

6. Fundamental data for sizing of universal drivelines

To size universal drivelines properly, various conditions and factors must be considered. In view of the multitude of possible applications, exact, generally valid rules cannot be

provided. The following information is therefore used for the first rough determination of size. In case of doubt, we will gladly compute the required joint sizes for you and, in this

context, we like to refer to the technical questionnaires starting on page 189.

6.1 Torques

The max. permitted torques $M_{d_{max}}$ stated for the individual drive-shaft sizes apply normally only for short-term peak loads.

$M_{d_{nom}}$: Nominal torque for pre-selection on the basis of the operating moment.

$M_{d_{lim}}$: Limit torque that may be transmitted temporarily from the universal-drive-joint at limited frequency without functional damage.

The respective permissible torque has to be calculated individually depending on the remaining operating data, such as shock loads, angle of deflection, rotation, etc. (See item 6.2 and 6.3)

6.2 Shock loads

Depending on the type of power input or installation, a driveline can be subjected to shock loads considerably above the rated torque. To take those into account, shock service factors must be implemented. Following are some shock-service factors for the most common drives

Prime mover	with flexible coupling	without flexible coupling
Turbine or electric motor	1	1 to 1,5
Gasoline engine, 4 and more cylinders	1,25	1,75
Gasoline engine, 1 to 3 cylinders	1,5	2
Diesel engine, 4 and more cylinders	1,5	2
Diesel engine, 1 to 3 cylinders	2	2,5

Of course, not only the drives, but, in many instances, also the driven equipment is responsible for shock loads. Because of the magnitude of different possibilities, general data valid for every use cannot be supplied.

6.3 Life expectancy – calculation

The decisive factor with regard to life expectancy of universal drivelines are usually the joint bearing. Therefore, in order to determine the individually required joint size, the life expectancy diagram shown later on should be used. This diagram allows to:

- determine the theoretical life expectancy of a selected driveline as a function of prevailing operating conditions, or
- determine the required joint size for a given life expectancy.

In this case, the rated input torque is multiplied by the appropriate service (shock) factor and the M_d such obtained entered in the following diagram. Other factors, such as correction - or deflection angle factor do not have to be considered since they are already incorporated in the diagram.

On machines or vehicles with changing operating conditions, at first, the individual life expectancy values (for each condition) must be determined from the diagram. Then the overall life expectancy L_{hR} can be calculated as follows:

$q_1, q_2 \dots$ = time share in [%]
 $L_{h1}, L_{h2} \dots$ expressed in 10^3 [Hours]

$$L_{hR} = \frac{100000}{\frac{q_1}{L_{h1}} + \frac{q_2}{L_{h2}} + \dots + \frac{q_n}{L_{hn}}} \text{ [Hours]}$$