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Hrvatsko asfaltno društvo

Croatian asphalt association

*Simuliranje višestrukog recikliranja asfalta  
proizvedenog po vrućem postupku  
Simulating repeated recycling of hot mix  
asphalt*

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# OUTLINE

- ▶ History of asphalt pavement recycling
- ▶ Simulation of repeated recycling
- ▶ Change of aggregate properties
- ▶ Change of binder properties
- ▶ Change of hot mix properties
- ▶ Conclusions



# HISTORY OF ROAD RECYCLING

## Phase 1 : poor road network

new roads  $\gg$  reconstructions

(Switzerland 1950, developing countries 2017)

## Phase 2 : good road network

new roads  $\leq$  reconstructions

(Switzerland 1980, eastern Europe 2017)

## Phase 3 : road network “complete”

new roads  $\ll$  reconstructions

(Switzerland, Japan 2017)

# ROAD RECYCLING TODAY

## Switzerland

>50% of reconstruction takes place in the surface layer

0 .. 30% of RAP is allowed in new surface courses

⇒ ca. 80% excess RAP from surface courses every year

- ▶ in base layers up to 60% RAP is allowed



# EXCESS RAP

## How to reduce the RAP stockpiles

- ▶ increase the RAP-amount in all pavement layers
- ▶ use as unbound material (restricted in Switzerland)
- ▶ separate the binder from the stones and use the cleaned aggregates



# SIMULATION IN THE FIELD

How to simulate repeated recycling?

**2024**

1. Reconstruction

**2030**

2. Reconstruction

**2036**

3. Recon

**Not applicable:**

Time, change of material, traffic, climate

pavement

pavement

pavement

**1. Cycle**

**2. Cycle**

**3. Cycle**



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# SIMULATION IN THE LABORATORY

## Is the simulation possible in the laboratory?

- ▶ mineral aggregates: damage by milling/crushing difficult to simulate in the laboratory
- ▶ binder aging
  - ▶ in the field aging takes too much time
  - ▶ ⇒ simulated aging from new asphalt mix to produce artificial RAP in the laboratory
  - ⇒ ⇒ Simplified approach for multiple recycling by separating
  - ⇒ the effects of mineral aggregates and binder



# SIMPLIFIED APPROACH

1. Simulation of aggregate damage in the field  
only one recycling cycle possible because of practical reasons
2. Simulation of binder damage in the laboratory  
production of RAP hot mix asphalt (HMA) with “identical” properties

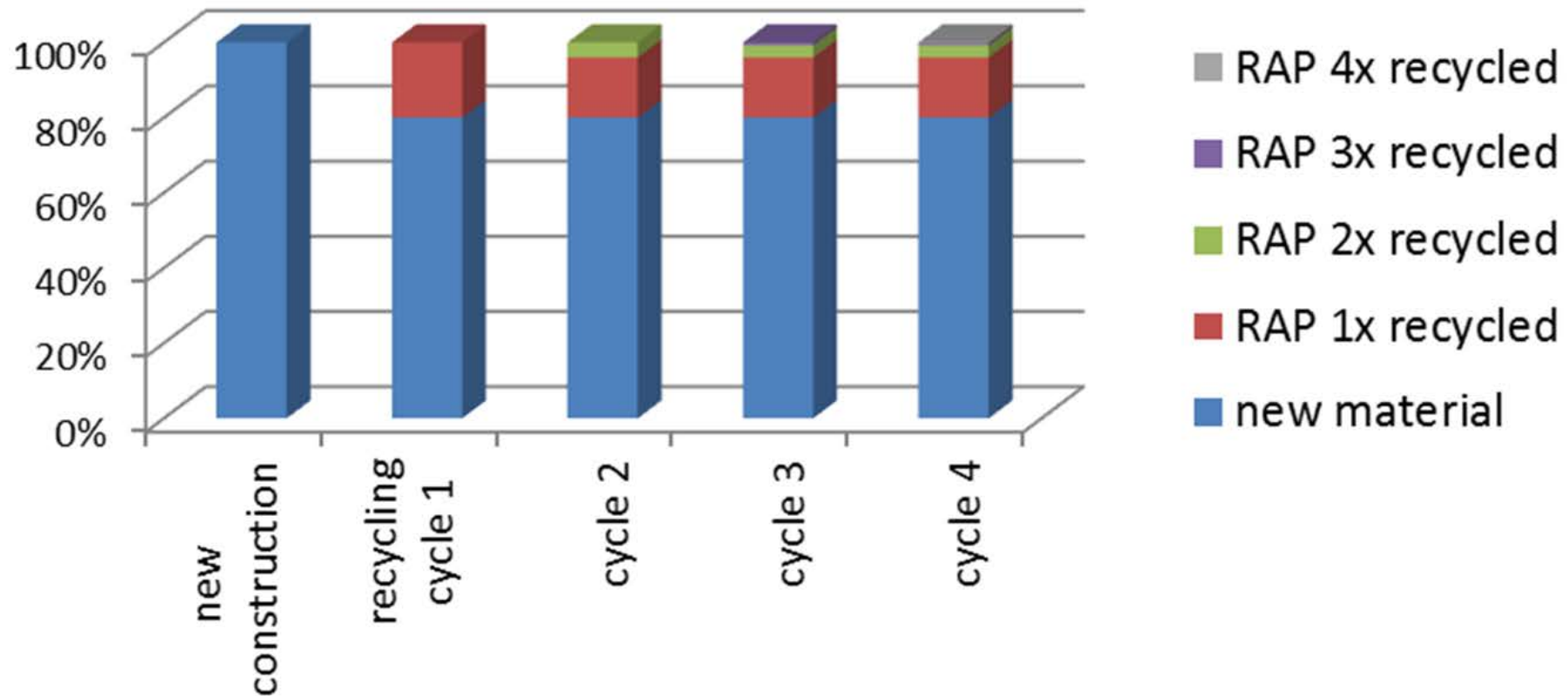
At which recycling content does the repeated recycling becomes relevant?



