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# Research on a Novel Vibration Evaluation of Motorbike's Suspension Using Multi-body Dynamic Model under Different Road Surfaces

This study has contributed a new method in analyzing the vibration responses of a motorbike suspension with damping ratio  $\xi_s$  using a multi-body dynamic model (MBD). The special feature of this method is that the MBD model can represent the system's behaviors without establishing dynamic equations. This method requires establishing tight kinematic constraints between the model's elements in the XY plane at the connection positions such as road - wheel, wheel - guiding element - suspension - motor's frame in Matlab Simmechanics environment. The results are evaluated based on various response indices such as acceleration, relative displacement, road holding ability, and comfort level according to the cases of operating under harmonic, transient, and random excitations. The MBD model responses in operating cases tends to be consistent with reality and can be applied in the design process of motorcycle suspension based on the evaluation of the influences of  $\xi_s$ .

*Keywords: Motorbike, Multi-Body Dynamic, Transient, Harmonic, Random, ISO 2631:1-1997, Comfort* 

# 1. INTRODUCTION

Drivers are always affected by vibrations transmitted from the vehicle to the body during operation [1,2]. Vibrations mainly originate from the vehicle moving on rough roads, engine and inertia vibrations of the continuous speed change process [3]. Researchers have long recognized the effects of vibrations on the comfort level, health and work efficiency of people sitting in the vehicle [4]. The suspension system with elastic elements - shock absorbers can store energy and release energy, thus contributing to reducing vehicle body vibration when the vehicle is stimulated [5]. The vehicle suspension system comprises 05 main elements, including sprung mass, unsprung mass, elastic element, shock absorber and guiding elements [6]. The function of the elastic element is to absorb vibration energy and convert it into elastic potential energy. The shock absorbers convert the absorbed energy into heat energy and transmit it to the outside environment [7]. The guiding element connects the suspension system to the vehicle frame, ensuring that the system deforms in the design direction and transmits the traction force from the road surface to the vehicle body [7]. However, during operation, the vibration isolation efficiency of the suspension system under different working conditions is different [8]. Accordingly, corresponding to the road surface profile types and the speed of movement on it, the behaviour of the vehicle body and the driver is also different in terms of displacement and acceleration values [9]. Study on the influence of vehicle suspension system parameters on the oscillation dynamics of the vehicle body in the vertical and horizontal directions [10]. Application of a new design method with matrix inequalities and passivity constraints for the suspension system to ensure the wheel's ability to grip the road in the horizontal direction [11]. Study to evaluate the possibility of applying a hybrid suspension system to a 2-wheel vehicle with integrated elastic elements - shock absorbers [12].

Passive suspension systems on vehicles or seats in general and motorcycle suspension systems, in particular, all have the problem of not achieving the optimal state of acceleration and displacement simultaneously [13]. Therefore, suspension systems that combine a damper control system (semi-active) or are equipped with an auxiliary system that creates a direct intervention force (active) have been studied. Semi-active suspension systems mainly adjust the structural parameters of the existing system without creating additional external forces or moments that cause changes in the behaviour state [14,15]. In particular, experimental research determines electromagnetic damping parameters and applies them to motorcycles' semi-active rear suspension systems [14]. In addition, research on typical semi-active suspension systems can include the integration of 02 controllers in the front and rear suspension into the entire vehicle model, which are continuously adjusted by the central controller [15]. Similar to the automatic suspension system on automobiles [16], the active support system is also applied to the suspension system of motorbikes. Automatic suspension systems can be mentioned as research on applying electronic control systems to adjust the initial deformation state corresponding to the vehicle load [17,18].

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Figure 1. Matlab Simmechanics model in the simulation environment

Currently, modelling vehicle suspension systems, especially passenger vehicles and motorcycles, is of interest to various analytical models [14,15]. With motorcycle suspension systems, the system's nonlinearity is mainly in the damping element, so to increase the accuracy of the evaluation model, asymmetric linear or nonlinear damping models are proposed [19]. The commonly used models for evaluating the effectiveness of suspension systems are 02 degrees of freedom, which only considers vertical vibrations, and 04 degrees of freedom, which considers vertical vibrations and pitch motion [10,14,15].

