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Optimization and Analysis of the Quarter Car Passive Suspension Using Taguchi, Genetic Algorithm, and Simulated Annealing Approaches

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https://doi.org/10.18280/ijtdi.080302 **ABSTRACT**

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The suspension system design has been one of the most challenging tasks for engineers due to the importance of its role in reducing the road vibrations transmitted to the vehicle, which have a harmful effect on the human body. This research aims to use and compare different optimization techniques used to design the passive suspension parameters, including the spring stiffness (Ks), damping coefficient (Cs), and tire stiffness (Kt), to minimize body accelerations and subsequently enhance ride comfort for vehicles. The quarter car is modelled as a two-degrees-of-freedom system by using MATLAB/Simulink. Different optimization techniques were introduced and used, such as Taguchi, Genetic Algorithms (GA), and Simulated Annealing (SA), to design the passive suspension parameters. The results showed that the optimal design parameters for suspension systems were obtained using GA and SA methods, which reduced the value of the root mean square of vertical vibration by approximately 44% and the peak of acceleration by approximately 60% compared to the original values. The Taguchi approach reduces the value of the root mean square by approximately 32% and the peak of the acceleration by approximately 28% compared to the original values.

1. INTRODUCTION

Vehicle suspension systems have the most important among other vehicle system. The suspension systems are significant for passengers due to improve the ride comfort and increase the safety issue. The main function of suspension systems is absorbing and dissipating the energy of bumps on the road, thus reducing vibrations and shocks transmitted to the car [1]. Tire stiffness, damping coefficient and spring stiffness are three major components of any suspension system. The stiffness of a spring governs the amount of compression or expansion that occurs when a given force is applied. This represents the spring's resistance to deformation. The damping coefficient measures how well the shock absorber is able to dissipate the energy generated during suspension movements. Tire stiffness, damping coefficient and spring stiffness are three major components of any suspension system. The stiffness of a spring governs the amount of compression or expansion that occurs when a given force is applied. This represents the spring's resistance to deformation. The damping coefficient measures how well the shock absorber is able to dissipate the energy generated during suspension movements.

It controls how soon the suspension recovers to its equilibrium position following displacement. The tire stiffness reflects the tire's resistance to distortion under load. This impacts the capacity of the tire to transfer forces between the vehicle and the road surface. Vibrations, in particular, are a major concern regarding ride comfort. Vibrations are produced by the interaction of the vehicle and the road surface, which can be conveyed to the passengers. These vibrations can be caused by a variety of factors, such as road roughness, tireroad contact, and vehicle dynamics. Passive suspension systems assist in decreasing vibration transmission to passengers by properly regulating and attenuating vibrations. This reduces the potential for discomfort; improves road holding, stability, and handling; and improves overall vehicle safety [2-6].

Traditional design approaches focus on meeting performance requirements without optimizing solutions, while optimization techniques offer a systematic framework for efficient and cost-effective performance optimization. Optimization methods are the process of determining the optimum or most effective values for maximizing or minimizing the goal function. Since the creation of computers, optimization methods have been prominent in the design of suspension systems because they provide the optimum solution in the shortest amount of time, especially when dealing with complex issues. Many techniques have been developed and used to address a variety of engineering challenges in the field of optimization [7, 8].

Commonly employed optimization methods and algorithms include gray system theory [9], artificial neural networks [10], Particle swarm optimization [11], genetic algorithms [12, 13], simulated annealing algorithms [14], and the Taguchi methodology [15].

Each method offers unique features and strategies for exploring and optimizing the solution space. For example, the GA's population-based method, which includes creating different solutions and iteratively refining them via selection, crossover, and mutation, facilitates efficient investigation and utilization of the solution space [16]. SA is a probabilistic optimization technique that draws analogies from the annealing process in metallurgy, which employs a temperature parameter that controls the search behavior, allowing for a balance between observation and exploitation. SA is characterized by its ability to escape local optima by allowing for occasional uphill moves, which helps in exploring the solution space more comprehensively. This property makes SA suitable for addressing suspension optimization problems that may have multiple local optima [17, 18]. The Taguchi method utilizes an orthogonal table to select specific experimental parameters. A small number of experimental combinations were used to evaluate how these parameters affect the products. The aim is to identify the most favourable combination of parameters that yields stable test results and minimal fluctuations, regardless of controllable and uncontrollable factors. This method assures that the goods' functioning and performance remain unaffected by any deviations, increasing their stability and resilience to external influence [19, 20].

