

Multi-Body Dynamic Modeling and Simulation of Crawler-Formation Interactions in Surface Mining Operations -Crawler Kinematics

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Abstract

Surface mining operations use large tracked shovels to achieve economic bulk production capacities. Shovel reliability, maintainability, availability and efficiency depend on the service life of the crawlers. In rugged and challenging terrains, the extent of crawler wear, tear, cracks and fatigue failure can be extensive resulting in prolonged downtimes with severe economic implications. In particular, crawler shoe wear, tear, cracks and fatigue failures can be expensive in terms of maintenance costs and production losses. This research study is a pioneering effort for understanding and providing long-term solutions to crawler-formation problems in surface mining applications. The external forces acting on the crawler shoes and oil sand are formulated to determine system kinematics. The dynamic model focuses on the external force from machine weight, the crawler contact forces, the contact friction forces and the inertia and gravity forces using multi-body dynamics theory. A virtual prototype simulator of the crawler dynamics is simulated within the MSC ADAMS environment.

Index terms— surface mining, crawler-terrain interactions, multi-body dynamic theory, crawler dynamic modeling, virtual prototype simulation.

1 Introduction

able shovels are widely used in surface mining operations. The lower works of this shovel comprise propel and crawler systems, which

2 C

The crawler tracks are made up of shoes that are connected together by link pins to form a continuous chain [2]. Multi-body dynamics study on crawler-terrain interactions is non-existent for large shovels in surface mining operations but it is required to provide knowledge of crawler performance and fatigue life. Fatigue life modeling and analysis are also required to develop preventive maintenance plans, component replacements and rebuilds to extend the life of the crawlers and reduce their maintenance costs. Nakanishi and Shabana (1994) used a 2-D hydraulic excavator model to study the multi-body dynamics of a tracked vehicle. The track interaction with sprockets, rollers and ground were modeled using the spring-damper force to calculate the track-terrain normal contact forces. The tangential force was modeled using a simple Coulomb friction model. Choi et al. (1998) and Lee et al. (1998) extended the 2-D study of Nakanishi and Shabana (1994) to a 3-D contact force models of a hydraulic excavator. Rubinstein and Hitron (1994) used an LMS-DADS simulation to develop a multi-body dynamic M113 armored carrier tracked vehicle simulator. Hertz theory was used to model the track-terrain contact force, and user-defined force elements to calculate normal and tangential forces between the track and the terrain. Rubinstein and Coppock (2007) extended this model by including grousers in the track-terrain model. Ferretti and Girelli (1999) developed a 3-D dynamic model of an agricultural tracked vehicle using

284 **15 Table 11 : Joint and Driving Forces**

290 Table 12 : Comparison between Analytical and MSC Adams results at $t = 0.5s$

298 To use GSTIFF integrator equation (??0) is converted to first order ODE by introducing a new velocity
299 variable in equation (??0). This substitution results in equation (51).
300
$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{q} \\ \dot{u} \\ \dot{Q} \\ \dot{M} \\ \dot{T} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{M} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial q} \\ \frac{1}{M} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial u} \\ \frac{1}{M} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial Q} \\ \frac{1}{M} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial M} \\ \frac{1}{M} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial T} \end{pmatrix} \quad (51)$$

The index of the DAE is defined as the number of time derivatives required to convert DAEs to a system of ODEs [29]. The equation (??0) or (??1) is in the default Index 3 (I3) formulation of GSTIFF integrator. Equation (51) can also be written in the form of equation (??2)q u ? ? [29] (52) 0) y F(y ? t , , ?

In equation (52) state vector Predictor Step: An explicit predictor step is used to obtain the initial guess value of vector at current time in equation (52). In this step, Taylor seriesT] [? q, u, y ? . 1 ? n y 1 ? n t polynomial of given order is fitted using the past values of vector y to obtain1 ? n y .

307 Corrector Step: The corrector equation for the state vector y at the current time can be obtained from
308 backward difference formula [29] as shown in equation (53).

309 Using equation (53), equation (??6) can be derived as follows:

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310      ( 56) Adams (specified error = 1.0E-003), the solver proceeds to the next time step. Otherwise the integrator
311      takes a smaller time step and recalculates the solution. This predictor-corrector process is repeated until the
312      simulation end time is reached.????????????????????????????????????0000
313      qq qq qq q u C I C Q ? C u M Q y F T T ? and ?????????????????00000000 I M y F ??? t h h k
314      k , T T k k , , 00000 y y F y C I I C Q ? C u M Q M y y q q qq q u ?????????????????????
315      ?????????????????? Convergence: When the value of residue (

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and corrections in equation (???) is small, the GTSTIFF integrator in MSC Adams estimates local integration error which is a function of difference between the predicted and corrected value, step size h and the order of integration [29]. When this integration error is less than the specified integration error tolerance in MSC V.

