

Railway Concrete Pavements

Dr.-Ing. Bernhard Lechner

**2nd International Conference on Best Practices
for Concrete Pavements
Florianopolis, November 2011**



Continuously Reinforced Concrete Pavement
for ballastless tracks (Nuremberg-Ingolstadt)

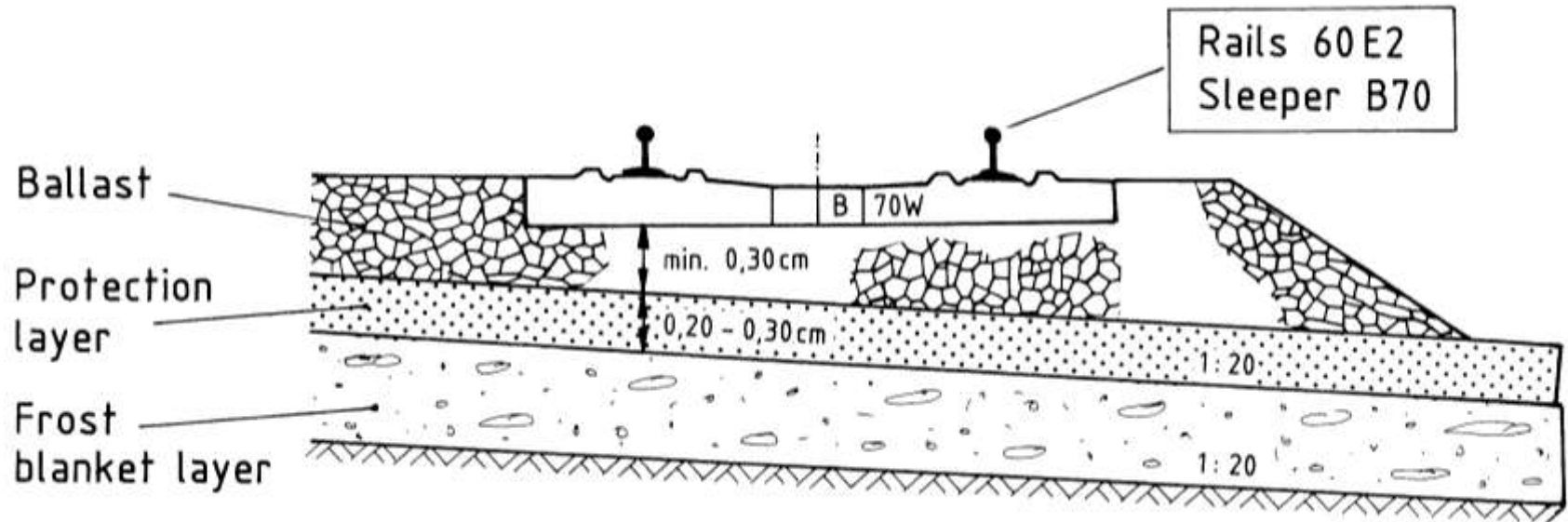
An aerial photograph showing a high-speed rail line on the right, curving through a hilly landscape. To the left of the rail line is a multi-lane highway with several cars. The rail line features overhead power lines and a concrete base. The surrounding area is green with some buildings and roads.

V_{\max} 300 km/h
 R_{reg} 3350m
 Cant_{\max} 170mm
 Grade_{\max} 40 %

High speed line Cologne – Rhine/Main opened 2002

- **Introduction “Why ballastless tracks?”**
- **Concrete Pavements supporting
Sleeper Panels or Fastening Systems**
- **Design features and thickness design**
- **Perspectives and Conclusions**

Actual conventional track design

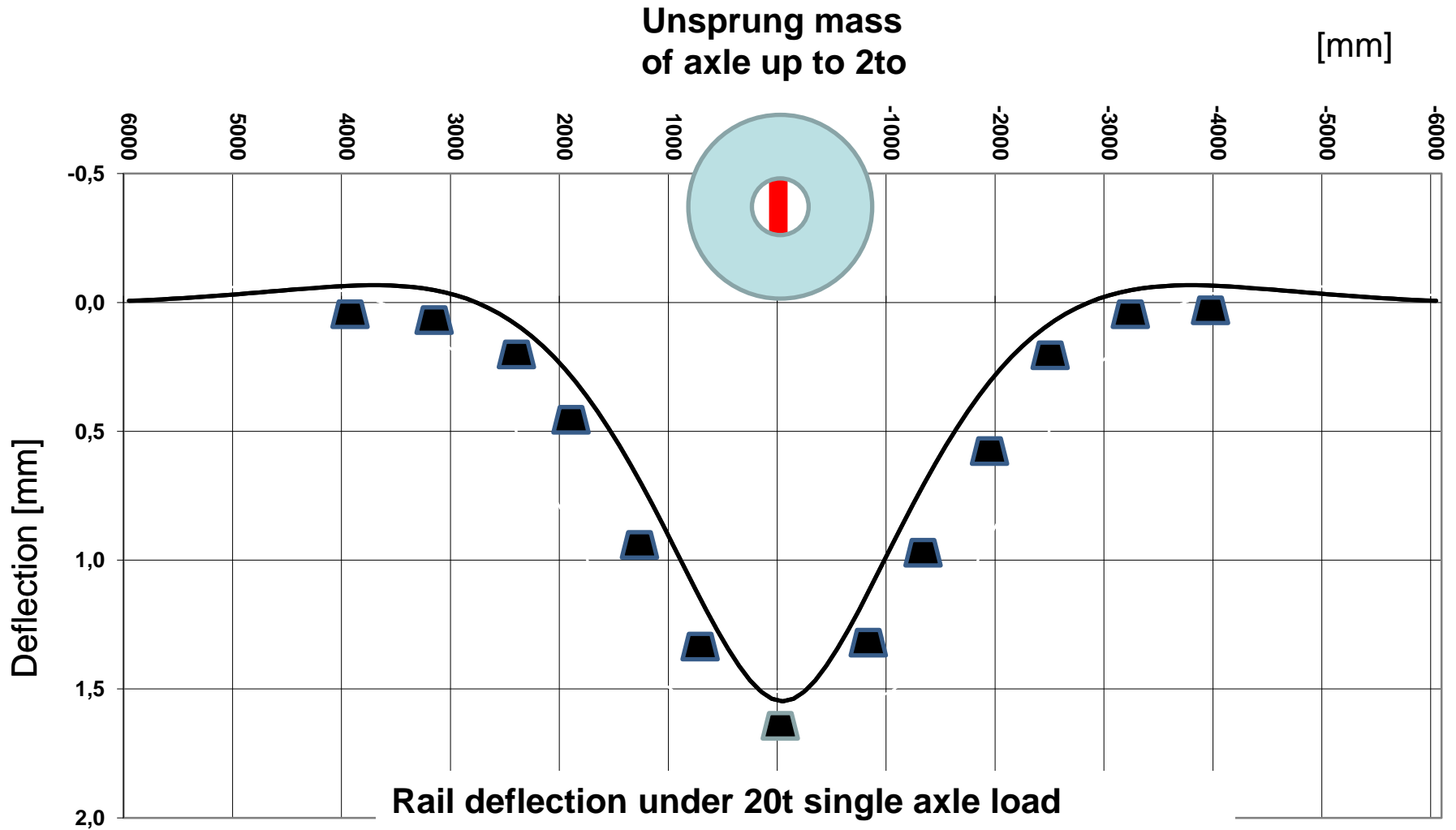


Ballast bed:

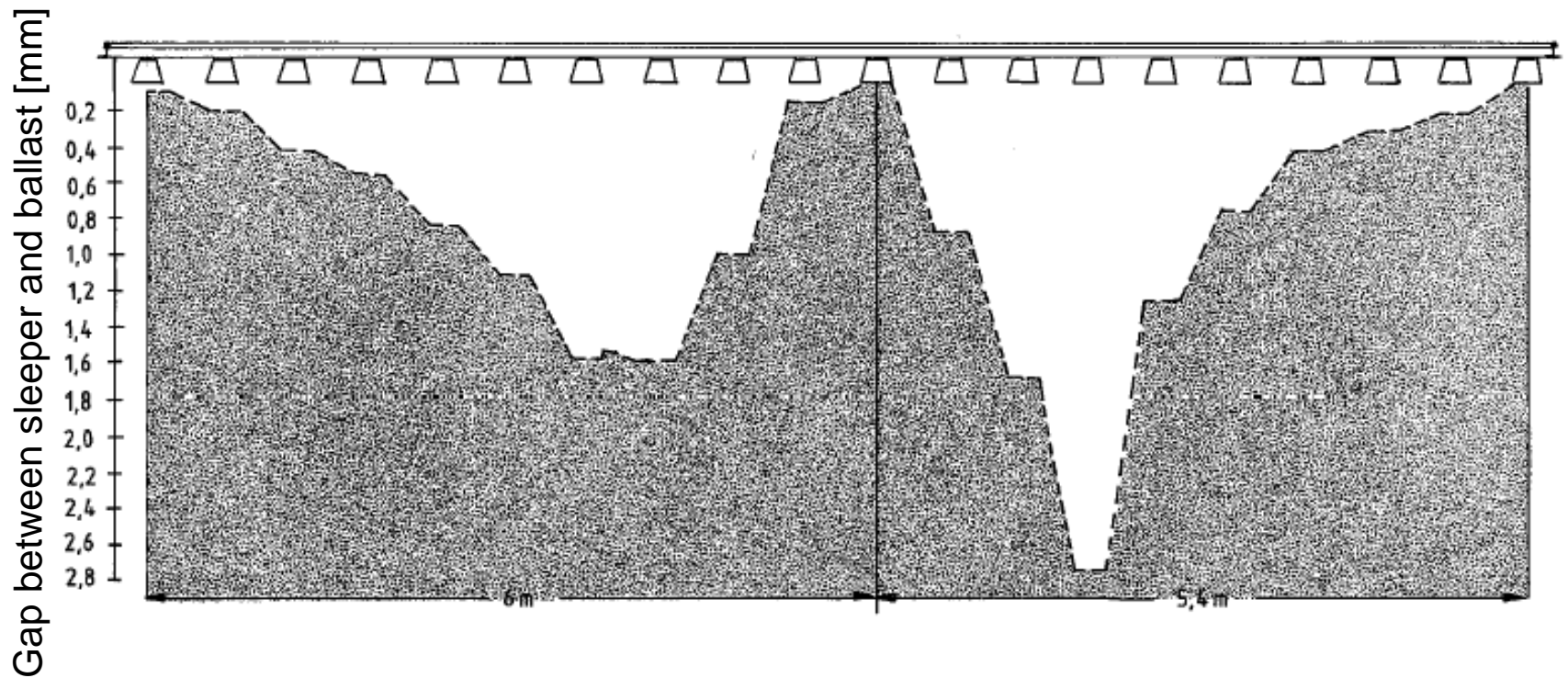
High permeability

No rigid fixation of sleeper panel

Load distribution by rail deflection and damping required



Uneven sleeper support („Hanging sleeper“)

