

## UNIT IV GEARS AND TRAINS

### 4.1 Introduction

A **gear** is a rotating machine part having cut *teeth*, or *cogs*, which *mesh* with another toothed part in order to transmit torque.

The gears in a transmission are analogous to the wheels in a pulley. An advantage of gears is that the teeth of a gear prevent slipping.

When two gears of unequal number of teeth are combined a mechanical advantage is produced, with both the rotational speeds and the torques of the two gears differing in a simple relationship.

In transmissions which offer multiple gear ratios, such as bicycles and cars, the term **gear**, as in *first gear*, refers to a gear ratio rather than an actual physical gear.

#### 4.1.1 Fundamental Law of Gear-Tooth

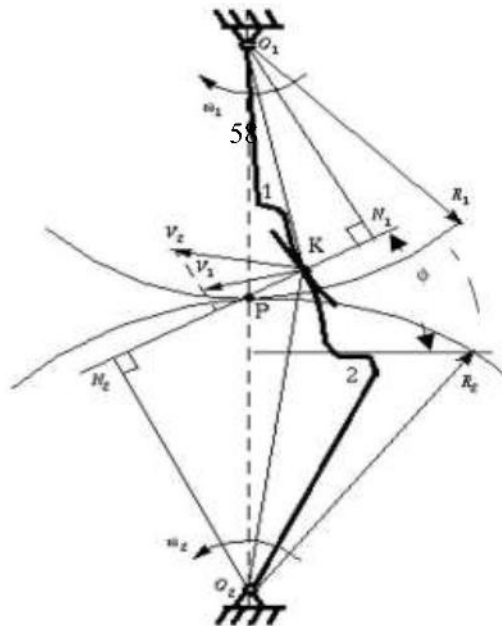
Pitch point divides the line between the line of centres and its position decides the velocity ratio of the two teeth. The above expression is the **fundamental law of gear-tooth action**.

##### Formation of teeth:

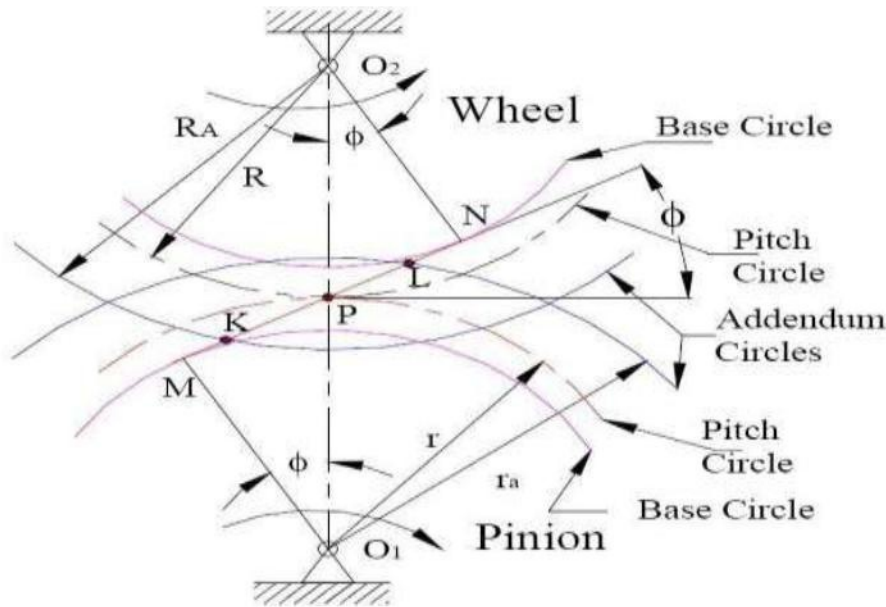
- Involute teeth
- Cycloidal teeth

##### Involute curve:

The curve most commonly used for gear-tooth profiles is the involute of a circle. This **involute curve** is the path traced by a point on a line as the line rolls without slipping on the circumference of a circle. It may also be defined as a path traced by the end of a string, which is originally wrapped on a circle when the string is unwrapped from the circle. The circle from which the involute is derived is called the **base circle**



Path of contact:



- Consider a pinion driving wheel as shown in figure. When the pinion rotates in clockwise, the contact between a pair of involute teeth begin sat  $K$  (on the near the base circle of pinion or the outer end of the tooth face on the wheel) and ends at  $L$  (outer end of the tooth face on the pinion or on the flank near the base circle of wheel).
- $MN$  is the common normal at the point of contacts and the common tangent to the base circles. The point  $K$  is the intersection of the addendum circle of wheel and the common tangent. The point  $L$  is the intersection of the addendum circle of pinion and common tangent.
- The length of path of contact is the length of common normal cut-off by the addendum circles of the wheel and the pinion.
- Thus, the length of part of contact is  $KL$  which is the sum of the parts of path of Contacts  $KP$  and  $PL$ . Contact length  $KP$  is called as **path of approach** and contact length  $PL$  is called as **path of recess**.

Path of approach:  $KP$

$$\begin{aligned} KP &= KN - PN \\ &= \sqrt{(R_a)^2 - R^2 \cos^2 \phi} - R \sin \phi \end{aligned}$$

Path of recess:  $PL$

$$\begin{aligned} PL &= ML - MP \\ &= \sqrt{(r_a)^2 - r^2 \cos^2 \phi} - r \sin \phi \end{aligned}$$

Length of path of contact :

$$\begin{aligned} KL &= KP + PL \\ &= \sqrt{(R_a)^2 - R^2 \cos^2 \phi} + \sqrt{(r_a)^2 - r^2 \cos^2 \phi} - (R + r) \sin \phi \end{aligned}$$

**Arc of contact:** Arc of contact is the path traced by a point on the pitch circle from the beginning to the end of engagement of a given pair of teeth. In Figure, the arc of contact is  $EPF$  or  $GPH$ .

