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# Analysis of the influences of piston crankshaft offset on piston secondary movements

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**Abstract:** This paper takes dynamics analysis on the piston and the dynamic lubrication theory on the skirt and the ring of piston as the basis. Using AVL Glide software, through the establishment of the analysis model of the piston secondary movements, this study focuses on the effects of the crankshaft bias on piston secondary movements' characteristics. This paper takes 5 different offsets, by comparing the piston lateral displacement, transverse movement speed, transverse acceleration, swinging angle, swing angular velocity and angular acceleration, finds out the relationships between crank offset value and the piston "slap", piston impact energy and piston skirt friction loss, thus, provides the basis for the design of internal combustion engines.

**Keywords:** Piston, secondary movement, piston impact energy, crank offset.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The piston secondary movements are some small movements exist in the processes of the reciprocating work of internal combustion engines. They specifically refer to, under the pressure of the gas deflagration, inertia force, the connecting rod force, friction force and oil film, except for linear motion (first order motion), there still exists lateral movements and the swing motions around the piston pin [1]. The piston secondary movements have effects on the performances, working reliability and the service life of the internal combustion engines, and other aspects of influences can also not be ignored. The concrete manifestations are: the influence of cylinder liner piston strokes, thereby affecting the body vibration and the piston knock noise; direct effect of cylinder liner scuffing, cavitations and the piston "slap" noise; impact the wear of piston ring, and then change the performance of piston ring sealing and heat transfer[2]. In addition, piston secondary movements are the basis of the study of behavior of piston modules' friction loss, and for internal combustion engines, they have important influences on the friction loss of piston skirt [3]. Therefore, studying on the piston secondary movements' characteristics has great influence on the various aspects listed above [4].

In this paper, based on the researches in the domestic and foreign on the secondary motions of the piston, the research focuses on of the effects on the crank offset of piston, providing a reference for the design of the piston and the other module parts [5].

## 2. SMIMULATION MODEL

### 2.1 Data preparation

The analysis of piston secondary movements relates to

the thermal deformation calculation of piston and cylinder liner, piston stiffness matrices' calculation, the confirmation of the mass of piston group, confirmation of inertia and data preparation [6]. Other needed data mainly includes parameters of the piston and cylinder liner piston structure size, the mass of all parts of the group and inertia and crankshaft connecting rod size [7]. Parameters like the center position of mass, moment of inertia can be obtained by means of CAD modeling, as for the other parameters can be obtained by the design drawings. Other technical information and specific data can be seen in following tables [8].

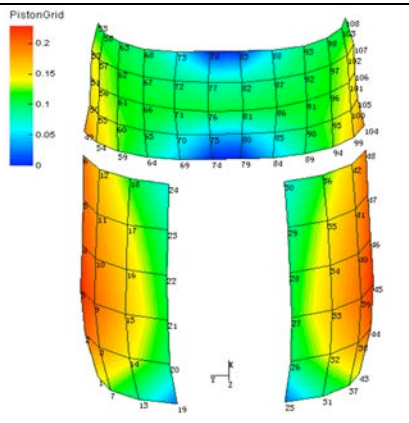
**Table1. Main Data for Analysis**

(1-1)

The mass of the piston ring (kg)	No.1	0.0393	Cylinder liner inclination angle (°)	0
	No.2	0.0365		
	No.3	0.0397		
The distance from ring center to pin center(mm)	No.1	69.9	The length of the connecting rod (mm)	266.1
	No.2	57.7		
	No.3	49.8		
The mass center of connecting rod (mm)	(106.5,0)		The center of mass position of piston (mm)	(37.0, 0)
Moment of inertia (kg·mm <sup>2</sup> )	5807.4		The quality of connecting rod (kg)	2.947
The quality of piston pin (kg)	1.345		The distance from piston pin center to the top of piston (mm)	86.8

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(1-2)

The quality of piston (kg)	2.398	Moment of inertia around quality center(kg·mm <sup>2</sup> )	33572.8
The connecting rod big end diameter (mm)	91.0	The connecting rod small end diameter (mm)	55.0
Cylinder liner length (mm)	278.8	Distance from top of cylinder liner to center of crank (mm)	426.5
Compression height (mm)	73.0	The clearance of cylinder (mm)	0.21
The number of stroke	4	Piston meshing and node labels	
			
		Piston diameter (mm)	131.8
		Piston height (mm)	133.8
		The crank radius (mm)	72.5

## 2.2 The Analysis Model

Based on the previous theoretical analysis, combined with previous data preparation work, the piston dynamics model can be established by using AVL software Glide module. The purpose of this paper is the analysis of piston kinematics, rather than the piston gas channeling and other issues, so we can use simple equivalent piston ring group describes the piston rings [9]. Schematic diagram is shown in Fig. (1).

