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## **RESEARCH ARTICLE**

# PARAMETRIC GEOMETRIC MODELING OF THE THEORETICAL PROFILES OF WORM AND HOLLOW WHEELS

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A parametric model to represent the profiles of ZA, ZI and ZK-types worms and a hollow wheel in

the transverse plane (plane normal to the axis of the worm) has been developed, based on their

characteristics. The profiles represented by a relatively fine meshing are more representative and can

be used to generate wheels and worms more easily under the CAD and the finite element software's.

As a result, these models can be useful in rapid prototyping to manufacture worm gears according to

#### **ARTICLE INFO**

### ABSTRACT

the perfect theoretical model.

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### INTRODUCTION

Worm gears are used to transmit a torque between two noncoplanar axes, usually at a 90° angle between them, especially in the case of transmission with a high speed ratio. They are often used in divisors. Among them, the most widespread remains the worm gear with a hollow wheel. Several modeling works of profiles and surfaces [15-18] have been carried out based on the kinematic conditions of cutting. The authors take into account the interaction between the tool and the work piece to determine the equations of the surfaces and profiles. These models, if it is interest when machining metal materials, may be ineffective when dealing with plastic worm gear molding or rapid prototyping.

### WORM MODELING

The distinction of the worm is based on the nature of their profile in the axial plane. There are four types: ZA worm (trapezoidal thread) (Fig.1), ZK worm (circular thread), ZI worm (involute thread), ZN worm (globular worm). By adopting a complex notation, the equation of their profile in the axial plane $(O, O_v, O_v)$  is given by the relation Eq.1 where

 $S_{m,x}$  is the axial thickness of a net at the radius  $r_m$ .

$$z_{m,x} = \frac{1}{2}s_{m,x} + ir_m = r_m e^{i\phi_m}$$
(1)

A point *M* of the axial profile of affix  $z_{m,x}$ , has in the (apparent) normal plane an affix  $z_{m,p}$  whose expression is given by the relation Eq.2 where  $s_{m,p}$  is the apparent thickness of a net at the radius  $r_m$ .

$$z_{m,p} = -\frac{1}{2}s_{m,p} + i(r_m \cos(\theta_m)) = r_m e^{i(\theta_m + \frac{\pi}{2})}$$
(2)

To determine the apparent profile of a worm is to determine the polar angle  $\theta_m$ . Equation Eq.3 gives the expression:

$$\theta_m = \frac{\pi}{z \cdot p_x} \left( s_{m,x} \right) \tag{3}$$

The distinction between the worms ZA, ZI and ZK is related to the expression of  $s_{m,x}$  which is explained afterwards, for each of these three types of worm.

#### Trapezoidal profile screw (type ZA)

The type ZA worm has in the axial section a rectilinear profile determined by the axial pressure angle  $\alpha_x$ . In the normal section to the axis, this worm has a curved profile which

despite its appearance is not a involute of a circle. This profile is called Archimedes spiral.

$$s_{m,x} = s_{a,x} + 2(r_a - r_m)\tan\alpha_x \tag{4}$$



Figure 1. Representation of a 5-thread trapezoidal screw cutter

#### Circular profile worm (type ZK)

The axial profile of the worm ZK is a portion of a circle defined by its center  $O = (x_0, y_0)$  and its curved radius  $R_o$ . The axial thickness and the equation of the normal profile are given by the following relation.

$$s_{m,x} = 2\left(y_o + \sqrt{R_o^2 - (r_m + x_o)^2}\right)$$
(5)

#### Worm with involute profile (ZI)

The apparent section of the worm has an involute profile of a circle. The developable helical worm can therefore be likened to a cylindrical wheel with helical teeth of helix angle  $\beta_b$  (Eq.6). The axial section, even if it seems to be rectilinear, is always convex [14].

$$\beta_b = \arctan\left(\frac{d_{b1}}{z_1 m_x}\right) = \arctan\left(\frac{d_1 \cos \alpha_x}{z_1 m_x}\right) \tag{6}$$

The section of the threads (Figure 2) of the screw by a plane parallel to the axial plane and tangential to the base cylinder gives a rectilinear profile whose pressure angle $\alpha$  is given by the relation Eq.7.

