



Geotechnical Asset Management of Pavement Foundations

Peter Gilbert

ATKINS

- ➔ Atkins, UK
- ➔ Chief Geotechnical Engineer
- ➔ peter.gilbert@atkinsglobal.com

 **HIGHWAYS**
AGENCY

 **zetica**

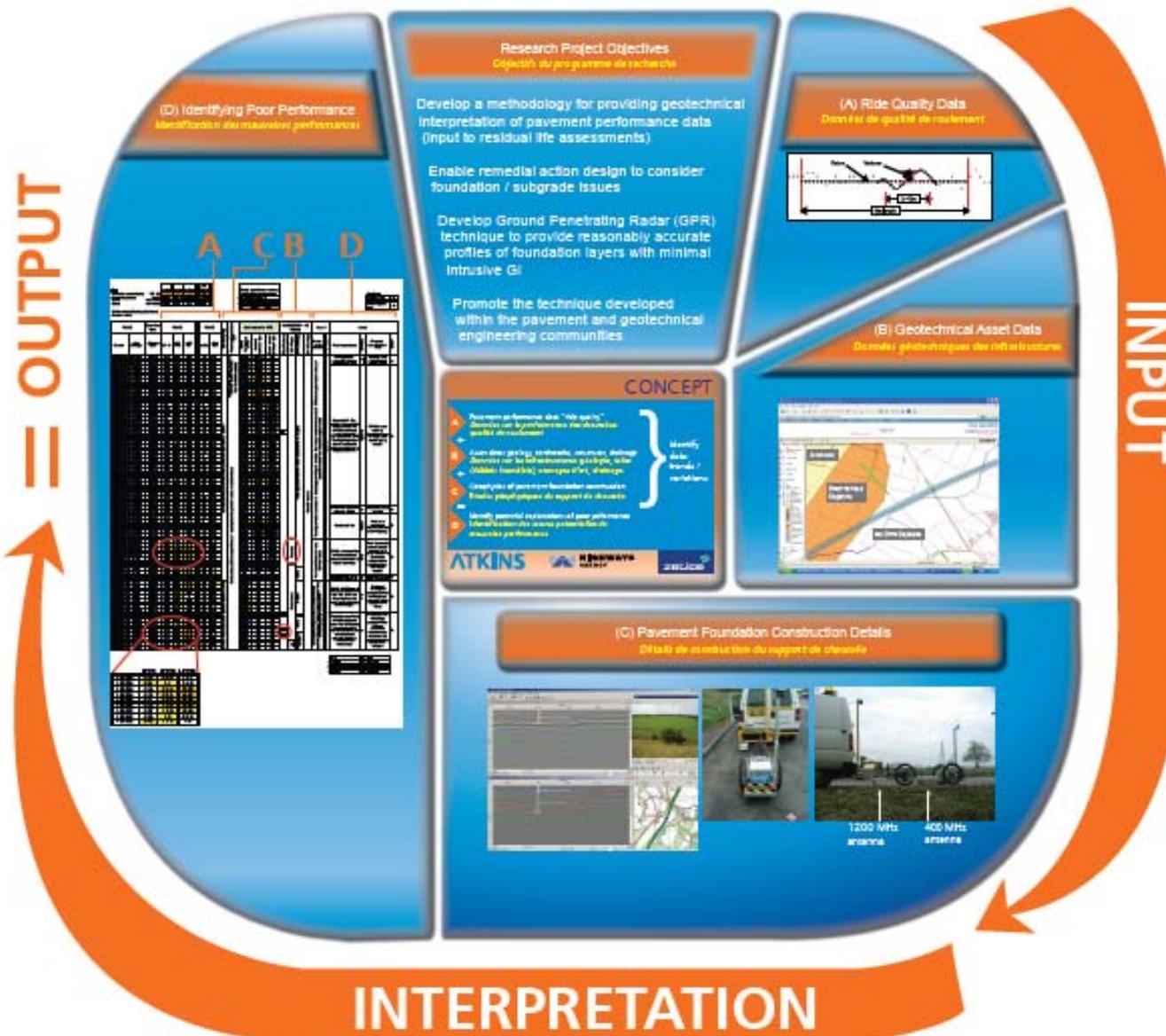


Research Project Objectives

1. Develop a method for providing geotechnical interpretation of pavement performance data
2. Develop Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) technique to record foundation layers
3. Promote the technique among both pavement and geotechnical engineers

