

**Sudan University of Science and Technology**

**College of Engineering**



# **DESIGN OF TRI-STAR WHEEL ROBOT**

**تصميم آلية كهروميكانيكية بإستخدام العجلة الثالثية** 

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of BSc Biomedical Engineering

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**October 2017**



# **Dedication**

<span id="page-1-0"></span>For all disables who really need this creation and to everyone helped us everywhere and at each level

## **Acknowledgement**

<span id="page-2-0"></span>First of all we thank Allah

We would like to thank all at mechanical engineering department at workshops

Dr. Gaffer Abd-alhameed

Eng. Hammed abdallah Abbakar

Eng. Mohammed abbas

And all who helped us. May Allah bless you all.

We deeply beholden to our supervisor Dr. Megdi Alnour for all the support and guidance he provided throughout our project.

## **Abstract**

<span id="page-3-0"></span>Stair climber as a mean of transport tool plays an important role in the life of those people who are old or disabled the stair climber can easily access many places include stairs.

This project use the planetary (tri-star) wheels mechanism to actualize the motion on stairs to design a base with optimum combination of dimensions and material with parameters set for acceptable motion.

The main objective of this project is to design and develop mechanism that make the disable person climb stairs without assistant. Solid work 2016 software is used to create a 3D model and analysis it to obtain the impact of the external forces act on the main items of the design and the deformation result from them.

The main parameters collected and provided in the 3D model. They involved the dimensions of the stair, the holder and its component which are: height of the stair is 17cm, width of stairs is 30cm, radius of regular wheel is 24cm, distance between the center of Tri-Star wheel and the center of its wheel is 22cm and thickness of holders is 6cm that fix the wheel on its place on Tri-Star wheel.

Depending on the result obtained from analysis of design, it was improved and modified to give acceptable performance.

## **المستخلص**

<span id="page-4-0"></span>متسلق الساللم كوسيلة نقل يلعب دور مهم في حياة كبار السن وذوي اإلعاقة البدنية حيث يساعدهم في الوصول لجميع الأمكنة المتضمنة للسلالم.

موضوع البحث يتناول تصميم وسيلة النقل المذكورة بإستخدام منظومة العجلة الثالثية كوسيلة للحركة على السلالم وذلك بالإستعانة بالأبعاد القياسية ومجموعة من المعاملات للحصول على الحركة المطلوبة.

الهدف األساسي من البحث هو تصميم وتطوير آلية تمكن المستخدم من الحركة على الساللم بدون الحوجة لتدخل مساعدات خارجية وذلك بعمل تصميم ثلاثي الأبعاد وتطبيق وتحليل القوى الخارجية المؤثرة على األجزاء الرئيسة من التصميم والتحصل على نتائج التشوه الناتج وذلك بإستخدام برنامج .(SOLIDWORK 2016)

تم جمع المعاملات الأساسية وتضمينها في النموذج الثلاثي الأبعاد والتي تضمن مقاسات السلم و هي ارتفاع السلم (17سم) و عرض السلم (30سم) ، أبعاد حامل العجلات وهي المسافه ما بين المركزين مركز المنظومه و مركز العجله(22سم) و عرضه (6سم) وقطر العجلة(24سم).

اعتمادا على النتائج المتحصل عليها من التحليل تم تعديل التصميم و تحسينه .

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# **Chapter One Introduction and Background**

## <span id="page-11-1"></span><span id="page-11-0"></span>**1.1 Background**

Since the beginning of mankind, he has been improving himself in science and technology to overcome his difficulties and reach & improvise his comfort levels. There are 650 million people which are about 10% of the global population are disabled in the 1970s, and now the number has increased to 15% and it's on rise [1].

In the field of providing mobility for the elderly and disabled, the aspect of dealing with stairs continues largely unresolved. Stair climber as a mean of transport tool plays an important role in the life of those people who are old or disabled that stair climber can easily access many places include stairs.

This project deals with the development of a stair climbing robot with Tri-star wheels. The main technical topics have been discussed in this project are; mathematical modeling, simulation and material selection.

The robot uses Tri-star wheels, the planetary (tri-star) wheels mechanism that follow the rotation of the gears of the transmission system powered by high torque and low speed DC motor supplied by battery, therefore enabling the robot to climb stairs by rotating the Tri-star assembly and to move on flat area.

Structures and material used in robot must be able to carry load and climb stair easily and efficiently. The design structure and Stress analyses of the robot are carried out using SOLIDWORK 2016 to find how applied force will affect the material and design overall.

## <span id="page-11-2"></span>**1.2 Problem Statement**

In cities it`s difficult to find buildings without stairs which increase the suffering of disable people making them indeed need assistant every move which decrease their chances to live normal activities. At the other side it is not convenient and also financially not easy to fit electric lifts everywhere. Therefore stair act as a repetitive obstacle for disabled restrict their ability to move without assistant.

## <span id="page-12-0"></span>**1.3 Objectives of the research**

#### <span id="page-12-1"></span>**1.3.1 General objective**

 The main objective of this project is to design and development mechanism that make the disable person climb stairs without assistant and select a proper material.

#### <span id="page-12-2"></span>**1.3.2 Specific objective**

In order to achieve the main objective we have to complete the following objective

- 1. Determine and calculate basic parameters of the design
- 2. Create 3-D *model* of the design using computer-aided-design system (SOLIDWORK).
- 3. Analysis forces applied on the design.
- 4. Select proper materials for all parts of design.
- 5. Stress analysis and chosen material by using solid work 2016
- 6. Modify and optimization design

## <span id="page-12-3"></span>**1.4 Methodology**

At first information's from different papers, catalogs and solid designs were used to produce the measures of the suggested design, and then the mathematical calculations of the applied and determined forces were done and acquired in the suggested design theoretically. From the previously collected information the proper materials were determined and late after selected based on the analysis values resulted from the created 3-D model of the design and the simulation acquired in solid works.

## <span id="page-12-4"></span>**1.5 The Structure of the Thesis**

 This thesis focuses on the development of stair-climbing mechanisms. Chapter one introduction and background outlined of thesis, what's the problem need to be solved and objectives, Chapter two Literature review - provide the background of thesis and theoretical information about early works and the comparison of designs component. Chapter three theoretical backgrounds - contain mathematical equations and theories used in design. Chapter four design - this chapter describes the initial design, the mechanism, components dimension calculation, in addition to design analysis and design specification which meet the main objectives. Chapter five result and Discussions - -presents the result of analysis of forces, material and final design and discusses if the objectives have been met. Chapter six conclusions- this chapter provide final summary for this project.

## **Chapter Two Literature Review**

## <span id="page-14-1"></span><span id="page-14-0"></span>**2.1 Previous Studies**

Stair climbing mechanism had been the point of investigation in many researches in the past decades. Scientist and researchers seek to provide the most comfortable situation for disabled to have a smooth and safe stair climbing and they sort of divided either to create a standalone device or an assistive device connected to stairs. Ultimately their efforts presented bio robots ,an engineering marvel, that was able to hold mass of human being and travel over obstacles ,staircase and in flat grounds. A number of robots had been built, such as quadruped and hexapod robots. Although these robots can climb stairs and traverse obstacles, they do not have smooth motion on flat surfaces, which is due to the motion of their legs [2]. Ghani ET. Al. investigate the control of a stair climbing wheelchair used for indoor purposes [3] .this research is presenting a development in the mechanism of stair climbing. The mechanism is based on switching both back and front wheels with tri wheels using gear system and motors to provide motion and microchips to provide assistant less control .however according to different researches the stair climbing robots can be categorized to wheeled ,legged and traced robots [2]. Figliolini and Ceccarelli presented a type of the legged architecture shown in figure 2.1 in the form of the bipedal robot EP-WAR2 that used electro pneumatic actuators and suction cups for locomotion. The operation was built upon putting the machine in an open-loop control algorithm. The main limitation of the approach is that operating in a different staircase necessitates manual recalibration [4].