As a result, many researchers are examining suspension systems to determine the optimal suspension settings among competing needs. Studies [21, 22] used a genetic algorithm to determine the appropriate automobile suspension settings to reduce car suspension deflection and driver body acceleration, resulting in maximum driver comfort. A neighborhood genetic algorithm was used to evaluate the kinematic features of a MacPherson strut suspension system in a pickup truck and select the best configuration [23].

Studies [24, 25] applied a multi-objective genetic algorithm optimization approach to improve ride comfort and road retention in suspension vehicle systems, including driver seats. In another application approach, the simulated annealing technique (SA) was applied to optimize parameters for passive suspension systems to enhance vehicle characteristics by improving ride comfort [26, 27]. Shinde et al. [28] optimized the half-car suspension system using a variety of optimization approaches, including hybrid genetic annealing, simulated annealing, and genetic algorithms, intending to provide ride comfort by minimizing passive suspension system accelerations.

Furthermore, another optimization implementation was used through the Taguchi method. The Taguchi technique was used to study the factors influencing the vibration of the suspension system in a quarter car model. The smallest vertical displacement of the seat driver and the shortest settling time were determined by the Taguchi technique [29]. It has also been used to determine the best settings that improve ride comfort and reduce vibration, while being able to determine how the damping characteristics and stiffness of the front and rear suspension affect the vibration behavior of the suspension [30-32]. Suspension performance and ride comfort have been optimized using various optimization techniques including genetic algorithms (GAs), simulated annealing (SA) and the Taguchi method. However, whether these techniques are applicable or effective in improving passive suspension systems has not been systematically evaluated. This research ensures the need to fill this knowledge gap and provides useful insights into the use of optimization approaches for passive suspension systems.

The main objective of this study to provide useful information on the use of optimization techniques such as genetic algorithm, simulated annealing and Taguchi method for two degrees of freedom method for passive suspension systems. It attempts to identify optimal suspension parameters that can address issues such as insufficient damping capabilities, erroneous values of suspension stiffness, and limited adaptability in response to changing road inputs. Overall, this research tries to be part of the progress towards improved design and optimization methods for suspension, ultimately leading to enhanced comfort and performance in passive suspension system.

2. SYSTEM MODEL

The quarter-car model possesses the distinct advantage of being exceptionally clear and straightforward. Consequently, this simplified model is widely employed in the analysis of vehicle suspension systems due to its uncomplicated nature. This simplified representation includes essential parts such as the tire, spring, damper, and masses. The model exclusively considers the vertical oscillations of the car body, yet it can still capture the principal characteristics of the comprehensive full-scale model. This ability to provide useful insights while maintaining a streamlined approach makes the quarter-car model particularly valuable during the preliminary stages of suspension design [33-35].

Figure 1 shows all the elements of the system model employed in this study, including the vehicle weight (sprung mass, M_s), tire and axle weight (unsprung mass, M_{us}), spring suspension stiffness (k_s) , chock absorption coefficient (C_s) , and tire stiffness (K_t) . Z_0 , Z_s , and Z_{us} are the input road effect on the tire, the vehicle body mass, and the axle mass, respectively.

 \ddot{z}_s and \ddot{z}_{us} represent the acceleration of each mass in the vertical direction. \dot{z}_s and \dot{z}_{us} represent the velocity of each mass in the vertical direction [36, 37].

