

Pavements and the Urban Heat Island Effect

EPA's Cool Pavements Webcast 1/28/2010 2-3:30 EST

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Do Pavements contribute to UHI?

- If so:
 - How much and where?
- What are the:
 - evaluation techniques?
 - driving factors?
 - properties of materials?
 - design characteristics?
 - mitigation strategies and opportunities to pavements industries?
 - tools and models?





ASTER Satellite Imagery

Night Surface Temperature (C), Phoenix Area, AZ

3-October-2003, ~ 22:39:00

Paved surfaces are 40% of the urbanized land cover in Phoenix and contribute to UHI



Phoenix Metropolitan Area (11pm at night)

Source is AST_08 ASTER Data Product, NASA

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How Much and Where?

Average Hourly Air Temperatures (July 2005)

for Sky Harbor Airport (Urbanized), Encanto Park (Green Space), and the City of Maricopa (Rural)





UHI Evaluation Techniques

ASTER Thermal Imaging Satellite



Mobile Transects



Temperature Data Points (44 Total)







Embedded Thermocouples









Time lapse infrared view of Chicago near Millennium Park July 14 – 15, 2007







What are the driving factors?

- Canyon Geometry
- Thermal Properties
- Anthropogenic Heat
- The Urban Greenhouse Effect
- The Effective Reflectivity (Albedo)
- Reduction of Evaporating Surfaces
- Reduced Turbulent Transfer of Heat



Golden, Zehnder, Brazel 2004



Example



Fundamental Properties

- Albedo, α
- Emissivity, ε
- Convection Coefficient, h
- Thermal Conductivity, *k*
- Specific Heat, C
- Density, ρ
- Thermal Diffusivity, α,κ
- Porosity, φ



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- Increase Albedo
 - Use pigments, light colored aggregates, resin binders
 - Surface coatings with nanoparticles
- Porous pavements (HMA and PCC)
- Whitetopping strategies
- Reflective Asphalt Pavements Techniques
- Thermal resistant materials
 - Aggregates, admixtures, crumb rubber
- Provide cover: trees, solar panels (parking structures)
- To pave or not to pave?



Pavement Design Characteristics

Thin and Ultra-Thin Whitetopping PCC





Pavement Design Characteristics

Reflective Asphalt Pavements

Surface Chip Seals and Coatings: using reflective / light-colored chip / paints

"Gritting": reflective chips and aggregate

Shot-Blasting: abrading surface binder











Pervious / Porous Parking Lots

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Other?

U-haul : Permeable Pavement











Hybrid Designs

Example permeable curbs (Tempe Transit Center)

• Composite Designs





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Modifying Radiative Properties

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Laboratory Evaluation















Tools - Models

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Heat Transfer between Pavement and its Surroundings





City – Wide Analysis





- Pavements play a role in the urban heat island effect.
- There is no one solution that fits all!
- We need to appreciate the complexity of various designs and materials.
- More work needs to be done!



Thank You!



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