

Sensitivity Analysis of a Car Shock Absorber Through a Functional Mock-up Units-Based Modelling Strategy

VUILLOD Bruno^{1,2} HALLO Ludovic¹ PANETTIERI Enrico² MONTEMURRO Marco²

¹Commissariat à l'énergie atomique et aux énergies alternatives (CEA), France, ludovic.hallo@cea.fr

²Arts et Métiers Institute of Technology, Université de Bordeaux, CNRS, INRA, Bordeaux INP, HESAM Université, I2M UMR 5295, F-33405 Talence, France, {bruno.vuillod, enrico.panettieri, marco.montemurro}@ensam.eu

Abstract

In Model-Based System Engineering (MBSE), some functional sub-systems can have a considerable influence on the overall system behaviour, whilst the effect of other ones can be neglected. Of course, the former requires a refined modelling approach, whilst the latter can be suitably represented by means of low-fidelity models (usually 0D models). Being capable of identifying the required precision level of sub-systems can help reducing the system complexity, with a negligible impact on the overall accuracy and help deepen the calculations in the system parts where it is necessary.

To determine which sub-systems models must be refined, suitable indicators must be introduced to assess their influence on the global system behaviour. To this purpose, in this work, a sensitivity analysis based on Sobol's indices coupled with a simple mechanical model developed in the Modelica environment is proposed to achieve the aforementioned task.

Keywords: Modelica, Sensitivity Analysis, Sobol's Index, Dynamical System.

1 Introduction

The first step to generate a Modelica model consists of setting the blocks scheme accounting for the global system architecture. The second step, is to enrich this scheme with additional components which include physical-based responses. This task may be difficult to be realised because it needs specific attention and a deep knowledge of multi-physics dynamical problems. Once the functional system architecture is finalised, Modelica can be used to solve it. This modelling approach, when complex systems are analysed, can lead to prohibitive computational costs, poor accuracy and incompatibility with project requirements, see, for instance, the different stages of a V-and-V organisation for example (Plogert 1996).

A viable strategy to improve the modelling approach, i.e. by proposing an efficient model constituting a good balance between accuracy and computational costs, consists in identifying those system parameters influencing the most the considered system response. This task is any-

thing but trivial when using classical software. Modelica can be conveniently employed to achieve this task because it allows for splitting the whole system into sub-systems and allows identifying the main parameters influencing its overall behaviour.

In this paper, a model of a car shock absorber, based on the Functional Mock-up Units (FMU) file export option of Modelica, is developed and integrated in an in-house code which performs the sensitivity analysis. The car shock absorber is based on a classic mass-spring-damper model enhanced with some fundamental notions of hydromechanics. In particular, the proposed model is characterised by 11 input variables and a single output: the equilibrium position of the car shock absorber at the generic time. The interest of using FMU relies on fast multi-physics simulations, with the possibility to easily change the parameters set. Therefore, a statistical analysis (which requires a huge amount of simulation runs) can be carried out by modifying the parameters set through the use of FMU. The sensitivity analysis presented in this paper is based on the use of Sobol's indices (Sobol 1993), which allows for determining the model parameters influencing the most the considered output. Sobol's indices allows expressing the variance of a given output by accounting for the variance of each input variable and for the coupling effects among them (depending on the order of the Sobol's inde). This method is based on Hoeffding decomposition (Hoeffding 1948) and has been adapted to the discrete numerical systems by Saltelli (Saltelli 2002). The sensitivity analysis proposed in this work is carried out through an in-house code called Nebraska, coupled with the Modelica model via its FMU file and a Python code.

Only a few literature references exist on the sensitivity analysis based on Sobol's indices and on the Hoeffding decomposition: (Sobol 1993), (Hoeffding 1948), (Saltelli 2002). Nowadays, these approaches are being reconsidered with the development of parallel and/or distributed computing capabilities of modern computers, which enable a large number of runs in a reasonable time. Some recent works make use of Sobol's indices in different applications: global optimisation strategy based on meta-heuristic algorithms (Janon 2019), metamodelling strategies (Marrel et al. 2009) or extension of the Sobol's index

theory to the case of dependent input variables (Chastaing, Gamboa, and Prieur 2015).

