

## Method of Loading Capacity Calculation of Bevel Precessional Gear for Pipeline Valve Drives

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**Abstract:** The study considers the problem of loading capacity calculation of bevel precessional gear for pipeline valve drives. By nowadays spiroid gear and worm gear are the basis for industrial engineering of gearboxes. These gearboxes have a lot of disadvantages such as a low efficiency, significant starting torque and low reliability in cold temperature operating conditions. Researchers propose to use gearboxes based on bevel precessional gear. Bevel precessional gear is one of the progressive types of gears with a small shaft angle. Bevel precessional gears allow to increase the loading capacity, reliability and durability of gearboxes to reduce their cost and mass and dimension characteristics and to improve their efficiency and performance criteria. The study consider the problem of determination the loading capacity by the transmitted torque considering multiple contact of teeth and fixed value of the maximum contact stress allowed by the pinion and gear materials. Researchers solve the inverse problem of loading capacity-transmitted torque is calculated at a fixed number of tooth pairs in contact. The results of studying the bevel precessional gear enable to implement original methods of evaluation its loading capacity based on contact stress.

**Key words:** Gearbox, bevel precessional gear, valve, pipeline, ball valve, transmitted torque, contact stress, loading capacity

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### INTRODUCTION

Currently, most gearboxes for pipeline valve drives are based on worm (Nabiev, 2010) or spiroid (Goldfarb *et al.*, 2007; Goldfarb, 2010, 2011) gears. Despite their low efficiency (typically, around 0.3) such gears allow implementing an efficient samples of gearboxes. A significant starting torque has a particularly negative impact on reliability of gearboxes in low operating temperatures. An alternative to both Russian and international gearboxes are those based on bevel precessional gear with a small shaft angle (Syzrantsev and

Golofast, 2014a, b). Having a high efficiency and a small difference in the number of pinion and gear teeth such gears can be manufactured with a gear ratio 10-65 (Syzrantsev and Golofast, 2014a, b). Figure 1 shows gearbox with bevel precessional gear. Due to multiple contact of teeth, their load capacity significantly exceeds that of other gear types.

### DESCRIPTION OF BEVEL PRECESSIONAL GEAR CONSTRUCTION

Figure 2 shows the design scheme of the proposed coaxial gearbox with bevel precessional gear: pinion 1 with an initial conical surface; gear 2 with ring gears 2 and 3 spaced apart by a value  $B$ , initial surfaces of which is a plane; moving pinion 4 with an initial conical surface; carrier 5 with an eccentric shaft sector, located at an angle  $\Sigma$  to the common axis  $O-O$  of the coaxial gearbox.

During operation of the coaxial gearbox, pinion 1 is fixed; gear 2 performs a compound motion-rotation about its axis and together with the carrier 5 about the axis  $O-O$ . Vertices of the pitch cones of the pinion 1 and ring gear 2 (pitch angle  $90^\circ$ ) do not coincide. To exclude planetary motion of the gears in the most loaded (slow-speed) bevel precessional gear (gear coupling), composed of gears with ring gears 3 and 4, it is necessary that the vertex of the pitch cone of ring gear 4 and the vertex of ring gear 3 (pitch angle  $90^\circ$ ) not only coincide but are at the crossing

