Design and Analysis of Automotive Powertrain Using Static, Model, Thermal and Transient Structure Analysis Techniques

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Abstract: The term powertrain describes the main components that generate power and deliver it to the road surface, water, or air. This includes the engine, transmission, drive shafts, differentials, and the final drive (drive wheels, continuous track as in military tanks or caterpillar tractors, propeller, etc.). Sometimes “powertrain” is used to refer to simply the engine and transmission, including the other components only if they are integral to the transmission. In a car or wagon, running gear designates the wheels and axles in distinction from the body. The project was aimed to design and analysis of powertrain by designing its subassembly such as flywheel, clutch with axial force 10.96kN and gear box having different speeds and gear ratio with 6 Forward speeds and 1 reverse speeds using model, structure, transient and thermal analysis techniques. The modeling and analysis is done by SOLIDWORKS and ANSYS.

Keywords: Powertrain, Clutch, Gear box, Flywheel, Transient analysis.

1. Introduction

A motor vehicle's driveline or drivetrain consists of the parts of the powertrain excluding the engine and transmission. It is the portion of a vehicle, after the transmission, that changes the power from the engine to the wheels. In a wider sense, the power-train includes all of its components used to transform stored energy into kinetic energy for propulsion purposes. Early transmissions included the right-angle drives and other gearing in windmills, horse-powered devices, and steam engines, in support of pumping, milling, and hoisting.

Most modern gearboxes are used to increase torque while reducing the speed of a prime mover output shaft (e.g. a motor crankshaft). This means that the output shaft of a gearbox rotates at a slower rate than the input shaft, and this reduction in speed produces a mechanical advantage, increasing torque. A gearbox can be set up to do the opposite and provide an increase in shaft speed with a reduction of torque. Some of the simplest gearboxes merely change the physical rotational direction of power transmission.

Many typical automobile transmissions include the ability to select one of several different gear ratios. In this case, most of the gear ratios (often simply called "gears") are used to slow down the output speed of the engine and increase torque. However, the highest gears may be "overdrive" types that increase the output speed.

2. Design of Flywheel

A flywheel is a rotating mechanical device that is used to store rotational energy. Flywheels have a significant moment of inertia and thus resist changes in rotational speed. The amount of energy stored in a flywheel is proportional to the square of its rotational speed. Energy is transferred to a flywheel by applying torque to it, thereby increasing its rotational speed, and hence its stored energy. Conversely, a flywheel releases stored energy by applying torque to a mechanical load, thereby decreasing the flywheel's rotational speed. For flywheel material is taken as steel with mass density 7900kg/m$^3$, maximum torque $T_{max} = 1500$N-m, minimum torque $T_{min} = 500$N-m through 720$^0$ rotation of drive shaft, thickness of flywheel $t = 50$mm, coefficient of friction $\mu = 0.3$, $C_i = 0.030$, $N_1 = 500$rev/min, $N_2 = 5000$rev/min, $\omega_1 = 2\pi N_1 = 2\pi(500/60) = 52.35$rad/sec, $\omega_2 = 2\pi N_2 = 2\pi(5000/60) = 523.59$rad/sec, $\omega = (\omega_1 + \omega_2)/2 = (52.35+523.59)/2 = 287.97$rad/sec, $\Phi = (\omega_2 - \omega_1)/2 = 1.63$;

Mean Torque $T_m = ((500+1500)/2) \times 4\pi)/2 = 2000$Nm, $U_0 = ((1500-1000)(2\pi-\pi))/2 = 250\pi$ Nm...

3. Design of Clutch

A clutch is a mechanical device that engages and disengages the power transmission, especially from driving shaft to driven shaft. Clutches are used whenever the transmission of power or motion must be controlled either in amount or over time (e.g., electric screwdrivers limit how much torque is transmitted through use of a clutch; clutches control whether automobiles transmit engine power to the wheels). In the simplest application, clutches connect and disconnect two rotating shafts (drive shafts or line shafts). In these devices, one shaft is typically attached to an engine or other power...
unit (the driving member) while the other shaft (the driven member) provides output power for work. While typically the motions involved are rotary, linear clutches are also possible. For clutch design maximum torque \( T = 850\text{Nm} \), External diameter of clutch plate is 10 times its internal diameter, maximum pressure intensity for the clutch facing \( P_i = 2000 \text{ KPa} \), coefficient of friction \( \mu = 0.3 \). Assume uniform wear. \( R_i \) and \( R_o \) is inner and outer diameter of clutch facing in mm.

