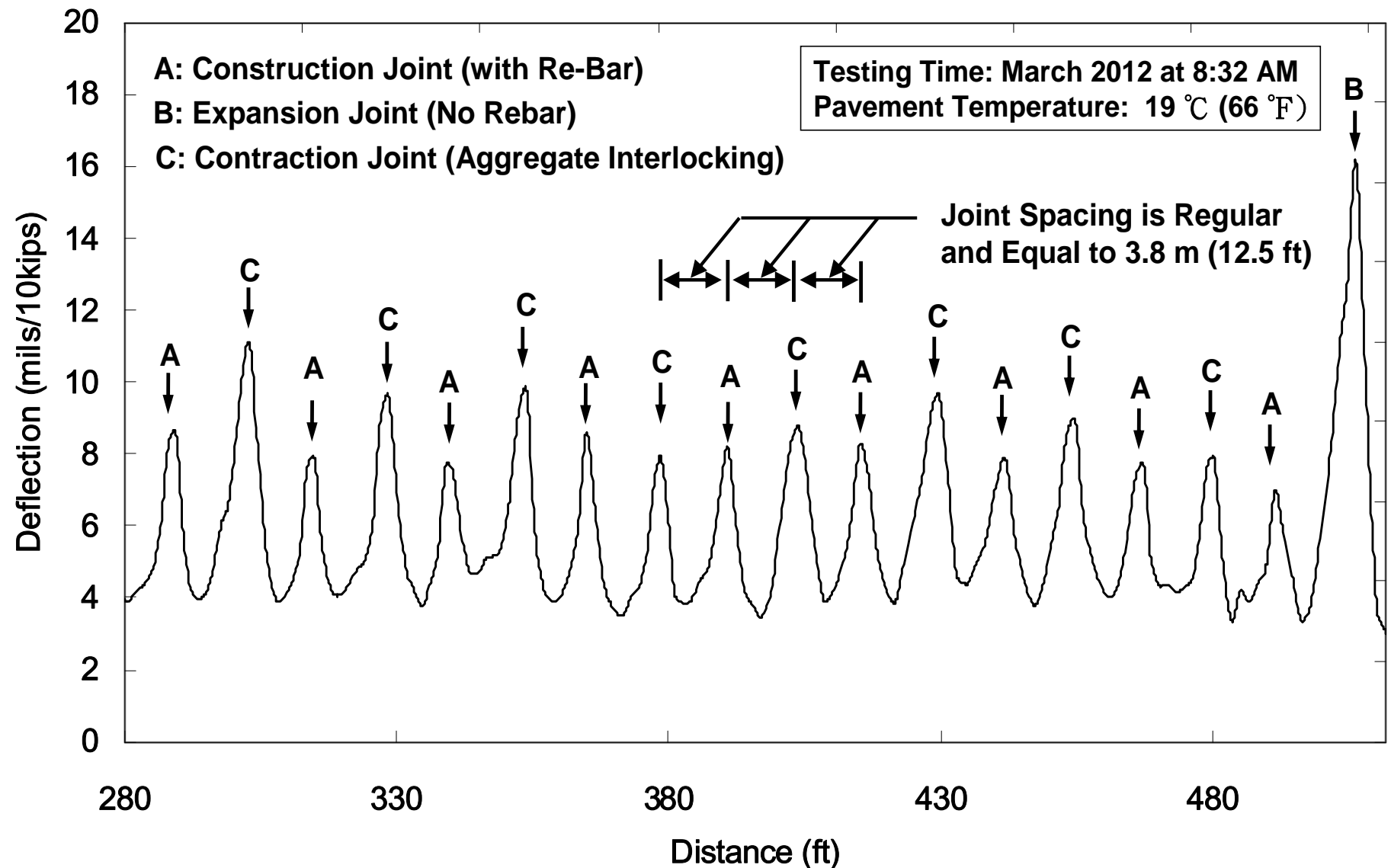
Distance Encoder

- Mobile platform
 - moves continuously along pavement
 - two loading rollers apply dynamic loads to pavement
 - multiple rolling sensors measure resulting dynamic deflections

Cross Section of RDD



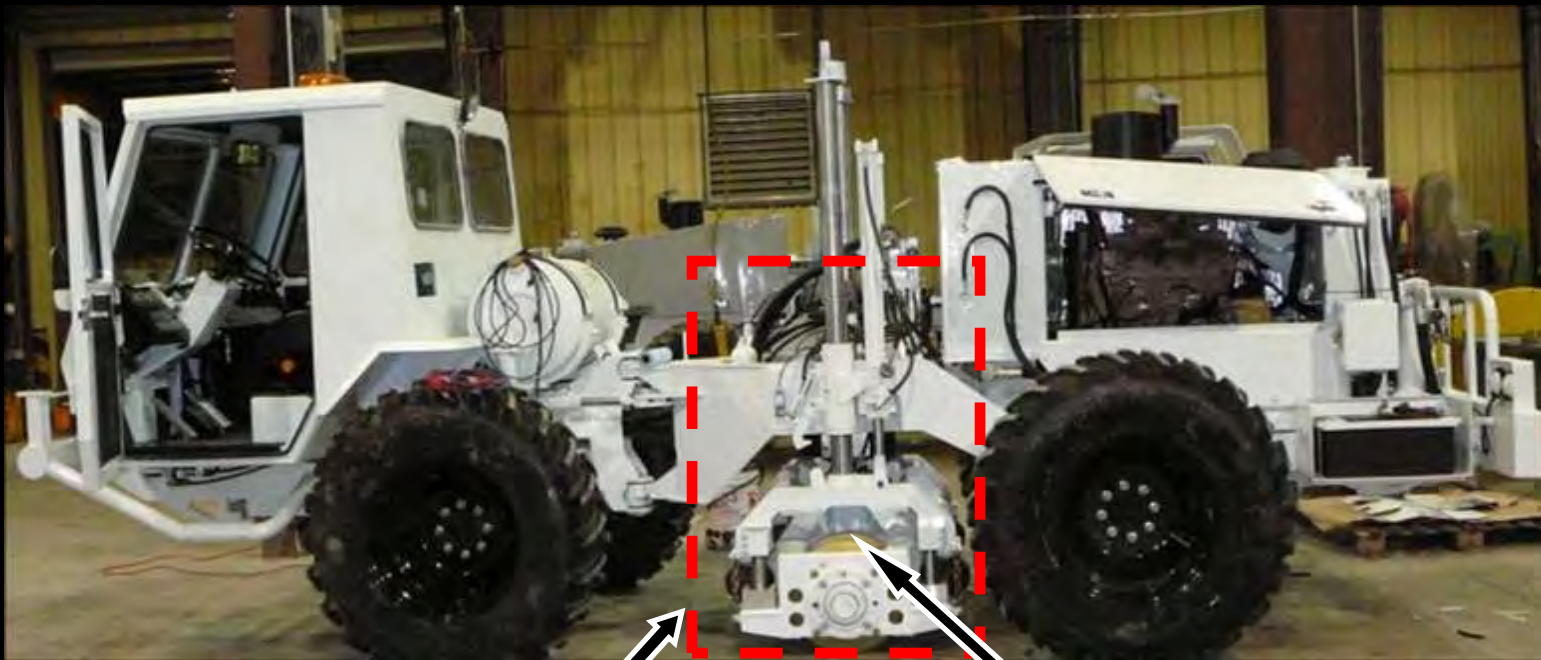
Continuous Deflection Profile



2. New Profiling Device

- **Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD)**
 - **Project-level studies**
 - **Continuous testing at 2 to 3 mph**
(Goal is to increase testing speed)
 - **Multi-function device**
- **Testing Functions**
 - **RDD measurements**
 - **Ground penetrating radar (GPR)**
 - **Distance measurement along pavement (DMI)**
 - **High-precision differential GPS**
 - **Pavement surface temperature**
 - **Digital video imaging of pavement**