Geotechnical Asset Management of Pavement Foundations

Gestion géotechnique des infrastructures - supports de chaussées



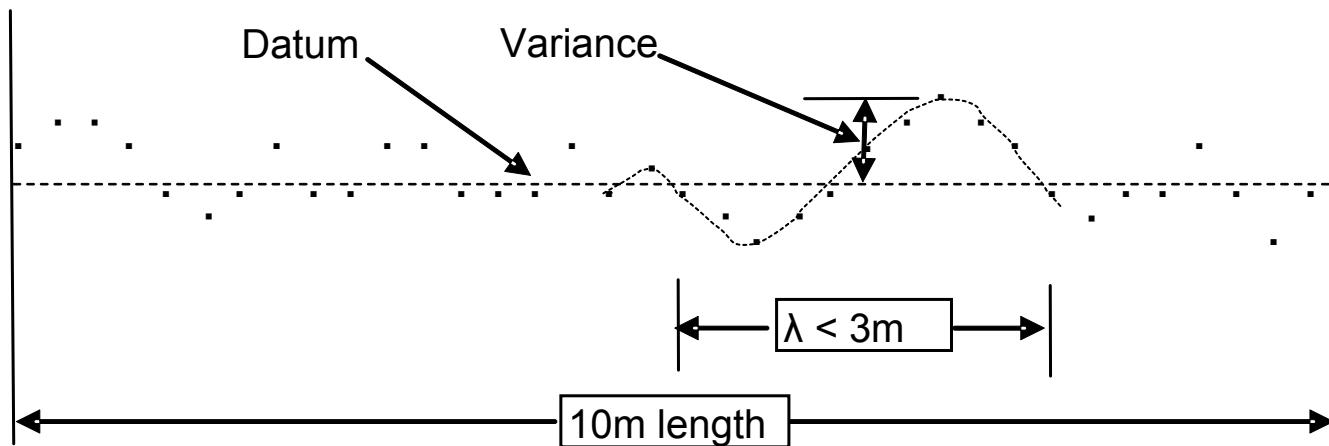
Input data

- A. Ride Quality Data (LPV)**
- B. Geotechnical Asset Data**
- C. Pavement Foundation Construction Details**

