



# Shigley's Mechanical Engineering Design | (10th Edition)

Chapter 13, Problem 24P

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## Problem

A gearbox is to be designed with a compound reverted gear train that transmits 25 horsepower with an input speed of 2500 rev/min. The output should deliver the power at a rotational speed in the range of 280 to 300 rev/min. Spur gears with 20 pressure angle are to be used. Determine suitable numbers of teeth for each gear, to minimize the gearbox size while providing an output speed within the specified range. Be sure to avoid an interference problem in the teeth.

## Step-by-step solution

### Step 1 of 6

Write the governing equation for a compound reverted gear train.

$$N_2 + N_3 = N_4 + N_5$$

Here,  $N_2$  is the teeth on gear 2,  $N_3$  is the teeth on gear 3,  $N_4$  is the teeth on gear 4, and  $N_5$  is the teeth on gear 5.

Write the equation for the output speed.

$$280 \text{ rev/min} \leq \omega_o \leq 300 \text{ rev/min}$$

Assume the output speed of the gear train to minimize the gear size as,

$$\omega_o = 300 \text{ rev/min}$$

Calculate the ratio of output speed to the input speed  $\left(\frac{\omega_o}{\omega_i}\right)$  of the compound reverted gear train.

Here,  $\omega_i$  is the input speed of the compound reverted gear train.

Substitute 300 rev/min for  $\omega_o$  and 2500 rev/min for  $\omega_i$ .

$$\left(\frac{\omega_o}{\omega_i}\right) = \frac{300}{2500}$$

$$\left(\frac{\omega_o}{\omega_i}\right) = \frac{1}{8.333}$$

[Comment](#)

### Step 2 of 6

Write the equation of the ratio of the output speed of the gear train to the input speed.

$$\left(\frac{\omega_o}{\omega_i}\right) = \frac{N_2 N_4}{N_3 N_5}$$

Here,  $N$  is the number of teeth.

Assume  $\frac{N_2}{N_3} = \frac{N_4}{N_5}$

Substitute  $\frac{N_2}{N_3}$  for  $\frac{N_4}{N_5}$  and  $\frac{1}{8.333}$  for  $\left(\frac{\omega_o}{\omega_i}\right)$ .

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$$\left(\frac{N_2}{N_3}\right) = \frac{1}{8.333}$$

$$\left(\frac{N_2}{N_3}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8.333}}$$

$$\left(\frac{N_2}{N_3}\right) = \frac{1}{2.887}$$

[Comment](#)**Step 3 of 6**

Calculate the smallest number of the pinion without interference.

$$N_p = \frac{2k}{(1+2m) \sin^2 \phi} \left( m + \sqrt{m^2 + (1+2m) \sin^2 \phi} \right)$$

Substitute 1 for  $k$ , 2.887 for  $m$  and  $20^\circ$  for  $\phi$ .

$$N_p = \frac{2(1)}{(1+2(2.887)) (\sin 20^\circ)^2} \left( (2.887) + \sqrt{(2.887)^2 + (1+2(2.887))(\sin 20^\circ)^2} \right)$$

$$N_p = 14.91$$

$$N_p \approx 15 \text{ teeth}$$

[Comment](#)**Step 4 of 6**

Assume,

$$N_2 = N_4 = 15 \text{ teeth}$$

Calculate the number of teeth on gear 3.

$$\left(\frac{N_2}{N_3}\right) = \frac{1}{2.887}$$

Substitute 15 for  $N_2$ .

$$\left(\frac{15}{N_3}\right) = \frac{1}{2.887}$$

$$N_3 = 43.3 \text{ teeth}$$

[Comment](#)**Step 5 of 6**

Calculate the number of teeth on gear 5.

$$\left(\frac{N_4}{N_5}\right) = \frac{1}{2.887}$$

Substitute 15 for  $N_4$ .

$$\left(\frac{15}{N_5}\right) = \frac{1}{2.887}$$

$$N_5 = 43.3 \text{ teeth}$$

Consider,

$$N_3 = N_5 = 43 \text{ teeth}$$



$$\left( \frac{\omega_i}{\omega_o} \right) = \frac{N_3 N_5}{N_2 N_4}$$

Substitute 15 for  $N_2$ , 15 for  $N_4$ , 43 for  $N_3$ , 43 for  $N_5$  and 2500 rev/min for  $\omega_i$ .

$$\left( \frac{\omega_o}{2500} \right) = \left( \frac{15}{43} \right) \left( \frac{15}{43} \right)$$

$$\omega_o = 304.2 \text{ rev/min}$$

[Comment](#)

#### Step 6 of 6

Here, by using the above assumption the output speed  $\omega_o$  is greater than 300 rev/min,

Which does not fall within limits.

Assume,

$$N_3 = N_5 = 44 \text{ teeth}$$

Calculate the output speed.

$$\left( \frac{\omega_o}{\omega_i} \right) = \frac{N_2 N_4}{N_3 N_5}$$

Substitute 15 for  $N_2$ , 15 for  $N_4$ , 44 for  $N_3$ , 44 for  $N_5$  and 2500 rev/min for  $\omega_i$ .

$$\left( \frac{\omega_o}{2500} \right) = \left( \frac{15}{44} \right) \left( \frac{15}{44} \right)$$

$$\omega_o = 290.5 \text{ rev/min}$$

Here, the output speed falls within the limits that is,

$$280 \text{ rev/min} \leq 290.5 \text{ rev/min} \leq 300 \text{ rev/min}$$

So the assumption is correct.

$$N_2 = N_4 = 15$$

And,

$$N_3 = N_5 = 44 \text{ teeth}$$

So, the number of teeth of the compound reverted gear train are  $N_2 = N_4 = 15 \text{ teeth}$  and

$$N_3 = N_5 = 44 \text{ teeth}.$$

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## Recommended solutions for you in Chapter 13

### Chapter 13, Problem 38P

For the countershaft in Prob. 3?72, p. 138, assume the gear ratio from gear B to its mating gears 2 to 1.(a) Determine the minimum number of teeth that can be used on gear B without an interference problem in the teeth.(b) Using the number of...

[See solution](#)

### Chapter 13, Problem 7P

A parallel helical gearset consists of a 19-tooth pinion driving a 57-tooth gear. The pinion has a left-hand helix angle of 30°, a normal pressure angle of 20°, and a normal module of 2.5 mm. Find:(a) The normal, transversal and axial circular...

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