

# Noise efficient, sustainable, track design, monitoring and asset management at Infrabel

Ward Verhelst, I-AM.236

Vienna, 13.10.2016



# Introduction

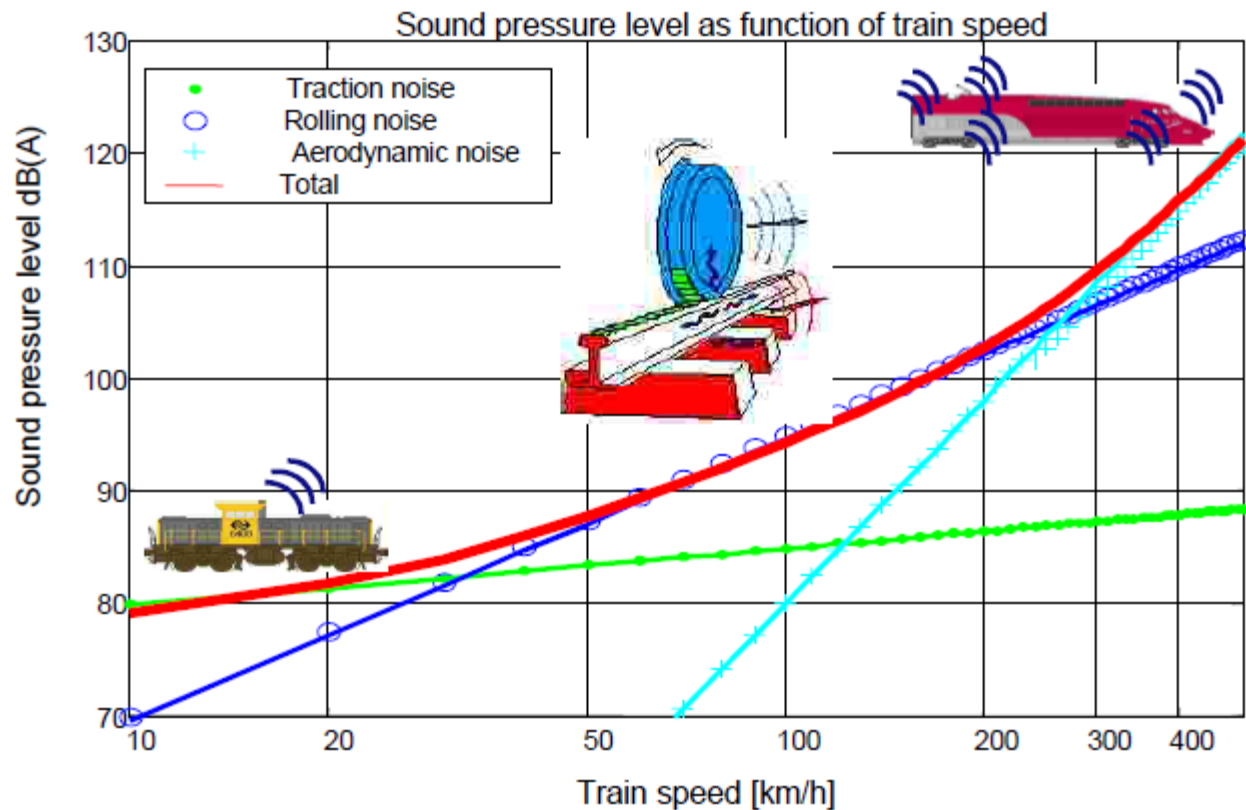
"Noise efficient, sustainable track design, monitoring and asset management at Belgian INFRABEL Network"

- By combining efficient track design, maintenance, and monitoring a substantial reduction on rolling noise can be achieved.
- Results and experiences based on large measurement campaigns and not on pure modelling proof that Railway noise emission can be further reduced 2.5 - 4 dB for a minimum cost.

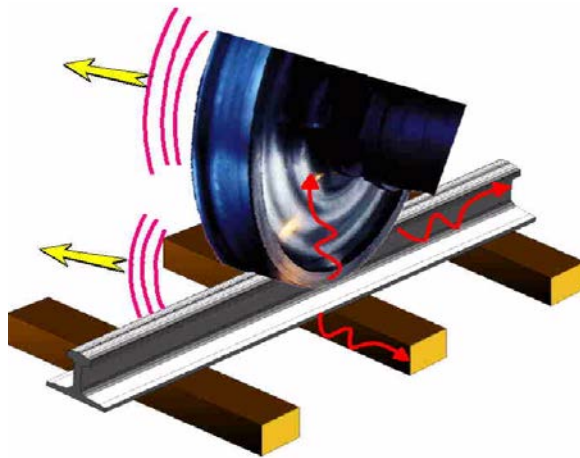
# Content

- Basics Rolling noise: interaction track / rolling stock
- Track (rail pad) design: effects on noise
- Noise Monitoring of Infrastructure and Rolling stock
- Asset management: rail grinding: effect on noise
- Conclusion

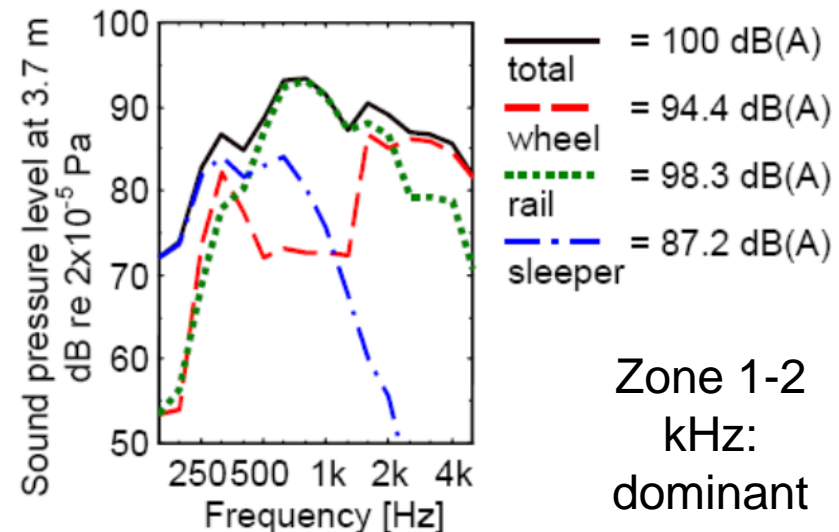
# Basics Rolling noise: interaction track / rolling stock



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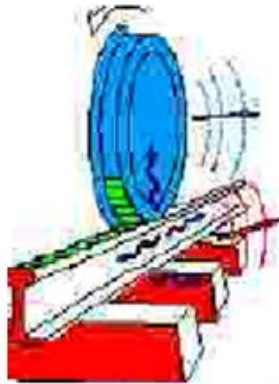


Prediction for a freight wheel on track with medium stiffness rail pads.

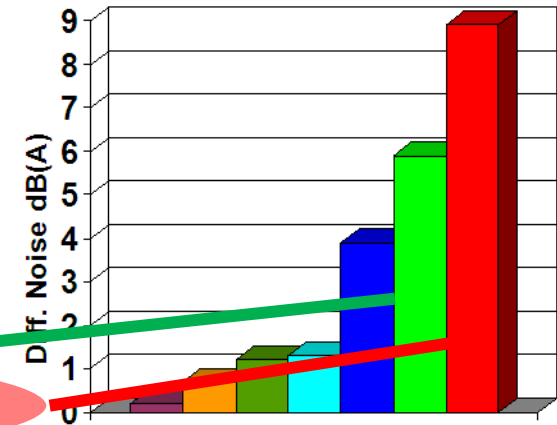


- 1) Excitation by roughness wheel/rail
- 2) In many cases rail contribution is dominant
- 3) Try to control rail vibration -> how: track design?

## Influence on Noise



- Stiffness of ballast
- Type of rail
- Distance of sleepers
- Track width
- Corrugation of rail
- Pad stiffness
- Corrugation of wheel



Cast iron

LL/K blocks





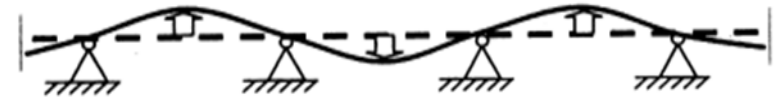
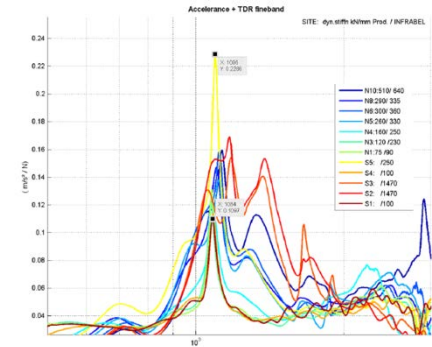


Fig. 1. Pin-pin vibration mode (first mode).

