



DYNAMIC SIMULATION OF SPIRAL BEVEL GEAR BASED ON SOLIDWORKS AND ADAMS

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ABSTRACT

Spiral bevel gears are one of basic mechanical units to transmit motion between concurrent axes. The transmission has quite a few merits, such as the big overlap ratio, the high loading capacity, the high transmitting efficiency, the stability and the small noises, and they are widely used in automotive vehicle, planes, machine tools and all kinds of machines. Mechanical properties of spiral bevel gear have significant influence on the whole mechanical structure and play an important role in the system optimization, strength check, fault diagnosis and fault prediction, and gear tooth meshing-dynamic load is an important issue in the gear research field. Three-dimensional models of spiral bevel gears are created by SOLIDWORKS and then converted to ADAMS by means of data exchange interface between SOLIDWORKS and ADAMS. By the contact algorithm theory of multi-body dynamics and ADAMS, the dynamic simulation of the spiral bevel gears mesh is specified. The curves of angular speed, torque and meshing force on the spiral bevel gears are obtained by simulation calculation, which provide references to research on dynamic characteristics of gear driving device.

Keywords: *Spiral Bevel Gear, ADAMS, Gear Meshing, Dynamics Simulation*

1. INTRODUCTION

Spiral bevel gear is the most important industrial mechanical part. Its main feature is that the axis of drive gear and that of driven gear would intersect vertically here. Due to the influence of overlapping of gear end-face, more than two pairs of gears mesh at the same time. Thus it could bear much loading. Moreover, its teeth do not mesh on the full length. Instead of that, one end of the teeth would steer towards the other end steadily, so the gear boasts the advantages of smooth works, little noise and vibration facilitating the fact that the gear could be used in cars, tractors, machine tools and other dynamic and motion-transmission devices. Its mechanical behavior and working performance play an important role in the whole machine.

It is essential for reliability design, checking calculation and fault diagnosis of gear system to know how to have a good grasp of mechanical properties and movement characteristics of gear transmission, [1, 2, 3] introduce the detection of meshing force in gear meshing process. It is very difficult to detect the interference condition of gear profile, the force of gear surface and gear impact force. [4, 5, 6] discuss the influence of vibration, noise, dynamical load, big stress and distortion caused by high-speed and heavy-duty on the safety and stability of the machine. It is instant to carry on

the study on the gear transmission system with high property.

ADAMS developed by American Mechanical Dynamics Inc Company is one of famous virtual prototype analytic software with powerful dynamic simulation ability and post-processing function, and analysis in statics, kinematics, and dynamics can be applied easily. For shortcoming of geometric modeling of ADAMS, SOLIDWORKS operation platform is used to build 3D solid model of spiral bevel gear and realize virtual assembling of gear. With the help of ADAMS data exchange interface, geometric data generated in SOLIDWORKS system is introduced into ADAMS/View2010 module and then dynamic simulation of gear transmission is built. Through simulation, the study on speed and changes of meshing force in dynamic meshing process of spiral bevel gear could be used as reference for improvement and optimization of the parameter design of bevel gear [7, 8]. At the same time it would serve as reliable basis for further strength check and fatigue analysis of transmission system. Section 2 mainly introduces the building of spiral bevel gear model. Building dynamic module is analyzed in section 3 which mainly includes the choices of contacting forces, tooth contacting theory and contacting parameters. Section 4 discusses the result and analysis of simulation, and section 5 summarizes and concludes the paper.

2. MODELING OF SPIRAL BEVEL GEAR

Plug-in GearTrax of SOLIDWORKS software could help to finish precise modeling of spiral bevel gear [9, 10]. After-assembling gear is just as that in Figure1. The pair of bevel gear belongs to drive axle and the small bevel gear is drive gear with two-way operation and loading in smooth. The maximum power of transmission of the gear system is 140KW. The transmission ratio is 6.143. The life expectancy is 10 years. Pinion is made of 20CrMnTi with carburization and quenching treatment. Its surface hardness is 54~62 HRC. Large gear is made of 20CrMnTi with carburization and quenching treatment. Its tooth face hardness is 52~58 HRC . Parameters of spiral bevel gear are in Table 1.

