ENGINEERING MECHANICS

J. L. MERIAM • L. G. KRAIGE

J. N. BOLTON

EIGHTH EDITION

WILEY

Fo convert from	То	Multiply by
Acceleration)		
foot/second ² (ft/sec ²)	$meter/second^2 (m/s^2)$	$3.048 imes10^{-1*}$
$inch/second^2$ ($in./sec^2$)	$meter/second^2 (m/s^2)$	$2.54 imes10^{-2*}$
Area)	. 9 / 9	0.0000 40.9
$foot^2$ (ft ²)	$meter^2 (m^2)$	$9.2903 imes10^{-2}$
$\operatorname{inch}^{2}(\operatorname{in.}^{2})$	$meter^{2} (m^{2})$	$6.4516 imes10^{-4st}$
Density) pound mass/inch ³ (lbm/in. ³)	litilagram (matar ³ (lig/m ³)	$2.7680 imes10^4$
	kilogram/meter ³ (kg/m ³)	
pound mass/foot ³ (lbm/ft ³)	kilogram/meter ³ (kg/m ³)	1.6018 imes 10
Force) kip (1000 lb)	newton (N)	$4.4482 imes10^3$
pound force (lb)	newton (N)	4.4482×10 4.4482
	newton (N)	4.4482
Length) foot (ft)	meter (m)	$3.048 imes10^{-1*}$
inch (in.)	meter (m)	$2.54 imes 10^{-2*}$
mile (mi), (U.S. statute)	meter (m) meter (m)	2.54×10^{-10} 1.6093×10^{3}
mile (mi), (U.S. statute) mile (mi), (international nautical)	meter (m) meter (m)	1.8093×10^{3} $1.852 \times 10^{3*}$
	meter (m)	1.002×10^{-5}
Mass) pound mass (lbm)	kilogram (kg)	$4.5359 imes10^{-1}$
slug (lb-sec ² /ft)	kilogram (kg)	4.5559×10 1.4594×10
ton (2000 lbm)	kilogram (kg)	$1.4394 imes 10 \\ 9.0718 imes 10^2$
	KIIUgi alli (Kg)	J.0110 × 10
Moment of force) pound-foot (lb-ft)	newton-meter $(N \cdot m)$	1.3558
pound-inch (lb-in.)	newton-meter $(N \cdot m)$	0.1129 8
Moment of inertia, area)		0.1120 0
inch ⁴	$meter^4 (m^4)$	$41.623 imes10^{-8}$
Moment of inertia, mass)		11.010 / 10
pound-foot-second ² (lb-ft-sec ²)	kilogram-meter ² (kg·m ²)	1.3558
Momentum, linear)		10000
pound-second (lb-sec)	kilogram-meter/second (kg·m/s)	4.4482
	kilogram meter/second (kg/m/s)	1.1102
Momentum, angular) pound-foot-second (lb-ft-sec)	newton-meter-second $(kg \cdot m^2/s)$	1.3558
	newton-meter-second (kg/m/s)	1.0000
Power) foot-pound/minute (ft-lb/min)	watt (W)	$2.2597 imes10^{-2}$
horsepower (550 ft-lb/sec)	watt (W)	$2.2397 imes 10 \ 7.4570 imes 10^2$
	watt (W)	1.4010 × 10
Pressure, stress) atmosphere (std)(14.7 lb/in. ²)	newton/meter ² (N/m ² or Pa)	$1.0133 imes10^5$
pound/foot ² (lb/ft ²)	newton/meter ² (N/m ² or Pa)	4.7880×10
pound/inch ² (lb/in. ² or psi)	newton/meter ² (N/m ² or Pa)	4.7880×10 6.8948×10^{3}
Spring constant)		0.0010 / 10
pound/inch (lb/in.)	newton/meter (N/m)	$1.7513 imes10^2$
Velocity)		1
foot/second (ft/sec)	meter/second (m/s)	$3.048 imes10^{-1*}$
knot (nautical mi/hr)	meter/second (m/s)	$5.1444 imes 10^{-1}$
mile/hour (mi/hr)	meter/second (m/s)	$4.4704 imes 10^{-1}$
mile/hour (mi/hr)	kilometer/hour (km/h)	1.6093
Volume)		
foot ³ (ft ³)	$meter^{3}(m^{3})$	$2.8317 imes10^{-2}$
inch ³ (in. ³)	meter ³ (m ³)	$1.6387 imes10^{-5}$
Work, Energy)		
British thermal unit (BTU)	joule (J)	$1.0551 imes10^3$
DITUSII UIEIIIIAI UIII (DIU)		
	joule (J)	1.3558
foot-pound force (ft-lb) kilowatt-hour (kw-h)	joule (J) joule (J)	$1.3558 \\ 3.60 imes 10^{6*}$

Conversion Factors

U.S. Customary Units to SI Units

Quantity	Unit	SI Symbol
(Base Units)		
Length	meter*	m
Mass	kilogram	kg
Time	second	s
(Derived Units)		
Acceleration, linear	meter/second ²	m/s^2
Acceleration, angular	radian/second ²	rad/s^2
Area	$meter^2$	m^2
Density	kilogram/meter ³	kg/m ³
Force	newton	$N(= kg \cdot m/s^2)$
Frequency	hertz	Hz (= 1/s)
Impulse, linear	newton-second	$N \cdot s$
Impulse, angular	newton-meter-second	$N \cdot m \cdot s$
Moment of force	newton-meter	N·m
Moment of inertia, area	$meter^4$	m^4
Moment of inertia, mass	kilogram-meter ²	$kg \cdot m^2$
Momentum, linear	kilogram-meter/second	$kg \cdot m/s (= N \cdot s)$
Momentum, angular	kilogram-meter ² /second	$kg \cdot m^2/s$ (= N·m·s
Power	watt	$W = J/s = N \cdot m/s$
Pressure, stress	pascal	$Pa (= N/m^2)$
Product of inertia, area	meter ⁴	m^4
Product of inertia, mass	kilogram-meter ²	$kg \cdot m^2$
Spring constant	newton/meter	N/m
Velocity, linear	meter/second	m/s
Velocity, angular	radian/second	rad/s
Volume	meter ³	m^3
Work, energy	joule	$J (= N \cdot m)$
Supplementary and Other Ac	ceptable Units)	
Distance (navigation)	nautical mile	(= 1.852 km)
Mass	ton (metric)	t (= 1000 kg)
Plane angle	degrees (decimal)	0
Plane angle	radian	_
Speed	knot	(1.852 km/h)
Time	day	d
Time	hour	h
Time	minute	min

