

THE BRIEF REVIEW ON THE GEARBOX FAILURE IDENTIFICATION

Mahir Hussain*

*Assistant Professor,

Department of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering,

Teerthanker Mahaveer University, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh

Email id: mahir.engineering@tmu.ac.in

DOI: 10.5958/2249-7137.2021.02672.0

ABSTRACT

The gearbox is an important part of spinning machinery and has been utilized in a variety of industrial applications. Unexpected gearbox failure may result in significant financial losses. It's also critical to spot early indications of failure in gearboxes. Defects in the gearbox may be discovered in a variety of ways. Vibration signal analysis is the most common technique for monitoring the state of the gearbox and identifying problems. Vibration analysis was utilized as a support for system maintenance choices and as a predictive maintenance method. Shifts in vibration signals caused by defects may be detected using appropriate signal processing methods to assist assess the health status of the gearbox. It is feasible to evaluate the amount and severity of the fault and therefore predict the machine's malfunction by calculating and analyzing the machine's vibration. The vibration signal of the gearbox contains the hallmark of the failure in the gearbox, and it is feasible to identify the gearbox early using different signal processing methods by analyzing the vibration signal. This article gives a brief review of the many techniques for analyzing gearbox defects based on vibration analysis, as well as some insight into contemporary approaches to diagnosing gearboxes, such as the Artificial Neural Network, fuzzy sets, and other new technologies in gear fault diagnosis.

KEYWORDS: *Fault Diagnosis, Vibration, Gearbox, Vibration Measurement Techniques, Vibration Signature.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Both devices with moving parts produce sound and vibration. Each machine has a particular vibration signature related to the structure and condition of the machine. If the state of the system shifts the signature of the vibration[1]. Incipient faults may be detected using a difference in vibration signature before they become serious. Many forms of condition control start with these basics. By increasing maintenance productivity and avoiding breakdowns, condition tracking can save money and reduce the risk of serious injuries. Vibration analysis as a key method for condition control has been widely developed over a 35-year period [2]System monitoring is now almost completely automated, thanks to simultaneous developments in electrical devices, transducers, computers, and software. The authors provide a study of a variety of diagnostic methods for detecting gearbox defects, with a focus on vibration analysis, in this paper. Vibration techniques were created for two main reasons. Figure1 shows the view of the gearbox.



Figure 1: The View of the Gearbox.

The initial objective is to separate the signal associated with the gearbox from other components and to reduce noise that may disguise the gearbox signal, especially early in the failure. The second objective is to categorize the gearbox's state, distinguish between good and faulty gear, and identify the damaged components. Waveform Analysis, Time-Frequency Analysis, Quicker Fourier Transform (FFT), Spectral Analysis, Order Analysis, Time Synchronous Average, and moments of probability density are some of the most frequently utilized gearbox methods [3].

A transmission is a mechanism that delivers regulated power application in a power transmission system. The gearbox, which employs gears and gear trains to offer speed and torque block conversions from a rotating power source to another device, is sometimes referred to as a 5-speed transmission.

The word transmission is used to describe the whole powertrain, which includes the clutch, gearbox, prop shaft (for rear-wheel drive cars), differential, and final drive shafts. The word is occasionally used in informal conversation in America to refer to the gearbox alone, though the precise meaning varies.

The most typical use is in automobiles, where the gearbox adjusts the internal combustion engine's output to the driving wheels. Such engines must run at a high rotational speed, which is inconvenient for starting, halting, and slower travel. The gearbox shifts the greater engine speed to the slower wheel speed, which increases torque. Transmissions are also utilized on pedal bicycles, stationary machines, and other applications that need varying rotational speeds and torques. A gearbox often contains various gear ratios (or simply "gears") that may be switched between when the speed changes. This may be done manually (by the operator) or automatically (by the system) (by a control unit). Control in both directions (forward and backward) may be available. There are also single-ratio gearboxes, which vary the speed and torque (and occasionally the direction) of the motor output.