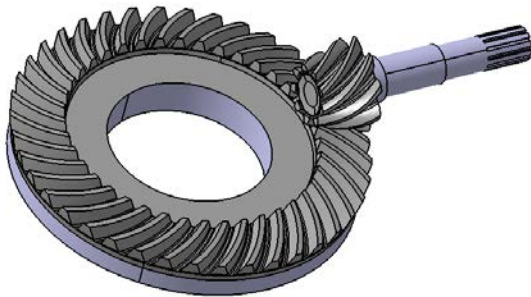


Figure 1: Three-Dimensional Models Of Spiral Bevel Gears

Table 1: The Proper Geometric Parameters Of Spiral Bevel Gears

Parameters	Driving gear	Driven gear
Tooth number	9	40
End module /mm	9	9
Pressure angle /(°)	20	20
Face angle /(°)	15.97	79.97
Root angle /(°)	10.03	74.03
Breadth of tooth /mm	60	54
Tooth addendum /mm	7.65	7.65
Tooth dedendum /mm	9.342	9.342
Nodal bevel angle /(°)	13	77
Nodal bevel distance /mm	180	180
Helix angle /(°)	35	35
Shaft angle /(°)	90	90

Change the after-assembling bevel gear module into file format parasolid in SOLIDWORKS and introduce CAD geometric module by exchange module in ADAMS.

3. BUILDING DYNAMIC MODULE

3.1 The Choices of Contacting Forces

In ADAMS, there are two types of contacting forces. One is contacting force based on Impact function and the other is based on Restitution function. Impact uses stiffness coefficient and damping coefficient to calculate contacting force but Restitution uses coefficient of restitution. In the article, Impact function is employed. And the basic form is $Impact(s, n, s_0, K_0, j, C_0, d)$: s is actual distance between objectives in the contacting process; n is the relative rotation speed of objectives when the two contact; s_0 is initial displacement value of contacting force excitation; K_0 is stiffness coefficient; j is contacting force index; C_0 is damping coefficient; d is inertia center distance of two contacting objectives. The function takes comprehensive consideration of many factors in gear incentive, so it is a pretty precise method of stimulation. Mathematical calculation method of impact function is:

$$max(0, K_0 \cdot (s_0 - s)^j - C_0 \cdot n \cdot STEP(s, s_0 - d, 1, s_0, 0)) \tag{1}$$

STEP is a haversine step function.

When $s_0 - s \leq 0$, impact function value is zero and two gears do not contact.

When $s_0 - s > 0$, two gears contact.

The value of contacting force is relevant to stiffness coefficient K_0 , deformation $s_0 - s$, contacting force index j and damping coefficient C_0 . Figure 2 is impact force model of ADAMS, when the distance between I and J decreases to initial displacement value (s_0), body I and J begin to collide. Collision force is made of elastic force (rigid force) and damping force (viscous force), and rigid force is proportional to K_0 and inversely proportional to penetration, which is the penetration function about free length range of I and J . Damping force is the function of penetration velocity, and its direction is to the opposite movement direction. Impact force is related to stiffness coefficient (K_0), contacting force index (j), damping coefficient (C_0) and inertia center distance of two contacting objectives (d). K_0 depends on material and structure shape of the impact bodies.

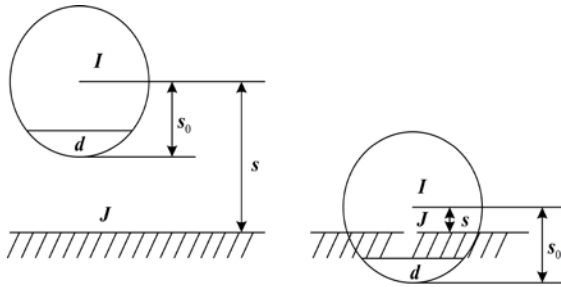


Figure 2: Impact Force Model Of ADAMS

3.2 The Choices of Tooth Contacting Theory and Contacting Parameters

Impact force of teeth contact can be the same to collision of two variable camber radius cylinders. The problem can be solved in Hertz static elastic contacting theory [11].

