

FABRICATION OF AIR POWERED CAR BY USING PNEUMATIC ACTUATORS

By

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ABSTRACT

The technology of pneumatics has gained tremendous importance in the field of automation from old fashioned timber works, machine shops and space robots. Certain characterizes of air have made this medium quite suitable for used in modern manufacturing and production industries. It is therefore important that technicians and engineers should have knowledge on pneumatic systems air operated valves accessories. Pneumatic system consists of a compressor plant, pipe lines control valves and drive members. The air is compressed in an air compressor and from the compressor plant the flow media is transmitted to the pneumatic cylinder through a well laid pipe line system. So keeping in mind about the importance of pneumatic system are introducing a project called pneumatic air engine system.

1. Introduction:

The shearing machine and bending machine is most important in sheet metal industry. This machine should be used for straight cutting machine with wide application. But in some industry hand sheet cutter and hand bender are used. For that machine to operate the human effort are required. The machine should be simple to operate and easy to maintain, hence we tried out to develop the Pneumatic Shearing and Bending Machine.

In shearing operation as the punch descends upon the metal, the pressure exerted by the punch first cause the plastic deformation of the metal. Since the clearance between the punch and the die is very small, the plastic deformation takes place in a localized area and the metal adjacent to the cutting edges.

Hence, we are introducing a pneumatic sheet metal cutting machine which will reduce manufacturing cost and minimize industrial labor problems which is the biggest headache for human. The main objective of our project is to perform job holding operation effectively with less human efforts by using a machine with the pneumatic power. This will also reduce the time

required for metal cutting. By using these machines we can increase the production rate and automatically the industry will be in profit. Automation plays an important role in mass production. Automation can be achieved through pneumatic form. The main advantage of pneumatic system is economically cheap and easy to handle.

2. Literature Review:

Sheet metal bending is one of the most widely applied sheet metal forming operations. The understanding of the bending mechanics is aimed at obtaining two kinds of information important for industrial applications. The first one is the springback prediction for die design and shape control. The second is an estimation of the bend force for selection of press capacity, strength analysis and design of dies.

Here an attempt is made to review the status of literature in pneumatic based on various criteria. The work done by various authors are explained below.

Vallance and Matlock (1992) studied the friction behavior of zinc-based coated sheet steels and laboratory scale friction analysis techniques that involve sheet sliding over cylindrical dies.

Mai Huang and Gardeen (1994) presented a literature review of the springback of doubly curved developable sheet metal surfaces and provided a bibliography on the springback in sheet metal forming. Reviewing the literature, it is found that researchers have been studying the phenomenon of springback for nearly six decades. There have been diverse efforts to evaluate and/or decrease springback in the sheet metal forming industry for a long time.

Perduijn and Hoogenboom (1995) derived a simple explicit bending couple curvature relation for small and larger curvatures and they verified the model with experimental results.

Sanchez (1999) focused on a systematic analysis of testing equipment as a measurement system of the friction phenomena on sheet metal under plane strain. It provides experimental references in order to optimize the usage of lubricants and sheet metal.

Samuel (2000) analyzed the springback in axisymmetric U-bending processes with a finite element program and discussed the effect of tool geometry and blank holder force on the final shape after springback.

Aleksy et al (2001) conducted experiments on springback for dual phase steel and conventional high strength steel for a hat channel section with varying cross sections. They described the methodology of experiments and discussed springback related results.

Carlos Gomes et al (2005) investigated the variation of springback in high strength steels based on experimental and numerical analysis.

DongyeFei and Peter Hodgson (2006) investigated the springback behaviour of cold rolled transformation induced plasticity (TRIP) steels in air bending process.

Se Young kim et al (2007) examined the effect of tool design and process parameters on the springback of GLARE and the parameters studied include punch radius, punch speed, forming load and forming temperature.

In shearing or cutting operation as or blade descends upon the metal, the pressure exerted by the blade first cause the plastic deformation of the metal. Since the clearance between the two blades is very small, the plastic deformation takes place in a localized area and the metal adjacent to the cutting edges of the blade edges becomes highly stressed, which causes the fracture to start on both sides of the sheet as the deformation progresses and the sheet is sheared.

Types of shearing Machine:

- 1) Pneumatically operated
- 2) Hydraulically operated
- 3) Rack and pinion operated
- 4) Spring operated

Brief description of all the types is as follows :

1) Pneumatically operated: - Here the advancement of the header is carried out in the upward and the downward direction using the pneumatic double acting piston and cylinder unit arrangement along with the foot operated direction control valve. In this type of machine high pressure air is used as the working fluid for the transfer of power

and the motion.

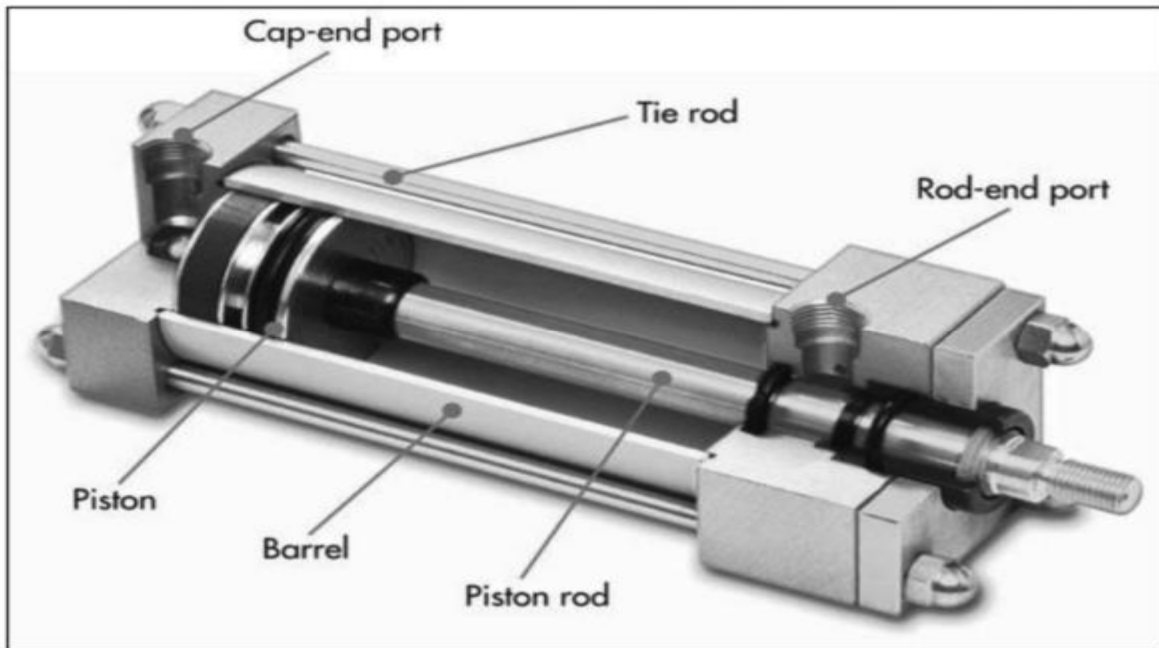
2) Hydraulically operated: - Here the lowering and raising of the header is carried over using the hydraulic piston and cylinder arrangement. To actuate the piston and cylinder, the oil is allowed to enter the cylinder from front or the back side of the piston. But the oil is comparatively costlier and its leakage may cause so many problems.

3) Rack and pinion operated: - Here the lowering and the raising of the header are carried out manually using the rack and pinion arrangement. In this case the required pressure is applied manually using direct hand pressure on the rack using pinion and lever arrangement. Since the machine is robust and requires large pressure, hence it is not suitable.

4) Spring operated: - The working of spring operated machine is similar to the rack and pinion operated machine but differs from it in construction. Here the lowering and the raising of the heating handle are carried out manually and it requires too much pressure for its operation and also there is possibility of having damage to the work piece if not handled carefully.

Components:

1) Pneumatic Cylinder:



Pneumatic cylinders (sometimes known as air cylinders) are mechanical devices which use the power of compressed gas to produce a force in a reciprocating linear motion. In pneumatic cylinder a compressed air is used as working fluid and convert it into kinetic energy as the air expands in an attempt to reach atmospheric pressure. This air expansion forces a piston to move in the desired direction.

The piston is a disc or cylinder, and the piston rod transfers the force it develops to the object to be moved. Engineers prefer to use pneumatics because they are quieter, cleaner, and do not require large amounts or space for fluid storage. Because the operating fluid is a gas, leakage from a pneumatic cylinder will not drip out and contaminate the surroundings, making pneumatics more desirable where cleanliness is a requirement.

