A Study on Shape Optimization of Impregnated Bit

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Abstract The core is extracted through drilling and used to evaluate the feasibility of developing mineral resources. To extract the core, a bit is installed in the forefront of the drilling device for drilling. Here, the drill bit receives stress due to direct friction against the ground. In addition, a bit appropriate for the given ground condition should be used due to the possibility of damaging a bit as a result of friction. This paper used a current bit model based on an impregnated bit and analyzed a new bit model that uses a stiffener of similar/disparate materials. The hardness and deflective strength were then evaluated by modeling the shape of impregnated bit through a calculation based on a theoretical formula. Through FEM analysis of the existing model and the new model, the stress and strain calculation results were optimized to minimize the stress and strain with a stress of $1.92 \times 10^7$ Pa and a strain of $9.6 \times 10^{-5}$ m/m.

Keywords : Impregnated Bit, Modeling, Stiffener, Stress, Strain, FEM Analysis

1. Introduction

Mineral resources are currently an important resource necessary for the development of machinery, electricity, electronics, and various technologies. Therefore, there is a continuous and worldwide interest and investment in mineral resources[1-3]. However, in order to find out feasibility of developing mineral resources, drilling operation based on precise prediction is critical. Drilling operation refers to an operation that extracts and analyzes core in column state buried under the earth, rocks and bedrock. Accordingly, in order to extract core, a bit must be installed in the forefront of the drilling machine in order to drill the ground directly[4-7]. Therefore, a bit is
the most important part in a drilling machine. A bit is then categorized as impregnated bit, surface bit, PCD bit and etc[8-11], depending on the purpose of drilling and the hardness of the ground. Among them, impregnated bit is used in drilling various ground primarily based on medium-hard/hard rocks. Impregnated bit is the structure grafts metal powder and diamond mixture to a metal body. Density, distribution, protrusion, metal powder content and shape of bit determines cutting power. Accordingly this paper compared the existing bit model with a new one in terms of shape and materials based on impregnated bit[12-14].

Also, the shape of impregnated bit was modeled in experiments to evaluate it hardness and deflective strength needed for cutting and calculation was done based on theoretical formulas. In addition, through FEM interpretation of existing model and new model, shape of impregnated bit was optimized.

2. Shape design of Impregnated bit

Different shapes and properties obtain for impregnated bit depending on the type of ground being drilled. However, in this study, Fig. As shown in Fig. 1, the design was performed based on the impregnated bit shape of a general 8-segment shape. In (A), (B), and (C) of 2, the bits were designed by giving 8-segmented grooves of 11 mm. Model (A) is the basic model and grooves were made to 11 mm out of the total length of 13 mm without using stiffener. Model (B) had a 4 mm ring between penetrating the groove of bits without adding Al material stiffener. Finally, in model (C), steel material stiffener was added between grooves from lower bit to the center of the ring of the model (B) up to 3.75 mm. The bit designed was consolidated using a method of grafting steel body of internal diameter 36.4 mm, external diameter 59.5 mm and height 68.5 mm steel body. The detailed blue print of each model is as shown in Figure 2.
3. Characteristic evaluation of Impregnated bit

3.1 Impregnated bit hardness

Hardness is an important factor that affects abrasion and cutting properties. Therefore, measuring hardness is an important operation regardless of materials. Although there are many ways to measure hardness but, in this research, Vickers hardness tester as shown in Figure 3 was used to measure hardness. This test method obtained hardness by measuring the pressed-in marks by applying pressure to the specimen using the pressure in the shape of pyramid with the vertical angle of 136°. The hardness is obtained through formula (1): P stands for applied load; A stands for surface area of the mark; and d stands for diagonal distance.

\[ H_V = \frac{P}{A} = \frac{1.854P}{d^2} \]  

(1)

\[ 279 = \frac{100}{0.3584} = \frac{1.854 \times 100}{0.8151^2} \]  

(2)

Here, when the weight P applied to the tester is 100kgf and d is 0.815mm, calculation is done as shown in formula (2) and hardness value comes out 279kg/mm².

3.2 Impregnated bit deflective strength

Deflective strength is an important factor where malleability and fragility can be derived. Even the smallest air pore in the material can affect deflective strength. Therefore, deflective strength test was performed using universal testing machine as shown in Figure 4. Deflective strength was obtained from formula (3). Here, P
stands for load during specimen rupture; L, distance that supports specimens; d, specimen width; and h, specimen thickness.

\[
T.R.S = \frac{3PL}{2bh^2}
\]

(3)

\[
1248.27 = \frac{3 \times 30 \times 1587.5775}{2 \times 7.3 \times 2.8^2}
\]

(4)

Here, when the weight during rupture is 1587.5775kgf; L, 30mm; b, 7.3mm; and h, 2.8mm, substituting for formula (4) gives deflective strength of 1248.27kg/mm².