According to Hertz contacting theory in which contacting area is round:

$$\delta = \frac{a^2}{R} = \left(\frac{9P^2}{16RE^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \quad (2)$$

So the relation between contacting normal force P and deformation δ is $P = K_0 \delta^{\frac{3}{2}}$. Stiffness coefficient K_0 depends on the materials and structural shapes of contacting objectives.

$$K_0 = \frac{4}{3} R^{\frac{1}{2}} E \quad (3)$$

Among which:

$$\frac{1}{R} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \quad (4)$$

R_1 and R_2 are contacting radius of contacting objects in the contacting point.

$$\frac{1}{E} = \frac{(1-\mu_1^2)}{E_1} + \frac{(1-\mu_2^2)}{E_2} \quad (5)$$

μ_1 and μ_2 are Poisson ratios of contacting objectives. E_1 and E_2 are elastic modulus.

Since materials are both 20CrMnTi, its Poisson ratio $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = 0.25$, $E_1 = E_2 = 2.07 \times 10^5$ N/mm². Insert the figures into formula 5 and $E = 1.1 \times 10^5$ N/mm². As to formula 4, $R = 33.061$ N/mm². Insert E and R into formula 3, stiffness coefficient $K_0 = 8.433 \times 10^5$ N/mm².

Referring to empirical value, contacting index j is 2.2; damping coefficient c is $100 \text{N} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$; deep friction and lubrication d is 0.1 mm. To get a real situation of bevel gear meshing, gear adopts friction and lubrication, while static friction coefficient is 0.5 and dynamic friction coefficient is 0.3.

3.3 Restriction Imposition of Virtual Prototype Module

Based on virtual prototype module in the article, add two rotating pairs and a contacting pair to bevel gear. Pinion is set to be driven gear as in Figure 3. Constant speed drive of driving wheel is $900^\circ/\text{s}$ (150r/min). Constant loading torque of motor wheel is $15713000 \text{N} \cdot \text{mm}$. To prevent loading from drastic changes, use STEP function to enable the gentle loading imposition in 0.1 second; That is $STEP(\text{time}, 0, 0, 0.1, 15713000)$ (time is independent variable). Loading torque imposed by STEP function is in Figure 4. Dynamic simulation is with simulation time of 0.4 second and step size of 100[12].

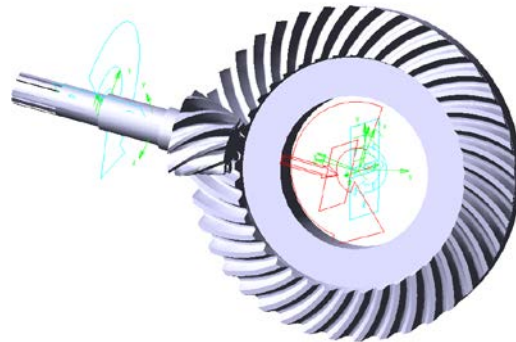


Figure 3: Model Of Spiral Bevel Gears In ADAMS

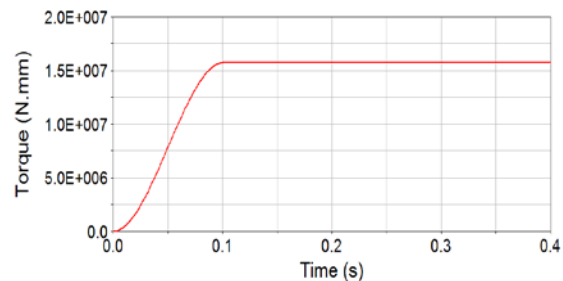


Figure 4: Loading Torque On Driving Gear

4. RESULT AND ANALYSIS OF SIMULATION

Figure 5 is rotation speed curve of drive bevel gear, which shows rotation speed of input shaft is about $900^\circ/\text{s}$ (150r/min) and stays stable in accordance with the inputted rotation speed of drive gear.