$$\alpha = \frac{\pi}{2} - \beta_b \tag{7}$$

This straight profile is a fundamental property for developable helical worms. It represents the generating tangent of the net. A point M of the axial profile corresponds to a radius  $r_m$ , an angle of incidence  $\alpha_m$  and an axial thickness  $s_{m,x}$  (Eq.8), has for affix  $z_m$ .

$$s_{m,x} = p_z \frac{inv\alpha_m}{\pi} \tag{8}$$

#### Profile representation procedure

The representation of the normal profile is done according to the algorithm described in appendix 1. The geometric quality is then function of the number  $n_d$  of points M chosen: it is the constant of discretization or the parameter of mesh of the profile. The bigger is  $n_d$ , the better the accuracy.



Figure 2. Section of a ZI worm

### **MODELING HOLLOW WHEELS**

The modeling of the hollow worm wheel is very complex because the parameters and characteristics are defined only in the median plane of the wheel (axial plane of the screw). The difficulties also lie in the non-uniformity of the profiles according to the various planes normal to the axis of the hollow

#### Determination of the profile in a normal plane wheel

The study of a worm gear is reduced in the axial plane to a gear rack. Therefore, the conjugate profile of the wheel in this plane is the involute corresponding to this rack. The profile is determined as if it were an ordinary helical wheel using the apparent parameters. The apparent pressure angle of the hollow wheel is equal to the axial pressure angle of the conjugate worm. In addition, the cutting of the wheel is usually without interference because of its large number of teeth.

$$\Gamma = \Gamma_i \bigcup \Gamma_t \tag{9}$$

The profile  $\Gamma$  (Eq.9) of a wheel then consists of a involute (involute of circle)  $\Gamma_i$ , and a trochoïde (connection at the foot of tooth),  $\Gamma_t$ .

**Principle of parametrization:** The method used for the modeling of the hollow width wheel *b* is based on the determination of any profile  $\Gamma_q$  in any plane normal to the axis of the wheel.

$$(P_a): z_a = k, \ |k| = b_a \le b \tag{10}$$

| Table 1: | Geometric | characteristics | of a | worm | gear | [3, 14 | 4] |
|----------|-----------|-----------------|------|------|------|--------|----|
|----------|-----------|-----------------|------|------|------|--------|----|