# IMPACT OF REPEATED RECYCLING

Influence of RAP at 20% recycling content

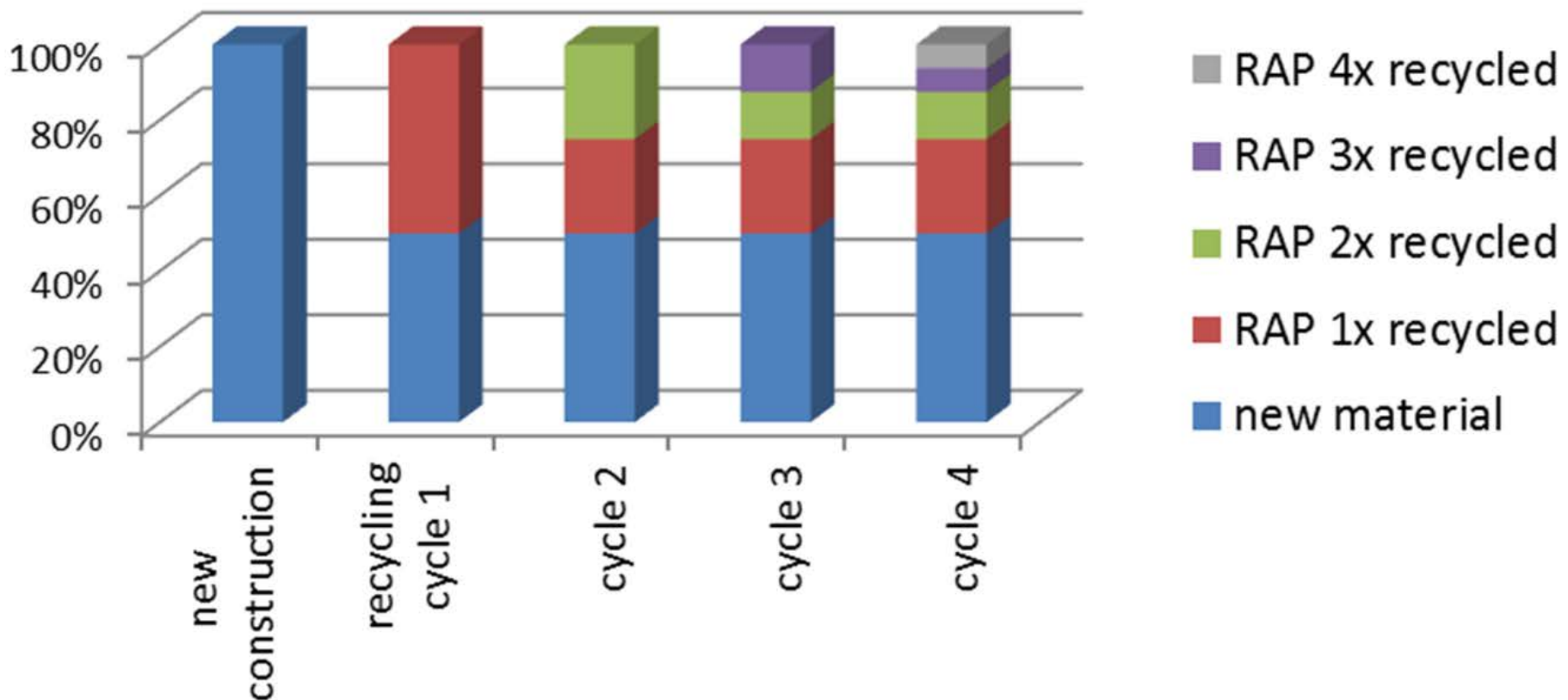
## Recycling content: 20%



# IMPACT OF REPEATED RECYCLING

Influence of RAP at 50% recycling content

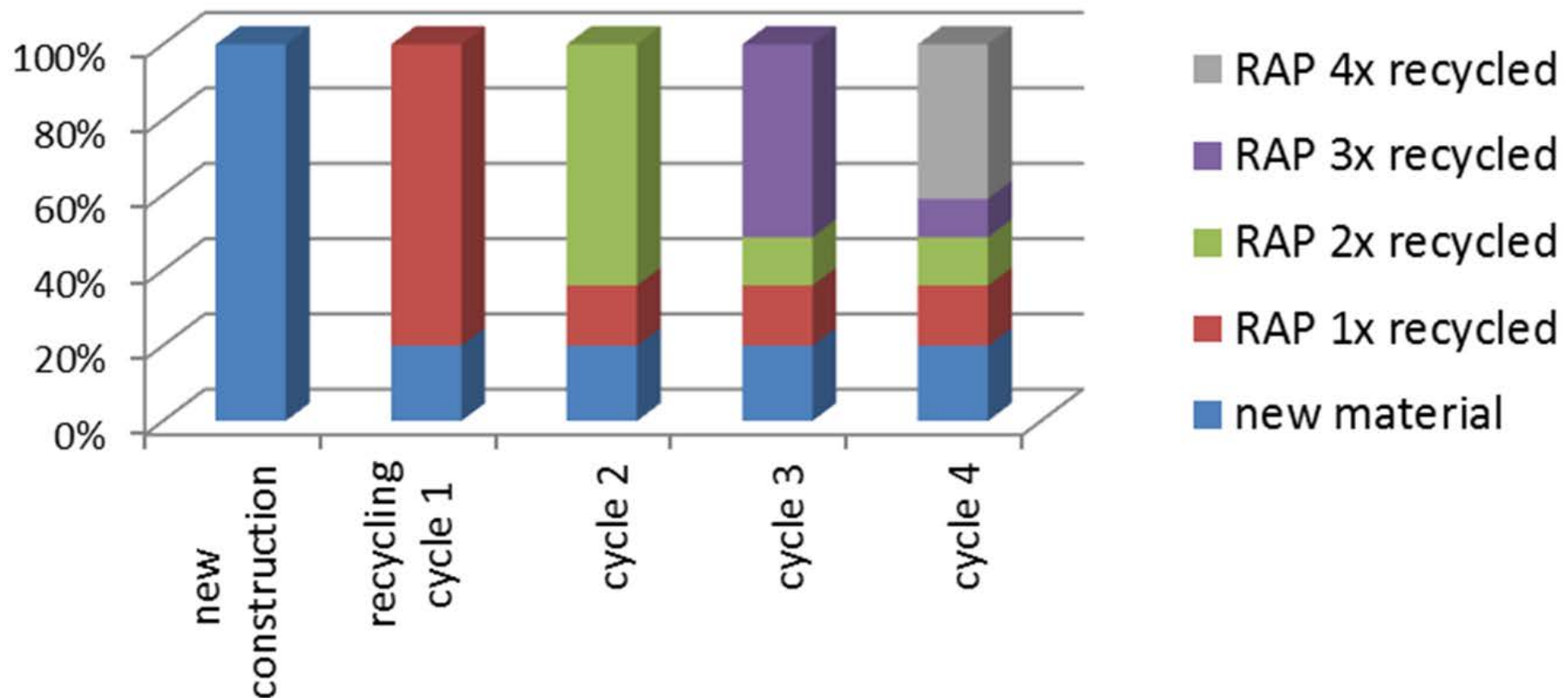
## Recycling content: 50%



# IMPACT OF REPEATED RECYCLING

Influence of RAP at 80% recycling content

## Recycling content: 80%





# CHANGE OF AGGREGATES

Test field with a 2-layer pavement

- ▶ 35 mm surface course AC 11 N
- ▶ 65 mm base layer AC T 22 N
- ▶ Milling in 3 layers
- ▶ in base layers up to 60% RAP is allowed