Using a simple model such as 02 degrees of freedom does not consider the influence of the pitch motion of the vehicle body, so it does not fully respond to reality. Eliminating the directional mechanism dynamic influence for simple 4DOF models affects the overall acceleration and displacement values, leading to an uncertain evaluation result. In addition, considering only the operating conditions of a single vehicle for a specific vehicle type does not provide enough data for application in many practical operating conditions. From the above limitations, the study applied a multi-body dynamic model to ensure the model structure, thereby ensuring the influence of the degrees of freedom of the vehicle body and applicability in many practical working conditions. This method of building a multi-body dynamic model can be applied to the design process in calculation to select the technical parameters of elastic elements - shock absorbers of motorbike suspension systems according to each

specific operating case in practice. In addition, the obtained simulation results can be used to adjust the available passive suspension system parameters according to the above operating cases to ensure optimal response according to the requirements of the occupants.

# 2. ANALYSIS MODEL AND TECHNICAL PARA-METERS

# 2.1 Matlab Simmechanics model

The simulation model in Figure 1 is built to ensure the movements according to the corresponding degrees of freedom in the xOy plane, including displacements in the two directions, Ox and Oy, and rotating around the Oz axis. This is done through the realistic description of The connections between the mass elements of the vehicle such as the frame, guiding mechanism (swing arm), wheels, etc. The degrees of freedom between the objects are constrained according to Table 1.

Element 1	Element 2	x	У	Rotz
Front wheel	Road	Х	Х	Х
Rear wheel	Road	Х	Х	Х
Swing arm	Wheel	-	1	Х
Swing arm	Frame	-	-	Х
Rear cylinder	Swing arm	-	-	Х
Rear piston	Frame	-	-	Х
Front cylinder	Wheel	-	-	х
Front piston	Frame	-	-	-

#### Table 1. Joints' constraint



Figure 2. Connection diagram of simscape model's elements



Figure 3. Motorbike 4DOF model

Table 2. Joints between elements

Element 1	Element 2	Matlab joint block
Front wheel	Road	2DOF joint
Rear wheel	Road	2DOF joint
Swing arm	Wheel	Revolute joint
Swing arm	Frame	Revolute joint
Rear cylinder	Swing arm	Revolute joint
Rear piston	Frame	Revolute joint
Front cylinder	Wheel	Revolute joint
Front piston	Frame	Fixed
Cylinder	Piston	Prismatic joint
Unsprung mass	Wheel	Prismatic joint

#### 2.2 Theoretical model

The theoretical analysis model, Figure 3, with the technical parameters of the suspension system, the coordinate parameters of the centre of gravity and the survey parameters are converted into a mathematical model. Apply the general form of Lagrange's equation according to (1) to the system of Figure 3.

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial K}{\partial \dot{q}_r} \right) - \frac{\partial K}{\partial q_r} + \frac{\partial D}{\partial \dot{q}_r} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial q_r} = f_r \tag{1}$$

The kinetic energy K, potential energy V, and dissipation function D of the mechanical system are respectively computed as follows.

$$K = \frac{1}{2} w_c \dot{y}^2 + \frac{1}{2} w_{uf} \dot{y}_{tf}^2 + \frac{1}{2} w_{ur} \dot{y}_{tr}^2 + \frac{1}{2} I_c \dot{\phi}^2$$
(2)

$$V = \frac{1}{2} s_{eqfw} \left( y_{tf} - y_{hf} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} s_{eqrw} \left( y_{tr} - y_{hr} \right)^2 + \dots$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} s_{eqf} \left( y - y_{tf} - b_1 \phi \right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} s_{eqr} \left( y - y_{tr} + b_2 \phi \right)^2$$
(3)

$$D = \frac{1}{2} d_{eqf} \left( \dot{y} - \dot{y}_{tf} - b_1 \phi \right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} d_{eqr} \left( \dot{y} - \dot{y}_{tr} - b_2 \phi \right)^2$$
(4)

The differential dynamic equations describe vehicle vibration as (5).