| Axial module (screw)<br>or apparent (wheel) $m_x$ Number of nets or<br>teeth $z_1$ $z_2$ Helix angle $\beta_1$ $\beta_2$ offset $x = \omega_0 \varepsilon$ $x = \omega_0 (1 - \varepsilon)$ Real module $m_n = m_x \sin \beta_1$ Axial pressure angle<br>(screw) or apparent<br>(wheel) $\alpha_x$ Not axial (screw) or<br>apparent (wheel) $p_x = \pi m_x$ Helical step $p_{z1} = z_1 p_x$ $p_{z2} = z_2 p_x$ Normal system with $\beta_1 > 75^\circ$ Reference protrusion $h_a = m_x$ Hollow reference $h_f = 1.2m_x$ Tooth height $h = 2.2m_x$ Exerct with height $h = 2.2m_x$ | GRANDEURS  | VIS                        | ROUE  |  |
|---|--|----------------------------|---|--|
| Number of nets or<br>teeth $Z_1$ $Z_2$ Helix angle $\beta_1$ $\beta_2$ offset $x = \omega_0 \varepsilon$ $x = \omega_0 (1 - \varepsilon)$ Real module $m_n = m_x \sin \beta_1$ Axial pressure angle<br>(screw) or apparent<br>(wheel) $\alpha_x$ Not axial (screw) or<br>apparent (wheel) $p_x = \pi m_x$ Helical step $p_{z1} = z_1 p_x$ $p_{z2} = z_2 p_x$ Normal system with $\beta_1 > 75^\circ$ Reference protrusion $h_a = m_x$ Hollow reference $h_f = 1.2m_x$ Tooth heightLow to the bottom of $p_x = \pi m_x$  | Axial module (screw)<br>or apparent (wheel)            | m <sub>x</sub>             |   |  |
| Helix angle $\beta_1$ $\beta_2$ offset $x = \omega_0 \varepsilon$ $x = \omega_0 (1 - \varepsilon)$ Real module $m_n = m_x \sin \beta_1$ Axial pressure angle<br>(screw) or apparent<br>(wheel) $\alpha_x$ Not axial (screw) or<br>apparent (wheel) $p_x = \pi m_x$ Helical step $p_{z1} = z_1 p_x$ $p_{z2} = z_2 p_x$ Normal system with<br>  | Number of nets or teeth                                | <i>Z</i> <sub>1</sub>      | <i>Z</i> <sub>2</sub>                         |  |
| offset $x = \omega_0 \varepsilon$ $x = \omega_0 (1 - \varepsilon)$ Real module $m_n = m_x \sin \beta_1$ Axial pressure angle<br>(screw) or apparent<br>(wheel) $\alpha_x$ Not axial (screw) or<br>apparent (wheel) $p_x = \pi m_x$ Helical step $p_{z1} = z_1 p_x$ $p_{z2} = z_2 p_x$ Normal system with $\beta_1 > 75^\circ$ Reference protrusion $h_a = m_x$ Hollow reference $h_f = 1.2m_x$ Tooth heightHollow reference $h_f = 2.2m_x$  | Helix angle  | $\beta_1$                  | $\beta_2$                                     |  |
| Real module $m_n = m_x \sin \beta_1$ Axial pressure angle<br>(screw) or apparent<br>(wheel) $\alpha_x$ Not axial (screw) or<br>apparent (wheel) $p_x = \pi m_x$ Helical step $p_{z1} = z_1 p_x$ $p_{z2} = z_2 p_x$ Normal system with $\beta_1 > 75^{\circ}$ Reference protrusion $h_a = m_x$ Hollow reference $h_f = 1.2m_x$ Tooth heightLow to the left $h = 2.2m_x$  | offset   | $x = \omega_0 \varepsilon$ | $x = \omega_0 \left( 1 - \varepsilon \right)$ |  |
| Axial pressure angle<br>(screw) or apparent<br>(wheel) $\alpha_x$ Not axial (screw) or<br>apparent (wheel) $p_x = \pi m_x$ Helical step $p_{z1} = z_1 p_x$ $p_{z2} = z_2 p_x$ Normal system with $\beta_1 > 75^{\circ}$ Reference protrusion $h_a = m_x$ Hollow reference $h_f = 1.2m_x$ Tooth heightTooth height $h = 2.2m_x$  | Real module  | $m_n = m_x \sin \beta_1$   |   |  |
| Not axial (screw) or<br>apparent (wheel) $p_x = \pi m_x$ Helical step $p_{z1} = z_1 p_x$ $p_{z2} = z_2 p_x$ Normal system with $\beta_1 > 75^{\circ}$ Reference protrusion $h_a = m_x$ Hollow reference $h_f = 1.2m_x$ Tooth height $h = 2.2m_x$  | Axial pressure angle<br>(screw) or apparent<br>(wheel) | $\alpha_{x}$               |   |  |
| Helical step $p_{z1} = z_1 p_x$ $p_{z2} = z_2 p_x$ Normal system with $\beta_1 > 75^{\circ}$ Reference protrusion $h_a = m_x$ Hollow reference $h_f = 1.2m_x$ Tooth height $h = 2.2m_x$   | Not axial (screw) or<br>apparent (wheel)               | $p_x = \pi m_x$            |   |  |
| Normal system with $\beta_1 > 75^{\circ}$ Reference protrusion $h_a = m_x$ Hollow reference $h_f = 1.2m_x$ Tooth height $h = 2.2m_x$  | Helical step   | $p_{z1} = z_1 p_x$         | $p_{z2} = z_2 p_x$                            |  |
| Reference protrusion $h_a = m_x$ Hollow reference $h_f = 1.2m_x$ Tooth height $h = 2.2m_x$  | Normal system with $\beta_{ m l}$                      | > 75°                      |   |  |
| Hollow reference $h_f = 1.2m_x$<br>Tooth height $h = 2.2m_x$  | Reference protrusion                                   | $h_a = m_x$                |   |  |
| Tooth height $h = 2.2m_x$   | Hollow reference                                       | $h_f = 1.2m_x$             |   |  |
| Emerter at the hetter weak  | Tooth height   | $h = 2.2m_x$               |   |  |
| the tooth $c = 0.2m_x$  | Empty at the bottom of the tooth                       | $c = 0.2m_x$               |   |  |
| Normal system with $\beta_l < 75^\circ$   | Normal system with $\beta_{ m l}$                      |                            |   |  |
| Reference protrusion $h_a = m_n$ $h_a = m_n$  | Reference protrusion                                   | $h_a = m_n$                | $h_a = m_n$                                   |  |
| Hollow reference $h_f = 1.2m_n$ $h_f = 1.2m_n$  | Hollow reference                                       | $h_f = 1.2m_n$             | $h_f = 1.2m_n$                                |  |
| Tooth height $h = 2.2m_n$ $h = 2.2m_n$  | Tooth height   | $h=2.2m_n$                 | $h = 2.2m_n$                                  |  |
| Empty at the bottom of the tooth $c = 0.2m_n$ $c = 0.2m_n$  | Empty at the bottom of the tooth                       | $c = 0.2m_{n}$             | $c = 0.2m_n$                                  |  |
| Reference primitive diameter $d_1 = qm_x$ $d_2 = (z_2 + 2x)m_z$   | Reference primitive diameter                           | $d_1 = qm_x$               | $d_2 = (z_2 + 2x)m_x$                         |  |
| Head diameter $d_{a1} = d_1 + 2h_a$ $d_{a2} = d_2 + 2h_a$   | Head diameter  | $d_{a1} = d_1 + 2h_a$      | $d_{a2} = d_2 + 2h_a$                         |  |
| Foot diameter $d_{f1} = d_1 - 2h_f$ $d_{f2} = d_2 - 2h_f$   | Foot diameter  | $d_{f1} = d_1 - 2h_f$      | $d_{f2} = d_2 - 2h_f$                         |  |
| External diameter $d_e = d_a + m_x$   | External diameter                                      |                            | $d_e = d_a + m_x$                             |  |
| Base diameter (ZI screws only) $d_b = d_1 \cos \alpha_x$  | Base diameter (ZI<br>screws only)                      | $d_b = d_1 \cos \alpha_x$  |   |  |

