Engine Oil- Crankshaft Interaction Fem Modelling of an Air-Cooled Diesel Engine under Dynamic Severe Functioning Conditions

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Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration among all authors. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

Original Research Article

ABSTRACT

Taking into account the interaction between the engine oil and the crankshaft to model crankshaft thermomechanical behavior under dynamic loading is very important. In particular, when the crankshaft is working in severe conditions. This paper deal with an air cooled direct injection-type engine crankshaft thermomechanical FEM modelling account for engine oil-cranks half interaction in severe working conditions. As case of application we consider the diesel engine Deutz F8L413. The model takes into account 2 forced convectives heat flux: engine oil and crankcase air. The severe mechanical and thermal characteristics of engine are experimentally measured on a bench test equipped with a hydraulic brake. The temperature distribution inside the crankshaft was computed using the measured temperature as boundary conditions. The most thermo-mechanical stressed zones of the crankshaft have been determined. The fatigue resistance of the crankshaft under thermo-mechanical conditions was examined using Dang-Van multi-axial fatigue criteria. To

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prove our model efficiency, we have compared crankshaft damage in service to the numerical simulation results. It was found the breakage occurred in an area where the numerical simulations give the highest stresses.

NOMENCLATURE

FEM : finite element modeling;
$h_{oilcrankpin}$: convection coefficient between the oil and the crank (W/m^2.K);
$h_{oilbearing}$: convection coefficient between the oil and the bearing (W/m^2.K);
hair : air convection coefficient (W/m^2.K);
Tair : air temperature (K);
Toil : oil temperature (K);
T : crankshaft temperature (K).

1. INTRODUCTION

The automotive crankshafts are working under severe thermo-mechanical conditions. The engine oil in forced convection with crankshaft air transports a significant heat flux to the crankshaft crankpin and crankshaft bearings. This interaction is very important and requires to be take into account to deal with the crankshaft thermo-mechanical problem under dynamic loading. This kind of study is seldom documented in the open literature. In the case of engines with cylinders in V-type, this interaction can produce several thermal effects and merit to be clearly identified in particular for regimes corresponding to maximum power and torque. This work aims to provide a response to this problematic. Several studies concerning the automotive engine thermo-mechanical modelling exist in the literature, as the experimental and analytical study of heat transfer in an engine exhaust port carried out in [1]. (Jarrier et al., 2000) model the effect of engine oil and weather temperature increase to warm the passengers compartment. A new method for determining the heat transfer coefficient for internal combustion engines was introduced by [2]. Niccoli et al., [3] developed a thermomechanical model able to simulate the mechanical response of a shape memory alloy heat engine. Patil et al., [4] performed a thermo-mechanical analysis of crankcase in which they coupled crankshaft structural dynamics, the main bearing hydrodynamic lubrication and the engine block stiffness using a system approach. Under 3D modelling, [5] proceeded the modal analysis of a 4-cylinder crankshaft using finite elements method. A simulation of crankshaft dynamic behavior of engine with cylinders in V type was performed in [6] by measuring experimentally using gauge stress amplitude at the crankpins for high and low engine speed. A fatigue analysis and life estimation of crankshaft is performed in [7]. A crankshaft system modelling for structural dynamic analysis of internal combustion engines is performed in [8]. However, crankshaft thermo-mechanical modelling account for the engine oil-crankshaft interaction in severe working conditions is seldom addressed, especially on engines with cylinders in V-type under maximum loading conditions (regime of maximum power and torque). In addition, the few thermo-mechanical models of crankshaft found in the literature seem more interested in the overall look of the set of crankcase-crankshaft thermal response.

In this paper we investigate the crankshaft thermomechanical modelling account for the engine oil crankshaft interaction effects in severe dynamic working conditions, which are deduced from experimental measurements on bench. The engine oil temperature at maximum regimes are obtained through thermocouple measurements. As case study, Deutz diesel engine types F8L413 with four (4) crankpins to 90 widely spread is considered. The mechanical behavior in dynamic of the same engine is performed in [9], in this work we investigate the thermo-mechanical analysis taking into account the engine oil-crankshaft interaction in under to simulate the global thermo-mechanical behavior under severe dynamic working conditions. The heat convective flux of the engine oil and crankcase air are considered in interaction with the crankshaft.

