

Actuation and transmission design

Dr. Hwayeong Jeong

Prof. Dr. Jamie Paik

Reconfigurable Robotics Laboratory

EPFL, Switzerland

Overview

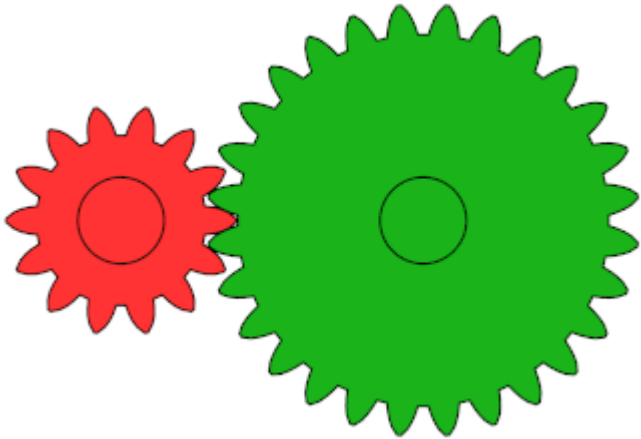
- Purpose:
 - Transmission: Energy from available from to useful or desired form





Gear

- What is gear



Rotation to rotation

Rotation to linear

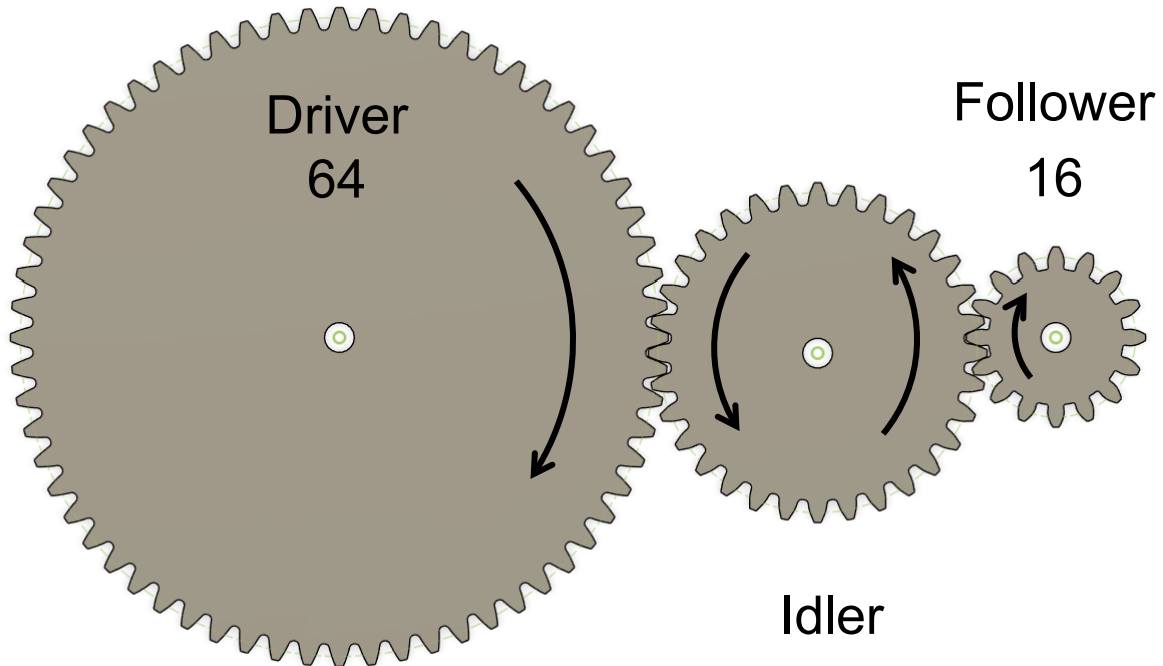
- Why we use it

- 1) Speed \uparrow or \downarrow
- 2) Change force or torque
- 3) Change axis of rotation
- 4) Reverse direction of rotation