The arc  $GP$  is known as *arc of approach* and the arc  $PH$  is called *arc of recess*. The angles subtended by the SE arcs at  $O_1$  are called *angle of approach* and *angle of recess* respectively.

$$\text{Length of arc of approach} = \text{arc } GP = \frac{\text{Length of path of approach}}{\cos \phi} = \frac{KP}{\cos \phi}$$

$$\text{Length of arc of recess} = \text{arc } PH = \frac{\text{Length of path of recess}}{\cos \phi} = \frac{PL}{\cos \phi}$$

$$\text{Length of arc contact} = \text{arc } GPH = \text{arc } GP + \text{arc } PH$$

$$= \frac{KP}{\cos \phi} + \frac{PL}{\cos \phi} = \frac{KL}{\cos \phi} = \frac{\text{Length of path of contact}}{\cos \phi}$$

### Contact Ratio ( or Number of Pairs of Teeth in Contact)

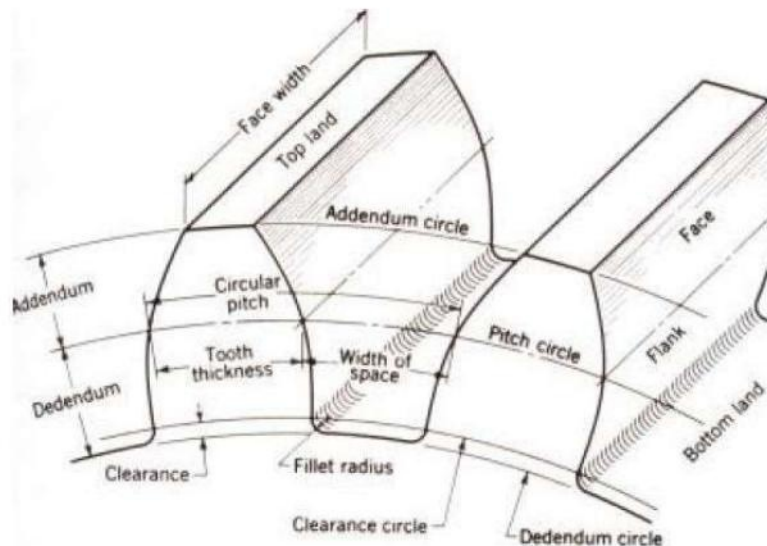
The contact ratio or the number of pairs of teeth in contact is defined as the ratio of the length of the arc of contact to the circular pitch.

$$\text{Contact ratio} = \frac{\text{Length of the arc of contact}}{P_c}$$

$$P_c = \text{Circular pitch} = \pi \times m \quad \text{and} \quad m = \text{Module.}$$

### 4.2 Spur Gear Terminology

1. **Pitch circle.** It is an imaginary circle which by pure rolling action, would give the same motion as an actual gear





**2. Pitch circle diameter.** It is the diameter of the pitch circle. The size of the gear is usually specified by the pitch circle diameter. It is also known as *pitch diameter*.

**3. Pitch point.** It is a common point of contact between two pitch circles.

**4. Pitch surface.** It is the surface of the rolling discs which the meshing gears have replaced at the pitch circle.

**5. Pressure angle or angle of obliquity.** It is the angle between the common normal to two gear teeth at the point of contact and the common tangent at the pitch point. It is usually denoted by  $\phi$ . The standard pressure angles are  $14\frac{1}{2}^\circ$  and  $20^\circ$ .

**6. Addendum.** It is the radial distance of a tooth from the pitch circle to the top of the tooth.

**7. Dedendum.** It is the radial distance of a tooth from the pitch circle to the bottom of the tooth.

**8. Addendum circle.** It is the circle drawn through the top of the teeth and is concentric with the pitch circle.

**9. Dedendum circle.** It is the circle drawn through the bottom of the teeth. It is also called root circle.

**Note :** Root circle diameter = Pitch circle diameter  $\times \cos \phi$ , where  $\phi$  is the pressure angle.

**10. Circular pitch.** It is the distance measured on the circumference of the pitch circle from a point of one tooth to the corresponding point on the next tooth. It is usually denoted by  $p_c$ . Mathematically,

$$\text{Circular pitch, } p_c = \pi D/T$$

where

$$D = \text{Diameter of the pitch circle, and}$$

$$T = \text{Number of teeth on the wheel.}$$

A little consideration will show that the two gears will mesh together correctly, if the two wheels have the same circular pitch.

**Note :** If  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  are the diameters of the two meshing gears having the teeth  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  respectively, then for them to mesh correctly,

$$p_c = \frac{\pi D_1}{T_1} = \frac{\pi D_2}{T_2} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{D_1}{D_2} = \frac{T_1}{T_2}$$

**11. Diametral pitch.** It is the ratio of number of teeth to the pitch circle diameter in millimetres. It is denoted by  $p_d$ . Mathematically,

$$\text{Diametral pitch, } p_d = \frac{T}{D} = \frac{\pi}{p_c} \quad \dots \left( \because p_c = \frac{\pi D}{T} \right)$$

where

$$T = \text{Number of teeth, and}$$

$$D = \text{Pitch circle diameter.}$$

**12. Module.** It is the ratio of the pitch circle diameter in millimeters to the number of teeth. It is usually denoted by  $m$ . Mathematically,

$$\text{Module, } m = D/T$$

**Note :** The recommended series of modules in Indian Standard are 1, 1.25, 1.5, 2, 2.5, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 16, and 20. The modules 1.125, 1.375, 1.75, 2.25, 2.75, 3.5, 4.5, 5.5, 7, 9, 11, 14 and 18 are of second choice.

**13. Clearance.** It is the radial distance from the top of the tooth to the bottom of the tooth, in a meshing gear. A circle passing through the top of the meshing gear is known as *clearance circle*.

**14. Total depth.** It is the radial distance between the addendum and the dedendum circles of a gear. It is equal to the sum of the addendum and dedendum.

**15. Working depth.** It is the radial distance from the addendum circle to the clearance circle. It is equal to the sum of the addendum of the two meshing gears.

**16. Tooth thickness.** It is the width of the tooth measured along the pitch circle.

**17. Tooth space .** It is the width of space between the two adjacent teeth measured along the pitch circle.

**18. Backlash.** It is the difference between the tooth space and the tooth thickness, as measured along the pitch circle. Theoretically, the backlash should be zero, but in actual practice some backlash must be allowed to prevent jamming of the teeth due to tooth errors and thermal expansion.

**19. Face of tooth.** It is the surface of the gear tooth above the pitch surface.

**20. Flank of tooth.** It is the surface of the gear tooth below the pitch surface.

**21. Top land.** It is the surface of the top of the tooth.

**22. Face width.** It is the width of the gear tooth measured parallel to its axis.

**23. Profile.** It is the curve formed by the face and flank of the tooth.

**24. Fillet radius.** It is the radius that connects the root circle to the profile of the tooth.

**25. Path of contact.** It is the path traced by the point of contact of two teeth from the beginning to the end of engagement.

**26. \*Length of the path of contact.** It is the length of the common normal cut-off by the addendum circles of the wheel and pinion.

