

# THE THREE-DIMENSIONAL MOTION SIMULATION AND DYNAMICAL ANALYSIS OF THE TRACKED VEHICLES

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## ABSTRACT

In this thesis, we use computer simulations to analyze the dynamics of the tracked vehicle. In most related studies of other researchers, the track system in the vehicle are usually modeled and simulated by continuous belts or plates. The forces between and on the tracks are seldom investigated. Therefore, we want to model the tracked vehicle chassis system including all the contact forces between roadwheels and tracks, tracks and tracks, tracks and ground. Also, different ground surface properties, geometric profiles and different paths to travel have been simulated in this study. We will use the software ADAMS to build a three-dimensional model of the tracked vehicle. In the model, all moving components are created and imported from CAD software. Their mass properties, like masses, moment of inertias, will be computed as parameters in the simulation. We write FORTRAN subroutines to model the contact forces between components in the tracked system. These codes are integrated in ADAMS model and simulated with the vehicle dynamics simultaneously. Further, the computed forces exerted on the components from the dynamic simulation are used to improve the component design via the finite element analysis software and its design optimization function.

Keywords : Tracked Vehicle ; Chassis System ; Finite Element ; Vehicle Dynamics ; Design Optimization

## Table of Contents

第一章 緒論--P1 1.1 前言--P1 1.2 文獻回顧--P2 1.3 研究目的與本文架構--P5 第二章 履帶車輛承載系統理論分析--P7 2.1 履帶車輛承載系統簡介--P7 2.2 履帶與各元件接觸力模型--P10 2.2.1 主動輪與履帶連接塊之接觸力模型--P10 2.2.2 履帶塊與各輪間之接觸力模型--P11 2.3 履帶塊與路面接觸力模型--P13 2.3.1 履帶車輛運動阻力--P14 2.3.2 履帶與硬路面之分析--P16 2.3.3 履帶與土壤之交互作用分析--P17 第三章 履帶車運動模式建立--P28 3.1 履帶系統電腦模型之建立--P28 3.1.1 履帶車輛各零件質量特性的取得--P29 3.1.2 組合履帶車輛電腦模型--P30 3.2 履帶承載系統運動條件設定--P31 3.2.1 設定限制條件--P31 3.2.2 地輪承載系統參數建立與設定--P32 3.2.3 履帶與各輪間的接觸碰撞力設定--P35 3.2.4 履帶與地面接觸力設定--P38 3.2.5 路面資料的設定--P39 3.3 地輪單一承載系統模型--P39 第四章 履帶車輛於各種路面的模擬分析--P41 4.1 FORTRAN副程式撰寫--P41 4.2 履帶車輛直線路跑模擬--P45 4.2.1 履帶車輛在硬路面的模擬結果--P45 4.2.2 履帶車輛在土壤上的模擬--P49 4.3 履帶車輛轉向循跡模擬--P52 4.4 履帶車輛於顛簸路面模擬--P55 4.4.1 標準路面--P55 4.4.2 模擬6-inch標準波形路面[21]--P59 4.4.3 模擬2-inch標準波形路面[21]--P63 第五章 元件分析與設計改良--P69 5.1 有限元素分析原理與簡介--P69 5.1.1 有限元素法的基本架構--P70 5.1.2 有限元素模型之解題步驟--P72 5.1.3 有限元素模型的後置處理--P73 5.2 履帶車輛連結塊受力分析--P73 5.2.1 履帶塊受力分析--P73 5.3 元件的設計改良--P78 5.3.1 最佳化設計原理簡介[24]--P78 5.3.2 履帶塊受力最佳化分析--P80 第六章 結論--P86 參考文獻--P87

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