The paper is organised as follows. In Section 2, the mathematical formulation at the basis of the proposed model is presented together with the fundamentals of the Sobol's analysis. In section 3, the details of the Modelica model are provided, whilst Section 4 presents the numerical results and the related discussion. Section 5 ends the paper with some concluding remarks and prospects.

Notation. Upper-case bold letters are used to indicate tensors and matrices, while lower-case bold letters indicate column vectors.

2 System Description

2.1 The Mechanical System

The mechanical system analysed in this work is a car shock absorber, illustrated in **Figure 1**. Four main elements can be identified within the CAD model: the piston is a cylinder with a central hole, which allows for the oil flow during motion. This allows also absorbing the spring oscillations. The external piston radius is considered as equal to the internal piston chamber radius, without gap. The passengers and the car masses are loaded on the previously assembly via the top mounting ring.

The scheme shown in **Figure 1** represents the CAD system in functional diagram form: a spring-damper parallel system fixed to a support structure represents the car shock absorber submitted to the weight of the car and its passenger.

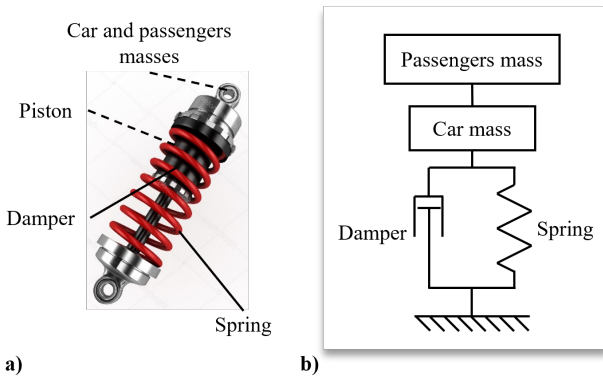


Figure 1. a) CAD model of the car shock absorber with b) its functional mechanical model.

The dynamic response of such system is governed by the longitudinal displacement $x(t)$ of the top chamber piston. It can be determined by solving the equilibrium equation of the system:

$$M\mathbf{a} = \sum_{i=1}^q \mathbf{f}_{\text{ext},i}, \quad (1)$$

where $M = \frac{m_p}{4} + \frac{m_c}{4}$ is a quarter of the overall mass of the system (i.e. car + passengers masses), \mathbf{a} the acceleration, whose component along the x axis, is equal to $\ddot{x}(t)$,

$\mathbf{f}_{\text{ext},i}$ the generic i -th external force applied to the spring-damper (see **Figure 2**) and q their total number.

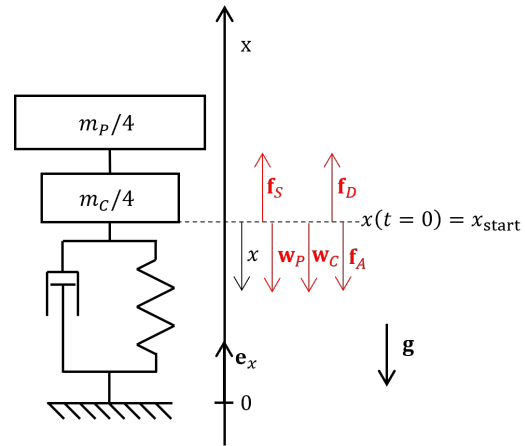


Figure 2. Functional scheme and external forces applied to a car shock absorber. The direction of the gravity acceleration is represented by the \mathbf{g} vector.

The external forces applied to the spring-damper system are listed here below:

- Archimedes' force:

$$\mathbf{f}_A = -S_p h \rho_{\text{oil}} g \mathbf{e}_x, \quad (2)$$

where $S_p = \pi(r_{\text{ext}}^2 - r_{\text{int}}^2)$ is the cross-section area of the piston, r_{int} and r_{ext} are the internal and external piston radius, respectively, h is the piston height, ρ_{oil} is the oil density, g is the gravity acceleration and \mathbf{e}_x the unit vector of the x axis. Note that the Archimedes' force is applied to the piston which will tend to rise in its chamber and exert a force in the direction of the vector \mathbf{e}_x .