$$\begin{bmatrix} W \end{bmatrix} \ddot{Y} + \begin{bmatrix} D \end{bmatrix} \dot{Y} + \begin{bmatrix} S \end{bmatrix} Y = F$$
(5)  
$$\begin{bmatrix} W \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} w_c & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I_c & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & w_{uf} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & w_{ur} \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} D \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} d_{eqf} + d_{eqr} & b_2 d_{eqr} - b_1 d_{eqf} & -d_{eqf} & -d_{eqr} \\ b_2 d_{eqr} - b_1 d_{eqf} & d_{eqf} b_1^2 + d_{eqr} b_2^2 & b_1 d_{eqf} & -b_2 d_{eqr} \\ -d_{eqf} & b_1 d_{eqf} & d_{eqf} & 0 \\ -d_{eqr} & -b_2 d_{eqr} & 0 & d_{eqr} \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} S \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} s_{eqf} + s_{eqr} & b_2 s_{eqr} - b_1 s_{eqf} & -s_{eqf} & -s_{eqr} \\ b_2 s_{eqr} - b_1 s_{eqf} & s_{eqf} b_1^2 + s_{eqr} b_2^2 & b_1 s_{eqf} & -b_2 s_{eqr} \\ -s_{eqf} & b_1 s_{eqf} & s_{eqf} + s_{eqrw} & 0 \\ -s_{eqr} & -b_2 s_{eqr} & 0 & s_{eqf} + s_{eqrw} \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\ddot{Y} = \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{y} \\ \ddot{y} \\ \ddot{y} \\ \ddot{y}_{fr} \\ \ddot{y}_{fr} \end{bmatrix}, \dot{Y} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{y} \\ \dot{\phi} \\ \dot{y}_{ff} \\ \dot{y}_{fr} \end{bmatrix}, Y = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{y} \\ \dot{\phi} \\ \dot{y}_{ff} \\ \dot{y}_{fr} \end{bmatrix}, Y = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{y} \\ \phi \\ \dot{y}_{ff} \\ \dot{y}_{fr} \end{bmatrix}, F = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ y_{ff} s_{eqfw} \\ y_{fr} s_{eqrw} \end{bmatrix}$$

#### 2.3 Input parameters

# 2.3.1 Transient excitation y<sub>t</sub>(t)

Basing on the IRC 99-1988 standard [20], this study calculated transient excitation signal  $y_t(t)$  according to (6). With the parameters,  $d_1 = 3.7$  (m),  $d_2 = 0.1$  (m), speed  $v \in [10, 80]$  (km/h).

$$y_t(t) = \begin{cases} d_2 \sin^2 \frac{\pi v}{d_1} t; & 0 \le t < \frac{d_1}{v} \\ 0; & t < 0, \ t \ge \frac{d_1}{v} \end{cases}$$
(6)

The simulation results of the excitation signal at different speed cases, including low-speed v = 10 (km/h), medium-speed v = 40 (km/h) and high-speed v = 80(km/h), are shown in Figure 4.



Figure 4. Excitation signal  $y_h(t)$  (m)

#### 2.3.2 Harmonic excitation $y_h(t)$

The harmonic excitation signal  $y_h(t)$  is simulated in the normal operating frequency range of the suspension system  $f \in [0, 15]$  (Hz) [21]. With excitation amplitude  $d_2 = 0.005$  (m), cycle length  $d_1 = 1$  (m), and vehicle speed  $v \in [0, 15]$  (m/s), the value  $y_h(t)$  is calculated according to (7).

$$y_h(t) = \frac{d_2}{2} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi v}{d_1}t\right) \tag{7}$$

The simulation results of the excitation signal at different frequency cases  $f = [1 \ 2 \ 3]$  (Hz) are shown in Figure 5.



Figure 5. Harmonic excitation  $y_h(t)$ 

#### 2.3.3 Random excitation $y_r(t)$

According to ISO 8608 standard [22], with the number of sine waves chosen N = 500, amplitude reduction w = 2, at each time t(s) on the measurement time-domain T(s), corresponding to the vehicle speed v (km/h), the road surface excitation value  $y_r(t)$  is calculated according to (8).

$$y_r(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sqrt{2\mathcal{A}_0 \left(\frac{\mathcal{Q}_i}{\mathcal{Q}_0}\right)^{-w} \Delta \mathcal{Q}} \sin\left(\mathcal{Q}_i v t - \psi_i\right) \quad (8)$$

With:

 $\Omega_i$ : The wavenumbers

 $\psi_i$ : The different sets of distributed phase angles (rad)  $\Phi_0$ : The power spectral density (PSD) at the reference wavenumber  $\Omega_0 = 1$  (rad/m)

The  $y_r(t)$  signal describes a random road surface with different road quality types. The road surface quality level C is chosen for analysis corresponding to the *PSD* value of  $\Phi_{0C} = 8.10^{-6}$  (m<sup>3</sup>/rad), Figure 6.