**27. \*\*Arc of contact.** It is the path traced by a point on the pitch circle from the beginning to the end of engagement of a given pair of teeth. The arc of contact consists of two parts, *i.e.*

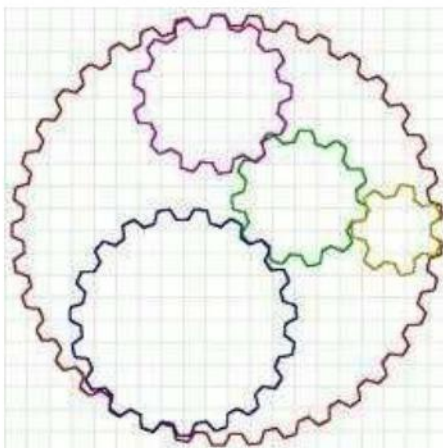
**(a) Arc of approach.** It is the portion of the path of contact from the beginning of the engagement to the pitch point.

**(b) Arc of recess.** It is the portion of the path of contact from the pitch point to the end of the engagement of a pair of teeth.

**Note :** The ratio of the length of arc of contact to the circular pitch is known as **contact ratio** *i.e.* number of pairs of teeth in contact.

### Epicyclic gear trains:

- Γ If the axis of the shafts over which the gears are mounted are moving relative to a fixed axis , the gear train is called the epicyclic gear train.
- Γ Problems in epicyclic gear trains.





### Differentials:

- Γ Used in the rear axle of an automobile.
- Γ To enable the rear wheels to revolve at different speeds when negotiating a curve.
- Γ To enable the rear wheels to revolve at the same speeds when going straight.

## 12.20. Minimum Number of Teeth on the Pinion In Order to Avoid Interference

We have already discussed in the previous article that in order to avoid interference, the addendum circles for the two mating gears must cut the common tangent to the base circles between the points of tangency. The limiting condition reaches, when the addendum circles of pinion and wheel pass through points  $N$  and  $M$  (see Fig. 12.13) respectively.

- Let
- $t$  = Number of teeth on the pinion,
  - $T$  = Number of teeth on the wheel,
  - $m$  = Module of the teeth,
  - $r$  = Pitch circle radius of pinion =  $m.t/2$
  - $G$  = Gear ratio =  $T/t = R/r$
  - $\phi$  = Pressure angle or angle of obliquity.

From triangle  $O_1NP$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}(O_1N)^2 &= (O_1P)^2 + (PN)^2 - 2 \times O_1P \times PN \cos O_1PN \\ &= r^2 + R^2 \sin^2 \phi - 2r.R \sin \phi \cos (90^\circ + \phi) \\ &\dots (\because PN = O_2P \sin \phi = R \sin \phi) \\ &= r^2 + R^2 \sin^2 \phi + 2r.R \sin^2 \phi \\ &= r^2 \left[ 1 + \frac{R^2 \sin^2 \phi}{r^2} + \frac{2R \sin^2 \phi}{r} \right] = r^2 \left[ 1 + \frac{R}{r} \left( \frac{R}{r} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi \right]\end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  Limiting radius of the pinion addendum circle,

$$O_1N = r \sqrt{1 + \frac{R}{r} \left( \frac{R}{r} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi} = \frac{mt}{2} \sqrt{1 + \frac{T}{t} \left( \frac{T}{t} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi}$$

- Let  $A_p m$  = Addendum of the pinion, where  $A_p$  is a fraction by which the standard addendum of one module for the pinion should be multiplied in order to avoid interference.

We know that the addendum of the pinion

$$\begin{aligned}&= O_1N - O_1P \\ \therefore A_p.m &= \frac{mt}{2} \sqrt{1 + \frac{T}{t} \left( \frac{T}{t} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi} - \frac{mt}{2} \dots (\because O_1P = r = mt/2) \\ &= \frac{mt}{2} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \frac{T}{t} \left( \frac{T}{t} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi} - 1 \right]\end{aligned}$$

or

$$A_p = \frac{t}{2} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \frac{T}{t} \left( \frac{T}{t} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi} - 1 \right]$$

$$\therefore t = \frac{2A_p}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{T}{t} \left( \frac{T}{t} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi} - 1} = \frac{2A_p}{\sqrt{1 + G(G+2) \sin^2 \phi} - 1}$$

## 12.21. Minimum Number of Teeth on the Wheel In Order to Avoid Interference

Let  $T$  = Minimum number of teeth required on the wheel in order to avoid interference,

and  $A_w m$  = Addendum of the wheel, where  $A_w$  is a fraction by which the standard addendum for the wheel should be multiplied.

Using the same notations as in Art. 12.20, we have from triangle  $O_2MP$

$$\begin{aligned} (O_2M)^2 &= (O_2P)^2 + (PM)^2 - 2 \times O_2P \times PM \cos O_2PM \\ &= R^2 + r^2 \sin^2 \phi - 2 Rr \sin \phi \cos (90^\circ + \phi) \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad \dots (\because PM = O_1P \sin \phi = r) \\ &= R^2 + r^2 \sin^2 \phi + 2Rr \sin^2 \phi \\ &= R^2 \left[ 1 + \frac{r^2 \sin^2 \phi}{R^2} + \frac{2r \sin^2 \phi}{R} \right] = R^2 \left[ 1 + \frac{r}{R} \left( \frac{r}{R} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi \right] \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  Limiting radius of wheel addendum circle,

$$O_2M = R \sqrt{1 + \frac{r}{R} \left( \frac{r}{R} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi} = \frac{mT}{2} \sqrt{1 + \frac{t}{T} \left( \frac{t}{T} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi}$$

We know that the addendum of the wheel

$$= O_2M - O_2P$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore A_w m &= \frac{mT}{2} \sqrt{1 + \frac{t}{T} \left( \frac{t}{T} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi} - \frac{mT}{2} \qquad \dots (\because O_2P = R = mT/2) \\ &= \frac{mT}{2} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \frac{t}{T} \left( \frac{t}{T} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi} - 1 \right] \end{aligned}$$

or 
$$A_w = \frac{T}{2} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \frac{t}{T} \left( \frac{t}{T} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi} - 1 \right]$$

$$\therefore T = \frac{2 A_w}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{t}{T} \left( \frac{t}{T} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi} - 1} = \frac{2 A_w}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{G} \left( \frac{1}{G} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi} - 1}$$

**Notes : 1.** From the above equation, we may also obtain the minimum number of teeth on pinion.

Multiplying both sides by  $\frac{t}{T}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} T \times \frac{t}{T} &= \frac{2 A_w \times \frac{t}{T}}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{G} \left( \frac{1}{G} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi} - 1} \\ t &= \frac{2 A_w}{G \left[ \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{G} \left( \frac{1}{G} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi} - 1 \right]} \end{aligned}$$

**2.** If wheel and pinion have equal teeth, then  $G = 1$ , and

$$T = \frac{2 A_w}{\sqrt{1 + 3 \sin^2 \phi} - 1}$$

**Example 12.11.** A pair of involute spur gears with  $16^\circ$  pressure angle and pitch of module 6 mm is in mesh. The number of teeth on pinion is 16 and its rotational speed is 240 r.p.m. When the gear ratio is 1.75, find in order that the interference is just avoided ; 1. the addenda on pinion and gear wheel ; 2. the length of path of contact ; and 3. the maximum velocity of sliding of teeth on either side of the pitch point.