**Figure 2.1: the legged architecture stair climber**

<span id="page-15-0"></span>Tracked robots have a larger ground contact surface than wheeled vehicles and are more stable than bipeds due to their low center of gravity. Liu et al. presented a tracked robotic mechanism as shown in [Figure](#page-15-1) using the fundamental dynamics of the stair-climbing process and the analysis of different phases of riser climbing, nose crossing, nose line climbing and the effects of grouser bars or cleats. The analysis was limited to 2D and slippage, shocks and intermittent loss of track-surface contact which is commonly encountered during stair climbing were neglected [5].



**Figure 2.2: tracked robotic mechanism**

<span id="page-15-1"></span>Shashank Shekhar Sahoo, Himank Kinkar proposed customized climbing wheelchair shown in figure 2.3 consists of various mechanical and electronic components [6].



**Figure 2.3: customized climbing wheelchair** 

<span id="page-16-0"></span>the mechanical part was represented by combination of an innovative axles, highly stable metal body, bi-cycle sprocket with gear sets and screw joints to fix them all together, all lead by dc motors and chain transmission system [6].the electronic part consisted of multiple sensors such as ultrasonic sensor, accelerometer, joystick and peripheral modules such 16x2 LCD, driven by 5V supply from GR-KAEDE board [6]. according to their simulation the robot provided The lowest point of stability during moments when the driving wheels leave the ground and the robot's driving wheels roll over the first and second steps.'' The main reason is that the driving wheels are suddenly suspended in the air. This has the result that the robot's rolling fulcrum moves forward substantially and thus it inclines to tumble backwards more easily'' [6] . The former result was proved in the tracked mobile robot's stairs climbing experiments [7].

The applications of Wheeled robots was greatly encountered in many designs due to simplicity, light weight, compact, have a smaller energy consumption with respect to track devices and the ease of manipulating wheels to construct different shapes therefore presenting continuous motion . One application of such a technique is inpatient rehabilitation, where stair climbing could greatly enhance mobility and thus quality of life, of people confined to wheelchairs. Lawn and Shiatsu [8] provided a design in this category shown in figure 2.4 using two (forward and rear) articulated wheel clusters attached to movable appendages.



**Figure 2.4: Lawn and Shiatsu design**

<span id="page-17-0"></span>The robot was equipped with step-contact sensors, but relies on user steering and is thus only semi-autonomous. A number of products existing on the commercial market such as, Magic Wheels and Max Sella Stair Lifter [9].magic wheels is a two geared manual wheel for step climbing, could maneuver over uneven terrain and it is not battery powered nevertheless it is expensive and user need a comprehensive and balanced upper body strength .max sella stair lifter is used to ascend normal set of stair but it does not promote user independence [9] . Pyra-AidTM, a design that was produced by J-Robert [9].Shown in figure 2.5 developed the common manual wheelchair frame adding a tri-wheel pat in between the clusters wheels. The design required low maintenance and can overcome curbs of different sizes, still, it requires progressive testing, alternative material and mass manufacturing processes investigation.

<span id="page-17-1"></span>

**Figure 2.5: Pyra-AidTM, a design**

Sandeep H.Deshmukh presented Stair Climbing Transporter (SCT) shown in figure 2.6 in which each wheel was formed in triangular shape with pulley in each head using belt system mechanism with control system [10].



**Figure 2.6: Sandeep H.Deshmukh Stair Climbing Transporters (SCT)**

<span id="page-18-0"></span>the design showed a great performance in moving in terrines and stairs though it complied different limitation such us the fast wearing of the belts, technical failure of the control system and the unfit able constant speed which need to be variable [9] i.e. slow on climbing and fast on flat ground. G. Quaglia , W.Franco , and M. Nisi presented a another design in the form of track-wheel hybrid locomotion shown in figure 2.7 that uses wheels for moving on flat ground and tracks for stair climbing [11] .examples of similar idea had been reported by Morales R., Feliu V., González A. and Pintado P , Sugahara Y., Yonezawa N. and Kosuge K and Yuan J. and Hirose S [12] [13] [14].

<span id="page-18-1"></span>

**Figure 2.7: track-wheel hybrid locomotion**

The design was a development of three versions of a stair climbing wheelchair concept called Wheelchair's .it is consisted of three functional elements; locomotion unit (tri-wheel), track and seat all connected in frame with a transmission element composed of the locomotion motors and their transmission systems. The design showed better performances with respect to other wheelchairs in terms of simplicity, cost reduction and autonomy. However the sensor system, the control logic and the complete mechatronic design were still under construction and need a further research and also, a dynamic analysis of wheelchair during different working conditions in order to evaluate if its behavior will be compatible with design requirements is not achieved [11]. R Rajasekar1, K P Pranavkarthik, R Prashanth, S Senthil Kumar and A Sivakumar provided a different design in the form of wheeled mobility, their design was objective by a wheel equally spaced with 72° shown in figure 2.8 it is manually operated and can travel in both flats and staircases.



**Figure 2.8: wheeled mobility design**

<span id="page-19-0"></span>They've tried to minimize the cost of component as possible so as to be affordable for middle income class. In the other hand it lacked brake system which minimize the stability [15].Franco et al did work related to development of a stair climbing wheelchair that can move in structured and unstructured environments, climbing over obstacles and going up and down stairs [11].Tadakamalla Shanmukh Anirudh and Jyoti Pragyan Satpathy provided an ergonomically electric wheelchair with climbing stair functionality shown in figure 2.9 using also the mechanism of triwheel, the design presented three part; the frame, the seat and the links their main problem was that the frame and wheels were designed and developed through the mathematical calculations from the statistical data of dimensions of staircases in Indian houses [16] taking out the universalism of the design .



**Figure 2.9: an ergonomically electric wheelchair with climbing stair functionality**

<span id="page-20-2"></span>Another self propelled wheel chair for climbing stairs and slopes presented by A S Shriwaskar and S K Choudhary shown in figure 2.10. The design parts were tri-wheel Connecting rod, Crank, Frame and Supporting tri-wheel. Propulsion power was transmitted through motor and hand wheels.



**Figure 2.10: self propelled wheel chair for climbing stairs**

<span id="page-20-3"></span>The front wheels are tri-wheels which take power form crank with the help of motor and are mainly used for climbing the stairs. Back tri-wheels were used to support the chair while climbing which reinforced the safety part of the design [17].

## <span id="page-20-0"></span>**2.2 Component design**

## <span id="page-20-1"></span>**2.2.1 Transmutation system design**

In this section the transmission system will be designed and the principle of the transmission mechanism will be considered first; then the gears inside of the planetary wheel system will be selected and assembled; the motors selection as well as the storage battery selection will determined later.

The main difference in most of the previous designs was the power transmission system either belt, chain or gear system. Table 2.1 present the main features that specify each type.

<b>Belt drive</b>	<b>Chain drive</b>	<b>Gear system</b>
Rubber, light	metal, heavier	Small amount of friction.
often slip, work loss	strong	less chance of slipping
Fast wear	Low wear	transmitting high torque
Slight efficiency	Low efficiency	High efficiency
silent	<b>Noisy</b>	Quiet

<span id="page-21-1"></span>**Table 1.1: power transmission system**

## <span id="page-21-0"></span>**2.2.2 Transmitting torque to and from shafts**

In many machine designs, torque must be transmitted between shafts and gears, pulleys, chain-wheels and other hubs. In almost all cases, this must be done without allowing slip between the two parts [18]. As shown below table 2.2, there are a number of ways in which this torque transfer may be achieved.

<span id="page-21-2"></span>**Table 1.2: ways for transmitting torque to and from shaft**

<b>Keys</b>	A keyway is machined into the shaft and a			
	corresponding groove into the bore of the			
	hub. The key fits simultaneously into both			
	grooves, locking them together. The key is			
	subjected to direct shear.			
Grub	These are regarded as light-duty attachments.			
screws and	Sometimes the end of the screw merely bears			
set screws	against the surface of the shaft. In other cases			
	(dog-end or cone-end screws) the end of the			
	screw may enter a drilled hole in the shaft			
<b>Splines</b>	Are essentially axial grooves or recesses			
	which are machined into the shaft, very like a			
	series of keyways. Splines are an integral part			
	of the shaft (cf. keys, which are loose parts).			
	Correspond in grooves are cut into the bore of			
	the hub so that the shaft/hub assembly forms a			
	series of interlocking projections.			