SI Units Used in Mechanics

SI Unit Prefixes

Multiplication Factor	Prefix	Symbol
$1\ 000\ 000\ 000\ 000\ =\ 10^{12}$	tera	Т
$1\ 000\ 000\ 000\ =\ 10^9$	giga	G
$1\ 000\ 000\ =\ 10^6$	mega	Μ
$1\ 000\ =\ 10^3$	kilo	k
$100 = 10^2$	hecto	h
10 = 10	deka	da
$0.1 = 10^{-1}$	deci	d
$0.01 = 10^{-2}$	centi	С
$0.001 = 10^{-3}$	milli	m
$0.000\ 001\ =\ 10^{-6}$	micro	μ
$0.000\ 000\ 001\ =\ 10^{-9}$	nano	n
$0.000\ 000\ 000\ 001\ =\ 10^{-12}$	pico	р

Selected Rules for Writing Metric Quantities

- 1. (a) Use prefixes to keep numerical values generally between 0.1 and 1000.
 - (b) Use of the prefixes hecto, deka, deci, and centi should generally be avoided except for certain areas or volumes where the numbers would be awkward otherwise.
 - (c) Use prefixes only in the numerator of unit combinations. The one exception is the base unit kilogram. (*Example:* write kN/m not N/mm; J/kg not mJ/g)
 - (d) Avoid double prefixes. (*Example:* write GN not kMN)
- 2. Unit designations
 - (a) Use a dot for multiplication of units. (*Example:* write $N \cdot m$ not Nm)
 - (b) Avoid ambiguous double solidus. (*Example:* write N/m^2 not N/m/m)
 - (c) Exponents refer to entire unit. (*Example:* mm^2 means $(mm)^2$)
- 3. Number grouping

Use a space rather than a comma to separate numbers in groups of three, counting from the decimal point in both directions. (*Example:* 4 607 321.048 72) Space may be omitted for numbers of four digits. (*Example:* 4296 or 0.0476)

ENGINEERING MECHANICS



EIGHTH EDITION

ENGINEERING MECHANICS

VOLUME 2 DYNAMICS

EIGHTH EDITION

J.L. MERIAM

L.G. KRAIGE

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

J.N. BOLTON

Bluefield State College



On the cover: Liftoff of a Falcon 9 rocket from Vandenberg Air Force Base, California. This SpaceX rocket is a two-stage launch vehicle which generates 1.3 million pounds of thrust at sea level.

Vice President & Executive Publisher Executive Marketing Manager Executive Editor Editorial Assistants Content Manager Production Editor

Marketing Manager Senior Designer Cover Design Cover Photo Electronic Illustrations Senior Photo Editor Product Designer Content Editor Don Fowley Dan Sayre Linda Ratts Emily Meussner/Francesca Baratta Karoline Luciano Ken Santor, Production Management Services provided by Camelot Editorial Services, LLC Christopher Ruel Maureen Eide Wendy Lai SPACEX Precision Graphics Billy Ray Jennifer Welter Wendy Ashenberg

This book was set in 9.5/12 New Century Schoolbook Lt Std. by Aptara, Inc., and printed and bound by Quad Graphics Versailles. The cover was printed by Quad Graphics.

This book is printed on acid-free paper. ∞

Founded in 1807, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. has been a valued source of knowledge and understanding for more than 200 years, helping people around the world meet their needs and fulfill their aspirations. Our company is built on a foundation of principles that include responsibility to the communities we serve and where we live and work. In 2008, we launched a Corporate Citizenship Initiative, a global effort to address the environmental, social, economic, and ethical challenges we face in our business. Among the issues we are addressing are carbon impact, paper specifications and procurement, ethical conduct within our business and among our vendors, and community and charitable support. For more information, please visit our website: www.wiley.com/go/citizenship.

Copyright © 2015, 2012, 2007, 2002, 1997, 1992, 1986, 1978, 1971, 1966, 1959, 1952, 1951 John Wiley & Sons, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, scanning or otherwise, except as permitted under Sections 107 or 108 of the 1976 United States Copyright Act, without either the prior written permission of the Publisher, or authorization through payment of the appropriate per-copy fee to the Copyright Clearance Center, Inc., 222 Rosewood Drive, Danvers, MA 01923, website *www. copyright.com*. Requests to the Publisher for permission should be addressed to the Permissions Department, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 111 River Street, Hoboken, NJ 07030-5774, (201) 748-6011, fax (201) 748-6008, website *http://www.wiley.com/go/permissions*.

Evaluation copies are provided to qualified academics and professionals for review purposes only, for use in their courses during the next academic year. These copies are licensed and may not be sold or transferred to a third party. Upon completion of the review period, please return the evaluation copy to Wiley. Return instructions and a free of charge return mailing label are available at www.wiley.com/go/returnlabel. If you have chosen to adopt this textbook for use in your course, please accept this book as your complimentary desk copy. Outside of the United States, please contact your local sales representative.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Meriam, J. L. (James L.)
Dynamics / J. L. Meriam, L. G. Kraige, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, J. N. Bolton, Bluefield State College.—Eighth edition.
pages ; cm—(Engineering mechanics)
Includes bibliographical references and index.
ISBN 978-1-118-88584-0 (cloth)
1. Machinery, Dynamics of. I. Kraige, L. G. (L. Glenn) II. Bolton, J. N. (Jeff N.)
III. Title.
TA352.M45 2015
620.1—dc23
2015016668

ISBN: 978-1-118-88584-0 ISBN: 978-1-119-02253-4 (BRV)

Printed in the United States of America

 $10 \ 9 \ 8 \ 7 \ 6 \ 5 \ 4 \ 3 \ 2 \ 1$

Foreword

This series of textbooks was begun in 1951 by the late Dr. James L. Meriam. At that time, the books represented a revolutionary transformation in undergraduate mechanics education. They became the definitive textbooks for the decades that followed as well as models for other engineering mechanics texts that have subsequently appeared. Published under slightly different titles prior to the 1978 First Editions, this textbook series has always been characterized by logical organization, clear and rigorous presentation of the theory, instructive sample problems, and a rich collection of real-life problems, all with a high standard of illustration. In addition to the U.S. versions, the books have appeared in SI versions and have been translated into many foreign languages. These textbooks collectively represent an international standard for undergraduate texts in mechanics.

The innovations and contributions of Dr. Meriam (1917–2000) to the field of engineering mechanics cannot be overstated. He was one of the premier engineering educators of the second half of the twentieth century. Dr. Meriam earned the B.E., M.Eng., and Ph.D. degrees from Yale University. He had early industrial experience with Pratt and Whitney Aircraft and the General Electric Company. During the Second World War he served in the U.S. Coast Guard. He was a member of the faculty of the University of California—Berkeley, Dean of Engineering at Duke University, a faculty member at the California Polytechnic State University, and visiting professor at the University of California—Santa Barbara, finally retiring in 1990. Professor Meriam always placed great emphasis on teaching, and this trait was recognized by his students wherever he taught. He was the recipient of several teaching awards, including the Benjamin Garver Lamme Award, which is the highest annual national award of the American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE).