Figure 6. Random excitation y<sub>r</sub>(t) [22]

# 3. EVALUATION CRITERIA

#### Under transient excitation

The transient excitation signal is used to evaluate the safe deformation of the suspension system, the human body's stability, and the ability to grip the road at the wheel according to  $TR_{rel}$ ,  $TR_{acc}$ , and  $TR_{TDL}$  values. When  $TR_{rel}>100(\%)$ , the deformation of the suspension system exceeds the allowable limit and vice versa. For the human body, when  $TR_{acc}>100(\%)$ , the body bounces off the seat, causing instability when driving. Similarly, when  $TR_{TDL}>100(\%)$ , the wheel no longer grips the road, causing unsafety.

Suspension system's relative displacement response  $TR_{rel}$  (9).

$$TR_{rel} = \frac{Max \left| x_{Cylinder} \left( t \right) - x_{Piston} \left( t \right) \right|}{\Delta x_L} .100(\%) \quad (9)$$

Human body vertical acceleration response  $TR_{acc}$  (10).

$$TR_{acc} = \frac{Max(\ddot{x}_{human}(t))}{g}.100(\%)$$
(10)

Tyre dynamic load response  $TR_{TDL}$  (11).

$$TR_{TDL} = \frac{Max(k_t(y_t(t) - y(t)) + c_t(\dot{y}_t(t) - \dot{y}(t)))}{mg}.100(\%) \quad (11)$$

#### Under harmonic excitation

The harmonic excitation signal is used to evaluate the effect of frequency on the amplitude of the output

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oscillation signals including the relative displacement of the suspension system  $HA_{rel}$  and the body acceleration  $HA_{acc}$ . Accordingly, the commonly accepted values of  $HA_{rel}$  and  $HA_{acc}$  are less than 3 [21].

Suspension system's relative displacement gain response  $HA_{rel}$  (12). With  $x_{rel} = x_{Cylinder}(t) - x_{Piston}(t)$ .

$$HA_{rel} = \frac{Max(x_{rel}) - Min(x_{rel})}{d_2} .100(\%)$$
(12)

Human body vertical acceleration gain response  $HA_{acc}$  (13).

$$HA_{acc} = \frac{Max \left| \ddot{x}_{human}(t) \right|}{0.5d_2 \left( \frac{2\pi v}{d_1} \right)^2} .100(\%)$$
(13)

#### Under random excitation

The random signal is used to evaluate the comfort level of the person subjected to vibration through the overall vibration acceleration value  $acc_v$  (m/s<sup>2</sup>) according to the guidelines of ISO 2631:1-1997 [4]. The value of  $acc_v$  over the entire measured domain T (s) is the Root Mean Square (RMS) of the acceleration values  $acc_w(t)$  (m/s<sup>2</sup>) at each time t (s), according to (14).



Figure 7. Frequency weighting filters  $w_k$  [3]

The acceleration value  $a_w(t)$ , according to ISO 2631:1-1997, is the value taking into account the influence of frequency on the domain  $f_r \in [0.5, 20]$  (Hz) represented by the weighting filter  $w_k$  [4], according to (15).

$$w_{k} = |L_{hp}(s)| \cdot |L_{lp}(s)| \cdot |L_{avt}(s)| \cdot |L_{us}(s)|$$
(15)

With:

 $|L_{hp}(s)|$ : High - pass filter (16):

$$\left|L_{hp}\left(s\right)\right| = \sqrt{\frac{f_r^{\ 4}}{f_r^{\ 4} + f_{r1}^{\ 4}}} \tag{16}$$

 $|L_{lp}(s)|$ : Low-pass filter (17):

$$\left|L_{lp}\left(s\right)\right| = \sqrt{\frac{f_{r2}^{4}}{f_{r}^{4} + f_{r2}^{4}}}$$
(17)

 $|L_{avt}(s)|$ : Acceleration-velocity transition filter (18):

$$\left|L_{tat}(s)\right| = \sqrt{\frac{f_r^2 + f_r^2}{f_r^2}} \sqrt{\frac{f_r^4 R_4^2}{f_r^4 R_4^2 + f_r^2 f_r^4 (1 - 2R_4^2) + f_r^4 R_4^2}}$$
(18)

 $|L_{us}(s)|$ : Upward step filter (19):

$$\left|L_{us}(s)\right| = \frac{R_6}{R_5} \sqrt{\frac{f_r^4 \cdot R_5^2 + f_r^2 \cdot f_{r5}^2 \cdot (1 - 2R_5^2) + f_{r5}^4 \cdot R_5^2}{f_r^4 \cdot R_5^2 + f_r^2 \cdot f_{r5}^2 \cdot (1 - 2R_5^2) + f_{r6}^4 \cdot R_6^2}}$$
(19)

Based on the calculated  $acc_v$  (m/s<sup>2</sup>) value, the vibration comfort level of the person is divided into levels according to Table 3.