In the equilibrium state of the system, the equation of motion (EOM) for every mass is derived. The equation is developed using the free body diagram for sprung and unsprung masses, as shown in Figure 2. To simplify the calculations, the system is assumed to be linear, where z_o is greater than z_{us} and z_{us} is greater than z_s . K_t and Ct are the stiffness constants of the tire, and K_s and C_s are the stiffness and damping constants of the shock absorber, respectively. Eq. (1) and Eq. (2) can be used to express the EOM for both the sprung and unsprung masses, according to the free body model in Figure 2.

$$
M_{s}\ddot{z}_{s} = K_{s}(z_{us} - z_{s}) + C_{s}(\dot{z}_{us} - \dot{z}_{s})
$$
 (1)

$$
M_{us}\ddot{z}_{us} = K_t(z_o - z_{us}) - K_s(z_{us} - z_s) - C_s(\dot{z}_{us} - \dot{z}_s)
$$
(2)

MATLAB/Simulink is a widely used platform for modelling and simulation of dynamic systems. Therefore, the quarter-car model was developed using MATLAB/Simulink, which consists of a simplified passive suspension system, as shown in Figure 1. There are several key assumptions that allow for a simplified representation of the suspension

Figure 1. Passive quarter-car model

dynamics, which can be useful for preliminary design and analysis.

Figure 2. Free body diagram for sprung and unsprung masses

Figure 3. Quarter-car model MATLAB/Simulink

The model exclusively focused on the vertical motions of the car body and wheel, disregarding other degrees of freedom such as pitch, roll, and lateral movement. The tire-road interaction was represented as a linear spring, resulting in negligible deformations and the absence of slip. Furthermore, the sprung and unsprung masses were treated as rigid bodies, with any structural flexibility dismissed entirely.

Additionally, the damping was assumed to exhibit a linear, velocity-dependent characteristic, precluding the consideration of any nonlinear effects. Figure 3 shows the quarter-car model that was created using MATLAB Simulink for simulation with the use of all the control settings that were given.

3. SELECTION OF CONTROL PARAMETERS AND THEIR LEVELS

Based on a detailed literature survey, the damping coefficient, spring stiffness, and tire stiffness are important, and their design has effects on quarter car suspension acceleration due to their direct influence on the system's dynamic behavior. Therefore, it greatly affects both ride comfort and road handling. The ranges of the three control parameters in addition to the original data are selected based on the previous literature [2, 31, 36, 38-40].

Table 1 lists the upper and lower limits for the three control parameters utilized in this work, as well as the original data. Additionally, the control parameters and their levels, which were determined by the Taguchi method for the analysis and optimization of the quarter-car suspension model, are shown in Table 2.

| Design Parameters | Original | Lower Bound | Upper Bound | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------------|--|--|
| Damping coefficient (C) (Ns/m) | 1000 | 900 | 4000 | | |
| Spring stiffness (Ks) (N/m) | 16812 | 12000 | 30000 | | |
| Tyre stiffness (Kt) (N/m) | 190000 | 120000 | 200000 | | |
| Sprung mass $(M) = 250$ kg | | | | | |
| Unsprung mass $(m) = 50$ kg | | | | | |

Table 2. Taguchi method design parameters and their levels

4. OPTIMIZATION TECHNIQUES

4.1 Taguchi technique

The Taguchi method is a powerful set of statistical techniques developed by Genichi Taguchi to improve the quality of manufactured products. The present three optimization approaches have been used extensively in engineering to achieve optimal product and process performance by minimizing the influence of noise factors and amplifying the effects of signal factors. In this study, suspension systems were used as examples for demonstration purposes on how important an orthogonal Taguchi array (OA) is when analyzing system design parameters. In essence, the Taguchi parameter design technique can make the best adjustments with respect to performance features and minimize system sensitivity. The powerful Taguchi design methodology is based on signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) and orthogonal matrices, which allow simultaneous evaluation of multiple factors as well as minimal variations due to random noise beyond one's control. The principle behind the Taguchi method is that improving the overall product quality and durability is what matters most to any engineer; therefore, it has remained an extremely valuable tool in the engineering field [41-43].

The goal of this paper is to make the car ride smoother by reducing road vibrations. This session focusing on choosing options that has a lower S/N ratio. The mathematical equation for the S/N ratios for the "lower - is - better" strategy is written in Eq. (3).

$$
\eta = -10 \log \left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=0}^{n} \frac{1}{Y_i^2} \right] \tag{3}
$$

where, η is the resultant S/N ratio and n is the total number of data points. In addition, the analysis of variance (ANOVA) is considered to evaluate the effectiveness of each factor and its interactions [44, 45].