The main contribution of this work is that thanks to experimental measurement of the engine oil in

engine real working conditions, we proper model the engine oil-crankshaft interaction problem to analyze the global 3D thermo-mechanical behavior of the crankshaft. This paper is organized as follows. First, the experimental results are briefly recalled, the details can be found in [9]. It is followed by the engine oil temperature measurement presentation. Then engine oil-crankshaft interaction model is presented as well as the 3D finite element modelling of the crankshaft. At the end step, the thermo-mechanical simulations are carried out in the permanent and dynamic regimes. The simulation results and post-processing are presented. The thermo-mechanical fatigue analysis is performed. At the end, crankshaft damage in service is compared to the numerical simulations, the model shows a good agreement.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Crankshaft Thermal Modelling

The type of diagram used in the methodology is the simple implicit diagram, whose mesh is of tetrahedral and free type. In this model we specially consider thermal effects due to the convective heat flux of the engine oil and crankcase air which are transported on the crankshaft. The engine oil and crankcase air being in forced convection, their motions are supposed to be laminar and turbulent respectively for the engine oil and crankcase air. We also assume the reciprocating movement of the crankpin and crankshaft bearing does not change the engine oil laminar regime. In severe functioning state (regime of maximum power and torque), between the engine oil and crankpin, the heat flux density can be expressed by the following equation:

$$q = h_{oilcranpin}(T - T_{oil})n \qquad (1)$$

Where q, is the heat flux density n, the unit normal vector T, the temperature of the crankshaft and Toil, the engine oil temperature and $h_{oilcrankpin}$ the convection coefficient of the engine oil. Similarly, between the engine oil and the crankshaft bearing, the heat flux density is expressed in the same manner (equation (2)):

$$q = h_{oilbearing}(T - T_{oil})n \qquad (2)$$

Where $h_{oibearing}$, is the engine oil-crankshaft bearing convection coefficient. In also, between the crankcase air and flyweights and arms there is an out coming heat flux density which is the following:

$$q = h_{air}(T - T_{air})n \qquad (3)$$

In equation (3), hair represents the crankcase air convection coefficient. In our model, the convection coefficients $h_{oilcrankpin}$ and $h_{oilbearing}$ will be determined by assuming the flow laminar of engine oil between two horizontal and parallel fixed plates that constitute the crankpins and bush as we will detail in the next section.

2.2 Engine Oil- Crankshaft Interaction Modelling

In this section we determine the convection coefficients $h_{oilcrankpin}$ and $h_{oilbearing}$. For that purpose, the engine oil motion is assumed to be in laminar flow between two horizontal and parallel plates in relatively movement (Couette type flow) that constitute the bearing bush and the crankpin. Then the coefficient $h_{oilcrankpin}$ can be calculated. While the coefficient $h_{oilbearing}$ is calculated by assumed the hydrodynamic bearing model [9]. Fig. 1 represents the calculation scheme of the convections coefficients. As discussed before, the flow of the engine oil in the above two cases can be assumed laminar between two horizontal and parallel fixed plates. In this case a mean value of Nusselt number can be estimate independently of Reynolds number [10,11]. This value is Nu=4.

On the other hand, the Nusselt number is expressed as

$$\overline{N_u} = \frac{h_{oilbearing^{De}}}{\lambda} \qquad (4)$$

With De= 2e

Where e, is the lubricant film thickness (Fig. 1), λ represents the thermal conductivity of the engine oil. In our case e= 0.109mm [9] and λ= 0.13W/mK. From equation (4) we obtain the convection coefficient of engine oil $h_{oilbearing}$ which isequal to $h_{crankpin}$ in our case.
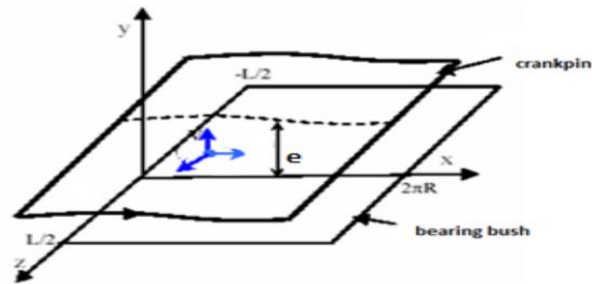
Fig. 1. Calculation scheme for convection coefficients [12]

