The Virtual Evolution of 2D Soft Robots

by

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Thesis presented in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Engineering (Mechatronic) in the Faculty of Engineering at Stellenbosch University

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Declaration

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Abstract

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> Thesis: MEng (Mech) November 2020

Abstract

Die Virtuele Evolusie van 2D Sagte Robotte

("The Virtual Evolution of 2D Soft Robots")

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Om 'n tand implement te vibreer is 'n effektiewe manier om die trekkrag, wat benodig word om dit deur die grond te trek, te verminder. Die graad van krag vermindering is afhanklik van die kombinasie van werks parameters en die grond toestand. Dus is dit nodig om die vibrerende implement te optimeer vir verskillende omstandighede.

Numeriese modulering is meer buigsaam en goedkoper as eksperimentele opstellings en analitiese modelle. Die Diskrete Element Metode (DEM) was spesifiek vir korrelrige materiaal, soos grond, ontwikkel en kan gebruik word vir die modellering van 'n vibrerende implement vir die ontwerp en optimering daarvan. Die doel was dus om die vermoë van DEM om 'n vibrerende skeurploeg the modelleer, te evalueer, en om die oorsaak van die krag vermindering te ondersoek.

Die DEM model was geïvalueer teen data ...

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Dedications

Hierdie tesis word opgedra aan ...

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Nomenclature

Constants

 $g = 9.81 \,\mathrm{m/s^2}$

Variables

Re_{D}	Reynolds number (diameter) []	
x	Coordinate	
\ddot{x}	Acceleration	!
θ	Rotation angle [rad]	
au	Moment N·m	1

Vectors and Tensors

 $\overrightarrow{\boldsymbol{v}}$ Physical vector, see equation ...

Subscripts

- a Adiabatic
- a Coordinate

Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Background

Appendices

Appendix A

Discrete Element Method Theory

A.1 Ball elements

A.1.1 Ball mass and inertia parameters

Consider a volume element dV with respect to a static base S of an arbitrary solid body with density ρ . The mass of the body is obtained by integrating over the volume of the body,

$$m = \int_{\text{body}} \rho \, dV \tag{A.1}$$

In figure A.1, a ball with radius R_i and uniform density ρ_i is depicted. The mass of the ball is after integration of equation (A.1)

$$m_i = \frac{4}{3}\pi\rho_i R_i^3. \tag{A.2}$$

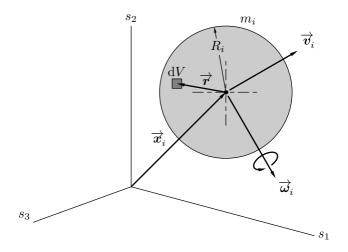


Figure A.1: Ball Element Parameters

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