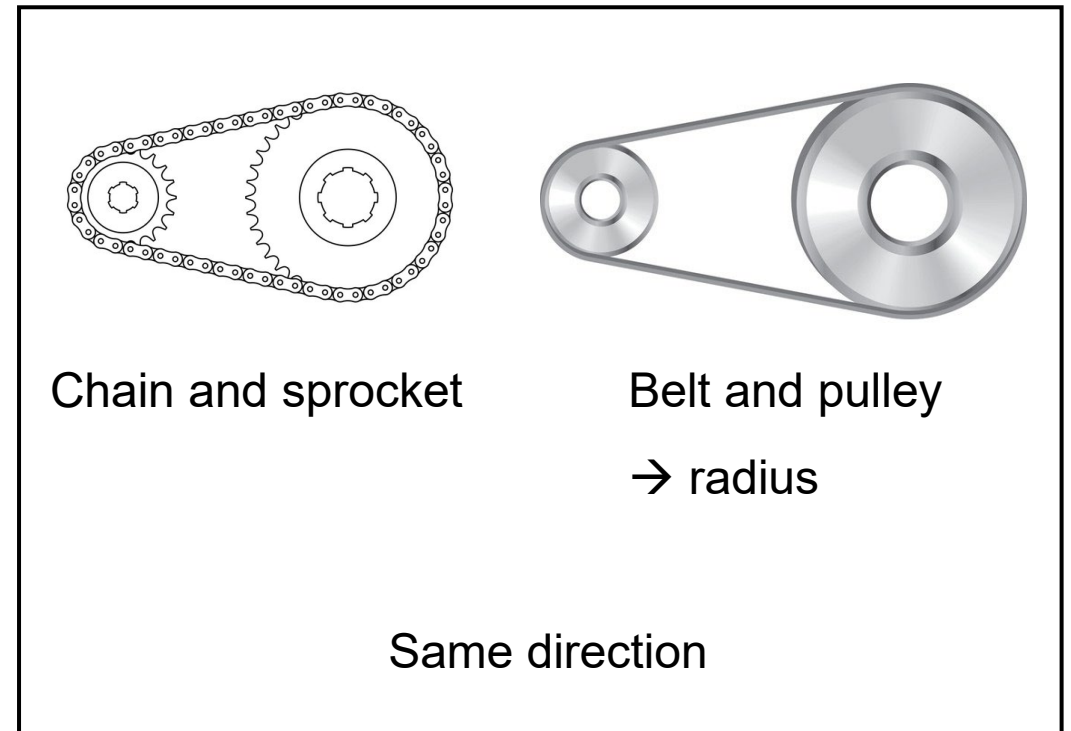
Spur gear - speed

1) Speed ↑ or ↓

$$\text{Velocity ratio} = \frac{\text{Velocity of driver}}{\text{Velocity of follower}}$$

