DynaFlexPro

Symbolic modeling and real-time simulation of multibody vehicle dynamics



Paul Goossens, Maplesoft Dr Chad Schmitke, MotionPro

Overview

- Symbolic computing and multibody dynamics
- Linear graph theory and multibody dynamics
- DynaFlexPro
- Test case: Chevy Equinox



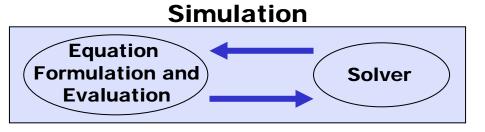
Benefits of symbolic computing

- Equations of motion can be visually examined, leading to physical insight
- Symbolic equations are very portable
- Equations can be symbolically differentiated to obtain sensitivity information
- Faster simulations than numerical computing approaches

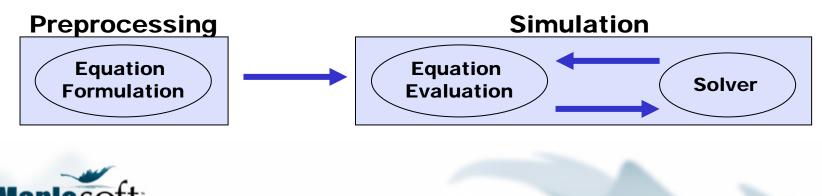


Why simulations are faster

- Simulation efficiency
 - Numerical formulations couple equation formulation with equation evaluation, requiring re-formulation at each time step

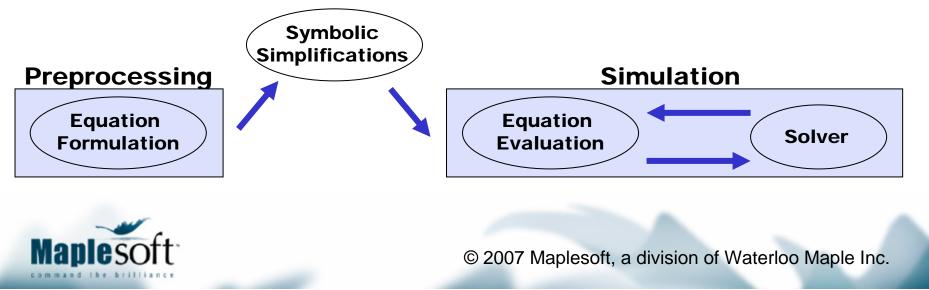


 Symbolic approaches perform equation formulation once (offline), requiring only equation evaluation during simulation



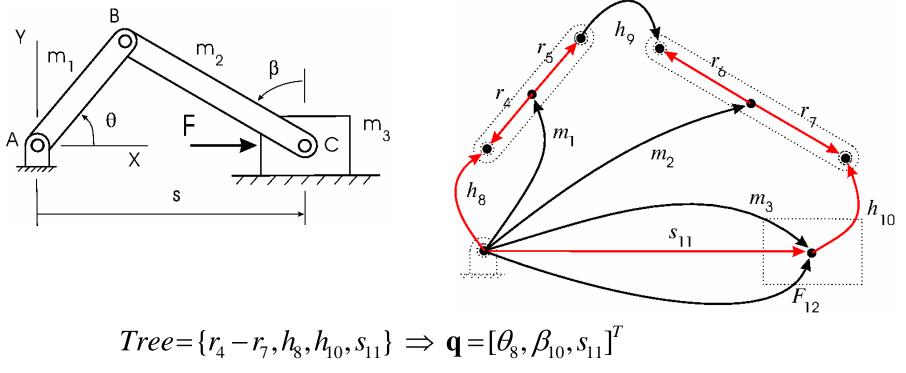
Why simulations are faster

- Equation Simplification
 - Removal of unnecessary calculations (e.g. terms cancelling out, simplification of terms multiplied by 0 or 1)
 - Trigonometric simplifications
 - Opportunities for code optimization (e.g. repeated expressions identified and calculated only once)



Linear graph theory

•Freedom to choose topology and variables:



 $Tree = \{r_4 - r_7, m_1, m_2, m_3\} \implies \mathbf{q} = [x_1, y_1, \theta_1, x_2, y_2, \theta_2, x_3, y_3, \theta_3]^T$



Linear graph theory

•Systematic algorithms for generating equations for any topology and variables:

$$\mathbf{M}\dot{\mathbf{p}} + \mathbf{\Psi}_{\mathbf{p}}^{T} \boldsymbol{\lambda} = \mathbf{F}$$
$$\dot{\mathbf{q}} = \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}, t)$$
e.g. for slider-crank:
$$\mathbf{\Phi}(\mathbf{q}, t) = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\mathbf{\Phi}(\mathbf{q},t) = \begin{cases} L_1 \cos\theta_8 + L_2 \sin\beta_{10} - s_{11} \\ L_1 \sin\theta_8 - L_2 \cos\beta_{10} \end{cases} = \mathbf{0}$$