# Track design: effects on noise

## • Focus on the railpad

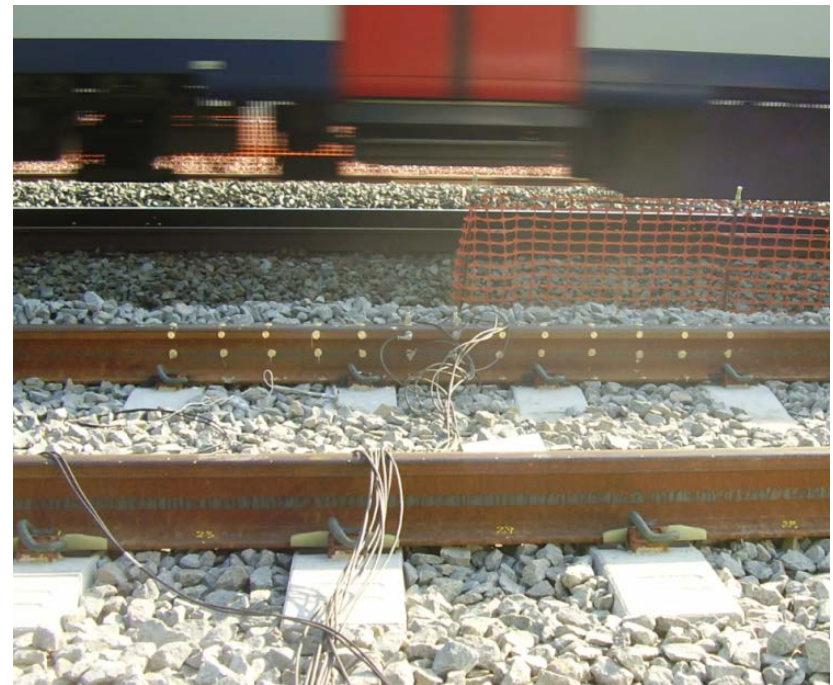
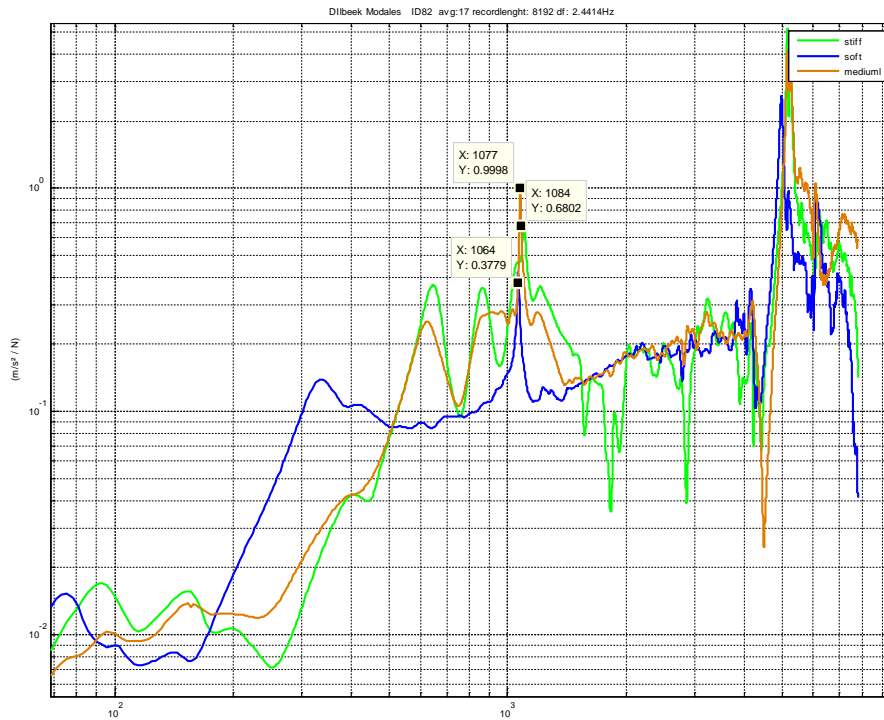
- Why: only component in contact with rail
- goal: not by extreme stiffening (distribution of forces in ballast)
- Maximum of damping restrict “pin-pin” mode of rail
- Design and validate shape of the railpad



## • How

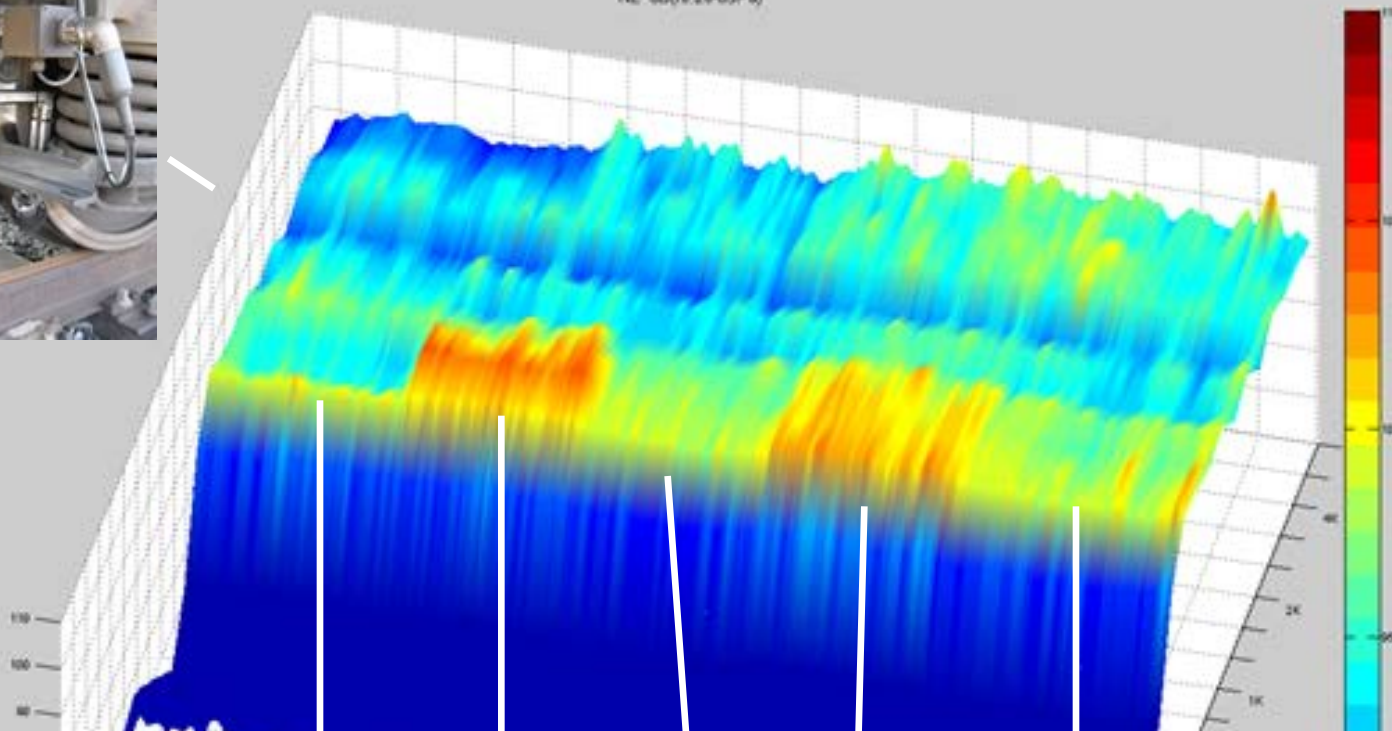
- modelling? Lab test? or implement and test in track
- Advantage of in situ tests:
  - *real situation*
  - *ISO norms to test performance ( ISO3095, ISO15641)*
  - *Direct effect on noise can be measured*