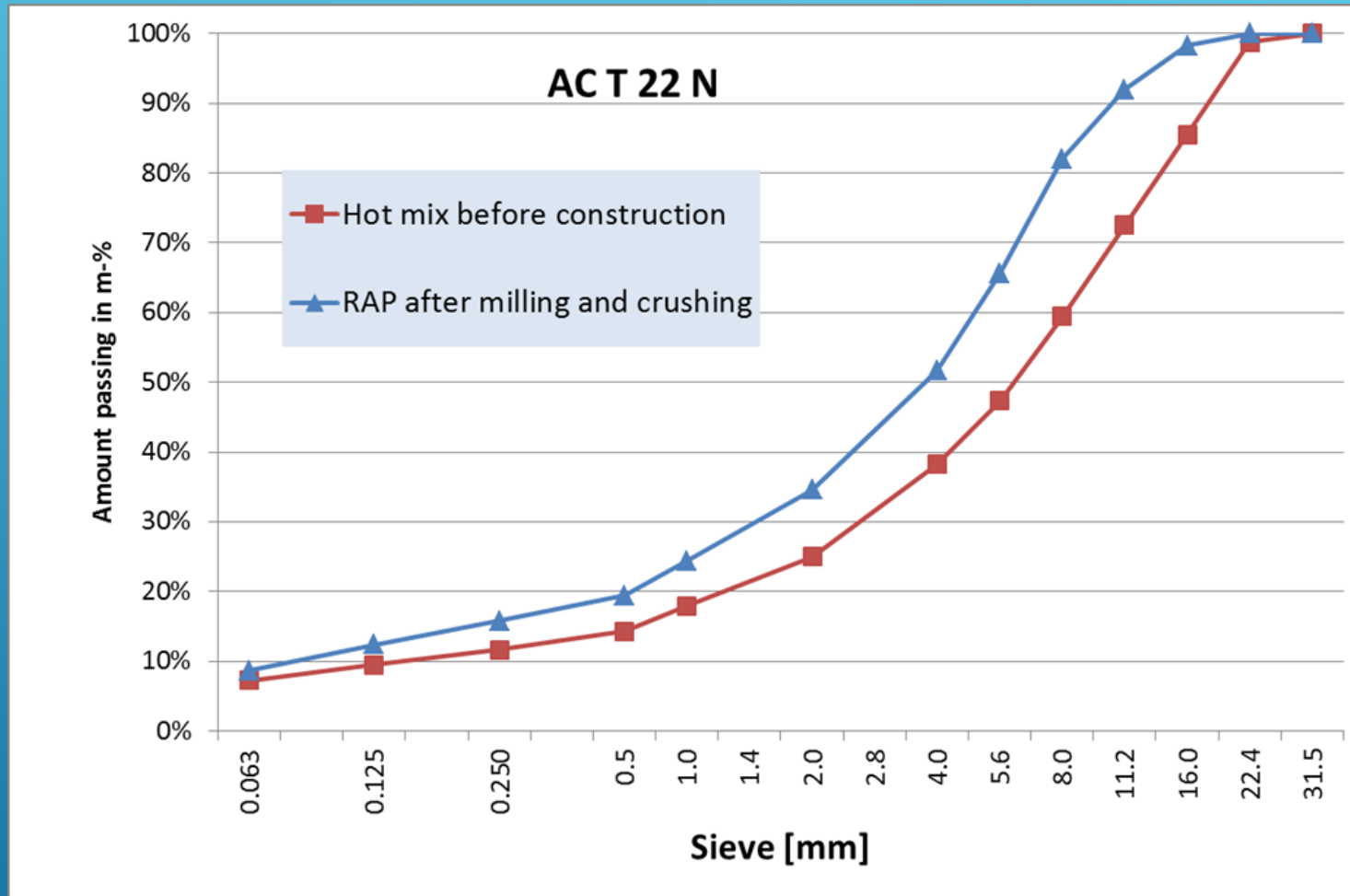


RAP base  
layer

RAP surface  
layer

# CHANGE OF AGGREGATE SIZE

Base layer AC T 22 S

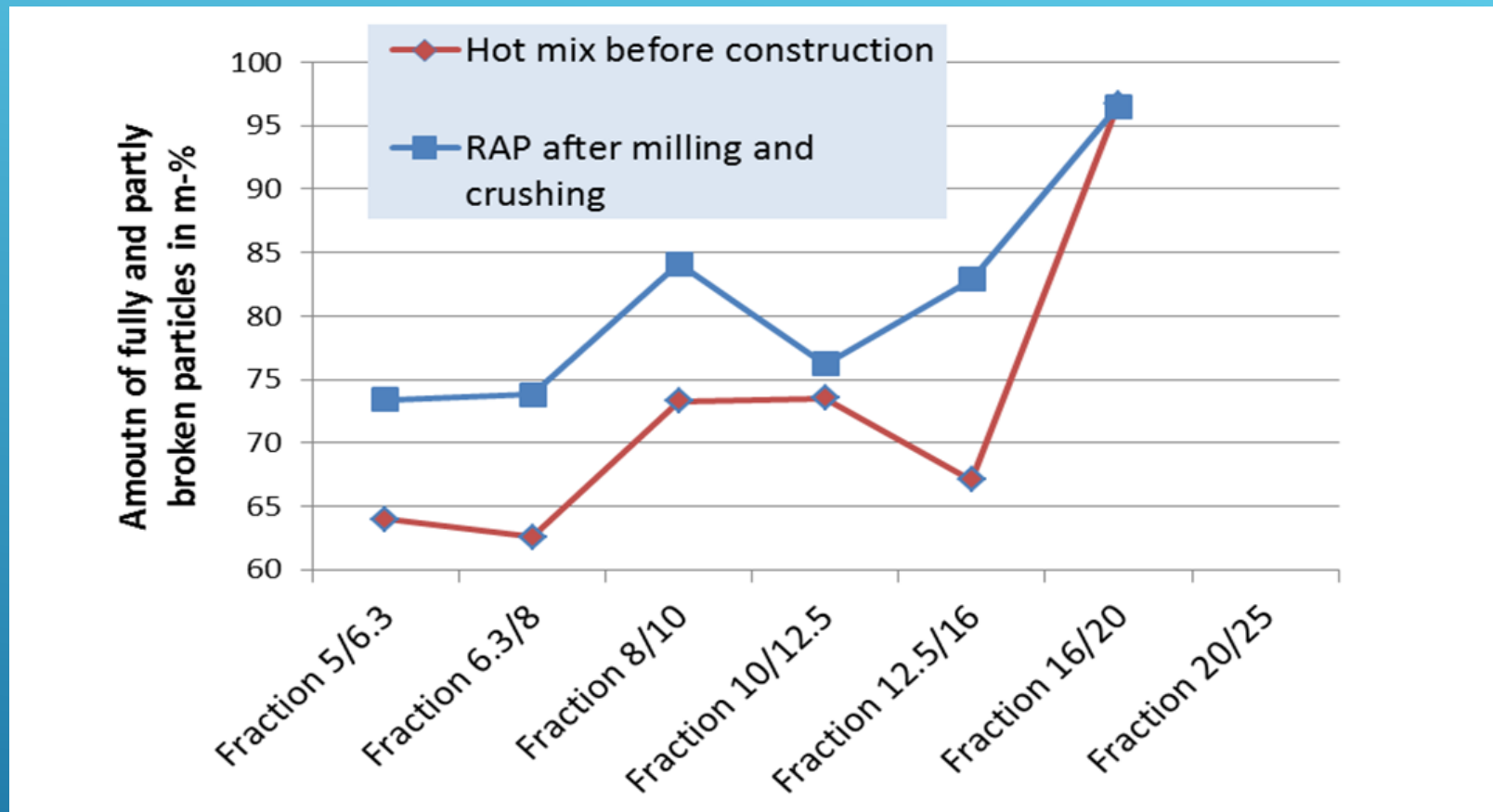


- ▶ 0/22 mm changes into 0/16 mm after milling/crushing
- ▶ formation of fine particles < 0.5 mm is small

