



DESIGN OPTIMIZATION OF WEIGHT OF SPEED REDUCER PROBLEM THROUGH MATLAB AND SIMULATION USING ANSYS

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ABSTRACT

The objective functions used in Engineering Optimization are complex in nature with many variables and constraints. Conventional optimization tools sometimes fail to give global optima point. Very popular methods like Genetic Algorithm, Pattern Search, Simulated Annealing, and Gradient Search are useful methods to find global optima related to engineering problems. This paper attempts to use new non-traditional optimization algorithms which are used to find the minimum weight of designing a speed reducer to obtain global optimum solutions. The weight, number of iterations and the total elapsed time to complete the problems are all compared using these ten non-traditional optimization methods.

Keywords: Pattern search , Simulate annealing, Pattern search, GODLIKE, Cuckoo search, Firefly algorithm, Flower pollination, Ant lion optimizer, Gravitational search algorithm, Multi-verse optimizer

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1. INTRODUCTION

The toothed are used as independent units to reduce or increase the speed and they are enclosed in rigid closed housings. The housings provide support for the shafts, hold lubricants inside, protect the gears from dust and moisture and give necessary cooling surface to dissipate the heat generated. When the unit is used as a speed reducing device, it is called

speed reducer. Speed reducers are widely used for reduction of speed in turbine generator set, from motor to machine tools, in rolling mills from engine to road wheels in automobiles etc.

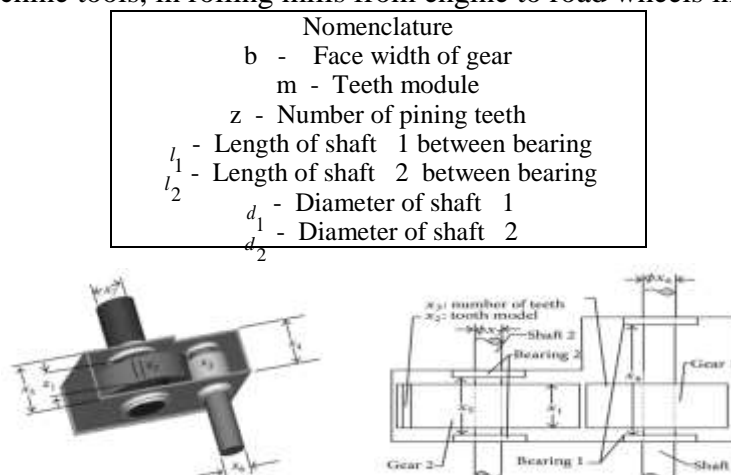


Figure 1 Schematic of the speed reducer to be designed **Figure 2** Speed reducer

2.1. FORMULATION OF PROBLEM

The design of the speed reducer is considered with the face width (b), module of teeth (m), number of teeth on pinning (z), length of shaft 1 between bearings (l_1), length of the shaft 2 between bearings (l_2), diameter of the shaft 1 (d_1), diameter of shaft 2 (d_2) respectively. The constraints include limitations on the bending stress of gear teeth, surface stress, transverse deflections of shaft 1 and 2 due to transmitted force, and stresses in shafts 1 and 2. The objective is to minimize the total weight of the speed reducer. The weight of the speed reducer includes both the weight of the gears as well as the weight of the shafts.

2.2. CONSTANTS: (Golinski's Speed Reducer)

| | | | |
|--|--|----------|-------------------|
| | | C_1 | 0.7854 |
| | | C_2 | 3.3333 |
| | | C_3 | 14.9334 |
| | | C_4 | 43.0934 |
| | | C_5 | 1.508 |
| | | C_6 | 7.4777 |
| | | C_7 | 27 |
| | | C_8 | 397.5 |
| | | C_9 | 1.93 |
| | | C_{10} | 745 |
| | | C_{11} | $16.9 \cdot 10^6$ |
| | | C_{12} | 0.1 |

| | | | |
|--|--|----------|--------------------|
| | | C_{13} | 1100 |
| | | C_{14} | $157.5 \cdot 10^6$ |
| | | C_{15} | 850 |
| | | C_{16} | 40 |
| | | C_{17} | 5 |
| | | C_{18} | 12 |
| | | C_{19} | 1.5 |
| | | C_{20} | 1.9 |
| | | C_{21} | 1.1 |