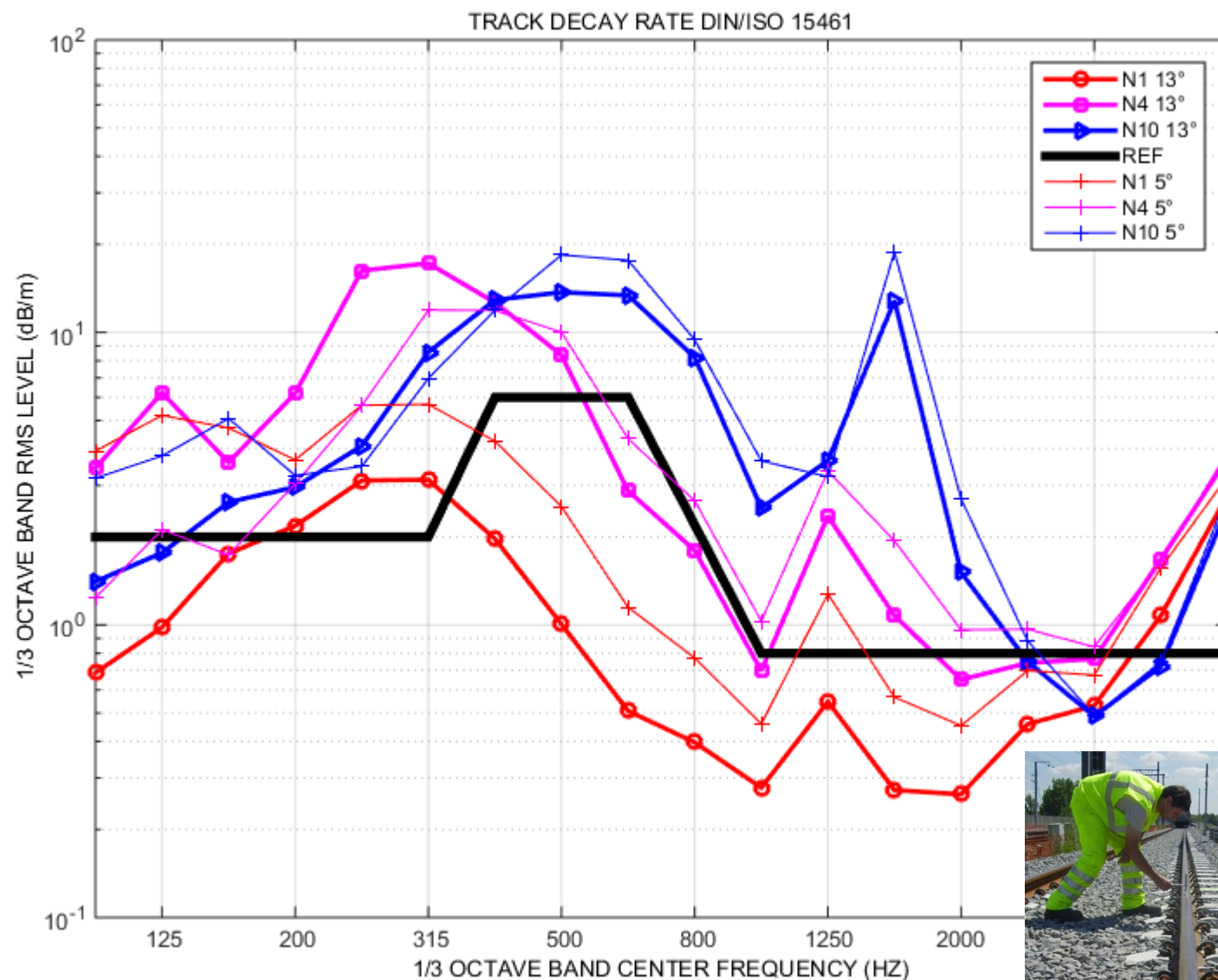


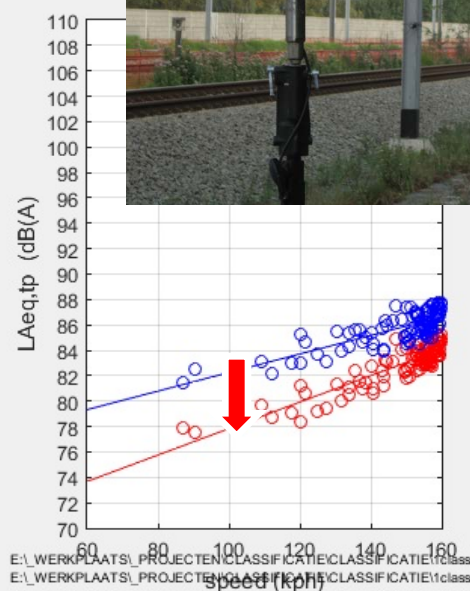
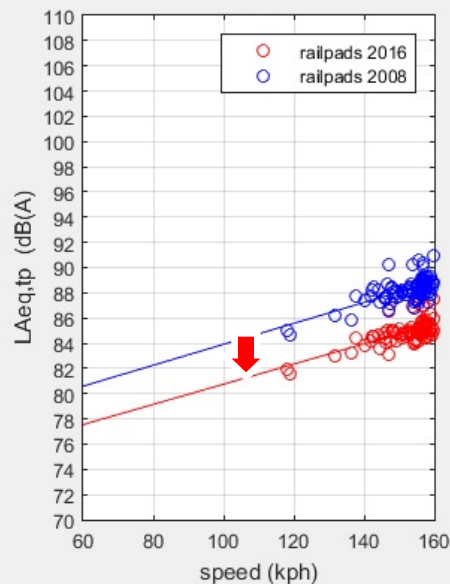
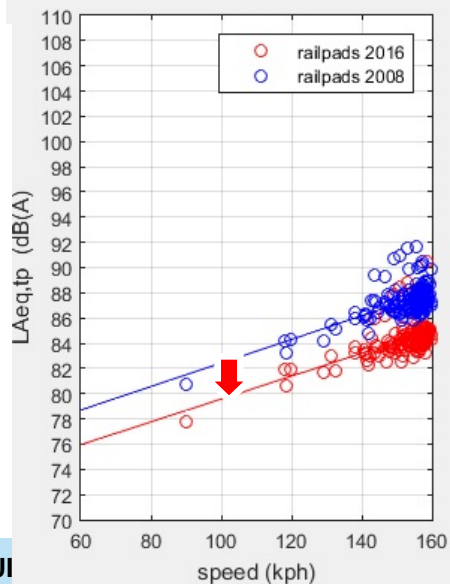
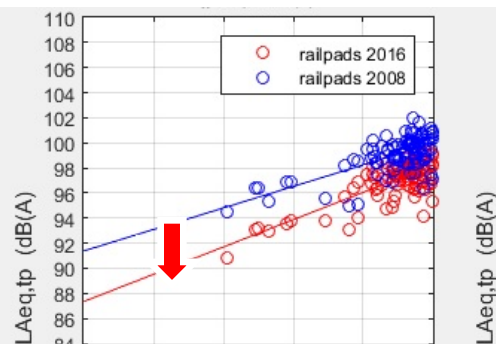
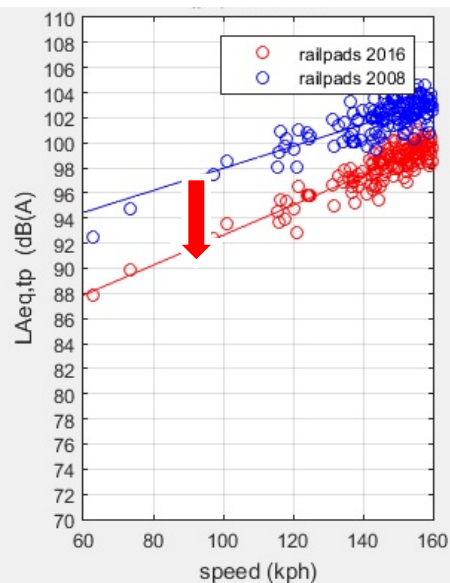
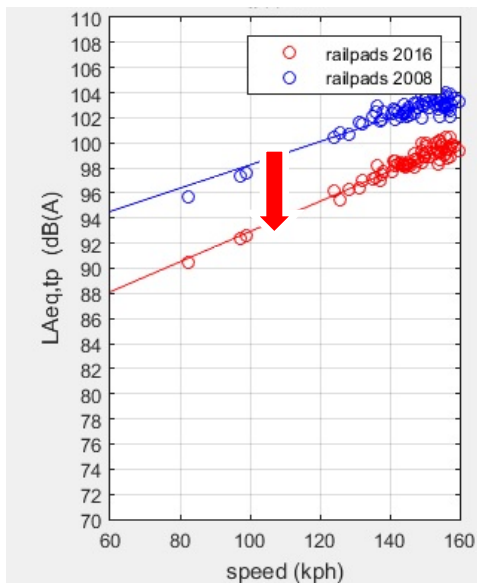
NL dB(re.2e-05Pa)



5 PROEFZONES van 100m lengte, lopend van hectometerpaal 1 tot hectometerpaal 5.  
LIJN 50A- SPOOR A KI 99.800 tot 100.300





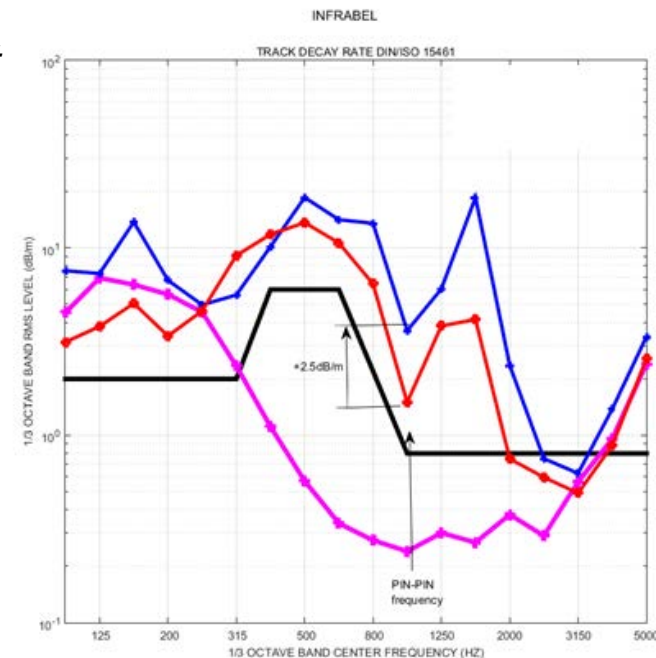




# Track design: effects on noise

## Modification of technical specification L-63 for Railpads

- *Introduction of TDR (EN 15461) measurement in qualification process.*
- *A test track will be foreseen in qualification*
- *Temperature variation taken into account*



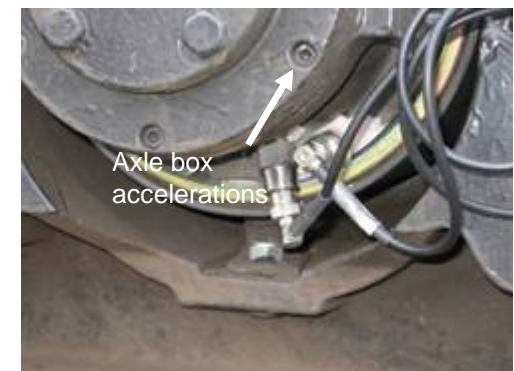
# Noise Monitoring Infrastructure and Rolling stock

- Monitoring track emission by means of a “monitoring train”
  - Instrumented train that runs over complete network
  - Multiple purpose: rail emission, hot spots, grinding quality
- Monitoring train emission by means of a “monitoring track”
  - Combination of “W.I.M” and N&V emission in dedicated locations
  - Automated brake block detection



# Noise Monitoring Infrastructure

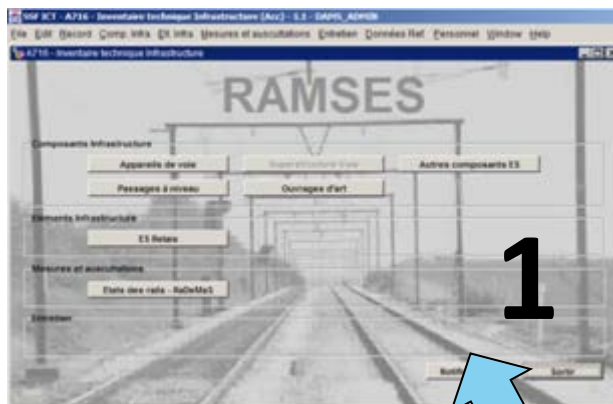
- Permanent Installation of N&V sensors on the EM130 measurement train since 2011
- Logging of the entire Infrabel network 2 times a year
  - Accelerometers (4) on the axle boxes
  - Microphones (2) to capture Wheel-Rail Noise emission
  - Logging of position with DGPS (10Hz)
  - A/D, measurement control, and post-processing, and data management with MATLAB
- Data visualisation available in:
  - Google earth (on train post-processing)
  - GeoRamses (see further)



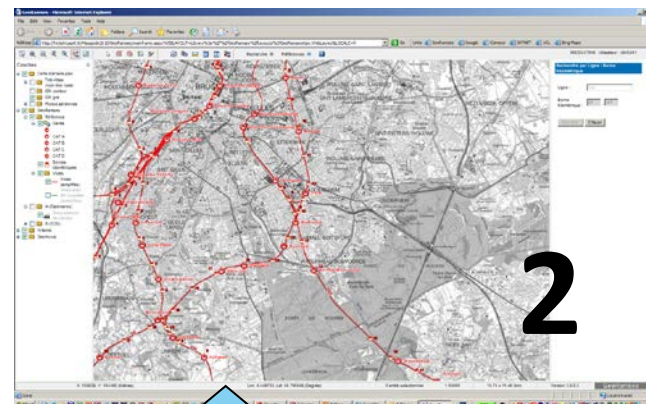
# Visualization in GeoRamses

Data input (since 1996)

Publication on IntraWeb (2009)