## **2.2.2.1 Keys**

A key seat is a longitudinal groove cut into a shaft for the mounting of a key, permitting the transfer of torque from the shaft to a power-transmitting element, or vice versa. The key fits simultaneously into both grooves, locking them together. The key is subjected to direct shear [19].



**Figure 2.11: key seat**

## <span id="page-22-1"></span><span id="page-22-0"></span>**2.2.3 Shaft bearings**

Bearings are one of the key components that determine the service interval for rotating machinery; they can even limit the life of the machine.

Bearings are used primarily to support rotating shafts in mechanical equipment. They can support heavy loads over a wide speed range and do it virtually friction free. In addition to Guide moving parts – wheel, shafts, pivots they keep the shaft moving smoothly and consistently while reducing friction. They are relatively inexpensive, and require little or no maintenance. Carry load in one or several directions while allowing frictionless motion in other directions [20].

## **2.2.3.1 Types of rolling bearing**

<span id="page-22-2"></span>There are different type of bearing which differ in shape and functions shown on Table 2. 3 which provide types of rolling bearing, their description and advantages [21].

## **Table 1-3 : types of rolling bearing**





## **2.2.3.2 The Bearing Selection Process**

In order to select the most appropriate bearing for an application, it is very important to understand the expected operating conditions of the bearing. The main bearing selection criteria will be covered in this section.

### **1. Mounting Space**

When an application is designed, a primary consideration is for the shaft to have the proper strength and rigidity. Consequently, the minimum required shaft diameter is determined followed by a determination of the allowable housing size, weight, and material needs based on the application environment and loads.

### **2. Loading**

Load type, magnitude, and direction of loads are all key in determining the proper bearing for a particular application. The load types are normally described as

1. When the direction of the load (weight being moved) is at right angles to the shaft, it is called a "radial" load. The load pushes down on the bearing (fig. 1).

2. When the direction of the load is parallel to the shaft, it is called a "thrust" load. The load pushes sideways on the bearing (fig. 2).

3. When the direction of the load is a combination of radial and thrust, the load pushes down sideways on the bearing. This combination is called an "angular" load (fig.3)



**Figure 1.12: load type**

#### <span id="page-25-0"></span>**3. Speed Requirements**

Speed requirements are normally expressed in RPM's (Revolutions per Minute). Normally the first question regarding operating speed is what the expected maximum RPM's is.

#### **4. Rigidity Requirements**

In applications such as machine tool spindles and automobile final drives, bearing rigidity can be a determining factor of its desirability. Rigidity can be defined as the resistance of a bearing to elastic deformation at the point where the rolling elements contact the raceway surface. The higher the bearing rigidity the better the resistance to load induced deformation . Elastic deformation is less of a problem with line contact roller bearings than point contact ball bearings.

#### **2.2.3.3 Bearing life**

When bearings are rotated under load and subjected to repeated contact stresses, wear will eventually result in the raceway material flaking off. The effective life of a bearing is usually defined in terms the total number of revolutions and until flaking occurs it is described as the bearing service or fatigue life. Bearing service (fatigue) life varies depending on design, size, materials, manufacturing methods, and operating conditions [21].

For bearings operating at fixed constant speeds, the basic rating life (90% reliability) is expressed in the total number of hours of operation. The basic dynamic load rating is an expression of the load capacity of a bearing based on a constant load which the bearing can sustain for one million revolutions (the basic life rating). For radial bearings this rating applies to pure radial loads [21] .

## **Chapter Three Theoretical Background**

## <span id="page-27-1"></span><span id="page-27-0"></span>**3.1 Concept Development**

In this section we described the main idea of the design, it's operation mechanism include it's movement on stairs and flat surfaces mechanism.

## <span id="page-27-2"></span>**3.1.1 Design Concept**

The idea behind our design was to design a mechanism to help disabled person move upstairs easily. The study focused on the tri-star wheel robot design. The focuses are more on the gearing drive system and the tri-star wheel design which three wheels are arranged in an upright triangle with two on the ground and one above them, as shown in Figure 3.1. If either of the wheels in contact with the ground receives resistant, the whole system rotates over the obstruction. At rest, each Tri-Star wheel is likely to have two wheels in contact with the ground [20].



**Figure 3.1: tri-star wheel structure**

## <span id="page-27-4"></span><span id="page-27-3"></span>**3.1.2 Procedure of movement**

Propulsion power for both conventional level operation and stair climbing operation is transmitted through the motor .Operation on level ground is similar to the operation of a conventional wheel chair.

#### <span id="page-28-0"></span>**3.1.3 Process for Climbing Stairs**

Firstly the tri-star wheel comes in contact with the stairs then due to obstacle the whole front tri-star frame will rotate toward the obstacle. As the frame rotates the upper wheel rest on the next step and moves forward refer to Figure 3.2 .As the rear part is moving forward, it will push the front part to move along the vertical surface of the stair and finally climb onto the up surface of the stair. the front part is climbing to next step while the rear part is starting contact with the stair. In this situation, the rear part vertically moves along the stair under the pulling forces of the front part. In addition, the rear part motor is also actuated to easily climb the rear part. In this way, the robot will perform the process of climbing stair.



**Figure 3.2: Process for Climbing Stairs [21]**

## <span id="page-28-2"></span><span id="page-28-1"></span>**3.2 Determination Of The Basic Parameters**

The range of the structure size of the tri-star wheels system is determined by the staircase, and the wheels of the wheelchair needs a stable support on the stairs during the process of climbing stairs, if the diameter of the wheels are too large, the wheelchair is unable to support itself on the stairs, and it is also not good for reducing the volume of the wheelchair; if the diameter is too small, the wheelchair will have a low efficiency when it moves on the flat ground, and it has a poor ability to adapt to the terrain. Depending in staircase we can determine the dimensions of the holder that carry the wheel which determines whether the robot is able to climb the stairs. The step-wide G and the step-height R are determined by the stair design rules, which are shown in the table 3.1 [22] .

<span id="page-29-2"></span>**Table 0.1: Different type of stairs**

$STEP-HEIGHT(R)$		STEP-WIDE (G)		<b>SLOPE RELATIONSHIP</b>				
				$=2R+G$				
<b>MAXIMUM</b>	<b>MINIMUM</b>	<b>MAXIMUM</b>		MINIMUM   MAXIMUM	<b>MINIMUM</b>			
190	115	355	240	700	550			
	ACTIVITY CONTROL	Wednesday to the control of the		THE SECTION OF SHEET				



**Figure 3.3: Different type of stairs [22]**

<span id="page-29-1"></span>Apparently, the width of the staircases should not be less than 240mm and the height should not be more than 190mm. So here the width of the stairs b=300mm, and the height h=170mm are chosen, as the calculation reference of our design.

From all of the above we found that in the design of Tri-Star wheel, five parameters are important which are the height of the stairs (a), width of stairs (b), radius of regular wheel (r), radius of Tri-Star wheel, the distance between the center of Tri-Star wheel and the center of its wheel (R) and the thickness of holders that fix the wheel on its place on Tri-Star wheel (t).

### <span id="page-29-0"></span>**3.2.1 Tri-Star Wheel holder**

Three wheels are arranged in a triangular array, such that centers of each of the wheels coincide with vertices of an equilateral triangle. Now the side of an equilateral triangle (R) and radius of the wheel (r) are calculated using certain equations, which are described below in figure 3.4 [20].



