Establishment of an Analytical Model for Determining Leakage Surfaces in an External Tooth Spur Gear

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Abstract

In gear power transmission systems, the lubricant helps reduce friction, wear of parts in contact, cooling of surfaces, reduction of operating noise, protection of components against corrosion, etc. In spite of that, the lubricant entrapment in the gears inter-tooth space generates substantial energy losses at very high rotational speeds. The best optimization of these energy losses requires the preliminary knowledge of the behavior of leakage surfaces of trapped lubricant during the gears rotation. The aim of this work is to develop a purely analytical model enabling to calculate the exact values of the axial and radial leakage surfaces of the lubricant in the inter-tooth space of external spur gears as well as the volumes of the pockets. From the modeling of the tooth profile and the parametric equations relating to external spur gears, we have developed a purely analytical model of the lubricant leakage surfaces in the inter-tooth space as a function of the angle of rotation. Validation of the model was carried out via a comparative study between our results and those resulting from the work of Abdelilah LASRI and al and Diab Y. and al. Curves from our model and those of the reference articles merge after superposition and the relative differences are less than 10-2. This work is therefore the first step in the calculation of the power lost by the lubricant trapping in the gears inter-tooth. It will be of great importance in minimizing power losses.

Index terms—gear, power transmission, energy losses, trapping, leakage surfaces, pocket volumes, inter-tooth.

1 I. Introduction

Due to their compactness and their ability to transmit high loads at high speeds, gears are widely used in automotive and aerospace applications through speed reducers, power transmissions in wind turbines, etc. In gear drives energy efficiency improving may require reducing power losses. Power losses in gears (gearboxes, reducers, etc.) can be grouped into two categories: power losses depending on the transmitted load (friction at the contact areas between the teeth and friction in the bearings, etc.) and those independent of the transmitted load (losses due to the trapping of the lubricant, the ventilation of the mobiles, etc.). Several researchers have been interested in load-dependent losses and enough models exist. The oil trapping in the inter-tooth space and the ventilation of the spindles are the two main sources of power dissipation in the case of losses independent of the loads. Very few studies and models exist on the loss of power by lubricant trapping and by consequent on the modeling of lubricant leakage surfaces. The vast majority of studies concerning the modeling of lubricant trapping in the inter-tooth space are empirical, numerical, and semi-analytical and based on approximations and estimations. Using NASA research center test rig, Anderson and al. [2], Krantz [3], Rohn and Handschuh [4] have developed several empirical formulas. Empirical formulations for the particular case of trapping losses in gears are based on the gears geometric parameters and include those of Terekhov [5], Wolfan Mauz [6], Butsch M. [7] and Maurer
3 D) GEOMETRY OF A SPUR GEAR TOOTH

J. [8]. The empirical models developed provided global formulas for the estimation of pressuring torque or power loss. It is necessary to point out that these formulas are only valid for external gearing and remain linked to the sensitivity and precision of the equipment used for the tests. Generally they are of very low precision with quite important deviations. As an example we can quote the model of Mauz [6], which indicates an uncertainty between 5 and 15% if the resisting torque is higher than 5 Nm and an uncertainty up to 50% for lower torque values. It is therefore necessary to set up another quite precise model. Many researchers have developed numerical models to understand the behavior of inter-tooth spaces during movement in order to estimate the power lost by trapping. Peckersky and Wittbrodt [9] used an approximation of the tooth profile expression to calculate the leakage surfaces. Diab Y. and al [10][11] have numerically evaluated the radial leakage surfaces (considered here as minimum distances between the tip corner of the gear and the profile) and they obtained the axial leakage surfaces by The first experimental studies on this subject permitted to make a difference between load-depending and load-independent losses caused by planetary gear sets and conclude that for high speeds (≥ 6000 r pm) the losses independent of the load become the major contributor. These experimental works allowed to develop and validate empirical, numerical and semi-analytical models. numerical integration. Abdellah Lasri and al [12][13][14] used a numerical approximation to evaluate the radial leakage surfaces (considered here as the minimum distance between the tooth profiles) and they obtained the axial leakage surfaces by numerical integration. David C. Talbot [15] calculates the power lost by trapping in planetary gears by discretizing in time and space the Conservation of Mass, Momentum and Energy equations. The leakage surfaces are obtained by numerical approximation through the surfaces meshing. Seetharaman and Kahraman [16] were inspired by the work of Peckersky and Wittbrodt [9] to establish a semi-analytical formulation for calculating leakage surfaces. However, several approximations are made there, namely a Taylor approximation of order 1 of the involute profile equation, the cancellation of certain portions of the surface, the use of approximate values of certain distances, etc. From the vectors ray approach, Massimo Rundo [17] established an analytical formula for trapped volume in crescent pumps. It is necessary to note that in this approach the length variation of the vector ray for an infinitesimal rotation is neglected. In addition, this formula is limited only to the portion where teeth profiles are in contact. For an efficient contribution to the power losses by the lubricant trapping of as well as the wear of the elements with a view to improve the energy performances in gears transmissions, it is essential to completely lift the veil on the inter-tooth zone during meshing. From the work of Seetharaman and Kahraman [16], we will establish a purely analytical model of the evolution of the radial and axial leakage surfaces as a function of the angle of rotation in a spur gear. This work has as particularity the use of the exact expression of the tooth profile in the calculations and the authenticity of the analytical expressions of the developed surfaces.

