Development of Lateral Damper for Improvement of Running Safety of Railway Vehicles in Case of Occurrence of an Earthquake

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We developed a new lateral damper for the improvement of running safety of railway vehicles in case of occurrence an earthquake. The damper controls the shake of the vehicle, and prevents the derailment by generating a large damping force. Moreover, the damper does not require large modifications of a bogie, and maintains running performances of vehicles in normal state. We confirmed satisfactory performances of the damper using some experiments and numerical simulation. This paper describes performance of countermeasure for earthquake by the damper.