Let us denote by  $(\Delta)$  the axis of the worm and by  $P_q$  any plane of equation Eq.10.  $P_q$  is normal to the  $(O_2 z)$  axis of the wheel and parallel to the  $(O_1 x)$  axis of the worm. Let us cut a tooth from the hollow wheel by a plane  $P_m$  containing  $\Delta$  and secant to the plane  $P_q$ . Let us denote by  $P_m$  an axial plane of the worm. Let  $M_q$  the intersection point of the planes  $P_q$ ,  $P_m$ and a side of the tooth,  $M_0$  its counterpart in the median plane  $P_0$  of the wheel (Figure 3) and  $b_q$  the spacing between  $P_q$  and  $P_0$ . To determine the parametric equation of the profile of the hollow wheel, is to look for the affix  $z_{m,q}$  (Eq.11) of the point  $M_q$  in the plane  $P_q$  related to an orthonormal coordinate system  $(O_q, \vec{e}_i, \vec{e}_j)$ . It involves finding, implicitly, the polar coordinates  $R_{m,q}$  and  $\partial_{m,q}$  defining any point  $M_q$  of the profile.

$$z_{m,q} = R_{m,q} \left( \sin\left(\partial_{m,q}\right) + i \cos\left(\partial_{m,q}\right) \right) = R_{m,q} e^{-i \left(\partial_{m,q} + \frac{\pi}{2}\right)}$$
(11)

Thus, it would be possible for example to easily find the equation of  $\Gamma_q$  in the three particular planes that are the median plane  $P_0$  (reference plane), the intermediate plane or "sandwich"  $P_1$  (Figure 3) and the outer plane  $P_3$ .