TPAD Mobile Platform: Adapted from a Minivibe

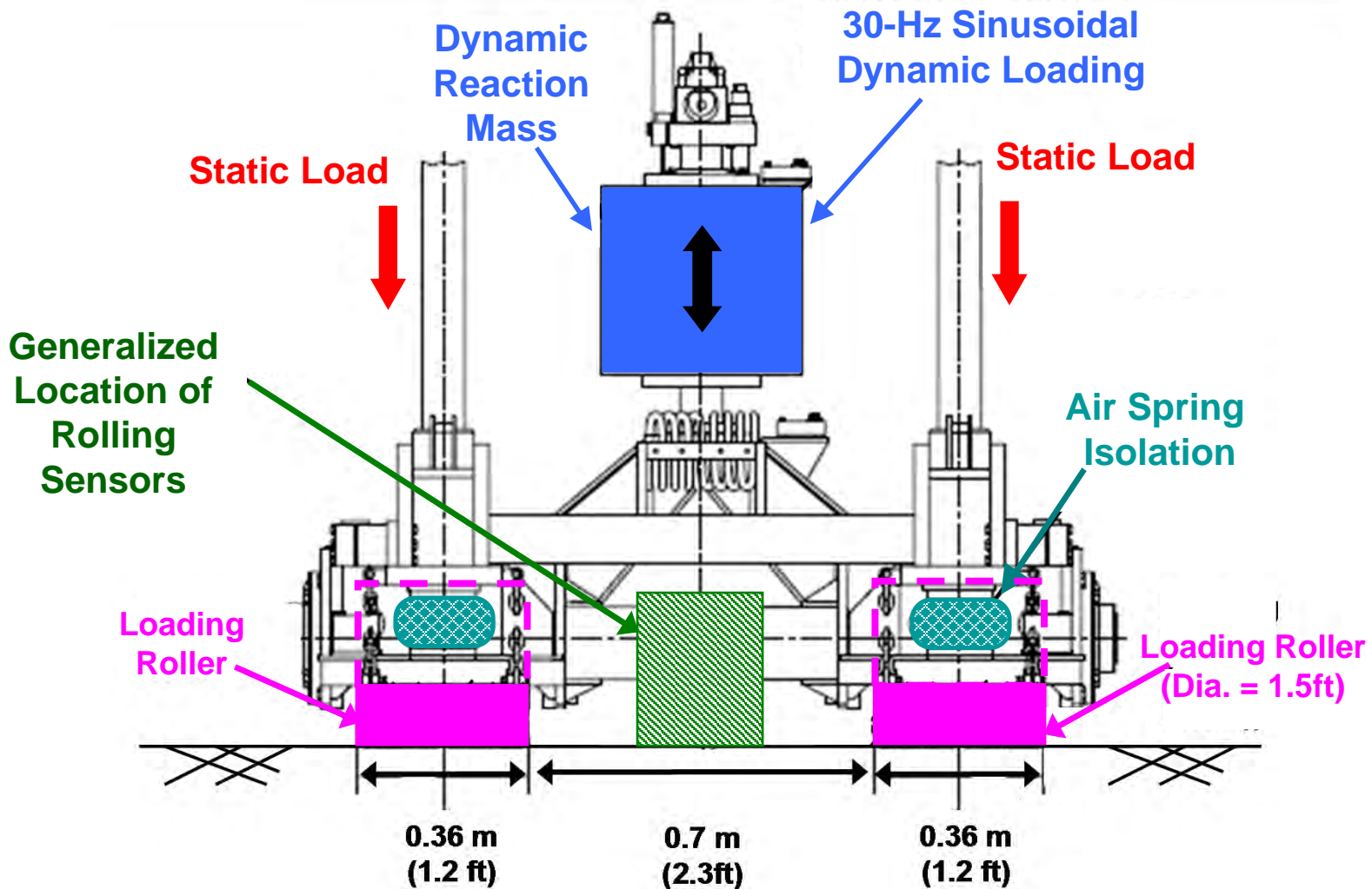


**Cross-Sectional View of Pavement
Loading System Shown in Next Slide**

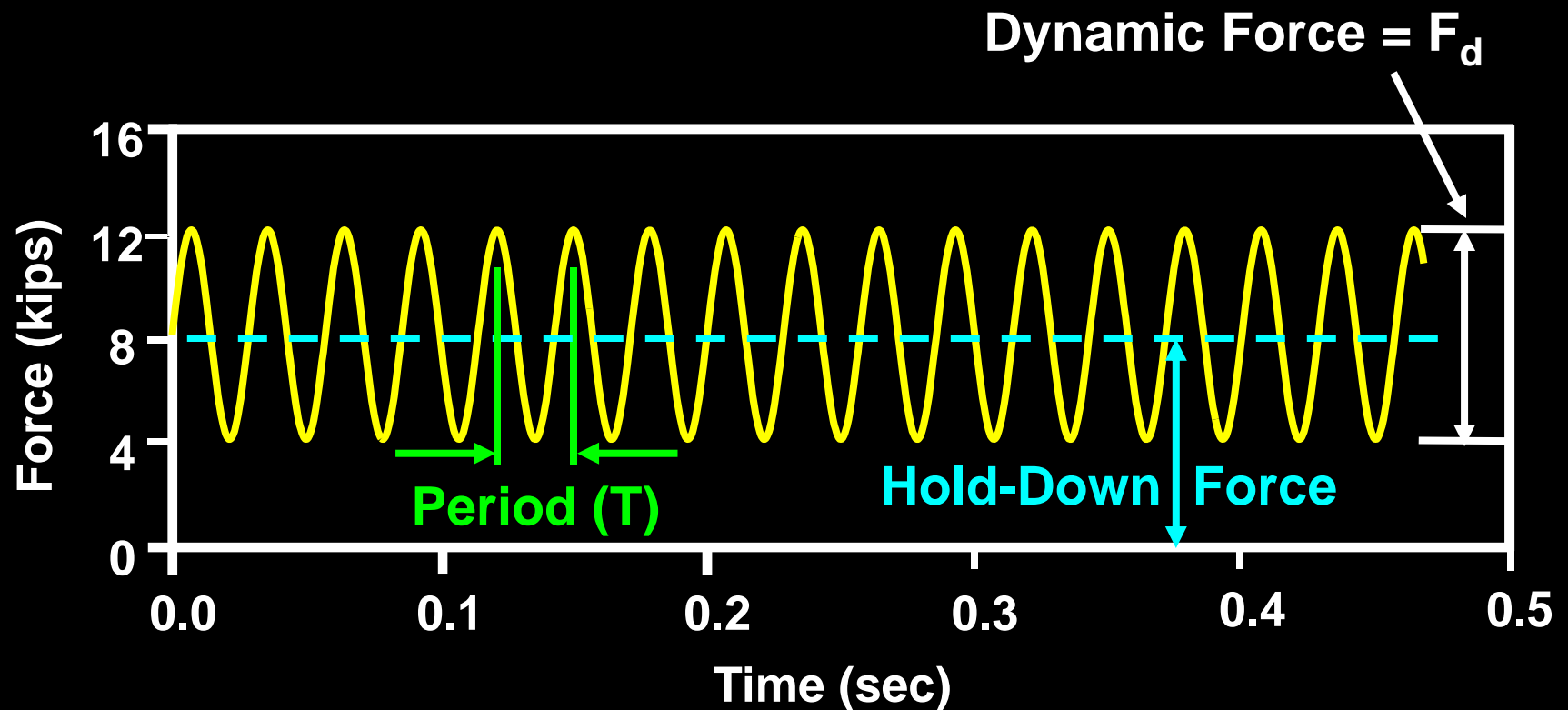
Loading Roller

* Note: Much open space beneath frames.

Cross Section of TPAD Loading System



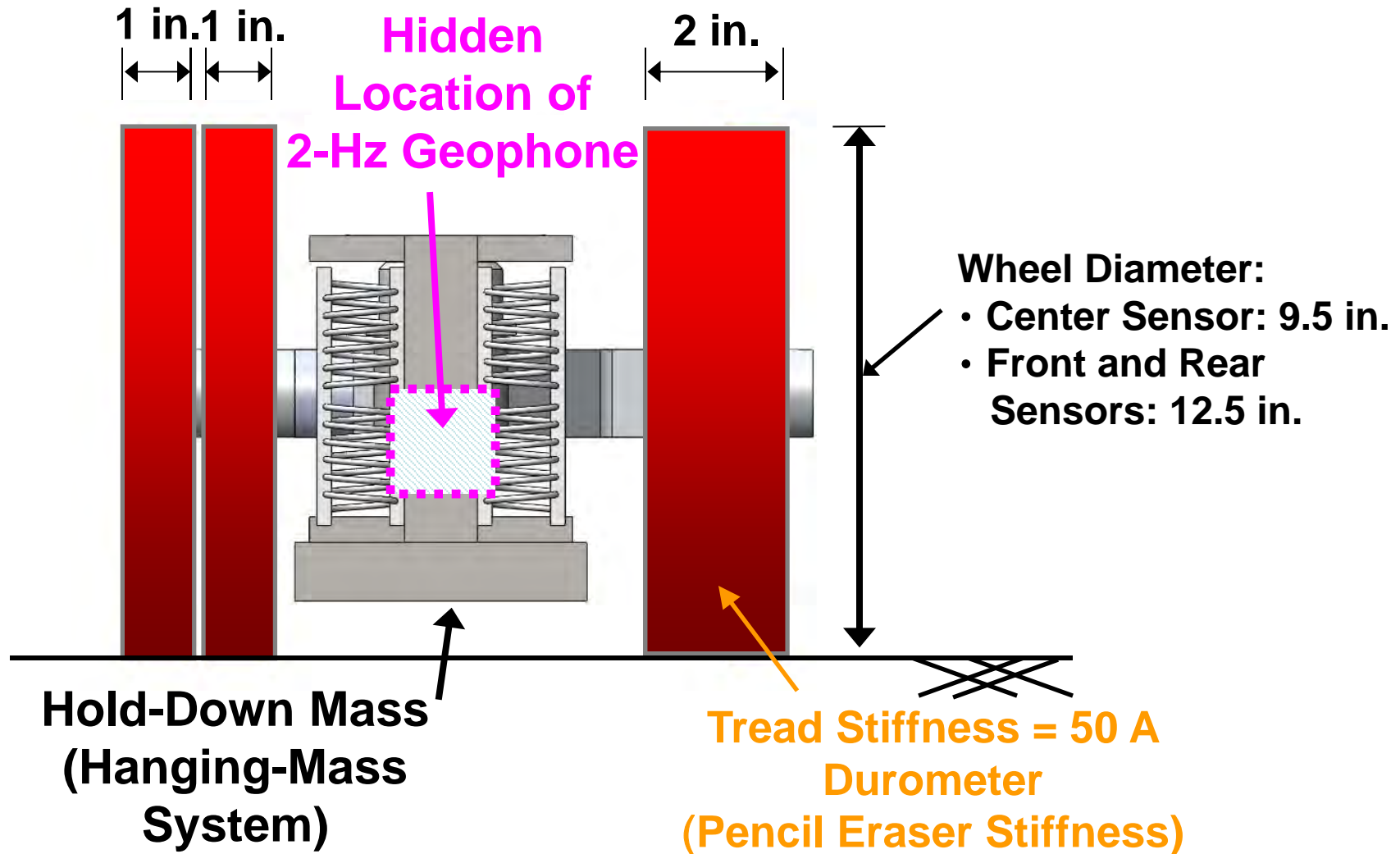
TPAD RDD Forcing Function



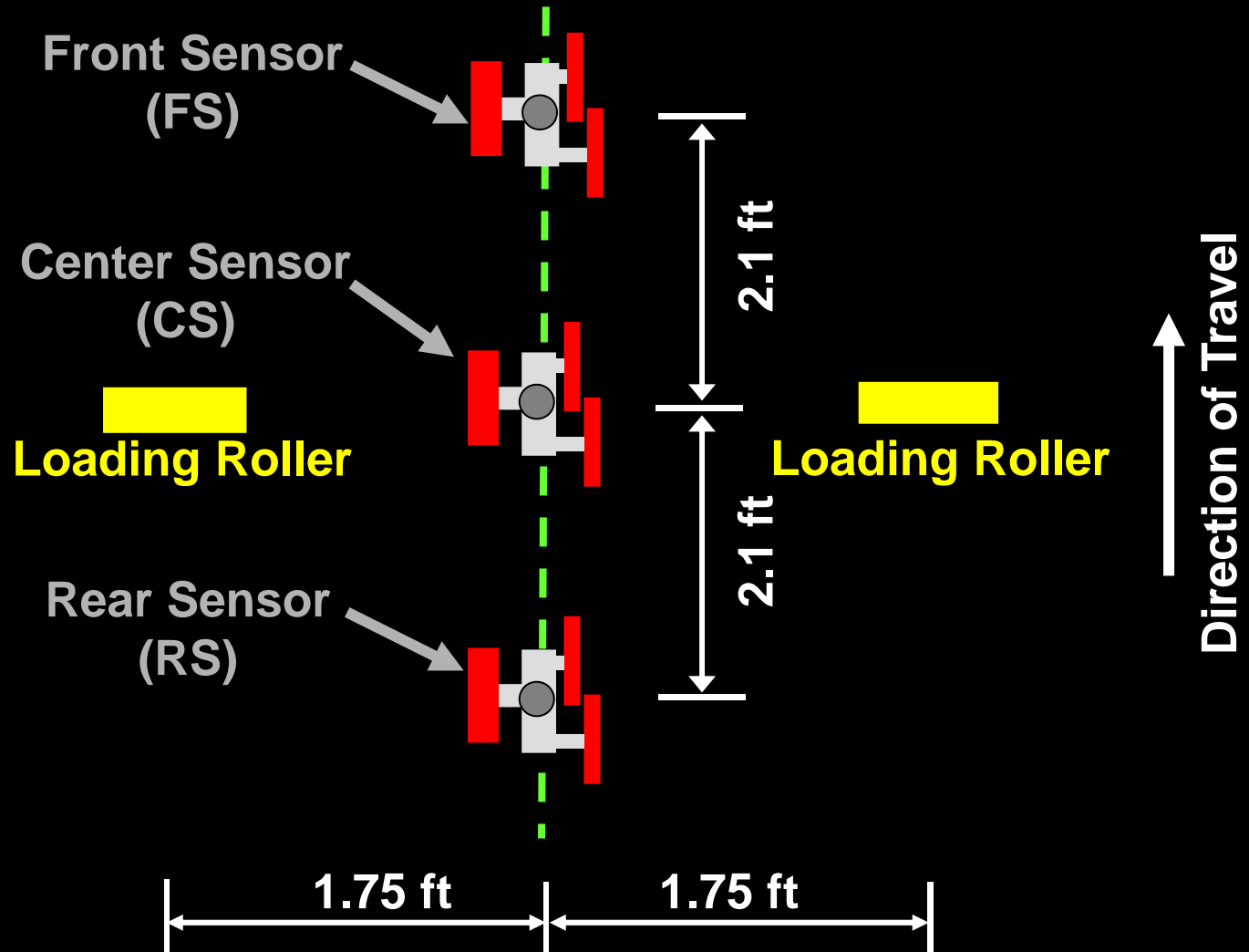
Notes:

1. Typical loading frequency = $1/T = 30$ Hz
2. Maximum hold-down force ≈ 14 kips
3. Measuring dynamic pavement deflections due to F_d
4. Measurements accuracy approx. 0.05 mils while moving

