

Contact Characteristics Analysis of Taper Rollers and Oilstones in Through-feed Superfinishing

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Abstract. The regularity of the through-feed superfinishing of the taper roller is considered, the radial contact arc length between a oilstone and a roller is calculated, the model of superfinishing dynamic valid cutting edge numbers is built, the influence of key parameters to radial contact arc length and dynamic valid cutting edge numbers is analyzed. The result is given as follows. The two parameters that keep the greatest influence on the arc length and the cutting edge numbers are the roller diameter and the cutting surface depth of the oilstone. With increase of the two parameters in the big end of the roller, the arc length and the cutting edge numbers increase rapidly. The roller generatrix can be machined into perfect crown shape by changing cutting surface depth reasonably and controlling the distribution of dynamic valid cutting edge along the axial direction.

Introduction

The taper roller is a key component of rolling bearings. The shape of the roller crown is important to roller quality[1]. Both theoretical analysis and experimental verification have proven that logarithmic crown is perfect[2]. The logarithmic crown has a positive effect on improving contact stress distribution of rollers and raceways and it is important for improving quality and life of rolling bearings[3,4]. Superfinishing is the most important process of machining roller crown[5]. Through-feed superfinishing is the main machining method of the roller. Yet formation mechanism of roller crown is not clear on theory. The distribution condition of oilstone cutting edge is an important factor to influence material removal rate of the roller. This paper draw lessons from modeling methods of grinding wheel, bases on experimental data and parameter, analyse contact surface shape in superfinishing area and distribution of oilstone cutting edge.

The Processing Method of the Through-feed Superfinishing

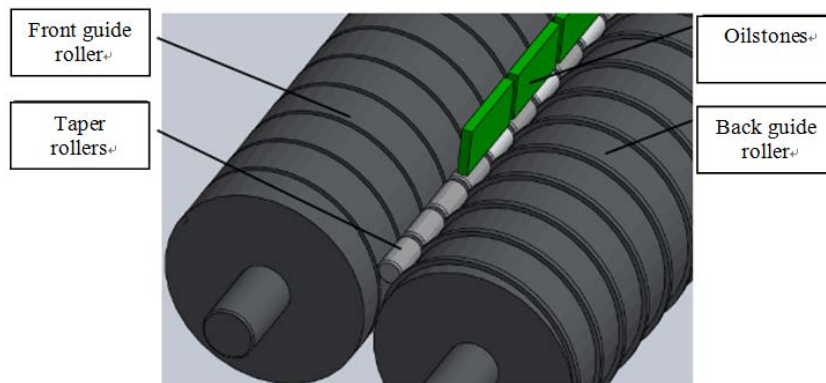


Fig.1 Machining method sketch map of through-feed superfinishing of taper rollers

Fig. 1 shows the processing method of through-feed superfinishing of taper rollers by oilstones. Two guide rollers rotate in the fixed axis and the same direction. Rollers move along the axial and

rotate by the driving force of the two guide rollers. A row of oilstones press on the rollers with appropriate pressures and oscillate back and forth along the axial. This paper regard the taper roller as one that many thin slices stack up, and the radius of these thin slices are from small to large.

Analysis of the Radial Contact Arc Length

Fig. 2 shows the geometry relationship between oilstones and rollers. Fig. a is axial main view and Fig. b is radial left view. r_w represent roller radius, r_s represent contact surface radius. ψ represent contact angle. Δz represents width of a roller thin slice. Fig. a shows that the superfining speed of abrasives equal rotational speed of rollers. Fig. b shows that the superfining speed of abrasives equal superpose speed of oscillation speed of oilstones and axial speed of rollers.

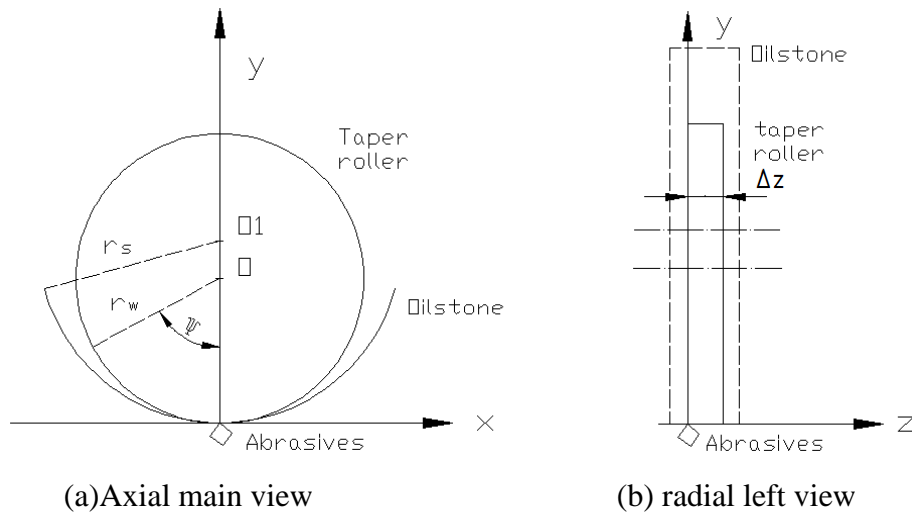


Fig.2 Contact sketch map of rollers and oilstones

Based on the analysis above, the part of particle equation of abrasives is as follows.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x = r_w \sin \psi \\ y = r_w (1 - \cos \psi) \\ z = \frac{\psi}{2\pi \frac{n_w}{60}} (v_s \pm f_a) \\ v_s = 4Af \end{array} \right. \quad (1)$$