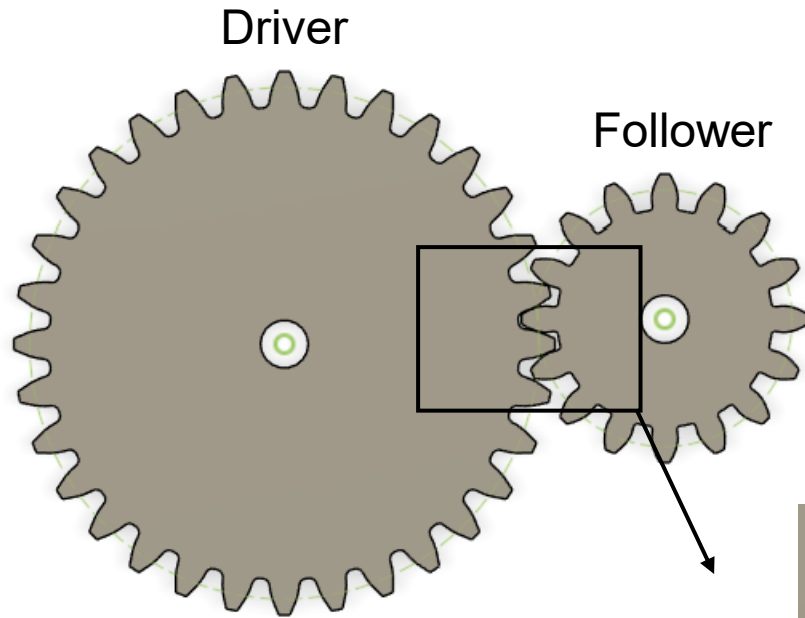


4) Reverse direction of rotation

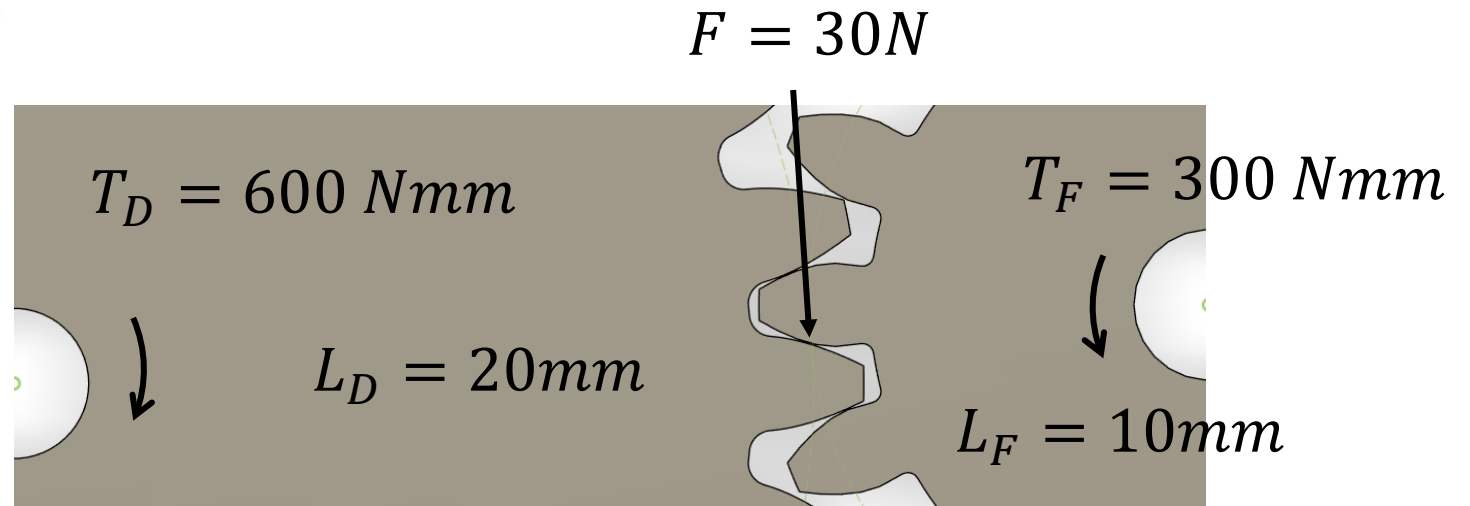


Spur gear -torque

2) Change force or torque

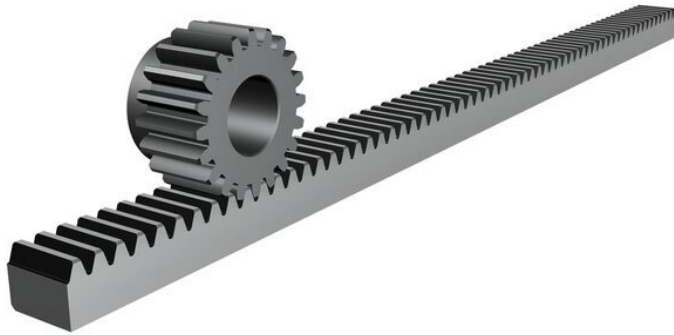


$$\frac{\text{Velocity of driver}}{\text{Velocity of follower}} = \frac{\text{Teeth on follower}}{\text{Teeth on driver}}$$
$$= \frac{\text{Torque on follower}}{\text{Torque on driver}}$$



Spur gear + ?

