

Numerical Simulation of Rollover Test on Complete Vehicle Considering the Effects of Welding Joints

何宏璋、梁卓中

E-mail: 9707437@mail.dyu.edu.tw

ABSTRACT

Buses are the high loading capacity transportation on the road. When a major accident happened, the passengers would be serious injury. When a rollover accident of a bus happened, the damage often occurred in the weld zone. For passengers' safety, the design of superstructure of the bus should consider the weld zone which would affect the strength of a bus rollover accident. From the previous numerical analysis, the weld zone often idealistic assemble at an concurrent way. But those analysis did not account of the effects of welding. This paper adopted nonlinear software LS-DYNA to study the rollover strength of bus. At first, this paper added the failure criteria of both fillet welding and butt welding to the extrusion simulation analysis of a bus frame structure. Then compared the difference with the result of idealistic assemble at concurrent way. The result densely match with the previous experiment which considered welding. The elongation which the weld zone of roof structure failure is only 7.4% different from the previous experiment. The elongation which the weld zone of pillar structure failure is only 3.7% different from the previous experiment. The weld zone of bottom did not failure, so the result of numerical analysis is match with the previous experiment. Secondly, this paper based on the regulation, ECE R66(Economic Commission for Europe), to establish a computer simulation of bus rollover test, and used a certain type of Europe bus to study the effect of both the concurrent and the welding failure. Meanwhile, this paper tested whether the Europe bus is match the ECE R66. The result showed that the finite element model of the ideal concurrent way can absorbed energy due to the stiffer structure. When considering the finite element model of the welding effect, due to the failure criteria, the mechanical behavior is more closer to the actual situation. Also, the result showed that both the concurrent and the welding did not pass the regulation ECE R66. Finally, this paper adopted two common size of pipe, 40mm × 80mm × 3mm and 60mm × 40mm × 3mm, to study The different impact on structure strength when using different size of ring cross-section. The result showed that the 40mm × 80mm × 3mm pipe of bus's ring could pass regulation ECE R66, and the pipe only increased 7.17% of the overall weight. This paper adopted computer simulation which used on equivalent approval method to do the rollover test on complete vehicle. Due to consider the welding failure, the result of this paper is close to the reality. This paper can provide a reference for the bus manufactory to do future manufacturing and design.

Keywords : Bus, Rollover, ECE R66, Fillet, Butt.

Table of Contents

封面內頁 簽名頁 授權書.....	iii	中文摘要.....	iv	英文摘要.....	iv
要 錄.....	vi	誌謝.....	viii	目錄.....	x
圖目 錄.....	xiii	表目錄.....	xvii	符號說明.....	xviii
第一章 緒論.....	1	1.1 研究背景.....	1	1.2 文獻回顧.....	3
1.3 本文目標.....	8	第二章 歐洲大客車上層結構強度法規 - ECE R66.....	15	2.1 歐洲大客車上層結構強度法規—ECE R66.....	15
2.2 ECE R66法規驗證測試方法.....	16	2.3 大客車乘員安全空間.....	18	2.4 電腦模擬整車翻覆測試.....	18
第三章 數值分析LS-DYNA之理論基礎.....	26	3.1 大客車翻覆之數值分析理論.....	27	3.2 LS-DYNA程式之數值分析技巧.....	29
第四章 大客車骨架焊接之模擬與分析.....	40	4.1 焊接效應對結構強度之影響.....	40	4.2 大客車骨架結構焊接之數值模擬處理.....	42
4.3 大客車骨架擠壓試驗與分析.....	45	4.4 大客車骨架擠壓試驗數值模擬環境之建立.....	48	4.5 結果分析與討論.....	53
第五章 考慮焊接之大客車翻覆試驗之數值模擬分析.....	76	5.1 歐規ECE R66整車翻覆試驗等效認證方法之數值模擬 環境 建構.....	76	5.2 大客車整車骨架翻覆試驗之動態反應分析.....	77
5.3 大客車整車翻覆數值模擬分析結果.....	81	第六章 結論與未來展望.....	106	參考文獻.....	108
附錄 歐洲ECE R66法規 - 大客車上層結構強度法規.....	112				

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