 Table 3. Driver and passenger uncomfortable feeling level

 under different acceleration ranges [4]

Acceleration evaluation value	Uncomfortable feeling
$acc_{v}$ (m/s <sup>2</sup> )	level
$acc_v < 0.31$	Not
$0.31 < acc_v < 0.6$	A little
$0.5 < acc_v < 1$	Fairly
$0.8 < acc_v < 1.6$	Completely
$1.3 < acc_v < 2.5$	Very
$acc_v > 2$	Extremely

## 4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The simulation results of the time-based cases are summarized in the speed domain (transient, random) and the frequency domain (harmonic). In addition, at each speed and frequency value, the optimal  $\xi_s$  value is obtained. From the database of optimal  $\xi_s$  values, ve– hicle users can adjust the damper according to their needs to ensure the most stable vehicle operation accor– ding to acceleration condition, relative displacement condition, and wheel traction or avoid the effects of resonance on the frequency domain. In addition, the set of survey results also shows that the cases of carrying 01 people and 02 people sometimes have a significant difference in the optimal  $\xi_s$  value. The specific results are presented in the graphs below.

#### **Transient excitation**

The typical response values of the human body and vehicle suspension system in the time domain are summarized in Figure 8. The synthesized cases include the case of considering the same average vehicle speed v = 40 (km/h), the damping ratio value  $\zeta_s = [0.2 \ 0.5]$  and the case of considering the same damping ratio  $\zeta_s = 0.5$ , the vehicle speed value  $v = [40 \ 80]$  (km/h). In the first case, when the vehicle moves at an average speed v = 40 (km/h), the positive vertical acceleration value with  $\zeta_s = 0.2$  is more significant than that with  $\zeta_s = 0.5$ . However, the system's stabilization time with  $\zeta_s = 0.5$  is faster. Similarly, the response values of the pitch angle, the relative displacement of the suspension system, and the dynamic load on the wheel all have the same trend as

the acceleration. In the second case, the positive acceleration response value is most significant when the vehicle carries 01 people at v = 80 (km/h) and gradually decreases correspondingly to the case of the vehicle carrying 01 people v = 40 (km/h), the vehicle carrying 02 people v = 80 (km/h). The response value of the pitch angle does not differ much in the cases. For the res-



a. Acceleration (m/s<sup>2</sup>), v = 40 (km/h)



c. Pitch angle (°) , v = 40 (km/h)



e. Front relative displacement, v = 40 (km/h)

ponse of relative displacement and dynamic load at the wheels, the most significant case when the vehicle carries 02 people at v = 80 (km/h) gradually decreases correspondingly to the case of the vehicle carrying 01 people v = 80 (km/h), when the vehicle carrying 02 people v = 40 (km/h).





d. Pitch angle (°),  $\xi_b = 0.5$ 



f. Front relative displacement,  $\xi_b = 0.5$ 



Figure 8. Transient - Responses in the time domain







c. Maximum pitch angle (°) – 01 occupant



e. Front *TR<sub>rel</sub>* (%) – 01 occupant



b. TR<sub>acc</sub> (%) – 02 occupants





f. Front  $TR_{rel}$  (%) – 02 occupants







i. Front TR<sub>TDL</sub> (%) – 01 occupant











j. Front TR<sub>TDL</sub> (%) – 02 occupants





Figure 9. Transient - Responses in the velocity v and damping ratio  $\xi_s$  domain

In the case of transient excitation, the maximum response values including maximum acceleration response  $TR_{acc}$  (%), maximum pitch angle around the *Oy* axis response, maximum relative displacement response  $TR_{rel}$ 

(%), maximum dynamic load response at the wheel  $TR_{TDL}$  (%) are synthesized and analyzed as Figure 9.

Considering the maximum acceleration response  $TR_{acc}$  (%), with the same damping ratio value  $\xi_s$ , the  $TR_{acc}$  value increases as vehicle speed v (km/h) inc-

reases. However, when considering the same vehicle speed value v (km/h), as increasing  $\xi_s$  value, in the region with speed below average v < 40 (km/h), the optimal  $\xi_s$  value is scattered without any trend. Besides, in the region with an average speed of 40 (km/h)< v < 60(km/h), the optimal  $\xi_s$  value has a gradually increasing magnitude and remains constant in the high-speed region v > 60 (km/h). For the case of carrying 02 people, the overall  $TR_{acc}$  value is distributed in the regions of more significant variation than when carrying 01 person. Accordingly, in the low-speed region v < 40 (km/h), the optimal  $\xi_{ss}$  value is almost entirely distributed in the small value region. In the medium-speed region 40 (km/h) $\leq v \leq 60$  (km/h), the optimal  $\xi_s$  value decreases from  $\xi_s = 0.8$  to  $\xi_s = 0.4$  and stabilizes at 0.4 in the entire high-speed region v > 60 (km/h).