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# CHANGE OF PARTICLE FORM

## Broken versus round aggregates



1. Percentage of broken particles increased
  - ▶ damage of particles (cracks, brittleness) was not investigated

# CHANGE OF MIX PROPERTIES

## Reconstruction of the original hot mix:

- ▶ 60% of RAP
- ▶ 40% of natural aggregates (different source) to construct the same aggregate size distribution  
⇒ mainly addition of coarse aggregates
- ▶ binder of the RAP didn't age significantly due to the short time (1 year) in the field (Pen 40 0.1 mm)

## What are the differences?

- ▶ less percentage of round aggregates
- ▶ binder composition is less homogeneous



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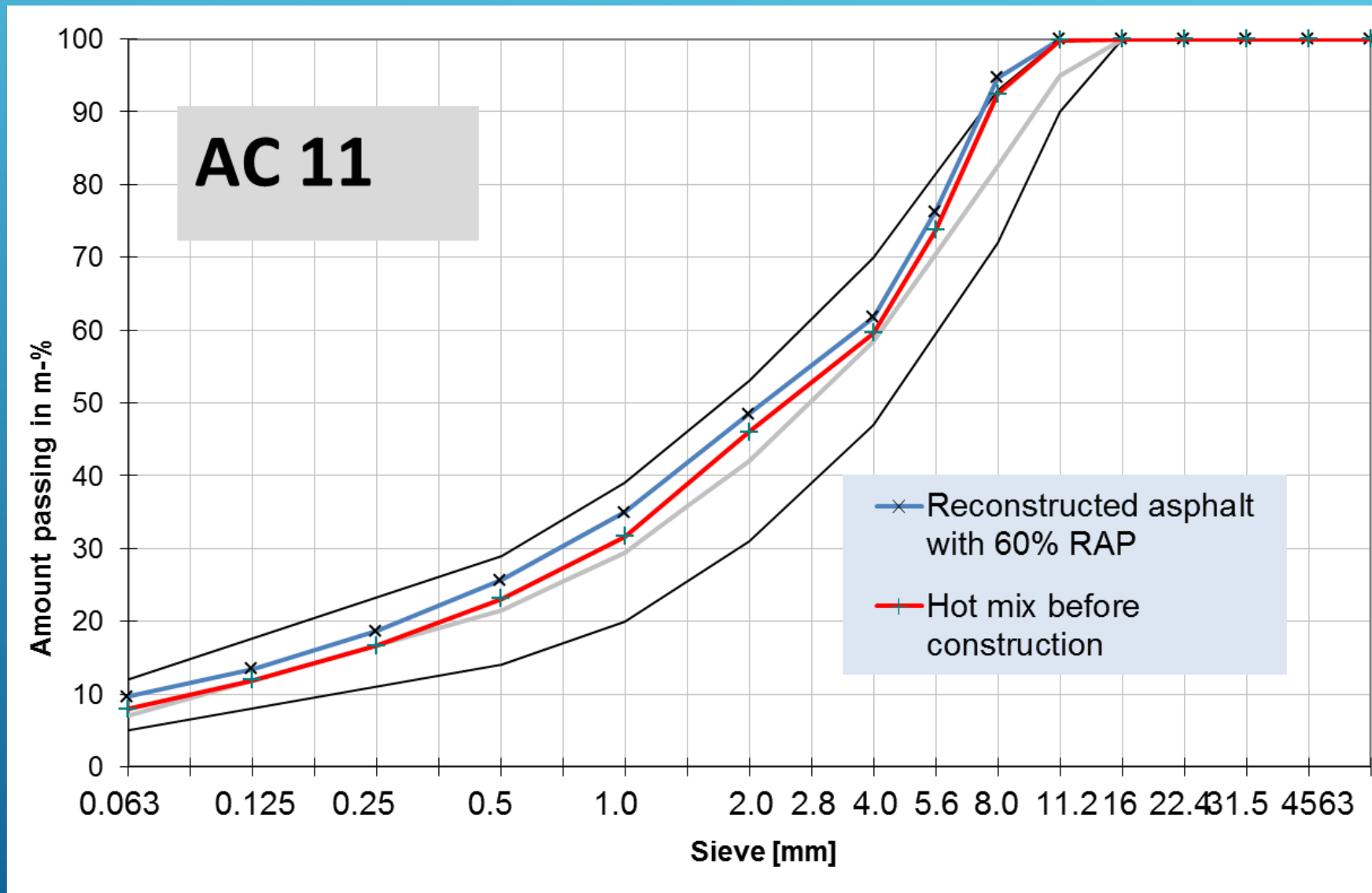
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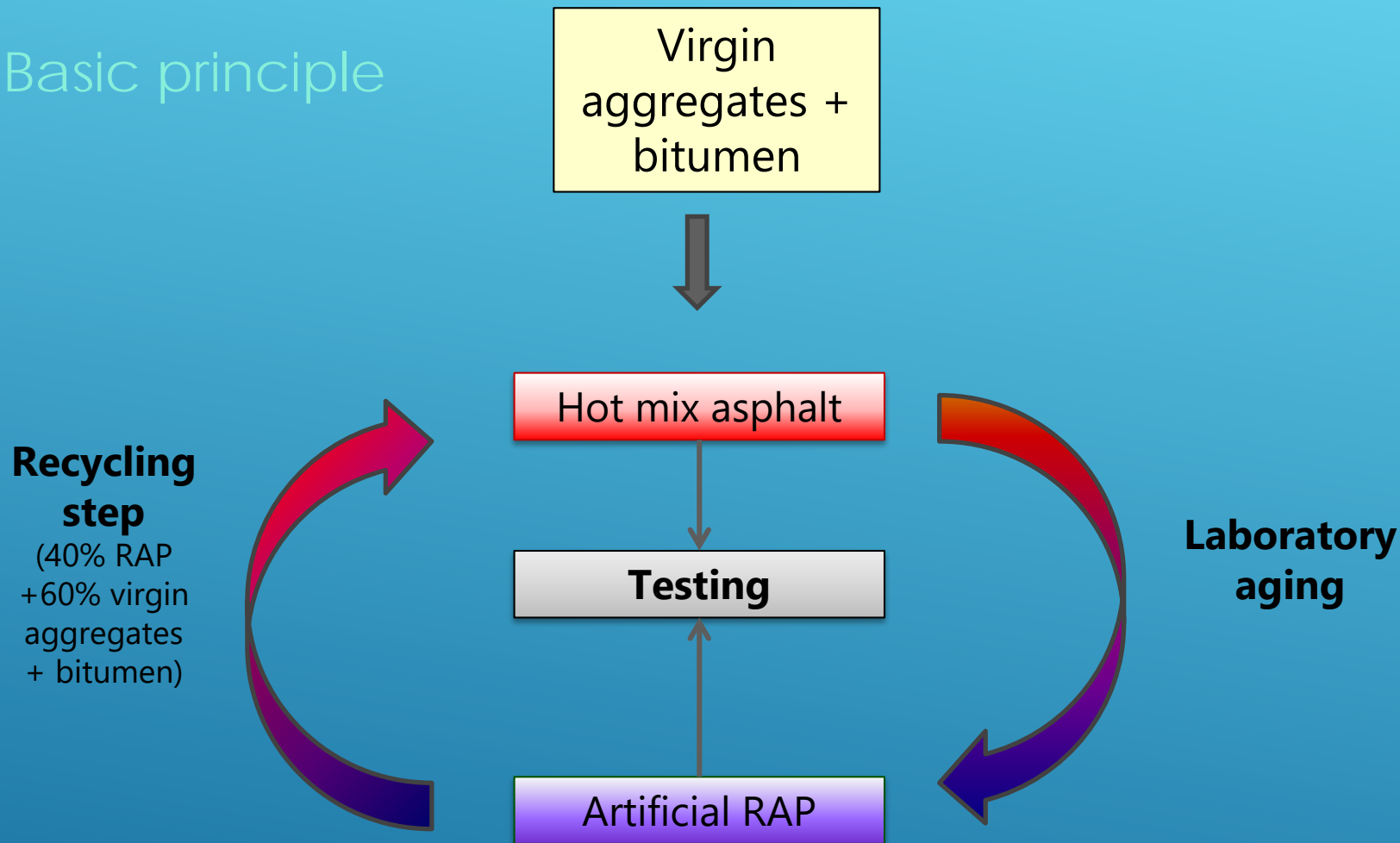
# REPEATED RECYCLING