**Solution.** Given :  $\phi = 16^\circ$  ;  $m = 6$  mm ;  $t = 16$  ;  $N_1 = 240$  r.p.m. or  $\omega_1 = 2\pi \times 240/60 = 25.136$  rad/s ;  $G = T/t = 1.75$  or  $T = G.t = 1.75 \times 16 = 28$

**1. Addenda on pinion and gear wheel**

We know that addendum on pinion

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{mt}{2} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \frac{T}{t} \left( \frac{T}{t} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi} - 1 \right] \\ &= \frac{6 \times 16}{2} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \frac{28}{16} \left( \frac{28}{16} + 2 \right) \sin^2 16^\circ} - 1 \right] \\ &= 48 (1.224 - 1) = 10.76 \text{ mm Ans.} \end{aligned}$$

and addendum on wheel

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{mT}{2} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \frac{t}{T} \left( \frac{t}{T} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi} - 1 \right] \\ &= \frac{6 \times 28}{2} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \frac{16}{28} \left( \frac{16}{28} + 2 \right) \sin^2 16^\circ} - 1 \right] \\ &= 84 (1.054 - 1) = 4.56 \text{ mm Ans.} \end{aligned}$$

**2. Length of path of contact**

We know that the pitch circle radius of wheel,

$$R = mT/2 = 6 \times 28/2 = 84 \text{ mm}$$

and pitch circle radius of pinion,

$$r = mt/2 = 6 \times 16/2 = 48 \text{ mm}$$

$\therefore$  Addendum circle radius of wheel,

$$R_A = R + \text{Addendum of wheel} = 84 + 10.76 = 94.76 \text{ mm}$$

and addendum circle radius of pinion,

$$r_A = r + \text{Addendum of pinion} = 48 + 4.56 = 52.56 \text{ mm}$$

We know that the length of path of approach,

$$\begin{aligned} KP &= \sqrt{(R_A)^2 - R^2 \cos^2 \phi} - R \sin \phi && \dots(\text{Refer Fig. 12.11}) \\ &= \sqrt{(94.76)^2 - (84)^2 \cos^2 16^\circ} - 84 \sin 16^\circ \\ &= 49.6 - 23.15 = 26.45 \text{ mm} \end{aligned}$$

and the length of the path of recess,

$$\begin{aligned} PL &= \sqrt{(r_A)^2 - r^2 \cos^2 \phi} - r \sin \phi \\ &= \sqrt{(52.56)^2 - (48)^2 \cos^2 16^\circ} - 48 \sin 16^\circ \\ &= 25.17 - 13.23 = 11.94 \text{ mm} \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  Length of the path of contact,

$$KL = KP + PL = 26.45 + 11.94 = 38.39 \text{ mm Ans.}$$

**3. Maximum velocity of sliding of teeth on either side of pitch point**

Let  $\omega_2$  = Angular speed of gear wheel.

We know that  $\frac{\omega_1}{\omega_2} = \frac{T}{t} = 1.75$  or  $\omega_2 = \frac{\omega_1}{1.75} = \frac{25.136}{1.75} = 14.28$  rad/s

$\therefore$  Maximum velocity of sliding of teeth on the left side of pitch point i.e. at point K

$$= (\omega_1 + \omega_2) KP = (25.136 + 14.28) 26.45 = 1043 \text{ mm/s Ans.}$$

and maximum velocity of sliding of teeth on the right side of pitch point i.e. at point L

$$= (\omega_1 + \omega_2) PL = (25.136 + 14.28) 11.94 = 471 \text{ mm/s Ans.}$$



**Example 12.13.** Two gear wheels mesh externally and are to give a velocity ratio of 3 to 1. The teeth are of involute form ; module = 6 mm, addendum = one module, pressure angle = 20°. The pinion rotates at 90 r.p.m. Determine : 1. The number of teeth on the pinion to avoid interference on it and the corresponding number of teeth on the wheel, 2. The length of path and arc of contact, 3. The number of pairs of teeth in contact, and 4. The maximum velocity of sliding.

**Solution.** Given :  $G = T/t = 3$  ;  $m = 6$  mm ;  $A_p = A_w = 1$  module = 6 mm ;  $\phi = 20^\circ$  ;  $N_1 = 90$  r.p.m. or  $\omega_1 = 2\pi \times 90 / 60 = 9.43$  rad/s

1. **Number of teeth on the pinion to avoid interference on it and the corresponding number of teeth on the wheel**

We know that number of teeth on the pinion to avoid interference,

$$t = \frac{2A_p}{\sqrt{1+G(G+2)\sin^2\phi} - 1} = \frac{2 \times 6}{\sqrt{1+3(3+2)\sin^2 20^\circ} - 1}$$

$$= 18.2 \text{ say } 19 \text{ Ans.}$$

and corresponding number of teeth on the wheel,

$$T = G.t = 3 \times 19 = 57 \text{ Ans.}$$

2. **Length of path and arc of contact**

We know that pitch circle radius of pinion,

$$r = m.t / 2 = 6 \times 19 / 2 = 57 \text{ mm}$$

$\therefore$  Radius of addendum circle of pinion,

$$r_A = r + \text{Addendum on pinion } (A_p) = 57 + 6 = 63 \text{ mm}$$

and pitch circle radius of wheel,

$$R = m.T / 2 = 6 \times 57 / 2 = 171 \text{ mm}$$

$\therefore$  Radius of addendum circle of wheel,

$$R_A = R + \text{Addendum on wheel } (A_w) = 171 + 6 = 177 \text{ mm}$$

We know that the path of approach (*i.e.* path of contact when engagement occurs),

$$KP = \sqrt{(R_A)^2 - R^2 \cos^2 \phi} - R \sin \phi \quad \dots(\text{Refer Fig. 12.11})$$

$$= \sqrt{(177)^2 - (171)^2 \cos^2 20^\circ} - 171 \sin 20^\circ = 74.2 - 58.5 = 15.7 \text{ mm}$$

and the path of recess (*i.e.* path of contact when disengagement occurs),

$$PL = \sqrt{(r_A)^2 - r^2 \cos^2 \phi} - r \sin \phi$$

$$= \sqrt{(63)^2 - (57)^2 \cos^2 20^\circ} - 57 \sin 20^\circ = 33.17 - 19.5 = 13.67 \text{ mm}$$

$\therefore$  Length of path of contact,

$$KL = KP + PL = 15.7 + 13.67 = 29.37 \text{ mm Ans.}$$

We know that length of arc of contact

$$= \frac{\text{Length of path of contact}}{\cos \phi} = \frac{29.37}{\cos 20^\circ} = 31.25 \text{ mm Ans.}$$

3. **Number of pairs of teeth in contact**

We know that circular pitch,

$$p_c = \pi \times m = \pi \times 6 = 18.852 \text{ mm}$$

$\therefore$  Number of pairs of teeth in contact

$$= \frac{\text{Length of arc of contact}}{p_c} = \frac{31.25}{18.852} = 1.66 \text{ say } 2 \text{ Ans.}$$

4. **Maximum velocity of sliding**

Let  $\omega_2 =$  Angular speed of wheel in rad/s.