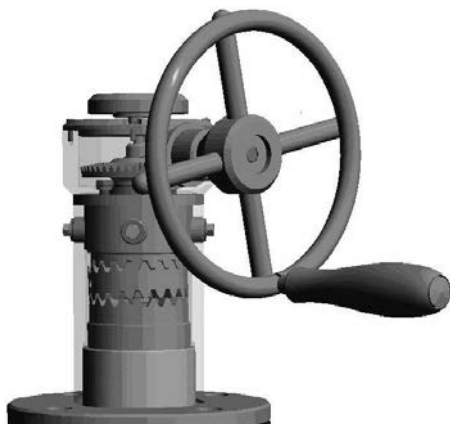


Fig. 1: Gearbox with bevel precessional gear

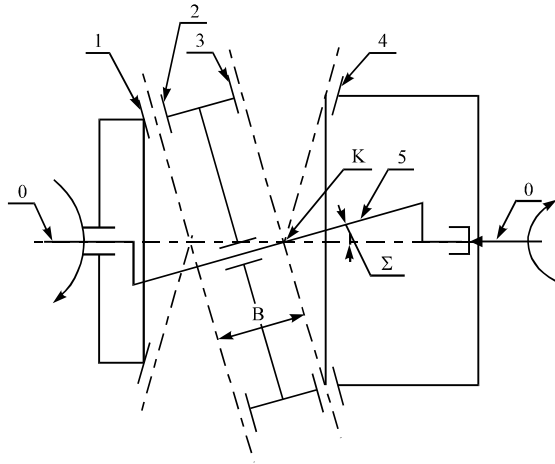


Fig. 2: Scheme of coaxial gearbox based on bevel precessional gear

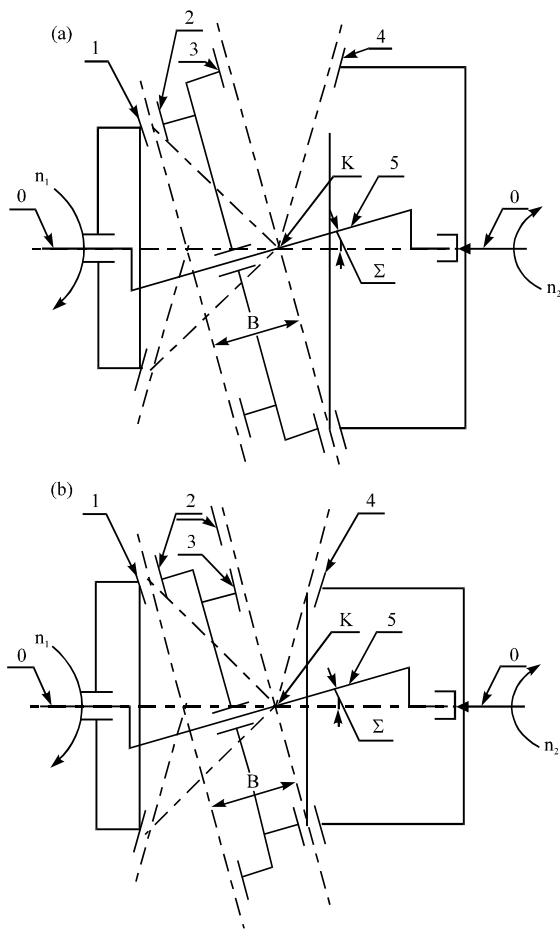


Fig. 3: Coaxial gearbox scheme, gear coupling module is: a) larger or b) smaller than bevel precessional gear

point of the axis of eccentric shaft sector and the axis of the coaxial gearbox O-O. This condition is met by only one value of B calculated by equation:

$$B = \frac{m_n}{2 \cdot \cos \beta} \left( \frac{z_2}{\operatorname{tg} \varepsilon} - \frac{z_1}{\sin \varepsilon} \right) \quad (1)$$

Where:

$m_n$  = Normal module (mm)

$\beta$  = Helix angle ( $^\circ$ )

$z_1$  = Number of pinion teeth

$z_2$  = Number of gear teeth

$\Sigma$  = Shaft angle ( $^\circ$ )

Gear coupling, a bevel precessional gear of coaxial gearbox which is composed of gears with ring gears 3 and 4 in accordance with work (Denisov *et al.*, 2014) is designed with number of teeth  $z_3 = z_4$ . The gear ratio is equal to one. In the gearbox, this gear is a slow-speed and therefore is the most loaded. To increase its load capacity and service life the normal module of this gear is taken as equal, larger or smaller than module  $m_n$  for a bevel precessional gear with gear rings 1 and 2 and  $z_3 = z_4$  is taken as equal, larger or smaller than  $z_2$  (Fig. 3). Equality of modules and that  $z_3 = z_4 = z_2$  provides minimal radial dimensions of coaxial gearbox.

## METHOD OF THE LOADING CAPACITY CALCULATION OF BEVEL PRECESSIONAL GEAR

Geometry and kinematics of gears mesh, the process of toothings and optimum parameters of gear-cutting tools and gear-cutting machine are discussed in work by Syzrantsev.

The objective of this work is to determine the loading capacity by the transmitted torque considering multiple contact of teeth and fixed value of the maximum contact stress ( $\sigma_{HP}$ ) allowed by the pinion and gear materials. Bevel precessional gear geometry and geometrical parameters of gears mesh are known.