Reconstructed hot mix AC 11 with 60%-RAP



# CHANGE OF BINDER PROPERTIES

Basic principle



**Recycling step**

(40% RAP  
+60% virgin  
aggregates  
+ bitumen)

**Laboratory  
aging**

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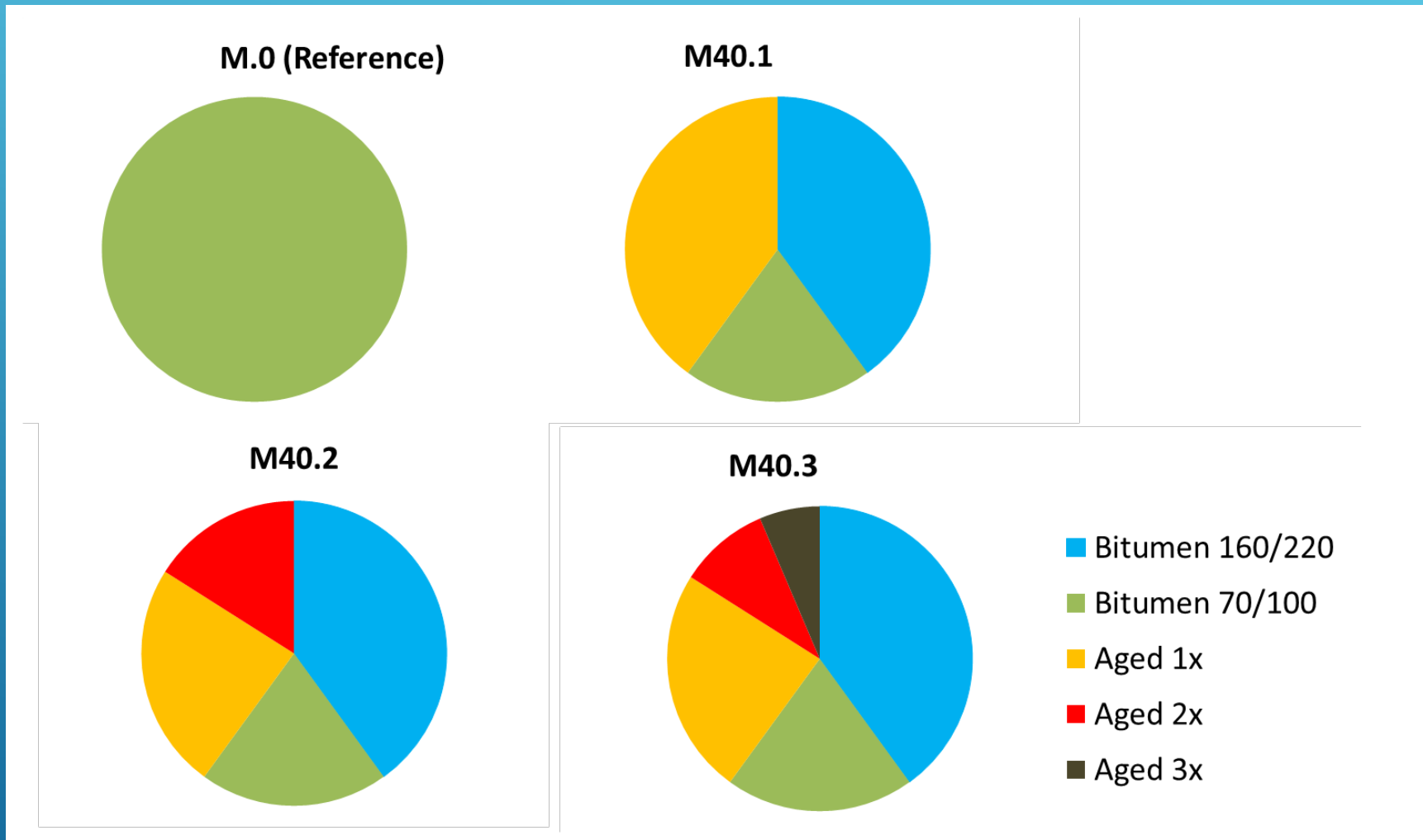


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# CHANGE OF BINDER COMPOSITION