We know that  $\frac{\omega_1}{\omega_2} = \frac{T}{t}$  or  $\omega_2 = \omega_1 \times \frac{t}{T} = 9.43 \times \frac{19}{57} = 3.14$  rad/s

$\therefore$  Maximum velocity of sliding,

$$v_s = (\omega_1 + \omega_2) KP \quad \dots(\because KP > PL)$$

$$= (9.43 + 3.14) 15.7 = 197.35 \text{ mm/s Ans.}$$

## Gear Trains

Sometimes, two or more gears are made to mesh with each other to transmit power from one shaft to another. Such a combination is called gear train or train of toothed wheels. The nature of the train used depends upon the velocity ratio required and the relative position of the axes of shafts. A gear train may consist of spur, bevel or spiral gears.

### Simple Gear Train

When there is only one gear on each shaft, as shown in Fig. 13.1, it is known as simple gear train. The gears are represented by their pitch circles.

When the distance between the two shafts is small, the two gears 1 and 2 are made to mesh with each other to transmit motion from one shaft to the other, as shown in Fig. 13.1 (a). Since the gear 1 drives the gear 2, therefore gear 1 is called the driver and the gear 2 is called the driven or follower.

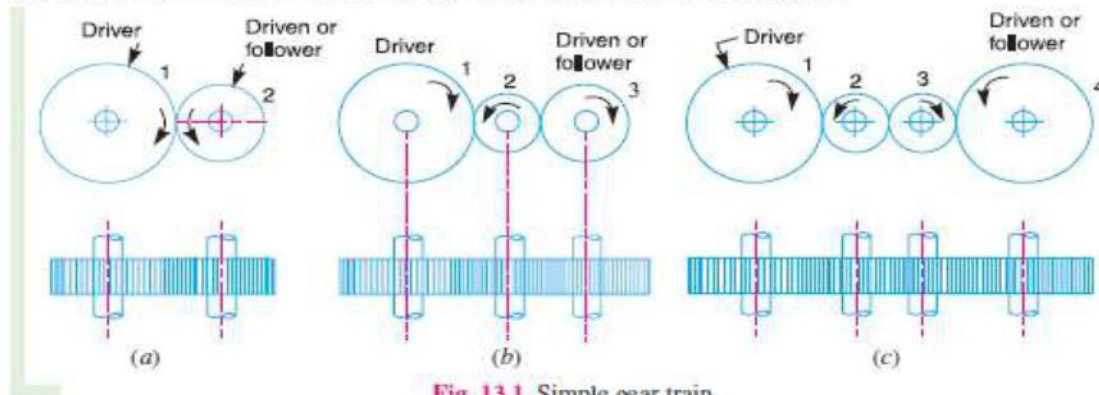


Fig. 13.1. Simple gear train.

Let

$N_1$  = Speed of gear 1 (or driver) in r.p.m.,

$N_2$  = Speed of gear 2 (or driven or follower) in r.p.m.,

$T_1$  = Number of teeth on gear 1, and

$T_2$  = Number of teeth on gear 2.

Since the speed ratio (or velocity ratio) of gear train is the ratio of the speed of the driver to the speed of the driven or follower and ratio of speeds of any pair of gears in mesh is the inverse of their number of teeth, therefore

$$\text{Speed ratio} = \frac{N_1}{N_2} = \frac{T_2}{T_1}$$

It may be noted that ratio of the speed of the driven or follower to the speed of the driver is known as **train value** of the gear train. Mathematically,

$$\text{Train value} = \frac{N_2}{N_1} = \frac{T_1}{T_2}$$

From above, we see that the train value is the reciprocal of speed ratio.

Sometimes, the distance between the two gears is large. The motion from one gear to another, in such a case, may be transmitted by either of the following two methods :

1. By providing the large sized gear, or
2. By providing one or more intermediate gears.

A little consideration will show that the former method (*i.e.* providing large sized gears) is very inconvenient and uneconomical method ; whereas the latter method (*i.e.* providing one or more intermediate gear) is very convenient and economical.

It may be noted that when the number of intermediate gears are **odd**, the motion of both the gears (*i.e.* driver and driven or follower) is **like** as shown in Fig. 13.1 (b).

But if the number of intermediate gears are **even**, the motion of the driven or follower will be in the opposite direction of the driver as shown in Fig. 13.1 (c).

Now consider a simple train of gears with one intermediate gear as shown in Fig. 13.1 (b).

Let

$N_1$  = Speed of driver in r.p.m.,

$N_2$  = Speed of intermediate gear in r.p.m.,



## Compound Gear Train

When there are more than one gear on a shaft, as shown in Fig. 13.2, it is called a compound train of gear.

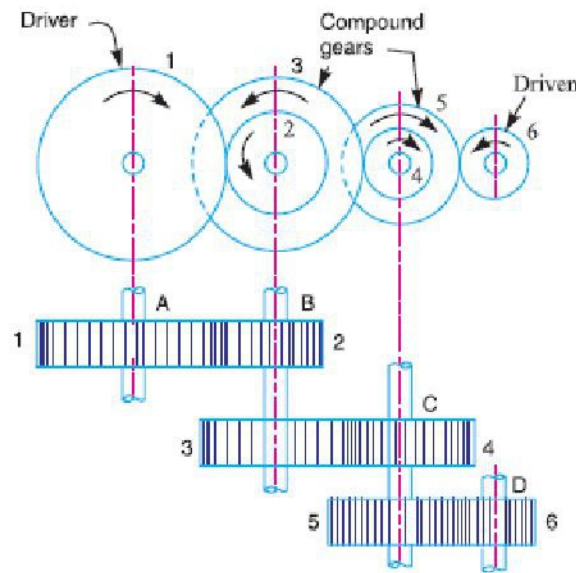


Fig. 13.2 Compound gear train.