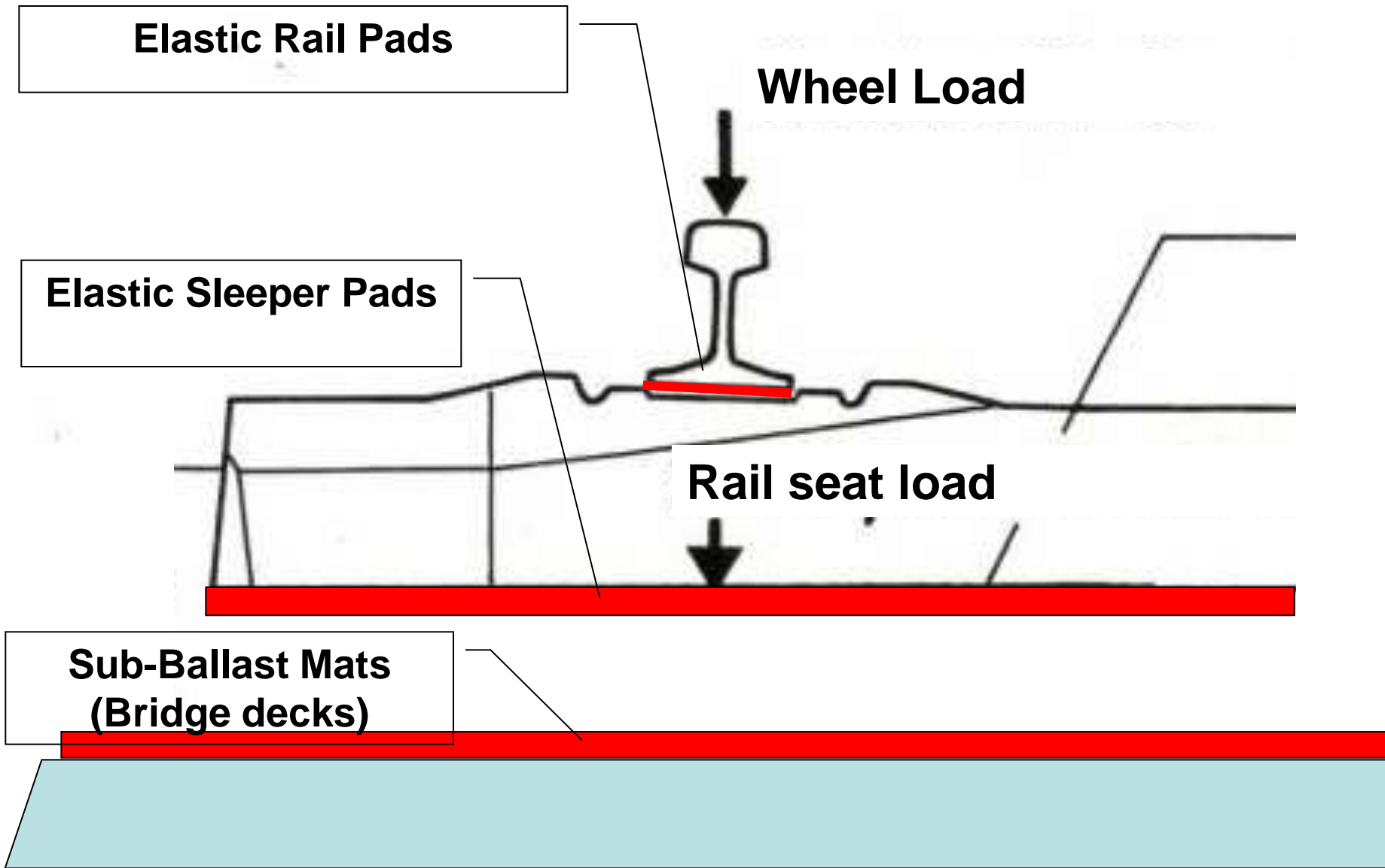




„White spots“

Improving conventional ballasted tracks by

- **Reduction of dynamic rail seat loads:
Additional load distribution and damping
by introduction of elastic components (e.g. fastening
systems)**
- **Reduction of ratio rail seat load vs. ballast stress:
Wide base sleepers**

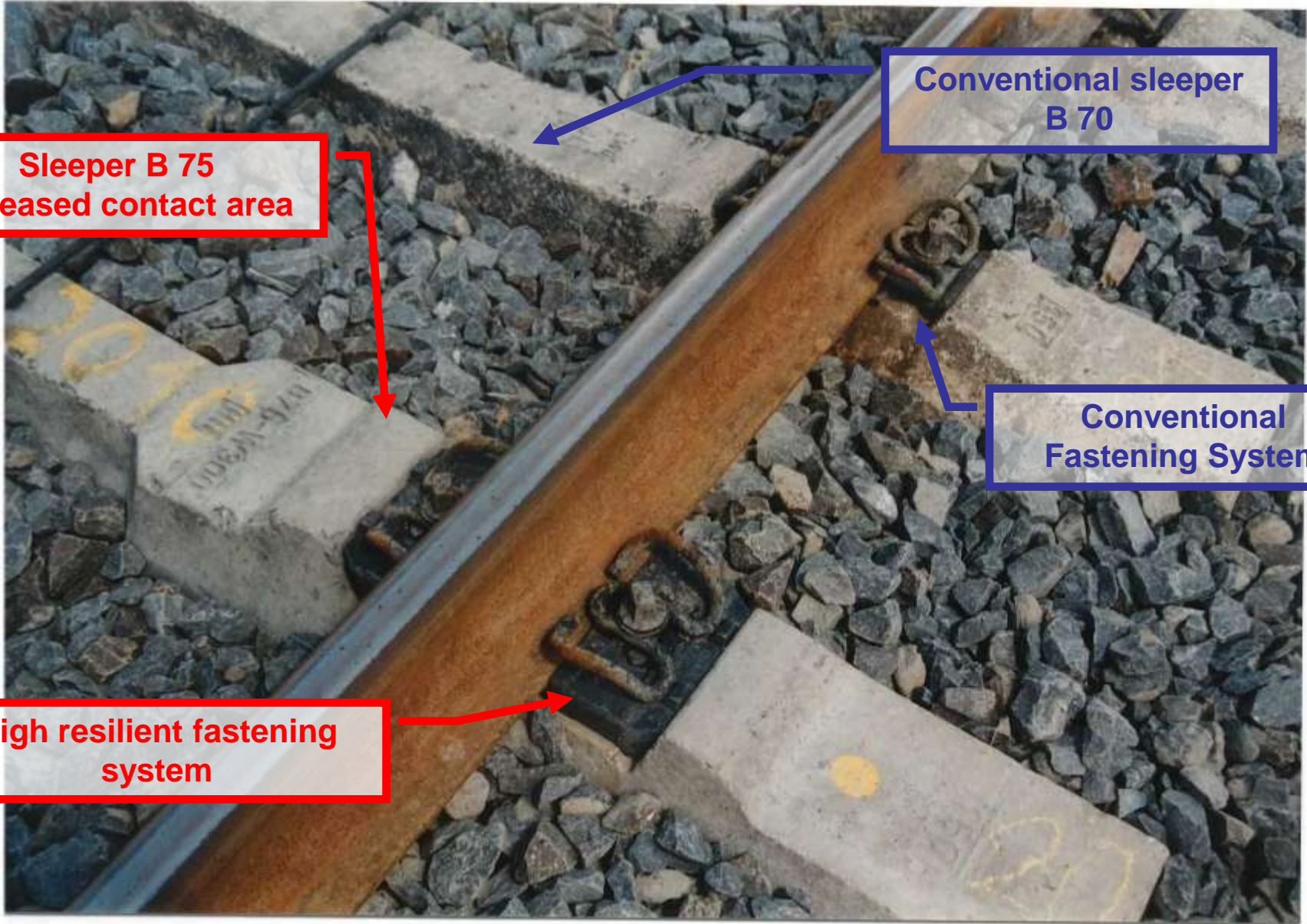


Conventional sleeper
B 70

Sleeper B 75
increased contact area

Conventional
Fastening System

High resilient fastening
system





Resistance against track buckling

Control of high longitudinal compressive forces in continuously welded rail during summertime.

Cologne – Rhine/Main 2002

$V_{\max} = 300 \text{ km/h}$

$R_{\text{reg}} = 3350 \text{ m}$

$\text{Cant}_{\max} = 170 \text{ mm}$

$\text{Grade}_{\max} = 40 \text{ ‰}$



Costs ballasted vs. ballasted track

Tracks on earthworks:

Improved Ballasted track superstructure (including protection layer)

Initial costs: 450-500 T€ Annual maintenance costs: 3.55 T€

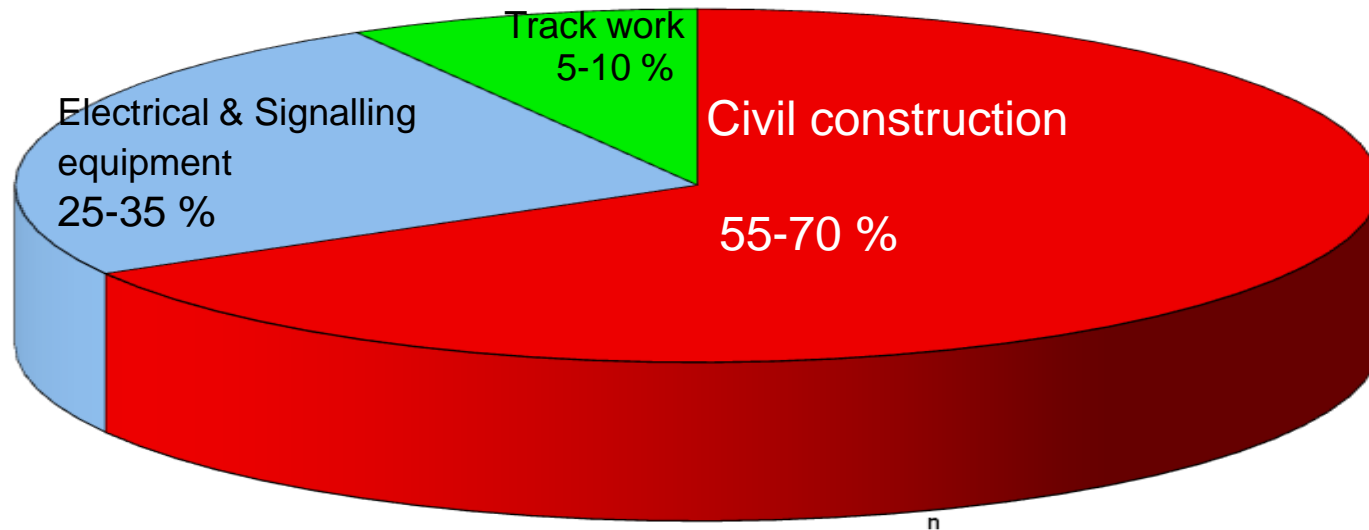
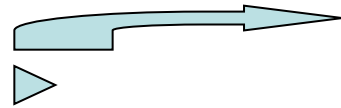
Ballastless track superstructure (including base layer and noise absorbers)

