

Application of Neural Networks on Off-Road Vehicles

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Abstract

Off-road vehicle traction performance has been considered as an important point of research for many years theoretically and experimentally, where the design of traction device system requires developments of mathematical models. One of these developments is directed to predict the performance of vehicle traction. Recently, Artificial Neural Networks (ANN's) seems to provide an alternative approach to the modeling of off-road vehicle performance. In this paper, an application used for computing the drawbar-pull for off-road vehicle as a function of some input set of data vectors using a suggested ANN's model is considered. The suggested model provided with more simplified topology of ANN's architecture. The model comprises only a single hidden layer of neurons with some dynamic controllability by monotonous increasing of hidden layer neuron number. Comparisons between the suggested model results and others proving the better performance of the simplified model. However the relationships between pull and load at different running conditions (inflation pressure, tyre size, and pull angle) have been predicted using the ANN's model. Comparisons between previous model and published data with ANN's predicted results have been made and the agreement seems to be good. The model presented herein is a multi input-one hidden layer-one single output, and suggestion for further development is, the result model. Finally, a suggested direction of future, modification of our model with more biologically plausible consideration is given. The expected advantage for such modified models is that they are more practically applicable to solve complex engineering problems *in the real world*