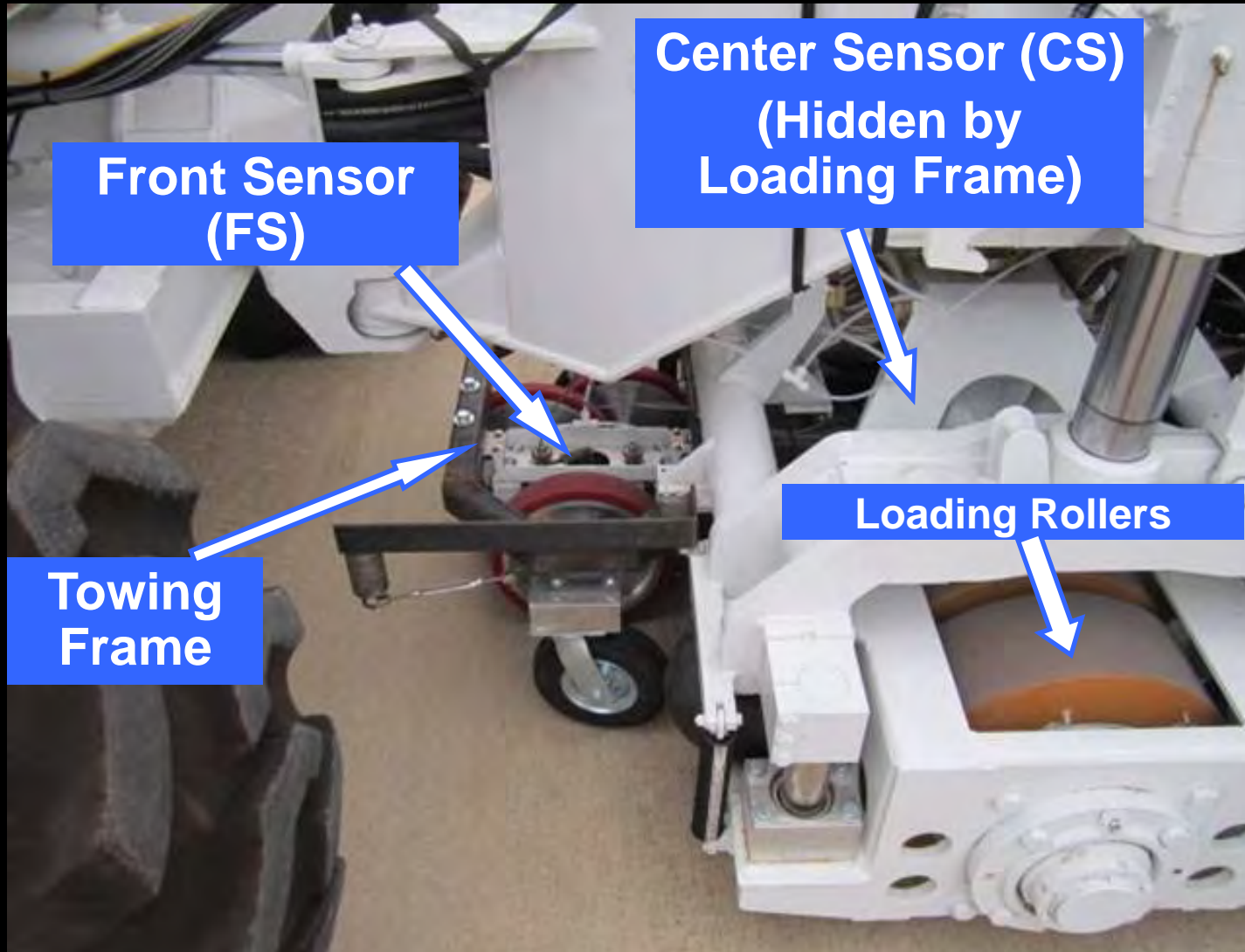
TPAD Rolling Sensor



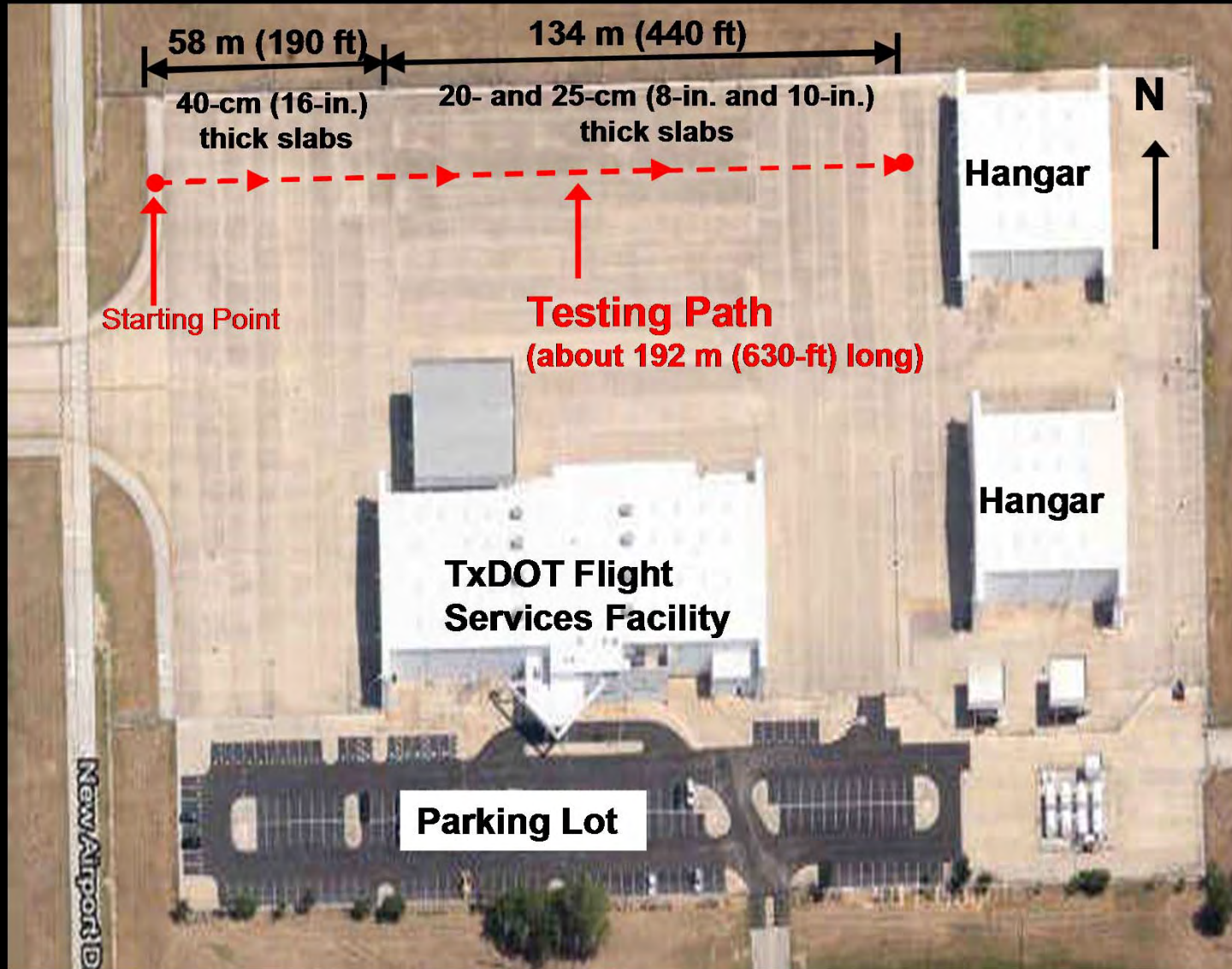
Arrangement of Three TPAD Rolling Sensors



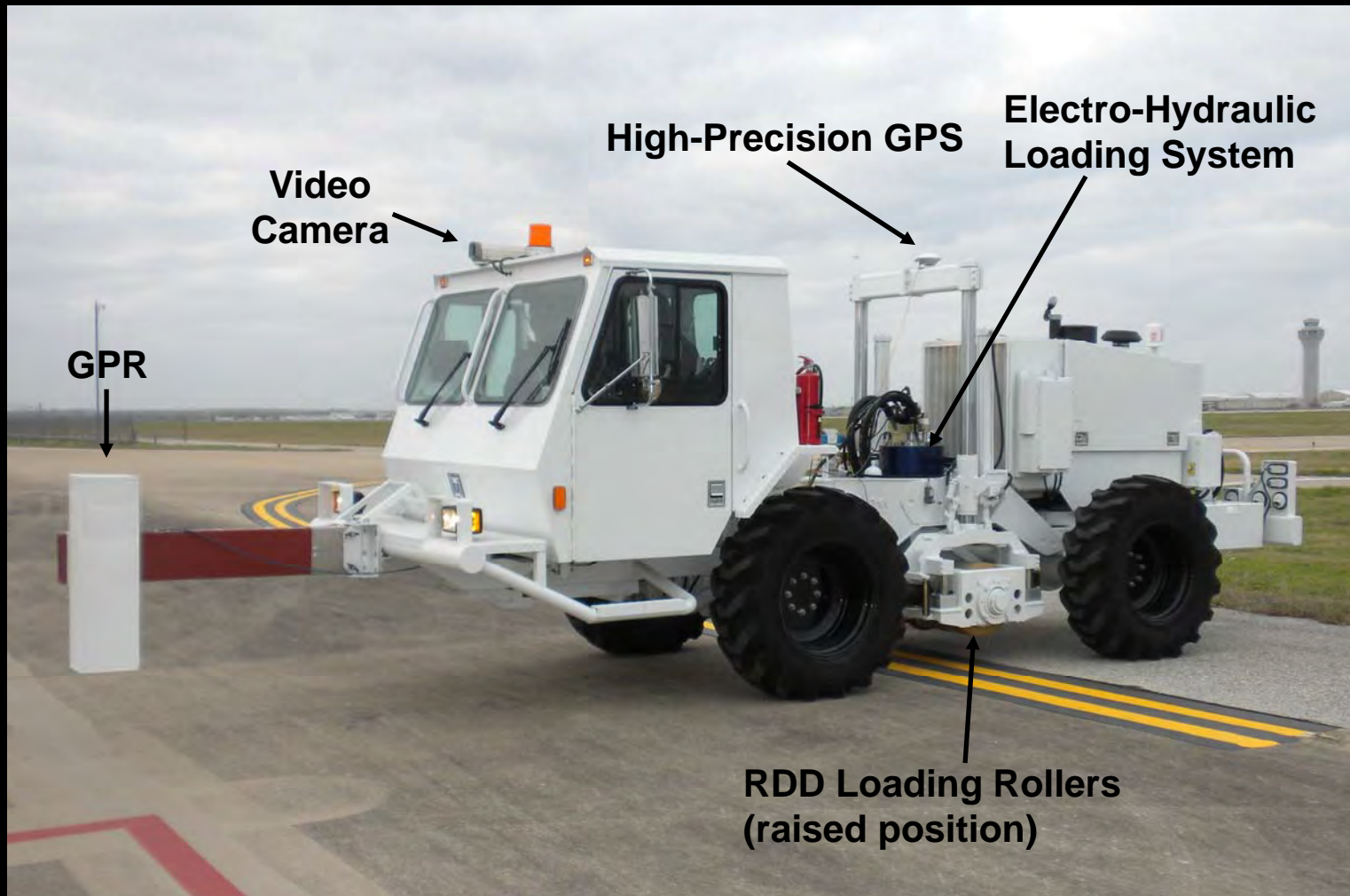
RDD Portion of TPAD



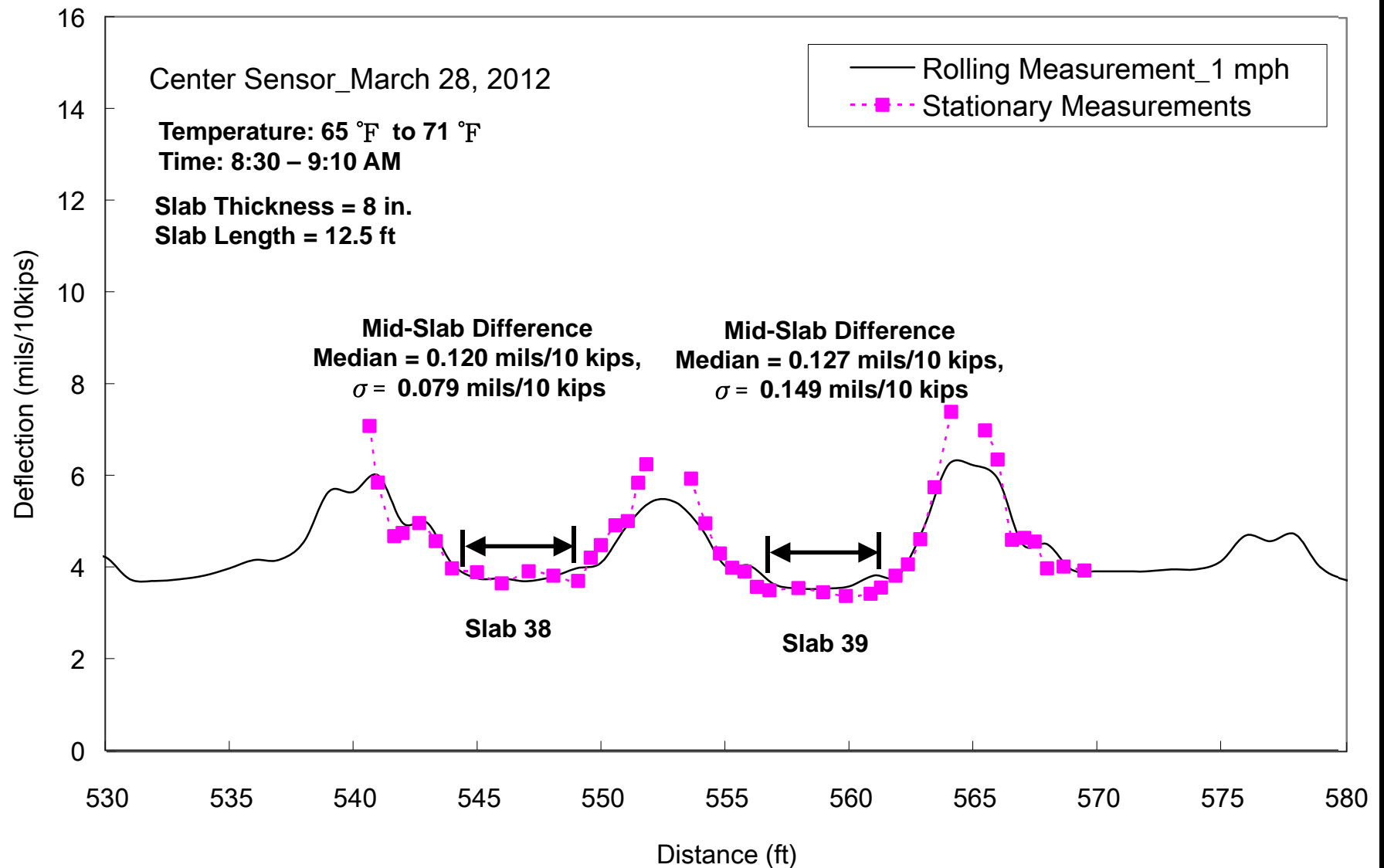
3. Testbed at TxDOT Flight Services Facility