Initial costs: 550-700T€ Annual maintenance costs 0.25T€

Total cost for the new construction of a railway line (without rolling stock)

1 % reduction of civil cost

10 % compensation of track cost



Conclusion: High leverage of reducing civil construction cost by use of alignment advantages of slab track superstructure for PDL's

Ballastless tracks

State-of-the-art solutions for high speed lines

Main characteristics:

- ▶ Low maintenance
- ▶ High availability (→ 100%)
- ▶ Increased service life Designed service life 60 years
- ▶ Low structural height
- ▶ High lateral track resistance which allows future speed increases in combination with tilting technology and/or usage of eddy current brakes (contactless braking system)
- ▶ No problems with “flying” ballast stones at high speed

Tz 317



Eddy current brake

- Introduction “Why ballastless tracks?”
- **Concrete Pavements supporting
Sleeper Panels or Fastening Systems**
- Design features and thickness design
- Perspectives and Conclusions

GENERAL SYSTEMS OF BALLASTLESS TRACKS

DISCRETE RAIL SEATS
OR CONTINUOUSLY
EMBEDDED RAIL
ON CONCRETE SLAB
(CRCP)



PRE-CAST SLABS ON
TREATED BASE



Ref: Max Bögl GmbH

SLEEPER PANEL ON
CONCRETE PAVEMENT
(fixed or monolithic)
OR ASPHALT PAVEMENT
(fixed)



Ref: Pfeleiderer track systems



**First ballastless track
installed at Rheda station
1972**

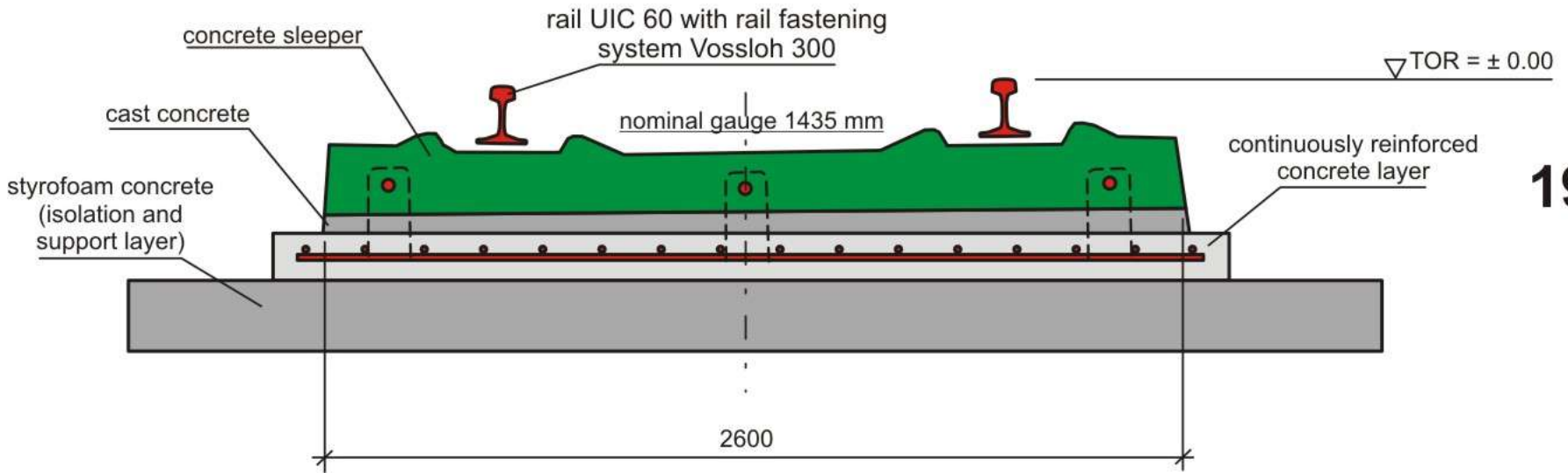


14cm CRCP

First ballastless track installed at Rheda station 1972

Ballastless track systems

system Rheda classic



1972

Continuous reinforced concrete pavements (CRCP)

Requirements for rail applications (DB standard)

- Design and construction of CRCP according to road standard
(e.g. minimum strength C30/37; minimum cement content 350kg/m³)
- Reinforcement 0.8% - 0.9% in neutral axis of slab (load transfer at crack)
- Maximum crack width 0.5mm
 - Free cracking** allowed for systems using sleepers (fastening systems not integrated in CRCP);
 - Controlled cracking** for CRCP with integrated fastening systems

WG 46 Version 0.7 dated 2011-09-15

CEN/TC 256

Date: 2011-9

prEN xxxxx-1:2011

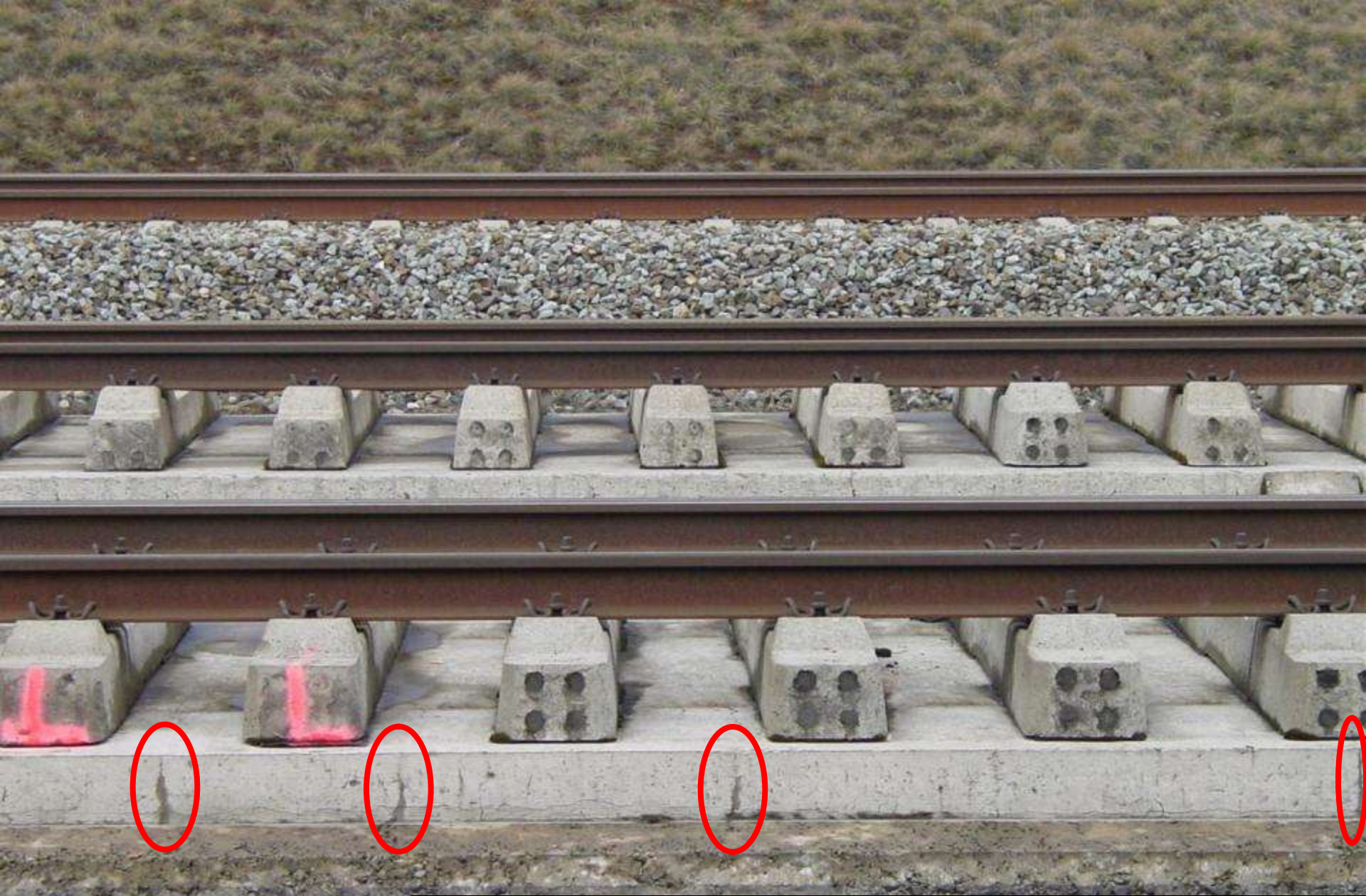
CEN/TC 256

Secretariat: DIN

Railway applications - Ballastless track systems - Part 1: General requirements

Applications ferroviaires - Voie sans ballast système- Partie 1: Prescriptions générales