n_w represents rotational speed of rollers, v_s represents oscillation average speed of oilstones, A represents amplitude of oilstones, f represents oscillation frequency of oilstones, f_a represents axial feed rate of rollers. It is “-” when the direction of oilstone oscillation and the direction of roller axial feed are the same, and is “+” when contrary.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} l_s = \int_0^\psi dl_s = \psi \sqrt{r_w^2 + \left[\frac{30}{\pi n_w} (v_s \pm f_a) \right]^2} \\ \psi \approx 2 \sqrt{\frac{d_s a_s}{d_w (d_s - d_w)}} \\ d_e = \frac{d_s}{d_w (d_s - d_w)} \end{array} \right. \quad (2)$$

Integrate the equation $dl_s = \sqrt{dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2}$ and obtain the equation of l_s . d_s represents the superfiniting diameter of oilstones, d_w represents roller diameter.

Fig. 3 shows ψ , a_s represents cutting surface depth of oilstones. Many factors like radial pressure, contact area, material properties of oilstones and rollers decide the value of a_s which can be obtained by experiments.

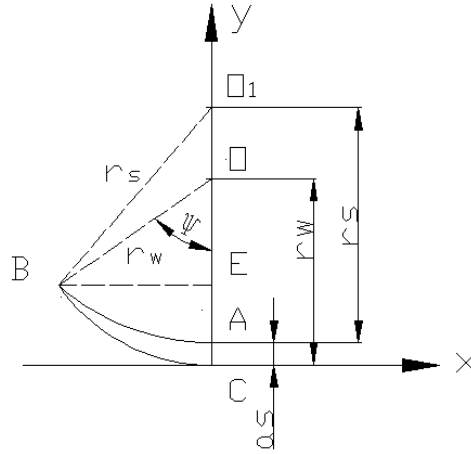


Fig.3 contact angle sketch map of rollers and oilstones

Actual radial contact arc length is 1.3 times to 2.3 times longer than theory[6]. This paper add a coefficient k_t which is bigger than 1 and its value can be obtained by experiments. The influence of f_a to l_s can be ignored. According to conclusions above, the equation of l_s is as follows.

$$l_s = k_t \sqrt{d_e a_s} \cdot \sqrt{d_w^2 + \left(\frac{60v_s}{\pi n_w} \right)^2} \quad (3)$$

According to references[6,7], the key parameters in Eq. 3 can be determined as followed: $k_t = 1.3$, $A = 1mm$, $f = 45cycles / s$, $d_s = 10mm$, $8mm \leq d_w \leq 10mm$, $a_s = 0.005mm$, $n_w = 600r / min$. Fig. 4 shows the result of MATLAB.

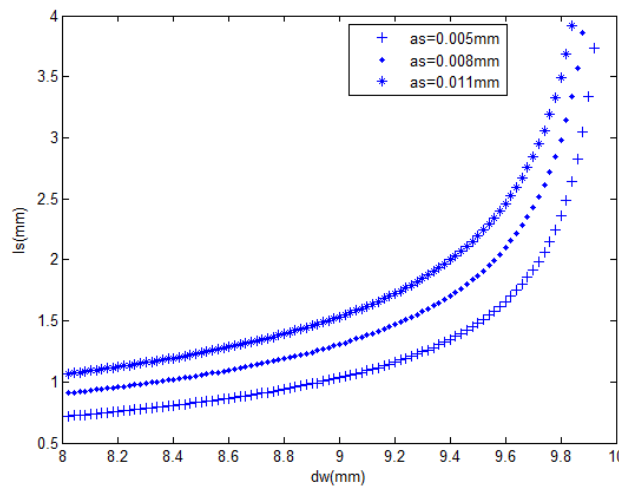


Fig.4 The influence of a_s to l_s

What can be founded by observing the various curves in Fig. 4 is that radial contact arc length l_s increases with the increase of tapered roller diameter d_w . From the small end of the roller to the middle portion it increases slowly, at the large end it increases quickly. This phenomenon can be

explained as follows. First, with the increase of d_w , the roller shape of the superfinishing part and the surface shape of the oilstone become more and more similar. Second, with the increase of d_w , the relative velocity of the roller and the oilstone increases constantly. It is already proved in the grinding model that the bigger the relative velocity is, the smaller the contact area is. The superfinishing contact surface shaped like a "π", which is in line with expectations.

The radial contact arc length I_s increases with the increase of machining surface depth a_s when d_w is the same, that means a_s has a great influence on I_s . This conclusion is entirely consistent in the actual situation. It can be seen from the distance between the adjacent two curves that, the increase speed of I_s with the increase of a_s remains substantially unchanged.