**Figure 3.4: an equilateral triangle (R) and radius of the wheel (r)**

$$
R = \sqrt{\frac{(a^2 + b^2)}{3}}\tag{1}
$$

<span id="page-30-1"></span>Where,

 $R =$  the distance between the center of Tri-Star wheel and the center of its wheel

 $a =$  the height of the stairs

b =width of stairs

 $r =$  radius of regular wheel

The maximum value of the thickness of holder  $(t_{max})$  to avoid the collision between the holder and stairs

$$
t_{\max} = \frac{ar(3-\sqrt{3}) + br(3+\sqrt{3}) + a(\sqrt{3}a - \sqrt{3}b)}{6R}
$$
 (2)

Where,

 $t =$  the thickness of holders that fix the wheel on its place on Tri-Star wheel  $r =$  radius of regular wheel

### <span id="page-30-0"></span>**3.2.2 Radius of regular Wheel**

Minimum radius of regular wheel  $(r_{min})$  to prevent the collision of the holders to the stairs is derived as follows (refer to Figure 3.5a) [20]

$$
r_{\min} = \frac{6Rt + a(3b - \sqrt{3}a)}{(3 - \sqrt{3})a + (3 + \sqrt{3})b}
$$
(3)

Maximum radius of regular wheel  $(r_{\text{max}})$  to prevent the collision of the wheels together (refer to Figure 3.5b) [20].

$$
R_{\text{max}} = \frac{\sqrt{(a^2 + b^2)}}{2} \tag{4}
$$



**Figure 3.5: (a) Minimum radius of regular wheel, (b) Maximum radius of regular wheel**

## <span id="page-31-3"></span><span id="page-31-0"></span>**3.2.3 Dimension of key seat**



**Figure 3.6 : key seat dimensions**

<span id="page-31-4"></span>The width of key seat dimension calculated by the equation bellow [19] .

$$
W = \frac{D}{4} \tag{5}
$$

## <span id="page-31-1"></span>**3.3 Transmission system**

### <span id="page-31-2"></span>**3.3.1 Working principle for the transmission system**

The work principle when input comes from motor driver to the central (solar) gears of the planetary wheels system, central gear transfer input to the follower gear through idler gear (refer to figure 3.7) because we want all follower gears to rotate at the same direction of driver as shown below [24] .



**Figure 3.7: Working principle for the transmission system**

<span id="page-32-1"></span>And this transmission occur according to movement ratio between gears

S  $t$  $\boldsymbol{m}$  $(6)$  $\mathcal{S}_{0}^{(n)}$ t

That the arc length of the distance traveled by one gear must equal that of the other that is, the distance traveled along the surface of each gear is the same.

#### <span id="page-32-0"></span>**3.3.2 Gear Selection**

The specifications of gears are obtained According to the center to center distance at holder (R) the pitch diameter of gear have chosen to be 100 mm refer to figure 3.8, all planetary gears have same dimension that we need to transmission same power to all wheels [27] .



**Figure 3.8: Gear specifications**

#### <span id="page-32-2"></span>**1. Module**

It is the ratio of the pitch circle diameter in millimeters to the number of teeth. It is usually denoted by (*m*) according to the size requirements of the triangle star wheel and in order to decrease the installation accuracy.

#### **2. Pitch diameter (D)**

It is the diameter of the pitch circle (an imaginary circle which by pure rolling action would give the same motion as the actual gear).

$$
D = T \times m \tag{7}
$$

Where,

 $D =$ Pitch diameter

 $T =$  Number of teeth

m= Module

Then

$$
T = \frac{D}{m} \tag{8}
$$

#### **3. Pressure angle or angle of obliquity**

It is the angle between the common normal to two gear teeth at the point of contact and the common tangent at the pitch point. It is usually denoted by φ. The standard pressure angles are  $14^\circ$  and  $20^\circ$ .

#### **4. The outside diameter (Do)**

$$
D_0 = m(T+2) \tag{9}
$$

Where,

 $D<sub>o</sub>$  = The outside diameter

#### 5. **Total depth**  $(h_t)$

It is the radial distance between the addendum and the duodenum circles of a gear.

$$
h_t = 2.25 \times m \tag{10}
$$

Where,

 $ht = Total depth$ 

#### **6. Tooth thickness**

It is the width of the tooth measured along the pitch circle.

$$
tooth\, thickness = 1.57 \times m \tag{11}
$$

## <span id="page-34-0"></span>**3.4 Bearing calculations**

The aim of bearing calculations is to estimate how long a bearing will last within a specified probability. In the theoretical calculation, failure is defined as the first sign of pitting, not when the whole bearing breaks down. Loads applied to the bearing generally include the weight of the rotating element itself, the load produced by the working of the machine, and the load resulting from transmission of power by the belt and gearwheel [21] .

#### <span id="page-34-1"></span>**3.4.1 Load applied to the bearing by power transmission**

The force working on the shaft when power is transmitted by belts, chains or gearwheels is obtained, in general, by the following formula [21]

$$
K_t = \frac{r}{r} \tag{12}
$$

*Where,*

 $K_t$  = Transmission force

*T =*: Torque, Nm,

r =effective radius of gearwheel, m, inch

#### <span id="page-34-2"></span>**3.4.2 Gear transmission**

In the case of gear transmissions, the theoretical gear load can be calculated from the transmission force and the type of gear. With spur gears, only a radial load is involved. The simplest case is that of spur gears. In this instance, the tangential force  $K_t$  is obtained from the equation 3-12 and the radial force  $K_s$  can be obtained from the following equation [21].

$$
K_s = K_t \cdot \tan \alpha \tag{13}
$$

Where,

 $K_s$  = radial force

 $K_t$  = Transmission force

 $\alpha$  = is the pressure angle of the gear.

Accordingly, the theoretical composite force, *K*r, working on the gear is obtained from the following formula:

$$
K_{r} = \sqrt{K_{t}^{2} + K_{s}^{2}}
$$
 (14)

Where,

 $Kr =$  the theoretical composite force

## <span id="page-35-0"></span>**3.5 Motor Selection**

To select a proper motor to drive this system we have to determine the following specification.

## <span id="page-35-1"></span>**3.5.1 Speed determination**

Design standards of wheelchair state that the moving speed should not exceed  $v_{max} = 1.8$  m/s, [24]

$$
N = \frac{v \times 60}{\pi \times d} \tag{15}
$$

Where,

 $N =$  angular speed of motor

v = linier speed of robot

 $d =$  diameter of gear

So the angular velocity of central gear is:

$$
i = \frac{Z_2}{Z_1} = \frac{n_1}{n_2} \tag{16}
$$

 $i$  = the angular velocity of central gear

 $Z_1$ = number of teeth

 $Z_2$ = number of teeth

 $n_1$  = the gear speed

 $n_2$  = the gear speed

## <span id="page-35-2"></span>**3.5.2 Torque determination**

$$
T = \frac{P \times 60}{2 \times \pi \times N} \tag{1}
$$
Where,  $T =$ Torque determination  $P$  = the power

# **3.5.3 Power checked**

The rolling friction coefficient between tire and normal road surface is 0.02, which is decided by checking the mechanical design manual [28], and we take safety factor Ks=1.5, the power required when the wheelchair works is,

$$
P = K_S \times Fmgv \tag{2}
$$

Where,  $K_s$  =safety factor  $F =$  force  $m =$ mass  $g=$  gravity  $v$  = velocity

# **Chapter Four Design**

# **4.1 Introduction**

The chapter describe the design of stair climber component's dimension, also it provide the details about applied materials, the improvement of the initial design and the forces analysis.

# **4.2 Methodology**

The methodology followed in the thesis had been described from the collection of design specification required for design implementation till the process led to the final design using mechanical principles and SOLIDWORK 2016 software in the flow chart below



**Figure 4.1: flow chart describing systematic procedures for methodology**

# **4.3 Initial design Structure calculation**

According to the project requirements, Star-wheel have been designed for traversing stair with 17 cm in height and 30 cm in width (a=17cm, b=30 cm).