2.3. DESIGN VARIABLES (Leticia C.Cagnina and Susana C. Esquivel, 2008)

The seven design variables of the problem are as follows

b - Face width of gear (x_1)

m - Teeth module (x_2)

z - Number of pinning teeth (x_3)

l_1 - Length of shaft 1 between bearing (x_4)

l_2 - Length of shaft 2 between bearing (x_5)

d_1 - Diameter of shaft 1 (x_6)

d_2 - Diameter of shaft 2 (x_7)

Optimization problem is defined as (Parashar.S., 2004) (AL-Oraby et.al.H., 2014)

Minimise $F(\text{Gear box weight})$ Subject to

$$g_1 \text{ (bending stressof gear tooth)} \leq 0.0$$

$$g_2 \text{ (contact stressof gear tooth)} \leq 0.0$$

$$g_3, g_4 \text{ (transversedeflectionof shafts 1,2)} \leq 0.0 \quad g_5, g_6 \text{ (stresses in shafts 1,2)} \leq 0.0$$

$$g_7 - g_9 \text{ (dimensional restrictions)}$$

$$g_{10}, g_{11} \text{ (dimensionrequirements on the shafts)}$$

2.4. CONSTRAINTS

Upper bound on the bending stress of the gear tooth (Constraint 1)

$$\frac{C_7}{bm^2 z} \leq 1 \quad \frac{27}{bm^2 z} \leq 1$$

Upper bound on the contact stress of the gear tooth (Constraint 2)

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$$\frac{C_8}{b m^2 z^2} \leq 1 \quad \frac{397.5}{b m^2 z^2} \leq 1 \quad 2$$

Upper bounds on the transverse deflection of shaft 1 (Constraint 3)

$$\frac{C_9 l_1^3}{m z d_1^4} \leq 1 \quad \frac{1.93 l_1^3}{m z d_1^4} \leq 1 \quad 3$$

Upper bounds on the transverse deflection of shaft 2 (Constraint 4)

$$\frac{C_9 l_2^3}{m z d_2^4} \leq 1 \quad \frac{1.93 l_2^3}{m z d_2^4} \leq 1 \quad 4$$

Constraint on stress in the gear shaft 1 (Constraint 5)

$$\frac{\sqrt{\left(\frac{745 l_1}{m z}\right)^2 + 16.9 \times 10^6}}{0.1 d_1^3} \leq 1100 \quad 5$$

Constraint on stress in the gear shaft 2 (Constraint 6)

$$\frac{\sqrt{\left(\frac{745 l_1}{m z}\right)^2 + 157.5 \times 10^6}}{0.1 d_1^3} \leq 850 \quad 6$$

Dimensional restrictions based on space and experience (Constraints: 7 – 9)

$$\frac{m z}{C_{16}} \leq 1 \quad \frac{m z}{40} \leq 1 \quad 7$$

$$\frac{C_{17} m}{b} \leq 1 \quad \frac{5 m}{b} \leq 1 \quad 8$$

$$\frac{b}{C_{18} m} \leq 1 \quad \frac{b}{12 m} \leq 1 \quad 9$$

Design requirements on the shafts based on experience (Constraints - 10, 11)

$$C_{19} d_1 + C_{20} \leq l_1 \quad 1.5 d_1 + 1.9 \leq l_1 \quad 10$$

$$C_{21} d_2 + C_{20} \leq l_2 \quad 1.1 d_2 + 1.9 \leq l_2 \quad 11$$

2.5. Variables bounds

The upper bounds and lower bounds of design variables are

$$2.6 \leq b \leq 3.6 ; 0.7 \leq m \leq 0.8 ; 17 \leq z \leq 28 ; 7.3 \leq l_1 \leq 8.3 ; 7.3 \leq l_2 \leq 8.3 ;$$

$$2.9 \leq d_1 \leq 3.9 ; 5.0 \leq d_2 \leq 5.5$$

| | b - Face width of gear x1 | | m - Teeth module x2 | | z - Number of pinning teeth x3 | | L1 - Length of shaft 1 between bearings x4 | | L2 - Length of shaft 2 between bearings | | D1 - Diameter of shaft 1 x6 | | D2 - Diameter of shaft 2 x7 | |
|-------------|---------------------------|----|---------------------|----|--------------------------------|-----|--|---------|---|---------|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|---------|
| | Cm | mm | cm | mm | cm | mm | cm | mm | cm | mm | cm | mm | cm | mm |
| Upper Bound | 3.6 | 36 | 0.8 | 8 | 28 | 280 | 8.3 | 83 | 8.3 | 83 | 3.9 | 39 | 5.5 | 55 |
| Lower Bound | 2.6 | 26 | 0.9 | 9 | 17 | 170 | 7.3 | 73 | 7.3 | 73 | 2.9 | 29 | 5 | 50 |
| Optimum | 3.500101 | 35 | 0.700008 | 7 | 17.00002 | 170 | 7.51772 | 75.1772 | 7.783269 | 77.8326 | 3.35084 | 33.5084 | 5.28679 | 52.8679 |