Figure 3. Cutting a hollow wheel tooth

**Determination of involute:** The plane  $P_m$  forms an angle  $\sigma_{m,q}$  with the plane  $P_q$ . By noting  $\sigma_{inv,q}$  the angle that the plane  $P_m$  makes at the point of maximum clearance  $M_{d,q}$ , and  $\sigma_{a,q}$  the angle that the plane  $P_m$  makes at the point of the tooth's head  $M_{a,q}$ , we can write the relations Eqs.12, 13 and 14, where  $H(b_q - b_1)$  is the function of Heaviside.

$$\sigma_{inv,q} = \arcsin\left(\frac{b_q}{a - R_{inv,q}}\right) \tag{12}$$

$$R_{a,q} = a - \left(\frac{b_q}{\tan \sigma_{m,q}}\right) \left[1 - H(b_q - b_1)\right] + (R_e - a)H(b_q - b_1)$$
(13)

$$\sigma_{a,q} = \arcsin\left(\frac{b_q}{a - R_{a,q}}\right) \tag{14}$$

Moreover, the conjugate profile  $\Gamma_{i,m}$  of the wheel in the plane  $P_m$  is identical to the profile  $\Gamma_{i,0}$  in the median plane  $P_0$  of the wheel. Every point  $M_0$  of the profile  $\Gamma_{i,0}$  has an angle of

incidence  $\alpha_{m,0}$  (Eq.15) and is marked by its polar angle  $\theta_{m,0}$  (Eq.16).

$$\alpha_{m,0} = \arccos\left(\frac{R_{b2}}{R_{m,0}}\right) \tag{15}$$

$$\theta_{m,0} = inv(\alpha_{t,0}) - inv(\alpha_{m,0})$$
(16)

Considering the angle  $\sigma_{m,q}$  that the plane  $P_m$  makes with the median plane  $P_0$  and the distance  $b_q$  between  $P_q$  and  $P_0$ , we can determine the radius  $R_{m,0}$  (Eq.20) of the center of the wheel at the homologous point  $M_0$  and subsequently the coordinates of the point  $M_q$ .

$$R_{m,0} = R_{a2} - \left(\frac{b_q}{\sin \sigma_{m,q}} - \left(R_f + c\right)\right)$$
(17)

$$\psi_q = \frac{b_q}{R_2} \tan(\beta_2) \tag{18}$$

In the plane  $P_q$ , one can note the existence of the axis of symmetry  $(O_q, \vec{e}_q)$  to the profile.  $(O_q, \vec{e}_q)$  and  $(O_q, \vec{e}_j)$  are such as  $(\vec{e}_q, \vec{e}_j) = \psi_q$  (Eq.18). Since the tooth thickness is constant, the axial thickness  $s_{m,q}$  in the plane  $P_q$  at the point  $M_q$  is identical to the thickness  $s_{m,0}$  (Eq.19) at the point  $M_0$ in the reference plane  $P_0$ . We then deduce the abscissa  $x_{m,q}$  of the points  $M_q$  of the profile by the relation Eq.20.

$$s_{m,q} = s_{m,0} = R_{m,0} \sin(inv(\alpha_{t,0}) - inv(\alpha_{m,0}))$$
(19)

$$x_{m,q} = R_{m,0} \sin\left(inv(\alpha_{t,0}) - inv(\alpha_{m,0}) + \psi_q\right)$$
(20)

The angle  $\partial_{m,q}$  that the radius  $R_{m,q}$  (Eq.21) makes with the axis  $(O_q, \vec{e}_j)$  in the plane  $P_q$  is given by the relation Eq.22.

$$R_{m,q} = a - \frac{b_q}{\tan(\sigma_{m,q})} \tag{21}$$

$$\partial_{m,q} = \arcsin\left(\frac{x_{m,q}}{R_{m,q}}\right) = \left(\frac{R_{m,0}\sin(inv(\alpha_{t,0}) - inv(\alpha_{m,0}) + \psi_q)}{a - \frac{b_q}{\tan\sigma_{m,q}}}\right) \quad (22)$$

The polar coordinates  $R_{m,q}$  and  $\partial_{m,q}$  being defined, the affix  $z_{m,q}$  of the point  $M_q$  can then be determined with the relation Eq.11.