Dr. L. Glenn Kraige, coauthor of the *Engineering Mechanics* series since the early 1980s, has also made significant contributions to mechanics education. Dr. Kraige earned his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees at the University of Virginia, principally in aerospace engineering, and he is Professor Emeritus of Engineering Science and Mechanics at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. During the mid-1970s, I had the singular pleasure of chairing Professor Kraige's graduate committee and take particular pride in the fact that he was the first of my fifty Ph.D. graduates. Professor Kraige was invited by Professor Meriam to team with him, thereby ensuring that the Meriam legacy of textbook authorship excellence would be carried forward to future generations of engineers.

In addition to his widely recognized research and publications in the field of spacecraft dynamics, Professor Kraige has devoted his attention to the teaching of mechanics at both introductory and advanced levels. His outstanding teaching has been widely recognized and has earned him teaching awards at the departmental, college, university, state, regional, and national levels. These awards include the Outstanding Educator Award from the State Council of Higher Education for the Commonwealth of Virginia. In 1996, the Mechanics Division of ASEE bestowed upon him the Archie Higdon Distinguished Educator Award. The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education awarded him the distinction of Virginia Professor of the Year for 1997. In his teaching, Professor Kraige stresses the development of analytical capabilities along with the strengthening of physical insight and engineering judgment. Since the early 1980s, he has worked on personal-computer software designed to enhance the teaching/learning process in statics, dynamics, strength of materials, and higher-level areas of dynamics and vibrations.

Welcomed as a new coauthor for this edition is Dr. Jeffrey N. Bolton, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering Technology at Bluefield State College. Dr. Bolton earned his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. in Engineering Mechanics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. His research interests include automatic balancing of six-degree-of-freedom elastically-mounted rotors. He has a wealth of teaching experience, including at Virginia Tech, where he was the 2010 recipient of the Sporn Teaching Award for Engineering Subjects, which is primarily chosen by students. In 2014, Professor Bolton received the Outstanding Faculty Award from Bluefield State College. He has the unusual ability to set high levels of rigor and achievement in the classroom while establishing a high degree of rapport with his students. In addition to maintaining time-tested traditions for future generations of students, Dr. Bolton will bring effective application of technology to this textbook series.

The Eighth Edition of *Engineering Mechanics* continues the same high standards set by previous editions and adds new features of help and interest to students. It contains a vast collection of interesting and instructive problems. The faculty and students privileged to teach or study from the Meriam/Kraige/Bolton *Engineering Mechanics* series will benefit from several decades of investment by three highly accomplished educators. Following the pattern of the previous editions, this textbook stresses the application of theory to actual engineering situations, and at this important task it remains the best.

John L. Junkins

John L. Junkins Distinguished Professor of Aerospace Engineering Holder of the Royce E. Wisebaker '39 Chair in Engineering Innovation Texas A&M University College Station, Texas

PREFACE

Engineering mechanics is both a foundation and a framework for most of the branches of engineering. Many of the topics in such areas as civil, mechanical, aerospace, and agricultural engineering, and of course engineering mechanics itself, are based upon the subjects of statics and dynamics. Even in a discipline such as electrical engineering, practitioners, in the course of considering the electrical components of a robotic device or a manufacturing process, may find themselves first having to deal with the mechanics involved.

Thus, the engineering mechanics sequence is critical to the engineering curriculum. Not only is this sequence needed in itself, but courses in engineering mechanics also serve to solidify the student's understanding of other important subjects, including applied mathematics, physics, and graphics. In addition, these courses serve as excellent settings in which to strengthen problem-solving abilities.

PHILOSOPHY

The primary purpose of the study of engineering mechanics is to develop the capacity to predict the effects of force and motion while carrying out the creative design functions of engineering. This capacity requires more than a mere knowledge of the physical and mathematical principles of mechanics; also required is the ability to visualize physical configurations in terms of real materials, actual constraints, and the practical limitations which govern the behavior of machines and structures. One of the primary objectives in a mechanics course is to help the student develop this ability to visualize, which is so vital to problem formulation. Indeed, the construction of a meaningful mathematical model is often a more important experience than its solution. Maximum progress is made when the principles and their limitations are learned together within the context of engineering application.

There is a frequent tendency in the presentation of mechanics to use problems mainly as a vehicle to illustrate theory rather than to develop theory for the purpose of solving problems. When the first view is allowed to predominate, problems tend to become overly idealized and unrelated to engineering with the result that the exercise becomes dull, academic, and uninteresting. This approach deprives the student of valuable experience in formulating problems and thus of discovering the need for and meaning of theory. The second view provides by far the stronger motive for learning theory and leads to a better balance between theory and application. The crucial role played by interest and purpose in providing the strongest possible motive for learning cannot be overemphasized.

Furthermore, as mechanics educators, we should stress the understanding that, at best, theory can only approximate the real world of mechanics rather than the view that the real world approximates the theory. This difference in philosophy is indeed basic and distinguishes the *engineering* of mechanics from the *science* of mechanics. Over the past several decades, several unfortunate tendencies have occurred in engineering education. First, emphasis on the geometric and physical meanings of prerequisite mathematics appears to have diminished. Second, there has been a significant reduction and even elimination of instruction in graphics, which in the past enhanced the visualization and representation of mechanics problems. Third, in advancing the mathematical level of our treatment of mechanics, there has been a tendency to allow the notational manipulation of vector operations to mask or replace geometric visualization. Mechanics is inherently a subject which depends on geometric and physical perception, and we should increase our efforts to develop this ability.

A special note on the use of computers is in order. The experience of formulating problems, where reason and judgment are developed, is vastly more important for the student than is the manipulative exercise in carrying out the solution. For this reason, computer usage must be carefully controlled. At present, constructing free-body diagrams and formulating governing equations are best done with pencil and paper. On the other hand, there are instances in which the *solution* to the governing equations can best be carried out and displayed using the computer. Computer-oriented problems should be genuine in the sense that there is a condition of design or criticality to be found, rather than "makework" problems in which some parameter is varied for no apparent reason other than to force artificial use of the computer. These thoughts have been kept in mind during the design of the computer-oriented problems in the Eighth Edition. To conserve adequate time for problem formulation, it is suggested that the student be assigned only a limited number of the computer-oriented problems.