2.6. Mathematical formulation: (Afondo C.C.Lemonge, Helio I.C.barbosa Carlos C.H.Borges, Francilene B.S.Silva, 2010)

$$F(b, m, z, l_1, l_2, d_1, d_2) = C_1 b m^2 (C_2 z^2 + C_3 z - C_4) - C_5 (d_1^2 + d_2^2) + C_6 (d_1^3 + d_2^3) + C_1 (l_1 d_1^2 + l_2 d_2^2)$$

$$F(objective) = C_1 x_1 x_2^2 (C_2 x_3^2 + C_3 x_3 - C_4) - C_5 (x_6^2 + x_7^2) + C_6 (x_6^3 + x_7^3) + C_1 (x_4 x_6^2 + x_5 x_7^2)$$

$$F(objective) = 0.7854 x_1 x_2^2 (3.3333x_3^2 + 14.9334x_3 - 43.0934) - 1.508 (x_6^2 + x_7^2) + 7.4777 (x_6^3 + x_7^3) + 0.7854 (x_4 x_6^2 + x_5 x_7^2)$$

Mathematical formulation: (Afondo C.C.Lemonge, Helio I.C.barbosa Carlos C.H.Borges, Francilene B.S.Silva, 2010)

The mathematical formulation of the objective function $f(X)$ is to minimize the weight of the speed reducer subject to the constraints of the gear teeth, surface stress, transverse deflections of the shafts and stresses in the shaft. The objective is to minimize the weight of the speed reducer design problem. The problem is:

Minimize:

$$f(X) = 0.7854 x_1 x_2^2 (3.3333x_3^2 + 14.9334x_3 - 43.0934) - 1.508 (x_6^2 + x_7^2) + 7.4777 (x_6^3 + x_7^3) + 0.7854 (x_4 x_6^2 + x_5 x_7^2)$$

subject to

$$\frac{27}{x_1 x_2^2 x_3} \leq 1$$

$$\frac{397.5}{x_1 x_2^2 x_3^2} \leq 1$$

$$\frac{1.93 x_4^3}{x_2 x_3 x_6^4} \leq 1$$

$$\frac{1.93 x_5^3}{x_2 x_3 x_7^4} \leq 1$$

$$\frac{1}{110 x_6^3} \sqrt{\left(\frac{745.0 x_4}{x_2 x_3}\right)^2 + 16.9 \times 10^6} \leq 1$$

$$\frac{1}{85 x_7^3} \sqrt{\left(\frac{745.0 x_5}{x_2 x_3}\right)^2 + 157.5 \times 10^6} \leq 1$$

$$\frac{x_2 x_3}{40} \leq 1$$

$$\frac{x_2 x_3}{40} \leq 1$$

$$\frac{5 x_2}{x_1} \leq 1$$

$$\frac{x_1}{12 x_2} \leq 1$$

$$\frac{1.5 x_6 + 1.9}{x_4} \leq 1$$

$$\frac{1.1 x_7 + 1.9}{x_5} \leq 1$$

Explicit bounds on design variable

$$2.6 \leq x_1 \leq 3.6 ; 0.7 \leq x_2 \leq 0.8 ; 17 \leq x_3 \leq 28 ; 7.3 \leq x_4 \leq 8.3 ; 7.3 \leq x_5 \leq 8.3 ;$$

$$2.9 \leq x_6 \leq 3.9 ; 5.0 \leq x_7 \leq 5.5$$

3. COMPARATIVE RESULTS

The ten methods are run 20 trails and the average is taken and the results were compared.