**Determination of the trochoid:** The principle of determining the points of the profile  $\Gamma_{t,q}$  corresponding to the trochoid is the same as that of the determination of the points corresponding to the involute  $\Gamma_{i,q}$ . Every point  $M_0$  of the trochoid in the plane  $P_0$  is marked by its radius  $R_{m,0}$  and its angle  $\theta_{m,0}$  compared to axis  $(O_0, \vec{e}_0)$  defined by the relations Eqs.17 and 23.

$$\theta_{m,0} = -\delta_{m,0} + \delta_{\max,0} + inv(\alpha_{t,0})$$
(23)

Note that the expression of  $\theta_{m,0}$  is obviously different from that of the involute. It depends on the angle of incidence  $\delta_{m,0}$  of the point  $M_0$  of the trochoid translated by the relation Eq.24.

$$\delta_{m,0} = \arctan\left(\sqrt{\left[\left(\frac{\varphi_{m,0}}{0.5 - K}\right)^2 - 1\right]}\right) - 2\pi\sqrt{\varphi_{m,0}^2 - (0.5 - K)}$$
(24)

The variables K and  $\delta_{\max,0}$  are the parameters of G. Henriot [3, 4] whose expressions are mentioned in the appendix. As a result, for every point  $M_q$  of  $\Gamma_{t,q}$  in the plane  $P_q$ , its abscissa  $x_{m,q}$  is determined by equation Eq.25.

$$x_{m,q} = R_{m,q} \sin\left(\theta_{m,q}\right) = R_{m,q} \sin\left(-\delta_{m,0} + \delta_{\max,0} + inv(\alpha_{t,0}) + \psi_q\right) \quad (25)$$

The expression of the ray  $R_{m,q}$  in  $P_q$  remains the same, therefore identical to the relation Eq.21. It is then possible to determine  $\partial_{m,q}$  the angle that this ray makes with the axis  $(O_q, \vec{e}_j)$  by the relation Eq.26. By substituting of  $x_{m,q}$  with its expression, we deduce the relation:

$$\partial_{m,q} = \arcsin\left(\frac{R_{m,0}\sin\left(-\delta_{m,0} + \delta_{\max,0} + inv(\alpha_{t,0}) + \psi_{q}\right)}{R_{m,q}}\right)$$
(26)

Procedure for obtaining the profile of the hollow wheel in the plan  $P_q$ 

It has just been shown that the profile  $\Gamma_q$  of the hollow wheel is the locus of the points  $M_q$  in the plan  $P_q$ , which goes from the point of the head  $M_{a,q}$  to the point of the foot  $M_{f,q}$ , passing through the point of clearance  $M_{d,q}$ . Numerically,  $\Gamma_q$ is obtained by varying the angle  $\sigma_{m,q}$  in the range of values  $[\sigma_{a,q}, \sigma_{inv,q}] \cup [\sigma_{inv,q}, \sigma_{f,q}]$ . We can then write a procedure as explained in appendix 2.

### APPLICATIONS

The procedures developed above have been implemented in a VB application (Figure 4) interfaced with the Solid Works CAD software. This coupling makes it easier to generate both

the profiles (Figures 5 and 6) and the components (Figure 8) of the gear with good geometric accuracy by inserting a point file combined with other features.

| 🖥 Ge@rsModelling (Engre                      | enage à vis s                         | sans fin : système norma | u – 🗆 🗵                                 |
|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Module axial (mm)                            | m <sub>x</sub> 6                      | Type de vis<br>ZA (Trapé | zoïdale) 🕥 ZI (en hélicoïde)            |
| Angle pression axial (*)<br>Nombre de filets | α <sub>x</sub> 20<br>Z <sub>1</sub> 4 | Forme de la              | roue                                    |
| Nombre de dents de la<br>roue                | <b>Z</b> <sub>2</sub> 26              | Sens d'hélia             | ce ———————————————————————————————————— |
| Quotient diamétral                           | q <mark>12</mark>                     | Précédent                | <u>Y</u> alider <u>Q</u> uitter         |

Figure 4. Graphical interface under VB

Figure 5 illustrates the profile in the normal plane of a hollow wheel tooth for both normal and deported teeth (positive and negative deports).



Figure 5. Profile of a hollow wheel tooth

Figure 6 illustrates the profile of a thread of a worm for both normal and deported teeth (positive and negative deports).



Figure 6. Normal profile of a worm net

Figure 7 compares the axial profiles of screws ZA and ZI with each other for the same characteristics. There is a slight gap between the two profiles at the root of the net as they seem to be confused beyond. In reality, both profiles are tangent to the primitive point.