2) Direction Control Valve:



The directional valve is one of the important parts of a pneumatic system. Commonly known as DCV, this valve is used to control the direction of air flow in the pneumatic system. The directional valve does this by changing the position of its internal movable parts. This valve was selected for speedy operation and to reduce the manual effort and also for the modification of the machine into automatic machine by means of using a solenoid valve.

A solenoid is an electrical device that converts electrical energy into straight line motion and force. These are also used to operate a mechanical operation which in turn operates the valve mechanism. Solenoids may be push type or pull type. The push type solenoid is one in which the plunger is pushed when the solenoid is energized electrically. The pull type solenoid is one in which the plunger is pulled when the solenoid is energized. The name of the parts of the solenoid should be learned so that they can be recognized when called upon to make repairs, to do service work or to install them.

3) Polyurethane tubes (hoses):



A pipe is a tubular section or hollow cylinder, usually but not necessarily of circular cross-section, used mainly to convey substances which can flow liquids and gases (fluids), slurries, powders, masses of small solids. It can also be used for structural applications; hollow pipe is far stiffer per unit weight than solid members.

In common usage the words pipe and tube are usually interchangeable, but in industry and engineering, the terms are uniquely defined. Depending on the applicable standard to which it is manufactured, pipe is generally specified by a nominal diameter with a constant outside diameter (OD) and a schedule that defines the thickness. Tube is most often specified by the OD and wall thickness, but may be specified by any two of OD, inside diameter (ID), and wall thickness.

4) Air Compressors:



An air compressor is a device that converts power (using an electric motor, diesel or gasoline engine, etc.) into potential energy stored in pressurized air (i.e., compressed air). By one of several methods, an air compressor forces more and more air into a storage tank, increasing the pressure. When tank pressure reaches its upper limit the air compressor shuts off. The compressed air, then, is held in the tank until called into use.

The energy contained in the compressed air can be used for a variety of applications, utilizing the kinetic energy of the air as it is released and the tank depressurizes. When tank pressure reaches its lower limit, the air compressor turns on again and re-pressurizes the tank.

5) Connectors:



3. WORKING

This air powered vehicle project, uses a pneumatic vehicle which consists of two pneumatic cylinders for continuous motion, with four free wheel sprockets and also a metallic chassis. This pneumatic car project is based on pneumatic power. It has two pneumatic cylinders which transforms linear motion into rotary motion. The vehicle consists of a chain drive which transmits mechanical power from one place to another. There is a point of interest in utilizing compacted air as a wellspring of vitality to run vehicles.

3.1 Design Consideration

Several structural design considerations should be taken into account for economical and efficient manufacturing. Many of these apply to other joining methods, and all apply to both subassemblies and the complete structure.

1. The device should be suitable for local manufacturing capabilities.
2. The attachment should employ low-cost materials and manufacturing methods.
3. It should be accessible and affordable by low-income groups, and should fulfill their basic need for mechanical power
4. It should be simple to manufacture, operate, maintain and repair.
5. It should be as multi-purpose as possible, providing power for various agricultural implements and for small machines used in rural industry.
6. It should employ locally available materials and skills. Standard steel pieces such as steel plates, iron rods, angle iron, and flat stock that are locally available should be used. Standard tools used in machine shop such as hack saw, files, punches, taps & dies; medium duty welder;

drill press; small lathe and milling machine should be adequate to fabricate the parts needed for the dual-purpose bicycle.

7. It should make use of standard bicycle parts wherever possible.

8. The device should adapt easily to as many different bicycles as possible. No permanent structural modification should be made to the bicycle.

9. Though the device should be easy to take off the bicycle, it is assumed that it would usually remain attached to facilitate readiness and ease of transport from site to site. The device, therefore, should not interfere with the bicycle's transportation mode.

10. The broad stand, which provides stability during power production mode, can be flipped upward during the transport mode. This stand/carrier would be a permanent fixture of the dual-purpose bicycle.

11. The power take-off mechanism should be as efficient as possible, and should develop relatively high r.p.m. (close to 200) for versatility of application. We had seen designs for devices that take power from the rear tire by means of a friction roller pressed against it, but we had doubts about the efficiency of this arrangement. In order to improve efficiency we used hard bearing surfaces such as roller chains, sprockets and ball bearings. We decided that the most appropriate location for this power take-off mechanism would be at the front of the bike near the fork tube (see photographs).

12. Care must be exercised to insure that the power take-off assembly is far enough forward so as not to interfere with pedaling. Most standard adult bicycle frames have plenty of room for the power take-off mechanism and pulley. Power is supplied to the shaft by means of a chain from the bike's chain wheel (crank) to a ratcheted sprocket on the shaft. During the prime-mover mode, the bike's regular chain is slipped off of the chain-wheel, and the specially sized chain to the power take-off mechanism is slipped on.

13. The device should be able to transmit power to a variety of machines, and changing drive ratios should be as simple as possible. We decided that a V-belt and pulley arrangement would be most appropriate for this. Belts do not require the precise alignment that chains do. Belts can

even accommodate pulleys that are slightly skewed with respect to each other. Changing drive ratios is as easy as changing pulleys. Also, belts are reasonably efficient.

14. The device should contain a ratcheting mechanism that would let the operator "coast" periodically to rest and conserve energy. A free wheel from any bicycle can be easily adapted for this purpose.

15. Excessive weight should be avoided, as durability is a prime consideration.

3.2 DESIGN PROCEDURE

1. Definition of problem
2. Synthesis
3. Analysis of forces
4. Selection of material
5. Determination of mode of failure
6. Selection of factor of safety
7. Determination of dimensions
8. Modification of dimensions
9. Preparation of drawings
10. Preparation of design report

3.3 AESTHETIC CONSIDERATIONS IN DESIGN

- Appearance is an outward expression of quality of the product and is the first communication of product with the user.
- Aesthetics is defined as the set of principles of appreciation of beauty. It deals with the appearance of the product.

3.4 ASPECTS OF AESTHETIC DESIGN

- Form(shape)
- Symmetry and shape
- Color
- Continuity
- Variety
- Proportion
- Noise
- Contrast
- Impression and purpose
- Style
- Material and surface finish
- Tolerance

3.5 ERGONOMICS CONSIDERATIONS IN DESIGN

- Ergonomics is defined as the study of the man - machine - working environment relationship
- It aims at decreasing the physical and mental stresses to the user
- Areas covered under ergonomics
- Communication between man (user) and machine
- Working environment
- Human anatomy and posture while using the machine
- Energy expenditure in hand and foot operations

3.6 MANUFACTURING CONSIDERATIONS IN DESIGN

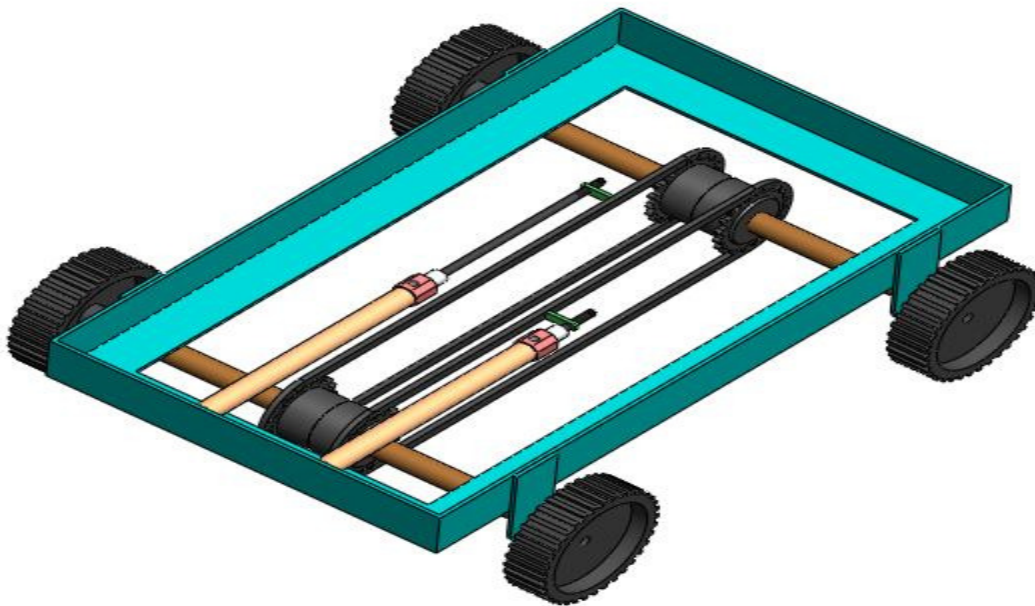
- Minimum total number of parts in a product
- Minimum variety of parts
- Use standard parts
- Use modular design
- Design parts to be multifunctional
- Design parts for multiple use