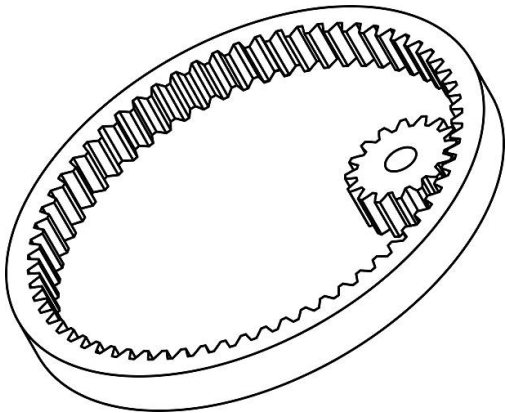
- Rack



- Rack and pinion
- Rotation to linear
- Fine-tune machinery parameters

Control the amount of fuel

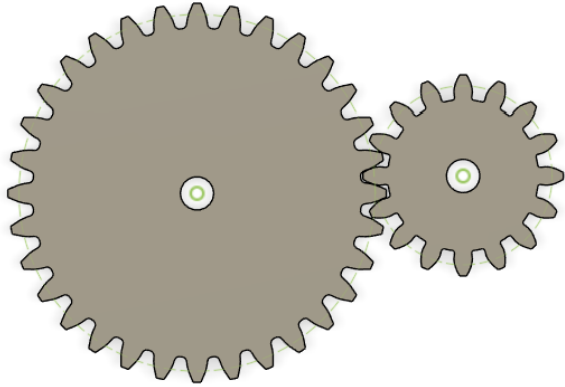
- Internal gear



- Planetary gear system
- Sun, planet and ring gears
- Reduction gears, high torque, high efficiency and compact

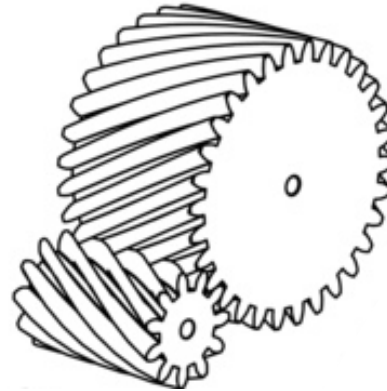
Type of gear (1)

- Teeth structure



Spur gear

1) Linear



Helical gear

2) Helix

Contact gradually

Sustain higher load

Reduce noise and vibration



Double helical gear

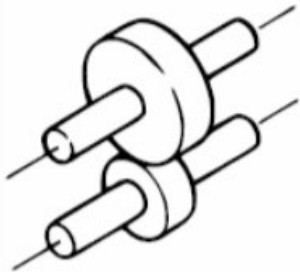
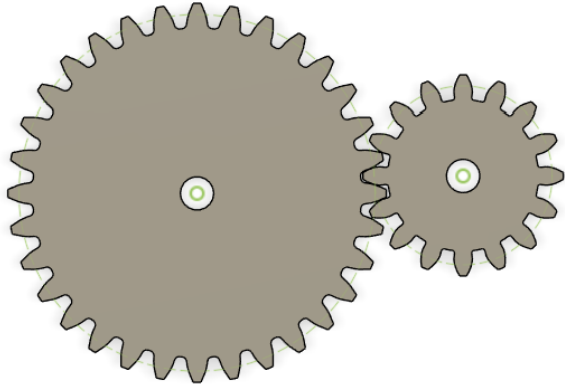
3) Double helical or non linear