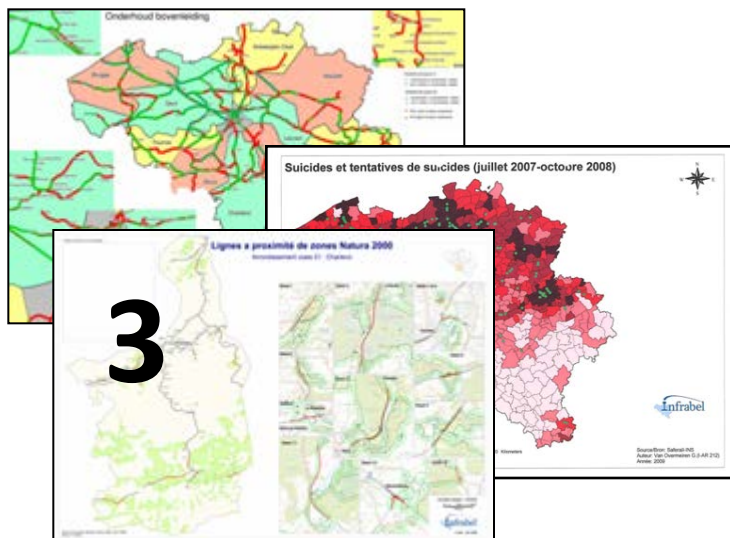


1

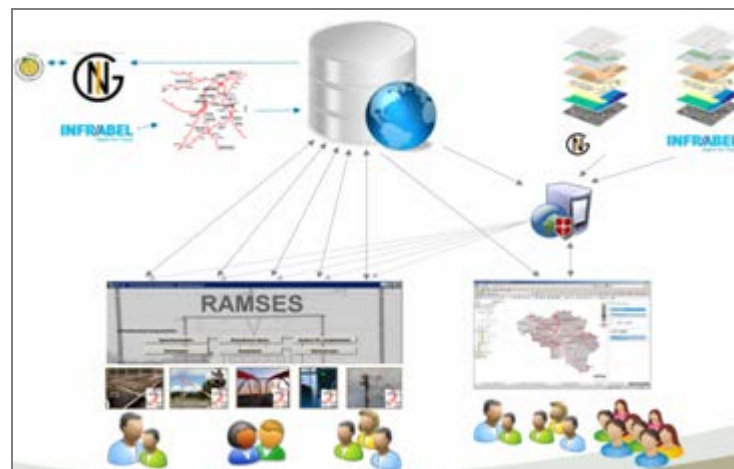


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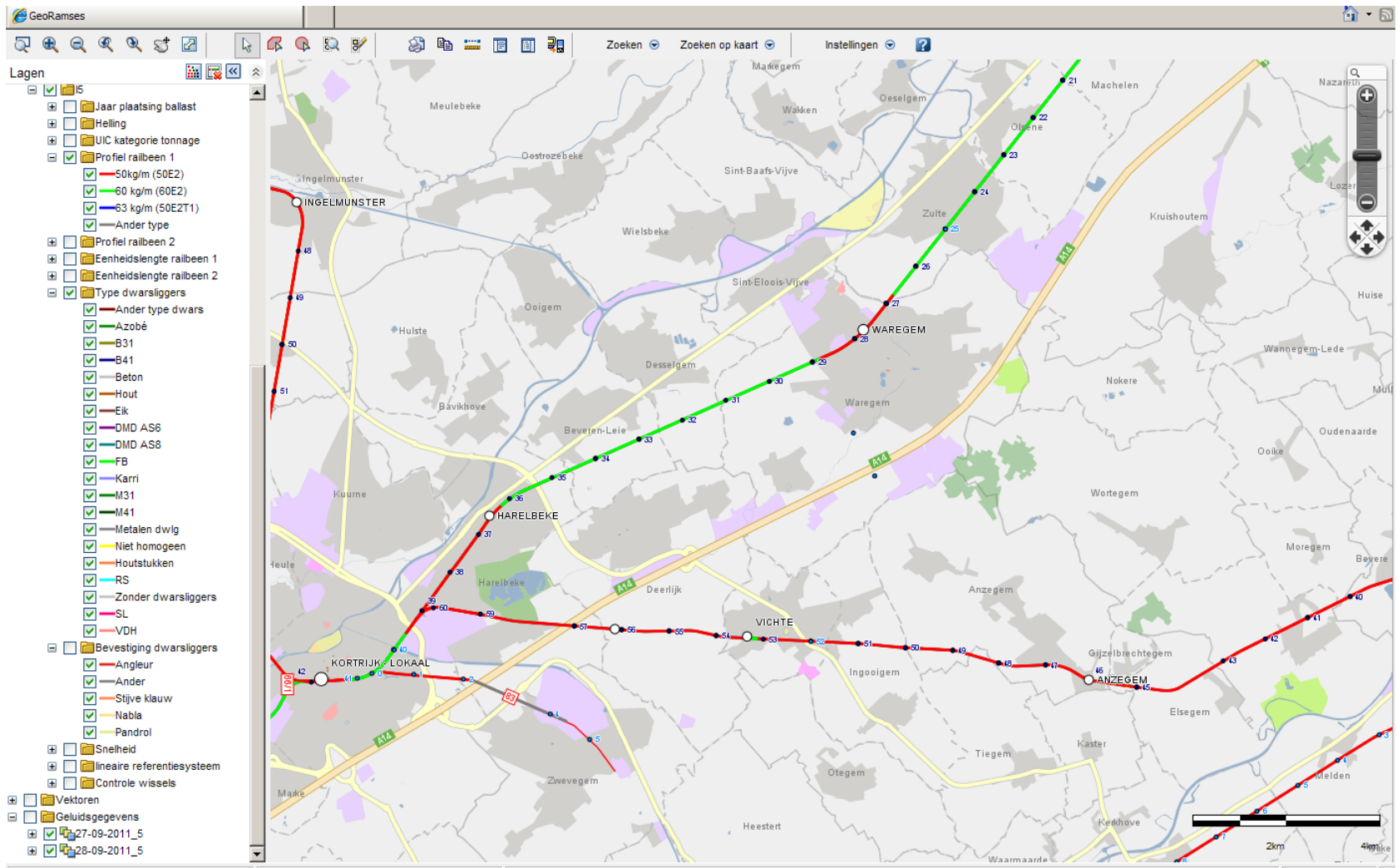
Specific applications 2010



3

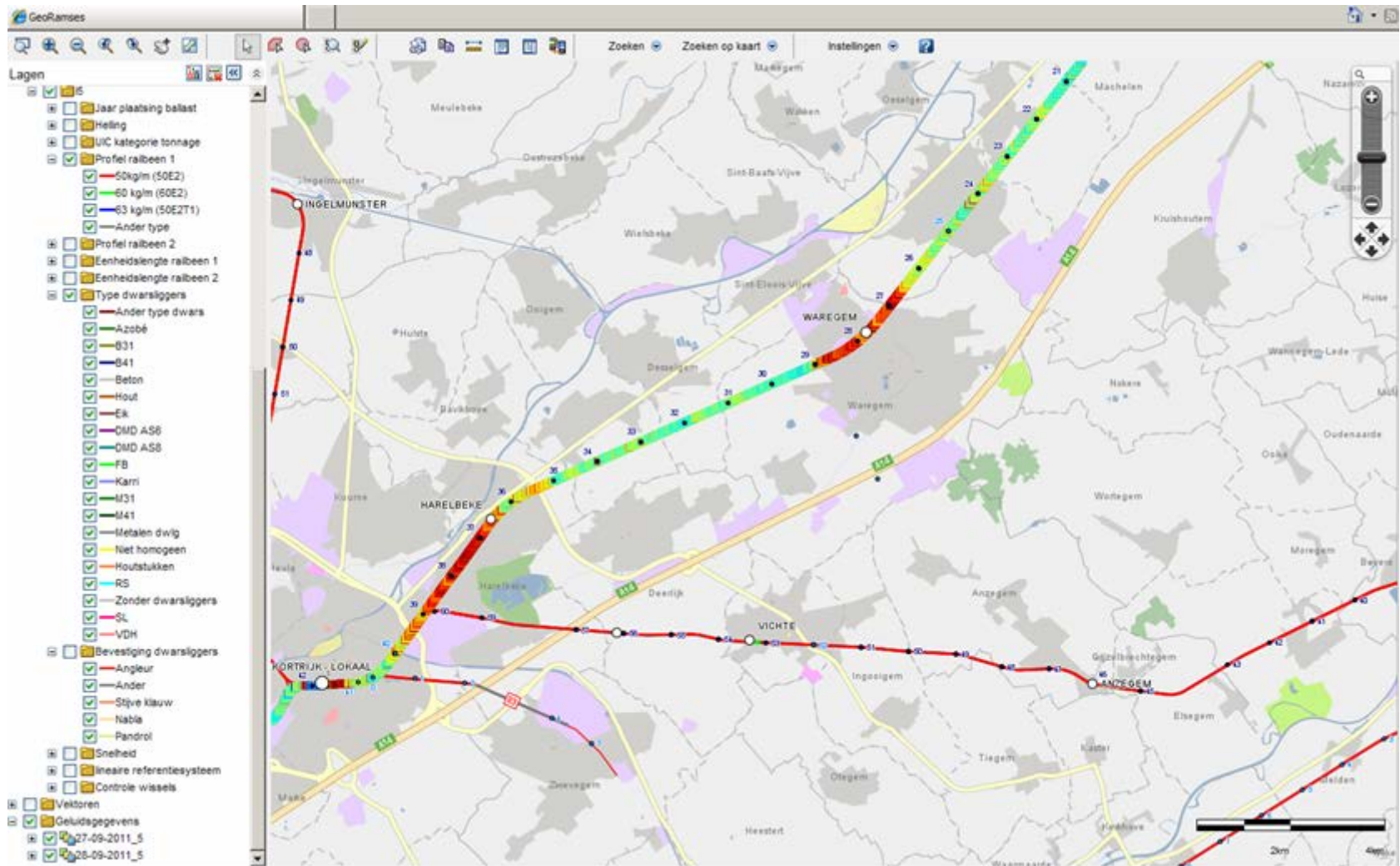


# Visualization in GeoRamses





# Visualization in GeoRamses



# (Noise) Monitoring Rolling stock

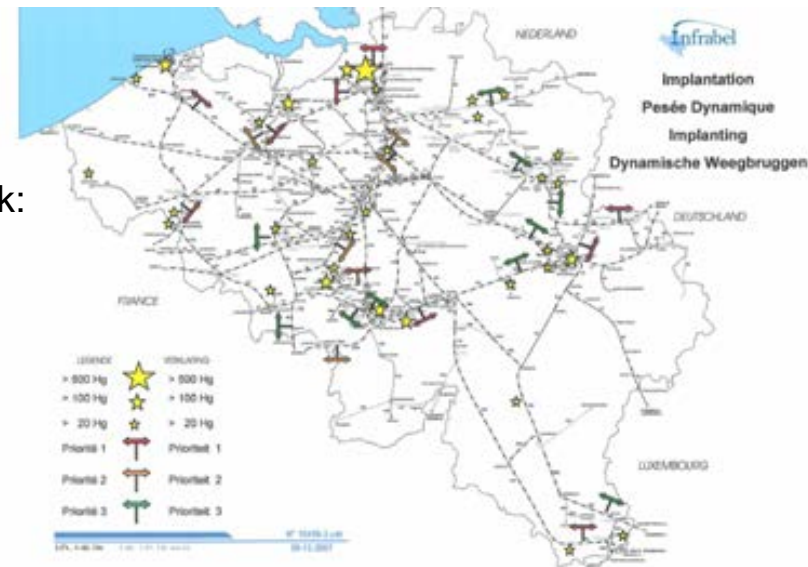
## WIM: Weight in motion

2011: Initial project requirements (I-TMS.51)

- cover more than 90% of the complete rolling stock: 15 installations on double track = 30 measurement positions
- W.I.M. installations for: axle load weighting, Load distribution over wheels/axles,..., dynamic loads (impacts, wheel flats,...)