In order to determine the load distribution on each of the tooth pair in contact let us use the approach suggested in work by Ayrapetov. Instead of solving the direct problem of determining the number of tooth pairs  $n$  transmitted torque  $T_1$  which is in fact the problem of static indeterminacy of the system with unilateral constraints, the number of which is unknown in advance, we solve the inverse problem of loading capacity-transmitted torque  $T_1$  is calculated at a fixed number of tooth pairs in contact by Eq. 2:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n P_i \cdot R_i \cdot \cos \alpha = T_1 \quad (2)$$

Where:

$P_i$  = Concentrated load (N)

$R_i$  = Radius of load action on the tooth pair  $i$ th

$\alpha$  = Pressure angle ( $^\circ$ )

$T_1$  = Transmitted torque (Nm)

To determine  $P_i$  we use the equation of strain and transition compatibility of teeth in the gearing:

$$W_i = \Delta - S_i; i = \overline{1, n} \quad (3)$$

Where:

$S_i$  = Geometrical separation of tooth-surfaces, mm, calculated by the formula  $S_i = \delta S_i - \delta S_1$  (tooth-surface separation on the first pair  $\delta S_1$  is «selected» without any tooth deformation by means of rotation the pinion around its axis of rotation)

$\Delta$  = The gears approach, a measure of elastic deformation of the gearing

$W_i$  = The deformation of the tooth pair  $i$ th

Equation 3 is represented as:

$$P_i = \left( \frac{S_0}{b_i} \right)^{3/2} \left[ (F_n - F_i) - \frac{a_i}{S_0} P_i \right]^{3/2}, i = \overline{1, n} \quad (4)$$

Where:

$S_0$  and  $F_i$  = Correspondingly, the amplitude and function of clearances between the teeth, depending on the geometrical characteristics of the gearing

$a_i$  = The compliance of the tooth pair  $i$ th caused by their bending deflection

$b_i$  = The coefficient described the contact compliance of the tooth pair  $i$ -th

Equation 4 is transcendent, solved numerically on  $P_i$  at a fixed  $n$ . Having determined  $P_i$ , the contact stresses ( $\sigma_{Hi}$ ) that appear in each tooth pair contact  $i$ -th can be expressed as:

$$n_\sigma = 0.417 (r_1/r_2)^{0.25}; \sigma_{Hi} = n_\sigma \left[ (E/r_1)^2 \cdot P_i \right]^{1/3} \quad (5)$$

Where:

$E$  = Elastic modulus of pinion and gear materials

$r_1$  and  $r_2$  = The main given radii of curvature in profile and longitudinal direction of the tooth line and in the surface contact point of the pinion and gear teeth, respectively

## RESULTS

As an example of applying Eq. 2-5, let us consider the load capacity of the bevel precessional gear of a DU-300 ball valve with the following parameters: the number of pinion teeth  $z_1 = 64$ , the number of gear teeth  $z_2 = 65$ , the

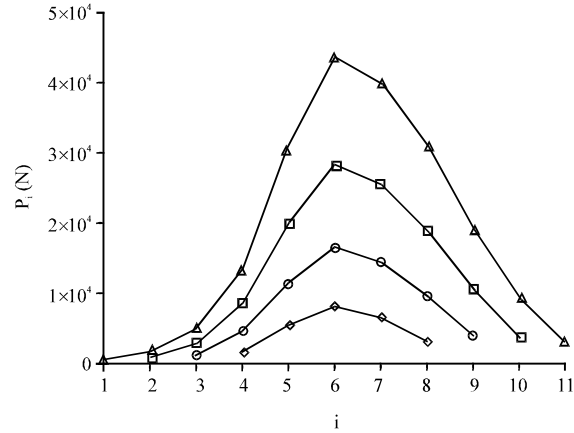


Fig. 4: Load distribution between contact pairs of bevel precessional gear

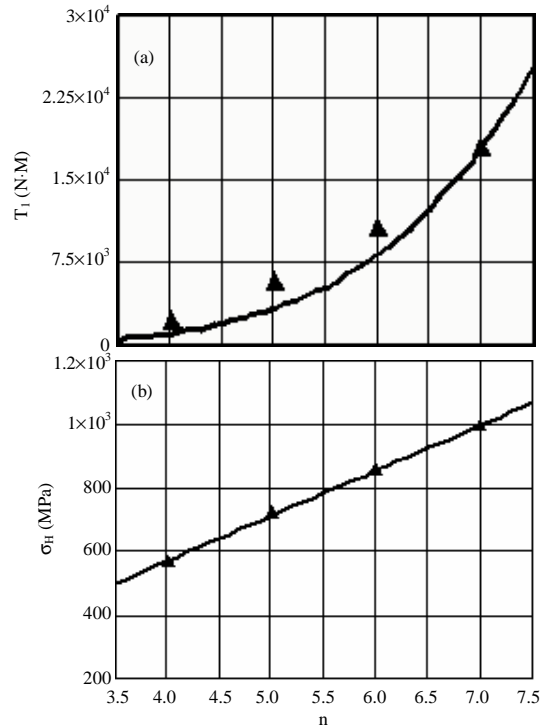


Fig. 5: a) Change of torque  $T_1$  and b) maximum contact stresses depending on the number of contact teeth pairs

