

UTC Project Information

Project Title	Estimation of the Rolling Resistance performance of a pavement in view of the roughness profile
University	Michigan State University
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Funding Source(s) and Amounts Provided (by each agency or organization)	\$58,342 USDOT \$15,861 MSU
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Start and End Dates	January 31, 2017 to January 30, 2018
Brief Description of Research Project	<p>The reduction of rolling resistance is essential for a more environmentally friendly transportation system, a process is highly influenced by both tire and pavement design. Here, we propose to develop a systematic model to provide the correlation between surface roughness of the pavement and the rolling resistance experienced by the vehicles. To this end, a multi-scale simulation model will be assembled to consider the pavement profile, the energy dissipation of tire and the complicated contact mechanism involved. In this work, our recently developed tire/pavement interaction model will be advanced to account for micro-and meso-scale pavement roughness and the energy losses due to the corresponding small-scale tread deformation. The correlation between energy loss and rolling resistance will be described using a ranking and rating system. Currently, direct formulation of such correlation is a complicated procedure that involves the mechanics of the vehicle and dynamics of the tire to be understood at multiple scales.</p> <p>In this work, tire-pavement contact will be simulated using finite element (FE) solvers with respect to the a multi-scale visco-elastic model for rubber. By profiling surfaces up to few microns, the contact mechanism and the resulting energy</p>

dissipation will be concurrently modeled in micro-, meso and macro-scales for the first time.

Describe Implementation of Research Outcomes (or why not implemented)

N/A

Place Any Photos Here

The work has immediate implications in both pavement and tire industries. The results of this study provide:

1. A bottom-up tire/road interaction modeling scheme;
2. A generic multi-scale pavement surface profiling method
3. A tire/pavement contact mechanism to estimate correction factors for localization of standard RR and grip tests; and
4. A micro-friction prediction technology transfer to both tire and pavement industries. Moreover, since rolling resistance appears to be dominated by meso- and macro-scale parts of a pavement profile, and friction is affected more by micro-scale features, the results of the project can be potentially used to introduce a surface spectrum that minimizes rolling resistance with respect to friction. Not only does maximizing the friction improve braking performance of a vehicle, more friction will also keep the tire surface from slipping during rolling, a condition that happens during normal rolling of a tire. Slippage against the road could actually decrease rolling resistance because it would dissipate more energy.

Impacts/Benefits of Implementation (actual, not anticipated)

Web Links

www.chpp.egr.msu.edu

- Reports
- Project website