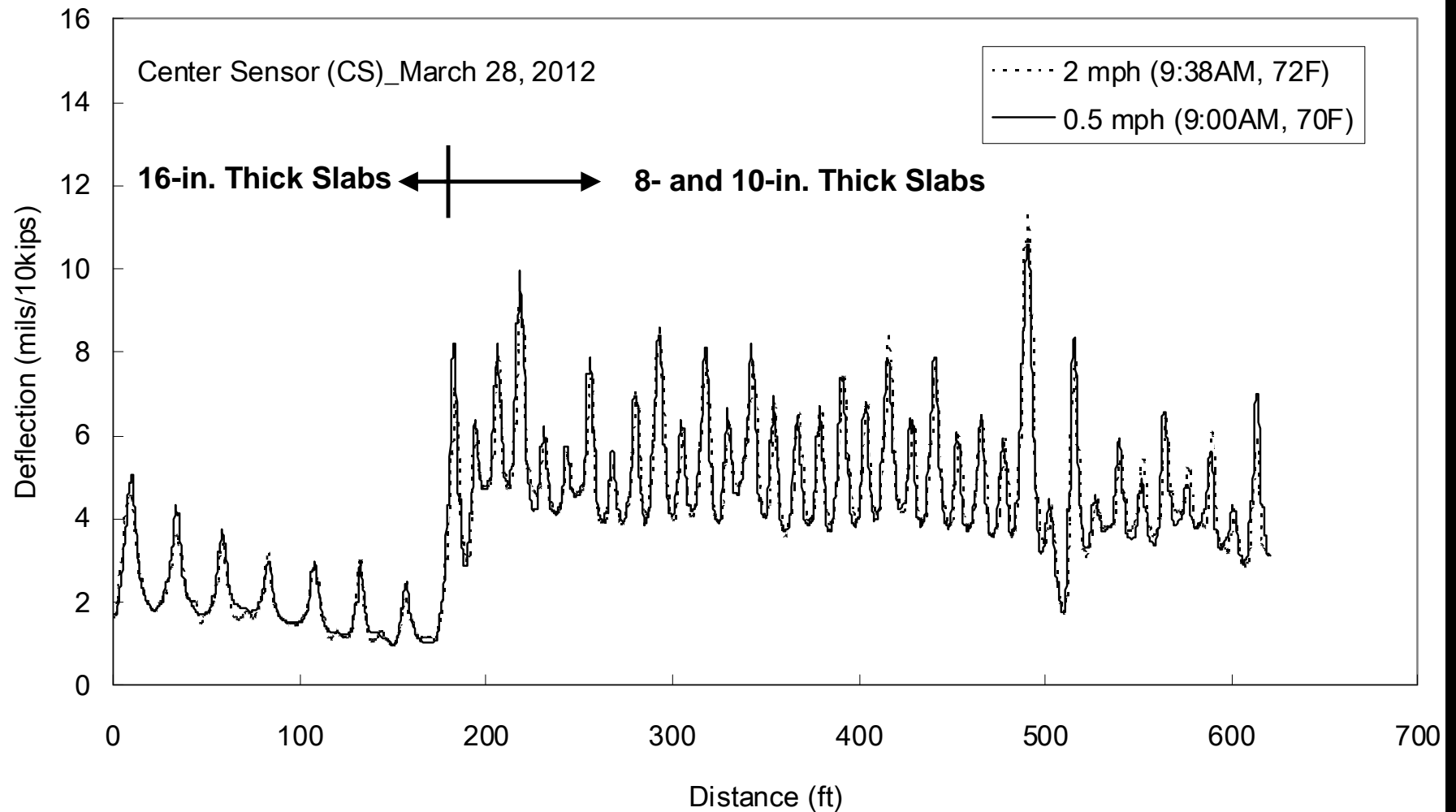
TPAD at TxDOT Flight Services Facility in Austin