- Damper force:

$$\mathbf{f}_D = -\text{sign}(\dot{x}) S_p \Delta P \mathbf{e}_x, \quad (3)$$

where ΔP is the pressure loss, computed by assuming the physical model shown in **Figure 3**. The value of ΔP is thus computed as follows (Idel'chik 1966):

$$\Delta P = \rho_{\text{oil}} \frac{\omega_0^2}{2} (\zeta_{\text{red}} + \zeta_{\text{exp}}), \quad (4)$$

where ω_0 is the oil speed inside the piston. By imposing mass flux conservation, ω_0 reads:

$$\omega_0 = \frac{\dot{x} S_p}{S_h}, \quad (5)$$

with $S_h = \pi r_{\text{int}}^2$ is the cross-section area of the piston hole. In addition, ζ_{red} and ζ_{exp} are expressed as follows:

$$\zeta_{\text{red}} = \left(\frac{1}{C} - 1\right)^2, \quad \zeta_{\text{exp}} = \left(1 - \frac{S_h}{S_p}\right)^2, \quad (6)$$

$$\text{with } C = 0.63 + 0.37 \left(\frac{S_h}{S_p}\right)^2.$$

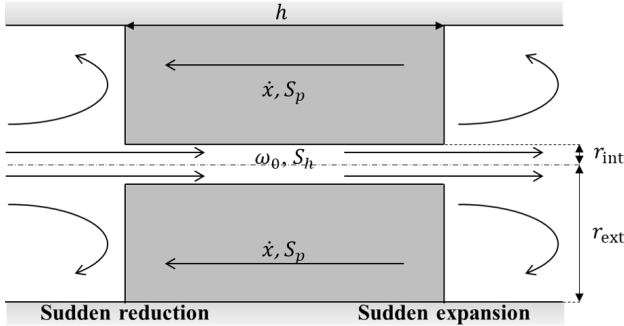


Figure 3. Different flows through the piston during its motion.

- Spring stress:

$$\mathbf{f}_S = -k(x - L_0)\mathbf{e}_x, \quad (7)$$

where k is the spring constant and L_0 its unstretched length. Note that, at initial time, the piston position is smaller than the unstretched spring length, i.e. the system is considered as pre-loaded.

- Weight action of the passengers:

$$\mathbf{w}_P = -\frac{m_P}{4}\mathbf{g}\mathbf{e}_x, \quad (8)$$

where m_P is the overall passengers mass.

- Weight of the car:

$$\mathbf{w}_C = -\frac{m_C}{4}\mathbf{g}\mathbf{e}_x, \quad (9)$$

with m_C the overall mass of the car.

2.2 Sensitivity Analysis Based on Sobol's Indices

In this section, the fundamentals of the sensitivity analysis based on Sobol's indices (Sobol 1993) is briefly introduced. Sobol's indices allow for the identification of the input parameters having the stronger influence on the system outputs.

Consider a multiple-input-single-output (MISO) system whose transfer function is $\mathcal{M} : \boldsymbol{\xi} \in \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow Y \in \mathbb{R}$, where n is the number of inputs and \mathcal{M} is represented by the physical model.

$\boldsymbol{\xi}^T = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)$ represents the vector of inputs. The variability of the inputs is modelled via random variables characterised by their probability density functions (PDFs): $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \xi_i \sim dP_{\xi_i}$ (which must be read: ξ_i

follows a distribution of PDF dP_{ξ_i}). It is noteworthy that Sobol's indices can be defined either in the case of dependent variables or in the case of independent variables (Hoeffding 1948; Sobol 1993). In the following of this work, only independent inputs will be considered, i.e. the generic input variable cannot be expressed as a function of the remaining inputs (neither explicitly nor implicitly). This means that the probability measure of $\boldsymbol{\xi}$ is given by:

$$dP_{\boldsymbol{\xi}} = \prod_{i=1}^n dP_{\xi_i}. \quad (10)$$

The objective of the sensitivity analysis is to determine the relative influence of each parameter ξ_i , on the considered output value in term of variance. The Sobol's index S_i of the variable ξ_i gives the percentage of variance on the output associated solely to ξ_i . Similarly, $S_{i,j}$ gives the percentage of the output variance associated to the couple (ξ_i, ξ_j) (and this concept must be extended to all possible $2^n + 1$ combinations of input variables). Mathematically, the Sobol's index of order 1 (S_i) and of order 2 ($S_{i,j}$) can be expressed as follows:

$$S_i = \frac{\mathcal{V}_i}{\mathcal{V}}, \quad (11)$$

$$S_{i,j} = \frac{\mathcal{V}_{i,j}}{\mathcal{V}},$$

with \mathcal{V}_i the variance associated to ξ_i , $\mathcal{V}_{i,j}$ the variance associated to the couple (ξ_i, ξ_j) and \mathcal{V} the global variance associated to the observed variable Y of the model \mathcal{M} . The above quantities are defined as follows:

$$\mathcal{V} = \text{Var}(\text{E}(Y)) \quad (12)$$

$$\mathcal{V}_i = \text{Var}(\text{E}(Y|\xi_i)) - \text{Var}(\text{E}(Y)) \quad (13)$$

$$\mathcal{V}_{i,j} = \text{Var}(\text{E}(Y|\xi_i, \xi_j)) - \text{Var}(\text{E}(Y|\xi_i)) - \text{Var}(\text{E}(Y|\xi_j)) + \text{Var}(\text{E}(Y)) \quad (14)$$

where $\text{E}(Y)$ is the expected value of Y , $\text{E}(Y|\xi_i)$, the conditional expected value of Y regarding ξ_i and $\text{E}(Y|\xi_i, \xi_j)$ the conditional expected value of Y regarding the pair of variables (ξ_i, ξ_j) . For a deeper insight in the matter, the reader is addressed to (Philippe and Viano 2010).

The $2^n + 1$ Sobol indices can provide precious information for the sensitivity analysis, but their computation can be prohibitive when a large number of variables are considered. In (Saltelli 2002), the author presents a numerical integration scheme requiring $N(n+2)$ simulations, with N the total number of samples allowing the computation of the n elementary indices $(S_i)_{i \in [1,n]}$ together with the n total indices defined by:

$$\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \text{ST}_i = S_i + S_{i,j} + \dots + S_{i,\dots,n}. \quad (15)$$

The total Sobol's indices give an indication of the influence of the variable ξ_i on the considered output as an isolated variable and when ξ_i is combined with every other set of variables. For example, if $ST_i \approx 0$, the variable ξ_i does not influence at all the considered output. Note that in the rest of the paper, the indices S_i are indicated as SE_i and called elementary Sobol's indices. For a deeper insight in the matter the interested reader is addressed to (Héliot 2017-2018).

3 Numerical Model of the Car Shock Absorber

The mechanical model of the car shock absorber considered in this study is built through the Modelica programming language (Fritzson 2014) with the MapleSim software (Maplesoft 2014) and interfaced with the Nebraska code wherein sensitivity analysis by means of Sobol's indices is performed.

3.1 Modelica Model

To simulate the behaviour of the car shock absorber, the Modelica programming language has been employed, and, particularly, its capability to easily export model in FMU format.

The Modelica model is shown in **Figure 4**. The Modelica Standard Library (MSL) has been used to generate the majority of the components of the mechanical system. However, the mechanical behaviour of the damper has been modelled via a customized damper force element to reproduce the constitutive law of Eq. (3). It can be noticed that the element M_C of Figure 4 (which represents a massless element with limited motion) has been introduced to limit the motion in the piston chamber (to ensure geometric/physical consistency). The weight action of the car is represented by the W_C element, whilst the one of the passengers is represented by the W_P element. The whole system is described by means of 11 parameters among which only six are considered for the sensitivity analysis.

When the car is loaded, its shock absorbers have the function to limit the spring oscillations and to dissipate them in a short time, at a given position. As a consequence, the output considered for the sensitivity analysis is the piston position at a given time $x(t)$. As a reference, the time constant for shock absorption has been set as $\tau_{\text{abs}} = 2$ s with a stable piston position at $x = 0.64$ m. The reference motion parameters are given in **Table 1** and correspond approximately to a physically admissible situation. Note that the piston initial position is defined at $x_{\text{start}} = L_{\text{bar}} + L_{\text{cham}}$ with L_{bar} the bag length in contact with the floor (assimilable to the wheel) and L_{cham} the length of the piston chamber which limit the piston displacement. At $t = 0$ s, the spring is preloaded because $x_{\text{start}} < (L_0 + L_{\text{bar}})$.