Because internal combustion engines cannot operate below a certain speed, the gearbox is usually linked to the engine crankshaft by a flywheel, clutch, or fluid coupling in automobiles. The driveshaft transmits the transmission's output to one or more differentials, which drive the wheels. While a differential may also offer gear reduction, its principal function is to allow the

wheels at each end of an axle to revolve at separate speeds when it changes the direction of rotation (important to minimize wheel slippage on bends). Speed/torque adaptability is not limited to conventional gear/belt transmissions. Torque converters and power transformation are examples of alternative methods (e.g. diesel-electric transmission and hydraulic drive system). There are also hybrid setups. Automatic gearboxes employ fluid pressures to change gears in response to the engine's RPM, speed, and throttle input.

Because of the ease of computation, vibration-based diagnostic methods have become the most popular monitoring methodology. Vibration analysis was formerly utilized mainly to identify faults and hazardous working conditions. Demands for condition control and vibration analysis are no longer confined to trying to minimize the consequences of system failures, but now include the ability to make more productive use of existing resources [4].

The results of a range of different noise components will be included in the measurement signal generated by the computer in the working region. One of the most difficult aspects of condition monitoring is locating and selecting the element of the signal that may be related to the monitored portion's state. The analysis of vibration signals received from the gearbox housing is recognized as one of the most sophisticated methods for gear diagnostics [5]. The primary objective is to detect and monitor the incidence and kind of defect at the start of production so that the system's residual life can be determined and an appropriate maintenance plan can be chosen.

The time-frequency domain average method (TSA) minimizes signal noise while capturing the features of a single signal cycle. In the detection and localization of gear fractures with different degrees of damage, the Wavelet Transform yields an accurate result [6]. Under varying load circumstances, time domain methods for vibration signal analysis such as waveform creation, indices (RMS value, peak value, and crest factor), and entire vibration level offer no diagnostic evidence. FFT was able to show whims at fault-characteristic frequencies and numerous frequencies in the frequency domain, however owing to the signal modulation effect, additional peaks are also visible [6].

For pumping, milling, and lifting, early transmissions featured right-angle drives and various gears in windmills, horse-powered devices, and steam engines. Most contemporary gearboxes are utilized to boost torque while lowering the output shaft speed of a prime mover (e.g. a motor crankshaft). This implies that the output shaft of a gearbox spins at a lower speed than the input shaft, creating a mechanical advantage that increases torque. A gearbox may be configured to accomplish the converse, increasing shaft speed while reducing torque. Some of the most basic gearboxes do little more than shift the physical rotational direction of the power transfer[7].

Many standard automotive gearboxes allow you to choose from a variety of gear ratios. In this situation, the majority of the gear ratios (often referred to as "gears") are employed to reduce the engine's output speed and boost torque. The highest gears, on the other hand, may be "overdrive" varieties, which enhance the output speed. The most basic transmissions, frequently referred to as gearboxes due to their simplicity (although complicated systems are often referred to as gearboxes in the vernacular), enable gear reduction (or, more rarely, an increase in speed), sometimes in combination with a right-angle shift in shaft direction (typically in helicopters, see picture).

Because the axial PTO shaft conflicts with the conventional need for the driven shaft, which is either vertical (as with rotary mowers) or horizontally stretching from one side of the implement to the other, they are often employed on PTO-powered agricultural equipment (as with manure spreaders, flail mowers, and forage wagons). More complicated machines, such as silage choppers and snow blowers, feature drives with many outputs. Helicopters, too, employ a split-torque gearbox, which splits power from the engine into two directions for the various rotors.

The gearbox of a wind turbine transfers the turbine's sluggish, high-torque spin into the electrical generator's much quicker rotation. These are substantially bigger and more sophisticated than agricultural equipment PTO gearboxes. They weigh several tons and usually have three stages to create an overall gear ratio ranging from 40:1 to over 100:1 depending on the turbine size. (Though bigger turbines must revolve at slower rates for aerodynamic and structural reasons, the generators must all rotate at identical speeds of several thousand rpm.) For compactness and to disperse the huge torque of the turbine across more teeth of the low-speed shaft, the initial stage of the gearbox is commonly a planetary gear[8].

For a long time, the durability of these gearboxes has been a severe issue. These basic transmissions all have one thing in common: the gear ratio cannot be modified while in operation, regardless of where they are utilized. It is determined at the time the transmission is built. Continuously variable transmission, usually known as CVT, is a form of transmission that solves this problem. The internal combustion engine's characteristics necessitate the use of a gearbox in a car. Engines normally run between 600 to 7000 rpm (though this varies and is often lower for diesel engines), while the car's wheels revolve between 0 and 1800 rpm.