## 1. Simulation with 40% RAP



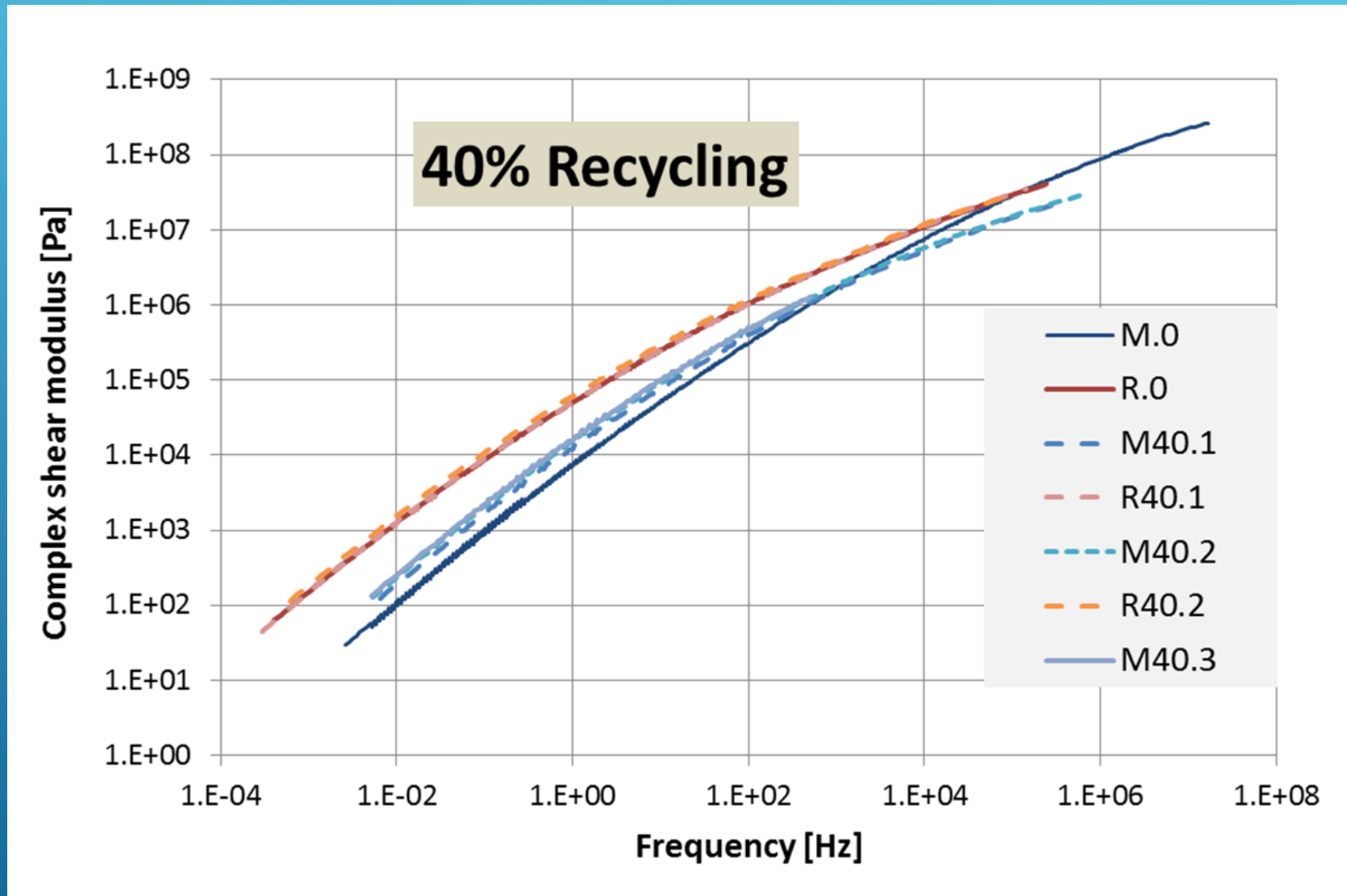
# RECOVERED BINDER

## Binder properties

Test method	Penetration [0.1 mm]	Softening point R+B [°C]
Reference mix M.0 (0% RAP)	42	55.7
Artificial RAP R.0	30	60.2
Recycling mix M40.1 (40% RAP R.0)	50	53.2
Artificial RAP R40.1	33	61
Recycling mix M40.2 (40% RAP R40.1)	n.d.	n.d
Artificial RAP R40.2	33	60
Recycling mix M40.3 (40% RAP R40.2)	50	53