As with previous editions, this Eighth Edition of *Engineering Mechanics* is written with the foregoing philosophy in mind. It is intended primarily for the first engineering course in mechanics, generally taught in the second year of study. *Engineering Mechanics* is written in a style which is both concise and friendly. The major emphasis is on basic principles and methods rather than on a multitude of special cases. Strong effort has been made to show both the cohesiveness of the relatively few fundamental ideas and the great variety of problems which these few ideas will solve.

PEDAGOGICAL FEATURES

The basic structure of this textbook consists of an article which rigorously treats the particular subject matter at hand, followed by one or more Sample Problems, followed by a group of Problems. There is a Chapter Review at the end of each chapter which summarizes the main points in that chapter, followed by a Review Problem set.

Problems

The 124 sample problems appear on specially colored pages by themselves. The solutions to typical dynamics problems are presented in detail. In addition, explanatory and cautionary notes (Helpful Hints) in blue type are number-keyed to the main presentation.

There are 1550 homework exercises, of which more than 50 percent are new to the Eighth Edition. The problem sets are divided into *Introductory Problems* and *Representative Problems*. The first section consists of simple, uncomplicated problems designed to help students gain confidence with the new topic, while most of the problems in the second section are of average difficulty and length. The problems are generally arranged in order of increasing difficulty. More difficult exercises appear near the end of the *Representative Problems* and are marked with the symbol ▶. *Computer-Oriented Problems*, marked with an asterisk, appear throughout the problem sets as well as in a special section at the end of each chapter. The answers to all problems have been provided in a special section at the end of the textbook.

In recognition of the need for emphasis on SI units, there are approximately two problems in SI units for every one in U.S. customary units. This apportionment between the two sets of units permits anywhere from a 50–50 emphasis to a 100-percent SI treatment.

A notable feature of the Eighth Edition, as with all previous editions, is the wealth of interesting and important problems which apply to engineering design. Whether directly identified as such or not, virtually all of the problems deal with principles and procedures inherent in the design and analysis of engineering structures and mechanical systems.

Illustrations

In order to bring the greatest possible degree of realism and clarity to the illustrations, this textbook series continues to be produced in full color. It is important to note that color is used consistently for the identification of certain quantities:

- *red* for forces and moments
- green for velocity and acceleration arrows
- orange dashes for selected trajectories of moving points

Subdued colors are used for those parts of an illustration which are not central to the problem at hand. Whenever possible, mechanisms or objects which commonly have a certain color will be portrayed in that color. All of the fundamental elements of technical illustration which have been an essential part of this *Engineering Mechanics* series of textbooks have been retained. The authors wish to restate the conviction that a high standard of illustration is critical to any written work in the field of mechanics.

Special Features

We have retained the following hallmark features of previous editions:

- The main emphasis on the work-energy and impulse-momentum equations is on the time-order form, both for particles in Chapter 3 and rigid bodies in Chapter 6.
- Emphasis has been placed on three-part impulse-momentum diagrams, both for particles and rigid bodies. These diagrams are well integrated with the time-order form of the impulse-momentum equations.
- Within-the-chapter photographs are provided in order to provide additional connection to actual situations in which dynamics has played a major role.
- Approximately 50 percent of the homework problems are new to this Eighth Edition. All new problems have been independently solved in order to ensure a high degree of accuracy.
- All Sample Problems are printed on specially colored pages for quick identification.
- All theory portions have been reexamined in order to maximize rigor, clarity, readability, and level of friendliness.
- Key Concepts areas within the theory presentation have been specially marked and highlighted.
- The Chapter Reviews are highlighted and feature itemized summaries.

ORGANIZATION

The logical division between particle dynamics (Part I) and rigid-body dynamics (Part II) has been preserved, with each part treating the kinematics prior to the kinetics. This arrangement promotes thorough and rapid progress in rigid-body dynamics with the prior benefit of a comprehensive introduction to particle dynamics.

In Chapter 1, the fundamental concepts necessary for the study of dynamics are established.

Chapter 2 treats the kinematics of particle motion in various coordinate systems, as well as the subjects of relative and constrained motion.

Chapter 3 on particle kinetics focuses on the three basic methods: force-mass-acceleration (Section A), work-energy (Section B), and impulse-momentum (Section C). The special topics of impact, central-force motion, and relative motion are grouped together in a special applications section (Section D) and serve as optional material to be assigned according to instructor preference and available time. With this arrangement, the attention of the student is focused more strongly on the three basic approaches to kinetics.

Chapter 4 on systems of particles is an extension of the principles of motion for a single particle and develops the general relationships which are so basic to the modern comprehension of dynamics. This chapter also includes the topics of steady mass flow and variable mass, which may be considered as optional material.

In Chapter 5 on the kinematics of rigid bodies in plane motion, where the equations of relative velocity and relative acceleration are encountered, emphasis is placed jointly on solution by vector geometry and solution by vector algebra. This dual approach serves to reinforce the meaning of vector mathematics.

In Chapter 6 on the kinetics of rigid bodies, we place great emphasis on the basic equations which govern all categories of plane motion. Special emphasis is also placed on forming the direct equivalence between the actual applied forces and couples and their $m\bar{a}$ and $\bar{I}\alpha$ resultants. In this way the versatility of the moment principle is emphasized, and the student is encouraged to think directly in terms of resultant dynamics effects.

Chapter 7, which may be treated as optional, provides a basic introduction to threedimensional dynamics which is sufficient to solve many of the more common space-motion problems. For students who later pursue more advanced work in dynamics, Chapter 7 will provide a solid foundation. Gyroscopic motion with steady precession is treated in two ways. The first approach makes use of the analogy between the relation of force and linearmomentum vectors and the relation of moment and angular-momentum vectors. With this treatment, the student can understand the gyroscopic phenomenon of steady precession and can handle most of the engineering problems on gyroscopes without a detailed study of threedimensional dynamics. The second approach employs the more general momentum equations for three-dimensional rotation where all components of momentum are accounted for.

Chapter 8 is devoted to the topic of vibrations. This full-chapter coverage will be especially useful for engineering students whose only exposure to vibrations is acquired in the basic dynamics course.

Moments and products of inertia of mass are presented in Appendix B. Appendix C contains a summary review of selected topics of elementary mathematics as well as several numerical techniques which the student should be prepared to use in computer-solved problems. Useful tables of physical constants, centroids, and moments of inertia are contained in Appendix D.

SUPPLEMENTS

The following items have been prepared to complement this textbook:

Instructor's Manual

Prepared by the authors and independently checked, fully worked solutions to all problems in the text are available to faculty by contacting their local Wiley representative.

