Study of Effect of Friction on the Pin of Pantograph Mechanism

Chetan Rajoria¹, Ayush Johri², Harshit Nangia², Abhinav Goswami², Alok Shukla², Ajeet Kumar Yadav²

¹Senior Assistant Professor, ²Student

¹,²Department of Mechanical Engineering, ABES Engineering College, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, India

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ABSTRACT

The research paper study the equivalent stress and shear stress generated on the pin due to friction between pin and links of a pantograph mechanism. The pin is subjected to biaxial loading of varying magnitude. The analysis comprises CAD model and simulated using a FEM solver. Materials of pin and links are selected considering real life applications and their coefficient of friction values are referred from variety of sources. Both static and dynamic coefficient of friction values are taken into consideration for analysis. Results thus obtained are tabulated and graphically demonstrated for better understanding of the outcomes.

KEYWORDS: pantograph mechanism, pin, links, coefficient of friction, equivalent stress, shear stress

I. INTRODUCTION

Pantograph is a four bar mechanical linkage used to trace a motion and can scale it up or down. Widely used in railways and milling machines, this mechanism has a simple but very effective design. Problem generally faced in applying this mechanism into practical application includes reduced accuracy in tracing the figures. Reason for this is the enlarged values of stresses due to friction, inertia and gravity effects for bigger mechanism. Here, we have analyzed the effect of friction in terms of equivalent stress and shear stress.

II. Literature Review

S. K. Saha, Rajendra Prasad and Ananta K. Mandal [1] have built a compact, lightweight, easily operated, economic carpet cleaning machine utilizing a pantograph mechanism made to work along with Hoeken's mechanism. The machine is expected to ease the work of the carpet manufacturing labour and reduce the labour and production cost.

Coyote Steel and Co. [2] handbook on steel sizes and weights provide a large tabulation of data for various steel bars of different cross sections and lengths. The geometrical ratios are very helpful in determining the size of the links of pantograph mechanism in CAD modeling.

Table. 1: Dimensions of links

| Link | Dimension (mm) |
|------|----------------|
| GD   | 334.6          |
| DT   | 836.5          |
| CF   | 239            |
| CE   | 239            |

*all the dimensions are measured between hole centers

III. Design of mechanism

For the better understanding of the working of pantograph mechanism, a wooden model was constructed. A CAD modeled using SOLIDWORKS 2019 is generated. The dimensions of the links are given in Table 1.
The arrangement of the links are shown in Fig.1

![Fig.1: Link arrangement](image)

The thickness of the links is taken as 9.525mm (3/8 in) [2] for the width of 50.8mm (2 in) shown in Fig.2 and Fig.3. The width of the link is taken after referring the handbook data [2]. To ease the simulation, only two links are made in SOLIDWORKS. These links are GD and DT named link A and link B respectively.

![Fig.2: Link A](image)  ![Fig.3: Link B](image)

Pin (Fig.4) used to join link A and link B is of dimensions given in Table.2.

![Fig.4: Pin](image)

| Pin         | Dimension (mm) |
|-------------|----------------|
| head diameter | 44mm           |
| head thickness | 5mm            |
| shank diameter | 30mm           |
| shank length  | 19.05mm        |

The links are made rigid to allow the entire load to transfer to the pin whereas pin is kept flexible to study the effects of friction on it.

![Fig.5: Link A, Link B and pin in assembly](image)

IV. Material Selection and Loading

The materials selected for this application are Aluminum and Steel 4340. Aluminum and steel 4340 are most commonly available materials for construction of a machine. Their properties like toughness, high strength and fatigue strength, make them ideal for the analysis.

The loading conditions are biaxial. A tangential load and a radial load with respect to the pin is applied on links A and B as shown in Fig.6. Links are simulated in four conditions with different load magnitude given in Table.3.

![Fig.6: loading on the links (ANSYS)](image)

| Serial No. | Tangential Load (N) | Radial Load (N) |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1          | 25                  | 2.5             |
| 2          | 50                  | 5.0             |
| 3          | 75                  | 7.5             |
| 4          | 100                 | 10.0            |

These loading conditions are applied in two combination:
1. Links-Aluminum, Pin:- Steel 4340
2. Links-Steel 4340, Pin:- Steel 4340

The shank of the pin is held fixed to mimic the fixed point of rotation of links.