319 16 Results and Discussions

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13a. The magnitude of acceleration in the y-direction is much smaller in comparison to their values in z-direction as shown in Figures 13b and 13c. Figure 14 shows the variation of angular velocities in x, y and z directions. It can be seen from Figure 14a that all crawler shoes have same angular velocity variation with time in x-direction and hence the whole crawler track rolls about the x-axis during its propelling motion. This rolling angular velocity attains its peak value when the crawler track attains its specified xtranslation velocity (Figure 12a) and decreases thereafter as shown in Figure 14a. The crawler shoes also rotates about y-axis (join t axis) with large varying angular velocity (Figure 14b) causing relative rotational motion between adjacent shoes of the crawler track. The crawler track also experiences small fluctuating rotational velocities along the global zdirection with average value approximately equal to zero as shown in Figure 14c. This rotation velocity causes crawler track to slide left or right from its direction of motion. 15a. Due to the fluctuating rotational velocity arising from equivalent revolute joint, the crawler shoes also have unsteady angular acceleration variation about yaxis (Figure 15b). The angular acceleration variation in zdirection (Figure 15c) shows that its average value is approximately zero and hence the crawler track will maintain its straight line motion. The time variation of velocities in x, y and z directions for crawler shoe 9 for the case of translation and turning motion is shown in Figure 17. The x-velocity variation show similar behavior for both motion types as shown in Figure 17a. The y-velocity (Figure 17b) shows large fluctuations during the middle of the turning motion when compared with translation motion type. This is due to the irregular increase in the lateral displacement of the crawler track (y-displacement in Figure 16b) when the crawler is turning at its prescribed. The comparison of time variation of acceleration in x, y and z directions for crawler shoe 9 for both motion types reveal similar general behavior as shown for velocity distributions in Figure 17 and hence not plotted. The angular velocity variation for crawler shoe 9 is shown in Figure 18. The bouncing action of the crawler track also produces simultaneous rolling motion as shown by the angular velocity distribution about x-axis in Figure 18a. But turning motion exhibits increased rolling behavior when compared with translation motion due to the unsteady lateral sliding of the crawler track. The angular velocity in y-direction shows similar fluctuating behavior for both motion types while the angular velocity about z-axis for turning motion follows the rotation motion constraint (1.0 deg/s) imposed on the moving zaxis of the body fixed motion coordinate system on part 14. The angular acceleration comparison for both motion types also shows similar unsteady behavior as angular velocity (Figure 18) and hence not plotted here.

17 Conclusions

The dynamic equation of motion governing the multi-body model of crawler track assembly is obtained to study the propelling motion of crawler track on the oil sand terrain. A simple two-body contact dynamic problem is simulated in MSC Adams and the simulation results for accelerations and constraint forces at a given time is verified by solving the same problem analytically using the dynamic equations of motion and comparing the analytical solution to the simulation results. Subsequent to analytical verification, a rigid 3D virtual prototype model of the crawler track interacting with the oil sand terrain is developed and simulated in ADAMS environment. The simulation is carried out for the prescribed translation and rotation motion constraints on one of the crawler shoes in the track as reported in the kinematics part of this paper. The interaction between each crawler shoe and ground is modeled using contact force formulation in MSC ADAMS. The kinematic simulation results of the crawler track propelling on the ground for both driving constraints show that in 10 s the crawler slips forward for a maximum longitudinal distance of 0.75 m with vertical bouncing, lateral sliding and rotation about the x, y and z-axes. For translation motion, the maximum values of lateral sliding and vertical bouncing are 1 cm and 3.5 cm from the equilibrium position. The corresponding maximum sliding and bouncing velocities and accelerations are 0.06 m/s and 0.45 m/s and 1.8 m/s² and 27 m/s². The maximum magnitude of angular velocities and accelerations attained about the three orthogonal axes are 12.