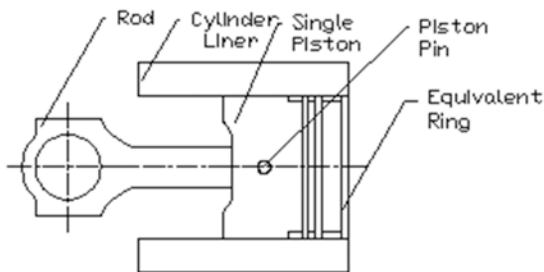


Fig. (1). Sketch Map of Piston Motion Model

## 3. EFFECTS OF CRANKSHAFT OFFSET ON PISTON SECONDARY MOTIONS

Crank offset techniques have been applied by a lot of advanced engine manufacturers to the mass of actual engine productions, in order to reduce piston friction, improve the service life of the engine components [10]. According to the literature, the relative eccentricity (ratio of eccentricity E and

crank radius R) value is generally in the range 0.05 to 0.25 [11]. So take 5 groups relative eccentricity to analyze the influence of crankshaft offset on piston secondary motions, respectively -0.2, -0.1, 0, 0.1, 0.2, eccentricity of the corresponding E were -14.5mm, -7.25mm, 0mm, 7.25mm, 14.5mm. Among them, the positive bias for positive eccentric crankshaft piston means that the crank is bias to the main thrust face side [12].

### 3.1 Effects of crankshaft bias on piston transverse movements

Fig. (2) to Fig. (7) is the piston transverse movement comparison chart of piston secondary movements under different crank offsets. Fig. (2) to Fig. (4) represents the influence of crankshaft bias on piston transverse movements. We can see from Fig. (2), when the crankshaft is positive biased, the lateral displacement of the piston maximum at the main thrust side shows a trend of decrease, and shows a trend of increase at the secondary side thrust, furthermore, the bias is bigger, the effect is more obvious; while the negative bias effect of crankshaft has a opposite effect [13].

We can see from Fig. (3), the crankshaft offset also has certain influences on piston transverse velocity, through the crank offset can reduce the piston transverse velocity maximum, but in addition to this case, offset -14.5mm, can be 25% lower than the zero biased, other crank offsets' maximums have limited effects to reduce the piston transverse movement speed value[14].

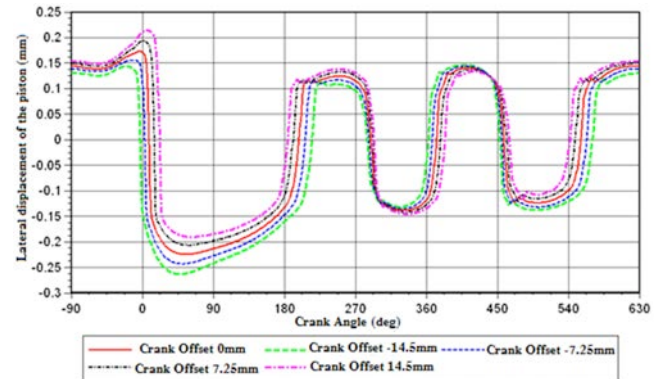


Fig. (2). Piston Horizontal Displacement Comparison Chart under Different Crank Offset

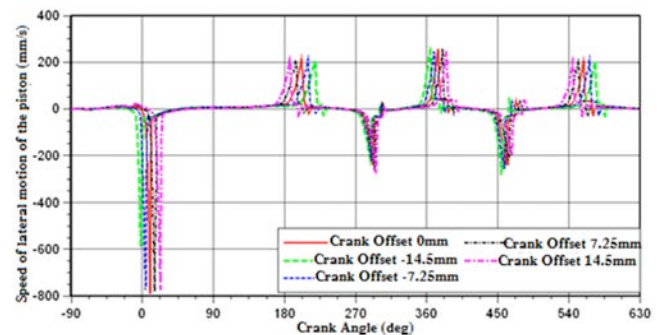
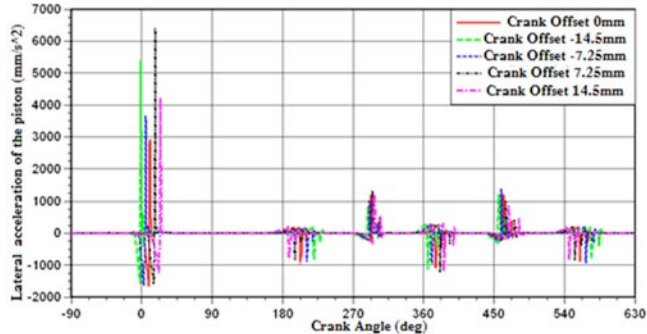


