

Single Flank Testing

The quality of a power train – and thus that of a gearbox – is more and more dependent on the noise emitted by the package. Hence testing methods such as noise or single flank testing gain in importance. The traditional single flank testing, per definition done at low revolutions (approx. 20 rpm) and with a small load, is considered a useful tool for judging a gear's quality. Biggest advantage of this testing method is its numerical comparability throughout the world, as all results are non-dependent on any external factors.

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The ideal case is for a pair of gears to uniformly transmit the circular motion. The working variation is the difference in position between where a tooth should be and where it actually is due to the probable lack of quality.

Measurement of working variation

Usually two high-resolution incremental encoders are fitted to the axles of the two gears to be tested. The ROTEC system measures the intervals between the encoders' lines on both gear and drive. Obtaining the angular position of pinion and gear, the working variation can be determined. A high resolution is ensured by the measurement system's fast clock for all data acquisition channels. Evaluating every single line given by the encoder allows for exact reproduction of the meshing.

Calculating the angular deviation between the two encoders results in a curve for the total error (single flank deviation). Not only does it show the meshing, the eccentricity of the shafts can also be seen. Distinguishing is possible between a short wave component repeating once per tooth and a long wave component showing once per revolution. The first of the two is caused by variation of the tooth geometry (crowning, etc...) and by an irregular tooth surface whereas the latter results from a varying concentricity of the two shafts. Additional non-tooth-dependent factors, a borehole for example, might also be of importance.

Data should ideally be recorded for at least one complete over-rolling of the two wheels. With the help of averaging routines, the ROTEC software can differentiate between pinion and gear. The long wave portion of the total error

curve is isolated using a low pass filter with a cut-off order set at 1/3 of the tooth mesh. Subtracting this new curve from the original one leaves behind the short wave component.

Related Values

Apart from analysing the working variation, the ROTEC system can also acquire and calculate values such as angular acceleration of gear and pinion, structure-borne noise of the bearings or the emitted airborne sound. Synchronous acquisition of all channels is guaranteed. Since order analysis of all data is possible, accurate correlation between, for example, noise levels and tooth meshing may be made.

DIN Characteristic Values

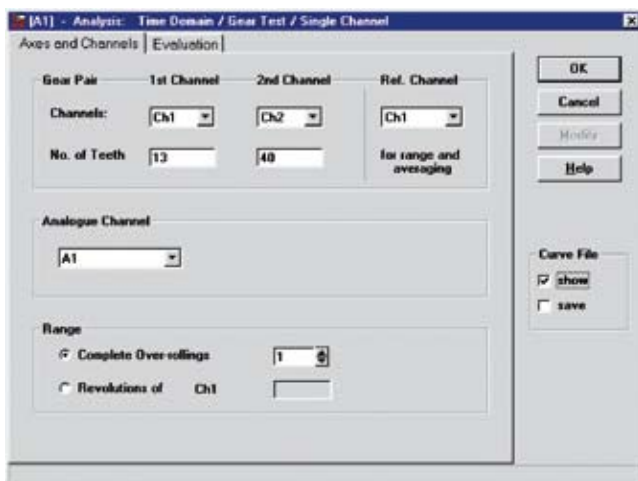
- F_i' total error
- f_l' long wave component
- f_k' short wave component
- f_{max}' maximum value of tooth-to-tooth error
- f_{mit}' average value of tooth-to-tooth error



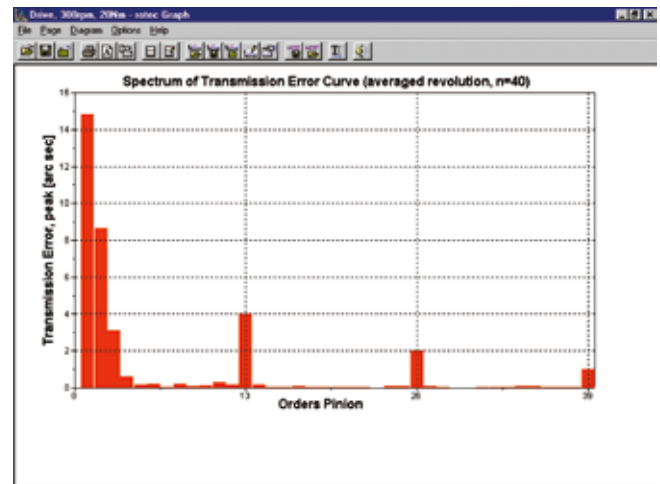
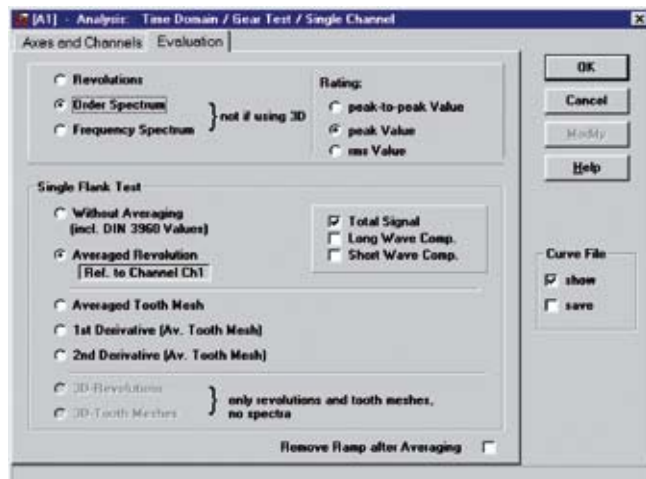
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Application Example – Bevel Gears

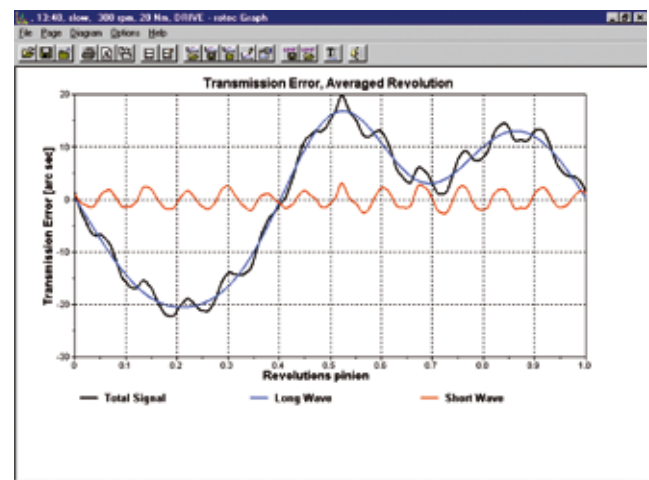
pinion / gear: 13 / 40 teeth
 rotational direction: drive
 load: 20 Nm
 drive shaft speed: 60 Upm
 rotary encoders: 18000 lines



User-friendly software environment



The spectrum of the total transmission error includes the tooth-meshing order, its harmonics and side bands.



The transmission error curves show the deviation between the actual position of the driven wheel and the position it would occupy if the gearset were perfectly conjugate.