Considering the maximum pitch angle response, the cases of vehicle carrying 01 and 02 people have a similar trend of maximum pitch angle variation. With the same  $\zeta_s$  value, the pitch angle value increases with the increase in vehicle speed v (km/h). In the low-speed region v<20 (km/h), the maximum pitch angle value is distributed in the small region and vice versa; it is distributed in the large region with vehicle speed v>20 (km/h).

Considering the relative displacement response of the front and rear suspension systems, the  $TR_{rel}$  value (%) in the case of the same front or rear suspension system in the two cases of carrying 01 and 02 people is similar in trend in the speed regions. The  $TR_{rel}$  value in the front and rear suspension systems does not exceed the allowable deformation limit in the entire speed range v and  $\xi_s$ . Considering the same value of  $\xi_s$ , in the front suspension system, when carrying 01 person, according to the increasing direction of the vehicle speed v, the  $TR_{rel}$  value increases and reaches a maximum at the speed v = 70 (km/h), outside this speed region, the  $TR_{rel}$ value decreases. When the vehicle carries 02 people, the  $TR_{rel}$  value reaches a maximum at v = 50 (km/h) and decreases when v>50 (km/h). Considering the same value of v, as increasing the value of  $\xi_s$  the  $TR_{rel}$  value decreases and reaches a minimum at  $\xi_s = 0.8$ . For the rear suspension system, considering the same value of



a. Acceleration  $(m/s^2)$ , f = 1 (Hz)

 $\xi_s$ , as the vehicle speed increases, the  $TR_{rel}$  value gradually increases and reaches its maximum at the vehicle speed values  $v_{max}$ ; this  $v_{max}$  value increases as the  $\xi_s$ value decreases. The optimal  $\xi_s$  value of the rear suspension system is the maximum surveyed  $\xi_s$  value. Considering the response to the vertical dynamic load  $TR_{TDL}$  (%) at the wheels, in the surveyed speed region, the  $TR_{TDL}$  value (%) is always greater than the static load value, so the wheel's road grip decreases as the vehicle speed increases when going over bumps. The optimal  $\xi_s$  value is distributed irregularly in the surveyed speed region. For the front wheel, in the case of 01 people sitting, in the speed range v < 30 (km/h), the optimal  $\xi_s$  value decreases from 0.8 to 0.2 and remains unchanged in the speed range 30 (km/h)<v<50 (km/h), in the speed range 50 (km/h)<v<70 (km/h) the optimal  $\xi_s$  value gradually increases to 0.8 and remains unchanged when the vehicle speed increases. For a vehicle carrying 02 people in the low-speed range v < 30 (km/h), the optimal  $\xi_s$  value is below 0.2; outside this speed range, the optimal  $\xi_s$  value is the maximum surveyed  $\xi_s$ value

#### Harmonic excitation

Similar to the time domain response survey with transient excitation, the typical response value over time with harmonic excitation was also obtained in 02 cases, Figure 10. Accordingly, in the first case with excitation frequency value f = 1 (Hz), the acceleration response of a vehicle carrying 02 people is always greater than that of 01 people. In addition, when the vehicle carries the same number of people, the acceleration response with  $\xi_s = 0.2$  and  $\xi_s = 0.5$  are approximately the same. This trend is valid for the cases of relative displacement response in the front and rear suspension systems. In the second survey case, the response value at high-frequency f = 3 (Hz) is always more significant than that at low-frequency f = 1 (Hz). For the acceleration response, the case of a vehicle carrying 02 people has a lower response, and vice versa for the cases of suspension displacement response.