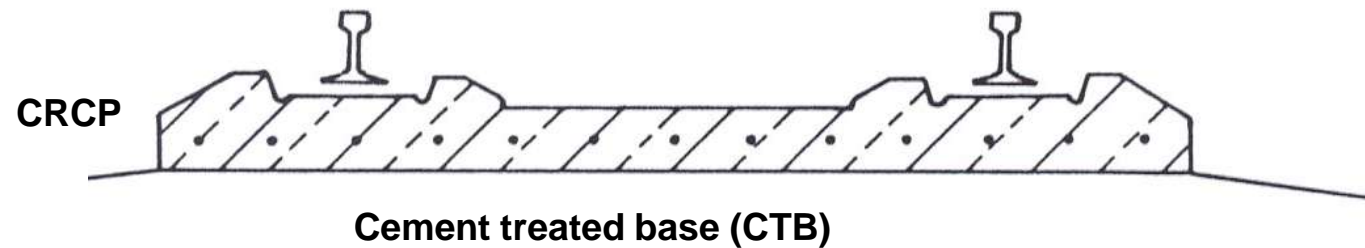
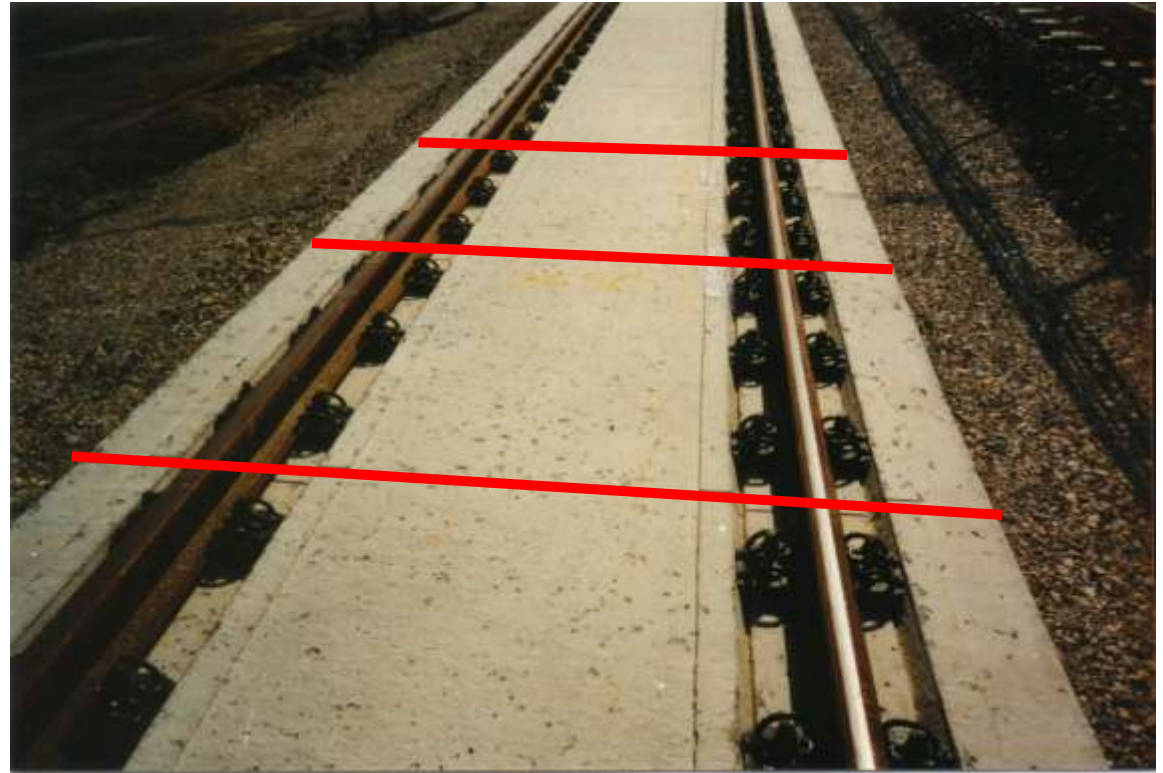
Bahnanwendungen – System Feste Fahrbahn - Teil 1: Allgemeine Anforderungen



CRCP for ballastless tracks (Hannover-Berlin)
Free cracking of CRCP

Discrete rail seats on
CRCP

(controlled cracking
required)





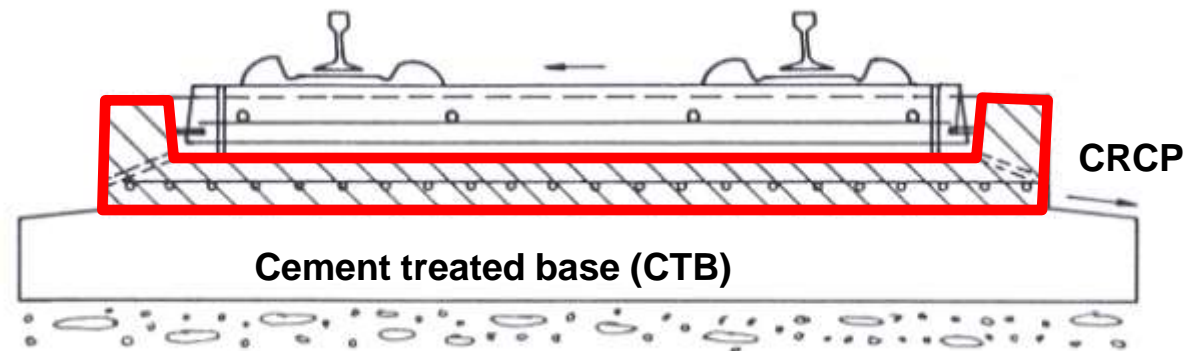
**Cracking of CRCP „controlled“ by embedded prefabricated sleepers
(Test section built 1978)**

Sleeper panels on
CRCP

Monolithic connection

Rheda with trough

(Hannover-Berlin 1988)

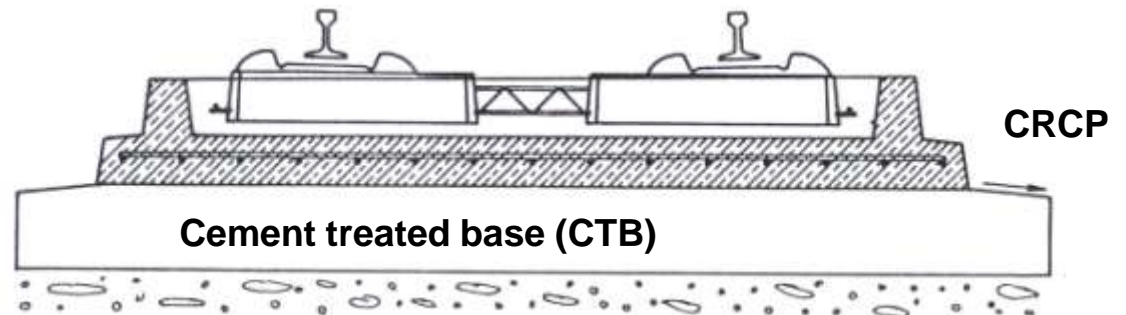


Sleeper panels on
CRCP

Monolithic connection

Rheda with trough
and two-block
or lattice girder sleepers

Cologne-Rhine/Main 2002



Sleeper panels on
CRCP

Monolithic connection

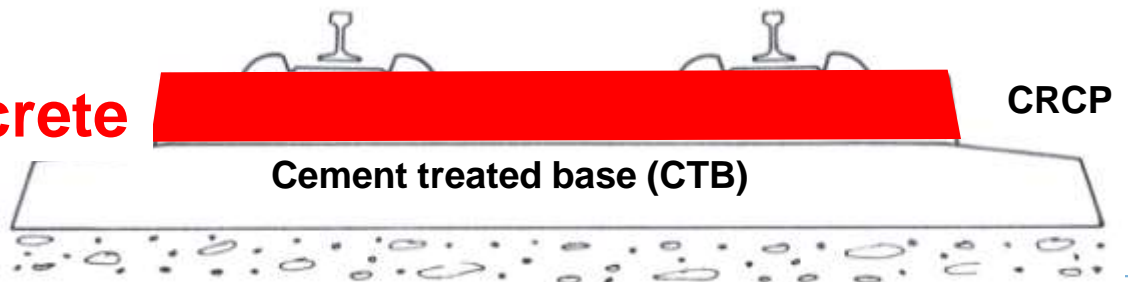
Rheda 2000

(without trough)



Nuremberg-Ingolstadt 2006

CRCP + Filling Concrete





Temporary rail support required





Bahntechnik



Temporary rail support removed



Curing according to road construction





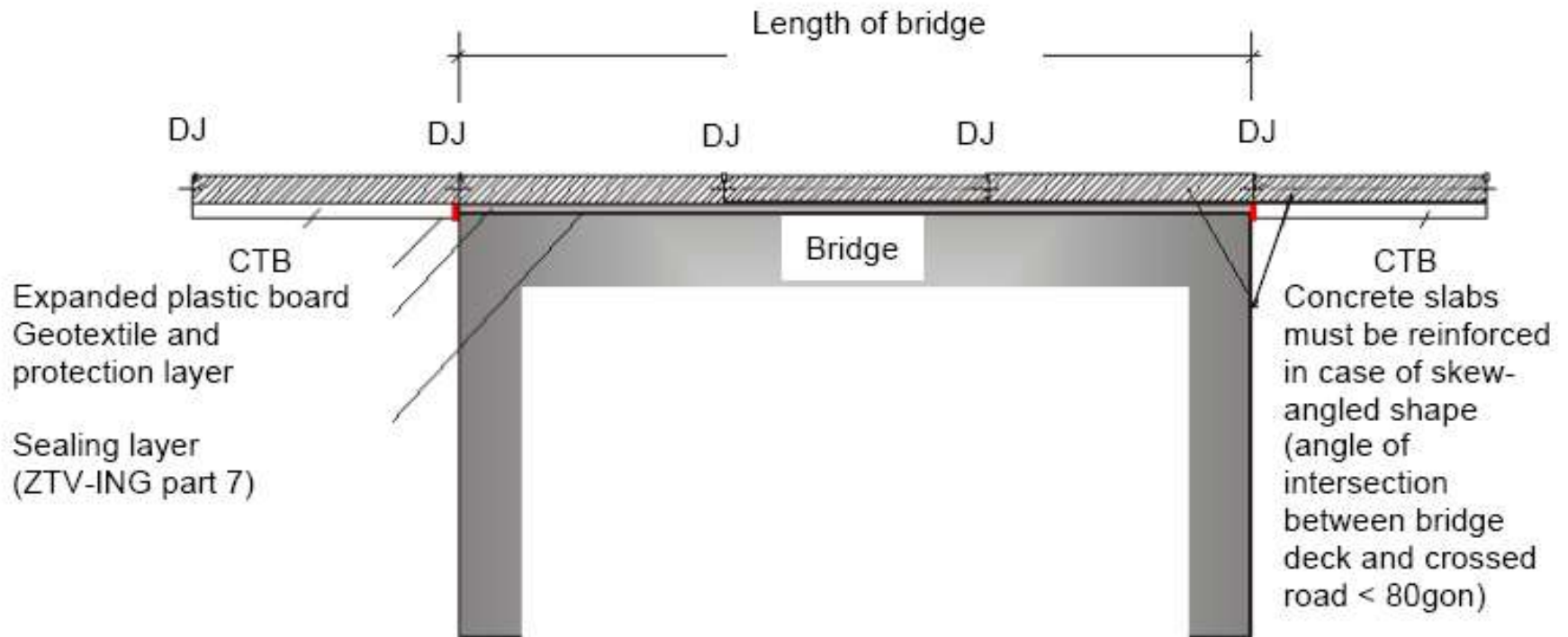
Nürnberg – Ingolstadt



Cracks up to 0.5mm are according to CRCP design – no sealing required



Switches must be integrated



DJ: Contraction joint (dummy joint)