Instructor Lecture Resources

The following resources are available online at www.wiley.com/college/meriam. There may be additional resources not listed.

WileyPLUS is a research-based online environment for effective teaching and learning. WileyPLUS builds students' confidence because it takes the guesswork out of studying by providing students with a clear roadmap: what to do, how to do it, if they did it right. Students will take more initiative so you'll have greater impact on their achievement in the classroom and beyond.

Lecture software specifically designed to aid the lecturer, especially in larger classrooms. Written by the second author and incorporating figures from the textbooks, this software is based on the Macromedia Flash[®] platform. Major use of animation, concise review of the theory, and numerous sample problems make this tool extremely useful for student self-review of the material.

All *figures* in the text are available in electronic format for use in creating lecture presentations.

All **Sample Problems** are available as electronic files for display and discussion in the classroom.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special recognition is due Dr. A. L. Hale, formerly of Bell Telephone Laboratories, for his continuing contribution in the form of invaluable suggestions and accurate checking of the manuscript. Dr. Hale has rendered similar service for all previous versions of this entire series of mechanics books, dating back to the 1950s. He reviews all aspects of the books, including all old and new text and figures. Dr. Hale carries out an independent solution to each new homework exercise and provides the authors with suggestions and needed corrections to the solutions which appear in the *Instructor's Manual*. Dr. Hale is well known for being extremely accurate in his work, and his fine knowledge of the English language is a great asset which aids every user of this textbook.

We would like to thank the faculty members of the Department of Engineering Science and Mechanics at VPI&SU who regularly offer constructive suggestions. These include Saad A. Ragab, Norman E. Dowling, Michael W. Hyer, Michael L. Madigan (now at Texas A&M University), J. Wallace Grant, and Jacob Grohs. Scott L. Hendricks has been particularly effective and accurate in his extensive review of the manuscript and preparation of WileyPlus materials. Nathaniel Greene of Bloomfield State University of Pennsylvania is recognized for his careful reading and suggestions for improvement.

The following individuals (listed in alphabetical order) provided feedback on recent editions, reviewed samples of the Eighth Edition, or otherwise contributed to the Eighth Edition:

Michael Ales, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy	John DesJardins, Clemson University
Joseph Arumala, University of Maryland	Larry DeVries, University of Utah
Eastern Shore	Craig Downing, Southeast Missouri State
Eric Austin, Clemson University	University
Stephen Bechtel, Ohio State University	William Drake, Missouri State University
Peter Birkemoe, University of Toronto	Raghu Echempati, Kettering University
Achala Chatterjee, San Bernardino	Amelito Enriquez, Canada College
Valley College	Sven Esche, Stevens Institute of Technology
Jim Shih-Jiun Chen, Temple University	Wallace Franklin, U.S. Merchant Marine
Yi-chao Chen, University of Houston	Academy
Mary Cooper, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo	Christine Goble, University of Kentucky
Mukaddes Darwish, Texas Tech University	Barry Goodno, Georgia Institute of Technology
Kurt DeGoede, Elizabethtown College	Robert Harder, George Fox University

Javier Hasbun, University of West Georgia	Wilfrid Nixon, University of Iowa
Javad Hashemi, Texas Tech University	Karim Nohra, University of South Florida
Robert Hyers, University of Massachusetts,	Vassilis Panoskaltsis, Case Western Reserve
Amherst	University
Matthew Ikle, Adams State College	Chandra Putcha, California State
Duane Jardine, University of New Orleans	University, Fullerton
Mariappan Jawaharlal, California	Blayne Roeder, Purdue University
Polytechnic State University, Pomona	Eileen Rossman, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
Qing Jiang, University of California,	Nestor Sanchez, University of Texas, San
Riverside	Antonio
Jennifer Kadlowec, Rowan University	Joseph Schaefer, Iowa State University
Robert Kern, Milwaukee School of	Scott Schiff, Clemson University
Engineering	Sergey Smirnov, Texas Tech University
John Krohn, Arkansas Tech University	Ertugrul Taciroglu, UCLA
Keith Lindler, United States Naval	Constantine Tarawneh, University of Texas
Academy	John Turner, University of Wyoming
Francisco Manzo-Robledo, Washington	Chris Venters, Virginia Tech
State University	Sarah Vigmostad, University of Iowa
Geraldine Milano, New Jersey Institute of	T. W. Wu, University of Kentucky
Technology	Mohammed Zikry, North Carolina State
Saeed Niku, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo	University

The contributions by the staff of John Wiley & Sons, Inc., including Executive Editor Linda Ratts (recipient of the John Wiley Global Education Editor of the Year Award for 2013), Editorial Assistant Emily Meussner, Production Editor Ken Santor, Senior Designer Maureen Eide, and Photograph Editor Billy Ray, reflect a high degree of professional competence and are duly recognized. We wish to especially acknowledge the critical production efforts of Christine Cervoni of Camelot Editorial Services, LLC. Ms. Cervoni has frequently exceeded expectations over the past several editions. When the inevitable difficulties arise, she is quick to find a solution and regularly helps other production individuals. Helen Walden is recognized for her copy-editing and proofreading of a difficult manuscript. The talented illustrators of Precision Graphics continue to maintain a high standard of illustration excellence.

Finally, we wish to state the extremely significant contribution of our families for their patience and support over the many hours of manuscript preparation. Dale Kraige has managed the preparation of the manuscript for the Eighth Edition and has been a key individual in checking all stages of the proof. In addition, both Stephanie Kokan and David Kraige have contributed problem ideas, illustrations, and solutions to a number of the problems over the past several editions.

We are extremely pleased to participate in extending the time duration of this textbook series well past the sixty-five-year mark. In the interest of providing you with the best possible educational materials over future years, we encourage and welcome all comments and suggestions.