![](_page_9_Figure_8.jpeg)

b. Acceleration (m/s<sup>2</sup>),  $\xi_b = 0.5$ 

![](_page_10_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_10_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_10_Figure_2.jpeg)

a. HA<sub>acc</sub> (%) – 01 occupant

![](_page_10_Figure_4.jpeg)

b. HA<sub>acc</sub> (%) – 02 occupants

3

3

![](_page_11_Figure_0.jpeg)

Figure 11. Harmonic - Gain responses in the excitation frequency f and damping ratio  $\xi_b$  domain

When subjected to harmonic excitation, the response values in the frequency domain include the acceleration response  $HA_{acc}$  (%) and the relative displacement response HA<sub>rel</sub> (%), Figure 11. For the human body acceleration response  $HA_{acc}$ , the cases of vehicles carrying 01 and 02 people have resonant frequency values at  $f_{re} = 2.5$  (Hz) and  $f_{re} = 1.5$  (Hz), respectively, over the entire investigated  $\xi_s$  value range. However, at the resonant frequency, as the  $\xi_s$  value increases, the resonance response amplitude decreases. In addition, in the investigated frequency domain, the optimal  $\xi_s$  value in the cases of carrying 01 and 02 people, respectively, in the frequency range  $f \in [0.5 5]$  (Hz),  $f \in [0.5 3]$  (Hz) is 0.8, outside this frequency range, the optimal  $\xi_s$  value is 0.2. For the relative displacement response of the front and rear suspension  $HA_{rel}$ , when the vehicle carries 01, 02 people, the optimal value of  $\xi_s$  is 0.8 over the entire frequency range. In addition, the maximum response at the resonance frequency of the front suspension is always greater than that of the rear suspension, considering the same number of people. With the same front or rear suspension, the response value at the resonance frequency when the vehicle carries 02 people is greater than that of 01 people.

# **Random excitation**

The acceleration response values on the investigated speed domain in the case of the vehicle moving on road surface C at all  $\xi_s$  values are summarized in Figure 12, Figure 13. Accordingly, the trend of  $acc_v$  value in the speed domain and the  $\xi_s$  domain when the vehicle carries 01 and 02 people is similar. Specifically, the optimal  $\xi_s$  value in the surveyed speed domain is 0.2. In the entire vehicle speed domain, as  $\xi_s$  increases, the *acc<sub>v</sub>* value decreases to a minimum at  $\xi_s = 0.2$  and increases as  $\xi_s$  increases. In addition, in the entire  $\xi_s$  value domain, as the vehicle speed increases, the  $acc_v$  value increases. In particular, the  $acc_v$  value when the vehicle carries 01 people is larger than when carrying 02 people in the entire surveyed domain of v and  $\xi_s$ , thereby making the vehicle carrying 02 people create a better feeling when the vehicle moves on the road surface C.

![](_page_12_Figure_0.jpeg)

a.  $acc_v$  (m/s<sup>2</sup>), v = 40 (km/h)

Figure 12. Random - Responses in the time domain

![](_page_12_Figure_3.jpeg)

b.  $acc_v (m/s^2), \xi_b = 0.5$ 

![](_page_12_Figure_5.jpeg)

Figure 13. Random - Responses in the velocity v and damping ratio  $\xi_b$  domain

# 5. CONCLUSIONS

The study has applied the multi-body dynamic modelling method to describe the electric vehicle suspension system using Matlab Simscape. Through this model, the study has analyzed the output responses of the driver and the suspension system when subjected to different types of excitation. The analysis results show that:

+ With transient excitation: In the working speed range, both the cases of vehicles carrying 01 and 02 people are likely to lose vertical stability when the  $TR_{acc}$ value exceeds 100% at high-speed values v>60 (km/h), the optimal  $\xi_s$  value is not distributed consistently but changing a lot with different speed ranges. In addition, the  $TR_{acc}$  response value when the vehicle carries 02 people is lower than when the vehicle carries 01 people under the same survey conditions. The response of the vehicle body pitch angle around the Oy axis is relatively small (<6°); the optimal  $\xi_s$  value is mainly distributed in the high-value region  $\xi_s = 0.8$ . The response of the relative displacement of the front and rear suspension systems  $TR_{rel}$  increases with increasing speed and decreases with increasing  $\xi_s$  value of the survey. However, as  $TR_{rel} < 100\%$  in all surveyed cases, the relative displacement of the vehicle suspension system does not exceed the allowable limit. In addition, the  $TR_{rel}$  value reaches its minimum when the  $\xi_s$  value is the largest in the surveyed region. The response of the dynamic load at the wheel  $TR_{TDL}$  is always greater than 100% in the medium and high-speed region v>30 (km/h), so when moving over the bump in this speed region, the vehicle is at risk of losing traction.