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Figure 1: Figure 1 :

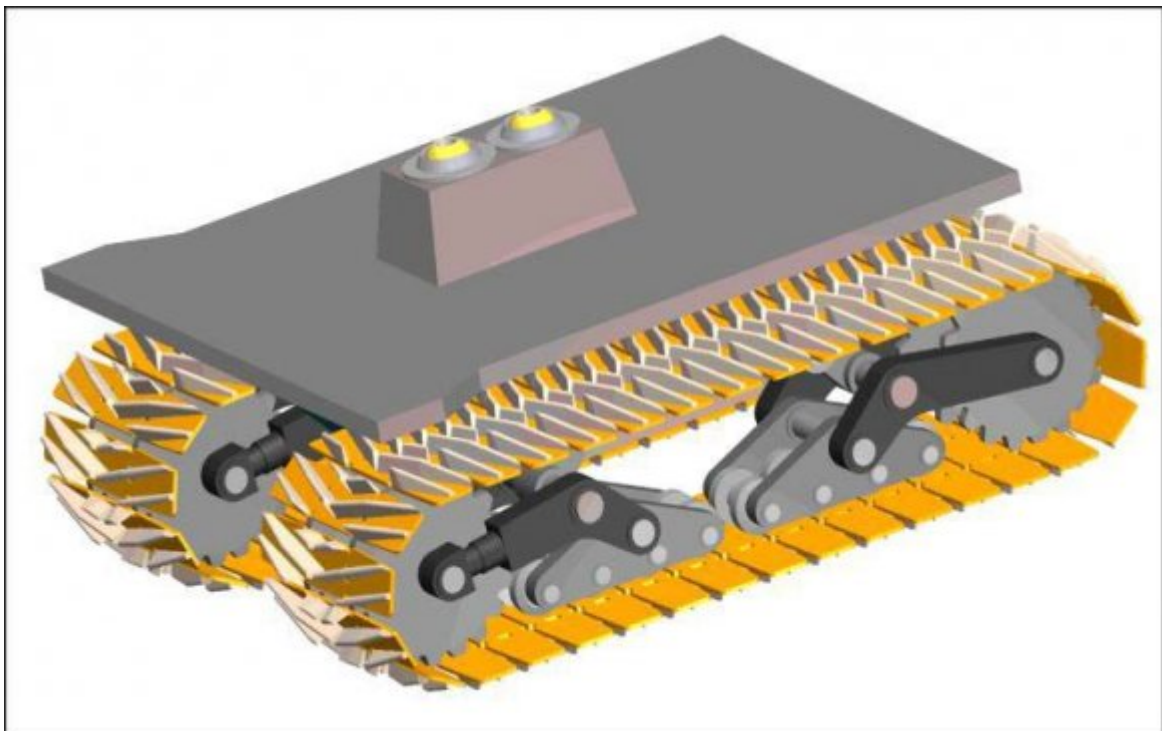


Figure 2:



Figure 3: Figure 2 :

FORCE DISTRIBUTION

Figure 4:



Figure 5:

5 INCIDENT FORCES

Figure 6: Figure 5 :

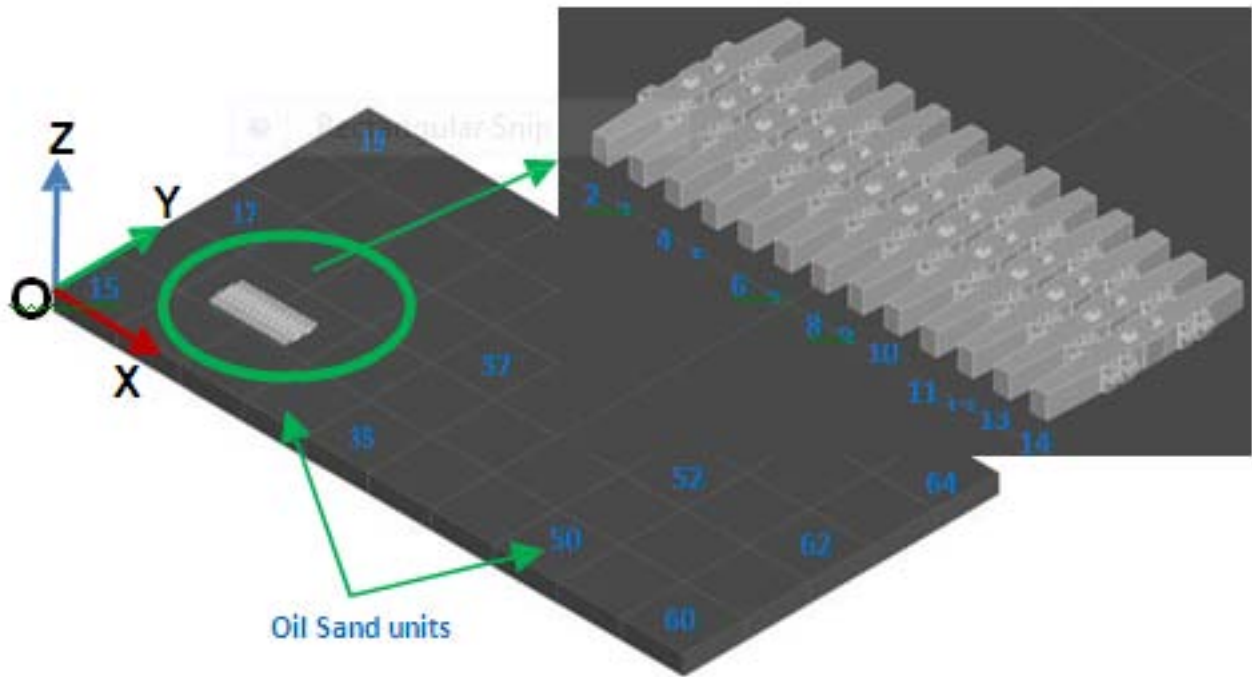
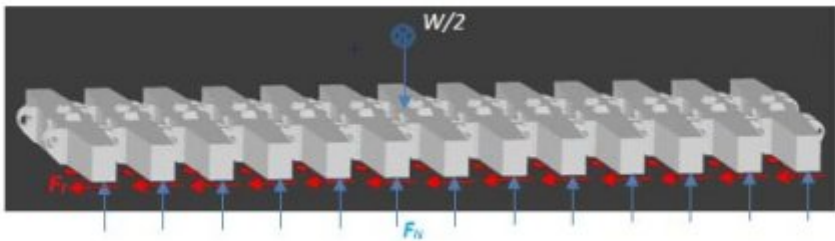