This work is divided into three main parts. The first part is devoted to the modeling of the tooth profile and the associated parametric equations. The second part deals with the calculations of the leakage surfaces from the tooth profile equations, with the radial leakage surface being considered as the minimum distance between the tooth profiles. The last part focuses on the results interpretation and the model validation. The model validation consist of a superposition of our results with those of A. Lasri and al [13] and Diab and al [10].

2 II. Material a) Trapping Phenomenon

The lubricant used in gear transmissions to reduce corrosion, friction, cool the elements, etc., is trapped in the inter-tooth space during movement and becomes the seat of energy losses. Lubricant trapping is the jamming of the lubricant in the inter-tooth space during the meshing phase. The fraction of lubricant trapped in the inter-tooth space (in yellow in figure 1) is expelled under pressure radially toward the neighbouring pockets and or axially toward the outside of the gear during this phenomenon. The opposite phenomenon is reproduced during the unmeshing phase.

The geometry of the inter-tooth space relates to the type of tooth (straight, helical, hypoid, etc.) which constitutes the gear’s wheels. In the particular case of spur gears, the axial leakage area remains constant over the tooth width. However, in the case of helical gear, the axial leakage area is variable over the tooth width. The radial and axial leakage surfaces vary according to the angle of rotation. The further away from the initial position, the surfaces increase. Here, the initial position is the meeting point between the two pitch circles. The Figure 2 below illustrates the behavior of the leakage surfaces as a function of the angle of rotation from a) to h).

The pinion (driver) is associated to a fixed reference (?? 1 , ?? 1 , ?? 1 , ?? 1 ), which revolves around (?? 2 , ?? 2 , ?? 2 , ?? 2 ) by an angle ?? 1 . Similarly, the gear (driven) is associated to fixed reference (?? 2 , ?? 2 , ?? 2 , ?? 2 ) and mobile reference (?? 2 , ?? 2 , ?? 2 , ?? 2 ), which revolves around (?? 2 , ?? 2 , ?? 2 , ?? 2 ) by an angle ?? 2 . Such as In our calculations, the initial position is the position where the tooth profiles of the driving and driven gears meet at point 1 (the contact point between the pitch circles).?? 2 =?? 2 (?? 1 , ?? 2 ) ?? 1 =?? 2 (?? 1 , ?? 2 ) =?? 2 (?? 1 , ?? 2 ) =?? 1 .

3 d) Geometry of a Spur Gear Tooth

The tooth shapes of spur gears are relative to the number of teeth. Generally, for a tooth, there will be the involute zone and the circular zone. In a specific interval of the rotation angle, the profiles of the teeth meet,
and consequently the radial leakage surfaces remain zero. Figure 5 below is a particular case. On this figure, C1 and C2 are the two contact points of the tooth profiles. The simulation of the equations and the model obtained was carried out with the MATLAB R2016A application installed in an HP computer, AMD A6-3400 APU HD Graphics 1.40 GHz; 6 GB of RAM.

