

CS515 Project Fall 2001  
Final Report

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## 2 Background Research

The starting point for the research was a series of articles in a game development magazine describing a basic rigid body physics simulation [Hec96a], [Hec96b], [Hec97a], [Hec97b]. The course content in CS515 eventually caught up to and passed these articles in terms of depth, but



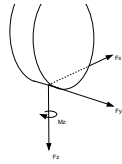


Figure 1: Forces and moments acting on tire. The  $x$  axis is called the tire's *heading*, and is the *longitudinal* direction, while the  $y$  axis is the *lateral* direction.

tire from slipping laterally and allows the car to turn. There may also be an aligning moment  $M_z$  which acts to align the wheel with the movement of the car, in situations where the wheel's heading is not the same as the car's heading. These are shown in Figure 3.

There are a number of tire models which can be used to determine these forces and moments, the most common being the Pacejka magic formula. Most such models require the same four inputs: vertical load  $F_z$ , longitudinal slip  $s$ , lateral slip angle  $\alpha$  and camber (or inclination angle)  $\gamma$ . For our tires, we used Zuvich's data for the longitudinal forces and Pacejka magic formulas for the lateral forces. The full equations associated with these and other forces are given in Appendix B. We have ignored  $\gamma$  and assumed that the camber  $\gamma$ , the rotation of the wheel about the

longitudinal force in a 1970 Chevelle as a function of the vehicle's velocity and the operating gear. We used a second-degree polynomial to fit this data.

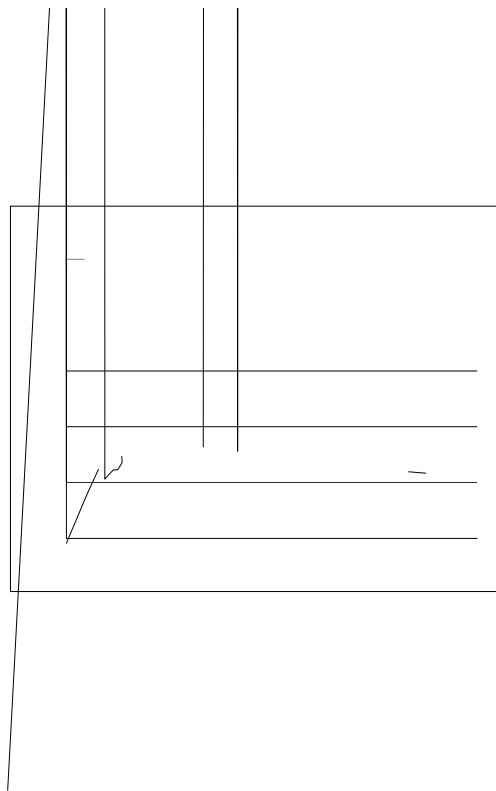
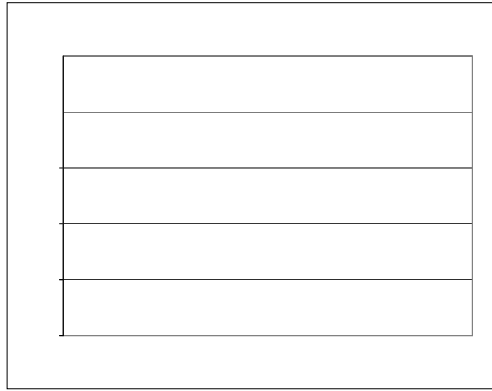
This approach depends upon the soundness of Zuvich's data, which is questionable. From examining the notes in his spreadsheet, it appears that he based his data on only two published statistics: peak power (450 hp at 5600 RPM) and peak torque (500 lb ft at 3500 RPM). Using these two data points, he appears to have invented data for other velocities. The shape of Zuvich's curves generally matches the form of curves from other vehicles, but does so only roughly.

Zuvich also makes some major simplifications in the tire model, assuming that output torque



Figure 2: Definition of  $\theta_{387} = 01.001$  angle









## 4 Physics

Substantial effort was invested in the physics engine itself, and unfortunately much of that work had to be discarded in the end.

### 4.1 Initial Approach

As described in the interim report, the initial approach to the physics involved a set of rigid frames and rigid bodies, which interacted with wrenches applied in an appropriate coordinate frame. The simulation employed the screw theory concepts seen in CPSC515, such as coordinate frame independent twists and wrenches. At the time of the interim report, some initial demos appeared to be working correctly, but no serious testing had been done.

Suppose that body  $A$  has a twist  ${}^W = (0; 0; 1; 0; -3; 0)^T$ . Expressed with respect to frame  $A$





on the children. Hierarchical culling provides a fast way for eliminating large portions of the world from being processed by the renderer.

