Investigation on Effect of Stress Distribution at the Interface between Valve Guide and Cylinder Head of Diesel Engine

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ABSTRACT

In an internal combustion engine, the cylinder head rests on the top of the cylinder block. One of the parts of head assembly is the valve guide, which is used to orient the valves correctly. Typically valve guide is made up of cast iron and fitted in cylinder head with the use of interference fit. The study aims to find the effect of various parameters due to hoop stress developed in interference fit in valve guide and cylinder head of air cooled diesel engine. This is done using 3D simulation model and FEA. The various parameters would be stiffness of cylinder head and thickness of valve guide. This is done at different interference fit and temperature range. The investigation aims to provide the design intent to resolve valve guide loosening issue in operating temperature ranges.

Keywords — Valve Guide, Cylinder Head, Interference Fit, Contact Pressure, FEA

I. INTRODUCTION

In an internal combustion engine, the cylinder head sits above the cylinder block and it closes in the top of the cylinder, forming the combustion chamber. It is made up of aluminium and its alloy. One of the parts of head assembly is the valve guide, which is used to orient the valves correctly. Typically valve guide is made up of cast iron. This paper investigates the assembly of parts having a negative clearance, called interference, press or force fits. These types of fits are also commonly used for assembling bearing, attaching gear or sprockets to shaft, inserting dowel pin into hole. The Finite Element Method (FEM)-based stress analysis of interference-fitted connections is more complete and accurate than those obtained from the traditional methods. The finite element model determines for the stresses in the axial direction, which usually are not considered in the traditional design method.[1]

There are various parameters which affect on contact pressure(stress) and hoops stress like thickness of valve guide, stiffness of cylinder head (G/D ratio), material of valve guide, and material of cylinder head. This is done for different interference fit and operating temperature range. From previous study it is shown that, thickness of valve guide and stiffness of cylinder head are the main parameter which affects a lot. These parameters are changing for minimum and maximum interference fit for operating temperature range.

Y. Zhang et al. [1] has studied interference fit via FEM. In their studies of interference fits in ringgear-wheel connections show that the traditional design method based on thick-wall cylinder theory had some limitations. Lame's equations did not
Ayub A. Miraje [6] has introduced the optimum design for minimization of thickness of three-layer shrink-fitted compound cylinder to get equal maximum hoop stresses in all the cylinders. He has applied Lamé’s theory for compound cylinder. His effort was made to find optimum minimum thicknesses of three cylinders so that material volume was reduced and hoop stress was equal in all the cylinders. It was clearly proved that the difference in analytical and ANSYS Software results is within acceptable limits. This difference is due to numerical techniques of FEM in ANSYS.

Sunil A. Patil [7] carried a FEM of optimized compound cylinder. Optimally designed compound cylinder had equal maximum hoop stress in both the inner and outer cylinders. He proposed many design parameters in his study on design of compound cylinder, that value of hoop stress is closer to value of yield stress. He had found out three important parameters for optimization interface diameter, interference and outside diameter kept other parameter such as material, internal diameter constant. Investigation of stress distribution on interference fits by focusing on the following objectives:

i. Calculate the contact pressure and hoop stress between valve guide and cylinder head assembly at operating temperature range.

ii. Compare the analytical results with FEA and experimentally results of contact pressure.

iii. Study the effect by changing thickness of valve guide and stiffness of cylinder head for loose and tight interference fit at operating temperature and find best combination for both interference fit.

### II. ENGINE DETAILS

For HA4 (H-series Air cool 4 Cylinder) diesel engine, there specification are as below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Specification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Engine name</td>
<td>HA4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Compression Ratio</td>
<td>18:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Displacement Volume</td>
<td>3.77cc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Engine type</td>
<td>Diesel engine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Max. Power of engine</td>
<td>31.6kW at 1500 rpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Valve guide material</td>
<td>Cast iron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Cylinder head material</td>
<td>Aluminum alloy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In cylinder head and valve guide assembly, the interference fit and its tolerance calculation as shown below:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{For loose fit} & = \text{lower limit of inner cylinder} - \text{upper limit of outer cylinder} \\
& = 0.045 - 0.011 \\
& = 0.034 \text{ mm}
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{For tight fit} & = \text{upper limit of inner cylinder} - \text{lower limit of outer cylinder} \\
& = 0.056 - 0.000 \\
& = 0.056 \text{ mm}
\end{align*}
\]