In addition, the engine's maximum torque and power outputs are distributed unevenly over the rpm range, resulting in a torque and power band. When the vehicle is going from a standstill or driving slowly, the highest torque is often necessary, while maximum power is required at high speeds. As a result, a system is necessary that changes the engine's output such that it can provide high torque at low speeds while simultaneously running at highway speeds while remaining within the motor's restrictions. This transition is carried out through transmissions[9].

The dynamics of an automobile change with speed: at low speeds, the inertia of the vehicle's gross mass limits acceleration; at cruising or maximum speeds, wind resistance is the primary obstacle. Many gearboxes and gears used in automobiles and trucks are housed in cast iron cases, while aluminum is increasingly being utilized for less weight, notably in automobiles. The main shaft, a countershaft, and an idler shaft are commonly the three shafts. The main shaft extends outside the case in both directions, with the input shaft facing the engine and the output shaft facing the rear axle (for rear-wheel-drive vehicles). The engine and gearbox are usually positioned transversely in front-wheel-drive cars, with the differential being part of the transmission unit.) The primary bearings hang the shaft, which is divided at the input end. A pilot bearing keeps the shafts together at the split point. The gears and clutches are mounted on the main shaft, with the gears free to rotate relative to the main shaft unless the clutches are engaged[10].

2. DISCUSSION

The initial objective is to separate the signal associated with the gearbox from other components and to reduce noise that may disguise the gearbox signal, especially early in the failure. The

second objective is to categorize the gearbox's state, distinguish between good and faulty gear, and identify the damaged components. Waveform Analysis, Time-Frequency Analysis, Quicker Fourier Transform (FFT), Spectral Analysis, Order Analysis, Time Synchronous Average, and moments of probability density are some of the most frequently utilized gearbox methods.

Because of the ease of computation, vibration-based diagnostic methods have become the most popular monitoring methodology. Vibration analysis was formerly utilized mainly to identify faults and hazardous working conditions. Demands for condition control and vibration analysis are no longer confined to trying to minimize the consequences of system failures, but now include the ability to make more productive use of existing resources.

The results of a range of different noise components will be included in the measurement signal generated by the computer in the working region. One of the most difficult aspects of condition monitoring is locating and selecting the element of the signal that may be related to the monitored portion's state. The analysis of vibration signals received from the gearbox housing is recognized as one of the most sophisticated methods for gear diagnostics. The primary objective is to detect and monitor the incidence and kind of defect at the start of production so that the system's residual life can be determined and an appropriate maintenance plan can be chosen.

The most common use is in vehicles, where the gearbox regulates the output of the internal combustion engine to the driving wheels. These engines must rotate at a rapid rate, which is troublesome for starting, stopping, and slower travel. The gearbox transfers the higher engine speed to the lower wheel speed, resulting in more torque. Pedal bicycles, stationary machinery, and other applications that need changing rotational speeds and torques use transmissions. When the speed varies, a gearbox may have many gear ratios (or simply "gears") that may be shifted between. This may be accomplished either manually (by the operator) or automatically (by the system) (by a control unit). It's possible that control in both directions (forward and backward) is accessible. There are also single-ratio gearboxes, which adjust the motor output's speed and torque (and, on rare occasions, the direction).

In vehicles, the gearbox is frequently coupled to the engine crankshaft by a flywheel, clutch, or fluid coupling since internal combustion engines cannot work below a particular speed. The transmission's output is sent via the driveshaft to one or more differentials, which drive the wheels. While a differential may reduce gear ratios, its primary purpose is to enable the wheels at either end of an axle to rotate at different speeds when the rotational direction is changed (important to minimize wheel slippage on bends). Traditional gear/belt transmissions aren't the only ones with speed/torque flexibility. Alternative solutions include torque converters and power transformation (e.g. diesel-electric transmission and hydraulic drive system). Hybrid systems are also available. Fluid pressures are used in automatic gearboxes to change gears in response to the engine's RPM, speed, and throttle input.