In a compound train of gears, as shown in Fig. 13.2, the gear 1 is the driving gear mounted on shaft A, gears 2 and 3 are compound gears which are mounted on shaft B. The gears 4 and 5 are also compound gears which are mounted on shaft C and the gear 6 is the driven gear mounted on shaft D.

Let

$N_1$  = Speed of driving gear 1,

$T_1$  = Number of teeth on driving gear 1,

$N_2, N_3, \dots, N_6$  = Speed of respective gears in r.p.m., and

$T_2, T_3, \dots, T_6$  = Number of teeth on respective gears.

Since gear 1 is in mesh with gear 2, therefore its speed ratio is

$$\frac{N_1}{N_2} = \frac{T_2}{T_1} \quad \dots(i)$$

Similarly, for gears 3 and 4, speed ratio is

$$\frac{N_3}{N_4} = \frac{T_4}{T_3} \quad \dots(ii)$$

and for gears 5 and 6, speed ratio is

$$\frac{N_5}{N_6} = \frac{T_6}{T_5} \quad \dots(iii)$$

The speed ratio of compound gear train is obtained by multiplying the equations (i), (ii) and (iii),

$$\therefore \frac{N_1}{N_2} \times \frac{N_3}{N_4} \times \frac{N_5}{N_6} = \frac{T_2}{T_1} \times \frac{T_4}{T_3} \times \frac{T_6}{T_5} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{N_1}{N_6} = \frac{T_2 \times T_4 \times T_6}{T_1 \times T_3 \times T_5}$$

\* Since gears 2 and 3 are mounted on one shaft B, therefore  $N_2 = N_3$ . Similarly gears 4 and 5 are mounted on shaft C, therefore  $N_4 = N_5$ .

Speed ratio = Speed of the first driver/Speed of the last driven or follower

Train value = Speed of the last driven or follower/Speed of the first driver

= Product of number of teeth on the drivers/Product of number of teeth on the driven

## Reverted Gear Train

When the axes of the first gear (i.e. first driver) and the last gear (i.e. last driven or follower) are co-axial, then the gear train is known as reverted gear train.



## Epicyclic Gear Train

**Example 13.4.** In an epicyclic gear train, an arm carries two gears A and B having 36 and 45 teeth respectively. If the arm rotates at 150 r.p.m. in the anticlockwise direction about the centre of the gear A which is fixed, determine the speed of gear B. If the gear A instead of being fixed, makes 300 r.p.m. in the clockwise direction, what will be the speed of gear B?

**Solution.** Given :  $T_A = 36$  ;  $T_B = 45$  ;  $N_C = 150$  r.p.m. (anticlockwise)

The gear train is shown in Fig. 13.7.

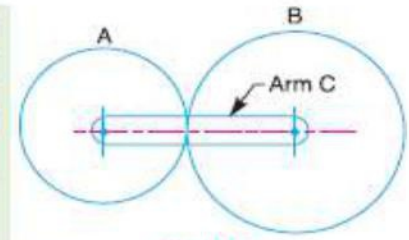


Fig. 13.7

### 1. Tabular method

First of all prepare the table of motions as given below :

Table 13.2. Table of motions.

Step No.	Conditions of motion	Revolutions of elements		
		Arm C	Gear A	Gear B
1.	Arm fixed-gear A rotates through + 1 revolution (i.e. 1 rev. anticlockwise)	0	+ 1	$-\frac{T_A}{T_B}$
2.	Arm fixed-gear A rotates through + x revolutions	0	+x	$-x \times \frac{T_A}{T_B}$
3.	Add + y revolutions to all elements	+y	+y	+y
4.	Total motion	+y	x + y	$y - x \times \frac{T_A}{T_B}$

#### Speed of gear B when gear A is fixed

Since the speed of arm is 150 r.p.m. anticlockwise, therefore from the fourth row of the table,

$$y = + 150 \text{ r.p.m.}$$

Also the gear A is fixed, therefore

$$x + y = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x = -y = - 150 \text{ r.p.m.}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \text{Speed of gear B, } N_B &= y - x \times \frac{T_A}{T_B} = 150 + 150 \times \frac{36}{45} = + 270 \text{ r.p.m.} \\ &= 270 \text{ r.p.m. (anticlockwise) } \quad \text{Ans.} \end{aligned}$$

#### Speed of gear B when gear A makes 300 r.p.m. clockwise

Since the gear A makes 300 r.p.m. clockwise, therefore from the fourth row of the table,

$$x + y = - 300 \quad \text{or} \quad x = - 300 - y = - 300 - 150 = - 450 \text{ r.p.m.}$$

$\therefore$  Speed of gear B,

$$\begin{aligned} N_B &= y - x \times \frac{T_A}{T_B} = 150 + 450 \times \frac{36}{45} = + 510 \text{ r.p.m.} \\ &= 510 \text{ r.p.m. (anticlockwise) } \quad \text{Ans.} \end{aligned}$$

### 2. Algebraic method

Let

$N_A$  = Speed of gear A,

$N_B$  = Speed of gear B, and

$N_C$  = Speed of arm C.

Assuming the arm C to be fixed, speed of gear A relative to arm C

$$= N_A - N_C$$

and speed of gear B relative to arm C =  $N_B - N_C$

Since the gears  $A$  and  $B$  revolve in *opposite* directions, therefore

$$\frac{N_B - N_C}{N_A - N_C} = -\frac{T_A}{T_B} \quad \dots(i)$$

**Speed of gear  $B$  when gear  $A$  is fixed**

When gear  $A$  is fixed, the arm rotates at 150 r.p.m. in the anticlockwise direction, i.e.

$$N_A = 0, \quad \text{and} \quad N_C = +150 \text{ r.p.m.}$$

$$\therefore \frac{N_B - 150}{0 - 150} = -\frac{36}{45} = -0.8 \quad \dots[\text{From equation (i)}]$$

or 
$$N_B = -150 \times -0.8 + 150 = 120 + 150 = 270 \text{ r.p.m. Ans.}$$

**Speed of gear  $B$  when gear  $A$  makes 300 r.p.m. clockwise**

Since the gear  $A$  makes 300 r.p.m. clockwise, therefore

$$N_A = -300 \text{ r.p.m.}$$

$$\therefore \frac{N_B - 150}{-300 - 150} = -\frac{36}{45} = -0.8$$

or 
$$N_B = -450 \times -0.8 + 150 = 360 + 150 = 510 \text{ r.p.m. Ans.}$$

**Example 13.6.** An epicyclic gear consists of three gears  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  as shown in Fig. 13.10. The gear  $A$  has 72 internal teeth and gear  $C$  has 32 external teeth. The gear  $B$  meshes with both  $A$  and  $C$  and is carried on an arm  $EF$  which rotates about the centre of  $A$  at 18 r.p.m.. If the gear  $A$  is fixed, determine the speed of gears  $B$  and  $C$ .