Once the Modelica model is created and validated, the FMU file is generated in co-simulation mode. The FMU

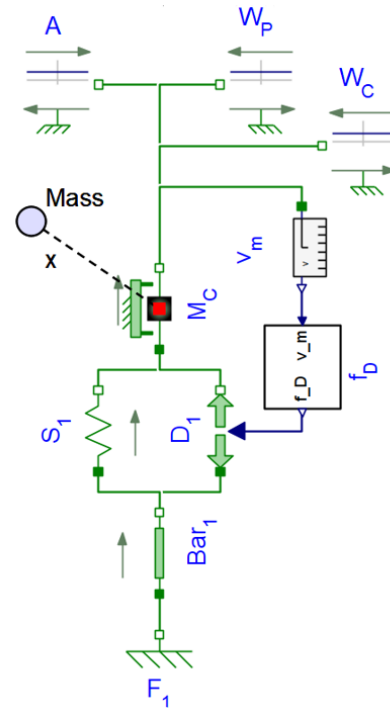


Figure 4. Modelica model of the car shock absorber.

Table 1. List of reference model parameters and their type.

Parameter	Reference value	Variable
k	9000 N.m ⁻¹	Yes
L_0	0.45 m	Yes
r_{int}	0.002 m	Yes
r_{ext}	0.03 m	No
m_P	150 kg	Yes
h	0.02 m	Yes
ρ_{oil}	884 kg.m ⁻³	No
g	9.81 m.s ⁻²	No
L_{bar}	0.5 m	No
L_{cham}	0.25 m	No
m_C	1000 kg	Yes

file of the mechanical system can be represented as a black box for which input parameters with their respective intervals of definition must be defined as reported in **Table 2**. These intervals, have been chosen according to admissible mechanical conditions of the shock absorbers. In particular, the interval of definition of the parameter r_{int} is selected in order to ensure a complete or semi-periodic absorbing behaviour.

3.2 Preliminary Analysis of the System

Before proceeding with the sensitivity analysis, the Modelica model has been simplified. By evaluating the orders of magnitude of the external forces, the Archimedes' force can be neglected with respect to the spring force since its value differ by three orders of magnitude. As a conse-

Table 2. List of the model input variables and the related interval.

Variable	Interval
k	[8 000; 11 000] N.m ⁻¹
L_0	[0.4; 0.6] m
r_{int}	[0.001; 0.005] m
h	[0.01; 0.04] m
m_P	[60; 360] kg
m_C	[900; 1 300] kg

quence, the parameter h can be removed from the input variables to be considered in the sensitivity analysis.

By applying this simplification, one can notice that, as expected, no significant variation occurs in the piston motion. The relative difference between the piston motion of the complete Modelica model and the counterpart of the simplified model vs. the time is illustrated in **Figure 5**. This difference is about 10^{-5} m, which represent 0.008 % of the stabilised motion reference (at $x = 0.6$ m), thus the two models can be considered as equivalent.

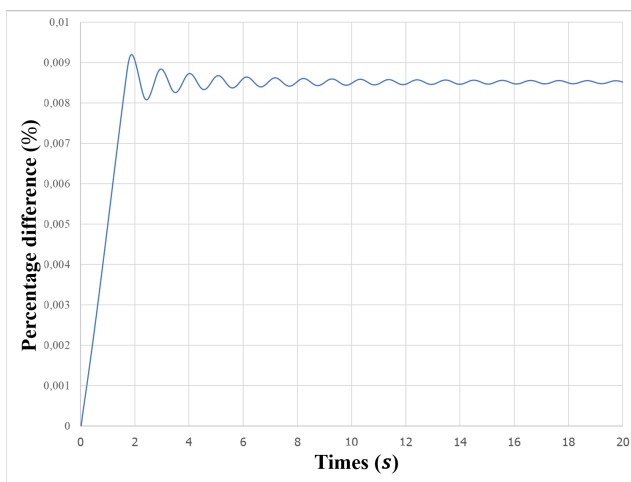


Figure 5. Percentage difference between the piston motion of the complete Modelica model and the counterpart of the simplified model in % vs. the time.

4 Numerical Results

4.1 Observed behaviours

To evaluate Sobol's indices, input variables are randomly combined into several sets. **Figure 6** shows the displacement time history of the piston for nine sets obtained by combining different values of the input variables. As it can be inferred from these results, semi-periodic (set 2, 3 and 4) or completely damped motions (set 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9) can be obtained by acting on the input variables. In extreme cases, the displacement of the piston is blocked due to a significant value of spring pre-loading (set 1). The displacement time history of the piston obtained with the reference set of parameters of **Table 1** is represented by

the red curve in **Figure 6**. The values of the input variables for the other sets are given in **Appendix A**: for each set, the constant parameters are the same as the reference set (see Table 1).