Fig. (3). Piston Horizontal Velocity Comparison Chart under Different Crank Offset

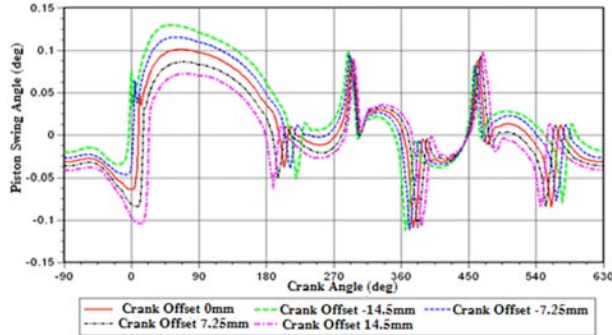
And we can see from Fig. (4), both positive and negative biased crankshafts cause the piston transverse acceleration maximum value increasing. But, under the negative bias, the acceleration maximum value increases with the increase of absolute offset; while the positive bias, the maximum acceleration value reduces with the increase of absolute bias [15].



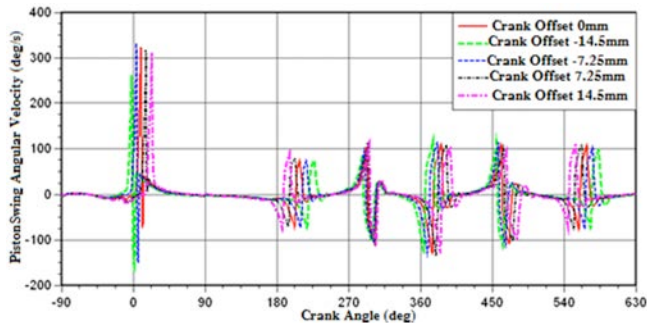
**Fig. (4).** Piston Horizontal Acceleration Comparison Chart under Different Crank Offset

Fig. (5) to Fig. (7) indicates the influence of piston crankshaft offset on piston swing. In the end of stroke and power stroke compression stages, with the increase of offset, clockwise swing angle absolute value increases, anticlockwise swing angle decreases.

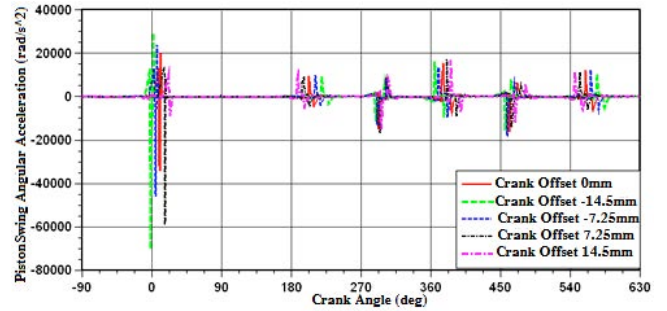
Therefore, the use of the larger positive bias of crankshaft is in favor of the control of piston secondary motions.



