

# Distributed Contact Solver for 3D Dynamics Simulation of Drive Systems with Defects, Phase I Project

SBIR/STTR Programs | Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD)



## ABSTRACT

We propose a novel computational method for generating data needed to create decision strategies for condition-based monitoring algorithms that can effectively differentiate between a healthy system and different types of defects in a damaged system. Currently, the only means available to generate this data are physical testing which is time consuming and expensive, and simplified computer models- either lumped parameter models or 2D models. The most advanced current computational model of drive systems with surface and crack damage can only be deployed on stand-alone computers. The existing contact algorithm relies on shared memory between CPUs, and quickly saturates memory bandwidth. We propose innovative modifications to the algorithm so that models may be efficiently deployed on very large clusters of computers connected by high speed networks. These changes will make possible realistic time-domain 3D modeling of drive systems with surface and crack damage.

## ANTICIPATED BENEFITS

### To NASA funded missions:

Potential NASA Commercial Applications: 1) Condition Based Monitoring: The primary application of this work for NASA, is as a tool that can be used for creating, testing, and fine-tuning condition-monitoring strategies for rotor craft drive systems. The distributed contact analysis will enable dynamic analysis of full drive system models, both in a healthy state as well as with various kinds of damage. Both surface damage as well cracks can be studied. 2) Life Estimation: Current component life prediction tools are constrained by the limited accuracy of simplified dynamic stress prediction methods. The proposed work will, make it possible run very accurate simulations under dynamic conditions. 3) Dynamic Factors: The proposed work will enable NASA to compute accurate dynamic factors for use during the design evaluation stage of gear boxes. These

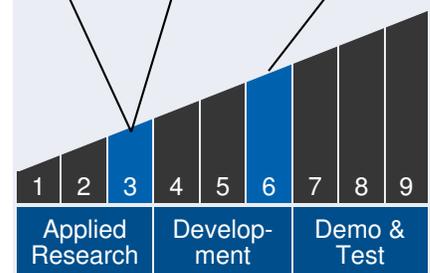


## Table of Contents

Abstract . . . . .	1
Anticipated Benefits . . . . .	1
Technology Maturity . . . . .	1
Management Team . . . . .	1
U.S. Work Locations and Key Partners . . . . .	3
Image Gallery . . . . .	4
Details for Technology 1 . . . . .	4

## Technology Maturity

Start: 3 | Current: 3 | Estimated End: 6



## Management Team

### Program Executives:

- Joseph Grant
- Laguduva Kubendran

### Program Manager:

- Carlos Torrez

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dynamic factors can be used to account for steady state dynamics, as well as for transients caused by short duration events.

## To the commercial space industry:

Potential Non-NASA Commercial Applications: 1) Vibration Prediction in Time-Domain: To date, only frequency domain based vibration calculations with linear models have been commercially available. But Time-domain models are necessary to correctly include contact and kinematics induced non-linearities. Having the fast contact solver will allow very realistic drive system dynamic models, to run in the time domain. 2) Impact Dynamics: It will be possible to make predictions for survivability of drive systems subjected to transients caused by short duration events such as a load spikes. This is an important consideration in the wind-turbine and off-highway equipment industries. Modeling these transient dynamics can only be done in the time-domain. A fast contact solver will allow realistic prediction of these effects. 3) Automatic optimization: Access to a very fast solver will make it possible to run fast static analyses inside the optimization loop of a commercial general-purpose optimizer. It will be possible to optimize metrics such as gear contact patterns, transmission error, and stress while automatically varying the surface modifications and other design parameters. 4) Manufacturing Error Studies: Each manufacturing error has a unique probability distribution. A very fast solver will enable Monte Carlo type studies of manufacturing errors with realistic random distributions. The output will be the probability distribution functions of performance and failure metrics for the drive system.