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Experimental Test and Results

Among the experimental results we are interesting to the maximum power engine (2650 rpm) and the maximum torque (1400 rpm) [9]. In order to perform thermo-mechanical analysis, in this present study, the engine oil temperature have been measured experimentally at the above two regimes. The values are: 99.8°C for the regime of maximum power and 90.3°C for the regime of maximum torque. The engine oil-crankshaft interaction under dynamic loading is studied on those different regimes numerically by the finite element method.

3.2 Numerical Simulation Results

In this section, we investigate crankshaft thermomechanical response by FEM for two types of analysis: permanent and dynamic regime using numerical simulations. Fig. 2 gives the crankshaft mesh and applied loads. The details of calculation of these loads can be found in [9]. Table 1 gives the parameters used in numerical simulations.

Among the numerical results from the simulations, we extract essentially the von Mises equivalent stress and temperature distribution inside the crankshaft.

3.3 Numerical Results under Permanent Regime

There is a heat flow which enters on the crankshaft through crankshaft bearings and crankpins and, another one which comes out through the flyweights and arms. This is because the crankcase air temperature is less than the engine oil temperature. In permanent regime, the equilibrium is reached when there is equality between the incoming flow through the bearings and crankpins and out coming flow by the flyweights and arms. Fig. 3 shows the temperature distribution (Fig. 3a) and the von Mises equivalent stress (Fig. 3b) in permanent regime. It can be observed (Fig. 3a) that the maximum temperature is 90°C located on the crankpin 2. The Fig. 4 illustrates the evolution of the temperature along the external surface of the crankshaft (crankpin, crankshaft bearing and arms) on the half crankshaft. As it can be seen the temperature level is most important on the crankpin and the crankshaft bearing respectively compared to the arms. The minimum temperature on the arms is equal to 54.34°C. The lowest temperature is recorded on the flyweights, 36.37°C, this organ cools the crankshaft by ventilation effect. The thermal deformed is shown in Fig. 5, the maximum principal deformation value is $1.23*10^{-3}$ % obtained on the central crankpin and crankshaft bearing.

3.4 Numerical Results under Dynamic Conditions

In this subsection the numerical results of the coupling of the crankshaft dynamic loading as defined in [9] to the thermal loading presented in the above sections is presented. The purpose is to analysis the influence of the dynamic loading on the thermal effects and to perform the thermo-mechanical fatigue study. Fig. 6 gives the

Table 1. Crankshaft thermal and mechanical properties

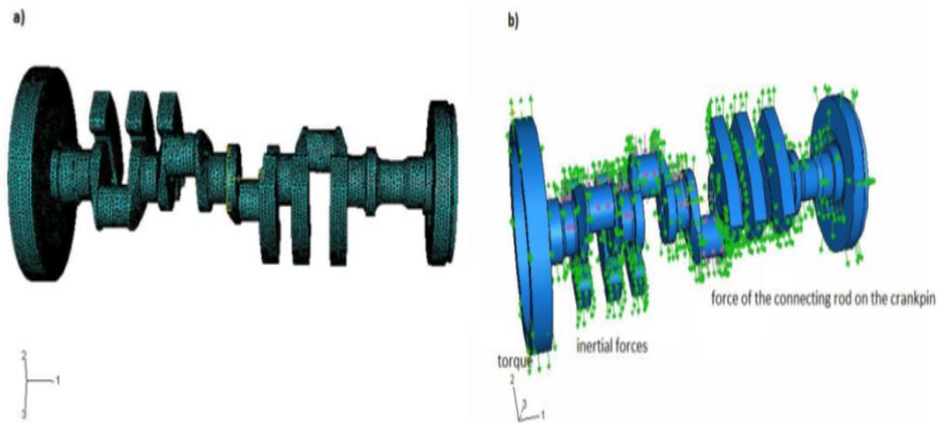| Material	E (N/mm^2)	v (-)	ρ (kg/m^3)	Cp (J/kgK)	Hair (W/m^{2}K)
42CD4	200.000	0.3	7800	460	100