Face width of gear (x_1)

Teeth module (x_2)

Number of pinning teeth (x_3)

- Length of shaft 1 between bearings (x_4)
- Length of shaft 2 between bearings (x_5)
- Diameter of shaft 1 (x_6)
- Diameter of shaft 2 (x_7)

Comparative Results

| Trial | PSO | SA | PS | GL | Cuckoo | FF | FP | ALO | GSA | MVO |
|----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| X ₁ | 3.500101 | 3.500291 | 3.5 | 3.508781 | 3.500017 | 3.50001 | 3.500004 | 3.5 | 3.559327 | 3.521317 |
| X ₂ | 0.700008 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.700511 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.706531 | 0.7 |
| X ₃ | 17.00002 | 17.38547 | 18.17172 | 17.01117 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 19.44552 | 17 |
| X ₄ | 7.51772 | 7.839092 | 7.3 | 7.712554 | 7.3 | 7.794979 | 7.300051 | 7.698099 | 7.904567 | 7.530287 |
| X ₅ | 7.783269 | 7.975486 | 7.715146 | 7.933927 | 7.715927 | 8.024645 | 7.715378 | 7.917097 | 8.024617 | 8.017789 |
| X ₆ | 3.350842 | 3.357579 | 3.349371 | 3.355449 | 3.350315 | 3.355642 | 3.350218 | 3.350991 | 3.566817 | 3.454274 |
| X ₇ | 5.286797 | 5.286776 | 5.286492 | 5.290331 | 5.286692 | 5.286774 | 5.286657 | 5.286724 | 5.350509 | 5.287023 |
| Weight | 3145.922 | 3223.153 | 3350.404 | 3162.799 | 3142.226 | 3154.947 | 3142.159 | 3150.358 | 3799.345 | 3191.186 |
| Time | 0.817205 | 30.84923 | 0.879797 | 10.39364 | 15.78775 | 8.008205 | 6.479024 | 62.66622 | 14.56511 | 6.759705 |
| Iteration | 200 | 20760 | 3 | 67106 | 100000 | 20000 | 2000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

With the two extreme values of the parameters the optimization is carried out with different solvers. As they are stochastic type the results may vary from trial to trial. So the problem is made to run for 20 trials. (Elbeltagi.E., Tarek Hegazy.I., Grierson D., 2005) And an average of all trials is taken as a final value of the parameter by the solver. The solvers are compared with three different criteria.

4.1. Consistency

The weight is consistent in Pattern Search (3350.404)

4.2. Minimum run time

For minimum run time of the problem we have PS (0.879797 seconds), PSO (0.817205 seconds).

4.3. Minimum Evaluation

This Criterion will determine the effectiveness of the algorithm. From the table we see that the PS and PSO algorithm have minimum evaluation of 3 and 200 respectively.

4.4. The Simplicity of Algorithm

Of all the algorithms, Pattern Search algorithm is the most simplest followed by Particle Swarm Optimization.

Thus it is seen that the PS solver satisfies all the criteria. Even though the pattern search satisfies all the above criteria, the weight becomes maximum whereas the weight in PSO is 3145.922. Therefore the particle swarm optimization has the minimum weight with time 0.817205 seconds and 200 iteration so the appropriate algorithm for speed reducer design is suggested as Particle Swarm Optimization. It is apparent from the results that PSO algorithm is able to provide promising solutions with less objective function evaluations. This desirable characteristic of PSO algorithm would be more significant in one engineering problems which entail higher computational effort.

5. SIMULATION FOR VALIDATING OPTIMIZED RESULTS

Minimizing the mass of the speed reducer (gear) design is tested practically using simulation. Simulation was carried out using Ansys software. The gear is designed in Autodesk inventor 2017 using gear design module. Then the file is converted into IGS format and imported into Ansys.

5.1. Speed Reducer Design Optimization

Stress constrain is the practical constrain that is checked against simulation. The constrains are tested for each geometry namely lower bound geometry, upper bound geometry and optimum geometry from particle swarm optimization algorithm by simulation as it gives the most optimum mass.

Following Constrains applied in all three cases

Contact constraint: no separation between both gears

Frictionless support is given to both gears at the inner surfaces of hole

A moment of 50N.m is given to smaller gear. While applying moment both surfaces are selected (front and back)

Results are obtained for Von mises stress

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| Bodies | 2 |
| Active Bodies | 2 |
| Nodes | 292081 |
| Elements | 63864 |
| Mesh Metric | None |

Constants

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Density | 7850 kg m ⁻³ |
| Coefficient of Thermal Expansion | 1.2e-005 C ⁻¹ |
| Specific Heat | 434 J kg ⁻¹ C ⁻¹ |
| Thermal Conductivity | 60.5 W m ⁻¹ C ⁻¹ |
| Resistivity | 1.7e-007 ohm m |

Colour

| | | |
|------------|--------------|-------------|
| Red | Green | Blue |
| 132 | 139 | 179 |

5.1.1. Results of Lower bound geometry

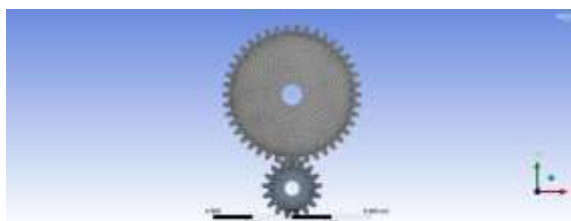


Figure 3 Mesh generation of the gear (lower bound)

The mesh is generated for lower bound geometry. The meshed model for lower bound geometry is shown in Figure.5.23 from the figure it is evident that the mesh flow is progressive without any discontinuity.