CRCP for ballastless tracks (Hannover-Berlin)

Sleeper panels fixed
on CRCP

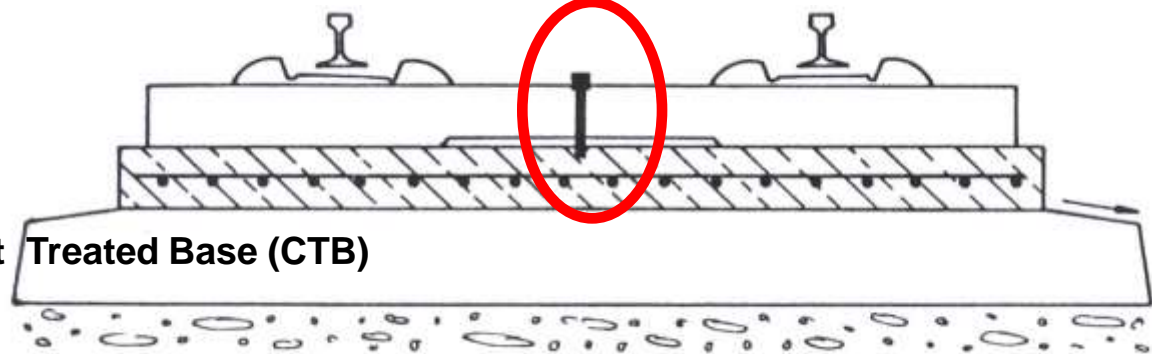


BTM V2

(Hannover-Berlin 1988)

180mm CRCP

300mm Cement Treated Base (CTB)





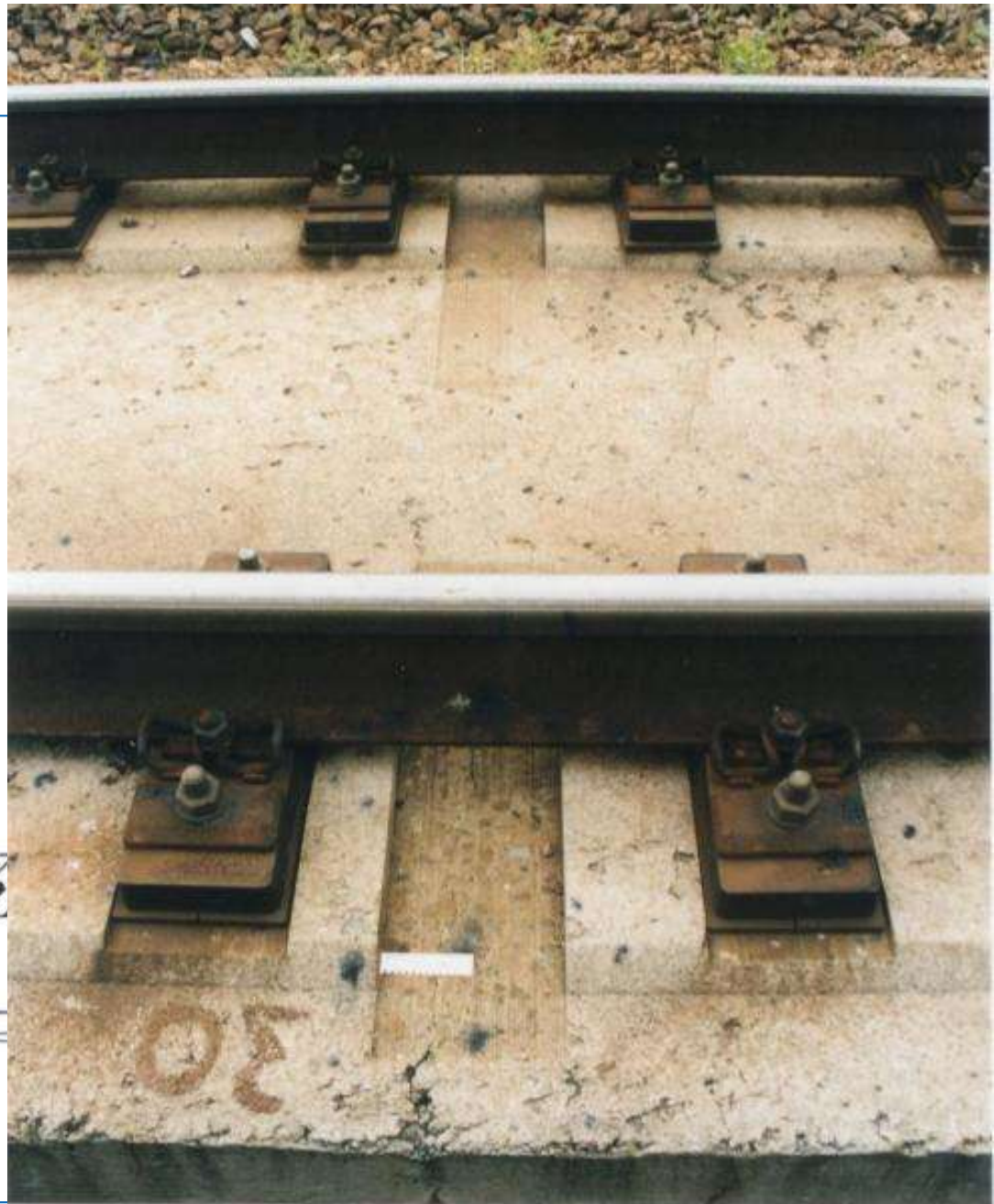
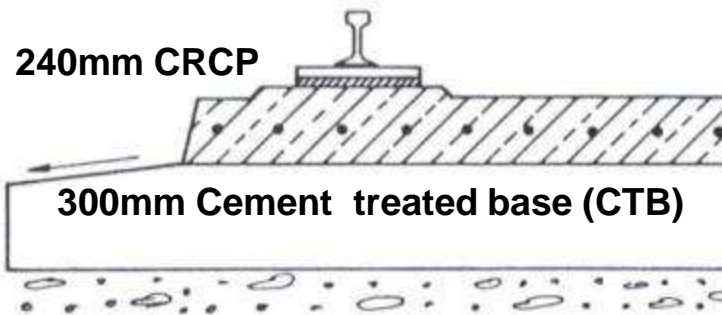
ATD-structure with sleepers on asphalt pavement (30cm)

High-speed line Hannover–Berlin (1998)

Discrete rail seats
on CRCP

Controlled
Cracking required

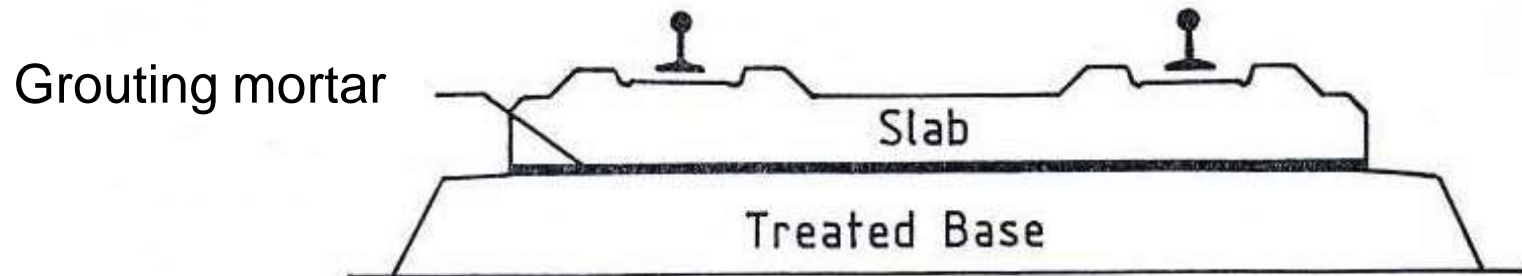
BTE (ZÜBLIN)



Pre-cast slabs or frames on a treated base using grouting mortars

BÖGL

(Nuremberg-Ingolstadt 2006)