Figure 7: u



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Figure 8: Figure 6 :



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Figure 9: Figure 7 :

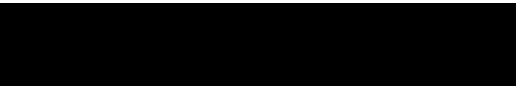


Figure 10: F



Figure 11:

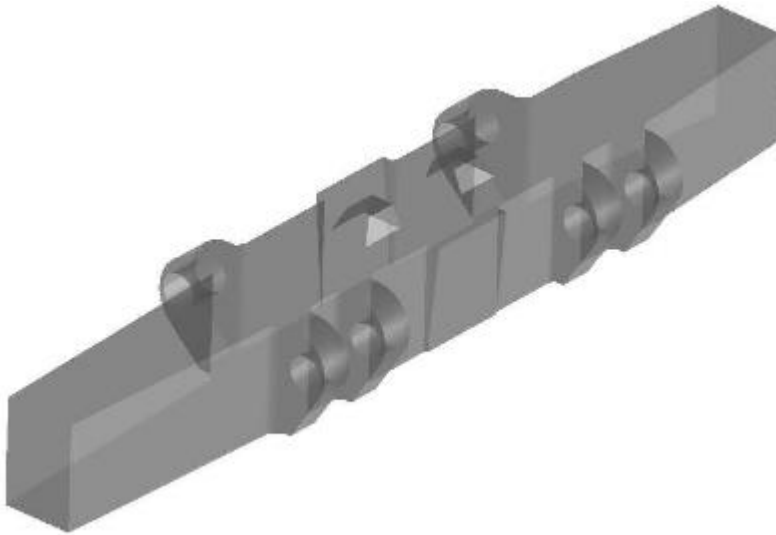


Figure 12:



Figure 13: Figure 8 :



Figure 14: F



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Figure 15: Figure 9 :

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Figure 16: Figure 10 :

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Figure 17: 3 3 M

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Figure 18: © 20 15

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Figure 19: Case 1 :Figure 11 :

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Figure 20: Figure 12 :

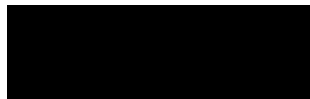


Figure 21:

