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Railway Applications - Wheel-rail contact geometry parameters - Technical report and background information about EN 15302

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Contents Page European foreword4			
2	Normative references		
3	Terms and definitions		
4	Overview of the most important changes made to EN 15302	(
4.1	List of main changes		
4.2	Additional wheel-rail contact geometry parameters		
4.2.1	Rolling radii coefficient		
4.2.2	Nonlinearity parameter		
4.3	Methods for evaluation of equivalent conicity		
4.4	Assessment of the smoothing process		
4.5	New assessment of the complete process		
5	Technical background to and justification of changes in the revised EN 15302		
5.1	Equivalent conicity		
5.1.1	Review of equivalent conicity results obtained with different software tools	{	
5.1.2	Comparison with multibody system simulation results		
5.1.3	Influence of discretisation step size of the rolling radius difference function	14	
5.2	Rolling radii coefficient	15	
5.2.1	Background	15	
5.2.2	Current method	17	
5.3	Nonlinearity parameter	20	
5.4	Calculation of equivalent conicity by two-step integration	22	
5.5	Calculation of equivalent conicity by direct integration of the kinematic equation		
5.6	motionCalculation of equivalent conicity by harmonic linearization		
5.7	Updated reference profiles and results based on analytical solutions		
5.7 5.8	Revised assessment of the smoothing process		
5.9	Example for uncertainty assessment of the complete process		
5.10	Influence of simplifications		
	General		
	Wheelset roll movement (rotation around the longitudinal axis)		
	Contact elasticity of wheel and rail		
6	Guidance for the application of the wheel-rail contact parameters given in EN 15	302	
<i>c</i> 1	Fields of application – Overview		
6.1 6.2	General guidelines		
6.3	Selection of appropriate reference profiles for assessment of rail head profiles	3	
0.3	and/or wheel profiles	40	
6.3.1	General		
	British Rail Research Survey		
6.3.2 6.3.3	Reference profiles in the DynoTRAIN project		
6.3.4	Assessment of design wheel profiles and design rail profiles		
6.4	Development of equivalent conicity of wheelsets over mileage		
6.5	Assessment of the contact geometry of a line		
6.5.1	Methods for determining averaged contact geometry parameters		
O.O.I	riculous for acterinining averaged contact geometry parameters	T.	

6.5.2	Assessment of a line for different wheel profiles	46
6.6	Rolling radii coefficient and radial steering index	48
6.7	Nonlinearity parameter	
6.8	Equivalent conicity in wheel-rail maintenance and interface with TSIs	
6.8.1	General	
6.8.2	Equivalent conicity that a vehicle was designed and tested for	
6.8.3	Equivalent conicity as parameter in wheel profile maintenance regimes	53
6.9	Clarification of wheel-rail contact test conditions according to EN 14363	54
6.10	Application of Contact angle parameter and Roll angle parameter	55
7	Alternative contact parameters not handled in the standard	55
7.1	Difference of contact angles and gravitational stiffness	
7.2	Contact Concentration Index	
8	Approximation of equivalent conicity by simple alternative methods	60
8.1	Background	
8.2	British Rail Research investigations	
8.2.1	Initial BRR work in 1980s	
8.2.2	BRR further work in 1990s	
8.3	Investigations on Quick conicity using DynoTRAIN data	
8.3.1	DynoTRAIN project data collection	
8.3.2	Investigations on rail data	
8.3.3	Investigations on wheel data	
8.3.4	Combined assessment – track and wheelset	
8.3.5	Next Steps	
8.4	Ongoing development of Gradient Index Profile (GIP)	
8.4.1	Definition of GIP	
8.4.2	Comparison between equivalent conicity and GIP combined	
9		
	Development and usage of the so called conicity maps	
10	Plausibility check of measured profiles and elimination of outliers	
10.1	Introduction	
10.2	Profile area to be covered	
10.3	Spacing of points on the profile	
10.4	Elimination of outliers	80
11	Examples for validation of profile measuring systems	81
11.1	General	81
11.2	Evaluations of rail profile measuring systems	81
11.3	Evaluations of ground-based wheel profile measuring systems	83
12	Effect of wheel diameter differences on the running behaviour	84
	graphy	
DIDHO)YI 41111V	65

European foreword

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1 Scope

This document provides background information regarding the changes from EN 15302:2008+A1:2010 to the revised version dated 2021, including the reasons for decisions and additional explanation and guidance that is not appropriate in the standard.

The range of equivalent conicity results obtained with different software tools is described. The additional wheel-rail contact parameters, rolling radii coefficient and nonlinearity parameter, are explained. More information is also provided on the different calculation methods and the updated reference profiles for the assessment. The influence of simplifications used in determination of equivalent conicity is discussed.

To provide more information on the importance of considering the complete measurement and calculation process, methods for plausibility checks, eliminating outliers and assessing the uncertainty and repeatability of measurements are included as well as assessments of the smoothing process.

Guidance is given on fields of application of the wheel-rail contact parameters, on the selection of appropriate reference profiles (choice of reference rail profile and rail inclination for assessing wheel profiles and vice versa) and on handling special cases.

As some references in EN 14363 to wheel-rail contact test conditions have caused difficulties in understanding, clarifications issued by ERA are mentioned.

Interpretation of equivalent conicity results, using tools such as conicity maps, is discussed and various approximations such as 'quick conicity' assessments are also described.

Information is included on possible additional wheel-rail contact parameters, not yet ready for standardization, but where further experience is needed.

NOTE In this document the commonly used term "wheel-rail contact geometry" is used as a synonym for the more precise term "wheelset-track contact geometry".

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

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