Additional demand (I-AM.236)

- **one complete year of testing**
- N&V measurement will be included to build up a database with train TEL level - ISO 3095 + raw N&V data
- Post processing with TNO-PBA software will lead to dBase with **acoustic quality of rolling stock**





# (Noise) Monitoring Rolling stock

## 2011: Tender: Technical specification ( by I-AM.23)

- <30 ton /axle
- Available after 30s
- 2400 axle/hour
- +/- 5% trainweight
- 10% axle loads (30-120km/h)
- Dynamic forces
- Timestamp train identification
- Total trainweight + individual detection of vehicle, axle, wheel parameters

### ADDED

- Min. 7 meter measurement area (prEN 15654-3)
- LAeq,tp according to ISO 3095 + storage **raw rail acceleration+microphone data**

INFRABEL N.V.

**INFRABEL**  
Right On Track

TECHNISCHE BEPALING

**T - 07 - I**

Levering van meetsysteem voor het meten van statische en dynamische wielkrachten op het spoor

	Naam	Datum	Handtekening
Technisch voorstel	Ing.-exp. Ward Verhelst		Getekend
Administratief voorstel	Adj. e.ir. Serge Lambertz		Getekend
Voorgesteld op de werkgroep aankopen			
Nazicht vertaling	Ir.Emmanuel Heylen	/	/
Vrijgave	e.ir Jan Mys		Getekend

EDITIE : 09/2011

# (Noise) Monitoring Rolling stock

## Organisation of 4 qualification tests (2014)

### Why

- Influence of temperature
- Stability in time
- % deviation on measured parameters
- Influence of settlement and foundation layers
- **Relation between speed and dynamic forces**
- Influence of passage direction

### How

Arrangement of a specific test train with

- Known axle loads ( $< 1\%$ )
- Known Wheel roughness
- **Manual induced wheel errors**  
*wheel flats: 2 x 60mm, 2 x 30mm at different static axle loads*
- Several passages in 2 directions (0/1) at 4 speeds: 20,40,60,80km/h



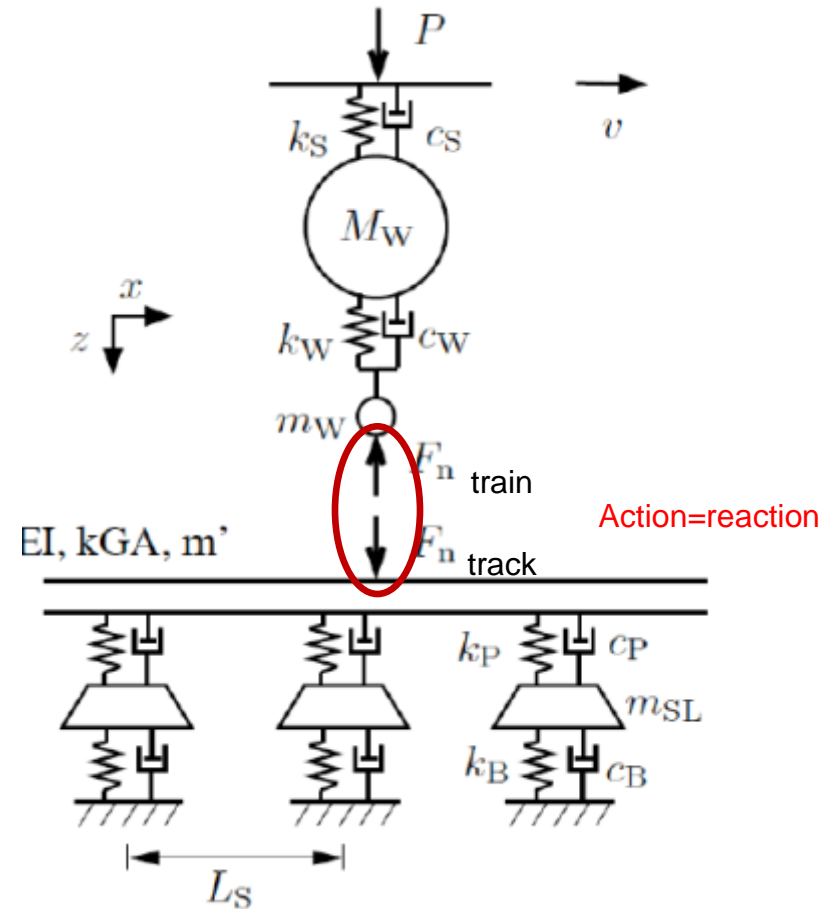


## Test train: dynamic forces

## 6. Qualification tests



$$F_N = m_{\text{wheelset}}/2 * a$$





## TNO – PBA software

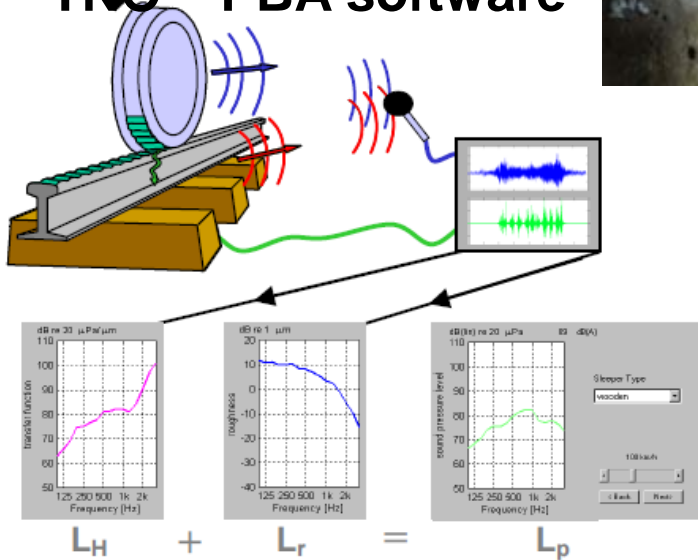


Figure 1.2: Schematic overview of the analysis procedure with a typical result. Total roughness and total transfer function can be used to calculate the total sound pressure at a given train speed.

## Single value indicator for roughness

$L_{\lambda CA}$  (Harmonoise project (2003))

$$L_{\lambda CA} = 10 \log \sum_{\lambda=20 \text{ cm}}^{0,4 \text{ cm}} 10^{\frac{1}{10} \{R(\lambda) + \Lambda(\lambda) + C(\lambda) + A(f(\lambda, v))\}}$$



>5kHz: glueing sensor on rail!!

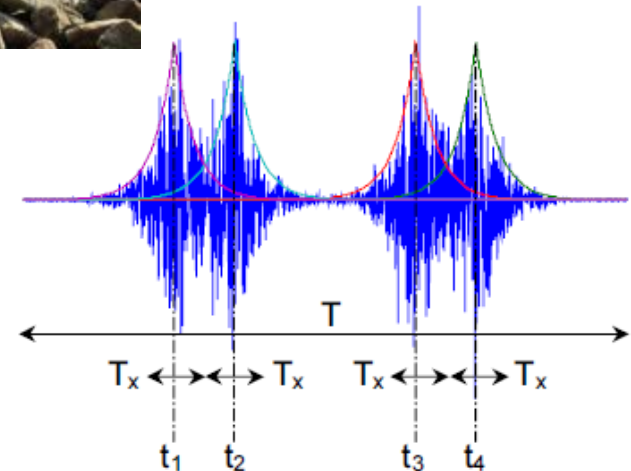
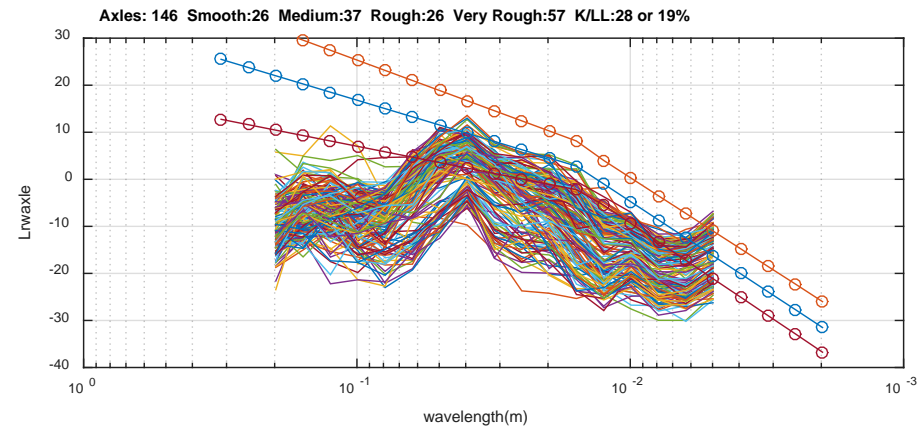
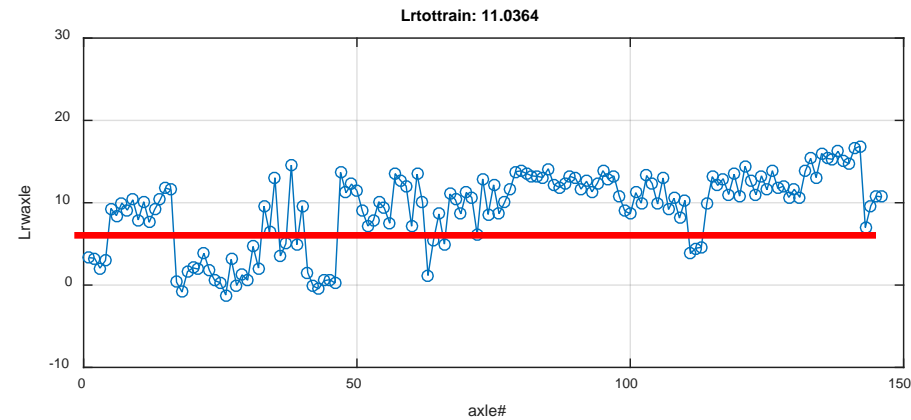
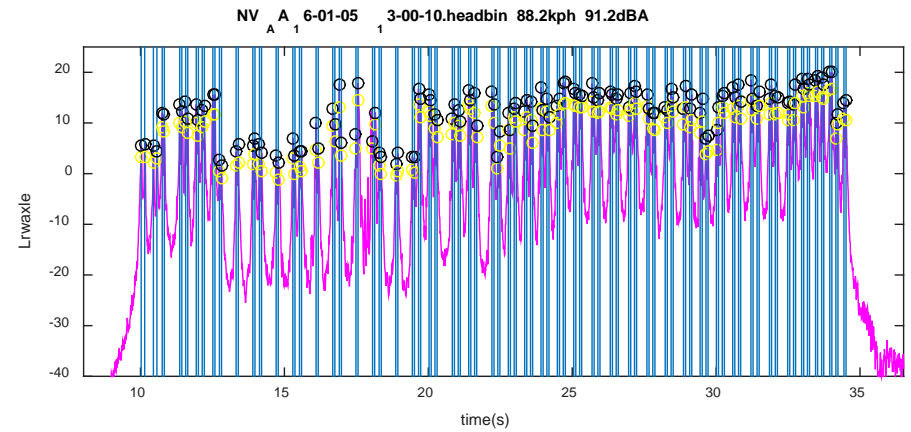


