62nd Illinois Bituminous Paving Conference Profile Measurement and Interpretation

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Road Profile Measurement and Interpretation





Motivation



Federal Aid Rated Pavement Conditions State - State of Michigan, All Roads, Estimated 2019 - 2020





Outline

- Profiler Measurement Principal
- International Roughness Index (IRI)
- Roughness Profiles
- Certification/Cross Correlation
- Technical Challenges
 - Braking/Stops
 - Low-Speed/Urban Roughness Index
 - 3-D Systems



Inertial Profiler, Principle of Operation





Bounce Test





IRI Origins: Response-Type Systems









International Roughness Index



C =
$$c_s/m_s = 6.0 \text{ sec}^{-1}$$

K₁ = $k_t/m_s = 653 \text{ sec}^{-2}$
K₂ = $k_s/m_s = 63.3 \text{ sec}^{-2}$
 $\mu = m_u/m_s = 0.15$
B = 9.84 in

Sayers, M.W., "On the Calculation of International Roughness Index from Longitudinal Road Profile." *Transportation Research Record 1501* (1995) pp. 1-12.

Golden Car Model Gain



IRI Generality

Frequency response depends on:

- Response type
- Vehicle type



• Position within the vehicle





Sample Profile: New AC Surface





International Roughness Index



Computer Algorithm

Gillespie, T. D., "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About the IRI but Were Afraid to Ask!" RPUG Proceedings (1992).

Raw IRI Filter Output





Rectified IRI Filter Output





Roughness Profile

Continuous Roughness Report (in/mi)





Profiler Certification



Certification/Cross Correlation (= 0.98)



See: AASHTO R56-14, Standard Practice for Certification of Inertial Profiling Systems.

Certification

- Agreement in both IRI and profile are required to ensure accurate production measurements.
- Many profilers that performed well on smooth texture performed poorly on coarse textures.





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Stop and Go: Accelerometer Alignment



2013 Philadelphia County Road Survey, Courtesy of Pennsylvania DOT

Tilted due to longitudinal deceleration

$$a_{zp}^{b} = a_{xp}^{w} \sin(\theta) + (a_{zp}^{w} + g)\cos(\theta) - g$$
$$a_{zp}^{b} - a_{zp}^{w} = a_{xp}^{w} \sin(\theta) + (a_{zp}^{w} + g)(\cos(\theta) - 1)$$

Sayers, M. W. and S. M. Karamihas, *The Little Book of Profiling.* University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (1998) 100 p.

11-Second Long Stop





Braking, Stop-and-Go

- Mitigate errors with better processing algorithms.
- Mitigate or eliminate errors using additional sensors.





See: Karamihas, S. M., "Improvement of Inertial Measurements of Urban and Low-Speed Roadways." Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Michigan (2021).

Urban/Low-Speed Roughness

- Measured profile and passenger accelerations simultaneously.
- Tested on urban and low-speed roadways
- Applied ISO 2631 vibration assessment.
 (That is, we rated ride the way auto companies do it.)







Urban/Low-Speed Roughness

- Below 35 mph, a change in "Golden Car" simulation speed was needed to maximize correlation between roughness and ride.
- A temporal index (in/sec) was more successful than a spatial index (in/mi).
- Transient events (that is, localized roughness) was very important.





Source: Pennsylvania DOT



3-D Systems





The Little Book of Profiling

http://www.umtri.umich.edu/content/LittleBook98R.pdf

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