Calculation and Analysis of Cutting Edge Numbers

On the surface of the oilstone, the height of abrasive is not the same. Determine a cutting surface depth value a_s along radial of oilstone surface, and the conclusion can be obtained that only a part of abrasives can participate in superfinishing. The calculating equation of N_t is as follows.

$$N_t = c_1 k_s a_s^p \quad (4)$$

c_1 represents a coefficient related to cutting edge density of the oilstone, k_s represents a coefficient related to cutting edge shape, p is an index. Unit length refers to axial. Dynamic valid cutting edge is less than static valid cutting edge, a less than 1 coefficient k_d should be added and its value can be obtained by experiments. The equation of dynamic valid cutting edge numbers is as follows.

$$N_d = k_d N_t I_s \Delta Z \quad (5)$$

ΔZ represents width of the thin slice, N_d represents dynamic valid cutting edge numbers contact with the thin slice which is affected by the diameter of the thin slice.

According to references[6,7], the key parameters in Eq. 5 can be determined as followed: $c_1 = 10^5 \text{ mm}^2$, $k_s = 1$, $k_d = 0.8$, $p = 1.5$, $\Delta Z = 0.1 \text{ mm}$. Fig. 5 shows the result of MATLAB.

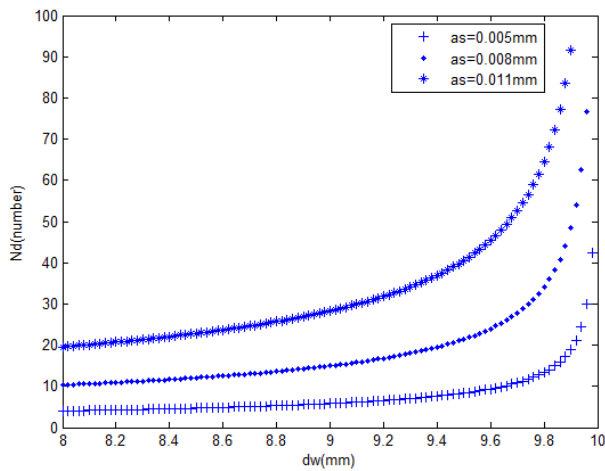


Fig.5 The influence of a_s to N_d

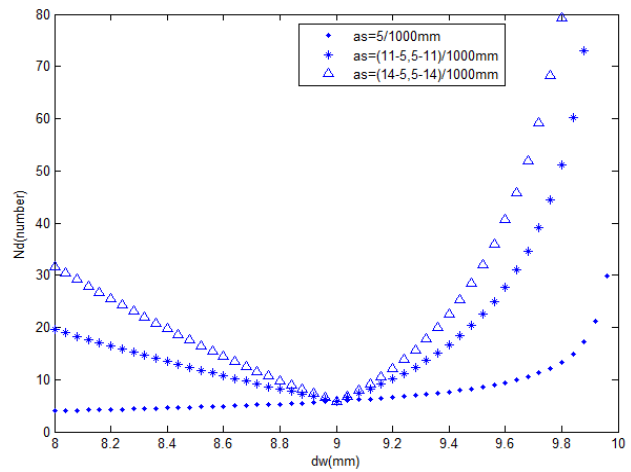


Fig.6 The influence of a_s to N_d

What can be founded by observing the various curves in Fig. 5 is that dynamic valid cutting edge numbers N_d increases with the increase of tapered roller diameter d_w . From the small end of the roller to the middle portion it increases slowly, at the large end of the roller it increases quickly.

The dynamic valid cutting edge numbers N_d increases with the increase of machining surface depth a_s when d_w is the same, that means a_s has a great influence on N_d . A minor change of a_s can change N_d significantly and then change roller material removal rate. This conclusion is significant, for the roller material removal rate has a positive correlation with the dynamic valid cutting edge numbers. In the process of superfinishing, to make the roller generatrix obtain the crown, N_d must be changed according to certain rules correspondingly. To control N_d by changing a_s is easier to operate compared with changing other key parameters.

The value of a_s should be identified as a variable that it decrease uniformly in the first half and increase uniformly in the second half with increase of d_w . All the value of parameters are the same as above, Fig. 6 shows the result of MATLAB. a_s obtains the minimum value 0.005mm when d_w equals 9mm and obtains the maximum value 0.011mm or 0.014mm when d_w equals 8mm or 10mm. Fig. 6 shows that N_d obtains the minimum value in the middle part, bigger value in the small end and the maximum in the big end, the curve shape looks like a “V”. Symmetric crown of the roller generatrix means that the material removal amount of the middle part is the least, of the small end is bigger and of the big end is the maximum. The shape “V” of N_d is perfect.

Summary

(1) In the superfinishing, the change of radial contact arc length and valid cutting edge numbers is caused by the change of the taper roller diameter.

(2) The arc length and the cutting edge numbers increase slowly in the small end and the middle part but rapidly in the big end with the increase of the roller diameter.

(3) The cutting edge numbers curve shape can be changed by changing cutting surface depth and the ideal curve can be obtained.

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