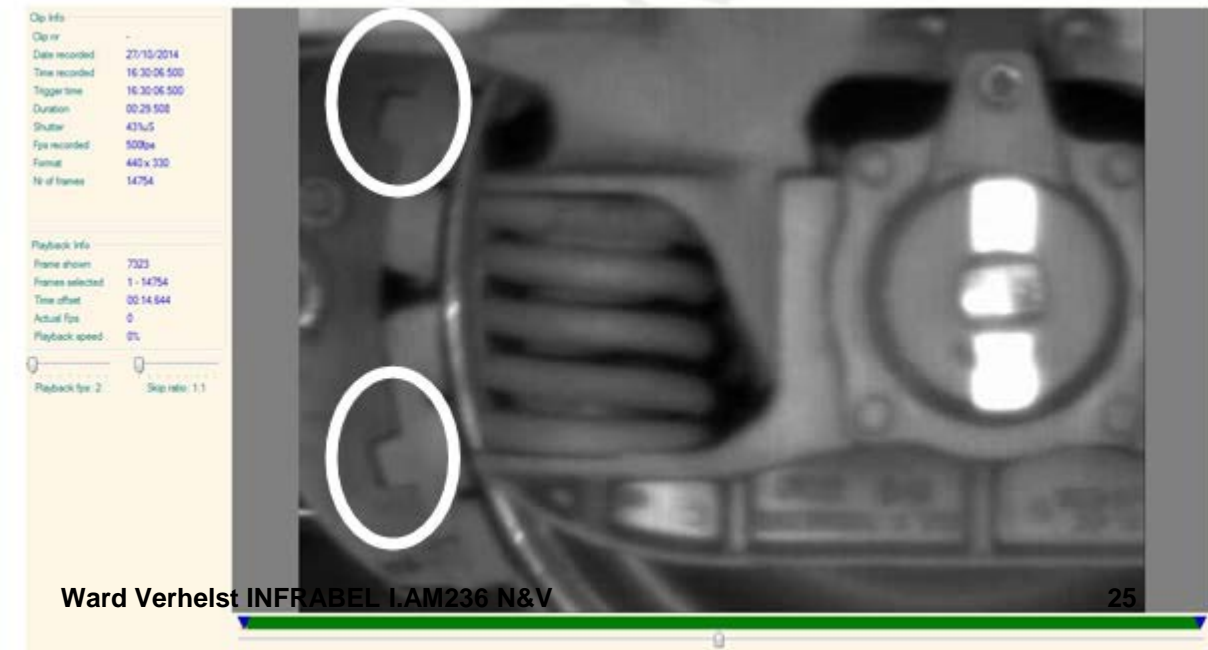
Figure 3.1 Vertical acceleration measurement during four wheel passages.

- 0 – 4 dB “smooth rail”
- 5 – 7 dB “ground rail” (approx. 1 month after grinding)
- 7 – 9 dB average rail roughness (average of 30 Dutch sites [6])
- 10 – 11 dB “smooth wheels” (unbraked, disc-braked, or sinter blocks ([6]);
- 12 dB average rail roughness of the Dutch network in calculation scheme [15];
- 14 – 17 dB corrugated rail;
- 18 – 20 dB “rough wheels” (cast-iron blocks, disc+additional cast iron blocks)
- 25 – 28 dB severely corrugated track





# Visual validation running train: High speed camera



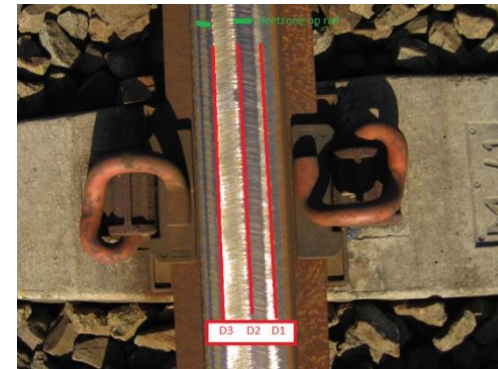
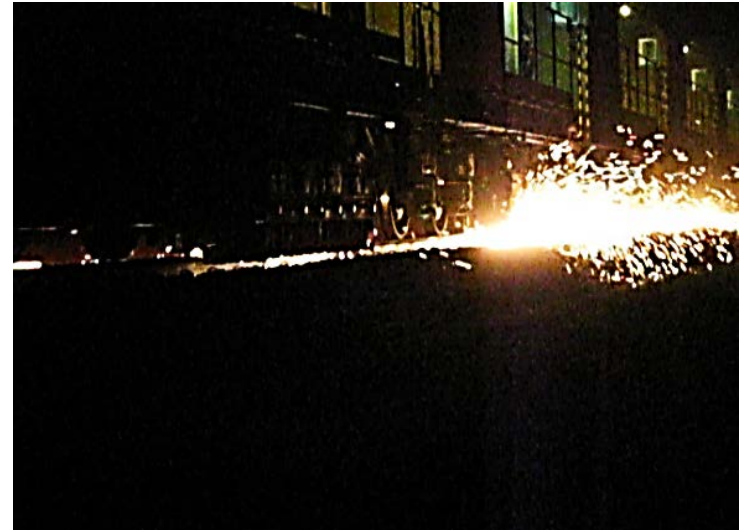
## Asset management: **Adapted** Rail grinding: effect on noise

2 types of grinding:

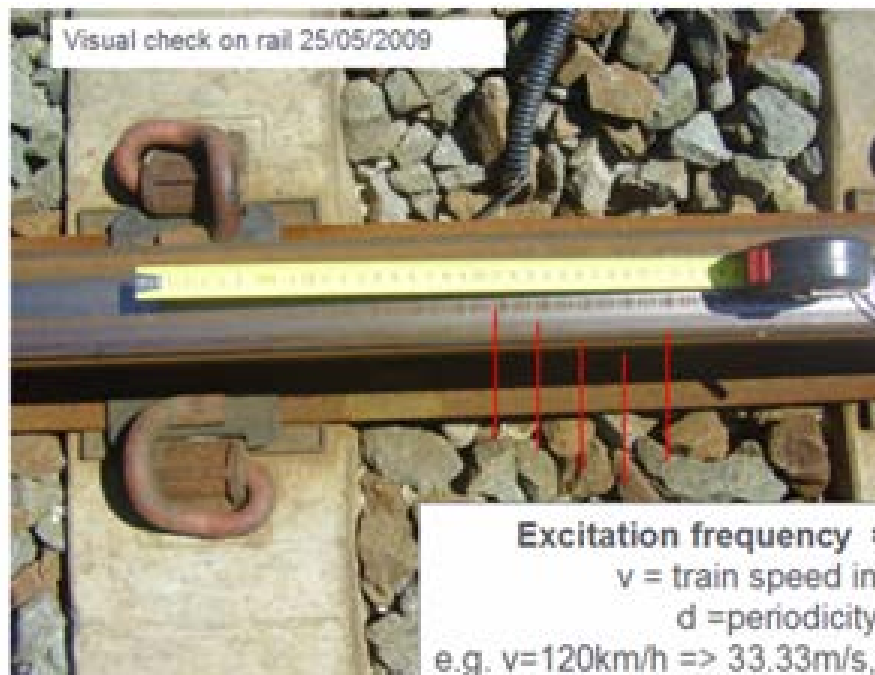
- **Curative grinding:**  $>0.3\text{mm}$ 
  - - 5km/h
    - Heavy Rail surface defects
    - Corrugation
- **Preventive or cyclic grinding:**  $2 \times 0.15\text{mm}$ 
  - - **12-14km/h ( since 2014-2015)**
    - To prevent build up of head checks and minor errors
    - All UIC 1-6 class lines

Since 2011 tests at higher grinding train speeds: why??  
Grinding track in service, today systematic planned

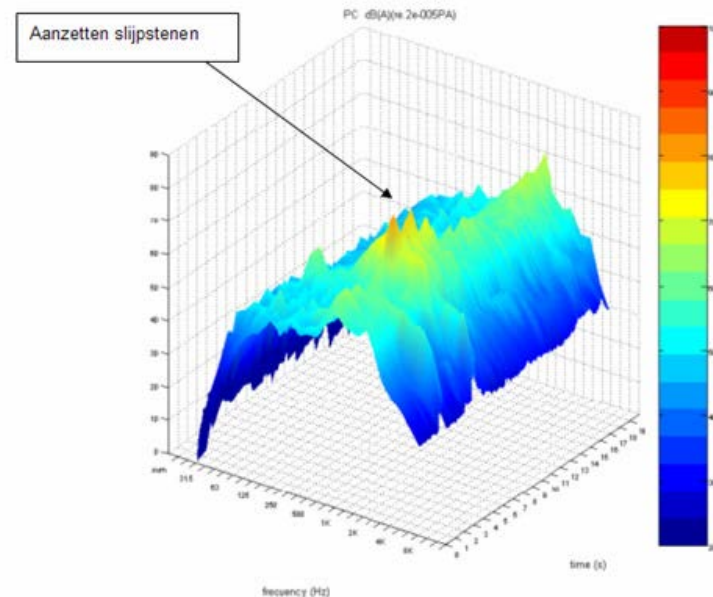
- **Evaluation by noise and roughness monitoring, before, during and after grinding**



## Rail Grinding: Effect on noise emission



Excitation frequency =  
 $v$  = train speed in  
 $d$  = periodicity  
 e.g.  $v=120\text{km/h} \Rightarrow 33.33\text{m/s}$ ,  $d=3\text{cm} \Rightarrow 0.03$   
 $F=1111\text{ Hz}$