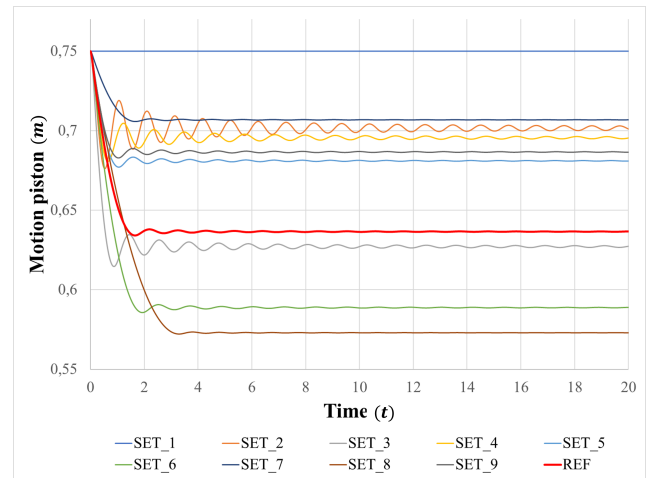


Figure 6. Piston position vs. time for 10 different sets. The red curve is the reference solution.

4.2 Sensitivity Analysis

The values of Sobol's indices, have been computed for the considered variables vs. the samples number N for two characteristic time values: $t = \tau_{\text{abs}}$ and $t = 10\tau_{\text{abs}}$.

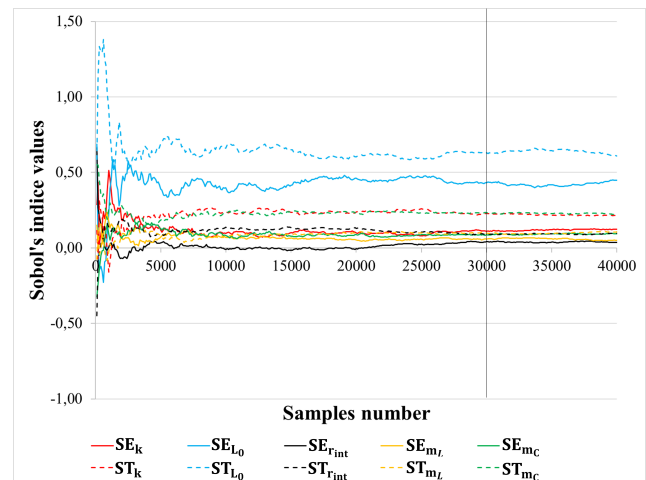


Figure 7. Sobol's indices vs. samples number N for $t = \tau_{\text{abs}}$.

The results of a Sobol's analysis can be considered reliable only if convergence is achieved. The results of **Figure 7** and of **Figure 8** highlight that for sample numbers lower than 15 000, significant fluctuations exist. These are due to numerical errors, especially for $N < 500$ where inconsistent negative values are obtained. When $3000 \leq N \leq 15000$, another inconsistency is observed since SE_{L_0} and ST_{L_0} are really not constant. For values of samples number greater than 30 000 convergence is achieved for all curves.

As a matter of fact, the standard uncertainty, \bar{u} , for the Sobol's indices computed for all the input variables when

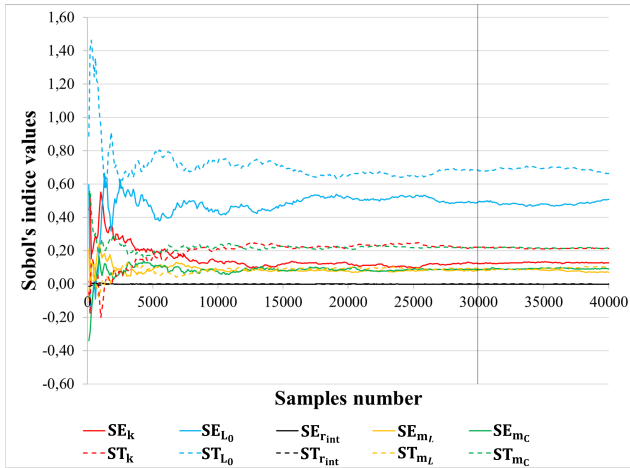


Figure 8. Sobol's indices vs. samples number N for $t = 10\tau_{\text{abs}}$.

the samples number is greater than 30000 is equal to:

$$\bar{u} = \frac{\bar{\sigma}}{\sqrt{D}} = \frac{5.78 \cdot 10^{-3}}{\sqrt{40000 - 30000}} = 5.78 \cdot 10^{-5}, \quad (16)$$

where $\bar{\sigma}$ is the average standard deviation and D the studied range.