4.2 Simulated annealing technique

Metropolis et al. [46] and Kirkpatrick et al. [47] introduced the basic concept behind simulated annealing (SA). Using the SA serves as an optimization technique that starts the search procedure from a randomly chosen position. Within a specified range, the algorithm cycles through different points and evaluates the value of the objective function of each point with respect to the previous point. In the context of minimization problems, if the value of the objective function of the new point is less than the value of the objective function of the starting point, the algorithm accepts it as the current solution. This procedure is iterative, as the algorithm searches the solution space and accepts additional points that minimize the value of the objective function. If the change in the objective function (ΔF) is less than or equal to 0, the new point is automatically accepted and becomes the starting point for the next step. The algorithm will then go to the next step. Higher objective function values ($\Delta F > 0$) may also be accepted, but with a probability calculated by the metropolis criteria, as defined by the Boltzmann factor Eq. (4).

$$
Pb(x) = e^{(\frac{F(x1) - F(x2)}{KT})}
$$
(4)

where, K is Boltzmann's constant and is equal to $1.3806*10^{-23}$, $f(x)$ is the objective function value of the system in state x and T is the current temperature.

The SA algorithm has the unique ability to sometimes accept solutions with higher objective function values, enabling it to escape the local optimum. As the algorithm progresses, the step size used to generate new solutions is gradually reduced, facilitating convergence towards the final optimal solution. The Metropolis parameters, which are based on two user-defined parameters, T (temperature) and RT (temperature reduction factor), affect the probability of adopting a solution with a higher objective function value. This process mimics real-world annealing, where the probability of accepting higher values reduces as the temperature (T) reduces. The temperature is updated after each iteration using Eq. (5).

$$
T_i + 1 = RT * T_i \tag{5}
$$

where, (i) is the current iteration. The parameter NT denotes the number of iterations between successive temperature reductions, as described in studies [48, 49]. Given that the performance of the Simulated Annealing (SA) algorithm is contingent on user-defined parameters and that the algorithm's performance is significantly influenced by the selection of parameters T, RT, and NT.

4.3 Genetic algorithm technique

Genetic algorithms are a specific class of evolutionary algorithms that are based on the principles of natural selection and natural genetics. This class of algorithms was originally developed by I. Holland and his student D. Jong in 1975. Later, D. Jong (2000) expanded the genetic algorithm approach to functional optimization problems. This expansion necessitated the use of optimization search techniques grounded in the Darwinian concept of natural selection and evaluation.

A gene can be considered a string of bits during GA optimization, where the string is coded to represent the design parameters (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k) . The initial population is the first step in the implementation of any GA. The length of the bit string, which represents the starting population of genes, is determined by the issue that has to be solved and is generated at random. Following the generation of an initial population of solutions, each solution (chromosome) is assigned a fitness value, which reflects the goodness value, whereas the fitness value in Eq. (6) represents the objective function (OBJ) assessment of the decoded chromosome. The objective function plays the role of the environment in ranking the members of the chromosome population.

$$
Fitness value = OBJ(X_1, X_2, \dots \dots, X_k)
$$
 (6)

To determine the best decision variable, the optimization process involves maximizing an objective function while adhering to the specified constraints. In the present approach, the variables are represented using binary string encoding. Eq. (7) furnishes a mapping function that guarantees the variable values remain within their predefined bounds.

From Eq. (7), the bit-in is the string length (the bit length of the chromosome) used to code a variable, and B2Dk (binary to decimal) is the decoded value of the string. where $(L_{\rm bk}, U_{\rm bk})$ are the lower and upper bounds of the variable Xk.

$$
Xk = B2Dk[(U_{bk} - L_{bk})/(2bit - 1)] + L_{bk}
$$
 (7)

The variable boundaries are handled by implementing the mapping function in Eq. (7). After selecting a string representation, a random set of solutions is created. Each member of the population is then allocated a fitness value, which represents the quality or goodness of fit of the various solutions.

The evolutionary strategy of a genetic algorithm depends on how to generate a new solution from the previous one. The evolutionary strategy uses reproduction, elitism, crosser, mutation, and termination operations. The reproduction operator duplicates the best-performing solutions in the population and discards the worst-performing ones, all while keeping the population size stable. The elitism (elt) operator prevents the best gene from disappearing and improves the accuracy of optimization during reproduction operations. Crossover (pc) is the process of obtaining a new candidate's solution from the previous candidate's solution. Mutation (pm) is the process of manipulating individual genetic algorithms into candidate solutions. Termination is the mechanism for stopping the evolutionary process of the genetic algorithm. Termination occurs when the algorithm has reached a predetermined number of generations and an acceptable solution has been found [50, 51].