L. Glenn Kraige

Blacksburg, Virginia

Ym/SAu

Princeton, West Virginia

CONTENTS

PART

DYNAMICS OF PARTICLES		1
-	APTER 1	
INT	RODUCTION TO DYNAMICS	3
1/1	History and Modern Applications	3
1/2	Basic Concepts	4
1/3	Newton's Laws	6
1/4	Units	6
1/5	Gravitation	8
1/6	Dimensions	11
1/7	Solving Problems in Dynamics	12
1/8	Chapter Review	15

CHAPTER 2

KINEMATICS OF PARTICLES		21
2/1	Introduction	21
2/2	Rectilinear Motion	22
2/3	Plane Curvilinear Motion	42
2/4	Rectangular Coordinates (<i>x-y</i>)	45
2/5	Normal and Tangential Coordinates (<i>n</i> - <i>t</i>)	57
2/6	Polar Coordinates (r - θ)	69
2/7	Space Curvilinear Motion	81
2/8	Relative Motion (Translating Axes)	90
2/9	Constrained Motion of Connected Particles	99
2/10	Chapter Review	107

CHAPTER 3

KINETICS OF PARTICLES	
3/1 Introduction	117
SECTION A FORCE, MASS, AND ACCELERATION	118
3/2 Newton's Second Law	118
3/3 Equation of Motion and Solution of Problems	122
3/4 Rectilinear Motion	124
3/5 Curvilinear Motion	138
SECTION B WORK AND ENERGY	153
3/6 Work and Kinetic Energy	153
3/7 Potential Energy	173
SECTION C IMPULSE AND MOMENTUM	188
3/8 Introduction	188
3/9 Linear Impulse and Linear Momentum	188
3/10 Angular Impulse and Angular Momentum	202
SECTION D SPECIAL APPLICATIONS	214
3/11 Introduction	214
3/12 Impact	214
3/13 Central-Force Motion	226
3/14 Relative Motion	239
3/15 Chapter Review	249

CHAPTER 4

KINETICS OF SYSTEMS OF PARTICLES		259
4/1	Introduction	259
4/2	Generalized Newton's Second Law	260
4/3	Work-Energy	261
4/4	Impulse-Momentum	263
4/5	Conservation of Energy and Momentum	267
4/6	Steady Mass Flow	280
4/7	Variable Mass	294
4/8	Chapter Review	305

PART

DYNAMICS OF RIGID	BODIES	311
--------------------------	--------	-----

CHAPTER 5

PL/	ANE KINEMATICS OF RIGID BODIES	313
5/1	Introduction	313
5/2	Rotation	315

5/3	Absolute Motion	327
5/4	Relative Velocity	338
5/5	Instantaneous Center of Zero Velocity	352
5/6	Relative Acceleration	361
5/7	Motion Relative to Rotating Axes	374
5/8	Chapter Review	390

CHAPTER 6

PLANE KINETICS OF RIGID BODIES	399
6/1 Introduction	399
SECTION A FORCE, MASS, AND ACCELERATION	401
6/2 General Equations of Motion	401
6/3 Translation	408
6/4 Fixed-Axis Rotation	418
6/5 General Plane Motion	429
SECTION B WORK AND ENERGY	446
6/6 Work-Energy Relations	446
6/7 Acceleration from Work-Energy; Virtual Work	462
SECTION C IMPULSE AND MOMENTUM	471
6/8 Impulse-Momentum Equations	471
6/9 Chapter Review	489

CHAPTER 7

ΙΝΤ	RODUCTION TO THREE-DIMENSIONAL	
Dγι	NAMICS OF RIGID BODIES	499
7/1	Introduction	499
SECT	TON A KINEMATICS	500
7/2	Translation	500
7/3	Fixed-Axis Rotation	500
7/4	Parallel-Plane Motion	501
7/5	Rotation about a Fixed Point	501
7/6	General Motion	513
SECT	TON B KINETICS	525
7/7	Angular Momentum	525
7/8	Kinetic Energy	528
7/9	Momentum and Energy Equations of Motion	536
7/10	Parallel-Plane Motion	538
7/11	Gyroscopic Motion: Steady Precession	544
7/12	Chapter Review	562

CHAPTER 8

VIB	RATION AND TIME RESPONSE	569
8/1	Introduction	569
	Free Vibration of Particles	570
8/3	Forced Vibration of Particles	587
8/4	Vibration of Rigid Bodies	600
8/5	Energy Methods	610
8/6	Chapter Review	619
Арг	PENDICES	
APPI	ENDIX A	
ARE	A MOMENTS OF INERTIA	625
APPI	ENDIX B	
MAS	S MOMENTS OF INERTIA	627
B/1	Mass Moments of Inertia about an Axis	627
B/2	Products of Inertia	646
APPI	ENDIX C	
SEL	ECTED TOPICS OF MATHEMATICS	657
C/1	Introduction	657
C/2	Plane Geometry	657
C/3	Solid Geometry	658
C/4	Algebra	658
C/5	Analytic Geometry	659
C/6	Trigonometry	659
C/7	Vector Operations	660
C/8	Series	663
C/9	Derivatives	663
C/10	Integrals	664
	Newton's Method for Solving Intractable Equations	666
C/12	Selected Techniques for Numerical Integration	668
APPI	ENDIX D	
USE	FUL TABLES	673
	e D/1 Physical Properties	673
	e D/2 Solar System Constants	674
	e D/3 Properties of Plane Figures	675
Table	D/4 Properties of Homogeneous Solids	677

PROBLEM ANSWERS	PR	OBL	.EM	ANS	WERS
-----------------	----	-----	-----	-----	------

PART I DYNAMICS OF PARTICLES



The International Space Station's Canadarm2 releases the Cygnus spacecraft in October 2013.

INTRODUCTION TO DYNAMICS

CHAPTER OUTLINE

- 1/1 History and Modern Applications
- 1/2 Basic Concepts
- 1/3 Newton's Laws
- 1/4 Units
- 1/5 Gravitation
- 1/6 Dimensions
- 1/7 Solving Problems in Dynamics
- 1/8 Chapter Review

1/1 HISTORY AND MODERN APPLICATIONS

Dynamics is that branch of mechanics which deals with the motion of bodies under the action of forces. The study of dynamics in engineering usually follows the study of statics, which deals with the effects of forces on bodies at rest. Dynamics has two distinct parts: *kinematics*, which is the study of motion without reference to the forces which cause motion, and *kinetics*, which relates the action of forces on bodies to their resulting motions. A thorough comprehension of dynamics will provide one of the most useful and powerful tools for analysis in engineering.

History of Dynamics

Dynamics is a relatively recent subject compared with statics. The beginning of a rational understanding of dynamics is credited to Galileo (1564–1642), who made careful observations concerning bodies in free fall, motion on an inclined plane, and motion of the pendulum. He was largely responsible for bringing a scientific approach to the investigation of physical problems. Galileo was continually under severe criticism for refusing to accept the established beliefs of his day, such as the philosophies of Aristotle which held, for example, that heavy bodies fall more rapidly than light bodies. The lack of accurate means for the measurement of time was a severe handicap to Galileo, and



Galileo Galilei

Portrait of Galileo Galilei (1564–1642) (oil on canvas), Sustermans, Justus (1597–1681) (school of)/Galleria Palatina, Florence, Italy/Bridgeman Art Library. further significant development in dynamics awaited the invention of the pendulum clock by Huygens in 1657.