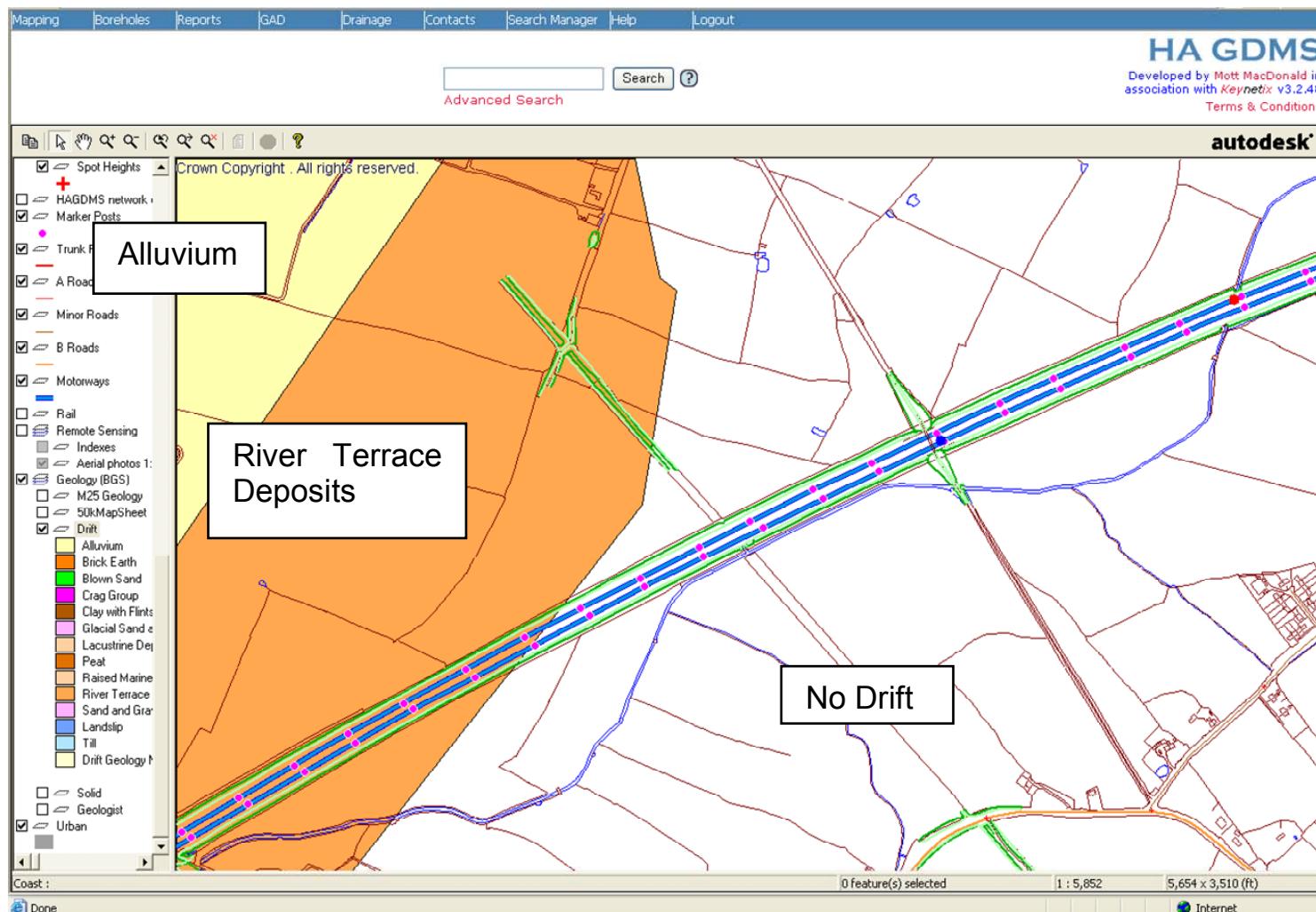
Longitudinal Profile Variance (LPV)

LPV is a measure of road profile unevenness used to assess **ride quality** (International Roughness Index)

- Profile recorded by **laser sensors** at 0.1m centres
- Moving average datum points for **3m, 10m & 30m wavelengths**
- **Variance** from the datum averaged over 10m length = LPV
- 10m LPV is best indicator of foundation performance
- High 30m LPV can indicate subsidence