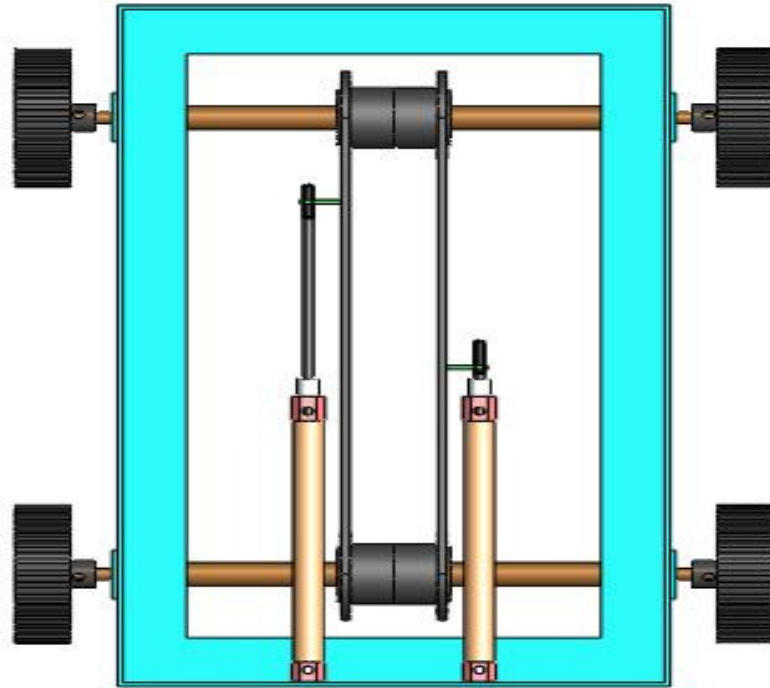
- Select least costly material
- Design parts for ease of manufacture
- Shape the parts for minimizing the operations

3.7 STANDARDIZATION

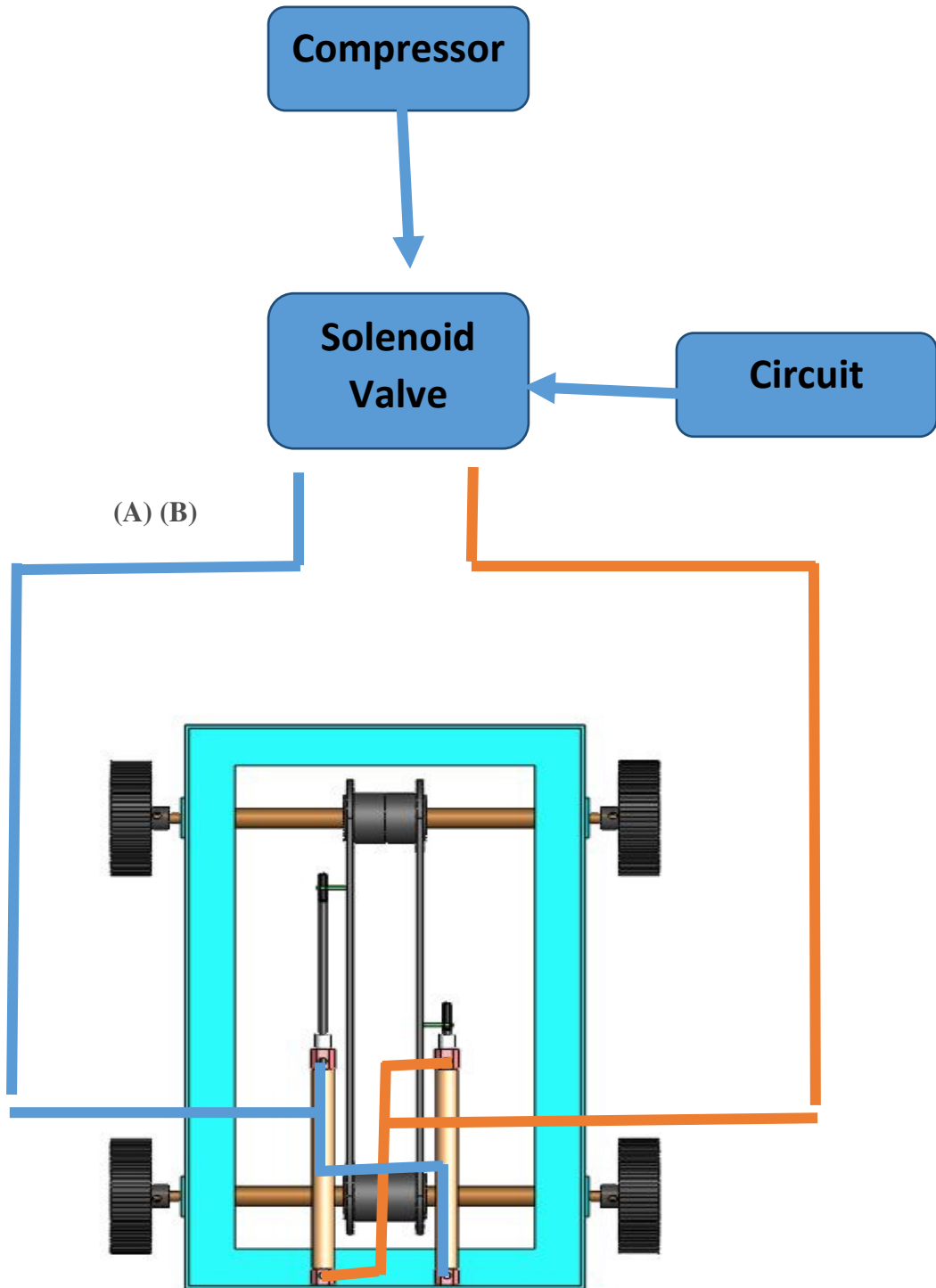
- It is the process of establishing the set of norms to which a specified set of characteristics of a component or a product should conform
- Example: Standardizing the shaft consists of specifying the set of shaft diameters and material

4. Design of Model





Block Diagram

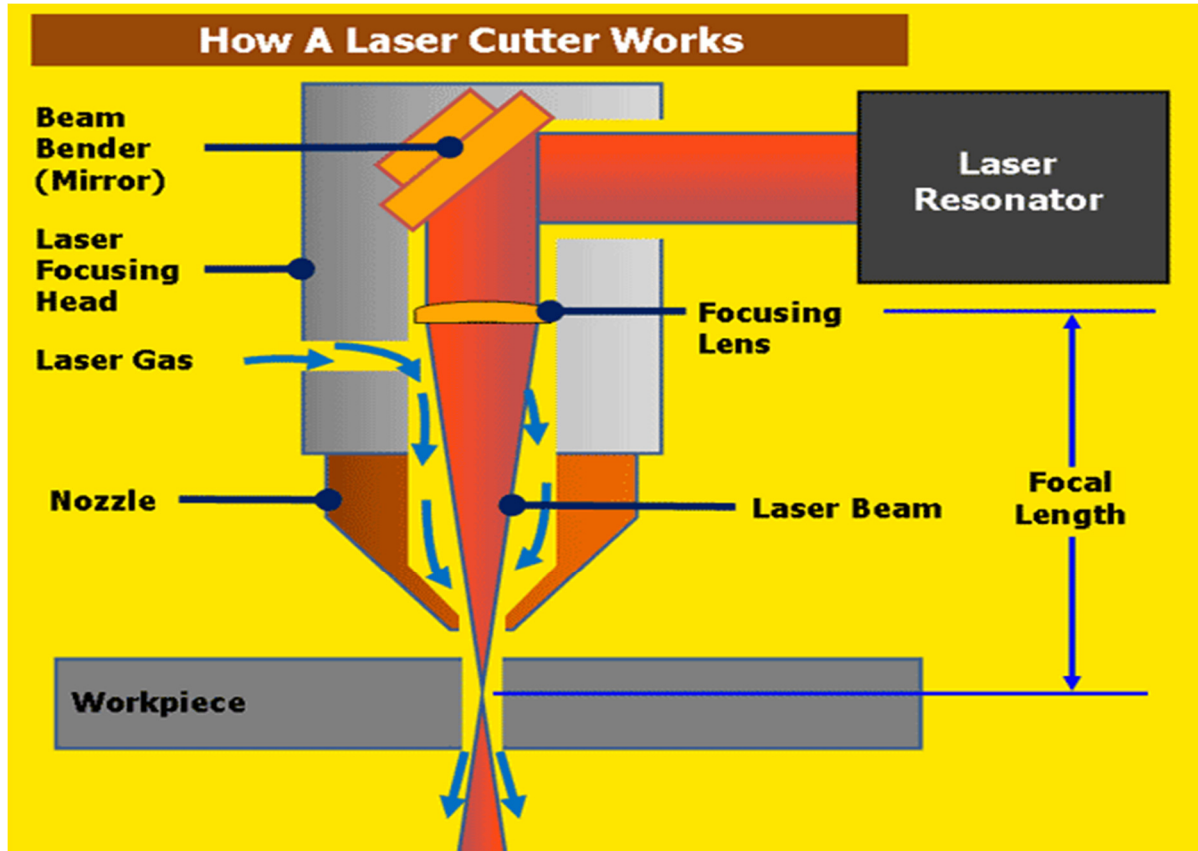


Fabrication Processes used

Laser Beam Machining (LBM)