The dynamics of a car alter with speed: at low speeds, the vehicle's gross mass inertia inhibits acceleration; at cruising or top speeds, wind resistance is the main stumbling block. Many gearboxes and gears in vehicles and trucks are contained in cast iron casings, but aluminum is increasingly being used in autos for weight savings. The three shafts are usually the main shaft, a countershaft, and an idler shaft. The input shaft faces the engine, and the output shaft faces the rear axle, therefore the main shaft extends outside the case in both directions (for rear-wheel-drive vehicles). In front-wheel-drive automobiles, the engine and gearbox are normally mounted

transversely, with the differential integrated into the transmission unit.) The shaft is suspended by the main bearings, which are separated at the input end. At the split point, a pilot bearing holds the shafts together. The clutches and gears are positioned on the main shaft, with the gears free to spin relative to it unless the clutches are engaged.

3. CONCLUSION

The meshing frequency and the harmonics produced with the sidebands owing to modulation are widely known to be the most significant components in the vibration of the gear. Increases in the quantity and amplitude of sidebands may indicate a gearbox problem. Vibration analysis may be used to detect broken teeth, misalignment, damaged and/or worn teeth, eccentric gear, and other defects in gears. Vibration analysis may detect rotor and shaft defects, as well as unbalance, bending shaft, misalignment, eccentric papers, loose pieces, rubs, crucible rpm, broken shaft, and other issues. Vibration analysis methods may effectively detect race and ball/roller pitting, spalling, and other problems in roller bearings. The time-frequency domain average method (TSA) minimizes signal noise while capturing the features of a single signal cycle. In the detection and localization of gear fractures with different degrees of damage, the Wavelet Transform yields an accurate result. Under varying load circumstances, time domain methods for vibration signal analysis such as waveform creation, indices (RMS value, peak value, and crest factor), and entire vibration level offer no diagnostic evidence. FFT was able to show whims at fault-characteristic frequencies and numerous frequencies in the frequency domain, however owing to the signal modulation effect, additional peaks are also visible.

This approach makes detecting fault groups harder. Help Vector Machine may be utilized for automated fault diagnosis since it has a better classification capacity to identify various problems in the gearbox. The network will save maintenance costs and keep the production system constant, and it may even be utilized for online process diagnostics.

REFERENCES

1. D. G. Lewicki, K. E. LaBerge, R. T. Ehinger, and J. Fetty, "Planetary gearbox fault detection using vibration separation techniques," 2011.
2. A. Aherwar and S. Khalid, "Vibration analysis techniques for gearbox diagnostic: A review," *Int. J. Adv. Eng. Technol.*, 2012.
3. E. B. Halim, M. A. A. Shoukat Choudhury, S. L. Shah, and M. J. Zuo, "Time domain averaging across all scales: A novel method for detection of gearbox faults," *Mech. Syst. Signal Process.*, 2008, doi: 10.1016/j.ymsp.2007.08.006.
4. S. J. Loutridis, "Damage detection in gear systems using empirical mode decomposition," *Eng. Struct.*, 2004, doi: 10.1016/j.engstruct.2004.07.007.
5. L. Hong and J. S. Dhupia, "A time domain approach to diagnose gearbox fault based on measured vibration signals," *J. Sound Vib.*, 2014, doi: 10.1016/j.jsv.2013.11.033.
6. F. Herzberg, "Two-Factor Theory of Motivation.," in *Motivation theory.*, 1959.
7. T. Praveenkumar, B. Sabhrish, M. Saimurugan, and K. I. Ramachandran, "Pattern recognition based on-line vibration monitoring system for fault diagnosis of automobile gearbox," *Meas. J. Int. Meas. Confed.*, 2018, doi: 10.1016/j.measurement.2017.09.041.

8. Q. Wang, Y. Zhu, Z. Zhang, C. Fu, C. Dong, and H. Su, "Partial Load: A Key Factor Resulting in the Failure of Gear in the Wind Turbine Gearbox," *J. Fail. Anal. Prev.*, 2016, doi: 10.1007/s11668-015-0057-y.
9. C. Black, "Q&A: Colin Black: A Passion for Energy Education," *J. Pet. Technol.*, 2017, doi: 10.2118/0817-0046-jpt.
10. P. J. Link, "Minimizing electric bearing currents in adjustable speed drive systems," 2009, doi: 10.1109/papcon.1998.685519.