4 III. Method

4.1 Hypothesis

Our study was carried out under the following assumptions:

- The portion of tooth between the addendum circle and the base circle is in involute.
- The shape of the tooth portion after the base circle varies depending on the tooth number.
- Radial distances are minimum distances between adjacent profiles.
- The direction of rotation of positive angles is the trigonometric direction and, the direction of rotation of negative angles is the anti-trigonometric direction. In our calculations, the initial position (?? ?? =0) is the position where the two adjacent profiles meet at the common point of the pitch circles. However, for the presentation and the comparative study of the results, we bring the initial position back to the position where (O 1 O 2 ) passes simultaneously through the midpoints of the gear top land and the pinion root.

4.2 Calculation Algorithm

From the geometric parameters of a gear tooth, the parametric equations of the half tooth profile are established. The complete gear tooth is obtained by axial symmetry of this half tooth, followed by N-1 successive rotations of the primary tooth with respect to the axis of the gear and respective angles 2\*??*k/N, 1?k?N-1. Where N is the number of teeth.

From the initial position, the coordinates of the boundary points of the leakage surfaces are calculated as a function of the rotation angle. From the properties of the involute of a circle, we calculate the radial distances as a function of the rotation angle and by surface integration, we obtain the radial surfaces. The figure 7 below is the algorithm that succinctly presents our working methodology.

6 1) Tooth tip equation

The tooth tip is a fraction of the tip circle (see figure 4). By applying the parametric equation of a circle with radius ?? ?? (tip radius) centered in the point ?? 1 , the parametric equation of the half of the gear tooth tip is given in the coordinate system (o, x, y) by the relation (1) below:

\[ x = r_b \sin(\theta) \quad y = r_b \cos(\theta) \]

2) Equations of the involute portion (AB)

By applying the properties of the involute of the circle, the parametric equations of the portion (AB) in the fixed frame (O,x,y) are given by the relation (2) below:

\[ x_B = r_b \sin(\theta) \quad y_B = r_b \cos(\theta) \]
\[ x_D = r_p \sin(\theta + \alpha) \quad y_D = r_p \cos(\theta + \alpha) \]

In the case of gears with pressure angle ?? = 20°, when ?? ?????? ? arccos(2rb*rp/ (???? 2 + ???? 2 ) ) then we take ??=k*((??/N)-? ?? ); 0<k? 1.

In summary, in the portion between the base circle and the root circle 03 possible profiles shapes emerge depending on the number of teeth:

- If ?? ?? > ?? ?? : Two possibilities emerge. If arccos(2?? ?? *?? ?? /((?? ?? 2 + ?? ?? 2 ) ) then we take ??=k*((??/N)-? ?? ); 0<k? 1. The circular portion does not exist. Our tooth will consist only of the involute part and the tooth top.
- If ?? ?? > ?? ?? : In this case, this portion will consist of two (02) types of profiles, namely the arc of a circle BD followed by the root circle. If ?? ?????? <arccos(2?? ?? *?? ?? /((?? ?? 2 + ?? ?? 2 ) ) : Then the equation of the arc ????? ? in the reference (o, x, y) is given by the relation (10) below: where ??=arccos(2rb*rp/((???? 2 + ???? 2 ) )}

3) Equations of the portion between the base circle and the root circle

On the figure 6,0? ?? ?? ?? ?????? (3)

with ?? ?????? = ?? ?? - ?? ?? . By application of the geometric construction properties (see [20])

\[ ??=arccos(2rb*rp/(((?? 2 + ?? ?? 2 )) \]

In the case of gears with pressure angle ?? = 20°, when ?? ?????? ? arccos(2rb*rp/ (???? 2 + ???? 2 ) ) then we take ??=k*((??/N)-? ?? ); 0<k? 1.