**Solution.** Given :  $T_A = 72$  ;  $T_C = 32$  ; Speed of arm  $EF = 18$  r.p.m.  
Considering the relative motion of rotation as shown in Table 13.5.

**Table 13.5. Table of motions.**

Step No.	Conditions of motion	Revolutions of elements			
		Arm $EF$	Gear $C$	Gear $B$	Gear $A$
1.	Arm fixed-gear $C$ rotates through + 1 revolution (i.e. 1 rev. anticlockwise)	0	+ 1	$-\frac{T_C}{T_B}$	$-\frac{T_C}{T_B} \times \frac{T_B}{T_A} = -\frac{T_C}{T_A}$
2.	Arm fixed-gear $C$ rotates through + $x$ revolutions	0	+ $x$	$-x \times \frac{T_C}{T_B}$	$-x \times \frac{T_C}{T_A}$
3.	Add + $y$ revolutions to all elements	+ $y$	+ $y$	+ $y$	+ $y$
4.	Total motion	+ $y$	+ $x + y$	+ $y - x \times \frac{T_C}{T_B}$	+ $y - x \times \frac{T_C}{T_A}$

We know that the speed of the arm is 18 r.p.m. therefore,

$$y = 18 \text{ r.p.m.}$$

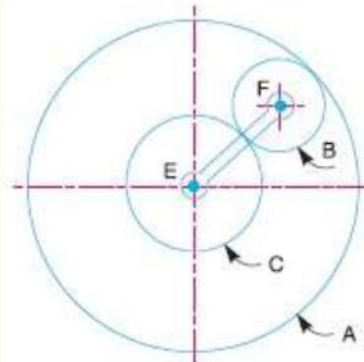
and the gear  $A$  is fixed, therefore

$$y - x \times \frac{T_C}{T_A} = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad 18 - x \times \frac{32}{72} = 0$$

$$\therefore x = 18 \times 72 / 32 = 40.5$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \text{Speed of gear } C &= x + y = 40.5 + 18 \\ &= + 58.5 \text{ r.p.m.} \\ &= 58.5 \text{ r.p.m. in the direction} \\ &\text{of arm. Ans.} \end{aligned}$$

**Speed of gear  $B$**



**Fig. 13.10**



Let  $d_A$ ,  $d_B$  and  $d_C$  be the pitch circle diameters of gears  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  respectively. Therefore, from the geometry of Fig. 13.10,

$$d_B + \frac{d_C}{2} = \frac{d_A}{2} \quad \text{or} \quad 2d_B + d_C = d_A$$

Since the number of teeth are proportional to their pitch circle diameters, therefore

$$2T_B + T_C = T_A \quad \text{or} \quad 2T_B + 32 = 72 \quad \text{or} \quad T_B = 20$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \text{Speed of gear } B &= y - x \times \frac{T_C}{T_B} = 18 - 40.5 \times \frac{32}{20} = -46.8 \text{ r.p.m.} \\ &= 46.8 \text{ r.p.m. in the opposite direction of arm. } \text{Ans.} \end{aligned}$$

**Example 13.8.** In an epicyclic gear train, the internal wheels  $A$  and  $B$  and compound wheels  $C$  and  $D$  rotate independently about axis  $O$ . The wheels  $E$  and  $F$  rotate on pins fixed to the arm  $G$ .  $E$  gears with  $A$  and  $C$  and  $F$  gears with  $B$  and  $D$ . All the wheels have the same module and the number of teeth are :  $T_C = 28$ ;  $T_D = 26$ ;  $T_E = T_F = 18$ .

1. Sketch the arrangement ; 2. Find the number of teeth on  $A$  and  $B$  ; 3. If the arm  $G$  makes 100 r.p.m. clockwise and  $A$  is fixed, find the speed of  $B$  ; and 4. If the arm  $G$  makes 100 r.p.m. clockwise and wheel  $A$  makes 10 r.p.m. counter clockwise ; find the speed of wheel  $B$ .

**Solution.** Given :  $T_C = 28$  ;  $T_D = 26$  ;  $T_E = T_F = 18$

1. **Sketch the arrangement**

The arrangement is shown in Fig. 13.12.

2. **Number of teeth on wheels  $A$  and  $B$**

Let  $T_A =$  Number of teeth on wheel  $A$ , and

$T_B =$  Number of teeth on wheel  $B$ .

If  $d_A$ ,  $d_B$ ,  $d_C$ ,  $d_D$ ,  $d_E$  and  $d_F$  are the pitch circle diameters of wheels  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$ ,  $D$ ,  $E$  and  $F$  respectively, then from the geometry of Fig. 13.12,

$$d_A = d_C + 2d_E$$

and

$$d_B = d_D + 2d_F$$

Since the number of teeth are proportional to their pitch circle diameters, for the same module, therefore

$$T_A = T_C + 2T_E = 28 + 2 \times 18 = 64 \quad \text{Ans.}$$

and

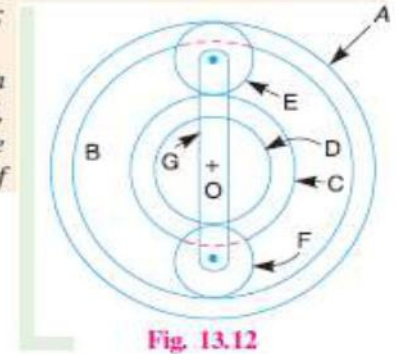
$$T_B = T_D + 2T_F = 26 + 2 \times 18 = 62 \quad \text{Ans.}$$

3. **Speed of wheel  $B$  when arm  $G$  makes 100 r.p.m. clockwise and wheel  $A$  is fixed**

First of all, the table of motions is drawn as given below :

