

# High Friction Surface Treatment Aggregate Durability Study

**Pavement Evaluation 2014**

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U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Highway Administration



THE  
TRANSTEC GROUP  
*The World's Pavement Engineering Specialists*



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# Overview



- What are High Friction Surface Treatments?
- SEAHC Demonstration Program
- Aggregate Durability Study Phase I
- Aggregate Durability Study Phase II



# Overview



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# What are High Friction Surface Treatments?



- High Friction Surface Treatments (HFST) are pavement surfacing systems with exceptional skid-resistant properties that are not typically acquired by conventional materials
- Generally proprietary polymeric resin-based products and processes
- Guidelines Document from the British Board of Agrément (BBA)
  - “...defined as having a minimum skid resistance value (SRV) of 65 measured using the portable Skid-Resistance Tester as defined in TRL Report 176: Appendix E.”



# HFST Materials



- Binder system (proprietary blends)
  - Bitumen-extended epoxy resins
  - Epoxy-resin
  - Polyester-resin
  - Polyurethane-resin
  - Acrylic-resin
  - MMA





# HFST Materials



- Aggregates

- *Generally calcined bauxite, but flint/chert, slags, granite, and other materials with high abrasion and polish resistance have also been used*
- Generally 3-4 mm maximum size
- AASHTO Spec:

No. 4 Sieve: 100% passing

No. 6 Sieve: 95% min. passing

No. 16 Sieve: 5% max. passing





# HFST Finished Product





# Overview



- What are High Friction Surface Treatments?
- **SEAHC Demonstration Program**
- Aggregate Durability Study Phase I
- Aggregate Durability Study Phase II



# FHWA Surface Enhancements At Horizontal Curves (SEAHC) Program



- Goals of SEAHC:
  - Demonstrate the effectiveness of HFST in enhancing/restoring friction to reduce lane departure crashes at horizontal curves (and ramps).
  - Measure the properties of HFST and monitor changes and performance over first year
  - Monitor crashes before and after HFST application
- Utilize currently available HFST products
- 3+ year study for each site
- Generally 1-5 sites per State
- Additional demos funded through EDC2







# Overview



- What are High Friction Surface Treatments?
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- **Aggregate Durability Study Phase I**
- Aggregate Durability Study Phase II



# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study



## Phase I

- Purpose: Test the durability of various aggregate types under the same conditions
  - Installed on similar sections NCAT Test Track on a curve
  - Installed by same HFS supplier using the same resin, crew, and equipment
  - Exposed to the same traffic and climatic conditions
- 2.6 Million ESAL applications (April-October 2011)
- Aggregates Tested:
  - Granite, Calcined Bauxite, Flint (100' each)
  - Basalt, Silica, Steel Slag, Emery, Taconite (15' each)

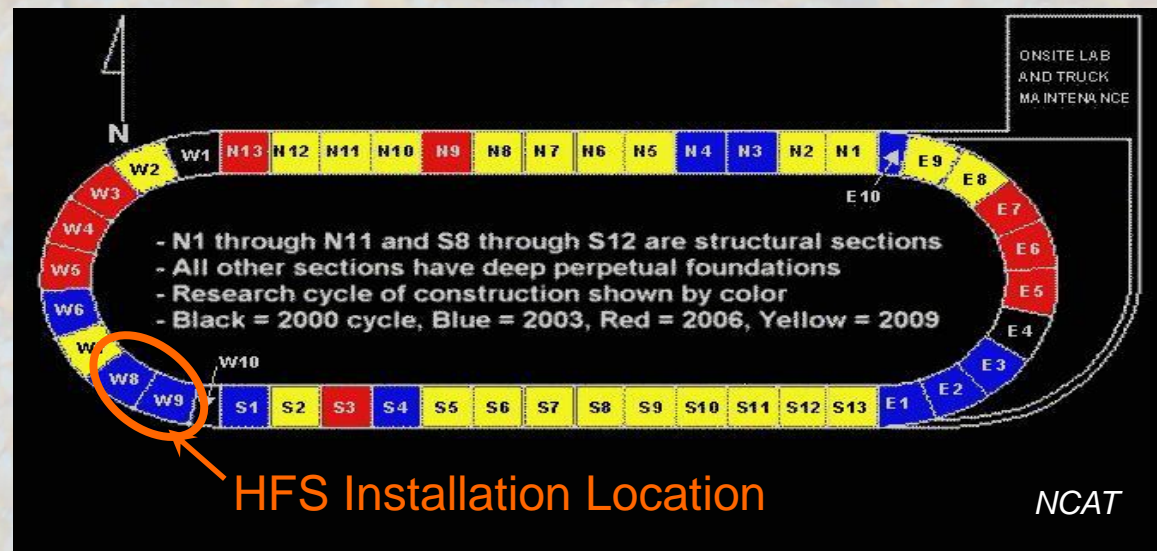


# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study Phase I





# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study Phase I





# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

## Phase I



15' { Taconite  
Emery  
Steel Slag  
Silica  
Basalt

100' { Flint  
Bauxite  
Granite





# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study



Granite



Basalt



Bauxite



Silica



Emery



Flint



Steel Slag



Taconite

Pre-Traffic



# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study



## Phase I

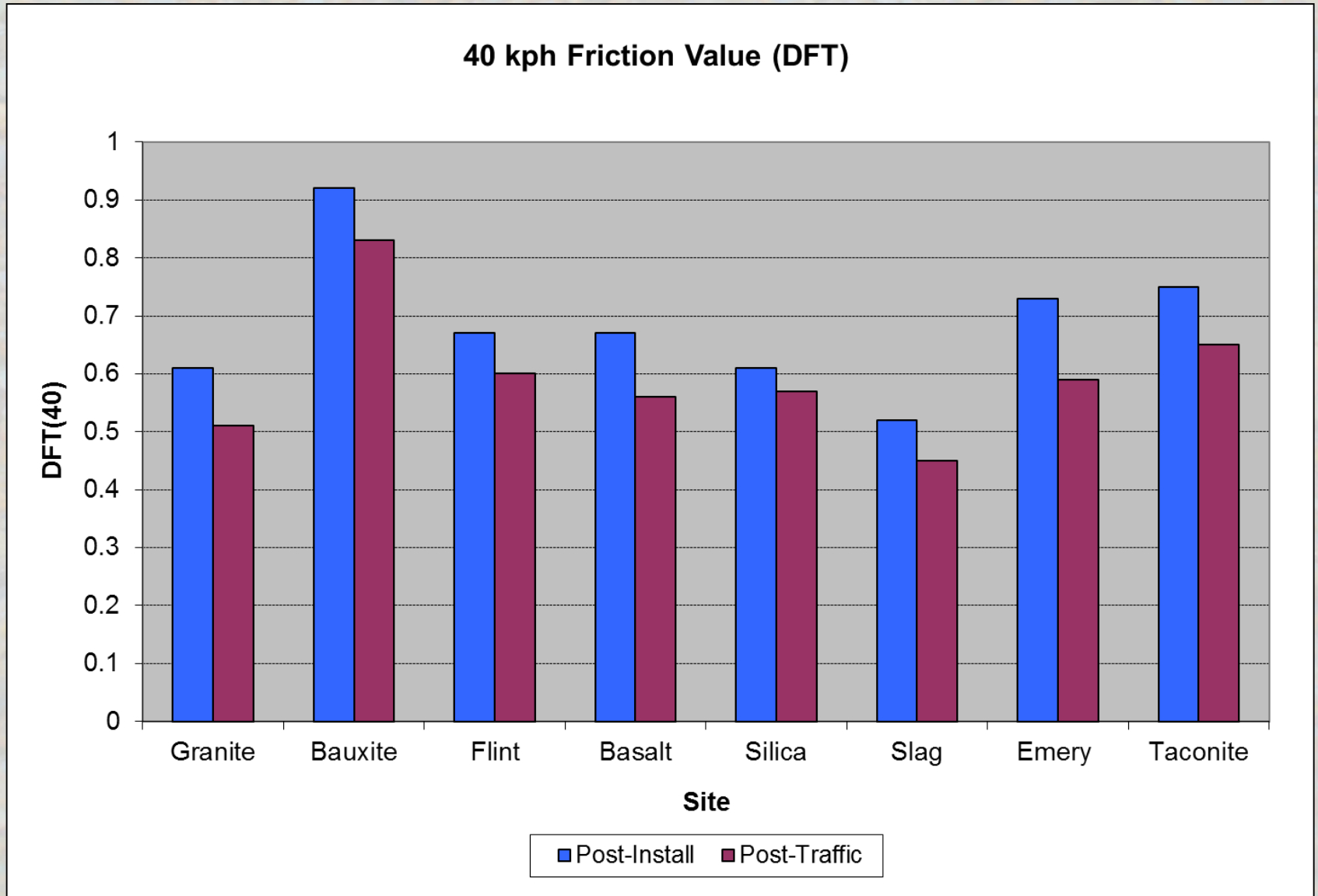
- Laboratory Testing
- Three Wheel Polishing Device
  - Friction (DFT) & Texture (CTM) tested at 70k & 140k cycles
  - 2 replicates for each aggregate type





# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

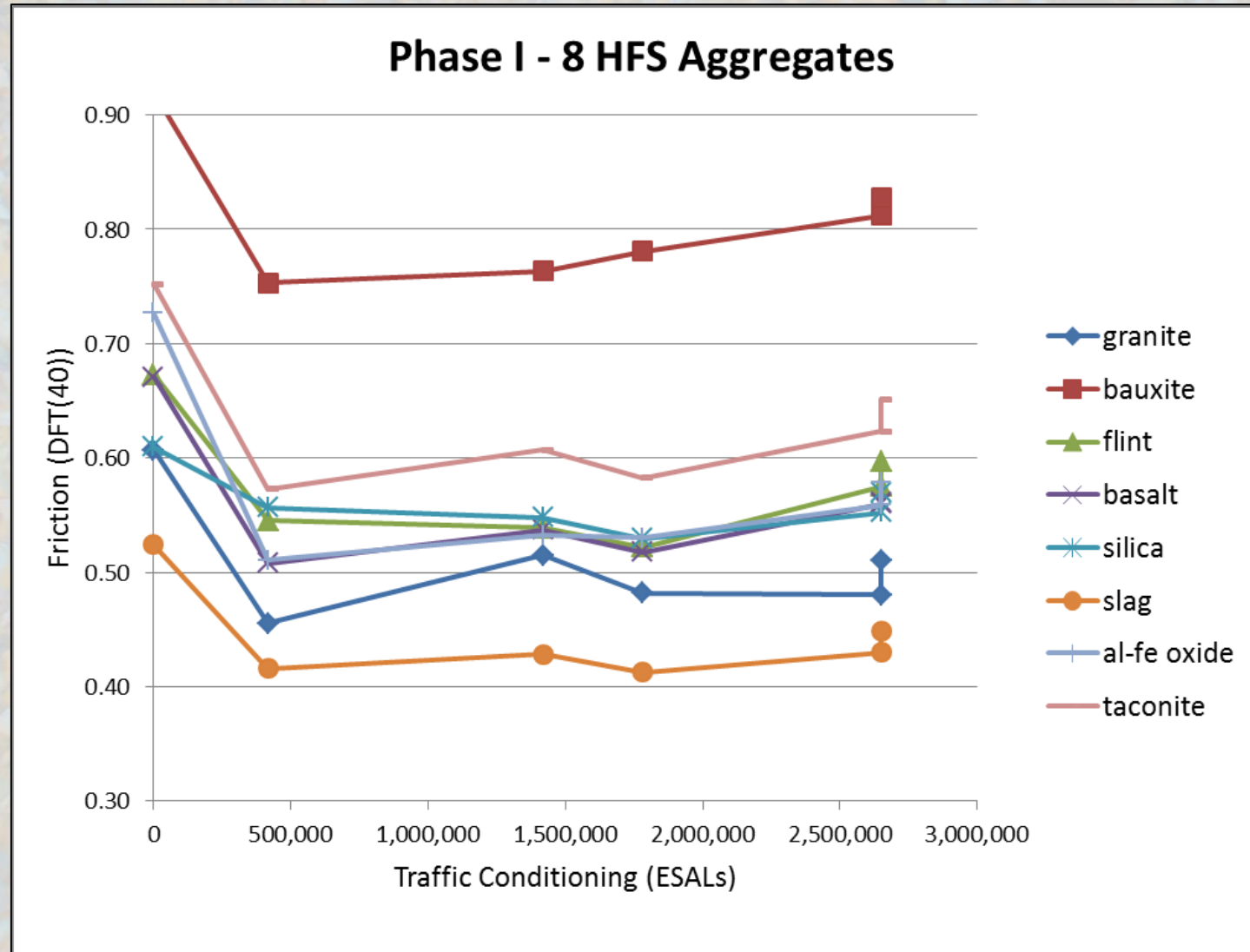
## Phase I – Test Track Sections





# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

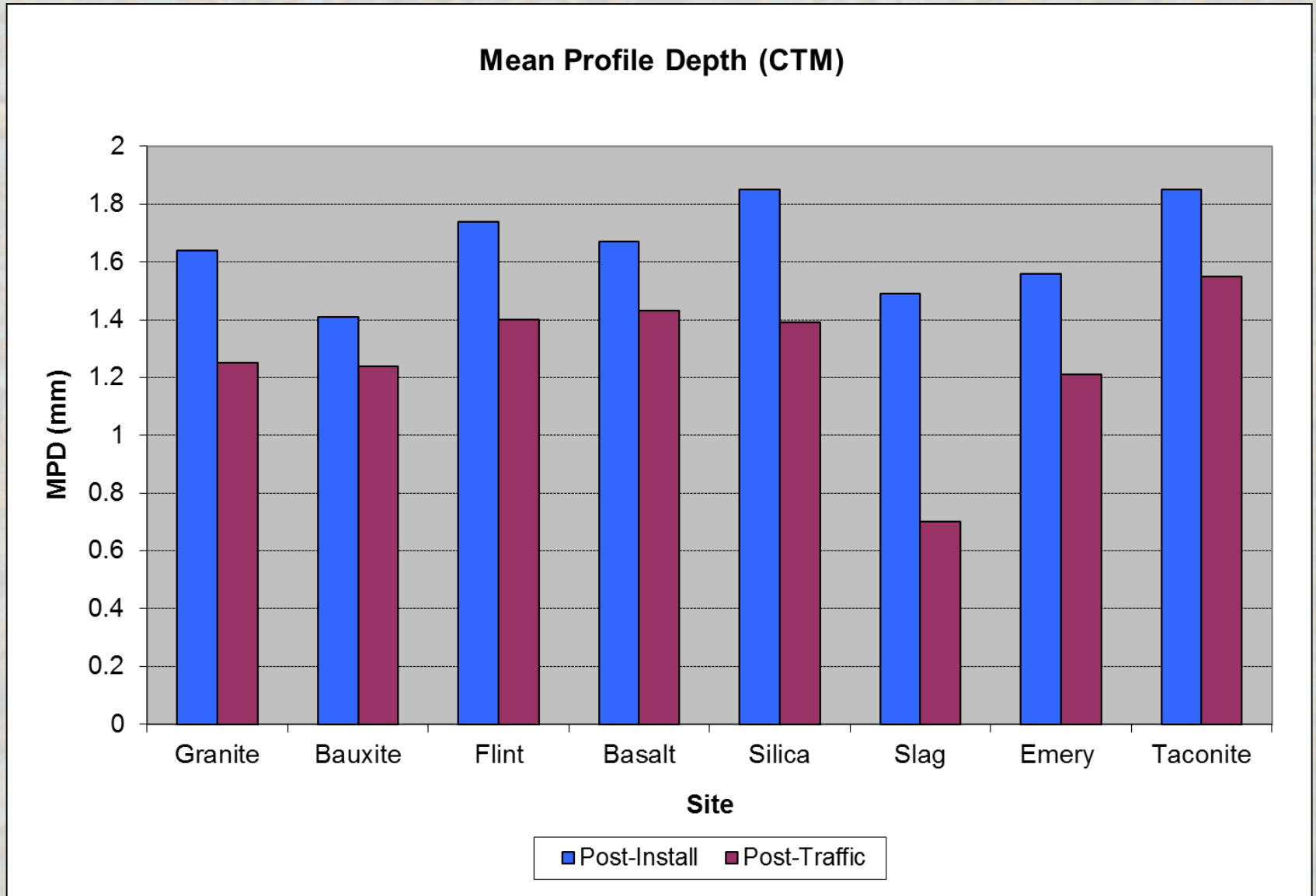
## Phase I – Test Track Sections





# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

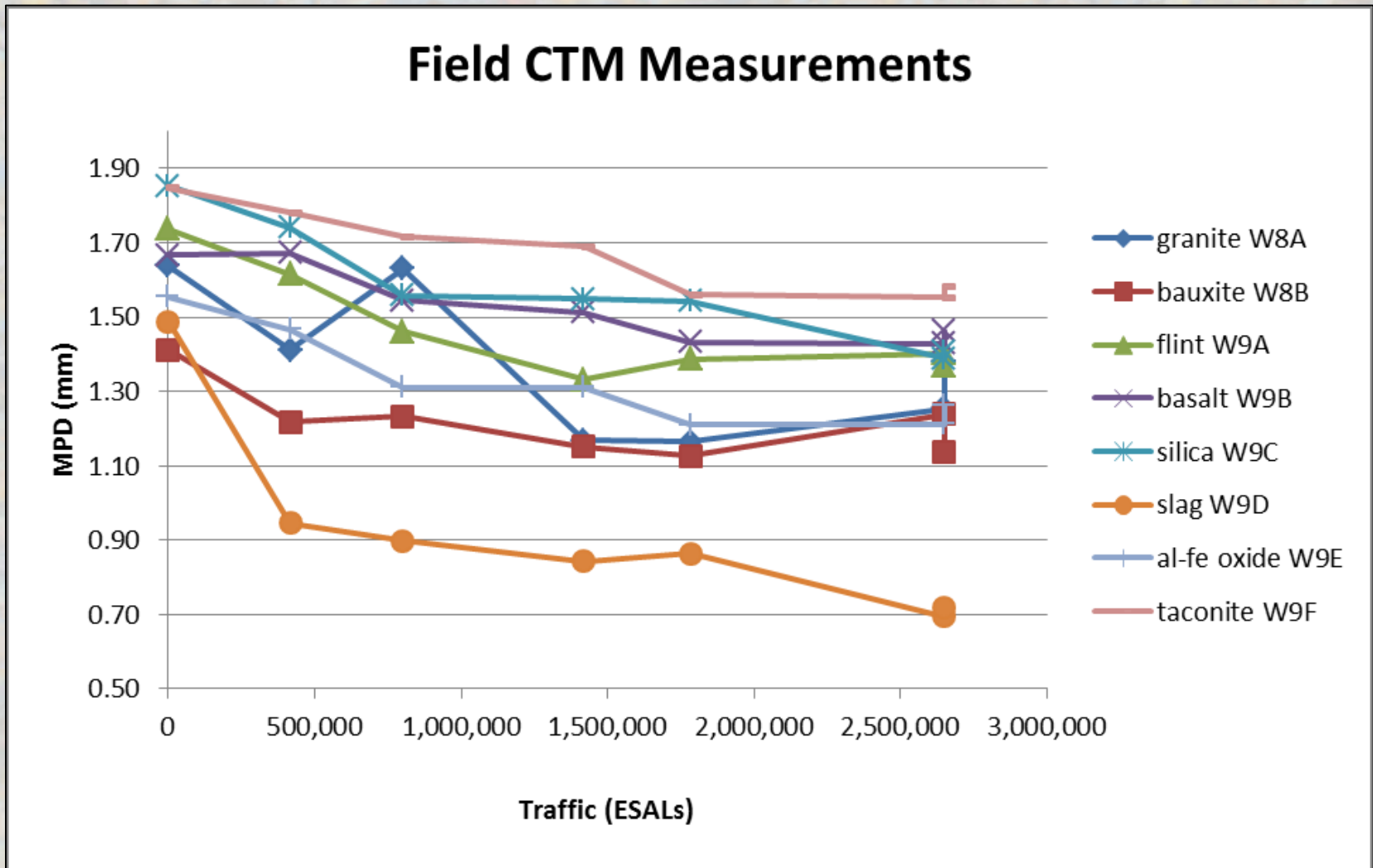
## Phase I – Test Track Sections





# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

## Phase I – Test Track Sections





# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study



Post-Traffic  
(2.6 million ESALs)



