The Racing & High-Performance Tire
Using the Tires to Tune for Grip and Balance

List of Chapters

Illustrations and Tables

Introduction

Chapter 1  How a Car Turns a Corner
Vehicle, Tires, Driver
Slip Angle
Footsteps
Lateral Force vs. Slip Angle
An Automobile Is Easier to Make Than a Tire
The Complexity Is Daunting

Chapter 2  Rubber
Rubber History
Obsession
Serendipity
The Beginnings of a Recipe
Parallel Development
Synthetic Rubber
Rubber Is a Polymer
Rubber Is Elastic and Viscoelastic
Creep Test
Mechanical Model for Rubber
Speed Sensitivity
Rubber Response to Cyclic Stress
The Glass Transition Temperature

Chapter 3  Rubber Friction
Simple Friction
Rubber Friction
Adhesion
Deformation: Mechanical Keying
Tearing and Wear
Total Friction
Deformation Friction and Viscoelasticity
Adhesive Friction and Surface Deformation
Friction: A Combination of Forces
Road Surface Effects
Shape
Slope of the Asperities
The Myth of Off-Line in the Rain
The Load Sensitivity of Rubber Friction
Temperature and Speed Effects

Chapter 4  Rubber Compounding
Which Rubber?
Recipe for a Tire
Carbon Black Reinforcement
Vulcanization
Additive Development

Chapter 5  Tire Design and Manufacture
Structure of the Pneumatic Tire
Modulus of Elasticity
Fatigue Strength
Fatigue Failure
Tire Design
Contact Patch Load Effects
Structural Distortion Due to Vertical Load
Load and Internal Pressure
A Loading Example
Overloading and Underinflation
Braking and Acceleration Forces
Bias-Ply or Radial?
Street Tires vs. Race Tires
Wider Wheels
Tire Construction
Construction Details
Reinforcing Cords
Filament, Thread, Yarn, Cord
Adhesive Coatings on the Cords
Tread Design
Tread Patterns for a Wet Surface
Tire Noise
Special Case: Sports-Utility Vehicles
Manufacturing Process
Tread Material
Assembly
Tire Nonuniformities
The Hazards of Batch Processing
Manufacturing Developments
The Tire Industry Isn’t Healthy
Automated Manufacturing

Chapter 6  Tire Behavior
How a Car Turns a Corner: Revisited
Slip Angle
Lateral Force vs. Slip Angle
Longitudinal Forces
Combined Forces
Friction Circle
Lateral Deformation of the Tread
Wide Tires Are Better
   Why Wider Tires Are Better
Self-Aligning Torque
Vertical Forces in the Contact Patch
Dynamic Tire Response to Steering
Rolling Resistance
Induced Drag
Radials Are More Efficient
Camber Thrust
   Construction-Induced Camber
Stagger
Internal Pressure
Tire Dynamics: Standing Waves
Frequency Response
Load Sensitivity of Tires
Lateral Speed of the Tire

Chapter 7 Balance and Control
Oversteer and Understeer
Consequences of Imbalance
The Driver Is Important
What the Tires See
Again, Drivers Can Make a Difference
Control at the Limit of Adhesion
So Tight It’s Loose

Chapter 8 Race Tires
Break-In
Scrubbing Race Tires
   Pre-Scrubbing Tires
Shaving Tires
Tire Temperature and Pressure
   Taking Tire Temperatures
Tire Give-Up
Tire Wars: Goodyear vs. Firestone
   Here Comes Firestone
   Firestone Tires Proved Superior
   Less Give-Up Can Be a Problem
   Why Didn’t Goodyear Respond with a Competitive Tire?
NASCAR-Hoosier/Goodyear
   Comparisons at Daytona
   Asymmetrical Sidewalls
Heat Cycles
Abrasin and Graining
   How Firestone Whipped Goodyear
Graining on Dirt
Graining on Pavement
Blistering
Tire Treatments
   Tire Treatments Are Widely Available
   Hot Lap, Hot Lap II, and LMT
   Did Gordon’s Car Use a Tire Treatment?
Tire Companies Do Not Like Tire Treatments
A Tire Guy Speaks Out

Chapter 9 Tire Testing and Development
Tire Testing
   How Important is Tire Testing to a Team?
   Driver Feedback Helps Develop Tires
Paul Gentilozzi on Tire Testing
Mario Andretti: Tire Development History
   Interesting Times Indeed!
2002 Formula 1 Tire War
   WLF Transform
   Ten Ferrari Engineers at Bridgestone?
   Barrichello’s Tire/??? Incident at the USGP

Chapter 10 Tire Performance Data
Engineers Want More and Better Data
Simulation Software
Typical Tire Data
   Spring Rate
   Rolling Radius
   Lateral Force vs. Slip Angle
   Load Sensitivity
   Self-Aligning Torque
   Formula 1 Tire Data
MTS Flat-Trac Tire Testing System
   Missing information
Motorsports Drives Development

Chapter 11 Basic Vehicle Dynamics
The Physics: Newton’s Laws of Motion
   Inertia and Units
   F=MA for a Circular Path
Inertial Forces and Lateral Weight Transfer
   Weight Transfer Calculation
   Fractional Weight Transfer
CG and Lateral Weight Transfer
The Racing & High-Performance Tire
Using the Tires to Tune for Grip and Balance

Examples
Tire Roll
Longitudinal Weight Transfer
Suspension ‘Anti’ Geometry
  Anti-Dive and Anti-Lift with Braking
  Anti-Squat with Acceleration
  Anti Trade-Offs
Lower CG Is Better
  CG Is Important: Winston Cup Cars at Martinsville
Typical Independent Suspension
Roll Centers
Cornering Forces
  Jacking Force
  Roll Center Position Trade-Offs
  Timing of Forces
  Dynamic Suspension Movement
  Special Case: The Panhard Rod
Details of Lateral Weight Transfer
Unsprung Weight Transfer
Sprung Weight Transfer: Direct Forces and Roll Forces
Direct-Force Weight Transfer
Roll-Force Weight Transfer
Weight Transfer Calculation
Roll Angle

Chapter 12 Suspension Geometry
  Camber Control
    Roll- and Ride-Height Effects
    Aerodynamic Constraints
  Steering Geometry
    Caster
    Karts and Caster and Tires
    Mechanical Trail
  Ackermann Steering Geometry
  Toe
  Bump Steer, Roll Steer

Chapter 13 Tuning for Grip and Balance
  Tuning the Racecar By Levels
    Ride Height
  Static Weight Distribution
    Moment of Inertia
    Corner Weights
  Spring Rate, Wheel Rate, Tire Rate
    Bell Cranks and Third Springs
  Where to Start with the Basic Setup
    Starting Points-Springs and Bars
    Sizing Anti-Roll Bars
    Suspension Antis

Diagonal Weight Transfer: Wedge
  Using Wedge to Adjust Balance
  A Static Adjustment with Dynamic Results
  A Doubly Powerful Adjustment
  Cockpit-Adjustable Wedge
  Wedge Summary
  Wedge with Tire Pressures

Dynamic Tire Loading
  Roll Resistance
  Roll Resistance Distribution
  Roll Resistance Trade-Offs
  Geometric Stiffness
  Choosing Initial Roll Centers
  Roll Center Stability
  Roll Timing

Spring Preload
Springs, Bars, and Dampers
  The Anti-Roll Bar
Skid-Pad Testing
  Springs and Bars: Choices
Damper Detail
  Damper Adjustments
  Tire Detail
  Tire Loads for Specific Adjustments

Index
References
Resources