Thermal calculation

For valve guide

\[
\Delta d = a \cdot (T_o - T_i) \\
15.045 - d_f = 15.045 \cdot 10.8 \cdot 10^{-6} (250 - 30) \\
\Delta d = 35 \mu m
\]

For cylinder head

\[
\Delta d = a \cdot (T_o - T_i) \\
15.011 - d_f = 15.011 \cdot 10.8 \cdot 10^{-6} (250 - 30) \\
\Delta d = 73.3 \mu m
\]

A. Sensitivity Parameter

Here we calculate the contact pressure and hoop stresses for the two parameters. And plot a graph with percentage. We set a Level 1, level 2 and Level 3 for each parameter. In Table 4 shows combinations of various parameter and level.

Table 4 PARAMETERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.No.</th>
<th>Parameters</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Interference fit</td>
<td>0.017 (loose)</td>
<td>0.027 (Tight)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Thickness of valve guide</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Stiffness of cylinder head related to the interference fit area (G/D ratio)</td>
<td>2.25</td>
<td>3.125</td>
<td>5.05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Lame’s equation

\[
\sigma = \frac{E}{1-v^2} \left( \frac{\epsilon}{D/D} \right)
\]

III. MATERIAL PROPERTIES

Material property for tease cylinder head and valve guide assembly are as follows:

Table 2. MATERIAL PROPERTIES OF CAST-IRON, [8]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.No.</th>
<th>Parameters</th>
<th>Values</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tensile Strength ($S_m$)</td>
<td>430 MPa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Yield Strength ($S_y$)</td>
<td>276 MPa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Compressive Yield Strength ($S_c$)</td>
<td>1210 MPa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Young’s modulus ($E_o$)</td>
<td>110000 MPa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Poisson’s Ratio ($\nu_o$)</td>
<td>0.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Coefficient of Thermal Expansion ($\alpha$)</td>
<td>$10.8 \cdot 10^{-6}$ mm/mm.K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Thermal Conductivity ($k$)</td>
<td>50.2 W/mK</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3. PROPERTIES OF ALUMINIUM ALLOY, [9]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.No</th>
<th>Parameters</th>
<th>Values</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tensile Strength ($S_m$)</td>
<td>300 MPa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Yield Strength ($S_y$)</td>
<td>286 MPa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Compressive Yield Strength ($S_c$)</td>
<td>290 MPa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Young’s modulus ($E_o$)</td>
<td>71000 MPa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Poisson’s Ratio ($\nu_i$)</td>
<td>0.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Coefficient of Thermal Expansion ($\alpha$)</td>
<td>$22 \cdot 10^{-6}$ mm/mm.K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Thermal Conductivity ($k$)</td>
<td>160 W/m.K</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IV. COMPUTATION OF STRESSES BASED ON LAME’S EQUATION

Interference fit Calculation
The interference fit of two cylinders is usually dealt with based on Lame’s equation, which is applied in the elastic range. Equations used for computing the stresses and interference with this method are listed in Table 5.

**Table 5 Computational Equations Based on Lame’s Thick-Wall Cylinder Theory**

C. Analytical Calculation

For 250°C, we use radial interference fit = 0.0152mm

1) Contact pressure

\[ P_c = \frac{P}{E} \left( \frac{R^2 + R^2}{R^2 - R^2 + \nu} \right) + \frac{P}{E} \left( \frac{R^2 + R^2}{R^2 - R^2 - \nu} \right) \]

\[ P_c = \frac{0.0152}{71 \times 10^3 \left( \frac{25^2 + 15^2}{25^2 - 15^2} + 0.35 \right) + \frac{1}{110 \times 10^3 \left( \frac{15^2 + 8^2}{15^2 - 8^2} - 0.27 \right)} \]

\[ P_c = 41.83 \text{MPa} \]