Granite



Basalt



Bauxite



Silica



Emery



Flint



Steel Slag

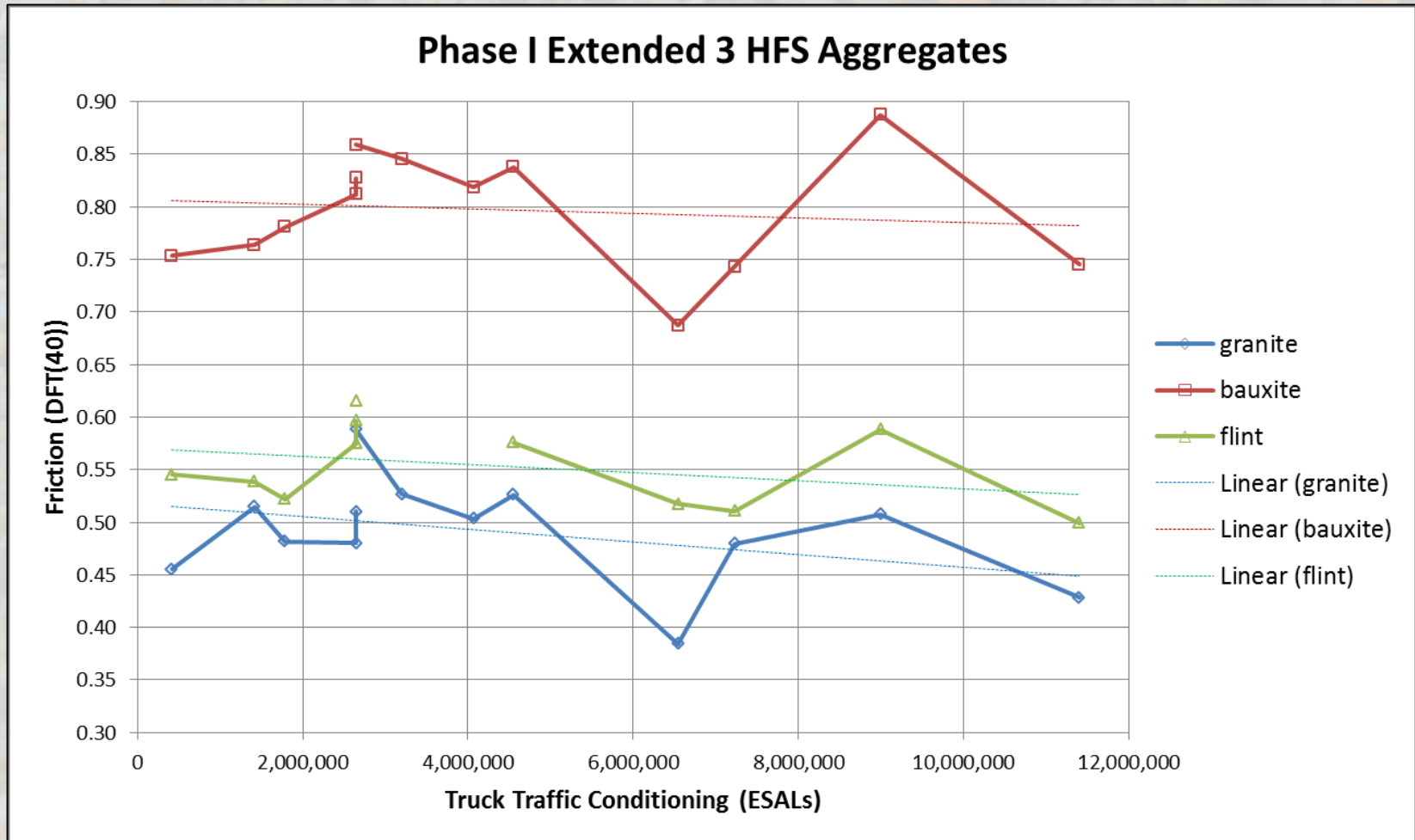


Taconite



# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

## Phase I – Test Track Sections

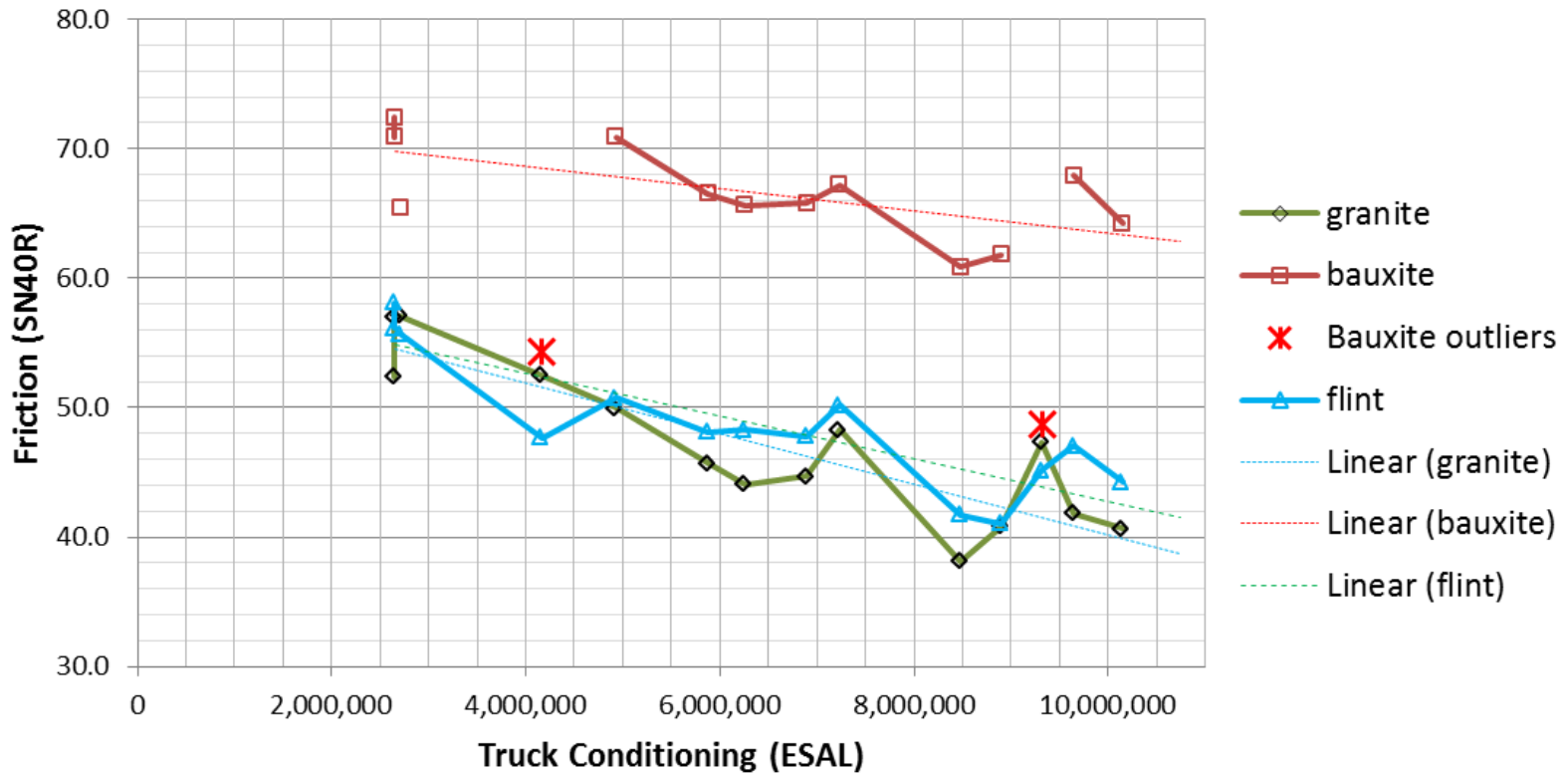




# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

## Phase I – Test Track Sections

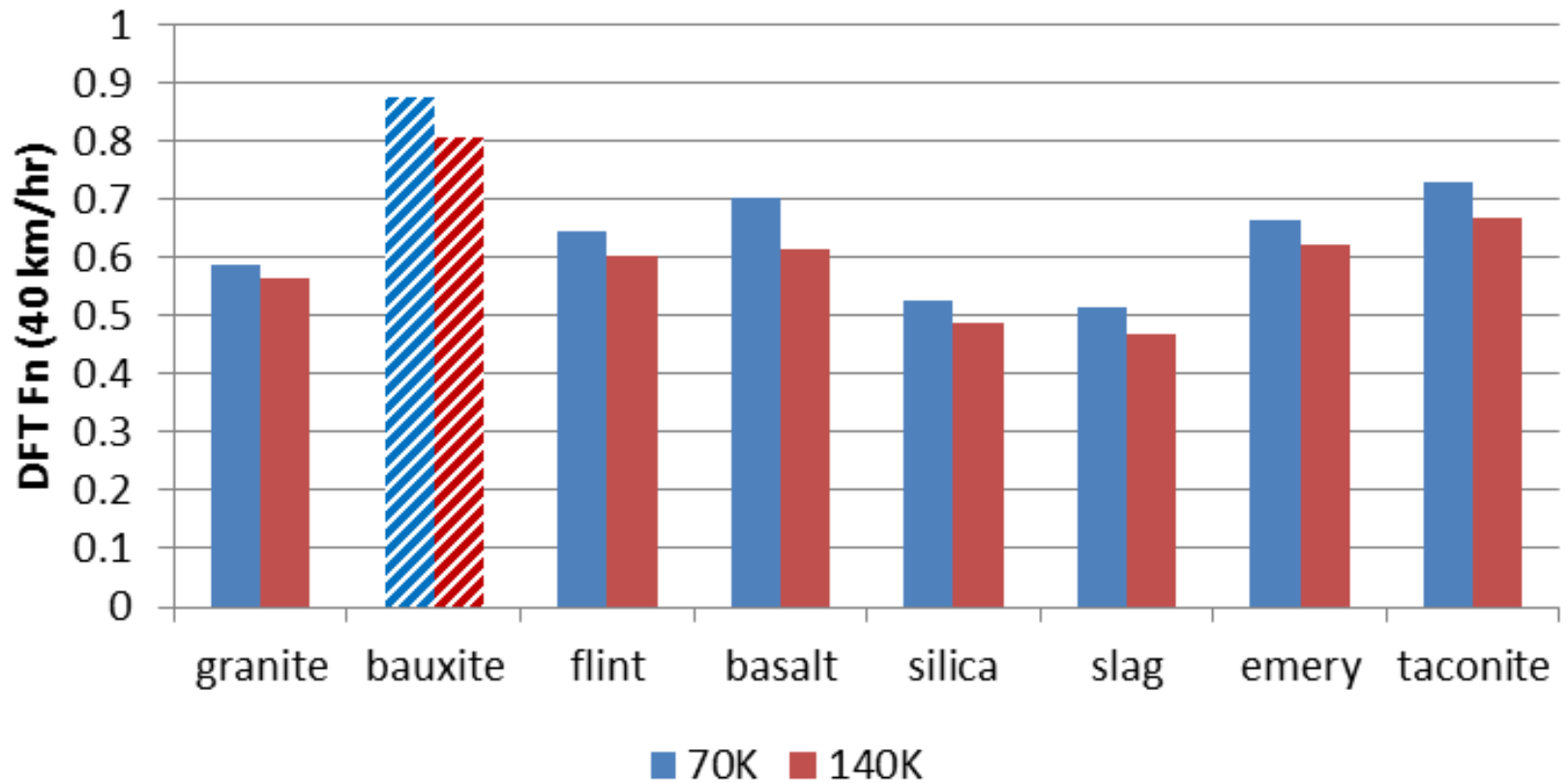
### Field Skid Trailer Testing Summary



# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

## Phase I – Laboratory Samples

### HFS - lab DFT Summary

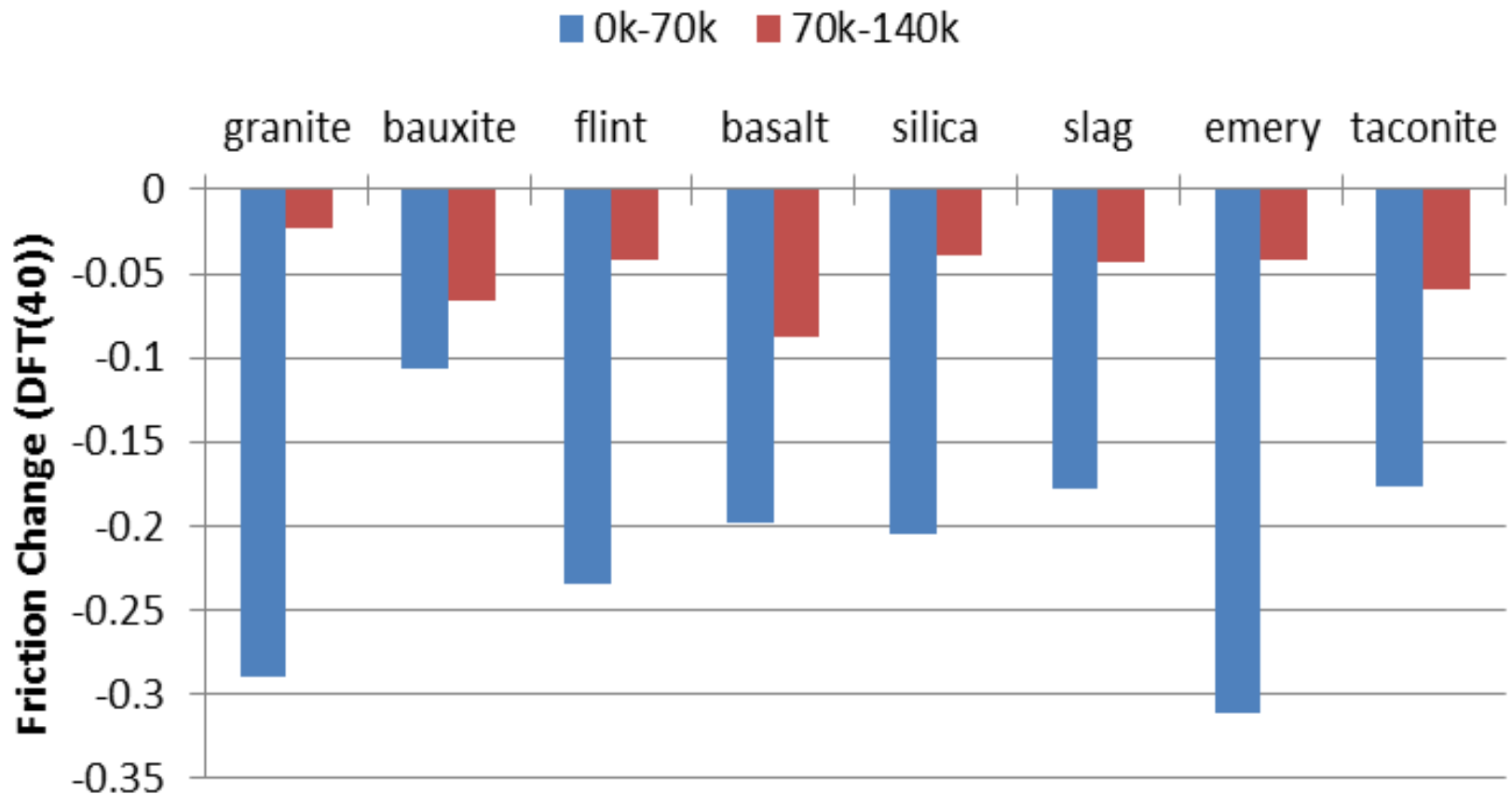




# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

## Phase I – Laboratory Samples

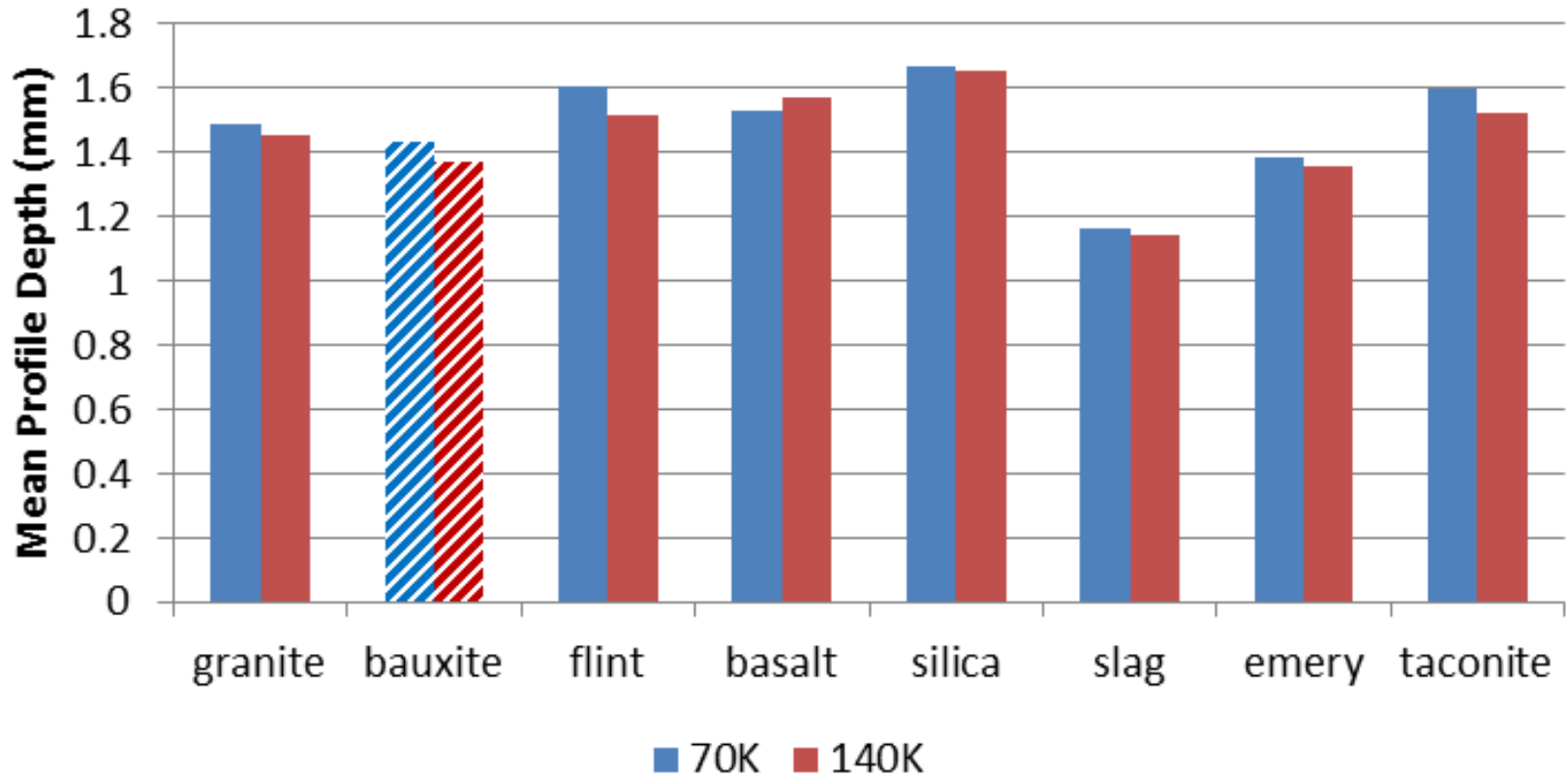
### HFS Lab 1 Change in DFT Values



# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

## Phase I – Laboratory Samples

### HFS - lab CTM Summary

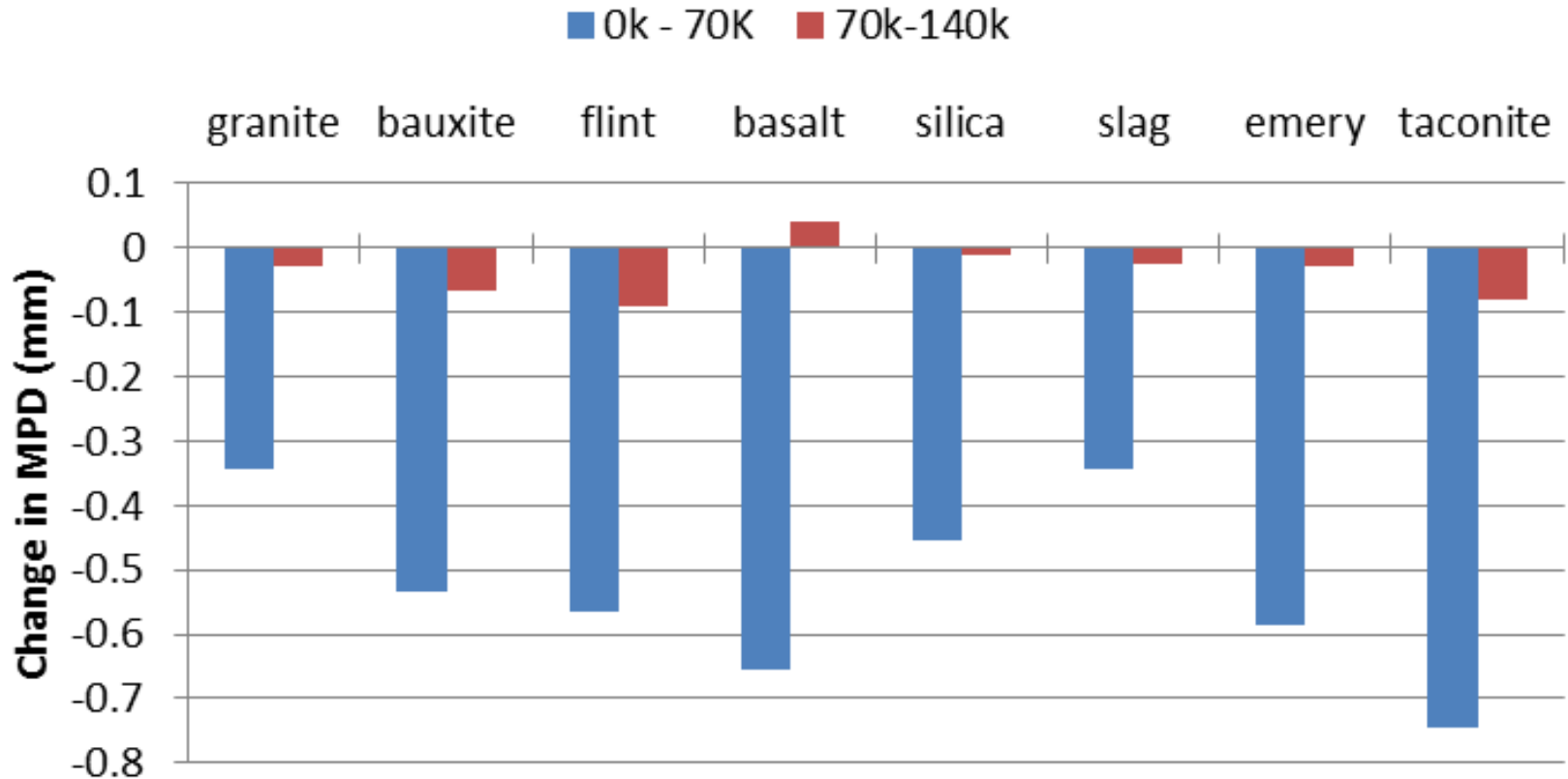




# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