Geotechnical Asset Data – web based GIS



Ground Penetrating Radar for pavement foundations



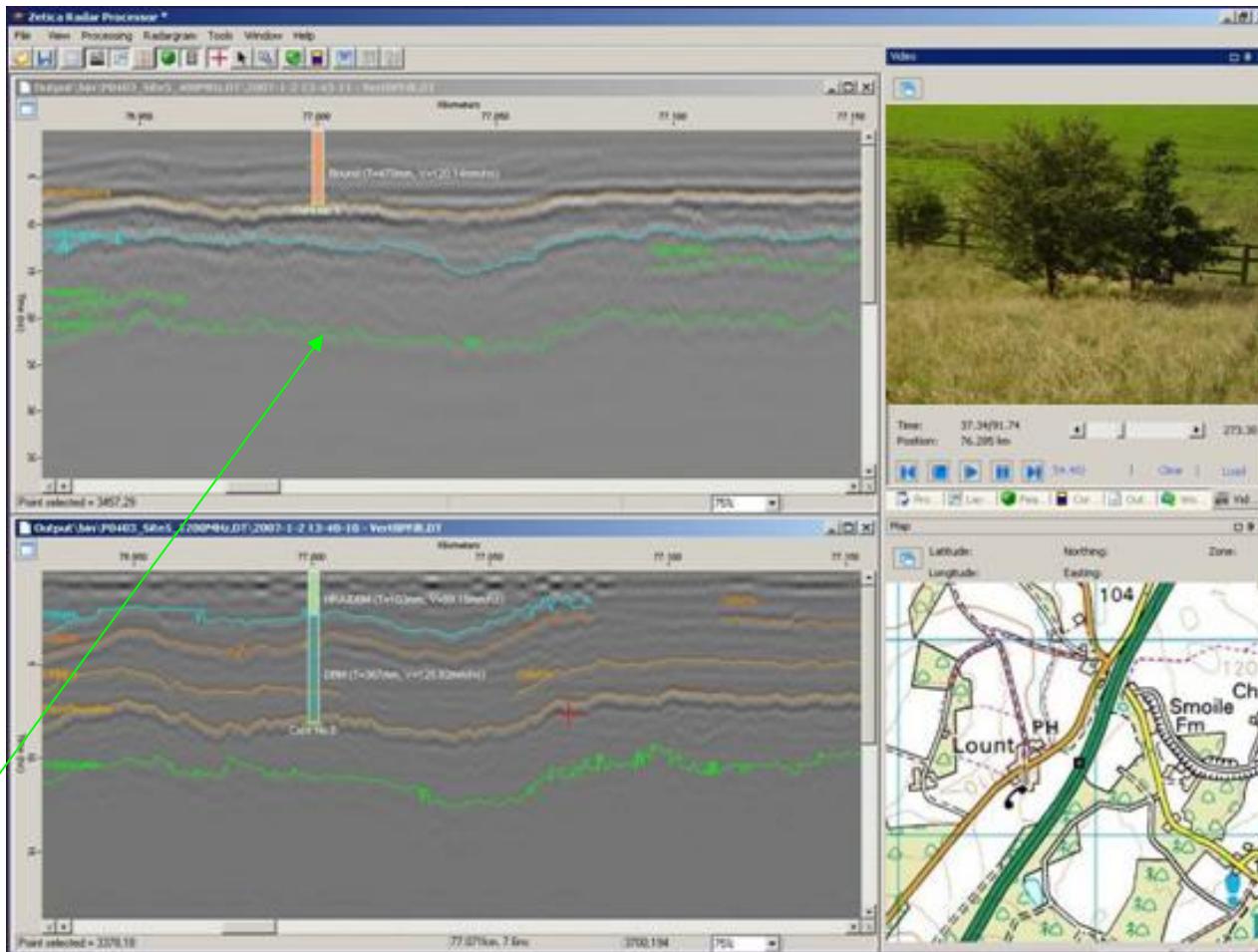
70km/hr surveying



↑
1200MHz
antenna

↑
400MHz
antenna

Ground Penetrating Radar for pavement foundations



Base of foundation (1m penetration)

Interpretation

Overlay of data sets:-

Pavement performance data - LPV

+

Geotechnical Asset Data – geology,
earthworks, structures, drainage

+

Pavement foundation construction - GPR

Interpretation

Overlay of data sets:-

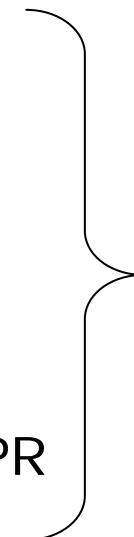
Pavement performance data - LPV

+

Geotechnical Asset Data – geology,
earthworks, structures, drainage

+

Pavement foundation construction - GPR



Identify data
trends /
variations

Interpretation

Overlay of data sets:-

Pavement performance data - LPV

+

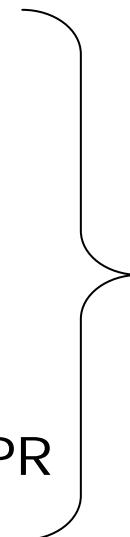
Geotechnical Asset Data – geology,
earthworks, structures, drainage