**Nürnberg-
Ingolstadt**

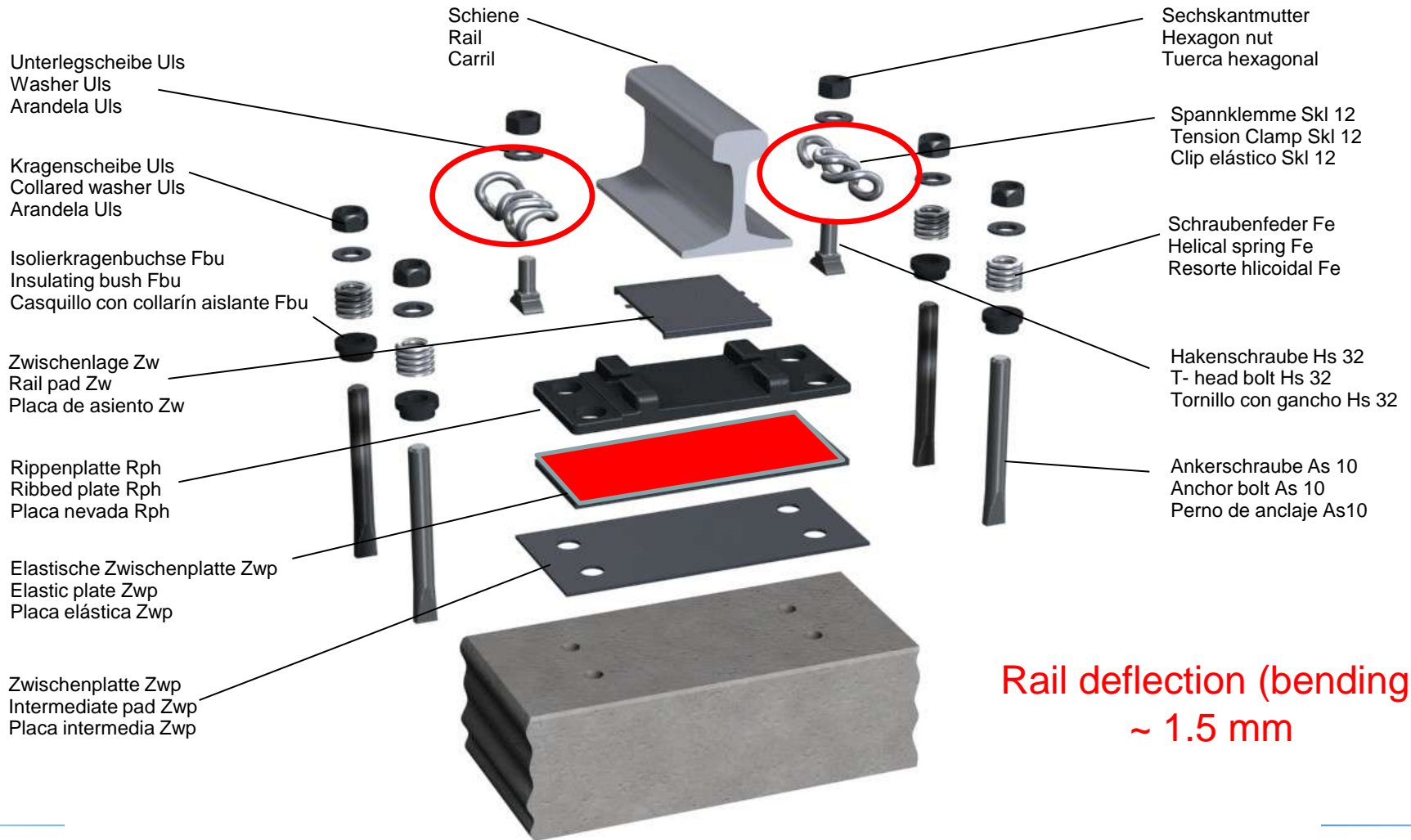
Ballastless tracks

Installation of noise absorption elements



- **Introduction “Why ballastless tracks?”**
- **Concrete Pavements supporting
Sleeper Panels or Fastening Systems**
- **Design features and thickness design**
- **Perspectives and Conclusions**

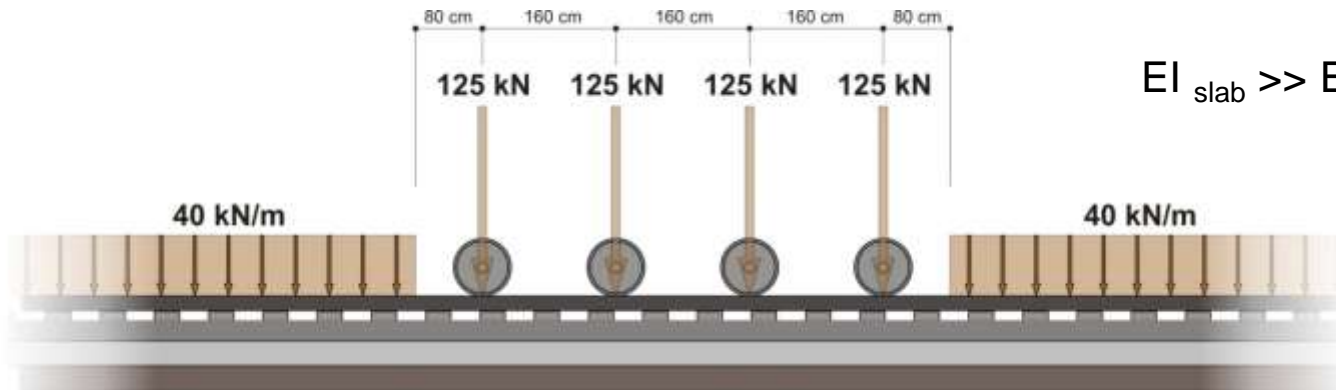
Vossloh Fastening System FF 336



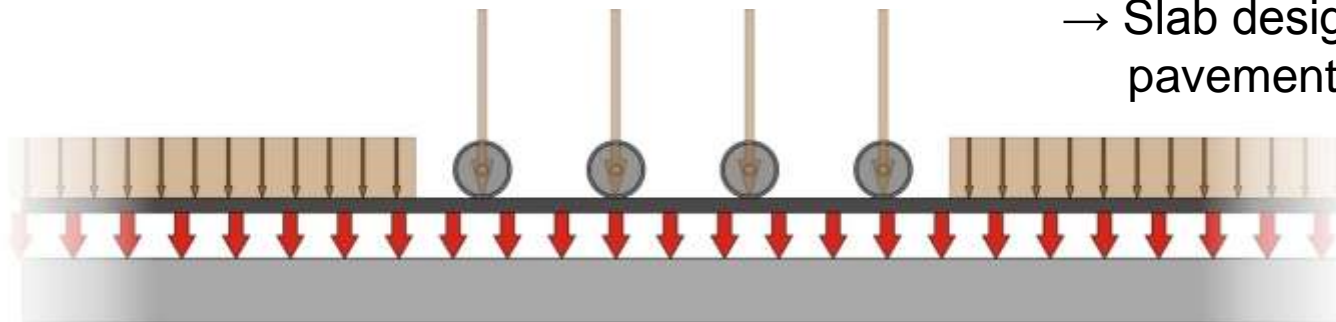
Load scheme UIC 71

Rails with elastic fastening system

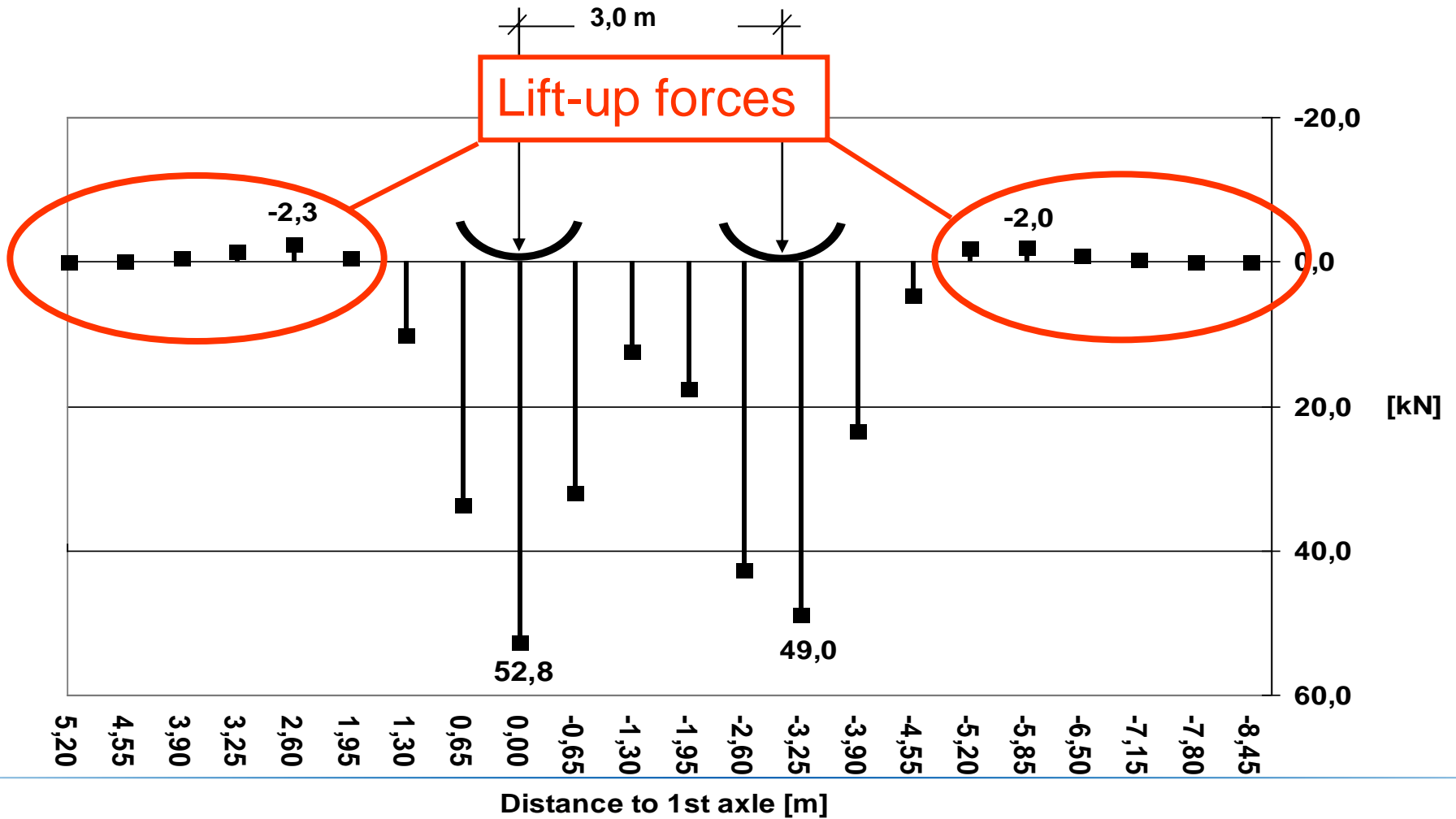
$$EI_{\text{slab}} \gg EI_{\text{rail}}$$



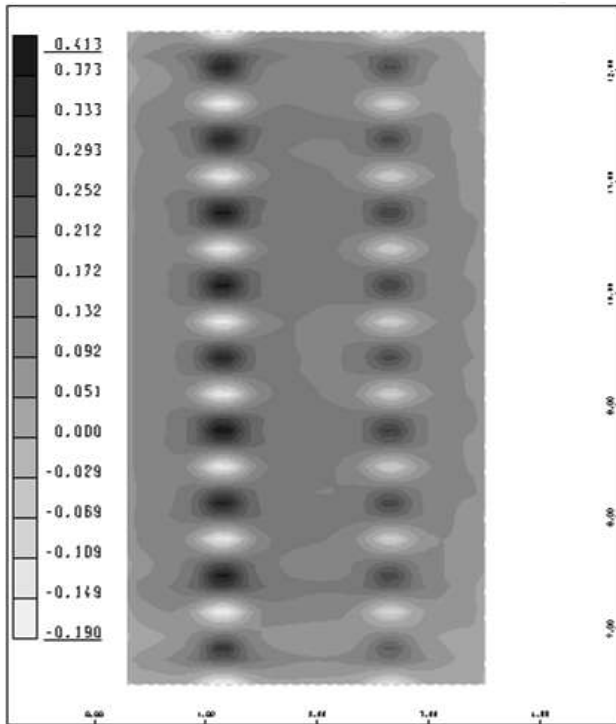
- Load distribution by rail
- Slab loaded by rail seat loads
- Slab design according to road pavement design