#### **4.3.1 Determine baseline model dimension**

We applied the dimension of stair on the equations shown in chapter 3 to obtain the acceptable dimension of our model

#### **4.3.1.1 Tri-Star Wheel holder**

By using equation 3-1we can get the radius of the holder with 17 cm in height and 30 cm in width (a=17cm , b=30 cm).

$$
R = \sqrt{\frac{(17^2 + 30^2)}{3}}
$$

 $R = 20cm$ 

The maximum value of the thickness of holder  $(t_{max})$  to avoid the collision between the holder and stairs is derived by assume r=12 cm refer to equation 3-2.

$$
t_{max} = \frac{17 * 12(3 - \sqrt{3}) + 30 * 12(3 + \sqrt{3}) + 17 * (\sqrt{3} * 17 - \sqrt{3} * 30)}{6 * 20}
$$

 $= 13.2 \, \text{cm}$ 



**Figure 4.2:The dimension of holder at solid work**

#### **4.3.1.2 Radius of regular Wheel**

Minimum radius of regular wheel  $(r_{min})$  refer to equation 3.

$$
R_{\min} = \frac{6 * 20 * 3 + 17(3 * 30 - \sqrt{3} * 17)}{(3 - \sqrt{3}) * 17 + (3 + \sqrt{3}) * 30}
$$

$$
r_{\min} = 8.5 \text{ cm}
$$

Maximum radius of regular wheel  $(r_{\text{max}})$  refer to equation 4.

$$
R_{\text{max}} = \frac{\sqrt{(17^2 + 30^2)}}{2}
$$

$$
r_{\text{max}} = 17.2 \text{ cm}
$$

Then the regular wheel diameter range from (17 cm to 34.4cm) and the selected wheel is 24cm diameter as shown at figure 4.3



**Figure 4.3: the wheel**

#### **4.3.2 Gear Selection**

The gears inside of the planetary wheels is shown in figure 4.4, and now the teeth and modulus for each gear will be selected using equations from (7-11) as shown on table 4.1 .



**Figure 4.4: The gears inside of the planetary wheels**

NUMBER OF TEETH

$$
T=\frac{100}{2.5}
$$

i,

 $=40$  teeth

**Table 0.1: gear specification**



#### **4.3.3 Simulation Study**

Manual Simulation study was provided in order to verify the reliability of the design. Manual simulation is a pure climbing task with the prototype tri-star wheel being placed on the stairs manually by an operator, as shown in Figure 4.4. The tasks were repeated ten times without any serious problem.





 $(a)$  (b) **Figure 4.5: (a) manual simulation, (b) software simulation**

Software simulation is provided by Solid Work 2016. The main objective is to simulate the movement of tri-star wheel assembly and the connection shaft between the body sections. The study started with the development of 3D design of the robot, as shown in Figure 4.4(b) The design of the stair was developed in simulation environment, and the simulation study is provided. From simulation the motion of wheel didn't follow the motion of gears and holder didn't respond to power transmitted from motor so we didn't achieve our main objective so that we have to improve the design.

# **4.4 Improved design**

This section provides to improve the initial design to assure that we get proper transmission of power to wheel through gears at the same speed and direction. to achieve this improvement, the dimension of the shaft that carry gears and wheels should be changed to suit wheel and gear ,in addition to locate bearing that prevent holder from rotate according to the rotation of the shaft .

## **4.4.1 Holder**



**Figure 4.6: The holder**

# **4.4.2 Shaft**

 Shafts have numerous changes in diameter to accommodate bearings and gears as well as features such as keyways to provide torque transmission.



**Figure 4.7: Shaft with The location of support bearing is shown schematically. There are two key seat for fixing gear (on lift-side) and wheel (on the right-side) with the shaft.**

## **4.4.3 Key seat**

The width of the key calculate by Equation 3-5

$$
w = \frac{D}{4}
$$

for gear

$$
w = \frac{15}{4} = 3.75
$$

$$
w = \frac{24}{4} = 6
$$

The part of key attached with gear and wheel calculated by following equation for gear

$$
\frac{1.75}{2} = 1.875
$$

For wheel

$$
\frac{6}{2} = 3
$$



**Figure 4.8 a) gear key, b) wheel key**

## **4.4.4 Wheels**

We changed the hole's shape and dimension to be suitable for key dimensions but the dimension of the outer diameter is still similar to initial design wheel diameter



**Figure 4.9: the wheel dimension**

# **4.4.5 Gears**

We have two types of gear here which have the same dimensions but differ in the inner diameter: Wheel gear that transmit power to wheel and gear that transmit power from motor to the middle gear ( refer figure 4.7) and One for the power transmission from the middle gear to the wheel gear (refer figure 4.8).



**Figure 4.10: gear with key seat**



**Figure 4.11: middle gear**

#### **4.4.6 Force estimation**

Total Weight of Whole System  $= 4$  (Weight of Star Wheel) + Weight of Drive Gear Motor + Weight of battery

Total weight of whole system =  $4 \times 4 + 5 + 9 = 30$ Kg

Chair weight  $= 29.6$  kg

Person weight  $= 80$  kg

For rolling applications, generally preferred value the coefficient of friction is 0.2.

Total pulling Weight  $=$  Total weight of whole system  $+$  chair weight  $+$  person weight

Hence,

Total pulling weight =  $29.6 + 30 + 80$ 

Total pulling weight  $= 139.6$  kg

Maximum Pull = Total pulling weight  $\times$  Coefficient of friction

 $= 139.6 \times 1.2 = 167.52$  Kg

Where, consider  $g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$ 

Maximum pull force =  $167.52 \times 9.8$ 

 $= 1,641.7 N$ 

For one side pull force  $= 410.4$  N

#### **4.4.7 Bearing selection**

The Load applied to the bearing by power transmission calculated by equation 12 that shown early in (chapter 3)

$$
K_t = \frac{61.56}{0.52}
$$

$$
K_t = 118.38
$$
 N

. With spur gears, only a radial load is involved. The radial force  $K_s$  can be obtained from equation (13)

$$
K_s = K_t \cdot \tan \alpha
$$
  

$$
K_s = 118.38 \times \tan 20
$$
  

$$
K_s = 264.84 \text{ N}
$$

Composite force, *K*r, working on the gear is obtained from the following formula:

$$
K_r = \sqrt{K_t^2 + {K_s}^2}
$$
  
\n
$$
K_r = \sqrt{(118.38)^2 + (264.84)^2}
$$
  
\n
$$
K_r = 290.095 \text{ N}
$$
  
\nactual load =  $K_r \times f_z$   
\nactual load = 290.095 × 1.05  
\n= 304.6 N

The selected bearing should withstand the resultant Composite force

# **4.5 Motor selection**

To select the proper motor the specification required had been determined as followed.

#### **4.5.1 Speed determination**

The driving mechanism is powered by 4 DC motor that coupled to the far side of the wheel .the robot is designed to have a maximum velocity of 50cm/s= 1.8km/hr .considering the total force of each wagon (410.4 N)

Required RPM (N)

$$
N = \frac{v \times 60}{\pi \times d}
$$
 (16)  

$$
= \frac{50 \times 60}{\pi \times 0.1}
$$

$$
= 95.49 \text{ rpm}
$$

So the angular velocity of central gear is:

$$
i = \frac{z_2}{z_1} = \frac{n_1}{n_2} \tag{17}
$$

n1=n2=95.49 rpm

#### **4.5.2 Torque determination**

$$
T = \frac{410.4 \times 60}{2 \times \pi \times 95.49} \tag{18}
$$

$$
T=41.04\ N.m
$$

Consider the service factor is 1.5

Final output Torque  $(T)$  = required torque  $\times$  Service factor

$$
= 410.4 \times 1.5
$$
  
= 61.56 *N*.*m*

Final output RPM  $(n) = 95.49$  rpm

#### **4.5.3 Powered checked**

Get safety factor Ks=1.5, the total weight of a person and the wheelchair is 148.8 kg. And the power required when the wheelchair works is,

$$
P = 1.5 \times 0.02 \times 167.56 \times 9.8 \times 0.5
$$
\n
$$
= 24.63 W
$$
\n(19)

For 4 motors we need total power

$$
P_T = P \times 4
$$

$$
= 98.7W
$$

The motor is primarily used as the engine when the wheelchair moving on the ground or climbing up and down stairs, so the rated power should be much bigger than 100W.

### **4.6 Shaft analysis**

In a given shaft, several different stress conditions can exist at the same time. For any part of the shaft that transmits power, there will be a torsion shear stress, while bending stress is usually present on the same parts the bending stresses will be assumed to be completely reversed and repeated because of the rotation of the shaft (see appendix A).