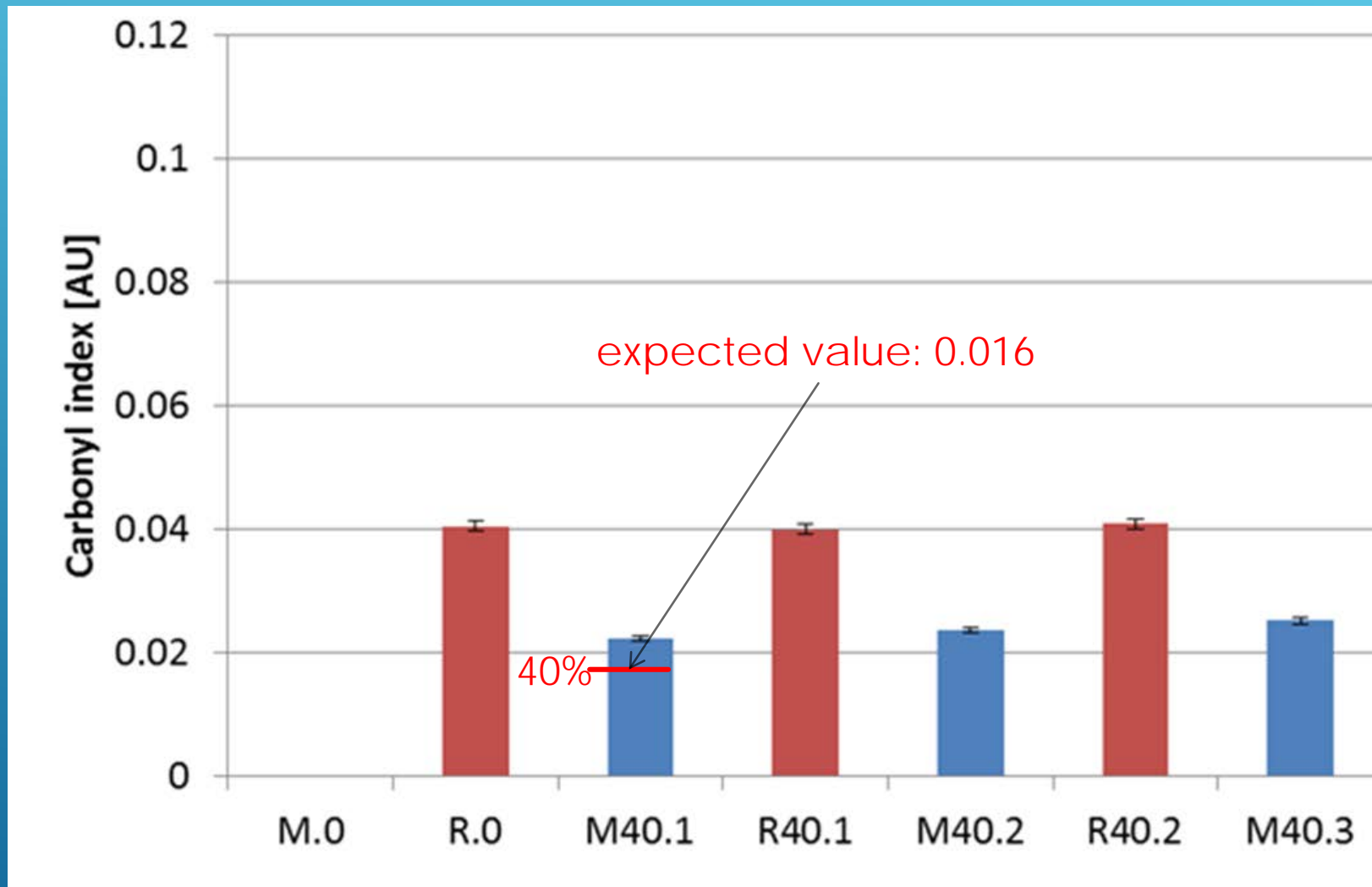
# RECOVERED BINDER

## DSR master curves



# RECOVERED BINDER

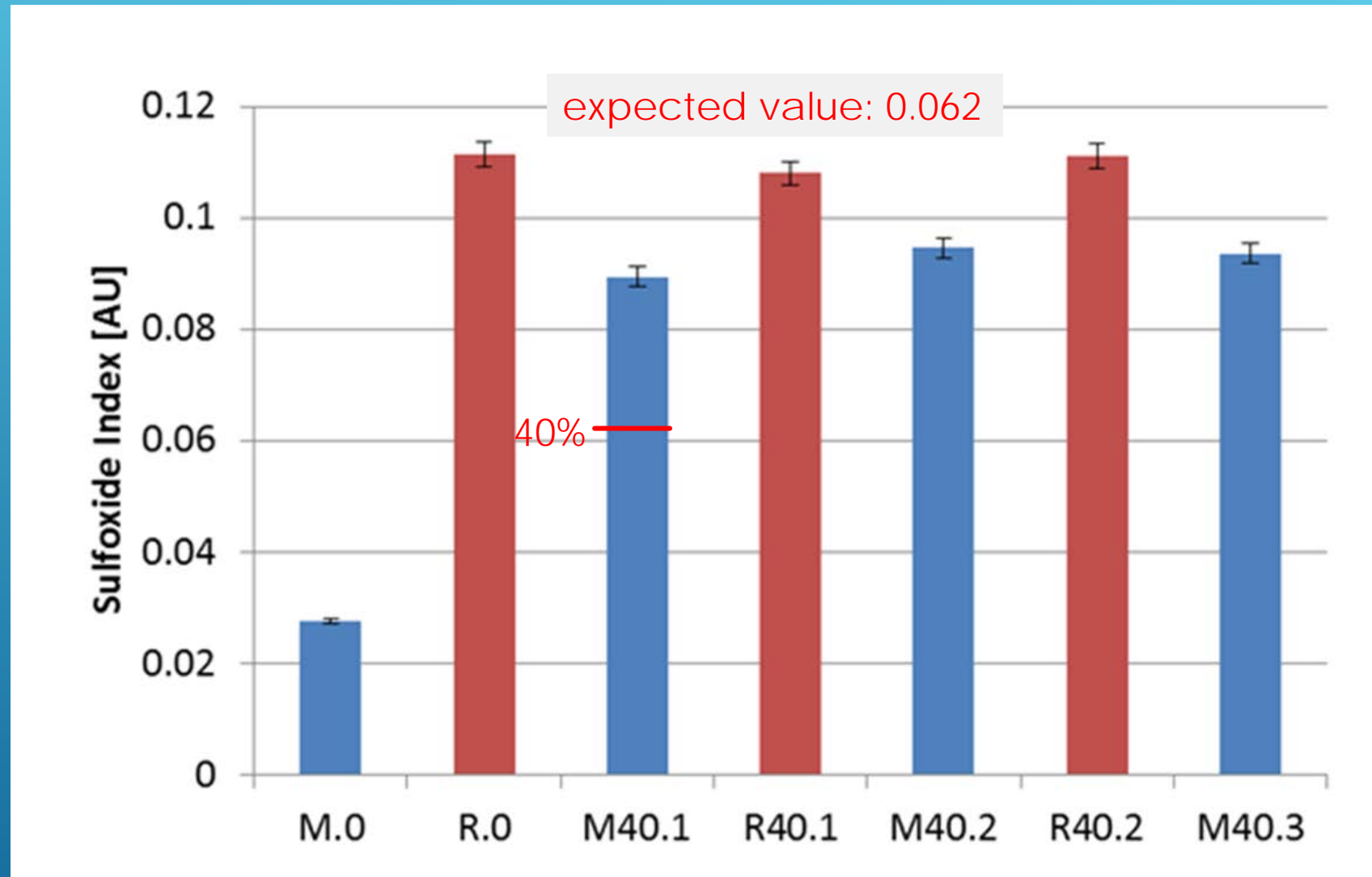
FTIR Carbonyl index (Infrared spectroscopy)



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# RECOVERED BINDER

FTIR Sulfoxide index (Infrared spectroscopy)





# RECYCLING MIXES

## Mix properties

<b>40% Recycling mixtures</b>		<b>M.0</b>	<b>M40.1</b>	<b>M40.2</b>	<b>M40.3</b>
<b>Binder content</b>	M-%	5.8	5.4	5.9	6
<b>Void content</b>	%	2.6	4.5	2.5	2.2
<b>Marshall stability</b>	kN	11.2	10.1	10.6	10
<b>Marshall flow</b>	mm	3.3	2.5	3.2	3.5
<b>Water sensitivity ITS dry ITSR</b>	kN	1383	1017	824	923
	%	85	87	75	71
<b>Stiffness modulus</b>	10 °C	10800	10200	9000	7900
	20 °C	4800	4900	4100	3600
	30 °C	2100	2000	1600	1400
<b>Permanent deformation cycles @ inflection point creep rate</b>	0.1	1650	1430	1010	1520
	μstrain	14.6	14.0	13.9	14.5
<b>Fatigue performance <math>\epsilon_6</math> (strain at <math>10^6</math> cycles)</b>	[‰]	0.031	0.027	0.025	0.029
<b>Low temperature test ITS @ -10 °C</b>	kN	5.3	4.6	4.8	4.7