4. FEM analysis of Impregnated bit

4.1 Impregnated bit stress analysis

Table 1. Condition of analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>a</th>
<th>b</th>
<th>c</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moment(N·m)</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact condition (B)it to body</td>
<td>Bonded</td>
<td>Bonded</td>
<td>Bonded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact condition (B)it to stiffener</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>No separation</td>
<td>No separation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed support</td>
<td>bit surface</td>
<td>bit surface</td>
<td>bit surface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bit material</td>
<td>Structural steel</td>
<td>Structural steel</td>
<td>Structural steel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body material</td>
<td>Structural steel</td>
<td>Structural steel</td>
<td>Structural steel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stiffener material</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Aluminum alloy</td>
<td>Structural steel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. Material properties of analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Structural steel</th>
<th>Aluminum alloy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Density</td>
<td>7850 kg/m³</td>
<td>2770 kg/m³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young’s modulus</td>
<td>2E+11 Pa</td>
<td>7.1E+10 Pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shear modulus</td>
<td>7.6923E+11 Pa</td>
<td>2.6692E+10 Pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulk modulus</td>
<td>1.6667E+11 Pa</td>
<td>6.9608E+10 Pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tensile strength</td>
<td>2.5E+8 Pa</td>
<td>2.8E+8 Pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compressive strength</td>
<td>2.5E+8 Pa</td>
<td>2.8E+8 Pa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In order to verify tool characteristics of the impregnated bit designed, drill bit and body contact conditions of 3 model bits were bonded to be identical and the moments were set at 118N·m to proceed with interpretation. Each of other contact conditions and physical values of materials were set as shown in Table 1 and Table 2 and Ansys workbench program was used to implement stress interpretation. Figure 5 shows stress interpretation of each model. The result shows the maximum stress of 2.05E+7Pa in (A), the largest among 3 models, and the minimum stress of 5.0E+5Pa in the side of bit part. In (B), the maximum stress was 1.93E+7Pa, smaller than in model (A), and the place where the minimum stress occurs was the ring-part, the stiffener material. In (C), the maximum stress was 1.92E+7Pa, the smallest among 3 models, and the place where minimum stress occurred was on the side of bit part and stiffener material. In (B) model, the maximum stress declined by 5.83% compared to model (A) and (C) model declined by 6.1%. In addition, in (C) model, the maximum stress declined by 0.3% compared to (B) model. Although the minimum stress value is not important, from the fact that minimum stress occurs in the side of bit and the upper part of stiffener material, it can be concluded that stress distribution was effectively established.
Fig. 5. Stress analysis of impregnated bit

4.2 Impregnated bit strain analysis

Table 3. Result of analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>a</th>
<th>b</th>
<th>c</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>stress</td>
<td>maximum</td>
<td>2.0453E+7</td>
<td>1.9261E+7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>minimum</td>
<td>4.9978E+5</td>
<td>1.461E+5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>strain</td>
<td>maximum</td>
<td>1.0227E-4</td>
<td>9.6305E-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>minimum</td>
<td>2.4989E-6</td>
<td>2.0577E-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One of the characteristics of bit is that shapes do not change a lot and this makes stable drilling operation possible. Accordingly, stress interpretation and elastic changes of impregnated bit were conducted. Interpretative condition was same as in stress interpretation condition as shown in Table 1 and Table 2. The result of interpretation was that: (A) had elastic change rate of 1.02E-4m/m and (B) showed 9.63E-5m/m. Also, (C) showed 9.60E-5m/m in change rate value. The result of interpreting change rate is shown in Figure 6. Also, the values for stress and change rates are shown in Table 3.
In this study, in order to proceed with the study on the shape optimization of the impregnated bit for ground excavation, the design was carried out in 3 types of the shape of an 8-segmented bit, which is a general model showed the following result.

1) In model (A), the design was done using 13mm as the height of bit as basic shape. In model (B), ring-type stiffener with \( \Phi 4 \) mm and Al materials were used to penetrate the side of bit at 2.75mm height from the bottom part of model (A). In model (C), steel material stiffener were grafted and inserted into the side of bit at 3.75mm height, the center circle of same distance from ring type stiffener.

2) Using the designed bit, the hardness was calculated and a value of about 279kg/mm\(^2\) was obtained, and a value of about 1248.27kg/mm\(^2\) was obtained through the deflective strength calculation.

3) The result shows that, in model (A), the maximum stress of 2.05E+7Pa occurred while the model (B) produced the stress of 1.93E+7Pa, 5.8% decline. In model (C), the stress value of 1.92E+7Pa occurred, which is 6.1% decline fro model (A) and 0.3% decline from model (B).

4) The interpretation of the change rate showed the value of 1.02E-4m/m in model (A) and the value of 9.63E-5m/m in model (B), with about 5.8% decline from model (A). Also, model (C) showed the value of 9.60E-5m/m, showing 6.1% and 0.3% decline compared to model (A) and model (B). The model (C) showed the value of 9.60E-5m/m, 6.1% and 0.3% decline from model (A) and model (B). Therefore, it was confirmed that inserting of stiffener showed decline in both stress and change rates.

We confirmed decline in stress and changes caused by shapes and materials of the inserted stiffener through interpretation program. The result of interpretation showed different stress values according to shapes and materials of stiffener. Among them, the model (C) showed the lowest stress value but model (B) where different materials were grafted showed the similar value. As a result, it is judged that it would be possible to lower the weight using the Al materials with different substances while maintaining mechanical characteristics. However, this research did not consider limitation caused by ground and drilling condition. Therefore, in order to apply to the actual excavation industry, an additional study of the bit considering the heat generation and wear characteristics according to the ground must be conducted.

**References**


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〈Research Interests〉
Automotive structure, Transmission Design, EV system