Lasers are used for many purposes. One way they are used is for cutting metal plates. On mild steel, stainless steel, and aluminum plate, the laser cutting process is highly accurate, yields excellent cut quality, has a very small kerf width and small heat affect zone, and makes it possible to cut very intricate shapes and small holes.

Most people already know that the word “LASER” is actually an acronym for Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation.



The laser beam is a column of very high intensity light, of a single wavelength, or color. In the case of a typical CO₂ laser, that wavelength is in the Infra-Red part of the light spectrum, so it is invisible to the human eye. The beam is only about 3/4 of an inch in diameter as it travels from the laser resonator, which creates the beam, through the machine's beam path. It may be bounced in different directions by a number of mirrors, or “beam benders”, before it is finally focused onto the plate. The focused laser beam goes through the bore of a nozzle right before it hits the plate. Also flowing through that nozzle bore is a compressed gas, such as Oxygen or Nitrogen.

Focusing the laser beam can be done by a special lens, or by a curved mirror, and this takes place in the laser cutting head. The beam has to be precisely focused so that the shape of the focus spot and the density of the energy in that spot are perfectly round and consistent, and centered in the nozzle. By focusing the large beam down to a single pinpoint, the heat density at that spot is extreme. Think about using a magnifying glass to focus the sun's rays onto a leaf, and how that

can start a fire. Now think about focusing 6 KWatts of energy into a single spot, and you can imagine how hot that spot will get.

The high power density results in rapid heating, melting and partial or complete vaporizing of the material. When cutting mild steel, the heat of the laser beam is enough to start a typical “oxy-fuel” burning process, and the laser cutting gas will be pure oxygen, just like an oxy-fuel torch. When cutting stainless steel or aluminum, the laser beam simply melts the material, and high pressure nitrogen is used to blow the molten metal out of the kerf.

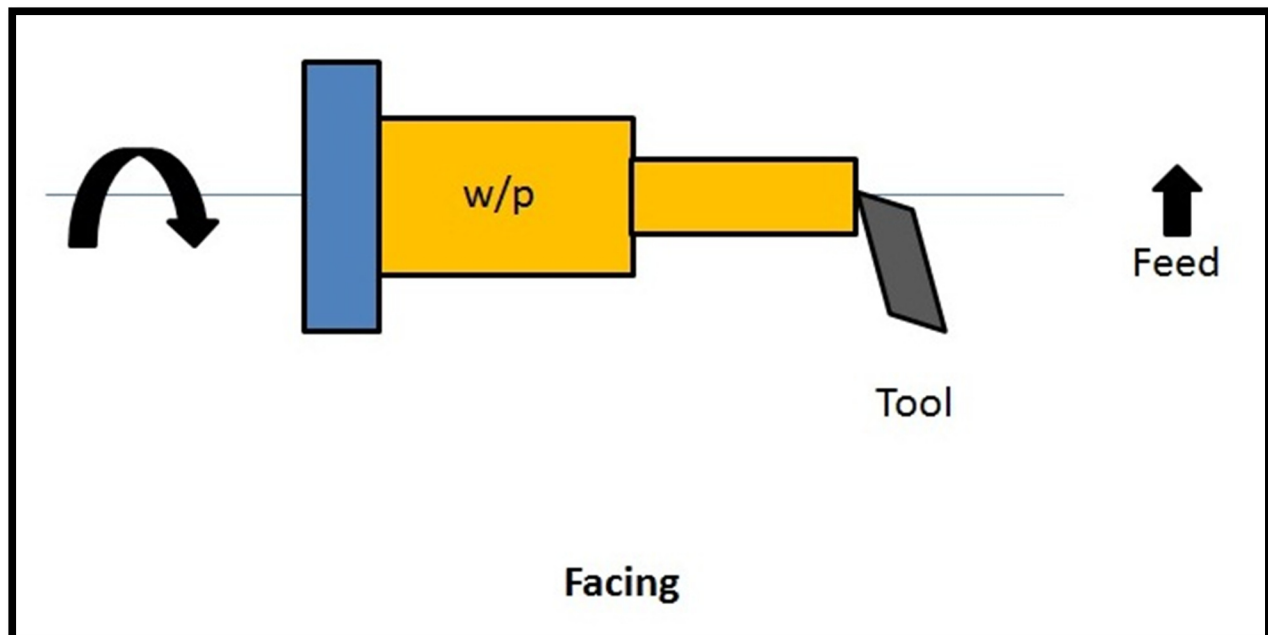
On a CNC laser cutter, the laser cutting head is moved over the metal plate in the shape of the desired part, thus cutting the part out of the plate. A capacitive height control system maintains a very accurate distance between the end of the nozzle and the plate that is being cut. This distance is important, because it determines where the focal point is relative to the surface of the plate. Cut quality can be affected by raising or lowering the focal point from just above the surface of the plate, at the surface, or just below the surface.

There are many, many other parameters that affect cut quality as well, but when all are controlled properly, laser cutting is a stable, reliable, and very accurate cutting process.

4.1 Lathe Machine Operations:

Facing

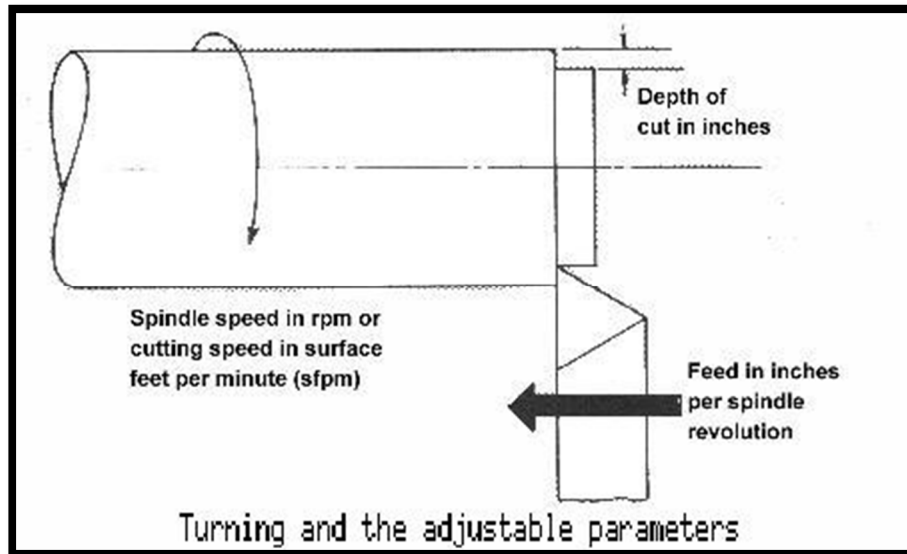
Facing is the operation of machining the ends of a piece of work to produce flat surface square with the axis. The operation involves feeding the tool perpendicular to the axis of rotation of the work.



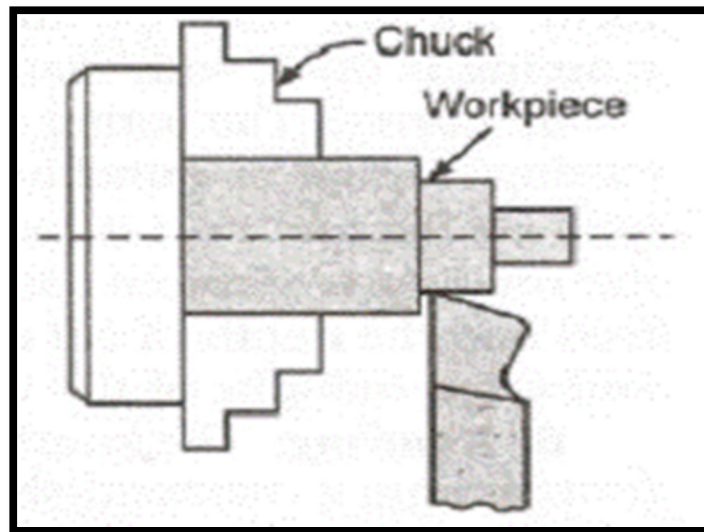
4.2 Turning

Turning in a lathe is to remove excess material from the workpiece to produce a cylindrical surface of required shape and size.