**Table 13.7. Table of motions.**

Step No.	Conditions of motion	Revolutions of elements					
		Arm $G$	Wheel $A$	Wheel $E$	Compound wheel $C-D$	Wheel $F$	Wheel $B$
1.	Arm fixed- wheel $A$ rotates through +1 revolution (i.e. 1 rev. anticlockwise)	0	+1	$+\frac{T_A}{T_E}$	$-\frac{T_A}{T_E} \times \frac{T_E}{T_C}$ $= -\frac{T_A}{T_C}$	$+\frac{T_A}{T_C} \times \frac{T_D}{T_F}$	$+\frac{T_A}{T_C} \times \frac{T_D}{T_F} \times \frac{T_F}{T_B}$ $= +\frac{T_A}{T_C} \times \frac{T_D}{T_B}$
2.	Arm fixed-wheel $A$ rotates through + $x$ revolutions	0	+ $x$	$+x \times \frac{T_A}{T_E}$	$-x \times \frac{T_A}{T_C}$	$+x \times \frac{T_A}{T_C} \times \frac{T_D}{T_F}$	$+x \times \frac{T_A}{T_C} \times \frac{T_D}{T_B}$
3.	Add + $y$ revolutions to all elements	+ $y$	+ $y$	+ $y$	+ $y$	+ $y$	+ $y$
4.	Total motion	+ $y$	+ $x+y$	$y+x \times \frac{T_A}{T_E}$	$y-x \times \frac{T_A}{T_C}$	$y+x \times \frac{T_A}{T_C} \times \frac{T_D}{T_F}$	$y+x \times \frac{T_A}{T_C} \times \frac{T_D}{T_B}$



**Fig. 13.12**



Since the arm  $G$  makes 100 r.p.m. clockwise, therefore from the fourth row of the table,

$$y = -100 \quad \dots(i)$$

Also, the wheel  $A$  is fixed, therefore from the fourth row of the table,

$$x + y = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x = -y = 100 \quad \dots(ii)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \text{Speed of wheel } B &= y + x \times \frac{T_A}{T_C} \times \frac{T_D}{T_B} = -100 + 100 \times \frac{64}{28} \times \frac{26}{62} = -100 + 95.8 \text{ r.p.m.} \\ &= -4.2 \text{ r.p.m.} = 4.2 \text{ r.p.m. clockwise Ans.} \end{aligned}$$

**4. Speed of wheel  $B$  when arm  $G$  makes 100 r.p.m. clockwise and wheel  $A$  makes 10 r.p.m. counter clockwise**

Since the arm  $G$  makes 100 r.p.m. clockwise, therefore from the fourth row of the table

$$y = -100 \quad \dots(iii)$$

Also the wheel  $A$  makes 10 r.p.m. counter clockwise, therefore from the fourth row of the table,

$$x + y = 10 \quad \text{or} \quad x = 10 - y = 10 + 100 = 110 \quad \dots(iv)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \text{Speed of wheel } B &= y + x \times \frac{T_A}{T_C} \times \frac{T_D}{T_B} = -100 + 110 \times \frac{64}{28} \times \frac{26}{62} = -100 + 105.4 \text{ r.p.m.} \\ &= +5.4 \text{ r.p.m.} = 5.4 \text{ r.p.m. counter clockwise Ans.} \end{aligned}$$

**Example 12.11.** A pair of involute spur gears with  $16^\circ$  pressure angle and pitch of module 6 mm is in mesh. The number of teeth on pinion is 16 and its rotational speed is 240 r.p.m. When the gear ratio is 1.75, find in order that the interference is just avoided ; 1. the addenda on pinion and gear wheel ; 2. the length of path of contact ; and 3. the maximum velocity of sliding of teeth on either side of the pitch point.

**Solution.** Given :  $\phi = 16^\circ$  ;  $m = 6$  mm ;  $t = 16$  ;  $N_1 = 240$  r.p.m. or  $\omega_1 = 2\pi \times 240/60 = 25.136$  rad/s ;  $G = T/t = 1.75$  or  $T = G.t = 1.75 \times 16 = 28$

**1. Addenda on pinion and gear wheel**

We know that addendum on pinion

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{mt}{2} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \frac{T}{t} \left( \frac{T}{t} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi} - 1 \right] \\ &= \frac{6 \times 16}{2} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \frac{28}{16} \left( \frac{28}{16} + 2 \right) \sin^2 16^\circ} - 1 \right] \\ &= 48 (1.224 - 1) = 10.76 \text{ mm Ans.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and addendum on wheel} &= \frac{mT}{2} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \frac{t}{T} \left( \frac{t}{T} + 2 \right) \sin^2 \phi} - 1 \right] \\ &= \frac{6 \times 28}{2} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \frac{16}{28} \left( \frac{16}{28} + 2 \right) \sin^2 16^\circ} - 1 \right] \\ &= 84 (1.054 - 1) = 4.56 \text{ mm Ans.} \end{aligned}$$

**2. Length of path of contact**

We know that the pitch circle radius of wheel,

$$R = mT/2 = 6 \times 28/2 = 84 \text{ mm}$$

and pitch circle radius of pinion,

$$r = mt/2 = 6 \times 16/2 = 48 \text{ mm}$$

$\therefore$  Addendum circle radius of wheel,

$$R_A = R + \text{Addendum of wheel} = 84 + 10.76 = 94.76 \text{ mm}$$

and addendum circle radius of pinion,

$$r_A = r + \text{Addendum of pinion} = 48 + 4.56 = 52.56 \text{ mm}$$

We know that the length of path of approach,

$$\begin{aligned} KP &= \sqrt{(R_A)^2 - R^2 \cos^2 \phi} - R \sin \phi && \dots(\text{Refer Fig. 12.11}) \\ &= \sqrt{(94.76)^2 - (84)^2 \cos^2 16^\circ} - 84 \sin 16^\circ \\ &= 49.6 - 23.15 = 26.45 \text{ mm} \end{aligned}$$

and the length of the path of recess,

$$\begin{aligned} PL &= \sqrt{(r_A)^2 - r^2 \cos^2 \phi} - r \sin \phi \\ &= \sqrt{(52.56)^2 - (48)^2 \cos^2 16^\circ} - 48 \sin 16^\circ \\ &= 25.17 - 13.23 = 11.94 \text{ mm} \end{aligned}$$

∴ Length of the path of contact,

$$KL = KP + PL = 26.45 + 11.94 = 38.39 \text{ mm Ans.}$$

### 3. Maximum velocity of sliding of teeth on either side of pitch point

Let  $\omega_2$  = Angular speed of gear wheel.

$$\text{We know that } \frac{\omega_1}{\omega_2} = \frac{T}{t} = 1.75 \quad \text{or} \quad \omega_2 = \frac{\omega_1}{1.75} = \frac{25.136}{1.75} = 14.28 \text{ rad/s}$$

∴ Maximum velocity of sliding of teeth on the left side of pitch point *i.e.* at point *K*

$$= (\omega_1 + \omega_2) KP = (25.136 + 14.28) 26.45 = 1043 \text{ mm/s Ans.}$$

and maximum velocity of sliding of teeth on the right side of pitch point *i.e.* at point *L*

$$= (\omega_1 + \omega_2) PL = (25.136 + 14.28) 11.94 = 471 \text{ mm/s Ans.}$$