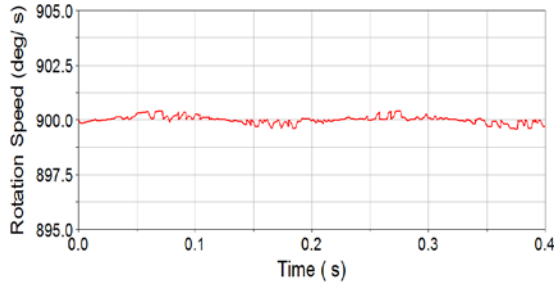


Figure 5: Angular Speed Of Driving Gear

Figure 6 is rotation speed of driven bevel gear. The curve changes as time (t) changes. It shows that from the initial stage of movement of driven bevel gear, under the co-influence of collision between gears and gradually increasing torque on driven bevel gear, rotation speed vary a lot. 0.05 seconds later, the gear movement goes smoothly when rotation speed is about 200 °/s in accordance with theoretical rotation speed.

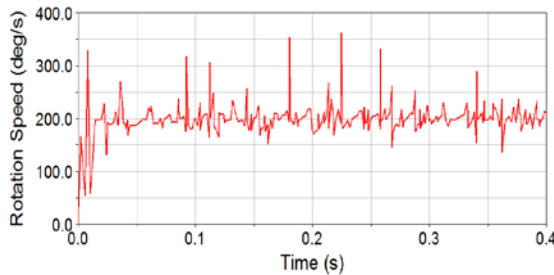


Figure 6: Angular Speed Of Driven Gear

Torque curve of driven gear and teeth meshing force curve are seen in Figure 7 and Figure 8. Referring to analysis of simulation, in 0~0.1 second, since driven gear loading torque increases, the fluctuation range of driven gear torque is greater and so does the range of meshing force. After 0.1 second, the loading torque stays table and so does torque which is about the same as loading torque (15713000N·mm). All meshing forces go up and down around a mean value (transmission load) in certain amplitude and their cycles and amplitudes are stable. That is periodic tooth mesh in and out. After 0.1 second, compare mean value of meshing force with the theoretical calculation value and they are almost the same which verifies the correctness of simulation.

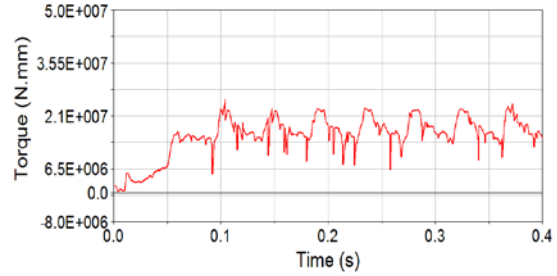


Figure 7: Torque Of Driven Gear

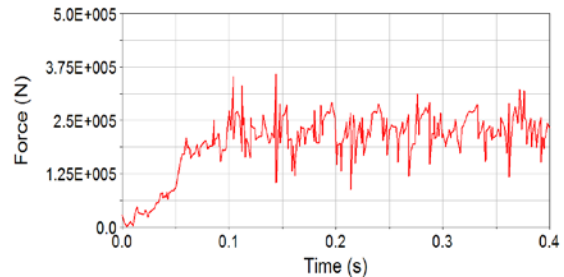


Figure 8: The Curve Of Meshing Force

5. CONCLUSIONS

The precise modeling of spiral bevel gear is based on SOLIDWORKS software. Through seamless interface program of SOLIDWORKS and ADAMS, virtual prototype of gear meshing parameterization under ADAMS is realized; introduce Hertz contacting theory into simulation module and impose contacting force actively between main reducer and driven gear. The result is in accordance with theoretical calculating results, which verifies the feasibility of modeling design of combination of SOLIDWORKS and ADAMS software and dynamics simulation. The result of simulation further verifies that stiffness excitation and meshing impulse excitation could produce cyclical fluctuation. The method makes up for the deficiency of modeling of mechanical parts with complicated and accurate positioning; at the same time, it could serve as reliable basis for strength check, optimization, vibration and noise analysis of spiral bevel gear transmission system and other gear transmission system, of important engineering application value.

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