- **Straight turning:** The work is turned straight when it is made to rotate about the lathe axis and the tool is fed parallel to the lathe axis. The straight turning produces a cylindrical surface by removing excess metal from the workpieces.

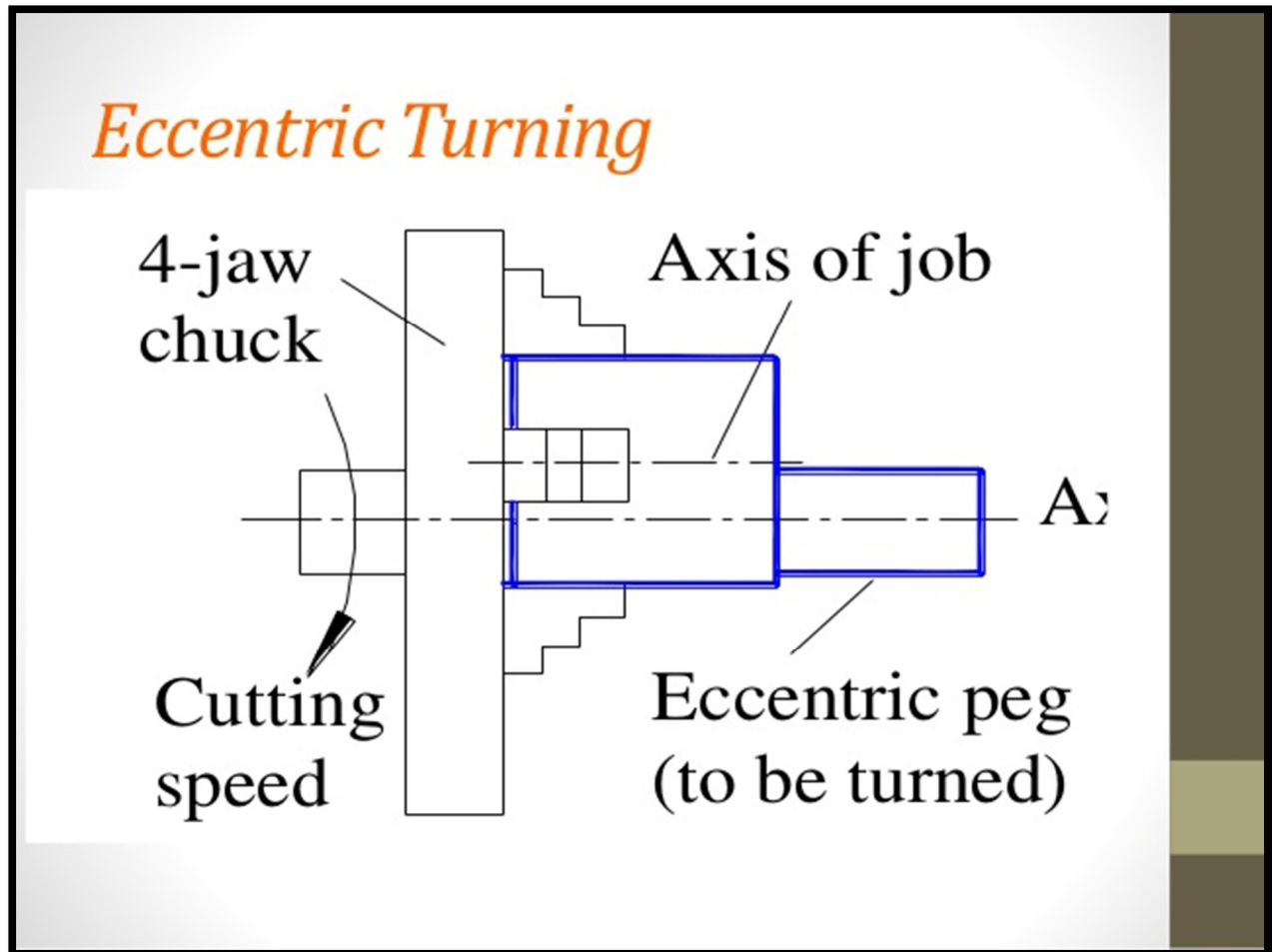


- **Step turning:** Step turning is the process of turning different surfaces having different diameters. The work is held between centres and the tool is moved parallel to the axis of the lathe. It is also called shoulder turning.



4.3 Eccentric turning

If a cylindrical work piece has two separate axes of rotating, one being out of centre to the other, the work piece is termed as eccentric and turning of different surfaces of the workpiece is known as eccentric turning. The distance between the axes is known as offset. Eccentric turning may also be done on some special machines. If the offset distance is more, the work is held by means of special centres. If the offset between the centres is small, two sets of centres are marked on the faces of the work. The work is held and rotated between each set of centres to machine the eccentric surfaces.



4.4 Taper turning

Taper

A taper may be defined as a uniform increase or decrease in diameter of a piece of work measured along its length.

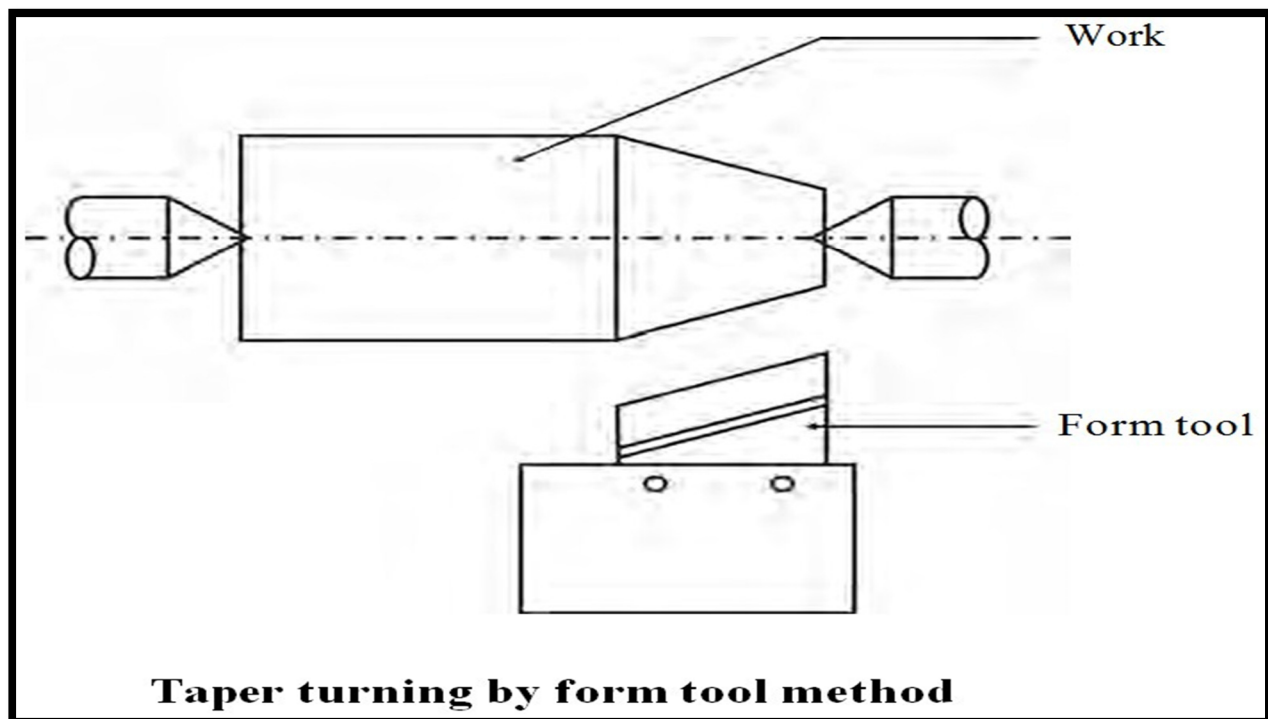
Taper turning methods

1. Form tool method
2. Compound rest method
3. Tailstock set over method
4. Taper turning attachment method
5. Combined feed method

1. Form tool method

A broad nose tool is ground to the required length and angle. It is set on the work by providing feed to the cross-slide. When the tool is fed into the work at right angles to the lathe axis, a tapered surface is generated.