## Phase I – Laboratory Samples

### HFS Lab 1 Change in CTM Values



# Phase I Observations



- For TWPD tests...
  - Macrotexture *and* friction decreased substantially between 0 and 70k cycles
  - Macrotxture changed little between 70k and 140k cycles, but friction decreased for all aggregates, with the degree varying by aggregate
- For Test Track sections...
  - Macrotexture decreased steadily for all aggregates over 2.6M ESALs
  - Friction decreased significantly initially, then stabilized for all aggregates
- There was no correlation between DFT and CTM values.
- Overall, calcined bauxite showed the best friction performance (highest friction) in both the laboratory and on the track.



# Overview



- What are High Friction Surface Treatments?
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- **Aggregate Durability Study Phase II**

# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

## Phase II



- Two Components:
  - 1) Separation of aggregates into size factions to compare performance of different sizes
  - 2) Laboratory testing of the polishing and abrasion resistance of various HFST aggregate types
- Aggregates Tested
  - Calcined Bauxite, Taconite, Flint, Steel Slag (*different source from Phase I for Flint and Slag*)
- Aggregate Size Separation
  - Sieves Retaining Aggregate: #6, #8, #12, #16
  - Less than 8% passing #16



# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

## Phase II



- Laboratory Tests
  - Micro-Deval: #8 size fraction only
  - Aggregate Imaging System (AIMS): #8 size fraction only
    - Used in conjunction with Micro-Deval
    - Only captures particle shape and angularity for fine aggregate



# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

## Phase II



- Laboratory Tests
  - Three Wheel Polishing Device

	Retained Sieve Size			
	#6	#8	#12	#16
Bauxite	n/a	3 slabs	3 slabs	1 slab
Slag	1 slab	3 slabs	3 slabs	1 slab
Taconite	n/a	3 slabs	3 slabs	1 slab
Flint	1 slab	3 slabs	3 slabs	n/a

- British Wheel/British Pendulum: *test abandoned due to issues with test coupon preparation*