Newton (1642–1727), guided by Galileo's work, was able to make an accurate formulation of the laws of motion and, thus, to place dynamics on a sound basis. Newton's famous work was published in the first edition of his *Principia*,* which is generally recognized as one of the greatest of all recorded contributions to knowledge. In addition to stating the laws governing the motion of a particle, Newton was the first to correctly formulate the law of universal gravitation. Although his mathematical description was accurate, he felt that the concept of remote transmission of gravitational force without a supporting medium was an absurd notion. Following Newton's time, important contributions to mechanics were made by Euler, D'Alembert, Lagrange, Laplace, Poinsot, Coriolis, Einstein, and others.

Applications of Dynamics

Only since machines and structures have operated with high speeds and appreciable accelerations has it been necessary to make calculations based on the principles of dynamics rather than on the principles of statics. The rapid technological developments of the present day require increasing application of the principles of mechanics, particularly dynamics. These principles are basic to the analysis and design of moving structures, to fixed structures subject to shock loads, to robotic devices, to automatic control systems, to rockets, missiles, and spacecraft, to ground and air transportation vehicles, to electron ballistics of electrical devices, and to machinery of all types such as turbines, pumps, reciprocating engines, hoists, machine tools, etc.

Students with interests in one or more of these and many other activities will constantly need to apply the fundamental principles of dynamics.

1/2 BASIC CONCEPTS

The concepts basic to mechanics were set forth in Art. 1/2 of *Vol. 1 Statics*. They are summarized here along with additional comments of special relevance to the study of dynamics.

Space is the geometric region occupied by bodies. Position in space is determined relative to some geometric reference system by means of linear and angular measurements. The basic frame of reference for the laws of Newtonian mechanics is the *primary inertial system* or *astronomical frame of reference*, which is an imaginary set of rectangular axes assumed to have no translation or rotation in space. Measurements show that the laws of Newtonian mechanics are valid for this reference system as long as any velocities involved are negligible compared with the speed of light, which is 300 000 km/s or 186,000 mi/sec. Measurements made with respect to this reference are said to be *absolute*, and this reference system may be considered "fixed" in space.

Artificial hand.



A reference frame attached to the surface of the earth has a somewhat complicated motion in the primary system, and a correction to the basic equations of mechanics must be applied for measurements made relative to the reference frame of the earth. In the calculation of rocket and space-flight trajectories, for example, the absolute motion of the earth becomes an important parameter. For most engineering problems involving machines and structures which remain on the surface of the earth, the corrections are extremely small and may be neglected. For these problems the laws of mechanics may be applied directly with measurements made relative to the earth, and in a practical sense such measurements will be considered *absolute*.

Time is a measure of the succession of events and is considered an absolute quantity in Newtonian mechanics.

Mass is the quantitative measure of the inertia or resistance to change in motion of a body. Mass may also be considered as the quantity of matter in a body as well as the property which gives rise to gravitational attraction.

Force is the vector action of one body on another. The properties of forces have been thoroughly treated in *Vol. 1 Statics*.

A *particle* is a body of negligible dimensions. When the dimensions of a body are irrelevant to the description of its motion or the action of forces on it, the body may be treated as a particle. An airplane, for example, may be treated as a particle for the description of its flight path.

A *rigid body* is a body whose changes in shape are negligible compared with the overall dimensions of the body or with the changes in position of the body as a whole. As an example of the assumption of rigidity, the small flexural movement of the wing tip of an airplane flying through turbulent air is clearly of no consequence to the description of the motion of the airplane as a whole along its flight path. For this purpose, then, the treatment of the airplane as a rigid body is an acceptable approximation. On the other hand, if we need to examine the internal stresses in the wing structure due to changing dynamic loads, then the deformation characteristics of the structure would have to be examined, and for this purpose the airplane could no longer be considered a rigid body.

Vector and **scalar** quantities have been treated extensively in *Vol. 1 Statics*, and their distinction should be perfectly clear by now. Scalar quantities are printed in lightface italic type, and vectors are shown in boldface type. Thus, V denotes the scalar magnitude of the vector **V**. It is important that we use an identifying mark, such as an underline \underline{V} , for all handwritten vectors to take the place of the boldface designation in print. For two nonparallel vectors recall, for example, that $\mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{V}_2$ and $V_1 + V_2$ have two entirely different meanings.

We assume that you are familiar with the geometry and algebra of vectors through previous study of statics and mathematics. Students who need to review these topics will find a brief summary of them in Appendix C along with other mathematical relations which find frequent use in mechanics. Experience has shown that the geometry of mechanics is often a source of difficulty for students. Mechanics by its very nature is geometrical, and students should bear this in mind as they review their mathematics. In addition to vector algebra, dynamics requires the use of vector calculus, and the essentials of this topic will be developed in the text as they are needed.

Dynamics involves the frequent use of time derivatives of both vectors and scalars. As a notational shorthand, a dot over a symbol will frequently be used to indicate a derivative with respect to time. Thus, \dot{x} means dx/dt and \ddot{x} stands for d^2x/dt^2 .

1/3 Newton's Laws

Newton's three laws of motion, stated in Art. 1/4 of *Vol. 1 Statics*, are restated here because of their special significance to dynamics. In modern terminology they are:

Law I. A particle remains at rest or continues to move with uniform velocity (in a straight line with a constant speed) if there is no unbalanced force acting on it.

Law II. The acceleration of a particle is proportional to the resultant force acting on it and is in the direction of this force.*

Law III. The forces of action and reaction between interacting bodies are equal in magnitude, opposite in direction, and collinear.

These laws have been verified by countless physical measurements. The first two laws hold for measurements made in an absolute frame of reference, but are subject to some correction when the motion is measured relative to a reference system having acceleration, such as one attached to the surface of the earth.

Newton's second law forms the basis for most of the analysis in dynamics. For a particle of mass m subjected to a resultant force **F**, the law may be stated as

$$\mathbf{F} = m\mathbf{a} \tag{1/1}$$

where \mathbf{a} is the resulting acceleration measured in a nonaccelerating frame of reference. Newton's first law is a consequence of the second law since there is no acceleration when the force is zero, and so the particle is either at rest or is moving with constant velocity. The third law constitutes the principle of action and reaction with which you should be thoroughly familiar from your work in statics.

1/4 UNITS

Both the International System of metric units (SI) and the U.S. customary system of units are defined and used in *Vol. 2 Dynamics*, although a stronger emphasis is placed on the metric system because it is replacing the U.S. customary system. However, numerical conversion from one system to the other will often be needed in U.S. engineering

^{*}To some it is preferable to interpret Newton's second law as meaning that the resultant force acting on a particle is proportional to the time rate of change of momentum of the particle and that this change is in the direction of the force. Both formulations are equally correct when applied to a particle of constant mass.

practice for some years to come. To become familiar with each system, it is necessary to think directly in that system. Familiarity with the new system cannot be achieved simply by the conversion of numerical results from the old system.