2) Hoops stress at outer cylinder

\[ \sigma_{r_o} = -\frac{P}{R^2 - \nu} \]

\[ \sigma_{max} = -75.10 \text{MPa ( -ve sign indicate compressive) } \]

3) Hoops stress at inner cylinder

\[ \sigma_{r_i} = \frac{P}{R^2 - \nu} \]

\[ \sigma_{max} = 85.90 \text{MPa ( Tensile) } \]

4) Push-out force

\[ F = 2\pi RL_0 f \]

\[ F = 2 \times \pi \times 15 \times 25.5 \times 41.83 \times 0.15 \]

\[ F = 7537.92 \text{N} \]

\[ F = 768 \text{ kg} \]

V. Computation of Stresses Based on FEM

FEA model is built up in which contact is defined between valve guide and cylinder head. The interference is relatively very small compared with the sizes of guides; it is essential to specify the interference (or overclosure) in the model numerically rather than building it in the model geometrically. This can precisely define the overclosure or interference. We take a cut section from whole cylinder head assembly for better calculation and easy to simulate in ANSYS.

We have to calculate the result at 250°C. In ANSYS we take thermo-structural analysis. First take thermal tree and result of thermal is input for structural. In this model contact is present so we define contact first.

For solving contact problem we used Augmented Lagrange method. It is an iterative series of penalty methods to enforce contact compatibility. Contact tractions (pressure and frictional stresses) are augmented during equilibrium iterations so that final penetration is smaller than the allowable tolerance. This offers better conditioning than the pure penalty method and is less sensitive to magnitude of contact stiffness used, but may require more iterations than the penalty method.

The Normal Contact Stiffness \( k_{normal} \) is the most important parameter affecting both accuracy and convergence behavior. A large value of stiffness gives better accuracy, but the problem may become more difficult to converge. If the contact stiffness is too large, the model may oscillate, with contacting surfaces bouncing off of each other. Therefore here we used Normal contact Stiffness value is 0.01 for analysis. And Coefficient of friction used for frictional contact is 0.15.

Because it’s a complicated geometry we are selecting 10 node tetrahedral elements for meshing. Map meshing used for contact and target surface. We calculate the mesh convergence for this model.

Under each “Contact Region”, the Contact and Target surfaces are shown. The normal of the Contact surfaces are displayed in red while those of the Target surfaces are shown in blue. The Contact and Target surfaces designate which pairs of surfaces can come into contact with one another. We used CONTAC174 and TARGE169 element for contact and target surface.

The boundary conditions used in the Finite element analysis are as follows.

![Fig. 2 Cylinder head and valve guide assembly](a) Finite element mesh (b) Fixed support

The boundary conditions used in the Finite element analysis are as follows.
The cylinder head sits on the cylinder block. So we fixed the bottom of cylinder head as shown in figure 2 (b). Also we take body temperature 250°C to the assembly.

In FEA we calculate contact pressure and hoops stress is calculate using normal stress in Y-direction, in cylindrical co-ordinate system. These results are match with

![Figure 3 Contact pressure in cylinder head and valve guide assembly](image)

In One side of mandrel is inserted in the valve guide and on the other side a load cell is fitted with threads. A Load cell is mounted on the valve guide such that, it transfers the load and calculate the force exerted on it. Load cell is connected to the digital controller.

When load is gradually applied on the load cell digital controller shows reading. The resolution of the digital controller is 1Kg. Range of digital controller is 1350 Kg.

![Figure 5 Experimental setup for calculating Push out force](image)

The intention of the current experiment is to calculate push-out force. In this experiment, tested head is made up of aluminium alloy and valve guide is made up of cast iron. Place the whole assembly on inclined fixture to get valve guide straight position check where it is straight or not. If yes then apply the load. Press load is pushing valve guide to downward. When load apply on load cell, there is strain gauge in which deflection occur. At the same time digital controller showing result in screen.

From experiment we get push-out force, from push-out force we calculate contact pressure and hoops stress.