Prevent out axial force

→ High load & High speed application

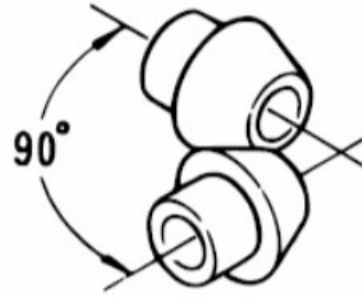
Type of gear (2)

- Gear axis

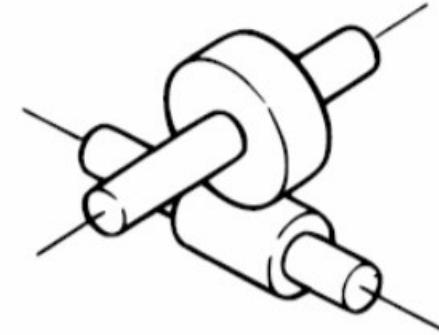


Parallel

3) Change axis of rotation



Intersecting

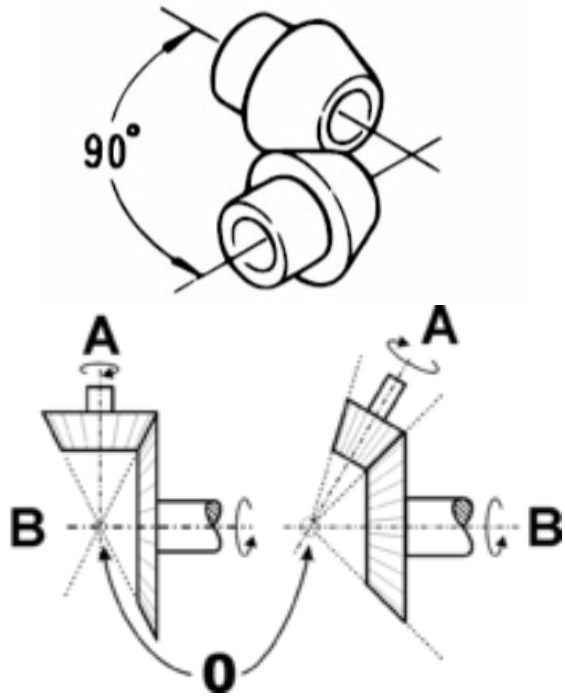


Non-intersecting
and non-parallel

Intersecting

Bevel gear

3) Change axis of rotation



- Teeth on conical surface
- Speed and torque equation applied same
- High stress and high noise



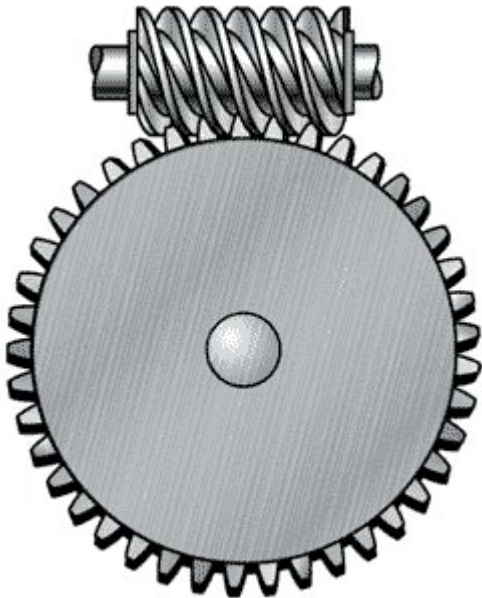
Spiral bevel gear

Non-intersecting and non-parallel

Worm gear

3) Change axis of rotation

Worm gear



Worm wheel

- Resembles a screw
- High gear reduction ratios
 - “Number of teeth on wheel” rotations of worm = 1 rotation of wheel
- Self-locking

Worm wheel cannot turn worm gear



Backdrivability

The degree of ease of which a motor or geared motor can be **driven by its attached load** when **power is removed** from the motor