This method is limited to turn short lengths of taper only. The length of the taper is shorter than the length of the cutting edge. Less feed is given as the entire cutting edge will be in contact with the work.



2. Compound rest method

The compound rest of the lathe is attached to a circular base graduated in degrees, which may be swiveled and clamped at any desired angle. The angle of taper is calculated using the formula

$$\tan \alpha = \frac{D_1 - D_2}{2l}$$

Where,

D_1 & D_2 = large and small dia. respectively

l = length of taper

α = taper angle or the angle about which compound rest is swiveled

The compound rest is swiveled to the angle calculated as above and clamped. Feed is given to the compound slide to generate the required taper.

3. Tailstock set over method

Turning taper by the setover method is done by shifting the axis of rotation of the workpiece at an angle to the lathe axis and feeding the tool parallel to the lathe axis. The construction of tailstock is designed to have two parts namely the base and the body. The base is fitted on the bed guideways and the body having the dead centre can be moved at cross to shift the lathe axis.

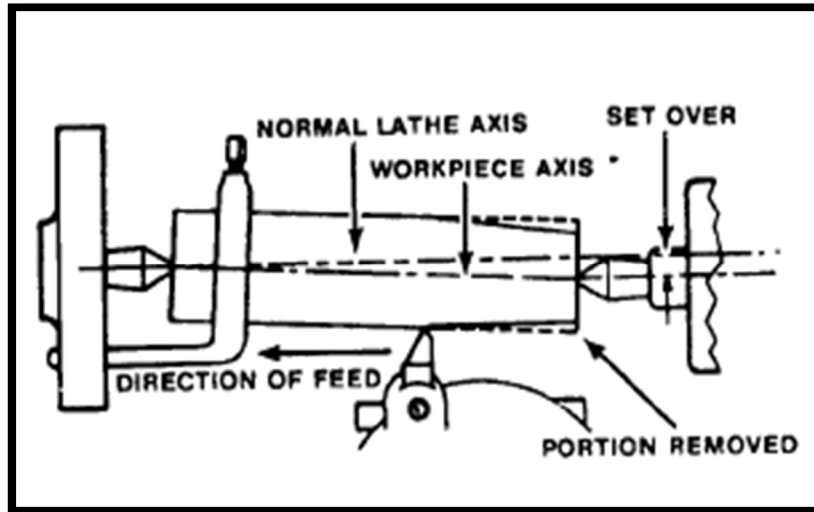
The amount of setover – S , can be calculated as follows

$$S = L \times \frac{D_1 - D_2}{2l}$$

The dead centre is suitably shifted from its original position to the calculated distance. The work is held between centres and longitudinal feed is given by the carriage to generate the taper.

The advantage of this method is that the taper can be turned to the entire length of the work. Taper threads can also be cut by this method.

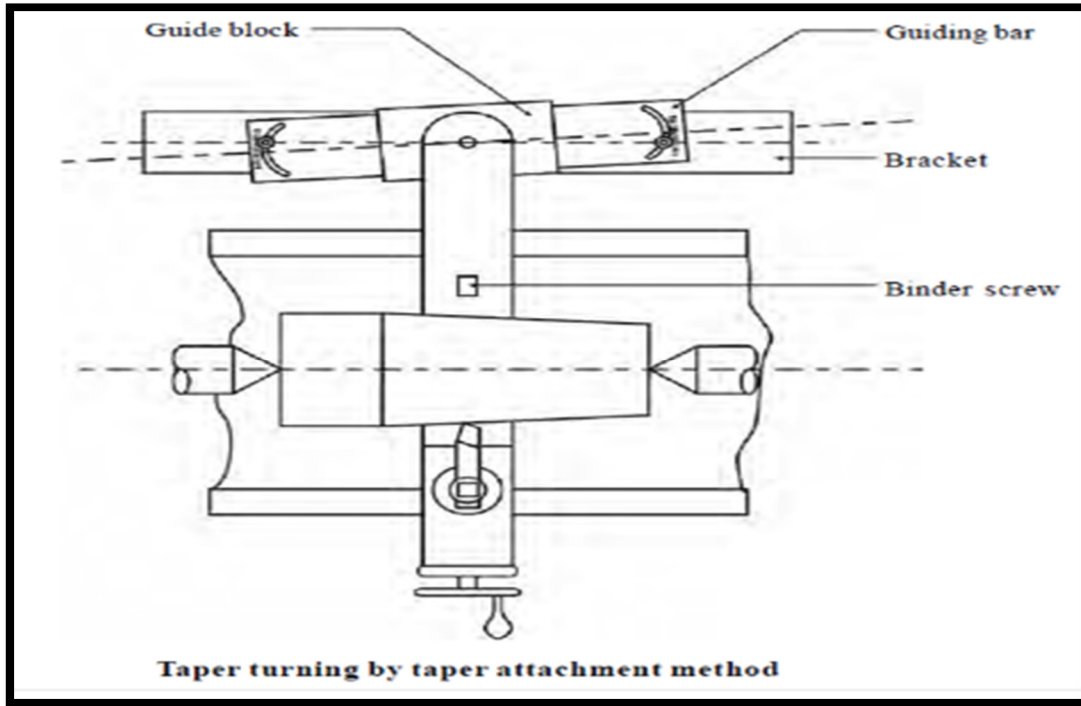
The amount of setover being limited, this method is suitable for turning small tapers (approx. upto 8°). Internal tapers cannot be done by this method.



4. Taper attachment method

The taper attachment consists of a bracket which is attached to the rear end of the lathe bed. It supports a guide bar pivoted at the centre. The bar having graduation in degrees may be swiveled on either side of the zero graduation and set at the desired angle to the lathe axis. A guide block is mounted on the guide bar and slides on it. The cross slide is made free from its screw by removing the binder screw. The rear end of the cross slide is tightened with the guide block by means of a bolt. When the longitudinal feed is engaged, the tool mounted on the cross slide will follow the angular path as the guide block will slide on the guide bar set at an angle of the lathe axis. The depth of cut is provided by the compound slide which is set parallel to the cross-slide.

The advantage of this method is that long tapers can be machined. As power feed can be employed, the work is completed at a shorter time. The disadvantage of this method is that internal tapers cannot be machined.

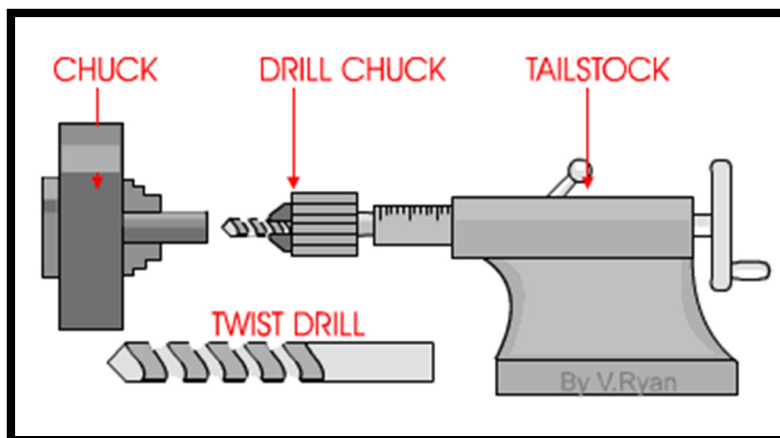


5. Combined feed method

Feed is given to the tool by the carriage and the cross-slide at the same time to move the tool at resultant direction to turn tapers.