normal module  $m_n = 3$  mm, the face width  $b_w = 25$  mm. Using the software suit (Kotlikova and Syzrantsev, 2000) to solve Eq. 4 we determined the parameters  $S_0$ ,  $F_i$  and to solve Eq. 5 we determined the main given radii of curvature:  $r_1 = 204,082$  mm and  $r_2 = 3333.0$  mm. After solving Eq. 4 with the number of pairs in contact  $n = 5, 7, 9$  and  $11$ , we determined the values of concentrated load  $P_i$  for each tooth pair  $i$ th in gear mesh (Fig. 4).

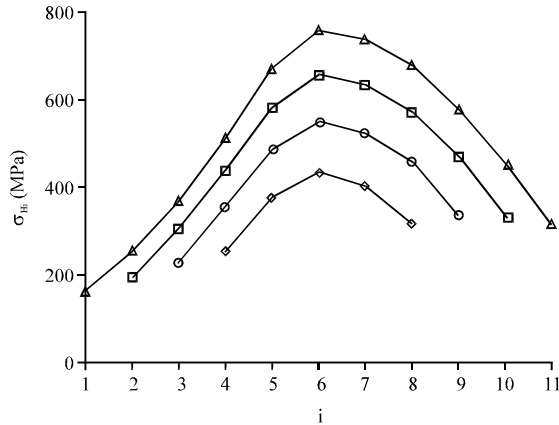


Fig. 6: Contact stresses change in the multiple contact of bevel precessional gear

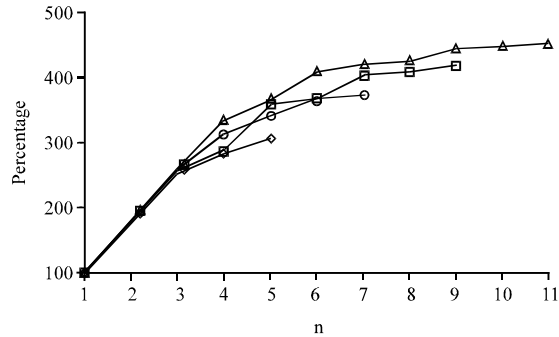


Fig. 7: Load capacity change in gearing depending on «n»

Using Eq. 2 for values  $n = 5, 7, 9$  and  $11$ , the calculated  $P_i$   $i = \overline{1, n}$  allow determining the transmitted torque  $T_i$  and dependence points  $T_i(n)$ . The experimental results are shown in Fig. 5a. In result of its approximation we have received the equation:

$$T_i = n^{5,036} \quad (6)$$

Having calculated Eq. 5 at the known  $P_i$   $i = \overline{1, n}$  for  $5, 7, 9$  and  $11$ , let us determine the contact stresses  $\sigma_{Hi}$  in contact pairs. Their maximum value at  $n = \text{const}$  depending on  $n$  is illustrated in Fig. 5b and the load distribution of  $\sigma_{Hi}$  between pairs in contact at  $n = 5, 7, 9$  and  $11$  is shown in Fig. 6 and 7.

## CONCLUSION

The results of studying the bevel precessional gear enable us to implement methods of evaluation its loading capacity based on contact stress. Suppose that for the selected pinion and gear materials the maximum allowable contact stress  $\sigma_{HP} = 1000$  MPa. By the graph given in Figure 5b let us determine the number of contacting pairs  $n = 7$ . After that for  $n = 7$  by Eq. 6 or by the graph given in Fig. 5a let us determine the transmitted torque  $T_i = 18026$  Nm.

In order to prove the high load capacity of the bevel precessional gear (Fig. 7) demonstrates change of the torque at one-pair contact (100%) and multiple contact gear mesh when  $n = 5, 7, 9$  and  $11$ . It can be seen when  $n = 11$  because loading capacity increases by a factor of 4.5.

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