+

Pavement foundation construction – GPR

=

Identify potential explanations for poor
performance



Identify data
trends /
variations

Output

| TRACS | | | GPR | TRACS | | | Interpretation | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|--------|---------|---------|----------------|-----------|--------------------|--|------------------------|---------------------|
| Section Length | Start Chainage (m) | End Chainage (m) | Midpoint (Km) (Geophys ref) | Lpv 3m | Lpv 10m | Lpv 30m | Left Rut | Right Rut | Category | Pavement/ Foundation interpretation | Possible Cause/ Notes. | Class * |
| Section Length | Chainage (m) | Chainage (m) | (Geophys ref) | Lpv 3m | Lpv 10m | Lpv 30m | Left Rut | Right Rut | pave surf ty | Sub- thick (m) | Cap thick (m) | Dep- sub- (m) |
| 1.428 | 0 | 10 | | | | | | | Fix Feat | EWK | Drift | |
| 1.428 | 10 | 20 | | | | | | | | Geolo | Solid | |
| 1.428 | 20 | 30 | | | | | | | | Geo | | |
| 1.428 | 30 | 40 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 40 | 50 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 50 | 60 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 60 | 70 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 70 | 80 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 80 | 90 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 90 | 100 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 100 | 110 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 110 | 120 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 120 | 130 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 420 | 430 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 430 | 440 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 440 | 450 | 67.01 | 0.14 | 0.52 | 23.31 | 4.3 | 1.7 | 8.18 | 7.6 | 7.6 | |
| 1.428 | 450 | 460 | 67.02 | 0.72 | 3.73 | 63.47 | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 460 | 470 | 67.03 | 0.74 | 1.4 | 14.72 | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 470 | 480 | 67.04 | 0.31 | 1.14 | 2.69 | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 480 | 490 | 67.05 | 0.16 | 1.97 | 4.05 | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 490 | 500 | 67.06 | 0.14 | 0.31 | 0.62 | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 500 | 510 | 67.07 | 0.11 | 0.15 | 0.94 | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 510 | 520 | 67.08 | 0.11 | 0.51 | 9.01 | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 520 | 530 | 67.09 | 0.12 | 0.38 | 13.38 | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 530 | 540 | 67.10 | 0.29 | 2.91 | 14.34 | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 540 | 550 | 67.11 | 0.21 | 0.43 | 0.99 | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 550 | 560 | 67.12 | 0.36 | 0.85 | 2.47 | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 560 | 570 | 67.13 | 0.07 | 0.16 | 6.2 | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 570 | 580 | 67.14 | 0.14 | 0.45 | 17.69 | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 580 | 590 | 67.15 | 0.11 | 0.27 | 11.73 | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 590 | 600 | 67.16 | 0.1 | 0.17 | 5.18 | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 600 | 610 | 67.17 | 0.47 | 0.63 | 0.87 | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 610 | 620 | 67.18 | 0.15 | 0.24 | 1.15 | | | | | | |
| 1.428 | 620 | 630 | 67.19 | 0.15 | 0.6 | 1.83 | 0.8 | | | | | |

Methodology – seeking data trends

Variations in the data reflect changes in stiffness, e.g.

- ✓ Earthworks transition zones
- ✓ Soft ground / subsidence
- ✓ Culverts / underbridges
- ✓ Changes in pavement construction

Conclude on likely cause of poor performance

- Surfacing problems
- Geotechnical problems
- Undefined

Plan detailed Ground Investigation (if appropriate)

Conclusions

1. Research objectives satisfied
 2. Geotechnical input to residual life assessments
 3. Identifies geotechnical factors affecting performance
 4. Cost effective
 5. Improved design of maintenance works
 6. Performance Specification
-
7. Method is ready for use by others

Geotechnical Asset Management of Pavement Foundations

Gestion géotechnique des infrastructures - supports de chaussées