Figure 4 Stress developed in the gear (lower Bound)

Table Equivalent Stress

| Time [s] | Minimum [Pa] | Maximum [Pa] |
|----------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. | 0.53458 | 1.5267e+007 |

The stress developed in the gear for the lower bound geometry is shown in Figure.5.24. Stress developed in the gear is 1.5267×10^7 psi.

5.1.2. Results of Upper bound geometry



Figure 5 Mesh generation of the gear(upper bound)

The mesh is generated for upper bound geometry. The meshed model for upper bound geometry is shown in Figure.5.25 From the figure it is evident that the mesh flow is progressive without any discontinuity.



Figure 6 Stress developed in the gear(upper Bound)

Table Equivalent Stress

| Time [s] | Minimum [Pa] | Maximum [Pa] |
|----------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. | 0.48253 | 1.9402e+007 |

The stress developed in the gear for the upper bound geometry is shown in Figure.5.26. Stress developed in the gear is 1.9402×10^7 psi

5.1.3. Results of Optimum geometry

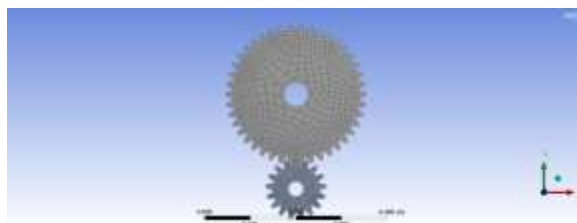


Figure 7 Mesh generation of the gear(optimum)

The mesh is generated for optimum geometry. The meshed model for optimum geometry is shown in Figure.5.27. From the figure it is evident that the mesh flow is progressive without any discontinuity



Figure 8 Stress developed in the gear(optimum)

Table Equivalent Stress

| Time [s] | Minimum [Pa] | Maximum [Pa] |
|----------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. | 11.223 | 1.1227e+007 |

The stress developed in the gear for the optimum geometry is shown in Figure.5.28. Stress developed in the gear is 1.1227×10^7 psi.

5.2. Conclusion from simulation

From the above three geometry we can observe that the optimum result derived from non-traditional optimization algorithm (Particle Swarm Optimization) is validated using simulations. The stress developed in the gear is minimum for optimum geometry which is derived from Particle swarm optimization. So for speed reducer design problem we can use Particle Swarm Design solver will give practical relevant result.

6. CONCLUSION

We have formulated the Speed reducer design problem with two shafts. The objective is to minimize the total weight of the speed reducer. The weight of the speed reducer includes both the weight of the gears as well as the weight of the shafts.

We have used MATLAB to solve the Speed Reducer design problem. Ten non-traditional optimization methods were used to solve the weight model of the Speed Reducer and

concluded that the Particle Swarm Optimization method gives the minimum weight even though the Pattern Search gives minimum evaluation.

To validate the results, simulation of the design was carried out using ANSYS software package. Stresses developed between both shafts were calculated for lower bound geometry, upper bound geometry and optimal boundary. The stress developed in the gear for the lower bound geometry is 1.5267×10^7 psi. The stress developed in the gear for the upper bound geometry is 1.9402×10^7 psi. The stress developed in the gear for the optimum geometry is the 1.1227×10^7 psi which is minimum.

From the above we can observe that the optimum result derived from the non- traditional optimization algorithm Particle Swarm Optimization is validated using simulation. Hence we can use Particle Swarm Optimization for a design related problem to get a practically relevant result and one of the best in time of computation and similarity of the algorithm.

In the present study the PSO algorithm is proposed as a simple and efficient optimization technique for handling speed reducer design problem. PSO algorithm is a population based technique which follows a stochastic iterative procedure to locate the optimum or a reasonably near- optimum solution for the speed reducer design optimization. Performance evaluation of the PSO algorithm through speed reducer design optimization reveals the efficiency of this technique in solving practical optimization problems. Although in the present study the PSO algorithm is utilized only for solving speed reducer design optimization problem, it can be easily employed for solving other types of optimization problems as well.

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