Table 3 reports the values of the converged Sobol's indices at $N = 40000$. It must be noticed that, in this table, all values have been multiplied by 100 to enable a better reading.

Table 3. Elementary and total Sobol's indices for $t = \tau_{\text{abs}}$ s and $10\tau_{\text{abs}}$ s in percentage. Note that, by considering their definition in section 2.2, the sum of total indices is not equal to 100 %.

Total Sobol's index	Value at $t = \tau_{\text{abs}}$	Value at $t = 10\tau_{\text{abs}}$
ST K	21.40 %	21.38 %
ST L_0	60.92 %	66.24 %
ST r_{int}	9.56 %	0.01 %
ST m_p	10.65 %	10.29 %
ST m_C	22.66 %	21.62 %
Elementary Sobol's index	Value at $t = \tau_{\text{abs}}$	Value at $t = 10\tau_{\text{abs}}$
SE K	12.39 %	12.77 %
SE L_0	44.93 %	50.85 %
SE r_{int}	3.70 %	0.00 %
SE m_p	4.93 %	7.16 %
SE m_C	9.32 %	9.15 %
Interactions	24.73 %	20.07 %

A total Sobol's index can help understanding the influence of a given input variable on the piston motion when combined with other variables. For instance, in the case of the total index of m_p at $t = \tau_{\text{abs}}$ s, its value is 10.65 %, which is at least two times smaller than the other ones, like r_{int} .

As far as variable L_0 is concerned, always at $t = \tau_{\text{abs}}$ s, a significant difference exists between its elemen-

tary Sobol's index, 44.93 %, and the total one, 60.92 %. This means that this parameter plays a crucial role on the piston motion in combination with other parameters.

Finally, by prioritising the other indices, it can be concluded that the parameter L_0 is the one influencing the most the motion of the piston.

The same remarks can be repeated for $t = 10\tau_{\text{abs}}$, except for r_{int} whose elementary and total Sobol's indices become smaller than the ones related to the other input variables. This is due to the fact that r_{int} is involved only in the expression of the damper force. This force being function of the piston speed, it is possible to link indirectly r_{int} with the others parameters. Thus, when the system reaches a stable state, the piston velocity goes to zero and the influence of parameter r_{int} too.

The results of **Table 3** also highlight that the parameters k , m_p and m_C present similar values of the total Sobol's index at both time, $t = \tau_{\text{abs}}$ s and $t = 10\tau_{\text{abs}}$ s. Nonetheless, if a greater range of r_{int} is considered, the influence of this parameter on the motion regime can be observed. Indeed, for values of r_{int} greater than 0.005 m, the motion of the piston is mainly semi-periodic or completely periodic without stable motion. This highlights the importance of correctly defining the interval of the input variables to be used during the sensitivity analysis. Furthermore, inasmuch as r_{int} is the input variable with the weakest influence on the piston motion, its value can be set randomly without influencing the final result. Conversely, particular care must be put in choosing the value and the interval of definition of the most influencing variables (like L_0).

The coupling of the FMU file of the car shock absorber Modelica model with the Nebraska code allows carrying out for fast simulations to be carried out. In fact, the Modelica model, shown in **Figure 4**, requires approximately 4.50 s to run while the sensitivity analysis with Nebraska (which makes use of the FMU file generated from MapleSim) takes approximately 5000 s for a total of 280000 simulations. All the simulation presented in this paper have been carried out on a DELL[®] laptop with 32 Gb RAM and an Intel core i7-10610 processor. From the analysis of the time required to execute each step of the simulation, one can conclude that about 50 % of the overall time is required to solve (and integrate) the problem, while the remaining 50 % of the time is needed for post-processing of results. In particular, the time required to execute each step is:

1. Equations generation (1.131 s);
2. Equations handling and manipulation (0.219 s);
3. Initial values computation (0.224 s);
4. Integration step (0.710 s);
5. Post processing of results (2.216 s).