**Fig. (5).** Piston Swing Angle Comparison Chart under Different Crank Offset



**Fig. (6).** Piston Swing Angle Velocity Comparison Chart under Different Crank Offset

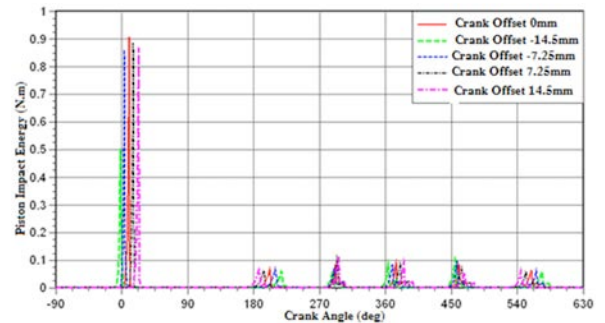


**Fig. (7).** Piston Swing Angle Acceleration Comparison Chart under Different Crank Offsets

Crankshaft offset also has effects on piston swinging and transverse movement commutation time [16]. In the power stroke stage, a negative bias makes the commutation time of transverse and swinging movement ahead of time, both the lead time is consistent, and it increases with the increase of absolute crankshaft offset; and a positive bias lead to both delay, delay time of the two is roughly consistent, and it increases with the increase of the crankshaft offset. Therefore, the crankshaft offset has little effect on "attitude". In addition, we can see from Fig. (6), the crankshaft positive bias enhances stability when the piston is reversing swing in power stroke near TDC; we can see from Fig. (7), the larger crankshaft positive offset makes the piston reversing from deflagration time, reduces the acceleration maximum of piston swing in power stroke near TDC. Therefore, the larger crankshaft offset also helps to control piston "slap" [17].

### 3.2 Effects of crankshaft bias on the impact energy of the piston

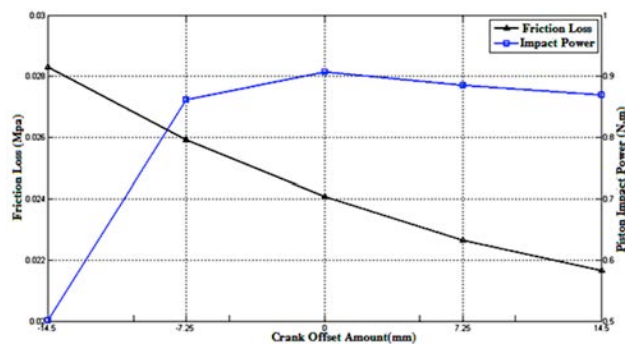
The crankshaft offset also has influence on impact energy of the piston. The contrast diagram of piston impact energy under different offsets is shown in Fig. (8).



**Fig. (8).** Piston Impact Power Comparison Chart under Different Crank Offset

We can see from Fig. (8), the larger crankshaft negative bias can effectively reduce the maximum of piston impact energy, if only from the perspective of reducing piston knock into account, you can choose a larger negative biased crankshaft. But in practical application, the offset mechanism of crankshaft models mostly uses the positive bias, which is based on the considerations to reduce the piston skirt friction loss. As shown in Fig. (9) is the curve of piston skirt friction loss and maximum of piston impact energy under different crank offsets.





**Fig. (9).** the Curve of Piston Skirt Friction Loss and Maximum Piston Impact Energy under Different Crank Bias

From the above pictures, crankshaft offset -14.5mm can significantly reduce the maximum piston impact energy, reduce about 44.7% compared to the crankshaft zero biased, but the piston skirt friction loss is greater than zero biased crank: it has increased by about 17.5%. And with the increase of offsets, the piston skirt friction loss decreases. When crankshaft offset is 14.5mm, the piston skirt friction loss is about 10.1% less than the crankshaft zero biased, and the largest energy is reduced about 4.1% than crankshaft zero biased; when the crankshaft offset is 7.25mm, the piston skirt friction loss is about 6% less than the crankshaft zero biased, and the largest energy decreases about 2.3% than zero biased crankshaft. Thus, the crankshaft positive bias can both reduce the piston impact energy and the piston skirt friction loss, and both decreasing amplitude increases with the crank offset increases. Therefore, we should choose the larger positive bias in the crankshaft design process. In addition, with the increase of crankshaft offset, diesel engine size may be enlarged; in order to avoid the interferences' generation, connecting rod size may also be variable [18].

Above shows, for crankshaft offset' selection, we should consider its influence on the piston secondary motions, piston impact energy, the piston skirt friction loss and other components' dimensions. Generally, the selection of crankshaft is the larger positive offset [19].

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS

This chapter describes the basic processes by using AVL Glide software to solve the piston secondary motions. Based on a certain type of diesel engine as the research object, we have studied the effect of piston crankshaft offset on the characteristics of piston secondary motions. The study finds: influence of crankshaft bias on the piston secondary motions is complex and has obvious influences on the piston secondary motions amplitude and commutation time. Overall, using the larger positive crankshaft bias can reduce piston secondary motions and the "piston slap" at the same time, reduces the impact energy and the piston skirt friction loss. In this example, 14.5mm is the optimal crank offset.

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The author confirms that this article content has no conflict of interest.

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