In summary, in the portion between the base circle and the root circle 03 possible profiles shapes emerge depending on the number of teeth:

-If ?? ?? ? ?? ?? : The circular portion does not exist. Our tooth will consist only of the involute part and the tooth top.
- If ?? ?? > ?? ?? : Two possibilities emerge. If arccos(2?? ?? *?? ?? /((?? ?? 2 + ?? ?? 2 ) ) then we take ??=k*((??/N)-? ?? ); 0<k? 1. The circular portion does not exist. Our tooth will consist only of the involute part and the tooth top.
-If ?? ?? > ?? ?? : In this case, this portion will consist of two (02) types of profiles, namely the arc of a circle BD followed by the root circle. If ?? ?????? <arccos(2?? ?? *?? ?? /((?? ?? 2 + ?? ?? 2 ) ) : Then the equation of the arc ????? ? in the reference (o, x, y) is given by the relation (10) below:

\[ x_B = r_b \sin(\theta) \quad y_B = r_b \cos(\theta) \]
\[ x_D = r_p \sin(\theta + \alpha) \quad y_D = r_p \cos(\theta + \alpha) \]
\[ \alpha = \arcsin(\frac{r_b}{r_p}) \]

Let K be the contact point between the tangent to ??? ? in D and the tangent to the involute in B. Then the coordinates of K are given by relation (6) In this case, the center of curvature is given by the relation (12) below:

\[ K = \arccos(2rb*rp/((???? 2 + ???? 2 )) \]

The equation of the arc ????? ? in the reference (o, x, y) is given by the relation (10) below, with the curvature radius rc1 = ED=EB.
9 d) Gear Generating

For the generation of a complete gear wheel, the following methodology has been adopted:
- Codification on Matlab of the equations developed above (half of a tooth).
- Application of symmetry with respect to (O, ??) to get a whole tooth.
- Generating of N-1 others teeth by N-1 successive rotations of the initial tooth of respective angles (2*??/N)*i, with i? 1 ?N-1.

10 e) Calculation of Radial and Axial Leakage Surfaces

11 i. Calculation of the border points coordinates at a given position (see figures 5 and 6).

At a rotation angle ?? round ?? ?? with respect to the initial position, the coordinates of points A1, A1', E1, E1', B1, and B1' (see figures 5 and 6) in (?? ð??? , ?? ð??? , ?? ð??? ) are given by equations below:
- xE = rp * tan(? ?? )/(cos(? ?? + ?? )) + (sin(? ?? + ?? )) yE = xk/(tan(? ?? )) (6)
- xC = (d1 + d2) * sin(? ?? ) yC = (d1 + d2) * cos(? ?? ) (7)
- x = d y = a * d(8) xE = (rp + rc1) * sin(? ?? + ?? ) yE = yE + rc1 * cos(?q)(10)

12 ?
13 Calculation of Radial Leakage Surfaces

The radial leakage surfaces vary in function of the rotation angle of gear. For the calculation of radial leakage surfaces we will distinguish 5 possibilities:

- When ?? 1 and ?? 2 exist, i.e., when the profiles touch each simultaneously. In this case the surfaces S r1 and S r2 are simultaneously zero.
- When we are at the left of the initial position, and only ?? 2 exists (S r1 >0 and S r2 =0). -When we are at the right of the initial position with ?? 1 and ?? 2 does not exist (S r1 >0 and S r2 >0). -When we are at the right of the initial position with ?? 1 and ?? 2 does not exist (S r1 >0 and S r2 >0). The relations below give the expressions of the radial leakage surfaces in each of these cases cited above.

14 At the right of the initial position


According to the right of the initial position of figure 5, where b is the value of the tooth width.

V. MODEL VALIDATION

The validation of our model follows from a comparative study between the results of our model and the results of Abdeilah Lasri and al [13] and Diab Y. and al [10] for the same gear system. We have superimposed the curves of our model and those of the reference models. a) Superposition of the Radial Surfaces Curves of Our Model and those Resulting from the Model of Abdeilah Lasri and al [13]. Figure 13 below is the result of the superposition of the radial leakage surfaces (Sr1 and Sr2). In this figure, the leakage surfaces curves of our model are in blue colour and the curves of Abdelilah Lasri’s model [13] are in red.

Rotation angle of driver gear in degree pocketVolume in m

b) Results of Calculations of Radial and Axial Leakage Surfaces

To validate our model, we developed the equations and formulas developed above (equations (13) to (42)) on Matlab 16 was carried out with the particular case of a gear whose characteristics are grouped in table 2 below. The application of our model for calculating the radial leakage surfaces 1 and 2 relative to the gear of table 2 has generated the curves of figure 11.