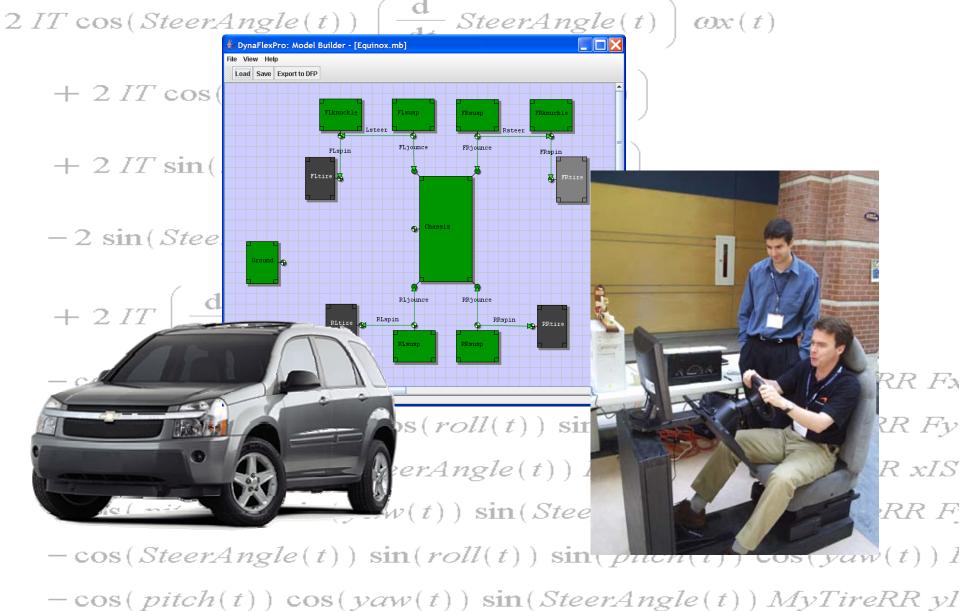
DynaFlexPro



- Commercial program for multibody dynamics
- Linear graph theory + symbolic computing
- Four basic steps:
 - Define the Model: Create a block diagram of the system model
 - Equation Generation: Automatically generate the system's governing equations in Maple
 - Simulation and Plotting: Analyze the system within Maple
 - Code Generation: Automatically generate optimized procedures and functions for export