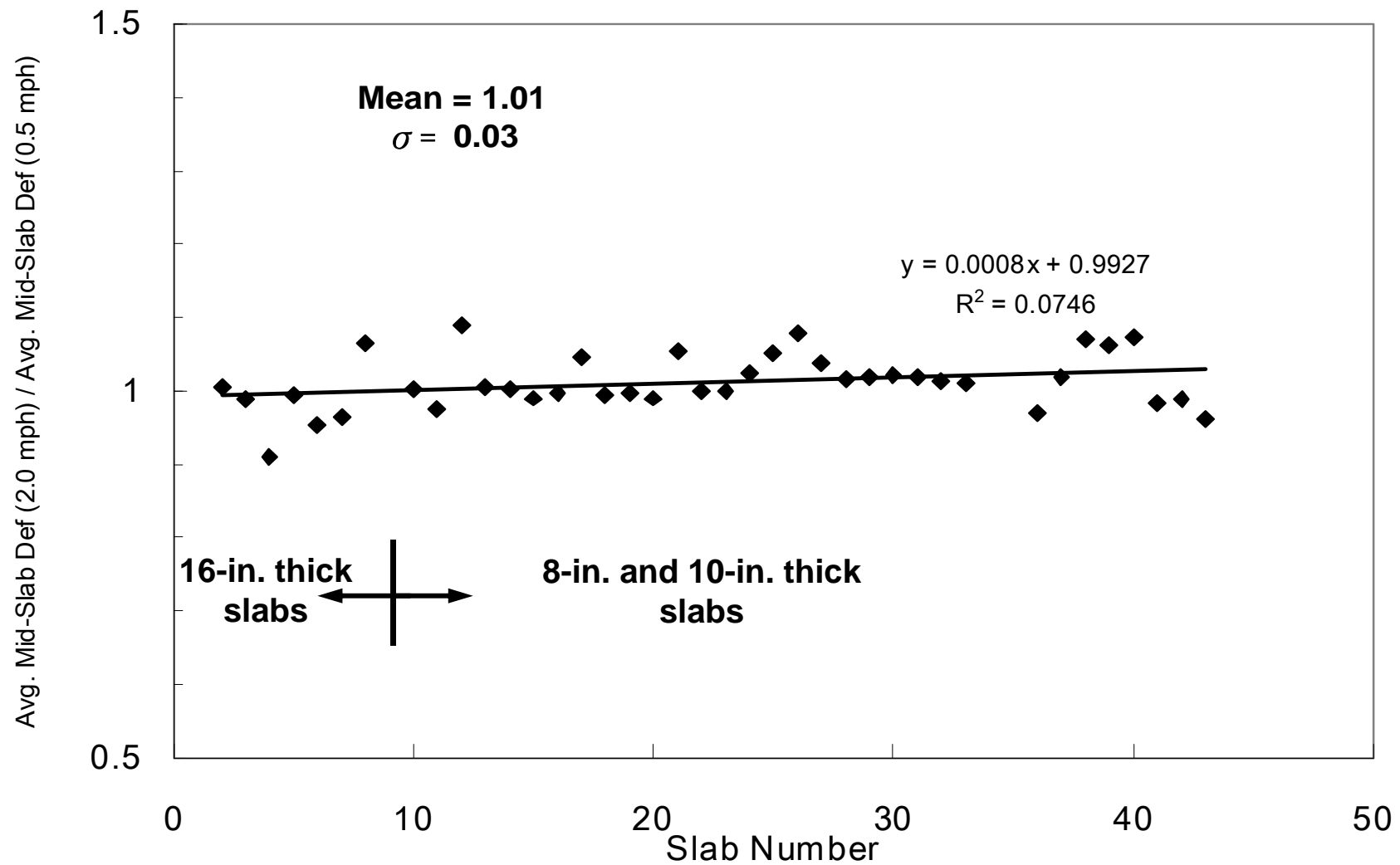
Stationary and Continuous Deflections



Continuous RDD Deflection Profiles at 0.5 and 2 mph

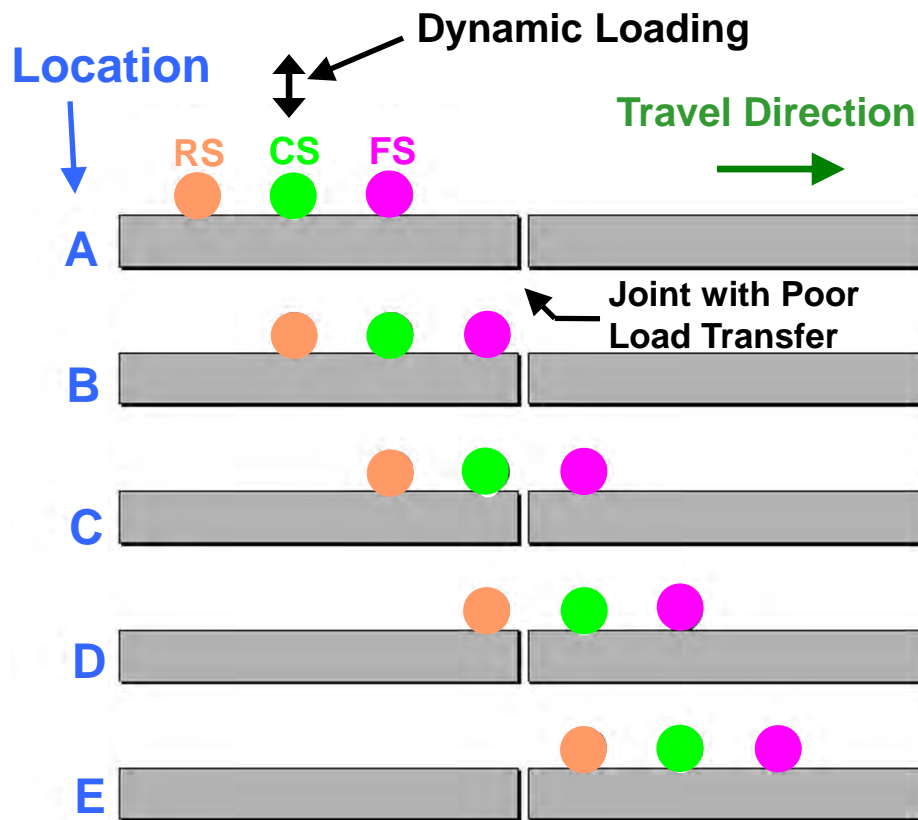


Average Mid-Slab Deflection Comparison at 0.5 and 2 mph

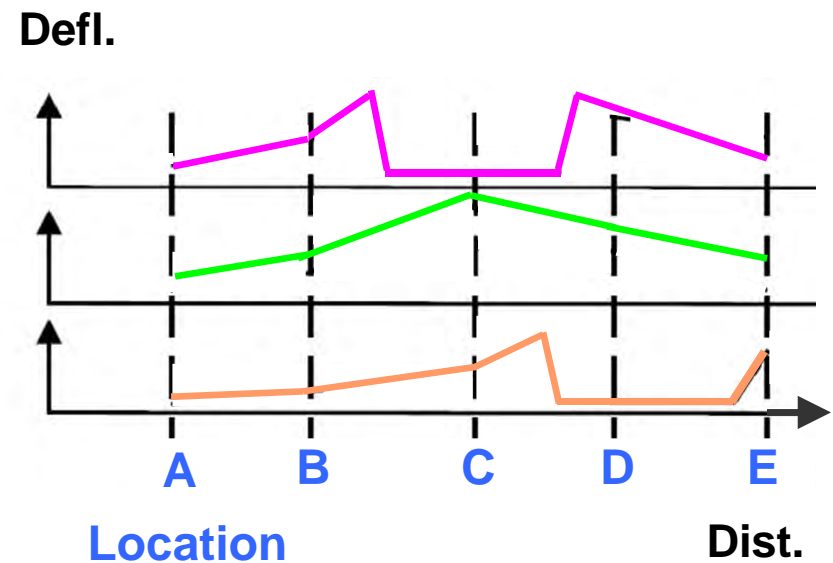


Deflections Associated with Sensors around Poor Load Transfer Joint

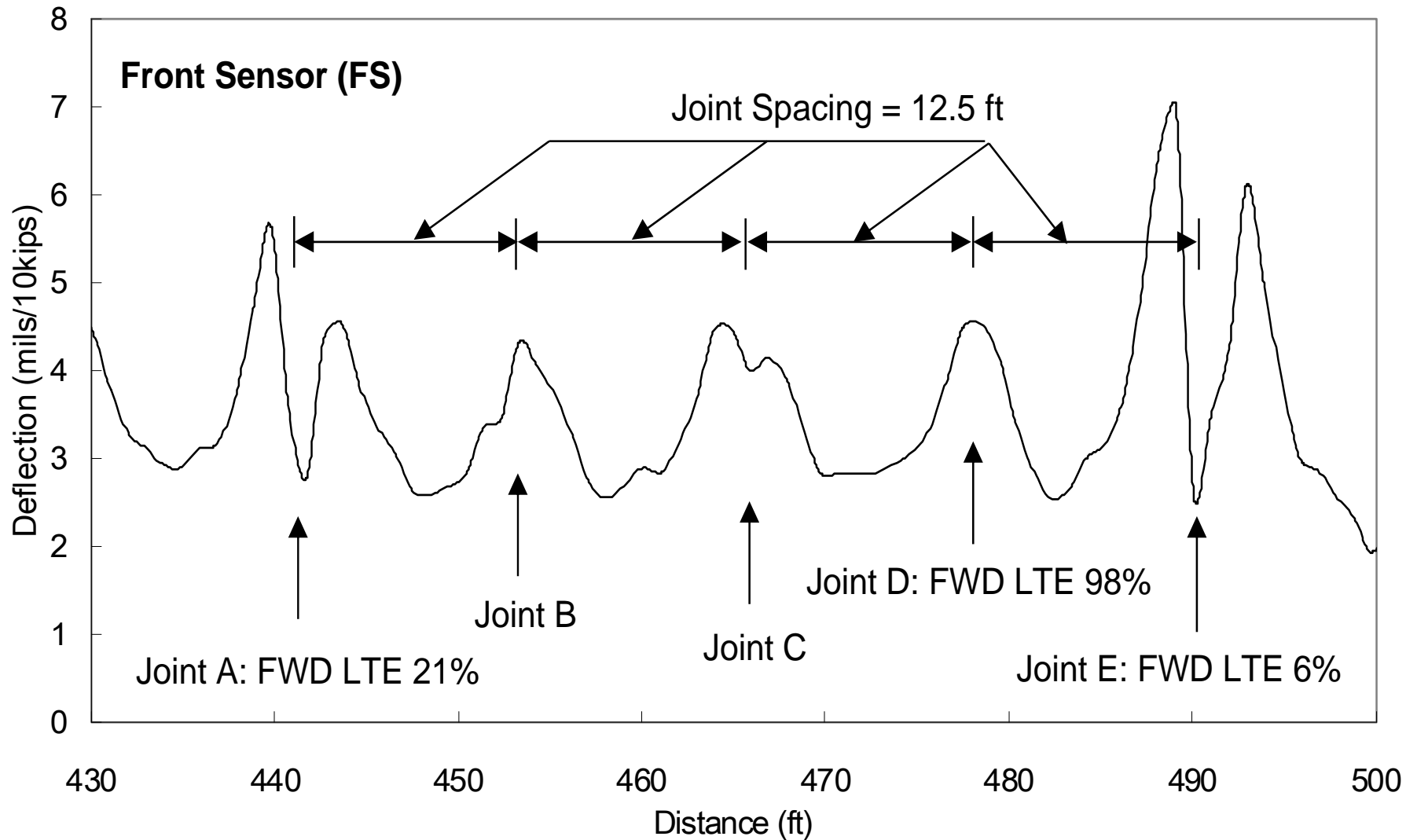
Locations of Sensors as They Traverse a Joint



Deflection Patterns Associated with Each Sensor Traversing a Joint



Expanded FS Deflection Profile



4. Concluding Remarks

- **New, multi-function pavement profiling system was developed with TxDOT funding.**
- **Development was a joint effort (TxDOT, CTR and TTI).**
- **New system is called the TPAD (Total Pavement Acceptance Device).**

4. Concluding Remarks – con'd

- **The RDD function of the TPAD involves three rolling sensors and permits measuring continuous deflection profiles at 2 to 3 mph.**
- **Rolling deflections of mid-slab areas are very similar to stationary deflections.**
- **Deflection underestimations occur at joints because of averaging during data processing.**
- **The front sensor can be used effectively to identify joints with low load transfer.**

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- **Help from Elmo Christensen at IVI, Richard Hayes and Mike Lewis at the Center for Electromechanics, and Cecil Hoffpauir and Andrew Valentine of CTR are greatly appreciated.**

Thank You

Questions?

Paper presented at the 2014 FAA conference: *Demonstration of a New, Multi-Function, Nondestructive Pavement Testing Device*

Demonstration of a New, Multi-Function, Nondestructive Pavement Testing Device

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PRESENTED FOR THE
2014 FAA WORLDWIDE AIRPORT TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CONFERENCE
Galloway, New Jersey, USA

August 2014

INTRODUCTION

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has been evaluating the structural condition of highway and airport pavements with multiple types of nondestructive testing (NDT) devices for more than four decades. Over the past fifteen years, new devices have been integrated into this pavement evaluation effort. One device is the rolling dynamic deflectometer (RDD). The RDD was originally developed through the TxDOT research program to determine continuous deflection profiles that are used in pavement structural assessments (Chen et al. [1]). TxDOT researchers have shown that RDD deflection profiles can be used more effectively when combined with other data such as pavement thickness and subsurface conditions (Scullion [2], and Nam et al. [3]). Therefore, TxDOT has supported development of a multi-function device which is equipped with RDD profiling and ground penetrating radar (GPR) functions. Additional functions that have been integrated into the new device are video cameras for pavement and right-of-way conditions, pavement temperature measurements and high-precision positioning. These multi-functions permit efficient comparisons of RDD deflection data with other NDT data logged by the different methods. The new device is called the Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD). The TPAD has all functions combined on a single platform that can move along the pavement at 2 to 3 mph. All measurements are collected in a single pass and analysis software permits the data to be displayed in near-real time (less than 5 minutes after collection) so that the results can be used for preliminary evaluations of pavement conditions on-the-fly or can be used for more detailed analyses at a later time.

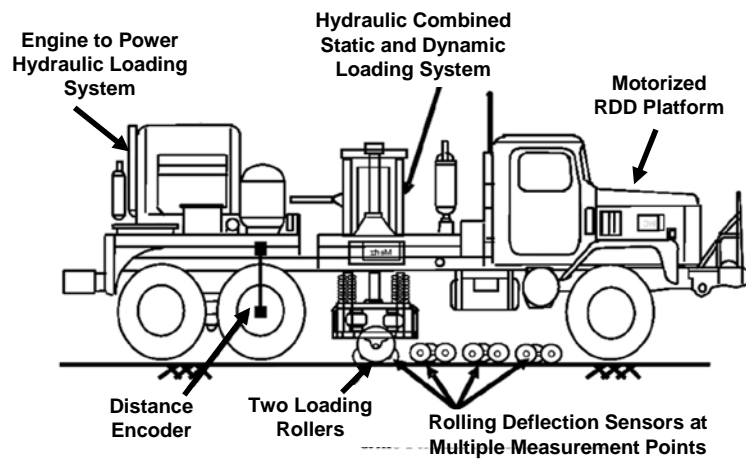
In this paper, a background on two of the nondestructive testing functions in the TPAD, the RDD and GPR systems, are briefly discussed. A description of the TPAD mobile platform and the RDD dynamic loading system are described. The developmental work for the speed-improved rolling sensors is also discussed. Finally, the TPAD is demonstrated by presenting RDD deflection profiles and GPR records collected at a testbed created at the TxDOT Flight Services Facility (FSF) are presented. The reliability of the data were also evaluated at the FSF testbed and found to be high as described herein.

BACKGROUND ON RDD AND GPR TESTING FUNCTIONS IN THE TPAD

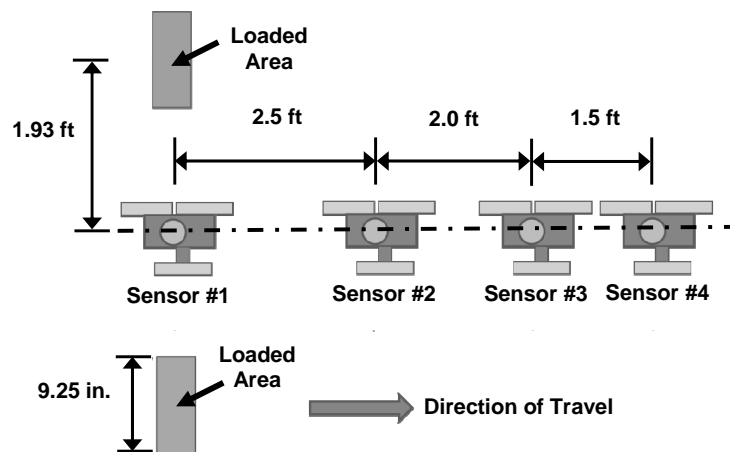
Rolling Dynamic Deflectometer (RDD)

The Rolling Dynamic Deflectometer (RDD) is a nondestructive testing device that involves measuring pavement deflections under controlled pavement loads while moving along the pavement. RDD deflection profiles have been used for about 15 years for structural-condition assessment of both highway and airport pavements. The RDD was developed by researchers at the University of Texas at Austin (UT) in the 1990's (Bay and Stokoe [4]). Dr. James Bay led the developmental work and Dr. Jefferey Lee and Dr. Boo-Hyun Nam advanced the rolling sensor design (Bay et al. [5], Lee and Stokoe [6], and Nam [7]). As shown in Figure 1a, the RDD is a truck-mounted device on which an electro-hydraulic loading system is used to deliver a static hold-down force combined with a dynamic sinusoidal force (typically 30 Hz) to the pavement through two loading rollers. An array of three to four rolling sensors that are positioned along the longitudinal centerline of the truck (see Figure 1b) is used to measure induced dynamic pavement deflections while the truck is moving along the pavement at a speed of about 1 mph. Sensor #1 is located mid-way between the two loading rollers and other sensors are spaced ahead

of Sensor #1 in intervals ranging from 1.5 to 2.5 ft based on under-carriage constraint of the RDD truck.. A Distance Measurement Instrument (DMI) is attached on the rear wheel of the truck and is used to measure the distance traveled along the pavement. The deflection profile is produced with the recorded pavement deflections and distances. A typical deflection profile collected on a jointed concrete pavement (JCP) is shown in Figure 2. This deflection profile contains significant data that: (1) shows increased movements at all transverse joints and cracks, (2) allows joint types (construction vs. expansion vs. contraction) to be evaluated based on relative movements, (3) permits relative evaluation of load transfer at joints and cracks, and (4) permits evaluation of the extent and relative quality of mid-slab areas. RDD profiling has been used to: (1) delineate areas to be repaired, (2) help select possible rehabilitation treatments, (3) measure improvements due to the rehabilitations, and (4) evaluate changes with time, environmental conditions, and trafficking (Chen et al. [1]).



(a) Major Components of the RDD.



(b) Plan View of Loading Rollers and Rolling Deflection Sensors.

Figure 1. Schematic of the Original Rolling Dynamic Deflectometer (RDD) (Bay and Stokoe [4]).

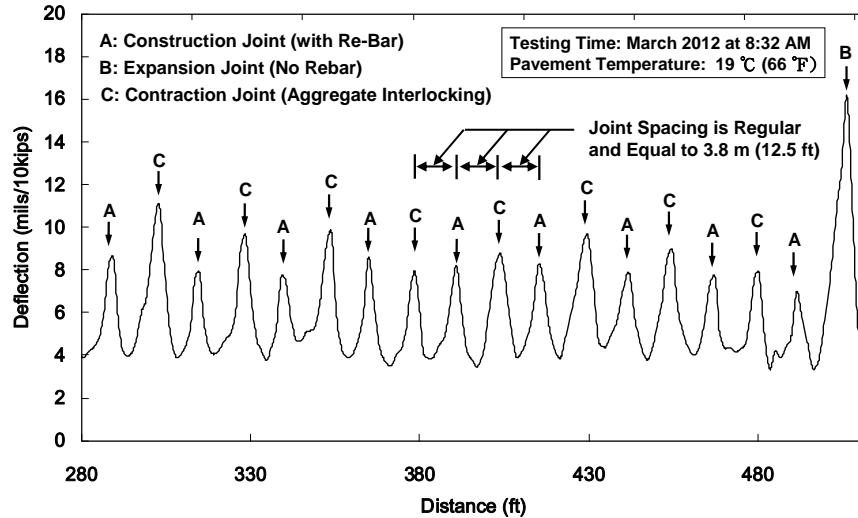


Figure 2. Typical RDD Deflection Profile Measured on a Jointed Concrete Pavement with Rolling Sensor #1.

Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR)

GPR uses radar pulses to image the subsurface. Electromagnetic waves (radio waves or microwaves) generated by a radar antenna penetrate into the subsurface and travel through the materials. These waves are reflected at interfaces with dissimilar dielectric properties. The reflected waves are collected by a receiving antenna. The arrival time and amplitude (strength of reflections) are related to the location and dielectric discontinuities (different dielectric constants) in the material (Maser and Scullion [8]). In general, the layers of the pavement system have different dielectric constants and electromagnetic waves are reflected at the layer boundaries. In addition, voids, moisture, and reinforcing steel in the subsurface can also be detected because they have different dielectric properties so the electromagnetic waves are reflected when the waves meet such conditions (material changes). The principle of GPR imaging is shown in Figure 3.