5 Conclusion

In this work a sensitivity analysis of a car shock absorber model, carried out through the coupling of an in-house code (Nebraska) based on Sobol's indices and a FMU file generated via MapleSim, has been presented.

The goal is to identify a reduced model capable of describing the motion of the piston. To this purpose, the influence of the different physical phenomena on the considered output has been investigated. The system, described via several geometrical and mechanical parameters, has been firstly analysed by observing the order of magnitude of the different forces acting on the system. As a first result, the initial model has been simplified by removing those forces whose mechanical effects are negligible when compared to others.

The simplified model was then used to generate the FMU file, which was coupled with the based-Fortran code Nebraska through a Python code (in-house developed) which carried out the sensitivity analysis via Sobol's indices.

The analysis of both the elementary and total Sobol's indices of the input parameters of the mechanical system allowed determining that the spring unstretched length (L_0) plays a crucial roles in the piston motion while the influence of r_{int} is negligible. Note that this result holds solely for the output considered in this study, i.e. the position of the piston when a stable state is reached.

This study represents a first application of FMU to simulate mechanical systems with the aim of performing sensitivity analysis. A further extension of the approach presented in this work could be its application to more complex systems. In this context, the more influential sub-systems, determined as a result of a sensitivity analysis based on Sobol's indices, or subsystems involving complex physical phenomena that must be accurately reproduced, could be replaced by a external model imported via a FMU file. As far as prospects of this work are concerned, the FMU can be generated from dedicated finite element models or meta-models, integrating the relevant physical responses. This can help reducing the computational cost of the sub-system simulation required within the global model of the mechanical system developed in MapleSim.

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Acronyms

MBSE	Model-Based System Engineering
MISO	Multiple-Input-Single-Output
SE	Sobol Elementary Index
ST	Sobol Total Index
FMU	Functional Mock-up Units
PDF	Probability Density Function
CAD	Computer Aided Design
MSL	Modelica Standard Library

Glossary

N	Input variables sets number	—
d	Number of input variables	—
ζ	Proportional factor in singularity	—
	pressure loss	
τ_{abs}	Absorbing motion time	s
ΔP	Pressure loss	Pa
k	Spring constant	N.m^{-1}
L_0	Spring unstretched length	m
r_{int}	Internal piston radius	m
r_{ext}	External piston radius	m
h	Piston thickness	m
x_{start}	Piston initial position	m
L_{cham}	Length of the piston chamber	m
L_{bar}	Length of the bar linked to the floor	m
ω_0	Fluid speed	m.s^{-1}
g	Gravity acceleration	m.s^{-2}
S_p	Piston surface	m^2
S_h	Piston hole surface	m^2
m_P	Passengers mass	kg
m_C	Car and passengers mass	kg
ρ_{oil}	Oil density	kg.m^{-3}
\bar{u}	Mean of standard uncertainty	—
$\bar{\sigma}$	Mean of the average standard deviation	—

Appendix A

Table 4. Variable parameters data for ten different sets.

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>set 1</i>	<i>set 2</i>	<i>set 3</i>	<i>set 4</i>	<i>set 5</i>
$K \text{ N.m}^{-1}$	10768	10935	9513	9811	9830
$L_0 \text{ m}$	0.585	0.498	0.475	0.562	0.480
$r_{\text{int}} (10^{-3} \text{ m})$	3.63	4.20	3.24	3.37	2.49
$m_P \text{ kg}$	239	140	178	213	111
$m_C \text{ kg}$	964	1182	1172	1252	1086
<i>Parameter</i>	<i>set 6</i>	<i>set 7</i>	<i>set 8</i>	<i>set 9</i>	<i>ref</i>
$K \text{ N.m}^{-1}$	9329	8951	9306	10345	9000
$L_0 \text{ m}$	0.479	0.561	0.407	0.533	0.450
$r_{\text{int}} (10^{-3} \text{ m})$	2.25	1.77	1.75	2.42	2.25
$m_P \text{ kg}$	196	135	359	310	150
$m_C \text{ kg}$	1287	1156	908	1151	1000