5. OPTIMIZATION TECHNIQUES

5.1 Taguchi technique

In the Taguchi method, select of the appropriate orthogonal array (OA), depends on the total degree of freedom (DOF), which is defined as (number of factors \times (number of levels - $1)$) + 1. In the present work, three design parameters with three levels are selected with a total DOE equal to 6 as shown in Table 2.

Based on the Taguchi method, the L27-OA was used, which allows for investigation of not just the impacts of the primary factors but also the interactions between the factors.

The root mean square (RMS) of the sprung mass vibration was used to quantify the amplitude or intensity of vibrations experienced by the sprung mass in a suspension system. It provides a measure of the overall magnitude of vibrations over a given time period. The mathematical formulation for calculating the RMS of sprung mass vibration can be summarized as follows:

$$
RMS = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \left[\sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i^2 \right]}
$$
 (8)

where,

N is the total number of data points in the time domain, and *xⁱ* represents each data point in the time domain.

Table 3 presents an L27 orthogonal array with responses (RMS of sprung mass vibration) and their respective signal-tonoise (S/N) ratios.

5.1.1 Main effect plot

The main effects plot for the means is plotted in Figure 4 which shows the effect of the input parameters (damping coefficient (C) , spring stiffness (Ks) , and tire stiffness (Kt) on the passive suspension vibration. Figure 4 shows that the acceleration of the quarter car suspension increases with increasing spring stiffness from 12000 N/m to 30000 N/m. The acceleration of the quarter-car suspension decreases with an increase in the damping coefficient from 900 Ns/m to 2450 Ns/m and decreases with a further increase in the damping coefficient from 2450 N/m to 4000 N/m. This figure also indicates that tire stiffness has little or no effect on quarter-car acceleration.

Figure 5 shows the calculated and plotted the mean values of the S/N ratios achieved using the smaller-the-better technique for all three design parameters and levels.

When assessing the S/N ratio data, a higher S/N ratio corresponds to a lower variance of the output characteristic, which is preferable. The highest S/N ratio is equal to the minimum RMS of the sprung mass acceleration.

Thus, the optimal input parameters that give the minimum RMS of the sprung mass acceleration were obtained at a damping coefficient of 900 N-s/m (level 1), spring stiffness of 12000 N/m (level 1), and tire stiffness of 160000 N/m (level 2). Additionally, the corresponding RMS sprung mass acceleration is 0.1625 m/s².

Table 3. L27 - OA response values and S/N ratio for quartercar acceleration

| No. | Damping | Spring | Tyre | | S/N |
|--------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|--------|---------|
| | Co. | Stiffness | Stiffness | Acc. | Ratio |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 900 | 12000 | 120000 | 0.1636 | 15.7243 |
| \overline{c} | 900 | 12000 | 160000 | 0.1625 | 15.7829 |
| 3 | 900 | 12000 | 200000 | 0.1639 | 15.7084 |
| $\overline{\mathcal{L}}$ | 900 | 21000 | 120000 | 0.4157 | 7.6244 |
| 5 | 900 | 21000 | 160000 | 0.3938 | 8.0945 |
| 6 | 900 | 21000 | 200000 | 0.3818 | 8.3633 |
| 7 | 900 | 30000 | 120000 | 0.8161 | 1.7651 |
| 8 | 900 | 30000 | 160000 | 0.7542 | 2.4503 |
| 9 | 900 | 30000 | 200000 | 0.7182 | 2.8751 |
| 10 | 2450 | 12000 | 120000 | 0.1838 | 14.7131 |
| 11 | 2450 | 12000 | 160000 | 0.1978 | 14.0755 |
| 12 | 2450 | 12000 | 200000 | 0.2115 | 13.4938 |
| 13 | 2450 | 21000 | 120000 | 0.2413 | 12.3489 |
| 14 | 2450 | 21000 | 160000 | 0.2465 | 12.1637 |
| 15 | 2450 | 21000 | 200000 | 0.2543 | 11.8931 |
| 16 | 2450 | 30000 | 120000 | 0.3412 | 9.3398 |
| 17 | 2450 | 30000 | 160000 | 0.3323 | 9.5694 |
| 18 | 2450 | 30000 | 200000 | 0.3307 | 9.6113 |
| 19 | 4000 | 12000 | 120000 | 0.3291 | 9.6534 |
| 20 | 4000 | 12000 | 160000 | 0.3546 | 9.0052 |
| 21 | 4000 | 12000 | 200000 | 0.3774 | 8.4640 |
| 22 | 4000 | 21000 | 120000 | 0.3602 | 8.8691 |
| 23 | 4000 | 21000 | 160000 | 0.3804 | 8.3952 |
| 24 | 4000 | 21000 | 200000 | 0.3997 | 7.9653 |
| 25 | 4000 | 30000 | 120000 | 0.4128 | 7.6852 |
| 26 | 4000 | 30000 | 160000 | 0.4241 | 7.4506 |
| 27 | 4000 | 30000 | 200000 | 0.4376 | 7.1785 |