The same nested bounding volumes support collision detection. If the bounding volume of the

## 6 Implementation







## 6.3 The Scene Graph

### 6.3.1 Updating the Scene Graph

```

{
  if ( A.BV does not intersect B.BV )
    return false;

  if ( IsLeaf( A ) )
    if ( IsLeaf( B ) )
      {
        if ( GeometryStoredAtNode( A ) intersects
              GeometryStoredAtNode( B ) )
          return true;
      }
    else
      {
        for ( each B.Child )
          return BoundingVolumeTreesCollide(A, B.Child);
      }
}

for ( each A.Child )
  return BoundingVolumeTreesCollide(A.Child, B);
}

```

At SIGGRAPH 96, Gottschalk et al. [GLM96] presented a fast algorithm for testing the intersection of two axis-aligned bounding boxes (AABBs). The algorithm is based on the Separating Axis Theorem (SAT) and is implemented as follows:

```

bool BoundingBox::Intersect(const BoundingBox &B) const {
    for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++) {
        float minA, maxA, minB, maxB;
        GetMinMax(i, minA, maxA);
        B.GetMinMax(i, minB, maxB);
        if (minA > maxB || minB > maxA) return false;
    }
    return true;
}

```

The algorithm checks for intersection along the x, y, and z axes. For each axis, it finds the minimum and maximum values of the bounding boxes. If the boxes do not overlap along any axis, they do not intersect. If they overlap along all three axes, they intersect.





where  $i = j+1$ . Each test requires computing the signed distances

$$\forall d = (C \cdot d) + a_0 d/N A_0 + a_1 d/N A_1 + a_2 d/N A_2: \quad (3)$$

The four dot products are computed once, each dot product using three multiplications and



## References



## A Physics equations

Following the derivation given by Bara , the state vector  $\mathbf{Y}(t)$  for each rigid body is defined as

$$\mathbf{Y}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ \vdots \\ \omega \end{pmatrix}$$

## B Vehicle model equations

### B.1 Physical constants

Symbol	Description	Value
$g$	gravity	9.81 m/s <sup>2</sup>
	density of air	1.29 kg/m <sup>3</sup>

Symbol	Description	Value
$M$	mass	1765 kg
$d_f$	distance from centre-of-mass to front axle	1.22 m
$d_b$	distance from centre-of-mass to back axle	1.62 m
$d_{wb}$	wheel base (axle separation)	2.84 m
$d_{tw}$	track width (lateral wheel separation)	1.52 m
$d_l$	length	5.01 m [from musclecarclub.com]
$d_w$	width	1.6 m [invented based on wheelbase]
$d_h$	height	1.43 m
$d_{cmh}$	height of centre-of-mass above ground	0.6 m [from Zuvich, but dubious]
$d_{td}$	tire diameter	0.7112 m
$A$	frontal area of vehicle	2.2 m <sup>2</sup>
$k_{rr1}$	rolling resistance coefficient 1	0.01
$k_{rr2}$	rolling resistance coefficient 2	0.0225
$k_d$	drag coefficient	0.45
$k_l$	lift coefficient	0.5
$\delta_{max}$	maximum steering angle	max





Using Zuvich's data, assuming rear-wheel drive, and using a simplistic linear scaling by throttle, the longitudinal forces on front and back tires are given by

$$F_x^{fl} = F_x^{fr} = 0$$
$$F_x^{bl} = F_x^{br} = \frac{F_e(i_g; \mathbf{v}_x) i_t}{4}$$

The velocity of tire  $i$

|

Constant	Value	Constant	Value

C E2544u2116.458 -15b412644721974158.45762044721

## C Program Usage

What follows is a partial list of available console commands. Tokens appearing in bold are

### C.1.1 Aliasing

**alias** [*newString stringToAlias*]

alias commands with other strings. If no arguments are specified, current aliases are listed.

**unalias** *stringToUnalias*

unalias an aliased string.

### C.1.2 Key Bindings

**bind** *key* < +j > *string*

attach a command to a key. + denotes key-down event, - denotes key-up.

**bindings**

unaliasi014.516 0j0(Aliasing)]TJ 4.981 -18.389 T cvarName notes

**hunk**

display hunk usage.

**checkhunk**

run hunk consistency test.

**zone**

display zone usage.

**checkzone**

run zone consistency test.

**C.1.5 Simulation Control****changeCam**

cycle through available cameras.

**reset**

reset the simulation.

**toggleSim**

pause/unpause the simulation.

**C.2 Console Variables****bgmvolume**

CD audio volume. Default: 1.0.

**cam\_damp**

tracking camera damping constant. Default: 2.0.

**cam\_dist**

distance from tracking camera to target. Default: 40.0.

**cam\_spring**

tracking camera spring constant. Default: 10.0.

**cmd\_log**

if 1, log incoming console commands to file. Default: 0.

**con\_log**

if 1, log all console activity to file. Default: 0.

**\_notifymode**



**mem** *size*

specify total memory available to program, in KB. Default: 8192K (8MB).

**nocdaudio**

do not use CD audio.

**nomouse**

do not use mouse.

**opengldriver**

umps OpenGL driver info (vendor, version, and supported extensions) to log.txt.

**zone** *size*

specify zone size, in KB. The zone is used for quick dynamic allocations. Default zone size is 256K.

### C.3.1 Linux-specific

**cddev** *path*

specify location of CDROM device. Default: /dev/cdrom.

### C.3.2 Windows-Specific

**nodinput**

do not use DirectInput.