Fatigue Life Evaluation of PC Sleepers Based on Wheel Load Measurement Results

Keiichi GOTO Tsutomu WATANABE Shintaro MINOURA Manabu IKEDA

In this study, we evaluate the remaining life of PC sleepers from the viewpoint of the fatigue life of PC-steels of the PC sleepers. Specifically, we develop a method of acquiring the stress waveform of the PC-steels during train running. Furthermore, using this waveform, we calculate the fatigue strength of the PC-steels in consideration of the occurrence probability of wheel load in actual measurement, and quantitatively evaluate the fatigue life of the PC-steels. The result of this study shows that the PC-steels for post-tension type has a longer fatigue life than those for pre-tension type, and the PC-steels for both types have a fatigue life of over 300 years.