\[
R = \frac{(R_i + R_o)/2}{R_i + 10x R_i}/2 = 5.5R_i,
\]

\[
PR = P_i R_i = P_o R_o = \text{constant. So PR} = 2x R_i,
\]

\[
W = 2 \pi x PR x (R_o - R_i),
\]

\[
T = 2 \mu x W x R = 2 x 0.3 x 113.09 Ri = 373.197 Ri
\]

54 x 1000 = 373.197 Ri, \( R_i = 13.15\text{mm} \), \( R_o = 131.5\text{mm} \), and \( W = 2 \pi x PR x (R_o - R_i) = 11.96\text{KN} \)

4. Design of Gearbox

A machine consists of a power source and a power transmission system, which provides controlled application of the power. Merriam-Webster defines \textit{transmission} as an assembly of parts including the speed-changing gears and the propeller shaft by which the power is transmitted from an engine to a live axle. Often transmission refers simply to the gearbox that uses gears and gear trains to provide speed and torque conversions from a rotating power source to another device. In British English, the term \textit{transmission} refers to the whole drivetrain, including clutch, gearbox, prop shaft (for rear-wheel drive), differential, and final drive shafts. In American English, however, the term refers more specifically to the gearbox alone, and the usage details are different.

Take \( T_A = 32, T_B = 36, \)

Assumed gear ratio is \( G_1 = 3.60, G_2 = 2.063, G_3 = 1.432, G_4 = 0.956, G_5 = 0.855, G_6 = 0.660, G_7 = 4.030. \)

\[ G_1 = N_A/N_C = (T_B/T_A) \times (T_C/T_D) = (36/32) \times (54/16) = 3.656, \]

\[ G_2 = N_A/N_E = (T_B/T_A) \times (T_E/T_D) = (36/32) \times (44/24) = 2.062, \]

\[ G_3 = N_A/N_G = (T_B/T_A) \times (T_G/T_H) = (36/32) \times (38/30) = 1.425, \]

\[ G_4 = N_A/N_I = (T_B/T_A) \times (T_I/T_J) = (36/32) \times (32/36) = 1.0, \]

\[ G_5 = N_A/N_K = (T_B/T_A) \times (T_K/T_L) = (36/32) \times (30/38) = 0.888. \]

Now find actual gear ratio with help of calculated values,

\[ G_A = N_A/N_M = (T_B/T_A) \times (T_M/T_N) = (36/32) \times (26/42) = 0.696, \]

\[ G_7 = N_A/N_O = (T_B/T_A) \times (T_O/T_P) = (36/32) \times (54/14) = 4.339. \]

5. Powertrain Specification

Type of \textit{transmission}: 6 Forward speeds and 1 reverse speed gear box

\textbf{Gear ratio}: 3.656, 2.062, 1.425, 1.0, 0.888, 0.696(Top), 4.339(reverse)

6. Static Structure Analysis

A structure refers to a body or system of connected parts used to support a load. Important examples related to branches of engineering, ship and aircraft frames, tanks, pressure vessels, mechanical systems, and electrical supporting structures are important. In order to design a structure, one must serve a specified function for public use, the engineer must account for its safety, aesthetics, and serviceability, while taking into consideration economic and
environmental constraints. Other branches of engineering work on a wide variety of nonbuilding structures. Structural analysis is the determination of the effects of loads on physical structures and their components. Structures subject to this type of analysis include all that must withstand loads, such as buildings, bridges, vehicles, machinery, furniture, attire, soil strata, prostheses and biological tissue. Structural analysis incorporates the fields of applied mechanics, materials science and applied mathematics to compute a structure's deformations, internal forces, stresses, support reactions, accelerations, and stability. The results of the analysis are used to verify a structure's fitness for use, often saving physical tests. Structural analysis is thus a key part of the engineering design of structures.

In case of Flywheel density is 7900kg m^-3, Coefficient of Thermal Expansion is 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. And total deformation varies from 0 to 5.236e-004m; equivalent stress varies from 0 to 1.2083e+009pa.

In case of clutch total deformation varies from 6.51e-009 m to .00105 m and equivalent stress varies from 7.9276e-003 MPa to 6231.6 MPa.