**VI. RESULTS AND OBSERVATION**

The analytical, FEA and experimental investigation of valve guide contact analysis has been conducted. The results of these investigations are represented in the graphical form to find the best possible combination of valve guide and cylinder head parameter.

Table 6 Comparison between analytical FEM and experimental data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Contact Pressure (MPa)</th>
<th>Hoops Stress Inner (MPa)</th>
<th>Hoops Stress Outer (MPa)</th>
<th>Push out force (kg)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Analytical</td>
<td>41.83</td>
<td>-75.10</td>
<td>88.90</td>
<td>768.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEA</td>
<td>47.05</td>
<td>-75.95</td>
<td>85.52</td>
<td>860.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Error</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>-11%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analytical</td>
<td>41.83</td>
<td>-75.10</td>
<td>88.90</td>
<td>768.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experimental</td>
<td>44.01</td>
<td>-79.07</td>
<td>58.25</td>
<td>809.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Error</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>-6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We also found out the error in between valve guide and cylinder head assembly at 250°C. Result from analytically, FEA and experimentally are as follows:

At 250°C operating temperature, interference fit value is 0.0152 mm. Thickness of valve guide changes to 1) 4.9 2) 7 and 3) 9.1. For changing the thickness we have to calculate inner and outer radius of valve guide. But outer radius made a contact with cylinder head. Therefore we are changing the inner radius. From this calculation we get inner radius 1) 5.05mm 2) 4mm and 3) 2.95mm respectively. We changing inner radius and calculate contact pressure. Also we plotted graph in between inner radius and hoops stress with the help of trend line. This shows result correctly.

![Figure 6(a) Effect of inner radius 1)2.65 2) 4 3) 5.05mm on contact pressure when outer radius of cylinder head is 9mm, 12.5mm and 20mm respectively](image)
At 250°C operating temperature, interference fit value is 0.0152 mm. Stiffness of cylinder head (G/D ratio) changes to 1) 2.25 2) 3.125 and 3) 5. For changing the stiffness we have to calculate inner and outer radius of valve guide. But inner radius made a contact with cylinder head. Therefore we are changing the outer radius. From this calculation we get inner radius 1) 9mm 2) 12.5mm and 3) 20mm respectively.

At 250°C operating temperature, interference fit value is 0.0285 mm. Thickness of valve guide changes to 1) 4.9 2) 7 and 3) 9.1. For changing the thickness we have to calculate inner and outer radius of valve guide. But outer radius made a contact with cylinder head. Therefore we are changing the inner radius. From this calculation we get inner radius 1) 2.65 2) 4 3) 5.05mm respectively. We changing inner radius and calculate contact pressure. Also we plotting graph in between outer radius and hoops stress.
OBSERVATION

- From the fig. 7, fig. 8, fig 9 and fig 10 we can say that, by changing the thickness of valve Guide and cylinder head stiffness contact pressure is directly changing. For maximum contact pressure, maximum push-out force required.

- In Fig. 7 (a) for actual model, Inner radius is 4mm and outer radius is 12.5mm, we get contact pressure 36%. For better combination of inner radius of valve guide and cylinder head is more than 36%. And also it is below allowable stress limit.

- From the fig. 7, fig. 8, fig. 9 and fig. 10 we conclude that, minimum inner radius of valve guide is 2.95mm and maximum outer radius of cylinder head is 20mm is best combination.

**VIII. Conclusion**

- Because of the complex geometry of the problem the analytical results are not perfectly match with FEA and Experimental results. Contact pressure results are match within 11% and 6% error.

- The effect of stress distribution at the interface between valve guide and cylinder head of diesel engine is studied. By changing the thickness of valve guide and stiffness of material from this investigation, we got combinations which overcome the valve guide loosening issue and that combination is below allowable stress at operating temperature range.

- The effect of various parameters on contact pressure is studied. It is observed that when stiffness of cylinder head increases and thickness of valve guide decreases, the contact pressure on valve guide and cylinder head increases by 17% for loose interference fit and 31% for tight interference fit.

- This is best case for valve guide as it stays fit in cylinder head at operating temperature range.

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**REFERENCES**