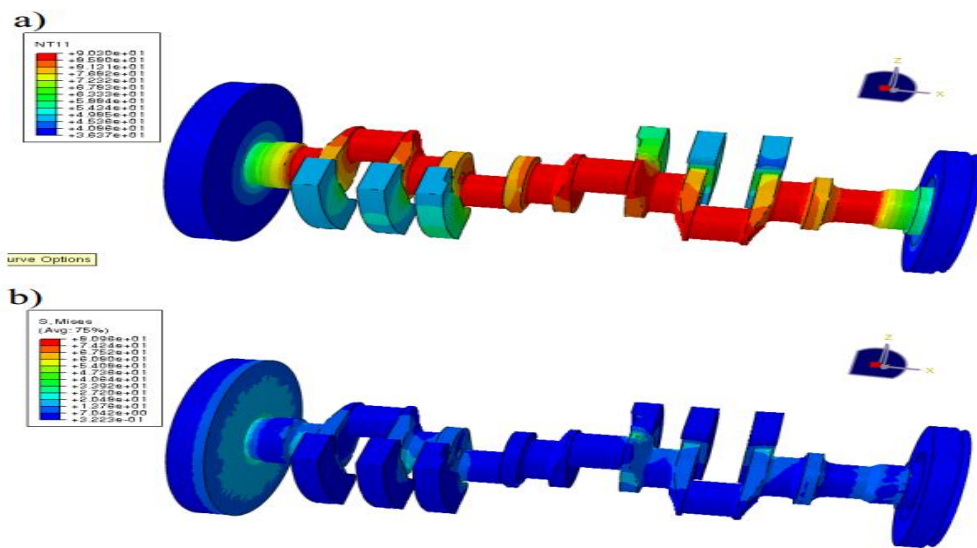**Fig. 2. Crankshaft modelling: a) Mesh, b) applied loads**

Fig. 3. Numerical simulation results at permanent regime: a) temperature distrubution, b) von mises stress state
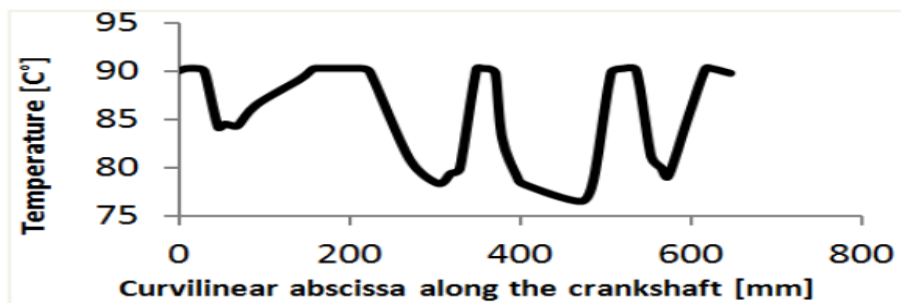

Fig. 4. Evolution of the temperature along the external surface of the crankshaft