In case of gear box assembly total maximum deformation is 5.7329e-007m, maximum directional deformation 5.502e-007m, maximum equivalent stress is 8.9371e+006 Pa, maximum normal stress is 5.3154e+006 Pa.
7. Thermal Analysis

Thermal analysis is a branch of materials science where the properties of materials are studied as they change with temperature. Simultaneous Thermal Analysis (STA) generally refers to the simultaneous application of Thermogravimetry (TGA) and differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) to one and the same sample in a single instrument. The test conditions are perfectly identical for the TGA and DSC signals (same atmosphere, gas flow rate, vapor pressure of the sample, heating rate, thermal contact to the sample crucible and sensor, radiation effect, etc.). The information gathered can even be enhanced by coupling the STA instrument to an Evolved Gas Analyzer (EGA) like Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) or mass spectrometry (MS).

For flywheel Heat Flux = 23451 W/m², Convection film Coefficient = 250. W/m² °C, ambient temperature = 22°C, Radiation ambient temperature = 25 °C, so maximum steady thermal temperature = 33.54°C, maximum total heat flux = 24465 W/m², maximum directional heat flux = 19892 W/m²,

For clutch film coefficient is 250. W/m²·°C and 24000W for heat flow, ambient temperature 25°C for convection and radiation, so result for maximum temperature is 760.13 °C and maximum total heat flux is 4.2539e+006 W/m².

Graph 4: Heat flux vs. time

Graph 5: Radiation vs. time

Graph 6: Heat flow vs. time

Graph 7: Steady state thermal temperature

Graph 8: Total heat flux

Graph 9: Directional heat flow
8. Transient Structure Analysis:

In mechanical engineering, a transient response or natural response is the response of a system to a change from equilibrium. The transient response is not necessarily tied to "on/off" events but to any event that affects the equilibrium of the system. The impulse response and step response are transient responses to a specific input (an impulse and a step, respectively). In case of flywheel 6 frequency mode is taken with frequency 0 to 2.2784e-003, rotational velocity is 4500rpm, so calculated maximum total deformation is 0.00066 m and maximum equivalent stress is 59.93 MPa.

For flywheel 6 frequency mode is taken with frequency 0 to 8.2262, Rotational Velocity 5000rpm, Standard Earth Gravity 9.806m/s², maximum Total Deformation = 00.01324m, maximum Equivalent Stress = 199.81 MPa
9. Model Analysis

The purpose of modal analysis in structural mechanics is to resolve the natural mode frequencies and shapes of a design or structure during free vibration. It is general to use the finite element method (FEM) to execute this analysis because, like other computation using the FEM, the object being analyzed can have arbitrary shape and the results of the calculations are satisfactory and acceptable. The classifications of equations which emerge from modal analysis are those seen in Eigen systems. The physical interpretation of the Eigen and Eigen vectors which come from solving the system are that they represent the frequencies and corresponding mode shapes. Sometimes, the only desired modes are the lowest frequencies because they can be the most prominent modes at which the object will vibrate, control all the higher frequency modes.

In case of powertrain 6 frequency mode is taken varies from 455.41 to 629.09Hz, maximum total deformation 1.6957m

Figure 23: Total deformation frequency mode 1
Figure 25: Total deformation frequency mode 2
Figure 26: Total deformation frequency mode 3
Figure 27: Total deformation frequency mode 4
Figure 28: Total deformation frequency mode 5
Figure 29: Total deformation frequency mode 5

Graph 13: Equivalent stress vs. time

Graph 14: Frequency mode
It is also possible to test a physical object to determine its natural frequencies and mode shapes. This is called an Experimental Modal Analysis. The results of the physical test can be used to calibrate a finite element model to determine if the underlying assumptions made were correct.

10. Conclusion

Here is the complete design of automotive powertrain. And we have effective result data of design using different techniques and approaches. And it provides a unique design solution with effective concept; require less space, validate dimension by applying high force and rotational speed. And model and structure analysis is part of the data control theory. SOLIDWORKD and ANSYS software is used for this purpose. And the graph and plots of velocity magnitude with time define the variety of conditions and results.

11. Further Possible Work

There is many more method that can use to formulate to know about whether design and mechanism will work properly or not such as six-sigma, optimization techniques with vibration, linear and nonlinear buckling and fatigue analysis etc. So these methods can be used to improve the other factors of car powertrain.

References