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A NUMERICAL FRAMEWORK FOR MODELLING TIRE MECHANICS ACCOUNTING FOR COMPOSITE MATERIALS, LARGE STRAINS AND FRICTIONAL CONTACT









We present a general framework for the analysis and modelling of tires:

• Frictional contact (ALM+mortar)

• Finite Strains

Composite materials



Incompressible matrix + synthetic/metal fibers (hyper-elasticity)

A numerical framework for modelling tire mechanics accounting for composite materials, large strains and frictional contact, A. Cornejo, V. Mataix, P. Wriggers, L. Barbu and E. Oñate, *Computational Mechanics* (2023) https://doi.org/10.1007/s00466-023-02353-4

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To efficiently model tires we need:

- Combine incompressible rubber and stiff cords (x10000 stiffer)
- Large displacements and finite strains in composites

• Micro-buckling of the fibers

• Automatic orientation and combination of fibers





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Quasi-incompressible rubber (Neo-Hookean)

$$\Psi = \tilde{\Psi} + \Psi_{vol} = C_1 (\tilde{I}_C^{(1)} - 3) + \frac{1}{2} \kappa (J - 1)^2,$$

where $C_1 = \mu/2$ (Lamé constant) and $\tilde{I}_C^{(1)} = J^{-2/3} I_C^{(1)}$

Differentiating with respect to **C** (Cauchy-Green tensor):

$$\mathbf{S} = 2C_1 J^{-2/3} (\mathbf{I} - \frac{1}{3} I_C^{(1)} \mathbf{C}^{-1}) - p J \mathbf{C}^{-1}$$



To deal with incompressibility locking: Total Lagrangian mixed *u-p* element

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K}_{uu} & \mathbf{K}_{up} \\ \mathbf{K}_{pu} & K_{pp} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta \mathbf{u} \\ \Delta p \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}^{ext} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}_{u}^{int} \\ f_{p}^{int} \end{bmatrix}$$

Since pressure is ctant within the FE we condensate DoFs

$$\bar{\mathbf{K}}\Delta\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}^{ext} - \bar{\mathbf{f}}^{int}$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{K}} = \mathbf{K}_{uu} - \mathbf{K}_{up} K_{pp}^{-1} \mathbf{K}_{up}^{T} \qquad \bar{\mathbf{f}}^{int} = \mathbf{f}_{u}^{int} - \mathbf{K}_{up} K_{pp}^{-1} f_{p}^{int}$$



To deal with incompressibility locking: Total Lagrangian mixed u-p element



The dimensions in mm are: h = 50, w = 50, l = 50, a = 25, b = 25 and the load q = 3 MPa. Lamé parameters of the material are $\lambda = 499.92568$ MPa and $\mu = 1.61148$ MPa.

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Fabric and steel fibers: Compressible New-Hookean

$$\Psi = C_1 (I_C^{(1)} - 3) - C_1 \ln(J) + \frac{C_2}{2} (J - 1)^2,$$



Composite materials modelling: Serial-Parallel Rule of Mixtures

Parallel behaviour :
$$\begin{cases} {}^{c}\mathbf{E}_{P} = {}^{f}\mathbf{E}_{P} = {}^{m}\mathbf{E}_{P} \\ {}^{c}\mathbf{S}_{P} = {}^{f}k {}^{f}\mathbf{S}_{P} + {}^{m}k {}^{m}\mathbf{S}_{P} \end{cases}$$

Serial behaviour :
$$\begin{cases} {}^{c}\mathbf{E}_{S} = {}^{f}k {}^{f}\mathbf{E}_{S} + {}^{m}k {}^{m}\mathbf{E}_{S} \\ {}^{c}\mathbf{S}_{S} = {}^{f}\mathbf{S}_{S} = {}^{m}\mathbf{S}_{S} \end{cases}$$



$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}_p + \mathbf{E}_s , \quad \mathbf{S} = \mathbf{S}_p + \mathbf{S}_s$$