## Management Team (cont.)

### Principal Investigator:

- Sandeep Vijayakar

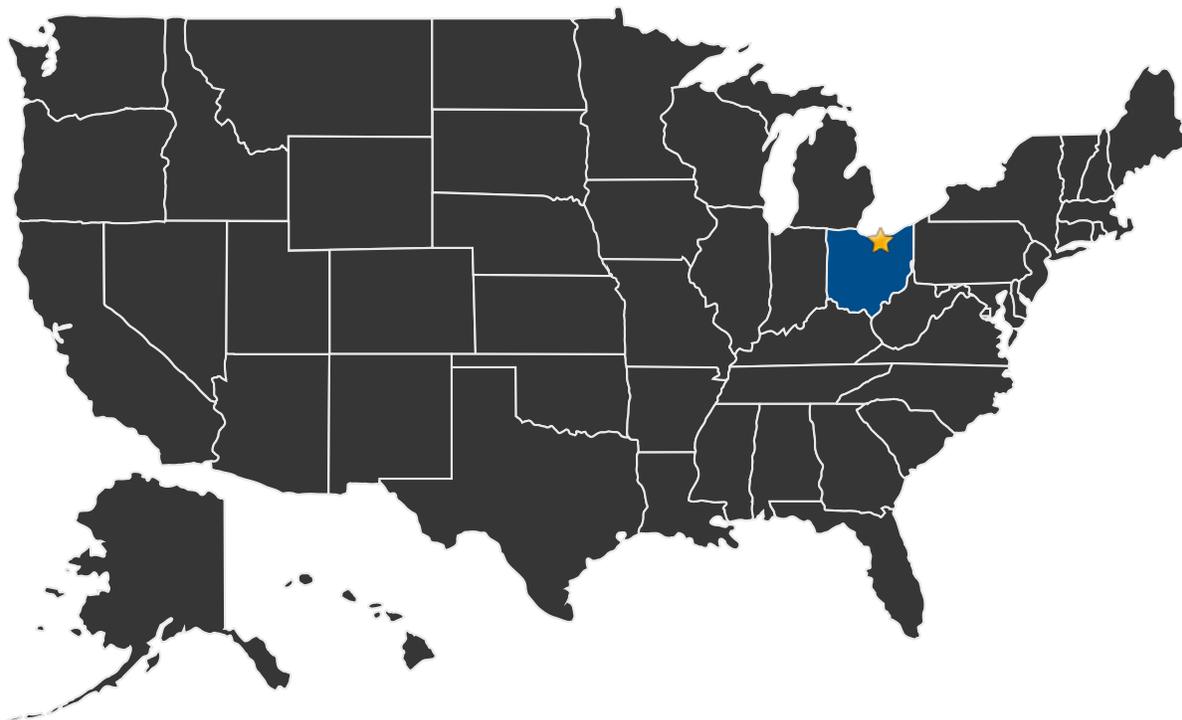
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## U.S. WORK LOCATIONS AND KEY PARTNERS

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- U.S. States With Work      ★ **Lead Center:**  
Glenn Research Center

### Other Organizations Performing Work:

- Advanced Numerical Solutions LLC (Hilliard, OH)

## PROJECT LIBRARY

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### Presentations

- Briefing Chart
  - (<http://techport.nasa.gov:80/file/23155>)

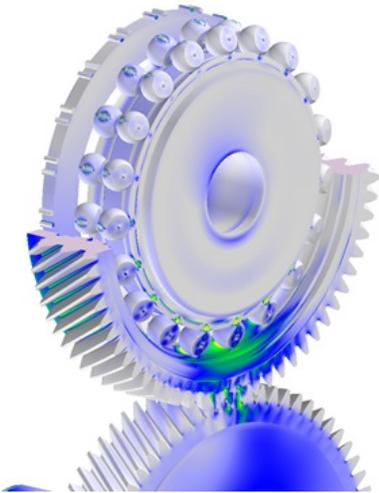
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## IMAGE GALLERY

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*Distributed Contact Solver for 3D  
Dynamics Simulation of Drive Systems  
with Defects, Phase I*

## DETAILS FOR TECHNOLOGY 1

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### Technology Title

Distributed Contact Solver for 3D Dynamics Simulation of Drive Systems with Defects, Phase I

### Potential Applications

1) Condition Based Monitoring: The primary application of this work for NASA, is as a tool that can be used for creating, testing, and fine-tuning condition-monitoring strategies for rotor craft drive systems. The distributed contact analysis will enable dynamic analysis of full drive system models, both in a healthy state as well as with various kinds of damage. Both surface damage as well cracks can be studied. 2) Life Estimation: Current component life prediction tools are constrained by the limited accuracy of simplified dynamic stress prediction methods. The proposed work will, make it possible run very accurate simulations under dynamic conditions. 3) Dynamic Factors: The proposed work will enable NASA to compute accurate dynamic factors for use during the design evaluation stage of gear boxes. These dynamic factors can be used to account for steady state dynamics, as well as for transients caused by short duration events.