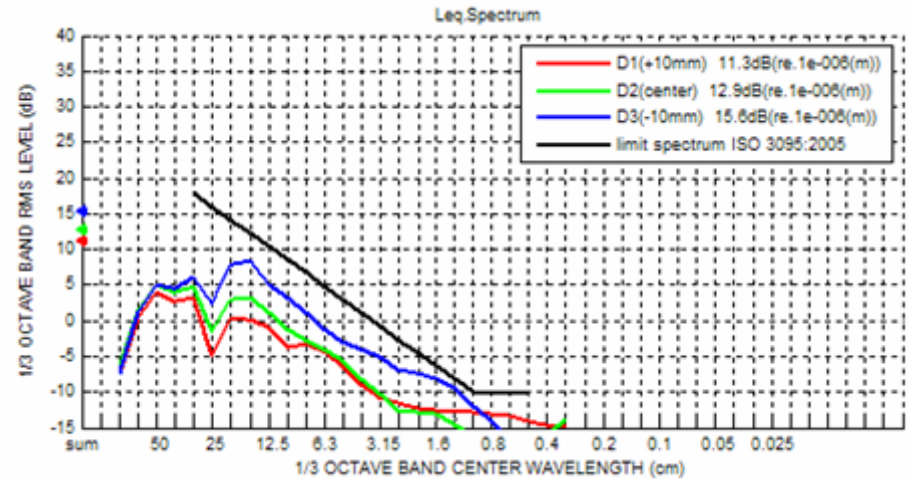
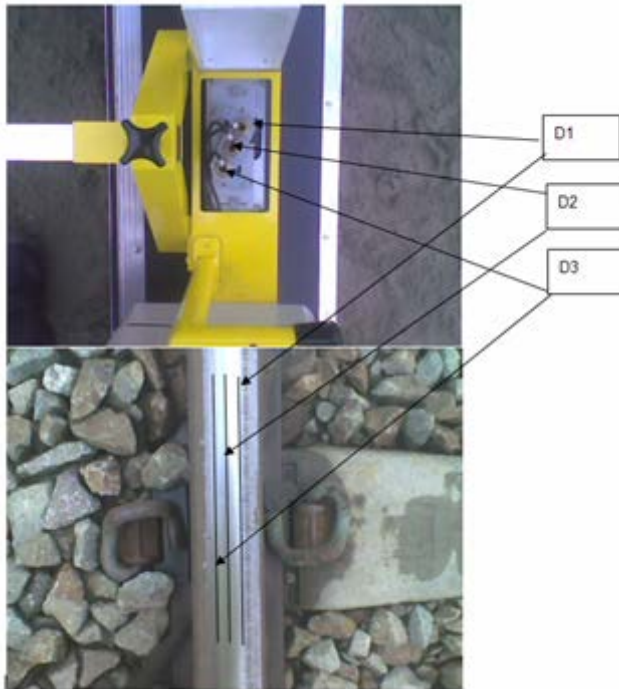


1kHz-2kHz: Low TDR, Presence of PIN-PIN mode -> High emission and tonal noise!!



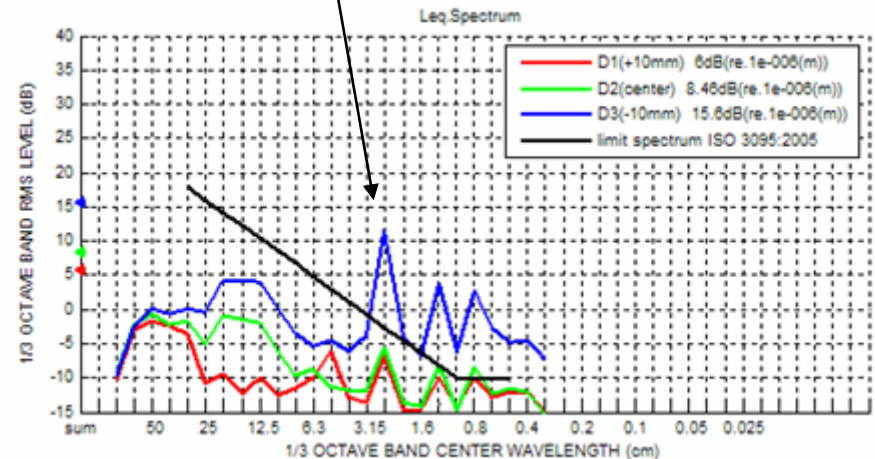
# Rail Grinding: Effect on noise emission