# SIMULATION OF BINDER DAMAGE

100% recycling

Virgin  
aggregates +  
bitumen



Hot mix asphalt

Testing

Artificial RAP

**Recycling  
step**  
(100% RAP  
+ rejuvenator)

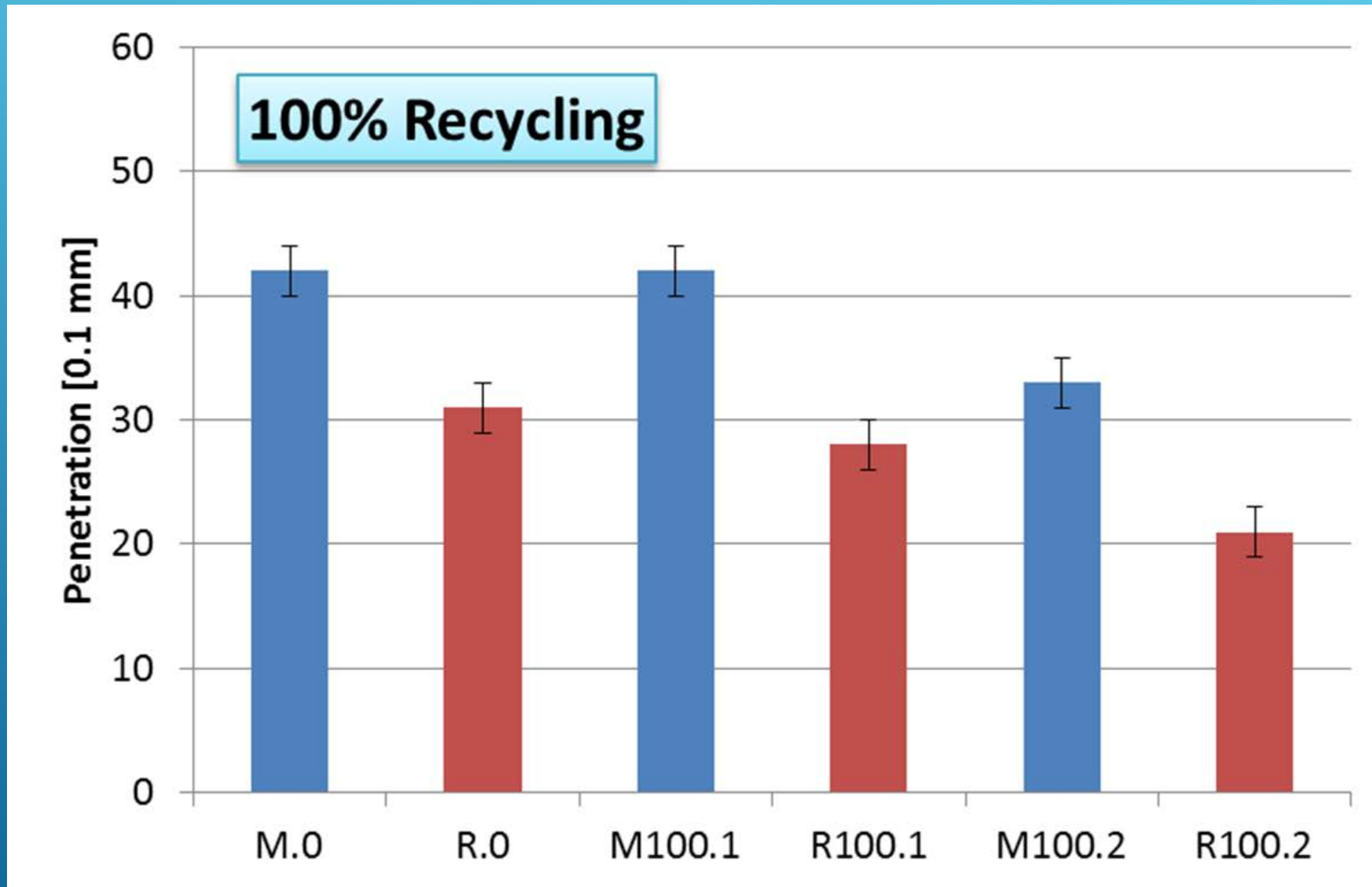


**Laboratory  
aging**



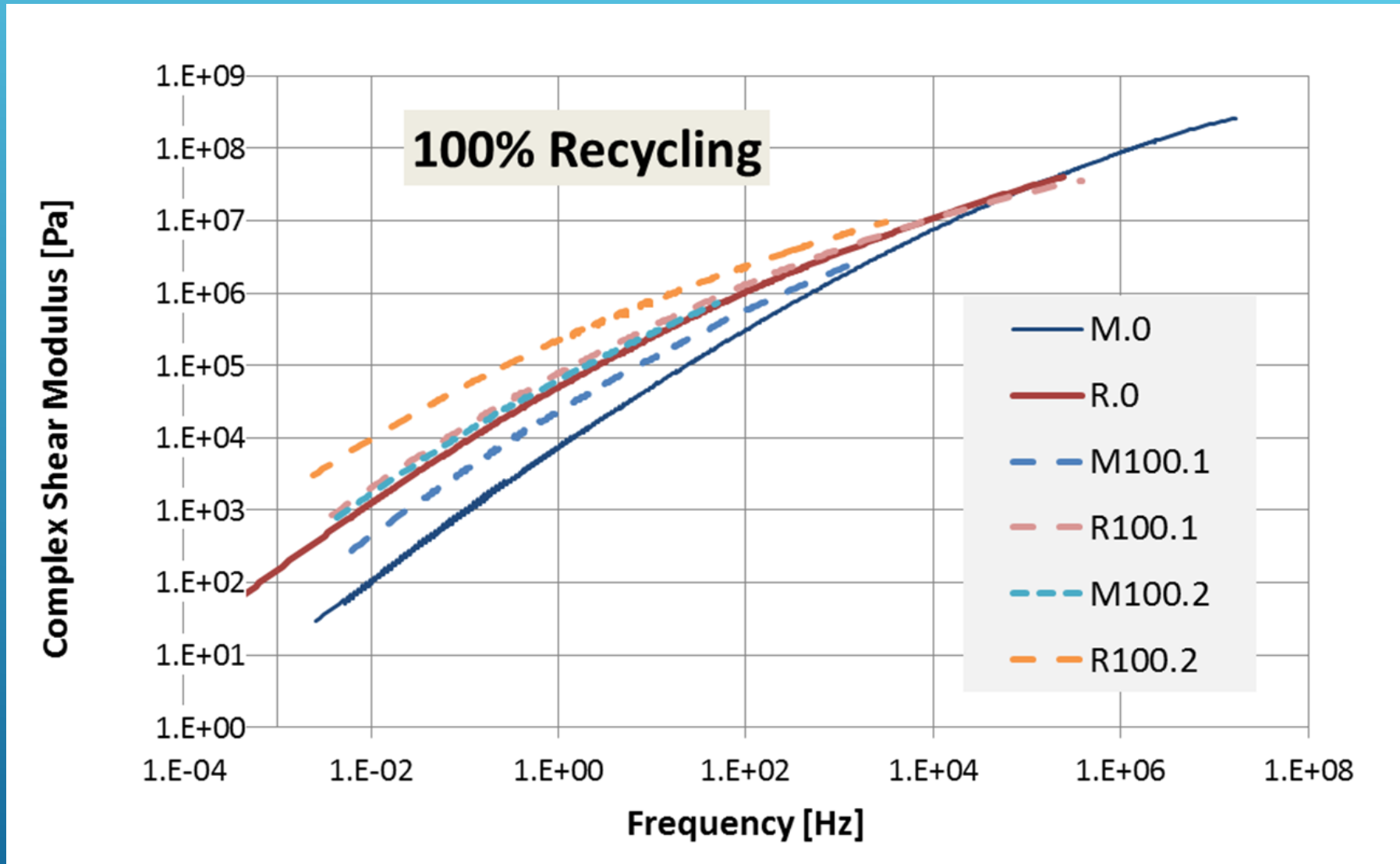
# RECOVERED BINDER (100%-STUDY)

Needle penetration



# RECOVERED BINDER (100%-STUDY)

## DSR master curves



# RECYCLING MIXES

## Mix properties

<b>100% Recycling mixtures</b>		<b>M.0</b>	<b>M100.1</b>	<b>M100.2</b>
<b>Binder content</b>	M-%	5.8	nd	<b>6.1</b>
<b>Void content</b>	%	2.6	nd	<b>2.6</b>
<b>Marshall stability</b>	kN	11.2	nd	<b>14.6</b>
<b>Marshall flow</b>	mm	3.3	nd	<b>4.0</b>
<b>Water sensitivity ITS dry ITSR</b>	kN	1383	nd	<b>1658</b>
	%	85		<b>84</b>
<b>Stiffness modulus</b>	10 °C	10800	nd	<b>13600</b>
	20 °C	4800		<b>7900</b>
	30 °C	2100		<b>4000</b>
<b>Permanent deformation cycles @ inflection point creep rate</b>	0.1	1650	nd	<b>10000*</b>
	μstrain	14.6		<b>0.7*</b>
<b>Fatigue performance <math>\epsilon_6</math> (strain at <math>10^6</math> cycles)</b>	[‰]	0.031	nd	<b>0.037</b>
<b>Low temperature test ITS @ -10 °C</b>	kN	5.3	nd	<b>4.8</b>

# CONCLUSIONS

- ▶ Influence of multiple recycled RAP becomes the dominating part above 60% recycling content
- ▶ Milling and crushing result in finer aggregates
- ▶ With 40% repeated recycling as expected most properties don't change significantly except for the water sensitivity
- ▶ Recycling mixes containing rejuvenating agents are aging in a more complicating way.
- ▶ FTIR is not a suitable method to determine the aging degree, as at a certain point most of the possible functional groups are oxidized, but hardening of the binder is still proceeding.
- ▶ All results are based on laboratory experiments and should be validated in the field, as some processes in the plant are difficult to simulate in the laboratory.