Figure 4. Main effects plot

Figure 5. The S/N plot

5.1.2 Analysis of variance (ANOVA)

The Taguchi technique cannot assess and quantify the influence of individual factors on the overall process, but analysis of variance (ANOVA) may determine the percentage contribution of each parameter.

Table 4 presents the ANOVA results, which included the effects of each parameter on the response (RMS values of the vertical body vibration), the residual error, and the possible interactions between the parameters, while Figure 6 shows a bar chart for the same results.

The results in Table 4 provide an overview of the relative contributions of each control parameter to the suspension system.

Lower p values give more evidence against the null hypothesis; when p values < 0.05 , it reveals that the factor impact is substantial and the null hypothesis may be rejected.

Figure 6. Pareto chart of the standardized effects

Table 4. Analysis of variance for means (ANOVA)

As revealed by the analysis of variance table, the factor exerting the most significant influence on the system's behavior is the spring stiffness, with a contribution of 49.51%. This is followed by the interaction between the damping coefficient and the spring stiffness, which contributes 37.6 5%, as well as the damping coefficient itself, which contributes 11.58%. The lowest contribution, at 0.007%, was observed for tire stiffness. This table clearly indicates that tire stiffness can be considered negligible in comparison to the other parameters.

The estimated standard deviation of the regression, denoted as S, indicates the average deviation error of the model, and in this case, the value is set to 0.01. Both the R-Sq and R-Sq (adj) values represent the proportion of the variance in the response data that is explained by the model.

The R-Sq value of 99.9% for the suspension vibration model quantifies the goodness of fit of the regression model, as determined by ANOVA. This means that the model accounts for 99.9% of the variation in the response data, with the remaining 0.01% attributable to noise effects. The R-Sq reflects how well the model fits the observed data.

The high R-Sq value of 99.9% and the adjusted R-Sq (R-Sq (adj)) of 99.6% obtained from the Taguchi technique runs indicate a high degree of reliability and dependability of the experimental model. These statistics suggest that the regression model can be effectively used to determine the optimal parameter values and perform sensitivity analyses on the various parameters.

5.2 Simulated Annealing technique

MATLAB R2014a software was used to program the simulated annealing (SA) process. The accuracy of the SA optimization depends on the selected parameters summarized in Table 5. This study used Boltzmann annealing as an annealing function, which involves random steps with sizes

proportional to the square root of the temperature. The reannealing interval refers to the number of points that must be accepted before the reannealing process is triggered. An exponential temperature update strategy was implemented, wherein the temperature was decreased to 0.95.

Table 6 summarizes the values of the design parameters and their corresponding vertical accelerations with different maximum iterations, reannealing intervals, and initial temperatures. The optimal outcome was achieved at 500 iterations, a reannealing interval of 50, and an initial temperature of 80, as shown in Table 6.

5.3 Genetic algorithm technique

Three sets of GA parameters were used during the optimization process: pc, pm, and elt_no, as control parameters. Other parameters, such as bit_n, popuSize, and gen_no, are fixed at 40, 60, and 500, respectively. The optimal results are summarized in Table 7. As illustrated in Table 7, the first case, in which crossover, mutation, and elitism are all applied, has a minimum value of acceleration compared with other cases.