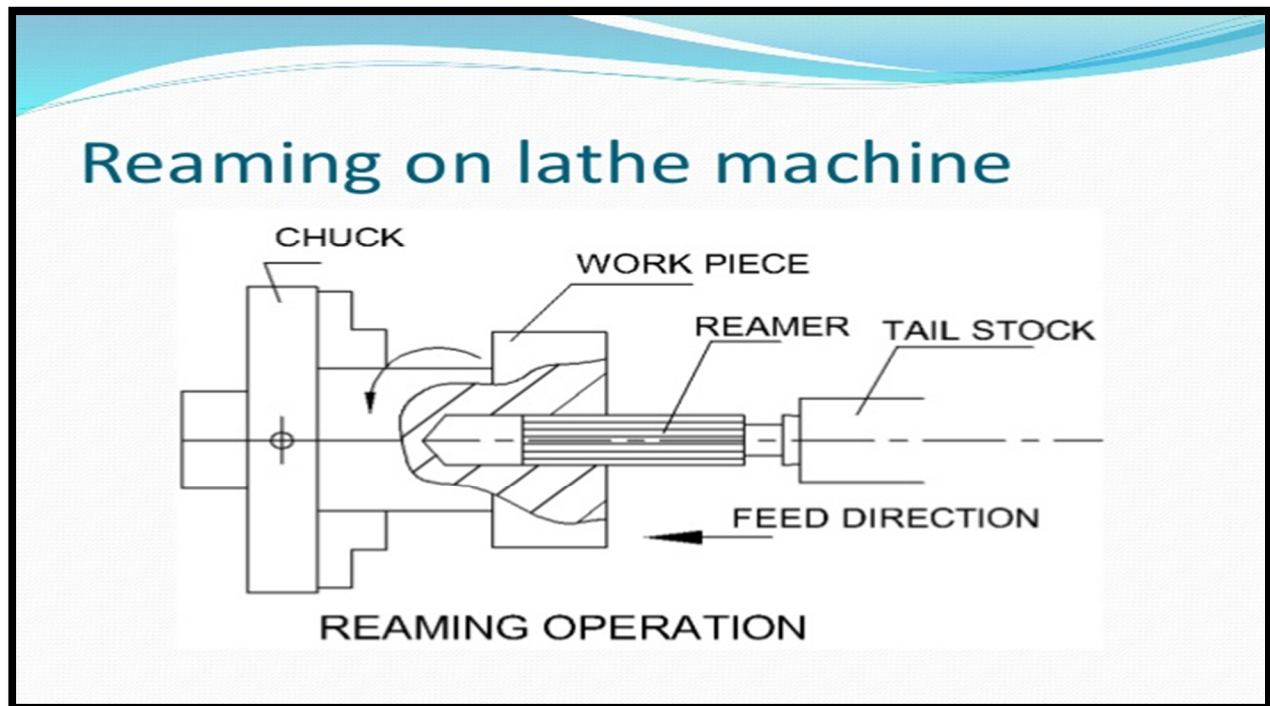
Drilling operation:

It is the process of producing cylindrical hole in the workpiece. In this operation, Workpiece is held in a chuck or a suitable device and the drill is held in the tailstock. During operation, the drill is fed by rotating the handwheel of the tailstock in clockwise direction. First a shorter length is drilled by using a smaller and shorter drill, followed by producing the required diameter with the help of correct drill size.



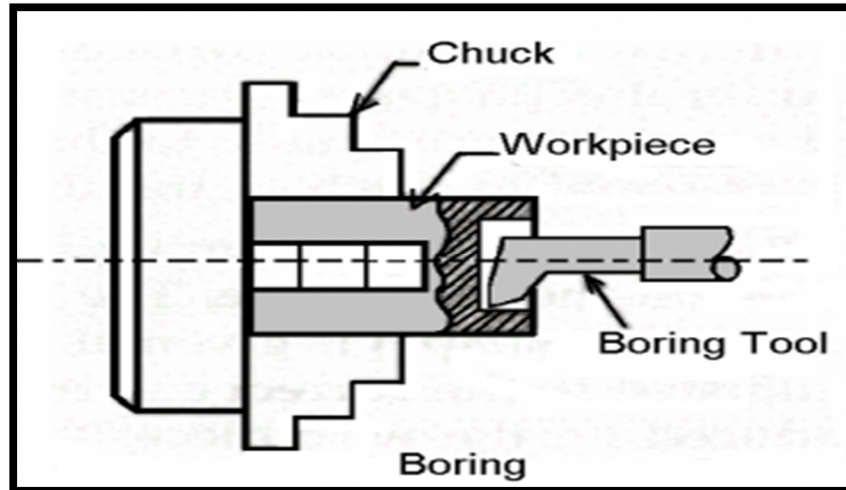
Reaming Operation

It is a finishing operation because a very small amount of material is removed during the operation. For performing reaming a multi-teeth tool is used, which is called as reamer. During the operation, the workpiece is held in a chuck or face plate and the reamer shank is fitted in a sleeve or inserted in the tapered hole of the tailstock spindle.



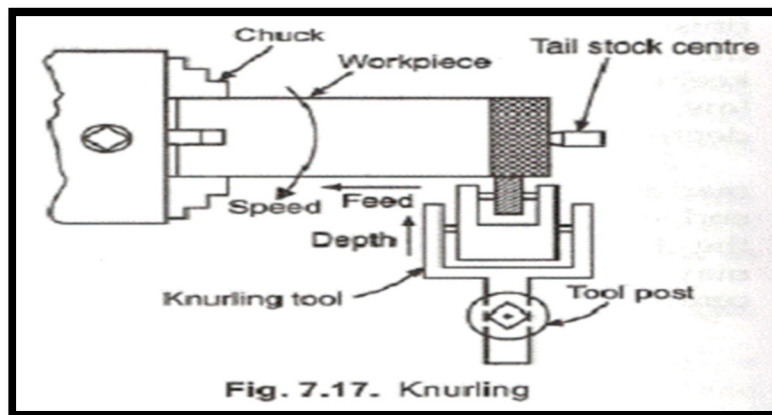
Boring Operation:

It is an operation which is employed for machining internal surfaces, hence also called as internal turning. Boring is done to enlarge the already drilled hole and bring them to the exact required size. Generally, a single point cutting tool is used for this purpose.



Knurling

Knurling is the process of embossing a diamond shaped pattern on the surface of the workpiece. The knurling tool holder has one or two hardened steel rollers with edges of required pattern. The tool holder is pressed against the rotating work. The rollers emboss the required pattern. The tool holder is fed automatically to the required length. Knurls are available in coarse, medium and fine pitches. The patterns may be straight, inclined or diamond shaped.

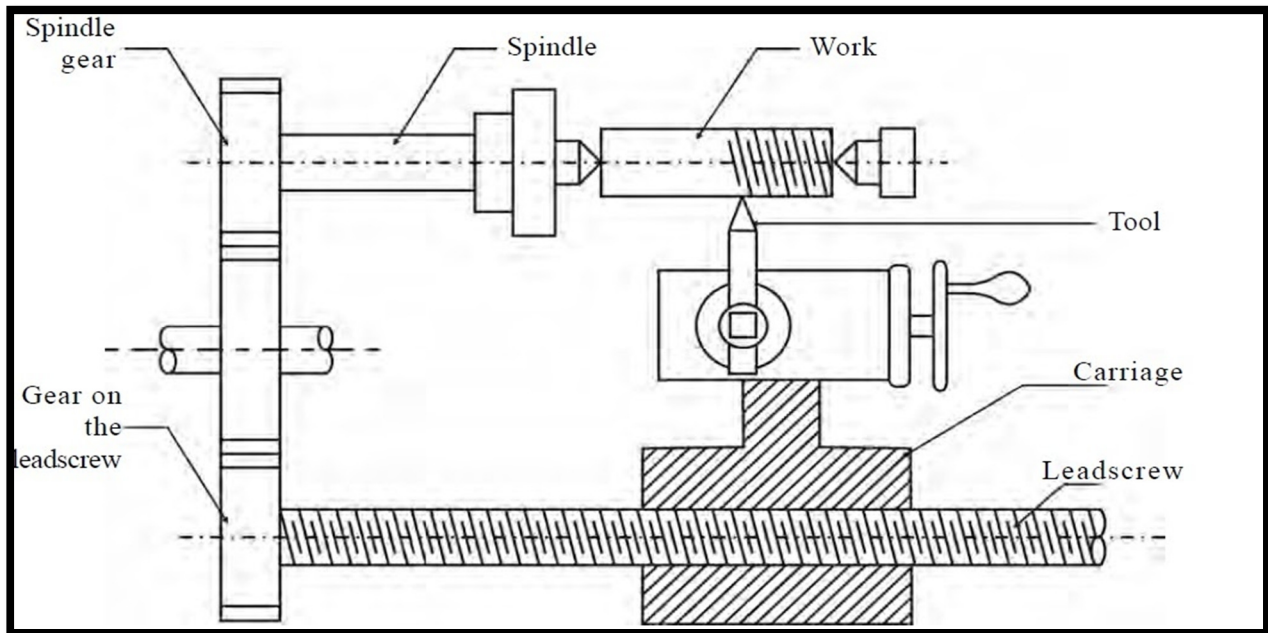


Thread cutting

Thread cutting is one of the most important operations performed in a lathe. The process of thread cutting is to produce a helical groove on a cylindrical surface by feeding the tool longitudinally.