## **4.6.1 Normal stress**

area = 
$$
2\pi r^2 + h(2 \pi r)
$$
 (21)  
area<sub>a</sub> =  $2\pi \times 12^2 + 66(2 \pi \times 12) = 5881 \text{mm}^2$   
area<sub>b</sub> =  $(2\pi \times 21^2) + 37(2 \pi \times 21) = 7652.9 \text{mm}$ 

Groove rings

area<sub>c</sub> = 
$$
(2\pi \times 27.52) + 3(2 \pi \times 27.5) = 3309.6
$$
 mm<sup>2</sup>  
area<sub>d</sub> =  $(2\pi \times 7.52) + 3(2 \pi \times 7.5) = 1484.4$  mm<sup>2</sup>

#### $A \equiv$  gear shaft part

 $B \equiv$  wheel shaft part

$$
\sigma = \frac{F}{A}
$$
 (20)  

$$
\sigma_a = \frac{68.4}{5881} = 0.0116 N/mm^2
$$
  

$$
\sigma_b = \frac{68.4}{7652.9} = 0.0089 N/mm^2
$$

For groove rings:

$$
\sigma_c = \frac{68.4}{3309.6} = 0.206N/mm^2
$$

$$
\sigma_d = \frac{68.4}{1484.4} = 0.046 N/mm^2
$$

### **4.6.2 Torsion shear stress**

Torque of shaft  $= 61.56$  N.m

$$
\sigma_s = \frac{T.D}{j} \tag{22}
$$

$$
j = \frac{\pi D^4}{32} = T. D \times \frac{32}{\pi D^4}
$$
 (23)

By applying equation (24) in appendix A

$$
a_1 = \frac{\pi D^3}{32} = \frac{\pi \times 24^3}{32} = 1357.1
$$

$$
a_2 = \frac{\pi \times 15^3}{32} = 331.33
$$

$$
\sigma_{s1} = \frac{61.56}{1357.1} = 0.0453 N/mm^2
$$

$$
\sigma_{s2} = \frac{61.56}{331.33} = 0.1857 N/mm^2
$$

# **4.6.3 Load at the gear pitch circle**

Using equation 25 to obtained load as following

$$
F_t = \frac{2T}{D_p} = \frac{2 \times 61.56}{0.1} = 1231.2 \text{ N}
$$

Resultant force on the shaft

$$
F_r = \frac{F_t}{\cos \theta} = \frac{1231.2}{\cos 2\theta} = 1323.8 \text{ N}
$$

### **4.6.4 Shear stress**

$$
\tau = \frac{16 \, T}{\pi D^3} \tag{27}
$$

$$
\tau_1 = \frac{16 \times 61.65}{\pi \times 243} = 0.022 \, N/mm^2
$$

$$
\tau_2 = \frac{16 \times 61.65}{\pi \times 15^3} = 0.0928 \text{ N/mm}^2
$$

In groove ring:

$$
\tau_1 = \frac{16 \times 61.56}{\pi \times 42^3} = 0.00423 \text{ N/mm}^2
$$

$$
\tau_2 = \frac{16 \times 61.56}{\pi \times 43^3} = 0.0039 \text{ N/mm}^2
$$

# **4.6.5 Bending stresses**

$$
\sigma_x = \frac{MY}{I} \tag{28}
$$

$$
I = \frac{\pi \times D^4}{64}
$$
 (29)  

$$
I_1 = \frac{\pi \times 24^4}{64}
$$

$$
= 28.27 \text{ mm}^2
$$

$$
I_1 = \frac{\pi \times 15^4}{64}
$$

$$
= 11.04 \text{ mm}^2
$$

For groove ring

$$
I_1 = \frac{\pi \times 42^4}{64}
$$
  
= 86.59 mm<sup>2</sup>  

$$
I_1 = \frac{\pi \times 43^4}{64}
$$
  
= 90.76 mm<sup>2</sup>  

$$
M = ?
$$
  

$$
f_r = 1323.8 N
$$
  

$$
\theta = 20^\circ
$$
  

$$
\overline{R} = \overline{R}
$$
  

$$
F = 5r \times \cos \theta
$$
  

$$
A = 1323.8 \times 0.939
$$

 $= 1243 N$ 

 $(30)$ 

 $B = 1323.8 \times 0.342$ 

Considering force is a distributed equally along the shaft for balancing the system:

$$
f = \frac{68.4}{2}
$$

$$
= 34.2 N
$$

But the two parts of the shaft are not equal in length; therefore it has been taken in ratio where its lengths are in the ratio of

66:37

Divide by 66

ratio is  $= 1: 0.56$ 

Therefore the force is in the ratio of

 $34.2 \times 0.56 = 19.152$ 

 $\therefore$  ratio is

49.248:19.152

1. Gear part:



 $R_a = (19.152 \times 0.037) + 1243 = 1951.62$ 



$$
\therefore \sigma_x = \frac{120.66}{11.04}
$$

 $= 10.92 N/mm^2$ 

For wheel part:



 $R_B$  + 1951.62 = 40 + (47.09 × 0.063) + 2.23

$$
R_B=1056.7\ N
$$

# $61.56 - 120.66 - M_B - 1951.62 \times 0.003 + (2.23 \times 0.003 \times 0.0015) - (47.09 \times 0.063)$  $\times 0.0315 = 0$

$$
M_B = -158.19 \leftarrow N.m
$$
\n
$$
\therefore \sigma_x = \frac{158.19}{28.27}
$$
\n
$$
= 5.59 \text{ N/mm}^2
$$

#### **4.6.6 Twisting moment**

$$
M = \frac{\pi}{16} \times \tau \times d^3
$$
(31)  

$$
M_{gear} = \frac{\pi}{16} \times 0.0928 \times 15^3
$$

$$
= 61.49
$$
  

$$
M_{wheel} = \frac{\pi}{16} \times 0.022 \times 24^3
$$

$$
= 59.71
$$

# **4.6.7 Combined maximum shear stress**

$$
\tau = \left(\sigma_s^2 + \left(\frac{\sigma}{2}\right)^2\right)^{1/2} \tag{32}
$$

For gear part:

$$
\tau_{max} = 0.0928^2 + \left(\frac{0.046}{2}\right)^{1/2}
$$

$$
= 0.095 \ N/mm^2
$$

For wheel part:

$$
\tau_{max} = 0.022^2 + \left(\frac{0.011}{2}\right)^{1/2}
$$

$$
= 0.022677 \text{ N/mm}^2
$$

## **4.6.8 Maximum normal stress**

$$
\sigma_e = \frac{\sigma}{2} \pm (\sigma_s^2 + \left(\frac{\sigma}{2}\right)^2)^{1/2} \tag{33}
$$

For gear  
\n
$$
\sigma_e = \frac{0.046}{2} + 0.095
$$
\n
$$
= 0.11835 \text{ N/mm}^2
$$
\nFor wheel  
\n
$$
\sigma_e = \frac{0.011}{2} + 0.0226
$$
\n
$$
= 0.0281312 \text{ N/mm}^2
$$

# **4.6.9 Analysis of stress point critical section**

**a. gear shaft**

$$
\sigma_x = \frac{Mc}{I} + \frac{P}{area} \tag{36}
$$

$$
\sigma_x = \frac{F l \left(\frac{d}{2}\right)}{I} + \frac{4P}{\pi d^2} \tag{37}
$$

$$
M = 120.66 - T
$$
  
= 120.66 - 61.56  
= 59.1 N. m

$$
\therefore \sigma_x = \frac{59.1}{11.04} \times \left(\frac{0.015}{2}\right) + \frac{452.73 \times 4}{\pi \times 0.015^2}
$$

$$
= 2602.07 \, kPa
$$

$$
\tau_{xy} = \frac{r \, r}{j} = \frac{16r}{\pi \, d^3} \tag{38}
$$

$$
= \frac{16 \times 61.56}{\pi \times 0.015^3}
$$

$$
= 92895.5 \, kPa
$$

And now we can find von-misses stress

$$
\sigma_{vm} = \sqrt{(\sigma_x^2 + 3\tau_{xy}^2)}
$$
 (39)  
= 160.9207 MPa

Point A at shaft:



 $\sigma_x = \sigma_A$ 

$$
\sigma_y = 0
$$
  
\n
$$
\tau_{xy} = ?
$$
  
\n
$$
\sigma_{1,2} = 0.5(\sigma_x + \sigma_y) \pm \sqrt{\frac{(\sigma_x - \sigma_y)^2}{2} + \tau_{xy}^2}
$$
 (40)  
\n
$$
\sigma_{1,2} = 0.5(2602.07) \pm \sqrt{\frac{(2602.07)^2}{2} + 92895.5^2}
$$
  
\n
$$
\sigma_1 = 94.20561 MPa
$$
  
\n
$$
\sigma_2 = 91.60361 MPa
$$
  
\n
$$
\tau_{max} \tau_{min} = \pm 0.5\sqrt{(\sigma_x)^2 + 4\tau_{xy}^2}
$$
 (41)  
\n
$$
\tau_{max} \tau_{min} = \pm 0.5\sqrt{2602.07)^2 + 4(92895.5)^2}
$$
  
\n
$$
\tau_{max} = 92.90461 MPa
$$
  
\n
$$
\tau_{max} = -92.90461 MPa
$$

**B) Wheel shaft**

$$
\sigma_x = \frac{Mc}{I} + \frac{P}{area}
$$
  
\n
$$
\sigma_x = \frac{F l (\frac{d}{2})}{I} + \frac{4P}{\pi d^2}
$$
  
\n158.19 - T  
\n158.19 - 61.56  
\n123.63 N.m  
\n
$$
\frac{123.63}{28.27} \times (\frac{0.024}{2}) + \frac{452.73 \times 4}{\pi \times 0.024^2}
$$
  
\n= 1000.7 kPa  
\n
$$
\tau_{xy} = \frac{T r}{j} = \frac{16T}{\pi d^3}
$$

 $\therefore \sigma_x$ 

$$
= \frac{16 \times 61.56}{\pi \times 0.024^3}
$$

$$
= 22679.5 kPa
$$

$$
\sigma_{vm} = \sqrt{(\sigma_x^2 + 3\tau_{xy}^2)}
$$

$$
= 124.261 MPa
$$

Point A at shaft:



 $\sigma_1 = 23.19088 MPa$  $\sigma_2 = 22.19018 MPa$  $\tau_{max,} \tau_{min} = \pm 0.5 \left[ (\sigma_x)^2 + 4 \tau_{xy}^2 \right]$  $\tau_{max, \tau_{min}} = \pm 0.5 \sqrt{1000.7)^2 + 4(22679.5)^2}$  $\tau_{max} = 22.68501 MPa$ 

$$
\tau_{max} = -22.68501 MPa
$$

# **4.7 Material selection**

Material selection is a step in the process of designing any physical object. In the context of product design, the main goal of material selection is to minimize cost while meeting product

performance goals. Systematic selection of the best material for a given application begins with properties and costs of candidate materials.

#### **4.7.1 Frame and body holder material**

The type of material used to construct the frame affects the weight of the frame, and therefore the overall weight of the wheelchair. The type of frame material also can affect the wheelchair's overall strength.

#### **4.7.1.1 Mild Steel**

Mild steel, also called as plain-carbon steel, is the most common form of steel because its price is relatively low while it provides material properties that are acceptable for many applications, more so than iron. Low-carbon steel contains approximately 0.05–0.3% carbon making it malleable and ductile. For mild steel  $\sigma = 580 \text{N/mm}^2$ 

#### **4.7.1.2 Aluminum**

is remarkable for the metal's low density and its ability to resist corrosion through the phenomenon of passivation. Aluminum and its alloys are vital to the aerospace industry and important in transportation and building industries, such as building facades and window frames. The oxides and sulfates are the most useful compounds of aluminum. Aluminum has about one-third the density and stiffness of steel. It is easily machined, cast, drawn and extruded.

#### **4.7.1.3 Stainless steel**

is a steel alloy with a minimum of 10.5% chromium content by mass. It is notable for its corrosion resistance, Stainless steel does not readily corrode, and rust or stain with water as ordinary steel does. However, it is not fully stain-proof in low-oxygen, high-salinity, or poor air-circulation environments.

#### **4.7.2 Type of Wheel***/Tires* **Material**

#### **4.7.2.1 Filled rubbers**

In tires rubbers are usually filled with particles like carbon black or Silica. They consist of a tread and a body. The tread is the part of the tire that comes in contact with the road surface. The portion that is in contact with the road at a given instant in time is the contact.

#### **4.7.2.2 Polyurethane**

Polyurethane (PUR and PU) is a polymer composed of a chain of organic units joined by carbonate (urethane) links. The main ingredients to make polyurethane are isocyanides. Other materials are added to help processing the polymer or to change the properties of the polymer.

### **4.7.2.3 Steel**

Steel is an alloy of iron, with carbon being the primary alloying element, up to 2.1% by weight. Various Wheel materials and their co-efficient of frictions are tabulated in table 3.3.

**Table 0.2: Various Wheel Materials and their Coefficient of friction**

S.NO	Material	Coefficient of friction
	Rubber concrete	0.85
	Polyurethane concrete	0.5
	Steel concrete	0.45

The wheels are of rubber as it has to bear the whole load of the person sitting in the chair and has the highest Coefficient of friction.

## **4.7.3 Shaft materials**

Most shafts are made from steel, either low- or medium-carbon. However, high quality alloy steel, usually heat treated, may be chosen for critical applications.

Other metals, e.g. brass, stainless steel or aluminum, may be used where corrosion is a problem or lightness is required.

# **Chapter Five Results and Discussion**

# **5.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents the findings from tri-star wheel frame analysis using aluminum, stainless steel and mild steel, the description of the final design and discusses both mathematical and simulation analysis results.

# **5.2 Tri-wheel holder system analysis**

This part of chapter provides an overview of results obtained from static force applied on model using solid work, results presented includes( von misses stress, von misses strain and displacement occurred).

## **5.2.1 Material of holder**

Materials conducted in the analysis were based on material selection study introduced in (chapter 4).

## **5.2.1.1 Aluminum**

The detected results are presented in table below

#### **Table 0.1: Max stress, strain and displacement of aluminium**



#### **5.2.1.2 Stainless steel frame**

The detected results are presented in table below

#### **Table 0.2: Max stress, strain and displacement of stainless steel**



## **5.2.1.3 Mild-steel frame**

The detected results are presented in table below

#### **Table 0.3: Max stress, strain and displacement of mild steel**



# **5.2.2 Von misses stress**

The following table shows equivalent von misses stress distribution in the frame with the different material selected.









## **5.2.3 Von-misses strain**

The following table shows equivalent von misses strain distribution in the frame with the different material selected.



**Table 0.5: Von-misses strain distribution**





# **5.2.4 Displacement**

The following table shows displacement distribution in the frame with the different material selected.









# **5.2.5 Deformation**

The following table shows deformation occurred within the frame by the different material selected.



#### **Table 0.7: The Resultant Deformation**




# **5.3 Final Design**



**Figure 5.1: Final shaft**



**Figure 5.2: holder**











**Figure 5.5: gear's key seat**



**Figure 5.6: wheel's key seat**







**Figure 5.7: middle shaft**



**Figure 5.8: wheel**





**Figure 5.9: final system design**





**Figure 5.10: tri star wheel design**

### **5.4 Discussion**

Based on the calculated weights driven for the system The DC motor was chosen to provide high torque to bear the calculated load exerted on the system and low speed to maintain stability.

The presented terms of operation led to chose gear system for transmission due to its Small amount of friction, less chance of slipping, capability of transmitting high torque, High efficiency and Quietness.

From the obtained results there had been two types of stresses Normal stress which was caused by the forces exerted by 90 degree on the system and Shear stress which was parallel to the system normal stress was caused by two forces, axial and bending. Axial Resulted from total pulling force exerted on the system for motion, it was equal along the shaft and bending Resulted from the exerted force by wheel, gear and weight of system. It appeared at the top and bottom of the shaft where they exhibited compression and tension respectively.