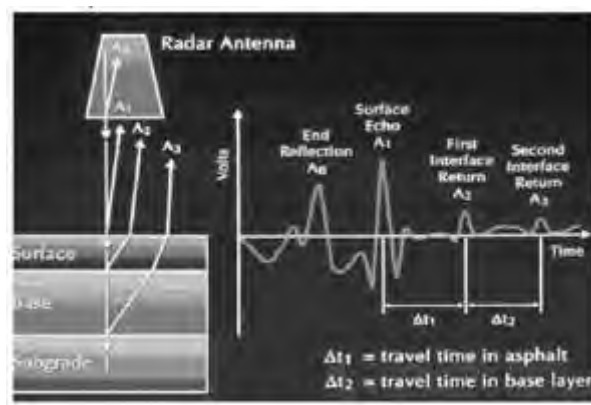


Figure 3. Typical GPR Waveform at One Point on the Pavement (from Bandara and Briggs [9]).

DESCRIPTION OF TPAD MOBILE PLATFORM AND PAVEMENT LOADING SYSTEM

The mobile platform of the TPAD is adapted from a small off-road vibrosies used in geophysical exploration that is built by Industrial Vehicles International (IVI) in Tulsa, OK (www.indvehicles.com). The TPAD platform is shown in Figure 4 and is hydraulically operated. The total weight of the mobile platform is about 18 kips and the dimensions are: 20 ft in length, 7.5 ft in width, and 7.8 ft in height. The TPAD has been modified to have a precise speed control system with a range of 0.5 to 10 mph. The loading system (see Figure 5) is capable of generating static forces of 3.4 to 14 kips and dynamic sinusoidal forces with a peak-to-peak amplitude of 2 to 24 kips over a frequency range of about 7 to 200 Hz. The static hold-down and dynamic sinusoidal forces are applied to the pavement through two loading rollers (see Figure 5). The loading rollers are 1.5 ft in diameter and 1.2 ft in width and made of 92 A durometer polyurethane which represents a hardness similar to a golf ball cover.

The vehicle cab has a size of 142 cubic feet and a heating/air-conditioning system to prevent temperature damage to the software and hardware system for data recording, TPAD operations and data analysis. This cab size is enough to accommodate the driver, operator of the data collection activities and all hardware systems. A 2,000-watt pure sine wave inverter is on-board to generate all electrical power required by the electrical systems. All movements of the mobile platform, RDD loading imparted to the pavement and raise/lowering capabilities of the rolling sensors (discussed below) are hydraulically powered.

SPEED-IMPROVED ROLLING SENSOR FOR TPAD RDD DEFLECTION MEASUREMENTS

One objective of the TPAD developmental work was to perform RDD deflection profiling of the pavement while continuously moving at speeds around 2 to 3 mph (or higher if readily attainable). To meet or exceed this target speed, the original RDD rolling sensors had to be improved. Based on earlier studies (Bay and Stokoe [4]), larger and wider wheels were



Cross-Sectional View of Pavement Loading System Shown in Figure 5

Figure 4. TPAD Mobile Platform (from Stokoe et al. [10]).

required. In addition, during prototype testing, it was found that a softer wheel tread is better in terms of reducing rolling noise and equal tread areas on both sides of the sensor cart improve cart tracking. The improvements made to the rolling sensors include: (1) incorporating better bearings to reduce rolling noise in the axles of the wheels and to provide better tracking of the cart, (2) using wider treads on the wheels to reduce rolling noise, (3) making the tread contact area on each side of the cart equal for better tracking, (4) reducing the modulus of the wheel treads to reduce the rolling noise (from a golf ball stiffness (50D durometer) to a pencil eraser stiffness (50A durometer)) and (5) changing the hold-down mechanism from an air-bag system on the top of the rolling sensor to a hanging-mass system to improve stability and reduce required under-vehicle clearance. The newly-designed sensor is currently called the speed-improved rolling sensor. The transducer used in the rolling sensor is a 2-Hz geophone, which has an output linear to the particle velocity at the pavement surface. A schematic of the speed-improved rolling sensor with the hanging-mass system of the hold-down mechanism is shown in Figure 6a. The location of the 2-Hz geophone is shown in Figure 6b and a photograph of the sensor is shown in Figure 6c.

Currently, three RDD rolling sensors are used in the TPAD to perform the deflection measurements. The three these sensors are positioned in an array along the longitudinal centerline of the TPAD as shown in Figure 7. The sensors are named according to their locations relative to the loading rollers; that is, the center sensor (CS) is located mid-way between the two loading rollers while the front sensor (FS) and the rear sensor (RS) are located forwards and backwards of the CS, each at a distance of about 2.1 ft. As indicated in Figure 6a, the diameter of the wheels on the cart of the CS is 9.5 in. while the wheel diameter on the carts of the FS and RS is 12.5 in. Larger diameter wheels are desirable because they reduce rolling noise. However, space limitations around the CS location limited the use of larger wheels for the CS. These three rolling sensors are attached to a towing frame. The towing frame enables the rolling sensors to be positioned as well as to be lowered (during the deflection measurement testing) and raised

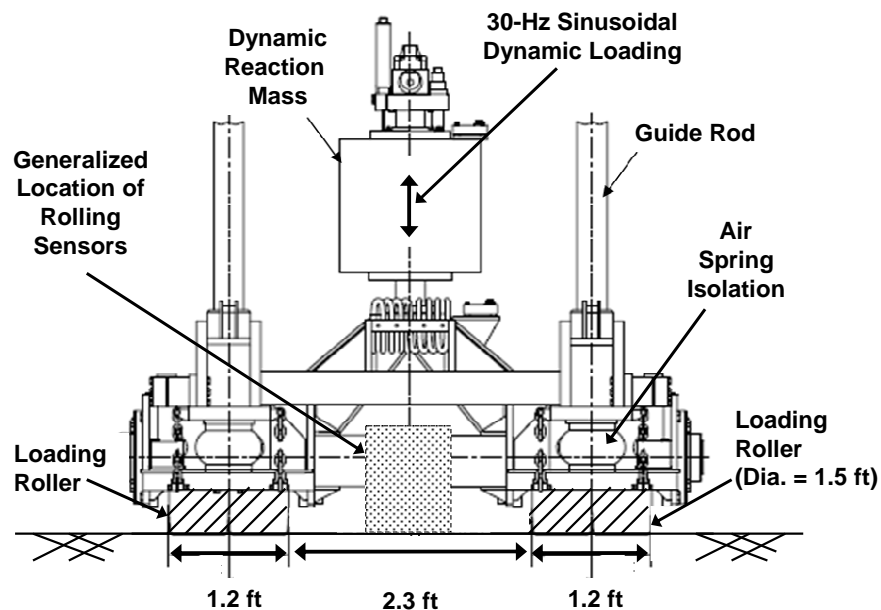
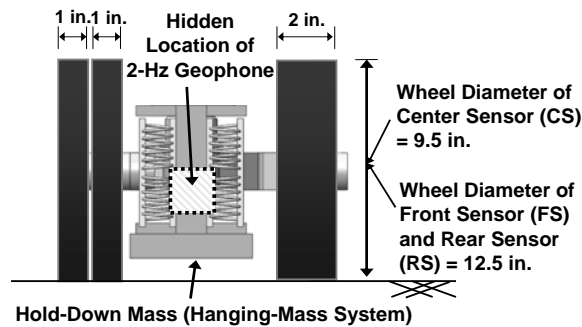
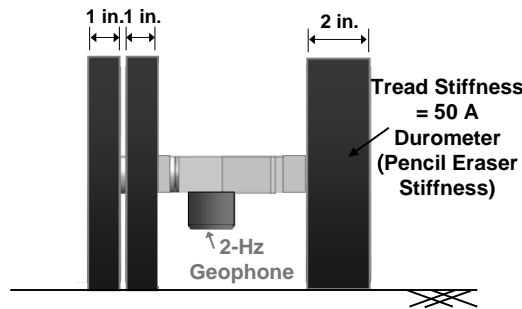


Figure 5. Cross-Sectional View of TPAD Loading System (from Stokoe et al. [10]).

(during no testing) automatically with the loading system. The towing frame system is used to isolate the rolling sensors as much as possible from the TPAD mobile platform during pavement measurements to prevent transmission of vibrations from the TPAD to the rolling sensors.



(a) Schematic of Hanging-Mass System.



(b) Schematic Showing location of 2-Hz Geophone (with Hanging Mass System Removed).



(c) Photograph of Rolling Sensor.

Figure 6. Speed-Improved Rolling Sensor Used in RDD Measurements.

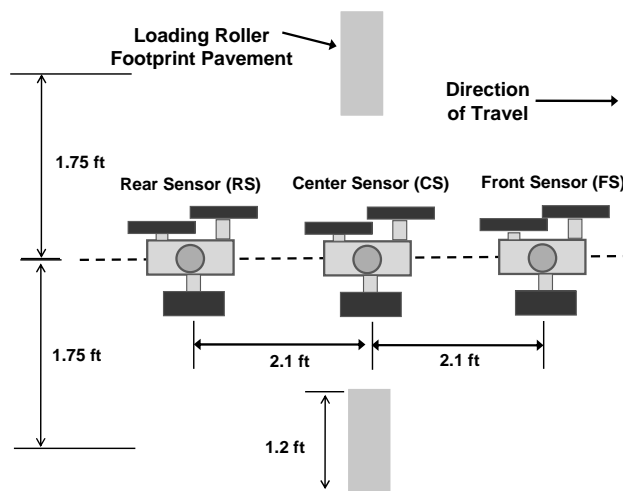


Figure 7. Revised Current Array of Three RDD Rolling Sensors in the TPAD (Stokoe et al [10]).

Calibration of three rolling sensors is performed at the pavement site using two 4.5-Hz geophones (reference transducers) that have been calibrated previously in the laboratory. The reference transducers are placed near both sides of each calibrated rolling sensor and are used to measure the motion on the pavement. In this process, the TPAD is stationary and the RDD loading system is used to apply static and dynamic forces to the pavement. The dynamic loading is applied over a range in excitation frequencies typically sweeping between 20 to 50 Hz. The average pavement deflections measured with the two reference transducers are compared with the deflection measured with the calibrated rolling sensor for each frequency. Calibration curves of the three rolling sensors are shown in Figure 8. As seen in the figure, the front and rear sensors showed similar curves while the center sensor showed a slightly different curve, likely because the center sensor has different sized wheels.

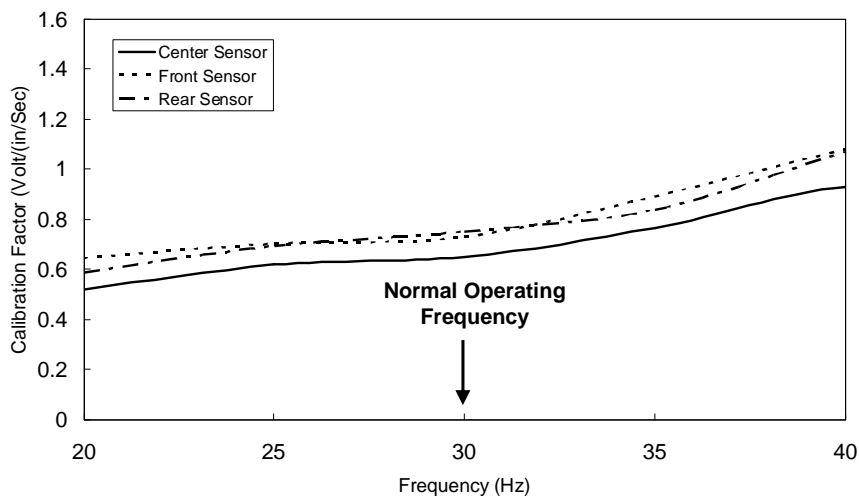


Figure 8. Calibration Curves of Three Rolling Sensors Evaluated at a Pavement Site before RDD Profiling Commenced.

TPAD TESTING AT TxDOT FLIGHT SERVICES FACILITY (FSF)

Testbed at TxDOT FSF

In the initial portion of this research, a testbed was developed at the TxDOT Flight Services Facility (FSF) at Austin Bergstrom International Airport (ABIA). The purpose of the testbed was to establish a pavement facility with known and well-documented conditions that could be used in future research projects dealing with rigid pavement testing. The pavement at the TxDOT FSF is a jointed concrete pavement (JCP). A 630-ft long testing path over which most testing has been performed is shown in Figure 9. This testing path was chosen because it traverses three different slab thicknesses and different joint types. As shown in Figure 9, the testing path consists of the following: (1) a 190-ft long section with 16-in. thick slabs and (2) a 440-ft long remaining section with 8- and 10-in. thick slabs. The plan dimensions of the 16-in. thick slabs are 25 by 25 ft while the plan dimensions of the 8- and 10-in. thick slabs are 12.5 ft by 12.5ft. According to the as-built drawings, the joints along the testing path include three types: (1) a

construction expansion joint, (2) a construction joint with several rebar across the joint and (3) a contraction joint with aggregate interlocking.