Roughness



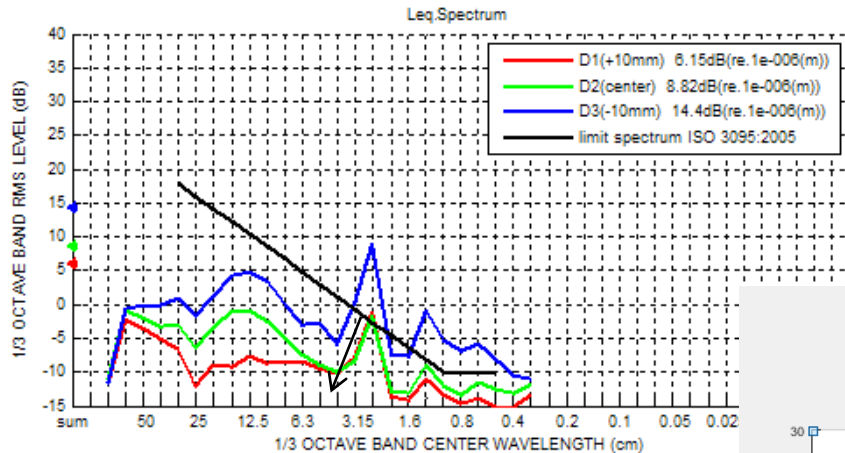
Wavelength

After grinding: tonal component at 2.5 cm



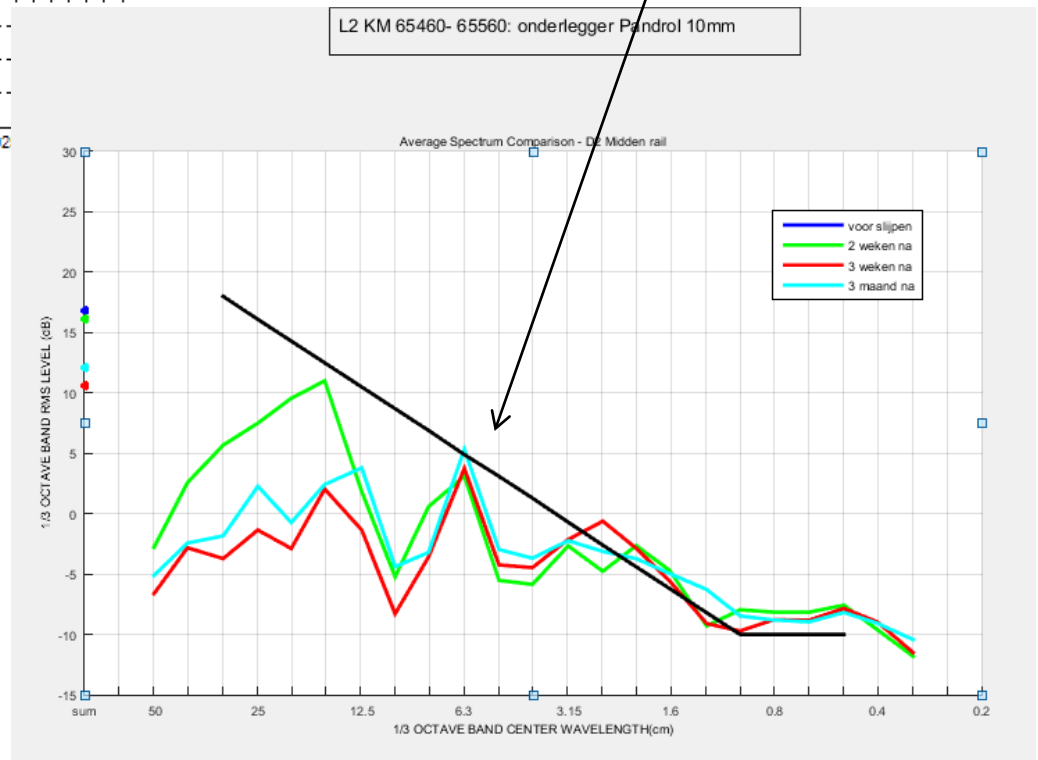


## Rail Grinding: Effect higher grinding speed



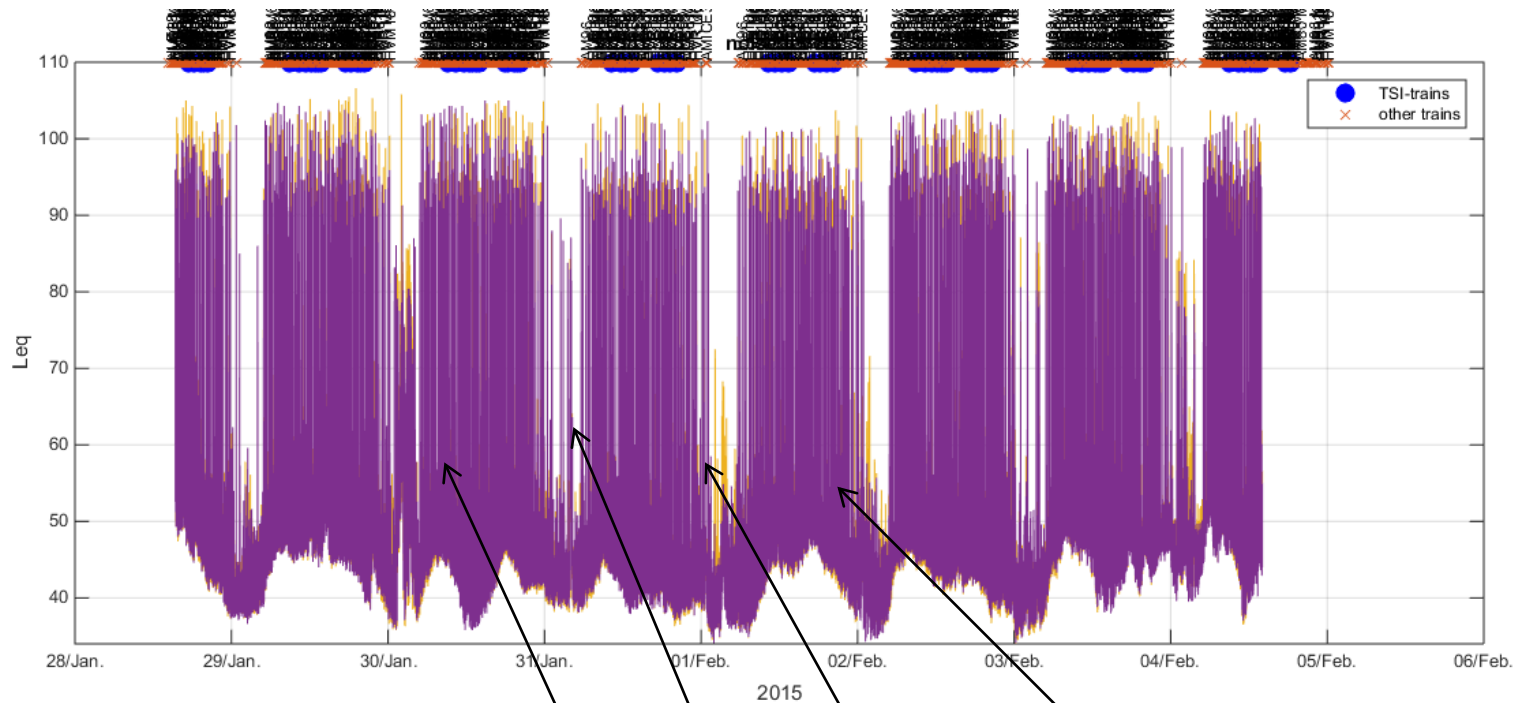
2009: 2.5cm->  
1.2kHz->pinpin  
mode

2015: 6cm ->  
550Hz -> much  
better damped



## Grinding test 01/2015

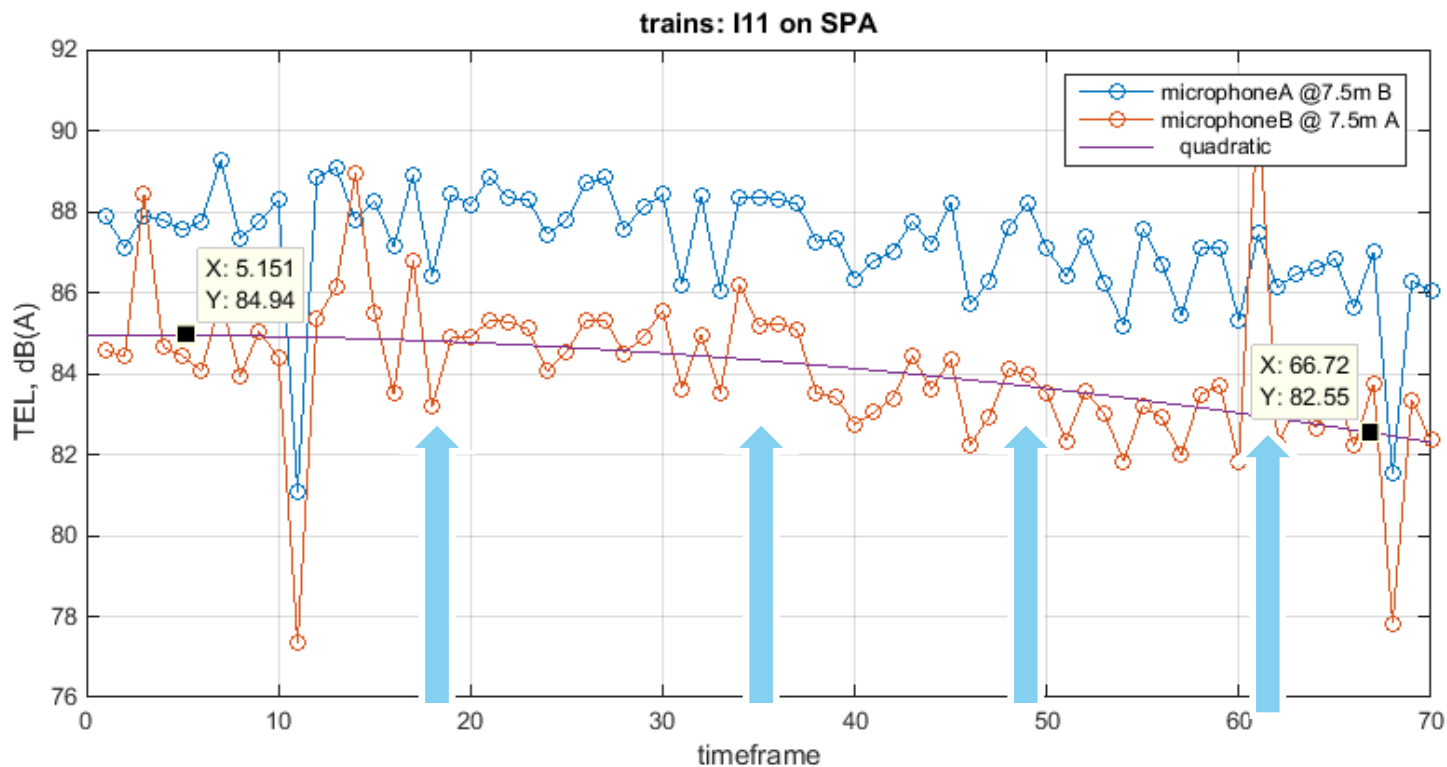
$L(A)_{eq,1s}$



Before grinding start trackA(1x) (2x) trackB(1x) (2x)

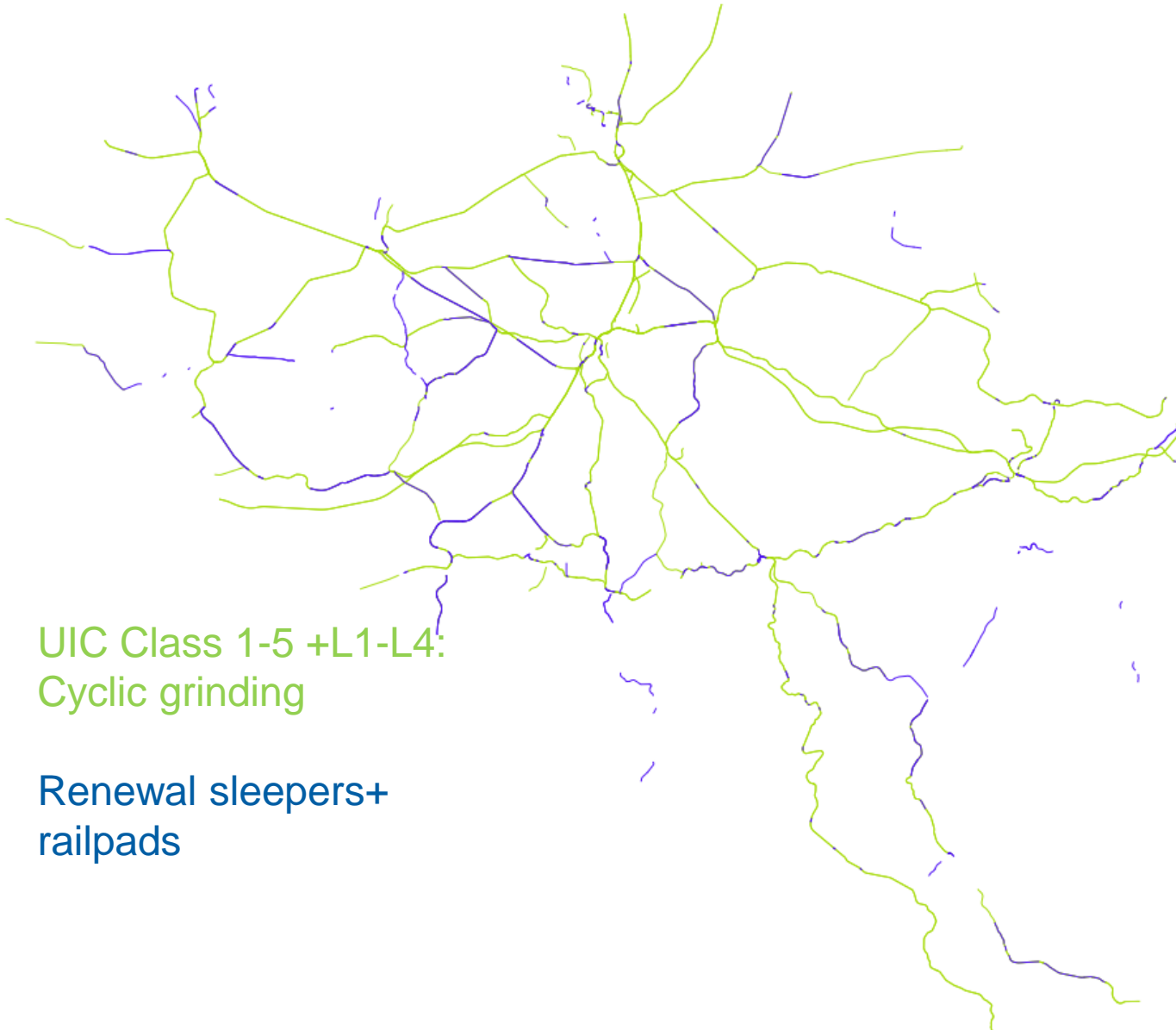
Grinding SPENO RR48 14km/h 2x0.1mm

L50(A) Denderleeuw km22: mixture of rolling stock ( 33% TSI Noise)



Before grinding start trackA( 1x) ( 2x) trackB(1x) trackB( 2x)

1 week



- UIC Class 1-5 +L1-L4:  
Cyclic grinding
- Renewal sleepers+  
railpads



# Conclusions

- New INFRABEL railpad design leads to noise reduction of 2.5 to 4 dB with reference to current railpad
- Result achieved by combination of higher damping, dedicated design, and minimum stiffening a factor 2 to 200kN/mm
- Train/track noise monitoring has multiple advantages: maintenance steering, hotspot detection, break block detection, noise mapping info,..
- “Adapted” rail grinding leads to noise reduction of 2.5 dB within the first week after grinding, instead of increase during several months
- No significant budgets needed for applying these measures (expect study, design, research equipment, in situ testing)

- Thanks for your attention!!

**VERHELST Ward**

ing. - expert

I-AM.23 / Noise & Vibration / s56



Asset Management

Frankrijkstraat 85 / Rue de France 85

B-1060 Bruxelles / B-1060 Brussel

T +32 2 525 24 38 | F +32 2 525 33 88 | M +32 474 05 36 13

[eduard.verhelst@infrabel.be](mailto:eduard.verhelst@infrabel.be) | [www.infrabel.be](http://www.infrabel.be)