Shear stress was caused by two forces Transverse and torsion. Transverse force Caused the shear stress to be maximum at center in both sides of the shaft (left and right of the load) due to the reaction forces at both ends of the shaft .The torsion shear stress was most high at wheel part of the shaft than gear part due to its large area were the torsion is proportional to it. And by further more the element around the outside parameter (i.e. points A and B) exhibited the maximum shear stress due to torsion which increase when the distance (i.e. moment arm) increase.



**Figure 5.11: shaft stress points**

The normal stresses due to bending are largest at the cross section of maximum bending moment, which is at the support as shown above (i.e. at points C and D). Specifying the procured results with the chosen material (mild steel, stainless steel and aluminum) the following points were found.

Von misses Stress presented along the shaft were at most towards the fixed end of beam which is less than the yield point value of mild steel Aluminum and Stainless steel therefore, the design is safe in all nevertheless, from the analysis done with the three materials results showed that mild steel deformation is best of the three due to it's high ductility beside its less cheaper than both of them. Even though in relative to stainless steel and aluminum it had lower strength and hardness. Above that aluminum took the prize for light weight.



**Figure 5.12: Max stress, strain and displacement for the 3 material** 

## **Chapter Six Conclusions and Recommendations**

### **6.1 Conclusions**

This project aimed to develop a mechanism for climbing stair using tri-star wheel system which its main idea was making the wheels rolling within motion in flat surfaces while in climbing motion the whole system will roll together. Gear system was chosen as transmission system. A mechanical design simulation and analysis were presented using SOLIDWORK program. The first model was inefficient due to it's incompatibility with dynamic running therefore, it was modified. In particular it's the gear and wheel shaft was modified to shaft composed of two portions with different areas and bearing was added to prevent holder's motion with that shaft. In the other side the key seats had been added to transmit power from the gear to the shaft then to the wheel.

For analysis aluminum, stainless steel and mild steel were used to test the best behavior of design with it. Though the three materials provided tolerated results, mild steel wins the first place in terms of cost, weight and ductility.

### **6.2 Recommendation**

With the evolution of computers in terms of programs, speed and accuracy the design performance simulation and analysis can be done with such software programs. The design here was analyzed in static position with high loads in static analysis so, further research may contain an experimental tests with load resulted from the climbing motion.

In terms of safety future research can add clutch, a mechanical device which engages and disengages power transmission from driving shaft to driven shaft. Also with this huge transition in modern technologies future research can implement collision avoidance mechanism using ultrasonic sensors and switches for controlling various operation modes of the system.

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## **Appendix A**

To correctly design and dimension the boundary to the rotating system (bearing, houses etc.) The axial stress is calculated according to equation, and is normally comparatively small [27].

#### **1. Normal stress**

used to calculate forces exerted by 90degree on the system by the following equation

$$
\sigma = \frac{F}{A} \tag{19}
$$

Where,

 $\sigma$  = Normal stress

F =pulling force

 $A=area$ 

$$
area = 2\pi r^2 + h(2\pi r) \tag{20}
$$

 $r =$  radius

 $h =$ height of cylindrical shaft

#### **2. Torsion shear stress**

The resultant stress from torque applied on the shaft. Identified by the following equation

$$
\sigma_s = \frac{T.D}{j} \tag{21}
$$

Where,

 $\sigma_s$  = Torsion shear stress

 $T=$  torque

J= shear constant(polar moment of inertia)

d= diameter of the shaft

$$
j = \frac{\pi D^4}{32}
$$
\n
$$
\therefore \quad \sigma_s = T.D \times \frac{32}{\pi D^4}
$$
\n(22)

$$
\therefore \sigma_s = \frac{T}{a} \tag{23}
$$

#### **3. Load at the spur gear pitch circle**

Is the load resulted from the torque applied on the spur gear pitch circle.

$$
F_t = \frac{2T}{D_p} = \frac{2P \times 63,000}{D_p n}
$$
 (24)

Where,

 $F_t$  = Transmitted force

 $D_p =$  Pitch diameter

 $n = angular speed$ 

#### **4. Resultant force on the shaft**

Is an Additional force acting on the shaft because of the gear angle. It is calculated by the following formula.

$$
F_r = \frac{F_t}{\cos \theta} \tag{25}
$$

Where,

 $F_r$  = Resultant force

#### **5. Shear stress**

Is the stress resulted from the parallel force on the system , calculated by the following formula.

$$
\sigma_{\rm s} = \frac{16T}{\pi D^3} \tag{26}
$$

#### **6. Bending stress of circular shafts**

Shafts transmit power through gears and pulleys, these produce bending load in addition to torsion

$$
\sigma_x = \frac{My}{I} \tag{27}
$$

Where,

 $\sigma_x$  = bending stress

 $M =$  calculated bending moment

 $Y =$  vertical distance away from the neutral axis

 $I = \text{area moment of }$ 

$$
I = \frac{\pi (D^2 - d^2)}{64}
$$
 (28)

Where,

 $D$  = outside diameter

 $d =$  inside diameter



$$
F = f_r \times \cos\theta \tag{29}
$$

Where,

 $F_r$  = Resultant force

 $θ$  = pressure angle

#### **7. Twisting moment**

Defined to be the algebraic sum of the moments of the applied to one side of shaft. It is calculated by the following formula.

$$
M = \frac{\pi}{16} \times \tau \times d^3 \tag{30}
$$

 $M =$  twisting moment

#### **8. Combined maximum shear stress**

Due to the complex force exerted to the system the combined maximum shear stress test is acquired

$$
\tau = \left(\sigma_s^2 + \left(\frac{\sigma}{2}\right)^2\right)^{1/2} \tag{31}
$$

Where,

 $\tau$  = combined maximum shear stress

#### **9. Maximum normal stress**

$$
\sigma_e = \frac{\sigma}{2} \pm (\sigma_s^2 + \left(\frac{\sigma}{2}\right)^2)^{1/2} \tag{32}
$$

Where,

 $\sigma_e$  = equivalent combined normal stress

 $\sigma$  = normal stress from bending or axial loads

#### **10. Analysis of stress point critical section**

Critical sections are the points were the minimum or maximum values of stress are calculated to determine the where the maximum or minimum deformations of system will occur

$$
\sigma_x = \frac{Mc}{I} + \frac{P}{area} \tag{33}
$$

$$
\sigma_x = \frac{F l \left(\frac{d}{2}\right)}{I} + \frac{4P}{\pi d^2} \tag{34}
$$

$$
\tau_{xy} = \frac{Tr}{j} = \frac{16T}{\pi d^3} \tag{35}
$$

Where,

- c = perpendicular distance from the neutral axis to the farthest point on the section
- $P =$  pulling force

 $F =$  applied force

- $L =$  moment arm
- $\tau_{xy}$  = shear stress around x, y axis's

Von misses stress is calculated to determine if the given material will yield or fracture. To find vonmisses stress the following formula used is

$$
\sigma_{vm} = \sqrt{(\sigma_x^2 + 3\tau_{xy}^2)}
$$
\n(36)

$$
\sigma_{1,2} = 0.5(\sigma_x + \sigma_y) \pm \sqrt{\frac{(\sigma_x - \sigma_y)^2}{2} + \tau_{xy}^2}
$$
\n(37)

$$
\tau_{max, \tau_{min}} = \pm 0.5 \sqrt{(\sigma_x)^2 + 4\tau_{xy}^2}
$$
\n(38)

Where,

 $\sigma_{vm}$  = von misses stress

 $\sigma_x$  = stress about x axis

 $\sigma_y$  = stress about y axis

 $\sigma_{1,2}$  = principle stresses at certain point

 $\tau_{min}$  = minimum shear stress at certain point

 $\tau_{max}$  = maximum shear stress at certain point

# **Appendix B**



## **The Properties Of Mild Steel**

## **The Properties Of Aluminum**



## **The Properties Of Stainless Steel**