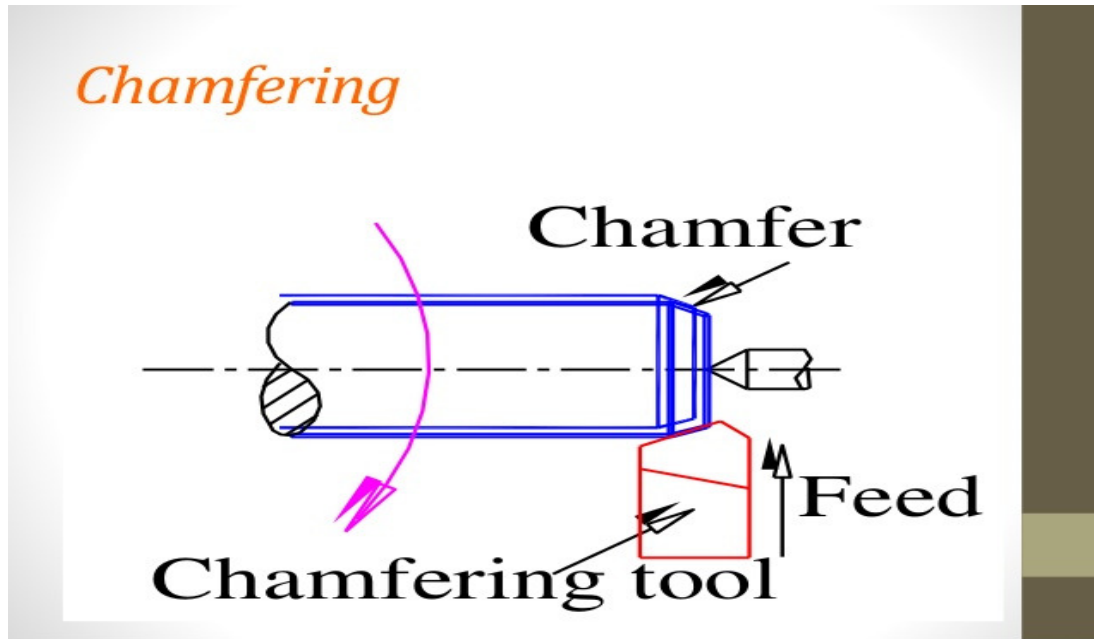
1. The job is revolved between centres or by a The longitudinal feed should be equal to the pitch of the thread to be cut per revolution of the work piece.
2. The carriage should be moved longitudinally obtaining feed through the leadscrew of the

3. A definite ratio between the longitudinal feed and rotation of the headstock spindle should be found Suitable gears with required number of teeth should be mounted on the spindle and the leadscrew.
4. A proper thread cutting tool is selected according to the shape of the It is mounted on the toolpost with its cutting edge at the lathe axis and perpendicular to the axis of the work.
5. The position of the tumbler gears are adjusted according to the type of the thread (right hand or left hand).
6. Suitable spindle speed is selected and it is obtained through back
7. Half nut lever is engaged at the right point as indicated by the thread chasing
8. Depth of cut is set suitably to allow the tool to make a light cut on the
9. When the cut is made for the required length, the half nut lever is The carriage is brought back to its original position and the above procedure is repeated until the required depth of the thread is achieved.
10. After the process of thread cutting is over, the thread is checked by suitable gauges.



Chamfering

Chamfering is the operation of bevelling the extreme end of the workpiece. The form tool used for taper turning may be used for this purpose. Chamfering is an essential operation after thread cutting so that the nut may pass freely on the threaded workpiece.



Grooving

Grooving is the process of cutting a narrow groove on the cylindrical surface of the workpiece. It is often done at end of a thread or adjacent to a shoulder to leave a small margin. The groove may be square, radial or bevelled in shape.

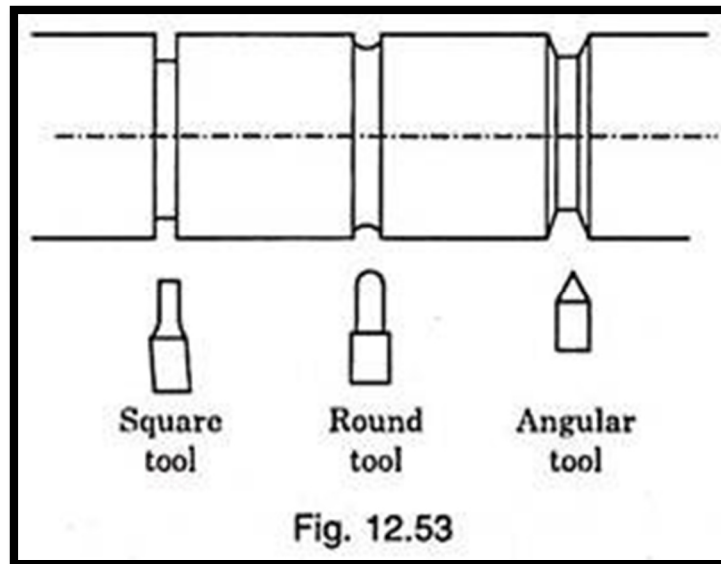
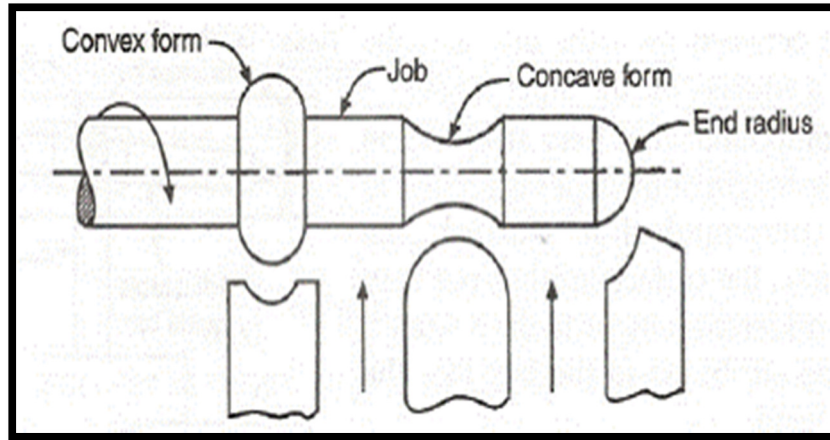


Fig. 12.53

Forming

Forming is a process of turning a convex, concave or any irregular shape. For turning a small length formed surface, a forming tool having cutting edges conforming to the shape required is fed straight into the work.



Advantages

- Low Power Consumption Engine
- Environment Friendly Engine

5. Conclusions:

Light utility vehicles are ending up exceptionally well-known methods for autonomous transportation for short separations. Cost and contamination with petroleum and diesel are driving vehicle producers to create vehicles energized by elective energies. Designers are guiding their endeavors to make utilization of air as a vitality source to run the light utility vehicles.

The increasing demand for light utility vehicles, coupled with concerns regarding cost, pollution, and environmental sustainability, has spurred efforts to develop vehicles powered by alternative energies. The utilization of compressed air as a renewable energy source presents a promising solution for addressing these challenges and advancing towards a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable future for urban transportation.

6. Future Scope: The Air Powered Car Project exhibits considerable promise for revolutionizing transportation through its innovative use of compressed air as a sustainable energy source. As the project progresses, its future scope encompasses several key areas of development and advancement:

1. **Advanced Energy Storage Solutions:** Future iterations of the air-powered car project could explore advancements in energy storage technologies to enhance the efficiency and range of the vehicles. Research into high-capacity and lightweight storage materials, as well as innovative compression techniques, could significantly improve the energy density of compressed air systems.
2. **Optimized System Design:** Continued research and development efforts can focus on optimizing the design of pneumatic systems within the vehicle to maximize energy conversion efficiency. This includes refining the configuration of pneumatic cylinders, valves, and other components to minimize energy losses and enhance overall performance.
3. **Integration of Hybrid Power Systems:** To further enhance the versatility and practicality of air-powered vehicles, future iterations may incorporate hybrid power systems that combine compressed air with other renewable energy sources such as solar or kinetic energy. This hybridization can provide supplementary power and extend the vehicle's range, especially in scenarios with limited access to air compression facilities.
4. **Smart and Autonomous Features:** Advancements in autonomous vehicle technology can be integrated into air-powered cars to enhance safety, navigation, and user experience. Features such as autonomous driving capabilities, advanced driver assistance systems, and real-time monitoring and optimization of vehicle performance can improve overall efficiency and convenience.

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