comparison of the von Mises equivalent stress for permanent and dynamic regimes. It illustrates the influence of dynamic on the von Mises equivalent stress distribution inside the crankshaft at the end of the cycle. The maximum von Mises equivalent stress in dynamic simulation is 139.2 MPa located on the crankpin 2, while the maximum von Mises equivalent stress in permanent regime is 90.03 MPa.
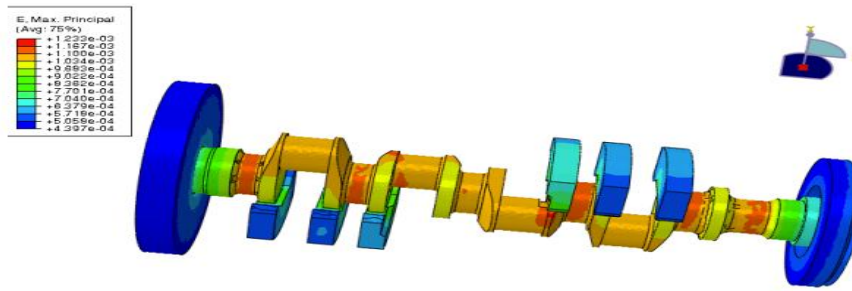
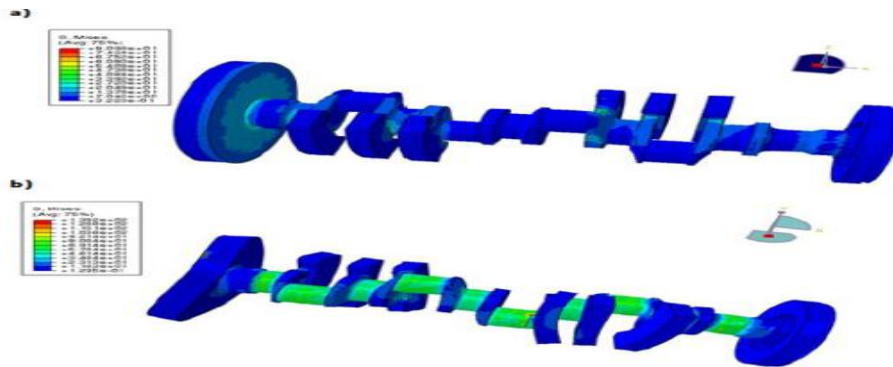**Fig. 5. Equivalent principal strain state on the crankshaft**

Fig. 6. von Mises equivalent stress: (a) permanent regime (b) dynamic regime at the end of the cycle

3.5 Thermo-Mechanical Fatigue Analysis

The purpose of this subsection is to identify the thermomechanical fatigue resistance of the crankshaft in maximum engine loading conditions (N =2650 rpm), which corresponds to the severe functioning state. The crankshaft is solicited by cyclic dynamic loads during it functioning inducing cyclic stresses. This situation leads to early damage (cracking or fracture), for a stress amplitude below the static tensile strength. The highest thermal stresses appear in areas where temperature gradients are highest (steady state). In this case, thermal stresses, superposed on the dynamic stresses will change the average stresses without changing the alternating stresses of dynamic loading. The thermo-mechanical fatigue will be addressed using the von Mises equivalent stress. For the fatigue analysis, we use the following Dang Van fatigue criterion.

3.5.1 Fatigue verification with dang van criterion

The Dang Van criterion is one of the multi-axial fatigue criteria. It predicts when the fatigue resistance limit of the material in N cycles is reached under multi-axial stress state loading.

This criterion is a global approach, it proposes a function using the amplitude тa(t) (alternating part) of octahedral shear stress and the hydrostatic pressure pH(t). This function is expressed as following [13]:

$$\max_n (\max_t) \left\{ \left[\tau_a(t) \right] + \alpha_D \, p_H(t) \right\}) \leq \beta_D \quad (5)$$

The alternative part тa(t) is expressed by the following equation:

$$\tau_{\alpha(\tau)} = \tau_{(\tau)} - \tau_m \quad (6)$$

Where т(t) and τ_m are macroscopic octahedral shear stress and average split, respectively.

T$_{(t)}$ is expressed in function of the stress tensor components:

$$\tau(t) = \frac{1}{3} \sqrt{(\sigma_1 - \sigma_2)^2 + (\sigma_2 - \sigma_3)^2 + (\sigma_3 - \sigma_1)^2} \quad (7)$$