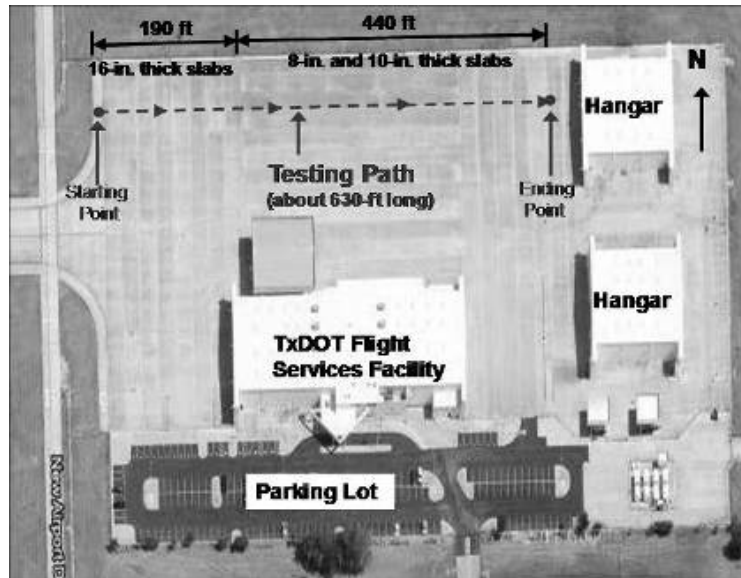


Figure 9. TxDOT Flight Services Facility at Austin Bergstrom International Airport with the TPAD Testing Path.

Continuous and Stationary RDD Deflection Measurements with Center Sensor (CS)

The TPAD at the starting point of the testing path is shown in Figure 10. Continuous (rolling) and stationary deflection measurements with the TPAD were performed. Testing speeds for the continuous profiling were 0.5, 1 and 2 mph. During the RDD continuous deflection measurements, the rolling sensors recorded the pavement deflections induced by the applied sinusoidal dynamic force at the RDD operating frequency of 30 Hz as well as the rolling noise over the frequency range from 25 to 35 Hz. The rolling noise was caused mainly by physical contact between the rolling sensors and pavement surface; that is, the main cause of the rolling noise is the pavement texture and discontinuities, with the largest component being the transverse joints (JCP), cracks and punchouts in the pavement. On the other hand, the stationary deflections are deflections measured at a point with the TPAD not moving. Therefore, no rolling noise is included in these measurements. Stationary deflection measurements represent the dynamic response of the pavement to the applied sinusoidal dynamic loading at a given location. The comparison between rolling and stationary deflections measured on 8-in. thick slabs (slabs 38 and 39), including three

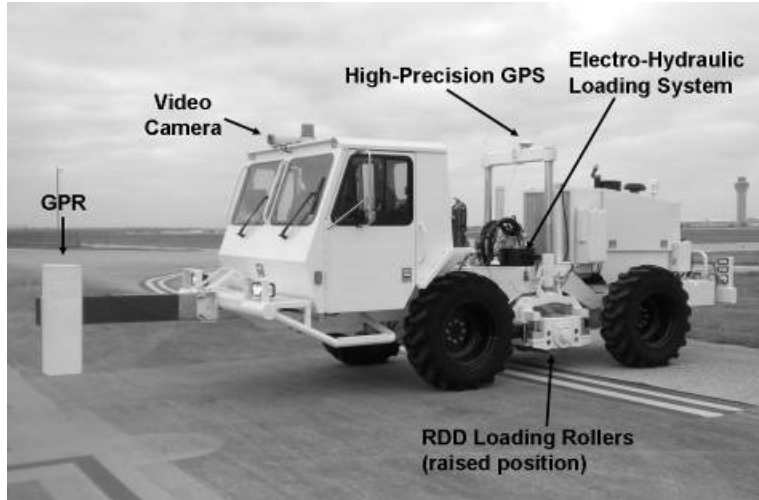


Figure 10. Photograph of the Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD) at the Starting Point of the Testing Path at the TxDOT Flight Services Facility.

joints is shown in Figure 11. It is interesting to see that the stationary dynamic deflections are almost the same as the rolling dynamic deflections in the mid-slab areas. Differences in the medians are about 0.120 mils/10kips or about 3 % of the average mid-slab deflections. As expected, stationary deflection differences are higher around joint areas. These higher stationary deflections around joints occur because the continuous measurements presented in Figure 11 are averaged values determined over a distance of about 1.5 ft (centered around the joint). This averaging over a give horizontal is the typical way by which RDD data are presented.

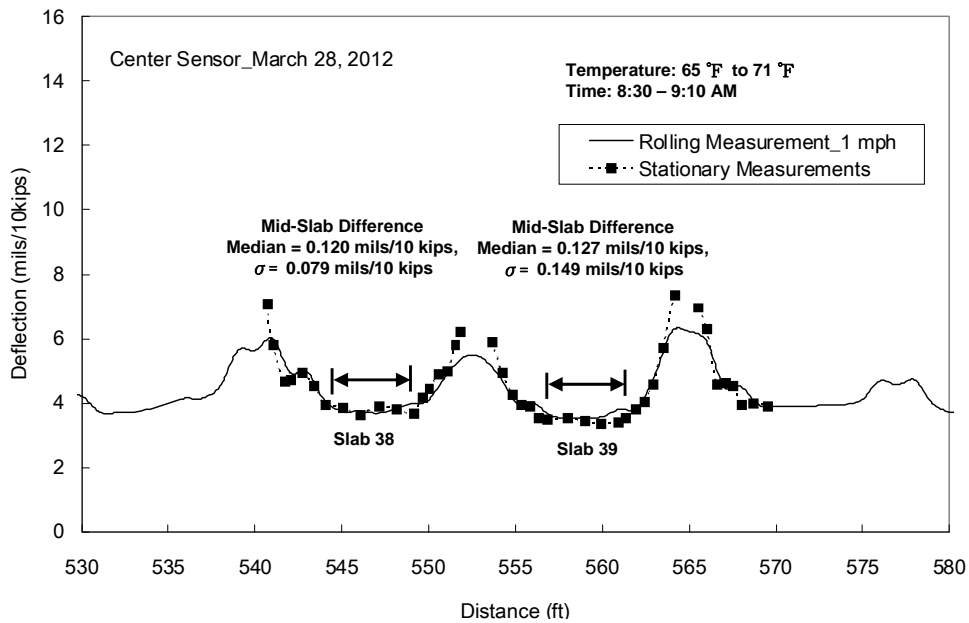


Figure 11. Comparison between Stationary and Continuous (Rolling) Dynamic Deflections.

Since, slower testing speeds generate lower rolling noise, the deflection profile collected at 0.5 mph is used as the reference profile. The deflection profiles collected at 0.5 and 2 mph are compared in Figure 12. Both deflection profiles show a clear repeating pattern of joint and mid-slab deflections; peaks at joint locations and lower deflections in mid-slab areas. The beginning 190-ft long section of pavement has 16-in. thick slabs and hence shows much lower mid-slab deflections and joint movements while the remaining 440-ft long section with 8- and 10-in. thick slabs shows higher mid-slab deflections and larger joint movements. In addition, the deflection profile at 2 mph (the currently used testing speed) shows nearly the same profile as the profile at 0.5 mph (reference testing speed with lowest rolling noise). As discussed earlier, rolling deflections on mid-slab areas are very close to the stationary deflections. In Figure 13, average deflections of mid-slab areas measured at speeds of 0.5 and 2 mph are compared. Average mid-slab deflections were calculated for both speeds and then averaged mid-slab deflections on each slab collected at 2.0 mph were divided by the averaged mid-slab deflections collected at 0.5 mph. As seen in Figure 13, mid-slab deflections at both measurement speeds exhibit similar values, with the ratio of the two average mid-deflections nearly equal to one.

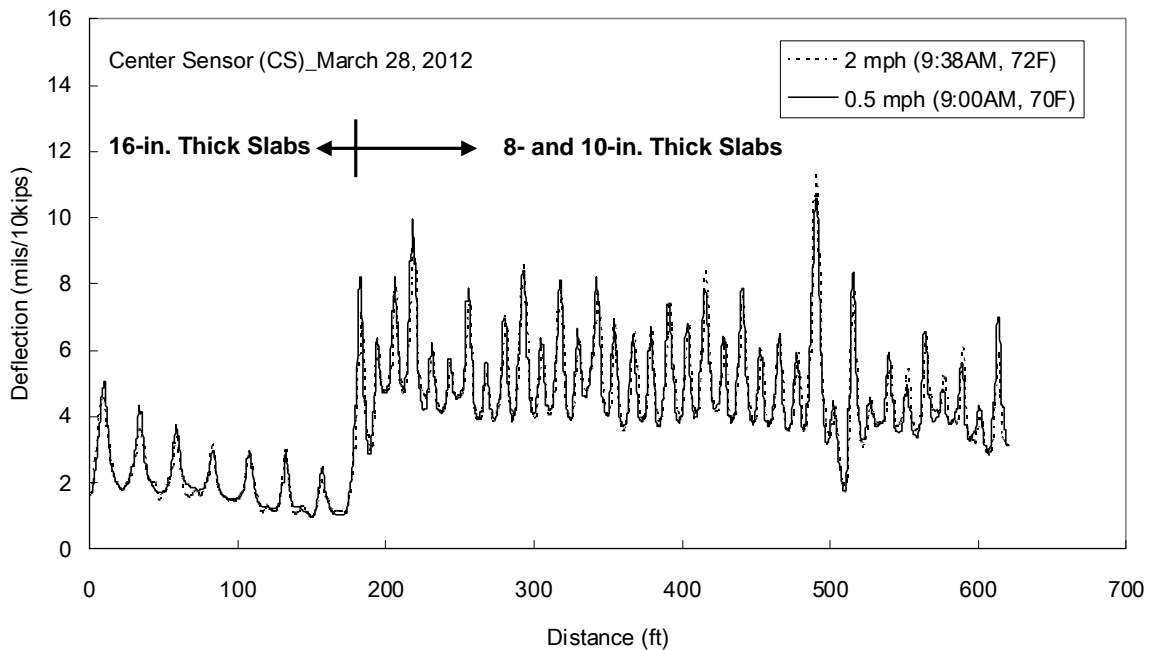


Figure 12. Continuous RDD Deflection Profiles at Testing Speeds of 0.5 and 2 mph.

Continuous GPR Profile

A continuous ground penetrating radar profile collected at the TxDOT FSF is shown in Figure 14. The x-axis is the 630-ft long testing path. The pavement characteristics identified in the figure are: (1) two transition zones in pavement thickness, (2) the steel re-bar in the 440-ft long section with 8- and 10-in. thick slabs, and (3) the bottom of the 8-in. thick slabs in the 440-ft long section which can be seen in the profile in color but not in black and white map. On the other hand, the bottom of 16-in. thick slab cannot be detected. It seems that the currently used

air-coupled GPR antenna pulse (Wavebound 1 GHz horn antenna) could not penetrate deep enough to detect the reflection from the bottom of 16-in. thick slab.

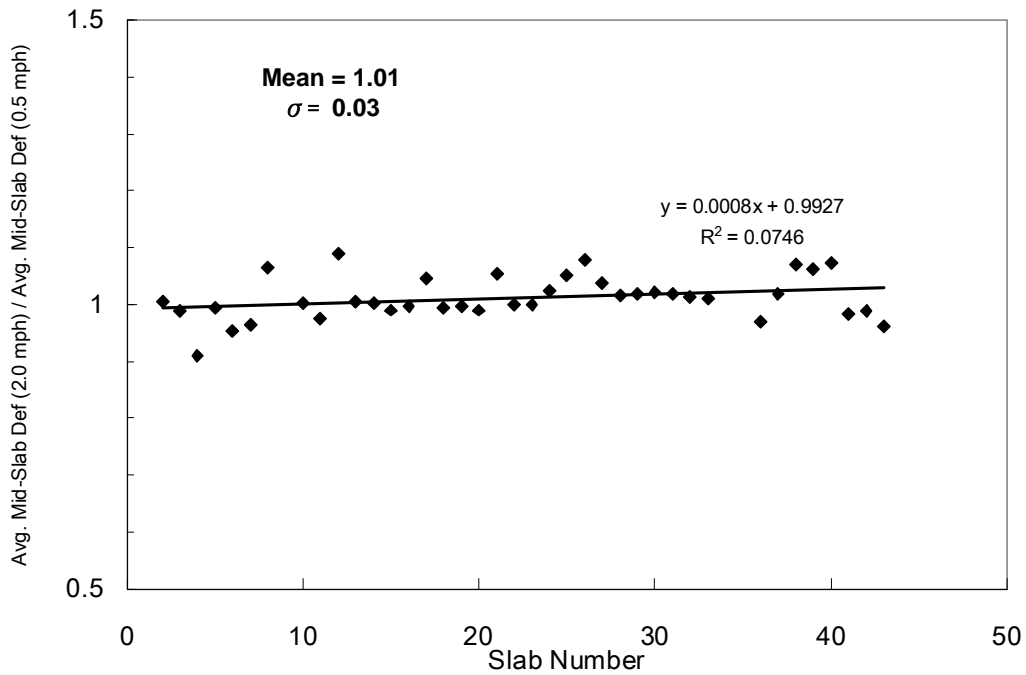


Figure 13. Profile along the Pavement of the Ratio of the Mid-Slab Deflections Determined at Testing Speeds of 0.5 and 2 mph.