Since the stiffnesses are very different: Unstable

Parallel behaviour :
$$\begin{cases} {}^{c}\mathbf{E}_{P} = {}^{f}\mathbf{E}_{P} = {}^{m}\mathbf{E}_{P} \\ {}^{c}\mathbf{S}_{P} = {}^{f}k {}^{f}\mathbf{S}_{P} + {}^{m}k {}^{m}\mathbf{S}_{P} \end{cases}$$

Serial behaviour :
$$\begin{cases} {}^{c}\mathbf{E}_{S} = {}^{f}k {}^{f}\mathbf{E}_{S} + {}^{m}k {}^{m}\mathbf{E}_{S} \\ {}^{c}\mathbf{S}_{S} = {}^{f}\mathbf{S}_{S} = {}^{m}\mathbf{S}_{S} \end{cases}$$



$${}^{c}\mathbf{S} = \underbrace{{}^{f}k({}^{f}\mathbf{S}_{p}) + {}^{m}k({}^{m}\mathbf{S}_{p})}_{\text{Parallel behaviour}} + \underbrace{{}^{m}\mathbf{S}_{s}}_{\text{Serial behaviour}}$$

Constitutive model for tires



What if we have several lavers?





Augmented Lagrangian Multipliers + Mortar gap estimation

$$\delta \mathcal{L}_{co}(\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}) = \int_{\Gamma_c^1} \begin{cases} \bar{\lambda}_n \cdot \delta g_n + k g_n \delta \lambda_n + \bar{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}_{\tau} \cdot \delta \mathbf{v}_{\tau, rel} + \mathbf{v}_{\tau, rel} \cdot \delta \bar{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}_{\tau} & \text{if } \|\bar{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}_{\tau}\| \leq -\mu \bar{\lambda}_n \text{ (Contact stick zone)} \\ \bar{\lambda}_n \cdot \delta g_n + k g_n \delta \lambda_n - \mu \bar{\lambda}_n \frac{\bar{\lambda}_{\tau}}{\|\bar{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}_{\tau}\|} \delta \mathbf{v}_{\tau, rel} - \frac{k \lambda_{\tau} + \mu \bar{\lambda}_n \frac{\bar{\lambda}_{\tau}}{\|\bar{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}_{\tau}\|}}{\varepsilon_{\tau}} \delta \boldsymbol{\lambda}_{\tau} & \text{if } \|\bar{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}_{\tau}\| > -\mu \bar{\lambda}_n \text{ (Contact slip zone)} \quad d\Gamma_{co}^i \\ -\frac{k^2}{\varepsilon_n} \lambda_n \delta \lambda_n - \frac{k^2}{\varepsilon_{\tau}} \lambda_{\tau} \delta \boldsymbol{\lambda}_{\tau} & \text{if } \bar{\lambda}_n > 0 \text{ (Gap zone)} \end{cases}$$





Tire simulation: Goodyear 195/65R15 tire



Holscher H et al (2004) Modeling of pneumatic tires by a finite element model for the development a tire friction remote sensor. In: Center of Advanced European studies and Research

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Tire simulation: Goodyear 195/65R15 tire





Tread				
Layer Id	Layer volumetric participation	Euler angles	Matrix material, Vol. participation	Fibre material, Vol. participation
1	1.0	(0,0,0)	Rubber (tread), 1.0	-
Steel/fibre o	composite (tire core)			
Layer Id	Layer volumetric participation	Euler angles	Matrix material, Vol. participation	Fibre material, Vol. participation
1	0.5	(0,0,0)	Rubber (core), 0.84	Fibre cords, 0.16
2	0.25	(0,20,0)	Rubber (core), 0.828	Steel belts, 0.172
3	0.5	(0,-20,0)	Rubber (core), 0.828	Steel belts, 0.172
Sidewall				
Layer Id	Layer volumetric participation	Euler angles	Matrix material, Vol. participation	Fibre material, Vol. participation
1	1.0	(0,0,0)	Rubber (sidewall), 0.62	Fibre cords, 0.38

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Numerical example

FATIGUE CIMNE 4LIGHT PSEVENCIA

Tire simulation: Goodyear 195/65R15 tire



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Numerical example



Tire simulation: Goodyear 195/65R15 tire



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