Design type

Reduction ratio

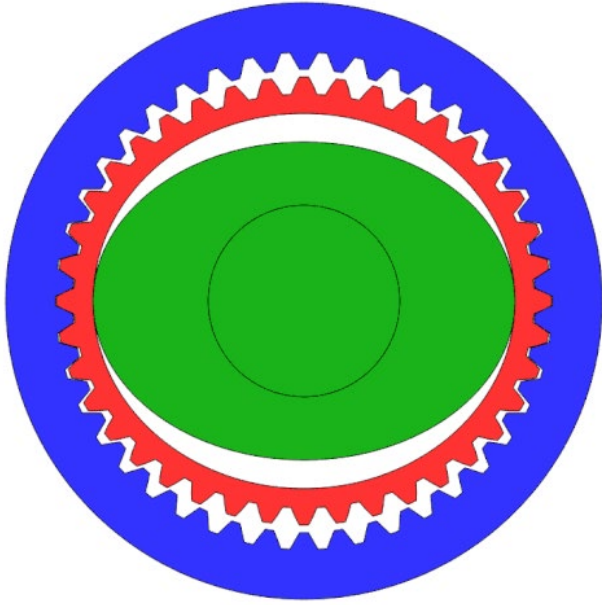
Teeth geometry

Friction

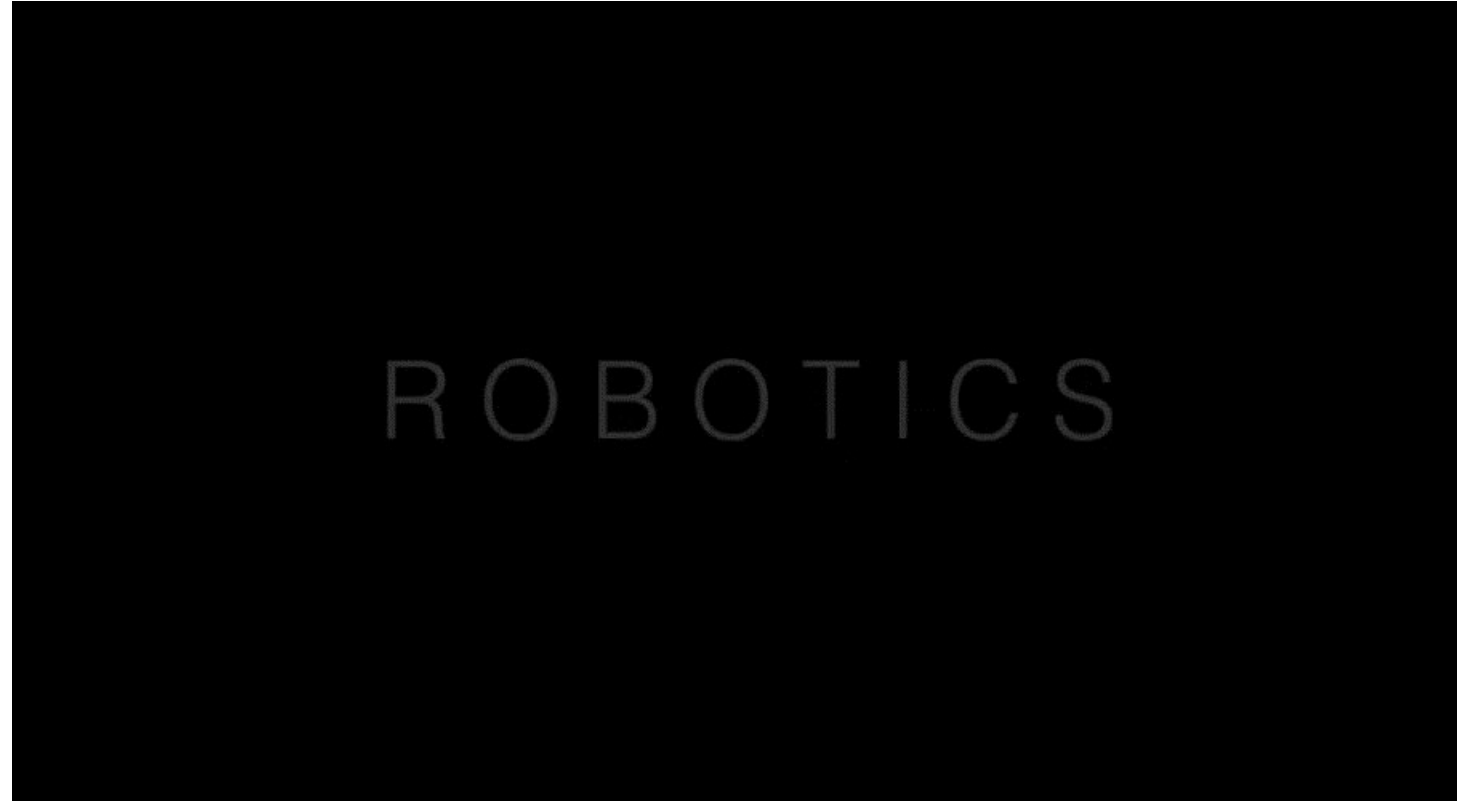
Etc.