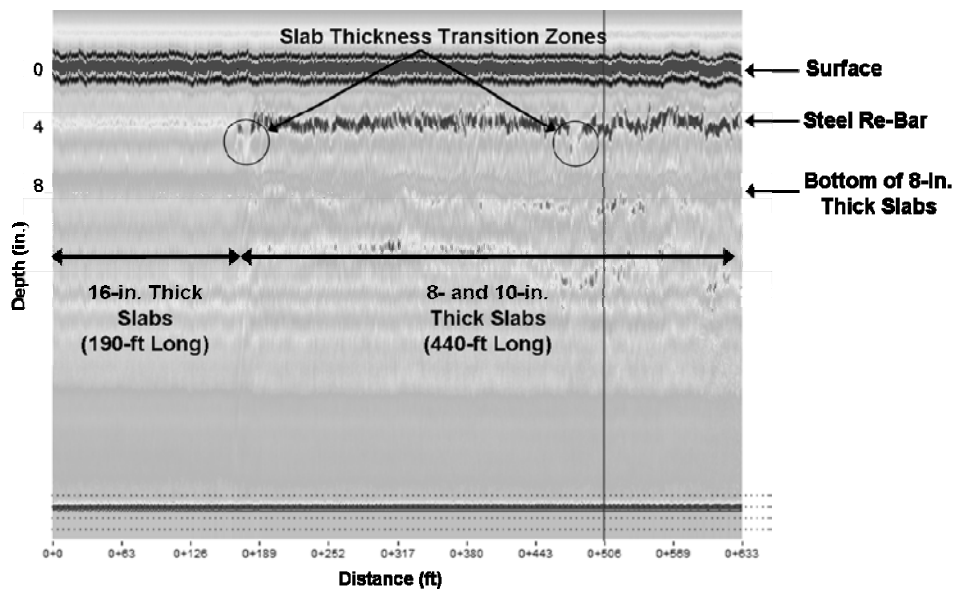


Figure 14. Continuous GPR Profile Collected along the Test Bed at the TxDOT Flight Services Facility (from Stokoe et al. [10]).

Identification of Joints with Poor Load Transfer Using the Front or Rear Rolling Sensors

When the TPAD approaches and passes over a transverse joint or crack, the array of loading rollers and rolling sensors transitions across the discontinuity as illustrated by positions A through E in Figures 15a through 15e, respectively, remembering that the loading rollers and the center rolling sensor (CS) are always at the same relative longitudinal position along the pavement. As noted in the figure, when the Front Sensor (FS) transitions across the discontinuity, it will move to the unloaded side until the CS and loading rollers cross the discontinuity. The characteristic pattern in the deflection profile resulting from this situation is illustrated in Figure 15f. Similarly, the characteristic patterns in the CS and Rear Sensor (RS) deflection profiles are illustrated in Figures 15g and 15h, respectively.

The deflection profile collected along the testbed at the TxDOT FSF with the FS at 2 mph is shown in Figure 16. The overall deflections collected with the FS showed a similar deflection pattern with the CS but with lower deflections than the CS because the FS is further from the loading rollers. Exceptions to this general relationship are at joint or crack locations with poor load transfer where the double-peak occurs. Two exceptions with double peaks at joint locations are shown in Figure 17 which is the expanded version of Region A in Figure 16. In Figure 17, the deflection patterns at joints and mid-slab areas are more clearly seen. The joint spacing corresponds to a slab length of 12.5 ft and two joints, Joints A and E, have double peaks. According to Falling Weight Deflectometer (FWD) testing, Load Transfer Efficiency (LTE) at Joint A is 21 % and at Joint E is 6 %, respectively. The other three joints in Figure 17, Joints B, C, and D, show only one peak. The LTE determined at Joint D is high, 98 % which is quite high but the joint is a construction joint with re-bars. It should be noted that the deflection pattern illustrated in Figure 15f for the FS exhibits a small, constant deflection across the poor-load-transfer joint. However, the actual pattern shown by Joints A and E in Figure 17 exhibits a narrow trough when crossing the poor-load-transfer joint. The reason for this difference is because of the averaging technique which is applied in the signal processing of the RDD data for filtering out the rolling noise. In this case, the averaging distance is 1 ft. Work is underway to reduce this averaging distance to less than 6 in.. Also, further combined RDD and FWD studies are planned.

CONCLUSIONS

A new pavement testing device, called the Total Pavement Acceptance Device (TPAD), has been developed with funding from TxDOT. The device is owned by TxDOT and presently operated under a joint implementation study with CTR at the University of Texas at Austin and TTI at Texas A&M University. The objective of TPAD testing is to nondestructively and nonintrusively investigate the structural adequacy of the complete pavement system. With the TPAD, multiple types of continuous measurements are obtained as it moves along the pavement at speeds around 2 to 3 mph, depending on pavement roughness. The multiple measurements include: (1) measuring continuous pavement deflections based on the Rolling Dynamic Deflectometer methodology, (2) generating ground penetrating radar profiles (pavement thickness and subsurface conditions), (3) logging global positioning (high precision testing locations), (4) measuring pavement surface temperature, (5) collecting digital video images of pavement and right-of-way conditions, and (6) logging precise distance measurements along the testing paths with a DMI.

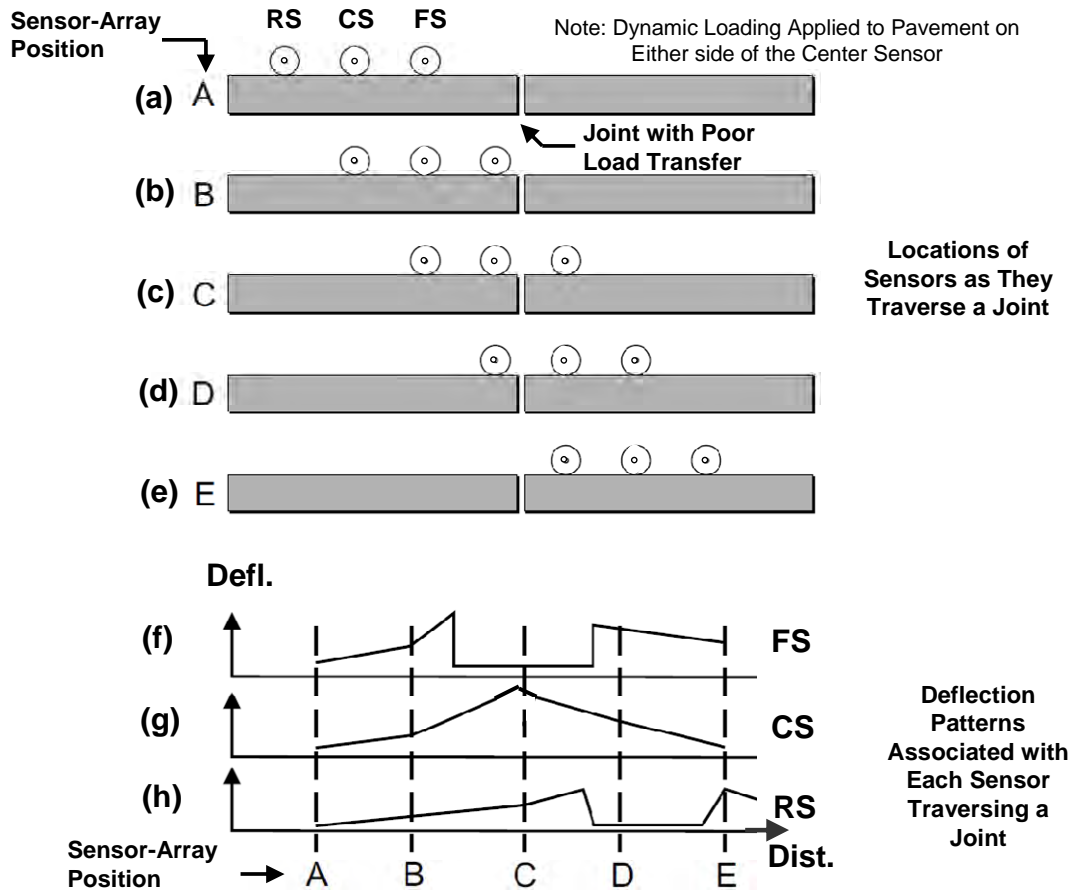


Figure 15. Schematic of Deflection Patterns of Each of the Three Rolling Sensors Crossing a Joint with Poor Load Transfer (from Stokoe et al [11]).

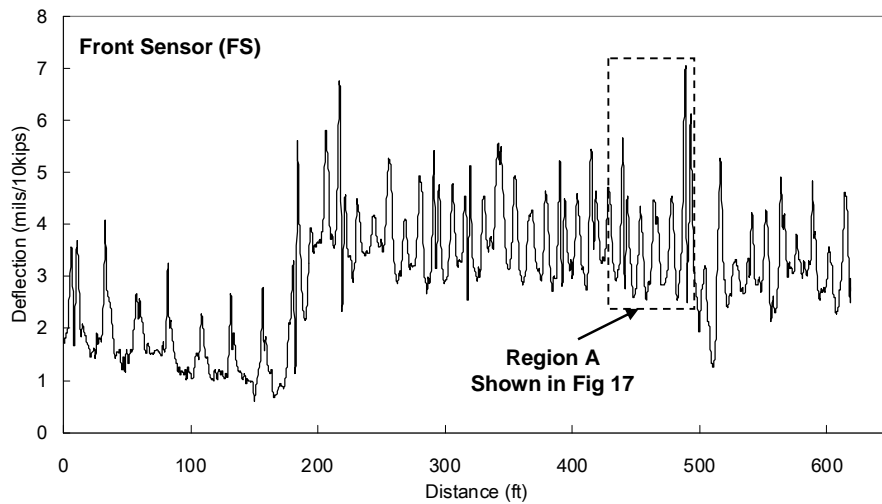


Figure 16. Deflection Profile Collected with the Front Sensor (FS) at a Testing Speed of 2 mph.

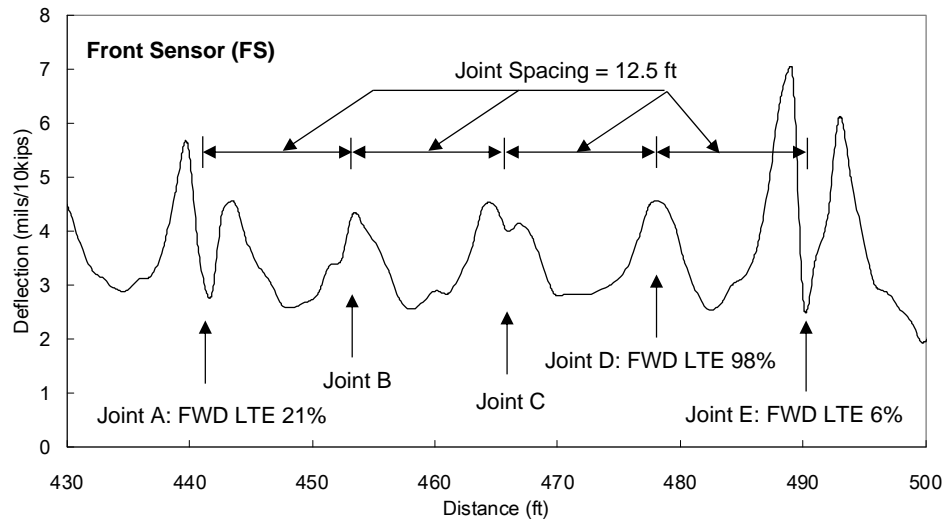


Figure 17. Expanded Deflection Profile from Figure 16a Showing Characteristic Double-Peak Patterns.

In this paper, a demonstration of TPAD testing on a testbed created at the TxDOT Flight Services Facility is presented. The RDD and GPR functions are discussed, with emphasis on the RDD measurements. The accuracy of the rolling deflection measurements were evaluated by comparing stationary and rolling dynamic deflections. Rolling deflections measured in mid-slab areas were within 3 % of the stationary values. On the other hand, rolling deflections underestimate deflections at the joint due to the longitudinal averaging performed during data processing. Work to improve (shorten the averaging distance) is underway. The use of the front sensor for identifying joints with the low load transfer is presented. The development of new device was successfully completed and the TPAD is presently transitioning from implementation projects to project-level activities.

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