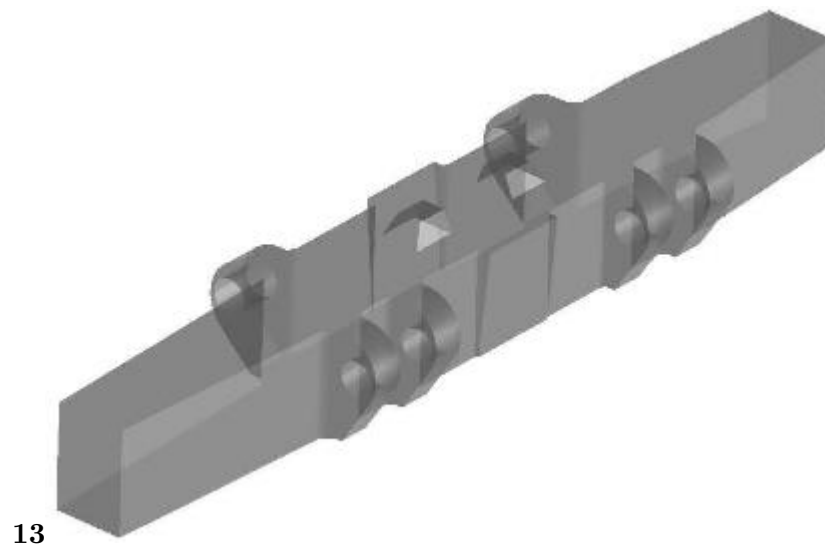


Figure 22: Figure 13 :

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Figure 23: Figure 14 :F

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Figure 24: Figure 15 :Figure 16 :



Figure 25: Figure 17 :

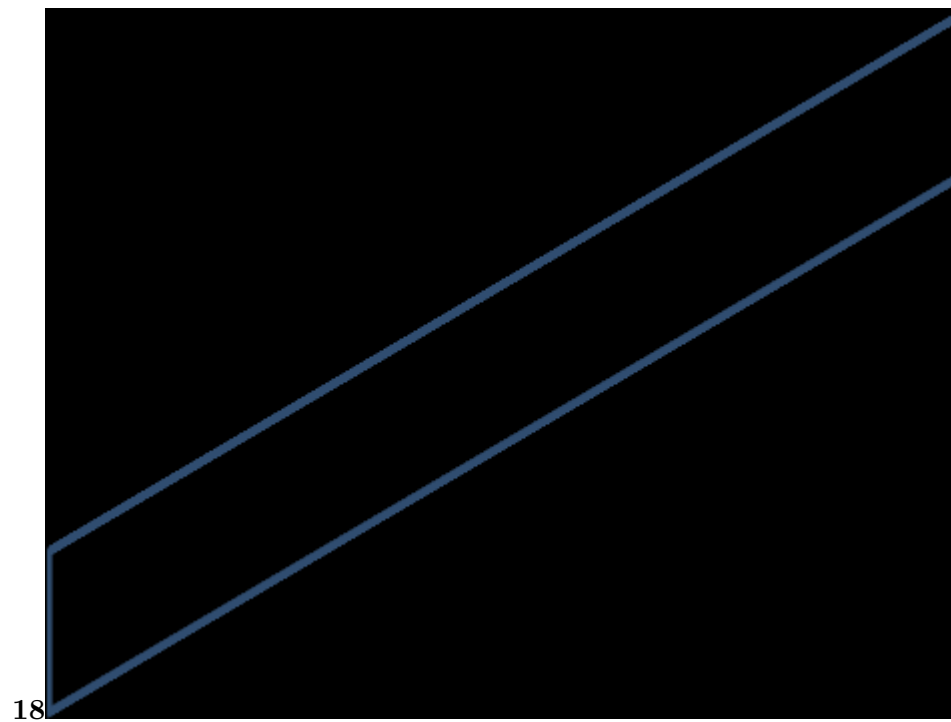


Figure 26: Figure 18 :



Figure 27:

1

Body	Density (kg/m ³)	Volume (m ³)	Mass (kg)
Crawler Shoe	7847.25	0.5966	4681.67
Oil-sand unit	1600.0	98.0	1.568 x 10 ⁵

Figure 28: Table 1 :

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[Note: Friction Parameters used in the study[28,29] © 2015 Global Journals Inc. (US)Global Journal of Researches in Engineering () VolumMulti-Body Dynamic Modeling and Simulation of Crawler-Formation Interactions in Surface Mining Operations -Crawler Kinematics]

Figure 29: Table 2 :

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[Note: Stiffness(k), (MN/m) Damping (c), (kN-s/m) Spring length (l o), (m) 20 120 5.0]

Figure 30: Table 3 :

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Figure 31: Table 5 :

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Tangential Force (N)

Figure 32: Table 6 :

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[Note: © 2015 Global Journals Inc. (US)]

Figure 33: Table 7 :

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Figure 34: Table 8 :

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Figure 35: Table 9 :

, , linearization of equation (52). Using first order Taylor's series, equation (??2) can be linearized about and at current time to obtain equations (??4) and (55).

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