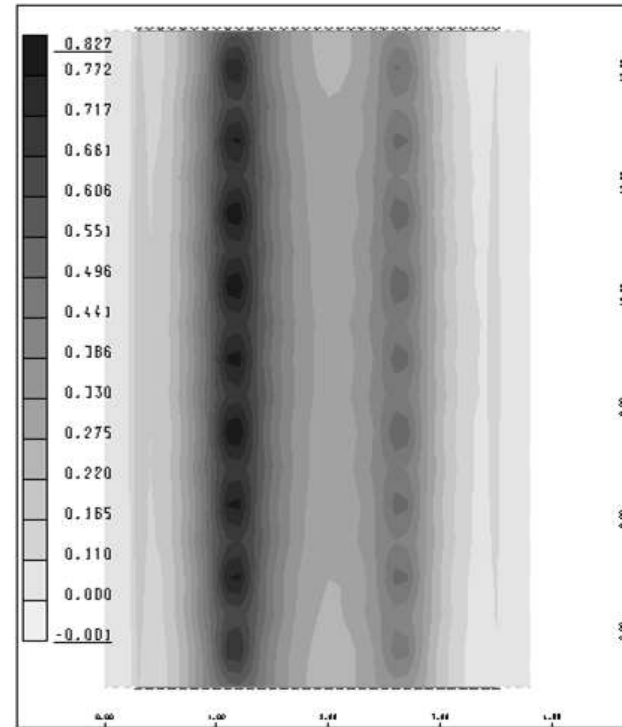
Boogie of ICE 1



Thickness design using slab theory models (Westergaard) or FEM



Static bending stresses in concrete layer in longitudinal direction



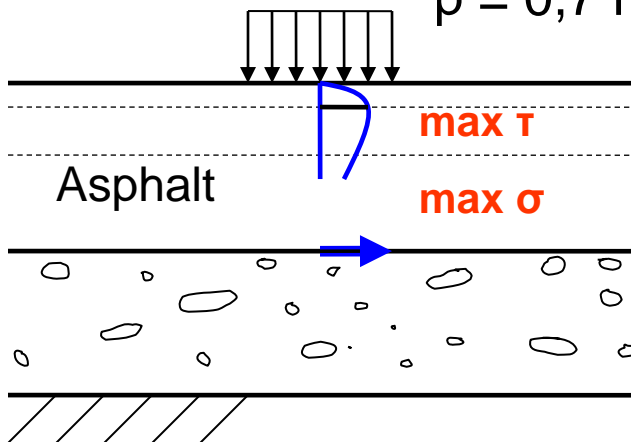
Static bending stresses in concrete layer in transversal direction