E. Model Interpretation

The curves of Figure 11 justify the similarity of the radial and axial leakage surfaces on each side of the initial position (? = 0). This result agrees with the surfaces evolution of figure 2. We observe that on figures 2.a) and 2.b) the axial surface reaches its minimum at the initial position (? = 0). This observation agrees with the curve of figure 12.

More we move away from the initial position (? = 0), the pockets volumes increase. This result agrees with the observation of figures 2.a) to 2.h).

The curves in figure 11 show that at the left of the initial position, the radial leakage surface one is always greater than the radial leakage surface two and, at the right of the initial position, it is the opposite phenomenon. This result agrees with the observations of figure 12.

In figure 11, the two profiles bordering the radial surface 1 (?? ? 1) meet when ?? 1 belongs in the interval [-3.75°; 6.5°]. For the radial surface 2 (?? ? 1), this phenomenon occurs in the interval [-6.5°; 3.75°].
VI. Conclusion

A better optimization of the power losses by the lubricant trapping in the inter-tooth space requires a preliminary work of total lifting of the veil on the gear inter-tooth space during the movement. In this perspective, we have established a purely analytical model allowing to accurately evaluating the radial and axial leakage surfaces of the lubricant in the inter-tooth space of external spur gears.

This model was developed based on the parametric equations of a tooth profile and the exploitation of the involute properties, followed by the surface integrations delimited by the contour representing their exact boundary. The results are presented as curves of the evolution of the leakage surfaces (radial and axial) as a function of the driving gear’s rotation angle. The curve of the evolution of the axial leakage surfaces as a function of the rotation angle is a symmetrical parabola, and the two curves of the evolution of the radial leakage surfaces are symmetrical (relative to each other). These results agree with the observation of the lubricant behavior in the inter-tooth space during gear movement. Far from numerical approximations, this model is an analytical formula allowing us to evaluate the exact leakage surfaces directly, according to the geometrical parameters of the gears.

Figure 1: Figure 1:

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20 VI. CONCLUSION

Figure 2: pinion

Figure 3: Figure 2:

Figure 4:
Figure 10: Figure 6:
Figure 11: Figure 7:
Figure 12:
Figure 13:
Figure 14: Figure 8: 

Main geometric parameters of a gear: Number of teeth, module, pressure angle, tooth width, correction coefficient

Calculation of secondary geometric parameters: pitch radius, base radius, tip radius, root radius

Parametric or polar equation of the half gear profile

Parametric equation of tooth tip

Parametric equation of the involute portion

Parametric equation of the portion between the base circle and the root circle.

Parametric equation of tooth root

Generation of one tooth and gear

Generation of two gears (pignon + gear) with center distance E

Calculation of the coordinates of the leakage surfaces borders with respect to a fixed reference.

Calculation of contact point coordinates (when they exist) between adjacent profiles.

Calculation of radial leakage surfaces

Calculation of axial leakage surfaces

Calculation of Pocket volumes
Figure 15: Figure 9 :Figure 10 :

Figure 16: Figure 11 :
Figure 17:

- Pitch circle
- Root circle

Figure 18:

- Leakage surfaces $S_1$ and $S_2$ in m$^2$
- Angle de rotation du pignon in degree
Figure 19: Figure 12:
Figure 20: 3

Rotation angle of pinion in degree
Figure 21: Figure 13:

IV. Results

By applying the equations (1) to (13), we obtain 03 types tooth profile:

a) Simulation Results for the Modeling of a Gear

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Teeth</th>
<th>Module (m)</th>
<th>Pressure Angle (°)</th>
<th>Shift coefficient</th>
<th>Pitch (b) (mm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gear 2</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20°</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gear 3</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>20°0</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 22: Table 1:

Figure 23: Table 2:
A Mathematical Model for Parametric Tooth Profile of Spur Gears, Guodong Zhai , Zhihao Liang , Zhaihao Fu .


Spitas and Spitas Generating Interchangeable 20° Spur Gear Sets with Circular Fillets to Increase Load Carrying Capacity, Christos A Spitas , Vasils A Spitas .


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