- Mechanism should be moved by hand in case of power loss or maintenance reason
- Robot works with human
 - Safety
 - Bidirectional operation (interaction with dynamic forces)

Harmonic drive



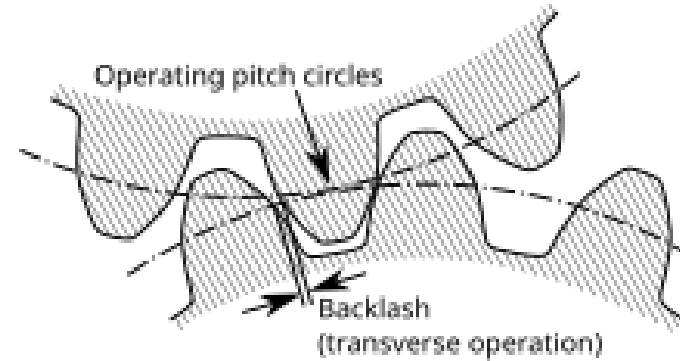
- High precision
- Compact
- Large gear reduction ratio
- Typically backdrivable



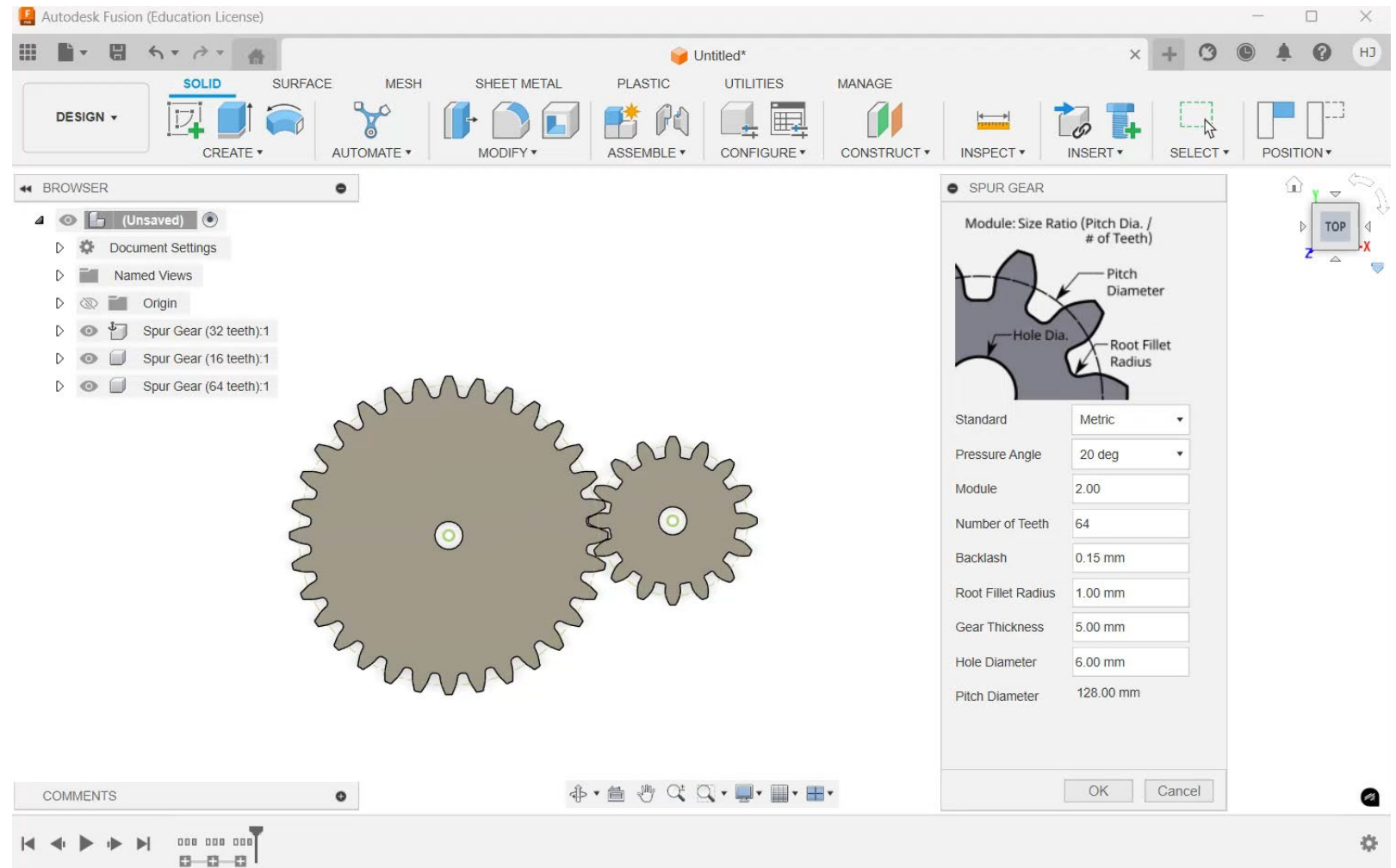
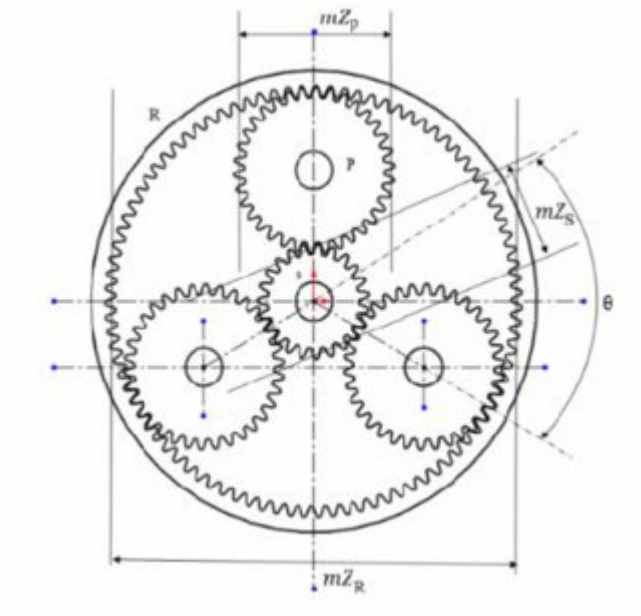
From Oleksandr Stepanenko
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=So9PoP3rqKo&t=34s>

How to choose gear

- Calculate required gear ratio
- Define system acceptable backlash
- Axis relationship
- Specific feature
 - Self locking vs. Backdrivable
 - Compact size with high gear ratio



Customize Gear



Customize Gear

- CNC machining



- Laser cutting or 3D printing

For conventional manufacturing method linear teeth gear is easy to fabricate and cheap
However in 3D printing teeth structure does not make difference in fabrication process