+ With harmonic excitation: The resonance frequency values of the entire suspension system when carrying 01 and 02 people are reached at  $f_{re} = 2.5$  (Hz) and  $f_{re} = 1.5$  (Hz), respectively. As the  $\zeta_s$  value increases, the resonance amplitudes of  $HA_{acc}$  and  $HA_{rel}$ decrease. With the  $\zeta_s$  value <0.4, the  $HA_{acc}$  and  $HA_{rel}$ values at the resonance frequency exceed 100%. When the excitation frequency value f > 5 (Hz), the  $HA_{acc}$  and  $HA_{rel}$  values decrease rapidly. The optimal  $\zeta_s$  value range for  $HA_{acc}$  in the low and high-frequency regions is  $\zeta_s = 0.8$  and  $\zeta_s = 0.2$ , respectively. For the  $HA_{rel}$  value, the optimal  $\zeta_s$  value is in the 0.8 region.

+ With random excitation: In the entire vehicle speed range, as  $\xi_s$  increases, the  $acc_v$  value decreases and reaches a minimum at  $\xi_s = 0.2$ , then increases as  $\xi_s$ 

increases. In the entire  $\zeta_s$  value range, as the vehicle speed increases, the  $acc_v$  value increases. With the current suspension system, the occupant will always feel uncomfortable when moving on road surface C with  $PSD \Phi_{0C} = 8.10^{-6} \text{ (m}^3/\text{rad}).$ 

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## NOMENCLATURE

W <sub>d</sub>	Standard weight of the driver	70	kg
Wp	Standard weight of the passenger	70	kg
W <sub>ch</sub>	Weight of the vehicle's chassis	35	kg
Wb	Weight of the vehicle's power source	57	kg
S <sub>f</sub>	Combination of stiffness of the vehicle's front coil springs	30000	N/m
S <sub>r</sub>	Stiffness of the vehicle's rear coil spring	130000	N/m
$S_{fw}$	Stiffness of the vehicle's front wheel	140000	N/m
$S_{rw}$	Stiffness of the	140000	N/m

	vehicle's rear wheel		
$d_f$	Combination of damping coefficient of the vehicle's front dampers		Ns/m
$d_r$	Damping coefficient of the vehicle's rear damper		Ns/m
$d_{fw}$	Damping coefficient of the vehicle's front wheel	150	Ns/m
$d_{rw}$	Damping coefficient of the vehicle's rear wheel	150	Ns/m
Yhf, Yhr	excitation signals from road		m
g	Gravitational acceleration	9.81	$m/s^2$
$\Delta x_{Lf} / \Delta x_{Lr}$	Front and rear suspension's deformation limit	90/30	mm
W <sub>c</sub>	Human, chassis and power source mass Front unsprung mass		
w <sub>uf</sub>	Rear unsprung mass		
$I_c$	Human, chassis and power source moment of inertia		
Seqf	Equivalent stiffness of front suspension		
Seqr	Equivalent stiffness of rear suspension		
<i>d<sub>eqf</sub></i>	Equivalent damping coefficient of front suspension Equivalent damping		
d <sub>eqr</sub>	coefficient of rear suspension		

Seqfw	Stiffness of front wheel
Seqrw	Stiffness of rear wheel
$b_1, b_2$	Center of gravity position
$h_g$	Height of center of gravity
$\phi$	Pitch angle

# ИСТРАЖИВАЊЕ НОВЕ ПРОЦЕНЕ ВИБРАЦИЈА ВЕШАЊА МОТОЦИКЛА КОРИШЋЕЊЕМ ДИНАМИЧКОГ МОДЕЛА СА ВИШЕ ТЕЛА НА РАЗЛИЧИТИМ ПОВРШИНАМА ПУТА

# Н.Д. Фам

Ова студија је допринела новој методи у анализи вибрационих одзива вешања мотоцикла са коефицијентом пригушења  $\xi_s$  коришћењем динамичког модела са више тела (MBD). Посебна карактеристика ове методе је да MBD модел може да представи понашање система без успостављања динамичких једначина.

Ова метода захтева успос-тављање чврстих кинематичких ограничења између елемената модела у ХҮ равни на позицијама споја као што су пут - точак, точак - вођица - вешање - оквир мотора у Matlab Simmechanics окружењу. Ре-зултати се процењују на основу различитих индекса одзива као што су убрзање, релативно померање, способност држања пута и ниво удобности у складу са случајевима рада под хармонијским, пролазним и случајним побуђењима. Одзиви MBD модела у случајевима рада теже да буду у складу са стварношћу и могу се применити у процесу пројектовања вешања мотоцикла на основу процене утицаја  $\xi_s$ .