Axle load 100 kN

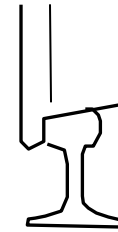


$Q = 50 \text{ kN}$

$p = 0,7 \text{ N/mm}^2$



Axle load 200 kN

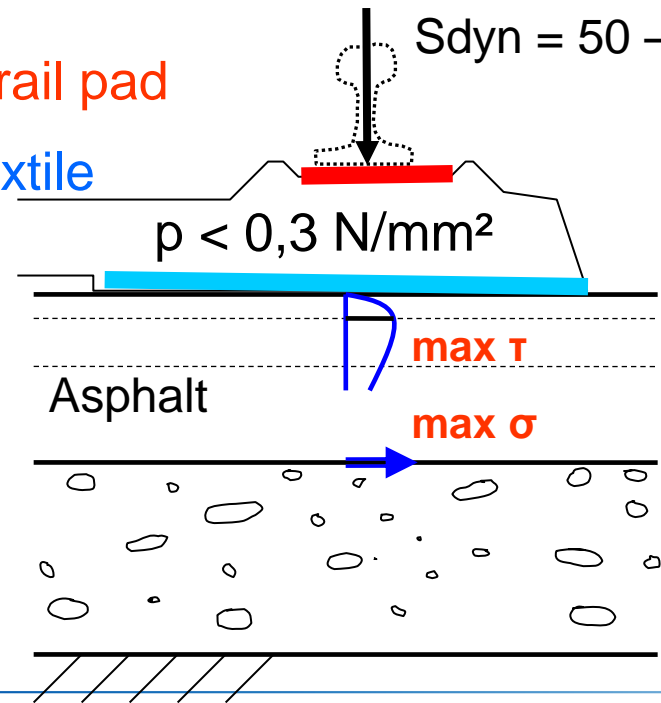


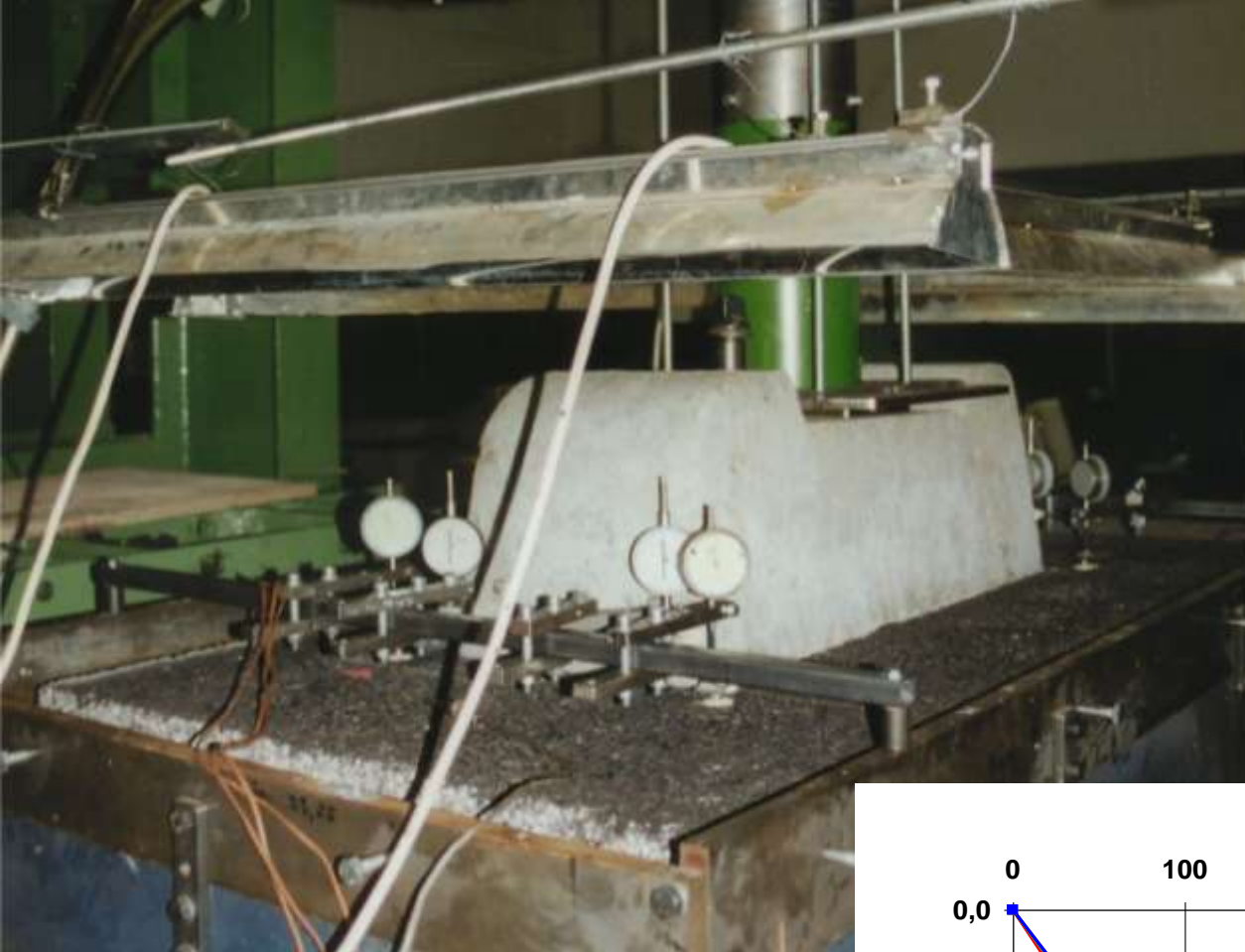
$S_{stat} = 32 \text{ kN}$

$S_{dyn} = 50 - 78 \text{ kN}$

Elastic rail pad

Geo-textile

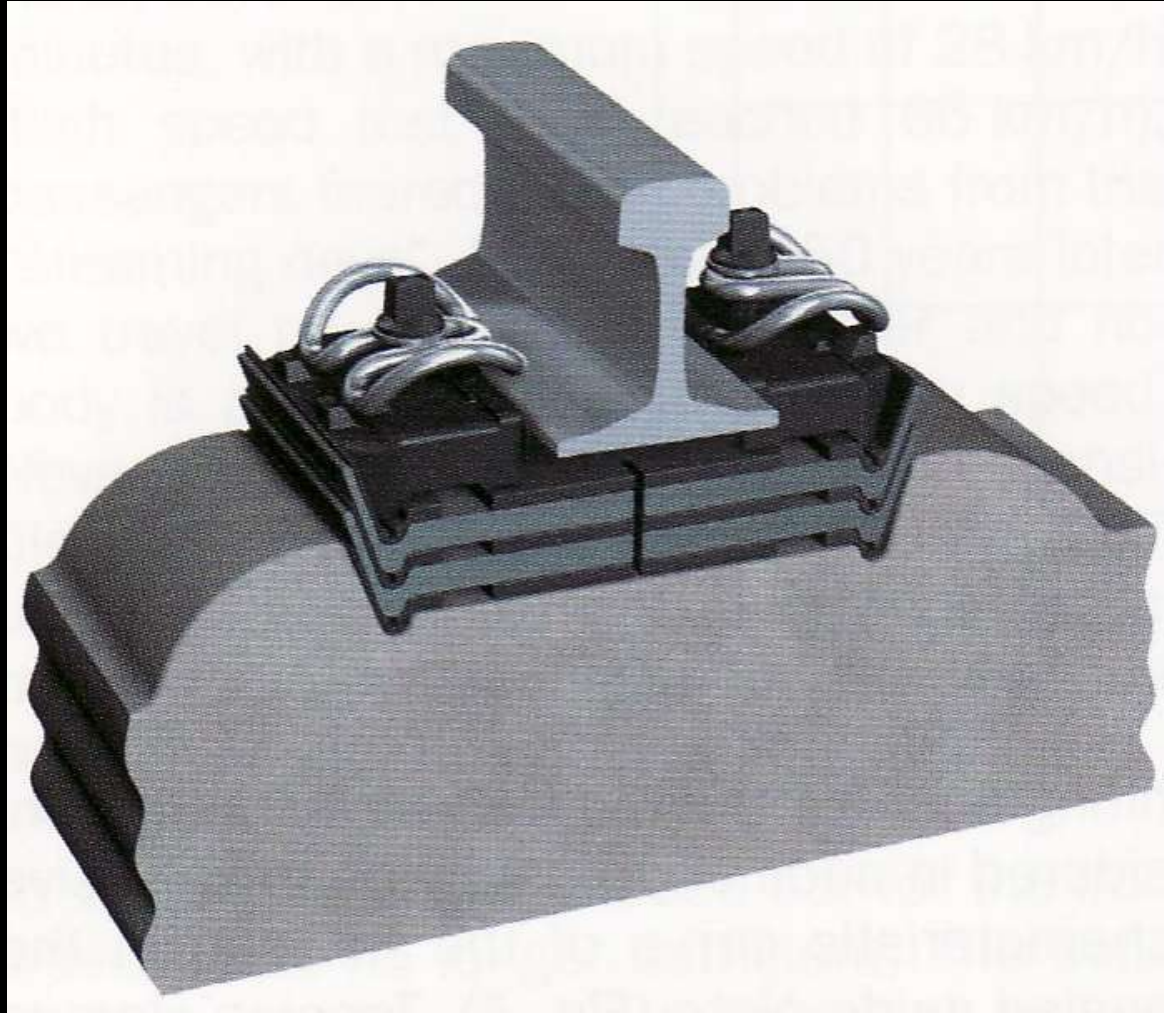




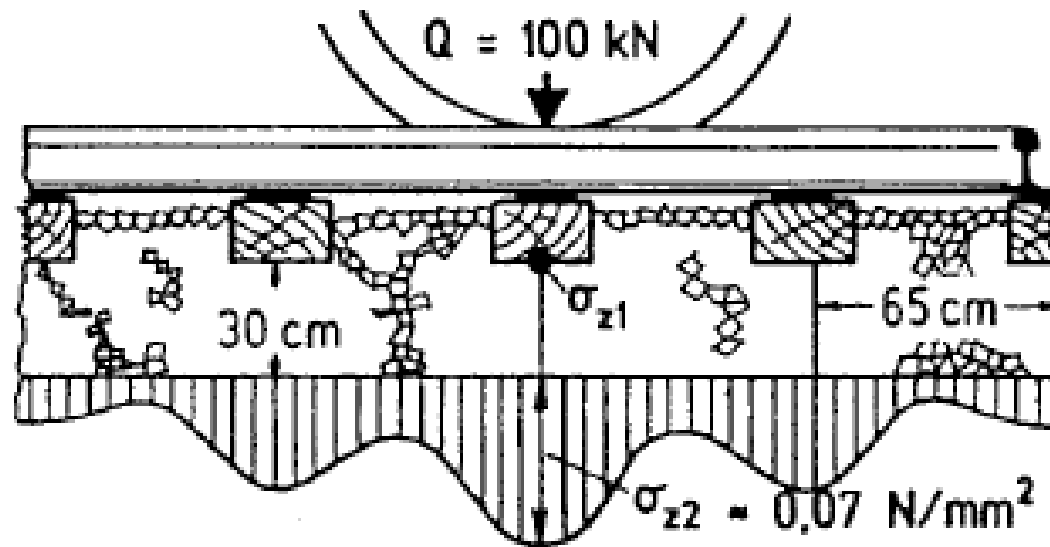
**Sleeper panel on
asphalt pavement**

- Deformation
- Erosion
- Frost



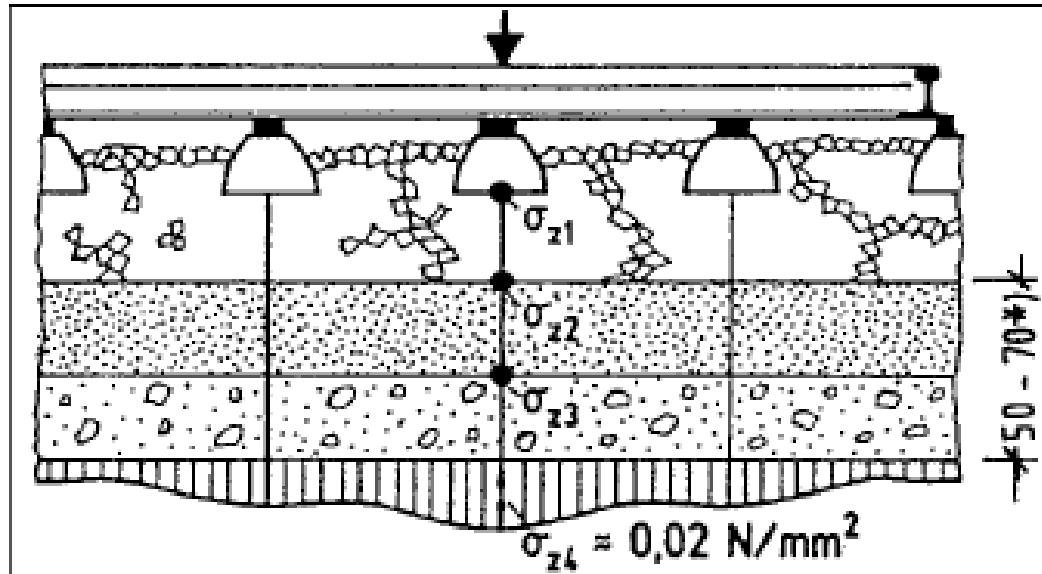


**Height adjustment within fastening system + 76mm / -24mm
to compensate slab settlement or heaving**



Old, conventional tracks

Vertical stresses σ_z acting on subgrade



Protection layer

Frost blanket layer

Actual, conventional tracks for hightspeed $v \geq 250\text{km/h}$

Vertical stresses σ_z acting on subgrade

Transition Design

- Ballasted / Ballastless



Industry

Develops new track

Application for approval

- Design / dimensioning
- Certificates

Testing

Expert reports

Federal Rail Agency (EBA)

Approval for in-situ testing

Approval

Safety

Client /operator (DB – AG)

Declaration of usage

LCC

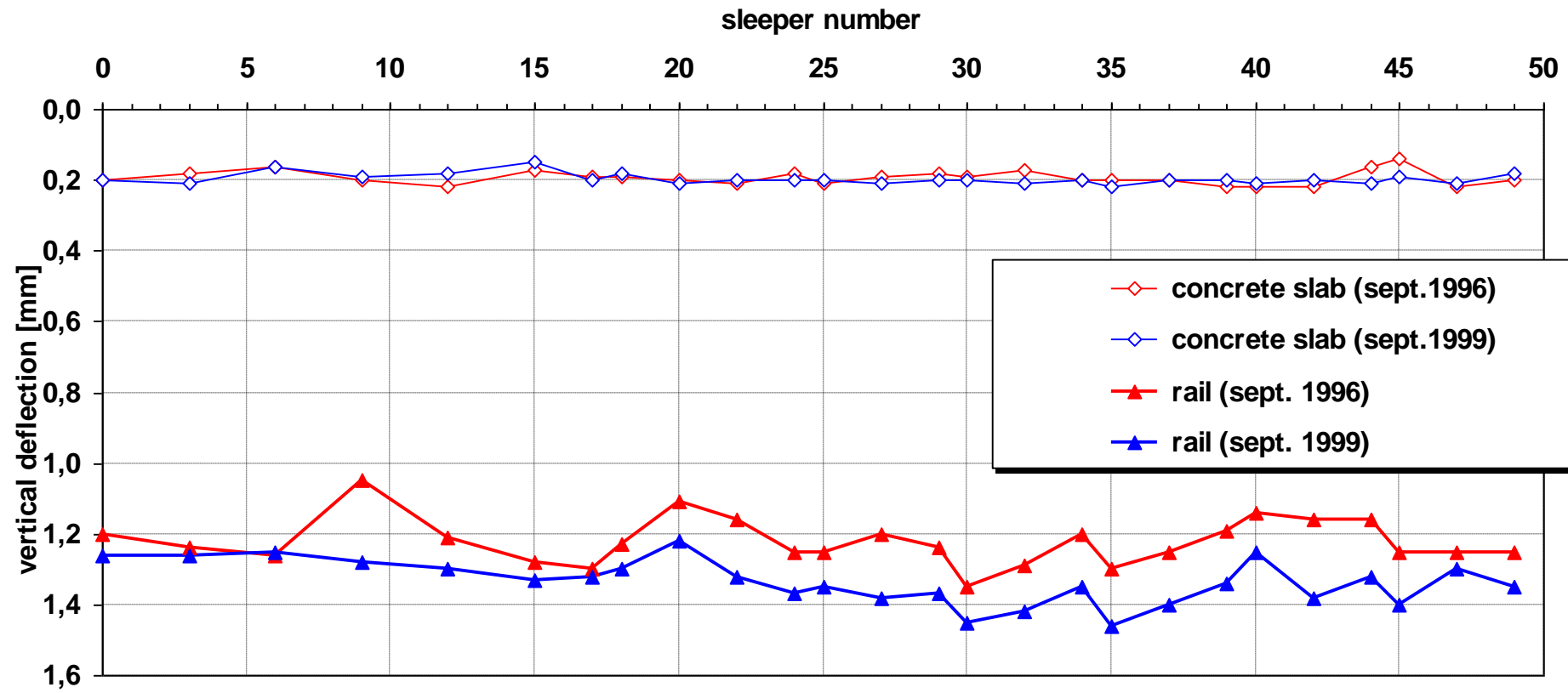
Order





Track movable Benkelman beam to check track quality

**DEFLECTION BEHAVIOUR OF A BALLASTLESS TRACK
after 3 years of operation**



- **Introduction “Why ballastless tracks?”**
- **Concrete Pavements supporting
Sleeper Panels or Fastening Systems**
- **Design features and thickness design**
- **Perspectives and Conclusions**

Further developments of ballastless tracks with concrete pavements

New track designs using long term experiences of the road sector

- Concrete pavement on unbound base layer
- Jointed plain concrete pavement (JPCP)
- ...

Conclusions

Concrete pavement technology for road application is platform for high level rail application (but not only)

Rail requirements are specific and tight

Interface between pre-fabricated and built in place components is critical

Obrigado pela sua atenção !

Thanks for your attention !

Dr.-Ing. Bernhard Lechner

Technische Universität München
Chair and Institute of Road, Railway and Airfield Construction
Baumbachstraße 7
81245 München
Germany

Tel +49.89.289.27033
Fax +49.89.289.27042

E-Mail: bernhard.lechner@vwb.bv.tum.de
Internet: www.vwb.bv.tum.de

Discrete rail seats on
CRCP

(controlled cracking
required)

BES (WALTER-HEILIT)