Table 5. SA control parameters

Table 6. Design results of the simulated annealing parameters method

| Control Factor | | | | Design Parameters | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| No. | Iteration | Temp. | Reannealing | DampingCoefficient | Spring Stiffness | Tyre Stiffness | RMS |
| | | 80 | 100 | 1392.16415 | 12000.02845 | 120000.1823 | 0.134470435 |
| | | 80 | 50 | 1392.163481 | 12000.0182 | 120000.228 | 0.1344703 |
| | 200 | 20 | 100 | 1392.166348 | 12000.02809 | 120000.0613 | 0.13447041 |
| | | 20 | 50 | 1392.165279 | 12000.01136 | 120000.2118 | 0.13447026 |
| | | 80 | 100 | 1392.163235 | 12000.00751 | 120000.1888 | 0.13447022 |
| 6 | | 80 | 50 | 1392.162702 | 12000.00663 | 120000.2451 | 0.134470219 |
| | 500 | 20 | 100 | 1392.163028 | 12000.01375 | 120000.1773 | 0.134470285 |
| | | 20 | 50 | 1392.165062 | 12000.00853 | 120000.1822 | 0.13447023 |

Table 7. Design results of the simulated annealing parameters method

The quarter-car model simulations were performed using the values obtained by using GA, SA, and the Taguchi technique to obtain the RMS of the vertical acceleration of the sprung mass and the highest value of the sprung mass acceleration, as shown in Table 8.

Figure 7 shows a comparison of the RMS vertical acceleration of the sprung mass and the maximum sprung mass acceleration obtained. The peak of the sprung mass vibration is 0.9392 m/s², 0.5211 m/s², and 0.5232 m/s² for the Taguchi, SA, and GA methods, respectively. The simulation results demonstrate that the simulated annealing (SA) method yields a lower value of maximum sprung mass vibration.

Table 8. Comparison of the optimum design parameters with the original data

| Design | Original | Taguchi | Simulated | Genetic |
|--|----------|----------------|-------------|-----------|
| Parameters | Data | Method | Annealing | Algorithm |
| Damping coefficient (Ns/m) | 1000 | 900 | 1392.162702 | 1387.4371 |
| Spring stiffness (N/m) | 16812 | 12000 | 12000.00663 | 12000.0 |
| Tyre stiffness (N/m) | 190000 | 120000 | 120000.2451 | 120000.0 |
| RMS vertical acceleration of sprung mass (m/s^2) | 0.2407 | 0.1636 | 0.134470219 | 0.1344718 |
| Max. sprung mass acceleration (m/s^2) | 1.3080 | 0.9392 | 0.5211 | 0.5232 |

Figure 7. Comparison of the vertical acceleration of the sprung mass

Consequently, the SA method proved instrumental in attaining the optimum values of suspension parameters, which in turn delivered good passenger comfort compared to the original parameters.

Furthermore, it has been observed that the Genetic Algorithm and Simulated Annealing methods can reduce the value of the RMS by 44% in comparison to the original design. Also, the Taguchi method can decrease the value of the RMS by 32% compared to the original design; consequently, the results and procedures employed for the optimization of suspension parameters will prove beneficial for automotive manufacturers in selecting the most suitable combination of suspension parameters to achieve the desired levels of ride comfort and safety for traveling passengers.

7. CONCLUSIONS

The aim of this study is to investigate, analyze and develop the effectiveness of optimization methods to achieve minimum vibration in the suspension system. The results showed that the methods A efficiency methods used in this study are valid and powerful tools by adjusting the value of their components of the middle layer of the tissues of the middle layer of the bed price with Using common standards of about 44% and a value of 60%, the original mean value is reduced by about 32% and the peak acceleration is reduced by 28% from the actual values. The significant decrease in RMS value and peak acceleration obtained by optimization techniques indicates their effectiveness in improving suspension behavior. These improvements have noticeable effects on the overall performance and characteristics of the suspension system. The ANOVA approach reveals that there are two key suspension factors, the damping coefficient and spring stiffness, that contribute significantly to producing reduced RMSs of vertical vibration.

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