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On the pitch error in the initial stage of gear rollforming

with axial-infeed

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**Abstract:** Gear roll-forming process demonstrates an innovative energy-material

saving and high efficiency forming technology for the powertrain gears. The pitch error

in the initial stage has significant impact on the pitch deviation of the formed gears

and the lifetime of the rolling tools. In this paper, an analytical model was proposed

for predicting the pitch error with consideration of geometric relations and process

parameters. Then, the impact factors related to the rolling tools, workpiece and

process were analyzed based on the proposed model. To verify the model, Finite

Element Method (FEM) simulations and experiments were conducted. The compared

results show that the proposed model can well predict the pitch error in the initial

stage. Moreover, the root causes of pitch error were revealed and its influence factors

were also discussed. This research will lead theoretical foundation for reducing the

pitch error in the gear roll-forming process.

**Keywords:** Gear roll-forming; Pitch error; Initial stage; Contact ratio

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