V. Simulation and results

For solving the problem, ANSYS 19.2 is used. The assembly used is shown in Fig.7 is solved in Explicit Dynamics analysis system.

![Fig.7: Assembly for final analysis](image)
All the connections taken are frictional in behavior and such four frictional contacts are:

- Between Link A and pin's shank
- Between Link B and pin’s shank
- Between Link A and Link B
- Between Link B and bottom of pin’s head

I. For combination 1:-

| Links       | Aluminum (Rigid) | Steel 4340 (Flexible) |
|-------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Pin         | Steel 4340       |                        |
| Fixed entity| Pin's shank      |                        |
| Static coeff. of friction| 1.05 for Aluminum-Aluminum contact | 0.61 for Aluminum-Steel 4340 contact[3] |
| Dynamic coeff. of friction| 1.4 for Aluminum-Aluminum contact | 0.42 for Aluminum-Steel 4340 contact[3] |
| Meshing     | Coarse           |                        |
| End time    | 1 sec            |                        |
| Number of cycles | 1e+05             |                        |

Data thus obtained is in Table.4

| Load (N) | Equivalent stress (Pa) | Shear stress (Pa) |
|----------|-------------------------|-------------------|
|          | Max | Min | Max | Min |
| Tangential | Radial | Max | Min | Max | Min |
| 25        | 1.80e7 | 4610 | 2.18e6 | 9.45e6 |
| 50        | 9.05e6 | 1179 | 1.27e6 | 3.37e6 |
| 75        | 2.48e7 | 1904 | 2.42e6 | 1.33e7 |
| 100       | 8.68e7 | 1.47e5 | 8.55e6 | 4.88e7 |

Following the data obtained from Table.4, the variation of equivalent stress and shear stress with respect to load is shown in Fig11-13.
II. For combination 2:

| Links          | Steel 4340 (Rigid) |
|---------------|--------------------|
| Pin           | Steel 4340 (Flexible) |
| Fixed entity  | Pin's shank |
| Static coefficient of friction | 0.78 for Steel 4340-Steel 4340 contact [3] |
| Dynamic coefficient of friction | 0.42 for Steel 4340-Steel 4340 contact [3] |
| Meshing       | Coarse |
| End time      | 1 sec |
| Number of cycles | 1e+05 |

Data thus obtained is in Table.5

| Load (N) | Equivalent stress (Pa) | Shear stress (Pa) |
|----------|------------------------|-------------------|
|          | Tensional | Radial | Max | Min | Max | Min |
| 25       | 2.5       | 2.68e6 | 3471.9 | 2.47e5 | -1.39e6 |
| 50       | 5.0       | 3.44e6 | 6799.5 | 1.08e5 | -1.87e6 |
| 75       | 7.5       | 4.25e6 | 5241 | 5.3e5 | -2.22e6 |
| 100      | 10        | 9.27e6 | 3.4e4 | 1.06e6 | -4.73e6 |

Fig.14: Equivalent stress on pin for 50N tangential load and 5N radial load

Fig.15: Shear stress on pin for 50N tangential load and 5N radial load

Following the data obtained from Table.5, the variation of equivalent stress and shear stress with respect to load is shown in Fig16-18.

VI. Observations

From the obtained data, we can see that for combination 1, the values of equivalent stress and maximum shear stress at 50N tangential load, 5N radial load is minimum, and highest value of minimum shear stress is obtained here.

For combination 2, at 75N tangential load and 7.5N radial load, only minimum equivalent stress shows a deviation from general trend of increment.

VII. Conclusion

- From obtained data we can tell that under same loading conditions, Steel 4340 shows less equivalent stress and shear stress at pin hence much better for construction.
- Equivalent stress and maximum shear stress curves for Aluminum-Aluminum combination has an inverted bell shape and upright bell shape for minimum shear stress.
- Steel 4340-Steel 4340 shows continuously increasing trend in maximum equivalent stress and maximum shear stress.
- The value of minimum equivalent stress for Steel 4340-Steel 4340 experiences a reduction.

References

[1] Saha, S. K., Prasad, R., & Mandal, A. K. (2003). Use of Hoeken’s and Pantograph mechanisms for carpet scraping operations. In Proceedings of the 11th National Conference on Machines and Mechanisms (pp. 18-19).

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[3] Reference table of coefficient of friction. (n.d.). Retrieved from http://www.engineershandbook.com/Tables/frictioncoefficients.htm