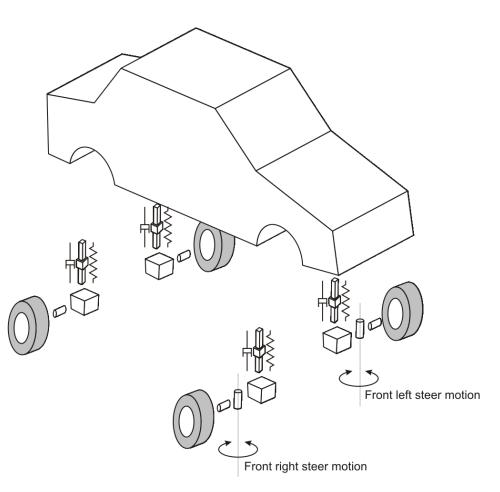
Real-Time Simulation of Full Chassis



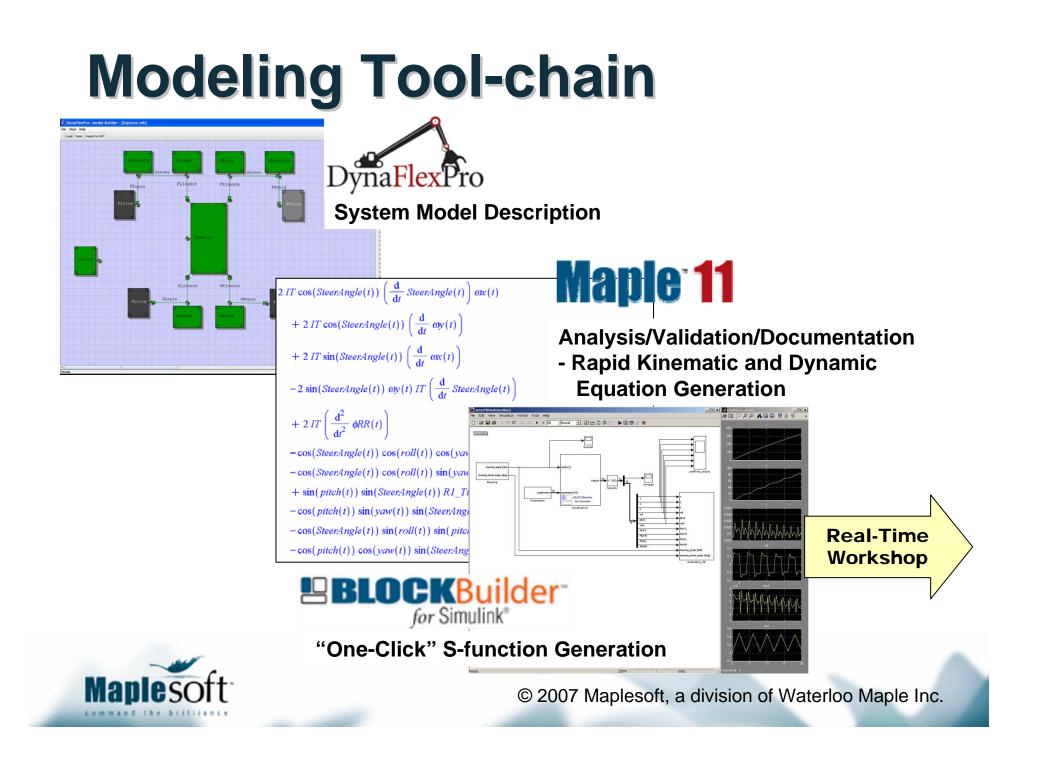
Model details

• 4 prismatic joints to represent the jounce motion of each wheel

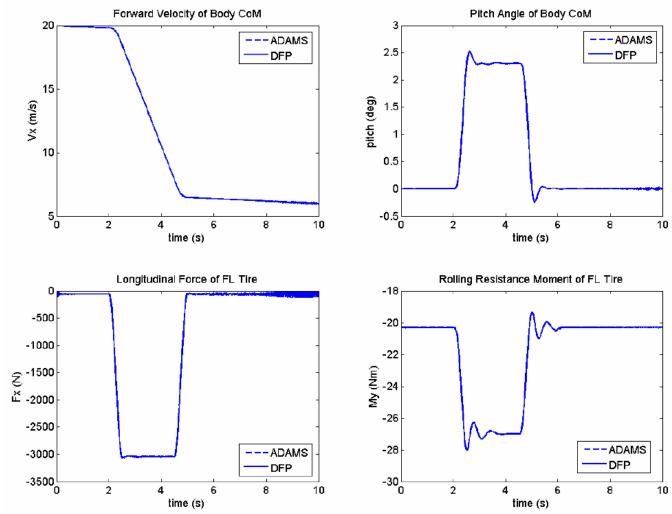








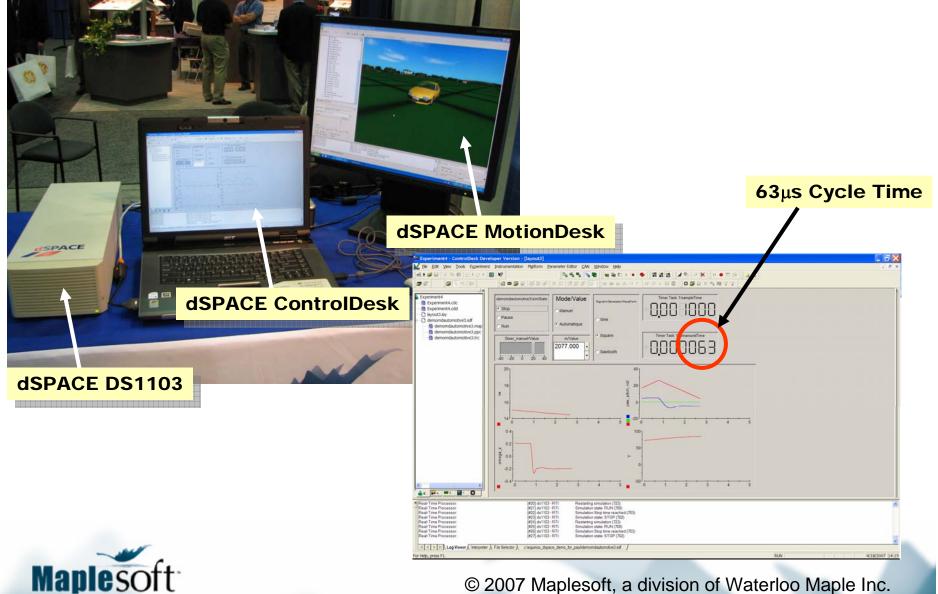
Model Accuracy







Real-Time Execution



Thank you!

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