While τ_m is defined as

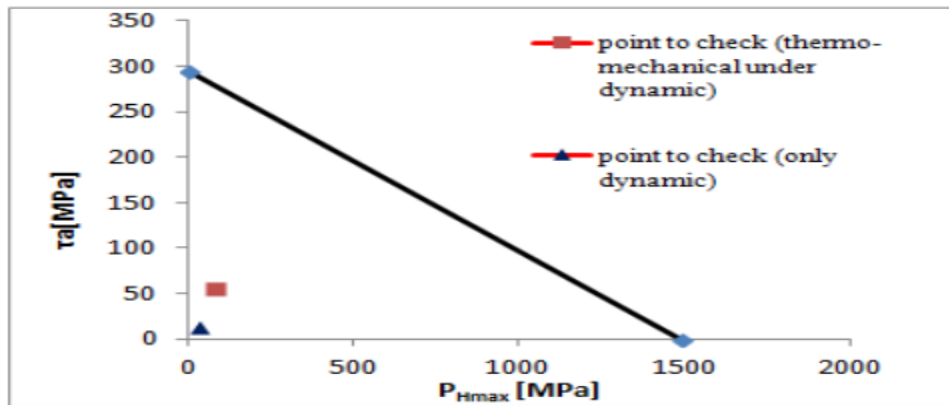$$\tau_m = \int_0^T \tau(x, y, z, t) dt \quad (8)$$

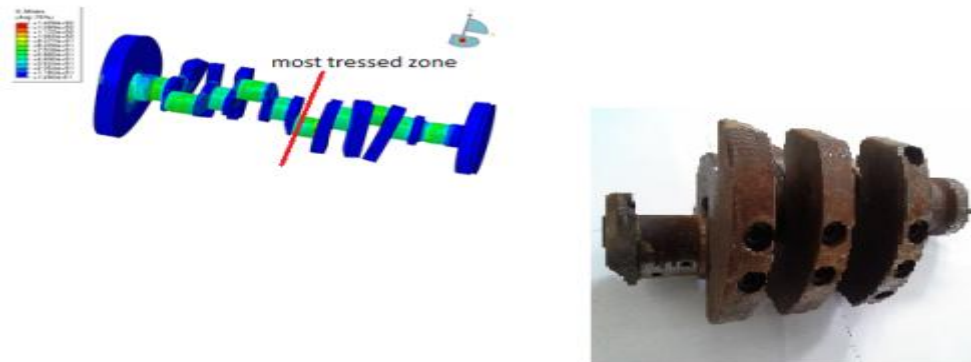**Fig. 7. Fatigue verification at the crankpin 2. Dang van diagram**

Fig. 8. Comparison of crankshaft breakage in service to the numerical simulation results

The constants α_D and β_D can be determined by the means of reference fatigue tests [14,9]. By Substituting equations (6-8) into equation (5) we can obtain the following fatigue resistance condition:

$$\tau a + 0{,}198 pH \ \max \ \leq 294.3 \qquad (9)$$

The Fig. 7 gives the comparison between dynamic and thermo-mechanical under dynamic loading simulations of Dang van diagrams at crankpin 2 (most stressed zone). As it can be seen, in the thermo-mechanical under dynamic loading simulation, the point to be check (red point in Fig. 7) is higher and closer to the endurance limit curve compared to the dynamic simulation. This can be explained by the fact that in thermo-mechanical under dynamic loading simulation, thermal stresses are superposed on the dynamic stresses leading to the reduction of the safety coefficient regarding fatigue analysis. At the end we compare in Fig. 8 the picture of crankshaft damage in service to the position of the most stressed zone obtained in numerical simulations. The comparison shows the

breakage occurred in an area where the numerical simulations give highest stresses.

4. CONCLUSION

This paper has enabled to develop a numerical model account of the thermal effects coming from the engine oil-crankshaft interaction modelling. This thermomechanical behavior has been investigating under severe dynamic conditions. As case of application, the crankshaft of a diesel engine air cooled was considered as boundary conditions, the heat convective flux of the engine oil and crankcase air have been considered in interaction with the crankshaft. FEM simulations have allowed to compute the stress fields of thermomechanical origin, leading to the identification of the most solicited zones which are the risk zones. To validate the thermo-mechanical endurance under dynamic loading, an analysis of the thermo-mechanical fatigue resistance was carried out in these zones using Dang Van multi-axial fatigue criterion, which takes into account the multiaxial cyclic loading of crankshaft. To prove our model efficiency, we

compared crankshaft damage in service to the numerical simulations results. It was found the breakage occurred in an area where the numerical simulations give the highest stresses.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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