Figure 7: Axial profiles of screws ZA, ZIwith q = 12;  $\alpha_x = 20^\circ$ ;  $m_x = 6$ ;  $z_1 = 4$ 







Figure 8: Screw gear under SolidWorks  $m_x = 4$ ;  $\alpha_x = 20^\circ$ ;

$$q = 8; z_1 = 2; z_2 = 20$$

### Conclusion

Due to the knowledge of the axial parameters of a worm gear, we have modeled the apparent profiles of the worm and hollow wheels. As a result, CAD models were more easily and faithfully generated by the theory of software interaction. It is then possible to envisage later a thermo mechanical analysis of worm gears relating to contact problems by a finite element analysis. Another interest of this work is the possibility to be able to realize in series worm and hollow wheels, with a good geometric precision, by rapid prototyping.

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#### APENDIX

Apendix1: Procedure for representing an apparent worm profile [8]

Beginning

$$\lambda_d = \frac{1}{n_d}$$

For  $u_m \in [0,1]$ , repeat :

 $r_{m} = r_{a} - u_{m}h$  $\theta_{m} = \frac{\pi}{z.p_{x}}(s_{m,x})$  $z_{m} = r_{m}e^{i\theta_{m}}$  $u_{m+1} = u_{m} + \lambda_{d}$ 

End

Apendix 2: Procedure for representing the profile of a hollow wheel [1, 8].

Beginning

{Obtaining the involute}

$$\lambda_{d} = \frac{1}{n_{d}}$$
For  $u_{m} \in [0,1]$ , repeat :  
 $\sigma_{m,q} = u \cdot_{m} (\sigma_{a,q} - \sigma_{inv,q}) + \sigma_{inv,q}$   
 $R_{m,0} = R_{a2} - \left(\frac{b_{q}}{\sin \sigma_{m,q}} - (R_{f} + c)\right)$   
 $R_{m,q} = a - \frac{b_{q}}{\tan \sigma_{m,q}}$   
 $\partial_{m,q} = \left(\frac{R_{m,0} \sin(inv(\alpha_{t,0}) - inv(\alpha_{m,0}) + \psi_{q})}{R_{m,q}}\right)$   
 $z_{m,q} = R_{m,q}e^{-i\left(\partial_{m,q} + \frac{\pi}{2}\right)}$   
 $u_{m} = u_{m} + \lambda_{d}$ 

{Obtaining the trochoid}

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_{v} &= \frac{1}{n_{v}} \\ K &= \frac{R_{2} - R_{f2}}{m_{x} z_{2}} \\ \varphi_{inv,0} &= \sqrt{\frac{0.5 - K}{2}} \\ \delta_{\max,0} &= \delta_{m,0}(\varphi_{inv,0}) = \arctan\left(\sqrt{\left[\left(\frac{\varphi_{inv,0}}{0.5 - K}\right)^{2} - 1\right]}\right) - 2\pi\sqrt{\varphi_{inv,0}^{2} - (0.5 - K)} \end{aligned}$$
For  $\mu_{e} \in [0,1]$  repeat :

$$\sigma_{m,q} = u_{.m} \left( \sigma_{f,q} - \sigma_{inv,q} \right) + \sigma_{inv,q}$$

$$\varphi_{m,0} = \frac{R_{m,0}}{2R_2}$$

$$\delta_{m,0} = \arctan\left( \sqrt{\left[ \left( \frac{\varphi_{m,0}}{0.5 - K} \right)^2 - 1 \right]} \right) - 2\pi \sqrt{\varphi_{m,0}^2 - (0.5 - K)}$$

$$R_{m,q} = a - \frac{b_q}{\tan \sigma_{m,q}}$$

$$\partial_{m,q} = \arcsin\left( \frac{R_{m,0} \sin\left( -\delta_{m,0} + \delta_{\max,0} + inv\left(\alpha_{t,0}\right) + \psi_q\right)}{R_{m,q}} \right)$$

$$z_{m,q} = R_{m,q} e^{-i\left(\partial_{m,q} + \frac{\pi}{2}\right)}$$

$$u_m = u_m + \lambda_v$$

\*\*\*\*\*\*

End