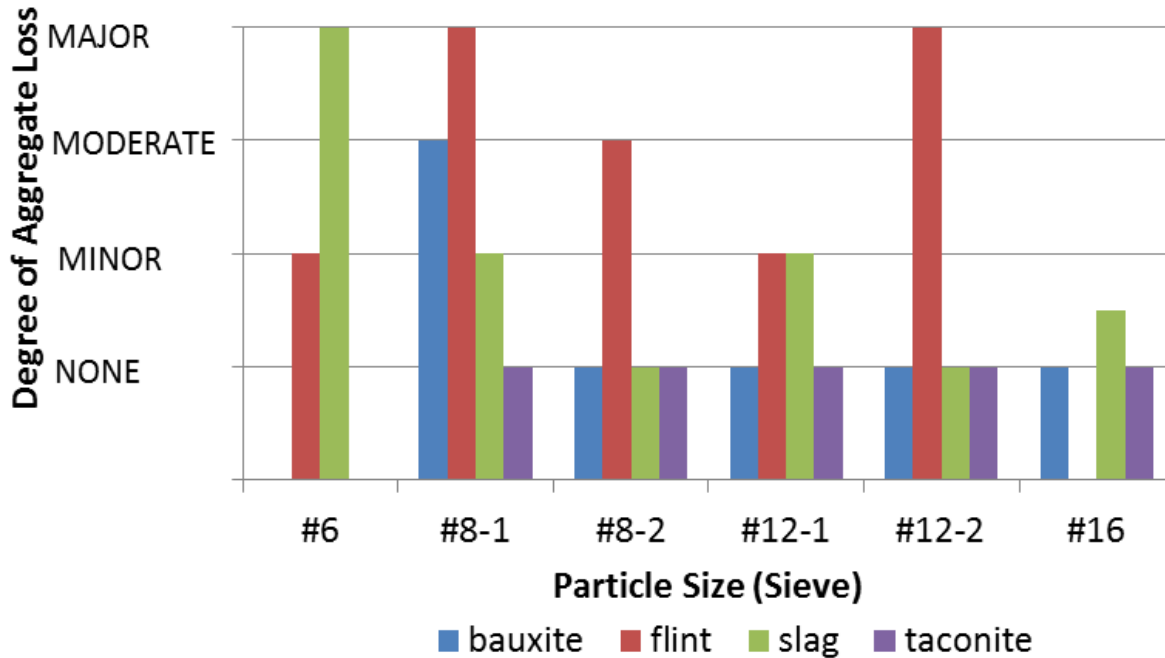


# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study Phase II



- TWPD Aggregate Loss

**Aggregate Loss on TWPD Slabs**



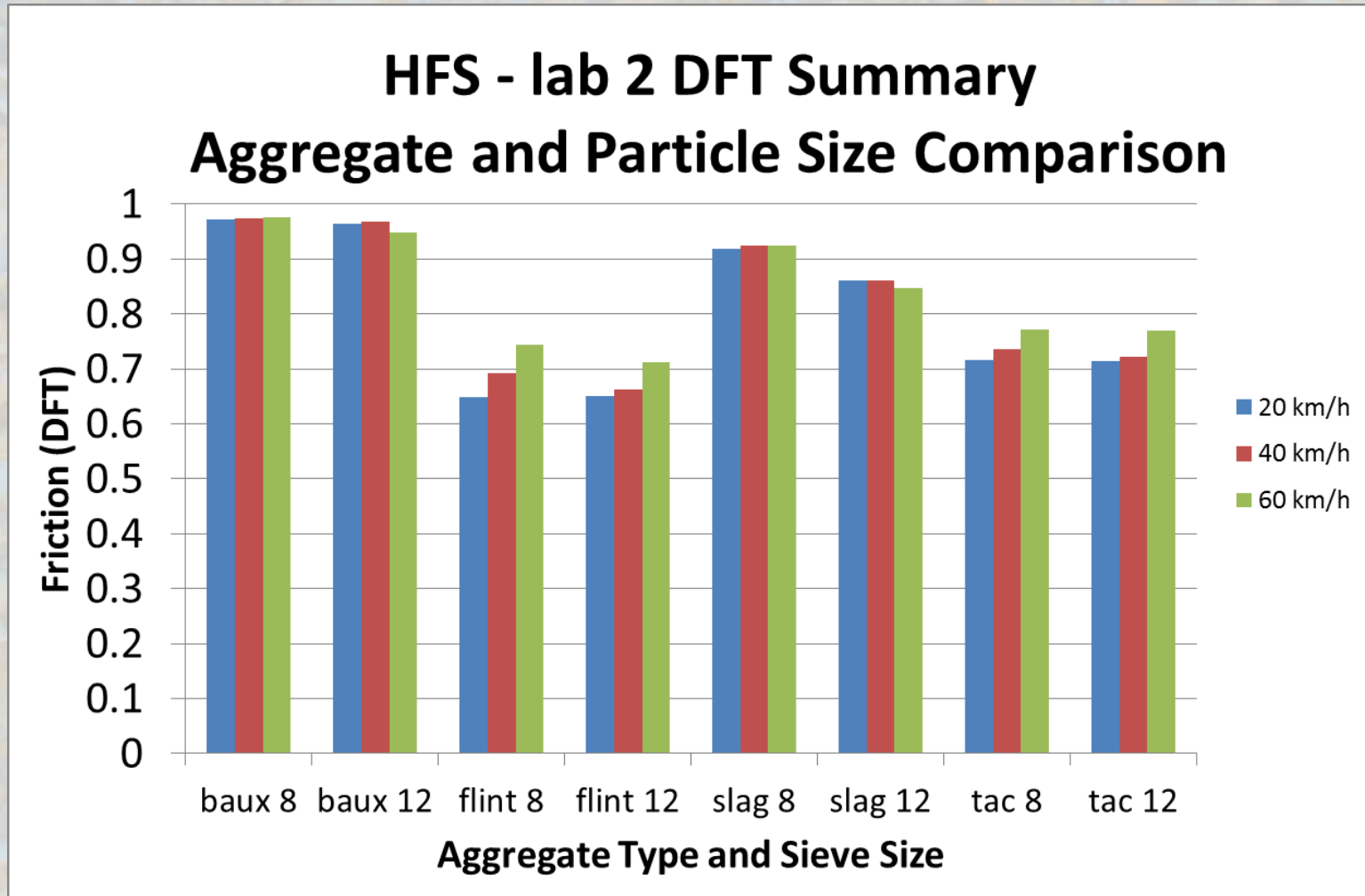
*Note: No aggregate loss observed during Phase I*

# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

## Phase II



- TWPD Test – Terminal Friction Values



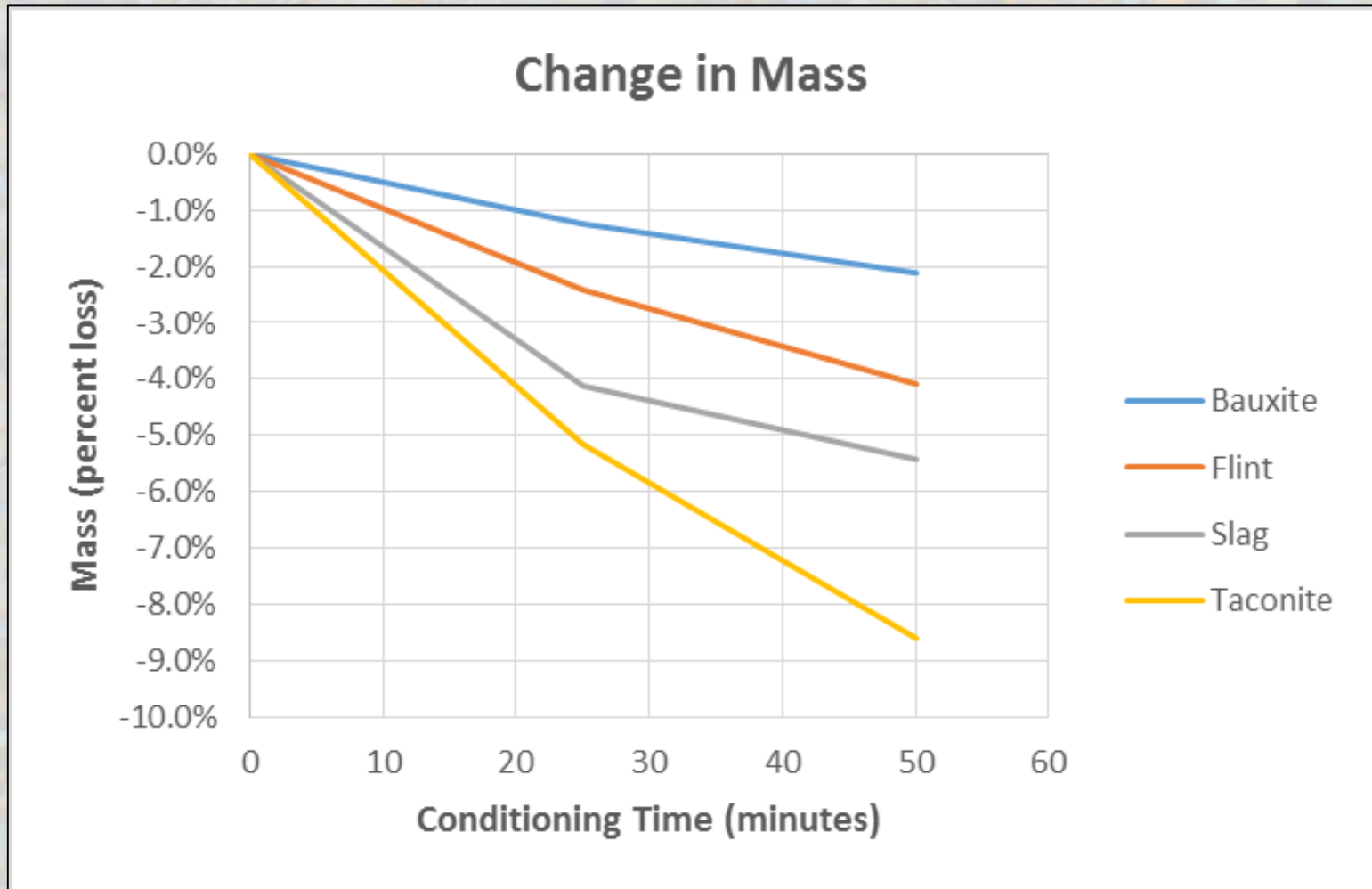


# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

## Phase II



- Micro-Deval Results – Mass Loss

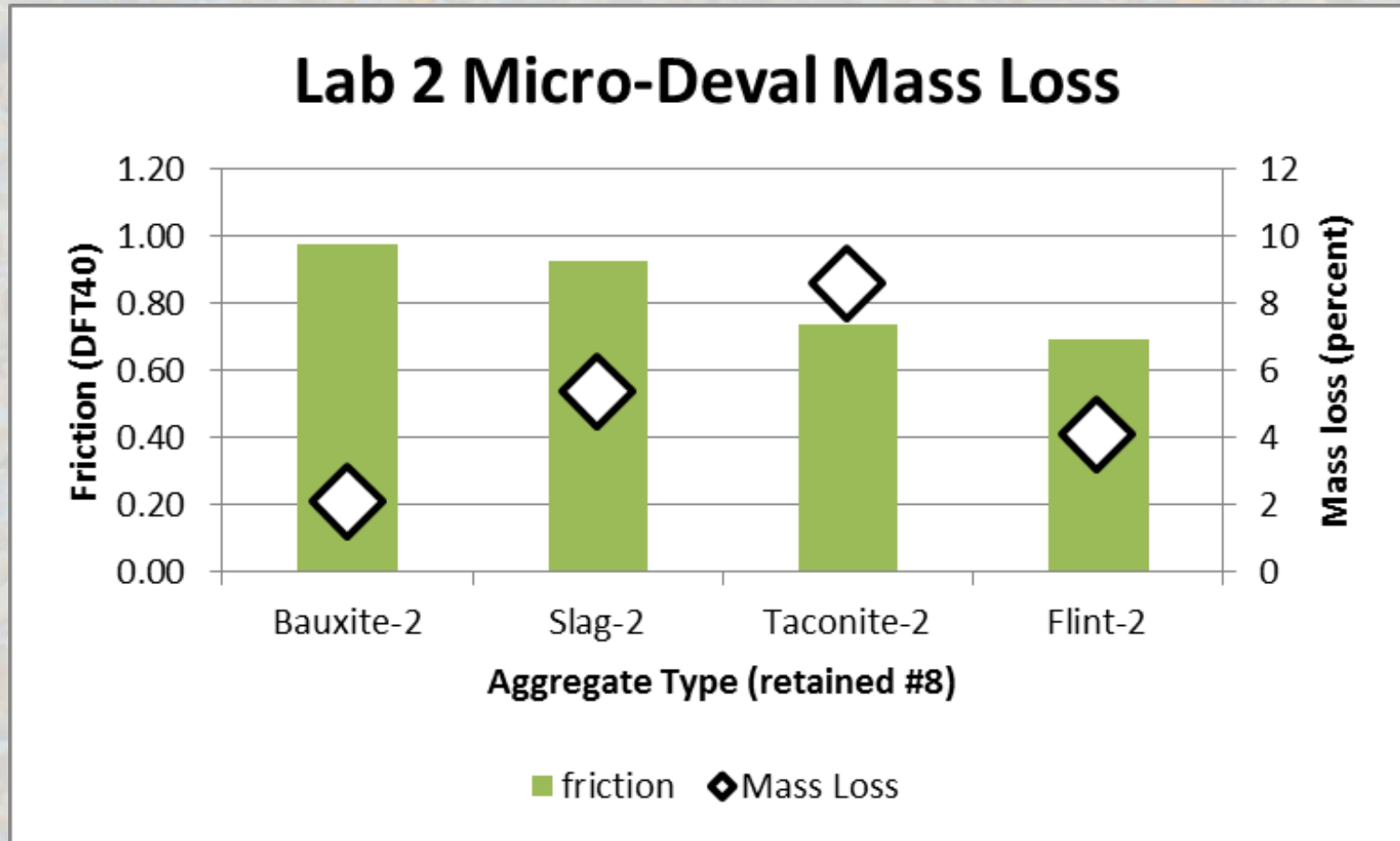


# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

## Phase II



- Micro-Deval Results – Mass Loss vs. Friction





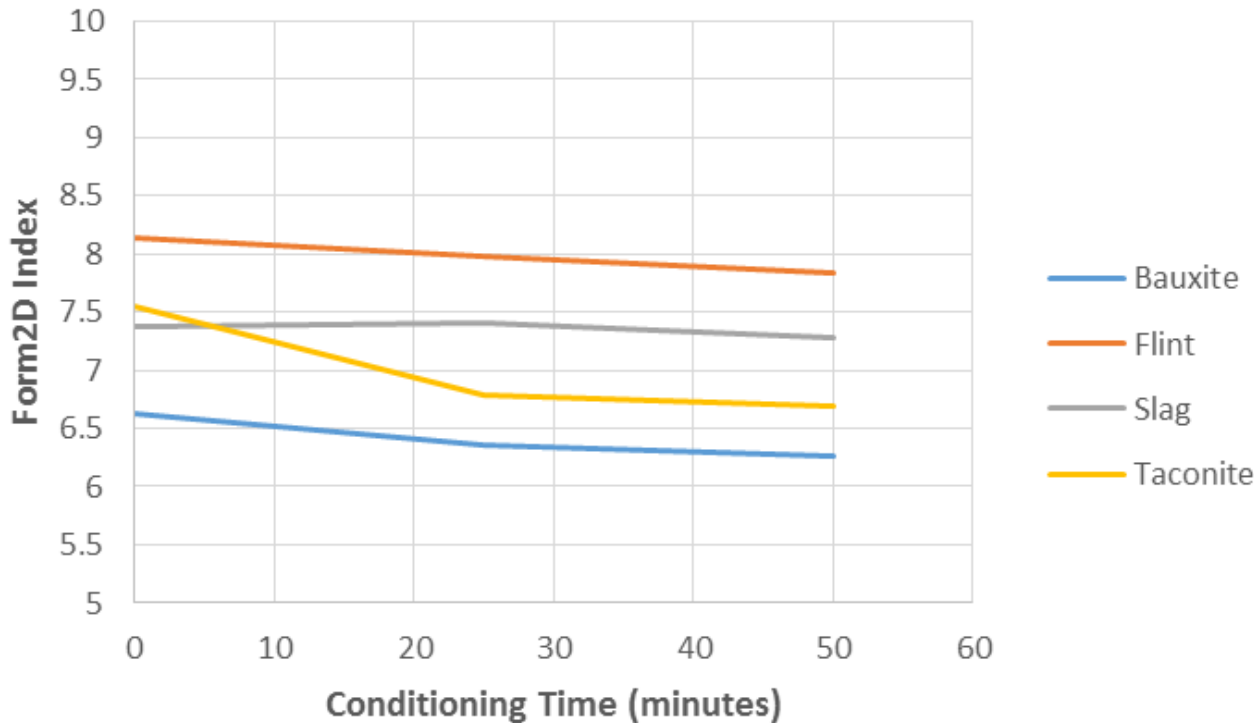
# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

## Phase II



- AIMS Results – Change in Shape

Change in Form2D



Form2D Range:  
*0 = sphere*  
*20 = extremely elongated*

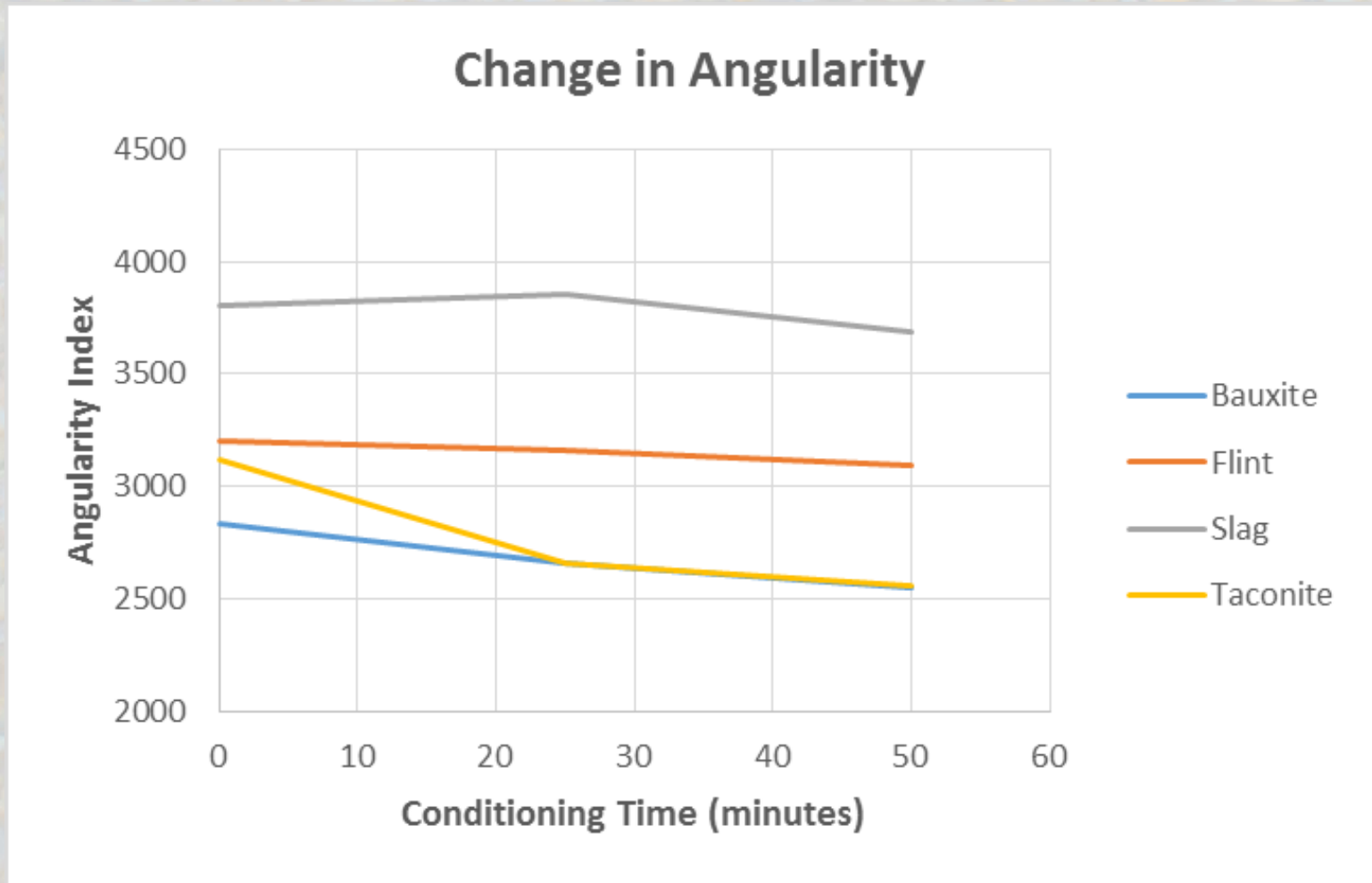
***Note: No correlation observed between change in shape and friction ranking.***

# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

## Phase II



- AIMS Results – Change in Angularity



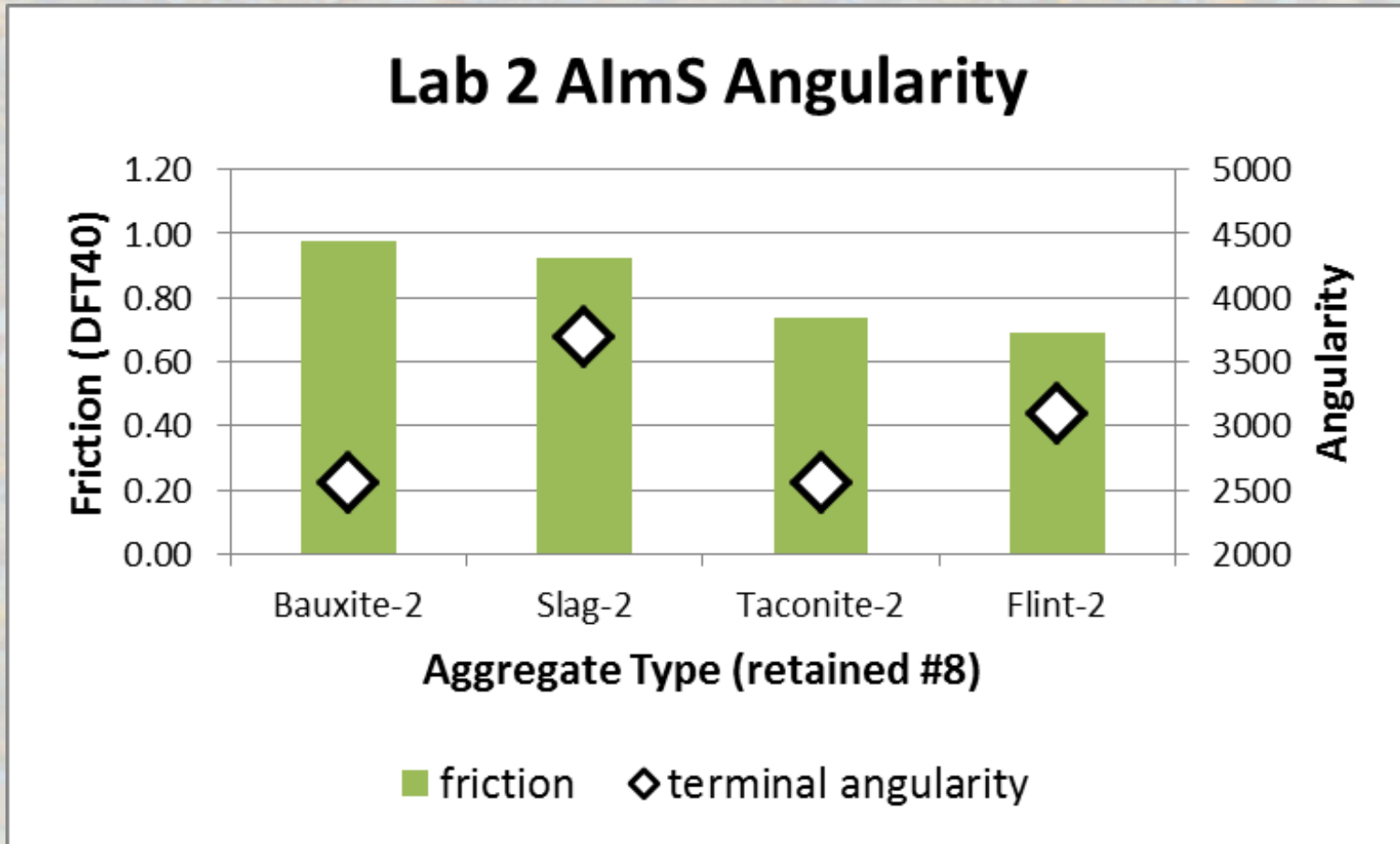


# NCAT Aggregate Durability Study

## Phase II

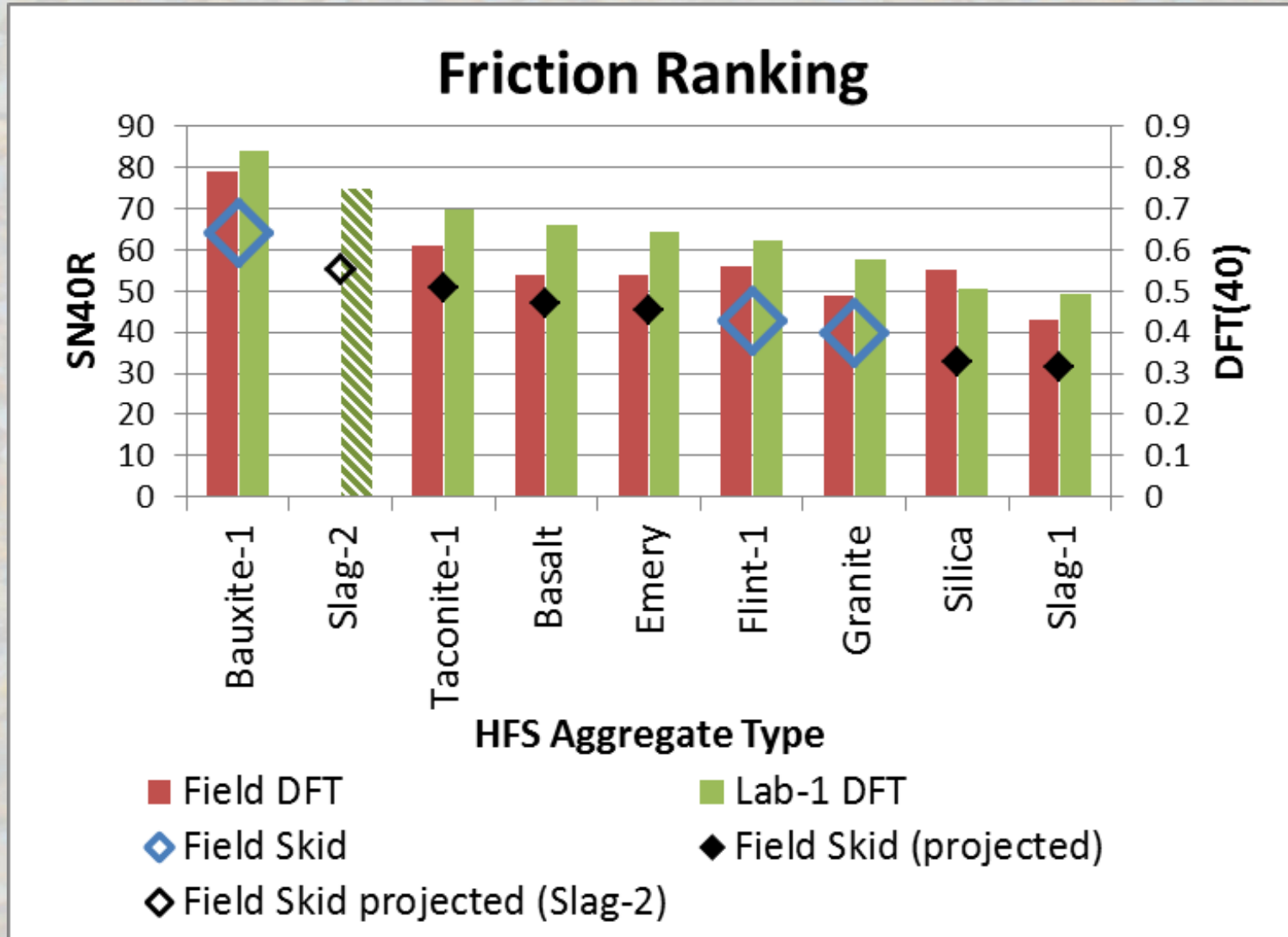


- AIMS Results – Angularity



**Note: No correlation between angularity and friction ranking.**

# Phase II Observations





# Phase II Observations



- Aggregate Size Effects
  - Very little difference in friction after wear between #8 and #12 size particles, regardless of aggregate type.
  - Larger particle size contributed to more particle loss under accelerated testing
    - Importance of interlock with smaller aggregate
    - Depth of embedment of aggregate increased as particle size decreased - resulted in less loss of particles for smaller particle size.
  - Aggregate loss (lab samples) did not have a substantial impact on friction



# Phase II Observations



- Aggregate Shape and Angularity Effects
  - More elongated particles (flint, taconite) show slight increase in friction with speed vs. little to no trend for bauxite, slag.
  - No correlation between *particle shape and friction or angularity and friction*.
- Aggregate Wear/Abrasion Results
  - All aggregates continued to lose mass after 50 minutes of Micro-Deval conditioning.
  - Rate of mass loss did not change over 50 minutes, but diminished slightly for slag.
  - Mass loss correlated with friction ranking for 3 aggregates, with flint being the exception.





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