Tables defining the SI units and giving numerical conversions between U.S. customary and SI units are included inside the front cover of the book. Charts comparing selected quantities in SI and U.S. customary units are included inside the back cover of the book to facilitate conversion and to help establish a feel for the relative size of units in both systems.

The four fundamental quantities of mechanics, and their units and symbols for the two systems, are summarized in the following table:

	DIMENSIONAL		SI UNITS U.S. CUSTO				MARY UNITS
QUANTITY	SYMBOL		UNIT	SYMBOL	U	INIT	SYMBOL
Mass	М		(kilogram	kg		slug	_
Length	L	Base	meter*	m	Base	(foot	ft
Time	Т	units	second	s	units	second	sec
Force	F		newton	Ν		pound	lb

*Also spelled metre.

As shown in the table, in SI the units for mass, length, and time are taken as base units, and the units for force are derived from Newton's second law of motion, Eq. 1/1. In the U.S. customary system the units for force, length, and time are base units and the units for mass are derived from the second law.

The SI system is termed an *absolute* system because the standard for the base unit kilogram (a platinum-iridium cylinder kept at the International Bureau of Standards near Paris, France) is independent of the gravitational attraction of the earth. On the other hand, the U.S. customary system is termed a *gravitational* system because the standard for the base unit pound (the weight of a standard mass located at sea level and at a latitude of 45°) requires the presence of the gravitational field of the earth. This distinction is a fundamental difference between the two systems of units.

In SI units, by definition, one newton is that force which will give a one-kilogram mass an acceleration of one meter per second squared. In the U.S. customary system a 32.1740-pound mass (1 slug) will have an acceleration of one foot per second squared when acted on by a force of one pound. Thus, for each system we have from Eq. 1/1



Researchers,

SI UNITS
$(1 \text{ N}) = (1 \text{ kg})(1 \text{ m/s}^2)$
$N = kg \cdot m/s^2$

U.S. CUSTOMARY UNITS

 $\begin{aligned} (1\ lb) &= (1\ slug)(1\ ft/sec^2) \\ slug &= lb \cdot sec^2/ft \end{aligned}$

In SI units, the kilogram should be used *exclusively* as a unit of mass and *never* force. Unfortunately, in the MKS (meter, kilogram, second) gravitational system, which has been used in some countries for many years, the kilogram has been commonly used both as a unit of force and as a unit of mass.

In U.S. customary units, the pound is unfortunately used both as a unit of force (lbf) and as a unit of mass (lbm). The use of the unit lbm is especially prevalent in the specification of the thermal properties of liquids and gases. The lbm is the amount of mass which weighs 1 lbf under standard conditions (at a latitude of 45° and at sea level). In order to avoid the confusion which would be caused by the use of two units for mass (slug and lbm), in this textbook we use almost exclusively the unit slug for mass. This practice makes dynamics much simpler than if the lbm were used. In addition, this approach allows us to use the symbol lb to always mean pound force.

Additional quantities used in mechanics and their equivalent base units will be defined as they are introduced in the chapters which follow. However, for convenient reference these quantities are listed in one place in the first table inside the front cover of the book.

Professional organizations have established detailed guidelines for the consistent use of SI units, and these guidelines have been followed throughout this book. The most essential ones are summarized inside the front cover, and you should observe these rules carefully.

1/5 GRAVITATION

Newton's law of gravitation, which governs the mutual attraction between bodies, is

$$F = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$$
 (1/2)

where F = the mutual force of attraction between two particles

G = a universal constant called the *constant of gravitation*

 $m_1, m_2 =$ the masses of the two particles

r = the distance between the centers of the particles

The value of the gravitational constant obtained from experimental data is $G = 6.673(10^{-11}) \text{ m}^3/(\text{kg} \cdot \text{s}^2)$. Except for some spacecraft applications, the only gravitational force of appreciable magnitude in engineering is the force due to the attraction of the earth. It was shown in *Vol. 1 Statics*, for example, that each of two iron spheres 100 mm in diameter is attracted to the earth with a gravitational force of 37.1 N, which is called its *weight*, but the force of mutual attraction between them if they are just touching is only 0.000 000 095 1 N.

Because the gravitational attraction or weight of a body is a force, it should always be expressed in force units, newtons (N) in SI units and pounds force (lb) in U.S. customary units. To avoid confusion, the word "weight" in this book will be restricted to mean the force of gravitational attraction.

Effect of Altitude

The force of gravitational attraction of the earth on a body depends on the position of the body relative to the earth. If the earth were a perfect homogeneous sphere, a body with a mass of exactly 1 kg would be attracted to the earth by a force of 9.825 N on the surface of the earth, 9.822 N at an altitude of 1 km, 9.523 N at an altitude of 100 km, 7.340 N at an altitude of 1000 km, and 2.456 N at an altitude equal to the mean radius of the earth, 6371 km. Thus the variation in gravitational attraction of high-altitude rockets and spacecraft becomes a major consideration.

Every object which falls in a vacuum at a given height near the surface of the earth will have the same acceleration g, regardless of its mass. This result can be obtained by combining Eqs. 1/1 and 1/2 and canceling the term representing the mass of the falling object. This combination gives

$$g = \frac{Gm_e}{R^2}$$

where m_e is the mass of the earth and R is the radius of the earth.* The mass m_e and the mean radius R of the earth have been found through experimental measurements to be $5.976(10^{24})$ kg and $6.371(10^6)$ m, respectively. These values, together with the value of G already cited, when substituted into the expression for g, give a mean value of g = 9.825 m/s².

The variation of g with altitude is easily determined from the gravitational law. If g_0 represents the absolute acceleration due to gravity at sea level, the absolute value at an altitude h is

$$g = g_0 \frac{R^2}{(R+h)^2}$$

where R is the radius of the earth.

Effect of a Rotating Earth

The acceleration due to gravity as determined from the gravitational law is the acceleration which would be measured from a set of axes whose origin is at the center of the earth but which does not rotate with the earth. With respect to these "fixed" axes, then, this value may be termed the *absolute* value of g. Because the earth rotates, the acceleration of a freely falling body as measured from a position attached to the surface of the earth is slightly less than the absolute value.

Accurate values of the gravitational acceleration as measured relative to the surface of the earth account for the fact that the earth is a rotating oblate spheroid with flattening at the poles. These values may

^{*}It can be proved that the earth, when taken as a sphere with a symmetrical distribution of mass about its center, may be considered a particle with its entire mass concentrated at its center.